UNIVERSAL
LIBRARY

OU_170950

UNIVERSAL
LIBRARY

# THE BOOK WAS DRENCHED

## TEXT FLY WITHIN THE BOOK ONLY

# A NEW

# ENGLISH DICTIONARY

## ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES

VOLUME X. PART II.

Oxford University Press
*London Edinburgh Glasgow Leipzig Copenhagen*
*New York Toronto Melbourne Capetown*
*Bombay Calcutta Madras Shanghai*
Humphrey Milford Publisher to the University

*Printed in England*
*At the* Oxford University Press
*By John Johnson*
*Printer to the University*

# A NEW
# ENGLISH DICTIONARY
## ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES;

FOUNDED MAINLY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY

**The Philological Society.**

EDITED BY

SIR JAMES A. H. MURRAY

HENRY BRADLEY, W. A. CRAIGIE, C. T. ONIONS.

**VOLUME X. PART II. V—7**

V.

By W. A. CRAIGIE

[illegible]

By HEN.

[illegible]

W. A. CRAIGIE & C.

XYZ.

By C. T. ONIONS

[illegible]

OXFORD:
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS.
1928

[All rights reserved

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

THIS DICTIONARY

OF THE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

WHICH WAS DEDICATED IN 1897

TO

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA

IS NOW ON ITS COMPLETION

PRESENTED

BY HIS MAJESTY'S GRACIOUS PERMISSION

TO

KING GEORGE THE FIFTH

BY

THE CHANCELLOR MASTERS

AND SCHOLARS

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

# PREFACE TO VOLUME X.

THIS volume, which, on account of its great size, is issued in two parts, contains, in Part I, the words beginning with TI–TZ, edited by the late Sir James Murray, and U by Professor W. A. Craigie; in Part II, V by Professor Craigie, W–WEZZON by the late Dr. Henry Bradley and Professor Craigie, WH–WORLING by Mr. C. T. Onions, WORM–WYZEN by Professor Craigie, and X–ZYXT by Mr. Onions.

The statistics for the whole volume are:—

| | | Main words. | Subordinate words. | Special Combinations. | Obvious Combinations. | Total No of Words. | No. of Quotations. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TI–TZ | (565 pages) | 8,407 | 2,062 | 2,851 | 3,330 | 16,650 | 63,026 |
| U | (493 ,, ) | 13,165 | 1,126 | 309 | 766 | 15,366 | 69,712 |
| V | (334 ,, ) | 4,219 | 1,671 | 393 | 1,492 | 7,775 | 40,146 |
| W | (734 ,, ) | 6,087 | 3,820 | 2,845 | 3,766 | 16,518 | 94,097 |
| X–Z | (105 ,, ) | 1,722 | 2,312 | 216 | 496 | 4,746 | 12,580 |
| TI–Z | (2,229 ,, ) | 33,600 | 10,991 | 6,614 | 9,850 | 61,055 | 279,761 |

The 33,600 Main words are distributed approximately as follows:—

| | Current. | Obsolete. | Alien. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| TI–TZ | 6,483 | 1,504 | 420 | 8,407 |
| U | 11,029 | 2,063 | 73 | 13,165 |
| V | 2,888 | 1,074 | 257 | 4,219 |
| W | 4,265 | 1,780 | 42 | 6,087 |
| X–Z | 1,311 | 270 | 141 | 1,722 |
| | 25,976 | 6,691 | 933 | 33,600 |

The comparative scale of this work and of certain other Dictionaries is shown as follows:—

| | Johnson. | Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'. | 'Century' Dict. | Here. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Words recorded, TI–Z | 4,888 | 21,661 | 28,457 | 61,055 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | 4,548 | 10,209 | 10,739 | 50,463 |
| Number of illustrative quotations | 12,367 | 15,050 | 21,249 | 279,761 |

In the corresponding portion of Richardson's Dictionary the number of quotations is 15,773.

The aggregate numbers for the whole ten volumes of the Dictionary are:—

| Main words. | Subordinate words. | Special Combinations. | Obvious Combinations. | Total No. of Words. | Illustrative quotations. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 240,165 | 67,105 | 47,800 | 59,755 | 414,825 | 1,827,306 |

Of the 240,165 Main words 177,970 are current, 52,464 are obsolete, 9,731 alien.

For observations on the etymological and other characteristics of the words included in these volumes, and for detailed statistics of the numbers of words of various classes, and of the numbers of quotations, the reader is referred to the separate prefaces to the various sections, parts, letters, or volumes.

# KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

## I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z *have their usual values.*

g as in *go* (gō͡u).
h ... *hot* (hɑ͡t).
r ... *run* (rʏn), *terrier* (te·riɘr).
ɹ ... *her* (hɜɹ), *farther* (fɑ·ɹðɘɹ).
s ... *see* (sī), *cess* (ses).
w ... *wen* (wen).
hw *when* (hwen).
y .. *yes* (yes).

þ as in *thin* (þin), *bath* (bɑþ).
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bathe* (bē·ð).
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (diʃ).
ʧ ... *chop* (ʧɒp), *ditch* (diʧ).
ʒ ... *vision* (vi·ʒən), *déjeuner* (deʒe·nē).
ʤ ... *judge* (ʤʌʤ).
ŋ ... *singing* (si·ŋiŋ), *think* (þiŋk).
ŋg ... *finger* (fiŋgɘɹ).

(FOREIGN.)
ṅ as in *French nasal, environ* (anvirōṅ).
lʸ ... It. *seraglio* (serɑ·lʸo).
nʸ It. *signore* (sin·ʸo·re).
χ . Ger. *ach* (ɑχ), Sc. *loch* (lɒχ, loχʷ).
χʸ ... Ger. *ich* (iχʸ), Sc. *nicht* (neχʸt).
ɣ ... Ger. *sagen* (zɑ·ɣĕn).
ɣʸ ... Ger. *legen, regnen* (lē·ɣʸĕn, rē·ɣʸnĕn).

## II. VOWELS.

### ORDINARY.

a as in Fr. *à la mode* (a la mod').
ai ... *aye–yes* (ai), Isaiah (aizai·ă).
æ ... *man* (mæn).
ɑ ... *pass* (pɑs), *chant* (ʧɑnt).
ɑu ... *loud* (lɑud), *now* (nɑu).
ɒ ... *cut* (kɒt), *son* (sɒn).
e .. *yet* (yet), *ten* (ten).
ɛ ... *survey sb.* (sɘ·vɛ), Fr. *attaché* (ataʃe).
‖ɛ ... Fr. *chef* (ʃɛf).
ɘ ... *ever* (ɛvɘɹ), *nation* (nē·ʃɘn).
ɔɪ ... *I, eye,* (ɔɪ), *bind* (bɔɪnd).
‖ɔ ... Fr. *eau de vie* (ō dɔ vī·).
i ... *sit* (sit), *mystic* (mistik).
ɪ ... *Psyche* (sɔɪ·kɪ), *react* (rɪ¸æ·kt).
o ... *achor* (ē·kɒɹ), *morality* (mɒræ·lɪti).
oi ... *oil* (oil), *boy* (boi).
ǫ ... *hero* (hĭ·ɹǫ), *zoology* (zǫ¸ɒlɔ·dʒi).
ǫ ... *what* (hwǫt), *watch* (wǫʧ).
ǫ, ǫ* .. *got* (gǫt), *soft* (sǫft).
‖o ... Ger. *Köln* (koln).
‖ø ... Fr. *peu* (pø).
u ... *full* (ful), *book* (buk).
iu ... *duration* (diuɹē·ʃɘn).
ʉ ... *untø* (ʊ·ntʉ), *frugality* (frʉ-).
iʉ ... *Matthew* (mæ·þiʉ), *virtue* (vɜ·ɹtiʉ).
‖ü ... Ger. *Müller* (mü·lĕr).
‖ʉ ... Fr. *dune* (dʉn).
- (see ĭ, ĕ, ă, ŭ) } see Vol. I, p. xxiv, note 3.
ˌ = (see ɾ, ɑ͡u)
' as in *able* (ē·b'l), *eaten* (ī·t'n) = voice-glide.

### LONG.

ā as in *alms* (āmz), *bar* (bāɹ).
ē (ē·) ... *there* (ðē·ɘɹ), *pear, pare* (pē·ɘɹ).
ē (ē·ɪ)... *rein, rain* (rē·ɪn), *they* (ðē·ɪ).
ē ... Fr. *faire* (fēɹ).
ə ... *fir* (fəɹ), *fern* (fəɹn), *earth* (əɹþ).
ī (ī·)... *bier* (bī·ɘɹ), *clear* (klī·ɘɹ).
ī ... *thief* (þīf), *see* (sī).
ō (ō·)... *boar,* bore (bō·ɘɹ), *glory* (glō··ɪ).
ō ,ō͡u) . *so, sow* (sō͡u), *soul* (sō͡ul).
ǭ . ... *walk* (wǭk), *wart* (wǭɹt).
ǣ ... *short* (ʃǣɹt), *thorn* (þǣɹn).
‖ō ... Fr. *coeur* (kōɹ).
‖ō ... Ger. *Gothe* (gō·tĕ), Fr. *jeûne* (ʒō·n).
ū (ū·) .. *poor* (pū·ɘɹ), *moorish* (mū·ɹiʃ).
ūɹ, ¦ū ... *pure* (pi¦ū·ɘɹ), *lure* (l¦ū·ɘɹ).
ū ... *two moons* (tū mūnz).
iūɹ, ¦ū... *few* (fiūɹ), *lute* (l¦ūt).
‖ū ... Ger. *grün* (grūn), Fr. *jus* (ʒū).

### OBSCURE.

ă as in *amœba* (ămī·bă).
ĕ ... *accept* (ăksē·pt), *maniac* (mē¸·niĕk).
ĭ .. *datum* (dē··tĭm).
ŏ moment (mō·mĕnt), several (se··vĕrăl).
ŭ ... *separate (adj.)* (se·părĕt).
ŏ ... added (ă·dĕd), *estate* (ĕstē·t).
ĭ .. *vanity* (væ·nĭti).
ĭ ... *remain* (rĭmē·n), believe (bĭlī·v).
ŭ . *theory* (þī·ŏri).
ŭ .. violet (vəi·ŭlĕt), parody (pæ·rŭdi).
ŭ ... *authority* (ŭþo·rĭti).
ĭ connect (kŭne·kt), amazon (æ·măzŭn).
ūŭ, ¦ū verdure (vəɹ·dūŭɹ), measure (me··ʒūŭ).
ŭ ... altogether (ŭlt¸ĭgĕ·ðɘɹ).
ŭl .. circular (sə·ɹkĭŭlăɹ).

* ǫ the ǫ in *soft*, of medial or doubtful length.

‖ Only in foreign (or earlier English) words.

---

In the ETYMOLOGY,

**OE.** *ę, ǫ,* **represented an earlier** *a,* **are distinguished as** ę, ǫ (having the phonetic value of ę and ǫ, or ǫ, above); as in *ende* from *andi* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *mǫnn* from *mann*, *ǫn* from *an*.

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

| | |
|---|---|
| a [in Etymol ] | = adoption of, adopted from |
| *a* (as *a* 1300) | = *ante*, before |
| *a adj*, adj | = adjective |
| *absol* absol | = absolutely |
| abst | = abstract |
| acc | = accusative |
| ad [in Etymol ] | = adaptation of |
| *adv* adv | = adverb |
| advb | = adverbial ly |
| AF, AFr | = Anglo French. |
| *Anat* | = in Anatomy |
| *Antiq* | = in Antiquities |
| aphet | = aphetic, aphetized |
| app | = apparently |
| Arab | = Arabic |
| *Arch* | = in Architecture |
| *arch* | = archaic |
| *Archæol* | = in Archæology |
| assoc | = association |
| *Astr* | = in Astronomy |
| *Astrol* | = in Astrology |
| *attrib* | = attributive, ly |
| bef | = before |
| *Biol* | = in Biology |
| Boh | = Bohemian |
| *Bot* | = in Botany |
| *Build* | = in Building |
| *c* (as *c* 1300) | = *circa*, about |
| c (as 13th c ) | = century |
| Cat | = Catalan |
| *cata hr* | = catachrestically |
| Cf cf | = *confer*, compare |
| *Chem* | = in Chemistry |
| cl L | = classical Latin |
| cogn w | = cognate with |
| *collect* | = collective ly |
| *coll* | = colloquially |
| comb | = combining |
| *Comb* | = Combinations |
| *Comm* | = in commercial usage |
| comp | = compound, composition |
| compl | = complement |
| *Conch* | = in Conchology |
| *concr* | = concretely |
| *conj* | = conjunction |
| cons | = consonant |
| Const , *Constr* | = Construction, construed with |
| *Cryst* | = in Crystallography |
| (D ) | = in Davies (Supp Eng Glossary) |
| Da | = Danish |
| dat | = dative |
| def | = definite |
| deriv | = derivative, ation |
| dial , *dial* | = dialect, al |
| Dict | = Dictionary |
| dim | = diminutive |
| Du | = Dutch |
| *Eccl* | = in ecclesiastical usage |
| *elliptical* | = elliptical, ly |
| e midl | = east midland ( dialect) |
| Eng | = English |
| *Ent* | = in Entomology |
| erron | = erroneous, ly |
| *esp* , esp | = especially |
| etym | = etymology |
| *euphem* | = euphemistically |
| exc | = except |
| f [in Etymol ] | = formed on |
| f (in subordinate entries) | = form of |
| fem (*rarely* f ) | = feminine |
| *fig* | = figurative, ly |
| F , Fr | = French |
| freq | = frequently |
| Fris. | = Frisian |
| G , Ger | = German |
| Gael | = Gaelic |
| gen | = genitive |
| *gen* | = general, ly |
| *gen sign* | = general signification |
| *Geol* | = in Geology |
| *Geom* | = in Geometry |
| Goth | = Gothic, (= Mœso-Gothic) |
| Gr | = Greek |
| *Gram* | = in Grammar |
| Heb | = Hebrew |
| *Her* | = in Heraldry |
| *Herb* | = with herbalists |
| *Hort* | = in Horticulture |
| *imp* | = Imperative |
| *impers* | = impersonal |
| impf | = imperfect |
| *ind* | = Indicative |
| indef | = indefinite |
| *inf* | = Infinitive |
| infl | = influenced |
| *int* | = interjection |
| *intr* | = intransitive |
| It | = Italian |
| J (J ) | = Johnson (quotation from) |
| (Jam ) | = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict |
| (Jod ) | = Jodrell (quoted from) |
| L | = Latin |
| (L )(in quotations) | = Latham's edn of Todd's |
| lang | = language [Johnson |
| LG | = Low German |
| lit | = literal ly |
| Lith | = Lithuanian |
| LXX | = Septuagint |
| Mal | = Malay |
| masc (*rarely* m ) | = masculine |
| *Math* | = in Mathematics |
| ME | = Middle English |
| *Med* | = in Medicine |
| med L | = mediæval Latin |
| *Mech* | = in Mechanics |
| *Metaph* | = in Metaphysics. |
| MHG | = Middle High German |
| midl | = midland (dialect) |
| *Mil* | = in military usage |
| *Min* | = in Mineralogy |
| mod | = modern |
| *Mus* | = in Music |
| (N ) | = Nares (quoted from) |
| n of action | = noun of action |
| n of agent | = noun of agent |
| *Nat Hist* | = in Natural History |
| *Naut* | = in nautical language |
| neut (*rarely* n ) | = neuter |
| NI NFr | = Northern French |
| N O | = Natural Order |
| nom | = nominative |
| north | = northern (dialect) |
| N T | = New Testament |
| *Numism* | = in Numismatics. |
| obj | = object. |
| *Obs* , *obs* obs | = obsolete |
| o cas | = occasional ly |
| OE | = Old English (= Anglo Saxon) |
| OF OFr | = Old French |
| OFris | = Old Frisian |
| OHG | = Old High German |
| OIr | = Old Irish |
| ON | = Old Norse (Old Icelandic) |
| ONF | = Old Northern French |
| *Opt* | = in Optics |
| *Ornith* | = in Ornithology |
| OS | = Old Saxon |
| OSl | = Old Slavonic |
| O T | = Old Testament |
| OTeut | = Original Teutonic |
| orig | = original ly |
| *Paleont* | = in Palæontology |
| pa ple | = passive or past participle |
| *pass* | = passive, ly |
| pa. t | = past tense. |
| *Path* | = in Pathology. |
| perh | = perhaps |
| Pers. | = Persian. |
| *pers* | = person, al. |
| pf | = perfect |
| Pg | = Portuguese |
| *Philol* | = in Philology |
| phonet | = phonetic, -ally. |
| *phr* | = phrase |
| *Phren* | = in Phrenology |
| *Phys* | = in Physiology. |
| pl , *pl* | = plural |
| *poet* | = poetic |
| pop | = popular, ly |
| *ppl a* , ppl adj | = participial adjective |
| ppl | = participle |
| Pr | = Provençal |
| prec | = preceding (word or article) |
| *pref* | = prefix |
| *prep* | = preposition |
| *pres* | = present |
| *Prim sign.* | = Primary signification |
| priv | = privative |
| prob | = probably |
| *pron* | = pronoun |
| pronunc | = pronunciation |
| prop | = properly |
| *Pros* | = in Prosody |
| pr pple | = present participle |
| *Psych* | = in Psychology |
| q v | = *quod vide*, which see. |
| (R ) | = in Richardson's Dict. |
| R C Ch | = Roman Catholic Church |
| refash | = refashioned, ing |
| *refl* , refl | = reflexive |
| reg | = regular |
| repr | = representative representing |
| *Rhet* | = in Rhetoric |
| Rom | = Romanic Romance |
| sb , *sb* | = substantive |
| Sc | = Scotch |
| sc | = *scilicet*, understand or supply |
| *sing* | = singular |
| Skr | = Sanskrit |
| Slav | = Slavonic. |
| Sp | = Spanish |
| sp | = spelling |
| *spec* | = specially |
| subj | = subject, subjunctive |
| *subord cl* | = subordinate clause |
| subseq | = subsequently |
| subst | = substantively |
| suff | = suffix |
| superl | = superlative |
| *Surg* | = in Surgery |
| Sw | = Swedish |
| s w | = south western (dialect). |
| T (T ) | = in Todd's Johnson |
| *techn* | = technical ly |
| *Theol* | = in Theology |
| tr | = translation of |
| *trans* | = transitive |
| *transf* | = transferred sense |
| *Trig* | = in Trigonometry |
| *Typog* | = in Typography |
| ult | = ultimate -ly |
| unkn | = unknown |
| U S | = United States |
| *v* , vb | = verb |
| *v str* , or *w* | = verb strong, or weak |
| *vbl sb* | = verbal substantive |
| var | = variant of |
| wd | = word |
| WGer | = West Germanic |
| w midl | = west midland (dialect) |
| WS | = West Saxon |
| (Y ) | = in Col Yule's Glossary |
| *Zool* | = in Zoology. |

Before a word or sense

† = obsolete
‖ = not naturalized

In the quotations

* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms

1 = before 1100
2 = 12th c (1100 to 1200)
3 = 13th c (1200 to 1300)
5 7 = 15th to 17th century (See General Explanations, Vol I, p xx )

In the Etymol

* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred
– = extant representative or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

# V

By W. A. CRAIGIE

M.A., LL.D., D.LITT.

# PREFACE TO THE LETTER V.

IN this portion of the Dictionary there are 4219 Main words, 393 Special Combinations explained under these, 1492 Obvious Combinations, and 1671 Subordinate entries of obsolete or variant forms; in all 7775 entries. Of the Main words 1074 are marked † as obsolete, and 257 are marked ‖ as alien or not fully naturalized.

Comparison with Johnson's and some recent Dictionaries gives the following results :—

| | Johnson. | Cassell's 'Encyclopædic'. | 'Century' Dict | Funk's 'Standard'. | Here |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Words recorded | 684 | 2790 | 3744 | 3168 | 7775 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | 557 | 1145 | 1353 | 448 | 5954 |
| Number of quotations | 1738 | 1881 | 4139 | 598 | 40,418 |

In the corresponding portion of Richardson the quotations number 1935.

For the reasons given in the introductory article on the letter, the words beginning with V are almost entirely of foreign origin, and the great majority either directly or indirectly have their source in Latin. Most of the important Latin stems with initial *v* are represented in English, and many of them very extensively, so that they frequently occupy large and continuous portions of the following pages. Many of the words from these stems are also found, with little change of form, in all the modern Romanic languages; the vocabulary throughout this letter thus corresponds very closely with that of dictionaries in these tongues. As usual, many of the stems and their derivatives have passed into English through French, which has at different periods contributed a large number of common words, as *vain, vale, valiant, valley, value, vanish, vanquish, vantage, varnish*, etc. Notable among these is the adj. and adv. VERY, which forms one of the longest articles in this portion of the dictionary. An interesting group is also presented by the words formed with the prefix VANT-. The prefix *vis-, vi-*, originally introduced from French, subsequently assumed the Latin form VICE-, but has survived unaltered in *Viscount* and its derivatives. The other Romanic languages are represented by adoptions from Spanish and Portuguese, as *vanilla, vaquero, vara, vega*[1], *vellon, veranda, verruga, vintem*, and from Italian, as *vendetta, vermicelli, viola*[2], *violin, violon, violoncello, virtu, virtuoso, vista, viva, volcano*. The Romanic element is also prominent among the proper names and adjectives formed from these, the number of which in some parts of this section is above the average.

The remaining sources are of limited extent and for the most part of less importance. A few entries are southern English variants of forms in *f-*, as *vade* v.[1], *van* sb.[1], *vane, vat, vease, vell* v., *vent* sb.[1], and *vixen*. An exceptional instance of this substitution is found in *veneer* for the earlier *fineer*. This is one of a small number of words which have been adopted from the other Germanic languages; among these is *veer*, to let out (from Dutch *vieren*), which has hitherto been confused in dictionaries with the unrelated *veer*, to turn round (from French *virer*). Others are the Dutch *veldt, vlei, vrouw*, and the Scandinavian *Valhalla, Valkyrie, viking, voe*, and *vole*. The remoter European, with some Oriental, African, and American languages, have contributed such miscellaneous words as *vaivode (voivode), vakeel, vampire, Veda, verst, vicuña, viscacha, vizier, vodka, voodoo*.

Words of similar form, but of different origin and meaning, are rarer than in some other portions of the alphabet; there are, however, seven substantives with the spelling *vice*. The variety of spelling possible in the older stages of English is well illustrated in the forms of *verjuice, victual, vinegar*, and *vouchsafe*; the lack of obvious meaning in the latter was no doubt the main cause of the extraordinary variety of forms and spellings in which it appears down to the 16th century.

The historical interest of many of the words beginning with V is considerable. A number of these have ecclesiastical or religious associations, as *valor* (1 d), *Vatican, Vaticanism*, etc., *Vaudois, Venite, verger, vernicle, veronica*[2], *versicle, vesper, vestiary, vestry, viaticum, vicar, vicarage, victim* (introduced by the Rhemish translators of the Bible), *vigil, virgin, virtue, vision*, etc. Others are of importance for social, political, or legal history, as *vaccination, vagabond, vagrant, valentine, valet, varlet, vassal, vavassour, velocipede, ventilation, ventriloquism, venue, verderer, verdict, verge* sb.[1], *vice-chancellor, vicegerent, victualler, viewer, villa, village, villein, virgate, voidee, voider, volunteer, volupter, vote* (before 1600 almost exclusively in Scottish use), *vouch, vouchee, voucher, voyage*, and *vulgar*. Many other words are of interest for various reasons, as *vernier, verse, vignette* (with the earlier form *vinet*), *viol, violin, vogue, volley, volume, vortex*, etc.

The material first collected for V was arranged and sub-edited by the Rev. T. H. Sheppard in 1883. Much new material was incorporated, and the sub-editing revised, for V—VAGABOND by the Rev. C. B. Mount in 1908; VAGABOND—VANQUISH by Mr. C. B. Winchester in 1908; and VANQUISH—VYWER by the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson in 1910–13.

The staff which assisted in the preparation of the letter consisted of Mr. L. F. Powell, Mr. G. Watson, Mrs. Powell, Misses Elsie M. R. and Rosfrith A. N. R. Murray, Miss I. B. Hutchen, and Mr. E. N. Martin. Proofs were read by Canon J. T. Fowler, and verification at the British Museum was done by Mr. W. W. Jenkinson. For information on special points thanks are due to Canon Fowler, Dr. D. Hay Fleming, Mr. E. W. Hulme, Sir Frederick Pollock, Bart., and Mr. E. J. Thomas.

W. A. CRAIGIE.

OXFORD,
*Aug.* 1927.

# ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

**Variolist** *rare*[-1] [f. VARIOL-A + -IST] One who prefers small pox to vaccination.

1799 *Gentl Mag* Aug 66, A consciousness of propriety, which it seems that the Variolists have not had sufficient shame to acknowledge

**Vaseline.** Add to etym. note:—The term, which was registered as a trade mark 28 June 1877 by the Chesebrough Manufacturing Co, was first applied to petroleum jelly (see def and quots), later to preparations containing that article, and ultimately used upon all goods manufactured by the Company.

**Vellumize,** *v.* [f VELLUM + IZE] *trans* To convert into vellum

1907 C DAVENPORT *The Book* 173 The white 'vellumised pig' kin has always been the most favourite material for the covering of German books

†**Venedic,** *a. Obs.* [f. med L. *Venedi* (pl.) see WEND *sb*] Wendish Vendish

1768 I NUGENT *Tour Germany* II 178 Mirow is supposed to have derived its name from the Sclavonic or Venedic word *mir*, signifying peace 1790 DOBNEUR *Putter's Hist De elopm Ger Lmg* L 8 Except in Bohemia and Lusatia, the Venedic language has been under the necessity of yielding to the German

**Ventel,** *v* Delete, and see UNTELD *v.*

**Verger**[2], 1 Earlier instance —

c 1408 in *Peterborough Registry* (MS), fol 457 Officium hostiarii, alias dictum verger, in eodem (collegio de Wyndesore) vacans

**Vitamine, -min** (vəi tāməin, -in). [f L. *vīt-a* life + AMINE, named by Casimir Funk (1913), from the erroneous idea that an amino-acid is present in these substances] One of a group of essential food-elements found in various natural food-stuffs, as vegetables cereals, milk, etc

1916 R R WILLIAMS in *Jrnl Biol Chem* XXV 477 [Article on] The Chemical Nature of the 'Vitamines 1918 C W SALEEBY *Science Nationhd Ktchens* 1 The 'accessory factors' or vitamines only recently discovered 1922 *Daily Mail* 9 Nov 4 The vital principle of food known to doctors as vitamins

*fig* 1921 *Spectator* 16 Apr 492/2 A book so full of the vitamines of literature *Ibid* 7 May 588/2 The vitamines of the spirit and of true religion

**Vocabular,** *sb* Later example:—

1659 W JACOB in Sommer *Dictionarium*, To list your names in this Vocabular

# V.

V (*vī*), the 22nd letter of the modern English and the 20th of the ancient Roman alphabet, was in the latter an adoption of the early Greek vowel symbol Υ, now also represented by U and Y (q v), but in Latin v as employed also with the value of the Greek digamma (*viz w*), so which it corresponds etymologically. When not purely vocalic, it still denoted this sound at the time when the earliest Latin loan-words were adopted in the Teutonic languages, consequently such words beginning with *v* appear in Old English with *w* Under the I mpire, however, the semi-vocalic sound gradually changed to a bilabial consonant, and finally became the labio dental voiced spirant now denoted by the letter in I nglish and various other languages Tha development did not take place in Old English, and no *v*, whether bilabial or labio dental, occurred initially in the older Teutonic languages, although the sound was common in other positions (in OE denoted by *f*, in early texts by *b*).

In OE dictionaries there is thus no set of words with initial V, one or two Latin words adopted at a late period usually appearing with *f*, as *fann*, *fers* (but also *vers*), from L. *vannus*, *versus* The first appearance of V-words is found in those ME. texts which begin to show a distinct French influence, as the *Ancren Kiwle*, even early writers like Orm and Lagamon, while not free from the use of I rench words, do not employ any beginning with *v* The number of such words steadily increases in later texts, and is subsequently greatly reinforced by direct adoptions from Latin, by new formations on L atin stems, and by adoptions from other Romanic languages. The other sources of initial V are of minor importance The change of *w* to *v*, which took place in the middle period of the Scandinavian languages, is represented in a few words, as *Valhalla*, *valkyrie*, *valknut*, but otherwise the words with this initial are chiefly derived from languages not directly related to English. A small number of words, however, as *vat*, *vixen*, exemplify the voicing of *f-* peculiar to southern (now only southwestern) dialects This change is not indicated in OE spelling, and how far it had developed in speech is uncertain, but in southern ML. texts all native words (rarely those of I rench or Latin origin) beginning with *f* may appear with *v* (or its equivalent *u-*), the more important variant forms due to this cause are entered in their places below Conversely words properly having *v-* are occasionally written with *f-*, and there is evidence that this is not merely graphic, but represents an actual pronunciation (T1 ien so ure English-men vse to speake in basexe, for they say fineger for vineger, feale for veale, & contrary wyse a voxe for a foxe, voure for foure, etc' 1546 Langley, tr *Pol Verg. de Invent* I. vi 14 )

When not initial, *v* occurs freely in native words as well as in those of I atin or other origin. In the former it represents OE *f* when voiced, as in *ōfen* (even, *drēfan* drive, *lufu* love. The use of *f* (or *ff*) in such words was partly retained in ME. and especially in Sc down to the 16th century); but even in late OE. *u* is frequently substituted, and in early ME. (as in med L. and OF ) *u* and *v* come into general use to denote the sound in all positions. It was only in the 17th century that these two letters, both of which had been employed in a double function (see U), were finally distinguished as vowel and consonant; and down to the 19th century words beginning with either letter continued to form one series in dictionaries

In some ME. (chiefly northern) manuscripts, and in many Scottish texts of the 15th and 16th centuries, *v* is more or less frequently written in place of *w*, while conversely *w* is freely written instead of *v*. These forms are merely graphic, and do not imply a phonetic interchange of *w* and *v* (though in mod north-eastern be *wr-* has become *vr* ). In south-eastern English dialects the change of *v-* to *w* does occur, and older representations of Cockney speech exhibit a converse change of *w-* to *v-*, which recent investigators have been unable to verify as still existent The latter change is illustrated in the following quotations

1803 *Pasc'n Ameed Sng Lang* (1814) 77 Villum I vants my wife Vitch vig Sir? Vy, the vite vig in the vooden vig box vitch I vore last Vensday at the westry 1844 *Sports Sngl Tenle* (1852) 37, I vas valking by the Admiralty in my vay home 1857 DICKENS *Dorr* xxxiii, Ve gits I'm Vildspark off ven all the big vigs said as nothing couldn t save him

Elision of *v* when not initial has taken place extensively in dialects, especially those of the North and Scotland, as in *dist* devil, *shule* shovel, *haust* harvest. In standard English this is represented by such words as *hawk*, *head*, *lark*, *lot*, and is specially indicated in a few archaic or poetic forms, as *e'en* even, *e'er* ever, *ne'er* never, *o'er* over

**I.** Illustrations of the use of the letter or of its name + *Double U* [= *U*]. ~ W

†1460 in *Archæ l* (1842) XXIX 131 There was an V and thre arres to gydre 1530 PALSGR 443 A byfore V ~ 1552 *Huloet* s v, there is a diuersitie betwene the single V and the double W, therfore the shipherde in theim shalbe set diuerslv 1593 G HARVEY *Pierces Super* Wks (Grosart) II 311 He that can tickle Mar prelate with taunts, can twitch double V to the quicke 1636 B JONSON *Eng. Grosm* III, V is like our, a letter of a double power 1668 WILKINS *Real Char* 16 Some Letters of the same name an I shape are used sometimes for Vowels and sometimes for Consonants; as J, V, W, Y 1676 GREW *Anat Fl*, *Anat Fl* iv 154 An Angle, twice as big as that for a V Consonant 1728 CHAMBERS *Cyc I* s v U, I asides the Vowel U, there is a Consonant of the same Formation, wrote I or V 1735 AINSWORTH *I* s v, Our Saxon ancestors, who commonly sut stitute *f* in the place of *v* 1808 JAMIESON, *I* is one of our old printed books, is invariably used for *II* 1888 Jacobs *Fourteen Jacob* 155, V is not used as a signature in the printed books of the 15th century *St Augustine* 21 The letter for the ensuing year was directed to be changed to V Gothic.

**2** Used with reference to the shape of the letter, an object having this shape, a V shaped, acute-angled formation

1838 [see next] 1858 *Court Mag* VI p xiii 1 The corsage draped in the form of a V on the f ont 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* (1870) iv § 131 The water is first brought into one arm of the V 1894 *Nature*, XLIV 452/2 The first geese of the season will wing their way in lines and Vs from the south

*b attrib*, as *V joint*, *shape*, freq in the sense 'shaped like the letter V', as *V anvil*, *edge*, *hut*, *slide*, *thread*, *tool* (in fret-cutting), *trough*, etc, **V pug**, a species of moth (see quot )

1861 SIR W FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 125 The V anvil, fig 43 the natural offspring of the steam hammer 1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III 704 A rat passing through a V form brace of it 1857 R B PAUL *Fell Cutter's Guide* 57 The form is that of a V but, the extremities of the rafters being left bare 1879 C J IBBOTT *Canterbury* 148 So V but is exactly what you see V, the roof of a house and stood it on the ground 1882 J RENNIE *Londp Built off M* 132 The V Pug [*Amphidasis betularia*] Wings marked with a black V behind the middle 1885 RAWSON *Machine & Hand Cutl* II N 2, A pair of opposite dies of a V shape 1894 *Cutl Eng & Arch Jrnl* VII 88/1 A rectangular or oblong bath of iron upon two V slides 1895 *Rowland & Sibley's Astron* 147 The V supports may now be secured in their places 1897 D A LOW *Machine Draw* (1899) 14 The V tool is the most difficult of all tools to sharpen 1898 *Catal Internat Exhib*, *Instr* II No 2383, V trough for flanned and subcutaneous wires 1899 FRANCIS *Dict Arts*, *V tube*, a glass tube, in the form of the letter V , to show the decomposition of a neutral salt by galvanism

**3** Used to denote *shaped* like a V

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 202/1 A fissure or triangular V shaped notch 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXV 423/2 Tools generally double angular or V shaped 1872 COUES *N Amer Birds* 103 A V shaped black mark on side of head

**3** Used to denote serial order, as V Battery, MS V, or as a symbol of some thing or person, a point in a diagram, etc

**II. 4.** The Roman numeral symbol for Five († or fifth).

13 *K Alis* 1851 Anon he dob his bemen blowe, v e on a prowe. 1340 *Ayenb* 23 Pe v bot of prede *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* I v 23, V Chapiter The v principal argument is this. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop*, *Aff* xcv iii, [Of the x tonnes] v were ful of vylle, & the other v were but half ful 1530 PALSG R 58 As apperyth in the iii chaptre and the v rule of the same 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* 3, v C yock of oxen, v C she asses. 1636 B JONSON *Eng Grammar*, Our numeral letters are, I for 1, V for 5. 1788 GIBBON *Decl & F* xlvii V 6 A single chapter will include, III The Hul garians, IV. Hungarians, and, V Russians. 1842 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* V 151/2 With an Engraving, Plate V *Ibid* 197/1 Lecture V

b. *V, V-shot, V-note*, a five-dollar note *U S*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag* IX 96 My wallet [was] distended with V s and X's to its utmost capacity 1849 LOWELL *Biglow P* Ser 1 viii 57 I vow my hull sheer o' the spiles wouldn t come nigh a V spot 1864 BROWNING *Drama Pursuit* Wks 1896 I 603 Sixty V s must do. A trifle, th ugh to start with! *Ibid*, A poor lad herein the company talk grand of dollars, V notes, and so forth

**III. 5** Abbreviations

**a** Of various Latin words or phrases v = *versio* 'the back of the leaf', *versus* 'against', *vide* 'see', v g = *verbi gratia*.

1658 PHILLIPS, *V* an usual character or abbreviation of the words *verbi gratia*, *i e* namely, or to instance in a word 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* II xxx § 5 [Ideas] made up of such collections of simple ideas as were really never united v g. (etc.). 1738 CHAMBERS *Cyc I* (1751) s v *Angle*, I Phil Trans N° 490, p 147 1767 R BURN & J *Law* (ed 9) IV C 1, A table of the Cases adjudged A ton v Smith Adams v Rush [etc.] 1827 JAMMAN *Jowett's Dictionary* II 311 It is to be observed that Mr Richard Andrew, and Miss Norris, were decided at a period when the rule was not so well settled 1865 *Reader* 28 Jan, Rime v Rhyme

b Of English words and phrases V = various proper names, as Victoria, Vincent, Violet, etc, the chemical symbol of Vanadium, v = verb, verse, vision (in *Med*), very (in various phrases, as v g. very good, v h e very highly c mmended, etc); V A = Vicar Apostolic, V C = Victoria Cross, v d = various dates, V.M = Virgin Mary, V P. = Vice President, v r = variant of various reading, V S = veterinary surgeon, v y = various years

1670 COKE in *Early I y Levant* (Hakluyt Soc) 111 A pretty little picture of the V M 1707 in Milner *Suppl Mem I n Cath* (1848) 48 The eccle si tical g vernment by V V A is by no means essential to our religion 1820 MILNER *Ist* 252 The Prelate who did publi h the Resolutions was the Western V A. 1863 HOTTEN *Hand bk Topogr* 195/2 Cuttings from Newspapers [et ] VII 1866 F H WILSON *Otr Father* (1869) 122 I stands with the lion and unicorn at the top the letter V at the one side and R at the other 1872 LEVER *Tal A'Kilpatrick* lxxix, It is a cheese for V C. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 8 Mar 3 4, I have been 'g ood, bad, and indifferent' and I have been 'v g 1901 *St James's* 9 Oct 10 2, v h c in the cheese fair

**c** In music an abbrev of various Italian words, as *verte* 'turn', *violino* 'violin', *voce* 'voice', *volta* 'time'

1724 *Short Explic Tow Words in Mus Bks* 1 The Letter *V* is often used as an Abbreviation of the Word *Violino* or *Violin*, the Letters *I V* at the Bottom of a Leaf are often used as an Abbreviation of the Words *Volti Subito* 1753 *Chambers' Cyc I Supp* (1), in music is often used to show that a piece is designed for the violins and VV, for two violins, or more

Hence **V-d** *pa. pple*, cut with a V shaped incision. 1881 LEBEAUX *Cut Bks* 180 The sight consists of a steel spring screwed on to the top rail, with one end set at right angles and V d to form the sight

**Va**, southern ME. var FOR *ich*, obs Sc f WAY *ich* WOR *ich* and *a*

**Vaalite** (vā'lit) *Min* [f the *Vaal* River, S Africa, + -ITE 1 2 b named by Maskelyne] A variety of vermiculite

1874 MASKELYNE in *Coal Nor Lond* XXX 409 Vaalite occurs in hexagonal prisms, the angles of which are nearly 60° and 120°

**Vaat**, obs form of VAT

**Vac** (væk), abbrev (chiefly in UNIV. colloquial use) of VACATION *sb*.

1709 *Brit Apollo* No 55 3/2 It was very hard in the *Vac* without Gams 1864 Bp CREIGHTON in Mrs Creighton *Life* (1904) I ii 21, I shall have all the rest of the Vac to perpend and meditate on that point 1871 M LEGRAND *Canon Preston* 55 When I was a boy at Harrow, I always hated going home for the 'vacs' 1906 *Catholic Weekly* 18 May 7 Others lectu ed to working men in the vacs.

**+Vacabond.** *Obs* Forms **a.** 5-6 **vacabounde**, 5 **wayke** ), 8 **vacabonde**(s, 7 5-6 **vacabond**(e, 6 **vacab-**, **vake-**) 8 6 **vacabo**(u)**nd**, **vacabone** [a OF *vacabonde*, *vacquabonde*, *vaccabon*), app an alteration of *vagabond* e VAGABOND under the influence of L. *vacare* (F *vaquer*) to be unoccupied or idle

The form survives in northern E dialects and in the 17th century Chiffet gives *vacabond* as the pr on of *vagabond* (Lattre) In Anglo-I of the 15 16th cent *vacabundus* occurs in place of *vagabundus*]

**1** A person having no settled means of living or no fixe l home, a vagabond

a 1404 in Flis *Orig Lett* Ser II I 37 Al men of the forsaede shire except fowre or five gentilmen & a fewe vacabounds, wolden faene cum to pees 1472 *Presentments of*

*Surtees* Hist. Durham (1890) 04 John Bek is a vacabound. 1483 *Ibid* 78 One Wrodlyngton, a waykabound 1530 *Act* 22 *Hen VIII* c 12 It shall be leful to the constables to arest the sayde vacabundes and ydell persones. 1578 Whetstones *Promos & Cass* II iv 4, Fetches out in all yelle vacabounds.

*B* 1453 *Rolls of Parli* V 270/1 Thomas Watkynson Yoman and Robert Withes late of Selby in the shire of York Vacabunde 1495 *Coventry Leet Bk* 568 All maner vacabundes & beggers myght by lody within his Cite 1530 Palsgr. 183/1 *Forge gorge*, a gyare of stockes to punysshe vacabundes 1552 *Nottingham Acc* IV 103 Any vacabunde, suspect person, or nowghty people 1584 *Merr Mag* 16b He commanded that vnto a number of yong disensed vacabunds, there should be ministred a thin Diet, an excessiue labor, and cleanly lodging

1 1672 *Entertainments of Parties in Surtees Misc* (1890) 50 Thomas Dransfield liftes as a vacabond 1733 Ld Berners *Huon* xxviii 85 There was no begger vacabonde, nor rybault but by grete flockys they ca me 1763 in Turner *Select Acc Exhcq* (1880) 303 Beggers or vakebondes do come into the Cytye 1788 Lambarde *Perimedes* Wks (Urosart) VII 39 Had those these fourteen yeeres gone as a vacabonde about the world vnknowen and despised ?

*B* 1556 *Nottingham Rec* (1889) IV 113 He dothe harber vacabones. 1567 Harman *Caveat* 19 Vagarantes and sturdy vacabons. 1571 R Dodoens *Herbal* in *Pitchcr Rem* 83/1 Betten with a codgell like a Slaue, a Vacaboun, or a lasie Lubber

**2** *attrib* or as *adj* (Cf Vagabond a)

1538 Fuller, *Armbutulus* in ches wan ler nge, or vaca bunde 1550 ] Coke *Eng & Fr Heralds* § 190 The true beginning of the Frenchmen was by a vacal undge captayne named Marcomyrus. 1580 Hollyband Treas Vacabond 1591 Savile *Tacitus Hist* II vii 57 Adjeuning vnto him certaine fugitiue and beggerly vacabond persons

**+Vaoabuncy** *Obs* —[irreg f *vacabund* Vacabond Cf Vacabuncy] Vagabondage

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen VIII* c 25 Sturdye and valiant beggers and vacabundes, after he were whipped for his vacabuncie and idelnes

**Vacance** (vā kāns) Chiefly *Sc* Also 6 **vacance, vacans, 9 vacanse** [fd L *vacantia* (see next), or a F *vacance* (1642) ]

**+1. a** A vacant period *Obs*—1

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III (STS) I 43 Thus gouernance was callit the Interregne I hat is to say be vacance betuix the death of anekyng to the nixt ordourit aue mthir

**+b** Cessation or suspension *of laws Obs*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III ix (STS) I 247 Pe vacance of lawis [L *quititium*] was commandit *Ibid* 249 At the re turnyng of quintus to romane, the vacance of lawis ceissit

**+2** The fact of becoming vacant, the vacation *of* an office *Obs*

1579 Lyt, *Privy Council Scot* III 177 Vpoun the vacance of ony prelace the kirkis thairof sallbe dispount to q uhilit ministeris in tuilt

**3** — Vacation 2 Now *rare*

1563 ? Buchanan *Reform St Andrew* Wks. (STS) 10 Heir ether thair may be gentle vacance 1 o to the first day of October 1567 *Sc Acts, Jas VI* (1814) III 32/2 The Lordis of counsell and sessioun hes be in vse to haue vacance at Yule, Pasingtes euin, Pasche & Witsonday 1609 in Scton *Life & Sel Sc* (1888) 3 To Yule vacance to be and continue from the 24th December to the 6th January *inclusive* 1658 Sir G Mackenzie *Crim Laws Scot* II xli 8 (1699) 207 Neither the Session nor Barrouns can hold Courts *in ferial*, or close time of Vacance. 1695 Sibbald *Antol* xi (1834) 129 I past the Bajon yeer under Mr James Wyseman, who died in the vacance thereafter 1732 J Louthian *Form of Process* (ed 2) 28 These Letters pass upon a Bill s ged by three Lo ds in Time of Vacance, and four in Time of Session. 1824 ] Wilson *Noct Ambr* Wks. 1855 I 242 The fates o the Indides at the Edinburgh Military Academy, on the Saturday before their vacance 1835 *Blackw Mag* XXXVIII 154 We have anglers ten hours a day for half-a week (during the vacance) 1901 Trotter *Coll Gossip* 338 Give them vacance to recruit

*attrib* 1728 Fountainhall *Decis* (1759) II 345/1 was just and necessary to arrest him, during Pasche Vacance, though in vacance time a 1774 Ferguson *Poems* (1779) II 46 Their stamock s aft in tift I vacance time

**+4.** In Eng use (Cf Session, Vacation) *Obs rare*

1609 Birle (D uay) *Feclus* xxxvii. 25 *comm*, The wiad m of a scribe in the time of vacance *a* 1660 ] H Browne *Poems* (1768) 141 Nor thou dasdan Fit hour of Vacance with the Muses train

**Vacancy** (v kānsi) Also 6 **vacantie, 7** *Sc* **vaccancy** [f Vacant *a* (see -ancy), or ad late and med L *vacantia* (Sp and Ig *vacancia* It *vacanza*), f *vacant*, *vacans* vacant Cf prec ]

**I 1** = Vacation 2 Also in pl Now *arch*

c 1580 W Stewart *Cron* (1858) I 7 I compryned my sute ut till the tyme of ther vacantie in the Lawe 1633 W Robinson in Rigaud *Corr Sc Men* (1841) I 18 He is to come this vacancy 1 to I in h ithe bout business of his own 1769 *Trials of Hithe & other Tenants to Sir J.* 16 He was [absent] in the time of the Vacancy / c / 7 When the Vacancies 7 *sept* in Aug. & my *Lord* 1700 Maxwell *Diary in Cath Tr* n s *Irel* VII 134 To day the Vacancys of the lower Classe began and en l at Sept Luke 1730 in Ritchie *Churches of St Andrew* I 28 He must not grant to e vacancie w thout the consent of the 201 1 m Sitler *Diary* (1901) II 409 At the End of the Vacancy 1744 Mr Reed carried his 3 pupils to enter into Harvard] College. 1896 Grant *Burgh Sch Sc* II ii 162 Besides the half and occasional holiday two annual plays or vacancies have of ol been granted to the scholar 1896 in Hare *Story Life* (1896) IV 422 They are having their vacan ies.

**+b** Without article *Obs rare*

1643 in *Peats Aberd* (1854) 421 The porter shall attend the colledge for saving the fabrick both in tyme of play and vacancie 1691 tr *Emiliane's Observ Turn Naples* 15 Every year in Autumn they have two Months of vacancy

**+2. Temporary freedom or cessation from** business or some usual occupation Also const *from*

1599 *Broughton's Let* VII 91 His assiduous reading in any vacancie from business. 1600 Segar *Honour Mil & Civ* IV xxi, For he that hath been longest vacant may take place before him that is lesse ancient in Vacancie 1630 Milton (*title*) On the University Carrier who sickn d in the time of his vacancy, being forbid to go to London, by reason of the Plague 1665 ] Patrick *Parab Pilgr* xxxvii (1668) 337 He did not find so much vacancy as his heart desired for private Prayer 1775 Johnson *Lett* (1788) I 291 *Ay*, and wonderful novelty would afford all the relief that human art can give

**+b** Free or unoccupied time, leisure *Obs*

1606 Shake. *Ant & Cl* I iv 26 If he fill'd His vacancie with his voluptuousnesse 1628 Preston *Breastpl Love* (1631) 114 So occupied with outward things abroad that they have no vacancie to feed their souls within 1636 Blount *Glossogr* To the Reader, This Work has taken me up the vacancy of above Twenty years

**+c** An interval of leisure or unoccupied time

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 305 Diuers of nothing but Riots, visits and such like Exiles from themselves, and vacancies from the businesse of life 1656 Hale *Contempl* I *Contempt* I *time* 21 An industrious Husband man, Trades man, Scholar, will never want business for occasional vacancies and hours that are lost 1690 Locke *Hum Und* IV xx § 3 There are none so enslav d to the necessities of life who might not find many vacancies that might be husbanded i to this advantage of Knowledg 1738 in *Hist Reg* Feb. (1892) 350 Filled in y^ vacancies of y^ day with work

**3** The state or condition of being free from or unoccupied with work, business, or action, nb sence of occupation, idleness, inactivity

Freq in the 17th c ; now *rare*

1613 ? Cawdrey *Treas Similes* 1 Cheese, a sport that agreeth well with their sedentary vacancie 1651 Hobbes *Lev* I *Soc xii* § 10 They who are least troubled with caring for necessary things, have commonly the greatest vacancy inclination to dispution among themselves concerning the Common weal 1670 Cotton *Eighteen* 1 ref, Having about three Years since sold in the Vacancy of a Country Life taken this Volume in hand 1702 W Hendrick *Comment* xiii (18 6) 78 Nor does the vacancy of a Bath life suit com monly the Sanguine 1711 *Ld Ref Refut* (1856) I 200 The source of the common fondness for novels of this sort reats in that dislike of vacancy and that love of sloth inherent in the human mind 1818 Hyson *Ch Hist* IV v, Such is the refuge of our youth and age, The first from Hope, the last from Vacancy

**+b** Quiet *from* (Freq in 17th cent) *Obs*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1 Pref 6 Which hee doth out wardly with that measure of health, of vacancy from other businesse [etc ] 1631 Byfield *Doctr Sabb* 143 A precise vacancy from all worke remorall 1690 Norris *Reattitudes* (1699) 80 Seeing that a Vacancy from Worldly affairs is necessary *Qualification for Prayer* 1718 *Spect* No 408 P 8 An absolute Indifference and Vacancy from all Passion

**+c** Freedom from mental preoccupation *Obs*

1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 204 P 123 Nor was he able to disengage his attention, or mingle with vacancy and ease in any amusement 1795 Mme D Arblay *Camilla* V 293 Her spirits, in this state of vacancy, had readily been bent to the new pursuit 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I iii, I^ very evening at six [they] walk majestically out again to enfranchise mankind scandal prayers and vacancy 1895 Anstey *Bakhwell* II i, The fishers whistle o er their lazy task In happy vacancy

**4** Absence of any determining influence or factor *rare*—1

1754 Edwards *Freed Will* II vii (1762) 64 The Will s Freedom consists in this Vacancy and Opportunity that is left for the Will itself to be the Determiner of the Act

**II +4** An unoccupied period or interval, a time of absence of some activity *Obs*

1600 Shake. *Twel N* V i 50 For three months before, (No mi tin, not a minutes vacancie,) Both day and night did we keepe companie 1625 ] Godwin *Moses & Aaron* I (1640) 8 In the vacancy of Iudicature, and time of Interreg num, between Iudge and Iudge 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 39 In so long an interval and vacancy of War, from which this Nation had been blessed

**5** The fact or condition of an office or post being, becoming, or falling vacant, an occasion or occurrence of this.

1607 in *Hist Wakefield Gram Sch* (1892) 59 Within foure daies of the vacancie knowen 1665 Manning *Lotrus Lane C* 1 Which they began a new Colledge, which was, That they would 1 Vacancies name the Captains and other 1 fferiour Officers under their Pay 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I iii 171 Sometimes the civil after the dea th of the writs, or after the vacancy give any m oney or entertainment to his elect rs. 1818 Cobbett *Digest* (ed 2) III 35 A sale of an advowson, being made during a vacancy, was unwarrantable and v id in respect to the then present vacancy 1896 *Law Times Rep* C 448/1 With reference to the vacancy among g the Chancery laking masters

**b** Const of (an office, position etc )

1610 G Carleton *Jus vidicat* 2 That power whereby we were ena ed the h pero r in the vacancie of the I mpire 1659 H I Ferrand *Absurd Dis Off* 322 As did the Clergy of Rome also in the va ajesty of that Sea determine 1687 A. Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 77 note, Zorneean Mustapha Basha made a present to the Sophi durin g the vacancy of the Charge of Grand Visier 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 220 In the Vacancy of a Bishopri k the Guardian of the Spiritual ities was summon d to Parliament in the Bishop s Room. 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 159 The vacancy of the throne was precedent to their meeting without any royal summons

**c** An instance or occasion of land, a tenancy, etc, being or becoming vacant. *rare*

1589 Carpenter in *Archæologia Cantana* II 9 It cannot be said that in such a case there is ever a vacancy of possession 1845 Poison *Eng Law in Encycl Metrop* II 897/1 The

**+2. Temporary freedom or cessation from** business or some usual occupation Also const *from*

1599 *Broughton's Let* VII 91 His assiduous reading in any vacancie from business. 1600 Segar *Honour Mil & Civ* IV xxi, For he that hath been longest vacant may take place before him that is lesse ancient in Vacancie 1630 Milton (*title*) On the University Carrier who sickn d in the time of his vacancy, being forbid to go to London, by reason of the Plague 1665 ] Patrick *Parab Pilgr* xxxvii (1668) 337 He did not find so much vacancy as his heart desired for private Prayer 1775 Johnson *Lett* (1788) I 291 *Ay*, and wonderful novelty would afford all the relief that human art can give

**+b** Free or unoccupied time, leisure *Obs*

1606 Shake. *Ant & Cl* I iv 26 If he fill'd His vacancie with his voluptuousnesse 1628 Preston *Breastpl Love* (1631) 114 So occupied with outward things abroad that they have no vacancie to feed their souls within 1636 Blount *Glossogr* To the Reader, This Work has taken me up the vacancy of above Twenty years

**+c** An interval of leisure or unoccupied time

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 305 Diuers of nothing but Riots, visits and such like Exiles from themselves, and vacancies from the businesse of life 1656 Hale *Contempl* I *Contempt* I *time* 21 An industrious Husband man, Trades man, Scholar, will never want business for occasional vacancies and hours that are lost 1690 Locke *Hum Und* IV xx § 3 There are none so enslav d to the necessities of life who might not find many vacancies that might be husbanded i to this advantage of Knowledg 1738 in *Hist Reg* Feb. (1892) 350 Filled in y^ vacancies of y^ day with work

**3** The state or condition of being free from or unoccupied with work, business, or action, nb sence of occupation, idleness, inactivity

Freq in the 17th c ; now *rare*

1613 ? Cawdrey *Treas Similes* 1 Cheese, a sport that agreeth well with their sedentary vacancie 1651 Hobbes *Lev* I *Soc xii* § 10 They who are least troubled with caring for necessary things, have commonly the greatest vacancy inclination to dispution among themselves concerning the Common weal 1670 Cotton *Eighteen* 1 ref, Having about three Years since sold in the Vacancy of a Country Life taken this Volume in hand 1702 W Hendrick *Comment* xiii (18 6) 78 Nor does the vacancy of a Bath life suit com monly the Sanguine 1711 *Ld Ref Refut* (1856) I 200 The source of the common fondness for novels of this sort reats in that dislike of vacancy and that love of sloth inherent in the human mind 1818 Hyson *Ch Hist* IV v, Such is the refuge of our youth and age, The first from Hope, the last from Vacancy

**+b** Quiet *from* (Freq in 17th cent) *Obs*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1 Pref 6 Which hee doth out wardly with that measure of health, of vacancy from other businesse [etc ] 1631 Byfield *Doctr Sabb* 143 A precise vacancy from all worke remorall 1690 Norris *Reattitudes* (1699) 80 Seeing that a Vacancy from Worldly affairs is necessary *Qualification for Prayer* 1718 *Spect* No 408 P 8 An absolute Indifference and Vacancy from all Passion

**+c** Freedom from mental preoccupation *Obs*

1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 204 P 123 Nor was he able to disengage his attention, or mingle with vacancy and ease in any amusement 1795 Mme D Arblay *Camilla* V 293 Her spirits, in this state of vacancy, had readily been bent to the new pursuit 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I iii, I^ very evening at six [they] walk majestically out again to enfranchise mankind scandal prayers and vacancy 1895 Anstey *Bakhwell* II i, The fishers whistle o er their lazy task In happy vacancy

**4** Absence of any determining influence or factor *rare*—1

1754 Edwards *Freed Will* II vii (1762) 64 The Will s Freedom consists in this Vacancy and Opportunity that is left for the Will itself to be the Determiner of the Act

**II +4** An unoccupied period or interval, a time of absence of some activity *Obs*

1600 Shake. *Twel N* V i 50 For three months before, (No mi tin, not a minutes vacancie,) Both day and night did we keepe companie 1625 ] Godwin *Moses & Aaron* I (1640) 8 In the vacancy of Iudicature, and time of Interreg num, between Iudge and Iudge 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 39 In so long an interval and vacancy of War, from which this Nation had been blessed

**5** The fact or condition of an office or post being, becoming, or falling vacant, an occasion or occurrence of this.

1607 in *Hist Wakefield Gram Sch* (1892) 59 Within foure daies of the vacancie knowen 1665 Manning *Lotrus Lane C* 1 Which they began a new Colledge, which was, That they would 1 Vacancies name the Captains and other 1 fferiour Officers under their Pay 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I iii 171 Sometimes the civil after the dea th of the writs, or after the vacancy give any m oney or entertainment to his elect rs. 1818 Cobbett *Digest* (ed 2) III 35 A sale of an advowson, being made during a vacancy, was unwarrantable and v id in respect to the then present vacancy 1896 *Law Times Rep* C 448/1 With reference to the vacancy among g the Chancery laking masters

**b** Const of (an office, position etc )

1610 G Carleton *Jus vidicat* 2 That power whereby we were ena ed the h pero r in the vacancie of the I mpire 1659 H I Ferrand *Absurd Dis Off* 322 As did the Clergy of Rome also in the va ajesty of that Sea determine 1687 A. Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 77 note, Zorneean Mustapha Basha made a present to the Sophi durin g the vacancy of the Charge of Grand Visier 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 220 In the Vacancy of a Bishopri k the Guardian of the Spiritual ities was summon d to Parliament in the Bishop s Room. 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 159 The vacancy of the throne was precedent to their meeting without any royal summons

**c** An instance or occasion of land, a tenancy, etc, being or becoming vacant. *rare*

1589 Carpenter in *Archæologia Cantana* II 9 It cannot be said that in such a case there is ever a vacancy of possession 1845 Poison *Eng Law in Encycl Metrop* II 897/1 The

**VACAND.**

maxim that the tenancy of the land should always be filled, and that the tenant could make no disposition of his interest likely to involve a vacancy in the same tenancy

**6** A vacant or unoccupied office, post, or dignity.

1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) II 82 Monsieur Catinat has sent 250 officers to throw themselves into the towne to supply the vacancies of those that were sick and dead there 1706 J Ward *Wooden World Diss* (17 8) 21 He shall force a Rupture with some of the Ladies first to make a Vacancy for him 1769 *Junius Lett* III (1788) 46 His military cares have never extended beyond the disposal of vacancies. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* V II 618 How could there be an election without a vacancy? 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng* IV 286 More than twenty vacancies in the order of the Golden Fleece were placed by him at Henry s disposal

**b** A church without an incumbent or minister.

1897 ] Macfarlane *Mem I Archer* I 17 The ^vacan cies sought after him

**7.** Absence or lack *of* something *rare*

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II xiii 269 Jordan in the vacancy of the inhabitants, having got violent possession fenced and fortified himself in the adiane part. 1805 Southey *Kehama* III 11 With this cast of significance and vacancy of sense, it is allowed to depreciate without being accountable

**III 8** Limpty or void space

1600 Shake. *Hum Iv* 117 Alas, how is't with you? That you bend your eye on vacancie And with the incorporall ayre do hold discourse 1606 *Ant & Cl* II ii 221 Th ayre which but for vacancie Had gone to gaze on Cleopater too, And made a gap in Nature 1823 Byron *Corsair* I xv, The tender blue of that large loving eye Grew fixed and full as gazing upon vacancy 1871 Smiles *Lives Engineers* (1887) II 134 To roar and bellow No Popery to Vacancy and the Moon 1894 J S C Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II x 164 Folding his arms upon his breast, with his eyes fixed upon vacancy he stood in gloomy silence 1899 F T Bullen *Way Navy* 79 Meanwhile the Mersey came up out of vacancy at her best speed

**9** A vacant, unfilled, or unoccupied space, an open space between objects or things, or in a row or series, a breach gap, or opening, + an unoccupied or uninhabited piece of ground

1658 Needham tr *Selden's Mare Cl* 18 In the case of those who first inhabited Vacant places or who got the possession by right of War and Conquest 1670 W Perwich *Diary* (1903) 90 As soon as ever I passed the great vacancy I went to see the Citadell 1690 Lond Lives 1208 *Acres Meath* 90 In measuring of Roofing seldom any deductions are made for the Vacancies f r Lutheren Lights and Sky Lights 1706 R Bradley *Country Gentl Monthly Director* 3 In places where there are Vacancies in Hedges, you may Transplants or Twigs of the White Sallow 1744 M Bishop *Life & Acts* 209 It (i e gun fire) soon broke us in a terrible manner though our Vacancies were quickly filled up 1782 Jeffery *Voy N Guinea* 20 Their saddles have in the middle a vacancy which must make it easy for the horse 1800 Scobell *Sc Arctic Reg* I 55 Small white cicrs in the ice would n t prevent the journey 1858 Hawthorne *Tr & H Note Bks* (1870) I 20 This great arch with the hilly vacancy beneath it 1895 *Westm Gaz* 28 Jan 1/3 In the closing of the fontanelle, or the vacancy in the inflamed cranium

**b** *transf* A blank, gap, or deficiency

1755 Johnson *Rambler* 1 Every one in the valley was required to propose whatever might contribute to fill up the vacancies of attention, and lessen the tediousness of time 1846 Lanson *Wom Sp* II 1 Wks I 36 Your reluctant homages from crowned he ds have pas ed away from me, and leave no vacancy 1856 Bowie *Le Chic Pastils* iv 337 What will revelation be where would be a distinct vacancy in the scheme of knowledge

**10** The state or condition of being vacant, empty, or unoccupied, emptiness

1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* xlv IV 453 He contemplated with horror the vacancy and desolation of the city 1795 Mme D Arblay *Camilla* I 214 Such is the vacancy of ill spirited pleasure that an opera s always remains for a meeting yet to be found 1827 ] Scott *Surg Dean* xii (1856) 152 The dullest country town in England can afford no idea of the still ess and vacancy of the several rooms 1829 Scott (*Quentin D*) x x Que ti s felt a strange vacancy and chilliness of the heart 1878 Trollope *Duke's Ch Unw* I § 12 31 When David or Hezekiah shrank from the gloomy vacancy of the grave

**b** Lack of intelligence, inanity vacuity

1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* v Where in his face there was wildness and vacancy in here there was patient composure 1886 — *Boy at Rugby* Christm Stories (1874) 332 He is a smiling piece of vacancy

**+Vs cand,** *ppl a* and *sb Sc Obs* Also 5 **wacande, 5–6 wacand, 7 valeand, vacane** *B* **5 wak , vakande, 5–6 vakand, 6 vaken** [Sc pres pple of Vake v the usual spelling with *e* follows that of L *vacant* see next ]

**A** *ppl a* = Vacant *a* (esp in sense 1)

1 1488 in Fraser *The Lennox* (1874) II 57 With the gyfting and the patronage of the said Kirk alse often as it hyl pleys to be vacand 1498 ? *Wyntoun's Cron Tables* (1872) 310 Sir Wilyam of Sklop chasyd the Inglis men to the fest ane 1 that sal happyn vacand in thair gouernans 1570 Henry *Wallace* x 531 As Bruce at the pallyon Sowtry in ordanyt was and his sel 1500–20 Dunbar *Lament* 201 Sen Eustace tynsall into the spirituall state, Armand baniface the quhilk ar now vacand *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) I 286 He gaue him the pryorie of Coldingl ame quhilk was vacand in his handis at that tyme 1609 Skene *Acts Parl* 26 After the decels of the husband the Dowrie of his wife named be him is vacand (possessed be na man) or nocht vacand 1849 *Lancast Diary* (Manl Club) 11 He [the minister] was excommunicate, and his church declared vacant

**A** *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* VIII 27 Quhil pus be kynrik was wakande, Off Inglande be kynge was ban thynkande [etc ]. 1456 *Extr Aberd. Rec* (1844) I 21 That chapelnary of Saynt

Nicholas altar was than vakande 1513 Douglas *Æneados* (1710) XIII x 119 With this the Kyng Tatinus can deseris, And left the sceptoure vakand to his hand

**B** *sb.* 1. One who is free to take a mate
1598 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 206 Sa sperk of levdus on lewch of blise may thai sing, I hait, on sanct Valentynis day, ar vacandis lik ȝer

**2** A vacant office; a vacancy.
1567 *Burgh Rec Peebles* (1892) 306 Nixt vaken that falis within the towne of Peblis, that the said Thomas sonss sall haif the samin.

**Vacant** (vē kánt), *a* and *sb.* Forms 3–6 **vacaunt** (3 **vacavnt**), 4– **vacant**, 5–7 **vacante**. [a. OF. (also mod f.) *vacant* (= It., Sp., Pg. *vacante*), or ad L. *vacant-*, *vacans*, ppl. of *vacare* to be empty, etc cf prec In early senses the evidence is scanty until the latter part of the 16th century or later ]

**A.** *adj* **1** Of a benefice, office, position, etc : Not filled, held, or occupied, in respect of which a successor to the previous incumbent or holder has not been appointed
Freq of ecclesiastical benefices (see first group of quots 1, (*a*) *c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 72/51 pe bischopriche of wri-cestre vacaunt was and lere 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1810) 110 Pur Stesun dede, pat al a bissopriche vacant wer i-se so, pe kyng, no non of his, suld chalange pat of fe 1560 Daus tr *Sleidan's Comm* 237 b Many churches lye vacant. 1577 Harrison *Descr. Britain* (1877) 201 Pope had vectured the englishe people bicause they suffred the Bishops seas to be vacant so lon, a time 1611 in 11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App I 346 Ther hath falln vacant a benefice annexed to y^e vicariat 1671 J Davies (*title*), The Ceremonies of the Vacant See or a True Relation of what passes at R. he up in the Pope's Death 1823 Neld in *Life to R. Southey* 23 Mar Mr Horace Suckling is very anxious that you should i resent him to the vacant living. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vi II 95 The archbish pric of York was vacant 1887 *New York Independent* 8 Sept 11/3 The sixth of its churches are 'vacant', meaning of course, without pastors

(*b*) 1438–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) IV 381 That he myghte haue reloyssede an oper tetrarchye, beenge vacante pat tyme. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 507/2 Vacaunt, not occuppyd, *vacuus* 1560 Daus tr *Sleidan's Comm* 237 b Pope hath no man hetherto desyred the same places as common & vacant to be geven them 1607 Shaks *Timon* V i 145 Special Dignities, which vacant lye For layers to their service 1681 Pheaux *Lett* (Camden) 87 You may be assure I ye as soon as this or any other place is vacant you shall be put in into it. 1887 *Met Th Rev* 28 Dec 1/2 Dr Arnoman has undertaken to superintend the foreign department of the Medical and Physical Journal vacant by the decease of the late Dr Nicholson 1889 Macaulay *Hist Eng* x II 614 If the throne was vacant the Estates of the Realm might place William in it. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I 115 I hree places had fallen vacant.

† **b** Const. *of* (an incumbent or holder) *rare*.
1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 9637 Pe vifte was þat bissopriches & abbeies al so þat vacaunte were of prelas in pe kinges hond were ido 1438–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 109 Northumberlonde was vacante of a kynge viij^te yeres.

† **c.** Having no owner or possessor. *Obs.*
1560 Daus tr *Sleidanes Comm* 16 The goodes of the Impire, whiche shall chaunce to be vacant, he shall geve awey to no man 1730 Bailey (*fol.*), *Vacant Effects* (in *Law*) are such as are abandoned for want of an Heir, after the Death or Flight of their Owner

**2** Devoid of all material contents or accessories, containing, or occupied by, nothing; unfilled, empty, void.
*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4774 For, fra it drose to be derke ay till it dawid eftir, it was bot vacant & voide pe vanite it were *c* 1450 *Golagros & Gaw* 457 (One vessh. place of her owne lond *Ibid* ] The forsaid vacant place of lond 1634–5 Barkston *Pers* (Ch tham Soc 13) In the middle a square vacant place, wherein the Minister's brick is disposed. 1674 Milton *Samson* 89 The Moon, When she deserts the night, Hid in her vacant interlunar cave 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 329 Th hollowy plain Shall wide lay nigh an useless tix [the blast s] se ring force; Or whirl it in air, or into vacant chaff Shook wate 1753 Hogarth *Anal Beauty* 8 The vacant space within the bell. *Ibid* 51 It fills up the vacant angle under the arm 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XXIII 472 Invit me to his aid He, Godless haste, to his vacant hand Hs whip restored 1817 Jas Mill *Brit India* II v 214 From that very moment, complaint was extinguished; and the voice of praise ceased The vacant air 1858 Gurney *Everyday Life* 28 Those plants that are strong enough may be planted in vacant places.

*transf* a 1822 Shelley *Death* 15 All dead I those vacant names alone remain 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) IV 4 Philosophy was becoming more and more vacant and abstract

**b** Devoid of an occupant, not taken up by any one Also *fig*
1599 Shaks *Much Ado* I 1 304 But now that warre-thoughts Haue left their places vacant, in their roomes Come [etc ] 1602 Marston *Ant & Mel* II I, There's not a vacant corner of my heart But fits it full with deede Antonio hast 1667 Milton *P L* VII 190 Instead Of spirits maligne a better Race to bring Into this vacant room 1713 Young *Last Day* III 220 Satan's kingdom is vacant to supply, And fill the vacant stations of the sky 1780 Burke *Econ Reform.* Wks III 479 The bleak winds howling through the vacant lobbies and clattering the doors of deserted guard rooms 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* XX, To see the vacant chair and think 'How good! how kind! and he is gone 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II 247 There was a spacious half of seat vacant in my little hooded carriage

**c** Of land, houses, etc Uninhabited, unoccupied, untenanted. Also, of a room Not in use, disengaged.
1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 146 About viij c howsholdes in the same Towne desolate, vacante, and decayed 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* III, [At the old souldiers center upon the vacant lands. 1785 Paley *Mor Philos* (1818) II 383 The new settlers will naturally convert their labour to the cultivation of the vacant soil 1847 Helps *Friends in C* (1852) I 2 A house wh it had long been vacant in our neighbourhood 1891 S C Scribner *Our Fields & Cities* 140 There are at least a million and a half acres likely to be vacant every autumn

**d** Marked or characterized by the absence of life, activity, or sound
1792 Cowper *Iliad* II 68 Amid the stillness of the vacant night 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* XXXIV 16 To drop head foremost in the jaws Of vacant darkness and to cease 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* III iv 136 Somewhere in the dead and vacant dawn Philip went to bed

**e** Of water Free from ice, open
1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp* x. (1856) 71 In the morning of the 15th, a large vacant sheet of water showed itself to the westward

**3** With *of* Devoid or destitute of, entirely lacking or free from, something
*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5116 We at are voide ay of vice & vacant of vyle wordes 1450–1 *De Imitatione* III xxxii 101 If pe state of pe herte be vacant of a trist fundement 1613 Shaks. *Hen VIII*, V i 125 My person, which I weigh not Being of those virtues vacant (truth and honesty) vacant 1849 Newton *Comm* 718 That no corner might be vacant of her (i e Nature s) plenty 1663 Dr Patrick *Parab Liber* xxxii. (1687) 51 Vacant from employment & other business, vacant of business, and full of cheareful ness, met together at one table 1781 Franklin *Essays* Wks 1840 II 329 Was the face of the earth vacant of other plants, it might be covered and over spread with one kind only 1784 R Bage *Barham Downs* II 7 The hour being vacant of business, he got upon his legs 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 150, I, to herd with narrow foreheads, vacant of our glorious gains! 1910 Fair banks *Stud Soc* 3 *The I* it is it 292 If w could men vacant of good behaviour with Him [etc ] *Ibid* 1 *Life* 1 58 N L. (Rhenus) 2 *Pet* I 8 He y shal make you not vacant [L. *vacuos*], nr without fruit.

† **b** Empty-handed, destitute. *Obs rare*
1430–40 Lydg *Bochas* IV 11 (MS. Bod 263) They ban toled hym ouer-al vacant, Vnto pat tyraunt wan. And pat vacant wente in veyn Aboute the world as a fals fugityf 1576 in Collier *Illustr of Old Eng Hist* No 16 44 So that i me of yes were vacant awai), But of one of the parties had honestly our prye

**4** Of time. Free from, unoccupied with, affairs, business, or customary work, leisure Also const *from* (an action or occupation)
Freq from 16th to 18th c. 1750– now *Obs or rare*
(*a*) 1531 Elyot *Gov* I viii, Puttyng one to hym in vacant tyme s from other more serious I inynge *Ibid* xviii Alex xander, in tyme vacant or lest delyted in that manere hunti ge *a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Rich III* (1550) 34 Such cuyl persones as wyl not lese one houre vacant from dooyng and exercysyng cruelte 1631 Donne *Poems* 316/2 So Hanno 1 Ayleyes vacant from pleading and labour (*b*) 1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par Luke* xiv He wil with good laisure at a vacant time stire down the [ 1593 T Hawkins *Parkes Voyage* I 3 Rde Such scribling are hardly worth the vacantest howres. 1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* I ii § 7 The most active or busy man that hath been or can be, hath many vacant times of leisure 1632 Gibbon *Lond Alarum* V 859, 419 Vacant hours c. not leister be spent then in the Artillery Garden 1728 Addison *Spect* No 471 P 3 The Memory exercises the Mind in her vacant Moments 1761 Gibbon *Decl & F* XVII (1787) II 104 Ch shoes consumed his vacant hours in the rural sports of hunting and hawk ing 1805 Hawker *Instr Y Sportsm* (1808) 4 Rde Such scribblers are hardly worth the vacantest howres. 1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* I ii § 7 The most active or busy man that hath been or can be, hath many vacant times of leisure 1632 Gibbon *Lond Alarum* V 859, 419 Vacant hours c. not leister be spent then in the Artillery Garden 1728 Addison *Spect* No 471 P 3 The Memory exercises the Mind in her vacant Moments 1761 Gibbon *Decl & F* XVII (1787) II 104 Ch shoes consumed his vacant hours in the rural sports of hunting and hawk ing 1805 Hawker *Instr Y Sportsm* (1808) 4 I believe shes will up their vacant hours with this elegant amusement 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* I iii 35 Any vacant evening of his own I think would

† **b** Of persons Not engaged or employed in (one's usual or regular) occupation or work, disengaged or free *from* labour or toil, at leisure, also, having nothing or little to do. *Obs.*
(*a*) 1600 Fairfax *Bankfuon & Mor Philos* I xliv 28 When he was vacant from his labour, he will write most elegant Comedies *a* 1628 Preston *New Cast* (1634) 150 Those that are vacant from such things are at rest
(*b*) 1633 Bp Hall *Epist* III iv 4 They may be vacant as Christians 1671 Milton *P R* III 116 For Satan with slye preface to return Had left him vacant 1697 Potter *Antiq Greece* I xxvi 180 If it may produce any thing, it is more richer than himself. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* xix 4 Another spring renews the solid Parish, And finds me vacant in the rural grove 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) III 693/2 Even in excursions the vacant people [Laplanders] find a luxurious and ready past in these fish

*Absol* 1753 Smollett *Ct Fath m* Ded, To instruct the ignorant, and entertain the vacant

**c** Characterized by, arising or proceeding from, absence of occupation, leisure, or idleness, undisturbed by business or work
1623 Sandys *Trav* 296 Here vacant Life, heir Peace her empire keepes. 1659 Wotton *Lett* (1672) II 324 A great natural principle that the vacantest thoughts are every where the worst 1668 Gunning *Ltnt Feast* 2 A session of vacant attendance on fasting and prayer 1766 Goldsm *Vicar* V, Every morning walked in to a repetition of toil but the evening repaid it with vacant hilarity 1777 Malpas *Sermon Thomas Hutton* 30 The spiritual and vacant which is better suited to a vacant and indolent state 1866 R Chambers *Ess Lam & Hum* Ser II 89 An idle and vacant life is not calculated to make a happy one

**d** At leisure to devote oneself *to* some object
Also of things, open or accessible *to* some influence, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs*
1633 Bifield *Doctr Sabb* 151 How much more ought Christians to bee vacant to God alone on the Lords day? 1660 H More *Myst God* V xiv 172 Or thus why by reason of his Political employments could not he so entirely vacant to the searching into so abstruse a Mystery 1683 Baxter *Paraphr N T* 1 Tim. v 13 Those that are taken up with Family Business of their own are not so vacant and liable to these Crimes. 1738 Johnson *London* 70 [Is] When the heart is vacant to every fresh form of delight 1763 — *Let to Boswell* 8 Dec Vacant to every object, and sen sible of every impulse 1838 Sir J Stephen *Lect Fr. Ref* II 284 So long as they shall be vacant to record contrite remembrances of a desire for rescued goose

† **e** At leisure *for* something *Obs* —1
1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* VIII § 147 Sir John Berkely, who was the more vacant for that service by the reduction of Barnstable

**5.** Of the mind or brain Devoid of or unoccupied with thought or reflection. Chiefly *poet.*
1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal.* Oct. 100 The vaunted verse a vacant head demaunding. No more with rralbed care the Muses dwell 1599 Shaks. *Hen V*, IV L 286 The wretched Slave Who with a body fill'd and vacant mind Gets him to rest 1770 Goldsm *Des Villa* 119 The loud laugh that spoke the vacant mind 1781 Cowper *Actæon* 624 Absence of occupation is not rest, A mind quite vacant is a mind di tress'd. 1818 Mrs Hemans *Revenge* 4 The demon of unrest again took possession of her vacant mind 1855 Tennyson *Daisy* 106 Perchance, to lull the throbs of pain, Perchance, to charm a vacant brain

† **b** Abstracted or disengaged *from* (the body, etc ) in contemplation or reverie *Obs.*—1
1680 H More *Apocal Apoc* 5, I was in the spirit on the Lord's day, my mind ben g vacant from it is earthly body, and entertain d, see

† **c** Free from care or anxiety. *Obs. rare*
*a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq* (1685) 151 The Duke even in the midst of so many diversions, is naturally a very pleasant and vacant Face (as I may well call it) proceeding no doubt from a sin gular assurance in his temper 1723 Steele *Conscious Lovers* II 1, Why so much Care in thy Countenance? You, who used to be so Open, so Vacant?

**6** Characterized by, exhibiting, or proceeding from, absence of intelligence or thought, ex pressionless, meaningless, inane
1712 Steele *Spect* No 535, 5 The vacant look of a fine Lady is not to be preserved, if she admits any thing to take up her th ughts but her own dear Person 1780 Cowper *Pr Ep Error* 85 Yet fly ever has a vacant stare 1819 Shelley *Cenci* III i 27 Let me mask Mine own fell face in some more manly and vacant smile 1830 J G Strutt *Sylva Syl* 31 The loud laugh of the woodpecker, joyous and vacant 1841 James *Agincourt* II His eyes gazed upon the scene but with somewhat of a vacant aspect 1878 R Taylor *Deukalion* II 156 Vacant are thine eyes, Cold thine unsullied brow and mute thy lips.

**b** Impty-headed, unthinking *rare*
1879 Froude *Cæsar* xii 161 Metellus was a vacant aristocrat, to be depended on for resisting popular demands, but without much brain-power

**7** *Comb*, as *vacant looking*, *-minded* adjs, *vacant headedness*, *mindedness*.
1796 Mrs D'Arblay *Camilla* III 269 We all heard he was engaged to y ur beautiful vacant looking friend 1846 Miss Corr *Hist Char* (1185) 49 If they have formerly figured as beauties, the fickle voice of fashion now proclaims that they are pretty, certainly, but sadly vacant-looking 1879 Howells *Arcadian* xviii, Her frowsty — but not so much vacant minded ess as vacant heartedness 1883 J Mackenzie *Days from a Diary* 272, I have been saddened by the vacant minded pi ple

**B.** *sb* † **L** Sc A vacant estate. *Obs.*—1
*c* 1475 *Aucl Cosiper* 758 And als the nist vacant That hay ris in France, quhen it wer it fall, I ordanour or fre warit I gif the heir heritabill

† **2** One who has held office but is for the time being, unemployed or in retirement *Obs rare*
1600 Sager *How Mst & Ctr* IV xx 141 [of These misers despen wete in the Imperiall Court called Administrat es Vacantes and Honorarii *Ibid* 237 Note likewise that the Officers whom we call Vacants are of two sorts.

† **3** *pl* A vacation *Obs.*—1
1647 May *Hist Parl* I iii 35 The next Terme, after the ordinary vacants, to be held at the Burgh of Dendie

† **4.** *pool* A vacant space, a vacuum *Obs rare*
1781 Jackson *Cricket* 17 Ready by Turn to use or to d scend Nature against a Vacant to defend *Ibid* VII 155 Thou in the Vacant didst the Earth suspend

Hence † **Vacantness** *rare*—0 *from* 1 In order vacant, in various senses, to vacate **b** *intr* To take a vacation *Obs rare*
1649 Rainbow *Funeral Serm* 29 May 31 She applyed her self vig rously to the setting a fall things which concerned the wor ldar affairs of her family that so she might (tally and wholly be v cated to God 1674 [*E* Cawtrey] *Cath Icon* 18 Which Sacredness they know not y e presently vacanted by the Profanenesse of Prophane Ears. 1758 *Scotland's Glory* 57 For getting Yule kept up Our highest couns vacanted.

**Vacantie**, obs var Vacancy

**Vacantly** (vē kántli), *adv* [f. Vacant *a* + -ly ] In a vacant manner, + in freedom from business or work
1615 Sandys *Trav* 288 Great is the difference between leading thy life vacantly and leading it studiously. 1827 Shelley *Rev Islam* V xxxix 13 His sculptured walls lay nutty t t the stoke of footfalls answer d 1839 Dickens *Nickl* xv, the back parlour sat with her mouth wide open staring vacantly at the c Bed r in an stupor of dismay 1897 Rhoscomyl *White Rose Arno* 322 Thinking of the peace he has laughed vacantly as he heard the story

† **Va cantry.** *Obs*—1 [f. as prec. + -RY ] Vacancy, idleness, unoccupation.
1606 Chapman *Hero & Leand* VI 132 So serious is his trifling companie In all his swelling ship of vacantrie.

‖ **Vacat.** *Obs* [L., 3rd sing pres. ind of *vacare* to be vacant. Cf. Vacatur.] An annulment or abrogation.

1590 *Child Marvel* 300 To shend that the Recognizaunce thereof may be Adnihilated and voyd, and a vacat thereupon to be entred 1643 R Baker *Chron., Edw II* 145 The want of his fathers blessing without which a Vacat is set upon the labours of men a 1652 Hyperius in *Spel man's Hist Sacrilege* (1698) Add 21, Matt Paris having written that Marriage to have been *Contra Consilium Episc Romanis*, [he] did afterwards make a Vacat of it

**Vacatable,** *a* [f Vacate *v* + able] That may be vacated, capable of becoming vacant

1895 *Westm Gaz* 16 May 2/1 The number of Liberal seats vacatable in England and Scotland

†**Vacatee,** *pa. pple. Obs*—1 [ad. L. *vacatus*, pa pple of *vacare*, see next] Annulled, made legally void

c 1688 *Hand I For. H M I. ci Comm* 54 The statute is Obsolete and must be esteemed as if it had been vacate and null

**Vacate** (vēˈkēt), *v* [ad L *vacat-*, ppl stem of *vacare* to be empty, free, etc]

1 *trans.* To make void in law, to deprive of legal authority or validity, to annul or cancel

Very common in the 17 18th c Now only in legal use

1643 Prynne *Sov Power Parl* II 61 23 Jy The King calling a Parliament at Winchester, utterly repealed and vacated those former Ordinances 1697 Marvell *Corr Wks* (Grosart) II 458 If any one should spend before the day of election above ten pound, it shall be accounted bribery, and vacate his choice 1709 *Hearne Collect* 1 Aug 1 (O H S) *All Entries* shall be vacated and cancelled 1750 Carte *Hist Eng* II 158 Her relation is vacated him [Hen VIII] to remove the obstacles to his happiness, by vacating his marriage with Anne of Cleves 1790 in Dallas *Amer Law Rep* 1 120 The court will confirm the Judgment as to one, and vacate it as to the other 1817 W Selwyn *Laws Nisi Prius* (ed 4) II 1142 Such a motion on the part of the officer will not vacate the contract 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxii V 35 The opposition asked leave to bring in a bill vacating all grants of land and money which had been made since the Revolution. 1883 *Law Times Rep* XLIX 113/1, I declare the deed to be void, and that it ought to be cancelled and the registration vacated.

*b. transf* To deprive of force, efficacy, or value, to render inoperative, meaningless, or useless Now *Obs or rare*

1655 Gurnall *Chr in Arm* (1669) 184/1 The Christians Creed doth not vacate the ten Commandments 1698 Chillen *Evil Thoughts* 161 (1851) Endeavouring to vacate the obligation of the 8th commandment. 1711 in G Hickes *Two Treat Christ Priesth* (1847) I 123 A punctilio, as such it is vacated by the whole practice of the Church 1791 Wesley *To Servants* Wks 1811 IX 1 3 The character of the master does not vacate the duty of the servant 1802 Paley *Nat The* I v 1 These superficial parts would not vacate the reasoning which we had instituted concerning other parts 1829 R Hall *Ho* (1832) VI 414 They vacated the obligation of circumcision, thereby vacating and superseding the sacrifice of Christ

c To remove or withdraw (a record)

1769 Blackstone *Comm* IV 128 Indicting or vacating re cords is a felonious offence against public justice

2 To make or render (a post or position) vacant, to deprive of an occupant or holder

1697 J Lewis *Vem Dk Gloucester* (1789) 80 As a Quarter was vacated by the death of *Tri Sullivan* 1751 J Shaw in *Lett I lt. Mr.* (Camd n) 375 Some of the Bishoprick vacated by the deprivation of the Nonjur Bish ps 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 240 Lest by any act that the whole row of line should at any time fail, and become extinct which would indisputably vacate the throne 1828 Lytton *Pelham* I xxv, One of the seats in your uncle's borough is every day expected to be vacated 1871 C Merman *Norm Conq* (1876) IV xvi 678 Hadrian de Castello sought the death of Pope Leo in order to vacate the throne which, when it was vacated, was filled by Hadrian of Utrecht

b. To leave (an office, position, etc) vacant by death, resignation, or retirement, to give up, relinquish, or resign the holding or possession of

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxv, Pen prom sed that he would give his election theme there, when the Baronet should vacate his seat in the young man's favour 1895 M Arnold *Last Essays* (ed 3) Prof Jebb's note, When the above was written the author had still the Chair of Poetry at Oxford, which he has since vacated

c *absol* To give up an office or position.

1812 in *Examiner* 30 Nov 763/1 As soon as the forms of the House will admit of a Member vacating in consequence of a double return 1864 Boase *Exeter Coll* (O H S) p lxxii A Devonshire fellowship was given to Maurice Ley, but Ley soon vacated

3 To leave or withdraw from (a place, seat, etc), to quit or give up

1793 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom Forest* iv, It was most probable that if the officers found the abbey vacated, they would quit before morning 1830 D'Israeli *Chas I* Cab *Curiosities* I 172 The English fishes had caused their servants to insult one of the colleagues in the hope that they would vacate the premises. 1856 Kane *Arct Expl* II v 61, I have determined to remove him to the berth Riley has vacated.

b *absol.* To give up possession or occupancy of a house, etc.

1854 Thoreau *Walden* 48 I to pay four dollars and twenty five cents to-night, he to vacate at five to-morrow morning 1856 Miss Mulock *Thirlstone* xiv, No one vacated; and all that long Sunday we sat in the parlour lately our neighbour's.

4. *intr* †a To devote one's time, to give oneself up, *to* something *Obs rare*.

1685 Evelyn *Mrs Godolphin* (1888) 7 Prescribing to herselfe a constant method of devotion, that she might the better vacate to holy dutyes. a 1706 — *Hist Relig* (1850) II 266 There must be deacons and deaconesses, so that the preachers may wholly vacate to the Word.

†b To withdraw oneself *from* (a task). *Obs*—1

1665 G Harvey *Adv. agst Vacant* 1, I might justly vacate from this task having so lately amused my self about a Tract of the French Contagion

c *U.S.* To give up work for a time, to take a holiday or vacation.

1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 July 476 One thing he [a Christian] can never learn, and that is how to vacate

Hence **Vacated** *ppl. a.*

1791 *On Reliq. Saints, in the World* 114 It is the very genius of christianity to stamp the all sufficiency on whose vacated ground benevolence plants itself 1831 I Taylor *Fanatics Creed Will* Defeat Essay p xxxix, They hinder decent piety and vacated palaces 1863 Dana *Man Geol* 7 7 Leaving the rock either side of the vacated space to be preyed et gether 1903 W Bright *Ages of Fathers* II xxx 94 The priest Eugenius was rewarded by promotion to the vacated see

**Vacating** (vāˈkētiŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. Vacate *v*]

1 The action of annulling, making void, or depriving of legal authority or validity

1628 (*title*) A Declaration of the Commons of England, expressing their reasons for the Adnulling and Vacating of these ensuing Votes 1691 I Hale [&c] *New Incunt* p xcvii, How several Lord Mayors procured the vacating of Patents that they judged intrenching on the Conservacy 1764 T Hutchinson *Hist Mass* II (1765) 299 From the restoration until the vacating the charter 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed 2) V 227 Such a method as the vacating a statute long before extinguished

2 The action of giving up, leaving, or relinquishing

1820 Southey *Wesley* I 121 He therefore looked upon himself to be fully discharged from that rule by the vacating of his primary design 1855 Brewster *Newton* I iv 98 The expected vacating of his Fellowship 1905 *Nat Rev* 23 Sept 48/1 The vacating of a Warden's residence

**Vacation** (vākēˈʃən), *sb* 1 orms 4 5 vacacioun, 5 vacacyone, cione, -cyoun, vacacion(e, 5–6 vacacion (6 -cyon), 6 vacatione, 5– vacation. [a OF. (also mod F) *vacation* (= It *vacazione*, Sp. *vacacion*, Pg *vacação*), or ad. L *vacation-em*, *vacatio* (med L. also *vacacio*), f *vacare* see Vacate *v*]

I 1 Freedom, release, or rest *from* some occupation, business, or activity.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol* 684 When he hadde leyser and vacacioun For to other worldly occupacioun 1532 Lyot *Dict* 11 b, Vacacion from labour 1548 Hall *Chron* 1 Henry IV 28 b, Vacacion from work 1561 Brathwait *Nat Infantine* (1877) 156 Let not your vacation from your labours from vice 1600 R Lucas *Humane Life* 145 The life of the sluggish is but a waking dream, a vacation of all business 1658 Rowland *Varenius Arabia* II 16, I specially during the days of vacation from ordinary business

b Without const Freedom or respite from work, etc time of rest or leisure

c 1440 Promp *Parv* 514 Vacacyone or cessyn, *Vacacio* 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 58 A secrete place, of some vacation from the preachers of the Court 1590 Spenser *Mother Hubberds Tale* (1853) 129 Which, fearing from my wilfy business, and as it were having a certain holy vacation from the world 1611 Cotgr *Vacance* 1670 Hubon *Nowell's Catech* (1853) 129 When

he shall ratifie that which was done in the vacation of thempire, by the countie Palatine. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II xvii 475 But we are now arrived at a meere vacation, wherein the Crown of Iudæa lay void eleven whole yeares. 1632 Lithgow *Trav* III 89 This common city they receive in euery such like vacation, which otherwise, they durst neuer attempt.

†**b** A vacant post; a vacancy. *Obs*

1535 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) I 198, I hertely desyre & pray you to graunt vnto the said Robert the next vacation of one of the iiii Clarkes of your courte

†**6.** The fact of a house being unoccupied or untenanted; loss of rent due to this. *Obs*

1479-81 *Rec St Mewyn at Hull* (1935) 36 Vacacions In primis xvj li 13s 4d in cambre, vocat le Vj parters, tempore Ric iij and *Hill* 1581 Item, for the wearinge out of the house that Wylliam Raynsford dwellyd in, for iij quarters, xxs.

†**7.** Empty space, vacuity. *Obs*—1

1743 *Lond & Country Brew.* iii (ed. 2) 211, I am of Opinion nothing less than Four or five Feet high Vacuum ought to be allowed in order to break the Force of such an Ebullition, by thus giving it Room enough to expand

**III.** †**8.** The action of voiding or evacuating

1607 Markham *Cavel* VII (1617) 43 Iam fulnes, as from surfeit of meate or drink or the want of vacation of humors

**9** The action of vacating, of leaving (or being left) vacant or unoccupied.

1876 Clark Russell *It he the Man?* II 2 The servants were ignorant of the true reason of all of Mrs. Kynaston's sudden vacation of the house. 1884 *Manch Examr* 23 May 5/4 The Vicar only left Hull with them on the post of vacation made by the Marquis of Ripon. 1892 *Sat Rev* 2 Oct 363/1 Seats chosen for vacation by the Gladstonians themselves.

Hence **Vacation** *v. intr*, to take a vacation or holiday **Vacationer,** *(a)* *U. S.*, a holiday-maker, *(b)* a vacation student. **Vacationist,** = prec (*a*)

**Vacationless** *a*, having no vacation or holidays

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 27 Aug 272 Despite hard times, people will go "vacationing" this fall. 1897 *Outing* The swallows homeward fly 2 and 8, by seven and half do vacationless and tourists 1898 *Atlant Monthly* LXXXII 490/1 It did my vacationless heart a deal to see much so thrifty industrious. 1904 *Mitre Temple Rose, Mitre Hall* 3 1898 The following vacationers are fined 20s each for absence from Mr Bathurst's 1885 *Daily Tel* 30 June The Vacationist in quest of burning air will find retty pleasant spots to sun him in. 1892 *Harper's Bazar* (Chicago) 25 June, I do like to go away [young people who do less who do real vacationing, more than I do

‖ **Vaca tur.** *Obs* [L *vacatur*, 3 t sing pres ind pass of *vacare* : cf VACAT.] An annulment.

1688 *Lond Gaz* No 2313/3 Whether Your Majesty will be pleased to declare that a Pardon cannot be pleaded in bar of the Clerkship surrendred 1811-12 *Rep Comm Lords' Rec Irel* (1865) V 8 Every Vacatur—How it came in patents, not one having occurred these six years back), &c 17 11

**Va carage,** *rare* [See next and -AGE. Cf also Fr *vacarie*] = next

1895 *Jrnl* V 90 [1] The Vacaria, the usages, or customs attached to the Abbey

**Vaccary** (vɛ·kări) Now only *Hist* Also 5 6 **vaccarie,** 6 **vaccharie,** 7 **vacharie** [cf med L *vaccaria*, F. La *vacca* cow. Cf. Vachery, and Fr. *vacherie* herd of cows] A place where cows are kept or pastured; a dairy farm

1472 in *Arch* LXVII 105 Houses, pruffites and rey nues comyn, of the ferm of the vacary of Skelthorne. 1548 *Will* (1837) I 160 A yeld of the vaccharie. They have by tradicion the use of A rea. 1594 Gromit *Jurist* 194 Without warrant no man may enclose in the vaccarie. 1656 in *Trans Hawick Arch Assoc* 1899 *Hawick* seemes to be a house to keep kine or cowes in [H. nec in Philipp. etc.] 1815 *Trans Banffshire* 13 The Forest of Wyresdale being distributed into twelve different tracts which still retain the ancient title of *vaccaries* or cow pastures. [1863 J. R. Wareham *Mem Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 343 n. To further annuality of the payment of the vaccary twenty six stones eight pounds of butter.]

**Vaccha(n,** southern ME. var. FRITH *v*

**Vacci-** (vɛ·ksi), combining form of L *vacca* cow, as in **Vaccicide,** the killing of a cow, **Vaccinn Igness,** milking of cows

Also, in recent Dicts *vaccigenous* (for **vaccimigenous*) adj 'producing vaccine'

1796 C Taylor *Eng Lit* (1845) II 37 Will you try to take out for a bit several of the vaccinific coralige 23 That last word is a new one 1900 M C Wilson *Trans Linnean* 24 In Kashmir va cine is a capital crime

†**Va cin.** *Obs*—1 [ad L. *vacuum tum*] (See VACUINIUM.)

1589 Feminis *Lusig George* x 38 What then, if Annus be ill th ikke (as I suppose) violent and vicious? I answere

**Va coinable,** *a.* [f Vaccin ate *v*] Capable of being successfully vaccinated.

1899 in Syd Soc *Lex*

**Vaccinal** (vɛ·ksĭnăl, vɛksoi·năl), *a.* [f Vaccine *sb* + -AL, or a F *vaccinal* (1812)] Of or pertaining to, connected with, vaccine or vaccination.

1888 *Lancet Lect* XXIV 264 The vaccinal eruption, especially on the scalp. *Ibid* 265 Pustulous of vaccinal sore arms. 1899 *Daily News* 6 March 8/5 An inspector comes down to inquire into the vaccinal condition of the sufferers.

**Vaccinate** (vɛ·ksĭnēt), *v.* [f. Vaccine *a* Cf. F. *vacciner* (a 1803), It. *vaccinare*, Pg *vaccinar*, Sp. *vacunar*]

1 *trans* To inoculate with the virus of cow-pox as a protection against small-pox.

1803 Reid *Treat Consptn* II 1006 A French physician having vaccinated the son of the English Consul *Thirty* in number of those who were vaccinated in New England 1845 S. Hood *Lunacy Acts* 2 When her only child Ioan [sic] was at a proper age, Mr Howard proceeded to vaccinate him [*i. e. note*], to inoculate him with the cow-pox] 1856 Miss Mulock *Thy Handmaid* xxv, Rather against Ursula's wish, I vaccinated the children

*Ibid* 1899 S. Hurry in *Q Rev* I 212 It might be supposed that dilution of the cow-calf vaccinated them against inoculation of any other religion 1872 O W Holmes *Lect to Med Stu* 1 If we are to learn who vaccinate the two children who with the cow-disease 1892 *Law Notes Cheap Cattle* II 3 Who will vaccinate him against free thinking as I would have done?

*b transf* To inoculate with a virus.

1904 *Jrnl Med Invest* to Sept 574 By vaccinating animals with a strongly neurotoxin poison

**2** *intr* To perform or practise vaccination.

1837 Macaulay *Ess, Ld Bacon* (1877) 404 The Baconian takes out a lancet and begins to vaccinate 1843 Marryat *Mr Midshipman Easy* xvii, As I have before mentioned, the Shoshones can vaccinate 1878 [see Vaccinator 3].

3 *trans* To inject by or in vaccination.

1904 *Jrnl Med Invest* to Sept 574 By vaccinating animals with a strongly neurotoxin poison

**Hence Va ccinated** *ppl. a*, **Va ccinating** *vbl. sb* and *ppl. a.*

1808 Reid *Med. Dict* s v *Cow pox*, The proportion of vaccinated persons 1876 Brinsley *Th & Treat Med.* (1878) 177 'sometimes a rash appears only spreads over the vaccinated part. 1888 *Lancet Lect* XXIV 246 In the vaccinated scab in an unprotected 1867 *Chambers's Journ* IX 668/2 The mesh of the vaccinating and the phlegm and of the vaccinated 1868 *Lancet Lect* 1 In the vaccination of the vaccinating Lancet 1879 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 715 An active vaccinating material.

**Vaccination** (vɛksĭnē·ʃən). [f Vaccine *a* Cf. F. *vaccination* (a 1803), It *vaccinazione* (1809), Pg. *vaccinação*, Sp *vacunacion*]

**1** The action or practice of inoculating with vaccine matter as a preventative of small pox.

1800 R D Keane *Milk* Some of sensations on vaccination, and the annual cow pox 1804 *Rep Committee, Dr Lettsom* XIV 167 Vaccination has produced full forth part of attention 1813 *Examiner* 26 April 64 2 Let to the introduction of vaccination save all hundreds of us daily by the small pox 1846 Lardner *Mus Nat Hist Man Other Sens* 60 Vaccination comprises the trouble of collecting the vaccine and of inoculating 1876 Jenner *Vac Inq* 5 (1897) 138 Small pox has died out in exactly portion as effective vaccination has been generalised.

**b** Inoculation with a virus.

1891 *Nature* 3 Sept, In the old dangerous method of vaccination I failed the whole of the time in one of preventive inoculation by means of an attenuated virus to which I failed up to the term was due 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 211 It is to be remembered that [a fluid] is usually made into the soul utaneous connective tissues of the skin

**2** *attrib*, as *vaccination act, defaulter, law, officer scar, etc.*

1869 *Chambers's Encycl* IV 650 In 1841 the Vaccination Act was passed 1888 *Ann Reg* 1887 XXIX 28 To make the vaccination system more effective, it is recently to the vaccination officer to call at once on any person who has not had a fresh vaccination within seven years of the last vaccination, unless he can produce a certificate of exemption on account of health 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 624 Any case of cancer affecting the vaccination scar

Hence, **Vaccina tionist,** a believer in the efficacy of vaccination.

1885 *Lancet* I 448 24 May 1026 This and similar attempts to throw doubt on the efficacy of vaccination.

**Vaccinator** (vɛ·ksĭnēɪtəɹ) [f Vaccinate *v.* Cf. F. *vaccinateur*, It *vaccinatore*, Pg. *vaccinador*, Sp *vacunador*.]

1 One who performs, practises, or advocates vaccination

1808 Reece *Med Duct* s v *Cow pox* How the vaccinator is to act if he does not succeed 1825 *Jrnl Sci* XIX 390 Dr Willan, the most distinguished vaccinator in London 1872 in Smith *Life & Times Sir R. Christison* I 282 Unfortunately no individual appointed to perform that duty 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 590 In neither case the vaccinator shed Corpuscles

**2.** In recent Dicts, a contrivance for vaccination

1872 in Smith *Life & Times Sir R. Christison* I 282 Unfortunately no individual appointed to perform that duty 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 633 Cases of septic infection have been known to follow the use of some mechanical vaccinator

*Lancet* 1902 II 1228 *Hart and Mayo's Modern Vaccination* 14 [An] apparatus which we have called the vaccinator-trophine.

**Va ccinatory,** *a rare.* [f Vaccinate *v.*] Used for, connected with, vaccination; vaccine.

1828 *Blackw Mag* XXIV 744 Quacks might be distributed gratis at Apothecary's Hall as veterinary matter is at the Cow pox Hospital 1880 *Daily News* 25 May 5/7 Lymph is meritorious for vaccinatory purposes as the lymph but usually is cold.

**Vaccine** (vɛ·ksĭn), -in), *sb* [f. as next, or a F. *vaccine* (1800) cow-pox, vaccination, *vaccin* (1814) vaccine matter, = It and Pg. *vaccina*, Sp *vacuna*.]

†**1.** Vaccination. *Obs*—1

1803 tr *De Pauw Mems Monks Bottle* III 110 Is it to them the world owes inoculation which they so long opposed; or the vaccine, which they still oppose?

**2** Vaccine matter used in vaccination.

1846 (see Vaccination 1). 1851 Braidam *Homœopathy* 361 A child totally unsusceptible of the influence of vaccine 1864 *Spectator* 325 As ordinary Englishmen say, the vaccine took 1878 T Bryant *Pract Surg* I 94 It would be also well, for the purpose of keeping up a good supply of vaccine, occasionally to vaccinate direct from the heifer

*Ag* 1861 Gen P Thompson *Anti Alc* (ed 3) I 155 Impressing the advantages of industry with the chance of taking as a vaccine to the habits of thieves

*attrib* 1889 *Banks's Ref Handbk Med Sci* VII 518 Owen's vaccine scarificator consists of four blades fixed upon a horizontal axis.

**b** A preparation of some virus used for the purpose of inoculation

1894 *Daily News* 15 Jan 3/6 Gradated solutions of what for want of a better word may be called the vaccine

**Vaccine** (vɛksēn, in), *a* [ad L. *vaccinus* (f *vacca* cow), esp. in *variolæ vaccinæ* cow pox (Dr Jenner, 1798)] Cf It *vaccino*]

**1** *Vaccine disease, pock,* COW POX

1799 *Med Jrnl* I 288 The certainty that the having suffered the vaccine disease, will prove a preservative from the infection of the small-pox 1800 *Ibid* VIII 169 I found the Vaccine pock so safe and mild a disease that I became a sweet 1851 Braidam *Homœopathy* 360 When the system has been satisfactorily infected by the vaccine disease

**b** Appearing in, characteristic of, the disease of cow pox.

1800 *Med Jrnl* V 28 Matter taken from a vaccine pustule 1816 Southey in *Q Rev* XVI 383 It might be supposed that, like the vaccine infection it secured the system against a similar disease 1845 *Lancet Metroph* VII 755/1 The vaccine lesions in both patients were inoculated 1888 *Lancet Brit* XXIV 262 Ulceration of the vaccine vesicle is one of the commoner forms of 'bad arm'

**2.** *Vaccine lymph, matter, virus,* the characteristic virus of cow pox (obtained directly or from human subjects) which is employed in vaccination

1799 *Med Jrnl* II 25 Manifestly arising from absorption of vaccine matter into the system 1799 Jenner *Further Obs Var Vaccine* (Cricklebank, 1889) 188 Mr Henry Jenner inserted the vaccine virus into the arm of a child 1813 D Monro in *Home Papers* (Hist MSS Comm) 183 I gave his phial of vaccine matter to Dr Staunton 1880 *Lancet Lect* II 644 Essential constituents of vaccine lymph

**3.** *Vaccine inoculation,* VACCINATION 1

1799 *Med Jrnl* II 102 Attacks of fever sometimes the effect of vaccine inoculation 1802 *Ann Reg, Hist Chron* 182/2 Dr Jenner the discoverer of the vaccine inoculation 1866 K William (*title*) On Vaccine Inoculation

**b** Connected with vaccination

1810 *Examiner* 1 Sept 547/2 The National Vaccine Establishment has published [a] report 1816 [J. King (*title*), A caution against vaccine swindlers and empirics.

**4** Derived from, pertaining or relating to, cows.

1804 *Med Jrnl* XII 242 We have milk, butter, cheese All this is a vaccine matter 1864 *Daily Tel* 10 Jan 6 Cows are classed as kind from vaccine warrior dance 1881 N R Macnair *Relig Houses Thurcar* 30 Sir Walter Farquhar, the first baronet, was the first who was generally called and some skilled person who professed vaccine medical knowledge

**Va ccine,** *v rare*—1 = Vaccinate *v* 1

1803 Mar Edgeworth *Comic Dr* Wks 1832 V 355 I think we had better have him vaccined.

**Vaccinee** (vɛksĭnē·) *rare* [Cf prec. and -EE 1] One who is, or has been, vaccinated

1889 *Banks's Ref Handbk Med Sci* VII 518 Vaccinees of weeks or months 1892 *Sat Rev* 27 August 231 The three or four of vaccinees (vaccinated on the same day) to which these children belonged.

‖ **Vaccinia** (vɛksĭnĭă), *Path* [mod L., f I. *vaccin us* Vaccine *a*] Cow pox.

Accent Dicts also give *vaccinella* and *variola vaccinia* as names of various of secondary eruptions sometimes following upon vaccination

1803 *Med Jrnl* IX 357 The Small pox will never be extirpated till every parent in the habit of inserting the vaccine in the arms of his children 1840 Bowman *Dr Monro's Gemma* 14 Let it be sufficient to call attention to the case of oysters. 1878 I Bryant *Pract Surg* I 52 In other cases it precedes an attack of smallpox, attends vaccinia, and is common in children

Hence, **Vacci nial** *a*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 572 A peculiar kind of vaccinial eruption has been produced in children who had sucked their vaccinial pocks

**Vaccinide** (vɛ·ksĭnoid). *Path* [a F *vaccinide*, f *vaccine* Vaccine *a*] (See quot 1889.)

1889 Cyclopædia *Hist Vaccination* II 559 The Lyons Commission is unwilling to admit the existence of specific vaccinal eruptions, or vaccinides. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 572 The only decisive test which the eruption following vaccination be true 'vaccinide' or not

**Vaccinifer** (vɛksĭnifəɹ) [f Vaccine *sb* ] A person (esp a child) acting as the transmitter of vaccine virus.

1868 Bullard *Vaccination* 355 The admixture of blood from the veins of the syphilitic via cinifer 1878 T Bryant *Pract Surg* I 4 When the blood of a syphilitic vaccinifer is transferred to a non-syphilitic subject 1888 *Lancet Lect* XXIV 244 The circumstance that the calf furnishes the vaccinifer, instead of the child

Hence **Vacciniferous** *a*

1885 Harrison *Harbours and Anim Vaccination* 3 The vaccinferous property of the grease

**Vaccin niform,** *a Path.* [f Vaccinia] Resembling cow pox (In recent Dicts)

**Va ccinine** Also in [Cf Vaccine *sb* and *a*, Vaccinia] 'The specific contagion of cow pox' (In recent Dicts)

**Vaccinola** : see note to Vaccinia.

**Vaccinist** (vk ksinist) [f. VACCINE *sb* or *a.* + -IST *c.f. anti vaccinist* (1822)] A vaccinator; a supporter or advocate of vaccination

1847 WEBSTER *Ia a tinist*, one who inoculates with the cow-pox 1883 *Fanciulla a Inquirer* IV 189 The most insolent anti-fanatical vaccinist on the Metropolitan bench 1898 *Daily News* 2 Apr 4/1 From the point of view of the strict vaccinists and from that of the anti vaccinists

‖ **Vaccinium** (vkksi niŏm) *Bot* [L *vaccinium* bilberry (?)] **a** A large genus of plants, chiefly belonging to the northern hemisphere, many species of which bear edible berries **b.** One or other species of this genus, *spec.* a bilberry.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) *Vaccinium*, a Black berry a Bilberry or Hurtle berry, also a Violet flower 1753 *Chambers Cycl Suppl Vaccinium*, in botany, a name by which some authors have called the RASPBERRY, or *Rubus idæus* 1796 WITHERING *Brit Pl* (ed 3) II 172 In structure [this species] only different from the other Vacciniums 1819 SPENCE in Shaw & *Nodder Nat Pl* III 69 It feeds upon the berries of the VACCINIUM 1888 *Cassell's Fam Ed* 29 Apr 392/2 Vaccinium myrtillus with American plants 1894 *Farm Field & Fireside* III 36 The dense mass of tender leaved vaccinium

**Vaccinization** (vk ksinaizē·ʃən) [n 1 *vaccinisation*, f. VACCINE VACCINE *sb*] Vaccination continued or repeated until the VACCINE virus has no effect

1889 *Banks's Ref Handbk Med* Sec VII 515 In Holland, a modified vaccination has been practised for a long time, ten insertions being made upon each subject

**Va'ccino-**, combining form of VACCINE *sb* or *a*, or of VACCINIA, as in *vaccinophobia* (1899), *vaccino-syphilis*, *vaccino-syphilitic* adj.

1868 BARNARD *Va. inations* 262 The dread of performing vaccino-syphilitic inoculation 1898 I BRYANT *Tract Surg* I 94 Vaccino-syphilis may be transferred by means of vaccination 1885 HARRISON *Introd Inquiry Vaccination* 78 The most pronounced case of vaccino-syphilis

**Vaccinoge nic**, *a rare* [f VACCINE *sb*] Producing VACCINE, vaccinal

1889 BROOKSMANK *Heat Vaccination* II 285 According to some, the vaccinogenic eruption is never spontaneous in the cow

So **vaccino genous** *a* (1899 *Syd Soc Lex*)

**Va ccinoid**, *sb.* or *a Path* [f VACCINE *sb.* or *a*, or VACCINIA. Cf. F *vaccinoïde* vaccimide] (See quots)

1880 *A Bad's Prime Med* [1044 Incomplete vaccinia, *vaccinoïd*, as it was termed by Trousseau *Ibid* 1045 Partial success as shown by imperfect or vaccinoid vesicles, is still more common.

‖ **Vacci olа** *Obs* [mod L. (Stokes), f *vacca* cow.] Cow pox, VACCINIA

1801 *Med Jrnl* V 454 The incised part bore the character the marks of pure VACCINIA 1804 *Ibid* XII 440 Small pox inoculation after vaccinia

† **Va cciolate**, *v Obs.* [f prec] *trans* To VACCINATE So **Vaccíola tion, Va cciolator**

1804 *Mod Jrnl* XII 242 The French inaccuracy which many of our most eminent vaccinators so completely mistook *Ibid* 440, I know not who have by design vaccinated themselves after the small pox *Ibid* 441 The effect of vaccination (inoculation of vaccinolous matter)

† **Vacci cloua**, *a. Obs* [f as prec.] = VACCINE *a 2*

1804 *Med Jrnl* XII 242 Vaccicolous matter is matter of vaccinia or cow pox.

**Vach**, obs Sc f WATCH **Vache**, obs f WITCH

† **Va chery.** *Obs.* Also 4 vacherie, 5 -eryo, -yro [a OF (also mod.F.) *vacherie*, f. *vache* cow] VACCINE. Also *attrib*

*a* 1325 *Ms Kant B* 250 fol 28 Recouerer þ ruffrnes þat he is ysuffred born acheson of wund mille lycherie va herie an auting of his curt 14.. *Voc in Wr-Wülcker* 618 *Le vrion* a vachery 1440 *Prom Parv* 527/2 Vachery, or dayrye *vaccaria armentarium* 1450 *Rolls of Parl* V 191/2 Of the two Vaynes called Bernard and Whitchalse 1650 in *Drake's Eboracum* (1670) XXIII 256 The vachery lands are not included in the valuation. *Ibid*, [The] little stone house, the below the vachery

**Vacht**, obs Sc. form of WATCHET *sb*

**Vacillancy** (va silănsi). Now *rare* [f next, See -ANCY and cf F *vacillance*] Vacillation.

1668 H MORE *Div Dial* I xviii That Vacillancy in humane Souls, and such Mutations as are found in Corporeal matter 1698 SIR G MACKENZIE *Crim Laws Scotl* I 4 ¶ 6 (1699) 8 The committing those Crimes may be occasion'd by levity and vacillancy of judgment in minors. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Scepticismus* 1 95 That the weakness and vacillancy of this Method may yet more clearly appear 1821 CRABBE *Village* I 189 In Hymn *Meet* (1849) I x 253 My mind was in a state of vacillancy and disconsolation

**Vacillant** (vă silănt), *a* [ad I *vacillant-*, *vacillans*, pres. pple of *vacillare* see next. So F *vacillant* (14th c.).]

**1** Uncertain, hesitating, wavering.

1521 *Bp Oshaw's St Werburge*, hall *St Werburge* 2 With hert contrite accepte my sui plication, Aydynge my frayle te and lyfe vacillant 1662 H MORE *Philos Writ* Pref Gen (1712) p v Because the reason of Universal Nature and of Man ought to stand firm on all sides, and to be no where a vacillant 1901 *Blackw Mag* Nov 715/1 The vacillant magnanimous, simple hearted Levin

**2** *rare* Unsteady, swaying readily

1865 MAYNE *Expos Lex* 1310/1 *Vacillans*, applied to antlers when they are oblong attached by the middle of their length, and mobile; vacillant

**Va'cillate**, *ppl. a* [Cf. next and -ATE²] Vacillating, unsteady

1830 W PHILLIPS *Mil Sinai* I 74 With purpose vacillate, and changed resolve, He follow'd Israel

**Vacillate** (væ silēit), v [f L. *vacillat*, ppl. stem of *vacillare* to sway, stagger, totter, etc, whence also F *vaciller* (1314), It. *vacillare*, Pg *vacillar*, Sp *vacilar*]

**1** *intr* To swing or sway unsteadily, to be in unstable equilibrium, to stagger.

1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 13 b, Those which are too longe doe vacillate, and turne this way and that way in the bal 1721 BAILEY, *To vacillate*, to stagger, totter waggle, or shake 1757 *Phil. Trans* I 505 Whether the earth during the agitation of the waters, does rock and vacillate as what I shall leave to future inquiry 1802 ANN *Nat Hist* 208 Which is so beyond turns upon an axis which is not permanent, it is always liable to shift and vacillate from one axis to another 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 173 Lawless vacillating on his feet, and still shouting the chorus of sea ballads, took the long tiller in his hands.

**b** To vary, to hover doubtfully

1824 D ISRAELI *Curios Lit* (1867) 431 The fate of books vacillates with the fancies of book lovers 1873 LAMB *Elia & Last Essays* (ed 2) ¶ 186 Among the words which still vacillate between the two sounds of LA, is the word *Orale*

**c** To fluctuate, to produce varying results

1835 SIR J ROSS *Narr 2nd Exp* xv 185 In the course of these attempts at discovering and mastering the best temperature, the apparatus for condensing the vapour] was found to vacillate

**2.** To alternate or waver between different opinions or courses of action

1693 *Phil Transactions* 196 To waver to be inconstant 1661 R TURNER *A Chas presented* 9 His Majesties wrath moves the spirit of the ill affected to vacillate 1830 D ISRAELI *Amen Lit* II 19 In his last years he stood alone and never less vacillated in his conduct 1846 RUSKIN *Mod Painters* II III iii § 2 179 *note*, He may pause, but he must not hesitate,—and tremble, but he must not vacillate. 1891 Dr CREIGHTON and Mrs. CREIGHTON *Life* (1904) II 1 22 You can judge if you look within; you vacillate if you look without

**b** Freq. const *between*

1827 J. F COOPER *Prairie* II xiii 217 His looks appeared to be strangely vacillating between hope and fear 1830 MACAULAY *Dict Lett* II (1874) 214 The superstitious man vacillates between hope and fear, between self-confidence and despondency

**Va cillating**, *ppl. a* [f prec.]

**1** Of persons. Given to vacillation.

*a* 1818 SHELLEY *Revolt Islam* 309 The God Have fairly earned a victory over The vacillating, inconsistent good 1844 *Mem Babylonian Princ* II 57 This vacillating man wrote a second time 1866 HENRY *Min Tropics*, 86 His vacillating, impelled by his sufferings, yet presenting a passive resistance. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm* 232 The vacillating monarch restored the failing privilege

**2** Of things: Marked by vacillation.

1828 D ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II v 132 [The] address throws a clear and steady light on the vacillating conduct of Charles the First 1848 BROUGHAM *Brit Emp* (1858) I iii 255 Very vacillating ideas were compelled to act his vacillating part to England 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xli, The vacillating expression of a mind unable to concentrate itself strongly

**3.** Of things: a. Varying, changeful **b** Unsteady, swaying

1822 SCOTT *Pevenil* I, Following the vacillating and unhappy fortunes of his master *a* 1827 MARTHUR in *Good Words* (1868) 812 The vacillating, peremptory, full and strong, its measures quick, low, and vacillating 1834 LYTTON *Pilgrims* V, He rushed with swift but vacillating steps down the startit streets.

Hence **Va cillatingly** *adv*

*a* 1849 POE *Marginalia* Wks 1864 III 565 He has made successful and frequent incursions, although vacillatingly, into the domains of the true Imagination.

**Vacillation** (v silē·ʃən) Also 5 -acion [ad I *vacillatio*, noun of action f. *vacillare* VACILLATE *v* So F *vacillation* (1512), It. *vacillazione*, Pg *vacillação*, Sp *vacilacion*]

**1** The action or quality of alternating or wavering in respect of opinion or conduct, hesitation, uncertainty

*c* 1440 *Alphab Somis* (Caxton 1483) iv xxx 80 Tho that ben naturelle of the same countre withouten vacillacion wille done theyr deuoyre. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Vacillation* inconstancy wauering *a* 1649 DRUMM OF HAWTH *Hist Jas III*, Wks (1711) 40 That the free bishop began might continue with out all vacillation 1697 BENTLEY *Disc 1 Etig Assemb* 13 This vacillation of thoughts is in some the consequent of their irresolution 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* (Oxf ed) I 204 Christ spoke smart, with whose unhappy vacillation of mind he sincerely sympathised 1828 D ISRAELI *Chas I*, I iii 34 In the vacillation of the disputants, victory hung on the subtilty of an argument *a* 1853 F ROBERTSON *Serm* Ser II vii (1870) 49 There is such an indecision, such a vacillation about the man 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* VII § 3 365 Elizabeth screened her statesmanship under the natural timidity and vacillation of her sex.

**b** An instance of this

1828 D ISRAELI *Chas. I* I v 116 The agents on both sides were shocked at the vacillations of their own Cabinets 1879 CHURCH *Spenser* 22 When all about her [Elizabeth] were dismayed both at the plan itself and at her vacillations.

**2** The action, or an act, of swaying or swinging unsteadily to and fro

Quot 1633 is a rendering of St. Augustine *De Rect Cath Cont* § 5, where the reading *vacillationes* is doubtful

1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt Histrio-m* 27 To prohibit the use of all diabolicall Interludes, Vacillations, and songs of the Gentiles. 1635 H VALENTINE *Sea-Serm* 57 The second effect of a tempest is the vacillation, staggering, and trepidation of their bodies. 1721-2 DESHAM *Phys-Theol* v. ii (1739) II 667 To keep the body upright, and prevent its falling, by readily assisting against every Vacillation thereof 1802 PALEY *Nat Theol* XI § 5 220 The bones of the feet are put in action by every slip or vacillation of the body, and seem to assist in restoring its balance 1837 *Blackw Mag* XLII 933 For this cause did the intelligent creature repose (though not indeed without vacillation) on the lower perch.

**3.** Variation between extremes *rare*—1.

1708 *Phil Trans* LVIII. 160 We shall then have the double menstrual parallax, or vacillation, arising, from the whole diameter of the epicycle, 24°.

**Vacillator** (væ silēitəɹ). [f. VACILLATE *v*] One who vacillates or wavers

1850 *Spectator* 30 July, If we win, the vacillators will flock over to the Unionist standard 1900 *Sat Rev* 8 Nov. 592/1 He is now but a querulous vacillator

**Vacillatory** (væ silātŏri), *a.* [f VACILLATE *v*]

**1.** Marked by vacillation

*a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* I ii (1740) 25 If ever such vacillatory Accounts of Affairs of State, Kings and Monarchies, were given in Print before, I am mistaken 1830 MACAULAY *Attitude* (1837) xiii III 89 The details are far too numerous or obscure or vacillatory to admit of a place here 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-Told Tales* 218 My irresolute curse, I must acknowledge has been rather vacillatory

**2** Of persons Tending to vacillate

1854 MILMAN *Lat Chr* VII iii III 183 Hildebrand for the first time is vacillatory, timid 1876 TROLLOPE *Amer Senator* xxxiv, The Postmaster, half vacillatory, in his desire to oblige a neighbour produced the letter

**Vacive**, *a. rare*—0 [ad I *vacivus*] 'Empty, void' (1656 Blount *Glossogr.*) Hence Vaci vity, 'emptiness' (1721 Bailey).

† **Va cuate**, *pa. pple Obs.*—1 [ad L. *vacuatus*, pa pple of *vacuare* see next] Made empty. 1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 329 Philippus schulde destroye the cite if that hit were vacuate and voide of diuerse men

† **Va cuate**, *v Obs.* [f L *vacuat*, ppl. stem of *vacuare* (hence It. *vacuare*) to empty, clear, free, f *vacuus* see VACUUM] = EVACUATE *v* 5

1 *trans* a. To clear out; = EVACUATE *v* 5

1578 J JONES *Bucklstones Bathes Benefyte* 15 b, Galen willeth to vacuate, cleanse, or empty, that which is euill 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt Glasse* 49 That not the superfluous humidity of his stomach may be vacuated 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man's Descr* 165 Semmy, Rhabarb vacuate flegm also 1760 *Ann Reg* 158/2 We have portable ventilators which can usually employed in vacuating the foul air from our hold

**b** To empty, = EVACUATE *v* 1.

1651 WITTIE tr *Personnet's Pol Key* iv vi 239 If he that hath been once plentifully vacuated, must necessarily intipe into the same disease 1684 *Bonet's Merc. Compit* III 84 When the Heart burn is violent, we must not vacuate the whole Body 1765 *Phil Trans* LV 80 Its so well vacuated by loading the uncloven foot of the tube, that I depend on its being luminous after bene, carried so far

**2.** To annul, cancel, abrogate, set aside, = EVACUATE *v* 4

1654 CLAYTON *Plant Notes* III x 189 Tobacco too was flesh and blood, and how if some great Prince should vacuate her vow? 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non Conf* XIII Wks 1716 II 102 Which Law vacuates and makes null and void all Laws of Man, ipso facto, that are made to the contrary 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem* (1720) II 234 There can be no Laws contrived but what they can vacuate.

Hence † **Va'cuating** *vbl. sb.* *Obs.*

1684 *Col Inc Tennyph* I 125 They may act Irregularly, to y^e Vacuating and Insecurity of such acts and Judgments of y^e said Courts

† **Va cuation.** *Obs.* [ad. med L *vacuatio*, f. L *vacuare* VACUATE *v.* So It. *vacuazione*, Pg. *vacuação*]

**1** A vacuity or hollow part

1541 R COPLAND *Guydon's Quest Chirurg* D2 [Of bones] They that haue the embossynges and vacuacyons be they that make the syntes.

**2** = EVACUATION 1 a, 1 b.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth Physick* 54 Through abundant sweate, and all other immoderate vacuations 1609 JONSON *Every Man out of his Humour* 284 The vacuation of blood & seede, is a dubble charge to nature 1635 A READ *Tumors & Ulcers* 197 The vacuation of the bum remitted in the part 1697 EDMUND ATKINS *Diseases* 45 Which distinction is taken from the manner of excretion or vacuation 1721 BAILEY, *Vacuation*, an emptying

**3** Emptiness *rare*.

1611 FLORIO, *Vacuatione* emptinesse vacuation vacuity, voidnesse *a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir Archæol Soc) I 203 I hey very joyfull handling of the same (a trunk) found it promainge noe Treasure but meere vacuation

† **Va cuative.** *Obs rare*—1. [f VACUATE *v*] = EVACUATIVE *sb*

1656 RIDGLEY *Tract 1 Hypoch* 318 The vital spirits are consumed by heat, malignity, vacuatives, grief

**Vacuate**, *v* [f. VACUUM, after L *vacuefacere* to make empty] To produce a vacuum.

1727 BAILEY (vol II), *To vacuate*, to make void or empty 1828 D CRAIGIE *Path Anat* 175 Vacuefying apparatus is found in the upper surface of the head of the sucking fish

† **Va cuist.** *Obs* [ad mod L. *vacuista*, f. *vacuum* VACUUM. So It. and Sp. *vacuista*, F. *vacuiste*.] One who maintains the possibility of a vacuum in nature

1660 BOYLE *New Exp Phys Mech* XVII 122 Those spaces which the Vacuists would have to be empty, because they are manifestly devoid of Air, and all the grosser bodies

1664 Power *Exp Philos* II 132 The second Hypothesis is of the Vacuists. 1682 Creech *Lucretius* (1683) Notes 14 Mr. Hobs adds another Argument, which is of no force against the Vacuists.

**†Vacuitous,** *a.* *Obs*~1 [f. next] Having the nature of a vacuum, empty of matter

1766 G Canning *Anti Incretius* III 172 Where'er a spot vacuitous is found, There you must own that Matter feels a bound

**Vacuity** (vækiū·ĭti) Also 6 **vacuytee**, 6–7 **vacuitie**, 7 **vacuety**. [ad. L. *vacuitas* empty space, vacancy, freedom, etc., f *vacuus*: see Vacuum. So F. *vacuité* (1314), It. *vacuità*, Sp. *vacuidad*, Pg *vacuidade*]

**I.** 1. Absolute emptiness of space, complete absence of matter

1556 Lanclyt tr *Pol Verg de Invent* I II 4 b, Epicurus ... putteth two Causes Atomos or Motes and Vacuite or emptinesse 1597 Middleton *Wisd Solomon* 1 2 For him The Horizons and hemespheres obay, And wyndes the kingdom of vacuitie 1626 Donne *Serm* Wks 1839 IV 70 Water will clamber up hills and Air will sink down into Vaults rather than admit Vacuity 1644 Digby *Nat Bodies* iii (1658) 24 Aristotle ... hath demonstrated that there can be no motion in vacuity *a* 1700 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet Wks 1721 III 309 Some Botanists dream'd That Atoms Sh uld rise from nothing in Vacuity 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Vacuum* But mere Space, or Vacuity, is supposed to be extended, therefore it is material 1829 *Chalters Phys* S s 211 A large portion of internal vacuity is sufficient for all purposes. 1856 G Outram *Law Tyrrel's The Annuity* viii, She beats the roads that live in stanes An' fatten in vacuity

b With *a*, *no*, etc. (Passing into 8.)

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1021 There is no voidnesse or vacuity in nature 1660 R Coke *Power & Subj* 54 So the laws of nature will admit of many things contrary to nature, rather then endure a vacuity 1704 Ray *Creation* I 83 Nature's abhorrence of a Vacuity

*transf* a 1632 Donne *Select* (1840) 144 In the first vacuity, when thou wast nothing, nought then so early as in Adam 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist Camb* (1840) 207 To prevent a vacuity, (the detestation of nature,) a new plantation was soon substituted in their room

2. Emptiness consisting in the absence of solid or liquid matter.

1579 G Baker *Cuyl's Quest* 12 S me [bones] are embossed for to enter, and other have vacuity that receiveth 1651 Hobbes *Nem Phys* 156 The vacuity of the dead ear is it doth attract the blood 1822 Good *Study Med* II 10 This vacuity of the arteries upon death, was one of the objections urged very forcibly by the ancients against the circulation of the blood

b Absence of any of the visible objects usually occupying certain spaces, complete emptiness in respect of things or persons.

1600 I Dekker *Le Blanck's Trans* 268 Leading him to a dark deep well, but terrified with the vacuity and darkenesse he started 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xv, The princess and her maid ... seeing nothing to bound their prospect considered themselves as in danger of being lost in a dreary vacuity 1775 — in *Boswell* (1816) II 424 Ma lam, I do not like to come down to vacuity 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, Such a nuisance as forced their way through the narrow clothe latices and lost themselves in the vacuity of the vaults behind 1842 H Rogers *Introd Burke's Works* 67 The grim spectres who ... dissolution to desolation through the dreary vacuity of dull and comfortless chambers 1891 I Handy *Tales* (1900) 135/1 As he gazed, a moving spot intruded on the white vacuity of its perspective

c. The fact of being unfilled or unoccupied

1644 Evelyn *Sylva* 41 But 'tis cheaper to supply the vacuity of such accidental decays by a new plantation 1844 Mrs Browning *Drama of Exile* 168 To fill the vacant thrones of me and mine, Which affront Heaven with their vacuity

3 The quality or fact of being empty, in various fig senses

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II xii (1632) 247 To make them feele the emptiness vacuity, and t y worth of man 1658 In Reynolds *Texions xvi* 169 The m st generall [cause of desire] is A Vacuity Indigence, a self-insufficiency of the Soule 1690 C Nesse *Hist Nyst O & N T* I 289 They have the most light to discover t s themselves their own vacuity and nothingness 1806 A Mor *Diary* I 21 I would fain what the greatest unhappiness of intellectual man was abaud ned to the self torture of irremediable vacuity 1850 Carlyle *Latter-d Pamph* vi (1872) 202 Here is an abyss of vacuity in our mu h blunted conscience 1885 Pater *Marius* II 144 It was an experience which came in the midst of a deep sense of vacuity in things

b Emptiness (in fig senses) as a condition or state having a kind of real existence

*a* 1721 Ken *Christophil* P et Wks 1721 I 429 Thou allsufficient art, and I Am n thing but vacuity 1752 J Hinson *Lambler* No 141 P 9 I think on the misery of him who is confounded to ubivate horriness and r mask vacuity 1776 — *Let to Mrs Thrale* 30 Mar, I know that a whole system of hopes, and doings, and expectations, is swept away at once and nothing left but bottomless vacuity 1819 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* (1827) 95 The drear Vacuity of sorrow on thee lay 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* vi (1900) 245 Having once parted with Reality he tumbles helpless in Vacuity 1888 P Fitzgerald *Fatal Zero* iv, In my lonely blue chamber, there is a sort of vacuity for thought, the world is shut out.

4. Complete absence of ideas; vacancy of mind or thought

1504 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v vi § 1 Men are at the first without understanding or knowledg at all. Neuertheless from this viter vacuitie they grow by degrees 1661 K W. *Conf Charac, Maers Politician* (1860) 27 Which will availe him little, but to be an indicum of his own vacuity and emptiness of all solidity 1797 Hooper *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 363 The Pulse, if it be weak, indicates Vacuity and Fear 1773 Han Moor *Search after Happ* II, Though more to folly than to guilt inclined, A clear vacuity possess d my mind 1818 Miss Ferrier *Marriage* xvi, Imputing to fatigue of body, what in fact was the consequence of mental vacuity, he proposed returning home 1854 Marion Harland *Alone* xvii, She heard and saw all that passed; but in place of heart and sense, was a dead vacuity 1885 Cuoms *Myths & Dr* I 19 We cannot too far lull our faculty of thought as to realise the mental vacuity of the savage

b. Comb. of (eye, mind, thought).

1760 Sterne *Tr Shandy* II 4 That perplexed vacuity of eye which puzzled souls generally stare with 1784 Cowper *Task* IV 293 'Tis thus the understanding takes repo e In indolent vacuity of thought. 1819 Combett *Adv Young Man* v 247 A great fondness for music is a mark of great vacuity of mind 1865 Lowden Clarke *White Char* xx 307 He frequents low dissolute haunts from no greater cause than idleness and vacuity of mind 1879 Farrar *St Paul* I 283 We may be sure that the vacuity of thought in which most men live was far Small a thing impossible

**5.** Complete absence or lack of something

1601 Sir W Cornwallis *Ess* II xiv (1631) 252 Which vacuitie if vertue at that time will breede in re terrour to him that offended to children 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 172 Christ is a sufficient store to a poore soule in the vacuity of other things. 1698 J Cockburn *bourgis ti ssus Dete tel* 7 She was in an admirable vacuity of all Desire of knowing 1784 Miss Burney *Cecilia* IV 10 When he is quite tired of his existence from a total vacuity of views, he must effect a tole of absence 1792 A Young *Trav France* 118 There is much elsewhere in this kingdom as there is vacuity of it in the countenance of St Lucnne 1822 Good *Study Med* III 46 To contemplate the body and mind ... as consisting equally of a blank or vacuity of impressions

**†6** Complete freedom or exemption *from* something *Obs*

*a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom* I xii § 1 The soule cannot haue in it, any true ioy vnlesse the same be founded both in security and in re ion fidence, a di tran pullity All which do imply a vacuity from fcare 1648 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 146 The Vacuity of the Mind from Fear ... resulting from those secret lashes that haunt a guilty conscien e 1665 J Goodwin *Tilled t the Spirit* (1867) 429 A well gr unded vacuity of fear flow from all trouI lessone, distracting, and tormenting fears an l cares.

**7.** *a.* Leisure *for* some purpose *Obs* 1

1607 *Sch Iust Pune nicst Anti hrist* 111 137 From this prepoenessess and the f reese setting of the wor l efore the spirite, come wee to t is Vacuitie f r his inwarde Dev t n

**b** Lack of occupation : idleness

1817 Jas Mill *Brit Indra* I III 389 A whole race of men who in point of vacuity f r occupation scarce applies to t e ni 1875 A R Hope *Work oth y F* 72 The sins of thoughtful vacuity I ha spent

**II 8.** A hollow or enclosed space empty of matter, *esp* a small internal cavity or interstice of this kind in a solid body

1541 R Copland *Guydons Quest Chirurg* D ij, Some [bones] are enbossed for to entre, and other haue vacuytees that receyue them 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 31 That so those places being emptie t the vacuity may be replenished with better blood 1659 Hammond *Orat Rev* 10 The earth sinks t ward and fills up the vacuities, become void 1682 *Nat Pl* (1682) 300 There are Va uities in Water ... That is to say, that all the parts of Water are not contigu us 1731 Medley *Kæmpfer's Japan* I 221 The Japanese ... become so level as flits an l fit together as smooth and close as not the l ast vacuity or interstice being to be seen 1770 *Phil Trans* LX 221 Every particle of Light is in a Vacuity 1795 Hunter *Blood* 1 v 89 Spherical vacuity of one millionth of one mill o nth of an inch diameter 1800 *Hist* XC 235 A well was placed over the power ler by sand superadded to fill all va uities 1840 *Penny Cycl* XXV 206 The cells and tubes cuik g seeks the nearest vacuity 1872 Dana *Coral* 38 The polyp has no blood vessels but the vacuities among the tissues

**b.** Cosmic space empty of matter

1643 Sir T Browne *Relig Med* I § 49 When this sensual world shall be destroyed, all shall then be here as it is now there an l myself ill Heaven ; quasi vacuitas 1667 Milton *P L* II 919 That seat soon filling, he meets A vast vacuity 1685 H more *Ant Nath* 75 Wh le he dart in the Aether Vacuity will by and by run in to fill up the Vacuity 1795 Hutton *Math Dict* IV, The polyp has no blood vessels but the vacuities among the tissues

**b.** A cosmic space empty of matter

1643 Sir T Browne *Relig Med* I § 49 When this sensual world shall be destroyed, all shall then be here as it is now there an l myself ill Heaven ; quasi vacuitas 1667 Milton *P L* II 919 That seat soon filling, he] meets A vast vacuity 1685 H more *Ant Nath* 75 Wh le he dart in the Aether Vacuity will by and by run in to fill up the Vacuity 1795 Hutton *Math Dict* IV, The Deep fled away On all sides, and left an uniform Dark Vacuity

**9** An empty space left or contrived in something ; esp in some composite work or structure.

1624 Wotton *Archit* (1672) 26 To place the Columnes precisely one over another, that so the solid n ay answer to the solid an l the vacuities to the vacuities. 1655 Fuller *Hist Waltham* (1840) 27 The arches and vacuities of the quire are wreathed with in lentings ; which vacuities, if formerly filled up with brass, ad led much to the beauty of the buil ling 1796 J Nicol *Geogr Dict* I *Archit* The arch which is now left between the bra k of the Arch, and the upright of the Wall 1775 Johnson *West Isl* Wks X 509 Round wi th the e are very wide vacuities recessed formed by small columns or by a double wall 1823 P Nicholson *New Pract Build* 125 Rooms are the int nor vacuities or hal tal le parts of a building 1845 *Penny Cycl* 67 An ingenious ly contrived trap for earwigs, leaving a va uity f r the re option of the latter. 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 8 By a vacuity in the skull walls for the blood to pass out from the Interi sinus.

**b** Any space, gap, or interval left between or among things *rare*

1658 Sir T Browne *Card Cyrus* II p 12 Whereby the Elephants passing the vacuities of the *Hastati*, might have run upon them 1750 Hurd *Horace Ars Poet* I v The Scots and Picts rushed with redoubled violence into the vacuity 1865 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 152 The market place of the town is a rather spacious and irregularly shaped vacuity

**c.** An empty space due to the disappearance or absence of some special thing.

1822–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) III 127 He has also seen others reproduce a smaller or larger number of teeth to supply vacuities progressively produced in earlier life 1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connect Phys Sc* xxxvii 415 Those dark vacuities called 'coal sacks' by the ancient navigators, which are so numerous between a Centaurian l a Ai tarus 1867–77 G F Chambers *Astron.* VI iv 519 The central vacuity is not quite dark

**10** An emptiness, an empty space, a blank, in various fig uses.

*a* 1632 Donne *Select* (1840) 5 A filling of all former vacuities, a supplying of all emptinesses in our souls. 1654 Baxter *Inf Baptz.* 325 In this age when men may say any thing if they have but Rhetorick to fill up the Vacuities 1682 W Owtram *Serm* 242 Our Souls are filled up the vacuities that Mortal Life leaves in moral duties 1732 Law *Pers Man* II 286 Each want of happiness I'll be supply'd, And each vacuity of sense by pride 1776 Adam Smith *W N* II (1869) 393 Whatever vacuities that excessive cr ul ti n occasions in the necessary e in the kingdom 1841 Emerson *Ess* Ser I 2, But yesterday I saw a dreary vacuity in this direct n in which now I see so much 1850 Kingsley *A Locke*, Oh those Sal baths when there was nothing to fill up the long vacuity but books of which I did n t understand a word

**11** An empty or inane thing

1648 J Beaumont *Psyche* xi lxviii, That with those huge a by d l vacuities, Which fi l uff the World up with their empty Bodies, Even in misery Could I not remain Content 1660 Stanley *Hist Philos* III 82/1 Democritus ... acknowledges of these Non-entya Va uities, reckon ing the War fi m de by 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr* I iv 11 Is it for nothing at again vote f r my quack, do he nour to any edge gift vacuity in man s shape

‖ **Vacuo** (in the phrase *in vacuo*) see In (Latin prep.) 20

**Vacuolar** (vækiū·ŏlăı), *a.* [ad F *vacuolaire*, f *vacuole* Vacuole] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, a vacuole or vacuoles

1852 *Jo logist* X 3466 He (Huxley) next meets ned appearances wh h he terms vacu l ti ti l e unges 1859 J R Greene *Text* 245 In some species of this genus the central cavity is replaced by an aggregation l large vacu lar spaces 1877 Huxley *Anat Inv Animals* 141 The interior of these frequently contains vacuolar or ganes.

So **Va cuolary** *a*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 97 Th l ch kings such as the l or l ti the l pulmo cells, a vacu lary dege eration

**Va cuolate,** *a* = next

1890 *Q Jrnl Micros Sci* XXX 6 In some cases the stalk is a vacu late structure

**Vacuolated** (vækiū·ŏlēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f Va cuole of next] Rendered vacuolar, modified or altered by vacuolation

1859 Huxley *Comic Hydroz* 28 The cavity of the base of the u bu ium appears to bec me the l up l s u n l ated tissue 1878 F J Bell *Comp Anat* 24 These are often va uolated spaces in the cells, which are filled with a fluid 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 211 Cell inclusions, the precipitation of which is sometimes seen within it 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 638 Va u lation of the nerve cell is peculi ly fre j ent in senile l rain atrophy

**Vacuole** (vækiūol) [a F *vacuole* (Dujardin), f. L. *vacuus* empty]

1 A small cavity or vacuole in organic tissue or protoplasm, freq containing some fluid

*a.* *Zo l* and *Anat* 1853 *Ray Soc Rot & Hydrol Mem* 534 All the se pe ties h d adv nly been observed by Du j rdin ; the aque uss spaces and bub les of Ehrenberg, Dutrochet, rdin, them as the most characteristic mark of the sub stan e. 1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydroz* 6 The fluid of the cells and vesicles of the tissues 1887 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 224 Into the vacuoles or loculi of this n t work the serum exudes

*b* *Bot* 1875 Darwin *Insectiv Plants* xv 351 Two or three very large or small spaces appeared within some of the larger globules. 1885 Goodale *Physiol Bot* (ed 2) 230 In many tissues the vacuoles are so numerous that the spaces in the cells frequently contain a thin plasmatic membrane

*attrib* 1882 Vines *Sachs Bot* 586 The centre of the sac is filled in the unripe seed with a cel ular vacuole fluid

**2** An empty or open space, an a comet

1881 *Science* II 317 In this envel pe was a curi u al vacuole built of the nucleus bun ches the prece ling side of the axis of the tail

**Va cuolation.** [f prec] = Vacuolation (f *Vacuolate* v. vacuolated (in recent use)

1882 *Jrnl Micros Sci* Jan 4 What is the nature of the vacuolisati n? 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 168 So all and large n uroglia cells in a state of vacuol ti n and p ri cus liquefaction

**Vacuous** (va kiūəs), *a.* [f. L *vacuus* empty (vol I, free, clear, etc. (cf Vacuum) + -ous]

**†1** Not properly filled out or developed *Obs*~1 1651 Smallwood *Commend Treatise Contraption Hyg* False Vacu us Paths in every street we s e But seldome, true and ripen d, such is He

**2** Empty of matter, not occupied or filled with anything solid or tangible.

1655–60 Stanley *Hist Philos* (1687) 374/1 It were impossible for one body to make an the to recede if the triple d mension were va uous. 1677 Gale *Crt Gentiles* II 206 Will they say that these Atomes were introduced or produced in this vacuous space in time? 1796 K J Sullivan

*Vacuo Nat* 19 ¶ He contended that thunder or sound would not be ably to pass through wafts unless there were some vacuous spaces in the bodies 1813 I. Burne *Lucretius* II 11 Comm p xxiii, He notices many natural circumstances which demonstrate the vacuous natures of all substances. 1860 Tyndall *Glac* II xxiv 356 The water is not all to fill it, hence a vacuous space must be formed in the cell

b. Empty of air or gas, in which a vacuum has been produced.

1669 Boyle *Contin New Exp* II (1682) 128 I put Pears bruised into a vacuous Receiver 1842 F A Parkes *Chem Anal* (1845) 490 I he difference between its weight when containing the gas, and when vacuous 1868 Lindley *Cottr Phys Treat* (ed 4) 59 No air is given off from the bubbles, so they seem to be vacuous. 1892 *Hodgkin Ann* II 233 In meadows eat lamps the electric current be set up a carbon filament inclosed in a vacuous globe

c *Bot* Not containing some part or feature usually present.

1866 *Treas Bot* 1109/2 Brasis which usually support flowers are said to be vacuous when they have no flower in their axils

d Empty of any visible object

1827 Moxon *Celt Mythol* II 255 As the flies of a summer day dart from point to point in the vacuous air

3 Empty of ideas, unintelligent, expressionless (*of* Vacant a 5

1848 Thackeray *Bk Snobs* x A vacuous, solemn Snob 1883 *Standard* 3 Jan 5/1 The absence of anxiety leaves their minds vacuous 1889 *Times* 26 Oct 9/1 That gift of oppressive familiarity which by some vacuous people is taken to indicate sterling sense

*Comh* 1895 H S Merriman's *Grey Lady* I m (1899) 28 He was rather a vacuous looking young man.

b Indicative of vacuity of mind

1895 Blackwood *Newcomes* II 25 With that vacuous leer which distinguishes his brother 1898 O W Holmes *Aut Breakf T* vi 55 These negative faces with their vacuous eyes and stony lineaments 1899 Black *Prince Abdizel* 120 There was a cheery vacuous, smiling expression on his round face.

*Cornh* 1899 M'Carthy *Own Times* V I 116 A huge white bedded, vacuous eyed man was to be seen

4 Devoid of content or substance

1870 Swinburne *Ess & Studd* (1875) 56 The vacuous mono tone of desire and disappointment, the fitful mood of brute beauty of Alfred de Musset. 1879 Howells *Ar auto & I* (1883) I 45 Mrs. Erwin wrote an epist lary style exasperatingly vacuous and diffuse

5 Unoccupied, idle, indolent, not filled up with any (profitable) employment or activity

1872 Morley *Voltaire* 334 It can i t for ever be tolerable that the mass should be ever sway their liv s in unbroken toil without hope or aim, in order that the few may live selfish and vacuous days 1907 Ac new *Theol* 37 There is many rich people who lead such human and vacuous lives

II *Use* **Va cuously** *adv* **Va cuousness**

1648 W Mountague *Devout Ess* I 352 In that vacuousness the winds and vapors of tediousness and displeasure rise 1816 J Gilchrist *Philos Hum* 256 The insipidness and vacuousness of abstract cogitation 1880 *All Year Round* N s 88 283 He had a broad fair face, rather vacuously sad, and tinged in its ordinary expression 1880 *Daily Tel* 24 Feb 3/2 Those he stood with his hands in his pockets, looking vacuously at the fighting and rough play

**‖ Vacuum** (væ kiuŭm) 11 **vacua** and **vacuums.** [L. *vacuum*, neut of *vacuus* empty of Vacuous a So F *vacuum*, It, Sp, Pg *vacuo* ]

1 Emptiness of space, space unoccupied by matter Now *rare or Obs*

1550 Cranmer *Ir Pt Sopher* 21 Naturall reason abhorreth *vacuum* that is to say, that there should be any empty place wherein no substance should be 1570 Dee *Math Pref* 37 This Axe is so indifficile to prove that *Vacuum* or Emptines is not in the world 1626 Bacon *Syla* § 83 Is the more grose of the Lan ile Parts do contract and serve themselves together to avoid *Vacuum* 1657 Trapp *Jrene* 16 For be yond the moveable Heavens Aristotle saith there is neither body nor time nor place, nor *vacuum* 1676 *Lord Arlington Letters* I 40 May 6 Since Sir Having his head as full of Vacuum as his small proportion of brains was capable of 1705 W Blake *Ish Pest* 8 Round the flames roll mounting on high Into Vacuum's inane nonentity, Where nothing was 1843 *Penny Cy* I XXVI 76/2 The astronomical argument, therefore, in favour of *absolute* vacuum has failed

**2** A space entirely empty of matter

1607 A Brewer *Lingua* iv 1 Hib First shall the whole Machin of the world returne to Chaos, then the least vacuum be found in the vniuerse 1658 Wilkins *New Worlds* I (1684) 23 To dispute against Democritus, who thought, that the World was made by the casual concourse of Atoms in a great *Vacuum* 1712 *Lett from Layman* (ed 2) 7 A Government can't rightfully restrain a Man professing the Belief of a *Vacuum*, or a *Plenum* 1763 Johnson in *Boswell* an July there are objections against a *plenum*, and objections against a *vacuum*, yet one of them must be true 1865 J Grote *Plato* I 180 Proceeding upon his hypothesis of atoms and vacua as the only objective existences 1884 F Temple *Relat Relig & Sci* 188/8 I the reasons why Nature abhors a vacuum were discovered.

b. A space empty of air, esp one from which the air has been artificially withdrawn

1659 *Pearson Doctrin Creed* (1841) 7 So much air being spent, there would of necessity follow a *vacuum* 1662 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* Proem 2 The Interest of the Ayr, in hindring the descent of the Quick silver, in the famous Experiment touching a *Vacuum* 1713 Derham *Phys Theol* 8 *note*, The Bar wig and some other Insects would seem unconcerned at the Vacuum a good while and he as dead, but revive in the Air 1758 Reid tr *Macquer's Chym* I 499 The air contained therein is condensed, and leaves a *vacuum*, which the external air tends to occupy 1819 *Nat Philos, Heat* I 81 If a (L U K), Count Rumford proved the passage of heat through a Torricellian vacuum, that is, the space left at the top of a barometer by the mercury falling 1860 Maury *Phys Geog* I § 6 At the height of 80 or 90 miles there is a vacuum far more complete than any which we can produce by any air pump. 1877 P Cooke *New Chem* 37 Alcohol expands more slowly into the aqueous vapor than it would into a *vacuum* *Pl* 1877 *Phil Trans* LXVII 679 That the vacuus be as nearly as possible complete 1892 Brewster *Nat Magic* x 262 The plates, being raised or depressed by the voluntary muscles, form so many vacua

3 An empty space, a portion of space (left) unoccupied or unfilled with the usual or natural contents

1589 Nashe in *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb) 12 The Scythians, who swaddle themselues straighter, to the intent no *vacuum* should be left in their nurses fists 1635 J Randolph *Doome, Farley with his Empty Tunne* (1640) 113 Unnatural vacuum, can your emptinesse Answer to some slight questions? 1700 J Brown tr *Tavernier's Asmaze* II viii, He made a Hole into my Pocket, but encountring a Disappointment, Rubb'd off, Cursing the *Vacuum* 1758 J *Nat Dram's Observ Surg* (1771) 141 I discovered a *vacuum* upon the intercostal Muscles, from whence about a Spoonful of Matter was discharged 1791 H Walpole tr *Miss Berry's Journ* I 128, I shall fill my vacuum with some bones that Gemmel Conway has made me 1838 C Morris *Jura Urbin* (1840) II 97 The Dandy's head, A vacuum dead, Ne'er tries for thought to seek!

b In various fig uses

1617 Minsheu *Ductor Linguar* 11 Dijb I cannot see that *vacuum* in your blood 1630 Lennard tr *Charr's Wisdom* 33 It were a *vacuum*, a defect a deformitie too all sur in nature to be between two creatures 1665 Sprat *Hist Roy Soc* 111 The middle 1670 Hacket *Ifp Williams* I (1693) 10 Commonly they misspent that treasonal profusion, and I fit upon it to prevent a *vacuum* of doing little or nothing 1712 Pearce *Treat* 384 In this unlucky passage to obscure there has been no *vacuum* in our Life 1778 *Phil Trans* LXII 317 It shall then be seen that the lurks from the more adjacent parts crowd in to supply the vacuum occasioned by the London Specures 1829 Marryat *Midshipm* ix The vacuum occasioned by my mother's death 1842 Gaskell *Cranford* (1862) I xvi 294 They filled up the vacuum of his un recorded past 1879 R H Elliot *Written on Tomb* I 140 So Martin Kerr was left with a sheer, hopeless vacuum to fill up as best he could

4 *attrib* and *Comb*, as *vacuum brake, cleaner, cleanser, disk, distillation, engine, -male, pan, pump, -vessel*

Also *vacuum apparatus, cylinder, filter, gauge, shunt, tube* (Knight 1875 Sup)

1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2686/1 * *Vacuum brake*, a form of steam operated car brake 1889 G Findlay *Work Manl Rly* 198 The brake is worked through a *vacuum* brake 1903 *Ilin Inv an* 23 May 395 A d cision of 5 cuits import as regards the portions of the *Vacuum Cleaner Co 1903 *Westm Gaz* 30 Sept 2/3 There is a machine at work called the "vacuum cleaner, which gathers them all in turn by a thorough spring cleaning 1850 Tyndall *Glac* I xxii 163 A mercurial *vacuum disk we cemented to the under side of the jacket 1899 tr *A von Tabl's Galv Batt*, V (ed 4) 170 Still better for this purpose is the method of *vacuum distillation 1825 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanic* 319 The first is called the *vacuum pan 1811 *Ann Philos* XXXII 241 Mr Leslie's portions of the *Vacuum Cleaner Co 1903 *Westm Gaz* 26

**vadimonde.** 1634 WARREN *Unbelievers* 48 His Obligation was arbitrary and voluntary, not arising from the guilt of sin, but by way of vadimony, and suscepton 1699 J BARRY *Revive Cordial* (1808) 80 In this work, which he himself, as vadimony and surety for God elect, hath under taken to perform

**† Va ding,** *vbl sb Obs*[−1] [f VADE *v*[1]] The action or process of disappearing, declining, etc.

1570 FOXE *A & M* (ed 2) I 254/2 Y^e lyke vadyng of water happened also in the floode of Medeswaye

**† Va ding,** *ppl a Obs* Also 7 vaid [f as prec] Fading passing away, fleeting, transitory

1566 Adlington *Apuleius* Ep Ded The vaine and soone vadynge beautie of the worlde 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod*, etc R j My Lady fayre whose shape doth shine And glyster in my vading sight 1596 WARNER *Alb Eng* In lev (1612) 279 What els is Fame but vauding aire? 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 53 Thy form's Diuine no fading, vading flower 1661 *Sir 4 Hasleregg's Last Will & Test* 2 What a vading breath, or light blast is this flash of Wadmal.

**Vadlet** see VADELET

**Vadmal, -mel,** varr (after mod. Scand forms) of WADMAL.

[1797 *Stat Acc Scot* XIV 396 The old men and women . continue to wear good strong black clothes without dying, called by the ancient Norse, Vad neil.] 1825 THORPE *Northern Mythl* I 112, I am Krake, C.al black in vadmel! 1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Mi'night Sun* II 78 The tent was made of coarse heavy vadmel

**Vadome,** southern ME. variant of FATHOM *sb*

**† Vado sity,** *Obs*[−1] [f L. *vadōs us*, f *vadum* ford] The fact of being fordable

1658 BURTON *Comm Gen* (Parker Soc) 74 The word I ord, by reason of the vadosity of the River there being added

**Va·dy,** *a south w dial* [Of obscure origin] Damp, moist.

1880 MRS PAGE *A fam 4 Fre* xiii 188 The grass was too vady for him to sit down upon

**‖ Væ** *Obs.* Also 6 ve [*I vae* alas!] A denunciation or threatening of woe

1559 ABP PARKER *Corr* (Parker Soc) 79 We should deserve the wrathful v and vengeance of God 1584 LODGE *Alarm against Usurers* I iij, The Lord shal place you among the gentes and pronounce his Ve against you. 1602 W WATSON *Quodl Relig & State* 9 With h'w many v^ees and woes to you Scribes and Pharisees did he come vpon them? *a* 1636 WENTWORTH *Lett to Devonsh.* (1846) 61 There was a v^e or woe pronounced against them in these words —Woe unto you Pittonians that make cloth without wool'

**Væder, Væle, Vælde, Væle, Værən, Væne, Væx, Væxər,** southern ME VYTT FATHER, EYE *a*, EPITH *sb*, FELLE *a*, FERE *v*[1], FERN *sb*, FAX, FAIR *a*

**Vafand, Vaffand,** obs Sc ff *wanting* WAVE *v*

**Vafroun,** var. WAFROUN *Sc Obs*

**† Va frous,** *a Obs* Also 6 vaffrous [f I *wafer, vafr* + OUS] Sly, cunning, crafty, shifty

*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen VII*, 11 Thinkyng surely that they would neuer haue agree with the Englishmen accordyng to their olde vsed (vsed) vaffrous maners. 1630 *R Johnson's Kingd & Comm* 17 Diuine pr vidence, adjudged it best not to bestow upon so little and vaf ous people, Courage, and Wealth of baby 1650 B *Disc th mnimum* 17 These are subtile, and vafrous Men, who are never solidly, nor honestly Wise 1664 H MORE *Myst Iniq* 106 This vafrous and hostile Freedom against the holy Majesty of Christ 1721 in BAILEY

**Vag,** *sb Devon dial.* [Cf I *ag sb*[2]] Dried turf or peat used as fuel, a piece of this

1796 W H MARSHALL *W England* II 6 Towards the Mountains, Turf (provincially a Vag) and Peat (provincially Furf) 1889 *I ref/lio* Jan 11/2 In the winter he may turn many an honest penny by the sale of vags 1895 G MORTIMER *Pike Moor* 224 You can cut as much vag— or peat, as you calls it up country—as you m a mind to.

**Vag,** *v U.S slang* [f *vag* abbrev of VAGABOND] *trans* To treat or deal with (one) as a vagabond or vagrant

1850 C ROBERTS *A Yr Amer* 169, I was arrested as a vagrant As the popular ex pression went, I got vagged'

**Vag,** dial var. FAG *v*[1], obs Sc f WAGE *sb*

**Vagabond** (væ·găbŏnd), *a.* and *sb* Forms 5–6 **vagabound**(e, bunde, 5–6, 8 -bund, 5, 7 -bonde, 7 -bundo ; 6 *Sc* wagabund, -bond, 7, 9 *dial* , vagabone, 9 *dial* -bon [f OF. *vagabond* (14th c) or ad L. *vagābundus*, f *vagāri* to wander Cf mod F. *vagabond*, It *vagabondo*, Sp and Pg *vagabundo, vagamundo* , also G *vagabund*, *bond*, Sw *vagabond*, Du *vagebond* As a sb the form finally takes the place of the earlier VAGABOND]

**A** *adj.* **1.** Of persons, etc. Roaming or wandering from place to place without settled habitation or home, leading a wandering life, nomadic

**a.** In predicative use.

1486 LYDG. *De Guil Pilgr* 1684 O thow I lyssed Lady, hyde hem that flen vnto the for helpe, and they that be vaga bonde, dyscoure hem nat 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I xii (S T S) 171 Many of hir pepil vagabound in tha wast with powrete take wagis of be sabyns *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 122 He staw away and send vagabund dysagyssit one lang quhill 1838 STERLING *Tour in Auvergne* 98 Dispersed and vagabond, exiled from their native soil and air, they wander over the face of the earth

*Ag* *c* 1430 LYDG *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 256 My look, myn eyen, vnswre and vagabounde 1667 MILTON *P L* IV 16 To Heav n thir prayers Flew up, nor mssed the way, by envious windes Blow'n vagabond or frustrate.

**b.** In attrib. use (occas. hyphened).

1555 EDEN *Decades* I IX (Arb) 97 Owre men suppose them to bee a vagabunde and wandringe nacion lyke vnto the Scythians 1600 MOUNTJOY *Letter* in Moryson *Itin* (1617) II 233 How, as a Vagabond Woodkerne hee n y y pre serve his life, I know not 1640 *Teares Ch Rom Apost* III 321 I haue for my brother and Soveraign the Prince of Greece, whom but euen now I beheld to be a vagabond Girle 1692 *Intrigues Observe Jours Angleter* 216 They become soon weary of it and then turn Vagabond Hermits 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 181 A vagabond Debtor may be cited in whatever I lace or Jurisdiction he is found 1764 *Gentlem Lady* I 559 A vagabond and useless tribe there eat Their miserable meal 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXIX, Those ballads which vagabond minstrels sing to drun ken churls. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I, iv, *Dear* (1858) X 259, I do not know what measures to take about our vagabond soldiers

**+ 2.** (See quot and cf. EXTRAVAGANT *a.* 2) *Obs.*

1456 *Sir G Hare Late Arons* (S T S) 258 Sit is thare othir lawis callit lawis extravegang, that is for to say lawis vagabon dis that ar nocht incorporit in othir bukis of lawis of Lombardy

**3** Addicted to stray or gad about without proper occupation, leading an unsettled, irregular, or disreputable life; good-for-nothing, rascally, worthless

1630 *Greene's Fr Bacon* II x (Q 3), Where be these vagabond [1594 vacabond] knaues, that they attend no better on their Lord? 1668 HUNNIS *Rights Princes* 2 Many lawes vagabon dis that ar nocht incorporit in othir bukis of lawis of Lombardy

**b** Used to stray or gad about without proper occupation, leading an unsettled, irregular, or disreputable life; good-for-nothing, rascally, worthless

1630 *Greene's Fr Bacon* II x (Q 3), Where be these vagabond [1594 vacabond] knaues, that they attend no better on their Lord? 1668 HUNNIS *Rights Princes* 2 Many lawes vagabon dis that ar nocht incorporit in othir bukis of lawis of Lombardy

**3** Addicted

1619 J H *Worlds Folly* C b, The recollection of the vaga bundiall Iewes into the sheepe fold of Iesus Christ

**Vagabo ndical,** *a rare* Also 6–7 **vaga bund** [f as prec + ICAL] Roaming, wandering, vagabondish

1576 FLEMING tr *Caninl Dogs* (1880) 35 Dogges which are taught and exercised to daunce in measure and sundry such properties, which they learne of their vagal undiscipl masters 1598 GRENAME *Obst Lindy* II 1 His vaticinated future Occurrents by the mysterious influences of the sublime Stars and vagabundical Planets.

a 1864 G DANIEL *Merrie Eng* xiv Joe Haynes was the hero of a variety of vagabondical adventures

**Vagabonding** (væ găbəndiŋ), *ppl a* [f VAGABOND *v*]

1 That roams or wanders as, or in the manner of, a vagabond Also *transf* and *fig*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Sonnets to Astr & Stella* v xii (GROSART) I 86 I now then statue thy white with vagabon ling shame 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III xiii 610 Even vagabon ling rougues have their magnificences and voluptuousnesse 1614 DRUMM OF HAWTH *Wks* (1913) I 13 I On mery part my vagabounding Sight Did cast 1632 J HEYWOOD *Iron* III 111 A vagabond ng Guest, Transported here and there *Ibid* 118 Concerning the vagabonding Queenes and their counterfeit Testimonials 1881 *Blackw Mag* May 571 The sword went fairly straight along its vagal onding road

2 Characterized by roaming or wandering, vagabondish

Not clearly distinct from the *vbl sb* used *attrib*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 472 These li wels certainely with their disguising sleights they haue ji ffed in their vagabounding race 1824 *New Monthly Mag* X 283 Some would spend our pri ne s best age In vagabo dini, pilg m age 1904 A B PATERSON *Poems* 92 And thr ugh our blood there runs The vagabondical love of change

†**Vagabondious,** *a Obs* [f VAGABOND *sb*] Vagabond, vagrant

1661 in *MSS Ho Lords* (Rep Hist MSS Comm) VII 153 The whole trade of car imaking is al wire drawing w is nearly spoiled by vagabondious persons.

**Vagabondish** (væ găbəndiʃ), *a* [f as prec] 1. Pertaining or appropriate to, characteristic of, a vagabond or vagabonds

1816 J SCOTT *Vis Paris* (ed 3) 67 All this has a show of business though of a light vagabondish kind 1868 MISS BRADDON *Trials of Lucy* II 11 There was a vi, dou lish kind of foppery in his costume 1884 *Harper's Mag* May 871 The vagabondish spirit engendered by their long journey

2 Of the nature of a vagabond, somewhat like a vagabond in conduct or life

1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 105 By far the larger number of those who apply to the traveller f r charity are vagabondish in their natures and in role t o their habits.

1881 *Times* 5 July 9 This vain a nd va, abondish mendicant

**Vagabondism** (væ găbəndiz m). [f as prec.]

1. = VAGABONDAGE 1

1822 *Blackw Mag* II 139 Who after forty years of indige ce and vagabon dism is admitte l into the first societies 1859 *Hist Canada in Stang Dict* IV 11 x The t ypures were not l ng in the country before they found native l mitators. Vagabon ism is peculiarly catching 1888 *Charity Organiz Rev* April 145 Vagabondism as a h it mode of life.

b A rascally or knavish act *rare*

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v (1904) 288 All errors and perver sities of his, even those stealin ,s of ribbons, aimless co nfuse l miseries and vaga bo ndisms.

2 = VAGABONDAGE 2 *rare*—1

1872 HEPWORTH *E g Sketches* (1881) iv 396 All the vaga bondism of the kingdom had scented the fray

**Vagabondize** (v ă găbəndaiz), *vb* [f as prec + -IZE] *intr* To play, wander, or go about as, or in the manner of, a vagabond, to roam or travel in a free, idle, unconstrained, or unconventional manner to play the vagabond.

Also with indefinite *it*

1612 COTGR, *R'oder* to roame wander, vagad on least 1776 *Ann Reg Chronicle* 142 Mr Hastings has vaga, n during it for some time he was discovered by the consul 1861 REAK *Cl ister & H* liv How much eviller he would have f ou l her by stayi n, quietly at Ferg u son than by vagabondizing it all over Holland

b In ordinary use Prec] with advs and preps

1704 MRS A M BENNETT *Bill* III 39 No modest woman would go vagabondizing about the country 1790 tr *Mercier's Tableau Pol & Hist* II 223 The streets would be filled with wretches vagabondizing round the palaces of sloth 1832 *Western Luminary* 18 Peoples among whom his fortunes cast him while vagabondizing in the remoter corners of the earth 1868 HOLME LEE *R Godfrey* XXVI, I has a sagerace had vagabo ndized all over Europe as newspaper correspon ksit 1894 D C MURRAY *Making of Not ists* 87, I acquired a taste for vagabondising about among the poor

*fig* 1864 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* III The surgeon's thoughts went vagabon lizing from the little coffee room 1868 — *Birds of Prey* V III My thoughts went vagabondising off to Charl ste

Hence **Vagabondizer.**

1860 *All Year Round* No 42 362 The itinerant traveller an l poetical or artistic vagabondizer

**Vagabonding** (væ găbəndiŋ), *vbl sb* [f prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb idle or unconventional wandering, an occasion of this

1829 SIR A W CALCOTT *Lett to Chantrey* 18 Aug A note we have had from the Phillips to join you in a vaga bonding to Hampstead. 1849 W IRVING *Goldsmith* xxiii 203 The Continental tour had with poor Goldsmith been little better than a course of literary vagabondizing 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xxi Then, vagabondising came natural to you, from the beginning?

**Va gabondising,** *ppl. a* [-ING 2] 1. That vagabondizes, vagabond

1830 *Fraser's Mag* II 200 We have a pretty considerable idea of how those vagabondising ragamuffins spend the hours of the day 1855 *Household Wds* XII 168 Her wicked, vagabondising, brandy drinking husband

2 Characterized by, devoted or inclined to, wandering or vagabondage

1842 *Fraser's Mag* XXIII 349 [They] would prefer labour to a vagabondising life 1859 SALA *Tw round Clock* 1861) 175 They fade away with the dawn and are not beheld any more till vagabondising time begins again 1883 Miss C F WOOLSON *Anne* 377 July shrewdly felt a strong affec tion in his capacious vagabondising heart for the stranger

**Va gabondry.** Now *rare* or *Obs* [f VAGABOND *sb* + RY] = VAGABONDAGE 1

1547 *A t s F tw b I c* 3 Preamble Idleness and Vagabund rye the mother and route of all theftes. 1618 COTGR, *Mara'dise* Vagabondry, roguerie Idle knauerie lasie vaga bondrie 1681 W ROBERTSON *Phraseol Gen* (1693) 1257 A lase vagabondry, *mes ticmonsmens* 1869 W CORY *Lett & Journ* (1897) 357 We went through Dropmore with unusual vagabondry

†**Vagabuncy,** later f VAGABUNCY *Obs*

1549 COVERDALE, etc *Erasm Par Titus* Ded, To banysh tyrus idlenesse vagabuncye [see PUNCY]

†**Vagabundulo.** *nonce word* [f *vagabund* VAGABOND *sb*] ? A roguish trick

1632 SHIRLEY *School of Complement* v iii Gorgon has had his desires, and the ambitious vagabundulo has been an eye

**Vagal** (vē gal), *a Anat* and *Path* [f VAGUS + -AL] *a. Vagal nerve*, the vagus or pneumogas tric nerve b Of, pertaining to, or affecting this

1854 *Orr's Circ Sci Org Nat* I 205 The exocti tials are perf rated to give exit to the vagal and hypogl vasl nerves 1888 A WILLIAMS in *Trans Internat Vl* 1923 The effects of vagal stimul ation were frequently investigated 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 816 In upper vagal roots are more frequently suspended than the lower ones.

†**Va gancy.** *Obs rare* [f VAGANT *a* see -ANCY] A wandering or strolling Also *fig*

1643 MILTON *Ch Cont* I 11 That our hap ntease may orbe with all those outward thing, an tes of glory and delight 1644 BROME *Travailt ewes* v *Spr Aglow* My humble suit is that you will be pleas d to let me walk upon my known occasions this Summer *Lawyer* The I Canst not yet leave off those Vagan cies

†**Va gant,** *a* (and *pres pple*) *Obs* Forms 4 5 vagaunt, 5–6 aunte, 5 6, 8 vagant, 5 -anto [a. OF *vagant, vagaunt*, or L *vagant-, vagans*, pres pple of *vagări* to wander]

1 Wandering, roaming, roving, travelling or moving from place to place, having no settled home or abiding place Cf VAGABOND *a*

1388 WYCLIF *Gen* iv 12 Vagaunt and fer fugitif thow shalt be vpon the erthe alle the daies of thi lif 1432 50 tr *Higd* (Rolls) VIII 135 In the tyme of Hengist and Hubi s, Arlu his the I archip w es vagante longe with ]e body of Seynte Cuthberte 1480 CAXTON *Ovide's Met* XIV x For al we haue be dispari ls I & I s haue be vagant on the see 1483 — *Gold Leg* 14 b r I ne Iosaphat was two yere vag unte & cryd in deserte. 1517 WATSON *Myrr of Ire* 131 I am the fyrste in the shyppe vagaunte with the other fayres 1578 T *Lanc Kirk C* (1836) II 170 Thocht vagant fruirs faine wald lie, I le trueth will furth

2 Devious, erratic. *rare*

1582 WYLLIE *Irem* v 6 In the path of lif thei gon not i vnan ted, but vagus of hir mynd vnsetlabile 1798 *Brit Apollo* No 51 1/1 By so Vagant a I rocedure, it is a Chance I ut is most hear some points of Duty repeated

3 Of thoughts *Wandering*

c 1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 91 Vn can not sturre vp yt selfe fom wandring and vagant thoughtes tht yt is accustomyd in *Ihe* 165 Also the harte oughte fulle besyly to be kepte fr m all vagauntt thoughtes.

**Vagara(u)nt, ent,** obs forms of VAGRANT

**Vagare,** obs form of VAGARY

**Vaga rian** *rare*— [f as next + AN] One given to vagaries or whims.

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Vagarious** (vāgē rĭəs), *a* [f VAGARY *sb*] 1 a Variable, inconstant, changeable *Obs*—1

1798 R P *Tour in Wales* (MS) 36 Thus life s vagarious tenure passes on! And thus, the scenic vista n glows with change

2 Marked or characterized by, full of, subject to, vagaries, erratic.

1827 *Examiner* 705 The Travels of Wilhelm Meister, wild, vagarious and disconnected as it is *a* 1871 DR WHEWELL *Lect Educ* (1872) 153 Mr Wrg na s's mind was somewhat attu ied to psychology; but he was cr icky and vagarious 1897 *Atlantic Monthly* I XXIX 134 The work is free from the vagarious ebullitions

3 Wandering, roaming, roving.

1820 *Harper's Mag* April 661 Sharp interruption from the vagarious horned enemy 1888 *Sat R* 22 Sept 363/2 The eyes of the vagarious canary, Kiki

Hence **Vaga riously** *adv*

1890 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 17 Nov An idly planned and vagariously disposed though always picturesque c llege rest ict

**Vagarish,** *a* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f as prec.]

1 Of the eyes Disposed to wander, wandering

1801 WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks 1812 V 40 His eyes were of the vagarish 1823 *New Monthly Mag* VII 230 My people's eyes were all vagarish While striving your hard phrases to conjecture

2 Somewhat vagarious or whimsical

1819 KEATS in Ld Houghton *Life* (1848) II 26 But you knowing my unsteady and vagarish disposition will [etc].

**Vagarist.** Sept 259 Early autumn clothing is slightly vagarisome and steady observation is necessary in order to determine what is ' worn from what is 'put on

**Vaga rist,** *rare* [f as prec + IST] One who is subject to vagaries, a vagarious person

1888 *The Voice* (N Y) 24 May, The Prohibition party are now free from suspicion of being vagarists.

**Vagarity** (vāgæ rĭti) *rare*—1. [f as prec + ITY] Capricious irregularity or variability.

1886 *N & Q* 7th Ser II 89/1 Instances of vagarity are noticeable with each Prince of Wales, many of whom seem to have ignored the tale [of Duke of Cornwall]

**Vagary** (vage ri), *sb* Also 6 **7 vagare,** 6 **-arie** [prob ad L *vagări* (It *vagare*) to wander Cf FEGARY]

†1 A wandering or devious journey or tour; a roaming about or abroad, an excursion, ramble, stroll *Obs.*

Freq in the 17th c, chiefly in verbal phrases as *to fetch, make, or take a vagary*

1597 STANYHURST *Descr Irel* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI 24 The Irish enimie spieing that the citizens were accustomed to fetch such od vagaries, they laid an sundrie places for their comming 1588 — *Aeneis* (Arb) 41 Ere the gates be closed they skud with a fluely vagare 1600 PORY tr *Leos Africa* I 29 These haue often vagaries ouer the deserts vnto the prounce of Ledgeor 1613 W ADAMS *Conf Prodigie* (1860) 40 To entice his neighbours wifes to leave their husbands and to follow him by turns, into other countreys, and after a long vagare, to return again 1657 S PURCHAS *Lol Hoying Ins* I v 12 A hot Sun shine will quickly prompt them out of their Hives to take a short vagary 1677 J ELPHE *Demonol* (1686) 300 The like did Hinah, when she made a needless vagary to see the daughters of the land 1826 W E ANDREWS *Crit Rev Ess Bk Mart* II 413 Whether it is likely that such a person should be permitted to make a walking, stopping throughout all London *transf* and *fig* c1630 RISDON *Surv Devon* § 225 (1810) 237 Torridge after a long vagary, making many meanders, emptieth itself in the sea. 1656 CLEVELAND *To a Gentl* xvi (1665) 359 Our hearts are soon gone away from the duty in hand, and taken a vagary to the furthest part of the world 1709 STRYPE *Tr Thomas's* xxii, My aunt Hinah and the coachman led us a vagary some millions of miles into the very heart of the planetary system

†b *To play his vagary*, with a horse, to leave or refuse to follow the proper or desired course *Obs*—1

1580 BUDE *Eyr Art of Riding* I 11 If he will then play his vagarie, beate him forthwith with your wand

†2 A wandering in speech or writing, a ramb ling from the subject under consideration, a digression or divagation. *Obs* (passing into sense 5)

1579 G HARVEY *Letter-bk* (Camden) 62 Leauing the vnpe outte the matter either with tonge or penne without the same discoursinge vagaries 1596 R H tr *Lazarieus Conites* & 58 To let it rie, & ha I ten seuen or eight tales or impertinent vagaries, but very truthes 1651 BAXTER *Inf Papist* Apol 15 When ever he was at a l a, that the pe ple might not perceive it, he presently would fall into a wordy vagary 1681 — *Answ Dodw II* iv 54 You must talk at oll er rates than you have done in y ur tedious follacious Vagaries 1702 in *Phs Orig Lett* 1ser II IV 451 Mr Ie fe rd told his vagaries at the Table and gave the House a little prelude of what they were to expect

3 A departure or straying from the ordered, regular, or usual course of conduct, decorum, or propriety, a frolic or prank, now esp of a freakish nature Now *rare* or *Obs* (passing into sense 4)

1588 BARNFIELD *Encom Lord's Pr* (1596) 274 A short vagare layde a grinding griefe vpon his conscience during life. 1593 H BARNES *Parth & Parth* VI I will be His loul f r this offence I make another such vagary take of me A pawn 1609 W M *Man in Moon* (1849) 22 Hee that might doe well and would not, when hee wanteth shal be unpitied when shall you heare of your olde vagaries 1667 MILTON *P L* VI 614 Strait they chang l their minds, flew off, and into strange vagaries fell As they would dance 1693 JEREMY TAYLOR *Holy Dying* Would your Son engage in some Frolic or take a Vagary, were it not better he should do it with, then without your Knowledge? 1712 GAY *What d'ye call it* II iv, Pray, Sir, what's the Vagary? With Pranks and Vagaries. 1785 CROKE *Diet Indepl L Vagaries frolicks, wild rambles. a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol L g* Sec iii *Horse Warning*, I that should take such a vagary She could turn a knight into a waggon of hay 1866 C STRETTON *Chequered Life* II 100, I could not sleep I was too much amused at the vagaries of my new acquaint ances for mis], and kept watching them.

*fig* 1794 MRS RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* I, Let us hear what vagaries fancy has been playing in your mind

†b Without article, and including *Obs*

1792 WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Knights of Kings* Wks 1812 II 402 Here—there, Up, down, she dances it; now far, now near, In mad and riotous vagary

4 A capricious, fantastic, or eccentric action or piece of conduct

1689 MASSINGER *Picture* V iii An old bachelor, as I am, is not troubled With these fine vagaries 1782 STERNE *Sent* No 260 P 1 The Vagaries of a Child are not more ridicul us than the Circumstances which are heaped up in my Memory 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) IV XXI 160 She . . not having so great a fortune to support vagaries would have shone in Italy 1832 CARLYLE *Sart Res* III vi A noble natural Courtesy shines through him, beautify ing his vagaries 1862 TULLOCH *Rog Perils* iv 409 Ignor ance and vanity once unbridled knew no limit to the vagaries into which they ran 1888 HAYES *Amer Commons* III LXXVII 150 The sentiment of the nation at large sets but slowly in restraining the vagaries of one particular State.

b A caprice or trick *of* fortune, fancy, the brain, a malady, etc

1727 Dennis *Remarks Pope's Homer* Pref A, A vagary of fortune who is sometimes pleased to be frolicsome. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 97 The vagaries of the perspective, originating in such an arrangement, were rather amusing. 1862 Burton *Bk Hunter* (1863) 17, I must yet notice another and a peculiar vagary of his malady. 1872 Nadieva *Prev & Cure Dis* I iv 123 To follow the vagaries of fashion.

5 An erratic play of fancy, a fantastic, eccentric, or extravagant idea or notion (Cf 2)

1733 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VI xxxii. 218 These ideal vagaries, which for the time realize pain or pleasure to us. 1771 Gray in *Corr w Nicholls* (1843) 137 But by all means curb these vagaries and wandering imaginations. 1806 H K White *To Contemplation* i Rem (1825) 384 I alone A wayward youth, misled by Fancy's vagaries, Remain'd unnoticed. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr Faith* i § 2 77 Every system that would lead such a conclusion is a mere logical vagary. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr* II 270 *note* But it is worse than useless to record the vagaries of Apocalyptic interpretation.

†**Vaga·ry**, *v. Obs* [Cf prec.] *intr* To wander or roam. Also *transf*.

1598 Florio, *Vagare*, to wander, or ramble to straie abroade. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks (Grosart) V 224 The marshes a-od lower grounds lying vpon the three rivers that vagary vp to her. 1611 Florio, *Vincire*, to vary, roame, vagarie wander idle it vp and d wne. 1656 S H *Gold Law* 60 Though he might decline Law yet he'd vagari'd not therefrom. 1681 Sir R Robertson *Thesaur Ling Ro* (1693) 1557 To vagary, *vagari, palari*.

†**Vaga·tion.** *Obs* Also 4 vagayoone, 5 6 oion, 6 -oyon, -tione [ad L *vagatiōn-, vagatio*, n of action f. *vagārī* to wander (Cf *Ob. vagation* (Godef.), Pg *vagação*.] The action of wandering, straying, or departing from the proper or regular course, an instance or occasion of this; a wandering, rambling, roaming; an aberration. In *lit* and *fig* use.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr* (1866) 14 Whene þe mynde es stabelde sadely with owten changynge and vagacyone in Godd c 1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 42 For this vnstedfastnesse caused of dulnes, and of heuynes of hurte. 1508 Atkynson tr *De Imitatio* III xxvii. 219 Chryse fro myn hert all maner darkenes, stablyshe the great vagacions of my mynde that I suffre. 1549 *Compl S of* xiii. 111 An of his familiar frendis inquyrit hym of the cause of his inconstant vagatione. 1597 Hayward *Lyfe Norman W Rufus* (Grosart) III 53 Neuer thelesse can I accuse you of lazines for all this time of your vagation with you I thinke the Signe hath been in Pisces. 1656 Gale *Hist Anc Phys* 201 Secretes, offended at the bold and blind vagations of men in their inquisitions about the measures of the sunne. 1713 Derham *Phys The I* iv ii 100 By this so curious and exact a Libration, in seemly Contortion and Vagation of the Body. 1716 — *Astro The I* iv v (1769) 118 But I have myself observed a greater vagation in the third satellite.

†**Vage**, *a. Obs rare*[1] [app ad L *vago* Cf Vagiseness] Fine handsome.

1604 I Wright *Passions* v § 4 198 The finer gold the richer stones, the more vage and beautifull iewell.

**Vage**, southern dial var Fage *v*, obs f Vague *sb* and *v*, obs or dial f Voyage, obs 5c f Wage *v*, Wedge *sb* **Vageit**, obs 5c f Waged *ppl a* **Vageown**, obs 5c f Wager (soldier)

**Vager**, obs 5c f Vaguer (wanderer), Wager (soldier) **Vagging**, dial var Fagging *vbl sb*

**Vagi-** (vē·dʒəi), comb form of L *vagus* Vague *a*, occurring in a few botanical terms, as *vagiform, vagina rosæ* adjs (see quots)

1859 Mayne *Expos Lex*, *Vagiformis* applied by de Candolle to leaves of cellular plants when their false nervures are dispersed without order or regularity. *vagiform* 1866 *Treas Bot* 1199 *I agineræ* are having the veins arranged without any order.

†**Va gient**, *a Obs* [ad L *vagient-em*, present pple of *vagire* to cry, squall] Of infants, infancy, etc. Crying, squalling, wailing

1598 Grim *Perist Chyld* (1599) 417 There shall be not vagient Youngling, nor decrepite dotard. 1634 H More *Song of Soul* II iv iii xlii, But for the cradle of the Cretan Jove, And guardians of his vagient Infancie. What other man but angely will report? 1659 — *Immort Soul* (1662) 249 The vagient cries of the Infant Jupiter amidst the dancings of the Cretick Corybantes.

†**Vagina.** (vădʒəi·nă) Pl **vaginæ** (-ai nī), **vaginas**. [L *vagina* sheath, scabbard Cf F *vagin* (1762), †*vagine*, Pg *vagina*.]

1. *Anat* and *Med* The membranous canal leading from the vulva to the uterus in women and female mammals.

1682 Gibson *Anat* 90 It has passages for the neck of the Bladder, and in Women for the vagina of the Womb. 1754 *Gentl Magazine* 1 95 The upper end of the vagina is joined to the circumference of the lips of the os uteri. 1805 *Med Jrnl* XIV 21 Neither could we discover by the touch any communication between the rectum and vagina. 1847 Youatt *Horse* VII 174 The true polypus is usually found in the nostrils, the pharynx, the uterus, or the vagina. 1856 tr *Buss Text bk Zool* 490 In the Marsupials the two vaginæ open separately on the floor of the urinogenital sinus.

b. A canal or organ having similar form or function in other animals; a genital passage

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV 146 This vessel, which consists of a double tunic, in the cabbage butterfly terminates the vagina. 1871 R Jones *Anim Kingd* (ed 4) 358 Female generative organs of the Queen Bee . . *vagina*, or common excretory duct.

2 A part or formation serving as or suggestive of a sheath; a sheath like covering, organ, or part; a theca.

1713 Derham *Phys Theol* VIII iv (1727) 563 *note*, The Female hath vaginæ prettily furrow'd, the Male smooth *Ibid*, 565 Many of them provided with the finest Articulations, and Foldings, for the Wings to be withdrawn and neatly laid up in their Vaginæ, and Cases. 1771 *Encycl Brit* I 191/1 The fibres [of the muscles] are distinguished by membranous, cellular or adipose septa as by so many particular vaginæ. 1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* III 361 *Vagina* (the Vagina), the jointed sheath of the *Proboscis*, representing the *Labium* in a perfect mouth

b *Bot* = Sheath 2b 1 2 b.

1720 P. Blair *Bot Ess* 128 Sometimes they are covered with a Vagina or Sheath at the top. 1731 P Miller *Gard Dict* K v *Narcissus*, The Empalement which commonly rises out of a membranous *Vagina*. 1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* I 118 Occasionally the petiole embraces the branch from which it springs, and in such cases is said to be sheathing; and its sheath is called a sheath or vagina as in grasses. 1857 Henfrey *Bot* § 75 The sheathing portion or vagina.

c. *Sculpture* The lower part of a terminus, out of which the bust or figure appears to rise (So F *gaine*) *rare*—0

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v The Vagina is that long Part between the Base and the Capital and is found in divers Manners, and with divers Ornaments

Hence **Vagi na-less** *a*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 1061 I have recently printed out the process by which the embryo draconculi quit the body of the vaginaless parent worm

**Vaginal** (vă·dʒĭnăl, vădʒəi·năl), *a* and *sb* [f prec. + -(C)AL] = *vaginæal* (1796) Pg *vaginal*]

A. *adj* 1 *Anat* and *Med* Of the nature of, having the form or function of, a sheath, serving as a sheath *Vaginal process*, a process or appendix of the lower portion of the temporal bone, partially enclosing the styloid process

1796 Morbo *Anat my* 164 The Cavity between the Zygomatic and Petrous and Vaginal Process 1797 *Phil Trans* LVII 205 The internal coat of the testicle. 1831 R Knox *Cloquet's Anat* 55 A bony lamina called the vaginal process. 1873 Mivart *Elem Anat* 80 A sharp ridge runs inwar la and forwards from the root of the styloid process This ridge is termed the vaginal process. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex* Vaginal coat of the eye, capsule of Tenon *Ibid* Vaginal tunic

b *Bot* = Vaginant *a*

1827 Hooker *Fl Scot* I 175 The vaginal petiolar region is more or less distinctly evident in many Monocotyledonous leaves.

2 Of, pertaining to, or affecting the vagina

1825 Good *Study Med* (ed 2) V 326 *mutes*, The vaginal polypus is sometimes produced by stimulants administered. 1840 F Wells in *Amer Journ Med Sci* (1841) 314 The Uterine and Vaginal affections of the female are derived from the internal iliac and pudic arteries. 1855 Rambotham *Obstet Med & Surg* 36 The vaginal canal becomes much contracted in advanced life. 1878 I Bryant *Pract Surg* I 688 Vaginal and labial hernia may be mistaken for the mucous cysts of those parts.

b Of instruments Used in dealing with, or operating on, the vagina

1875 Knt in *Dict Mech* 2687 2 Vaginal speculum *Ibid* Vaginal syringe. 1895 *Arnold's Syst Surg Instr Cutal* 421 Vaginal and uterine instruments

B *sb* A vaginal artery or muscle

1872 E de Thomas *Dis Women* (ed 2) 52 Simes's instrument cuts the vaginal band, elevates the posterior vaginal.

**Vaginalitis** (vădʒĭnăl·ĭtĭs) *Path* [f prec. + -ITIS] Inflammation of the vaginal coat or tunic of the testicles

1861 Bumstead *Ven Dis* (1879) 131 Vaginalitis, although rarely found in the acute gonorrhœal form, is always consecutive to the inflammation of the epididymis

**Vaginant,** *a Bot* [ad mod L *vaginant-*, *vaginans*, f. *vagina* sheath So F. *vaginant*] = Sheathing *ppl a*

1790 J Lee *Introd Bot* II xii (1765) 291 *Vaginant* forms a half sheath, or sheath; when the base of the leaf forms a cylindrical tube that invests the branch. 1851 C F Richardson *Coll Pl* 203 Sessile leaves are sometimes vaginant like the sheathing grasses.

**Vaginate,** *a rare* [ad mod L *vaginat-us*, f as prec. cf next and Vaginated *ppl a*] Enclosed in a sheath or vagina, invaginate

1849 Craig *Vaginate Vaginated* in Botany sheathed invested by the tubular base of the leaf. 1856 W Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool* I 190 Penis vaginate simple with a small posterior accessory part *Ibid* 300 Mouth vaginated, a rostellum protractile vaginate at the base. 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1320 *Vaginatus* cased sheathed vaginate

†**Vaginate,** *v Obs*[—0] [f L *vagina* cf prec.] To sheathe (Blount *Glossogr* 1656)

Phillips (1658) substitutes †*vagination* a sheathing

†**Vaginated,** *ppl a. Obs rare* [f as prec + -ED1] = Vaginate *a*

1698 *Phil Trans* XX. 402 Those above are wholly vaginated (or sheathed) and come neer first at an every joynt. 1776 *Hedwig Sclect Pract* 445 In the Stipe the vaginated stem touches no other part of the whole cavity. 1849 [see Vaginate *a*]

**Va·gine** *Obs*[—0] [ad L *vagina* Vagina.] A scabbard (Cockeram, 1623)

**Vagini-,** comb f of L *vagina* sheath (see Vagino-) in a few scientific terms, as *vaginiform* adj., **vaginiglutæal,** a muscle acting upon the sheath of the thigh also *vaginigluteal* adj., †**vaginipennous** *a*, of beetles, having the wings covered with a sheath, coleopterous

A few other instances of scientific or technical usage are given in some recent Dicts, as *vaginiscalmus, vaginiscolens, vaginiferous, vaginipennate* adjs.

1846 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* III xv (1686) 141 All wings pennous or sheath winged insects, as Beetles and Dorns. 1696 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vaginipennous*, pertaining to such flies which have their wings cloased as it were in sheaths or cases as the Beetle hath. *Dr Bigelow*] 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1320 *Vaginiformis*, vaginiform

‖ **Vaginismus** (vădʒĭnĭ·zmĕs) *Path* [mod L (Sims), f. *vagina*] Painful spasmodic contraction of the vagina, vulvismus

1866 J M Sims *Uterine Surg* 306 By the term vaginismus I mean an excessive hyperæsthesia of the hymen and vulvar outlet. 1879 *St Geo's Hosp Rep* IX 443 The part at first left for two months, but was readmitted as the vaginismus still persisted.

**Vaginito** (vădʒĭnəi·tĭs) *Path* [f as prec. + -ITIS Cf L *vaginitis*] Inflammation of the vagina.

1846 G P Dayton *Simon's Anim Chem* II 96 He found other forms of inflammation in the skin from syphilitic vaginitis. 1861 Bumstead *Ven Dis* (1879) 187 Vaginitis is more common than any other form of gonorrhœa in women. 1879 *St Geo's Hosp Rep* IX 443 Spasm of sphincter vaginæ marked, with some vaginitis and cervicitis.

**Vagino-** (vădʒəi·nō), used as a comb form of L *vagina* in some scientific terms, as † **vagino pennous,** = *vaginipennous* **vagi noscope,** an instrument for examining the vagina, **vagino-vesical** pertaining to the vagina and the bladder

Recent Dicts give a number of others in *Mod Path* or *Surg*, as *vaginofixation, vaginotomy, vaginoabdominal, vaginorectal* adjs (Cf *vaginoabdominal, vesicinal, vesicoabdominal*)

1758 Johnson, *Ladybird* a small red insect with black spots. 1825 *Nat Study Med* (ed 2) V 194 Vaginismus is the spasmodic closure of the vagina. 1838 Dunglison *Med Lex* (ed 3) 1866 J M Sims *Uterine Surg* 53 Dr Routh has detected pregnancy by means of his vaginoscope

‖ **Vaginula** (vădʒĭ·nĭlă) [L **vaginula**] *Foot* and *Bot* = *vaginulus*, dim of *vagina* Vagina ] A little sheath or vagina, *esp* in *Bot* the calyptra or thecs enclosing the base of the seta in certain mosses

a 1843 Wilkinson in *Swedenborg's Anim Kingd* I i 18 The external membrane of the mouth has a number of pyramidal and globular papillæ or vaginulæ

b 1849 Lindley *Nat Bot* § 1114 Urn shaped pistillidia, enclosed at first with a calyptra which is ultimately carried up with the seta. Living cilia in a sheath (vaginula) in the bottom of the fruit stalk. 1863 M J Berkeley *Intr Fl Moss* 20 In *Splachnum* the vaginula is a cylindrical tube, the stalk. 1882 Vines in *Encyc Brit* 360 The basal portion of the growing seed-gonium becomes swollen out and pierces down into the tissue of the stem, being rounded and finally enclosed by a tube (vaginula)

**Vaginule.** / † [Anglicizing, of prec or a L *vaginule*] = prec

1861 Lindley *Man Bot* 380 In *Pungiferæ* minute spermatic cells are developed in stalks arising out of the vaginule

†**Vaginess** *Obs*[—0] [f. *Vagine*-as, I suppose *Vaginæ*] Handsomeness elegance

1604 I Wright *Passions* III § 4 137 All these [parts of the world] are in euill with a most gratious vaginesse lustre, and beautie

†**Vagit.** *Obs*[—1] [ad L *vagit-us* f *vagire* to cry squall] A cry lamentation wail

1627 Hakewill *Apol* (1635) 294 His cruell altars with sad vagits sounde

†**Va gitate,** *v Obs*[—1] [ad med L. *vagitare*, f L *vagari* to wander] *intr* To roam or travel

1614 Raleigh *Hist World* II vii (1634) 293 Before the use of the compass was known it was impossible to vagitate a shore till the Ocean

**Vago-** (vē·gō) used as comb f of Vague in a few terms of *Anat* or *Med* in the sense 'of or pertaining to, denoting, the vagus or pneumogastric nerve (and some other nerve or part)', as *vago accessory, gl nodosum, gl pharyngeal, sympathetic* adjs

1877 M Foster *Physiol* 1000 In the mixed vago-sympathetic trunk 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* IV 860 Among lumbar nerves the vago accessory is by far the most frequently attacked 1899 *Ibid* VI 811 The hypoglossal nerve fibres he finds in close proximity to those of the vago glosso-pharyngeal nerve

†**Va gous,** *a Obs* [ad L *vagus* see Vague *a.*] Vagrant or vague, in various senses: departing from or exceeding just or ordinary bounds, irregular, inordinate, unsettled, wandering

1660 tr *Amyraldus Treat conc Relig* I 115 We have no other assurance of it then so will and vagous a tradition. *Ibid* 118 As I know not what natural vagous and indeterminate motion. 1684 N S tr *Cent Inq Relig Bible* 67 The first is of a vagous way of Disputation, propounding now one thing now another. 1720 I. Fuller *Harm Existing* 38 The whole throng of Physicians crieth it up to cure vago's Pains. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 107 Such as were born and begot of a single woman through a vagous Lust, were called *Spurii*. 1752 Bracken *Farriery Impr* (1757) I 319 [They] were no doubt liable to vag us and wandering Pains.

**Va grance.** *rare* [f as next sec -ance] Vagrancy

1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 85 ¶ 9 The understanding may be restrained from that vagrance and dissipation by which it relieves itself after a long intenseness of thought. 1871 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) I xxii 197 You'll never mount the airy steep With all your tripping vagrance.

**Vagrancy** (vē·grănsi) [f Vagrant *a* sec -ancy]

**1** *fig.* The action or fact of wandering or digressing in mind, opinion, thought, etc , an instance of this (Cf. 3 )

1642 H More *Song of Soul* II III lxxiii, Curious men will judge't a vagrancy To start thus from my scope 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* (1832) IV 276 Of this vacillation and vagrancy of mind, I impute a great part to a fortuitous and unsettled life 1808 Han More *Caleb* II 200 Poetry has of late too much degenerated into personal satire, and can catsure, it has exhibited the vagrancies of genius without the inspiration 1823 G Johnston *Nat Hist E Bord* I 230 We can all of us apprehend the pretty vagrancy of the fancy 1861 Fulloch *Pop Theol* 121 The vagrancies of conscience helped to check the vagrancies of the heart

**2.** The state, condition, or action of roaming abroad or wandering about from place to place.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm* iv Wks 1686 III 42 Therefore did he spend his days in continual labour in restless travel in endless vagrancy, going about & ingrood *Ibid* v 57 Moses did not lose his affection towards his Countreymen, because he was by one of them threatened any into banishment and vagrancy 1778 Johns in in *Boswell* (Oxf ed) II 40 As a shepherd he is answerable for those that stray But no man can be answerable for vagrancy which he has not authority to restrain 1822 *Imp Dict* s v Quack, *Comf Nurse* 1869 I 131 Happier life I cannot imagine than this vagrancy, if the weather were but tolerable, through it does occassions of changing beauty 1879 Lytton *Dr rein* I Before terminating for ever his vagrancies. 1889 H Harte *Cressy* I, It had been the habit of the master to utilize these preliminary vagrancies of the little flock

*transf* 1884 *Harper's Mag* Dec 76/2, I was struck by the wild untutored vagrancy of every growing thing

b. *spec* Idle wandering with no settled habitation, occupation, or obvious means of support, conduct, life, or practices characteristic of vagrants or idle beggars

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vagrancy*, a vagrant, this orderly, or ill Course of Life 1792 Burke *Sp No, 10 Cade* Wks (Bohn) V 144 He shall by office prosecute them for the offences of idleness , gaming, or vagrancy. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 145 Vagrancy had thus everywhere a colourable excuse given to it, when largely unemployed 1876 J Weiss *Wit, Hum & Shaks* iv 141 He ought to be taken up for vagrancy, as having no visible means of support *attrib* 1902 *Verdener's Mag* Jan 2/1 The sleepy unwary are lucky if they escape the Island on a vagrancy commitment.

**3** An instance or occasion of wandering or roaming , a rambling journey , a straying

1583 Lil Harowick *Ans Lyly* (1917) III xv 381 The run aways need not shorten their vagrancy on that account 1709 Strutt *Dress & Habit* II 218 It was evidently his intention to hold up these vagrancies to ridicule.

**Vagrant** (vē grănt), *sb* and *a* I orms *a* 5–6 **vagaraunt**(e, 6–7 **vagarant**, 6 ont *β* 6– **vagrant**, 7 **vag'rant**. [Late MI. *vagrant*, *vagarant*, perh an alteration of earlier AF *wakerant* (*vacrant*, *walcrant*), through association with L *vagari* of Vagabond The Ar. word is employed in the sense of 'vagrant' in enactments of the 14th cent ]

A. *sb* 1. One of a class of persons who having no settled home or regular work wander from place to place, and maintain themselves by begging or in some other disreputable or dishonest way, an itinerant beggar, idle loafer, or tramp.

Vagrants have been the subject of many legal enactments, and by the Act 5 Geo IV, c 83 (the Vagrant Act) now in force, they are divided into 'idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds, incorrigible rogues and other vagrants

*a* 1444 *Rolls of Parlt* V 113/1 Alle Statutes of Laborers, Vitaillers, Servaunts and Vagarants, afore this tyme made. 1583 Stubbes *Anat Abus* II (1882) 75 They runne roging like vagarents, and doome the countries like maisterlesse men 1598 Barkeley *Ielic Man* (1631) 178 [Seamen] are alwaies as vagarunts and in continuall exile

*β* 1552 in *Hale Hist Mich* (1907) 200 Vag Coll IV 201 All manere vagrunts, vacabunds and beggers begging oute of the hundred whereas they duelle 1547 *Act 1 Edw VI*, c 3 § 5 It shall appear such man to have been a vagraunte and vacabound or idle persone 1606 Warner *Alb Eng* xiv. xci. 367 Lest his Baggage, Shoeshooke, Skrip, and Bottell By Vagrants (more than Theeves) he might suffer of their stealth 1698 Fryer *Ac E India & P* 392 These men are Vagrants, while the Husbandman fixes him self in the Villages. 1725 Pope *Odyss* xi 452 Vagrants who on falsehood live, Skill'd in smooth tales an l artful to deceive 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xvii (1787) II 34 The practice, which seemed to have been first used as a terror only to slaves and vagrants. 1832 Hr Martineau *Ireland* 119 The listless or bold express in which characterises vagrants. 1868 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) I 1 For the able bodied vagrant, it is well known that the old English law had no mercy 1882 Par *Exam rec* 57 If you dare to trespass on my grounds you will be treated as a vagrant or a beggar

**2** One who wanders or roams about; a person who leads a wandering life, a rover

c 1590 Greene *Fr Iacen* xi, Vagrant, go roam and range it out the world, and perish as a vagabond on earth! 1718 Pope *Odyss* II 212 Unnumber'd birds glide through the aerial way, Vagrants of air, and unforbeleding stray 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 361 In about five Days Time the three Vagrants, tir'd with Wandring, came back 1770 Jortin *Serm* (1771) V 194 He chose the Israelites, poor vagrants who had not a foot of ground I of their own 1807 J Barlow *Columb* II 594 Why, if mules past Led the bold vagrants to so mild a waste Why the wild woods for ever must they rove?

**fig** 1612 I Taylor *Comm Prim* III 3 We shal not neede timuell faire to seeke instances of such vagrants out of the ways of God

**3** A wandering or non-sedentary spider (see first quot )

1815 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* xvii. (1816) I 493 The former Walckenaer in his admirable work on spiders, has designated by the name of *Vagrants* 1835 Kirby *Hab & Inst Animi* II xix 298 There is a very common black and white spider amongst the *vagrants*

**B.** *adj* 1. Wandering about without proper means of livelihood, living in vagrancy or idle vagabondage, of or belonging to the class of vagrants or itinerant beggars.

*a* 1261 *Lett Red Ick Bristol* (1900) II 127 Many of the kynges liege people gothe vagarant and vnoccupied and may not haue ther labour to ther leyyng 1530 *Act 22 Hen VIII*, c 12 § 2 Any suche vngracious person after the sayde Feest of Seynt Iohn, be vagarant & goo aboute, *Ibid* § 9 Whyppied for a vagarant stronge I ester 1608 Bacon *Comment Sol*, 2 Wks 1868 IV 91 The Emilted is vacant, the Non Communicant, the vagarant person 1632 Sanderson *Serm* 383 Sturdy Rogues and vagarant towns end vagrants.

**fig** 1803 Knolles *Hist Turks* (1621) 160 In all which places they mustred souldiers, entertaining also strangers, and other vagrant and misorderlese men 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II, Current and vagrant-Stockant whippant Beggars! 1720 De Foe *Iacque* 122 Every vagrant person may, by the laws of England, be taken up. 1770 Goldsm *Des Vill* 111 Remote, unfriended, melancholy, slow! 1824-28 Somerville *Life & Times* (1861) 370 Before the general establishment of poor rates, the country was ever run with vagrant beggars 1854 *Ch Ch* 18 The Act 17 Geo IV 74 An Act to render Reformatory and Industrial Sch sols in Scotland more available for the Benefit of Vagrant Children

*fig* 1663 J Webb *Prodigies* (1665) 252 If once Right Reason be put by of its office, our inward house will soon be free f r every vile and vagrant Opinion to take up and dwell therein.

**2** *fig* Wandering, straying, roving, inconstant, unsettled, wayward, etc

1592 More *Dequat Novius* Wks 76/1 It often happeth y^t the very face sheweth y^e mind walking a pilgrimage, in such wyse y^t not without som note discouered the vagarauntemind fete. 1612 I Taylor *Comm Prim* III 3 We have a wandring and vagrant vaine euen after our calling, and therefore much more before 1651 H More *Antidote Pref* (1660) 18 Is usually a more vagrant more lax and general, then to be brought in here. 1684 Burnet tr *Utopia* 141 They think that if they were not so strictly restrained from all vagrant Appetites, very few would engage in a married state 1712 Steele *Spect* No 143 P 4 Ambition, Envy, vagrant Desire, or impertinent Mirth will take up our Minds 1802 Mrs Inchbald *Serm* Wks 1874 I 82 When daily, hourly sacrifice the greatest known interest to any vagrant inclinati n 1755 J Shebbeare *Lyd* I (1769) I 116 I beauty which drew the vagrant passion from inconstancy 1820 Hazlitt *Lect Dram Lit* 184 We wander by forest side & fountain following our vagrant fancies 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 542 The offspring of a vagrant and ignoble love. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I xxiii 234 A child with a violent and vagrant temper

**3** Leading a wandering or nomadic life; ranging or roaming from place to place, straying, straggling Cf Vagant *a* 1

*Ipid* 1598 *Yorks Chantry Surv* (Surtees) 201 They shulde here and se lernyng in the sayd colledge and not to be vagrant abrode in the sayd towne 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* III ch xxiii 192 The people remained in the woods and mountains, vagrant and dispersed like the wild beasts 1610 Healey *St Aug Citie of God* 889 [They] became vagrant through most parts of the Romane Empire. 1649 G Daniel *Trenarch Hen IV*, lxxxii Vagrant as a Roit Possest with feare, led by vnskilfull guides 1708 Poik *Dunc* I 232 Ye shall not beg, Sent with a Pass, and vagrant Licence

*attrib* 1638 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 90 Fearing his vagrant some might grow too potent he rowses himselfe 1760 J Brown *Estim Manners & Princ* I xv 37 A vagrant Fancy of no certain Master Who knew not, ere he din'd or I rend or Steiger 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxxvii, I amused myself with observing the manners of the vagrant nations. 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xxv (1787) II 532 The vagrant Scythians were recalled to their standard 1818 J Henry *Cambr Gaz* 208 Without the path of the vagrant savage to guide us. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* x II 610 It might well be that regents would continue to administer the government in the name of vagrant and mendicant kings. 1860 Hawthorne *Marb Faun* I x 200 Having proved to be a vagrant band, such as all Italy abounds with

**b** Of animals, birds, etc

1743 Pennys tr *Horace, Odes* iv iv 4 To whom the monarch of the gods assign'd Dominion o er the vagrant feather d race 1767 *Phil Trans* LVII 306 It becomes a resting place to vagrant birds. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) II 181 The [Asses] in Persia are remarkably swift, it is not easily confin ed to its flock , and loves to stray remote from the rest 1817 Wordsw *Excurs Ode* 90 The soft murmur of vagrant bees 1849 *Public Gdnr* III 560 In one case two swarms, both of them vagrant swarms, took possession of the same hive.

**c.** Of plants Rambling or straggling in growth or habit, straying. Also of hair

1807 Hoon *Mods Ratorees* xlii, And sometimes we enrich gray stems with twined And vagrant ivy 1851 Longf *Gold Leg* II *A Farm* The vagrant Vines that wandered Seeking the sunshine round and round 1860 Miss Yeon *Sons* I xi 265 She had a quantity of vagrant brown hair

**4.** Of or belonging to a vagrant or wanderer, characterized by, peculiar to, devoted or given up to, vagrancy or wandering

1583 Stubbes *Anat Abus* II M 4 b, Doe you allow of that vagrant ministerie, which is in manie Countries sprong vp of late, to the discredite of the Gospell of Jesus Christ? 1598 Hackluyt *Voy* I 490 The worde Turk signifieth a Shepheard or one that followeth a vagarant and wilde kinde of life 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1624) 565 The Ethiopians lived before a vagrant life, like the *Nomades* of olde. 1699 Hammond *On 1 Cor* lvi 8 Thou knowest the shares of my exile, and vagrant condition 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 304 That Beauteous Emma vagrant Course took; Her Father's House and civil Life forsook 1778 Johnson *Let* 27 May in *Boswell*, Because it will be inconvenient to send them after me in my vagrant state — *Let no Lyre* 22 But the age being now past of vagrant excursion 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II I 212 Persons whose life has been passed in vagrant diplomacy 1867 Morris *Jason* xiv 426 Keeping his vagrant life for thine own part Of what thou boastest with the Gods to share

**5** Of things Not fixed or stationary, moving hither and thither , *spec* in *Lath.* of certain bloodcells

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt Tamburl* I 1, Fre he march in Asia, or display His vagrant I nsignie in the Persean fields. 1612 Woodall *Surg Mats* Wks (1653) 226 Mercurie is in truth a fugitive vagrant substance 1743 Pearch in *Horace, Odes* I xxvi 3 Bear them, ye vagrant winds, away *Ibid* xxxiv 14 The ponderous earth and vagrant streams. 1794 R J Sullivan *View Nat* II 417 When we consider the motion of those vagrant worlds, the comets 1800 Monro *Anacrion* lviii 10 Then I loose all such clinging cares And cast them to the vagrant airs. 1824 Dickens *Sketches* xv A vagrant ray of sunlight catching the shade of the tall houses 1857 Dufferin *Lett High Lat* (ed 3) 203 The lofty ice mountains that wander like vagrant islands along the coast of Arctic. 1899 Allbutt's *Syst Med* VI 497 The fixed cells of the tissue to a great extent appear to supplant in its office the vagrant leucocyte

**+b** Of a disease or pain Not local or confined to one particular part *Obs*

1656 Ridgley *Priest Physick* 24 Arthritis that is vagrant is Scorbutical, and a pain of divers parts 1684 tr *Lemery's Mex Compbt* iv 126 M N was suddenly taken with an ill sharp vagrant pains

**Va grant,** *v* 1 *rare*—[f prec.] *intr* To behave like a vagrant, to ramble or roam

1886 Miss Broughton *Doctor Cupid* I ix 156 The boy is out— vagranting after his kind

**Va grantism.** [f Vagrant *sb.* or *a* ] Inclination to love of, vagrancy.

1908 G S Hall *Adolescence* I 296 The erratic acts of these cases, passion ate vagrantism and vagabondage, solitude and soliloquy

**Va grantize,** *v rare* [f Vagrant *sb* + -ize.] **+a** *trans* To arrest as a vagrant *Obs* b To reduce to the condition of a vagrant In quot *absol*

1797 Mrs A M Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1814) I 21 Set off to the next parish of the poor, in pursuit of getting the whole set vagrantized 1803 *Liverpool Daily Post* 22 Dec 4 10 The result is rather to permanently vagrantize — if one may coin a verb for the occasion—instead of inculcating independent effort

**Va grant-like,** *adv* [f Vagrant *sb* + *like*] In or after the manner of a vagrant

1679 J Goodman *Penit Pardo* I iv (1713) 97 He vagrantlike wandred on in a course of disobedience.

**Vagrantly** (vē grăntli), *adv* Also 6 **vagrauntlie** [f as prec + -ly 2.] As a vagrant, in a vagrant or wandering manner, +irrelevantly.

1547 *Act 1 Edw VI*, c 3 § 6 We have taken this beaste I N vagraunthe, going hitherto idelie and vagrantlie 'I Canewmen'et *Confut Ahem N T* (1618) 634 The continuy being barely and nakedly affirmed of the Iesuites, and that most vagrantly, and from the purpose 1604 N D *3rd Pt Three Confessions of Faith* 93 Who would neither haue lands nor any certaine se tis or habitation but went abroade vagrantly 1636 Ainsworth *1st Def Priest Vage*, wandringly, scatteringly vagrantly 1847 Webster, *Vagrantly*, in a wandering, unsettled manner 1893 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 20 April, Come with me then vagrantly, into a few of these lovely old home spots of rural England

**+Vagra rious,** *a nonce word* [Cf next and -arious.] Vagrant, wandering.

1795 Wilberforce in *Life* (1863) II 105 My health is not equal to this vagrarious kind of life

**+Va grate,** *v. nonce-word* [f. Vagr ant *sb* + -ate 3.] *intr* To range or wander

1807 J Barlow *Columb* IX 314 In this unbounded range What'er ert vagrates and illusions change

**+Va gring,** *ppl a Obs.*—1 [f as prec.] Vagrant, wandering, nomadic.

1619 W Sclater *Exp 2 Thess* (1629) 310 There are risen vp a scattered and vagring company, vnder color of obedience

**Vagrom** (vē grəm), *a* [Illiterate alteration of Vagrant *a* . cf Ingram *a.* In mod. use only after Shakspere ]

1 Vagrant vagabond, wandering.

1599 Shaks *Much Ado* III iii 76 *Dogberry* You shall comprehend all vagrom men 1600 — *As You Like It* Epilogue I v 285 Sheep stealers, footpads, vagrom men and women 1874 M Collins *Transmigr* II ii 49 With him came the vagrom guest a boy almost 1882 Besant *All Sorts* 164 Born of a poor vagrom woman

2. Eccentric, erratic

1882 *Sat Rev* LIV 497 Words love their character and have their history obscured by being spelled after the vagrom devices of the phonetic people

**Vagt,** southern ME. var *fayt*, pa. t. Fight *v*

**+Vague,** *sb* 1 *Obs.* Also 6 **vage** [Of obscure origin ] A prank or trick Only in pl.

Freq in the second quarter of the 16th c, esp in the phrase *to play one's vagues*, with which *to take one's vagues* appears to be synonymous

(2) 1543-57 *Papers Hen VIII*, VI 200 They thought that Columpna had taken no his vages against the said Cardinall de Medyces that the said Columpna dorst never have

trustyd hymself after in the deserat handes of the Car dinall 1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb) 120 Yf they playe thus their vages, they shall not escape the plages Which to theym of Rome happened *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII*, 252 b, the Scottes had some leysure to play their vagaries and blowe their accustomed manner *c* 1557 Abp Parker *Pr cv* There playth his vages Leviathan

(*b*) 1596 *Nidge Test* (W ile W 1531) 80 b, She despyseth all outwarde vages & vanytees, & is content to fulfyll all yt her lady commaundeth 1596 Skelton *Magnyf* 1068 Be cause of theyr negligence and dulnesse of theyr wanton vages, I vyyste them and styrre them with many sore pl igys.

**Vague** (vēg), *a*, *adv*, *sb* 4 Also 7 **vago** [n. F. *vague* (13th c.) or ad L. *vag-us* wandering, inconstant, uncertain, etc (hence also It , Sp , Pg *vago*) ]

**1** Of statements, etc. Couched in general or indefinite terms, not definitely or precisely expressed ; deficient in details or particulars

1548 Vicary *Anat* (1888) 15 Likewise a Chirurgion must take heede that he decesue n o man with his vague promises *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Durham* 1 (1668) 298 With subtilty not light, slight, vage ar But much is Truth doth crown 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No 76 P 8 Men often extenuate their own fault, only by vague and general charges upon others 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII 179 The remainder is inflexible, covering his refusal with the vague pretext, That circumstances were not in his power 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* ix. II 400 He w nted to have, not vague pr ofessions of good will, but distinct invitations and promises of support 1884 *Law Times Rep* XLIX 77/2 The statement of claim is vague that we had to go into detail, so as to make the case clear

**2.** Of words, language, etc Not precise or exact in meaning

1690 Locke *Hum Und* 10 Rdr , Vague and insignificant forms of speech, and abuse of language, have so long passed for mysteries of science. 1744 Harris *Three Treat* Wks (1841) 80 It is with a thousand words beside, all of less comm on and equally familiar and yet all of them equally vague and indetermined *a* 1781 R Watson *Philip III* (1793) I iii 306 It was conceived in vague and general terms 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 81 In the determination of language was arbitrary vague and ambiguous. 1813 J Hobson *Last Inclosm* 502 It, an indiscriminate use of vague terms. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vi. II 151 Such vague phrases were n ot likely to quiet the perturbed mind of the minister 1870 Farrar *Fam Speech* iii (1873) 87 But the name Chalice is so vague and misleading that I have purposely excluded it 1900 E Holmes *What is Poetry?* 79 Vague words, thin stu emotion ; exact terms repre s nt *fe* 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* vi 17 Like the vague sighings of a wind at even, That wakes the wavelets of the slumber ing sea, And dies on the creation of its breath

**3** Of ideas, knowledge, etc. Lacking in definiteness or precision ; indefinite, indistinct

*a* 1704 Locke (J.) There is vague ideas, signified by the terms, whatsoever and thing 1753 Hogarth *Anal Beauty* 7 So vague is taste, when it has no solid principles for its fou ndation 1792 Mary Wollstonecraft *Rights Wom* v 186 Though prudence of this sort be termed a virtue, morality becomes vague when any part is supposed to rest on false hood. 1818 Cruse *Digest* (ed 2) VI 172 The metes and bounds of property would be vague and in determinate. 1845 Budd *Dis Liver* 2 To the vague and u nsatisfactory state of our knowledge respecting them *a* 1881 A. Barratt *Phys Metempsyc* (1883) 156 Beyond this we only get a vague analogy

**b** Similarly of feelings or sensations

1797 S & Hr Lee *Chron Nov* I 106 [He w:s] trembling with a new and vague apprehension 1837 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* III 256 Their movements not only give a vague alarm, but will even indicate to the knowing trapper the very quarter whence danger threatens. 1845 Budd *Dis Liver* 389 The patient's illness begins with general disorder, vague pains in the belly and sometimes with vomiting 1868 Geo Eliot *R Holt* I ii The vague but strong feeling that her son was a stranger to her 1888 E. Clodd *Myths* I §6 112 Man's sense of vague wonder in the presence of powers whose face he c nnot measure

**4.** †*a* *Vague acid* (see quots ) *Obs.*

1743 Shaw tr *Boerhaave's Chem* (ed. 2) I 119 Of the Vague Acid The vague volatile liquid acid found perhaps every where in mines. 1752 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl., *Vague Acid*, a term much used by the modern chemists and signifying a certain volatile fluid salt or acid, supposed to be found every where in mines in combination with different other substances, to form many of the ordinary compound fossils 1764 *Phil Trans* LIV 45 A Belemnite, whose lamnæ were in a manner decayed and had open by the vague acid, which every where pervades the earth destroying some bodies, and forming others

**b** *Rel.* (see quot )

1842 A Gray *Struct Bot* viii (1880) 313 *Vagus*, when the radicle bears no evident or uniform relation of the kind to the pericarp

**5** Lacking physical definiteness of form or outline, indistinctly seen or perceived, formless, obscure, shadowy.

1822 B W Proctor *Flood of Thessaly* 3 Chaos touched with light and form, I-ost its vag ue being 1849 Mrs Somerville *Connex Phys* vi 43 These are in every state of condensation, from a vague film hardly to be discerned to such as have actually arrived at 3 solid nucleus of stars 1879 Huxley *Hume* iv 56 We travel through countries where every feature of the scenery is vague

**6.** Of persons, the mind, etc Unable to think with clearness or precision, indefinite or inexact in thought or statement

1806–20 Worsham *Rec Dunston* xxvi, Random cares and truant joys, That shield from mischief and preserve from stains Vague minds, while men are growing out of boys 1827 Carlyle *Misc* (1840) I 17 Richter has an imagination vague, sombre, splendid or appalling 1849 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 149 The sharp practice of the world drives some logic into the most vague of men w men are not so schooled

**b** *pock.* Of the eyes Devoid of expression *rare*

1820 Keats *St. Agnes* viii, She danc d along, with vague regardless eyes

†**c.** *adv.* Vaguely, vagabond. *Obs rare*

*a* 1627 Sir J Hayward *Edw VI* (1630) 63 I he Lord Gray encour aged his men to set sharpely upon the vague villain es good intellect to live peaceably nor to light.

**b** Of the Egyptian mouth or year Beginning at varying seasons, moveable, shifting

*a* 1656 Ussher *Ann* (1658) 762 The beginnings of these years being taken from the first of the vage or move.ible month *Phaoth* and the 1 yst ations. 1880 R S Poole in *Smith's Dict Bible* I 500/1 (*Egypt*), The Vague Year con tained 365 days without any additional fraction, and the e fore passed through all the seasons in about 1500 3 5 76 1876 *Encycl Brit* IV 665 Thus [Egyptian] year is called vag ue, by reason of its commencing sometimes at one season of the year, and sometimes at another

**§3.** As *adv* Vaguely, indistinctly

1864 Longf *Wind over Chimney* 18, The night wind drear Clamours louder, wilder, vaguer

In Combs , ta *vague hovering, mena ing, satisfied, shunning*, etc

1856 R A Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I 138 In this wild Universe of ours, storming in, vague mi.ivings, in enough if you shall find existence 1871 J Hay *Pike County Ballads* (1880) 94 Nothing o er her form A warmer a d a dearer charm *Ibid* 95 Vague sailing where the feathery clouds Flock white the tranquil skies 1879 Dowden *Southey* viii 198 Will is the wisp vague shining theories that beguile night wanderers

**9.** *absol* as *sb*, esp *the vague*, the vague aspect or consideration of things *In the vague*, in a vague or indefinite state or condition, uncertain , without entering into details or particulars, in general

1851 Carlyle *Sterling* i xii, John Mill spoke of him as a gifted amiable being, in danger of dissipating himself into the vague 1856 Mrs Carlyle *Lett* II 280 My plans are still in the vague 1 feel no haste to e ngy way 1881 Masson *De Quincey* 196 I he meaning is all but lost in a mere vague of music 1882 Bain *J* 5 *Mill* A. 13 All this is completely in the vague. 1894 *Month* Oct 207 We must take them either in the vague

**b** The vague or uncertain future. *rare*

1865 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett* III 260 Dr B is postponed into the vague

**c** The vague or undefined expanse *of* something

1870 Lowell *Study Wind* 90 The great Genesee did not draw that first stve guided furrow across the vague of waters. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 163 The shadows lost or dis regarded in the vague of space.

**Vague** (vēg), *v* 1 Chiefly Sc. Now *rare* or *Obs* Forms *a* 6 *y* vage *B Sc* 6–7, *y* vaig *y* uaige *y* 7– vague. [ad L *vagari* to wander cf *F vaguer*, Pg *vagar*, It *vagare* ] *intr* To wander, to range, roam, to ramble idly or as a vagrant

*a* 1545 Wyntoun *Cron* v x (Royal MS ) 3394 Fra land to land he wes vagand I'r wauerand ] 1548 ( *mpl Scott* xiii (1872) 112 Quhen metellus had vage vp and doune there ane long tyme 1575 W Withirspoon *Cor fist Fame Lowe* 2 Built disposed persons vage and wander abroad at mi lnight

*a* 1585 *Sc Acts Jas I* (1.. 119 P 12 Thay sall remane within this realme and sall not vaig thairfra 1647 *Aberd Rec* in *Aberd Trad N & Q* (1908) I 16 2 That all persones heir efter sall not vaig nor vage vagrant nor go to the dure 1657 Sir W Mure *Ps* cix 10 Still vage and sharke, and beg about Their bounds lay I want, they may 1802 Leyden *Compl Scot Minstrelsy* I 30 To *vaig* is in common use, as well as *to rave*

*y* 1600 Holland *Livy* xxiii xlii 503 To suppresse these robbers that vague about our country *Ibid* xxxi xxi 785 They vaguted vp and down in scattering wis no and downe the countrey a foraging *c* 1620 Z Boyd *Zion s Flowers* (1855) 121 Thou idle I y thus vagueing here and there 1678 Sir G Mackenzie *Crimes Scotl* iv xxiv §iv (1679) 266 If they were necessitated to vague up and down at all Courts, upon all occasions. 1766 Nicholl *Poems* 2 Thus through the country I vague vy 1786 in *Old Ch Life Scotl* (1885) 320 The profanation of this holy day by idly vagueing together

†**b** In fig use *Obs*

1567 Davidson *Prov* F 83, Should I goe wryte at Ran donne tho, and vage abroade, and raue? 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S ) I 289 (He)! usse a brydle to thame to wag in quhat lust or lecherie ) ket thame best. *a* 1614 ] Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc ) 445 The Kingis could be judge if a Minister vag from his text 1641 R B K *Peter's Liturgy to Mass bk*, etc. 39 In these conceats all of them seyes to vage

**Vague** (vāg), *n* 2 *rare* [f Vague *a* ] *intr.* To act or write vaguely , to be vague or indefinite

1880 *Cornh Mag* Dec 649, I have vagued away in a sort of circle round my diaries still stopped on the first page Josephine standing between me and the l amp 1894 Mrs. Pearl *Christina Chard* I 123 I've vagued all my life— that's been my curse *Ibid* 128 You are to fulfil yourself. You are to t vague no more

**Vaguely** (vā gli), *adv* [f as prec. + -ly 2 ]

**1.** In a vague, indefinite, or indeterminate manner , with vagueness or lack of precision , in vague terms

1781 Gibbon *Decl & F.* xxx (1787) III 185 The services of Stilicho are great and manifest: his crimes, as they are vaguely stated in the language of flattery and hatred are obscure 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1831) I 330 On coming the publication of which Sir John Hawkins guesses vaguely and idly 1844 W Irving *T Trav* I 50 When my uncle was dressing he called vaguely to mind the visitor of the preceding night 1852 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xiv IV 303 A motion was made so vaguely worded that it could hardly be said to mean any thing. *a* 1881 A Barratt *Phys Metempsyc* (1883) 104 To some such conception we are vaguely led.

**b** Dimly, obscurely

1871 Lyndall *Penguin Sci* (1879) I xxi 491, I vaguely discerned the audience and apparatus 1873 Black *Pr Thule* xix 316 The houses grew vaguely distinct

**2** Without attention or concentration of mind or thought, idly, vacantly

1828 Scott *P M Perth* xxxiv, Hextool listened vaguely to what the magistrate was saying to him 1878 J Hawthorne *Vanity* v 55, I No,' said Pustace, looking vaguely thr ugh the window at the fine.

**Vagueness** (vā gi-n-s) [f as prec + -nf.ss ] The quality or condition of being vague, lack of distinctness or precisness , indefiniteness

1799 Mackintosh *Sta fe Lmv Acts* 8 Notwithstanding the objections of some writers to the vagueness of the lan guage 1829 H Nelle *Ist Germ* 52 A great fault into which des riptive writers fall is the vague ess and indistinct ness of their pictures. 1843 Mill *Log* vi ii § 5 We shall have ac asion to show under wl at conditions this vagueness may exist 1874 L Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I vii 238 A general vagueness as to the ordinary duties of mankind *a* 1881 A Barratt *Phys Metempsyc* (1883) 52 The weakness of this conception is its vagueness.

**b** An instance of this , a vague thing, feature, word, etc.

1838 *Lond & Westm Rev* XXIX 68 With a remark or two on those errors and vagueness we shall conclude 1839 *Low Fall House Usher* Wks. 1864 I 298 He paints in which grew, touch by touch into vagueness at which I shuddered *a* 1849 — *R H Horne* Ibid III 436 Pure vagueness of speech abound

**Va guer.** *Sc.* Also 6 **vaigar,** 7 **va(i)ger** [f Vague *v* 1] An idle stroller or wanderer , a vagrant

15 *Aberd Reg* (Jam ) Vaigares adhuntaris of ailhousis. 1647 Baillie *Lett* (1841) III 15 An act against vagers from their own masters. 1696 *Edinb Merch Mag Scot* iv 195 They were forbidden to be pertuibers or vaguers wander ing from place to place

**Va guing,** *vbl sb* Now *rare* Also *Sc* 6 **vaig ing,** 7–11, **vaging** [f as prec ] The action of the vb ; idle rambling or wandering, an instance or occasion of this Chiefly *Sc*

1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S ) I 258 His wyfe cudde nocht suffir his fowll muriand and voluptuous vaging by hir 1650 A Hay *Diary* (H Th ) 38 That the Lord wold reforme the vaigings and vain rumyes of my heart. 1692 in Bower *Hist Univ Edinb* I 54 That thir idle vaging and vice may be discouraged 1727 I Watt in Muirhead *Life* (1858) 402 The vaguing about the country, and other fatigue, have given me health and spirits 1900 H G Graham *Soc Life in Sc in 18th Cent* (1901) III ii 72 The vaguing or loitering idly in the streets was a subject of condemnation

**Va guing,** *ppl a* Also 7 **vaging.** [f as prec ] Wandering, roving

1697 W Scatter *Ess 2 Jhess* (1699) 223 Men of no settled abode , vaguing, or vagal ond lewes. 1699 Sir W Mure *True Crucifixe* 2715 Sathan, whoo coure doth take On wic ge of vague thoughtis, before so setled His Messingers. 1833 Struther *Lone Hopehouse* 135 He saw nothing in his hands, that could so much as draw his vaging decree to it 1905 Gunn *Barons cert of Mitchell* (S H ) Introd p xxii, The vaguing, wandering beggar who had neither work nor want was a constant nuisance to the cottar and village

**Vaguish** (vē gi-ʃ), *a* [f. Vague *a* + -ish ] Somewhat vague or indefinite.

1818 *Blackw Mag* III 532 It is very clear That I into a vaguish style have got 1853 G J Cayley *Last Attempt* II 146 It is a vaguish affair to have to squeeze a whole capital into a pocket-pit, but I have done so to my individual ne

**Vagus** (vē gŭs) *Anat* and *Path.* Pl **vagi** (vē dʒəi) [n L *vagus* wandering, straying ] The pneumogastric nerve (see Pneumogastric *a* )

1840 R. Wilson *Anat Vade M* (1842) 403 The l neumo gastric Nerve (vagus) arises by numerous *fila ments* from the respiratory trunk immediately below the glosso pharyngeal 1876 *Trans Clinical Soc* IX 56 I endeav ured to compress the right vagus at the angle of the jaw 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 773 No one believes that the vagus pass to the intestines

*b attrib* in *vagus nerve* etc.

1856 Todd & Bowman *Phys Anat* II 119 The Vagus Nerve emerges from the Medulla Oblongata immediately below the glosso pharyngeal 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I. 228 Atr pine paralyses the v gus endings at d centre 1897 *Med IV* 631 Vagi, s pneumonia, as it is called which follows section of the vagi in ral bits

‖ **Vah,** *int Obs* Also 4 **vath.** [L *vah* (hence Gr. *οὐά*), med L. also *vath* ] An exclamation expressive of exultation, contempt, or disgust.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xliv 16 He is ch aufid, and seide, Vah [r r vath ] Cr A ha, cr well I am hat I 'ay the fyr — *Matt* xxvii 40 Forsothe men passynge forth blasfemyden hym, moouynge her heuedis, and seyinge Vath or fy, to thee 1582 N T (Rheim ) *Matt* xxvii 40 Saying, Vah thou that destr yest the temple of God 1616 ] Lane *Contn Sqr & T* iv 191 Vah, but ift bee your fortunes to 40e lenco, leave me, so e sure quest for my wake defence! 1619 Harris *Dronkard's Cup* 19 Vah, vah, vah you would sinke to see and smell 1631 Anchoran *Comenius Ante Inquis* 186 Vah, away with shame, dis honestie and lecherie !

**Vaiage,** obs Sc f Voyage Vaike, var Vake

*v Obs* **Vaid,** obs. Sc. f. Wade *v*

**+Vaidie** *Obs* [n AF *vaidye, vaidie*, ONF. *veid(a)die*, OF *voi(d)die*, of doubtful origin ] Subtlety, guileful cunning

*c* 1325 *Metr Hom* 96 This sai I Herodes in vaidye Ir rr ful co lly full falsly.) For at Crist haud he gret enuye

future. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N* §177 All literature, art and science are vain, and worse, if they do not enable you to be glad

*B* 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 5350 Y rede þou þeþe hyt ssæn, Þy anuacyun yst elles alle veyn 1390 Gower *Conf* Prol I 11 The vein honour was nought desired, Which hath the proude herte fyred 1496 Lyng *De Guil Pilgr* 1401 I hanne me sempte yt was but veyn Mor for me to speke ageyn *a* 1450 *Mankh id* 846 in *Macro Plays* 32 Beware of veyn confi lens of mercy *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 382 Dremys ben thingis veyn of n n nefek

*y n* 1460 *Mankin* I 533 in *Macro Plays* 20 He xall wene grace were wane 1500 20 Dunbar *Poems* xii 39 Wirk for the joy that lestis evir ! For ther joy is all bot vane 1595 Dalrymple tr *Leslie s Hist S ot* I 105 That rather thay appeir nocht to be spokne of a vane ostentatione, than of the veritie

†**b** Of material things Useless, worthless *Obs*

1579 Lyte *Dodoens* 384 Cyclaminus alterа hath an un profitable and vaine r te 1596 Spenser *F Q* IV 1 48 Most wretched men, whose dayes depend on thinds so vaine 1769 Stew Jones *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 20 His spoar, vain instrume it of dying praise.

**c** Trivial unimportant *rare*—1

1731 Pope *Ep Burlington* 29 Imitating Fools, Who Load some vain Church with old Theatric state Turn Arcs of triumph to a Garden gate

†**2** Empty, vacant void Also const *of Obs*

1382 Wyclif *Gen* i 2 The erthe forsothe was veyn with ynne and void *c* 1400 *Pilgr S vle* (Caxton) IV xxix (1859) 62 Alle folke the alouteth and abeyeth and thou arte veyne and voyde of al good vertue 1513 Douglas *Æneid* I Prol 19 With dull forhede and wane With ruide engine and barrand emptive brane 1544 *Exhort to Iren Prayers* (1851) 568 Our God is not pleasyd with a great pretence of holiness and being vain of true godlines inwardly [1822 Shelley tr *Calderon s Mag Prodg* iii 166 Such melan ch oly is Skilful in forming such in the vain air Out of the mote- and atoms of the day ]

**3** Of persons Devoid of sense or wisdom fool ish, silly, thoughtless, of an idle or futile nature or disposition Now *rare* or *Obs*

1390 Gower *Conf* I 2 Certes I trowe he was so proud and vein I hat he his fader in desdeign Hath take *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 438 At Vaxor he vayn pepull vordyly honouit Bachan *c* 1450 tr *De Imitatione* I vii 8 He is veyne þyt puttyþ his hoȝte in men or in creaturis 1532 Covedale *Tyndal* 21 20 Wilt thou vnderstonde o thou vayne man that faith with out dedes is dead? 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 206 Diuerse vaine persons deuised among the Commons of the realme that Christ had twise apered vnto him 1590 Shake *Com Err* III ii 185 This I thinke, there s no man is so va ne That would not be glad to be hare a offer d Chaine *a* 1631 Donne *Poems Woma n s Constan y*, Vaine luna tique, against these scapes I could Dispute, and conquer, if I would 1663 *Hl Passed Pilgr* xx (1685) 210 If it would make you a medler in other mens matters (as most of our vain Believers are) 1784 Cowper *Tirocinium* 754 [Art not] thou at best and n i y sole mood, A trifler vain? 1821 J Wilson *Isle of Palms* 587 Hush! hush! thou vain dreamer! thou hour is her last 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v iii 56 So that our hair should sweep The footsteps of the vain and se seless crowd

*absol c* 1450 [see 7 a] 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 500 Is sparkl ng wit The fixt fee simple of the vain and light? 1817 Shelley *Rev Isla* II ix A peace of slavery With which old times had quelled the vain and free

**4** Given to or indulging in personal vanity, having an excessively high opinion of one s own appearance, attainments, qualities, possessions, etc ; delighting in or desirous of attracting, the admiration of others, conceited Also *absol*

1692 Dryden *Eleonora* 101 For to be conscious of what all admire And not be vain, advances vertue high r 1703 Yalden *Diary* Feb. Sir, I believe read with her out of the vain nation ale 5 1000 1762-71 H Walpole *Verue s Anecd Paint* (1786) III 56 Perceiving the poor man to be immoderately vain he piqued him to attempt portraits 1832 Lytton *Eugene A* v iii I might teach the vainest of forswear vanity 1857 Buckle *Civilis* I v 609 The vain man resiless insatiable and always craving after the admiration of his contemporaries 1884 F M Crawford *Rom Singer* I 18 The heart of the vain man is lighter than the heart of the proud

*transf* 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 366 The vainest corner of our own vain heart.

**b** Const *of*

1697 Dryden *Virg Past* Pref We deserve more compassion because we are not vain of our barbarism. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jo nes* I viii A good, honest plain girl and not vain of her face 1829 Lytton *Disowned* I i, Between you and me, he was not a little vain of his leg 1857 Thackeray *Van Fair* xxiv, The General sate down to pen a *poulet* (he was exceedingly vain of his French) to Mademoiselle Amélanide.

**II 5** In the idvb phrase **In vain**, to no effect or purpose, ineffectually, uselessly, vainly.

After L *in vanum* or OF *en vain* (F *en vain*, = It. *in vano*, Sp. *en vano* Pg *em vão*)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 16172 Of him he wend ha signes sene, For noght al was in vain *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xx 1 That he spend noght his precioise blode in vayn on va 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 48 Bot þat trawnill baf maid it wayne. 1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 198 That Prayer was not in wayne. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II 131 The more thai bad, the mor it was in vayne 1535 Coverdale *Job* xi 3 Yet is it in vayne, he he contynueth still in his godly nesse 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay s Voy* I xvii. 20 All was in vain, for there was no remedy but to obey 1651 Hobbes *Tripleath.* ii xviii 89 It is therefore in vain to *grant* Soveraignty by *gray* of precedent Covenant 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 304 Nor But nor Bridles can his Rage re strain ; And rugged Rocks are interposed in vain. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 1 P 7 The secret Satisfaction of thinking that I have not Lived in vain 1758 Hume *Ess & Treat* (1777) I 159 In vain do you seek reposa from beds of roses. 1856 W. Irving *Isabella* II 227 Here he endeavoured in vain to barter a rifle for a horse 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 623 He wrote piteous letters to the king and to several courtiers, but in vain 1864 Bruce *Holy Rom Emp* vi (1874) 75 Lewis tried in vain to satisfy his sons by dividing and redividing

*B* 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 10252 Alle here traunayle bey do yn veyn *c* 1385 Chaucer *L G W* 1359 *Dido* For wel I wot that it is al in veyn. *c* 1400 *Chron Vilod* 1573 He sayde, nowe haue y trauellede twey [=twice] in feyne *c* 1450 *Lyfe Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 65 Ye schal not labour ti l in veyne, Ye shul have hevene *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 524 The king al this resone thinkith bot in weyne

*y c* 1300 *Cursor M* 19411 (Edinb.) Al þaire strine was bot in wan *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* II (*Paul*) 518 Þet wald nocht god his prayer war in wane *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus* 9 Thy Wyf is ( I ) lift 37 Him reiss þat þou sa playit he a spryng Bot all in wane, bal comfort him no thing 1483 *Cath Angl* 197/1 In vane *Feast a.* 1533 Gau *Nicht Inq* 13 That all swerin in vane and thay that sweris ony fals oath 1573 *Satir Poems Reform* xxxix 140 For lake of lederis thair thay wrocht in vane *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc Poems* xviii 37 When they sau they wroght in vane

†**b** So *for vain Obs*—1

1603 Shake *Meas for M* II iv 12 My Grauitie Wherein I take pride, Could I with boote change for an idle plume, Which the aire beats for vaine

**6** *To take in vain* †**a** To disregard, to treat with contempt *Obs*

13 *Coer de L* 3769 Kyng Philyp took theryof non heede, But lyst therto a deff ear Kyng Richardys wordis he took in vain. *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 16271 Qwey tok by somo is in veyn To come to court he hadde disdeyn

**b** With *name* as object To use or utter (the name of God) lightly, needlessly, or profanely ; *transf* to mention or speak of casually or idly

A literal rendering of *assumens (nomen Dei) in vanum* in the Vulgate Version of Exod xx

13 *Cursor M* 25218 Len vs lord swilk mode and mayn Þat we tak neuer þi name in vayn 1382 Wyclif *Exod* xx 7 How shalt not take the name of the lord thi God in veyn 1535 Coverdale *Solomons* (Roxb) 41 The seconde thow shalle noght in vayne thi lord god name take 1564 *Reg Perny Council Scot* I 208 To sweir and tak his name in vane 1630 W T *Trustie Relig none Prophesied* 21 His name is taken in vaine 1731-8 Swift *Polite Conv.* 99 Who s that takes my Name in vain? 1860 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 153 What matter anything good except for gain So I ever took that useful name in vain 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* II, I always call Chancery 'it I wouldn t take its name in vain for anything

†**7** As *adv* a Vanity, a vain thing *Obs*

*c* 1330 *King of Tars* 71, I schal him seende such wordes to seyn That al his thought schal torne to veyn *c* 1450 tr *De Imitatione* I xxv 26 I wende veyn [L. *vanus*] to be veyn, & take þou hede to þo þinges þat god comaundiþ be 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iv *Magnificence* 1208 All the World proclaims Vaine Vanitie Vanis, his Antipodean in God s true Fear maintains. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* I lii. Wks. (1677) 84 The power of the Gospel in crying down the vains of men 1742 Young *Nt Th* III 265 The fruits of dying friends survey ; Expose the vain of life, weigh life and death

†**b** Emptiness, void space *Obs*

1582 Stanyhurst tr *Æneid* I 158 That stretcheth out the north vp on vein [L. *super vacuum*], and hangeth vp the erthe vp on nost 1609 Hawes *Past Pleas* 105 Wythouten vayne he dyd all thyng fulfyll As sayronomy doth make apparaunce.

**8** In terms adjectival or adverbial used or attrib uses, as *vain averted, boasting, -conceited, -headed, -hearted, proud, spent, talking* adjs , *vain speaker, struggling*

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm bef Edw VI* (Arb ) 78 There be some sclaunderouse people, vaynespeakers, whych I must nedes speake of 1562 Phaer *Æneid* ix *Bliss* 1 And hurt Furialus he seeth Vainstrugling working much 1582 Whiter *Wks* (S T S) II 98 Wanetalkand men and dissimularis 1595 Daniel *Civil Wars* Dedic *Mercifully Tamburl* To Rdr , I hough (happily) they haue bene of some vaine conceited fondlings greatly gaped at. 1603 Bretton *Fantasticks* (Arb) 11 *y c* 1711 Ken *Wks* (1721) I will be vaine headed, God helpe you, for I cannot *a* 1628 Sylvester *Paradox agst Liberty* 665 Wks (Grosart) II 65 The vain proud state and port, That for the grace of Kings and the Court is sought so 1633 T Adams *Devils Id* viii xxii, A vagrant rout Strow him with vain spent prayers, and idle leaves 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 291 O babbling and vain boasting Ajax, why do you thus mid? 1858 H Bushnell *New Life* vi (1865) 79 He drove Lot s family, or his vain hearted wife out of the city 1871 H King *Orwell's Edition* VII 291 Struggling with vain averted eyes to shun The noontide beams.

Hence †**vain-v** *trans* to frustrate *Obs*—1

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II xii 34 Every good man must be wise and circumspect to vaine the sleeke nauations of those that would undoe him

**Vain**, obs f. Vein *sb.*, southern ME. var Fain *a* and *adv* **Vainour**, Sc var Vainquer *Obs* **Vaine**, var Wone *sb* (hope) *Obs* **Vainess**(e, obs ff. Vainness

**Vai nful**, *a Obs exc. dial* Also 6 vaynfull.

1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 1 Vain, unprofitable, useless

1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* 55 They spende theyr time in vaynful vanyte 1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 10 Though countrie be more painfull, and not so greedie gainfull yet is it not so vainfull in following fansies eie 1888 in Elworthy *W Som Word* bk 795.

Hence †**Vai·nfully** *adv* , in vain, vainly. *Obs*

1509 Hawes *Conv Swearers* 21 Vnto the man I gaue com maundement Not to take the name of thy God vainfully

**Vainglioriness.** *rare*—1 [f. Vainglory *sb.*] Vainglorious



1880 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* I 4 That spirit of foppery haughtiness, and vain gloriness.

**Vainglorious** (vēinglō· rĭəs), *a* Also 6–8 vain glorious, 6– vain glorious [f Vainglory *sb.* Cf. med L *vinaegloribitus* (OF *vana , vaneglors out*), Sp and It *vanagloriosa*, Pg *vangloriosa* ]

1 Filled with, given to, indulging in, vainglory, inordinately boastful or proud of one s own abilities, actions, or qualities , excessively and ostentationaly vain **a** Const *of*

*c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Cock & Fox*, Nyse proud men, wod and vaneglorous Of kin and blude. 1548 Gade *West Inst* 160 Being not a little vain glorious of what he had done with me 1709 Law *Serious Call* xviii (1732) 330 They think it a part of their duty to be proud, envious and vain glorious of their own accomplishments. 1784 Cowper *Task* III 715 When he call d, Vain glorious of her charms, his Vashti sought To grace the full pavilion

**b** Without const

*c* 1510 Mors *Picus* Wks. 6/2 Not the knowlage of the Hebrew, Chaldei, and Arabie language, beside Greke & Latin, could make him vainglorouse 1599 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Humour* Char Fors. A Vaine glorious Knight, over Englishing his travels, and wholly consecrated to angularity i the very Jacobs staffe of complement. *a* 1639 W Whateley *Prototypes* I 21 (1640) 88 Be not vaine glorious, studying to doe some earthly vaine thing, for which you may be talked of farre and neere 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* I xi 69 Vain glorious men delight in supposing themselves gallant men 1713 Young *Last Day* iii Look round vain glorious muse and you whoe er Devote your selves to fame and think her fair 1785 Grose *Dict Vulgar & Vain glorious* or *vainglorious* a fop who boasts without reason 1823 Shelley *Q Mab* III 139 Where is the fame Which the vainglorious mighty of the earth Seek to eternize? 1840 Ainsworth *Tower of London* (1864) 230 One of the galleries of the palace where the vain glorious mannikin was lingering in the hope of being admitted to the royal presence. 1881 Lyon *Archæology* 32 Even the vainglorious scribes of Egypt would hardly venture to record events without a foundation of fact

*absol a* 1529 Udall *Eraem Apoph* 20 Paul Our Comedie against the vayne glorious doth insure 1596 Norden *Progr Vertue* (1847) 173 Though it please the vain glorious for a time it will bring repentance 1656 Featly *Clavis Myst* viii 101 He baiteth this hook for the vain glorious with popularitie. 1850 W Irving *Mahomet* viii (1853) 43 For God loveth not the arrogant and vainglorious.

*transf* and *fig* 1602 Dyer *Serm Poor Lazarus* (1640) 36 Itch d with the vain glorious worme, To write and lye

**2** Characterized by, indicative of, or proceeding from vainglory,

1533 Gau *Nicht Inq* 4 Sa mony vane glorious tetels and names and pouers 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Gout* Wks 1910 II 68 Wandring in a vayne glort us oppinion of their owne wit 1603 Knolles *Hist Turks* (1621) 531 Such stately honours and vaine glorious praises as he in his life time vsed to take 1656 Stillingfl *Orig Sacræ* III iv § 12 Whether that bee ground of that vain glorious boast I here dispute not *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Oct 1667, The Vice Chancellor a letter were too vaine glorious to insert 1792 Cowper *Odyss* IV 610 Neptune that speech vain glorious hearing grasp d His trident 1829 W Irving *Crockett* VI 116 (1849) 376 Let not my readers imagine that I am indulging in vainglorious boastings 1862 Sala *Dutch Pictures* xvi 243 See Naples and then die is the vain glorious motto of the Neapolitans 1866 Dr Arnold *Philos Belief* 268 They were the very incarnations of vainglorious pride

**Vainglo riously,** *adv.* [f prec ] In a vain glorious manner

1544 Egnot *Duct*, *Glorieusm* renoumed some tyme in the yll parte, vayngleriously [*sic*] or bostynge hym selfe 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par Luke* iii. 31 Leat it there fore no more entre into your mynde to bostfully & your selues vainglariously 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met* IX (1593) 211 Sure I meane not I To vant my selfe vaine glorioulie by telling of a lye. 1603 J Norden *Strange Vineyard* 56 When Nebuchadnezzar vaunted vaingloriously of that great Babel which he had built 1648 Milton *Tenure Kings* 38 Which heretofore in the persuance of fame and forces dominion spent it self vain glorioufly abroad 1702 *Land Gaz* No 3808/3 The Ambition of Spain, when it vain gloriously stiled its *Armada* Invincible 1808 Edwards *Hans Pract Plain* I 8 A dress more showy, and more than vain gloriously affect to be. 1824 W Irving *T Trav* I 207, I cannot tell you how vain gloriously I walked the streets

**Vainglo riousness.** [f as prec ] The quality or character of being vainglorious.

1549 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 328 Their facion of makyng orcions was replenyshed with vauntyng & vainglorious nesse 1577 *Fruit to Faithfulness* (1578) 54 The vice of lying or vain glorioufness in boasting a mans self, and in desire to fill his talk concerning his kindred and acquaint ance 1582 Pettie *Civil Conv* I (1586) 16 b 'Tis by meanes you see that one offendeth by arrogance another by obstinacie another by vainglouriousnesse 1834 L Hunt *Sir F Esher* (1850) 234 An honor unstain ed by vainglo riousness. 1844 Thackeray *Barry Lyndon* v, Led away by the vainglouriousness of youth I invented a thousand stories 1886 Jupeb *My Life as Author* 355 He had repented of the vainglouriousness of those herald angels and their dome

**Vainglory** (vēinglō· rĭ) *sb* Also vain glory, vain glory. Forms see Vain *a.* and Glory *sb* [ad med L. *vana gloria* Cf OF and mod F. *vaine gloire*, It, Sp *vanagloria*, Pg *vangloria* ]

1 Glory that is vain, empty, or worthless , inordinate or unwarranted pride in one's accomplishments or qualities , disposition or tendency to exalt oneself unduly , idle boasting or vaunting.

*a* a 1300 *Cursor M* 26933 Noght als intent o waynglori, Or als þis yporites doo. *c*1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 1245 Honours nurysshes, als men may se, Vayn glory, vnautyng, and vanite. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 35 Bostynge and Braggynge wyth mery bold obes, Auaunting vp-on my veine glorie for eny vnderuynynge. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III xlv. 116 Verily, yeyn glory is an euel pestilence & grettast vanyte. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* VI. He that taketh within hym self vayne glorye of that thynge by the whiche he shold humble hym self is a very fole. 1533 Love *Apost Tindale* (Arb) 22 For he that doth a thing secretly how seketh he vayneglory? 1585 T. Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* IV xxxiii 156/2, Through the increase of these victories, they fell into such a vainglory and arrogancy 1607 in Foster *Eng Factories India* (1909) III 174 Their trade is not augmented but diminished by vayneglorie and an necessarie disburcements. 1656 Earl Monm tr *Boccalini's Advts fr Parnass* I xxxv (1674) 44 Tamberlan the Scythian had the vain glory to be called the Emperor of the East 1710 Norris *Chr Prud* VII 309 Vainglory, whereby Men affect a great many dry and insipid Studies only to please others, and procure from them a blind Admiration 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII v. 'Thus have I acknowledged my vain glory 1841 Helps *Ess, Exerc Benevolence* (1875) 34 That portion of his thinking time which he spends upon vain glory, upon imagining for in stance, what other people are thinking about him 1878 B Taylor *Deukalion* III ii 106 The wisdom of the world? Nay 'tis vain glory

*β* 1390 Gower *Conf* II 35 But he such veine gloire hadde Of that he was set upon hyh *c*1425 Wyntoun *Cron* IV 3610 If I warpe til hym þat I wyll I wayte of na veyne or defame *a*1500 *Katz Rawine* etc 3644 To schaw hire proud at men may see Is pryd wanglore and vanite 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* IX 118 I symit In fals vane glor and deidis negligent

**b** In the phr *for vainglory*

1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 3 Men doon his nouelrie for veyn glorie 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III 435 Som men telleþ þat Aristotil made his bookes for schorthliche and no hyrd for enuie and for vayngloire *a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen IV*, 23 He meruayled that the duke would knowe for vainglory vnder colour of doyng dedes of Armes violate the peace

**c.** As a personal name, or in personified use

*c* 1290 *St Alexius* (Laud MS) 1003 Hon his fader ser geuuntz alle veyn glorie gonne him vfule And gorre on hym gonne browe 14 *Why I cant be Nun* 228 in *L. E. P.* (1865) 144 Dame sel-wele & sir ne veyne glory 1596 Lodge *Wits Miserie* B1b, His first sonne is Vainglory 1717 I. Howell *Desiderius* (ed 3) 18 She gave him her Name, Vain glory

**2** A vainglorious thing, action, etc *rare*

*c* 1450 in Augier *Syon* (1840) 378 None schal take any synguler abstynence up on her withe outte licence of the al bes in aw ster God take it for a veyne glory 1697 Vanbr *Trav* I II 249 What needs these Feasts pompes and Vaine glories? 1649 Milton *Eikon* VIII Wks 1851 III 392 The Vulgar who never understand any what they ought know, will believe such vain glories as these

Hence **Vainglo ry** *v* + *a refl* To exalt or make much of (oneself) unduly *Obs* b *intr* To indulge in vainglory. Also **Vainglo rying** *vbl sb*

*a* 1637 N Ferrar tr *Valdes 110 Consid* (1638) 104 I understand, that a man being just by his Justice doth as much prize himselfe or vain gloryhimselfe as much as the he, who is taken for a most vainglorious man 1689 Hickeringill *Rem Rev* July 485 It would be idle and frivolous to mention these points for the sake of vain glorying during the Jubilee year

**†Vai nling** *Obs rare* [? Vain *a.* + -ling 1] A vain or vainglorious person.

1615 W Hull *Mirr Maiestie* Ep Ded, Presuming himselfe (fond Vain ling) to be of more esteeme, because he was the Trancio and Interpreter of the Gods. *Ibid* 134 Thus we see he was no vainling, who pronounced all things vn ter the Sunne to bee vanitie of vanities

**Vainly** (vē·nlli), *adv* Forms *a.* 4, 6 **veynly**, 6-7 **vainlie**, 7 **vaine**, 6- **vainly**. *β.* 5 **veynlyi**, (6) **ȝ, veynly.** *γ* 6 *Sc.* **vanelie.** [f. Vain *a* + -ly 2]

1 In a vain or futile manner, without advantage, profit, or success ; to no effect or purpose ; in vain, uselessly, fruitlessly, ineffictually

1382 Wyclif *James* IV 5 Wher weenen ȝe, that veynly [L. *vanitur*] the scripture seith 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 195, I folwe of veel craft trowed veynly for to be defended and helped by ȝoure prayers. *c* 1450 tr *De Imitatione* III ii 123 Ne he shal not toy veinly if he be reasonably excused by other 1509 Barclay *Ecl at Serm Cless Richmond* Wks. (1876) 293 This noble prynces, whome my purpose is not vaynly to extol abone her meryres, but to the edyfycacyon of other *a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VI* (1550) 23 Vtayll not wantonly consumed nor vainly spent 1607 Shaks. *Timon* V 8 Till now, my selfe and such As slept within the shadow of your power Haue wak'd how vainly you did slumber 1667 Milton *P L* II 811, I forewarn thee, shun His deadly arrow; neither vainly hope To be invulnerable 1691 Ld Preston *Death* 1 12 I'e very one going away with that Rag which he had snatch d, vainly believe d that he had possess d himself of Philosophy 1743 Bramston *Man of Taste* 13 What though majestic in your pride you stood , You now may vainly boast an empty name 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* XIX (1787) III 110 Perhaps he vainly imagined, that he laboured for the interest of an only daughter 1808 Scott *Marmion* I xii Here, vainly Ralph de Wilton strove Gainst Marmion's force to stand 1858 Froude *Hist Eng* IV xviii 31 In the caprices of passion and humour we look vainly for any guiding principle 1870 Bryant *Iliad* III. 198 From my hand The spear was vainly flung and gave no wound

*Comb* 1648 J Beaumont *Psyche* XVI. xxviii, He, Beyond my vainly panting reach is plac'd.



**†2.** Foolishly, senselessly, thoughtlessly. *Obs.*

1588 *Durham Depos* (Surtees) 330 She spoks somwhat idlie and vanilie, by reason of the extremetie of her sick neus. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I. 101 Naithe lasse they nochtwithstanding now vanesie fallin frome the faith of the Catholik Kirk 1612 Drayton *Poly olb* XI. 346 Ethelbald, though most vainly given when he was hot and young, Yet, by the wise reproofe of godly Bishops brought From those unstay'd delights by which his youth was caught 1647 Cowley *Mistr, Vain Love* 46 What Lover can like me complain, Who first low d vainly next in vain I 2730 Bailey (fol.), *Inaniloquent*, talking or babbling vainly.

**3.** With personal vanity, conceitedly.

1602 *Ld Cromwell* IV 1 35 'Tis greatly glorie for me. That you remember it, then of myselfe Vainlie to report it. 1650 Hobbes *De Corpore Politico* 3 How some are vainly Glorious, and hope for precedence and superiority above their Fellows 1692 E Walker tr *Epictetus' Mor* xi, When with too much pleasure you admire Your Horse a Worth, and vainly boast his Size 1779 Cowper *Human Frailty* 20 A stranger to superior strength, Man vainly trusts hia own

**Vainness** (vē·nnes) [f. as prec + -ness] The state or condition of being vain, in various senses & Futility, ineffectiveness, uselessness

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. xxxiii 18 The holy world hold our senses entangled till they have given us a tryall of theyr vaynenesse 1600 Fairfeynam *Bal tion's Mor Fables* 17 The vainenes of this life is greater then the profit 1648 W Browne *Joseuna* V 1. 284 I knew the vainenese of my hopes, and the just cause Alcidiana had to punish my boil lenes 1791 D Dewey *Wills* (1892) IV 303 Beauty shew d the vainess of Defence, When I hilles does Invade 1849 Robertson *Serm* Ser I xix (1866) 314 Pilate feeling the vainness of these pretensions 1852 *Athenæum* 18 June 700/1 The vainness of this and that creed

**b.** Vanity, esp. personal vanity or conceit Now *rare*.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Pr* XXII 111 I did not then frequent Who he to whom the 1599 Shake *Hen. V* Epil. 6 Hence from vain nesse, and selfe glorious pride 1600 Fairfeynam *Bal tion's Mor Fist* 1 12 Hee despised much all vain menes of pleasure 1643 Weyms *Vere Practica* 19 I bee voyce, and the vainnesse of thy tongue, 1825 Coleridge *Lett., Conversa*, etc II 179 Mr Chance is a self satisfied man but of the best sort I regard such vainness but as the overflow of h manly

**†0** Foolishness, stupidity *Obs*—1

1592 Spenser *Vis Worlds Vanitie* VI, O how great vainnesse is it then to scorne The vaine

**†Vainquer.** *Obs rare* In 5 vaynquer, *Sc* vainour [a OF *vainqu's erre, veinqueor*, etc (mod l *vainqueur*), f *vaincre* to conquer] A conqueror, vanquisher, victor

1456 Sir G Hayr *Lanc Arms* (S) 372 Thare cummyn the vaynquer, and the victorious 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cclx 296 I benne made they muche ioye & grete as doon the indulge an vainquers and conquerours when they departe theyr enuye

**†Vainqueress.** *Obs*—1 In 6 venquoresse [a. OF. *vainqueresse, veinq-* see prec] A female conqueror or vanquisher.

*a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VI clxxx (1811) 178 Elfleda that sholde be of vs efte dyd ryse Agayne her enemyes, this noble venquoresse Virago and mayde, whose vertue can I nat expresse

**Vair** (vɛə), *sb* Forms 4 **veir(e, veyr(e, 5 feyre, 4, 6-7 vaire, 4, 8- Sc wayre, 7 wayre, 9 *dial* ware, fare, wayre,** etc [a OF *vair, veir* (also nom *vairs*) —l *varium*, acc. sing masc of *varius* parti-coloured Cf med L *varius*, also *varrus, vayrus, veyrus* (from OF), and *vayus* (from It *vaio*), in the same sense]

1 A fur obtained from a variety of squirrel with grey back and white belly, much used in the 13th and 14th centuries as a trimming or lining for garments. Now only *arch*

Cotgrave's definition of F *vair* as 'a rich furre of Ermines powdered thicke with blue haires is app unsupported by evidence

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 25466 Nu nak i noper gra ne greine, Ne purperpall, nee pride o paine Ne riche rohe wit veir and grue *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 11194 Man seles Of menneveir vranilyne veyr, & gris. *c* 1375 tr *Leg Saints* VII (*James the less*) 764 I urryt wele in wayre & grece *c* 1386 *Sol Pouers* (Rolls) I 265 For somme vaire, and somme grys, In bagges shalt þou bere

1810 Scott *Lady of I* IV xii If pall and vair no more I wear 1818 Ranken *Hist France* IV 377 It was ordained, A.D. 1294, that no ecclesiastic, but dignified clergyman, should wear vair, gray, or ermine, excepting [etc] 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball Laus Veneris* 266 Each man s hair Crowned with green leaves beneath white hoods of vair

**2** A weasel or stoat Now *dial.*

Prob due to an early misunderstanding as to the source of the fur

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 335 Pere beeþ veyres [L. *mustelas* Caxton *feyres*] litel of body and ful hardy and strong 1296- in dial glossaries (Dev, Dorset, Somer set Pemb, Glamorgan, Wexford etc) in forms *vare, fare, wiare, wayre, vayre, vyar* 1847 Miss Baly *Devon Lang* in *Devon* (1835) I xix 342 The stoat, vair, or vayry, is the commonest of the weasel tribe

**3** *Her.* One of the heraldic furs, represented by bell- or cup-shaped spaces of two (or more) tinctures, usu azure and argent, disposed alternately (in imitation of small skins arranged in a similar manner and sewn together)

*Vair cuppa* or *tassy* (see quot *c* 1828 and Vairy *a.* 1 b). *Vair en pal, vair-en-point* (see quot. 1766) Cf also Countervair.

1562 Legh *Armorie* 132 The nineth and last [do bluig] of all, is called Vaire, which is of al colloures except those two before rehersed (i e azure and vert) It may be also of three sondry colours, which colours must be tolde as this is blased 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* I iv (1611) 15 If you observe the proportion of this vaire, you shall easily discerne the very shape of the case or skinne of little beasts, li them 1620 Peacham *Compl t ent* XV (1906) 194 Quarterly Gules and Vaire. 1637 *Camden s Remo* 209 Hubert de Burgo, bare bare for his Armes in a Shield, Gules seven Lozenges vai e 3, 3, 1 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Furr*, The Heralds use two Metals, and two Furrs, or hairy Skins, Ermine and Vaire 1766 Perry *Heraldry* III (1777) 97 *Vair en point* or *Vair-en pal*, is said when the point of a Vair is opposite to the Base of another 1816 *Gentl Mag* March 223 A fesse between two chevrons Vaire. *c* 1828 In my *Encycl Her* I Gloss, *Vair cuppa*, or *Vair Tassy* is by most writers upon heraldry, considered a kind of fur, and shaped in the form of cups or goblets by divisions pottent counter potent 1884 Boutell *Her Hist & Pot* (ed 3) 20 Vair, Counter Vair, are always Argent and Azure, unless other tinctures are named in the blazon

**†Vair,** *a Obs*—1 *Sc* In 5 **wayre, wa(i)re.** [a OF *vair, veir* —l. *varium* see prec. and Vary *a*] Varied or variegated in colour.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* I v 217 The brukyd bestys and the wayre (*v r* ware, waire) he gert depart fra quhyt & fayre

**Vaird,** obs. Sc f Verd

**Vair(e,** southern MF var Faire *a* and *adv*

**+Vaired,** *a Obs*—1 [Cf. Vair *sb*] = Vairy *a* 1658 Sir T Browne *Gard Cyrus* II Heralds disposed the figures of Ermins, and vaired coats in this Quincuncial method

**†Vaires** *Obs*—1 [perh pl of F *veire* (*voire*) truth see Veire] *In vaires, ?* in verity, truly

23 *Cant & Gr A* mt 1015 With clene cortays carp, closed fro tyme; & hor play was passande vche prynce gomen, in vayres.

**Vairhede,** ME var Fairhead **Vairlooh,** obs Sc f Warlock. **Vairn,** obs. Sc. f Warn *v* **Vairsta(il,** obs Sc ff Warestall.

**Vairy** (vɛ·ri), *a* (and *sb*) Forms *a* 5 **varri,** 6 **varye** (? *ie*), **varry,** 6-7, *g* **varvey** *β* 7-9 **vairy,** 8 **vary** See also Verry *a* [a Of *vairy*, f *vair* Vair *sb*

The mod F form *vairé* has been employed in some heraldic books.]

1 *Her.* Of a coat, charge, etc Varied or variegated with two or more colours, having divisions and tinctures like those of vair

Some writers have drawn a distinction between *vair* and *varry* using the latter when tinctures other than argent and azure are blazoned.

*a* 1486 *Ilk Sr Albans Her* B1vb, Thre cootarmuris be ther called reatryall in armys. Oon is whan a cootarmure is varri of diverse colowrs to the poynt 1562 Legh *Armorie* 62b A playne crosse varry of the blud 131b, The eight doulling is Varry, & all is so properly called, although it be Or, and Vert, or els Vert and Or 1592 Wyrley *Armorie, Ld Chandos* 97 A paire coticis of red & golde varry On which flue losinges varrey placed are 1610 Guillim *Her* (1611) I iv 13 As for the rest, *viz* Verry and Varrye, they are meere fantasies and imperfect words inuented with ye *Hist* vi 321 Iavestock in Devon shire gave Varrey Or and Azure, on a Chefe Or, two Mulletts Gules. 1696 Blount *Glossogr*, *Varry* signifies Party per pale quarterly with arge t and azure *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her* I Gloss., Varrey in point

*β* 1706 *Lond Gaz* No 4217/4 The second Vary, a Canton 1760 tr *Bickning's Syst Geog* V 235 The arms of Oettingen are vairy ruby and a shield sapphire 1866 Cussans *Her* iii 53 If the field were Or and the belle Gules, it would be blazoned as Vairy, Or and Gules.

**†b** *Vairy cuppy, tassa* (see quots). *Obs*

1610 Guillim *Her* I iv (1611) 15 This sort of furre or doubling was of some old Heralds called vairy cuppy and vurry tassa 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn I*, *Vairy Cuppy*, or *Ivient Counter Potent*, is a Bearing in Heraldry 1766 Perry *Heraldry* II § 11 27 The same figure is differently called Vairy cuppy is when the Field is filled with Crutches or Potents counter placed.

¶ 2 Furred with vair. Also used as if the name of a material.

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v., Vairy gowns are observed by Julius Pollux to have been the habit of the antient Gauls, as Ermine were of the Armenians. 1862 Ainsworth *Constable Lower* (1862) 187 Wrapped in cerecloth of many folds, and in an outer cover of cloth of vairy and velvet, the corpse was laid out

**Vairy** (weassel, stoat) see Vair *sb.* 2 **Vaise,** dial f Frese v. **Vaist,** obs Sc. f West. **Vaistie,** var Sc Warty *a. Obs* **Vaistour,** obs Sc f. Waster.

**‖Vaisya** (vai·syā). Also 9 **veisya.** [Skr *vaisya* peasant, labourer, etc

In Sir T Herbert's *Trav* (1634) 38 the form *voyses* occurs and Bick from Urdu has had some currency

The third of the four great Hindu castes, comprising the merchants and agriculturists, a member of this caste Also *attrib*

1794 Sir W Jones *Inst of Menu* I 31 [Brahma] caused the Brahmen, the Chatriya, the Vaisya and the Sudra, to proceed from his mouth, his arm his thigh, and his foot. 1800 *Asiat Ann Reg* 53 2 Born of a Vaisya woman 1801 E Paxton *Asiat Mon* 223 The function s of the *vaisya* tribe. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist Ind* I 31 The practical knowledge required from a veisya is more general than that of the other classes.

**Vait,** obs Sc f Wait *v*, and *wot* Wit *v*

**Vaivode** (vē·vod) Now *Hist.* Forms *a.* 6-7 **vayvod(e,** 7 **vayvod,** 7, 9 **vayvode,** 8 **vay-**

**wode** *ſ* 6 usl-, 7 **valuoda**; 7 **valuod**, 7–8 **valvod**ʼ(7 vavoyd), 7–9 **valvode**, 8 **valwode** [Ultimately ad. older Magyar *vajvoda* (now *vajda*), representing the common Slavonic *voj(e)voda* Voivode The immediate source is partly mod.L. *vayvoda* (cf. Sp , Pg , and It. *vavoda*) or F *vayvode*. See also Waywode ] A local ruler or official in various parts of south-eastern Europe (in older use esp. in Transylvania)

*a.* 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 72 He had an adver sarye John Sepuse, the vayuode of transyslvania. 1590 Sir J Smyth *Disc Weapons* 44b In a great battaile fought betwixt him and that famous Vayuod Ivan Humades Corsino. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 579 The one [sister], marryed to the King of Poland; the other, to Sigismund Bastor, Prince or Vayvod of Transilvania. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2030/4 The Vayvode Hance was drawing together a great Body of Moriacks with a design to attack some place in the Province of Hoania. 1708 *Ann Reg* I. 19 Count Potocki, Vayvode of Vkow, had no less than ten towns, and one hundred and thirty villages, destroyed in his own territories.

*fig* 1613 Dekker *Dwale Last Will* Wks (Grosart) III 181 Behemah Dornschweyn chiefe Vayuode of Vsury Symony, Bribery, Periury, etc

*b* 1586 J Shute tr *Guicciardini's Turk Wars* 7 John Vaiuoda soughte to haue al the glorie of the victorie to him selfe. 1601 R Johnson *Kingd & Commw* (1603) 51 The Vaiuodes of Valachia, Moldauia and Transilluania, hold their estates by vertue of this bribery 1656 tr *Du Mont s Voy Levant* xix 242 The Government of the Cities is manag'd by Five Kinds of Officers, the Banas, Sub-Banas, Vayvode Cadi and Receiver of the Customs. 1771 *W Gulliver Georgr* (ed 3) 114 Their ancient nobility were divided into knezes, or knazeys, boyars and vaivods 1787 *Ann Reg* II 7 Al Ahmet his paitroun had suffered from the Porte, and was sent to ıs of a tyrannical Vaiwode 1833 Ellis *Elgin Marbles* I 2 Lord Elgin then received very strongly expressed fir mauns from the Porte, which were carried to the Vaivode of Athens and the Diadar of the Acropolis

*transf* 1618 Bolton *Flavius* II xiv (1636) 132 Andracus , delivered up into our hands by that Vaivod or petty King of Thrace to whom hee had fled for succour

**Vaize**, southern ME. var Fetz *a.* **Vak**, obs Sc f Wake *v* **Vakabonde**, obs f Vacabond

†**Vake**, *a Obs rare* [ad I *vac uus* ] Empty

1600 Holland *Livy* I xxxiii 24 Whilest it stood void and vake, the old Lat nes had it in possession and vse. 1611 Speed viii. 513 Certe no conspiratours possessed themselues of a vake house, standing over a narrow lane

†**Vake**, **vaik**, *v Sc Obs* Forms *a.* 5 **vake**, 5–7 **vake**, 7 **veak**, *β* 5 **wayk**, 5–7 **vaik**, 6 **waik**, 6–7 **vaike**, 7 **vaike** *β* [ad L. *vac are* to be empty cf prec So OF and F *vaguer*, Sp and Pg *vacar*, It *vacare* With the exception of quot 1543 in *a* the use of the word is entirely Scottish cf. Vacand *ppl a* ]

1 *intr* Of a benefice, office, or position To become or fall vacant, also, to remain vacant or unfilled

Freq from *c* 1550 to *c* 1650, esp of ecclesiastical benefices

*a.* *c* 1405 Wyntoun *Chron* v 4120 (Cott) Qwhen he was ded, ban dayis syne bat se wakys [*Wemyss MS* vakit]. 1498 Sir G Have *Laws Armor* (S T S) 223 For and the Archebischopryke of Ranis or Rowan vakit, and the chan ouns wald ches ane Inglisman to be archebischop 1522 Douglas in *Wks* (1874) I 2 The benefice and prelacie prelacie that vakit. 1543 Bentleger in *St Papers Hen. VIII*, III iii. 485 Ther is a Statute here [at Water ford], that when suche rome be shulde vake, they shoulde then electe and chose another Englishman. 1604 A Seton in G Seton *Memoir* (1882) iv 57 Quhen euer onye place sould vake in onye maner

*b.* *c* 1550 Lyndesay *Tragedie* 361 Quhen thare doith vaik ony benefyce 1558 Kennedy *Comp Treat* in *Misc Wodrow Soc* (1844) 155 Gyf ane benefice vaick, the gret man of the realme wyll haue it. 1570 *Satir Poems Reformt* xviii 102 Sic [a lord] as serue God now sen the roume dois waik. 1638 Mabq of Hamilton *Lxpl Meaning Oath & Covenant* 16 [It] also declares, that all bishoprycks vaick ing, or that shall vaick, shall be only disponed to actuall preachers and ministers in the Kirk *a* 1676 Spalding *Troub Chas I* (1851) II 208 Thein Oxwall curnis bak with this answer, and Doctor Forbes place still waits. 1696 in *Home Papers* (Hist MSS Comm) 271 The Justice Clerk dus poves of the Clerk to the Justice Court his place when it vaikes.

b Of a tack or tenancy

1473 *Rental Bk Cupar Angus* (1879) I 197 Clif it happynis that takis to ware be vacand or of wa. 1542 *Records Elgin* (New Spald Cl) I 65 Failseand hereof the forsaidis takkis to vaik *ex facto*

2 Of persons *a.* To be free, to have time or leisure, for engaging in some occupation, to be occupied or busy Const *for*, on or upon (also, to wait or attend *upon* one), *to*

1486 Sir G Mave *Laws Armes* (S T S) 221 The law levis all clerkis to vake in scolis and in studyis to sciences and literature *Ibid.* 229 Of thame quhilkis levis all richesss to vake tharupon 1501 Douglas *Pal Hon* iii xviii, All thir on Venus seruice vaikis, In deidis of armis for thair ladyis saikis. 1566–9 *Reg Privy Council Scot* I 497 Becaus the haill Lordis of Secreit Counsall may nocht weill vaik at all tymes for the ordouring thairof being occupiet with uther wechtie materis. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xii 89 Now Cupid compellis Our hairtis echone On Venus vibe vaikis, To muse on our maikis. *a* 1624 ] Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 45, I was resigned ower be my father hailelie unto him to veak upon him as his sone and servant

*b* To be at leisure or free *from* some occupation or business

*c* 1470 Henryson *Mor Fab* viii (*Preach. Swallow*) xxxix, Esope Quhen that he vaikit frome mair astentik werk, this forsaid fabill wrait. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Lesle's Hist. Scott* II 107 Quhen he myght vake fra temporal effayres, his exercise was euer in spiritual *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn* lxv 4 Quhan I may vaik fra service of the king

Hence † **Vaked** *ppl a.*, † **Va'king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl a Obs*

1570 J Knox in Calderw *Hist Kirk Scott* (Wodrow Soc ) III 566 That all benefices vacand may be presented within a yeer after the vaiking therof 1622 in R. M Fer guson *A Manwell Hunt Old Dundee* (1884) 368 Being oft times requirit [he] would propone nothing but only ane mein [= moan]' Vaiked Sea] 1660 in Cunokshank *Hist Kirk Scotland* (1859) 1 59 That hereafter vaking stipends may be intromitted with by Presbyteries

‖ **Vakeel, vakil** (vāk'l) *Anglo-Ind* Forms *a.* 7 **vakill, vekill, -ile -eil, vikil, vicle, 8 vekil, 9 vakil, vakîl** *β* 7– **vakeel** (7 **fakeel**), 7 **vickeele**, 7–8 **vuck** , **vukeel**. [a Urdû (Pers - Arab ) وكيل *vakîl, wakîl* cf Wakeel.]

1 An agent or representative, esp one representing a person of political importance either permanently or on a special occasion , a minister, envoy, or ambassador

*a* 1622 in Foster *Eng Factories Ind* (1908) II 12 Two poppyes, [to] be Vakeeles to the sons and heirs of Vekeele. *Ibid* 69 Receaved two letters of Isacke Beages to Assuff Chon, and the other to his vekill 1628 W Hinmers *Diary* (Hakl Soc ) I 35 The Dutch Barcelor a Vakill 1687 A. Lovell tr *Thevenot s Trav* II 171 Through the bad Con duct of the Vikil he was necessitated to reimbark 1844 H H Wilson *Hist Punjab* I 282 Him were proposed and the Vakilis returned with them to the Bat 1870 Sir W W Hunter in *Life* (1901) xi 189 His Vakil or repre sentative told me the story of the sunken fortunes of the family

*β* 1623 in Foster *Eng Factories Ind* (1908) II 307 That hereafter the Kings people may recoure it from the vickeeles of Agra. 1624 *Ibid* (1909) III 30 I hen vickeels at the Court is to accquaint the King thereof 1692 J Ovington *Voy Surratt* 415 November the 1st, arriv'd a Pattamar or Courier from our Vakeel or Sollicitor at Court 1763 Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 74 He was determined to fall on us and turned our vacqueel out of the durbar 1776 *Trial of Nuncomar* 249 He was Vakeel of Bollakey Doss and executed whatever business he ordered 1803 Edmonstone in Owen *Wellesley s Desp* (1877) 322 Duplicates have been delivered to the Vakeel of Dowlut Row Sindia for transmission to their principals. 1878 Earl Lytton *Lett* (1906) II 57 The Amir undertook to keep a *vakeel* at Ushawur

2 A native attorney or barrister, a pleader in the Hindu law courts.

1868 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Vakeel*, a native attorney in India. 1889 *Pall Mall G* 12 July 13/2 An official known as the pleader or vakeel whose duty it is to see that every prisoner shall be represented in court by a competent counsellor 1890 Kipling *City Dreadf N* 15 He looks like a vakeel in the boot heels, and recalls memories of up-country courts.

**Vakin**, obs Sc. f Waren *v* **Val**, southern ME. var Fall *sb* ; obs Sc. f. Veil *sb* 1, Wall *sb*

**Valachian**, var. Walachian.

**Valance** (væ lăns), *sb* 1 Forms *a* 5 **valaunce**, 6–7 **valans** (6 wal ), 5– valance (8 vol ), 5–9 **valance** *β* 5, 7 **valens**, 6 **valense**, 7–9 **valens** (7 -lins), 6– **valence**, 6–7 **vallence**, *γ pl* 6 **valances**, 6– **vallance**, 6, 9 **vallens**, 6, 9 **valence**, 7 **valans** *δ pl* 6 **valandes**, 7 **vallands**, -ents, 9 **valends** [Of obscure origin perh a Ab. **valance*, f *valer* = OF *avaler* to descend (cf *vale* Vail *v* 2)

Floro (1598) gives '*Valenza, valenzana* Say or Serge for bed-curtains or Canopies' and '*Valenze del letto*, valances for beds', but there is no evidence for the genuine ness of these.]

1 A piece of drapery attached lengthways to a canopy, altar cloth, or the like, so as to hang in a vertical position. Also *attrib*

*a.* 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 36 The selor of cloth on lofte with the valance of scripture abowte the ymage. 1496 *Howsek Ord* (1790) 115 The ninth question; whether in the same Chapell be any Queens cloth of Estate, or any highe as the Kinga or noe? answere thereunto; the Queens shall hang lower by the valance. 1540 *Ludlow Churchw.* *Ac* (Camden) 20 For washynge of aultor clothis and albes, and the sowynge on of the valans of them *Ibid*, The valans that hangyth over the heygh auter 1670 Lassels *Voy Italy* (1698) II 91 Four stately pillars of brass bear up a canopy of the same metal with vallances and a gilt fringe, yet all of brass. 1762–71 H Walpole *Vertue s Anecd Paint* (1786) I 54 A tent, striped with white and gold, and the valances of the same colours. 1867 Baker *Nile Trib* v 106 Upon striking the tent we found beneath the valance between the crown and the walls a regiment of scorpions.

*attrib* 1892 Lowndes *Camping Sketches* 49 Wazing eloquent over knotted guy ropes and missing valance-loops

*b* 1505 *Wyllys' Bk Purch Lands* (1903) 82 The image of our Lady within the valens of the same Chirch. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron* (1809) 639 Sarcenet let doune in maner of a valence before the gallery 1577 Holinshed *Chron* II 1082/2 A rich herse, couered with blacke veluet with a valence fringed with golde.

*γ.* 1608 *Newes Chron.* XV 231 The vallens [of the funeral canopy] were fringed with black.

2 *spec. a* A border of drapery hanging round the canopy of a bed , in later use, a short curtain around the frame of a bedstead, etc., serving to screen the space underneath.

*a.* *c* 1450 *Bk Curtasye* 147 in *Babees Bk* , For lordys two beddys schalle be made. To valance on sylour shalle benge with wyn, tu curteyns strejt drawen with ine. 1480 *Wardr Acc Edw IV* (1830) 132 A spruer, conteinyng tastour, celour, and valances lyned with buske 1508 *Pride Pores Exp Ann. York* (1830) 66 The seler is 7 yerdes dim and the quarter long, the valance 3 quarter dim large. *a* 1593 Marlowe in *Engl. Parnassus* (1600) 480 And as a costly valance ore a bed, So did their garland tope the brooke enspred. 1621 Cotgr , *Les pentes d'vn lict*, the Valances 1676 Covel in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakluyt Soc ) 165 The valiance was of the same make 1740 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr* (1861) II 297, I think the fringe of the valances and bases should be the same depth as that on the bottom of the curtains. 1837 Barham *Ingol Leg* Ser 1 *Spectre of Tappington*, He peeped under the valance of an old fashioned bedstead. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* (ed 2) 36 An iron bed stead, (no valance, of course) and hair mattress. 1883 F M Peard *Contradictions* 1 They had tucked away the scalloped vallance, and drawn back the striped curtains

*b* 1591 Percivall *Sp Dict*, *Frenilla pelada*, vallence for a bed 1600 *Inv in Collectanea Archæol* (1863) II 97 One bedsteede, The vallence and fyrste of curtaine of say 1620 Pracham *Compl Gentl* xiii (1634) 130 As we see in knops now adayes upon the Valences and Canopies of beds. 1679 *Lond Gaz* No. 1434/4 The Curtains and double Val lence of a red Damask Bed. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV 256 She had had the presence of mind to tear down the half burnt vallens from the tester and curtains. *Cornh hood of M J Holroyd* (1896) 287 Mrs Maynard has made up the Bed with full Valences 1832 *Remembrancer* 80 The hangings of the large square bed were of yellow merino, with linin, moth eaten valences.

*γ* 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 67 These make laces vpon staues, purses, and whyte vallance for beddes 1589 *Pilg s Inv W C* (Surtees 1860) 31 In the chamber of the hall, one a teaster, courtaynes and vallanes. 1612 Webster *White Devil* iii. ii 177 Let him make Valance for his bed on't, or a deny foote cloth 1730 *Gentl Dancer* 40 The Tester Cloth to which the Head-cloth, and Inside and outside Vallens are to be fixed 1739 *Phil. Trans* LI 284 All the vallance were unnailed

*δ* 1512 *Inst Ebor* (Surtees) V 38 Two pilloo coddes with the valandes 1590 *Shuttleworths Acc* (Chetham Soc ) 58 Lyttell nelles to fasten vandandes to the bedd 1632 Quarles *Hist Samson* Wks. (Grosart) II 161/2 My beds, My sheets My vallents, and my curtaines. 1675 *Tonge Diary* (1874) 47 The beds with white curtens and vallands. 1881 Blackmore *Christowell* xxi (1882) II 50 They came from the valends of the broken down bedstead

b A short window curtain *rare*

1726 *Ady Cupt K Youle* (1908) 3 Maids tuck up some Vallens to the Windows in the Dining room 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2688 *Valance a lambrequin*, or drooping curtain hiding the curtain rods of a window

3 A pendant border or edging of velvet, leather, or other material

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Apr 1644, The Duke of Orleans's Library; the valans of the shelves being of greene velvet fring'd with gold 1801 in *Gutteridge's Mortarboard* 111 5 Nor were the valence less adorned ,—indeed, they appeared to have been fashioned by a chisel 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2688 *Valance*, the drooping ledge at the parting of a trunk

*transf* 1884 W K Parker *Mammalian Descent* ix (1885) 55 *note*, In whose larval skull a similar valance of cartilage grows copiously

b A flap attached to a head dress, esp as a protection against the sun

1792 H Walpole *Lett* (1891) IX 318 The hats with valances, the folds above the chin 1837 Dickens *Pickw* iii dirty shirts and shaggy hair of the young men, have con founded all individuality 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 1246 Like the cap with a valance named from the East Indian hero ' Havelock

†**Valance**, *sb* 2 *Obs* —1 In 5 **saunce** [ad. F *Valence* Valenci1 in Spain ] A Valencia almond

1469 in *Housek. Ord* (1790) 103 Item Jardens and Valiances 230 lb

†**Valance**, *sb* 3 *Obs* —1 In 6 -**aunce** [app ad med L. *valesia, valsia* Valise, with ending assimilated to *sb* 1] A cloak bag

*a* 1586 Cavendish *Watsey* (1893) 64 Before hyme he hadde a gentilman that caried his valiance, otherwyse called a cloake bage; which was made all to gether of fynne scarlett clothe, enbrodered over with clothe of gold very richly

**Va lance**, *v rare* Also vallance [f Valance *sb* 1 cf. next ] *trans* To drape or fringe with, or as with, a valance.

1897 Heavyege *Saul* 934 Butter cups and scarlet bean Do vallance like pied beard his chin

**Valanced** (væ lănst), *ppl a.* Also 6–7 **valanst** (6 **ensed**), 7, 9 **valanced** [f as prec.] Provided or furnished with a valance or draped edging of a specified material

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VIII*, 9b, The compas of the Paullion above, enbroudered rychely, and valanced with flat golde, beten in wyre. *Ibid* 207 b A clothe of estate valanced with frenge 1591 in *Archæol Herd* (1779) 221 The Canapse was of greene satten, valanced about and fringed with greene silke and silver 1760 Sterne *Tr Shandy* iii xxiv, An old set stitch'd chair, valanced and fringed round with party-coloured worsted bobs. 1889 Scott *Betrothed* xi, [The pavilion] was of purple silk, valanced with gold embroidery, having the cords of the same hue intermixed.

*b. transf* Also *elipt*, fringed with hair.

1600 Shaks. *Hamt* II ii. 403 What my olde Friend, thy face is valanced ( Q 1 valanct ] Since I saw thee last, com st thou to beard me in Denmarke? 1819 Keatinge *Trav.* I. 213 Men, *barbone*, whose faces have been long valanced, act the parts of women 1823 G J Cayley *Leg Alfreyus* II 179 A broad and nobly-cut brow, valanced with shaggy eyebrows, overhung serious, deep-set eyes. 1890 *Spectator*

19 Oct. 533/1 A tall-masted schooner rode grandly in between the Heads, valanced with foam

**† Valanche.** *Obs. rare* [ad. F. dial (*la*) *valanche* (for F. *l'avalanche*).] = AVALANCHE.

1776 SWOLLETT *Trav* xxxvii. Secure a year passes in which some mules and their drivers do not perish by the valanches.

**Valanes,** obs. f. VALONIA. **Valay,** obs. Sc f. VALLEY.

**Vald,** obs. Sc. var. *would* WILL *v.*

**Vald(e,** ME. var. FIELD *sb* **Valdanes,** -ian, vars. WALDENSES, -IAN **Valdinge,** obs Sc. var. WIELDING *vbl sb.*

**† Val-dunk.** *Obs*$^{-1}$ (Meaning obscure)

1632 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Wine-soaker* 108 By this time his cause is heard, and now this val dunke growne rampant-drunke, would fight if hee knew how

**Vale** (vēl), *sb*$^{1}$ Forms *α* 4- vale (4-5 vaal), 4-5 (6 *Sc*) wale *β.* 5-7 vaile (7 vaille), 6 *Sc.* vaill, 7-8 vail; 5 *Sc.* wail, waill(e, 6 *Sc* waille, wayill [ad. OF. *val* (= It., Sp., Pg. *valle*) — L. *vallem*, acc. of *vallis, vallēs* valley]

I. A more or less extensive tract of land lying between two ranges of hills, or stretches of high ground, and usually traversed by a river or stream; a dale or valley, esp. one which is comparatively wide and flat.

In later use chiefly *poet* (exc. as in b), but employed as an ordinary prose word by American writers in the second half of the 18th century

*α.* 13 *E E Allit P B* 673 For bat Cite per bysayde was sette in a vale *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Rokh.) xxxi 138 Pare es a vyne bat bringes gode wyne. LYDG *Pr Guil. Hist* 21198 After philisofres talys, Ther ben hylles, ther ben wales, Medwes, ryvers, 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 248 Suete war the vapoures, Habenum the vale, depaynt wyth floure ying 1588 SHAKS *Ivetus A* II iii 93 These two haue tis'd me hither to this place, A barren, detested vale you see it is 1618 [J. TAYLOR] *Water-Poet Pilgrs.* Wks (1630) 136/2 Then let who list delight in Vales below, Skie kissing Mountaines pleasure are for me. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *La Blanck Hyar* 7 Towards the Theatre there is another vale very hollow, between two hills, where the Sun is hardly ever seen. 1789-96 THOMSON *Summer* 605 [The wave] steals, Along the associate verge of the quiet vale 1791 J. BARTRAM *Observ Travels Pennsylv*, etc. 35 We lodged by Front Creek in a spacious vale. 1789 M. CUTLER in *Life, Journ.*, & *Corr.* (1888) I 277 At the bottom of the vale and on the side of the river, is a huge rock 1838 J. HIELWALL *Greece* (1839) I 7 Into which the Spercheius winds through a long narrow vale. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I 1, I pity people who weren't born in a vale. I don't mean a flat country but a vale that is a flat country bounded by hills. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 8 Forth we sallied to see sunset from the vale

*b* Const. *of* (the distinguishing name of the vale).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 2705 Abram aatt his hus Bi side þe wale of mont mambre. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conc* 5164 Al men sal rys to þe dome, And in þe vale of Iosaphat sal come. *c* 2375 *Sc Leg Saints* iii (*Paul*) 285 I þe wale of comptone [*read* campitone; L. *Jugitium*] *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Rokh.) viii. 30 Men schall passe thurgh þis deserte to þe vale of Elym *c* 1449 WYNTOUN *Cron* VI xxvi 436/2 A companny þat war walkande In til þe wail of Anande. 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidanes Comm.* 269 By the vale of Remsie. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. xiii. 180 The vales in Peneland, whereof, which one is called the Vale of white horse, another of Bouesham, the third of Ailesbyrry [etc.] 1667 MILTON *P L* xii 266 And thou (flood [stand] in the vale of Jehosaphat, Till Israel overcome 1804 C B BROWN tr. *Volney's View* 33 West of the Alleghenny, towards the vale of the Ohio, there are many remarkable hills. 1856 MCCULLOCH *Gt Brit Empire* (1854) I 21 The Vale of Gloucester, or that part of the Vale of Severn which lies in Gloucestershire.

**c.** Without article, occas. contrasted with *hill, mountain*, etc

*c* 1402 LYDG *Compl. Bl. Knt* VII, The bridde Which on the braunches, bothe in pleyn and vale, So loude songe *c* 1450 HENRY *Wallace* x 999 Baith hycht and wall obeyed all till his will. 1667 MILTON *P L* xi. 563 Where casual fire Had wasted woods on Mountain or in Vale 1726 WORDSW *'Calm is all nature* 6 A slumber seems to steal O'er vale, and mountain 1817 COLERIDGE *Sonnet p. Faust* II. 62 A voice which vibrates far o er field and vale.

**2.** In fig uses. Also const *of* (adversity, etc)

1418-20 LYDG. *Chron Troy* II 42 Sche can plonge worþi emperours From be hille of hire prosperite Into be vale of aduersite. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poet.* (1903) 181 In the vale of restles mynd, I sowght in mownteyn & in mede 1538 COVERDALE *Ps* lxxxiii. 6 Which goinge thorow the vale of mysery, vse it for a well] 1604 BARTON *Grimello's Fortunes* Wks (Grosart) II 5/2 After that I had past the great Mountains of misery, I fell into a long vale of miserie. 1764 COWPER *Task* vi. 721, I Have pond'd my stream of panegyric down The vale of nature. 1809 SHELLEY *'For my daughter'* 22, I dare not unveil The shadows that float o or Eternity's vale.

**b** The world regarded as a place *of* trouble, sorrow, misery, or weeping Usu. with *this.*

14 *in Twndale's Vis* (1843) 123 In thys sorowfull vale Of trowbull of woo and of hevynes 1432 MIRK *Fest of Loue* 12 In þis vale of wepynge þai haue bene delityd. 1567 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfect.* A iij/2 Yᵉ transytory Joys of this vale of mysery. 1590-80 *Dunbar Poems* lxxiii 7 Out of this vaill of trubbill and dissait 1594 *in Maitl Cl Mis.* III (1855) 65 The labilitie and breuitie of tymes and of men in this vaile of teirfie heand conuenient 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1664) 213 What could you find in the vail of tears [etc.]? 1665 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II. 12 For afflictions while we live in this vaille of misery must continually be hoocked for 1708 COWPER *Conversat* 881 Though life's valley be a vale of tears, A brighter scene beyond that vale appears 1818 SHELLEY *Hymn to Intell Beauty* 11, Why dost thou pass away and leave our state, This dim vast vale of tears, vacant and desolate?

**c.** The world regarded as the scene of life. With various qualifications, as *earthly, mortal*, etc, or const. *of* (life, etc.)

*c* 1446 LYDG *Nightingale Poems* II 351 Where as þat god of love hym selff doth dwelle Vpon an hille ferre from the mortal vale 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen VI*, II i 70 Grant in his court in this Earthly Vale, Although by his sight his sinne be multiplyed 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I 621 Why, whilst We struggle in this Vale beneath, Do They more bless it perpetually Lab employ'en Scenes of Pain? 1784 COWPER *Task* IV 799 An unambitious mind, content In the low vale of life. 1819 SHELLEY *'A gentle Story'* 6 In this wide vale of misery 1890 J. EWINGW in *Ld H Tennyson Mem* (1897) I 309 In this vale of Time the hills of Time often shut out the mountains of Eternity

**d.** *The vale of years*, the declining years of a person's life, old age.

1600 SHAKS *Meas. Ofr.* III iii 266 Haply, for I am declin'd Into the vale of yeares 1676 D URFEY *Mme Fickle* IV i, A man that has the misfortune to decline into the vale of Years. 1781 HOLCROFT in *Jesse Memoirs & Contemp* (1843) II 372 Yet I am weak enough sometimes to think, that if Rugby had pleased, I should have walked down the vale of years more cheerfully. 1788 *Gentl. Lett Recreations* Wks VIII 310 That venerable potentate and pontiff, sunk deep into the vale of years 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* lix, Mrs. Butler (was) a woman, and declined into the vale of years.

**† 3.** One of the grooves in the beam of a hart's antler *Obs.*$^{-1}$

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) xxiv Alle al longe þe beames pere be smale vales, þat men cleye gottres.

**† 4.** = HOLLOW 12 *b.* The notch at the back of a barbed arrow-head *Obs*$^{-1}$

*c* 1400 *Isud Troy Bk.* 7704 To that kyng he gan to hake, And drow an arwe vp to the vale

**4.** *attrib* and *Comb.* **a** Attrib., as *vale-dweller, -hunt, -life, -lily*, etc. of the valley.

1822 BENDORE *Poems, Rom Lily* 150 My tribute shall be sweet, though small —A cup of the vale lily I loom. 1832 BERE *Sk Herbert* x *Isle* 13 To mark the vale hut ted the ripened corn 1847 *Ld Ashael Ashton* I XIII 206 The fierce pagan vale dwellers by the North Tyne

**b** Attrib, occas. passing into *adj*, in the sense 'of or belonging to, found, grown, or produced in, a (particular) vale', as *Vale barley, -dog, farmer, -grop* (a variety of pea), *-man, -soil*

1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm* I viii 98 Now the Gentlemen which dwell on the downes and plaine grounds, to maintaine the reputation of their Dogs, affirme them to be much more noble in turning then the vale Dogs be. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh* 240 When at any time they sow Peas on this Land, the best Husbandmen will chuse the Vale gray as most proper for it. 1728 LISLE *Husb* (1757) 192 The hill country barley is generally better esteemed by the malsters than the vale barley *Ibid*, The vale-lands are generally too wet, and clayey 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 92 The Beech will never make a good Tree in their vale, spewey, and wet Soil *Ibid* 221 The Vale men in their vale-land, love Peas, which won't sow Peas alone 1760 SOMERVILE *Hobbinolius* II 7 The Vale Inhabitants, proud and elate With Victory 1815 BIRKBECK *Journ thro France* 63 The vale farmers are busy sowing lupines on their wheat stubbles 1855 *Chitting* XXVII 1492/1 Those Vale farmers, no pen can ever accurately depict

*c* *Comb.*, as *vale-born, hurried*

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III 114 (*Jod.*), Her emblems are the white rose bending in a graceful curve over the modest vale born lily 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* I 102 The vale buried town of KENWICK

**† Vale,** *sb*$^{2}$ *Obs rare* (Erroneous var of DALE)

I, either after VALE *sb*$^{1}$ or by simple misprint.)

*c* 1635 [see PUMP *sb*$^{1}$ 6]. 1710 J HARRIS *Lex Techn.* II, *Vale of a Pump*, at Sea, is the Term for the Trough by which the Water runs from the Pump along the Ship sides, to the Scupper holes. [Hence in later Dicts.]

**‖ Vale** (vē'lı), *int.* and *sb* [L., and pers. sing imper. of *valēre* to be well.]

**A.** *int.* Farewell, goodbye; adieu

1520 *Pageants Chr Procession Tryall Faith* Pref 111 b, Vale, Lous God, laue vanitye, and lyun in Chryst 1556 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* To Rde (Arb.) se So doynge thou shalt minister vnto me good cause to make my labour and paynes herein the more acceptable 1606 *Yorks Plate* 1622 SHELTON *Quix* To Rdr A ij, And herewithall I bid thee farewell, and doe not forget me *Vale* 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vale*, farewel, God be with you, God keep you in health. 1912 L. INNETER (*title*), Vale, a Book of Verse. *Ibid.* 63 *Vale* 'Goodbye, Goodbye!'

**B.** *sb.* A farewell greeting, letter, etc.; a goodbye, farewell, or leave-taking

1580-3 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II 86 Gluing her her *vale* with a counterfeit kind of curtesie. 1584 — *Arbastо* Introd. III 211 The hunkes I had for this was a churlish *vale* of the old trot Vechia 1619 SIR S D EWES in *Coll Lyfe Jas I* (1851) 81, I took my *vale* of him, with many thanks, and posted homewards. 1626 BRETON *Fantasticks* Wks. (Grosart) II 6/2 The Nymphes of the Woodes in consort with the Muses sing an Aue to the Morning, and a Vale to the Sunnes setting 1673 J SMITH *Christ Refig Appeal* I xi § 4. 103 They must bid an eternal *Vale* to their admired Law and Temple. 1814 SCOTT *Let in Lockhart* (1837) III lii. 199, I am going to say my *vales* to you for some weeks.

**Valediction** (vælidi·kʃən). [ad L. type **valedictio*, nonn of action f *vale dicere*, f L. *valē* VALE *sm!*, and *dicere* to say, speak]

1 The action of bidding or saying farewell (*to* a person, etc.), an instance of this; a farewell or leave taking.

1614 DONNE *Lett* li Wks 1839 VI 368 For I must do this as a Valediction to the World, before I take Orders. 1654 H L ESTRANGE *Chas I* (1655) 3 Here [were] such short accollade's at their valediction and parting, as 'tys scarce ever beheld the like. 1658 EVELYN *Acc Indian & P* 324 After a formal Valediction ashore the next day we passed the Straits. 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* II 68 Contained in [it] after the last valediction to the queen and prince dicd 1872 LE FANU *In a Glass Darkly* I 158 They parted with a hurried and melancholy valediction.

**2** An utterance, discourse, etc., made at (or by way of) leave-taking or bidding farewell

1619 HALES *Gold. Rem* 11. (1673) 86, I dealt with Mr Fraxes concerning a copy of Mr Deans Valediction to the Synod. 1641 H L ESTRANGE *Lord's Sabbath* 27 The Spirit of Comfort (which in his late valediction he promised to send his Apostles) 1698 SIR I BROWNE *Hydriot* 35 Their last valediction, since uttered by the immortal, was also very solemn 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III xi, He stayed not to hear the valediction or the thanks of the witch 1865 *Q Rev* July 204 The truly Yankee valediction, 'I guess we will all go home, and so, good night

**Valedictorian** (vælidiktō·rıən). *U.S.* [f. next + -AN] In colleges, academies, etc, the student (male or female) appointed on grounds of merit to deliver the valedictory oration on Commencement day

1840 in WEBSTER 1860 O W HOLMES *Elsie V* (1887) 100 The last year's 'Valedictorian of the Apollinean Institute. 1873 LIZ PHELPS *Trotty's Wedding Tour* 172 The vale dictorian of her class in the young ladies' Star of Hope Seminary 1887 *Appincott's Mag* Aug 204 Among others chosen are the valedictorian of the Senior class [etc.]

**Valedictory** (vælidi·ktōri), *a* and *sb.* [f L. *valedict-sum*, pa. pple. of *vale-dicere* (see VALEDICTION) + -ORY.]

**A** *adj* I. Uttered or bestowed in bidding or on taking farewell; of the nature of a valediction.

1651 BAXTER *Infant Bapt* 159 In the Pulpit in his Valedictory Oration to the People of Bewdeley *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Jan 1694, He [Dr Tenison] made us his Prologue and Epilogue to his valedictory Play, now shortly to be acted 1784 HARNER *Observ* V § 4. 213 These valedictory songs while the Parishes take notice of 1798 SYMES *Diary* (1901) II 288 The President [of Yale] introduced the exercises in a latin Speech Then succeeded Valedictory Oration, in English, by Mr Isaac Tay, of Stanbury *Lett* (1856) IV 155 The Bishop who delivered the vale dictory address. 1890 IRVING *Col Jemith* iv 70 He penned his valedictory letter to the young people of Sleepy Hollow *Fr* I xv, While delivering these valedictory observations, Wegg continually disappointed Mr Boffin of his hand by flourishing it in the air

**2.** Manifested, performed, or done by way of valediction.

1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem* 166 Crowds of people, studious to pay to their popular chief governor every valedictory honour that their short and slender time allowed. 1849 MRS. CRAIK *Ugotrees* XXII, All that passed between them was a valedictory bow 1871 AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* II 21, As he cast a valedictory look around, he caught sight of his Professor Dereham 1884 *Pall Mall G* 15 Nov 8/1 Lord Ripon's valedictory tour in the Punjab and North-West Provinces.

**B** *sb* I. *U.S.* A valedictory oration. (See quot. 1847 and cf VALEDICTORIAN.)

1827 WEBSTER, *Valedictory*, in American colleges, an oration or address spoken at commencement, by a member of the class which receive the degree of bachelor of arts, and take their leave of college and of each other 1834 J QUINCY *Figures of Past* 54 An oration in English and a Latin valedictory were commonly spoken by three-year graduates.

**2.** A statement or speech made by way of valediction on leaving a position, person, etc.

1830 *Monast* II, 309 In his Valedictory on retiring from the Editorship. 1853 GOLDW SMITH *United States* 296 John A Andrew also said in his valedictory of the 4th, 1865, that [etc.]

Hence **Valedi·ctorily** *adv rare*$^{-1}$.

1856 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I 228 Charles Norton dines with us this evening, valedictorily

**¶ Vale-dictum.** *Obs rare* [L. *vale dictum*, neut. pf. pple. of *vale-dicere* to say farewell] = VALEDICTION 2

1638 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* (ed 2) 83 We have said enough: let my *vale dictum* now be this; the Land mournes [etc.] *Ibid* 140

**Valeie,** obs. f. VALLEY

**† Valence**[1]. *Obs rare.* [prob the name of the French town *Valence* on the Rhone] Some thin woven fabric.

*c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl Foules* 177 The remenaunt was wel kenerede to myn pay Ryght[1] with a subtyl couercheef of valence: Ther nas no thikkere cloth of no defense. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 147 Upon hir hed a kerche of Valence, Noon other perfexse of counterfet array

**Valence**[2] (vǽ·lens). [ad L. *valentia*, see VALENCY.]

**†1.** An extract or preparation (*of* some herb) used in medicine. *Obs*

*c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 65 Pis medicyne is called taps valencia . i in pe brusing putte in litel ls litel of ole of roes, or violet, or camamille, pat pe valence may com prestenly imbibite it *Ibid* 98 Pis medycine is called Valence of scabious for pe valow of it. *Ibid*, Valence of wormode is pus made

**† 2.** Valour, courage; = VALIANCE 1 *Obs*

*a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel* (1633) 172 For his valence, he was called Coeur de Lyon, the Lyons heart

**3** *Chem.* = VALENCY. (See also quot. 1902.)

Cf EQUIVALENCE 2 and QUANTIVALENCE.

1884 *American* VIII 300 To what extent is the Hypothesis of Valence or Atomicity of Value in explaining Chemical Reactions 1902 *Porto Rico Jrn* 10 Dec Meanwhile, it is clear that the 'valence', the *number* of electrical charges (in poisons), plays an important part

**Valencie,** var VALENCE 2 **†**.

**Valencia** (vǎle·nʃiă) Also **Valentia.** [see def] **L** *attrib* Of or pertaining to, cultivated in or obtained from, Valencia, a province and town of eastern Spain.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min* (ed 2) I 203 The Stones commonly called Valencia garnets are of this species They may be the garnets of Spain, mentioned in Raab's Catalogue. 1820 A. T THOMSON *Dispensatory* 130 The Valentia almond is a sweet, large, flat almond, pointed at the extremity 1858 HOMANS *Cycl Commerce*, *Fruits* In Europe, the Valencia oranges are eagerly sought after, on account of their early appearance, large size, and beautiful color

**2.** A mixed fabric employed for waist-coats, having a wool weft with a warp of silk, silk and cotton, or linen, and usually striped. Chiefly in pl.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1852 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 490/1 Fancy vesting called valencias or tonlinets *Ibid* 1115/2 Tonlinets and valentias 1882 in SHEFFIELD & SAWARD *Dict Needlew* 510/1 Valentias are produced at Spitalfields, and many are showy in appearance.

**3** *ellipt* in *pl.* Valencia almonds or raisins; raisins similar to those of Valencia

1867 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* Suppl 460/1 *Valencias*, raisins prepared by dipping the bunches of grapes into a hot lye made of wood ashes, oil, and lime, and then dried in the sun 1902 *Daily News* 12 Nov 9/1 This year we have some of the finest Valencias (we call all raisins Valencias, you know) from Australia.

**Valencian** (vǎle·nʃiăn), *sb.* and *a* Also **Valentian** [see prec. and -AN]

**A** *sb* A native or inhabitant of the town, province, or former kingdom of Valencia in Spain

1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V*, 1 Wks. 1851 III 157 The grievances, which the Valencians sumed at redressing 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 88/1 The great number of cattle or horses are kept by the Valencians

**B** Of or belonging to Valencia (see prec.) or its people.

1753 *Chambers's Cycl* Suppl 3 *v Almond*, Valentian and Barbary Almonds, which are those from whence the oil is procured 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V*, 1 Wks. 1851 III 309 But the Valencian nobles considered this as an insult and indignity to their country 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 89/1 Ribalta, Victoria, and other painters of the Valencian school 1847 tr *Boutrowek's Hist Span Lit* 6 The author is one of the last poets who wrote in the Valencian dialect.

**Valenciennes** (vǎlănsen). Also 8 *Sc.* **Valentians.** [see def]

**1.** The name of a town in northern France, celebrated for the manufacture of lace, used *attrib* in *Valenciennes lace* (see quot. 1858). Also *Comb*

1717 LADY G BAILLIE *Household Bk.* (S H S) 214 For narow valentians lace at 21s. 1854 GREENWOOD *Hops & Muskrats* 120 There is also a class engaged in weaving Valenciennes lace, of a beautiful quality 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, *Valenciennes-lace*, a rich lace which has a six-sided mesh formed of two threads partly twisted and plaited, the pattern being worked in the net 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict Needlew* 510/1 In Belgium there are six centres for Valenciennes lace making

**2.** *ellipt* A variety of lace originally manufactured at Valenciennes, a ruffle or the like made of this.

1766 W VARET in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp* (1843) I 270, I shall be obliged to you for four pair of Valenciennes, as good as people wear when they dress, but not too deep 1821 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* iii, Eight and twenty [shillings] is rayly nothing for any lace you'd wear, but more particularly for real Valenciennes. 1849 READE *I owe me Little* (1888) 169 'Well! does not every lady wear lace on her nightgown? What is that on yours, pray?' 'A little misery of Valenciennes, an inch broad'. 1905 ELIN GLYN *Victis Evangeline* 99 Short sleeves ruffled with Valenciennes.

**3.** ' A pyrotechnic composition, usually employed as incendiary ' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

**Valency** (vē·lensi) Also 7 **-ie.** [ad. L. (ante and post-classical) *valentia* vigour, capacity, f *valēre* to be well or strong. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *valentia*, It. *valenza*, *valensia*]

**†1.** Might, power, strength. *Obs.*[-a]

1623 in COCKERAM 1. 1656 in BLOUNT

**2.** *Physics* Energy, active force.

1869 *Eng Mech.* 19 Nov 222/2 The molecule is therefore a body in which all the attractions or valencies are satisfied, leaving the combined atoms to act as a whole from one centre.

**3** *Chem* The power or capacity of certain elements to combine with or displace a greater or less number of hydrogen (or other) atoms, atomicity. Cf EQUIVALENCY 2 and VALENCE[2] 3.

1876 *Encycl Brit* V 473/2 The valency of an element is usually expressed by dashes or Roman numerals placed on the right of its symbol 1881 BARRATT *Phys Metamorphic* 65, I think it will probably be eventually found that the atoms of high 'atomicity or valency are really molecules. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 Apr 481/1 The valencies and atomic weights in some cases need correction

**b.** A unit of this capacity. Usu in pl

1891 *Cent Dict* s v, Carbon is said to have four valencies.

**4.** Importance, significance.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 166 These two conditions are by no means of identical pathological valency

**¶ Valent** (vǎ·lĕnt), *sb.*[1] *Sc Law.* [L. *valent*, 3rd pl. pres indic of *valere* to be of worth.]

**1** Value or worth.

1765-8 ERSKINE *Inst Law Scot* II v § 37 The old and new extents of lands, of which the *valent* is not known

**2** *Valent clause*, in a retour of special service, that clause in which the old and new extent of the lands are specified (W Bell *Dict Law Scot*).

1758 A MACDOUALL *Inst Laws Scot* IV I II 460 The Valent clause, whereby the inquest ought to have returned both the old and new extent. 1765-8 ERSKINE *Inst Law Scot* II v § 38 Because annualrents arising out of lands had no distinct valuation or extent, therefore they are said in the *valent* clause of the retour, *valere sicipsum*

**Valent** (vǽ·lĕnt), *sb*[2] *techn.* and *dial.* [Background-formation from *valents* VALANCE 2 **†**] A valance.

1794 W FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I 143 The pockets, the falls, and valents *Ibid* 204 A broad stripe of leather, welted on the edge, which shelters the inside, and is called a val lent 1825 BROCKETT *N Country Words* 68, 79 *Lace* is a short curtain also the name of the upper or fixed part (if any) of window drapery

**† Valent,** *a. Obs.*[-a] [ad L. *valent*, *valens*, pres pple of *valēre*] Vigorous, flourishing

1498 RYMAN *I oems* XVII 2 in *Archiv Stud neu Spr* LXXXIX 186 A rocse, a valent floure, i wis, Crist made springe of a thorne

**Valentia,** ? *Obs* [ad Sp *venencia*] (See quots and cf. VALINCHER)

1688 R HOLME *Armoury* III 319/2 An Instrument belonging to the Vintner or Merchant, called a Valentia. The first being the Valentia is a Pipe made of Silver or Tinn, round and taper, and hollow withal 1823 E MOOR *Suffolk Wds*, *Valentia*, the tin machine used for lifting beer, wine etc out of the bung hole of a cask, by pressing the thumb on the small hole at top I have never heard it called Valentia out of Suffolk.

**Valentia,** variant of VALENCIA.

**Valentian,** variant of VALENCIAN *a.*

**Valentianite.** *Obs*[-1] [f. VALENCIENNES + TIDE *sb*] *Saint Valentide*, St. Valentine's day, or the time of the year when this falls.

1596 SPENSER *F Q* VI vii. 32 On a day when Cupid kept his court, As he is wont at each Saint Valentide

**Valentine** (vǽ·lĕntəin), *sb.* Also **5 valentine** (*Sc. valentyne*), **6 valentyne**, 5–6 **valentyne** (6 -tyn), 7 **valentyn**; 5 *Sc.* 6 **walentyne** (6 *Sc.* wall); 5 **volentyn(e**, **-antyne**, **-ontyn** [a OF. (also mod F.) *Valentin*, or ad L. *Valentinus*, the name of two early Italian saints, both commemorated on the 14th of February]

**1.** (*St*) *Valentine's day*, the 14th of February.

Freq mentioned with reference to the choosing of sweethearts or the mating of birds

*c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl Foules* 309 For this was on seynt Volantyns day Whan euery bryd comyth there to chese his make *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin & Christ* 1 (1910) 7 A balade made in wyse of chesing loues at Saint Valentynes day *c* 1450 *Chron London* (Kingsford, 1905) 171 He kept his Shrevalte on pe morwe as we say vpon seynt Valentyne s day, the Kyng com to London 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb* § 37 And yet saynt Valentynes daye, it is tyme to graffe bothe peares and apurdens. 1600 SHAKS. *Aw Ado* IV v 48 I'o morrow is S. Valentines day 1668 H MORE *Div Dial* III xiii (1713) 206 As some embrace the first they meet on Valentine s day 1725 BOURNE in Brand *Pop. Antiq* (1777) I xviii. 209 Such is the Observation of Candlemas Day, such is Shrovetides Day, such Valentine s Day, and some others 1822 NARES *Gloss* 538 The number of letters sent on Valentine s Day, makes several additional sorters necessary at the Post Office in London 1828 SCOTT *F M. Perth* v, How blithe would she have been to see this happy Saint Valentine s morning! 1834 [see VALENTINE *sb.* 3] *ellipt* 1590 SHAKS. *Merch. N* IV i. 144 Saint Valentine is past, Begin these wood birds but to couple now? 1724 GAY *Shepherd's Week* iv, 37 Last Valentine, the day when birds of kind Their paramours with mutual chirpings find.

**b.** *St Valentine's eve* (Sc. *Valentine's e'en*), the eve of St Valentine's day.

1697 *Read Ball* (1890) VII 113 A Crew on S. Valentine's Eve did meet together. 1822–48 SOMERVILLE *Life & Times* (1861) 344 Valentine s e en, and Hallowe en, used to be anniversaries observed in every house by the young people. 1828 SCOTT *F M. Perth* xiii, I will have no evasions, boy—Where were thou on St. Valentine's Eve?

**2.** A person of the opposite sex chosen, drawn by lot, or otherwise determined, on St. Valentine's day, as a sweetheart, lover, or special friend for the ensuing year

*a* 1450 *MS Harl* 1735 fol. 48 (Halliw.), Godys blescyng have he and myn, My none genyyl Volontyn, Good Tomas the frere. 1477 *Paston Lett* III 190 Unto my ryght welebeloved Volunteyn, John Paston, Squyer, be this bill delyvered. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) iii 564 Al god be with my valentynes. My lyrd swetyng, my loyys so dere! 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126, I gyf and bequeth to my valentyn Agnes Illyon xx. 1596 RALEIGH *Disc Guiana* 23 After the Queens house chosen, the rest cast lotes for their Valentines. 1693 in *Crt & Times Jas I* (1848) II 395 To the great grief of his sweetheart, Mrs Bray, my ancient valentine. 1869 *Pepys Diary* 14 Feb, This morning came up to my wife's bedside little Will Mercer to be her Valentine But I am also this year my wife s Valentine 1718 WOODES ROGERS *Voy r World* 359 That same Day, in Commemoration of the antient Custom in England of chusing Valentines, I drew up a List of the fair Ladies in Bristol and sent for my Officers into the Cabbin, where every one drew 1719 OZELL tr *Misson's Mem Travels Italy* 332 There is another kind of Valentine which is the first young Man or Woman that Chance throws in your Way in the Street, or on Sunday Morning. 1839 MACAULAY in *Sat Rev* (1863) 150 All good attend my Valentine!

*transf* c 1750 GOLDSM in W Irving *Biog* (1849) IV 54 With submission at 3 your shrine, Comes a heart your Valentine

**† b.** Applied to God, or to one of the Saints, as a patron chosen by a worshipper *Obs*

*c* 1450 *Godstow Register* (1911) 14 O true valeyntyne is oure lord to me 1500 *Will of Brunetta* (Somerset Ho), To Saint Mary & to her mother Saint Anne a pcell wax & volentyns on whos day I was borne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Valentines*, Saints chosen for special Patrons for a year, according to the use of the Romish Church.

**3.** A folded paper inscribed with the name of a person to be drawn as a valentine *To draw valentines*, to draw lots for this or other reasons

*c* 1553 *Cecil Papers* (Hist MSS. Comm) I 134 There is three papers like unto valentynes put in a cup and so they draw 1559 *Sc Acts Jas VI* (1870) V 604/2 Act ordaining the Commissioners of shyris to draw lottis and valentines ymrie at ilk parliament for thair places 1725 BOURNE in Brand *Pop Antiq* (1777) 225 The Custom is also commonly used among the Vulgar, to draw Lots, which they Term Valentines, on the Eve before Valentine day 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl* I 141 The young People of the Clan draw Valentines, and from them collect their future fortune in the nuptial state 1789 BURNS *I am Glad vi* Yestreen at the valentines dealing, Heart to heart was wadna fail'ng, And thrice it was written—fam Glen!

**† b** A gift or present to a person drawn or chosen as one's especial friend on St. Valentine's day

*c* 1610 in *Herriot's Mem* App viii (1829) 215 For the gold, and making of a Valentine 1641 BURTON *Anat Mel* (1651) II iv, Many such allurements there are, tokens, favours, symbols, letters, valentines, &c

**c.** A written or printed letter or missive, a card of dainty design with verses or other words, esp of an amorous or sentimental nature, sent on St Valentine's day to a person of the opposite sex, in later use also a printed sheet consisting of a more or less grotesque picture with humorous or satirical rhymes (more exactly called a *mock valentine*)

1822 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser I (1863) 42 A fine sheet of flourishing writing, somewhere between a valentine and a sampler 1844 ALS SMITH *Adv Mr Ledbury* XXIV (1886) 73 He had that morning received a valentine, in a lady s handwriting, and perfectly amazed him 1879 *Harper's Printing Trades Jrnl.* XXIX 20 One occasionally hears that valentines are going out. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Feb 7/2 The Christmas card has apparently killed the valentine. Valentines are still sold, and sent, but they are chiefly of the satirical order

*d transf* (Cf. VALENTINE v. 1.)

1847 LENNYSON *Prince* V 229 A song on every spray Of birds that piped their Valentine to-day

**† 4.** *Sc* **a.** (Meaning uncertain) *Obs*[-1]

*c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 918 I has wycht he the walentyne thraly and thrawin.

**b.** ' A sealed letter from the Crown to landholders for the apprehension of persons offending against the law ' *Obs.*

1556 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* X 318 For inbringin of certane persons gevin in valentynis to the airis of Elgin, Banf, and Aburdene 1581 *Reg Privy Council Scot* I 569 The persons under written in presence of the Quens Grace ressavit thair valentinis of the names of the persons culpable of thift 1587 *Sc. Acts Parl* (1814) III 464/2 The Kingis Maiestie gifis valentynis to be send to the Maisteris, bailies and chiftanes of all notable lymmers and thevis

**5** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *valentine bag*, *glove*, *-writer*, **Valentine-bun** (see quot. 1854); **Valentine-day,** = sense 1.

1892 LADY G BAILLIE *Hounsh Bk.* (S H S) 257 To Lisi Rainald for my Robin s valantin gloves 1725 BOURNE in Brand *Pop Antiq* (1777) 225 On the Eve before Valentine-day 1820 *Scots Mag* (Edinb.) Original, Comic & Entertaining Valentine writer for the year 1820 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser III (1863) 505 Those that issue from the bursting Valentine-bag of our postman. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt Gloss.* s v, In Peterborough sweet plum buns were formerly, and I believe are still, made, called Valentine buns.

**Valentine,** *v.* [f. prec.]

**1.** *trans.* and *intr.* Of birds: To greet with song, to sing, at mating-time. (Cf. prec. 3 d.)

1851 Meredith *Pastorals, Poems* 104 Shall the bards in vain then valentine their sweethearts? 1888 — *T'hrush in Feb* i, I know him, February s thrush, And loud at eve he valentines.

**2.** *intr.* (See quots) *dial*

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt Gloss* 373 *Valentining*, children going from house to house, the morning of St Valentine's day soliciting small gratuities 1864 *Childrens Pros* Feb. 22 The little fellow had cried bitterly till she had given him leave to go ' Valentining

**Valentinian** (valenti nián), *sb* and *a.* Also 7 **ean** [See def.]

**A.** *sb* A follower of the Egyptian theologian Valentinus (fl *c* 150), founder of a Gnostic sect

*c*1440 Pecock *Repr* v iii. 497 The sect of Valentynyanys, whiche helden that Crist took no thing of Maries bodi. 1656 Stapylton tr *Stapylton's Apol* 168 b, The conflictes of Irenee with the Valentinians. 1679 Fulke *Heshins Parl* 2 As the olde Heretiques the Valentinians did 1616 Bulloar *Eng Expos*, *Valentinians*, certaine heretikes who held opinion that our Saviour received not his flesh of the blessed virgin Mary 1702 tr *Le Clerc s Pious Fathers* 13 The Valentinians learned what they said concerning the Generation of their Æons, of Hesiod 1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* IV, 540 *note*, The Valentinians embraced a complex, and almost incoherent, system 1833 A Crichton *Hist Arrthod* I v 216 Sabellians, Valentinians, and a host of obscurer sects all rose up in the theological arena. 1874 W R Cassels *Supernatural Relig* II ii x 291 The Valentinians differed materially among themselves regarding certain points

**B** *adj* Adhering or belonging to the Gnostic sect instituted by the heresiarch Valentinus; taught or disseminated by Valentinus or his followers.

1597 Hooker *Eccl Soundery* 585 Yet came that estimation of the crosse from the Valentinian heretikes 1674 Hickman *Quinquart Hist* (ed 2) 56 I found that there were Valentinian Antiquarians in those days. 1702 Eidard *Eccl Hist* (1710) 554 And now he made many converts ; particularly Ambrosius noted for the Valentinian hereste 1838 W Palmer *Orig Church* I 149 As a sufficient means of proving it, the falsehood of the Valentinian doctrine 1874 W R Cassels *Supernatural Relig* II ii x 214 He calls him the most noted man of the Valentinian school

Hence **Valenti nianism**, the doctrine or creed of Valentinus and his followers.

1875 Lightfoot *Comm Col* 331 *note* The later Basilid eans appare tly influenced by Valentinianism superadded to the teaching of their founder 1879 Farrar *St Paul* (1883) 768 The word is based on Valentinianism.

**Valentinite** (væ lentinəit) *Min* Also -*ite*. [f the name of the alleged mediæval alchemist Basil *Valentine*, named by W Haidinger, 1845 ] White antimony, antimony bloom

1860 *Uses Dict Arts* (ed. 3) I 168 White Antimony (Valentinite) is the result of the alteration of grey antimony, native antimony and other ores of that metal 1863 [see Antimony 3] 1867 Bloxam *Chem* 379 Antimony is also found in nature as white antimony or valentinite

**Va ler-**, variant of Valero-, employed before second elements beginning with a vowel, as *valeraceto nitrile*, *aldehyd(e*, *aldine*, *amide*, *-anilide*.

1848 Downes *Chem* (ed 2) 542 Alkalis convert *valer acetonitril into valerianic and acetic acids and ammonia. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 971 Valeracetonitrile is a mobile colourless liquid 1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 256 *Valeraldehyde 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 851 Valeraldehyd [ Valeric aldehyd]. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 974 **Valeraldine* An organic base homologous with thraldine 1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 3) 236 When valerate of soda is left in contact with strong ammo ia *valeramide a d alcohol are formed 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 974 *Valeramide*, the primary amide of valeric acid *Ibid* 975 **Valeranilide* Produced by the action of valeric anhydride on aniline

**Valeral** (væ leral) *Chem* [f *valer(ic)* + *al(dehyde)* see Valeric *a* ] A colourless, very mobile liquid obtained from valerianates or from amylic alcohol. Also *alt*ɔ*h*

1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 236 Valeraldehyde or valeral. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 972 Valeral is usually prepared by oxidising amylic alcohol with chromate of potassium and sulphuric acid *Ibid* 974 Valeral ammonia melts when heated

**Valerate** (væ lɪrā) *Chem.* [f. Valer-ic *a* + -ate 1 c.] = Valerianate.

1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 236 Valerate of oxide of ethyle, or valeric ether *Ibid*, Valerate of Ammonia. 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 309 Valerate of zinc , as well as some others of the valerate-, has been used medicinally 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 976 Valerates are decomposed by mineral acids.

**Va lerene.** *Chem.* [f as prec. + ene ] (See quots )

1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 237 Valerene is obtained as one of the products of the action of zinc on iodide of amyle 1863 Watts *Dict Chem* I 626 *borneene Valerene* $C^{10}H^{16}$ =A liquid hydrocarbon, isomeric with oil of turpentine

**Valereous**, obs Sc f Valorous *a.*

**Valerian** (vălĕ rián). Also 4–5 **valrian**, 5 **valarian**, 5–6 **valeryan(e**, 6 **valeriane** [ad OF. *valeriane* (mod F. *valériane*) or med L *valeriana* (also It., Sp , and Pg ), app. the fem. sing. of the L adj *Valerianus*, f the personal name *Valerius* ]

**1** One or other of the various species of herbaceous plants belonging to the widely-distributed genus *Valeriana*, many of which are also used medicinally as stimulants or antispasmodics.

*c*1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 800 And herbes coube I telle eek many oon. As egrimoigne, valrian, and lunarie *c*1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 269 Poudre mead of be rote of valerian temperid wib wyn *c*1440 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) xiii, An herbe bat men calleth in oure langage valeryane, be whiche maketh men fnese 1530 Palsgr. 284/1 Valeryan an herbe. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 339 There be two sortes of Valerian, the garden and wilde 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii xcii 1098 Generally the valerians are called by one name 1618 Drayton *Poly olb* xiii 213 Valerian then the crops, and purposely doth stamp I apply unto the place that is haled with the crampe 1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* 67 Flowers in Prime. Syringa's Sedum s, Valerian, Veronica [etc.]. 1763 *Phil Trans* LIII 109 The roots of Valerian are esteemed most medicinal, which are dug up in Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. 1782 J Scott *Poet Wks* 100 Gay locustrife there and pale valerian applying. 1822 Lamb *Elia* I *Essays Chimney-Sweeper*, No less pleased than those domestic animals—cats—when they purr over a new found sprig of valerian 1866 *Treas Bot* 1208/1 Two Valerians are natives of this country 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar 204/2 Any one requiring a useful plant for some semi wild garden ought to give the Valerian a trial

**2** With distinctive terms **a** Denoting varieties of true valerian, as *garden*, *great*, *little*, *wild*, etc.

Many varieties are enumerated in Parkinson *Theatr Pl* (1640) 120–2, Bradley *Dict Bot* (1728), *Chambers Cycl.* Sup pl (1753), Johnson *Gard Dict* (1852), etc

1548 Turner *Herbes* (E. D. S.) 62 The one is growing in moyst plashes and in morish grounde, and it is called in englishe wylde Valerian 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 339 Great wilde Valerian. Little wild valerian 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii xcii 1096 The same or garden Valerian hath his first leaues long, broade, smooth, g eene, and vndeuided *Ibid* 1097 *Valeriana Ictrum* Stone Valerian 1601 R Cawdrey *Table Alphab* (1613) G ou wild Valerian and the Withes wind 1629 Parkinson *Parad* (1904) 386 Knobbed Mountaine Valerian 1640 — *Theat Pl* 119 The great Valerian hath a thicke, long, and brownish root 1712 *Treat Dengr* I 42 The little Valerian has small Roots, of a good Smell 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s.v , The great garden Valerian . . is alexipharmic, sudorific and diuretic *Ibid*, The wild Valerian root is much more famous than this 1790 Buchan *Dom Med* 427 Infusions of balm leaves, the roots of wild valerian, and of the leaves of the Water Trefoil 1876 *Elem Bot.* II 192 The root of the Common Valerian possesses a strong and peculiar odour 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 184 The handsome heart leaved valerian (*Valeriana Pyrenaa a*)

**b.** *Red*, *spur* , or *spurred* (also † *basil*) *valerian*, = *Centi anthus ruber*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii 555 Of Basill Valerian or Red Valerian 1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* (1729) 67 Because of the Red Valerian and spoked rundles with Valerian by which name we had rather haue it called, then rashly to haue vpon it an vnproper name 1840 Parkinson *Avant Hort* 122 This small red Valerian is very like unto the greater red Valerian 1849 [see Spurred *a* 4]. 1855–63 [see Spur *sb*1 14 b]. 1866 *Treas Bot* 247/1 The Red Valerian, *C ruber*, formerly known as *Valeriana rubra*, offers a good example of the genus. 1899 Bridger *Idle Flowers* Poet. Wks (1912) 352 With red Valerian And Toadflax on the wall

**c** *Greek* (= *Greckish*, *Grecian*) *valerian*, Jacob's ladder. *Polemonium cæruleum*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III 340 The garden Valerian and Greeke Valerian are sowen and planted in gardens *Ibid*, The Greekish Valerian hath two or three holow stalkes, of mon 1629 Parkinson *Parad* (1904) 388 The Greeke Valerian hath many winged leaues lying vpon the ground very like vnto the wilde Valerian 1682 Wheler *Journ Greece* 191 The Valerian-root is often given in Greece like to that which is called Grecian Valerian 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xvi (1794) 289 Greek Valerian or Jacob s-Ladder which has the cal x 1787 Hull tr *Buchoz's Hist Plants* 57 The Valerian of Jerusalem or Greek Valerian 1858 Irvine *Brit Plants* 477 *Polemoniaceæ*, the Greek Valerian Family

**3** The drug derived from the rootstocks of the wild valerian or other species

1796 Coxe *Spain & Bourbons* 293, I shall baste you as bad as senna and valerian 1801 *Med Jrnl* V 472 Internally valerian with opium [was] prescribed 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXII 347/1 It is notorious that the Celtic and Germanic nards are also Valeri ans, the former being yielded by *Valeriana Celtica* and *Saliunca* 1843 *Ibid* XXVI 392/2 Valerian is considered a cerebro spinal stimulant 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 664 Sedatives such as bromides and valerian must be administered

**4** *attrib*, as *valerian oil*, *root*, *tea* , **valerian** family, *order*, *tribe*, -wort s, the order *Valerianaceæ*

1747 Wesley *Prim Physick* (1760) 49 A Teaspoonful of Valerian Root 1783 *Med Comm* I 214 She had taken the drops in the valerian tea 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 972 Crude valeral is a mixture of several valeraldehydes 1872 Garrod & Baxter *Mat Med* 288 Valerian Root The root of *Valeriana officinalis*, dried

b 1846 Lindley *Veget Kingd* 698 Valerianworts are principally distinguished from Teaselworts by their want of albumen. 1849 Balfour *Man Bot* § 906 The Valerian family 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower* I xiii 160 In the valerian Tribe 1893 Hemsley *Bot* 315 The Valerian Order

**Valerianaceous** (vălĕrianā ʃəs), *a* [f mod L. *Valerianace-æ* see prec ] Of or belonging to the Valerian order

1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 681 The Lamb s lettuce, or corn salad, is a valerianaceous indigenous annual

**Valerianate** (vălĕ rián,ēt) *Chem* [f Valerian + -ate 1 c ] A salt produced by the action of valeric acid on a base

1845 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 168 Hydrogen is given off, and valerianate of potash is formed 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 154 Apple oil is a similar preparation of valerianate of amyl 1898 Harley *Mat Med* 347 The valerianates are all soluble in water, excepting those of silver and mercury 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII 124 Zinc, which may well be given as the valerianate.

**Valerianic** (vălĕrıæ nik), *a. Chem.* [f. bot. L. *Valeriana* Valerian + -ic.] Derived or obtained from valerian.

1838 T Thomson *Chem Org Bodies* 36 There pass over into the receiver, water and an oil , both of which contain valerianic acid. 1839 R. D Thomson in *British Ann.* 354 Valerianic ether 1866 W Odling *Anim Chem* 6 The combination of water, valerianic aldehyd and p ssuic acid 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat Med* 288 Valerian root owes its activity to a volatile oil and valerianic acid

**Valeric** (vălē rik), *a. Chem.* [f Valer-ian + -ic ] = prec

1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 3) 236 Valerate of oxide of ethyle, or valeric ether 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 128 Under the influence of spongy platinum, amylic alcohol gradually absorbs oxygen, and valeric acid is produced *Ibid* 130 Valeric aldehyd thus compound may be obtained in various ways. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 970 Valeric bromide *Ibid*, Valeric chloride.

**Valerin** (væ lerin), *Chem.* [f. as prec. + in ] (See quots )

1866 W Odling *Anim Chem* 93 By combining valeric acid with glycerin we produce valerin, a constituent of whale oil 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 980 *Valerins*, glycerides produced by heating valeric acid with glycerin

**Va leric-**, combining form of Valerian or Valeric *a* , used in a few chemical terms, as *valerobenzoic*, *glyceral*, *-lactic* (Cf Valer-)

1854 *Fownes s Elem Chem* (ed. 5) 488 Anhydrous Valerobenzoic Acid 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 980 *Valero-glyceral*, a compound analogous to acetal *Ibid.* 981 *Valerolactic acid*, syn with ethyl lactic acid

**Valerol** (væ lerpl) *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ol.] The neutral oxygenated constituent of valerian oil ? (Watts)

1845 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 447 When fresh, it contains no valerianic acid, but an oil valerole 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 398 The valerian root contains a compound (valerol, $C_{15}H_{16}O_2$), which by oxidation becomes converted into valeric acid. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat Med.* 289 Valerol is a colourless body of low temperature 1898 Harley *Mat Med* 545 Valerol is a constituent of the volatile oil of hops.

**Valerone** (væ leiŏən). *Chem* Also -on [f as prec + one ] See quots 1852, 1868

1852 H. D Thomson in *Britisch Ann* 362 Valeron 1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* 237 Valerone homologous with acetone, is formed when valerianic acid is heated with excess of baryta. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 981 Valerone is a transparent, colourless, mobile liquid, having a pleasant ethereal odour and burning taste.

**Valeroni trile.** *Chem* Also -yle, il. [f Valero- + Nitrile ] A cyanide of tetryl

1847 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 2) 597 Valeronitrile may be derived from valeranate of ammonia 1848 Fownes *Elem Chem* (ed 2) 542 Alkalis convert valeronitril into valerianic and acetic acids and ammonia. 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 627 It it be distilled with dilute sulphuric acid and peroxide of manganese, valeronitrile with carbonic acid and water are produced

**Valerous**, obs f Valorous *a.*

**Va leryl.** *Chem* Also -ule [f Valer ian + -yl ] The radicle of valeric acid and its derivatives (Watts).

1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem.* (ed 3) 236 Hydrated oxide of valeryle 1868 *Ibid* 237 Compounds of amyle and valeryle. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 981 The bromide, chloride, &c of valeryl

**Va lerylene.** *Chem* [f as prec + ene ] A hydrocarbon homologous with acetylene

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 981 Valerylene is a colourless very mobile liquid, which floats on water, and is nearly insoluble therein 1873 Rolfe *Phys Chem* p. xviii, Quintine or Valerylene.

**Valesian** (vălē ʃian). [ad mod L pl *Valesiani*, *Valesii*, ad late Gr Οὐαλήσιοι, † Οὐαλῆι, L *Valens* ] (See quots.)

1702 Eliard *Eccl Hist* (1710) 585 There appeared a new sort of heretics in the Church called Valesians from Valesius an Arabian They made all their followers eunuchs. 1728 Chambers *Cycl*, *Valesians*, antient Sectaries, so called from one Valesius, mentioned by Epiphanius who makes mention of this Sect. 1808 W Wilson *Hist Dissenting Churches* I 56 Others who were called heretics at that period were such as these Valesians.

**Valeslye,** obs var f Felsely *adv*

**Valet** (væ let, væ lel), *sb* Also 6 **7 vallet** (6 -ett, *Sc* **wallett**), 7 **valett**, 8 *Sc* **vallie**. [ ? *valet*, OF. *valet*, *vallet*, *valet*, prob related to Vassal. Cf Vadelect, Valect, and Varlet ]

**1** A man-servant performing duties chiefly relating to the person of his master, a gentleman's personal attendant.

1565 Fenton *Trag Disc* 1. (1898) I 34 Not worthy anye waye to be vallet to the worste of us 1589 *Reg Privy Council Scot* IV 181 Ane of the valletis of the Kingis Majesteis chalmer 1624 Sheldon *Tickes Honour* 333 At this day, a *Dioner*, servant or vallet is both in Alemanique and Belgique called *Kim A mecht* 1664 Butler *Hud* II ii. 651 Before the Dame, and round about, March'd Whifflers, and Staffers on foot, With Lacquies, Grooms, Valets, and Pages. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 15 That Gentleman does much himself forget, Who in his Chamber has not French Vallet *Ibid.* 25 From hence they'd fly, And leave not one poor Vallet here behind 1719 Hamilton *Ap to Ramsay* II viii, I wad nae care to be thy vallie, Or thy receiver 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 100 We have taken an occasional valet, whom I intend hereafter to hire as my own servant. 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg* Ser III *Knight & Lady*, Thompson, the *Valet*, Look'd gravely at Sailly 1856 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol Inq* I vi. 218 The rich man's valet

studies his master a temper and caprices. 1885 *Athenæum* 26 Sept. 393/2 The chief characters in his plays are heavy fathers and confidential valets.

*fig.* 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I i, Which would not end finally mustered heart to see Chouteau!

**2** *Mil.* A footman acting as attendant or servant to a horseman *rare* (Cf. Varlet 1 b.)

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 165 There be two quarters for horsemen, the which their vallets are to entrench with a small trench. 1832 tr. *Simond's Ital. Rep.* xiii 281 They became terror struck when they perceived that the French caused dismounted horsemen to be put to death by their valets.

**3** a Appositive, as *valet courser, harquebusser, maid, musician*

1598 Dallington *Meth. Travi* K 4 [A horseman] who shall quitte his horse, and serue on foot prouided that hee haue with him a vallet Harquebusier. 1845 E Holmes *Life Mozart* 5 The Archbishop of Salzburg entertained him in the capacity of valet musician. 1867 Carlyle *Remin* (1881) II 32 The clever old valet maid that waited on them. 1877 H S Merriman *In Kedar's Tents* xxii 243 A valet courier of taciturn habit.

b Attributive, as *valet judgement, world*

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres* I iv It is to the shame of the valet world belonging. 1855 — *Misc* (1857) IV 354 Sublime to the valet judgment

Hence **Va letage,** the service rendered by a valet, **Va lethood,** the state or condition of being a valet, **Va letism,** the character or spirit of a valet

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres* II i The fruit of long ages of confirmed Valethood: cloth worship and quack worship. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press* xiii 183 I do far other persons beside the valet by reason of his livery. Even the hero often ceases to be a hero. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 17 May 588/2 The vassalage or the valetage is prompted by an honest personal devotion, like that of Tom Moore to O'Connell.

**Va let,** *v.* [f. Valet *sb.*] *trans.* To wait upon, to attend or serve, as a valet

1840 J T Hewlett *P. Priggins* xx, He always comes down to college to valet me, take my things away to brush, and so on. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Ox.* I, Fancy me waited upon and valeted by a stout party in black of quiet, gentlemanly manners. 1886 A C Benson *Langley Peverel* If he keeps no servant, the proprietor of the establishment will valet him

*refl.* 1853 McCarthy *Dictator* I, In the most splendid days of Rome, he had always valeted himself

*abs.* 1885 G Allen *Babylon* xv, But can he valet, I wonder?

Hence **Va leting** *vbl. sb.*

1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I iii, He would have gone without nether integuments altogether sooner than have had recourse to female valeting. 1861 Mrs Carlyle *Lett.* III 27, I have all the valeting to do myself

‖ **Valetaille** (valetaˈi). [F., f. *valet* Valet *sb.*] A number or retinue of valets.

1858 Carlyle *Frederick* V vii 111 (1872) II 266 No end of military valetaille, chiefly in uniform of Turk cousins. 1862 H Marryat *Year in Swe den* I 284 The rest of the valetaille were closely incarcerated.

‖ **Valet-de-chambre** (vale də ʃãbr). Also 7 valett-, 7–8 valette, 7 vally, 8 vale 8 valet de shamber, 8–9 vale de sham, 9 valley-de-sham [F., lit 'chamber valet'.] = Valet *sb.* 1

a 1646 Chas I *Lett to Q Henrietta M* (Camden) 60 One Dubose, valett de chambre to the Queen Regent. 1655 *Nicolas P.* (Camden) II 201 There finding a valet de chambre attending, the Marquis wild him to tell the prince I was there. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 106 P 2 You would take his Valet de Chambre for his Brother. 1764 Foote *Patron* II, 31 It has been said and I believe with some shadow of truth, that no man is a hero to his valet de chambre. 1782 V Knox *Lit* No. 39 147, I dare say you remember a shrewd remark of a valet de chambre's name I can not recollect, that no great man ever appeared great in the eyes of his valet de chambre. 1839 Dickens *Nicholeby* xxviii, With two hundred two valets de chambre advanced into the room. 1862 Aide *Carr of C* III 36 Though our *valets de chambre* know us to be no heroes it is clearly their interest to make us appear such in the eyes of the world

*b* 1698 in Pollock *P pish Plot* App B (1903) 384 A vally de chambre to the Lord Treasurer. 1709 O Dykes *Eng Prov* (ed 2) 235 By the conversation of an illiterate Cockcomb of a Vale De Chambre. 1776 Foote *Capuchin* I Wks. 1799 II 384 His old shopman, whom he keeps as his valet de sham. 1791 O Keefe *Wild Oats* I i I wish you hadn't made me your valet de shamber. 1823 W Irving *Life & Voy Columbus* IV 204 The door was opened by Mr Grey's factotum and valley-de-sham Phil

Hence **Valet-de-chambreship**

1779 J Moore *View Soc Fr* (1793) I 14 His dexterity and intelligence in the service of the chambership

‖ **Valet-de-place** (vale də plas) [F., lit. 'place servant'.] A man who acts as a guide to strangers or tourists, a cicerone

1730 Chesterf *Lett* (1774) II xiii. 52 You will have your coach, your own footman and a valet de place. 1798 C Smith *Desmond* III 167 A Frenchman, who had formerly served me as *valet de place*. 1818 *Gentl Mag* Nov 406/2 We chose rather to stroll out alone, than to put ourselves under the direction of a valet de place. 1886 Runcie *Tune & Tide* 62 I asked a valet-de place at Meurice's what people were generally going to [for amusement]

**Valetry** (væ letri) [f. Valet *sb.*] Valets collectively, the office or quality of a valet

1806 W Taylor in *Ann Rev* IV 244 Hospitals for decayed valetry and dependents of ministerial land-owners. 1853 James *Agnes Sorel* I 191 The cutler could not for bear some grumbling observations upon valets and valetry. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shakes.* 97 Work fitter for ushers and embalmers and the general valetry or varletry of Church and State.

† **Va letude.** *Obs. rare.* Also valitude [ad. L *valētūdo, valitūdo* state of health, f *valēre* to be well or strong] **a.** Good health. **b.** Condition as to health

a 1560 Rot i and *Crt Venus* II. 206 Thair was worschip with weith and valitude. Thair was merknes weil mixt with man suetude. 1623 Cockeram I, *Valitude*, health or sickenesse. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 261 Esula is frequently used to the valitude of many, and the death of more.

† **Valetudinaire,** *a.* and *sb. rare* [f. *valetudinaire* ] = Valetudinary

1682 Warburton *Hist Guernsey* (1822) 131 One that is valétudinaire, may in the time of his sickness contract with any relation or stranger to take care of him. 1758 Pope *Letters to Lord* 74 Still idle with a busy air, Deep schemes to contrive, The gayest valetudinaire, Most thinking rake, alive

† **Valetudinarian** (valʲtiũdinɛ riăn), *sb* and *a* [See Valetudinary *a* and -ian.]

*A. sb.* A person in weak health, esp one who is constantly concerned with his own ailments, an invalid

1703 Dampier *Voy* III 1 81 Many of our English Valetudinarians have gone from Jamaica to the Canaries. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 115 P 1 Every one knows how hard a task it is to cure a valetudinarian. 1832 J A Heraud *Voy & Mem Mid shipman* VI (1837) 100 The best springs and meals and vapours must at a very early period have excited the attention of valetudinarians. 1886 L Stephen *Pope* IV 92 Valetudinary he fell into in 1713 of the self-indulgent and troublesome ways of the valetudinarian

*fig.* 1728 Bundell *Spect* No 395 P 10 These are a kind of Valetudinarians in Learning. 1777 Sheridan *School for Scand* I i, True, madam! there are Valetudinarians in reputation as well as constitution. 1873 Goulburn *Pers Religion* 81 If the man becomes a valetudinarian in religion, full of himself his symptoms, his ailments, the delicacy of his moral health.

*B. adj.* = Valetudinary *a*

1713 Derham *Phys Theol* III. iv (1727) 72 An admirable Easement to the valetudinarian feeble Part of Mankind. 1760 Chevne *Frst Argument* 3, The Scorbutic, Gouty, Consumptive, Nervous, Valetudinarian low Spirited. 1751 Earl Orrery *New Synift* (1752) 113 His fortune exempted him from care and sollicitude. His valetudinarian habit of body from exercise. 1856 J A Vaughan *Physicians* (1860) II 118 The valetudinarian devotee becomes more and more the puppet of his spiritual doctor. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 283 Asclepius did not instruct his descendants in valetudinarian arts.

Hence **Valetudina rianism,** the condition of a valetudinarian, tendency to be in weak health or to be much concerned about one's own health.

1789 Fraser *Expos* XIX. 52 The excess of the imaginary valetudinarianism and nervous sensibility. 1868 W R Greg *Life & Soc Judgm* 490 The milder spirits, perhaps over recklessly, despise such egotistic valetudinarianism. 1892 *Speaker* 30 July 141/2 The schoolmistress has had to forget her valetudinarianism and patient medicines in the struggle for existence

† **Valetudinary.** *rare*—1. [f. Valetud inary *a.*] Weakness of health

1740 Cheyne *Regimen* III iv 243 If there be an habitual Thinness, Leanness, Tenderness and Valetudinariness

† **Valetudina rious,** *a. Obs.* [See Valetudinary and -ious.] Having weak health, valetudinary. Also *fig.*

1648 *Pats Masterm Advice.* 14 Our Parliament might be somewhat valetudinarious. 1656 Gurnall *Chr in Arm.* III iv 504 Valetudinarious bodies can as well spare food as physick. 1657 Austen *Fruit Mornge Chr* VI vii 193 Since the Beginning of January he began to be very Valetudinar ious labouring under Pains that seem'd Ischiatick. 1704 S Sewall *Diary* I (1879) II 97 Visited my valetudinar ious son at Brookline

† **Valetu dinarist.** *Obs* [Cf. next and -ist.] A valetudinarian

1652 Biggs *New Disp* P 204 Are these valetudinarists arrive at the broad a qd Spacious way of perfect convalescence?

**Valetudinary** (valʲtiũ dinări), *a* and *sb* [ad L *valetudināri us,* f *valētudin-, valitudo* Valetude So It, Sp, Pg *valetudinario,* F *valétudinaire* ]

*A. adj* 1 Not in robust or vigorous health, more or less weakly, infirm, or delicate, invalid: as of the body, etc

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxx (1887) 110 Either it is sickly, or it is healthy: or it is valetudinarie, neither pure sicke nor perfit whole. 1619 Donne *Lett* Wks. 1839 VI 374, I carry an infirm and Valetudinary body. 1692 Boyle *Hist Air* 230 Oxford I have known to be very disagreeable to some most splenetick and valetudinary bodies. 1836 *Frazer's Mag* XIV 705 His puny and valetudinary frame would not permit him

*fig.* 1728 Steele *Spect* No 300 P 3 Thus valetudinary Friendship subject to so many Heats and Colds.

b Of persons (In later use freq implying anxious attention to the state of one's own health)

1584 Cogan *Haven Health* ccxvii 161 For they [students] be commonly valetudinary, that is sickely. 1646 R Baillie *Anabaptists* (1647) Pref Very small changes of the heaven and air are able to vex much a crasy and valetudinary person. 1692 Boyle *Hist Air* 240 Sick and valetudinary Persons used to be sent thither. 1733 Cheyne *Eng Malady* Pref (1734) p viii, A gross, full, high Diet, as improper) for a poor thin, low, valetudinary Creature. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV 91 All the unpleasing and unsocial qualities of a valetudinary man. 1808 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) I i 19 Though valetudinary, he lived to be nearly ninety. 1844 N P Willis *Lady Jane* I. 44 The men being old and valetudinary

*absol.* 1696 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* IV xiii 230 Preventive we call that [physic] which preventeth sickness in the healthy or the recourse thereof in the valetudinary. 1832 Gaule *Magastrom* 194 Experience of all places, and ages tell us, that the more valetudinary, have commonly been the more vertuous. 1741 *Compl. Fam Piece* I. 2 The Under therefore, and Valetudinary, ought at all times to avoid all Occasions of catching Cold. 1760 *Med Comm* I 11 *note*, The old and valetudinary, suffered most severely. 1823 J Badcock *Dom Amusem* 165 The valetudinary, consumptive, and phyac taking, earliest fall victims of the ship s motion.

**2** Of conditions, etc. Characterized by weak or feeble health.

1660 Vernen *Vita Recta* viii 163 Such as are naturally infirme, and of a valetudinary state of body. 1684 tr *Bonet's Merc Compit* XV 530 No Cough nor any signs of a Valetudinary disposition of the Lungs do appear. 1702 C Wolley *Jrnl N York* (1860) 26 A person seemingly of a weakly Stamen and a valetudinary Constitution. *a* 1776 R James *Diss Fevers* (1778) 44 Mr Collyer has by that means been brought from the most valetudinary state to one of great health and vigour. 1830 Scott *Demonol* ix. 331 Apparently a man of mild temper and valetudinary habits. 1876 L Stephen *Hist Eng 18th C* II 386 The last thirty six years of his long life was passed in valetudinary retirement

*B. sb* † 1 An infirmary or hospital *Obs.*

After med L *valetudinarium*

1623 Cockeram I, *Valetudinarie*, an Hospitall. 1677 W Hughes *Man of Sin* III iv 178 Places to lay the poor man, till being found he was carried into the Valetudinary

**2** = Valetudinarian *sb*

1785 *Trounger* (1789) I 200 Dr Doddipoll was a valetudinary like myself. 1787 M Cutler *Journ* 25 Aug., General Grenville, a silent reserved valetudinary went under the same convoy. 1852 E Fitzgerald *Euphranor* 46 It is better to die well over so young than to grow up a valetudinary and a poltroon. 1860 *Macm Mag* II 36 The painters who have shown him [Christ] as a delicate valetudinary

† **Valetu dinous,** *a. Obs*—1 [f L *valētūdin, valetudo* Valetude + -ous.] Invalid, weakly

1655 Fuller *Hist Cambridge* 128 It seemeth that soon after affrighted with the valetudinous condition of King Edward, he returned to Heidelberg.

† **Valeur.** *Obs rare* [a OF and F *valeur*, later f *valour* Valour.] a Value b Valour

1433–4 *Rolls of Parl* V 437/2 That is thare assent and grant for to taunde in strengthe, as well in valeur as in value. 1456 Sir G Hayr *Law Armes* (S T S) 32 Gif the key of Jurisdiccioun dois thing that it aw nocht to do, that sald be of lytill valeur. 1548 Hall *Chron* 174 The valeur of the Provensall Gentlemen shew'd much Passion for the honor of their Countrey by divers proofs of valeur

**Valew,** obs. f. Value *sb*

† **Vale-water.** *Obs* [f Vail *v.*? Ebb-tide 1600 Hakluyt *Voy* III 257 The current runneth as strong as at London bridge vpon a vale water. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 1 720 Neere unto Hunt Cliffe and not farre from the shore there appeere aloft at a vale water certaine rocks.

**Valewe,** southern ME. var Fallow *v.*1, obs f. Value *sb.* **Valey,** obs. f. Valley *sb.*

**Va lgous,** *a* [See next.] Bandy legged, having the legs bent outward (Craig, 1849).

‖ **Valgus** (væ lgŏs). *Path.* [L., *valgus* bandy-legged.]

1 A variety of club foot in which the foot is turned outwards († or inwards)

1800 *Med Jrnl* IV 195 In those diseases where the feet turn outwards, and which, I presume Mr Watt will call valgus 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl Anat & Phys* II 348/2 When the foot is turned outwards called *valgus* (*hal* 349/2 The same complication of the pes equinus with the valgus is rare. 1884 *Pye Smith's Surgery* 1 The second expedient is only used for valgus, and consists in fixing a pad under the sole of the foot.

*attrib.* 1884 W Pye *Pye Smith's Surgery* 322 Valgus pad for sole [of the foot]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 15 The abductors of the foot move it into the valgus position

2 *Zool.* = Valgation

1872 Bryant *Trach Surgery* 1014.

**Valhall,** occas variant of next

1763 Percy *Five Pieces Runic Poetry* 60 This place or Elitium was called *Vadhal* or *Valhall*, the hall of Odin. 1770 — tr *Mallet's Northern Antiq* I 87 These souls were Odin s right, he received them in Valhall

**Valhalla** (vælhæ lălă). Also Wal , Val , Hall , Hal , Hall , Hal , Hall , Hal

*Gladstone* (1904) 56 Neither Pitt nor Peel lives in my Walhalla.

‖ **Vali** (wālī). [Turk. (Arab.) *wālī*.] *Cf.* WALI ] A civil governor of a Turkish province or vilayet.

The form *walih* occurs in the transl of Chardin's *Coronat Solyman* (1686) 34.

1743 HANWAY *Trav* (1753) II v lii 139 Vachtanga ought to have succeeded him in the dignity of vali of Georgia. 1872 R. WILSON tr *Pigafetta's Hum Race* 284 A vali and council is at the head of the administration of each govern ment or 'vilayet. 1897 *Outing* XXIX 387 The *Vali* like nearly all Turkish officials had discarded the Turkish costume. 1903 *Times* 5 Sept 8/6 The corrupt and inefficient government of the Vali of Beirut

Hence Vali ship, the office or position of a vali.

1907 *Times* 17 Jan 3/6 It may have been right to depose Kamil from his Valiship

**Valiable**, obs Sc var. VAILABLE *a.*

**Valiance** (væ lyăns) Forms 5 **vailliaunce**, **vayllyaunce**, 5–6 **vallyaunce**, -**yaunce**, 6 -**eaunce**, 6–7, 9 **valiance** [a AF *valiance* (1304), or ad. OF, *vaillance*(*A*) *vaillant*, *f valant*, *vaillant*: see VALIANT *a* ]

**1** Bravery, valour, = VALIANCY 1.

Very common in the 16th c., now chiefly as a literary archaism.

1466 SIR G HAYE *Law Armis* (S T S) 53 The meikle vaillaunce of schir Cyppo counsal of Rome 1474 *Bk Noblesse* 55 For his great trouthe, vaillhaunce, and manhod king Pirrus offred to gyve him the iiij^th part of his roiaume 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fooles* (1570) 106 These fooles them boast of deedes of vaillyaunce And worthy actes done by them in battayle. 1581 A HALL *Iliad* III 30 When I was yong, and valiance had, and prowesse 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon's Cyr* 44 Let us not expect that we come and encourage vs to be braue and resolute, but let vs begin to excite other to valiance

1807 G CHALMERS *Caledonia* I III vii 387 His son exerted many acts of forward valiance 1841 THACKERAY *Drum* I v, In spite of our valiance, The victory lay with Malbrook 1854 *Academy* 16 June 491/3 Equal to them in manliness capacity, superior in persevering energy, in valiance of heart and true courage

**2** A valiant act or deed, a feat of valour or bravery Now *arch*

1490–95 MALORY *Arthur* V viii 173 Grete valyaunces, prowesses, and apperty ces of werre were that day shewed 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A* I vii 27 By cause he had founde so many vyliayces in me 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng Poesie* I xix (Arb) 57 Places of assembly where the company shalbe desirous to heare of old aduentures and valiances in times past 1599 SHAKS *Hen V* III vi 79 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* I II 82 Our cavalier s is the poetic leg, a portent, a valiance.

**Valiancy** (væ lyănsi). Forms 6 val(l)iaun-cie, 6–7 (9) valiancie (7 vall-), 7 valianeie 7–valiancy (7 valiantcy), 6–7 valiencie [*Cf* prec. and -ANCY ]

**1** The quality or attribute of being valiant or courageous, bravery, valiantness, valour

Freq from *c* 1575 to *c* 1600

1574 J JONES *Bcg Crowning & Living Things* 32 Feeblenesse of spirit, want of strength and lacke of valiancie 1599 SIR J SMYTH *Disc Weapons* 83 More to the effect of our Archers than to anie extraordinarie valiancie of our Nation 1609 *1st Pt Jeronimo* II 4, That which they lost by base Captiuitie We may redeeme with honored valiancie. 1654 E JOHNSON *Wonder-worke Provid* 30 Yet was he not minded to make triall of his peoples valiantcy in fight at this time 1661 MORGAN *Sph Gentry* III v 45 Those prizes and Crownes they had gained by their Valiancy in war

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI 392 Though Talbot with vain valiancy Yet urged the war, and stemm d alone the tide Of battle 1827 SCOTT *Chron Canongate* II Cincinnatus and the like, who fought not in common enemy with the foe the same valiancy that their arms had been exercised in halding the stilla of the plough 1890 T H GILL *Golden Chain of Praise* (1894) CXXXVI viii, I turn our darkness into light; Give us valiancy to fight 1894 *Nation* (*New York*) 164 Would that gay valiancy be with him so long as it was with Henri IV!

**2** Form of *of* (the mind, heart, spirit, etc.)

1579 TWYNE *Phis agst Fortune* 1 Ep Ded 3 Her flatteries haue ouercome that valiencie of mans minde. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 18 Truly Prince Don Gallaneo you have plainly expressed the valiancy of your mind 1823 COLERIDGE *Lect Shaks* in *Rem* (1836) II 143 This happy valiancy of style is but the representative and result of all the material excellences so expressed 1846 PROWETT *Prometh Bd* 12 Or force of hands, or valiancy of heart

**3** *arch* Used with possessive as an honorific

1828 SCOTT *Four Maid* XXIV, His blood will flow as temperately as your valiancie is, when you stand up in your stirrups to view a field of battle

**†2** A valiant act or feat *Obs* —1

1647 *Lisander & Cal* VIII 138 Acting in the fury wherein hee was such valiancies, that thereby he did lessen all those which heretofore hee had done.

**Valiant** (væ lyănt), *a.* (and *sb*) Forms **a** 4 **vailliaunte**, **vayliaunt**, **vaillant**, 5 -**aunt**, **vaillant** *β* 4, 6 **valliaunt**, 5 **valya(u)nte**, 5–6 **valy-a(u)nt**, 6 **valy-**, **vallaunt(e**, *Sc.***vallient**, 4–**vali-ant** (6–7 **valiant**), 6 **valeaunt(e**, **valeant**, *Sc.* **vaill-**, **wailleant**, *γ* (Chiefly *Sc.*) 5–6 **vailleant**, 6 **vaill(l)-**, **wailleant**, -**jeand**, **val(l)-**, **val(l)-jeand**, **jeant**, **yeant**, -**ieiseand**, -**ieiseant**, **ieand**, etc [ad OF. *vaslant* (-*and*, *AF vaylant*), *vaillant* (AF. *aunt*), pres. pple of *valoir* to be of worth — L. *valēre*. *Cf.* It. and Pg *valente*, Sp. *valiente*.

The comparative *valiander*, superlative *valiantest* were formerly frequent, the latter occurring occasionally in the 16th and 17th *c.* in the shortened forms *valiannest*, *valiantest*, *valianest* ]

**1** a. Of persons Stalwart *of* body, bone, hands. Prob with some implication of sense 2. In mod Sussex dial the sense of 'stout, well built' is recorded

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 4370 Pys Lorred had a seriuant, A wys man, and of body vaillaunt. 1338 — *Chron* (1810) 9 So wa he was in dede, of body so valiant *Ibid* 144 Richer kyng at non in his world bot he, No valiantter of bon in Cristendam als he 1583 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I CCLXXXIV 424 Sir Moreau of Fyennes was a right valyant man of his handes *c* 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Edw IV* (1550) V, Antony Wooduile, a wise, hardy and honourable personage, as valiaunte of handes as politique of counsayll.

**+b** *Valiant beggar*, a sturdy beggar *Obs*

1531 *Dial on Laws Eng* I xvi. 97 b That no man shuld gyue any almes to any valyant begger that is well able to laboure 1534 *Nott Rec* III 373 Harberor of valyeant beggers and comyn woman 1569 J SANFORD tr *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 164 b, The Emperours are made a streicte ordinance touching valiant beggers

**+c** Of things Strong, firm *Obs*

1542 *Treat Walsh Prayer* xvii H iij For the name of the Lorde is a stronge towre & valeaunte Bulwarke 1603 G OWEN *Pembrokeshire* MS (1891) 60 The Wheat and Rie endureth all the winter stormes & forces as a valiant and stout gentleman 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f Beasts* 460 A Lyon hath a most valiant and strong head

**+d.** Strong in respect of smell or taste *Obs*

1607 A BEWNIE *Lingua* IV iii, 'Tis, if your breath be not too valiant, able to make you smell of sea and lady a dog *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies*, *Cornwall* (1662) I 194 The scent thereof [i.e. garlic] is somewhat Valiant and Offensive

**2** Having or possessing courage, *esp* acting with or showing boldness or bravery in fight or on the field of battle, bold, brave, courageous, stout-hearted.

*a* 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 56 So that these heraldz on him crie : Vaillant, vaillant, lo, wher he goth ! *c* 1400 *Destruc of Troy* 5021 Sir Gawayn, knyght vaillant *c* 1450 *M rlin* xxiii 423 Lepe to horse many a valiaunt knyght. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV v (1883) 176 And thus is bit of euery man the more vaillant the more honoured

**§** *c* 1340 *Richard Coer de Lion* (Rolls) 6052 I haue a broper sire Constaunt God werrour & man valiaunt 1338 — *Chron* (1810) 9 Many tymes on Uttred Bretons batayle knyghtes ware ful valiaunt, bot of a knyght noght 1400 *Morte Arth* 299 Of this grett velany I salle be vengede ones On 3one venemus mene, wyth valiant knyghtes 1470 HARDING *Chron* CXXXV x 81 Of good knyghte Semound the valyaunt *a* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* xcii 296 For he is so noble and so valyaunt that he ferth no man 1590 SPENSER *Mother* xii. 9 O Lorde thou valeiant and allmightie knyge 1876 T PROCTER *Gorg Gallery* M ij b Wee aubiect bee to griefe, eche horror feares The valiant harts, when death doth daunt the brest 1606 J FORY tr *Leo's Africa* V 303 The inhabitants are valiant and warrelike people. 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 199 Crocodiles cruell and yet valiant 1656 BURNE *Iliad* VI 144 Glaucus , Than whom a fairer person there was not, Nor valianter in all the Land 1706 MAULE *Hist Pucts in Misc Scot* I 39 He leves a mighty and strong Race, and valiantest as times. 1743 FRANCIS tr *Hor Odes* II i 33 Panting with terror I survey The martial host in dread array The chiefs, how valiant and how just! 1814 SCOTT *Sword of State* IV, It is the foe ! Each valiant lord Fling by his bow and grasp his sword ! 1865 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* XII 111 203 The Englishry generally was a valiant, skilful and resolute enemy 1871 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1876) IV 68 In all these castles William placed trusty and valiant captains.

*Iranz* 7 *a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2573 His vesturis ryche With the valyant blode was vermede alle ouer ! 1591 SHAKS 1 *Hen VI* III i 171 I kyrt thee with the valiant Sword of Yorke 1599 — *Hen V*, IV iii 98 Those that leaue their valiant bones in France 1784 HUTCHINSON *Remarks Coast of Sussex* (1873) 19 The beauteous form of woman graced with her smiles the feats of val iant Arms

*Comb* 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Hen* III, There might we see the valiant minded knights, Fetching carreers along the spatious plaines. 1596 SHAKS 1 *Hen IV* V i 90, I do not thinke a brauer gentleman, More actiue valiant, or more valiant young, In noe aliue.

*γ c* 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 243 The king stude maist valyeand and to 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* (1834) No 58 Of armes and vailyeand knychtus 1563 WINJET *Wks* (S T S) II 3 The wailyeant cheifiane of God Nehemias 1596 DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie's Hist. Scot* II 9 In the weuris thay war ouair valyeant and prosperous maist faithfull.

**b** Const *of* (courage, etc.)

1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 208 Knyghtes & serqeantz, noble men fulle couth, Of prowes fulle valiantz 1538 ELYOT *Fortyn*, *Valia* I of corage 1599 SHAKS *Hen V* IV i 46 A Lad of Life, an Impe of Fame of Parents good of Fist most valiant 1650 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Jack a Lent Wks* (1630) I 2 b, I wish a plentifull encrease of good appetites and hungry stomackes, that euery one in their calling may proue valiant of their teeth

**c** *absol* with *the*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Judges* XXI 10 Twelue thousand men of the moste valiant 1585 T WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* III ii 72 b, [The] most valiant of the valiauntest *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Poems* (1673) 332 O harmless Death ! whom still the valiant brave. 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 80 In Tilts and Turnaments the Valiant strove to purchase Emma s Love. 1828 WORDSW *Ode* 1837 55 The valiant of this land.

**+d.** Of material things Fine, splendid *Obs*

1604 MIDDLETON *Black Book* D iij b, A valiant Buffe Doublet, stuft with Points like a Legge of Mutton with Parsley.

**3** Characterized by, performed with, or exhibiting valour or courage, of a valorous character or nature.

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 12576 Schame hit were þat eyþer þede Wiþouten bataille or vaillaunte dede. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* I 11 He did full mony valyeant deid In Roiss, and Murray land. *a* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* IV 18 His barons stode styll to beholde his valyeant dedes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron* II 304 Before Winter be past I will enter into Fraunce, in puyssaunt and valyaunt maner 1600 J FORY tr *Leo s Africa* II 75 The foresaide captaine with his armie gaue them such a valiant onset, that the greater part of them was slaine. 1665–80 STANLEY *Hist Philos.* (1687) 750/1 The valiant Exhortation of an old Man chang d the minds and fortune of the whole City 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) I 50 Truly with valiant patient energy it carried its Petition of Right 1907 *Trans Devon Assoc* 51 The valiant deeds of the great reign of Elizabeth

**+4** Of great worth or merit, worthy *Obs rare*

1480 CAXTON *Myrr* I v (E E T S) 25 Other philosophres ther were prudent alle and valyant, seen that they set to fore alle other thynges clergye

**+5** Marked or characterized by the use of strength *Obs* —1

1535 ELYOT *Gov* I XXVII (1880) 269 That some be done with extending of myght, and as hit were violently, and that is called valuant exercise

**+6** Worth (a specified sum) Also const *in* (goods or property) *Cf* VAIL *v* 4 *rare*

1590 *Reg Privy Council Scot* IV 76 He said Thomas is bot ane puir man , not valiant in substance and gudis ane hundreth pundis. 1603 *Ibid* VI 532 All landit gentlemen, valiant tuentie chalderis of victuall 1608 *Statutes Trade to catch Old One* I 1 A rich country widow, four hundred a year valiant in woods, in bullocks in barns and in rye stacks

**+b** *Sc As sb* Value or worth *Obs* —1

1606 *Sc Acts, Jas VI* (1814) IV 286 Quhilkis decreittis may bring be danger of the tairlie violent proffeittis vpoun the persones, thairby surmounting ofen tymes thair haill valientt.

**+7** *Sc* Valid, effective, decisive *Obs* —1

1632 I ITHOUW *Trav* IV 143 Their definitue sentence in Lawe or Religion is absolutely valiant

**8.** As *sb* One who is valiant, a brave or courageous person

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer* XLVI 9 Get ye up on horses and in chariots, and let the valiants come forth 1611 BIBLE *2 Sam xxi heading* Foure batells against the Philistines wherein foure valiants of Dauid slaie foure giants 1819 SHELLEY *Hist Quakers* Pref (1795) A 4 For the most eminent Valiants among the People in the Beginning were n t Men of Note or Learning the rest of ordinary sort. 1909 *Westm Gaz* 25 May 4/1 Valiants of the wheel who when they cannot drive, will tramp over the dreary marshes of Yorkshire

Hence **+Valiant** *v trans*, to render valiant

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I LXXV (1647) 231 Sure Virtue is a Defendress, and valiants the heart of man

**+Valiantize.** *Obs* Forms 4 **vaillauntise**, 4, 6 **valyauntise**, **valiantise**, 5 *Sc* **vaillantie**, 6 **valy-**, **valiantize** [*f* AF *vail*-, *vaillant*(*e*, *valiantise*, etc ; *f vaillant* VALIANT *a* , see -IZE *2* ]

**1.** Valiancy, valour.

*c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 12193 He [Arthur] tristed wel on his grete vaillauntise Ar he durst take pat empire. 1338 — *Chron* (1810) 68 Lapreal lore him fro Isaac & hise, & to R[ichard] suorn for his valiantise *c* 1400 *Laud 1 roy Bk* 6800 Philomene sende him wit to hise For he him wan with valyauntise 1568 SIR G HAY *Laws & Acts* (S T S) 224 For suppos for grete vaillantis and honourable deide of armes a leonde man sall nocht knycht in armes 1583 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I CCCXVII. 489 Men of armes proued well there their valyantise and prowes. 1598 BP HALL *Sat* IV iv 32 If brabling Make Fray, at each Fayre and Sise Picks quarrels for to shew his valiantise.

**2** A valiant act or deed

1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 11 For these and manie other vallauntises, noble feates, and victories, the Prince was honored

**Valiantly** (væ lyăntli), *adv* [*f* VALIANT *a* + -LY *2* ] In a valiant manner, with valour or courage, boldly, bravely, courageously

*a.* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* VIII. 22 And hys knyghtes folowyde hym, ; determynyde to do valyauntly 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II 296 The Erle Douglas of Scotland who fought a season right valiantly 1602 MARSTON *Ant & Mel.* V Wks. 1856 I 65 He died unfors t I trust and vall antly 1642 MILTON *Apol.* Wks (1851) III 286 The Divine right of Episcopacy w s then valiantly asserted 1695 LD PRESTON *Boeth.* IV 205 Thou must en.age valiantly and fiercely against every Fortune 1787 BURNS *Y Jock's E India Bill* Wks. IV 24 Thus man was slain valiantly fighting for his country 1879 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Airy Fairy Lilian* I 204 Putting one foot into a friendly crevice and holding on valiantly to the upper stones. 1907 *Jerome Hem* II 219 He talked valiantly at first of military service.

*Comb* 1609 DEKKER *Guls Hornbok* Proem B3 Oh what songs will I charme out in praise of those valiantly strong stinking breaths.

**+ Valiantness.** *Obs* [*f* as prec. + -NESS ]

**1.** The quality or condition of being valiant, vallancy, valour. Also *personif*

Very common in the 16th *c.*

*c.* 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII xii 608, I vnderstande thy valyauntnesse wel *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* 16 The whiche Charlemagne by hys prowesse and valyauntnes had dyscomfyted 1513 *Life Hen V* (1911) 153 The King llahmen excelled so farr the Frenchmen in there valyantnes,

that they remaynad conquerors in the field. 1540 Morysine *Vowes Inbrad Wyad* B v, Strenghe and valiantnesse is, to suffise and accomplyshe the exercises of verta without wery nes 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 25 Which honor [i.e. knighthood] in times past was the rewarde of valeauntnes. 1603 Knolles *Hist Turkes* (1621) 343 Mahomet seeing this valiantnesse of the defendants, openly said [etc.] 1672 Baxter *Baxteana's Scandals* 1 6 They call out for Valiant ness in suffering 1740 P Walker *Life of A Cameron* in *Image Presbyt* (1827) I 237 Do Valiantness of the Four score Priests, that withstood Uzziah

*β* 1508 Dunbar *Lerne vel* 93 B in thi name, betakinis latatnes: W, valyeantnes; S for strenewnte 1549 *Compl Scotl* Ep 6 The toune of Leuerne knaw ystnes of his delygent valiyeantnes. *a* 1560 Rolland *Cri Venus* iv 577 Sine Chouairie come in with valiyeantnes

† b Const. *of* (courage, heart, mind, etc)

1534 Whittinton *Tullyes Offices* 1 (1540) 7 By tyght and lawe, wherevof fortes & valyauntnesse of herte doth ryse 1539 Taverner *Gard Wysd* 1 4 b, It greued moch this excellent Prynce, that so stronge an herte & so valyant nesse of nature was spent in a matter of leudenesse. 1579 Twyne *Phis aget Fortunet* 1 xv 16 The nighnesse of the Cittie and Empire, and the valiantnesse of the peoples myndes. 1603 Knolles *Hist Turkes* (1620) 409 Much inferiour to this great king in wealth and number of men, but not in bauntnesse of mind and valiantnesse of courage 1736 Aikenworth *Magnanimitos*, valiantness of heart and courage.

**2.** Physical strength, robustness, sturdiness, stalwartness *of* (body). *rare*

1593 T Wilson *Hart* 109 In the Bodes are described strengthe and valeantnes of the body 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 311 Bartholomew Leslie, quhais ableines of mynd, valyeantnes of body and forcenes of forces, king Malcolme maruelit at 1 meikle

**Valicot**, ob. form of *valycoat* Wyliecoat.

**Valid** (væ lid), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6–7 valide, 8 valed [ad F. *valide* (OF. *valde*, Sp , It , Pg. *valido*) or L. *valid us* strong, powerful, effective, f *valere* to be strong, etc.]

**1.** Good or adequate in law; possessing legal authority or force , legally binding or efficacious.

1571 *Reg Privy Council Scot* II 95 Seing his said tak is valide and sufficient in the self 1652 Hobbes *Leviath* I xv 71 In the nature of Justice, consisteth in keeping of valid Covenants. *a* 1688 Cudworth *Immut Mor* 6 What soever is decreed and constituted, that for the time is Valid, being made so by Arts and Laws 1726 in *Nairne P ersage Prelacie* (1874) 58 Therefore I do not esteem these faculties in my own time these presents shall remain a valed evident albeit not delivered by me 1769 Robertson *Chas V, ix* Wks 1851 I 318 Strange unlimited powers, invalid ita charge upon the ban of the empire, which was destitute of every legal formality which could render it valid 1786 Burke *Art agst Hastings* III 90 A claim which they determined not to comply with but in return for the surrender of another equally valid 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* III 257 Those who held rent-free lands by titles that might be declared valid 1878 Jevons *Primer Pol Econ.* 128 According to law, de ds, leases, cheques, receipts, contracts, and many other documents are not legally valid unless they be stamped

**b** *Eccl* Technically perfect or efficacious

1674 J Owen *Holy Spirit* (1693) 235 So as that the Call to Office should yet be valid 1680 Bevereidge *Sermons* (1729) I, 28 Not but that the ordination is valid 1876 Mellor *Priestly* vii 362 No ordination is valid unless there be in the recipient of orders the intention to be formed in the Church of Rome an habitual, or, at least, a virtual intention

**2** Of arguments, proofs, assertions, etc. Well founded and fully applicable to the particular matter or circumstances , sound and to the point ; against which no objection can fairly be brought

*a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 308 The whole face of Affairs was presently changed, insomuch that neither my Reasons, nor the Ambassadors , how valid soever could prevail. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect* v 115 He may adapt of those Arguments as valid and conclusive 1737 Pulton *Alma* I. 416 For when One s Proofs are aptly chosen, four are as valid as four Dozen 1766 Entick in Almon *Anecd* xxiii (1810) I. 432 The excuse is a valid one, if it is a just one 1803 Wellington in Gurwood *Disp* (1835) II 264 Reasons which I thought valid but which I do not think it necessary to communicate to the 1859 Mill *Liberty* iii 36 An objection which applies to all conduct, can be no valid objection to any conduct in particular 1881 Westcott & Hort *Gr & N T Introd* 2 Universalisation obtained from one book would be fairly valid for all the rest

**b** In general use Effective, effectual; sound

1651 Hobbes *Govt & Soc* II § 7 93 If yet to words relating to the future, there shall some other signes be added, they may become as valid, as if they had been spoken of the present 1774 Reid *Acnit les's Logic* II § 2 183 In same *et ceteris* shall in any future time shew a good and valid right to a property in the subject 1844 Byron *Juan* xvi xxxv, The effort was not valid To hinder him from growing still more pallid 1850 Maurice *Prophet Isa* (ed 2) 92 The only valid method of investigating the relation between thought and speech 1875 Geo Eliot in Cross *Life* III 3 I should urge you to consider your early religious experience as a portion of valid knowledge

**3** Of things Strong, powerful Now *arch*

1596 Hourt *Glossogr* , *Valid*, strong, mighty, puissant, able 1667 Milton *P L* vi 438 Perhaps more valid Armes, Weapons more violent when next we meet, May serve to better us 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 209 So on a dream our peasant placed his hope, And found that rush as valid as a rope 1887 Browning *Parleyngs* Wks 1896 II. 892/2 What beseems a king who cannot reign, But to drop sceptre valid aam should wield? 1892 *Cornh Mag* Nov 503, In addition to the strong jaws there are three exceedingly valid hooks

† **b.** Of malt liquor: Unduly thick. *Obs.*[-1]

1732 *London & Co Brewer* 1. (ed 4) 38 They also keep it from running into such Cohesions as would make it ropy, valid, and sour.

**4** Of persons Sound or robust in body; possessed of health and strength. Also said of health

1658 Gaule *Magastrom* 139 The more valetudinary have commonly been the more vertuous , and the more valid, the more vitious 1708 Motteux *Rabelais* (1737) V 232 I hanks to Jove s Benignity you're valid 1727 Miss Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV 137, I much fear his excessive Grief may injure his Health which is not very valid, at present 1859 Sala *In Daisy Degree* 12 June, Where he was a valid man he may have had many a boxing bout with Shaw the Life Guardsman 1890 *Daily News* 2 Dec 7/1 The Boers have evidently put every valid male into the field

**b** Of the mind Sane, strong *rare*

1854 Emerson *Lett & Soc Aims Poet & Imag* Wks. (Bohn) III 139 The restraining grace of common sense is the mark of all the valid minds

**5.** As *sb.* A person in good health. Opposed to Invalid *sb* 1

1880 *Pall Mall G* 20 Sept 5 *Kursaal* and valids may alike thank Dr Yeo for a series of highly interesting and instructive Essays.

**+ Va lidate,** *ppl a Sc. Obs*[-1] In 6-at [ad med L. *validāt us*, pa pple. of *validāre* see next] Valid, validated

1586 *Reg Privy Council Scot* IV 103 To be als validat as the Act of Parliament as the former

**Validate** (væ lidēt), *v* [f med L *validāt-*, ppl stem of *validare* (1394 in Du Cange), or after F *valider* (1486 in Godef *Compl* ; = Sp and Pg *validar*, It *validare*) : see Valid *a* and -ate 3. Cf Invalidate *v* ]

**1** *trans* To render or declare legally valid ; to confirm, establish, authenticate (an act, contract, deed, etc.), to legalize

*a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 209 Henry consented, that the marriage betwixt Francis and Leonora should be validated and confirmed 1659 in *Dust n a Disney* (1888) I 1 You only establish *quantum in vobis est*, without either validating or invalidating the Acts and Ordinances for the Excise 1706 J Sergeant *Acc Chapter Ely* 6 And in 1653 was the long possession it has enjoyed, which alone is able to validate and confirm it. 1750 Carte *Hist Eng* II 859 Pope Julius II granted a dispensation for validating the contract (of marriage) if it had been already made 1801 Jefferson *Writ* (1830) III 477 It is true the treaty was not ratified ; but when ratified it will be retrospectively 1832 in *Alton Hist Europe* I v § 49 607 The question of the royal sanction being required to validate the acts of the legislature 1876 Bouvier *Gratt* 1 1 200 The legacy will be invalid by the civil law ; but it will be validated by the Senatus consult

*b spec* [Now after F *valider*] To declare (an election) valid , to declare (a person) duly and properly elected Hence **Va lidated** *ppl a*

1658 *Whitelock's Memor Diary* (1682) II 71 Have an account brought in to validate the members for Scotland and Ireland 1883 *Daily News* 25 June 5/3 The Chamber has validated the election of Mr Peasy of Mr Coulthurst 1900 *Westm Gaz.* 5 Dec. 7/1 Nearly all the validated deputies voted

**2** To make valid or of good authority , to confirm or corroborate; to substantiate or support

1775 C. Johnston *Pilgrim* 250 The lawyer found convenient witnesses to prove a marriage, and every circumstance necessary to val date his scheme 1775 S J Pratt *Liberal Opin* xlvii (1783) II 124 I intend my memoirs shall serve as the counterpart of his ; and both will indisputa bly prove and validate the peculiar truth of these singular sentiments 1803 Miss Porter *Thaddeus* (1806) III viii 341 Come, Lord Berrington, you must validate this report, for I learn it of you 1870 *Contemp Rev* XX 393 The eschatological idea shared the fortunes of the theological, was with it materialized, spiritualized, impersonalized, validated

Hence **Va lidating** *vbl. sb*

*a* 1648 Ld Herbert *Hen VIII* (1683) 409 An act also was now confirmed and the process held, for the more Validating whereof also, it was declared [etc.]

**Validation** (vælidē ʃən) [f prec cf. F. *validation* (16th c.), Sp *validacion*, Pg. *-ação*, It. *ازione* ] The action of validating or making valid.

1856 Blount *Glossogr* [copying Cotgrave], *Validation*, a strengthening, confirmation ; an establishing or ratifying 1847 in Webster (citing Knowles) 1872 *Echo* 3 Oct 6 Father Hyacynthe has just applied to the French Chamber for the validation of his civil marriage 1888 *Act* 51 & 52 *Vict* c 42 § 5 An instrument, the enrolment whereof is required for the validation of an assurance

**Validity** (vălı dĭti). Also 6 valydyty(e, 6–7 validitie, 7 vallydeity, 8 validete [ad. late F. *validité*, f. *valide* Valid *a.* Cf. F. *validité* (16th c.), Sp *validez*, It *validità*]

**1.** The quality of being valid in law; legal authority, force, or strength.

*c* 1550 *Life Isaher in I 's H s* (E E T S) II p 1, Two or three dates after, he beg an to discusse with him the validitie of his marryage 1561 *Reg Privy Council Scot* I 172 The question standis nocht upoun the validitie and invaliditie of the saising 1608 Willet *Hexapla I exod* 310 Concerning the validitie of these lawes. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* II xv 72 The Validity of Covenants begins not but with the Constitution of a Civill Power 1701 *Lond. Gaz* No 3715/4 A Definitive Sentence hath been given by the Judges Delegates, for the Validity of the Last Will of John Higgs 1769 Blackstone *Comm* IV 315 To consider and determine the validity of appeals or indictments 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed 2) IV 212 The validity of such a lease was established in the following modern case 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* xvii IV 97 Much as they hated him, they could not question the validity of his commission. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L 2/2 The plaintiff denied the validity of the transfer.

**2.** The quality of being well-founded on fact, or established on sound principles, and thoroughly applicable to the case or circumstances , soundness and strength (of argument, proof, authority, etc.).

**a.** In the phrase *of . . validity*

1581 J Bell *Haddon s Answ Osorius* 488 b, Of no greater validytie is that Argument lykewyse which they rake out of Augustines wordes. 1599 Thynne *Animadv* (1810) 36 This is a mere conjecture, and of no validytie 1620 Venner *Via Recta* ii 34 Neither are these reasons of such validity 1652 Nedham tr *Selden's Mare Cl* 145 It remains s in the next place, that we consider of what validitie the contrarie Opinions of Writers are 1796 Shelvocke *Voyage round World* 7 Expressions full of contempt of the Commission making it appear as a thing of hardly any validity or consequence 1708 *Phil Trans* I VIII 229 No arguments brought in favour of absorption by the common ones appear to me of equal validity with those that can be urged against it 1803 Wellington in Gurw *Desp* (1835) II 138 *note*, The assurance contained in his letter was of equal validity as if given by the most Noble the Governor General

**b** In general use.

1588 Fraunce *Lawier's Log* 1 1 5 Artificial Logicke then is the polyshing of natural wit, discovering the validitie of everie reason 1609 C. Butler *Fem Mon* (1634) 60 In this point the Philosopher seemeth to question the validity of his own arguments. 1654 Trapp *Ex K Jehu* iii 6 Some thing must be premised about the validity of th s writing, learned men much differing therein 1689 G Harvey *Coring Die by Aspect* 1 2 Antiquity be capable of conferring Validity, the Art of Expectation may be termed equally valuable 1716 Pope *Lett* (1736) VI 3 You are doubtless persuaded of the validity of that famous verse 1 his Expectation makes a Blessing dear 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L* § 188 To examine the validity of the notion entertained by workmen, respecting Tarras Mortar 1804 Wellington in Gurw *Disp* (1837) III 552, I do not exactly understand the validity of this objection 1857 Buckle *Civilis* I vii 418 Statesmen who denied the validity of general principles in politics 1882 Barnaby *Tops Metempsyc* (1883) 285 That does not alter the validity of the conclusion to be ultimately arrived at

**+3** The quality or state of being physically strong or sound , robustness, strength *Obs*

1598 Barrete *Hist Man* 126 The shoulder bladees putting forth a strong ridge not a little to the augmenting of their validitie 1601 R Johnson *Kingd & Commw* (1603) 148 Some men may thinke disputable whether fortresses builte of stone, chalke or earth be of greatest validitie 1620 Markham *Farew Husb* II xvii (1668) 81 The grain wanting his true validity 1658 Phillips *Validity* and of no validity 1651 Wiltie tr *Primrose's Pop Err* iv xxv 300 If in debility of strength the blood be lighter, and in validity of strength it be thinner

*transf* 1602 Shake *Ham* III iv 199 Purpose is but the slave to Memorie, Of violent Birth, but poore validitie 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No 29 P 13 Some poets persons who question the validity of their faith, because they shrink at the thoughts of flames and tortures.

**b** Physical value or capacity *rare*

1697 Lonsdale *Pour f Recruit* 669 That a Bore or male swine will not remane of validity and good for Stud past three years old 1868 E J Dwards *Str Hs Analg* I xxv. 622 No hope remained of his validity in active service.

**4.** Value or worth ; efficiency.

Merging into sense 2, from which in some instances it is hardly distinguishable

1593 Harvey *New Letl* Wks (Grosart) I 290 Some tur mounting spirites loue to arre ire a huge opinion of their excessive validity, *pro*, or *contra*. 1595 in *Maitland Club Misc* I 76 To give in in writt the estait and validitie of the vicarage of Rugden 1602 Holyoke *Dict* 303 The scrapings that come of sweating in banes and hot houses, be counted of greater validitie in all these infirmities 1631 Feoffees *Charities* B 3 b, When hath any guest her selfe out a brace of hundreds more then ere his estate was worth, besides his debts and legacies wherein her validity propor tionable can scarce abulue three hundreds 1788 Franklin *Whistling* Wks. 1840 I 189 He had too high an opinion of the validity of regular troops. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L* § 195 The most certain index of the validity of any Mortar or Stone Buildings 1809 *Med Jrnl* XXI 101 The character and history of the most celebrated quacks the ground of their popular fame, and the validity of their various pretences

† **5** *pl.* Valid points or capacities. *rare*

1586 Day *Eng Secretary* 1 (1625) 41 Whose spirits carried with greater efficacie of aspiring to eternitie then those whose duller concepts are occupied in more serene and grosse validities 1597 Hooker *Eccl I o* v lxi § 3 Nature as much as is possible inclineth vnto validities and preserua tions. 1605 T Norden *Surv. Dial* II 67 You may indeede call these things secrets, because their validities are not suddainly apprehended or found.

**Va lidless,** *a* or *adv rare*[-1]. [f. Valid *a* ] Without strength or force , powerless(ly).

1862 J B Rose tr *Ovid's Met* v 340 The shield and helm were cloven by the steel, Yet on the body validless it fell

**Validly** (vælidli), *adv* [f. as prec + -ly 2.] In a valid manner, with legal validity

1637 Gillespie *Eng Pop Ceremn* III viii 173 One simple Presbyter can not validly ordain 1658 Baxter *Answ Dodwell iv* 45 May a man be validly a Bishop, that believeth not that there is a God? 1767 Chauncy *Lett* (1768) 32 They will be equally unqualified for preaching the Gospel. 1792 Boswell *Johnson* I 237 A Highland gentleman , once consulted me if he could not validly pur chase the chieftainship of his family from the chief 1883 H Cox *Instit* I v 83 The Court of Exchequer declared that impositions on exports and imports might be validly made by proclamation. 1885 *Weekly Notes* 17 Nov 170/2 He held that the Rule Committee was validly constituted, and their power validly exercised

*Comb* 1648 Soames *Anim Church* 1 16 *note*, Nor does the tale itself necessarily imply transubstantiation , whenever a validly-ordained consecrator intended it.

**Va lidness.** *rare.* [-ness ] Validity.

1597 Barley (vol. II), *Validness*, Ability, Power; also Authentickness, &c. 1882 Arnold in *19th Cent* No. 69. 718 Lucidity is the perception of the want of truth and validness in notions long current.

†**Va·lidous**, *a. Obs* [f L. *valid-us* Valid *a.* + -ous] Valid, in various senses.

1603 Harsnet *Pop Impost* 98 Because the Consequence is so Validous wee will looke a little into these holy fire-works. *Ibid* 100 This ranke savour was so Validous and strong that it sented through the glasse. 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* IX viii. § 37 553 The other (side urged) against Norwich, that no second election could be validous, vnlesse the former were first annulled 1635 R N tr *Camden's Eliz.* Introd., In the first Parliament which Queene Mary held the marriage was judged to be validous and available.

**Valiencie**, obs. form of Valiancy.

**Valient**, obs. form of Valiant.

†**Va·lienton.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [a Sp *valenton*, f. *valiente* valiant] A bully, braggart.

1681 Rycaut tr *Gracian's Critick* 185 The Couragious, and Valientons of the World, after some few Rhodomdes and blustering words, submitted to the loss of Liberty

**Valinch(er, velinche(r** see quots. and Valentia.

1823 E Moor *Suffolk Wks* s v *Valentia* I have met with the word in print, spelled *Valinch*. 1847 Webster, *Valinch*, a tube for drawing liquors from a cask by the bung hole 1868 *Lofting's Latal Hydrometers*, etc. 6 Valinchers for sampling casks 1893 Kennett *Dict Mech* 2553 *Thief-tube*, a sampling tube, a velinche. 1899 *N & Q* 4 Feb. 97/1 The nearest approach to a 'long' measure is the valincher, or valinch, used in sampling from the bung'.

**Valise** (vălī's, vălz) Forms **7 valties, valice, 8 valise, valaise, 9** *Sc* **wal-, wallise, vallise, 7–** valise [a. F *valise* (1568), ad It. *valigia* (Sp *balya*), corresponding to med L *valsia* (1407), *valixia, valesia* (1298), of doubtful origin.

In Sandys *Travels* (1615) 115 the form *valaise* is used.]

**1.** A travelling case or portmanteau, now usually made of leather and of a size suitable for carrying by hand, formerly also for strapping to the saddle of a horse Now chiefly *U S*

1633 B Jonson *Tale of Tub* II i, I promise To keep my master a privates seat o' the saddle, or my trunke, lock & close for ever 1644 D Hume *Hist Douglas* 93 The Country people sometimes robbed them of their horses, sometimes of their valises and luggage. 1662 F Brooke's *La Blanca's Tears* 317 Their Alass! lost above two thousand franks which he had in his Valice 1713 C Tess Winchilsea *Misc Poems* 130 Bringing their Noddles, and Valises pack'd With Mysteries, from Shops and Taylors wreck'd. 1765 *Arab Nts Entert* 576 Having brought a valaise along with him, he put as much gold into it as his horse could carry 1797 Jefferson *Writ* IV 156 Your impatience to receive your valise and its key was natural 1815 Scott *Guy M* xxii, He drew the girths of his saddle, adjusted the valises, and put on the bridle 1839 Thirlwall *Machiavelli* xiii, He packed up a few clothes in a small leathern valise 1884 E Yates *Rec & Reg* I 46 The letters being enclosed in leather valises, which were strapped behind the post boys.

b *Mil* A cylindrical cloth or leather case adapted for carrying the kit or outfit of a soldier, esp. of a cavalryman or artilleryman.

1833 *Reg & Instr Cavalry* I 83 The valise being lightly stuffed with hay 1851 *Regul & Ord R* xxvii 122, The Boxes of the Non Commissioned Officers, and the Valises of the Men, to be placed under the foot of the Bedstead 1877 *Field Exerc Infantry* 410 The Officer Commanding a guard will decide if patrols are to wear Valises or not

**2.** *attrib.* in *valise bed, equipment, lock, -saddle, strap*, etc.

1859 Burn *Milit Diet* II xv, Valise or baggage straps. 1873 Knight *Dict Mech* 2688/1 *Valise lock*, a small trunk lock *Ibid.*, A valise-saddle is placed on each off horse of an artillery-carriage 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 853 The modern valise equipment is less oppressive to the soldier than the old knapsack. 1898 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 9/2 The greatcoat straps will be passed downwards, through the valise flaps.

**Valk**, obs Sc. form of Wake *v*, Walk *v.*

**Valkin, -yne**, obs. Sc forms of Waken *v.*

**Va·lkyr**, abbreviated form of Valkyrie.

1842 Carlyle *Heroes* I. (1904) 31 Of the Valkyra and the Hall of Odin *Ibid*, The Valkyrs are Choosers of the Slain

**Valkyrian**, *rare*⁻¹. [f next.] Of or concerning the valkyries.

1847 Tennyson *Princ* IV 121 Ourself have often tried Valkyrian hymns.

**Valkyrie** (væ·lkiri, velkī·ri). Forms: **6** *a.* 8–9 **valkyria** (*pl. -kur*, 9 *-ue*), 8–9 **valkyrie** (9 *-kerry*), 9– **valkyrie.** [a ON. *valkyrja* (pl. *-kyrjur*), f *val r* those slain in battle + *-kyrja* chooser, f *kur-* (*-kue-*), ablaut stem of *kjósa* to choose Cf. OE. *wælcyrse* (*-ge, -ige*), *-kyrie* Walkyrie.] In Scandinavian mythology, one or other of the twelve war-maidens supposed to hover over battlefields and to conduct the fallen warriors to Valhalla.

a 1568 Grey *Fatal Sisters* Note, The *Valkyriur* were female Dvinities, Servants of Odin (or Woden) in the Gothic mythology 1798 Mrs Grant of Laggan *Lett Mount* (1901) II lx. 14 The prophetic Valkyria may once more say (etc.). 1806 W. Herbert *Sel Ieel, Poetry* I. 129 Two of the Valkyrie or virgins of slaughter. a 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Sword of the Tomb* Poems (1893) 339 The fair renown'd Whom the bright Valkyrun's warning voice Had call'd to the banquet where gods rejoice.

β. 1770 Percy tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* I. 100 There were also other virgins in Valhall; . they are called Valkuriæ. *Ibid* II 90 These Goddesses are called Valkyriæ. 1784 Jerningham *Rise Scand Poetry Advt.* p. iii, The Valkiriæ are a female troop whom Odin sends to the field of battle upon invisible steeds. 1801 M G Lewis *Tales of Wonder, Sword of Augantyr* xxxiii, 'Tis the Valkyrues who sing, While they span thy vital thread. a 1849 Southey *Death of Odin*, No virgin goddess him shall call: No Valkery for him prepare The smiling mead. 1882 Du Chaillu *Land of Midnight Sun* II 190 Are you Scandinavian valkyries who travel through the air?

†**Vall.** *Obs*⁻¹ [ad. L. *vall-is*] A valley.

1622 Chapman *Iliad* IV 479 As from hils, rane waters headlong fall, That all waies eate huge Ruts, which, met, in one bed, fill a vall With such a confluence of streames.

**Vall**, southern dial. var Fall *v*; obs. Sc. f. Wall *sb*, Waw *sb*, Well *sb.*

**Vallal**, southern dial. var Fal-lal *sb.*

†**Valla·ncy.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [prob the surname *Vallancey.*] Used *attrib* to designate a form of hay

1674 Davdens *Epit. opening New House* 8 Criticks in plume and white vallancy Wig, Who lolling on our foremost Benches sit.

**Vallate** (væ·lăt), *a. Roman Antiq* [ad. L. *vallār-is*, f. *vall-um* or *vall-us* rampart. Cf. It. *vallare*, Sp. *valar*, F *vallaire*] Of a crown or garland: Bestowed as a distinction on the first soldier to mount the enemy's rampart. (Cf. Mural *a* 1 2 b)

1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 255 Augustus used to geve golden trappour made spoont, diuers garlandes, vallares, and murailes. 1600 Holland *Pliny* II 115 The Vallare and Murall Chaplets bestowed upon brave knights and valliant souldiers 1706 Stanhope tr. *Thomas a Kempis* I. of a citie *a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir. Archæol Soc.) II 62 To whom shall be given now the ciuicke, murall, vallare, and naual garlands, for the Romanes were wont to graunte theire respective conquerours? 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s v., Vallar Crown. 1725 [see Garland *sb* 3 c]. a 1828 *Encycl Hier* 1 Glos.

So **Va·llary** *a.* Also **†Valla rial** *a Obs*

1688 Holme *Armoury* IV iv (Roxb.) 294/2 He beareth for his creast, a Greyhounds head sable, out of a crowne Vallar bill, Or. 1725 Bradley *Fam Dict* s.v. The Vallary or Castrense Crown was of gold, formed like a circle with Pales or Pallisadoes on the top of it 1863 Burke *Vicissi Families* Ser. iii. 143 His famous attack on the Earl of Desmond, at Kilmallock, where he won his gold spurs, and his vallary crown

**Vallate** (væ·lăt), *a. rare*⁻¹ [ad L *vallāt-us*, pa. pple of *vallare* to circumvallate] Having a raised edge

1878 *Ann Nat Hist* 5th Ser II 37 In its compressed vallate character, profiteross growth, and marginal aper tures, it is identical with many of the silicoous sponges.

**Valla·te**, *a. rare*⁻¹ [f as prec + -ed] Surrounded by or as by a wall

1888 *Science* XII 305 The favorite but not vallated domain of literature is exathetics in its true meaning

**Valla·tion.** *rare* [ad late L *vallatio*, f L. *vallāre* (see Vallate *a*), f. *vallum* rampart] A ridge, mound, or bank of earth thrown up as a defence or protection, an earthwork or fortification of this nature.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 118 Two hedges, with their Vallations and Trenches will be requisite in all the Round; 200 one next to the Wood, the other about the thicket, to fence it from Cattle. 1781 Warton *Hist Addington* 70 The vallation called Dyke Hills, consisting of two ridges or borders with an intermediate trench, is not Roman. 1799 R. Warner *Walk* (1800) 12 He may please his fancy with discriminating between the vallations of the Celtic aborigenes, and the huge mounds of their Saxon invaders

†**Va·llatory,** *a. Obs*⁻¹ [f. L. *vallāre* rampart] Used or adapted for measuring a wall, etc

a 1682 Sir T Browne *Misc Tracts* I. (1683) 82 With such differences of Reeds, Vallatory, Sagittary, Scriptory, and others they ought be furnished in Judea.

**Valle**, southern ME. variant of Fall *v*

‖ **Vallecula** (vælē·kiŭlă). Pl **-ulæ** [Late L *vallecula*, var. of L. *valliculus*, dim. of *vallis*, *vallis* Valley *sb* Cf. F. *vallécule*]

1 *Anat.* A furrow, fissure, or fossa; *spec* = Valley *sb* 6

1859 *Todd's Cycl Anat.* V. 883 Valley, or vallecula, of Haller 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 871/2 This lobe forms a well-defined inferior vermiform process, which lies at the bottom of a deep fossa or *vallecula*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* IV 589 The lesions between these [gosseo-epiglottic] folds are named the vallecula.

**2.** *Bot* A groove or channel; a sulcus or stria.

1858 *Hooker Bot. Terms* 211 *Vallecula*, a depressed space (interstice) between the primary 'Ridges' on the fruit of Umbelliferæ.

Hence **Valle·cular** *a*

1847 *Craig*, Vallecular. 1870 *Sachs's Bot* 376 The vallecular canals, which correspond to the furrows, arise in the fundamental tissue by separation.

†**Valleete.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [app. ad Med L. *valenta* Valency] Power, might.

1475 *Bk. Hobbeus* (1860) 1 [Trees are] v causes principalle [for making war]: three of them bene of righte and the other iweyne of vallenes.

**Valler**, obs. Sc. form of Waller.

†**Va·llet.** *Obs.*⁻¹ [Irreg. dimin of Valley *sb.* Cf. Vall.] A small valley.

a 1647 Habington *Surv Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I iii. 430 In the myddest of thys vallet on a littell hyll standethe the Church with the Mannor house.

**Vallew**, obs. form of Valour.

**Valley** (væ li), *sb.* Forms: **4–5 valeie (4 valeie), 4–6 valei (5 valeye, valey, vale), 4 valee, 4–5 valeye (4 valeye), 4 valey (4 waley); 4 vallele, 4, 6** *Sc* **, valle, 6 vallei, 6– valley;** *Sc.* and *north* **4 valaye, 4–6 valay, 5 wala, wallay, 6 vallay.** *B.* **7 vally, vallie, pl 6– vallies.** [a. OF. *valee* (AF. pl. *valeys*), *vallee* (mod F. *vallée*), early OF. *vallede*, = Prov. *vallada*, It *vallata*, f. *vall-is*, *vallis*; *vallēs*: see Vale *sb.*]

**1.** A long depression or hollow lying between hills or stretches of high ground and usually having a river or stream flowing along its bottom.

In ordinary use a *valley* is distinguished from a *vale* by having less width and a steeper slope on either side.

a. 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 1977 Pe he coom ret kaunterburi In a valeie binde He se pe emperours ost 13 *Guy Warw.* 3876 Smertelsche he dede him in pe waye, Ouer be dounes & pe valeys. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse.* 3706 For be hilles and valeis sal turned be In til playn, and made even to se. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII 4 In till pe wod scyth enterit he, And held doun toward a vale, Quhar throu pe wod a watter ran. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XIII. 195 He shewde hym the valey be the wode side. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xv 56 The reyne russhyng doun from the mountayns Ran amonge in to the valeys. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* III. 5 Euery valley shalbe fylled and euery mountayne & hyll shalbe brought lowe. 1577 Googe tr *Heresbach's Husb* 151 Choose such a valley, where the water can neather lye long, nor rumne with to fast. 1621 Shaks. *Wint I* v I. 206 We are not (Sir) nor are we like to be: The Starres (I see) will kisse the Valleyes first. 1697 Dampier *Voy* I ii. 18 Our new Guide values the Timber River, and enter'd into a large Valley of the fattest Land I did ever take notice of 1773 Cook *1st Voy* I xvi In *Hamilton Voy* II 172 To which we descended by the valley from whence it issues, and examine how far it's banks were inhabited. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* III. As they advanced, the valley opened. 1816 Elphinstone *Caubul* (1842) I 49 We marched up the valley, which became narrower as we advanced 1870 Raymond *Statist Mines & Mining* 247 They cannot be of large extent as the valleys are all narrow, and without bottoms on either side.

*β* 1596 Marcall *Cattle* 253 Goats; their keeper ought for to be bolde, for to go with them in the valeye of Kirton in Carpenter *Geogr Del* II x 169 Plants and Vegetalls for the most part prosper best in the vallies and plaines. 1663 S Patrick *Parad Pilgrim* (1682) 261 Believe not me but your self that these Vallies are watered from above. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* I 63/1 Hills with little Vallies between, and very difficult of access thro' the narrow passes of the Vallies 1777 Du Hamel *Prog Sc & Fort* II, The verdant banks of the river, with the Indian corn in the vallies. 1829 J. F Cooper *Prairie* I 18 In the little vallies, which occurred at no distant point in their progress. 1849 James *Woodman* III, A faint, blueish mist prevented the eye from penetrating into the deeper vallies

b. Const. *of* (the distinctive name of the valley)

*c* 1290 *S Eng. Leg* I 5/2 Ase he in be valeye of Kidron leouede with teone and wo. 13 *K Alis* 7097 And in be valey of Jurdan, Pey founden eddren mony on *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks* II 405 Wheper bat Crist shal come into be valey of Josaphath or (etc.). 1535 Coverdale *Pr* lxx 6, I wil deuyde Sichem, & mete out the valley of Suchoth 1611 Bible *Ps* lxxiii 8 Who built a Sanctuary like vnto Baca, make it a well 1667 Milton *P L* I 404 The pleasant Vally of Hinnom. 1726 Gordon *Itin. Sept* 55 I hat eminent Ground, which bounds the Valley of Kilsyth to the South ward 1833 Lyell *Princ Geol* III 201 The valley of Kingsclere, in Berkshire, is about five miles long and two in breadth.

c Without article

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV 684 That maid To ryps the wood, bath wala, slouk, and slaid 1667 Milton *P L* IX 216 Sweet interchange Of Hill and Valie Rivers, Woods and Plaines. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 600 Now, Winter, fill hill and valley interpos'd between. 1859 Tennyson *Marr Geraint* 247 Out of town and valley came a noise 1865 H H Dodd *Epick & Term* 39 Wood and valley backed up by a Cheviot hill compose a pleasant landscape.

d. The extensive stretch of flattish country drained or watered by one or other of the larger river-systems of the world

*c* 1790 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) VI 393/2 In those early ages a certain people descended from the mountains near the cataracts into the valley overflowed by the Nile 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXV 479/1 Dividing the valley of the Euphrates from the rivers which flow into the Black Sea. 1876 *Encycl Brit* IV 223/2 Surface 'drift deposits occur in the valley of the Amazon westward to Peru.

e. *Geol* (See quot 1839.)

1839 Lyell *Princ Geol* III 305 Dr Buckland on Valleys of Elevation. 1839 G. Roberts *Dict Geol*, *Valleys of elevation*, those which seem to have originated in a fracture of the strata, and a movement of the fractured part upwards.

**2.** In figurative uses.

*Valley of the shadow (of death)* see Shadow *sb.* 11b.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxii 1 The charge of the valey of visioun 1412–20 Hoccleve *Regim* 1444 In be sweete venyn of his tonge eydeth His lord vnto pe valeie of dirknesse. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil Pilgr* 17447, I was engendryd fyrst in helle: In that Valey infernal I was begone. 1782 Cowper *Conversat* 636 Youth has a sprightliness and fire to boast, That in the valley of decline are lost. 1822 Shelley *Triumph Life* 307 If Thou comest from the realm without a name Into this valley of perpetual dream 1852 Robertson *Serm.* Ser II. x. (1864) 18 You must be content with the quiet valleys of existence. 1882 J Parker *Apostolic Life* I. 78 Those knowest how much we are in the valley, and how often we pass through dark places.

**b.** *Valley of tears* see Vale *sb* 1 2 b.

[1382 Wyclif *Ps* lxxxii 6 In the valei of teris, in the place that he setle.] *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 51 To the we syzen gronynge and wepynge in this valeye of teeres. *c* 1430 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. 92 In þis valey of teres þere

comeb many enell plnges. ] H S *(title)*, The Valley of Tears. The Consolations of God

3 *transf* A depression or hollow suggestive of a valley, *esp* a trough between sea waves

1612 Shake *Wint T* II iii 100 His Fore-head, nay the Valley The pretty dimples of his Chin and Cheeke 1692 Ray *Creation* II. (1704) 208 The Eyes are sunk in a Con ven ent Valley 1843 Gosse *Ocean* iv (1849) 164 The little Petrel flits hither and thither, now tread ng the brow of the watery hill now sweeping through the valley 1888 Steven son *Black Arrow* 176 The *Good Hope* swooped dizzily down Into the valley of the rollers.

4. *techn* The depressed angle formed by the meeting (at the bottom) of two sloping sides of a composite roof, or by the slope of a roof and a wall a gutter

1690 Leybourn *Curs Math.* 902 The Bricklayer sometimes will require to have running measure for Hyps and Valleys. 1703 [R Neve] *City & C Purchaser* 162 Of measuring Valleys, or Gutters in Tiling 1708 *Phil Trans* LXXII 360 In like manner the two conductors from the chimnies A and C united in the valley of the roof between them 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 83 To steady and support the lower edges of slates finishing against valleys 1866 Pyte Patrick *Adam Sycamore* 113 Murphy hurried Lord Lidward to the roof of the warehouse and with some difficulty per suaded him to lie in the valley 1879 Gould *Text-Book of Wood* II xiii. 173 Here also are some quaint old slated houses; the valleys are not leaded.

b A tile used in rooding a valley

1834 I ondon *Encycl Archit* § 1906 The ridge pieces hips, and valleys to be seven inches by one and a half inches.

+ 5 *Fr Hist* = Plain *sb* 16 (Cf Mountain 6)

1702 *Pryf Expl New Terms* in *Ann. Reg* p. xii The *Valley*, The lower seats; and these in the middle of the hall of the Assembly

6 *Anat* (See quots and cf Vallecula 1)

1842 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 7) II 80/2 A large hollow between the hemispheres [of the cerebellum] is the small valley (*vallecula*) of Halley c 1845 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* III 688/2 A deep fissure wh ch proceeds backwards along the median line is called the valley

7 *attrib* and *Comb* in sense 1 (freq denoting 'situated in a valley'), as *valley bottom, cottage, fountain, gate, glacier, glade,* etc , *valley like* adj , *ward* adv

1903 A. R Wallace *My Life* II 153 The little *valley* bottoms were complete flower gardens 1859 Meredith *Poet Wks* (1912) 92 For me yon *valley*-cottage beckons warm c 1200 Shaks. *Sonn.* clii In a could *valle*-foun tains. 1835 Coverdale 1 Cor. xxvi. 5 Dewes buylded vowes vpon the corneporte, and on the *valley* gate. 1874 Geikie *Gl Ice Age* (1894) 512 The *valley* glaciers becom ing confluent in their lower courses. 1820 Keats *Ode Nightin gale* viii Now its buried deep In the near *valley* glades. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr* 28 Along the banks of the Thames and its tributary streams there is a bed of *valley* gravel 1894 *Good Way* Oct 28/1 The amphitheatre form of terraced hills is always a *valley* head 1872 B. Taylor *Faust* III (1875) II 284 The *valley* hills that in the rear of Sparta north wards rise aloft 1851 Mozley *Lett* (1865) 66 From the vast *valley* like spore of some celestial beast 1859 Cornwall in *New World* I 172 A solitary moorland with valley l ke undulations. 1894 *Good Way* Oct. 466 The outflow of the stream—the *valley* maker—marks ordinarily the base of the amphitheatre. 1855 Mouatt & Huxley *Health s Improve* (1856) 78 Characteristics of the *Valley* People are ever heavy spirited, dull, and sickly 1869 Tozer *High. Turkey* I 363 the four great *valley*-plains divided by lateral spurs. 1896 T. Hardy *Jude the Obscure* (1899) 243 A lonely man who arrived at the castle by the *valley* road from Knollsea. *c* 1390 Rolland *Cri Venus* I 39 I walk t furth on be ane *valay* syde 1892 Ingraham *Pillars of Fire* 378 Moses and the Israelites pursued their way up the cliffs of the valley sides 1841 W C Bryant *Walk at Sunset* Wks 44 Oh let me by the crystal *valley* stream Wander 1871 Palgrave *Yr Treasury* 69 Joining with the *valley* streamlet 1894 *Book News Mar* 274 Dark belts of wood land with *valley*-ward the white gleam of the Froom 1885 *Science* I 396/1 Rock lakes are perhaps formed by a local depression of the *valley* way

b **Valley lily** the lily of the valley

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II lxxxvii 332 The flowers of the Valley l ilie 1708 *M Scriblerus* (1724) 206 Her breast was fairer than the vernal bloom Of valley lily 1818 Keats *Endy mion* I 156 W ld thy ne and valley lilies whiter st II than Leda s love, and Helena Wks. (1912) 206 Her breast was fairer than the vernal bloom Of valley lily *Life of the Valley* 301 The h rd dwy hours Of the valley lily

c *Valley of death tree* the Upas tree

1888 n *Cassell's Encycl Dict*

8 *attrib* in sense 4 as *valley board, gutter, piece, rafter*

1823 P Nicholson *Pract Bu ld er* 230 The valley rafters of a roof 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 850 Proper valley boards are to be put for the said valleys. *Ibid* § 350 A valley gutter between two roofs. 1842 Gwilt *Encycl Arch* 1049 The rafter which supports the valley is called the *valley rafter* or *valley piece* and the board fixed upon it for the leaden gutter to rest upon is called the *valley board*

Hence **Va lleyful**, the fill of a valley **Va llleyite**, an inhabitant of a valley , **Va lleylet**, a small valley

1866 G Greenwood *Rain & Rivers* 188 Its infinite ramifications of stream and valley streamlet and valleylet 1890 *Longman s Mag* July 341 A whole valleyful of appropriate plants. 1893 *Outing* XXII 136/1 While I roamed about the burying place of the valleyites.

**Va lley,** *v rare* [f the sb.]

1 *intr* To form a hollow or hollows resembling a valley

*a* 1552 Ireland *Itin.* (1769) V 51 A Peace of this Roke is fallen and valleith [*e r* valleyeth] after a strange fascion. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* I xvIII. 323 In the billowy whats of the dress ballooning and valleying softly

+ 2 *trans.* To adjoin as a valley *Obs* —1

1635 J Hayward tr *Biondi's Banish d Virg* 36 In a deep bottome that vallied a steeper precipice

3 To make valleys in, to furrow

c 1885 Buddess *Poems Midnight Hymns* III The slaves of Egypt Valled the unaccustomed sea.

**Va lleyed,** *ppl a* Also **vallied.** [f Valley *sb* ] Situated in a valley

1844 *Catholic Weekly Instructor* 31 He left the sunny Italy and from his vallied home wandered (etc )

**Vallidom,** *north dial* [Irreg f *vally* Valor *sb* ] The value or worth of a thing

1790 Grose *Prov Glass , Vallidom* the value of 1868– in north dial glossaries (Yks , Durh Cumbld Lancs Lnc) 1887 A. B. Bass *Border Shepherdess* iv 55 He knew the vallidom of everything he possessed to a halfpenny

+ **Vallie.** *Obs* —1 [f L *vall um* Vallum ] Rampart, wall

1606 Warner *Alb Eng* Epit. (1612) 356 Seuerus his forced vallie with other strong and huge labors and fabrications

**Valliscau lian,** *sb* and *a* [See def ]

*a. sb pl* An order of ascetic monks, forming a branch of the Benedictines, founded at Val des Choux (*Vallis Caulium*) in 1193 b *adj* Of or belonging to the Valliscaulians or their order

1882 *Athenæum* 8 Apr 452/1 Three priories of the Valliscaulian order, all founded in the remoter districts of Scotland during the reign of Alexander II 1886 Rankin *Handbk C.h. Scotl* (ed 4) 125 The Rented or endowed reli gious subdivided into Benedictines, Cistercians, Carthu sians, Valle-Caulians, and Trinitarians.

**Vallon,** obs. form of Walloon

**Vallonia,** var Valonia.

**Vallor, ow,** obs forms of Voller *dial*

**Vallow** (væ·lō) *Bot* [mod L, f the name of the French botanist Antoine *Vallot* (1594–1671) ] A genus of amaryllidaceous plants, characterized by rich scarlet flowers, and consisting of but one species *V purpurea*, the Scarborough lily

1837 W Herbert *Amaryllidaceæ* 133 1852 G W Johnston *Catt Local Names* 304 A new seedling obtained from *Cyrtanthus obl quus* which no one could distinguish from a Vallota of the same age 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar 206/2 Vallotas may be increased by the quantities of offsets which they produce

**Vallow,** obs form of Value

+ **Vallow deer** obs variant of Fallow deer

1562 J Icon *Barbadoes* 104 Herds of Vallow Deer

‖ **Vallum** (væ·lŏm) [L, f *vallus* stake, palisade ]

1 A wall or rampart of earth, sods, or stone, erected as a permanent means of defence , *esp* one of those constructed by the Romans in northern England and central Scotland

1610 Holland *Camden s Brit* 790 Wee gather out of Beda that the said Vallum or Rampier was not ling else b it a wall of turffes 1699 Temple *Hist Eng* 38 Agricola began and in some manner finished a Wall or Vallum upon that narrow Space of Land 1706 J. Gordon *Itin Sept* 31 The Wall or *Vallu m* descends from the above mentioned Hill to another Brook 1781 Warton *Hist Kinlchington* 55 The vallum or ridged bank crossing the Kentish road from the two miles of Kwelme 1841 D Wilson *Preh Ann.* (1863) II iii ii. 79 I his British Vallum—a vast rampart of earth and stone strengthened by a fosse 1879 Lubbock *Sc Lect* vi. 131 He would have found the ancient vallum, and wonder at the mechanical skill which could have moved such ponderous masses

2 In Roman castrametation, a palisaded bank or mound, formed of the entire coast up from the ditch or fosse around a camp or station

1806 *Gas Scot* 5 v *Crichto n*, A circular camp or intrench ment the *vall m* of which is very distinct. 1816 Scott *Antiq* v Nothing could be more plainly traced—a proper *agger* or *vallum* with its corresponding ditch or *fosse* 1833 Jas Davidson *Brit & Rom Rem Axminster* 13 It has been said that this intre chment had formerly a double vallum, but no vestiges of the outer vallum remain. If such an one ever ex sted 1880 Hodgkin *Italy & Invaders* I 1 120 Th n usual 1 quare form of a Roman camp strengthened by ditch an l vallum and pal sade

*transf.* 1818 Lady Morgan *Fl Macarthy* (1819) II v 237 A small dungh ll which usually forms the first *vallum* to the rear of an Irish peasant. 1849 Tytler *Hist Scot* (1864) I 301 An inner keep or castle surrounded by a strong wall beyond which was a ditch or deep fosse and beyo nd this again was raised an outer vallum or rampart

**Vally,** dial variant of Fellow, Value

+ **Valour** *Obs* —1 In 6 **valoyre** [a. F *valoir* to be of value ] Value, worth, price

*c* 1496 *The Pfitaffe* etc in Skelton's Wks (1843) II 302 Gewellys of late poysyd at grete valoyre

**Valonia,** (vælō·niă) Also **valonia** 8 **val anea,** 9 **onea,** 9 **velonia,** 9a [nd It *vallonia, vallonèa,* whence also F *vallonée, velonnée* †*vel onea* (1553) ad mod Gr *βαλάνια βελανια,* pl of *βαλάνι, βελάνι* acorn (anc Gr *βάλανος*) ]

1 The large acorn cups and acorns of *Quercus ægilops* (and the related *Q vallonea*), a species of oak growing esp in the north-eastern Mediterranean regions, valued for the abundant tannin they contain, and much used in tanning, dyeing, etc.

*a* 1300 *Lend Gas* No 6040/6 Red Saunders, Shumack, Sticklack, Turnsole Valonia. *Ibid* 7 Valonia the Tun Weight seven Pounds. 1812 J Smyth *Pract of Customs* (1821) 266 Valonia is a dying ingredient, brought from Italy and the Levant It is the husks of the acorn generally mixed with that fruit. 1852 Mosby *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 82 The leather made with valonia is said to be firmer and heavier than the oak tanned. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Nov 5/6 Another day, while I was collecting valonea, I was assaulted by four soldiers.

*b* 1775 R Chandler *Trav Asia M* (1825) I 27 The species of low oak which produces valanea, or the large acorns used in tanning *Ibid* 124 The Valanea, or large acorns, are exported, chiefly to Italy 1867 Simmonds *Dict Trade* s.v., In 1860 there were imported 99 720 tons of valonea. 1898 Zangwill *Dreamers Ghetto* iv 116 Hand headed Sephardim were busy shipping freights of figs or valonea.

*c* 1835 *Encycl Metrop.* (1845) XXIII 743 The acorns are extensively used by dyers by the name of Velonea. 1849 Balfour *Man Bot* § 1039. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1200/1

*b attrib* and *Comb*

1862 *Catal Internat Exhib* Brit II No 4628, Oak bark and valonia tanned leather 1903 *Brighton Stand* 27 Oct 9/3 A clerk in the hide and valonia business.

2 *Valonea Oak*, the Levantine species *Quercus ægilops*. Also *ellipt*

1829 Loudon *Encycl Plants* 706 Velonia Oak 1830 I ndley *Nat Syst Bot* 98 A species known in the Levant under the nan e of Velonia. 1842 *Penny Cycl* XIX 211/2 *Q Ægilops* Great prickly cupped Oak or Valonia. 1892 Agnes Clerke *Fam. Stud Homer* vi 153 The tradition of acorn eating connected with the rustic Arcadians applied evidently to the fruit of the valonea oak.

‖ **Valonidi.** [ad mod Gr *βαλανίδι* acorn-cup Cf F *valonède, valonidé* ] *V oak* = prec 2.

1878 Gosse *Rivers Bible* 266 The Valonidi oak, the characteristic tree of this part of the country

**Valop,** obs form of Wallop *sb* and *v*

**Valor** (væ·lŏr) Also 6–7 **vallor,** 6 **valore,** 7 *Sc* **valor** [var of Valour by assimilation to, or direct adoption of, med L *valor* ]

+ 1 The amount in money, etc , that a thing is worth , = Value *sb* 2 *Obs*

1496–7 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 197 If h r ladyship wold send by him a token to my mayster yt shuld be to the number of xx tymes the valor 1526 *Linc Wills* (1914) I 170 Verely spending the valore off the sayd v Roode [of land] att my forsayd yerelay *a* 1529 *Skelton Ware Hawe* (1569) B5 Thou I ast stoln with force and armes an horse to such a valor 1676 Coles, *Valor of Marriage* [See Valour 3 d ] *transf* c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S T S.) xxvi 48 Will scho absent Hyne sall I went And at als litill valor set hir

+ b In the phr *of* (*great,* etc) *valor Obs*

1487 *Mann & Household Exp* (Roxb ) 174 3e have a lytel stoffe of n yne for my lytel chyld [ which ] is of no grete valor 1545 in I S Leadam *Sel Cases Crt Requests* (Selden Soc.) 84 What valor they were of this deponent knoweth nott

+ c The monetary value *of* (a specified sum)

1544 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) VI 156 The yerlie valor of xl s. *a* 1548 in F Ilis *Orig Lett* Ser III 11 65 A Prebend in York of the yerly valor of xlli 3 marks 1608 in *Archæol Cornub* II in *Scotiman* (1886) 29 Jan 7/1 Gif he bes apprehendit with the valor of an uris thift

d *Eccl* An assessment value set upon Church property a list of these values

1800 Lysons *Environs London Suppl* 241 In the old *valors* this rectory was rated at 70 marks 1855 Milman *Lat Chr* XIV i (1864) VI 18 *note* The Valor of pope Nicholas was framed by those wi o washed to lighten their taxation

+ 2 a. Intrinsic worth or merit , = Value *sb* 6

1580 Lodge *Sch Abuse* 11 All your obiections you make against vour poetrye be of no valor 1655 Gurnall *Chr in Arm* (1669) 281/2 Why I but because it hath not God to put a valor on it

b Power, import, significance

1676 Collins in Rigaud *Corr Sci Men* (1841) II 72 I have set down two valors of *x* to every equation 1692 Ray *Coll Words &c Errors Aphh* Now I come to shew that our alphabet is faulty as to the powers or sounds assigned to some letters 1808 Jebb *Corr* (1834) I 469 If I may make a 1 English word to express the valor of the Greek word

3 Courage, bravery , = Valour 1 c Now chiefly *Sc*

1586 Hoby *Pol Disc Truth* xi 36 They have so often beene subdued by the valor of the French. 1605 *1st Part Jeru* 1mo III 1 Our courages are new borne our vallors bred 1819 *Scheffer s Lapland* Pref Where so much passive valor is necessary we may di pense with the want of active 1737 W Wilkie *Epigoniad* Pref p xii Besides, I must have transferred to the Grecians the valor formerly and address of Ulysses 1782 Highmore *Ramble Coast Sussex* (1873) 19 In the days of chivalry when the soul of valor animated every thought 1788 Burn, *Worthy*, a man of valor 1874 Blackie *Footpr Time* I The period of rude and restless valor among the Greeks.

**Valorisa tion** *U S* [See prec and -ization ] The act or fact of fixing the value or price of some commercial commodity

1907 *Amer Fruit Sci Rep* Feb. 249 (*Cent Dict* Suppl ) The financing of the valorization scheme is provided for by the issuing of bonds by the three coffee producing States, guaranteed by the general government.

**Valorous** (væ·lŏrŏs), *a* Forms *α* 5 **vailler**ous, 6 *Sc* **valerous,** 7 **valerous, vallarous** *β.* 5– **valorous,** 7 *Sc* **val'rous,** 8 **val'rous** *γ* 6–9 **valourous** [ad OF (also mod F ) *valeureux, f. valeur* Valour, or med L. *valorosus* valiant, valuable, f *valor* Valor Cf *It valoroso*, Sp. and Pg *valeroso* ]

1. Of persons Endowed with valour, valiant, courageous, brave, bold.

*a. c* 1467 Caxton *Jason* 11 She seeing that he was a yong gentilman hauyng a chiere of a vaillerous man receyued

him into her wages as sooldyour. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath Tract* (S.T.S) 221 Al the noble successeurs of this Godlie and valerous king 1680 *Debates in Parl* (1688) 174 A King on their side, endowed with a vallarous Spirit.

*Coues* 1642-4 VICARS *God in Mount* (1844) 56 This prouudy valerous-hearted Gentleman

*ß* 1877-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III 29/1 In which voiage his valorous hart at all assaies was most manifestie perceiued. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen IV*, II iv 236 Thou art as valorous as Hector of Troy 1627 *Lisander & Cal* 1 2 Henry, the valorous Father of our invincible Monarch. 1707 SWIFT *On cutting the thorn at Marbot Hall* Wks. 1735 IV 1 88 Sir Archibald that valrous knight 1807 G CRAIG *Caledonia* I iii vii 418 William invaded Scotland with desire, perhaps, to chastise, rather than subdue, a valorous people. 1879 *Sat Rev* 13 Sept. 324 As the valorous Swiss were some twenty in number the position of the travellers was hopeless.

*Comb.* 1602 WARNER *Albion Marl* D vii, They answered me I was too valorous bold

† 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV xlvi 541 Certaine Tribunes and marshals, valorous and doubtie good men 1647 F HEAD *Souldiers March* 39 A token of a minde truly noble and valourous. 1807 G CHALMERS *Caledonia* I ii ii 244 The Valourous Arthur the history, or the redoubtable Arthur of romance. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* XXXIII, I am about to give you as a bride to this valourous prince.

**2.** Of actions, etc. Marked or characterized by valour, courage, or bravery

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol 10 This present booke, in whiche may alle valyaunt prynces and other nobles see many valorous fayttes of armes 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I ix. 18 [She] gathering force, and courage valorous, Encountred him in battell well ordained. 1612 *North's Plutarch, Epaminondas* 1125 Not daring longer to defend themselues against the valorous force of Epaminondas and his followers. a 1660 *Contin Hist Irel* (fr Archaiol Soc) I 174 The enemie rather wondering at his valorous charge, then any way able to oppose it. 1823 WELLINGTON in *Gurw Desp* (1838) X 532 *note* The whole universe will acknowledge those valorous efforts. 1869 TOZER *Highl Turkey* II 209 Two tall pooks, far famed for valorous deeds of the Sultoches.

† **3** Having value, worth, or merit, valuable

1599 G HARVEY *Foure Lett* (1884) 1 The Hexameter verse whereof neither Homer in Greeke, nor Virgill in Latine, (how valorous Autors!) were ashamed 1609 J DAVIES (Heref) *Humours Heav* lxxxii, Be they neuer valo re or so valorous Its held but base and made by nature sleight

Hence **Valorousness** *rare*⁻¹

1727 BAILEY, *Valorousness*, Valiantness, Stoutness Bravery

**Valorously** (væ lərəsli), *adv* [f prec + LY²] Bravely, valiantly

1599 SHAKS *Hen V* III ii 125 He pay t as valorously as I may, that sal I suerly do *c* 1614 SIR W MURE *Dido & Æneas* 1 549 The Trojans val rowsly resist their force. 1655 tr *Camden's Hist Eliz* III 229 Which they valorously aid stoutly performed wounding James himself 1760-72 H BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) II 22 [He] pushed valor ously forward 1834 TRELAWNY *Adv Sh* vii 187 Supposing it to be a crocodile, they valorously determined to shoot it. 1882 *Macm Mag* XLVI 251 The order was valorously obeyed

**Valour**, obs Sc. form of WALLOW *v*

**Valour** (væ lər) Forms 4- valour (5-6 *Sc* wa ), 5 valowr, 5-6 valoure (5 *Sc* wa-, 5-6 vo-), 6 vallour (*Sc* wa ), 5 vallouer, 6 valouer, [a OF *valour* (*valur*, later and mod F *valeur* VALEUR), = Sp and Pg *valor*, It *valore* —late L. *valōr-*, *valor* VALOR, I *valere* to be strong, etc. See also VALUER ]

† **1 a.** Worth or importance due to personal qualities or to rank *Obs*

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl* 3402 (Kölbing), Kay, be steward of valour *Ibid* 4179 A damisel of gret valour Was þo comen to king Arthour 1375 *Barbour Bruce* I 140 (Wilson), He was a noble dysour Wyth ladyes of valour A mery man of mouthe *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 28 Ye that be so moche excellent and vertuous that all my thoughtes ben ioned to you that ar of so moche hye valour 1590 ATKINSON tr *De Imitatione* III iv 198, I am very noughte, nothynge hauynge, ne nothynge of valour 1598 DYMOK *Trea Ireland Wornor* 185 He lukis as he wald luffit be, thocht he be lastit of valour 1598 B YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ Conv* IV 179 b, Whereby your valour and worthinesse mas bee deciphered, and my insufficience not vnknowne.

† **b** Worth or worthiness in respect of manly qualities or attributes. *Obs*

13 *Coer de L* 4930 Yiff that he durste hym abyde, Undyr the forest off Arbour He wolde assaye hys valour *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* XLIII (*Margerie*) Ane erle þat was a ful gret man, quham for beute & valoure he emprice luffit para moure. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2403 How Alexander in his armes all way encreses, & valour & in victori & vertues no noble. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XIII. 405 I shall lete hem well wite that I am not hidde, yef in me be so moche valoure. 1508 DUNBAR *Fourme* VI a Remembring zyall, right renuered and serene Lord, his trwymphing in wirschip and valoure.

**c** The quality of mind which enables a person to face danger with boldness or firmness; courage or bravery, esp. as shown in warfare or conflict; valiancy, prowess.

1582 PETTIE tr *Guazzo's Civ Conv* 1 (1586) 1 Lieutenant generall A degree won by meanes of his owne valour & seruice done to the king 1590 KYD *Sp Trag* 1 ii, 39 Captaines strous to haue their valors tride. 1604 *Jas. I Counterbl to Tobacco* To Rdr, Our fortunate and oft prooued valour in warres abroad 1604-66 EARL DERBY *Parthen.* (1676) 54 He ow d the Affront not to our Valours, but to his fears. 1667 MILTON *P L* xi. 686 In those dayes Might onely shall be admir'd, And Valour and Heroic Vertu call'd. 1713 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 8, English Valour cannot be matched when it is animated by English Beauty 1770 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* vi (1788) I. 184 Valour, and the love of discipline, (became) the only qualifications for military employments. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* vi, Real valour consists not in being insensible to danger, but in being prompt to confront and disarm it. 1857 G LAWRENCE *Guy Live* IX [She knew] that the better part of valour was advisable. 1878 MORLEY *Carlyle* 101 The same principle which revealed the valour and godliness of Puritanism

*personif* 2592 PEACH *An Ode* i, Nor to melt at Beauties Tears, nor follow Valour a Sword

**d.** Used as a personal name or (with possessives) as a quasi title, also, a person of courage.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr & Cr* I iii 176 And at this sport Sir Valour dies; cries, O enough, Patroclus 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, An your valour be so dull you will please to learn [etc] 1839 LYTTON *Richelieu* I i, I Leading young valours careless as myself, Seized on the town of Rochelle 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw Ho!* xxvi, But the stern gallery? How came your valour thither?

**e** *Comb*, as *valour-breathing*, *loving*, etc

1609 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II iii *Lawe* 13 Rock batt ring Bumbards, Valour murdering Guns. 1598 *Ibid* II v *Furies* 35 The snares of vertue, valour softning Hyrens. 1755 *Progress of Isis* 150 Valour's virtue bleeds, and honest anguish at the undaunted spectacle of a valour ruined man

† **2** Value or worth in material or other respects, = VALUE *sb.* 6 a. In the phr *of* ( ) *valour Obs*

*c* 1330 *Arth & Merl.* 3465 (Kölbing), A launce he tok of gret valour 1552 His stede he sette of gret valour *c* 1400 T CHESTRE *Lancelot* 984 Kyng Arthour gan her fayre geue and sche hym agayn, with wordes sweete That were of gretter valour 1448 WYNTOUN *Cron* IX xxiii 131 Wemyss In all þat land was nane Temple standand of valoure *c* 1475 *Hart Contin Hyden* (Rolls) VIII 511 That parliamente of kynge Ricardus was made voyde & as of noo valoure 1526 TINDALE *Romans* iii 23 The prayse that is wt oure before God 1561 I NORTON *Calvin's Inst* I. 9 b, These hys powers of what valoure they be and to what end we ought to vse them 1598 R H *Arrangem Writers* Preface Ix 69 Their Viands are of no valour, no valew without these. 1642 R CARPENTER *Experience* II viii 106 If we compare the beginning of ciuility with our works

† **b.** In other constructions *Obs*

1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) IV 35 Not discordenge in any thynge, neiþer in valoure of wordes, neiþer in ordre 1502 *Ord Crafts* (Herl MS 1) 18 W 56 Of all wyll 126 The lyfe contemplatyf excedeth in valoure and in worthynes the lyfe actyf 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* I 559 In peice and rest

Ans shortly thairefter gave grit valour 1565 JEWEL *Reading Answ M Ivelles Challenge* 220 This is the doctine of the churche touching the valour of the Masse 1626 CHAMPNEY *Fam Epist* 19 For the effectuall applying of the merite, valour, and effect thereof vnto us.

† **3** The amount (in money, etc) or sum that a thing is worth, = VALUE *sb* 2 *Obs*

*c* 1330 *Libeaus Desc* 1030 (K.), He hab me sent be valour Of fatre fee and bour, þat he best began 1430-40 *Lydg Gener* (Roxb.) 3000 Not for the valour of al this town Wold I lenght this life 800 1456 SIR G HAYE *Laws Armys* (S I S.) 135 To restore þame in þe samyn thing or the valour 1538 in Maiden *Sel Pleas Crt Adm* (Selden Soc) II 67 Our goodes to be solild and of the moneys that shall com of the valour of those goodes 1598 FLORIO *Worlde Of Wordes* 1/1 *Val* Valeria A very e beautifull ringe of great price and estimation, which for the valour and beautie he was very desirous perpetually to leaue to his successours. 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* 97 He sall pay to his parents, the valour of his marriage. a 1849 FOSBY *Voc E Anglia*, *Valour* value.

† **b** In the *pr of (great, little*, etc ) *valour*

*c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* (Kölbing) 2322 This ilke gentyl knyght purveied him of Gold & of treasowr, and of mani a lewed of gret valowr 1496 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 123 She hath left many fayre jewells with other goods of great valour 1598 *Roy Reade me* (Arb) 32 Oure fyngres abyn inge with precyous stons Sett in golden rynges of ryche valowr 1598 WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* III. 67 99 b, A long and large girdle of silke and gold of no small beautie and valour 1603 KNOLLES *Hist Turks* (1621) 439 [Zemes] caused his treasure plate, jewels, and other things of great valour and light carriage to be trussed up.

† **c** Const *of* = VALUE *sb* 4. *Obs*

1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) IV 267 That euery man sholde haue his money after the valoure & þi mesure 1440 *Alph Tales* 326 He wold not gyff her for þe valour of a shred cloute. *c* 1475 *Hart Contin Hy den* (Rolls) VIII 473 London rentes vnto the valoure of a M li. 1552 *Acts* 33 *Hen VIII*, c. 39 § 1 Plate iewels or other goodes of the valour of xli ti or aboue *a* 1576 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 176 The queene gaif him ane chenyie to the valloure of ane thousand crounis 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIII v 1159 To send presents to the valour of two thou sand Asses ouer and aboue

† **d.** = VALUE *sb* 5 (QUOT.) *Obs*⁻¹

1607 COWEL *Interpreter*, *Valour of Marriage* is a writ that lyeth for the Lord, hauing prefered conenable marriage to the infant without disparidgement, against the Infant, commaunding him to appeare, if he refuse to take the Lords offer. And it is to recouer the value of the marriage.

**4.** The amount, quantity, etc, *of* (so much or so many). *vard*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Barth Faer* IV vi, I thinke wee were best put hem in the stocks, for the valour of an houre, or such a thing till his worship come *a* 1849 FOSBY *Voc E Anglia* 114, It might be about the valour of three hours, two miles, four acres, etc.

**Valouwe**, southern ME. var FALLOW *v* 1

**Vals**, southern ME. var FALSE *a.*

**Valsa ivan**, *a. Med* [f. the name of the Italian anatomist A. M *Valsalva* (1666–1723) ] Associated with Valsalva's researches on the organs of hearing; introduced or used by Valsalva

1876 in *St George's Hosp. Rep* (1870) IX. 789 On Valsalvan inflation, the whole bulges out into a whitish swelling.

**Valse** (vɔls), *sb* Also 8 volse [a F *valse* (= Sp *vals*, Pg *valsa*, It *valser*), ad G *walzer* WALTZ.] A round dance in triple time, a waltz, the music for this. Also *attrib*

1796 *Times* 19 Feb. In Ashton *Old Times* (1885) 322 The young Ladies are particularly favourable to a German Dance, called *the Volse* 1800 *Crown & Dict Mrs* I 390/1 (Chopin's) first compositions were dances Polonaises, Mazurkas, and Valses. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 168 The Vorsa a new Valse Dance.

**Valse** (vɔls), *v* [f prec, or ad F *valser* (= Sp and Pg *valsar*)] *intr* To dance the valse or waltz; to waltz

1870 H SMART *Aces for Wives*, I am quite willing to look on at your valsing for another hour 1896 *The World* V No. 114, 19 With whom Mand fancies herself in love because he valses so divinely

Hence Va lser, Va lsing *vbl. sb.* (also *transf*)

1870 MRS HOUGHTON *Red as Rose* I 102 The gnats are dancing round and round I wonder that that incessant valsing does not make them giddy

**Valse**, southern ME. var FALSE *a.* and *v*

**Valsen**, -on, obs. southern var. FAUSEN (eel)

**Valshede, -liche, nesse**, southern ME. varr. FALSEHOOD, -LY *adv*, -NESS

**Valt**(e, obs. ff. VAULT *sb* 1 and *v* 1 **Valter**, obs Sc. f WATER.

**Valuable** (væ liuəbl), *a.* and *sb* Also 7 valewable, 7–8 valueable [f VALUE *v* + -ABLE.]

A *adj* **1.** Of material or monetary value, having value for use or for exchange

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng Poesie* III xvi (Arb) 188 *Antanaclasis* (Arb) 8 Which being the effect of an vndescerning iudgement, makes drosse as valuable as gold. 1597 BURNET *Treat* III (1750) 127, I did not see the Gospel of St. Mark which is one of the valuablest Things of the Treasure 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig Tithes* II 77 Which makes tithes at least one fourth part less valuable to them, than they were to the Lawful Priesthood 1756–7 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760) IV 53 A very valuable cabinet where the arrangement is very judicious, especially as to the coins and medals. 1772 *Phil Trans Roman coinar* 82/2 Do you know whether he kept jewels, or other valuable effects there? 1805 M'CULLOCH *Pol Econ.* I. 2 A commodity or a product is not valuable because it is useful; but it is valuable because it can be appropriated by the intervention of labour 1825 *Poultry Chron.* III 430, I have lately lost a valuable hen from a disease which is new to me 1863 FAWCETT *Pol Econ* I iv 278 In the middle Ages, was about sixteen times more valuable than the same weight of silver

† **b** Amounting to a reasonable sum not merely nominal *Obs*

1623 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 159 Vpon trust and confidence that they shall demise the same at a valewable rent, and to the best profite

**c** *Valuable consideration* see CONSIDERATION 6

1638 SANDERSON *Serm* (1682) II 97 Some small trifle or other which being of very little worth or use, and so not to be taken for a valuable consideration, may therefore be called nought or nothing 1698 in Sir H Dalrymple *Decis* (1792) 1 A decree finding that the bond was granted for no valuable consideration, and therefore ordaining all execution thereupon for ever 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II 297 A valuable consideration is such as money, marriage or the like, which the law esteems an equivalent given for the grant 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) II. 64 Not even an alienation, for a valuable consideration, to a purchaser will avoid it 1898 LD. HERSCHELL in *Gedge v. Royal Exch. Assur. Co.* Will we still satisfy themselves that no valuable consideration has passed between the respective county clubs to bring about the transfer

**2** Having value or worth, of great use or service, *to* a person or *for* a purpose

1667 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* I § 182 King James would often say, that his access to the Crown of England was the more valuable to him, as it was the more difficult from the subjection to the ill manners of those Preachers 1748 *Anson's Voy* II iv 164 These were the principal goods on board her, but we found besides what was of much more valuable than the rest of the cargo. 1855 CARLYLE *Hertleg* III iv I saw most of the usual wonders —the Persian Temples being so much the most valuable 1892 LYONS *Polit Econ* 56 We may say that quinine is valuable for curing fevers, or that water is valuable for putting out fires 1893 *Law Times Rep* LXVIII 297/1 Counsel will find many hints valuable to them interspersed among its contents.

**b** Possessed of qualities which confer value or bring into high estimation

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav* (ed. 2) 146 Somewhat further over heaps of stones of valewable pottraitures, we mount towards the most lofty part of this Pallace. 1737 H WALPOLE in *both Rep Hist MSS Comm* App 7 972 I should be glad of purchasing a good collection of yvancient Classicks, and other valuable authors. a 1768 SECKER *Serm* (1770) IV xviii. 367 Yet we never doubt of their having a real, though unknown, Subserviency to valuable Ends. 1820 *Med Trad.* V 173 If they should accord with the 29 lit of your very valuable Journal, you are at full liberty to insert them 1885 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xviii IV 248 At such a moment the ministers could not refuse to listen to any person who could give them useful information. 1889 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) V 81 No instrument of education is more valuable than arithmetic.

† **c.** Of persons *Obs*

1667 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* VI § 65 [T8sy] appear d to be a good Number of very valuable Men, on whose behalf he had only Authority to conclude. 1703 *Hatton Corr* (Camden) II 250 Mr Pepys, who was a very valuable person, a dead, and was yesterday buryed. 1727 SWIFT *To Young Lady* Wks. 1755 II. 11. 49 A lady of your acquaintance

selues, excepting the generall reprehension of Warre. *a* 1635 Naunton*Fragm Reg* (Arb) 16 It valued her the more, and it took best with the people. 1673 Temple *United Prov* Wks. 1720 I 54 The same Qualities and Dispositions do not value a private Man and a State

**III.** + **8.** To equal in value, to be equivalent to *Obs*

1561 T Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* I (1577) G j Seem ing unto them no golde nor siluer wares enough to value them 1604 Middleton *Game at Chess* III 1 This goodness Whose worth no transitory piece can value *a* 1642 Rowley *Birth Merlin* IV ii, What articles or what conditions Can you expect to value half your wrong?

†**b** *esp* To have the value of (so much money)

1577 Hanmer *Anc Eccl Hist* (1663) 12 In the Greek he writeth *δραχμας* valuing six halfe peice a piece, the Attick dredth part of an Attick pound 1621 Bible *Mark* xii 15 A penny (*marg*.) Valewing of our money seuen pence halfe penie. 1634 Sir I Herbert *Trav* 41 An Englishe shilling values twentie two Pice 1658 Phillips, *Tulio* a kind of Italian coin valuing about six pence.

†**c** To be worth (nothing, more, etc.) *Obs*

1594 tr *Lutkhom's Treasury* 57 The parts of that one valueth much more than the part of the other 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* IV i, Whose reeling censure if I value not, It valueth me 1613 Shake *Hen VIII* I iii 52 What were t worth to know The secret of your conference? *Anne* Not your demand it values not your asking 1632 Lithgow *Trav* III 91 Gold valueth more in purest prise, Then drosse 1799 Southey *Lett* (1856) I 69 The t Mand of the Inn you selected for censure and in my own mind it values little.

Hence **Va luing** *obl sb*

1535 [see Value *v* 2]. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Aestima tio*, the prisyng or valuing of a thing 1593 Q Eliz *Boeth*. 1 pr iv 12 The valuing of most regarded more fortunes event, than chaunce merit 1621 *Statiouers Ang* 16 No / (Arb) IV 23 A Booke for the true valewing of anie commoditie.

**Valued** (væ lĭud), *ppl a* [f prec]

†**1** In which value is indicated *Obs*$^{-1}$

1605 Shaks. *Mach* III i. 94 The valued file Distinguishes the swift the slow the subtle

**2** *Valued policy* (see quot 1848)

1766 in Burrow *Law Rep* II 1172 A valued Policy is not to be considered as a Wager Policy 1766 *Ibid* IV 69, 1848 Arnould *Marine Insur* I v (1866) I 218 A valued policy is one in which the agreed value of the subject in sured is expressed on the face of the policy 1903 *Daily Chron* 23 Sept. 6/7 Let the private individual demand a 'valued' policy, and the monopoly of the big companies collapses.

**2** Estimated, appraised, to which a definite value has been assigned

1607 Middleton *Fam Love* I ii 58 Art or nature never yet could set A valued price to the unvalued worth 1613 *Lett t athw Knowledge* 258 Now out of 252 li tl e valued price of 12 peeces of Linnen cloth ready money, substract 56 li. [etc.] 1752 M'Donald *Lat Lang Scot* II 333 I here is no mention in the breve or service of the Valued rent 1798 in *Hist Moray* (1884) I 172 The valued rent is £ 350

**3** Highly esteemed or appreciated

1625 Glanvile *Defence for Dogm* 70 Lucrius sayes in his [book that] the Epicureans were the only valued Sects of Philosophers. 1725 Pope *Odyssey* xv 129 This salves bowl this valued vase 1746 Francis tr *Horace, Epist* I xviii 138 You boldly guard the inward Fame Of a well known, and valued Friend 1803 Visct Strangford *Poems of Camoens* (1880) 107 Within my bosom a cell I bear A secret—would-as valued woe. 1847 D Israeli *Amen Lit* (1867) 160 The exposition of a politi cal transaction is never without some valued results. 1856 Kane *Arct Expl* II xxvii 279, I have omitted that which was its most valued characteristic It abounded in life.

**Valueless** (væ liules), *a* [f Value *sb*]

**1** Destitute of value, having no value

1595 Shake *John* III i 130 You have begot d me with a counterfeit Resembling Maiesty which being touch d and tride, Proues valueslesse 1624 *Fox s A & M* III 103/1 The Sentence might not be found faulty and valueless (*earlier edd* valueriess) 1711 Ibid Burnet *Cr Hist* VII vi, One single obstacle has power to render them valueless. 1819 Scott *I ay Monstrous* vi, Take them, therefore—they are to me valueless trinkets • 1848 Thackeray *Van Fair* lxvii It was found that all his property was represented by valueless shares in different bubble companies. 1872 Freeman *Hist Ess Ser* I iv 218 All chronicles of the kind, it is valueless alike for prophecy and for early history

**2.** Priceless, invaluable *rare*$^{-1}$

1820 Shelley *Prometh Unb* IV 287 Infinite mines of adamant and gold, Valueless stones, and unimagined gems.

Hence **Va luelessness**

1838 *Lond & Westm Rev* XXIX 58 The valuelessness of all prior statistics of crime. 1881 Bruce *Chief End Revelation* IV 189 The Spinozan doctrine as to the valuelessness of miracles for the purpose of revealing God

**Valuer** (væ liuər). [f Value *v*] **a** One who estimates or assesses values, a valuator **b** One who values, or sets a value upon something, an appreciator

1612 Cotgr, *Appreciateur* a praiser rater valuer 1638 R Baker tr *Balzac s Letr* (vol II) 66 To say nothing more hardly of you, you are too unjust a valuer of your selfe. 1662 tr *Merveilles Secret conc Relig* II viii 266 What miserable valuers were they of its dignity 1730 Bailey (fol), *Appraiser* a Valuer of Goods 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict c* 125 § 89 To appoint a valuer to value the same. 1888 Bryce *Amer Commw* I 493 The varying scales on which valuers proceed 1893 *The Voice* (N Y) 31 Aug A chairmaker might bring a chair, and receive from the valuer notes for as many hours value [etc.].

†**Valure,** *sb Obs* Also 5 valur, wallure, 6 valuer, va(l)ewer [app. an alteration of OF. *valur* or *valeur* Value, after forms in -ure.]

**1 a.** Worthiness or merit ; = Value 1 a.

1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 139 What glory or what valure the may be tyde *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 864 She saw also by his norture He was a man of grete valure. *c* 1482 Caxton *Dialogues* 4 Be swyft and redy Hym or hem first to gretie Yf he be or they be men of valure. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr Ireland* vi in *Holinshed* I doubt not but hys fame and renowme in learnying shall be aunswerable to his desert and valure in writyng 1592 Wyrley *Armorie* 65 As to the gaser well it might appeere That all the Vallewer in the world was here

**b** Physical strength or ability, power, might *rare*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara s Fam Ep* (1577) 3 Of our selues we are so weake and our abilitie so small our valure so litle, and haue we no hope, thinke of our selues we haue not what to giue 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen* 440 Causing the Canaanites to feare his force and valure.

**c** Courage, bravery, = Value 1 c

Common *c* 1580 1610.

1577 Bp Breton *Flourish upon Fancy* Wks. (Grosart) I 28/2 I by valure is but vaunties, thy weapons are but wordes. 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay s Voy* IV xii 124 The Arabians believe that in valure & hardines they doe sur passe al the other nations 1606 Chapman *Gent Usher* I i, I hid a valure in my nephew that will right mine and well as waking 1640 *Yorkshire War-Comm Min* 8th (1855) 50 Barrones and gentlimen of good sourt by quhas valure the kingdome hath ever been defendit

**2** Worth, importance, efficacy. Freq in the phr *of no valure*

(*a*, *c* 1400 *Pilgr Sowle*1 xxiv (1859) 29 This excusacyon is of no valure. 1509 Fisher *7 Penit Ps* xxxvii Wks. (1876) 61 Good thynges of whiche euery thynge is of that we do is of no valure 1596 Carew *Huarte s Exam, Wits* v (1596) 61 Wa call memory a reasonable power, because without it the vnderstanding and the imaginatiue are of no valure.

(*b*) 1456 Sir G Have *Law Armis* (S T S) 214 For elles war it tiull of valure the privilege that the Emperour has gevin to the lauch 1533 Ld Berners *Gold Bk M Aurel* (1546) B vj b Wordes, whiche were not neate, rude, and least of valure 1577 Harrison *England* II vi (1877) II 149 Theses [cranes] are not least of all accompted of, because of their strength and valure. 1598 Bell *Surv Popery* III lx 397 The naturall valure only of good words. *Ibid*, The valure and pith and substance of eternal life.

**3** = Value *sb* 2

1453 *Rolls of Parlt* V 265/1 Decreas of the pris and valure of the wolles *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 374 And what Reynawde was of valure & myght suffyte was to hym glad of it bylause of y^e^ grete valure of it 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen VIII, c* 2 [they] shall put to such markes to every of the same wares, upon payne of forfeyture the double valure of the same wares 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 387 Swearing vnto him that he would prouyde other for him that should amount to as good a valure 1588 J Melles *Broyle Instr* E j Putting the valure of them how much they be, after the common price in ready money

**b** In the phr *of (great,* etc.) *valure*

1484 Caxton *Fayt & Y* (1868) 2 A shelf of crystalle of grete valure. 1491 *a Sarum Church w Acc* (Swayne) 41 Smalle peces of clene golde of litelle valure 1523 Ld Berners *Froiss* II ccccxx 499 He reputed this adventure of more valure than y hundred thousande franke. 1533 Eden *Treat New Ind* (Arb.) 24 Hys horse is iudged to be of such valure if you respect ye price as is one of our cities 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 134 I here they put all their goods of any valure

**4.** = Value *sb* 4 Cost (of so much)

1484 Caxton *Fayt & Y* (1868) 2 A shelf of crystalle of grete valure. 1491 *a Sarum Church w Acc* (Swayne) 41 Smalle peces of clene golde of litelle valure 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss* II cccxx 499 He reputed this adventure of more valure than y hundred thousande franke. 1533 Eden *Treat New Ind* (Arb.) 24 Hys horse is iudged to be of such valure if you respect ye price as is one of our cities 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 134 I here they put all their goods of any valure

**5** = Value *sb* 5 Cost (of so much)

1483 *Cath Angl* 418/2 *Costyme* Hyre, valure 1 li 124 Alle that for me thu doo pray helpeth me not the valure of a pese 1485 Caxton *Chas Ct* 120 I doubte the not the valure of an olde deede hounde 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc) II 238 Robert edward wyll spende to the valuer of twenty markys to helpe them with all 1534 More *Comf agst Trib* II Wks 1184/1 He neuer vsed to passe vpon the valure of a penie or of six pence at a meale.

**5** = Value *sb* 7 b

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* Pref With what toyle and wearinesse I was enforced to compare the parts for trying out the valure of some notes

Hence **+Valure** *v trans*, = Value *v* 2 *Obs*

Also **+Valureless** *a*, valueless *Obs* **+Valureus** *a*, valuable (cf Valorous *a* 3) *Obs*

1487 *Act* 3 *Hen VII c* 7 § 2 The nature, weight content, or valure of all manner of money coyned to be weyed or valued 1563 Foxe *A & M* 1028/2 The sentence there f might not be founde fautye and valureles by me. 1586 Marlowe *1 Tamburlaine* I ii They Garrisons shall be Enchast with precious iuelles of mine owne More rich and valurous than Zenocrates.

**Valure,** obs variant of Velure

**Valuwen,** southern ML. var Fallow *v*

**Valvaid,** *a Bot* [f Valve *sb* + -aid.] *Valvaid view*, that aspect of a diatom in which one of the valves is turned to the observer, the side view.

1892- in *Cent Dict* and later Dicts

**Valvar** (væ lvăi), *a. rare* [f Valve *sb* + -ar.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, a valve

1831 Macgillivray tr *Richard s Elem Bot* 420 Their calyx is supported with four valvar divisions 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex*, *Valvaris*, of or belonging to a valve valvary

**Valvassor,** variant of Vavasour.

**Valvate** (væ lvĕt), *a Bot.* [ad L *valvāt-us* having folding-doors, f *valva* Valve *sb*]

**1** Of sepals or petals Applied to each other by the margins only.

1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 51 Hammelidex, which are known by their habit, and also by their valvate sepals and petals. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* p. xi, Malvaceæ .Sepals 5, valvate.

**b.** Of a calyx Composed of sepals so united

1858 Carpenter *Veg Phys* § 556 The calyx of the Rham neæ being valvate (i. e the sepals, before expanding, having their edges in proximity with each other) 1877 Hulme *Wild Flowers* I p xiii, Calyx five partite, valvate in bud

**2** Of æstivation or vernation Characterized by this arrangement of parts

1830 Lindley *Synops Brit Bot* 72 Calyx monophyllous, 4–5 cleft, with a valvate æstivation 1849 Balfour *Man Bot* § 286 Sometimes they are placed so as to touch each other by their edges thus giving rise to valvate vernation 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 218 The valvate æstivation may be seen in the calyx of the Lime

**Valve** (vælv), *sb*[1] Also 5 **valwe,** 7 **value** [ad L. *valva* leaf of a door (usu pl *valvæ* a folding door). So F *valve* (1611), Pg *valva*.]

**I. 1** One or other of the halves or leaves of a double or folding door

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV 449 At þe laste þey brende þe valves of þe temple þet were i heled wit gold. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/1 Valwe, *valva, vel valve* 1661 Blount *Glossogr* (ed. 2), *Valves* folding doors. 1718 Pope *Odyss* I 555 The bolt, obedient to the silken cord Into the strong staple's inmost depth restored, Secured the valves 1834 Beckford *Italy* I 328 Having open the valves, we entered the chapel 1863 Baring Gould *Iceland* 280 The outside of the valves [of the triptych] was painted with figures of S John the Baptist and Moses 1871 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) II iii 164 Ye valves of yon dark iron portals! *transf* *c* 1530 *Judic Urines* I iii. 8 For to delyuer and purge them oute by that membre it is to say by the matryce and so out by the value, that is to say, by y^e^ gate of hyr body

**b** A door controlling the flow of water in a sluice

1790 *Act* 33 *Geo III, c* 90 § 65 If any Person cause to be opened any Lock Gate, or any Paddle, Valve or Cloush, belonging to any Lock on the said Canal 1847 Dwyer *Prime & Proxi Hydraul Engin* 74 The gate or valve of a sluice is generally made to move by machinery in a vertical position

**2** a. *Conch.* One of the halves of a hinged shell, a single shell of similar form, a single part of a compound shell

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* Isagoge b 7 b Some are covered on every side, as oisters, cocks, and tellinæ, others have but one valve, the other side stucking to rocks 1771 *Phil Trans* LXI 332, I separated the valves and the rising part of the hinge to the edge shewed them to be shells. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) VII 69 These shells take differe t forms and are often composed of a different numl er of valves; sometimes six; sometimes but three 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* II 80 The hollow valve of this species was formerly used as a drinking cup 1842 The lower valve white and longitudinally sulcated; upper valve rufous 1871 T R Jones *Anim King* (ed 4) 540 The elastic ligament for opening the valves being placed ex ternally instead of within the shell

**b** *Ent* (See quot)

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol.* xxxiii III 390 *Vulvæ* (the Valves), two lateral laminæ, often corneaceous, by which the ovipositor when unemployed is covered

**3** *Bot* & One of the halves or sections of a dehiscent pod, pericarp, or capsule

1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* I vi (1765) 13 *Siliqua*, a Pod is a Pericarpium of two Valves, between the Seeds are fastened along both the Sutures or Joinings of the Valves 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) I 294 Pod long, cylindrical; valves 2, opening with a fissure from the top 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 452 The valves of the fruit opening longitudinally, and bearing transverse septa in their interior 1870 Hooker *Stud Flora* 235 Capsule globose; valves septiferous

**b** In various applications (see quots)

1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xiii (1794) 130 The inner [chaff] consisting also of two parts or valves, which may call petals. 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) I 176 Blossom] 2 petal, funnel shaped Tube cylindrical, crooked Mouth closed by 5 prominent convex, approaching valves 1818 *New Bot Guard* I 9 The filaments, subulate inserted into the valves of the nectary 1832 J Indley *Introd Bot* 104 The pieces of which these three classes of bracteæ are composed are called valves or valvulæ by the greater part of botanists *Ibid* 126 In the most common state of the anther the cells open with two valves by a longitudinal fissure on each side 1847 Craig Henfrey *Bot* § 629 The cells [of Diatomaceæ] enclosed by a membrane impregnated with silex and separable into valves 1870 Hooker *Stud Flora* 12 Anthers opening by 2 ascending lids or valves.

**II 4** *Anat.* A membranous fold in an organ or passage of the body (esp in the heart, arteries, and veins), which automatically closes after the manner of a trap-door to prevent the reflux of blood or other fluid

1615 Crooke *Body Man* 180 In each of these passages there are Values which hinder the refluence of the choler 1653 More *Antid Ath* Scholia II xii § 6 As to the Fabrick of the Valves and Veins of the Heart 1688 Holder *Treat Causes* IV 157 Our famous Harvey took notice that the valves in the veins were so placed that they gave free passage to the blood towards the heart 1799 *Med Jrnl* II 371 This foramen in the embryo is closed by a valve which prevents the reflux of the blood 1830 R Knox *Bichat's Anat* 208 The valves close the vein, sustain the blood, and prevent its reflux towards the capillary vessels. 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* p. xlv, The valves, which in other Vertebrata guard the entrance of the great veins into the right auricle.

**b.** A similar part or structure serving to close a passage for other reasons.

1805 Bingley *Anim Biog* (ed 3) I 97 Within each [ear] there is a kind of secondary auricle so placed as to serve for a valve or guard to the auditory passage 1823 *Ibid*

(ed 4) I 110 The ears are short, and have each a very small inner valve 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 329/1 The pyloric orifice of the gizzard is guarded by a valve in many birds 1865 A. M. Bell *Princ. Speech* 199 When the Stammerer has brought the *valve* of the throat—the glottis —under due control

*fig* 1871 R H Hutton *Ess* (1877) I 74 Animals have, so to say, fewer valves in their moral constitution for the entrance of divine guidance

† 5 A supposed check (similar to above) to the reflux of sap in plants. *Obs.*

1664 *Phil Trans* I 90 About the Pores of bodies, and a kind of Valves in wood 1673-4 Grew *Anat Pl*, *Anat Trunks* (1682) 126 Which plainly shews, That in the Sap-Vessels of a Plant, there are no Valves. 1709 Lucas *Elem Nat Phil* ix (1754) 35 The heat dilating, and the cold contracting those little tubes; supposing there be valves in them, it is easy to be conceived how the circulation is performed in plants 1807 Vancouver *Agric Devon* (1813) 435 These valves possess a contractile force, whereby the regress of the moisture is prevented, and of course it is taken up by the tree.

6 *Mech* A device of the nature of a flap, lid, plug, etc, applied to a pipe or aperture to control the passage of air, steam, water or the like, usually acting automatically by yielding to pressure in one direction only.

Many classes and varieties of valves are in use, and are distinguished by special epithets denoting form or purpose, as *ball*, *clack*, *cone*, *disk flap valve*, *air*, *escape*, *feed*, *injection valve* etc See also Safety-valve.

1659 Leak *Waterwks* 23 Of the Value or Suspiral It will be also necessarie to demonstrate the manner of the value of Copper which openeth itself by intervals. 1667 *Phil Trans* II 447 A Square Wooden Bucket on the ends of which are the moveable bottoms or Valves *EE* 1708 Savery *Miner's Fr* 68 Will not these Brass Valves in your Engine speedily wears out? 1806 Vince *Hydrost* ix (1806) 91 Each sucker has a valve opening upwards 1839 R S Robinson *Naut Steam Eng* 12 The pressure shuts the valve in the neck of the air vessel, and opens the valve in the piston 1889 Welch *Naval Archit* 133 Self acting or automatic valves are fitted where watertight bulkheads are pierced for ventilation purposes

*fig* 1830 Gen P Thompson *Exerc* (1842) I 295 The slightest degree of popular interference which can act as a valve to the great boiler and prevent the whole from blowing up. 1847 De Quincey *Wks* *Soc* Wks 1863 VI 236 There was a valve in reserve, by which your perplexity could escape

7 *attrib* and *Comb.* a In sense 6, as *valve board*, *-box*, *casing*, *chest*, *engine*, *face*, etc, *valve governor*, *lifter*, *valve-like*, *shaped* adjs, also in collocations used attributively, as *valve guide stem*, *valve-rod end*

The number of attributive uses is very great, esp in recent technical works

1869 *Eng Mech* 24 Dec. 352/3 There is a board screwed down on the top of A That is the *valve board 1885 C G W Lock *Workshop Recip* v. 190/8 The valve boards are next hinged on to the feeder boards. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVII 766/2 Above is the seat of the lower steam valve, opening into the *valve box. 1869 *Eng Mech* 3 Dec. 282 2 Hole in high pressure valve-box on the valve box 1839 R. S Robinson *Naut Steam Eng* 44 The flange to which is bolted the *valve casing 1887 D A Low *Machine Draw* (1892) 71 An elevation of the valve casing with the cover and the valve removed 1839 R S Robinson *Naut Steam Eng* 62 The blow through pipe, terminating in a *valve chest 1889 Welch *Naval Archit* xl 124 In the former, a suction box or valve chest V is fitted beneath the pump 1797 J Cuer *Coal Viewer* 44 The plug floor in all the common engines falls a few inches below the top of the boiler, and in the *valve engine it falls 9 feet 1 inch below 1864 Webster, **Valve face* 1887 D A Low *Machine Draw* (1892) 70 The angle which the valve face makes with its seat is generally 45° 1848 *Penny Cycl* XXII 50/2 To bring the *valve gear within reach of the engineer 1825 Ure *Philos Manuf* 27 *Valve governors, shafts, and other gearing of mills. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.* 2476/2 The *valve guide stem has an end knob, by which its falling out is prevented 1839 R S Robinson *Naut Steam Eng* 97 The eccentric rod pulled backwards and forwards by means of the *valve lifter 1851 S P Woodward *Mollusca* 1 (1856) 34 The in-coming and out going currents are kept apart by *valve like folds 1831 *Semple Diphtheria* 206 A valve like sound or a peculiar hissing noise 1836-41 Brande *Chem* (ed 3) 594 A slender pipe, open at both ends, with a *valve like flange at one 1831 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 187/1 In this engine the work ing the valves is effected by eccentrics below the *valve rods 1861 Sir W Fairbairn *Iron* 123 To knock off the point of the trigger from the shorter on the valve rod 1887 D A Low *Machine Draw* (1892) 119 Valve rod end for 1 marine engine. 1841 *Civil Eng & Arch. Jrnl* IV 370/2 H, the *valve seat. 1844 *Ibid* VII 190/2 The next valve was composed of several triangular pieces opening on leather joints, from the circumference of the *valve seat ing 1879 *St George's Hosp Rep* IX 365 Small *valve shaped wound over outer side of fracture. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch Jrnl* VII 192 It was quite clear the *valve spindle must be of adequate strength. 1857 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xv (1842) 373 Applying the mouth to the lower aperture of the *valve tube.

b In sense 4, as *valve-flap*, *lesion*, *segment*

Many others occur in recent medical works

1879 *St George's Hosp Rep* IX 433 The junction of two of the aortic valve flaps 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 952 A deformed valve segment must be a strained segment *Ibid* 1024 In the remainder there was no valve lesion

c Special Combs **valve-shell**, a gasteropod of the genus *Valvata*, **valve-tailed bat** (see quot)

1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I 140 *Valvata*. Valve-shell 1873 *Cassell's Nat Hist* I 316 *note*. The Valve-tailed Bat is remarkable for the presence of a curious horny case, composed of two parts, which covers the extremity of the tail

† **Valve**, *sb*.[2] *Obs.* [perh an error for **valise*, by confusion with prec] A tum of a bandage

1689 J Moyle *Abstr Sea Chyrurgery* 1 vi 45 Then a soft Rouler to come several turns about it, and every valve as it comes over the wound cut in the middle. *Ibid* 46

**Valve**, *v. rare* [f Valve *sb*.[1]]

1 *trans* To furnish with a valve or valves, to govern or check, to hold *back*, by a valve or similar device

1861 Smiles *Engineers* II 160 Whilst the fresh waters should be allowed freely to escape, the sea should be valved back, and prevented flowing in upon the land. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 512 It is probable that by these synapses the circuits of the nervous system are securely valved against regurgitation

2 *intr* To make use of a valve or valves, *spec* in ballooning, to open a valve in order to descend

1906 *Westm Gaz* 3 Oct 8/1 All we could do was to un dulate, alternately valving and ballasting

**Valved** (væ lvd), *a.* [f Valve *sb*.]

1. With limiting terms a Of a door Having (so many) leaves. *rare*.

1676 Hobbes *Iliad* 375 In the pale a high two-valved door For chars and waggons to go in and out.

b *Bot*, etc Having (so many) valves.

See also *two-valved* s v Two a

1772 *Encycl Brit* I 637/2 *Silique*, is a double valved pericarpium. 1776 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) III 865 Capsule 4 valved seeds roundish. 1832 South *Otto's Path Anat* 74 Here are some which live for protection even in the cloth valved muscles 1847 W. Steele *Field Bot* 73 Fruit mostly a dry or fleshy capsule, 1 or many celled and valved

2 Provided with a valve or valves, in various senses

1793 Martyn *Lang Bot*, *Valvatum petalum*, a valved petal 1844 Francis *Dict Arts*, *Valved*, any thing that opens upon hinges or to which a valve of any kind is attached. 1852 Reid *Sciences* 67 *Humboldt's Prov* I 12 We made several experiments by means of a valved thermo metrical sounding lead, on the temperature of the ocean 1893 *Cambridge Geological Mag* Feb. 170/2 A compound set of valved instruments, consisting chiefly of cor tets, clavicors, and trombones 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 254 He has also invented to it the heart by means of muscular movements acting on the valved veins

**Valveless** (væ lvles), *a.* [f Valve *sb*.] Having no valve, destitute or devoid of valves

1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 219 Capsule sometimes valveless, never debiscing transversely 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* (1856) 69 Animal and pen like Loligo in most respects funnel valveless. 1861 Mivart *Cat* 216 The hepatic veins are valveless. 1880 *Quart Journ Microsc Suppl* 319 The 'Wardwell valveless engine 12 horizontal.

**Valvelet**. *rare* Also g valvlet. [f. Valve *sb* + Let] A small valve

1793 Martyn *Lang Bot*, *Valvula*, a Valvelet, or valvule. [Hence in later Dicts] 1870 *Pouchet's Uni t rse* 125 Two large open ings each furnished with two valves or valvlets intended to prevent the reflux of the blood.

**Valvulæform**, *a rare* [ad. mod L *valvuliformis* and f *valvul(a)* + -form] Valve shaped.

1819 Samouelle *Entomol Compend* 368 Valviform parts of oviduct 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1321

‖ **Valvula** (væ lvjŭlă) *Anat* Pl valvulæ [mod — nom sing, from dim of Valva *sb*] Cf L *valvula* pod of leguminous] A valve or valvule

Usually with Latin qualifying term as *valvæ ileo coli*, *valvulæ conniventes*

1615 H Crooke *Body of Man* (1631) 853 Some men had their heart like *valvulæ veines in the veins of the joints] *Ostiolum* than *Valvulæ* 1653 More *Antid Ath* II xii § 6 You may add to these the notable contrivance of the Heart, its two Ventricles, and their many *Valvulæ* 1832 [see Valve *sb*.[1] 3 b] 1859 *Todd's Cycl Anat* V 346/2 Opposite the attached border of the *valvula*, this lay er is somewhat thick.

**Valvulæ**, *pl* [mod] *Anat*, *Bot*, etc prec]

1. Having the form or function of a valve, composed or consisting of valves Chiefly *Anat* and *Bot*

(a) 1799 M Baillie *Morb Anat* (1807) 32 The valvular apparatus between the auricles and ventricles is also occa sionally affected 1836 *Todd's Cycl Anat* The incompetency necessarily acquired a valvular communication with it 1843 J J Wilkinson in *Swedenborg's Anim King'd* I ii 68 Among these glands we observe a great number of the sanguineous vessels with valvular divisions. 1878 T Bryant *Pract Surg* I 25 It may appear as a direct or as a valvular opening depressed, or raised

(b) 1849 *Todd's Cyclop Anat Bot* 54 Sepals 4, 5, with a valvular æstivation 1850 — *Nat Syst Bot* 141 The calyx is valvular, and the petals only 2 1879 Hooker *Stud Flora* 4 Ovary one-celled Capsule valvular

(c) 1876 J J Wilkinson *Hum Sci & Dev Rev* 67 The gates of science are valvular, and open from above down wards, but cannot be opened from below upwards.

2 Furnished with a valve or valves.

1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 233 Valvular veins, when divided across, require a ligature only at the orifice which points towards the heart

3 Of or pertaining to a valve or valves

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med* iii. 308 The structural lesions relate, in the first place to the valves and orifices of the heart. These are known commonly as valvular lesions 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract Med* 492 Valvular defects may be of two kinds; they may be obstructive or such as admit of regurgitation 1881 *Med. Times Gaz.* XLVIII 809 Valvular disease of the heart

**Valvulate**, *a. rare* [f as prec. + -ate[1]] Furnished with small valves.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 564 The length of the valve is greater than its breadth, except in the form known as valvulate pedicellarine

**Valvule** (væ lvĭul). [Anglicized f Valvula or a f *valvule*] A small valve, in various senses.

1755 in Johnson 1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* I vi. (1765) 13 The Inclosure of the Capsule which surrounds the Fruit externally, is called a Valvule 1832 T Hope *Ess Org Man* II 62 Their weight, pressing backwards on the parietes of the vessels, scoops these out at certain distances into bags or valvules. 1870 tr *Pouchet's Univers* 126 In the interior of thus lengthened heart larger valvules are folded back against the wall to let the blood pass forward 1879 *Trans Linn. Soc* II 1 31 The edge is not straight, but cut into a series of minute valvules, the crescentic or respir atory leaves.

‖ **Valvulitis**. *Path* [f Valvula + -itis] Inflammation of the valves of the heart

1892 in *Cent. Dict* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 43 A grave sign indicative of serious and generally persistent or recurrent valvulitis. 1898 *Ibid* V 866 Endocarditis affects principally the valves of the heart, hence the name valvulitis

**Valwe**, southern ME. var Fallowe *sb* and *v*.[4]

**Valx**, obs Sc form of Wax *sb*.

**Valyaunce**, obs form of Valiance.

† **Valyle**. *Chem Obs.* [f Val erian *sb*. + -yl(e] — Butyl

1850 Daubeny *Atom. The* viii. (ed 2) 249 The previous discovery made by Dr Kolbe of the compound of oxygen and hydrogen derived by electrolysis from the valerianic acid, and hence called valyle 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 195 Tetryl, Butyl, or Valyl

**Valylene**. *Chem.* [f as prec + -ene] (See quots)

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 982 *Valylene* This hydro-carbon is found among the products of the action of alcoholic potash on chloroform and benzene. 1888 *Fownes Chem.* (ed 10) 564 Quintone or Valylene.

**Vambrace** (væ mbrēs) Now only *Archæol* Forms: *a.* 4 vaumbras, 4–6 vambras (-brase, 5 umbras, 6 *Sc* wambrais), 7 vambrasse (8 -bras) *β* 4– vambrace (5 wam-, 7 van) [f. *vaut* vaunt Vantbrace, through elision of *a* and change of *mb* to *mb* by assimilation] Defensive armour for the (fore-) arm

*a* c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10030 Vaumbras & rerbras, wyb coters of stel 1386-6 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 133, 1j paletz, j bretsplat, vambras. 1390 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) I 171 Unum bonnet, par cretcernum de plate, cum vambrase et rerebrase 1461 *Will of Benney* (Somerset Ho.), I salett garnished cum argento, legharnes, vambras, & rerebras. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen IV*, 12 One sorte had the vambraces, the pace gardes, the grand gardes parted with golde and azure 1581 Styward *Mast Disciple* ii 165 To haue gauntlets, vambraces and cuisses for their shoulders & armes. 1697 Drayton *Agincourt* 8 [Whether] The Vambrasse, or the Pouldron, they should prize.

*β* 1411 *E E Wills* (1880) 19 A pare of vambrace and rerebrace *c* 1450 Metham *Wks* (E E T S) 37 Thys knyghtys vambrayys in colowre alle depeyntyd wyth red were 1513 *MS Feyfax* 3 *Feyfax VIII* No 4 (P R O), His vambraces, polvornes, ij Salettes [etc.]. 1582 Styward *Mast Disciple* I. 44 A fayre Corslet, with all the preces appertaining to the same, as the vambraces, pr collers, the poldrens with the Vambraces 1624 Capt Smith *Virginia* III ii 47 On his armes an Olters skeine, or some such matter for his vambrace 1869 A Lovell *Trevanion's Trot* III 44 They have likewise the Coat of Mail, the Cuirass, the Head piece and a Vam race fastened to the Sword 1893 *MS Feyfax* 3 *Feyfax VIII* No 4 (P R O), The vambraces or greaves which covered the arms, thighs and legs of the horsemen 1899 Scott *Anne of G* xxxii, Among gauntlets, boots, vambraces, and such like gear 1890 Boutell *In Cent Mag* CXX. ii 44 The arms are cased in brassarts and vambraces of plate.

*transf* 1766 *Phil Trans* LVI 174 I supported the vm with a vambrace, or half canal, made of one very thin piece of wood.

**Vambraced**, *a. Her* [f prec] Of an arm Defended or covered by a vambrace

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* iv. (1611) 233 He beareth Gules, three Dexter Armes Vambraced and Proper 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xvii 100/2 He beareth Gules a dexter Arme Vambraced, Or 1828 Berry *Encycl Heer* I Glosa. *Vambraced*, a term which implies that the arm is wholly covered with armour 1868 Cussans *Her* vi. 92 An Arm encased in armour is Vambraced

† **Vambrash**, *sb*.[2] *rare* Also -brishe [Of obscure origin] *trans.* To brandish

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod* N], For Iupiter touc ing the heauens with his wande, caused them to thunder & vambrashe lightnings 1579 Cockeram 1, *Vambrash* to brandish, or shake a weapon

**Vame**, obs. Sc. f. Wem *sb*, Womb

**Vamer**, **Vamere**, var *vamure* Vaumure

**Vamose** (vămē s), **vamoose** (vămū z), *v U S colloq* Also vamos, vamous, vamoos, vamoose. [ad. Sp *vamos* let us go]

1. *intr* To depart, make off, decamp, disappear.

*a.* 1848 in Bartlett *Dict Amer*, Its occupants forthwith vamosed with their baggage 1849 Hawthorne *Mosses & Hum Nat* I 112, I makes a spring in after him, and caught him by the hair of the head, just as he was vamosing 1853 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* I 173 The fifth name was that of Ratt Gundy, opposite to which Seth Chickering had written the one word 'Vamosed

*β* 1859 *Slang Dict* 112, *Vamous*, to go for be off 1862 *Illustr Lond News* 94 May 540/3 Guess, they'd better varmoose 1874 M Collins *Frances* III 80 If I can get money down for some of my gold bonds, we'll vamoos it once. 1893 J G Millais *Breath fr Veldt* (1899) 175 The hunter was voted a fraud and was told to 'vamoose'

**2.** *trans.* To decamp or disappear from, to quit hurriedly Freq in phr *to vamose the ranch*
1850 F MARRYAT *Gold Quarrie Mining* 8 On the old Californian principle of making a "pile and vamosing the ranche 1857 in Thornton *Amer Gloss* Another pair of jail birds have vamosed the log jail at Jacksonville. 1888 E B CUSTER *Tenting on Plains* I (1893) 32 I got that far when the eyes of the old galoots started out of their heads, and they vamo-sed the ranche.

**Vamp** (væmp), *sb*[1] Forms 3 vaumpe, 3, 5 uaumpe, 5 vawmpe, 4–5 wampe, 5 vampe, 6 vampye, 7– vamp [ad AF **vampé, *vampé* (Palsgrave *uanipé*), = OF *avanpé* (12th c., later *avantpé*), f. *avant(e)* before + *pié* foot. The final syllable is preserved in the variant VAMPEY.]

**1** That part of hose or stockings which covers the foot and ankle; also, a short stocking, a sock
Now *dial*
*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 400 Ine sumer 3e habbeð leaue uorto gon and sitten bauzt, and hosen wiðuten uaumpes and ligge ine han bowes liðeð 13 *Seuyn Sag* (W) 843 He dede his schon of drawe, And karf his vaumpes, for hot, And went him forht al forfot 1378–9 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 56 Pro j pare botarum et Wampes de Dubelet 1 1465 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 654 *Hec pedanus*, wampe. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/1 Vampe, of an hosse, *pedana*. a 1526 G CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 223 Allthoughe that our predecessors went uppon clothe right sumptiously, we do entend to goo a foote frome thence, without any suche glory, in the vampes of my hosyn 1676 COLES, *Vamp* a sock [1706 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey) *Vamps or Vampeys*, an odd kind of short Hose or Stockings that cover'd the Feet, and came up only to the Ancle, just above the Shooe.] 1882 in *E Cornw Gloss*

**2** The part of a boot or shoe covering the front of the foot, *U S*, that part between the sole and the top in front of the ankle-seams
1654 GAYTON *Pleas Notes* IV iv 192 Her Graces when she had victuall'd that grand Camp Gave me a piece of Cheese tuff as a vamp 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 14/1 Of a Shooe the Vamp is all the piece that covers the top of the foot 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vamp*, the Upper Leather of a Shoe 1770 *T Hansard Typ Mod Cock* (1893) 288 One pair of vamps for shoes 1785 BULKNAP in *M Cutler's Life* etc. (1888) II 234 This bathing vessel is in the form of a slipper Hats in the Head, and has legs go under the Vamp 1800 MAR EDGEWORTH *Parent's Assist* (1854) 347 The last maker made a last for her and over this Mary sewed the calico vamps 1824 W IRVING *Sketch-Book* I, Now shape the sole! now deftly curl The glossy vamp around it 1885 *Harper's Mag* Jan 280/1 The upper is found to consist in the case of a button boot, of a 'vamp' to cover the front part of the foot [etc.]

**Vamp** (væmp), *sb*[2] [f VAMP *v*[1]] Anything vamped, patched up, or refurbished, a patchwork, a book of this nature
1884 *J F* HODGETTS *Older England* II 61 This name was no vamp or hybrid manufactured of Lamb and Langley *Academy* 6 Mar 174/1 Such vamps as the one I have analysed from Mr Henley's notes can only be credited to him as brilliant luck brilliantly used
b. A vamped or improvised accompaniment
1888 in *Imp Dict* IV 539

**Vamp** (væmp), *v*[1] Also 8 vaump [f VAMP *sb*[1]]

**I 1** *trans* To provide or furnish with a (new) vamp, to mend or repair with or as with patches, to furbish up, renovate, restore; to work up
Some further developments in dial use are illustrated in the *Eng Dial Dict*
*a* 1599 [see VAMPING *vbl sb*[1]] 16 MIDDLETON etc *Old Law* II 1, What a time did we endure in twopenny commons, and in boots twice vamped! 1639 SHIRLEY *Constl Venice* III. ii *Giovanni* In the mean time buy thee a sword and belt, And what is fit, *(I have no money) Georgio* No more I'll be a soldier This will Suffice to vamp my body *a* 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew To Vamp* to new Dress, Lacker Refresh or Rub up Old Hats Boots, &c. 1876 ALS SMITH *A to Mr Ledbury xiv* (1886) 49 Various new footed boots vamped and polished to the last pitch of ingenuity 1880 EMERSON *Conduct of Life* 91 WRI (Bohn) II 446 Plod and plough vamp your old coats and hats, weave a shoestring 1884 A GRIFFITHS *Chron Newgate* I I. 33 Blankets vamped in foreign parts With the hue of ozen
*fig* 1753 JOHNSON *Connoisseur* No 77 P 2 The woman of the town, vamped up for shew with paint, patches, plumpers, and every external ornament that art can add 1887 *Temple Bar* Dec 514 Indurity worthy of the veriest drudge that vamps books together for his daily bread
*absol* 1790 A MURPHY *Grecian Daughter* Prol Historians who only take Scissars and paste; cut, vamp: a book they make
*(b)* 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect* 100 Which opinion hath been vamp'd up of late by Cardan and Cesalpinus and other news mongers 1704 COLLINS *Ess Wr* 122, I set myself afresh to read and vamped up a fine flaunting poetical panegyric 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 227 The usurpers for the most part endeavoured to vamp up some fair shew of a title by descent 1814 *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post* 16 June 1 The falsehood was vamped up on the authority of a pretended letter 1824 *Monthly Rev* (1825) VI 111 This 385 Forged letters were produced a case of Majestas was vamped up 1894 SALA *London up to date* II 23 I have vamped up my description of the function from accounts which I have read

**†b** With personal object To convert into, to bring forward *as*, something *Obs*
*a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Charac Diurn Maker* Wks (1677) 101 It is like *Cromwell* Language when a clumsy Soldier usurps the Attribute of our English Peers and is vamp'd a Translator 1661 K W *Conf Charac* (1860) 14 For his poet-ship's Panegyrick upon the solemn Entry of his progenetors into master, and now he is vampt a gentle man 1773 BERRIDGE *Wks* (1864) 234 Some people only vamp him up as a prophet and trample on his blood

**2.** *Mus.* To improvise or extemporize (an accompaniment, tune, etc.)
1789 BURNEY *Hist Music* III 102 *note* I remember very early in my musical life to have heard one of the town waits at Shrewsbury vamp a base upon all occasions 1861 MAYHEW *London Labour* III 191/2 As soon as I could get in to vamp the tunes on the banjo a little 1897 SIR A. SULLIVAN in *Strand Doc* 654/1 Then the voice parts are written out by the copyist a d the rehearsals begin; the composer vamping an accompaniment
**b** *intr* To improvise an accompaniment
1876 SIR STERNDALE BENNETT *Dict Mus Terms* 445/1 1884 *Ilham Daily Post* 23 Feb 3/5 Pianist and Vocalist; one who can vamp

**II** *intr* To make one's way on foot, to tramp or trudge Now *dial*
1654 GAYTON *Pleas Notes* III ii 73 If my hard hearted Queen should vamp to Charon *Ibid* IV xxv 285 That is the Knight, that must be the example, That the prime horse, that will be first to vamp with 1681 *H Care Pacif Mag Romith Treas* 133 When Humility vamps on foot 1705 *Wandering Sp* No 19 73, I Vaumpt along, Cheapside, down to Fleet-Ditch 1706 *T Brown Wks Relat* (1850) 241 Our chief concern was about packing up our alls and vamping off 1887 T HARDY *Woodlanders* I ii. 24 I shouldn't have vamped so many miles for any less important employer 1891 — *Tess* I 12 Well, vamp on to Marlott, will ye, and order that carriage 1893 in *Wiltshire Gloss*

**b** *trans* To tramp or walk (the streets) *rare*
1898 T HARDY *Wessex Poems* 55 We vamped the streets in the sufling air

**Vamp**, *v*[2] *slang trans* To pawn.
*a* 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew* s v., *I'll Vamp and tip you the Civil* 1711 HEARNE *Collect* (1885) II 120 I pawn my Cloths but I'll raise the Money for you. [Hence in later slang Dicts.]

**†Vampage** *Obs*[1] [app. f VAMP *sb*[1] + -AGE, but perh. an error for *vampays* VAMPEY] Vamps or feet (of hose)
1555 [see *Wyat s Rebell* 32 Thei were driuen to runne awaye in the vampage of their hose

**Vamped** (væmpt), *ppl. a* [f VAMP *v*[1] Cf the earlier NEW-VAMPED 4.]
**1.** With *up* Mended or repaired with or as with patches, patched or furbished up, made up or composed of old materials and produced as new.
1729 ] MACKY *Journ. thro Eng* I iv 74 Women in vampt up old Cloaths. 1743 *School of Man* 28 Is this the business of a Vamped up Maid? 1759 DILWORTH *Life Pope* 100 He lastly turns into ridicule several patched and vamped up buildings. 1890 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* v, They would not send out lying puffs of their vamped up goods.
*fig.* *transf.* and *fig*
1806 SURR *Winter in London* II 152 The hackneyed second hand, vamped up hearts one meets with in common.
1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* I, A vamped up sentimental conversation reason 1884 *Truth* 23 Mar 379/1 A passionate burst of vocal tragedy wedged in between an overture by S Bennett and a violin concerto by Spohr leaves an unpleasing and vamped up impression 1892 B HINTON *Lord's Return* 191 The vamped up sentiment; the covert sneers.
**2** Of a charge, story, etc. Invented, fabricated, trumped *up*
1808–12 BENTHAM *Ration Judic Evid* (1827) IV 170 A lawyer who knowing nothing about the matter, stands with a paper in his hand containing a vamped up story 1871 SMILES *Charac* xii (1876) 361 A vamped up charge of treason 1874 H R REYNOLDS *John Bapt* IV ii 8 § 260 He bade them to terrorise no one, and bring no vamped up worthless accusation
**2** Of an accompaniment Extemporized
1894 in *Slang Dict*

**Vamper** (væmpəɹ) [f VAMP *v*[1]]
**†1** A stocking *Obs* —
Perhaps an error for *vampers* or *vampeys*
*a* 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew*, *Vampers* Stockings. [Hence in later slang dicta.]
**2** One who vamps or patches. Also with *up*
1728 *Odes of Horace* VIII. 7/1 Our Horace is a new vamper of words and borrowed this from the Greek 1765 STRANE *J Shandy* VIII xxxvii That in selling my chaise, I had sold my remarks to the vamper 1796 J WILSON *Noct Ambr* Wks. 1855 I 191 I shall use all vampers, like the great American shrike, who stucks small singing birds on sharp-pointed thorns. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr Rev* II v iv Skilfullest vamper up of old rotten leather, to make it look like new
**3** *slang* (See quot)
1865 *Slang Dict* 265 *Vampers* fellows who frequent public houses and pick quarrels with the wearers of fine gs and watches in hopes of getting up a fight and so enabling their pals to steal the articles
**4.** One who improvises music, esp accompaniments on the pianoforte
1884 *Yorksh Post* 7 Nov, Lady pianist and vocalist, reader at sight, vamper 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz* 24 Sept, His education as a vamper prepares for all practical purposes.

**†Vampeth**, *sb* and *v* *Obs* Also vampeed-, vampet(e [ad early AI **vampéd*, later **vampé* see next] = VAMI EY *sb* and *v*
*c* 1430 *York Memor Bk* (Surtees) I 204 Pro la vampeed yng xij parium coriarum *c* 1435 *Cal Anc Corr* A 7 Vampethe [1483 vampett], *pedana impedita*. To vampethe [1483 vampet] *pedanare*

**†Vampey, vampy**, *sb Obs* Also 5 vampei, -pie, -py(e, wampay [ad AF **vampé* see VAMP *sb*[1]] = VAMPEY *sb* I
*c* 1425 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 601 *Pedana* a vampey. *Ibid* 664 *Hec pedana*, wampay *c* 1460 J RUSSELL *Bk Nurture* 804 (Give him) his vampeys and sokkes, ban all day he may go warme 1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 8 A pair of hoeyn of crymesyn sarcenet vampeys. 1530 PALSGR 284/1 Vampey of a hose *avant pied* 1598 GREENE *Upst Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI 263 Beside, you will have a neates leather vampy to a calues leather heele is not heere good stuffe maister shoomaker? 1630 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Wks* II 229/2 Of the old rotten leather for high shoes, and slippers for honest country plowmen, or belts for soldiers
Hence **†Vampey, Vampy** *v trans*, to put a vamp on, to patch Also **Vampeying** *vbl sb Obs*
1418 *Maldon Court Rolls* (Pamdle 10 No 6) Propter vampeyeng et solynge de vn paire de hosen de Rob. Propter vampeyng et solynge de vn paire de hosen de Johan 1 Wr Wülcker 601 *Pedano*, to vampeye 1480 *Paston Lett* I 487 Item, j payre of blake vampayed withe lether 1464 *Mann & Househ Exp* (Roxb) 255 Item, the same day mayer payd to hys cordwaner for vwampayinge of his boots, vnld 1611 BEAUM & FL *Nice Burning Pestle* v, [Her] Master wrought with Lungell and with All, And under ground he vamped many a Boot
*fig* 1590 B *Discollimin* 19 One of my Men being well instructed in his Crowne with Ale, rides into one of my Marishes

**Vamping**, *sb Mining* (See quot.)
1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss*, *Vamping*, the *lifters* of a stope, which forms a lining to the timbers of the mine

**Vamping** (væmpiŋ), *vbl sb* [f VAMP *v*[1]]
**1** The action of the vb, in lit and fig senses.
1509 MINSHEU *Sp Dict.*, *Calcopado* the vamping or putting to the instops to boots 1682 *Vind Conforming Clergy* (ed 2) 50 It had certainly been a very fit employment for him to have bired a Stall, and set himself bodily to Vamping of Boots. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey) s v *Vampt*, To graft a new Footing on old Stockings is still call'd Vamping 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* III, Political papers should bear vamping; like sermons, change but the application and text, and they will suit all parts and seasons. 1819 JEFFREY in Cockburn *Life* (1852) II 187, I have just got done with another Review I have more vamping and patching than writing 1850 CARLYLE *Latter d Pamph.* VII (1872) 233 The mere vamping together of hostile vexations. 1860 *All Year Round* No 72 508 No vamping of him up into a severe ancient Roman will do.
**b** *attrib* (in senses 3 of the vb.)
*c* 1890 (*title*), Rooves' Vamping Tutor —The Art of Extemporaneous Accompaniment or playing by ear on the Piano 1905 *Church Times* 30 June 824/4 Those strange, long keyless trumpets, called vamping horns. 1908 F BOND *Screens & Galleries* 147 One of the strangest instruments of the old choirs is the vamping trumpet
**2** Tramping, trudging *rare*
1661 K W *Conf Charac* (1860) 46 His quick motion and speedy vamping from place to place makes him smell like a traveller

**Vamping**, *ppl a.* [f VAMP *v*[1]] That vamps, in senses of the vb.
*a* 1616 BEAUM & FL. *Bonduca* I ii, Do you hope to triumph, Or dare your vamping valour, goodman Cobler, Clap a new

soul to th' kingdom? 1737 M Green *Spleen* 163 Whose easy vamping talent has, First wit to pilfer, then disguise 1758 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII xxii, A part, vamping chaise-undertaker demanded if Monsieur would have his chaise refitted

**Vampirarchy.** [f next] A set of ruling persons comparable to vampires

1823 *New Monthly Mag* VII 144 A sceptical critic has pretended, with a degree of malice prepense against the Vampyrarchy, that his Imperial Majesty's surgeons major and counsellors of war might perchance be deceived in some respects.

**Vampire** (væ mpəi•), *sb.* Also **vampyre.** [a. F. *vampire*, ad Magyar *vampir*, a word of Slavonic origin occurring in the same form in Russ, Pol, Czech, Serb, and Bulg, with such variants as Bulg. *vapir*, *vepyr*, Ruthen *vepyi*, *vopyr*, *opyr*, Russ *upir*, *upyr*, Pol *upior*, Miklosich suggests north Turk.ish *uber* witch, as a possible source Cf G *vampyr*, *vampyr*, Da, Sw *vampyr*, Du *vampyr*, It, Sp, Pg *vampiro*, mod L. *vampyrus* ]

1 A preternatural being of a malignant nature (in the original and usual form of the belief, a reanimated corpse), supposed to seek nourishment, or do harm, by sucking the blood of sleeping persons, a man or woman abnormally endowed with similar habits

a 1734 *Irish three English Gent* in *Harl Misc* (1745) IV 358 These Vampyres are supposed to be the Bodies of deceased Persons, animated by evil Spirits, which come out of the Graves, in the Habit they had in the Blood of my 19 of the Living, and thereby destroy them 1760 J Golovsin *Lit Ir* lxxx 98 From a meal he advances to a surfeit and at last sucks blood like a vampyre 1813 [Southey] *The Vampyre* p xx He had been tormented by a vampyre but had found a way to rid himself of the evil by eating some of the earth out of the vampyre's grave 1847 Mrs Kerr *Undine & Other Stories* iv 71 Speedy death was the inevitable consequence of such a visitation and any one who so died became himself a vampire

β 1706 Phillips (Kersey) (1809) 182 The accounts we have of the Vampires of Hungary are most incredible They are blood suckers, that come out of their graves to torment the living 1813 Byron *Giaour* Note 38, The freshness of the face, and the wetness of the lip with blood, are the never failing signs of a Vampyre 1846 T Wright *Nat Hist Apes* IX 301 Walter Mapes gives some curious stories of English vampires in the twelfth century 1886 *Sat Rev* 9 Jan 55 We would welc.me a species of all or even a vampire gladly, rather than meet [Stevenson's] Mr Edward Hyde

**2** *transf* A person of a malignant and loathsome character, esp one who preys ruthlessly upon others, a vile and cruel exactor or extortioner

1741 C Forman *Obs Revol* 12 These are the vampires of the publick, and rulers of the kingdom 1814 Harriet Shelley in *Lett Shelley* (1909) II App 1 992 In short the man I used to loved is dead This is a vampire His character is blasted for ever 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* II 174 There appeared to be no prospect of shaking off the vampires that had fastened themselves on the princes of Rajputana. 1899 F I But.ler *Log of Sea waif* 164 The vampires who supplied them with liquor had somehow obtained a claim upon all their wages.

b *slang.* An intolerable bore or tedious person 1866 B Taylor *Home & Abroad* III 11 215 In the German language there is no epithet which exactly translates our word 'born,' or its intensification, 'vampyre

c Applied to a mosquito

1864 Gerrie *Life Woods* iv (1874) 58 A sharp prick and the little vampire is drinking your blood

**3** *Zool & Anat* One or other of various bats, chiefly South American, known or popularly believed to be blood-suckers

a 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1824) II 129 An animal not so formidable but still more mischievous than these, is the American Vampyre 1834 *Hawdon's Nat Phil's Phys Geogr* 55 (L. & K.), The vampyres, or blood sucking bats, nine species of which have been mentioned 1845 E Wardburton *Crescent & Cross* xvi (1850) 168 My companion slew fifty seven Vampyres in the few minutes.

β 1783 *Encycl Brit* (ed 2) X 8711/2 The *vampyrus*, vampire, or Ternate bat, with large canine teeth 1788 Sam.el Dickson *Phil Ess Irish* (1790) V 283 We shall call it vampire, because it sucks the blood of men and other animals when asleep c 1820 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* III (1879) 154 The owls went away of their own accord ..The bats and vampires remained with me 1839 Darwin *Voy Nat* II (1845) 22 My servant suddenly put his hand on the beast's withers, and secured the vampire 1893 Lydekker *Roy Nat Hist* I 209 The vampires are remarkable for the varied nature of their food

b The tarantula spider, *rare*—1

1843 Marryat *M Violet* xliv, The deadly tarantula spider or 'vampire' of the prairies

c The devil fish *rare*—1.

1809 *Chronicle* 5 Oct. 669 This grant of the Cephalopters is simply a monstrous Ray; and though Sea Devil and Vampire are assigned to it as trivial names, it is in no way formidable save from its enormous strength and bulk

**4** A double-leaved trap-door, closing by means of springs, used in theatres to effect a sudden disappearance from the stage

1881 W S Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* 1, Where's my vampire? 1886 *Stage Gossip* 69 A 'vampire' is a trap used by the 'sprites, and is cut in the 'flats', and often in the stage —the sprite falling bodily through the trap.

**5** *attrib* and *Comb*, as **vampire bookseller, corpse, *fanned*** adj, *legend, spell*, etc.; **vampire bat,** = sense 3 a, **vampire trap,** = sense 4

1790 Shaw *Spec. Linn.* pl. 8, The 'Vampyre Bat. Tail-less Bat with the nose plain, and the flying membrane divided between the thighs 1807 *Phil Trans* XCVII. 176 The vampyre bat, which will be found to live on vege tables. 1839 Darwin *Voy Nat* II (1845) 20 The Vampire bat is often the cause of much trouble, by biting the horses on their withers. 1875 B Taylor *Faust* II iii 111, Like vampire bats, they re squeaking, twittering, humming. 1888 Burns *Post's Progress* 29 'Vampyre booksellers drain him to the heart. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* VIII. x, I through the 'vampire corpse He thinks his lance 1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd p. xxiii, I the vampyre corse of the Arabian maid Oneiza. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Mithridates* Wks (Bohn) I 440 Swing me in the span boughs, 'Vampire fanned, when I carouse. 1895 Smedley *Occult Sci* 69 Civilisation applied to the 'Vampire legends by an anonymous writer 1899 E J Chapman *Drama's Two Lives, Snake Witch* 39 That unrest That held him with its 'vampire spell 1817 Tylor *Prim Cult* II 175 I here is a whole literature of hideous 'vampire stories. 1813 Byron *Giaour* Note 37, The 'Vampire superstition is still general in the Levant. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I 49 A sort of yellowish greenish, brownish grey—an unearthly 'vampire tinge 1837 *Whitehall Ev* 29 Sept 4/2 All his disappearances are done by means of the ordinary pantomime 'vampire trap. 1837 A Ten-nent *Ceylon* 49 Some [of the devils] seem'd equipp'd with 'vampire wings

Hence **Va mpire** *v trans.*, to assail or prey upon after the manner of a vampire. **Vampi rio** *a*, **Va mpirish** *a*, of the nature of a vampire.

1850 Jewsbury *Corr* (1894) 96 Sold the house last poor Sir Walter Scott quietly in his grave, but 'vampires him with reviews that would disgrace even the annuals. 1905 B Kennedy *Green Sphinx* xxii, I he only wealth of the world to be produce coming from the labour of Nature And gold insolently vampires this produce 1888 H Merivale *Jaunt & Jollies* II vi I m not sure that you are not a ghost of some 'vampirish ancestor 1898 *Ainslee's Mag* I ang *Angling Sketches* 57 I he Highland fairies are very 'vampirish

**Vampirism** (va. mpəiri'm). Also **vampyrism.** [f Vampire *sb*] The collective facts or ideas associated with the supposed existence and habits of vampires

1794-6 E Darwin *Zoon* II 63 The supposed existence of witchcraft, vampirism, animal magnetism and American tractors. 1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd. p xxii, The same measures were adopted with the corses of those persons who had previously died from vampyrism 1853 Sheridan *Brit Theatre* 66 Instances of vampirism, which chiefly occurred in Hungary 1872 Le Fanu *In a Glass* III 202 He devoted himself to the laborious investigation of the most singularly authenticated tradition of Vampirism *fig* 1801 Southey *Lett* (1856) I 183 I he Magazine exists, the spirit having left it, I suspect vampirism in its greatest life 1892 H Saville *Fr Lett* II. ii, Further delusion, vampyrism, scoundrelism from Dan to Beersheba! 1898 O W Holmes *Autocr Breakf-t* IX (1883) 175 Ah! long illness is the real vampyrism

**Vampirize,** *v rare* Also **vampyrise** [f. as prec] a *intr* To act as a vampire b. *trans* = Vamlire *v*

1819 [Polidori] *The Vampyre* Introd p xxii, That the deceased most easily disentombed themselves, but refused to confine his infernal visitations solely to those beings he loved most while upon earth 1888 McCarthy & Praed *Ladies' Gallery* II 1 Who has time to fiction, and vampurized Mrs. Lance when she found her own experience and imagination inadequate

**Vamplate,** *sb* (we mplət). Now *Archæol.* Forms α. **vaun-plate** (vaun ), b **van-, vantplate.** *β* 6 *Sc.* **wamplet,** 6– **vampiate,** 7, 9 **vamplet** [f Ar. *vau(n)-, va(u)nt-*, Vant- + *plate* Plate *sb*] A plate fixed on a spear or lance to serve as a guard for the hand, esp. in tilting

α c1330 *Lybeaus Desc* 1644 (K.), Loke3 sour scheldes be stronge, Sour good sour hed, sour long, Sour saket and sour vaun plate. 1508 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* IV 137 I un vant plates, tun spere bedis, tua suordis a 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. V* (1), 78 Some purposes broke in the lyges hande to the vauntplate all to sheuere 1598 Florio, *Calice*, a vanplate, the iron about a tilting plate

b 1534 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* V 198 For 11 marekyn skynnis to gyne the tua vamplatis to the Kingis speris. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III vii (1912) 387 Amphialus let his staffe fall to Agenors vamplat. 1632 *Lmillins Heraldry* iv 111 Two Vamplates, or Vantplates, are to be worne for the safegard of the Tilters hand and is put out on to the staffe or speare at pleasure. 1660 in *Archæologia* XI 170 Vamplates, Gauntlets, Gorgets 1688 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vamplate*, a Gauntlet, or Iron Glove c 1888 Henry *Encycl. Her* I Gloss. 1809 Boutell *Arms & Armour* viii 128 At the hand-guard was usually placed a small circular shield or hand guard (called a vamplate), which was fixed to the shaft of the lance 1898 Visct Dillon in *Archæol Jrnl* V 309 The Hatton and Prince Henry vamplates are truncated cones.

**Va mplet.** *south w dial* [f. Vamp *sb.*1 + -let.] A gaiter. Usu in pl

1842 Akerman *Wilts Glass*, *Vamplets* rude gaiters to defend the legs from wet 1863 Wise *New Forest* 162 His legs are still cased with gaiters, known as 'vamplets, or 'strogs' 1866 Blackmore *C Nowell* xlix, She wore a pair of poor Clayton's vamplets. 1875 — *Alice Lorraine* II xvi. 208 Instead of white stockings, he displayed gold buttoned vamplets of orange velvet 1883 in dial glossaries (Herts. J. Hanis, Wilts.)

**Vampouse, Vampuse,** etron. vatt. Vamose *v.* 1857 Kingsley *Two Years Ago* I, Has he vampoosed with the contents of a till, that he wishes so for solitude? 1897 G H Kingsley *Sp & Trav* (1900) 448 A 'cute Help, who had vampoosed into the swamp with the family plate.

**Vamure,** var Vaumure *Obs.*

**† Vamward.** *Obs rare.* Also **vaumward, vawme.** [var of *vaum(f)ward* Vantward Cf. Vaward ] The vanguard of a host or army.

c1400 *Destr Troy* 3385 Hit was a semly sight to se the sothe of hem alle, Whan thei were dight in the vawmeward, redy to the bataile. 1538 R. Brunne *Chron* (1810) 288 He gaf him pe vawmward. *Ibid.* 334 per vawmward was sone done dight.

**Van** (væn), *sb* 1 Also 5–7 **vanne** (7 **vnnes**), 7–8 **vann** (Southern var. of Fan *sb* 1, perh. partly a OF *van* or ad L. *vannus* Cf WFlem. *van*, Du *wan*, G *wanne*, Sw. *vanna*.]

1 A winnowing basket or shovel; = Fan *sb* 1 a.

Also, in mod dial, = Fanner 2

c 1450 [see Fan *sb* 1 a, fl. c 1482 Caxton *Dialogues* 58 Ghyselin the mande maker Hath sold his vnnes, His temmesis to clense with 1566 Adlington *Apuleius* 121 Then al the people take a great number of Vannes replenished with odors and pleasaunt smelles. 1598 Barckley *Felic Man* iii. (1603) 246 At last he was put in a vanne, and tossed up and downe that he might not sleepe. 1602–1791 [see Fan *sb* 1 a, fl. 1620 Sandys *Trav* 1 230 The van was a broad shovel with which they threw the grain with force to a distance, while the light chaff fell behind 1807 J Robinson *Archæol Cursoria* I xiv. 477 To put them in vans or implements for winnowing corn 1863 J C Murphy *Comm, Lev* vii 30 It is used of the van in winnowing 1880– in south western dial glossaries

b A shovel used for lifting charcoal or testing ore

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 102 Your Coals sufficiently cool'd, with a very long toothed Rake, and a Van in you may load them into the Coal wains. 1747 *Saunders's Acct Iron Works* 30 *Vanning*, This instrument calle i the Vann [*printed* Vaun], is a long and moderately deep wooden shovel 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2689/2 *Van*, a shovel used in coking

c [Cf Van *v*.] A process of testing ore on a shovel; the amount of metal obtained by this test.

1778 Pryce *Min Cornub* 216 If the Van will cover or equal the weight of a Guinea, it is good. It is good Tin stuff, and is termed a Crown Van 1880 *W Cornw Gloss*, Van, a rude process of trying tin ores by crushing and washing on a shovel c 1888 *Trans Amer Min Engr* XI 64 (Cent), As he watched the process of making a van on a shovel, and saw the copper roll up to the highest point.

**† 2** = Fan *sb* 1 1 a.

1498 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B* fol 11 b, John Dale hath in his keppyng a justyng sadel, ii vannys, and a sper

**3** A wing; = Fan *sb* 1 4 Chiefly *poet.*

1567 (see Fan *sb* 1 4 fl.) 1671 Milton *P L* III 383 Stait a fiery Globe Of Angels on full sail of wing flew nigh Who on their plumy Vans receiv'd him soft 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met* XII. 749 He wheel'd in Air, and stretch'd his Vans in vain 1 His Vans no longer cut the Flight assign'd 1791–[see Fan *sb* 1 4] 1825 Kirby & Sr *Entomol* VII. (1826) I 215 Its ample vans are calculated to catch the wind as sails, and so to carry it sometimes over the sea. 1851 D Jerrold *St Giles* xxxiii 342 A carrion crow flapped its vans above the heads of man and wife 1879 E Arnold *Lt Asia* VI (1881) 156 Bright butterflies Fluttered their vans, azure and green and gold

*fig* 1898 G Meredith *Poet Wks* (1912) 549 Beneath the vans of doom did men dispute their fate.

**† 4.** ? The vane of a ship *Obs*—1

1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 13 The Vans of the next Ships (though groveling with a neighbouring Wave) could not be discovered

**5** A sail of a windmill, = Fan *sb* 1 6 c (Cf. Vane 3 a.)

1837 Landor *Pentameron* Wks. 1846 II 332 A high sets her windmill at work with ten vans, and more 1856 Rs. Browning *Aur Leigh* IV 320 As a windmill seen at distance radiating its delicate white vans against the sky 1880 O W Holmes *Prof Breakf-t* XI, With his arms flying like the vans of a windmill

**Van** (væn), *sb.*2 Also 7 **vann.** [Shortening of Vanguard ]

1 The foremost division or detachment of a military or naval force when advancing or set in order for doing so

1633 T Stafford *Pac Hib* (1821) 230 The Van went off with few slaine 1665 Manley *Grotius Low C Wars* 709 Spinola himself went in the Van, sending before him Scouts and Pioneers to search the ways and level them 1667 Milton *P L* II 533 Armies rush To Battel in the Clouds, before each Van Prick forth the Aerie Knights. 1704 *Lond Gaz* No 4054/1 They were very strong in the Center, and weaker in the Van and Rear 1708 R Watson *Philip III* (1783) v 382 The van was led by the marschal Bassigny, the main body by the duke of Savoy, and Schomberg brought up the rear with the artillery 1816 Scott *Old Mort* xxv, As Lord Evandale spoke, the van of the insurgents began to make their appearance. 1844 H Wilson *Brit India* (1858) I 220 The Mahratta army had advanced to within fifteen miles of Chanda. 1879 Froude *Caesar* xix, 308 Roman civilians had followed in the van of the armies.

b Without article.

1663 Butler *Hud* I ii 104 The Foe he had survey'd Rang'd, as to him they did appear, With Van more Battel, Wings and Rear 1667 Milton *P L* v 585 Standards and Gonfalons twixt Van and Reare Streame in the Aire 1809 Wordsw *Hofer* to They stagger at the shock from van to rear 1865 Carlyle *Frede Gt* xviii iv V 86 Van, having faced to right and so become Left Wing, will attack Kreczor

c Const *of* (war, etc.), or with possessive.

1726 Pope *Iliad* xiii 350 But those my ship contains, whence distant far, I fight conspicuous in the Van of War. 1813 Byron *Br Abydos* I vii, Another I and a braver man Was never seen in battle's van.

†d *In one's van* in front of one *Obs.*

1704 Du Fox *Mem Cavalier* (1840) 250 The king's army [was] in his rear, and Sir Richard Grenvil in his van.

**2.** The foremost portion of, or the foremost position in, a company or train of persons moving, or prepared to move, forwards or onwards.

1810 Beaum & Fl *Scornf Lady* I 1, Come who leads? Sir Roger, you shall have the Van lead the way 1648 *Herb.*

Beaumont *Psyche* xvi lxxii, The gallant Preans of His vocal Van To all the Orbs proclaim d the Spectacle 1674 *Jackson's Recantations* 19 in Hindley *Hook Collector's Misc* III, I was commonly in the van, upon any desperate exploit, having the knowledge of my weapon [etc.] 1824 W Irving *T Tyler* I 48 My aunt led the van with a red hot poker; and in my opinion, she was the most formidable of the party 1850 Merivale *Rom Emp* v (1865) I 220 The Gauls formed the van of the great Celtic migration 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxvi 240 After the van of the procession had marched into the dining room

b *fig*, esp in the phrases *to lead* (*† bear, + have*) *the van*, and *in the van*

(*a*) a 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III 215 Raitcliffe Church esteemeth it a greater grace to lead the van of all parochial than to follow the rear after many Cathedral Churches in England 1683 tr *Erasm Morus Encom* 9 Why may not I justly bear the Van among the whole troop of Gods? a 1708 Beveridge *Serm Ser I* (1710) I 234 The Apostle gives us a chain of all Christian graces wherein faith leads the van 1772 Fletcher *Logica Genev* 198 As Moses led the van of these testimonies and St Paul the main body, permit St James to bring up the rear 1838 Stephens *Trav Greece* I vii 225, I could not follow them in their long and repeated kneelings and prostrations, but my young Greek led the van

(*b*) 1771 *Junius Lett* lvii. (1788) 306 The natural resources of the crown are no longer confined. Corruption glides in the van 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I 343 Be thou therefore in the van Of circumstance 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr* III vii, I be chief of men I be also stunted in the van of men 1879 Lubbock *Addr Pol & Educ* iv 87 That nothing less will suffice here if we are to maintain our position in the van of industrial nations

3 The fore or front part of a thing. *rare*

1727 Dyer *Grongar Hill* 3 Silent Nymph! Who lie On the mountain's lonely van, Beyond the noise of busy man 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* I 508 While o'er the quivering deck, from van to rear Broad surges roll in terrible career

4 *attrib*, as *van-division, -ship, -squadron*

1852 *French Occupt New 29 Dec* 6 216 Rattler commanded the Van-squadron and charged very resolutely up to us 1795 Nelson 13 Mar in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) II 14 The Admiral made the signal for the Van ships to join him 1798 — 19 June *Ibid* (1846) III 1 lxxii, I the Admiral has honoured me with the command of the Van Division 1804 A Duncan *Nelson* 71 He received the fire from the van ships. 1860 Merrifith *Poet Wks* (1912) 122 The day was a van bird of summer

**Van** (væn), *sb.*[3] [Shortened *f.* Cabavan 4 ]

1. A covered vehicle chiefly employed for the conveyance of goods, usually resembling a large wooden box with arched roof and opening from behind, but varying in size (and to some extent in form) according to the use intended

1819 Lytton *The Disowned* I iv 50 Yes Sir, we have some luggage—came last night by the van 1825 Leifchild *Cornwall* 3 The Cornish van is a conveyance both peculiar and interesting Its particulars resembled very nearly an ordinary covered cart of some length 1872 C King *Sierra Nevadas* x. 213 The great van rocked, settled a little—and stuck fast.

b *Felons' van, prison van* Also cellipt

1858 [see Prison *sb* 3a] 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I 338 The hour when the Parliament of France had been driven into the Salles' van 1895 *Daily News* 9 May 8/6 The Gaoler—There is no van between 10 30 in the morning and four in the afternoon

2 A closed carriage or truck used on railways for conveying passengers' luggage and the guard of the train, or in goods trains for smaller articles needing protection from the weather.

Freq with defining terms, as *brake, guard's luggage* ( *an*

1868 Bovo *Less Middle Age* 339 Emerging from the carriage door, the pilgrim leaves the van at the end of the train 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX 47/1 The portmanteau and hamper had been put into the van

3. *attrib* and *Comb*, as *van boy, dock, -driver, -dweller, harness, load, -man, -shunter.*

1881 *Instr Census Clerks* (1885) 34 "Van Boy, Guard 1883 *Pall Mall G* 23 Oct. 7/2 A van boy seventeen years of age 1878 F S Williams *Mid Ry Anglia* 639 On the left of this platform is the "van dock in which the vans are standing 1895 *Daily News* 26 Sept 6/3 A Midland Railway "van driver 1894 *Ibid* 25 Jan 2/4 The fourth annual meeting of the United Kingdom Showmen's and "Van Dwellers' Protection Association 1862 *Catal Internat Exhib*, *Brit* II No 4727, "Van harness and cart harness. 1882 *Pearl Daily Post* 23 Apr 5/4 Countless "vanloads of happy urchins bent on enjoying their Sunday school treat. 1881 *Instr Census Clerks* (1885) 34 Trap Minder "Van Man 1891 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 2/7 Vanman of the Glasgow City Mission. Inst. Authorities 1 S Williams *Midl Ry* 639 The vans as they enter the shed, are at once placed under the orders of "van shunters

**Van** (væn), *sb.*[4] [a Welsh *fan* (van), mutated form of *ban* height, occurring in place names in South Wales, esp in Brecknock ] A height or summit.

1871 Kingsley *At Last* ii, Flat 'vans' or hog backed hills, a dull broad sweeps of moorland are as rare as are steep walls of cliff 1893 W Mackay *Mtn Days* I 1 The range of the great forest of Brecon, with its series of isolated summits or vans

**Van** (væn), *sb.*[5] Also 4 vanni, 5 vane, 5 7 vanne [Southern var Fan *sb*]

1 *trans* To winnow with a fan *? Obs*

1340 [see Fan *sb* 2] *c* 1467 *Noble Bk Cookry* (1882) 86 Tak clene whet and bet it in a mortoire and vane it clene 1545 Elyot, *Evanno*, to van corne or other lyke thyng 1552 Huloet Vanne or fanne corne, *evanno* 1611 Cotgr, *Berner*, to vanne or winnow corne. 1632 Archoram *Conn tw Gaile Tongues* 83 Hee vanneth, winnoweth and waggeth oates with a vanne. 1648 Hexham II, *Wt-vanninge*, to Winnow, or to Vanne out 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vanned*, fanned or winnowed

*fig* 14 *Langland's P Pl* C. xxiii 168 Elde wayneth (= vanned) away wanhope. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III xl 331 The Shit or Process, being well vanned and winnowed

†2 a. = Fan *v* 3. *Obs*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Ventulus*, Vanne winde softely on hir in this maner

†b. To fan, to blow upon. *Obs*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II viii 28 Nor does the wound but rankle more, which is vanned by the publike eyes

3 To separate and test (ore) by washing on a van or shovel (Earlier in Vanning *vbl sb* 1 2)

1839 De la Beche *Rep Cor Cornwall*, etc xv 585 We have seen a miner dexterously van pulverised iron pyrites 1859 Basing Gould *Bk of West* II v 61 In dressing the ore the miners broke it with their hammers, and then 'vanned it on their broad oak shovels

**Van** (væn), *v.*[2] *rare* —[1]. [f. Van *sb*[4]] *trans* To go into the van of, to lead

1852 A. Smith *Life Drama* ii, Do not the royal souls that van the world Hunger for praises?

**Van** (væn), *v.*[3] [f Van *sb*[5]]

1 *trans* To send in a van.

1840 *Penny Mag* I X 167 Vanning his horses to the different meetings 1862 H H Dixon *Scott & Ashcroft* iii 203 When he [a racehorse] could hardly move in his box, he was vanned down to Hermit Lodge.

2 To confine in a van.

1897 F Warung *Tales Old Regime* 34 A convict—one of the two servants who were not 'van'd overnight

**Van, obs** Sc pa t Win *v*

**Vanadate** (væ nădāt) *Chem.* [f Vanad-ium + -ate[1]. So F. *vanadate*] A salt produced by the combination of vanadic acid with a base

1835 *Partington's Brit Cycl*, *Arts & Sci* II 858/2 The precipitate is vanadate of baryies or lead 1845 Mantell *Petrifactions* 1. 309 Vanadic acid and vanadates. 1883 *Science* I 490/1 Stronlic vanadate was prepared by fusion of the acid with sodic bromide and stronlic bromide *Ibid*., Vanadates of lead, cadmium, zinc, were formed in the same way

**Vanadiate** (vănā diĕt) *Chem* [f Vanadi-um + -ate[1]] = prec

1836 T Thomson *Min*, *Geol* etc. II 539 Analysis of Vanadinite. The vanadiate known at present to exist in the mineral kingdom, is the vanadiate of lead 1849 D Campbell *Inorg Chem* 303 The vanadiate of potash in the laudphate the solution is boiled with hydrochloric acid 1869 *Phil Trans* CLVIII 18 Vanadiate of ammonia.

**Vanadic** (vănæ dik, vănī dik) *Chem* [f Vanad ium + -ic Cf F *vanadique*] Of or per taining to, derived from, vanadium, *spec* contain ing vanadium in its higher valency, as opposed to Vanadious *a* Chiefly in *vanadic acid*

1835 *Partington's Brit Cycl*, *Arts & Sci* II 858/2 The vanadic acid is reduced to the state of salinliable oxide. 1840 D Campbell *Inorg Chem* 303 Vanadic acid is a brownish powder, but when melted it possesses a rusty red 1874 Roscoe *Ess* (Owens Coll) II 55 The crystalline form of a mineral contained vanadic oxide

**Vanadinite** (vănæ dinoit) *Min* [f Vanadium + -ite[1]] A mineral consisting of vanadate of lead and chloride of lead, occurring in brilliant crystals of various colours.

1855 *Orr's Circ Sci*, *Geol* etc 532 Vanadinite Found in Mexico the Ural, and Dumfriesshire 1880 Clemenshaw *Sports Lisbon Tha* 179 The atomic weight of vanadium has been altered so that vanadinite, which is isomorphous with apatite, is represented by a similar formula.

**Vanadious** (vănæ dĭəs), *a Chem* [f Vanadium + -ous c] Containing vanadium in its lower valency, as opposed to Vanadic *a*

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 988 Vanadious phosphate and sulphate have been obtained in definite crystals. 1870 Roscoe in *Lond Philos Mag* July 63 Vanadious salt.

**Vanadite** (væ nădoit) *Chem rare* [f as prec + -ite 2 a. So F. *vanadate*] (see quot.)

1835 *Partington's Brit Cycl*, *Arts & Sci* II 859/1 Oxide of vanadium combines with bases, and forms salts, which may be called *vanadites* 1858 J Graham *Inorg Chem* (ed 2) 178 The vanadiite vanadites, when moistened or covered with water, become green

**Vanadium** (vănēi diŭm) *Chem* [mod.L., irreg f ON *Vana dis* one of the names of the Scandinavian goddess Freyja see ium. Named (1830) by the Swedish chemist Sefstrom, who found it in the iron ores near Jonkoping ] A rare chemical element (symbol V), occurring in certain iron, lead, and uranium ores, some of the compounds of which are used in the production of aniline blacks and other dyeing materials

The metal was detected by Del Rio in certain Mexican lead ores in 1801, and named by him *Erythronium*

1832 *Partington's Brit Cycl*: *Arts & Sci* II 859/1 Vanadium dissolves readily in nitric acid and in aqua regia 1839 *Use Dict Arts* 1265 Vanadium is white, and when its surface is polished, it resembles silver or platinum more than any other metal 1880 *Times* 23 Oct 6 2 I would suggest a preparation of aniline with vanadium for the tinted grounds

*attrib* 1849 D Campbell *Inorg Chem* 301 The vanadium sulphide precipitates, and gathered is roasted in an open crucible till it becomes vanadic acid 1859 Roscoe in *Phil Trans* CLVIII 11 Vanadium dioxide, or vanadyl V[2] O[2] 1908 *Westm Gaz.* 2 Apr 4/2 The material used in its construction (vanadium steel, made in the company's own works)

**Vanadous**, obs variant of Vanadious *a.*

1858 I Graham *Inorg Chem* (ed. 2) II 173 Binoxide of vanadium is also capable of acting as an acid. It is hence called vanadous acid

**Vanadyl.** *Chem.* [f Vanad-ium + -yl] Vanadium dioxide.

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 987 As it enters into many vanadium compounds , it may be appropriately called vanadyl. 1869 Roscoe in *Phil Trans* CLVIII 3 Vanadyl monochloride

**Vanbrace, bras,** vait Van-, Vantbrace

*a* 1470 H Parker *Drues & Pamfet* (W de W 1496) x vi 329/2 We shalde take with us rerebrase and vanbras & 3 sloues of plate 1649 G Daniel *Trinarch Hen V*, ccxvii, Alanzon brakes the Blow, which the King first Male, and locks his Hilt In Hand-a Vanbrace 1816 *Monthly Mag* XLI 330 Their arms and legs vanbras and cuisses sheath

**Vance,** variant of Vaunce *v Obs*

†**Vancement.** *Obs*[-1] In 4 vaunse [Aphetic f. Advancement ] Advancement, preferment

1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 5514 3yf pou oþer saue or sent Of holy cherche to haue vaunsement

**Vance-roof.** *L. Angl* Also 8-9 vaunce-. [f Vaunce *v*] A garret. Also *fig*

1655 Gurnall *Chr in Arm* II vii § 2 316 Canst thou hide any one sin in the vaunce-roof of thy heart? 1657 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 129 You may ges how full our hous is when my lady and all her family must be in the vaniz'e roufl over the dining chamber 1688-9 *Mrs Nett Nicholas Quakers*, And for the vance roofes we giue for a weeke for those to worke in 'y Lodge in the hole 1789 in Marshall *Rur Econ E Norf* (1858) 2 Moor Cuffs[?] Close

†**Vanchase.** *Obs rare.* Also vaunchace [f *van-* (see Vant-) + Chase *sb*[1] Cf Vaunt chasf ] The van, front, or advanced part of the chase or hunt. So †Vanchaser, a hound hunting in the van *Obs*

*c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) Frol1 He hath ynogh at done to loke which houndes ben vanchasours and perfiters *Ibid* He shal se, which houndes commeth in the vanchace [*Bodl MS* vaunchace] and the myddell and whiche ben perfiters

**Van-courier** (væ nkū rĭəɹ) Forms *a* 6-7 van-corrier, 7 -currier, -iour *β.* 7-9 van-courier [Var. of *vant-* Vaunt-courier ] A vaunt courier or forerunner, in lit and *fig* senses

*a.* 1581 Stward *Mort Dacaph* 115 He is to appoint what bands shal watch & what vancurriers 1634 Bas towe *Theoph* viii xliv, Wndes are van curriers and postillons to Thy will 1657 Reeve *Gods Plea* 249 Where is reformation to latch after the Vanciurriers, and to carry on their march? 1687 tr *Sallust* (1692) 287 The Vancurriers that scouted before, returning brought word, that all were friends

*β* 1670 *Caveat to Conventiclers* 1 The Van courriers appeared in number about half a score *a* 1694 *Life M Robinson* (1708) Mayor) 36 All the neighbouring Gentlemen knew of the master s approach by these his vancouriers. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Van c urriers*, light armed Soldiers sent before to beat the Road, upon the approach of an Enemy 1879 Tomhunter *Alcestis* 11 What bodes this pale vancourier of fate?

**Vanouist,** obs Sc. pa t and pple of Vanquish *v.*

†**Van-current,** *a.* [f Van + Current *a*, after *van courier* ] Forerunning, precursory

1649 G Daniel *Trinarch, Hen IV*, hv, See van Current feavers but Yeild to a Pestilence

**Vand,** obs Sc. form of Wand *sb*

**Vanda** (væ ndă) *Bot* [mod L., a. Skr and Hindi *vanda* ] A genus of epiphytal orchids, native to tropical Asia, characterized by large showy flowers borne in racemes, a plant of the genus

1801 *Encycl Brit* Suppl II 738/1 1844 *Florist's Text* (1846) V 57 The Vandas, baccolabunats, and Dendrobiums of India. 1888 *Garden* 21 Jan 35/2, I herewith send you a dried flower of the blue Vanda which is now blooming

*Comb.* 1837 *Penny Cycl* IX 480/1 Dendrobiums and Vanda like plants 1844 *Florist's Text* (1846) V 55 The flowers of this beautiful Vanda-like plant

**Vandal** (væ ndăl), *sb* and *a.* Also 6-7 Vandale, 7 Vandall [nd L *Vandalus*, pl *Vandali* (also *-alsi*, *-li*, *-ilsi*, *-uli*), whence also F *Vandale*, It, Sp, Pg *Vandalo*. Trevisa, in his translation of Higden (1387), uses the form *Wandales*

The different Latin forms indicate a variation of suffix in the Germanic stem, viz. **Wandal-*, **wandil-* The assumed of these is represented by OE. *Wendlas* (pl), ON *Vendill*, designating inhabitants of the north of Jutland ]

*A. sb.* 1 A member of a Germanic tribe, which in the fourth and fifth centuries invaded Western Europe, and established settlements in various parts of it, esp in Gaul and Spain, finally in 428-9 migrating to Northern Africa Chiefly in pl

In the year 455 their king Genseric led a marauding expedition against Rome, which he took and completely sacked The Vandals were overthrown by Belisarius in 533 at the battle of Tricamarum

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 283 Changes caused by the conuyaunce of the Gothes and Vandales, and other Barbarians into Italy 1596 Spenser *St Irel* Wks. (Globe) 617/2 The coming downe of the Gothes the Hunnes, and the Vandals 1605 Verstegan *Dec Intell* ii 44, I the Gothes and the Vandalles, beeing also a people of the septentrional partes of Germanie 1647-8 Cotterell tr *Davila's Hist F* (1678) 3 Famous incursions of the Vandals 1654 Trapp *To Ser C Ancther* 47 Lull Goths, and Vandals, a rude Northern race, Did all the matchless Monuments deface *a* 1793 Savage *Of Public Spirit* Wks 1777 II 141 Rome all subdu'd, yet Vandals vanquish'd Rome. 1798 Gibbon *Decl.*

† *F. xii.* IV 146 The certain intelligence that the Vandal [*sc.* Gellimer] had fled to the inaccessible country of the Moors. 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXIV 266/1 The Slavonian tribes were subject to the Teutonic Vandals, who are often confounded with the Wends. 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 58/2 There does not seem to be in the story of the capture of Rome by the Vandals any justification for the charge of wilful and objectless destruction of public buildings.

**2** *transf.* One who acts like a Vandal or barbarian; a wilful or ignorant destroyer of anything beautiful, venerable, or worthy of preservation.

1563 Gerner *Counsel* 50 For who would Rob them but Goths and Vandals. 1790 Form *Exc Cvil* 696 At length Erasmus Stemm d the wild torrent of a barb rous age, And drove those holy Vandals (t e monks) off the stage. 1780 Cowper *On Burning Lord Mansfield's Library* 1 The Vandals of our isle Have burnt to dust a nobler pile Than ever Roman saw! 1801 Helen M Williams *Mann & Opin Fr Rep* II xxxii 177 The monuments which have escaped the fury of our modern Vandals [t e Jacobins] *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II 189 A horrid Vandal — but his money Will buy a glorious coat of arms. 1859 Sotheby *Land of Brands* 85 Stained glass, which those narrow minded Vandals, the Puritans, took great pains to destroy

**B.** *adj* 1 Of or pertaining to the Vandals (or a Vandal).

*Vandal war*, the war waged by the Roman Empire against the Vandals in Africa, 532–546.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 98 Procopius, in the fourth booke of the Vandale warre, saith that Europe suffers, to her foul disgrace This second Inroad of the Vandal Race. 1889 *Science Gossip* XXV 24 Vandal natural ists 1892 T A Cook *Old Touraine* (1894) II 39 A certain vandal servitor irreparably destroyed a great part of the old buildings

**3.** Characterized by vandalism or lack of culture; vandalic, vandalistic.

1752 H Walpole *Lett* (1846) II 443 Some good tombs , and a very Vandal one. 1857 Lo Granville in *Life* (1905) I ii 260 I they are against any Vandal destruction of towns, palaces, etc. 1865 Mary Howitt tr *F Bremer's Gr ece & Greeks* II xii 24 Masses of marble fragments and stones show what a work of Vandal desolation has been here.

Hence **Va ndaled** *pa pple*, over-run or devastated by the Vandals

1648 Winyard *M danummer Moon* 4 The whole University resembles Greece over run by Turkes, or Italy Goth d and Vandald

**Vanda lian**, *a rare*—1. [Cf Vandal *sb* 1, quot 1842.] Wendish

1730 *Hist Lill* I 435 We have now an entire Translation of the Bible in the Vandalian Tongue.

**Vandalic** (vændæ lik), *a* Also 7 **Vandal ique.** [ad L *Vandalic-us*, f *Vandalus* Vandal, So F. *vandalique* In the 15th cent translation of Higden the form *Wandalical* occurs ]

1 Characteristic of, resembling that of, the Vandals, barbarously or ignorantly destructive, vandalistic

1666 Waterhouse *Fire London* 66 Ihis late hurrass of us by a more than Gothish and Vandalique fire. 1762 Was burton *Doct Grace* III ii Wks 1788 IV 704 Rash Devices might be apt to chara e this holy man with a brutal spite to Religion, and with more than Vandalic rage against human Learning 1801 Helen M Williams *Mann & Opin Fr Rep* I xviii 226 The vandalic fury that employed itself not only in the mutilation of statues, but destroyed the paintings of the first masters. 1865 *Pcclesio logist* XXVI 271 Deliberate, we might say Vandalic demolition 1887 F R Nicholson *Iron Trades Man* xv Its vandalic operations Enoch had shown fiendish ingenuity.

b Of persons = Vandal *a* 2.

1842 *Blackw Mag* I i 88 The cathedral itself is ordered to be repaired and unfortunately beautified by the most Vandalic architect Paris ever was afflicted with

**2** Of or pertaining to, constituting, of the Vandals

*a* 1797 Newton *Dis Daniel* (1733) I v 74 The Burgun dians, a Vandalic nation, were between the Vistula and the southern fountai i of the Boristhenes 1800 Sibbald *Chron* v P IV p 15, I he Saxons, of Vandalic origin 1838 G S Faber *Inquiry* 477 Passing thence into Germany, he long sojourned among the Vandalic States, and finally settled in Bohemia. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* II xv 375 Barbarians of the Vandalic race, made insolent by success

† **Vandalicro.** *Obs.*—1 [a older Sp *vandolero*.] = Bandolero 2

*a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir Archæol Soc) II 78 The Major had noe amuniton more then what the souldiers did carie in their vandalicros about them

**Va ndalish**, *a. rare* [f. Vandal + -ish.] Vandalic, vandalistic.

1834 Beckford *Italy* II 356 Yes, I witnessed this vandalish operation. 1839 *Blackw. Mag* XLVI. 647 These pretended barbarians – Gothic, Vandalish, Lombard, were in reality the restorers and regenerators of the effete Roman intellect

**Vandalism** (væ ndăliz'm). [a F. *vandalisme*, first used by Henri Grégoire, Bishop of Blois, *c* 1793.] The conduct or spirit characteristic of, or attributed to, the Vandals in respect of culture, ruthless destruction or spoiling of anything beautiful or venerable, in weakened sense, barbarous, ignorant, or inartistic treatment

1798 Helen M Williams *Lett France* IV 179 (Jod.), those barbarous triumphs are passed and anarchy and vandalism can return no more. 1800 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* VIII 684 The writers, who bring against certain philosophic innovations a clamorous charge of Vandalism 1848 Gallenga *Italy* 407 After several hours of that unavailing Vandalism, which set houses and palaces on fire, they were compelled to beat a retreat *a* 1858 Sir G Scott *Lect Archit* (1879) I. 35 Monuments, through the lapse of time and the barbarous hand of modern Vandalism, become in many cases decayed and mutilated

b. An instance of this, a vandalistic act.

1881 Serg Ballantine *Exper* xxii. 218 The vandalisms that have changed the fair scene into its present shape

**Vandalistic** (vændăli stik), *a* [f. Vandal *sb* + -istic.] Characterized by, given to, vandalism

1854 *Fraser's Mag* L 205 I he authorities are Vandalistic enough to prohibit the sport 1897 *Naturalist* 45 The most vandalistic plant grubber. 1900 *Westm G az* 8 May 1/1 The native betrays a vandalistic disposition towards the tablets and inscriptions

**Vandalisa tion.** [Cf next] The action of rendering barbarous

1800 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* VIII 684 Events thicken to accelerate the entire Vandalisation of Europe.

**Vandalize** (væ ndălaiz), *v* [f Vandal *sb* + -ize.] *trans.* To render Vandal in respect of culture, to deal with or treat in a vandalistic manner.

1800 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* VIII 684 To vandalize Europe then can have no other signification than to introduce eastern Slavonian barbarians to domination over the actual feats of culture and improvement 1821 *New Monthly Mag* II 355 They are not only va dalized in style, but in sentiment 1845 Ford *Handbk Spain* I 99 The noblest monuments of art and piety have been vandalized

Hence **Va ndalizing** *ppl. a.*

1804 Essenden *Democracy Unveiled* (1806) I 123 Direct their vandalizing ravages To make men like themselves, mere savages. 1832 *Blackw Mag* XXXI 587 No vigil ance can shield them their rude followers of ferocious and Vandalizing habits

**Va ndalously,** *adv rare*—1 [f. Vandal *sb* ] In a vandalistic manner.

1890 *Athen* 8 Sept 334/3 They were scandalously and vandalously wrong when they reviled the Mother of God.

†**Vandelas.** *Obs* Forms 6 vandelas, 7 -alas, -olose, vlose [See def ] A kind of strong coarse canvas, used esp for sails, manufactured in the district of Brittany formerly called Le Vendelais

1572 in Fenelon *Corresp d'Addt* (1908) 137 For vandelas lxvij ells de ¬lxvij vl* 1582 *Ibid* 167 For xx¹¹ pieces of Vandelas to cover the Banketting howse 1612 *Le Ger A d'Evreux* (1864) 1 Toille vlose or Vitre ceuves de ein, xs. 1640 in Pintuck *London* (1766) II 167 Linnens, narrow vandales, or vitry canvas. 1657 *Acts of Interregn* (1911) II 1223 Hollow or Vitly Canvas.

‖ **Vandellia** (vændæ lia) [mod L. (Linnæus), from the name of Domenico *Vandelli* (1732 ), an Italian botanist, in later life resident in Portugal ] A genus of scrophulariaceous plants, some of which possess emetic or purgative properties, a plant of this genus, esp *V diffusa*, or a medicinal preparation of this

1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 618/1. 1829 Loudon *Encycl Plants* 530 Diffuse Vandellia 1887 Moloney *Forestry W Africa* 396 Employed in this manner the van dellia is in common use in the action as peccacuanha

**Vandemonian** (væ ndĭmōu nĭan), *a* and *sb* Also Van Diemonian, Diemonian [*f Van Diemen('s Land*, the original name of Tasmania, given by its discoverer Tasman in 1642 in honour of Anthony Van Diemen (1593–1645), governor of the Dutch East Indies.]

**A** *adj* Of, belonging to, or inhabiting Tasmania

Freq applied to the convicts domiciled there in the early part of the 19th c

1840 G Arden *Austr Felix* 9 A shrewd old Vandemonian colonist 1845 S. Sidney *Three Colonies Australia* (ed 2) 171 *note* Acts levelled against Van Diemonian expirees 1845 W Howitt *Two Y ars in Sva ia* I 367 Some of the Van Diemonian convicts

**B** *sb* An inhabitant of Tasmania

1852 G C. Mundy *Our Antipodes* III viii 251 The Van Diemonians, as they unpleasingly call themselves 1867 *Cassell's Mag* II 240 I never wanted to leave England,' I have heard va ious Vandemonian observe boastfully.

Hence **Vandemo nianism,** rough or unmannerly behaviour, rowdyism

1863 *Victorian Hansard* 22 Apr IX 701 (Morris), Mr Houston looked upon the conduct of hon gentlemen opposite as ranging from the extreme of vandemonianism to the extreme of nanny pambyism

† **Vandem.** *Obs*—1 [Humorous application of Du *van dem*, 'of the', in surnames.] Dutch.

1658 Ford *Lady's Trial* II 4 Gulls or Moguls, Tag, rag, or other, Hoger-Mogen vanden, Skip-jacks, or Chouses.

**Vandros** : see Reardos 2 (quot. 1552).

**Vandscott,** obs. Sc. form of Waindcot

**Vandyke** (vændai k), *sb.* Also 8 **Vandike,** 8–9 **Vandyck** [From the name of Sir Anthony *Vandyke* (Anglicized spelling of *Van Dyck*), the great Flemish painter (1599–1641) ]

1 A painting or portrait by Vandyke.

1751 H Walpole *Lett* (1846) II 395 The whole length Vandykes went for a song 1888 Mrs H Ward *Elsmere* 542 The hall room, lined with Vandycks and Lelys.

**2** A broad lace or linen collar or neckerchief with a deeply cut edge, in imitation of the style of collar freq depicted in portraits by Vandyke, forming an article of fashionable dress in the 18th century

1755 *Gentl Mag* XXV 324 Circling round her iv'ry neck Frizzle cut the smart Vandike 1769 Granger *Biog Hist Eng Chas I.* 571 Laced handkerchiefs, resembling the large falling band worn by the men, were in fashion among the ladies this article of dress has been lately revived, and called a Vandyck 1858 Hawthorne *Amer Note-Bks* (1868) I 242 One of them attempts to exchange a worked vandyke.

**3** One of a number of deep cut points on the border or fringe of an article of apparel (see quot. 1882). Usu. in pl

1829 *Souvenir* I 151/3 (Stanford), Tulle pelisse, with three vandykes on the shoulders, forming epaulettes. 1842 *Penny* Porter *Silk Manuf* 230 The particular form required whether as vandykes, or scallops or any other figures 1898 *Ladies Treasury* Sept 585 The band here is beth cut in vandykes. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 510/1 *Vandykes*, this term is descriptive of a particular pointed form cut as a decorative border to collars and other portions of wearing apparel, and to the trimmings of dress skirts and bodies

**4.** *transf* A notched, deeply indented, or zigzag border, edging, or formation

1846 Ruskin *Lect Wks* 1903 XXXVI 64 A bridge with this pretty vandyke outside by way of variety 1891 *Daily News* 24 Oct 2/8 I he whole coast is a vandyke of bays and cliffs and promontories.

**5** *techn* (See quot )

1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II 736 (Buhl work), Brass borders, technically known as vandykes, are worked in narrow slips.

**6.** Used attrib or as adj in designating things associated in some way with Vandyke or his paintings, as *Vandyke beard, border, brown, couching*, etc (see quots and cf prec senses).

1854 *Weekly Gaz* 15 June 371 Everyone is now wearing a pointed V shaped Vandyck beard, while a few years ago the Vandyck beard was unknown 1880 *Paper & Print. Trades Jrnl* xxx 29 Each page having a deep Vandyke border. 1890 Weale *Dict Terms*, *Vandyke Brown*, a species of peat or bog earth, of a fine deep semi trans parent brown colour 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 198 **Vandyke couching*, a Raised Couching formed with lines of whipcord laid on the linen founda tion in the shape of vandykes [etc.] 1895 Macaulay *Ess Milton* 76 In Hall is a Chapel, his handwriting in hand some face, and his peaked beard 1757 Mrs Delany *Life & Corr* (1861) III 467 Madam Goldneuse, in a round card cap of black lace and a *vandyke handkerchief of the same 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 195/1 **Vandyke stitch* is raised Couching 1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* I v, *Vandyke tippets, ruffs, farthingales, are bright vis dly before us. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 499/1 **Vandyke tracery* is worked much in the same way as Cut Work tracery, and forms a zig zag device on the open parts of leaves and other spaces. 1899 *Girl's Own Jrnl* 242 In 1766 Crane manufactured a rich brocade for waist coats, and about two years afterwards he attempted *van dyke work, by expending a warp-machine to a plain stock ing frame.

b (See quot )

1885 Maiden *Useful Pl W Ind* 99 *Panicum flavidum*, * Vandyke Grass (of Bailey)

**Vandyke** (vændai k), *v* Also Vandyck. [f as prec ]

1. *trans.* To furnish or provide (some dress material) with vandykes or deep cut points, after the manner represented in Vandyke's paintings, to cut or shape with deep angular indentations. Chiefly in pa pple

1800 [implied in Vandyked *ppl a* ]. 1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* vii 65 Long muslin frockies, Vandyked across the breast 1882 *Pall Mall Gaz* 7 The muslin skirt is trimmed with a gathered flounce, vandyked at each edge 1894 Weyman *Man in Black* 55 His dress was in the ex treme of the fashion, his falling collar vandyked

b. In general use

1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Feb, I made the leaves of t e [needle-] book, which I vandyked very nicely out of a piece of flannel 1868 *Jrnl Arts* Nov 285 A shelf of limestone not presenting a straight face, but vandyked as it were into a bewildering number of zigzags 1887 Grosart in *Lismore Papers* Ser II I 4 This document is indented or vandyked along its upper edge

c Said of the thing forming, or helping to form, the indentations

1854 *Chambers' Jrnl* II 383 Tongues of sea sand vandyking its borders. 1866 Lockyer *Guillemots Heavens* (ed 3) 298 It is easy to see numerous irregularities and transverse markings, vandyking and crossing the more visible features in various directions. 1898 Weyman *Castle Inn* 221 The peaks of three gables rose above them, vandyking the sky.

**2** *intr.* To go or proceed in an irregular zigzag manner, to take a zigzag course ? *Obs.*

1828 Moir *Mansie Wauch* xiii 195 It behoves me to beg pardon for being forced whiles to zig zag and vandyke. 1832 *Fraser's Mag* III 27 He discussed two bottles of

old Bordeaux, and, staggering to a bye lane, vandyked to Farningham. 1845 ALB SMITH *Port Scattergood Faun* xv, Foreign gentlemen vandyked with indecision about the quay, as they tried to recollect the name of the hotel

**Vandyked** (vændaɪkt), *ppl. a.* [Cf. prec.] Provided with vandykes, cut or shaped at the edge into deep indentations, zigzagged.

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 22 Nov 3/3 A broad border, or rather flounce, of vandyked velvet 1832 J. BROWN *Bh Pastorfox & M* (1834) I 109 The wings are of an intense black, denticulated with a vandyked border of white 1860 SALA *Lady Chesterfield's* v 80 The vandyked morocco valance 1892 B. KENYON *Homeward Bound* 139 The roadway is bordered by a massive stone wall with a van dyked top, like a piece of lace

**Vandy-king,** *vbl sb rare.* [Cf VANDYKE *v.*]

†**1** *nonce use* ? The drawing or sketching of portraits *Obs.*—1

1633 WINDERANK in *Strafford's Lett & Disp* (1739) I 161 You made many ill Faces with your Pen, (pardon I beseech your Lordship, the over free Censure of your Vandyking)

**2.** *concr.* Vandyked material, work shaped in vandykes or deep zigzags

1819 [F MAC DONOGH] *Hermit in Lond.* 170 Tiers of van dyking and quilled lace

**Vane** (vēn) Also 6 vayn, 6–7 veine, 8 vain. [Southern VAR. of FANE *sb.*]

**1.** A plate of metal, usually of an ornamental form, fixed at an elevation upon a vertical spindle, so as to turn readily with the wind and show the direction from which this is blowing, a weather cock.

Vanes are a common addition to the tops of spires or other pinnacles of buildings.

1485 in Kennett *Par Antiq* (1818) II 254 Cum ii venti logitis viz vanys de lyn emptis ponendis super utrumque finem predicti dormitorii 1492-8 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 103 Item, for mendyng of the va re of the steple 1483 CAXTON *G de la Tour* B j He ye not like ne semblable the tortuse ne to the Crane whi wynde their hede here a al there as a vane 1538 in E. Law *Hampton Crt Pal* (1885) 364 A vayn servyng for the stone typis at the gabull ende of the Lennys play 1572 *Churwarden Acc* (Swayne, 1896) 287 Taking down of the vanes and mending of them 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd Solomon* v 17 Like as a vane is turn d with every blast *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July 1654 There were divers curious variety of dials, little statues, vanes &c 1785 REID *Intell Powers* II xix 325 When I see a spire at a very great distance there appears no vane at the top 1816 SCOTT *Bride of Lam* IV iv Or the venerable turrets bearing each its own vane of rare device glittering in the autumn sun 1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex Phys Sc* (ed 3) III xv 138 Thus two alternations of north and south wind will cause the vane at any place to go completely round the compass. 1880 L. MORRIS *Ode f Life* 130 The old grey church, with the tall spire, Whose vane the sunsets fire

*transf* 1845 DARWIN *Voy Nat* I (1873) 3 The direction of the branches was N. b. by N., and these natural vanes must indicate the prevailing direction of the trade wind 1859 HERSCHEL in *Man Sci Ang* 136 The direction of the wind as well as its force should be registered at each observa tion; and for this it will be well to have a small compass with a vane of card or thin and very moveable sheet brass

*b fig.* An unstable or constantly changing person or thing

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV i 97 What plume of feathers is hee that indited this Letter? What vane? What Wether-cocke? *Id* 1611 BEAUM & FL. *Four Plays* Wks. 1912 X 303 My desires a a vane That the least breath from her turns every way 1850 D. G. MITCHELL *Reveries Bachelor* 133 Who is going to shift this vane of my desires?

**c** *Naut.* A piece of bunting fixed to a wooden frame, which turns on a spindle at the mast head to show the direction of the wind (See also DOG-VANE.)

1626 E. WARD *Wooden World Dist* (1708) 3 Some com pare her [the ship] to a Commonwealth, and carry the Allegory from the Vane, down to the Keelson 1769 FALCONER *Dict Mar.* A small piece or slip of bunting fixed to the mast head, or some other conspicuous place to show the direction of the wind 1865 *Rep Sea Fisheries Comm* (1866) II 204/2 Do you usually carry any particular kind of vane?—Yes, until it blows away; we generally carry a red vane. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 709 *A distinguish ing vane* denotes the distinctive flag to which a ship of the line belongs, according to the mast on which it is borne.

†**2** A metal plate having the form of a flag or banner bearing a coat of arms, esp one supported by the figure of an animal *Obs*

Sometimes app serving the purpose of a weather-cock

1500 *Morte Pr Arthur* (Roxb) *Rep* (1818) II 160 A red lyon rampand holdyng a vane enpeynted with the armys of England *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen VIII*, 57 Over the gates wer arches with towres embatailed set with vanes and the scutchions of the armes of the Emperor and the Kyng 1574 in W. H. Turner *Select Rec Oxford* (1880) 351 For . colorynge the beasts and the vanes and the Quenes armes with good colors and oyles.

**3 a.** A sail of a windmill.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ Osor* 482 All thinges are carryed about in a certaine vehement whyrling unstable-nesse, as it were the flying vanes of a windemill. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Poems, Ball* etc (Percy Soc) 47 They have a castle on a hill, I took it for an old wind mill, The vanes blown off by weather 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v. *Windmill*, Made with vertical Sails, like the ordinary Windmils, placed on an Axis of a propoftionable length to the length of the Vanes. 1754 J. SERJEANT *Madrimony* (1760) I 39 [She] took Occasion to utter three or four sighs, each of which would have turned the vanes of a windmill 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc II 49 The miller shewed me the machinery and how it works the mill by the action of those vanes or sails. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I 182 The women with a curious cap with an erection on it like two vanes of a windmill flapping in the air

**b** A blade, wing, or similar projection attached to an axis, wheel, etc, so as to be acted upon by a current of air or liquid or to produce a current by rotation

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 17 Each axis has four or more thin arms or vanes fixed into it; the vanes are similar in all respects except in their position 1824 R. STUART *Hist Steam Engine* 150 On the circumference of a wheel eight vanes or flaps are attached by joints. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 38 An upright shaft furnished with arms or vanes for the purpose of agitation 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal mining* 211 FANS.—These instru ments with straight radial vanes, were abundantly used in the German mines about 1550.

**c.** A revolving fan or wheel

1820 CRABBE *Borough* x 246 Ev n the poor ventilating vane, that flew Of late so fast, is now grown drowsy too 1842 FRANCIS *Dict Arts* s.v. Vane is also synonymous with fly or fly wheel *Ibid* s.v. *Vane, Electrical*, When the vane is placed near to it, the strength of the current will be sufficient to impel the vane forward, so that it will rotate on its centre

**4** A sight of a levelling staff, forestaff, quadrant, or other surveying instrument

1594 BLUNDEVILE *Exerc* IV xxvi 326 b Turne both your faces and also the vane of the Transuime towardes the Sun ie 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* II xiv 85 Set the Vane 6 to a certain number of Degrees, looking through the Vane P. draw your Sight Va e a little lower 1674 LEYBOURNE *Cos pl Surveyor* 45 Upon the longer Sight it is to be placed a Vane of brass to be moved up and down at pleasure 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex Techn* I *Levelling* Those Sights which are made to move as well aside upon Cross staves Fore staves Davis Quadrants &c the Seamen call Vanes. 1748 *Anson's Voy* III vii 327 The quadrant was eagerly seized, but on examination it unluckily wanted vanes, and there fore in its present state was altogether useless 1845 *Encycl Metrop* I 760/1 [In] Boulton's staffs the vane is circular and laid with a diamond shaped lozenge 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 710 The one opposite to the fore hor son is called the fore vane, the other the backsight vane.

**5.** The web of a feather

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol* VII i 374 The Mechanism of the vanes or webs of Feathers 1768 *Phil Trans* LVIII 1 The vanes of the feathers of birds of prey are broad and very thin 1834 MUDIE *Birds* (1841) I 14 The la ges ribs of the webs or vanes of not a few are of considerable substance and strength 1875 BLAKE *Zool* 98 The vane consists of barbs which proceed at right angles to the shaft

**6** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *vane like* adj., *-pin, spindle, staff, surmounted* adj.

1790 BURNS *Bess & Thistle* I 53 Inextricable vane like 1844 H. NOAD *Electricity* (ed 2) 95 The balls from which arise the vane spindles of the two clappers 1845 *Encycl Metrop* XV 708/2 In the vane staff is more particularly for the purpose [than the levelling staff]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lx Then came rows of houses, with little vane surmounted thosts 1850 *Household Words* I 409 Among the scarlet beans 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk*, *Vane spindle*, the pivot on which the masthead vane turns 1889 P. H. EMERSON *English Idyls* 22 She was black from stem to stern, from keel to vane

**Vane,** southern ME var. FAIN *a.*, obs. Sc f VAIN *a.*, VEIN *sb.*, WANE *sb* and *v.*, *won* pt. t of WIN *v.* **Vaneer,** obs. f. VENEER *sb.* **Vanehope,** Sc var. WANHOPE

†**Vanell.** *Obs rare* Also venelle [Anglicized f. VANILLA or VANILLE.] A vanilla pod. b Vanilla

1703 *Yard Gas* No 389/3 The Cargo consisting of Cocoa, Venelles, Silk Grass Ribbone and Logwood &c 1769 E. BANCROFT *Ess Nat Hist Guiana* 101 Vanilla or Vanelle are the fruit of a leguminous shrub 1790 BEATSON *Nav & Mil. Mem* I 265 One case of vanel, sixty cases of sugar

**Va neless,** *a.* [f VANE.] Unprovided with a vane

1889 P. H. EMERSON *English Idyls* 25 Down the river came sailing the black vaneless old wherry

‖ **Vane ssa.** *Ent* [mod L. (Fabricius).] A genus of butterflies (including the *red admiral* and *peacock*), a butterfly belonging to this genus

1865 BATES *Naturalist* I 264/1 The very handsome species which is at all nearly related to our Vanessas, the Admiral and Peacock Butterflies. 1903 *Spectator* 27 Jun 84/1 Many butterflies, especially the vanessas, creep away and sleep through the winter

**Vane ssid,** *a.* and *sb. Ent* [ad mod L. *Vanessidæ* (pl.), f. *Vanessa* sec prec.] **A** *adj.* Belonging to the family of butterflies of which *Vanessa* is the type **B** *sb* A butterfly of this family

1912 *Encycl Brit* XVI 467/1 The brightly coloured vanessid butterflies. *Ibid* 469/1 The British Vanessids

**Van-foss(e.** *Mil.* [ad F *avant fossé*, after *vanguard*, etc., and FOSSE.] (See quots.)

1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Van-Fosse*, a Ditch dug without the Counterscarp, and running all along the Glacis; usually full of Water 1751 DAVIES *Milit Dict* s.v. Van fosse, Van foss, *avant fossé* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk*, *Van fosse*, a wet ditch at the outer foot of the glacis.

**Vang** (væŋ). *Naut.* [var FANG *sb* 7 a.] One or other of the two ropes used for steadying the gaff of a fore-and-aft sail.

1769 FALCONER *Dict Mar* s.v. *Brace* The mizen yard is furnished with fangs, or vangs, in the room of braces. *Ibid*, *Vangs*, a sort of braces to support the mizen gaff and keep it steady. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 286 The gaff is violently shaken by the loosened sail, for both vangs and brails are gone 1852 *Voy to Mauritius* I. 35 The orderly officer, seated on the bulwark, and holding on by a vang 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* III i 65 He stood upon the rail with his arm round the vang

**Vang,** southern dial. and ME. var FANG *sb*, *v.*1

**Vangee** *Naut* (See quots.)

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut Dict* 239 The pumps of a vessel are often worked by means of a contrivance called the vangee [Description follows.] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 710 *Vangee*, a contrivance for working the pumps of a vessel by means of a barrel and crank brakes

†**Vangel.** *Obs.* Also *Sc* 5–6 **vangele, -ell**; 5 **wangele, -yl**(e, **yll**, 5–6 **-ell**, 6 **-el.** [Aphetic f. EVANGEL.] Gospel

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii 72 Lange of godis mouth is be vangel. *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Machor*) 1401 Par be luik of be wangele he gat hyme frely in bot place *c* 1420 *Wyclifite Bible* (1850) IV 297 Here endith vangelis and bigynneth a prologe on the Romayns. *c* 1448 WYNTOUN *Cron* VI xx 370 (Laing), He made a tyme in that gwhylle, Quhare in wes closyd the Wangylle 1473 *Kennat Bk Cupar Angus* (1879) I 199 Sworn apon the haly wangyl befor the Abbot and convent 1533 GAU *Acht Vay* 87 To prech his halie vangel to al creatur *Ibid* The war gel of iesus christ *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S.T.S.) I 239 Ather of vther was sworne in the haly vangell

*attrib* *c* 1450 *Maitl Club Misc* III 201 Item ane buke for the vangell lettrin

†**Vangelic,** *a.* Archaic form of EVANGELY *Obs*

*a* 1300 *Wyclifite Bible*, 1 *Tim* 1 11 Vp the eu mple [*v r* vangelie] of the glorie of blessid God *a* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lii. 969 Piers the holy vargelye gan him vndo

†**Vangelist.** *Obs.* [Aphetic f. EVANGELIST.] A evangelist *a* 1330 *Roland & V* 153 Iames be apostel bi crist lones broper be wangelist *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxix (*Machor*) 1 95 pe wark of wangelist pa do 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 89 And syne the wangelistes hes thairfor wryte *Ibid* The prophetis apostles and thes vangelists 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 200 Wolues quhome of my Va gelists wryte

**Vangle,** dial variant of PANGLE *sb* 1

‖ **Vanglo.** (See quots.)

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 270 The Vanglo or Oil plant 1829 LOUDON *Encycl Plants* (1836) 515 *Swietenia mah* These plats were introduced into Jamaica by the Jews and are now cultivated in all parts of the island. They are called *vanglo* or *oil plant* 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* *Vanglo* a West Indian name for the teel seeds of the East (*Sesamum orientale*)

**Vanguard** (væ ngārd) Also *Sc* 5 **vandgard,** 6 **vandgarde, guard,** 6 **wangard**(e, **-guard, gaird, vangart, gard**(e, **gaird** [ad OF *avant-garde*, VAR. of *avantgarde* see VANTGUARD Cf It and Sp *vanguardia*, Pg *vinguarda*.]

**1** *Mil* The foremost division of an army, the forefront or van

The Scottish examples are placed first

(2) 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* XI 164 I ill renownyt erllis twa He gaf the vandgard in ledyng 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII v 210 Alous turnbus with his heir to the vangard (ed. 1553 vandgarde) throw mony a poyt tit glave. 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* II 224 This guide schir Loth the wan gard led that da *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S.T.S.) I 270 The wandguird was neir meirchant t gitt er 1596 DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 313 He obteynet the name and honour of Captaine of the kingis wangard (6) 1503 *Lett Rich III & Hen VII* (Rolls) I 208 The Souchy vars which [were] appoyncted to kepe my vanguarde avanniced thatym forwarde with my battaylge 1598 *Barret Theor Warres* III ii 63 Let the Officer of the Van guarde draw out three ranckes of the armed pikes. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk Warre* IV viii 151 As soone as the head or Vanguard beginneth, that in the same time the Reare bee ready to follow 1665 MANLEY *Grotius Low C Wars* 289 Villars, the Comn ander of the Van Guard ...being circum vented, and taken by Fontaine-Melon 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel* (1857) III 5 The landgraves vanguard pursued their rear 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s.v., Every Army is compos d of three Parts, a Van guard Rear guard, and Main Body 1780 *Encycl Brit* (ed. 2) V 3423 Van Guard See Advanced Guard 1858 LYTTON *Leila* IV i, Winding along the steeps of the mountain were seen the glittering arms and pen nants of the Moslem vanguard 1881 LONGF *Cold Leg* I *Castle of Vautsberg*, As when the vanguard of the Roman legions First saw the march of the foe yonder hill I 1893 CLERY *Man Tact* VI (1877) 76 The advance party which may be conveniently termed the Vanguard, is com posed of cavalry and infantry.

**b** In fig. use.

1832 CARLYLE *Sart Res* I iii, At length Germany and Weissnichtwo were where they should be, in the vanguard of the world. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal* II 218 Palestine was then the vanguard of civilisation, and therefore, of the civilised world 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* I 12 They were to form the vanguard in the Missionary history of Europe

*attrib* 1888 *Century* XXXVI 657 All day the vanguard sprint, flaming bright, Bare up the brunt of unavailing fight

**2.** *ellipt.* The name of a variety of peach

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr* 14 in *Gard Assist*, Peaches. Vanguard 1820 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* 28 To the fore going may be added, Smooth leaved Royal George, Steward's late Gallande, Vanguard 1860 HOGG *Fruit Manual* 149 *Vanguard* This is a variety of the Noblesse. The only apparent difference is in the habit of the trees, which in Vanguard is much more robust and hardy than in the Noblesse.

**Vanhap,** Sc form of WANHAP

†**Vanil,** error for ANIL 2

1599 WILLES in Hakluyt *Voy* II ii 78 Many Tartars and Mogores, that brought into China certaine blewes of great value all wythoughte it to be Vanil of Cambaia wont to be sold at Ormus.

**Vanilla.** (vănı lă). Also 7 vanylla β 7 vinello-, 8 vanello, 8–9 vanelloe (8 -eloe), 8 vanillo, -illo, 8 9 vanillo- [In earlier use a and ad older Sp *vaynilla*, now *vainilla*, dim. of *vaina* (—L. *vāgina* VAGINA) sheath Subsequently a. mod. botanical L *Vanilla*, from the same source Cf It *vaniglia*, Pg *bainilha*, *baunilha*, F *vanille* VANILLE ]

**1.** A pod produced by one or other species of the genus *Vanilla* (see sense 2), esp. *V. planifolia*. Chiefly in pl

a. 1602 H Stubbe *Indian Nectar* ii 21 They added the Vaynillas [to the chocolate] for the like ends, and to strengthen the brain *Ibid* 17 Afterwards to mix the Vaynillas, cut into pieces, and dryed 1673 Ray *Journ Low C* 485 Vanillas which they mingle with the Cacao to make Chocolate

*β* 1699 Dampier *Voy* 38 There grow on this Coast Vnelloes in great quantity with which Chocolate is perfumed 1731 Abridgment *Aliments* vi v (1715) 150 When . mix'd with Vanillos or Spoon-fit [chocolate] acquires like wise the good and bad Qualities of aromatick O's 1757 A Cooper *Distiller* ii ii (1760) 220 Angelica Seed Vanellos and Mace, of each one Ounce and a half 1758 *Edinburgh Essays* 328 Cut the vanill es into small pieces 1812 J Smyth *Pract of Customs* (1821) 267 Vanelloes are long flat pods, containing a reddish pulp with small shining, black seeds but seldom imported 1854 Mayne *Expos Lex* 311/2 The vanellos is a long flattish pod [etc ]

**2** The climbing orchid *Vanilla planifolia*, or other species related to this, the tropical (American) genus to which these belong.

a 1698 T Brooke *Voy* 129 The Vanilla is a plant that creeps up along other trees in the same manner as Ivy does. 1756 P Browne *Jamaica* i (1789) 12 Nor does the vanilla grow very where in great Abundance 1783 J Hutchinson tr *Reynal's Hist Indies* III 340 The vanilla is a plant which, like the ivy, grows to the trees it meets with 1820 Waterton *Wand S Amer* (1825) 18 It is not a native of the forests I saw the Vanilla growing luxuriantly 1843 *Penny Cyc* XXVI 216/2 The reason of the vanilla not producing fruit in Europe when it has flowered 1879 *Cassell's Techn Educ* I 92/2 The Vanilla is the epiphyte or air plant

*β* 1702 *Pr pot Effectual War in Amer* 19 Cacao Trees and the Vanillo grow there (Germania in America) nat ur ally 1708 *Phil Trans* XLV 160 The Vanillos With the Fruit of this I have the Spaniards perfume their Chocolate 1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* App 330 Vanilli or Vaneloe, *Epidendrum Aromat* 1772 84 *Cook's Voy* (1790) IV 1323 The known kinds of plants to be found here are a shrubbery speedwell, sow-thistles virgin's bower, vanellos.

**b** With pl. One or other species of this genus

1827 O W Roberts *Narr Ceute Amer* 87 Their country abounded in vanillaes and sarsaparilla 1829 Loudon *Encycl Plants* (1836) 765 The Vanillas shoot out roots at every joint like the Ivy 1835 Kingsley *Westw Ho!* xxiii, One hanging garden of crimson and orange orchids or vanillas 1874 *Athenæum* 10 Oct 488/1 *La Plevrie* states that a wild vanilla has been introduced into commerce

**c.** With distinguishing epithet.

1829 Loudon *Encycl Plants* (1836) 764 *Vanilla aromatica*, aromatic Vanilla || *V. planifolia*, fragrant Vanilla. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 216/2 *Vanilloelon* Tendril-leaved 1 2 Vanilla *V grandiflora*, large-leaved Vanilla. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1204/1 Cuba Vanilla, *Cristonia Daltea*

**3** The aromatic substance composed of, or obtained from, the slender pod like capsule of *Vanilla planifolia* or related species, much used as a flavouring or perfume.

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Chocolate*, To have the better m rket for their Cacao Nuts, Achioti, Vanilla, and other Drugs 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s v, The pods of the *sinu rosa*, which is also called *Mustard Vanilla*, are the smallest of all the kinds. The *ley* kind is the only good Vanilla 1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 265 The aromatic substance called Vanilla is the succulent fruit of a climbing West Indian plant of the order [Orchideæ] 1852 J. Ross tr *Humboldt's Trav* II xvi 63 The English and the Ar gilo Americans often seek to make purchases of vanilla at the port of La Guayra 1870 Yeats *Nat Hist Comm* 152 As an aromatic, vanilla is much used by confectioners for flavouring ices and custards.

**b** A kind or variety of this. (See also quot. 1866 )

1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s v, The smell of the Vanillas ought to be penetrating and agreeable 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 215/2 It does not appear that any of the Brazilian vanillas form the substance known in trade 1866 *Treas Bot* 1204/1 *Chica Vanilla*, the Panama name for the fruit of a species of *Sobralia* 1884 *Pharm Journ* 4th S XIV 691/1 None of the South American vanillas appear to be used in Great Britain for flavouring purposes

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb* ; as *vanilla bean*, *ice*, *orchid*, *pod*, *sugar*, *worker*; **vanilla grass** (see quot ), **vanilla plant** (*a*) = sense 2, (*b*) an American species of *Liatris*

1886 *American* XII 318 The aromatic principle of the *vanilla bean* 1898 *19th Cent* April 644 Spices should be added, such as cinnamon, cloves, cardamom, and vanilla bean. 1856 A Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 374 *Hierochloa borealis*, *Vanilla or Seneca Grass*. 1846 Sower *Cookery* 553 Garnish with a custard made as for *vanilla ice*. 1883 K B Wayte in *Proc R Geogr Soc* (N S) V 260 A forest in wh i h the trees are literally over burdened with the *vanilla* orchid. 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s v, The leaves of the *Vanilla* plant are about a foot long, and three fingers breadth wide 1839 Ure *Dict Arts*, etc 1263 The vanilla plant is cultivated in Brazil, and some other tropical countries. 1854 Mayne *Expos Lex* 311/2 *Epidendrum Vanilla*, the systematic name of the vanello plant 1856 A. Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 185 *Liatris odoratissima*, Vanilla plant Leaves exhaling the odor of Vanilla when bruised. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Africa* 421 The source of the *vanilla* pods of commerce 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 66/2 The best varieties of vanilla pods are of a dark chocolate brown or nearly black colour 1846 Sower *Cook. ry* 569 Serve with whipped cream flavoured with *vanilla* sugar un ler it. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 923 *Vanilla* workers sometimes manifest lichen erythema of the face and hands

**Vanilla** (vănı l). Also vanile. [a. F *vanille*, ad mod L *Vanilla* see prec ]

**1.** = Vanilla 3 Also *fig*

a 1845 Syd Smith in Lady Holland *Mem* (1855) I 262 Ah you flavour everything ; you are the vanilla of society 1861 Bentley *Misc Bot* 69 Their fragrant odoriferous fruit constitutes the Vanilla or Vanile of the shops 1872 Ringlake *Art Last* vii, And what is this delicious scent about the air? Vanille, I of course it is.

**2** *Vanille ice*, ice cream flavoured with vanilla essence Also *ellipt*

1846 Mrs. Gore *Ivy Chat* (1852) 38 She accepts the offer of some vanile ice, which she receives over the head of a squint lady 1856 Mrs Brownin *Aur Leigh* vii 1184 Each lovely lady holds I er dese rt in while she feeds her smile On me instead, spoonful of vanilla. 1863 Miss Braddon *Hanover's Victory* III 235 Vanille and strawberry ices were in instan t demand at Fortonia

**Vanillic,** *a Chem* [f. Vanilla-a + ic ] b Vanillic acid, vanillin, or an oxidized form of this

1858 Hofmann in *Proc Royal Inst* II 466 Hlasiwetz and Haberm ann obtained by the oxidation of vanillin, which is the corresponding aldehyde.

**Vanillin.** *Chem.* Also ine [f as prec + in ] The neutral odoriferous principle of vanilla (Watts)

1858 Watts *Dict Chem* V 994 *Vanillin* was first recognised as a peculiar substance by Bley , further examined by Gobley and afterwards by Stokkel ye who designated it as a crystalline acid 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 66 The peculiar fragrance of vanilla is due to vanillin *Ibid* The amount of vanillin varies according to the kind 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 289 A solution composed of phloro glucine 2 parts vanillin 1 part absolute alcohol, 30 parts

**Vanillism.** *Path* [f as prec + ism ] A diseased condition (of the skin and general system) characteristic of workers in vanilla

1884 *St James's Gaz* 29 April 5/1 Dr Tayet has just published a memoir on the toxic properties into the nature of which quinby malady known as vanillism 1886 *Amer in* XII 269 That class of diseases in which morphi nism, caffeism and vanillism are found

**‖ Vanillon.** [F., f. *vanille* Vanille ] (See quots )

[1839 Ure *Dict Arts*, etc 1264 A third sort, which comes from Brazil is the *vanillon* or large vanilla of the French market ] 1884 *Pharmacopœia* U S 1870 In Drexel's Museum and other parts of S uth America a broken and fleshy vanilla is prepared, which has an inferior odour This variety is often called vanillon or vanillon in commerce.

**Vani loquence.** *rare*—0 [ad I *vaniloquentia* ] (See quots ) Also **Vani loquent** *a* Vani loquy [ad late I *vaniloquium* ]

1623 Cockeram, I, *vaniloquence*, much talke or babling *Ibid* I, *vaniloquent*, babling, or vaine talking 1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vaniloquium*, vain talk vain babble, Hence in Phillips and Bailey ] 1727 Bailey, *Vaniloquent*, talking vainly

**Vanish** (va nĭsh), *sb.* [f the vb ]

**1** Disappearance; vanishment

1650 T Vaughan *Anthropos phs* 58 This Vanish, or shell of the e inward Ethereall Principles doth not presently follow their separation

**2.** *spec.* A gradual cessation of a sound, a slight sound in which another ends, a glide

1833 Rush *Human Voice* (ed 2) 319 The Drift of the downward slide, or vanish

**Vanish** (va nĭsh), *v.* Forms α. 4–5 vanysche (4 -yssche, 5 -yssche, yche, 6 -ysch), 4 6 vanyshe (5 -yssh, wanysh ), 4 vanyshe, 5–6 vanysh, 4, 6 *Sc.*, vanisch (6 *Sc.* wanische, wonisch), 5–7 vanishe (6 -isshe), 6- vanish (6 vannish, *Sc.* wanish). 4 5 vanesche (5 esschе, -esshe, esce, -eche). β 4–5, 6 *Sc.*, vanys, -yse (5 vanyyss , 5–6 *Sc.* wanys ), 5 vaunse, 6 *Sc.* vanyss 4–5, 6 *Sc.* vanis (5 *Sc.* vanis(e)-, 5 waynes , *Sc.* wanes-, 6 *Sc* wanels 7 4 vansch-, 5 vanshe, wansh , wanse. [Aphetic ad Of *evanesc-* see Evanish *v* ]

**1** *intr.* To disappear from sight, to become invisible, esp. in a rapid and mysterious manner

a With *away*, occas with addition of *out of* or *from sight*, *etc.*. Now *rare*.

a 1393 Gower *Mirour* 8195 Wyp þe croys she gan hem blys, þat bey vanyssed aweye as swyfte 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V 435 Whanne þis was i seide he vanyshed awey 1400 *Rom. Rose* 9955 He vanyshide awey alle sodenly, And I alloone lefte alle soole. c 1450 *Merl Prophesie* 11 Pen anon bys fend vanechet away wyth an horryybil stenche 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* ii 111 Therwith merlyn vanyssh ed away sodenly 1545 Udall etc. *Erasm Par Luke* 182 b, After these woordes spoken, the Aungels vanished awaye from theyr sight 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), To *Disappear* to vanish away to loose out of sight 1809 Shelley *For my dagger* 17 Where the phantoms of Prejudice vanish away 1890 Doyle *White Company* xxiv, When I see the last sail vanishing away against the western sky

β c 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 2269 And when þe devel herd hym þus say, Alle skomfit he vanyst away c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii (*Agathe*) 280 Away son þai vanist but ony bone, Of þar sicht wanest away, & neuire ware sene to bis day c 1440 *Alph Tales* 516 When he had done, sodanlie he vanyssid away 1496 Sir G. Hayr *Lave Armis* (S T S) 342 Na man myght se him, nor na bit of his body bot vanyst fra thair sicht away 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III vi 109 The strait soundis of the mont Pelory Wanysys away perce and pece

γ 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl Leg* (1878) I 81 Anon þe deuel vanschede awaye 1387 Trevisa *Higd* (Rolls) V 177 Mercurius stiked hym in þe myddel of h s body, and vanished awey. 14 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 581 *Evanesco*, to vanysshe away

**b** Without *away*.

a 1377 Langl. *P Pl* (B) xii 293 Rigt with þe vaneshed c 1386 Chaucer *L G W* 1001 *Dido* To Carthage she bad he should hym dyght And vanysshed anon out of his syghte. 14 *Tundal* xviii 519 The angell vaneschyd and he stod stylle 1530 Palsgr 765/1 A spyrite wyll vanysshe and come agayne in the twynkelyng of an eye 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* ii (Arb.) 68 Þare ȝe wel d husband oure ȝoung babye chiefely tender This sayd shee vanysht 1609 Dekker *Guls Horn bk* 20 [I had] notable Art being performed, you are to vanish presently out of the Quire 1638 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 11 She og one deluded us, after two hours chase saw phantasma vanish into a sands 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 401 We had hardly alighted but our Pistols were taken away, and what was not lock d up immediately vanish d 1757 Gray *Bard* ind, The spectre shriek, they vanish from my eyes. 1797 Mrs Radcliffe *Italian* xi, Whose dark figures passing without sound vanished like shadows. 1820 W Irving *Sketch-bk* I 31 He had now vanishing from my view, which contained all that was near dear to me in life 1856 Kane *Arct Explor* I xxiii 225 Its curved face vanished into unknown space

β c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* (*Christina*) 267 With þat criste fra hyme wanyst, & hame he passit til his bewit 1400 *Alexander* 1113 (Ashm ) þan wayned him i is vayne god & vodis fra þe chanon 1513 Douglas *Æneis Tablet*, *Ion* & *Misye* xiii, And with that word he vanist, and I woke 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvi 64 Mercuryus, yet speykynge vanysshed oute of theras sight

γ 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl Leg* (1878) I 2 þe addre vanschede out of here sist 1393 Langl. *P Pl* C xvi 24 Whanne he had þe water þo how-sodeyniche he was vanysshed

**†e** In perfect tense with *be*, esp *was vanished* = had vanished *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf* II 259 Thus it befell She was vanyssh rit þ is hir liste, þat no wyht bot herself it wiste a 1400 *Iarl of Tolous* (Auch) 1160 (1960) With that word he vanished, and was away that trewly he Wote neuer where they be become c 1425 Lydg *Assemby of Gods* 118 So vanysshed he, þat I nat wher he was 1 neuer thyng with ey c 1480 Henryson *Orpheus* & *Eury dice* 113 An l quhen scho wanyst was and I wyste He mydin wyd t a 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* lxxxiii, Than sayd I what tyn e they ha l gone a lyttyll I y ye ryuer sayde they leste ye sȝ gt t of ȳ castell, it was cleane vanyssh d away a 1628 F Greville *Caelica* xli A Sunne, that riseth to my Sunne set, With thoughts to clip her, clipt my owne desire For she was vanish t, held nothing, fast 1648 Hexham II, *Het is verstorven*, it is Vanished away as dust

**d** In fig use

1560 Daus tr *Sleidans Comm* 216 Those spurtles ly lyttle and lyttle vanyshed cleane out of sȝ ght (i e in popular belief) 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 7 He that reads it as a bare miracle will onely wonder in a wondring: But in 1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 292 The Epick Poets not only im midiately shew the ff ects of the Inspiration they pro fess they a tually vanish from the sight 1843 *Blackw Mag* LIV ii 1, And in this manner vanish ed Kin g Lochard 1866 G Macdonald *Ann Q Neighb* xxiv (1878) 497 Straining their eyes after their brothers and sisters that have vanished in the dark.

**2** To disappear by decaying, coming to an end, or ceasing to exist **a** With *away*

a c 1340 Hamrole *I rose Tr* 32 þe affec yone of life es tendir an l lyghtly will vanysch away 1 a 1425 tr *Ridevrus Exet Institutes*, etc. 88 When he sejie þe colnyng for to vanysh away, and þe akyng for to be eased 1490 Caxton *Encyclopedie* 32 I hese mincyng pyes ben made of suche stuffe as thei neuer had be vsed 1530 Palsgr 765/1 And a woman be ones fourty, her beautye will vanishe awaye 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* lx, The brasen vessels shal vanishe away like smoke a 1600 in *M ntgomerie s Poems* (S T S Suppl Vol) 241 Bot quhat so ever wanis auld it wonischis away 1648 Hexham II, *Het is verstorven*, it is vanished as smoake 1804 S Smith *Mor Philos* (1850) 497 You will in ger on after the blood and the taste, and the sweetness are vanished away 1839 Fe. A Kemble *Recit in Georgia* (1863) 32 If the mind and soul were neglected, instead of mere physical good attempted the physical good would result, and the great curse vanish away 1859 Fitzgerald *Omar Iaam*, Alas, that Spring should vanish with the Rose !

β c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* iii pr iv (1868) 74 Her honours vanisen away and þat on oon 1513 Douglas *Æneid* i ix 13 The clude about þame swith was broken, And swaist tyte away amang the air

γ 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII 157 But falshes i n ȝ shod vanische away in schort tyme 1 1450 Lovelich *Holy Poems* (Percy Soc ) 226 His bestys dyeden in yche dyche, His katelle wanished alle away

**b** Without adverb.

a 1350 *Will Palerne* 659 Hit schal veraly ȝurth vertue do vanisch 3our sorȝ ! c 1386 Chaucer *Parliament* 1 404 Lo how I vanysshe, flesah and blood and skyn 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Ter* xiii 7 Is wisdome no more in them ? is their wisdome vanished ? 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 211 The benefite of the same will utterly decay and v nish 1617 Moryson *Itin.* ii 124 The fortifyn g of the Spaniards at Sluys vanished with the rumour 1695 Wood *Life* (O H S) 13 April, the cold began to vanish a d the north east wind change. 1740 *Col Rec Pennsylv* IV 439 The Bill for Raising of Money for the use of the Crown is vanished. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxvii, I own n objections have almost wholly vanished 1820 W Irving *Sketch-bk* I 42 A little while, and the smile will vanish from that cheek 1852 H Rogers *Fel Faith* (1853) 166 Very much, indeed that I wished to remember has vanished 1874 Carpenter *Ment Phys* i vi (1879) 285 Even those who had previously been most successful found all their success vanish.

fi. y 1303 Langtl. *P Pl* C. xvi 8 So myghte happe, þat vanishe [should] alle myne vertues and myne faire lockes. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St Kath* 1 487 It wyll wanyse & wast, roten & be I rent 1533 Gau *Richt Way* 31 Quhen he getus ony aduersate or prosecutione thame it [e þis faith] wanissis and vanes as ane dreyme. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslæ's Hist Scot* II 239 How sone vanisses that pleasure, quhilke mortall man calles felicetie

c. Const *into* (*air*, smoke, etc)

1590 Marlowe *2 & Pt Tamburl* v iii, Weepe heauens, and vanish into liquid teares. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk* 87 Plaudities, and the Breath of the great Beast, which (like the threatnings of two Cowards) vanish all into aire. 1617 Morryson *Itin* II 44 The ill successe of the Queenes affaires (whose great expences and Royall Army they had seene vanish into smoke) 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 575 Surprize him first, Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind 1807 Hogg *Mountain Bard Mess John* xxiv, If the cock be heard to crow The charm will vanish into air 1844 Longf *Belfry of Bruges* iv Wreaths of snow white smoke ascending, vanished, ghost like, into air

d. *Math.* Of numbers or quantities To become zero

1715 tr *Gregory's Astron* (1726) I 190 Because the Orbits of Mercury and Venus do almost vanish in respect of the Orbit of Saturn 1718 *Hutton Fluxions* LXXIX 135 This series only differs from it by the last term but not vanishing that is, being = 0 1823 H J Brooke *Introd Cryst Tallogr* 201 The axis must vanish, both the planes P and P' 1826 Lardner *Geom* 129 The distance between them decreasing with no limit but never vanishing 1889 Watson & Burbury *Math, Elec & Magn* I 42 All the terms will vanish except those in which the multiples of $\phi$ are the same

†3 To become worthless or vain *Obs*

*c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 419 If salt vanysche awey it is not worb afte but to be caste out 1388 — *Luke* xiv 34 If salt schal vanysche [L. *evanuerit*], in what thing schal it be sauerid? — *Rom* i 21 Thei vanyschiden [L. *evanuerunt*] in her thoȝtis 1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* (Roll) II 147 Be apostel seiþ þat suche philosofres vanished away in here boustes.

4 *trans* To cause to disappear, to remove from sight *Now rare*

*c* 1440 *Alph Tales* 45 And with þat he vanyssahd his enchawntement, & þer was oght nott lefte of all þat hym hadde be-fore 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt Tamburl* v iii, Thus are the villaines fled for feare, like Summers vapours, vanisht by the Sun 1604 *Meet Gallants at Ordinarie* 5 Say thou at shayre foure hundred Silkewormes, vanish Asmany Tapsters, Chamberlaines, and Ostlers. 1633 Br Hall *Hard Texts N T* 47 Whose bodies have been vanished into all the Elements. 1679 *Penn Alder Fool* II 53 And were I turgess so [sc. Schism on Opinion were utterly vanished 1709 Mrs Manley *Secr Memoir* (1736) III 74 Whilst she was going to enquire who had sent it, the Child was destroyed with him & all the place 1786 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II 656 You might as well think of harnessing a man out of a fever, as go to vanish his scruples arising from that cause by arguments and reasons 1886 *Pall Mall G* 23 Dec. 4/1 Then he vanishes a birdcage and its occupant Finally, he vanishes his wife

Hence **Vanished** (va nɪʃt) *ppl a*

1593 Shake *Lucr* 730 He runs, and chides his vanish'd, loathed delight *c* 1600 — *Sonn* xxx, Then can I mone th expence of many a vanisht sight

1814 Byron *Ch Har* iii, And he mark the scenes of vanish'd war 1867 Morris *Jason* i 304 Strange questions of the race of vanished men *Ibid* x 554 And their hearts too with thoughts of wanished days were pensive 1869 *Science Gossip* XXVI 108 Specimens of lifeless and shells of defunct and vanished univalves and bivalves.

**Va nisher.** [f Vanish *v*.] One who, or that which, vanishes or disappears

1824 Whittier *Ch Har* iii, Amid the clefts of mountain rocks Flash the eyes and flow the locks Of the mystic Vanishers.

**Vanishing** (va nɪʃiŋ), *vbl sb* [f the vb]

1 The action or fact of disappearing

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's Tale* 1332 And forth ache wente, and made a vanyshynge 1473 Warkw *Chron* (Camden) 22 Afore the vanyschynge therof, it aperyd in the evynyng 1611 Cotgr, *Fuite* a vanishing, or flying away 1614 Raleigh *Hist World* III (1634) 7 As where it tels of Nebuchadnezzar his owne vanishing away 1712 Arbuthnot *Sch of No* 44 Pr 1 Hundred Lightning, and the Vanishing of a Devil. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi xxiv There was no great cause To think his vanishing unnatural 1886 *Athenæum* 6 Nov 643/3 Amongst the vanishings and disappearances of the 'u thi

2 *Vanishing point*, in perspective, the point in which receding parallel lines, if continued, appear to meet Similarly *vanishing line*, *plane*

1797 *Encycl Lond* (ed 3) XIV 18/2 Produce CB and draw PV parallel to it 1815 — *Supp* I 1/2 Vanishing, point 1821 Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 272 Distance of a vanishing point, is the distance from the vanishing point on the picture to the eye of the spectator 1840 *Encycl Cycl* XVII 493 A plane W, which will be termed the vanishing plane of the original one *Ibid*, The vanishing line and parallel of the vertex 1851 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I 90 In Millais 'Mariana' the top of the green curtain in the distant window has too low a vanishing point 1885 Leuthenhorp *Cremona's Graph Calc* 5 The point *P*, the image of the point at infinity *I*, is called the vanishing point of *a*' *Ibid* 21 In every plane *a* passing through *O* lies a vanishing line *r*', which is the image of the point at infinity in the same plane *Ibid*, This plane *a*', which may be called the vanishing plane.

**Vanishing** (vae nɪʃiŋ), *ppl a.* [f the vb]

1 Disappearing from sight or from existence

1592 Mayde *Mending Life* 108 So but þou salde despyse abidynge bingis & to vanischynge þingis drawes. 1667 *Trial Treas* (Percy Soc.) 18 To seke such thinges as be ' permanent, And not such as are of a vanishing kinde. 1891 Dolores *Cultrera on Pr* lxi. 6 Not a vanishing prosperitie, but a stedye and substantiall gladnesse. 1607 Topsell *Four Beasts* 124 If they remaine abroad in the aire, . they grow as light as any vanishing or softer substance. 1648 Rowland tr *Moufet Theatr Ins* 551 The uncertainty of this vanishing life 1700–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II 75 Casting at me a vanishing glance, she was out of sight in an instant 1833 Rush *Human Voice* (ed 2) 263 Of the Vanishing Stress. *Ibid.* 285 Of the Vanishing Emphasis. 1879 Geo Eliot *Theo Such* vi 150 I make the discomfort a vanishing quality 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 491/1 Only a vanishing remnant lingers in the South Pacific

2 *Math* Becoming zero

1823 J Mitchell *Dict Math & Phys Sci* 2 v, We have the following rule for finding the value of vanishing fractions 1838 *Longs Cycl* X 403/1 Much discussion has arisen as to whether vanishing fractions have values or not. 1892 Edwards *Diff Calculus* (ed 2) 2 5 When the limit of a quantity is zero , the quantity is said to be a vanishing quantity for those values.

Hence **Va nishingly** *adv.*

1870 tr *Clausius in Lond etc Philos Mag* Aug 127 The divisor *h* must according to Cauchy cause the term to become vanishingly small with very great values of *t* 1881 Shaine *Ash Poetry* viii 239 Some momentary gleam that has flested vanishingly over earth and sea

**Va nishment.** [f. Vanish *v*.] The act of vanishing or disappearing, the state of having vanished

1832 Wilson in *Blackw Mag* XXIX 396 Mysteriously brought back from vanishment by some one single silent thought 1851 G S Faber *Many Mansr* 108 His sudden vanishment from the eyes of the beholders. *1895 Arch vol Archæol* LIV 62 The usual chamfer being reduced almost to vanishment

**Vanist** (va nist). [See dcf. and 18T] An adherent of Sir Henry Vane (1613–62) in respect of Antinomian principles

1658 Baxter *Life, John Howe* Wks 1846 Pref p xiii, Infidels and Quakers and Vanists are very high and busy under several garbs especially of Seekers, Vanists' Behemenists 1664— *Life* (1696) 63 The Vanists the Independants and other Sects was left to the Parliament to do his Business under the Name of the Parliament of England 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl* (ed 2) 135 Savouring the errors of the Vanists 1836 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* I Here was a Vanist, pouring out his unintelligible rhapsodies.

**Vanita rianism.** *nonce wd.* [f. next] The pursuit of vanities

1869 Thackeray *Lett* 81 After wasting a deal of oppor tunit es and wonderful desires in vanitarianism

**Vanity** (væ nɪti) Forms 3–4 **uanite**, 4–5 (6 *Sc*) **vanite** (5–6 **vanyte**), 5 6 **vanitee**, 6–7 **vani tie** (6 *Sc.* **wan** ), 6– **vanity** (6 **-tye**), 4 6 **vanyte** (5 **wan-**, **wann-**), 4–6 **vanytee**, 6 **vanytye**, **-tie.** [= OF *vanite* (F. *vanité*, = It *vanità*, Sp *vanidad*, Pg *vaidade*), ad. L. *vanitat* , *vānitas*, f. *vanus* V *van*]

1 That which is vain, futile, or worthless, that which is of no value or profit

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 27 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit al meast, hute i flesches fulðe ofter in weoldes unnite ? 1340 *Ayenb* 17 Þe vanite þe vorme leades Pat affyen hym in vanyte & in vayne þynges *c* 1340 Ham pole *Pr Consc* 1619 Þus es þe world, and þe lyfe bare in, Ful of vanyte, ful of syn 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 431 Þonkynge of enemyes is þat vanite 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 318 Whanne alle this I aldist þou seyn, ype thinkyst, and bethowhtest þe Wherbat it were nouht aber vanite 1480 Henryson *Abbey H* 418 (Bann ), Thy power and thy warldis gyft is nocht but verry vanitie. 1500 20 Dunbar *Lenvis* xiv 98 This frastit luve all is bot vanite 1611 Bible 2 Kings v 15 Every man at his best state is altogether vanitie 1691 Ray *Creation* 1 (1704) 76 We see nothing in the Heavens which argues Chance, Vanity or Error 1711 Addison *Spect* No 44 Pr 1 Of all the offices we dispose to own that all in this world is vanity

b Vain and unprofitable conduct or employment of time

1393 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 3346 Forsobe hyt semeb wyl to be Al here lyfe ȝe vnyte *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 72 Þis swa mysturned here þair lyfyng In tylle vanyte and fleus hly lykyn, *c* 1374 Chaucer *Tr & Cr* iv 729 But ther to yeve hem audience I forbede 1440 *Promp Parv* 514/1 Vanyte alle 1430 Lydg *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc) 219 Lat reson brydle thy sensualite, Ageyn al worldly disordinat vanite 1548 Udall tr *Erasm Paraph Luke* 1 Fulfil our hertes with vanitee and heauenly wisdom 1611 Bible 1 Sam xii 21 Turne ye not aside: for then should ye go after vaine things which cannot profit nor deliuer, for they are vaine 1709 Mrs Manley *Secret Memoirs* (1736) III 74 Whilst she was going to enquire who had sent it, the Child was destroyed with him & all the place 1786 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II 656 You might as well think of harnessing a man out of a fever, as go to vanish his scruples arising from that cause by arguments and reasons 1886 *Pall Mall G* 23 Dec. 4/1 Then he vanishes a birdcage and its occupant Finally, he vanishes his wife

Hence **Vanished** (va nɪʃt) *ppl a*

1593 Shake *Lucr* 730 He runs, and chides his vanish'd, loathed delight *c* 1600 — *Sonn* xxx, Then can I mone th expence of many a vanisht sight

1814 Byron *Ch Har* iii, And he mark the scenes of vanish'd war 1867 Morris *Jason* i 304 Strange questions of the race of vanished men *Ibid* x 554 And their hearts too with thoughts of wanished days were pensive. 1869 *Science Gossip* XXVI 108 Specimens of lifeless and shells of defunct and vanished univalves and bivalves.

**Va nisher.** [f Vanish *v*.] One who, or that which, vanishes or disappears

1824 Whittier *Ch Har* iii, From the clefts of mountain rocks Flash the eyes and flow the locks Of the mystic Vanishers.

**Vanishing** (va nɪʃiŋ), *vbl sb* [f the vb

1 The action or fact of disappearing

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's Tale* 1332 And forth ache wente, and made a vanyshynge 1473 Warkw *Chron* (Camden) 22 Afore the vanyschynge therof, it aperyd in the evynyng 1611 Cotgr, *Fuite* a vanishing, or flying away 1614 Raleigh *Hist World* III (1634) 7 As where it tels of Nebuchadnezzar his owne vanishing away 1712 Arbuthnot *Sch of No* 44 Pr 1 Hundred Lightning, and the Vanishing of a Devil. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi xxiv There was no great cause To think his vanishing unnatural 1886 *Athenæum* 6 Nov 643/3 Amongst the vanishings and disappearances of the 'u thi

2 *Vanishing point*, in perspective, the point in which receding parallel lines, if continued, appear to meet Similarly *vanishing line*, *plane*

1797 *Encycl Lond* (ed 3) XIV 18/2 Produce CB and draw PV parallel to it 1815 — *Supp* I 1/2 Vanishing, point 1821 Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 272 Distance of a vanishing point, is the distance from the vanishing point on the picture to the eye of the spectator 1840 *Encycl Cycl* XVII 493 A plane W, which will be termed the vanishing plane of the original one *Ibid*, The vanishing line and parallel of the vertex 1851 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I 90 In Millais 'Mariana' the top of the green curtain in the distant window has too low a vanishing point 1885 Leuthenhorp *Cremona's Graph Calc* 5 The point *P*, the image of the point at infinity *I*, is called the vanishing point of *a*' *Ibid* 21 In every plane *a* passing through *O* lies a vanishing line *r*', which is the image of the point at infinity in the same plane *Ibid*, This plane *a*', which may be called the vanishing plane.

**Vanishing** (vae nɪʃiŋ), *ppl a.* [f the vb ]

1 Disappearing from sight or from existence

1592 Mayde *Mending Life* 108 So þat þou salde despyse abidynge þingis & to vanischynge þingis drawes. 1667 *Trial Treas* (Percy Soc.) 18 To seke such thinges as be ' permanent, And not such as are of a vanishing kinde. 1891 Dolores *Cultrera on Pr* lxi. 6 Not a vanishing prosperitie, but a stedye and substantiall gladnesse. 1607 Topsell *Four Beasts* 124 If they remaine abroad in the aire, . they grow as light as any vanishing or softer substance. 1648 Rowland tr *Moufet Theatr Ins* 551 The uncertainty of this vanishing life 1700–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II 75 Casting at me a vanishing glance, she was out of sight in an instant 1833 Rush *Human Voice* (ed 2) 263 Of the Vanishing Stress. *Ibid.* 285 Of the Vanishing Emphasis. 1879 Geo Eliot *Theo Such* vi 150 I make the discomfort a vanishing quality 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 491/1 Only a vanishing remnant lingers in the South Pacific

2 *Math* Becoming zero

1823 J Mitchell *Dict Math & Phys Sci* 2 v, We have the following rule for finding the value of vanishing fractions 1838 *Longs Cycl* X 403/1 Much discussion has arisen as to whether vanishing fractions have values or not. 1892 Edwards *Diff Calculus* (ed 2) 2 5 When the limit of a quantity is zero , the quantity is said to be a vanishing quantity for those values.

Hence **Va nishingly** *adv.*

1870 tr *Clausius in Lond etc Philos Mag* Aug 127 The divisor *h* must according to Cauchy cause the term to become vanishingly small with very great values of *t* 1881 Shaine *Ash Poetry* viii 239 Some momentary gleam that has flested vanishingly over earth and sea

**Va nishment.** [f. Vanish *v*.] The act of vanishing or disappearing, the state of having vanished

1832 Wilson in *Blackw Mag* XXIX 396 Mysteriously brought back from vanishment by some one single silent thought 1851 G S Faber *Many Mansr* 108 His sudden vanishment from the eyes of the beholders. *1895 Arch vol Archæol* LIV 62 The usual chamfer being reduced almost to vanishment

**Vanist** (va nist). [See dcf. and 18T] An adherent of Sir Henry Vane (1613–62) in respect of Antinomian principles

1658 Baxter *Life, John Howe* Wks 1846 Pref p xiii, Infidels and Quakers and Vanists are very high and busy under several garbs especially of Seekers, Vanists' Behemenists 1664— *Life* (1696) 63 The Vanists the Independants and other Sects was left to the Parliament to do his Business under the Name of the Parliament of England 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl* (ed 2) 135 Savouring the errors of the Vanists 1836 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* I Here was a Vanist, pouring out his unintelligible rhapsodies.

**Vanita rianism.** *nonce wd.* [f. next ] The pursuit of vanities

1869 Thackeray *Lett* 81 After wasting a deal of oppor tunit es and wonderful desires in vanitarianism

**Vanity** (væ nɪti) Forms 3–4 **uanite**, 4–5 (6 *Sc*) **vanite** (5–6 **vanyte**), 5 6 **vanitee**, 6–7 **vani tie** (6 *Sc.* **wan** ), 6– **vanity** (6 **-tye**), 4 6 **vanyte** (5 **wan-**, **wann-**), 4–6 **vanytee**, 6 **vanytye**, **-tie.** [= OF *vanite* (F. *vanité*, = It *vanità*, Sp *vanidad*, Pg *vaidade*), ad. L. *vanitat* , *vānitas*, f. *vanus* V *van*]

1 That which is vain, futile, or worthless, that which is of no value or profit

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 27 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit al meast, hute i flesches fulðe ofter in weoldes unnite ? 1340 *Ayenb* 17 Þe vanite þe vorme leades Pat affyen hym in vanyte & in vayne þynges *c* 1340 Ham pole *Pr Consc* 1619 Þus es þe world, and þe lyfe bare in, Ful of vanyte, ful of syn 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 431 Þonkynge of enemyes is þat vanite 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 318 Whanne alle this I aldist þou seyn, ype thinkyst, and bethowhtest þe Wherbat it were nouht aber vanite 1480 Henryson *Abbey H* 418 (Bann ), Thy power and thy warldis gyft is nocht but verry vanitie. 1500 20 Dunbar *Lenvis* xiv 98 This frastit luve all is bot vanite 1611 Bible 1 Sam xii 21 Turne ye not aside: for then should ye go after vaine things which cannot profit nor deliuer, for they are vaine 1709 Mrs Manley *Secret Memoirs* (1736) III 74 Whilst she was going to enquire who had sent it, the Child was destroyed with him & all the place 1786 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II 656 You might as well think of harnessing a man out of a fever, as go to vanish his scruples arising from that cause by arguments and reasons 1886 *Pall Mall G* 23 Dec. 4/1 Then he vanishes a birdcage and its occupant Finally, he vanishes his wife

Hence **Vanished** (va nɪʃt) *ppl a*

1593 Shake *Lucr* 730 He runs, and chides his vanish'd, loathed delight *c* 1600 — *Sonn* xxx, Then can I mone th expence of many a vanisht sight

1814 Byron *Ch Har* iii, And he mark the scenes of vanish'd war 1867 Morris *Jason* i 304 Strange questions of the race of vanished men *Ibid* x 554 And their hearts too with thoughts of wanished days were pensive. 1869 *Science Gossip* XXVI 108 Specimens of lifeless and shells of defunct and vanished univalves and bivalves.

**Va nisher.** [f Vanish *v*.] One who, or that which, vanishes or disappears

1824 Whittier *Ch Har* iii, From the clefts of mountain rocks Flash the eyes and flow the locks Of the mystic Vanishers.

**Vanishing** (va nɪʃiŋ), *vbl sb* [f the vb]

our public men do eat of this vanity giving food. *c* 1904- Vanity bag, etc

**7. Vanity Fair** (after quot 1678 below), a place or scene where all is frivolity and empty show, the world or a section of it as a scene of idle amusement and unsubstantial display

[1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr* (1900) 82 The name of that Town is Vanity; and at the town there is a Fair kept, called Vanity-Fair It beareth the name of Vanity Fair, because the Town where 'tis kept is lighter than Vanity.]

1816 J SCOTT *Vis Paris* (ed 3) 137 Such is the Palais Royal,—a vanity fair—a mart of sin and seduction! 1827 SCOTT *Chron Canongate* III, Carrying so many bonny lasses to better modesty for conceit and levity at the metropolitan Vanity Fair 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T* III 120 But how preach at all in such a vanity fair as this now going on at Ullathorne? 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* 72 Never was such a brilliant jigging, smirking Vanity Fair as that through which he leads us.

*attrib* 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fair* XXV, The last scene of her dismal Vanity Fair comedy was fast approaching *Ibid* XLI, Assuming that any Vanity Fair feelings subsist in the sphere whither we are bound.

Hence **Vanity-fairian.** *nonce wd.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van Fair* XVII, I even with the most selfish disposition, the Vanity Fairian can't but feel some sympathies and regret.

**Va nityless,** *a rare* [f the sb] Devoid of vanity.

1854 H STRICKLAND *Travel Thoughts* 47 [I] wonder if there is any one sane person in the whole world, utterly vainitless.

**Vanjarrah,** variant of *bunjarrah* BUNJARRY.

**Van John.** *Univ. slang* = VINGT UN

1833 'C BEDE' *Verdant Green* XI, 'Van John' was the favourite game 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at O & C* III We were playing Van John in Blake s rooms till three f'ur night 1889 DARWIN *Life & Lett* I 157 Alittle of Gibbon s History in the morning, and a good deal of Van John i s the evening

**† Vanlay,** *v. Obs* [Cf VAUNTLAY *sb*] *vntr.* To cast off a vauntlay (*to* a hart)

*c*1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) XXXIII, He . shulde take goode heede pat he vanlay not if oper relayes be behynde for dreede pat he undyngye oute fro be relayes *Ibid*, When he hath be so wele ronne to and relayed and vanleyed to, benne turneth he his heed and stondeth at abaye.

**† Vanlin,** variant of VENLIN *Obs*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* II 1779/2 There were assembled fouretene Ensignes of the French footemen, xviii vanlins of Almans [and] four of Suis . men in no order of battaile

**Va nmost,** *a rare*—1 [f VAN *sb*4] Foremost.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt* XVIII IV V 87 Ziethen, vanmost of all, finds Nadasti and his Austrian squadrons drawn across the Highway

**Vann(e,** obs. variants of VAN *sb.* and *v* 1

**Vanner** 1 (væ nəɹ) [f VAN *sb* 1 and *v* 1]

**1** One who winnows with a fan *rare.*

1552 HULOET, Vanner, *wannator* 1611 COTGR , *Vanneur*, a vanner, or winnower of corne.

**2.** *Mining* One who tests the quality of ore by washing it on a shovel

1671 *Phil Trans* VI 2098 Whereby the kind, nature and quantity of the Ore is guessed at without any great deception especially if the Vanner have any judgement at all 1875 J H COLLINS *Met Mining* 12 The speed and accuracy with which a practise l vanner determines the value of a sample of tin ore fill the beholder with wonder and delight.

**b.** An apparatus for separating minerals from the gangue.

1882 *U S Rep Prec Met* 71 The concentrate from the vanners is hi.b, but the tailings rich 1890 *Mechanical Engrng* 26 June 6/2 The company obtained between 12 and 13 tons of pyrites from the vanners

**Vanner** 2 (væ nəɹ) [f VAN *sb* 3] A light horse suitable for drawing a small van

1888 *Referee* 8 April (Cassell s) Cabbers, and vanners. 1890 *I all Mall G* 8 Sept 4/2 Tramway horses were keenly competed for, and, with serviceable 'vanners', fetched as an average £40 each 1892 HAYES *Horses* (ed 2) XV 121 The light v anner belongs to a class t stermediate between the light harness horse and the heavy draught horse

**Va nning,** *vbl sb* [f VAN *v* 1]

**†1** The action of winnowing with a fan *Obs*

1552 HULOET Vannyng, *wannatio* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I 607 The winnowing vanning and laying up either of corne or pulse. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 671 The Corne which in the Vanning lieth lowest, is the best

**† b** The action of tossing in a winnowing fan.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton* Annot 36 Sagitto that pastime with us in some place called the canvasing and else where, the vanning of dogs

**2** The action or process of separating ore on a shovel Also *attrib*, as *vanning action, shovel*

1671 *Phil Trans* VI 2098 Vanning is performed by pulverising the stone, or clay or what else may be supposed to contain any mineral body, and placing it on a Vanning shovel 1766 *Ib t* LVI 38, I employed a tinner dextrous in vanning (a way of breaking and trying ores, by washing them on a shovel gently with water) to try it in his usual way 1778 PRYCE *Min Cornubi* 223 This must be repeated, till it is cleansed from the rough gravelly parts which may be known by vanning of it on a shovel 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep Cornwall*, etc XV 585 Great dexterity is exhibited by the tinners in the operation termed vanning 1875 J H COLLINS *Met Mining* 11 The same principle is at the bottom of the beautiful art of 'vanning' 1884 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* Suppl 920/1 The object throughout is to imitate the vanning action of the miner's shovel.

**Va nning,** *vbl. sb* 2 [f VAN *sb* 4] **a.** The action of conveying in a van **b.** Travelling or touring in a van ; caravanning.

1892 *Athenæum* 15 Oct 509/2 In 1836 came the affair of Elis, of whose 'vanning so much has been made, though Eclipse had been conveyed in a van from Epsom about fifty years before 1901 *Times* 21 July 8/4 The Wanderer , the pioneer of 'vanning as a pastime for health and pleasure, is to be sold by auction

**Vanplate,** obs. form of VANPLATE

**Vanquash,** *v nonce wd.* [locularly f. VAN *sb* 2 + QUASH *v*] *trans.* To smash

*c* 1626 *Dick of Devon* II IV in Bullen *O Pl* II, Nay, if you be no better in the Reare then in the Van I shall make no doubt to vanquash, and vanquash you, too, before we part

**† Vanquer.** *Obs*—1 [ad. F. *vainqueur*, f. *vaincre* VANQUISH *v*] Conqueror.

1570 *Satir Poems Reform* XVII 143 And so this Realme . Sall now As Asiae wer, be vanquer of the sall

**† Va nquesser.** *Obs*—1 [Var of VAN COURIER, prob influenced by F *vanquer* to seek.] A scout.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot* 118 He must give order to the Scoute Mayster whyche way he shall send his Vanqueres to discover

**† Vanqueror.** *Obs*—1 [Cf VANQUER and CONQUEROR] Victor

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 6 Neither the vanqueror nor the vanquished can have iust cause of triumph

**Va nquish,** *sb Sc* [f the vb] (See quots)

1792 *Edin Even Courant Scot* IV 367 The pernicious quality of a species of grass to the health of the sheep infecting them with a disease called the Vanquish 1793 *Ibid* VII 518 In one or two farms it has also prevaile termed the Vanquish 1807 *Essays Highl Soc* III 407 Change of pasture is the best known cure for the vanquish

**Vanquish** (væ ŋkwiʃ), *v* Forms *a* 4 venquese, 4–5 venkus (5 wen ), 5, 6 *Sc*, vencus (5 *Sc*. wen-), 5 venquis, 4 vanquise, 5 xes(e, venquesse *Sc*. 5 vinouse, wynouse, 5–6 vinc(e)s, 6 uin , winouse, vinouse (wynouis), vincuis (win-), vanouis *β*. 4–5 venquis (5 -quyse, -quyss, *Sc* wenquis); *Sc* 6 venqueis, -ques, vinqueis, winques, 6–7 winquis, 6 vanques, -quis(e, wan queis, -ques, -quis 7 5 venou(s)he, -ousshe, -ouzsche, -quys(o)he, qwysshe, -qwisch, quisch, -quessh, 5–6 venquyssche, -quisshe 6 vanquy)she, -quyche, -quisshe, quysh. *Sc*. 5 vinquise, -quyss, 5–6 vinquyssche (6 vayncq-, veynq , *Sc*. waynquysse), -quesshe, -quysh, 6 vainquish, *Sc* wainquis [ad OF. *vencus* pa. pple and *venquist* pa. t of *vesntre* (–L *vincĕre*), mod F *vaincre* to conquer, overcome, the ending ws finally assimilated to that of verbs from F. stems in *-iss* see ISH 4 The *S* forms, however, are ad. late OF *vainquiss-*, *vainquar*, a rare variant of *vaincre* See also VENQUISH

**1.** *trans* To overcome or defeat (an opponent or enemy) in conflict or battle; to reduce to subjection or submission by superior force

*a.* *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 7306 Je may me vaille To venouse þem in pleyn batt aille 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 554 He can throw þame all to the flicht 1533 BELLEND *Descr* I 17 þ vincuis (S T S) I 95 How þe equis and Wolchis war duiddit amang þame self, and vincust be romanis. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt Venus* II 232 Diuers great Kingis in feild he vincust. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 301 Mvicolme in battell first vincust, secundly obteynes the victorie

*β. c* 1300 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 5188 He saunsunted hym He venquised be emperour alone *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk s T* 602 For þat Nichamoure and Thimothe Wip lewes were venquisshe mikille *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1b 10500 For auȝt þat he myȝt do, Ther were i ut vnto fiyȝt, Wenkyst foule, & discomfit. *c* 1579 HENRY *Wallace* III 241 Quhen Wallace hardy wenquis sir Marteuch Walwane 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 301 Mvicolme in battell first vincust, secundly obteynes the victorie

*β. c* 1325

**Vanquished** (væ·ŋkwɪʃt), *ppl. a.* Also 5–6 *Sc.* vencuust 6 *Sc* vinoust, vanquest, -queist, 6 vanquisshed, 7 vanquisht [f. as prec.] Defeated, overcome, subdued.

1456 Sir G Hayk *Law Arms* (S T S) 172 The vencust man ..suld pay to the vencusour his costis 1513 Douglas *Æneid* i ii 97 Carnand to Italy I hur vincust hammaid goddis and Ilion 1589 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S T S) 54 The portrators of euerie vanquest towne, Of Cittadells (etc.) 1671 Milton *Samson* 281 The matchless Gideon in pursuit Of Madian and her vanquisht Kings 1720 W King *Heathen Gods & Heroes* x (1722) 41 Those [arms] which Marcus Marcellus took from the vanquish'd Virdomarus. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvii (1787) III 103 But the victors themselves were insensibly subdued by the arts of their vanquished rivals, 1849 Macaulay *Hist. I.xp* II 44 This plea the King considered as the subterfuge of a vanquished disputant 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 266 Much more they steep the vanquished soul in sweet forgetfulness

b *absol* The person or persons defeated, etc.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 30 Greater commodite hath thereof ensewed to the vanquished then the victourers 1583 Stocker *Civ Warres Fland* (c 1 58 That the victors would sacke the vanquished houses. 1654 Howell *Vocotth.* II xx 104 It is not the Victory, that giveth the right of Dominion over the Vanquished (etc.) 1708 Titus Heywood in *More de Gomez s Ghost* (1709) II 69 Perhaps, if I were in mulle had been the vanquish'd he could not have behaved with the same Temper as being Conqueror he did 1810 Jane Porter *Scottish Chiefs* xxxiii (1831) 1 He take that generous prince alsieu, with the full belief of soon returning to find Jim the vanquished of Edward 1887 Bowen *Æneid* II 353 One hope only remains for the vanquished—hope to escape

**Vanquisher** (væ·ŋkwɪʃəɹ). Forms *a* 5 *Sc* vencousour, 6 vanquysaor, *Sc* quisser, venquessir, vinquesser. *β* 5 vaynquysshour, -our, 6 vanquisshor, vanquysher, 6- vanquisher [f as prec.] A conqueror, subduer

*a* 1456 [see prec.]. *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* xv 40 Yf it fortuned that the vanquysour sle his enymye 1567 *Compl Scot* xvii 149 The victoree is toyful quhen the enemeis are vanquesist vithi out domage to the venquesaur 1588 A King tr *Canisius Cat ch* 8 Which might enable him self to vinquesser our death and sathan. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie s Hist Scot* I 302 A certane young man, the prin cipal vanquisser of Cam.

*β* 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III vii, In suffrynge hym thou shalt be his vaynquysshour 1490 — *Eneydos* xi 49 God forbede that it may be so of Frenshe, vaynquysshour of grete batteylles (etc.) *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* II (1811) 80 Dunwallo was venquesshor of y^ other Dukes or rulers. 1577 tr *Bullinger s Decades* (1592) 441 The Saints are victorers and vanquishers howsoeuer they are oppressed 1630 J Taylor (Water P) *Fair Ketter* Thi invincible ale victorio usly vanquished the vyne nither 1652 Kirkman *Clerio & Lucia* 83 Thus was the vanquisher receiving the Trophies and the Laurels 1724 Richard *Hist I oy General Spain* 266 The Castle of Zamora soon after surrender d to the vanquisher 1807 *Cl Comforter Catech ism* I 11 vi 400 *n*, (Coml ats where i they were sometimes the van quishers, and sometimes the vanquished 1863 J G Murray *Count Gen* xxxii 27 The secret of his power with his friendly vanquisher

**Va nquishing,** *vbl sb* [f as prec.] The action of overcoming or subduing

*a* 1325 *Mir Saint B* 540 for sō pe conuuncion ne vnaliep noȝt ac ase pe scriuein seip pe vanquissinge ne vnaliep not bote sȝ hit were atomed boru rut *c* 1475 *Rule Chr Life Bonav* (1510) 1 For dout of vincussing they went nocht away 1489 *Barbour s Bruce* xviii 10 (L.) Quhen than of Scotland had wittering Off Schir Eduuardis wencussing 1612 Cotgr., *Victoire*, victorie, conquest a subduing, or vanquishing 1728 Ainsworth s *Dictionary*, a vanquishing or overthrow

**Va nquishing,** *ppl a* [f as prec.] That overcomes or conquers

1611 Cotgr., *Vainqueresse*, a vanquishing or victorious woman 1866 W J Thoms *Three Perils of Europe* 258 Such was the dread of his vanquishing army amongst the nations of the West.

**Vanquishment** (væ·ŋkwɪʃmĕnt) [f as prec.] The act of vanquishing or overcoming

1593 Nashe *Christ's Teares* (Grosart) IV 42 The vanquishment of that vglie nest of Harpies, hath beene reserued as a worke for mee before all beginnings. 1623 B Daniel *C Hist Eng* (1626) I 68 Valentinian Galeatus seeke ayde of Theodosius after the vanquishment and death of his brother 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 336 That he took to be an omen or presage of the vanquishment and death of Persen. 1697 Potter *Antiq Greece* II xv (1715) 328 Appearing in time of War, it signified vanquishment, and running away 1852 J Taylor *Wesley & Methodism* 26 His conversion taking place by successive vanquishments. 1888 B W Richardson *Son of Star* I 226 The princess . had gained a reputation for her prowess and skill in vanquishing it

† **Vanquissant,** *a Obs*—1 [ad obs F. *vainquissant*, pres. pple of *vaincre* see Vanquish v] Victorious

1632 J Hayward tr *Blondi's Fromena* 105 Congratula tions she received not as a woman in child bed, but as a Captaine vanquissant of a battel

**Vansire.** *Zool* [a F *vansire*, formed by Buffon (1765) from the Malagasy name, given by him as *vohang* or *vonghahira* (otherwise recorded as *vontsira*)] The marsh ichneumon (*Herpestes galera*) of South Africa.

1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* III ix 369 To the ferret kind we may add an animal which Mr Buffon calls the Vansire, the skin of which was sent him stuffed from Madagascar 1785 Shellie tr *Buffon s Nat Hist* (1791) VII 222 The vansire is a native of Madagascar and the interior parts of Africa. 1832 *Pree Zool Soc* Apr 57 M Goudot has brought a small carnivorous animal, which he states to be the true vansire

**Vanston(e,** southern ME. vast. Forfeiture.

**Vant,** southern var Font *sb.*1; obs. f. Vaunt *sb* and *v.*, obs Sc f Want *v*

**Vant-,** *prefix*, representing AF. *vant-*, aphetic f *avant-* Avant- see Vant brace, -guard, -ward In a number of compounds the *t* was elided, as Vanbrace, -chase, -courier, -guard, etc before labials the *n* by assimilation became *m*, as in Vambrace, Vampet, Vamplate, Vamward, and a further reduction appears in *vamure* Vaumure and Vaward. The AF variant *vaunt-* is also very fully represented in English forms see Vaunt chase, courier, etc.

**Vantage** (vɑ·ntĕdʒ), *sb* Also 4–7 vauntage, 6 vauntadge, 5–6 *Sc* wantage, 7–8 'vantage [a AF *vantage* (1302), var of OF *avantage* Advantage *sb* Cf It *vantaggio*, Sp *ventaja*, Pg *vantagem*.]

1 Advantage, benefit, profit, gain Now *arch.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8015 O pam pou sal i ane gret vantage. Hath to be and to ju harnage *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 302 Not of leesyng of worldliche worshp ne worldliche vauntage 1390 Gower *Conf* III 144 *Prompt Parv* 508/1 Vauntage (A, or nvauntage) *profectus proventus* *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX 915 This wantage was, the Scottis them alsua war of thair awn. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II xii 126 *Pyler Fayr* (W de W 1531) 172 b, Repute it for your singlar vauntage & wynnynge to be exercised & tossed in dyuerse temperyonns 1558 Hooper in *Coverdale s Lett Mart* (1564) 141 Such flesh as had great vauntage by hys word, are become his very enemies 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 72, I receyued two seuerall letters from you, Out of which I could doubt & consyder n of vauntage 1587 Collins *Def Rp of Ely* I 1 72 What vantage haue you now of all that is said of Peters ship to countenance Rome? 1649 *Arraignm Canterbury* 23 If all we thirt have received vantage by their rejection, thus recompence them with tyranny! [1846 Lamson *Exam Shakes Wks* II 266 It would give the neighbourhood much vantage, to see these two fellows good men]

†**b.** Pecuniary profit or gain *Obs*

*c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (Halliw 1840) 149 The maystер schal not, for no vantage, Make no prentas that yn cumpas be 1449 *Jacob s Well* 43 Iudas was wo, but he had noȝt þat vauntage of þo xxx pens þat was be tythe of þe iij hundreth penn. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* xxv 97 Then at my comynge shulde I have receaved my money with vantage 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 320 He became a master in makynge cardes for the wers 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 72 Yet haue they receyued vantage by their rejection, thus recompence them with tyranny! 1598 Barckley *Felicity* 63 If one penie vantage be therein to saue, of coast man or flem ng be sure to huse

†**d.** *Printing* (See quots) *Obs*

1683 Moxon *Mech Exerc, Printing* 393 When a White Page or more is Printed in a Sheet, the Compositer calls that Vantage So does the Press man, when a Form of one Pull comes to the Press [1888 Jacobi *Printers Vocab* 151 *Vantage*, 40 Ems Pica (L.) Quoted from Stower.]

†**2** a. A greater amount *of* something *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P R* xiv lii (Tollem MS.), Therfore pese places of heremites haueп moche noye and trauayl þerfore it þaþ a vauntage [L *plurimum*] of com modite and reste.

†**b** An additional amount or sum *For or to the vantage*, in addition *Vantage of bread* (see quot. 1611) *Obs*

1590 Greene *Sepht Soule* Wks. 331 And yet haue we for the vauntage the boke of y^ kinges, the woordes of the Prophete zacharie [etc.] 1598 *Crossewhich Ward Acc* (Surtees Soc.) 43 Item Wyllyam for the vantage of cockle, xxiid 1600 Nicols *Obs iv* in 86 Yes, [there are] 2 dozen [such women], and as many to th' vantage as would store vnto the world they plind for 1622 Cotgr., *Le trouain du pain*, vantage of bread; the bread which is added, or surplus ouer 1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv xiii (1647) 191 The Popes Legate and Robert Earl of Artois would make no bargain except Alexandria were put in, as for vantage, into their conditions down weight. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vantage*, that which is given over and above just Weight and Measure 1727 Bailey *Vantage*

†**c** *And* (a or *the*) *vantage*, *with the vantage*, and above, and (a little) more *Obs*

1594 *Wills & Inv N C* (Surtees, 1860) 244, xxj strikes of yeare old and vantage, 18^s x strikes, of two yeares ould and vantage, xl^s 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 12 But Venus ascendeth up to her station in fifteene daies and the vantage 1622 Fletcher *Pilgrim* I, 2 She is fifteen, with the vantage, And if she be not ripe, she's rotten— 1636 Ussher *Ann* (1658) 251 Of a huge stature, and a mind answerable thereunto, for it is said that he was five cubits high and vantage 1708 *Lond Gaz* No 4470/2 Stolen or Strayd a brown bay Gelding, 14 hands and the vantage high 1711 — No 4875/4 A large kindly black Mare two Years old, with the Vantage. 1754 J Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1760) I, 4 In plain English, she had seen One and Thirty Birth days, and a Vantage, as they say in the West of England

†**d.** *ellipt.* = prec. *Obs.*—1

1601 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 124 A litle younge styre of towe yeres old vantage

**3.** Advantage or superiority in a contest, position or opportunity likely to give superiority; vantage-ground † *Upon the vantage*, at an advantage

1529 Ld Berners *Froiss* I xvii. 18 The archers haue noo vantadge of hym nor of his company 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Themist* (1595) 3 The cause why they were thus shauen before, was, for that their enemies should not haue the vauntage to take them by the hayres of the head while they were fighting *Ibid. Cæsar* 7 hey which by myght could haue vantage ouer others, had nothing to doe with quiet qualities. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie s Hist Scot* I 215 Oft thay mot [in battle] oft thay parte with lytle vantage 1600 Holland *Livy* I xxvii. 20 When hee thought hee had gained vantage ynough, hee mounted up the hill with all his companies. 1609 *Skene de Verb Sign* (1680) 117 Knowing the weakness, he esteem d his warrior to have taken them to land 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 27 A Castle, strong and of white chalky stone, its Ordnance planted high to play in Mounts upon the vantage 1797 *Southey Joan of Arc* VII 345 The exasperate knight up the steps advanced Like one who disregarded in his strength The enemy s vantage 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II 160 Though close hedged in by the foe, The vantage hath been ours 1867 Trollope *Chron Barset* I xviii 156 The bishop found that he would thus lose his expected vantage.

**b** With defining term introduced by *of*

1523 Ld Berners *Froiss* I cxciv 97/1 The englashemen had the vauntage of the hyll, and helde themselfe so closone together that none could entre to them 1596 Shakspere *Chron* II 242 Assoone as the king and his Marshalles had ordered his battayle, he drewe vp the sayles and came with a quarter winde to haue the vantage of the sonne 1646 Bacon *Sylva* 859 It hath been accidently praised to burne Heath, and Ling, and Sedge, with the vat tage of the Wind upon the Ground 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* v xviii To each knight their camp stands ready, The vantage of the sun and wind 1808 — *F M Perth* v Thou wilt have better access to drive them back having the vantage of the house 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xvi. III 622 Some consented to retreat till he should reach some spot where he might have the vantage of ground

**c** In the phrases *coign* (see Coign *sb*, 1), *place*, *point* (etc.) *of vantage* So also † *dice of vantage*

*c* 1570 *Misogonus* II iv 168 (Brandl), The preistes handes ith mustardpott; the knave throwe at an inch, Has some dise of vauntage, myne oth I durst take 1809–6 Lady *Duath Inf* xvi 24 Naked enemies were vouch safed to watch their place of hold And vantage, ere in closer strife they meet 1829–4 De Quincey *Cæsars* Wks 1860 X 55 This adoption would have been applied as a station of vantage for introducing him to the public favour 1860 Motley *Nether l* xvii (1868) II 347 It was unfortunate that the possession of Sluys had given Alexander such a point of vantage.

†**4** With *a* and pl An advantage, a position or state of superiority Freq with *at* or *for Obs.*

Perh originally a wrong division of *at vantage*

*c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii 651 Ye haue wel fle and returne at a vauntage and well fight with his enmyes *c* 1480 Caxton *Blanchardyn* lii 204 They chused bohyon but was horsed at vauntage 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VIII*, 117 Then tl ey issued out bol lly and shot courageously as men tht chost for a vauntage *a* 1568 Ascham *Toxoph* (Arb) 111 If ar tl e shot of one wynche I at I se shall win ane vantage of me 1581 J Bell *Haddon s Answ Osor* 468 b, Hereupon he doth conclude as it were at a vantage that the doctrine of those men is not onely unprofitable, but also pestiferous 1615 W Lawson *Country Housew Gard* (1626) 32 Woe may well assure our selues, (as in all other Arts, so in this) there is a vantage and deatenity, by skill whereof a Gardiner may know if a Woman seemed humble when she stood at Elisha his doore, but it was for a vantage.

†**b** An opportunity, a chance *Obs*

1598 *Soliman & Perr* I ii, I, watch you vauntages? Thine be it then 1612 Shake *Cymb* I iii 24 When shall we heare from him *I wisse* He assur d Madam With his next vantage *Ibid* II iii 40 To the more mortall to the King, Who let s go by no vantages that may Preferre you to his daughter

**5** In phrases with verbs a With personal object, as *to catch*, *have*, *hold*, *take* (one) *at* († *a* or † *the*) *vantage*

*c* 1510 *Cesta Rom* (W de W) A ij, At the last she had hym at a vantage ageyne, and was afore hym 1581 Pettie tr *Guazzo s Civ Conv* II (1586) 67 You haue taken me at a vauntage 1590 Sidney *Ir Q* iii vi 51 Me seely wretch she so at vauntage caught 1596 Harington *Metam Ajax* (1814) 91 Then will I take it at the vantage 1827 Southey *Hist Penins War* II 123 In this sort of warfare thear loss was generally greater than that of the natives, who on such occasions had them at vantage 1857 Emerson *Journ* 253 Complement of human kind, Holding us at vantage still

†**b** With *vantage* as object, esp *to take*, *vantage* (*of*) *Obs* (Cf Advantage *sb.* 5 b)

(a) 1573 G Harvey *Letter-b* (Camden) 108 The vantage had bene presently taken *c* 1585 (R. Browne) *Answ Cart wright* 23 If any will take vantage, that yet their ceuers were holy, let vs consider what is holines 1598 Marlowe *Massacre Paris* III ij, [He] takes his vantage on Religion, to plant the Pope and popelings in the Realme 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 50 Hee thought to make his Vantage upon his Parliament.

(*b*) 1591 Lyly *Endymion* II i, You will be sure I shall take no vantage of your words. 1600 Holland *Livy* I ii 9 The surnie of the Antennates, taking the vantage of the time, entred the confines of Rome 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* xvi 40, I Will take no vantage of thy Misery.

**6** *Lawn Tennis* = Advantage *sb* 2.

1884 *Field Lawn Tennis* 50 If he lose the next stroke (he being vantage to love), the score is again called deuce 1897 *Outing* XXX 467/1 Then our opponents ran to deuce, and another victory made the score vantage in our favor

**7** *attrib*, as (sense 2 b) † *vantage-loaf*, (sense 3) *vantage-colgn*, *-ditch*, *-place*, *-point*, (sense 6) *vantage-game*, *-set*. Also Vantage-ground.

1622 In Plomer *Abstracts fr Wills of Eng Printers* (1903) 48 To twelve Poore people one penny loafe and 1 woe pence a peece and the vauntage loafe to the Clerke there 1628 Scott *Sharon* VI ii, Bulwark, bastion, tower, and vantage coign. a 1661 Clough *Ælig Poems* II 85 Quick seisure and fast unrelaxing hold of vantage place 1865 J H Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 320 Terraces house tops,—every vantage point—were crowded thickly with spectators. 1886 J H Dell *Dawning Grey, Prefatory*, Some fast vantage-ditch of wrong 1892 *Pall Mall G* 7 July 6/1 The Londoners equalized and made another vantage set necessary. *Ibid*, The Irishmen gained the 'vantage game every time.

**Vantage** (vɑ·ntĕdʒ), *v.* Also 5 **vauntagyn**, 6 **-age.** [f prec., or ad OF *vantager* (Palsgr.)]

1 *trans* To profit or benefit (one) Now only *arch* Cf Advantage *v* 4

c1460 *Promp Parv* (Winch), Forderyn, or vauntagyn. 1530 Palsgr 765/1 What dothe it vauntage you to go so often over sea? 1590 Spenser *F Q* I iv 49 Needlesse feares did neuer vantage none 1596 *Edw III*, II i, Yf nothing but that loane may vantage you I would accompt that losse my vantage to 1628 Sylvester *Tob Tercentphant* IV 227 What will it vantage mee, What shall I gain of I from sin be free? 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxix, To keep him as a captive might vantage them in many degrees than could his death 1891 C E Norton *Dante's Purgat* xxii. 66 What hath it vantaged thee to make of me a screen?

*refl* 1581 J Bell *Haddons Answ* 186 To what purpose vantage themselves nothyng by this distinction 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* I ii. 13 Thereby to aduance and vantage himselfe.

†2 *intr* To make gain or profit *Obs*—1

1563 Foxe *A & M* 33/1 The commen saying of naughty wemen, which say, they vantage more in one holy day, then in L other dases besides

Hence **Va·ntaged**, *pa. t.*, †increased, augmented

1578 Banister *Hist Man* Pref 7 That with the testimonie of a cleare conscience we may render our vauntaged talentes vnto the high Maiestie

†**Va·ntageable**, *a. Obs. rare* Also 6 vantish [f prec.] Advantageous, profitable.

1570 Foxe *A & M* 561 b/1 These Caursinites had their debtes to them bound in such sorte as was much more vantageable (1596 vantia, eal le) to them, and much inturious vnto the other 1610 Markelius *Ir Yea I*, 83 And when all this had bin done, where are then his so much vantageable profits?

**Va·ntage-ground.** [Vantage *sb* 7] A position which places one at an advantage for defence or attack

Freq in 19th cent, chiefly in fig use

1612 Bacon *Ess, Of Great Place* (Arb) 282 That cannot be without power and place; as the vantage and commanding ground 1625 — *Of Truth* (Arb.) 500 No I leasure is com parable to the wi thing quiet vantage ground of Truth 1644 Waller in *Cal State Papers, Dom Ser* (1888) 301, I moved not till I had full assurance that the enemy was clearly gone le t it might have been but a feint to draw me from my vantage ground 1776 Burke *Sp Amer Tax*, Wks 1842 I 170 But I quit the vantage ground on which I stand and where I must, before I leave the burthen of the proof upon him 1817 C Iredge *Eng I it* (Bohn) 164 I am convinced that f r the human soul to prosper in rustic life a certain vantage ground, pre requisite 1830 Herbert *Study Nat I hil* II vi 173 A means of fresh attack with new vantage ground 1878 Maclear *Celts* I. 10 Making the Greek colony of Massilia her vantage ground

**Va·ntageless**, *a* [f Vantage *sb*] Not having any advantage or superiority

1810 Scott *Lady of L* v xii See here, all vantageless I stand, Arm'd like thyself with single brand,

†**Va·ntageous**, *a Obs*—1 [f Vantage *sb*] Bringing advantage or gain

c1586 T Hacket *Trans Acosta* Dij, It perteineth not to ruche a Lord as ye are to have and to hold any such or ve and vantageous purposes with me

†**Va·ntalion**, *Obs*—1 [app. f *vant* Vaunt *v*] Ostentation, display

1637 Bastwick *Litany* III 20 They have scarce a sermon in the whole Univer ity and if there be one it tends onely to vantation and to shew the strength of lines, which indeed breaketh nothing but vanity

**Va·ntbrace.** Now *arch* or *Hist.* Forms *a* 4–5 vaunt(e)brace, 6 brasse; 6–7 (9) vantbras, 7 8 -braas *β* 5, 7, 9 vauntbrace, 6–7, 9 vantbrace [a AF *vantbras*, aphetic f. *avantbras*, *i avant* before + *bras* arm] = Vambrace.

1324 *Rec Acc* 49 *Vnum par Vantbras*, *ib* In x bacnettus, iij paribus Vauntbras et rerebras 1412 in *Somerset Med Wills* (1901) 60 Unum basinetum cum ventale, vauntbras, rerebras [etc.]. 1416 in *Arch Mus Ld. Medditeton* (1911) 104 Paunes, vauntbraces et quyssheux 1504-6 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* III 90 For iij pair vantbraises 1520 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser 1 I 267 The King lokythe dayly to receive the vauntbrasse and gauntlett 1614 Sylvester *Bethulias Resolve* VI 254 One for his own, his Fellow s Helm puts on One his right Vantbras on left arm doth don 1671 Milton *Samson* 1321 Then put on all thy gorgeous arms, thy broad Habergeon, Vant brass and Greves, and Gauntlet 1790 *Ann Reg*, *Poetry* 153 On his strong vantbrass Hacon's sword descends. 1802 James *Milit Dict*, *Vant brass*, armour for the arm

1812–20 Lydg. *Chron Troy* III. 87 (MS Digby 230), Pat he sleues eke so longe be pon vauntbraces may be cured ner 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xx cxxxix His shield was pierst, his vantbrace cleft and split. 1622 F Markham *Bk War* I x 39 As touching the Vantbrace (which armeth from the Elbow to the hand) they are not greatly materiall in this case. a 1649 Drumm of Hawth *Hist Jas V*, Wks. (1711) 105 After many blows to the disadvantage of their casks, carskets, and vantbraces. 1802 Scott *Bon Sir John* iii, Yet his plate-jack was braced and his helmet was laced, And his vaunt brace of proof he wore 1808 Herb *Journ. India* II. xxv 226 Many of the others (native horsemen of Bhurtpore) had helmets, vant braces gauntlets &c.

**Vant-courier**, **-currer** (-ĕr, -or, -our), obs. ff. Vaunt-courier.

**Vanterie, -ery**, var Vauntery *Obs*

†**Va·ntguard**, *sb Obs* Forms *a* 5–6 *Sc* **vantgard**, 6–7 **vantgard** (6 garde), 6–8 **vantguard** (6–7 -guarde) *β* 5–6 **vauntgarde** (7 vaunte-), 6–7 **vauntgard**, **-guard** [Aphetic f Avantguard Cf Vantward.]

1 *Mil* = Vanguard 1

*a* c1470 Henry *Wallace* VI 500 Wallace him self the vantgard he has tayne 1598 Hall *Chron.* (1809) 441 Bothe the vantgardes soyned together with suche a force that it was marueil to beholde 1587 Fleming *Contin Holinshed* III 1070/2 Being lodged in the vantgard that was gouerned by monsieur de Brissac. 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* III ii. 67 The one marcheth in the vantgard, and the other in the reareward. 1648 Gage *West Ind* x 40 And I uplift and Teutecatl, very principall gentlemen had the Vant gard with ten thousand men 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I iii 133 Shewing him at the same time the Duke s Vant Guard, which began to appear upon a little eminence hard by 1700 Chauncy *Hist Antiq Hertf* (1826) I 39 Who was Captain of the Vantguard of King Edward s Army in Scotland *a* 1754 Carte *Hist Eng.* (1759) IV 60 His vantguard was quartered at S Lanfranc.

*β* c1450 *Merlin* x 251 Now fro hens forth may we go vpon vrsiens vauntgarde for here deuise now who shall haue the vaunt garde 1485 Caxton *Chas Gr* 239 In the vaunte garde were xx thousand cryaten men 1568 Grap ton *Chron* II 122 In keyping this course the vauntgarde encountered with the Pole of Boleyn 1583 Stocker *Cit Warres Lowe C* III 98 b, They first appointed seuen Ensignes for the vauntguard 1583 R Barker *Chron*, 94 Frauncheborge and Blunt continue the leading of the Vaunt guard 1679 Blount *Anc Jeneures* 109 By condition of service to lead the Vauntguard of the Larles Army

*b* *fig* = Vanguard 1 b

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I vi 39 Of all the Beasts The Elephant the Vant guard doth command 1623 H Spelman *Epistle* 3 *Sot Chr* (1659) 90 Men who make a shrewd flourish in the vant guard of Religion 1629 N. Carpenter *Achitophel's* (1640) 22 I itle can true wisdome perswade in the Reare where wicked police commands the Vant guard

2 *a.* A breastplate, corslet *rare*—1

1581 Daub it *Bullinger on Apoc* (1573) 120 They had also Habergeons, and for a defence for the breste called a breste plate, or a vauntgarde

*b* (See quot)

1611 Florio, *Vanguardia* a vantguard of a helmet of a caske or head piece.

†**Vant-guard**, *v Obs*—1 [f Guard *v* after prec] *trans* To defend in front

16 T C C] *Remedy of Love* 83 (Nares), Carthage is strong with many a mighty tower, With broa l dieepe ditch, with vant guarded wall.

**Vantishable**, variant of Vantageable *a Obs*

**Vantmure**, var Vauntmure *Obs*

**Vanton**, **-toun**, obs. Sc ff Wanton *a*

**Vantose**, obs. var Ventose *sb.*

**Vantour**, obs. form of Vaunter.

**Vantrar**, **-ier**, **-or**, , var AvantpariER

**Vantplate**, obs form of Vamplate

**Vantrauth**, variant of Wantrooth *Obs*

†**Va·ntward.** *Obs* Also 3 **vantwarde**, 4–5 **vauntward(e** [Aphetic form of Avantward, cf Vantguard See also next, and Vamward, Vaward] The vanguard of an army

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 7428 Hor vantwarde was to broke, þat tun ne myhte hom wende *Ibid* 9006 þe vaut wardes hom mette verst, as rist was to done 1377 Langl *P pl* B xx 94 Elde he hoe he was in þe vauntwarde And þat I were lefer deth þy rigte be it clayned *c*1450 *Contin. Brut* II (1908) 320 Sere Iletram Cleykyn pat was chyuetevn of þe vauntward of þe batail 1480 Caxton *Gruthuse* Aiij viii He was the duc of York in the vaut ward 1557 A *Arthur* (Copland) 1 v Lyonses and Phariance had the vaunt warde 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 704 The Romans set forth in the Vant ward: they returned home in the Rereward.

†**Va·nward**, *sb Obs* In 5 van, 6 vawne **warde.** [Reduced form of prec cf Vanguard See also Vaward] = prec

In reprints of 16th cent works *vantward* is sometimes substituted for *vauntward* Vaward and the latter is perh the correct reading of the MS in quot 1476.

1476 *Paston Lett* III 162 The Swchys hathe slayne the most parte off þe vanwarde 1533 Fryan *Chron* v 8 (1556) 105 b/1 He than sette forthe his wayes commaund ynge his vanewearde to kepe their iourney towarde Paris

**Va·nward**, *a* [f Van *sb*2] Situated, having place or position, in the van or front

1820 Keats *Hyperion* I 39 As if the vanward clouds of evil days Had spent their malice 1883 Dr Quincey *Lett Educ* iv (1867) 77 Its vanward and its rearward man. 1877 *Fraser's Magazine* 41 Until the vanward allows the rear feel The agitating shallows. 1896 *Edin Rev* July 151 The hort zon became darkened with the vanward clouds of evil days

**Va·nward**, *adv.* [f as prec] Towards or in the front, forward Also with *to*

1827 Hood *Mids Fairies* xiv Then next a merry Woodsman clad in green Stept vanward from his mates. 1838 J P Kennedy *Rob of the Bowl* II, Vanward the same kind of enclosures shut in a grassy court. 1888 Lowell *Heartsease & Rue* 56 Whose brave example still to vanward shines.

**Vapid** (væ·pid), *a* Also 7 **vappid** [ad L. *vapid us* savoureless, insipid Cf obs F *vapide* (Cotgr.)]

1 Of liquors, beverages, etc : Devoid of briskness, failing to produce an agreeable effect on the palate, flat, insipid

1656 Blount *Glossogr Vapi t*, that gives an ill smack that casts a vapour or ill savour stinking 1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 116 A sourish, saltish, and vapid liquor 1676 Grew *Anat Pl Anat Pl* (1682) 158 Now the I quors in which these are generated do always lose their I ast and Smell, and so become Vapid 1707 Mortimer *Husb* xx 585 Then away goes the brisk and pleasant Spirits and leave a vapid or sour Drink 1756 C Lucas *Ess Waters* II 208 It somewhat resembled vapid French white wine 1788 Mme. D Arblay *Diary* 24 July, He made his own cold tea and drank it weak and vapid 1823 J Halcock *Dom Amusem* 47 Vapid, old and worn out trees, producing vapid fruit 1864 Sala in *Daily Tel* 1 Nov, So are bottled mineral waters the vapidest of beverages.

*fig* 1763 J D. Bristol, in A Young *Autobiogr* (1898) vi 118 When you are *vapid* of even those *Attilant* spirits of yours are so, come and imbibe some air at the Downhill 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, Such vapid and flat daylight as filtered through the ground glass windows.

b Said of taste or flavour

1677 Grew *Anat Fl* (1682) 280 A soft Taste, is either Vapid, as in Watery Bodies Whites of Eggs Starch Or Unctuous, as in Oyls, Fat &c. 1820 *Ann Reg Chron* 42/2 It gives to the beer a vapid disagreeable flavour 1837 M Donovan *Dom Econ* II 337 The exhilarating effect is produced at the sacrifice of the flavour and with the introduction of vapid bitterness. 1859 W S Coleman *Woodlands* (1866) 218 I be tempting appearance of which, however is not borne out by their flavour which is stale and insipid

c. *Med* Of blood Devoid of strength or vigour, weak, inert

1684 tr *B net s Merc Compit* XIV 405 In such Diseases the whole mass of Blood is otherwise grown vappid as it were 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 52 Softening and attracting the sharp and vapid blood 1834 *Good's Study Med* (ed 4) I 563 *note* Dr Stevens thinks that the blood first loses its solid parts, and becomes thin before it has then become deprived of its saline principles, and turns black and vapid

d Of flowers Scentless *rare*—1

*c*1750 Shenstone *Rural Elegance* 235 To rear some breathless vapid flow rs.

2 *fig* Devoid of animation, zest, or interest, dull, flat, lifeless, insipid a Of talk, discourse, writings, etc

1758 Johnson *Idler* No 34 P 8 Conversation would become dull and vapid 1763 Sheridan *Lett Lucan* Wks 1874 II 204 Vapid frivolous chit c t se ves to pass away the time 1799 *Monthly Rev* XXX. 221 The minute ceremonials and vapid common place of the German theatre 1820 Keatle *Lalla R* See ii 1 The news of the morning became stale and vapid by the dinner hour 1865 H Phillips *Amer I sper Curr* II 122 The newspapers contained as usual vapid and lengthy essays 1885 *Manch Exam* 11 Feb 1/7 There is a great deal of vapid declamation on it is subject but it will soon die out

b. Of amusements, pleasures etc

1790 Burke *Fr Rev* 16 I hat town begins to grow satiated with the uniform round of its vapid dissipations 1799 Han More *Fem Educ* (ed 3) I 98 A sor hsticated little creature, in need n thes forced, and really insipid vapidness 1825-9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* IV xxvii. 309 One continued round of vapid amusements some of which are too light and trifling even to amuse a child at a c n t fete 1877 Mrs Forrester *Mignon* I 1 Mrs. Stratheden s 'At Homes' are very different from the general run of those vapid and dreary entertainments.

c Of persons or places

1784 Cowper *Task* I 323 T l e languid eye the withered muscle and the vapid soul Reproach their owner 1844 W Irving *I Trav* I 197 I grew so full and vapid I am I genteel 1859 [Mrs Maitland] *Lett fr Madras* (1843) 272 Musalipatam was an ugly place nothing to be seen but wide sandy roads, and houses at vapid sort of place 1873 C M Davies *Unorth I ond* (1876) 119 T l e adoption of the most vapid young Lady s perversion of her mother tongue

d In miscellaneous contexts

1706 Mme D Arblay *Camilla* I 236 A scheme of human happiness which no time, no repetition can make vapid to a feeling heart 1818 Hazlitt *Dram Crit*, *Comedy* 6 *Affect* It is a vapid assumption of superiority 1847 Disraeli *I anered* II VII A smile is in general vapid 1861 White Melville *Mess Brisk Hard* xxi I he vapid round and cold assurance which triumph in a ball room 1874 H R Reynolds *John Bapt* viii 515 If these pernicious views be entertained the renewal of humanity is a vapid and foolish dream

†3 Of a damp or steamy character, dank, vaporous *Obs*

1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* xxii 169 A vapid Air or Water rarified into vapour may emulate the elasti ul power of true Air 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh* 18 Few (if at) vappid and stinking Exhalations can ascen l from them to corrupt the Air 1690 Lynford *Vert Math* 440 Rain affirms, that he observed Jupiter to be invested round with a vapid Atmosphere.

Hence **Va·pidism** *rare*—1

1831 Carlyle *Schiller in Fraser's Mag* III 130 All critic al guild brethren now working diligently in the calme l here of Vapidism or even Hohlheit

**Vapidity** (văpi·dĭti) [f prec + -ity]

1 The fact or quality of being vapid

1662 Boyle *Voyages*, deadness, flatness a being pulled 1771 Burke *Corr* (1844) I 256 After a vi lent ferment in the nation, as remarkable a deadness ai d vapidity has succeeded 1822 *Examiner* 307/1 [It] threw such a gl som and vapidity over all that we l ever saw the beautiful opera with so little pleasure 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shakes Char* xx 507 Master Froth strays from the right path from sheer vapidity 1879 Farrar *St I aul* II 536 *note*, Surely such passages as these ought to be more than adequate to defend the I atoral Epistles from the charge of vapidity

**2** A vapid remark, idea, feature, etc.

1848 *Blackw Mag* LXIII 256 Their pet historian , cannot make a single speech without dragging in some vapidity about the Revolution Settlement 1877 C Grikie *Christ* iv (1879) 665 Teaching so searching and practical, compared with the vapidities of the Rabbis. 1889 *Ind Malt G* 11 May 7 Those upon whom the crudities and vapidities of the ' commission portraits ' fall

**Vapidly** (va pidli), *adv* [f as prec. + -ly 2.] In a vapid manner

1847 in Webster 1880 ' Ouida ' *Moths* xx, She seemed to herself so useless, so stupidly, vapidly frivolously useless 1888 *Times* 24 Sept 3/5 If they were, become simply un intelligible or vapidly dull, the wonder would be less

**Vapidness** (væ pidnés) [f as prec + -ness = Vapidity

1727 Bailey *Vapidness* deadness, flatness, palledness of liquors 1820 Keats in Rossetti *Life* (1887) *I* 44 When once a person has smoked the vapidness of the routine of society 1825-9 Mrs Sherwood *Lady of Manor* IV xxvii 392 The vapidness the languor and exhaustion which accompany the life of an unconverted man 1909 *Daily Chron* 12 Nov 3/5 Her work in one or two instances sinks into vapidness.

**Vapo graphy.** [Irreg f. Vapour *sb* cf Vaporograph.] (See quot.)

1898 *Lap Sci Monthly* I III 860 The phenomena of normal physical emanations from certain substa nces which have the property of influencing the sensitive plate These pl en mena have been van ously labeled scoto,raphy vapogr aphy, etc

**Vapon**, obs Sc form of Weapon

**Vapor**, variant of Vapour

**Vaporabi lity**

Capacity of being vaporized

a 1835 McCulloch *Attlelutex* xiv (1837) III 184 The fluidity wh ch its own si gular nat ure communicates and the vaporuability depe ludent on that

**Vaporable** (vē porăb'l) *a* Also 4 vapour(e)- [ad med L *vapor ibilis* see Vapour *sb* and Able Cf Of *vaporal le*]

**1.** Capable of being converted into vapour

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xix xi (Bodl MS), Heete of heuen drawip it vilo, to the ayre, and makip vapourable pyrites of erpe 1555 Eden *D a test* (Arb) 357 Eyther it is not of vapo rable nat u e, r to be of smaule quantitie 1676 *Phil Trans* XI 614 The first Beings or Embrions of mineril salts are nothing but vapours et i ) ices not con creted totally vaporable 1681 *Phil Coll et* XII 89 By reason of the fumes Lead u ually emits, being a quick vaporal le Metal 1851 Jones *Anaplastol* xii 355 Ihis would be no de nstration from alim sphere if the water had not first been ca ried up by evaporati n and the vaporable fluid is obt ine I from the moistened soil 1893 *Pall Mall G* 12 Jan 3/3 The vaporal le parts ascending to the clear ether of heaven

†**2** Capable of converting substances into vapour *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xix 21 (Bodl MS) White comeþ of vapourewhle aier & watry þat is in be membres for white co meþ of hote aier & vapourable bestes beþ white vnder be wombe 1440 *Promp Parv* (Harl MS 221) (S T S) II 118 The natu e is mare vapourable and of better digestioun to corrumpe and bray the mets

†**Va porary,** *sb* [ad med L *vaporarium* f L *vapor* vapour *Cf vapor ārium* a steam pipe in a bath ] A medical preparation used in a form of vapour bath

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 187 A vaporary consists of the same things a sempiastrum is made of 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 304 (R) A Vaporarie ... fiat decocto cujus vaporem excipiat 1678 Phillips (ed 4) *Vaporary*, a Decoction of Herbs and other ingredients the fume whereof ascends through the hole of a Chair where the patient sits [Hence in later edd and other Dicts. The additional definition in Bailey (1721) 'a stove stew hot house or baguio' follows Kersey (1706) s.v. *Vaporarium*.]

†**Va porary,** *a Obs*[−1] [f as prec see ary ] (See quot )

1653 R G tr *Bacon's Hist Winds* 94 Let us see what may be said concerning Vaporary windes (we mean such as are engendred by vapours)

†**Va porate,** *ppl a Obs*[−1] [ad L *vaporāt-us*, pa pple of *vaporare* see next ] Vaporized

1655 Stanley *Hist Philos* (1687) 550/2 Smelling judgeth of Odors, good and ill ... putred, humid, liquid vaporate

†**Va porate,** *v Obs* Also 7 **vapourate** [f. L. *vaporāt-*, ppl stem of *vaporāre* to convert into, to become, vapour ]

**1** *trans* a. To convert into vapour, to vaporize.

1611 Florio, *Vaporabile* that may be vaporated.

b To emit as vapour

a 1646 J Ball *Power Godliness* (1657) 119 A boyling Sea, or Sepulchre of corruption steeming and vaporating up continually a world of ill disposed imaginations 1648 Hexham II, *Smoutteren*, to Exhale or to Vapourate

**2** *intr* a. To rise in or as vapour

1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii 111 They represse and infrigidate the hot fumes that vapourate to the head 1643 A Ross *Med Helic* 168 If Musk, Perfume, or rosed air, Or Balm could vaporate from thee.

b. To give off vapour.

1625 Cockeram I, *Vaporate*, to cast forth vapours.

†**Vapora tion.** *Obs* Also 4–6 **acion**, 6 **-acyon**, 5 **vapourscioun**. [ad L. *vaporātio*, n of action f *vaporāre* ▪ see prec Cf. Sp. *vaporacion*, It *azione*] The action of vaporizing, conversion into, production of, vapour.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P R* xiii xxi (Bodl. MS) Also of vaporacion of fumouse þat he [ar the sea] caste þ vpward and bredeþ myste and clouden. 1456 Sir G Haye *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S T S) II 118 Tendar meiis of licht and sone degestioun, and delicious thingis and of sutil vapourscioun moystis 1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim* d ij b, Blud letteyng minisheth vaporation that gothe to the head & troublethe the wytte. 1561 Hollybush *Hom Godly* 25 Make a vaporacion beneth with Rammes greace or fat, waxe, pitche and cumin 1623 Cockeram I, *Vaporation*, a casting forth of vapours. 1691 French *Distill* 3 9 It may be done by Corosion, By Fumigation or Vaporation 1720 S. Parker *Bibliotheca Biblica* I 438 By Conflagration and Congelation, by Vaporation, and Evaporation : by Sublimation, and Precipitation

†**Vaporative,** *a Obs* Also 5 **ative, atyf** [ad med.L *vaporātīv-us* see Vaporate *v* ]

**1** = Vaporable a.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P R* xvi iii (Bodl MS), Pinge þat is vnctuous hap moisture in bit self, & so for because of pe partie þat is vaporatyfe hit may renne and be ymade hard in beete 1594 Plat *Jewell-h* i 24 The generative water became congealed, and the vaporative water passed away 1612 Woodall *Surg Mate* Wks (1653) 21* I he better to receive with effect the dry or vaporative medicine

**2** Prone to of vapour

1568 Skeyne *Ane Pest* (1860) 12 Quhur the ground is fat and Vaporative

†**Vaporatory,** *a Obs*.[−1] In 7 **vapour-** [Cf. prec. and -atory.] Consisting of vapour.

1683 *Weekly Mem* 65 Amongst other things to eat in a vapourotory bath for some weeks

**Vapore·scence.** *rare*[−1]. [f I *vapōr-* vapour see Escence] The fact of becoming vaporous. Also **Vapore·scent** *a*, vaporizing. (In quots *fig* )

1823 *Blackw Mag* XIII 703 It is by the mild and genial influence of vaporescence, so to speak by this fine misty mists n of parts that nature fets. ] 1878 — *Shamrock I* 47 Their vaporescent point, at which riches ▪ make to themselves wings

**Vapori ferous,** *a rare*[−0] [f L *vaporifer* emitting, full of vapour + ous ] That makes or stirs up vapours' (Blount, 1656).

**Vaporific** (væpŏri tik), *a* [ad. mod L. *vaporific-us* f. *vapor* Vapour *n.*: see Fic ]

**1.** Associated or connected with, producing or causing, vaporization

1781 *Phil Trans* LXXI 482 The melting the vaporific, and also the points 1794 G Adams *Nat & Exp Phil* I 121 Fire is considered as the vaporific principle in the state of vaporific expansion 1799 *Phil Mag* III 410 A great quantity of vaporific or vesicular called, latent heat 1801 *Phil Trans* CI vi 4 *Note* The statement by Dr Thomson refers to the completion or fi t stage of the dis c very, namely the vapo ific combination of heat 1886 *Daily News* 8 April (Cassell's), It is the product of vaporific cul tination

**2** Vaporous.

1799 *Phil Trans* LXXXVII 171 There is refished from it a fluid of the vaporific kind 1800 tr *Lagrange's Chem* I 164 During th e dry slaking heat is excited, by the moisture losing its vaporific form

*fig* 1847 Carlyle *Misc* III 380 With the earliest spring he has courage in person, vaporific driven by his fixe l idea.

**Vapo riform,** *a* [f L *vapor*, stem of *vapor* Vapour *sb* see 1orm ] Vaporous

1860 *Ure's Dict Arts*, etc (ed 5) III 720 Steam is water in its vaporiform state 1876 Page *Adv Text-b Geol* i 36 Rock matter in a state of vaporiform incandescence

**Vapori meter.** [f as prec + -meter ] An instrument for measuring the amount of vapour

1878 *Ure's Dict Arts* etc IV 565 The alcohol (is) deter mined by Geissler's vapourimeter 1899 tr *Tidicek's Clin Diagnosis* (ed 4) VII 355 Pariato employs the vapourimeter for the purpose.

**Vaporish,** variant of Vaporish *a*

**Vaporizable** (vē porăizĕb'l), *a* [f Vaporize *v* ] Capable of being vaporized , vaporable

1823 J. Badcock *Dom Amusem* 108 Lead not being vaporizable, remains behind 1848 Herschel *Fss* (1857) 343 There is probal ly no vaporizable body of which the atmosphere does not contain non e trace 1881 I e Comte *Light* 13 Unless a body is volatile or vaporizable it cannot be smelled

**Vaporization** (vē porăizē·ʃən) Also **vapour-**. [f. next + -ation Cf b *vaporisatiun*] The action or process of converting, or of being converted, into vapour,

a 1799 *Monthly Rev* XXX 560 The metal becomes oxydated during the vaporization of the sulphur 1807 Davy *Ch Phil Trans* XCVIII 12 It combines with oxygen without flame at all temperatures that I have tried below that of its vaporization 1863 Lyndall *Heat* xii 442 The sun by the vaporization lifts mechanically all the moisture of our air 1878 Hamilton *Nerv Dis* 38 The bichloride was necessarily discontinued, and mercurial vaporization substituted

*b* 1886 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) IV 246/2 Evaporation and true Vaporisation of fluids at their boiling point 1830 R. S Robinson *Rural Steam Eng* 15 It is one of the most curious and important phenomena attending vaporization 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem Technol.* (ed. 2) I 253 Application of Fuel to Vapourization.

**Vaporize** (vē·pŏrăiz), *v* Also 9 **vapour-** [f L. *vapōr-* Vapour *sb* + -ize Cf F. *vaporiser* ]

**1** *trans* To convert into smoke. *rare*[−1].

1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav*, 219 *marg. note*, I orty load of Tobacco vaporized.

**2** To convert into vapour.

a. 1803 *Phil Trans* XCIII 26 The reguline sinc, vaporized by the heat, rises from the crucible as a metallic gas. 1849 R V Dixon *Heat* I 193 The vapour was projected with a loud, whistling noise, which subsided when the liquid was all vaporised 1876 Miss J. J. Young *Ceramic Art* 81 The heat vaporises the salt, and the chlorine escapes.

*β* 1836 Smart, *To vapourize* 1884 J Burroughs *Locusts & Wild H* 110 The hot air vapourising the drops.

b In fig use

1831 Carlyle *Sart Res* II vi In figurative language, we might say he becomes spiritualised, vaporised 1866 Felton *Anc & Mod Gr* I x 295 They have not only vaporized her husband Into a myth, but have consolidated a myth into a lover 1888 Dowling *Miracle* (ed 11) xcvii 1 The family estates and honours had been vaporized before that last of the Donatowskis fell under Napoleon.

**3** *intr* To become vaporous.

1828–32 Webster, *Vaporize*, to pass off in vapor 1855 Scoffern in *Ure's Circ Sci*, *Chem* 458 Zinc does not vapourize until the heat is raised to whiteness 1872 *Athenæum* 20 Jan 84/2 Faraday stated that mercury ceased to vapourize below the temperature 1881 Tyndall *Fss Floating Matter Air* 196 The liquid within the narrow tube vaporizes

*fig* 1892 *Black & White* 2 Apr 422/1 Money seems some how to have vapourised away, and none knows anything about it

**4** *trans.* To spray with fine particles of liquid.

1900 *Onions Compl Bachelor* v 51 My hostess vi poorised me in passing with a new scent fountain

Hence **Va porized** *ppl. a*, **Va porizing** *vbl sb* (also *attrib* ).

1839 *Ure Dict Arts* 823 Chambers into which the "va porized substances are deposited 1880 Haughton *Phys Geogr* III 124 We must reduce the vaporised water capable of producing rain 1888 *Daily News* 15 May 6/2 Small bunches propelled by the vaporising apparatus 1893 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 180/1 The valve before described, attached to the "vaporizing apparatus 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.* 2650/2 *Vaporizing stove* one for furnishing steam to dampen the air of apartments, etc. 1886 *Pall Mall G* 2 Nov 6/1 The apparatus acts as a vaporizer and steam generator 1896 *C Jm politan* XX 420/2 In order to start the engine a lamp is used for a few m nutes to heat the vaporizer

**Va porograph.** [Irreg f L *vapōr-* Vapour *sb* + Gr -ιλ Cf Vaiourgraph ] A picture produced by vapography Hence **Vaporogra phic** *a*

1903 *Month* Feb 171 Some sort of Vaporographs may be obtai ed by his method or others that are equally effe ctive 1 he vaporographic theory explains the origin of this ti pression

†**Va porous se,** *a Obs rare* [ad I *vaporōs-us*, f *vapor* Vapour *sb*] Vaporous, easily vaporizing

*c* 1400 *Lanfr s Cirurg* 16 (Addit MS), Woundes mowe nozt ben y dryzed in a moyste eye & a vaporose 1561 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 320 (R) Vaporosa, [is cured] by abstinence p epa nats and fraction 1731 Arbuthnot *Aliments* vi vii (1735) 204 Therefore in fat People the Use of vaporose or perpi able Food, and Exercise are pr per

**Vaporo sity.** *rare* [Cf. prec and -ity ] Vaporous quality or qualities

1528 Paynell *Viterne's Regim* Y nij b, Garlyke hurteth the eies through it sharpenes and vaporosite 1837 *New Monthly Mag* XLIX 2 As we paperish as St Swithin himself with all his *sirocco* vaporosity about him 1837 Carlyle *Misc Res*, *Diamond Necklace*, He is here with his fixed idea and volcanic vaporosity

**Vaporo-sulphu reous,** *a rare*[−1] [Cf Vaporograph ] Of a vaporous and sulphurous nature

1766 *Phil Trans* II 619 There are found Earths impregnated with this acid matter being vaporo-sulphureous.

**Vaporous** (vē·pŏrəs), *a* Also 6 **vaporouse, vaperous**, 7 **vap'rous**, 9 **vaprous**, 7–9 **vapourous** [f. L *vapor* as or ad L *vapōros us*, f *vapor* Vapour *sb* Cf F. *vaporeux*, It, Sp, Pg. *vaporoso* ]

†**1.** Of a bath: Consisting or composed of vapour. *Obs* [Cf Vapour bath ]

1587 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll Waters* Pij b, Fecume made of this herbe used in vaperous bathes dystroyeth age 1632 Jordens *Nat Bathes* i (1669) 2 These kind of watry and vaporous Bathes have been in use from all antiquity 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Balneum Vaporosum*, the Vapourous Bath as when the Vessel that contains the Matter is heated by the Vapours, or Steams that arise from the hot or boiling Water

**2** Emitting or exhaling vapour ; †*spec* of food in the stomach

1544 Phaer *Regim Lyfe* (1553) B ij b, The peyente ought to forbeare all vaporous meates, as parlyes, oynons [etc ]. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cxli. (1636) 269 Such things as bee most vaporous do most dispose us to sleepe. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* vi xxii 709 The wine is a claret of a thinne substance not fuming or being vaporous 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii 181, I advise all such to sup on rosted meats, because they are leste vaporous 1658 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv* (1746) 302 To settle their Meat to the Bottom of their Stomach, that it may prove less vaporous to the Head 1702 Fuller *Pharm. Extemp* 90 Scorbutic Ale restraineth the Ebullition of the Vapourous Blood. 1731 Arbuthnot *Aliments* v iv (1735) 139 Aliment too vaporous or perspirable, will subject it to the Inconveniencies of too strong a Perspiration.

†**b** Of the eyes Moist with tears. *Obs*.[−1]

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* O iv b, He at last met by chaunce with a sorcerer, to whom deploring with vaporous eyes his burdenous taske [*perused* burdurus taste] (etc.).

**3.** Filled with, thick or dim with, vapour, foggy, misty

1593 Shaks. *Lucr* 771 O hateful, vaporous, and foggy night, Muster thy mists to meete the Easterne light 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 908 Considering that mists, fogs and clouds are no congealations, but onely gatherings and thickenings of a moist and vaporous aire 1620 Venner *Via Recta* Introd 5 There the aire is seldome infected with vaporous blasts. 1665 *Phil. Trans* I 67 Through the Gross and Vaporous Air near the Earth. 1709 I. Robinson *Nat. Hist Westmoreld.* ii 16 The magnetick Attraction of this Ætherial Spirit of Cold, which governs the humid and vaporous Atmosphere 1818 Shelley *Eugenean Hills* 92 The waveless plain of Lombardy, Bounded by the vaporous air 1864 Hawthorne *Mother Rigby* i 1 The small cottage became all vaporous. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv* lv. 124 The outline of the cone was plain against the illuminated vaporous atmosphere

*fig.* 1600 W Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 334 [The Jesuits'] religious pietie in shew is but a runnelow cloude, of ethaell policie in action, drawne vp in vaporous dewes of cold congealed deuotions 1656 J. Smith *Sel Discr* ix ii (1821) 414 To rise above that vaporous sphere of sensual and earthly pleasures, which darken the mind

**b.** Covered or obscured with vapour

1687 Petty *Pol Arith* i (1690) 12 Holland is a Level Country, and by its being moist and vaporous, there is always wind stirring over it. 1818 Keats *Endym* iv 81 Wide sea Many old rotten timbers must there be Upon thy vaporous bosom! 1860 Tyndall *Glac* i xvi 115 The lower cloud field—itself an empire of vaporous hills ... 94 R. Burdett *Lyons & Alps* 1 April The tripod shook, and o er the vaporous well The chanting Pythoness gave oracle

**4.** Having the form, nature, or consistency of vapour (Common in 19th cent)

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* iii xxv 196 Places in th' earth, whose vertues is to draw vaporous matter, and to conuert it into water

always fell backward into this *vapour pt 1866 G P Scrope Volcanoes 22 Thus pillar of white *vapour puff 1869 Stirling Jrl 1 18 The range of diffusive mobility .. appears to be as wide as the scale of *vapour tension 1872 3 Grew *Anat Pl Anat Roots* ii (1682) 67 There is yet another kind of Sap Vessels, which may be call'd *Vapour Vessels. 1862 Miller *Elem Chem Org* (ed 2) i. § 2. 46 In simplicity thus introduced in our calculations of *vapour volume 1908 Sharks *Jrl* I iv 70 Then thou fairst down which on my e arth dost shine, Exhalest this *vapor vow

**b** With adjs. and pples, as *vapour belted, brauded, -burdened, filled*, etc. Also *vapour like* adj and adv

1820 Shelley *Wint h Atl* lvii, Many a *vapour belted pyramid 1855 Longfellow *Voices of Night* Sweetly gleam'd the stars And sweet the *vapour braided blue 1730-46 Thomson *Autumn* 827 Th exhaling sun the *vapour burden'd air 1804 *Chating* XXII 363 The dark *vapor filled night closed in 1821 in Ld Coleridge *Story Devonsh Ho* xvii (1905) 280 A pair of sleek steeds that are as delicate as a *Vapour be olled Lady 1713 Wodrow *Corr* I 108 (1828) 147 If then so soon the Great and Powerful fall And *Vapour like almost e er seen exhale 1840 Mrs Somerville *Connex Phys* xvi (ed 5) 424 A vapour like smoke 1862 Spencer *First Princ* i § 176 (1875) 227 Each portion of such vapour like matter must begin to move towards the common centre of gravity 1727 Bailey (vol II) *Pro fore[ftonienses*, an exhaling or *vapour producing Quality 1832 J Bree *St Herbert's Isle* 68 At length the impatient hours the twilight led With *vapour sandaled feet and robed cheek 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* viii (1842) 200 The junction being made *vapour tight by some glazier's putty

**Vapour** (vē·pəɹ), *v.* Also 5–6 vapoure, 6– vapor, 6 7 vapor (7 vapr) [f prec, or ad L. *vapōrare* cf Vaporate *v.*]

1 *intr* To rise or ascend, to be emitted or diffused, in the form of vapour. Also with *up* and *out*

1422–50 Lydg *Chron Troy* i. 3921 Pe bawme vapoureth vp a lofte In to pe eyre of pe Sonne 1614 Jackson *Creed* Sprygeon *Treas David* I 190 Thick spumy mists, which vapour up from the dark and foggy earth 1647 Habington *Hist Henry* (Worc. Hist. Soc.) III 544 Annoyed with the contagion vapouring from the water 1655 Culpeper, etc. *Riverius* xv iii 410 Put it into a new glazed pot or pipkin, closed up that nothing may vapor out 1668 R Mather *Unl. Advice* 41 Put this little upon the edge of thy Funnel, which will bind fast the plate and the Funnel that nothing can vapor that way

*fig* 1839 Bailey *Festus* (1848) 9 Does not an odour from my soul, And, vapouring up before the face of God, Congregate there?

**b.** To pass *away*, to be dissipated, in the form of vapour

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 357 To take such waters and cause them to boyle and vapoure away vntyll the dregs or residence remayne in the bottome 1598 R Ashley tr *Lopez le Roy* 5 When the water is thickned, it ceases to become a stone : when it vapoures away to be breath or aire 1605 Timme *Querist* 1 vii 27 Whatsoeuer is merry therein by the force of the heat vapoureth away 1658 A Fox *Wonderful Warr* iv iii 318 Mingle all these well together lute the glass body that nothing vapour away

*fig* 1658 Mayne *Jrnl* (1664) 71 Their whole life hath vapoured away in hopes. 1678 Sir I Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 237 I he first day vapors away in Tobacco fumes, and other ordinary feasts with Ladies 1685 Baxter *Paraphr N T*, *1 Cor* iv 19 For all that Men call Learning and Wisdom vapoureth away as Idleness and Vanity 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 133 P 8, I expected that their exultation would in time vapour away

**c.** To pass or be dissolved *into* a state of vapour or moisture *rare*

1587 Digby *Horace, Fa* xviii F iij Though he shoulde vapor into teares 1640 Walton *Life of Donne* (1670) 77 In the last hour of his last day as his body melted away and vapoured into spirit, he said (etc.) *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* (1650) II 80 Rdr. Words vanish soon and vapour into Air

**2** *trans* **a** To cause to rise *up* or ascend in the form of vapour Also *fig*.

*c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens* 454 Whan Phebus on the herbes tendre and softe The bawmy dropes sliuer fast Vp poured hath vp in the aire 1559 *Mirr Mag. Dorset* (Percy Soc.) 12 Therfore by hete it is vaporyd up lyghtly, and in the ayre maketh cloudys and mystes 1580 Rastell *Bk Purgat* II 80 Rdr. Words vanish soon and vapour into Air 1597 Donne *Sermons* 45 But every Man is vapor d up into ayre and as the ayre can hes thinkes he can fill any place 1795 Blake *Bk Ahania* Poet. Wks. (1914) 345 Effluvia vapour'd above In noxious clouds.

**b** To cause to pass *away* in the form of vapour

1480–70 *Bk Quintessence* (1866) 9 Putte it into a vessel of glas in be which be water may vapore and after do we poure awey be water at be fier 1560 Whitehorne *Ord Vowl Iourn* (1588) 26 It must be boyled so long till all the thinne watrinesse be vapoured out, and the substance of the salt peter thickned 1626 Bacon *Med Rem Bacons ana* (1679) 260 Then upon a gentle heat vapour away all the Spirit of Wine. 1660 R Maxwell *Unl Alch* 174 In a clean glass Vessel vapor all the Vinegar away

*fig* 1600 Donne *The Expiration* 2 So so breake off this last lamenting kisse Which sucks two soules and vapors Both away

**c** With *out* or *forth* To evaporate

1530 Rastell *Bk Purgat* iii vii The temperate eyer wyll vapour out the i ritines & sowrenes of that humour 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 23 Opium leeweth some of his poisonous Quality if it be vapoured out, mingled with Spirit of Wine, or the like 1658 Rawley tr *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 28 In Dissipating Medecines, some vapour forth the thinne part of the Tumours. 1694 *Govt Tongue* 134 If he call me dull, because I vapor not out all my spirits into froth.

**d.** To convert into vapour Chiefly with *to*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas Time* 219 He now is dead and all his glorie gone, And all his greatnes vapored to nought 1603 J Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks (Grosart) I 87/1 Thy soul's but a Blast, That with thy diffusive nobilitie vapours to nought 1665 *Phil Trans* I 36 With more of the same Dew vapoured to suddy *a* 1814 *Forgery* II iv in *New Lond Theatre* I 253 Ev in the hot potent wine Whose power only but a short time since, Flatter'd my brain is vapor'd ill in air 1888 Dulcity *Trav Arabia Deserta* I 79 If there runs in any water, within a while it will be vapoured to the dregs.

**†3** To send *forth*, *out*, or *up*, to emit or dis charge, to disperse, etc ; in the form of vapour *Obs*

*c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* ii cxiv (1869) 117, I haue a special horn bi which i caste and vapoure out the wynd that i haue in my body. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden* (1593) 5 Consider also the nature of the Mote whether the same send eth or vapoureth forth nosome or stinking aire *c* 1586 C Tyrr *Penelope's Web* ii. 11 His strength is none if any in his breath i Which vapor d foorth to mother earth he goes 1628 Wither *Brit Remembr* ii 49 Ev n when the pe ples thronging, and their sweat, for him to swallow 1656 [T.] Vere[kant] tr *T White's Peripat Inst* 126 The clouds of ashes (vapour d out in Vast abundance)

*Afr* 1880 Daniel *Compl Rosamond* 803 With armes a crosse and eyes to he uen bended, Vaporing out sighs that to the skies ascended 1634 Sir H Hawkins *Vox Horæ* 40 Wee shall be taught to vapour forth the smoke of his greatnesse. 1657 R Ligon *Barbadoes* 36 He vapours out the grievousest sighs

**b** *absol* To emit vapour

1558 Phaer, Virgil, Nature out sat vapoures *haltito* 1650 Ashmole *Chym Coll ct* iv 51 Our Fire is Mineral, and vapours not, unlesse it be too much stirred up

**4** To expose to the moistening effect of vapour *rare*—1

1545 Raynald *Eprth Mnkynde* 100 The matryce must be inu ynted perfumed in i vaporid with suche thynges, the whiche maye make it more ample and large

**b** To make dim or obscure with vapour.

1875 Blackmore *Alice Lorraine* I 150 One of those sudden changes which (at less than a breath) vapour the glass of the feminine mind

**5** *intr.* To use language as light or unsubstantial as vapour, to talk fantastically, grandiloquently, or boastingly, to brag or bluster

1628 Ford *Lover's Mel* iv ii, He vapours like a tinker, and struts like a juggler 1649 Milton *Eikon* 145 Poets indeed use to vapor much after this manner 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I. 181 He would suffer no body to say any thing to him and to hear him vapour, there was no Man greater than he 1700 S I tr *Poyart's Voy & Trav* 160 He vapour'd and talk'd as if all the Cowards in could think of 1760 *Cautions & Adv to Officers Army* 12, I have heard so many young Officers vapouring and wishing a meet an Opportunity 1812 Combe *Quaker, Picturesque* iv Dear Mrs Syntax how she d vapour. Were she to read this curious paper! 1859 W Collins *Q of Hearts* (1875) 52 You may suppose what a passion I was in when I vapoured and blustered in that way 1884 *Pall Mall G* 13 Mar 1/1 Lord Salisbury has vapoured a good deal and brandished his parliamentary sword of late.

**b** Const *about, of*, or *with*.

(*a*) 1664 tr *Scudery's Curtia Pol* 37 To strike a terrour into those who have vapoured of their owne insolencie 1677 W Hubband *Narrative* 50 Yet could the Messenger hardly for bear vapouring of their numbers and strength 1683 *a* 1680 Butler *Rem* (1759) II 36 The Wealth of his Party, of which he vapours so much, is no mean Motive to en flame his 1785 J Moore *Zeluco* (1793) II 81 Invis 178 Some of his friends were imprudent enough to vapour a little about his determination of calling Carlostein to account 1860 Hazlitt *Table T* Ser ii xvi (1869) 345 Strutting and vapouring about his own pretensions. 1864 Thackeray *D Duval* v (1869) 65 I was vapouring about that wife which I still were ve attacked. 1897 Broadley *White Rose Arno* 185 Those dear Countesses of whom you were forever vapouring

(*b*) 1675 *Char Town-Gallant* (Hindley, 1872) II 4 He stay'ed at the University long enough to get by heart the name of his College to vapour with 1699 Bentley *Phal* 332 His Scylax, that he lately vapour d with 1896 J Weiss *Wks, Wesley* I 200 The words and style which mariners and travellers brought home to vapor with to eager listeners in the taverns.

**c** *trans* To declare or assert in a boasting or grandiloquent manner Also, in later use, with *forth* or *away*

1658 F Osborne *Trad Mem James Wks* (1673) 470 That vapoured he would bring him in by the Sword 1665 Whitaker *Loy Martyrol* 11 An unanswerable Work, of which they will never clear themselves, brag and vapour what they please. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem Col Hutchinson* (1806) 136 Plumire began to vapour that he would make us all run 1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* xiii. 1 So poor Ovid shall befall A metamorphosis more strange Than all his books can vapour 1755 Warburton *Advt for two first Vols Shakesp* 1 Who are the high flown fancies which but last week You vapoured forth? *a* 1781 Maurice *Friendsh Bks* (1874) x 279 Vapouring away patriotism is undoubtedly a very bad thing

**d** To force (a person) *into* or *out of* something, to put *down*, by talking big

1654 Whitelocke *Stowe Ambassy* (1772) I 158 Who was not to be vapoured or threatened into a conformity to their devices. 1665 Glanvill *Sceptos Sci* Addv p 7, That I might not therefore be vapour'd down by insignificant Testimonies. 1809 T L Peacock *Misfort Elphin.* ix, I am not to be sung, or cajoled, or vapoured, or bullied out of my prisoner

**6** To act in a fantastic or ostentatious manner, to show off, to swagger, to walk *in* with a swaggering air

1652 C B Statyton *Herodian* 127 With Pipe and Flute full often here he vapors, And round about the Altar frisks and Capers. *a* 1700 Peael *Hist Quakers* (1795) I 1 56 Some men have the nature of an horse, to prance and vapour in their strength 1742 Ramsay *Tea Misc* (1733) I 89 Now that you will be vapouring Where ev'ry gaping tit town 1818 Scott *Br Lamm* xxi When you mean to vapour with your hanger and your dram cup in support of treasonable toasts. 1841 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xl They would gave with admiring eyes upon the robbers vapouring about in the court below 1898 J Meade Falkner *Moonfleet* vi, In vapours Mynkow and with an angry glance about him makes straight for the desk

**7** *trans* **†a** To affect with fantastic ideas *Obs*

1698 Collier *Immor Stage* iv § 3 (1730) 139 He was formal and fantastical, smitten with Dress and Equipage, and it may be vapour'd by his Perfumes

**b.** To give (one) the vapours, to depressor bore

1774 Berridge *Lett* xv (1864) 386 At times, when I am very low a letter that demands a speedy answer will vapour me as much as a large bill requiring prompt payment would a sinking tradesman 1779 *Sylph* I 24, I sit all be yo upraised to death if I stay here much longer 1796 Mrs D Arblay *Camilla* III 85 She has made us all be agraphthmus, and vapours me but to look at her 1804 *Somethi ng Odd* 1 216 His low spirits which are indeed so very bad at times as to bore and vapour one to death

**c** *intr* To get the vapours *rare*—1.

1808 Marian Moore *Lascelles* I 19 The evenings are so long that I declare I vapour every time they come for want of something else to do

**Vapour-bath.** Also vapour bath

**1.** A bath consisting of vapour (Cf Vaporous *a* 1) Also, an apartment in which a bath of this kind is used

1719 Quincy *Phys Dict* (1722) 8 *Balneum*, a kind of Vapour Bath 1766 Smollett *Trav* xxxii II 125 I they likewise indulged in vapour baths, in order to enjoy a pleasing rel axation 1802 *Med Jrnl* VIII 57 A machine for conveying a vapour bath to diseased limbs 1843 Sir C Scudamore *Med Visit Gentlefolks* 19 Some persons assert that the vapor bath is quite as useful as the blanket 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 579 Vapour baths help not only to remove the scales [etc.]

**b.** *transf* A thing or place comparable to a bath of this kind

1800 *Med Jrnl* IV 46 This kind of internal and highly inflammable vapour bath is ever ready to catch fire 1838 Col Hawker *Diary* (1893) II 1 Such has been the heat of the season so of course an awful crowd and a vapour bath 1864 Tennyson *Compet Wealth* 158 One day in August, when all Chowringhee was a vapour bath

**2** *Chem* A vessel or receptacle in which hot vapour is generated in order to heat or melt a substance

1728 Chambers *Cycl*, *Vaporosum Balneum* or *Vapour bath*, in Chymistry, a Term applied to a Chymist's Bath, or Heat, wherein the Body is placed so as to receive the Fumes of boiling Water 1844 G Bird *Urin Deposits* (1857) 18 Evaporate an ounce over a spirit lamp without the inter position of the vapour bath 1891 *Lancet Cottp* XXVII 95 I have used gelatine , melting it like glue in a vapour bath.

Hence **Vapour-bathing**.

1706 J Symons (*title*), Observations on Vapor Bathing

**Vapoured** (vē·pəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vapour *sb* or *v.*]

**1.** Filled with vapour or moisture. *rare*

1536 Wyatt *Poems* (1913) I 216 With vapoured Eyes he lokyth here and there 1585 Melbancke *Philotimus* T iij b, With dreading and with vapoured eies

**2.** Formed of or from vapour. *rare*—1.

1550 *Mirr Mag* (1563) R iv, While from mine eyes The vapored tears downrilled by the cheeke

**3** Affected with the vapours, suffering from nervous depression, low-spirited.

Freq in the 18th cent, esp in predicative use

1670 Covel in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 210 Instead of dull mopish melancholy persons we found bright and airy ladyes 1723 Chevne *Eng Malady* II iv § 3 (1734) 145 They were never vapour'd or low spirited to any Degree 1753 *Rev Clarissa* 292 The modest person is at one time convinced of the truth of any proposition at another he will adopt the opposite opinion 1796 Mrs D'Arblay *Camilla* III 352 Sir Sedley whispered: 'I am horribly vapoured!' 1802 *Edinb Rev* I 137 Her have I seen pale vapour d through the day, With crowded parties at the midnight play 1824 *Blackw Mag* XV 398 Write when you can do nothing else, when you are vapoured, and then I shall be sure to hear the truth.

*transf* 1755 *Monitor* No 21 I 170 It may give you a little respite in a vapoured day ; when your head is out

**Vapourer** (vē·pəɹəɹ). Also 9 vaporer. [f Vapour *v.*]

**1.** One who vapours, a bragging, grandiloquent, or fantastical talker

1653 Cauden *Hierasp* 223 This puffl numous and frothy generation of vapourers are the greatest enemies to our Religion 1665 Pepys *Diary* 3 Dec, A fortunate, though a passionate and but weak man as to policy, and one that is the greatest vapourer in the world 1771 Fletcher *Checks* Wks. 1795 III 238 I hat vapourer in favour of your perseverance, fairly and consistently builds on the foundation of the Calvinists 1816 J Gilchrist *Philol Etym* 214 We might show how applicable to certain rhetorical metaphysical vaporers the descriptions are 1843 *Tait's Mag* X. 344 Not one of your old serene metaphysical vapourers.

**2** *Vapourer moth*, a British moth of the genus

*Orgyia*, esp. *O antiqua*, the male of which flies with a rapid quivering motion

1782 W Curtis *Brenn tail Moth* 6 The *Phalæna Antiqua*, or Vapourer Moth, which I have seen to thrive on the deadly Nightshade and poisonous Laurel. 1832 I Brown *Ele Butterflies & M* (1834) I 49 The following figure of the female Vapourer Moth 1871 Kingsley *At Last* viii, A crawling grub like the female of our own Vapourer moth. 1890 Cheshire *Insect Instincts* (ed 3) 322 The pretty and easily distinguishable caterpillar of the Common Vapourer Moth

*elight* 1823 Samouelle *Entomol Compend* 418 *Bombyx gonostigmata* Hubner. The Spruce Vapourer 1861 Morris *Brit Moths* I 77 *Orgyia antiqua*, Vapourer

**Va pourgraph.** — Vaporograph.

1903 *Sat Rev* 11 Apr 457/1 These Vapourgraphs show the deepest stain where the object emitting the vapour is in actual contact with the cloth

**Vapouring** (vē˙ pərin), *vbl sb* [f Vapour *v*.]

**1** Emission of vapour, evaporation. *rare*.

1548 Hvot, *Repthratio*, a breathynge, or vapouringe. 1652 French *Distill.* iii. 81 Hot Liquor may be rectified by the vapouring away of the flegme

**2** The action of talking or acting in a high flown or pretentious manner

c 1589 Sandys-Smith *Serm* (1632) II 306 The tongue may bowst great things and talk high We call it vapouring; and well may we so call it 1656 Earl Monm *tr Boccalini's Ad Tacitum* (1674) 269 Spanish Officers, very much vapouring, distaste the good servants of so great a Queen 1706 Vanbrugh *Mistake* iv 293 I take thy saint pincushion thou maidest such a vapouring about yesterday 1773 Johnson *Lett* 25 March (1781) II 80 Harry will be happier now he goes to school and reads Milton Miss will want him for all her vapouring 1818 Earl Dudley *Lett* 92 June (1820) 246 It is really amazing, that after all their vapouring they should not have ventured to assail him 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* v (1904) 176 Consider them with their tumid sentimental vapouring about virtue 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* II 197 The errors of which Lord Derby had been guilty and the preposterous vapourings of some of his less responsible followers

**3** *fig.* in pl Vain imaginations

1873 Dixon *Two Queens* I vi I 44 These stings of conscience were not the vapourings of an idle fancy

**Vapouring** (vē˙ pərin), *ppl a* [f as prec]

**1** Acting or talking in a pretentious or high-flown manner.

1647 R. Josselin *Diary* (1908) 45 25 Troops came to quarter with us, somewhat bold and vapouring. *c* 1670 O Haywood *Diaries* (1881) II 321 To make bag of it, as if it did constitute us nglise saints, and not the vapouring pharisee. 1691 *The Brigadeers* 22 Tis that Pierce Vapouring, Coward, Bravado I fancy 1704 *Memoirs Tr* ic 29 Prussia is fond and Glory a fled An I you see a vapouring fool 1834 *Gentl Mag* CIV I 26 The bustling, vapouring, clatter g Duke of Newcastle 1842 Thackeray *Contrib to Punch* Wks 1900 VI 47 It is always a comfort to read of those tall sword vapouring gloriously Frenchmen obtaining a beating 1864 C Knight *Passages Work Life* I 1 37 The burly Englishman regarded the vapouring little man with something like contempt

**2** Having a fantastical, pretentious, or foolishly boastful character.

1649 tr *Bochme's Epistles* To Rdr (1886) a The frame and structure of our knowledge which by our artificial reason we should build unto ourselves upon that foundation, would be but a vapouring notion 1721 Strype *Eccl Mem* xxii II 380 They told Barnaby in a vapouring sort (which is a Nation was then much addicted to) how little Harm England in their Wars was like to do them 1795 Burke in Phil *Corr Lett* Sec II IV 129 We shall not employ a person capable of writing such miserable, vapouring and empty stuff 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond* III 240 The vapouring vanity of one struggling against opinion, and fearing to sink in human estimation 1859 Garen *Obj Stud* (O H S) 165 In this burst of vapouring Toryism open persecution had at last reached its close. 1877 Owen *Wesleyan's Desp* 3 Boanerges a vapouring letter to Lippoo and gasconading demeanour in Egypt

**3** Full of vapour, emitting or giving off a vapour.

1648 Herham II, *Ren & impt gat*, a smoakie or a vapouring hole. 1800 Coleridge *Poems* II 1, Now the vapouring wine Opens the heart and shuts the eyes.

**4** Of the nature of vapour, vaporous

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr* II 192 As vapouring clouds by summer's suns are driven 1854 S Dobell *Balder* xxv 181 Like some great vapouring cloud flopping a cumulous heaven of mysteries.

Hence **Va pouringly** *adv*

1653 *Lilburn Tryed & Cast* 254 It would make a man smile, to read what free vapouringly talks 1767 Sterne *Tr Shandy* iv iii, The Corporal gave a slight flourish with his stick—but not vapouringly 1892 *Sat Rev* 20 Aug 206/2 [He] spoke rather vapouringly about the House of Lords.

**Vapourish** (vē˙ pərĭ), *a.* [f Vapour *sb* + -ish]

**1** Of the nature of vapour; dim through the presence of vapour, vaporous.

1647 Herham I Vapours, *damphph, roeclachigh* 1781 Haveley *Fr pha l'ex pere* 287 To drive gross atoms from the rays of noon Or chase the lubb fr in the vapourish moon 1824 *Blackw Mag* IV 176 The co ception is generally vague, vapourish, and metaphysical 1887 Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* II vii When Christ set out, the atmosphere was yellow and vapourish

**2** Apt to be troubled with the vapours, inclined to depression or low spirits

1716-20 *Lett Mist's Jrnl* (1722) I 97 For, as most other old Maids, she is exceedingly vapourish and fanciful 1740 Richardson *Pamela* II 315 I very one sees, that the yawning Husband, and the vapourish Wife, are truly unapportable to one another 1782 Sir J E Smith *Mem* (1832) I 48 It made me vapourish to see so many students going away 1803 Anna Seward *Lett* (1811) VI 60, I see him, with all his inherent good properties, a vapourish egotist 1844 Thackeray *Barry Lyndon* xix, Lady Lyndon, always vapourish and nervous, became more agitated than ever

**b** Of the nature of, connected with, arising from, nervous depression

1739 Cheyne *Eng Malady* II iv § 4 (1734) 248 Some Headachs may properly enough be call'd Vapourish or Nervous 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III 288, I am in the depth of vapourish despondency 1793 W Roberts *Looker on* No 41 (1794) II 109 Be tender of using it in this torpid and vapourish condition 1834 Mrs Carlyle *Lett* I 22 This very penetrating world—as a mist of my mother's used to call it in vapourish moods 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III 85 His pretty middle aged wife who so languid was and vapourish graces were likely to pall after a year of married life

**3** Apt to produce vapours *rare*—1

1725 *Pam Dict* s v *Flux*, He must forbear every thing that is hot and vapourish

Hence **Va pourishness.**

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV 41 You will not wonder that the vapourishness which has laid hold of my heart should vent itself in my pen 1860 Clough in Mair *Prof Tagin or Christ* 116 There is a vapourishness about the design of French Cathedrals and French work generally

**Va pourized,** *ppl a* [f Vapour *sb.* 3 b.]

= Vaporized 2.

1838 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life & Lett* (1883) I 415 Our masters run from station to station at our cost, as vapourized ladies at home run about from spa to spa.

**Va pourless,** *a* Also vaporless [f Vapour *sb.*] Destitute of, free from, vapour

1800 B Taylor *Eldora Ia* xxxiii II 99 The walls of white rock stand out distinctly in the vaporless atmosphere.

1800 Maury *Hist Ecc*, xi 1 (1815) And why should these words be not almost vapourless? 1884 *Q Rev* April 339 The deep purple of a vapourless sky

**Vapoury** (vē˙ pərĭ), *a* Also 6 vaporie, 8–9 *US* vapory, 7–8 vap'ry [f Vapour *sb* + -y.]

**1** Of the nature or consistency of vapour, composed of, or caused by, vapour.

1598 Barret *Theor Warres* II i *Furres* 262 The heat, hidden in a vapoury Cloud, Striving for issue. 1598 Drayton *Il vocat Epp, Jos to Ideas* (1619) M 4, The waxen taper With his vapory dimmesse mocks my sight 1608 Joshua *Serpents* (1638) 748 A vapoury adherency which flyeth from the strokes of hammers upon hot burning Iron. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 1204 They see the blast, & wonder rise anew: From his huge vapoury train perhaps to shake Revolving moisture. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) II 1039/1 The vapoury steam is diffused over the surface of the body, and forms the dewy coat 1784 *Cowper Task* iv 84 Oft from the wound, the oil or from the mouth Breathed a thick smoke, whose vapoury columns join'd 1884 Miss Mitford *Village Life* 1 Like the last delicious gathered in autumn 1890 Low enjoy dark and vapoury as the stroke which overhangs London 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I xvi 106 The Jungfrau had withdrawn her vapoury veil around her 1885 *French Exam* 9 Sept 5/3 Inside the body it is suggested that there resides a kind of vapoury form which animates it

*Voyages Discov Capt Lind* I 1 lxxii, On the couch they sighing he reclin d, And court the vapoury god soft breathing in the wind

*C. uch* 1756 Townshend *Poems* 65 Who wak'st the vapoury-skirted vale To songful life

**b** *fig* Unsubstantial, indefinite, vague

1818 *Blackw Mag* II 396 My love fever'd spirit evolves A fair vapory vision 1843 Mill *Logic* Bk v. iv § 3 (1876) 290 The mass of vapoury and baseless speculation with which this has in latter times become surrounded 1874 T Hardy *Far f Mad Crowd* I xxii 254 His read ings had been of a somewhat vapoury character

**2** Rendered dim or obscure by the presence of vapour.

1818 Keats *Endym* iv 483 Leaving old Sleep within his vapoury bed 1850 Mill *Health Advice* 278 The vapoury distant hills and the blue sea peep through vistas of the pines. 1878 I Hardy *Ret Native* II vi, The yellow and vapoury light had undergone a changed

**3** = Vaporish 2. 2 *rare*—1

1771 J Adams *Diary* 5 June Wks 1850 II 269 Thirty people have been here to-day, they say — the hall the Lune, the vapory, hypochondriac, nervous Rhodes, &c., all present here

**‖ Va ppa.** Now *rare* [L.] Flat or sour wine. Also *fig*

[1601 Holland *Pliny* I 424 Whereupon it getteth the name of Vappa, and is cleane turned to bee dead or sourc] 1609 H Burton *Truth new Brownisme* 9 Rose or Vinet hath made a dead vappa of the word of God 1631 Massinger *Believe as You List* iv, 4 Your viper wine (is) but vappa to the right Greek 1666 Boate *Irel Nat Hist* 1 *Chat* 202 Whether Must, Wine, spirit of Wine, Vinegar Tartre, and Vappa be specifically distinct Bodies? 1840 De Quincey *Style* (1869) X 217 But how that can be, when you recollect the philosophic *Vappa* of Xenophon, seems to pass the deciphering power of Œdipus

*Ironic* 1753 *Chandler's Cycl* Suppl, *Vappa* a peculiar state of the blood when it is in a low, disquieted condition

† **Vappe.** *Obs rare* [Anglicized f prec] = prec b *fig* A stupid person

1597 Reffe *Tr Tasso* 105 Wilt thou not at last be the meer inferior of all [Vulg] 1666 Jer Taylor *Dis for Unlaw* iii § 14 (1674) 44 Now was he stupified at it they could very seldom get any Wine to their Courts, and when it did come it was alm st vinegar or vappe

**Vappin,** old sb. form of Wapping.

† **Va ppous,** *a. Obs*—1 [f L. *vappa* see above] Flat, insipid

1673 *Phil Trans* VIII 6021 If the boyled Must by too violent an Effervescence cast out the Lee (by which it grows vappous or dead).

**Va pulary,** *a rare*—1. [See next and -ary.] = Vaulatory.

1864 *Sat Rev* 7 May 567 Who but a hoary headed Etonian would recur with affectionate fondness to his vapulary memories of Dr Keate?

**Vapulate** (va˙ pŭlēt), *v rare.* [ad L *vapulāt-*, ppl. stem of *vāpulāre* to be beaten. Cf obs f *vapuler*, Sp and Pg *vapular*.]

**1** *trans* To beat or strike

1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissill* 1315, I with my pon y rd vapulating and checking his engine, downe it cut ree a payre of very impenall cloth of golde hose 1823 Cockeram i, *Vapulate*, to beat, to strake

**b** *absol.* To administer a flogging.

1818 J Brown *Psyche* 198 If they vapulate in vain

**2** *intr* To suffer vapulation or flogging

1783 Parr *Lett* Wks 1828 VII 390 Blunders for which a boy ought to vapulate

**Vapulation** (vapŭlē˙ ʃən) *rare* [ad L **vāpulātio*, n of action f *vapulare*; see prec Cf Sp *vapulacion*] A beating or flogging. Also *transf*

1656 Blount *Glosso gr*, *Vapulatio*, a beating or scourging 1706 E Ward *London Spy* II Wks (ed 3) I 33 I like an Offender at a Whipping Post, the more importunate he seems for their favour's sake, the severer Vapulation they are to exercise upon him 1791 Hamilton *Hem 7 Wesley* III 5 A strapping colonel interposing, the vapulation did not take place

**Vapulatory,** *a rare*—1 [f L. *vapulat-* Vapulate *v* + -ory.] Of or relating to flogging

1886 Lowell *Wks* (1890) VI 163, I am not arguing in favour of a return to the vapulatory methods.

**Vapyn,** obs Sc form of Wadmen

‖ **Vaquero** (vakē˙ rō) [Sp (= Pg *vaqueiro*), f *vaca* cow Cf Prov *vaquier*, F. *vacher*, and It *vaccaro*, med L. *vaccarius*]

**1** In Spanish America: A cowboy or cowherd, a herdsman or cattle driver.

1837 Irving *Adv Capt Bonneville* III 86 The vaqueros, or Indian cattle drivers. 1845 Anne Royall *Sk Hunters* xvii 119, I found them in the ranche of a vaquero in the woods 1893 K. Sandford *S Calif rnia* xii 124 The American vaquero—usually a short, fat man with dumpy legs, who dons a flapping sombrero, etc.

*attrib* 1880 Bret Harte *Jeff Briggs* ii, Having capari soned himself and charger in true *vaquero* style

**2** (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vaquero*, a jacket worn by women and children

**Vaquil,** variant of Vakeel

1906 *Cornhill Mag* May 580 The Governor Al-Alvandar there has become the Vaquil or Agent of the Sultan

**Var,** southern dial. var Fair *adj.* etc., obs. Sc f War *a*, Ware *a.*, *were* (see Be *v*)

**Var,** freq abbreviation of Variety

**‖ Vara** (va˙ rä) Also 7 varra Esp. and Pg *vara* rod, yardstick —L. *vara* forked pole, trestle, f. L. *varus* bent.] A linear measure used in Spain, Portugal, and Spanish America, of varying length in different localities, but usu. about 33 inches long, a Spanish yard. Cf Vare I 1

1574 Jvake *Arith Surv* (1696) 115 The 100 Ells of Antwerp make 46 Cadie for both St Varras 1748 *Voy Lords of Vera* I (ed 2) 39 Quarters of 150 Varas square Spanish Yards, that is 64 Fathoms square 1811 Pinkerton *Mod Geogr* (ed 3) 689 A mass of native iron about 84 varas in length and half a vara in thickness 1850 Tayloe *Eldorado* xviii (1862) 187 The minimum extent is two hundred varas square (a vara is a little less than a yard of irregular land

**Vara,** dial. variant of Verb *adv*

**Vara gian,** *a* [f. mod L. *Varagi* (pl), ad old Russian *Variagŭ*] = Varangian *a*

The form *Varegian* (after the mod L. variant *Varegi*) has also been employed

1841 *Penny Cycl* XX 258 A Varagian (probably Danish) freebooter of the Baltic, named Rurik

**Varan** (væ˙ rən) *Zool* [ad mod L. *Varan us* (Merrem, 1820), f Ar *waran*, var of *ورل*, *war il*, monitor lizard. So F *Varan*] A lizard belonging to the genus *Varanus* or family *Varanidæ*, a monitor or varanian

1893 *Penny Cycl* XXVI. 131/1 The Heloderma have not the scales with which they are covered surrounded by small squamous grains like the Varans. 1897 Howorth *Mammoth & Flood* 370 Allied to the living varans and lace lizards of Australia.

**Varand,** obs. Sc form of Warrant.

**Varandeisse,** obs Sc form of Warrandice

**Varangian** (vărænʤiăn), *sb* and *a* *Hist* [f med or mod L. *Varang us*, ad med Gr *Βαρ-αγγοι* (pl *Βάραγγοι*), ad (through Slavonic languages) ON. *Væringi* (pl *Væringjar*), app. f *vár* (f. pl *várar*) plight f faith

In the 11 Russian and Northern countries it was the name given to the Northmen (Norsemen, Danes, Swedes) who settled in Russia and established the Russian monarchy, and to their descendants; in the 11 and 12 centuries it was also applied to the Northmen who served as mercenaries in the Byzantine empire

**A** *sb* **1** One of the Scandinavian rovers who in the 9th and 10th centuries overran parts of Russia and reached Constantinople, a Northman (latterly also an Anglo Saxon) forming one of the bodyguard of the later Byzantine emperors (see B)

1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* lv V 561 In their wars against the more inland savages (of Russia), the Varangians condescended to serve as friends and auxiliaries *Ibid* 562 The new Varangians were a colony of English and Danes

who fled from the yoke of the Norman conqueror 1832 Scott *Ct Rob* II, the passengers observed to each other, that the stranger was a Varangian 1836 *Partington's Brit Cyc Lit* sec III 501/1 The Varangians a race of bold pirates who infested the coasts of the Baltic 1889 I ARING GOULD *Critter* xlvi 370 The company called the Varangians, who acted as a bodyguard to the Emperor

2 The language spoken by these *rare*—1

1832 Scott *Ct Rob* III Mustering what few words of Varangian he possessed which he eked out with Greek

**B** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Varangians, composed of Varangians, etc.

1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* IV V 363 The primitive subjects of the Varangian chief 1832 Scott *Ct Rob* xxx, they were to mount on horseback at the sounding of the great Varangian trumpet 1890 Hector H Munro *Rose Amer Empire* II 17 A Varangian power had sprung up among the tribes of the Slavonic interland

**b** *Varangian Guard*, the bodyguard of the Byzantine emperors, formed of Varangians

1832 Scott *Ct Rob* II This account of the Varangian Guard is strictly historical 1845 *Em pol Metrop* XI 788/2 The valour of the Varangian or Anglo Saxon and Danish guards, ever the firmest support of the Byzantine throne 1889 Baring-Gould *Grettir* xlvi 380 The order came to the Varangian guard that [etc.]

**Varanian** (vărē·nian), *sb* and *a Zool* [f mod L *Varan us* Varan + ian]

*A sb.* A lizard belonging to the family *Varanidæ* of scaled saurians, a monitor or varan

1841 *Penny Cycl* XX 460/2 The Varanians form a family of scaled Saurians, including the Monitors of the Old World 1847 T R Jones in *Todd's Cycl Anat* IV 288/1 In the Geckos, Agamians, and Varanians the base of the tooth is imbedded in a shallow socket

**B** *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of the varans or monitors

1840 Owen *Odontogr* I 263 The Varanian family of sqnamate Saurians includes the Monitors of the old world 1841 *Penny Cycl* XX 460/2 Allied in the form of the teeth to the typical Varanian Monitors

**Varanid.** *Zool* [ad mod L. *Varanid æ*, f *Varanus* Varan] = Varanian *sb*

1896 tr *Boas Text Bk Zool* 422 Allied [to the lizards] are the Varanids (*Varanus*) large tropical old world forms with long bifid tongue

**Varble,** obs f Warble *sb* **Vard,** obs Sc f Ward *sb* and *v* **Vardan(e,** en, obs. Sc ff Warden **Vardanry,** obs. Sc f Wardenry

**Varde,** southern ME. var Feud *sb* 1 **Vardel,** -ell, obs Sc ff World **Vardeu,** southern dial var Farthing, obs. Sc f Warden **Varder,** southern dial var Farther, var Vrder *Obs*

**†Vardingale.** *Obs* Forms α 6 verdyngale, 6 7 verdingale, all. β 6–8 vardingad (6 *Sc* ward-). γ. 6 vardingard [ad obs F *verdingale, vertugale, vertugade* (16th c), ad Sp. *verdiguda*, f *verdugo* rod, stick See also Verdugal] A framework of hoops formerly used by women to extend their skirts, = Farthingale.

α 1558 [see Farthingale]. 1597 J King *On Jonas* (1618) 478 Fashion brought in the verdingale, and carried out the verdingale, and hath againe reuiued the verdingale ; and placed it behinde, like a Sterne 1600 Rowlby *Search for Money* (Percy Soc) 23 Wee have verdingales to beare up our bands, as they had to support their loose britches.

β 1560 *Acc Ld.H Treas Acad* XI 167 For ane vardingale to hir 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q I iis* (1908) 240 A hamper to pack the vard[i]ngales in 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I 151 The meanest that was there was in her vardingale, her turkie grogram kirtle 1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* v 219 From Vardingale to Verdingale bee fly'n His Tayle to transmit, lest Hee him surprise 1673 1753 [see Farthingale]

γ 1578 *Inv R Wardr* (1815) 230 Ane vardingard of blak taffetie the flankart of satine pwinct t with gold

*transf* and *fig* 1592 R Wilkin *Three Lds & Ladies London* (Roxb) 295 Thou from Dissimulation art se it And bring st a gown of gloaing A vard n,ale of vaine boast 1592 Greene *Disc Coosning* Wks (Grosart) XI 96 Blest be the French sleeues & breech verdingales, that grants them liberty to conny-catch so mightily

**Vardiſe, -dife,** dial or obs forms of Verdict

**Vardle.** *dial* Also 6 verdoll [Alteration of Ob. *vervelle* or *vert(e)velle* in the same sense cf Varliwell, Varvel] (See later quots)

1525 in *Archaeologia* XXV 478 I or hengells, verdolls, & hoks hespes & staples, for y^e same berne, y^s vjd 1787 W H Marshall *Rur Ec E Anglia* Gloss., *Vardle* a common eye or thimble of a gate, with a spike only 1893 Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norfolk* 86 *Vardle*, bottom hinge of a gate.

**Vardlie,** obs Sc form of Worldly *a*

**†Vardo.** *Cant Obs* (See quot.) Also *attrib.*

1812 J H Vaux *Flash Dict*, *Vardo*, a waggon *Ibid*, *Varde-gill*, a waggoner

**Vardour,** variant of *verdour* Verdor *Obs*

**Vardy.** Now *dial.* Also 8 vardi, 9 vardie [Colloq or dial var. of *verdit*, obs. f Verdict] Opinion, judgement, sentence

1731–8 Swift *Polite Conv* I 15 *Lord Sp.* Well, I fear Lady Answerall can't live long; she has so much wit *Neu* No, she can't live *Lady Ans* O! Man, you must give your Vardi too! 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T* (ed 3) s v To give one a vardy; i e verdict or opinion 1825– in dial glossaries [N Cy, Line., Yorks]

**Vardytt,** obs. form of Verdict

**†Vare** 1 *Obs.* Also 7 varre. [ad. Sp *vara* Vara]

1 = Vara

1545 *Acts of Customs* d iij b, The Vares of Spayne ix Vares makithe viij yardes Et glysahe 1588 Parke tr *Mendoza's Hist China* 175 Certain peeces of blacke silke of twelue vares long & a quarter broade. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 1 273 The other measure is called a vare, which measure is of 5 palmes or spans, and is one code and two third parts 1604 E. Grimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xi 240 It extendes aboue foure score Varres or yardes in length

**2** A rod, staff, or wand, esp as a symbol of judicial office or authority

1576 I N tr *Comy Hist Indies* 357 He tooke the Vares of Iustice from the Iudges and Sargeants and incontinent restored them againe. c 1645 Howell *Lett* I iii xxxii If an Alguasil show him his Vare that is a little white staffe he carryeth as badge of his office 1660 F Hoocke tr *La Blanc's Trav* 48 Imposing my hand upon a Crosse held out to me upon the end of a Vare, or wand 1681 Dryden *Abs & Achit* 593 His Hand a Vare of Justice did uphold

**†Vare** 2 Variant of Fare *sb* 4 *Obs*

1653 H Appleton *Fight Lucifer Road* 2 At Naples I made Provision for my Squadron, passing thence through the Vare Straits of Messina.

**Vare,** dial var Fare *sb* 2, southern ME. var. Fare *v*, var Vair *sb.*1, obs Sc f Ware *sb*

**‖Vareo.** Also vareoh [F *vareh, varec* (OF *warec, werek, verec, vrec*, etc), ad old Scand **wrek* see Wreck *sb*]

1 Sea weed.

1696 *Phil Trans* II 594 The Sea Fox, in whose stomach they found a branch of the Sea herb Varec 1783 Justamond tr *Raynal's Hist Indies* VI 294 The most ordinary of these manures is the Varec, a sea weed which is perpetually thrown upon the coast by the sea tide 1826 Sir G Head *Home Tour* 289 I observed large quantities of varech or sea weed on the beach [at Robin Hood's Bay] 1889 *Cornwall News* 2 Feb, The gathering of varech in Herm commences to morrow

*attrib* 1823 Browning *Red Cott Nt-cap* 36 Then, dry mid much varech lying

2 An impure carbonate of soda obtained from sea weed

1844 Downes *Chem.* 234 Carbonate of Soda *The barilla's* is thus produced in several places on the coast of Spain : that made in Brittany is called *varec* 1860 *Urse Dict Arts* (ed 5) III 940 *Varec*, the name of kelp made on the coast of Normandy

**Vare,** southern ME. variant of Farcost

**Varegilt** (*obs Sc*) see Waregilt

**Vareit,** Sc variant of *waried* Wary *v.*

**‖Varella.** *Obs* Pl ollaes, ely [Pg and It *varella, ela* (16th cent), of doubtful origin] A pagoda

1588 J Hichcock tr *Frederick's Voy* 33 b, They spend many of these Sugar canes in making of loaues a d tenis which they call *Varely* for their Idoles. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II I 260 They consume in these Va ellaes great quantities of sugar for that they be all gilded 1638 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 318 The Varellaes (or Pompeys) are observable, each Varella farcinated with ugly (I cut guiltish) Idols. 1664 J Oliver tr *Mandelslo's Trav* 119 The King of Pegu had them placed amongst the other Idols kept in a *Varella* or *Mosquee*

**†Varelle,** Anglicized form of prec *Obs*

1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 1 262 There is a Varelle or Pagode, which is the temple of the Peguans.

**Varen,** southern ME variant of Fare *v.*

**Vare-nut,** dial. variant of Fare nut

**Vare-widgeon.** *dial* [f Vair *sb* 1] (See quot)

1813 Montagu *Ornith Dict* Suppl s.v *Smew*, the female and young birds are called in the southern parts of Devonshire, Vare Wigeon, from a supposed similitude about the head to a Weesel, which is denominated *Vare*

**†Varet** Variant of Vaire—1 In 3 narewurt A plant of doubtful identity

c 1265 *Voc Plants* in Wr Wülcker 557 *Eptaphilos*, sale ne, narewurt

**Varge,** obs. or dial variant of Verge

**†Vargeous,** *a. Obs.*—[f F *verge* —L *virga* rod, twig, resembling a rod, rodlike

1779 *Phil Trans* LXVIII 588 The same thing holds for the measure of the varicous paleta [? *paletiæ de vergeæ*], the balance wheel [etc.]

**Vargos,** etc, variant of Verjuice, etc.

**Vargood,** dial. variant of Fargood

**‖Vari,** [The first part of the Malagasy name *varikandana* or *varianda* Cf *varikoy* the broad-nosed lemur] The ruffed lemur, *Lemur varius*

1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) IV 241 The Vari is much larger than either of the former [i e mococo and mongoe] it has a kind of ruff round the neck consisting of very long hair 1785 Smellie *Buffon's Nat Hist* (1791) VII 228 The vari is larger, stronger and more ferocious than the manucodes 1832 *Penny Cycl* XIII 1/2 The *Vari*, by which the name of *Lemur Macaco* has been applied by modern authors, is given by Linnæus as Var(iety) d of that species.

**‖Vari,** pl of Varus

**Variability** (veəriăbĭlĭti) [f next + ity, or a F *variabilité*,—It *variabilità*, Sp *variabilidad*, Pg *-idade*]

1 The fact or quality of being variable in some respect, tendency towards, capacity for, variation or change.

1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist Lady Barton* I 29 In her outward appearance there is a variability, that renders it almost impossible to draw an exact resemblance of her 1796 Burke *Regic Peace* Wks 1842 II 333 His protest against binding him to his opinions, and his reservation of a right to whatever opinions he pleases, remain in their full force This variability is pleasant, and shews a fertility of fancy 1839 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* III 146 It is this atmospheric variability that occasions the thousand little dissensions that spring from love itself 1869 Phillips *Vesuvius* viii 246 Reasonings on the variability of the relative level of land and sea 1882 *Contemp Rev* June 901 They made too little account of the variability of human nature and circumstances

2 *spec* a The fact of, or capacity for, varying in amount, magnitude, or value

1816 tr *Lacroix's Diff & Int Calculus* 157 From this may be deduced the differential coefficient of s relative to the variability of *x* 1870 Pierson tr *Civilization's Sc* 282 The variability of a certain number of sta s 1893 II *Spencer Sociol* VI 124 The variability of the ratio being duly conceived in terms of lines that lengthen as d vi orten

b *Biol* Capability in plants or animals of variation or deviation from a type

1832 Lyell *Princ Geol* (1835) II 449 Variability of a species compared to that of an individual 1859 Darwin *Orig Spec* I 40 A high degree of variability is obviously favourable, as freely giving the materials for selection to work on 1880 Wallace *Island Life* IV 58 The belief in the variability of all animals in all their parts and organs

**Variable** (vee·riabl), *a* and *sb* Forms α 4–6 variable (5–6 varri, 6 *Sc* varyable), 5, *Sc* 6 -abill, *Sc* 6 -abil (warieabill), 5–6 varyable, 6 -abul, 5 uaryabyl, veryabyll [a OF, *variable* (F, Sp, and Prov *variable*, Pg *variavel*, It *variabile*), ad. L *variabilis*, f *variari*, *variare* to Vary]

**A** *adj.* 1 Liable or apt to vary or change, (readily) susceptible or capable of variation, mutable, changeable, fluctuating, uncertain

a Of the course of events, the state of things, etc

c 1397 Chaucer *Lach Stedef* 8 What n:ede tha worlde to be so variable But pouste hat folke haue in discencion? c 1400 *Rom Rose* 5424 In a state that is not stable, But chaungynge ay and variable 1 Mynsheu *Ductor in Lit* (E E T S) 54 Thy uaryabyl squef O fortune I brent myght be With l luto in helle 1483 Caxton *Cato* E iiij, For the goodes of thys worlde ben variables I now one is ryche and now poure 1509 Hawes *Past Pleasr* 51 They nothing thynke on fortune variyable *c* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VI* (1550) 34 The highest offices stand most slipper and waxe variable 1609 Holland *Amm Marcell* 119 Some ioint g in skirmish with the enemies, fought with variable event 1610— *Camden's Brit* 608 Which hath linued a doubtfull and variable fight a great part of the day

b Of feeling, conduct, etc

c 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eury* 287 Quhat art thou lady, To me seem constant till other variable 1550 *Acts Decades* (Arb) 114 So variable and vnconstat t as the nature of man 1592 Shaks *Rom & Jul* II ii, 122 O sweete not by the Moone Least that thy Loue prone likewise vari able. 1596— *Merch. V* II iv 29 I neuer heard a creature so confus'd, So strange outragious, and so variable 1667 Milton *P L* xi 92 His heart I k:ow how variable and vain Self left 1849 Ruskin *Seven Lamps* iv vii § 7 291 The decorations might be made subjects of variable fan cy 1862 H Spencer *First Princ* I v § 29 (1875) 102 There begins to fade from the mind the conception of a special person ality to whose variable will t ey were before ascribed

*Comb* 1618 Bolton *Florus* IV iii (1636) 293 While Antonius, variable wel, takes upon him to be a king

c Of miscellaneous applications

1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I 126 By hir yien clowdy and varyable vysage 1576 Fleming *Lamb Floot* 442 These beautifull shapes not variable in one nor all ming throughe the heate of the sunne. 1590 Shenser *F Q* II vii 38 For formes are variable and decay By course of kind, and by occasion 1609 Wyndet *Newes Old Mistresse to Kdr* A 4 b If I haue omitted something, in a matter so variable 1763 Mandrell *Journ Jerus* (1732) 63 Our Course variable between East and South 1711 Addison *Spect* No. 58 P 1 There is no one variable a thing in Nature as a Lady's Head dress 1832 Lewis *Use & Ab Pol Terms* Introd 7 The variable meaning of a word 1850 M Cost *Dict Genit* II I (1874) 78 This change is not variable or capricious, but follows certain fixed laws 1884 tr *Lotze's Logic* 388 Events, which depend at once on constant and on variable conditions

*absol* 1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol* (1876) 32 We overlook and forget the constant while we watch the variable

2. Of persons Apt to change from one opinion or course of action to another, inconstant, fickle, unreliable

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 357 Pe men beeb variable and vnstedefast, trecherous and grieful 1393 Langl *P Pl* C xix 69 Somme of owa fare holthast and some variable 1402 Hoccleve *Mon Lewde* 78 Ne hyt hem in fyndle o woman nyce, In constant, recheles, or variable 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II iii (1883) 37 So that they be not founde for euyll variable 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 47 My word nor I shall not be variable, But alwaies firme and stable. c 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 135 The populare is ane inconstant faceill 1643 Baker *Chron* (1653) 504 Lydington was a map of the greatest understanding, but very variable. 1708–9 *Hanmyer Hist Sac Mem* X 513 I am very sensible he is a variable man, coy, and hard to please, And variable as the shade By the light quivering aspen made.

*transf* 1484 Caxton *Curtail* ij b, Them whom fortune the variable hath most hyely lyfte up and enhaunsed *a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen. VI* 110 b, King Charles did politiquely consider, what a variable lady Fortune was.

b. Const *in* (words, actions, etc.)

1400 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 145 In thy behestes be nat variable *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII (1811) 544 See you not hows varyable the kynge is in his wordis? 1547 Boorde *Introd Knowl* 214 In vsyng my rayment I am not vary-able. 1586 Bullein *Bulwarke*, *Bk. Vse Sickness* 55 Bee

pot variable in Religion 1623 Jas I in Ellis *Lett.* Ser. 1. III 139 He is in this businesse as variable and uncertaine as the Moone

†**c.** Liable to alter or turn *from* (or *of*) a purpose, etc *Obs*

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 750 No merveil it, bouge Rome be som what variabill Fro honour & fro wele. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron Troy* IV 3720 Pes wil holde stable And finally nat be variable From pes ende, plainly, but pat make. *c* 1450 *Cov Myst* (Shaks. Soc.) 216 If we fynde hym variable Of his prech ynge th it he hath tawth 1493 *Petronylla* 21 (Pynson), From hir entent nat founde variable.

**3. a.** Of the weather, seasons, etc.: Liable to vary in temperature or character; changeable.

*c* 1480 Henryson *Test Cres* 150 The seuin Planetis bes power To reull Wedder and wind, and courss variabill. 1634 Couch *God's Arrow* v § 15 428 Peace is not like the immoveable mountaines, but rather like to the variable skie. 1728 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 14 The Weather was temperate variable and cool enough 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 493/2 the great sunshine heats of Florence, which are too variable and undetermined 1808 *Med. Jrnl* XIX. 569 The weather was very variable, but upon the whole mild 1854 *Poultry Chron* I 288 Exposed entirely to the vicissitudes of our ever-variable climate

**b.** Of wind or currents: Tending to change in direction; shifting

1665 Boyle *Occas Reff* III I (1848) 146 As variable as the Wind 1720 De Foe *Capt Singleton* xiii (1840) 229 We had the wind variable. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist.* I 340 He who has been taught to consider this nothing in the world is so variable as the winds. 1832 De la Beche *Geol Man* 95 There is a tendency of the surface waters to the S.E., being variable in winter 1840 R H Dana *Brf Mast* xxv 84 The wind shifted and became variable 1854 Tomlinson *Arago's Astron* 185 Much less regular in the temperate regions, they are called *variable* winds

**c.** Of a star: That varies periodically in respect of brightness or magnitude

1788 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) II 471/2 *n* 1 *var*, Of the variable stars. 1824 Herschel *Mem Worlds* I 7 It appears and disappears like a variable star, shining in painful succession with its spots of light and of shade 1880 Agnes Gierke *Sun, Moon & Stars* 230 There are numbers of stars called Variable Stars, the light of which is constantly changing now becoming more, now becoming less

**d.** *Biol* Liable to deviate from a type, admitting of such deviation. (Cf. Variation 10)

1859 Darwin *Orig Species* v 149 Species in the scale of nature are more variable than those which are higher 1877 Conder *Basis of Fa th* v 231 Species it has been well said, are variable, but not multiple. 1880 Wallace *Island Life* 3 It is very easy to understand how, from such a variable species, one or more new species may arise

†**4.** Characterized by variation or diversity; differing, diverse, various *Obs*

1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 239 The peple wente furthe to mete the victor with variable [L. *varia*] gladdenesse. 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xxi 561 For under mekenesse doth sette in all unyte He dissorde thynges whiche are variable 1539 *Act 31 Hen VIII* c 14 By occasion of variable and sundrie opinions great discorde hathe arrisen 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 31 In flowers delightsome to the eye, in consideration of their variable colours 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 372 The variable transformations of Proteus 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 418 It were a worke tedious to the Reader, to recite the variable opinions of Chronologers about these points.

†**b.** Different *from* something *Obs*—1

1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1570) 167 Thy visage changing by lookes manifolde Sometime as lead, from death scant variable.

†**c.** Variegated *Obs*—1

1553 Eden *Treat New Ind* (Arb.) 16 Of the colours of bove, somwhat variable and as it wer chekered

†**5.** Of varying ownership *Obs*

1509 in *Feyer Merchandyse* (1607) 21 The Land variable common of both the People, called the Debateable Ground, which lieth between the West Marches of England and Scotland *Ibid* 81 The said Variable Ground

**6.** Susceptible of admitting of increase or diminution, not remaining the same or uniform, in respect of size, number, amount, or degree

1607 Topsell *Four F Beasts* 94 His belly is variable now great, now small like an Oxes 1804 *Med Jrnl* XII 496 They are sold at a more reduced price than formerly, when this, however variable, leaves the money saved proportionably the same 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sc & Art* II 114 The pressure of the atmosphere is variable 1858 Lardner *Handbk Nat Phil* 282 When the quantity of heat necessary to raise a body one degree is different in different parts of the scale the specific heat is said to be *variable* 1888 Minchin *Unipl Kinemat* 27 If a point, *P*, moves round a circle with a velocity either constant or variable

**b.** Of quantity, number, etc Liable to vary

1710 J Harris *Lex Techn* II, *Variable Quantities*, in Fluxions, are such as are supposed to be continually increasing or decreasing; and so do by the motion of their sml Increase or Decrease Generate Lines, Areas or Solidities. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 223 If any one of the variable Distances be called *v* 1763 — *Math Increments* 41 Multiply the given increment by the next preceeding value of the variable quantity 1802 *Encycl Brit* Suppl II 740/1 The abscisses and ordinates of an ellipse or other curve line, are variable quantities 1848 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* II 374 A sucker composed of a variable number of scaly pieces 1884 Bowen & Scott *De Barry's Phaner.* 251 Small bundles, the number of which is variable.

**c** *spec* (See quot.)

1829 *Hand bk Nat Philos, Hydrost* viii 21 (L.U.K.), Some springs, called *variable or reciprocating*, discharge a much smaller quantity of water for a certain time, and then give out a greater quantity.

**7.** That may be varied, changed, or modified; alterable.

1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v lxii § 14 What if the minister's vocation be not a ceremony variable as times and occasions require? 1611 Bible *Isai* iii *vmarg*, According to variable songs or tunes. 1675 Knight *Duct Mech.* 2090 *Variable Cut-off*, one actuated from the governor, so as to be brought into action according to the load on the engine. 1887 *Pall Mall G* 5 Nov 3/1 The permanent taxes will be variable only by regular Act.

*Comb* 1695 Knight *Duct Mech* 2691 Olmsted's Variable Speed Pulley *Ibid*, *Variable spec't Wheel*, a contrivance for obtaining alternately accelerated and retarded circular motion.

**b** *Gram* Capable of inflexion.

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**8.** *Nat. Hist.* In specific names, as **variable cod, hare, ixalus, jacana, lemur, maple, mole, rail, tanager, toad.**

1882 *Chambers's Encycl.* III 643/2 (The) Dorse of the same genus with the cod in its colour is more variable, from which it has received the name of *Variable Cod* 1896 tr *Boas' Text Bk Zool* 529 The Polar or *Variable Hare* (*Lepus timidus* or *variabilis*) in white during winter in the colder regions. 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* IV 366 The *Variable* Ixalus of Ceylon is very variable in its coloration 1785 Latham *Gen Syn. Birds* III 1 244 *Variable Wren* (*Motacilla varabilis*) 1896 H O Forbes *Han thh Primates* I 68 The Ruffed or *Variable* Lemur derives its name from the remarkable variability of its external characters. 1833 *Penny Cycl* I 78/1 *Acer tataricum phyllum* the *variable* maple. This is the plant sold in the English nurseries under the name of *A creticum* 1776 P Brown *Hist Jamaica* 486 *Variable Mole* 1788 Latham *Hist Qua* I 485 Variable Mole, color of the hair on the upper part of the body varied with glossy green and copper colour. 1876 Stephens in Baikie *Narr Sec Niger* xiii 198 Variable Rail (*Rallus varians*) Brown Rail spotted and striated with black and white, with the body beneath and eyebrows cinereous or grisseous 1783 Latham *Gen Syn. Birds* II 1 324 *Variable Tanager*, general colour of the plumage green, very glossy and variable *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* IV 360 The *Variable*, or Green Toad, found in Ceylon, has hind limbs and feet nearly as large as those of the Frog

**B** *sb* 1 *Math* and *Phys* A quantity or force which, throughout a mathematical calculation or investigation, is assumed to vary or be capable of varying in value. (If prec 6 b and Converse *sb.*

1816 tr *Lacroix's Diff & Int Calculus* 4 The limit of the ratio will be obtained by dividing the differential of the function by that of the variable 1860 Draper *Intell Powers* 84 The relation between the two members of an equation containing constants and variables 1882 Minchin *Unipl Kinem* 128 In this case 6 will also be a potential (or flow) function of the variables (*x*, *y*, *z*).

**2. a** A variable or shifting wind, *spec* in *pl* (see quots 1847, 1867)

1846 A Young *Naut Dict* 349 The meeting of the two opposite currents [of wind] here produces the intermediate space called the calms or variables. 1850 Lowe *Narrative in Japan* I 31 The Variables, which are found South of the border of the South east Trades. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk* 710 *Variables* those parts of the sea where a steady wind is not expected

**b.** A variable star (See A 3 c)

1868 Lockyer *Elem Astron* 21 Among the acknowledged variables are perhaps the most interesting 1882 *Athenæum* II 828 Sept 341/1 The period of this interesting variable is a little less than five days

**3.** Something which is liable to vary or change; a changeable factor, feature, or element

1846 Grote *Greece* II xxi (1862) II 229 The beginning and the end are here [in the Odyssey] the date in respect to epical genesis, though the intermediate events admit of being received as variables. 1865 Maurice in *Life* I *Acct Rev* 670 A changing scene with the variables of which he is in immediate contact 1881 H H Gibbs *Double Standard* 13 Undervaluing or disregarding the removal of those variables which must be an encumbrance to commerce

**Variableness.** [f prec. + -ness] The quality of being variable or changeable; tendency or liability to vary **a.** Of things

1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 291 Therefore many differences in a man s swiftenesse of sawle variableneese of witte 1569 Golding *Heminges 1 ostill* Ded 2 Whose interpretation being alwayes one without variableness 1595 *Pricke of Conscience* (Hall Soc) 2 The variableness of the winde and weather 1612 J Taylor *Comm Situs* III 11 The variableness of times, places & dispositions of persons 1638 *Penit Conf* 84 Cf *Lord's Supper* No. 478 2 The Variableness of Fashion turns the Stream of Business 1794 Jones in G Adams *Nat & Exper Phil* II xxii 468 *note* The variableness of different powers of glass 1820 W Scoresby *Acc Arctic Reg* I 403 This variableness being the effect of the unequal temperature of the ice and water 1858 Abercrombie *Life & Corr* (1944) II viii 106 With regard to the Examinations, I hear a general complaint of the variableness of the standard 1885 *Manch Exam* 14 Apr 8/6 The proverbial variableness of the Irish climate.

**b** Of persons, the mind, conduct, etc

1491 Caxton *Vitas Pat* (W de W 1495) II 237 By a brother of his he hadde be. Induced to soo grete varyablenesse and unstedfastnesse 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 171 b, I he vyolablenesse or unstedfastnesse of man or woman 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 307 That the reading of many authors drawe not after them the discommoditie of fi lk headlesse and variablenesse 1611 Bible *Jas* I 17 The Father of lights, with whom is no variablenesse neither shadow of turning 1677 Hales *Prim Orig Man.* I v 113 It being the soveraign Prerogative of Almighty God only, to be without variableness or shadow of change 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II xxvii 173 The charge of variableness and inconsistancy in judgment 1782 Knox *Ess.* xxv I 120 This temporary variableness of the mind

1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* vi, His conduct had a variableness about it 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt Royal* xi. II 263 Is not that kind of inconsistency common to our poor human nature?

†**c.** Const. *from. Obs.*—1

1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 1 The variablenesse of the Europeans from the Asians in Asiatique names.

**Variably** (vē·riăbli), *adv.* [f. Variable *a.* + -ly **2**] In a variable, inconstant, or uncertain manner, changeably, with variation

1590 H Barrow *Brief Discoverie* 4 Amongst those 4 he still contended to set vp one chief, which variably fell out, sometimes to one, sometimes to another 1598 Florio, *Parti amente* changeables, diuerale, variable. 1648 Herrick, *Vnanderlickin*, Changeably, or Variably 1731 Bailey (ed 5), *Variably*, changeably uncertainly 1772 C Hutton *Bridges* IV, The variably increased velocity 1822 Byron *Juan* XVI cxxi, The blue eyes glared, And rather variably for stony death 1852 H Rogers *Eclipse Faith* 372 That Nature was, within certain limits, only variably uniform 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 275/1 The variably coloured Helices.

†**Variament.** *Obs*—1 [ad. L. type **variamentum*, f *variare* to Vary] A disagreement or difference

1491 *Newminster Cartul* (Surtees) 251 By reason whereof certane contraverses, variamentes and debates wer growen

**Variance** (vē·riăns) Forms **4**– variance (**6** *Sc.* ans, **6** varеance), **4**, **6** variaunce (**5** -aunce), **4**, **7** varyaunce (**5** -awnce, aunce, **6** -aunse), **5** wari-, warya-unce, **5** varyance (fory), weryaunce, ounce, **6** varyans, **7** warriance [in Of *variance*, *-aunce*, *-ence* (= It *variantia*), ad L. *variantia*, *f variare* to Vary]

**I** The fact or state of undergoing change or alteration, tendency to vary or become different, variation

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 1423 God ordeyns here Sere variaunce Of be tymes and weders & seasons In takeen of be worldes condicions. Pat swa unstable er and variande 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 45 Thou born art in my regne of varyaunce Aboute the wel or wo wher pat ever be duste *c* 1400 *Brut* xxxiv [It] was calledе pe cite of Ludstan but now pat name is chaungede þrouȝ variance of lettres, and now is calleđe London *c* 1450 Henry *Wallace* vi 100 Bot thus fals werld, with mony doubill cast, In it is nocht bot werray variance 1526 Skelton *Magnyf* 2052 She [for tune] dawnsyth varyaunce with mutabylyte Nowe all in welth, forthwith in pouere 1589 Pilkington *Hag Lake of Gloucester* v Any man to assure, In state uncarefull of fortunes varyaunce 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* 305 It being reasonable for every man to satisfy his curiosity according to the variance of his reason 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* I 752 By this magnetic variance is explored 1840 *Penny Cycl Algebra Sec* I 111. 282 The variance of the wheats I attribut ute to the nature of the soil 1859 Fennent *Ceylon* II viii vi 260 The temperature ranges from 58° to 82° with a mean daily variance of 12° 1865 *Pall Mall Mag* Apr 252 Even as the blood loses and regains its corpuscles without a variance in the volume and vigor of its current

†**b** Inconstancy in persons, variableness, changeableness. *Obs*

1390 Gower *Conf* I 22 Ther is decepte in his balance, And al is that the variance Of ous that schulde ous bere mvise. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1135 The most parte of Room held it for donge & al had muche mervaile his variance 1449 Pecock *Repr* II vii 176 He spekith of a variaunce and of a chaungyng in manns wil *c* 1480 Henryson *Test Cres* 223 In hir face semit grete variance Quhylis pert grytht reuthy and quhyles Inconstance. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlv 6 Lufe Quhilk is begun with inconstance, And endis nocht but variance

†**c.** In the phr *without* (Sc. *but*) *variance* *Obs*. The phrase occurs also in sense 3 b.

*c* 1430 Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 10 We say offte heer, without variance, Pat wommen loue wel ynough, ffor ye be! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv 42 Wallace spak to thaim with manly contenance. In fayr afforme, he sald but variance [etc.] 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi 27 He that with gud lyfe and trewth lit vairna or vder sleweth, D is evir mair with ane maister dwell

**2** The fact or quality of varying or differing, difference, divergence, discrepancy

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v 1 Ne that that som men blamen ever yit Lo other maner folk commenden it And as for me for alle swich variaunce Felicite clepe I my suffisance 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 481 Sith pe comune men sbt iden be of oo wille, and variaunce in sothe sectis mi kip variaunce in wille. *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxi 60 In many poyntes þai vary as well fra oure faith. All þaire variaunce ware to mykil to tell *c* 1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 277 Ye haue not many changes [of service] after the varyaunce of feastes as the comon seruyce of the churche yeeth 1590-6 Lambarde *Eiren* (1826) 221 So is there variance between written storie, and common speech, touching the true place of that building 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1629) 36 Words, that in their originals are I ssime and 31t sasue some small variance in their terminations) fall out all one with the French, Dutch and English 1839 Hallam *Hist Lit* iv II § 12 It is evident that variance of opinion proves error some where 1846 Landor *Imag Conv* Wks I 243 The variance of knowledge and will where i o passin is the stimulant 1892 *Law Times Rep* XCII 156/1 Where variance between the pr visional and complete specification of a patent is still a ground of invali lity

†**b** Variety. *Obs*—1

*c* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4632 Mekill variance of vertus enverouns oure saules

**3. a** *Law* A difference or discrepancy between two statements or documents

1489 *Rolls of Parl* IV 346 For whiche diverste and variance of the seide name. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii 1736 I har may na band be maid so sufficians, Bot ay in it

that fynd a varians *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas IV* v iv *Lawyer* I his matter craues a variance, not a speech 1596 BACON *Max & Use Com Law* xxv (1636) 98 So if I graunt you a way ouer my land according to a plot whereof a table is annexed to these presents and there be some speciall variance betweene the table and the originall plot [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) *Variance* an alteration of something formerly laid in a Plea. 1867 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II 1109 Advantage cannot be taken of a variance between the plaint and the declaration in the superior court 1892 *Beckham v Kalfon Trustee Acted* V 598 The designation by the name of St Ethelburgh instead of Saint Ethelburgha was held to be (as lawyers term it) a fatal variance. 1892 *Townleys Land Dict* (ed. 4) s.v. If there is a variance between the declaration and the writ, it is error; and the writ should formerly abate

**b** In general use A difference or discrepancy, a discriminating or divergent feature

1592 *Nomal Ac Hen VIII* (1856) 83 The particuler variances betweene the Indentures and book of shipping 1512 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 325 There have been greate variance now of late in taking of the principalles. 1534 MORE *Dial agst Trib* I Wks 1153/1 That is a tryght heuy thyng to see suche varyaunces in our belief ryse and grow among our self 1580 NORDEN *Operat Mechanic* 646 Though in the preceding statements there is an apparent variance the varitations may have arisen [etc.] 1860 EMERSON *Conduct* Introd xxxix, I have no apologies for variances in the spelling of proper names. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVI 171 The variances which have arisen between the real property law of the United States

**†o** Divergence from truth *Obs*

*c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 706 How schulde I seven the ony penaunce whanne I knowe wel thou makest variaunce *Ibid* 748 958

**4** The fact of changing, altering or varying *from* a state, opinion, etc an instance of this

1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J Oldcastle* 253 Holsum to thee now were a variance Fro the feend to our lord god *c* 1430 Lydg. *Mim Pasmes* (Percy Soc.) 43 After variance Fro hir to dethe. 1599 MORE *Dyalogue* IV Wks. 271/1 In this point I assure you sythyrth there is no maner change or vary aunce from his opynion 1792 JEFFERSON *Writ* (1859) III 260 The first and only instance of variance from the former port of my resolution I was duped into

**II 5** The state or fact of disagreeing or falling out, discord, dissension, contention, debate (Cf 7 and 8)

*c* 1395 LYDG *Assembly of Gods* 409 In came Dyscord to haue made vayraunce. 1477 *Aolls of Parlt* VI 184/1 If variance falle betwixt any tynder affermyng ayenst any other persone 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XXIV 80 [He] maketh them to entertoyne well togider wythoute varyaunce 1535 *Act 27 Hen VIII* c 26 § 1 Great discorde variance debate & sedition hath growen & sourded in this said subiectes 1596 R BERNARD tr *Terence Hecyra* iv iv When you seeke forged matter to cause strife and variance 1636 G DANIEL *Festive* XXVII 48 Murder attends the variance of the Proud 1684 BUNYAN *Pilg Prog* II 199 She makes Variance betwixt Rulers and Subjects, betwixt Parents and Children. 1722 BEVERIDGE *Thes Theol* III 193 What is variance? A sin opposed to amity 1780–81 H BROOKE *Fool of Quality* (1809) IV 65 If any attempted to defraud me of my property I yielded it without variance. 1838 THIRLWALL (*Greece* II 293 It would be necessary at this time to keep up a show of variance between them 1855 H REED *Lect Eng Lit* v (1858) 159 The bloody variance of a feudal nobility 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* II 41 I never saw a child with so little instinct for preventing variance or so full of tact and pretty ways

*Comb* 1552 HULOET Variaunce makers *Litisinteactores*

**b** Opposition or antagonism *to* something *rare*

1842 MANNING *Serm* I (1848) I 16 A energetic variance of will to the mind of God 1875 — *Mission H Ghost* viii 210 We have used our wills for all manner of conscious variance to His holy will

**6** A disagreement, quarrel, or falling out, a dispute

*c* 1425 LYDG *Assembly of Gods* 244 Wyll ye agre it at Phebe your maistresse May be ryst cheef of your vayraunce 1483 *Rolls of Parlt* V 265/1 To make variances and commotion betwene you and youre true people 1493 WARKW *Chron* (Camden) 6 As they were ryders there fell a variance for her logynge 1541 BARNES *Wks* (1573) 330/2 Certaine articles for y^e which there is a varience in the world at this day 1580 W COTES *Elizabethan Chron* (1833) 21 Yf any variance or controversie shall at any tyme happen to ryse betwene any youre brethren 1607 *Merry Dev of Edmonton* Induct 84 I hen thus betwixt vs two this variance ends 1623 *Lucr* I *Argent* (Camden) I 40 I wote too long a story to tell y^e originalls and beginnings of these variances. 1782 J BROWN *View Nat & Rev Relig* IV ii 318 No variance hath ever taken place between God and holy angels.

**†b** *spec* A difference or dispute leading to legal action between parties *Obs*

1496 *Searchers Verdicts in Surriens Misc* (1890) 21 Award & Jugement of a variaunce of a ground be twix John Gilyot Alderman and Ambrose Preston of London 1498 *Cov Leet Bk* 111 595 Where as diuerse discordes and variances were late moved & had betwen the seid parties. 1509 *Suppl to King* (E E T S) 31 To here and iudge suche causes and variances 1526 *Reg Priory Councel Scot* I 203 In respect of the variance and lebart standand betuix thame 1732 POPE *Ep Bathurst* 271 Is there a variance? enter but his door Balk'd are the Courts, and contest is no more

**III 7** *In variance* **†a** Forming a subject of debate, contention, or legal action *Obs*

1461 a *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 4 He is agred to put all thing that is in variance betwixt you & him in the said bir John & me. 1488 *Searchers Verdicts in Surriens Misc* (1890) 18 A grounde pat stode in variaunce betwix thabbot & Convent 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II 317 Suche matteres as then were in varyaunce betwene the seid Mulsho and the seid Selby 1559 BP SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref* I App x 30 Consider, I beseche you the matters here in Varyaunce. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren* IV iv 438 One that mooueth pleas or suites to the end to haue part of the land, or other thing in variance 1713 M HENRY *Comm Meekness Wisdom* (1858) II meekness rule, matters in variance may be fairly reasoned and adjusted

**†b** At variance; = 8 *b Obs*

*c* 1485 *Knyt Chron* (Lambeth) 64 It happid that with boastar langage he fil in variaunce with thaym, and thay fil on him 1583 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I CCCXIX 493 The realme of England was as then in great variance among themselfe.

**8** *At variance* = 7. Of persons In a state of discord, dissension, or enmity

1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron* (1568) II 757 The Lordes whome he knew at variaunce, himselfe in his deathbed appeased 1598 R BERNARD tr *Terence, Andria* III iii, Simo and Davus are at variance about the birth of the child 1690 T BAYLEY *Worcester's Apophth* 4 The Servants of his house were never at variance in point of Religion 1683 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 364 Whilst the Emperor and Turke are at variance. 1710 BEVERIDGE *Thes Theol* II 337 God and man naturally are at variance. *a* 1781 R WATSON *Philos Hist* (1793) I 1 So Neither of the courts at variance seemed inclined to prolong the war 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II 27 The rest of the Peloponnesian allies, among the Achæan kings at variance 1860 PUSEY *Daniel* the Corinthians 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I 11 34 The powers who dwell in the celestial mansions are no more At variance. *transf* 1600 *Hamlet* No. 2 v 166 I heard a violent Noise, as if the Elements were all at Variance

**b** Const. *with, among('st* or *between, from*

(*a*) 1548 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II 177 James hath broken with his Neyghbours and is at great variance with them 1579 *Spenser Shep Calend* Apr 46 He falls at vari ance with mistris Merigodowne. 1650 *Nicholas P* (Camden) 204 And they do their best to set this good Princess at variance with her Mother in Law 1672 MILTON *Samson* 1585 What cause Brought him so soon at variance with him self Among his foes? 1736 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App. I 454 Two men whom you were at Variance. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII II It is with myself only I am at variance 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI 39 On all matters as to which we had variac ce with the Athenians 1874 CREEN *Short Hist* III § 5 138 Every year found the Justi ciary at greater variance with Rome.

(*b*) 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* I 78/1 The Britaynes were at variance amongst themselues. 1656 MILTON *Lett of State* Wks 1851 VIII 373 We have beheld the Protestant Princes more and more at weakning Variance among themselues 1882 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1897) I 414 The Breton princes were at variance between themselves.

(*c*) 1885 *Times* (weekly ed) 6 Mar 213/4 A Government from which he is totally at variance on points even more important

**c** In the phrases *to set* (or *+fall*) *at vaviance* (*a*) 1548 LINDSAY *Chron* I 235 Ane consaue sett 2 men at variyance betwix hym & vthir [So in later versions.] 1535 COVERDALE *Prov* XVII 9 He y^t discloseth the fuste setteth frendes at variance. 1649 BAKER *Chron* (1653) 541 The Scots and York and Stanley at variance. 1655 in *Verney Mem* (1907) I 557 Pale faced envye, mixt with hatred and malice hath done there best indeauour to sett us att variance 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II iv I'll disguise our passions, To set our looks at variance with o r thoughts 1788 YOUNG *Centaur* I Wks. 1757 IV 109 Prone to set things at variance, and to keep them so

(*b*) 1528 MORE *De Quat Novissi* Wks 89/1 Now shal ye se mon fall at varyance for kissyng of the pax 1608 LINDSAY *Hist Church Scot* (1778) I 93 The strife of Lennox & the cardinall was fallin at warrie see 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm Reg* (Arb.) 35 Mars and Mercury fell at variance whose servant he should be

**d** Of things In a state of disagreement or difference, conflicting, differing Usu const *with*

(*a*) 1704 POPE *Spring* 60 She runs but hopes she does not run unseen While a kind glance at her pursuer flies, How much at variance are her feet and eyes! 1797 S R LEE *Canterb Tales* (1799) I 72 His tongue and his countenance were a little at variance. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed 2) 9 The opinions and practices of most brewers are completely at variance upon the subject of mashing 1868 E EDWARDS *Raleigh* I 505 Men's opinions of the worth of what Raleigh actually did as an historian are much at variance 1910 *Edin Rev* Jan 39 The brow and the mouth are at variance

(*b*) 1780 *Mirror* No 84, Nature and Fashion are two opposite powers that have long been at variance with one another 1784 COWPER *Task* II 220 Is it wholesome and meet That servants who all moral good 1816 SINGER *Hist Playing Cards* I 58 An exquisite Chinese painting it is at variance with the costume 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I 246 His conduct was not a little at variance with his professions *a* 1881 A BARRATT *Phys Metempsric* (1882) 240 With a doctrine like Kant's, that [etc] , my philosophy is wholly at variance

**Variancy.** *rare.* [ad L *variantia* see VARY *v* and ANCY ] Changeability variance

1888 *Macm Mag* Oct. 475/1 The surprises there are in man but caused by his variancy.

**Variand,** obs Sc and north f VARYING *ppl a*

**Variant** (vɛ·rıănt), *a* and *sb* Also 5–6 **varyant** (5 to), **varyaunt** (5 to), 5 **variaunt**(e [a OF *variant* (F *variant*, = Sp , Pg , and It *variante*), a L *variant* , *varians*, pres. pple of *varyare* to VARY ]

**A** *adj* I Of persons Changeful in disposition or purpose, inconstant, fickle. Also const *of* or *in* Now *rare*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can Yeom T* 622 On his falshede fayn wold I me wreke, If I wist how But he is heer and there He is so varyant he hyt no where. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1074 Now how wolt & now how nolt? Now say oon & nuh another; so variant of mynde! *c* 1450 *Mankind* 274 in *Macro Plays* 11 Be stedefast in condycyon I so ye be not varyant! 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XXVII (Percy Soc.) 170 To be stable love fixt and not variaunt 1550 BALE *Image Both* Ch. II Gyuil, They are no wher stedfast & vniforme, but euery wher variant & foolish. 1658 LITHGOW *Trav* IV 145 He was a wood deceiuer, variant and fraudulent 1890 ^R BOLDRE wood *Col Reformer* (1891) 360 Calm and resolute, if occasionally variant of mood

**+b** Acting in a changeable or fickle manner

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII 299 He was to large of giftes, ready to spekes and variaunt of dedes.

**+c** Dissentient, disagreeing *Obs*

1418–20 LYDG *Chron Troy* III 3657 Sethen ye alle assenten and accorde, Fro youre sentence I wil nat discorde, In no wyse to be variaunte.

**2** Of things Exhibiting variation or change, tending to vary or alter, not remaining uniform

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I met v (1868) 92 Þi myst attem þerþ so variantes seasons of þe zere 1398–9 TREVISA *Barth De P* VI vi (Skeat) I 248 After the variant operation and false hertes of unstable people. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 472 in *Pol Poems* I 36 My thoughtes wandre wyde where For they ben, lorde, full variaunte. *c* 1430 LYDG *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 71 God of his grace preserve youre variaunt brutishnesse 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV xv (STS) II 103 Pe cry of romanis was varia ti, slaw & but curragie 1691 R MACWARD *True Nonconf* 136 The Ordinances therefore were appointed in a variant and mutable forme *c* 1674 *Acc Scot Island Corsen under Lauderdale* in *Misc* (1818) II 21 It was also both inconstant in its being and variant in its number and method 1732 WERLEY *Wks* (1872) XIV 40 Nouns Variant in their genders are *dies* and *finis*

**+b** Of fortune conditions, etc = VARIABLE *a* 1 *a Obs* (In early use partly after sense 1 )

*c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg Princ* 66 So flytyng is sche [ye Fortune] and so variant Ther is no trust vpon hir hur lawhy C 4 Her 1490–85 MARMION *Tour Witt* 127 But fortune is soo vayraunt and the whele soo meuable there nys i one constaunte abydynge 1500–20 DUNBAR *I see z hvis* 96 So variant is this warldis rent, That nane thairof can be content 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI viii 117 The v rant chance Of our onstabil lyfe 1561 *Godly Q Hecter* (1873) 58 Contente is thanke in no lyghtnes, nor wytte inconstante, But the necessytie of tymes vayryt.

**c** Of wind Changing, shifting *rare*—1

1847 LONGF *Ev* I 1 82 Above in the variant breezes Num bers nouse heavy weather coming on

**3** Exhibiting difference or variety, diversified, varied, diverse, different

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 301 These frein habitis, but ben bus large & variauntis as weren habitis of pharisees. *c* 1400 *Rom Anat* 1097 The humys were so full of rage & so variant of diversitee *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5631 Pat ware vissi all in vessis in variant lettirs. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* lvii (Arb.) 110 A vane i mekilyng of fals Body sownyng in alle 1526 R WHYTFORD *Martilage* (1893) 19 He was put to many varyaunt turmentes 1585 JAS I *Ess Poesie* (Arb.) 33 So Iohnd Iermine Did sigh those verses in variant sort 1590 and torts In variant verse of hundreth thousand sorts *c* 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II *Comm*, The decorum that some poet cliues have stood upon is far from the variant order of nature. 1658 LITHGOW *Trav* VI 291 They who would traucrse earths variant face *a* 1817 T DWIGHT *Trav New Eng* (1821) II 257 The plains are of moderate extent the surface being almost variant and undulating 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 105 The angels stablishing In variant countries various roots of men 1898 H DUNNELL *Nat & Supernat* IX (1864) 108 He can produce variant results through invariable causes

**+b** Of colours Varied, variegated Also of cloth or an animal in respect of colour *Obs*

*a* 1300–50 *Alexander* 4138 Pe variant mantelet we na vebbis To vermylion ne violett ne variant hittis 1471 RIPLEY *Comp Alch* VI vii in Ashm (1652) 163 By colors variant you new and new 1473 in *Rolls of Parlt* VI 102/1 20, vij eine of tartar of variant hewis to lyne a gowne of blac 1508 *Ibid* II 346 Ane variant hors gulfin to the King 1509 *Ibid* III 360 Twelfti, grene rede, blew, and variant. 1578 *Bk Unw Arts Arch Lovel* 6 Bay, dark vnseemly all kinde of licht and variant hewis in cloathing as red, blew, sellow, and sacklyke 1600 *Dr Dodypoll* I 1, Welcome, bright Morne, that with thy golden rayes Reveal'st the variant colours of the world

**4** Differing or discrepant *from* something, **+**also const *to* (= from)

*c* 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) x 122 And alle these han manye Articles of oure Feythe and to othere ther ben varyaunt 1473 5 in *Cal Prec Chanc Q El* I (1830) II Pref 60 The matter comprised in the said replication is new matter variant from her bill. 1534 WHITTINTON *Vulgaria* (1521) 31 It is no thynge varyaunt fro the dignyte of a wyse man 1548 GRESTE *Pr Massie* 134 Thee preste pryvee Masse is variant from the Supper of the Lorde 1577 tr *Conf* I 57 ROBINSON *Gauchland* II 9 Most of the Customs of this Kingdom variant from the Common Law 1770 *Ann Reg Chron* 149/2 The publication of the papers was variant from that which he sent home 1880 J P KENNEDY *Life W Wirt* I xxii 355 His first impressions of him are singularly variant from those which [etc.] 1882 WHITNEY *Gold or Event* xii, Words that were absurdly variant from all her present mood.

**b** Without const (Cf VARIOUS *a* 8 *d*)

1586 FERNE *Blaz Gentrie* To Gentl Instr , They shall find the interpretation thereof many wayes variant and diuers. 1865 STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) II 187 With a variant spelling of the body of the word 1889 BARRAR *Y Pastor* I 373 *note*, One of the numberless instances of variant readings in the Hebrew 1897 J M WHITON *Reconst I & Reinforcem* 23 These are definitions not too variant to stand indifferently for synonyms of spirit

**c** *Biol* Varying or diverging from type

1881 *Athenæum* No. 2818. 360 Angela is Spilelhagen's variant child 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 April 502/2 In nature a variant minority is liable to be diluted and to disappear by intermixture.

**B** *sb.* **1** A form or modification differing in some respect from other forms of the same thing

1898 LAYARD *Nineveh* II I (1849) II 177 *note*, Many of these [cuneiform] characters are undoubtedly what are

termed 'variants'; that is merely a different way of forming the same letter 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc Mon Chaldæa* I 143 Il, of course, is but a variant of El 1869 PEITIE *N Testament* I iv 328 Other variants of course occur from cure lessness. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc Hist* 336 The names seem, however, to be chiefly variants of the general ethnic title

b A various rending

1861 PALEY *Aeschylus* (ed 2) *Agam* 1116 *note*, The variants osoro and osoros only show that a termination was added to the original -or 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Gork N T* Introd § 3 The primary work of textual criticism is merely to discriminate the erroneous variants from the true.

**2.** A variation of the original work, story, song, etc

1872 RALSTON *Songs Russian People* 200 There are many variants of the same song, but they do not differ materially 1877 MISS A H EDWARDS *Up Nile* Pref p xiii, Religious books, variants of the Ritual, moral essays maxims 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr* I iv 70 I hey are the variants of stories presumably related in the Aryan fatherland

**3** *Nat Hist* A variant form or type.

1895 in *Funk's Stand Dict*

† **Va riate,** *v Obs* [ad. L. *variāt-us*, pa. pple. of *variāre* to VARY ] a Diversified, variegated. b Varied in nature

*c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* XII 52 Olyue is puld of colour variate 1677 GALE *Crt Centile's* IV 254 The divine effulgence and operation is of one essence, both simple and impartible, and bonforme in things partible variats (as to operation)

† **Va riate,** *v Obs* [a L *variāt-*, ppl stem of *variāre* see prec ]

**1** *trans* To produce a modification, variation, or change in quality, to alter, cause to change

1566 PAINTER *Pal Pleas* 1 (1569) 105 b The perfection of that which thou doth variat and alter both thy thoughts and passions. *Ibid* II 128 The examples also of such diversity do variate and make infinite the affections of men. GALDEN *Hierosp* 2 Others study to variate and shift the extern f rms and models of Religion 1701 HEYER in *Phil Transf Society of Gr ce* 45 Not Variating this Ensigny into the Multiplicity of the Lesser and more Particular Causes 1770 HARPETT *Journ Tour to Corea* I xxi 162 Female dress is no where variated so much as in this country

**2** *intr* To vary or change

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I ii 435 That which we touch, with times doth variate how hath now old

Hence † Va riated *ppl a* , † Va riating *vbl sb.* and *ppl a Obs*

1608 J KING *Verm* 5 Nov 13 What was the cause of their multiplied, variated complements against the Pope? 1623 CAUSINUS *Hieroglyph* 21 If air shiftings and variatings from one living to another *Ibid* 28 Who runs like a Hedger, with variating and unequall motions 1656 *Protest Handsom* 43 This artificial change is but a fixation of natures inconstancy, helping its variating infirmities.

**Variation** (vɛərɪ·ē·ʃən) Forms 5 varya oyoune, -olo(u)n, 6 -oyon , 5 variacioun, 5–6 -velon, 6 -yon, -tioun, -variation. [a OF *variacion, acion* (F. *variati n*, = Sp *variacion*, It'g *variazio*, It *variazione*), a L *variation* , *variatio* n of action f *variare* to VARY ]

**I** +1 Difference, divergence, or discrepancy between two or more things or persons *Obs*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T* 1730 In al the world So even without variacion There nere nat two, as I suppose twoyes 1426 LYDG *De Guil I ligr* 20066 I see also That ther be M any constellacioins And many vnijacions 1460 CAP *CHAN Chron* (Rolls) 28 There is for to notes that there is grete variacion amongst musicians, both of seres and of Kynds names 1480 CAXTON *Myrr* II 1 65 This present figure is demonstrauice certayne and trewe, without ony variacion or doubtynce 1483 LDGR *Treat Nero Ind* (Arb) 12 A clyme is a porcion of the worlde betwene South and North wherein is variacion in length of the daye, the space of halfe an houre 1548 HALL *Chron Edw IV* 208 b Hastily dissenteth from a man that is sicke, by reason of that distance, or variation which ys eth from sickenes *a* 1637 B JONSON *Discoveries* 2 Who vnder 16 did there is a great variation betweene him that is rais d to the soveraignty by the favour of his Peeres, and him that comes to it by the suffrage of the people

+2 Discord, variance, dissension , an instance of this *Obs rare*

*c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) III 931 Be twyx yow and me be never varyacyonnes 1583 LD BARNERS *Froiss* I ccxxiv 548 That the Christen realmes were in variacyon and the churches in great dyfference bycause of the popes

+3 a Uncertainty, doubt *Obs* —1

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 28 In this sorow and in this payne and variacion Vexas Abell and the damoysel were a lo ige time

+b Inconstancy , variableness,

1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XIV (Percy Soc ) 88 My heyrt shall be without variacion Wyth you present in perfite sykernes. *c* 1530 *Crt of Love* 1340, I depely swere as mine power is bene Faithful denude of variacion.

**II 4** The fact of varying in condition, character, degree, or other quality, the fact of undergoing modification or alteration, especially within certain limits

1502 *Ord Crysten Men* (W de W 1506) v vi, In shyn vyces varyacyon of degrees collorous. 1523 BRASHAM *Worthyes* I 130 This present lyfe How dredefull it is full of varyacyon 1555 FDEN *Decades* (Arb ) 45 Parallelles, are lines whereby the sonne passynge causeth variation of tyme 1599 BARTON *Gracelord* 1 (1599) 13 Let vs looke somewhat into the variation of times and things of the world 1637 NABBES *Microcosmus* II, Two kisses more will cloy me; nought can relish But variation. 1674 BOYLE *Excell Theol* II v 214 According to the varying gravity of the atmosphere; which variation has a very considerable influence on the weather glass. 1750 T *Lunarchus Merr Stones* 53 As it is held by many learned men who have written of the variation of the air 1786 G A. HELLARY *Apology* (ed 3) I 67 Lest you accuse me of a want of variation in the conclusion of my letters I shall end this in the good ol fashion way 1822 MISS M A KELLY *Osmond* I 36 In this variation of feeling the mercury were awry 1844 C B. DAY *Simon Ansme Chem* I 246 From these data, it appears, that the variation is the most striking with regard to the fibrinaud globules 1882 WATSON & BURBURY *Math Th Electr & Magn* I 96 In order to effect this object the charge upon the conductor must be capable of variation

b The action of making some change or alteration

*a* 1704 T BROWN *Satyre Antients* Wks 1730 I 14 They used in other words the same variation of the letter u into i, as maximus maximus. 1711 in *Nurne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 133 The said parties having in order thereto agreed in the terms of the two former contracts without change or variation 1889 *Lotus Keep* 29 Chaine. Div 542 I he powers reserved to Wilson Lomer to control the variation of investments 1893 *Act 3 Geo V*, c. 8 § 1 Where a resolution is passed providing for the variation of any existing tax

**5** *variation of the compass,* (†*lodestone,*) or *needle*, the deviation or divergence of the magnetic needle from the true north and south line, the amount or angular measure of this, = DECLINATION 8 b.

1555 BURROUGH in *Hakluyt* (1886) III 126 I went on shoare and observed the variation of the Compasse, which was three degrees 1591 INGRAM *Frobisher* 1 xxiii 139 b Drawing a right line making an angle equall to the variation of the co upasse in your region 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 49 Cabot first found out the variation of the Compasse 1670 MAYNE *Camp Ast* (1840) xxiii 38 The variation of the compass. 1851 GRELNWELL *Crade Terms, Northumb & Durh* 16 The diurnal variation of the needle being far from inconsiderable

b *elliptc* in the same sense.

1594 DAVIS *Seaman's Secrets* (1601) 17 If your Compasse be good and without variation 1597 W BARLOWE *Navigator's Supply* 8 By the Variation is vnderstood the difference in the Horizon betweene the true and the magneticall Meridian 1697 CAPT SMITH *Seamans Grant* II 12 I here is also a Compasse for the variation 1695 HUMPHRY *Mariner's Mag* IV 1 138 The Points of the Nee lle are sul pect to be drawn aside by the Guns , or any Iron neer it and liable to Variation, which not regarded the Iron North 1703 DAMPIER *Voy* III 1 200 I found that the Variation did not always increase or decrease in proportion to the Degrees of Longitude East or West 1765 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780) 1 The highest variation appears to be 17°½ W and the least 16 ½ W 1846 A YOUNG *Naut Dict* 81 The variation is in practice ascertained by comparing the sun s true and magnetic amplitude or azimuths. 1878 [see DECLINATION 8].

c *Variation of the variation* (see last quot ).

1796 PHILLIPS (ed. Hutton) *Math Dict Variation*, is so call d, because the Variation of the Needle is not always the same in the same Place 1839 NOAD *Electricity* 202 The variation of the variation, th it is the fact that the variation was not a constant quantity, but varied at different Antrides, was first noticed by the discoverer of America. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk* 810 *Variation of the Variation*, is the change in the declination of the needle observed at different times in the same place.

6 The fact, on the part of the mercury, of standing higher or lower in the tube of a barometer or thermometer, the extent or range of this

1719 LEMERY *Hyp Dict* (1729) II The greatest Variation of the Height of the Mercury being 3 Inches. 1748 *Anson's Voy* II v 183 The variation of the thermometer at Peters burgh is much greater than at Nankin 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 28 Had the tube been straight, Q would have been the limit of the scale of variation 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk* 808 A rise or fall of the mercury in the tube, within the usual limits of barometric variation

**7.** *Astr* a The libration of the moon, = LIBRATION 1.

1704 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* I, *Variation* is according to Tycho the third Inequality in the Motion of the Moon 1708 PEMBERT in *Newton's Philos* 199 This inequality of the moon's motion about the earth is called by astronomers its variation. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron* (1823) I 682 The variation is occasioned by the other resolved part, that which acts in direction of the tangent to the Moon's orbit 1879 NEWCOMB & HOLDEN *Astron* 163 The distance ang a t t of the sun fupon the moon] produces a great number of other inequalities, of which the largest are the evection and the variation

b (See quot )

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk* 43 *Annual Variation*, the change produced in the magnetic declination of a star by the precession of the equinoxes and proper motion of the star taken together

**8** *Math* † a = PERMUTATION 3 b *Obs*

1706 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* II *variation* or Permutation of Quantities is the changing any number of given Quantities, with respect to their Places 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s.v Combination* Suppose the Quantities 3, and the Exponent of Variation 3; the Number of Changes is found 27 = 3³.

b Change in a function or functions of an equation due to an indefinitely small increase or decrease in the value of the constants.

1743 W EMERSON *Fluxions* 3 The Velocity, Variation, or Quickness of Increase (or Decrease) of any Fluxion is called the second Fluxion 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 136/2 *Variation* Under this head comes the explanation of a part of the language of proportion which is much used . We refer to such phrases as the following —A varies as B —A varies inversely as B 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math Th Electr & Magn* I 2 Then w will, on arriving again at *O*, have assumed by continuous variation the value w+*dw*

c *Variation of curvature* (see quot 1842.)

*a* 1727 NEWTON *Meth Fluxions & Inf Ser* (1736) 76 The Inequability or Variation of Curvature is required at any Point of a Curve 1842 FRANCIS *Dict Arts Variation of curvature* the change made on a curve so as to occasion it to be flatter or sharper in each succeeding part

d *Algebra* The following of a + sign after a — sign, or vice versa, in a row of signs.

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**9** *Mus* (See quot )

1730 *Treat Harmony* 34 There is another sort of Division called Variation, which may also be upon a Division.

**10** *Biol* Deviation or divergence in the structure, character, or function of an organism from those typical of or usual in the species or group

1859 DARWIN *Orig Spec* I 11 There are many laws regulating variation, some few of which can be dimly seen 1867–8 LYELL *Princ Geol* III xlm. (ed 10) II 488 If some modification of an organ or instinct be produced by what is called Spontaneous Variation 1871 ROMANES *Progress Sci* (1879) II ix 176 No naturalist could tell how far this variation could be carried 1882 VINES in *Sachs Bot* 925 The characters of many of these varieties are perfectly hereditary, and all the organs show the greatest degree of variation

**III. 11.** An instance of varying or changing, an alteration or change in something, esp within certain limits

Sometimes in specific senses of 5 to above

1621 COTGR , *Mutance* change alteration, and particularly, a variation or change of notes in singing 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 525 The natural causes of variations in the creature 1665 *Phil Trans* I 31 A Barometer, or an instrument to show all the Minute Variations in the Pressure of the Air 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 288 Various Variations of the Compass 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No 11 P 11 I he most variable of all variations the changes of the weather 1786 MRS A M BENNETT *Beaux Stratagem Indoor* IV 111 I have contrived to fill a lot g summer s day, or winter's evening, by an agreeable variation of female amusements 1832 HUTCHINSON *Weath & Wor* vii 91 Some seasons are sometimes stormy and our commerce liable to variations 1844 *Proc Philol Soc* I 156 We may therefore be disposed to consider all marked variations of titles as evidence of differences of date 1874 tr *Toumel's Light* 181 The variations of light and shade are alone visible.

b. A difference due to the introduction or intrusion of some change or alteration

1699 BENTLEY *Phal* 36 We have the firmer ground to go upon for this little Variation 1727 I INNES *Anc Inhal Scot* (1879) 87 Variations which the negligence as well as the ignorance of transcribers is ordinarily the cause of 1862 FALEY *Aeschylus* (ed 2) *Supplices* 840 note, The other MSS present only slight variations. 1869 TOZER *Highl Turkey* II 272 The stones have evidently come from the same original but present curious variations in the form under which the youth is born 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr* 192 In different specimens the lava exhibits great variations in structure.

c *Biol* A slight departure or divergence from a type (Cf 10 )

1835 LYELL *Princ Geol* III ii (ed 4) II 428 The pheno men in, that some individuals are made to deviate widely from the ordinary type 1859 DARWIN *Orig Spec* I iv 131 To extend in the course of indefinite periods of time? 1859 DAN WIN *Orig Spec* Introd 4 We shall see how great is the power of man in accumulating by his selection successive slight variations. 1871 R H HUTTON *Ess* I 65 An accidental variation only means a variation of which you cannot determine the direction 1881 *Standard Nat Hist* 277 Changes in these here litury peculiarities or variations, we never brought about by direct external influences.

d A different form or species . a variety, variant

1863 HUXLEY *Annul Dis Ape* 14 If by reckoning a variation with the original st ck you multiply that variation and then take care to keep th t variation distinct from the original stock and not allow it to commingle with it 1867 *Sailor's Word Bk* 595 The Matadore Game is a variation f All fives. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 5 Try a variation of the game!

**12** A deviation or departure *from* something

1647 CLARENDON *Hist Rebell* I v § 278 Besides that any Variation from it would make the Umf rmity the less 1660 HEYLIN *Lawd* I 223 It was best to take the English Liturgie without any variation from it 1776 J BROWN *Nat & Rev Relig* III II 246 There often befalls it a deforming variation from the original happy constitution 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) I 208 He did not think fit to make any variation from what was then determined

**13** *Math* a (Cf 8 a )

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s.v Combination* Suppose two Quantities *a* and *b* these Variations will be 2 consequently as each of those may be combined even with itself, to these there must be added two Variations

b *Calculus of variations*, a form of calculus applicable to expressions in the functions in which the law relating the quantities is liable to variation

1810 WOODHOUSE (*title*) A Treatise on Isoperimetrical Problems, and the Calculus of Var at ons 1855 HERSCHEL *Newton* I xiii 349 The calculus of variations discovered by Lagrange in 1760, was the greatest step in the improvement of the infinitesimal calculus which was made in the last century 1861 IOANUTEN (*title*) A History of the Progress of the Calculus of Variations during the Nineteenth Century

**14** *Mus* A modification with regard to the tune, time, and harmony of a theme, by which on repetition it appears in a new but still recognizable form, *esp* in pl , embellishments in an air for giving variety on repetition after playing it in its simple form

1802 Busby *Dict Mus* (1811), I *arrationus*, or *Var*, the name given to certain ornamented repetitions in which, while the original notes, in rhymony, an I in addition, are so far preserved as to sustain the parent subject, the passages are branched out in flourishes 1820 Scott *Let to Thothart* (1837) IV xx 372 She ran a set of variations on Kemmure's on and awa, which I did her were enough to rin a whole country side. 1873 H C Banister *Music* 206 In some Sonatas, etc, one of the Movements is a Theme with Variations.

**15.** *attrib* in sense 5 b, as *variation chart, compass, instrument*

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* II vi 67 The Use of the Quadrant and Variation Compass 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Variation Chart*, a Chart design'd by Dr Halley 1748 *Anson's Voy* Introd, A new variation chart lately published 1769 *Phil Trans* LIX 483 The variation compass was a very good one 1790 in *Encycl Brit Amer* VI App 11 The variation instrument will be place I in the magnetic meridian, with respect to the theodolite 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk* 710 The admiralty variation chart has been brought to great perfection

**Varia tional,** *a* [f prec + -AT] Marked or characterized by, dealing with or concerning, variation, in various senses

1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat Phil* I § 297 Wh h is the general variational equation of motion of a conservative system 1888 *Encycl. Brit* XXIV 77 1 This succession of variational theories. 1900 *Nat Acc* 3 Oct 422/1 Man is in no variational than wonderful

**Varia tionist.** [f as prec + -IST] One who composes musical variations

1901 J Huneker *Mezzotints in Mod Music* 35 Brahms is not only the greatest variationist of his times, but with Bach and Beethoven the greatest of all times

**Varia tious,** *a rare* [Irreg f Variation] as Variational *a*

1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) II 175 The names of Astyanax and Hector are really the same, for the one in ambitious, and the other is a holder or possessor in all one meaning, save the phrase is a little variation

**Va riative,** *a* [f Varia ?I + -ative] Accompanied by or showing variation, variational

1874 Winchell *Doctr Evolut* n II § 4 48 The hypothesis that this variative improvement is capable of being continued indefinitely

Hence **Va riatively** *adv* (*Stand Dict* 1895)

**Variator** (vē·rīē·tai) [In sense 1, a mod L *variātor*, in sense 2, f Variate ? + -or]

**†1.** In University use (see Vary *v* 5 d) *Obs*

1749 Pointer *Oxon Acad* 18 The Variator opposing Aristotle, in three Latin Speeches

**2.** A kind of joint, esp used in electric subways, to compensate for variations of length in the connexions, due to changes of temperature

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Va ricated,** *a Zool* [f as next] Of a shell Marked or furnished with varices

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Varication** (varikē·I ʃən) [f L *varic*, stem of *varix* Varix]

**†1** *Path* Varicose condition or formation *Obs*

1684 tr *Bonet's Merc Compit* VIII 290 Cutting a Sinus in two places, where the varication begins, and where it ends

**2.** *Zool* The formation of a varix or varices in a shell; the form or arrangement of these

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**† Va rice.** *Obs* [n F. *varice* or ad L *varicem* Varix] A varix or varicose vein

1541 R Copland *Guydon's Quest* a ij Because of the rotten blode or virges that is vp in the stumyk, wyne that causeth the fluxion 1597 A M tr *Gullemeau's Fr Chirurg* 31/2 The Varice or burstin vayne is therunder situated.

**‖ Varicella** (værise·lă) *Path* [mod L (Vogel, 1764), irreg dimin. of *varicella* Variola Cf 1. *varicelle*] Chicken-pox

1772 *Lancet Brit* III 59 Exanthemata, or eruptive fevers; comprehending in general, 1 2 Hydrophobia 3 Pestis, 4 Variola 5 Varicella; 6 Rubeola [etc.] 1804 *Med Trans* XII 441 Though very much resembling variola, I cannot, [that] it might yet be found to be varicella. 1825 Good *Study Med* (ed 2) III 85 While varicella or water pox in all its varieties, was designated by the term variola 1876 Bristowe *Th & Pract Med* (1878) 181 Varicella has been largely confounded with small pox, of which it has been regarded as a modified variety

*attrib* 1897 *Trans Amer Pediatric Soc* IX 131 Around many of the varicella marks a rapid inflammation immediately began 1898 *Hutchinson's Arch Surg* IX 369 It might be the result of a sequel of varicella, i e a varicella neuralgia.

Hence **Varice llar** *a*, varicellous **Varice lloid,** modified small-pox, varioloid

1873 F T Roberts *Th & Pract Med* 186 Small pox after Vaccination—Varioloid—Varicelloid 1891 *Cent Dict*, *Varicellar*. 1892 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 250 Which the disease is engrafted on the lesions of varicella it does not confine itself to the varicellar lesions.

**Varicellous,** *a* [f Varicell-a + -ous] Of or relating to, affected with, of the nature of, varicella or chicken-pox

1822 *Edin Rev* XXXVIII 333 The boy sleeping with his varicellous brother would become varicellous 1825 Good *Study Med* (ed 2) III 81 In very variety to which the small pox can make any fair pretension, distinct, confluent, crystallized or varicellous *Ibid* 92 This slightness of irritability in the fluid of the varicellous vesicle. 1897 *Brit Med. Jrnl* 28 Aug 33 Varicellous Laryngitis.

**Varices,** pl of Varix.

**Vari-coform,** *a rare*— [ad mod L *variciformis*, f I *varix* Varix] Resembling a varix

1849 in Craig 1859 in Mayne *Expos Lex* [Recent Dicts give *varicoid* in the same sense]

**† Va ricle.** *Obs* — [f L *varic-* Varix see -cle 2] A varicose tumour or swelling

1684 tr *Bonet's Merc Compit* XVIII 600/1 A Nun had a very painful Varicle, and when I had set fire to it, it was discuss'd at once

**Varicocele** (væ rikō-sīl) *Path* [mod L, f I *varix* Varix + Gr κήλη tumour So F. *varicocèle*] Varicose condition or dilatation of the spermatic veins

1736 A Monro in *Med Ess & Obs* (1742) V 1 323 In the Vessels of a Person labouring under the *Varicocele* 1806 Hutton tr *Molinguex's Man Operat Surg* 463 Most authors distinguish *varicocele* a varicose dilatation of the veins of the scrotum from *cirsocele*, a varicose state of the veins of the spermatic cord But surgeons in the present day generally understand by *varicocele*, the varicose affection of the cord itself, which is much more common than that of the scrotum 1879 Van Buren *Dis Genit Org* 468 Varicocele is constituted by a varicose enlargement of the pampiniform plexus and veins of the cord 1883 4 *Med Annual Sci* 6 A very successful mode of treating varicocele

*attrib* 1895 Arnold *A System of Surg Dental* 537 Varicocele Clamp, Spring Dractor, Needles, Ring

**Vari-coloured, varicoloured** (vɛ·rikŏ·lŏɹd), *a* Also 7, 9 vary colour'd, 9 varicolored [f L *varius* (see Various) + Coloured] *ppl a*] Of various or different colours, variegated in colour

1655 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 115 They adorn it according to fancy sometimes with ribbons sometimes with streamers of variegated Taffata 1684 tr *Agrippa's Van Arts* (ed 2) 184 Vary colour'd many coated, canvas wearing cloak carriers 1820 *New Monthly Mag*, IV 486 She visit Cobyhall, which being upon its sides 1830 Lindley *Acad Nat* 97 A stalk with very fine and subtle 1841 Catlin *N Amer Ind* xxiv (1844) I 138 A profusion of vari coloured beads. 1869 J Ballin *Log Sea* 104/3 All round the edge of the wheel was an incessant tangle of vari coloured light rings.

b *fig* Different, diverse, diversified

1855 Hogan *Irel* II 161 My readers will see all these various colours blinds 1885 Lowell *Lec Irritancy* II xxxii Where fifty voices in one stir and did twist their varicoloured tones

**Varicose** (vă·rikōs), *a* [ad L *varicōsus* (hence It, Sp, and Pg *varicoso*), f *varic-* Varix see -ose 1]

1 *Path* or *Med* Affected with, characterized by, of the nature of, a varix or varices

1730 Bailey, *Varicose* that hath the Veins puffed up and swoln more than ordinary with corrupt Blood 1770 *Med Observ* (1772) IV 192 Two Letters on the Varicose Aneurysm from Mr W White Surgeon at York to W H inter 1808 Bartlay *Muscular Motion* 234 Cases of disease where the distension of these veins had produced that same unsightly appearance which is term'd varicose 1826 S Cooper *First Lines Surg* (ed 5) 180 The use of the knife, and of ligatures for the cure of varicose tumours 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 89 Varicose affection of the veins of the spermatic cord constitutes the disease named varicocele 1880 Bastian *Brain* 32 If they then not unfrequently assume an irregular varicose appearance

b Of veins Unnaturally swollen or dilated

When a vein becomes varicose, it has a blue colour, becomes dilated, knotty and irregular, and winds in a serpentine manner under the skin (1833 *Cyclop Pract Med* IV 445)

1797 M Baillie *Morb Anat* (1807) 357 When the enlargement of the veins is considerable, they also become varicose 1807 *Med Trnl* XVII 299, I have met with many instances of varicose veins on this island 1844 G Budd *Dis Liver* (1857) 403 She had morning sickness and the veins of her lower extremities were varicose 1884 M Mackenzie *Dis Throat & Nose* II 56 The patient had varicose veins of the gullet

*fig* 1846 Landor *Imag Conv* Wks I 74 Milton has not a sinew sharp or rigid, not a vein varicose or inflated 1864 Sala in *Temple Bar* Feb 337 The responsibility of original authorship is the varicose vein of a fair city

**2** *Ent* and *Bot* Unusually enlarged or swollen, resembling a varix

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xl 103 These [bale vessels] by Malpighi were called varicose vessels, and were also mentioned *cæcum* vessels *Ibid* xlvi 340 *Varicosæ*, when the nervures are disproportionally swelled in any part 1882 Vincent *Swch Bot* 468 The bordering cells project into the canal like varicose hairs

3 Of appliances Designed or used for the treatment of varicose veins

1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, I *aricose stocking*, elastic or bandaged stockings for giving pressure and support to swelled veins in the legs

Hence **Varicos ned** *ppl a*

1892 in *C nt Put* 1900 *Brit Med Jrnl* No 2040 248, I now wear a light red varicosed pupilla

**Varicosity** (vărikŏ·sĭti) [f Varicose *a* + -ity]

1 A varicose swelling or distension

c 1840 *Todd's Cycl Anat* III 933 Irregular dilatations or varicosities of the absorbent vessels 1857 Huxley *Anat Inv Anim* 1 64 These fibrils present numerous minute varicosities, and, at intervals larger swellings 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 1078 One pricking one of these varicosities a larger or smaller quantity of fluid escapes

2 The state or condition of being varicose or abnormally swollen, an instance or case of this

1876 Gross *Dis Bladder*, etc 157 The disease here consists either in a simple varicosity or in the development of vascular growths. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* III 380 Varicosity of the veins at the lower end of the œsophagus 1898 P Manson *Trop Diseases* xxxi 462 One [type of disease] characterised by varicosity of lymphatics

*Irnsyst* 1897 Rayleigh in *Proc Roy Inst* (1893) XIII 264 The cylindrical [liquid] jet may be said to become *varicose*, and the variconity goes on increasing with time

3 The state of having varicose veins

1899 H P Dunn in *Barthol Hosp Rep* XV 251 Varicosity of the lower limbs is met with in seamen

**† Va ricous,** *a. Obs* [ad F. *varqueux* (Paré) or L. *varicosus* as Varicose *a*] Varicose

1597 A M tr *Gaullemeau's Fr Chirurg* 45/1 Greate Arteries and great Legges, which are varicouse 1681 Burton *Anat Mel* II iv 1 II Which saith that in melancholy and mad men, the varicous tumor hæmorroides appearing doth heale the same 1634 T Johnson *Parey's Chirurg* XX vii (1678) 461 The swelling and blackness of the Tongue and as it were varicous veins lying under it 1702 T Fuller *Pharm Extemp* 361 This I ointment, containing the varicous Vessels reduces them to their due Tenor and Size 1782 *Med Comm* I 119 The cutaneous veins were slightly varicous 1786 *Ibid* II 97 [The veins had] assumed a varicous appearance

**Varied** (vɛ·rid), *ppl a* [f Vary *v*]

1. Differing from one another, of different or various sorts or kinds

1588 Shakes *Lr A* III ii 86 Where like a sweet mellodius bird it sung Sweet varied notes inchanting every eare — *1 1 1* v ii 775 Varying in subiects as the eie doth roule, I do exerne varied obiect in his glance. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I 250 How shall We next go forth and Seas pursue The very different forms of every thing we view 1796 H Hunter tr *St J Acrel's Stone Nat* (1799) II 268 The very beds and quadrupeds, which are in the north, and seas pursue more varied, in islands than any where else 1851 Helps *Comp Solit* x 181 So varied extensive and pervading are human distresses 1878 Stevenson & Osbourne *Dynamiter* II § 76 87 That astronomy is competent to explain the varied motions of the heavenly bodies 1880 *Grove's Dict Music* II 567 The art of adapting musical ideas to the varied capabilities of stringed, Wind, Keyed and other Instruments

2 Marked by variation or variety, presenting different forms or qualities on this account

1732 Pope *Ess Man* I 27 Observe what other planets circle other suns, What varied Being peoples every star 1748 Gray *Alliance* 27 How er opinion fings the varied Mind 1784 Cowper *Task* I 172 The sloping land Disparking on its varied side 1820 Keats *Lamia* II 167

of woodlands and of cultivated declivities variegates the prospect in a charming manner 1845 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii IV 238 Where the British flag, variegated by the crosses of saint George and saint Andrew, hung by the side of the white flag of France 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 107 Lichens variegate the monotonous gray with hues of yellow and red.

2. To vary by change or alteration. *rare.*

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 271 Particulars are to be divided by a Mixture of Division of Species and Compound bards, variegated as the Case requires. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 63 They were not in a savage state, when they first separated, and variegated their dialects, with so much religious care, and exact art

Hence **Va·riegating** *ppl. a.*

1727 Pope, etc. *Art Sinking* 93 Of tropes and figures and first of the variegating, confounding, and reversing figures.

**Variegated** (vē·rigē·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f prec. or I. *variegat-us*, pa. pple. of *variegare*.]

1. Marked with patches or spots of different colours; varied in colour; of diverse or various colours; many coloured; vari-coloured; *spec.* in *Bot* (see Variegation 1).

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Norwich* (1662) 274 The skil in making Tulipe variegated, with stripes of divers colours 1688 Boyle *Essay Cause of Colour* 36 In sowing pieces of variegated marbles 1718 Pope *Odyss* xv 145 She said, and gave the vesti. The prince the variegated present took 1748 *Anson's Voy* II viii 218 The glittering of the sun on their variegated plumage 1781 Cowper *Decl. & P.* xviii (1783) II. 78 A variegated flowing robe of silk 1812 *Examiner* 24 Aug. 544/2 Some of his tablemen illuminated their houses with variegated lamps 1850 *Rep. Exhib.* 1851 In this manner all new variegated plant is a native of Java 1876 Burbidge *Pk & Pleasr Gard* (1878) 565 They are sometimes smooth, sometimes ribbed, upon the surface, and often variegated in colour

*Comb.* 1763 Miller *Perf. Hush* III 238 However in either the yellow, nor the variegated, flowered lucerne is even so strong as that with purple flowers. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* April 797/1 Near it is the striking foliage of the variegated leaved althea.

**b.** In the specific names of animals, birds, etc

A large number of similar names occur in the works of Latham and Shaw.

1783 Latham *A. Syn Birds* II 1 39 Variegated chatterer. *Ibid* 181 Variegated Bunting. (*Emberiza principalis*) 1792 Shaw *Mus. Leverianus* 38 The Variegated Baboon 1821 — *Gen. Zool* II 17 Variegated Cavy *Ibid* 123 Variegated Marmot 1830 *Hist.* III. 1 235 Variegated Lizard 1804 *Ibid* V. ii 439 Variegated Sun fish 1814 Jesse *Fook. Nat.* I 127 Variegated Cavy 1840 Jess. *Dogs* 1st ed. 282 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I 105 The Douc, or Variegated Monkey, is perhaps the most gaily clad of all this group. 1881 *Ibis* 1 The Variegated Sea Snake (*Hydrus variegatus*) is rarely more than eight or nine inches long, and closely resembles the Common Sole 1888 *Cassell's Pract. Dict.* s.v. Variegated spider monkey, *Ateles variegatus*, or *hypochlus*.

**c** In the names of plants or shrubs.

1852 G. W. Johns in *Cott. Gard. Dict.* 904/2 Variegated Laurel, *Aucuba* 1854 Miss Pratt *Flow. Pl.* IV 260 Variegated Snowflake 1899 — *Brit. Grasses* 298 Variegated Rough Horse tail 1874 I. Hardy *Fairly Mad Crowd* II v 100 Boughs of laniustinus, and variegated box, and bay laurel.

**d** *Man* (See quots.)

1836 T. Thomson *Man. Coal*, etc I 692 Variegated Copper Ore. Buntkupfererz—liver coloured copper ore 1862 Dana *Min.* 704 Iridescent.—Variegated Copper Pyrites 1888 *Cassell's Invest. Dict* s.v., *Varieties of copper ore*, the same as Bornite. *Ibid*, *Variegated sandstone*, a name formerly given to the New Red Sandstone

2. Marked or characterized by variety; of a varied character, form, or nature; diverse.

1662 Stilling fl. *Orig Sacræ* II vii 3 Therein was abundantly seen God's preservation of us, the various, and wonderful leading of N. N. *Old Digory* 18 God Almighty accepts the Varied, and Services of his different Creatures 1762 Bal. *Conver Ship* 07 Poem 20 Ye ever tuneful Nine! whose twisted lyres in softer notes sweet, the variegated song of deep distress 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 110 The dances practice it away, with wild and quick shaking steps, and various, at postures of body 1798 Washington *Writ.* Weit 1893 XIV 17 The variegated and important duties of the Ards of a Commander-in-Chief require experienced Officers 1827 Charlesw. *Astron. Disc.* iv (1850) 109 The minute and variegated details of the way in which this wondrous economy is extended 1867 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 389, I go along the same variegated path I came by yesterday

**b.** Composed of persons of various characters or kinds, heterogeneous; motley. *rare.*

1807 Worcsw *White Doe* i 162 A variegated band Of mirthful aged, and old, and young. 1863 Kingslake *Crimea* (1877) I xix 381 The variegated group which composed Lord Aberdeen's ministry

3 Varied or diversified (in colour, appearance, etc) *with* something.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst* 372 The whole World, variegated with Plants, Animals and Stars, being but [e. God's] Temple 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No 156 P 10 No plays have oftener filled the eye with tears than those which are variegated with intricacies of mirth. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist* (1776) VII 265 The colour is generally an olive brown, variegated with one that is more dusky 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog* I 180 The tract of country is supply variegated with plains and mountains, hills and vallies 1806 *Gentleman's Scot* (ed 2) 433 The surface is variegated with hills and enmanuels, streams of water, and fertile plains. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) VI 204 Their colour is a bright-golden scarlet, the limb variegated with red and yellow 1870 Hooker *Stud Flora* 287 Corolla blue variegated with white inside.

**4.** Characterized by variegation (of colour)

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 7 Who does not admire the variegated diversity of colours in [the butterfly's] expansed wings? 1835 Lyell *Princ Geol* III xvi (ed 4) III. 271 The surface was of a variegated colour. 1877 Black *Green Past* xiii, A rich wilderness of flowers, of the most bountiful verdure and variegated colours

**5.** Produced by variation, variant.

1870 Hooker *Elem Botany* iv 143 For all that disease is disease, and not a variegated form of health

Hence **Va·riegatedness.**

1668 Wilkins *Real Char* 215 Variegatedness, motly, piped, particoloured, divers colours.

**Variegation** (vē·rigē·ʃĕn) [f. Variegate *v.* cf. Sp *variegation*, Pg. *variegação*.]

1. The condition or quality of being variegated or varied in colour; diversity of colour or the production of this, *spec.* in *Bot*, the presence of two or more colours in the leaves, petals, or other parts of plants; also, defective or special development leading to such colouring.

1656 T. Blount *Glossogr.* Variegation, a garnishing with divers colours. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No 64 P 5, I happened to catch a moth of peculiar variegation 1775 Adair *Amer. Indians* 3 The variegation of colours among the human race 1803 *Ferns Gen.* XXVI 190/1 This variegation of the leaves sometimes disappears 1861 Lindley *Nat. Sci.* 745 Variegation in leaves must be regarded as a diseased condition of the cells of which they are composed 1882 Allen in *Nature* XXVI 349 What we come to is under the subject of variegation [of colours in flowers] and of reversion

b With a pl. Also, a variegated marking

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort* 77 Plant them [tulip] in natural earth somewhat inp verish'd with very little sand; else they will soon lose their variegations 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Tulip* 2 Raising new Variegations, as they call it when they lessen the Cause of Variegations in Plants 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXI 48 The beautiful variegations in them [spec imens of marble] have been called by some the mineral tulips 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 78 Its colours passing in variegations 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist.* II 1 Brown, with brown, an ash, with white variegations 1884 Browning *Parleyings* (1887) 112 And where's the gloom now?—silver smitten straight One glow and variegation!

2. The action or process of diversifying or rendering varied in character, an instance or occasion of this.

1668 H. More *Div. Dial* III xxiii 451 There being fully and Wickedness all over the World it is better there should be this variation of it, that it shall be every where in the same dress 1680 Glanvill *Disc. Serm & Remr.* (1681) 176 His attributes are but the several modes and variegations of Almighty Love 1727 Pope, etc. *Art Sinking* 97 For variation, nothing is more useful than the Paranomasia, or Pun 1775 Johnson *Wet Ind* Wks 1825 IX 157 The variegation of time by terms and vacations 1777 — *Lett. Ireland* 363 Have only a sinful casualties, or an pleasing passages: they make the variegation of existence. 1834 H. Martineau *Tract* III 85 The diversity of production which takes place on the earth and among a perpetual variegation and augmentation of commodities

†**b** Alternation *of* (one thing with another) *Obs.*

1779 Johnson *L. P., Addison* Wks III 47 His variegation of prose and verse, however, gives no relief to the reader

**Va·riegator.** *rare.* [f. as prec.] One who or that which variegates

1832 in *Cent Dict* 1910 Driver in *Expositor* Feb 121 The work of the variegator is prescribed for the screens of the Tabernacle and Temple

**Varier** (vē·rĭəɹ) [f Vary *v.*]

†**1.** *Hist* = Prevaricator 4 *Obs*

1614 [see Prevaricator 4]. 1665 Lock in Peacock *Stat Crosby* (1841) App B p lxxxi, The Proctor cleth up the Acts of the Court, who, having ended his speech, it dismi t by the Iudge.

**2** One who varies or dissents *from* something.

1860 Hawthorne *Transform* 19 They called a quorum At close of day's work, and went the next, the Sabbath, pu us variers from the church, to chapel

**Varietal** (vărəi·ĕtăl), *a Biol* and *Bot* [f Variety + -al.] Of or pertaining to, connected with, indicating, etc., a distinct variety of animal or plant Opposed to *specific* or *generic*.

1866 Darwin *Orig Spec* (ed 4) II 59 He is at first much perplexed in determining what differences to consider as specific, and what as varietal 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* xiv 319 The varietal variations of animal forms 1881 *Times* in *Jrnl bot* X 25 Quite sufficiently distinct to merit a varietal if not a specific name 1902 *Jrnl R. Institut Cornwall* XV 151 No one can deny that it merits varietal rank.

Hence **Vari etally** *adv.*, in respect of varietal qualities, as a distinct variety.

1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* xii 290 Not only did man exist at this time, but man not even varietally distinct from us then Europe in races 1879 *Insect Life* IX 380 2 Botanistically which can be indulged—but only generically and specifically, but even varietally

**Variety** (vəɹəi·ĕti) [ad. Fr. **variété**, Pg. **varidade**, or Sp. **varidad**, It. **varietade**, or Lat. **varietat-, varietas** difference, diversity, etc.; f *vari us* Various q.v. see -ty.]

†**1. a.** Variation or change of fortune *Obs*

a 1533 Lo Berners *Gold Bk M. Aurel* (1546) C viij, The philosophers and leders suffered great varieties in the empyre, according to the diuersitee of empiours 1617 Morvson *Itin* II 114 Our loose wings sometimes beating the rebels and sometimes being driven by them back to our Colours and this skirmish continuing with like varietie some three howers.

†**b.** Fendency to change; fickleness, change of purpose or plans. *Obs*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VII*, 12 Thinkyng surely that they would neuer consent & longe agree with the Englishmen, according to their lode vaffn us varietie 1579 Fenton *Guicciard* (1618) 32 This varietie (if it be possible to find out the truth in so great inconstancie) many attributed to his credulitie and lightnesse of beleefe.

†**c.** Discretion, division *Obs.*—1

1546 Bale *Pag Heretics* I. 68 After the decease of King Edgare, was a wonderfull varyete and sedame through out the whole realme.

**2** Difference or discrepancy between things or in the same thing at different times.

1552 Huloet, Varietie in fourme, *dissimilitudo* 1580 Fulke *Martiall Confut* viii. Wks. (Parker Soc.) II 193 The variety in time that is in the witness of the invention of the Cross 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* iii xix 180 Many, according to the varietie of their opinions attribute this to diuerse causes 1689 H. Burton *Truth's Test* 245 The vulgar Latine hath noted in the margin in the variety of reading 1654 tr *Scudery's Curia Pol* 165 You cannot but conclude that my reasons are valid and strong for the variety of my difficulties found in each great Affairs 1748 *Anson's Voy* II x 246 The occasions a very remarkable variety in the manner of equipping the ship for the several different voyages 1774 Goldsm. *Nat Hist* (1776) VI 381 Upon examin tion there will be less variety found between them than between birds that live upon land, and those that swim up on the water 1802 Paley *Archdeacon* (ed 2) *Visit* 391 *note*, There is the same variety in feet, as in the other reading, necessitates the questionable length ning of a before ny in 61a.

**3** The fact, quality, or condition of being varied, diversity of nature or character, absence of monotony, sameness, or uniformity.

1548 Hall *Erasm Par to Cor* xii 34 The diuers playing and vse is not to the mere profite or helpful but this varietie rather apertayneth to the welth of the whole body 1561 tr *Calvin's Four Godly Serm* in C 3, Although an onely mem, there be soche a varietie & diuersitie of gyftes and desyres 1606 Shakes *Ant & Cl* II ii 241 Age cannot wither her nor custome stale Her infinite variety. 1675 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 5 The Variety of Opinions about the thing where in I now discourse 1704 J. Butler *Mod Cyn* (1721) 3 They do not Consider the wonderful Variety of the Thing in Nature 1843 *Chr'd Lon. & Arch Jrnl* VI 108/1 He is powerfulness and variety of this splendid instrument 1856 Kingsley *Lect* (18 8) I 437 The perpetual variety of work which I have been in 1860 Mozley *Univ Serm* iv 68 We find ourselves surrounded by the greatest variety of character in the world.

**b** Without article.

1597 Marlo *Faust* 2038 It is to be marueiled how Dame Nature hath for varietie sake so manifoldly varied and multiplied ye kindes of colours either simple, died, and stained, or [etc.] a 1633 Austin *Medit* (1635) 270 Therefore in Heauen both Ioy and Ioyfull desire with fulnesse of Ioy sure to haue full ease of variety a 1680 Butler *Rem* (1759) I 15 And she [Nature] affects so much to vse Variety, in all she does. 1702 *Eng. Theo. Ess & Disc. Dead, Opinion* Wks 1907 II 106 We judge of things according, to the humour we are in and that very Humour is subject to infinite Variety. 1788 Gibbon *Decl & Fall* II 606 Variety is the very spice of life, that gives it all its flavour 1826 Disraeli *Cryt* iv, Variety is the mother of enjoyment 1849 *Hallit Gd Words* 321 A sea voyage has avoids variety in drinking. 1875 J. Wett *Hato* (ed 2) V 14 There is a want of variety in the answers.

**c** As a literary, musical, or artistic quality.

1597 Morley *Introd Music* 180 So that you must in your musicke be watching like the wind, sometime a full, sometime dropping and shew the verie vttermost of your varietie, and the more varietie you shew the better shall you please 1601 R. Cheeke in *Pilgrimage* (1831) 74 Poetry enterlaced with much varietie and fancie 1622 Peacham *Compl Gentl* x (1906) 68 Varietie is various, and the rules of it so difficult [etc.] *Ibid* 70 I proceed further were to translate Virgil himselfe, therefore hitherto of varietie 1753 Hogarth *Anal Beauty* ii 16 How great a share variety has in pleasing is obvious to all mankind 1807 *Edinburgh Rev* VIII 388 Variety is never so conspicuous as when it is united with symmetry 1870 Spurgeon *Treas Stor* (187) 61 Variety is a rare and high quality, but poets of the first order have had little or none of it.

**d.** *pl.* A series or succession of different forms, conditions, etc., variations.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* iv 200 We see great varieties in the years, which proceede from the diuers motions and a pects of Planets. 1668 Cowley *Fair, Iger & King Geor.* 40 What makes the Sea retreat and what advance Varieties of Moons we regular foe chaos. 1748 *Anson's Voy* II v 189 I must make a short digression on the hot and cold of different climates, and on the varieties which occur in the same climate in different parts of the year 1794 G. Adams *Nat & Exp Philos* IV 406 The great distance of Saturn [does] not permit us to distinguish the varieties of its surface 1805 *Forster Trav* I 5 The varieties through which life has passed 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 167 He had passed through all varieties of fortune, and had seen both sides of human nature.

†**4.** The fact or quality of being varied in colour, variegation *Obs rare*

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 67 Hauyng theyr fethers entermengled with greene, yelowe, and purple, whiche varietie delyteth the sense not a litle. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclesiast* xxvi 21 I visited like wrought with mul rodored works and goodlie varietie — *Isaiah* xxi 3 A great eagle with great winges full of feathers, and of varietie, came to Libanus

**5.** Used as a collective to denote a number *of* things, qualities, etc., different or distinct in character, a varied assemblage, number, or quantity *of* something

In some instances hardly distinguishable from sense 3

**a.** With *the.*

1853 T Wilson *Rhet* (1580) 30, I might heape to, either the varietie of pleasures, which come by travaile 1623 Heminge & Condell in 1st Folio *Shakes* A 3 *heading* To the great Variety of Readers 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 186 Behold the varietie of temporary blessings. 1798 S & Hy Lee *Antiq I* 11 164 The variety of simple scenes made him delight to linger in Switzerla d 1852 Carlyle tr *Mem Pasq* (ed 2) 379 The variety of movements of which the hand of Man is capable

b Without article ? *Obs.*

1575 Fenton (*title*), Golden Epistles containing varieties of discourse, both morall philosophicall, and divine, gathered as well out of the remainder of Guevaras works, and other authors. 1600 Warner *Alb Eng* xi lxv 278 Varietie of Men to court a Woman is her pride 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., England* (1685) 21 Bravely furnished with Variety of pleasant Orchards and Gardens c 1792 *Imperf Sent Jrnl* (ed 3) VIII 549/1 Hindostan affords variety of beasts for carriage, as camels, dromedaries [etc.].

c With *a*, *that*, etc.

1708 Sewell tr *Varenius*, There is no variety of goodly Trees to chuse to be had 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Lion*, In digging, they meet with a Variety of Veins. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) VIII 197 He thus perceived a variety of kinds, almost equal to that variety of productions, which those little animals are seen to form 1780 *Mirror* No 77, From this circumstance a variety of remarks might be made 1863 P Barry *Dickyard Boys* 162 In consequence of the quality of the work executed, Messrs Maudslay have performed a great variety of small iller operations 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 240 Like Proteus, he transforms himself into a variety of shapes 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, 10 Nero every man was sluggish and plebeian who did not care to season his recreation with a variety of vice

d With a plural verb.

1718 Lady M W Montagu *Let to C'tess Bristol* 10 April, For twenty miles together the most beautiful variety of prospects present themselves 1788 Berkeley *Pun. Legion* § 24 Now of the infinite variety of nations there are upon earth, there are no two which agree exactly in their laws 1849-50 Alison *Hist Europe* V § 69 A variety of false attacks were immediately directed against the rampart. 1887 *Scots. & N.* 115 A variety of books were used for different kinds of fish and according to the time of day.

8. A different form of some thing, quality, or condition, something which differs or varies from others of the same class or kind; a kind or sort.

Also without *of* see (*b*)

(*a*) 1617 J Taylor (Water P) *Observ & Trav Lond to Hamburgh* Wks 1630 I 61/1 They have also many curious and varieties of deaths, according to the various nature of the offences that are committed 1639 S Du Verger tr *Camus Admir Events* I 10 In a vil, Some good soules will be glad to finde profitable admonitions with varieties of pleasures fitting their humour. 1784 Cowper *Task* 477 The spirit of this composition With all varieties of skill by turns. 1852 H Rogers *Eclipse Faith* (1853) 118 The distinction between the certain and the probable is felt to be too important not to be marked by corresponding varieties of speech 1866 Mozley *Univ Sermons* vii (1877) 156 Even the varieties of good character are almost infinite 1873 Hamerton *Intell Life* iv 92 The two lads represent two distinct varieties of human life.

(*b*) 1643 Denham *Cooper's H* 198 Nature, whether more intent to please Us or her self with strange varieties Wisely she knew the harmony of things. 1671 Grew *Anat Pl* Introd 3 for beholding the Many and Elegant Varieties, wherewith a Field or Garden is adorned 1779 *Mirror* No 8, A good plan Women need to represent things just as they are, but with proportions and varieties not to be met with in comm n glass 1845 Carlyle *Schiller* ii 77 The task of composing dramatic varieties, of training players, . could not wholly occupy such a mind as his.

b. *Bot* and *Biol.* A plant or animal differing from those of the species to which it belongs in some minor but permanent or transmissible particular; a group of such individuals constituting a sub-species or other subdivision of a species, also, a plant or animal which differs in some trivial respect from its immediate parent or type.

1629 Parkinson *Parad* xxvi 415 Many more sorts of varieties of these kinds there are but these only are nourished in Herbs Gardens for pleasure 1721 Mortimer *Husb* (ed 2) II 217 To make Varieties of them, the seeds of the best single ones are to be sown in September 1721 Bradley *Philos Acct Nat* 145 The Lady Cow which has likewise its Varieties beautifully spotted with the genuine Colours 1780 *Encycl Brit* (ed 2) VI 4651/2 *Lysimachya Lubysia* is only a variety of the *lutea phya caussa* 1832 Lindley *Veg Kingd* II viii 10 Another variety of corn grows here, which has eight ears on a single stem 1845 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) VI 206 For 12 old varieties in the improvement class 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec* i 7 When we look to the individuals of the same variety or sub-variety of our older cultivated plants and animals 1870 Yeats *Nat Hist Comm* 6 A moment's thought will tell from the kind of texture and grain, not merely the species but the variety of tree.

*attrib* 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 42 And what shall we say to some of our Latinised variety names?

c So in the classification of inorganic substances or of diseases

(*a*) 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v The naturalists of former ages have run into great errors, in mistaking the accidental varieties of plants, animals, and minerals for distinct species. 1757 Da Costa *Fossils* 134 The sand stone, exhibited by Woodward . is only a variety of this kind 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 619 Verona green is merely a variety of the mineral called green earth 1855 Phillips *Man Geol* 204 The coal is partly 'splint,' partly of the 'cannel' or 'parrot' variety

(*b*) 1806 *Med Jrnl* XV 5 It was inflammatory affection, but destitute of redness . the name of phlegmasia alba or white inflammation, will therefore sufficiently characterize this variety of it 1876 Bristowe *Th & Pract Med* (1878) 414 The various forms of intercurrent or secondary pneumonia, and the lobular variety of the disease

†7. *pl.* Articles of various kinds, odds and ends. 1604 in Foster *Lng Exclorum Ind* (1909) III 28 Whatsoever goods or varieties be brought in by the English

8 *ellipt* Variety performances (See 9 b)

1908 *Sphere* 1 *Jan* 1/1 26 some provincial theatres have gone over entirely to variety

9. *attrib.* a. *Variety shop* or *store*, one in which small goods of various kinds are sold, a general store *U S*

1844 A Singleton (H C. Knight) *Lett fr South & W* 84 One indication of a new country is that the shops are variety shops; each one keeping piece goods, groceries, cutlery, p rcelain, and stationery [*sic*] in different corners. 1849 in Thornton *Amer Gloss.*, (The collected trumpery) gives the Mayor's office the appearance of a 'variety store.' 1852 Mrs Kirkland *Forest Life* I 149 A 'variety store', offering for sale every possible article of merchandize, from rich gloves to goose yokes [etc.] 1854 *Harper's Mag* Nov 838/1 One of them walked quietly down to the post-office in the corner of the variety store

b Used to designate music-hall or theatrical entertainments of a mixed character (songs, dances, impersonations, etc.). Also applied to things or persons connected with such entertainments

1886 *Referee* 21 March (Cassell's), The biggest variety company ever seen at the East end of London 1891 *Chambers's Jrnl* 14 March 165 1 Music halls, or (to give them a more latent and appropriate title) variety shows are quite modern institutions 1892 *Daily News* 25 March 2/4 The high salaries paid to variety artists 1894 'M Ollivant' *Bull & Cow* 80 A succession of songs and dances in costume, commonly called Variety Shows 1908 *Stage Year Bk* 26 They are now an integral part of variety performances. *Ibid*, (heatres used the latter sense) for the variety week and even extended variety seasons.

**Variform** (vɛ·rifɪm), *a.* Also †-*forme*. [f L *vari-*, stem of *varius* Various & -form. Cf. It *variforme*.] Of various forms, varied or different in form, diversiform

1662 J Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat* Transl Pre 1 Atoms . differ from Being in Essence and Being is good, and that, because it is one, and true; but that which is double, varie form, seeming, or false, that it sees to be such. 1685 Corton tr *Montaigne* III 499, I find [it] very hard properly to design them [our actions] every one by themselves by a principal quality, so ambiguous and variform they are. 1727 Bailey (vol II) *Variform*, as in Nature 1858 Sedgwick *Handbk Brit Fossils* (1854) 189 Among these variform bodies are frequently interspersed, here and there huge masses of heavy foliage. 1860 Muir Cockburn *Augan or Christian* 39 It eventu lly becomes with its variform sculpture a distinguishing peculiarity

**Variolar** (vɛ·rɪ·ɔlăɹ), *a.* *rare*. [f Variola + -ar.] Variolous

1891 Clark Russell *Curatina* 129 Pat was called variolar formly Patrick, Paddy, Patsey, or Pat

†**Variolated**, *a.* *Obs.* [f as prec + -ated.] Variolous; formed or shaped like a variform

1578 Banister *Hist Man* 1 27 The inferiour part of this shoulder bone is large, and variformed

**Variformity.** *rare*—1. [f Variform *a* + -ity.] Variety or diversity of form.

1708 C Mather *Magn Chr* v iv (1852) 332 The Forms were not all precisely the same nor did our churches at all find that this variformity was an inconvenience

†**Va rify**, *v. Obs* [f L. *vari*, stem of *varius* Various *a* see -fy.] *trans.* To make varied, to vary, to variegate.

1623 Cockeram, *To Diversifie or variefie* 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (ed 3) To variefie, to make variegate, or of several colours 1658 Rowland *Moufet's Theat Insects* 1000 Sunning the Fawns in all her pomp and pride Of lively Colours, lovely variefi d 1671 Burges *Answ Rejoinder* 68 So as the Lord Jesus taught everywhere firme, and unbroken, when occasions should variefie and change parts culantities 1680-90 Temple *Ess Gardening* Wks 1720 I 183 All the rest are either mingled by Nations, or not to be named with these, nor worth troubling a Garden 1708 E Poston *Traveller* (1742) I 113 You don't know what sort it is be a little Latin and Greek would now be of You can't imagine the Good Reputation it brings us in Italy, or even a Word or two of it . Besides it variates it, and makes it mutually the fitter for Entertainment

†**Varily**, *adv.* Obs. rare—1, *adv.* = *verily*.

**Varinas.** [See def.] The name of a town in Venezuela used to designate a kind of tobacco (see quot 1858) Also *ellipt*

1747 W Douglas *Brit Settlements N Amer* (1760) I 116 Virginia tobacco, and Brazil and Varinas tobacco, differ upon this account 1839 J Leunc (W A Child) *Paper on Tobacco* 117 Varinas is usually imported in rolls formed of the leaves of the tobacco spun into a kind of thick twine 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Varinas* [*sic*] *tobacco*, a kind of tobacco generally plaited round a thick stick, very much like Cuban

**Varinge,** obs Sc. ff. Wairing (spending).

‖ **Variola** (vare·ĭlă) *Path.* [med L *variola* pustule, f L. *varius* speckled, variegated Cf F. *variole* and *vérole* (Ol. *verole*, *varole*), Prov. *vasriolo*, Cat *verola*, Sp *viruela*, It *vajuole* fem pl, and *vajuolo* ] The small pox

1771-1804 [see Varicella] 1829 Good *Study Med* (ed 2) III 15 The adjunct spurious or bastard variola. 1846 Day tr *Simon's Anim Chem* II 262 M Solon found the urine coagulable in five out of eleven cases of variola. 1877 F J Roberts *Humbld Med* (ed 3) I 149 Variola may be met with at any age

*Comb* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 648 Numerous strains of so-called variola vaccine lymph 1898 *Brit Med Jrnl* 7 May 1186 The measure of protection afforded these children by his variola-descended lymph.

**Variolar,** *a.* [ad. mod L. *variolar-is*, f. *variola* see prec. So F. *variolaire*.] Of or pertaining to, resembling (that of), variola

1840 in Smart 1843 *Proc Berw Nat Club* II xi 52 The material is in hard variety of basalt, distinguished by a pitted or variolar aspect. 1899 in Mayne *Expos Lex*

**Va riola rioid,** *a* [f mod L *Variolaria* (see dct) + -oid] Of or pertaining to the *Variolaria*, a spurious genus of lichens characterized by pustulate shields, pustulate, pitted.

1856 W L Lindsay *Pop Hist Brit Lichens* 40 This variolaroid condition is not uncommon in many crustaceous species.

**Variolate** (vɛ·rĭɔlēt), *v Med.* [f. Variola: see -ate.] *trans.* To infect with variola, to inoculate with the virus of variola or small pox

*c* 1792 [implied in *Variolated* ppl a.] 1820 *Edin Rev.* XV 329 The total number of those vaccinated is perhaps not less than those variolated 1888 *Lancet Brit* XXIV 24/2 The proof being to variolate the cow on the udder 1898 *Brit Med Jrnl* 7 May 1185 He had altogether failed in attempts to variolate the cow

Hence **Va riolated** *ppl. a*

*c* 1792 *Lancet Brit* (ed 3) II 246/1 The Chinese convey a pellet of variolated cotton into the nostrils of the patient 1801 Jenner in *Rang Trent Cow-pox* 24 from variolated pustules one cannot be surprised to hear that the disease has been communicated by effluvia 1845 *Lancet Metrop* VII 754/2 If the patient be exposed to a warm fated atmosphere at the time he is vaccinated 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 649 The final scab on the site of inoculation is not so elevated in the variolated as in the vaccinated animals.

**Variolation** (vɛ·rĭɔlē·ʃən) *Med.* [f prec.] Inoculation with the virus of small-pox.

1803 *Med. Jrnl* XIV 356 A remarkable coincidence of failure of variolation as well as vaccination 1810 *Adin. Rev* XV. 340 It [= vaccination] has been adopted by millions who never would have submitted to variolation 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 849 The practice of variolation, which was revived and introduced into Great Britain by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu

**Variole** (vɛ·rĭōl) *rare.* [ad. med.L. *variola* Variola.] Something resembling a small-pox marking or pustule in appearance or formation:

a *Ent.* A foveole or small fovea.

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlvi 270 *Variole*, a shallow impression like a mark of the small pox

b. *Geol.* A spherulite or a collection of spherulites.

1890 *Q Jrnl Geol Soc* XLVI 322 The spherulites or 'varioles [of the variole diabase] are grouped or drawn out in bands parallel to the surface

**Variolic** (vɛrĭɔ·lĭk), *a. rare*—1. [f Variola + -ic Cf. F. *variolique*.] Variolar, variolous.

1827 in Baron *Life Jenner* I 335 I ill I had inoculated my children again with variolic matter

**Varioline** (vɛ·rĭōlĭn), *rare.* [f as prec + -ine.] The hypothetical infectious principle of variola.

1864 Lane *Rep Reg Gen Supp* 34 When any zymotic matter such as varioline, scarlatinine or typhine finds its way into a village.

**Variolite** (vɛ·rĭōlăɪt). *Geol.* [f. med.L. *variola* Variola + -ite 1 2 Cf F. *variolite*, G. *variolit.*] A kind of rock embedded with spherulites which give it the appearance of being pock marked (see quots), peas, pebbles (district) of Brongniart.

1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 368 Variolites Stones that have rounded protuberances, of a different nature from the common mass of the stone 1811 Pinkerton *Petrol* I. 133 When the crystals assume an oval, but particul rly a round shape, the rock may be aptly styled a varioliteStyled, The stones called varioliteS of Durance, being often rolled down by that river in Dauphiny 1879 Rutley *Stud Rocks* xiii 248 Variolite is an aphanitic diabase of compact texture and greenish grey colour, in which there occur little concretions of a paler colour, ranging up to the size of small nuts

**Va rioli tic,** *a. Geol.* [f prec. + -ic.] Of the nature of, or containing, variolite, spherulitic.

1860 C P Sorby *Volcanoes* 363 The limestone is usually variolitic. 1878 Lawrence Collet *Rocks Classified* 139 Diabase is sometimes variolitic or amygdaloidal

**Variolitisa tion.** *Geol.* [f. Variolite + -ization] The process of becoming variolitic; change or conversion into variolite

1890 *Q Jrnl Geol Soc* XLVI 320 The variolitisation seems to have resulted from the same causes that have built up ordinary spherulites

**Variolisation** (vɛərĭŏlĭsē·ʃən). *Med.* [f. Variola + -ization.] Variolation.

1891 in *Cent Dict* 1910 *Edin Rev* Oct 276 Variolisation is said to have been known to the Chinese from the commencement of the eleventh century

**Varioloid** (vɛ·rĭŏloid), *a* and *sb. Path.* [ad mod L. *Varioloides*, -*odes* (Frank, c 1790) see Variola and -oid So F *varioloide*, It *vajuoloide* ]

A *adj.* Resembling variola or small-pox, like that of variola.

In early use 'applied to a supposed special disease spontaneously developed in our climate under certain atmospheric conditions and capable of being propagated by infection or inoculation' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*)

1801 W Wooker (*title*), Observations on the Varioloid Disease 1829 Good *Study Med* (ed 2) V 737 Varioloid eruptions, iii 88 1851 Ranam *Homeopathy* 354 Varioloid Diseases. This term is applied to those diseases which resemble small pox, and are more or less dependent upon the same epidemical constitution of the atmosphere for their production 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 479 Sometimes it [a pathological process] is partial, and a varioloid lesion results.

**B.** *sb.* A modified form of variola, esp. a mild variety occurring after vaccination or in those who have previously had small pox

**1828–32** in Webster **1843** R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv 148 One of the former was attacked by varioloid just after the cases of lone, continued spotted fever **1870** I. W. Hodgson *Army Life* 234 A case or two of varioloid in the regiment. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 103 A papular appearance which if the rash be scanty, may resemble the early stage of varioloid

*fig.* **1860** Emerson *Lond. Life, Culture* Wks. (Bohn) II. 364 Is egotism a metaphysical varioloid of this malady?

**Variolous** (vārai·ĭləs), *a.* [L. med L. *variola* Variola, or a. F. *variolique* see -ous.]

**1.** Of the nature of, resembling (that of), variola or small pox, of or pertaining to, appearing in, characteristic of, variola.

**1676** *Phil. Trans.* XI. 569 The third Epidemical Constitution was that of the Small pocks, and of a Variolous Feaver, resembling the Small pocks. **1749** *Ibid.* XLVI. 335 From the Dissections of those who have died of the Small Pox, we find that the Viscera are subject to the variolous Abscesses. **1780** *Ibid.* LXX. 138 She was delivered of a child, as full of variolous pustules as herself. **1802** *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 170 [They] thought it (an eruption) had a variolous appearance. **1845** *Lancet Mercy* VII. 754/2 When a person has been inoculated with a mixture of the variolous and vaccine poisons. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 639 In these respects its variation is not unlike that of a variolous or vaccine vesicle.

*Comb.* **1801** *Med. Jrnl.* V. 453 Others were distinguishable by a very slight variolous inflammation.

**b.** *Variolous matter (fluid or virus)*, the virus of small-pox, esp. as used for purposes of inoculation.

**1747** tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 278 From the first reception of the variolous matter **1798** Jenner *Inq. into Vaccine* (1801) 23 Cow pox virus renders the constitution unsusceptible of the variolous. **1800** *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 22, I immediately inoculated the whole party with the most virulent variolous matter I could procure **1843** J. *Gray Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 192 When vaccine or variolous fluid is properly inserted under the cuticle. **1875** Richardson *Dis. Mod. Life* 83 He therefore inoculated patients with diluted solutions of variolous matter

**c.** *Variolous contagion, disease, infection*, etc., variola, small pox ? *Obs.*

**1792** *Trans. Irish Soc.* II. 245/2 The variolous matter only produces the variolous disease **1799** *Med. Jrnl.* I. 318 In every instance, the patient has completely lost the susceptibility for the variolous contagion **1807** *Ibid.* XVII. 27 Six full days during which he was exposed to the variolous infection, it required a much longer probation.

**2** Of persons. Affected with, suffering from, small-pox.

**1668** Sydenham *Let. to Brady* in B's Wks. 1744 V. 639/2 In visiting many of my variolous patients **c 1790** *Encycl. Lond.* (ed. 3) IX. 245/1 Having met with the blood of variolous patients hath been tried without effect **1804** *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 184 Variolous patients. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 209 It is exceptional to find that the children born of variolous mothers have had small pox in uteris

**3** *Ent.* (See quot.)

**1826** Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 270 *Variolous* (Variolosus), beset with many variolæ.

‖ **Variorum** (veəriō·rŭm) [L., gen. pl. masc. of *varius* Various, in the phrase *editio cum notis variorum* (see def.)]

**1** An edition, esp. of the complete works of a classical author, containing the notes of various commentators or editors. Also in the full phrase *Variorum edition.*

**1798** Chalmers *Op. Sir W.* A set of Dutch *Variorum Ibid.*, The *Variorum*, for the generality are the best Editions. **1824** Scott *Let. to Constable* 6 Jan., In the shape of these animals Variorum will know what new idea the Lion's mane may suggest? **1826** Miss Mitford *Village* II. (1863) 268, I should like to see a variorum edition of our Pizarro. **1870** Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. 162 The serious notes of a *variorum* edition of Shakespeare.

**b** *attrib.*, as *Variorum classic, comment*, or with the name of the author.

**a 1763** Byron *Misc. Poems* (1773) II. 333 The *Variorum* Comments **1804** Dibdin *Lib. Classical* 11 The second edition [of Claudian] is esteemed one of the scarcest of the *Variorum* Classics. **1822** Scott *Nig.* I. Introd. Epist., The Prolegomena of the Variorum Shakspeare

**c** As *adj.* in the sense 'obtained or collected from various books or sources'.

**1883** *American* VII. 170 Outlines of the Chief Political Changes in the History of the World, Arranged by Centuries, with Variorum Illustrations **1889** *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 210/1 In his variorum reading, of the name from old records he has obviously misread t for c in several instances

**2** *fig.* Variation, a varying or changing scene **1777** Skinner *Ilochgorum* Wks. 1809 III. 136 Dull Italian lays, They're dowf and dowie at the best, Wi' their variorum **1785** Burns *Tooly Baggars* 8th Air, Life is all a variorum. We regard not how it goes.

**Variotinted,** *a* [irreg. f. L. *varius* varied] Of various tints or colours

**1903** Agnes M. Clerke *Probl. Astrophysics* 44 The dazzling variotinted fire-works disclosed by the prism

**Various** (ve·rĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *varius* changing, different, diverse, variegated. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *vario.*]

**I †1.** Of things: Undergoing, exhibiting, subject to, variation or change, variable, changeful *Obs.*

**1552** Huloet, Various, *mutabilis, varius* **1570** Levins *Manip.* **240** Various, *varius, instabilis.* **1622** J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsence* Wks. (1630) 2/2 Most constrict Vmpire in this various Orbe. **1647** Cotterell tr. *Davila's Hist. I.* 13 As the condition of the Court is ever various and inconstant **a 1656** Hales *Remn. Orig. Mans* (1677) 1, 2 The Instances of latter Discoveries which make evident this various state of the Globe of Earth and Water **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4464/3 The Winds were so various that we could not make to the Bay of la Hogue till the 11th. **a 1763** Shenstone *Elegy* v. 11 Ill can I bear the various chime of Love! **1778** Sheridan *Ariel* i. Epil., The servile suitors watch her various face, She smiles preferment, or she frowns disgrace

**†b** Of fortune, life, etc. *Obs.*

**1623** J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discovery by Sea* Wks. (1630) 24/1 Whilst we like various Fortunes Tennis ball At every stroake, were in the Hazzard all **1644** Quarles *Judgment & Mercy* 12 Lear not the frowns of princes, for the imperious hand of various fortune **1703** N. Rowe *Ulysses* I. i. Envy Chains Of various Life. **1742–8** Gray *Agrippina* 54 Through various life I have pursued your steps.

**†c** Turning different ways, going in different directions *Obs.*

**1611** Quarles *Arg. Elus & P.* (1678) 13 There walked she 1 and in her various minde, Projects and casts about which way to finde The progress of the young Earthenware heart. **1725** Pope *Odyss.* XII. 134 Erik from her snowy hand Nausicaa threw The various ball

**†d** Of a war Marked by varying success *Obs.*

**1754** & Br. Newton *Obs. on Pr. Dissert.* xii. 173 Hence arose a various war between Antiochus and Ptolemy, each of them seizing Phœnicia and Cœle Syria by turn

**†2.** Of persons: a. Changeable in character, inconstant, unstable, fickle *Obs.*

**1656** E. Darrell tr. *Machiavel's Disc. Livy* I. 232 A Prince shewn himself various, will lose until all, various, and unconstant **1670** G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. iv. 328 So Cardinal Alexandrino dealt with Cardinal di S. Sisto, a various and unconstant man **1670** Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 330 Truly he seems to me so various and fickle in Land line, that I suspect all along **1719** Swift *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1841 I. 340 *Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 192 When vaccine or variolous fluid is properly inserted under the cuticle. **1875** Richardson *Dis. Mod. Life* 83 He therefore inoculated patients with diluted solutions of variolous matter

**c.** *Variolous contagion, disease, infection*, etc., variola, small pox ? *Obs*

**c 1792** *Encycl. Lond.* (ed. 3) IX. 245/2 The variolous matter only produces the variolous disease **1799** *Med. Jrnl.* I. 318 In every instance, the patient has completely lost the susceptibility for the variolous contagion **1807** *Ibid.* XVII. 27 Six full days during which he was exposed to the variolous infection, it required a much longer probation.

**2** Of persons Affected with, suffering from, small-pox.

**1668** Sydenham *Let. to Brady* B's Wks. 1744 V. 639/2 In visiting many of my variolous patients **c 1790** *Encycl. Lond.* (ed. 3) IX. 245/1 Having met with the blood of variolous patients hath been tried without effect **1804** *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 184 Variolous patients. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 209 It is exceptional to find that the children born of variolous mothers have had small pox in uteris

**3** *Ent.* (See quot.)

**1826** Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 270 *Variolous* (Variolosus), beset with many variolæ.

‖ **Variorum** (veəriō·rŭm) [L., gen. pl. masc. of *varius* Various, in the phrase *editio cum notis variorum* (see def.)]

**1** An edition, esp. of the complete works of a classical author, containing the notes of various commentators or editors. Also in the full phrase *Variorum edition.*

**1798** Chalmers *Op. Sir W.* A set of Dutch *Variorum Ibid.*, The *Variorum*, for the generality are the best Editions. **1824** Scott *Let. to Constable* 6 Jan., In the shape of these animals Variorum will know what new idea the Lion's mane may suggest? **1826** Miss Mitford *Village* II. (1863) 268, I should like to see a variorum edition of our Pizarro. **1870** Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. 162 The serious notes of a *variorum* edition of Shakespeare.

**b** *attrib.*, as *Variorum classic, comment*, or with the name of the author.

**a 1763** Byron *Misc. Poems* (1773) II. 333 The *Variorum* Comments **1804** Dibdin *Lib. Classical* 11 The second edition [of Claudian] is esteemed one of the scarcest of the *Variorum* Classics. **1822** Scott *Nig.* I. Introd. Epist., The Prolegomena of the Variorum Shakspeare

**c** As *adj.* in the sense 'obtained or collected from various books or sources'.

**1883** *American* VII. 170 Outlines of the Chief Political Changes in the History of the World, Arranged by Centuries, with Variorum Illustrations **1889** *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 210/1 In his variorum reading, of the name from old records he has obviously misread t for c in several instances

**2** *fig.* Variation, a varying or changing scene **1777** Skinner *Ilochgorum* Wks. 1809 III. 136 Dull Italian lays, They're dowf and dowie at the best, Wi' their variorum **1785** Burns *Tooly Baggars* 8th Air, Life is all a variorum. We regard not how it goes.

**Variotinted,** *a* [irreg. f. L. *varius* varied] Of various tints or colours

**1903** Agnes M. Clerke *Probl. Astrophysics* 44 The dazzling variotinted fire-works disclosed by the prism

**Various** (ve·rĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *varius* changing, different, diverse, variegated. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *vario.*]

**I †1.** Of things: Undergoing, exhibiting, subject to, variation or change, variable, changeful *Obs.*

**1552** Huloet, Various, *mutabilis, varius* **1570** Levins *Manip.* **240** Various, *varius, instabilis.* **1622** J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsence* Wks. (1630) 2/2 Most constrict Vmpire in this various Orbe. **1647** Cotterell tr. *Davila's Hist. I.* 13 As the condition of the Court is ever various and inconstant **a 1656** Hales *Remn. Orig. Mans* (1677) 1, 2 The Instances of latter Discoveries which make evident this various state of the Globe of Earth and Water **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4464/3 The Winds were so various that we could not make to the Bay of la Hogue till the 11th. **a 1763** Shenstone *Elegy* v. 11 Ill can I bear the various chime of Love! **1778** Sheridan *Ariel* i. Epil., The servile suitors watch her various face, She smiles preferment, or she frowns disgrace

**†b** Of fortune, life, etc. *Obs.*

**1623** J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discovery by Sea* Wks. (1630) 24/1 Whilst we like various Fortunes Tennis ball At every stroake, were in the Hazzard all **1644** Quarles *Judgment & Mercy* 12 Lear not the frowns of princes, for the imperious hand of various fortune **1703** N. Rowe *Ulysses* I. i. Envy Chains Of various Life. **1742–8** Gray *Agrippina* 54 Through various life I have pursued your steps.

**†c** Turning different ways, going in different directions *Obs.*

**1611** Quarles *Arg. Elus & P.* (1678) 13 There walked she 1 and in her various minde, Projects and casts about which way to finde The progress of the young Earthenware heart. **1725** Pope *Odyss.* XII. 134 Erik from her snowy hand Nausicaa threw The various ball

**†d** Of a war Marked by varying success *Obs.*

**1754** & Br. Newton *Obs. on Pr. Dissert.* xii. 173 Hence arose a various war between Antiochus and Ptolemy, each of them seizing Phœnicia and Cœle Syria by turn

**†2.** Of persons

taken that this report should find its way to Ravenswood Castle through every various channel 1829 Byron *Juan* I xviii, Don Jóse, like a lineal son of Eve, Went plucking various fruit without her leave 1865 Lond. *Hospital Jan* II Prel 63 The breakfast ended, each pursued The prompt ings of his various mood

**d** In the phrase *various reading(s)* (Cf VARIANT 2 c and LECTION 1 c)

1659 *By* Walton *Considerations Lamaid* 114 Various Read ings are the difference of Copies collected and offered to the reader's judgment 1701 *Stanl. y's Hist. Philos.* In trod. b. I but he might omit nothing, he has answer the various Readings, Conjectures and Observations 1781 *Bi* Attersbury *Let. to Pope* 27 Sept., The refore in my Waller there is a various reading of the first of these couplets 1790 Johnson in *Boswell's Life* ed. II 68 *Sed note*, Chalmers, a new edition of him, from manuscripts and old editions, with various readings, conjectures [etc.] 1844 J. Johnson *Typog.* II 437 An exact list of all his various readings. 1855 Paley *Æschylus Pref.* (1861) p. x, What really is a necessary and inevitable part of an editor's duty, viz. the criticism of various readings. 1902 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 521 It may rest upon a various reading in the Hebrew

**9** In weakened sense, as an enumerative term. Different, divers, several, many, more than one

It is not always possible to distinguish absolutely between this sense and 8 as the meaning freq merges into 'many different': cf DIVERS a. 3.

1596 Prior *To the King at Arrest at Ath* and 62 In various Tongues He learnt to spell, well In their cities reades a Treaty 1775 Robinson *Th. Thyn* I 219 By this Means we shall be able to judge with the greatest Exactness, of all the various Phænomena of Nature. 1761 [Revnes in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov.* S. 7 VII Instituted Also, from that period the College of St Omer began to shine more the various Seminaries of piety and learning 1848 Thackeray *Van Lanvig* Ixvii This was the head of the Mystery Mme from v rious members of his society 1879 Harlan *Ivy sight* I 32 The eyeball is moved in various directions by six muscles 1897 In R. *Anthrop. Instit.* VII (1898) 41 Various acts of incendiarism took place

**10** *Comb* With adjs or pa. ppples, as *various-blossomed, -coloured, -formed, -measured*, etc

1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 3 The various blossom'd Spring. a 1721 Ken *Hymnarium* (1ct Wks 1721 I 89 Bright various colour'd Rays his Wings adorn 1758 J. Hill *Hist. Imm.* 231 The various shaped bodies, the Coelish 1884 Scott *At Home* 12 xxxii, Such trifle traits of various coloured gauze on her head 1803 Kenny *Cicely* 54 In spite of danger various form'd to wreck Nature's yet bid ten secrets 1822 *Imp. Magazine* II 155 *Heightened Perfection* Various leaved Upper Wort 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV 256 Various mov'ard verse, Aolian charms and Dorian Lyric Odes 1880 Bradshaw in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XII 1 The intended introduction of grain at various pe. I duties per quarter 1797 46 Thomson *Summer* 1110 The fiery spume Of fat Hibernian, steaming, on the day With various-tinctur'd trains of flame. 1788 Cowper *Sonnet to Inhumanity* 1 Moon 1 Mild Splendour of the various vested Night!

**Variously,** *adv* [f prec + -LY 2]

1 In a various manner, in various or different ways, with variation or variety, differently, diversely.

1627 May *Lucan* VII 620 The war, that variously had wander'd ore. The fields, there stucke those Cæsars fortune stay'd 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II § 87 His situation was never understood; and was then variously spoken of 1682 Norris *Hierocles* But 'tis as the Law of the Creation which variously order'd the Motion relating to the dignity of their natures. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I iii § 6 390 These Circumstances are variously combined in the various Kinds and Degrees of Madness. 1791 Boswell *Life Johns. Cum a* 326 Virtually do those islands groan under the tyranny of their masters 1807 G. Chalmers *Caled. Man* I iii viii 406 About the language and station of this celebrated personage writers have variously conjectured. 1862 Maine *Ancient Law* iii 87 The sons I commented again, changed its note variously 1880 Gwilt *Phys. Geog.* iv 109 A ball with an exterior coat which has been variously estimated at from twenty to a thousand miles in thickness

**b** With adjs.

1796 G. Ware *Nat. & Fever Hist* IV xiii 331 It emits the rays of light in every direction; it has rays which are variously refrin gible and colorific. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II 308 Our prose became less magnific. Its virility only invested than that of an earlier age. 1872 Carlyle *Life* I 478 The consequences for the time were variously sad 1871 Jennings *East Essays* 226 So dame and dame I glitter'd at the feast Variously gay

**c.** *U. S.* At different times *rare*

1802 A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I 756 Samuel Perkins kept a barber shop variously under the National Hotel and the Clinton Bank

**2** *Comb.* With pa. ppples, adjs, or pres. ppples, as *variously-coloured, conduit-ing, shape-t, -wood-ing, wrought-*, etc

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Feb. 1641 The mother of these spinsters are buttered with variously coloured cinders 1768–74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II 171 A long, & implicated succession of variously working, second causes. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev. Misc.* (1872) III 238 The various body coloured page of human life. 1848 Buckley *Virgil* 293 Brass gold and variously wrought iron 1855 J. Ross *Trans. Linnæ. Soc.* (1858) XXI 89 Variously-shaped cups of fissures 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 80 The stars shine out with variously coloured lights.

**Variousness.** [f Various *a.* + -NESS]

†1 Changeableness, inconstancy, variability *Obs*

1607 Daniel *Cleopatra* Wks. (Lonsard) III 9 A Roman hath but here a R man quayld, And onely but by Fortune's variousness 1647 Cotterell *tr. Davila's Hist. Fr.* I 22 The Prince had in the war proved the variousness of fortune

†2 Difference of variance. *Obs*

1628 T. Skinner *Logick* 68 Thus space is the varietie, or variousness that is betweene seuerall, and distinct arguments. a 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xiii 9 Here the plural number is used, which implieth a variousness and disagreement in false Doctrines.

3 Variety of character or nature, varied condition or quality

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 198 The variousness of every single and particular form of the Individuall. 1653 Blythe *Engl. Improver Improv.* 55 And a good experienced Mill wright is well able to regulate them to the incomming of the Tide, or out going of the Floods, as the variousness of opportunities will require. 1834 Willmott *Modern Mag.* XXXVI 543 His waking thoughts had all the vividness of visions, all the variousness of dreams. 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 39 Unimaginable space Paileth to match His round less variousness. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* iv (1875) 163 The religious life is at bottom everywhere alike; but it is curious to note the variousness of its setting

**Variousness,** be. variant of Wariousness

**Varite,** obs. form of Verity

‖ **Varix** (ve·riks). Pl. **varices** (ve·rĭsiz) [L. (stem *varic-*)] Cf. Varice]

**1** *Path* An abnormal dilatation or enlargement of a vein or artery, usually accompanied by a tortuous development, a varicose vein

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy* 178 be blood letyng; for veyne is good for varix. 1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Cb 1 b, It may so be that varix, that is to say a swollen vayne that is knot is by be cause 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 272 Some writers hold, that this herb, bound vnto the swelling veines called Varices, doth allay the paine thereof 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* 363 Let the Chirurgeon take to see in a Varix of the Thigh and Foot 1767 Goodir *Treat. Wounds* I. 188 *Varices* sometimes become very large and painful upon the leg, requiring opening 1783 *Med. Comm.* I 181 The dilatation of veins commonly called a *varix* takes an oblong, shape. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* I 168/1 Pressure on the varix empties it of its contents 1859 *Holmes's Syst. Surg.* VI 390 In another case a similar thrombo sed varix had broken from its pedicle

**b** The diseased condition characterized by this, as a specific malady

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 108 *Inflamm* 128 The dilatation of capillary vessels which occurs in some species of varix 1876 Gross *Inst. Pathol.* etc 356 The veins have a t rmous, convoluted arrangement, similar to what occurs in varix of the leg, and height 1878 J. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I 500 Varix is commonly an affection of the veins in the lower extremities, and mainly, of the branches of the saphena vein

**2** *Conch* A longitudinal elevation or swelling on the surface of a shell (see quot. 1851)

1822 J. Parkinson *Org. Remains* I 201 With a marginal and sometimes a second varix 1851 Woodward *Conch.* 111 241 The *varices* are ribs which cross the volutions in some species of *buccinum, murex*, and *triton*. They are formed by the periodical growth of the shell. 1881 P. Carpenter in *Smithsonian Instit.* 1880 138 The *Struthiolarice* have a simple varix instead of a wide lip

**Vark,** obs. (chiefly Sc.) f. Work *sb.* and *v.*

**Varld,** by. obs. Sc. forms of World(L)

**Varlet** (vā·lĕt). Forms **a.** 5– **varlet** (6 *Sc.* **warlet**, 7 **varlett**). 5 *Sc.* **varlette**, 6 **varlot** (6 *Sc.* **war-**, *B.* 6 **verlet** (-lett, -lette), 7 **verlate**; 6 **verlot** (*Sc.* **wer-**), **lotte** [a Of *varlet* (14th c.), var of *vaslet, vadlet, vallet* Valet Hence also mod I *varlettus*. In mod I *varlet* is restricted to the historical sense 1 b.]

**1.** A man or lad acting as an attendant or servant, a menial a groom Now *arch*

a 1420 *Hoccleve's Compl.* 313 Thy varlet 1450 The varlet of the labourare that is for to say his hyre man that dryves the plouche 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg.* 154/b, I hire yche ses through, acquaintes, varlettes, & of kynnysmen whiche seeme to me 1513 Bradshaw *Life Werburge Hum* IV 189 His varlet semeth rather ye is to a kyng then to be a varlet to a mynstrell 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 94 She calls out to the varlets to stop I turn'd my back 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 1 ¶ 1 Upon my entrance into the car 1661 Blount *Glossogr* (ed. 2) *s. v. idolet*, a Butchers Clerk or Servant. The Butlers of the house carry the Victuals to the Varlets. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* II 68 Did the master of Compton's varlets, where are they? 1853 James *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I 124 Acquiring very rapidly from the different varlets and pages the most recent information

**b** 1599 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvi (Percy Soc.) 114 Than on my journey Wyth my varlet called Attendaunce, Forthe on I rode 1853 Douglas *Travel* xii. 112 The privy kitchen and verlets of his stable 1 Down [from the horses] stud 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xii Keepe neuer such seruants, as doth thee no good, for neatinge of verlettes maketh many a rich man to stoop vp his doores

**b** *spec.* An attendant on a knight or other person of military importance. Now only *Hist*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xiv 434 Thenne this Knyght called to hym varlette and bydde hym ryde vnto youander fayr manoyre 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 69 When Parys coude wel speke mouryske, he and his varlet took the way toward ynde 1523 Fitzherbert *Surveyn.* § 26 The surueyer who was to the number of vi. shotte fat, they browes, but sparyng masters nor varlettis 1548 Hall *Chron. Hen. V* 50 Divers beyng wounded we releued by theyr varlettes and conueyghed out of the felde 1590 Sidney *Arcadia* III. 37 Far away they spyde A varlet run ning towards hastily Behind his backe he bore a brasen shield 1606 Shakes. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 1 Call here my Varlet He vnarme against Why should I warre without the walls of Troy? 1885 Scott *Talisman* iii, Some fifty more men, archers and varlets included 1864 Burton *Scot. Abr.* I iii. 123 In one month the French lost upwards of a hundred varlets 1889 F. Cowper *Capt. of Wight* 167 Their esquires were waiting outside, and their varlets were leading their horses up and down

†**c** *Varlet of the chamber*, = Valet-de-chambre *Obs.*

1567 Throgmorton in Robertson *Hist. Scot* (1851) II 435 [She requested] to have her apothecary and to have a varlet of the chamber 1588 *Archæologia Aeliana* XXI 403 To William Murray, varlett of his majesties chalmer, for his pensioun 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III 258 His voiage vnder Don Anthonio was nothing so great credit to him, as a French Varlet of the chamber in 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 406 'Tis this that Proudest Dames enamors On Lacquies, and Varlets des Chambres ]

†**d** = Sybrooraton 1568 R. *Obs.*

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum* IV iv, Why, you were best get one o' the varlets o the citie a seruant 1680 Mellon *Astrolog* 73 Those that stand before both the Compters who appeare in the shapes of Serjeants, alias Varlets 1698 Shirley *Mart. Soldier* v, I was first a Varlet, then a Bum baily, now an under Jailor

**2** A person of a low, mean, or knavish disposition, a knave, rogue, rascal

In later use freq without serious implication of bad qualities

a 1555 in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 170 Then my lord 303 d, thou art a very varlet 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches* xiv iii 297 A notable cousening varlet who professed Alcumystrie. 1594 B. Montagu *Immet. Adder* 213 Is not that a varlet in grayne 1598 Barnfield *Encom.* 1624 D Rogers *Naaman* 309 All shall see that you were arrant varlets, such as Religion can receive no blemish from 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II v, A lewd contemptible varlet, with out the least title to birth, person, wit 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb* v ii, Look, if the varlet has not the effrontery to call his lordship plain Thomas 1820 W. Irving *Tales of Trav.* vii A handsome boy, but a mischievous varlet 1853 Kane *Grinnell I* xix xl (1857) 305 We are an uncouth, snobby, and with al, shabby looking set of varlets. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I x, In the dining-room were the two impudent varlets, whom he called his clerks

**3** a 1550 *Image Hypocr* II 518 in *Skelton's Wks* (1843) II 493/1 The helper of hurlettes, And captayne of ribaudry, The cloke of all vnthriftes 1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 144 Such Lords ill example doth hinte, where verlet and dr ble no may hue 1634 Heywood *Iron Trial* (1633) 29 Now see the villany of these verlets

**b** I employed as an abusive form of address

1566 Addington *Apuleius* 55 Thou presumest and think est, thou traitlope boye, that thou wentest to the mill as not worthy and excellent 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iv *Schism* 116 Know you (verlets) wh om you d dlly with? 1676 D Urfey *Mme Fickle* III. 38 Get you gone, you Rogue, you away 1706 Addison *Rosamond* I. iii, Faithless Varlet, art thou then? 1773 Goldsm *Stoops to Conq* v ii, And is it to you, you graceless varlet, I owe all this? 1819 Peyton *Peyton's Ess.* II 165 'Now for it, you varlet,' cried a citizen branch hing his rapier 1841 James *Brigand* iii, Run, sir varlet, run

†**e** In the phr. *to play the . . varlet Obs.*

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim* 851/1 To play the verie varlets against all goodnesse. we see the wicked are lusen to this 1615 G. More *Life Sir T. More* (1828) 312 He fell to scoffing, and played the very varlet with the king 1651 D Calderwood *Hist Kirk* (1843) II 172 So fame would the comptroller have played a. od varlett, and satisfied the quarele, or elles have made me his owne profite

†**d** *transf* (See quot) *Obs*

1606 Shakes. *Tr. & Cr* v i 18 I hou art thought to be Achilles male Varlot *Patr.* Male Varlot you Rogue. What s that? *Ther.* Why a Varlot, a Rogue, a Rascall

†**3** The knave in cards *Obs.* [So F. *valet.*]

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w Dunbar* 43 Walk waistrag, and warlot (*v.r.* verlet) of the c urtis. 1579 Rice *Interctes. aga Vetez* B iv, [They] are more in number then Ace, King, Queene, or Varlet of Spades, then that can be with a Spade to digge for their buying. *Ibid.*, Varlette of the Hartes 1625 B. Jonson *Masq. Fort. Islands* Wks. (Gifford) III 618 Cast card O the last order *P. Pr.* What s that? a Knave? *Mat.* Some readings ha ut so, my manuscript Doth spe ke it, Varlet

**4** *attrib* as *varlet herald, page, rebel*

1456 Sir G. Hayw *Bk Knighthood* Wks (E E S) II 15 That ordanyt him a squier and a varlet page to li ver contynually at his bidding 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Servius *Rhet* 68 Did the maior of London thrust through Jacke Straw knaue but a verlet rebell and onely disquietinge the Citye? 1589 Pork *Alf.* 83 Such is the lo ve to the naughtiest varlet heretique, that ever I knewe

¶ **5** App. used for Varlotry

1703 Brand *New Desc Ork & Zetland* viii 110 There is a House called Kebister, where a Varlet or Wizard lived

Hence **Varletess,** a female varlet

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I xxxi 196 It was more Pride than Love that put me upon making such a confounded rout about having this noble varletess *Ibid.* IV vi 56 Eight o clock at Mid summer, and these lazy varletesses (in full health) not come down yet to breakfast!

**Varletry** (vā·lĕtri). [f prec. + -RY] = Varlotarie [f Varlet + -ry] Varlets collectively, a number or crowd of attendants or menials.

1606 Shakes. *Ant. & Cl.* v ii 56 Shall they hoist me vp, And shew me to the shouting Varlotarie Of censuring Rome? 1727 Dyer *Fleece* III 461 The various nations caught in the wintery of towns To useful toil to turn the pulfering hand 1789 J. White *Earl Strongbow* II 90 The retainers now hurried to the barbican, wheeled round however, and with fordalhan made a hideous carnage of the varletry 1840 Browning *Sordello* VI 402 Gay swarms of varletry that come and go, Pages to the wife. 1851 Farrar *Darkn & Dawn* xiv, It was only the cleaning and wintery of Odavin who had dared to assume the people s name

‖ **Varletto** *Obs.*[1] [Italianized f *varlet* Cf. It. *valletto* servant, valet.] = Varlet 1 or 2 b.

1598 Shakes. *Merry W.* IV v 66 *Host* Where be my horses? Speake well of them varletto.

**Varlo**, obs Sc. f WARLOCK. **Varly**, obs. Sc. f WARELY *adv.* **Varm**, southern dial var FARM *n.*¹ **Varme**, obs Sc. f WERM *a*

**Varment, varmint** (vā'rmənt), *sb.*¹ and *a.*¹ *dial.* and *U. S.* Also **varmant**, **-munt**, **vermont**, **warment**, **-mint**, etc. [var. of *vermin* VERMIN, with excrescent *-t*. Rare before *c* 1825 ]

**1 a.** *collect* Vermin. **b.** An animal of a noxious or objectionable kind

A large collection of American examples is given by Thornton *Amer Gl* 1912) s v

a. 1539 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser II II 148 Let me not be utterly caste away here in prysson remayening fwll of var ment which cawseth me to have no lyste of meyte nor dryncke 1689 H SHANCK *Monitor* Ep. Ded For many who smell like a Kirkish Verment, Can now, 'tis' put on a Lamb like garment 1823 J MASON *Suffolk Mids Varment*, v min, not always confined to the verminous class of animals, but extended to any annoying or troublesome ones 1848 J HALL *Life & Lab* 60 Bears are his foe [a bear cub] a mutual shot or to use his own language, 'I burst the varment' 1885 W IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxiii, 'I beseech heaven,' said he 'never to be knowingly concerned in I know 1894 *Miss Baker North mthit Glost, Varmint* varmint

*β* 1829 *Sporting Mag* (N S) XXIII 242 Some of the followers of the gallant *varmunt* 1846 J B THOMPSON *Jack-woods* 166 The idea of a boy's keeping two varmints in a grass when he might shoot a dozen by going a little way into the woods These 'varmints' were two beautiful deer 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Encyclopædia* 84 Meanwhile the varmint had stolen on in his struggle for Dilton Wood and life 1889 *Boat* 11 (Mass) *Trnl* 25 Oct 2/3 the granger came out with his rifle and shot the varmint [a panther]

**2** An objectionable or troublesome person or persons; a mischievous boy or child

1773 GOLDSM *Stoops to Conq* v 92 The poor beasts have smoke for it Robber me, but I'd rather ride forty miles after a fat sheep than with such *varmint* 1825 BROCKETT *N C Wds*, *Varment, Vermont*, also a term of reproach, put in only to a child 1845 C H J ANDERSON *Wreckfish Fowlers* 8 I hat little varmint has tickled his cheek beneath for him 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II iv I've got the young varmint at last, have I, prints the farmer 1859 *Slang Dict* 314 'You young varment, you! you had or naughty boy

**Varment, varmint,** *sb* 2 and *a* 2 *slang* (now *dial*) [Of obscure origin, there is no obvious connexion with prec ]

**A.** *sb.* A sporting amateur with the knowledge or skill of a professional

1821 *Sporting Mag* XXXIX 9 Very professional amateur is denominated a Varment 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI xvii, Poor Tom was once a kiddy upon town, A thorough varmint, and a *real* swell, Full flash, and Bond Street

**B.** *adj* 1 (see quot 1823.) Also *Comb*

1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict Vulg T*, *Varment*, natty, dashing He is quite varment, he is quite the go He sports a varment hat, coat, etc, he is dressed like a gentleman 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* II xiv 135 We sat down and looked round inquiringly at the smug and varment citizens with which the room was filled 1829 WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* 92 A varment looking gentman on a wory tit

**2** Knowing, clever, cunning

1829 BROCKETT *N C Gloss* 317 *Varment* is also a sort of cant word for knowing A *varment* chap a knowing one 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv Younger Son* I 179 Nevertheless there is a varment and knowing look about her [a ship] which I like 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II 162 None but a very varmint dog will face one of these water weazels a second time 1850 R BUDDRowOOD *Col Reformer* (1851) 140 He ran into the stable yard and caught the varmint, rubbing black mare 1891 P H HANSON *East Coast Yarns* 92, I met old Jimmy Lodes, the varmintest horse dealer about these parts

Hence **Varmentary**; **Varmentish** *a.*

1812 *Sporting Mag* XXXIX 9 This polite art is designated Varmentic *Ibid* 10 The origin of Varmentry as of almost all the noble sciences, is obscure 1819 *Ibid* (N S) V 54 Nothing under four horses would look 'varmentish'

**Varmin**, obs or dial var. VERMIN. **Varn(e**, obs ff. WARN *v* **Varnasyng**, Sc var WARNISHING. **Varngreis**, obs. Sc var. VERDIGRIS

**Varnis**, obs. Sc. var. WARNISH *v*

**Varnish** (vā·rnĭʃ), *sb.*¹ Forms α **4 vernisshe**, **4**, **6 vernyssche**, **5 nyshe**, **-nyschc**, **nesche**; **4 vernisch**, **5 vernysh** (**vernysach**), **6-8 vernish**; **4**, **7 vernish**, **6 vernise**, *Sc.* **verneis**, **verneis**, **vernys**, **7 vernis**, **-nise** *B.* **6 varnysch**, **6-varnish** (**7 nishe**), **6** *Sc.* **varneyis**, **7 varnes**. [ad. OF. *vernis* (*varnis*), *vernix* (12th c ), = Prov *vernis*, *-nitz*, Pg *verniz*, It. *vernice*, Cat *barnis*, Sp *barniz*, of unknown origin. Cf med L. *vernicosum* and *vernix* (*hernix*), med Gr *Βερνικη*, mod Gr *Βερνικι*. French is also the source of MHG. *firnîz*, G *firnis*(*s*), Du. *vernis*, Da., Sw. *fernissa* ]

**1.** Resinous matter dissolved in some liquid and used for spreading over a surface in order to give this a hard, shining, transparent coat, by which it is made more durable or ornamental.

In early use, dry resinous matter for making a solution of this kind

α 1341-2 *Ely Sacr Rolls* II 122 In vj hbr de albo vernich, prec hr iijd 1358 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw III* m 34/1 b, In iij Mill' de vernishe v vb de vermeillono. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl A* v 70 Venim or vernoch or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleþ in my wombe 24 in *Relig Ant* I 163 For to make wernysch —Take a galon of good ale, and put thereto iij ounces of gumme of Arabyke [etc.] 1466 *Mann & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 349 My mastyr receyvid of Fynches man of Colchestre a li of vernysshe, pryse vjd 1502 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* II 64 For iij vnce quhit vernys. 1507 *Ibid* IV 90 Cuddes, vernes, rede lede 1530 PALSGR 284/2 *Vernys*, *vernysshe* 1586 J WASHINGTON in *Archæology Vay* III xv 99 b They vse by continuall artifice Terebinthe and vernish 1598 BARRET *Theor Warres* 135 Aqua vitæ, liquid vernize, arsenike 1633 HARE *Dict of Diseases* xvii 69 The oile of wilnuts is used by painters for vernice 1638 JUNIUS *Paint Ancients* 285 Apelles did lay an immutable invention amount his finished workes with a thinne kinde of inke or vernish 1658 in *Ponte's Nat Magic* XVI 341 Powder Pumper gum, which Scriveners call Vernish and add it to the rest 1706 STEVENS *Span Dict*, *Barniz* Vernish

β 1546 *Inv Ch Goods Surrey* 106 Item for vj lb of varnysch iijs viijd 1620 *Shuttleworths Acc* (Chetham Soc) 94 Three pound of varnish for the cranocks, xxxd 1638 PHILLIPS *Varnish*, is that wherewith a picture is rubbed over to make it shine and have a glosse there is also a ground or varnish which is laid upon a plate that is to be etched 1725 *Pam Dict* s v *Wounds* Let him drop some Varnish with a Feather to the bottom 1773 *Cook's 1 oy* (1777) II 111 246 As we had neither pitch, tar nor rosin, left to pay the seams this was done with varnish of pine 1825 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 86 As wood and many other substances are porous and apt to imbibe water, it is necessary to prepare them a coat of varnish 1842 I TAYLOR *Y Hinton* x, I like the varnish upon a picture, it brings out all the colour into strong effect 1884 BOTTOME *Pict Italy* 60 The pictures are firmly stuck on to the gesso, and the varnish quite dry

γ 1724 COWLEY *Tackle* 40 Now cume the cane from India, rosin and right Web Nature's varnish

b With a and pl A special preparation of this nature

Many varieties are enumerated in special works from *Chambers Cycl* Suppl (1753) onwards

a. 1667 *Phil Trans* II 473 How, in China and Japan, they make the Black vernish *Ibid* 487 This Author mentions thier [*sc* Chinese] Vernice, of which he sets down some Receipts 1674 in the Ded and Illust 1696 *Ibid* XI 714 An Oyl, of which the Persians make a Vernis

β 1692 I LITTRELL *Brief Rel* (1857) II 420 A patient is past for the invention of a varnish to preserve guns, &c from rust 1705 *Hanbury Docum* II (Suppl) v, The Varnishes used by the Chinese are two 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* (1776) VIII 24 It is only formed by a beautiful brown varnish laid upon a white ground 1838 F THOMSON *Chin & Opium* 258 Stage Dragon's blood is used also to give a red colour to varnishes. 1890 *Photogr Ann* II 235 In using the var nishes care must be taken not to apply too great a quantity of them to the surface of the calico

c A solution of this kind spread on a surface; the coating or surface so formed.

1643 *Plain English* 25 Posts whose varnish is worne off 1660 S. COTTERELL *Horse* 9 Rub the varnish out with Itching with points and Needles on the Vernish 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit* I 34/1 Time for plastering gives the best varnish to the Work 1865 DICKENS *Mut Fr* II iii, All things were in a state of high varnish and polish 1872 LYNDALL *Penguin Sci* IX 240 When it was found that all chemical properties would indicate, it was then overlaid on from a varnish common to them all which showed the observed constancy

*transf* 1715 POPE & *Ep Addison* 37 The blue blue varnish that the green enders, The sacred rust of twice ten hundred years! 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* III, By encrusting them with a black varnish of soot. 1838 EMERSON *Addr*, *Literary Ethics* Wks (Bohn) I 207 The sense of spiritual independence is like the lovely varnish of the dew

*fig* 1635 LYTON *Iconus* II, The varnish of power hinges from the people the defects and the beauties of the human portrait 1860 EMERSON *Cond Life*, *Behaviour* Wks (Bohn) II 380 They [manners] form at last a rich varnish, which the vanities of life in vain wasted 1884 *Pall Mall G* 29 Feb 1/2 There is a film of Levantine varnish around the court at Constantinople.

d. A preparation of boiled oil (or other substances) used in the making of printers' ink

1871 *Ure's Dict Arts* (ed 3) II 145 The oil is boiled gently till it acquires the proper consistence In this state it is called the varnish 1841 F C HAWARD *Printing & Type* 107 The next article is nut or linseed oil boiled and burnt into a varnish

e. A medical preparation resembling a varnish, for application to the skin

1809 *Alburs Syst Med*, VIII 582 Both tar and pyroligneous work better as paints and varnishes than the chrysarobin

**2** *fig* A specious gloss or outward show; a pretence.

1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 438 This of late yeares was the schoolmen doctours Catholike meaning which now M Harding and his Fellowes are faine for shame to colour ouer with some finer Vernish. 1617 HIERON *Works* II 562 God will not be deluded with a vernish of words 1641 *Smectymnuus* 5 Vnder the varnish of a smooth and learned stile 1647 N HACON *Disc Govt Eng* I xliv (1739) 71 For the better varnish, the Duke would not be his own Secretary in writing *Lett 1 d Machiavelly* (1680) 1 It is impossible to get the least certain intelligence from thence, as nothing comes out of that Court but with a double varnish 1780 W SHARP *Lett Italy* (1819) II 1 Qualities, which, when seen in their true light and without the varnish of deceit, are peculiarly unpleasing 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I 285 The affectation of legal forms afforded him a thin varnish for his proceedings. 1844 MRS CAR LYLE *Lett* I 291 Women will always give a varnish of duty to their inclinations. 1895 C GRAHAM *Notes Monteith* 1 7 Convention has lent a thin varnish of hypocrisy to manners.

**b.** Without article

1743 *Lond Mag* 346 The authentick Gazette, which never once dealt in Puff or Varnish, but told the Truth 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII xv, From the clerk of the kitchen I required the buttery accounts without varnish or concealment. 1847 EMERSON *Repr Men*, *Plato* Wks. (Bohn) I 308 This eldest Goethe, hating varnish and falsehood, delighted in revealing the real at the base of the accidental

**3** A means of embellishment or adornment, a beautifying or improving quality or feature

1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I ii 1150 Though Divinity, For only varnish, have but Verity 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 233, I might enamell this deuice in verie lushly and masterly and witty stile: it is his true orient varnish and tincture 1605 BACON *Adv Learn* I 17 My intent is without varnish or amplification, nakedly to weigh the dignity of knowledge in the balance with other things 1671 PANTON *Spec Jur* Deed, I though it have not the Romantick varnish of stile, worthy your Majesties view and regard 1712 STEELE *Spect* No 564 P 2 This last qualification serves as a Varnish to all the rest 1727 S SHUTTER *Pract. Gard* Ixxvii 392 Neatness and politure ought now to serve for a varnish to the alleys and walks in the gardens. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old House* (1883) I 246 A cloudy and rainy day takes the varnish off the scenery

b GLOSS, brilliancy

1841 J C HANSARD *Printing & Type* 107 The turpentine is added to give greater varnish [to the ink]

**4.** An external appearance or display of some quality without underlying reality (cf VENEER *sb* )

1660 STILLINGFL. *Orig Sacræ* II § 8 He lived long enough to have judgement to discern the meer outside and varnish, from what was solid and substantial. 1776 GIBBON *Lett Holroyd* 20 May, I laugh at her Paris varnish, and oblige her to become a sincere Swissess 1778 MME D ARBLAY *Diary* 23 Aug, Such a fine varnish of low politeness!—such a struggle to appear a gentleman! 1840 THEOBALD *Precis* IV 183 The varnish of civilization is but thin and reality, an empty varnish 1853 MERIVALE *Rom Rep* IV (1867) 100 But this varnish of superior culture seems to have failed in softening a rough plebeian nature 1868 M PATTISON *Academy Org* IV 65 The youth comes up with a varnish of accomplishment beyond his real powers

**5** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *varnish brush*, *gum*, *house*, *maker*, *pot*, *secretor*, **varnish sumach**, the Japanese tree *Rhus vernicifera* from which lacquer is obtained, **varnish tree**, one or other of various trees yielding a resinous substance used as a varnish

1859 F S COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal* 38 *Varnish Brushes*. 1890 *Daily News* 13 Feb 7 3 Cinchona bark and wheat, but "varnish gums" are largely used 1893 *Times Dict Arts* 1269 Crystal varnish may be made in the "varnish house 1753 *Chambers Cycl Supp*, *Spike*, an essential oil oil, much used by the varnish makers and the painters in enamel 1839 *Ure Dict Arts* 1267 The choice of linseed oil is of peculiar consequence to the varnish maker 1845 J NICHOLSON *Operat Mechanic* 339 Put the cupid coarsely pulverized into a "varnish pot 1820 KEIRY & SP *Entomol* IV xli 126 "Varnish secretor (*Colleterium*) The cuticle bugs butterfly there is a pair of ovate ones [*sc* ovulus vesicle] filled with a "varnish secretion 1611 COTGR and Herold think is used for varnishing or gumming the eges. 1820 J GOOD *Stud Med* (1829) IV 685, I mean several of the acrid poisons as *rhus radicans*, "varnish sumach, *rhus* 1798 *Phil Trans* L 453 He says, speaking of this true "varnish tree, that cullicuts are painted with the juice of this shrub *Ibid* 448, I suppose he means, by this true varnish tree, the Carolina pennated Toxicodendron 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 147/2 The theetsee, or varnish tree of the Burmese, has been described and figured by Dr Wallich in the name of Melanorrhœa usitata He identified it with the Rhus or varnish tree of Munnipore 1866 *Treas Bot* 1457/1 The natives speak of the tree producing this resin, *Melanorrhœa usitata*, as the Wax tree or "Varnish tree *Ibid* 1457/2

**Varnish,** *sb* 2 Also **7 vernish** [f the vb ] An act of varnishing, an application of varnish

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 515 If you be desirous to keepe any iron worke from rust give it a vernish with cerusse, pitwire, and tar, incorporated together 1747 HOOPER *Med Dict* s v *Japanning*, If it be not well done, polishing will be necessery, for which reason you must give it five or six varnishes more

**Varnish** (vā·rnĭʃ), *v* Forms α **4-6 vernysshe**, **5 vernysche** (**nyschyn**), **6 wernysh**, **6-8 vernish**, **6** *Sc* **vernes-** *β* **5 varnesch**, **6** *Sc* **varneis**, **warnis**, **6- varnish**. [ad OF *vernisse(r*, *vernic(e)r* (= *vernitser*), or *vernitse*, *vernise*, f. *vernis* VARNISH *sb* Cf med L and It *vernicare*, Pg *envernisar*, Sp *barnizar* ]

**1** *trans* To paint over, to coat with varnish, to overlay with a thin coating composed of varnish.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P R* xvii xxiii, (Bodl MS ) Bokes pat beþ vernesched with þe gomme þerof beþ nouzt irete wiþ wormes 1440 *Promp Parv* 509/1 Vernyschyn, *vernicio* 1530 PALSGR 765/2 I vernysshe a spurre, or any yron with vernyssche, *je vernis* Come hyther spurryer, be my spurres well vernysched 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Hen. IV*, 12 Some bid their armyng sworde newly burnyshed and some had them connungly vernished. 1589 ALEX HUME *Poems* (S T S) 35 Scutchets of pruif, and mony targe of steill, Sum varneist bright, sum dorrid diuerslie. 1604 R. GRIME STONE *D Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xxix 288 They bringe likewise from this Province oyle of Aspicke, which Painters vse much to vernish the pictures. 1607 PUTTEN *Arte of Greece* III. xv. (1755) 127 Several other Colours were also made use of, nor were they barely varnish'd over with them, but very often annealed by Wax melted in the Fire 1708 W J tr *Bruyn's Voy Levant* XXXVII 147 Plaister varnish'd with a green colour 1755 *Dict Arts & Sci* s.v *Japanning*, With a pencil varnish it over with the finest white varnish. 1821 CRAIG *Lect Drawing* etc II 112 These pictures I am persuaded, were afterwards constantly varnished 1851 T A TROLLOPE *La Beata* I vii 152 The copy was not to be sent home till it had been varnished

*absol* 1573 *Art Limming* (1588) 9 If you will vernish on silver, then take the Almon of Bengewyne

**b** *transf* To invest with a bright or glossy appearance, to smear or stain with some substance similar to varnish

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T* 229 Wel hath the myller ver

nyshed his head, Ful pale he was, for dronken, and nat redd *c* 1430 LYDG *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 53 Ful pale drunke wed ve nyyshit of vysage *Hud* 54 An I wil no thou hast weel varnysshit the pate I take a sleepe in lest thou wilt the dresse 1589 GREENE *Follies Love* Wks (R. 1881) II 300 The I eaves fresh varnisht lively green The I lowsons various to the seen 1664 POWER *Exp Phil* 1 22 Ye eyes are of a I ure gel le t d Jur an ny admirall le to beh ld especially when varnish d with a full light *a* 1733 RAMSAY *Tartana* 17 You who Drain from the flow rs th early dews of May To varnish on your cheek the crim n dye 1842 MACAULAY *Ivry Ivry* (1858) xv *S ural vue,* The colour [of the *vural vue nurture*] is m st brilliant highly varnished and of a golden green 1863 PEACOCK *Mod Love* ii 15, 16 Ev n mining that I tend o I lady Tippins begins to be dyed and varnished f r the n t resting ocean n

**2** To embellish or adorn, to improve, trick out, furbish *trh*

14 *Sir Penace* (MS C.) 3777 Blak sendel and rede Ver nysched w b rooys off sylvyr beyst 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 450 The I lurabath of Euphues being but shadowed for oth rs to vernish, but begun for others to ende 1585 NASHE *Martin Mo-prelate* Wks (GROSART) I 189 All my foolerie I bequeath to my good friend Lanam it may serue (perhappes) for young beginners, if they have varnished 1639 G. DANIEL *Vertue* 720 My Nume, which stood The Bast of Fame I varnish't with my Blood 1699 I. PETLEY *Hist* 169 To deceaue and to vernish the Story of Passentes *a* 1725 DR. ROBERT *Dun Penitent* III 154 Which were set off with all the fulsome Rh toric that the penners could varn sh them with 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ France* II 374 (Here he) told Francis's Sen ibility of Mercy varnished up 1887 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II 154 It will go on and be varnished into a simulacrum of success

**3** To cover or overlay with a specious or deceptive appearance, to gloss over, disguise.

1571 GOLDING *Cal in on Ps* iv 3 Though they be wylfully blind & vernish the r unrighteous neese with counterfet colours 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* v ii § 15 The Church of Rome hath pattern s pa tase I and doth profess the same I ination to the sig i f the cross howsoeuer they varnish and qualifie their sentence 1642 MILTON *Apol for Sm* Wks 1851 III 12 But what doe we suffer Prelatisme to be, do, thus to blanch and varnish her deformities with the fai o col ure of Pious peache? 1649 DAUMA OF HAWTH *Skia machia* Wks (1711) 198 Mod Deuanels may be varni hed with the shining Oil of sly Pretences 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II ii Cato's voice was n ver employed To clear the guilty, and to varnish crimes. 1783 BLAIR *Rh* lect xxiv (1812) II 160 The art of varnishing weak arguments plausibly 1835 *Woman* II 241 The female character of this day is varnished not polished. 1865 CARLYLE *Frederick the Great* XX vi 180 I do s not varnish—he does not even polish vice 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I iii 134 A corrupt heart thinly varnished by a coating of affectation

**4** With *over* (in passive and adj.)

1641 MILTON *Ch Gt* ii Wks 1851 III 103 God never li tended t leave the Government to be patch t after wrds a d varnish t over with the dresses of mans wisdom 1643 DENHAM *Cooper's H* 125 And yet this Act t v vs nish o r the shine Of Sacrilege, must bear Dedications Nume 1694 ANON in *England's Greatest Love* Misc Wks 1726 I 38 Or had the I ast ne er profa'd his pen, To vernish o er the guilt of faithless m n 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* III i O, how th y ou shine your sacred stand ! To vanish o er, and paint, in I lack e rnish ! 1793 MACPHERSON *Ossian's Poems, Dissert Concern Aera of Ossian* (1986) II 227 When they [ec poets] found their themes unadequate to the warmth of th ir imagination they varnished them over with fables. 1824 SIR SMITH *Wks* (1867) II 293 He may hide it by increased zeal and l ival ace, or varnish it over by simulated agency 1872 R. H. HUTTON *Theol Ess* iii (1888) 49 To varnish over these distinctions

Hence **Va rnishing** *ppl a*

1706 *Mod. Cullery* 203 The mischefs flowing from my fulsome varnishing pen were not thought of

**Varnished** (vɑ·nɪʃt), *ppl a* [f prec.]

**1.** Coated with varnish ; f painted

1553 *Ace I d II Treas Scot* X 176 Ane pair of varnist stryp rnis 1556 STEVEN *Aldrich I.* II v 31 N r thrust your hand To gaze o Cristrun f sh s with varnisht lines 1599 MINSHEU *Span Dial* 3 2 What rapier? N ne but that varnist rapier, least it should rust 1671 BOYLE *Us f Exp Nat Philos* II v 29 I an credibly in formd that the Art of making the like Varnish d Wares, is now begun to be a Trade at Paris 1755 *Dict Arts & S* s v *Japanning* Using the ivory to support the table, or place of varnished work 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat I* 247 The varnished sup rs surface imbibes the essential particles 1813 *Optic of Mind* 200 Brown silk stockings, highly varnished shoes, and gold buckles

b *Transf* Presenting a shining or glossy appearance as if coated with varnish

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II III i 25 Fresh varnish'd groves tall hills and gilded clouds Ar hing an eyeful for the glowing Morn 1648 QUARLES *Fu yewes* Ix S c, how sweet i whines His varnished Tresses ! 1733 POPE *Dunciad Sat* iv 208 So th painted puppets! such a varnish t face Of loli w grew g wes, only dress and face! 1880 *Dublin Mag* Feb 111 23 A florid, clear, varnished tongue 1895 Miss PRATT *Flower Ii V* 83 The variety termed the Varni hed Willow, is an upright tree

**2** *fig* & Embellished, speciously tricked out

1667 WALKINGTON *City Glass* 129 A sung treate sig vernished phrases 1668 HOPKINS *Fu eral Serm* (1685) 103 Nor easily cousened by varnisht and plausi le error

**b** Simulated, pretended

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV ii 36 To hunr his pompe But onely painted like his varnisht friends 1685 DRYDEN *Threnodia Aug* iv 139 Whose noble pride Was still above Dissembled hate or varnished love

**Varnisher** (vɑ·nɪʃəɹ). [f as prec.]

**1** One who varnishes, *spec* one who makes a business or trade of varnishing.

1598 FLORIO, *Inuernicatore*, a varnisher 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Apr To Lilly's, the Varnisher, who is lately become I ous and brother keep up the trade 1708 BROWNE *Ipan Duct* 1 *Barrassador*, a Varnisher 1723 *Lond Gaz* No 6224/8 Will m Morgan, Varnisher 1804 J. TIMCKY (*title*), Painter and Varnisher's Guide 1845 J. NICHOLSON *Operat Mechanic* 245 These ac idents can be repaired only by new strata of varnish, which render application to the varnisher necessary 1864 *Daily Tel* 7 April, Painters and varnishers' shops

*fig* c 1700 POPE *Inscr. Lord Chichester* 21 With thee in private m idest Dulness lies And in thy bosom lurks in Thought s disguise. Thou varnisher of Fools, and cheat of all the Wise !

**2** *slang* (See quot)

1865 *Slang Dict* 265 *Varnisher*, an utterer of false sovereigns

**Varnishing** (vɑ·nɪʃɪŋ), *vbl sb* [f as prec.]

**1** The action of applying varnish or of coating anything with varnish

1505 *Acc I d High Treas Scot* III 148 For verneesing of x pair sterup rnis. 1536-7 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 697 Cum emendacione les bosser, et vernysshynge 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus* XXXVIII 34 He will geve his hart to finish the vernishing thereof 1839 SIRSAW SON S v Kind of varnishing, Kind of umakeing 1888 *Scientific Amer Suppl* Frontise of J spanning and Varnishing Being a complete Dis c overy of those Arts 1753 *Chambers Cycl Supp* s v *Japanning*, For in this laying it on, dep nds the principal art of varnishing 1857 MILLER *Elem Chem*, *Org* IV 881 360 I nseed oil is also l rgely employed in the varnishing of oiled silk 1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 51/2 It proves t be the unfinished work of a little clumsy varnishing

*fig* 1697 COLLIER *Ess Mor Subj* II (1709) 139 Whence comes all t reru mvention in Commerce adulterating of Wares, vouching and varnishing against all good Faith and Honesty?

**2** A coating of varnish In quot *fig*

1754 P. H. *Athenæ* II 20 These Advantages, however showy, are but the outward Varnishing of Vice

**3** *attrib*, as *varnishing brush*, **varnishing day** (see quot 1862)

c 1845 TURNER in *Westm Gaz* (1896) 1 May 8/3 When we have our varnishing days we shall not know one another 1855 SIR T. LAWRENCE in D. F. Williams *Life* (1831) II 406 Will you likewise procure a large flat varnish ing brush 1862 SIMMONDS *Vade Mecum Artists* 274 In the year 1809 the 'varnishing days' were appointed whereby the me mbers of the A ademy were granted the privile,e of retouching and varnishing their pictures after they were hung, and prior to the opening of the exhibi n 1866 *Harp's Mag* Apr 680/2 Varnishing day came at last. The portr it was received with enthusiasm and given a place of honour

**†Va rnishment.** *Obs. rare* [f as prec.] The act of varnishing

1593 NASHE *Christ's T* Wks. (GROSART) IV 210 Thou hast wyth Arts vanishing varnishment made thy selfe a change ling from the Forme I first crea ted thee in 1646 JEROME *Remora* 19 Let not humane varnishments and pretexts draw forth thy love to it

**Varnys(ing,** Sc. VAR WARNISH(ING

**Varnysh,** Sc. var WARNISH

**+Varon,** *a. Obs* Also 5 warond, 6 varrant [ad F. *varon*] Wall eyed

1451 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) III 120 De j equo trottante vocat' Varond 1538 *Hist* VI 75 To my sone a varon mare, and my sone Richard the fol wers fele. ] 1550 *Hist of K. H. Whitehead* ) 14 (MS.), My eld st stagg which was of my v rrant meare

**Varp,** obs. Sc. f WARP *v.* **Varra,** dial var VERY *adv.* , Sc. f WARRAY *v.* **Obs Varrand,** obs Sc. f WARRANT **Varrander,** obs Sc. f WARRENER **Varrant,** variant of VARION *a. Obs* **Varrar,** obs Sc. co pirat of WARE *a.* **Varray,** Sc var VERY *a* , WARRAY *v*

**Va riated,** *a. Her rare*—0 = VARIATED *a* c 1828 BURKE *Peerage* (1) I Gloss , *Varri ted*, or *Varriated* Applied to the Ermin ot var

**Varronian** (vɛrǫ·nɪən), *a* [ad L. *Varronianus*, f *Varrōn* , *Varro* (see def.) ] Of or pertaining to the Roman author M Terentius Varro (116 27 B.C.), admitted as genuine by Varro

1693 DRYDEN *Disc Satire* Fas (Ker) II 64 That which we call the Varronian Satire *Ib* 109 The *Sec ha Satyra* of Ennius poem, a satire of the Varronian kind 1738 CHAMBERS *Cy* ( c 1 ) s v *Manippean*, In imitation of him [*sc* Menippus] Varro also wrote satyrs Whence this sort of writing is also denominated Varronian satyr 1888 *Empyl Brit* XXIV 93/2 The 'Varronian plays [of Plautus] were the twenty which have come down to us, the rest being lost 1901 W. W. FOWLER *Relig Exp Rom* vii 163 It can no longer be re arranged on the original Varronian plan

**Varry,** dial var PARP *sb.* 1 (pig), obs var. VARY *v.* VARY dial and f , dial var VERY *adv*

**Varsal** (vɑ·sāl), *a* and *adv* Also 7 varsall [Illiterate abbreviation of UNIVERSAL *a* f. the earlier form VERSAL *a* ]

A *adj* 1 Universal, whole. Only in the phr. *in the varsal world*

1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v v That which they call pin money is to vary their wives everything in the 'varsal world 1731-8 SWIFT *Polite. Conv.* II I believe there is not such another in the varsal world 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II 203 She must certainly be somewhat of kin to the child '—' None in the varsal world, sir' 1823 E. MOORE *Suffolk Wds* s.v. I'm sewer I heent a farden i the varsal wald 1894 in MISS BAKER *Northampt Glass*

**2** Single, individual *rare*.

1765 BICKERSTAFF *Maid of Mill* i vill, There's nothing comes amiss to her; she's cute at every varsal kind of thing 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, When every varsal soul in the family were gone to bed

**B** *adv* I xtremely, vastly *rare*—1

*a* 1814 *Jane Politeness* in *New Brit Theatre* II 220 A hus now retired with his profits, and married a varsal rich woman

**Varsatile,** obs variant of VERSATILE *a*

**Varsity** (vɑ·sɪti). Also **'varsity** [Colloquial abbreviation of UNIVERSITY Cf the late 17th cent form VERSITY ] University Also *attrib*

1846 in *Brasenose Ale* 84 To victory we steered, And o'er the vanquished Varsity Our flag triumphant reared 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills*, etc. II 66 I have such faith in the old University (never use that horrid word varsity, my lad; don t vulgarise the old place) 1886 QUILLER COUCH in *Echoes fr the Oxford Mag* (1890) 105 Well dance at the Varsity Ball

**Varso·vian,** *a* [f med L *Varsovia* Warsaw, or ad. F. *Varsovien* ] Belonging to Warsaw.

1900 SIXTON MERRIMAN *Vultures* v, There is in some Varsovian families a heritage of mourning to be worn until Poland is reinstated

**Varsovia na.** [var of next, after It or L. forms ] = next.

1800 *Lounds Mag* II 332 Dances, from the dexterous hoppipe to the quiet Varsoviana 1894 BLACK *Highl Cousins* I 38 Miss Jessie, do you know the Varsoviana?

‖ **Varsovienne.** [I , fem of *Varsovien*, f *Varsovie* Warsaw ] A dance, of French origin, resembling some of the Polish national dances

1850 *Habits Cd Society* v 214 The schottusche, hop-waltz, re lown varsovienne, and so forth, have had their day

**Varstay,** Sc variant of WARESTAI *Obs*

**Varth,** southern dial variant of LARTH

**Va rtiwell.** *dial* Also 8 varsiwell [ad OF *vertevelle* see VARDLE and VERVEL ] (See later quots )

1763 in Peacock *N W Line Chas* (1889) 593 Crookes and vartuales and bands 15 8d 1866 HOGDEN *Line Gl* s *Lartevelle*, a long part of a hinge 1877 PEACOCK & COLE *W Line Gl* s 265 *Lartin H*, the eye of a gate in which the crook works

‖ **Varus** [(vɛə·rŭs) *Path* [L *varus* pimple ] a Stone-pock b A papule (of small pox)

1822 ? Good *Study Med* (1829) II 358 There is less inflam mation and soreness than in the small pox variou 1845 *Dwyel Mer's* VII 755/1 The vesicle usually runs a given course of virus and of vesicle, terminating by a concretion which forms the crust

**Varvacute,** variant of VARVICITE

**Varvel** (vɑ·rvĕl) Forms a 6 vervall, vervel, vervillo, 7 (9) vervel, 7 vell, vervail(e, vervil β 7 varuel), varvill, 8- varvel. [n Ol *vertelle* (1350), *vervelle*, *vartelle*, etc (F *vervelle*) in the same sense (in Ol also a ring for a bolt or hinge, see VARDLE), app a reduced form of *vertelle*, *vestevelle* VARTIWELL, repr a pop Lat derivative of I *vertibulum* joint ] A metal ring (freq of silver with the owner's name engraved on it) attached to the end of a hawk's jess and serving to connect this with the leash.

a 1532 *St I nders Hen. I III*, VII 674 Paying 3s 0d to tell Mr Porter his vervalles [*printed* vervalles] may be in good order as also his hawkes 1539 *Inv Hen VII*, c 12 Haukes hauinge vpon them the name of the kinges armes and vervels 1575 [HERBERT] *Faulconry Commend Hawk ing* Hyb With Bells, and likewise Vervels eke to make the Falcon fine 1615 ARMIN *Fool Hatfield* (1868) 13 Proud Welshman, redelver up that Bird That the Vervels th t she wears belongs to Rome 1675 *Lond Gaz* No 977/4 A Sorrel Stone Nagg with the Vervil of Sir Willm Gostlin Lord of Gillingham 1697 LAELIUS *Numismata* v 186 Branded with the names (as do now our Hallcons on the Vervils of their Hawks and Dog Collers) 1840 LASHLEY *Ed & Stirrosmiths Art* 49 The vervels (silver rings for the legs of hawks) on which the name of the owner was engraved ]

β 1615 ARMIN *Nest wo Ld* (1877) 23 These Lures, Jesses, short straps of leather, fastned to the Hawks legs, etc. and so to the lease by varuels, anlets or such like 1638 SIR I. HEATH *Advice* 29 23 These Lures, Jesses, Varvills, and Hoods are richly set with stones of great price and lustre 1676 *Lond Gaz* No 6234/4 A Falcon lost with the Ancre Varvels upon her Greaves 1834 *Blackw Mag* XXXIV 943, I would give my mein s best crimson jesses and varvels of silver to dip but my fingers ends in that dimpling pool 1894 *Daily News* 8 June 8 5 Hawks varvels, lost by Lord Dolton

Hence **Va rvelled** *a* (In later use *Her* )

1644 T. WESTFIELD in Spurgeon *Treas David* Ps. XXXVII 36 ? The hawk flies high varvelled with the gingling bells of encouragement c 1828 BURKE *Encycl Her* I Gloss. When the leather thongs are borne flotant, with rings at the ends, it is then termed jessed and varvelled

**Varvicite** (vɑ·rvɪsəɪt) *Min.* [f med.L *Varvicus* Warwickshire see ITE. Named by Phillips (1829) ] 'An impure pyroluste or wad, resulting from the alteration of manganate' (Chester).

1829 R. PHILLIPS in *Phil Mag* Ser. II VI 282 What you examined was principally manganate, while the mineral which I analysed was the new oxide, and which, should you agree with me as to its composition, I propose to call it Varvicite 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV 381/1 Varvicite occurs massive and in pseudo-crystals. Composed of thin plates and fibres. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Varvicite*, a manganese ore from Warwickshire.

**Varvin**, obs form of VERVAIN.

**Vary**, *sb* Also 7 **varie**, 8 **varry** [f. VARY *v.*] A variation, + a reluctance.

1600 E. H. in *Engl. Helicon* (1614) When the sunshine which dissolv'd the snow Cullours the bubble with a pleasant vary 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II II 85 (Q1), And turne their halcon beakes With every gale and varie of their masters 1739 ALEX. MCKAY *Art Southrd Art* So I am at a vary Whether to keep free, or marry

† **Vary**, *a Obs* In 4, 6 **varye** [ad L. *vari us* see VARIOUS *a.*] Particoloured, variegated

1382 WYCLIF *Gen* xxxi 10 Y sawy in sleep the males varye, and spotti, and of diuers colours *Ibid.* 12. 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 107 Varye, *varius*

**Vary** (ve·ri), *v* Forms: 4–7 **varie**, 5–6 **varye** (5 **varyen**, **varyn**), 5–**vary** (5, 8 **varry**), 6 **varrie**, **varry**, **varrey** [ad. OF. (also mod.) *varier*, or L. *variāre*, f. *vari-us* VARIOUS *a.* Cf. Sp. and Pg. *variar*, It. *variare*]

I *intr.* 1. Of things To undergo change or alteration, to pass from one condition, state, etc., to another, esp. with frequent or ready change or difference within certain limits.

*c*1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 800 For al my werkes were flytting That tyme, and al my thought varyeng 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV 1725 I not what dith enclyne Soure worbnes sodenly to varie *c*1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III 210 For they[se the very] frost doth make, The wynde will vary When they be mate 1568 DUNBAR *Poems* IV 9 The stuff of ma dout change & vary, Now sour nd now sek, now lyth now sary 1608 MAY *Perseus* III Prol 47 Their vessel shakes On Neptunes billow but fortune's mood Varies again 1617 MORYSON *Itin* IV V 1 (1903) 461 The first hower after Sunne set strikes one, the next Noone or midday varyeth daily as the Sunne doth his set ting 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy round World* 436 We met with black clamal weather, and sometimes rain, varying all around the Compass. 1791 MRS RADCLIFFE *Rom Forest* vi, La Motte's complexion varied to every sentence of his speech 1848 DUPRE *Trav Italy*, etc 72 The view [along this road] is constantly varying 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec* I 7 When the organisation has once begun to vary it generally continues to vary for many generations. 1880 GWYNN *Phys Geog* II 46 The quantity of water vapour in the air varies from day to day, and, indeed, from hour to hour

b Const *from* or *between* (specified limits).

1828 DUPRE *Trav Italy*, etc 128 During this week the thermometer var ed only from 60° of Fahrenheit 1843 SIR C. SCUDAMORE *Mer't Vest Crüfenberg* 31 The very large number of patients on his list, varying from two to five hundred 1852 H. REMINGTON *Fifth Rep.* (1853) 380 Mr. 2 Gods have varied between the infinite Creator and a monkey

c To break *off* by change

1882 TYLOR *Anthrop* I 1 (1904) No other explanation is possible but that an ancient pastime language gave rise to them all, they having only varied off from it in different directions.

2 To differ, to exhibit or present divergence, *from* something else

*c*1400 *Hom Rose* 6213 For varie her words fro her deede They thenke on gole without dreede 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol 2 And certaynly our language now vsed varyeth ferre from that whiche was vsed and spoken when I was borne. 1544 R. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 56 b, An other partition may be made betweene parceners, that vareth from the partitions aforesayde 1598 GREENEWAY *Tactius, Ann* VI VII (1622) 131 That that bird [the Ibennx] differeth in the beake and vareth of feathers from other birds. 1600 FAIR FAX *Tasso* X lxxxix Those fingers armes he forst me to deuize So that from yours but small or nought they varrie [*rime* carrie] 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd Crystall gr* 189 Other obtuse rhombic prisms, varying from the primary 1824 *Gentl Archit* § 2104 Rebate planes vary from bench plines in having no tote or ha nale [etc.] 1851 *Law Times* XCII 96/1 This edition varies very little from its pre decessor published in 1887

b Without const

1530 PALSGR 765/1, I dare promesse you our bookes vary nat 1564 DAY tr. *Perkins' Reading Inns Court* 20 That was not god changed but the condition of men varyed 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v lxvii. 181 Howsoeuer mens opinions doe otherwise varie, nevertheless touching Baptisme we my with consent of the whole Christian world con clude [etc.] 1611 BIBLE 1 *Esdr* v 9 *marg.*, Nehem 7 9, where looke for the true numbers here they vary much 1815 STEPHENS in *Shaws Gen Zo* I IX 1 17 This bird is said to vary very much, and Margrave mentions one which had the wing covers plain brown 1824 ROMILLY & RICHARDSON *Chem Technol* (ed 2) I 8 The specific gravity of wood has been observed to vary in the same variety it is not even the same in different parts of the same tree 1888 LOCKYER *Elem Astron* § 21 The first thing which strikes us when we look at the stars is, that they vary very much in brightness.

c *elliptf* To deviate from the true North

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* II VI 67 The upper Compass doth represent the true Compass that never varieth, whereby you have a most necessary Instrument to rectifie the Compass.

8 Of persons To differ, diverge, or depart, in respect of practice or observance (*from* some standard). Also const *of*.

*c*1580 WYCLIF *Works* (1880) 301 Pe secte of macamethe takip moche of cristis secte, but it varieb in som rewele & in clobis — *Sel Wks* III 345 Pes newe ordris varien in Goddis office fro pat pat Crist bad his preestis do. *c*1384 CHAUCER *H Fame* II 109 And who so seyth of trouthe I varye Bid hym proven the contrarye *c*1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb.) xiii. 60 In many poyntes pei vary fra vs and fra oure fauth *c*1430 LYDG. *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 132 Suche folke whiche Dare to theyr wyfes be nat contrarye, Ne from theyr lustes dare not varye 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Jas dener & Prane* A3 Knyfe nor staffe may we none carry, Except we shulde from the gospell vary *a*1548 HALL *Chron., Hen V* 111, 227 He was forced to lyue in a straunge londe among people that varyed from his manners. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vntillard* A 4 b, I hope I haue hit of his meaning, though I vary from his wordes, as all Translators must doe 1680 W. ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 91 In varying from these [appointments] was the sin of those Men 1713 M. HENRY *Ord Serm* Wks. 1857 II 498/2 As God never varies from himself so he never wavers in him self 1793 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat Mod* I 9 Scamozzi is the only Author who varies from the rule 1809 ROLAND *Fencing* 123 Many persons are very apt, when parrying carte and tierce, to vary from the usual parades made upon this occasion

† **b** To be deprived *of* something *Obs* —1

1587 J. UDAL *Test Love* 11. (Skeat) 194, I shal him enfourme of al the trouthe in thy love, with thy conscience; so that of his helpe thou shalt not varye at thy nede

† **c.** To depart from the truth *Obs* —1

*c*1430 LYDG. *Mins. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 131 But my foode and my chereshynge, To telle plainly and not to vrye, Is of suche folke

d Sc To wander in mind, to rave ? *Obs*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Tretis* 111 Tha is nane fellouin pharv. Or ellis my wit rycht woundrouslie duis varie 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal Hon* Prol 101 My febill wit I wary, My dene held vphorne tak of brane gart vary 1550 *Rolland's Last Plea* in *Sinclair Poems* (1872) 314 But I trow that I vary, I am bot ane Blynd Hary, That fung hes bene with the fury 1825 JAMIESON, *To vary, variare*, applied to one who subtracts from the truth in relating. In the act of bodily disorder I am, "I observed him varyin' the day, Litr forfeit.

† **4.** To differ in respect of statement, to give a different or divergent account *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V 425 Here take heed pat auctors varieb, for William seib , but Marianus an I Beda neiþer pat ne pis 1502 *Arnold's Chron.* Prol. 2 Some parte pur posyng to moche for to varie, Nor for to be dyuerse nor contrarie Vn to Guydo *c*1450 *Merl's Testial* 207 And who so wyll rede and loke hym all lyyng, shall fynde no poynt *a*1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V (1533) 33 b, Of the firste commyng of these Saxons into great Britayn, auth urs in party varrey 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I Wks 175/1, I will beleue them the rather then hym in that wherin they varie and were contrary 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 477 We will adde thereunto [the account of] Oppianus for he doth vary in both these

**b** Const *from* (another or each other) In later use, to depart *from* an author by some change of statement

*a*1513 FABYAN *Chron* II (1811) 27 The wryters of the Story of Troyen diuerse, so that the one varieth greatly from the other 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* I 116/2 Willm of Malmes. wryting of this Vortimer varyeth in a maner al together from Geoffrey of Monmouth 1623 W. KEMP *Art of Restore* I 315, I have in other places varied some what from him 1700 DRYDEN *Pref Fables* Poet Wks (1710) 565 I dare not make them bold with Ovid; for some future Milbourn should arise and say, I varied from my Author, because I understood him not 1820 SOUTHEY *Vind Ecclesiast* 111 Later writers, therefore found it expedient to vary from him in describing the extinct ibis.

† **5** To differ in opinion, to disagree (*about*, *fo*, *in*, or *of* something), to dissent *from* another *Obs*

*a*1428 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 13 If the saul persons, wardeyns & oupersmen of the said Church of Hyll & their said chowyng of the same preest & can not accorde *c*1430 LYDG. *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 28 Remembr'e wele on olde Iniquite, and how Justyne did vary Fro Jhicelio 1516 *Sel Cases Star Chamb* (Selden) II 108 The said parties have varied also in the nameyng of Auditours for herying and takyng of accomptes 1597 SHAKES. *Lear* III VI 71 Sorrow *I cel Mem* (1721) I App 71 At these words the Popes Ho exacting his armes abrode had us put in the words we vary ed for 1598 WILKINSON *Confl Conscience* (1708) 111, Where about I ten presently so greatly strive and vare 1608 *Iol* MAY *Serpents* 68 Which soun I, whether it proceedeth from the mouth & tongue of the Serpent or their wrapping Mitaide in I Hesychius do much vary and contend 1657 S. PURCHAS *P I Flying Ins* 555 Give mee leave to vary from so learned an Author, and diligent observer

† **b.** To disagree seriously, to discord or quarrel, to fall at variance *Obs*

*c*1440 *Alph Tales* 118 Per was ij brether i at dwelte samen many yeris, & þai vard neuer in þ eure was wrothe *c*1500 *Conveyance* (W. de W.) L. j, And yf thou be a lyttyl displeased Thou cansed & varyest bothe nyght & daye 1526 I. D. BRENNER *Frosse* II (EX. (CU.) 653 They never varyed nor fell at debate together, but lyued in perfyte frendshyp 1527 HAMMER *Anc Incl Hist* (1619) 350 Men fell out among themselues Wherefore how, when and vpon what occasions they varied, I am now about to declare

† **c** To quarrel or be at strife *with*, to contend *against*, another, *Obs*

1496 *Dis Let Blk* 581 That no maner persone vexe, trouble, assaute nor varie with eny his Neighbours. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss* II CLXX (CXLI) 653 They never varyed nor fell at debate together, but lyued in perfyte frendshyp 1527 HAMMER *Anc Incl Hist* (1619) 350 Men fell out among themselues Wherefore how, when and vpon what occasions they varied, I am now about to declare

† **6** To quarrel or be at strife *with*, to contend *against*, another, *Obs*

1496 *Dis Let Blk* 581 That no maner persone vexe, trouble, assaute nor varie with eny his Neighbours. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss* II CLXX (CXLI) 658 If Charlis and Brabant shulde vary agaynst the crowne of Fraunce *a*1529 SKELTON *Dk. Albany* 341 If our moost royall Harry Vary with you in warre, I will neuer ye shonld misse;) 1559 *Mirr Mag, Jas I Scot* VII, We wer driuen to the Ilands coast, Which realme with Skotland at that time did vary

† **d.** *spec* In University use (see quot 1749) 1680 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II 490 July 8 Th, Mr (John) Conant varied A great entertainment in the gallery 1685 *Ibid.* 23 July, Mr Slatter varied, being put off till that time because he had got a muchance 1749 POINTER *Oxon Acad* 18 The Master Fellows are oblig d by their Statutes to take their turns, every Year about the Act Time, or at least before the 1st Day of August, to vary, i e to perform some publick Exercise in the Common Hall, the Variator opposing Aristotle, in three Latin Speeches.

**6** † **a.** To be uncertain, to hesitate *Obs* —1

*c*1477 CAXTON *Jason* (1913) 53 I thus in varyeng in this double she approched the liggyve

**b** To change or alter in respect of conduct † Also with inf.

1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* lxxii (chapter heading), How the duc that was at Reges varyed for to holde this that he had promysed to Bawdwyn. 1583 I. D. BREMEN *Frosse* I ccxvii 278 All they of his counsaile coude not make him to vary fro that pourpose *c*1586 C. TYRE PEMBROKE *Pr* LXXI viii, As for me, resolv d to tary In my trust, and not to vary I will hoape thy praise with patience. 1589 J. HOOKER *Virgin Soc Ire* I 1, Our young friend seemed confirmed in his resolutions and gave me fresh assurances that he never would vary

**c** To move in different ways or directions

1667 MILTON *P L* IX 516 As when a Ship Verses oft, as oft so steers, and shifts her Saile, So varied hee.

**7 a** To be inconsistent in one's statements, to introduce a difference or discrepancy.

1557 SEAGER *Sch Virtue* 506 In *Babees Bk*, See here he (or ARISTOLE) doth vary Refuse not his counsell, for like his wordes dis ree 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm* 239 I hey had alledged that the byshop Clement varied in his sentence, and had declared it to the French ambassadour in talke, what he thought 1637 PAYNE *Documents* (Camden) 79 For drawing wittnesses to varie from their former de clarations 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus Admir Events* 329 She is examine I hereupon and varies in her first answer, being pressed further she acknowledgeth it to her second 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To vary*, to falter in one s Answers, to dissagree with, or differ from one's self

**b** *Law* To make a departure in pleading

1642 tr. *Perkins Prof Bk* II § 911 54 The plaintiffe shall take nothing by his writ, because he cannot vaire from the place dated in the obligation

**II** *trans* **8** To cause to change or alter, to introduce changes or alterations into (something), in later use freq., to adapt to certain circumstances or requirements by appropriate modifications.

1390–7 *Alex & Dind* 1000 Pe hen, haluz, of pour lif lastnd fol ofte, Put michil ben your maneres from of pur men varied 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus* XXXVII 28 Whych e graunde grauen brooche, and of a bryynnesse of his sun vareth the peynture 1398 TREVISA *Barth De R A* III XXIV (W de W 1495) 73 Hote ayre and colde and drye and temperate varye and changge the tyme 1480 CAXTON *Alphame Iter* (Lalla way) p lxxxvii, The wordes of thys cr s he varyed well from the coloure of the cros as fro the coloure of the feide 1591 SPENSER *M Hubberd* 118 Shall we varie our deuice at will, Euen as new occasion appeares? 1611 BIBLE *Hosea* 952 The name of Vignieis is the same with Vicrid, but varying the word *Vicecomes* 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol Restored* 229 Your ruler varied some what according to art and discretion 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Geo* IV 595 But thou, the more he varies Forms, beware To attain his letters with a stricter Care 1791 DR. PRICE *Second World* (1840) 332 They had not varied their course in the dark 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt Chr* I I 150 Words we can twist and vary as we please 1865 PATEY *Nat Theol* I 1 § 1 (1819) 4 Nor can I perceive that it varies at all the inference. 1865 DICKENS *Mut Fr* I V He had never varied his ground an inch 1892 *A Hall* 555 *Ivor* 106 I do The count, after such notice may vary such order in such manner as it may think fit

† **b** To change the form of (a word) gramma tically *Obs*

1648 GAGE *West Ind* 214 So likewise are varied or declined *Aites*, signifying a plantation *Acal* earth.

**c.** To dispose, obtain, occupy, in a manner characterized by variety or variation.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* I 609 The setting Sun survey, If cloudy spots are vary'd on his Face 1798 *Anson's Voy* I VI 59 We varied our depths from fifty to eighty fathom 1798 JOHNSON *Voter No* 7 P 9 To vary a whole week with joy, anxiety, and sorrow

† **9** To express in different words *Obs*

1580 G. HARVEY in *Spenser's Ir* (1912) 62, I gaue him this Theame out of Ouid, to translate and vaire after his best fashion 1588 SHAKS. *L L L* I I 204 Let me revoke mo Damosell neyther sir shee was a Virgin *Ier* It is so varried to for it was proclaimed. Virgin 1599 — *Jul* I 111 95 Is the sum hath not so varied Although in tenor the reasoned prayse on my Palfray 1667 MILTON *P L* V 184 Let y ur ceaslesse change Varie to our great Maker still new praise 1688 *Holme Armory* II They are the same, or as it is varied in the margin all wa l m as swallowed up

*obs I* 1583 T. VLY in T. Watson *Iteme* (Arb) 330 In that so aptly you haue varied vpon women, confesse I must [etc.]

† **10.** To set at variance. *Obs*

1795 HERBERT *Corr* Wks. 1842 II 240 When his Grace brought out the vapid stuff, which had varied the clubs and disgusted the courts.

**Vary**, obs Sc form of WARY *v.* (CURSE.)

**Varying** (ve·ri-iŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. VARY *v.*] The action of the verb, in various senses

*c*1380 WYCLIF *Serm* Sel Wks. I 141 Here tellip Crist to his Churche how her wille shulde be temprid for varyinge of her heed after his resurreccoun 1430–40 LYDG. *Chron Troy* xlvii 258 (Add MS.) I chuuge to the tymes, to do away the varyynges 1530 PALSGR 284/1 Varyeng chaung yng, *muance* 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Johan* B 3 b, I gyue you good leue To chaunge her fe r her shroude varyeng 1612 BARNEY *Ind* I ii 244 The Nowns haue so little varying or turning in them 1628 T. SPENCER *Logi* h 48 Sinne (sayth the Apostle) is a varying from the Law *a*1656 MARG OF HALIFAX *Wks* (1912) 211 Neither King nor People would now like just the original Constitution without any varyings. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist Printing* 237 The varying of proper

names, may be owing to the fancy of some Author [who] ordered them to be distinguished by different characters from the text 1825 Carlyle *Schiller* II (1845) 97 Those careless felicities, those varyings from high to low 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxiv, Had my plighted vows ever permitted me to entertain a thought of varying, or of defection 1901 Wrench *Winchester Word-bk., Varying*, a vulgus dome up to books (obs)

**Varying** (vɛ·riɪŋ), *ppl. a* [f as prec ]

1. That varies, in senses of the verb, tending to vary or change † Also const *from*

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse* 1413 pe life of pis world es ful unstable, And ful variand and chaungeable 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii xcvii (Bodl MS.), pe apple tre is roun fe diuers and varying fe ȝ oþer trees of wodes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexand* 5637 Of al fruits on pe folde we fange at ounce will, Bath venyson & wilatle & variand fisches. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables Preface & Moruse* x, With mynd incon stant fals and wanand, I tull of drasat 1500–20 Dunbar *Tua mariit wemen & Wedo* 86 He wes with variand windis past *c* 1560 A Scott *Lowis* (S T S) xxvii 48 Gif scho steidfast stand And le not warrand, I am at his command 1611 Speed *Hist. T'ai* 1 790 He with his variand fortune wed, cures in me Thoughts, that would thick my blood *a* 1704 T Brown *Sat. mast Woman* Wks 1730 I 57 I strive in vain the varying crimes to paint Of this fallacious and destructive race 1751 Gray *Spring* 17 In fortune's varying colours drest 1798 S & Hr Law *Cantrell* I 111 114 With a varying complexion, and varying mien, he pursued for her in ther 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 96 That scene of ampler sky & than gems or gold, the varying roof of heaven 1846 G I Davie *Simms Amour Chem* II 168 The varying amounts exercised during equal periods by different persons 1874 Green *Short Hist* viii § 5 The struggle went on throughout in results with varying success.

b *Spec in Bot.*

1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 476 Varying squint and ptosis are very common during the irritative and pressure stages

†2. Varied in colour, variegated *Obs*

1488 *Acts I Jas. IV* (1814) 248 Ane ouering of vari and purpur tartar lowpin with threddis and a vnicune *Ibid* 253 Ane blue and variand tartane

3 *Varying hare*, a species of hare, inhabiting northern or elevated regions, the fur of which turns white in winter, the Alpine, blue, or mountain hare

The American varying hare (*Lepus Americanus*) is a variety of the Polar hare (*L. glacialis*).

1781 I Kennant *Hist Quebec* I 179 Varying Hare 1823 Crabb *Technol Dict Sw Horse*, The variety is Hare *Lepus variabilis* is what is called the Varying Hare 1827 *Mammalia* IV 158 The Alpine or varying hare inhabits certain districts of Scotland, namely, the northern parts of Scotland 1880 *Encyc Brit* XVIII 198/2 In those parts where the common hare does not occur its place is taken by the varying or mountain hare (*Lepus variabilis*)

Hence **Va·ryingly** *adv*

*c* 1861 Colquhoun *Parish Addr., First Unum* 19 In modes, and in degrees, varyingly perceptible to us. 1888 I Payonne in Cosmit *Spenser's Wks* IV p. xxxv Spenser sees life through more than one veil, always, though varyingly convenient and in character

**Varyte**, obs form of Verity

‖ **Vas** (vɛs) Pl **vasa** (vē·să) [L *vas* (pl *vāsa*), vessel ]

1 a *Anat* A hollow organ serving for the conveyance of a liquid in the body.

Commonly in specific names with Latin epithet, as *vas breve, deferens* vasa *brevia, deferentia*, etc, or used elliptically for one or other of these

1681 Bidloo *Nem. Decl* 174 Exhausting the stock of aliment from the vasa and *viscera*. 1900 K Harrison in *Lan* et 14 July 79/2, I divided both his vasa in the usual way *Ibid* 97/2 Vasectomy or torsion of the vas for hyper trophy

b. *Bot.* (See quots )

Commonly with Latin epithet, as *vasa fibrosa*, etc

1843 *Trans Op I* XXVI 148 Spiral vessels, a term applied to several of the tissues of plants 1866 *Treas Bot* 12 s/1 *Vasa*, the tubes which occur in the interior of plants, and serve for the conveyance of sap or air

†2 A vase (= next, cf next )

1698 M Lister *Journ Paris* (1699) 43 Brass Statues and *Vasa* in 12 too other things retiring to Antiquity *Ibid* 45 Urns and Funeral Pots of all Materials

†**Vasa** ¹ *Obs* [Chiefly in the plural forms *vasa's, vasas*, f L *vasa* pl, (see prec ), hence irregularly *vasa* as sing ] A vase.

1651 Lilly *Chas Eng* (1680) 36 One of their Spurs engaged in a Carpet . . . fell all to the ground, break the Glass & the Vasas in pieces 1698 M Lister *Journ Paris* 188 Here also were great *Vasas* of Trellisage upon Pedestals 1699 Dryden *Acetæus Pref* (D), Busts, Obelisks, Columns, Inscriptions, Dials, Vasa's, Perspectives. *a* 1700 — *Diary* 14 Nov 1643 A vasa of onyx *Ibid* 29 Nov 1644, An antiq vasa of marble neare 6 foote high.

**Vasa** ² (vē·să), *sb.* [f Also **vasa** [Malagasy *vasa* ] One or other of several Madagascar parrots belonging to the genus *Coracopsis* Usu *attrib*

1812 Shaw *Gen Zool.* VIII 238 Vasa Parrot *Ibid* 509 Smaller Vasa Parrot. *Ibid*, The Smaller Vasa measures about fourteen inches in length. 1894 *Times* 30 Jan 10/1 The collection of foreign birds among others of macaws, a black vasa parrot, and a hoopoe

**Vasal** (vē·săl), *a.* [f. as prec + -al ] Connected with one or other of the *vasa* of the body

1891 in *Cent Dict* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 493 Auspitz concluded that the wheal is produced by a reflex irritation from sensory to vasal nerves.

†**Vascary**, ? Colton. variant of Vasquine

1609 Markham *Famous Whore* (1968) 22 Perfumed gloues, gownes, kirtles, vascaries, muffes.

**Vascular** (væ·skiŭlă), *a* [ad. mod L. *vascular-is*, f I *vāsculum*, dim of *vās* Vas So F. *vasculaire*, It *vascolare*, Sp and Pg *vascular.*]

1 *Bot.* Of fibres, tissue, etc · Having the form of tubular vessels, consisting of continuous tubes of simple membrane.

1672 J Grew *Anat Pl., Anat Roots* (1680) 69 The Vascular Tunic are more equally extended in all Roots 1756 C Lucas *Ess Waters* I 156 The solids are all vascular, and consist of elastic fibres 1791 Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I 11 112 In the vascular fibres of the bark 1857 P Keith *Bot* 256 The membranous tissue of the plant, whether cellular or vascular, is uniformly colourless 1847 H Miller *Lect Rocks* (1857) 31 Its mass of soft cellular tissue is strengthened all round by internal buttresses of dense vascular fibre 1875 Dawson *Dawn Life* II 32 Plants existed at that time having true woody or vascular tissues

b. Of structure Characterized by the prevalence of tubular vessels

1728 Chambers *Cycl s.v Vegetable*, The vascular Structure of Vegetables is render'd very apparent, by an Experiment of Mr Will oughby 1807 J. C. Smith *Phys Hist* 13 From prec ding writers we had learned the peculiar tubular or vascular structure of the vegetable body 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 9 Endogens are flowering plants with a vascular structure

c *Vascular system*, the aggregate of tubular vessels in a plant

1813 Sir H Davy *Agric. Chem* (1814) 60 The albumum is the great vascular system of the vegetable through which the sap circulates 1832 J Lindley *Introd Bot* 59 In both cases there is a cellular and vascular system distinct from each other 1866 *Treas Bot* 1205/1 *Vascular system*, all that part of the tissue or structure of a plant into whose composition spiral vessels or their modifications enter

d Of plants Having a vascular structure

1830 J Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* Introd p xiv, All plants that bear flowers have spiral vessels and are therefore Vascular 1849 Murchison *Siluria* xii 287 The great mass of the plants belong to the vascular cryptogamic class 1861 J Bartlett *Fam Wild Fl* The lowest orders of Vascular Plants, like the true Mosses are comparatively insignificant in appea rance

2 *Anat* or *Phys* Having the character or properties of a conveying vessel or vessels

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v, All the Flesh in an animal Body is found to be Vascular, none of it Parenchymous 1756 C Lucas *Ess Waters* I 2 In the several parts of its body I make some time of its existence vascular 1802 J Lamy *Nat Theol* xi (ed 2) 209 It [the spleen] must be vascular and admit of a circulation through it in order to be kept alive, as long as it is of a living 1825 *Todd Cyc Anat* I 126/1 The vascular is on the tissue extensively distributed among animals 1880 Brake *Slight Ailments* 85 If we could see the minute membranes in cases of indigestion we should no doubt find it unduly vascular

*fig* 1838 Emerson *Address, Lit Ethics* Wks (Bohn) II 109 An orator is nothing else than a good and vascular organization wherein the universal spirit freely flows 1847 — *Rep Men, Montaig* 1e Ibid I 344 Cut these words, and they would bleed, they are vascular and alive

b *Vascular system* (see quot 1876)

1725 Robinson *Phys & Bat* 255 The Air obliges the whole vascular System of the Solids to redouble their Contractions. 1801 *Med Trnl* IV 215 To restore their natural tone of the vascular system 1876 Burrows *Th & Pract Med* (1878) 485 The vascular system comprises the heart, arteries veins and capillaries the lymphatic glands and vessels, the latter with certain ductless glands, and the blood with its tributary fluids

c Affecting the vascular system or tissue

1859 Sneyers *Pract Psychol* II v (1872) I 396 The vascular excitement caused by emotion 1881 *Med Temp Jrnl* XLVIII 206 The first stage of alcoholic action is vascular excitement rapidly followed by exh austion

**Vascula rity** (væskiŭlæ·rĭtĭ) [f Vascular *a* + -ity ] Vascular form or condition.

1790 *Phil Trans* LXXXV 209 The great vascularity of a muscle is for the purpose of repairing the waste in the muscular fibres occasioned by their action 1816 *Jos* I Thomson *Cullen's Nosol* 231 The great vascularity and nutritivity of the skin at that period of life 1861 Hulme in *Ophth Hosp Rep* III 146 The quantity of blood a limb is capable of drawing renders it necessary the vascularity of the part 1879 *Sel Cases Hosp Sick* IX 690 In the eye is some evidences of increased vascularity were visible in the conjunctiva

**Vascularize tion.** [f. as next + -ation ] Conversion to a vascular condition.

1828 Cooper & Travers *Surg Ess* I (ed 3) 79 Several lumps of lymph diffused in the anterior chamber are undergoing vascularization. 1847-9 *Todd Cyc Anat* IV 101/1 Ascertaining the fact of vascularization of scorbutic coagula 1868 *Oldham Syst Med* I 295 I decrease inflammation or dose of cartilage may be followed by vascularisation and ossification

**Vascularize** (væ·skiŭlăraiz), *v* [f Vascular *a* + -ize Cf. next ] *trans* To render vascular.

1893 S Sections *Sciatica* 47 To increase the surface temperature and thoroughly vascularise the skin and superficial tissues 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 3 The terminal tufts being vascularised by the pulmonary artery

**Va scularized**, *ppl. a.* [Cf prec ] Rendered vascular; converted into a vascular form

1858 J H Bennet *Nutrition* 10 [The] mucous membrane of the stomach becomes highly vascularized 1874 Jones & Sieveking *Path Anat* 19 The occurrence of a vascularized coagulum in a tuberculous cavity in the lungs. 1879 *Sel George's Hosp Rep* IX 480 The growth consisted of small cells and was highly vascularised.

**Va scularly**, *adv* [f Vascular *a* ] In a vascular manner.

1890 *Nature* 26 June 215/2 Multiple buds, one springing from another and being vascularly connected therewith 1894 *Westm Gaz.* 27 Aug 3/1 When it has become vascularly attached to the tissues around the area.

**Va sculated**, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *vāsculum* Vasculum ] Provided with small vessels.

1744 *Phil Trans* XLIII 187 The Wings are finely vasculated, and the Pod is lined with fine silky Down.

**Vasoule**, Anglicized form of Vasculum.

1850 in Mayne *Expos Lex* 1393/2

**Vasculi ferous**, *a* [f. L. *vasculi-*, combining form of *vāsculum*, + -ferous ] (See quots )

1704 J Harris *Lex Techn.* I, *Vasculiferous Plants*, are according to the Botanists, such as have besides the common Calyx or Flower Cup, a peculiar Vessel or Case to contain their Seed. 1731 P Miller *Gard Dict* s.v, Vasculiferous Plants are such whose Seeds are contain d in Vessels which are sometimes divided into Cells

**Va sculiform**, *a.* [f. as prec. + -form ] Having the shape of a small vase.

1887 W Phillips *Intel. Discomycetes* 120 Cup vasculiform, margin erect or incurved

**Va sculose**, *sb* [f. Vascular + -ose 2 ] The principal constituent of the vascular tissue in plants

1883 *Science* I 80/1 Vasculose is not easily soluble in concentrated sulphuric acid 1888 Goodale *Physiol Bot* (1892) 35 *note*, Vasculose increases in content with the density of the wood The pith contains vasculose 25 per cent

**Vasculo se**, *a rare* [-ose 1 ] = Vasculiferous 1866 *Treas Bot* 1205 I *vasculose*, containing spiral vessels or their modifications.

**Va sculous**, *a rare*⁻¹ [f L. *vasculum* see next ] = Vascular *a* 2

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Utricula*, The first [membrane] whereof is Vasculous, the second Muscular and the third Glandulous

‖ **Vasculum** (vɛ·skiŭlăm) [I , dim of *vas* vessel ]

1 *Bot.* = Ascidium 2

1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 96 The singular form of leaf in Sarracenia and Nepenthes which has been called *Ascidium* or *Vasculum* 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex Vasculum*, the cup which terminates the leaves of the Nepenthes; a vascule

2 A special kind of case used by botanists for carrying newly-collected specimens

Usually made of tin in the form of a flattened cylinder, with a lid on one side opening lengthways

1844 *Proc Berw Nat Club* II 82 The botanists having stored each their vasculum with specimens of the Rubi the party again united 1877 Sir C W Thomson *Ivory Challenger* I 14 Various implements such as botanic I vasculums 1887 J Bell *Anat* xv *Armes* 128, I shouldered my tin vasculum and went ashore

**Vase** (vaz) Also 6 **vasse**, 7 **vause**, **vaze**. [a I *vase* (= It, Sp, Pg *vaso*), ad I *vās* vessel see Vas and Vasa ¹.

The earlier pronunciations (vē·s) and (vē·z) are still current in America ; the former of these is endeavoured to be marked in the following passages. Another variant (vɛ·z) has still some currency in England

1732 Swift *Strephon & Chloe* 191 [*rime* face] 1822 Byron *Juan* xi xcvii [*rimes* place, grace] 1847 Emerson *Poems* Wks (Bohn) I 445 Call a bough from my parent stem, And dip it in thy porcelain vase [*rime* grace] 1857 Warren *Skipper Ireson's Ride* 26 Girls such as chivalry call brave Decbus round some antique vase *c* 1860 Lowell *Amlrose* x, The water unchanged, in every case, Shall put on the figure of the vase ]

1 *Arch* + a = Bell *sb* 16 a *Obs.*

1563 Shute *Archit* D iiij, The Abacus, the which lieth on the vasse or basket, that was founde on the mayden tombe in Corinthe. 1706 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* II 33/2 The bell or vase, the breadth of which at the bottom must be that of the top of the Shaft , and breadth of the top of the vase must be equal to the bottom of the shaft. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl Suppl* s v *Bell*, In this sense, *bell* is the same with what is otherwise called *vase* and *tambour*

b. An ornament having the form of a vase (see sense 2)

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vase*, in Architecture, an Ornament above the Cornice 1732 Bailey (vol II), *Vases* are ornaments placed on the Cornices of Buildings, representing such vessels as the antients used in sacrifices as incense pots, &c., often inriched with Basso Relievo s.

2. A vessel, usually of an ornamental character, commonly of a circular section and made either of earthenware or metal, but varying greatly in actual form and use

1699 in A Michaelis *Anc Marb Gt Brit* (1885) 205, I desire you would presently know what Sir Tho Roe hath brought of antiquities, Greeke vases, Inscriptions, medalles, or such like. 1670 G H *Hist Cardinals* II 288 The Chamberlain puts the names of all the Cardinals into a Vase 1703 Pope *Theocrit* 207 No chargers there were wrought in burnish'd gold, Nor silver vases took the forming mold 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xxxi (1787) III 240 Many a vase, in the division of the spoil, was shivered into fragments by the stroke of a battle axe 1832 W Irving *Alhambra* I 92 A tribute of fresh culled flowers, which are afterwards arranged in vases 1854 *Poultry Chron* II 192 Seven Silver Vases, of the value of Six Guineas each, will also be awarded, instead of money prizes. 1858 G B Shaw *You never can tell* Plays II 274 The vases on pillar pedestals of veined marble with bases of black polished wood

*fig* 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* IV, Break, thou deep vase of chilling tears, That grief hath shaken into frost !

b (See quot ) *rare*⁻⁰

1708 Chambers *Cycl* s v, Goldsmiths, Pewterers, &c also use *Vase* for the middle of a Church Candlestick ; which is usually of a roundish Figure, bordering somewhat on that of a Vase. [Hence in Bailey ]

c A calyx or other growth resembling a vase
1708 Cranmer *Cycl Plants* 111 is also sometimes used among Florists, for what they otherwise call the Calyx [Hence in Bailey, etc] *a* 1811 Lysons *Cit Spring* Remains (1819) 238 The tulip is vase with dew pearl sheen And icy crystal gleams afar 1889 C F Holder *Marvels Anim Life* 25 Graceful stalked vases of the Campanularian appear

**3** *attrib* and *Comb* (in sense 2), as *vase-carriage, -handle, -like* adj, *-maker, -painter, -painting, -shaped* adj, *-work*.

1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 380 *Vase-shaped*, formed like a flower pot 1840 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* III 56/2 the two winged boys who dip into a vase like fountain 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 140/2 The numerous names of vase painters *Ibid*, The most antient style of vase painting 1865 Unnock *Pork Tymes* 48 Two curious vase carriages, one found in Sweden and the other in Mecklenburg 1879 G J Chester in *Recov Yorus* (1891) 473 Six vase-handle, found on a bed of rich earth 1893 *Westm Gaz* 25 Feb 5/3 The best vase work in the period 970 to 470 B C 1894 S Smiles *J We Kenwood* xiv 157 Where amongst our potters, could I get a complete Vase maker?

Hence **Va·seful**, *a.* vase-like

1856 R F Burton *Falje El Medinah* III 202 A present to the Sakkas or carriers, who distribute it in large earthen vaseful in my name to poor pilgrims. 1889 M M Macmillan *Left* (1893) 250, I will present the vaselet to the British Museum. 1894 *Westm Gaz* 14 June 3/3 A vaseful of Iceland poppies.

**Vase etomised**, *ppl a* [Cf next] That has had the *vasa deferentia* removed

1900 R Harrison in *Lancet* 14 July 96/1 There are good reasons for believing that a vasectomised or castrated male is not liable to undergo hypertrophy of the prostate

**Vasectomy.** *Surg* [f L. *vas* Vas 1 a] Excision of the *vasa deferens* or a portion of this

1899 R Harris in *Lancet* 5 Aug 331/1 Vasectomy and castration in relation to prostatic enlargement

**Vased**, *a rare*—[f Vase] Ornamented or provided with vases

1806 W Taylor in Robberds *Mem* (1843) II 144 The stately yew hedge walks, and vased and statued terraces

**Vaseline** (væ·selin, in), *sb* [irreg f G *wasser* water + Gr *ἔλαιον* oil + -INE] A soft, greasy substance used as an ointment or lubricant, obtained by evaporating petroleum and passing the residuum through animal charcoal (Cf Petrolatum)

A proprietary term introduced by R A Chesebrough in 1872

1874 *Pop Sci Monthly* 25 Sept 36 A new petroleum product has been introduced under the trade name of vaselin 1876 *Trans Chemical Soc* IX 171 All the vaseline has been refined whenever the cup was off 1884 *Pop Sci Monthly* XXIV 778 Paraffin oil and vaseline was sold for lubricating machinery

Hence **Va·seline** *v trans*, to lubricate, rub, or anoint with vaseline.

1891 *Inspecting Nurse* 1891 117 My machine is all vaselined and put away 1898 *Westm Gaz* 19 Dec 2/1 A gentle hand had washed and vaselined and bandaged the little heels

**Vasifa·ctive,** *a Biol* [f L *vas* Vas] Producing vessels

1888 *Pearl Microsc Sci* Jan 44 The spindle shaped cells of vasifactive tissue showed the same series of changes

**Vasi ferous,** *a rare* ° (See quot)

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vasiferous* that carries a vessel

**Vasiform** (væ·sifɔrm), *a* [f L *vasi-* Vas + form]

1 Having the form of a duct or similar conveying vessel, tubular

a *Phys*, 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 245/2 The blood [of Cirripeds] is propelled by a vasiform heart 1839-47 *Ibid* III 365/2 The systemic heart first appears in the sessile Tunicaries as a vasiform undivided ventricle 1861 Hulme tr *Moquin-Tandon's Bot* II vi 261 The secreting glands are vasiform tortuous tubes. 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 98 The more elongated and vasiform heart

b *Bot* 1839 Lindley *Introd Bot* (ed 3) 21 Of Pitted Tissue or Bothrenchyma *Vasiform* Tissue, Dotted Ducts. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1205/1 *Vasiform tissues*, ducts, that is tubes having the appearance of spiral vessels and bothren chyma 1886 Goodale *Physiol Bot* (1892) 87 Vasiform elements

2 Shaped like a vase.

1846 Dana *Zoöph* (1853) 333 1 The mode of growth spreading each way from a central pedicel, and concave above (vasiform, or vase shape) 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr 222/2 The flowers form a vasiform cluft

**Vaskono,** variant of Vasquine *Obs*

**Vaso-** (vē·sō), combining form, on Gr types, of L *vas* Vas, employed in terms of *Phys*, and *Path* relating to the vascular system or parts of this, as **vaso cellular** *a*, **-constriction, -constrictive** *a*, **-constrictor, -dentinal** *a*., **-dentine, -dilatation, -dilator, ganglion, -inhibitory** *a*, **-motive** *a*

1847 *T dd's Cycl Anat* III 1026/2 *Vaso-cell ilar structure [of the penis] 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 249 The velocity of the blood flow is increased, whenever the arterial pressure is raised by general *vaso constriction 1892 R James *Pract Psychol* I 97 Slowing and quickening of the heart are independent of the *vaso constrictive phenomenon 1895 Rolleston *Dis Liver* 251 To obtain the local vasoconstrictive effect on the bleeding vessels 1877 M Foster *Physiol* 259 Stimulating a number of *vaso-constrictor nerves. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 112 When the vaso-constrictors alone are acting, the process is retarded 1852 G A Mantell *Petrifactions* iii § 5 254 The socket to the two-dentinal tract of the tooth opposed to it below 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl Anat* IV 11 878 The tubes which convey the capillary vessels through the substance of the osteo- and *vaso-dentine of the teeth of fishes. 1880 Gunther *Fishes* 365 Numerous fissures radiating from the central mass of vasodentine 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 314 When one lower limb was heated *vaso dilatation and sweating were observed in the other lower limb. 1881 *Nature* XXIII 236 The nerves which act as *vaso dilators on the mucous membrane of the buccal cavity 1880 Gunther *Fishes* 155 At the bottom of this sac, there is a small *vaso ganglion, by which the urine is secreted 1881 *Nature* XXVI 411 Nerves which, when stimulated, occasion the dilatation of arteries —hence called *vaso dilatators or vaso dilator nerves. 1865 *Intell Observ* No 47 350 Excitation of *vaso motive action

**Vaso-motor,** *a* and *sb Phys* [f prec + *-motor* as in *motor*]

*adj* 1 Acting upon the walls of the blood-vessels, so as to produce constriction or dilatation of these and thus regulate or affect the flow of blood Chiefly with *nerve* and *centre*

(a) 1868 Spencer *Princ Psychol* I vi (1870) I 115 The feelings that go along with discharges into the vaso motor and sympathetic nerves, are the predominant ones 1871 Hammond *Dis Nervous Syst* 65 Certain medicines are causes of cerebral anæmia, by their action on the vaso-motor nerves 1896 Buchanan *Th & Pract Mat* (1898) 181 The muscular tissue of the vascular system is under the dominance of the nerves of the vaso-motor system

(b) 1865 *Intell Observ* No 47 350 The vaso-motor centres 1875 H C Wood *Therap* (1879) 355 In large doses lobelia excites the vaso motor centres 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 641 It also excites the vaso motor centre, and thus leads to rise in the blood pressure

2 Affecting the vaso motor nerves or centres.

1879 *St George's Hosp Rep* IX 677 The ophthalmoscope yielded evidence of arterial relaxation pointing to slight vaso motor disturbance 1881 *Trans Ophthal Soc Lond* XXII 23 Were the phen anena due to peripheral irritation reflected from the cord in the form of motor and vaso motor disturbance? 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 195 Marked vaso motor symptoms, and optic nerve atrophy

*B sb* A vaso motor nerve

1887 *Lancet* 19 Nov 1000 *Adamkiewicz* 47 Marked heat and injection of the rare helices from paralysis of vaso-motor 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 726 Hydrotherapeutic methods, directed primarily to the cutaneous vaso-motors.

Hence **Vaso-motor rial** *a*, **Vaso-moto rially** *adv* **Vaso-motory** *a*

1877 M Foster *Physiol* 145 The vaso motorial functions of the cervical sympathetic 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* IV 832 The effects of the latter experiments may be explained as a result of vaso motorial influence 1899 *Ibid* VI 28 A considerable number of instances of the purest vaso motory neurosis 1900 *Lancet* 16 June 1849/1 The most obnoxious way of increasing the urinary flow vaso-motorially

**Va sotribe.** *Surg* [f Vaso + Gr *τρίβειν* to crush] An instrument used to arrest hemorrhage

1903 *Lancet* 30 May 1500/2 Even Koeher's powerful forceps do not stop the circulation like vasotribe

†**Vasquine.** *Sc Obs* Also **vaskene, waskyne, waseyne** [a F *vasquine*, obs. var *basquine*, ad Sp *basquiña* Cf Basquine] A petticoat

1553 *Acc Lord High Treas Scot* X 202 Item half ane eine blak velwote to bordour ane waskyne of quhite dalmes. 1561 *Inv & Warr* (1815) 132 Of Doublettis, Vaskenis and Skirtis item ane doublett of blak velvot and the waskene of the same. 1579 Sempr in Hay Fleming *Hary Wallace* (1897) 511 Item to lyne ane pair of blak taffatis of the four tread v elle. 1580 Scott *Alb I* xxxi, I shall endure her presence without any deare to damadge either her curch or vasquine.]

**Vassal** (væ·sāl), *sb* and *a* Forms **4** vassale, **6** wassale, **5-7** vassall (**6** phasalle, *Sc.* wassall), **5-** vassal (**8** vassal), **5** vayssal, vaysall, **5-6** vaysell, **6-7** vassadle, **7** vassadell, vassell, *Sc* wassell-. [a OF *vassal, vasal* (*f. vassal* = It, Pg *vassallo*, Sp. *vasallo*) —med L. *vassall us* man servant, domestic, retainer, a word of Celtic origin the simpler form *vassus* (used in the same senses) corresponds to Old Gaulish *vassus, vasso* (in personal names), Obreton *guas* (MBret *gvas*, Bret *goaz*), W *gwas*, Ir *foss* servant, serf. Cf Varlet, Valet.]

I. In the feudal system, one holding lands from a superior on conditions of homage and allegiance, a feudatory, a tenant in fee Now *Hist*

13 *Cser de L* 3365 They are doughty vassales Kynges sones and amyrales. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iii 69 Whiche hath commanded to sayn his vassalles 1491 *Sessyle* 1523 [Cowperdale] *Old God & New* (1534) I, John 3 239 pope of yt name dyd prescrit e an othe vnto Otho, in whiche Otho was acknowlege him for his vassall 1535 phasalle (as we do now call it) *a* 1570 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 32 It becummeth ane prince to leive fruitie mochi subiectoure to ane vassellis correctioun or chastisement 1602 [Ip W Barlow] *Serm Paules Cross* 62 The Queene mured vp with her owne vassalles 1605 in *Extr S P rel Scotland* Ser II (1902) 234 The foreman and Chiefe thereof [at the jury] being all Tennants and vassalls to the Major and Aldermen 1683 Temple *Mem* Wks 1720 I 453 The Emperor made an invincible Difficulty, declaring he would never trust with a Vassal of his own 1781 R Watson *Philip III*, iv (1783) 293 It was enacted that all their effects should belong to the lords whose vassals they were 1817 Byron *Manfred* II i 23 To bask by the huge hearths of those old halls, Carousing with the vassals 1860 Adler *Prose Poet* 196 Princes having under them as their vassals other chiefs as renowned and valiant as themselves. 1871 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1876) IV xvii 29 All was trusted to the loyalty of William's new made vassals.

b Used in addressing persons of this class

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aym* ii 58 Telle me, vassall, knowest thou noo tidynges of Reynawde the sone of Aymon? — *Blanchardyn* xxviii 104 Vassall! vassal! to whom I haue taken in hande that thynge most dere to me in this world *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* ix 23 Wassale who art thou that hath slayn my brother? 1592 Shaks *1 Hen VI*, iv 1 125 Presumptuous vassals, are you not ashamed To trouble and disturbe the King, and Vs? 1822 Byron *Heaven & Earth* iii 329 March vassals! I'm your leader, and will bring The rear up

c In Scottish legal use

1474 *Sc Acts Parl* (1814) II 107/1 As ane ourlordis pat in defraude & skaith of pair vassals & tenentis deferris till enter to pair landis and superiorites 1581 *Acts Parl Council Scot* 407 In respect that they nor nane of thame, ar nather freehalders, vassellis, subvassellis, but ar fewaris only 1609 Skene *Reg Maj, Stat Burg Addit* 1, 28 If it shall happen that ouer Lords payed and distreinzeit the thar vassellis contrare the constitution foresaid 1689 in *Acts Parl Scot* (1875) XII 74 The forfaulters of vassella and creditoirs, who sal all be innocent of pair superiors or delators crymes. 1739 *Morrison's Dict Decis* (1808) XXXIII 24307 The vassal is not bound to accept of a new charter, disconform to his former rights 1765 & Erskine *Inst Laws Scot* II iii § 13 A vassal may make over his property to a subvassal by a subaltern right *Ibid*, The vassal who thus subfeus [etc.] 1815 R Bell *Comm Laws* 238 The consent of both superior and vassal must be adhibited by those forms which practice has prescribed 1833 H Barclay *Digest Law Scot* 564 Vassal is he who has the right of fee or property —*dominium utile* —distinguished from the right of superiority, or *dominium directum* 1896 W K Morton *Man Law Scot* II iii 84 The law held the feu to transmit to heir of vassal, but superior could reject a stranger

**2** *transf* One who holds, in relation to another, a position similar or comparable to that of a feudal vassal

1563 Golding *Cæsar* 23 b, To bynd their Citye by othe, that they should neyther enquyre them bondages nowyn, nor yet refuse to be their subiectes & vassales for euer 1578 I N tr *Conq W Indies* (1596) 47 The Lorde of that town and other foure Lords came presently to the Port to yeeld vnto their vassalls and seruitours. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II vii, 51 The king of Pharaoh, whose vassal I declare my self to be 1807 J Robertson *Gleanings* iii 148 From the time of their [the Helots] first reduction these vassals, impatient of their servitude, often endeavoured to break their yoke 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* II 1 Instead of the death of Cyrus is speedily avenged by one of his vassals, Amorites King of the Sacians 1909 J Stuart *Burma Hist Lent* 19 42 The king of Bengal declared himself to be the vassal of their vassals and would not, therefore, be considered as receiving a vassal of Bengal

*b esp* A humble servant or subordinate, one devoted to the service of another

*c* 1590 *Mellanize* xxiv 183 Thamaselle, as to my part, your vassall & seruaunt shal I euer be 1591 Spenser *Daphnaida* 181 For rare it seemes That man should to a beast his noble heart enthrall, And yield his vassalesse 1596 J Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc) 370 Mr Andro [Melvill] calling the King but 'God's sallie's vassall' 1600 Shaks *Sonn* lxxvi, Why write I still all one, ever the same, And keep invention in a noted weed, That every word doth almost tell my name, Showing their birth, and where they did proceed? O know sweet love I always write of you, And you and love are still my argument; So all my best is dressing old words new, Spending again what is already spent: For as the sun is daily new and old, So is my love still telling what is told 1605 Shaks *Lear* I i 163 *Kent* Now by Apollo, King, Thou swear'st thy Gods in vaine *Lear* O vassall! Miscreant 1766 Blackstone *Comm* II 53 We now use the word *vassal* opprobriously, as synonymous to slave or bondman 1880 Scott *Abbot* xxvii, Thou that man —vassal, thou liest!

**4** *attrib* or as *adj* a Having the status or character of a vassal, subject, subordinate, † servile Chiefly *fig*

1593 Shaks *Lucr* 608 No outrageous thing But vassal actors can be wiped away 1596 *Edw III*, ii 1, Vassell feare lies trembling at his feete 1600 Shaks *Sonn* cxli, Thy proud hearts slave and vassall wretch to be. 1616 B C *Times Whistle* iv (1871) 42 Other metrists all Are but his vassals, starres. 1680 Otway *Orphan* i iv Man Fetters, and silent as his Vassal Beasts. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xiv 117 Supreme he sits and sees Your vassal godheads grudgingly obey. 1735 Somerville *Chase* ii 352 When Ammon a son With mighty Porus in dread Battle join'd, The Vassal World the Prize 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* Introd 4 Albion bids the avenging

thunder roll Along his vassal deep 1817 Moore *Lalla Ro kh* Wks. (1910) 442/1 As if the loveliest pla ns and trees Had vassal breezes of their own *a* 1854 H Reed *Lect Eng Lit* iii. (1855) 92 Britain was a kind of vassal nation of the Roman Empire 1868 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1876) II App. 686 A title most commonly given to vassal princes

b In predicative use Also const *to* or *unto*

1592 *Nobody & Somebody* (1878) 284 He be no longer vassaule Lo such a tirannous rule 1602 J Rudgeis *Iniew Romish Rime V*, An I now the cheer Bishops three Were first made vassal vnto Rome 1672 Milton *P R* iv 133 That people victor once, now vile and base, Deservedly made vassal 1848 W H Kelly tr *L Blanc's Hist Ten Years I* 325 It would have been to make Belgium vassal to the five powers. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav* 215 the eye that saw the whole earth vassal

c Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a vassal

1588 Shake *1 Hen VI* iv iii 224 Who sees the heauenly Rosaline That Bowes not his vassall head 1607 Middleton *Mr Hoalmas Ferm* i 57 With what a vassal appetite they gnaw On our revenues 1858 *Atlantis. Monthly* I XXII 95/1 The touch of vassal loyalty constraining him to stand at his post

**Vassal** (væ·săl), *v* Now *rare* Also 7 vassail(e, 9 zyl, -ail [f prec.]

1 *trans* To make subject or subordinate *to* some thing or person

1613 Drumm of Hawth *Cypress Grove* Wks 1913 II 98 Celestiall thinges fauour him earthly thing s are vassaled vnto him 1615 G Sandys *Trav* 77 Whose posterity in part reuiueth to this day, though vassaled to the often changes of forraine Governours 1628 Bp Tham *Kershen* ii. lxxi 205 If vassailes him to the world, to beasts, and to *mysf* 1642 Wither *Phanarete* (1653) II 183 Lowes Vassaling themselves with shame To some proud imperious Dame, 1652-62 Heylin *Cosmogr* (1682) iii 209 The other nine . have vassalled themselves to the great Mongul

2 To reduce to the condition of a vassal, to subdue or subjugate Also *fig*

1612 W Parker *Curiame Dr* (1876) 17 The rules of reason, and the lawes of nature, vassayled, obliterate and unregarded by him 1628 Bp Hall *Contempl O Divorce* 403 For Cneus King of Lydia was vanquished and vassalled by Cyrus of Persia. *a* 1633 G Daniel *Ulyss* Illustr 5 And Fellow Creatures vassall'd, tumble downe To either Face or Hand, the Axe or Crowne

Hence **Va·sselled** *ppl a*

1606 Warner *Alb I ne* xiv lxxv (1612) 338 And of his vassell'd Inglish he can command Some Score (if living) 1609 Daniel *Tymarch Hen V*, C iii He now Subiects vassalled Lett (1816) I 102 I restore the Kings of that ancient oppressed, vassalled, decimated Frame

**Vassalage** (væ·săl-ĕj), *sb* Forms *a* 4 **vassalage** (7 **adge, edge,** 8 **vassalage**), 5-7 **vassallage,** 5 **vassol-,** 6 **vassallage,** 4, 5, 7 **vasselage** (4 **vassh-,** 5 **vess-**), 4, 7 **vassellage** (6 **vassell-**), 5 **vaissellage,** 6 **sc vaselage, -logo.** *β* 5 **vassalage,** 5, 8 **vassalidge, wasslage,** 5-6 **wassalage,** 6 **-odge, wassallago, wassilaige** [n. Of *vassal(l)aige vis(e)lage, vessalaige*, etc (*f.* *vasselage*), *f vassal* Vassal *sb* So Prov *vassal-, tassel tge*, Sp *vassallage*, Pg *vassallagem*, It *vassallagio*, med L *vassallagium* ]

1 Action befitting a good vassal or a man of courage and spirit, prowess in battle, warfare, or other difficult enterprise. *Obs exc arch*

*a* 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 4610 Wham he wendyb to be tournament She byt hym do for hys vassalage He was beleue alle pat he kan 1338 — *Chr* (1811) 188 Gentille of norture, & wilde of vassalage Was non pat bare armure, pat dit swilk vassalage *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1671 Rise as he will let it be, do, for pat is vassalage *c* 1400 *Test Love Bk* 1282 Kyng Xerxes, pat was in his tyme a wel worth man, A noble knyst of vassalage 1456 Sir G Haye *Law Armes* (S T S) 54 To count all the vassalege that thay was done on ayther syde, it were reuerall to here 1497 Caxton *Jason* 34 b, Our defen four whiche hath only in him self more of vassalege than is in alle Lxclxuonye 1508 Dunbar *Poems* xii 10 Wedderis vassalage nane vincust he Knight, the fame of armys, and floure of vassalage. 1525 in *Pitscottie's Cron Scot* I II 204 And maynie made knichtes that never showde soyte nore greate token of their vassilage 1567 *Vite Patrum Reform* iv 142 Deuinera his husband Hutchin Brocht to mischeif, for all his vassalage. 1825 Scott *Jrnl* xii, Were I to choose some knight of name he would be setting about to do deeds of vassalage up in the Welsh *ironical* *c* 1386 Chaucer *L G W* 1667 (*Hypsipyle*), And of Jason this is the vassell-age That in hive days nayther non ne founde So fals a lusyere as was he

*β* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i 290 He had vassalage pat wes bun not a litill page, Bot syne he wes oft gret wassage *Ibid* x 268 He knew his wassalage and curage 1500-20 *Dunbar* 270 Ihne schew the lord sir ywan his curage His manheid, & his noble wassolage *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* i 371 He in the Nes of wantonnes bene tane, Quhilk cawsit him want baith welth & wassallage *c* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) I 153 He was of tender aige and could not wse no wassalage nor feit of weyris

†**b.** A brave or chivalrous act, a noble or gallant exploit. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 12331 Me bynkeb hit were no vassalage, Pre til on, hit were outrage! 1400 Trevisa *De Gest Pilger* 106a/2 Reynold of folkyn that he sagge Scliandere ys no vassalage *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* i 358 Thus he conteynde in till hys tendyr age: In armys syne did many hie wassalage *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 887 For thai war na wassalage, sum men wald say *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) II 118 And gret nawe Pandit in orknay and thocht to haue done sum wassallage thair *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub Chas I* (1840) I 23 The Erll of Murray rejoint multitudie at this vassalage done be his men. *Ibid* 189 The baronnis left the house, thinking it no vassalage to stay whill thay war slayne.

*trans* 1580 *Satyr Poems Reform* xiii 132 His Fathers murther also se cleirly knew, Myschantly hangit, ane wickit vassalage

†**c** Pre-eminence, supremacy. *Obs* —1

*c* 1430 (title) *Hen Poems* (Percy Soc.) 176 In noon so greet encress Off worldi tresour, as for to live in pees, Which among vertues hath the vassalage

2. The state or condition of a vassal, subordination, homage, or allegiance characteristic of, or resembling that of, a vassal

1594 Nashe *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III 266 Much more may I acknowledge all redundant prostrate vassalage to the royall descended Famille of the Careys. 1605 Camden *Rem* 4 Acknowledging no superiours, in no vassalage to Emperour or Pope. 1655 Fuller *CA Hist* iv. 182 He was a worthy man in his generation, had not his vassalage to the Pope engaged him in cruelty against the poor professors of the truth 1667 Milton *P L* ii 252 Let us not then pursue our state Of splendid vassalage 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 46 ¶ 2 The only Part of Great Britain where the Tenure of Vassalage is still in being 1756 Nugent *Gr Tour, Germany* II 25 The peasants are all in a state of vassalage to the nobility 1774 Pennant *Tour Scot in 1772*, 294 Tyranny more often than protection was the attendance on their vassalage 1809 G Chalmers *Caledonia* I iii 91 ¶ 2 They acknowledged their vassalage by receiving rulers, from the Scandinan peninsula. 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* II 461 That they had no right to release Nagpur from the native Princes, who had always been treated as independent 1869 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1870) III 312 William a vassalage for England will be in more normal than his vassalage for Normandy

*absol* 1788 Paine *Rights of Man* 82 Submission is wholly a vassalage term, repugnant to the dignity of freedom.

**b** In semi personified use.

1606 Shake *Tr & Cr* ii 156 Like vassalage at vnawares encountring The eye of Maiestie 1616 J Lane *Contin. Sqr's T* ix. 410 For three weapons this inscribe of sower aignitie, that vassalage bee starres at maiestie

**c** In the phr. *child (lands) of vassalage.*

1747 Carte *Hist Eng* I 195 Who being tired with bearing Cerdic consented at last that he should hold a great part of the west of him in vassalage. 1765 Hume *Hist Eng* I 180 The prince offered to hold his kingdom in vassal age under the Crown of England 1792 Newte *Tour Eng & Sc* I 284 Several good families held their estates in vassalage from it

3 Subjection, subordination servitude, service Prec. const *to* & to a person or persons

1595 P P Godowine *Blanchardyn* ii Ded., [A] most worthy Gentleman whose vassalage is vnfaithfull enough haue bound me during life, in all obseruance 1604 T Wright *Passe me* ¶ 4. 231 Must is bound both by nature, vse, grauitie, vassalage to loue, honour and blesse them 1620 Wither *Abuses* (1633) Ep. Ded. Who better seemes held in scorne to yeeld Vassalage, or Duty, I hough into the Queen of Beauty 1793 Burke *Obs Conduct Minority* Wks. 1842 I 511 The proper object of superiority on their part and of a sort of vassalage to them on that of other members 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* i 1 I H w our Parliament from a state of ignominious vassalage to the place of umpire among European powers 1878 *N Amer Rev* CXXVII 100 The revelation it makes of the condition of the South, its continued vassalage to the reckless and dangerous class

**b** To some influence, esp of a detrimental kind.

1612 I Taylor *Comm Letter* ii 14 It must worke in vs a wilfull consent all hints, which the hand of God vseth vpon vs 1665 Glanvill *Def Van Dogm* 13 An attempt to redeem the free born spirits of Men, from an vnreasonable vassalage to so vile, and ill an Authority 1742 Blair *Grave* 598 Human Nature grov s Beneath a Vassalage so vile and cruel 1787 Dr Donn *Poems* 8 Princes . . . Whose vassal hearts to pomp neglect and vassalage of mind 1833 J trion *Golofphin* 24 All round bore the veil of vassal age to Time 1849 Coleridge *Shaks Notes* (1875) 126 The whole tragedy turns on the vassalage of strength and animal courage to intellect and policy 1871 Lowell *Lect Pr* Wks. IV 11 English literature showed the marks of an artistic vassalage to France

**4** †**a.** The territory of land held by a vassal

1855 Milman *Lat Chr* iv. VII. 190 The Countship of Foix, with six territorial vassal ages

**5** A body or assemblage of vassals.

1590 Spenser *Faerie Queene* ii. 30 But now the vnly working North Was ripe to send six thousands forth, A potent vassal age to fight in Percy's and in Neville's right 1826 *Blackw Mag* XX 1 The assembled vassalage was met by Wallace at death 1849 J Grant *Kirkaldy* xx 230 Kirkaldy, whose garri on was probably recruited from his own vassalage

Hence + **Va·ssalage** *v.* = Vassal *v* Obs

1598 *Sylvester Dubfrac* 58 Refusing to acknowledge it His duty to lee governed by them His Subjects, and to vassal age unto those Rebels Himselfe, His Royall Posterity, and all the rest of the people 1620 R Mathew *Unt Alch* 59 What shall become of fallen desire, is not ten times further off by being vassaling d more thereunto?

+ **Va·ssalate,** *v Obs* —1 [f Vassal *sb* ] = Vassal *v* So † **Vassala·tion,** vassalage, subjection. *Obs* —1

1648 W Mountacue *Devout Ess* i xv § 2 271 Thus God sufferth things which have no true goodness, to work upon our imagination and this vassallation is a penalty set by the true Judge of all things, upon our attempt to design of our own heads, the forms of good and evil 1659 Gauden *Tears CA* 496 Conventions where either Lay men shall over rule number and over-awe the Clergy, or Clergy men shall vassalate their consciences to gratifie any potent party.

**Vassaldom.** *rare*—1. [f. Vassal *sb.* + -dom.] = Vassalage 2

1876 Burnaby *Ride to Khiva* xxvii 242 The khanate [of Khiva] was reduced to a state of complete vassaldom

**Va·sseless.** *rare* [f. Vassal *sb* + -eless.] A female vassal.

1590 (see Vassal *sb* 2 b). 1842 Agnes Strickland *Queens Eng* II 41 He could have forbidden his fair vassaless to marry the subject of King Philip.

**Vassalic** (væsæ·lik), *a* [f Vassal *sb.*] Of or pertaining to vassals or vassalage.

1897 F W Maitland *Domesday Bk & Beyond* 75 The very highest storys of the feudal or vassalic edifice. 1898 — *Yeowalk & Borough* 43 There are feudal or vassalic distinctions.

**Va·ssalism.** [f. Vassal *sb*] Tendency to accept a position of vassalage.

1864 *Fraser's Mag* L 600 That obsequious compliance which indicated the shameful vassalism (if we may coin a word) of a German government

**Vassalize** (væ·sălōiz), *v.* [f. Vassal *sb*]

1. *trans.* = Vassal *v* 1.

1599 R Linche *Ane Ivction* C1b, Since Asia was vassalized and subiugated to the Romanes. 1648 Cromwell *Lett. & Sp* 30 Nov., The former Quarrel was that Englishmen might rule over one another this to vassalize us to a foreign nation 1653 Chesshlall *Serm* 27 Mar. 26 Those Countries against all that will not vassalize themselves to their impious Lord and Master 1670 in 3 b Jupp *Carpenters' Co* (1887) 308 All other workemen depending on the same must lye idle [*etc*] and bee vassalized to their rudenes and exorbitances.

2. = Vassai *v* 2.

1641 Merick *Apol for Slaunder* 7 He might seize all his estate and vassalize his person at pleasure 1654 Stittle house *Find Fifth Mon Men* 5 Against all arbitrary or absolute power vassalizing the Saints and People of God in this Commonwealth 1848 Lytton *Pelham Fable for Critics* 1506 To vassalize old tyrant Winter

Hence **Va·ssalized** *ppl a*, **Va·ssalizing** *vbl sb.*

1649 *Humble Petition* 3 Till then, wee le remaine your vassalized Virgins 1841 J Mackintosh in *Life Lepreh.* 216 It marked the deep bondage of vassalised man 1607 Washington *Opt Glass* 80 The vassalizing of the rebellious affections 1861 Lowell *Fable for Critics* 1506 To vassalize old tyrant Winter

**Va·ssalry.** Also 5 **vasselry,** 6 **vassalrie, rey** [f. Vassal *sb* + -ry Cf med L *vasselaria* (1238) fief, OF. *vasselleris* warlike exploit ]

1 = Vassalage 5

*a* 1470 Harding *Chron* xcix, That reigned vpon the vassalry Men were out-casten of all liberty 1806 W Taylor in *Ann Rev* IV 67 Something could be done to facilitate the acquisition of a peculium by the negro vassalry 1831 Tyler *Hist Scot* (1864) II 209 The Earls of Ross and Huntly, whose dominions and vassalry embraced almost the whole of the Highlands 1882 E Arnold *Pearls of Faith* xxiii (1883) 84 Queens were his slaves, and Kings his vassalry

2 = Vassalage 3.

1594 O B *Quest Perfit Con enn* 13 b, The olde bondage and vassalrie men of your condition were wont to be in *c* 1600 in *A & Wills* (1889) 117 I his beast disdaineth vassalry and subjection

**Vassal's grass** (Sec quots)

*a* 1818 M G Lewis *Trnl W Ind* (1834) 201 Many years ago, a new species of grass was imported into Jamaica by Mr Vassal This nuisance which is called 'Vassal s grass' has now completely overrun the parish of Westmoreland' 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 46 The greater part of it was a coarse looking but sweet herbage, called Vassal's grass.

**Va ssalship.** [f. Vassal *sb*] Vassalage.

1578 T N tr *Conq Ilr Indies* 50 These generally gave their vassalship to the King of Spaine into the hindes of Hernando Corter 1841 W Stirling *Hist Ilr Ist* I 53 Their political rights were not affected by their vassalship

**Vassand,** obs. form of Wassand.

**Vassayl,** obs form of Wassail.

**Vast** (væst), *sb.* [f. the adj ]

1. A vast or immense space. Chiefly *poet*, and freq. with adjs.

1604 E Grimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* 1 5 That great Ocean, and infinite Vast, which the ancient Philosophers affirmed to bee vnder the earth 1608 Shaks. *Lear* iii. 4 1 Thou lod of this great vast, rebuke these surges. 1709 tr Kan *Anthropol Pract* Wks 1721 III 449 I here would higher soar, and cast My eyes o're the Ethereal Vast 1795 Pope *Odyss* iv 683 By Juno's guardian aid, the wat'ry Vast secure of storms, to Argos' Land together push the Vast 1818 Keats *Endym* iii 856 Far as the mariner on highest mast Can see all round upon the calmed Vast 1850 Emerson *In Mem* Concl xxxi, A soul shall draw from out the vast And strike his being into bounds 1898 T Hardy *Wessex Poems* 72 And up from the vast a murmuring passed As from a wood of pines.

b Const. *of* (heaven, sea, etc ) Also *fig*

1610 Shake *Temp* i 11 Sure Vrchins Shall for that vast of night that they may worke All exercise on thee. *a* 1649 Drumm of Hawth *Poems Wks* (1711) 34/8 Such as do Nations govern, and command Vasts of the Sea and Emperies of Land 1667 Milton *P L* vi 203 Through the vast of Heav n it sounded 1795 W Blake *Song Los* 42 And all the vast of Nature shrunk Before their shrunken eyes 1838 Eliza Cook *England* iv, I'd tread the vast of mountain range, or spot serene and flowered 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem* xlv, Which need never stop short at the boundary of knowledge, but can draw for ever on the vasts of ignorance.

2. *stat.* A very great number or amount.

1793 *Pyper of Peebles* 14 A vast o' fouk a' round about Come to the feast *c* 1820 Hogg *Sheph Wedding* I, they couldna get them [& lesters] anudye, else there had been a vast o bludeshed *a* 1825 in dialect glossaries (E. Anglia, Yks., Leic., etc.) 1833 R. S. Surtees *Jaunts & Jol. Tour* (1893) 30 It takes a vast of clothes, even at Oxford prices, to come to a thousand pounds 1888 Huxley in *Life* (1900) II xii 188, I took a vast of trouble (as the country folks say) about it

**Vast** (vast), *a.* and *adv.* [ad. L *vastus* void, immense, extensive, etc., or F. *vaste* (1611), It., Sp., Pg *vasto* ]

**1.** Of very great or large dimensions or size, huge, immense, enormous

1575-85 Abp Sandys *Serm* 360 If ye compare one of these waters, with a vast giant, the combat could not choose but seeme in all pointes verie vnequall 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 204 Unskilfull cutters are of opinion that the enormous and huge statues, called Colosses, which they cut, will seeme more vast and mightie if they frame them straddling with their legs 1666 Boyle *Orig formes & Qual* 171 These bodies, that are the vastest and the most impotent of the Sublunary World 1718 4 Pope *Iliad Lock'd* 92 Three seal rangs, which after, melted down, Form'd a vast buckle for his widow's girdle 1784 H. Walpole *Fugitive Verses & Prose* (1786) I 222 A vast ruff, a vaster furdingale

are the features by which every body knows at once the pictures of queen Elizabeth 1862 Lyndall *Glac* II xxvii 315 On the ice cascades the river glacier has piled vast blocks on vaster pedestals 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* IV 155 It is not a sluggish building, but rather a vast collection of chambers and galleries.

*absol* 1784 Cowper *Task* V 811 A ray of heav'nly light, gilding all forms Terrestrial in the vast and the minute 1820 Pindaric *Ægric Agric Sublic* 18 The mountains too much upon the vast for beauty, are yet too tame for the sublime

**2.** Of great or immense extent or area, extensive, far stretching.

1590 Shake *Mids N* V i 9 One sees more dnels then vaste hell can hold 1600 J. Pory tr *Leo's Africa* VII 890 Betweene which two Kingdomes lieth a vast desert being much destitute of water 1624 W. Lawson *Country Housewife's Gard* (1626) 23 The top hath the vast aire to spread his boughes in 1663 Butler *Hud* I i 327 Thorough Deserts vast And Regions Deolate they past 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg* III 532 Such an extent of Plains, so vast a Space Of Wilds unknown Allures their Eyes 1732 Wollaston *Relig Nat* v (1724) 79 What a vast field for contemplation is here opened! 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) I 100 The river overflowed the adjacent country, like a vast lake 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III 291 Another mouth, and I am left alone In the vast city 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I 391 The circle of vision here embraces vaster plains and bolder mountains 1871 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1876) IV xvii 70 Ruling over vast territory which had been held by the Earls

*Comb* 1861 Lt. Lytton & Fane *Translations* 85 The sun, About him drawing the vast skirted clouds 1888 F. Hume *Mme Midas* I Prol, From thence it spread inland into vast rolling pastures

**b** Qualifying nouns of dimension

1677 Miege *Fr Dict* I *s.v. Vaste*, A Country of a vast extent 1688 Prior *An Ode* 1, The mysterious Gulph of vast Immensity 1732 — *Vicar Dunstable & Dromich* 1 That Both, their Skill to thwart Height did trust, Both scorn the Wonder, and be yours the Praise 1785 De Foe *Hist round World* (1840) 345 A pit or hole of a vast depth 1774 Fenwick *Tour Scot* in *Gent Mag* (1776) 1 The church stands at a vast height above the town 1809-14 Wordsw *Excurs* IV 1161 A temple framing of dimensions vast, And yet not too enor mous for the sound Of human anthems 1865 Kingsley *Herew* x, His vast breadth of shoulder

**c** In transf or fig uses

1736 Butler *Anal* II ii Wks. 1874 I 173 The scheme of nature is evidently vast, beyond all possible imagination 1738 Wesley *Wks* I *c* ix, Vast as Eternity thy Love 1784 Cowper *Task* VI 218 But how should matter satisfy View so vast in its dominion, unpaid for? 1826 R. Cumberland *Mem* (1807) I 160 Time wheels us in the vast lunne 1852 H. Rogers *Pol Faith* (1853) 142 It must be accomplished in a cycle as vast as those of the geological eras 1869 Kingsley *Lett* (1878) II 292 Science is grown too vast for any one head 1884 *Congregational Year Bk* 56 Mightier wonders and vaster problems

**3** Of the mind, etc Unusually large or comprehensive in grasp or aims.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 464 Cardinall Wolsey, whose vast minde reached alwayes at things too high 1650 R. Sevalion *Sermon Lambs* 11 38 But the Treasure of Orange and Count Egmont were of vaster spirits then the rest 1692 Dryden *St Evremond's Ess* 372 Her Spirit is extensive without bounds; Vast rambling so far in general thoughts, as not to be able to return easily to singular Considerations. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No 209 P 2 The Account we have of his vast Mind 1743 Francis tr *Horace, Odes* I xxxvii 12 Vast in her Hopes, and giddy with Success 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 287 With voice far sweeter than thy dying notes, Spirit more vast than thine.

**4.** Very great, immense, enormous, in respect of amount, quantity, or number

1637 *Verney Mem* (1907) I 114 Yet what is all this but a small part of those vast treasures left him by his father *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) II 527 Sir Thomas Cooke, late lord mayor of London, was of vast wealth 1682 Flavel *Meth Grace* xix 341 No wind man expends vast sums to bring home trifling commodities. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith* 64 The vast Ruin which fell at that Time 1760 R. Brown *Compl Farmer* II 62, I have known vast crops of rye upon barren lands that have been old warrens and well dunged with rabbits. 1796 H. Hunter tr *St Pierre's Studies, Nat* (1799) I 93 The members of the vast family of Mankind 1828 Thirlwall *Greece* IV 369 Carrying away vast herds of cattle 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xii III 210 The same tyranny had robbed his Church of vast wealth 1872 Raymond *Statist Mormons & Mining* 224 The Colorado River - sends a vast body of water to the Gulf of California.

**b.** With nouns of quality, action, etc.

1505 Shake *John* IV iii 152 Vast confusion waites The imminent decay of wrested pompe *c* 1600 *Life & Death Long Meg of Westward* II, On this Sir John de Castile, in a brawdo, would needs make an experiment of her vast strength 1647 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 148 Soe unequall

where there is so vast a disproportion in the knowledge, abilitee, and interests of the persones 1718 Rowe tr *Lucan* I 89 Vast are the thanks thy grateful Rome shou d pay To wars which usher in thy sacred sway 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 166 I he same vast superiority will be found in every article of employment to which these waggons can be put 1776 Burke *Regic Peace* Wks VIII 393 Most of them engage, for a short time at a vast price, every actor or actress of name in the metropolis 1833 Ht Martineau *Fr Wives & Prof* I 15 Vast labour will be required to render these lands productive once more 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) I. ii 174 His reading was vast, especially in theology

**c** With nouns denoting number or amount. (Passing into next)

(*a*) 1697 Miege *Fr Dict* II, A vast quantity, *une grande quantité* 1736 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let to Cesar of Peterwardein* 25 Nov, I am the vast number of English crowds the town so much. 1748 *Anson's Voy* I vii 105 These rocks terminate in a vast number of ragged points 1823 *Edin Rev* XXXIX 49 In the vast quantities of net into prison 1857 Buckle *Civilis* I vii. 325 Disputes now regarded with indifference by the vast majority of educated men 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz* 1 Jan 1/1 I saw a vast number, and examined them very carefully.

(*b*) 1718 Hickes & Nelson *Y Antiquarii* III cxvi 478 He took a vast deal of Pains nicely to Examine every Thing 1820 *Blackwood's Mag* VII (1820) 1 v 37 Blackstone, with artificial admiration, said a vast deal more than he thought 1858 Dickens *Lett* (1880) II 75 We have done a vast deal of business 1871 Freeman *Norm Conq* xvii 246 He showed her a vast amount of studied respect

**5** In weakened sense as a mere intensive

Common in fashionable use in the 18th cent of Vastly *adv.* 3

1698 Phillips (ed 3) *s.v.*, Figuratively we say, such a one has a vast Fancy, a vast Wit vast Parts &c. 1700 S. L. tr *Aristot Rhet* 1 ii 30 Every new and full Moon, the Sea drives em up in a vast way *a* 1704 T. Brown *Beauties* Wks. 1730 I 45, I saw Armida in my vast surprize, So rich in charms 1764 Reid *Inquiry* II i But most other bodies while exposed to the air are contin ually sending forth effluvia of vast subtilty 1802 Sibbit *Worth & Fast* 111 1 6 They took a vast precaution to shut down a window 1822 Hawthorne *Blair Sch Peppersell* (1879) 186 An object of vast antipathy to many of the settled munsters. 1861 F. Metcalfe *Oxonian in Iceland* III (1897) 33 Their wise heads go everlasting, and look everything with a vast solemnity

**b** *A vast many*, a great many *t Obs*

1595 Woodward *Hist Hist Parish* 1 49 By perpetual Circulation of every thing, in the Kingdom of Nature are transacted 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 22 The Restoration had brought a vast many Families to London 1771 J. Hall *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III 207 Jacob was sent out a vast many times 1833 J. Hook *Parson's Daughter* II, But there are a vast many persons in the neighbourhood who would make suitable husbands for such a girl 1853 Hawthorne *Tanglewood Tales A Wonder-book* It troubled her with a vast many tender fears

**c** *adv.* = Vastly *adv* Now *dial*

1680 Miege *Fr Dict* II A vast rich Town *une Ville fort riche* 1756 Brooke *Fool Quality* (1790) II 264 Many vast high ones [& mountains] we crossed, and travelled through very wonderful glins 1757 H. Brooke *Female Officer* I vii, He is a vast pretty man 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ* (1778) [Dorothy Kilner] *Anec f boarding sch* I 47 I cannot say that I am vast fond of Ler *Ibid* 98 Half a dozen of them all alike—they go out, O I vast fine! vast fine! 1869—in dialect glossaries, etc

**Vast**, southern ME. *vaste* Fast *sb*, *a*, and *adv*, obs Sc f Waste

**†Vast**, *v. Obs*—1 [ad L *vast are* ] trans. To lay waste, destroy

1534 More *Heresyes Lyfe* 119 For be fleschly sawle is to be healdlyng of be godhede is not rauisshyd bot if it be gostely, all fleschly lettyngis vastyd

**†Vaste**, *v. Obs*—1 [ad L. *vastat us*, pr. pple of *vastare* ] Laid waste, devastated

1690 I. Adams *Serm, Taming of Tongue* Wks. 152 The vastate ruines of ancient monuments

**Va state**, *v. rare.* [Cf prec and Vastation 3] *trans* To render unsusceptible

1850 *Harper's Mag* I XXXIV 606/2 That long passion of his early youth, which seemed to have vastated him before he came there. He was rather proud of his vastation

**Vastation** (væstēi·ʃən) Also 6 **vastacion** [ad. L. *vastation*, *vastatio*, n of action f *vastare*, *vastatus* waste. See *Devastation*, *Devastate*.]

**†1** The action of laying waste, devastating, and destroying Also freq, an instance of this. *Obs* (very common 1610-1660)

1545 Joye *Exp Dan.* vii 120 b Howe grette vastacions and destructions in the churche are there prophecied! 1614 Ralegh *Hist World* v § 1 The Greekes doe still, as in former times, continue the invasion and vastation of each other *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist Ch Scot* iii (1677) 175 Thereupon insued a pitifull vastation of Churches and Church buildings. 1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 383 No war no sedition, no vastation, made so great a waste upon the religion of that place

**†2.** The fact or condition of being devastated or laid waste. *Obs.*

1578 Banister *Hist Man* v 64 The whole masse of man must needes haue runne in perpetuall ruine, and vastation. 1617 Collins *Def Bp Elf* II x 458 We lament their desolation and vastation 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III xxiv (1840) 162 The sad spectacle of their country's vastation would disturb their minds 1653 Gauden *Hieraspi* 10 Rob us of it may be through the Lords mercy, that winters flood shall be for their mendment or fertility, and not for their utter vastation and ruine.

**3** The action of purifying by the destruction of evil qualities or elements. Also *transf.*

1847 Emerson *Repr Men, Swedenborg* Wks (Bohn) I 328 He was let down through a column that seemed of brass, that he might descend safely among the unbapp, and witness the vastation of souls 1888 J. Elsie *New Christianity* xii 290 Spirits preparing for heaven, or under going vastation 1892 [see Vastatke ]

**†Vastative**, *a Obs*—1 [f L *vast-are* see -ative ] Devastating

1657 Waterhouse *Fire London* 34 Circumstances, benign to, and corresponding with a vastative event

**†Vastator.** *Obs*—1 [a L *vastator*, agent n f *vastare* ] Devastator

1569 Grindal *Lett* (Pa. 86 The cunning Adversaries and Vastators of the Church of England drive a fewer trade.

**Vaste**, southern ME var Fast *a*, *adv*, and *v*, obs. Sc f Waste *sb* and *v* **Vastell**, obs var Wastel **Vastering** (obs Sc.) see Wastering

**†Vasti dity.** *Obs* [irreg var. Vastity.] Vastness, vastitude

1603 Shake *Meas for M* III i 68 A restraint, Though all the worlds vastinitie you had To a determin d scope. [1812 W. Lennart *Auster & B* xvii Their heads with curl d vastidity of wig ]

**Va stily,** *adv* [f. Vasty *a* ] In a vast manner

1844 Mrs Browning *Drama of Exile* 972 A few Distinguishable phantasms vague and grand Which sweep out and around us vastily

**Vastitude** (va·stitud). [ad. L *vastitudo*, f *vastus* Vast *a* ]

**†1.** Devastation, laying waste. *Obs*—1

1545 Joye *Exp Dan* ix 162 And after the batsall their shalbe an vtter pertycyon & vtmoste and destruccion of them

**2** The quality of being vast, immensity

1623 Cockeram 1 *Vastitude*, greatness exceeding large nesse. 1790 H. Boyd *Notes Ariosto* in *Poet Lit* (1806-7) 72 The wonderful variety, Music and beauty of the bizarre surveys Whose vastitude appalls him 1825 J. Hook *Nav Tales* Ser II *Lawson & Irene* I The vastitude of the multi farious objects by which she is surrounded 1844 Mrs Browning *Crowned & Buried* vii, The torrid vastitude Of India felt That name

**b** Of immaterial things.

1805 Forbes *Life* I iv, You adopted a certain vastitude of phrase, mistaking extravagance of expression for greatness of thought 1833 *Aero Monthly Mag* XXXIX 182 The Abbey performances gave the world no other or no other has ever yet achieved for vastitude, precision, and excellence in the grander demonstrations of music. 1884 *Christ Journal Inner Life* 55 They could not see the measure of the issues of their mission—or, perhaps, its very vastitude had paralysed their energies.

**c** Unusual largeness.

1876 Browning *Ab* 12 He who owns the wealth Which blocks the windows vastitude 1886 Dowden *Shelley* II 210 If the vastitude of Mr Gisborne s nose was, as Shelley says, Shakespearian

**3.** A vast extent or space.

1841 How. Smith *Moneyed Man* I vi. 163 Sending up spires, domes and cupolas from a supernatu ubent vastitude of smoke 1854 S. Neil *Plain Advt* 31 Onward through the immense vastitudes which the Almighty hand has sprinkled with suns and world systems 1883 *Liverpool Courier* 25 Sept 4/5 The enormous astral vastitudes were seen to be broken by the dark domain of mother night.

**Vastity** (va·stiti) Now *rare.* Also 7 vaust ity [ad L *vastitas* or F *vastité* (= It. *vastità*, Sp. *vastedad*) see Vast *a.* and ity ]

**†1.** The fact or quality of being desolate, waste, void, or empty *Obs*

1545 Joye *Exp Dan.* ix 162 b After the batails were done there remayned a perpetuall vaste & desolacion 1586 Ferne *Blas Gentrie* 49 Haunts, wanne and discords as the causes of destruction, vastity and penurye 1592 Wasse *Answ Lanicina Wks* (forsyth) II 23 Finding nothing but emptines and vastitie 1618 J. Taylor (Water I) *Jeanities Eager Wks* (1630) 130/2 Here therefore did re mayne the vastanity of empty nurve 1622 Peacham *Compl Gent* 63 Earth yukes upon the face of the Earth, running of it in one place leaving Gulfes and Vastitie in another 1651 *Ashleigh Ordeal* 174 The army of the Gentiles causing desolation and vastity shall destroy the City

**2.** The quality of being vast or immense, vastness, vastitude

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II xii 345 In considering the clowdy vastitie and gloomie campine of our church 1634 Heywood *Hierarchy* 4 The unbounded Sea and Vastitie of shore, All these expresse a Godhead to adore 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 403 The Dead Sea because of its vastity rem ins immovable

*transf* 1654 Cokaine *Dianea* III 255 This [Kingd m] of Cyprus is sufficient to satiate the vastitie of these thoughts. 1859 Adolph *Symphony Creation* I 31 The fifth had read a great part of my work admired the vastity of physical knowledge embodied therein

**3** A vast or immense space *rare* 1

1652 Nedham tr *Selden's Mare Clau* 17 Witness the manie sandie parts of Africa and the immense vastities of the new world

**Vastland,** obs Sc form of Westland

**Vastly** (va·stli), *adv* [f Vast *a.* + -ly 2]

**1.** In a waste or desolate manner. *rare*—1.

1593 Shakes. *Lucr* 1740 Who like a late-sack'd island vastly stood Bare and unpeopled in this fearful flood
**2** Immensely, to an extent or degree not readily grasped or estimated
1664 Power *Exp Philos* Pref 17 Though it so hopes to vastly hyperbolical 1676 Hobbes *Iliads & Odyss* Why first she sends an Heroes virtuous end 1708 J Chamberlayne *St Gt Britt* (1710) 7 It hath many safe and commodious Ports and Havens, as 'tis vastly spacious 1732 Berkeley *Alciph* xi § 11 I see vastly great Pr. finite power has increased vastly during the last half century in our own country 1885 *Manch Exam* 4 April 4/6 A policy which will add so vastly to its influence and power
**b** Freq with words or phrases denoting comparison
1665 Glanvill *Def Mod* 25 Wh. in the Actions whereby they are effected are so vastly diverse 1693 *Apol Clergy* 15 In a sense vastly different from what were intended by Mr Rule 1710 J Clarke *Def Milt Mod Phil* (1729) I. 15 In Italy will be carried vastly further than the small Shot 1778 Sheridan *Camp* II. i Tolerable accidents present would have been vastly better 1880 Hazlitt *Table Talk* Ser II xxv (1869) 292 You have to contend vastly less and the point at which you have set out 1886 Gretener *Sci Cookery* 203 It is of thrilling consequence that the explosive of such powder is vastly more rapid and powerful 1889 Lounsbury *Prose Style* xxii 134 The Union people here are vastly in a minority
**3** In weakened sense as a mere intensive. Extremely, very (Cf Vast *a* 5)
Common in fashionable use in the 18th century, chiefly with *like* (*a*) but occasionally with *vbs.* (*b*) or advs (*c*). The use *Vast and vastly* is commented on by Lord Chesterfield *Lett* No 195 and 196
(*a*) 1664 *Varney Mem* (1907) II 204 She putts in and assumes much very much of the vastly extravagant in the 19 Jan 1670 *Eng* 11 (1754) 219 The City was vastly full of People 1733 J Burnett *Bp Last* 20 Jan Believe me most affectionately & vastly devoted Y. urs I B 1782 Mrs Hurrell *Cecilia* VI x His is all vastly true but I know not to what purpose, of it just now 1840 Fonblanque *Life & Times* (1876) II 78 A vastly acute and doggedly intellectual fellow 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxiii, Mrs Lirriper was a vastly different person from his imperturbable behaviour to the Doctor 1872 Black *A Daughter* vi 68 That small person was becoming vastly important
(*b*) 1750 H Walpole *Lett* (1846) II 358 I laughed vastly 1768 Colman *Jealous Wife* I pr test I like my Lady Bluemy vastly 1850 *Punch* XVIII (Kilkg) 234 I should vastly like to examine this little bunch-back a little more closely 1879 Mrs Macquoid *Beckoh* I 183 That will please me vastly
(*c*) 1796 Mrs Chapone *Miscellanies Collect* (MS) in Club I 127 He sang vastly fine 1799 Sheridan *Duenna* Prol. Am I to come vastly late? 1814 Jane Austen *Lady Susan* xv She talks vastly well 1837 Lytton *Maltravers* I. 5 As for that, that will do vastly well
**Vastness** (va stnes) [f Vast *a*]
**†1** Desolation, waste *Obs rare*
1605 Bacon *Adv to Learn* II vii § 7 Because their escape alone into the limits of the general causes hath been a vastness and solitude in that tract 1642 Sir F Deming *Sp on Aelig* 87 That Hill doth seem to me an uncouth wilderness a direful vastness
**2** The quality of being vast, immensity
1607 Beaum & Fl. *Woman Hater* III iii Could the Sea throw up his vastness, And offer free his boat inhabitants 1667 Milton *P L* VII 242 Nor unconcern him much Heavens highest Farm of Earth upbow'd His vastness 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 12 The swelling Surges menace the towering Skies leaving a Hollow where they borrowed their Gigantine Vastness 1794 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* vi Lmally gazed with enthusiasm on the vastness of the sea 1838 Dr Morgan *Rise Progr Mind* 24 When we speak of the vastness, the regularity and the permanency of the solar system 1886 Ruskin *Fraterita* VI 209 The vastness of a pile in the Milanese places in it pressed me at once *Ibid* 1601 H Jonson *Poetaster* III, I began to have vastnesse f a tyrannous Crie 1873 Helps *Amias & Mast* I 8 You will be able to appreciate the vastness of this area of cruelty
**b** Of immaterial things
1622 Fletcher *Pr Pilgrim* III, You have I know it is an ill pride to that vastness As he believes the Earth is in his Fathom 1658 *Verney Mem* (1907) II 77 The vastness of my affections 1690 Locke *Hum Understand* xxvii § 2 Look all on these as d thought of thee In vastness and in mystery 1889 Ruskin *Fraterita* III 246 The vastness of Scott's true historical knowledge
**3** A vast or immense space
1674 N Fairfax *Bulk & Selv* 61 The excellent Dr Hen More whose soul may have roamed as far into these scopes and vastnesses as most men in the world 1895 Lucas *Hiawa* xii 137 Then a voice was heard Coming from the empty vastness 1897 *Temple Bar* 92 Thunder and tempest of wind Their tongues blent in the vastness
**†Vastnre** *Obs*[-1] [f Vast *a*] = prec 3
1596 *Edw III* II i 402 What can one drop of poysons harme the Sea Whose huge vastures can digest the ill And make it loose his operation?
**Vasty** (va sti), *a* [f Vast *a* + -y] Vast, immense (In mod use after Shakspere)
1596 Shakes 1 *Hen IV*, III i 52 I can call Spirits from the vastie Deepe. 1599 — *Hen V*, II iv 105 The poore Soules, for whom this hungry Warre Opens his vastie Iawes. 1605 *I Isp of Stucley* K ij b Which makes me sorrow that thy valour should be sunke In such a vasty vnknowne sea of Armes. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit* I 330 I saw in a white sandy ground divers vastie, craggie stones of strange formes
1792 R Cumberland *Calvary* 182 Noah can tell How all the earth with violence was fill'd Or e'er the fountains of the vasty deep Were broken up 1845 Ford *Handbk Sp* I 77 The fendrl castle, the vasty Escorial, the rock built alcazar 1867 S F Bull *Ecce Cachum* 1 to Not a whisper, not a rustle, through all the vasty dome.

*fig* 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed 3) 63 Von pretty little star Shines on a vasty falsehood 1885 Pater *Marius* II 48 Those vasty conceptions of the later Greek philosophy
**†Va sy**, *a Obs* Also **veasy** [app f F *vase* slime + -y]
1742 *Lond & Country Brew* 1 (ed 4) 75 In the Marshes of Kent and Essex the Air is generally so infectious, by Means of those low veasy boggy Grounds. 1743 *Ibid* II (ed 2) 143 Who with our veasy, muddy Sedims is often increased by the foulnesses of new Supplies and subsided at the Bottom?
**Vat** (vat), *sb* Forms 3 **uet**, 3-4 **uat**, 5- **vat**, 4, 6 **vato**, 8 **vatt**, 4-5 **vaat**, 4, 6-8 **vate**, 6 **vaette** [Southern variant of Fat *sb*] The long vowel in the obs forms *vaat*, *vate*, is derived from the OL pl (*fatu*, etc.) or from late forms of the gen and dat sing (*fates*, *fate*)
**1** A cask, tun, or other vessel used for holding or storing water, beer, or other liquor, usually one of some size in which a liquor, esp beer or cider, undergoes fermentation or is prepared; †a vessel
1225 *Juliana* 31 Pe worldes wraldent þat wisse ærst uþan his cw engeliske unhurt þe uæt of walli de eoli 1340 *Ayenb* 231 Hi bereþ a uet precious tresor me a wel yelden uat 1388 Wyclif *Jerem* xxxiii 3 An Archei wolde had þym or leye an huge vaat ful of water clere 1399 *Rec Leet & A* 473/21 m 2 [To Adam] circulus ligneus emptus vd di ob ad ponend in vaato 1418 *Ibid* 1. 1 [To] Adam] in emdem co servanda. 14 *Voc* 11 Wr Wülcker 577 *Cuma*, a cive a vate 1440 *Lallad on Mad* 1 465 Canels or pipis wyses forth to be lade Into the vat & temprs, make mirie 1552 Huloet *Vat*, or fat, a vessell for water, nie, beere, or any liquor *labrum* 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iii, *Cophanus* 745 Lhcat grape to weep and crimson streams to run Into the vats 1662 Gerbier *Counsel* 56 Coloquintida *Myst Vintners* (1675) 194 A clean and strong, ascented Cask or Vate 1697 Phios *Ep Sir P Shiphard* 41 My Uncle Shales has gli me with Cyder to replenish My Vats or oblang Tide of Rhenish 1708 J Philips *Cyder* I 18 Would st thou, thy Vats with gen rous Juice should fouth Reduce Orchyta. 1781 Johnson in *Boswell* 5 Apr We are not here to sell a parcel of boilers and vats. 1830 M Donovan *Dom Econ* I 61 This fermenting tun is an immense wooden vat 1862 Cornhill Mag VI 600 Vats and covered in at all parts. 1872 Yeats *Techn Hist Comm* 237 I or the large circular vats in which the oils was formerly fermented slate tuns have been recently substituted
*Comb* 1440 *Promp Parv*, Vatt-ger, or tub maker, or tub maker
**b** A vessel, cauldron, or cistern containing the liquid used in dyeing or some other process
1548 Elyot, *Ahenum*, a great vatte wherein purple is dyed 1688 Shadwell VI 165 (Paperm making). Having prepared the stuff, cheat and vatt quite clean Of the pot the clean bark or first preparation [etc.] 1792 W Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I introd p. 9 The stuffs were immersed in vats, where they received various colours. 1849 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanic* 366 The large vat or cistern of a paper mill, A A, is of an oblong figure on the outside 1852 *Textures & Glass* 38 When the flints are thus sufficiently ground the semi fluid is transferred to another vat. 1873 Hamerton *Intell Life* xii 1 432 Every locality is like a dyer's vat; residents take its colour
†**c** = Fat *sb* 1 b *Obs rare*
1507 *Liti s Churchw Acc* (Som Rec Soc) 53 Item an oyle vatte of syluer
†**d.** A cask or tub used as a receptacle for refuse, or filth *Obs*
1534 *S Mrs Rauf D* 77 fol 67 b, The vaettes that conveyeth the Rubbysch from the great Keehyn 1536 *Ibid* Shoryng and scalyng clean the Vaties of the Comen Jakes, with other vattes with in the said castell
**2** In various special uses **a** = Cheese vat
1669 Worlidge *Syst Agric* (1688) 334 *Salt r or l. ilium*, or *Vatts*, is that we Mould wherein Cheese is pressed 1850 *All Year A. und* No 51 19 The next step taken was to get a proper 'vat and 'follower' made of solid mahogany
**b.** *Tanning* = Fat *sb* 1 c
1777 *Phil Trans* LVIII 115 Until they think proper to lay it away in the Vatts. In those holes, which are the largest in the tan yard, the leather is spread out smooth 1875 Knight *Mech. Dict* 2439/1 In a tan yard contains a number of wooden lined vats whose tops are level with the ground 1885 *Harper's Mag* Jan. 276/1 The hides are placed in vats filled with a dissolved excrement
**c** *Cornwall* (See quot.)
1778 Pryce *Min Cornub* 225 Upon the top of the arch or back of the calciner is made a square hollow place called a Vate or Pan, sufficient to contain a serving or hand barrow full of Tin
**d** *Mining* (See quots)
1802 J Mawe *Min. Derby* Gloss *Vat* a wooden tub used to wash ore and mineral substances 1830 Raymond *Statist Mines & Mining* 253 Outside of the building the pulp runs first into vats, where the heavier portion settles and the rest goes into the creek 1888 F Hume *Mine Mosley* I. v, The wash was carried along in the trucks from the top of the shaft to the puddlers, which were large circular vats into which water was constantly gushing
**e** *Saltmaking* A salt pan (See quots)
1860 Maury *Phys Geog* (Low) II 22 There is a series of vats or pools through which the water is passed as it comes from the sea, and is reduced to the briny state. 1861 J H Bennet *Shores Medit* (1873) I v 143 The vats or pools into which the sea water is received for evaporation
**3** A cask, barrel, or other vessel for holding or storing dry goods = Fat *sb* 1 a
1706 Estrick *London* IV 328 Their business being to attend each ship, to top the vats and to return an account of the coals measured 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk* I 741 The arrival of a vat of Hamburg yarn *Ibid*, The inhabitants met the waggon, decorated the vat with ribands and drew the same through the village 1859 F A Griffiths *Artill Man.* (1862) 159 The horses are to be taken out, the harness packed in vats
**†b** formerly used as a measure of capacity for coal (see quots. and Fat *sb* 1 4) *Obs.*
1708 *Constit Watermens Co* xiii, It is agreed and order'd that all Lightermen selling Coals, shall sell Pool measure, That is to say, One and Twenty Chaldron to the Score, or otherwise to sell the same Measure each person buys, (provided the Parcel be five Chaldron and a Vatt at the least) 1763 *Ann Reg* 69 Importation of coals into the port of London in the year 1760, amounting to 570 274 chaldrons and one vat. 1821 *Acc Calculations Coal Trade* 5 The measure used in the pool is by vat: this contains nine bushels heaped
**†c** (See quot) *Obs*
1730 Pailey (fol) *Fat Vat*, (of Merchandize) an uncertain quantity as of yarn, from 210 to 211 bundles, of wire, from 20 to 25 pound weight, &c
**4** *Dyeing* The liquid solution in which the material to be dyed is immersed, the dyeing liquor Usually with defining term
1755 *Dict Arts & Sci* II 998/2 Lime is much used in working blue vats *Ibid* 1003/2 The blue vats in deep Hues of the fifth stall give no considerable weight 1765 (*indigo vat* see Indigo C 3) 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 415 In this vat, the immersed cloth is kept from the air, the oxidizing function of the copperas in the cold vat *Ibid*, The pastel vats require most skill in consequence of their comparatively 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* III 781 Copperas or common blue vat *Ibid* 332 An excess of lime yields a sharp vat; too little lime yields a soft vat 1900 *Jrnl Soc Dyers* XVI 8 A vat prepared with caustic soda
**5** *attrib*, as *vat room*, *vat man*, *Paper-making*, a workman who lifts the pulp from the vat and moulds the sheets of paper, a dipper or maker, **vat-net** (see quot), **vat press**, *Paper-making*, a press in which the sheets are placed after they leave the vat
1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 907 Meanwhile the 'vat man puts the deckel upon it either mould 1885 *Law Times Rep* LIII 225/1 The 'vatman takes the mould on the n ould to fill the deckle 1884 *Knight Dict Mech* Suppl 932/1 ***** *A vat net*, used as a strainer over a tub or tank 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 321 1 Man in keeping in order the 'vat presses, &c 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVII 209/1 This p st is placed in the vat press and subjected to a strong pressure to force out the superfluous water 1842 Tizard *Cookery*, 164 Where the trade is extensive and 'vat room is of consequent importance
Hence **Va tful**
1632 Sherwood A vat full *cuvée* 1862 *Sat Rev* XIII 411/1 By the sudden interposition of a vat full of pale ale details
**Vat** (vat), *v* [f prec] *trans* To place or store in a vat.
1784 Twamley *Dairying Exemplified* 48 May ye people as soon as the Whey is removed immediately break the Curd small and then put it into the Cheese Vat I would always recommend that it rest some quarter of an Hour before it is broke or vatted 1862 *Chambers's Encycl* IV 727/1 The factitious compound being mixed or vatted with the wines in bond 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict c.* 20 § 8 (1) The proprietor of spirits may vat, blend, or rack them in the warehouse
**b** To immerse in a dyeing solution or vat
1883 R Haldane *Workship Receipts* her II 210/2 The goods are next lined, wattled and vatted
**Vat**, southern ME. and dial var Fat *a*, obs Sc f *wot* Wit *v* **Vatch**, southern dial var Fetch *v*, obs Sc f Watch **Vate**, obs Sc f. Wait *v* **Vater**(e, obs Sc ff Water.
**[Vates** (vē tīz) [*l vates.*]
**1.** A poet or bard, esp one who is divinely inspired, a prophet poet
1624 Lincoln *Hagerstone* II xi 1572 The peculiar interesting their applauses clapping hands and running in to gratifie their Vates (Poet or Prophet) with a present 1687 *Pr Author Life* in Cleveland's Works And now again he was Vates in the whole Import of the Word, both Poet and Prophet 1855 Lewes *Goethe* I 251 The high and priestly office which he saw in the poet as a real Vates 1878 G Smith *Life John Wilson* xvii 547 Each was the Vates of his countrymen.
**2** *pl* One of the classes of the old Gaulish druids Cf Ovate *sb*
1728 Chambers *Cycl s v Druids* The *Bards* were the Poets; the *Vates* were the Searchers, and Naturalists.
1775 L Shaw *Hist Moray* vi § 227 Druid was the general name of the Sect: the 2d and third Classes were divided into Priests, Vates and Bards, who were their Divines 1882-3 *Schaff-s Encycl Relig Knowl* I 668 According to functions they were divided into classes—bards, vates, and druids proper
**Vath**, dial var Faith *int*
**Vath**(e, Sc var Wathe *sb* (danger)
**Vathym**, southern ME. variant of Fathom *sb*
**Vatic** (va·tik), *a.* Also **7 vatick** [f L *vat-es* a prophet, poet + -ic] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a prophet or seer; prophetic, inspired
1603 Dr Hall *King's Prophecy* xvii, My pus nè Muse presumed to recite The vatick lines of that Cumnan Dame 1844 Mrs Browning *Vis Poets* clxxvii, If every word that sweeps To college of the world must pale their lips. 1868 *Good Words* 1 Jan 53 To the sound of their vatic exordiums did Roland Laporte and Jean Cavalier march from their fastnesses. 1871 R D Blackmore *Our Lit Cnty Chch* 291 The thought betrays enough of the vatic exaltation of the seer
**†Va tical**, *a Obs rare* [f as prec + -al]
Vatic Hence **Va tically** *adv.*
1594 *Zepheria* xvi, My brow Which wholome thou with

lawrell vaticell Knobbed hat, (high signall of renowne) 1634 Br Hall *Contempl., N. T.* IV xxv 238 Neither couldst thou have made up those vatical predictions, without this conveyance. 1641 *Brightman's Revelations* 3 Now as Mr Brightman vatically observeth, the Church of Thyatira [etc.].

**Vatican** (væ·tikăn) Also 6–7 **Vaticane**. [a F *Vatican* (= It., Sp., Pg *Vaticano*), or ad L. *Vāticān-us* (sc. *collis*, *monti*) see def.]

1. (With initial capital), and now always with *the*.) The palace of the Pope built upon the Vatican Hill in Rome.

Also, in recent use the papal authorities or the system which they represent; the papal power; the Papacy.

1558 Tepe *Decades* (Arb.) 200 As wee are accustomed to goo on lyvigramege to Rome or Vaticane. 1607 B Barnes *Divils Charter* II 1 B. 5, Heere lenuoie we Charles with pompous ceremonies, Feasting within the Vaticane at Rome. 1611 Birle *Transl Prof* P13 The Latine edition printed in the Printing house of Vatican *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Jan 1645 I went to see the Pope's Palace, the Vatican, where he for the most part keeps his Court. 1777 R Watson *Philip II*, II (1839) 29 He expressed his dread that ere long the Vatican itself would be in the hands of the enemy. 1779 J Jay in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev* (1853) II 284 There is as much intrigue in this State House as in the Vatican. 1866 Gladstone in *Lett Ch & Relig* (1911) II 209, I required to the Vatican's household uniform. 1902 J M'Cabe *Decay Ch. Rome* VI 128 England is regarded as substantially won for the Vatican.

b. Used with reference to the artistic or literary treasures preserved here, the Vatican galleries or library.

1600 Holland *Livy* App 1386 The statue of Laocoon.. now at this day is to be seene at the Vaticane. 1610 Bolton *Idem Armories* 54 such a librarie as they had rather loose then to bee Despoonsplaste in Athenens, or Romulus wormes in the Mediceian, or Vatican, the most renowned armaries of bookes in all the world. 1694 J Norris *Cursory Reflt Locke's Essay Understand* 433, I would meet with his Book for half a Vatican. 1756–7 tr *Keysler's Travels* (1760) IV 354 This picture resembles that which is to be seen in the Vatican at Rome. 1796 H Walpole *Lett. Cary & Simt Nat* (1799) I 70 the man of the woods has certainly a very imperfect resemblance to the Apollo of the Vatican. 1841 W Stephens *Hora Subsec.* I 166 Of these two copies [of a statue] one is in the Vatican.

*fig.* 1649 G Daniel *Trinarch. Hen IV*, cclxv, A Well bought treasure from the Vatican, Whose Volumes Numberless Matter doth Summe In one Compendious Abstract Well bound Man! 1854 Thoreau *Walden* iii (1886) 109 When the vatican shall be filled with Vedas and Zendavestas and Bibles. 1858 M Arnold in *Eccles Ld Coleridge* (1904) II vi 160 Suppose you look in your stately Vatican of a library and see if you have not half a dozen copies.

**2** *attrib* or as *adj* Of or pertaining to the Vatican or its library.

*Vatican Council* the council of 1869–70 which proclaimed the infallibility of the Pope.

1638 R. Baker tr *Inform. Clerk Lett* (vol III) 208 You found not these excellent qualities in the Vatican Library. *a* 1900 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Jan 1645 By these we descended into the Vatican Gardens. 1703 Maundrell *Journ.* The old Vatican Terence has at the Head of every Scene the Figures of all the Persons. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVII 150/2 The Vatican manuscript contains originally the whole Greek Bible. 1825 in *Ushaw Mag* Dec (1913) 265, I lately got a beautiful edition of the I XX printed from the Vatican copy. 1845 Graves *Roman Law in Encycl Metrop* II 768 The Vatican fragments were taken by Mai from a manuscript of the *Collationes* of Cassianus in the Vatican Library. 1876 *N. American Rev* CXXII 325 The builders of the Vatican Council expound the doctrine of the church in these words. 1886 *Encycl Brit* XX 835/2 The Vatican palace also appears to have originated in a house which existed in the time of Constantine.

Hence **Vatica·nal**, **Vatica·nic**, **Vatica·nical** *adjs.*

1899 *Westm Gaz* 27 June 3/3 Several Catholic parishes elected priests who refused to accept the new 'Vaticanical dogma. 1898 F P Evans *Et. & Ethics* IV 160 In the spirit of the 'Vaticanic dictum. 1908 *Contemp Rev* Mar 1 It suppl to He has announced with 'Vaticanical authority that [etc.].

**Vaticanism** (væ·tikănizm) [f. Vatican.]

1. The tenet of absolute papal infallibility or supremacy in respect of ecclesiastical doctrine or affairs as declared by the Vatican Council.

1875 Gladstone *Vaticanism* 8 The proceedings of Vaticanism threaten to be a source of some practical inconvenience. 1875 — *Glean* (1879) VI 243 The antichristian action of Vaticanism on the minds and lives of men with a power and sagacity worthy of the best days of Christian thought. 1890 *Spectator* 23 Aug 1 But in 1870 Manning and Newman seemed to be drifting in opposite directions,—the one towards 'Vaticanism', the other towards restrictions of the Papal initiative.

**2.** *transf* (See quot.)

1884 *Dublin Rev* Jan 187 'Vaticanism', in the sense in which we here use the term, is a word borrowed from Dr Scrivener to express the opinion of those who think the Vatican Codex to be the truest and best text of the Greek Testament.

**Vaticanist** (væ·tikănist), *sb*, and *a*. [f as prec. + -IST.]

*A. sb* An adherent or supporter of the Vatican or of Vaticanism.

1848 Worcester, *Vaticanist*, an adherent to the Vatican. *Ec. Rev* 1873 *Guardian* 20 Aug 1086/1 We are the true Catholics, we are the true members of the Church, and the Vaticanists have made a new sect. 1875 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) VI 219 The Court of Rome filled the office with a thorough paced Vaticanist.

B *adj* Of or pertaining to Vaticanism or its adherents.

1890 *Church Times* 11 Mar 250/4 The adequate maintenance of the Vaticanist claims. 1899 *Westm Gaz* 17 Aug 3/3 The fundamental question between the Vaticanist Crosse and the English Church.

**Vaticanization** (væ·tikănaizĭ·ʃən) [f. next + -ATION.] The action or fact of bringing under the authority of the Vatican or Papacy.

1873 *Contemp Rev* XXIII 694 The Italianization, or rather the Vaticanization, of Latin Christendom.

**Va·ticanize**, *v.* [f. Vatican + -IZE.] *trans* To subject to the authority of the Vatican, to imbue with Vaticanism. So **Va·ticanized** *ppl a.*

1890 *For Ch Chron.* March 8 Impossible for him to adopt the Vaticanised faith. 1896 Bright *Rem. Sacr in Early Ch.* 212 This bold attempt to Vaticanise antiquity.

**Va·ticinate**[1] (væ·tisĭnēt) [f. L. *vāt-es*, stem of *vātēs* prophet + -CIDE 1.] One who kills a prophet. Also *fig.*

1798 Poor *Dunc* II 74 Then first (if Poets aught of truth declare) The cautif Vaticide conceiv'd a prayer. 1746 Smollett *Reproof* 171, I see with joy, the vaticide deplore An hellebearing priest and sov'reign whore. 1749 — *Regicide* Pref p. vii, My Patience being by this Time quite exhausted, I desired a Gentleman who interested himself in my Concerns, to go and prosecute with the Vaticide [*sc.* the Manager of Drury lane Theatre].

**Va·ticide**[2] *rare.* [f as prec. + -CIDE 2.] The killing of a prophet.

1823 Landor *Wks* (1876) V 119 Vaticide is no crime in the Statute book.

**Vaticinal** (vătĭ·sĭnăl), *a.* [f. L. *vāticin-us* prophetic, + -AL.] Of the nature of, characterized by, vaticination or prophecy, prophetic, vatic.

1586 J Hooker *Hist Irel* in *Holinshed* II 1 Sylvester Giraldus Cambrensis, his vaticinall historie of the Conquest of Ireland. 1645 Ussher *Body Div* 14 Which are the Prosaicall books? Such as are for the most part written in prose, and foretell things to come; wch not also more especially if they are termed Prophecyall, or vaticinall. 1678 *Stat Nat* (1799) I 70 the men of the woods has certainly a very imperfect resemblance to the Apollo of the Vatican. 1841 W Stephens *Hora Subsec.* I 166 Of these two copies [of a statue] one is in the Vatican.

*fig.* 1649 G Daniel *Trinarch. Hen IV*, cclxv, A Well bought treasure from the Vatican, Whose Volumes Numberless Matter doth Summe In one Compendious Abstract Well bound Man! 1854 Thoreau *Walden* iii (1886) 109 When the vatican shall be filled with Vedas and Zendavestas and Bibles. 1858 M Arnold in *Eccles Ld Coleridge* (1904) II vi 160 Suppose you look in your stately Vatican of a library and see if you have not half a dozen copies.

**2** *attrib* or as *adj* Of or pertaining to the Vatican or its library.

*Vatican Council* the council of 1869–70 which proclaimed the infallibility of the Pope.

1638 R. Baker tr *Inform. Clerk Lett* (vol III) 208 You found not these excellent qualities in the Vatican Library. *a* 1900 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Jan 1645 By these we descended into the Vatican Gardens. 1703 Maundrell *Journ.* The old Vatican Terence has at the Head of every Scene the Figures of all the Persons. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVII 150/2 The Vatican manuscript contains originally the whole Greek Bible. 1825 in *Ushaw Mag* Dec (1913) 265, I lately got a beautiful edition of the I XX printed from the Vatican copy. 1845 Graves *Roman Law in Encycl Metrop* II 768 The Vatican fragments were taken by Mai from a manuscript of the *Collationes* of Cassianus in the Vatican Library. 1876 *N. American Rev* CXXII 325 The builders of the Vatican Council expound the doctrine of the church in these words. 1886 *Encycl Brit* XX 835/2 The Vatican palace also appears to have originated in a house which existed in the time of Constantine.

Hence **Vatica·nal**, **Vatica·nic**, **Vatica·nical** *adjs.*

1899 *Westm Gaz* 27 June 3/3 Several Catholic parishes elected priests who refused to accept the new 'Vaticanical dogma. 1898 F P Evans *Et. & Ethics* IV 160 In the spirit of the 'Vaticanic dictum. 1908 *Contemp Rev* Mar 1 It suppl to He has announced with 'Vaticanical authority that [etc.].

**Vaticanism** (væ·tikănizm) [f. Vatican.]

1. The tenet of absolute papal infallibility or supremacy in respect of ecclesiastical doctrine or affairs as declared by the Vatican Council.

1875 Gladstone *Vaticanism* 8 The proceedings of Vaticanism threaten to be a source of some practical inconvenience. 1875 — *Glean* (1879) VI 243 The antichristian action of Vaticanism on the minds and lives of men with a power and sagacity worthy of the best days of Christian thought. 1890 *Spectator* 23 Aug 1 But in 1870 Manning and Newman seemed to be drifting in opposite directions,—the one towards 'Vaticanism', the other towards restrictions of the Papal initiative.

**2.** *transf* (See quot.)

1884 *Dublin Rev* Jan 187 'Vaticanism', in the sense in which we here use the term, is a word borrowed from Dr Scrivener to express the opinion of those who think the Vatican Codex to be the truest and best text of the Greek Testament.

**Vaticanist** (væ·tikănist), *sb*, and *a*. [f as prec. + -IST.]

*A. sb* An adherent or supporter of the Vatican or of Vaticanism.

1848 Worcester, *Vaticanist*, an adherent to the Vatican. *Ec. Rev* 1873 *Guardian* 20 Aug 1086/1 We are the true Catholics, we are the true members of the Church, and the Vaticanists have made a new sect. 1875 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) VI 219 The Court of Rome filled the office with a thorough paced Vaticanist.

B *adj* Of or pertaining to Vaticanism or its adherents.

1890 *Church Times* 11 Mar 250/4 The adequate maintenance of the Vaticanist claims. 1899 *Westm Gaz* 17 Aug 3/3 The fundamental question between the Vaticanist Crosse and the English Church.

**Vaticanization** (væ·tikănaizĭ·ʃən) [f next + -ATION.] The action or fact of bringing under the authority of the Vatican or Papacy.

1873 *Contemp Rev* XXIII 694 The Italianization, or rather the Vaticanization, of Latin Christendom.

**Va·ticanize**, *v.* [f Vatican + -IZE.] *trans* To subject to the authority of the Vatican, to imbue with Vaticanism. So **Va·ticanized** *ppl a.*

1890 *For Ch Chron.* March 8 Impossible for him to adopt the Vaticanised faith. 1896 Bright *Rem. Sacr in Early Ch.* 212 This bold attempt to Vaticanise antiquity.

**Va·ticide**[1] (væ·tisĭd) [f. L. *vāt-es*, stem of *vātēs* prophet + -CIDE 1.] One who kills a prophet. Also *fig.*

1798 Poor *Dunc* II 74 Then first (if Poets aught of truth declare) The cautif Vaticide conceiv'd a prayer. 1746 Smollett *Reproof* 171, I see with joy, the vaticide deplore An hellebearing priest and sov'reign whore. 1749 — *Regicide* Pref p. vii, My Patience being by this Time quite exhausted, I desired a Gentleman who interested himself in my Concerns, to go and prosecute with the Vaticide [*sc.* the Manager of Drury lane Theatre].

**Va·ticide**[2] *rare.* [f as prec. + -CIDE 2.] The killing of a prophet.

1823 Landor *Wks* (1876) V 119 Vaticide is no crime in the Statute book.

**Vaticinal** (vătĭ·sĭnăl), *a.* [f. L. *vāticin-us

**Vatir,** obs. Sc f Water
**Vatt(e,** obs. ff *Vat sb* **Vatte,** southern ME. var **Fat** a, pa. t. **Fet** *v*
**Vatted,** *ppl a* [f Vat *v*.] Placed or stored in a vat, said esp of wine Also *fig*, mellow
1843 Tizard *Brewing* 4(3) Old and vatted Beer 1873 *Sat Rev* 29 Nov 694/1 The forked wine of Hamburg whi h is variously known as Rhine sherry, vatted sherry and Hamburg sherry 1887 *Lady Hall Mag* Feb. 253 A considerable company most of us fine old vatted English Tories
**Vatten,** obs southern var **Fatten** *v.* **Vatter,** -ir, yr, obs Sc ff. Water **Vattill,** obs f Water.
**Vatting,** *vbl sb* [f Vat *v*.] The action or process of placing beer or other liquor in a vat or vats. Also *attrib*
1843 Tizard *Brewing* 444 Vatting of Porter 1855 Orilvie *Suppl to v.* Vats g charges at the docks 1860 Bagehot *Fr & Venetian Constitutions* (1887) 93 Let a man question the fees on vatting or the change in the game certificate *c* 1886 Kipling *Opium Pot story* 93 After vatting, the big vats are probd with test rods.
**Vatyr,** obs Sc form of Water.
**Vau** (vɔ̄) Also 9 vaw [a late I *vau* (Vulgate), ad Heb *vāv* Vav.] The sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the Hebrew particle *va-, ve-, u-* and *ū*, denoted by this letter (Cf Vav)
1580 Wecelf *Pet* exiv 41 (*Heidelberg*] Vau. (Also in Cover dale and later versions.) 1598 W Muir *Ir* exiii. Wks. (S T S) II 185 He *Vau* 1643 J Caryl *Expos Job* I 1586 The particle *Vau* usually taken as a Conjunction *Ibid.* 1587 Thus in the Text the particle (*Vau*) is take i by some as a note of likeness 1736 Ainsworth *Lat Dict* II s v *F*, Its place and analogous use favour its descent from the Hebrew *vau* 1798 *Brit Critic* XI 116 There is no small arity whatever between the Syriac pod and vau 1832 *Tait Heb Gram* (ed 2) 21 The *Vau* is frequently left out *Ibid* 30 The *Vau* commonly changes that syllable 1844 W Upton *Physio,-Sophist* 156 The Hebrew having no express character for *o* the full sound of it is indicated by a *vau* with a d it above
**Vaudeso,** variant of Vaudois *sb* and *a*
1781 *Encycl Brit* (ed 2) VIII 6170/1 The valleys between France and Italy are inhabited by the Vaudese, who are Protestants 1818 *Scholefield Encycl Relig Annal* III 2274 In Nov. 1815 the Vaudese clergy left the Established Church *Ibid*, The Vaudese revolution
‖ **Vaudeville** (*vo* dvil, -vil) [F *vaudeville*, earlier *vau* (pl *vaux*) *de ville, van de vire*, and in full *chanson du Vau de Vire* a song of the valley of Vire (in Calvados, Normandy)] The name is said to have been first given to songs composed by Olivier Basselin, a fuller of Vire in the 15th *c*]
1 A light popular song, commonly of a satirical or topical nature, *spec* a song of this nature sung on the stage
The entry in Blount *Glossogr* (1656) is copied directly from Cotgrave (1611)
1739 H Walpole *Let to R West* 18 June, I will send you one of the vaudevilles or ballads which they sang at the comedy after their *Acteon* 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog* (1859) 85 Whenever Carbonel sings his delicious vaudevilles we think of you 1824 Watts *Bibl Brit* II 617 Simon de la Loubère also wrote Songs, Vaudevilles, Madrigals Sonnets, O les, &c.
2 A play or stage performance of a light and amusing character interspersed with songs Also without article, this species of play or comedy
1833 Lytton *Godolphin* I, Fanny was intimable in vaudeville, in farce and in the broadest humour 1842 Dickens *Amer Notes* (1850) 65/2 The third the Olympic, is a tiny show box for vaudevilles and burlesques 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley's Secret*, Country people always go to see tragedies None of your flimsy vaudevilles for them I 1878 Geo Eliot *Dan Der* xx, Is this world and all the life upon it only like a farce or vaudeville, where you find no great meanings?
*attrib* 1851 *Times* 28 Oct 13/4 A vaudeville entertainment, which was continued for about three months 1899 Morrow *Bohem Paris* 15 Paris, the great city the vaude ville playhouse title world
**Vaudevillist** (*vo* dvilist). [ad F *vaudevilliste* (1725), f *vaudeville* see prec] A writer of vaudevilles
1879 *Cent Mag* Oct 478 Whilst the writer of comedy has grown too witty, the vaudevillist too stupid 1892 *Harper's Mag* Sept 502/2 The untiring inventiveness of ingenuous vaudevillists
**Vau dism,** *rare* [Irreg f next] The tenets of the Vaudois.
1855 Milman *Lat Chr* V 17 All persons whatsoever, lay or clerical, under the suspicion of heresy or Vaudism.
‖ **Vaudois** (vodwa), *sb* and *a* Also 6 Valdois [F, repr med L. *Valdensis* see Waldenses] a *sb pl* Waldensians b *adj* Waldensian
1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 219 Ther be in the French prouince a people called Valdoys They of vn ancient custome doe not acknowle ge the hoh p of Rome 1678 P Bovet (*title*), The History of the Vaudois 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v The Vaudois had their name from this Valdo, whose Heresies they were They were also call d Lyonists. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XIV 737/1 In the valleys of Luserne, Peyrouse, and St Martin live the celebrated Waldenses or Vaudois 1830 Whittier (*title*) The Vaudois teacher *Ibid* 27 She hath gone to the Vaudois valles 1841 W Spalding *Italy & It Isl* III 234 The church of Rome and its Italian princes had deeply disgraced themselves by their conduct to the unhappy Vaudois. 1856 R Palmer *Fam & Fore Mem* I xvii 256 He reported of the Vaudois pastors, that they were desirous of cultivating the Anglican connection
**Vau donism,** [f. next] = Voodooism.
1884 *Spectator* 13 Dec 1651/2 Vaudouism, which now rages in Hayti, is, in fact, an old African creed, and its priests hold cannibalism necessary to their rites. 1890 *Ill Lond News* 24/5 Great numbers of all ranks secretly practise vaudouism
‖ **Vaudoux** (vɔdū) [F] = Voodoo *sb* Also attrib
1884 R F Burton *Mission to Celebe* (1893) I 62 The Vaudoux or small green snake of the Haytian negroes, so well known by the abominable orgies enacted before the Vaudoux King and Queen 1884 in Sir S W John *Hayti* v 208 Like fetish sect of Vaudoux imported into Hayti by the slaves coming from the tribes on the western *c* ast of Africa. *Ibid* vii 247 A freshly built temple dedicated to the Vaudoux worship.
**Vaudy** (vɔ̄ di), *a. Sc.* Also **vady, vaudie** [Of obscure origin.] a Elated, delighted b Stout, stalwart c Gay or fine in appearance.
*c* 1720 W Meston *How long shall our land* in *Jacobite Songs* (1874) 41 Then must we be sad, while the traitors are vaudie, Till we get a sight o our nin bonnie Luddie 1793 *Piper of Peebles* 7 Cummers fled and hurl d as weel On te, as ony vady thief 1805 *Ann Scott's Poems* (1808) 222 In bl ue worset boots that my auld mither span, I ve aft been fu vaudy [1821 vanty] an I was a man *a* 1869 Charles Stuart *Poems* (1879) 79 Now I got new trews and coat, And stalked about in trappings vaudie
**Vauer,** obs. Sc form of Waver *v*
**Vaueussour,** obs. form of Vavasour
**+Vaughouse.** *Obs*—[ad Du *wachthuus* or LG *wachthûr*] A guard-house
1616 [J Chamberlain] *Cotelerii Scripta* (Soc Sc) 131 But they this leader to the vaughouse bore, where how cowardice, how cruelties abusd his rancke, let silence put it I ye
**Vaught,** obs. f Vault *sb* 1, 2 I, and *v* 4
**Vault** (vɔlt), *sb* 1 Forms *a* -6 voute (5 woult, 6 vowte, 5c) vout (5 woutt), 5-6 vowte (5 wowte), 5 (9 *Sc*) vowt, 5 voghte (wo3te), 6 vowght, vought *β.* 5 (6 *Sc*) woult, 6 voulte, voult, 5-7 volt (5 *Sc.* voltt), 5 6 wolte, *Sc.* wolt. *γ.* 4 vavte, 4-7 vawte, 5 6 vaute, 4-7 vaut (5 vavtt), vawt, 6 vaught, vawght *δ* 6 valte, vaulte, valt, 6- vault [A OF. *voute, voulte, voite, vaulte, vaute* (mod F *voûte*), = Prov *volta, vouta, vota*, It and Pg *volta* —pop L **volta*, ppl f L *volvere* to turn —Cf Volute, Volve.]
It is not clear at what date the *l* finally established itself in the standard pronunciation of this word and *ch*, together with the related verbs etc As in the case of *fault* there is some tendency towards the use of a short vowel (vɔlt) in all the forms]
1 A structure of stones or bricks so combined as to support each other over a space and serve as a roof or covering to this, an arched surface over any some space or area in the interior of a building, and usually supported by walls or pillars, an arched roof or ceiling.
The two chief varieties are the *barrel* or *cylindrical vault* and the *groined vault*
*a* 1387 *Sir Beues of Hamtoun* (1871) 35 The voute abovyn Sant Stevyns auter 1424 *Extr Acts* (1886) 58 Pe voute of Okeham stepil *c* 1440 *Alph Tales* 454 In a were is yme bis was sent a dragon, pe kirk was 3 made of clay *Holy Rood Tree Scot* 1 181 To the mussons of the Palis, in drink siluer for the pendin of three voutis xij vnicornis. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Paralip* xxi 59 He spredeth out the heauen like a vowte 1539-40 in *Dugd Mon N* 6 (1693) Oct 238 Hewyng of tymber for the lytell chamber vought att Powderham 1595 Duncan *Appl Eyem* (E D S) *Camera*, in vowte 1822 Hone *Mundane Mirror* 1 6 By Saint a hair cared he about auld kirks, or kirkyards, or vouts or through stanes 1901 Trotter *Galloway Gossip* 239 He cam on a vowt biggit wi stane an lime
*β c* 1400 *Sc Troyan War* ii 2434 It had vnder erd but weir Standand woltis & cavis seir 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I xii 111 Sa sair sauerly kept thair vnsuer vnchesonyt Sanyoch to be a clos volt quhar thai went 1538 Leland *Itin* (1769) I 18 The riche Cardinal of Winchester gildid all the Floures and Knottes in the Vaultes of the Church 1565 *Acct Priory Connell Scot* I 247 The wallis arrevin, and the volt thair throw partit, neir hand the ane side from the uther
*γ* 13 *Sir Aldr* 7197 (Laud MS.), Pe toures maken & pe vawtes, Vayres, Vitres, & pe kirnels 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 81 Vawtes of stoonwerk wonderliche i wrouȝt *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxviii 382 See you yonder vawte pat is grete? 1503-4 *Dunbar Poems* xxiv 416 Enuawyid with rubles the vawte was of this place. 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II xiv 50 b There are goodly vawtes supported by vaunes and great pillers by pillars. 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Kings* vii 3 He decked the whole vaut with bordes of cider *c* 1640 J Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I 389 The walls, vautes, and windows they razed and teare a down
*δ* 1545 Elyot, *Arcus*, the vault of a roufe. 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 114 b, They set a young man above over the vaute of the churche 1585 J Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II xxiv 65 The arcenal hvth neare an hundreth arches or vaultes to builde anil hale the galiies vnder couer out of the wether 1604 E Grimstone *D Acosta's Hist Indies* II xiii. 112 With a slender covering of mats or straw, they are better preserued from the heate, than in Spaine vnder a roofe of wood, or a vault of stone 1703 Moxon *Mech Exerc* 271, I did intend here to have added something about the Arching of Vaults, but shall omit speaking of Vaults in this Exercise 1730 Gray *Alliga* 38 The long drawn aisle and fretted vault. 1790 Burke *Fr Rev* Wks V 42 The vault of the king's own chapel at St James 1818 Scott *Br Lamm* xx, The shadow of the ribbed and darksome vault, with which veneration had canopied its source 1840 Barker *Gloss Archit* (ed 5) I 506 In grouned vaults the arches which cross each other do not always correspond in width
b *transf* An arching roof or covering resembling a structure of this kind.
*a* 1470 Tiptoft *Cæsar* xii (1530) 14 vi Legions made in a maner a vaut to hyde them 1602 Holland *Pliny* II 405 A man shall see the drops of water become stone as they hang to the very vaults of the rocke 1706 Addison *Rosamond* ii iv, At length the bowery vaults appear! 1773 *Cook's Voy* I xvi. (Hawkesworth) II 170 They frequently passed under vaults, formed by fragments of the rock 1822 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 557 The net is tightened , and forms a grand vault over the whole cherry garden. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N* § 137 The coloured specimens of globe out of which foam is constituted, are portions of spherical vaults constructed of fluent particles 1877 Bryant *Little People of Vagus* 151 And now the white walls widened, and the vault Swelled upward, like some vast cathedral dome
c. The apparent concave surface formed by the sky Chiefly *poet* and usually with defining terms
*a* 1586 Sidney *Ps* xix. vii, His [the sun's] race is ev'n, from endes of heav n, About the vault he goeth 1591 Spenser *M Hubberd* 1229 From whence he vewes Whatso the heauen in his wide vawte containes 1605 Shaks *Lear* v iii 259 Had I your tongues and eyes, I'd vse them so That Heauens vault should crack 1656 Cowley *Pindar Odes, Nemean Ode* ii Through earth, and ayr and Seas, and up to th heavenly Vault 1732 Pope *Ess Man* I 271 The Vault of Air, the congregated Ball, Self-center'd Sun and Stars that rise and fall. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 201 Even ing turns the blue vault grey 1840 Lardner *Geom* 215 The intersection of the plane of the water with the hemi spherical celestial vault 1869 J Martineau *Bible* II 229 The vault of the nocturnal sky 1874 Sayce *Compar Philol* viii 331 The bright vault of heaven
d *Anat* One of other of certain concave structures or surfaces normally facing downwards.
1594 T B *La Primaud Fr Acad* II 150 Vessels and instruments, which serue the brayne, amongst the which there is another called a vault: both in respect of the fashion and of the vse 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat* 95 This vault is formed by the nasal bones and the nasal processes of the maxillary bones *Ibid* 423 The posterior lobes and the vault of the hemispheres of the cerebrum 1849 H Miller *Footpr Creat* iv (1874) 45 The upper and middle portions of the cranial vault *Ibid* 47 Plate V Fig 2 He distinguishes the posterior pillars of the vault from the pedes hippocampi.
2 An enclosed space covered with an arched roof; *esp* a lower or underground apartment or portion of a building constructed in this form.
*a*, *β* 1396-7 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 600 Pro carin c[sone] v[s] lad pels[arum] pro le vout 14 *Dorothe* 101 in Hornin *Antiqu Lect* (1858) 80 Che shall not scape so sone, he thowȝt, He put here in prison in a voghte *c* 1440 Cargrave *Life St Kath* iv 1195 Alle the presen, whiche had wowtes seuene, Wan light that tyme right of his presens 1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* II 404 The sepulture of olde antiquite In cellers and lowe voultes, and hulles of reslte 1554 *Acc I d Hugh Treas Scot* X 268 To reasave voults fra the monkes to put in tymr 1558 *Ibid* 248 Ane key to ane of the forsaid furneaing to ane volt 1616 *Extr Aberd Acc* (1898) II 339 To mack ane hewin door in the mid wall, betuixt the northmest voult and the southermest voult
*γ* 1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 153 He commaundid to kepe his chylde and that hit were Enclosed in a vaut of stone 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* II 904 The sepulture of olde antiquite In cellers and lowe voultes, and hulles of reslte 1554 *Acc I d Hugh Treas Scot* X 268 To reasave voults fra the monkes to put in tymr 1558 *Ibid* 248 To ane key of the forsaid furneaing to ane volt 1616 *Extr Aberd Acc* (1898) II 339 To mack ane hewin door in the mid wall, betuixt the northmest vault and the southermest vault

[¶6 a.] A covered conduit for carrying away water or filth, a drain or sewer. *Obs*

*c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 1607 The water Gosahet through Godardys & other grete vautes, An I clensut by course all pe clene Cite. 1533 *Mⁿ Rawd. D* 776 If 133 b, Mukyng of new vautes of bryk to Conveyye the water from Cunnyng Stretes to leades of the said Castell vnder the said new wharff 1567 in *Vicary's Anat* (1888) App iii n 154 The gouernors shall skowr the common sewer or vaut at the seed house 1596 Harington *Metam Ajax* (1814) 53 A goodly Jakes within the town with a vault to c nevey all filth into the Tiber a1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Feb 1645, The House of Office having many vaults and conveyances under them for the sull ge.

†b. A cistern *Obs* —1

1558 Hilget, Vault or place to receaue rayne water, *imphuuium*.

†c. A necessary-house, a privy. *Obs.*

1617 J Rutter (Water P) *Trav Lond to Hamburgh* Wks (1630) 80/2 The Hang man hath the emptying of all the vaults or draughts of the City 1665 *Orders 1 of Mayor Lon* I in De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg) 64 That n > Nightman be suffered to empty a Vault into any Garden *a*1700 B E *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Vault, an House of Office

5. A natural cavern, cave, or overarched space, †a deep hole or pit.

1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* xl 19 These shall come, and shal light all in the valeyes, in yᵉ vowtes of stone 1587 Fleming *Contin Holinshed* III 1313/1 The hole or vaut beneath sometimes filled with water, and otherwhiles neither bottome, trees, or water maie be perceiued 1593 Norden *Spec Brit*, *Cornwall* (1728) 21 Vaults, hole or caues vnder ground wherinto the sea floweth at high water verie farr vnder the earth 1617 Morvson *Itin* I 11 This City is of a round forme, compassed all sides with Mountaines, having many Vaults or Caves vnder it 1691 Ray *Creatn* 1. (1692) 127 Some should digg Vaults and Holes in the Earth, as Rabbets, to secure themselves and their Young 1726 H Hunter tr *V Lucretius' Nat* (1909) III 1 And In the burning entrails of which the fire consumed Ætnean vaults incessantly thunder 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* iii 61 It is from the deep vaults to which spiritual life has been consigned that the history of the dawn of life is to be composed 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I v 38 He vault at the end of the glacier

*transf* 1578 Banister *Hist Man* I 29 Moreouer in the interiour part of the wrest, we finde a broad, and deepe caunte through the which the tendon turneth, not a small number of tendons of Muscles to be inserted to the ioyntes of the fingers. And in this vawte, or hollow, they seeme as it were included, or locked vp.

†b. *To go to the vault* (see quot) *Obs*

1576 Turberv *Venerie* 165, I haue seene [hares] that woulde take the ground like a Coney (whiche is called goyng to the vault) when they haue hunted long.

6 *techn.* The inner portion of a steel furnace.

1805 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanics* 341 Inside the conical building is a smaller furnace, called the vault built of fire-brick or stone D D, in the bottom is the dome of the vault 1884 W H Greenwood *Steel & Iron* 409 The temperature in each furnace is regulated by closing or opening the small flues in the arch of the vault

7 *attrib.* and *Comb*, as *vault beam, -cover, door, fashion, height, like* adj., *pier*, etc.

1611 Bible 1 *Kings* vi. 9 *marg.*, [He covered] the *vault beams and the ceilings with Cedar* 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2694/1 A "vault-cover," with glass bull's eyes or prisms 1553 4 *Extr Burgh Rec Edinb* (1871) II 345 Ane greit loke to the *vault dure of Sanct Thomas ile* 1858 Hulbert, Vaulting or making a *vault fashion, *concameratio* 1616 *Extr Abrd Rec.* (1848) II 338 The said Thomas sall big the same of the breidth of the hall tolbuith quhill it be *vault hight 1847 Emerson *Haunted M* i. His dwelling was so solitary and *vault like 1858 Hawthorne *Fr & It Note bks* (1874) I 30 Whenever we emerged into the vault like streets. 1891 *Pall Mall G* 8 Nov 1/1 *Gothic Architecture* 58 Nowhere is the result plainer than in the constru tion of the Gothic *vault pier *c*1630 Donne *Verse* cli Wks. 1839 VI 73 These particular Spirits are their *Vault pieces *Inq* 469 The brewer who possesses storage, cellarage, or *vault room 1800 C H Moore *Gothic Archit* ii 32 Arches which sustain the *vault shells. 1482 Caxton *Dyonise's Hyghden* I xlviii (1527) 47 A thre chambered house made of *vawte stones. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The several *Vaultings*, or Vault stones whereof it [an arch] consists. 1900 H Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* ii, In the vault stone stared blue and cold at the cold moon. *a*1620 G Babington *Whs.* (1622) II 35 That late thrice-damnable Powder-Treason, or *Vault Treason: what name might it haue answerable to the iniquitie of it? 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II xxi 58 [A] building round & strongly set vp, *vawtwise in form of the Hemispherike 1611 Cotgr., *Retombe* a flat vault, or a roome that is made vault wise 1662 J Davies tr *Olearius Voy Ambass* 67 Their Cabans, or Huts, which are rowned vault wise, are built half under ground 1844 *Blackw Mag* LVI 208 Every brilliant pair was briskly strung up on cobwebs, with which the cart vaultwise was interwoven 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vi v 584 This Temple was borne vp with *Vault worke. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* I 35/2 Pit sand they use in Vault work, but not in plastering

**Vault** (vɔlt), *sb*.¹ Also 6 **vaute**. [*f.* Vault *v.*², or, in sense 2, ad F. *volte*.]

1 An act of vaulting, a leap or spring, †*spec.* of harts (see quot. 1576)

1576 Turberv *Venerie* 45 It is a pleasure, to beholde them when they goe to Rutte and make their vaute 1610 G Fletcher *Christ's Tri* 1 xl So on a winder'd tree he faintly set him, And helpt him fit the rope, 'no thear he stands, readie to hell to make his vault 1630 J Taylor (Water P), *Navy & Land Ships* Wks I 241/1 What Necromanticke spells are Rut, Vault, Slot, Pores, and Entries, Abatures, and Fayles 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Vault* is also used for the Manage and Motion of the wooden Horse, to learn to mount and unmount with Ease and Expedition 1868 W R Smith in *Fortn* (1871) II 94 A popular exercise is the spring vault 1887 *Outing* X 132/2 He would a vault in the fence vault, and the pole vault 1901 *Westm Gaz* 28 May 2/1 M Brocas fell to the ground, after his vault

†2 = Volte (in the manege). *Obs*

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. There are some Vaults wherein the Horse makes two parallel Circles

**Vault** (vɔlt), *v.*¹ Forms *a* 4 *Sc*, 5 voute (4 *Sc* wout-), 4, 6 vowte (5 vowȝte) 6 vought, 7 *Sc* wowt, 6 volt, 6, 7 *Sc*, vault *β*. 5–6 vawte (5 vawth-), 5, 7 vaut(e, 6 vaught. 7 6 vaulten, vaulte, valte, 6-vault [ad OF *vouter*, *voulter*, *voulter*, *vaulter* (mod F *voûter*), f *voute*, etc., Vaulte *sb*.¹]

1. *trans* To construct with, to cover in with, a vault or arched roof. Also with *over*

*a* 1389 *Charters Edinb* (1871) 35 I the forsadys sal mak and voute v chapellis on the south syde of the parysch kyrc of Dynbrugh 1535 Coverdale *Ps* cxli 3 I shal be fenced it aboue with waters. 1616 *Extr Aberd Rec* (1848) II 138 The said Thomas sall voute ouer the nethermest vaultis the hight of thrie vlnaith thair 1656 H Gosnold *Hunsdon Hist Earls Sutherl* (1813) 509 The Earl finished the great tour the same yeer, wowting it to the top

*β* 1512–8 Will *Dr Lyndesay's Wardrobe* (1886) 1 478 They can nawthe the church after the fourme of a platte therfor devised 1577 H Goode *Heresbach's Husb* 1. (1586) 42 b, They doo vaute the floore with Brickes. 1577 Holinshed *Chron* III 1271/1 William Chester and John Calthrop courred and vaulted the towne ditch from Aldersgate to Newgate

1589 K Long *Sparclay's Argenis* I v 12 The first builders of this house vaulted vnder the ground a secret way vnknowne to any but my selfe 1650 Earl Monm tr *Jansenius' Gallo-Cantrip* 301 The Country of Tres has in the sure, hath taught our Architects to vault buildings 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* I 73/2 What ever sort of Arch you vault, Bricks, with 1829 Bowyer *Days Departed* 8 Ask of the Geologist How Nature, vaulting the rude chamber, scoop'd its vast recesses 1848 C S Hillard in *Life & Lett* (1864) II 111 This he combined with vaulting them with such a sky, that is not easy 1884 Baring Gould *Deserts S France* II 104 The various attempts made to vault the naves.

b. In pa. pple. used predicatively. Cf. Vaulted *ppl a*.

*a* 1389 *Charters Edinb* (1871) 35 The fyfte chapel woutyt with a durre *c*1400 Maundev (1839) iii 17 And undre theise Yowses ben Celles wel ȝ vowted for the Emperours Hors 1412–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* II 689 Fresche alures with lusty hipe pynacles, Vowted aboue like reclinatories 1511 *Cal Treas Scot* (Cosmo) 265 There is a fyr yate large Chapell, well woughted and lyghted by many lamperis hyeng 1538 *Ireland Itin* (1769) II 53 A right fair and costely peace of Worke made al of Stone and curiously vaulted

*β* 1434 *Indenture Fotheringhey* in Dugdale *Monast* (1846) II 241a/2 Three strong and mighty arches vawthid with stone 1448 in *Doc Illustr Univ Glasg* (1854) 26 (1886) I 256, vj chambres aboue, vaulted 1525 Lo Berners *Froiss* II lxxxix 597 The houses within were well vawted with stone, so that the eyre nor sonne myght dyd them noon but small domage 1584 R R tr *Herodotus* II 105 b, He caused an oxe to be made of wood, inwardly vauted and hollowed 1611 Bible 1 *Kings* vi. 9 The house was vaulted with Cedar beames and boords. Note to iii 238 Chedder Cleeues, rocky and vaulted, by continual distilling is the fountain of a forcible stream

γ 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. Nativ. Narrow Vales vaulted about with Hils 1625 tr *De Monfart's Surv h. Indies* To the said place is all vaulted about with Porches. 1686 Wood *Life* 20 July, Buried in a grave brick'd and vaulted over with bricks 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) IV 165 The inside is vaulted, and is large enough for the reception of eight or ten beavers 1815 Plinlimmon *Acc. Cambel* (1840) 18 The cave was preserved in most perfect manner, vaulted over with brick and mortar 1831 Scott *Cast Dang* viii, The study was vaulted with stone. 1873 Tristram *Moab* v 77 Long ranges of buildings, most solidly vaulted

c. Of things To form a vault over (something); to cover like a vault to overarch.

1639 Milton *P. L* vi 214 The dismal hiss Of fiery Darts in flaming volies flew, And flying vaulted either Host with fire 1684 Wheler *Journ Greece* 1 90 The wall beginning to bend forward, Arch-wise, as if it were to vault a Portico. 1729 Young *Busiris* iv 1, Have I not seen whole armies vaulted o'er With flying Javelins? 1736 Wesley *Prof* xi 3 (Jan) (1898) I. 21, I was vaulted over with water in a moment. 1777 G Forster *Voy. round World* II 187 The tufted arbours which vaulted over the paths are hung with beautiful flowers of all kinds. 1807 J Barlow *Columb* VII 231 Blaze-trailing fuses rouse the night a dim round, And shells and langrage lacerate the ground

2 *absol* To construct a vault or vaults *rare* 0.

*c*1440 *Promp Parv* 512/1 Vowtyn, or make a vowte, *arcuo, testudino* 1552 Huloet, Vaulten or make vaultes, or arches, *fornico* 1570 Levins *Manip* 16/40 To valte, *arcum duco*

3. To bend, arch, or raise (something) after the manner of a vault.

1552 Huloet, Vaulten or make bente lyke a bowe, *arcuo*. *c*1586 C Tyrr *Penbroke Pr* cxxxvi iii, Whose skillfull art did vault the skies 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 376 You must Vault the Earth, whereby it may hang over them, and not touch them. 1733 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl. s.v., To vault a horse shoe, is to forge it hollow, that the shoe, thus hollow or vaulted, may not bear upon the sole that is higher than the hoof 1833 Lewyson *Later Letters* 85 Hainful is the dark blue sky, Vaulted o er the dark blue sea 1877 J Davis *Translunac & Aerost* 35 Looking across the vast expanse, with the wide blue sky vaulted over it

†4 To make vaults or cavities under (something) 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 1 77 Wee shall vault and vndermine your foundations in such maner that they shalbe torne vpside downe

5. *intr* To curve in the form of a vault

1805 Eugenia de Acton *Nuns of Desert* II 166 The spangled arch, which vaulted to the footwool of the throne of Mercy 1807 J Barlow *Columb* VII 231 Deep, serene as breathless even, Seem'd vaultir g downward like another heaven 1844 J Merson *Mar., Faust ius* Wks. (Bohn) III 323 Her mighty orbit vaults like the fresh rainbow into the deep

**Vault** (vɔlt), *v.*² Forms *a*. 6 vaute, 6–7 vaut, 6 vaught *β* 6– vault. [app ad. OF. *volter* (*vouller*, etc.) to gambol, leap, assimilated in form to prec.]

1 *trans.* a. To mount (a horse) by leaping. *rare*—1

1536 Elyot, *Desultor*, he that can vaute [*Ar* vaute; 1545 vaulte] a horse, and leape frome one horsbacke vnto an other [cf Vaulting *vbl sb*.¹, 1901 1531]

†b *fig* (cf Leap *v* 9) *Obs*

1611 Shake *Cymb* I vi 134 Should he make me Liue like Diana's Priest, betwixt cold sheets, Whiles he is vaulting variable Ramps In your sweet bed

c To get over, surmount, by vaulting

1884 *Kendal Mercury & Times* 3 Oct 5/1 The gate has been locked, so that foot passengers have to vault the gate 1901 *Nursery & Mag* XVIII 1 Children vaulted the boxwood and seated himself on her veranda

2. *intr.* To spring or leap, *spec* to leap with the assistance of the hand resting on the thing to be surmounted, or with the aid of a pole.

*a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem* (Arb) 64 To vaut lustely, to runne, to leape, to wrestle. 1591 Lodge *Hist Dk Normandy* (1), He was active of bodie, & vaughted exceed ingly well 1599 Shakes *Hen V* III 1 I could wish my Lady at Leape frogge, or by vawting into my Saddle, with my Armour on my backe 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 370 King Iheutoboccius was wont to vaut over foure or five horses set together 1821 Clare *Poems Descr* I 1 (1668) 25 The generous and gallant Phaeton, All courage, vaut s into the flaming Throne

†b 1609 B Jonson *Sil Woom* II 1, Such a delicate steeple, i the towne, as How to vault from 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt Exampl* II *Disc* xi 355 When we addresse ourselves to prayer let us when we have done rise from the ground as if we vaulted or were glad we had done 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 268 In his Dances he leap d up, and vaulted, like Phrynichus, who was celebrated for those Performances 1711 *Rollin's Anc Hist* (1827) I 84 Vaulting from one to the other 1791 Cowper *Iliad* VII 265 In standing fight adjusting all my steps To martial manners meet or vaulting light Into my chariot thence [I] can urge the foe 1824 Scott *Lad of Isles* VI xxii, Vaulting from the ground, His saddle every horseman found 1830 Tennyson *Mermaid* 33, I would lightly vault from the throne and play With the mermen in and out of the rocks 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 280 Can he vault among swords, and turn upon a wheel?

*fig* 1809 tr Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 68 Ignorance seldom vaults into knowledge, but passes into it through an inter mediate state of obscurity 1836 Emerson *Nature* vii, *Prospects* Wks (Bohn) II 171 As a man should vault over his territories inch by inch, instead of vaulting at once into his throne 1882 J H Blunt *Ref Ch Eng* II 212 *note* He was ordained priest on the next day before he vaulted into the Archbishopric of Canterbury

†b. = Leap *v* 9 *Obs*

Cf sig uses of Vaulter ¹ and Vaulting *vbl sb* ²

1598 Barrey *Ireland* iv, Gentlemen do commonly beginne to Vault about the middest of September 1725 *New Cant Dict*, *To Vault*, to mount Acts of Debauchery

**Vaultage** (vɔ̄ltedʒ). [f. Vault *sb*.¹] A vaulted place or area a series of vaults

1599 Shakes. *Hen V*, II iv 124 Hee'le call you to so hot an Answer of it, That Cades and Wombie Vaultages of France Shall chide your Trenches 1865 Hereford *Times Journ not Wks.* 1874 I 1 Vaultage of Newe What is this vault-age for? *Greek.* Stowage for merchants ware, and strangers goods. a 1890 Gait *Demon Destiny* II 12 Hell rebellowing through the vaultages 1893 R H Dixon *Chapel of St John* (ed 2) 38 It might be well for you to cast one look back towards this sepulchral vaultage 1895 *East London Observer* 27 June, To be let, the vaultage of a large chapel in the Commercial Road

**Vaulted** (vɔ̄ltĕd), *ppl a* [f. Vault *sb*.¹ or *v*.¹]

1. Having the form of a vault, arched or rounded.

†a. Of the chin. *Obs*—1

a 1533 Lo Berners *Huon* cxlvi. 549 Her skynne was as whyte as yᵉ floure in the mede her throte smoth and clere, her chyne vauted [*printed* vaunted; Fr. *voûtie*].

b. Of a roof or ceiling, etc.

1558 HOLORT, Vaulted rowffe, *testudinatum tectum* 1577-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1895) I 126 The fayer embowed or vaulted roofes, or freased seelings. 1635 SWAN *Spec M* iv § 1 (1643) 54 The world being mans house, the Firmament is as the vaulted ro f of it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv 536 Now to the Cou t arriv d th stamping Son Beholds the vault d Roofs of Ivory Stone 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* iii 3, Raging Mirth With peals of Clamour shakes the vaulted Roof 1709 SMYTH *Ir Alters his Architt* (1818) 115 Terms applied without di tinction to all vaulted ceilings whatever 1844 A P DE LISLE in E. Purcell *Life* (1900) I vii 120 It contains fine st ined glass, and a vaulted ceiling painted with semi Gothick patterns 1879 DIXON *Windsor* III xii 109 A vaulted ar h supported in upper chamber

**c.** Of the sky (cf VAULT *sb*1 1 c)

*c* 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnets* lvi Vnderneth the heuinly vaulted round 1595 SPENSER *Col Clout* 612 The fame mounts fro thence in rolling glides vp to the vaulted skies. 1612 SHAKS *Cymb* I vi 33 Hath Nature given them eyes To see this vaulted Arch and the rich Crop Of Sea and Land? 1700 DRYDEN *Fal & Arc* III 504 The vaulted Firmament With loud Acclaims, and vast Applause is rent *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* vi 26 Pale Cynthia m unts the vaulted sky 1804 J GRAHAME *Sabbath* 97 A temple, one not made with hands The vaulted firmament 1871 B TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I ii 44 Lost in the vaulted azure The lark sends down his flickering lay

**d.** In miscellaneous uses

1681 GREW *Museum* I vi § 140 The Vaulted Limpet *Patella concamerata* 1793 MARTYN *Lang hot* xv, Vaulted *fornicatum* arched 1796 WITHERING *Brit Plants* (ed 3) III 514 Blossom[on] upper vaulted 1828 STARK *Elem Nat Hist* II 47 Umbilicus large, arined with small vaulted scales. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat Hist Man* 47 Wild horses have larger hea ls than domesticated ones, with more vaulted skulls heads 1858 BIRCH *Anc Pottery* II 75 A vase having a vaulted cover 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim Life* 310 The skull (in reptiles) is less vaulted and less capacious than in Aves.

**2.** Constructed or furnished with an arched roof, covered in or roofed by a vault

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 243 The artificiall baines and vaulted stoues and hot h uses which then were newly come vp 1633 P FLETCHER *Purple I* v, His vaulted Towers half built of massie stone 1687 A LOVELL tr *Thevenot's Trav* II 26 In this Court there are l odging rooms u der a vaulted Gallery th rums all round 1717 BERKELEY *Treat Tour Italy* Wks 1871 IV 520 Below stairs we saw several vaulted chambers 1794 MRS RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* xxxi I have only to go along the vaulted passage and across the great hall 1830 WITHEWELL *Archit Notes* § In a vaulted chur h, we have in general one vault which runs long tudinally along the church 1845 W G FALCONER *Aratus* II 320 The heavy winter r ins supply the vaulted cisterns *a* 1878 SIR G SCOTT *Lect Archit* (1879) I 247 Viollet le Duc says the design for a vaulted building has to be commenced at the top and worked downwards

*transf* 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 78 To dig the mineral fr m the vaulted earth 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh Unb* II v 104 A garden of vaulted bowers 1878 B TAYLOR *Deukalion* I 15 At the bases of the mountain slofty vaulted entrances of caverns

**3** Immured as in a vault.

1865 R S HAWKER II *Tyle* xx (1905) 450 Very few could stand this vaulted life of mine

Hence **Vau ltedly** *adv*

1820 J PARKINSON *Outl Oryctol* 127 The shell round it being vaultedly convex

**Vau lter**[1]. *rare*—0. [f VAULT *v*1] A builder of vaults

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Welder*, an Archer or a Vaulter

**Vaulter**[2] (vǭ ltə). Also 6–7 **vauter, vawter, 7 vautor** [f. VAULT *v*2] One who vaults or leaps. Also *fig.* (quot. 1579)

a 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Amphippi* vaulters from one horse to an other 1579 GOSSON *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 36 Every Vawter in one blinde Tauerne or other is Tenant at will, to which shee tolleth rents. 1593 HOLLAND *Pliny Nat Hist* II 1978 Demetrius was well content to heare himselfe called Jupiter Katasibytes, that is to say, the vawter 1607 TOPSELL *Fourfl Beasts* (1658) 108 Iumbling Iades, iuggling Asses, and vautors, could leap from the weary horse to a fresh 1647 HEXHAM I (Of Weights), A weight of Lead that Leapers, Vauters or Dauncers on ropes hold in their hands.

*b* 1552 HULOET, Vaulter on a horse *Aemiliar* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Desultor*, a vaulter that leapeth vp and downe fr m a h rse 1617 MORYSON *Itin* III 230 He had two Iumblers or Vaulters on Englishman the other an Italian 1694 *Martens Voy Spitzbergen* in *Acc Sev Late Voy* II 116 They put them upwards together, as the Vaulters do when they Iump over swords. 1711 *Spect* No 258 P 3 Why should not Rope dancers Vaulters, Tumblers, and Posture makers appear again on our Stage? 1791 COWPER *Odyss* xxiii 312 Since fame hath reported the Trojans nimble vaulters to the backs of steeds 1848 THACKERAY *Van Tart* lxiv, The band of renowned Bohemian vaulters and tumblers. *Punch's Voy Jan* 30/1 If you want fame as a vaulter, or a bearer of heavy weights, the Manhattan is y ur club.

*transf* 1813 KNOX *Ess Introd* iv (1816) I 109 The encomium which he be tows upon these y r last little vaulters *a* 1825 L. HUNT *To Grasshopper & Cricket* 1 Green little vaulter in the sunny grass

**Vaulting** (vǭ ltiŋ), *vbl sb*.[1] and *sb* [f VAULT *v*1 and *sb*.[1]

**1. a.** The construction of a vault or vaults, the operation of covering or roofing with a vault

1518 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 608 Herry Semerk shall haue duryng the tyme of the said vawtyng the twe of certeyn stuffes and necessaryes. 1552 HULOET, Vaulti yng or makyng a worke wyth vaultes or vault fascion, *concameratio* 1596 HARINGTON *Metam Ajax* (1814) 76 Then thus it is he alloweth the vaulting or arching over of the Jakes 1647 HEXHAM I s.v., A vaulting or making of an arch or fe. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 101 The fourth for the Vaulting of Sellars or any other Offices. 1850 PARKER *Glens Archit* 306 Domical vaulting over a circular area was likewise practised by the Romans. 1875 *Encycl Brit* II 465/2 Their introduction caused an entire change in the system of vaulting

**b** The development of a vaulted space

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* IV 150 When the abscess comes into relation with the costal walls, more or less vaulting, with widening and effacement of the intercostal spaces, will be manifest

**2** The work or structure forming a vault.

1513 in Willis & Clark *Cantabrige* (1886) I 613 The seid John Wastell shall make and sett vpp the vawtyng of ij porches. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) IV 94 A silver sconce that hung from the vaulting 1790 PENNANT *London* (1793) 65 The vaulting of this was not finished till 1506 1822 MILNER *Eccles Archit Engl* 91 xvi, The gorgeous vaulting of King's College. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit* 401 This produces in the vaulting of St James an effect something like a wooden roof 1878 WATTS-DUNTON *Asylvm* IX iv, The vaulting (supported partly on low columns and partly on the basement wall of the church) is therefore of unusual extent

*transf* and *fig* 1827 POLLOK *Course T* x, Beyond the azure vaulting of the sky 1851 MRS BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind* I 1026 His truth had barred The vaulting of his life.

**b** With *a* and pl A species, example, or piece of such work

1750 WARN *Parentalia* 290 The Romans used hemispherical Cal Vaultings. 1797 S LYSONS *Rom Antiq Woodchester* 17 It is probable that part of the room was formed by diagonal vaultings, resting on the four columns. 1823 BUCKLAND *Relig Diluv* 5 The natural vaultings that compose this sal terraneous wonder 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech Suppl* Vaultings, the arched roofs, are supported by ribs or groins, often intersecting each other

*transf* 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol & Min* xv § 4 (1837) I 356 His shell is fortified by a series of ribs and vaultings dis posed in the form of arches and domes

**3** *attrib*, as *vaulting field, pier, pillar, rib, span, shaft, surface*

1850 WHEWELL *Archit Notes* 91 The vaulting pillars are half columns from the floor *Ibid* 44 The principal, or vaulting piers in the Romanesque style were often e ngaged columns *Ibid* 45 In sexpartite vaulting they supply vault ing shafts of smaller size between the principal piers. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones I* iv (1874) I viii 97 The entire development of this cross system in connection with the vaulting shaft 1858 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect Archit* (1879) II 176 In either case the error has to be thrown into the vaulting surfaces. 1880 *Archaeol Cant* XIII 20 The Reptor vaulting with its narrow vaulting spans 1886 H Brown *Scholia to Cathedral tr* 159 Right triangular vault ing fields corresponding to the eight sides of the drum from which it springs

**Vaulting** (vǭ ltiŋ), *vbl sb*.[2] [f VAULT *v*2, but in fig uses (sec 3 and 4) perh partly suggested by the etymological sense of L *formicātio*]

**1.** The action of leaping with a vault, esp. as a gymnastic exercise

1532 FI VOT *Gov.* I xvii, There is also a ryght good exer cise whiche is called the vaultynge [*perished* vaultyng] of a horse that is to lepe on him at every side without stroppes or other helpe, specially whiles the horse is goynge 1545 — *Dict. Dictorum*, Iughynge vp and down, vaultyng of an horse 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet* (1580) 13, I maie commende hym for playing at weapons, for vautyng, for playyng vpon Instrumentes. 1607 HACKWELL *Apol* (1630) 305 These formes exercises of vaulting and dancing the Morisks. 1663 BUTLER *Hud* I iii 644 Ralpho wis mounted now, and gotten O erthwart his Beast with active vaulting 1700 WALSH in *Dryden* (O E S) I 318 Vaulting, leaping, and the like, are now much disused, as too violent for this softer age 1856 STONEHENGE *Brit Rur Sports* 443/2 By vault ing a man can easily clear his own height, and often con siderably more

*fig* 1598 MARSTON *Sco Villanie* I iii 182 Tullus goe seeke some vaulting Iesuite, or Seminarie, That for a false French Crowne thou vaulting hadst

**2.** *Vaulting horse* † **a** A horse mounted by vaulting, esp one used for the exercise of leaping into the saddle without the help of a stirrup. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, Desultorius equus, A vaulting horse that light souldiours vsed in warre 1599 B JONSON *Ev Man out of h* iv 1, I'ld spend twente pound my vaulting horse stood mee in. 1623 MARKHAM *Tongue-combat* Ep Ded 3 His Puppet cour whom hee invites to vpon a vaulting hor e loue enough for his leape 1630 B JONSON *New Inn* i 1 Instead of backing the brave steed o' mornings, and the chamberlain, and for a leap Of the vaulting horse, to ply the vaulting house

**b** *Gymnastics* A wooden figure of a horse employed for exercise in vaulting.

1879 KNOX *Boys Own Bk* 564 *Vaulting horse*, a wooden horse in a gymnasium, for practice in vaulting 1884 *Health Exhib Catal* 1217 All kinds of Gymnastic Apparatus, in cluding Vaulting Horses Vaulting Bucks, Vaulting Tables 1898 *Daily News* 14 March 6/2 A school representing the School of Arms gave a very neat exhibition of vaulting horse work

**3** *Vaulting house*, a brothel Also *vaulting-door* the door of such a place *Obs*

(*a*) 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* I xiij, Let ham but looke into a vawting house, he sh ill play his tricks without charges. 1606 DEKKER *Sev Sins* IV (Arb) 32 Letchery is patron of al your Suburb Colledges and sets vp Vaulting houses and Dauncing Schooles 1630 MASSINGER *Unnatural Combat* I i, Let me but receive My pay that is behind, to set me up A tavern or a vaulting house While men love Or drunken ness or lechery, they ll ne er fail me

(*b*) 1625 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* iv iii No more talking, Dear keeper of the vaulting door, lead on

† **4** *Vaulting-school* **a** = prec. **b.** (See quot. *a* 1700) *Obs.*

1606 H PARROT *Monsterad* 93 Vnto a Garden house, or Vaulting schoole 1637 NABBES *Microcosmus* II, Ayre was my father, and my mother a light heel'd madame that kept a vaulting schoole at the sigue of Virgo. 1679 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* IV v, Must my lodging be your vaulting-school still? Thou hast appointed a wench to come hither, I find *a* 1700 B E. *Dict Canl Crew*, *Vaulting School*, a Bawdy house: also an Academy where Vaulting and other Manly Exercises are Taught (Hence in later slang Diets.)

**5.** *attrib* in various uses, as *vaulting bar, buck, -master, -motion*

1641 W SMITH (*title*), The Vaulting Master; or the Art of Vaulting reduced to a Method 1700 WALLIS in *Collect* (O H S) I 317 Mr Bosely (then a dancing master and vaulting-master here) 1771 M LORT in J Granger *Lett* (1805) 194 He [*sc* William Stokes] was a noted vaulting master and rope dancer 1839 CRAVEN *Walker a Handy Exerc* (ed 6) 48 This exercise is conveniently practised on the vaulting bar, which rests upon two or three posts 1849 *Chambers's Inform People* II 643/2 Exercises [in vaulting] are performed with vaulting bars 1870 HARDY & WARE *Mod Hoyle, Chess* 44 The Knight is the only piece that possesses what is styled the 'vaulting motion.' 1884 [see 2 b].

**Vaulting** (vǭ ltiŋ), *ppl a.* [f VAULT *v*2] That vaults or leaps

1605 SHAKS. *Mach* I vii 27 Vaulting Ambition, which o erleaps it selfe, And falles on th other 1637 B JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II i, Allbe he know her, At the vaulting Hart his venting Hind 1847 H MILLER *First Impr Eng* xiii (1857) 217 Such always is the vaulting liberty of a false theology 1888 ISABELLE SAXON *Five Years Golden Gate* 52 So wild are the speculations, and so vaulting is the am bition of the majority of business men. 1889 STEVENSON *Misadv Nicholson* I 3 It could not come, without vault ing hyperbole, under the rubric of a gilded saloon

**b** *Vaulting monkey* (see quots.)

1800 SHAW *Gen Zool* I i 31 Vaulting Monkey, *Simia Petaurista*. 1872 *Cassell's Nat Hist* I 109 The White-nosed Monkey (*Cercopithecus petaurista*) and Sooty Mangabey

Hence **Vau ltingly** *adv*

1890 *Temple Bar* Jan 147 The Noble was vaultingly ambitious.

**Vau lture.** [f VAULT *sb*.[1] Cf. obs F. *vouture* (*voulture, vollure*)] Vaulting

1692 RAY *Three Physico-Theol Disc* (1713) III 90 The reason is the Strength and Firmness of their Vaulture and Pillars, sufficient to support the superincumbent Weight

**Vaulty** (vǭ lti) *a* Also 6 **vaute, 6 7 vaulte.** [f VAULT *sb*.[1]] Resembling a vault, having the arching form of a vault.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* H iii b, Is ye bone or bossing side of the huer M the holowe caue or vaute part of ye huer 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III xxv (1622) 441 Well (the thinkes) becomes the vaulte like, exactly tombe to couer him deceased *c* 1595 J DICKENSON *Sheph Compl* (1878) 8 Heau es light whose vautie roofe bright orls en com passe 1661 HOWELL *Venice* 40 Sound or Echo is much in vaulty and hollow places. 1726 A MONRO *Anat Bones* (1741) 94 This Vaulty Labyrinth 1850 *Illustr Lond News* 22 Nov 659/1 The great vaulty house

**Vaumbras,** obs form of VAMBRACE.

**Vaumpe,** obs form of VAMP *sb*.[1]

† **Vaumure,** *sb. Obs.* Forms **a.** 5–7 (9) **vawmure** (6 vawmeure, vawmer), 6–7 **vaumure** *β* 6–7 **vawme** (6 vamor). *γ* 6 **vaimure** [Reduced form of AF. **vaumt mur* see VAUNTMURE and VAUNTMURE] An advanced wall or earthwork thrown out in front of the main fortifications, the outer wall or series of walls of a fortification or fortress.

*a* *c* 1475 *Contin Brut* II. 577 The Flemmynges had beire gonnes to be walles, & beete doun pe vawmures and pe walles 1586 PHAER *Æneid* II, Afront the vaumures long the legion warying stood 1587 GOLDING *Contin Holinshed* III 1472 Gods prouidence ouerthrew a peece of the wall and vawmure of six and twentie poles 1609 HOLLAND *Ammi Marcell* 179 He safe recouere they had to the wall and vaumure strengthened with turfe defended these wait layers from all danger *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann* (1658) 246 [He] took the vawmure, which was of no great strength 1714 The Macedons therefore not having quite battered the inner wall, but onely undermined a vaumure made of brick [1843 LYTTON *Last Bar* I v], Next, the Palace, with its bulwark and vaumure ]

*β* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron, Hen I III* 133 b, On the north side was a great vaumor of stone, very steepe without and within, and like to a vamure of a fortresse, by the vamure the diches were xxiiii fote depe 1577 B GOOGE *Heresbach Husb* iv (1586) 97 Wherin the vamure must be so steep, that it may not easily be climed 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xi lxiv, A mount thereof to make, Or else some vamure fit to saue the towne 1642 *Prince Rupert's Sp to King* 4 Their gruffes or ditches being dry and their vamures unpallisado d

*γ* 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy* II 124 To make up againe their vaumures, the which were thrown downe with the fury of the artillery *Ibid*, He threw downe more then halfe thereof [a wall] breaking also one part of the vaumure

Hence † **Vaumure** *v* *trans.* to provide with a vaumure or advanced earthwork, + **Vaumuring,** the material forming a vaumure, vaumures collectively *Obs. rare*

1523 SURREY in Morton *Mon Ann Tewkesbake* (1832) 97 The said fortres was vawmeured with erthe of the beste sorte. , and had a barbacan *c* 1600 *Surv Carlisle Castle* in *Scott Border Antiq* (1814) I 35 The vawmering of Calder-tower is in decay.

† **Vaunce,** *v. Obs* Also 4–6 **vaunse, 6 vance.** [Aphetic f. of ADVANCE *v.*] To advance, in various senses. [Common in the 16th cent.)

*a.* *trans* 1393 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 5516 Pou art nat warpy vnaunsed to be. *a* 1400 LANGL *P. Pl.* B iii 33 (MS Rawl. Poet. 38), Shal no lewednesse lette pe clerkes pat I louye, That he [pe] worth furst vaunsed. *a* 1450 MYRC

*Pur Pr* 1636 ȝef hyt [*sc* contrition] be gret, ȝeue hyȝe penaunce. ȝef hyt be luyte, pow moste hyt vaunce [*sc.* haunce]. 1489 CAXTON *Feyttes of A* i xviii 54 The wyse captayne oughte not to putte nor vaunce forth hym and hys men ly ghtly to a bataylle 1582 N YANYHUSET *Ennest* (Arb) 85 Al thogh wnde vaunce fully thy sayls with prosperus huffing 1594 R CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 21 Thus hardie speech

Gouie ech one care, and vaunst his courage hie. 1616 *J* LANE *Contin. Sarr.* 1 ix 379 Which emblcams hee bid vaunce, for foes to reede of mercie, iustice, death, how hee decreed

b *refl* c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv 350 He vaunced hym selfe forthe, and caught the kynge wyth bothe hys armes — *Blanchardyn* xxiii 77 As blanchardyn perceyued hȝ noble puceaile, he dyde vaunce him self toward her *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.* (1809) 616 A picture of an armed Knight on a courser barded Vaunc̃yng himself vpon that hill 1573 TUSSER *Husb* (1878) 207 But marke the chance, my self to vance, By friendshipps lot, to Paules I got. 1587 TURBERV *Trag. Tales* (1837) 41 They vaunct themselves, and stood mes bolt upright

c *intr* 1544 BETHAM *Pre epts War* i cxcvii I vȝ b, The hoste vaunceyng towarde batayl the capitayne ought to speake these wordes 1595 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV iv 17 Sir Satyrane vauncing forth from all the other band Of knights

Hence † **Vaunc-ing** *vbl. sb. Obs*

c1400 *Apol Lollt* 56 A lif ful vnbitter luf and vaunceing [L. *promotio*] þat he reys his luf at a moment a boue a veyn þing 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc) 33 Clerkys that han cunnyng, Schuld have no vaunceyng, soule in kepyng For that man get no vaunsyng Without vsynony

**Vaunce-roof,** variant of VANCE-ROOF

**Vaunchace,** variant of VANCHASE *Obs.*

**† Vaunesant.** *Obs.*—[a. older F. *vau* , *vaunt-neant*, *l. vant* 3rd pers. sing pres of *valour* to be worth + *neant* nothing ] A good for nothing person.

1611 T WILLIAMSON tr *Goudart's Wise Vyetllard* 109 We can doe no other then blame these vau neantes, vaine & vitious persons.

**Vaunplate,** obs form of VAMPLATE.

**Vaunt** (vɒnt, *U S* vänt), *sb* 1 Now *rhet.* or *arch.* Also 5–6 **vaunte,** 6 7 **vant.** [Aphetic f. VAUNT *sb* 1 Cf VAUNT *sb* 2.]

1. Boasting, bragging, boastful or vainglorious language or utterance; arrogant assertion or bearing.

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1880 Hot bof pou þe victor a vaile na vaunte vall arise 14 *Sir Beues* (S) 3363+87 Kyng Yuor swoor with grete vaunte he wold Irmegaunde haue 1500 *Dunbar Poems* xiv 41 Sic vant of wowtouris with harms in sinfull stairnis 1577 B GOOGE *Heshach's Husb* i (1586) 4 b For my part (without vaunte be spoken,) I have serued euery day it cert une appointed houres. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV iv 29 A great Gyaut Whom he did ouerthrow And in three battales did so deadly vaunt, That he dare not returne for all his daily vaunt 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd & Is* II i (1846) II 256 With all the vaunt and insolent port of a conqueror

*Apronsfield a* 1550 DOUGLAS *A Il tit* II. 523 Io Vaut and Vaw ȝe beir this rown sle

*transf* 1553 T WILSON *Rhet* (E 8) 14 [Certain orators] would so muche vse as their write would giue, not weighyng the state of the cause, but mindyng the vaunt of their braine.

2 *To make* (one's or *a*) *vaunt*, to boast or brag. Also const *of* something. Now *rare*

(*a*) 1530 PALSGR 619/2 He made his vaunte that he wolde beate me. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 147 The christians whom hesa to haue throwen into the sea, for all their heades to the nexter ryuer, as th ut haste often tymes made thy vaunte emonge thy naked sluues. 1573 G HARVEY *Letter-bk* (Camden) 5, [I] am an inch beneith him, as he onv made his vaunt

(*b*) *a* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* li 177 Make no vaunt of ony thynge without thou canst do it in dede, for in euery thynge I wyll proue thee 1548 UDALL *Erasm Par Luke* 51 Many make vaunts and crakes of hauing visio ɔ of Aungels, whiche they neuer sawe 1587 MILLES *Cl Pr Dict* ii 3 v, To make a vaunt of a Thing to boast of it

(*c*) 1586 G WHITNEY *Lucbi* 228 Then, let him n ot make vaunt of his descet 1800 MOSTYN *Nutford tr* (1868) I 114 He stoutly denied the facts of which the leaguers made vaunt

3. A boasting assertion, speech, or statement, a boast or brag.

1597 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* Wks (1912) 186 I om Drums vants, and his rare intertainment at Mistris Farmers house. 1628 BACON *Ess*, *Vain-glory* (Arb.) 463 They that are Glorious, must needs be Factious. They must needs be Violent, to make good their owne Vaunts 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV 84 He spirats beneath, whom I seduc d With other promises and other vaunts Then to submit, boasting I could subdue Th Omnipotent 1694 DRYDEN *Love Tri* I i The haughty Captive who had made his Vaunts To lay their Dwellings level 1716 POPE *Iliad* v 580 Now, now thy country calls her wonted friends, And the pr ud vaunt on just derision ends. *a* 1735 G GRANVILLE *Unnat Flights Poetry* 51 Such vaunts as his who can with patience rea l† 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 198 May the vaunts And menace of the vengeful enemy Pass like the gust 1818 HALLAM *Mid Ages* IX II (1819) III 375 A writer of the thir teenth [century] asserts that the world was clothed from the English wool wrought in Flanders This indeed is an exag gerated vaunt 1858 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I i, Spain then first realised the magnificent vaunt, that the sun never set within the borders of her dom inions 1880 FARRAR *Early Chr* II 58 For a man to boast of wisdom when his heart is full of bitter emulation and party spirit is a lying vaunt

b Const *of*.

1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 73 But that the same humanitie of Christ is in the Sacrament, in such grosse sort, as is supposed by our Aduersaries, not with standing many bold vants thereof made, yet was it hitherto neuer prouted 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Telling her how he was a King, what power he had to aduance her, with many other proude vaunts of his wealth 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen VI*, III i 50 [He] by reputing of his high descent And such high vaunts of his Nobilitie, Did [etc.]. 1654 GATAKER *Disc Apol.* 80 Of which his vain pretension, and his frequent vaunts thereof being by letters minded and admoni-hed, he returns this answer 1778 DR LOWTH *Transl Isaiah* Notes (ed 12) 217 I hey introduce him as uttering the most extra vagant vaunts of his power and ambitious designs. 1806 *Scott Rev Arnolde's Life, Bucer* (1849) 200 Assaunts [were] approaching him in the very midst of his triumphant vaunt of his repeated victories.

†c Const quot. and cf. BRAG *sb* 1 6.) *Obs.*—

1598 FLORIO, *Chacolo*, a vaunt or vye in gaming.

4. A cause or subject of boasting *rare*

1791 COWPER *Iliad* II 188 Is it thus at last That the Achaians shall seek again their country, leaving here, To be the vaunt of Ilium and her King, Helen of Argos?

† **Vaunt,** *sb* 4 *Obs.* Also 7 **vant.** [Independent use of the prefix VANT-, VAUNT-. Cf. F. *avant* fore part.]

1 A front part or portion *rare*

In the first quot with reference to the face

1589 T LODGE *Wounds Civil War* Chiu b, Take awaie this beard, and giue mee a pikede vaunt, Martin sweares by his ten lones 1606 SHAKS. *Tr & Cr* Prol 27 Our Play Leaues no thing vnto the vaunt and fruitings of those broyles, Beginning in the middle.

2 The van of an army

1606 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl* IV vi 9 Go charge Agrippa, Plant those that haue reuolted in the Vant 1623 BINGHAM *Anabasis* 59 Chiersophus led the Vaunt, Xenophon and the Reare Commanders brought vp the Reare 1624 DONNE *Hymne to God* (1910) 180 When in Army mans last host they may lodge to night, where the Reare comes not till to morrow

† **Vaunt,** *sb* 3 *Obs. rare* [Of obscure origin ] A kind of fruit pie

1508 13 W DE WORDE *Bk Kerrygne* in *Babees Bk* (1868) 270 For to make a vaunt of fysshe, saltyte, two potages, blaunche manger, and gelly 1504 *Gd Huswyfes Handmaid h st him* 38, To make a Vaunt Take marrow of Beefe [etc.] *Ibid.* 39 Cut it in three slices, as long as your Vaunt

**Vaunt** (vɒnt, *U S* vänt), *v* Now *rhet* or *arch* Also 5 **vaunt,** 6 **vaunte,** 6 *Sc* **wantt-, wanet-,** 6 7 **vante.** [a. OF (also mod F.) *vanter*, = It and med L *vantare* —pop.L **vānitare* cf AVAUNTD v.]

1 *intr* To boast or brag; to use boastful, bragging, or vainglorious language

Fairly common *c* 1600, now *rare* or *Obs*

14 LANGL *P. Pl. Cr* VII 35 Me-wolnynge bat men wende ich were Riche, Bostynge and Braggynge with meny bolde obes, Aununtyng vp-on [*Ilchester MS* Vaunting vp] wy vnes þat I ne kepe for-wy vndeuntynge 1440 *Promp. Parv* 508/1 Vauntyn, or a vauntor or boo-ton, *jactо, astento* 1515 BARCLAY *Ecloges* iv (1570) C vj/1 They laude their wyues, they boaste and vaunte 1530 LAYNEZ *Manip* 25 Io vaunt, *gloriari* 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 198 But I will not vaunt, before the victorie 1603 J DAVIES (Heref) *Epigr* 1 Wks (1878) 1 6 Who vaunts with ward, men are cruell moody mard, Hot blacke, leane, leapers, lustfull, vid to vant 1630 *R Johnson's Kingd & Commw* 476 All this (as the drunkard will vaunt) for the honour of the Prince 1699 TEMPLE *Hist Eng* 583 He talk'd little, never vaunted, observ'd much, was very secret 1700 DRYDEN *Pal & Arc* III 142 In time he vaunts among his Youthful Peers, Strong bomb'd and strung with Nerves, pride of Years. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XI 462 Transported from his ambush forth he leap'd With a loud hugh and vaunt 1819 PEACOCK *Maid Marian* ii. 18 Well said, Scathlock, like a yeoman, vaunt not before the battle 1839 *Edn Rania de Acton Anna of Desert* I 245 Sometimes vowing never ceasing affection, then vaunting of his power threaten ing revenge, and of his shameful repulse of offers. 1846 *Mrs* SCOTT *Poems* 97 He could vaunting tell, That he was fear the ghast

b Const *of* (or † *on*)

1548–77 VICARY *Anat* (1888) I 17 A cunning and skilful Chirurgion needs neuer vaunt of his doonges 1584 7 GREENE *Mor ando* Wks. (Grosart) III 67 They thinke no Scot can vaunt of his valure my enterprises as he vaunteth of his victories 1605 CAMDEN *Rem Engyr* 12 The vantage of them which vaunt of their ancient nobility 1634 W TIRWHITT tr *Institutes of Lawes* 304 Yet shall he not vaunt of Christian vertues, nor vaunteth of mur d ones 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 93 The Hollanders Vant of their scarcity of theeves 1718 POPE *Iliad* XXII 11 Here Hector Vaunts of his gods, and calls high Jove his sire 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* an 1775, He did not vaunt of his new dignity, but I understood he was highly pleased 1802 MRS D. PARDOE *Hist Hungary* II 53 Who, like the proud Pharisee, proudly vaunt on their own virtues 1818 BYRON *Juan* I 1, Of such as these I should not care to vaunt 1820 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr Leg*, *Valour* v Even the meanest drudge will sometimes vaunt Of independent sires.

c. With other preps

1549 COVERDALE, etc *Erasm Par* 2 *Peter* II 19 They are rather lithie and spotes, who in their filthie glotonous bankettings vaunt against you as though you were madde mennе 1590 SPENSER *Virg Gnat* 559 And all that vaunts in worldly wantie shall fall through fortune mutabilitie *c* 1600 SHAKS *Sonn* xv When I perceive that men as plants increase, Cheared and checkt euen by the selfe same skie Vaunt in their youthfull sap, at height decrease 1605 *1st Part Ieronimo* III ii (Stage direction) Andrea slain, and Prince Balthezer vanting on him 1608 FENNER *Love lockes* 40 Who vaunts, and triumphes, in the length and largenes-se of his Locke 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VII 86 So sent from earth Asteus vaunting in his giant bulk, When grasp't by force Herculean, down he fell Vanquish d. 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nun of Desert* II 254 She vaunted over the 'humble and meek'

†d. With *at* Also *spec* (see quot 1611) *Obs*

1611 FLORIO, *Chiocciare*, to vaunt it or vie it in gaming 1614 W BROWNE *Sheph Pipe* i 1 Hearke, how yonder Thrustle chants it, And her mate as proudly vants it

2 With clause as object, usu introduced by *that*

1593 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I CCCCXXVIII 581 He had before sayd and vaunted, howe & the kynge came to reyse the siege before Ipre, he wolde abyde & fight with hym.

1596 WINGET *Wks* (S T S.) II. 37 Apollinaris in a manere crakis and vaunts that he consentis in deid to the vnrue of the Trinitie. 1593 SHAKS *2 Hen. VI*, i iii. 87 She vaunted mongst her Minions t other day, The very trayne of her worst wearing Gowne, Was better worth then all my Fathers Lands. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I 371 All others may vaunt verily, that they have vanquished men but Sergius may boast, that he hath conquered Fortune her selfe. 1643 H. COGAN tr *Pinto's Trav* viii 25 Prester-John, of whose race the Abassins vaunt they are descended. 1813 W H IRELAND *Scribleriomania* 136 *note*, The emperor vaunting that, with his good sword, he could cut a man in twain 1823 J H NEWMAN *Hist Sk* (1873) II i 33 Attila vaunted that the grass never grew again after his horse s hoof

† 3. *refl.* To boast, extol, glorify, or praise (one-self). Usu. const *for*, *of*, or *in*. *Obs*

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3353 For verin ne no victori ne vant noght þi selfe. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving*, etc. 81 Thai rus thaim nocht of done foly, Na wantis thaim nocht of thar gud deid. 1624 WOTTON *Arch.* 55 Apelles [did exel] in Invention and Grace, whereof he doth most of all vaunt. 1825 SCOTT *Talism* xi, Thou shouldst know, ere thou vauntest thyself, that one steel glove can crush a whole hand-ful of hornets 1876 DR LOWTH *Isaiah* 180 Who may vaunt him as we may in death though he die for the land? *transf* 1576 GARCOIGNE *Armbrvoth Cuttis* Wks 1910 II. 119 His Countrey craues counsell, & vowes y want them selfe. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr Bacon* III i, Fore the morning sun Shall vaunt him throe over the loftie east.

†b With infinitive or object clause. Also with *for* (= as), and double accusative *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I ix 85 Full oft him self extoll and vant he wald Of Troiane bludc to be deceaid of old 1562 WINGE *Hek* (S T S.) II 17 Thonatus quha cowis and wanetis thame be the autcntrie of that counsel to baptize agane 1585 I WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* IV xxviii 146 b, Shooting, wherof they do vaunt themselues to haue been the first inuentors 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (Arb) 169 Pompey vaunted Himselfe for Sylla's Ouermatch 1826 SCOTT *Bl Dwarf* xvi, Thou vauntest thyself a philosopher?

† 4. To bear (oneself) proudly or vaingloriously. 1576–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb Kent* (1826) 236 The Church that yet vaunteth it selfe with two steeples. 1577 *Test of Love* (1604) 52 Ye shall be swoln with wickedness in the ynshood, not only vaunting and boasting your selues against men, but also being puffed and swoln up with pride against the commandements of God 1628 BIBLE *1 Cor* xiii. 4 Charitie enuieth not charitie vaunteth not it selfe is not puffed vp 1663 S PATRICK *Parab Pilgr* xi (1687) 67 Hath he not crowned himself with greater glory in not vaunting himself in these trophies?

† 4. *trans* To proclaim or display proudly. *Obs*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III ii 16 Tell me What shape what shield, And what so else his person most may vaunt? 1592 KYD *Sp Trag* i iv 3 Vaunt not your victories lightly. 1600 Pompey vaunted himselfe for Sylla's Ouermatch 1826 SCOTT *Bl Dwarf* xvi, I thou vauntest thyself a philosopher?

Both vaunting sundry colours of deuice

5 To boast of (something), to commend or praise in a vainglorious manner

*a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* II i, And then I meane to vaunt our victorie. *c* 1596 PRIOR *Partial Fame* 7 He vaunts it how Conquest, She came to him Here shame 1728 *Iren Gland* v No 65 18 A Keeper of Bears may as well vaunt his Pole 3, as a Ruler of Slaves 1762 *tr* H WALPOLE *Letter Lance I Faust* (1780) I Pref 11 This country, which does n t always set in vaunting its own productions 1841 SCOTT *Acadmy* XXXVII, He really felt the ascendency which he vaunted 1850 MERIVALE *Rom Rep* VII (1865) I 226 The Roman nation was taught to vaunt its own superiority in valour and s virtue 1878 EMERSON *Mis Papers, Soc Ethics* Wks (Bohn) III 372 In ignorant ages it was common to vaunt the human superiority by underrating the instinct of other animals

†b To utter boastingly *Obs* —1

1633 P FLETCHER *Poet Misc* 87 They cut my heart, they vaunt that bitter word, Where is thy trust? where is thy hope?

† **Vaunt,** *int Obs rare* [Aphetic form of AVAUNT *int*, ( etc ] Avaunt, away, be off!

1598 *Mucedorus* Induct 13 Vaunt, churlish cur: Blush, monster blush and pu t away with shame 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Lesser Light Hani* 50 Then, vaunt Dodge! damn d of those owne conscience

**Vaunt-,** *prefix*, on AF variant of VANT-. (For examples see VAUNT CHASE, COURIER, etc.)

**Vaun tage.** *rare*—1. [f. VAUNT *sb* 1] Boasting, vaunting

1818 MILMAN *Samor* III 374 Friuain and Scandinavian, Cimbrvan rich In ancient vaunting sire, who cloath The Alpine snows and shook free Rome with dread.

**Vaunt brace,** bras(88, vart and obs forms of VANTBRACE.

† **Vaunt-chase.** *Obs rare*, [prob ad AF. **vauntechace* sbc VAUNT ] = VANCHASE. (SEE also quot. 1688.)

1576 TUSSERV *Venerie* 113 There he goeth, thats he, to him to him, naming the hound that goth away with the vauntchace [*sic*] and hallowing the rest vnto him 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 280/1 Vaunt chase is the Hound that leadeth the rest in the Chase.

**Vaunt-courier** (vɒ nt , vä nt,ku rĭer). Forms: *a* 6 vantcorrour, currour, curor, 6–8 curror, 7 curreur, -curer, 6 vauntcurrour, 7 -curor, 6–7 vauntcurrer, *β* 6 vaunte-, 6–7 vaunt-currier, 7 -currior, 6 7 vantcurrier, 7 -curier. 7 7 vantcourier, vauntcourrier, 7, 9 vaunt-courier. 8 7 vauntcourer, vantcourrer. *e. erron* 7 vaunt carrier [ad F *avant-coureur* AVANT COURIER, with assimilation to forms in VANT-, VAUNT-, and to COURIER. Cf. VAN-COURIER.]

† 1. One of the advance-guard of an army or body

of troops, a soldier or horseman sent out in advance of the main body. Usually in pl *Obs*

a. 1580 Daus tr *Sleidan's Comm* 433 b, He t'y his vaunte rers levsed as muche power as he possible mighte 1589 Stocker tr *Diod Sic* II x 55 The vaunturers of ethe side gaue intelligence of the approch of one an other 1590 R. Higgock *Quintus Wit* 68 b In the spyes in the guides, in the vantcorrours, in the principall officers 1602 R. Johnson *Kingd & Commw* 184 Vpon the head of the battell ranged 200 thousande horsemen in small troupes like our vaunterriers 1614 Raleigh *Hist World* III x 111 114 On the sodaine one of their Vaunt curriors brought newes of the King's approch. 1692 R. Strapsatyon *Strada's Low C Warrix* 50 Some Vantcurriers advancing a little before the Army

*fl.* 1597–80 North *Plutarch Publi ola* (1895) I 275 Lu cretius was appointed to make head against the vaunt curriers of the Sabines 1600 Dymmok *Ireland* (1843) 32 The rebel delivering some few shot out of the woo hand ditches upon our vaunt curriers a 1642 Kynaston *Iolaine & Sydanis* 1.165 How as the swift vaunt curriers rode about in sentinell perdue a 1677 Hacket *Abp Williams* (1692) 190 Unless the leader look about him in his march and scar h every hedge by vant curriers

*fl.* 1609 Dekker *Guls Hornb* Wks (Grosart) II 219 Thou dost not only send out the lively spirits, like vaunt couriers to fortify and make good the uttermost borders of thy body

*fl.* 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph*, *Vauntcurrers*, fore runners 1614 Ralfigh *Hist World* v III II 449 The Carthaginian Horse, and light Armature, fell vpon the Roman Vant curriers

*c* 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 73 A party of Indians fired vpon the front and mortally wounded two of the vaunt Curriers.

**2** *transf* One who goes or is sent out in advance in order to prepare the way or to announce the approach of another, a forerunner

a 1561 Daus tr *Bullinger on Apoc* (1573) 177 And this latter so impugned the supreme ie of the Patriarch of Con stantinople that he stickled not to call him the vaun currour of Antichrist 1567 Drant *Horace Sat* II ev And those that wil vauntcurriers be N ot I wil draw them backe 1607 Dekker *Northward Hoe* Wks 1873 III 29 He sent my vant curtier presently 1709 Strype *Ann Ref* I II xliv 479 All such as had been vantcurrors in private colleges to enter into this apostasy

*fl.* 1603 Harsnett *Pop Impost* 19 The harbinger the host, the Steward the Vauntcourrier 1606 Dekker *Newes from Hell* Wks (Grosart) III 131 I will by questions be the vaunt curier answers briefly 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab Nts* (abr ed) I 4 He despatched vaunt couriers and messengers of glad tidings

b. Of things

1598 Barkeley *Eyls Man* v (1603) 472 The crying and lamenting of a childe when hee first entereth into this world, doth seeme to presage his wretched life, as a vauntcurrour of his miseries to come 1605 Shaks. *Lr* IV III 15 You Sul ph ruis and Thought executing Fires, Vaunt curriors to Oake cleauing, Thunder bolts 1639 Chapman & Shirley *Chabot* III II I will relate your honours his most cruel ex ecutions up in the subject the old vaunteuriers of rebellion s 1821 Milman *Fall Jerusalem* 30 And gl o m of deepest mid night the vaunt curier of your presence 1849 Longf *Kavanagh* xix These were the vaunt couriers and attend ants of the hot August

**† Vaunt-currying,** *a Obs*—1 [? f. *vaunt curier* Vaunt-courier Cf Curry *v.*²] (Meaning not clear.)

1606 *Sir G Goosecappe* I III in Bullen *Old Plays* (1884) III, *Will* How will they digest it thinkest thou, when they shall finde our Ladies not there? for I haue a vaunt Currying double shall make digested it most healthfully

**Vaunted,** *ppl a* Also ? **vanted** [f. Vaunt *v.*] Boasted or bragged of; highly extolled

1633 A. Stapylton *Fem Curg* (1869) 123 Whose meanest Perfection so farre excells all our so long vaunted memorable merits 1667 Milton *P L* II 43 My Vanquisher spoild of his vanted spoile 1789 Mrs Piozzi *Johnsonian* II 42, I have seen the vaunted present of pore lun 1825 Scott *Talisman* xiii, Our cousins Enlish must first learn how this vaunted wight hath conducted himself 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* VI ix (1846) II 1 xvii 104 Their vaunted purity of blood 1853 Pusey *Daniel* 548 (?) How all our vaunted wisdom in this life is said to be at best but a knowledge in part

**Vauntegarde,** variant of Vantguard *Obs*

**Vaunter** (vǭntə). Now *arch* Forms 5–6 **vantour,** 6 **vantar,** 6 **y vantar,** 6–7 **vaunter,** 7– **vaunter** [ad Ol *vanteur, vanteor* (AF *vanteur*), *vanteur* (F *vanteur*), f *vanter* Vaunt *v* Cf Prov *vantaire, adv*., It *vantatore*.] A boaster or braggart

1496 Sir G. Hayr *Law Armes* (S T S) 30 That ar grete vauntaris of litill forselle 1484 Caxton *Chevalry* 65 He aureste ben mesprysed ma ) cowardes vyuntours, and many vayne semblis inen. 1585 Lp. Berners *Froiss* II xxxiv 104 These frenchmen se great vantours and lyghe nyenbid 1573 Tuke in *Cath Tract* (S T S) 29 Traitours vantars lufiars of thame selues mair than of God 1588 Shaks *Lll L* IV iii 173 Alas you know, I am no Vaunter I 1680 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 79 A vanter or forth putter is he, that boastes upon the Exchange, that he hath store of banke money 1640 Cowl *Answer Gr* II 1 F 5 If I prove not correspondent to my word, thinke me an idle vaunter 1708 Pope *Iliad* v 347 Mistaken vaunter! (Diomed replied) They dare t has ere d, and now my spear be tried 1728 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) VI 132 A very pert, conceited Person full of himself, a d a mere Vaunter 1831 Brewaby *Adv Younger Son* III 222 De Ruyter scarcely lip indicated his contempt of the vaunter. 1848 Lytton *Harold* I viii 111, Now thou shalt see if the Norm in is the vaunter th ni deemest him 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* II 146 Such is the unmasking of vaunters, who utter their wishes, as of they were already performances

**b. A boastful assertor, extoller, commender or praiser,** *of* something.

1553 I. Wilson *Rhet* 95 b, By vocation of life a souldiour is counted a great bragger and a vaunter of hy mselfe 1623 Cockeram II, A Vaunter of his owne vertues *ayrtatagon* 1700 Dryden *Homer, Iliad* I 396 I omgue valiant Hero, Vaunter of thy Might 1789 Mrs Piozzi *Journ France* I 292 They are really no puffers, no vaunters of that which they possess 1856 Mrs Browning *Aurora Leigh* VII 1079 The large mouthed frogs (Those noisy vaunters of their shallow streams) 1866 *Fortn Rev* V 540 The proud vaunter of universal knowledge had been transformed into the humble student of the Bible

**Vauntery.** Now *Obs*, or *arch* Also 5, 7 **vaunterye,** 6 **erie,** 7 **vanterie,** 7–8 **-ery.** [A OF (also mod F) *vanterie, t vanter* to vaunt (f Avaunter), or in later use f Vaunt *v* + -ery.]

**1** Vaunting, boasting, boastful or vainglorious bearing or show

1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr* (W de W 1495) II 272 b/1 She was not so ondyscrete for tenhaunce her self by ouer moche vaunterye 1594 *Conspiracie for Pretended Reform* 5 (1815) held it vp to triumphe, and shewed it with great vaunterie and glorie 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 303 This vain terie and glorious boasting of a man vv selfe 1636 in *4th Rep Hist MSS commission* 291/1 In Wentworth's Declaration there was much smoke of the vanterie of his own service 1755 T. H. Croker *Orl Fur* xxxiii lxxi, They gave them leave to vaunt sufficiently, That France no knight or baron could shew To stand before the weakest of them three 1814 Southey *Roderick* xxii 23 She had led The infatuate Moor, in dangerous vauntery, To discouraging terms *Ibid* xxv 308 The same [horse] on whom The apostate Orpas in his vain tery Went to parade the streets of Cordoba

**† 2** A boast, a vaunt *Obs.*

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 476 I hey stood much upon promises of future prowesse or vanteries of present valour 1605 Daniel *Queen's Arcadia* I iii, That I touch Of deep Disdain of their lewd vauntings 1626 J. H[awkins] tr *Caussin's Holy Court* 43 She shewed to take not much pleasure in these his vaunteryes

**Vaun ntful,** a and *adv* Now *arch.* [f Vaunt *sb* + -ful.] Boastful

1590 Spenser *Mutabil* 54 Yong Clarion with vnuttuell lustie hed After his guize did cast abroad to fare 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iv *Decay* 532 Rabsakch Thus vaunt-full threats and vpbraids their Prince Ezechias 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* IX xxiii (1632) 1018 Which by questioning them all with vaunt full threats to smib) 1838 *Lays Mag Cavaliers* 1 The English King forthwith entrusted to the vaunt ful captain his two sons 1850 Rock *Church of Fathers* II 18 His lightnings and his thunders Reeking no more—so speaks the vaunt ful tongue—Than vulgar noonday heat 1890 *Ch Iron Mag* Dec 1 513 Invine the men call her Ire, the Armies Well won that vaunt ful title by the dread, That all around is by her coming spread

b As *adv* Boastfully *rare*—1

a 1814 A. Becket (*cent*.) *Rev Brit Theatre* I 499 Albeit the agent only Of him who bears it (a name) vaunt ful, man s prime enemy

**Vauntgard(e, guard,** var Vantguard *Obs*

**Vaun ntiness,** *rare* [f Vaunty a] Boastfulness

1820 in Jodrell (citing Bailey app in error see Vaunt ingness) 1851 Sturgeon *Trans Durham* 2 Peaceful and joyful notwithstanding the proud and boastful vauntiness of these times

**Vaunting,** *vbl sb* Now *arch* [f Vaunt *v*] The action of the vb, boasting, bragging

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 1245 Honoure nurj shes als men may se Vayn glorie, vauntyng and vanite 1586 Day *Eng Secretorie* II (1625) 84 I could alwaies find an Asse by his braying and sc nne a rascall though he were neuer so full of vaunting. 1601 Shaks *Twel* C IV iii 52 V o 1 43 you are a better Soldier, Let it appeare so: make your vaunting true 1611 Bible *Wisdom* xvii 7 As for the illusions of arte Magick, they were put d wne, and their vaunting in words me was reproued with disgrace 1828 Scott *Woodst* VII Be moderate in speech, and for ear oaths or vaunting, 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 1 349 To our generation the lioness roar of our ancestors must appear almost ludicrous 1864 Burton *Scot Abroad* I iii 112 The l arl of Flanders having in his vain vaunting, defeated so impor tant a person

b An instance of this, a boast.

1793 in Auckland *Corr* (1862) III 27 His vauntings increase with his disgraces. a 1800 Cowper *Iliad* (ed 2) xxi 550 Let me never in my father's courts such vauntings heve of thine hereafter hear 1880 Swinburne *Left* (1880) I 8 We had many delightful vauntings of the same kind 1887 *Smith's Dict Chr Biog* I 133/2 The hypocritical vauntings of Ulysses.

**Vaunting,** *ppl a* [f as prec + -ing²] 1 That vaunts or boasts, given or addicted to boasting

1589 Nashe *Anat Absurditie* Wks (Grosart) I 51 No matter though such va unting vpstarts become the scoffe of a better 1598 Shaks *1 Hen IV* v 43 Many a Nobile man lies starke and stiffe Vnder the hooues of vaunting enemies 1602 Holland *Pliny* II 231, I my selfe have seen those vaunting Mountebanks called Semeliones Dyli 1638 Sherwood A vaunting woman *ostentatrice* 1714 Gay *Shep's Week* i 39 Begin thy carols then, thou vaunt ing Finch 1730 Bailey (vol. II) *Vaunting*, a bragging, vaunting vain glorious fellow 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxii, Would to God, Richard, or any of his vaunting minions of England would appear in these lists! 1832 Lytton *Nt Improt* II 45 An empty vaunting person who has brass enough to face the world and to say there is no God in it 1884 *Macmillan's Francis Cats* 195 In the evenings he was vaunting boastful, and declared he could play even Renshaw at cvens.

*transf* 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, II iii 4 Nim, rowse thy vaunting Veines Boy, breathe thy Courage vp.

**2.** Of a boastful nature or character; indicative of, proceeding from, boasting or vainglory

1647 Hexham I 8 v, Vaunting and bragging wordes. 1748 *Anson's Voy* II xi 252 The vaunting accounts given by the Spain ards of her size, her guns and her strength 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch's Lives* (1879) I 134/1 The vaunting s outs and songs of the barbarians 1802 *Med Jrnl* VIII 66 Does not Pyrrho likewise speak in a 'vaunting manner on several occasions? 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxi IV 583 Over one gate had been placed a vaunting inscription which defied the allies to wrench the plate from the grasp of France 1887 Sarah Tytler *Lady Jhanderson* 205 Rejoicing over him in a vaunting and insolent manner

**Vaun ntingly,** *adv* [f. prec] In a vaunting manner, boastfully, ostentatiously, vaingloriously

1593 Nashe *Christ's T* (1613) 16 Let me speake truely and not vauntingly 1593 Shaks *Rich II* IV i 36, I heard thee say (and vauntingly thou spak st it) I that thou wer t cause of Noble Glousters death 1612 Cotton *Pfaffinanent*, braggingly, stroutingly vauntingly 1636 Lynne *Unbish Anti* Ded (1661) 2 Whether seriously or vauntingly only let the event determine 1640 Parker *Chr Good Commander*, etc 6 Who threatned vauntingly That he would Lngland Invade 1708 Ellis in *Hatton Corr* I Jan (1851) 86 And dares ou vauntingly decide, I he fortune we shall meet 1804 Fugemia de Acton *Tale without Title* II 106 Should the scrutiny prod ium y our innocence, receive not vauntingly the clearing verdict 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* I 91 Upon which Mr M Dougal would vauntingly lay down Mr Astor s letter, a document not to be forgotten

**† Vaun ntingness.** *Obs*—0 [f. Vaunting *vbl sb*] Boastfulness.

1730 Bailey (vol. II) *Ostentatiousness*, vauntingness, bragging shewiness

**† Vaunt ise.** *Obs*—1 [ad OF *vantise* vaunting, vanity, pride see -ise 2.] A vaunt or boast.

*c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* (1913) 29 Moche was I son desplyy sant t whan he had vuderstande the vauntises of his mortall enmemy

**Vauntlay.** Now *arch* Also 5 (9) **vauntelay.** [f Vaunt *v.* + *-lay* as in Kellay *sb*] The compound may have existed in AF as *vantelai* f Vantelai The releasing or setting on of a relay of hounds before the other pursuing hounds have passed, the relay of hounds so released

1486 *bk St Albans* E vij b Even at his comyng yf thow lett thy hoondys goo While the oder that be behynde fer arn hym from Thi is v vauntelay 1575 Turberv *Ag Fypos*, *l auntlay* a term of hunting when they sette hounds in readynes where they thinke a chace will passe, and cast them off before the rest of the hounds be in (Hence in Blount (1656) Philips H lme, etc) *a* 1700 B. L. *Dict Cant Crew*, *t untlay* Hounds or Beagles set in readiness [etc.] 1844 Stable Sir H *Jardine Hunt* vi 86 Which then all together Relay or vauntlay in the same to her

**† Vauntmure.** *Obs* Also 6 **vauntemure, vauntmire, vauntmure** [Aphetic form of Avantmure see Vant, Vaunt *v.* = Vauntlay.]

1586 Shute tr *Cauntelis Fa & Warres* 16b Throughe their long neglygence of the Greekes for want of repara tion, their vauntmures were vtterlye decayed in many places. 1587 Stocker *Cr Wars Ireland* 158 b, There fell downe a peare of the wall and vauntmure of the lowe side and twentie Poles long. 1596 Danett tr *Comines* (1614) 231 Whereuith the wife, vauntmures and mures of the castell and towne were throughly battered 1605 Camden *Rem* (1637) 206 He with another engine maned the Wyrwelle pierced with one stone, and cut as even as a thread two Vauntmures.

**† Vauntparler.** *Obs* Also vaunt(e)perler, vauntperlor, parler, vauntperlor, -parlar [ad. AF. *vaunt parlour*, obs. I *avant parleur* 'foie speaker']

1 One that is too forward to speak' (Cotgr)

*c* 1500 Skelton *Agst Garnesche* 427 His vnhunifye he trumpythe, he turnythe all vp and downe, With, skyre galyard prowde jaliard, vauntperler ye prate! *a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VIII*, 58 b her good vnly was ther in y° counsail, a vauntparler, a boclier which beryng this, called a great number of his affi itie and went out of the counsayll 1577 Holinshed *Chron* I 468/1 This Prince followed vpon a wilfull pretence the counsell and aduice of vaunt perlors, and suche as (being aduanced from base degree vnto high authoritie) studyed more to keepe them selues in fauoure than (etc.).

**2** One who speaks for or on behalf of others, a spokesman

1534 *St Papers, Hen VIII* (1830) I 424 It should be best bestowed vpon Prior Wherd, and vpon Lache, which bee the vauntperlors, and heddes of their faction 1579 Fulke *Heskins Parl* 66 He doeth honestly confesse, that Dauncen [w al] the first and chiefest of the lowe house, he may make him Vauntparlar if he will 1586 J. Hooker *Hist Irel.* in *Holinshed* II 120/1 Their vauntparler was ar Christopher Barnewall knight, who being somewhat learned his credit was so much the more, and he them thought most worthie to haue beene the speaker for that house

**+ Vauntpe.** *Obs*—0 [ad older F. *vantpel* = Vamplate

1530 Palsgr 284/1 Vauntpe of a hose, *vantpe*

**† Vauntplate.** *Obs*—1 [f. Vaunt- + Plate *sb*] = Vamplate

1632 J. Hayward tr *Biondi's Eromena* 145 He bore him a thrust under the vauntplate

**† Vauntsquare,** *v. Obs*—1 [f. Vaunt- + Square *v.*] *intr* To face or front squarely

1568 Phaer *Æneid* IX A ij, Messapus voward helde, the rerward kept yong princes twayne Of Turnhus, but himself king Turnus midst in battaile mayne, Vauntsquaring spreds his armes.

**Vauntward(e,** variants of VANTWARD *Obs*

**Vaunty,** *a. dial* (chiefly *Sc*). Also 9 *Sc.* vanty [† VAUNT 1.] Boastful, proud, vain.
1724 RAMSAY *Tea t Misc* (1733) I 22 Altho' my father was nae laird, He daffin to be vaunty. He keepit ay a good kail yard 1785 BURNS *To J. Blacklock* 4 Wow, but your letter made me vauntie! 1821 [see VAUNTLAL]. 1842 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Pilgr Auvergne* II 120 Certainly he had reason to be 'vaunty', for his grand new house was worthy of a more populous town than Thiers 1873 ROBSON *Quaint Words S Worcs* 19 A vaunty dame, proud woman.

**Vaupyn,** obs Sc. form of WEAPON.

**† Vauqueline.** *Obs* [n F. *vauqueline*, f. the name of the French chemist L. N. *Vauquelin* (1768-1829).]
1. *Chem.* Strychnine
1819 J G CHILDREN *Chem Anal* 290 Vauqueline was discovered by M M Pelletier and Caventou, in the bean of St Ignatius, and the nux vomica.
**2.** *Min.* Vauquelinite.
1823 in W PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 350.

**Vauquelinite** (vōu klinəit). *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ITE. Named by Berzelius (1818)] Chromate of lead and copper, found in amorphous masses or crystalline crusts of a green colour (Chester).
1823 W PHILLIPS *Min* (ed 3) 350 Vuquelinite. Chromate of Lead and Copper. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem* (ed 5) 914 The mineral called Vauquelinite is a double chromate of lead and copper.

**‖ Vaurien** (vōryēn) Also **vaut rien, vaut rien.** [f. *vaurien, f vaut* 3rd pers. sing pres. of *valoir* to be worth + *rien* nothing] A worthless, good-for-nothing fellow, a scamp
1826-9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V xxx 152 There to be called an idle fellow—a *vaurien*—a Miss Molly —it is what I cannot bear 1830 RUSKIN *Fors Clav* IXXIII 142 You will have every blackguard and vaut rien in the world claiming his share.
β 1868 M COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* II 218 Leaving her to be slowly murdered by the vaurien who possesses her 1874 LESLIE CARR *T Gwynne* II vi 189 When that *vaurien* St. Clair's health broke down 1885 *Diary Actresses* 133 They are only vauriens who loaf about town, not men of honour
**† Vau sing,** *vbl sb Obs.* (See quots.)
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III 112/2 Vausing, is to make the Jaumes or sides of Stone Windows and Doors, to cover and the other part of the Wall they are set in *Hist* 473 2 The Vausing is to make the Jaumes to cover safe the Mullions, and that is wrought into several kind of Mouldings
**Vaustity,** obs form of VASTITY.

**Vaut,** southern dial var *faut* FAULT *sb*
1568 FULWEL *I the will to Take* A 13 b, It is a common trade A small vaut in the world is now brought to passe
**Vaut(e,** obs forms of VAULT *sb* and *v*
**† Vau terer.** *Obs. rare* [ad. med L *vautrarius*, f. OF *vautre* hunting-dog] = FEWTERER
1679 *Rot Scot Ann Jacobi* 35 To be the Kings Vauterer or Ly g leader in Gascoigny
**Vauxhall** (vɔ̄ksh ɔ̄l) [The name of a locality in London on the south bank of the Thames, where Vauxhall Gardens (see def) were situated.] Used *ellipt* for Vauxhall Gardens, a popular pleasure resort from the 17th to the middle of the 19th century, a place of resort or amusement resembling or imitating this
Evelyn records in his memoirs under the date 2 July 1661, 'I went to see the New Spring Garden at Lambeth, a pretty contriv d plantation'. The gardens were finally closed on 25 July 1859.
1769 *Ann Reg., Chron* 111 Sieur Torre opened his new Vauxhall, near St. Martin s gate [in Paris] under the denomination of the Feasts of Tempe 1815 *Ibid., Chron.* 53 Mr. Vadler appeared in Mr Harper s Gardens, or the Vaux hall of this place [sc Norwich], in the evening.
*attrib* 1822 *Lond Vit Gas* 61/1 But the portions (of food) are of the Vauxhall order 1892 DOBSON *Ballads Eighteenth Century* 253 The popular legend that an expert Vauxhall waiter could cover the entire garden (about eleven acres) with slices from one loaf
Hence **Vauxha'lian** *a*, **Vauxha'llify** *v trans*
1815 SOUTHEY *Lett* (1856) II 439 There is an illumination to night in the Alice Vert, or Green Walk, which is to be Vauxhallified in honour of the Duke of Kent's birth day 1870 VIII 353 Here follows a description of a very gay festival, much more Vauxhallian than Attic.

**Vav** (væv), variant of VAU. *Vav conversive* see CONVERSIVE *a* 1 2 b.
1828 GIBBS *Ceremus' Heir Law* (1833) 54/1 A prefix usually called Vav conversive of the future 1869 TIDDELL & SCOTT *Gr Text* xv Σύναξαι, But the Last P holds the same place in the alphabet with the Heir *vau* 1870 J F SMITH *Ewald's Introd Hebr Gram* 229 Then the calm regular narration in my tome in with the Vav of sequence

**Vavasory.** Also 7 **valvasserie,** 9 **vavassency** [ad. Ob *vavas(s)oria, va(u)vasserie*, or med L *vavassoria*, f. *vavasor*: see next.] An estate held by a VAVASOUR.
1611 COTGR., *Vavassorie*, a Valuasserie; th'estate, land, or territorie of a Vavasour, Mesne Lord 1656 HARRINGT *N Oceana* (1700) 65 The Middle Estate was also called a Vavasor, and his Lands a Vavasory. *Ibid* 67 It cannot be Imagin d that the Vavasorys or Freeholds in the People amounted to any considerable proportion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s v, There are base Vavasories, and frank, or noble Vavasories, a cording to it hath pleas d the Lord to make his Vavasour 1839 STONEHOUSE *Isle of Axholme* 124 He was enfeoffed with the vavasories of Camville and Wyville *c* 1861 SIR F PALGRAVE *Norm & Eng* III 405 It is not practicable to ascertain the others who received their rewards by Vavassories or Sub-tenancies.

**Vavasour** (vævăsŭr) Now *arch* and *Hist.* Forms α 4 vauasour(e, 4, 7- vavasour (4 ours), 5 favasour, Sc. wawasour, vauesowre, 7 vavesour; 5 vavyssoure, vauysaur, 7 vauessour, vauassour, 9 vavassour β 5 vauaser, 7, 9 vavasor, vavassor. 7 6-7 valuasor, 6 8 -vasor, 7-8 valvasor, 9 valvassor [a OF *vavas(s)our, vavas(s)or, vavasseur* (80 med L), or *vassus basserum* 'vassals of vassals' Cf OI rov *va(l)vasor, li, narvassius 6, oro, barbassore, ano*] A feudal tenant ranking immediately below a baron
α 13 *K Alis* 3300 (Laud MS), Noot ich no tale of his sqwiers, Ne of vavasours, ne of Bachilers *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron* (Rolls) 10956 His graf gifles of honurs, & landes & rentes, to vauasours. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 430 Litel prowesse for me it were wip a vauasour for to melle. 1456 Sir G Haye *Bk Nabooit* iii (MS 1) 21 All kingis suld have under thame dukkis and princes, Erlis and viscountes, and vauvassours and barouns *a* 1500 *Jamcelot* 1729 Syt e to the tennandis & to thi wawasours If [= give] eny hak nays, pulleins, and cursoures. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honour* iii § 4 Now for the nature of a vavasour, it is plain that he was ever beneath a baron 1647 N BACON *Disc Cont Kings* (1739) 147 Others served on horseback, and these were called Rad Knights, and these I take to be the Vavasours, noted in the Conqueror s Laws 1660 SHERINGHAM *King's Supremacy* (ed 2) 1 (1682) 72 Those other great men under the King which are called Barons, and other which are called Vavasours, men of great dignity 1756 *Connoisseur* No 102 P 1 Upon my succession to my elder brother s estate and title of a Baronet I received a letter from Scrub Dragon to congratulate me upon my new rank of a Vavasour 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II 65 William the conqueror directing, that a certain quantity should be paid by the earls, barons, and vavassours respectively 1832 SCOTT *Cast Dang* vii, One or two Scottish retainers or vavassors sat at the lower end of the table 1841 LYTTON *Zanoni* III ii The ignominious flight of the counts and vavasours of great William the Duke 1875 STUBBS *C nst Hist* II xv 207 It was ordered that the sheriff should be a vavassour of the County
β *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prologue* 360 A schirreue hadde he ben and a countee, Was nowher such a worthy vauasour 1495 *Trevisa's Higden's Polychronicon* (1527) 160 Her is Vvasor, Squire Castellan 1642 BIRD *Magi, Honour* 8 There be oth rs which we called Vavasors men of great dignity 1658 PHILLIPS *Vocabula* 35 The Middle Estate was fendall but not honorary he was also call d a Vavvsor 1818 HALLAM *Mid Ages* (1872) I 134 The vassals of this high nobility, who were usually termed Vavassors 1875 K P DIXON *Lead Hop* (1876) 41 *note*, Similar provisions follow as to the relief to be paid by barons, vava sors and villeins
γ 1577 HARRISON *England* II v (1877) I 113 As for the valvasors, it was a denomination applied unto all degrees of honor under the first three 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 696 The Kings Valvasors in times past they were 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honour* ii 289 For a Corollarie to this Discourse of Barons, we add the an ient title of Vavassours or Valvassours 1641 CHAMBERLAYNE *St Gt Brit.* II iii iv (1710) 186 Baronets are constituted in the Room of the Ancient Valvasors, between the Barons of England, and the Orders of Knights 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I ii 67 The first name of dignity, next bene th a peer was anciently th at of *tenantes ricedominis, or valvas ors* 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v 568 Lord, Woman valvasor and suzerain, Ere he could choose, surrounded him 1854 MILMAN *Lat Chr* III 57 Herbert refused to admit the valvassors of the Church of Milan to this privilege

**Vavasour** (obs Sc) see WAVENGER.

**† Vaver,** obs. southern variant of FAVOUR *sb*
1536 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 499 That he my the the rather bye youre grases mene obtayne the kyng his vaverys

**Vavte,** obs. form of VAULT *sb* 1

**Vaward.** *Obs* exc *arch* Forms α 4- vward, 6 va ward), 6 vaward, β *Sc.* 5 vaward(e, waywarde, 5-6 wawart 7- 5 vawarde, fauward, 6-7 vauward, 5 6 vawe-, 6 vawwarde, 6, 8 vawward 8, 5 vowarde, 5 6 vowarde, 6 7 voward [Reduced form of *vaumward* VAMWARD See VANT- *prefix*]
1 *Mil* = VANGUARD 1
α 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII 48 That saw in battale cum assay, Quhen thai assemblyt hastely, at 1400-50 *Alex & the Wood* 3617 Pe men out of Medi he mas To enverom alle pe vward of all pe vele yndes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener* (Roxb) 3554 Abel, his son bold and hard, Bare the buner in the vaward *c* 1472 *Arrit K. Edw IV* (Camden) 29 His vawarde so sore oppressyd them, with shott of arrowes, that they gave place a lytle 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen V*, 48 Beside this, he appointed a vawarde, of the which he made capitayne Edward duke of Yorke 1579 HIGGINS *Mirr for Mag* 132 To save their attendance at the leding of their Cheefes of the Armie, whether it be of the Battaile, or Vawarde 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* II 178 The English were the first that entered with great vigour upon the front and vaward 1640 HARRINGTON *Edw IV*, 81 The Vaward commanded by the Duke of Glocester, the Rere by the Lord Hastinge [1706 PHILIPS (ed Kersey), *Vaward* an obsolete Word for Van Guard] 1828 TYTLER *Hist Scot* (1864) I 116 He intrusted the command of the vaward, or centre, to the Earl of Moray 1846 TROLLOPE *Mem Mihil Hist* I 28 The disposition of troops seems to have been a vaward, or advance, a centre, and rear
β 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII 340 And thai haf taid thar reboyting That of the wyward *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* VI xix 2961 He askyt at be kynge Til haf be wawarde [v r wawart] of bis batale 1500-20 [see b]
γ *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus* 430 Pe fauward Titus toke, With six busand soudiours *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 604 The vawe warde and the myddyll soone, And the rere warde owte of Rome The grete oost remoyvd and yode. 1589 RAITHLE *Psalterne* (1811) 222 Havinge the rule of the Frenche kynges vawewarde. 1590 FOXE *A & M* (ed 2) I 227 Sebastian was Lieue tenant general of the Vawward of Diocletian the emperour 1603 KNOLLES *Hist Turkes* (1621) 39 The Vawward of his armie was conducted by John and Andronicus. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII 219 Then, Dionede, unaided as he was, Rush'd ardent to the vaw ward
b 1430-40 LYDG *Bochas* IX xxviii, In his passage to gouerne the wowarde 1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) VII 241 In the vowarde of whom were foote men with bawes. 1506 *Kalyr Test* (W de W 1531) 179 Whiche is more fered of the feendes than ony vowarde of a batayle 1543 *St Papers Hen VIII* (1849) IX 395 The other galees of the Emperour appoynted for the vowarde 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* II 1593/1 Forthwith the Lord Lieutenant sent to the vowarde, commaunding that they should marche towarde the towne. 1631 CHAPMAN *Caesar & Pompey* Plays 1873 III 162 The voward of the foe is ranged already
b In fig context
1401 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 57 Lt ar 3e that stonden before, In Antecrists vawarde 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xlii. 58 Ihan to battell that war arreyt all, And ay the wawart kept thocht 1561 NORTON *Calvin's Inst* I (1634) 10 And therefore he doubteth not to set their mother to the vaward, as being strongly armed to subdue their madnesse *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* L viii (1622) 30 Her haire being laide at the full length downe her backe, bare shew as if the coward fayled, yet that would conquer
c *fig* The forefront, the early part
In later use only as an echo of Shakspere
1599 SHAKS *2 Hen IV*, IV iv, We that are in the vaward of our youth 1599 NASHE *Tenten Stuffe* 22 The vaward or subburbes of my narration 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl* I 378 She is not in the vaward of youth — *Chron Canongate* vi, Those who were themselves in the vaward of youth 1884 A BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser 1 208 He states that he and his accomplices are in the vaward of their youth
2 *attrib* (Cf VANWARD *a*)
1608 SCOTT *Mairn* VII xxiv, Myself will rule this central host, My sons command the vaward post *Ibid* xxxiii, Where is now their vaward wing? 1814 — *Lord of Isles* VI xii, To centre of the vaward line Fitz Louis guided Amadine

**Vawe,** ML. var FAIN *a* and *adv*, FEW *a.*

**† Vawegard,** obs variant of VANGUARD (after VAWARD)
*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen I I*, 175 b, The vawegard was conducted by the erle of Warwycke

**Vawght,** obs. form of VAULT *sb* 1

**Vawmer, -meure, -maure,** var VAUMURE *Obs.*

**Vawmewarde,** variant of VAMWARD *Obs*

**† Vaws-cornice** *Obs* = (See quot)
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III 102/1 *A vaws Cornice* is any small Cornish lying under a great swelling out peece, as under a Plancher or a swelling Frese

**Vawt(e,** obs ff. VAULT *sb* 1 and *v* 1 **Vawthe,** obs f. VAULT *v* 1 **Vax,** obs. Sc. f. WAX *sb* and *v* **Vax cayme,** obs Sc. f. WAX-COMB.

**† Vay(e,** obs southern variants of FAY *sb* 1
1586 PRENE *Blue Gentere* 17 By my vaye, shee looketh lyke a foule Kite that haunteth our yarde at home 1620 *Contention betwix Liberality & Prodigality* iv iii, Come on, surrah, chill make you vast, bum vay

**Vay,** southern dial var. FAY *v* 1, obs Sc f. WAY **Vayage,** obs Sc. var VOYAGE. **Vayd,** obs Sc. f. WAIDE *v.* **Vaye,** obs Sc f. WAY *sb.*

**Vayk,** obs Sc. f. WEAK *a* **Vayle,** obs f. VEIL *sb.* **Vayllianne,** obs f VALIANCE **Vayn,** southern ML. var FAIN *a*, obs Sc f WAIN, Sc. var WANE *sb. Obs* **Vaynd,** var WAIND *v Sc.* **Vayndis,** Sc. var WANDISH *v* **Vayne,** obs. f. VEIN *sb* **Vayowre,** var VEYOUR *Obs.* **Vayr,** southern ML var FAIR *a* **Vayrd,** obs Sc. f. WAIRD *v* **Vayre,** southern ML. var FAIR *a*, obs f VAIR. **Vays,** var VASE *sb* 2 *Obs.* **Vayt,** southern ML. var *fought* FIGHT *v*

**Vayh(e, Meh** var. EACH *a* **Vaydir, Vder,** obs. Sc ff OTHER *a.* **Ve,** obs. Sc f WE *pron*, WEE *a.*

**+ Vee,** *int Aaut Obs* (See quots)
1626 *Cast Smith Accid I* 39 Vee is a speech so To row a spell, hold w ile I tun the boate — 1691 VEA, VEE, VEE *Ess* 20 *Se vean s Grave* vi 91 Out and all Vea, vea, vea, vea, vea, that is they pull all strongly together

**Veadge, Veage,** obs var VOYAGE *sb.*

**Veak,** obs Sc form of VEIN *v*

**Veal** (vil), *sb*1 Forms 4-6 veele (5 veell), 5-7 veale, 5 veal (feel), 6 veale, 6 veylle, 6 veyle (Sc veil, weill), 6-7 veale (6 ueale, feale), 6- veal (Sc. 7 weall, 8 veall) [n AF *veel*, OF. *veel* (*vuel, veal, vael* etc, mod l *veau*), *vedet*, = Prov *vedell*, Cat *vedel*, It and Pg *vitello* —L. *vitellus*, dim of *vitulus* calf]
1 The flesh of a calf as an article of diet
*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch T* 376 'Bet is' quod he, 'a pyk than a pykerell, And bet than olde boef is the tendre veel' *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) vi 72 Thei eten but lytille or non of Flesche of Veel or of Beef *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 18 A sawce hit is For vele and swyn, sothe. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Veel, flesche, *vitulina* 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* II (1570) B iii/2 Fat porke or vele, & namely such as is bought For easier price when they be leane & nought 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 177 They also coompare the fleshe of these tortoyses to be equall with veale in taste 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii 31 Veale is a more odoriferous flesh then any other 1653 H COGAN tr *Pinto's Trav* xxxiv 237 I have people feed on all, as Veal, Mutton, Pork, and finally of all other beasts whatsoever. 1708-9 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat* i 1, *Aim.* Have you any Veal? *Bon.* Veal! Sir, we

had a delicate Loin of Veal on Wednesday last 1780 Beck bond *Diog Mem* 125 The most perfect fillet of veal that ever made the mouth of man to water 1846 J Baxter *Libr Pract Agricc* (ed 4) II 127 In the rearing of calves for veal in Holland it is usual to confine them in pens 1850 *Spectator* 4 Oct, What insipid and tasteless cheer does veal afford!

2 A calf, esp as killed for food or intended for this purpose Now *rare*

1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 244 Flesh of Veals Vynegre, hemroll and Potage of o t mell c1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* (Roxb) 72 The 3 doalsteers of the golden veal 1466 *Paston Lett* II 269 For purveying of all the veals, lambes, certain pigges and poulay 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII Prol 181 Eydy kyl wyss veilys by thame rynnis 1544 in *Star Cha ider Court* (1908) II 305 The prices of Flesh, as of Beefes Mutto is Veales, & Porkes 1580 *Nottingham Rec* IV 199 vj fatte weithers at vijs viijd a piece, and vj veales, at vijs viijd a piece 1601 R J Jerbert *Kinged & Commons* 25 The flesh of their swine, oxen, and veales haue the best relish 1648 Herrick *Hesper, Puney Sir L Tomberton* 69 When guests make their bloode To taste thy Bullocks thighs thy Veales thy fat Weathers 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 315 Upon these [drag hooks] are hung two Veals or Mutions at a time. 1737 *Determ Honse Bk* (S H) 13 Killd a Veall 1801 *Farmer's Mag* Aug 319 In selling veals to butchers, their haggling was extremely disagreeable 1805 Thackeray *Rem Annet* 1 265 My mother would receive her pr dual a d kill the fattest veal for me 1898 Westcott *Dan'l Harum* xvii Jim brought three or four veals into town one spring to sell

*collect* 1570 Andrson (*title*) Ane No 148 pt The Flesh of Lamb, Veal Chicken and other Ani nals under Age

3. *attrib*, chiefly in names of dishes, etc, made from veal, as *veal broth, cutlet, gravy, pie*, etc

a 1693 Urquhart *Rom Jewel* III vi Ye Essence gutted Slaves ye Veal broth Boobies 1 Taylor (W Ider P) *Gt Eater Kent* 14 Three s xe penny veale pyes were presented to the scullado 1695 P [Motteux] *Updaterene Dwlet no* 1 1 Thus (we may perhaps call it) internal correctives of milk in a Veal B oath fasting 1725 *Bee Dict* s v, Put your Veal Strakes into the Pan again and finish the dre sing with Veal Sweet Breads *Ibid* s v Veal Gravy must be pour'd upon it 1747 tr *Astruc's Fevers* 340 Let the patie nt also drink plentifully of veal broth 1769 Mrs Raffald *Eng Housek* (1778) 19 About a pou nd of beef or veal suet Mix it *Ibid* 111 Take a d spunge and a veal Florentine 1833 I Ritchie II *Add to Lister* 182 A large baby in one arm and a la ket of veal pie in the other 1858 Dickens *Dorrit* xviii He treats Mrs. Perch to a veal cutlet and Scotch ale 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Veal tea* a bla k ish mucous soup or broth made of the fleshy part of the fillet or knu kle of veal 1883 Harper's *Mag* 811 *On the Verge* 48 I roperty Ma'o, behaud, making a veal and ha s pie out of a cold piece of canvas and a handful of shavings.

b Special Combs

**Veal-bleeding** *obs*, bleed to exhaustion, like a calf intended for veal, **veal-bones**, *fig* youth, nonage, **veal calf**, (*a*) = sense 2, (*b*) a variety of leather **veal farmer**, one who rears calves for the butcher, **veal like** *a*, resembling (that of) veal, **+veal money** (see quot), **veal-skin**, (*a*) the skin of a calf, (*b*) a skin disease characterized by white shining spots

1850 *Westm Gaz* 8 Sept 3/1 He exhausted and almost veal bleed n d fo lo n l ull 1785 R Cumberland *Observer* No. 92 Our process sold in fulls in either case, when we apply it timely and esp cially to young pers in their *veal bone* state is the saying 1888 *Daily Sheffield* 1 Oct 2/3 There is a kin y m t ri l in the veal bones always a calf 1556 *Il Ist o Inv M* (Surtees, 1835) 153 Thomas morison for ij Veale calves 1895 *Boston (Lincs) Herald* 8 Mch 3/6 Colored leather is firmer and sells g more freely Grain, 12 to 140., veal calf 16 to 18c. 1884 H Stephens *Bk Farm* II 469 The Veal farmer buys from 6 to 12 cows calf 1822 T [Veal like] see *veal skin* below] 1897 W Anders n *Surg Pract Infants* 7 An unwholesome, veal like whiteness, diversified by tiny blood vessels 1684 Mabey *Cowell's Interpreter* s v, Veale money or Veale noble money The Tenants of one of the 3 tythings within the Manour of Brad ford in Wiltshire, pay a yearly Rent by the name in lieu of veale paid formerly in kind 1291 *Exch Rolls Scott* XXII 171 [1ox of certain] barkit 'weillskynnis. 1822–7 Good in *Sp Med* (1829) V 69 *Psychosis Leucanus* Veal Skin This is the vitiligo of some of Willan so called from the veal like appearance which these spots produce on the general colour of the surface 1898 Simmonds *Dict Trade Vealskins*, in Irish trade name for hides of the calf, which are dearer than other leather

Hence **Veal** *v trans*, to rear (calves) for use as veal, **Veal er**, a calf intended or fit for veal *U S*

1901 in American Dials

**Veal**, *sb* ² *Sc Mining* (See quots)

1883 Greslev *Coal & Coal M* 269 *Veal* a tank or water barrel placed upon a cage for emptying the sump 1886 J Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 69 *Veal or veel*, a water box or chest usually on wheels, for removing water

**Veale**, var Veil *Obs* obs Sc f Well *adv*

**Vea ling**, *vbl sb* ¹ [f Veal *sb* ¹] a *Avealing*, procuring veal b Conversion into veal

1664 Cotton *Scarron* 1 47 And up he starts, to go a steading, Either a Mutt ning, or a Vealing 1847 *Trans R Agric Soc* VIII ii 394 It is equally suitable whether the calf is intended for vealing or to be reared

**+Vea ling**, *vbl sb* ² *Obs* (See quot)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III 86/2 Working, is to lay them on the Beam and with the Fleshing Knife and Vealim, Knife to scrape off the Lime and cleanse them from their Fleshyness.

**Vea ling**, *sbl sb* ³ *Sc Mining* [f Veal *sb* ²] 1886 J Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 69 *Vealing*, or *vomiting*, cheating; getting out water by means of veals.

**Vealinous**, obs form of Villainous *a*

**Vealy** (vī'li), *a* [f Veal *sb* ¹]

1 Resembling veal

1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng Housekpr* (1778) 17 Then put in a few boiled forcemeat balls, which must be made of the vealy part of your turtle. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav* 259 When we were fairly at anchor they crawled out again, their vealy faces mezzotinted with mud.

2 *fig* Imperfectly developed, immature, characterized by youthful immaturity

1890 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 17 July, A vealy medical school graduate, whose employment is an insult to intelligent people 1892 *Outlook* 19 Jan 80/1 The sylvan thief shared our vealy homage with moonlighters, smugglers [etc].

Hence **Vea liness**, want of maturity

1895 in *Funk's Stand Dict*

**Veand**, obs Sc variant of *weighing* Weigh *v*

**Veany**, variant of Vent ² *Obs*

**Vear**, obs. f Veer *v*, obs. Sc f War *sb*, south-w dial f Fear *v*

**Veare**, southern Me. variant of Fare *v*

**Vearie**, obs. Sc. form of Very *adv*

**Vease.** Now only *south w dial* Forms 4 (9) vese (9 vese), 6–7 (9) vease, 7 veese (9 veese), 9 vaise, vase, etc [southern var of Fersr *sb*] A rush, impetus, a run before a leap (Cf Fesse *sb* 1 and 1 b)

c1386 Chaucer *Knight's T* 1727 And ther out cam a rage and such a vese, That it made al the gate for to rese. 1573 Twyne *Æneid* xii Nn 4 b, Thus vp in hand he caught, and from the ground he lead fyng Arysing vp throwth and forth his vease he fet withall 1614 Gorges *Icarus* 41 In this flitting whirle winde vease I passe the Mountaines Pyrenees *Ibid* xiii 346 O Mariners, stay not my vease Heedlong to leape into the sea 1618 J Davies (Heref) *Wits Pilgrimage* Wks (Grosart) II 312 From whence Loues lightest Muses take their veese To leape into those seas, Where they destroy 1640 in Durdes *Lyfe Mary Worcester* x. (1865) 171, I only would retire myself from further present charge as i ram doth to take a greater vease 1678 Ray *Words* 78 Every horse hath its vease and a beast itheron signifies Pease are flatulent, but Beans ten times more 1825 Jennings *Dial W Engl* 80 *Vease* the disease engendered in horses the intensity of motion or action from a given point 1875 Poreon *Quaint Words & Ways* 26 What a vease they [sc the hounds] did go surely!

**Vease**, dial var Feeaze ¹ **Veasy**, var Vasya *Obs*

**Veawe**, southern Me var Few *a*, obs

**Veaw**, **Veawe**, var Veare *Obs*, obs. form of Weh *sb*

**Vecche**, **Vechche**, southern Me var Fetch *v*

**‖Vecchio** *Obs* [It] An old man

c1570 *Bugbears* I ii. 61 Yet it dothe not content our pnncl ehste the old vecchio *Ibid* 79 I the three thousand Crowns the vecchio dothe owe

**Vech(e**, obs ff Vetch **Vecht**, **Vechtie**, obs Sc ff Weight *sb*, Weighty *a*

**+Vecke.** *Obs* Also 5 **vekke**, **wekke** [app ad. It *vecchia*, fem of *vecchio* old] An old woman

As direct adoption from Italian would be remarkable in the 14th cent, it is possible that the word existed in OF colloquial use.

1399 Gower *Conf* I 98 This olde wyht him hath awasted Hereof hen wyfhod hewed upleth And syh this vecke wher sche sat. c1400 *Rom Rose* 4495 A rympled vekke ferre ronne in age, frownyng and yelowe in hir visage 1412 20 Lydg *Chron Troy* 2795 Sche cleped a noon vn to hir presence Anaged vekke, fer in servyce 1446–*Dr Guil Piter* 12752 An olde wekke a noon I mette 1430–40 — *Bochas* viii (1544) 36 b, Wha i these veckes ferre yronne in age Whan the selfe hath vaune glory and delite For to fure nd poppe ther visage

**+Vecked**, *ppl a Obs* = Invecked *ppl a*

1562 Feth *Armory* II 96 b Hee beareth Azure, a crosse fortnye vecked Argent

**Vecord** *rare*—¹ = next

1768 tr *Voltelong's Wisdom of Angels* v § 378 364 Hence too the very Name of Vecord Record (malicious Madness) and other similar Exc resions.

**Vecordy** *rare*— [ad L *vecordia*, f *vecors* senseless, foolish] (See quot)

1696 Blount *Glossogr* [*sic*] (copy Cooper), *Vecordy* mad mess folly, doting

**Vecount**, obs Sc form of Viscount

**Vecta rious**, *a rare*—⁰ [f I *vectari us* (*equus*), f *vectari* to convey] (See quot)

1696 Blount *Glossogr Vectarius*, belonging to a coach or carriage Vectarius Equus (Hence in Phillips (1658), in later edd (1671 96) *V tarious*)

**Vectayllys**, obs variant of Victuals

**Ve ctible**, *a rare*—⁰ [f L *vect*, ppl stem of *vehere* to carry] (See quot)

1696 Blount *Glossogr Vectible* that is or may be carried

**Vectigal** (vektəi gǎl), *sb* ¹ Now only *Rom Hist* Also 6 vectii, *Sc* victigal [a L *vectigal* a payment to the State, etc] A payment of the nature of tribute, tax, or rent, made to a superior or to the State

1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* II 243 Gnt tribute and victigall also, He mar by nor to king Arthure till pa. 1538 Ireland *Itin* (1759) IV 111 Thereupon they gave a Fee Farme or Vectigall of an 100.1 yearely The Vectigall is as it was. 1696 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vectigal*, used substantively for toll, impost money or tribute it self 1774 J. West *Antiq Furness* (1805) 104 His lands and tenants were exempted from all regal exactions of tallage, toll, passage pontage, and vectigal 1838 Arnold *Hist Rome* (1846) I xvii 366 I he tribunes demanded that the occupiers of the remainder should pay their vectigal regularly

**+Vectigal**, *sb* ² and *a Obs* Also 6 *Sc* victogal. [ad L *vectigal-es*, f *vectigal* see prec.] *a*. *sb* A collector of tribute. **b**. *adj*. (See quot. 1656)

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot* I 188 Mark Terebell Has constat him his victogall that tyde, For to collect his tribute and his rent. 1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vectigal*, that pays or pertains to paying tribute, subsidy, pension or rent.

**+Vection.** *Obs. rare.* [ad I *vection*, *vectio*, n of action f. *vehêre* to carry] The action of carrying, vectitation

c 1610 Sir C Heydon *Astrol Disc* (1650) 42 For whatsoever moveth another, it doth it either by impulsion attraction, volutation, or vection 1634 Petty *Disc Supt Mr* (1690) 198 Albertus calls this motion a vection or a carrying 1654 Z Coke *Logick* 40 Local motion Traction or drawing Vection or carrying

**‖Vectis** (ve ktis). [L. *vectis* lever, crow bar.]

**+1** A lever *Obs*

1648 Wilkins *Math Magic* I v 33 Rather suppose BC, to be a Vectis or Leaver, towards the middle of which is the place of the fulciment. 1654 Petty *Disc Dupl Proportion* 119 In the Fure of a Witch the greatest strength of the Spring is made to work upon the shortest Vectis.

**2** *Surg* & An instrument employed as a lever to free the head of the child

1790 *Med Comm* II 397 It is now near forty years since an account of the vectis or lever of Roonhuysen was published 1822 T Good *Study Med* (1829) V 190 If, at the same time the head be lying clear on the perinæum, the vectis or forceps should be had recourse to 1841 Ramsbotham *Obstet Med & Surg* 324 Another instrument that has been much employed with the view of extracting the child living is the vectis or lever 1881 *Trans Obstet Soc Lond* XXII 78, I passed in a vectis, and by its aid as a lever I brought down the second, larger head and left arm

**b** An instrument employed in operations on the eye

1888 *Illustr to Maw's Price current* 37 [Eye instruments] Vectis, Taylor's 1892 *Hist* 42 Ophthalmoscope Pump, operation scissors, and vectis 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal Surg Instr* 158 Vectis (Taylor's), for Extraction of Soft Lens

**Vectita-tion.** *rare* [f L *vectitâre* (rare), freq of *vectâre* to carry, convey] The action of carrying or conveying (frequently), the fact of being carried or conveyed

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vectitation*, an often carriage. 1727 Pope, etc *Martinus Scriblerus* in Whincop *Scanderbeg* Other varied Lords are lolling in their chariots (x species of Vectitation seldom used amongst the Ancients except by old men) 1823 *New Monthly Mag* VIII 253 A method of aerial vectitation

**Ve ctitory, a** *rare*—¹ [Cf prec] Of the nature of carrying or conveying

1822 *Examiner* 8/1 Heaven forbid that the bodies of Turks should be applied to victitory purposes

**Vector** (ve ktə). [a L *vector*, agent noun f *vehêre* to carry So (in sense 1) Sp and Pg *vector*, F *vecteur*]

**+1** *Astr* (See quot 1704) Also *vector radius*, = *radius vector* Radius 8 c *Obs*

1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I s v, A Line supposed to be drawn from any Planet moving round a Center or the Focus of an Ellipsis, to that Center or Focus is by some Writers of the New Astronomy, called the Vector because tis that Line by which the Planet seems to be carried round its Center 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I 28 If a right line, called by some the vector radius be drawn from the sun through any planet, and supposed to revolve round the sun with the planet *Ibid* I 28

**2** *Math* A quantity having direction as well as magnitude, denoted by a line drawn from its original to its final position

a 1865 Sir W R Hamilton *Elem Quaternions* I 1 A right line AB considered as having not only length but also direction, is said to be a Vector 1881 J C Maxwell *Electr & Magn* II 28 The vector, whose components are b G H, is called the vector potential of magnetic induction 1888 Minchin *Unipl Kinemat* 109 The resultant of a system of vectors whose type is *u IP dm*, if each were directed from *I* to *P*, would be a vector *u M IG* directed from *I* to *G*

*attrib* 1878 W K Clifford *Dynamic* 95 We are led to two different kinds of product of two vectors A vector product and a scalar product 1880 *Nature* XXI 220 The vector property (such as rotation about an axis) 1897 Currey *Theory Electr & Magnetism* 361 If we replace the vector equation by its three components we obtain the vector integrals of the latter by the above values.

**Vectorial** (vektōə rial), *a* [f L *vectors us* or directly f prec]

**+1** Capable of carrying or conveying *Obs*

1715 Desaguliers *Astro-theol* (1726) 66 From a Vectorial Power, or Emanations from the Sun *Ibid* 68 If we should imagine the Moon to be wheeled about our Earth, by the Motion and Vectorial Power of the Earth

**2** *Math* Of or pertaining to, connected with, a vector or radius vector

1882 Minchin *Unipl Kinemat* 84 The vectorial area of the complex path thus traced out is the area of the roulette. 1884 C Smith *Conic Sect* (1888) 10 The radius vector is considered positive if measured from O along the line bounding the vectorial angle.

**Vecto rian**, *a rare*—⁰ [Cf prec] (See quot)

1896 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vectorian*, apt to carry, serving for carriage.

**+Ve ctorship.** *Obs* [f L *vector* Vector] Conveying agency or activity

1892 Buliven *Contemporary Rev* 19 This Animall Faculty by the vectorship of the spirit flows from the Braines into every particle.

**+Ve cture.** *Obs* [ad. L. *vectûra*, f *vect*, *vehêre* to carry] Carriage, conveyance

1625 Bacon *Ess*, *Sed & Troubles* (Arb) 403 There be but

three Things, which one Nation selleth vnto another; The Commoditie ; The Manufacture; and the Vecture or Carriage *a* 1643 (see Sectuas).

**Ved**, obs Sc form of WED *v*, WEED *sb*.

‖ **Veda** (vē´dā) Also 8 **Eeda**, **Vidam**, **Vie dam**, **Vedam**. Skr *vēda* knowledge, sacred knowledge, sacred book, from the root *vid-* to know see WIT *v* The a-forms are from the Skr. nom and acc *vēdam*, perh partly through Tamil The Urdū form *bed* (Hindī *ved*) is also represented in older use by *Bead* (1698), *Baid* (1776), and *Beide* (1789) ] One of the four ancient sacred books of the Hindus (called the *Rig-*, *Yajur*, *Sāma-*, and *Atharva vēda*), the body of sacred literature contained in these books

*a.* 1734 PICART tr *Roger's Relig & Manners Brahmins* in *Ceremon & Relig Customs Var Nations* III 353 The Vedam is the Book of the Law among these People, and contains all they are to believe and practise Ibid 354 The Scripture of Bramah in preference to the Vedam 1794 R J SULIVAN *Vieus Nat* IV 295 The Vedams, or texts of scripture, were published by Brahma, together with the Shasters, or commentaries about six hundred years afterwards

*β* 1776 JUBIAMOND tr *Reynal's Hist Ind* I 33 The Bramin promised to pardon him on condition that he should swear never to translate the Bedas, or sacred volumes. 1788 *Asiatic Researches* I 340 The first four [parts of knowledge] are the immortal *Vēdas* evidently revealed by God 1808 COLEBROOKE *Ibid* VIII 381 It may be here proper to remark that each Véda consists of two parts denominated the Mantras and the Bráhmanas or prayers and precepts. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist Ind* I 71 The religion taught in the Institutes is derived from the Vēdas, to which scriptures they refer in every page 1871 MATEER *Travancore* 33 Accordingly as a matter of fact the Sudras never do read the Sanscrit Vedas.

*attrib* 1841 *Penny Cy* I XX 403 1 In like manner, the Veda hymns led to the consideration of the laws of metre 1843 *Ibid* XXVI 171 These various schools of the Veda theology]

Hence **Veda** to *a*, = VEDIC *a*, **Ve daism**, = VEDISM

1865 BARING GOULD *Werewolves* x 176 In ancient Indian Vedaic mythology the upasrys were heavenly damsels who dwelt in the ather between Earth and Sun 1887 L. PARKE *Star in East* VII 202 Their religion sprung from the same root as Vedaism.

‖ **Veda nta**. Also **Vedānta**, **Vedānta**. [Skr. *vedānta*, *f vēda* VEDA + *anta* end] One of the leading systems of Hindu philosophy Also *attrib* The Hindū form *Vedant* has also been occas. used

1823 COLEBROOKE *Philos Hindus* in *Trans Roy Asiatic Soc* (1827) I 19 The latter (Uttara) commonly called Védánta, and attributed to Vyása, de luces from the text of the Indian scriptures, a refined psychology, which goes to a denial of a material world 1849 C. S. HENRY tr *Epit Hist Philos* 28 The Vedanta philosophy is an exhibition of pantheism in its greatest metaphysical strictness. *Ibid* 29 The Vedanta system shows how pantheism must logically result in scepticism 1865 *Westm Gin* 23 Oct 1/3 The philosophy of Vedānta is the abstract science which embraces all these methods

Hence **Veda ntic** *a*, **Veda ntism**, **Veda ntist**.

The Skr *Vedantin* and Hindī *Vedantī* have also been used instead of Vedantist

1829 MAX MÜLLER *India* vii 270 The Brahma Samáj was "Vedántic in spirit 1882 *Athenæum* 8 July 41/1 He commences his enumeration with that system which is farthest removed from Vedantism, speculation, omitting, however, the Vedānta itself 1849 C. S. HENRY tr *Epit Hist Philos* 29 "Vedantism embraces in its wide comprehension, a multitude of other conceptions, which are common to it and to the other philosophies of India 1880 BIRDWOOD *Ind. Arts* I 4 But Vedantism is really nothing else than Nihilism. 1849 C. S. HENRY tr *Epit Hist Philos* 29 Brahma alone exists everything else is an illusion The "Vedanusts prove the capital axiom by [etc.]. *Ibid* 29 In order to avoid misconception of the "Vedantist's reasoning 1885 TIRUVENAN *Complet Vallāh* (1860) 215 His sect went by the name of 'Vedantists', in fact, the 'Evangelicals' of the East

**Veda**. Also 7 **Veddah**, 9 **Veddah**, **Wedda**. [Sinhalese *veddā* archer, hunter] A member of a primitive race inhabiting the forest districts of Ceylon

1681 R. KNOX *Hist Ceylon* 61 In this Land are many of these wild men they call them Veddahs 1841 CARPENTER *Wan Piers* (ed 2) 289 the Veddahs or wild hunters of Ceylon 1873 JEVONS *Money* iv 28 Somewhat similar pictures circulated in Abyssinia, the Soulou Archipelago , and among the Veddahs 1881 TAYLOR *Anthropology* vi (1904) 164 In the forests of Ceylon are found the Veddas or 'hunters', shy wild men who build bough huts, and live on game and wild honey

**Vedde**, obs Sc. f WITHY **Vedder**, **-ir**, obs Sc f WEATHER, WEDDER. **Vede**, obs Sc f WEED *sb* **Vede(n**, southern ME var. FED *v*. **Veder**, southern ME var FATHER, FEATHER

‖ **Vedette** (vĭdĕ t). Also 9 **vedet**; 7– **vidette**. [f., ad. It *vedetta*, prob f *vedere* to see. The incorrect spelling *vedette*, now rare, was common in the first half of the 19th cent ]

1 *Mil.* A mounted sentry placed in advance of the outposts of an army to observe the movements of the enemy.

*a.* 1690 DAVIES *Diary* (Camden) 129 And then lay down to sleep without posting any vcdettes abroad 1778 GOUV MORRIS in Sparks *Corr Amer Rev* (1853) II 228 A few good cavalry may be requisite for the videttes. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept 561/2 He fell in with the enemy's videttes. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* III iii (1864) 252 One of the vedettes perceived a large body of Indians moving towards the Christian lines 1868 *Regul & Orders Army* § 892 Instructions for the guidance of Outposts, videttes, and sentries. 1902 R. W CRANDELL *Models of Paradise* xxii 297 The rigid system of patrol which brought death to our sleet sonked videttes.

*β* 1708 *Milit Dict*, *Vedette*, a Sentinel of the Horse detached from the main Body of the Army [etc.]. 1726 *Reg Conf Sur Y Cope* 78 I do post the Out Guard, and see the Vedettes placed properly 1766 GILLIES *Hist Greece* III. I 100 The order of their guards and watches was highly judicious: they employed, for their security, out sentries and vedettes. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw *Desp* (1836) V 355 *note*, The vedettes of the outposts were within shot of each other 1844 *Queen's Reg & Ord Army* 304 Whether they have been in the habit of placing piquets posting vedets, conducting patrols, &c. 1879 *Blackw Mag* July 23 A vedette was killed to-day Half a dozen Zulus rushed out on him soon after he had been posted for the day

*transf* 1807 PIKE *Sources Mississ* (1810) 248 I made a pretext to be established on my boy as a vedet, and sat down peaceably under a bush and made my notes 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I 53 An old rook, who was the vidette 1878 W. LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* xxii 11 98 The blackcock's *vedette* rolled his burnished plumage leisurely against the sun

*fig.* 1818 IMPERIAL *Mag* (1859) VII 483 Philosophical vedette sit the distance of one thousand miles is precious to us here 1880 *Spectator* 13 Nov 1439 They cannot bear to see the landlord's whom they regard as their own vedettes, terrorized

2 *Vedette boat*, a small vessel used for scouting purposes in naval warfare.

1884 *Lall Mall G* 6 Oct 6 1 Building armour clads, fast cruisers, vedette boats, and torpedo boats (weekly ed ) 7 Oct 7/2 They are vedette boats and not torpedo boats in the proper sense

**Vedic** (vē´dik), *a* and *sb* [f VED-A + IC] *adj* Of or pertaining to, contained or mentioned in, connected with, the Vedas. Also *attrib* The language of the Vedas, an early form of Sanskrit.

1859 MAX MÜLLER *Anc Sanskrit Lit* 10 The sacred literature of the Vedic age *Ibid* 11 The publication of all Vedic texts and commentaries 1864 PUSEY *Lect Daniel* iv 558 The old Vedic worship was a libation to the god of fire 1873 WHITNEY *Oriental & Ling Stud* I A general view of the whole body of Vedic literature 1884 *American* VIII 30 The most orthodox Brahmans who maintain old Vedic sacrifices 1890 SCHRUMPF *First Aryan Reader* p. xi, specimen B ought to have preceded specimen A, as Vedic is older than Sanskrit.

**Vedir**, obs Sc f WEATHER.

**Ve dism**. [f VED A + -ISM Cf VEDAISM ] The system of religious beliefs and practices contained in the Vedas

1881 *Athenæum* 29 Apr 542/3 In this paper he showed the relationship between the Vasishtha legend and three other forms of the Hindu religious system, viz., Vedism, Brāhmanism, and Shaivism 1893 J KEID *Morality & Relig* v 191 Vedism, then, generally speaking, was a religion of nature.

**Ve dist**. [f as prec + -IST ] A student of, or authority on, the Vedas

1896 SKEIRY *Introd Pol Sci* (1902) 364 Not dealing with the new science introduced by Egyptologists or Assyriologists or Vedists

**Vedlak**, obs form of WEDLOCK

**Vedo(u**, obs Sc ff. WIDOW

‖ **Vedro**. Also 8 **wedro** [Russ ведро pail ] A Russian liquid measure equal to 2 7 imperial gallons

1735 HANWAY *Trav* VI IXXII (1762) I 371, 8 Krushquas, 1 wedro—13 english quarts. 1799 W TOOKE *View Russian Emp* II 193 The greater part was then already podraded (contracted for at a specific price per vedro 1820–3 *Pallas's Trav* (1812) I 234 Boiled in large kettles contain ing from forty to forty three Russian vedros, or ankers, of water = 1833 H. MURRAY *Russia* 179 The inhabitants issue about twenty five millions of vedros 1907 *Fairn Brit* Jan 224 The peasants of that province drank this year 62 974 vedros of vodka more than last.

**Vee** *Mining* See QUOIN.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss Coal M* 269 *Vee*, the junction of two underground roadways meeting in the form of a V

‖ **Veedor**. *Obs* Also 6 **veadore**, **viador**. [a Sp and Pg *veedor*, Pg *vedor*, *veador*, *viador*, *f ver* to see ] An official invested with inspecting or controlling power

*a.* 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 158 One Gonzalus Fernandus Ouiedus benge one of the maiestrates appointed in that office which the Spanyardes caule *Veedor* ] 1598 T SCARLET *Ist Engl Voyettes* 6, Sauages with the Veedors chiefe officer 1622 SHELTON *Quix* III viii 192 The office of a Bawde should not be practised but by people well borne ; and ought besides to haue a Veedor, and examinator of them. *β* 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy* II II 129 We spake with his Vea dore or cheefe man, that hath the dealing with the Christians. 1604 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* I viii 590 (Guinea), They haue one attending on them, whom they call Viador (which word they haue learned of the Portugals) hee is the Kings Treasurer, and keepeth his Gold and other Riches.

**Veel**, southern dial var. FEEL *v*, FIELD *sb*.

**Veer** (vīəɹ), *sb.* [f. VEER *v* 2] An act or instance of veering , a change of direction

1611 COTGR , *Virvoulte*, a veere, whirle, frake, or turne. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy* 70 Wee expected a lower veere of the water 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn* 231 Till the warm hour returns With veer of wind 1890 *Daily News* 21 Aug. 5/3 This project of the Emperor William would explain the sudden veer round a short time ago against France Ferdinand

**Veer**, southern ME var FIR; var. VERE (Spring) *Obs.*

**Veer** (vīəɹ), *v* 1 *Naut* Forms 5–7 vere (6 *Sc* vire), 6 **vyere**, 7 **vier-**, 6–7 **veare**, 7 **veere**, 7– **veer** [a. MDu. *vieren* to let out, slacken, = OHG. *fieren*, *fiesan* to give direction to Hence also G *veeren*, *fieren*, Da *fire*, Sw. *fira* in nautical use ]

1. *trans* To allow (a sheet or other sail-line) to run out to some extent, to let out by releasing. Also with *out* ? *Obs*

So Du and Flem (*etc*) *schoot vieren*, freq used fig

*c* 1460 *Fifteynth Sea Voy* 25 Hale the bowelyne ! now, vere the shete ! 1520 *Lett & Papers Hen VIII*, III II 975 [I he, galley was next them, but if shee] may vyere the shete, she will go from us all 1530 *Richkinner* 302 A le the heine ! a le ! vere ! shot of ! vere sayle ! 1549 *Compl Scot* vi 41 Vire the trossis, nou heise *Ibid*, Vire your litlaris and your top sail trossis 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I xii 1 Behold I see the hauen nigh at hand Vere the maine sheete, and beare vp with the land. 1606 CAPT SMITH *Accid Voy new men* 28 Loose the maine top sayle veare a boulin of your sheat 1627— *Seaman's Gram* IX 39 Veere more sheet, or a flowne sheat, that is, when they are not hyled home to the blocke 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* I II 77 Veer out some of your Fore and Main sheets ' *Ibid* 78 Veer out the main Sheet, and fore Sheet. 1694 [see MAIN SHEET 1]

*abs* ! 1830 [see above] 1858 HAWKER *Instruct of Young Seamen* 1 Now Bestfellows do one another greet I' th Saylors Phrase, Vere, vere, more Sheet

b To let *out* (any line or rope); to allow to run *out* gradually to a desired length

1574 W BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* XIV (1577) 42 They haue a piece of wood, and a line to vere out ouer borde 1628–9 DIGBY *Voy Medit* (Camden) 75, I bore vp to her, and by a barrell veered her out by the hawser 1690 LEY BOURN *Cure Math* 608 As you veer out the Log-Line, set the Drift of the Log with your Compass 1721 *Phil Trans* XXXI 178 [He] marches on the bottom of the Sea, wearing out the Coiles of his Pipe 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L* 68 They rowed it towards the rock, veering out a rope, which they had fastened to the large boat 1839 *Cat Eng & Arch Tract* II 178/2 They had the appearance of a single rope capable of being coiled and veered out conveniently 1893 W R MACKINTOSH *Around Orkney Last Times* (1909) II 136 [He] veered out the boat's tether till he came alongside the vessel

c To Similarly without *adv Obs rare*

1604 CAPT SMITH *Virginia* VI 219 As fast as you can hale and vere a line 1787 BENTHAM *Naval Comp* (ed 2) 169 *I ver your line*, let it off the reel after striking

2 To allow (a boat, buoy, etc ) to drift further off by letting out a line attached to it. Usually with *away* or *out*

1530 in R G Marsden *Sel Rec Crt Adm* (Selden) I 67 The marinars of the sayd Venys shippe did vere owt there grete bote 1844 *Mechanic's Mag* No 41 215 They tried the means of veering away a buoy 1881 TENNYSON *Ath Younger Son* lxxiv, We veered our empty cask astern, with a rope attached to it 1834 MARRYAT *F Simple* (1863) 207 They veered out a buoy with a line, which we got hold of. 1846 A YOUNG *Naut Dict* 170 To veer a buoy on a ship's wake, means to slack out a rope to which the buoy has been attached, in order to let it go astern.

3 To let out or pay out (a cable)

1604 *Adm Ct Rem* 91 May, The cables were not vered. 1622 R HAWKINS *Voy S Sea* (1847) 203 On both sides was crying out to veere cable *Ibid*, 1 hose [cables were] very short, and vered to the letter 1627 CAPT SMITH *Seaman's Gram* VII 30 Veere more Cable, is when you ride at Anchor 1745 P THOMAS *Jrnl Anson's Voy* 136 [Ao they immediately let go the Sheet Anchor, and veer'd almost two Cables on it, yet they drove out to Sea. 1769 *Trans Soc Arts* VII 211 Cables veered astern, with tackles leading from them to the ship a quarters 1853 G. P. R. JAMES *Un Corn* v (ed. 12) 126, I cannot veer more cable 1870 MEADE *New Zealand* 290 After veering cable we went to quarters 1899 F T BULLEN *Ip Nary* 41 Every anchor fell and cable was veered to five shackles.

*fig* 1616 B JONSON *Devil an Ass* v v 46 Trauises shall seeke out Inguine, euery cable is to be veer'd

*absol* 1769 FALCONER *Shipwr* (1780) I 213 Ana 4 b, *Ne pile plus amarre !* keep fast the cable ! stopper the cable ! veer no more ! 1775 *Phil Trans* LXVIII 404 At 4 a m found ship drove, veered to a whole cable.

4 To with *away* or *out*

(*a*) 1697 DAMPIER *Voy* I 437 This obliged us to let go our Sheet Anchor, veering out a good scope of Cable 1769 FALCONER *Dict*, *Marine* (Ed 2), *To veer and haul, to cable hout par bout*, to veer out the cable end for-end 1899 F T BULLEN *Log Sea trawl* 74 The warships, which with top masts housed and cables veered out to the clinch, were all steaming full speed ahead

(*b*) 1748 *Anson's Voy* II iii 138 To veer away the cable briskly. *Ibid* III ii 319 After we had veered away one whole cable 1768 COMMODORE BYRON *Voy* (1773) I 79 A thick fog coming on with hard rain, we veered away the stream cable 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut Dict* 357 'Veer away the cable,' that is, slack it and let it run out.

*fig* 1769 M. CUMBERLAND *Brothers* in *Brit Theat* (1808) XVIII 17 I'll veer away no more good advice after you.

c To put *on* (cables) end to end *rare*—1

1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 86 The latter continued to drop to leeward, and the Theseus was obliged to veer on two cables to keep within reach of them.

4 *To veer and haul* (see quots )

1769 FALCONER *Dict*, *Marine To Veer and haul*, to pull a rope tight, by drawing it in and slackening it alternately, so that the rope is straitened to a greater tension. 1841 R H DANA *Seaman's Man* 133 *To veer and haul*, is to haul and slack alternately on a rope, as in warping, until

the vessel or boat gets headway 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk.* *To veer and haul*, to gently tauten and then slacken a rope three times before giving a heavy pull, the object being to concentrate the force of several men 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii 282 By hauling and veering on it, a sufficiently uniform strain on it would be obtained

*fig.* 1891 C Roberts *Adroit Amer* 251 The agents have a certain margin to veer and haul on in their commission 1901 *Speaker* 27 April 109/1 Here is a sum on which the British Government may fairly bet and haul

**†5** *intr* Of a ship: To sail with the sheet let out *Obs*

*a* 1688 *Nomenclator Navalis* (MS Harl 2301) s.v., When a Shipp sailes, and the Sheate is veered out, wee saie she goes veering 1691 Capt W *Smith's Seaman's Grammar* vii. 76 The Ship goes Larking (Quartering, Veering, or Large) are terms of the same signification, viz. that she neither goes by a Wind nor before the Wind, but between both.

**Veer** (vīər), *v*.[1] Forms 6 verre (?), 7 vere, vear(e, veere, 7– veer [ad F *virer* (= Sp *virar*, *birar*, Pg *virar*, It *virare*), to turn, to veer, of obscure origin. See also Vire *v*.]

**1** *intr* a Of the wind To change gradually, to pass by degrees from one point to another, *spec* in the direction of the sun's course Orig *Naut*

1589 N Lichefield tr *Pettie's Guazzo's Civ. Conv. It.* 213 And after that the winde verred [*sic*] to the Southwest they bare with the same 1607 Capt Smith *Seaman's Grammar* ix 30 Now the wind veereth, and doth shift from point to point 1665 Sir J Herbert *Trav* (1677) 6 The wind in one hours space veering about every point of the Compass 1688 Edad *Celest Navigator* 111 234 How Influences may be veered used so far as to suffer a cooler Wind to flow, which upon their Rising shall vere to a warmer point 1744 J Clerke *Skeph Hanbury's Voyages* I 15 The wind commonly veers to the South West 1777 *Phil Trans.* LXVIII 320 The wind was Easterly At the instant of the shock it is said to have veered to the West 1836 Marryat *Mish Kings* xxii The wind had veered round and the Aurora was now able to lay up clear of the island of Maritimo 1849 Mrs Somerville *Connec Phys Sci* (ed 8) xv 138 When north and south winds blow alternately, the island at one place will veer in one uniform direction through every point of the compass. 1899 F Fuller *Log Sea voyage* 317 The next night the wind veered to the eastward

**†b** To turn round, revolve *Obs*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II ii *Columnes* 459 O! thou fair Chariot, thou do stalwaies veer About the North Pole *Ibid* 484 As long as Heav'n with Orb shall veer About 1611 Cotgr *Virer* to veere turne round wheele or whirle about

**2** *Naut* Of a ship To change course, *spec* to turn round with the head away from the wind in order to sail on another tack

*c* 1600 *T How Z to a Flower* (1853) 134 The other veres as slowe For board and star board 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v 208 A head of all the Master Pilot steers, And, as he leads, the following ivy veers 1761 *British Mag* II 497 The Packet in hast to Dunmanus was veering When to lo! a huge ship towards our vessel was steering 1798 Coleridge & *Ine Mar* iii II plunge! and tacked and veer'd 1848 I vius *Diomed* II 4 The Devil's fleet after a brief halt veered majestically round 1878 Susan Phillips *On Scotland* 135 The noble vessel, and veered and tacked, As she strove to make the shore

**3** Of things To turn round or about, to change from one direction or course to another.

Also in fig. context (quot 1690) of sense 4

1593 T Jaxes *Ir* 59 The Irish were forced to a lower ebbe 1690 Dryden *Amphitryo* v v 48 Thou Weather cock of Government; that when the Wind changes for the Sover aign, veers to the quarter

1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I xiii A narrow inlet, Lost for a space, through thickets veering, But broader when again appearing 1823 Byron *Island* I iii, No more at thy command the obedient helm shall veer the sail extend 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1 *Balls & Rodel* 5 Grief a fixed star, and joy a vane that veers 1878 Geo Eliot *Coll Breakf P* 82 The shadows slowly farther crept and veered Like changing memories

**b** Of persons or animals

1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1809) III 27 Susanna slipped from the side of Mrs Mumma, and veering toward Harry she went on one side 1805 Wordsw *Prelude* iv 90 I was but a short hour's walk ere veering round I saw the snow white church 1814 Scott *Wav Author* xxii 332 After passing Bullington, Sutton and Wonston we veered away from State-Church 1879 Lourgee *Fool's Err* xxxvi 256 The tenant's horse veered quickly to one side, and stopped as if stricken to stone

**4** *fig* To change or alter, to pass from one state, position, tendency, etc., to another, to be variable or changeable **a** Of persons

1670 Dryden *Conq Granada* i Two Factions turn him with each Blast of Wind But now he shall not veer 1688 S Pordage *Medal Rev* 2 When the Tide turn'd, then strait about he veers, And for the stronger side he still appears. 1714 Swift *Tackle put to better Triumph Wks* 1841 II 823 Those few at last veer'd quite about, And join'd in my disgrace 1734 tr *Rollin's Anc. Hist* viii § 4 (1841) I 128/1 Alcibiades was of a pliant and flexible disposition, that would take any impression which the difference of times and circumstances might require, still veering either to good or evil with the same facility and ardor 1841 Praed *Goy* Poems 1865 I 95 I linda like many a modern Miss, Began to veer around at this 1858 H Bushnell *Nat & Supernat* x (1864) 198 The infirmity shown by human teachers, when they veer a little from their point to catch the assent of multitudes. 1884 F M Crawford *Rom. Singer* I 56 He is a man to veer about like a weather cock

**b** Of feelings, thoughts, conditions, etc

1689 Dryden *Tyrannic Love* IV. i, Like a wind it [love] in no quarter stays: But points and veers each hour a thousand ways. 1721 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 296 For as these passions veer, my interest veers, my steerage varys. 1726 H Walpole *Lett* (1846) III 198 Madame Pompadour, perceiving how much the King's disposition veered to devotion, artfully took the turn of humouring it 1823 Scott *Rokeby* i xxii, While his own troubled passions veer Through hatred, joy, regret and fear 1833 Hr Martineau *Tr Weste & Jol* III 47 Her thoughts were ready to veer any way in hope of escape 1878 Rose Smith *Carthage* 52 Seldom has the fortune of war veered round so rapidly

**c** To diverge or differ *from* something *rare*[–1].

1756 *Connoisseur* 27/2 I veer 25 Your opinion dear Richard, veer'd widely from mine.

**5** *absol* To alter the course of a ship, *spec.* by causing it to swing round with the stern to windward so as to sail on another tack. Also of a ship: To admit of veering

1588 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind* (1909) III 54 [The Portuguese] dayde away, veeringe to delay time for our cominge upp with them 1627 Capt Smith *Seaman's Grammar* ix 40 Foundering is when she will neither veere nor stearc, the Sea will ouer take her 1686 tr *Chareas's Journey Levant* 66 If the Wind be contrary, they never strive against it, but vere about 1691 *Capt Smith's Seaman's Grammar* i xvi 36 [In a Ship near the Wind], these terms are used, Veer no more, keep her to, touch the Wind 1769 Falconer *Dict Marine s.v. Veering* If it is absolutely necessary to veer, in order to wear, it is with destruction 1810 J H Moore *Pract Navigat* 1 290 *To veer*, to change a ship's course from one tack to the other, by turning her stern to windward 1884 Par *Instruct* 124 My hale he's then about and against the wind

**b** *trans* (*with ship* as object)

1769 Falconer *Dict Marine s.v. Veering*, When it becomes necessary to veer the ship, the seals towards the stern are either hauled or hoisted up

**6** *trans* To turn (something) from one course or direction to another Also *fig* (cf 4)

(1) 1647 N Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 50 I veer'd my tongue to the Key and Language of *indifference* 1809 Kendall *Trav* III 18 The tone of the British Cabinet is veered by every incidental change of war 1883 Mansfith *Virg Æneid* (1632) 12 Cities and martial States, Whither soon the youth veered his theme

(2) 1804 J Graham *Birds of Scot* 85 Her bleeding wing she veers on from the springs 1808 *Ann Reg Hist Europe* I 81 A fifty beach to veer [*l. torquere*] the bottom of the carriage [*ie* the plough] 1876 *Trans Chemical Soc* IX 167 At each successive scarification he veers the direction of the parallel incisions

**†7.** To turn *about* or screw in order to adjust, to cause to revolve or whirl *Obs*

*a* 1649 Drumm of Hawth *Hist Jas V*, Wks (1711) 107 In mounting Cannons, if a Screw are to be set or Tune, we do not frettingly break it, but leisurely veer it about 1653 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III xvii 140 A pair of Vern Mandles, which she unintermittedly veered, and fraked about

**Veer**, south western dial variant of Peer *v*

**Veerable**, *a* [f Veer *v*.[2] ] †Of the wind Tending to veer, changeable

1670 J Narborough *Jrnl in Acc Sev Late Voy* I (1694) 56 The wind veerable round all the compass 1698 Lorant in Dampier *Voy* (1699) II iii 55 When we find the Winds veerable to S W and back to South, we stand off to the Westward 1712 W Ellis *Chiltern* (1738) 13 Yesterday the wind was very little and veerable 1742 Woodhouse in Hanway *Trav* (1762) I ii xxiii 38 The winds being light and veerable, we sailed very slow

**Veer**er[1] *rare*–0 [f Veer *v*.[2]] (See quot)

1611 Cotgr *Iveurr*, a veerer, or whirler, a round turner, or turner of things often about

**Veer**er[2] *Mining* (See quot)

1883 Greeley *Gloss Coal-M* 269 *Veerer* (Somerset), an old word for Banksman

**Veer ring**, *vbl sb.*[1] [f Veer *v*.[1] 3] The action of causing or allowing to run out, *attrib* in *veering cable*, *chain*

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk* 711 *The veering cable*, that cable which is veered out in unmooring and not unspliced or unshackled in clearing hawse 1894 *Times* 20 Mar 3/5 From the bow to the stern swivel a single veering chain passed into the lightship through the hawse pipe

**Veer ring**, *vbl sb.*[2] [f Veer *v*.[4]] The action or fact of changing course or direction.

**a.** Of the wind (or a vane) or in general use

1611 Cotgr *Tirement*, a veering whirling, wheeling 1696 Whiston *Th Earth* IV (1722) 367 It will not now depend on the Season of the Year alone, but on the Veering of the Wind 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* xi 1 (Rtldg) 393 Scipio wished to know the veerings of the wind 1851 Nautical horizon might not all be one some good 1853 Herschel *Fifty Lect Sci* iv § 31 (1873) 168 Nothing apparently can be more capricious than the shifting and veering of a weather cock on a gusty day 1860 Vaughan in *Merc Mar Mag* VII 323 The direction and veering of the wind gave him hope

**b** Of a ship Also in fig. context

1688 Sir T Browne *Chr Mor* 2 Expect rough seas, flaws, and contrary blasts, and tis well if by many cross tacks and veerings you arrive at the port 1769 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1780) s.v., It is evident that veering as well as tacking is a necessary consequence of the same principle. 1843 *Gray Surf* XVI 237/1 The disadvantage of veering is that the ship is sometimes carried far to leeward 1885 W G Palgrave *Arabia* II 301 After some tacking and veering, we worked up to the entrance

**c** In figurative uses.

1716 Addison *Freeholder* No 25 P 7 A sovereign that is prone to fall in with all the Turns and Veerings of the People. 1780 J Brown *Lett Toleration* (1809) II 216 After much sinful veering towards the abjured abominations of Popery, they lamented their perfidy to God 1861 Tollock *King Pearl* I 147 The strange and apparently inconsistent veerings in Cromwell's own mind

## VEGETABILITY.

**Veering**, *vbl sb.*[3] *attrib* = Feering *vbl sb* 1733 Ull *Horse Hoeing Husb* xi 116 The Word Veering is the Plowman's Term for turning two Furrows toward each other, as they must do to begin a Ridge; and there fore they call the Top of a Ridge, a Veering *Ibid*, One Intervals wholly consist either of Veerings or Hentings 1839 [G C Lewis] *Herefford Gloss* 115 Ploughed land is said to be laid out into broad veerings when many furrows are turned up on each side against the same edge 1882–90 in Glouc. and Worc. glossaries.

**Veering**, *ppl a* [f Veer *v*.[2]]

**1.** Changing course or direction, † turning round, revolving.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II ii *Columnes* 635 On th' other side [of the astrolabe], under a veering sight it Table veers 1736 Valden *Poet Works* (1833) 66 Nor tax me with inconstancy, we find The driving bark requires a veering wind. 1798 *Poems of Travellers in Anti Tacitus* (1859) 124 The veering helm the dexterous steersman stops. 1827 Keble *Chr Y*, *3rd Sunday after Easter*, Like a bright veering cloud Grey blossoms twinkle there 1873 R W Church *Influence Christ. National Character* 137 Fickle as the veering wind 1896 *Strand Mag* XII 250 A ringing shout of encouragement met the veering smoke wreaths.

**2** *fig.* Vacillating, variable, changeful

1684 Roscommon *Ess Verse* 245 But if a wild Uncertainty prevail, And turn your veering Heart with every Gale 1747 Collins *Odes, Passions*, Of stifling themes the veering song was mix'd 1838 Mrs Browning *Island* xix, Man's veering heart and careless eyes. 1853 W Jerdan *Autobiog* III xiii 262 It was thought that a veering speech which Duke had just made in the House of Peers 1875 Poste *Gaius* I 126 After much veering legislation Justinian enacted that a man or a woman who divorced without a cause should retire to a cloister

Hence **Veeringly** *adv*., 'changingly, shiftingly' (Webster, 1847).

**Veery** (vī·ri) *U S* [? Imitative] A North American thrush (*Turdus fuscescens*), also called *tawny* and *Wilson's thrush*

1843 S Judd *Margaret* I 11 The place flows with birds ... deep in the forest [are] olive backs veeries, oven birds 1860 Whittier *My Playmate* xv There in spring the veeries sing The song of long ago 1883 *Harper's Mag* LXVII 161 Our thrushes are all frank, open mannered birds, but the veery and the hermit build upon the ground

**†Vees**, Sc variant of Vivas

*a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 318 The weam eill the wild fire the vomit and the vees [*r*. veis weis] 1608 *Melrose Acts* (S H S) I 60 [The mare] thairefter tuik ane seiknes callit the vees

**Vees** 2, *Mining* (See quot)

1883 Greeley *Gloss Coal M* 269 *Vees Veers*, and *Veese*, a kind of soft earth in a fissure or upon the sides of a dyke

**Veese**, south. dial variant of Peese *v*.[1]

**Vega** 1 (vē·gă) [Sp and Catal *vega*, Pg *veiga*, of obscure origin] In Spain and Spanish America, an extensive, fertile, and grass-covered plain or tract of land

*c* 1645 Howell *Lett* I i 24, I am now in Valentia, one of the noblest Cities in all Spain situate in a large Vega or Valley, about sixty miles compass 1809 Kendall *Travels* I ix 131 We crossed the beautiful Vega,—those delicious and luxuriant meadows which stretch away to the south and west of Granada 1838 Prescott *Ferd & Isab* III i 363 Their spacious vega afforded an ample field for the display of their matchless horsemanship 1850 B Taylor *Eldorado* xiv (1862) (7) The grass on the vega before the house was still thick and green 1887 F Francis *Saddle & Mocassin* 85 The horses were driven in from the vega

**b** In the West Indies, a piece of fertile meadow-land used for the cultivation of sugar or tobacco; a tobacco-field.

1871 Kingsley *At Last* ix, The vega is usually a highly cultivated cane piece 1871 Hazard *Cuba* 309 The best properties known as *vegas*, or tobacco farms are comprised in a narrow area in the south west part of the island

**Vega** 2 (vī·gă) [a. Sp or med.L *Vega*, ad Arab. وَجْه, *wayh* falling, in (*al nasr*) *al waqis* 'the falling (vulture)', the constellation Lyra. So F *Wéga*.] The brightest star in the constellation Lyra, a Lyræ

1638 Childmead tr *Huet Treat Globes* (1889) 53 The bright Starre in this Constellation, being the first in number, Alfonsus calleth Vega. 1839 *Penny Cycl* XIV 229/2 The bright est star, a Lyræ, also called Vega, is a conspicuous object. 1889 C. R Markham tr *Huet Treat Globes* 121 Vega contains hydrogen iron, sodium, and magnesium

**Vegeb**, obs. var Vegib.

**Vegetability** (vɛ·dʒĭtăbĭ·lĭti). [ad med.L. **vegetabilitas*, f L *vegetabilis* Vegetable *a* * see -ity. Cf Of. *vegetabilité* (Godef), F. *végétabilité*, It. *vegetabilità*, Sp *vegetabilidad*]

**†1.** A vegetable organism *Obs*–1

*c* 1400 tr *Secreta Secret*, *Gov Lordsh.* 90 It shewys vegetabilite, but euerylk kende of vegetabilites haues a propre ordre, bat yn complexioun

**2.** Vegetable character, quality, or nature.

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* II v 91 [The] lapidificall layes of the Seas, which entring the pores of that plant [*ie* coral], overcomes its vegetability, and converts it into a lapideous substance 1670 *Phil Trans* V 2035 A description of sundry new Metals, or Semi metals, as he calls them; together with a discourse of their Vegetability 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 189 These have their vegetability the same way, with the porous species of Coral. 1894 *Fraser's Mag.* L 192 If any additional proofs of the vegetability of coral-lines were needed. 1898 T R Jones *Aquarium Nat* 136 The mineralogists...questioned the vegetability of such of these productions as were of a hard and stony nature.

**Vegetable** (ve'dʒtăkb'l), *sb.* Also 6 **vegitable** [f the adj.]

**1.** A living organism belonging to the vegetable kingdom or the lower of the two series of organic beings; a growth devoid of animal life, a plant in the widest or scientific sense (= PLANT *sb* 1 2)

1582 J HESTER *Compendium Ration Secr* (title-p.), The Hidden Vertues of sundrie Vegetables, Animalles, and Mineralls 1598 R HAYDOCKE tr *Lomazzo* II 125 Some of them are taken from minerals , some from the vegetables, and some from the animals. 1633 W RAMESEY *Astrol Restored* 13, I suppose there is none will deny the Heavens and Planets to have influence over Herbs, Corn, Plants, and all Vegetables 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* IV vi (1856) 337 In Vegetables, they are nourished, grow, and produce Leaves, Flowers, and Seeds, in a constant Succession 1737 GRAY *Lett* Poems (1775) 24 Both vale and hill are covered with most vegetable Species, and other very reverend vegetables 1782 V KNOX *Ess.* cliii (1819) III 169 They [ɛ specubes] are like vegetables of a night, or insects of a day 1805 R W DICKSON *Fasciculi Agricol.* 287 Both the rushes or other coarse vegetables have been cut down and carried away 1822-7 GOOD *Study Med* (1829) I 2/5 The expressed oils of mild vegetables as the pistachio, olive and almond 1858 O W HOLMES *Aut Breakf t* (1883) 205 Both [trees] are pleasant vegetables 1884 *De Candolle's Orig Cultivated Pl* 4 The *Tetragonia*, an insignificant green vegetable

*fig* a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm Reg* (Arb.) 44 He was a meer vegetable of the Court, living one night, and dying again at his noon 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 56 ₱ 3 I met him with all the respect due to so reverend a vegetable for you are to know, that is my sense of a person who remains idle i i the same place for half a century

†**b** *pl* in collective sense Vegetation *Obs*

c 1645 Howell *Lett* (1650) II 43 I have bin always naturally affected to woods and groves, and those kind of vegetables. 1695 Woodward *Nat Hist Earth* vi (1723) 295 June, July, and August exhibit a still different Shew of Vegetables and Face of Things. 1780 A YOUNG *Tour Irel* I 18 I ther only way is to leave itself with the vegetable as my time 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxv, Scrubby and stunted heath intermixed with the long bent, or coarse grass, were the only vegetables that could be seen

†**c** Applied to the earth or to a mineral regarded as capable of growth *Obs rare*

a 1676 HALE *Prim Orig, Man* I iii (1677) 96 Though the Earth be not animated with a Sensible Soul, yet it is possible that it may be a great Immortal Vegetable 1716 CHEYNE *Philos Princ Nat Relig* 1 278 A hill is n thing but the Nest of some great Animal, either of Stone, Iron, Tin, Copper or such like lower Vegetables.

**2** A plant cultivated for food *esp* an edible herb or root used for human consumption and commonly eaten, either cooked or raw, with meat or other article of food

1767 A YOUNG *Farmer's Lett to People* (1771) I 161 The cultivation of the new discovered vegetables and all the modes of raising the old ones 1796 MRS INCHBALD *Nature & Art* xiv (1820) 158 At a stinted repast of milk and vegetables 1840 LOUDON *Encycl Agric* 4 In *Irish Stew* (I U K) To supply the cottager's family with vegetables, potatoes, and fuggiot. 1846 SIXTH *Cookery* 450 Where a dish of vegetables are required for second course 1859 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) III 243 Cabbages or any other vegetables which are fit for boiling

**3** *attrib* and *Comb* **a.** Simple attrib in sense 2, as *vegetable basin, dish, food, garden, market*, etc

1728 CHAMBERS *Cyc* I *Vegetation* The common Opinion is, that Water is the great vegetable Food 1825 T HOOK *Sayings* Ser II 115 Two Vegetable dishes 1853 HICKIE *Aristoph.* (Bohn) II 146 In the pottery market and the vegetable market alike **a** 1866 ALB SMITH *Med Stu dent* (1886) 19 Threading their way through the crowd of the vegetable waggons and carts to borrow a smoke 1858 F G LEE *Nest Rabbi* II A vegetable basin or a soap dish was used instead of the font 1898 *Cent Mag* Jan 337/1 May I tell him about your vegetable garden?

**b** Objective or obj genitive, as *vegetable-eater, feeder, -seller , vegetable eating, -feeding* adjs

Also with the names of instruments, as *vegetable-chopper, cutter grater, slicer*, etc (Knight *Dict Mech*)

(a) 1792 A YOUNG *Travels France* 28 There are both sorts [of bears] carnivorous and vegetable eaters 1851-6 S P WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1858) 12 All the land snails are vegetable feeders 1865 M ARNOLD *Celtic Lit* 4 Bathing people, vegetable sellers, and donkey boys. 1875 C C BLAKE *Zool* 54 The cheiroptera are, however, vegetable feeders.

(b) 1898 *Penny Cycl* XIII 493/1 In a vegetable feeding insect the stomach is very voluminous 1874 J W LONG *Amer Wild fowl* xxv 262 They are exceedingly expert divers and can swim under water to much longer distances than any others of the vegetable eating ducks 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 966 These stony masses are found in the intestines of many vegetable feeding animals.

**Vegetable** (ve'dʒtăb'l), *a.* Also 6 **vegitable**, 7 **ble** ₱ Cf. *vegetable* (mod ₱. *vigetable*, = It *vegetabile*, Sp *vegetable*, Pg *vegetavel*), or ad. L. *vegetabilis* animating, vivifying, f. *vegetāre* see VEGETATE *v*

In some instances the adj cannot be clearly distinguished from the attributive use of the noun.

†**1.** Having the vegetating property of plants; living and growing as a plant or organism endowed with the lowest form of life. (Cf VEGETAL *a* 1)

c 1400 tr *Secreta Secret, Gov Yordsh* 90 What binge vegetable hat makys fruyt, to be sowne ys sprongt 1412-20 LYDG *Chron Troy* II 674 Zephirus, hat is so comfortable For to norysche binges vegetable 1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 73 Hit may be concludede Paradise not to be these ayshe nor thynge vegetable may haue lyfe ber c 1530 DU WES *Introd Fr* in *Palsgr* 1093 All thynges created of God vnder the moone ben elemented vegetables and sensatyves. 1604 R CAWDREY *Table Alph*, *Vegetable*, springing, or growing as hearbes. 1609 H BURTON *Truth's Tru.* 197 How far themselues differ from senslesse stockes, or some short of the vegetable trees. a 1656 HALE *Persn Orig Man* III iv (1677) 266 Things vegetable, that have simply Life, with those operations incident to Life

*fig* 1642 W CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errand* I ii, The other counts her apricots lays em naked And open to the sun, that it may freely smile on her vegetable embraces a 1676 MARVELL *Poems, To my Mistress* ii My vegetable love should grow Vaster than empires and more slow

†**b** Of the soul *Obs*

1412-20 LYDG *Chron Troy* III 5666 Comparysownyd, as it were semblable To a swete hat were vegetable, be whiche wit owte sensbilite, Mynysyreth lyf in herbe, flour, and tre c 1532 DU WES *Introd Fr* in *Palsgr* 1033 In the whiche [body] our Lorde hath planted the sowle vegetable by the whiche it groweth 1610 HEALEY tr *Aug Citie of God* XXII iv (1620) 821 The earth is full of vegetable soules, strangely combined with earthly bodies 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III xi (1611) 201 A vegetable Soul is a faculte or power that giueth life vnto bodies.

†**c** *Vegetable power*, the principle of simple life and growth. *Obs*

1562 J HEYWOOD *Prouerbes & Epigr* (1867) 111 672 The vegetable power common to men and plants 1685 HARE *Anst Ux* I ii 29 The state of the nourishing or vegetable power of the body.

†**d** *Vegetable stone*, one of the three varieties of the philosophers' stone, supposed to possess health-preserving properties *Obs*

After med L *lapis vegetabilis* of Gower *Conf* II 86

1652 ASHMOLE *Theatr Chem Brit* Wesley 7 By the Vegitable [Stone] may be perfectly known the Nature of Man

**2** Of or pertaining to, composed or consisting of, derived or obtained from, plants or their parts, of the nature of or resembling a vegetable Freq as contrasted with animal or mineral products

**a** Of material substances.

1582 HESTER *Secr Phisyar* L XXXIII 39 You shall giue them 5j of our Vegetable Sirrup 1594 PLAT *Jewell-h* I 3 All sorts of fine white straw bind generally the fructifying vertue from that vegetable salt 1695 WOODWARD *Nat Hist Earth* II (1723) 101 By Retrenching a considerable Quantity of the Vegetable and Animal Matter 1709 *Husbandry* II 207 Statues are a lasting Ornament when vegetable Ornaments are out of Season 1725 POPE *Odyss* IV 230 A beneficial Juice Of vegetable venom 1755 *Dict Arts* IV 2670/1 Although concretes that is abound either with mineral or vegetable sulphur 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 31 May 2/2 The superiority of coal to vegetable fuel 1855 MILLER *Elem Chem Org* II 583 84 The insoluble pectose contained in the vegetable tissue. 1875 SCHIVENEN *Le t Greek Text* 18 The ancient ink was purely vegetable without admixture of iron.

*fig* 1667 MILTON *P L* IV 220 And all amid them stood the Tree of Life High eminent, blooming Ambrosial Fruit Of vegetable Gold 1690 SHERLOCK *Providence* III iii 110 My coursers sought their birthpl ace in the sun, Pasturing flowers of vegetable fire 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 91 The reply to my Maker's word *Chaos Org* II 583 84 The insoluble pectose contained in the vegetable tissue. 1875 SCHIVENEN *Le t Greek Text* 18 The ancient ink was purely vegetable without admixture of iron.

**b** Of conditions, actions, qualities, etc

1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* II xxvii § 4 The wood bark and leaves, &c of an oak, in which consists the vegetable life 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* IV 178 My Song to flow of Gardens aught extend, To teach the Vegetable Arts 1712 POPE *Vertumnus & Pomona* 4 None taught the trees a nobler race to bear, Or more improve the vegetable care 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Fix Effects Air* I 9 The Heat arising from vegetable P rspiration is very sensible in a hot Day near a Wall covered 1788 GIBBON *Decl & F* I V 160 The lonesome trav eller derives a sort of comfort and society from the presence of vegetable life 1806 *Med Jrnl* XV 571 The learned President begins this paper by a theory of animal and vegetable life and processes, deriving from fermentation 1842 LOUDON *Sulvrban Hort* 25 This short passage comprehends the essence of all that can be said on the subject of the vegetable development 1855 MILLER *Elem Chem* II 583 Davids Ps. xcii 12 The brutish men grow with a sort of vegetable vigour of their own

**c.** Of earth, mould, etc (see later quots).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat Hist* IV vi (1776) I 55 In regions which are uninhabited, where the forests are not cut down the bed of vegetable earth is constantly encreasing 1815 *Edinb Encycl* XVIII 600 Light vegetable earth 1828 *Encycl Agric* 1 Vegetable mould is a light vegetable earth. *Ibid*, Good light vegetable mould 1830 M DONOVAN *Dom Econ* I 137 What remains, when the the organic matter is destroyed, is the light vegetable ashes of vegetable. is a black pulverulent substance. This constitutes what is called vegetable mould, and is also the chief ingredient of vegetable manure 1895 *Outr Cric Soc Inorg Nat* 185 Whatever rocks may be composed of, they are sure to be covered after a time, with debris, until at last there is a covering of vegetable soil

**3** *Vegetable creation, kingdom, world*, etc., that division of organic nature to which plants belong

1668 COWLEY *Ess Prose & Verse, Garden* (1906) 427 Who would not joy to see his conquering hand Ore all the Vege table World command? 1692 [see KINGDOM 5]. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* I 49 The Vegetable World, each Plant, and Tree,

I am allow'd, as Fame reports, to know 1823 J BADCOCK *Dom Amusem* 206 This extends in more or less degree to every part of vegetable creation 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 180/2 The distinction given between the animal and vege table kingdoms is the possession of sensation by the former 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr* 84 To supply the vegetable world with its carbon

**4** Of, composed or consisting of, made from, esculent vegetables

1746 FRANCIS tr *Horace Sat* II v 22 What your Garden yields, To him be sacrific d, and let him taste, Before your Gods, the vegetable Feast. 1789 W BUCHAN *Dom Med* (1790) 449 A milk and vegetable diet will often perform a cure 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 305 Vegetable food and fruit might, with propriety, be used by the middle and richer classes in this country to a greater extent than it is. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade, Vegetable soups*, soups made with green pease, turnips, and carrots cut small, cabbages, &c.

**5.** Resembling that of a vegetable, *esp* uneventful, featureless, monotonous, dull

1824 J S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II ii 46 The puniper peasantry, weary of a merely vegetable life were glad of any pretext for excitement 1874 SAVCE *Compar Philol* vii 198 They had no occasion to mark the lapse of time in their monotonous and vegetable existence.

**6** *elliptl* Living on vegetables, vegetarian

1815 SHELLEY in Hogg *Life* (1858) II 197, I continue vegetable; Harriet means to be slightly animal, until the arrival of spring

**7** Special collocations.

*Vegetable acid*, an organic acid derived from a plant ; *vegetable alkali* (see quots. and ALKALI 3) *Vegetable brimstone* (see quots. and LYCOPODIUM 2) *Vegetable butter* (see quot. and BUTTER *sb* 3) ; *vegetable caviar* (see quot) *Vegetable caseine*, = LEGUMIN ; *vegetable cotton pillar, egg, ethiops, fire cracker, flannel*, ₱ *fly* (see quots.), *vegetable gelatin* (see GELATIN 1 b) ; *vegetable gold*, ₱ (a) saffron (Maxyne, 1859); (b) an acid derived from the roots of the plant *Trixis Pip salvaue* (*Treas Bot* 1866) ; *vegetable hair*, the long beard, *Tillan tsia usneoides* (Ibid) ; *vegetable horse hair*, the fibre of the leaves of the European palm *Chamærops humilis* (Ibid Suppl 1874) *Vegetable ivory* (see Ivory 2) also *attrib.* ; *vegetable jelly*, = PECTIN ; *vegetable lamb* see LAMB *sb* 5 c ; *vegetable leather*, the plant *Euphorbia pumicea* (*Treas Bot* 1866) *Vegetable marrow* see MARROW *sb* 3 ; *vegetable mummy* see MUMMY *sb*1 2 c ; *vegetable oil* (a) fixed oil ; (b) scorzonera ; *vegetable parchment* see PARCHMENT *sb* 1 b *Vegetable pear*, the cho.ho (see PEAR *sb* 3) ; *vegetable sheep*, *zebb* (see quots) ; *vegetable sulphur*, vegetable brimstone ; *vegetable tallow*, *tallow* (see quots) ; *vegetable wax* a wax or wax like substance obtained from plants or vege table growths ; *vegetable wool* (see quot)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* I *Vegetable*, Vegetable Acids are originally no other than Mineral ones 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 389 The acetous, and most other vegetable acids, have a reaction upon litmus 1846 *Holtzer Ann* II 684 Acids, including vegetable acids 1778 *Phil Trans* (ed 2) III 1809/1 The fixed kind are subdivided 1 to the "vegetable and mineral fixed alkali 1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 5 Of the fixed [alkalis] there are two species the one generally afforded by the mutter tion of alkaline salts, and hence called the Vegetable Alkali 1807 I THOMSON *Chem* (ed 3) II 588 Carbonate of Potash was chvracterized by a great variety of properties, and the common mode of preparing it, such as fixed nitre salt of tartar, vegetable alkali 1816 J IMRAY *Legal Assayer* 70 The powder contained in the spore cases of Lycopodium clavatum and Selago is employed under the name of Lycopodium or "vegetable brimstone, in the manufacture of fireworks, and to roll up pills 1836 *Penny Cycl* VI 68/2 ** vegetable bitters*, the name given to the concrete oil of certain vegetables, from its resemblance to the butter obtained from the milk of animal , and from being employed for similar purposes. The term is also occasionally, but improperly, applied to some vegetable products which are entirely of a waxy nature, such as the wax of the *Myrica cerifera*. 1845-50 MRS LINCOLN *Lect Bot* vi 43 Some of them [plants] flourish in the most dry and sandy places, exposed to a burning sun! as the *Stapelia*, some times called the "vegetable camel 1844 "Vegetable caseine (see CASEIN) 1889 P. WAKEFIELD *New Zealand Offer* 50 *Jrn* 81 The aweto, or "vegetable caterpill ar, called by the naturalists *Hipialus virescens* for some inexplicable reason, the spore of a vegetable fungus *Sphæria Robertsii*, fixes itself on its neck , takes root and grows vigorously 1866 *Treas Bot* 1018/2 *Sphæria*] *mamuronsa* yields the Marmalade fruit sometimes called the "Vegetable Egg 1823 J BADCOCK *Dom Amusem* 96 Of ivory shavings, sponge, and the "vegetable sithops, bluderwrak is char coal also made 1866 *Treas Bot Arts* (ed 3) III 949 **Vege table ethiops*, a charcoal prepared by the incineration in a covered crucible of the *fucus vesiculosus* or common sea wrack 1874 *Treas Bot* Suppl 1350/2 "Vegetable fire cracker *Br diana coccinea* 1895 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2450/2 ** vegetable flannel* a fabric made of a fine fiber obtained from the leaves of the *Pinus sylvestris* Pine wood 1765 *Hist Jrnals* LIII 271 The Chief part of its food is in the island Dominica, and (excepting that it has no wings) re sembles the drone both in size and colour more than any other English insect In the months of May it leaves itself in the earth, and begins to vegetate 1884- "Vegetable ivory [see IVORY 2] 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv Bark* 229 A bill was made an ex pegetable ivory palm 1823 J BADCOCK *Dom Amusem* 206

prepared to imitate vellum. 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 495 In China and in North America wax is obtained directly from plants and is then called 'vegetable wax'. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 180 *Myrica pensylvanica* a native of the Cape of Good Hope is another species which yields a vegetable wax. 1853 J C ARCHER *Journ Pharm* 3 rd ser 281 Vegetable Wax (South America). *Ibid* 280 Vegetable Wax, or Myrtle Wax (of North America). 1884 *Chambers's Encycl* 8 M arch 146/2 The prepared fruit of this plant [Neltberry nettle] is sometimes called 'Vegetable wool'.

**b** In the names of pigments, as *vegetable black, blue*, etc

1807 T THOMSON *Chem* (ed 3) II 174 This acid reddens vegetable blues and gradually destroys the green matter of them. 1875 BRIT & FOR *Med-Chir Rev* (ed 2) 365 *Vegetable Black* — This is the cheapest and best black for all ordinary work.

**Ve getablize,** *v rare* [f VEGETABLE *sb* or *a.* + -IZE.] *trans* and *refl* To render vegetable to convert into, or cause to resemble, a vegetable substance

a 1843 *Lucy I Melrose* VII 123 Having been vegetablized in the leaves it [the sap] passes into vessels in the bark 1869 in *Gosmopolit* in 19 Aug 324 The mineral vegetablises itself the vegetable animalises itself 1891 O'NEILL *Dyeing & Calico Print* 36 (Cent Dict) Silk is to be vegetablized by an immersion in a bath of cellulose dissolved in ammoniacal copper oxide

**Ve getably,** *adv rare* [f as prec + -LY²]

**1** In the manner of a vegetable or plant, with vegetative properties

1691 RIGGS *New Disp* 39 These things happen in plants vegetably animate

**2** In respect of, by means of, vegetables, towards vegetables Only in combs

1827 *Examiner* 248/1 There is a bold enrichment in the vegetably marked foreground 1867 F FRANCIS *Angling* 1 (1880) 11 A boat for rivers when they were vegetably minded

**Vegetal** (vē dʒĭtăl), *a* and *sb* Forms 5 **vegytalle, vygital,** 6 **7 vegetall, 7 vigital, vegetall,** 7– **vegetal** [ad med L **vegetālis*, f L *vegetare* see VEGETATE *v* Cf I *vigital* (16th c), Sp and Pg *vegetal*, It *vegetale*]

**A** *adj* **1** Characterized by, exhibiting or producing, the phenomena of physical life and growth (Cf VEGETABLE *a* 1) Now usually in expressed or implied contrast with *animal*.

The modern use is due to Herbert Spencer (see Lewes *Physiol Common Life* (1860) II 470 *note*), and has largely influenced the retention or revival of the form in other senses

c 1400 in Ashm. *Theatr Chem Brit* (1652) 217 With vygital moysture and of the red Grap 1490 CAXTON *Eneyd* xv 59 When the nutrytyf vertue vegetall comforte my membres & made theym vegytalle with sencyelle moeuynges 1624 COTTA *Vegetal* vegetall hauing or giuing a (plant like) life, increase or growing 1681 H STUBBE *Anat Med* 1 1 11 v, Necessary concomitants or affections of this Vegetall faculties is life an I his privation death 1666 *Dr S Parker Prop & Support Creatures* (1667) 180 They can exert no acts I ut of Imagination, whence spring forth the powers if the Vegetal life

1850 SPENCER *Ess & Abstract Types* (1891) II 377 That there is some relation between Gothic architecture and vegetal forms is generally admitted 1861 — *Educatn* 112 Phenomena of animal and vegetal life 1879 ALLEN *Colour Sense* iv Not a trace of any vegetal organism has yet been discovered in the primary rocks to which [etc] 1893 J PARKE *Man's Destiny* 27 The myriad fantastic hues of animal and vegetal life

**b** In expressed or implied contrast with *sensible* (or *sensitive*) and *rational* Obs exc *Hist*

1621 BURTON *Anat Mel* Democritus to Rde 16 All creatures vegetal, sensible and rational *Ibid* 1 11 1 v Vegetal Plants, Sensible Beasts Rational Men 1665 H MORE *Myst Iniq* 384 The fu ctions and delights of the mere Vegetal and Animal nature 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 275 The inferior classes of life first the rational then the sensitive, after that the vegetal 1871 TYLOR *Prim Cult* 1 393 In the famous classic and mediæval theories of the vegetal sensitive, and rational souls.

**2** Of or pertaining to, derived or obtained from, plants or vegetables

1596 J HARVEY *Experiments & Cures* etc (title p) Certaine Secrets of Iacke Hollandius concerning the Vegetall and Animall worke. 1669 W SIMPSON *Hydrol Chym* 343 Scorbutick pills are so prepared with noble vegetal extractions 1745 *Trans Dr Lee* 1/2, Take this Eye put into it an Ounce or two of vegetal Salt. 1758 J S *Tea Drunk Observ Surg* (1771) 142 Manna Cassia, and vegetal Salt 1850 *Prater's Mag* III 300 Most of their vegetal riches might be matched in Covent Garden 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paris* 143 Vegetal lakes, and all the most tender colours 1866 WATTS *Dict Chem* IV 363 All vegetal tissues which contain pectose 1879 G ALLEN *Colour-Sense* iii, The bright hues of vegetal products like fruits and flowers

**3** = VEGETABLE *a* 3

1664 POWER *Exp Philos* 1 61 The main Agent in all Natures three Kingdoms Mineral Vegetal and Animal

1865 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc I 21 The rose Pride of the vegetal creation 1899 *All Year Round* No 34 276 This advice is equally just in regard to many other members of the vegetal world 1896 *Contemp Rev* Jan 143 Many of the lowest forms of life cannot positively be assigned either to the vegetal or to the animal kingdom

**B.** *sb.* An organic substance which is neither animal nor mineral, a plant = VEGETABLE *sb* 1

Very common in the first half of the 17th c In recent use going with the modern application of the adj in sense 1

1599 THYNNE *Animadv* (1875) 15 All other armes whiche are not Anymalls and vegitalls as Cheuerons, pales, Rendes [etc.]. 1599 ALEX HUME *Poems* (S T S) 21 He knawes The vertue of all kinde of fruites and euerie vegetal 1610 B JONSON *Alch* 1 1 Your mineralls, vegetalls and animalls Could not relieue your corps *c* 1640 WALLER *Iter Drunkenness of Healths* 1 Eat brutes and vegetals that roam it think So far as drought and nature urges, drink 1658 BUTLER *Hud* III 11 1622 All th other Members shall Spring out of this, as from a Seed, All sorts of Vegetals proceed

1804 H SPENCER *Time Med* I 112 The largest species of both animals and vegetals belong to the highest classes

†**b** *fig* (See quot) *Obs* — 1

1666 T HAWKINS *Caussus Holy Cr* 244 A great number of men are now a dayes vegetalls, that is to say who so live, as if they had no other souls but the vegetative, as plantes, and lead the very life of the mushrome

**Vegeta loule,** *rare*—1 [f prec + -CULE, after *animalcule*.] A minute vegetable organism

1856 GRINDON *Life xxv* (1875) 320 Between the first animal cules and the first vegetalcules there is a seeming identity

**Vegeta lity,** *rare* [f as prec + -ITY Cf F. *végétalité*] = VEGETABILITY 2

1860 HARRIS *Physical Cosmos* III 430 *note* We may thus say of vegetal properties and vegetality as well as of animal and animality 1879 — *Study Psychol* 54 In its evolution it passes in to Vegetality to Animality, and through Animality to Humanity.

**Vegetant** (ve dʒĭtănt), *a* and *sb* [= F *végétant*, or ad L *vegetant*, *vegetans*, pres pple of *vegetare* see VEGETATE *v*]

*A adj* **1** Animating, vivifying, invigorating

*Vegetant stone* see VEGETABLE *a* 1 *Obs rare*

1656 T VAUGHAN *Fraxi Toveli Jewell of Health* 119 The making of the vegetant stone is borowed out of the practises of the above sayde Aucthour 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss* V 699 The sea's chill breath A d vegeta nt dews, I fear will be my death

**2** Vegetating vegetable, vegetal Now *rare*

1610 W FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* 1 iii 6 The Growth & Replenish of positions, Vegetant and Animall 1654 *J* COKE *Vocick* 28 I ife vegetant as I rees, fruitful nd ju ful 1675 LYDELYN *Terra* (1729) 323 Vegetant and animalable spirits 1908 R BRIDGES *Wintry Delights* 70 Rejoice ly I vegetant or brute existence

*sb nonce use* Vegetarian

1858 HOOD *Shelley* II 420 To ke proposed shrimp and treacle to one of the fathers of the church vegetant here on earth

†**B.** *sb* = VEGETABLE *sb* 1, VEGETAL *sb* Obs

1605 TIMME *Quersit* 1 xvi 85 Simple vegetants with metallick Salts 1610 W FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* 1 vi 13 It unites those and whereunto the I lot is replenished with Vegetants and Animall

**Vegetarian** (vedʒĭte rian), *sb* and *a* [Irreg f VEGETABLE after sbs. and adjs in *-arian*. Hence F *végétarien*, G *vegetarianer*

The general use of the word appears to have been largely due to the form ation of the Vegetarian Society at Ramsgate in 1847]

*A sb* **1** One who lives wholly or principally upon vegetable foods, a person who on principle abstains from any form of animal food, or at least such as is obtained by the direct destruction of life

1842 *Vegetarian Age* 24 To tell a healthy vegetarian that his diet is very uncongenial with the wants of his nature 1854 H MILLER *Sch & Schm* (1858) 332 A man can scarce be one a vegetarian even without also becoming in some measure intolerant of the still large class that eat beef with their greens, and herrings with their potatoes. 1885 SALMON *Infect Dis* II 21 Even those who used animal food themselves came to think of the vegetarian as one who lived a higher life.

*b transf* Of animals, etc

1854 *Tait's Mag* XXI 307 For though ours are not vegetarians every chicken we have is a staunch teetot ler! 1861 P P CARPENTER in *Rep Smithsonian Instit* 1860 194 It is almost certain that the tribes [of waterspouts] which have a permanently elongated muzzle are not vegetarians.

**2** A member of a fanatical Chinese sect Also *attrib*

1895 *Tablet* 10 Aug 208 Some 80 men belonging to a sect known as Vegetarians stormed the station at night 1896 *Mission Herald* (Boston) July 279 A large portion of the vegetarians were unwilling to even plunder the mission farms. *Ibid* The vegetarian leaders I inquired that the missionaries were at the bottom of this activity against themselves

*B adj* **1** Of or pertaining to vegetarians or vegetarianism, practising or advocating vegetarianism

In this sense probably strictly used of the diet

1849 *Vegetarian Messenger* Introd 1 Condensed accounts of meetings and the transactions of the Vegetarian Society 1880 [*Vegetarian Society*] Cookery Book and Practice of Vegetarian Cookery 1890 J KNIGHT *Vegetarianism in Practice* 12 The moral aspects of the Vegetarian practice *Ibid* 13 The Vegetarian system affords such articles as will give all requisite nourishment

**2** Of animals Living on vegetables.

1856 T R JONES *Aquarian Nat* 342 Mr Darwin gives an interesting account of a crab which lives on cocoa nuts. 1863 *Reader* 1 Aug 123/3 1865 J TIMBS in Noble *The Cape & its People* 100 An order composed almost wholly of vegetarian insects.

**3** Consisting of vegetables or plants

1868 R OWEN *Anat Vertebrates* III 203 The diprotodont [type of dentition] obtains in the majority of the Australasian marsupials and is associated usually with vegetarian or promiscuous diet 1911 SWANTON *Ind Tribes Lower Missisi* (Bureau Amer Ethnol) 317 The diet of the Tunica was more vegetarian than that of American tribes generally

**Vegetarianism** (vedʒĭte rianiz m) [f prec] The doctrine or practice of vegetarians abstention from eating meat, fish, or other animal products.

1852 in DUNGLISON *Dict Med* (ed 7) 1865 *Rev* Oct 324 All this was apply to L. *vegetari* meaning, no doubt, to mere physical fitness, not in any sympathy to vegetarianism 1879 TYNDALL *Fragm Sci* (ed 6) I 231 [It is] contrary to the rules of Vegetarianism to eat eggs? 1885 SALMON *Introd N T* 241 Among our selves vegetarianism is regarded as a harmless eccentricity

†**Ve getary,** *a Obs* [f L *vegetare* VEGETATE *v* + -ARY 1] Vegetable, vegetative

c 1595 SOUTHWELL *Hundred Meditations* 1 86 As Thou are or e in essence so is my soul, containing all the powers, with a vegetary, sensible and reasonable life.

†**Ve getate,** *a Obs rare.* Also 7 **vegit-** [ad L. *vegetat us*, pa pple of *vegetare* see next.] Endowed with vegetable life, growing as plants

1574 J JONES tr *Galen, De Elementis* Fp Ded p 11, Whether they be *Inanimata* as the Minerals or *Animata*, with life, Vegetat, Sensit, & Rational, Compositions, as Hearbes. *a* 1693 BOYLE *Heat Air* (1692) 79 This may be evidenced, by undeniable experiments from things inanimate and vegetate.

**Vegetate** (ve dʒĭtĕt), *v* [f L *vegetāt-*, ppl stem of *vegetāre* to animate, enliven, f *vegetus* active, lively, vigorous see VEGETE *a*]

**1** *intr* Of plants, seeds, etc To exercise or exhibit vegetative faculties or functions, to grow or develop, or begin to do so

1660 TIMME *Quersit* 1 x 38 You might see the manifest forms of a rose, vegetating and growing 1707 *Curiosities in Husb & Gard* 27 A Plant vegetates that is to say it nourishes itself, shoots, increases in size and produces Leaves Flowers and Seeds 1756 A DRAKE *Nat Hist Aspic* (ed 2) 97 Seeds will not vegetate without air 1791 W GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II 107 A young oak just vegetating from the acorn 1813 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 627 The plants being well earthed up, vegetate with increased luxuriance 1838 I THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 859 The leaves [of the tea plant] are not fit to be pulled till the shrub has vegetated for three years 1852 ROBERTSON *Sermons* Ser III (1857) xviii 263 The sun in autumn may be bright and clear but the seed which has not been sown until then will not vegetate

*transf and fig* 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat* Prol, A weed that has to twenty summers rain Shoots up in stalk and vegetates to man 1733 TOOKE *Pantheon* (1834) 11 Living vegetables life sustain See life dissolving vegetate again 1792 BURKE *Corr* (1844) III 408 That corruption has cast deep roots in that party, and they vegetate in it every day with greater and greater force 1836 I TAYLOR *Hist the Another Life* xiii 173 Such dispositions are living powers they vegetate, and cover the entire surface of the soul

**b** *transf* To increase as if by, to present the appearance of, vegetable growth

1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 277 All parts of the world vegetate by a fine subtle aether 1782 *Phil Trans* LXXIII 79 I they vegetate if solutions of both metals (copper and mercury) in the same acid be mixed together 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 501 Naturalists have observed that ore in swamps and ponds ground vegetates and increases. 1824 URE *Dict Chem* s v *Vegetation (Saline)*, When salts are suffered to vegetate in this manner (etc) 1856 *Funks Stand Dict Vegetate* as a water pimple [to] produce exerescences

**c** To produce vegetation

1799 KIRWAN *Geol Ess* 105 It is well known that beds of volcanic ashes and pumice vegetate sooner than any other

**2** *fig* Of persons To live a merely physical life, to lead a dull, monotonous existence, devoid of intellectual activity or social intercourse, to live in dull retirement or seclusion.

1740 CIBBER *Apol* (1756) I 18 The man who chuses never to laugh seems to me only in the quiet state of a green tree: he vegetates, tis true that's the way he lives. 1777 G FORSTER *Voy round World* I 318 In short, we rather vegetated than lived 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mountray Fam* I 25 He repaired with his family to vegetate (as they called it) at Wellington Park 1816 ANNA *Prow Inst* XVII 380 Weary of the obscurity in which he vegetated he resolved to apply himself to the culture of poetry 1886 W J TOLKER *In Europe* 255 The family was living in dingy privacy in an Austrian provincial town on the shattered remnants of what had once been a princely fortune

**b** Of a country mansion, etc

1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* II 1 94 The Polish nation might, after having vegetated so long in obscurity [etc] 1809 W IRVING *Knicker* VII vi (1849) 407 The vast empire of China has vegetated through ages of monotonous sloth 1832 tr *Sismondi's Ital Rep* xv 341 The republics of Genoa Sienna and Lucca had permission to vegetate under the imperial protection 1851 KOSSUTH in *Daily News* 22 March (1894) 5/6 The House of Hapsburg, as a dynasty, exists no more It merely vegetates at the whim of the mighty Czar

†**3** *trans.* To cause to grow, to stimulate growth or development in, to animate, quicken. *Obs*

1620 T GRANGER *Div Logike* A 4 b, The Roote whose sappe doth vegetate the rest 1646 J HALL *Horæ Vac* 79 The continuing and plants, of Heat doth preserve Motion and vegetate the Invention 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell Syst* 347 This Sensible World is the Receptacle of all Forms, Qualities, and Bodies, all which cannot be vegetated and quickened without God

*absol* 1671 H M tr *Erasm Colloq* 300 Therefore in some parts it [the soul] animates only, and vegetates

†**4** To make strong or vigorous. *Obs* —0

1623 in COCKERAM

**5** To provide or supply with vegetables (see quot) *rare*—1.

1838 PARKER *Exploring Tour beyond Rocky Mts* (1846) 386 Our stay at Tahiti was employed by the ship's crew in vegetating the ship as they phrase it; that is in collecting oranges, bananas, sweet potatoes, yams and squashes.

**6** In *pa. pple.* Provided with vegetation or plant-life Usually with qualifying adv.

1876 *Nature* 9 Nov 31/1 The head of the bay, which

appeared from the distance to be well vegetated 1820 *Pall Mall G* 25 Nov 6/1 New Amsterdam is densely vegetated, and consequently more valuable

Hence **Vegetated** *ppl. a.* , **Vegetating** *vbl sb*
1775 Ash, *Vegetating*, the state or act of growing like plants. 1804–20 Blake *Jerus* 10 Deists, Your Greek Philosophy, which is a remnant of Druidism teaches that Man is righteous in his Vegetated Spectre 1884 L. P. Kor *Nat Ser Story* II, Frequent removal from one part of the country to another prevents anything like vegetating

**Vegetating,** *ppl a* [f prec + -ING 2.]
1 Characterized by, associated with, or causing vegetation
1704 Ray *Creation* (ed 4) I 95 It's not unlikely, that the Rain water may be endued with some vegetating or prolifick Vertue 1798 *Phil Trans* LVIII 78 Seeds in a vegetating state 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat* II 48 The vegetating power which is operating during the whole year in evergreens 1800 *Asiatic Ann Reg* 265/1 Root fleshy, soon after taken out of the earth becomes highly scented, which it returns as long as in a vegetating state

2 Exhibiting vegetation or growth
1783 Justamond tr *Raynal's Hist Indies* VI 313 Six veins of vegetating earth were seen in the process of time discovered, received vegetable canes 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II 159 Mr Gough informs me that vegetating germs of the viviparous variety, planted in his garden in the year 1790, still continue viviparous 1801 *Farmer's Mag* April 128 Sheep may occasionally be allowed to take a walk over the fallow ; but keep a sy vegetating weeds or grass roots that may come in their way 1882 Vines tr *Sachs's Bot* 630 The Lemnaceæ consist of small branched leafless floating vegetating bodies

**Vegetation** (vedʒitē·ʃən). Also 6 **vegitation**, 7–8 **tion.** [ad (late and) med L *vegetatio*, f. *vegetāre* Vegetate *v* So F *végétation*, It *vegetazione*, Sp *vegetacion*, Pg *vegetação*.
The definitions 'a comforting, making strong', etc in Cockeram (1623) and Blount (1656) are merely copied from Cooper's explanation of *vegetatio* in Apuleius)

I Abstract senses.
1 The action of vegetating or growing; the faculty, process, or phenomena of growth and development as possessed by certain organic substances; vegetal activity or property
a In general use.
1564 J. Day tr *Marsyr's Comm Judges* xiii 212 To eate, is not onely to chawe the meate, but moreouer to conuert it into the substaunce of hys body, by concoction thorough the power of vegetation 1597 May *Tyrocinium* II 15 Salt causeth the vegetation, perfection, maturitie, and the whole good that is contained in euery thing that nourisheth 1605 Timme *Quersit* I xiii 31 Earth is pure and perfect body, replenished with vital spirits, and full of vegetation 1768 Pennant *Brit Zool* I Pref 10 Through every species of animal life, to that point where sense is almost extinct and vegetation commences 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric Chem* (1814) 7 The phenomena of vegetation must be considered as an important branch of the science of organized Nature
*fig* 1755 Young *Centaur* VI Wks 1757 II 281 The light of God's countenance is the sun of the human soul, whence all its vegetation of real felicity
†b. Of the soul *Obs* (Cf Vegetative *a* 1 a)
1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 16 One soul hath those three essentiall faculties of Understanding, Will, and Memorie, or (as others) of Vegetation, Sense, and Reason 1620 I. Granger *Div Logicke* 55 Sence, and vegetation is an effect by emanation of the soule.
c Of plants or seeds †Also, vegetative power (quot 1665)
1661 Sir K. Digby (*title*). A Discourse concerning the Vegetation of Plants. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* (1677) 331 The root where the sap lies constantly conveying vegetation to the tree in those hot Regions 1707 *Curios in Husb & Gard* 28 The Operations of each Plant, which are Nutrition, Augmentation and Propagation, we express by the single Word Vegetation, which in Effect includes them all 1760 J. Lee *Introd Bot* I viii (1765) 14 The Seed is a deciduous Part of the Vegetable, the Rudiment of a new one, quickened for Vegetation by the Sprinkling of the Pollen 1789 Mrs Piozzi *Journ France* II 192 In those countries vegetation is so rapid that every thing makes haste to come and more to go. 1813 Bakewell *Introd Geol* (1815) 250 The vegetation of coal appears in the universal climate of their birth 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner* 561 The intercellular air spaces of the cortical parenchyma are in open communication with the external air at the time of active vegetation
†d Of inorganic substances *Obs*
1596 *Phil Trans* XI 739 They are prepossest with an opinion against the Vegetation of Stones. 1748 *Earth-quake Peru* Pref 11 As a Proof of the quick Vegitation of Silver. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1829) I 33 This is not a place for an inquiry into the seeming vegetation of those stony substances
†2. An act or instance of vegetating; a stage in plant growth or development *Obs.*
1604 Grew *Anat Plants* (1682) 2 The Method of Nature her self, in her continued Series of Vegetations; proceeding from the Seed sown, to the formation of the Root
†3. *transf.* The production of a plant like formation. *Obs* (Cf 5 b.)
1707 *Curios in Husb & Gard* 305 The Artificial Vegetation of Silver, commonly called Diana a Tree 1823 Ure *Dict Chem* s.v., The influence of the Air and Light upon the Vegetation of Salts. 1824 Parkes *Chem Catech, Vegetation of Salts*, a curious phenomena (*sic*), which takes place when strong solutions of metallic salts are left in glass, earthenware, or other vessels
4. *fig* Existence similar or comparable to that of a vegetable, dull, empty, or stagnant life spent in retirement or seclusion.
1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I xiii 114 His state is rather a state of vegetation 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daw* I xi, In this state of vegetation he remained until about ten o'clock 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I xvi 290 Hedouville went to spend a life of mere vegetation in Spain 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* III iv 53 You can expect to find much difference in me after three years' vegetation in Cornwall.

II Concrete senses.
5. †a. A vegetable form or growth, a plant
1683 Lavon *Way to Health* 518 At which times all Vegitations are in their flourishing state 1691 – *Wond Dietetics* 110 The pleasant Ferment of the Stomach can with much more facility digest Vegitations, than Flesh or Fish 1707 *Curios in Husb & Gard* 305 Some Vegetations, as Mush rooms and Mosses the maritime Vegetations are not properly Plants
b A plant-like growth or formation due to chemical action (Cf 3.)
1790 *Phil Trans* LXXX 378 Bergman relates, that he has sometimes observed beautiful crystallizations or vegetations of metallic silver formed on pieces of iron immersed long in a solution of silver 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 446 The Nickel forming greenish vegetations. 1800 tr *Lagrange's Chem* II 133 At the end of some hours there will be formed on the surface of the small mass of amalgam, a vegetation in the form of a bush 1823 J. Badcock *Dom Amusem* 124 A beautiful white vegetation will be percept ible on the inside of the glass 1830 *Mem Sir H. Davy* I 307 Pretty metallic vegetation in glass jars called the Tree of Diana.
c. *Path* A morbid fungoid growth or excrescence occurring on some part of the body
1835 *Cyc Pract Med* IV 419/2 Warty vegetations of the vulva :—These excrescences bear a close resemblance to venereal warty vegetations 1861 Humstead *Ven Dis* (1870) 249 Vegetations are papillary growths springing from the skin or mucous membrane, chiefly in the neighbourhood of the genital organs 1879 *St George's Hosp Rep* IX 327 The posterior flap at its right corner bore a large vegetation, assuming the shape of a mushroom, of about 1½ inch in diameter
6 Plants collectively, plants or vegetal growths as a product of the soil, freq considered in respect of a certain area
1578–9 Lyte *Dodoens Summer* 440 Deep to the root Of vegetation parch'd, the cleaving fields an and hue disclose 1790 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* xiii, The paths were rude, and overgrown with vegetation 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* VIII 170 Blue mists Scattered the seeds of pestilence, and fed Unnatural vegetation 1859 Darwin *Orig Spec* iii (1860) 74 When an American forest is cut down, a very different vegetation springs up 1882 *Nature* No 619 418 An admirable summary of the vegetation of the different regions of the globe
*Transf* 1841 Leitch tr *C. O. Müller's Anc Art* § 375 265 The Corinthian places in the room of the simple bulge of the Doric order a slender body gradually enlarging and richly clothed with vegetation
*attrib* 1878 W. R. S. Ralston in *Contemp Rev* Feb. 536 A reference to vegetation spirits and their foes.
b (See quot.)
1870 *Eng Mech* 21 Jan 448/2 In old object glasses there is occas sionally an appearance, which has been called 'vegetation ; and which consists of a number of very thin lines dis posed in a dendritic form
Hence **Vegeta tionless** *a*
1855 Lewes *Goethe* I 233 On the vegetationless surface the radiation is direct

**Vegetative** (ve·dʒĕtiv), *a* and *sb* Also 5 **vegetatif**, **-tyf(f**, 6 **-ife**, 6–7 **-ive**, 6 **vegitative**, 8 **ive.** [ad. med.L *vegetat ivus*, f. the ppl stem of L. *vegetāre* Vegetate *v* see Ive So F. *végétatif* (13th c.), Sp., Pg., It *vegetativo*]
*A. adj* 1. Having the function of vegetation; endowed with the power or faculty of growth.
a Of the soul. (Cf. Sensitive *a.* 1)
1398 Trevisa *Barth De R. De* xix. (1495) iii xiii, Be [soule] vegetatyf desyrynth to be, & the reasonible soule desyreth to [be] best 1433 Lydg *St Edmund's Asp* 334 Dyuyk lyk a soule moore than vegetatif 1531 Elyot *Gov* III xxiv, The one [part of the soul], wherin is the powar or efficacie of growinge, which is also in herbes and trees , & that parte is called vegetatife 1594 T. B. *La Primaud Fr Acad* I 338 That order which God hath set betweene the vertues of the Vegetative soule for the nourishing of the bodie 1699 Bible (Douay) *Gen* vi *comment*, The power or force to engender belongeth to the vegetative soul 1659 *Gentl Calling* (1696) 9 As we distinguish mens souls into the vegetative, the animal, and the rational 1698 Ray *Creation* II 6 For my part, I should make no scruple to attribute the Formation of Plants, their growth and nutrition to the vegetative Soul in them 1725 [see Soul *sb* 5 (a)] 1818 Hallam *Mid Ages* (1872) III iii 207 Aristotle's Anonymist, the ministers of Physis, were classed by Plato under three souls, the rational, animal, and vegetative 1859 Tyndall *Fragm Sci* II xi 243 How is this vegetative soul to be presented to the mind? where did it flourish before the tree grew?
b. Of material things; in later use esp of plants or parts of these
1477 Norton *Ord Alch* 1 in Ashm (1652) 20 Also nothing multiplyed shall ye finde, But it be of Vegetative or of Sensitive kinde. 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 357 b/1 Alle thynges obeyssed to this holy man as well thynges not sensible as vegetatyf and not resonable 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xxii (1555) N iv b, Herbes and fruytes In erthe be planted for to haue their life By diuers vertues and sundry growing, So to continue and be vegitative. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxi, This marrow, this vegetative and vitall substance 1823 tr *Mexia's Treat Anim & Mod Fumig* 32 The vegetative Bodies; as Plants, Trees, and such like 1670 *Horol State Eng* 5 None but sensitive and vegetative Creatures pursue the primitive end of their institutions.
1721 Steele *Spect* No. 100 P 2 The indolent Man descends from the Dignity of his Nature, and makes that Being which was Rational merely Vegetative 1796 Bp Watson *Apol Bible* 418 Somewhat after the way of your vegetative speck in the kernel of a peach 1812 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Cates & Gentle* I 269 The vegetative adhesions (to books) of the undisturbed damp 1853 G. Johnston *Nat Hist & Bord* I 220 A very common weed, and so vegetative and retentive of life that it requires much labour to clear the lands infested with it 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem Pl* 523 When a new root cap and vegetative point had been formed, they bent themselves perpendicularly downwards
*fig.* 1782 Priestley *Lect Hist Respect* (1792) 40 The mind is presented with a wide extended prospect of vegetative good, and sees a thousand blessings budding into existence
†c. *Vegetative stone*, = Vegetable *a* 1 d *Obs.*–1
c 1450 Lydg & Burgh *Secrees* 531 Of stoonys Specially of three—Oon myneral, Anothir vegetatyf, Partyd on foure to lengthe a mannys lyff
d *spec* in *Phys* and *Bot* Concerned with growth and development, as opposed to *reproductive*
(a) 1847 Buttock tr *Cazenave's Medicin Surg* 176 The base been cvilled the external or serous layer, and the other is denominated the internal, mucous, or the vegetative one 1851 A. Jamieson *Dic Skin* I (ed 3) 5 The deepest layer of all is the vegetative or mucous layer of the skin 1878 W. Jenkinson *Exper Embryol* 245 A blastopore is in very numerous cases formed at the vegetative pole
(b) 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr *Sachs's Bot* 117 A conical elongation distinguished as the Vegetative Cone 1882 Vines tr *Sachs's Bot* 246 The multiplication of individuals being effected by the sequential division of the vegetative cells 1884 Bower & Scott *De bary's Phaner* Introd 2 Under the term vegetative organs we include all those organs of the plant which are not concerned in reproduction *Ibid.* 282 In the main vegetative axes of Lycopodium cla vatum and L. annotinum
2 Of or pertaining to, concerned or connected with, characterized by, vegetation or growth.
a. Of faculty, power, principle, etc.
c 1400 tr *Secreta Secret*, *Gov Lordsh* 96 Pe wirkynge of pis last [virtue] (pat pe Auctour cleps vegetatif, & I here strenght saunatyf). *c* 1430 Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 196 To temper the spiritis by vertu vegetatif
1660 Brukett *Chr Life* 44 This power of the soule is called vegetative (you must giue me leaue to vse new words of Art [because it giueth life and growing to growing things 1676 Hyatly *Clavis Myst* xi 143 The sensitive faculty includeth the vegetative 1683 W. Ramesey *Astrologia Restored* 215 All things depend upon the Luminals in their vegetative vigour 1718 Hughes *Spect* No 554 P 12 The Soul has in this Respect a certain vegetative Power which cannot be wholly idle. 1798 Lemon *Treatise Cook* 1 Vegetables at mature, and in the loamy clod Swelling with vegetative force instinct Dilat burst thine egg 1808 Goupy Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ* (1840) II 1 The vegetative principle at the root which will make our tree flourish *a* 1832 Grote *Fifth Progym* v (1876) 178 Of the irrational soul, one branch is, the nutritive and vegetative faculty 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult* ii 34 Growth is a constant and habitual exercise of vital or vegetative force
b Of life.
1597 Maplet *Gr Forest* 25 b, For in them is the life vegetatiue or that life which nourisheth 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 288 In naturall things there are three kindes of life ; vegetative or increasing which is in plants ; sensitive which is in beasts ; and reasonable or intellectuall which is in men 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I ix 47 The Sunne giueth vnto earthly bodies their forme and vegetatiue life 1678 Norris *Miscell Discourses* 251 In Plants there is but Vegetative Life, Sense and Reason 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* I 9/2 Plants, Seeds, and every thing else that has the vegetative Life 1799 Savage *Wanderer* IV 134 Hail, glorious sun ! to whose propitious fires The waken'd, vege tative life aspires ! 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 126/2 The nerves of organic or vegetative life 1844 Howitt *Micrsoc* II 1 259 The whole vegetative life is run through in the same cell 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 1 Common Rat., dissected so as to show portions of most of the organs of vegetative life
c In general use
1594 Plat *Jewell ho* II 16 To prouse that salt is no enemie, either to the veget iue, or sensitiue faculties 1726 Shaw *Poems* Interpret Gen 432 Tis at immense diffusion of atoms is to be referred 1 1 Lycl e, as an internall vegetative act 1683 Lydiat *Way to Health* 518 Without the Vegetative Quality stands as it were still 1762 J. Stevenson *Crazy Tales* 7 The work of vegetative laws 1788 J. W. Makyn *Corp Man* II 147 Over-fatness is a disease of vegetative perfection 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr Atonem* iv (1850) 93 A survey of the minute action of vegetative energies 1881 Haughton *Enfog Logic* v 301 The Intemperate Forest region is characterized by a pretty uniform temperature during the vegetative season
3. Causing or promoting vegetation, inducing vegetable growth, productive, fertile
1594 Plat *Jewell ho* II 11 Philosophicall discourse vpon the vegetatiue and fructifying Salt of Nature 1612 Peacham *Gentl Exerc* II iii (1634) 114 The vegetative humour or moisture that quickeneth and giveth life to trees, plants, herbs and flowers, whereby they grow and it cease. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 317 Composts are by no means fit for the Earth, unless so order'd as to communicate the vegetative and sensitive Spirits to what you shall apply them 1707 Mortimer *Husb* (1721) I 98 Fullers earth is very full of that vegetative Salt that helps the growth of Plants. 1788 Lrevecœur *Lett* 50 In Europe they were as so many useless plants, wanting vegetative mould, and refreshing showers. 1834 *Brit Husb* I 360 The vegetative mould which covers the earth in all situations undisturbed by the plough 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp* xxvi (1856) 238 The question whether unmixed snow can act as a vegetative matter
†4 Obtained or derived from, consisting of, vegetables or plants *Obs rare*
1660 R. Mather *Unl Alch* 2 This pill is a Corrector of all Vegetative poysons 1691 Tryon *Wond. Dietetics* 110

All Vegetative Foods are not only wholsom, but easily concocted

5 = VEGETABLE *a* 3

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 175 Having done with the Vegetative, I proceed to the Animal Kingdom 1695 J. PERSTON *Boetius* III 344, I casting an Eye upon the Vegetative World consider Herbs and Trees 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig Nat* IX 209, I think I may be sure that neither lifeless matter, nor the vegetative tribe, have any reflex thoughts 1778-84 *Cook's Voy* (1790) I 39 In regard to the vegetative and brute creation 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic Theol* 44 The living world veget itive a nd animal

6 *fig* Vegetating inactive

1802 MRS F. PARSONS *Myst Visit* IV 74 In this veget ative state of ha ppiness you found me

b *Path* Characterized by the exercise or activity of the physical functions only

1893 *Daily News* 25 Apr 5/4 He is in what his doctor calls a veg t ative state a nd incapable of connecting two idea s together 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 136 Idiots of vegetative grade *Ibid* 237 This girl led a vegetative life, but learnt to recognize those around her

B *sb* +1. Vegetative faculty or power *rare*

1605 THYNNE *Quercelit* 1 xiv 68 In vegetables there were only those vegetatiues which in beastes, beside the vegetati in which they retain become also sensatiue.

2. An organic body capable of growth and development but devoid of sensation and thought, a vegetable or plant *Obs*

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng Prosp* 1 vi, Having related in t i s you the nature of the soile, with his vegetatiues and other commodities 1668 J. CHARLETON *Ephesian Academie* 1 xvii (1677) 152 Even Plants which are but Vegetatives will not grow in Caues where the Air is clear d from them 1668 CHARLETON *Ars Textor.* Epist. 2 We live rather the life of Vegetatives or Sensitives then the lives of reasonall men 1712 E. COOKE *Voy* 5 Nor 210 Having run over the living Creatures and Vegetatives. 1764 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm App* I 372 We are vegetatives formed by celestiu ntion

Hence **Ve getatively** *adv*, **Ve getativeness.**

1886 *Encycl Brit* XX 431/2 In some instances the one generation is sy spring Vegetatively from the other with out the intervention of a spore 1905 *Brit Med Jrnl* 25 Feb 442 They devel p into one of the three following forms all of which can reproduce themselves vegetatively 1727 BAILEY (vol II) *Vegetativeness*, or vegetative Quality 1889 GRIDLER & THOMSON *Pocket Sex* 48 Superior constitutional vegetativeness i t the females (of Lychnis).

**Vegeta** (vɛ̀dʒi·tə), *n.* *Now rare* Also 7 veget, vegita [ad L *vegetus*, *f. vegere* to be active or lively Cf. It and Pg *vegeto*, obs l *vejete* (Cotgr) ]

1. Healthy and active, flourishing in respect of health and vigour 8 Of persons, the body, etc

1639 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ary Stuart* III The veget Artist and the vigorous Poet, whose bones are full 'nd forgotten still 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Ct f temp* I 22 Even her body was made airy a nd vegete 1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* v 185 Active stirring pe ple are more vegete and lively in spirit a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III 350 His face was always tinted with the fresh colour and lively looks vegeta and sa nguine 1774 J. HAWKESWORTH *Adv* I 81 Animal was supposed to renew its life, a l l to become vegete and fresh 1870 I. OWEN *Study Mank* 380 If I forgot that ample and vegete countenance of Mr R

b Of things, conditions, etc.

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* iv § 1 He had lived an hi thful an l vegete Age till in last sickness 1665 NEED HAM *Mer Mole* 100 Sea Salt is the Vivifi Vegete vigorous condition which o ught to be in the less Vegete or the Vale sudinary state of Bo lies 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc Compit* vi 230 He that is of a firm hybit of body and has a vegete heat

c Of the faculties, mind, etc.

1660 SOUTH *Serm* (1727) IV 1 21 A well radicated hal it, in a lively vegete Faculty 1674 DANIEL DE DUMONT Gold in Picture of Silver 1682 *Hist* (1697) 15 The un lerstanding was vegete, quick and lively 1727 BAILEY tr. *Hunewel's Sf Dead* 84 Before the orga nical Co nstruction of the Body is impair d and the Spirits are vegete and vigorous 1769 GRANGER *Biogr Hist Eng* (1804) II 155 His body was firm and erect and his faculties lively and vegete 1846 J. HARRISON *Mental Observ* 230 If you would possess such a mind you must keep it fresh and vegete and lifesome by secret prayer

2 Of plants or their parts Healthy, vigorous, growing strongly or promoting active growth

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1653) 106 This be a very necessary management in taller Plants, and serves to make them much more vegete and lively 1670 *Phil Trans* V 2069 Whether the Juyce of Trees, will at all and vegete, can properly be said to descend 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) II 120 Active in sending the vegete juices through the vessels of all plants 1790 DARWIN *Poem* (1806) I 137 There are many trees, whose wholeinternal wood is perished, and yet the branches are vegete a nd healthy 1800 — *Phytol* 167 Because the lower fibres and the sweet juice is absorbed, as the upper leaf becomes vegete

*transf* 1853 ASHWELL *Index Ap* 18 The Nicene Creed, by this means become vegete and grown was afterwards used in the Greeke Church.

+3 Lively, bright *Obs*

a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV iii In troth a stone of lustre, I assure you It darts a pretty light a veget spark

Hence **Vege teness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol II) *Vegeteness* Liveliness, Quickness Soundness, the Quality of having a growing Life

+ **Ve getist.** *nonce-word* [Irreg f VEGET ABLE + IST ] One who is concerned with the growth or cultivation of vegetable products

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 7 Sept 1775 The Vegetist, perhaps, more than any other man, is subject to the power of the elements. *Ibid., Digest* 95 The Vegetist ought never to lose sight of this maxim.

+ **Vegetity.** *Obs*—1 In 7 **vegititie.** [Irreg f. VEGET-ATE *v* + -ITY ] Vegetative power or quality.

But perhaps a misprint for *vegetivitie*

1628 J. SPENCER *Logick* 43 The soule of Peter hath the same rationalitie with all other mens soules no singular tree differs from other trees in vegititie

**Vegetive** (ve dʒɛtiv), *a* and *sb.* Also 6 **vegeetyve,** 7 **vegitiue** [Reduced form of VEGETATIVE *a*, after L *vegeti-fer* or *veget us* ]

A. *adj* 1 Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, vegetables of plants, = VEGETATIVE *a* 2

1526 *St Papers Hen VIII*, VI 334 The colde tre for lakk of vegeetyve sprytis maye nott opteeyne perfect rote fast neave. 1573 TUSSER *Husb* (1878) 123 Not rent off but cut off neplowd with a knife, for fundering alike of her veget itie life 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II III *Vocati* 1354 The pleasant Soyl is all dry d and dead, Voyd of all force, vi tli, or vegetiv 1651 W. SCHOMFELD *Pol Lapwing* I ii, His knowledge consists in the vegetive nature of Plants. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr Relig Appl* II 15 Man had not Power so much as over the green Herb, to deprive it of its Vegetive Life but by God's Donation

1830 COLERIDGE *Church & State* (1839) 193 Thus, without the first power, that of growth or what Hichat and others name the vegetative life or productive power, the second power could not exist 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed 5) 333 What if it were that life through all The countless grades, vegetive, animal Of human should progress at last to man

2 Endowed with the faculty of vegetation or growth = VEGETATIVE *a* 1 b

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav* 140 The Castle of Cate, about which there is nothing vegetive but a few solitary Palmes 1632 H. LITHGOW *Trav* III 84 I had full grasp of 'em vast Estentiue Longs not to beings simply vegetive 1657 J. TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp* 41 Such as are alwayes vegetive and juicy. 1700 [DRYDEN] *Pal & Arc* III 1007 So man at first a Drop, dilates with Heat First vegetive then feels, and reasons last 1700 — *Ovid's Met* I 752 The Tree still panted as it unfinish d part, Not wholly vegetive, and heavd her Heart

+ b Of the soul = VEGETATIVE *a* 1 a *Obs*

a 1693 PEMBLE *Justification* (1629) 196 The Vegetiue soule receiues Bailey

c. Covered with or productive of vegetation

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 68 Ocean and continent, sea, desert, plain Mineral and vegetive

d Having a merely physical existence Cf VEGETATIVE *a.* 6

1888 SYMONDS *Amint Ingura* 111 Shall these arise winged by immortal mind Who toiled on earth obscure and vegetive?

B *sb* = VEGETATIVE *sb* 2, VEGETABLE *sb* 2

Common in the 17th c

1802 WARNER *Alb Eng* XIII LXXVI (1612) 316 Nor lesse in their Vegetiues as trees (saies he) in herbes and such 1640 MANNINGHAM *Old Tales* 11 Make us better then those vegetives Whose soules die within em 1678 J. HUNTER] *Fr Conquest* 8 Hows you not already see'st about three parts of a rich hard, besides a dish of Vegetives? 1689 HUNTER *Char Gen Commander* etc. 55 The Sun to Plants more welcome is Thus they of Vegetives might learn some good 1819 H. DODWELL *Treat* VII 479 In using retreat this vegetive (i e a mushroom) demure, From human reach long deem d itself secure

**Vegeto vorous,** *a* [Irreg f the stem *veget-* after *herbivorous*, etc.] Feeding on vegetables or plants

1859 *Gould's Cycl Anat* V 304/1 The true vegetivorous genera (of marsupials) have a cæcum which is thrice as long as the body 1871 *Daily News* XXII 4067/1 Vegetivorous snails (*Pyrnarus*) eating young newts.

**Ve getizing,** *ppl a* [f as prec ] Vegetarian

1897 *Pall Mall* XXIV 6 Those vegetizing friends whose fine feelings are said to be shattered horribly at the smell of hot joints

**Vegeto-** (ve dʒɛto), irregular combining form of the L. stem *veget-*, used in the sense of 'vegetable and' or 'having a vegetable origin' & with cdjs, as *vegeto alkaline, animal, -bituminous, carbonaceous mineral, sulphurou*, etc

Cf *vegeto animal mineral sulfurique*

1833 *Lonny Cycl* I 80/1 The vegeto alkaline acetates 1835 URE *Dict Arts* 1799 Anonymous writers in Mears, spines feathers &c are all "vegeto-animal productions. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 65 Composts of vegetable or vegeto animal matter and earth are of various kinds. 1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Fermentation* 34 The matter which decomposes sugar is a vegeto animal substance 1795 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 40 By Inflammable substances I understand, 1. Mineral Origin whose principal character is Inflammability Of these the sim plest kinds may be reduced to six Genera, namely the Aeri form, the Bituminous, the Vegeto-Animal, the Sulphureous, the Vegeto Bituminous, and the Sulphureous 1796 PERCIVAL *Ess* III 247 Each ounce, therefore of the "vegeto-mineral water contains only four tenths of a grain of this metal 1785 *Med Comm* II 31 A poultice with Goulard's vegeto mineral extract had been prescribed 1857 BULLOCK tr *Cazeaux's Midwifery* 25 Some of the vegeto-mineral lotions are usually sufficient to cause their [ e carunclesl disappear ance. 1858 T. THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 654 Some "vegeto-sulphuric acid is formed at the same time

b With *sbs*, as *vegeto alkali, -alkaloid, -mineral, -principle, -veratrine*, etc.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat Syst Bot* 205 Dr Sertürner has ob tained some other "vegeto-alkalies from Cinchona. 1844 FOWNES *Chem* 478 The vegeto-alkalis, or alkaloids, consti tute a remarkable, and at present isolated, group of bodies. c 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci* I 416/1 An account of the vegeto-alkalies. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim Alkaloids* 60 The means of distinguishing the "vegeto-alkaloid 1830 URE *Dict Arts* 40 The most interesting fact relative to this "vegeto-mineral is its geological position 1830 *Amer Jrnl Sci* XVII 383 M. Dulong has obtained a particular "vegeto-

principle from the roots of *Plumbago Europea* 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim Alkaloids* 59 The "vegeto-veratrine does not reduce the ferricyanide.

**+ Vegetous,** *a Obs* [f L *veget us* VEGETE ace -OUS ] = VEGETE *a*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil Wom.* II ii, If shee be faire, yong, and vegetous 1670 HACKET *Cant Serm* (1675) 422 A vegetous faith is able to say unto a mountain, Be removed into the sea 1696 WHISTON *Nat Inarthi* v (1722) 351 The Seeds of those Vegetables which God originally Created were fresh and vegetous

**Vegil,** obs. f VEGETE *a.*

**Vehemence** (vɪ·ɪmens, vɪ·hɪmens) Also 6 **-ens** [a late OF. *vehemence* (F *véhémence*), or ad L. *vehementia* see next

In this and the related words the only pron recognized by dictionaries, with the exception of the most recent, is that with (vɪ·h ) thus is now unusual in Britain but appears to be still the standard pron in the United States ]

1 Intensity or strength of smell or colour *rare*

1533 COVERDALE 2 *Macc* IX 10 Him might no man now abyde nor beare, for the vehemence of stynicke 1844 H. SOO *Haunted Ho* III xvii, The Bloody Hand shone strangely out With vehemence of colour !

2. Impetuosity, great force or violence, of physical action or agents

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* XXXV (1870) 297 The dust also that eyseth in the strete thorow the vehemens of the wynde 1667 MILTON *P L* II 934 A mighty blast, wide Wind nasing sounds and rouses all confus d assaults his eare With loudest vehemence 1796 BURKE *Subl & B* IV iii, His eyes are dragged inwards, and his whole frame with great vehemence 1794 K. J. SULIVAN *Essay Anal* I 148 The attraction by which a body is deprived of pl logiston by me s of pure air, with such vehemence as to generate not only heat but flame 1857 MILLER *Elem Chem.*, *Theor* (ed 4) 31 The feebler affinities of these elements, the reactions take place with less vehemence

3 Great or excessive ardour, eagerness, or fervour of personal feeling or action, passionate force, violence, or excitement

1529 MORE *Dyalog* Wks 265/2 By waye of excesse & yperbole to declare the vehemence of his mynde in the matter of fayth 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III iii 100 Ny I pre thee now, with most petitionary vehemence tell me who it is 1681 HOBBES *Leviath* I viii 35 Sometimes the hurt is caused by the vehemence, or long continuance of the passion 1699 BURNET *39 Art* I 27 Passion produces a Vehemence of Action 1748 *Anson's Voy* III x 344 Hypocrisy and fraud are often not less mischievous than impetuosity and vehemence of temper 1769 *Junius Lett* xxxv (1778) 167 You measure their affection by the vehemence of their expressions 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* xii With all the vehemence that has indignant and feeling people are wont to bear upon it. 1839 J. KEMBLE *Anglo in Georgia* (1863) 29 With an almost savage vehemence of gesticulation 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* VII § 1 347 Cromwell was quick to profit by the vehemence of the Catholic reaction

b An instance of this *rare*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I 33 Is it possible that my brother and sister could join in such vehemences, their vehemences of such importance to all the family?

**Vehemency** (vɪ·ɪmensɪ, vɪ·hɪ ) Now *rare* Also 6 entie, 6–7 encie [ad L. *vehementia*, f. *vehement* VEHEMENT *a* see ENCY. Cf prec, and Sp and Pg *vehemencia* It *veemenza* ]

1 = VEHEMENCE 3 and 3 b

1538 LONSTALL *Serm Palm Sund* (1823) 51 The greatness and vehemency of his fayth 1579 FULKE *Refut Astell* 735 He vacuseth them, by vehemency of desire 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W* II ii 10 Would it apply well to the vehemency of your affection that I should win what you would enjoy? 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm Titus* III 8 He could not satisfie himselfe in his vehemencies against the false Christine as this was 1665 GLANVILL *Def Van. D gm* 74 That which excites men to endless brawlings, and altercations, Schisms, Heresies, and Rebellions, by the vehemency of Dispute 1672 WOODHEAD *St Jerom* II 92 The vehemency of the Spirit, if Nature be feeble, draws it inward, and maketh it 1753 *4 Rituals Ecclesiasticus* XXII (1781) III 221 Well do I know the vehemency with which you are wont to pursue a new adventure

b *esp* Of utterance or expression.

1542–3 BRENTHALOW *Chirurg* I xxxvi, Ye shall rayse other that shall speake with no lesse loue & vehemency 1568 GRAFTON *Chron* II 37 P Isidore wrisseth very vehemently against him in his History, whereof I spake before 1611 I thought meete to suppresse 1613 SHAKS *Hen VIII* V i 148 The best perswasions to the contrary Faile not to vse, and with what vehemence his occasion will instruct you 1679 FRANCIS *Amity* 178 Which he did not pronunced with a great deal of vehemency and earnestness. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) III 148 [He] exclaimed with some vehemency 1768 WESLEY, never did I behold such beauty 1830 J. MILNE *Widow & Her Son* iv (1851) 232 You illearn henceforth to chide with far less vehemency 1845 J. CARLYLE *Chancellorsville* (1913) II 314 All these speeches were spoken with great vehemency.

2 Intensity or severity a. Of pain, illness, etc.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg* II i 13 I hat the pay ne, and the accidens encrease not, nor diminyshe, but contynue in great vehemence 1558 BP WATSON *Sev Sacram* XXX 193 Doo not difference thatyl the vehemence of your sickenes decaye your speache and memorie 1612 WOODALL *Surg Mate* Wks. (1653) 339 According to the strength of the sick, and vehemency of the disease 1642 R. CARPENTER *Ex perience* II vii 173 No man ever endured such rages, and vehemencie of pain 1696 J. SMITH *Pract of Physick* 146 A Pestilent Feaver differs from the Plague by the vehemency of the muschief and contagion

b. Of cold, heat, or other influences

1504 T. B *La Primaud. Fr Acad* II 109 Humour refresheth heate, and slaketh the vehemencie thereof 1596 DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 259 The Podagra or Gout, quhilk of the Vehemence of calde be contracted,

1604 E. G[ILBERTOPE] *D Acosta s Hist Indies* II. VII. 96 The vehemencie of the fire scorched and driveth vp an aboundance of vapours. 1652 WITTIE tr *Primrose's Pop Err* 309 Which if it were Hippocrates his opinion notwithstanding the vehemency of his remedies [etc.] 1725 *Fam Dict* s v *Flower*, On these they hang a Piece of Cloth, which defends 'em from the Vehemency of its [*sc.* the sun's] Rays 1823 SCOTT *Guy M* IV, Those further rules by which diviners pretend to ascertain the vehemency of this evil direction.

**3.** = VEHEMENCE 2

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 120 The vehemencie of the wynde is not of poure to caste downe those houses 1569 STOCKER tr *Diod Sic* III IX 118 Many Barques with the vehemencie of the wether were runne on lande 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Dent* XXVIII 49 In likenes of an eagle that fleeth with vehemence 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol Anat* II VI 105 It is continually forced along with Celerity and Vehemency

**b** Used of sounds

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 84 The earth trembled through the vehemencie of theyr owtcry 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* X 439 Least the vehemency of chirking frogs vexe the wish'd for Repose of his body

**4.** = VEHEMENCE 1 *rare*—1

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Vehementia*, *o oris*, the vehemencie of, &c.

**Vehement** (*vi·hmĕnt*, *vē·hmĕnt*), *a* and *adv* Also 6 *Sc* **viement** [a. OF *vehement* (? *vēhé ment*, = Sp and Pg *vehemente* It *veemente*), or ad L. *vehement*, *vehemens* *vehement*, impetuous, etc., usually regarded as f *vehe* (= *vc* in *vecors*) lack ing, wanting + *mens* mind.]

**I 1** Intense, severe, rising to a high degree or pitch **a.** Of pain, illness, etc

1489 *St Werwyfyde* (Caxton) 13 The langue in an I maladye was vehement and encreased dayly 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 148 Vaschus fell into a vehement feuer by reason of excesse of labour 1578 LYTE *Dodoen Anti fol* II 39 It doeth also cease vehement dolour and payne. 1653 W RAMESEY *Astrol Restored* 325 [A] Comet signifi-eth vehement sickenesses 1778 N ROBINSON *The I Says* & 268 I order'd the following Mixture to be externally vpply'd to his Side: while his Pain was very vehement 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg Obs* 96 Vehement erysipelatous or irritative inflammation took place.

**b** Of heat or cold, etc

1554 W PRAT *Discrypt Aphrigne* C vin b, The earthe is made hote in a lytle space by the vehemente heate of the ayre 1556 NEWTON *Lem Health Complex* (1633) 62 The vehement fire is vehementer and the hearth is of heat sometime extreme sometime more soft and milde 1609 C BUTLER *Fem Mon* (1632) K 3 The Snow causeth them presently to fall and with his vehement cold to rise no more 1666 BOYLE *Orig Formes & Qual* 320 Salt of Tartar requires a vehement fire to flux it 1796 H HUNTER tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) I 564 The action of the Sun would there have been too vehement.

**2** Of natural forces Operating with great strength or violence, *esp* of wind, blowing very strongly or violently

1531 ELYOT *Gov* I II The bees may issue out of theyr stalles without peryll of rayne or vehement wynde 1563 FULKE *Meteors* (1640) 30 When the lightning is not vehement 1579 *Agr Prisy Cun Husb* (1611) 142 Against a sudden and viement ane storm 1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 832 The Land would be vt lently hot, if a fresh easterly breese did not coole it with a fresh breath in the heate of the day 1625 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser I III 106 The barge windows, notwithstanding the vehement shower, were open 1701 MAUDRELL *Journ* (1732) 9 The Rain was so vehement. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II V 299 The succeeding vehement Deluges of Rain rendered their Incampment superlatively comfortless. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol Leg* Ser I *Jook at Clock* I like a Weather-cock whirled by a vehement puff, David turned himself round

**b** In general use Strong and rapid

1538 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc 357 Violent sweats proceed from a LAXITY of the Vessels and too vehement a Circulation of the Blood

**c** Of sound Excessively loud

1598 H WALPOLE *Fr Jesuit* (1660) 115 The two Cannings, who have made so vehement a noise

**3** Of actions Characterized by great physical exertion; performed with unusual force or violence

1531 ELYOT *Gov* I XVI, By exercise, whiche is a vehement motion the helthe of man is preserued, and his strength increased 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag* 6 Those persons may use vehemenier exercise and stronger ambulations. 1650 *Don Bellianis* 34 With which vehement vigour he assaulted his foes, that his men present feare lost advantages. 1804 W IRVING *J Trav* I 191 At the close of each stanza a hearty roar, and a vehement thrumming on the table 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Hamch Strick* I 6 Chopping was then twice as long and twice as vehement as usual 1873 M ARNOLD *Lit & Dogma* 309 What observers thus delighted adoption of vehement rules can doubt, that [etc.]

*transf* 1638 JUNIUS *Paint Ancients* 12 They must secondly, consider what a vehement efficacy there is in man's wit. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 P 11 These vehement exertions of intellect cannot be frequent 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est* V 53 The woman was making a vehement effort to speak in her natural voice.

**†4** Of remedies, etc.: Having a powerful effect upon the system. *Obs.*

1541 R COPLAND *Galyen's Terap* I E iij, All the body muste be emptyed or that any partye be take subiecte to the stronge and vehement remedyes 1566 BULLEIN *Bulwarke*, *Bk Simples* (1579) 5 b The longe Onion is more vehementer then the rounde, and the Reddie more then the white 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 691 The gall of swine is not very vehement 1612 WOODALL *Surg Mate* Wks. (1653) 199 In the beginning over vehement warmings are to be avoided. 1656 J SMITH *Pract Physick* 96 The juyce of wild Cucumber is not so vehement as they commonly report.

**†b** Of taste Strong, pungent. *Obs.*

1600 J POEY tr *Leo's Africa* Introd. 49 Being in shape somewhat like to the Millet of Italy, but of a most vehement and fiery taste

**†5.** = VEHEMENCE 3

1638 SWAN *Spec M* V § 2 (1643) 231 These colours in some men bows are more vehement or apparent 1658 RAY *Creation* (ed 2) II 25 Preserving the Eye from being in jured by too vehement and hacid an Object.

**II 6. a.** Of suspicion or likelihood Very strong Now *arch*

1516 *Acts Privt Scot* (1895) XII 36/2 All Lawis excludis be said governour fra administration and governance for suspicion vehement and violent 1565 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser I II 208 The Queues howsbande benge enired into a vehement suspicion of David. 1586 A DAY *Eng Secretary* II (1625) 90 Notwithstanding all those vehement likelihoods, yet I will not condemne you till I see how you confute me 1610 DONNE *Pseudo martyr* 342 From your Syluester wee learne That the Popes precepts binde not, where there is vehement likely hood of trouble or scandall 1811 SOUTHEY in *Life A Bell* (1844) II 644 MRS. Trimmer's book I much wish to see, having a vehement suspicion that some parts of it have been misrepresented

**b** Of proof, etc Strong, forcible, cogent, capable of producing conviction *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Obed Parker Soc* (1848) 228 There is not a better, vehementer, or mightier thing to make a man under stand than an allegory 1561 T NORTON *Calvin's Inst* I 33 And these vehement demonstrations twice repeated suffice it to be told no more where but in Christ 1578 FLEMING *Panopl Epist* 61 The valliantnesse, constancie, and sober nesse of your person, then which nothing can be more vehement and pondered 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII *Iliads Hist Ingust* II 215 When these Proofs are vehement or sufficient for the Torture, it is left for the Judge to determine.

**†c** Very close or intimate *Obs*—1

1596 BACON *Max & Use Com Law* XIV (1630) 59 The law is more strong, in that case because of the vehement relation which the enrolment hath to the time of the bar ring and sale

**6** Of thoughts, feelings, etc Extremely strong or deep, ardent, eager, passionate

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 233 Meditacyon is a vehement or a hyge goostly application of the mynde 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 328 The Iliations judged by and by the disease to come fa vehement thought 1574 tr *Marl exp Daniel's Weeks* II It is a soli vition or ca sing caused by such accidents as suddenly take away some vehement hope. 1711 ADDISON *Spect* No 73 P 5 The Passion for Fame, the most vehement of the whole tar 'xer 1775 DE LOLME *Eng Const Advt* (1784) p. XIX Influenced by vehement prepossessions 1822 CARY *Dante*, *Purgat* V 107 Vehement was Gerozzo's grief for me 1856 H MACKAY *Lit* (1874) I IV 162 Leibnitz began to tell his beads with vehement devotion 1907 *Jernay Mem* I 62 The Queen a vehement partisanship

**b** Of anger or similar feelings Violent, intense.

a 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Edw IV* (1550) 30 b, Ye olde rancor betwene them beyng newly reuiued (The which betweene no ere tiuers was more vehement then betweene brethren) 1552 HULOET Vehement anger, *excandescentia* 1650 HAMMOND *On Ps* CII 503 By those is meant a vehement displeasure and anger

**7** Of language Very forcibly or passionately uttered or expressed, resulting from, and indicative of, strong feeling or excitement

1533 *Chron Calais* (Camden) 114 The French kynges mother with very ardente and vehemente wordes sayd [etc.] 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidanes Comm* 328 b, Against this time ca ne forth a boke of Martin Luthers very vehement. 1596 *Edw III*, I ii, Sharpely to solicit With vehement suite the king in my behalfe 1598 DOWLAND *Lorcon* 4 In that remarkable and vehement place where he expostulates with them a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Feb 168 1, A vehement speech he made touching the impositions 1734 tr *Rollin's Anc Hist* VIII VII IV 40 That lively and vehement eloquence which like a torrent bears down all things on its way. 1836 J HERSCHEL *Astronomy* II 80 In Corinthian dialect

most agreeable and beneficial Vehicle for such Medicines 1777 PERCIVAL *Ess* (1777) I 72 A sufficient dose of the medicine cannot be given on account of the heating nature of its vehicle 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Tract. Obs. Sweet* (1826) 169 The Doctor exhibited to him an ounce of castor oil, uncovered by any vehicle 1875 H C WOOD *Therap* (1879) 31 The dried petals are almost destitute of therapeutic virtues, but their preparations are used as elegant vehicles

*fig.* 1665 HOYLE *Occas. Reff* (1848) 19 Both these pleasing Vehicles, if I may so call them, are of Correctives of Reproofs [etc.] 1781 JOHNSON *Ambler* No. 87 P 3 With what vehicles to disguise the cathartic qualities of the soul 1785 H WALPOLE *Lett* (1846) III 181 The invasion I really believe was dressed up for a vehicle (as the apothecaries call it) to make us swallow the treaties 1844 WARBURTON *Hist* (1865) II 102 If we have a medicine to administer, we are desirous to convey it in a pleasant *vehicle*

**b** In general use

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 149 There ought to be one of the Dishes, in which to beat and mingle the liquid Vehicles and a second to receive the crude Herbs in 1785 *Fam. Dict. xv Malt Liquor*, The Substance of high dry'd Malts, which retain many fiery Particles in their Contexture, and are therefore best lost in a smooth Vehicle 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med* 376 It is soluble in more than 2000 of cold water, and 9000 of this vehicle when boiling 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2230 59 When the crusts [of eczema] form, acid salicyl in a vehicle of olive oil, is useful

**c** *Painting* A fluid (as water, oil, etc.) with which pigments are mixed for use.

1785 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V 103 The well known disadvantages that Paintings in Oil lie under, have rendered the discovery of some other Vehicle an object of attentive enquiry 1850 J. OLDE in *Lect. Lect.* (1858) 300 Colours little muddled by vehicles 1859 GULLICK & TIMMS *Paint* 202 The term 'vehicle', which is borrowed from pharmacy, is applied in art to the fluid employed to bring pigments into a proper working state 1867 C. HALSE in *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II 427/2 A perfect vehicle mixes readily with the pigment

**2.** That which serves as a means of transmission, or as a material embodiment or manifestation, of something. **a.** With reference to matter or physical conditions.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 117 Drink may not be only esteemed the Vehicle of aliment 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 265 To cleanse and purifie those grosser Excrements, the Vehicles (or Lodgings) of malignant Spirits. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, Asia, Ia, Ia, ra do, &c are in music, only as the vehicles of sound, and without any fixed Ideas 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr* (1789) I xxvii 221 If the water be in reality the vehicle of this diserse 1813 SIR H DAVY *Agricult. Chem.* (1814) 40 Water seems to be the vehicle of the nourishment of the plant as the substance principally given off by the leaves 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th* III I 52 There is a material as well as a spiritual part in our food serving rather for the vehicle than for the sustenance of our support. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. 1 (1879) 3 That more advanced Philosophy of the present day, which regards Matter merely as the vehicle of Force.

**b.** In other contexts

1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Aug., To receive a favour through the vehicle of a violent entertainment is no [etc.] 1802 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 297 They viewed the tea as a vehicle of an unconstitutional tax 1870 DALE *Week-day Sermons* ii 51 Making the very form of that confession the vehicle of revenge. 1876 GEO ELIOT *Dan Der* IV lix 183 It is possible to feel gratitude even where we discern a mistake that may have been injurious, the vehicle of the mistake being an affectionate intention prosecuted through a lifetime of kindly offices.

**c** A substance employed as a material in or on which some work is executed

1837 HALLAM *Hist Lit* III 458 The more extended use of paper as the vehicle of writing instead of parchment 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord* 441 The whole [picture] has been significantly described as a 'poem of Divine love' The vehicle, white marble,—its place in a Christian church,—enhance all its vileness

**3.** A means or medium by which ideas or impressions are communicated or made known, a medium of expression or utterance

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel Disc* iv 123 A spiritual kind of vehicle, whereby corporeal impressions are transferred to the mind 1799 E. WARBURTON *Mod. Antiq.* 347 Introd 7 Phil wophical Mythology a more agreeable Vehicle found out for the conveying to us the Truth and Reason of Things. 1798 in 10th *Rep Hist MSS. Comm* App. I 347 It might not be improper to contrive it by some vehicle of the publick papers 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III 138 But a metrical vehicle did not so well suit Zeno's dialectic genius 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Crit.* x (1898) 1 Of Charles Quarles was a kind of journalist to whom the vehicle of verse came more easily than the vehicle of prose

**b.** Const. *of*

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III 106 And alms are but the vehicles of prayr 1688 J. H STEVENSON *Mr. Boys Pref.* A 2, Rhyme (which he very Judiciously somewhere calls the Vehicle of Nonsense) 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 122 P 14 Allegory is perhaps one of the most pleasing vehicles of instruction 1781 COWPER *Charity* 625 Did charity prevail, the press would prove A vehicle of virtue, truth and love 1822 HAZLITT *Table T* Ser. II xv (1869) 303 Music is not made the vehicle of poetry, but poetry of music 1876 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xxii (1865) III 40 In the common intercourse of life Greek became a fashionable vehicle of expression 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I iv 77 The myths yielded themselves with ease as vehicles of new ideas.

**c** Const. *to* or *for*.

1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nature* v 123 Words seem to be as it were bodies or vehicles to the sense or meaning 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I xxi 67 You consider skill in Languages then as a Vehicle to Knowledge—Not I presume as Science itself 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xii (1859) II 141 It is extremely doubtful how far they were ever used as a vehicle for the exposition of theological doctrines differing from the popular creed *c* 1850 KINGSLEY *Misc* (1860) I 383 Which makes it a far better vehicle for many forms of thought 1877 DOWDEN *Shakspere Primer* iv 45 In the same play, rhyme is often employed as a vehicle for generalising reflections.

**4.** The form, the material or other shape, in which something spiritual is embodied or manifested.

Freq *c* 1650–1700, esp of the body in relation to the soul or spirit

a 1652 J SMITH *Sel Disc* v 176 The spiritual vehicle of the soul, a kind of umbra or aerial mantle in which the soul wraps herself 1670 *Moral State England* 121 When our souls are divested of their grosser vehicles. 1699 BURNET *30 Art* i 18 God being considered as the Supreme Light, this might lead men to worship the Sun as his chief Vehicle 1726 J. AMORY *T. Bunclc* iv (1770) 288 My friend is now present with his Saviour, beholding his glory in a vehicle resembling the body of the Lord 1773 *Cook's Voy* (1784) II III ix 164 They speak of spirits being not totally divested of those passions which actuated them when combined with material vehicles 1836 J. TAYLOR *Phys. The Another Life* i (1847) 19 There is a spiritual body and another vehicle of human nature as well as a natural body

**II 5** A material means, channel, or instrument, by which a substance or some property of matter (as sound or heat) is conveyed or transmitted from one point to another

1615 H CROOKE *Body of Man* 80 The umbilicall veine is the first of the meseraicall veines, which conveighes the nourishment of blood 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys Mech.* xvii 120 If I thought your Lordship could imagine that I sght could be convey'd without having (if I may so speak) a Body for its Vehicle 1777 *Ler in Bush & Gratz* 39 He had observed Pores or little Channels in the Wood of different Trees Some of these little Vehicles of Communication go from the bottom upwards *Ibid* 49 Fibres and little Vehicles that are in the Bodies of Plants. 1776 BURNEY *Hist Music* (1789) I 433 Pythagoras supposed the air to be the vehicle of sound 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI 287 Air is not the usual vehicle of Sound, but it is not absolutely essential 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz* II 499 The vapour becomes another storehouse of heat, and a vehicle by which it is removed from the earth

*transf* 1783 BURKE *Rep Affairs of India* Wks. 1842 II 18 From the great supremacy of corporation interest into a vehicle for remitting to England the private fortunes of those [etc.]

**6** A means of conveyance provided with wheels or runners and used for the carriage of persons or goods; a carriage, cart, wagon, sledge, or similar contrivance.

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vehicle*, a Cart, Wain, Wagon or Chariot 1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 56 Yummy takes it out in a Waggon but I think a Wheelbarrow may do: for the word Vehicle will carry that sense 1709 *Tatler* No. 32 P 2 She calls her Chariot, Vehicle 1749 BYROM *Rem* (1857) II 486, I went with Mr Peke, who had his vehicle there, from the King's Arms 1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 17 Nov., I stood at Oxford till Tuesday, and then came in the common vehicle exactly to London 1849 LYTTON *Disowned* xxiii, Outside the humbling and inconvenient vehicle at the door of a tavern in Holborn 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor* I x 123 The shortest, directly fastened to the sledge runner, is a most convenient and apparently interesting part of the vehicle. 1878 YEATS *Techn Hist Comm* 327 The direct effects of superior means of communication have been to create a better class of vehicles.

*Comb* 1708 TUCKER *Lt Nat* (1834) I 403 Such a peculiar species of insanity as vehicle madness must have been vented on Mr. Everybody 1843 *Ainsworth's Mag.* III 56 Several vehicle drivers tried to cut it down 1850 *Daily News* 10 Dec 3/6 The National Coach and Van Trade Union which comprised the whole of the workers in the vehicle building trades

**7.** Any means of carriage, conveyance, or transport, a receptacle in which anything is placed in order to be moved

1658 BP. HALL *Hard* III i 1572 The Spirit hoved him like a Sack, Upon the Vehicle his Back 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect* 220 Unless the rethereal matter be supposed to be carried about the sun like a vortex or whirlpool as a vehicle to convey it to the rest of the planets in their several *Aspects* I ii 21 The Sunbeams are so fierce and scorching, that all the Water would infallibly be exhal'd thro the Pores of the Vessel, if the same vehicle 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL 107 It was a cup in which Hercules passed the seas and the same history is given of Helius who was said to have traversed the ocean in the same vehicle 1824 *Miss Mitford Chron* 120 the balloon descended On a sudden, the gypsy vehicle struck upon the roof of a house 1825 *Ibid* 4 His three sons fatally committed themselves to this treacherous vehicle (as a boat), in order to shoot wild fowl 1841 *Penny Parley's Ann* II 250 The shoe woman now procured a large sled, facing it in a proper vehicle, gradually lowered it to the bottom of the well

**Vehicle** (vī·ĭk'l), *v.* [f prec.] *trans.* To place or convey in a vehicle Chiefly in pa. pple

a 1721 KEN *Hymne Evang* Poet Wks 1721 I 28 There the Babe's Soul is vehicled, and he's God mixt with perfect Man united he 1727 FENTON *Poems* (1750) 38 Where vehicled in flame, thou slow didst pass Prone through the azure of the serene Olympic Orbs (1930) 256 O guard us through polemic life, From poison vehicled in praise 1905 SALMOND *Relig Quest France* iii 33 Helping to vehicle to heaven the praises of ransomed souls

**Vehicled,** [f as prec.] Covered with, occupied by, vehicles

1894 *Cornh Mag* July 67 Joe's attempt to cross a thickly vehicled road was immethodical

**Vehicular** (vĭhi·kĭŭlăr), *a.* Also 7 -are [ad late L. *vehicular-is*, f. *vehicul-um* VEHICLE *sb.*]

1 Of or pertaining to, associated or connected with, a (wheeled) vehicle.

1616 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymn Venus*, Charriots and all the frames vehiculare. 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vehicular*, pertaining to any instrument or engine of carriage 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII 12 By making use of a vehicular story, to wheel in among them worse manners than their own. 1828 SCOTT *Fort. Midd.* v, The Inndes and Outsides, to use the appropriate vehicular phrases. 1840 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B* I ii. 22 Coachmen and cabmen, and conductors, and horses, and all the exterior phenomena of things vehicular 1858 MRS. MERRIFIELD *Asian Harrying* ton x. I heard your welcome vehicular music

*fig.* 1885 *Cent Mag* XXIX 510 The poet's walk, talk, bearing, and intellect, are illustrated by a series of images, and in a style so vehicular as to deserve unusual praise

**b** Made, performed, or carried on, by means of a vehicle or vehicles.

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III xii, In his heart he preferred the pedestrian even to the vehicular expedition 1818 SCOTT *Antiq* xxxvi, It is the vehicular, not the equestrian exercise, which he envies. 1854 LOWELL *Fitful Head* Poems Wks 1890 I 130, I am quite sure that he believes the Pre-Adamites were incapable of any but vehicular progression 1879 *Daily News* 26 Dec 5/2 Vehicular traffic was almost entirely suspended

**c** Of the nature of, serving as, a vehicle.

1807 BYRON *Let to Miss Pigott* Any, Places inaccessible to vehicular conveyances 1844 EMERSON *Ess., 1 ser.*, All language is vehicular and transitive, and is good for conveyance not as farms and houses are, for homestead. 1871 LYTTON *Coming Race* xiv They prefer their wings, for travel, to vehicular conveyances

†**2.** Invested with a vehicle or special form; embodied *Obs*

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 29 That every Grove, Grot and Stream has its tutelar and vehicular Deity *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt Nat* II xxi 40 Can we gather that the rational soul is compleatly formed before entrance into the human body, and that the fashion and lineaments at afterwards takes are not necessary to its subsistence in the vehicular state *Ibid* xxvi 140 To behold the wonders of the vehicular state, and boundless glories of the mundane soul

Hence **Vehi·cularly** *adv*

1882 SAIA *Amer Rctis* x 133/1 Pullman the beneficent did not fail to be vehicularly manifest on the train which conveyed us from Washington to Philadelphia

**Vehi·cular,** *a rare* [. [ad late L. *vehicularis* *us*] = VEHICULAR *a* 1 *c*

1835 J. KNOWLES *Dict., Litter*, a kind of vehiculary bed

**Vehi·culate,** *v. rare* [f L. *vehicul-um* VEHICLE *sb* + -ATE 3.] *a trans* To carry or convey in, or as in, a vehicle In quots. *fig.* b, *intr.* To travel, to ride or drive, in vehicle.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Hon* 107 Giving a sustinment to mortal menageries, which are then only vehiculated to their central point *Ibid* 195 For this course, which vehiculates his attempts, and adds glory to God's royal dofinative 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres* II i, The vehicle for truth, or fact of some sort,—who is surely a man should first try various other ways of vehiculating, and conveying safe

**Vehi culated,** *ppl a. rare*[1]. [Cf prec.] Invested with form, embodied

a 1797 J. REYNOLDS *Views of Death* (1733) 89 There may be vehiculated Spirits, of very different orders.

**Vehicula·tion.** [f as VEHICULATE *v* see -ATION, and cf med L *vehiculatio*] Conveyance by means of a vehicle or vehicles, vehicular activity or traffic

1834 GEO P THOMPSON *Exeter* (1840) III 148 By a sort of parallel to the Game Laws, certain modes of vehiculation were to be peculiar to the magnifices 1837 CARLYLE in *New Rev* new Dec (1839) 482 Boulevards very stirring, airy, locomotive to a far degree, but the vehiculation very light 1866 —*Ir. Irving* in *Reminis* (1881) II 212 The New Road with its lively traffic and vehiculation 1895 *Daily Chron* 12 Nov. 4/4 We know of nothing more humorous or inviting in the literature of vehiculation

**Vehi culatory,** *a.* [f as prec : see -ORY 2.] Of the nature of, pertaining or relating to, vehicles

1852 CARLYLE *Sterling* i viii, He would accumulate Lincolnshire bladders and other contrivances for human history gear, for setting out 1865—*Frede Gt* XIX v (1872) VIII 177 To cart from Bohemia such a cipher of human rations daily will surpass all the rest of Danish vehiculatory

†**Vehicule.** *Obs*[-1] [a F. *véhicule* or ad L. *vehiculum* see next.] = VEHICLE *sb.* 1

1541 COPLAND *Galyen's Terap* 2 H ijb Of theyr sodayne passyage as a vehicule, with yᵗ there is bunny it noyeth nat the vlcere

‖**Vehiculum.** Now *rare* or *Obs* Pl **vehicula**, also 7 **-aes.** [L see VEHICLE *sb.*]

**1** = VEHICLE *sb* 1 Also *fig.* and *transf*

1624 BEDELL *Lett* xxi 143 Here in some truth mingled among to give the better grace, and to be as it were the *Vehiculum* of a lie 1655 CULPEPPER, etc *Ristorinus* i vii 33 The Dose is one dram in any proper Liquor or Vehiculum to swallow it down with 1658 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. §§ 8. 12 We doubt not but to make a Sovereign Antidote against Atheism out of that very Philosophy, which so many have used as a *Vehiculum* to convey this Poyson of Atheism by 1787 MATTH. *Rasbeck's Trav. Germ.* III 76 Burgundy is the standing vehiculum of green pease

**2.** = VEHICLE *sb* 6 In quots *fig.*

1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt Histrio-m* 65 Unchast, Obscene, and Amorous wordes, are but so many vehicules, to carrie men on to Adulterous and Sinfull deedes. 1648 HOWELL *Instr. Forr Trav* (Arb.) 50 Speech is the Ambassador of the mind, and the Tongue the Vehiculum, the Charlot, which conveyeth the notions of the Mind to Reasons Palace

**3** = VEHICLE *sb* 2.

1658 ARMROLE *Theat Chem* Annot 451 She is the Planet nearest the Earth, and appointed as it were the *Vehiculum*

of all other heavenly Influences unto what is Sublunary 1668 Howe *Bless Righteous* 335 Are not the exceeding great and precious promises, the Vehicula, the conveighances of the Divine Nature?

**4.** = Vehicle *sb* 4.

1686 Stanley *Hist Phil* 2 (1687) 189/1 Having imputed each one his proper Star as a vehicula *Ibid* 191/1 The rest of the holy fry appointed as a vehicula to serve this. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat* IV 15 Plato supposes that into the vehiculum of the soul is infused a particular formative virtue, distinct according to that star

**5.** = Vehicle *sb* 4.

1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barth Anat* 1 xvii 44 The wheyish exceeds the two excrementitious Cholers, by reason of the Blood whose vehiculum it was to be

‖ **Vehme** (vē·m ‖ fē·mə) *Hist* Also **Fehm** [= older *G Vehme* (now *Fehme Feme*), MHG *veme, verme* judgement, punishment] = next

1829 Scott *Anne of G* xx, Go hence, and let the fear of the Holy Vehme never pass from before thine eyes 1838 *Sharon Turner* IX 230 Individual opinions are restrained by a tyranny as inexorable as that of the Holy Vehme the secret tribunal of the Middle Ages 1879 *Encycl Brit* IX 63/2 It was necessary that a candidate for initiation into the Fehm should not be a party to any process before a Feimac court

**Vehmgericht** (vē·m , fē·mgərixt) *Hist* Also **Vehma** , **Fehm-** [a older *G Vehm* , now *Fehm* , *Femgericht* (pl *gerichte*), f prec. + *gericht* court, tribunal] A form of secret tribunal which exercised great power in Westphalia from the end of the 12th to the middle of the 16th century

1829 Scott *Anne of G* xx Men initiated and intrusted with high authority by the Vehme gericht or tribunal of the bounds 1839 Longf *Hyperion* II vi Two Black Knights who pretended to be ambassadors from the Vehm Gericht 1879 *Encycl Brit* IX 63/2 It was only with the restoration of public order that the influence of the Fehm gerichte grad ually waned

*transf* 1848 Thackeray *Van Jaur* xliv 1 Was Rebecca guilty or not? The Vehmgericht of the servants hall hud pronounced against her 1880 *Edin Rev* Jan 143 The horrors of the Karmathian the detestable Vehmgericht of the Assassins all owe their origin to the schism of the House of Ali

**Vehmic** (vē·mik, fē·mik), *a* Also **Vehmique, Fehmic** [f Vehm + -ic] Pertaining to, connected with, the Vehmgericht

1829 Scott *Anne of G* xx Machiavelism for the destruction of the Vehmique institutions *Ibid* I i The Vehmique court all must be Vehmique 1832 *Hist* Introd The Vehmic tribunals of Westphalia 1 1 Some unlawful men a earn during many centuries. *a* 1849 H Coleridge *Ess* (1851) I 276 Invisible as a familiar or agent of the Vehm c association 1879 [see Vehme] 1880 *Encycl Britt Amer* X 241/1 When the State became able to maintain its laws the Vehmic Court became superfluous

**Veh mist.** [f as prec + -ist] A member of the Vehmgericht

1841 *Blackw Mag* XLIX 231 [They] thus like the Vehmists of Germany, pursued a fruitless or refractory member, even on the throne with the steel and the cord

**Veht(en,** southern ML vurr Right *sb* and *v* **Veiage,** obs var Voy was conveyed, *obs* 3c f Weight *sb* **Veid,** obs 3c f Weed *sb* **Veie,** southern ME var Fay *a* **Veien,** southern MF var Fay *v* 1 **Veighor,** var Voyour (viewer) *Obs* **Vei gle,** *v* Now *dial* [Aphetic f. Inveigle *v*] *trans* To inveigle Also *absol*

1745 *Gentl Mag* 161 Venus may veigle to the grove Jo taste the trifling sweets of love 1778 Foote *Trip Calais* II Wks 1799 II 345 I asked if they had veigled one Miss Minnikin into their clutches 1887 J Gibson *Leg & Notes Wester Gloss.* 309 *Veigle*, to entice.

**Veik,** obs 3c form of Weak *a*

**Veil** (vēl), *sb* 1 Forms *α* 3 **ueile,** 4 5 (7) **veile,** 5 **veylle,** 5–7 **veyle,** 4–5, 7 **veyl,** 6 **veyll, veill (veil),** 3–5, 7– **veil.** *β* 4 **uayle** 4 5 **vayl,** 5–7 **vayle,** 5–8 **vaile,** *vail* (5 *Sc* **waile, wail),** 6 **vayel(l,e,** 8 **vaill** *γ* 5 *Sc* **wale, val,** 4, 6–7 **vale** († AF and ONF **veile** (*veille*) or *veil* (*veyl*), = Of *voile* (*voille*) = *Pr vol* — L. *vela* (neut pl taken as fem sing) = *velum* sail, curtain, veil Cf F *voile* m (veil) and f (sail), = Prov *vel*, It and Sp *velo*, Pg *veo* See also Velr ]

**I 1** A piece of linen or other material forming part of the distinctive head dress of a nun, and worn so as to fall over the head and shoulders and down each side of the face

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 420 Sit se muwen beon wimpel leas beoß le warene keppen and leppen blake ueiles *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saintis* (*Matthew*) 422 Pe apostil þanne þai madyenis all blyssit, & gefe þam waile & pall 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V 33 He ordeyned þat a nonne schulde nouht handle þe towayles of þe awter but sche schal bere a veile on hire heed. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* v viii 1563 He gaf buddynge to baim ay þat þar wald nat tyme lewedly, þai sulde wer it on þar hewide *c* 1430 Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 200 Kynded liche a nunnys veyle *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorelles B* 14 And many whyte nonnes with whyte vayles. *c* 1530 *Crt of Love* 1102 The nonnes, with vaile and wimple plight. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 228 Effir her consecratione, haueing put on the Vaile of her Virginitie effir the consuetude of the kirke 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 699 Heina that put on the Vaile and religious habite of a Nunne 1631 Townshend *Albions Jrn* 1 *ought* 17 Religion a woman in a short Surplusse of lawne full gathered about the neck, and vnder it a garment of watchet, with a short vale of silues 1726 Chambers *Cycl* s.v., The Prelate before whom the Vows are made, blesses the Veil, and gives it to the Religious 1753 *Diary Blue Nunn in Cath Rec Soc Publ* VIII 126 June the 19th peggy Johnson received the vail of postulante from M other Abbess Mrs Howard 1825 Scott *Talisman* v She [of the females], who from their black scapularies and black veils over their white garments appeared to be professed nuns of the order of Mount Carmel

b *To take the veil*, to become a nun, to enter a convent or nunnery. (See also quots *a* 1700 56 )

Originally in sense 34 of the verb Take, but in later use pass ng into sense 16 c

*c* 1395 *Mirk Nunn* 78 Thir maydens ware sent thure ays les to take Of that bisschope of whamn I spake Thir maydens come bifore the sutere, And toke thaire nayles *c* 1575 *Sc Leg Saints xii* (*Clement*) 661 Throw hymne pe wale has tan a cussig of domycyane *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* VII iii 264 Hir systyr þan d me Cristyan, Off religion he tuk þar habite 1526 *Liber Pasp* (W de W 1531) 262 b She had forsaken the worlde and taken the holy veyle and habite of religion 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit* 395 Taking herself the Vaile for opinio of holinesse 1700 *Dialog Thos Nunn in Cath Rec Soc Publ* VIII 15 Margarite Pigin came from Englu d to be a lay sister and took the little vaile for religion 1726 Mrs Calderwood in *C. Innes Collect* (Maitland Club) 259 It was the white vaill she was to take that is she was to enter her noviciat, for there is here no publick ceremony in takeing the black veil, and last years, for she is done with the ceremony, after a year's wearing the white 1792 Miss Radcliffe *R. ci Forest* III, My father intended I should take the veil. 1818 Scott *Hrt Mid Lot* II 'As she never took the veil but lived and died in severe seclusion, and in the practice of the Roma i Catholic religion 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L* III 103 I left it became a large and flourishing Convent, the wife of Baldwin I having taken the veil there

c *The veil* the life of a nun

1521 Care *Dante, Parad* IV 95 And thou might t after ward become learn d, Constance held affection to the veil 1827 Hood *Pian a e Dream* 209 By twenty she had quite renounced the veil 1831 Scott *Cast Dang* xiv O le who ne ceiving the love of the Church had a right to make a choice between the world and the veil

**2** An article of attire consisting of a piece of thin cloth, silk, or other light fabric, worn, especially by women, over the head or face either as a part of the ordinary head dress, or in order to conceal or protect the face now usually a piece of net or thin gauzy material used to the latter end completely covering the face in order to protect it from the sun or wind Also in fig context (quot. 1648)

*a* 8 *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 3616 Dat folc on him [Moses] ne miste sen But a veil wore hem bi twen 13 *Gaw & Gr A* 148 Pe lady let lepe of a gogyn was gered out be wyse, Chynnèd ouer hur blake chyn with mylk quyte vayles 14 *Siege Jerus* (E. E. T. S.) 15 Sit þe visage in þe vail as Veronica 1513 Douglas *Æneis Prol* iii 11 Of Our heids befoir the air is aray With veils and mistie weid 1568 Holme *Armoury* III 240/1 Coifes in the Countrey for a Va le use some Duty Clout having holes only for their Eyes. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 70 Ye were wont a white, unspotted Vail 1760–8 Golden *Cit W* cxvii They were covered from head to foot with long black veils 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl in 1772*, 142 Over her face a veil so transparent as not to conceal 1823 F Cassolle *Ascent Mt Blanc* 17 We put on our veils, as a protection from the heat and light 1838 *Murray's Handbk N Germ* 239 The women of the lower orders here [Antwerp] wear a veil, resembling the Spanish mantilla 1899 W Collins *Q of Hearts* (1875) 30 A bright lu ghing face prettily framed round by a white veil passed over the head, and tied under the chin 1900 J G Frazer *Golden Bough* (ed 2) I 313 Amongst the Fuegeans the veil is never put off, not even in eating or drinking

*transf* 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* 1 iv 200 A Peacock spreads round the rich pride of his pompous vail

*a* 1586 *Sidney Arcadia* (Feras.) (1622) II 112 Where eyther the person or place should haue needs of a vale for Sunne burning 1861 Quarles *Hadassa* Wks (Grosart) II 80 Haman went home and mourn d, (His visage muffled in a mournfull veil)

+ *b* A loin cloth *Obs* –1

1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 187 A small vaile ouer their priuities

**3** = *Humeral vel*, Humeral *a.* 2 (Cf also Offertory 5 )

1782 [see 4]. 1905 *Ch Times* 3 Feb 136 The Offertory veil is worn on the shoulders like a broad scarf the penda t ends be ng gathered up in the hands for holding and cover ing the sacred vessels.

**4** A piece of cloth or other material serving as a curtain or hanging a *Jewish Antiq* The piece of precious cloth separating the sanctuary from the body of the Temple or the Tabernacle

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8453 Pe veyl wrouhe be it nest pe graue, Pe temple vayl cleft in twoo 13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 860 Pe son wex dim ful sone, Pe vail rafe in be kirk 1380 Wyclif *Serm Sel Wks* III 23 Pe veyl of þe temple be it nest yn bi cercles, with ynne the whiche thou halt put the arke of testymonye 1412–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* I 1747 In þe temple be veil was knit on two 1598 More *Dyalogue* III Wks. 246/2 Ye veyle of the temple is broken asunder yt diuided among yᵉ Jewes 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron* iii 14 He made a veyle also of yalow sylke, & knitt purple and lynenworke, and made Cherubins theron. 1611 Bible *Matt* 1 29 Antiochus entred proudly into the sanctuarie and tooke away the vaile 1737 Whiston tr *Josephus Antiq* III vii § 7 The veils, too, which were composed of four things they declared the four elements. 1781 J Brown *Nat & Revealed Relig* IV iii 363 While he expired, an earthquake rent the rocks, and the vail of the temple 1844 *Penny Cycl* XXIV 286/2 The inner sanctuary was separated from the holy place by a rich curtain or veil

*Ag* 1382 Wyclif *Heb* x 20 Bi a veyl or kourynge that is to seyn, his flesh. 1526 Tindale *Heb* x 20 Through the vayle, that is to saye by his flesshe 1642 Rogers *Naaman* Ep Ded a 2, We are come even to the Holy of Holies through his flesh that hath broken downe the vaile of seperation

b *Eccl* The curtain hung between the altar and the choir, esp during Lent Now *Hist*

1247–8 Ann *St Mary at Hull* (1906) 68 For makyng of iij polesis of leas & iron werk and ledæ þat serued for be veyl 1450 *Works Festival* 126 Pe veyle þat hange be drawen all þe Lee tom bytwene þe auter and þe qwere 1505 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* II 304 For xxvij elne Bertane lanth to be the vail in the chapell of Halyrudhous agane Lenterane 1536 *Spanish* 284/a Veyle for the church in le t *cuaresma* 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 67 That day the vayells was hongyd [up] benethe the steppes. *Ibid* 69 The xxvij day after was Ester evyne and then was the tabl le renevyd and sette benethe at the vayele northe and sowthe. 1877 J D Chambers *Div Worship* 94 A large Curtain or Veil should be suspended in the Presbytery between the Choir and Altar

c Used fig or allusively in various prepositional phrases, as *behind, beyond,* or *within the veil*, chiefly after Heb vi 19 in Tindale's (1526) and later versions of the Bible, now commonly with reference to the next world

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr Man* 91 b Christe hath brought vs all in into it smet ther is nothinge in the vayle to forehang inge and vnto the mercy seate of God 1534 Worsley *Keligʒ Nat* IX 180 To participate of the mysteries of love with modesty as within a veil or sacred enclosure, not with a car ine impudence 1548 Hall *Chron Jn* 20 What hope of answer or redress? Behind the veil behind the veil 1889 E. FitzGerald *Omar Khay* xlvii, When You and I behind the Veil are past 1897 A. Lang *Rom Mem Alex Aburg* xxx 521 In March, 1870, Thomas Erskine passed on within the veil

+**d** A curtain or awning (cf quots ) *Obs*

1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xxi (1787) II 277 The master of the offices stood before the veil or curtain of the sacred apartment 1790 *Bystander* 33 To prevent inconvenience from the heat of the sun they extended veils by means of cords attached to the extremity of the building

**4** A piece of silk or other material used as a covering, *spec* (*Ecc*l ) to drape a crucifix, image, picture, etc , esp during Lent, or to cover the chalice

(*a*) 1309 *Mem Ripon* (Surtees) III 129 In salario Johan is Payntour pictantis j magnum vale ad cooperiendum crucem stantem infra corpus ecclesie in Quadragesima. 1501 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* III 348 Item for iij elne lin clath that was ordanyt to wesche and wyn in the Kirk of Strivelin 1570 H Goodge *Lofe Acmpd* 1 21 Or vp a lofte the patten holdes, enclude in silken vayle 1598 Chapman *Iliad* XXIII In the Romish Churches, in time of Lent they have Veils or large Curtains over the Altar Crucifix, Images of the Saints &c 1782 in J H Hanning *Hist Sackville Chapel* (1905) 25 Burse and veil for the chalice veils for Benediction and the desk 1877 J D Chambers *Div Worship* 427 There was a similar veil used also for covering over the Sepulchre on Good Friday

(*b*) 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xix (1787) II 251 He expect fully unfolded the silken veil which covered the haughty epistle of his sovereign

**5** *fig* Something which conceals, covers, or hides, a disguising or obscuring medium or influence, a cloak or mask (Common in the 19th c )

a Of immaterial things + *Under veil*, *sur reptitiously*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Cor* III 15 But til in to this day, whanne Moyses is redd, the veyl is putt vpon her hertis. 1412–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* IV 4542 Daunz Anthenor and Polidymas þat han contreued amonge hem outterly And Vnder veil conceyld secrely Sithe þat I 1597 Daniel *Civil Wars* II 58 Till that humilitie which had bene before as a vaile to hide and conceale in secrete were layd aside 1611 Bible *Transl Pref* ¶ 13 Here [in the Gospels] we see as in our eyes the vaile from our hearts. 1619 Sir H Wotton in *Ess, & Gr rem* (Camden) 51, I have likewise a zeale to the cause which I hope will serue for a vaile to cou er my infirmities 1660 [see Taylor *Worthy Communicant* 1 iv 90 For Christ in the Sacrament is Christ under a vail 1735 Somerville *Chase* I. *Bevis Bush* 1 Hide with this veil Those griefs that none can paint 1783 W Thomson *Watson's Philip III* vi (1839) 337 His indulgence to the reformed relig on covered the violence of his usurpations with a specious veil 1820 Shelley *Naples* 93 From Nature's inmost shrine Strip every impious gawd, rend Error veil by veil 1858 T. Thomson *Chron Org Bodies* 1006 The thickest veil covers the whole of the concessions, and so far have philosophers hitherto been from removing this veil, that they have not even been able to approach it 1898 + Merriman *Roden's Corner* xiii 184 I seemed to see the veils behind which human hearts have slept through many years.

b Const *of* (with defining term)

1380 Wyclif *Wicket* xvii. 3 Bi the derc veil of forletynge þei ben scattered, and with myche wlondring disturbid. *a* 1475 in *Contin. Brut* 601 Thou shewyng there a face ful lamyous, Vndyr a veyle of fals conclusyon 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen VIII* c 1 The vaile of darckenes of the vsurped power of the see and bishoppes of Rome 1598 Shakes. *Merry W* III ii 42, I will plucke the borrowed vaile of modestie from the so seeming Mist. Page *a* 1639 W Whately *Prototypes* I xi (1640) 90 To use the mantle or veile of love to cover a multitude of sinnes 1681 Wychnam *King's Concealment* 186 Striving to cover her trouble with the vail of chearfulness. 1729 Young *Busiris* II 1 That chastity of look which seems to hang A vail of purest light o er all her beauties 1769 Robertson *Chas V*, VIII III 77

Under whatever veil of artifice or secrecy the Emperor still affected to conceal his designs 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* viii Qualities which were visible even through the veil of extreme dejection with which his natural character was obscured 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II 150 [He] dropped the veil of Mahratta diplomacy & gave utterance to his opinions 1882 J. HATTON *Journalistic London* ix 169 If the veil of anony mity were completely raised other names would appear in the list

c Of material substances, the clouds, etc. With *of* or other defining addition

1598 FLORIO *Vele* the main saile mans carkas or body 1692 MILTON *Hymn Nativ* II She with thin Silver Veil hung her guilty front with incontinent Snow, And on her naked shame The Saintly Veil of Maiden white to shroud 1698 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* x cccxx, He who in his Bodies veil till now The Rays of his Divinity hath hid 1699 B. PATRICK *Parab Liter* xvi Between us and the invisible World there is a gross cloud and veil of flesh which inter poses 1708 BUTTERIDGE *Irn Ith* (1730) I am sure within this Veil of Flesh there dwells a Soul 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plg* III 11 When the veil Of mist was drawn aside the stars shone out 1853 KINGSLEY *Misc* (1860) I 41 Fifty years of ruin would suffice to wrap them in a lovely veil 1872 BLACKIE *Four Phases Man* I 121 A great veil of rain stretches from the sky to the earth

d Similarly without specific qualification

1604 F. GREMPTON *J Decastus Hist Indies* III xxi 188 They do usually see as it were two heavens, one clearer and bright above, and the other obscure and as it were a grosse vale spread vnderneath 1654 BROME *Queens Exch* II 1, Imagine now you see Heaven through a Vail And Antick the Stars. The bright Cynthia in her full of Lustre 1784 COWPER *Task* IV 332 The green And tender blade Escapes unhurt beneath so warm a veil 1813 SCOTT *Trierm* III xxvii Such soften'd shade the hill receives, Her purple veil when twilight leaves Upon its western swell 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 129 The climbing plants form graceful veils and curtains from tree to tree and over the trees

e *To draw* or *throw* (also *cast*) *a veil over*, to hide or conceal, to refrain from discussing or dealing with, to hush up or keep from public knowledge Also without *a*

(a) 1597 DANIEL *Trag Tvvo born Eng* I 290 Satyr, be kind I and draw a silent Veil Thy nature England with us to conceal 1744 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm* App I 211, I wishe I from my Soul that I could draw a Veil over Vice & Admiral Lestocke's Conduct in the late Mismanagements 1808 *Med. Jrnl* XIX 55 As far as regards their private characters, it may be the duty of those who are liable to other imperfections, to draw a veil over them 1858 GREENWELL *Lamartine* 311 There was evidence of proceedings having been executed over which I would rather draw a veil

(b) 1911 A. MAYNE *Sir Tvvo* p 12 The all natural Man expose those failings which the other would cast a Veil over 1806 SUSAN *Winter's Love* II 111 His faithful attachment to the family to throw a veil over those suspicions that the rest of the world will for ever in lulge 1823 LAMB *Elia* II *Barbara S—* I must throw a veil over so un mitifying circumstances 1884 PUNCH *Pct Dinn* (1876) 245 It throws a veil over the grosser of its errors 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) III 109 He throws a veil of mystery over the origin of the doctrine

f a. A slight tinge or colouring *rare*—1

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud Ep* II 1 40 As for colour alth ugh Crystall in his pellucid body seems to have none at all yet by its reduction into powder it hath a vaile and shadow of blew

b *Mus* A slight obscuration or want of clearness in the voice (Cf VEILED *ppl a* 3 b)

1884 *Grove's Dict Music.* IV 235 Let no student of singing endeavour to cultivate at once some great singers have had it naturally A superinduced veil means a ruined voice

g *Photogr* An obscure or veiled appearance

1893 HODGES *Elem Photogr* 132 The clear portions of the negatives should remain unclouded and free from veil or fog until the last

**3** In various specific uses. A veil like membrane, membranous appendage, or part, serving as a cover or screen, a velum (see quots)

a. *Bot* 1760 J. LEE *Introd Bot* I. II. (1765) 4 *Calyptra*, a Veil in Mosses 1796 WITHERING *Brit Plants* (ed 3) III 811 *Polytrich. aurea* [etc.] stem covered with a veil 1830 LINDLEY *Introd Bot* 208 The *velum* or veil [in fungi], is a horizontal membrane, connecting the margin of the pileus with the stipes 1849 W. PRIOR *Brit Dicotyledons* 61 *Veil* a partial covering of the cup: a membranaceous fibrous or granulose coating stretching over the mouth of the cup soon breaking up into fragments

b *Anat.* 1829 CUVIER *Anim. Kingd* I 109 Certain phenomena which occasionally show themselves in the glottis, larynx and even in the pendulous veil of the palate 1854 BUSHNAN in *Orr's Circ Sci Org Nat* I 140 The expulsion of water is produced by means of a peculiar arrangement of the veil of the palate 1859 MAYNE *Expos Lex* s.v. *Velum*

c *Zool* 1820 *Linn Soc Trans* (ed 4) VIII 190/2 When young it [the larva] is covered with a veil of black silk 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* II 258 A membranous veil on the mouth separates the want of tentacule 1861 J. GREENE *Man Anim Kingd, Coleop* 36 Around the margin of the thorax, the wall of the metacoxæ is produced in wards, forming a half like membrane, or veil

**8** *dial* = CAUL *sb* 1 4

1879– in dial glossaries etc. (N Cy, Yks, Chesh Shrops, and U S.).

**9** *attrib* and *Comb*, as (in senses 3 b and 4) *veil-cloth, -rope,* (in sense 2) *veil (head)-dress, -maker, net*, also *veil hat* and

1444 *Mem Ripon* (Surtees) III 151 Pro ij tenteraspes, et j veylraue cum j corda. 1656–3 *Inv. Church Goods in Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV 24 Item, ij clothes to hang afore thalters, ix towelles a veil clothe 1622 FLORIO, *Velare*, a vaile or supres maker 1813 BREWER *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XII II 146 A woman in a veil head dress 1840 W. ELLIOT *The Don* 41 A veil hid suter beckons at the door 1876 EDERSHEIM *Jewish Life Days Christ* xiii 217 The veil dress was a kind of mantilla, thrown gracefully about the whole person and covering the head 1888 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 2/3 Veil nets continue in steady request 1899 *Westm Gaz* 26 Jan 3/2 The milliner must watch the coiffeur the veil maker the mill ner

**II** +**10** A sail *Obs*—1

*c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV XXVIII (1869) 191 Above was pe mast of pe ship dressed wher vpon heeng pe seyl yatenight, whiche oober weys is cleped veyl

+ **Veil**, *sb* 2 *Obs.* Also 4 **veille**, 5 **veyle** [a OF *veille* —L. *vigilia* waking, watching] A watcher or watchman.

1362 LANGL *P Pl* A v 293 Sleupe for serwe fel doun ynnowen ful *vigilate* pe veil fette water at his eizen *Vis. Mds* MS Til *vigilate* pe waktere warned him po] 1480 CAXTON *Myrr* III viii (1913) 147 Thus is he [i.e the sun] the right veyle and patrone of all the other sterres

**Veil** (vēl), *v* Forms *a* 4, 7– **veil**, 4 **veyle**, **veill**, 5 **veyll**, **weyll**, 7 **velle** 9 **vail**. See also **veile**, **vele**, **veyle**, **vaile**, 6–8 **vail** [f VEIL *sb*1, or early use after OF *voiler*, *vuller* (mod F., *voiler*) or L *velare* Cf Sp and Pg *velar*, It *velare*]

**1** *trans* To cover (the person, etc.) with, or as with, a veil, to conceal or hide (the face, etc.) by means of a veil or other material, to enveil

Freq in the pa ppple which in some contexts may be taken as the simple verb

1380 WYCLIF *Ivke* XXII 64 And then veylden him or hidden and smyten his face. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII 1111 Ane cloud vail Thame quhilk wes and thairwyth had adew Hir hed valit with a haw clayth or blew 1601 SHAKS *Twel N* I 1 28 The Element itselfe Shall not behold her Face at ample view: But like a Cloyster-she will veiled walke 1611 B. LEVELYN *D say* 23 May 1645, A Venus of marble, veil'd from the middle to the feete 1925 DE FOE *Journal Plague Year* (1884) 246 She was veiled till she came into the room 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip* III 103 Then his sable with both hands o'er his head Ulysses drew, behind its ample folds Veiling in close from sight fear to be observed 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plg* III 11 209 We veil our eyes before the light 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L* v 119 The same woman closely veiled were toiling down the rugged and slippery path 1884 R. BROWNING *Ferishtah's Fancies* xxii Midst them there veiled sate my lost wife in all whiteness veiled

*trans*f and *fig* 1891 ANNIE THOMAS *Phat Affair* I x 171 Miss Pothhaus hats and veils herself

*transf* and *fig* 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* III 315 With Lillies scarlate her modest cheek, Reply'd 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 3 Come, gentle Spring, ethereal mildness! come, And veil'd in a shower Of shadowing roses, on our plains descend

**b** *transf.* with a thing as object Also, to enclose or hang with a veil or curtain (quot 1656)

OCCAS. Applied to inanimate, but not material objects.

1580 N. LICHEFIELD tr *Cutanheda's Eng. Iudi* I XVI 42 This church was made all of free stone and couered or vayled ouer with broke 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag* III v It seems the place made from the eyes a rich Court. 1656 J. SMITH *Peace Physic* 208 The sides of the Cradle must be vailed, that the child may look only straight forward 1790 BURKE *Fr. Revolution* 177 She bore it as if to veil a noble tear 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess* II 367 She veils the solar radiance and brings on the night

*Pg.* 1878 DUNN, DARBY, & SHEPPERSON *Sports & P. Q.* S. 2 Wks (1914) 409 I that fame Binds right Which thou doest vails In Type of Faery land, Elyzas blessed field, that Albion hight

**c** *refl* To hide, cover, or wreathe (oneself) in something Usually *fig*

1599 S. HIT. IPE *Canterb T* I 129 [His] grieved and rankling heart veiled itself in smiles. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, Dame, I say, adapt themselves, rubbing his hands and veiling himself again in his usual oily manner 1850 M'COSH *Div. Govt* III I. (1874) 286 High truths, like high mountains, are apt to wrap themselves in clouds

**d.** *absol* To put on or wear a veil

1713 MRS CENTLIVRE *Wonder* II You must veil and follow him 1835 BURNES *Trav Bokhara* (ed 2) III 24 Their head dress is, perhaps a little large, but as they never veil, it becomes them

**2** To bestow the veil of a nun upon (a woman), to admit into monastic life as a nun

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V 305 Saint Brydę þat Patrik veiled, ouerweelde him by sixty yere 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 317 Thei make a worthy pourveance Ayein the day whan thei be veiled *c* 1490 *Chron Vilod* 623 And other mayden more þan 300 weren veiled þo in þat abbay *a* 1619 HAMMER *Chron. Ireland* (1633) 53 The Nunne Cecubria whom Patricke first vailed of all the women In Ireland 1861 FULLER *Worthies Essex* (1662) 333, I conceive she [Matilda Fitz Walter] had surely been Sainted if vailed 1886 CANON MONAHAN *Rec Ardagh & Clonmacnois* 4 Some hold that St Bridget of Kildare was veiled by St Macchille.

**b** *refl* To make (oneself *a nun*) by taking the veil *rare*—1

1632 WEEVER *Anc Funeral Mon* 760 A daughter of his, vailed herselfe a Nunne

**3** To cover, enshroud, or screen as or in the manner of a veil; to serve as a veil to (something)

**a** Of a garment, cloth, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII I 73 A lange wattry garmond dyd hym vaill 1596 SHAKS *Merch. V* III ii. 99 Thus ornament is but The beautious scarfe Vailing an Indian beautie 1703 POPE *Thebaïs* 1 432 His ample hat his beamy locks o'erspread, And veil'd the starry glories of his head 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* XII, Their beauty, softened by the lawn that thinly veiled it 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XIV 730 Scarlet cloth, and fine silk, fit to veil The perfect limbs of dreaded Goddesses.

*transf* 1842 J. WILSON *Chr North* (1857) II 9 Shame never veiled the light of those bold eyes.

**b** Of clouds, vapour, etc

1624 GORGES *Lucan* X 436 Thus they the time securely spent, Till mid night vaild the Element 1667 MILTON *P L* IX 452 And now from end to end Nights Hemisphere had veild the Horizon round *Ibid* XI 209 Yonder blazing Cloud that veils the Hill 1779 COWPER *Olney Hymns, Submission* 23 The next cloud that veils my skies 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* XXXV The clouds veiling the sun and stretching their shadows along the distant scene 1880 LADY *Flat L. My first Play*, The green curtain that veiled a heaven to my imagination 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav Humboldt* XIV 178 The heat became suffocating and a reddish vapour veiled the mountains 1871 T. K. JONES *Amim Kingd* (ed 4) 134 A cloud veiling the sun will cause their tentacles to fold, as though apprehensive of danger from the passing shadow

**4** *fig* To conceal (some immaterial thing, condition, quality, etc.) from apprehension, knowledge, or perception, to deal with, treat, etc., so as to disguise or obscure, to hide the real nature or meaning of (something) Freq with implication of bad motives

1538 LATIMER *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 399 And in what case are they in that hath veiled treason so long? 1608 MARSTON *Ant & Mel* I Wks. 1856 I 15 Weele not veile our names 1620–6 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* Ded., I dedicate these few lessons unto your Lordship, hoping your Lordship wil vaile my boldnes in your good acceptance 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius Arcan Wars* I 30 Ithounans bet g a fure [sic] to this man, able to veil his C vetousness with abundance of Learning 1728 *Free thinker* No 106 6 Popery does not appear Bare faced in England: the Terrours of it are veiled 1771 *Junius Lett* (1772) I x. 4 *note*, Pythagoras learned to veil his precepts 1848 J. ISRAELI *Amen Lit* (1867) 321 The literary delusion long veiled the personal history of the Earl of Surrey 1864 R. MCLEAN *Cypria* I 200 That which had so long veiled his cleverness from the knowledge of mankind 1869 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1875) III xii 145 The real names are veiled under the obsolete titles delighted in by the Latin writers.

**5** To render less distinct or apparent, to reduce, soften, tone down

1841 R. J. GRAVES *Syst Clin Med* XXV 306 The muscular veils the astringent and irritating qualities of the metallic salt. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr* XIV 102 The chance of veiling the image through the reduction of the bromide unacted upon by light is increased.

**6** *intr Photogr* To become dark or obscure, to darken

1890 [see VEILING *vbl sb* 4] 1907 HODGES *Elem Photogr* (ed 6) 127 The high lights should be just commencing to veil

**Veil**, obs f VEAL *sb*1, var VAIL *v*2, obs Sc form of WEAL *sb*, WELL *adv.*

**Veild**, obs Sc form of WIELD *v*

**Veildar**, obs. Sc. form of WIELDER

**Veile**, obs form of VAIL, obs Sc., f WEAL *adv*

**Veiled** (vēild), *ppl a* [f VEIL *v* or *sb*1]

**1** Covered with or wearing a veil, shrouded in a veil.

1593 MARLOWE tr *Lucan* I 597 The Nunnes And their vailed Matron who alone might view Minervas statue 1607 SHAKS. *Lear* II 1 231 Our veild Dames Commit the Warre of White and Damaske In their nicely gawded Cheekes 1614 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Eclogue* 33 Wks. (Grosart) II 19/2 Than vp (sad swaine) pull fro thy veiled cheeke Thy paine 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 151 He dreamed a veiled maid Sate near him 1820 — *Prometh Unb* II iv 1 What veiled form sits on that throne? 1831 RUSKIN in Collingwood *Life* (1900) 129 Those veiled vestals and prancing Amazons will all be forgotten 1850 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* III, No one recognised the veiled figure

b *poet* Of the eyes.

1817 SHELLEY *Pr Athan.* I 99 'Tis the shadow of a dream Which the veiled eye of Memory never saw 1821 — *Adonais* II, With veiled eyes, Mid listening Echoes, in her Paradise She sate.

c *bot* Having a velum, velate

1793 MARTYN *Lang Bot* xv *Calyptra*, In this sense *Pronymuse* is said to be calyptred, calyptrate or veiled 1866 in *Treas Bot*

**2.** Concealed, covered, hidden, as if by a veil, obscure, unrevealed

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm Titus* I 2 The valled knowledge of the law 1654 BOYLE *Occasion Thoct* I. 43 A close and critical account of the more vailed and pregnant parts of Scripture 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych* 296 Seraph of Heaven! Veiled Glory of this lampless Universe! 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr & It Note-Bks* II 119 Returning the inquirer's thoughts and veiled recollections to himself as answers to his queries. 1878 J. P. HOPPS *Rel & Moral Lect* xii. 42 On the one hand, all the masks will drop off; and, on the other hand, all the veiled goodness will appear

b *fig* Covert, disguised, not openly declared, expressed, or stated

1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* II x. (1878) 205 There is a wide difference between a veiled promise and a veiled threatening 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* V, The scarcely veiled sneer which marked his tone of voice 1899 ALDEN *Man Colleg Currency* (1900) 316 The imperfect or veiled

Bimetallism such as that practised under the Bank Act of 1844.

**3** †**a.** Of sight: Dim, indistinct *Obs.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* xi. lxv. Why do we With curious labour, dimme and vailed sight, Pry in the nature of this King and Queen?

**b.** Of sound, the voice, etc. Indistinct, muffled, obscure.

1854 J. FORBES *Tannaec. Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 35 It some times also presents a further modification, which I call the veiled puff (*souffle voilé*). In this case it seems to us as if every vibration of the voice agitatin a sort of moveable veil interposed between the excavation and the ear. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 385 *Veiled Voice.* A voice is said to be veiled when it is not clear, but sounding as if it passed through some interposed medium. 1897 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 7/4 Jenny Lind's Veiled Voice. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 871 The heart sounds become veiled and impure.

**c** *Photogr.* Of a negative. Lacking clearness or distinctness, dim.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 477 Isochromatic and other very sensitive plates requiring the greatest possible protection during development, to avoid veiled negatives.

Hence **Veiledly** *adv.*, **Veiledness.**

1879 C. & MARY COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Key* 630 In the Sonnets, there is the same spirit of modesty with the utmost veiledness of diction. 1881 P. ANSON *Fish in Poetry* 73 Blue lotus blooms, seen veiledly Under the wave.

**Veilfair, -fare,** obs. 8c. forms of WELFARE.

**Veiling** (vē·lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. VEIL *v.* or *sb.*1]

**1** Something serving as a veil, cover, or screen; a veil or curtain. Also *fig.*

In quot. 1748 prob. confused with VALANCE *sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) 36 A Sera phin louth to see god with out ony wyllynge of figure eyther of creature sette betwene *Hid.* VIII. 43 He seeth god face to face without veyllynge put bytwene. 1611 FLORIO, *Velame*, vailings shadowings or curteins. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 386 The Porch on the East Side never a Window, was opposite to the Image of the Bel which were singed. 1842 in WILLIAMS *Baptist Ist.* XIV. (1874) 175 Then when strongest heart is failing Death it calls in to its aid, Strips vaile the friendly veiling Round ourselves that we have made. 1900 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 7/4 Vivid flashes of lightning illuminated the whole room, piercing the veiling of the windows.

**2** Material of which veils are made. Also pl.

*Num.* xv. 38 see NUM. *sb.*1 6 c.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 410 The widths of gauze for Veiling vary from half a yard to three quarters in width. 1894 *Times* 16 April 4/2 The sale of veilings is fairly well sustained.

*attrib.* 1892 *Times* 15 Oct. 9/5 A considerable business is being done in silk veiling nets.

**11 3** The action of putting on or covering with a veil. Also *attrib.* in *netting place.*

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxiv. vi. [The sun comes forth] like a bridegroome From out his vailing places. 1611 FLORIO *Velatio*, a vailing. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. (1863) 277 On the lacing, the humming the veiling the gloving (etc.).

**4.** The action or fact of becoming blurred, dim, or indistinct; dimness or indistinctness of appearance, esp. in a photographic film or negative.

1890 *Anthony's Bull. Bulletin* III. 557 Films which have a tendency to veiling and thinness. 1893 HINTON *Elem. Photogr.* 122 It is of the utmost importance that the high lights of a lantern slide should be transparent, if free from the slightest veiling or incrustation. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 843 A little veiling or uncertain ty of the outlines of the discs.

**Veiling** (vē·lĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. VEIL *v.*] That veils, covers, or conceals.

*a* 1678 STERRY *Freed Will* (1863) 128 God is seen by the Soul but through a veiling Medium. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 1000 Through veiling Image within which he resides. 1820 SHELLEY *Adonais* xlvi. Then sank she weak against my shoulder. 1855 ROBERTSON *Sermons* (1904) 183/1 Not till this veiling world shall cease And heaven yield its whole increase. 1897 JEAN INGELOW *Sto. of Doom* I. 278 Then she pushed Her veiling hair back from her round, soft eyes.

**Veill,** obs. 8c. form of WEAL *sb.*, WEIL *adv.*

**Veillane,** obs. 8c. form of VILLAIN.

**Veilless** (vē·llĕs), *a.* [I. VEIL *sb.*1 + -LESS.]

**1** Having no veil, unprovided with or unprotected by a veil.

1820 MILMAN *Martyr Antioch* 55 That head, whose veil less locks fell d angels with amaze. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 4 *Int.* 536 Half whistling and half singing a coarse song, He drove the fast against her veilless eyes. 1880 F. MYERS *Science of Death* 86 They scarce could bear Veilless the tingling incidence of air.

**2** *transf.* Unshaded, unclouded.

1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 117 The corn has been whitening under the sun a hard veilless stare. 1888 H. DRUMMOND *Tropical Africa* v. 109 The glittering ball whose daily march across the burnished and veilless zenith brings him untold agony.

**‖ Veilleuse** (vɛ̃yœ·z) [F.] A small and usually highly decorated night-lamp.

1880 H. D. BERTE *Four Yrs. France* 179 The reflection of a veilleuse, or small night lamp.

**Veillfair,** obs. 8c. form of WELFARE.

**Veil-like,** *a* [f. VEIL *sb.*1] Like or resembling a veil, or that of a veil; having the appearance or character of a veil.

1835 I. TAYLOR *Ancient. x.* VIII. He saw the pale and veil like mists that succeed the sunset. 1873 LELAND *Pagan Sketch Bk.* 115 She had a long flowing white veil like robe. 1889 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 154 The air has a perceptible quality. You feel its veil-like influence pervading all



**Veilme,** obs. form of FILM *sb.*

**Veily** (vē·lĭ), *a.* [f. VEIL *sb.*1 + -Y.] Veil-like; diaphanous.

1839 T. MILLER *Rural Sk.* 9, I had watched until the veily twilight was let down from heaven. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. iv. § 6. 214 The raindrop with its ragged and spray like edge, its veily transparency (etc.).

**Vein** (vēn), *sb.* Forms *a.* 3–7 veyne (4–5 weyne, 6 ueyne), 4, 7 veyn, 4–7 veine (4 vene), 7– vein. *β* 4–7 vayne (5 wayne), 5 vayn (wayn), 6–7 vain(e *γ.* 5, 6–7 *δ.* vane (5, 6 *ε.* wane). [A. OF. *veine, vaine* (*F. veine*) L. *vena* (cf. VENE), whence also PROV., Sp., It. *vena*, Pg. *vea*.] (†*veyea, vea*)

**I 1** One or other of the tubular vessels in which the blood is conveyed through the animal body; in later use *spec* one of those by which the blood is carried back to the heart from the extremities (opposed to *artery*).

Many varieties are distinguished by special epithets as *alar, auricular, axillary, basilic, cardiac* etc. see these words.

*a* 13 *A. Ailes* 1175 (Laud MS.) Þe kynges veynes woxen chelde. *Ibid.* 2414 Þat was mauy yeph leten bloode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 49 Þe bestornyge of veynes is bettre i knowe in þe vttre partics of bodies þan ynward and in þe myddel wiþynne. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 220 Þan he schal make þe veynes vnder þe eyen and þe temples, grete ruddy veynes, bene wrothy and hugely angry. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 2 *festial* 231 Þe prest blessith a ring and duth hit on hur fyngur þat is nexte a veyne to hure herte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 For ye whiche his senewes and veynes brast. 1559 MORWYNG *Evon.* 359 This oyll anoynted upon the pulsing veynes where they appeare moste as of the temples delivereth from all poysons. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 25, I have a faint cold feare thrills through my veines. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Cons.* (1635) 199 When a veine is broken and bleeds inwardly the Physition is wont to open a veine in the arme to reliver the current of the blood. 1673 LAURENCE *Lect. Heb. Points* 182 Veins wherein blood flowes, Rather ing all my flesh, Like rivers. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Iradevm* VI. (1841) I. 44 Being drawn off like the blood let out of the veins. 1800 SOUTHEY *Mad. Ithal* III. 168 With his and quadrupedes the blood goes fro in the veins to the heart. 1804 BRUNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 21 The superficial veins appear remain large. 1846 TURNER *Geology* iv. 147 The Dimond enes now felt the poison in his veins. 1872 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 227 All these veins terminate in two large veins, the

*β* c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 3308 (III) ilka vayne of þe mans body Had a rote fested fast þarby. *c* 1400 *Pistle Deyn* 466 Þe gret vayne of his body go to þe herte. *Secreta Secret.* 240 The blode rynnyth into the wayny throgh at the body. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xix. (1913) 109 Alle in lyke wyse as the II col of a man is, oth and rennyth by the vaynes of his body. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 50 Some men vse to let them bloudde vnder the eye in a vayne. 1580 HOLYBAND *Treas. Frenche Tong* xxiv. 78 When the blood is attended of that putrefaction, it goeth to the vaines. 1593 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mvsicke mvs Wks.* (Grosart) I. 73/1 Seas of Blood Might still haue kept the Chanells of the Vaynes. 1647 HEYWOOD 1 A. Vanne, *con Adder* Great Vaines or Arteres. *Gr. & Latine*

*γ. c* 1450 in *Archæol. Journ.* (1888) App. IX. 209 Thy lyght hande haue a veyne, in thy lyft fyngur I telle yt. 1515 *Barclour's Hunyar* VII. 173 Quhen the vanys fillit ar. The body vorthis levyt euirmar. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 9 Blude lat out a verry vane. *c* 1530 A. BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* (S.) x. 134 And hant of yours hayth vane a dl nervis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 95 A vane outth to haue his hayll, the blude of his body is latine out thral at the xmyn. 1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 557, I had only a vomitt and breathed a vane.

*δ* †*b. Lacteal, lacteous,* or *milky veins.* = I. ACTEAL *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1656 J. SMITH *Procet Physick* 4 Obstruction of the Vessels especially of the Pancreas, and fault of the milky veins. 1664 LOWER *Tr. Phisico* 1. 66 He stomach and guts and liver appear white, and the Lacteal Veins, and Milky Vessels. 1670 *Cotton* (ed. 4) I. 29 The Food is further subtiliz'd and render'd so fluid and penetrant, that the thinner and finer part of it is carried by its way in at the streight Orifices of the lacteous Veins.

**c** *Illicit vein.* a separate flow of blood in a larger vein (Cf. 6 *c.*)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 659 The formation of intramedullar illicit blood veins. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 504 This change in the continents sets up illicit veins in the contained blood.

**2.** In phrases and figurative uses

†**a** *To taste* or *feel, one vein s*, to feel the pulse. *To die in a vein*, to die through loss of blood. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 294 Þat chaunge in the childes peyne, And tasted his senewe and his veyne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 315 This noble clerk with alle hiete began The veines forto taste. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 74 Þis Joseph was passand coonyng in grapyng of þer vaynys at war seke and he come vnto hym & felid his vaynys. 1547 *Bp.* BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palf.) 35 Seneca, supposing that to dye in a veyne was the easiest kinde of death, desired to be let blood in the veynes of his arme.

**b** In various fig. uses

1382 WYCLIF *Jude* v. 12 Þei ben as a wood hid, and as theefli myn ere toc the veynes [L. *venas*] of his gruchine. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Prophete Jonas* Prol. A iij, The fleshly minded spyrytuall suppe vpp the Vaynes of life which are in yͤ scripture. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 24 Now the cloth being thus stretched forth in every vaine how it is possible either to endure or hold out? 1606 J. KING *Verm* Sept. 47 By all princely meanes to put blood into the veines of the Church again. 1652 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Introd. 71 In equity and reason the benefitt of trade should be equally disposed into all the vaines of the Commonwealth. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 73 It is a true Sign, that our foreign Traffick has since con

vey'd Spirits and Nourishment into each Vein of the Body Politick. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. xi, Here, too, as in the Euphrates and the Ganges, is a vein or venlet of the grand World-circulation of Waters. 1884 LOWELL *Presidial Prov.* 303 Great poets crowding the happy veins of language again with all the life that had been dribbling away. 1886 B. TAYLOR *Faust's Trial* 58 An ardent vein of summer heat Throb thro' the innocence of spring.

**c** In miscellaneous fig. phrases

(*a*) *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3459 If he were touched on somme good veyne, He should yit rewen on the peyne. 1589 *Faunt's Rel. Ch. Eng.* 18 *Vetus Comedia* beganne to picke him in the right veine. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 59 Satan makes it his next care to strike in the right vein, for he loves to have his work easy and feasible.

(*b*) 1587 STANYHURST *Descr. Ireland* 34/2 In *Hiberniæ* I set him with all the veines of his heart beseech God. 1589 COOPER *Admonn.* 215 There were many of them that would haue bene glad with all the veines in their hearte. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Pere* (1590) 10, I see the vaine is vp in the forhead, and Martin shall haue as good as he brings 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 6 A kinde of a breaking of vein in which the salt water was conveyed up and down the body of the earth.

**3** †**a.** A sap vessel in plants. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 3 When that Aprille hath bathed every veyne in swich licour, Of which vertue engendred is the flour. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. (Bodl. MS.), Per [trees] haue weyes and veynes in þe whiche kinde moiture is ikepte and passeth þerbi for þe eyle into alle þe parties aboute. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. Prol. 255 Welcum support of every rute and vane Welcum confort of alkynd fruyt and grane.

**b** *Bot.* A slender bundle of fibrovascular tissue forming an extension of the petiole in the parenchym of a leaf.

In early use less specific in sense. Some botanists have restricted *vein* to branches of the midrib, in contrast to *nerves* proceeding from the base of the leaf.

1551 DUDGEON *Arcana* 111. 176 The herb SWEET Of levis rank With sprouts sprangis and vanis our allquhar. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 18 Those leaves are somewhat grosser and more fatter, the vaines running betwene o the contrarye side. 1731 J. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Ivies* They consist of a very glutinous Matter being furnished every where with Veins and Nerves. 1793 MARTYN *Rural Bot.* xv. 1 *venosum* When it has no veins, it is called *Solium Arcanum* a veinless leaf. 1812 *New Bot. misc.* (*Card.*) I. 43 The leaves with a network of veins underneath. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 88 Till within a few years the distribution of veins in the leaf had not received much attention. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1200/2 Consist of primary veins are such as spring from the midrib, external veins are those near the edge. 1880 HOOKER *Fl.* 145 The disposition of the veins in a leaf depends largely upon its mode of growth. Parallel veins form early

**†4.** *Sc.* A slender stripe of a different colour or material on a garment = I. 8. *Obs.*

1539 *Inv. A. Bayde* (1815) 34 Ane cott of freist chaift of silvir vane with ane small inset vane of gold. 1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 74 To jett the cote with thre vanis about the hall.

**5** A marking or an appearance suggestive of a vein, *esp.* an irregular stripe or streak of a different colour in marble or other stone.

1648 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xix. 189 The red veins in the marble may seem to blush at the falsehood written on it. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 401/1 The Ab-itos is marvellous weighty and black of colour, intermixed with red Veins. 1728 ATKINSON *Speci. No.* 414 *Pa* 2 Mineral Landskips of Trees Clouds and Cities that are sometimes found in the Veins of Marble. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 178 When [the paint is] dry, you may with the point of a needle open fine veins or other embellishments. 1860 LYNDALL *Class Bk.* 54 The blue veins of the glacier are beautifully shown. 1861 T. WILLIAMS *Fishes* 378 The beautiful play of colors seen upon mother of pearl is caused by the delicate veins with which the surface is covered.

**b** A streak or seam of a different material or texture from the main substance.

1665 GERARD *Conquest of Ireland* Mason must work no Stone with Sandy veines. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 7 Wrought iron may be hardened by ignition and plunging in water, but the effect is confined to the surface; except the iron contain veins of steel. 1831 HERSCHEL *Optics* § 85 The spectrum formed by a fine prism of flint glass, free of veins. 1869 SIR B. REID *Ship Build.* xviii. 384 Angle irons have to be free from veins and cracked holes, and rivet iron has to be free from cracks and veins when laid up and finished.

**c** A fibre (in metal) *rare*—1.

1725 I. NONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 4 It will be a sign of its Goodness, if being made into Bars its veins are bon tinual strait because the straightness of its veins shews the Iron to be without knots.

**II. 6.** A small natural channel or perforation within the earth through which water trickles or flows, a flow of water through such a channel. Also *transf.* (quot. 1598).

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 318/659 Wellene comes of grete wateres and muche del of be se forni veynes al vnder eorbe.

For þare beoz ase it veynes were vnder eorþe mani on. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 669 In þe veines of þe water, as þe water deb vp walle He let clory for in metal. 1300 *Gowers Conf.* III. 93 For nht as veines ben of blod In man, riht so the water flod Therthe of his cours makth ful of veines.

1683 CANTON *Coeli I. a.* 282/2 Lete us al prayе unto our lord that he opene to us here the veynes of a fontayn or of a welle. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* II 370 Perceiue we not a petty vaine, Cut from a spring by chance or arte, Ingendreth fountaines 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II i. *Handicrafts* 492 A burning Mountain from his fiery vain An vpon Riuer rowls along the Plain 1601 R. JONES *Arig. & Commun.* (1603) 13 These mountaines are full of bathes and veines of warme water 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX 107 The rapid current, through veins Of porous Earth with kindly thirst up drawn 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* I 442 There is an order of common-counsel for cutting off a vein of water which had lately been discovered and brought into the town 1858 JARDINE *Hand-bk Nat. Hist.* 90 A feeding reservoir placed above that from which the travelled vein flows 1864 BRYANT *S. Ila* 487 She taught the skill to pierce the soil and meet the veins Of clear cold water winding underneath.

*fig.* 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xvii 13 For they forsoken the veyne of lyuyng watris [1388 the Lord, a veyne of quyk waters] c 1430 LYDG. *Mum Prentis* (Percy Soc.) 60 O welle of swetnes replete in every veyne, That of mankynd I perseyued has fro dethe 1602 MARSTON *Antonio & Mel.* Prol., Wks. 1856 I 71 The rawish dankes of chaunc'd winter rumps The fluent summers veine (1699 DRYDEN tr. *Juv.* xiv 11) They have forsaken the veine of living waters 1640 GAUDEN *The Love of Truth*, etc. 7 Then doth the ray or veyn of truth flow aright that is in vs

**†b.** A streamlet or rivulet; a current *Obs.*

1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* iii 158 Through the midst of these gardens, they derive a fine small vaine of the riuer 1813 SOUTHEY *Pilgrimage* (1614) 190 When her enuied vein the Straits he encountred, Where Afric's coast and Europe's coast, extending it selfe from Aden as farre as they could see from the Ships top

**c** *Physics.* A slender body of water or other liquid. (Cf. 1 c.)

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl* VI 325 The impulse of a vein of fluid falling perpendicularly is equal to the weight of a column whose base is the area of the vein.

**7** *Min.* A deposit of metallic or earthy material having an extended or ramifying course under ground, a seam or lode, *spec.* a continuous crack or fissure filled with matter (esp. metallic ore) different from the containing rock

1587 TREVISA *Hig. Ion* (Rolls) II 15 Pe water þat renneþ and passeþ by veynes of certayn metal inkib by his cours greue hate 1748-50 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* I 149 Into the third day ye gode to seke spryngys for wellys off water, to seke also veynys off mete 1530 PALS. *Acc.* 158 A thus yerth so furre as thus veyne goth, fourteth of Irnnesham 1558 I. ROB. *Decal.* (Arb.) 211 Although by the lefe of nature in maner euery where in the regions of Iden Castile the mynes or veyns which are gotten, are not followed, but lefte in a place whiche may stande to saue muche of the charges of the labourers 1596 DALTRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II 247 In Galoidale seemes to be no Certaine Mayne vaine the rest sum veines ful of golde 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III 136 The inward parts of all the hill are full of Metals where wonderfull quantitie of iuyce pure Tinne is digged vp 1670 PETTY *Discr. Disc.* (1679) 3 Sometimes by these Shafts or Adits it is see or thrown Vp many Metal then the Metal which is digged from the 80 Veins is called Ore 1709 E. ROBINSON *Art of Metallurgick* 2 Of Mineral Treasures, by the Miners, are called Dykes, Rifts, Strikes, or Veins, according to the Nature of those Cleaves in Matter they pervade. 1800 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* 203, Ore is the very Vein itself all other Sorts of Ore or Vein are not comparable to it, yet this shall yet, that two shall and Soil between them. 1793 [E. DUNDONALD] *Dir. Fruits Culture* 15 At that time the vein of Rock Salt in Cheshire had not been dis-covered 1813 HAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1814) 274 Veins (quartz and also of shale and granite, in various earthy minerals frequently intersect granitic and schistose rocks. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem* (ed. 5) 586 Metals are chiefly found in the earth in veins which traverse the granite, schistose, or limestone rocks. 1873 DAWSON *Dawn Life* iii 53 Strata often enveloped with veins of crystalline minerals

*Spec.* a 1667 COWLEY *Death Mr. Porter* Poems (1905) 92 Like those that work in Mines for others gain He had much more in vain, To sweat in the Vein, the purge, and mint it too 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv 171 The various infinite and curious of an original relationship among all the groups of languages mentioned outcroppings, as it were, of a vein which invites further exploration.

**8 †a** A strip or limited stretch of ground or soil, *esp* one having a particular character or quality *Obs.*

1555 WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* II ii 197 The whole contrie (except a little vaine of sandie ground) is fertile 1580 HOLME *Armb.* (1688) 48 I the whole hath no liking of coarse ground, nor barine and wheat is for coarse vaine 1611 COTGR. *Cymbales* 49, I saw in diuers places very fat and fruitfull veines of ground as goodly meadowes very spatious champaigne fields [etc.] 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 144 The most plantations were placed strahgely and scatteringly, as a choice vein of rich ground inuited them. 1693 LEVINZ *De la Quant Compl. Gard* I 19 Some Earths are much better than others in every Climate, nay even sometimes in a small Compass of Ground, as any term'd Veins of Earth

**b** A channel or lane of water.

1606 S. GARDINER *Bk Anglings* 1 He prouideth himselfe a ship, keele, or cocke boat, out of which he may lay out and take in his nets and he in the vaine and way where the best doing is. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Def. Dutch War* App 131 The King of Sweden hath also several duties in channels, or veine Royall in his Seas, which are appropriate to his particular use. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I 299 A lane, or vein is a narrow channel of water in packs or other large collections of ice. *Ibid.* 269 Whenever a vein of water appears in the required direction it is of passable attained 1835 [see LANE *sb.*] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk, Vein*, the clear water between the openings of floes of ice The same as *ice lane*

**9.** A current of wind; the track in which this moves

1702 BERKMAN *Hist. New Hampsh.* III 24 The next day a whirlwind began and directed its course toward the east, in a vein of near half a mile wide 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* xv § 869 Lieutenant Jansen has called my attention to a vein of wind which forms a current in the air as remarkable as that of the Gulf Stream is in the sea 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk, Vein*, a very limited current of wind—a cat's paw

*d* *Whaling* (See quot.)

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II ii 5 When making a passage from one feeding ground to another, the sperm whales, guided by some infallible instinct, usually swim in veins; they are called, concerning their way along a given ocean line with undeviating exactitude

**III** *fig.* **9** A strain or intermixture of some quality traceable in personal character or conduct, in a discourse or writing, etc

1565 STAFFTON tr. *Stephanus Apol* 153 With the like veine of euangelicall sincerite 1589 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III 1266/1 Because it is a veine of godlie deuise intending to a verie honorable purpose 1680 W. ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 16 Let all your things be done with Charity a fine and vein of this should run through all 1696 L. NELSON *Pract. Obs. & N. & I.* 127 This is a fear of faith, which hath alwayes a vein of love running along with it 1701 W. WYNNE *Hist. Rome* 383 A vein of Superstition ran through all his Actions. 1849 BISHOP BERKELEY *Corr.* (1944) I 146 I have in a vein of natural good sense in him, from which a good deal might be expected 1880 *Examiner* No. 612 213/2 A fine vein of sentiment runs through it 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI 11 20 An English Dominican with some learning, and much vein of natural humour 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III 321 There is a vein of bitter sarcasm in the way in which the tale is told

**b** A line or course of thought, etc., a source of information

1704 SWIFT *T. Tub.* ii, I have collected out of ancient authors this whole summary of all the philosophy and divinity, which seems to have been composed by a vein and race I thinke is very different from any other systems 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 109 P 12 Lucky opens new veins of thought 1824 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* I 217 In the midst of a vein of thought or a moment of inspiration 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II 586 He professes to open a new vein of discussion 1887 MORLEY *Diderot & Encycl.* 32 I have in my head much which the Science of History a lifelong study and who have so many veins of information

**10 a** The tenor or general character of something *Obs.*—1

1555 R. TAYLOR in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 171 I doe beleue that the Religion set forth in King Edwardes dayes was according to the veyne of the holy Scripture

**b** In plural: species *Obs.* rare

1568 PS. CHEKYN in Strype *Ann. Ref* (1709) I iii 525 These 3 ying men, which vse of a lower vein ... but of men perfect, in their seuen 1652-62 HERBERT *Camus.* (1673) 11 292 I doe not know of this Vein in Man ... He was as odd to any the world afforded, and a vein of most delicious vines

**11** A natural tendency towards a special aptitude or capacity for, the production of literary or artistic work, a particular strain of talent or genius. (A vivid personification (the common one))

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphr.* Nijb If I had Virgilles vayne to indite, or Homers quill 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 10 Hee that hath no vaine to a Poeticall skill, let him be sildome troubled with the name 1684 WOLSELEY *Reform. Indeed* (1679) 57 Artificers have not only their Growths and Inflations, but likewise their Veins and Imes 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil Pref.* Wks. 1882 VI 301 I have not the same extraordinary Vein in Poetry wch equal'd with Petrarch 1798 I. COOKE *Life* 1 etc. 63 Indolie, my friend, thy genius I see, is the species 1809 WILKINS *Annals Agric.* LII 1 KAMES *Elem Crit* (1833) 336 I here omit many Scholars, of less vein Letters him frequently [et.] 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I 111 Such was my boyish addiction to verse and the rebuke which his vein received from the Apothecary's wife

**b** With *a, that*, etc.

1680 G. HARVEY *Three Lett.* Spenser's Wks. (1912) 628 They wanted that singular Poetic rhimester vein and inuention which I euer found in old moste 1590 R. JONSON *Cynth. to Aet.* iii 1 You must prove the aptitude of your genius if you find in me you most hearken out vein and aid 1709 *Tatler* No. 31 P 1 An habitual vein, or humour, of Greece, proceeded out of this quarter 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic* 178 It does not take my self to have so happy a vein, that all that I utter should be a definition 17 PHILIPS *Epistle* in *Steele's Poet. Misc* (1714) 37 Why then in making Verses should I strain for Wit and of Apollo's Vein Wood 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr* viii § 13 For the coffee houses and public, we have deciphers of a copious vein 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 2 To these might be added others not less learned, nor with a scarce less happy vein

**12** A special or characteristic style of language or expression in writing or speech. **a.** With possessives

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. C ib Though euerie translatour hathe his owne maner of interpryng, as Latine, Englishe. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 22 To restraine The lust of lawlesse youth with good aduice Or pricke them forth with pleasaunce of thy vaine 1597 *Return fr. Parnass* iv 1 1166 Tell mee how hearie Chaucer's vaine finde I loue antiquitie if it be not harshe 1605 BACON *Adv. of Learn.* I 8 2 Then grew the flowing and watery vein of Ouenius, the Portugall bishop to be in price. 1643 HOWELL *Iuvenall's rem.* i, What say, sir, to our Poet Scribble here? Spy'd like his vaine ex ordine well 1818 SCOTT *Province Antiq. Scott* (1826) 113 After adorning it with an inscription, somewhat in the vein of Ancient Pistol 1902 G. SAMPSON *Versions Sel. Ess.* Introd. p. xxxvi, They [*sc.* these words] are not in Blougram's vein

**b** With *a, this*, etc.

1576 N. R. in *Gascoigne's Steele Glas* Wks. 1910 II 138 Thus diuers men with diuers vaines did write, But Gascoigne doth in euery vaine indite 1598 BARRET *Theor*

## VEIN.

*Warres* II. i. 29 To haue a sweet vaine in speech. 1680-6 QUARLES *Div Poems, Hadassa* Pref., A Sober vaine best suits Theologie. c 1704 LOCKE *Cond Understd* Posth. Wks. (1706) 18 Many a good poetick Vein is burned under a Trade. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sat* I iv 133 Such Rancour this, of such a poisonous Vein, As never, never, shall my Paper stain. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* ix, In it not note worthy also, that it is in this vein that the London poets have always been greatest? 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I 276 The answer, Meno, was in the orthodox solemn vein

**c** With *his*, etc., and qualifying term

1865 KINGSLEY *Heroes* xii. To which Hereward answered, in his boasting vein, that he would bring home that mare 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* xx I IV 61 Waiting a letter in his smoothest vein to Wolsey. 1877 H. A. PAGE *De Quincey* I xi 213 The following shows him in his best vein.

**†13** A particular course of action or conduct, a habit or practice *Obs*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Music* 194 The composers of that age followed only that vaine of wresting in which matter in small bounds 1615 *Lieut of Tower's Sp. in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III 319, I was much addicted to that idle Vein of Gambling 1618 R. C. *Times Whistle* (1857) 62 Thus he runs on his course, til's drunken vaine Ruines his substance 1705 SWIFT *Serm.* x Wks 1841 II 264/1 Hence it is become an important vein amongst people of all sorts to hunt after what they call a good sermon

**†b.** An inclination or desire, a tendency, towards something specified. *Obs*

1587 HARRISON *England* II iii (1877) 88, I perceiue the delicate hands haue thrust out the vse of the sword edge, to make also those colleges. As you lone your welfares therefore, follow no more this veine, but content you selues with it if you haue mieadie 1588 BARET *Alv.* 1580/1 *Acharis* (Lat.) 513 Adrian the Emperour, that mortally enuied Poets, and Painters, and Architects, in Works, wherein he had a veine to excell. 1693 [JAMES ASGILL] *Art Ruling* 124 Now, I suppose the Vein I have had of running into Speculations of this kind have cost me this pre ent Service

**14** Personal character or disposition; also, a particular element or trait in this

1562 COOPER *Answere* 91 Perchance, I do know the naturall disposition and veyne of euery man 1575 GAMLOGNIE *Glasse Cart* Wks 1910 II 6 No Terence phrase The verse that pleyede a Romyne rashe mistreat, Might well offend the godly Preachers vayne 1590 SHAK. *Com. Err.* IV ii 83 It is to shame, the fellow finds his vaine, And yeelding to him, him is will his freenie 1630 N. R. in *Bp Rung's Compl. Humours* I 17 I hey have a kind of somewhat more than ordinary vaine and at least they have as much discretion as vertue 1666 *Contemp. Jrnl. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II 145 The vein of those country Dunkes in my scene stuffe to any that is both well affected and fully acquainted with them 1774 COLLINS *Antid.* 59 So provoking a devil was Dick, That we wished him full ten times a day in Old Nick; But, mum's his mirth and agree able vein As often we wished to have Dick back again 1819 SOUTHEY *Cowes* I 208 Such is the sly, equivocating vein 1880 LADY *Brassey Voyage in Sunbeam* I When the periodic vein is on, I shut a cabin on Common 1854 KING *Sport Lit.* (1858) I 413 I am afraid I have a little of the wolf vein in me, in spite of fifteen centuries of civilization

**b** A temporary state of mind or feeling, a humour or mood.

1577-82 BESTON *Boy's Idle Head* Wks (Grosart) I 28/2 For when it continues in this vaine Of setting still, in the ende he shall be fame To leaue it. 1588 *Marp. Epist.* (Arb.) 24, I am hardly drawn to a merie vaine from such waighte matters 1600 *Look to it Return fr. Parnass* iv 1099 He take the Cuckenow now, for in a good vaine it will smiles 1640 BP. HALL *Sparagus Gard* iv viii, Could I get her in a marriage vaine, but she'll not look Upon a man in the 1793 LORD *Lett.* Wks 1837 VI 146 The merry vein you knew me in, is sunk into a turn of Reflection 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) IV 113 Harry was in no manner of vein for entertaining the 1818 SCOTT *Heart Mid.* ii, He knew not how to pursue the pleasing theme, so as to do the and prolong it vein which he had excited 1863 LORD HOUGHTON *Monkshood* ii, I then ant in a classical vein put myself at out his curls and make the young Bacchus

**c.** *In the vein*, with a verb understood used for something

1593 SHAKS. *Rich III*, iv iii 122 I have trouble at me, I am in the vaine.

1805 M. ARNOLD *Ess Crit* iii (1875) 119 To produce con sistently, to produce whether in the vein or out of the vein 1899 H. BERNARD *Lyons* xxxvi 284 I like to be where I am in the vein 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xix 176 Nobody can be more amusing when she is in the vein

**†d.** A fit of laughter. *Obs.*—1

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist* (1827) VII 29 He burst into a loud vein of laughter.

**IV 15.** *attrib* and *Comb* **a.** In sense 1, as *vein-blood* (also = blood letting), *-healing* adj., *pipe, -streaked* adj., *-work*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 1889 That nother veyne blod, ne ventousyng, Ne drynk of herbes may ben his helping c 1425 *St Christina* ix in *Anglia* VIII 123/26 She lete her blode fal often of mykel veyne blode 1548 PAYNELL *Antid. Regnu* b. iiij, But ye may clere your flowynges, but more lyke to veyne bludde 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Man. Kynde* 17 b, Vayne blood and artire blood 1590 SPENSER *Mui. hol* 109 Veyne healing herbes 1611 BIBLE *Deut* xxxiv 7 A *Pavement for Acad* II To Rdr, The coole refreshing it hath from the lungs, or the veine pipes proceeding from the liuer 1890 LA SHALLEWEB *C Meredith* 32 The human form disappears beneath nets of vein-work and muscle 1894 MRS DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 118 Urquhart saw the vein streaked hand gripping the pipe stem tremble.

**†b** In sense 6 b, as *vein riveret Obs.*—1

1650 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 34 A veine riveret of the Seine.

**c** In sense 7, as *vein fissure, -form, -formation, -gallery, -granite, marble*, etc.

1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall* 105 The general course of the mineral *vein fissures in these localities 1883 *Science* 9 Feb. 181/1 A *vein-form similar to the terrestrial veins commonly known as *filone en escarelles* 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 115 The creeks and gulches cutting channels through this *vein formation 1877 P. Waruno *Tales Old Régime* 258 The chamber into which the *vein galleries opened 1833 Lyell *Prine Geol* III 355 The *vein-granite of Cornwall very generally assumes a finer grain, and frequently undergoes a change 1864 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Italy*, II No. 1430, In great strength, ten times that of *vein marble and statuary, renders it safe from breakage. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 19 Quartz or quartite predominating as *vein matrix, and compact limestone as foot wall 1874 *Ibid.* 329 The *vein-matter in the westerly portion is of quite a different nature 1877 J. H. Collins *Mineral Mining* 41 In *vein mining test borings are not often made 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 231 The active vein mining counties of California, *Ibid.*, 213 The *vein systematists in most part of a series of nearly parallel veins 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 42 Pyrites are to be met with ,*vein wise.

**Vein** (vēn), *v.* Forms. 6 veyne, 6–7 veyn, 7 veine, 7– vein; *Sc.* vane, 6–7 vaine (*Sc.* vaine, wayne), 7 vain. [f. prec. Cf. *F veiner* in sense 1 b.]

1. *trans.* †a *Sc.* To ornament (a garment, etc.) with narrow stripes of some suitable material. *Obs.*

1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot* II 200 For ij elne wellus to veyne the samyn cote, iij li. 1505 *Ibid.* 332 For vne elne wellus to veyn the sleiffis, x s. 1549 *Ibid.* IX 351 Ane elne tannye welwote to vane the said goun. 1654 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1881) II 297 Ane covering of grein cloathe vained [*printed* fnamed] with ane lace.

b To ornament with coloured, incised, or impressed lines or streaks suggestive of veins. Also with *in*.

1686 [see Veining *vbl. sb.* 1] 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II s.v. To vein a Mantle paper, to paint it Marble-like with Veins. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II 25 They often vein it, but especially for Coin stocks and such uses, by sweeping off flings of Iron in a *Japan Levée* 1752 Johnson, *To Marble*, v.a., to variegate or vein like marble. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vein*, to stripe or mottle, to marble, etc. 1895 Rowe *Chap-Carving* 40 In veining in the marginal lines of a box or blotter, a ruler is often of great assistance. 1896 *Daily News* 9 June 9/6 The tinted petals are passed up to another room, where they are 'veined' by being squeezed into a sort of mould.

2. *refl.* To diffuse like a vein. *rare*[−1]

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I 129 This is *Vox Populi*, that is *Fiat Rediens* to, this is that scrap Mr Petyt, and indeed veins it self through all the late Pamphlets and Libels.

3. *trans.* Of things: To extend over or through (something) after the manner of veins.

1807 [J. Barlow *Columb.* x 228] Broad Mississippi Flings forth Ten thousand watery glades, that, round him curled, Vein the broad bosom of the western world. 1844 Mas. Browning *Drama of Exile & Other Poems* I. 67 Detached Which seals the gate up to the final doom, To God a sealed minute: The unmoiten lightnings vein it motionless. 1847 Emerson *Prose*, iv. 59 All the gold that veins the world. 1889 Rider Haggard *Cleopatra* II xi, Half Hercules and half a fool, with a dash of genius veining his folly through.

4. *intr.* To put oneself into a particular 'vein' or mood. Also with *it*. *Obs.*

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* vi xxxi (1612) 154 But her, not coy I found so chast as saue a kisse or twaine, In nothing got, although in all I wanted to her vaine. 1592 *Ibid.* ix xlvi. 217 Hence Citizens with courtiers so do vaine it for the time, That with their paper Ladders they euen stately Castels clyme.

†5. *refl.* To injure (oneself) in a vein. *Obs.*

Cf. *self-vein'd* in Warner *Albion's Engl.* (1602) x lix 261 1631 G. Markham *Country Contentm* (ed. 4) i. xix. 117 If your Cocke haue in his fight veined him-selfe eyther by narrow striking, or other crosse blow, you shall find out the wound.

**Vein**, obs. Sc. form of Wean *v.*

**Vei nage.** *rare* [f. Vein *sb.*] The course of a vein or veins, a connected system of veins.

1875 Blackmore *Alice Lorraine* xlviii. Therefore one might see the rich fruit with russet veinage mellowing. 1881 — *Christowell* II. ii. 24 His housekeeper, following quickly the veinage of his thoughts, called back from the top of the back stairs. 1904 *Academy* 23 Apr. 454/2 There is a veinage of supernaturalism through the book.

**Vei nal,** *a. rare*[−0] (? Vein *sb.*] = Venous *a.* 1846 in Worcester (citing Boyle); but perh. a mere error for Venal *a.*]

**Veined** (vēnd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vein *sb.*]

1. Furnished or marked with veins (in various senses): a. In predicative use; also with adverbial qualification, as *finely veined*.

a 1549 Skelton *P. Sparrow* 1121 Handes soft as sylke, Whyter than the mylke, That are no quyckely vayned. 1611 Cotgr., *Veiné*, veined, or full of veines. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II 23 The knot of an old Oak often finely veined like Walnut. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot* Explan. Terms 382 *Venosum* veined, with Veins many Ways. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II 323 Leaves veined, of the appearance of those of Skirrets. 1834 M. Murthie *Curwen's Anim. Kingd* 424 Males and females furnished with long wings veined like those of the other Hymenoptera of this section. 1883 Jefferies *Story My Heart* i. 13 The million leaves, veined and edge cut, on bush and tree. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* I. 131 On abaci of carved ivory stood myrrhine vases red veined, lustrous.

b. Used attributively.

1793 Martyn *Lang Bot., Venosum foliun*, a Veined leaf. 1802 Playfair *Illustr Huttonian The* 12 Where that stone is stratified and either coincides with veined granite or with gneiss. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. i. 7 The means of observing together the veined structure of the ice. 1895 Rowe *Chip Carving* 39 A series of arcs described from point 2, where the two veined circles meet.

2 Intersected or marked *with* something (esp. a colour) suggestive of veins.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb* To Rdr., Conveying through delicate embroidered meadowes, often veined with gentle gliding brooks. 1728 Chambers Cyc. s.v. *Marble*, Marble of Brabançon, in Hainault, is Black, vein'd with White. 1760 Entick *London* IV. 59 Four Gothic demi pillars, painted white, and veined with blue. 1769 Sir W. Jones *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 13 The round earth with foaming oceans vein'd. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 268 Flowers large, white, beautifully veined with purple. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xxv, The white marble at the bottom of the bath was veined with a dreadful red. 1882 Flower *Unexpl Balaclava* 198 Beautiful blue and purple veined pansies.

3 *fig.* ? Fixed in the blood, ingrained.

1833 Ford *Lover's Vows* v. i, Come, black Angel, half devil, in thy prayers reckon up the sum in gross, of all thy veined follies.

4. Lodged or distributed in veins.

1827–35 Wilde *Wife's Appeal* 87 To course the veined metals of the earth.

**Veiner** (vē·nəɹ) [f. Vein *sb.* or *v.*]

1 a (See quot. 1883, and cf. Veining *vbl. sb.* 1 b.)

1864 [R. W. Robinson] *Mem. Jane Cameron* I. 119 There were menders and darners, veiners and underers needle women [etc.]. 1883 *Webster's Dict. Trades, Veiner*, a sewer of muslin in the neighbourhood of Belfast.

b One who makes veins in artificial flowers.

1825 *Encycl. Londin.* XIV. 55 (Artificial) Flower Making. Stuffener. Cutter out. Veiner. *Ibid.*, Leaf Making. Cutter out. Veiner. Shader.

2 In wood-carving, a small V-shaped tool used for making veins in leaves.

1895 Rowe *Chip-Carving* 31 If the student has not a V tool he can use the veiner.

**Vei nery.** *rare*[−1] [f. Vein *sb.*] = Venage.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 392 That arm, through whose veinery flowed blood pure as the celestial ichor.

**Veining,** *obs.* Sc. form of *weighing* Weigh *v.*

**Vei nify,** *v. rare*[−1]. [f. Vein *sb.*] *intr.* To produce or form veins.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 57 True it is that in the Bones there is, but in a very scarce manner, a power to humify or make bony, in the veins to veinefy, so there be an apt disposition of the matter.

**Vei niness.** [f. Veiny *a.*] The condition of being veiny.

1730 Bailey (fol.), *Veininess*, fulness of Veins. 1884 Trowbridge *Farnell's Folly* II. 213 Incipient veininess of cheek and pendency of jowl were also observable.

**Veining** (vē·nĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vein *sb.* or *v.*]

1. The action or process of ornamenting with vein like markings.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2197/4 A New Art or Invention of Making Marbling, Veining, and Painting of Mantle pieces for Chimneys. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 254/1 (Jewellery.) This operation of 'matting', and another which is called 'veining', and which consists in indenting fine lines on and between the work, are to the raised design what shading is to a drawing.

*attrib.* 1873 Ure *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 1. 422 Removing some portions of the graining colour with a small veining flitch. 1883 *Webster's Dict. Trades*, Veining-iron, a fine veining tool being narrow and used to engrave the veins of leaves and similar work.

b The action of producing vein like patterns with the needle, the result of this work.

1849 Craig, *Veining*, a kind of needle work, in which the veins of a piece of muslin are wrought to a pattern. 1888 *Cornhill Mag.* Sept. 254 The fine needlework on muslin which includes 'veining', 'spoking', 'pointing', and 'lace stitching'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 3/2 Only very coarse work, veining, revealing an underlay of white or any contrasting colour. 1903 *Ibid.* 2 Feb. 4/2 The veining itself is simply the common and universally known herring bone stitch.

2 The arrangement of veins or vein like markings on or in something, a veined appearance or structure, venation.

1846 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol* III. xxxv. 610 The circumstance that most strikingly distinguishes. *Semina* from *Antheræ* is the disposition or veining. 1854 Gray *Bot. & Manuf.* 86 All the beautiful veining of the ribs and surface in these circumstances disappears. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* 161 Of all the leaf-like portions generally, the ribbing or veining is arranged according to two plans. 1892 *Nature* 8 Dec. 135/1 He may also, occasionally, have deserted a certain degree of veinings in the marble.

*fig.* 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.* x, All the veinings of her nature were impressed on these pages.

3. In weaving, a stripe in the cloth formed by a vacancy in the warp. (1849 in Craig.)

**Veinless** (vē·nlĕs), *a.* [f. Vein *sb.*] Having no veins; destitute of veins. Chiefly *Bot.*, of leaves.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Venosum*, When it [a leaf] has no veins, it is called *Folium Avenium*, a veinless leaf. 1834 M. Murthie *Curwen's Anim. Kingd* 422 *Venifera* — when no veins at all are formed except a slight approach to a costa. 1844 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) V. 43 Leaves in pairs, oblong and veinless. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* VII. 197 Health gives the bright veinless splendour to the cornea, and lustre to the pupil.

**Veinlet** (vē·nlĕt). [f. Vein *sb.* Cf. Veinulet.] A small or minor vein (in various senses).

1813 Carlyle *Sart. Res* II iii, Here, too, is a vein or veinlet of the grand World circulation of Waters. 1855 Emerson *Misc.* vii. 63 He no longer fills the veins and veinlets. 1872 Huxley *Phys[iol]* v. 120 The blood of the capillaries of the lobule is poured into that vein by a minute veinlet.

b *spec.* in *Bot.* A branch or subdivision of a vein or venule.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot* 91 The area of parenchyma, lying between two or more veins or veinlets. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot* § 141 There are also other veins of less extent given off by the midrib, and these give origin to small *veinlets*. 1857 J. Moore *Handbk Brit Ferns* (ed. 3) 8 The branches of the veins are venules, and the branches of the venules are veinlets. 1877 Heath *Fern World* 215 Along on each side of the mid veins of the lobes are alternate veinlets.

**Vei nling.** *rare*[−1] [f. Vein *sb.*] = prec.

a 1618 Sylvester *Job Triumphant* iii. 273 Sure, there are mines and veinlings (under ground) Whence Silver's fetcht, and wherein Gold is found.

**Veinous** (vē·nəs), *a.* Vein *sb.* Cf. Venous *a.* and *F. veineux* (16th c.)

1. *Phys.* & Full of, traversed by, veins.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xi. 880 (1678) 577 The liver and all the veinous parts being polluted. 1719 Boyer *Dict. Roy. & Veinous* I. s.v. Veine, full of Veins. 1898 P. J. Bell *Cyclopædia Comp. Anat.* I. 8 We find representatives of this in the parasitic Dicyemidæ, which live in the so called veinous appendages of the Cephalopoda.

b Occupying the veins.

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 564 The black or veinous blood not sufficiently stimulating the left ventricle.

c Consisting of veins.

1832 T. Hope *Anat. Hum.* II. 85 In organized matter and bodies only pressure and counterpressures produce all the divisions and differences of a later and more minute description, first in systems, as nervous, aqueous and aereal, next in later systems sanguineous, veinous and arterial.

2 Having large or prominent veins (also *transf.*), formed by outstanding veins.

1818 Dickens *Dombey* xxvii, He with crouched on the veinous root of an old tree, pulled out a short black pipe. 1859 — *Two Cities* II. viii She clasped her veinous and knotted hands together. 1885 Rider Haggard *Witch's Head* II. iv. 68 Howden's face turned quite pale, the veinous cross upon his forehead throbbed.

**Vei n-stone.** Also **veinstone** [f. Vein *sb.*]

1 Stone or earthy matter composing a vein and containing metallic ore, gangue, matrix.

1709 J. Robinson *Nat. Hist Minerals* 14 The appearance of several Veins of Spar, Soil, and Vein Stone breaking out upon the Surface. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Annad.* I. 273 Several feet wide of the mixed vein stone and vein of ore. *Ibid.* 284 What I call veinstone, is a compound mineral concretion, of various colours, appearances, and degrees of hardness. 1830 *Trans. Geol. Soc.* I. 2. 1 Before sufficient time is allowed for the accretion of a large quantity of vein-stone. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 380/1 Quartzose veinstone often contains iron pyrites. 1888 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 539 A simple and cheap mode of extracting the gold from low grade vein stone.

b With pl. A portion or variety of this.

a 1708 Woodward *Fossils* I. 165 Vein-stones, or Bodies consisting of Spar, earthy Stones, or other Matter found lodged in the Veins of the Strata along with the Ores of Metals and Minerals. 1709 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 410 Of these, the most soluble were first admitted, and being deposited on the surfaces of the rift, formed, what are called, the veinstones. 1833–4 Phillips *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 237/1. The veinstones are chiefly quartz. 1881 *Science Gossip* I. 130/1 All serpentines not veinstones appear to belong to pendotite.

2 = Phlebolite, 1[th].

1835 *Cycl. Anat. & Phys.* IV. 443/1 Of 3 phleboliths, vein stones, or calculi in the veins. 1849 *Sir J. Ad's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1400/2 The curious bodies called phleboliths, phlebolithes, or vein stones are more a peculiar calculi.

**Vei n-stuff.** [f. Vein *sb.*] = Vein stone 1.

1833 & J. Phillips *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 769/1 Metallic matter and certain nonmetallic substances usually associated therewith are commonly called vein stuff. 1872 Smyth *Mining Statistics* 49 The vein stuff got from the deepest levels is not so rich per ton as the stone obtained in the upper half of the lode. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 50 Malleable native copper intimately mixed with siliceous vein stuff.

**Vei nulet.** *rare.* [f. Vein *sb.* Cf. Venule.] A small vein or venulet.

Recent Dicts. also give *veinule*, 'a minute vein', a venule, a stem of an *Alga* or *Fucus*' (Cassell's Dict.).

1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 105 There is plenty of blood running back from the ruptured Venulets or smallest branches of the Veins. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class. Bk. Bot.* 85 The vessel dary branches, or those sent off from the venules, are the venulets.

**Veiny** (vē·nĭ), *a.* [f. Vein *sb.*]

1. †a *Veiny artery*, one of other trunk of the pulmonary vein. *Obs.*

1594 J. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 207 For this cause it is called the veiny artery, because it holdeth of the nature both of an artery and of a veine. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 29/1 The Lunges through veiny arteries, are doth abuse Vnto the hart, it to refresh againe. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* iv. xxiii. *note* The third is called the Veiny arterie, rising from the left side, which hath two folds the first linked.

b Full of blood veins; having prominent veins, of or pertaining to veins. Also *fig.* (cout. 1612).

1621 Cotgr., *Veineux*, veinie, full of veines. 1626 Drayton *Poly-olb* v. 327 So Greenholme for doth stand; and Gatholme, nearer land (Which with their veiny breasts imbrace the Gods of sea). 1681 Grew *Museum* II. i. iv. 198 Within this Veiny Coat, lie's a soft, white, thick and Oval Body. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Veiny*, belonging to, or full of Veins. 1789 M. Madan *tr. Perzaut's Perzaut* 163 If you say these things among veiny centurions. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab*

ir 924 A gentle start convulsed Ianthe's frame Her veiny eyelids quietly unclosed 1813 *Examiner* 22 Feb 124/1 The hands are diverse I of their too ver y t fluim 1888 "J Scott" (Mrs Baxter) *Duncan Stud* II ii 23 Here is these extremities are not uniform and in the same direction 1797 Mrs Radcliffe *Italian* vi 96 Veiny diamonds, in which the spaces and tangled thickets that closely impended over the r al

**b** Full of, having the nature of, veins or continuous passages.

1827 Hood *Mids Dreams* lv, We bear the gold and silver keys Of lull ling springs and fount ins, that below Course thro' the veiny earth 1854 H F J Howard *Kaph to serpine* 12 Is it the wind, that works its stealthy way Where veiny clefts the secret pass betray?

**3** Marked by veins of colour

1732 Pulteney *in ophyl* Dec VII Tab 71 A hard reddish veiny Wood from the Philippine Isles. 1797-96 Thomson *Voyage* 151 Philipot, between the veiny marble shines. 1800 *Ill Architecture* 11 Oct 2/3 Six blocks of very superior veiny marble 1816 J Scott *Vis Paris* (ed 5) 162 In the finest specimens have been cleansed and repaired till they look like lapis lazuli pure, polished and veiny

**4** *bot* Of leaves Having many veins

1752 Phipps *Cacaphyl* Dec VII Tab 59 Thetrue Ipecacuanha a low Plant with veiny Leaves 1756 J Lee *Introd Bot* III v 1763 184 *Veiner*, veiny 1807 J L Smith *Hays Tod* 166 *V nosum* veiny when the vessels by which the leaf is nourished are branched subdivided and more or less prominent 1848 — *Eng Fl* IV 41 Leaflets ovate veiny deeply serrated and cut 1849 *Florist* 232 It will give an idea of cuteness, as in a veiny Pelargonium.

**Veip**, old s Sc f Wipe v **Voir**, southern ME var Baire, obs f Weir n, var Verb (spelling *Obs*), obs Sc f *wear* War sb, Wear v **Veird**, obs Sc form of Weird sb **Veirdit**, obs form of Verdict

†**Veire**, *adv* and *sb*. *Obs* Also **veyre**, **veir**, **vair** [L. ONE *vice*, *veir* = OF *voire*, *voir*, adv and sb, f *voir* —*l* to sun true] (*In*) *veir*, truly, in truth (Cf Vairer.)

13.. *K Alis* 1000 (Laud MS.) [They] sworen, & seiden veire Alsoundre was fals ayre *Hist* 5660. *Hist* 5663 And sif of fole h we is be eyre So shullen I e stones ben in veyre 1330 *Arth & Merl* 7643 He lad me le him in al air to lo d, put of hem ne mi t no veir *Hist* 8633 etc

**Veire**, s uthern ME var Laira and *adv*., obs f Vair **Veiring**, obs Sc f Wearing *vbl sb* **Veirs**, obs Sc f Verse *sb* **Veis**, var Vess 1 **Veise**. *Mining* Also **veize**, etc. [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1883 Cornish *Glossary* 269 *Veize*, joints in the coal strata 1886 J Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 69 *Veize*, *veez'ese*, the line f fracture of a fault or hitch

**Veit**, obs Sc f Wet *a*, Wipe *v* **Veitunge**, southern ME. var Waiting *vbl sb* **Veive**, Sc var Vive v **Veije**, s uthern ME var Levy *sb* **Veijse**, obs dial var Leeze v 1 **Vejour**, var Vejour *Obs* **Vekke**, var Vecke *Obs* **Vekyt**, obs. Sc f Wicked *a* **Vel**, southern MI var Fell *sb* and pa t of Fail v, obs Sc f Will *aly* **Vela**, pl of Velum **Velaghe**, southern MI var Fellow *sb* **Velam(e**, obs ff Velum

‖ **Velamen**, (vɪlēi·mĕn) Pl **-amina** [L *vēlāmen*, f *velare* to cover.]

1. *Bot* The outer envelope, or covering of the aerial roots of some aroids and orchids

1882 Vines tr *Sachs's Bot* 690 Rain or dew which moistens the root envel pe (velamen) or wounded surfaces. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner* 229 A continuous layer of far contanning tracheal s covers n s *zheths* or *velamen*, the aerial r ots of epiphytic orchids.

2 *Anat* A membranous covering or integument In recent Dicts, which d o give *lanuginum* in the same sense.

**Velame ntous**, *a* [f mod L. *velamentum* cf prec and f *velamin tal* pl.] Of the nature of a membrane or membranous covering

1830 *Cent Dict* s v. The v lumentous arms of the nautilus 1902 *Brit Med Journ* 29 Mar I 773 Velamentous insertion of the cord

**Velans**, -ly, vart Vilains *a*, Villainsly *adv*., *Obs* **Velany**, obs f Villainy

**Velax** (vē'lăks) *a* (and *sb*.) Also *cæ·ron* vellax. [ad It *velace*, f. *velare*, cf. *vēlar es*, f L. *velum* sail, curtain, etc., cf Velum]

1 *Arch* (See quots)

1726 I Kent *Alberti's Arch* bk I 15/1 A Vault which for its resemblance to a swelling Sail we call a Velax Copola. 1842 P Nicholson *Pract Build* 595 *Vellax cupola*, a cupola or dome terminated by four or more walls 1844 Gwilt *Archit* 1050.

2 *Phon* Of sounds Produced by means of the soft palate.

Applied specifically to one of the two sets of guttural sounds existing in the original Indo European language

1876 *Trans Philol Soc* 459/1 The author begins with the now well known distinction of the I sounds into two sets which he calls velar and palatal 1883 I Taylor *Alphabet* I 160 The Semitic alphabets have no symbols for certain classes of sounds, such as the velar gutturals 1888 King & Cookson *Sounds & Infl* vi 117 According to place of articulation they can be divided into labial, dental, palatal, and velar sounds

**b** As *sb* A velar guttural

1886 J Le M Douse *Introd Gothic* 37 The guttural element of a velar may vanish *Ibid* The vels s themselves may be palatalized 1888 King & Cookson *Sounds & Infl* vi 118 The distinction between palatals and velars is comparatively recent and of great importance in the history of modern philol gy

**3** *Zool* Of or pertaining to a velum.

1878 F J Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp Anat* 328 The cilia in the velar circlet are those that are most markedly developed 1880 *Nature* XXII 147/2 Velar centrifugal canals are peculiar to this genus. 1883 *Linnean Soc Proc* XVI 665/1 The upper oral hemisphere of the Trochophore grows more rapidly than the anterior or velar area.

‖ **Velarium** (vɪlē·rĭŭm) Pl **velaria** [L. *vēlare* to awning, f *velum* sail, etc, Velum]

1 *Rom Antiq* A large awning used to cover a theatre or amphitheatre as a protection against sun or rain

1834 Lytton *Pompeii* v ii, The obstinate refusal of one part of the velaria to ally itself with the rest 1836 C Wordsworth *Athens* xiii (1855) 76 As if for the insertion of horizontal beams on which in the more effeminate times of Athens, a velarium, or awning, was perhaps extended 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* 267 When he sat under the purple velaria of the Circus Maximus

*Pract Engineer* 28 Nov 681 The great velarium of the pulpit intended as a sounding board for the preacher's voice was spread over the nave like a vast bird

2 *Zool* The thin marginal rim on the bell of certain hydrozoans

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim Life* 782 The bell itself is somewhat flattened Its margin never be comes inflected inwards when it is thin and velum like it is termed by Huxley a velarium.

**Velary**, *a* [f *vel um* sail see -ary] Pertaining to the sails of a ship

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Velat**, obs form of Velvet

**Velate** (vē'lĕt), *a* [f L. *vēl um* Velum, or ad. L. *vēlat us*, pa pple of *vēlāre* to cover] **a** *Bot* (See quots 1857–66) **b** *Zool* Having a velum.

1857 A Gray *First Less Bot* (1866) 236 *Calat*, furnished with a veil 1866 *Treas Bot* 1206 2 *Velate*, partially covered by a veil 1880 *Nature* XXII 147/2 It is remarkable among all Hydromedusæ (velate medusæ, that is exclusive of Charybdea)

**Velated**, *ppl a*[1] *Obs* [f L *velat us* see prec] Covered over, veiled, hidden

1594 Blundeville *Exercises* IV 39, But when doth it mens. That the Crosse is carried forth by nyght or velated with a cloth ? *Ibid* The Cro se so velated & covered a gnuineth Christ 1599 T Nashe *Summers Last Will* 4 Ay & yet so lubous search into their velated nature, and abscond disposition!

**Velated**, *ppl a*[2] *Zool* [f. L. *vēl-um* Velum] Furnished with a velum or sail like membrane

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 527/2 The physiologist, in investigating the structure of the velated arms [of the octopus], is compelled to disallow them the power of being expanded to meet the breeze 1895 A. H Cooke in *Journ Marine Biological Assoc* 384 The principal agents in the deposition of the shell [of young *Argonauta*] are the two velated or web like arms

**Velation** *rare*—[1] [ad. late L. *velātio*, f. *velare* to veil] **a** The action of veiling or the fact of being veiled. **b** The formation of a velum

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Velau**, **Velazede**, southern ME. var. Fellowred *Obs* **Velawe**, southern ME var Fellow *sb* and *v* **Velcom**, **-oum**, obs Sc ff Welcome

**Velde**, southern ME. var Field, pa t Feel v, Feld Fold v; obs Sc f Wield v

†**Veldeirude** *Obs*—[? Appy f. *velde* Field *sb* + *rude* Rod *sb*.] Herb John

**Veldevare**, **-ver**, dial vart. Fieldfare.

†**Veldt**, **veld** (velt) Also **velt** [a oldér Du *veldt*, now *veld* (velt) see Field *sb*]

**1.** In South Africa, the unenclosed country or open pasture-land.

Freq. with defining terms denoting character or locality as *bush*, *grass*, *high*, *low*, *sour*, *sweet veldt* Hence ocas tional attrib use.

a. 1852 C Barker *Dorp & Veld* 43 My preference for a less confined sleeping place on the open veld 1863 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* ix. 404 I he veli is now full of a poisonous herb which is certain death in a few hours to oxen 1876 *Knysel Brit* V 427/1 The pastoral lands or velds are distinguished according to the nature of the grass or sedge which they produce as 'sweet' or sour 1892 *Table* 123 Aug 260 The priest lived under a tent on the veld

*b* 1862 Colenso *Pentateuch* I 114 Joseph wanders about upon the veldt in search of his brethren 1899 *Daily News* 28 June 5/6 In the veldt with a saddle for one's pillow 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 25 May 7 3 Streets and squares and public buildings, where a year and a half ago was nothing but the boundless veldt

**2** *attrib*, as *veldt fire knowledge lily*, *side*, *stool* Similar uses are common from 1900 onwards.

1861 Anderssen *Okavango River* 49 The tremendous 'veldt fires wh h ravaging the country far and wide, in the it like a h ge fiery furn ce 1863 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* 31 25 5 deal table and a lot of veldt stools and waggon chests the only furniture. 1895 J G Millais *Breath of the Veldt* (1899) 78 A faithful native, who instructed him in veldt knowledge and all the arts of spooring 1899 *Daily News* 24 Oct 5/4 Here the veldt lilies and creeping convolvulus are beginning to bloom

**b.** Special Comb (chiefly with the spelling *veld*), as **veld-cornet**, = *field cornet* Field *sb* 21; **veld fever** (see quot.), **veldkas** [Du *kost* food] (see quot), **veldman**, **veldtsman**, one skilled in living or hunting on the veldt, **veldt pig**, the Lithopian wart-hog (*Phacochærus ethiopicus*); **veld rat**, the striped rat of S Africa, **veld sickness** (see quot); **veld sores**, a form of skin eruption due to living on the open veldt

1852 J C Brown *Arbowetes Narratime* xxiii 350 He went to the drinking place of a veldcornet, a kind of country magistrate. 1899 Rider Haggard *Swallow* ix 1 as Veld Cornet of the district, have tried the case according to the law 1899 Mrs Phillips *S Afr Recoll* 9 "Veld fever" is a malady, a longing indescribable, which comes over many South Africans, who have lived much on the veld 1834 Pringle *Afr Sk* 82 11 e veld kost we will gather *Ibid* 523 *Veld kost*, literally *country food*, is the term used for the wild roots and bulbs eaten by the Bushmen 1899 *Contemp Rev* Oct 475 Stout wardens of the marches who are known to be as good Veldtmen as any Boers in Africa. 1895 J G Millais *Breath of the Veldt* (1899) 286 Tace liked to parade himself as an old Veldtsman 1863 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* vi 155 Just after sunset a fine fat. 'veldt pig' came out of a hole near me 1905 *Spectator* 22 Oct 655 The disease is known in the veld as (*Arcanthus pumilio*), cats, and in one dog 1896 R Wallace *Farming Ind Cape Colony* 82 Animals brought from sweet veld suffer from what is termed 'veld sickness, which results from insufficient nutrition and the l and and irritating nature of the food consumed 1898 Rae *Matabeli Campaign* 61 Owing to the insufficient supply of vegetables, there were several cases of 'veld sores 1901 *Brit Med Jrnl* No 2095 486 Veld sores formed the most frequent entry in the morning company sick reports.

**Veldt-marshal**, variant of Velt-marshal.

**Veldt-shoe**. *S African* Also **velschoen** (*sl*.), veld-, velt-, veldt schoen, veldtschoen. [a or ad Cape Du *veldschoen*, earlier *velschoen*, f. Du *vel* skin, Fell *sb* + *schoen* Shoe *sb*., the first element has been assimilated to *veld* Veldt] A light shoe made of untanned hide.

a 1822 Burchell *Trav* I 214 The Hottentots soon took off the hide, which he flays out in small pieces for the purpose of making *velsch en* (hide shoes) 1883 Olive Schreiner *Afr Farm* i 11, On their feet they wore home made Veld schoen

*Ib* 1834 Pringle *Afr Sk* iv 178 A sort of sandals are in common use, called *veld schoenen* (country shoes) 1850 R G Cumming *Hunter's Life* S Afr (1851) I 39/1 Here I divested myself of my leather trousers shooting belt and velschoens. 1885 Rider Haggard *A Solomon's Mines* (1887) 201, I discarded my trousers, retaining only my velt schoen 1894 *Lad Mail Mag* Sept 38 A loser velcit schoen up in the right foot

y 1865 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* vi 129 No heels to my veldt shoes, which were made of bleskuk skin

†**Vele**, *Obs* Also veale [var of Veil *sb*[1], after It and Sp *velo* I *velum*] A veil or covering

a 1580 Spenser *Three I roper Fett* 1 Wks. (1912) 611 Wote ye why his Moother with a Veale hath coouered his Face? 1591 — *Ruines Rome* Epit Neither shall euer the heauens veale Your tombs deuoted comfasse ouer all 1593 Harvey *Three s Supers* Wks. (Grosart) II 161 To examine matters barely without these veles or babilliments

*B* 1582 N [Rheim] *Heb* ix 3 After the second vele, the tabernacle. *Ibid* x 20 By the vele, that is, his flesh 1590 Spenser *F Q* I vii 11 His full has sheeld, that it cured was, I'nd louse his vele by chaunce, and open flew *Ibid* II xii 77 (Actæa) was mayd All in a vele of silke and siluer thin 1591 Sanford *Emblems*, *Virtue* 35 They with sacred veles and infules afore them Methodised the soldiers minds

**Vele**, southern ME var Feel v, Felle *a*, obs f Veal, obs Sc f Weel *sb*, Well *adv*

+ **Veled**, *ppl a* Obs = [Cf Velle] Veiled

1565 Stevenson *Forty-fourth* 166 They are veled, at tended to singing Gods seruice, came to a common refectory

‖ **Velella**. *Zool*. [mod L (Cmelin and Lamarck), f L *velum* sail] A genus of siphonophorous oceanic hydrozoans, a member of this genus

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 482 The Porpita and Velella which were formerly joined with the Medusæ. 1860 Wrakall *Life in Sea* x 243 The Velellæ have a very extended geographical range. 1861 P G Carpenter in *Rep Smithsonian Instit* 1860 226 The animals are believed to sleep by day and prey upon the Jelly fish and Velellas by night 1882 *Cassell's Nat Hist* VI 284 The little Velella has been compared to a little raft with an obliquely placed upright sail

Hence **Vele llidous** *a*, related to *Velella*

1845 *Fraser's Magazine* VII 268/1 The Velellidous Acalephs have within their soft substance a cartilaginous or calcareous plate or disc.

**Velem**, obs f Vellum **Velen**, **Velenie**, obs ff Villain n, a, Villainy **Velewit**, obs f Vellvet **Velfull**, obs Sc f. Wealful *a*. **Velicotte**, obs. variant of Velikoat.

**Veliferous** (vĭlĭ·fĕrəs), *a*. [f. L. *vēlifer*, f *velum* Velum see -ferous]

†**1.** Carrying sails. *Obs*

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Velliferous*, that bears saile, or is under sail as a ship 1674 Evelyn *Navig & Commerce* 53 Nay, so addicted were they to sailing, that they invented Velliferous Chariots, and to Sail upon the Land. 1697 —

*Nummata* VIII 280 Sheri us who framed the Veliferous Chario.

**2** *Zool* Bearing a velum , membranous.

1891 T R Jones *Anim Kingd* (ed 4) 614 With its veliferous arms thus firmly embracing its abode, the Argonaut has two modes of progression

**† Veli flo(at,** *a Obs*⁻⁰ [f L. *velificus* ] (See quots ) Also † Veli floate *v* [f *velificare, -ari*], **Velifloa tion** [ad L *velificatio*] *Obs*⁻⁰

1623 Cockeram I, *Velificate* to saile *the Velification*, a sailing 1656 Blount *Glossogr* , *Velifical*, that is done with sails displayed or full spread *Ibid*, *Velification* a sailing forwards or hasting on a course or voyage 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Velifick* done or performed with Sails

**Ve llform,** *a rare*⁻⁰ [f L. *vela* Velum ] Having the form of a velum

1891 in *Cent Dict*

**Veliger** (vi lidʒər) *Zool* [f as prec + *ger* bearing Cf L *veliger* sail bearing ] A mollusc an larva furnished with a velum or ciliated swimming membrane. Also *attrib*

1877 Huxley *Anat Inv Anim* VII 497 In the great majority of the *Gymnophora* the young leaves the egg as a *veliger* very similar to that of the *Lamellibranchiata* 1878 J J Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp Anat* 313 The Velieer stage is not always developed 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 6 4/2 In development they pass through the trochal or trochosphere and veliger stages provided with boat like shell

**Veligerous** (vɛlɪ dʒĕrəs), *a Zool* [Cf prec and gerous ] Of certain larval forms Bearing, or furnished with, a velum

1877 Huxley *Anat Inv Anim* VII 485 It is obvious that the two have in com non with the *Annelida* the ciliated or veligerous larval form 1880 P M Halpour *Comp Embryol* I 190 In prosobranchs the Gastropods the free swimming veligerous larva myhave a long existence

**Velim(e,** obs ff Vellum

**Velinche(r** see Valinch(er.

**Velipend,** obs Sc f Vitilend *v*

**† Velitand,** *v Obs*⁻¹ In 7 viltande [Irreg f *velut ans* of next ] *intr* To skirmish

1641 Sir E. Dering *2 nd Sc Lanct* etc 10 q [As] the Roman Velites who did use to begin the Battaile so shall I but viltande, and skirmish, whilst the maine Battaile is setting forwards

**† Ve litary,** *a Obs* [ad L *velitaris*, f *velit-, veles* see Velites ] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, light-armed troops

1600 Holland *Livy* 995 The Consull had made provision aforehand of great store of darts light veliture gave lines arrowes a id small stones 1623 Bingham *Lipsius's Comparison Xenophon* 5 Surely the most of our men are vnarmed and what else, but to be compared to velitare bands? 1632 Holland *Cyropædia* 119 They who at that time defated the vel tary fight and skirmish of Archers and Javeliciers. 1640 ] Robinson *Mor Proposit con* Pref 30 iv, My intention is by exercise in a velitary way, to skir mish with some whom I dissent from

**Velita tion.** Now *rare* Also 7 vellet [ad I *velitatio*, n of *velitari*, f *velit-, veles* see next ]

1. A slight or preliminary engagement with an enemy , a skirmish

1616 Buttokar *Eng Expos*, *Velitations* skirmishes, fightings 1621 Burton *Anat Mel* III iv 1 iv Let him read those Pharsalian fields fought 11 time s 1 a ra for religion, the massacres and bloudshed that is to be but velit tat ns to them 1692 O Walker *Q & A Rom Hist* 160 If any one killed an Enemy in any Velitation or pickering when they fought in ran ks it was rewarded with a spear without a head called Hasta pura 1832 J P Kennedy *Swallow B* xxix (1850) 265 In which latter species of employment it was his luck to hold fe quent velitations with the enemy

**2** *fig* A wordy skirmish or encounter , a controversy, debate, or dispute not carried to extremes (Very common in 17th cent )

1597 R Barnes *Dr Allen's Assertor* 11 3 Forbeare your idle vellettations. 1657 W Morice *Coena quasi* Koun xxiv 249 In all these velitations ag unst their dear brethren the Apostles lyeth not a two cubit bloud 1693 Jeremy *Nares Lights Pt I* Pref 3 His Censure is but a light Velitation if compared with the black charge of guilt 1702 C Mather *Mag Chris* III vi (1852) 503 All the velitations were peculiarly furled up in this att 1721 Wollaston *Relig Nat* III § 4 That question in Plato in my have place among the velitations of philosophers But a mu ch an scarce pr opose it seriously to himself 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* VIII While the ladies were engaged in the light snappish velitation or skirmish which we have described 1831 De Quincey *Blackw Mag* XXIX 903 the very best of his performances being mere velitations, skirmishes, or aca demic exerci es.

‖ **Velites** (vɛ lɪtēz), *sb pl* [I *velites*, pl of *velit-, veles* so F. *vélites* ] Light armed soldiers employed as skirmishers in the Roman armies

1600 Holland *Livy* 532 The light armed darters (called Velites) so assailed the defendants that they [etc ] 1641 [see Velitand ] 1708 Chambers *Cycl Velites* in the Roman Army a kind of infantry Soldiery who were arm d with a J velin, a Cask Cuirasse and Shield 1845 *Encycl Metrop* VII 191 Of the *velites*, or y ungest and fourth order of troops Polybius makes no mention in his deta ls of Roman castrametation 1869 Houtell *Arms & Armour* iv 59 The *velites* or light inf antry whose entire equipment was in exact conformity with their distinctive denomination 1892 L. Villari *Life & Times Machiavelli* II viii 326 [Transl M s Art of War] In order that the battalion may be protected on all sides it is strengthened by 1500 extra foot soldiers, of whom 1000 are armed with pikes, and 500 velites.

**† Velit volant,** *a Obs*⁻⁰ [ad L. *velivolans* ] (See quot )

1696 Blount *Glossogr*., *Velivolant*, running and (as it were) flying with full sail.

**Vell,** *sb dial* Also 8–9 velve [Of obscure origin , *vell* is no doubt a reduction of *velve*, and the initial *v* may stand for original *f* ] (See quots )

1794 *Act 11 Geo* I c 7 Addit Ills Rates Clause Velves to make Rennet *c* 1789 *Ewapel Brit* (ed 3) IV 369/2 Let the vell maw, rennet bag (or by whatever name it is called), be perfectly sweet 1812 J Smyth *Tract on Customs* (1821) 58 Calves Velves or Vells are the Maws or Stomachs of Calves which have fed entirely upon Milk After being salted or kept some time the Vells are infused in a preparation of salt and water for the making of Rennet. *c* 1830 *Gloue Farm Rep* 32 (L U K ) 111, Rennet or runnet is made from the stomachs of calves called here 'veils Irish vells are the best 1861 *Trans R Agric Soc* XXII 1 59 The rennet does not keep well when made in any quantity of pickled vells. 1886–93 in dial glossaries (Glouc , Wilts., Som )

**Vell,** *v sw dial.* Also 9 fell [f *vell*, southwestern dialect var Fell *sb* 1] *trans* To strip (land) of turf by means of a skimming plough Also Velled *ppl a* , Ve lling *vbl sb*

1674 Ray *S & C Words* 78 *Velling*, Plowing up the turf or upper surface of the ground, to lay on heaps to burn West countrey [Hence in Phillips (1706) etc ] 1790 W H Marshall *Rur Econ W Dyon* I 143 For velling, the skimming plough with the single or coulter point of the wing or fin turned upward, to separate the turf securely from the soil *Ibid W Y gl'nd* II 8 A so aderable portion of the country is now set with roof heaps of Lime and with velled Turf 1797 Encycl Brit (ed 3) Grass Inclosures velled for Wheat 1837 J F Palmer *Devonsh Dial* Gloss 38 The balk or narrow slip which is left in velling the land 1871 J Caird *Agric* 118 If an old grass field with a thick face is to be taken into culture, the skimming plough is used and the process is called felling

**Vell,** obs var Veal **Vellas,** obs f Vellum

**Vella,** obs f Velvet **Velle,** southern Me. var Fell *sb* and *v*, Fill *v* , pa t Fall *v*

**Velleity** (vɛlɪ ɪtɪ) Also 7 velleitie [ad med L *velleit it , velleitas*, f I *velle* to will, wish see -ity Cf. I *velleitē* (16th c ), It *vellezà*, Sp *veleidad*, Pg *vellevdade* ]

1. The fact or quality of merely willing, wishing, or desiring, without any effort or advance towards action or realization

1618 Br Hall *Contempt*, *N T* (1634) 101 Thy word alone, thy beck alone thy wish alone, yea, the least act of velleity from thee might have wrought this cure 1620 Bacon *Max & Uses Com Law* Rule 831 We must distinguish Between the simple Velleity of the Will and the choice that followeth the Comparate act of the intellect 1690 Norris *Reflections* (1694) 105 By impotent willing meaning that natural velleity or weak inclination we have to any good 1708 Lucker *It Nat* (1834) I 20 Velleity can scarce be called a power f r I power which never operates is no power 1808 Bentham *Sc Reform* 19 Is it good in I ordsh p will to volition clothed and ar med with power in me it is here i sert velleity 1828 *New Monthly Mag* I II 124 Th s vague exuberance of velleity for education must presuppose some pending judi fi ation for the task 1866 Lovell *Study Wond* (1870) 191 Chateaubriand had the same hyrmless velleity of self destruction 1867 — *Universum* Prose Wks. 1890 II 250 He and all like him mistake emotion for conviction velleity for resolve

2 With *a* and pl A mere wish, desire, or inclination not accompanying volition or effort

Very common in the 17th c 1 i w s mewhat rare

1624 F White *Repl Fisher* 78 The antecedent will of God is only a velleitie or wishing that a thing might be 1640 Br Reynolds *Passions* xviii 180 Velleities are onely Velleities and not Volitions halfe and broken wishes, not wholes desires. 1698 J Norris *Cons I effect* 37 The same might also be affirmed of the Actions of the Will under which of which are perfect and compleat Determinations, others only Velleities *or* Inclinations 1720 — *Chr Prud* VI 229 The one leaves it in a manner in our power to act or not to act Love or Velleity is its call d 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 315 We may have vehement Willings Longings Volitions and Velleities 1808 Bentham *Sc Reform* 2 Precedes, admits variations to a certain extent in the velleities impulses blind longi gs and velleities 1873 Browning *Red Cott Nt - cap* IV 415 No matter what his least velleity, I was determined he should have a wife

b Const with various preps , as *after*, *against*, *for*, *of*, *towards* (something) Also with *to* and inf

1633 *Ames French Suit aorist Ceremonies* II 20 No imperfect velleities of goods are so interpreted 1658 N Culverwel *Lt Nature* (1857) 208 Nature is that law but some weak glimpses of Him lives but faint and languishing velleities after Him 1680 H Dodwell *Two Lett* (1691) 7 The designing the more noble end for the less noble implies no volition but only a velleity for that which is more noble *Ibid* 48 Terrify'd men from their sins so as not only to make them entertain some struggling velleities against them [etc ] 1795 Hussey in Burke *C rr* (1844) IV 280 Some of the prelates have sh wed a velleity to make a stand in the upper house. 1823 Lyson *Greece* II lxxxix XI 129 The effect was not the less produced of disgusting Dionysius with his velleities towards political good 1861 Mill *Repr Govt* 300 The executive, with a view to feed but faint velleities of something better 1887 *Dublin Rev* July 194 There is no reason to suspect the slightest velleity to bring any pressure to bear on the matter

**Vellem,** obs f Vellum **Vellenage,** obs f Villainage **Vellet(t,** obs forms of Velvet

**Velletation,** obs f Velitation.

**Ve llicate,** *v* Now *rare* or *Obs* Also 7 velliost [f L *vellicāt* , ppl. stem of *vellicāre*, frequentative of *vellĕre* to pull, pluck, twitch, etc. Cf. Sp *vulcar*, Pg *vellicar* ]

1 *trans.* Of things To act upon or affect so as to irritate , *esp* to pluck, nip, pinch, or tear (a part of the body ) freq in the 17th and 18th centuries.

1604 F Hering *Modest Defence* 26 They [i e strong medicines] doe forcibly vellicate, offend and violat her [Nature] 1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 87 Those corrosive fretting, pontick, and acid juyces, which vellicate and prick the nerves. 1685 Boyle *Exp Nature Nat* 223 The fibres of the Stomach, Bowels, and other Parts being vellicated by the Plenty or Acrimony of the Peccant Matter 1708 *Brit Apollo* No 113 2/2 Some sharp Humor on that part may vellicate and twitch it 1783 Bryant *Flora Diluviana* 168 A hairy irritaly substance, which will, by pricking and vellicating the coats of stomach and bowels, many times occasion sickness 1820–9 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 82 The same effect is produced whenever the teeth are vellicated by smooth substances, as a piece of silk or velvet *Ibid* 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 61 The ætherea oil being deprived of the acid spirit in distillation, which vellicating and contracting as a stimulus might have proved a counter poise to the excessive lubricating qualities of the oil

2 Of persons To tickle or titillate

1755 *Phil Trans* XLIX 220, I vellicated the pericranium with the end of a knife. *a* 1778 C Darwin *Experiments* (1780) 94 Thus, if you vellicate the throat with a feather, nausea is produced 1796–8 C Darwin *Zoon* I 51 So when ch ldren expect to be tickled in play by gently vellicating the soles of their feet Laughter is most vehemently excited

**† 2** *fig* To carp at , to criticize adversely) *Obs*

1633 T Adams *Exp 2 Peter* II 1 These are they that vellicate authority 1662 Owen *Animad Frat Jun* VI If any one have a mind to vellicate commonly received maxims. 1686 H More in *Enthus Triumph* (1688) 88 Reading the confirmation of your Hypothesis, which I took the bold ness a little to vellicate

3 *intr* To twitch, to contract or move con vulsively *rare*

1670 Maynwaring *Vita Sana* XIII 120 Fast not, but satisfie the Stomach when it vell cites and calls for meat 1864 Webster, *Vellicate*, to move spasmodically; to twitch ; as, a nerve vellicates.

Hence **Ve llicating** *ppl a*

1659 *Address to Gentry Eng* 81 Many a pregnant spirit is suffocate in the straight enclosures of a confining vellicating fortune 1684 tr *Boate's Ireland Compl* 111 It weakens the vellicating Humours from the original of the Nerves 1743 tr *Hester's Surg* 365 The increased Flux of Feirs, excited by the vellicating Body 1751 Smollett *Per Ic* (1779) I xiii 112 Lubricating injections to defend the coats of the stomach from the vellicating particles 1768 *Philanatory* 218 A vellicating and pungent action 1853 Mayne *Expos Lex* 48 *Anodyne*, allaying a vellicating

**Vellica tion.** Now *rare* or *Obs* [ad L. *vellicatio*, noun of action f *vellicare* to Vellicate. Cf. older f *vellication* (Cotgr ), It. *vellicazione*, Sp *vulicacion*, Pg *vellicação* ]

1 The action or process of pulling or twitching; irritation or stimulation by means of small or sharp points, titillation or tickling

1623 Cockeram I, *Vellication* plucking 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 37 Therfore we see that almost all Purgers have a kind of Twiching and vellication 1655 Culpepper, etc *Alexander* VI i 230 The Pleura and Membrane in the hole of the Tooth which doth suffer distension and vellication *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III xlv (1694) 371 Is it not daily even how School masters shake the Heads of their Disciples that by this Erection Vellication stretching and pulling their Ears they may stir them up? 1728 Quincy *C mpl Disp* 127 The Vellication or Irritation of the Fibres and Membranes 1794–6 E Darwin *Zoon* (1801) I 281 Here the pleasurable idea of playfulness coincides with the vellication 1820–9 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 147 The vellication of a hair brush contrived for the purpose *Ibid* IV 690 The best artificial means of obtaining so salutary an action is by a free and laborious process of friction vellication and shampooing

**2** An instance or occasion of this , also, a twitching or convul ive movement, esp of a muscle or other part of the body

1665 *Colle tion Plague Pieces* (1721) 21 There happens a Vellication in the nervous Parts 1795 Ploy *Epidem* 200 Several vellications in the Intestines by sharp humors 1823 Stukeley in *Mem* (1882) I 69 After some vellications and preludes the Gout seiz d upon my right foot 1756 C Lucas *Ess Waters* II 67 Slight vellications of the skin 1783 Johnson *Lett* (1788) II 339 These vellications of my breast shorten my breath

*In rod* 1781 Johnson *Prayers & Medit* (1817) 193 At night I had some mental vellications, or revulsions

**Ve llicative,** *a rare* [f as Vellicate *v* + ive ] Having the quality of vellicating , causing irritation or twitching

1820–9 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 82 They [i e teeth] are colloquially said to be set on edge ; and that in two ways as follows — From jarring noises. From vellicative or acrid substances

**† Ve llicle,** *Obs rare* [ad I type **vellicu lum*, f. *vellĕre* to pluck, pull ] Something which pinches or nips so as to hold fast (see quot )

1676 H More *Rem* 145 I he Power of the Laws of Nature, in colliating strickly I airs of the most dextanial Textures and Consistences without the Help of Vellicles, Hooks, or Grappers *Ibid* 147

**Velling,** *vbl. sb* see Vell *v*

**Vellom,** obs form of Vellum.

‖ **Vellon** (velyǒn). Also **ɣ vellion** [Sp *vellon* see BILLON] Copper, as used in Spanish coinage. Used esp. in the denomination of certain coins, as *real (of) vellon*. see REAL *sb* 1

1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem* (1830) 202 We let our dispense for 72,000 reals vellon a year. 1682 RICAUT *tr Courtan's Critick* 10 Rdr, We were dispatched home with 2 millions under the name of 12 Ingots to be at our Expences, paid in Vellon, or the Base Copper Money of Spain. 1708 CHAMBERS *Cyc* s.v. *Money* Spanish Method of Account is by the Peso, Ducat of Silver, and Vellon, Real of Vellon, and Cornados and Maravedis of Silver and Vellon. 1798 MAJ. HUGHES *Pract* (1817) II 48 The price of the load of four Fanegas Wheat was 100 reals vellon. 1839 *Penny Cycl* XV 345/1 It passes in Spain for 20 reals vellon *altered* 1676 ‖ LADY FANSHAWE *Mem* (1830) 196 October the 14th the King proclaimed the lowering the vellon money to the half.

**Vellon**, dial form of BYELON *sb*.

**Velloped**, error for *jelloped* JELOPED *a*

1780 LUMSDOMON *Heraldry* II Gloss., *Velp'd*, a cock is said to be armed, crested, and velloped, when his spurs, comb, and gills are of a different tincture from the body.

**Vellot(e**, obs. forms of VELVET

**† Vellous**, *sb* and *a* *Sc Obs* Forms: 4 5 vell-, wellowis, vellous, -us, 5–6 wellous, 5 velluous, vous, -uus, welwous, 6 -uous, -uos, velwis, etc [? OF *velous*, *velos*, *velous*, *velous*, later F *velours* VELOURS] = VELVET *sb* and *a*

a 1430 *Myrr Church Mac* III 196, I rede cap of vellowis *Ibid* 197 A blew cloth wellowis. 1474 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 11, 23 clise of vellous for a fute mantil *Ibid* 69, 91 clise of vellus for a kirtil. 1503 *Ibid* II 237 For ane vellus bonet to the Lrie of Murray.

*β* 1473 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 73, 1114 clise of rede cramosy velwus. 1492 *Aberd Reg Treas Accts*, *velwis*, clise of Welwous. 1530 *Burgh Rec Edinb* (1871) II 27 Ane schott of grene velwis. 1561 *Inv L Warde* (1815) 124 Ane bed of blak velwus. 1586 SIR R. MAITLAND *Journ* (Pinkerton, 1786) 326 I hair gouns Barrit with velwus.

**Vellum** (ve·lŏm) Forms: *α* 5 velym, 5 6 velyme, 5 7 velim, 6 velime, velum, 7 vellom. *β* 5, 7 velum, 5–7 velume (7 volumne), 7– velum 7 velom, 7–8 velom. *δ* 7 valemo, 7 8 velam, vellam. [ad. OF *velin* (*vellim*, *vellin*, etc., mod F. *vélin*), f. *veel* VEAL *sb*, with change of *n* to *m* as in *pelgrim*, *venom*.]

**1.** A fine kind of parchment prepared from the skins of calves (lambs or kids) and used especially for writing, painting or binding, also, any superior quality of parchment or an imitation of this.

*Vig Bible vellum* see VELLUM 1 7

*α* 1440 *Promp Parv* 528/2 Velym, *membrana*. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* 1 XV 81 That Holi Writ mai be take for the outward lettris written and schapin vnder dyuse ymagris or picturis, or in velym. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg* 80 b, Hire monnis that we wryte vp on, and is made of beestis skyn ses, is somtyme called parchement, somtyme velim. 1538 R. HAVERCKE tr *Lomna* 60 b 127 The Painters vse general grounides, ye vse vpon paper, parchment or velime. 1544 *Direct Publ Worship* Ord 3 A fair register book of velim. *Ap* 1611 ‖ DAVIES (Heref) *To Worthy Persons* Wks (Grosart) II 62/1 Vpon this unspotted velim all thy face Nature hath printed characters of grace.

*β* 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III 111 (1883) 93 The Notaryes, skryuers, corys nare and cutthewayes were to by vsyn ses of hydes As parchemyn, velume, pl. ptreye and cordewin. 1499 *Cresc tithe Church* 10 *Acc* (Somn Rec Soc) 24 A mass boke of velum lymnyde. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Answer Actor & Scholia* Scorn 19 A childe With gilded lewtes or coloud velume playes. 1618 DRUMM OF HAWTH *Flowers of Sion, Rh Work*, But wilde was (like foulish Paper) ours, Well plaid, not well coloured Velumne. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal* xvi 196 And without doubt it was immortal Velum and stolin from the Parchmentes of Jove. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v iii I have no old fox by my Bed, shall huck your incontinent of rain vellom to shreds, sir! 1710 ‖ CLARKE tr *Bonnet's Nat Hist* (1759) I 243 The Retina [of an artificial eye] was made of a very fine thin Piece of Velum. *a* 1781 R WATSON *Philip III*, II (1783) 159 The deed was written on paper, an not on vellum, as was usual in all treaty actions of importance. 1845 J. HOGG *Jacobite Relics* I 5 Five these have not had such opulen w ye and Indian leaf The shadows of meloth ns utterance. 1855 MRS OSBORNE *North & It*, The Psalter of Dante on parchment, full Italian binding of white vellum and gold. 1875 S SMITH *Sec Ed Test* 16 The durable fine vellum of our oldest extant codic s.

*γ* 1784 COWPER *Task* I 569 The sportive wind blows wide Their fluttering rags, and shows a tawny skin, The vellum of the pedigree they claim.

*γ* 1801 HARDWICK *Paw Jrn* XIII (1645) 110 [To] shoal is the heavens, and in them fair large characters drawn in faire velom] the glory of their maker. 1683 MOXON *Mech Exerc*, *Printing*, One of the first Books Printed on Paper, (that of Fusty and Schoiffer) Velluni. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Parchment*, What we call Vellom is only Parchment made of the Skins of abortive Calves or at least of sucking Calves.

*δ* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIV lxxvi The house is builded like a mazie within, . . The shape when of plotted in velam than I will you glue with my hand. 1611 FLORIO *Ital Dict*, He cancelled a line in the margent of the velume. 1632 QUARLES *Div Fancies* II xiii, Hee Who sue milk white Vellum did uncurre No least suspition of a Blurre. 1706 HEARNE *Collect* (O H S) I 248 A MS. in velum. 1715 *Ibid* V 130 King Henry the VIII[th]'s Primer upon Vellam.

*Ag* 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV iv Can you think This master peece of heaven, this prettiest vellum, Of such a purrite and virgin whitenesse, Could be design'd to haue perisure, and whoredome, writ vpon't?

**2** A piece or sheet of this material; a manuscript or testimonial written on vellum.

*c* 1430 LYDG. *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 204 A froward velym upon to wryt. 1687 *Death's Vision* (1723) 2 *note*, Like a Velum upon the Head of a Drum. 1898 G VIGFUSSON *Sturlunga Saga* I p. clx, A quarto of 200 leaves when mature (about the largest size ever reached by an Icelandic vellum). 1900 *Westm Gaz* 23 Oct 6/3 He and his brother received the vellum of the Royal Humane Society for their plucky conduct.

**3.** *attrib* and *Comb.* **a.** Attrib in the senses 'made of, resembling, of the nature of, bound in, vellum'.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met* IV 507 With sheare and volume wings. 1570 DEE *Math Pref* 11, All these finely designe mentes, be in velume parchmunt described. 1586 HOOKER *Hist Ireld* in *Holinshed* II 94/1 He ought rather to make sute for some good vellam parchment for the ingrossing there of. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossographia Lowres* iv 3, Not all thy Eschuum nor thy Vellum friends, those devil comp mise on on thy Shelves shall be more faithful [etc.] 1691 CLEVELAND *Poems* 46 Who plant Religion in their Vellum cells, As in their Physicks the Jews did theirs. 1707 HEARNE *Collect* (O H S) I 330 A very Ancient Vellam MS. 1740 RICHARD SON *Pamela* (1824) I 216 Mr Longman has already put finished me with a vellum book of white paper. 1820 LAMB *Elia's South Sea House*, The costly vellum covers of some Folianl ac books. 1881 Miss BRADDON *Mt Royal* III v 88 A handsome vellum envelope.

**b** *Comb.* With pa pples, as *vellum-bound*, *-covered*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw* IV, With vellum covered books under their arms. 1838 *Mon Rev* II *Gen of Nov* 74 A vellum bound book with massive silver clasps. 1866 TROLLOPE *Hist* (1868) II Her writing table, with vellum covered account books on it.

**c** Special Combs **vellum-binder** (see quot. 1848), **vellum binding**, the process or trade of binding account-books, also *attrib*, **vellum** cloth, tracing-cloth, † **vellum mode** (see MODE *sb* 11, quot 1795), **vellum paper**, a paper made to imitate vellum; hence *vellum paper-d* adj., **vellum post** (see quot), **vellum thunder** *poet*, the noise made by the parchment of a drum

1848 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, *Vellum-binder*, a book binder who covers books with vellum, and makes account-books. 1891 *Pall Mall G* 20 Nov 3/1 Three of them are connected with the bookbinders—that is the binders of printed books and the fourth with the vellum binders the technical name for account book binders. 1835 J HASSETT *Intrloper* III 230 (Stationers) or Vellum Binders. 1891 *Pall Mall G* 20 Nov 3/1 As soon as it was known that the bookbinders were going to concede the eight hours, several of the best vellum binding firms conveited it. 1888 JACOB *Printer's Pocket-bk* 153 *Vellum Tinfoil*, a tin lwriting paper with a vellum surf s e. *Ibid*, *Vellum wove paper*, a wove writing paper with a vellum surfa e. 1898 *Westm Gaz* 15 Dec 3/2 *Int Exhib* (title) Book at the "vellum papered 32 mo. 1847 WEBSTER, *Vellum*, a peculiar sort of superior writing paper. 1726 *Gay Fables* I 1 Sweet as the Sounds of Drums—that martial Fife; And with their *Vellom Thunder* shake the Pile

Hence **Ve llumy** *a*, relating to or resembling vellum (Worcester, 1846 citing *Ex. Rev*)

**Vellure**, obs form of VELURE

**† Vellute**. *Obs rare*. [ad. It *velluto*, or var. of *velluto* VELVET *sb*, after this.] Velvet

1561 T HOBY tr *Castiglio ne's Courtyer* 1 (1577) Fly, high shooes of vellute and hir hose fitting close to hir legge. 1638 B JONSON *Magn. Lady* v iii, [He] will save his gloues to work in another Mistris, cut work smocks.

**Velly**, dial var *jelly* JELLOE

**† Velo cuman**. *Obs rare*. [ad *b velocumane*, f *velocs-* (after VELOCIPEDE) + ]. *man us* hand] A contrivance of the nature of a velo ipede, but propelled by hand

1818 *Scots Mag* (1819) 1 was advertised in the *Morning Chron* of 12 May 1817 as Hobby *sb*[1] 4

1869 *N & Q* 4th Ser IV 240 The Swiss inventor styles his Carriage a *velocumane*. 1882 C. I. DOUGLAS in Collingwood *Rhythm of Life* (1883) 249 Went out with Charley, and did four miles on one of his velocumans, very pleasantly. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, *Velocumane*, a species of tricycle like that velocipeding and Danube boating at Pesth. 1890 WILLIAMS *Real Acc. Inv ent* II 486 The rest afforded to the velocipedist between his steps which set the machine in motion, enables him to proceed much quicker. 1898 *Pall Mall G* 28 April 10/2 The Velocumane Company of Amateur Velocipedists.

**Velocity** (vĭlo·sĭti). Also 6 *Sc* **velocite**, 6–7 **velocitie**. [ad. F. *velocité* (14th cent.) = It *velocità*, Sp *velocidad*, Pg. *-adade*) or I. *velocitat*, *velocitas*, f *velocs*, *velox* swift, rapid SEC. -ITY]

1. Rapidity or celerity of motion, swiftness, speed.

1550 ROWLAND *Crt Venus* I 672 They had him pas with all velocite To the Gracis. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 220 This lyrde is of such velocitie and swyftnes in flyng that (etc) 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 115 The Lybian Roes (saith hee) are of an admirable velocity of swiftnesse. 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* 235 Dolphins Being the Hyeroglyphick of celerity, men best expressed their velocity by incurvity, and under some forme of a bow. 1704 HARRIS *Lex Technica* (1710) 74 His Blood flows with its due Velocity. 1789 MRS PIOZZI *Journ. France* II 370 Black heaths, and wild uncultivated plains, over which the unresisted wind sweeps with a velocity I never yet was witness to. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim Biog* (1803) III 74 Some of the species are enabled to sprng with great force and velocity on their prey. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng* III 379 The flying coaches are excelled as far superior to any similar vehicles ever known in the world. Their velocity is the subject of special commendation.

**1.** = **DANDY-HORSE**, **HOBBY** *sb*[1] 4, **HOBBY-HORSE** 5 *Obs* exc. *Hist.*

1819 *Monthly Mag* March 256 A machine called the Velocipede, or Swift Walker. Invented by Baron Drais and patented in England by Denis Johnson, coachmaker, of Long Acre, in 1818. 1819 KEATS *Lett* (1899) 300 The nothing of the day is a machine called the velocipede. It is a wheel carriage to ride cock horse upon, sitting astride and pushing it along with the heels, a rudder wheel in hand. 1823 ‖ BADDOCK *Dom Amusem* 209 He never proceeded with his machine at a greater rate than five miles an hour, and yet named it Velocipede. 1839 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* II 244/1 The horse will take longer steps, and longer springs or leaps, in the same way as a man upon a velocipede. 1850 in OGILVIE

† **b** A kind of roller-skate. *Obs*

1825 *Mech Mag* V 79 A Velocipede intended to be fixed on one foot, the *velocipedestrean* pushes himself away with the other

**2** A travelling-machine having wheels turned by the pressure of the feet upon pedals; *esp.* an early form of the bicycle or tricycle, a 'bone-shaker'. Now *rare* (Quot 1853 may belong to sense 1.)

1849–50 WEALE *Diet Terms* s v 1851 *Catal Gt Exhib* 1 No 991, Velocipede, consisting of three wheels. 1853 R S SURTEES *Soapey Sp Tour* (1893) 369 He is riding a miserable rat of a badly clapped mouse coloured pony, that looks like a velocipede under him. 1868 G. HOME *Diary* 126 The unprecedented reaction is moving on with the swiftness of a velocipede. 1886 *Cyclist Touring Club Gaz* IV 146 Bicycles, tricycles, and other velocipedes. *Ibid* 149 Every cyclist using a velocipede.

**3** *transf.* & Applied to persons

1820 *New Monthly Mag* VI 344 In the Ballet we have nothing new to report. M Paul, a true velocipede continues to electrify the astonished natives. 1891 *Pall Mall G* *One of our Conq* XVI He's a worthy little velocipede, as I can bear calls him

**b.** A light-running vehicle.

1838 *Blackw Mag* XLIII 340 Stage coaches were not the velocipedes that they now are. 1842 R FORD in *Smiles Publisher & Private Lr* (1891) II 495, I read Borrow with great delight all the way down per rail, and it shortened the rapid flight of that velocipede.

**4** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *velocipede carriage*, *-crank*, *traffic*, *velocity*, *-wise* adv.

1819 *Centl Mag* LXXXIX 1 423 With our heavy popu lati on, Velocipede carriages will be a perfect be substitute. 1819 *Blackw Mag* XI VI. 39 The rush of waters hurrying with velocipede velocity in opposite directions. 1869 *H Hopeton* 278 He sings velocipede wise, turning the crank himself. 1870 *Belgravia* Feb 444 A paddle wheel furnished with velocipede cranks.

Hence **Velocipe dean**, **Velo cipedar**, = VELOCIPEDIST **Velocipede striarian** *a*, = VELOCIPEDIC *a*; *sb* one who uses a velocipede (see sense 1 b above), also **Velocipede striarism**, the practice of using the velocipede. **Velocipe dian**, = VELOCIPEDIST **Velocipe dic** *a*, of or pertaining to velocipedes. **Velo cipeding** *vbl sb*, the action or practice of using a velocipede. **Velo cipedist** [ad. F. *velocipédiste*], one who rides a velocipede

1842 HOWITT *Rur Life of England* I 431 He was a very adroit Velocipedean. 1869 *Daily News* 9 March, As the bicycles gained the open country the velocipedians began to work in earnest. 1869 *Sporting Life* 29 A 'Velocipeder presented himself at a turnpike, and demanded, 'What's to pay?' 1869 *Sat Amer* 13 Feb 101 The varies of Velocipedestrian Science. *Ibid* 9 Jan 25 Velocipedestrianism, a word applied for the times, is easier to learn than skating. 1869 *Echo* 2 Dec The invention of the crank nailed machine gave a great impulse to velocipede-strianism. 1869 *Velocipedist* (N Y) April 1/2 A velocipedian, after a fair amount of experience, finds himself at home inside his two wheeler. 1892 *Times* 22 April 5/5 Dr Mussy 50 keenmen of the Velocipedic Union. Under the advantages of cycling to school boys tourists, and soldiers. 1869 *Vel cycle* (N Y) April 2/1 'Velocipeding is a hopeful sign of progress. 1886 W J Fawcett *Tour* 109 Just like that velocipeding and Danube boating at Pesth. 1890 WILLIAMS *Real Acc. Inv ent* II 486 The rest afforded to the velocipedist between his steps which set the machine in motion, enables him to proceed much quicker. 1868 *Ivrnl Soc Nov* 408 The velocipedists have stolen a march on the coming flying man. 1865 *Pall Mall G* 28 April 10/2 The 1st Peterboro Society of Amateur Velocipedists.

**Velocity** (vĭlo·sĭti). Also 6 *Sc* **velocite**, 6–7 **velocitie**. [ad. F. *velocité* (14th cent.) = It *velocità*, Sp *velocidad*, Pg. *-adade*) or I. *velocitat*, *velocitas*, f *velocs*, *velox* swift, rapid SEC. -ITY]

1. Rapidity or celerity of motion, swiftness, speed.

1550 ROWLAND *Crt Venus* I 672 They had him pas with all velocite To the Gracis. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 220 This lyrde is of such velocitie and swyftnes in flyng that (etc) 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 115 The Lybian Roes (saith hee) are of an admirable velocity of swiftnesse. 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* 235 Dolphins Being the Hyeroglyphick of celerity, men best expressed their velocity by incurvity, and under some forme of a bow. 1704 HARRIS *Lex Technica* (1710) 74 His Blood flows with its due Velocity. 1789 MRS PIOZZI *Journ. France* II 370 Black heaths, and wild uncultivated plains, over which the unresisted wind sweeps with a velocity I never yet was witness to. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim Biog* (1803) III 74 Some of the species are enabled to sprng with great force and velocity on their prey. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng* III 379 The flying coaches are excelled as far superior to any similar vehicles ever known in the world. Their velocity is the subject of special commendation.

**b.** *spec.* Relative rapidity; rate of motion.

1696 tr. *Hobbes' Hem. Philos.* (1839) 123 Motion, in as much as a certain length may in a certain time be transmitted by it, is called Velocity or swiftness. *c* 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 91 The Velocity in *A* is to the Velocity in *P* as *S N* to *S H*. But as the Velocities in *A* and *P*, so are the Spaces run in the same time, by the Bodies. 1743 W. Emerson *Elem. Optics* v. It is the general Practice in Mechanics, to measure the Velocity of a Body by the Space uniformly described in a given Time. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Arts* I. 2 Mechanics is a science which treats of the forces, motions, velocities, and in general, of the actions of bodies upon one an other. 1823 Barlow's *Introd. Geom. Pref.* (1825) 16 In mechanics, the important question of the ratio between the velocity and momentum is still undecided. 1887 Livingstone *Trav. xvi.* 284 *note* A declivity of three inches per mile gives a velocity in a smooth straight channel of three miles an hour. 1889 Hawthorn *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 137 It has a velocity of upwards of three knots per hour.

**2.** Rapidity (absolute or relative) of operation or action; quickness.

*a* 1691 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 18 Mr Hobbes was with the velocity of a thought able to decipher that impertinent Question. 1743 W. Emerson *Fluxions* 2 He will find some to increase faster, others slower; and consequently that there are comparative Velocities (or Fluxions) of Increase during their Generation. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light* etc. 198 Neither the quantity of the fire, nor the velocity of its propagation. 1827 *Jrn. Mil. Brit. Indian Serv.* 479 Colonel Brath'vaite was instructed to attempt resistance by velocity of complete in 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. 481 The yell with which the English world was swept into the New Era. 1871 B. Stewart *Heat* (ed. 2) § 228 The rate at which it loses temperature or the velocity of cooling.

**3** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *velocity measurer, potential, ratio.*

1849–50 Weale *Dict. Terms* s.v. *Velocimeter*, Such a velocity measurer was constructed by Breguet, f. Paris. 1898 W. K. Clifford *Lect. & Addr.* 193 The circulation along any path from *a* to *b* is called the velocity potential at *b*. 1882 Min. Inst. *Civil Engineers* 160 If the velocity potential has at each point of the curve an assigned value. 1889 D. A. Low *Machine. Draw.* (1892) 36 Velocity Ratio in Belt Gearing.

**Ve lodrome.** [1 *F velodrome*, f. *vélo* colloq. abbrev. of *vélocipède* Velocipede + *drome* as in Hippodrome.] A special place or building in which exhibitions of cycle riding, cycle or motor races, etc., are held.

1902 *Times* 26 Nov. 5/6 The Alexandra Palace Velodrome. *Ibid.* The sides sl pe gently from the floor to the hog backs, which we placed at either end of the velodrome.

**Velom**, obs. variant of Vellum.

**Velonea, Velonia**, variants of Valonia.

**Velonye**, southern MF variant of Feyony.

† **Velope**, aphetic form of Envelope *v. Obs.*—1

1728 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 93 With Darkness velop'd, soon they reach'l the Gate.

**Velour**, variant of Velvet.

‖ **Velours** (vəlu·r). Also velour, veluse [F *velours* (OF *velour*, *veluus*) velvet. Cf. Velure.]

1 (See quots and cf. Lure *sb* 4)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) *I elours* a Velvet Rubber for a Hat. 1831 *Jrn. Mech.* (1824) VIII. 262/2 A uniform direction is given to the fibres by means of a brush called a *velours*. 1854 *Tomlins's Lect. Useful Arts* (1856) I. 237 The genie al surface of the hat is improved by means of a plush called a *velours*, or *velvet*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2699/1 *Velour*, a hatter's lustering and smoothing tool of silk or plush.

**2** a. (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Velours* a kind of velvet or plush for furniture carpets, etc. manufactured in Prussia, partly of linen and partly of double cotton warps with mohair yarn weft.

b. A woollen dress-stuff with a velvet pile.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 923/1 *Velours*, a French goods, all wool. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 134 p. 113/2 A medium whole of striped velours.

‖ **Velutine** (vɛ·lŭtin). [F, f. *velouté* velvety + -ine.] (See quot. 1884.)

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 923/1 *Velutine* [printed *Velutine*], a corded French fabric, with fancy wool warp and merino wool weft. 1889 *Daily News* 29 May 3/3 The chemisette is generally made of finely pleated silk whether it be in the richest velutine, bengaline or ordinary surah.

**Velt**, southern dial. variant of Felt *sb.*

1879 *Jefferies Wild Life* 301 The ploughboys call the fieldfares velts'.

**Velt**, var. Velit, obs. Sc. form of Welt *v.*

† **Velter** *Obs.*—1 [ad. OF *veltre* or med. L. *veltrus* see Fewterer.] A small hunting-dog.

1598 Minsheu *Ymure Fewter* Cotta de Forrest of Canutus § *ye margen*. These little Dogges called Velteres, and such as are called Ramhundt (at which Dogges are to vse in ones lap) may be kept in the Forest.

**Ve lteret** *rare*—1 (vɛ·ltĕrĕt). [prec.] = Fewterer.

1911 J. H. Round *King's Serjeants* 272 The number of greyh unds accompanying them varied, but each veiterer, normally, had ch arge of from four to six.

† **Veltfare**, obs. dial. variant of Fieldfare. Cf the mod. dial. form *veltver*

*a* 1732 Swift *Country Parsons Blessings* (Hoppe), Or else a veltfare or a snipe.

**Veltish**, *a.* obs. Sc. forms of Wealthy.

**Velthy**, obs. form of Wealthy *a.*

† **Velt-marshal.** *Obs.* Also **veldt marshal**, velt-mareschal [ad. G. *feld marschall*, with the spelling of the first element influenced by Ger. or Du.] = Field-marshal.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4560/2 The King of Denmark and King Augustus stood as Godfathers to a Son of the Velt Marshal. 1739 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 641/2 He resign the Command of the Army provisionally to Velt Marshal Philippi. 1774 H. Walpole *Corr.* (1846) V. 368 You may be a velde marshal by this time. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xx. Assist while I have learned the great Velt Mareschal Bannier hold a learned argument with General Liefenbach.

‖ **Velum** (vī·lŭm). Pl. vela (vī·lă). [L. *vēlum* a sail, awning, curtain, covering, veil.]

**1** † a. A screen or protection. *Obs.*

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) v. 99 A glasse vehim, interposed between the vetort and the recipient for the air, remains quite cool and dry.

b. A velarium.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 107/2 Such ceiling or vault therefore assumes somewhat the appearance of an awning or *velum* stretched immediately upon arches.

**2** *Anat* a. The soft palate, the membranous septum extending backwards from the hard palate.

Also more fully *velum palati* and *velum pendulum*.

(a) 1777 *Encyl. Brit.* I. 393/1 The septum, which may likewise be termed *velum*, or *tabula palati*, terminates below by a hanging edge. 1782 Hunauld *Cornspicil.* vii. (1806) 27 The velum pendulum was putrid. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 179 One was removed from behind the velum pendulum palati. 1857 *Holden's Anat.* (1867) 111 The velum palati is a soft moveable curtain stretching backwards and downwards into the cavity of the pharynx [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Muscles of the velum palati. 1859 Sharpey *Physiology* 180 A portion or column of the velum palati.

(b) 1753 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* III. 2313/2 The great uses of this membrane are for preventing by its elas ticun or velum, the things to be swallowed from getting up into the nostrils. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surgery* 241 The velum and uvula are occasionally destroyed. 1846 Hurtian tr. *Malgaigne's Surg. Oper.* 365 You see that in the importance of passing the needles through a well determined point of the velum. 1879 *St. Thomas's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 7. 5 Child was rocked for three months with the membrane, which spread from the tonsils over the velum.

*attrib.* 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 570 Voice husky, glands of velum palate enlarged.

b. One or other of two membranes extending from the vermiform process of the brain.

1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 52 The two medullary veh are inclined obliquely towards each ther. *Ibid.* The anterior or inferior velum or valve of Vieussens. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 377 The velum con ists only of the ependyma the pia mater and the arachn id.

c. A triangular fold of the pia mater lying between the third ventricle and the fornix of the brain. (In full *velum interpositum*.)

1845 *Todd & Cl. Cyc. Anat.* III. 635 The velum interpositum is best exposed by removing carefully in suc cession the corpus callosum and the fornix. To raising the velum itself (etc.)

d. = Membrana tympani.

1835 *Todd & Bowman Physiol. Anat.* I. 388/1 The membrane presents a me p culi rities the nigh st the extent of a small region round the centre, or the velum. 1846 Baly in *Todd's Cyc

made a mowe And covered it with velvettes [r r velowetyz] blewe 1848 Hackeray *Van Fair* xli, Ropes, pails, velvets, ostrich feathers, and other mortuary properties

c. In various fig or allusive uses.

c 1590 Greene *Mr Loue Looking Gl* C 4 Wks (Grosart) XIV 90 If he were a King he should haue a Velvet Iacket 1609 *Merry Devil Edmont* in v 3 Thou speakst as true as velvet 1692 T Jordan *Lon Triumph* 4 My father, store of velvet wives; My grandame's beggars velvet! a 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew*, *Velvet*, a Tongue *Lye the Velvet*, to Tongue a Woman. Hence in later slang Di ta] 1814 [see Gentleman's Mag] 1893 *Daily Graphic Dict Wds*, *Velvet*, To the little scarlet mite in velvet, i e the mite that threw up the hill that caused Crop (King Williams horse) to stumble 1882 Pinkerton *Argument Holidays* (1883) 167 Whose hand fair n was never ungloved with velvet. 1898 *Westm Gaz* 5 Jun 3 p Poll Mercer is worn not indeed in the purple, but in the velvet of vast wealth

d *On velvet*, in a position of ease or advantage, in an advantageous or prosperous condition

Now chiefly in sporting slang (see later quotes), but formerly in more general use

1709 Hooke *Obs Liste St Nat* Wks II 342 Not like our author, who is always on velvet he is aware of some difficulties 1785 Grose *Dict Vulgar Tongue* 1 *velvet* to have the best of it, or win 1789 Annual *Reg* II 382 Therefore, only tell General Phillips that on that day I fought up a velvet 1828 Scott *Nigel* 23 Ech, We stand on velvet as to finance 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* (1850) 41 Before that we were on velvet 1 the instant he appeared everything was changed 1874 *Stang Dict* 314 Men who have succeeded in their speculations especially on the turf, are said to stand on velvet 1897 *Daily Mail* 1 June 3/5 Is that what you call being On velvet' when you are sure to win something?—Yes

e A wearer of velvet

1782 Miss H Cowley *Which is the Man* III 10 We had all the fine ladies from Lincoln's Inn, a dozen or so of velvets from Bush-pasture with the wives and daughters of half the M D s and LL D s in town

2 *transf* The soft downy skin which covers a deer's horn while in the growing stage

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) ii, Hir hornes been kouered with a soft velwet heer, þat is called velwet. 1576 Turberv *Ven* 152 47 Then they discouer themselues, going vnto the trees to fray their heads, and to rub off the velwet *Ibid* 244 His heade when it commeth first out, hath a russet pyll vpon it, the which is called *Velwet* 1597 *Phil Trans* XIX 492 The Surface of the Horn and the smooth Hairy Skin that covers them whilst they are growing (which is commonly call'd the Velvet) 1859 *Todd's Cyc Anat* V 918/1 In the early condition the horn is soft and vascular, and is protected only by a delicate integument From this circumstance the skin is here termed the 'velvet 1892 *Pike Barren Ground N Canada* 43 It was a full g own bull in prime condition, the velvet not yet shed, but the horns quite hard underneath

b. In the phr *in velvet* said of the deer.

1880 W Gill *Rifle Oldest Sanct* viii 370 The deer are only hunted when in velvet and from their skin this acute sensitiveness is made 1884 *Encycl Sport* I 1 *Deer in Velvet* When this bark or skin remains on the horn the stag is said to be *in velvet* and is not hunted

3. A surface substance, etc, comparable to velvet in respect of softness or general appearance

1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 1/2 The Potentiall Cauteryes now adayes are indeede of velvet, and verye excellent *Ibid* 41 b/1 That is one of the best which Mr Paré calleth Cauterium Velvet 1615 Crooke *Body Man* 1 *Cut* 9 The velvet of her paws 1781 Cowper *Lett Poet Lady* 15 Where Nature has her mossy velvet spread 1859 Tennyson *Princess White Rose* 167 Here is a nothing to p t velvet in the nile 1904 R J Farrer *Gas Ien Asia* 240 Every peak is clad in the velvet of wood and copse

b *elliptical* A velvet cork

1830 *Edinb Cycl* VII 1 217/1 The finished corks are finally sorted by a boy into four kinds, superfine or velvets, fine, common and coarse

11. *attrib* and *Comb* 4 Attrib, in the sense 'made of velvet', as *velvet bag*, *band*, *cap*, *gown*, etc, or 'covered with velvet', as *velvet cushion*, *furniture*

c 1350 *Lybeaus Disc* 838 A velwet mantyll gay Sche caste vpon her wayes. 1480 *Inventories Edw IV* (1815) 149 A longe goune of grene velvet vpon velvet tissshue cloth of gold 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxvii 36 Many a semely knyght in velvet gownes and sleuyues of hew 1542 *Inl Eker* (barteex) VI 199 One other jacket with velvett bandes 1618 *Harpur's Night cap* (1877) 37, I thinke them in these hattes as good, As Gentle women in their velvet hood 1621 Sir R Boyle *Instructions Travel* (1886) II 17 My wives Tawney vellet gown c 1645 in *Verney Mem* (1907) I 5 The red velvet furniture 1780 Burke *Econ Reform* Wks III 321 Those velvet bags, and those red boxes, been so full that nothing more could possibly be crammed into them? 1796 Wolzogen (P Pindar) *Satire* Wks 1812 III 408 Who with velvet lash would flog a bear 1838 Lytton *Leila* III v, Beneath this was a faded velvet waistcoat 1848 Lady Lyttelton *Corr* (1912) 388 I am sending some narrow velvet ribbon to trim it along the tucks.

b Attrib, in the sense 'smooth or soft like velvet velvety'; as *velvet down*, *hand*, *leaf*, etc

1588 Shake *1 1 L* v 111 105 Through the Velvet leaues the wanton All vneseen, and passes finde 1598 Chapman *Hero & Leander* v 439 Come Night and lay thy velvet hand On glorious Doyes outfacing face 1616 [ Jonson *Sejanus* I vi 23 Which fertil zephirs velvet spirit bloweth 1634 Milton *Comus* 898 Thus I set my printless feet O're the Cowslips Velvet head 1754 *Gray Progr Poesy* 23 O'er Idalia's velvet green The rosy-crowned Loves are seen On Cytherea's day 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II 1, Then the roses on those cheeks are shaded with a sort of velvet down 1805 H K White *Remains* (1824) 169 Stretch'd supinely on the velvet turf 1862 Mrs Norton *Lady of La Garaye* Prol 108 The soft white owl with velvet wings 1880 Miss Forrester *Roy & V* I 2 A tuft of dark velvet pansies on one side

*Obs* 1598 *Arden of Feversham* I 324 Why, what art thou now but a Velvet drudge A cheating steward, and base minded peasant? 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 41 b/1 Receipte of the Velvet Cauteryse 1609 *Tis a Woman in Hum* I 1 in Bullen *O Pl* IV I can not soothe the World With velvet words and oyly flatteries 1639 Fuller *Holy St* IV 19 Ded, History is a velvet study a d recreation 1647 N Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 86 I have taken a few finish stitches which may please a few Velvet eares 1818 Keats *Endym* IV 905 With as sweet a softness as might be Remember'd from its velvet summer song 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xiii He to such pur pose intervenes That you get velvet compliment, it nee pile

c With names of colours, esp *velvet black*

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* 335 Of the suffitus of a torch doe Painters make a velvet blacke 1662 Merret tr *Neri's Art of Glass* cii, This is a most fair Velvet Black 1708 Colepresse *Anc Man* iv xiii, Blue glossy & such a d velvet black, They coiled and swam 1809 Shaw *Gen Zool* VI 1 476 Velvet black Parra le flird 1821 *Ibid* VIII 1 292 Velvet-crimson Humming Bird

5 Parasynthetic and instrumental, as *velvet hearded*, *-eaped*, *-draped*, *-eaved* -eyed etc

1611 I. Barry *Ram Alley* III 1, Velvet hearded boyes will still be doing, say what we old men can 1593 Marlow *Edw II* 1754 Velvet coate clad in wrinkles and lethe with Serge 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I 1, The gentleman was standing with his back to the "velvet eaped mantel piece 1805 R W Dickson *Fragm Agric* I 340 The *hairy white* [wheat] by some called the "*velvet ear* is by far the most valuable 1702 Lettice (*trans*) *Voy* I 8 In the "Velvet-eyed Virgin-Deep-Heart 1818 Thackeray *Van Fair* lxi, The "velvet footed Lutter brought them their wine 1693 [T J Bancroft] *In Ill mouth Hall Hortimere* 11, In these Desking "velvet cheeke Ivory Knives that presented So simple 1878 Ouida *Under Two Flags* vi, She let him sit by her in little sheltered "velvet lung nooks 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxxv, The broad lattie's "velvet eyed I mal e lamy of the artists 1859 Gwilt Fitot *A Bele* xxxvii There were the locket and earrings in the little "velvet lined boxes 1796 Burke *Lett to Noble Lord* Wks V 211 The "velvet-mouthed calumniator 1892 pawed green eyed pl dosophers 1894 Greenwood *Hops & Mashags* 17 The "velvet sheathed digger of Queen Bess's teeth 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz Winter Suppl* 2/2 Some of the homes were like walking in "velvet soled shoes 1870 *Punch's Universe* 109 Certain "velvet winged Phalen.

6 Objective, with agent-nouns, as *velvet dresser*, *-maker*, *weaver*, etc, also *velvet merchant* 1598 Florio *Velvettaio* a velvetter, or velvet weaver 1614 Urquhart *A thelasi* I lvi 247 Velvet weavers Tapestrie makers & Upholsterers 1677 Miege *Fr Dict* 1 *Velvetier* a Velvet weaver 1688 *Holme Armoury* II 96/1 Velvetters. This change only tra sfers Employ ment from velvet makers to Hucksters 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, *Velvet dresser* a dresser and dyer of velvet *Ibid*, *Velvet manufacturer* a weaver of velvet 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iv 148 *note*, He pays probably an intermedi ate ship owner, velvet merchant, and sh pman

7. Specific combs: **velvet-brush** (see quot), †**velvet cap**, one who wears a cap of velvet, a physician or student **velvet cloth** (see quots), †**velvet-coat**, ?a young fop, **velvet copperore**, cyanotrichite, **velvet cork** (see quot. and cf 3 b), †**velvet guard**, a trimming of velvet, a wearer of such trimmings, †**velvet jacket**, an attendant or retainer wearing a jacket of velvet, **velvet loom**, a loom for weaving velvet, **velvet painting** (see quot 1849–50), **velvet reseda** (see quot), **velvet pile** *attrib*, having a pile like that of velvet, also *absol*, a carpet or cloth of this kind, **velvet plum** *poet*, a card table, **velvet tip** (see sense 2, in quot used allusively), **velvet tree**, **wire drawer**, **work** (see quots).

1898 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, *Velvet brush*, a brush used by ladies to remove dust, &c from garments made of velvet 1602 and *Pt Return fr Parnass* II 1 554 It is requisite that the French Phisitian be attired in a cloake full yoyne Cassocke of cloth or satin, and a velvet cap 1690 Randolph *Aristippus* 12 Lucry Prentice can teele at their braue Cassockes, and laugh the Velvet Cap out of Countenance. 1880 Gullen & Sannard *Insect Switzerland* 515 "*Velvet cloth*, a plain cloth with a gloss, employed in Eudemis artificial Embroidery *Ibid*, *Velvet cloths* beautifully soft and warm descriptions of cloth suitable for ladies' jackets 1849 *Encycl Chambers* I 1 *Velvet painting* is sometimes useless your selfe I requyre you in goddes behalfe & put it not to the hearing of these "v luette cotes these vp skippes 1849–50 Weale *Dict Mech* 1690/1 *Velvet copper ore* is probably also a silicate [of copper] 1855 *Orr's Circ Sci Geol* etc 542 (subjh ttes) Tetsonite "Velvet Copper 1883 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, *Velvet cork*, the best kind of cork bark which is of a reddish colour 1596 Shake *1 Hen IV*, III 1 261 Sweare me Kate, A good mouth filling Oath and leaue it in mouth And such protest of Pepper Ginger bread To "velure Lanuds, and Sunday Citizens. 1610 *Histrio mastix* III 1 E 3 Out on these velluet gards, and black lac'd sleeues, These sam pring fashions simply followed 1600 Haywood *1 Edward IV*, Wks 1874 I 17 Spoken like a man and true "velluet rocket, And we will enter, or strike by the way 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2649/2 "*Velvet loom*, a pile fabric 1703 *Exammer* 10 May 208/1 A little skill in "velvet painting 1849–50 Weale *Dict Terms*, "*velvet painting* is the art of colouring on velvet with transparent liquid and other ready diluted colours. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2699/1 "*Velvet paper*, wall paper printed with glue and dusted with shearings of cloth or flock 1851 *Catal Gt Exhib* II 564/2 "Velvet pile carpeting *Ibid*, Patent velvet pile and Brussels carpets 1862 *Catal Internat Exhib*, *Brit* II No 4008, Pilots, Cheviots, velvet piles 1780 Cowper *Progr Error* 169 Oh the dear pleasures of the "velvet plain,

The painted tablets, dealt and dealt again 1638 Ford *Fancies* III, What, what, what? nothing but "velvet tips, you are of the first head yet 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2699/1 "*Velvet tree* (Puddling), the point where the draft from the neck of the furnace is turned upward to the stack. 1883 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, "*Velvet wire drawer*, a manufacturer of the metal wire used in velvet making 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 511/1 "Velvet work is largely used in Church Embroideries as a background for altar cloths and hangings

b In names of animals (birds, insects, etc), as **velvet ant**, a spider-ant (*Cent Dict.* 1891) **velvet crab**, ? species of swimming crab (*Portunus puber*), **velvet duck**, a species of scoter (*U dennis fusca*), **velvet fairy** (see quot), **velvet fiddler crab**, = *velvet crab*, **velvet fish** (see quot.), †**velvet runner**, the water rail, **velvet scoter**, = *velvet duck*, **velvet sponge** (see quots)

1681 Grew *Museum* v iv 190 The Claw of the Purper, or the "Velvet Crab called Figurata. 1892 Miss Pratt *Comm Things Sea* 208 Some of the most beautiful of our British crabs are those termed Velvet crabs on account of the velvety down with which the shell is covered 1862 Ansted *Channel Islands* ix 232 The spider crab, and swimming or velvet crab, are also eaten 1678 Ray *Ilabodge Words* 1691 The Scholars of the whole County are so soft and delicate as nothing more so that he may be n tur leservedly called the "Velvet Duck 1768 Pennant *Brit Zool* II 493 Velvet Duck. The plumage of a fine black and of the soft and delicate appearance of velvet 1840 Col Hawker *Diary* (1893) II 274, I made a capital shot at 6 black velvet ducks 1890 *Encycl Figures Reptiles & Birds* 235 The Velvet Duck (*Anas fusca*) is the largest of the Scoters 1881 Lilly *Land Pigeons* 86 The black Nürnberg swift is known at or of these grease quills and from its beautiful appearance is called the "Velvet fairy 1888 *Cassells Nat Hist* VI 199 The "Velvet Fiddler Crab (*Uca tetragonon*) has an entire carapace densely covered with hairs. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng* 483/1 "*Velvet fish*, [the] name given in Tasmania to the fish *Haletrema vitiensis* 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith* 315 The "Velvet Runner 1888 Phillips-Wolley *Sport's Turner* 2 Water fowl whose feathers are black as Ismouth as Velvet 1843 Yarrell *Brit Birds* III 215 The *Velvet Scoter* (*Oidemia fusca*) 1882 *Cassell's Nat Hist* VI 318 The "wool Sponge, which appears to be one or perh ps two species of the Hippospongia *H g ssypina* and *H mesenteroides* 1883 W S Kent in *Fisheries Bahamas* 97 The so called Velvet Abacco velvet, or Boat sponge (*S equina*, *var meandrina formis*), differs, from the Sheep's wool in the absence of the fle ce like tufts upon its surface and fibres

c In names of plants, as **velvet-bean**, an annual climbing plant (*Macuna utilis*) bearing velvety pods., **velvet bur**, a tropical plant of the vervain family, **velvet dock**, common mullein, **velvet-ear(ed) wheat**, = *velvet wheat*, † **velvet flower** (see quots), **velvet flower-de luce**, **-grass**, **-moss** (see quots), **velvet rose**, a variety of rose with velvety petals, **velvet seed**, a small evergreen West Indian tree, **velvet wheat**, a variety of white wheat with downy ears

1898 *Cartwright's Mag* 3 Sept 269/2 The accounts re ceipts in the agricultural value of the Hessian "velvet bean must be received with caution 1866 *Treas Bot* 1190/2 "Velvet l r *Prapa chi ata* 1863 Prior *Plant n*, "Velvet Dock from its soft leaves, *Verbascum Thapsus* 1830 *Trans Hort Hort* (U K) I 158 We have two kinds ear, the "velvet ear, the egg shell, and "hedge wheat 1862 Morton *Farmer's Calc* 547 Among white wheats the Velvet eared a short strawed sort, is of remarkable quality and product veness 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E D S) 21 In the other kynde [of *Amaranthus*] is called here in Englande of some purple "velvet flowre, of other flouramore & of 80 Viola flammea in englishe violettes or french Marigoulde 1573 Tusser *Hush* (1878) 96 Velvet flowers or french Marigolds 1578 Lyte *Dod ens* I xviii 168 These bruised leaues are called in Englishe Gentill Flo mor, and Purple velvet floure. [Hence in Gerarde and Cotgr] 1863 Prior *Plant n*, *Velvet flower*, from its crimson velvety tassels 1898 *Cartwright's Mag* 3 Sept Gerda de Herbit 94 *Iris Luteosa* "Velvet flower de luce 1846 A Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 573 *Holcus lanatus* "Velvet Grass 1848 Simmonds *Dict Trade* "*Velvet moss*, the name for the *Cyperus thrysinus* a lichen used in dyeing obtained in the Dovrefeldt mountains of Norway 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1085 *Rosa Holoserica* the "Velvet Rose The flowers of a deepe red colour and a very pleasant red crimson velvet whereupon some haue called it the Velvet Rose 1786 Abercrombie *Gard Assist* Av 33/1 Velvet rose (single) 1893 *Daily Graphic Dict Marco* 1 5 A rose that is almost obsolete, called the velvet rose 1866 *Treas Bot* 1207/2 "Velvet seed, *Cnestis da elliptica* 1771 A Young *Farmer's Lett* II 44 Mr Arthur Mr Arthur gathered six ears of this white "wheat, and carrying it to market, the farmers remarked that they knew it but had lost the sort and called it "Velvet wheat 1850 Morton *Cycl Agric* II 1131/1 Some Scotch wheats have become greatly mixed with velvet wheat

**Velvet**, *v rare* [f prec]

1 *intr* To imitate velvet in painting

1612 Peacham *Gentl Exerc* 87 The same veriditure, it is the faintest and palest greene that is, but it is good to velvet upon blacke in any manner of drapery

2 *trans.* † To make like velvet, to cover with velvet' (1864 Webster.)

**Velveted**, *a* [f Velvet *sb*] Covered with velvet or a velvety down, dressed in velvet, having velvet trappings

1611 Cotgr, *Velouté*, Velueted, of Veluet, clad, or couered with Velue 1686 W Harris tr *Lemery's Course Chym* (ed 3) 544 His Leaves are long, divided, and hairy, or velveted 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr* (1757) I 223 They

are velveted on the Back like a Rat 1890 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xx, This yellow starched and velveted old hag. 1868 *Morning Star* 7 Jan The miniature sleighs, each containing a fair passenger velveted and furred. 1886 *Pall Mall C.* 10 Aug 8/2 An open coarse heavily plumed and drawn by half a dozen horses also velveted and plumed

**Velveteen** (velvēt'n) Also 8 **velvatean** [f. VELVET *sb*] Hence F *velvetine*.]

1 A fabric having the appearance or surface of velvet, but made from cotton in place of silk

1776 *Specif. Woolstenhol.'s Patent* No 1123 For his new kind of goods called velvateans, being an improvement on velveretts. 1792 J. ATKIN *Manchester* 209 Velvets velveteens thicksetts. 1843 J. D. MOLBORNE in Benson & Fisher *Lett. Q. Victoria* (1908) I 467 George Byng came the other morning in a velveteen coat and feel in velveteen. 1860 *All Year Round* No 53 63 The barragons and fustians dimities and velveteens f r which Bolton was famous. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 511/1 *Velveteen* a description of fustian made of twilled cotton, and having a raised pile and of finer cotton and better finish than the latter

b *attrib* Made of this material

1844 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser 1 (1863) 200 He gener ally sticks to his velveteen jacket 1847 LYTTON *Nt & Morn* I 2, A man play ly clad in a velveteen shooting jacket 1860 *All Year Round* No 57 156 He wore a fur cap and shorts, and was of the velveteen race velveteeny 1887 DOYLE *Study in Scarlet* (1892) 26 A railway porter in his velveteen uniform

2 *pl* a Trousers or knickerbockers made of this material

1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab* 1 He thought of the fine ti mes coming when he would be a man and wear velveteens and ankle jacks 1865 DICKENS *Mut Fr* 1 11 I he n an Mortimer goes on, was only son of a tremendous old rascal who made his money by Dust Red velveteens and a bell? the gloomy Eugene inquires.

b *transf* A gamekeeper (as commonly wearing velveteen clothes)

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I ix What business is that of yours old Velveteens? 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract Trap* 23 Be it known that Velveteens placed those brammels there in order that we might move them

Hence **Velvetee ned** a dressed in velveteen

Also un nonce use] *Celebrities at ad.* see prec. 1 b

1896 *Daily News* 10 Nov 2/1 In the procession thereafter were the velveteened foresters

†**Velvet head.** *Obs* Also 6 **vellet head, 7 velvet head** [f. VELVET *sb* 2.]

1 The head of a deer while the horns are still covered with velvet Also *tranif* of a kid (quot 1579)

1576 TURBERV *Venerie* 244 His heade is cvlled then a velvet heade. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal* May 185 His Vellet head began to shoote out And his wrethed hornes gan newly spro t 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Powrf Beasts* 124 Hornes covered w ith a rough skinne, which he hunters for honours sake call a Velvet head. 1628 HEYDON *Pantaphicks* Wks (Grosart) II 121/2 The velvet heads of the Forrests fall at the loose of the Crosse bow. 1674 N COX *Gentl Recreat* (1677) 55 If you geld him when he hath a Velvet head it will ever be so wit out fraying or burnishing

2 Applied contemptuously to a person

1630 B JONSON *New Inn* II ii What says old velvet head?

Hence † **Velvet-headed** *a* In quots *fig Obs*

1647 N BACON *Disc Govt. Engl.* x. vi. 91 Roman Prelacy in these younger times was but Velvet headed. 1650 B *Dis coliuinium* 41 You will expose your Flocks to all the new fangled Errours that shall rise, out of the Brow spikes of our velvet headed Brockets. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 6 He lays the same claim still, and though Velvet headed hath the more skill to be pushing

**Velvetiness.** [f. VELVETY *a.*] The quality of resembling velvet in smoothness, etc

1882 *Good Literature* 6 May 142 In America, where black women have that happy Ethiopian velvetiness of cuticle. 1885 MARY E. WILKINS *Pembr Sevorn* I 1 Prol. 10 The dense velvetiness of the fruze

**Ve lveting.** [f. VELVET *sb*]

†1 The nap or pile of velvet *Obs*

1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s v The Nap or Shag call d also Velveting of this Stuff is form d of part of the Threads of the Warp *Ibid* The Threads that make the Velveting

2 Velvet as a commercial fabric, velvet in the piece, esp *pl* velvet goods

1851 in *Cent Dict*

**Velvet-leaf.** [f. VELVET *sb.* 4 b]

1 The tropical shrub *Cissampelos Pareira*, the root and bark of which are employed medicinally

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I 200 Velvet Leaf This has a round whitish, wooddy stalk having several leaves, very thick set with a white down, or soft hair feeling to the touch as velvet, whence its name. 1756 P BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 307 The Velvet Leaf is looked upon as an excellent diuretic. 1866 *Treas Bot* 288/2 The most important spiaes of the genus is the Velvet Leaf *C Pareira*, a native of the West Indies, Central America, and India. 1871 GARROD *Mat Med* (ed. 3) 168 Pareira Root. The dried root of *Cissampelos Pareira*, or Velvet leaf

2. The tree-mallow, *Lavatera arborea*, or a leaf of this.

1798 E SMITH *Compl Housew* (1750) 321 Take velvet leaves, wipe them clean chop them small, and boil them gently, till they are crisp 1796 WITHERING *Brit Plants* (ed. 3) III 614 Tree Mallow, or Velvet leaf. 1883 PRIOR *Plant* s 230

3 (See quots)

(*a*) 1856 A GRAY *Man Bot* (1860) 68 *Abutilon Avicennæ*, Velvet Leaf 1866 *Treas Bot* 1200/1 Velvet leaf *Sida Abutilon.* (*b*) 1891 *Cent Dict* s.v. *Tournefortia*, *T.* *Argentea* is sometimes cultivated under the name of East Indian velvet leaf

**Velvet-like,** *a.* [f. VELVET *sb*] Resembling (that of) velvet

1677 HALE *Fr Dict* 2 *Velouté* made velvet like 1770 PENNANT *Brit Zool* IV 4 Velvet Crab with the thorax quinquedentated body covered with si ort brown velvet like pile 1796 WITHERING *Brit Bot* (ed. 3) II 134 The whole plant (as) of a velvet like softness. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool* XI 1 173 The greater portion of the head covered by short a nd serrated velvet like feathers. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl Plants* (1836) 615 The species are bordet flowers in much esteem for their velvet like leaves. 1845 G DODD *Brit Manuf* Ser IV 109 The rib or raised part is cut so as to form a velvet like p le

**Velvetory** (See quot)

1829 *Glover's Hist Derby* I 99 Arch bricks, proper for the tops of reverberatory furnaces, vulgarly called velvetory bricks.

**Ve lvetry.** *rare*—1 [f. VELVET *sb*] Velvet, or material resembling this, in a collective sense

1887 BLACKMORE *Spirna, Autum* (ed 4) III v. 61 They had sleeved their best arms with green velvetry of moss

**Velvety** (ve lveti), *a.* [f. VELVET *sb*]

1 Having the smooth and soft appearance or feel of velvet

1785 J HILL *Hist Anim* 377 The oriental velvety Papilio, with scarlet spots 1796 WITHERING *Brit Pl* (ed. 3) III 569 I eaves very soft, and almost velvety 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric Devon* (1813) 337 Skin loose free and velvety to the touch 1819 INDIA *Rev Nat Hist* 181 Their stigmas generally long and velvety externally 1822 *Garden* 10 June 309/3 Its dark velvety and rich yellow flowers are very (if e indeed) beautiful 1846 *Comb* 50 A. WOOD *Class bk Bot* 209 Leaves velvety tomentose 1878 MRS F D BODEN *Fr I Daily's Tram rou d World* 1 Aug (1883) 9 Our ship mov ng almost so silently as the velvety look ig sea

b Applied to colours (Cf VELVET *sb* 4 c)

1819 STEPHENS in Shaw s *Gen Zool* XI 1 135 The under part of the wings are of a fine velvety l tick 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* iii The was calling atte tion to the l ght velvety green 1883 OUIDA *Wa da* I 40 A deep brown hue like the velvety brown of a stag s throat

2 Characteristic of velvet, similar to that of velvet

1846 G F DAV TR *Simon s Anim Chem* II 397 Present ing a beautiful white velvety appeara ce. 1847-9 *Todd's Cyc Anat* IV 1 1 O velvety look and feel 1882 *Daily Tel* 16 Feb 1 l e well remembered tones had lost something of their old velvety quality. 1884 *Law Times Rep* L 251/1 In the grouping and velvety effect they produce which is original

3 *fig* Unusually or attractively smooth, soft, or gentle

1861 CUNNINGHAM *Wheat & Tares* 82 The other s velvety manner towards him chilled and fret 1896 *Strand Mag* XII 390/1 The tiny bells of the lime blossoms mingled their soft, velvety murmur with the other peaceful sounds of Nature

b Smooth in mind and soft to the taste

1888 *Harper's Mag* July 216/2 The rum is velvety sugary with a pleasant soothing effect. 1908 R BAGOT *A Cuthbert* XI 325 Accompanied by the softest and most velvety of sauces.

**Velvet, -veyt, -weet,** obs ff VELVET

**Vely,** southern ME variant of *felly* FELLOW

† **Velyard.** *Obs*—1 [ad F *vieillard*, † *vuillard*] An old man

c 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf* 1904 Vyle velyarde, thou must not move my dyett withstande.

**Vem(m,** obs forms of VELLUM **Vem,** obs Sc f WEM *sb* **Vemen,** southern ME var *feme* FOAM *v*, obs Sc pl WOMAN. **Vemon, Vemynous,** obs erron vart VENOM, VENOMOUS **Ven** southern ME and dial var FEN *sb*, obs Sc f WEEN *v* ‖ **Vena** (vī nă) Pl **venæ** (vī nī) [L. *vena*] A vein

Used only in conjunction with Latin adjs. or genitives; many of the specific names thus formed are recorded in special Dictionaries from the 17th cent onwards.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 177 Summe of bese veynes comeb fro be lyuer but i clepid vena ramosa. a 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 54 Agayne be mormale be per leanyng of vena basilica i lyuer vayne. 1598 YONGE *Amat* (1588) 91 Of vena *Azigos* spryngeth *vena oculares* i and of *vena Basilica* springeth *vena Sal vatella.* 1598 FLORIO *Aseillare vena* a large vaine being a branch of Vena cana. 1626 H *Jonson Sejanus* v iv 19, The Doctor tells you Of *Vena cava*, and of *vena porta.* 1676 WISEMAN *Surg Treat* 343 The Blood being prest out into the *Vena cava* 1755 *Phil Trans* XLIX 324/2 Between the aorta and the vena azygos. 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Physiog* VII 45 A blue vena frontalis in an open, smooth, white head 1820 GOODWIN *Study Med* (1829) II 8 The abdominal branches of the vena portæ. 1840 E WILSON *Anat Vade M* (1842) 352 The Vena Thebesii numerous minute venules [etc.] 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 845 The aortic and vena cave pressures are obtained by passing canulæ down the carotid artery and Jugular vein respectively

† **Ve nable,** *a Obs*—1 [f. L. *vēn ums* (see VENAL *a* 1) + -ABLE] = VENDIBLE *a*

1507 in Man *Reading* (1816) 357 Evene burgess may also bye and sell all manner of merchandies and thyngs venable in the said market.

**Venabule** *rare*—, [ad. L. *vēnābulum*, f *vēnāri* to hunt] (See quot)

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Venabule*, a hunting staffe.

**Venaesection,** variant of VENESECTION.

**Venaker,** obs. Sc. variant of VINEGAR.

**Venal** (vī năl), *a.*1 Also 6 **venall.** [ad L. *vēnāl-is*, f. *vēnum* that which is sold or for sale. So OF *venal*, F. *vénal*, Sp and Pg. *venal*, It. *venale*.]

1 Of things **a.** Exposed or offered for sale, that may be bought, as an ordinary article of merchandise Also, associated or connected with ordinary sale or purchase Now *arch*

1662 J WELWN *Chalcog* 147 Not as a Venal addition to the price of the Book but as a Specimen of what we have alledged 1663 BOYLE *Usef Exp Nat Philos* II 358 Premising that by Sal Armoniack I here mean the f acitious and Venal 1746 FRANCIS tr *Horace Epist* II. ii 14 He sinks in Credit, who attempts to raise His venal Wares with over rating Praise, To put them off his Hands. 1849 CLAUGHE *Cold Water Lyrics* 38 Men avoid water—perhaps because it costs nothing (for in our artificial life we are led to esteem things according to their venal price) 1883 *Athenæum* 3 Nov 564/3 The book though open for many years to the frequenters of great libraries, has not been venal on the shelves of the ordinary bookseller 1888 *Sat. Rev* 7 Jan 19 The fogs might be venal at the nearest stall without our troubling the stall keeper

b Of offices privileges, etc Capable of being acquired by purchase, instead of being conferred on grounds of merit or regarded as above bargaining for

1675 BROOKE *Gold Acts* Wks 1867 V 9 When these places of honour and trust were made venal and sold for ready money to such as gave most for them. 1772 in *Lett Lit Men* (Camden) 405 In the last Parliament, the places being quite venal, the young men who had pensions were in the majority 1796 H HUNTER tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) III 169 The face of affairs in France is at present greatly altered every thing there is now become venal. 1809 MENDHAM (*title*), The Venal Indulgences and pardons of the Church of Rome, exemplified [etc.] 1845 FORD *Handbk Spain* I 5 They that wish is safety and peace where everything is venal 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl* iii. (1868) I 41 All posts and charges were venal

c Of support, favour, etc That may be bought or obtained for a price ready to be given in return for some reward without regard for higher principles.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom* 196 Prophecy is not venal, or to be bought and hired with money and preferments 1785 POPE *Odyss* II 217 From him some tribe thy venal tongue requires. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 198 The Laureate I plies in venal Verse relate How Virtue wars with persecuting Fate. 1769 *Junius Lett* XI (1788) 73 You may command a venal vote. 1815 W H IRELAND *Scribbleomania* Belgium is belgiating to subsidize a venal pen in order to throw a gloss over the flagrant dereliction 1888 Bryce *Amer Commow* xliv II 165 As the Senate is smaller the vote of each member is of more consequence and fetches when venal a higher price

2 Of persons Capable of being bought over or bribed, ready to lend support or exert influence for purely mercenary considerations, of an unprincipled and hireling character

1650 MARVELL *Corr* Wks (Grosart) II 326 We are all venal cowards, except some few 1748 *Anson's Voy* III x. 414 Their Magistrates are corrupt and their tribunals crafty and venal 1781 COWPER *Table T* 332 And every venal stickler for the yoke Felt himself crushed at the bare word he spoke 1844 W C. TAYLOR *Anc Hist* x § 6 (ed 3) 284 Venal orators conducted the prosecution 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1889) IV vi 91 Rome was as venal under the popes as Jugurtha found her under the Republic

3 Connected or associated with sordid and unprincipled bargaining, subject to mercenary or corrupt influences.

1718 ROWE tr *Lucan* I 338 Hence slaughter in the venal field returns, And Rome her yearly competitions mourns 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1067 Thy pathetic eloquence I that Of honest Zeal in indignation glows, And shakes Corruption on her venal throne 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks VIII 194 To squander us away for a venal enlargement of their own territories 1838 PEARSON *Prod & Is* (1846) III xxiv 371 No one has accused him of attempting to enrich his exchequer by the venal sale of offices. 1889 FARGUS *Sling & Arrows* 62 The compartment of the train which was by a venal arrangement of the guard s reserved to ourselves

**Venal** (vī năl), *a* 2 Now *rare* or *Obs* [f L. *vēna* VEIN *sb* + -AL Cf VENIAL *a* 2]

1 Of blood Contained in the veins

1613 CROOKE *Body of Man* 59 So the heart containeth in his right ventricle venal, in his left arterial blood 1665 NEEDHAM *Med Medic* 317 Bleeding drains onely the Venal Blood. 1749 FRANKLAND *Lett Mankind* I 70, I cannot conceive how they are dilated It is said, by the force of the venal blood rushing into them 1782 P BACKFORD *Hunting* (1802) 284 He made a strong ligature on his neck, that the venal blood might be emitted with the greater impetus. 1807 *Med Jrnl* XVII 302 The blood that was discharged was evidently venal.

2 Of or pertaining to, connected with, forming, of the nature of, a vein or veins.

1661 LOVELL *Hist Anim & Min* 319 The right [auricle] before the vena cava and the left [before] the venal arteria. 1669 W SIMPSON *Hydrol Chym* 70 Making it (the blood) to restagnate in some of the arteriall venal channels. 1744 *Phil Trans* XLIII 60 The Blood is stopp d as mentioned before, in the little venal parallel Canals 1748 HARTLEY *Observ Man* I. i. § 45 The venal Sinuses which surround the Brain and spinal Marrow 1797 M BAILLIE *Morb Anat* (1807) 107 There was no obstruction at the entrance of the thoracic duct into the venal system 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III 479 To make the skin do the office of a valve to the venal opening

**Venal(e,** obs. forms of VENNEL

**Venali tious,** *a rare*—, [ad L. *vēnālitius* (*-ācius*), f. *vēnālis* VENAL *a.*1] (See quot.)

1696 Blount *Glossogr. Venalitium*, belonging to the sale of men or children, or of slaves; that is to be bought or sold.

**Venality** (vēnæ·lĭti) [ad. F. *vénalité*, or late L *venalitās*, f. *vēnālis* Venal *a*.] So It. *venalità*, Sp. *venalidad*, Pg. *idade*.]

**1.** The quality or fact of being for sale. *rare*

1611 Cotgr., *Venalité*, venablenesse a being salable; a letting or setting vnto sale. [Hence in Blount (1656).] 1800 Ranken *Hist. France* VII 1 ii 138 They proposed to abolish altogether the venality of offices, which would have cut off one of the principal sources of finance in the state. 1874 Ivewhitt *Sketch. Club* 168 The intense vulgarity of so much English work comes direct from its venality.

**2.** The quality of being venal, readiness to give support or favour in return for profit or reward, prostitution of talents or principles for mercenary considerations.

*a* 1683 Sidney *Disc. Govt* ii xxv (1704) 183 Such as will rise, must render themselves conformable in all corruption and venality. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) III 388 A soul superior to venality and views of interest. 1749 Bolingbroke *Lett. Patriot*, etc. 128 What is the consequence of profusion venality of want and dependance of venality. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xxiii III 309 It only proves the opinion generally entertained of Spartan venality. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv § 5. 602 His pride and venality had made him unpopular with the Commons at large.

**Venalization** *rare*—[See Venal *a.*] and -ization.] The action or process of making venal.

1906 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 569/2 We fear the vivisection of Literature and a monopoly of its distribution.

**Venally,** *adv. rare*—[f. Venal *a.*] In a venal or mercenary manner.

1756 *Denne Leg.* 35 Their souls all free not venally profuse.

**Venalness.** *rare*—= Venality.

1707 Bailey (vol. II), *Venalness*, Saleableness.

**Venarie, -ary,** obs. var. Venery.

**Venatic** (vĭnæ·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *venātic-us*, f. *venārī* to hunt. So obs. F. *venatique*.] Of or pertaining to, employed in, devoted to, hunting.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* *Venaticus*, belonging to hunting or chasing. 1731 Medley *A Hunt's Cape to Hope* I 244 The Hawk-eyes the Hottentots look up in as the most notable martial and venatic way of warfare. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL 3 [Stories of hunting] written with ten times the vigour and picturesqueness either venatic or literary. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 4 March, We are not often nations which have passed through the same venatic period as deeply imbued with the spirit of sport. 1889 Baden Powell *Pigsticking* 19, I adore with a sort of venatic worship, both a fox and a hound.

So **Venatical** *a.* Hence **Vena·tically** *adv.*

*a* 1666 Howell *Lett.* (1678) IV 4 Ther be three [places] for Venery or Venatical pleasure in England, viz. a Forrest, a Chase and a Park. 1887 *Field* 26 Feb. 267/1 I do not know whether that very all saint, Valentine was venatically minded. 1893 *Field* 11 March 345/1 We actually workmanlike venatically.

**Venation**[1], now *rare* or *Obs* Also 4 **venacyon** [ad. L. *vēnātio*, f. *venārī* to hunt So F. *vénation* (†*venacion*), It. *venazione*.] The action or occupation of hunting wild animals.

1386 *Almanak* 19 In December [soon es in Cypricorn, for Venus by venacyon and Cadder benyon. 1620 Guillim *Heraldry* iv xi (1611) 217 The last of the foresaid Arts wee reckoned to bee Venation, which Plato dividedh into three species, Hunting, Hawking and Fishing. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud Ep* I v 31 There are extant of him Greeke foure bookes of Cynegeticks or venation. *Ibid* VI vi. At one venation the King of Siam took three thousand Elephants. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v 24 Some in fervent Venation's delight. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI 160 What samples all the ancients were in venation, notwithstanding their boasted prowess!

**Venation**[2] (vĭnē·ʃən). [f. L. *vena* Vein *sb*.] †**1.** The arrangement or structure of sap-vessels in plants. *Obs*—1

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud Ep* III i 106 As for the manner of their venation, we shall find it to be otherwise then as is commonly presumed, by sawing away of trees.

**2** a. *Bot* The arrangement of the veins in the leaves of plants.

1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* Introd. p xxii, Many other orders are distinguished without exception by modifications of venation. 1852 G. F. Richardson *Geol* vii 170 In leaves we can rarely recognise in a fossil state, more than their mode of venation; division arrangement and outline. 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 181 I took a specimen with six well developed leaves, the venation being very distinct.

b. *Ent* The arrangement of the veins in the wings of insects.

1815-8 I. R. Cont. *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer.* i Introd. p xviii, The venation is subject to variation in different genera. 1891 *Science Gossip* XXVII 53 The venation in many genera [of the Nematocera] varies in the relative lengths of some of the veins and their respective positions.

Hence **Vena·tional** *a.*, of or relating to venation. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

**Venations,** *a. rare*—[f. L. *vēnāt-*, ppl. stem of *vēnārī* to hunt.] Inclined to hunting.

1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind., Arts & Sc.* 22 Jake a Hare, Deer, or Fox, &c. and let them be kept among Hounds in their kennel, or so that the venatious appetite of them is not excited, and they will not meddle with them.

**Vena·tor.** *rare* [a. L. *vēnātor*, agent-noun f. *vēnārī* to hunt.] A hunter or huntsman.

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Venator*, a hunter or huntsman. 1832 J. Taylor in Edwards *Freedom of Will* Introd. p. lxvii, It by no means appears that the little unlicensed venator invariably directs his flight towards the nearest or the best-fed goat.

**Venatorial** (venătōr·riăl), *a* [f. L. *vēnātōrius* (see Venatory *a*) + -al.]

1. Connected with hunting.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II 200 What are your sylvan or venatorial exploits compared to the high games enacted in the broad prairies? 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* I xiv 85 The most northerly tribe surpass their southern neighbours in venatorial skill. 1872 *Coues Birds N. W.* 305 The contrast between the physique of Rough legged Hawks and their venatorial exploits, is striking.

**2** Given to hunting, addicted to the chase.

*a* 1881 Blackie *Lay Sermons* I 59 The migrations of a tropical bird, or the nosings of a venatorial hound. 1885 Mabie Dana I. Her main personal experience was in the social class which is primitively venatorial still, canine under its polish.

So † **Venatoʳious** *a. Obs rare*—0

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Venatorious*, belonging to hunting and chasing, serving for that game.

**Venatory** (ve·nătări), *a.* [ad. L. *vēnātōrius* f. *venāt-*, ppl. stem of *vēnārī* to hunt: see -ory.]

1. = Venatorial *a.*

1837 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Mirabeau*, Man being a venatory creature. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* III vii v The venatory Attorney spirit which keeps its eye on the bond only. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX 703 Breaking deer stalking—a branch of the art venatory which few have the opportunity to study.

**Vench,** obs. 5c form of Wench *sb*.

† **Vencue,** *v. Obs rare* In 4 **venku,** 5 **venou** [n. OF. *venc-*, pa. pple. of *vaintre* see Vanquish *v.*] *trans.* To vanquish, subdue.

13 *Seuyn Sages* (W) 2024 He ne mighte in batail spede That he ne was euer more biwraid, Ouercomen, venkud, and bitraid. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 8568 With oute him the Troiens We schal these other scone venou.

**Vencus(e, cushe,** etc., obs. var. Vanquish *v.*

**Vend,** *sb* [f. Vend *v.* Cf. Vent *sb* 8.]

1. Sale, opportunity of selling

1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind* (1906) I 49 This place never yet gave vend to any quantity of our commodity.

1681 R. Knox *Hist. Ceylon* 38 Hereby we have they any encouragement for their industry having no Vend by Traffic and Commerce, where they have got 1693 Kennett *Impropriations* 82 Another way to vend their Corn to Cows in summer is to feed them with it. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 17 This I think is shame ful for Owners who striving to get all the Trade to them selves or to have a Major Part of Vend, will fall out among themselves. 1793 [Earl Dundonald] *Discr. Estate's choss* 59 Sir Archibald had better have contented himself with a more limited vend at a greater price. 1834 M'Culloch *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 289 The annual vend of coals carried coastwise from Durham and Northumberland is 3,300,000 tons. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Vend*, the whole quantity of goods sent from a colliery in the year. 1893 Nrashiam *North-country Sk.* 28 By agreement they were limited to an annual vend of 12 000 chaldrons.

**Vend** (vend), *v.* [ad. F. *vendre* (= It. *vendere*, Sp. and Pg. *vender*) to sell, pa. pple. *vendu* to sell, but in Eng. used as a back-substitutant for Vent *v.* 2 4 and 5, through association of this with Vent *v.*[2]]

1. *intr* To be disposed of by sale, to find a market or purchaser

1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1908) II 46 Course and fine purchase which vend both slowlye and at cheape rates. 1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III (1692) I 96 Whereby Wool, the great Staple of the Kingdom, is become of small value and vends not. 1689 Hickeringill *Modest Inquiries* v 38 No Books vend so nimbly, as those that are Sold (by Stealth as it were) and want Imprimatur. 1768 Franklin *Rev.* Wks. 1840 II 371 If our manufactures are too dear they will not vend abroad.

2 *trans* To sell, to dispose of by sale; to trade in as a seller.

1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt Eng.* II vii 70 No Nation can be found that receives more dead Commodities from abroad, then it can spend at home or vend to certain parts. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 270 Formerly all the Silk made in Sicily was vended at Messina. 1707 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Indies* II xxiii 124 The Gentiles carry a great Deal of Cloth and Opium there, and bring Gold dust in Return. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, VI Wks. 1851 V 131 Every opened warehouse in different parts of Europe, in which they vended their commodities. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 224 The produce of these small dairies is generally vended at Exeter. 1821 J. Hackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* vii Fish hongers who never sold a fish, mercers who vended not a yard of riband. 1899 *Echo* No. 23754. 2/1 A license or patent to sell no matter what, includes the right to vend books and newspapers.

3 *fig* To give utterance to, to put forward, advance (an opinion, etc.)

1657 *North's Plutarch* Add. Lives (1676) 7 Doubtless many have heard some Cordons, or Mechanick fellows vending their judgements on him whose Effigies or Portraiture is here represented. 1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* III v 364 This uncomfortable Doctrine was if not first coined yet mainly vended by the Novatian Party. 1715 Bentley *Serm.* x. 369 He that zealously vends his Novelties, what is he but a Trader for the fame of Singularity? 1728 *Freethinker* No. 26, To incite the Men of Scholarship and Capacity to traffick together in Truths; and never to vend Falsehoods of any kind to the Vulgar. 1799 Mrs. West *Tale of Times* III 387 The most fashionable, and perhaps most successful, way of vending pernicious sentiments has been through the medium of books of entertainment. 1846 G. S. Faber *Lett. Tractar. Secess* 126 Those requisite proofs of a fact, which convict him and Mr. Ward of having vended a double falsehood. 1907 P. J. Forsyth *Positive Preaching* 101 He is not free to vend in his pulpit the extravagances of an eccentric individualism.

† **4** To give vent to, to direct *Obs*

1681 Hickeringill *Black Non Conf.* v Wks. 1716 II 49 If they will be angry, they should vend their spleen against the said wickedness of their Under Officers.

**Vend,** southern ME. var. Fiend, var. Wend *sb*, obs. f. Wend *v.*, obs. Sc. f. Wind *sb* and *weened* Ween *v.*

**Vendable,** *a.* Now *rare* [a. OF. *vendable*, f. *vendre* to sell, or (in later use) directly f. Vend *v.* + -able.] = Vendible *a.*

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5804 But chaunged is this world unstable; for now is over alle vendable 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III iv (1883) 112 Salaste saith that alle thynges be vendable. *c* 1580 W. Stellman *Dialogs* (1890) 4 He to returne to me such goodes, as I thought to be vendable in Inglond. 1662 J. Bangham *Yorks Alex.* II (1867) 90 He courted a long time the Barberm to be made Clerk of the apostolick cha ber, he being very rich (and that a vendable honour). 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 293/2 The Axe and Cleever are used to cut the quarters into handy pieces, and more vendable pieces. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 21 Sept., The vendable commodities of the United States have fallen in price in 20 years more than 45 per cent.

**Vendace** (ve·ndās) Also 8 **vangis,** 9 **vendis, vendise** [app. ad. OF. *vendese, vendoise* (mod F. *vandoise*) dace.] **a.** A species of small freshwater fish (*Coregonus vandesius*) belonging to the same genus as the pollan and powan or gwyniad, found in the lake of Lochmaben in Scotland. **b.** A closely-allied species (*Coregonus gracilior*) found in Derwentwater, formerly identified with the preceding.

[1684 Sibbald *Scotia Illustrata* II n 26 Piscis in Lacu Mabano, Vandesius. In eodem Lacu Gevandesius.] 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III 368 It is likewise found in the same with the Ferra of the lake of Geneva, the Schelley of Hulse water, the Pollen of Lough Neagh, and the Vangis and Juvangis of Loch Mabon. 1777 — in Lightfoot *Flora Scot* (1789) I 61 Gwinniad. Found in Loch Mabon. Inhabit in those parts the Vendace, and Juvangis; and in Loch Lomond, where it is called the Poun. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl* II 139 There is one fish [that] from very inferior situations that can be obtained is peculiar to that loch [Castle Loch]. It is called the Vendise or Vendace. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xxiv, *Herrings* which frequent the Nith and other streams, which are only found in the Castle Loch of Lochmaben. 1856 Stonehenge *Brit. Rur. Sports* 231/1 The Vendace (*Coregonus Albula*), found also in the Scotch lakes. 1884 Braith Waite *Sidmouths Westwild* II 5 The vendace or vendis and the smelt, or sparling.

*attrib.* 1837 *Chambers's Lucycl.* IX 344/1 Vendace fishing at Lochmaben takes place only on the 1st of August each year. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 366 Vendace Nets, from Lake Netter. *Ibid* 372 Gwyniad-Roe, Vendace Roe.

† **Vendage,** *Obs* Also 4 **vendege** [ad. OF. *vendange* (also mod F.), *vendenge* = L. *vindemia*.] Vintage

*a* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B* xviii 367 May no drynke me mouste ne my thruste slake, Tyl be vendage faille in be vale of iosaphath. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi 10 The fruytes of vendage and of oile. 14.. *Voc.* in W. Wulcker 619 *Vindemia* [sic] vendage.

*b* 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xxvi 5 Grapes of bis first fruytn and vyndage thou shalt not gedere. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I 134 Kitte hem streit after bi good vyndage. *Ibid.* x 214 This mone in places warme & wyph be see, Vyndage is bugely to solempnyse.

**Vende,** southern ME. variant of Fiend *sb*

**Vendean** (vendā·ăn), *sb* and *a* Also **Vendéan** [f. F. *Vendée*, the name of a maritime department in western France.]

**A.** *sb* An inhabitant of La Vendée, esp. one who took part in the insurrection of 1793 against the Republic

1796 *Gentl. Mag.* May 407 The Vendeans are extraordinary men. 1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) III 396 The Vendeans were in that stage of society when ascendancy is acquired by personal daring. 1845 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI 201/1 The unhappy Vendeans were defeated with fearful loss. 1903 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* I xii 244 The experience of a fugitive Bourbon or Vendean.

**B** *adj.* Of or pertaining to La Vendée, esp. in connexion with the insurrection of 1793

1796 *Gentl. Mag.* May 408/1 The Vendean generals. *Ibid.* 413/1 The History of the Vendean War. 1830 tr. *Lamartine's Trav.* (1849) I. The war would have been organised once more into Vendean guerillas. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I 86 The Vendean insurrection had been combated by means neither suggested nor directed by the executive. 1911 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 319 The Breton and Vendean royalists were still formidable.

**Vended,** *ppl. a* [f. Vend *v.*] Sold.

1812 Crabbe *Tales* xiv 116 Suppose your vended numbers rise The same with those which gain each real prize.

**Vendee** (vendī·) [f. Vend *v.* + -ee.] The person to whom a thing is sold, the purchaser.

Most frequently in immediate contrast to *vendor*

1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI*, c. 3 § 8 Such Lessees, donees, vendees, or assignees. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 50 If the writ of covenant be brought against all the vendors by all the vendees. 1631 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 117 The Vendee cannott get leave to cutt these trees by any meanes, but the parte must sell the trees to him. 1690 R. Cox *Discourse Trade* 19 Vexatious Suits between Vendor and

Vendoo, Morgager and Morgagee. 1706 Blackstone *Comm.* II 447 If the vendor says, the price of a beast is four pounds, and the vendee says he will give four pounds, the bargain is struck. 1827 W Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed 4) II 769 A few days after the sale the vendee gave the factor, in part payment, two promissory notes. 1881 Nicholson *Prov Statord to Shares* xiii. Unpaid accounts of three months standing are charged against the vendee at the rate of 12 per cent

**Vender** (vendar) [f. Vend *v.* + -er1. Cf. Vendor.]

**1.** One who sells, a seller, sometimes in restricted sense, a street seller

1596 Bacon *Max & Use Com Law* ii (1635) 69 A deed of gift of goods is good against the executors, administrators, or vender of the goods himselfe. 1661 *St. Acts Parlt* (1820) VIII 243/2 Venders & dispersers of forbidden books 1721 Addison *Spect* No 231 P 5 Take care in particular, that those may not make the most Noise who have the least to sell, which is very observable in the Venders of Card matches. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 181 P 12, I inquired diligently at what office any prize had been sold, that I might purchase of a more propitious vender 1800 Colquhoun *Comm Thames* IV 193 Small Grocers, and venders of Smuggled Goods. 1837 Hallam *Hist Lit* I iv § 57 The Swiss reformers were engaged in combating the venders of indulgences 1866 Engel *Nat Mus* viii 302 The melodious cries of venders in the noisy streets of large and populous towns.

*fig.* 1834 Southey *Doctor* vi (1862) 17 He gathered the fruit of knowledge for himself instead of receiving it from the dirty fingers of a reading vender

**2** One who advances or advocates an opinion, etc 1818 Dwight *Theol* (1830) I 92 Epicurus, the principal vender of this system

Hence **Venderess, vendress,** a female seller

1800 Hurdis *Fac Village* 98 Vendress of ballads and the bundled match 1802 Miss M B Edwards *John & J.* I v 96 A stout girl, venderess of coarse green earthenware from the town

‖ **Vendetta** (vende·tă). [It, –L. *vindicta* vengeance Cf Vindictive *a.*]

**1.** A family blood feud, usually of a hereditary character, as customary among the inhabitants of Corsica and parts of Italy

1825 *Edinb Rev* Cl 47 Scott succeeded in making the vendetta disgraceful 1860 *All Year Round* No. 63 p 329 The deadly 'vendetta' which has sacrificed whole families, and once depopulated an entire village for one girl 1870 O W Holmes *Old Vol of Life* (1891) 201, I came away thinking I had discovered a new national custom, as peculiar as the Corsican vendetta.

**2** A similar blood feud, or prosecution of private revenge, in other communities.

1861 Pearson *Early & Mid Ages* vii 66 But there are no traces [among the early Anglo Saxons] of that *vendetta*, which was the bonbire glory of the Welsh 1892 *Spectator* 7 Mar, The Papuan would eat everybody, but that he fears arousing endless vendettas.

*attrib* 1897 *Humanitarian* X 209 The vendetta spirit is hereditary

Hence **Vendettist,** one who takes part in, or carries on, a vendetta

1904 *Times* 2 June 10/3 We perceive that they are bloodthirsty vendettists.

**Vendibility.** [See next and -ity.] The quality of being vendible or saleable.

1660 Jer Taylor *Doctor* II. i. rule 8 § 31 In Merchandise, in the price of market, and the vendibility of commodities. 1875 Lowe *Eng Surnames* (ed 4) II App 162 In former times, a bush or a besom affixed to any article denoted its vendibility 1892 *Trial Lamson* 2 Feb. 98/2 It is counsel calculated to give their degrees all the prestige attaching to vendibility

**Vendible** (ve·ndib'l) *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vendibilis*, f. *vendĕre* to sell: so Sp. *vendible*, It. *vendibile* Cf Vendable *a* ]

**A.** *adj* **1** Capable of being vended or sold, that may be disposed of by sale, saleable, marketable

Freq with *more*, *most*, etc, denoting the readiness with which a thing can be sold.

1380 Wyclif *2 Mace* iv 3 In to wynnynge of money, by eche 3eeris prestehode vendible, or able to be soold 1530 in H Turner *Select Rec Oxford* (1880) 91 Wyne alowed by hym to be good and vendible. 1581 W. Stafford *Exam Compl* ii (1876) 37 They come not always for our commodities, but sometimes to sell theirs heere, knowing it heere to be best vendible 1593 Parsons 1st *Pt Hutchinson* b.p. Ded , Play books being now more vendible than the choycest Sermons *Ibid.* 905 They cannot therefore bee vendible because they are so ridiculous 1659 in Gutch *Coll Cur* I 275 The University of Oxford, by their printing of Bibles, and other saleable books, will be enabled to go forward with those other less vendible. 1758 Hogarth *Miner's Dict* Kivb, This to make it vendible, is first knocked out with a Hammer, and the dead Stuff picked out as clean as may be. 1768 W Knox *Wretler Even* iv III 232 They get rid of some commodity, not very vendible. 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 980 In this way all the vendible coal becomes available 1879 *Cassell's Techn Educ* IV 90/2 A thing made which is useful for its own sake, and vendible as such

*transf* 1581 Burghley in D Digges *Compl Ambass* (1655) 394 He is altogether French and will seek to draw this King into France, where his life I fear will be vendible 1598 Shaks. *Merch V* I. i. 112 Silence is onely commendable In a neate tongue dri'd, and a maid not vendible.

**b.** = Venal *a* 1 b and 1 c

1579 Fenton *Guicciard* x (1599) 427 Favors and voyces being made vendible and corrupted, discords haue bin kindled amongst themselues 1586 T. B. *La Perimaud. Fr Acad.* (1594) I 377 So long as the places of judgement shall be vendible, and bestowed upon him that offereth most. 1624 Capt Smith *Virginia* iii. 76 It is not our custome, to sell our curtesies as a vendible commodity 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C Wars* 788 In England and Germany Forces were levied and raised for both parties with a vendible faith 1792 Burke *Wks* (1837) I 566 It attached under the royal government, to an innumerable multitude of places, real and nominal that were vendible

†**2** Of persons = Venal *a.*1 2. *Obs*

1609 Holland *Ammi Marcell* 293 Environed he was with a multitude thronged together of vendible or sale souldiors. 1637-50 Row *Hist Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 404 Those were sellable, vendible men to be sold for money 1668 Lassels *Voy Italy* (1698) Pref p xxiii I would not have him learn the custom of those vendible souls there, who serve any prince for money

†**3** Offered for sale, that may be bought or purchased. *Obs.*

1552 Huloet, Vendible, or whych maye be bought, *mercabilis, vendibilis* 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen* 281 Lentils . was the usuall food . commonly vendible in their tauernes. 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 150 Houses, like our Tauernes, Where is vendible Wine 1665-6 Havers *P della Valle's Trave & Indies* 12 Hee, not finding any [book] vendible therein, caus'd a small one to be purposely transcrib'd for me 1756 Earl Chesterf. in *Connoisseur* No 107, I am so great a purchaser of the fair sex, that I never let a title of their vendible writings escape me.

†**3** *fig.* Current, accepted, acceptable. *Obs*

1614 Howell *For Trav* (Arb) 50 Certaine vulgar Phrases, Complements, and Courtesies, which are vendible in the English, and not vendi'd or used in French 1645 Milton *Tetrach* Wks. 1851 IV 234 Let the foppish canonist with his dirty fingers of a meer traditionall cases goe and be vendible where men lose so unhappy as to cheap'n him 1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* I iv § 16 281 Some may still suspect all this to be but nothing else but a refinement and interpolation of Paganism, or a kind of Mangonization of it, to render it more vendible and plausible.

**2** *sb* A thing admitting of being sold or offered for sale

1681 Wood *Life* (O H S) II 390 The prizes of all vendibles for the belly of man and horse were stuck up in public places. 1691 – *Ath. Oxon* (1721) II 384 It appears that this and the resolutions were occasion'd by the excessive Gabells laid upon common Vendibles 1697 J Potter *Antiq Greece* I xv (1715) 81 In the Market where they had the care of all Vendibles exposed for Sale. 1841 Galt *Ann Parish* xxxiii The farmers taking their vendibles to the neighbouring towns on the Tuesdays. 1905 Holman Hunt *Pre Raphaelitism* I 368 The prices of all kinds of vendible in the market

Hence **Vendibleness; Ve·ndibly** *adv.*

1563 Hyll *Art Garden* (1593) 30 The greater they do then abide, the vendibler, or readier they will be to be solde. 1611 Cotgr., *Vendiblement*, vendible vendibleneste, a being salable *Ibid*, *Venalement*, vendibly, salably 1727 Bailey (vol II), *vendibleness*, Saleableness

† **Vendicate,** *v. Obs.* [ad *vendicāt-*, ppl. stem of *vendicare*, variant of *vindicare* Vindicate *v* Cf. obs. F *vendiquer* ]

**1** *trans* To claim for oneself.

1531 Elyot *Gov* III iii His body so pertayneth unto him, that none other without his consent may vendicate thereon any propertie 1543 4 *Act* 35 *Hen VIII c.* They have usurped, and vendicated a fayned and an vnlawfull power and jurisdiction within this realme 1560 Bible (Geneva) 2 Kor iii, 17 For that we vendicate any thing to our selues aboue the least of our brethren. 1611 Cotgr., *Vendiquer*, to vendicate; to claime, or challenge. [Hence in Blount 1656.]

**2** With Inf To assert a claim, to claim ability, *to* do something

1557 N T (Geneva) 2 *Cor* ii 2, I dyd not vendicate to my selfe to knowe any thyng among you, saue Iesus Christe 1616 J. Lane *Contin Sqr c* I xvi 230 Wee have twoe Ladies, which, with your trim paire, dare vendicate to singe.

**Vendicatife, -yue,** obs var. Vindicative *a.*

† **Vendication** *Obs.*—[f. Vendicate *v*, after the entry in Blount *Glossogr* ] (See quot )

1656 Phillips, *Vendication*, a challenging to oneself, a claiming

**Vendicion,** obs form of Vendition

**Ve·nding,** *vbl sb* [f Vend *v.*] The action of selling or retailing

1666 *City Ord* 12 Chas. II. c. 5 § 2 Any publick Vending of the said Books. 1745 *De Foe's Eng Tradesman* (1841) xxvi. 254 For the raising and vending of provisions. 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* I xxii 338 The famous mercantile society, called the Merchant Adventurers, was instituted for the vending of the cloth abroad 1822 Lamb *Elia* i *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, [He] kept open a shop for the vending of this wholesome and pleasant beverage 1875 Helps *Soc Press* iii 38 Now it will astonish most of my hearers that I have included the vending of oysters amongst noxious trades.

**Vendis(e,** variants of Vendace

**Vendish,** variant of Wendish *a.*

† **Ve·nditate,** *v. Obs* [f L. *venditāt*, ppl stem of *venditare*, frequentative of *vendĕre* to sell ] *refl* and *trans.* To set out as if for sale, to put forward or display in a favourable light or in a specious manner, to exhibit ostentatiously (Common *c* 1600–50 )

*refl* 1600 Holland *Livy* III xxxv 110 Using them as instruments to venditate himselfe forth to the common people. 1603 – *Plutarch's Mor* 61 Although her venditate himselfe for a God, by curing of seuerall diseases. 1609 H Burton *Truth's Tri* 361 Their doctrine wanting fit opportunity to venditate it self publickly upon the stage 1628 J Smith *Sol Disc* 1 to Those philosophers which made their knowledge only matter of ostentation, to vendi tate and set off themselves.

*trans* 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 345 Euer as any of these new commers can venditat and vaunt his owne cunning with braue words, straitwaies we put our selues into his bands.

1644 F White *Repl Fisher* 457 The miracles which Komists venditate are eyther Fryars fables, or reports misapplyed. 1678 Marvell *Def J Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV 230 Let it in the meantime, venditate all its street adages, its odd ends of Latin

**Venditation.** [ad L *venditātio*, noun of action from *venditare* see prec ]

†**1** The action of putting forward or displaying in a favourable or ostentatious manner *Obs.*

1609 Sir R. Hoby *Lett Mor T H* 74 Calumnious censure of Purgatorie is held by you as a specious venditation 1633 Br Hall *Occas Medit* (ed 3) xxx 76 The venditation of our owne worth, or parts, or merits, argues a miserable indigence in them all 1639 B Jonson *Discoveries* Wks. (Riding) 747 2 Some [wits], by a false venditation of their own naturals, think to divert the sagacity of their readers from themselves.

**2.** The action of offering for sale *rare*—1.

1894 *Fraser's Mag* L 163 The orangewomen stride over the benches with clamorous venditation!

**Vendition** (vendi·ſən) Also 6 **vendicion,** *Sc* -titioune, **wend** , 7 *Sc* venditioun [ad L. *venditio*, noun of action from *vendĕre* to sell So OF *vendicion*, obs. F *vendition*, Sp *vendicion*, It *vendizione* ] The action of selling, disposal or transfer by sale

1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 109b, It might more truely bee called a spuyng, then a vendicion or sale 1559 *Aberd Protocols Town Clerks* 1/a grow (1868) II 73 The wendi tioune and alienatioune maid thairof to the said Androw 1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt Parallel* 29 It is of a venditition by the tenant in taile 1699 Arrowsmith *Chaun Trinc* 490 His directing and ordering great sins to great good, as Josepha vendition to the Churches preservation 1754 Rielling *Voy Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII 60 Several taverns are set apart solely for the vendition of this liquor 1828 Sewell in *Oxf Univ Pr* 26 The law still permitting practice of vendition to slavery and prostitution 1863 *Ten pht Bar* IX 65 The Marché St Honoré is the most usual place for their vendition

†**Ve·nditive,** *a. Obs*—1 [f. L. *vendit*, ppl. stem of *vendĕre* to sell ] (See quot )

1633 T Adams *Exp 2 Peter* 11 To these is a service of Inferioritie; which is either 1 Voluntary, Or 2 Native, such as are borne servants, Or 3 Venditive, that have sold themselves

†**Ve·ndītor.** *Obs rare* Also 8 *Sc* vanditor. [a L *vendītor*, agent noun from *vendĕre* to sell, or ad. It *venditore* ] A seller, vendor

1658 *Money wanteth all things* 1 The Vendors of Oat meal round and small, Do diligently wait on Money 2 Call. 1733 Lady Baillie *Hewsek Bk* (S H S) 340 To the venditor in full for Moneths 5 £4 0 0

†**Vendonging** *Obs*—1 [? Or. *vendenger*, -*anger* (F. *vendanger*), f. *vendenge*, -*ange*. see Vendage ] The vintage.

1340 *Ayenb* 36 Pe oþre beggeþ me herueste þet corn, ine vendongynge bet wyn.

**Vendor** (ve·ndǝr) [a late AF *vendor*, earlier *vendour* (F. *vendeur*), agent noun from *vendre* Vend *v* Cf. Vender ] One who disposes of a thing by sale; a seller

Orig *Law*, and still the regular spelling in legal use

1598 Wes *Form Fit Symbol* § 59 If the writ of covenant be brought against all the vendors by all the vendees. 1660 R Coke *Power & Subj* 131 It is true indeed that then such vendor ought equally to all sellers to have changed quarters arithmetical proportion 1670 (see Vendee) 2 1692 Pol. lexfen *Disc Trade* (1697) A 6 From the first Buyer to the last Vendor 1766 Blackstone *Comm* II 448 Where the vendor hath in himself the property of the thing sold 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed 2) VI 30 The vendor would immediately have become a trustee for the purchaser 1862 Burton *Hist Hunter* (1863) 4 The vendors of quack medicines and cosmetics are aware of the power of Greek nomenclature 1891 M Williams *Later Leaves* v 63 A well known vendor of ladies hats and bonnets

*transf* 1887 *Pall Mall G* 30 March 9/2 The automatic vendor has become an institution in our midst

*attrib* 1896 *Westm Gaz* 31 Dec 3/1 The vendor company is now selling the business to a public company

†**Vendosy** *Obs.*—1 [ad. F *vendoise* see Vendace ] The cisco fish

1598 Sherwell, *Saforne 2 Regem* Oyli The perche and pike are the best, so they be fatte and neate are the vendoises, and thin lopsters.

**Vendress,** var. Venderess.

**Vendue** · see Rerebos 2 (quot. 1552).

**Vendue** (vendi·u) and *W Indies.* Also 7 **vendu**, 9 **vendoo, vandew** [a Du. *vendu*, † *vendue*, a. older F. (now dial) *vendue* sale, f. *vendre* to sell ]

**1.** A public sale, an auction Freq in phr *at* (*a*) *vendue*, *by vendue* see first group of quots

(*a*) 1686 *Ann Albany* (1860) II 93 Which said lotts of grounde ye common councill will dispose of at a publicke vendu or out cry 1748 Smollett *R Random* xxxvi I 324, I went ashore (at Port Royal), and having purchased a laced waistcoat at a vendue [1760 a sale] made a swaggering figure 1757 Woolman *Jrnl* iv (1840) 45 When estates are sold by executors at vendue. 1776 *Pennsylv Journ* 25 May 263/2 To be sold by public vendue, a large quantity of Ship Timber 1804 *Europ Mag* XLV. 20/2 I was knocked down at vendue to old Squire Kegworth 1858 Parmenter *Hist Pelham, Mass* 167 Bidding off the poor to support at the inverted vendue, or lowest bidder

(*b*) 1759 J Adams *Diary* Wks 1850 II 73, I am to attend a vendue this afternoon at Lambert's. 1781 Mrs. Abigail Adams in *Fam Lett* (1876) 402 The retailing vendues, which are tolerated here, ruin the shop-keepers

Pinckard *Tour W Indies* II 325 A Dutch 'vendue' of slaves. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm* Ser I. xxvii *Is it a van Gew*, or a weddin, or what is it? 1897 W D Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 6 [To] have a vendue and sell out everything before the snow flew

**2.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *vendue-crier, master, room, store*

1710 *S Carolina Stat* (1837) II 348 The person herein after appointed publick vendue master or his deputy 1761 *Descr S Carolina* 33 There is also a Receiver general of the Quit rents a Vendue Master and Naval Officer 1798 *Bay's Rep* (1809) I 109 The goods were in a vendue store a common market a public place known and established in law 1799 *The Aurora* (Philad.) 10 Apr (Thornton) By profession he is a vend e crier He said he would cry the vendue in spite of the Standing Army 1828 *Life Islander Jamaica* 180 Marly entered the vendue room 1828–32 Webster, *Vend e master* an auctioneer

**† Vene.** *Obs rare* [ad L. *vena*.] A vein

1606 [Carpenter *Solomon's Solace* xxxiv 139 The Sea powreth foorth in venes to fill the springs and receiueth it againe from the Riuers. 1654 Vilvain *Epit Ast* v. Iliad, In each Mans Body so many veines inspect 1716 M Davies *Athen. Brit* III *Diss Physick* 5 I skewise Virsungius might treat more fully of the Pancr[e]atick Juice, as Asellius of the Lacteal Venes

**Vene,** obs Sc form of Ween *sb* and *v*

**† Venecreke,** variant of *fenegreke* Fenugreek

1486 *Bk St Albans* cii b Take venecreke and then annoynt it with this Oynement

**Venedo tian,** *a* [f med L. *Venedotia* North Wales] Of or pertaining to North Wales

1841 *Anc Laws & Inst Wales* Pref p vii, The Venedotian Code said to be the compilation of Jorwerth son of Madog *Ibid* p. x The Venedotian Welsh Code. 1887 *Edin Rev* Jan. 77 The last important head of law in the Venedotian code

**Veneer,** variant of Venv 2 *Obs*

**Veneer** (vɪnɪə), *sb* Also 8 **fanneer, veneer, 9 vineer** [ad G *furni(e)r, fourni(e)r, + former* in the same sense see next and Veneering *vbl sb* The loss of *r* in the unstressed first syllable also appears in Da *finer*, Sw. *fanér*, Russ. фанёръ.]

**1** One of the thin slices or slips of fine or fancy wood, or other suitable material, used in veneering

1702 *Lond Gaz* No 3806/4 With a large Parcel of French Walnutt tree Veneers will be exp'osed to Sale on Thursday 1806 *Ann Reg* (1808) 960/2 A new mode of cutting veneers, or thin boards. 1823 *Vaucleshill Curier* in O W Roberts *Pop Cur Amer* (1827) 302 The largest and finest log of mahoga y ever i nported i to this country sawn into veneers 1875 Bedford *Salon's Locked Bk* I x 372 Put in as many veneers as the liquor will cover

**2** Material prepared for use in veneering, or applied to a surface by this or some similar process

1750 W Ellis *Mod Husb* VII ii 43 This [ash] wood and walnut tree makes the best d fanneer 1778 W Chambers *Jenkin's Depository* Pt 56 A c ular Plan representing the Veneer an l Backi g for the Sides 1825 J Nicholson *Operat Ms Annice* 588 By gluing several th cknesses of veneer upon each other 1845 T Dod in *Brit Manuf Ser* IV 212 The cabinet maker buys the veneer in this rough state *Ibid*, He cuts a piece of veneer 1886 W J Tucker *Ferester* 119 One of the legs [of the chair was] broken and the grand veneer knocked off the back

**b** *In veneer*, in thin plates or slips

1855 Singleton *Virgil* I 333 Presents, ponderous with gold And ivory in veneer, commanda he to be borne Unto the ships

**3** *fig* A merely outward show or appearance of some good quality (Cf Varnish *sb* 4 a)

1808 Holme Lee *B Godwyn* xxxii, A veneer of useful knowledge. 1874 Farrar *Christ I* iv 44 A savage bar barian with a thi veneer of corrupt and superficial civilisation 1880 W Ballantyne *Gospel* xv 148 [The] heartfelt courtesy was replaced by a superficial veneer of forced politeness

**b.** Without article

1891 *Daily News* 7 Dec A gentleman with some polish—I was almost tempted to say with some veneer 1883 *Harper's Mag* July 265/2 These days of veneer and affectation in buildings and nomenclature

**4.** One or other of many species of moths of the genus *Crambus* or family *Crambidæ*, a grass moth

1819 Samouel le *Antomol Compend* 386 *Crambus zaguinea*. The buff edged 1909 Veneer *Ibid* 408 *C arborium* The yellow satin Veneer 1832 Kirby *Const Moths* 225–9

**5** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *veneer cutter, -making, merchant, -mill, room saw, wood*

Also *veneer-press* and *veneer-hollowing-cutting, planing, polishing straightening, -tri hine* (1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2709–2702)

1845 G Dodd *Brit Manuf* IV 148 The t veneer rooms at such [pianoforte] factories are places of importance 1852 Jerdan *Autobiog* II xiv 181 He purcha ed all the veneer wood which he could obtain 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl Useful Arts* (1867) II 708/2 In all veneer saws the edge must run very true *Ibid*, In saw mills wi ere veneers are cut, the arrangement of the segment saw is called a veneer mill 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Veneer cutter* one who saws furniture wood into thin slabs veneers by steam power machinery 1888 *Encycl. Brit* XXIV 138 2 These methods of veneer-making 1894 *Daily News* 8 June 8/4 Witnesses who deposed to knowing prisoner in the characters of a veneer merchant, a tankard maker, and an inventor

**Veneer** (vɪnɪə), *v* Also 8 **vaneer, veneir** [Later form (cf. next) of Fineer *v*, and G *furni(e)ren, fourni(e)ren*, ad F *fournir* Furnish *v* Cf Da *finere*, Sw *fanéra*.]

**1** *trans* To supply or fix as veneering

1708 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Marquetry*, All the Pieces thus formed with the Saw, they vaneer or fasten each in its Place on the common Ground 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2700/2 To veneer marble on zinc.

**2** To cover or face with veneer

Also occas. *transf* to cover with a layer or facing of some different or superior material

1742 *Bickerville's Pat in Sixth Rep Dep Kpr* App II 156 To veneer the Frames of Printings and Pictures, the fronts of Cabinets Bureos &c, now usually veneered with Ebony, Whalebone &c 1766 Entick *London* IV 171 The pulpit is veneered, and carved with figures. 1845 G Dodd *Brit Manuf* IV 206 We suppose our table made either of solid mahogany or veneered upon deal. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl Useful Arts* (1867) II 707/2 Pape of Paris, some years ago, veneered a piano forte entirely with ivory 1874 *Contemp Rev* Oct 758 Mr Burges proposal to veneer the lower part with marble is of jectionable.

*transf* 1857 Dufferin *Lett High Lat* (ed 3) 316 The salt water bey was veneered over with a pellicle of ice one-eighth of an inch in thickness

*b fig* To invest with a merely external or specious appearance of some commendable or attractive quality Usu const *with*

1847 Tennyson *Princ* Prol 117 And one the Master, as a rogue i s fain Veneer d with sanctimonious theory 1868 Holme Lee *Court Day* Ser. (1886) 95 *marg*, Of a butcher a right veneficall witch 1609 B Jonson *Masque of Queenes* Wks (Rtldg) 566 I hese witches came forth with spindles timbrels rattles, or other veneficial instruments 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 39 This they urge as a proof of t e possibility of veneficall and metamorphosing or transforming magick 1725 M Davies *Athen Brit* I Pref 57 The loose sheets of Northern Sorceries translated from the original Code of the veneficial Text 1736 *Ibid it To* Edr 9 The same Contagious and Venefical Distemper of Brains and Body

Hence **† Vene fically** *adv Obs.*

1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 280 A magician wrought it venefically, so that the poore man fell suddenly into a strange disease

**† Venefice.** *Obs* [ad L *veneficium, f venefici* Venefic *a* So OF *venefice*, F *vénifice*, It, Sp, Pg. *veneficio*] The practice of employing poison or magical i otions, the exercise of sorcery by such means

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* II 349 pe saxte werk of leccherie is venefice, pat is panne done whan men vsen enchantementis to geten pis werk of leccl erie 1388 J Harvey *Disc Probl* 72 By knots incantations magicall charmes and venefices, to harme endaniage or hurt any other 1626 Sir J Elliott *Def* in Rushw *Hist Coll* (1659) I 362 Nor did he apply the Veneries and Venefices of her Countries 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* To Rdr I fear them not at all; not their incantations venefices, malefices &c

**† Venefi cial,** *a Obs* [f prec.] = Venefical *a* 1646 J Gregory *Posthuma* (1650) 290 Samaritha the Witch doth manifestly declare it, where speaking of her veneficial Philtra [etc] 1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* II vi 99 As for the Magicall verses in this plat and con cered efficiete unto ve ificall i tention it seen eth unto n e a Pagan rite not derived from the ancient Druides 1658 — *Garde Cyrus* 109 Why the Confederates sit commonly crosse legged in ancient draughts since Juno is described in the same as a venefical posture to hi der the birth of Hercules?

**† Venefi cious,** *a* Now *rare* [f as prec] = Venefical *a*

1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* 266 That it was an old veneficious practice, and Juno is made in this posture to hinder the delivery of Alcmena 1650 Gaule *Mag Vind Hist* 2 Has *Helmont's Paracelsus* 53 In this []ace we have nothing to doe with Veneficious Wit hes, p ayers and Spells 1702 Sherburne *Seneca's Trag* 207 *note* The Bonds and Fetters of veneficious Incantations 1904 F Quinn *Grand Book* xxxvi The actual poison ring of that veneficious bacchante, Lucrezia Borgia

Hence **Venefi cionsly** *adv* Now *rare or Obs* 1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* 265 Lest witches should draw or prickle their names therein, and veneficiously mischiefe their persons

**Vene ficous,** *a rare* [f L *venefic us* + -ous] = Venefical *a*

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 503 Mercury wherewith a veneficous Circulator at Lutetia promised the cure of all diseases. 1831 in Maginn *Shakesp Papers* (1856) 60 To a cup of beer, prepared by one who is skilled in such vene ficous arts

**† Venefy** *Obs* = Venefice

1618 J Lane *Contin Sqr's Tale* VIII 30 *note*, Leyfurcke vsd all violence and art, which layi i vvile Videreaces venefies, to crosse and disappoint the destanies.

**Venegre,** obs. var Vinegar **Veneison,** obs form of Venison **Venel,** obs. f Vennel **Venem(e,** obs ff Venom *sb* and *v* **Venemous(e,** obs ff. Venomous *a* **Venemyn,** obs f Venom *sb*.

**† Venenate,** *a Obs* [ad L. *venenat us*, pt. pple of *venenare* see next] Poisoned, infected or imbued with poison or poisonous properties

1633 T. Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* App. 1605 They affirme that this fruit hath a wonderfull efficacie against venenate qualities and putrefaction 1634 — *Parey's Chirurg* IX xi 331 The wound must be dilated that so the venenate matter may flow forth more freely 1692 *Phil Trans* VII 4089 The fermentation of the venenate humours being quelled, and the pores closed *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) II 1 22 They give this in Fevers after Calcination by which means the venenate Parts are carried off

**† Venenate,** *v Obs* [f I *venenat*, ppl stem of *venēnare*, f *venēn um* poison] *trans* To poison, to render poisonous

1623 Cockeram II, To Poyson, *Venenate* 1665 G Harvey *Adv agst Plague* 5 The Air must be first venonated or rendred poysonous. *Ibid*, 7 He said Miasms entring the



*Encycl Brit* XXIV 138/2 The surfaces are tightly pressed together in a veneering press.

**† Vene·fic,** *a.* and *sb Obs.* In 7–8 **venefick.** [ad. L *venefic us*, f *venenum* poison see -fic. So older F *venefique*, It, Sp, Pg *venefico*]

A *adj* Practising, or dealing in, poisoning, acting by poison, having poisonous effects

1646 Gaule *Cases Consc* 27 So may it bee the Serpentine, the Venefick or Poysonous Witch 1652 tr *Father Paul Sarpi's Life* (1676) 92 But it appears that science hath a venefick vertue of swelling many men 1702 C Mather *Magn Chr* II App (1852) 222 They gave it under their hands that if we believe no venefick witchcraft, we must renounce the Scripture.

*B sb* One who practises poisoning as a secret art, a sorcerer or sorceress, a wizard or witch.

So L. *veneficus* masc and *venefica* fem.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 173 In it a matter of much artifice for venefick, or witches, to forespeak their own purposed and laboured malefice?

**† Vene fical,** *a Obs* [see prec and AL] **a.** = Venefic *a* Also *fig* b Practising associated with, malignant sorcery or witchcraft

1584 R Scot *Discov Witchcr* xv. (1886) 95 *marg*, Of a butcher a right veneficall witch 1609 B Jonson *Masque of Queenes* Wks (Rtldg) 566 I hese witches came forth with spindles timbrels rattles, or other veneficall instruments 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 39 This they urge as a proof of t e possibility of veneficall and metamorphosing or transforming magick 1725 M Davies *Athen Brit* I Pref 57 The loose sheets of Northern Sorceries translated from the original Code of the veneficial Text 1736 *Ibid it To* Edr 9 The same Contagious and Venefical Distemper of Brains and Body

Hence **† Vene fically** *adv Obs.*

1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 280 A magician wrought it venefically, so that the poore man fell suddenly into a strange disease

**† Venefice.** *Obs* [ad L *veneficium, f venefici* Venefic *a* So OF *venefice*, F *vénifice*, It, Sp, Pg. *veneficio*] The practice of employing poison or magical i otions, the exercise of sorcery by such means

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* II 349 pe saxte werk of leccherie is venefice, pat is panne done whan men vsen enchantementis to geten pis werk of leccl erie 1388 J Harvey *Disc Probl* 72 By knots incantations magicall charmes and venefices, to harme endaniage or hurt any other 1626 Sir J Elliott *Def* in Rushw *Hist Coll* (1659) I 362 Nor did he apply the Veneries and Venefices of her Countries 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* To Rdr I fear them not at all; not their incantations venefices, malefices &c

**† Venefi cial,** *a Obs* [f prec.] = Venefical *a* 1646 J Gregory *Posthuma* (1650) 290 Samaritha the Witch doth manifestly declare it, where speaking of her veneficial Philtra [etc] 1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* II vi 99 As for the Magicall verses in this plat and con cered efficiete unto ve ificall i tention it seen eth unto n e a Pagan rite not derived from the ancient Druides 1658 — *Garde Cyrus* 109 Why the Confederates sit commonly crosse legged in ancient draughts since Juno is described in the same as a venefical posture to hi der the birth of Hercules?

**† Venefi cious,** *a* Now *rare* [f as prec] = Venefical *a*

1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* 266 That it was an old veneficious practice, and Juno is made in this posture to hinder the delivery of Alcmena 1650 Gaule *Mag Vind Hist* 2 Has *Helmont's Paracelsus* 53 In this []ace we have nothing to doe with Veneficious Wit hes, p ayers and Spells 1702 Sherburne *Seneca's Trag* 207 *note* The Bonds and Fetters of veneficious Incantations 1904 F Quinn *Grand Book* xxxvi The actual poison ring of that veneficious bacchante, Lucrezia Borgia

Hence **Venefi ciously** *adv* Now *rare or Obs* 1646 Sir I Browne *Pseud Ep* 265 Lest witches should draw or prickle their names therein, and veneficiously mischiefe their persons

**Vene ficous,** *a rare* [f L *venefic us* + -ous] = Venefical *a*

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 503 Mercury wherewith a veneficous Circulator at Lutetia promised the cure of all diseases. 1831 in Maginn *Shakesp Papers* (1856) 60 To a cup of beer, prepared by one who is skilled in such vene ficous arts

**† Venefy** *Obs* = Venefice

1618 J Lane *Contin Sqr's Tale* VIII 30 *note*, Leyfurcke vsd all violence and art, which layi i vvile Videreaces venefies, to crosse and disappoint the destanies.

**Venegre,** obs. var Vinegar **Veneison,** obs form of Venison **Venel,** obs. f Vennel **Venem(e,** obs ff Venom *sb* and *v* **Venemous(e,** obs ff. Venomous *a* **Venemyn,** obs f Venom *sb*.

**† Venenate,** *a Obs* [ad L. *venenat us*, pt. pple of *venenare* see next] Poisoned, infected or imbued with poison or poisonous properties

1633 T. Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* App. 1605 They affirme that this fruit hath a wonderfull efficacie against venenate qualities and putrefaction 1634 — *Parey's Chirurg* IX xi 331 The wound must be dilated that so the venenate matter may flow forth more freely 1692 *Phil Trans* VII 4089 The fermentation of the venenate humours being quelled, and the pores closed *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) II 1 22 They give this in Fevers after Calcination by which means the venenate Parts are carried off

**† Venenate,** *v Obs* [f I *venenat*, ppl stem of *venēnare*, f *venēn um* poison] *trans* To poison, to render poisonous

1623 Cockeram II, To Poyson, *Venenate* 1665 G Harvey *Adv agst Plague* 5 The Air must be first venonated or rendred poysonous. *Ibid*, 7 He said Miasms entring the

Body are not so Energick as to venenate the intire mass of blood in an instant

So † **Venenated** *ppl. a* *Obs*

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd Solomon* xvi 11 When poyson d leaves and venenated stings, Were both as opposite against content

† **Venena tion.** *Obs* [See prec. and -ATION ] The action of, or a means of, poisoning

1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* III vii 119 That this venenation shooteth from the eye, and that this way a Basilisk may empoyson, it is not a thing impossible. *Ibid* VII xix 385 For, surely there are subtiler venenations, such as will invisibly destroy

**Vene no,** *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs* [Irreg. ad. L *venen um* poison ] Poisonous, venomous

1665 G HARVEY *Advo agst Plague* 2 A great ebullition or fermentation ensuing between the Venene Corpuscles and the Vital Spirits. *Ibid* 7 The more sulphurous parts assume a venene nature which expiring infect and venenate the air 1694 SALMON *Bibl Bibliot* (1713) 503/1 Which drive away by sweat the malignity of Venene, Pestilential, and Venereal Diseases. 1839 J ROGERS *Antipaphor* VI § 2 225 It would leave behind no poisonous or venene particle of matter

**Veneni ferous,** *a, rare*—0. [f L. *venēnifer* (Ovid) see FEROUS ] (See quot ) Also **Veneni fluous** *a* , flowing with or discharging venom

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr Venenifrous*, that bears poyson, venenous 1891 *Cent Dict* s v , The venenifluous fang of a rattlesnake

**Vene no-,** employed as combining form of L *venenum* poison, as *veneno ta luxury* adj

1809 *Aikbutt's Syst Med* VIII 1046 They finally find their way into the large grape like cells and ducts of the three lobed venono salivary gland

**Venenose,** *a* Now *rare* [ad late L *venēnōsus*, f *venen-um* poison see -OSE. So It, Sp, Pg *venenoso* ] Poisonous, venomous

1623 RAY *Journ Low Countr* 225 The venenose vapour ascends not a foot from the ground 1691 — *Creation* II (1692) 77 All Warts, Tumors and Excrescences where any Insects are found to breed, exceed or stand up by some Venenose Liquor 1698 — in *Phil Trans* XX 85 The venenose Quality of this Plant 1837 MILLINGEN *Curr Med Lex* (1839) 376 Many absurd ideas regarding venenose substances prevailed in ancient days as well as in modern times 1845 J COOPER *Purgatory of Suicides* II xxiii, The younger Hellene ceased and The elder now ebriate with rage, Dashes to earth the foul venenose draught.

† **Veneno sity.** *Obs* [ad med L *venēnōsitas* see prec and -OSITY So It *venenosità*, Sp *venenosidad*, older F *venenosité* (Paré) ] Poisonous quality or property

1539 ELYOT *Cast Helthe* (1541) 56b Men have nede to beware what medycynes they receyve that in them be no venenositie, malyce or corruption 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 24 Notwithstanding this their venenosite attributed to them by Avicen I wouldnt greatly refuse them for sustentation 1638 J READ *Chirurg* xv 109 Poysonable spirits may be mingled with metrils, so that they may participate of their venenosite 1665 G HARVEY *Advo agst Plague* 14 We should continually fortifie our spirits with internal Antidotes to expell those Venenosities, as fast as they crood in 1692 ROYLE *Wks* (1779) IV 318 The venenosity they suspect in that corrosive menstruum.

**Vene nous,** *a.* Now *rare* Also 5 & **wenenows,** 7 venenouse [ad late L *venenos us*, or f L *venen um* + OUS Cf F *vénéneux* ] = VENENOSE *a*

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* VI iv 319 A serpent al vgly, Fel appetande and wenenous *Ibid* VII viii 1353 His mystyre, bat made hym ban serwis, Pretwaly put in his chalice Wenenows poyson 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Venenous*, full of poyson or venom. 1665 G HARVEY *Hist Anim & Min* 328 If it exceed it's turned into the plague, which is a venenouse disease of the heart. 1682 *Lond Gaz* No 1714/5 That I traiterous Venenous, Insinuating and Treasonable Association, lately found in the Closet of the Earl of Shaftsbury

**Venerabi lity.** [ad med L. *venerābilitas* see next and -ITY So It *venerabilità*, Pg. *vindade* ]

**1.** The quality of being venerable

1664 H MORE *Antid Idolatry* VIII 93 The Images have according to the excellency and venerability of their Prototypes, some Latria [etc ] 1805 R K KNIGHT *Princ Taste* (ed 3) II i 161 This last quality which I call venerability is the sublime and not to the beautiful) 1826 *Blackw Mag* XIX 388 [they] have lost the lovelness of youth, without having gained the venerability of age *a* 1849 POE *Wks* (1864) III 405 Far be it from us to dwell irreverently on matters which have venerability 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 886/1 Its conventions are as much a part of its venerability as the trappings of the Lord Mayor's Show

**2.** Employed as a form of address to an ecclesiastic. *rare*—1

1822 BORROW *Bible in Spain* V, I lived in the family of the Countess **, at Cintra, when your venerability was her spiritual guide.

**Venerable** (ve nérăb'l), *a* and *sb* Also 5-6 & **venerabil** (5 *ellip* ) [a OF *venerable* (mod F. *vénérable*, = Sp. *venerable*, Pg *veneravel*, It *venerabile*) or ad L *venerabilis*, f *venerārī* to venerate ]

**A.** *adj* **1.** Of persons Worthy of being venerated, revered, or highly respected and esteemed, on account of character or position **a.** As an epithet of ecclesiastics (or ecclesiastical bodies), now *spec* of archdeacons, or, in the Roman Catholic Church, of those who have attained the first degree of canonization. (FEG abbreviated as *Ven* )

1439-90 tr *Higden* (Rolls) V 187 Venerable faders of religion were in Egipte in this tyme. 1457 *Dunfermline Reg* (Bann. Cl) 285 A venerabill fadir in crist Andrew Abbot of Dunfermlyn. 1458 *Reg Aberdon* (Maitland Cl.) I. 273 Be it kende me Valter of Deskfurde to be oblyst til ane venerabille man master Johnne of Glar. 1500 *Reg Privy Seal Scotl.* I 594 And ane Letter . . to ane venerable fader Henry, abbot of Cambuskynneth *a* 1700 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* (1911) IX 336 Much Reuisling venerable Father Bakers Bookes, wch she write out and faithfully practised 1730 BOSTON *Man* XII 418 Having the Dissent by me in writ, from which I read it before this Venerable Assembly [the synod] 1736-91 *Keysler's Trav* (1760) III 109 Here lie together the sacred bodies of the venerable fathers Sosius and Severinus. 1834 K H DIGBY *Mores Cath* V IV 120 In the same age, Peter the Venerable, of Cluny, was defending the use of them [organs] against the Petrobrusians. 1892 *The Month* Aug 25 The Ven. Bartholomew Holzhauser died in Germany in 1658. 1894 *Daily Telegr* 29 Jan 5 Joan of Arc has been declared venerable by the Congregation of Rites That is the first step to sainthship

**b** In general use *rare*

1641 J JACKSON *True Evang T* II 131 Hee was a man so venerable amongst both the Christians and Heathen, that his ordinary style was, The Doctor of whole Asia. 1681 in Ingleby *Scholy Cent Ident* (Sh. Soc.) 386, I cant omit the first Famous Masters in t of our Nation, Venerable Shakespear and the great Ben Johnson. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II 193 We hwe often regretted the particular fault which, though in venerable characters, we must have been blind not to see 1755 W DUNCAN *Cicero's Set Orat* IX (1806) 297 It is with justice that Bonus Vir bears poets the epithet of *venerandus*

**c** Const *for* (something) or *to* (persons). *rare*

1653 VAUX tr *Gedeau's St Paul* 53 A man even to his enemies venerable for his piety 1713 BERKELEY *Ess Guardian* (1871) 11 Those who have devoted themselves to the service of God are venerable to all who fear Him 1849-50 ALISON *Hist Europe* II VII § 29 256 The Archduke Charles, venerable for his years and his virtues

**2** Commanding veneration or respect by reason of age combined with high personal character and dignity of appearance, having an impressive appearance in virtue of years and personal qualities

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables*, *Lion & Mouse* 64, I said Esope, my Maister venerable, I saw neuer beist [etc ] 1513 BRADSHAW *Eclogee* II (1570) B3b a Sucl e men with princes be sene more acceptable Then men of wisedome & clarkes vener able 1548 HALL *Chron* VI 6b, Thomas Cardinall of Yorke right venerable sage olde father more then lxxx yeares olde 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn bk* Proem 4 O thou venerable father of antient (and therefore hoary) customes, Sylvanus. 1788 *Gentl Mag* LVIII 2 Yesterday died Mr Wright 130 Man shews more venerable especially if by age h s hairs be every where fu ly superabundantly circumfused 1789 J BEVERLEY *Sonnets* 21 Venerable Sir, I am a Yorkshire able old gentleman, w o, they say had been high pontiff of Rome in the days of yore. *a* 1791 MAUNDRELL *Journ Jerus* (1810) 87 Said to be the House of venerable old Prophet 1787 BURNS *Let 7 Skinner* 25 Oct, Reverend and Venerable Sir, Accept my most sincere thanks 1817 *Mag* VII 5 A KING *Chronicle of Last Servia* 303 Amongst those executed before Belgrade were ver erable Senators and aged a nd renowned Wow ds. 1822 BYRON *Island* II *Conclusion* 19 A white beard which made him look venerable against his will 1873 HAMERTON *Intell Life* II II 143 A venerable country gentleman who had seen a great deal of the world

*transf* 1828 STEVENSON *Inland Voy* 4 Cattle and gray venerable horses came and hung the r mild heads over the embankment

**b.** Applied to personal features or attributes of these.

1726 POPE *Odyss* XXIV 335 The father with a father s fears (His venerable eyes bedim n d with tears) 1730 GLOVER *Leonidas* (1737) 192 His slender hairs, which time had silver d o'er, Flow d venerable down 1808 W WILSON *Hist Dissent Ch II* 30 Mr Barker was in person well made, and had a venerable appearance. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort* xvi, He wore a broad plate, over which descended a grey beard of venerable length 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed 2) *Supplices* 314 note The long might naturally call the old man's venerable hair his prudence and venerableness

**3.** Of things **a** Worthy of, to be regarded with, religious reverence

1509 LADY MARGARET tr *De Imitatione* IV i 5 Where fore than should not I be more inflamed to [be] venerable presence 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 70 Our Lordes holy woundes fiue His handes his feete, and his crosse venerable 1598 BELL *Surv Popery* III 409 How wilt thou touch thy mouth with his venerable blood? 1618 CROOKE *Body of Man* 339 Among the vnequall numbers the seauenth hath the first place, whose maiesty and dignitie is so great that Antiochus termed it admirable and venerable 1642 JER TAYLOR *Lpist* (1647) 169 A Bishop hath no new power in the consecration of the Venerable Eucharist, more than a Priest hath 1680 BP LEIGHTON *Serm* (1721) I 539 The day of Expiation was much more sacred and venerable than the common sabbath 1837 J H NEWMAN *Lect Justif* (1838) 344 a venerable and fearful place is a Church 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int* III III § 12 A strong natural feeling of reverence accumulates a store of ideas of things venerable. 1879 C G ROSSETTI *Sh & Sp Flow* 308 Awful then and by us venerable is the dignity of each Christian priest

**b** Worthy of veneration or deep respect deserving to be revered on account of noble qualities or associations.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I 8r Ios from Naxus 24 miles, venerable for the sepulchre of Homer 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* I VIII 33 Holy Writers, and such whose names are venerable unto all posterity 1669 GLANVILL *Def Vanc Dogm* 77 To oppose what custom and great names have render d venerable 1700 ROWE *Ambit Step-Mother* I 1, The thoughts of Princes dwell in sacred Privacy Unknown and venerable to the Vulgar 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V* X Wks 1813 III 207 In the ancient and venerable fabric of the German Constitution 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth Philos* Wks. 1846 I 93 Those qualities which are naturally amiable or venerable 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I I 74 Throughout the whole course of his reign, all the venerable associations by which the throne had long been fenced were gradually losing their strength.

**c.** Fitted to excite feelings of veneration, impressive, august

1625 CROOKE *Body of Man* 70 For it is a venerable sight to see a man when he is come to the years fit for it, to have his face compassed about with thicke and comely haire. 1718 LADY M W MONTAGU *Let to Conte* 31 July, We saw yet standing the vast pillars of a temple of Minerva. This venerable sight made me think on a beautiful temple of Theseus. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq* XI VIII § 5 The procession was venerable and the manner of it different from that of other nations. 1764 GOLDSM *Trav* 110 While oft some temple's mould'ring tops between With venerable grandeur mark the scene

**4.** Worthy of veneration or respect on account of age or antiquity, rendered impressive by the appearance of age.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 738 An affectionate lover of venerable Antiquity 1653 VAUX tr *Gedeau's St Paul* 331 Against an ancient tradition, which to many seems so venerable. 1671 PHILIPS *Reg Nicaea* Ep Ded', Those evidences and venerable Monument ts of Time 1770 GOLDSM. *Des Vill* 198 His looks adorn d the venerable place 1796 H HUNTER tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) II 422 Thus it is that you are clothed with magnificent, venerable ruins of Greece and Rome! 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh* (1824) 172 That venerable tower, he told them, was the remains of an ancient Fire temple. 1870 DICKENS *E Drood* III, In the midst of Cloisterham stands the nuns house, a venerable brick edifice 1904 J J FOWLER *Time* 63 The oldest of the venerable lime trees date from time immemorial

*absol* 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* (1697) p IXXXV, Ancient Words which, with all their Rusticity, had somewhat of Venerable in them

**b.** Ancient, antique, old.

1792 S ROGERS *Ital Mem* I 65 Those muskets cased with venerable rust. 1842 H ROGERS *Introd Bickn's Wks* I 1 Thus a single generation often witnesses the complete demolition of certain venerable structures congested and believed through a lo g succession of ages 1847 C BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xi, Cheats in oak or walnut rows of venerable chairs, high backed and narrow 1855 GROSSMITH *Laws* 55 The periodical (atomic) renewal of the body is one of the most venerable ideas in physiology

† **5.** Giving evidence of veneration, reverent, reverential *Obs.* (So L *venerabilis* )

1612 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 743 They spake in order, and obseue euen without the house a venerable silence 1624 I ISHER in R White *Regt Basher* 224 Kissing their feet and their sores, out of a venerable zeale to Christ 1675 G R tr *Le Grand's Hum without Passion* 77 Although I have a venerable value for the favourers of this opinion *a* 1700 MAUNDRELL *Journ Jerus* (1732) 89 The House of venerable old Prophet presents of some Itinerant Friars 1710 SHAFTESB *Charact* (1737) II II 269 To talk magisterially and d in venerable Terms of an Infinite Being

**6** *Comb* , as *venerable like, looking* adjs

1638 LITHGOW *Trav* VI 264 Wee found twelue Venerable like Turkes 1766 GOLDSM *Vicar* XIV Was he not a venerable looking man, with grey hair? 1894 W *Hutchison's Athens & Peloponnese* 31 Tall, venerable looking men with noble features

**B** *sb* A venerable person, an ecclesiastic having the title of 'Venerable'.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III 122 Lord M has engaged the two venerables to stay here, to attend the issue 1826 SOUTHEY *Lives Early Angl* 444 But can I leave have come from the Venerables and Saints of the Romish Church? 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq* XXXV, He described his country s male venerables as being distinguishable from animalant spinsters only in presenting themselves forked

**b** A venerable thing, an antiquity, *obs rare*

1803 SOUTHEY *Lett* (1856) I 222 My old and ugly stallgleaj ings are all now turning to account In turning over it ese venerables, you would be surprised to see how much I find that bears upon biography.

**Ve nerableness.** [f. prec. + -NESS ] = VENERABILITY 1.

1682 *Whole Duty Nations* 59 Things that have only the thin pretexts of Antiquity to give them some venerableness 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 232 As there is a native venerableness in grey hairs so is impious to make em the subject of a jest 1733 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI 226 Mr. Tyrrel's Years written by venerableness, rather than by wrinkles, in her face 1823 LAMB *Elia* II *Comic in Children*, You owe it to your venerableness, you would be surprised to see how much I find that leans upon biography.

**Ve nerably,** *adv.* [f as prec ] In a venerable manner, so as to be venerable , † with veneration

*c* 1810 *Wonders Saints* (1887) 3 Whose bodyes lappe yet ate the Greeke and Latine Churche do venerable records [on] the 1st of August 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Satires* VI 31 So venerably Ancient is the Site 1699 GARTH *Dispens* 8 Each Faculty in Blandishments they lull, Aspiring to be venerably dull 1753 HANWAY *Trav* III XXX (1762) I 230 I he years that had rendered his beard so venerably hoary 1791 HUDDESFORD *Salmagundi* 135 Might I but See thee in scarlet robe encase thy fur, And at St Mary s venerably purr! 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har* IV XXXI, His mansion and his sepulchre both place Is venerably simple 1838 *Fraser's Mag* XVII 58 It [the beard] had become venerably red

† **Ve neral,** *a* [ *Obs* [ad. med L. *Veneral is*, *Venus* VENUS ]

**1.** = VENEREAL *a* 1

1598 SIMEON *Cattan's Gemmanis* 105 This figure is ill, except it be for warre or actes veneral 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* IX 453 By their unanimous consent they voyded perpetual abstinence from all veneral actions

**2** = VENEREOUS *a* 1 and 3

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Veneral*, given to fleshly wantonnesse.

1632 J. FERAKE] *Agrippa's Occ Philos* 97 They that will gather a Venerall, Mercuriall or Lunary Hearb must look toward the West

**3** = VENEREAL *a* 2

1651 FRENCH *Distill* III 71 This Oil so purifies the blood that it cures all distempers that arise from the impurity thereof as the venerall do cause 1658 [J. THOMAS] *Insalvania* 19 Sarsaparilla, so much us'd in Duet Drinks for the Cure of the Venerial Disease 1803 *Med Jrnl* IX 356 A more recent case of a true elepha tiasis, that followed a venereal infection is added

**†Veneral,** *a* 2 *Obs*—1 [*Cf.* mod L *venerālitas* venerability] = VENERABLE *a* 2 b

1631 MARI K *Celestina* 1 29 What a venerall and reverend countenan e did hee carry

**Ve neance,** *v obs*—1 [Cf OF *venerance*, It *veneranza*, med L *venerantia*] Venerability

1884 *J* PAYNE *Tales fr Arabic* I 256 There was once in a province of Persia a King of the Kings, endowed with majesty and veneirance

**†Ve nerand,** *a Obs rare* [ad L *venerand-us*, gerundive of *venerārī* to venerate So It, Sp, Pg *venerando*] Entitled to veneration

1549 CHALONER *Erasm on Folly* K iij, These friers upholde them in their sermons to the people callyng them worshipfull and venerande masters 1657 GAUL *Cert Gentiles* IV II IV § 3 286 Seing we conceive of Eternitie as most venerand, these is nothing more venerand than the intellectuall Divine Power

**Ve nerant,** *a rare*—1 [ad L. *venerant*, *venerans*, pres pple of *venerārī* to venerate. So F *vénérant*, Sp *venerante*] Engaged in veneration

1846 RUSKIN *Mod Pa nt* II III I § 9 *note* 2 When we pronounce the name of Giotto, our venerant thoughts are at Assisi and Padua

**†Ve nerate,** *a Obs*—1 [ad L *venerat us*, pa pple of *venerārī* see next] = prec

1592 R D *Hyperotomachia* 53 b They stood all wait ing with such a venerate attention that they all at one instant tune alike made their reverent courtesies.

**Venerate** (ve nĕr'et), *v* [ad I *venerat*, ppl stem of *venerārı* (also *venerāre*) to reverence, worship, adore, whence also It *venerare*, Sp and Pg. *venerar*, F *vénérer*]

**1** *trans* To regard with feelings of respect and reverence, to look upon as something exalted, hallowed, or sacred; to adore or revere

1650 COCKBURN *Venerete* to worship 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Venerate* to reverence worship or honour 1742 YOUNG *Ni Th* II 255 Who venerate themselves, the world despise 1796 R J SULIVAN *View Nat* I 481 But there was a class of Alchymists, whose genius, probity, and conduct, we have reason to venerate 1851 D WILSON *Preh Ann* IV iv (1863) II 293 The ruined chapels are still venerated 1870 J BRUCE *Life Gideon* IV 70 [We] have learned to venerate the Word of God

**2** To pay honour to (something) by a distinct act of reverence.

1844 LINGARD *Anglo Sax Ch* (1858) I v 189 Thrice he venerated the sacred remains.

Hence **Ve nerated** *Vn* **Ve nerating** *ppl adjs*

1790 BURKE *Fr Rev* Wks V 84 You would have had a reformed and "venerated clergy" 1818 COBBETT *Pol Reg* XXXIII 169 In the Reports, the Resolutions, and in the ve nerated Acts, of your Honourable House 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II 143 It would be easier to govern under the venerated authority to which the homage of the I dia is had been so long paid 1873 BROWNING *Red Coll Nt* 240 979 Smiling and sighing the same effect Upon the venerated image 1663 BOYLE *Usef Exp Nat Philos* I iii 55 The Queen of Sheba then brake forth into pathetic and "venerating exclamations 1868 MRS HUNTINGTON in Drummond & Upton *Life Martineau* (1902) I ii 50 [Her reply declines to accept from him a] venerating love. 1863 GEO ELIOT *Romola* II xxxiv He saw the faces of men and women lifted towards him in venerating love. 1908 RUSKIN *Præterita* III 8 Without trouble to their venerating visitors in co ning so far up hill

**Veneration** (venĕre' ʃən) Also 5 **venerac**ion (6 *saycon*) [ad L. *venerātiōn-*, *venerātio*, noun of action f *venerārı* to venerate So OF *veneration* (F *vénération*), It *venerazione*, Sp *veneracion*, Pg *veneração*]

**1** A feeling of deep respect and reverence directed towards some person or thing **a.** In the phrases *to have*, or *hold in veneration*

1492 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 380 In that londe the memory of Sayntе Andrewe thapostole is haloede gretely and hade in veneracion *Ibid* III 193 That clerke Pictagoras was hade in veneracion of his disciples that [etc.] 1548 UDALL *Erasm Par Matt* v 20/1 So men shall haue your In veneration 1596 SPENSER *State Irel* Wks (Globe) 634 1 All those Northern nations were anette therfore to have the fire and the sunn in great veneracion 1609 J MAXWELL tr *Herodi an* (1635) 391 In the Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus (which the Romans have in chief veneration) *a* 1704 T BROWN *Pratic Drunkenness* Wks 1730 I 38 A custom framed and cemented by nature ought to be had in veneration by all succeeding ages. 1739 DU WORTH *Pope to Mr* Pope held the duties judgements in such high veneration [etc.] 1823 CRUSE *Eusebius Eccl Hist* VII xix (1847) 300 That See has ever been held in veneration by the brethren, that have followed in the succession there.

**b** In general use.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* I § 12 They would have been of no less Esteem with the Crown than of Veneration with the People 1683 ROBINSON in *Rep's Canv* (1848) 111 He speaks with great veneration of you. 1774 J BRYANT *Mythol* II 372 The persons who were stiled Baalim, had a great regard paid to their memory, which at last degener ated into a most idolatrous veneration 1793 BURKE *Appl Whigs* Wks.VI 143 That memory will be kept alive with particular veneration by all rational and honourable whigs 1825 in *Urban Mag* Dec (1913) 567 When I am in its company, I feel a certain awe and veneration. 1844 DICKENS *Mart Chuz* IX, A gentleman whom I wo accomplished females regard with veneration. 1891 NISBET *Insanity of Genius* 298 Simple piety or veneration seems to resolve itself into an absence of the identifying faculty

**c** Const *of* or *for* (a person or thing)

(*a*) 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig Sacræ* III II § 8 All that is left is only a kind of Veneration of a Being more excellent than our own 1671 F PHILIPPS *Arg Nonsp* 209 b Tender were the Judges of the Supreme Authority they sate under, and had such an awe and veneration of Majesty [etc.] 1866 SIR *Winter in Lond* I 243 The old domestic had almost intoxicated him with a silly, yet enthusiastic venera tion of old times.

(*b*) 1681 in Somers *Tracts* I 131 The greatest motive that begot in me a Veneration for the Duke 1691 NORRIS *Pract Disc* (1698) IV 13 He has a secret esteem and Veneration for him there [in his heart] 1788 LADY M W MONTAGU *Let to Ctess Bristol* 10 April They show here the tomb of the Emperor Constanti e for which they have a great veneration 1789 ROBERTSON *Hist Scot* V Wks. 1851 II 35 She expressed a great veneration for the liturgy of the Church of England 1842 D ISRAELI *Amen. Lit* (1867) II 166 It is unquestionable that the Reformation began to diminish the veneration for the Latin language 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) I 79 At this time extravagant veneration was avowed for mechanical contrivances.

**2** The action or fact of showing respect and reverence, the action or practice of venerating

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 192 b The lower veneracyon or worshyp exhibyte & done to the sayntes of god, called in holy scripture dulia. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Wks* (1573) 357/2 What faith what learning what reason will that Images should bee iudged worthy veneration? 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus* xlv 16 So unquestionable that the Reformation veneration of most pure gold 1665 BP PATRICK *Parab Lidg* xxiii, He blushed exceedingly and fell down in a humble veneration of her 1748 WARBURTON *Dit Legat* V Note B Wks 1788 III 202 Josephus saw well the con sistency between the veneration paid to Abraham s God, and the idolatry of the venerators. 1827 HALLAM *Const Hist* ed. 3 II 66 No part of the reformation was more prominent than the worship or at least veneration of images. 1892 MRS. JAMESON *Leg Madonna* Introd (1857) 18 The veneration for the Virgin Mary in the Middle Ages 1908 *Schapy Encycl Aet & Anatol* III 2562/1 The veneration of martyrs was accompanied by the feeling that their inter cession made prayer effective

**3** The fact or condition of being venerated

1625 BACON *Ess*, *Of Empire* (Arb) 309 Princes are like to Heauenly Bodies, which haue much Veneration, but no Rest 1711 I HERBERT *Trnsl* (1870) 116 Diodorus observes there was scarce any Tree that had not its vetera tion 1778 *Specl No* 467 § 2 The various Arts which now are a Disgrace and Veneration to the Ages they enjoy 1780 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 71 P 1 They thi nk veneration gained by such appearances of wisdom 1774 REID *Aristotle's Logic* I § 1 3 That the air of mystery might procure great veneration.

**†b** In the phrase *to be in* (*one's*) *veneration Obs*

1628 LE GRVE tr *Barclay s Argenis* 352 At that time it was in high veneration with men among the Moores 1638 *Decani* 1 5 The first Astronomers were also in such venera tion with the People that they were thought to have dis course with the Gods 1738 BUTLER *Anal* II xi 335 The leaders of them are in veneration with the multitude

Hence **Venera·tional** *a*,

1854 *Orr's Circ Sci*, *Org Nat* I 310 There is little venality in such venerational feelings

**Ve nerative,** *a rare* [f VENERATE *v* + -IVE] Of the nature of, inclined or disposed to, veneration Also **Ve nerativeness.**

1797 HOOK *Bank to Barnet* 104 They found the Organ of Venerativeness strongly developed 1880 COCKBURN MUIR *Pagan and Christian* 1 The venerative love for the teaching of the Christian Faith 1882 *All the Year Round* 27 Sept 61/1, I for one when a venerative youth have felt a thrill of joy at being prodded to over a bumper by some distinguished personage

**Ve nerator.** [a L *venerator*, agent noun f *venerārī* to venerate Cf It *veneratore*, Sp and Pg *venerador*, F *vénérateur* (rare)] One who venerates, worshipper of something

1656 *Artif Handsom* 123 The nostril seems fitted to the pulse and bent of those times, which were high venerators of vowed virginity *a* 1676 HALE *Prim Orig Man* 74 Those great Idolaters and Venerators of Nature and its appearances 1789 BURNEY *Hist Mus* (ed 2) II I 29 I han prelate, who was a great venerator of ancient rites 1818 HENTER *Hist Hen* VIII 75 Such indifferent minds in curious observers if not prostrate venerators. 1847 TENNY SON *Princ* IV 403 Not a scorner of your sex But venerator

**Venereal** (vĭnɪ·rĭăl), *a* and *sb* Also 5 **venerealle**, 6–7 **all.** [f L *venere-us*, f *Vener-*, *Venus* VENUS 1. Cf VENEREAL *a*.]

**1** Of or pertaining to, associated or connected with, sexual desire or intercourse

1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 109 The sawls of man in his formes ofher creatures [L. *non venereo*] transmuttithe interi lity formes ofher creatures 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) F IV, Here are vile women, whom love immoderate, And lust Venereall bringeth to hurt and shame 1622 MABBE tr *Aleman Guz de Alfar* II xv (1630) 400 Such is hunger and thirst and the venereall affect vually called lust 1688 NORRIS *Love* II § 11. 95 Concerning sensual pleasure especially that venereal species of it which we call venereal, there is more difficulty 1797 SWIFT *Circumcision of E Curll* Wks. 1745 III 1 163 Those appetites are now become venal which should be venereal. 1783 SMOLLETT *Cl Fathom* (1784) 150/1 We have formerly decanted upon that venereal appetite which glowed in the constitution of our adventurer. 1832 J DAVIES *Med Med.* 55 In the cure of anaphrodisia or want of venereal passion.

**†b.** (See qnot.) *Obs*—1

1658 ROWLAND tr *Monfet s Theat Ins* 999 Divers Authors do speak of four other sorts of Moths, viz the Venereal, bred in the genitals of men the Bee Moth, the Cloth Moth and the Library or Book Moth

**2** Resulting from, or communicated by, sexual intercourse with an infected person, symptomatic of, or associated with, a disease so caused

1698 PHILLIPS, Venereal disease is vulgarly called the French Pox 1660 MILTON *Free Commw* Wks. 1851 V 445 I hese new Fanatics of the sweating tub, inspir d with nothing holier than the Venereal Pox 1669 *Phil Trans* II 564 A lusty robust boulidier dangerously infected with the Venereal Disease. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No 226 P 5 (He) was particularly famous for the Cure of Venereal Distempers. 1728 J S. *La Dren s Observ Surg* (1771) 16 He looked upon the Distemper to proceed from a Venereal Cause, therefore exhibited Antuvenerials. 1805 *Med Jrnl* XIV 129 Unless we suppose the pa ient has his joints to arise from latent venereal virus 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* v 228 Another way in which it is highly probable that a woman may receive the venereal taint 1898 T BEVANT *Privil Wrgs* I 174 Venereal sores are very abundant

**b** Of persons Infected with, suffering from, venereal disease

1683 SNAPE *Anat Horse* III v (1686) 122 I ill it have mortified and consum d them has happens sometimes to venereal Persons.) 1843 R J GRAVES *Syst Clin Med* XXIV 296 A return of the venereal patients treated in the 38th Regimental Hospital

*c absol as sb* Venereal disease

1843 R J GRAVES *Syst Clin Med.* XXV 317 [He] does not consider it (i e. mercury) a specific for the venereal. *Ibid* XXIII 327 His skin became covered with extensive papular eruption, which was looked upon by many as true venereal

**+3** a Of persons Under the influence of Venus, inclined to be lascivious, addicted to venery or lust *Obs*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom* 188 Pronouncing the man to be saturnine, jovial martial solar, venereal mercurial lunar! 1665 HEATHWAIT *Comment Vox Lætis* (1901) 62 In Sense, she was Venereal; in Heart, Masculine. Venus gave her the Gift to be lascivious, Mars to be courageous. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s v., A Venereal Person

**†b** Of animals (see qnot.) *Obs*—1

1661 LOVELL *Hist Anim & Min* Isagoge 63 The Venereall [animals], are the delatious, mild kinde pleasant, and tame; as the Cat, coney, dog, goat, and scinck

**†c** (Cf *vitriol of Venus* s v VENUS 1.) *Obs*

1684–5 BOYLE *Min. Waters* 55 Common English Vitriol, as also that of Dantzick which is Venereal

**†4** Physically beautiful or attractive *Obs*—1

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr *Lomazzo's Idea* 17 Raph Vrbine was famous for making of delicate and Venereall bodies.

**+Vene reau,** *a* (and *sb*) *Obs* Also 6 *Sc* **venereane** [f as prec + -AN]

1 Connected or associated with, relating or pertaining to, Venus or her service

c 1550 ROLLAND *Cert Venus* 111 For hir sake sum sang venereane I wald thow sang *Ibid* III 738 Thay thre was of the Court venereane 2597 BP HALL *Sat* I IX, His statue trimd with the venerean tree 1633 GAULE *Mind Annot Ter* 64 Oh but when, trow we may some loose people say will these Halcyon or Venerean dayes rather appear? 1682 CORYAT *Crudities* (1724) I xx 117 My Figures proved more Venerean than Solar

**2** Of or pertaining to sexual desire or intercourse.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Cert Venus* 111 720 Thamar and Raab, And Marabre War all of ane sport Ladies venereane 1654 WITHER *Embl* 71 The scarres they get in their Venerean fights c 1645 HOWELL *Lett* (1650) II 17 With the assurance of Venerean delights in a far higher degree to succeed their deeds 1700 *Tune Shore* in Evans *Old Ball* (1784) I 325 Those with Scythian lad engag d in several fights, And in the brave Venerean wars did foil advent'rous knights.

**b** = VENEREAL *a* 2

1816 CHAPMAN *Widowes T* I Epv, The Venerean disease, to which they say, he has been long wedded

1818 CHAPMAN *Widowes T* v I ij b, It will be such a cooler To my Venerean Gentlemans hot liuer 1823 MARIN *Celestina* xvi 156 Just about this time your Venerans and love sicke soules, such as our master

**Venereo logy.** *Med* f as next + -OLOGY] The science or study of venereal diseases.

1900 in *Gould s Med Dict* (ed 5)

**+ Vene reous,** *a Obs* Also 6 **veneous.** [f L *venere-us* (whence It, Sp, Pg *venereo*) + OUS Cf OF *venereux* and VENEREOUS *a* 2]

1 Of persons (or animals) Addicted to, desirous of, sexual enjoyment, libidinous, lustful

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 125 Venereous people haue all their whole pleasaunce in their vyce to commune by this unthrifty daunce 1560 LEIGH *Armory* 95 The gote, saieth Isadore, is very venereus, but fighteth not therefore. 1609 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 300 There is no kind (man only excepted) that is so veneereous and nimble in generation as is a Horse or Mare. 1662 J DAVIES tr *Olearius' Voy Ambass* 94 The Muscovites are extremely veneereous. 1713 DERHAM *Phys Theol* (1727) 301 The Males are less than the Females [and] are very veneereous

**2** = VENEREAL *a*, 1

1592 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 204 The acte of veneereous copulation. 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* 182 The Conserve of the flowres thereof putteth away all veneereous dreames. 1615 G SANDYS *Trnsl* IV 307 In that heate and moisture are the parents of veneereous desires. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 138 His sinful and veneereous thoughts must carry him on 1881 H MORE in Glanvill *Saddducismus* 36 Their having any lustful or veneereous transactions with them 1795

Mackenzie *Epitet* (1820) III 297 This signifies the gratification of venereous desires.

b = Venereal *a* 2

1681 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 11 The greene caustick oil of brasse, cureth venereous pushes.

3 Exciting or stimulating sexual desire

1611 Corvat *Crudities* 268 As for thine eyes, shut them and turne them aside from those ve ereous Venetian objects.

1646 Bacon *Sylva* § 546 Upon the same reason Mushrooms are a Venereous meat. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v xxix 146 Salads, wholly made up of venereous Herbs and Fruits.

4. Dedicated to Venus *rare*—1

1592 R D *Hyp tarpotum* 39 Such hayre as Berenice did never vow to in the Venereous Temple for her Tholemeus.

Hence †**Vene reously** *adv* , †**Vene reousness.**

1699 H More *Immort Soul* III viii 408 Tooching merrily sets out the Venereousness of the Goatheard he describes. 1665 M N *Med Med cina* 65 Let a man that hath the Gout be venereously infected

**Ve nerer** *arch* [f. Venery + 2] A huntsman

1845 Browning *Flight of Duchess* x Our Veneres, Prickers and Verderers 1908 H Newbolt *New June* xxxii [He] drove the point into the hart s neck with the action of a veneer hitting the real animal.

**Veneres,** pl of Venus 1

†**Vene rial,** *a* 1 *Obs* Also 6–7 all [f L *veneri us*, f *Vener-*, *Venus* Cf Venereal *a* ]

1 = Venereal *a* 1

1531 Elyot *Gov* III xvii Thanking to remoue him from the fayths, rather by venerial motions channe by sharpenesse of tourmentes. 1552 Huloet Venerialli pastime, *aphro disia* 1589 Nashe *Anat Absurdity* Wks (Grosart) I 26 Leafue Cupid medicate new shifts which each amorous Courtier by his venerial experience may conjecturallie conceiue. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 553 Those that do too much follow venerial things, the eyes seem small and extenuated 1636 Davenant *Platonick Lovers* III 1 found him Lesse apt for our venerall Love than Muscovites Benighted when they travell on the Ice

2 = Venereal *a* 3 a

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod* Ep Ded A ij b I (who as yet neuer receyued one poynt of discourtesse of any venerial Dame) *Ibid* A vj b Venerial sweet and ruffling Nymphes 1630 J Taylor (Water P ) *A Bawd* Wks II 93 2 Besides I found a cursed Catalogue of these venerall Catcrpillers who were suppresst with the Monasteries in England.

3 a Beautiful or attractive like Venus

1661 Morgan *Sph ( entry* III iv 38 They described him like a nartial man when they would expresse his heat when a venerial woman described him with a Mirtle garland on his head

b Associated with the planet Venus

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* vi (1697) 106 The cooler the Water is when you put in it a Mali the Paler or more Venerial will the Colour of your Wort be *Ibid* 109 The predo minant Quality in Ale is Solar and Venerial, viz. Sweet and Balsamick

4. Employed in curing venereal disease

17 M Barrett in Morse *Ar er Corg* (1796) I 682 The next is the ve nerial root which under a vegetable regimen will cure a confirmed lues.

Hence †**Vene rialist,** a specialist in venereal diseases *Obs* —1

1763 A Sutherland *Atten pts Anc Med Doctr* I Introd. 21 Every disease, every member of the body has its particular professor [L city] swarming with Oculists, Aurarists Dentists Venerialists Nostrumites &c

†**Vene rial,** *a* 2 *Obs* —1 [? Venery 1] Belonging to the chase In quot. *absol*

1611 Danyon *Polyb* xiii 93 Of all the Beasts which we for our vener all name, The Hart amongst the rest the Hu tera noblest game [etc ]

†**Vene rian,** (and *sb* ) *Obs* Also 5 uen eryan [f L *veneri us* f *Vener-*, *Venus* Venus 1 Cf Venerean and Venerien ]

1. Influenced by, subject to, Venus, inclined to wantonness

14 [see Venerien *a* ]. *c* 1590 J Stewart *Poems* (S T S ) II 78/190 Heirfoir to v chis veneran I quyt To form in verse vrrginan perfyt Hystor Pucell fassone. 1598 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks (Grosart) III 120 Pigmey Duke aforesaid is such another Venerian steale placard as Iohn was. 1608 Iarlton *Soldier Content* (1844) 14 In every house where the veneriian virgins are resident hospitalitie is quite exiled

b As *sb* A person of this character

1601 Dolman *La Premaund Fr Acad* III 130 They name one man a Saturnist another a Martialist or else a Mercurialist or a Veneraan.

2 = Venereal *a* 2

1448 Methan *Wks* (E E T S) 57 Nwe radyffyd with the flame off uencryan dyspye 1513 Douglas *Æ ist* II v. Prol 92 Be nevir ourset myne author teichis so, With lust of wyne, nor werkis veneriane 1598 Barckley *De Virtute* II ii. *Arb* 419 A vast multitude Of since born mongrels that derive their birth From monstrous medly of Venerian mirth 1620 Dolman *La Premaund Fr* (1626) 11 734 Euen as the aire and winde coupleth and conioneth things seuered, so doth the Venerian power

3 = Venereal *a* 3

1617 Morykon *Itin* III 59 Because the beds are suspected for filthinesse of the Veneriau disease passengers use to weare linnen breeches of their owne. 1630 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 87 The Nose that is sunk into this figure by the Veneriau rot.

4 *Venerian pear,* the Venus-pear

1601 Holland *Pliny* I 430 The Barbarian or Veneraan pears, which also be called Coloured

†**Vene rinate,** *v Obs* [f L. *Veneri-* stem of *Venus* Venus 1] *trans* 1 = Vitriolate *v*

1665 D Dudley *Metallum Martis* (1854) 31 Sulphurious veneriated redshare Iron The Sulphurious Arcsniall and Veneriating qualities, which are oftentimes in Iron stone

**Venerid** (ve nérid) *Zool* [f. mod L. *Veneridæ*, f *Vener-*, *Venus* Venus 1] A bivalve mollusc of the family *Veneridæ*, of which *Venus* is the typical genus

1861 P P Carpenter in *Rep Smithsonian Instit* 1860 259 The characters of the Venerids, the Cy prinids, and the Cockles

†**Vene rien,** *a* and *sb* Also 6 yen [a Of *venerien* (= *vénérien*) ] = Venerian *a* and *sb*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Wyf s Prol* 609 For certes I am al Venerien [*Corpus MS* Veneriau] In feelq g and myn herte is Marcian 1390 Gower *Conf* III 121 Ther mai no maner man w thdrawe I he which veneriens be Vene of kinde. *Ibid* 130 Cana maior The fifte steere is of Magique The which hinde is veneryen. 1530 Palsgr 329/2 Veneryen belongyng to Venus, *Venerien.* 1567 *Gude & Godl B* 8 (S T S) 221 O wickit vaine Veneriens 'Se ar not Sanctis (thocht ye seem halie)

**Venerilla** *rare*—1 [Dim f L *Vener* , *Venus* ] A little Venus.

1621 Burton *Anat Mel* III iii In He admires her on the other side she is his idol lady mistress venerilla, queen, the q uintessence of beauty

†**Vene rious,** *a Obs* Also 6 yous [f L *veneri us* cf Of *venereux* and Venereous *a* ]

1 = Venereal *a* 1

1548 Boorde *Dyetary* xviii (1870) 246 Beware of Venery ouer much vse the tyrste dieye 1594 Plat *Jewell ho* 8 Salt is very stirring in our bodies and provoketh them to venerious actes 1607 Walkington *Opt Glass* vii 44b Hee that perswades with him all daring still to pursue forth bewde pamphlets, to set vp a venerious schoole 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 195 Titulation in venerious exercises 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 242 Immoderate Venery or venerious copulations.

b = Venereal *a* 2

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 247 Their inflamation or exulceration breeds the venerous gonorrhœa or running of the reines.

2 = Venereous *a* 1

1547 Boorde *Brev Health* lvi 25 [A] man that is full of heate & venerious 1564 Legh *Accidence* 138 b Tin pretty Ruddoke of nature though he be not Venerious, yet [etc.] 1617 Morykon *Itin* III 41 Aristotle saith that they who trade much are most venerious. 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 146 [The Persians are] murthfull and venerious

3 = Venereous *a* 3

1600 Venner *Via Recta* VII. 136 They are both somewhat windie and also venerious especially the Parsnep.

Hence †**Vene riousness** *Obs* —1

1547 Boorde *Brev Health* ccclxvii. 206 This infirmitie doth come of venerious vnnecessary, especially vsed after a full stomake. 1727 in Bailey (vol. II)

†**Ve nerist.** *Obs rare* [f L. *Vener* , *Venus* see -ist ] One addicted to venery or lust.

1596 Fitz Geffery *Sir F Drake* (1881) 27 Cease to ster mine vnder whose verse Venerists of fortune cossecl Venerists. 1623 Cockeram 1 *Venerist* a whoremonger

**Venerology,** var Venereology

†**Ve nerous,** *a Obs* Also 6 venerus [f L. *Vener* , *Venus* see ous and cf obs f *venereux* ]

1 = Venereal *a* 1

1586 Bullein *Bk Simples* (1579) 10 Dandel on with Roses and Vineger rebaieth venerous and fleshly heat 1596 Cawdrey *Huarie s Exam Wits* xv (1596) 265 Men who dee re to haue their venerous lusts do it greatly shame to confesse it 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 655 Hee was not so forward in venerous matters, nor given much to carnall pleasure 1621 Burton *Anat Mel* III ii ii xi For a remedy of venerous passions. 1651 H More *Enthus Tri* (1712) 37 A measurable Abstinence fro n all venerous pleasures and sensual delights of the Body

2 = Venereous *a* 2

1597 *Lughs Armory* 54 b, The Goate sayeth Isidore, is verie venerous 1607 Walkington *Opt Glass* 60 She is a venerous bird 1651 H More *Enthus Tri* (1712) 25 For it is very hard to find an healthy body very comely and beautiful but the same proves more than ordinarily venerous and lustful

3 = Venereous *a* 3

1587 Harrison *Descr Brit.* II vi. in *Holinshed* I 167/1 The potato and such venerous roots as are brought out of Spaine Portingale, and the Indies to furnish your banks 1600 Venner *Via Recta* VII. 137 They are of a venerous windy faculty 1652 H More *Enth s Tri* (1712) 28 For what meanes this bold purpose but that his judgment was overclouded by some venerous fumes and vapours !

**Venery** ! (ve nérĭ) Now *arch* Forms 4–5 **veneri, erye,** 5–7, 9 **venerie,** 5 **wenery,** 5– **venery ,** 4 **venorye,** 5 ur(i)e, 7 **-arie,** 7–8 **-ary** [a OF *venerie* (F *vénerie*) f *vener* —L *venari* to hunt see -ery ]

1. The practice or sport of hunting beasts of game , the chase Also *attrib*

*c* 1300 *Sir Tristr* 306 On hunting oft he wode, To swiche a lawe he drewe More he coupe of veneri pan swiche maneriue. *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 256 To venerie he gat hi tenti 1. An herde of hertes some hey mot 1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 247 Delite in honeste Play and hit beholde, as beatis to chase in venurie 1486 *Bk St Albans* sig. b iij, That is the first worde my sonne of venery 1577 Harrison *Descr Brit* II xv, They daily ouerthrew townes, villages, and an infinite sort of families for the maintenance of their Venery 1600 *and Pt Return fr Parnass* II v 803 These are your speciall beasts for chase, or as wee Huntsmen call it, for venery *a* 1666 (see Venatical *a* ) 1719 Boyer *Dict Royal* II, A venery Book, or Book of Venery

1887 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* III 129 These veterans of the wilderness are exceedingly pragmatical on points of venery and woodcraft. 1893 *Standard* 4 May 2/2 Other worthy professors of venery were glad to 'coach' him

1893 J G Austin *Betty Alden* 110 He had venerie when you have trapped a wolf to let him go free on the chance so ne other man will finish your work.

b In the phrases *beasts game, hounds of venery*

*c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb ) xxiii 105 All maner of wylde bestes of wenery, as herotis hyndes. 1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) VI 379 That place hauynge in hit diuerse kyndes of bestes of venery *c* 1450 *Pol Rels & L Poems* (1903) 60 Howndes of venery coste more then they aveyle 1539 *Act 31 Hen VIII* c 14 A chace for norishinge ge neration and feeding of beastes of venery and of fowles of Warren 1583 G Elie *Let* in Abp. Parker *Corr* (Parker Soc.) 175 Keeper ol park houses warrens, or other game of venerie. 1587 Harrison *Descr Brit* II xiii in *Holinshed* 108/1 The beasts of the chase were commonlie the bucke the roe, the fox and the marterne But those of venerie in old time were the hart, the hare, the bore and the woolfe 1605 G Owen *Pet brokehires* (1892) 266 These beastes of chace are not in estimacion soe royall as the former beastes of Veneryc. 1760–72 tr *Foote & Ulloa's Voy* (ed 3) I 436 Many beasts of venery which feed on the straw or rush peculiar to those parts. 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 289 Forests are waste grounds belonging to the king replenished with all manner of beasts of chase or venary

† 2 Wild animals hunted as game Also *fig*

*c* 1350 *Will I aleryne* 1685 Hi ndes & hertes, bukkes and berts and oher bestes wilde & fele Ibat ben holde in pe mytes *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 415 This lady to hyr mete gan gone, And of venery had hyr fille For they had take game at wille 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x lxxxvii 568 In the mean e while ye Trusty chaced and slewe many an hundred of venery 1539 Elyot *Cast Helthe* 29 The hunting of them [*sc* deer] beinge not so pleasant as the huntynge of other venery or vermyne 1590 J Cooke *Eng + Fr Heraldr* § 3 Parkes full of venery as hartes, hyndes, falow-dere wylde bores and wolves for noble men to course 1590 Spenser *F Q* I vi 42 To the forest they betake Them selves, to seeke her spouse, that from her at ll does fly And followes other game and venery 1650 *R Johnson's Kirgal & Cossmus* 115 Woods wonderfully abounding with venerie, *transf* 1550 Latimer *Serm* (1569) 114 b, They must haue swyne for theyr foode to make theyr veneryes or bacon of theyr bacon as theyr venison

† 3 A place where hunting dogs are kept *Obs* —1

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* v lv 242 The Venerie where the Beagles and Hounds were kept, was a little farther off drawing towards the Park

**Venery** 2 (ve nérĭ) Also 5 **venerie** [f L *Vener* , *Venus* Venus 1 + -y ]

1 The practice or pursuit of sexual pleasure , indul, ence of sexual desire

1497 *Extr Aberd Reg* (1844) I 495 It was statut that all licht weman be chargit and ordanit to dect i tra t lar vice and venery 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus* xxiii 17 130 As brutell bestis takand appetyte In venerie putting thair haill delyte 1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 34 B rides tongue sa an Herbe whose chief vertue is to prouoke Uenerie 1607 Dekker *Northward Hoe* III Venery is like vvery it may be allowed tho it be not lawfull 1643 Sir T Browne *Relig Med* 1 § 30 The body wherein there may be action enough to content decrepit lust or passion to satisfie more active veneries. 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 378 Nor does it seldom fall out from their Luxury and Venery, that they are afflicted with terrible *Maricas* 1728 N Robinson *Th Physick* 152 The Passions of the Mind have a great Influence as also excessive Venery 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) III 297 If the tusks be better away the ani l al abates of its fierceness and venery 1803 *Med Jrnl* IX 139 He gave himself up to his former intemperance i ysteria ad in venery 1826 *Sir Bundle* I 18 Occasionally it [s e acute cystitis] is traceable to the effects of excessive venery

† 2 *fig* A source of great enjoyment *Obs*

1600 Middleton *The Phœnix* III i. b 4 Twas e en Venerie to me, y faith the pleasanist course of life *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent* IV iv, To me The fooling of this fool is lovely

**Venes,** obs variant of Venice

**Ve nesect,** *v* [Back-formation from next ] *intr* To practise venesection Hence **Ve nesect-ing** *ppl a*

1833 *Fraser's Mag* VIII 650 He was once a great enthusiast for the venesecting art

**Venesection** (ven|se k|sən) *Med* Also *B* 7–9 **venesection** [ad med or mod L. *vinus sectio* cutting of a vein see Vena and Section ]

1 The operation of cutting or opening a vein , phlebotomy the practice of this as a medical remedy

*c* 1626 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min.* 397 The small pocks are cured by venesection in the adult. 1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 78 Too much blood spent in venesection 1707 Cocchi *Treat Wounds* I 370 We must first endeavour to stop the flux of blood, repeating venesection occasionally 1792 J Townsend *Journ Spain* (1792) II 39 Not withstanding this repeated venesection, his pulse was remarkably full and strong 1834 J Forbes *Laennec's Dis Chest* (ed. 4) 67 Leechiug has the advantages and dis advantages of venesection only in a less degree 1877 F T Roberts *Handbk Med* (ed 3) 91 Venesection is usually the first of the blood, either by venesection, or by local methods.

*B* 1676 Wiseman *Surg. Treat* I ii 16 The Fever which attends Pain is removed by Venesection, as also the Inflamation or suppuration of the Iumour 1798 Chambers *Cycl* s.v *Angina*, In the external Angina, before any Suppuration appears, recourse is had to repeated Venesection in the Jugulars. 1784–84 Smellie *Midwifery* I 153 In a woman of a full habit of body venesection is necessary 1805 *Med. Jrnl* XIV 307 The wishes of the medical attendant who advises venesection 1884 Pye *Surg Handicraft* 70 This expedient with the practice of venesection in general, has been out of fashion for many years now

2. An instance of this.

1834 J Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed 4) 833 The same

scene is renewed after as many successive vennesections. 1845 G. E. Day *Simon's Anim Chem* 1 248 The three following tables show the mean results of the first, second, and third vennesections 1876 tr *Wagner's Gen Path* 2 Change in the fibrin after frequent vennesections

**Ve nesector** *rare*—1 [*f.* Venesect *v.*] One who practises venesection a blood-letter

1890 *Cosmopolitan* June 139 Our barber also acts as venesector.

**Venesion,** obs form of Venetian

**Venesse(n,n, sun,** obs forms of Venison

**† Venet,** *a. Obs rare* [ad. L. *venet us*] *Venet colour*, a greyish blue colour.

*c* 1425 *Mk Nicholas* 278 Lake put he mennes clothing ly coloured with a venet colour but it water colours. *a* 1661 Holiday *Juvenal* 276 Vegetius says that all jins, which are sent out as spies should have their sails of the venet colour, that they may not be scerned by the enemies

**Venet,** obs form of Vignette

**† Vene tia** *Obs*—1 = Venetian *sb* 2

1579 G. Harvey *Letter Bk* (Camden) 72 Flouence, if a man had it, were worth then a payer of tattered venetias in his presse

**Venetian** (vĭnī·ʃăn), *sb* and *a* Forms α 5 Venycyen, Venecien, 6 Venesien β 5–6 Venecian, 6 -ycian, -seyan, -etyan, 7– Venetian; 5 Veniceyan, 7, 9 Venitian γ 6 Venytyon, Venyseyon, Venecyon, Venesion, 8 Venition. [ad. med. L. *Venetiān us*, f. *Venetia* Venice cf. It. and Pg. *Veneziano*, Sp. *Venecian* In early use also a Ob. *Venicien, -essen*, etc. (mod F. *Vénitien*)]

**A** *sb* 1. A native or inhabitant of medieval or modern Venice, a member of the medieval republic of Venice, more rarely, one of the ancient Veneti inhabiting the district of Venetia

1438 Lydg *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 4 Other alyens Florentys and Venycyens 1548 Hall *Chron. Edw. IV* 200 *b* Hee [the Venetian] spake in Frenche 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 289 The commodities of Venicyans and Florentynes 1598 Florio, *Venetiano* 1598 Florio, *Venetiano* 1598 Florio, *Venetiano*

1632 Chapman & Shirley *Ball* II D 2 b You must Lay in betimes to prevent mutinie Among the small guts, which with winde of venge else Will breake your guards of bottoms.

**Venge** (venʤ), *v* Now *arch* Forms 4-5 **vengyn** (5 **vengy**), 4- **venge** (4 **venie, venege**), 4-5 **wenge**, 4, 5 **36-, weng** [ad OF *vengier, vengier* (mod F *venger*,—It *vengiare*, Sp *vengar*, Pg *vingar*):—L. *vindicāre* VINDICATE *v* Cf. AVENGE *v*.]

**1 a.** *refl* = AVENGE *v* 1 b

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5345 For pat pai na wight dughtin dred, He wenged him o pam ful sare. *a* 1340 Hampole *Prather* li 5 When he wenges him his vengeaunce is cald woednes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib* P 45 But lete us now putte that ye hait leve to venge yow; I say ye ben nought of might ne power as now to venge you *c* 1420 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc) 31 Be nat to hasty to venge the on thi foo *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb) 72 He vengid hym on his enemys horribly 1509 Fisher *7 Penit Ps* vi Wks. (1876) 18 Grete laude and prayse is in wylde beestes lack yenge reason that they wyll forgyue and not venge themselfe vpon other wyyker beestes. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II 99 Til that och one here of vs al, at will and ease be plast With Troyan Dames to venge vs of Paris. 1595 Shake. *Hen V*, v iii 292 Tel you the Dolphin I am coming on, To venge me as I may 1817 Scott *Harold* II xv, Thou shalt know, If I can venge me on a foe. 1914 *Contemp Rev* April 578 To venge themselves they pursued a policy of obstruction in the Diet

**b** *trans* = AVENGE *v* 1

*c* 1385 *Metr. Hom* 137 Ef thou prai Godd that he Apon thi fan venge the *c* 1400 *Destr Troye* 5533 Hally Lovers How lange sal he ar pow venge our bludе Of our enemys pat in erthe duelles. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* x 29 (Harl MS), Do vs to knowe if per be any pat pretende pes; For we ben redy to venge pes. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* lvi 435 Thus owre lord venged kyng Lawncelot certayn 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 1 16, I greatly desire, but succour to venge obtainde some suit she hath. 1590 Greene *Orlando Furioso* 1093 Now let vs seeke to venge the Lampe of France That lately was eclipsed in Angelica. 1613 Hay woon *Brass Age* II i, I haue to venge the Gods that gouerne Sea and Sunne 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* III xxix, With thus he cross'd the murderer's path And venged young Allan well! 1887 Bowen *Virgil Æn* IV 656 I have Venged a beloved one meted a brother measure for guilt

*ó pass* = AVENGE *v* 1 c

*c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 24 For to plede for to fizte and to be venged on oper mon don azenst here wille wor schipe or profit. 1390 Gower *Conf* I 202 Bot I wol make this beheste I schal be venged er I go *c* 1400 *Pilgr Sowle* (Caxton) II lvi (1859) 91 I myght haue ben fully venged vpon the 1480 *Cov Leet Bk* II 441 Be-cause he seid Laurens feyned materes to pentent to haue be venged for be due punyshement yeven vnto hym by be seid Maire. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A* I i 7 They that gretly be vengid on their enemyes. 1611 B Jonson *Catiline* II i I should be right sorry To have the mone so to be revenged on you

**†d.** *intr* = AVENGE *v* 1 d *Obs*

13 *E F Allit P* B 201 [He] Ne venged for no vilte of vice ne synne Ne neuer so sodenly sost vnsoundely to weng *Ibid* 550 Felly he sted Vpon foulferde alle pat fleesch bar be formed hade *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 7333 Achilles Of po kynges pat were kild Wold haue vengit of be velany & pe vile harme. 1. in Arnolde *Chron* (1811) 188 A priest ought to be swete and softe more rather to forgeue than to venge *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 3440 Traist nocht thine honore in a fulle Na venge nocht quhil thi blud be cule

**2** *trans* = AVENGE *v* 2

1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 3806 Pys yche chylde toke hym to rede For to venge hys fadrys ded *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I 62 (Harl MS.) In dyuerse vise The ravyssheyng to vengyn of Heleyn By Paris done they wroughten all hir peine. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festi* 44 The pre ober also deyden on apytuus dedes so pat wytyyn pre yere after Thomas deth was thus venget 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* IX 241 I praye god that I maye venge your deth vpon theym or ever I decesse. 1508 Dunbar *Goldyn Targe* 142 I hait his enmeny may not pluke hym out at hys lyberty, nor yet in such place to venge hys iniury 1587 Turberv *Trag Tales* (1837) 160 To venge which deede, and cursed cruell acte He slue them all 1620 Pyrse tr *Hist Ameria* I. II 13 Venge not my death vpon this faire Lady 1638 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 111 We find our selves ready to fret at any cross occurrent to venge every petty slight at every light provocation 1820 Leyden in *Life & Poems* (1875) 39 Thine the mighty boast To venge each ancient violated bust 1841 C. L. Smith tr *Tasso Gerusalemme Liberata* I. 11 Venge not my death upon that faire Lady 1638 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 111 We find our selves ready to fret at any cross occurrent to venge every petty slight at every light provocation 1820 Leyden in *Life & Poems* (1875) 39 Thine the mighty boast To venge each ancient violated bust 1841 C. L. Smith tr *Tasso Gerusalemme Liberata* I. 11 13 Venge not my death upon that faire Lady 1638 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 111 We find our selves ready to fret at any cross occurrent to venge every petty slight at every light provocation 1820 Leyden in *Life & Poems* (1875) 39 Thine the mighty boast To venge each ancient violated bust 1841 C. L. Smith tr *Tasso Gerusalemme Liberata* I. 11 13

**†b** To punish (wrongdoing). *Obs*

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxix 5 Wreth pat is vengaunce, pat he vengid in pow pe first syn with ded *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* xxv (*Juliana*) 116 Syk wykyt wordis of dyspyt In pat deklne ware wengyt tyt 1401 *Leg Pocms* (Rolls) II 112 Thou seist that charite is chacid, to vengya oure defaultis, and mende us of oure mysse

**†3** = AVENGE *v* 3 *Obs*—1

*a* 1470 Harding *Chron* LXV lii, The Scottes and Peightes he venged & ouercam.

**†4.** To execute (vengeance), to wreak (anger) by vengeance *Obs rare*

1380 Wyclif *Ser* II 36 Lo! Y shal deme thi cause, and venge thi vengyng *a* 1470 H Parker *Divse & Pauper* (W de W 1496) IV xv 179/2 He is goddes mynystre, to venge the wrath of god in hym that deoth awys.

**Vengeable,** *a* and *adv Obs or archaic* Forms 4-5 **veniable**, 5-7 **vengable, vengeable** (6 **uen-**), 5 **vengeably, -yll(e, -abil** [a. AF *vengable* (Gower), f *venger* VENGE *v* Cf. VENGIBLE *a.*]

**1.** Inclined or ready to take vengeance or inflict retaliative injury (Cf VENGEFUL *a.* 1)

**a.** Of persons (or animals)

Very common *c* 1400–1550 ; in mod. dial. use = destructive.



*c* 1386 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III 289 For yif he were veniable here oo man myyte suffre his veniaunce. 1390 Gower *Conf* II 119 Such a Sor is uncurable, And ok the goddes ben vengable. *c* 1440 Lydg *in Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 48 Where god list spare, a tygre is not vengeable 1481 Hoc cleve *Min. Poems* 133 Af thogh pat shee were in this cas vengeable, Shee was in pat in partie excusable. *c* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 240 Forto schew you how vengabull God ys apon hom pat ben lef forto ached Crustys blod 1590 S. Firth *Soldiers Beggers* 3 Whate tarnant auer oppressed the people like this cruell and vengeable generacion? 1647 Boorde *Introd. Knowl* xviii. (1870) 167 There is a beast called a Boay, lyke a Bugle, whyche is a vengeable beast. 1573 G Harvey *Letter-bk* (Camden) 138 To be notoriously revenged on this vengeable fiende. *c* 1610 Sir J Melvil *Mem* (1735) 206 The Appetites of envious, vengeable and greedy Counsellors. 1650 Bastwick *Lord Bishops* III C 3, Who should prove the most vengable Instruments of persecuting and oppressing Gods true children 1866 Gregor *Banffsh Glass* 232 Rottans are vengeable craiturs on young deuks

**b** Of the mind, will, etc

1421–32 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 2330 He ratihc cheese be disobedient To his vengeable wille, Than be forwerd of pat he swoor so depe 1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* 1 1041 His vengeable myndе was hymselfe to magnyfy Of destroyе hymselfe, Jesu mercy! 1611 Merriman *Fl. Letter* (1900) II 169 His lingue covetous and vengeable dupposicion. 1840 Hyndе tr *Venet Instr Chr Wom* (1592) H iiij To keepe her vengeable mind unto occasion of revengement

**c** Of weapons.

*c* 1400 Hoccleve *Compl Virgin* 179 Wel feele I pat deeth his vengeable bowe Hath bent, & me purposith doun to throwe. 1590 *Spenser Faerie Q* I xi 54 none But Gardevile vengeable (Cardevile MS) For not without cause he berith the vengeable sword.

**2** Characterized by, arising from, vengeance or revenge, cruel, dreadful

*c* 1440 Hoccleve *Regim Princ* 71/128 Put the feend Ne sesse hem nat in the vengeable day! *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St Kath.* iv 1414 Se sholde not suffren pis cristen foolk here Repreue oure goddis with swiche venable manere lawe 1590 *Spenser Faerie Q* I xi 54 none But Gardevile vengeable (Cardevile MS) For not without cause he berith the vengeable sword. 1 (Arb) 29 Such folck as the tyrant pursude with vengeabil hatred 1611 Burton *Anat. Melanch* I. II. iv. 1. 1. 1. Iealousie, for all her vengeable malice and impotent fury yet could not wreck it vpon Elias.

**3** In an intensive Very great, severe, strong, intense, etc

1532 More *Confut Tindale* Wks. 655/2 As the churche of Christe is but one so be there of those [heretics] a venge able manyne 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 49 b He gave a vengeable check. Those persones were vengeable *Luc Warrs Lowe* C iv 6t A mischeuous mistakyng of a matter breddе a vengeable suspiton in the heddes of many 1600 Dekker & Marsh *Wonder of 4 Sexes* I 6 Rdr 23 [they] will cousertly flutter their wings, and keepe a vengeable coyle in Conuenticles and corners.

**b** In adverbial phrase. *arch adv* 2

1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 7 Socrates asked wherfore he was so vengeable eagre. 1566 *Pasquine i Trance* 48 A vengeable long leape, or a vengeable lowde lye 1866 *Rochdale Glean* 232 He is vengeable greedy; he can hardly be honest.

**4** Punishable *rare*

1650 S. Clarke *Lett Divit* I (1654) 488 [He] delivered him over to the secular power; Declaring that it was a vengeable matter to eat or drink with him

**Vengeably,** *adv* Now *arch* or *Obs* Also **5** vengably, 6 vengeablie, ciably, veangeably [f prec.]

**1.** In a revengeful manner, vindictively, cruelly, pitilessly

1422–30 Lydg *Chron Troy* IV 3775 Pus Achille of cruelte Pe dede cors tokе oute of pe taas, And vengably bond it. *a* 1450 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 205 Right so it plesed vnto God that he shulde deye vengably 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I xx. 453 He smote a knyghte soo vengably that he cast hym doun deed to the erthe 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. before Edw VI* (1869) 103 So that they do it clean vengeably, nothing, not of malyce not vengeably not couet ousiye 1598 Hooker *Hist Iref in Holinshed* II 78/1 The Irish men[1] dispersed themselues in great townes of mine inheritance in Meth called Kamore

1848 Anne Bronte *Agnes Grey* xiv Miss Matilda, having vengeably kicked the piano for an hour, in a terrible humour both with me and it

**2** Exceedingly, greatly, very

*c* 1350 Balk *Apol.* 113 But ye are lyke to come vengeably short. 1575 Turberville *Let* (1837) 81 It would haue made mee, for my part as hardy as I am, very vengeably afeard 1607 R Clarke tr *Estiennes's World of Wond* 201 Some printers haue vengeably well corrected my learned

**Vengeance** (ve·nʤăns), *sb*, *adv*, and *a* Forms *a.* 4 **veniance, -iaunce, -y(e)ance,** 4–5 **veniesunce,** 5 **venisaunce, iawnce, wenisaunce,** 4 **veniounce,** 5 **venions** *β* 4 **vengaunse,** 4–6 **-aunce,** 4–5 **-ance, -ans,** 4 **vengiaunce,** 5 **-anse,** 6 **ans,** 4 **vengeans,** 4–6 **-ance,** 4– **vengeance** (7 **veng'ance**), 6 **venseance, wengeance, -anse, -eans, -eance,** 4, 6 *γ* **wengeaunce,** 6 *δ* **wengeanse** [a. AF *venisaunce, -ance, veng(é)ance, -ance,* = OF and F *vengeance* (It *vengianza*, Sp *venganza* Pg. *vinganza*), f *venger* VENGE *v*.]

**1.** The act of avenging oneself or another, retributive infliction of injury or punishment, hurt or harm done from vindictive motives

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 697 Son bigan wengans to kipe. *Ibid.* 13184 But pai dud wass aid ful dere. Wist it greithful soth venganse. *c* 1325 Shoreham iii 248 He pat spilleb mannes lyf, Veniounse hyt schel acwyte *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.*

Sel Wks. I 149 Pis is noo good praier, but more axinge of Goddis venjaunce. *a* 1450 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 37 She tolde that it was the uengeaunce of God that fell on her, the whiche she had welle deserued 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II iv (1883) 53 For hit is the most hyeest and fayr vengeance that a man may doo 1535 Coverdale *Ps* xciii 1 Thou God to whom vengeaunce belongeth shewe thy self 1598 Kyd *Murther I Brewen* Wks (1901) 287 The blood of the iust Abel cried for vengeance and reuenge on the murderer 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimages* (1632) 156 Diuine mercie remoued the Christians to Pella out of the danger that with out any impediment the flouд gates of vengeance might bee set wide open for Desolations black guard to enter 1667 Milton *P L* I 170 But see the angry Victor hath recall'd His Ministers of vengeance and pursuit Back to the Gates of Heav'n 1757 Gray *Bard* 96 Stamp we our vengeance deep, and ratify his doom. 1789 *Poems at Leet* xv (1788) 50 The injuries you have done demand not only redress, but vengeance 1837 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* III 67 Alarm signals to arouse the country and collect the scattered bands for vengeance 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxv That in some way she regarded Britannicus as the ultimate resource of her vengeance and despair

**b** In the phrase *to take* (also *+ have*) *vengeance*

1297 R Glouc. (Rolls) 6859 Pe king soor he nolde abide pat he nolde ssrst ayme vengeance in his owe side *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 6094 Pair godes i me sal wirk vengance 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxxi 4 take. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib* P 49 Sauage your pacence, I can nat seen that it mighte greatly hame me though I toke vengeance *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 5780 God can wel vengeaunce theref take. *c* 1400 Maundeville (Roxb) xiii 91 In taken of pe vengeaunce pat Godd take on pa fyue citeez. 1460 Capgrave *Chron* Rolls) 106 He receyved him with grete worchipe took vengeaunce vpon sinne. 1579 Gosson *Sonnes of Aymon* II. 59 Vengeance we sholde take theref 1596 Tindale *Acts* xiii 4 To take vengeaunce on them pt at do euyll. 1611 Shake *Cymb* v v 263 Me thinkes I could haue tane vengeance on my faults, I neuer Had liu'd to put on this 1787 Bailey (vol III) *Avenger* one who takes Vengeance On the scaffold vengeance was taken 1811 Full soon such vengeance would he take That [etc] 1847 Sarah Austin *Ranke's Hist Ref* III 17 The strong city of Paris on which cruel vengeance was taken for the resistance it had made

**c** Personified or otherwise regarded as an entity

1608 Shake *Ham* II ii 510 Aroused Vengeance sets him new a worke 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 39 Left to conflict nakedly with hell and vengeance till it carry them away quicke 1721 *Young Revenge* II i Vengeance is still alive! from her dark covert Sit'st thou in view 1795 Campbell *Pleas Hope* I 305 Where was thine arm O Vengeance! *a* 1839 Praed *Red Fisherman* Look how the fearful felon glares On the scaffold vengeance waits 1892 Marie A. Brown tr *Runeberg's Nadeschda* 67 Then saw I vengeance beckon it lit my path In years of woe

**2.** With *a* and *pl* An act or instance of retributive or vindictive punishment (Also as in 1 c)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1298 For pis forme of vengeance He thogh a neu wengaunce to sent *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab* 14 For the offences to God i doon Many vengeaunces haue be falle. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 41 Youre vengeaunce God seuin man here in erthe for falle tythyng *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* xxi, It cryis ane vengeance vnto the heuinnis hie. 1659 Hammond *On Pr Ps* 22 Sad occasions, Judgements and vengeances *a* 1704 T Brown *Sat ագst Woman* Wks. 1730 I 56 He falls a willing prey ner to her arms Where meets a venging ance of ne er-ending harms. 1728 Pope *Iliad* XIII 831 With his fall the Greeks lost his angry bow And wing d the feather d vey geance at the foe. 1728 P Walker *Life Peden* (1901) I 155 Hasty marriages are sudden vengeances. 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* II 460 In 1520 Taking a cruel vengeance on these deluded wretches. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* XXXI IV 201 Thrasybulus anim ated his men by the prospect of a just vengeance 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I 45 I am planning five distinct and lengthy vengeances against Bobby

**b** In imprecations, usually with *on* Also rarely without article *Obs or arch*

To 1500 *Chester Pl* XIII 118 Wo shall he wofe the pharisees appeare! A vengeance on them, fare and neere! 1560 J Heywood *Prov & Epigr* (1867) 178 A vengeance on that lame dame. 1591 Shake. *2 Hen VI* II iii 24 A vengeance on t, there lie. 1604 [T Cartyle] *Wit of Woman* G 4 b A vengeance pepper such brames, as cannot beare one draught of Iperian wine 1611 Shake. *Cymb* I iv 208 Think the lady will care for yer stool o repentance? Vengeance on the slacke it feele!

**c** A person of a violent temper

1711 *Swift Jrnl to Stella* 11 Mar The D— he is! married to that vengeance! Who would have ber?

**3** Used to strengthen interrogations. ? *Obs*

1598 R Bernard tr *Terence* (1607) 267 Thy Where are the other? *Sam* What other? *Dem* What other? *Sam* Sosias. *Cor* III 1 262 I would they were in Tyber What the vengeance could he not speake em faire? 1620 *Fryer Rush* 18 He is well read vnto him; what a vengeance doth he take a seruant? 1663 Butler *Hud* I iii 213 But what a vengeance makes thee fly From me too, as thine Enemy? *a* 1779 D Graham *Writings* (1883) II 40 What the vengeance uncle, sudna fouks die when they re auld? 1828 Scott *F M Perth* vi, Art thou beside thyself boy? or what a vengeance takes thee from the city like the wing of the whirlwind?

**4** *With a vengeance* **†a.** With a curse or malediction *Obs*

1595 W Smith *Merry Iests Widow Edyth* (1573) D b In she goth And came out sayeng, a vengeance on yenrgrace They must go by water 1598 Hammer *Jesuites Banner* E 2 b, Let such then goe with a vengeance, and leaue those toyes for Poets to prate of and let them preach better stuffe vnto the people. 1598 R Bernard tr *Terence, Andria* II i *Ah sine in malum crucem* Away with a vengeance get thee hence with a mischiefe goe hence with sorrow enough 1638 R N tr *Camden s Hist Eliz.* IV 493 The Queene waxing impatient gave him [Essex] a cuffe on the eare and bade him be gone with a vengeance.

1673 *Vinegar & Mustard* (Hindley) III 8 You are land sick now, and not sea sick, with a vengeance to you for me 1836 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in London* I 70 Why not quit literature—with a vengeance to it—and turn, were it even to sheep herding?

**b.** As an intensive With great force or violence, in an extreme degree, to an unusual extent.

1568 Y SKINNER tr *Montanus Inquisition* 24 b He shall come downe with a vengeance 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl* I ii 236 A plaister that mends him with a vengeance 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girle* M I, Are you too well too happy? *Alex* With a vengeance 1654 H L'ESTRANGE *Chas I* (1655) 88 The furious multitude struck him down, and mallid him with a vengeance. 1673 [R LEIGH] *Transp Reh* 63 Accordingly he lays it on with a vengeance 1711 J DUNTON *Char Don Sacheverellus* 6 This is proving the Existence of Gyants with a Vengeance. 1781 POOTE *Liar* II Wks 1799 I 293 His friends glass over the foible by calling him an agreeable novelist and so he is, with a vengeance 1834 L RITCHIE *Wand by Seine* 94 Some readers will think that we are drawing our traveller's bow with a vengeance 1867 M ARNOLD *Celtic Lit* 29 Here at any rate, are materials enough with a vengeance

**†c** So *With the vengeance Obs* $^{-1}$

1603 *Humours Town* in Hal This is following the Dictates of Reason with the vengeance.

**†d** As *adv* extremely, intensely *Obs*.

1548 [I SHEPHERD] *John Bon & Mast Person* (1808) 5 Is not he a mischeuous thyng? Is he not a vengeaunce holye for all ther sayeinge 1566 *Pasquine in Trance* 41 I remember that disputation It is vengeaunce subtile *Ibid* 44 They were also vengeance angry against the Pope 1607 SHAKS *Cor* II ii 6 That's a brave fellow but he's vengeance proud 1616 BEAUM & FL *Little Fr Lawyer* II i, How it grumbles! Sounds vengeance hollow 1620 in 1720 12 SWIFT *Jrnl to Stella* 21 Jan It has snowed terribly all night, and is vengeance cold

**†b** Not at all, never *Obs*

1566 J HEYWOOD *Sp Iov & Ely* XXXIX 7 Vengeance the whit I am for their woorden me there

**†e** As *adv* Very great or large *Obs* $^{-1}$

1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt Parall* Introd 4 I bought the booke because it was in English yet there is a vengeance deale of Latin in it

*7 attrib* and *Comb*, as *vengeance cryer, crying, -oath, scathed wood, -tree*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 65 For al be it so that alle tary lige be anoyful alighte it not to repreue in yevinge of Iugement, ne in vengeance take ȝ whan it is suffisant and resonable *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B* 21 C ribyes clyders and greis vengeaunce ouer thy hede 1590 SHAKS *2 Hen VI* III ii 330 *Schisme* 1061 Lord sheath again thy yet geance sword a space. 1617 A NEWMAN *Pleas Vit* 15 Hapless wretches, with the memory [ortur d of woe, and vengeance crying Sins. 1838 S BELLAR *Paracelsus* 43 Wi e i orthrown In first rebellion, vengeance scathed he fled 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Duchess May* XXVIII Thou and I have pa tcd troth —yet I keep my weddingsheath.

Hence **†Ve ngeanccly** *adv*, **†Ve ngeancer.**

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 5 8/2 Ven awncere, *vencator, ultor, vindex* 1620 PUTTENHAM *Prophetesse* III Yet I could poyson him in a Pot of Perry. He lowres that veng eancely

**†Ve ngeant,** *a Obs* $^{-1}$ In 4 vengaunt [n. AF. *vengant* (F *vengeant*), pres pple of *venger* VENGE *r*] Avenging, executing vengeance

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XCVII 9 Lord oure god bou herd baim god bou was til baim mercibil, and vengaunt in all baire fyndynge.

**Vengear,** obs form of VENGER

**Vengeful** (ve ndʒfŭl), *a* [f VENGE *r*, after *revengeful* Cf AVENGEFUL *a*]

1 Harbouring revenge, seeking vengeance, prone or inclined to avenge oneself, vindictive

*a* 1550 SPENSER *F O* III ix 5 Which thinges when his vengeaunt wife beheld assign d And thousand deathes deuiseth in her vengefull mi d 1702 F MANNING *Poems* 77 A worse Event The vengeful Cupid sent. 1713 SWIFT *Dr Wagstaff Wks* 1755 IV 112 The queen's and his services forgot Leaves him a victim to the vengeful Scot 1783 SHEN STONE *Inscription* VI 24 Fate and flow ry is the brake, Yet it hides the vengeful snake 1812 COMTE *Spiritual Polity turesque* XXV 452 Again the vengeful foes appear d Again their angry standards rend d 1856 KANE *Arct Explor* XXX 414 One of them the male is excited—like other the female, collected and vengeful 1873 SYMONDS *Grk Poets* I 9 Ulysses is patileas in his hostility; subtle, vengeful, cunning.

*tra ief* c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn* XCIX, But for his theft A vengeful canker eate him vp to death 1848 PARK *Spir Comfor* (1850) 104 Wasteful time is a vengeful thing 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo Such* IV 159 In a abandoned belief may be more effectively vengeful than Dido

**b** Inflicting vengeance, serving as an instrument of vengeance. Said of a weapon, the hand or arm, etc.

(*a*) *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps* XXI XII, Thou shalt ready make thy vengefull bow Against their guilty faces 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen VI* III ii 198 Here's a vengefull Sword, rusted with ease. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Double M* I ii 253 The victorious car of Ida was stopt by the vengefull sword of the valorous Owen. 1865 GOULBOURN *Pract Holiness* I. 2 So could he bid the vengefull fire fall from heaven

(*b*) 1596 TATE & BRADY *Ps* CVI. 17 Her vengeful Jaws ex tending wide. 1799 T COOKE *Tales* etc 140 Of all who fought beneath that Chief's Command Not one escap d the Critic s vengeful Hand 1748 JOHNSON *Van Hum Wishes* 168 Rebellion s vengeful talons *a* 1800 COWPER *Iliad* (ed 2) XXI 343 Allow no respite to thy vengeful arm Till ev ry Trojan within Ilium s lofty wall Be fast enclosed

**2.** Of actions or feelings. Characterized or prompted by revengeful motives, arising from a desire for vengeance.

1633–56 COWLEY *Davideis* III Poems (1905) 328 Full three six years they felt fierce Eglons yoke, Till Ehuds sword Gods vengeful Message spoke 1649 MILTON *Eikon* viii Wks 1851 III 392 That choleric, and vengefull act of proclaiming him Traitor 1709 PRIOR *Carm Sec* XVII With wise Silence pond ring vengeful Wars 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* VI 89 For as when seldom feel the vengeful wound, it is merely a subject of curiosity 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* XXIX The fury darted her knife at him with the vengeful dexterity of a wild Indian 1845 LD CAMPBELL *Chancellors* liv (1857) III 77 In no composition that I have met with is there a greater display of vengeful malignity 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* VIII § 7 The Massacre had left them the objects of a vengeful hate

Hence **Ve ngefully** *adv*, **Ve ngefulness.**

1830 J RUSKIN *Iteriad* II 300 His dark lightning eye made him seem like his sire Thalaba, Vengefully fired 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* IV, On he goes vengefully thirsting for the best blood of Troy 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 31 July 143/1 He looked at his mother vengefully 1907 BLUNT *Veil* III, *Vengefulness* vindictive or revengeful Temper or Nat ire 1868 MEREDITH *Poet Wks* (1912) 134 He fainted on his ve gefulness, and strove l o ape the magnanimity of love

**Vengence,** *obs* form of VENGE. [A OF *vengence*, f *venger* VENGE *r* Cf AVENGEMENT] Vengeance

1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 197, I wille of þat felown tak vengement Pat so fordos my coroun 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 126 Hire sighte out at his mouther vengeth Tok of that Sowes vengement 1483 CAXTON *Cursi'd* 2 I telle to the that thy vengement shal engendre to the i ore greuous aduersytes 1535 STEWART *Cron Scotl* (1858) I 24 Quhat thai should take vengeance vpon them, bothe by dilner and vthir meanis 1596 SPENSER *F Q* VI iii 18 Witnesse thereof he shew d his l ead there left, And wretched life forlorne for vengement of his theft

**Vengenoe, -ency,** varr VENGEANCE, -ANCY

**†Ve ngeously,** *adv Obs rare* [irreg f VENGE *r* Cf VENGEANCELY *adv*] Violently, viciously

1599 BRETON *Miseries Mauulia* Wks (Grosart) II 43/1 If I did but even touch her the mo k e would set out the throate and crie so vengeouslie that to it must the mother come 1824 in *Spirit Pub Jrnls* (1825) 322 He came up to me so vengeously in the street, and I said to him, Can't it be done without fighting?

**Venger** (ve ndʒəi) Forms 4–5 venlour, -iere, vengere, 5– venger (5 wen), 6 vengear (van), [A AF or OF *vengeour* (*vangeor*, ven *deur*, F *vengeur*) and *vengere*, agent-n f *venger* VENGE *r*] An avenger Now *poet* or *rhet*.

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* viii 3 þat þou distroy the enmy & þe vengere *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 297 He is Goddis mynystre vengere i to wrappe to hym þat dop vyl 1393 GOWER *Conf* III 343 And Effraym went to Assur, and sente to the kyng veniour 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb) 54 And this I wyl thou know for sekyrnesse That god is vengeour & reuenger 1483 *Cath Angl* 402/2 A vengere, *vindex vindicator* 1526 TINDALE *Prol Ep Romans* A iij Thou woldest that their were no God the author and vangeur of the lawe 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I iii 50 His bleeding hart is i i the vengers hand 1601 YARINGTON *Two Lamentt Trag* IV viii in Bullen *O Pl* IV, I he is well in such a venger hands As will not wunch at the revenging 1886 *Reader* 16 Sept. 290/2 Other champion of our cause shall come venger of his s re 1881 F PHILLIPS *tr Alexandre Dumas* 10 The Venger s Vengeance smites the guilty head

**†Ve ngeress.** *Obs rare* [f OF *vengeresse* cf prec and -ESS] A female avenger

In quot *c* 1450 as the name of a spear

1483 *Cath Angl* 402/2 A vengeresse 1568 *tr* De Jure god dess 's, furyis and vengeresse of felonies. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XIV 229 I his kynge alain was seke of the woundes of the spere þat the vengeresse *Ia l* was wounded 1590 SPENSER *F Q* III xxvii 99 O cruelle vltryces wyckyd vengeresses Furyes in fernalle & Iustícers of helle 1647 HEXHAM 1, A vengeresse, *een vrechtster*

**†Ve ngible,** *a* and *adv Obs* [var of VENGEABLE *a*]

1 Vengeful, vindictive

1548 COOLER *Elyot's Dict*, *Deras* vengible, cruell, ter rible 1555 *Locrine* II iii 16 The desperate god Capeti, with one of his vengible birdbolts hath shot me vnto the heele. 1607 TOPSELL *Fours Beasts* 461 These also are the Epe lisies of the Lion bold stony hatted, vengible 1609 HOLLAND *Amm Marcell* 321 A vengible wyght layes by bloudie grudges and displeasures doing much mischief.

b Grievous, severe

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I Impose they doe upon them hard and vengible charges to execute

**2** Remarkable, extraordinary Also as *adv*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* III ii, He spake nothing but sentences, but they were vengible long ones 1602 *Conclusion below. Liberality & Prodigality* IV ii, Thornes, thistles and nettles most horrible stingers, Rauens, grypes, and gryphons oh vengible wringers. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* I 78 He was a vengible fellow in linking matters together, whereupon he came to be surnamed Catena, that is, a chain

Hence **†Vengibly** *adv Obs*

1580 G HARVEY *Three Lett* Wks (Grosart) I 49 some as vengibly and frowardly bent, as for Example, Woormes, and Moules, and Cannyes.

**Venging,** *vbl n* see VENGE *v.* 4 (quot 1382).

**Ve nging,** *ppl a.* [f. VENGE *v.*] Avenging; executing vengeance.

*c* 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 759 They fechtun sa fast, With vengeand wappis of were throu wedis thai wet. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas tr* 1 *Impostures* 495 So that th old years renewed generations Cannot aswage his venging indignations. 1605 *Ibid Sonn Late Peace* XXVI, The furie of Heav na venging Sword

**Vengit,** obs Sc form of WINGED *a*

‖ **Vengolina.** *Obs* [mod L, = F *vengolone* (Buffon), from the native name in Angola, given as *bengualmba* by Edwards] The Angola finch (*Sersnus angolensis*)

1773 *Phil Trans* LXIII 254, I therefore educated a young linnet under a vengolina, which imitated its African master so exactly, that it was impossible to distinguish the one from the other

**Veniable,** obs form of VENGEABLE *a*

**†Ve niable,** *a Obs rare* [ad late L *venibilis*, f *venia* leave] Venial, excusable, pardonable.

1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* III XXIII 168 It is an insufferable delusion and with more veniable deceit it might have beene practised in Harts horne. *Ibid* VII. XIX 385 In things of this nature silence condemneth history, 'tis the venuable part of things lost

So **†Ve niably** *adv Obs* $^{-1}$

1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* V XXI 268 The Pictures of the Ægyptians were more venuably excused, who delivered letters more venuably expressed the apprehension of Divinity

**Venial** (vi nial), *a* [and *ib* Forms *a* 4 **uenial, veniale,** 4–7 **venial,** 4– **venial**, 4–5 **venyal** (5 -ale), 4–6 **venyall** *β* 4 **veniele,** 4–5 **veniel** [= OF *venial, veniel* (mod F *véniel*), Sp and Pg *venial* f. *venialis*, or ad L *venialis* (rare), f *venia* forgiveness, indulgence, pardon]

**A.** *adj* **1** Worthy or admitting of pardon, forgiveness, or remission, not grave or heinous, pardonable, light **a** Of sin, *spec* in *Theol* as opposed to *deadly* or *mortal*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 27341 Bot þar of es oþer sines smale þat clerkes clepes venial 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Treat* 4 Many venyall and light *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Fr Conic* 2638 Pe saul þat es clensed wele Of al dedely syn and of veniele *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parv T* 285 In his wyn skapeth ful selde venial synne *c* 1400 *Jol Poems* IX 85 In venyale synne longe to byde, Makeþ dedly synnes to growe grete 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 60/2 Io swere lygthly without lust or lykynge is venyal synne 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 162 Whome no synne sholde deffole neyther originall nor actuall, mortall ne venyall 1558 in *Wodrow Soc Sacrum* 1 5 If the hath lightly offended in any venyall synne 1611 COTGR, Veniel, pardonable 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 83 If I but tutch, to tutch s a venuall sin The pretty circle of thy dimpled chin 1682 BURNET *Orig Evil* 11 Sins of infirmity only a Venial Sin in any to lessen the great authority of another *a* 1700 in *Cath Re Soc Publ* IX 360 She had rather have suffered a thousand deaths then willingly comitte y least venniall sinne. 1737 CHALLONER *Caik Chr Instr* (1753) 116 By what Rule shall a Person be able to make a Judgment whether his Sins be mortal or venial? 1830 SCOTT *Demonol* II 56 The crime of the person who consulted the oracle of Apollo,—a capital offence in a Jew, but surely a venial sin in an ignorant and deluded pagan. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) I 408 Those who have only committed venial sins are first purified of them

**b** Of crimes, offences, etc.

1604 SHAKS *Oth* IV i 36 If they do nothi g, its a Venial slip. 1624 ] TAYLOR (Water P) *Sir Gregory Nonsence* Wks (1630) 4/1 The man that seeketh straying minds to weane all, From venirill vices, or offences penall 1665 BOYLE *Occas Reft* Pref p x I hope it will be but a venial Crime, if in some of these Meditations I have not aim d to express Eloquence, but only to cherish Piety 1746 FRANCIS *tr Hor Sat* I iv 174 Thus purer from more dangerous crimes I live. Some venial faultes you may well forgive 1796 W H MARSHALL *Rur Econ. H* 115 The practice of pruning off the side boughs of the hedgerow is a venial crime 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm* 56 Our own laws not long ago punished forgery and even more venial crimes with death 1898 FARRAR *Merrik Serm* xiv 134 Laughter may be the right cure for venial follies

**†c.** Of an offender Committing a venial sin or offence *Obs* $^{-1}$

1796 MME D ARBLAY *Camilla* I 225 The venial offender had been released with a gentle reproof.

**2** Of an error or fault That may be excused or overlooked, of a light, unimportant, or trivial nature, excusable.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ Conv* II (1586) 86 b Whereby we may gather, that if the ignorance be voluntarie, it is the fault in sentence and matter be mortall 1699 FULLER *Holy War* v ix 243 In the prosecuting and managing thereof, many not only venial errours but unexcusable faults were committed 1699 BENTLEY *Phal* 296 He thinks it a more venial fault to make a mistake at Second hand after others. 1728 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* xix 235 He, who would have been ashamed to participate in Fraud, or to yield to Corruption, may begin to think the Faults venial, when he sees Men, who were far below Him, rise above Him by Fraud and by Corruption 1784 COWPER *Task* VI 428 Witness at his foot, The spaniel dying, for some venial fault. 1805 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl, This is a venial error compared to that of our ancestors. 1870 FARRAR *Hibbert Serm* XXXVI. 361 If a boy has committed some, quite venial fault.

**b** In general use.

1808 in *Mrs Hutchinson's Mem of Col H* 304 *note*, The account here given of Col. Hutchinson's motives lays his conduct fairly open to the discussion of the reader, who will determine it for himself to be commendable, censurable, or venial. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 338 This was indeed a gross delusion, but, assuredly for young men at least, a very venial one too 1899 W IRVING *Mahomet* XVI. (1853) 96 An act of plunder and revenge—a venial act in the eyes of the Arabs. 1880 R. G WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 79

More provincialism in pronunciation is venal in comparison with slovenly speech

†3 Allowable, permissible, blameless *rare*

1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v lxxi § 8 The lewes not doubting that bodily labours are made by necessitie venially, though otherwise, especially on that day [i.e. the Sabbath] rest be more conuenient. 1667 Milton *P L* ix 5 Where God With Man familiar us'd to sit indulgent permitting him the while Venial discourse unblam'd 1725 Pope *Odyss* i 219 With venial freedom let me now demand Thy name, thy lineage and paternal land

†B *sb* A venial sin or offence, a light fault or error *Obs*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 459 Pouȝ þis be synne ȝit it is venyal, and not dedly, and venyals ben waschen awey wiþ penciis of a Pater noster *a* 1393 Hylton *Scala* ii xxxiii (W de W 1494) Neuertheles yet shalt thou for this defawte & all other venyals whyche may not be eschewed in this wretchyd lyf vpryghtly bete to god *c* 1440 *St Mary of Oignies* i 119 With venial freedom let me now demand Thy name, thy lineage and paternal land

†B *sb* A venial sin or offence, a light fault or error *Obs*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 459 Þouȝ þis be synne ȝit it is venyal, and not dedly, and venyals ben waschen awey wiþ penciis of a Pater noster *a* 1393 Hylton *Scala* ii xxxiii (W de W 1494) Neuertheles yet shalt thou for this defawte & all other venyals whyche may not be eschewed in this wretchyd lyf vpryghtly bete to god *c* 1440 *St Mary of Oignies* i 119 With venial freedom let me now demand Thy name, thy lineage and paternal land

**†Venial,** *a*[2] *Obs rare* [Irreg var of Venal *a*[2]] Venous

1574 J Jones *Nat Beginn Growing & Living Things* 8 Where the heart is opened, it receiueth Aire into the venial arterie 1578 Banister *Hist Man* v 70 Galen seemeth rather willyng to call this veyne a certaine venial passage or way

**‖Venia lia,** *sb pl Obs*[−1] [*L. venialia*, neut pl of *venialis* see Venial *a*[1]] Venial sins or offences

1634 Gayton *Pleas Notes* iv 11 183 The peccadillo s and venialia which never come into the black book

**Venia lity.** *?Obs* [f Venial *a*[1] + -ity, cf Sp *venialidad*, Pg *venialidade*] **a.** The property or quality of being venial. **b** A matter of favour or grace

1628 Br Hall *Serm Westm* 54 They palliate wicked nesse with the faire pretence of Venilitie 1654 H L Estrange *Chas I* (1655) 138 The Flemish Hussars were soon reduced to intreat the favour of fishing by his Majesties commission a venuality the king was most ready to indulge them

**Venially** (*vī*·niăli), *adv* [f Venial *a*[1] + -ly[2]] In a venial manner, esp. in the way of venial sin, pardonably, excusably

*a* 1340 Hampole *Prayer* xvii 26 Na man is in erthe þat synnes noght venyally 1386 Chaucer *Pars T* 208 Pyik worldly thynges hat he sholeth forgh which he synneth venially *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 80 Perfore, lychyth heed be my wordys, whanne ze synnen in pride venyally, & whanne dedly 1534 More *Comf Agst Trib* ii Wks 1183/1 Wher as els in dede he had offended but venially 1588 A King tr *Canisius Catech* 227 They ar aduersaries to the doctrine of true religion quha sayis that ane lust man sinnes at least veniallie in euery gund wark 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod* 659 A vsat man in his good workes doth not sinne so much as venially 1658 Sir T Browne *Hydriot* Dual, The Antients venially delighted in flourishing Gardens 1740 Cibber *Apol* (1756) I 248 All the faults follies, and affectations of that agreeable person he venially melted down into so many charms and attractions 1847 *Fraser's Mag* XXXVI 53 Son fares with genius which when only venially erroneous, is not to be forgiven 1878 tr *Villari's Machiav with Il* i. viii 249 If he sinned again however venially, he would certainly be hung

**Venialness.** *rare*[−0] [f. as prec + -ness] = Venuality

1727 Bailey (vol II) *Venialness*, Pardonableness. 1755 Johnson, *Pardonableness*, venialness; susceptibility of pardon.

**Veniance,** etc, obs ff Vengeance

**Venice** (ve·nis) Also ð **Venysse, Venise, Ven(i)ys, Venbys, Venes, ? Vennis, Venis.** Also Venus ð. [a F *Vennise* –L. *Venetia* (It. *Venezia*, Sp *Venecia*, Pg *Veneza*) see def]

1. The name of the city (the capital of the province of the same name) in the north-east of Italy, used attrib to designate various articles made there or having some connexion with the locality, as *Venice looking glass, paper, ponnt* (lace), *tinsel, trial, work*, etc. (Cf Venetian *a* 2)

*†Venice beam* see Roman a[1] 25 *Venice blue* (see quot) *Venice crown*, Her (see quot) *Venice gold, silver* (cf Gold *sb* 4, Silver *sb* 4) *Venice ice* Obs. (see quot 1763) *Venice soap* (see quots.) *†Venice sumach*, Venetian sumach *Venice talc, white* (see quots.)

1611 Cotgr, *Trouuenes à plommée*, a Roman, or *Venice* beame, for the weighing of things. 1698 Florio, *Venete*, a light or *Venice* blew, a Turkie colour 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her* I Glos., *Venice Crown*, the crown, or cap of state, worn by the Doge, is made of cloth of gold crossed with precious stones, and having two long ears, or lappets pointed at the ends, hanging down at the sides. 1506 *Paston Lett* III 404 The [horse] is made of 'Venys gold' 1520–1 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 310 Item, paid for a vnce of venes golde iiis viiid. 1535 *Wardr Accts. Arragon* 26 in *Camden Misc* III, Fringid withe grene silke and Venyse golde. 1598 in Feuilleral *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 40, vii Aperns of white gowlde sarnet edged with venitys gowlde frenge. 1821 Scott *Kenilw* ii, Her hat being of tawny taffeta, embroidered with scorpions of Venice gold. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* (1655) IV 43 A new *Venice* Looking Glasse, wherin you may behold that admired Maiden Citty in her true complexion 1848 Thackeray *Van Finr* lxiv, The great Venice looking glasses, framed in silver *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Cambridge* 1 (1662) 149 To such who object that we can never equall the perfection of *Venice*-paper 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 513/1 The fine Needlepoints made at Brussels were worn in preference to the heavier *Venice* Points. 1883 *Mag of Art* Dec 66/2 Louis XIV had a passion for Venice point 1574 in Feuilleral *Revels Q Eliz.* (1908) 234 Ritchly wroughte with Venys sylver 1854 *Penny Cycl* XXIII 173/1 White soda soap in a less pure state is called Alicant, *Venice*, or Spanish soap 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade Venice soap*, a mottled soap made with olive-oil and soda with a little sulphate of iron in solution or sulphate of zinc. 1907 Gerarde *Herbal* 1293 The first is called *Coccygria* and *Coccygria* in English *Venice* Sumach, or Silken Sumach 1728 Bradley *Diet* s.v. *Ashes* The Venice Sumach or *Coccygria*, *sive Collinus Corsaria*. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl* IX 100/1 Steatite or Soapstone is sold under the names of Briançon Chalk, Venice Chalk and *Venice* Talc. 1547 in Feuilleral *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 23 Tilsent [= tinsel] whyte and *venice*. 1697 J Brown *Dispensary* ii Wks. 1709 III 11 *sq.* My Specials are all put into *Venice* Vials 1839 Ure *Dict Arts & Man* 1298 When white lead is mixed in equal quantities with ground sulphate of baryte, it is known in France and Germany by the name of *Venice* white 1860 *Chambers's Encycl* V 722/1 Venice White contains 1 part of Baryta, and 1 part of White Lead 1555 Eden *Decades* 317 b 1867 ascetic nothyng more precious then drynkyng glasses of *Venice* worke

**2 a Venice glass,** (*a*) a very fine and delicate kind of glass, originally manufactured at Murano, near Venice, (*b*) an article made of this, esp a drinking vessel or vial; (*c*) a Venetian mirror

The Venice glass vessels made of this glass is frequ alluded to in the 17th century

(*a*) 1547 Andrew *Brunsvyke's Distyll Waters* A vjb They must be made of verye fine lycuour that is whyte the better withstande the hete of the fyre *a* 1583 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem* (1841) 41 Then they must prepare very clear and white Glasse 1 as fyne and white Venitys Glasse 1636 *Sylva* ii. 172 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum and the Ashes of a Weed, called by them *Kali* 1662 J Evelyn *Diary* 1 *Lett Lords & gentry* 13 Their Venice glass cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay

(*b*) 1598 *Inventories Inglond* ii 10 *Hol nshed* I 766/2 As for drinke it is vsuallie filled in bols of siluer in noble mens houses, also in fine Venice glasses of all formes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i ii 72 In a Venice Glasse before our eies 1606 Shirley *Sir T Shirley* 1 2 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum and the Ashes of a Weed, called by them *Kali* 1611 Florio *Thesaur I ers Lachrymarum* 13 Their Venice glass cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay

(*c*) 1598 *Inventories Inglond* ii 10 *Hol nshed* I 766/2 As for drinke it is vsuallie filled in bols of siluer in noble mens houses, also in fine Venice glasses of all formes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i ii 72 In a Venice Glasse before our eies 1606 Shirley *Sir T Shirley* 1 2 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum and the Ashes of a Weed, called by them *Kali* 1611 Florio *Thesaur I ers Lachrymarum* 13 Their Venice glass cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay

(*b*) 1598 *Inventories Inglond* ii 10 *Hol nshed* I 766/2 As for drinke it is vsuallie filled in bols of siluer in noble mens houses, also in fine Venice glasses of all formes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i ii 72 In a Venice Glasse before our eies 1606 Shirley *Sir T Shirley* 1 2 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum and the Ashes of a Weed, called by them *Kali* 1611 Florio *Thesaur I ers Lachrymarum* 13 Their Venice glass cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay

(*c*) 1598 *Inventories Inglond* ii 10 *Hol nshed* I 766/2 As for drinke it is vsuallie filled in bols of siluer in noble mens houses, also in fine Venice glasses of all formes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i ii 72 In a Venice Glasse before our eies 1606 Shirley *Sir T Shirley* 1 2 The Crystalline Venice Glass is reported to be a mixture, in equal portions of Stones brought from Pavia, by the River Ticinum and the Ashes of a Weed, called by them *Kali* 1611 Florio *Thesaur I ers Lachrymarum* 13 Their Venice glass cracks with as slight a blow as pots of courser clay

**Venisalt.** [f. Venice + Salt *sb*] A kind of salt used in dyeing

1727 Bailey (vol II) *Venisalt*, Pardonableness. 1755 Johnson, *Pardonableness*, venialness; susceptibility of pardon.

**Venison,** etc, obs ff Vengeance

**Venice** (ve·nis) Also ð **Venysse, Venise, Ven(i)ys, Venbys, Venes, ? Vennis, Venis.** Also Venus ð. [a F *Vennise* –L. *Venetia* (It. *Venezia*, Sp *Venecia*, Pg *Veneza*) see def]

1. The name of the city (the capital of the province of the same name) in the north-east of Italy, used attrib to designate various articles made there or having some connexion with the locality, as *Venice looking glass, paper, ponnt* (lace), *tinsel, trial, work*, etc. (Cf Venetian *a* 2)

*†Venice beam* see Roman a[1] 25 *Venice blue* (see quot) *Venice crown*, Her (see quot) *Venice gold, silver* (cf Gold *sb* 4, Silver *sb* 4) *Venice ice* Obs. (see quot 1763) *Venice soap* (see quots.) *†Venice sumach*, Venetian sumach *Venice talc, white* (see quots.)

1611 Cotgr, *Trouuenes à plommée*, a Roman, or *Venice* beame, for the weighing of things. 1698 Florio, *Venete*, a light or *Venice* blew, a Turkie colour 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her* I Glos., *Venice Crown*, the crown, or cap of state, worn by the Doge, is made of cloth of gold crossed with precious stones, and having two long ears, or lappets pointed at the ends, hanging down at the sides. 1506 *Paston Lett* III 404 The [horse] is made of 'Venys gold' 1520–1 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 310 Item, paid for a vnce of venes golde iiis viiid. 1535 *Wardr Accts. Arragon* 26 in *Camden Misc* III, Fringid withe grene silke and Venyse golde. 1598 in Feuilleral *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 40, vii Aperns of white gowlde sarnet edged with venitys gowlde frenge. 1821 Scott *Kenilw* ii, Her hat being of tawny taffeta, embroidered with scorpions of Venice gold. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* (1655) IV 43 A new *Venice* Looking Glasse, wherin you may behold that admired Maiden Citty in her

**Venim(ous,** obs ff. Venom(ous

**†Venin,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* In 4–5 **venyn.** [a Ol. *venin*[1]–L. *venēn-um.*] Venom, poison.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 9005 Venyn he salue wyþ hym he nam, Als a monk to court be cam. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Three Treat* (1851) p xxxvi As Crist techiþ in his gospel, iouz þai men abulden forsake her cumpenyes as venyn [*v r* venym]. *c* 1400 *Apol Lol* 57 Inacle is turnid in to venyn and þis þat was foundun to remedie is foundun to dep

Hence **†Venin** *v trans*, to poison *Obs*[−0]

*a* 1500 *Prompt Parv* 508/2 (MS H) Venynyn or ven yinyn, *veneno*

**Ve nin,** *sb*[2] *Chem* Also ine, -eno. [(f Ven om + -in[1].)] A toxic substance forming the distinctive element in snake-venom (In recent Dicts)

**Veniour,** obs var Venger

**‖Venire** (*vīnī·re ri*) *Law* [Ellipt for next] 1 = next 1

1665 Ever *Tryals per Pais* iii 31 Therefore where the Sheriff ought not to return the Venire he cannot return the Tales. 1676 *Office Clerk Assize* 82 In the mean time doth the Clerk of the Peace file the *Venire*, and the pannel with the Indictment. 1722 Beverley *First Virginia* iv vi 223 A Writ of *Venire* issues in such Case to summon six of the nearest Neighbours to the Criminal 1771 E Long in Hone *Every-day Bk* (1826) II 900 You must have a *venire* for a jury 1821 Archbold *Digest Law Pleading & Evidence* 415 Stating the names, &c of the knights and recognitors, as in the *venire* 1829 *Act 6 Geo IV* c 50 § 16 *marg* If Plaintiff sue forth a Venire, etc in order to trial and proceed not, he may afterwards sue forth another Venire, etc. and try at any subsequent Assizes

b *Venire de novo*, = next 2 b

1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict* s.v *Venire Facias de novo*, The following seem to be the cases in which a *Venire de Novo* is grantable. 1885 *Law Rep* 10 App Cas. 414 With out some such power [of awarding a venire in the circumstances were] no jig ment except a venire de novo, could be g ven

*c* *Venire man*, one summoned to serve on a jury under a writ of *Venire facias*, a juryman. *U S*

1780 *Virginia Statutes at Large* III 189 An act for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses, and venire men. 1805 *Weekly Examiner* (San Francisco) 5 Sept 1/1 Sheriff Whelan a deputies had apparently summoned most all of the venire-men from the fore gn sections of the city

**†2** = next 2 *Obs*

1768 Lo Hardwicke in Harris *Life* (1847) III 344 I believe he came in upon the venire or capias & put in bail. 1769 [see Venire facias 2].

**†3** The place from which the jurors were to be summoned or in which the cause was to be tried, = Venue 5. *Obs*

1682 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) I 185 Mr Graham having moved once or twice the court of kings bench that the venire might be laid in another county 1688 *Lond Gaz* No 1720/7 This day the great Cause between the Earl of Shaftsbury and Mr Cradock came on in the Kings Bench about changing the *Venire* out of London

**‖Venire facias** (*vīnī·re ri fē·shiæs*). *Law* [L., lit 'that you cause to come', cf prec.]

1 A former judicial writ directed to a sheriff requiring him to summon a jury to try a cause or causes at issue between parties. *Obs or Hist*

1444 *Rolls of Parli* V 112/1 This[e]use joyned and entred of record, a d a venire fac of ye Jure returned. 1532 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc) I 68 Whereupon a writt of venire facias returnable the First day of the terme of seynt Hillary next comyng 1543 *Ludlow Churchw Acc* (Camd. Soc.) 1 Payde for a venire facias xvjd 1607 *Cowell Interpr I hamic* B 4 b Yoni get a *Venire facias* to warne your Iurie, a *Decem tales* to fill vp the number 1665 Ever *Tryals per Pais* iii 14 Of a *Venire facias*, as To whom it shall be directed [etc.] 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 352 When therefore an issue is joined the court awards a writ of *venire facias* 1792 *Amer State Papers* Misc (1834) I 32 (Stanf) Juries shall be summoned by writs of *venire facias* 1821 Archbold *D gest Law* 414 The jury process is the same as in ordinary cases namely, a *venire facias* and a *habeas corpora juratorum* 1826 *Act 6 Geo. IV*, c. 50 § 16. 125 No former Writ of Venire Facias had been prosecuted in that Cause

b *Venire facias de novo* (lit 'that you cause to come anew'), an order for a new trial of a cause, upon the same record, owing to some defect or irregularity in the first trial

1797 Tomlins *Jacob's Law Dict* s.v., New Trials are generally granted where a venire de novo is found, a *Venire facias de Novo* upon a Special Verdict.

**†2** A writ issued against a person indicted of a misdemeanour, summoning him to appear before the court *Obs*

1483 4 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 10, I shall send you another (capias) with the Copie of your new suites and a venire facias against the minister 1769 Blackstone *Comm* IV 313 The proper process on an indictment for any petty misdemeanor or on a penal statute, is a writ of *venire facias*, which is in the nature of a summons to cause the party to appear And if by the return to such venire [etc.].

**Venis(e,** obs forms of Venice.

**Venison** (ve·nzn, ve·nis'n) Forms: *α* 3–5 **venesun,** 3–6 **veneson,** 4 **venoison, venoyson,** 4–5 **venesson,** 5 *Sc* **wenesone,** 6 **vennesoun,** 7 **vennesen,** 4 **venisun,** 4–5 **venisson,** 5 **venisyn,** 6 **venicen, vennisone,** 7 **venison,** 4– **venison,** 4–5 **venysoun,** 4–6 **venyson,** 5 **venysone, soune, -sowne, venysoun,** *Sc.* **wenysoune, -son.** *β.* 5 **vensoun,** 6–8 **venson,** 7–8 **ven'son,** 7 (9) **venson** [a. AF. *venesoⁿ(n)*, *venesynn, venysoun, venison*, OF *venaison, veneisun, venoison, venoison* (mod F. *venaison*,=Pr *venazon*,

*venaso*, obs Sp *venacson*, Pg. *veação*, It. *venagrone*) —L. *vēnātiōn-em* hunting, *f. venātus* to hunt.

The pron (ve nz'n), given as *colloq* by Smart in 1836, is now usual in England. The fuller (ve nis n) or (ve nizən) is current in the United States, and (ve nis n) is common in Scotland.]

1. The flesh of an animal killed in the chase or by hunting and used as food, formerly applied to the flesh of the deer, boar, hare, rabbit, or other game animal, now almost entirely restricted to the flesh of various species of deer. Cf b.

a a 1300 *Havelok* 1726 Kranes, swannes, uenesun, Lax, lampreys and god wurgun 23 *A Alit* 5933 (Laud MS.), Ic mete was greibed beef & motoun Bredes bruddes, & venysoun 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 89 Pei eteb no flesche but venysoun 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 A mawce hit is For veile and venyson, I wys. *c* 1485 *Digby Mysteries* (1882) 66 *Hec ferina*, wenyson. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi 467 Soo take he a dyshe that was before hym that was full of venyson, and sente it to hym by a squyre of his. *a* 1500 *Remedie of Love* in Thynne *Chaucer* (1532) 367 b/2 Venyson stolne is aye the sweter 1578 I. N. tr. *Lonay Ist. Ist. turq* I they set in this market venison by quarters or whole, as Does Hares, Conies, and many other beastes which they bring up for the purpose, and take in hunting 1598 Markham *Country Contentments* 43 Amongst the common sort of people, nothing is accompted Venison, but the flesh of Red and fallow Deere. 1627 Morvson *Itin* III 149 Hares are thought to nourish melancoly, yet they are eaten as Venison both rosted and boyled. 1672 Josiah Ye *New Eng Rarities* 48 Bears are very fat in the fall of the leaf, at which time they are excellent venison. 1736 Sheridan in Swift *Lett* (1768) IV 167 Our venison is plenty our weather too hot for its carriage 1769 Gray *Lett*, etc (1775) 363 I sell mutton in a season, it grows fat on the mountains, and nearly resembles venison 1818 Scott *Br Lamm.* IX, The huntsman's knife, presented to her for the purpose of making the first incision in the stag's breast, and thereby discovering the quality of the venison. 1837 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* III 63 The party hunted for a few days until they had laid in a supply of dried buffalo meat and venison 1881 Mrs A. H. Latham *first after Comp* 70 The best venison for the table is supplied by the fallow deer raised in the home parks of England

*β c* 1460 J. Rushall. *Nurture* 689 in *Babees Bk*, Capoun, pigge, venyson bake, leche lombard 1502-3 *Rec St Mary at Hull* (1903) 248 Payd flor a reward for bryng yng of venson 1598 Markham *Country Contentments* V (1615) 50 Our eldest English writers doe call the same Venson, and not Venison: But by what reason I see not 1607 Dayden *Sheath* 1 174 The Jars of green-rout wine. He sett abrouch, and for the feast prepar'd, In malicious pomp with the Gen son shar d 1717 Prior *Alma* 1 378 If You Dine with my Lord May'r, Roast beef, and Venison is your fare 1780 Cowper *Progr Err* 220 Turtle and venison all his thoughts employ 1784 — *Task* IV 612 Whoso seeks an audit here Propitious, pays his tribute, game or fish, Wild fowl or ven son

b With *of* (an animal) or defining term

*c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 83/2 Huy nomen with beom into heore schip bred i nov3 and wyn, Venesun of heort and hynd, and of wilde swyn *a* 1400 *Syr Iowu Degre* 324 Storkes and snytes ther were also, And venyson fresshe of bucke and do *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) iii Pe venysoun of hem [i e bucks] is reghte good, and ykept and salted, as pat of he hert 1545 Elyot, *Apreuyr* 81 Pe venyson of a wylde boore 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Kings* Iv 23 The venison of hartes, roes, and buffles 1648 Herman H. *Pol wolde bronde* 100 Red Deere, the Venison of a Red Boare 1690 Fuller *Pisgah* I v 12 Venison both red and fallow 1814 Scott *Wav* XII *note*, The learned in cookery hold roe venison dry and not t ridiferent food, unless [etc] 1852 Munby *Antiquities* (1857) 6 A haunch of last year's venison 1885 J G Bertham *Brit Alm Comp* 70 A haunch of red deer venison is not much appreciated, as it is expensive and troublesome to cook

c Used allusively (see quot)

2579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 22 I pray God the olde prouerbe be not found true, that gentlemen and riche men are venvsion in Heauen (that is), very rare and daintie to haue them there.

2. Any beast of chase or other wild animal killed by hunting, esp one of the deer kind Now *arch*

*a* 1387 *Sir Degrev.* 1865 (Laud MS.) Sir Degrad many a sel coube beeste Wib Armure & ek vitayles, Longe Caries wib pauylounes Hors & oxen wib venysounes 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 64 Whan Harald or pe kyng wild nom bider eftsoon fo pe tyme of gr3eze, to tak hem venys-3ons *c* 1400 *Sawdone Bab* 51 To chase the Bore or the Venison The Wolfe, the Bere and the Bawson 1486 Sir G Have *Law d'arms* (Laing) 11 He suittend in a lusk bydand the venysoun come stalkand by him stilleiy 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* li 20 Thy sonnes lie comforties at 9° heads of euery strete like a venysoun 1588 Parke tr *Mendoza s Hist China* 9 One whole venison is bought for two rials. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III iii 78 He that strikes The Venison first, shall be the Lord o' th' Feast 1691 Cotton *Scarron* 1 The Ven sons now in view, our hounds spend deeper 1727 [Dodrington] *Philip Quarrll* 25 Ten to one but I may give you a Venison 1845 Thorpe tr *Wackernagel* (1884) 302 One [hare] sat by my door I took a step, and away it scud with an elastic spring, the wild free venison, asserting its vigor 1876 *Forest & Stream* 13 July 368/2 When you see a ' venison ', shoot him shoot him, When you shoot a venison, se id me some to cook.

b *collect.* (see quot. 1603.) Now *arch*

*a.* 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 119 Pe kyng Forsters did somoun, enquered vp & doun, Whilk men of toun had taken his venysoun *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T* 83 A theef of venyson Can kepe a forest best of every man *c* 1400 *Brut* 105 Pe Kyng Elfe was gon to be wode him forto desporte and of venysoun somdele he hade tak 1464 *Rolls of Parli* V 533 The surveyng aswell of the Verte as of the Venyson of oure forest *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* I clxxii (1516) 99/2 Yet therin is Venyson and other wylde beestes, and Bowle, and Fyssbe great plentes. 1550 J Coke *Eng & Fr Heraldr* § 6 Youany pou have fayre forestes, chases and parkes full of venyson marvelous. 1603 G Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 268 The fyve sortes of beastes of the Foreste...as alsoe the fyve sortes of the beastes of Chace, all which ten sortes are comprehended vnder the name of Venison 1686 Morden *Geog Rect.* (1685) 347 Their Venison is the Wild Boar, the Hart, the Stag the Fallow Deer and Hare, which are most excellent 1706 Tyrrell *Hist Eng* II 819 The Verderers and Foresters shall meet to view the Attachments of the Forest, as well of Vert, as Venison 1791 W Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II 17 Under him are two distinct appointments of officers; the one to preserve the venison of the forest; and the other to preserve the vert. 1854 Horsley *Walden* XIII, I was interested in the preservation of the venison and the vert more than the hunters

*b* 1597 (Constable) *Poems* (1859) 75 Course the fearefulle Hare, Venson do not spare *a* 1618 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 484 Wks. (Grosart) II 89 For Him, the Mountains, downs, & Forrests breed Buffs, Beefs, Sheep, Venison

† 3. The action or practice of hunting, venery *Obs rare*

1390 Gower *Conf* II 68 Ther scholde he with his Dart on honde Upon the Tigre and the Leon Pourchace and take his venesun 1598 Barckley *Felic Man* 1 xxxiv (Tollem MS.), Hese men gon aboute in large wildirnesse as wylde men, and lyuen by prayes and by venison *c* 1500 *Melusine* (1895) 47 Alle the venerye and venysons were outlawed for ven'son. These thre ymen euerechone

4. *attrib* and *Comb*, as *venison dish, plate, pro vider, saltsman, thief, etc., venison like* adj

1597 Maplet *Gr Forest* 74 b, His flesh is Venesonnie for the which cause it is often hunted 1724 Huntsman in Pope *Lett* (1735) I 340 My Venison Stomach is gone. *a* 1743 R Savage *Progr Divine* Wks 1777 II 120 Some plunder fishponds, others kill venison 1791 The Forest ravage 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s.v., Thus, in some places, the wolf and the fox are reckoned among the Veni son kind 1884 *Harper's Mag* July 269/2 Venison Frolic Game, Poultry, Pork, Venison, and Egg Salesman 1898 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Venison dish*, a metal dish to keep venison hot at table 1897 *Daily Mail* 23 Nov 4/3 A hound master, gamekeeper, and venison provider

b In the sense of 'made of or with, consisting of, venison', as *venison dinner, pasty, pie*.

1390 Gower *Conf* III 1 1 202 We haue a hot Venison pasty to dinner 1668 in *Mainland Club Miscell* (1840) II 527 For Venisone pye, 005 08 00. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus to Democ* No 28 (1713) I 184 The Whigs shall not always Rule the Roast, nor the Custards and Venison-Pasties neither 1721 Amherst *Terræ fil* No 1 4 To see the virtuous munificence of founders tost up in fricasees and venison pasties 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* vi, I hornchil's person, stuffed as it is with beef, savory pasty, and pudding 1841 Thackeray *Gr Hoggarty Diamond* iv, Since my venison dinner with Alderman Deedes 1864 C Gerike *Life in Woods* vi (1874) 117 Venison pie, for days after, furnished quite a treat in the house.

Hence **venisoned** *ppl. a.*, cooked so as to resemble venison. **Venisoni vorous** *a.*, given to eating venison *nonce-words*

*a* 1831 G C. Lewis *Lett* (1870) to People are very venisonivorous 1881 Mrs A. R Ellis *Sybvestra* II 29 The venisoned mutton

**Veni tary**, *rare*—1, [nd med L. *venitarium*, *f. venita* see next.] (See quot)

1883 Rock *Ch of Fathers* III ii xii 213 The *Venitary* was a small book, in which the ' Venite, exultemus Domino, with the Psalms and Responsories, was written out, and the notation for the chant put beneath the words.

‖ **Venite** (vǐnai tɪ) [L and pers. pl imp of *venire* to come.] The ninety-fifth psalm (the ninety-fourth in the Vulgate, beginning *Venite, exultemus Domino*) used as a canticle at matins or morning prayer; the invitatory psalm, also, a musical setting of this.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 18 Pus dos et euench Gloria Patri, & et te biginnunge of þe Venite *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 364 Pe two suitres that be tabled to synge the versicles schal synge and bise Venite. On high feest day in Pentost vseed to be sung with great solemnity, by the rulers of the chor 1877 J D Chambers *Div Worship* 134 The mode of singing the Venite. On high feast days the Venite used

CJ, Water of the same ... to good a be to dronke for venym and inspoysonynge 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 108 Fogeda, through the maliciousnes of the veneme [of a poisoned arrow] consumed and was dryed vp by lyttle and lyttle 1593 Q Eliz. *Boeth* 1 pr iii. 6 Thou haste not knowen Anaxagoras flight nor Socrates Venim, nor Zenos torment. 1616 Surfl. & Markh *Countrey Farme* 170 Garlicke eaten fasting, is the Countrey manie Treacle in the time of the Plague, as also against all manner of Venime and Poyson

*B.* *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxx. 5 As venome as bid vndire a swet morsell *c* 1373 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v (*John*) 309 I wil pat þu drinke þe ve ome I sal þe gyfe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc) 186 Ther is no venome so parlous in sharpnes, Os when it bathe of treacle a tyde es. *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Orpheus & Eurydice* (Asloan) 106 I his cruell wennome was so penitryf? As natur is of all mortall poisoun 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 161 The houses and the houshould stuffe, vnlesse they bee purified with fire and such like keepe their venom for the space of a yeare or more 1593 Shaks. *Rich. III* IV. i 61 Anointed let me be with deadly Venome 1665 Hobbes *Leviath* II xxix 173 Till (if Nature be strong enough) it break at last the contumacy of the parts obstructed, and dissipateth the venome into sweat 1686 Temple *Ess. Gardens* Wks. 1720 I 178 A great Preservative against the Plague which is a sort of Venom 1797 Coleridge *Rev G Coleridge* 99 Some [trees] Have emptied vnto them their shade, in the close breathing subtlest damps, Mixed their own venom with the rain from Heaven That I woke poisoned! 1806 *Alburt's Syst Med* I 731 Infectious matter is a subtle venom and of the whole body is chiefly due to absorption of soluble venom from the place where the growth of microbes is proceeding 1910 *Conforsd Rev Med* 1 Any one of a thousande that are sufficient to themselves in their own foul venom

3 *fig* Something comparable to or having the effect of poison, any baneful, malign, or noxious influence or quality, bitter or virulent feeling, language, etc.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 15389 Of all venim and of envi ful kindeld vp he ras. *c* 1385 *E E Allit P* B 574 Þe venym & þe vylanye & þe vycios fylþe Þat I sulpes ma ner saule i vnsounde here 1530 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 427 Sif manye wolden holde togedere in þe bileue ayenus þe fend it were a triacle ayenus venym þat emperour prelatis sowen in þe folc *c* 1400 *Piers Ploughe* xi xiv (1895) 51 They have ben wrestled and wroat ful of venym of rancour out of hate *c* 1480 *Myrr our Ladye* 205 God graue mankynde fowde of lyfe wherin the enmy spued venym by a worde of lesyng 1509 Fisher *7 Penit Ps* (1906) 87 They haue dyre before a man venym pryuely hyd vnder the colour of apper yngne vertue *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Man s Est* vi. (1580) 33 That venime hath infected the whole race. 1607 Hieron *Wks* I 361 Hauing in him the arrowes of the Almighte the venime thereof drinking vp his spirit *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv Irenatch.* (1968) 168 The veneme of this Book wrought vpon the hearts of men

*b* 1508 Dunbar *Tua Marist Wemen* 166 To speik I sall nought spar I sall the venome devoid with a vent large 1567 *Satirr Poems Reform* IV 134 Let men be war, and keip thame sure Fra wemenis vei nome. 1596 Dal. Rymple tr *Leslæi s Hist Scot* (S I S) III 215 Quha venum verie poysonable and deidlie Germane had sowed out of Luther and other 1 Archbr tikis. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia s Rev* III ii, Well I am resolv d what He doe.— What, my good spirituous sparke?—Mary speake all the venome I can of him 1602 Shaks *Ham* II ii 533 Who this had seene, with tongue in Venome steep'd Gainst Polonius Slaunder, 'twould haue inuenom'd 1615 Crashaw *Weeper* 11 Marvell *Corr* Wks Grosart) II 467 He was gone into the country swoln with his new honour and with venom against the fanatics. 1678 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) IV 170 Dr Charlett continued his venom ag[ains]t non jurors. 1759 Franklin *Wks* 1840 III 416 A dose of venom apparently prepared and administered to poison the provinces 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxiii, The venom of your present language is sufficient to remind her that she speaks with the mortal enemy of her father 1860 Emerson *Cond Life Fate* Wks (Bohn) II 321 Whilst art draws out the venom, it commonly extorts some benefit from the vanquished enemy

b With of (sin, envy, etc.)

*a* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* 39 Porwe þe fenym of senne Þat al mankende slakh. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars T* 530 Certes than is love the medicine that casteth out the venyme of envye fro mannes herte 1483 *Cath Angl* 400/1 Venyme, Bile Yuy depuel sessed neuer with his venym of dyscorde. 1557 *Tottel's Misc* (Arb.) 245 Beware also the venym swete Of crafty words and hatefull thretes

*b* 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 64 If any odyr gretter feyryr or strengar be cald in be pepyll onon he is heuy touchyd with venum of envy *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 192 He told so mekill hurtfule venum of sa palm irked to here him 1562 Winjet *Wks* (S T S) I 40 The swet venum of deuyllish eloquence of wordis 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, iv iv 44 Mingled with Venom of Suggestion 1643 R. Baker *Chron Rich. I* 91 It is may not have the name, yet certainely it had the venome of a bitter Taxation 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 445 It were to be wished all the Venome of Detraction were spent against it selfe 1697 Prior *A Satire* 51 The Venom of a spiteful Satire.

†c Used in addressing persons *Obs rare*

1598 Barton *Pilgrim's Paradise* Wks (Grosart) II 128/2 The pilgrime gan replie Die ougly venum in thy villany 1601 Shaks. *Twel N* III i 2 *And* No futh, Ile not stay a lot longer: *To* Thy reason deere venom, giue thy reason.

4 With *a* and pl A poison, a particular kind of poison or virus.

*a.* 1327 Langl. *P Pl* B xviii 253 Of alle venymes, foulest is þe scorpioun 1398 Hoccleve *Lett Cupid* 158 With oo venym another was distroyed. 1560–70 *Bk Quintessence* 16 Panne it schal be no nede to vse in this perilous cure venemys, as some lechis doon *a* 1533 J. Bermers *Gold Bk M Aurel* (1546) D ij b Suche herbes and venims that might poyson them in their meates. 1556 *Chron Gr Friars* (Camden) 70 One Richard Roose dyd caste a certyne venym or poyson into a vessell replenyshed with yeats or barme 1594 West *and Pt Symbol, Chancerie* § 99 Discerning and tempering by just proportions good venims from evil. 1604 [As. I *Counterbl to Tobacco* (Arb.) 100 The stinking Suffumigation whereof they yet vse against that disease making no one cankre or venome to eate out another 1661 Lovell. *Hist Anim & Min.* 255 [Salamanders] biting is deadly having as many venims as colours.

*B* 1535 Douglas *Æneid* viii vi 88 King Picus ... Quham revnat for his iufe throu venmonys seyrs, Circes hir spous amate wyth ane goldin wand 1580 Frampton tr *Monarde s Two Mod agst Venome* 115 These venoms partly doe kil vs i partly we vse them for our profite, and bodily health. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 480 A man, whose nature infected with a stronger venome poysoned other venemous creatures, if any bit him 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 459 Were all as tame as their Queen was fair? Not one to flirt a venom at her eyes Or pit ch a murderous dust into her drink? 1904 *Jrnl Med Sci* 10 Sept. 321 The anti effect of different specific antivenoms upon their venoms. *Ibid.* 574 The toxicity of the most powerful venoms

*b* *fig* (Cf 3.)

1593 Lo Bernes *Freiss* I ccclxxxiv 647 These people retourned into their owne countreis; but the great venym remayned still behynde, for Watte Tyler, Jacke Straw, and John ball, woide not departe so. *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) II 82 Ane winam againis the poure man. 1683 Badington *Commandm* (1590) 346 There is no respect of building amongst men, whereunto by name this vice is not forbidden as a venome of all vertue. 1757 Burke *Abridgm Eng Hist* Wks. X 411 Taunts and mockeries were infused a mortal venom into the war 1811 A. K Macnew *Antinemelle Bourrejean* 6 All the poisons and venoms with which sin has polluted God s handiwork.

†5 A colouring matter, a dye. *Obs rare*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* II met 5 (1868) 50 Þei coube nat medle the brizte flies of be contre of sirienis wiþ be venym of tirie 1559 Hulget *Venym* is generallye [to denote] anye thynge which alterith colloure or nature of that wher with it is myxt.

6 *attrib* and *Comb.* as *venom breed ing, hating, spluttering venom fanged, noyed, spotted* adjs., *venom maker, venom cold* adj

*Venom-bladder* and *-bag* (*Anat.*) = *Poison-bag*

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lvii 5 Crist lufes not charmers and venym makers. 1382 Wyclif *Ps* lvii. 6 The vois of the enchauntynge of the venymous makere 1400 *Anel Troy Bk* 596 Medee By taust liason a riche ryng That alle venym for dede & stiued—I hat he schul not be venym noyed 1598 Florio *Second Fr Scholar* 111 xl. 60 Vnworthy lewd curs presume not to speake Or with thy venome spluttering chaps to barke Gainst well pend poems. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb* II 52 Jersey whose venom hating ground The hard red emeril hath 1760 Fawkes *Anacreon, Odes* xlii 12 By ranking Malice never stung I sl un the venom venting Tongue 1828 *Blackw Mag* XXIII 481 I he venom-bag and serpent eyes *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *There s a Hero in* 2 A venom breeding Ocean 1864 J C Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 220 A venom fanged v per 1889 B. J Kendall *Nervous Diseases Applied* 92 I he venom cold Elvogs. 1904 *Brit Med. Jrnl.* 20 Sept 581 The treatment of venom poisoning

b Simple attrib., as *venom albumen, flood, globulism, poisoning, snake*, etc.

1845 *Zoologist* III 1031 I found also five pairs of rudi mental fangs apparently unattached to the venom sac 1847–9 *Todd's Cyc Anat* IV 291/1 In the most deadly venom snakes the venom fangs are perforated 1865 Bailey *Mystic* 54 Fire, ice and scalding venom floods of hell 1883 *Science* II 24/1 Three distinct proteids may be isolated from the venom of the moccason and rattlesnake. I hese they propose to call respectively, venom peptone, venom globulin and venom albumen 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 811 One observer classing a venom proteid with the albumins or globulins

B *adj* Venomous, virulent, malignant, spite ful. *Obs. exc dial*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 518 In Horstim. *Alterg Leg* (1881) 109 And seyn bare his body bare With scorpions þat usenym were. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P* R xviii xi (Bodl MS.), The venom spiker hatte Aranea. *a* 1425 *Cursor M* 20959 (Trin.) Þe venim spiker þat was wroght in helle. 1579 *Fleg Bk Amer* (Arb.) Introd. p xxxiv/1 Forests full of snakes and other venym beastes. 1598 Bale *God's Promises* 11 In Dodonea ... is found 1760 I 18 Such wight be as wyly venym than the spyder 1590 Shaks *Com Err* v 69 The venome clamors of a jealous woman 1594 Nashe *Unfort Trav* (1892) 211 Some kinde of Vine ... is so venomous of nature, that the very shadow thereof is deadly. 1600 Breton *Melanch. Hum* Wks. (Grosart) I 131/1 In a subtill kinde of spirit, Or venomous kinde of fire 1892 *E. Arnold Daily Times* (E.D D) A man remarked to two boys fight ing You a munshy (you amongst you) fare as venom as harnes

**Venom,** *v* Now *Obs or arch* Forms 4–5 **venem(e,** 4–6 **venym(e,** (4 **venymp** , **femyne),** 4, 6–7 **venim(e,** 6 **veneymen** *β* 5–7 **venome** (5 **vemon),** 6– **venom,** 7 **vennum.** [ad Of *ven mer* to envenom, or f Venom *sb* Cf Anvenom *v* and Envenom *v*.]

1 *trans* To injure by means of venom, to poison (a person, etc.), = Envenom *v* 1

*a* 1300 *Sir Tristr* 1926 Þe tong [of be dragon] ȝe bar oway Pus venimed he me þan 1375 in Horstmann *Allengl Leg* (1878) 136/1 Who so were venympd wiþ eny wikked beste. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4842 A Hasilisk venom in hir yaward vailed knigtis. 1440 *Gesta Rom* xxiii 332 (Harl MS) It befelle in shorte tyme that dragons and venemous bestes venemed men 1483 *Cath Angl* 400/1 To venyme, *venenare, intoxicare.* 1552 Huloet, Venymen, *inficio, cis, intoxico, as venene, nas* 1579 Langham *Gard Health* 202 He that rubbeth his hands with the root [of Dragons] in May, take adders, and they shall not venim him 1612 Markham *Masterp.* II cviii 300 Out of the same will runne a humor, which will venome the whole foote. 1663 Butler *Hud Cant* 230 The Dragon is a venemous beast, and poisoneth all where he lieth; he beats the Earth bare, and venoms it, that it will bear no grass. 1694 *Phil Trans* XVIII 280 These with many other different Herbs spreading and running upon the Trees choak and venom them.

*fig* 1579 Tomson *Calvin s Serm Jas* 116/a We shall see these vermine that seeke nothing else but to rotte or venime the Church of God 1607 Tourneur *Rev Trag* III E 4 b, Soon I must, Through brothers perjurie, dye, O let me venome Their soules with curses

*transf* 1699 Dryden & Lee *Œdipus* III. i, Oh his murd rous Breath Venoms my airy Substance!

†2 *absol*

1563 Hyll *Arte Garden.* (1593) 121 Linnen cloathes laid to any place where either Spider or waspe hath venomed, doubt quickly take away the paine thereof 1575 Turbery *Venerie* 187 She venometh with her bytyng When she is sault as the Wolfe doth 1607 Topsell *Four f Beasts* 515 A shrew which biting horses and labouring cattell, it doth venome vntill it come vnto the hart and then they die 1626 Markham *Masterp* II cxxv 427 Looke that you touch no part of the horse therewith saue the sorrance onely; for it will venome.

2 To put venom in or on (something), to render venomous, = Envenom *v* 2

*c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc* 2050 For þorus þat swordes dint þe venim will me spille I venimed (*v r* fenymede) hem bobe. Our fomen forto fille. 1398 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V 443 A swerdman wiþ a sword i venymed. *a* 1450 Harding *Chron* lxxii xiii, There was a well whiche his enemyes espied Whiche venymed with venym and dayo. 1569 J Sanford tr *Agrippa s Van Artes* 105 b, They have poysoned the water infected the corne, and venomed the victuals. 1600 Hayward *Edw Confessd* (1633) 92 He also was sore wounded with a Speare whose head was venomed 1612 ] Davies (Heref) *Muse s Sacr Wks* (Grosart) II 18/2 Tis Med cine so Venu gau ts to cure my Wounds, I venomed to make me hurt the more 1725 Pope *Odyss* x 272 Venom d was the bread and mix d the bowl With drugs of force to darken all the soul 1834 Beckford *Italy* II 38 Some of these people have venomed the stings of the fleas and the musquitoes.

*fig* 1704 Southey *Elmer* 52 All her ranking shafts Hard d with disgrace and venom d with scorn 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom* v v, Wherefore barb And venom the refusal with conten pt!

b To embitter, = Envenom *v* 2 b

1621 Lady M Wroth *Urania* I. 504 Love like a serpent poysoning my ioyes, and biting my best daies, venomd all my blisse. 1839 Keats *Fr Hyperion* i 175 Only the dreamer venoms all his days, Bearing more woe than all his sins deserve

3 *fig* To infect with moral evil, to corrupt, deprave, vitiate, = Envenom *v* 3

13 *K Alis* 2860 [They] saide wel er that tyme Al Grece was of breem venyme [*v r* venymed. *c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 286 Þes religious & heedlesse preste ben bi brekynge of þis lawe, ben curaid of god & venymyn cristendome *c* 1400 Lydg *Reson & Sens* 3391 And of venym Venus pleynly took her name For she venemeth many wyse þat ben soon to hir servise. 1536 Bellenden *Cron Scot* (1821) I 51 Sen our time is now sa venomit with uncouth and superflew meits and drinkis 1591 R Turnbull *Trag Theodoret* 161 Sir, blasphemie filthie talke whereby the soules of men are often poysoned and venomed to death. 1616 Breton *Innocētus agst Treasons* Wks (Grosart) I 4/2 Pride doth blinde y^e Eie Infects y^e Minde vennums y^e harte, and gives the Sowle a sting 1688 *Lesee & Frush* 10 This was the felony of innocent Man before he had his wife venomed with Lust and Vanity 1906 *Westm G* 2 24 Dec. 2/1 To the pyre With this fiend that venoms all our sinful veins!

**Ve nomed,** *ppl a* [f Venom *sb* or *v* Cf. Envenomed *ppl a*.]

1 Of reptiles, insects, etc Endowed with venom, = Venomous 2

1389 Wyclif *Wisdom* xvi 10 Thi sonus forsothe nouther the teth of dragounes, ne of venymed thingus ouercamen. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII 269 She [Lechery] mushapeth sum bodies More cruelly than cruel herbes, or venymed be with poysoun 1552 Huloet, Venemed, *infectus in toxicatus* 1589 Mascall *Cont Cattle Gnats* (1627) 15 Against the venomed tongue of a Serpent and all wicked 1592 Breton *Pilgrim Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I 8/2 A wood Where Snakes, and Adders, and such venumed things, Had alaine a number, with their cruell stinges. 1607 Topsell *Four f Beasts* 26 The liver of an asse burnt, driueth away venomed things 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 699 To drive the Venom'd Brood from Stock and Race 1704 Mathias *Five Lit* (1798) 157 And venomed insects cluster round the tomb 1806 Horsley *Serm.* (1816) IV 35 The natural advantages of man over the venom d reptile

2 Covered, charged imbued, impregnated, or smeared with venom, full of venom, poisoned, = Venomous *a* 5

1400 Quixley *Bull* in in *Yorks Arch Jrnl* (1908) XX. 42 Hercules Of a venymed arowe was foul deseyue And brent hym self 1540 Hyder tr *Vives Instr Chr Wom* II iv 69 Her husband in warre against the Synians had catched a great wounde in his arme with a venomed swerde. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 116 Theyr weapons are nother bowes nor venomed arrowes. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Ireland* (1809) 103 A Speare of venomed sworde. 1631 F Fletcher *Piscatory Eclog* IV xv 1 The fish their life and death together drink And dead pollute the seas with venom d drink 1654 Trapp *Comm Canes* 116 His mouthe venom d seat Smear'd with gumme of glutenous heat 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met* XV 366 With venom d Grinders you corrupt your Meat. 1746 Francis tr *Horace* (1831) I *ii sat* 1 viii. 33 I hey who turn poor people s hea rts With venom d drugs and magic lay 1757 W Wilkie *Epigoniad* VII. 210 The venom d garment him d; its touch the fires Avoiding 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Trnls* (1825) 308 Though he often sting me with a dart, Venomed and barbed 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II 20 Beneath their venomed breath Life wears the pallid hue of death. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt Royal* II ix. 168 He had aimed many a venomed arrow at her breast.

b. Of a wound.

1485 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula* etc 70 Also vitriol combuste be itself or with salt combuste yputte vpon a venemyd wonde drawep þe venym fro þynge vnto aboue. 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Jr Chirurg* 9/2 Sore & wounds are of a worser nature as beinge venoumede rebellious and entermingled with some badde accidentes. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* VI ix The venom'd wound Long after cured that bodkin a point 1870 Bryant *Iliad* II I 71 A venomed wound Made by a serpent's fangs

**C** Of a bite, sting, etc Also *fig*

1602 Marston *Ant & Mel* IV Wks 1856 I 53 We have breasts of proofe Gainst all the venom'd stings of misery 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* II 522 The greedy Flocks; Their venom'd Bite and Scars indu'ed on the Stocks. 1766 Goldsm *New Sunrise* 48 The serpents round about it twin'd Denote the rage with which he writes, His frothy shiver, venom'd bites. 1812 S Rogers *Ep to Pratt* 4 When thy curious mind Has class'd the insect tribes of human kind Each with its busy hum Its subtile web work, or its venom'd sting 1822 Jodrell *Persian Heroine* II 178 How sharp thy venom'd sting is, O Remorse! 1903 Bridges *Wintry Delights* 377 All the venom'd stings And dread sharpnesses of fury

**3** *fig* Imbued with some virulent or malevolent quality, harmful or injurious in some way, noxious, = Envenomed *ppl a* 2

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* L (*Katherine*) 222 Gyf þou had mycht me think þu wald with venemyt slycht tak vs in syyne dissatfully 1598 Barckley *Felic Man* 160 to repaye with venymyd tonge 1635 Mirvn *Fire of Loue* 50 So þat non eritly þinge nor odir of venemyd swetnes in qwhik þa suld haue taste þa take. 1660 Bampton *And a Mil.* 1 Wks. 1865 I 11 Till their souls were with venom'd arrogance, 1686 Earl Monm tr *Bo calini's Ar is fr Parnass* I xxx (1674) 34 [They] appease the minds of incer st Princes and the hearts of venomed people 1708 *Solomon* III 206 The Venom'd Tongue injurious to it is Fame 1726 Pope *Odyss* XIX 115 Him may guest thy venom'd rage hath stung 1821 Shelley *Adonais* 298 One whose voice was venomed melody 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V* 170 She play'd about with slight and sly rightly talk And vivid smiles a d faintly venom'd gossip of the day 1863 *Spectator* 14 Oct 1133/2 The kind of scribe who speaks of Mr Delane as having left behind him 'a venomed trail

**4** *Comb* in *venomed mouthed* adj

1613 Shake *Hen VIII*, I i 77 This Butchers Curre is ven om'd mouth'd [*Rowe* (1709) venome mouth d; *mod edd* venom mouth'd], and I Haue not the power to muzzle him

**Hence + Venomedness.** *Obs*

1611 Cotgr., *Venimosité* venomedn esse venomousnesse

**Ve nomer.** *rare* [f Venom *v*] One who administers venom, a poisoner

1647 Hexham I xv A venomer or poysoner 1880 Howells *Venetian Life* xii 161 As sovereign against the acts of venomers an ounce dose of boiled eggs

**† Ve nomful,** *a Obs* [f Venom *sb*] Venomous, poisonous.

1544 *Exhort to Prov Prayers* (1851) 56b We must leaue of that venomeful poison of all good prayer til at is to say when our mouth prayeth with our heart we pray not 1624 R Fenton *Usury* 34 Verily tl ey discerned it to be a ignant and venomfull qualitie in vsurie

**Ve noming,** *vbl sb* [f Venom *v*] The action of the verb, poisoning, + poison

1382 Wyclif *2 Kings* ix 22 Sit the forny cacions of Jezabel and hyr many ve ynymy,is thrujuen *a* 1470 Harding *Chron* ccx v Some in his sherte put ofte tyme veneming 1610 Markham *Master-p* cxxx 421 All wounings and swellings come vnto a horse by accident as by some blow rush pinch or outward venoming. 1657 W Coles *Adam in Eden* xxxvii, he vseth the form of the Rosea as a salue that it is good for the veno ning of Toads Spiders, Adders.

**Venomization** (ve nomaiz$^{1}$ən) [f Venom *sb* + -ization] The action or process of treating with snake venom

1905 *Trnl Exper Med* VII 202 The effect of washing the Corpuscles after Venomization

**† Ve nomly,** *adv Obs rare* In 4 venymliche, 6 venumly [f Venom *sb* + -ly 2] Venomously, with venom

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII 147 Also among be peple he blameb venymliche be vsyng of [*Harl MS* venymously; *Lawton* venymously] be outrage of riche men 1596 Heywood *Spider & Fly* xiii 40 This formost spider and flie Frowning ech on other venomly prosesse their perst, And vengeable venumly soh other verst.

**Ve'nomness.** Now *rare* [f Venom *sb* + -ness] Venomousness

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg* II iv 21 Than stampe them togyther except the Pellitory bycause of his vennomnesse whych he hath in him 1648 Hexham II *Fenijnigheyt*, venomnesse, or poison 1654 Cokaine *Dianea* II 162 Per ceaving the Infants began to shew signes of the venomeness of the poyson. 1886 B Roosevelt *Copper Queen* I ii 30 A glittering serpent coiled in arrogant and tortuous venomness.

**Venomo-sa livary,** *a Zool* [irreg f Venom *sb* + Salivary *a*] Cf Veneno ] Of or pertaining to, secreting or conveying, venomous saliva

1888 *Amer Naturalist* XXII 886 The venomo salivary duct [of the mosquito] *Ibid* 888 The two efferent ducts carry forward the venomo-salivary products 1900 *Lancet* 18 Aug 528/2 The secretion of the venumo[*sic*] salivary glands.

**Venomous** (ve nəməs), *a* Forms *α* 4–5 veynmus, -ouse, 4–6 ous, 5 -ows venymm-(o)us (venymouse), 4 uenimous, venimouse, 4, 6 us, 5–7 -ous, 4–6 venomouse, 4–8 -us, 5 *Sc* -us, 5–6 *Sc.* venemous, 5 venamous, *Sc.* -us, -use, 7 *Sc* ven'mowse *β* 5– venomous, 5 *Sc.* venomose, 6 *Sc* wennomus, venomous, 6 venumous venomnouse [a. AF *venimus, venimous*, = OF (also mod k) *venimeux*, f *venim* Venom *sb*, after L *venēnōsus* see Venenous *a*]

**† 1** *fig* Morally or spiritually hurtful or injurious, pernicious. *Obs*

*c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 120/484 Pat word me pinchez ven imous to þe pays of þe londe. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxlix 2 To be pesse be venymous delitis of his world *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 20 Venemouse lustis and likings of deedly synnes. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Cock & Fox* 606 (Harl MS.) Thir vane sinnis, flatterie and vane glor, & venomous. *c* 1490 Caxton *Rule St Benet* (E E T S) 129 Vf ony be founde gylty in this venemouse offence of propete. 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 55 The religyous seruaunt of god destroyeth by holy medita cyon ye flyes & spyders of venymous thoughtes 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 141 I will at large prone that there is nothing in loue more venemous then meeting 1620 Holland *Cam. Brit* 507 Saint German, who happily confuted that venemous Pelagian Heresie

**2** Containing, consisting or full of, infected with, venom, possessing poisonous properties or qualities, destructive of, harmful or injurious to, life on this account

Common from *c* 1470 to *c* 1650; now *rare*

*c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16594 By passagers wel berde he wys Pe venymous eye ywas al a weye. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 6751 Another manere of dryuk þat es ille Þat sal be bitter and venomous. *c* 1366 Chaucer *A B C* 149 Wel fleeth the venymous Ormeline ywis 1400 *Destr Troye* 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III v (1883) 126 That they put in theyr medicynes no thynge venemous 1490 — *Eneydos* xxiv 88 Herbes where of the lune is passyng ve ynous 1552 Recm *Decades* (Arb) 45 Of the venemous apples wherwith the Canibales inuenieme theyr arrowes. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 156 Let not that thing be venemous to a creature of it selfe but through corruption hath now gotten such a quality *c* 1612 Sir W More *Dido & Æneas* III 208 Col lecting alls The malice poy-on of such ven mowse weed 1651 Hobbes *Leviathan* II xxvi 173 The fleshly parts be ng ty venomous matter ol str cted 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp* I 132 The cultivating of a Garden of venomous Plants 1842 Tennyson *Love & Duty* 19 The hemlock in the hedge Pour venomous gums *a* 1839 Praed *Red Fisherman's* Poems 1864 I 197 Ll e trees and herbs that round it grew Were venomous

**† b** Of a wound, etc Marked or characterized by the presence of poisonous matter, foul with venom, envenomed *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* xix lvii Aգena þe venomous serpentes bitiþ antares & ayren vpper venomous wormes 1541 R Copland *Guydon's Iorn* U j, It shulde be an oynt me t profitall to all sores that be venymous. *c* 1550 H Lloyd *Pilgrimage Wisdom* (1931) 73 Ye fleshly parts be ng venomous humors a d apostumes. 1656 J Smith *Exact Physic* 363 A wound made by bullets is not venemous nor alwaies bruised 1702 Echard *Eccl Hist* I i 36 His Dis temper daily encreas'd, and himself labour'd under ver venomous Swellings in his Feet, accompany'd with intolerable Smells 1707 Watts *Hymns* II clui Poet Wks IV 348 Sin's venomous diseases (a wound) 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* VII ix 196 When the serpent is irritated to give a venomous wound

**C** Of a bite or sting

1589 *Cuⅈe Ivodtie Ball* (S T S) 81 Her ouerthrow The Serpent is but venemous sting 1633 Wason *Angler* 146 I the biting of a Pike is verie nous and hard to l e cured 1753 J Bartlet *Genal Farriery* 322 Of Venomous Bites from Vipers, Adders, &c. 1787 Bert *Encycl* I 218 Be careful how you take a pike out of the water, for his bite is venomous

**† C** Harmful or injurious *to* something *Obs*

1609 Skene *Cor* iv v 23 Thy teares are nither then a yonger mans, And venomous to thine eyes. 1691 T H[ale] *Acc New Invent* 17 A Cancarous and Corroding substance, and venomous to Iron.

**3** Of animals, *esp* snakes, or their parts Secreting venom; having the power or property of communicating venom by means of bites or stings, inflicting or capable of inflicting poisonous wounds in this way.

Formerly in general literary use now chiefly restricted to certain popular and technical uses.

*a* *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxi (*Eugenia*) 306 Na serpent has a hed sa fel sa venamuse, na sa cruel, as he hed of þe colubre is 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 55 Yuel doers, corrupte ayre wylde bestes and venemous wonep þerynne. *c* 1400 Maundev (1839) 199 Thanne have thei no drede of no Cocodrilles, ne of non other venymous Verm yn *c* 1450 Mirour *Saluacioun* (E E T S) 26 For summe off those ser pentys, the eyn so venymmus be I hat with her loke thei slen yche erthly creature. 1480 Caxton *Myrr* II xiv 97 Irland is a full venemous londe in which ne remayneth no venemous beeste. 1528 More *Dc gnat Nonsns* Wks 85/1 Lake as the venemous spider bringeth forth her cobweb 1596 Shakspe *Q* v iii 79 That beaste feeds, which Art so exceeding venemous and keene 1600 Shake *A Y L* iii 13 Aduersitie Which like the toad ougly and venemous Weares yet a precious Iewell in his head 1633 W Rameay *Astrol Restored* 229 Those places subject thereunto shall be afflicted with water, and venomous Creatures 1748 *Anson's Voy* III 314 We found scorpions, which we supposed were venomous 1791-3 in *Spirit Public Jrnls* (1799) I 225 To sleep in a dungeon with venemous reptiles

*b* *c* 1515 *Henryson's Orpheus & Eurydice* (Asloan MS) 105 As scho ran, all baſrul, in ane hus Scho trampit on a serpent venomous. 1595 *Lucrine* I i. 76 Triple Cerberus with his venomous throte. 1651 Wittie tr *Primrose's Pop Err* IV xxxvIII. 272 If popson or some venomous creature be inwre unto it, it sweats. 1671 Salmon *Syn Med.* III. xxii. 440 It cures the bitings of venomous beasts. 1713 Derham *Phys Theol* II vi. 98 Many of our European venomous animals carry their Cure in their own Bodies. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* VII ix 194 If it [sc the serpent] has the fang teeth, it is to be placed among the venomous class. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 180 Serpents are divided into venomous and non venomous; and the former are sub divided into such as are venomous with several maxillary teeth and those which are venomous with in sulated fangs. 1896 Mrs Braddon *Jr Haggard's Daw* III 23 The serpent had lifted his venomous crest from among the flowers. *c* 1880 *Cass Ils Nat Hist* IV 301 The poisonous snakes are divided into two groups—the Viperform Snakes and the Venomous Colubrines.

**b** *fig* chiefly with allusion to the Devil.

1340 *Ayenb* 171 þe venimouse eddre of helle. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 140 in *Macro Plays* 9 Yt hath dysseluyde mankynde from be bittur honde Of pe mortall enmye, pat venymouase serpente. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Hen IV* 25 The Karle of Northumberland ... bare still a venomous scorpion in his cankered heart. *Ibid, Hen VI* 169 That venomouse worme, that dreadfull dragon called diadain of superioritie *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 239 The Devill, that wicked and venumus serpent quho gois about to sie quhome he may catch

**4** *fig* Having the virulence of venom, rancorous, spiteful, malignant, virulent, embittered, envenomed

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* x 2 þai haf redy in baire hertis venymouse wordis and sharpe. *Ibid* xxviii 8 Paim þat puttis away venomous tongis. 1340 *Ayenb* 27 þe venimouse herte of be venimouse mensehe generallyche. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 5528 With tonge woundyng as venymous Thurgh venomous detraccioun *a* 1450 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 56 It is not good to take sodeyne acquentaunce that he hathe the herte of fure speche for eum tyme hee semeyneth to be goode and venom ous *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* li 196 The venomouse mylyce of the false traytoure Subyon 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 92 To speake venomously against the an nounted of god 1588 Shake *Lvtut Andron* v iii 73 The Venemous Mall c.le of my swelling heart 1648 Hexham II, *Venijnighheyt* venomousness, spitefullyy, or [with] a venomous envy *a* 1721 Prior *Session of Poets* 36 That with very much Wit he no anger expresst Nor sharpen d his Verse with a Venomous Jest 1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 623/2 One R L. sent me venemous Labels against the Great Man 1857 Palgrave *Hist Normandy & Eng* II 18 A venomous opposition was festering against him 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xii 153 The venomous satires would not have escaped misrepresentation from the envious tongues of Roman society 1885 *Manch Exam* 20 May 4/9 A venomous and scurrilous attack

**b** Of persons, their character, etc

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 299 Of this grett velany I salle be ven gede ones On sone venemis mene wyth valiant knyghtes! 1567 *Satir Poems Reform* xxxii 19 Quhy ar ye sa venemous of nature! 1579 Fenton *Calvin's Serm Ism* 901/2 What shall men say, when a mortall man dareth thus to become venemous against God? 1582 N Wooddes tr *Nicholay's Voy* in II 71 [Of these] christian children Mahometesd the ve nemous nature is so great mischieuous and pernitious 1607 Hieron *Wks* I 292 [Satan is] a venumous adversary to empoyson the soule 1643 Sir T Browne *Relig Med* II § 10 There are in the most depraved and venemous dispositions, certaine peeces that remaine un touch't 1882 J H Blunt *Ref Ch* Eng II 141 His most bitter enemy the venomous and ui scrupulous Foxe 1911 *Blackn Mag* Aug 221 The doctor seemed to me a venomous little creature.

**+ 5** Treated with venom or poison, envenomed, poisoned. *Obs*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2570 With the venymous swerde a vayne has he towchede *c* 1400 *Pilgr Soule* I i (1859) 1 Ihesus comme cruel dethe and smote me with his venymous darte *a* 1470 Harding *Chron* II cxxxix Kyng Rychard Was hurt right ther, with dartes venomous 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 109 I hese people also we bowes and venom ous arrowes 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 305 It is good against venimous shot of dartes and arrowes. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowes* Ded p ix How farre the venime thereof (for it is a venimous arrow) may infect, who knowes?

**6** Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, venom

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* viii clviii 3135 Pai thoucht to gere Him with sum venamus poisoun He drank wyte, 1604 Jas. I *Counterbl to Tobacco* (Arb) 109 Tobacco hath a certaine venemous faculte ioyned with the heate thereof 1650 Bulwer *Anthr-pomet* 159 There being a venemous quality in the paunt 1675 J Smith *Eng Improv Reviv* 30 It is in the Heart like Poison that hath nothing to allay its venemous Qualities, and so infects whatever it touches. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* VII ix 196 The glands that serve to fabricate this venomous fluid 1826 Miss Mitford *Village Ser* II (1863) 417 It has a fine venomous smell, and will certainly when stilled be good for something or other 1887 A M Brown *Anim Alkaloids* 2 Gaspard and Stick had detected a venomous principle in cadaverous extracts.

*fig* 1578 Perry in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III 363 The God of Truth defend you from the venomous Poyson of I sars 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* II 141 It is a traytour he stelle in, that he may saw his venumous poyson 1866 C J Vaughan *Plain Words* I 10 The per sonal sins of each one of us eating like a venomous poison into his soul

**7** *Comb* in *venomous hearted, looking* adjs.

1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I xv 256 Several innocent creatures might have been entangled in the ensnaring web of this venomous hearted spider 1899 in Bullen *Way Navy* 65 We sighted the enemy in the shape of one of those venomous-looking four funnelled destroyers.

**+ Venomous-head.** *Obs* —1 [f prec. + -head] Venomousness

14 *Langland's P Pl C.* xxi 161 Penne hit destroieþ The ferst veneinoste [*v r* venymous-heede] thorgh vertu of hymselue. [*Cf* Venomoustry.]

**Ve nomously,** *adv* [f Venomous *a* + -ly 2] In a venomous manner, with venom or virulence, fiercely, malignantly, virulently. Chiefly *fig*

*c* 1400 [see Venomlyadv.] *c* 1450 Metham *Wks* (E E T S)

47 The serpent namyd jaculus. Qwat that he vppon fallyth, so venymualy he doth yt smyght, That forth with yt deyth.
1592 Percivall, *Dict*., *Chinche*, a wormе that in hot countries lieth about beds, and biteth venomously. *Venar*
1608 Shaks. *Lear* IV iii 48 (Q.) I hese things sting his mind, So venomously that burning shame detaines him from Cordelia. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 50 He put his hand into the hole, and had it most venomously bitten by a poysonous serpent. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P* III 1172 In a praise of Foes in venomously Nice 1858 Farrar *Seekers* I. ii. (1875) 34 These facts are surely sufficient to refute those gross charges against the private character of Seneca, venomously retailed by a jealous Greekling 1880 Mrs. Forrester *Roy & W* III 134 'Oh, yes, he cried venomously, 'you took very innocent'. 1898 ] Arch *Story Life* xvi 388 The Union was venomously assailed by men who up till then had declared they were its best friends.

**Ve nomousness.** [f. as prec + -NESS ] The condition or quality of being venomous, † venomous matter

*c*1530 *Judic Urinet* II xiv 45 b, Through excesse and violence of hete and of venymusnes and malyce of the sekenesse 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps* lv 21 They wounded him with their privie venuemousnes. 1597 A M tr *Gulielmeau's Fr Chirurg* (1878) The paire is to be feared lest any venomousnes ascended thervnto. 1611 Cotgr., *Virulence*, poison, venomousnesse 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Venomousness*, poisonous Nature or Quality 1728 Chambers *Cycl*., *Viper*, The serpent we have, for exceeding Venomousness of its Bite 1775 in Ash; and in later Dicts.

**†Ve nomously.** *Obs*$^{-1}$ In 4 venymo(u)stе, venemonste [f. Venomous *a* + -ly Cf OF. *venemosté*, *venemeusetè*, etc ] Venomousness

1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xviii 156 For of alle venymes foulest is pe scorpioun May no medcyne helpe pe place here he stynygth, I-pi he be dede by pe yeel he desireyth, pe fyrst venymouste [*C text* venemoste, venymoste, etc ] borw venym of hym self

**Venomsome,** *a.* Now *rhet* Also 9 venom-. [f. Venom *sb* + -some ] Venomous, spiteful

1660 *Treasons*, etc *W Tilley* a Many hundreds such venomsome passages as these 1876 *Whitby Gloss* 209 *Venomsome*, spiteful 1895 J Payor *Renee* vii 71 Like a ravenous roaring lion or a venomsome asp-peril

**†Ve nomy,** *sb Obs*$^{-1}$ [f. Venom *sb* + -y ] Venomousness

1548 Cranmer *Catech* 88 Yе venomie of such persone, which secretly by suyetest wordes or other meanes causeth his neyghboure to be suspected

**Ve nomy,** *a rare* Also 5 venemi, -y. [f. Venom *sb* ] Venomous, spiteful, malignant

*c*1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 80 If pe vlcus be virulent, pat is to seie venemi [*v r* venemy] or ful of þat pe venym þat goth out be redisch or þelowisch 1504 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 74 Ruddy his eyes and plaguesull venomy 1 1849 Mangam *Parent* (1850) 304 Excuse the hint that persecutes him Ruddy his eyes and plaguesull venomy

**†Veno sal,** *a. Obs*$^{-1}$ [*L. venos us* see next ] Venose, venous

1621 Burton *Anat Mel* 1 ii 11 iv His office is to coole the Heart, by sending aire vnto it, by the Venosall Artery

**Venose** (vēnō·s), *a* [ad L. *venos us* (whence also It , Sp , Pg. *venoso*), f. *vena* Vein *sb* ] Venous, *spec* in *Bot* and *Ent*. (see quots )

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 321 The short vessels arterious and venose *Ibid*., By this branch of the artery it passeth to the spleen , by the venose branches in the trunk of the vas breve 1733 Chambers *Cycl Supp* s v *Leaf*, Venose Leaf, that on the surface of which there are a vast number of branched vessels, which frequently unite in an odd manner one with another 1760 Lee *Introd Bot* III v (1765) 184 *Venose* very when the Vessels are branched all over the Leaves, and their Anastomose[s] or Joinings are plain to the naked Eye 1846 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xliv, 292 *Veins*, painted with lines like branch like veins. 1868 *Ibid* (ed 9) xxxix 91 The arterial and venose currents [in insects]. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1208/2 Indirectly venose is when lateral veins are combined within the margin, and emit other little veins.

Hence **Veno sely** *adv*

1846 Dana *Zoopk* (1849) 371 The disks and ridges , venosely flexuate, or reticulate.

**Venosity** (vɛnɒ·sĭti). *Path* [ad mod L. *venositās* see Venose *a.* and ity ] The state of being venous, *spec* of the blood (see Venous *a* 2 b)

1825 Dunglison *Med Lex* (ed 12), *Venosity*, a condition in which, it has been supposed, the blood is moved slowly; is more venous ; and more venous blood itself in greater quantity 1874 Jones & Sieveking *Pathol Anat* 49 The venosity of the blood is marked 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 333 Abdominal venosity is a prominent feature of many chronic ailments.

**Venoso-reticulated,** *a Bot.* (See quot )

1802 R. Hall *Elem Bot* 194 *Venoso reticulated*, having the veins disposed so as to form a net work

**Venous** (vī·nəs), *a.* [ad L. *vēnōs-us* (cf. Venose *a.*), or f. L. *vena* + -ous ]

1 Filled with, full of, or having veins , veined ; veiny. *Venous leaf* (see quot. 1832)

1626 Bacon *Sylva* F 830 The Consistences of Bodies are very diuers; Dense, Rare; Venous, and Fibrous [etc ] 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed 3) II 250 [Root leaves] above somewhat glossy, with scattered hairs ; underneath venous and woolly 1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 88 If the veins diverge from the midrib towards the margin, ramifying as they proceed, such a leaf has been called a venous or reticulated leaf. 1839 Lyell *Princ Geol* III 373 If the more remote beds are not thus affected, they never could have existed, or would have been all granitic and venous gneiss.

**2.** *Anat.* and *Phys* Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, a blood-vein or veins; having the form or function of a vein

† *Venous artery* = *pulmy artery* Veiny *a.* 1. *Venous hum* (see quot 1881).

1681 in *Wilde's Rem Med Wks* Vocab 1694 W Wotton *Anc & Mod Learn.* (1697) p xxx, The subtil Blood is transfused out of the Arterious Vein into the Venous Artery 1798 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Circulation*, Both Venous Sinus s are fill'd, and grow turgid at the same time 1744 Armstrong *Art Preserv Health* (1770) 8 The drunken venous tubes, that spwn in countless pores o er all the pervous skin 1746 R. James *Monfet s Health Improv* 10 The Blood convey ed by the Arteries, is carried to corresponding venous Canals. 1858 *Penny Cycl* XII 85/2 A fluctuating murmur in the jugular vein, called 'venous pulse' 1876 Bristowe *Th & Pract Med* (1878) 562 The symptoms of venous inflammation 1876 F T Roberts *Handbk Med.* (ed 2) 433 Venous hum This is the only venous murmur likely to be met with 1891 F Taylor *Pract Med* (ed 9) 67 If the stethoscope be placed over the lower end of the jugular vein a continuous humming or rushing noise will be heard, which has been called the venous hum, or *bruit de diable*

b Of blood: Contained in the veins, characterized by a dusky or bluish red colour due to loss of oxygen (Opposed to *arterial* )

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Circulation*, The venous Blood continually moves out of the Sinus thro the right Auricle, and right Ventricle into the Pulmonary Artery 1793 T Beddoes *On Calculus* etc 225 This experiment proves that the deep colour of the venous blood is not owing to the combination of hydrogene air 1800 *Med Jrnl* VIII 501 In the arterial blood, the venous blood loses some combustible principles. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim Kingd.* 99 In all the Vertebrata, the blood which furnishes the liver with the materials of the bile is venous blood 1896 *Newton Dict Birds* 1009 The venous blood is collected, and conveyed to the right atrium of the heart by 3 great trunks

c. Consisting or composed of veins. *Venous system*, the aggregate of veins by which the blood is conveyed from the various parts of the body to the heart.

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV 81 In the Arachnida and Branchiopod Crustacea the living dorsal vessel is connected with an arterial and venous system, which receives, distributes, and returns the blood 1852 L. Hamilton *Floras Homer illustrata* 1 Berberis seems to act upon the venous system and mucous membranes. 1875 C G Blake *Zool* 1 The venous portal system is entirely formed of veins derived from the spleen and other viscera.

3 Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, venous-blood

1845 G E Day tr *Simon's Anim Chem* I 192 These experiments are sufficient to prove that the dark venous juice (*suc veneux*) does not differ from arterial acid or carbon 1846 Carpenter *Man Hyst* vi 324 After passing through these, it is transmitted to the general system ; and the returning blood, no longer completely venous, it is mingled with the blood which has been arterialized in the lungs.

4 *Comb.* in *venous-arterial* adj. In quot. *fig.*

1831 Carlyle *Sart Res.* III. vii, Venous arterial circulation of Letters

Hence **Ve nously** *adv* , **Venousness.**

1727 Bailey (vol II), *Venousness*, fulness of or having Veins. *Venously*, a Term us'd in Anatomy 1751/2 The membranes of the brain were venously congested

**†Venque,** *v Obs*$^{-1}$ [f OF *veng-*, stem of *venire* Vanquish v. Cf. Venqua v ] *trans* To vanquish, subdue

1400 *Destr Troy* 8418 xvi in *Yorks Arch. Jrnl* (1908) XX 48 Who þat his flesah venqueth most haue þe reys.

**Venqueresse** see Vainqueresse *Obs.*

**Venques,** -quis, etc , obs ff Vanquish *v.*

**Venson, Ven'son, Vensoun,** obs ff Venison

**Vent** (vent), *sb.*[1] Also 5 ventto, 5–6 vente

1 An opening or slit in a garment, = Fent *sb.* 1 , now *spec.* the slit in the back of a coat.

*c*1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* iv lviii (1869) 203 She hadde drawen out hire oon brest bi pe vente of hire cote 1459, 1464 [see Vamplet 2] 1483 *Cath Angelicum* 414 Ventto, dubletie ; the ventes lyned with sarcenette *c*1548 Hall *Chron*., *Hen VIII*, 207 b, Twoo gounes , the capes and ventes were of tynsins of whipped gold of damaske very riche 1587 Holinshed *Chron* (ed 2) III 820/1 The trappers of the coursers were mantell harnesse coulpened, and in euerie vent a long bell of fine gold in bullion 1848 Carr *Craven Gloss*., *Vent*, the opening of the breast of a shirt, or of the sleeve, etc. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* vii 53 Dark velvet embroidery around the vent and along the borders 1901 *Daily Chron* 4 Oct 3/4 The vent is necessary owing to the length of the coat.

**†2.** = Crenel 1 *Obs*

1409 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 443 Item ventes cresti vj foti et di , v *lbid* , Item pro xij pedibus de ventes pro embatylment, v$^{s}$ ij$^{d}$ 1532 in Bayley *Hist Tower* (1821) p xvii Also fynnyshed and made the vents of brycke on the Wharff ouer Tower 1576–8 Lambarde *Perambulation* (1596) 424 Kernellare signifieth that indented forme of the top of a Wall which hathe Vent, and Creast, commonly called Embatteling 1 Bereow *Jour's Inventorium* (1706) 843 The Scene presented it selfe in a square and flat vpright, like to the side of a Citie the top thereof, abouse the Vent, and Creat, adorn'd with houses, towres, and steeples.

**Vent** (vent), *sb* [2] [Partly a F. *vent* (= It., Pg. *vento*, Sp. *viento*) :—L. *vent-us* wind ; partly ad. F. *évent* (OF. *esvent*), vbl sb. from *éventer* Event *v.*]

I 1. The action of emitting or discharging; emission or discharge *of* something; utterance *of* words. *rare.*

1598 Dunbar *Twa Marist Wemen* 166, I sall the venome devoid with a vent large, And me assuage of the swalme, that suellit wes grit 1598 Shaks *Ven. & Ad* 234 Free vent of words love's fire doth assuage 1600 Daniel *Hist Eng* Wks. (Grosart) IV 95 By this immoderate vent, both of the Garrisons, and the ablest people of the Land hee disfurnish and left it in that impotencie

† b. *To make vent of*, to speak or talk of *Obs.*[−1]

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iii. 213 Thou didst make tollerable vent of thy trauell.

2 The action, usually on the part of something confined or pent up in a comparatively small space, of escaping, or passing out ; means, power, or opportunity to do this, issue, outlet Chiefly in phrases with verbs, as *to find, get, have, make, take, or want vent* (Cf senses 4 and 5 )

1558 Warde tr *Alexis' Secr* (1568) 12 b, Stop well the said vyolle, that nothing may take vent. 1594 Nashe *Unfort Trav* Wks (Grosart) V 121 Yе tail of the ailuer p pe stretcht itselfe into the mouth of a great paire of bellowes, where it was close soldered, and bidde shout with yron, that I could get litle or haue anie vent backe. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii *Fathers* 203 New Wine wanting vent, Blows up the Bung, or doth the vessell rent 1652 Benese *Perspective* 11 If by reason of the Suns ope ing the earth and making vent 1684 *Contempl. St Mem* II vi (1699) 156 That Fire of Sulphur, being pent up in without vent or respiration, shall find forth a pestilent scent 1703 *Art & Mystery of Vintners & Wine Coopers* 60 Heat them and put them into your Wines, so let it rest with Vent, and it will be purged 1800 *Med Jrnl* IV viii 563 They [waters] got vent chiefly in the night, when in an horizontal position 1860 Tyndall *Glac* 1 iii 24 The smoke found ample vent through the holes. 1892 *Engineering Mech* 1463/1 *Blow*, the forcing of displaced air through the molten metal from insufficient vent

*transf* 1798 Malthus *Popul* (1817) I 161 The enterprising spirit and overflowing numbers of the Scandinavian nations soon found vent by sea. 1854 J S C Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I xxxii 406 The inhabitants of Lombardy felt the foreign yoke only in its quickened circulation of wealth, the increased vent for industry

b The windage of a firearm or gun

1644–7 N Nye *Art of Gunnery* 46 Divide the Bore of the Piece into 1 twenty equal parts, and one of these parts is sufficient vent for any Piece ; the rest of the nineteen parts must be the height of the shot 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I, *Vent*, in Gunnery : the Difference between the Diameter of a Bullet, and the Diameter of the Bore of the Piece [Hence in Phillips (1706), etc.] 1798 Hutton *Course Math* (1807) II 323 The loss of the elastic fluid by the vent and windage of the gun.

3 *To give vent* (with *to* or indirect object) a. To afford or provide with an outlet or means of escape, to cause or allow to issue or flow out

After *F donner vent*, used in the same senses

1596 Platt *Jewell Ho* 68 Be carefull in the beginning to give some little vent to the hogshead while it worketh 1661 Hickeringill *Jamaica* 32 A milky liquor running out, so soon as you give it vent 1668 Charleton *Myst Ancients* (1675) 181 To cure Rheumh of its Fretting they seldom use any other art, but giving it vent, and covering the open Bung with a Tile or Slate 1708 Farquhar *Beaux Stratag* I, To give Vent to a Cask of Wine. 1795 *Farm Dict s.v. Turf* You must make a small Hole in the form of a Cross in the middle to give the Fire vent. 1830 Gilman *Contrib* I 318 The principal region in the old World, which, from time immemorial, has been agitated by earthquakes, and has given vent at certain points to subterranean fires 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 289 In order to give vent to the rising sap. 1873 [see *vent wire* in sense 17 a].

*transf* 1719 Boyer *Dict Royal* 1, *Inventer une Mine (la rendre inutile)*, to give vent to a Mine, to counter work or countermine it

b *fig* To give outlet, expression, or utterance (to an emotion, faculty, etc ), to relieve in this way

1605 Massinger *Parl Love* III ii, Had I not found out a friend to whom I might impart them [i. e. emotions], and so give them vent In their abundance they would force a passage 1677 Gilpin *Demonol* III xi 202 The vent which the afflicted parties give by their bemoaning of their Estate 1715 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Cabe) 507, I found he wanted to give Vent to his Mind 1781 *Johnson Lett* (1788) II 198, I have nobody whom I expect to share my uneasiness, I give it little vent 1843 Chalmers *Serm* I 493 Oh! how I rejoice when compassion may give full vent to an tender ness. 1852 Longf *Emperor's Bird's nest* III, Thus as to and fro they went, Giving their impatience vent. 1904 *Spectator* 20 Feb 285/2 The voices which gave vent to any great wave of feeling

c To utter, burst out with (an exclamation)

1870 J Bruce *Life of Gideon* xi 103 He gives vent to the exclamation 'Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel'

† 4. *To take vent*, in various fig. or transf senses. *Obs* a. Of news, etc.. To become known, to be divulged or let out

1611 Sir D Carleton in 1018 *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 540 Though all care hathe been taken to conceale yе matter secretly, yet hath it taken vente [etc ] 1668 D Smith in *Misc Cur* (1708) III. 57 This presently took vent, and the Turks thought that they had got a Man among them, that could Cure all Diseases Infallibly 1723 *Free St Russia* II. 223 If Affonasieff is no longer at Petersburg, this Affair cannot take vent; for besides us two and him, no body knows of it 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II iii 253 A conspiracy was formed against him But it took Vent; and he made cruel Examples of many of the Contrivers.

b Of coin To pass into circulation. *rare*—1

1641 *Sc Acts, Chas I* (1870) V 341/2 Concerneing the copper money alreddy coyned, how the same shall take vent and passe in payment in tyme comeng.

**c** Of a mine, or powder To explode imperfectly, to lose explosive power

1684 J Peter *Siege Vienna* 41 At which time they spring two Mines without any considerable Effect, one of them taking Vent 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard* I 97 Gun Powder, which being bad, or having taken Vent, cannot take Fire

5 *fig* a Means of outlet afforded to or obtained by a feeling, faculty, activity, etc , expression or utterance, or the relief afforded by these Now chiefly in the phr *to find vent (in* something)

1803 J Davies (Heref) *Microcosm* 1 Wks. (Grosart) I 76/2 Griefes doe breake the heart if vent they misse. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 295 The swelling Poison of the sev'ral Sects, Which, wanting vent, the Nations Health infects. 1794 A Clifton *Cr Chr Relig* Pref p xxvii Enthusiasm would spend itself by free vent and amicable collision 1803 *Edinb Rev* I 206 At his weddinge I found angry passions have for vent 1838 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid in Georgia* (1863) 13 A malevolent feeling which might find vent in some violent demonstration against the family 1880 W H Dixon *Royal Windsor* III xii 113 Passion found vent in words.

†**b.** *To get or have vent*, = sense 4 a *Obs*

1669 Davies & Dr. Newcastle *Sev M Mar-ballist* 11, This frightened him into a swoon, by how he cloak your disgrace lest it should have vent to his lady 1672 Marvell *Reh Transp* I 46 Should they unhappily get vent abroad, what scandal must it raise! 1725 Bradley *Dom Trans (1756)* II 103 But the thing had got some vent 1728 De Foe *Plague* 5 As it had gotten some Vent in the Discourse of the neighbourhood, the Secretaries of State had Knowledge of it.

**6.** With *a* An opportunity or occasion of escaping or issuing from a receptacle, a discharge or evacuation (Cf 12 )

1644 J Boyd *Card. Evon in Zion's Flowers* (1855) App 103/1 Which by some chink if I get not a vent, Blowes up the bung or doth the Hodg head rent 1672 R Wild *Poet Licent* 30 The other day into a place I went Where Mortals use to go, that want a vent 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I (1840) 190 I verily believe if it had not been sealed by a Vent given in that Manner to the Spirits, I should have dy'd 1725 N Robinson *Th Physick* 255 Whereupon the Fluids run to the Bowels for a Vent

*b fig* (Cf senses 3 and 5 ) Now chiefly *to find a vent*

(*a*) 1614 D Dyke *Myst Self Deceiving* (1630) 241 Trappes to gain a vent to corruption 1655 Vale *Vet Gentiles* I 1 ix 49 The Egyptians gave a great vent to Jewish Learning and Institutes. 1777 Pitt in Almon *Anecd* (1810) II xliv 329 I could not have slept without giving this vent to my eternal abhorrence of such preposterous and enormous principles

(*b*) 1697 Collier *Ess Mor Subj* II (1703) 63 Those who live within the communication of friendship have a vent for their misfortunes. 1814 Worsw *Excurs* IX 752 For, though in whispers speaking, the full heart Will find a vent 1838 Prescott *Ferd & Is* Introd (1846) I 60 In the tumultuous spirits of the aristocracy instead of finding a vent in these foreign expeditions, were turned within 1873 Black *Princess Thule* I xiii 146 His distress at his own rudeness now found an easy vent

**7** Something which serves as an outlet for an emotion, energy, etc

1667 Milton *P L* IX 374 With such Joy Surcharg'd, as had like grief bin dew'd in tears, Without the vent of words 1723 *Guardian* No 29 Laughter is a vent of any sudden joy 1828 Southey *Minor Poems* Poet Wks 1837 II 255 This love and the woe Which makes thy lip now quiver with distress, Are but a vent From the deep springs of female tenderness 1832 Lytton *Eugene A* I x, Words at best but a poor vent for a wounded and lonely heart 1883 *19th Cent* May 887 The French have to find and to use such vents for their energy in undeveloped and promising regions

**II. + 8** *Sc* A flaw in a mould. *Obs*[-1]

Fr *Avent* is used in similar senses

1548 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* VIII 129 At the quhilk melting because of ane vent in the cuppeling of the mulde wirht the tayll, the pece felyeit.

**9** + **a** An opening by which blood issues from the body. *Obs*

1598 Markham *Cr Forest* 7 b Emaistes is called of some stenich blood for that it hapneth his vent or course of flow ing. 1606 Shaks *Ant & Cl* v ii 353 Heere on her brest There is a vent of Blood, and something blowne.

**b** The anus, anal canal; excretory opening of (†persons or) animals, esp of certain non mammalians, as birds, fishes, and reptiles, † the vulva of a female animal.

1587 Fleming *Contn Holinshed* III 1270/2 For those that bled till they died complained so much with their sickenesse, that the blood issued out at their vents. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv* (1746) 241 As for their [i e crabs] manner of Preparation their Vents are first to be stopped with a Stick s end 1678 Hannah Woolley *Gentlew Compl* 132 Geese Boiled Fasten the neck and vent *Ibid* 146 Take a Pig and draw out his Entrails, Liver, and Lights, draw him very clean at vent 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 491 For when her pouting Vent declares her Pain, She [i e. a mare] tears the Harness and she rends the Rein 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng Housekpr* (1778) 21 Take a lobster, it it be alive stick a skewer in the vent of the tail 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) IV 347 Like birds, they (i e. moths) have but one common vent for the purposes of propagation, excrement, and urine. 1790 Bewick *Hist Quadrup* (1809) 488 As soon as the Otter has caught a fish, it devours a part, as far as the vent. 1833 Lardner *Hummums B* 111 The vent and under tail-coverts are dirty white. 1874 Carpenter *Ment Phys* I ii (1879) 68 If the vent of a Frog be irritated with a probe, the hind-legs will endeavour to push it away

**10.** An aperture or opening occurring or made in something and serving as an outlet for air, liquid, or other matter, a passage or hole by which matter is carried off or discharged from the interior of something; a vent-hole

1570 Levins *Manip* 66 A Vent, *meatus, porus* 1580 Harvey *Three Lett* Wks. (Grosart) I 44 The poores, and ventes and crannies of the Earth being so stopped 1608 B Jonson *Volpone* II iv, Now, he flings about his burning heat, As in a furnace some ambitious fire, Whose vent is stopt. 1648 Wilkins *Math Magick* II xii. 230 Others are of opinion that this may be effected in a hollow vessell exactly lined or stopped up in all the vents of it 1677 in *Misc Curiosa* (1708) III 249 They leave a small vent about two Inches from the bottom by which it empties it self into a little Pit

The vent being stopped, they fill the Cistern they have made with Water 1722-4 Pope *Rape Lock* iv 92 The sw lling hag he rent, And all the Furies issu d at the vent. 1728 E Smith *Compl Housew* (1750) 3 If the knife be greatly daubed has a rank smell, and a boogoo issue from the vent, it is tainted 1796 Morse *Amer Geogr* I 609 The Shenandoah having ranged along the foot of the mountain an hundred miles to seek a vent 1831 J Holland *Manuf Metal* II 165 It was generally thought sufficient for the purpose that the smoke should ascend the proper vent 1877 in J A Allen *Amer Bison* A[1]p 459 There are old spring vents that no longer give forth saline waters

†**c** *spec* An aperture or outlet by which volcanic matter or exhalations are emitted, the funnel or pipe of a volcano

1604 E G[rimstone] *D Acosta s Hist Indies* III xxiv 193 Although we finde vents of fire in other places, as mount Aetna and Vesuvius 1684 S Bowle *Mer Wonders* 29 Any subterraneal fire, that hath distant chimneys or vents. 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 242 A volcano or burning vent among the hills, had flamed out 1772 Mc *Cook & Tryon* (1790) IV 1210 Mount Aetna, which had opened by at least thirty different vents within the compass of half a mile 1830 Lyell *Princ Geol* I 235 These igne ous vents were sufficiently numerous 1865 J Phillips *Vesuv* iii 60 A new vent was formed below the lip of the old mountain 1882 Geikie *Text-bk Geol* 201 A 'solfa tara ,or volcano only possessing solfataric vents

**c** In various special uses (see quots )

1621 Cotgr., *Event*, the vent of a wine vessell 1730 Ba lev (ed ) *Vents* (in Archit ), Pipes of Lead or Potters Ware, made to carry off the Smoke from the Jambs of Chimney-House the other reaching to the Roof of it for the Conveyance of the fetid Air; also Apertures made in those Walls that support Terrasses to Gardens &c. and to give a Passage for the Waters. 1796 *Dict Arts & Sci* 11 *Foundery of Statues* The vents are passages at top to let the air freely out, whilst the metal runs 1829 E Moor *Suffolk Wds*, Vent, What the end of a cask is called 1874 in *Cassell's Techn Educ* IV 298/2 Knight *Dict Mech* 2703/1 *Vent*, the term employed to comprehend the chunnels and passages by which the air, or gases, escape from the mold.

**d.** *Sc* The flue or funnel of a chimney, a chimney

1796 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect* (Maitl Club) 247 Neither has a fire been kindled nor put in the place for the chimney, but in another part of the room, and have a communication with the vent 1798 in Gordon *Shaws s Hist Moray* (1882) I 322 Each vent springs lightly from the blue roof of the room in separate airy columns 1817 *Ann Register Chron* 43 A hole broke through into a neighbouring vent to carry off the smoke. 1824 J Aiton *Domest Econ* (1857) 77 Sometimes all the purposes of a stove have been served by having a flue introduced it to the kitchen vent 1885 Barrie *Window in Thrums* 11 Ye micht gang up to the attic, Leeby,an see the bed-room vent at the manse is gaen

**e** *Mining.* (See quot.)

1886 J Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 63 *Vent*, a return airway

**11** An opening, aperture, or hole, occas , one by which air, etc , enters or is admitted

1593 Shaks *Lucrece* 310 Through little vents and crannies of the place The wind wars with his torch to make him stay 1597 — *2 Hen IV* Induct 2 Open your ears; For which of you will stop The vent of Hearing, when loud Rumor speakes? 1659 Leak *Waterwks* 23 Pour Water into the Vessels by the hole or vent B 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 56 Th industrious Kind contrive To stop the Vents and Crannies of their Hive 1728 Pope *Dunc* II 80 A place there is Where, from Ambrosia Jove retires for ease There in his two great vents appear 1730 Bailey (6th), *Vents* (with Essayers, Glass makers, &c ) is a Term applied to the Covers of Wind Furnaces, by which the Air enters 1741 Compl Fam Piece III ii 3 Stopping the interior hope (at the shell) 1827 *Gentl Mag* XCVII ii. 69/2 One of the numerous cracks or fissures (locally called vents) that inter sect the strata at this place [near Maidstone]

†**b** A crack or inlet. *Obs*[-1]

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D Acosta s Hist Indies* III xi 155 Having discovered this vent [Sp *abra*], they found it ranne more and more into the land

**c** In opening or aperture in a building, etc., communicating with the outside air

1617 Morvson *Itin.* I 223 This Church is very darke, having no light but by one window or vent, made through the earth 1796 Morse *Amer Geogr* I 506 The streets are couered to saue them from the parching heats with open vents for light 1673 Worlidge *Syst Agric* (ed 2) 286 You may that North stop up your Bees close, so that you leave breathing vents. 1821 Scott *Kenilw* x, By some concealed vent the smithy communicated with the upper air

**d** The hole or channel in the breech of a cannon or firearm through which fire is communicated to the charge, the touch-hole, the adjustable part of a gun containing this, a vent-piece.

1667 Milton *P L* VI 583 For sudden all at once their Reeds Put forth, and to a narrow vent apply'd With mouist touch 1797 *Phil Trans* LXXXVII 238 The velocity of the bullet is considerably greater when the cannon is fired off with a vent tube, .than when the vent is filled with loose powder

1802 James *Milit Dict* s.v , The most common method is to place the vent about a quarter of an inch from the bottom of the chamber or bore. 1828 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 152 Spare vents should be sent to replace such as may be damaged. 1859 Wraxall in *R Howden* xxi 329 The pistols were handed to me; I called attention to the fact that the vents were clear 1875 Ville & Stevenson *Milit Dict.* s v., A vent is formed by drilling a channel, ¼ inch in diameter, through a copper bush *fig. 1*, There are two kinds of copper bushes used, viz. the through vent, and the cone vent

**e** *Mining* (See Vent-hole 1 b, quot. 1883 )

**12** *transf* Any outlet or place of issue, a passage, exit, or way out. Chiefly *fig*

In some contexts not clearly separable from sense 6

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II iii, Here is a vent to passe my sighes. 1699 Ford *Lover s Melancholy* v M ), My teares like ruffling winds lock't vp in Caues, Do hunt for a vent. 1840 Fuller *Roby & Prop' Jet* I x 25 Such widows grief is quickly emptyed, which streameth out at so large a vent 1721 Pope *Temple Fame* 481 When thus ripe lies are to perfection grown, Thro thousand vents, impatient, forth they flow 1794 Cowper *Needless Alarm* 86 Winds for ages pent In earth s dark womb have found at last a vent. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Behavior* Wks. (Bohn) II 389 There is some reason to believe that, when a man does not write his poetry it escapes by other vents through him 1868 Bain *Ment & Mor Sci* III ii § 3 339 There is at the outset a struggle, but the refusal of the muscular vent seems to be the extinction of the other effects.

**III. + 13** a The scent given off by a hunted animal, = Scent 2 a, 2. *Obs rare.*

1586 Turbervy *Venerie* 61 When the hounde doth streyne vpon good vent 1591 Harington *Orl Fur* xvii. xxiv He hunteth like a spaniell by the vent, His sent is such as none can hope to shun him 1719 Duncan *Virgil* (1853) 1 The Stag leaves a stronger wind, vent, or scent than the Hare

†**b** Perception by scent or smell *Obs*[-1]

1576 Turbervy. *Venerie* 73 These be olde hartes , whiche chaunge their lairs, as the wynd chaungeth, for more perfect vent what faulte may perhappes be in their feede

†**14.** A wind *Obs*[-1]

1580 Hudson *Du Bartas Judith* v (1613) 64 Let him that senses the time, With fault'ring finger search east-south vent

†**15** A hint or whisper *of* something *Obs.*[-1]

1613 in *Bucclench MSS* (Hist. MSS Comm) I 149 There is great reason you should recommend this cause to my secrecy for if there come forth but the least vent of it, I know *actum est de me*

**16** The action on the part of an otter of coming to the surface of the water in order to breathe, an instance or occasion of this

1653 Walton *Angler* xi 188 Otter, which you may now see above water at vent 1741 *Compl Fam Piece* II 3 306 Observe his Vents, that you may strike him with your Otter Spear 1856 Stonehenge *Rep Lond Exhib* 1851 (1857) 180 Unless the hunters are in sufficient numbers to watch the stream for miles, for his 'vent' he will probably never be seen again 1860 Fowler in *Whitehall Review* (1878) II 260 The vents grow more frequent, the music more deep, And scarce from the surface the otter can keep

**IV 17** *attrib* a In the sense ' used for, serving as, providing, or connected with a vent ', as *vent-pot, -shaft, -way* , in the names of things or devices, as *vent cock, -faucet, -pegg, -plug, -wire* (see quots.)

See also Vent-peg

1875 Knight *Dict Mech.*, **Vent-cock* a device for admitting air to a vessel from which liquid is to be drawn, or permit the escape of gas 1881 **Vent faucet*, in cooperage, an implement which may act as a vent hole borer or a faucet to draw a portion of liquor from the vessel. 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 431 This plan is greatly superior to the iron *vent* nail 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, **Vent pegs*, an ear piece, or an escape pipe for steam. 1798 J Rowlands *Fiew Death* (ed 2) 22 This pit is, with us, call'd the *vent* pit or the air shaft 1843 Tizard *Brewing* 451 The nature of the vent-peg is employed demands an adequate number of *vent* plugs. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech*, **Vent wire* (Founding) a long steel wire, used for getting vents through the sand moulds.

**b** In sense 11 d, as *vent aperture, -bit, -field, -piece, -plug, -server, tube, etc* (see quots.)

Also *vent-cover, -punch, stopper* (1875 in Knight)

1796 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1780) s v *Cannon*, The first reinforce therefore includes the whole of the cascabel, and first reinforce ring 1802 James *Milit Dict*, *Vent astragal*, that part of a gun or howitzer which determines the vent field 1846 *Dict Arts & Sci* 358 **Vent bit* a species of gimblet used for clearing the vent of a gun when choked 1769 *Vent field* (see *vent-astragal* above). 1802 James *Milit Dict* 358 *Vent metal* part of a gun or howitz between the breech mouldings and the astragal 1846 A Young *Naut Dict* 358 *Vent field*, a rectangular piece of the metal raised a little upon a gun; through it the vent is bored 1859 F A Griffiths *Artill Man* (1869) 205 **Vent Piece*, a plug of steel or wrought iron, containing the vent. 1802 *Mil. Reg.* No 56 *b* 1 on the breech loading polygrooved rifled gun on the Armstrong vent piece system. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.*, *Vent piece*, the block which closes the rear of the bore in a breech loader 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict* 358 **Vent plug*, a tight plug made of leather plaited rope yarn, or oakum, which one of the men thrusts into the vent of a gun. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk*, **Vent-plug*, a fid or stopple made of leather or oakum fitting in the vent of a piece to stop it against weather, etc. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit Dict* 191/1 **Vent-server* an article used for serving the vents of M L.R. guns, 64 prs. and upwards, in lieu of serving the vent with the thumb 1797 *Phil Trans* LXXXVII 238 The velocity of the bullet is considerably greater when the cannon is fired off with a **vent** tube

**c** In sense 9 b, as *vent-feather*, one of the feathers covering or surrounding a bird's vent.

1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool* II 572 The whiteness of the coverts of the tail and *vent-feathers*. 1799 *Encycl Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII 505/2 The Vent, or vent-feathers (*crissum*),

which lies between the thighe and the tail 1825 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen Zool* IX 1 98 Abdomen and vent feathers whitish. 1834 Mudie *Feathered Tribes* I 22 The vent feathers and under tail coverts, which cover the hinder part of the bird

**Vent,** *sb*[3] *Obs exc arch* Also 6–7 **vente** [In senses 1–3 a F *vente* (= Sp *venta*, Prov and Pg *venda*, It *vendita*) —pop L **ventita* sb, from I *vendatus*, pa pple of *vendĕre* to sell. Cf. Vend *sb* In sense 4 directly ad Sp *venta*

In senses 1 and 2 the word is very common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1750, freq with adjs denoting the readiness or profitableness of trade ]

1 The fact, on the part of commodities, of being disposed of by sale or of finding purchasers, freq in the phrases *to find* or *have* ( ) *vent*. a. With *a* (or *no*)

1545 Brinklow *Compl* iii (1874) 11 This being reformed, above all other acres shal bryng the cloth of England to a contynuall vent *a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Edw IV*, 230 b, The wolles at Caleis, because of the warre, could haue no vent, nor be vttred 1655 tr *Scott's Com Hist Francion* III 70 Divers Authors of this case have more ridiculously clad their names in a Roman disguise that their books might have a better vent 1714 *French Bk Rates* 249 The Merchandizes carried there from France is on Hand, and cannot find a Vent or Market. 1730 *Col Rec Pennsylv* III 391 Encouragement given to raise such Commodities that might have a more and ready vent in Britain 1788 Proc *Curritia Misc* 141 One often sees them ad vertised for sale, and, if bought at all, they find a vent, no doubt, at Wapping

b Without article.

1564 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec Norwich* (1910) II 339 The seyde clothes which nowe were owte of estimation and vente 1573-80 Tusser *Sel* (1878) 45 A mendle vent, where pease lack vent 1581 W Stafford *Exam Compl* iii (1876) 84 Whatsoeuer thing is reted vpon grasing, hath free vente both ouer thies side and also beyond the sea, to be sold at the highest penny 1617 Bacon in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 34 For the yearely makeinge of soe many tonnes of allome as can possibely receave vent either at home or abrode 1641 Hext *Plea* (Surtees) 21 Att those three fayres the most timely sorte of lambes have very goode vente 1694 J Locke in *Ld King Life* (1830) I 383 For our bookes are so ill printed, and that they have very little vent among foreigners. 1768 H Walpole *Lett* (1851) V 116 Like fish that could not find vent in London *a* 1797 — *Geo III* (1847) II 208 The original caricature, which had amazing vent, was of Newcastle and Fox

2 The fact, on the part of persons, of disposing of goods by sale, opportunity for selling, market or outlet for commodities.

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Hen VIII*, 174 We trust you will not longue vs to the thyng whiche wee cannot vtter, for in all places our vent is stopped and forbidden 1575 *Brieff Dire Vronb Kranbdach* (1846) 84 Saying that he wolde stoppe all mennes vents (as he termed it) and receipts 1600 Holland *Livy* 1002 To the end, that they might be served for a mart towne for vent, and a place of receit for all forreine merchandise *c* 1650 J Mum *England's Treas* (1664) 17 So far forth as the high price cause not a less vent in the quantity 1671 *Charente c Customs Tafletin* 69 As for the Trade and Traffick of those parts it is much the same, unless it be that the vent is better in some places than others 1709 in Hewins *Collect* (O H S) II 191 The Amsterdam publisher carries a considerable part of the impression into France, and hoping for a quick vent there 1760–72 tr *Yorick's Sent* (ed 3) II 398 The traders comingin their European goods to their correspondents in other parts for vent 1778 [W H Marshall] *Minutes Agric* 29 May 1776 What then, must be the fate of those who do not keep a minute account, neither of the yield nor of the vent?

b In phrases with verbs, as *to find* or *have vent* 1557-71 A Jenkinson *Voy* 4 *Iour* (Hakl Soc) I 216 We be vncertaine what vent or sale you shall finde in Persia. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 367 They vsed in old time to gather the incense but once a yere as hauing little vent and small profit therein and leese occasion to trauell for sales. 1674 Marvell *Reh Transp* II 54 Or by only naming it hoped to procure vent or better their livelyhood 1707 Mortimer *Husb* (1721) II 61 Such Ales as you design to sell your Wood for, which you must be regulated in by the vent you have

c Const *of*

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Edw IV*, 241 Thether was one of their common trafficques and ventes of all their Merchaun dice 1577 Holinshed *Chron* II 951/2 By this grant it was thought, yt the king might dispend a M<sup>li</sup> marker sterling a day, such vent of woolles had the English merchants 1600 Hakluyt *Voy* (1810) III 504 Where he had peaceable trafique, and made vent of the whole number of his Negros. 1650 Child *Disc Trade* (1698) 59 Much foreign trade will encrease the vent of our native manufactures, and much vent will make many workmen 1700 I an *Council of Trade* (1701) 141 This demand at home will in all probability make way for the exportation and foreign vent of at least so much more 1776 *Eng Gaz.* (ed 2) 2 v *Malton*, Malton was heretofore famous for its vent of corn fish, and country utensils. 1818 G Chalmers *Historical View* 46 The alien duties, which had always obstructed the vent of native manufactures

d. Const *for*

1583 Stubbes *Anat Abus* II (1882) 39 To filch and steale whatsoeuer they can lay their hands vpon, seing they may haue such good vent for the same 1591 Greene *Conny Catch.* II 3 Any Faire, Mart, or other place where any good vent for horses is 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Essex* I (1662) 318, I know not whether it be better to wish them good Wares to Vent, or good Vent for their Wares. 1689 *Apol Paul Walker's Acc* 23 The tenth being more than he hopes to have vent for in England 1727 Pope, etc *Art of Sinking* 71 I doubt not, but we shall procure a farther vent for our own product 1761 Hume *Hist Engl.* II xxvi 218 If husbandmen understand agriculture, and have a ready vent for their commodities 1788 Priestley *Lect Hist* v lviii 460 If they find a vent for these goods abroad, they will have wherewith to purchase the produce of other countries. 1828 Southey in *Q Rev* XXXVII 546 Yet, even then, more goods were produced than there was vent for 1868 E Edwards *Raleigh* I vi 97 The ordinary vent for timber of any sort, in Ireland, was very limited

†3 A place where goods are or may be sold, a market, mart. *Obs*[-1]

1580 R Hitchcock *Politic I hat* f 13, At Rone in Fraunce which is the chiefest vent, he solde our Englishe wares, as Welche and Manchester Cottons.

†4. [After Sp *venta*] An inn or tavern; a baiting or posting house *Obs* (Cf Venta)

1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron* 14 The seate of Victoriga was where now the ventes of Capanta being hauing places, stand 1618 Sheryton *Don Quix* I II. (1690) 10 He perceiued an Inne, neere vnto the high way forthwith as soone as he espied the Vent, he framed to himselfe that it was a Castle *a* 1625 Fletcher *Love's Pilgr* I 1 Our house Is but a *vent* of need that now and then Receives a Guest, between the greater Towns as they come late

†**Vent,** *sb* an variant spelling of Went *sb*

1513 Douglas *Æneid* III iv 40 Fro that place syne ontill ane vent we went, Vndir a hangand bewch, in a deme vent

†**Vent,** *v*[1] *Obs. rare* [f Vent *sb*[1]]

1 *trans.* To trim the openings or slits of (a gar ment) Cf Pent *v*

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 16 I onge gownes of Cankes for women of reb Sarcenet puffyd with whyte sarcenet & ventyd with the same 1606 in *Litmore Papers* Ser II (1887) I 121 Fustain to vent it [*sc* a gown] doune before

2 To crenellate (a wall).

1531 in Bailey *Hist Tower* (1821) p xi, The walls rounde about to be copyde, ventyde lowpyde, and crestyde. *Ibid*, The walls of the same not to be turret to be ventyde

†**Vent,** *v*[2] Also 7 **vente** [f Vent *sb*[2], or ad F *éventer* Kvrnt *v*[4] Cf also Avent *v* The senses of *éventer* and *venter* are barely represented here ]

1 *trans* †1 To provide (a liquor cask, etc) with a vent or outlet for gas or vapour *Obs*

1598 Florio *Worlde* (ed 2) *Spritolare, Sparch Dep P* xvii Cxxxvi 727 The strengthe of ferment must brekyth ful strong vesselles that it is put in but then be vented 1599 Levine *Manip Voc* To vent, *aérirre euacuare* 1680–9 Lemery *Mineralls* Wks (Account) II 57 The wine will sel being ful lets passe no wine though neuer so wel vented 1697 Waltington *Opt Glass* 45 The vessel beein[g] vented and loosly stopt the taste what liquor soueth from it 1703 *Art & Myst Vintners & Wine-Coopers* 11 They draw them forth for sale as fast as they can vent them

*fig* 1611 Shakes *Cymb* IV ii 307 Wks (Globe) 1 35 These Bussards think knowledge a burthen, tapping it before they haue half tunde it, venting it before they haue filled it.

b *fig* To relieve or unburden (one's heart or soul) in respect of feelings or emotions Also *refl*

*c* 1626 W Bosworth *Arcadius & Sophia* 1 843 With these, and such like words he vents his soul Of those Conjectures 1631 Jackson *Angel Apostasie* (1641) 55 The King having something vented himself with laughing, replied 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 22 P 2 Without any Purpose in her Talk, but to vent the Abundance of her Heart 1711 Steele in *Spectator* No 235 These Bussards think knowledge a burthen, tapping it before they haue half tunde it, venting it before they haue filled it.

b *fig* To relieve or unburden (one's heart or soul) in respect of feelings or emotions Also *refl*

*c* 1626 W Bosworth *Arcadius & Sophia* 1 843 With these, and such like words he vents his soul Of those Conjectures 1631 Jackson *Angel Apostasie* (1641) 55 The King having something vented himself with laughing, replied 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 22 P 2 Without any Purpose in her Talk, but to vent the Abundance of her Heart 1759 Watts *Let in Jay Wks* (1843) V 92, I vented my soul in a line to Mr Peronet

† 2. [f Vent *sb*[2]] To issue, eject, cast or pour out (liquid, smoke, etc), to carry off or away, to drain in this way Also with advs, as *away, down forth, out Obs*

Said usually of the containing thing, but sometimes of the force or means by which outlet is given Examples with advs are given under 3

(*a*) 1587 Holinshed *Chron* (ed 2) III 538 1 The infec tious smother of the vnwholesome vapor had beene readie to choke all the Citizens had not the wonderous loue of the princes there, the same the sooner beene vented away 1602 *and Pt Return for Parnass* IV iii 1888 I hose leaden spouts, That euer since *Iune* (for don't vent but what they do vent 1644 G Platter in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 198 The pits will vent away the superfluous water continually, and keep the seller dry 1665 Boyle *Occas Reflect* v Sect 19 They being vented forth, the heat would be extinguished

(*b*) 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Providence* xviii, Springs vent their excesses, and by evaporation store Ayre 1 19 They being vented forth, the heat would be extinguished

(*b*) 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Providence* xviii, Springs vent their excesses, and by evaporation store Bulkeley *Gospel Covt* 1 214 Be not like dry vessels that will vent nothing 1712 W Rogers *Voyage* (1718) 383 We found it [the leak] did not encrease more than one pump could vent 1733 Swinden *Enquiry* I 1 297 The copper funnels for venting the smoke from the kitchen fires.

*fig* 1622 Bacon *Hen VII*, 98 If there should bee any bad blood left in the kingdom, it would vent 1667 Waller *Wks* (ed 3) 1 *a* 1687 Sir J Beaumont *Bosworth* b 552 My Strength is spent And some perhaps of Villain Blood will vent My weary soul

†b. Of persons, animals, or their organs To cast out, expel, or discharge, esp. by natural evacuation, to evacuate (urine, etc) *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Pourfr Beasts* 249 With a medicine made of an Afrikan herb the sorrow should be procured one to make water, and to void a great stone which had not vented his urine in many daies 1611 Shakes *Cymb* I ii 5 Where eyes comes out, eyes comes in. There's none abroad so wholesome as that you vent. 1641 Milton *Reform* II Wks. 1851 III 70 The very maw of Hell ransack t, and made to give up her conceal d destruction, ere she could vent it in that horrible and damned blast 1656 J Smith *Pract Physick* 94 The Chylus cannot all be digested into water, and if it were changed, yet the Reins can vent it forth 1738 tr *Gnosse's Art Cookery* 74 Such as vent such pestiferous Blasts, ought to have their Wind stopt with a Halter 1846 J Baxter *Libr Pract Agric* (ed 4) II 99 Sheep that are infected with this disorder cannot vent the seed, the ova, from their liver, on the ground

*transf c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XIX 97 When Alcmena was to vent the force of Hercules.

*fig* 1608 T Morton *Preamb Encounter* 121 Whatsoeuer bitterneese the gall of this man could vent out

†c To shed (tears) Also with *out Obs rare*

1632 J Hayward tr. *Biondi's Iromena* 123 Having first suffered me to vent out my teares, for the disburdning of my heart (etc) 1706–72 H Brooke *Fool of Quad* (1809) III 16 He vented the tears of pleasure, love, and gratitude

3 a To give, heave, or utter (a groan, sigh, etc). Now *rare or poet*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* IV iv, I vent a heaving sigh 1615 J Adams *Heart Desert* 48 The poore confident plaintife goes home undone; his moanes, his groanes are vented vp to heaven 1718 Pope *Iliad* XV 123 Behold Ascalaphus! behold him die, But dare not murmur, dare not vent a sigh *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* xiv 47 Beneath her palm Idume vents her moan 1858 H Bushnell *Serm. New Life* 10 They even complain, venting heavy sighs 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl* 122 Not wise is he who vents an angry breath

†b *spec* To pour out (one's soul) in death. *Obs*

1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI 589 He sinks, And vents his soul, effused with gushing gore

4 *fig* To give vent to (an emotion, feeling, passion, etc), to give free course or expression to, to express, to make manifest or known

1596 Shakes *Tam Shr* II 119 Gremio is now no time to vent our love 1620 Massinger *Andronicus Lives* II iv, I must vent my griefes, or heart will burst 1641 Tatham *Distr State* II i, Did you ever Hear spleen better vented 1656 Hounds *Iliad* IV 174 Would Agamemnon thus would alwaues vent His Choler 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 74 Others, unable to contain themselves, vented their pain by incessant roarings 1788 Wesley *Wks* (1872) *Minor Writings* II v (1783) 349 I he resentment of Spain was farther vented in a manifesto 1820 Scott *Monast* xiv Martin suppressed not his indignation a moment after he could vent it with safety 1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* xxxii He vented the lightness of his spirit in smiles and sparkling looks 1873 Symonds *Ch Poets* v 139 Having vented in one piece I 1 large bodies, the Dorians felt no need of venting private feeling

*transf* a 1716 South *Serm* (1744) XI 222 Things contrary will vent their contrariety in mutual strife

b To let loose, pour out, wreak (one's anger, spleen, etc.) *on* or *upon* a person or thing (Cf 5 b)

1697 Dryden *Æneid* III 703 The Winds and Waves complain, And vent their malice upon the Cliffs 1710 *Tatler* No 260 P 3 That fatal distemper, which has always taken a particular pleasure in venting its spight upon the Nose 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Preface* 43 The Viceroy disappointed in this Scheme, vented all his rage upon Father James. 1750 — *Rambler* No 87 P 9 The unsuccessful vent their discontent upon those that excel them. 1816 T L. Peacock *Headlong Hall* xiii 180 Their spleen on the first idle coxcomb they can find 1878 Bosw Smith *Carthage* 55 The Carthaginians unable to vent their anger even on the lifeless corpses of the unfortunate Hamil car vented it on his innocent son

5 *fig* To give out or forth, publish or spread abroad, by or as by utterance, to give utterance or publicity to (a doctrine, opinion, etc), to utter (a word, expression, etc) †Also *const forth* or *great*

Very common from *c* 1600 to *c* 17501 now somewhat *rare* or *arch*

1600 *and Pt Return for Parnass* II vi 954 What lack faith I can not but vent vnto them a most vvyse vnwise 1633 Br Hall *Hard Texts, N T* 277 After that God had once vented and declared that his good purpose to mankind 1648 Gage *West Ind* 202 And they will be sure to vent out some non truth 1718 Steele *Spect* No 278 P 1 Learning by Heart Scraps of Greek, which the vents upon all Occasions 1764 H Walpole *Lett* (1857) III 279, I hate to send you every improbable tale that is vented 1817 Jas Mill *Brit India* II v iv 431 The Presidency vent the most latter complaints 1832 Arnold *Hist Rome* II (1865) I 107 The noisy declamations he vented about the imaginary dangers of his new Carthage 1871 Blackie *Lyrics of Morals* 1 28 He who in an impulse of fearless fervour vents a little too much truth [etc ].

b With *on* or *upon* (Cf 4 b)

1838 Ht Martineau *Hill & Valley* VI 85 Many a curse did the least wise vent upon the Corn Laws 1870 Rossetti *Gleam* (1879) V 65 The nameless author who has recently vented his chaff upon the public 1844 I vker *T Burke* v, The curses uttered on me by one whose ruin lay at my own father's door

†c To disclose, divulge, or let *out* (a secret, etc) *Obs*

1678 Markell *Growth Popery* Wks (Grosart) IV 276 Thus affair was carried on with a great deal of care and so great statesmen, that they might not by venting it unseasonably spoil [etc ] 1679 Everard *Fresh Plot* 7 When these matters were vented out of [= by] Sir Robert

6 *refl* Of a thing To discharge (itself), to find issue or exit.

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* IV v 81 Nilus venteth itself into the Mediterranean Sea with seven mouths 1665 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 180 That very year the earth swelled with such a tympany, that in venting it self all Larr was forced to quake. 1684 J Peter *Sic ge vienna* 45 It hapned that these wells left standing, the Mine venting it self upon the Edge of the Ditch 1726 *Ant Hist Ireland* 193 A lake called Loughchorb vents it self into the sea at Galway

b *esp* Of an emotion, faculty, quality, etc To find vent; to express or show (itself) *in* something

(*a*) 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* IV vii 238 It is to be feared that this sin finding its usuall way obstructed, will watch its own advantage, to vent itself by some other conveyances 1702 Rowe *Amb Step Moth* I 1. 375 The Malice of the Faction which I hate Would vent it self even on thy Innocence

1808 in *Anor & Jrobt Corr* I 456 The fears of men having been taught to vent themselves, if I may so speak, through the channel of sacrifice 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* III I 267 The coffee houses were the chief organs through which the public opinion of the metropolis vented itself 1862 Buckle *Civiliz* (1869) III IV 293 This ill feeling increased until, in 1580, it vented itself by the abolition of episcopacy

(*b*) *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III 468 Able and active bodies are not to vent themselves in such vain, though harmful, ostentation 1669 Clarke *Lett Gentlefolk* III I 8 Affections delight to vent themselves in Poesie 1763 J Brown *Poetry & Music* 109 When the first Fire of Enthusiasm had vented itself in the Rapture of Hymns and Odes 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxvii The decrepit brag whose wrath must vent itself in impotent curses *a* 1854 H Rand *Lect Instr Youth* xiii (1857) II 159 This cheerfulness has vented itself in his playful poetry

†7 *a.* To eject or expel (people) *out of* a country. *Obs.*—1

1609 in Gardiner *Hist Eng* I 438 [A wish that as many natives as possible might be] vented out of the kingdom

†b To rid (a kingdom) of people *Obs*—1

1613 Sir T Stafford in *Fumors Papers* Ser II (1837) I 199 It will be a good meanes to vent that Kingdome of a number of idle men that have nothing to doe

†c *fig.* To spend, get rid of (a fortune) *Obs*—1

1618 B Jonson *Al he as it is*, How doe they lue I by their wits, there, that haue vented three times your fortunes?

†8 *a.* To dispense, distribute *Obs*—1

1626 Chapman *Odyss* xvii 345 The Pallace royall he entered and his Trencher s fraight The Keruers paine him, of the flesh there vented.

†b To put (coins, etc.) in circulation or currency, to give in payment, to pay out *Obs*

1629 *Reg Privy Counc Scotl* Ser II III 20 That none of thame presoome to vent and putt amongs his Majesties subjects anie of the saidis false dollours 1655 in *Norc's Com Hist Transition* xii 31 Valerius having filled his Purse with pieces m re current than those which he ordinarily vented 1819 *J Ann. Jamaica* II 84 A Question put whether there be not some persons to vent such money here

†9 To explode or fire (a mine) *Obs. rare*

1687 J Richards *Sage Rules* 14 With directions that if the Miners should meet with the Turks Mine, to Vent it

10 To supply (a gun) with a vent or vent piece

1828 Spearman *Brit Gunner* (ed 2) 412 It was recommended that non-rifled guns should be vented only to their being issued *Ib* I, A gun of the same description vented with pure copper 1879 *Man Artill Instr* 201 The Scope is vented in the same manner as the 64 pr 58 cwt gun

11 *intr* To an exhalation, liquid, smoke, etc To find or make an outlet or way of escape from a confined space; to come, flow, pass, or pour *out* or *away* by a vent or opening Now *rare*

(*a*) 1549–2 Privy Council Edw VI (1556) 64 Corrupt exhalations, ventynge out of mens bodyes 1560 Whitehorne *Art. Souldiours* (1588) 45 It will bee surer to let nothing vent out but the glasse it selfe 1619 Day *Festetastix* 100 Thicy were full of new Wine and the new Wine venting out, the Tongues of all Nations were immediatly set a float 1704 *Dict Rust* (1706) s v *Blood Venom*, When the Blood and Water have vented away so much as they will do.

(*b*) 1604 T Wright *Passions* iv I 110 New wine by venting burieth the bottle 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri Faith* (1845) 69 Smoke vented the whole house when the chimney refuseth passage 1694 Congreve *Double Dealer* iv ii, A cold deadly dew already vents through all my pores 1888 J Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 69 *To Vent*, to have room to pass away

*fig.* 1615 Brathwait *Strappado's, etc.* (1878) 265 For loue enclos'd like raging streames of fire and water (though imprisoned, vents. *a* 1638 Naunton *Fragm Regal* (1641) 4 It staued off all Emulations (as to ease and vent in oblique sort sermone where there is one onely admitted into high administrations

†b To become known, be divulged *Obs*—1

1628 Bacon *Hen VII* (1876) 26 The evil presently communicated the matter with some of the nobles at the first secretly; but finding them of like affection to himself, he suffered it of purpose to vent and pass abroad

†12 Of a bottle, confined space, etc: To have or obtain an outlet by which the contained matter can escape Freq *fig* or in fig. context *Obs*

1599 *Broughton's Let* II, 9 Like an old bottle with new wine, vnlesse you should vent, you would burst 1614 J Cooke *Hursteid's Ewe* (1902) in Dodsley *O Pl* (1744) III 368 My heart is swol n so big, that it must vent, Or it will burst 1626 B Jonson *Staple of N* I ii (1905) 13 Quiet his mouth, that Quen will be venting else. 1655 *Jn holas Papers* (Camden) II 324 I cannot forbeare filling vpp my paper with it, for such as we are must vent or we burst

b *Sc.* To let out or discharge smoke, to carry off smoke (well or ill)

1736 Mas Calderwood in *Coltness Collect* (Maitl Club) 225 And neither great nor small [houses] will vent, which obliges them to use stoves nay, these stoves will not vent at the chimney, but are often let out at a hole in the outer wall *Ibid* 236 As you know we cannot have in my kitchin above two stoves, because they must vent up the chimney

1816 Scott *Antiq* xx, The Lord Keeper's Room does not vent well in a high wind 1825 Jamieson *Suppl* s v, That room vents very ill

*b U S* Of a brook To flow *into* a river

1784 J Belknap *Journ to Wh to Mts* (1876) 7 A large brook, which vents into Pine River

†13. *spec* (See quot) *Obs*—1

1721 Bailey, 10 *Vent*, (among Glass Plate Workers,) is to crack in Working

III †14 *intr* Of an animal To snuff up the air, esp in order to pick up the scent of some thing *Obs*

1538 Lyol *Nicte ter* to vent as the hound doth, whiche followeth the dere or hare, or other game 1552 Huloet s v Vent or snucke as a hound or spaniell doth, *nicto* 1599 Shirley *Sheph Cal* Feb 74 Sweet, howe long yonel Illaloeke beares So smarke so smoothe, his pricked eares! See howe he ventelh with the wind 1612 Drayton *Poly olb* xiv 20 At the full bay of cow Or at their curfe. d bull, when ver ting he doth low, He never seems to smile 1660 R Coke *Justice Vind* 9 It is observed of the Fox, that when-soever hunted to ground, he never comes out, but at the mouth of the Burrow he lies and vents a while

†b *transf* To search or seek *for Obs*—1

1574 Hyllowes *Guevara's Fam Ep* (1577) 344, I cannot denie, but that after the manner of a drunkarde, that venteth for the best wine so doe more eyes stare and wander to finde out a sme odie bepulture

†15 *trans* Of animals, hounds, etc To become aware of, to detect or perceive, by means of the sense of smell, = Scent *v* 1 *Obs*

1576 Turberville *Venerie* 55 If they chaunce once to vent the hunt sun in or his hounde, they will straight way dis lodge from thence *Ibid*, 187 He which maketh the hayne, ma t rube the soales of his shoes with Cowes dung, least the Foxe vent his footing 1611 *Noble Art Venerie* 96 My liege I went this morning on my quest, My hound did sticke, and seem'd to vent some Hare 1636 R Coke *Power Subj* I iii 9 The Fox, if he vents any thing which crosses fear, returns to ground again *Ibid*, So Deer do naturally desire to eat Apples but if appr aching they vent them it is a fear to them 1661 by man, that is to say 1735 Somervile *Chace* III 514 Then as o er the Turf he [a stag] steams, He vents the cooling Stream, and up the Breeze Urges the raging Waves of Violence

†b *transf* To discover or discern *Obs*—0

1611 Cotgr, *On flaire cela*, men begin to discouer it, vent it, find it out

16 *intr* To snuff or snuff at (something) *rare*

1634 Mannyger *Iwy Woman* iii *v Antonio (pours out tne wine)* She stirs and vents it Oh! how she h sids her nose up! 1880 Shorthouse *J Inglesant* I ii 43 The hounds came trailing and chanting along by the riverside, venting every tree root

17 *intr* Of an otter, or beaver To rise to the surface in order to breathe Also *transf* of a person (quot 1600).

1590 Gaule *Treat Hunting* D ij b, He [the otter] will vent so oft, and put vp ouer water At which time some must runne vp the water some downe to see where he vents 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* ix, As the beaver vents to take a breathe or escape and fled, From greedie waues with dewie beames vp flies So vented she 1647 Hexham *Vyt*, To Vent or take breath as an Otter 1733 *Phil Trans* XXXVIII 186 When she [a beaver] is under Water wh ch she would do for two or three Minutes and t hen come up to vent, sometimes raising her Nostrils only above Water 1735 Somervile *Chace* I 433 In the Pools Bubbles mark his [the otter's] slimy Way Quick fix the Nets and cut off his Retreat into the shelt ring Deeps Ah! there he vents! 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiii, I in of the otter hunting, where the animal is detected by the hounds fro n his being ne es stated to put his nose above the stream to vent or breathe 1856 Stonehenge *Brit Rur Sp* vi 82 The otter is obliged to come up and vent for want of air 1885 *Standard* 2 April 5/3 Their prey is rising to 'vent'

†b *trans* To cause or force (an otter) to come to the surface *Obs*—0

1688 Holme *Armoury* II 334/2 An Otter We watch, and Vent him when we disturb h m *a* 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew*, I ent the Otter, Dislode, him

†18 *trans.* To blow (a horn) *Obs* 1

1600 F Thynne *Animadv Speght's Ch* II, § 37 (1876) 44 I to vent the h orne shal have y^e a day wages

†19 To supply with fresh air, to ventilate *Obs*

1601 Holland *Pliny* I 440 That all the Apples be so couched that they touch not one another but haue spaces between to receiue equall aire for to be vented

†20 To list *up* so as to admit air *Obs*—1

1590 Spenser *F Q* III i 42 The I raue Mayd would not disdeigne Her fair vnrighteous wrong vp her vnbreeze, And so did let her goodly visage vp

**Vent,** *p* 3 Now *dial* Also 6 *Sc* went, 7 vente [? *p ventе* Vent *sb* 1]

1 *trans* To sell or vend (commodities or goods); to dispose of by sale

Very common from *c* 1600 to *c* 1670

1478–9 *Burgh Rec Edin* (1869) I 36 It is thocht expedient that all persons haif license and leif to cum to the towne with thair victuallis and the samyn to Mondaw, Wednisday, and Friday 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen VIII*, *c* 6 I ymes which be daille vented, uttered, and put to Sale within the Citie 1598 Barckley *Felic Britayne* 11 *Conues* 665 The In land Lands might truck and barter, And vent their Wares about to every Quarter 1605 B Jonson *Volpone* i, They are quack salters, Fellows, that liue by venting oyles, and drugs? 1661 in J Simon *Fits Irish Coins* (1749) 127 Several persons took a liberty to make a kind of brass or copper tokens, and vented them to the people for a penny each piece. 1672 Collins in Rugeley *Corr Sex Men* (1841) I 200 England doth not receive above twenty or thirty of any new mathematical book he brings over 1729 W Wood *Survey Trade* 227 While Spain remains an independant Nation, we may always hope to maintain our Trade to that Kingdom and vent our Manufactures in the Indies. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 153 Hemp and flax, which now people neglect to sow, because they have no way to vent or employ it. 1790 Sheares *Poems* 316 Ask ye then, How, and to whom your bills y e vent 1864 in O Donoghue *St Kughton* (Cornwall) *Gloss* 301

*transf* 1658 Gaule *Magastrom* xxvi, Hereupon the astrologers doe mart or vent the effects of the heavens and the stars.

†b With various advs, as *away, forth, off. Obs*

*c* 1550 *Disc Common Weal Eng* (1893) 62 As much as he should haue for the more woll vented ouer, so much should he haue for the lesse woll at a greater custome vented ouer.

1601 Carew *Cornwall* 3 The neare nesse helpeth them to vent forth and make return of those comodities, which their owne, or either of those countries doe afford *c* 1630 T Muir *England's Treas* 79 We trade to divers places where we vent off our native commodities 1631 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* III Your money and your bad commodities

†c To let *out* (land) *Obs*—1

1603 *G Owen Pembrokeshire* VII (1891) 63 Some land lordes founde it more comodiouse to keape it in their owne handes then to vente it out at xii^d an acre which is the vsuall rent thereof

†2. *intr* Of goods To have or find sale, to sell, go off (well or ill) *Obs*

1622 in M Sellers *Eastland Co* (Camden) Intred 58 Rather ouer cheap pennyworths must cause our said cloths to vent there, or else they will not vent at all 1628–9 Dicby *Voy Mediti* (Camden) 29 Other things that I had which would vent better in that place then in England 1670 J Smith *Eng Improvem Enlarg* 202 Cherries will vent at most Markets 1670 Narborough *Jrnl in Acc Sev Late Voy* I (1694) 110 Commodities would bear a much greater price than what I mention and there would vent greater quantities

‖ **Venta** (ve ntă) Also 7 vento. [Sp *venta* (= Pg *venda*) —L *vendita* see Vent *sb* 3] A Spanish hostelry or wayside inn.

1600 in Birch *Ct & Times Jas I* (1848) I 109 Our certain and hostelries without victuals or lodging 1618 R Cocks *Diary* (1883) II 89 As we returned, we went into a *venta* or tavarne 1662 J Davies *Mandelslo's Trav* 40 Those places are as the *Ventas* in Spain, and serve for Inns upon the High way 1775 Twiss *Trav Portug & Sp* 39 *note A venta* is a lone house, established by public authority for the convenience of travellers 1790 Jones & Jeno *Journ Spain* II 104 The waggoners and drovers being seated on the grass before the doors of a *venta* 1817 Kpatinge *Trav* I 69 A venta is seated at the foot of this road of ascent 1846 Thackeray *Cornhill to Cairo* Wks 1900 V 609 Through the flaring lattices of the Spanish ventas com s the clatter of castanets. 1850 W S Mayo *Man In Kedar's Tents* v, Beguiling the journey with cigarette and song, calling at every venta on the road

†**Ventage**. *Obs* In 6 -adge [? Vent *v* + -age.] The action of selling or vending, sale

1577 in 1028 *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 426 The great losse they sustayned in this ventadge by meanes of those with whom they have sente their goodes in Spayne

**Ventage** 2 (ve ntı dʒ) Also 7–9 **ventige** [f Vent *sb* + -age.]

1 One of the series of apertures or holes in the length of a wind instrument for controlling the notes, a finger hole

In a old use perh originally from Shakspere

1602 Marl Antonio III ii 372 (Q 1) Couering these ventages (*Ff* ventiges) with your fingers, & it will discourse most eloquent musique 1776 Burney *Hist Music* I 264 It was found practicable to produce the same variety of tones with a single pipe by means of ventage holes 1794 Burns *Let to C Thomson* 20 Now, The stock has six or seven ventiges on the upper side and one back ventige, like the common flute 1834 M Scott *Cruise Midshipm* An instrument made of some bright yellow hard wood, the ventiges [1848 ventages] inlaid with gold 1876 J Weiss *Wit, Hum & Shak* v 171 It is enough for him to know the fingerings of a recorder and invite Guildenstern to play upon it.

*transf* 1612 Webster *White Devil* II 199 He will shoot pills into a mans guts, shall make them have more ventages than a cornet or a lamprey

2 A comparatively small opening for the passage of air, etc, an air-hole or vent-hole

1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* II v I would have thier bodies Burnt in a coal pit with the venting stopp'd 1706 J Ivons *Alleria's Archit* II 119/2 In subterraneous Conduits you shou d open Ventiges like Wells I have seen such Ventiges in the Country of the Marsi

b = Vent *sb* – II d.

1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2703/1 The ventages of ordnance are bushed with copper

3 Means for the escape of air

1615 J Stephens *Satyr. Ess* (1857) 226 She rises with a purpose to be extreamely sober this begets silence, which gives her a repletion of aire without ventage, and that takes away her appetite

**Ventage,** obs. form of Vintage

**Ventail.** Now *Hist* Forms a 4–6 (9) **ventayle,** 5 -tayll(e, -tayl, 4–6 (9) **ventaile,** 5–6 -tale, 5 taill (9 -taille), 4, 9 **ventail** (5 *Sc.* wen.). *β* 5 **ventaille,** 5 6 -tail, 6 tal. [a OF. *ventaille, -taile, ventaile* (mod F *ventail* masc., = OProv. *ventalha*, It *ventaglia*, f *ventaglio*, air Hence also MHG. *vun , fintele, vntale* A purely English variant is Aventail

As the sense of 'breathing place' appears to be inapplicable to the earliest use of the word (see sense 1) in French and English, the name may originally have been given to the piece of armour from a real or fancied resemblance to some other article so designated Other senses of the OF word (and of the related *forme ventete, ventail*, and *ventail*) are fan, vane (of a windmill), sluice, shutter, leaf (of a fold ing door or picture). In OF romances the *ventaille* is frequ mentioned as covering the beart or breast of Chaucer *Clerk's Tale* 1148 ]

†1. A piece of armour protecting the neck, upon which the helmet fitted, a neck-piece *Obs.*

*a.* *a* 1330 *Roland & V* 863 His ventail he gan vn lace & smot of his heued in pe place. 13 *Guy Warw* (A.) 192 His helme was of so michel mist, Was neuer man ouer-comen in fist Pat hadde it on his ventaile. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc* 1722 He hitt hym evene one the nekk-bane, Thurgh ventaile and pe sane. *c* 1400 *Land Prey Bk* 14375 Her helmes were on her ventayles sperde. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv. 35 Helmes, hawbekes, & ventayles also, Alle to the Grownde he dyde hem go

*fl* a 1400 *Sqr. Iowe Degre* 222 Your basenette shall be burnyashed bryght, Your ventail shalbe well dyght, With starres of gold it shall be set

**2** The lower movable part of the front of a helmet, as distinct from the visor, latterly, the whole movable part including the visor.

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 7030 The duke with a dynt dent hym agayn, Pat the viser & the ventaile vodet hym fro. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth* xxxii, Then he anaylet vppe his vysorne fro his ventaile. *c* 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 869 He braidit vp his ventaill, That closit wes clene. *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* cxxiv 448 Vnder the ventayle of his helme the teryes of water fell downe fro his eyen. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III ii 24 Through whose bright ventayle His manly face lookt foorth. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* vi xxvi, Her ventail vp so hie, that he descrde Her goodly visage, and her beauties pride. 1802 James *Mslit Dict.*, *Ventail*, that part of a helmet which is made to lift up. 1805 Kingston James *Tasso* xx. xii, Thro' the barred ventayle his flushed features shone [1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* viii 127 This piece, called the *mezail*, or *mursail*, but more generally known in England as the *ventaile*, or visor, was pierced for both sight and breathing.] 1906 S Hearn *Effigies in Dorset* to Some times with a movable 'ventaille' or visor

†**b** One of the vents or air-holes of this *Obs.*—1

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x lx 516 The blood brast oute at the ventayls of his helme

†**3** Something acting as a sail or fan *Obs*

*a* 1540 Skelton *Col Clowte* 400 [The nuns] Must cast vp their blacke vayles, And set vp their fiake sayles, To catch wynde with their ventales.

†**Ventailet.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **ventaylett.** [Dim. of (or error for) prec.] = prec. 2

1480 *Paston Lett* I 489 Ye shall have ventaylletts for hussenetts

**Vental** (ventăl), *a rare.* [f. L *vent-us* Vent *sb.*4 + -al.] Of or pertaining to the wind

1887 *Field* 24 Nov (Cassell's), The strange, vental eccentricities that had been occurring on our coasts

**Ventana.** Also †**ventanna.** [Sp., f. I *vent-us* wind.] A window.

1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I iii, What after pyes d— Was far from the *Ventanna* where I sate. 1852 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxiv, Our host was still in my ventana. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* v ii 24 She could breathe her evening hymn from the ventana of Zoraya

**Vented** (vented), *ppl a* [f Vent *v.*4] †**a.** Exploded, blown up. *Obs.* **b.** Allowed to escape, discharged

1639 S Du Verger tr *Camus Idaire Iuvenis* 30 All the subtilties were as so many vented mines without any effect. 1911 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 504 The moral forces thus engaged by the death of David Livingstone are a singular instance of this vented energy

**Ventedust,** obs form of Ventiduct.

†**Ventel,** *v. Obs* — [ad. Of., *ventel-er* (mod F. *ventiler*), see Vanillate, v.] *inter* To set sail.

1400 *Morte Arth* 737 Quene alle was schyppede that schulde they schounte no lengere, Bot ventelde theme tyte, an hetyde tymes

**Venter** [ven ntər). Also 6 **ventre.** [a. AF *ventre*, *venter*, or L *ventes* (whence It., Pr., Prov., and Pg. *ventre*, Sp *ventre*), paunch womb, etc. In anatomical use the L. pl. *ventres* is often employed.]

**1** I. One or other of two or more wives who are (successively or otherwise) sources of offspring to the same person. Usually in phrases with *by* Orig (and in later use chiefly) *Law* (after AF. *per uns, per autre, venter*).

1544 tr *Littleton's Tenures* 2 b, Yf man haue issue vi somes by vi ventres. *Ibid* 157 b, Yf a tenaunt in tayle haue issue ii daughters by diuers ventres. 1628 Coke *On Litt* II § 7 If a man hath a sonne and a daughter by one venter, and a son by another venter. 1650 Weldon *Crt Jas. I*, 89 Mr George Villers a younger sonne by a second Venter. 1695 Sir I Reade (1697) 60 To his Sons by another Venter he gave Money portions. 1677 Sandford *Genealog. Hist. Kings Eng* 101 Sons of his said Father by the first Venter. 1756 Antipes *Garrison* 35 A child dying left Issue by two several Venters. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* iv xxiii, His sister by the father's side (for she was born of the former venter). 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed 2) VI 403 A having two sons, B and C, by several venters.

*fig* 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 3 Her Speech is a Kiss oth' second Venter. 1651 — *Iond a Lady* 24 The small Drink Country Squires of the next venter. 1687 J. Hall *Ans to Dissents* 47 The Author Writes himself a Church of England Man, but it must be by a Second Venter then: for he gives his Orthodox Mother most Bloody hard Words.

†**b.** Irregularly used of a woman's first or second marriage. *Obs*

1707 Curior *Double Gallant* iv, An unlick'd thing, she call'd Son—I suppose by her first Venter. 1765 Foote *Commissary* i (1782) 16 *Vers Law* Because she more children I have by the second venter, the greater [etc.].

**2** The womb as the source of one's birth or origin; hence *transf*, a mother in relation to her children **a.** In the phrase *of one (the same) venter.* (After AF *de mesme le venter*.) ? *Obs*

1530-2 North *Plutarch* (1656) 113 Mnesptolema was married unto her half brother Archeptolis, for they were not both of one venter. *a* 1641 Br Mountagu *Acts & Mon* (1642) 19 Of Isaac by Rebekah, twins were born. Of one venter, though not of one mande or disposition. 1655 Stanley *Hist Philos* I 47 He allowed brothers and sisters by the same father to marry, and prohibited only brothers and sisters of the same venter. 1886 F. M. Nicholls *Britton* II 319 The sister of the same venter as the purchaser shall be the nearest heir]

*fig* 1669 *Truth Triumphant* (title p.), That Quaking is the Off Spring of Popery, at the least, the Papist and Quaker are both of one Venter

**b** In phrases with *by* (passing into sense 1)

1591 Harington *Orl Fur* xxxi 1 I am your fathers sonne, not by one venter. 1621 G Sandys *Ovid's Met* xiii (1626) 258 Laertes was my sire By the venter I From Hermes spring. *c* 1650 Rishon *Surv Devon* § 266 (1810) 273 My Sister, by one Venter 1756 Nugent *Montesquieu's Spirit Laws* I v 63 It was not permitted to marry a sister by the same venter

†**b** *transf* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min.* 138 Those egges are most wholesome that are most temperate, they being like those ventures.

**3 a.** The womb *of* a woman *rare*

*a* 1656 Ussher *Ann* (1658) 342 Another son of Lysimachus, but by the Venter of Odrysias, another wife of his. 1769 tr *Voltaire's Ignorant Philos* 169 The brother Cordeliers averred that Mary had not sinned in her mother's venter

†**b** A single occasion of child-bearing. *Obs.*—1

1697 *Pens' Conf* vii 217 As to bring forth at one venter twins. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v. *Foster* is also used for the Children whereof a Woman is deliver'd at one pregnancy. *Ibid*, Thus, two Twins are said to be of the same Venter

**II. 4** In man, quadrupeds, etc. One of the three chief cavities containing viscera, consisting of the abdomen, thorax, and head Usu. in pl. or with qualifying term. ? *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* vii 1 (1631) 432 It is now time wee should ascend into the third venter, the seate and very shadowe of the Soule. 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min.* 299 The venters are the inferiour, or abdomen; the middle, or thorax; or the supreame, which is the head. 1681 Gibson *Anat of Humane Bodies* 1 The cavities of the abdomen or Belly, the Chest, and Head. 1720 *Phil Trans* XXXI 84 The liver, Spleen and other parts of the lower Venter 1758 J. Hill *Hist Anim* 43 Their [elephants'] have short necks (ed Kersey) *Venter*, one of the four Stomachs of Beasts that chew the Cud

*transf* Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* Isagoge b 8, Neere to the mouth is a venter, like the craw of birds

**b** *Anat* The abdomen, the belly

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Venter* the Belly or Paunch 1738 Chambers *Cycl* s v, Canals is said to have been three days in the whale's venter, or belly 1847-9 *Todd's Cyl Anat* IV i 369 The very structures which in the mammalian venter distribute nerve ganglia in the ventral ribs *Ibid* 654 The reptilian venter and loins 1859 in Maine *Expos Lex* s v

o Hint part in lower forms of animal life more or less corresponding in function or position to the belly of man or mammals (Sometimes distinguished from *abdomen* see quots)

*c* 1790 *Lmscl Lrst* (ed 3) VI 678/1 *Venter* the Belly, or the inferior part (of the insect). 1840 Brande *Dict Sci*, etc 1088 *Venter*, in entomology, signifies the lower part of the abdomen. 1848 *Proc Boston Nat Club* II 300 *Venter* of a paler tint than the back 1852 Dana *Crust* I 62 The manal [thoracic] sternum is the abdomen forward along its venter towards its head 1872 Coues *N Amer Birds* 27 Abdomen has been unnecessarily divided into *epigastrium*, or part of the stomach, and *venter*, or lower belly; but these terms are rarely used

**6** *Anat* †**a.** (See quot 1728) *Obs*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 739 [This muscle] was called Pyramidalis, and by both two Venters or Bellies. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Muscle*, The Venter or Belly is the body of the Muscle, being a thick, fleshy part, into which the Insected Arteries and Nerves *Ibid* s v, *Venter*, or Belly of a Muscle [etc.] [Hence in later Dicts.]

**b** The belly or hollowed surface of a bone.

1851 Ramsbotham *Obstetric Med & Surgery* 2 The chief muscles of expiration are those for the hip bone above and smooth, and is called the venter. *a* 1883 C H Hagar *Princ & Pract Med* (1886) I 83 A large fossy prominence projecting from both the clavicula and the sternum. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Subscapular muscle*, a muscle arising partly by muscular fibres from the venter of the scapula's

†**7.** *transf* The space included within the out line of Hebrew characters. *Obs.*—1

1771 Jackman *Hist Printing* 467 The Powers of the Hebrew Alphabet are distinguished by Points that letters have either in their venter, or over their body

**Venter** ? (ve ntəɹ) [f Vent *v.*2 + -er.]

**1.** One who utters or gives vent to a statement, doctrine, etc, esp of an erroneous, malicious, or objectionable nature

1621 G H *Anti-Coton* 76 This erroneous doctrine ought to be refuted, and the venters thereof punished. 1682 Hooker *Perdens Report Dove* Pref Ep 15 But what of Blasphemous stupendous; to pass by their Utterers, the villanous Venters? 1707 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) I. 318 A Venter of Lies and false Stories 1739 W Wilson *Def Ref Ch Scot* II 79 The Venters of the said Errors 1885 Beveridge *Culross & Tulliallan* I ix 243 Venters of strange tales are called to account and forced to do penance. 1908 Oman *Study Hist* 4 Some earlier venter of such harangues.

†**2** One who smells or scents out. *Obs.*—1

1621 Cotgr., *Flaireur*, a senter, smeller, venter

†**3** *Sc.* One who utters forbidden coin *Obs*—1

1689 *Rec Privy Council Scot.* ser iii III. 20 Panes upon persons venters, outputters, and homebringers of forbidden and discharged coyne

†**Venter,** *v. Obs* — [f. Vent *sb.*3 + -er.] One who sells or offers for sale, a vendor

1620 Shelton *Quix* (1746) III 188 Now let the Venter and the grand Sancho be Arbitrators and Price Setters between your Worship and me. The Venter and Sancho both agreed 1681 *Sc Act in Land Gra* No. 1649/1 Venters and Dispersers of forbidden Books.

**Ventor,** etc., obs. or dial var. Venture, etc

†**Ventor-point.** *Obs*—1 (Some game.)

1600 Rowlands *Lett Humours Blood* Sat iv D 8 b, At shoue groate, venter poynt, or crosse and pile

**Vent-giver.** [Vent *sb.*] = Venter 2 f

1618 Lotar, *Inventeur*, a venter, or vent giuer

**Vent-hole.** Also **venthole, vent hole.** [f Vent *sb.*4 + Hole *sb.*] **1.** A hole or opening for the admission or passage of air, light, etc.

1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* II (1586) 70 Afterward stop the vent holes that the Mole hath in euery place 1733 Tull *Horse Hoeing Husb* xiv 186 A large flasket drawn up the middle of each frick of saintfoin, to leave a Vent Hole there 1756-7 tr *Ayscough's Instr* (1760) III 110 Two large vent holes for light and air are made through the roof of this grotto 1763 Mills *Pract Husb* III 193 It was covered with good oak planks, leaving only some vent-hole, with trap doors, or covers, fitted very exactly to them. 1896 *Kane Acct Lept* II 113 Two huts and four families, but for these vent holes entirely buried in the snow

**2.** A hole or opening in a furnace, etc, for escape of smoke and gases or the admission of fresh air

1618 Sibertrant *Metallica* (1854) 118 The lower vent holes let out the smoak 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 101 You must make Vent holes through the stuff which covers 3 our heap to the very wood 1678 R. Russell tr *Gabor* II i iv vi 96 A furnace with large Ventholes gives both a clear and strong fire 1715 Desaguliers *Treat Impr* 16 The Passage X of the Bellows or Vent Hole. 1747 *Gentl Mag* 'Small flames so thin over the Vent Hole, as to press less than that which is coming from without 1802 M Hopkins *Harvan* 25 The suffocating gases which escaped from the red hot ventholes of these furnaces

**b** Any hole by which an enclosed space communicates with, or discharges into, the outside air

1750 Washington *Juliana* II vi, A bare and hollow rock, which would here and there admit the vent hole. 1802 *Phil Trans* XC 234 The cise was charged through its vent hole, and introduced into a twelve pounder carronade 1820 *Encycl Brit* Suppl II 748 1 Vent holes may be cut in convenient parts of the deck from whence the state of the corn may be known by the effluvia which ascend

**c** In fig. uses.

1711 I. Ward *Wkout Bait* II 1 4 The Ventholes of their Passion 1908 *Parish Councils* 22 The council serves as a vent hole for complaints and suspicions

**3** *Spec.* **a.** An air hole in a cask, a vent.

1669 Worlidge *Syst Agricc* 190 Turn it up into the Vessel to ferment, allowing but a small Vent hole lest the spirits waste 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 57 Have ready the Bung hole a little Vent hole, stopp'd with a peg. 1725 *Fam Dict* s v *Brewing*, Opening and stopping the Vent hole on every Change of Weather

*Comb.* 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2703 *Vent fancet*, an instrument which may act as a vent hole borer.

**b** (See quots.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl*, *Vent* or *Vent Hole* or *Spiracle*, think Aperture, left in the Tubes or Pipes of Fountains, to facilitate the the Wind's escape 1883 Gresley *Gl to Coal M.* 289 *Vent* or *Vent Hole*, a small passage made with a needle through the tamping, which is used for inflaming a quib to send the charge to fire its shot

**Ventiduct** (ve ntidukt) Also **ventedust** [f I *ventil-us*, *ventus* wind + *duct-us* a conducting.]

**1** A pipe or passage serving to bring cool or fresh air into an apartment or place, esp in Italy and other warm climates

1613 *Sandys Trav* 201 Cold winds such as by vents ducts from the vast caues whose Padus they let into their houses in their Summer. 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys-Mech* 373 I have been informed of divers Ventiducts (as they call them) by very knowing Travellers that have observ'd them. 1685 Cotton tr *Montaigne* III 320, I would fain know what pain it was to the Persians to make such ventiducts as Xenophon reports they did 1708 Plover *Cold Baths* 1 iv (1709) 108 They stop their Sweats, unseasonably by Cold Air, by Fanning, Ventiducts, or Cold Baths. 1715 Ivon *Vallisneri Archit* (1742) I 33 From these Caves arose extreme cold Winds through certain subterranean Vaults, tun ed Ventiducts and through all the Chambers these Wind Pipes, or Ventiducts, are discharged 1818 Southey in *Q Rev* XIX 18 (copying Evelyn *Acetaria* 11 20) His scheme of a Royal Garden comprehended precipices and ventiducts 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal* 106/1 Ventiduct, to bring in fresh air without dust or fog

*fig* 1652 Benlowes *Theoph* xii cxvii, Th herb [tc tobacco] that cramp and tooth ache drives away, whose pipe's both ventiduct and stove 1658 Cleveland *News from Newcastle* 12 What need we baths? What need we bower or grove? A Coal pit's both a Ventiduct and Stove.

**b** A conduit for the passage of wind, air, or steam.

1685 *Phil Trans* XV 992, I discover'd in several dry places of the ground threadwaves, many little Ventiducts passages, or clefts, where the Vapours result from 1728 Reynolds *New of Death* (1733) 23 This channel is called by the English miners the *drift* by Mr Boyle, the *ventiduct* 1843 in C Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 177 A ventiduct, made of plank, should extend from the centre

1601 R. JONSON *Poetaster* v iii 365 *Horn.* Barmy froth, puffy, inflate tumidous and ventositous are come vp *Tuc.* O, terrible windie words! *Ibid* 513

**Ventosity** (ventɒ·siti) *Obs* Forms 5 ventosytee, 6 -ytie, -yte, 4 6 -ite, 6 itee, -itye, 7 -itie, 6- ventposity. [a. OI (and F) *ventosité* (= It *ventosità*), Prov *ventositat*, Sp *idad*, Pg *-idade*), ad L *ventositas* windiness, flatulency, conceit, f *ventus, us* VENTOSE *a*]

1 *Path* The state of having the stomach or other part of the alimentary canal charged with wind, flatulency.

Freq from 1540 to 1600

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* v xxxvii (Bodl MS) Pat comeb of bikke humour s oper of grete ventosite *a* 1400 in *Rel Antiq* I 51 For wynd and ventosite that men calles *colica pasii* a 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 38 If he flowyng I e olde, Anathemusis is made for aboundance of blode or for ventosite descendyng doune *c* 1530 *Judic Urines* in MS If it sheweth but lyttell cruddyte and ventosyte of the humours 1582 HESTER *Secr Thorar* in lxv 89 It will defende hym from all interiour passions that are caused of ventositie 1614 WALKINGT. *Mach Man* Wks (1639) 197 The Collick This infirmitie is engendred of ventositie, or winde in the gut *C Jim* 1639 T DE GRAY *Compl Horseman* 125 Peccant humours being hinde ed by oppilations in the guts, through co iveness and ventosity. 1684 tr *Bonet's Merc Compit* I 31 The Gout arises fr m a flatulent Ventosity 1748 tr *Lemery's Universal Dispensatory* 75 The Disease which arises f om Ventosity or Constipation

b *pl* Gases generated in the stomach or bowels, attacks of flatulence

Common from *c* 1600 to *c* 1630

1598 YONGE tr *Nicholay's Nav* 241 Co ying afor metie dry ith away the ventosities 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Gow Ignorez* Wks (S E S) II 240 Quhe it [ze wine] is our sucie it engendris ventositeis. 1599 *Sandys' Ovid's Metam* x 38 A d therfor are caused many fu nosyties an I ventosities in the body 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynd* 77 The which do vsyrpuciehe and expelle vnthes mea and windines e 1602 DOLMAN *Latrs tisul f Ir Acal* (1618) 10 The d ieath aw y ventosities and fl umsheth first amongst all tnes 1668 VENNER *Baths of Bath* (1650) 155 It ke cold betwixt the bothigs induceth ventosities 1659 MACALLO *Can Physic* 172 Belching Ventosities, or Winds, are prog nostics that a fluxe is like to vomit

c The quality in things that produces flatulence

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med* (1829) I 171 Many of the vege table matters dis l roduced into the stomach p sess far more ventosity than a pies.

**2.** A blast or puff of wind, esp one coming from the stomach

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII Pr l 1 3 Quhus cryb bare pronostication Off wyndy l uits and ventositeis 1568 *Bk Culture* Bulk nere no mans face it is a stinking, ventosity 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX v 849 This commeth of a ventiosit e which it ondeth fr c steth out being in danger to be t aken 1725 *Pract Dist Teeth(ache* 2 Ventosity coming out of the mouth with a disagreeable noise

**3** The state of being windy windiness

*c* 1550 *Pride & Lowl* (1841) 32 His breeches great full of ve ntositie 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I (Arb) 35 Wee cal liefe Troians, with storms ventositye muuyled 1599 B JONSON *Ev Man out of Hum* III iv, I he ventosite of the Tropicks *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies Yorks* (1662) 313 The ventosity thereof [ac powder] causing the violent ex plosion of the bullet

**4** *fig* The state of being inflated or puffed up, pompous conceit, vanity, or bombast

*c* 1550 H Rhodes *bk Nurture* in *Babees Bk* (1868) 77 But turne fro n such boo sayon fr end, li ite such ventosyte 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprel* 24 Wks (GROSART) I 140 If y are so full of ventositie, that I ca not come at their matter for wind and words. 1605 BACON *Adv Learn* I iv 8 3 Some effe ts of that ventose h ipidi ty wonderful or swelling 1632 R H *Arraignm Whole Creature* iv 24 Vnmc ilory is windy and full of ventosity consisting of popular applause 1710 SHAFTESBURY *Charac* (1713) I 119 Apprehe sive of the Effects of this Frothi ness or Ventosity in Speech 1807 W IRVING *Salmag* (1811) 139 He is a man of superlative ventosity and pretension, able to puff, but a huge bladder of wind *Ibid* (1824) 304 His general, with all his outward v dour and ventosity

b An instance of this, an idle conceit

1605 BACON *Adv Learn* II 13 Many men do esteeme desire of n me and memory but as v e ntosi ties a d ventosit e 1657 G STARKEY *Helmont's Vind* 40 Whose rash ventosities and nery promises 1681 REASON tr *Pelican's Critick* 164 The Swelling Ventosities of Vanity

†**5** *Surg* = VENTOSING *Obs* 3 *Obs* 5 *a-e*–1

1485 tr *Ep Anastasius Lat Hist* 1 *Introd* 9 And if a swelling appere in the shulders leue it with ventosis

†**Ventoso.** *Obs*–1 [Cf Sp *ventosa* vent ur hole] (See quot)

1698 IRVING *A f India & P* 222 The Structures are all plain atop, only Ventos s or Funnels, for to let in the Air

†**Ventoso sonu,** *a. Obs rare* [ad L *ventosus* sec VENTOSE *a*.] Windy, flatulent

1639 T DE GRAY *Aspert Farrier* 86 Paines and gripings do proceed ofttimes from the working of the spleene which is most ventosous 1664 J DAVIES tr *Olearius's Voy Ambass* 320 Unless the ventorous humour of it (hemp) be also expulsive

**Ventour,** obs. Sc. variant of VENTURE *v*

**Ventousing,** var. VENTOSING *vbl sb Obs*

†**Ventosy.** *Obs rare* [? ad. obs I *ventosi* = *ventosi*] A fan

1602 MIDDLETON *Hurbl, Master Constable* II iv One of you pen the casements t other take i vent y s d gently cool my face 1616 in BULLOKAR *Eng Expos* 1632 DEKKER *Match Me* II, Lacke you no rich .. Venetian ventoses, Madam?

**Vent-peg.** [VENT *sb* 4] A small peg for inserting in the vent hole of a cask, a spile

1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 373 Leaving your Vent peg always open pails it [ac March beer] *Ibid* 374 If once you pull out the Vent peg to draw s Quantity at once 1747–96 MRS GLASSE *Cookery* xiii 349 Mind you have a vent peg at the top of the vessel 1830 M DONOVAN *Dom Econ* I 209 If on drawing out the vent peg of the cask the liquor spurts up with force. 1844 DICKENS *Chimes* iii, During that time the vent peg of the table beer 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2703/2 The vent peg (of the vent cock) consists of a tubular, threaded stem, which may be screwed into a cask

**Ventrad** (ve ntrăd), *adv Anat* and *Zool* [f I *ventr-*, stem of *venter* abdomen, + -AD] Toward the ventral surface of the body

1847–9 TODD & BOWM *Cycl Anat* IV i 639 There appears to be a small sinus in the sauria cervix that sets off caseous pouches marked *c, d.* 1881 WILDER & GAGE *Anat Techn* 44 C may be said to be either ventrad or laterad of B 1895 MIVART in *Proc Zool Soc* 396 The greater extensi n ventrad of the apex of the prosopium

**Ventral** (ve ntrăl), *a* and *sb* [a F *ventral* (Sp and Pg *ventral*, It *ventrale*), or ad L *ventral is*, f *venter* abdomen]

**A** *adj* **1** Occurring or taking place in the region of the abdomen, abdominal.

a *Path* Of ruptures

1739 *Phil Trans* XLI 644 In some ventral Ruptures (as they are called) this also may be necessary 1797 *Encycl* Brit (ed 3) XVIII 155/2 Ventral rupture is a protrusion of some of the bowels through the interstices of the al dom i al muscles. *Ibid* margin, Ventral hernia 1838 *Lancet* (*pt* XII 160/1 A bilicul and ve ntral hernior 1892 MUSGRAVE *Pract* 1147 *Ventral Hernia*, a hernia through the linea alba (except at the umbilicus) or some other part of the abdominal wall that is not usually weak

b Of laughter Abdominal, or in general use

1850 OLIVER *A Bdctn* His contin ual attempts to st fle luxuriously with a silent ventral laughter 1860 O W HOLMES *Elsie V* (1891) 65 A trained reciter who l e ventures with his ventral ha t ughs 1892 STEVENSON *Admiral* 177 His breathing seemed wholly ventral the last still, the belly moving strongly

2 *Anat* and *Zool* Of, pertaining to, situated in or on, the abdomen, abdominal

a In *ventral fin* (Cf B 1)

1752 J HILL *Hist Anim* 242 The ventral fins are con nected in a remarkable man er to gether 1769 PENNANT *Arct Zool* I 134 The ventral fins placed behind the pec toral fins as in the cl mu ow 1802 PALEY *Nat Theol* xii 88 The pectoral and m re particularly the ventral fins, serve to move and regulate the fish 1862 HUXLEY *Lect Working Men* 23 [In] the Codfish ) n have the hinder limbs restored in the shape of these ventral fins

b In general use

1817 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* xxii II 290 By the assistance of their mandibles and also of several dorsal and ventral tubercles 1828 SLARK *Elem Nat Hist* I 66 Mammae conical, four ventral 1832 DANA *Crust* I 26 What is the proper relation of the ventral pieces of the Carapace? 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol* I 6 Nearer the dorsal (or back) than the ventral (or front) aspect of the body

c *Ventral Line* (see quots)

1874 CARPENTER *Ment Physiology* I II 52 The longitu dinal ganglia and chain of Articulated animals is often dis tinguished as the ventral cord 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 91 If a doll be ventrally cut down the middle, so that only the ventral line appears (the upper surface whilst below there is an irregular stratum of ganglion cells

**B** *sb* Of or belonging to the anterior or lower surface

1832 LINDLEY *Introd Bot* 144 These edges often appear in the carpellum like two sutures of which that wh h corresponds to the ventral suture is named the *ventral* suture 1870 HOOKER *Stud Flora* 114 Fruit sessile styles ventral 1872 OLIVER *Elem Bot* I 11 10 89 The inner angle of each carpel answers to the line of union of its infolded edges. The line is called the ventral suture. 1875 DARWIN *Insect Fert* 328 The lower side where the foot stalk rises is nearly straight and I have called it the ventral surface

4 *Ventral segment*, in Acoustics (see quots)

1830 HERSCHEL in *Encyc Metrop* (1845) IV 782 Such sounds are called noises or modal sounds, the inter mediate portions [of sound] which lie between the tuned bodies or ventral segments 1873 W LEES *Acoustics* II 24 The direct and reflective pulses divide the string into a series of vibrating parts, called ventral segments

5 quasi *adv* = VENTRALLY *adv* 1

1839 HUXLEY *Syst Med* VI 807 Structures which re spe. inally lie ventral and lateral

**B.** *sb* **1** In general use, one of the fins corresponding to the hind legs of quadrupeds

1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 217 The anal seems to be continued forwards by the ventrals 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circle Org Nat* I 208 The ventrals are situated near the vent 1875 C C BLAKE *Zool* 202 The pectoral fins are distant from the head, and not produced to the throat

2 *Ent* One or other of the segments of the abdomen, esp in *Coleoptera* (1891 in *Cent Dict*)

**Ventrally** (ve ntrăli), *adv.* [f prec + -LY 2] **1.** In a ventral direction, on or toward the venter; with respect to the venter or abdomen

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 368 *Actinocarpus Damasonium* carpels delineating ventrally 1872 HUXLEY *Myology* Ventrally, it is attached to the margin of the lower jaw 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Verteb Dissect* 137 The inferior abdominal vein runs ventrally and forward

*Comb* 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim Life* 83 The various ventrally placed appendages of the articulate Neuropoda 1904 *Brit Med Jrnl* 17 Dec 1631 The ventrally bending limb having no mesoblastic somites dorsal to it.

**2.** In or from the venter or abdomen.

1889 H J BARKER *Orig Fing* I 15, I laughed myself (ventrally, of course,) when the youngsters so innocently committed themselves

**Ventralward(s,** *adv* [f VENTRAL *a.* + -WARD(S] To or towards the belly or ventral surface of the body

1883 SEDGWICK & HEAPE *Embryol* 165 This branch, starting from near the dorsal beginning of the fold, runs ventralwards and forwards 1893 LULLEY *Amphibians* 156 Here the mesoblast does not grow forward so far ventralwards.

**Ventre,** obs f. VENTER 1, VENTURE, VINTRI

**Ventri-** (ve ntri), comb form of L *ventr-*, *venter* VENTER 1, occurring in various terms, as **ventricoo rnua** *Anat*, the ventral extension of gray matter in the substance of the spinal cord; hence **ventricoornual** *a*, **ventricoombent** *a*, lying on the belly, prone, prostrate, **ve ntriduct** *v*, to bring to or turn towards the belly, + **ventrifluous** *a* [ad L *ventrifluus*], 'laxative, purging the belly' (1727 in BAILEY), **ventrime son** *Anat*, the medium line on the ventral surface of the body, hence *ventrimesal* adj (1891 in *Cent Dict*), **ventripe ta l** or **fa ller** (CENTRIFUGAL *a*], directed towards the belly or stomach, **ventripy ramid** *Anat*, = PYRAMID 2b 7 *a*.

1890 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* VIII 528 The "ventricornu (ventral or 'anterior' extension of the myelic canrea) *Ibid* The myelic cornua are stratly dorsal and ventral, permitting the adjective distinctions anterior and ventral 1881 WILDER & GAGE *Anat Technol* 36 The body is "ventricumbent so as to expose the dorsal aspect *Ibid* 537 I o pith [a frog] "ventriduct the head with the index and pass the tip of the right index [etc] *Ibid* 33 For convenience, the dorsal and ventral borders of this plane may be called the dossimum and the "ventrimesal respectively 1819 J. HUNT *Indicator* No 12 (1822) I 90 Every thought of mind and every feeling of his affection, tends to one point, with a "ventripetal force 1881 WILDER & GAGE *Anat Techn* 485 *"Ventripyramid

**Ventric** (ve ntrik), *a rare*–1 [f I *ventr*, stem of *venter* VENTER 1 + -IC] Connected with, pertaining to, the stomach

1869 M COLLINS in F Collins *Lett to Friendships* (1877) I 63 *Mag ister artis ventric*, ergo Peraus—the art of accurate time keeping, is ventric

**Ventrical,** prob a misspelling and misuse of VENTRICLE

1824 GALT *Aothelan* II iv 125 He reached a small postern entrance which many years after became celebrated as the ventrical into Moorfields

**Ventricle** (ve ntrik'l) *Anat* and *Zool* Also 6 **ventrikle, ventryole, 7 ventrickle.** [ad L *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS or I *ventricule* see VENTRICULE]

1. One or other of the two cavities in the heart by means of which the blood is circulated through the body, also the cavity of the heart in certain animals and molluscs which fulfils this function

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 162 Pe herte hab two ventrikls i two holowe placis wipinne, & pat oon ventricle astijb in pe ristside of pe herte, & pat oper in pe lifside 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf Beasts* 195 There is a double ventricle and bone in the heart of an Harte 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* Digress 347 The Blood that passes out of the right Ventricle of the Heart into the Lungs 1652 *Nat Cruelties* (ed 2) 13 An Artificiall and sudden Expansion of the Blood in Ventricles 1730 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig Philos* I vi § 2 The Heart has two Cavities or Ventricles, separated from each other by a thick fleshy Wall, a ventricle called the *Left* or *Great* 1846 (1856) IV 103 The great ventricle of the heart had burst 1888 STARK *Elem Anat Hist* I 365 The animals of this order [ac Astrachæ] have a heart with a single ventricle 1876 BRISTOW *Th & Pract Med* (1878) 173 In the ventricles of the heart fibrinous clots may be discovered

*Comb* 1851 B P WOOD *Midwifery* I 63 Branchiæ two, furnished with muscular ventricles

*attrib* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 789 Cases of right ventricle failure *Ibid* 792 The hypertrophy was probably due to left ventricle trouble

2 One or other of a series of cavities in the brain (normally numbering four in the adult human being) formed by enlargements of the neural canal *Lateral ventricle* see PINEAL *a* 2

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 113 Sinnuen seen þat per ben tuj ventricils of pe brayn; *Ibid*, þis ventricle is sett bitweene two addamentis of pe brayn 1548 VICARY *Anat* IV (1888) 31 From the foremost Ventricle of the brayne springeth seuen payre of sensatiue or feeling senewes 1594 J B *La Primaud Fr Acad* II 87 Rire, Heere may you see the seuerall ventricles or cels so many sundrie chambers for the intertainment of the animal spirits 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii 33 Beere that is too bitter causeth the head ach, by filling the ventricles of the braine with troublesome vapors 1656 BY H MORE *Apk Antid.* (1712) 206 Suppose Memory were thus seal d upon the Brain, and transmitted its Image through the Animal Spirits in the ventricles of the brain 1840 *Lancet* V 8 In the 2 The calamus scriptorius in the floor of the fourth ventricle 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol* VII 158 Cilia are found in the ventricles of the brain

3 The stomach in man or animals ? *Obs*

Freq in 17th cent use

1574 NEWTON *Health Mag* 9 It is good for the Ventricle or Stomacke also 1594 T B *La Primaud Fr Acad* II.

343 Wee will beginne at the ventricle, commonly called the stomacke 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii 182 That no part of the meat may sticke about the mouth of the stomacke, but may be carried into the ventricle, which is the bottome of the stomack 1676 HALE *Prim Orig Man* I II (1677) 59 Whether I will or will not, my Heart beats, my Ventricle digests what is in it 1720 T FULLER *Hum Extemp* 18 Purging Ale takes off the slipperiness of the Ventricle and Intestines. 1805 *Cary Dante, Inf* XXVIII 26 Dangling his entrails hung the midriff and wretched ventricle That turns the enghtned aliment to dross.

b. The digestive sac or organs in birds, fishes, insects, and certain reptiles

1575 TURBERV *Faulconrie* 249 I have thruste my fore finger into her gorge and by that meanes have caused her to fill in the ventricle sooner than otherwise she wouldel ve one 1607 TOPSELL. *Four f Beasts* 181 The powder of a Storks craw or Ventricle 1698 ROWLAND tr *Monfet's Theat Ins* 907 It may be termed the Chylus of the Bees having its perfection and consummation from their ventricles. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade m* xli 8 (1689) 307 His ventricle is large and capacious 1704 RAY *Creation* (ed 4) I 30 The Meat [is] transferr'd into the Gizzard where by the working of the Muscles compounding the sides of that Ventricle it is ground small 1813 KIRBY & Sp *Entomol* xlvm IV 404 That the Orthoptera have a ventricle or gizzard 1868 DUNCAN *Ins Worlds* Introd 10 Two kinds of appendages belong to the chylific ventricle 1877 HUXLEY *Anat Inv Anim* 412 That part of the alimentary canal which lies in front of the chylific ventricle [an cockroaches].

†c. The belly In pup of *Obs*

1588 SHAKS *L L L* IV II 70 Ideas, apprehensions, are begot in the ventricle of memorie, nourisht in the wombe of primater

d *attrib* in †*ventricle unguent*

1599 A M tr *Gabelhouer's Bk Physicke* 238/2 [A recipe for] An excellent Ventricle vnguente, which is verye commodious for the Chil lebedde Women

4 Any small hollow or cavity in an animal body, serving as a place of organic function, in later use, the recess or space between the true and false vocal cords on each side of the larynx, a laryngeal pouch or sac

1641 MILTON *Church Govt* II Wks 1851 III 44 All the faculties of the Soule are confin'd of old to their severall vessels, and ventricles 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect* 109 The various ducts and ventricles of the body. 1730 BAILEY (Jol.) *Lexicon*, any round Cavities in a Body 1808 HARRISON *Muscular Motions* 500 The lateral depre sio n tl it have been denominated the ventricles of the larynx or the ventricles of Morgagni 1874 M FOSTER *Physiol* III VII (1878) 532 The ve ntricles of Morgagni are apparently of use in giving the vocal cords sufficient room for their vibrations 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIII 737/1 The ventricles I o don't permit a free vibration of the true vocal cords

†5 In gen use A cavity or hollow *Obs rare*

1607 DONNE *Serm* IV 51 In what corner in what ventricle of the sea lies all the jelly of a body drowne I in the general flood? c1630 RISDON *Surv Devon* § 225 (1810) 237 The caverns and ventricles of the earth

**Ventricose** (ventrikō·s), *a* [ad mod L *ventricōsus*, f L *ventr-*, *venter* belly VENTER I sec -OSE]

1 Swelling out in the middle, or on one side, after the manner of an animal's belly, bellied, protuberant, strongly convex.

a *Bot* (esp of the corolla or calyx)

1756 J HILL *Hist Plants* 153 (Jod.), here is no pen carpium, but the calix becomes ventricose, and contains a single seed 1783 MARTYN *Lett Bot* XVI (1794) 179 In Comfrey and Cerinthe the corolla is ventricose 1811 W P C BARTON *Flora Ld Amer* I 13 Capsule ventricose, included in the ventricose calix 1841 *Florist's Prod* (1846) II 243 The flowers are white and ventricose 1872 OLIVER *Elem Bot* App 310 Outer Glumes [of wheat] nearly equal ventricose

b *Conch* (Usually of the body of the shell)

1770 PENNANT *Brit Zool* IV 123 *M[urex] carinatus* with five or six spires, the body ventricose 1818 STARK *Elem Nat Hist* II 29 Shell oblong, ventricose cylindrical

c. *Zool* of *Animal*

1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool* V II 394 Ventricose Sucker Oliv-aceous Sucker, with ventricose abdomen 1813 MONTAGU *Ornith Dict* Suppl s.v *Golden-eye* The ventricose part consists of the same cartilaginous rings as th rest of the windpipe. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 533 The ventricose and short bodied species of Cephalopoda. 1841 B. NEWMAN *Hist Insects* III 29 The gullet is ve ventricose or *ventricous* when it dilates into a large bag or crop before its union with the stomach

2. Of persons Big-bellied, having an unusually or abnormally large abdomen.

1843 F E PAGET *Warden Berkinghelt* 266 The Reverend Rory O Flanigan rose like the full moon when first she peeps from behind the hill, rubicund coppery ventricose. 1858 KANE *Arct Expl* II 248 Standing with the ventricose little Accommodah. 1876 W ROBERTS *Urin & Renal Dis* III VII (ed 3) 485 A little boy, who had been ventricose from birth.

Hence **Ventrico·seness, Ventrico·sity**

1837 TURTON *Land & Fresh W, Shells* 183 [The shell] varies greatly in size ventricoseness, and colour 1868 *Proc Zool. Soc.* May 374 [The greater ventricosity of form of *M[ela] georgiana* 1900 J. W. JENKINSON *Exper Embryol* 71 The 'ventricosity' (ratio of breadth to length) of the shell of the Periwinkle

**Ventrico·so-**, comb. form of prec., with the sense 'distended and —', as *ventricoso-globose*

1822 J PARKINSON *Outl Oryctol* 58 *Aleyonium putrid esum* —Ventricoso-globose somewhat pear shaped

**Ventricous**, *a rare*. [see -OUS] = VENTRICOSE *a*, in various senses.

1700 HAYNARD *Coll Baths* (1709) II 341 Such Children are usually ventricous and short so agil and nimble as other Children 1828-32 WEBSTER *Ventricous*, in botany, bellied: distended, swelling, out in the middle; as, a ventricous perianth 1850 OGILVIE *Ventricous*, in conology, applied to shells which are inflated, or which swell in the middle

**Ventricular** (ventri·kiŭlăr), *a* Chiefly *Anat.* and *Path* [f L *ventricul us* (see next) + -AR, or ad mod.L **ventricularis* So F *ventriculaire*]

1 Of or pertaining to the stomach, abdominal, gastral, ventral

1822 J GOOD *Study Med* (1829) I 29 It is also said that the common garden rue , when eaten to excess, is succeeded by the same sy mptoms of ventricular pains 1840 *New Monthly Mag* LIX 264 No one ever listens to ventricular admonitions but 'greatly daring dines 'on in defiance of dyspepsia. 1845 *Blackw Mag* LVII 610 Louis XIV actually did wear a buttoned below the ventricular curve.

b. Distended in the middle, ventriculous.

1850 in OGILVIE

2 a Affecting a ventricle or ventricles (of the heart, brain, etc)

1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 79 Its [the heart's] point strikes at each ventricular contraction or *systole*, as it is called against the wall of the chest 1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult* 205 The ventricular systole may also be accompanied by some modification of the ventricular part of the bl ui 1856 GOODEN *Man Dis Nerv Syst* II 298 I imited ventricular me ingitis occurs especially in young children

b Of or pertaining to, forming part of, a ventricle

1840 R WILSON *Anat s Vade M* (1849) 338 The Deep or Ventricular ve ins commence within the lateral ventricles by two vessels 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim Life* I trod p lw A complete separation of the ventricular part of the he ti 1876 two cavities 1878 PAYNE *Jones & Sieb Pathol Anat* IX 244 The surface either of the plexus or the ventricular v alls 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med.* I 109 So far as regards the heart and ventricular muscle

3 Of the nature of a ventricle

1842 T R JONES *Anim Kingd* XXIII 397 A single auricle that communicates with a strong, ventricular cavity *Ib* XXIX 606 The heart separated into two distinct sets of cavities each composed of an auricle and of a ir g ve tri cular chamber 1877 HUXLEY *Anat Inv Anim* III 115 In the simplest *Calcisponginæ*, the pores open directly into the ventri ular cavity

**Ventricule** (ve ntrikiul) *Anat* [a. OF *ventricule* (14th c, in Littré , = Sp and Pg *ventrículo*, It *ventricolo*), ad L *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS] = VENTRICLE in various senses.

a 1425 tr *Arl rnes s Trent Fistula*, etc 24 pe stomowe hape fetuynge with pe stomake and wip pe ventricules of pe brayne 1671 *Phil Coll Gentlex* IV 97 The Apostle addes 'Meats are for the belly , i e for the ventricle or stomach and intestines. 1742 *Phil Trans* XLII 225 In the Right Auricle and Ventricle of his Heart was found a large polypous subrubicund *Polypus* 1880 GUNTHER *Fishes* 152 The wills of the ventricule are robust

**Ventriculite** (ventri·kŭlait) [ad mod L *Ventriculites*, f L *ventriculus* ventricle + -ITE 2] A fossil sponge belonging to the genus *Ventriculites* or the family *Ventriculitidæ*

1822 MANTELL *Geol Sussex* 176 The difference in the form of this ventricul te 1885 J T TAYLOR *Brit Fossils* 24 In the white chalk of Sussex Ventriculites occur in great numbers

Hence **Ventriculi·tic** *a*, of or belonging to, containing, ventriculites (In recent Dicts)

**Ventriculo se**, *a rare*—0. [ad. L. *ventriculōsus* pertaining to the belly, f *ventriculus* VENTRICULUS] = Paunch bellied (1727 in BAILEY, vol II) b *Bot.* = next (1891 in *Cent Dict*)

**Ventri culous**, *a rare*—0. [Cf prec and ous] (See quots)

1802 R HALL *Elem Bot* 194 *Ventriculous* somewhat ventricose 1828-32 in WEBSTER, *Ventriculous* somewhat distended in the middle

‖ **Ventriculus** (ventri·kiŭlŭs) [L (in senses 1 and 2), dim of *venter* VENTER I]

1 *Anat* and *Zool* = VENTRICLE 3

1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2) I *ventriculus*, the Stomach 1710 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* II s v, The Stomach or *Ventriculus* is placed immediately under the Midriff 1727 *Encycl Brit* I 228/2 Ventri culus, or Stomach a great bag or reservoir, situated [etc] 1843 WILKINSON tr *Swedenborg's Animal Kingd* I iv 109 The stomach or ventriculus is a hollow membranous viscus 1894 *Athenæum* 21 April 514/3 The alimentary canal is more of the type of other Gasteropods than of the Uropodi a, the ventriculus being small and its cæca long

The gizzard in birds and insects.

1891 in *Cent Dict* 1896 NEWTON *Dict Birds* 916 [The] Stomach consists of an anterior portion the *Proventriculus* and a posterior, the *Ventriculus* or Gizzard, which is muscular

2 = VENTRICLE 4

1771 *Encycl Brit* I 278/2 The heart is hollow within and divided by a septum which runs between the edges into two cavities called *ventricuh*

3 The body-cavity of a sponge

1877 HUXLEY *Anat Inv Anim* III 115 In the simplest *Calcisponginæ* the wall of the ventriculus is thin *Ibid* VII, 409 The anterior end of the ventriculus.

† **Ventriloca·tion.** *Obs* = VENTRILOQUISM.

1846 in WORCESTER (citing C B Brown)

**Ventriloqual** (ventri lokwăl), *a rare* [Cf next and -AL] = VENTRILOQUIAL *a*

1864 *Lallie's Theatr Newspap* v 30 July 258 The phenomena on will be attributed to some kind of ventriloqual trick 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I 89 These Western men are distinguished by their harsh ventriloqual speech

Hence **Ventri loqually** *adv rare*—1.

1872 H TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II II 152 Proteus speaking ventriloqually, now near, now at a distance

**Ventriloque**, *sb* and *a rare* [Anglicized form of VENTRILOQUUS cf. F *ventriloque*] A *sb.* A ventriloquist b, *adj* Ventriloquial

1681 GLANVILL *Evil Witches London* II 63 This Pythoness being a Ventriloque, that is speaking as it were from the bottom of her Belly 1826 HOOD *Tragic Schoolm* III, And oft, in feel the inward of the gast, Most ventriloque, doth utter tender squeak 1834 MEDWIN *Brit Birds* (1842) I 374 The voice of the bi ti d is is also made up partly of echo notes in all cases where it is ventriloque, or varies in apparent place

**Ventriloqui**, pl of VENTRILOQUUS

**Ventriloquial** (ventrilo·kwiăl), *a* [f VENTRILOQUY + -IAL]

1. Of sounds Such as are produced by ventriloquism

1836-7 DICKENS *Sk Boz, Char* VIII The symphony was soon afterwards followed by a faint kind of ventriloquial chirping *a* 1845 HOOD *Jo Atcher* VIII I attent to hush all ventriloqual sarcasms 1879 *Temple Bar Mag* LVII 102 It was very delightful to hear one of them [our ng forth his rich and ventriloquial notes

2 Of or belonging to, consisting of, ventriloquism

1838 DICKENS *O Twist* xli, 'A bad one!' growled Mr Grimwig speaking by some ventriloquial power, without moving a muscle of his face. 1865 *Cornh Mag* VII 691 His ventriloquial entertainment is a clever piece of vocal imitat o 1875 F O MARRYAT *Open Sesame* I x 146 Expecting to receive another proof of her ventriloquial skill

Hence **Ventrilo quially** *adv*

1893 GANTHONY *Tract Ventriloquism* 27 Should Vent l lo ial practice make your throat ache do not use it ventriloquially for a time

**Ventriloquism** (ventri·lŏkwiz'm) [f. VENTRILOQUY + -ISM cf next]

1 The art or practice of speaking or producing sounds in such a manner that the voice appears to proceed from some person or object other than the speaker, and usually at some distance from him (The common use)

1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 639/2 It is with no great propriety that these art [is called] *ventriloquism* as either they appear more frequently to speak from the roof or distant corners of the ro m than from their own mouths or their own bellies 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 4 Jan Nothing is so fir ms my idea of ventriloquism (which is an absurd word), as being n rely the rt of im tating sounds at a greater or a less distance 1832 HERVEY *Nat Magic* viii 369 This uncertainty with respect to the direction of sound is the foundation of the art of ventriloquism 1856 KANE *Arct Expl* II xii 176 Their deceptions are simply vocal, a change of voice, and perhaps a limited profession of ventriloquism

*transf* 1819 COLERIDGE *Rem* (1836) II 275, I call it ve ntriloquism because Sejanus is a puppet, out of which the poet [Jo so ]n does his own voice appear to come 1874 *Dorin. Rev* Feb 244 We consider the poem ('Maud') about as striking an instance as could be named of what we call poetical ventriloquism.

b An instance of this, a ventriloqual sound

1839 T BEALE *Nat Hist Sperm Whale* 300 All our talent and ingenuity in these ventriloquial sons we have known 1878 *Hardy Ret Nats e v* vi 5 ft strange ventriloquisms came from holes in the ground, hollow stalks, and other crannies

2 The fact or practice of speaking or appearing to speak from the abdomen.

1818 in TOD & 1846 TRENCH *Mirac* v (1862) 156 *note*, The notion of a ventriloquism which has its seat in a spirit having his lodg i g in the body of a man 1850 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St Paul* II IX (1862) 276 It was usual for the prophetic spirit to make itself known by an internal muttering or ventriloquism

**Ventriloquist** (ventri·lŏkwist). [f VENTRILOQUY + -IST]

One who practices, or is expert in, ventriloquy or ventriloquism, *spec*, in modern use, one who gives public exhibitions of his skill in this art

With early quots. of prec 2 The modern application (for respondi g to VENTRILOQUISM 1) appears just before 1800.

1696 BI OUNT *Glossogr* *Ventriloquist*, one that hath an evil spirit speaking in his belly or one that by use and practise can speak as it were out of his belly not moving his lips 1681 H MORE in *Glanvill's Saddusismus* I. PONCET (1706) 29 Who knows but some of his counterfeit Ventriloquists may prove true ones 1718 Dr HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* 21 There are also many that can form Words and Voices in their Stomach, which shall seem to come from others rather than the Person that speaks them. Such people are call d Engastriloques, or Ventriloquists 1749 WESLEY *Wks* (1872) IX 7 There was a compact be tween the ventriloquist and the conjurer 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 639/2 As the ancient ventriloquists, when exercising their art, seemed generally to speak from their own bellies, the name was abundantly significant 1815 *Stage* I 176 A ventri il qu ist at Paris has attracted the attention of the whole metropolis. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XII, And pale slender women with consumptive faces lingered upon the footsteps of ve ntriquists and conjurors 1893 GANTHONY *Pract Ventriloquism* 147 It is curious that Ventriloquists are nearly all English

*fig* c1819 COLERIDGE *Rem* (1836) II 317 The scenes

are mock dialogues in which the poet solus plays the ventriloquist 1885 *Pall Mall G* 10 Jan 1/1 The 'Ventriloquist of Varsin' who can pull the strings of three Imperial Chancelleries.

*attrib* 1890 *N & Q* Ser 7 II 101 It can hardly be doubted that the Archbishop's miracle was a ventriloquist hoax

**b** Applied to birds or animals Also *attrib*

1800 Pulteney *Hist Theol* x 65 A tuneful bird is a ventriloquist The seat of the song is in the breast 1870 Jefferies *Wild Life* 218 The belief that the [corn]crake is a ventriloquist 1895 *Funk's Stand Dict Omaha* (Brasil)), a reddish gray nycticebine monkey or teteo (*Callithrix lycoleo*). Called also *ventrilog usi monkey*

**Ventriloquistic** (ventrilǒkwi stik), *a* [f prec. + -ic]

1 Using or practising ventriloquism

In first quot used to translate Gr ἐγγαστρογλωσσία, which has also been rendered by 'ventriloquist.'

1830 tr *Aristophanes' Birds* 1665 At I hanse live a vol lanous ventriloquistic race and from the same ventriloquistic Philippi in Attica the tongue is severed in twain 1851 G S Faber *Many Mansions* 79 Hence the 'seventy scruple not to express their sense of the Hebrew Baalvth Ob, by rendering it a Ventriloquistic Woman.

2 Of or pertaining to ventriloquism or ventrilo quists, ventriloquial

1823 F O Morris *Bird Birds* III 182 This ventriloquistic power is certainly very remarkable 1873 B Harte *Fid lic ton* 32 He even uttered a short ventriloquistic laugh with out moving his mouth 1885 F O Forbes *Nat Wand Arch* 72 Its deep and ventriloquistic voice

**Ventriloquize** (ventri lǒkwoiz), *v* [f as prec + -ize]

1 *intr* To use or practise ventriloquism, to speak or produce sounds in the manner of a ventri loquist, to cast the voice

1844 H. Stephens *Pub Econ* I 297 When the corn crake ventriloquizes in the corn or grass. 1846 Landor *Imag Conv* Wks I 148/2 The horses capered and neighed and ventriloquized right and left 1855 Kingsley *Heroes Hist* II, Leave thy cover and grumblings, and discourse eloquence from thy central omphalos like Ino ventriloquizing Bellona 1879 Jefferies *Field & Hedge* 219 Some say in like manner that the starling ventriloquizes

*fig* 1832 Coleridge *Table t* 81 July, I have no admiration for the practice of ventriloquizing through another man's mouth 1850 Yeowell, I, looks as if all the new Radicalism had entered into his soul and were ventriloquizing through his organisation

2 *trans* To utter as ventriloquist

1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan 45 It is a falsehood ventriloquizing truth 1871 Farrar *Witn Hist* iv 211 The little Temple up which the priests crept to ventriloquize behind the deceptive statue their lying oracles 1900 *Daily News* 18 July 2/5 He not only mimics but ventriloquizes his imitations

Hence **Ventri·loquising** *vbl sb* Also *attrib* 1805 Fughmia de Acton *Nuns of Desert* II 52 Mrs Mervin a ventriloquising powers exhibited in the church

**Ventriloquous** (ventri lǒkwəs), *a* [f L *ventrilogu us* (see next) + -ous]

1 Of persons = Ventriloquistic *a* 1

1793 Dibdin *Pitt Theat* VII (1797) 149 *note* In the same Tract Chap. 6 is this Observation of Ventriloquous Persons 1737 Byrom *Jrn* (1857) 216 There came the ventriloquous fellow, who imitated a hound a voice out of his mouth 1775 in Ash, and in later Dicts.

2 Produced by or as by ventriloquy, ventrilo quial

1708 G White *Selborne* xvi In breeding time, snipes play over the moors, piping and humming Is not their hum ventriloquous, like that of the turkey? 1844 H Stephens *Bk Farm* III 738 The harsh ventriloquous cry of the corn crake amongst the grass 1880 Carle *Grandissimes* (1898) 200 The dismal ventriloquous note of the rain crow

**‖ Ventriloquus.** *Obs* Usu in pl **ventrilo qui.** [L., *ventri-*, *venter* belly + *loqui* to speak, after Gr ἐγγαστρίμυθος or ἔνδοθεν (ventriloque)] A ventriloquist (esp. in the original sense)

The fem *ventrilogua* (pl *-loquæ*) is employed by R Scot *Discov Witcher* (1584) VII 1 126 and xiii 150

1644 Digby *Nat Bodies* xxvii. § 2 251 I they that are called ventriloqui, do persuade ignorant people that the Diuell speaketh from within them deepe in their belly 1667 *Phil Trans* 11 603 How by a peculiar use of the Epiglottis, one may come to speak unwardly, as do the Ventriloqui. 1706 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) I 306 Two or three pretty stories of *Ventriloqui*, or those that speak in their bellies 1748 Hartley *Observ Man* I 111 Of the ventriloqui, see how *Ventriloqui*, or Persons that speak in their Throats without moving their Lips, impose upon the Audience. 1762 *Ann Reg* I 243/2 The knowledge of many people called *Ventriloqui* have had of imitating strange noises [etc.]

**Ventriloquy** (ventri lǒkwi) [ad med or early mod L. *ventriloqui-um* (It *ventriloquio*, Sp, Pg *ventriloquia*, F *ventriloquie*), f L. *ventriloquus* : see prec ]

1. = Ventriloquism (in both senses)

1584 R Scot *Discov Witcher* VII 1 (1886) 101 A wench, practising hir diabolicall witchcraft and ventriloquie An 1574. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof St* II IX 83 Some have questioned ventriloquie, when men strangely speak out of their bellies, whether it can be done lawfully or no *a* 1680 Gian vill *Sadducismus* II (1684) 64 For Ventriloquy, or speaking from the bottom of the belly, in a thing as strange as anything in Witchcraft. 1772 in Ash 1823 *Examiner* 318 His excellent imitations of ventriloquy 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 248/1 The lips and jaws being always somewhat open during ventriloquy, a slight labial movement remains unnoticed 1889 MacColl *Mr Stranger's Sealed Packet* xxx, You would have put it all down to ventriloquy and imposture

**¶ 2.** (See quot ) *Obs.*—

1563 Cockeram I, *Ventriloquie*, dissimulation by the inwards of beasts.

**Ventrine,** *a rare*—1 [f. L. *ventr-*, *venter* belly + -ine ] Of or pertaining to the abdomen

*a* 1899 Dr Quincy *Forth Wks* (1891) I 235 *note*, Prompted by a principle that sank him to the level of the brutes viz acquiescing in total ventrine improvidence

**†Ventrio se,** *a Obs rare* [ad L. *ventrios-us*, f *ventra* , *venter* belly ] **a** *Bot* = Ventricose *a* 1 **b** = Corbellied 1727 in Bailey, vol II)

1707 Sloane *Jamaica* (1725) II 60 Pods having here and there emine ences over the seeds within or being ventriose *Ibid* 59 Smooth ventrioso pods

**Ventripotent** (ventri pōtĕnt), *a* [a F *ventripotent* (Rabelais), f. L *ventr-*, *venter* belly + *potent* , *potens* powerful, etc. ]

1 Having a large abdomen , big bellied

1611 Cotgr , *f entripotent*, ventripotent big paunch bellie able, huge guts [Hence in Blount ] 1892 *Harper's Mag* Sept 594/2 His mind as obviously not of the finest fibre nor his massive and ventripotent person either 1905 Fitz Maurice Kelly *Cervantes in Eng* 5 The short, ventripotent tunstic [=Sancho Panza]

2 Having great capacity of stomach, glnttonous

1823 *New Monthly Mag* VII 115 These ventripotent melodists called up from the Red Sea of my port and claret all their long swelle whales and cachalots 1837 *Blackw Mag* XLII 225 The ventripotent vermin (*sc* fleas) were 11 the midst of their meal 1863 Lo Lynnox *Biogr Kentiana* I 303 Louis des hultres, as the ventripotent monarch was called

Hence **Ventripote ntial** *a nonce word*

1844 *New Monthly Mag* XI 313 A ventri potential citizen, into whose Mediterranean mouth good things are perpetually flowing

**Ventro-** (ve ntro), comb form, on Gr models, of Ventre[1], occurring in various terms (chiefly *Anat* and *Surg* ), as **ventro a xial** *a* , of or pertaining to the ventral and axial portions of the human trunk , **ventro do rsal** *a* , of sections or lines of the body extending from ventre to back , hence *ventro dorsally* adv , **ventro-l nguinal** *a* , of or pertaining to the abdominal cavity and the inguinal canal , **ventro-la teral** *a* , of or belonging to the ventral and lateral sides of the body, hence *ventro laterally* adv. , **ventro me·sal**, **-me sial** *adjs* , of or pertaining to, situated at or on, the ventrimeson , **ve ntronudibra nchiate** *a* [cf Nudibranchiate *a* ], characterized by having naked gills depending from the dorsal region , **ventro podal** *a*. [cf Podal *a* ], walking with the venter or breast touching the ground , **ventro poste rior** *a* , situated on, pertaining to, the under and hinder part of an organ, etc. , **ventro tomy**, the operation of opening the abdomen by incision , abdominal section (Cf Ventri )

Various other terms, as *ventrocystorraphy*, *fixation*, *surgy*, *suspension* etc , appear in recent Dicts or special works

1902 *Encycl Brit* (ed 10) XXV 550/1 The muscles may be divided into two series—those which are transverse, and those of the limb (appendicular) 1895 *Funk's Stand Dict* s v Ventro dorsal 1886 *Encycl. Brit* XXIII 613/1 When the body contracts "ventro dorsally 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat Technol* 98 "Ventrolnguinal 1835 6 Owen in *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 592/1 Ventro lateral cartilages of the mouth 1883 Martin & Moale *Verteb Dissect* 192 The ventro lateral aspect of the trachea. 1888 Howes & Scott *Elem Biol* (ed 2) 95 Sliting open the body wall "ventro laterally 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat Technol* 56 The line might be called "ventro-lateral in lead of ventro sinistral or it might be called "ventro-mesial 1872 Humphry *Myology* 8 The "ventro mesial position and relations of the pelvic bones. 1843 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 289/2 The naked branchial fringes indicate the *Infero* or "Ventronudi branchiate Order [of molluscs] 1898 Shufeldt in *Ibis* Jan 48 Audubon's term (green) is the correct one to employ as well as what may be termed the "ventropodal ones 1903 *Trans Amer Microsc Soc* Nov 69 (*Cent Suppl*) The "ventro posterior limit of the cornea 1889 H. A. Nelson in *Brit Med Jrnl* 12 March 593 There is much need for a single and simple word to express the operation of opening the abdominal cavity for whatever purpose I would therefore suggest the use of an etymologically hybrid word, namely, "ventrotomy'

**Ventrose,** *a rare*— [ad late L. *ventrōs-us*, f. *venter* belly ] (See quot and Ventricose *a* )

1859 Flavel *Exper Lect* 3 *corrosus*, having a belly, or swellings like the belly ; ventrose

Hence **Ventro sity**, corpulence (1891 in *Cent. Dict* )

**Ventr(o)us, -ly**, obs fl Ventrous, -ly.

**†Ventuous,** *a Obs* Also 5 **ventuos** [Irreg. f. *ventus* wind + -ous ] Windy, flatulent

Some other instances of the word in the same work (v Ix and xvii clxxxvi) are due to mistranslation of the Latin text

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xix lv (1495) 895 Rawe fysshe well clarefyed is ryght ventuous and bredyth curlynge and swellyng in the wombe.

**† Ventu rable,** *a Obs rare* [f Venture *v* ] **a** Adventurable, attemptable **b** Venturous, hazardous.

1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 390 That whiche is harde and skarse venturable. 1597 J Payne *Royal Exch* 34 Whose valure and venturable servys deserveth the favour of all true subiects.

**Ventur·e** (ventiūr, -tʃər), *sb* Also 5–6 ventur *B.* 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **venter.** [Aphetic f. *aventure*

**VENTURE.**

Adventure *sb* : cf It. and Pg *ventura* In some senses perh from the verb

The form is no doubt partly due to the initial *a* of *aventure* having been taken as the indefinite article, esp after the stressing *a e'nture* had become usual in 17th cent texts it is probable that occasional instances of *a ventur* or *a venter* should be read as one word ]

**† 1** Fortune, luck, chance = Adventure 1.

*a* 1440 *Le Morte Arth* 2811 Launcelot saw ther was no socoure, nedysse muste he hys venture abyde

**†b** *A venture s stroke*, one delivered at a venture, a chance stroke *Obs* —1

*c* 1450 in *Rel Ant* I 308 Come in with a rake in every a rydde, An hole rowndc and an halfe, wath no hit betyde, nij quarters and a rownd and a ventures stroke wyth

**c** *At a venture*, at random, by chance, without due consideration or thought, = Adventure 3 b

1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* VI xxi, How at a venture, and by sodayne chaunce He met with Fame, by fortunes pur ueyaunce *c* 1590 *Sir J Mory* iv 1 757 Then good Inclination, beginne at a venter 1602 Fulbecke 1st *Pt Parall* 13 But if the things aforesaid be not weighed, but handled, but be sold at a venture 1611 Bible 1 *Kings* xxii 34 A certaine man drew a bow at a venture 1656 Whiston *J A Archb* ii (1720) 115 'Tis possible that I may several times by guess or at a venture, hit upon it 1700 De Foe *Capt Singlet n* xv (1840) 256 They should rather fire at a ven ture. 1780 Cowper *Let* 2 June, I never in my life began a letter more at a venture than the present 1841 Lane *Arab Nts* (Rtldg) 77 As I no longer knew where I was, I continued swimming at a venture 1886 Miss L Lawson *Paston Carew* xvi "And your mother was an Indian, said Lady Jane drawing her bow at a venture

**† 2** Danger, jeopardy, hazard, or peril , the chance or risk of incurring harm or loss *Obs*

*a* 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpe* 655 They lyfe thou must put in ve ture For Christes congregation 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 79 (He pressed) on the Persians that they desired to come off without more venture and so returned home 1677 Yarranton *Eng Improv* 156 By this way the seed was put into the Husbandmans hand and no venture to him *c* 1705 Pope *Jan & May* 182 The venture s greater, I presume to say, To gain a person than your goods away 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xxvii, Nevertheless' said the King it is not our pleasure so to put thee in venture *B* 1599 B Jonson *Cynthia's Rev* i iii, One that hath now made the sixth returne upon venter 1623 I Scot *Highway God* 75 The venter and hazard is the buyers and the sellers, but the certaine gain is his that keeps the money 1640 Habington *Edw II* 90 When she perceived the I ords earnest to have the Prince present in the battle shee vo lently opposed In respect of his youth want of experience, and the so mighty venter

**†b** *To run the venture of*, to run the risk of 1722 De Foe *J Yack* (1840) 269 To run the venture of the gallows rather than the venture of starving 1799 Burke *Serm* Wks 1874 II 164 [He] had rather forego his known right than run the venture of doing even a hard thing

**3** An act or occasion of trying one's chance or fortune, a course of proceeding the outcome of which is uncertain, but which involves or may involve the risk of danger or loss , an enterprise, operation, or undertaking of a hazardous or risky nature

*a* 1566 R Edwards *Damon & Pithias* E3 b, *Gronno* Wilt thou venter thy life for a man so fondly? *Pithias* It is no venter, my friende is such as he is trusted 1614 *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent* iv 1, I ll be your scholar, I cannot lose much by the venture sure 1665 Boyle *Occas Refl.* Ded Let A Your Excellency be absolute and pressing to have me run a Venture which you are pleas'd to think but a very Small One 1688 tr *Chardin's Trav Persia* 181 The rest which they durst not venture, for fear of endangering all at one venture 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VII xxiii, No bailiff dared to enter, A man would bear upon his face. For fifteen months, The yawn of such a venture 1856 Kane *Arct Explor* II v 60, I made the desperate venture of sending off my huntsman to find the Esquimaux 1868 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1877) II 326 He deemed it better not to make his great venture till he had strengthened his forte

*transf* 1871 R. H Hutton *Ess* I 7 A kind of proba tionary venture of the will

**†b** In the phrases *to put in* or *to a* (or *the*) *venture*, to hazard or risk *Obs*

1638 R Baker tr *Balzac s Lett* (vol II) 18, I have put my selfe to the venture to goe as far as Gascony to seek you out 1638 S Du Verger tr *Guevara Epistles* 101 He resolved to put all in a venture 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 146 How loath would I bee to have the matter put to a venture *c* 1670 M Baxter *Cor Newes from Lond* (1708) 33 This Love of Christ makes us put all to the venture, what loss had thy poor Women that put their All to the venture for him? 1700 S L tr *Perfect Voy E Ind* 323 As soon as they have paid their Debts what is left they put to the venture 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), To *Adventure*, to venture, or put to the Venture, to hazard

**†** *To give the venture*, to make the attempt.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II ii 58 That although the people were blacke and naked, yet they were cunll so that hee would needs giue the venter without the consent of the rest to go without weapons 1601 Shakes *Jul Caes* I 104 Then Patrocius gave the venture 1632 Heylin *Cosmogr* 28 However I will give the venture, and make as profitable a discovery, as the times enable me, of the whole World

**c** An adventure or remarkable feat, incident, etc *rare*

1820 Scott *Lady of L* III i, The race of yore, Who told our marvelling boyhood legends store Of their strange ventures happ'd by land or sea. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vi, The ventures of the Greeks are surrounded by such a multitude of imagined dangers, that [etc.]

**4.** An enterprise of a business nature in which there is considerable risk of loss as well as chance of gain ; a commercial speculation.

1584-7 Greene *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV 145 Your venter was much, but your gaines such, as you are like to liue by the losse. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V* III. ii. 270 Hath all his ventures failed? what not one hit? 1605 B Jonson *Volpone* I. ii, If you died to day, And gaue him all, What large returne would come of this aduenture. 1620 *Alch.* II. i, But I buy it: My venter brings it me. 1660 Pepys *Diary* 3 Oct. I heard the Duke speak of a great design that he and my Lord of Pembroke have of sending a venture to some parts of Africa, to dig for gold ore there. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xvii 219 Of both he keeps his ledger —there he reads Of gainful ventures and of godly deeds 1867 Smiles *Huguenots Eng* I. 5 [He] agreed to join them in their ventures, and supply them with the necessary means. 1884 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div 465 In ducing other people to spend their money on such a venture as a limited company

**b** That which is ventured or risked in a commercial enterprise or speculation.

1597 Shake. 2 *Hen. IV* II iv 69 There's a whole Marchants venture of Burdeux stuffe in him 1598 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Humour* II iii, He may prickle his foot with a thorne, and be as much as the whole venter is worth 1704 R Lloyd *Temple Pan* Poet Wks 1774 II 135 The consequences he values not, Sold his last ha venture sheep and gold 1771 Mme D'Arblay *Early Diary* 3 June, As to merchandise the few ventures he took out with him he has brought back untouched 1813 Canning in *Croker Papers* (1884) I 57 It is the ship *Aimcymill* destined for the East Indies She is a venture of 40 000*l* 1841 Stephen *Comm Laws Eng* (1874) II 308 The importer is thus enabled to bring his goods into this country, without being obliged to pay the duties until he finds for his venture either a foreign or a home market

†**5.** Chance or risk *of* something (*Sc*), also *ellipt*, chance of being efficacious or beneficial *Obs*

1623 Lodge *Poore Maus Talent* Wks. (Hunt Cl) IV 16 Dropp two or three droops into your eies If you could get the liuer of a buck and mix it with these it would bee the better and the water would haue greater venture 1637 Rutherford *Lett* (1862) I lxxvii 200 Your Lordship hath now a blessed venture of working court with the Prince of the Kings of the earth 1671 M Brock *Gd News in Ev'l Times* Pref (1708) A 9, That it is better for you to come and take your venture of suffering, nor take away

**6** The (or an) act of venturing upon something

an attempt *at* some action, also, the means of result of so venturing

1842 Lover *Handy Andy* Preface 6 A few short papers, under the title of this last,

seventy of Justice we may rather venter to stretch the Mercy of God 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 252 He would at any time venture to send his two sons into the mountains 1774 Burke *Sp Amer Tax* Wks. II 355 Why do you venture to repeal the duties upon glass, paper and painters colours? 1840 Hirlwall *Greece* IV VII 73 Archias did not even venture to crossover to the Arabian side of the Persian Gulph 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 617 Thirty times the fugitives ventured to look through the outer hedge but everywhere they found a sentinel on the alert 1887 Bowen *Virg Aen* VIII 102 Over thy al coulders flung them, nor venture behind thee to look!

**b** Used with reference to the expression of opinions etc

1610 H Leland *Camden's Brit* I 254 Some of these were by a new English Saxon called Wheat, but others upon, I dare scarse venture to guesse 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* xviii 134, I should not undertake to answer so difficult a question and should venter to say no more *a* 1687 Petty *Pol Arith* (1690) 95 I humbly venture to say all these things may be done *a* 1774 Tucker *Lt Nat* IV iii 271 If you observe those people who pretend to be fullest of doubt is you will find them most fond of that positive phrase, I will venture to say 1803 *Med Jrnl* X 297 I now ventured to pronounce that what I took for a bilious fever was in reality the influenza. 1850 Grove *Corr Phys Forces* (ed 2) 98 The view which I would venture to suggest is, that such vibrations are themselves electricity or magnetism 1872 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) V 244 The sound of the voice which teaches and educates the soul, we have ventured to term music.

**9** *To venture on or upon* †**a** To make trial of (a person or animal), to dare to advance upon, approach, or attack *Obs*

*c* 1320 *I eryman* 484 in Pollard *Eng Mir Plays* (1890) 87 Yet will I venter on her now My Good Dedes, where be you? 1592 Stevenson *Gerileo Dartes* I vi The sly Rhinocerot Who doth venter Upon his Foe. 1592 Shake *Ven & Ad* 628 Bet g pref ill on the lyon he (the boar) will venter [*printer* enter] 1632 A Wilson *The Swisser* II iii I le venture on the Beauty (He kisses her)

**b** To attempt or undertake (something of a dangerous or difficult nature) without assurance of success, to accept or take the risk of (an action, course, or proceeding), to dare to do, make, or take (something), realizing that a risk is being run + Also with *of*

1557 Chester *Let to Holy* in Holy *Courtyer* (1561) Z xv, If the old den soned words could ease this needle we wold not boldly venture of vnknowen wordes 1580 Dall tr *Stordans Comm* 262 Which is no longer so great, that they wil refuse to venter vpon for his preseruation 1609 B Jonson *Sil Wom* I ii Can he endure no noise and will venter on a wife? 1692 *Phoenix Venter no Fewer* To venter upon such another voyage as Noah's. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 121 P 1 They never venture upon the Pass of any Tree, unless they observe that it is marked with the Pecking of Birds 1758 Young *Centaur* Wks (1757) IV 123 I've ture on it out of what I conceive to be charity, greater still! 1781 *Cowper Charity* 6 A task I venture on, impell'd by these 1826 Shelley *Epipsych* 496 Not only could they have no send lance of a public meeting but they could not even vent ure upon the slightest approach to lesser gatherings 1878 E Carroll *Thinking Soul* II xviii, The third is his slowness in taking a jest, Should you happen to venture on one-

**10** *To venture at*, to make a venture or attempt at, to guess at

1613 Shake *Hen I III* II i 156 [It is] held for certaine The King will venture at it 1653 More *Antid Ath*. II xii § 17 To view the asperities of the Moon through a Dioptrick Glass and venture at the Longitude of her Hills by their shadows. 1671 R Boron *Wint* 85 Wee might likewise venture at a better account *c* 1720 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 238 They cannot venture at what sort of tillage 1878 Ainsworth *Tower* I v Mankind will venture to tantyth g 1823 J Simpson *Art words the Outlaw* I 24 She debated for a few m nutes, which door she should venture at 1885 Cowden Clarke *Shakt Char* xx 508 The only time he ventures at a reason for what he says

II nce **Ve nture** *pbl a*

1693 Massinger *Dk Milan* II i Is this The fair return of both our ventured favours! *c* 1685 Bradford *Plymouth Plant* (Massach Hist Soc.) III 201 The cattle were y^e best goods for y^e other, being bought with corne and cattle at best, nor at y^e best prises 1892 J B Mayor *Fr Janies*, Author p xxiv, His mother did nevertheless draw upon herself in reproof for ventured interference.

+ **Ve nturaling.** *Obs*^{-1} In 6 venturling [f. Venture *sb* or ?] A young or petty adventurer

1562 Bulkin *Bullwarke, Dial Sornes & Chir* 97 b, It is not to be marueiled that sochte venterlynges and young heges, stomble so ofte as it dothe

**Ve nturer.** Also 6 venterer, -our [f Venture *v* Cf Adventurer and II *venturiere*]

1 One who ventures, in various senses, an ad venturer

1530 Palsgr 284/2 Venturer on the la ide *iduenturier Ib?* Venturer on the sea, *pirratte*. 1538 Ionstall *Serm Palm Sund* (1823) 67 To make this treatise a prayr to all venturers, al spoylers all raueuours of the worlde *a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* x (1560) G g ib, Fortune is frend to venturers, and cowards hateth most. *a* 1631 Donne *Poems* (1633) 274 No fa nily Ere rigg'd a soule With whom more Venturers more boldly dare Venture their states 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia Pref* 26, Lastly for Detraction and Censure It is more my scorn than feare, and ought to be to any Venturer abroad into publike view 1727 in Bailey (vol II) 1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* xxvii, A visit to the gaming table—not as a heated, anxious venturer, but [etc.] 1883 King Lake *Crimea* I 447 The next night Prince Louis Bonaparte and his fellow venturers destroyed the French republic. 1892 O W Holmes *Post Breakf T* vii, No Arctic venturer on the waveless sea Feels the dread stillness [etc.]

*fig* 1624 Donne *Serm* (1649) II xlix 463 Was God a venturer with me in my sinne?

*transf* 1821 Clare *Vill Minstr* II 201 Airy leaves of woodbine Are earliest venturers to unfold their buds

†**b** (See quot) *Obs*^{-1}

1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II i 229 The venturers with the sword were 50 thousand in number (*marg*, *Gli Venturieri da spada*, are a kind of venturing souldiers, who commonly are wont to follow the army in hope of the spoile)

**2** One who undertakes or shares in a commercial or trading venture, esp by sending goods or ships beyond seas, a merchant-venturer.

1557 Records *Merchts* 84 b, The governers Consulles, and the reste of the companie of venturers into Moscouia 1593 R Harvey *Philad* 3 What trafiique should a venturer haue [in Ireland] 1628-32 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* I i, I meant to be a venturer in this voyage. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I iii You were the main venturer In every ship that launched forth 1661 Webster *Cure for Cuckold* III iii, If I engage in't May make us of small venturers to become Hereafter wealthy merchants 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vi 68 The great Capitalist whose imperial sway is more withering than despotism itself to the enterprises of humble venturers.

+**3** A strumpet or prostitute *Cf* Venturer *sb* 8 *Obs*^{-1}

1607 Walker & Webster *Wtw If c* II ii, *Mist Just* Hud thy Circean Magick me transformd that I w e turn d common Venturer, I could not loue this old man

+ **Ve nturesh**ip. *Obs*^{-1} In 6 v nter- [f Venture *sb*] Venturousness

1583 Stock *Cath Demaund* (1626) cxxx 8 : I for there m t bee no venteral ippe in this behalf

**Ve nturesome,** *a* Also 7, 9 *dial* ventor [f Venture *sb* or *v* + -some]

1 Of persons Disposed or ready to venture or take risks, bold, daring = Venturous 2 1

1597 *Locrine* I ii, Ventersome and venturous knights 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II i 229 Ventersome wretches whetted on and enraged makes a Man ventersome beyond the due bounds of prudence or safety 1608 Hearne *Duct Hist* 136 Thus he not make his Fortune more Rash than Wise and more Venturesome than Ambitious? 1798 Fogerwith *Tract Tithe* (1811) II 395 We should c eit in tortles wherever circumstances wi ich can tend to make girls venturesome 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I 214 He was most venturesome in his schemes for action 1886 C B. Pascoe *Dict London Slang* xxiii (ed 3) 262 Some persons are sufficiently venturesome to visit Billingsgate when at the high tide of business

**2** Of the nature of, characterized by, or involving risk, hazardous risky

1661 *Lond & Country Brew* (ed 3) 46 These two last Options of the Father, which seem the most bold and venturesome of all the rest 1721 Strype *Eccl Mem* I iii 391 It must ever require extraordinary honour of his memory, that bold and venturesome act of his. 1755 Johnson, *Hvardable*, venturesome, liable to chance 1849 Dana *Coal tx* (1880) 451 From the most plain above the steamer must take the venturesome descent. 1885 *Public Opin* 7 Jan 28/2 General Stewart has returned safely from his venturesome ride across the desert

**Ve nturesomely** *adv*, **Ve nturesomeness.** *nouns*

1727 Bailey (vol II **Venturesomely*, daringly 1888 *Sat Rev* LIV 597 To a butterfly also, may we venturesomely compare the daring some of weird verse 1883 *Harper Mag* Aug 343 The rocks toasted almost enough to blister the hand that should venture somely touch them 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Pool Hardiness* Rashness Temerity, a Thoughtless **Venturesomness*. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I 236 She seem d full of Wonder at my Resolution and Venturesomness 1869 *Routledge's Boy's Own* 16 Did ever one hear of such venturesomeness? 1876 Elliot *Dan. Der* III xxiv, A handsome girl, whose lively venturesomeness of talk has the effect of wit

+ **Ve nturing,** *vbl sb* Also 6 venter-, or Pg *venturing*, = †*aventurine* Aventurine]

1 (See quots)

The sense is not recorded for the Continental word, and may be due to some misunderstanding

1599 *Inst Rust Lyons* 24 Item That it [ac varnish] may not dry before the Venturine or Gold Wire reduced to powder is sifted on it *Ibid*, *Venturine ou Avent ruie*, is the name given by glasiers to Gold Wire cut all by Limbroide ers, &c. 1799 G Smith *Laboratory* II 441 As for the black and venturine, you must first lay a coat of varnish on the wood before you

2. *Venturing stone* (see quot and cf Aventurine 1)

1775 Ash, *Venturinestone*, a kind of transparent stone brought from Italy powdered with a kind of gold dust

**Ve nturing,** *vbl sb* [f. Venture *v*]

1 The action of the vb *v*; *spec* engagement or participation in a commercial venture or enterprise

1548 *Admiralty Crt* 17 Dec. Exam 35 Having the licence of the Lorde Protectors Grace to goe a venturing [*i e* having an Act of mariage] 1562 Heywood *Prov & Epigr* (1867) 139 Venturing of much, May haue a lyttle 1595 [? *C*] *Alcilia* xivii (Grosart) 2 Much good successe hath time for lack of venturing 1831 in 20th *Rep. Hist MSS Comm* (1900) V 476 There days losses sustained in the venting of there goods by sea. *a* 1695 Marq of Halifax *Wks* (1912) 245 Wise Venturing is the most commendable Part of human Prudence 1708 Stephens *Sp Dict* 1, *Arriteamiento*, hazarding or venturing

+ **2.** *Venturing pin*, a disposition to use, or the habit of employing, the phrase 'I venture to say' (*Cf* Pin *sb*.1 15.) *Obs*

1671 Eachard *Obs Anew Cont Clergy* 23 Thus far I durst venture to say, (seeing that we are yet upon the Venturing-Pin) that [etc.] 1680 *Refl Late Libel Curse ye-Meros* 3, I know him by the same old, insipid, phlegmatic style, the same old Supposals, Dilemma's, and venturing pins.

**Ve nturing,** *ppl. a* Now *rare*. [f. as prec.] Of a person. That ventures; engaged or engaging in a venture, venturous

15 *Vox populi vox Dei* 288 in *E P P* (Hazlitt) III 278 For of one C ye have not ten, I bat now be marchantes venting men 1599 [see Venturer 1 b]. 1616 J Lane *Contn Sqr t I* viii 536 Engineers, strange laborers and venturinge pioners. 1747 Hodson *Miner's Diet* S iv b, In the High and Low Peaks where venturing Miners get but small Quantitys of Boose.

†**b** Of an expression Bold, daring. *Obs*^{-1}

1652 N Culverwel *Lt Nature* xi (1661) 79 The Stoicks have indeed some daring, and venturing Expressions.

Hence **Ve nturingly** *adv.*

1824 Fawcett *Rutherford* 1, 'They were very nice people , Rutherford proceeded, somewhat venturingly 1842 *Sunday Mag July* 465/1 He bent down and touched the child's cheeks venturingly with a hard, horny finger-tip.

**Ventu rous** (ve ntiūrəs, ve ntʃərəs), *a.* Also *β* 6–7 venterous *γ* 6 ventrus, 6–7 ventrous, 6–8 vontrous [Aphetic f of Adventurous *a.* after Venture *sb* and *v*]

1 Of persons, etc Disposed to venture upon or undertake something of a dangerous or risky nature, willing to take risks or incur danger, bold, daring, or enterprising in action or opinion, adventurous, venturesome. Also const *at*, *in*, *of*, or with *to* and inf

*a* 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* P iii b, I waxed venturous, and like a confident fellow assayed my pase 1581 Pettie tr *Guazzo's Civ Conv* II (1586) 63 b I cannot those which wil undertake to speake of euerie matter rather venturous than learned 1587 tr *Goulart's Hist Scot* III (ed. 3) 398 Skenk a Frieslander and Sir Roger Williams a Welshman, two venturous men 1594 Kettlewell *Comp Penitent* 21 A most presumptuously venturous and daring Sinner 1729 De Foe (*Craise* 1 (Globe) 110 But I had no need to be venturous, for I had no Want of Food 1800 Worsew *Brothers* 275 Every corner Among these rocks, and every hollow place That venturous foot could reach 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* II I know I am but too apt to be venturous in action 1823 C Bronte *Juliette* 21, The directress was very prudent, but she could also be very venturous

*β* 1578 T N tr *Conq W Indies* Pref p II, It is nowe approoued by the venterous trauellour Martin Frobisher 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 94 Those that are not more venterous to challenge the combatte, then I valiant to answere the quarrell 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 156 Some bold and venterous Empiricke, who made great boast of their cunning skill 1689 H Burton *Truth Cry tru* Taking vpon him (as he is very venterous) to answer an argument *a* 1660 *Contempt Hist Incl* tr Archbish Spalato 156 The noble and venterous spoke Phelim mc Tuil ill Oneyle

*γ* 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 71 His venturous manhood and valure 1601 Weever *Mirr Mart* Cvb, All the Armes, ventrous, valorous, bold 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 249 Let a besieger of a City be too venturous and what perill ensueth 1667 Milton *P L* II 405 Those who at the Spear are bold And venturous 1708 Pope *Iliad* III 89 Savage I crates seek thro seas unknown The lives of others, vent rous of their own 1747 Francis tr *Horace, Odes* (ed 2) I xxxii 16 The golde i Goblet let Him drain, Who vent'rous plows th Atlantic Main

*b absol* with *the*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* F b, And nowe shalt thou trie it, that fortune most vsually fauoures the venturous 1589 Nashe *Anat Absurd*. Wks (Grosart) I 35 The acts of the ventrous, and the praise of the victorious

*c.* Of things.

1568 Cooper *Thesaurus, Abiectandus* a venterous shippe 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II i Iuden 27 But (sacred Pilot) thou canst safely steer My vent rous Pinnasse to her wished Peer 1634 Sir Reynolde *Skeleton of Perth* (1636) 51 Remember a Shield is a venturous weapon a kind of surrelte, which receives the injuries which were intended to another. 1667 Shadwell *Virtuoso* I i, Those venturous blossoms, whose over hasty warmth the early spring does anticipate the proper season 1705 Watts in *Solitby's Sale Cat* 30 July (1902) 49 Accept of this first labor of the press, this ventrous Essay of Poesie in so Nice and censorious an Age 1764 Goldsm *Trav* 187 He drives his venturous plough share to the steep 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. I 155 The first blow whose venturous head The Winter's lingering tempest brawes 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl* (ed 2) 98 He who first with venturous thumb Drew from its sheath the unaccustomed steel

2. Of the nature of a venture, marked or characterized by, attended with, involving, hazard or risk, hazardous, risky.

1570 Foxe *A & M* (ed 2) I 114/1 Desperation, which is wont in ventrous affaires to do much 1598 Barckley *Theor Warres* III ii 75 It is venturous to set ones fortune upon the brunt of one sole battell 1670 Eachard *Cont Clergy* 92 The meer venturous and inconsiderate determining of youths to the profession of Learning Prior *Carm Sec* 75 Bloody Wreaths in vent rous Battels won. 1703 Crabbe *Village* I 117 The tost vessel Which to their coast directs its venti rous way 1840 F D Hemyng *Wrestling Voy* II 188 Now but few seas are entirely free from the visits of ships occupied in this venturous service 1880 *Trnl. R. Agric Soc* XXIII 277 I venty years ago the manufacture and sale of artificial manures partook more of the character of a venturous speculation

**b** Marked by, full of, adventures.

1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* III xi, And well his venturous life had proved The lessons that his childhood loved.

3 Arising from, indicative of, a readiness to encounter hasard or risk, bold, daring.

1584 *Mirr Mag* Epist, If their forfeats were ever known, I fere, thei do acts as ventrus. 1587 Turberv. *Trag Tales* 74 b, I thinke him such a one as dares Such ventrous parts to play 1822 Bacon *Henry VII*, 51 Meane men, who would make it their Master-piece of Credite and Fauour, to giue Vnfurious Counsels. *a* 1862 Fuller *Worthies* III (1662) 43

He was , knighted by the King for his venturous Activity 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac* (1737) II iii 346 Bear with my venturous and bold Approach. 1818 Scott *Hrt Mid* xxvii, There was something of romance in Jeanie's venturous resolution 1896 Mrs. Browning *Aur Leigh* viii 349, I scarce marvel much you took it for a venturous piece of spite. 1897 Bryant *Odiss* 21 Her clear, calm eye Was bright with venturous spirit.

**b.** Of opinions, etc Daringly bold or original, going further than the evidence or facts appear to warrant.

1668 Willet *Hexapla Exod* 571 Contrarie then to this orthodoxall doctrine of the Fathers are these ventrous and bold positions 1644 Milton *Areop* (Arb.) 57 One sentence of a ventrous edge, utter'd in the height of zeal 1681 Baxter *Apol Nonconf Mod* 5 Men's uncertain and venturous reports 1830 W Taylor *Hist Surv Germ Poetry* I 333 Lessing was distinguished by the venturous origin ality of his opinions. 1837 J H Newman *Prophi Office Church*, 4th. 138 Nothing is gained to the intellect; rather, something is lost by this venturous claim

**Venturously,** *adv.* Also 6 venter-, 6–7 **ventrously,** 8 **vent'rously.** [f prec. + -ly 2] In a venturous manner, boldly, daringly.

*a* a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xvi 42 Than venturously they releaued them 1591 Horsey *Trav* (Hakluyt Soc.) 199 I rode emonge the reds venturously 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 476 To make shifts and expose themselves venturously into any danger 1651 Fuller *Perkinus* in *Abel Redivivus* 458 Which ventrously to leave unread performed than venturously undertaken 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I v 324 They determine venturously upon the first view. 1824 Scott *Wav* I, I have venturously essayed to read a chapter to the public.

*Comb.* 1619 Hobbes *Thucydides* 104 You ought not to bee lesse venturously minded against the enemie

*b, c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen VIII* (Camden) 150 He sticketh not venterously to avouch that it was not law ful 1573 Lwyne *Aneid* Ded A 1b, I have enterprised more ventrously then wisely to end that which he left vnperfect 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 170 This agitation of mind makes the Soule more boldly and ventrously to reflect upon it self a 1656 Hales *Gold Rem* (1673) 85, I have often wondred with my self, how men durst die so ventrously, except they were sure they died well a 1701 Seldex *Ven & Ad Wks* (1966) 951 He vent rously again the chace pursues

**Venturousness.** [f as prec] The character or state of being venturous; boldness, daring, venturesomeness.

1583 Golding *Cahvin on Deut* cxxxvd 842 Although men through their venturousness and their rashnes make a confusion of all thinges and enterprise whatsoeuer their lust fancieth. 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 40 Checking and taming them from old venturousnesse, and sauucinesse against God 1663 Boyle *Usef Exp Philos* II ii 2 Though his relation may be credited, his venturousness ought not to be imitated 1727 Bailey (vol II) *Venturousness*, Boldness, Daringness, Hardiness 1788 Wesley *Wks* V, The event made them repent of their venturousness 1902 A I Innes in A B Davidson *Called of God* 46 The faith which they demand always goes out with an objective venturousness or heroism

**Ventuse,** variant of Ventose *v Obs*

**Venue** (venɪu). Forms 4 venov, venew, venei, 5 venyw, 5–8 venew, 6–7 venewe, 6 venue, 6– venue. See also Vent *f* [a OF. *venue* coming, vbl sb from *venir* to come]

I. †1 A coming on, in order to strike, an assault or attack. *Obs rare.*

*a* 1330 *Roland & V* 845 And at anoþer venov, Roland smot vernagu, þat he fel doun to grounde 13 *Sir Isenc* (A.) 811 Beuus in hast tokeþ his sword and a slitte Twei tokes at be ferste dent 13 *Coer de L* 1074 The lyon made a gret venu, And wolde have him al to-rent

†2 A thrust or lick in fencing, a stroke or wound with a weapon. *Obs* Cf Veny- 1.

1591 Percivall *Sp Dict*, *Ireta*, a fenue at defence, *tactus* 1600 Holland *Livy* 513 Divers of the guard let fie at Indigenius, who by this time was readie to oppose himselfe, and to ward all venues 2 1605 Harington in *Month. Rev* (1770) 53 I like a perfect fencer that will tell aforehand in which button he will give the venew 1652–62 Hexham *Coornaer* III (*Oefb*) 46 He valiantly charged upon the Rebel, and at the second venew slew him

*b* *fig* and in fig. context

1580 Sidney *L L L* v v 8 A sweet lutch, a quicke venewe of wit, snip, snap, quick & home 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol* 1 C1b, The second venue the Welch man hath bestowed vpon vs, is a wipe ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents 1602 Marsh in *Collier's Counsman & Aff* II 195 Shee had no more any Nunnerie to shelter but lay open to the venues of Fortune. a 1640 Mannigham, etc *Old Law* III iii, I've breath enough at all times, Lucifer's mask rod To give your perfumed worship three venues

†3. A bout or turn of fencing. Also *fig Obs*

1598 B Jonson *Ev Man in Hum* v, *Mat* But one venue, sir *Bob* Venue! I'm Mat grosse denomination, as euer I heard. 1615 Heywood *Fourie Prentices* II Into the Fencing schoole, To play a venew with some friend 1640 Shirley *Lover's Crueltie* II i, Faces about, good Master Fencer! You and I will try a venue below 1659 Fuller *App Injured Innoc* (1840) 337 If the Animadvertor hath a mind to have a venue with him to try whose skill is most and weapon best [1880 Scott *Monast* xxi, Let us pause for the space of one venue, until I give you my opinion on this dependence]

II. †4. The action of coming; arrival. *Obs.*–1

1 a 1400 *Arthur* 307 Eche of þese vyve at her venyw Brouȝt ȝyx þousand at her retenyw,

†5 *concr* That which has come, an importation *of* something. *Obs* –3

*a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 74 To kepe the first venues of wynes in vesselles or shippes from any sale.

**5.** *Law.* The county, district, or locality where an action is laid, the place where a jury is summoned to come for the trial of a case Freq in the phrase *to lay* (also *fix* or *place*) *the venue*

1532 *Star Chamb Cases* (Selden) II 190 The venewe most needes be of Stevenage aforesd *Ibid* 194 The layeng of the venewe or issue at Stevenage to have an indifferent Jury 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen VIII*, *c* 6 § 3 Within the saide hundred where the venewe lieth 1641 *Termes de La Ley* 460 *Venue or Venew* is a word often in our bookes, and signifies a place neare to that where any thing that comes to be tryed is supposed to bee done And therefore some of the Jury must be of the same hundred, or sometimes of the same parish in which the thing is supposed to be done 1664 *Stat* 16–17 *Charles II*, *c* 8 § 1 The Plaintiffe maght have de murred and shewen the same for Cause, nor for want of the Averment or for that there is not right Venue. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v, Thus we say, Twelve of the Assize ought to be of the same Venew where the Demand is made 1758 J Ayliffe *Parergon Juris* I 1 (1926) 5 For Bards and Lawyers, both, with ease, May place the *Venue* where they please 1826 Syd Smith *Lett Electors Cath Quest* Wks. 1859 II 227/2 In the venue of several crimes imputed to the prisoner is laid in countries to which the jurisdiction of this court does not extend 1838 Merson & Welsby *Reports* II 13 The Defendant may lay the venue where he pleases. 1883 S C Hall *Retrospect* I 350 The plaintiff laid the venue in Warwickshire

**b.** In the phrases *to change the venue* or (*a*) *change of venue*

1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 294 If the defendant will make affidavit, that the cause of action, if any, arose not in that but another county, the court will direct a change of the venue or *venue* 1796 J Adams *Diadem* I 1 Ante Lata Rdr, Partly owing to the changing of the Venue in the Trial 1817 W Selwyn *Laws Nisi Prius* (ed 4) II 984 Where the ends of justice and peace can be had to the same county the venue may be changed into such county 1881 *Macm Mag* XLIV 234 If we often change a venue because a fair jury of twelve men who should weigh not 36 stone to insure justice? 1893 *Times* 3 June 13/4 The dropping of such obvious and effective weapons as secret inquiry and change of venue

**c** One of a real or supposed action or event, also *fig*, a position taken up by a disputant

*a* 1843 Southey *Doctor* cxxxviii (1848) 496 When I was 5 or 6 there was no tradition of any such thing in the town where the scene of the action is laid 1845 Hood *Tim Ilic Spain* I 46 Sterne would have done better to have laid the venue of his sentimentalities over a dead ass in Spain rather than in France 1870 Sala *Dutch Pict* 78 A something far more vexatious changes the *venue* to a kingdom of realities 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol* ii 38 Here Mr Froude changes the venue and joins issue on the old battle ground

**d.** In allusion to the place of meeting, esp for a match or competition

1857 G Lawrence *Guy Liv* iv, A steeple chase in which both Universities were to take part The venue was fixed at B 1884 *Truth* 13 March 674/2 It would be a great want of judgment to select the former town as the venue for the semi final tie 1901 *Scotsman* 12 March 5/4 The question of the venue for the annual meeting at present this was held on one of four greens

**Venued,** obs. variant of Vinowed *ppl a*

**Venuing,** obs. form of Vinowing *vbl sb*

**Ve nular,** *a rare*–1 [f next + -ar] Marked with veins, veined

1811 Pinkerton *Petral* I 383 The marble statues present the following colours, milk white, the same with venular silver white mica, and yellowish white

**Venule** (ve nɪul). [ad. L *venulus*, dim of *vena* Vein 1 (cf F. *veinule* and Venulet] A small or minor vein

*a.* *Bot.* 1850 Ogilvie *Venules*, the name given to the last ramifications of the veins of a leaf which intermingle fre quently, and form the skeleton 1859 T Moore *Handbk Ferns* (ed 2) 18 The branches of the veins are *venules* and the branches of the venules are *veinlets* 1866 J Smith *Ferns Brit & For* (1879) 101 Venules arcuately or angu larly anastomosing, producing two or more recurrent free veinlets

*b* *Anat* a1852 Macgillivray *Nat Hist Dee Side* (1855) 172 The veins are divided into trunks and branches, and the venules, and are of a circular form. 1876 *Trans Clins at Soc* IX 91 The white cells accumulate in the small venules in surprising numbers 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 826 The venules on the skin of the nose and cheeks of old people

**Ve nulite** *rare*–, [Irreg f. Venul-s + Lite.] (See quot and Venule 1 b)

1848–52 Webster, *Venulite*, a petrified shell of the genus Venus.

**Venulo se,** *a Bot* [f Venule + -ose] (See quot)

1857 A Gray *First Less Bot* (1866) 236 *Venulose* fur nished with venules.

**Venum(ous,** obs forms of Venom(ous

**†Venundate,** *v Obs*–° [f I *venum dat*, ppl stem of *vēnum-dare*, var (by assimilation) of *vēnum dare* to sell, vend] (See quots) Hence

**†Venundation** *Obs.*–°

1623 Cockeram 1, *Venundate*, to sell *I sound store* in selling and buying 1658 in Phillips (ed 5a) 1696 Blount *Glossogr*, *Venundate*, to buy and sell

**Venus** 1 (vī nəs) Pl. **Venuses** (7 9 Veneres) Also 5–6 *Sc* Wenus [L *Venus* (gen *Veneris*)]

**I.** 1. *Mythol* The ancient Roman goddess of beauty and love (esp sensual love), or the corresponding Greek goddess Aphrodite

*a* 1000 *Sal & Sat* (Kemble) 174 Done syxtan dæg hi æsetton Sære sceamleasan gyddenan Uenus xehaten and Pryoe on Denise. 1297 R Glouc *Chron* (Rolls) 2133 After him [Jupiter] we honoureþ venus mest, þat frie ycluped is. *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 604 So faire ladies ar none lyuand: Bot me lyykes of 3ow þre Dame Venus semes fairest to be 1390 Gower *Conf* II 84 The Coper set is to Venus, And to his part Mercurius. 1412–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* II 1443 In honour only of Venus, be goddes, Whom þe Grekis with al her beaynes Honoured most of euery maner age 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xiv 50 Certes, Venus, thou and thy sone Cupydo are gretely to be prayed 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 21 The birdis sang With curiouse note, as Venus chapell clerkis 1590 Marlow *and Pt Tamburl* iv ii Thou shalt sit like to Venus in her chaire of state, Commanding all thy princely eie desires 1687 Dryden *Hind & P* III 1064 As if this troublesome intruding Guest Would drive the Birds of Venus (wdoves) from their Nest 1698 Congreve *Converset* 824 Certain females Where Venus hears the lover stender vow 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I 141 The temple of Venus at Eryx which was most probably founded by Phœnicians. 1875 *Encycl Brit* II 272/2 The native Roman goddess Venus as distinguished from the Venus who through contact with the Greeks was afterwards identi fied with Aphrodite.

**b** In allusive use (cf sense 2)

*c* 1425 Hoccleve *De Reg Princ* 3890 Pere wole he outen his language, And do to Bachus and Venus homage *c* 1508 *C Blowbol's Test* 62 in Hazlitt *E P P* I 94 He gaf me many a good certificon That he had laboured in Venus secret celle 1693 tr *Bonnecase's Phys Love* 1 iv *Maalach*, Sometimes they take Three Drams without any prejudice, especially when they are about to fight the Battels of Mars or Venus 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux Strat* iv ii Had my spark call'd me a Venus directly, I shou'd have believ'd him a Footman in good earnest *a* 1814 *Women's Will* II i In *New Brit Theatre* IV 61 Were the Hottentot Venus before she has strung on her beads. 1816 Luckey *Narr Exped R Zaire* 1 (1818) 18 The Venus beauty had indulged in the ebbe Venus which they were to find on the banks of the Congo *a* 1841 J Hook *Ned Musgrave* v 1, The evening on which he first saw this Venus of the village

**c** A representation, esp a statue or image, of Venus.

*a* 1568 Aelham *Scholem* II Wks (1904) 301 Cæsar is like the halfe face of a Venus, the other part of the head being hidden the bodie and the rest of the members vnlegon 1621 Holland *Pliny* II 558 Apelles all the voyages that ever were made, his [*sc* Praxiteles] Venus passeth, which hee wrought for them of Gnidos. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 May 1645, Twixt the statue we two *naked Venus* 1 by Titian *Ibid*, A Venus of marble, veiled from the middle to the feete 1728 Richardson *Statues etc in Italy* 134 There is a Venus which stands just by this which is Irreproachable 1834 *Penny Cyc* I 157 2 Many representations of the goddess [Aphrodite] are extant amongthese, the celebrated statue, called the Venus de Medici, is that with which we are most familiarized 1890 Hackpath *Wond Inv* 81 The box beside the Venus upon the middle shelf of the book case

**d.** A local or other distinct conception of the goddess; also *transf*, a goddess in other mytholo gies corresponding to Venus

1570 Percy tr *Mallet's Northern Antiq* I 94 This Frea beame is the sequel the Venus of the north doubtless because he passed for the principle of all fecundity 1828 Dupia *Past Italy* etc. 136 He also shewed us a little *Venus* statue of a Venus, 1877 Wilkinson *Egypt Obeliskes* vii (1878) 30 Under the special protection of Hathor, the Egyptian Venus.

†**2** The desire for sexual intercourse, indulgence of sexual desire lust, venery *Obs*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv Prol 97 Childir to engener oys Venus, and nocht in vane 1573 L Lloyd *Marrow of Hist* (1653) 233 Sardanapalus was so addicted vnto venus satisfied with Venus 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii 61 It yeeldeth very good nourishment which encreaseth seede, and exciteth Venus 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iv 289 What a more strange, then loathed Appetite Averse from Venus fly the Nuptial Rites. 1746 Francis tr *Horace*, *Epist* I xviii 43 If Venus be his darling Vice 1746–*Sat* I iv 148 An honest Venus will indulge delight

†**3** A quality or characteristic that excites love, a charm, grace, or attractive feature *Obs*

1540 Palsgr *Acolastus* L1v b, Here dwell Venusis and graces of al kynd 1609 Middleton *Mad World* II i, A pretie, fat eyde wench with a Venus in her cheeke 1621 Burton *Anat Mel* 1 ii iv vi, All the Graces Veneres pleasures, elegances attend him. 1697 R Stapylton on *Juvenal* 256 Know we not how many Venuses appear In others gold? 1711 Shaftesb *Charac* (1737) I 138 Every one is a virtuoso, of a higher or lower degree every one pursues a Grace and courts a Venus kind or another *Ibid* 337 If he knows not this Venus these Graces [etc.]

**4.** *Zoology, Shells etc* Any member of the genus Venus, as the Hard Clam, *Ostrea Virginica*

1697 C Thomson tr *Daphnis & Chloe* 1 In the Garden, the place now made a waste all the Venus of the place was gone 1731 Shaftesb *Charac* (1737) I 337 To discover amidst the most polite manners and the softest true and natural one, which represents the real beauty and Venus of the kind *Ibid*, 'Tis the like moral Grace, and Venus, which is copy'd by the writing artist

**5** A beautiful or attractive woman

*a* 1579 F Hackett tr *Amadis of Fr* viii 188 (Stf), One day ys reputed me for ye Venus that rested in your heart 1675 J Smith *Char Relig App* iii 8 The great Beauty of the Land, an Helen, a Venus. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux Strat* iv ii Had my spark call'd me a Venus directly, I shou'd have believ'd him a Footman in good earnest *a* 1814 *Women's Will* II i In *New Brit Theatre* IV 61 Were the Hottentot Venus before she has strung on her beads. 1816 Luckey *Narr Exped R Zaire* 1 (1818) 18 The Venus beauty had indulged in the ebbe Venus which they were to find on the banks of the Congo *a* 1841 J Hook *Ned Musgrave* v 1, The evening on which he first saw this Venus of the village

**II.** 6. *Astr.* The second planet in order of distance from the sun, revolving in an orbit between those of Mercury and the earth, the morning or evening star.

*c* 1250 *S Eng Leg* I 311 Sethþe þe sonne is Venus seth þe, þe clere steorre 1297 R Glouc *Chron* (Rolls) 1704 To tueye sterren, þat me sulȝ ylome, Venus and Mercurie, hii wenþ þat hii become. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v 1026

The bright venus folwede and ay taughte The wey, ther brode Phebus doyen alighte *c* 1400 *Trent Astron* 8 b (MS. Bodl B 17). The secunde owre of þe same day is the owre of þe planet Venus. *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Test Cres* 1 Fair Venus, the bewrie of the nicht, Ul rair 1590 Shake *Mids N* III ii 107 Let her shine as gloriously As the Venus of the sky 1604 Butler *Iliad* II iii 530 Venus you retriv'd, In oppos'tion with Mars And no benigne friendly Stars T' allay th effect 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1695 Sudden to heaven Thence weary vision turns where with purest ray Sweet Venus shines 1772 *Ency I Brit* I 436/2 When Venus appears west of the sun she rises before him in the morning and is called the morning star; when she appears east of the sun she shines in the evening after he sets and is then called the evening star 1842 Francis *Dict Arts* &c. Venus changes her phases like those of the moon according to her position relative to the earth and sun 1866 Locker *Guildhouse Heavens* (ed 3) 81 Thus the solid ground of Venus is uneven, like that of Mercury and the Earth.

†6 *Ach* Copper (In quot 1707 allusively) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can Yeom Prol* & *T* 276 Sol gold is and Jupiter is tyn, And Venus coper, by my fader kyn. 1504 Plat *Jewell-h* 2 90 The Alcumists giue a blaunche vnto Venus with the salt of Nitre 1611 B Jonson *Alch* II vi The great med cine I Of which one part proiected on a hundred Of Mercurie or Venus, or the Moone, shall turne it to as many of the Sunne 1707 Curios *in Bl Art Copper* 7 The Chymists call it *Venus*: as supposing it to have some more immediate Relation to that Planet 1758 [see Jupiter 2 b]. 1797 W Johnston tr *Eschenbach Elucid* I 198 One may justly doubt whether at present Mars, Venus, or Saturn, is most destructive to the human race

†b So in *crystals*, *saffron*, *salt*, *vinegar*, *vitriol of Venus* (see quots.) *Obs*

1593 *Phil Trans Abridg* VIII 301 This very elaborate method of procuring the Salt of Venus. 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I, *Vitriol of Copper* or *Venus* is Blue Chrystals made by a Solution of Copper in Water of Nitre Evaporation and Chrystallization in a cool place 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Copper*, The Calx of Brass called sometimes Saffron of Venus, is nothing but Copper calcin'd in a violent fire 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVI 651 The acetous salt of copper, called crystals of Venus, or of ver digris, by the chemists 1807 T Hobson *Chem* (ed 3) II 259 When acetate of copper reduced to powder is put into a retort and distilled, there comes over a liquid and afterwards a highly concentrated acid The acid was formerly distinguished by the names of radical vinegar and vinegar of Venus.

†7 *Her*. A name for the tincture green or vert when the names of planets are used in blazonry

1562 Leon *Armory* 16, I pray you what planet belongeth to this colour [sc vert]? Venus! 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II 78 b, The fielde is purpure, and Venus therein, which in Saturne, five bra-au tes 1680 Sir G Mackenzie *Her* 18–19. 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn*. I *vert* the Heralds Word for a Green Colour; In Coats of Nobles, is called Emerauld; and in those of Kings is called Venus

8 The highest or most favourable cast or throw in playing with huckle bones

1611 Cotgr s v, The plaie at the huckle bones, where: he that turns vp Venus (figured on one side of the bone) doth winne; whereas he that turnes vp the dog doth lose. *c* 1650 in *Mrs Ashmole* 1782 61 16s The game of Astragalis When all 5 lower boanes shal shew a severall sides this is the most fortunate cast & is called Midas or Venus take all Cock all 1737 Gekll *Rabelais* III p xvi Venus was the best Cast, three Sices. [1876 Bourne *At the Mermaid* xv, Well, may you blaspheme at fortune! I 'threw Venus' (Ben, expound!)]

9 *Gyrdle*, *mound*, *mount*, *ring of Venus*, in palmistry (see quots), also *mount of Venus*, in anatomy (see quot 1728)

Cf *Venus girdle* (1653) in 12 below

1695 Congreve *Love for I* II iii She has a most Palm and an open Liberality on the Mount of Venus. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v, Mount of Venus, *Mons Veneris*, among Anatomists, is a little hairy Protuberance, in the middle of the *Pubes* of Women. *Ibid*, Among Chiromancers, the Mount of Venus is a little Eminence in the Palm of the Hand, at the Root of one of the Fingers. 1805 Hamish *Peyshen. Hand* 32 The line of Saturn, the ring of Venus, and the line of Apollo. 1894 Paul Bellot *Palmistry* 21 The Girdle of Venus is a line describing a vencircle extending from between the Mounts of Jupiter and Saturn to the Mount of Mercury That girdle is sometimes absent 1901 Ina Oxenford *Mod Palmistry* 22 The Mount of Venus encircles the root of the thumb, and is bounded more or less by the Life line

10. *Zool* A genus of bivalve molluscs typically representing the family *Veneridæ*, a member of this genus or family, a venerid Cf Clam *sb* 4 d

1770 Pennant *Brit Zool* (1777) IV [p xiv] Commercial Venus [and various other names] *Ibid* 123 1802 in *Phil Trans* (1817) II 293 A ribbed Venus, rounded at one extremity 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* viii 228 That lilac tinted Prickly Venus (*Dosinia Venerea*) 1880 Bristol Brain 73 The Razor fish Cockle, Venus, and other bivalves possessing 'siphon tubes

*b.* 1770 Pennant *Brit Zool* (1777) IV 89 *Pellitan rugose*. Dredged up at Weymouth Misplaced among the Venuses. 1888 J Parkinson *Outl Oryctol* 257 That these supposed fresh water shells are sometimes found scattered among a multitude of salt water shells, as Cyprina, Venus, &c. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 209/2 In the Veneres the animal, furnished with longer siphons, is provided with a retractor muscle.

III *attrib* and *Comb*.

11 Simple attrib. (also possessive without 's), as *Venus bower*, *court*, *knot*, † *mole*, † *star*, *throw*, etc

*c* 1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* I 90 In *Venus Bowr to eik baith game and glew 1553 Douglas *Æneid* IV Prol 139 Lat ws in rot leif in sport and gam, In *Venus court 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 108 If [she is] one of Venus court, they have vowed dishonestye 1590 Shake *Mids N* I i. 171, I swear to thee By the simplicitie of *Venus Doues. 1876 T Hardy *Ethelberta* (1877) 35 Her hair fastened in a sort of *Venus knot behind 1600 *Swetnam Arraigned* (1880) 45 By Art they know how to adde A *Venus mole on every wanton cheeke 1596 Shake *Merch V* II vi 5 O ten times faster, Venus Pidgions flye to seale loues bonds new made. 1900 *Edinb. Rev* Oct 321 Helen by reason of the *Venus-spell loves Paris. *c* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* 39 *Venus swannes shall shed their silver downe, To sweeten out the slumbers of thy bed. 1591 Sperser *Daphn*. 483 And night without a *Venus starre is found 1611 Florio *Venerea*, the day or morning star, called Lucifer or Venus star 1879 Lewis & Short *Lat Dict*, *Venereus*, the *Venus throw at dice

b In sense 2, as *Venus aci*, *exercise*, *life*, *play*, *work*, etc.

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 753 Pat solast hom samyn With venus werkes, pat hom well plesid 1508 Dunbar *Twa Married Women* 309 He that wantes riches And valyeandnes is Ver-ui play is ful vile haldin 1513 Douglas *Æneid* IV Prol 187 With Venus henvnis quhat wyse may I flite? *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 138 That halely and wenus life was oft tymes a stell end 1621 Florio, *Venereo* given to Venus sports, or letchery 1627 Morison *Itin* II 166 Most of them when they were stripped were seen to have scarres of Venus pastimes 1803 Colekman I *Venus ecclage* wanton fleshlinesse *Ibid*. III *Barnacle*, a kinde of Sea Gull, it growes not by Venus act but by generation 1816 Keats *Endym* III 1634 Sir I Herbert *Trav* 151 Opium makes them strong and long in Venus exercises. 1658 Rowland tr *Monsfet's Theat Ins* 1004 Unless there had been plenty of milk at hand, Venus bird had died and withered deservedly for his Lechery 1786 Burns *A Dream* xiii, A glorious Galley, Weel rigg'd for Venus wark 1821 Liddle *Poems* 26 Your venus jobs now's a kend thing The Loudins braid

O In sense 10

1816 Tuckey *Narr Exped R Zaire* II (1818) 58 Fragments of shells of the cockle and venus genera 1836 Carpenter *Rep Scientific Inquiry* 1800, 256 The Venus tribe may be regarded as the types of the Lamellibranchs

12 Special combs (of the possessive, with or without *s*) **Venus** † **gem**, † **girdle**, † **hair**, **Venus's hair-stone**, **pencil** (see quots).

1601 Holland *Pliny* II 622 Such Amethysts as these 3 many give them the name of Venus gems for the great peece that they have both in colour and brightnesse 1629 The stone called Venus haire is exceedi ig blacke and shi ning howbeit it maketh a shew of red haires sprinckled among 1684 *Ind Dict* IV, *Venus's hair stones*, *Venus pencils*, fossiful names applied to rock crystal in closing slender hair like or needle like crystals of horn blende asbestos oxide of iron, rutile, oxide of manganese, &c.

**Venus's flytrap**, **Venus's basin**, **Venus's fly-basket**, *Dipsacus sylvestris*, **Venus's** comb, the shep herd's needle, *Scandix Pecten Veneris*, **Venus's** cup, Venus's basin, **Venus's flytrap**, the North American marsh-plant *Dionæa muscipula*, † **Venus' garden**, = *Venus's navelwort* (*a*), † **Venus' glass**, Venus's looking glass, **Venus golden apple** (see quot), **Venus' hair**, the maiden hair, *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris* (see also quot *c* 1713), **Venus's lover**, Venus's basin, **Venus's looking-glass**, one or other of certain plants belonging to the genus *Specularia*, esp *S* (or *Campanula*) *Speculum* († *Speculum Veneris*), **Venus' navel**, = next (*a*), **Venus's navelwort**, (*a*) the pennywort, *Cotyledon Umbilicus*, (*b*) one or other species of annual plants belonging to the genus *Omphalodes*, esp *O linifolia*, † **Venus needle**, **Venus's comb**, **Venus pear**, a variety of pear mentioned by Pliny and Columella, **Venus's pride**, *U S* (see quot), **Venus's slipper**, the lady a slipper, *Cypripedium Calceolus*

1551 Turner *Herbal* I Oivb, Dipsacos, called in latin labrum veneris that is *venus basin, because it holdeth water 1597 Gerarde (1636) 1 cccc 884 *Venus Basin* cccclxxi 1006 Teasell is called Carde Teasell, and Venus Baso 1672 Skinner *Venus bason Dipsacus sylvestris* 1763 Stukeley *Stukeley Stone* 25 Ladys fingers ladys smocks, Venus basons 1796 Venus bason, see Venus comb Prior *Plant* II Venus Bason *Veneris labrum*, so named from the hollows formed by the united bases of the leaves usually called water 1597 Gerarde (1636) 1 ccc To remove warts and freckles 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 522 Called in Englishe, Fullers Teasel, Carde Thistell, and *Venus Basen 1796 Venus comb see Shepherds Needle *Ibid* 169 Wild Teazel is still often called Venus's Bath 1866 *Treas Bot* 1208/1 Venus bath, *Dipsacus sylvestris* so named from water collecting in the connate bases of the opposite leaves. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cccc 884 *Pecten Veneris*, *sive Scandix*, Shepheards Needle or *Venus combe. 1671 Skinner, Venus-Comb 1733 *Chambers' Cycl Suppl*. *Venus's-ear*, venus comb The flower is of the rosaceous kind consisting of several petals, which are arranged in a circular order on a cup 1796 Martyn *Lett Bot* xvii (1794) 238 There is a remarkable difference in the processes or beaks terminating the seeds. 1863 Prior *Plant* 2 Venus' Comb, from the slender tapering beaks of the seed vessels being set round the head in the early state 1895 Miss Peaty *Flower Pl* III 69 Wild Teazel is still often called Venus's Cup. 1775 *Ann Reg* II 93 A Description of a newly discovered Sensitive Plant, called *Dionæa Muscipula*, or *Venus's Fly trap 1857 A Gray *First Less Bot* (1866) 171 The Venus's Fly trap growing where it is always sure of all the food a plant can need 1867 H Macmillan *Bible Teach*, vii (1870) 248 The leaf of the Venus' fly trap of North America, closing together on its prey by turning on its mid rib as on a hinge. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cxliii. 1224 Navelwort is called of some *Hortus Veneris*, or *Venus garden 1621 Cotgr., *Nombril de Venus*, Wall Pennivort, Venus garden, Hipwort 1728 Bradley *Dict Bot* II s v, *Venus Glass*, *Speculum veneris sive Viola Pentagona*. 1783 [see *Venus barne*] 1888 *Nicholson's Dict Gard* IV, *Venus Golden Apple, a common name for *Atalantia monophylla* 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E D S) 19 *Venus heir is in a manner tempre betwene hote & colde 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 409 Venus heare groweth in walles, and in stony shadowy places 1661 Lovell *Hist Animals & Min* 450 Leaves of venus's hairs, and Maidenhair 1721 Petiver (*Lexophyl* 11 liv, Round leav'd Malabar Venus hair Its large notch'd Leaves on single Stalks, distinguish it from others 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade* s v Venus hair, the *Adiantum capillus Veneris*, given as an expectorant, and forming the basis of the celebrated syrup of capillaire 1801 Holland *Pliny* II 376 The little grub or worme which is found in the Sea-hare Tasell, called *Venus Lauer 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II ccv 350 *Speculum Veneris* *Venus Looking glasse groweth in ploughed fields among the corne 1688 Grew *Museum* II. iii iii. 334 The Seed of Venus Looking Glass. *a* 1699 Mrs Behn tr *Cowley's Plants* C 2 Wics 1721 III 372 But say Corn Violet, why thou dost claim Of Venus Looking Glass the pompous Name 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xvi (1794) 189 Venus's Looking glass is a Campanula, with a weak, low, and very branching stalk 1863 Prior *Plant* 2, Venus Looking Glass from the resemblance of its flowers set round the cylindrical ovary to an ancient round mirror at the end of a straight handle 1590 R D *Hypnerotomachia* 24 b With other murrell and wall weede ... growing out of the ... walles *Venus Navill 1695 B Jonson *Pans Anniv*ers Wks (Rtldg) 643/2 Bring Bright crown imperial, kingspear, hollyhocks, Sweet Venus navel 1598 Barckley *Felic Mar* (1631) **Venus Navelwort* a Plant of Venus, esteemed of great use: otherwise called Wall Pennywort and Kidneywort 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* (ed 4) *Cotyledon*, The umbilical Venus Navel wort with a Comfry leaf, or Lesser Borage 1767 Abercrombie *Jv Man his own Gardener* (1803) 104 Hardy Annual Flower seeds ... Lobel's catch fly Venus' navel wort, Lwart poppy 1806 *Trans Bot Soc Edinb* I 82 *Omphalodes*: several species are grown in English gardens, under the name of Venus s Navelwort 1882 *Garden* 10 June 411/3 Small bouquets of Pink Rose with Venus's or Navelwort. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cccc 884 *Scandix*, Venus Coombe or *Venus Needle. 1648 Hexham II *App*, *Venus peere* a *Venus peere 1805 Singer *Hist Pear* 1 *Decid Venerea pirn* a kind of pear, Venus pear 1845 Mrs Linnæus *Lect Bot* 143 The *Houstonia cærulea* is known by different common names as Venus's looking glass 1866 *Treas Bot* 1208/1 *Venus's looking glass*: several species are grown in English gardens, under the name of Venus s Navelwort 1882 *Garden* 10 June 411/3 Small bouquets of Pink Rose with Venus's or Navelwort. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cccc 884 *Scandix*, Venus Coombe or *Venus Needle. 1648 Hexham II *App*, *Venus peere* a *Venus peere 1805 Singer *Hist Pear* 1 *Decid Venerea pirn* a kind of pear, Venus pear 1845 Mrs Linnæus *Lect Bot* 143 The *Houstonia cærulea* is known by different common names as Venus's looking glass 1866 *Treas Bot* 1208/1 *Omphalodes linifolia

*Rhus Cotinus*, wild Venus Sumach, or Wild Olive. 1866 *Treas Bot* 980/1 *R Cotinus*, another South European species, called the Venus or Venetian Sumach, yields the yellow dye wood called Young Fustic

**†Venust,** *a. Obs* [ad L. *venust-us*, f. *Venus* VENUS 1. Cf It and Pg *venusto*] Handsome, beautiful, elegant, graceful; comely in appearance

1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII Prol 87 The variant ventur of the venust vaill 1568 in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunterian Cl.) 672 My bird my bony ane, my tendir bab venust 1604 R Cawdrey *Table Alph*, *Venuste*, faire beautifull 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 173 Amber is a Rosine flowing from the Incisures of a Venust tree 1663 Waterhouse *Fort* 187 As the Infancy of Rome was venust, so was its Manhood notably strenuous. 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 370 Nor could [they] have ever thought it *Inspient* so Magnificent a Pile] venust enough, whilst they abounded with Plain Benefactors

Hence **†Venustity, †Venustness** *Obs* —0

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Venustitas*, *Venustity* beautifulness.

**†Venustate,** *v Obs*—0 [f L. *venustat* , ppl. stem of *venustāre*, f. *venust-us* see prec] (See quot) Hence **†Venustation.** *Obs* —0

1656 Blount *Glossogr* , *Venustate* to make beautiful fair or stately 1658 Phillips, *Venustation*, a making handsome or beautiful.

**†Venusty** *Obs* —1 [ad L *venustas*, f *venust us* (see Venust *a* ), or a obs I *vénusté* Cf It. *venustà*] Elegance of form, beauty

1559 Bircher *Nobylyte* (Roxb Club) 109 Nature hathe geven hym [sc man] a bewtye—it is called maiestye, or venustie, —which passethe all other bewtye

**Venville** (ve nvil) *local.* Forms 4 **venge, vengefeld, vengefeld, vyndefelde, 9 fenge, feld, venvill, 8– venville** [Of obscure origin, the suggestion made in our 1829 does not account for the earliest forms of the word ]

1 A special form of tenure obtaining in parishes adjoining Dartmoor, by which the tenants enjoy certain privileges in the use of the forest Usually in the phrase *in venville*

1 3 in *Trans Devonsh Assoc* (1876) VIII 408 M[emo randu]m quod Tenent[es] d[omi]nu princip[is in] We sgcfeld al[ia]s Vennefeld clamant habere eos articulos et libertates subscript infra forestam de Dartmoore. *Ibid*, Ft comm Tenentes ucent in vengefeld etc ] 1609 in S Rowe *Perambt Dartmoor* (1848) 279 Blacktorrebea e (which is part in the Forest of Dartmoore a id part in Venvill) 1794 R Izaak *Cen View Devon* 49 It is customary to let cattle, when trespassing within the forest bounds certain compensations, entitled 'fines villarum thence corrupted into Fi vil and 'venville' 1813 *Pinny Cycl* VIII 450/2 Part of the waste [of Dartmoor] is appropriated by the surrounding parishes the freeholders of which possess the right of common or as it is termed the right of *venville* on these appropriated parts. 1887 W F Collier in *Trans Devonsh Assoc* XIX 378 The tenants in venville are said to have the right to take anything off Dartmoor except green oak and venison

**2.** *attrib* with *farm, man, money, rent, rights, tenant*, etc

a 1600 in S A. Moore *Reg Dartmoor Presents Assoc* (1890) 48 The vyndefelde and vengefeld and Mansion 1609 in S Rowe *Perambt Dartmoor* (1848) 279 Payinge for the same their Venvill rents and other dues as hath beene tyme out of myndc accustomed 1692 *Sec Farmers*] 1696 in *Trans Devonsh Assoc* (1889) XXXI 142 Paid Phillip Andrew for Venvill rent, [4s 1d ] 1796 W H Marshall *W England* II 26 Many of those lands have a praescriptive right, to the forest, by paying an inconsiderable sum annually, under the name of Venville money, to the Duchy *Ibid* 28 The good estimation in which Venville farms are held 1829 T Boore *Hist Devon* IV 1 473 The names of the venville parishes are Sheepstor, Walkhampton, Sampford Spiney (etc ). 1848 S Rowe (*title*), A Perambulation of the ancient and royal Forest of Dartmoor, and the Venville Precincts. 1887 W F Collier in *Trans Devonsh Assoc* XIX 377-85 Venville Rights on Dartmoor

**†Veny** *v. Obs* Also 3 *uenie*, 5 *pl* **veynse, venis** [a AF *uenie* (= OF *veanie* VENIE), f. *venia* indulgence, pardon, remission] Pardon or forgiveness, a request for this, the gesture of kneeling or prostrating oneself as an indication of penitence and desire for pardon

a 1225 *Ancr R* 46 3if þu þuh semeleaste gluffe8 of wordes mimeð owere uenie dun ar tat mon ant se honden ore. *Ibid* 426 Ase ofte ase heo hit doð makieð hore uenie aleseon adun to þer eorðe þuuoren hire, & nigge ' Mea culpa ' c 1440 *Alph St Alexus* (Prose) 141 When she comes where the couent takis þare veynse, þan sall she prostrate downe 14 in Maskell *Mon Rit* II 279 All other obser vance of the ordur as ' Inclinacyous, venes and prostracyons 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb) 33 And thanne y came and lay prostraie before hym, askyng my *veny* and rehersyd agayne my *Confiteor*, etc

**Veny** 2 *Obs* exc *dial* Forms 6–7 **veny, veney, venie, 7 venee, veany, 6–7 vennie, venney, venny, 8 dial vinny, 9 finney** [Alteration of VENUE, with the terminal vowel weakened through loss of stress. Freq c 1580–c1640 ]

**1.** A hit or thrust in fencing, a wound or blow, = VENUE 2.

1598 H Worton *Courtlie Controuersie* 17 In daunger to receiue a venny at my hande. 1599 Sylvester *Du Bartas* t. i. 813 A sacred Fencer Whose two hand Sword, at every veny, keenly slyces through whole Troops at once 1635 *Long Meg of Westminster* vii (1816) 14 Or else take that staffe and haue a bout with me for thy brakefast, bee that giues the first three Venies scape free 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 223 The three aforesaid gentlemen, who were wounded in the very same parts of their bodies by other such three venees as these.

*b fig* and in fig. context, *esp* a sharp retort, a pungent remark

1586 Bright *Melanch.* xxxvi 224 Accompt not these small venies of Sathan for deadly wounds 1598 Greene *Def Conny Catching* 1o *Rdr*, I meane to giue him such a veny, that he shalbe afrayd hereafter to disparage that mysticall science of Conny catching 1606 Heywood *2nd Pt Of you know not me* (1609) F 4 b *Iohn* Name the weapon *Courtes* Nothing but kisses, and enticing lookes. *Iohn* Then ward your lips well, or youle ha the first venney 1643 Sir T Browne *Relig Med* 1 § 35 That whilst we lye at close ward against one vice we lye[not] open to the venme of another 1685 *Life William Bedell* 302 As for these vain flourishes of mine, if he had not taken a veny in them, and found it smart he had not strook again so churlishly.

*c. Veny for veny*, tit for tat

1612 Chapman *Widow's T* Wks. 1873 III 20 So, there s venie for venie, I haue giuen t him tith speeding place for all his confidence.

**2.** A bout or turn of fencing, = VENUE 3

1594 Greene *Fr Bacon & Fr Bungay* 1944 Why standst thou verbium? doubtst thou of thy life? A venie man faire Margret craues so much 1598 Shaks *Merry W* I 1 256 I bruis d my shin with playing at Sword and Dagger with a Master of Fence venys for a dish of stew d Prunes] 1615 Heywood *Fourre Prentises* 1 1 I am no sooner got into the fencing school To play a venie with some friend [etc ]. 1630 Taylor (Water P) *Last Voy* 11 Leith Venie or Bout for it, and the I stent, though not the Hap to kill him

*fig* 1606 Dekker *Seven Sins* III (Arb ) 28 One Venime more with thee and then I haue done 1618 Nyneteen *Yeares Conference betweene a Gentleman & a Clowne* 7 Venny more and that hit so if not I will lay downe the Bucklers 1644 Sir E Dering *Lords Supper* Pref c And now my sacrificing Jesuite, stand forth and let vs occasionally here try a veny

**3** *south dial* (see quots )

1746 *Exmoor S olding* (E D S ) 139 Dist hire ma Dem? Chell ha tether vi ny wi tha. *Ibid* Glos *I ny* a scolding 1881 *Isle of Wight Line Provinc*, a frolic; to have to do with I ll hev a bit of a finney at that I ll have something to do with that

**Venyed,** obs var Vinnied *ppl a* Vennom-e, obs ff Venom *sb* and *v* **Venymous(e, -owse, -us,** etc., obs. ff Venomous *a* **Venyng,** obs Sc f Wenning *vbl sb* **Venyson(e, -oune, -owne, Venson,** obs ff Venison **Venyss(e,** obs ff Venice **Venyw,** obs f Venue

**Veo,** southern ME var Fee *sb* 1, south west dial var Few *a* **Veolar,** obs Sc f Violer **Veolau, southern ME VAR Felow Veolau**reden, southern ME variant of Feloweed *Obs* **Veole,** Me var Fiala *Obs* **Veol(e,** southern MF var Fail 1 **Veolthe, Veond, Veor, Veorlich(e,** southern ME var Filth *sb*, Fiend, Far *adv* Perly *a* and *adv* **Veorme,** var Farm *sb*1 *Obs* **Veorne, Veorše, Veotere,** southern ME var Fern *a Obs*, Fourth *a*, Fetter *v*

**Vepe,** obs Sc f Weep *v* **Vepen,** ME var Weapon **Veper,** obs Sc f Viper

**Veproce se,** *a Obs*—0 [ad med. or early mod L *vepropse-us*, f. *vepropse* (*vepros*) brier-bush, bramble-bush ] (See quot )

1721 Bailey, *Veprosse* full of briars or brambles.

**†Veprioo sous,** *a Obs*—0 (See prec. and quot ) 1656 Blount *Veprisculous* full of briars or brambles.

**†Ver,** *sb*1 *Obs* Also *Sc* 5 **6 uer** [a L *ver* or Ol *Ver* In ME a variant of Vere ] the season of spring, springtime

a 1382 Wyclif *Eccles* v 16 Naked he shal wende as the flour of rosen in the dayes of ver c 1407 Lydg *Reson & Sens* 91 When the clere sonne avoos In grene ver, ful of deli t c 1450 *Harl Cookery-bks.* (Rokeby MS) 118 In Mydsomer ys grene in tyme of ver [etc ]. 1480 80 tt *Secreta Secret* 27 Ver bigynneth when þe sonne entrith into the signe of þe Ram 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* II 126 *Ver* is nocht ellis, quhen that the da grew lang This kmg tuke the feild 1581 J Howell *Devices* (1879) 197 The more to mourne Our Ladie lost in source of sorrowes shadow Which loe in Ver to heauen hath gone the way 1611 Cotgr *Eng Helicon* (1887) 253 Ver hath made the pleasant field Many several odours yield

**b** In more or less personified use

1390 Gower *Conf* III 118 When Ver his Seson hath be gonne c 1400 *Destr Troy* 6037 Ver entrid fulleuin eger with all 1430 40 Lydg *Bochas* v xv (1554) 132 Ver came in with hys newe grene. a 1542 Surrar in *Tottel's Misc* (Arb) 8 Them might I se how Ver had enery blossom bent 1568 J Howell *Arb Amitie* (1879) 24 Now Lady Ver in lively greene doth showe her grace in fielde 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrodite* etc. Vv b When Vertvmne (Ver) tyme 1630 Drayton *Muses Elis* Nymphal III 179 Whilst fresh Ver is flinging Her Bounties abroad

**†Ver,** *sb*2 *Obs*—1 (Meaning obscure )

13 *Gawe & Gr Knt* 866 þe ver by his usage veraly bit semed Wel nes to vche habel alle on hewes

**†Ver,** *v*1 *Obs*—1 [Of obscure origin ] *trans* ? To spot or bespatter *with* something

a 1300 *Morte Arth* 2573 The weare the aventaile, his vesturis ryche With the valyant blode was verrede alle oure!

**†Ver,** *v*2 *Obs*—1 [Aphetic f Averr ] *trans* To aver declare

c 1400 *Destr Troy* 49 Ouyd and other ] at oneyt were n), Virgill þe virtues, verrit for nobill.

**Ver,** southern ME var. Far *a* and *adv*, Fir, Fire *sb*, For *prep*.

**Ver,** obs. Sc f. *were*, pa. t. of Be *v*, obs. Sc f War *sb* and *a*, Were *sb* (doubt)

**Ver-,** southern ME var For- *pref* 1

**†Vera.** *Naut Obs.* [App f. Vere *v* 1] ? A command to let out more of the sheet

c 1330 *Hicksecrwer* 302 A le the helme! a-le! vere! shot of! vere sayle! vera!

**Vera,** obs or dial f Very *a*

**Veracious** (vēr·ē·shəs), *a.* [f L *vērāc* , *vērax* according to truth, that speaks the truth + -ious *Cf.* next ]

**1** Habitually speaking or disposed to speak the truth, observant of the truth, truthful

a 1677 Barrow *Serm* (1686) II 63 That God is good vera cious, and faithfull. 1778 Johnson *L F Sheaff* (1781) III 409 The credit of the writers, both undoubtedly veracious. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc* lxiii I am a most veracious person and Totally unacquainted with untruth 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* xxviii The testimony of the two vera cious and competent witnesses. 1864 Bowen *Logic* viii 431 A witness is presumed to be veracious in this case in propor tion as his love of truth is already established from others.

**2** Characterized by veracity, truthfulness, or honesty, conforming to truth, true, accurate

1777 Johnson *Let to Mrs Thrale* 27 Jan, for my soul laid open in these veracious pages! 1820–21 Bentham *Nature Judic Evid* (1827) V 718 The testimony which has served as the instrument of the mischief has been, veracious 1868 W S Lilly *Chief Lds Sac Tudges* 400 He showed His back but not His face to Moses and dictated the veracious narrative of Balaam and his ass. a 1871 De Morgan *Budget Paradox* (1872) 250 That it was the most veracious of books written by the most honest of men.

**3** That estimates or judges truly or correctly

1851 Carlyle *Sterling* I v The young ardent soul that enters on this world with veracious insight will find this world a very mad one

Hence **Vera ciously** *adv*, **Vera ciousness**

1807 G Chalmers *Caledonia* I iii vii 405 In Shakspeare, it was his duty, to lay the materials of Dramatic Poetry, as place differ ent fro i Bothgowanan, where the Chronicle has veraciously fixed it 1860 I Taylor *Sp Hebr Poetry* (1873) 63 The very ousness of the reader 1877 Mrs Oliphant *Makers Flor* 57 Burke s hal tual veraciousness 1905 *Ather xum* 25 Nov 719/1 How diplomatists plot is veraciously related

**Veracity** (vēra·siti) Also 7 **veracitie** [ad F *veracité* (= It *veracità*, Pg *veracidade*), or med L. *veracitat* , *veracitas*, f. L. *vērāci* , *verax*, f *ver us* real true ]

**1** The quality or character in persons of speaking or stating the truth, habitual observance of the truth, truthfulness, veraciousness

1623 in Cockeram I 1624 H Mason *New Art Lying* v 58 Truth morally taken, which he calleth veracitie 1658 Norris *Coll Misc* (1699) 154 A due conformity between it Words and the Understanding when I speak as I think which is moral Truth or Veracity 1714 F Finder *Exact Disc* II 87 Veracity is a moral virtue and consists in a due conformity of our words or declaration s with our thoughts 1775 Johnson *Jrn to Hebr* 57 I do not dispute to the Co gress of Hindelphia, the first seat of Virtue and Veracity 1809 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 23 Veracity, therefore not mere accuracy to convey truth, not merely to say it, is the point of duty in dispute 1818 Cruden *Concord Laws Hebr to t* Wks (Bohn) II 447 I look upon the simple and childish virtues of veracity and honesty as the root of all that is sublime in character 1844 F Finder *Exact Test T ll Huxley* II 427 Huxley s passion for veracity was perhaps his strongest characteristic

**b** *Of yerstesty*, trustworthy, v racious, truthful (Also with qualifying adjectives )

1671 J Webster *Metallogr* 1 8 Authors of the greatest authority and veracity 1700 Astry tr *Stawedra Faxardo* I 88 Speaking of a Man of Veracity, we say he carries his Heart in his Hands 1704 in *Farmer & Lett Lett* 331 Those in this place, of unblemished credit and undoubted veracity, who were witnesses. 1737 *Genl Mag* VII 21 The same Author of veracity attests it 1780 Harris *Philol Inq* Wks. (1841) 494 Philosophers, men of veracity studied the heavenly bodies. 1839 James *Louis XIV* III 31 A few instances from one author alone, of undoubted veracity

**c** This quality as manifested in individuals. Const *of* (a person) or with possessive.

1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 114, I doubt not of the veracity of that noble philosopher 1687 Thoresby *Ducatus ad Leodam* Wks 1730 I 81 Authors of that undoubted credit that no body will call their veracity in question 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I viii, Which gave great entertainment clearly convinced him of my veracity 1785 Paley *Mor Philos* III i xv All the benefit of conversation, depending upon our opinion of the speaker s veracity 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 2 But for the preparations going on before my eyes, I should have doubts of my own veracity 1870 J H Newman *Grammar Assent* ii 76 The child asserts the veracity of his mother in her assertion of the inapprehensible

**2** Agreement of statement or report with the actual fact or facts, accordance with truth, correctness, accuracy.

1736 Butler *Anal* II vii 369 Mere genealogies perhaps do carry some presumption of veracity 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No 4 P 19 In narratives where historical ve acity has no place. 1825 Coleridge in *Lit Remr* (1839) IV 275 The character of veracity and simplicity on the very coun tenance, as it were, of the Gospel 1860 Emerson *Cond Life*, *Fate* Wks (Bohn) II 316 No picture of life can have any veracity that does not admit the odious fact.

**b** Const *of* or with possessive

1664 H More *Myst Iniq* 101 The veracity of the voice of Christ sounding in the Scriptures. 1684 I Goodman *Penit Pilate s Demon* 100 For Testimony concerning the Veracity of his History, we find even [etc.]. a 1706 Evelyn *Hist*

*Relig* (1850) I 386 Were the tradition of the Scriptures' antiquity and veracity not enough 1755 LLOYD in *Connoisseur* No 73 434 The veracity of these posthumous on comums may, indeed, be fairly suspected 1829 *Adrian* II vi 89 The band of warriors no longer doubting the veracity of his words 1843 G. S FABER *Light Distort* (1845) I 151 Such at least, is the ancient narrative and I see no reason to disbelieve its general veracity 1902 HICKENS *Londoners* 42 Finding the veracity of his paragraph thus impugned

**3** Correspondence with external facts, exactness in the indication of these

1666 Bp S PARKER *Disc of Impart Counsel* (1667) 59 Suppose that we were born with these congenite Anticipations, how can I be certaine of the r Truth and Veracity? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* II He was under the painful necessity of admitting the veracity of optics 1869 P W NEWMAN *Misc* 53 Every Specific Informa t [*i e* scientific instrument] needs to have its veracity put to the test.

**4** That which is true, a truthful statement; a truth.

1852 † W ROBERTSON *Serm* Ser III xvi (1857) 204 It is possible for a man to utter veracities and yet to be false to himself and to his God 1867 STUBBS *Sir Mediev & Mod Hist* (1886) 18 A world whose falsehoods and veracities are separated by so very thin a barrier

**5** *Comb*, as *veracity assuring, -serving*

1802 12 BENTHAM *Ration Judic Evid* (1827) I 194 According as the force of this veracity-insuring motives is the strongest *Ibid.* 282 Veracity serving information in formation co sidered as a source of truth

**Verade,** variant of FERRED *Obs*

**Veral,** obs form of VARIAL

**† Ve rament,** *adv Obs* Forms a 4 vere , 4–6 **verrement** (4 verree ) *β* 4 6 **vera** , 4 5 vera-, 5 *Sc* **werrament** [ad AF *verement* (cf mod Walloon *vèrement*) = OF *vorement* (still in dial use), f *vor*, *voir* –L *verus* true The *β*-forms may be partly due to the influence of *verrament* VERIMENT ] Really, truly , = VERIMENT *adv*

Prose *c* 1330–*c* 1560 esp in *β* form often as a mere tag or rime word

*a* 1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 651 Syf þou wene þat verement, Hyt ȝe ayein ȝyn com vndement *c* 1325 *Poems Cy Warw* 877 Pu shalt fonge verrement Pure þi rihte ligement. *c* 1400 T CHESTRE *Launfal* 485 Many a knyght verement, Ich ground was ibore *a* 1450 MYRC *Dour Pr* 390 These ȝre poyntes verament Nowþer schalle do, bot bobe assent 15.. W BROUN in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunt Cl) 138/6 With havy hurt and mekle dreid I red the scrip tour verament

*β c* 1385 *Lai le Freine* 255 He bad his man sigge verra ment, He schuld toward a turnament *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 2 Listeneth, lordings in good entent And I wol tell ȝou verament Of mirth and of solas 1426 AUDLAY *Poems* 6 Fore thou art bounden go were thou goo Ther is no man may hit undo but he be verai verament. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* iii 6 If he son the moyne, verament Thou maide *a* 1530 DOUGLAS *K Hart* ii 470 Go send for Died, thin said he verament. 1561 *Due a Lether* A iij b, In their mynde they thyncke verament That eather for riches & honour Iustis will doo. 1606 N BAXTER *Sidneys Ouranus* D 4 Yet not in any sort colour verament For no colours hath the starrie firmament 1621 in *Corpat's Crudits* 2 Panegyr Verses, He did his homage verament And saluted them each one

**b.** Quasi-*adv. In verament,* = prec

*c* 1450 *Sonet Carols*, etc. (1907) 1 xl 3 In this tyme God hath sent Hys own Son To dwell with vs in verament *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX 908 It is for god nit he is fra us went It sall ye se, trast well, in verament *c* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt Venus* i 763 [They] deput ane to gif dilitte tithe Answer againe Quhilk lady hecht Themis in verament. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V 247 In verament and sincerity, I never crouded through this con fluent herring fuire

**Verandə, verandah** (vĕræ·ndă). I orms **a.** 8– **veranda** (8 do, -der) *β* 8– **verandah.** *γ* 8 9 **viranda,** -dah (8 -do, -der) 8 8 **feranda, ferandah, veronda, voranda,** 8–9 **varanda,** 9 **varhandah.** [Originally introduced from India, where the word is found in several of the native languages, as Hindi *varandā*, Bengali *barandā*, mod Skr *baranda*, but appears to be merely an adoption of Pg and older Sp *varanda* (*baranda*) railing, balustrade, balcony † *véranda* appears to have been adopted from English.

The evidence for the origin of the word is fully presented in Yule and Burnell's *Hobson Jobson* The supposition that it was native to India accou its for some of the spellings placed under 8 ]

**1.** An open portico or light roofed gallery extending along the front (and occas other sides) of a dwelling or other building, freq having a front of lattice-work, and erected chiefly as a protection or shelter from the sun or rain

**a.** 1711 C LOCKYER *Acc Trade India* 20 The Building is very ancient, two Story high, and has two large Verandas or Piazzas. 1757 J H GROSE *Voy E Indies* 84 A pent house or shed, that forms what is called in the Portuguese Lingua franca *Verandas*, either round or on particular sides of the house 1793 HODGES *Trav India* 39 These boats are, however, extremely commodious, having in the center a small verander, or open portico 1806 LOWELL *Bigelow P* Introd , Poems (1890) II 201 The Captain was walking up and down the veranda of a country tavern in Massachusetts while the coach changed horses 1824 J GILMOUR *Mongols* xxvii 393 A crowd of women take their stand in the veranda of a temple.

*β* 1800 *Asiat Ann Reg* 324/1 All around is a wide verandah, containing ranges of cells 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* V 208 Emma advanced to meet Lady Castelton as she quitted her chair at the verandah 1859 L OLIPHANT *China & Japan* II ix 196 The building itself was in the form of a shed, with very deep verandahs. 1879 R H ELLIOT *Written on Forehead* II 2 After dinner we will sit in the verandah.

*γ* 1781 † PHILALETHES *Tyrol Bocconi's Voy Bombay* (ed 2) 48 When we got to the Prince's, he was sitting in a miserable little Virando or Piazza. 1795 *Hist Trans* LVII 219 Hence people get out into the virando's and elsewhere for breath. 1793 HODGES *Trav India* vii 146 The space between the angle rooms are viranders, or open porticoes, to sit in during the evenings. 1818 LADY MORGAN *France* (ed 3) II 5 The pretty *grisettes* were not unconscious of the glances pointed from the virandas of Tortoni's or Hardy's cafés 1833 N ARNOTT *Physics* (ed 5) II 184 When a slightly projecting roof, or a viranda, shadows the whole front of a house 1844 DICKENS *Pictures from Italy* (1846) 174 There are virandas and balconies to almost every house.

*δ* 1754 73 E IVES *Voy India* 111 45 Near each of the *verandas*, there is a square room with a pillar in the middle 1784 in *Archæologia* VII 267 A feerdash or piazza which extends from east to west sixty feet 1786 *Ibid* VIII 254 The other gate leads to what in this country [India] is called a *veranda* or *feranda*, which is a kind of lofty building place 1800 *Asiat Ann Reg* 128/2 His Lordship is supposed to be seated in the east verunda of the government house 1836 J HOOK *G Lavery* I 46 Vestibules, varhandahs, palanquins and punkahs

**† b** Without article *Obs*

1776 *Trial Nuncle* 33/2 He was not in the room I saw him in yesterday but in a little room of Veranda.

**c.** *Comb.* (See quots.)

1873 TROLLOPE *Australia* I 418 The verandah is a kind of open exchange—some place on the street pavement apparently left for that purpose, on which the owners of mining shares do congregate 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng* 480/1 Verandahs are an architectural feature of most City shops, where they render the b ood side walk almost a continuous arcade. Under the Verandah has acquired the meaning where city men meet do congregate

**2** *attrib* and ( *comb*, as *veranda pillar*, *post*, etc, *veranda-builder*, *-hut*, *-roof*

**a.** 1803 J. (See quots.) 17 A support to a light verandah like roof 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade Verandah builder* a maker of wire or wood lattice work. 1868 *Rep U S Commissioner Agric* (1869) 304 There is no climbing plant that can excel this as a covering for veranda pillars *c* 1890 A MURDOCH *Ishiwara Episode* 73 She clasped the verandah post to keep her from falling in a swoon 1897 KIPLING *Capt Courag* 8 Cheyne, in a verandah room, toiled along wearily from day to day

**Veranda(h)ed,** *a* Also 9 virandoed [f prec.]

1 Provided with a veranda, furnished with verandas.

**a** 1823 L HUNT *Looker* (1860) 172 Nor would I have a Verandaed window to forestall my grave Verandaed truly from the northern heat 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I 1 The stretch of verandaed hotels and restaurants along the shore

**b** 1825 HERBER *Jrnl* 14 Sept , Three good sized rooms verandahd front and back 1866 F LEES *Gatherings Egypt* 107 The lower house was surrounded by a marble paved verandahed walk or terrace 1885 R L & E STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 145 A large verandahed court

*c. transf* 1818 M C LEWIS *Jrnl W Ind* (1834) 84 The whole house is verandoed with shifting Venetian blinds to admit air

**2.** Abounding in verandas

1893 *Fin Critic* (US) 16 Nov 316 The verandahed South is the home of the open air *from the*

**† Verangene** *Obs* —1 [ad Sp *berengena*] = AUBERGINE

1587 HARRISON *Descr Eng* II xx in *Holinshed* I 98/2 The nobilitie adventure further upon such fruits as are verie dangerous and hurtfull, as the verangenes, mushroms

**Verard,** *sb. Surgery and Med* [See *prep*.] 6 b

**Veratrate,** combining form or stem of VERATRUM, occurring in chemical terms, as **veratralbia,** albine (see quots ), **veratrate,** a salt of veratric acid (1884 *Imp Dict*), **veratric** *a*, derived from or contained in species of *Veratrum*, **veratroidea** ( oidia), = VERATRINE , **veratroidine** (see quot ), **veratrol,** a colourless aromatic oil obtained by distilling veratric acid with excess of baryta.

1856 H C WOOD *Therap* (ed 2) 156 Chas. L. Mitchell finds two alkaloids in the rhizome [of *Veratrum album*] one of which he denominates jervia, the other *veratralbia*. 1891 *Cent Dict*, *Veratralbine* an alkaloid obtained from *Veratrum album* 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 251 *Veratric acid*, the acid with which veratria exists combined in Cevadilla 1866 *Chambers's Encycl* VIII 395/2 Two special organic acids, to which the names of Veratric and Veratric acids have been given 1877 WATTS *Fownes Chem* II 549 Dimethyl protocatechuic or Veratric acid is contained in Cevadilla seeds (from *Veratrum Sabadilla*) 1884 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat Med* 382 This rhizome is stated to contain two alkaloids, *Veridia* and *Veratroidea* the latter is insoluble in ether 1891 H C WOOD *Therap* (ed 8) Recently Prof Wormley has arrived at the conclusion that veratroidia is identical with veratria. 1891 *Cent Dict*, *Veratroidine*, an alkaloid, supposed to be identical with rubijervine, obtained from *Veratrum viride* 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 997 *Veratrol* does not appear to unite with alkaline bisulphites.

**Veratria** (vĭrē·tri.ă) *Chem.* [f. VERATR-UM + IA 1 ] = VERATRINE

1821 URE *Dict Chem*, *Veratria* a new vegetable alkali, discovered lately (in July, 1819) by MM Pelletier and Caventou, in the cevadilla, the white hellebore, and the meadow saffron 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 251/1 Veratria is a white or greenish-white powder, which has a salty and crystalline appearance under the microscope. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 20 Oct 2/2 An alkaloid known as veratria or white hellebore 1876 HARLEY *Keyes's Med Mat* 388 It does not excite sneezing like the closely allied substance veratria.

**Veratrin** (ve rătrin). *Chem.* [f as next + -IN 1. Cf F, *vératrin* ] **a.** = VERATRINE. **b.** Veratrum-resin ( Watts, 1868)

1830 LINDLEY *Nat Syst Bot* 272 The medicinal properties of the root of Veratrum are owing to a peculiar alkaline principle, called Veratrin 1860 AITKEN *Pract Med* II 730 Of all remedies, digitalis, aconite, and veratrin are the most useful in tranquillizing the action of the heart 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 706 Ergot, aconite, veratrin, and many others have been prescribed

**Veratrine** (vĕ·rătrin) *Chem* [a F *vératrine*, f VERATR-UM + -INE 5. The mod L form *veratrina* has also been employed.] A poisonous vegetable alkaloid or mixture of alkaloids, obtained esp from various species of *Veratrum* (as the seeds of *V Sabadilla* and the root of *V album*), and used medicinally as an ointment for the relief of neuralgia, rheumatism, etc , veratria

1822 A. T THOMSON *Lond Disp* (ed 3) 257 Its [*sc* Colchicum] acrimony resides in a peculiar alkali, which can be separated from the other principles and has been named *veratrine* by M M Pelletier and Caventou, who discovered it 1832 W GREGORY *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 2) 362 Veratrine, in the form of tincture, and still more in that of ointment, is now much used 1883 R HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser II 272/1 Veratrine is easily exhausted from the seeds of *Veratrum Sabadilla*

*attrib* 1865 MRS CARLYLE *Lett* III 259 I got the thing he mentioned, Veratrine Ointment 1868 W WATTS *Dict Chem* V 997 A solution of a veratrine salt, is used with great effect

**Veratrize,** *v rare* [f VERATR-INE + -IZE ] trans To drug, poison, or treat with veratrine

Hence **Ve ratrised** *ppl a*

1874 H C WOOD *Therapt* 143 These facts, however do not prove that the convulsions in the veratrized frog are not spinal 1892 in *Cent Dict*

**Veratrum** (vĕrē·trŭm). *Bot* [L *vératrum* hellebore ]

1 A perennial genus typical of the family *Veratreæ* of liliaceous plants; a plant belonging to this genus, esp. the white hellebore (*V album*), also, the rhizome of this

1598 TREVISA *Barth De P R* XVII lv (Bodl MS.) Elobrous þe Romayns clepeþ hus herbe Veratrum, vnderfot in twei maners of blakke and white 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E D S) 79 Veratrum maye be called in englishe Neesewurte ] 1577 B GOOGE *Heresbachs Husb* ii (1586) 69 Veratrum, is of two kindes, the one of the blatke and the white 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 232 The root of Veratrum or Ellebore maketh a most excellent sure lure to rid it [dandriffe] away 1691 *Ray Wisemont's Hys Dict* (ed 2) *Veratrum* the same with *Helleborus* 1753 *Chambers's Cycl* Suppl s v , The species of white Hellebore enumerated by Mr Tournefort, are these : 1 The greenish flowered *Veratrum* And 2 The early flowering *Veratrum*, with blackish purple flowers. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 642/1 Veratrum has likewise been found useful in epilepsy and other convulsive complaints. 1823 CRABB *Technol Dict* s v, White flowered Veratrum, or White Hellebore 1836 *Penny Cycl* VII 448/1 We strongly suspect that all those useful Veratrums usually belong rather to the genus Helonias [etc ]. 1872 GARROD *Mat Med* (ed. 3) 345 Therapeutics [of Veratria] As veratrum, but much more powerful.

**2** *attrib*, and *Comb*, as *veratrum family*, *-leaved* adj , **veratrum resin** (see quots ).

1836 J M GULLY *Magendie's Formul* (ed 2) 69 That all the individuals of the *veratrum* family possessed a very acrid taste 1843 *Lizars Jrnl* (1846) IV 136 *Calamba tratrefolia* (Derived from veratrum leaved ) 1853 ROYLE *Mat Med* (ed 2) 664 Veratrum Wine 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 997 *Veratrum resin*, a constituent of sabadilla seeds. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl Dict*, *veratrum resin*, a brownish resin, extracted from sabadilla seeds.

**Verax,** obs form of VERY *a* and *adv*

**Veraxly,** obs f. VERILY *adv*

**Verb** (vəzb) Also 4–7 **verbe** [a OF (also mod F ) *verbe* or ad L *verbum* word, VERB (whence also It , Sp , Pg *verbo*) ]

1. *Gram* That part of speech by which an assertion is made, or which serves to connect a subject with a predicate

For the numerous kinds of verbs distinguished by special epithets see the adjs. *auxiliary*, *copulative*, *deponent*, *desiderative*, *frequentative* etc

1388 *Wyclyffite bible* Prol xv (1850) I 57 Sumtyme it mai wel be resolued into a verbe of the same term 1483 *Cath Angel* 400/2 A verbe, *verbum* 1530 PALSGR Introd p xxx, Of verbes in the frenche tong be two dyvers sortes 1542 UDALL *Erasm Apoph.* 120 b, The greke verbe ἐκτίνειν soundeth in latin *excidere* 1544 R *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 107 b, In some case these verbes *decès* & *cencease* have the same effect in substances. 1865 S ASHE *Fun Serm. Gatehse* 6 There is no verb to limit it unto any term of time, either past, present, or to come 1868 WILKINS *Real Char* II i § 3 303 That part of speech, which by our Common Grammarians is stiled a *Verb*, ought to have no distinct place amongst Integrals in a Philosophical Grammar 1725 WATTS *Logic* I iv § 6 There are also verbs, or words of action, which are equivocal as well as nouns or names. 1784 COWPER *Task* 619 No nourishment to feed his growing mind, But conjugated verbs and nouns declin'd? 1835 T MITCHELL *Aristoph Acharn & Aristoph* 241 *note*, The four forms of future verbs with a passive signification, which occur in Greek writers. 1904 *Varney Mem* I. 48 The inversion of the sentences, the verb coming at the end, is curiously like the German construction.

*Ag* 1730 FIELDING *Rape upon Rape* II v, I will be a verb active, and you shall be a verb passive.

**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb*, as *verb-formation*, *-grinder*, *-root*, *-stem*.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I 83 The verb-grinder engendered in his noddle a most ingenious device 1866 TYLOR *Early Hist Man* iv 63 The reference of substantives to a verb-root in the Aryan languages. 1884 *Philol Soc Trans* 557 A more systematic consideration of the verb-formations 1904 BRADLEY *Making English* 124 Prefixing an adverb to a verb-stem such as 'outbreak, outfit

†**2** *Principal verb*, the chief or most important thing *Obs.*

1616 J LANE *Contin Sir T* VII 582 'Sirrah' Cambuscan lowrd, 'all yee haue loste Your principale verbe (credite) which yee boste 1642 *Remonstr Lords & Comm in Part* 26 May 20 That therefore which is the principle Verbe in this Statute, is the serving of the King for the time being 1690 C N Robinson *Brit Fidel* (1894) 192 The Quality of the Commodity is not considered, but the gratuity to the officer is the principal Verb 1728 NORTH *Mem Music* (1846) 80 The violin was scarce knowne tho now the prin cipall verb.

†**3.** A word. *Obs rare*

a 1726 SOUTH *Serm* (1744) IX 125 That so it might appear, that the assistance of the spirit promised to the church was not a vain thing, or a mere verb

**Verbage**, variant of VERBIAGE *rare*—1

1787 POLWHELE *Engl Orator* III 770 As the flippant Phrase Glides from his hollow Tongue, tho' oft debas'd By low commercial Verbage.

**Verbal** (vɜ́ băl), *a* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **verbale**, **-all(e.** [n. OF (also mod F) *verbal* (=Sp and Pg *verbal*, It *verbale*), or ad. L. *verbālis* consisting of words, pertaining to verbs, f *verbum* word, VERB.]

**A.** *adj* **1** Of persons: **a** Dealing in or with words, esp with mere words in contrast to things or realities

1588 CANTON *Curnall* 4 We be verbal or full of wordes and deayre more the wordes than the thynges 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 38 Henoch himselfe is made, not a verball but a reall Preacher 1648 MILTON *Ikon Kings* (1650) 58 While they are onely verbal against the punishing of Tyrants, all the Scripture they bring is direct to inferr it altogether lawful 1677 in Hubbard *Indian Wars* (1865) II 273 I am perswaded of Mars and Minerva go Hand in Hand, they will effect more Good in an Hour than the e verbal Mercurians in their Lives. 1770 BEATTIE *Ess on Truth* Introd. (1770) A verbal disputant I whist claim, cin he have to the title of Philosopher?

†**b** Using many words, talkative, verbose *Obs*.

1611 SHAKS *Cymb* III iii 122, I am much sorry (Sir) You put me to forget a Lady's manners By being so verball 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I 1 He's growne too verball this Learning is grea Wrich 1647 LILLY *Chr Astrol* 111 78 A meer verball fellow, frothy, constant in nothing but idle words and bragging

**c** Interested in, attending to, the mere words of a literary composition

1709 POPE *Ess Crit* 664 Neglect the rules each verbal critic lays, For not to know some trifles is a piu ce 1782 V KNOX *Ess* XXXIII (1819) I 180 It is from the labou s of verbal critics, that our language will receive the only excellencies it wanted 1815 FARLEY *Bacchylus* Pref (1861) p XVIII, Hermann, the leader of the verbal-critics.

**2** Consisting or composed of words, also, of or pertaining to, manifested in, words

*Verbal inspiration* : see INSPIRATION 3 a

1530 PALSGR 327/2 Verball, full of wordes, *verbal, verbale* 1589 COOPER *Admon* 60 As he and other of his crewe babbling in their verbale sermons vse to doo. 1592 SHAKS *Ven & Ad* 831 All the neighbour caves as seeming troubled, Make verbal repetition of her moans 1620 W FOLKING HAM *Brachygraphy* i Short-writing is either of the bare Letter, or of Words composed of Letters that I call Literall or Elementall, this Dictionall or Verball 1662 HERBERT *Body Dvolnity* 253 There is a threefold lie. 1 Verbal, when a man tells a false tale. 1677 *Gent Venice* 163 The Council of Ten having stretched their Law against Treason, to Verbal Expressions. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig Nat* I 9 Now what has a meaning, may be either true or false; which is as much as can be said of any verbal sentence 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 140 P11 Samson's complaint of the inconvenience of imprisonment is not wholly without verbal quaintness. 1791 *Gent Mag* 263/2 Several pages of his sermons consisting of a series of verbal quibbles and jingles. 1820 HAZLITT *Table T* Ser II II (1869) 72 We cannot by a little verbal sophistry confound the qualities of different minds 1868 PEARD *Water-farm* vi. 67 Instead of a verbal description, we will give a rough sketch of the nursery 1874 GARDNER *Short Hist* v 104 The young playwright quizzes the verbal wit and high flown extravagance of thought and phrase which Euphues had made fashionable.

**b** Of the nature of, or denoting, a word.

1605 *Tryall Chev* III iii, Bourbon I who names him? that same verball sound Is like a thunderclap to Philips eares 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und.* II xi § 8 These verbal signs they [sc children] sometimes learn from others, and sometimes make themselves 1701 GREW *Cosmol Sacra* II vi 68 Observing by degrees, that all Words consist of a certain Number of Simple Sounds, they brought them [sc marks], from many Thousands of Verbal Marks, to Two or Four and twenty Literal ones.

†**3.** *Verbal process* (also *process verbal*), a detailed account or report : [After F *procès verbal*.]

1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* viii. 263 In the Process Verbal of the Assembly General of the Clergy of France. 1688 *Lond Gaz* No 2330/2 But the Nuncio and Clergy have drawn up a Verbal Process of all that passed, which they have transmitted to Rome. 1708 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VII XV, I took an inventory of the particulars, of which I formed in my pocket-book a small verbal process. 1708-9 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints, St. Jane Frances*, He left an authentic verbal process of this vision, but as of a third person 1760 *Ann Reg* I 209 The next day, what is called the verbal process, was taken at the town house This verbal process is somewhat like our coroner's inquest

**d.** *Verbal note*, in diplomacy, an unsigned note or memorandum sent as a mere reminder of some matter not of immediate importance.

1860 WHARTON *Law-Lex* (ed 9).

**3** Concerned with, affecting or involving, words only, without touching things or realities.

1629 Baron *Acts Learn* II 36 Socrates separated Philosophy and Rhetoricke, whereupon Rhetoricke became an empiric and verball Art 1682 BIBLE *Transl Pref* P 16 Wee might justly feare hard censure, if generally wee should make verball and vnnecessary chaingings 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* II xi § 7 Whether the greatest part of the Disputes we see in the World, are not merely Verbal, and about the Signification of Words *a* 1761 LAW *C ns? Whitby Polyg* (1809) 22 Men fallen from the truth of the Christian life under the power of natural reason, and verbal learning 1789 T REID *Essays Hum Mind* V 369 If all the general words of a language had a precise meaning all verbal disputes would be at an end 1809 *Ann Rev Pebb Corr* I 372 If our liturgy had been cast in a vulgar mould, subsequent alterations, not only verbal but radical, would have been indispensable. *c* 1820 WHATELY *Logic* in *Encycl. Metrop* (1845) I 224/1 Definition of the term . . viz. of what is not necessarily a real definition 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) V 121 The opposition between these two modes of speaking is rather verbal than real

**b** Finding expression in words only, without being manifested in action

1622 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & B* 32 Telling him that her selfe, and herestate Is not to be obtain'd with verball prate Of loue, and fancie 1629 MASSINGER *Unnat Combat* IV ii, Nor shall you find A verbal friendship in me but an active 1690 C NYRSE *Hist & Myst O & N T* I 68 They put not God off with complements and verbal acknowledgments 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 706 My Prophets and my Sophists finish'd here Their Civil Efforts of the Verbal War 1745 BERKELEY *Wks* VIII 284 II 246 I have merely verbal Answers, which were thought the proper language for the public ear 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XII V 173 Some solid and extraordinary benefit, something beyond a mere verbal recognition of its independence.

**c** Consisting merely in words or speech

1628 BOLTON *Floras* (1636) 301 How true is that speech That sometimes a verball Confession and true Faith 1631 P FLETCHER *Purple Isl* VII v Of these great monuments Onely a fading verball memorie And empty name in writ is left behinde. 1653 HEYLIN *Aerolatus* Wks. 1851 V 349 But our Ministers for the verbal labor of a seventh days Preachment exact as due the tenth of our Labors

**4** Expressed or conveyed by speech instead of writing, stated or delivered by word of mouth, oral.

1591 HORSEY *Trav* (Hakluyt Soc) 241 His Majestys verball answer to those two points conteyned within her Majestys letters 1617 MORYSON *Itin* I 153 The Chamber of the Parliament where verball appeales are decided is called the Golden Chamber 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 131 The gentleman carried nothing from hence in writing, but I believe he had a verball commission 1665 PEPYS *Diary* V 107 Mr. Ed did it by verbal direction from Sir W Coventry 1727 SWIFT *Fair ning of F Curll* Wks. 1755 III 1 150 Mr Curll immediately proceeded to make a verbal Entry of the Words 1731 *Gentl Mag* I 1/2 Verbal Leases in Sir W made merely by Word of Mouth, in opposition to that made in Writing 1776 *Trial Nuncle-comar* 61/2 Did you send a verbal or written message? 1807 I SOUTHEY *Lect Engraving* Pref 8 The verbal communications of Sir Henry Englefield and Mr Douce the prin ed researches of Raspe, Hayley and various other authors 1834 MARTINEAU *Ireland Simple* XIV, Sending a polite verbal refusal to the commissioner upon the plea of there being no paper or pens on board 1869 FROUDE *Short Studies* (1883) IV I 92 The archbishop believed that a verbal agreement was all which would be demanded of him.

**b.** Of persons Using uttered words.

1820 SCOTT *Nigel* I, The verbal proclaimers of the excel lence of Indian Landlords 1837 CARLYLE *Revolution* over those who use the public papers for the same purpose.

**5.** Corresponding word for word, = VERBATIM *a*

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit* 238 I take the very same help of translations, Grammaticall or Grammaticasters, to be the most speedy furtherances 1656 COWLEY *Pindar Odes* Pref. When he that understands not the Original of Pindar reads this verbal Translation 1670 *Lond Gaz* (1892) II 1887 Which Speech No 464 P1 Of this kind is a beautiful saying in Theognis to give it in the Verbal Translation, *Among Men of Wit* 1704 *Spectator* No 232 P1 Every reader will perceive that it is almost a verbal Copy 1709 R LAW *Tests of Life* 11. 99 We have what may be supposed to be almost verbal quotations of current forms of Gnostic professions.

**b** In respect of each single word

1730 PALEY *Horæ Paul* I 4 In close and verbal conformity with the account preserved by St Luke 1844 FARRAR *Early Chr* I 443 *note*, The sacred writers never aim at verbal accuracy in their quotations.

**6.** Of, pertaining to, or derived from a verb

1530 PALSGR. 327 They cone of latyn nownes verballes endyng in *tio* *Vitd* 1534 All nownes verballes endyng in *our* be of the masculyne gendre 1636 B JONSON *Eng Gram* XVI. Wks (Riidg) 780/1 A person is the special difference of a verbal noun, whereof the present, and the time past, have in every number three 1648 HEXHAM II Gramm (1658) V 11 4 b/2 All Substantives derived from Verbals are called Verbal words 1706 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey), *Verbals* or *Verbal Nouns*, those Nouns that are derived from Verbs, as *Counterfeit*, from the Verb, To consider. 1755 JOHNSON, *Abandoning* (A verbal noun from *abandon*). *c* 1818 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I 54/2 Verbal adjectives (commonly so called), which express the conception in the form of an attribute, as the Latin verbals in *bilis*, &c. 1875 *Poste Philol. Soc.* I 31 The Grammar proceeds to describe other verbal derivatives. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang* iii 38 The plural verbal inflection.

**B.** *sb.* **1.** A noun, or other part of speech, derived from a verb.

1530 PALSGR 154 *Broderesse* a woman brodurar, *tem cerese* a woman chyder: and so of all other verballes 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 89 Some verbals in *bilis* 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp Dict* B4 b, Verbals in *or*, are of the masculine gender *c* 1620 A HUME *Brit Tongue* (1865) 19 [Words] that we derive from latin verbales in tio, sould also be written with t 1665 R JOHNSON *Scholars Guide* 6 The Latine to ague loves Verbals, Participials, Gerundives, and Participles of the future in *rus* 1728 S LOWE *Lat Gram* 12 Verbals are wants ig for the most part in Impersonals. 1870 *Lett on Lang & Jr Literature* I 293 [ed.], The rules of etymology and formation of Greek verbals evince that it must be so. 1876 J R MAJOR *Guide Grk Prog* 105 A is used before μα in verbals derived from the first person of the preterite passive 1884 F W NEWMAN *Lectures Words* 38 Kabal Verbs and Verbals, including Adjectives

†**2** [After med L. *verbale*] A collection of words, a vocabulary or dictionary *Obs rare*

1599 *Bk Preserv K Hen VII* 1, Vnlil I have set forth a Verball or little Dictionarie 1623 J SPICER in Cockeram *Eng Dict* A vvjb, To the Reader on this Verball of his enlarged friend, Master Henry Cockeram of Exeter

**Verbalism** (vɜ́ bălĭz'm) [f prec + -ISM ]

**1** A verbal expression, a word or vocable

1787 ANNA SEWARD *Lett* (1811) I 372 I always write in too much haste to pause for best possible verbalisms 1799 *Ibid* V 207 This proposal has produced a host of several erroneous verbalisms in myself revised sheets 1837 WHITTOCK *Compl Bk Trades* 390 With those instructions and other verbalisms, that he acquires daily the apprentice may acquire a taste for the art 1888 J RUSSELL *Hedge* xi 308 Its quaint orthography and archaic verbalisms

**b** *collect.* Words, phrasing

1800 ANNA SEWARD *Lett* (1811) V 285 It is not amongst our modern sons that the musical composer is to look for his happiest verbalism

**2** Predominance of what is merely verbal over reality or real significance

1872 A C. FRASER *Life Berkeley* II. 28 His abhorrence of scholastic verbalism and empty abstractions. 1879 H N HUDSON *Hamlet* Pref p xv, Our children must be continually drilled in a sort of linguistic verbalism — 1889 J M ROBERTSON *Christ & Krishna* xii 65 I he rest is mod ern Talmudism—the ancient 'demoniacal possession of verbalism over again

**Verbalist** (vɜ́ bălĭst) [f as prec + -IST ]

**1** One who deals in, or directs his attention to, words only, apart from reality or meaning

*c* 1609 F GREVILLE *Hum I earn* XXXI (1854) 209 Yet not ashamed these Verbalists sullene To engage the grammar rules in civil war For such as all words, or which they patronize 1629 GALE *Holy Madn* 100 Vaine Verbalists' whose words are but wind. 1660 GAUDEN *Bromrigg* 171 Not that he was such a Formal Sermon-Verbalist as could not endure any alteration of words, or phrases or method *a* 1750 A HILL *Wks* (1753) II 256 God grant now that he may not think, I have piddled out this little heedlessness, with purpose to be even with him, in behalf of the poor verbalists 1797 *Monthly Mag* III 509 That this circumstance should have escaped the notice of mere verbalists, is not surprising. 1864 *Reader* No 99 638/2 The extreme conclusions of the Verbalists 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz* 1 Dec 1/1 Verbalists, as they have been, yea, and even the mocker, n ny find his way into the church

**b** *attrib* or as *adj*

1889 J M ROBERTSON *Ess Crit Meth* 130 The verbalist and confused psychology of last century 1892 — *Mod Humanists* 43 He himself became viciously verbalist

**2** One who is skilled in the use or knowledge of words

1704 T TAYLOR *Pausanias Descr Greece* I Pref p lvii, His meaning is frequently on this account, inacces ible to the most consummate verbalists 1822 — *Apuleius* 251 This blunder of the editor who was otherwise a good verbalist, is a deplorable specimen of the blunders of kings of the greatest importance 1860 *Philol Soc Trans* 164 The opinion of the best English verbalist I ever knew

**Verbality** (vɜăbæ·lĭti) [f as prec + -ITY ]

**1.** The quality of being (merely) verbal, that which consists of mere words or verbiage

1845 BP HALL *Peace Maker* 23 That it may appeare, this co troverse hath in it more verbality then matter 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* I x 42 He will seem to be charmed with words of holy Scripture when he is but verbal and dead verbality 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* I iii 181 Let men be never so specious in the formall profession and Verbal rules of Religion 1791 BAILEY, *Verbality*, a being Verbal 1816 J GILCHRIST *Philos Etym* 251 Verbality is the cover ing which such quack philosophers as Kant and Stewart put over their poor, naked false theories 1880 — *Lecture* 35 *note* I know of nothing so much calculated to reduce it [sc Verbality] to a mere mass of verbality

**2** *pl* Verbal expressions or phrases.

1820 *New Monthly Mag* I. 378, I recollect the glorious emanations of my author—but I cannot remember the intoxicating verbalities wherein he clothes them

**3** The quality appropriate to a verb

1884 tr *Lotze's Logic* 96 The forms of substantivity, adjectivity and verbality

**Verbalisation.** [f next + ATION Cf F *verbalisation.*] The action of verbalizing or the fact of being verbalized

1846 WORCESTER (citing Palmer) 1860 G P MARSH *Lect Eng Lang* XIV The verbalization if I may so express it, of a noun, is now a difficult matter *a* 1901 F W MYERS *Hum Personal* (1903) I 27 I ach of the four forms of communication of verbalization, with which human life is familiar

**Verbalize** (vɜ́ bălaiz), *v* [a F *verbaliser* (16th c., = Pg *verbalisar*), or f. VERBAL *a* + -IZE.]

**1.** *intr* To use many words, to talk diffusely, to be verbose.

1609 [Bp W Barlow] *Answ Nameless Cath* Ded p viii, Verbalize he can dispute he cannot 1648 Hexham II App, *to verbalizeron*, to Verbalize or make a speech 1721 Bailey, *Verbalize*, to be tedious in Discourse or make many Words 1886 J M Robertson *Ess Crit Meth* 130 Mr Lowell verbalizes as to Duty being an eternal harmony

**2** *trans* To make into a verb

1660 O Walker *Interc Oratory* 31 So nouns are some times verbalized as to complete to contrary, to experience 1818 *Q Rev* XIX 295 To supply the place of the nouns thus verbalized Mr Keats with great fecundity spawns new ones 1860 G I Marsh *Lect Eng Lang* viii I uglish no lo ger exercises the protean gift of transformation which could at pleasure verbalize a noun

**3** To express in words

1875 Dora Greenwell *Liber Humanitatis* 42 The man of the world whose creed has been thus verbalized There's nothing new, and nothing true in it is to matter 1886 Gurney, etc *Phantas of Living* II 23 It is more natural to visualise it, than to verbalise it in some imagined or remembered pl rase

Hence **Verbalising** *vbl sb* and *ppl a*

1844 J Gilchrist *Hymn Interpr* 90 What that something more or verbalizing property is he either could not or would not inform the w rld 1869 W G T Shedd *Homil Theol* 133 If the forma ion of the plan is merely a verbalizing process. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com* iv (1892) 48 A burst unnoticed in the incessantly verbalizing pursuit of a continental supper table

**Verbally** (və·bǎli), *adv* [f Verbal *a* + -ly 2]

**1** Word for word, in respect of each word

1588 Lambard *Eiren* iv v 502 It is not of necessitie, that the Statute be verbally rehearsed 1591 or by that it offence against the Statute be sufficiently and with full words described 1680 Dryden *Pref Ovid's Ep* Fax. (Ker) I was almost imposed upon to translate it verbally and well at the same time 1841 Myers *Cath Th* iii §8 29 To make them such a recor l of Divine utte ances as to be thro gh out verbally as it literally true 1864 Fraser *Short Visit* (1865) I 245 If all these words were verbally we should feel certain it was mere than accident. 1883 A Roberts *O J Revision* ix 198 They could not, but verbally agree in the reports which they furnished of His addresses.

**2.** In or with (mere) words, without accompanying action or reality

1610 Healey *St Aug Citie of God* 573 This passion of Christ, the reprobate preach verbaliue only. 1640 Br Hall *Apost* iii §8 257 World Lord I might not say, even the Lords Anointed whom they verbally professe to honour 1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* 55 Some of the Pagans though they Vitl ally acknowledged a Deity yet supposed a certain Pute superiour to it

**b.** So far as words (only) are concerned

1855–6 I T Tyrch *Lett Scattered* (1872) 172 It is vain to be verbally tight, if we are not livingly right 1861 Spencer *Brief Pr* i n §11 (1875) 35 Thus these three different suppositions verbally intelligible though they are, turn out to be literally unthinkable 1908 W M Ramsay *Luke Physician* vii 251 You can with sufficient ingenuity always explain—verbally—any th g out of any thing

**3** In actual words, by means of words or speech

1646 Jenkyn *Unreas* 112 They said not so verbally, but mentally and practically 1650 B Hall *Cases Conse* (ed 2) Addit 402 Justly may the e may be as strong a prohibition in a sense implyed as verbally, expre ssed 1691 Boyle *Hist Air* (1692) 55 Nature has furnished men with senses es capable of distinctly perceiving a far greater variety of objects than they re ible verbally to express 1706 Mme D'Aulay *Cam Ilia* II 305 But till then, here he will stay till you have designed to pronounce verbally his doom 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxxi, She verbally fell upon and maltreated her

**b** In speech as contrasted with writing

1637–50 Row *Hist Kirk* (Wodrow Soc) 503 Then after long reasoning and protesting the Ki ig's Commissioner arose dischargeing the Assemblie verbalie 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I 70 My humble advice is to content your selfe with what his Majestie has verbally been pleased to declare in this matter 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* II xxxvi 292 It was universally said that the Emperor would verb ally agree to any terms 1798 Miss Hunter *Cecilia* viii 61 Give me but the commission either verbally or in writ ing 1817 W Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed 4) II 793 It was verbally agreed between plaintiff, defendant, and J So that the defendant should pay the amount 1864 Lincoln in E McPherson *Hist U S Rebell* (1864) 316 You ask me to put in writing the substance of what I verbally said the other day in your presence 1878 S Walpole *Hist Eng* II 675 The King was verbally assured that at least fifty fresh peerages would be required

**4** With the function of a verb

1875 Whitney *Life Lang* xii 233 The verbally used (Scythian) forms are rather but one step removed from nouns used predicatively

**Verbarian,** *a* and *sb* [f 1 *verb um* word, after forms in *-arian*] a *adj* Having to do with words. b. *sb* An inventor or coiner of words.

1830 Coleridge *Church & State* (1839) 25 *note* A verbarian Attorney General authorized to bring information against the writer or editor of any work who should persevere in misusing a word 1873 F Hall *Mod Eng* 21 In *the Doctor*, Southey gives himself free scope as a verbarian

**Verbarnd,** southern var pa t Forburn *v Obs*

‖ **Verbascum** (vəɹbæ·skŭm) [L. (Pliny), whence also It., Sp. Pg. *verbasco*] A widely distributed genus of herbaceous plants, = Mullein, one or other species of this.

1562 Turner *Herbal* ii 161 The whyte Verbascum is called commonly in English mollen or hickas taper, and longwart 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 264 That kind of Verbascum or Mullen, the flower whereof resembleth gold 1726 *Compl Fam Piece* II iii. 367 Venetian Vetch, Borrage leav d Verlascum 1765 *Phil Trans* LVI 236 Phlomis, verbascum, stœchas, sage thyme 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 254/1 All the species of Verbascum are tall robust, handsome plants, and may be cultivated in gardens and shrubberies 1857 Henfrey *Bot* § 528 *I e bas um*, having 5 stamens is some times referred to Solanaceæ

† **Verbate,** *v Obs*⁻¹ [f L *verb um* word, perh after *verbatim*] *trans.* To reproduce word for word

1518 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom* (1828) III 2 I have al onely verbated and followed mine auctour as nighe as I could with the profoundite of good herte

† **Verbe tical,** *a Obs*⁻¹ [Irreg f L *verb um* word sec -atic and al] Verbal

1612 I Wilson *Chr Dict* Pref His is Axiomaticall, of si mple propositions mine is partly Verbaticall and Remat icall Of Words with their significations [etc]

**Verbatim** (vəɹbē·tĭm), *adv*, *a*, and *sb* [n med L *verbatim*, f I *verb um* word of Literatim]

A *adv* **1** Word for word, in the exact words

a With reference to a copy of a document or passage in a book, or to the report of a speech, etc

1481 *Lett* in *Paston Lett* 477 Yesdeist I brought like writing as he before wrote a verbatim direct to be Mayor 1503 in *Rch Hist MSS Comm* App 263/2 The said patent which is now verbatim copied in this boke in the xlvtii Elef 1597 *Order of Hospitalls* in *Ashm* 1126 And make for him a true and just Coppie thereof verbatim 1579 W Wilkinson *Confut Anan Lon* 9 b, Although the place be verbatim and word for word alledged it yet will be set off 1826 F Reynolds *Life & Times* II 184 It was, according to the previous directions of the great critic and editor inserted verbatim 1893 Fowler Mitchell *Great Mutiny* 274 The follow ng is the English version verbatim, word for word, and point for point italics and all

**b** With reference to a translation

1583 Stubbe *Def Pol Script* 1 65 The scriptures trans lated verbatim, exactly, and according to the proper vse and signification of the wordes. 1612 Brinsley *Lud Lit* xxi (1627) 251 The Hebrew in most places translated *verbatim*, doth keepe the same sense 1666 Dryden *Æneis I* 14 Pref, Witness the speeches in the first act translated *verbatim* out of Ovid 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 69 In the Indies could do no less than *Verbatim* a English the aforesaid letter from the Original 1786 tr *Becke's Ess* 1 *titherh* (1883) 38 The verser ible personage read the characters with facility, and explained them verbatim as follows 1815 W H Ireland *Scribblemania* 124 *note*, A translation verbatim from the french

**c** In the phrase *verbatim et literatim*

1742 Fielding *Joseph Andrews* iv v We have procured an authe tick Copy, and here it follows *verbatim et literatim* 1787 Hawkins *Johnson* 94 *note*, Mr Newsham granted and dispersed some thousand copies verbatim et literatim of this letter 1828 *Congress Debates* IV 276 (St), It was ter *batim et literatim* a copy of the log book of the brig Jane Pratt 1871 (U S) Jan 7 The following story is copied from his note book *verbatim et literatim*

† **2** In so many words, exactly, precisely *Obs*

1501 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 151 That your sayd coun sell my have all the estats is wrytten *verbatim* in proper 1504 *Dingley Trans* 143 That he be appoynt temperall rites which he had not *Verbatim* expressely at his masters hands! a 1638 Mede *Works* (1672) 666 That which the Spirit speaks in the Written Word, that it speaks *purely*, verbatim, exi reely

† **b** In exact accordance with the words *Obs*

1573 tr W H Turner *Select Rec Oxford* (1880) 368 Ye said Cutte could not performe ye same verbatim

† **3** *adv* By word of mouth, verbally *Obs*⁻¹

1591 Shake. 1 *Hen VI*, III i 13 Thanke not That there fore I haue forg d or am not able *Verbatim* to rehearse the Methode of Peace.

B *adj* **1.** Corresponding with, or following, an original word for word

1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 141/1 Which grammatically repre sented in a verbatim Translation of the Verse into English, will run thus 1834 *Last Days* I 232/1 A mere simple *verbatim* repetition of the romances and scandalous anecdotes 1878 Huxley *Physiogr* Pref p viii Verbatim reports were taken on the former occasion. 1880 *Pract Trades Jrnl* xxxi 6 A machine for *verbatim* reporting, which will print phonetically

**2** *transf* & *fig* Able to take down a speech word for word (in shorthand)

1882 *Daily News* 24 May 8/3 Thoroughly experienced and efficient verbatim reporter 1897 *Westm Gaz.* 9 April 7/2 The Major spoke so rapidly that the fastest verbatim' hands seemed to be embarrassed

**b** Of a speaker Usually reported, or worth reporting, word for word

1890 *Pall Mall G* 7 April 1/3 The verbatim men, the column men, and the paragraph men *Ibid* 14 May 1/2 So much has Lord Rosebery slipped out from the front rank of 'verbatim' politicians.

C *sb* A full or word-for-word report of a speech

1898 *Daily News* 14 April 10/4 Crisp writer wanted, who can also do a verbatim. 1899 *Ibid* 6 March 8/5 Verbatims of Mr. Morley were at a discount even before he quitted the Irish Office.

Hence † **Verbatim** *adv* *Obs*⁻¹ = prec A 1, 2.

1597 E Tilney in Feuilleat *Revels Q Eliz* (1908) 417 A Composition layd uppon me rated verbatimly by certain orders sett doun by my Lord Treasorer

**Verbena,** (vəɹbī·nă) [n L *verbēna* (usually in pl. *verbēnæ*) in sense 1, med and mod.L *verbena* (= L *verbēnaca*) in sense 2, hence also It, Sp, Pg *verbena*, and Fr *verveine* Vervain]

**1** *Roman Antiq.* In *pl*, the leaves or twigs of certain plants or shrubs (as olive, myrtle, laurel, etc) having a sacred character and employed in religious ceremonies.

1600 Holland *Livy* Argt 1359 There was an hallowed place likewise upon the Capitoll from whence they gathered Verbenæ, or sacred hearbs. 1685 Imple *Est, Gardens* Wks. 1720 I 378 *Verbenas*, which signifies all Kinds of Sweet or Sacred Plants that were used for adorning the Altars as Bays, Olive Rosemary, Myrtle 1856 R A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I 98 Passages were culled with as much care and reverence as the sacred *verbena* that grew within the enclosure of the Capitoline.

**2** The plant Vervain, also, one or other plant of the genus *Verbena* or the order *Verbenaceæ*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II 161b And Pliny maketh two kinders of Verbenes or Verbenace. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Verbena* the Herb Vervain, much us'd by the ancient Heathens in their sacrifices 1731 Bailey *Gard Dict*, *Verbena*, Vervain 1887–94 Wilkins *Declamation* A scent Of orange leaves and sweet verbena 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 201 Cuttings of hardy or half hardy herbaceous plants, such as pinks petunias, verbenas, rockets 1851 Hall Caine *Shadow of Crescent* ix, The country of the verbena and the musk that lies outside the walls of Fez.

*attrib* 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* IV 207 *Verbenaceæ* The Verbena Tribe

**b** With distinguishing terms.

1847 Darlington *Amer Weeds* (1860) 228 Nettle leaved Verbena Common Vervain 1850 J W Johnson *Cottage Gard Dict* 297/1 *Aloysia*, sweet scented Verbena 1866 *Treas Bot* 1210/1 The *Aloysia citriodora* is the Lemon scented Verbena of the gardens 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 163 2 The garden verbenas, once so popular for bedding out, are derivatives from various South American species

**3** A perfume obtained from the leaves of vervain *Oil of verbena* (*Treas Bot*)

1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade*, *Verbena*, an otto, one of the finest perfumes obtained by distillation from the citron scented leaves of *Aloysia citriodora* Owing to its high price it is imitated by mixing the otto of lemon grass with rectified spirits, and this passes as oil of verbena 1866 *Treas Bot* 1210/1 The lemon grass *Andropogon schœnanthus* of *Asiatrum*, from which the oil of verbena is extracted

**Verbenaceous** (vəɹbinē·ʃəs), *a Bot* [See prec and -aceous] Of or pertaining to the *Verbenaceæ*, an extensive order of monopetalous (chiefly tropical) plants

1883 *Encycl Brit* XV 481/2 The 'white mangrove' *Avicennia*, a verbenaceous plant

**Ve rbenate,** *v Obs*⁻⁰ [f Verbena] *trans* To strew with vervain (Webster, 1847, citing Drake)

**Verbene,** *rare* [Anglicized f Verbena]

† **1** (See Verbena 1) *Obs*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S T S) I 54 'Deluer to me said he Bellill, 'the herbe namyt verbene' *Ibid* 55 This fecial twichit l aith his hede and his hare with pe herbe verbene

**2** A plant of the order *Verbenaceæ*.

1846 Lindley *Veg Kingd* 663 The properties of Verbenes are much the same as those of Labiates. *Ibid* 664 By far the most interesting g li ns is the Order of Verbenes is the l eak 1879 *Cassell's Fam Techn* 202 *Aloysia*, a genus of plants belonging to the Verbenes

† **Verberable,** *a Obs*⁻⁰ [ad L *verberābilis* (I lautus)] (See quot)

1656 Blount *Glossogr* (copying Cooper) *Verberable*, that may be, or is worthy to be beaten

**Verberant** (və·bĕrănt), *a* [ad I *verberant*, *verberans*, pres pple of *verberare* see next] Reverberant

1890 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Jan, He was grateful then that he had escaped before the streets became verberant with such shrill echoes. 1891 Meredith *Dna of our Cong* I xii 251 Like the sound of tuning of a musical instru ment that has had a smart blow

**Verberate** (və·bĕrēt), *v* [f. L. *verberāt-*, ppl stem of *verberāre* to beat, flog, f. *verber* a lash, scourge, blow Cf It *verberare*, Sp. and Pg *verberar*, obs Fr *verberer*.]

1 *trans.* **a** To strike so as to produce a sound *rare*

1589 *Marr Marp*, *Alhanact* xxv, The sounde that both by sea and land out flies, Rebounded againe, and verberates the skies 1656 Stanley *Hist Philos* I 101 21 Hearing is made when the aire betwixt the speaker and hearer is verberated in a circulation

**b.** To beat or strike so as to cause pain, esp by way of punishment.

1623 Shirley *Love Tricks* III v, You shall be verberated, and reverberated, my exact piece of stolidity 1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Verberate*, to beat, punish or strike. 1693 Asr Sancroft *Mod Pol* (ed 3) B 7, He feels sometimes, those Bosome-quarrels that verberate and wound his Soul 1823 Leland *Egypt, Sketch Bk* 201 So the native verberated him till he reverberated 1880 *Daily Tel.* 14 Oct 5 It was proved that he had been verberated to this extent while with his regiment.

† **c.** To beat or whip up (a substance) *Obs*⁻¹

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp*, 638 Oyl is assumed, verberated, and washed in Fountain-water

**2** *intr* To vibrate or quiver.
1758 I H Cuoones *Orl. Fur* xxxiv I, A fragrant breeze Made the air trem'lous verberate [*It. tremolar*] around.
Hence **Ve·rberating** *ppl a*
1865 J D Rorke tr *Virgil's Æne d* 338 Crooked beak and verberating wings.

**Verberation** (vɔɪbĕɪ·ɪ ʃən) [ad. L *verberā tio*, noun of action from *verberāre* see prec So ✝ *verbération* (13 14th cent), Sp *verberacion*, Pg *verberação*]
**1** The action of beating or striking, or the fact of being struck, so as to produce sound, percussion
1610 Healey *St Aug Citie of God* xvi vi (1620) 547 Not admitting sound or verberation of aire 1656 Phillips s v, The cause of sounds that proceed from the Verberation of the Air 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v, Sound arises from a Verberation of the Air 1865 Sala *Diary Amer* II 131 Canada has often been declared to be 'knocking at the door of the Union'; if Canada ever resorts to that method of verberation [etc]
**b** Keyboard action
1845 Sinclayer *Virgil* I 186 Where The vaulted rocks with verberation rung
✝ **2** (See quot) *Obs* —0
1688 Holme *Armoury* II 387/2 A Verberation, or Verberous feeling, a smarting pain, as when we are beaten with rods, whips, or scourges.
**3** The action of beating or striking so as to cause pain or hurt, *esp.* flogging or scourging; also, a blow or stroke.
c 1730 Arbuthnot (J), Redness and inflammation; all the effects of a soft press or verberation. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 120 The Cornelian law prohibited pulsation as well as verberation; distinguishing verberation, which was accompanied with pain, from pulsation which was attended with none 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1862) II 427 It is by the strong folds of the body, by the fierce verberations of the tail, that the enemy is destroyed 1860 Hackaway *Round Papers, Lazy little Boy*, The anger or the verberations of his schoolmaster 1879 *Daily Tel* 28 July, The bandit, alas! was armed with a different instrument of verberation 1895 *Class Rev* April 146/1 It is idle to translate 'go on striking', for the wo d is found repeatedly when the verberation had not yet started.

**Ve·rberative,** *a* [f. Verberate *v.* + -ative] Addicted to the practice of flogging
1866 *Pall Mall G* 2 Aug 9 Her mother was a strict disciplinarian of the verberative school.

**Verbere,** southern ME var Forbear *v*

✝**Ve·rberous,** *a Obs* —3 [f. L *verber* a blow]
1688 [see Verberation 2]

**Verbiage** (vɔ·ɪbɪedʒ) [a F *verbiage* (17th c), irreg f L *verb um* word see -age So Pg *verbiagem*]
**1.** Wording of a superabundant or superfluous character, abundance of words without necessity or without much meaning, excessive wordiness
a 1721 Prior *Dial Locke & Montaigne* 275 Without being guided by any sort of Verbiage like this 1738 Warburton *Div Legat* I 69 So the Master, when cleared from the Perplexity of his abounding Verbiage lies open to this easy Answer 1787 Charlotte Smith *Rom Rel I* 156 The repetitions and verbiage of the pleadings [have been] reduced 1858 Sears *Athan.* I III 20 In vain you take refuge in abstractions and verbiage 1880 L Stephen *Pope* II 73 The Homeric phrase is thus often muffled and deadened by Pope's verbiage
**2** Diction, wording, verbal expression
1804 Wellington in Gurw *Desp* (1835) III 193 All that is nothing i the previous verbiage of the treaty] is thought sufficient to bind us 1814 *New Brit Theatre* III 286 The language of the dialogue is as familiar as the verbiage of the parlour fireside. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr* I 186 Independently of this distinctiveness of verbiage there is a wide difference between the two Epistles in the general form of thought

Hence [or f. F *verbiager* vb] **Verbia·gerie.**
1817 *Blackw Mag* I 469 Her obscurity,—her high-sounding phrases — and all the imposing apparatus of verbiagerie, are not unsparingly employed

**Verbicide** ! (vɔ·ɪbɪsəɪd) [f L *verbi-*, *verbum* word + -cide ɪ] One who mutilates or destroys a word.
1867 *Independent* (N Y) 2 May (Cent), These clownish verbicides have carried the antics to the point of disgust.
1894 *Jrl. in Melbourne Argus* 10 Jan, It is that laziness in speaking which makes them [the Australians] grow up habitual verbicides.

**Verbicide** ‖. [f as prec + -cide 2] The act of destroying the sense or valne of a word, the perversion of a word from its proper meaning
1858 O W Holmes *Aut Breakf t* I (1859) 10 Homicide and verbicide—that is, violent treatment of a word with fatal results to its legitimate meaning —are alike forbidden
1886 *Q Rev* Jan 177 It is 'verbicide' in a higher sense than that in which Oliver Wendell Holmes applied the term to punning

**Verbification** (vɔɪbɪfɪkʔ ʃən). [See next and -fication] The action of converting a substantive into a verb
1872 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* vi 259 Reason will be given for supposing that it had its beginning in the verbification of a French substantive 1884 *Trans Amer Philol Assoc* XV p. xxxii, The languages of Maskoki affinity have the power of expressing accidental and real existence by a verbification of the noun.

**Verbify** (vɔ·ɪbɪfəɪ), *v.* [f. Verb ɪ + -(ɪ)fy.] *trans.* To convert (a noun, etc.) into a verb. Also *absol.*
a 1825 [see *ppl. a.*]. 1872 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 183 Not only does the language avail itself of this faculty of verbifying a noun but even [etc]. 1884 *Trans Amer Philol Assoc* XV p. xxvii, Nouns become verbified by the suppending of inflectional affixes generally suffixes and are inflected like verbs. *Ibid* p xxxii Hitchiti verbifies in the same manner

'So We verbified, We rebifying *ppl. adjs*
a 1823 Murray *Hist Europ Lang* (1823) II 265 A consonant or long vowel may intervene, which vowel or consonant may be justly called the verbifying consignificative 1884 *Trans Amer Philol Assoc* XV p xxxii An instance of a verbified substantive, miki, chief, was presented above

**Verbigerate** (vɔɪbɪ dʒɛrĕɪt), *v* [f ppl stem of I *verbigerāre* to talk, chat, f *verbi*, *verbum* word + *gerĕre* to conduct, carry on.]
✝**1** *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs* —3
1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Verbigerate*, to speak, to talk, to noise abroad
**2** *Path* To go on repeating the same word or phrase in a meaningless fashion, as a symptom of mental disease
1892 Tuke *Dict Psychol Med* II 1355/1 The patient repeats in a verl igerating monotone the sentence, 'Please, do give me the keys'

Hence **Verbigera·tion.** *Path*
1892 in *Cent Dict* 1892 Tuke *Dict Psychol Med* II 1355/1 Verbigeration is an abnormal and unnecessary repetition of words. *Ibid* 1355/2 Verbigeration as a symptom, is not rare 1895 *Alienist & Neurol* XVI 345 Verbigeration has been noticed in some during the post paroxysmal automatism

**Verbill,** obs. Sc f Warble.
**Verbing,** *vbl sb* [f. Verb ɪ] The using of words as verbs
1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett Henry & Frances* (1767) IV 60 As to the Nouning and Verbing which he so heavily charged you with, I told him that you never confounded Grammar with Gibberish
**Verbless** (vɔ·ɪblĕs), *a* [f. Verb + -less] Having no verb
a 1849 H Colpridge *Fix* (1851) I 75 What is called a Rhetorical figure, whose discourse is no verbless nominative cases. 1858 J Robertson *Poems* So the nounless, verbless to gue. 1908 *Daily Chron* 27 Jan 4/7 After searching through a solid page of verbless matter
**Verbo-** (vɔ·ɪbo), irreg comb form of I *verbum* word, employed in a few nonce words, as *verbo to mical*, *verbotomist*, *verbo tony*
Also in recent use, *verbomania mania*
1820 (*title*), Hints to Legislators, by W P Russel, Verbotomist. 1820 W P Russel (*title*), Verbotomical Spelling-book 1805 — (*title*) Verbotomy or a classical improved vocabulary of the English language
✝**Verbonation.** *Obs rare* [a F *verbocination* (Rabelais), f I *verb um*, after *vociferation*] Expression of ideas by means of words
1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II vi 31 We despumate the I tial verbocination 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v 252 Where Rules to polish Loquela are prescrib d, and Doctrine and Verbocination is imbib d
**Verbose** (vɔɪbō·s), *a.* [ad I *verbōs us*, f. *verbum* word Cf It, Sp, Pg *verboso*, OF *verbos*, mod F. (from 17th c) *verbeux*]
**1** Expressed in an unnecessary number of words, prolix, tedious
1670 Penn *Spir Truth Vind.* 8 Which I am assur d is quite another thing, from what is Verbose, Abusive Cavelling Airy, and meerly Notional 1681 H Nevile *Plato Redr* 195 Which Discourse was no need to make so Verbose, when th e great Persons could presently force the Execution of them 1782 Steyfe *Encl Mem* I xlviii 357 [They] Frewsh, that these confidences there would happen nothing but verbose janglings and endless disceptations 1756 7 tr *Apuleius Trav* (1760) I 170 A verbose I ut not a very elegant inscription 1782 Gibbon *Decl & F* xxvii (1787) III 75 *note*, Few facts, and few sentiments can be extracted from his verbose correspondence 1826 F Reynolds *Life & Times* I 72 Instead of attempting to gain silence by any verbose circumlocutory appeal proceeded at once to the point. 1841 W Spalding *Italy & It Lit* II 392 His style is not only unartificially complex but verbose to the very brink of tediousness. 1870 Burton *Hist Scot* lxix, (1873) VI 164 Countless papers, expressed in verbose and tedious tenor
**2** Using an excessive number of words, writing or speaking at excessive length, long winded
1692 Washington *Milton's Def. People Eng* M 8 Wks. 1851 VIII Pref 1, I fear less I might seem to deserve justly to be Stigmatized a verbose and silly Defender 1716 Aylyffe *Parergon* 56 They ought to be brief, and not too verbose in their way of speaking 1776 Adam Smith *W N* II iv 366/1 358 The conveyances of a verbose attorney 1880 Scott *Monast* x Undergoing the legends of the dull and verbose Father Nicolas. 1894 Green *Short Hist* ii. § 3 (1895) 78 Asserius, a verbose and confused writer, has preserved the earliest Norman traditions
**b** quasi *adv* In a verbose manner
1792 Cowper *Odyss* xvii 474 Peace I answer not verbose a man like him
**Verbosely** (vɔɪbō·slɪ), *adv* [f prec + -ly 2] In a verbose manner; wordily
1735 in Ash 1784 Cowper *Rp & Hill* 44, I hate long arguments, verbosely spun 1794 W Taylor in *Monthly Rev* XIII 45 Passages may be found which will seem to have been rendered indolently or verbosely 1902 *Sat Rev* 29 Nov 682/2 Miss Taylor tells the story effectively if a little verbosely.
**Verboseness** (vɔɪbō·snĕs) [f. as prec + -ness.] The character or quality of being verbose; verbosity.
1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Verboseness*, the using many Words, Fulness of Words, Prolixity in Discourse. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III 73, I don t often gratify him with giving him the praise for his verboseness. a 1797 H Walpole *George II* (1847) II xi 378 When his verboseness did not persuade, he quickened it with impertinence 1843 *Fraser's Mag* XXVIII 73 He has been mesmerised into a mystical verboseness without positive thought
✝**Verbosious,** *a Obs* —1 = Verbose *a* 2
1676 J Smith *Old Age* (ed 2) 258 Among all the Verbosious & Greacians there is not one compleat Tract upon this Subject only
**Verbosity** (vɔɪbɒ·sɪtɪ). Also 6 **verbositee,** 6–7 -tie [a F *verbosité* (16th cent), or ad. L. (post classical) *verbōsitas*, f *verbōsus* Verbose *a* Cf It *verbosità* Sp *verbosidad*, Pg *-idade*] The state or quality of being verbose, superfluity of words, wordiness, prolixity
1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 74 b, Diogenes noted Plato of unmeasurable verbo itee 1588 Shaks *L L L* v. 18 He draweth out the thred of his verbositie, finer then the staple of his argument. a 1622 Bp Hall *Paraphr* (1636) 29 Seeking the like occasions of prailing and verbosity 1649 Milton *Eikon* ix Wks 1851 III 397 It were an endless work to walk side by side with the Verbosity of this Chapter a 1680 Butler *Rem* (1759) I 373 But O! the Verbosity of thy Writings! 1781 Mme D'Arblay *Diary* May, He gave his opinion with an emptiness and verbosity, that rendered the whole dispute ridiculous. 1837 Hallam *Hist Lit* I ii § 31 Vitello, avoiding the tedious ness of Arabian verbosity is far more readable than Alhazen 1898 Hedley *Perance* II iii iv 197 A high standard of style is a check on rash verbosity
**b** With pl An instance of this
1665 Glanvill *Sceptsis Sci* vi Without these Verbositees emasculate the understanding, and render it slight and frivolous.
✝**Verbous,** *a Obs rare* = Verbose *a*
1657 G Starkey *Helmont's Vind* 40 Which Art hath been opposed, slandered and traduced, and gainsaid by the verbous, railing Galenists 1659 O Walker *Oratory* A 4 b To be Concise for the Peo ple t more circumlocutory and verbous for extempore speech

**Verborydes,** var pl. of Forbraid *v. Obs.*

‖ **Verbum sap.** [A shortening of L *verbum sapienti sat est* 'a word is sufficient to a wise person'] A phrase used in place of making a full statement or explanation, implying that an intelligent person may easily infer what is left unsaid, or understand the reasons for reticence
Examples of the full phrase and shorter forms *verbum sapienti* (*sat*) occur in English works from at least 1602 onwards. The wording appears to be a combination of *verbum sat sapienti est* (see next) and *dictum sapienti sat est*, both of which are used by Plautus the latter also by Terence
1828 J Moore *Rudg & Flam in Paris* vi 6 But never fear—I know my chap And he knows *verbum sap* 1828 Lytton *Pelham* xxiv I am very sorry I could not see you to breakfast—a particular engagement prevented me—*verbum sap* 1860 W Collins *No Name* III 129, I say no more *Verbum sap*

‖ **Verbum sat.** Also **sat verbum.** [See note to prec] A phrase used to conclude a statement, implying that further explanation or comment is unnecessary or unadvisable.
In the first quot. perhaps equivalent to prec
1649 Evelyn *Corr* (1850) III 49 Against which [conquest] I find most men inclined to oppose, by a juncture with the new Commonwealth Verbum sat— 1658 in *Extr St P rel Scots Ch* III (1922) 277 He say he was not of y^e brood of y^e old Presbyterian verbum sat 1838 Thackeray *Misc Ps* (1885) 129 *Verbum sat*—this naughty Nemesissy ought to go to sleep in her night gown 1856 Froude *Anct Engl* II xix 195 The thing can be done, and we did it: *sat verbum*
**Verby** (vɔɪbɪ), *a rare*—1. [f Verb + -y.] Abounding in verbs
a 1845 Hood *Sir John Bowring* 10 No grammar too abstruse he meets However dark and verby
**Vercifer,** obs f Versifier.
**Vercled,** southern ME. pa t of *forcleave* Fork- *pref* 1 & b
✝**Verd,** *sb Obs* [? obl stem f *verd* (= Cat. *verd*, Sp, Pg, It *verde*) —L *virid-em*, *viridis* cf Vert *sb* 1]
1 *Her* The tincture green or vert
c 1450 2 Metham *Wks* (E E T S) 36 For Arge, [w]hos kyng a lelvel passandes Off vert in verd bare he vayd grews; a that with grene were dyght
2 *transf* Verdancy, freshness
1603 Harsnet *Pop Imps* at 191 For Reliques worke like an Agathocides potion or new Ale they have best strength and verd at the first
✝**3** Forest-verdure, = Vert *sb* 1 1.
1641 *Terms de la Ley* 261 b (*Anding*), Verde or Vert 1664 in *Johnson's Chas* I
4 *Geol* = Green-stone I
1799 W Tooke *View Russian Emp* I 142 There are like wise mica spathous, verd, serpentine, and marlstone
**Verd,** southern ME. var pa t of Ferd 1 *Obs*
✝**Verd,** *v Obs* —1 [Back formation from next] *trans* To sow for verdage In quot *absol*
1778 [W H Marshall] *Minutes Agric* 4 *Digest* 60 If Verdage and Pasturage be wanted vent with Spring Corn and Ley Grasses.
✝**Verdage,** *sb Obs* [f *verd* (as in *verdure*) + -age, introduced by Marshall Cf F *verdage* young grain ploughed in as manure] 'Green herbage, cut and given to cattle green' (Marshall)
1778 [W H Marshall] *Minutes Agric* 9 June 1775, The weeds are now tender and full of sap, and make very good verdage. *Ibid*, *Digest* 74 Lucerne is an excellent Spring-verdage. *Ibid* 85 Clover and Tare verdage.

Hence †**Verdage** *v. trans.*, to cut or use as verdage Also with *off*.

1778 [W H MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 62 Plow-In or Verdage off a foul Crop *Ibid.* 71 Verdaging the Corn encourages the young Grasses. *Ibid.* 72 Verdage weedy margine early in Summer

**Verdancy** (vɔ·dănsi) [See VERDANT *a* and -ANCY.]

**1.** The quality, condition, or character of being verdant, greenness

1652 MAYE *Barclay a Mirr Mindes* 39 But the greatest delight is, that soe faire a verdancy is almost distinguished into diuerse colours. *Ibid.* 100 England abounding in rich pastures doth euery where delight the eyes of the beholders with a most beautifull verdancy 1882a *Cd Words* 608 Yellow freckles in some leaves may bestrew a surface of unfaded verdancy 1888 *Harper's Mag* July 220 We see . the same wonderful varieties of verdancy

†**b** *transf* Freshness of appearance *Obs* —1

1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc* (1699) 368 Had not the Youth and Verdancy of her Face contradicted the ripeness of her Discourings, you would have thought her well in years

**2** *fig.* Innocence, inexperience, rawness, simplicity.

1849 W S MAYO *Kaloolah* XXXVII, True, in the verdancy of youthful sentiment, many a one has shrunk from the profane association of ruby lips with the processes of mastication and deglutition 1863 *Baily's Mag* Jan 338 Alas for my verdancy!

**Verdant** (vɔ·dănt), *a* Also 7 verdont [f *verd* (as in *verdure*) + -ANT, perhaps partly after L *viridant-*, *viridans*, pres. pple of *viridare*, f. *viridis* green Cf also OF. *verdeant* (*virdeant*), *verdoiant* (F. *verdoyant*).]

**1.** Of a green hue or colour; green **a.** Of vegetation.

1561 A. HALL *Iliad* I 1 Chrysses With verdant crown, wherewith Apolli his seemely head had clad 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I ix 13 The verdant gras my couch did goodly dight 1633 COWLEY *Constantia* 114 Th verdant grasse was dewd with many a teare. 1667 J DAVIES *Mandeslo's Trav.* 267 Fruit trees, which keep on their verdant Liveries all the year long 1698 FRYER *Acc E India & P* 64 The Walks which before were covered with NATURE's verdant awning are now open to the Sun 1764 R LLOYD *Capricious Lovers* V 11 When eve embrowns the verdant grove 1796 H HUNTER *Nature's Stud Nat* (1799) III 334 We soon discovered the profound and verdant forests which cover Celtic Gaul 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 332 Where ornamental hedges and other verdant architectural structures are to be grown 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp* I (1856) 474 Crowned each with its little verdant tuft,—ten radiant

**b** In other applications. *rare*

1649 LOVELACE *Grasshopper* Poems 35 Poore verdant foole (*sc.* a grasshopper), and now green lost! 1667 MILTON *P L* IX 501 [He] Serpent With Human Head and Voice Gold, erect Amidst his circling Spires. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 67 Here the soft emerald smiles of verdant hue

**2** Green with vegetation; characterized by abundance of verdure

1590 SPENSER *F Q* I xi 17 Streames of purple blood new dies the verdant fields. 1647 OGILBY *Virg Georg* IV 322 Gliding Streams Which border nigh the Quiver'd Persian Lands, And verdant Egypt with its fruitful Seed 1667 MILTON *P L* VIII 631 The parting Sun Beyond the Earths green Cape and verdant Isles Hesperian sets. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXVIII 11, Where peaceful Rivers soft and slow Amid the verdant Landskip flow 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 30 To thread The wide, still verdant, under oaks and elms 1815 EDMINSTONE *Acc Canada* (1824) I 382 In the midst of a verdant and pleasing country, whilst enjoys a temperate climate 1817 MOORE *Lalla R*, *Fire Worshippers* IV 90 Like those verdant spots that bloom Around the crater's burning lips 1868 MRS BRADDON *Dead Sea F* II, The verdant avenues and placid water

**3.** *fig* Of persons: Green, inexperienced, gullible.

1824 BYRON *Juan* XV xciii, Because my business is to *dress* society, And stuff with *sage* that very verdant goose 1854 *Poultry Chron* I 26 3/2, I spoke of simple facts in my own experience and with the object of warning 'verdant' purchasers. 1860 *Punch* 11 Aug 57/1 Flush of his money and just as refreshingly verdant

Hence **Verdantness**, verdancy *rare*—0.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Verdantness*, a flourishing, bright, or lively Greenness.

‖ **Verd-antique, verd antique** (vɔ̃d antī·k). Also 9 **verde** Older ‖. (now *vert antique*), 'antique green'. Cf VERDE ANTICO ]

**1.** An ornamental variety of marble, consisting chiefly of serpentine mixed with calcaite and dolomite.

1765 POCOCKE *Descr East* II 1 133 The hills of Antioch are part of them of a crumbling stone, like verd antique 1775 *Phil Trans* XLIX 109 Columns of verd antique and orie and alabaster 1820 J PINKERTON *Recollect Paris* II 139 Egyptian breccia has been mistaken for the serpentine marble, called verd ant que 1838 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* vii (1876) II 32, I should like to see the walls of St Paul's incrusted with po phyry and verde antique. 1884 *Mag Art* Apr 226 1 his design must have been made entirely to suit the twelve colum is of verd antique which surround its walls.

*attrib* 1828 *Lights & Shades* II 282 A verd antique pitcher with an ear 1857 DANA *Min* (1862) 147 Serpentine forms a handsome marble when polished, especially when mixed with lime-stone, constituting *verd antique* marble

**b.** *Oriental verd-antique*, green porphyry. Occasionally without adj Also *attrib.*

1832 E BARNES *Painters'* (etc.) *Assist* 35 To imitate Oriental Verdantique Marble 1837 DANA *Min* (1850) 356 Green porphyry is the *oriental verd antique* of the ancients, and was held in high esteem 1878 RUTLEY *Stud Rocks* xii 240 The verde-antique porphyry is one of the diabase-porphyrites.

**2** A green incrustation on brass or copper, verdigris

a 1825 MRS HEMANS *Last Wasp Scot* Poems (1849) 523 Never may housemaid wipe the verd antique From corn of thine 1892 D WILSON *Lrnk. Ann* III v 447 A mother example . covered with verd antique, as a light beautiful bracelet

**Verdantly** (vɔ·dănthli), *adv* [f VERDANT *a* + -LY 2] In a green or verdant manner; freshly, flourishingly

1808 MOORE *Believe me, if all those endearing young charms* 1, Around the dear ruin each wish of my heart Would entwine itself verdantly still 1847 in WEBSTER 1889 LEIGHTON *Mignonette's Hardsh* 257 The special song of Madame A was 'With verdure clad' Madame B elected to be verdantly 'clothed

b In a raw or inexperienced manner; greenly

1884 A SIMMONS *What he succeeded In* xiii 131 Perhaps to give the young fellow who was so verdantly staring at him a start

†**Verdate.** *Chem Obs* [f VERD IC *a.* + -ATE 1 c] (See quot. 1869.)

1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 256/1 The earthy or metallic *veridites* are yellow, while the *verdates* of the same bases are green 1850 MAYNE *Expos Lex*, *Verdate*, a com binations of verdic acid with a salifiable base

**Verd-azure,** *a rare*—1 [ad It *verdazzurro* sea-green see VERD *sb.* and AZURE *a.* Cf. obs. F. *verd d azur* (Cotgr.), used by Holland *Pliny* (1601) II 528] Of a bluish green colour, sea green

1876 WHITNEY *Sights & Ins* XXXII II 247 The gold green water that, out from the mountain shadows, grew verd azure in the sun

†**Verdasurine,** *a Obs.*—1 [See prec. and -INE 2] Bluish green, sea-green

1681 GREW *Museum* III ii iii 349 A Verdazurine Bole So I call it, for that it is on the out side of a blewish green, like Verdegrese

**Verde,** southern ME var. FERD *sb* 1 and pa t. FERE *v*. *Obs.*

**Verde,** *obs rare.* Also verdi(e [ad. It *verde* or F. *verde*] = next

*c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett* (1650) II 74 Nor is ther in Italy any wine transported to England but in bottles, as *Verdi* and others. *Ibid* (1655) IV 16 They must not be us'd like Buffoon bags, or old Rhenish wine casks, but in warm rooms by corner when the wine and spice are taken out of them 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Verdi*, a kind of white Muscadine wine

**Verde a.** Also 8 verd(e)dea. [a It *verdea* (whence F *verdée*, Pg *verdea*), f. *verde* green ] A wine made of a white grape grown in the neighbourhood of Arcetri near Florence Also *attrib*

a 1685 FLETCHER & MASS. *Elder Bro* II 1, Say it had been at Rochelle, or the Relques, drunk your Verdea Wine, and rid at Naples 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Verdea*, a kind of white Muscadine wine made in Tuscany, which is sometimes brought into England in bottles. 1791 HOVEN *Dict Royal* I, *Verdée*. Verd dea, White-Florentine Wine 1760 BARETTI *Ital Dict*, *Verdea*, a kind of white grapes called Verdeche, of which is made a kind of wine called also Verdeaea. 1833 C REDDING *Hist Mod Wines* (1851) 278 The celebrated Verdea is a white wine having a bright green tinge, grown at Arcetri, it was formerly held in high estem 1837 *Sporting Mag* XXV 1288/1

**b** transf (See quot )

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade Verdea*, a white Tuniman wine.

**Verde antico.** [It] = VERD-ANTIQUE 1

1752 *Chambers's Cycl Supp* I.v *Marble*, Caryatium Marmor . the Italian antiquaries particularly mean this, by a name also in use among us, and prostituted to every other species of green marble, the *verde antique* 1765 SMOLLETT *Trav* (1766) xxvii. Wks. (1824) 256/2 The great profusion of granite porphyry, jasper, verde antico lapis lazuli, and other precious stones 1839 *Penny Cycl* XIV 290/1 Statuary Marble . Verdeo and that long green Susa in Piedmont. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Gold Cuff* II vi 185 Placid gods and goddesses smirking at vacancy, on pedestals of verde antique 1893 *Encycl Brit* XV 592/1 The famous *verde antico* is a rock of this character (i e serpentinous limestone)

**Verdegrece, -grese** (ə, etc , obs ff. VERDIGRIS

**Verdeur,** variant of VERDOUR 1 *Obs*

†**Verdict**1. *Obs* Also 6 **verdar.** [var. of VERDOUR 1, with weakened ending on the analogy of agent-nouns in *our*, *-er*, *-or* ]

1. = VERDOUR 1 2, VERDURE 3 **a.** In plural

1500 *Inv* in *Ann Reg* (1768) II 134 One dozen of cushions of verders stuffed with feathers. 1549 in Harrison & Bateson *Hist Oxford* (1893) 207, vij peces of smale verders storyed with beats & flowles iiij peces of verders paued with redd and white. 1549 in Kempe *Lonely MSS* (1836) 152 Item longe tapystrye of greene vardars, with flowers lyned with ca 1550 1660 in *Statutes of Realm* (1819) V 128/2 Verders of Tapistry with haire. 1608 in *Stat at Large, Ireland* (1765) II 417 Verders Tapistry, containing eight or ten sils with hair

**b.** In singular.

1520-3 *Inv* in *Archaeol* (1860) XXXVIII 364 A counterpayn of verder and 2 pleyn cuibords *Ibid* 413 1 grt gret counterpoynes of verder 1535-6 in Dugdale *Monast Angl* (1823) IV 542 One chare of lether fryngd with one cuysshon of verder 1594 *Inv* in *Archaeol* (1884) XLVIII 226 Item two wollen blanckettes and a coveringe of verdere xl *s*

**2** = VERDURE 4 *rare*—1

1832 MOORE *Conflat Tindale* Wks 357/1 That the olde hollsome wine offend their dronken taste, because it is not so wallowe weste but drunketh more of the verder

†**Verder**2. *Obs. rare* [a AF *verder* (13–14th c.) = OF. and F. *verdier* VERDIER. See also VERDOUR 2.] = VERDERER 1 2.

a 1625 SIR H FINCH *Law* (1636) 497 *De e xonerande virid arie forestæ*, to discharge a verder of the forest in like sort 1717 *Hist Reg.*, *Chronol Hist* 41 Thomas Cage, Esq, elected Verder of the Forest of Dean

†**Verder** 3, ? mispr for VERGER 1.

a 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Hen VIII*, 214 [The] high Constable of England bearyng the verder of silver appertayning to y^e office of Constablership

†**Verderer**1. *Obs* —1 [Extended form of VERDER 1 + of next ] = VERDURER 3

*c* 1550 *Disc Commons Rem Land* (1893) 85 The arrisses, verderers, and tapstrie worke, wheare with they be hanged

**Verderer** 2 (vɔ·dərəɹ). 1 orms. *a.* 6–7 **verderour**, 7–9 **-or.** *β* 7– **verderer** γ. 8– **verdurer** [a. AF. *verdeer* (1278), extended form of *verder* VERDER 2, f OF *verd* (var of *vert* : see VERD *sb* and VERT *a.*) + -*ier*, -*eyrdis* green. In mod.L. rendered by *viridarius* ]

1. †A judicial officer of the King's forest .. sworn to maintain and keep the assises of the forest, and also to view, receive, and enroll the attachments and presentments of all manner of trespasses of the forest, of vert and venison ' (Manwood).

In later use chiefly surviving in connexion with New, Epping, and Dean Forests : for their wise see *Verd* 1 *Act* a 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen VIII*, c 38 § 5 Surveiyng of Woodes in any of y^e said Parkes, Forrestes or chases, and the mannynge, rulinge and ordering of the vnderwoodes thereof 1614 SKELDON *Titles Hon* 269 these foure seem to haue been as those which later 11 ne haue stiled Verderers of the Forest 1664 *Cokes Inst* IV c 73 *Verderii Forestæ* (1797) 289 It was presented by the foresters, verderors, and agisters that the plaintiff has chased and taken deer within the forest 1667–8 [see REGARDER 1] 1747 CARTE *Hist Eng* I 709 He appointed likewise in each [part] of the forest his house hold, as verderors to take care of the vert and venison 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 343 He is likewise to decide the elections of knights of the fee of coroners, and of verderors 1792 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II 20 Besides these officers there are four others, called verderors *Ibid* 21 The verderor is an ancient forest officer 1866 *Sunday Mail* Apr 261/1 Under the Norman *régime*, the officers of the Forest were Verderors Regarders, and Foresters (besides others) *Ibid* 261/2 The verderors, to look after the vert

*β* 1611 COTGR., *Segrayer*, a Verderer or such a like Officer of some authoritie, in forrests. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett* (1655) II iv 299 A Forest hath a Court of her own, to take cognizance of all trespasses ; she hath also her peculiar officers, as Foresters, Verderers, Regarders Agisters &c. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 114 The amplitude of the distance resign d to the care of the Verderer *c* 1730 GILLIA *Eliz Forest Mary* (1888) 39 I here are several Rangers of y^e forest, and 6 verderers y^e are their justices or judges of all matters relateing to ye forest 1822 W TAYLOR in *Month Mag* XXXIV 410 A forest has laws and officers of its own as foresters, verderers, &c 1849 *Penny Cycl* XVI 175/1 The verderers and regarders [of the New Forest] are the only fixed residents of Hampshire *Ibid* The verderers have no salary emolument, or perquisite besides a fee buck and a fee doe yearly 1892 *Times* 16 July 11/4 Hampshire has completed its roll of Unionist county members the New Forest Division returning the son of the verderer Lord Montagu.

γ 1734 *tr R Atkins Pref to Pract Abr* 6 Coroners and Verderers (1689) Verderers are chosen by Writ at the County Court to this day 1763 MARTIN *Nat Hist Eng* II 922 The Forest of Sherwood has a Ranger, 4 Verderers, 12 Regarders, 24 Foresters, 24 Agisters, [The] hut of old Martin the verderer 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* i iv, The King a verderer caught him a hunting in the forest, and cut off his legs.

†**2.** *local* A petty constable having supervision of a city ward. *Obs*—1

1791 [see VERDERY].

**Verderership.** Also 8 **verdurer-.** [f. VERDERER 2 + -SHIP ] The office of a verderer.

1611 COTGR., *Segrarie*, a Verderer-ship ; or such a like Office of account in forrests 1760 tr *Busching's Syst Geog* VI 596 The verdurership over Osterforest 1865 *Guardian* 24 Jan 95/1 The election of Verderers and the vacancies in the verderership of the Forest 1901 *Blackw Mag* Nov 660/2 Why should not the author of 'The Forest Lovers' be offered a verderership?

†**Verdery.** *local Obs* [a. OF. *verderie* (14th c. in Godef ), f. *verder* VERDER 2 ] (See quots )

1791 T COLLINSON *Hist Somerset* III 375 The city of Wells is divided into four verderies in the manner of wards, and thus denominated :- High and South over and Verdery *Ibid*, These verderies each of which is superintended by two verderers, or petty constables (an office originating from the Viridarii of the Roman Code of Mendip). 1839 PHELPS *Somersetsh.* II 17 These Verderys [in Wells] are named Chanberlain street Verdery [etc ]

**Verdet** (vɔ·dĕt) [a. OF *verdet* (16th c.), = PROV and Cat. *verdet*, Sp and Pg. *verdete*, It. *verdetto*), dim. of *verd* VERD *sb* ]

**1.** *Chem.* An acetate of copper (see quots ).

1858 WARDE tr *Alexis' Secr* 118 Take verdet or Verdegrise, Vitriol of Almain, and salt Armoniacke 1859 *Ibid.* 11 53 Take Spanish greene called Verdet, Vitrioll and Alome, of eche equally 1873 RAY *Yours Lov* 454 At Montpellier the best Verdet or Verdegreese is made, which is nothing but the rust or scurf of copper calcined by the vapour of wine. 1883 WATTS *Dict Chem* I 74 Acetates of Copper The normal salt ($C^2H^3O^2)^2Cu$", called also Crystallised Verdigris, Verdet, is produced by dissolving cupric oxide or common verdigris in acetic acid 1898 LOUDMAN *Spraying Plants* 44 Verdet is an acetate of copper There are many such combinations, all being known under the general name of verdet, or verdigris.

**2** A fungus which grows upon maize.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 801 There seems therefore to be some quality in the maize itself which when acted upon by the 'verdet' as the fungus is called, produces a specific poison.

**Verdeter,** var VERDITER.

‖ **Verdetto.** *rare* [It] = VERDET 1

1598 R HAYDOCKE tr *Lomazzo* III 99 They which make Greenes, are greene buze, Verdigrease, *verdetto* called holy, inclining towards a yallow 1735 G FIELD *Chromatography* 129 The greens called Verona green, and Verdetto, or holy green, are similar native pigments (to terre verte)

**Verdeur,** var VERDOUR *Obs* , obs. f VERDURE.

**Verdges,** obs f VERJUICE

**†Verdic,** *a Chem Obs* [ad mod L *verducus* or F *verdaque*,f F. *verdor* to become green Cf. VERDOUS *a* ] (See quots )

1836-41 BRANDE *Man. Chem* (ed 5) 1198 Verdic Acid — This acid was extracted by Runge from several of the *Umbelliferæ* and *Plantagineæ*, &c , but chiefly from the root of the *Scabiosa succisa*. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 256/1 Runge states that he found by analysis that verdic acid contains one equivalent of oxygen more than the verdous acid

**Verdict** (vɜ·dikt), *sb* Forms *a.* 3-7, 9 *dial* , -dytt, -dite, 6-7 -ditt, 3-6 verdyt, dyte, 5 -dytt, -dyth(e , 4 verdit, 5 **verdit**, -dyte , 4, 5 **verdit** *β* 5 wardyte, 6 wardite, -dytt, 6, 9 *dial* , wardit, 9 *dial* **vardite** Also 4 VAIDE 7 5 **verdoit,** 6 **verduyt,** 7 **verduit**, -duiot. 8. 6-7 **verdict,** 6- **verdict,** 6 -diote [a. AF *verdit* (= OF *voirdit*), f *ver, veir* true + *dit,* pa pple of *dire* to say, speak. Hence med L *verdictum* (*veredictum*), to which the mod spelling and pronunciation are due The mod F, *ver dict*, Pg *verdicct*, Sp *verdecto*, are from Engl ]

1. *Law* The decision of a jury in a civil or criminal cause upon an issue which has been submitted to their judgement

*a* 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2980 He stod vp & sede he verdit vor al opere pat here were *a* 1325 *Ms Rawl B* 520 fol 60b, 3if he ivree segge in his verdit pat he askere is bas tard *c*1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conc* 5101 Vnti pat time haue ȝeuen pair verdite, And outher þar of made hym qwyte Als þe ingle waite, or made hym gilty *c*1440 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Verdyte *verdictum* *Stat Laudi* III 40 Also I took sycke a wey with hym that the qwest gave no verdyt 1544 tr *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 78 The verdyte of twelve men taken at large in Assise or Iuries. 1599 *Merry Mag* (1563) K v I gyltles was condempned Such verdits passe where iustyce is contemned 1591 Q ELIZABETH in *Lismore Papers* Ser ii (1888) I 4 Your Ma^ties iudges to our particulers as shalbe found due, vpon the saide Verdyte 1614-5 BOYS *Exp Fest Epist & Gosp* Wks (1630) 750 When any suite concerning the Clergie shall be tried by your verdite. 1641 QUARLES *Hard sinn Wks* (Grosart) II 44/2 At last they put their choyce Vpon the verdit of a Iurie's voyce.

*b, γ* 1429 *Peterculter, Turriff in Surtees Misc* (1890) 28 Thys is the wardyte of xxij men & the constabyls. 1531 *Star Chamb Cases* (Selden) II 193 To wryte any such presentment or verdyct 1567 *Trial Treas* 1/1 The same homage deed plenyly shewe the same to be their true verdyct

*δ* 1533 More *Debell Salem* Wks 906/1 Whose verdicte the iudge taketh for a su e sentence without ani examination of the circumstances whether they know their verdicte to be true. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* L j b Our lawe committeth it to the verdict of 12 men 1613 SHAKS. *Hen VIII*, v 1 131 Not worthy me, that I should plead the Truth of th question carries The dew o th Verdict with it 1657 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 122 A house and lande, which hee had recovered by law, and by a second verdict lost the same again 1674 Wood *Life* (O H S) II 281 The jury were about to pass their verdict 1726 *Leg Pen* i P 2 Wks I 15 The Agreement of Twelve Men is a Verdict in Law. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 448 The jury meet the coroner in short And lunacy the verdict of the court 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) II 119 On the trial the Judge directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff 1885 *Public Opinion* 9 Jan 36/2 An advocate who wins an unjust verdict has contributed to bring about a miscarriage of justice

*Comb* 1892 *Daily News* 10 May 2 Though Mr Bramwell had a good practice, he was never a great verdict getter

b Without article

1437 *Rolls of Parli* IV 509/2 Foundе gilty be verdite of xii notable men *a* 1500 in *Archaeol* (1904) LIX 20 By the comyn lawe ther lith non atteynt upon untrewe verdit gyffyn in London 1535 WHITTINTON *Vocab* (Camden) 7 A iurie incomitte it gave verdict of them beinge ignorante of the same treason. 1577 HARRISON *England* II ix (1877) I 202 Our trials and recoueries are either by verdict and demourre, confession or default. 1598 YLOP *Fruyte & Hatchet* (1842) 25 The lurie gaue werdit and said guiltie. 1718 PRIDEAUX *Direct Ch. wardens* (ed 4) 22 In case any should obtain Verdict on their side 1797 ROBLINE *Pocket Law Dict* s.v , Another rule at Common law is, that surplusage will not vitiate after Verdict.

c. With particularizing addition

1607 COWELL *Interpr* s v , This verdict is two fold : either generall or especiall A general verdict is that, which is giuen or brought into the Court, in like generall termes to the generall issue *Ibid* , The especiall verdict, if it contains any ample declaration of the cause, from the beginning to the end, is also called a verdict at large 1628 COKE *On Litt* i 228 b, There be two kindes of verdicts; viz. one generall, and another at large or especiall *Ibid* , It is therefore called a especiall Verdict or a Verdict at large, because they finde the speciall matter at large, and leaue the iudgement of law thereupon to the Court. 1628 [see PRIVY *a* 8]. 1665 [see SPECIAL *a.* 7]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm* III 377 The only effectual and legal verdict is the public verdict in which they openly declare to have found the issue for the plaintiff, or for the defendant. 1769 *Ibid.* IV 354 The jury cannot, in a criminal case, give a privy verdict But an open verdict may be either general, guilty, or not guilty 1838 TOMLINS *Law Dict* s.v , Where a verdict is given by thirteen jurors, it is said to be a void verdict ; because no attaint would lie. 1854, 1884 [see PEREMPTORY *a.* 2 c]. 1894 [see SEALED *ppl. a.* 2].

2. *transf* and *fig.* A judgement given by some body or authority acting as, or likened to, a jury

*c*1386 CHAUCER *Parlt Foules* 525, I iuge on euery folk ben shul on calle To seyn the verdit for yow foulys alle 1579 W WILKINSON *Confut Families of Love* 63 b, The euidence whereby that verdict should be gathered, which shall passe against vs 1589 WARNER *4th Lng Pease* &c (1612) 338 The lurour could not but giue Verdict for Elias, and the Iudge sentence against Æneas. 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* IX ii § 8 They are here presently to aū ide the verdits of battaile 1671 MILTON *Samson* 324 Though Reason here aver That moral verdit quits her of unclean 1684 T BURNET *Th Earth* I 205 Ought we not in this, as well as in other things, to bring in an honest verdict for nature as well as art? 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb Faun* (Tauchn.) II xvii, 177 Might we not render some such verdict as this?— 'Worthy of Death but not unworthy of Love' 1867 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1877) I vi. 501 The great Earl is at least entitled to a verdict of Not Proven, if not of Not Guilty

3 *trans* A decision or opinion pronounced or expressed upon some matter or subject, a finding, conclusion, or judgement.

*a* *c*1386 CHAUCER *Prol* 787 (Petworth), Vn bought it was not worpe to make to wys And bad him sese his verdit ȝe or worse. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* I 44 b, 1490 LYDG *Mor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 83 Clatering pyes, whan tha come in presence, Most malapert there verdit to purpose. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxophil.* (Arb.) 130 Then the messenger was sent away, and matter began to say his verdite. 1585 DANIEL *Panl Iounat* Pref , Neither must wee depend vpon the verdite of some conceled Philosophers 1650 B HALL *Hybal* II v 302 There is none of all my labours whereof I would so willingly heare the verdit of the wise and iudicious 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1228 Cam at thou for this, vain boaster, to survey me, To descant on my strength, and give thy verdict? 1883 *Manchester Observ Diul. W Eng* 80 *Verdit, Verdict*, opinion. 1893 WILLIAMS & JONES *Somerset Gloss* 40 That's my verdit, therefore.

*β* 1565 STAPLETON tr *Stapkylus Apol* 161 b For they pardie by the warditt of Luther, are all damned, if they thought as they speake. 1577 *Haugomaster* 1 b, To take the wise & weighty houres warditt in such a case thou must not sticke. 1828 CARR *Craven Glossᵃ*, *Verdite*, verdict, opinion 1877 PRA COCK *N W. Lincs Gloss* 251 I think we shall here sooan w what s your vardit? *Ibid* , Thoo s alius pokin in thy vardit. *γ* 14 Verdoit [see *a*] 1642 D ROGERS *Naaman* 297 No one mystery, administration, worke or ordinance of his can passe her fingers, without some verdict or other of her owne 1811 *Sats* The ten spies bringing a verdict of sense to their brethren

*δ* 1589 GREENE *Planetomachia*, *Saturnes Trag* Wks. (Grosart) V 211 Psamnetichus thought it a longe time to yeelde so small a verdict 1638 ASTRON *Trans* 143 I end with the verdict, w he saw and the Inquisitors, a Pultrone and a Parasite. 1683 D A *Art Conversa* Pref , It shall stand or fall by your Verdict. 1791 BURKE *Appr Whigs* Wks VI 377 This proposition is authenticated by the verdict of his country 1819 KEATS *Otho* v v, Those tears will wash away a just resolve, A verdict ten times sworn ! 1887 W COLLINS *Dead Secret* I 1 The verdict of humanity is always against any individual member of the species who presumes to differ from the rest 1888 C PEBODY *Eng Journalism* xvii 127 No controversy is supposed to be closed till the *Times* has given its verdict

b Without article

1537 [T TINDALE] *Exp St John* 93 Of such he geueth verdyte openly 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen IV* Induct 30 Speak, good vardyte 1766 DUANT *Horace, Sat* x lv b In learnyng cype in vertue iusie, in verdite sharpe and sage 1790 STEVENS *Rem Early Poets* 1 by selfe, by verdit of thine eye, Whether to me they are not subiect all.

†4 A vote or suffrage *Obs* —1

1580 in 10th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 431 Neither the Maysor, nor Maysors peare, shall have power at the tyme of election or for any other cause but the verdicte of one man

**Verdict,** *v rare.* [f prec.]

*intr* To pass judgement upon, to give decision or pronounce an opinion concerning (some person or thing).

1594 Q ELIZABETH In Tytler *Hist Scot* (1864) IV 349 We princes are set upon highest stage, where looks of all beholders are marked, and doomes verdicted 1638 *Ashmole Autobiog* (1815) 16 Must a lury of Irades be busied to verdict him readie?

2 *intr* To pronounce a verdict or sentence *against* something

1598 *Literature* 12 Nov 439 Lawful men of the neighbour hood verdicted *against* them for their temporal interest.

†**Verdier,** *Obs* —[ = VERDER 2

1612 COTGR , *Verdier*, a Verdier, or ouerseer of a forest ; a Iudge or Officer who commaunds all the Raungers, Wood-wards, Foresters, &c

**Verdigris** (vɜ·digris) Forms *a* 4 **verdegres,** 4-6 **gres**(e, 5 **grys,** 7 **-grease, -griese,** 7-8 **-grease,** 5-6 **verdegrece,** 6-7 **-greace,** 7-8 **greece** ; 6-9 **verdigreace,** 6 **grese,** 6-8 **-greese** (7 **verdi-**), 6 **verdigreece,** 7 **greace, greece** , 6 **verdygresse, -grace,** 7 **virdigreace, -greese.** *β.* 4 **vertegres,** 5 6 **-grece** (5 **vertegrece** 6 **verthigrece**), 5 **vertegres, -greas,** 6 **-greese, -greece,** 7 **-greese** *γ* 5 **vert de grece,** 7 **vert degreese** 8 6, 8-9 **verdegris** (6 **verddegris**), 7-9 **verdigrise,** 8- **verdigris.** *ε.* 6 **vargrasse, vergres**(se (**wer-**), **vergrys,** *Sc.* **verm-, varnigris.** [a. AF. and OF *vert de Grece* (c 1170), OF. *verte gres* (13th c.), *vert de grece* (1314), *verte gris* (15th c , also mod F.), lit. 'green of Greece' : see VERT *sb* 1 Cf. med L. *viride graecum* (14-15th c.). The terminal syllable at an early date was no longer understood and hence underwent various corruptions of spelling and pronunciation.]

1 A green or greenish blue substance obtained artificially by the action of dilute acetic acid on thin plates of copper (or a green rust naturally forming on copper and brass), and much used as a pigment, in dyeing, the arts, and medicine , basic acetate of copper.

*a* 1336-7 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II 92 In ij libras dim. de verdegrez empt , iijs. vd. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Chanon Yeom Prol.* 6 T 791 (Corpus), 3it wol I telle hem, As boote as myn herte may, Wherof I prey yow, bere it nat to lore *Rime Sir Thop* V, D 1/2 Vermelone, Coperos, Verdegres, Vernysahe. 14 *Voc.* in Wr Wülcker 619 *Viride graecum*, verdegrece. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth De P. R* xix. xxxviii. 899 In the same wyse as Cerusa is verdegreys made, and comyth of vapour of stronge vynegyre shed vpon plates of brasse. 1532 in E Law *Hampton Crt Pal* (1885) 363, 3 sackes of verdygrace conteyninge ȝij lb 1580 BATMAN *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R* Add 299 Verdigrese, which as it is a colour for Painters, so it is a fretting poison 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 903 Metalls give Orient and Fine Colours in their Putrefactions or Rusts ; as Vermilion, Verdegrease Bise 1681 GREW *Museum* III. iii 342 A sort of Native Verdegrese, from the Copper Mines of Herrngrund 1691 *Lister's Journ Paris* 11 Verdigrease being a commodity of great vse in this our realme, especially for painting and dying, and never hitherto made here. *c*1750 W GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens* II. iii 173 The Verdigrease which is made by the pressings of the Wine put upon plates of Copper 1758 *Ann Reg* 293 That their process in salt making would dissolve the surface of the copper, into verdigrease 1807 G CHALMERS *Caledonia* I i iii. 107 The head of a Roman spear of brass and en crusted with verdigrease.

*β* 1300-1 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 500 In vertegrece, melle, atramento *c*1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom Prol* & *T* 701 (Ellesm.), Bicle armonyak, vertegrees, Boras. *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula in ano* 82 Wax and oile dulle be scharpnez of vertigrese, and vertgrese represseb þeir putre faccion and humeccacion 1487-8 in Willis & Clark *Cam Bridge* (1886) I 412 Pro xj li. de vertegrece 1538 LELAND *Itin* 1 greece 2ɛ xd 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II 151 [turpentine] is good for lepres, wyth vert grease. 1573 *Art of Limning* 6 To temper Vertgrese or Verdegrese 1578 LYTE *Dodoens Herb* i *cxiii Extrc* 82 Vert greece is nothing else but the rust of brasse. 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr Verd grease or vert greece* *γ* *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 257 Take fenny & han do perto ȝ ij of vert de grece 1574 Vertdegrease [see *a*]

*δ* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Aerugo*, verd degris the rust of brasse eather artificiall, or naturall 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 136 Gladyn pounde with a little Verdegris draweth forth all kindes of thornes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 471 This is altogither artificiall, and called Cyprian Verdegrise or rust of brasse 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade m* § 4 (689) 9 Half a Pound of green Copperas [and] as much Verdigrise 1757 DYER *Fleece* i 279 Corrosive drugs Dry allum, verdigrise, or vitriole 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 508 Verdigris 1798 *Farmer's Jrnl* 378 Here is a brassy scent in the air as of verdigris. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II i 76 Scorpions are green, & d water snakes, and efts, and toads Verdigris-coloured *Art Arts* 1873 Verdigris is a mixture of the crystallized acetate of copper and the sub-acetate, in varying proportions 1893 KOYLE *Mat Med* (ed 2) 172 *Aruginis* or Verdigris must have been early known, from the employment of Copper vessels.

*ε* 1596-6 *Acc Ld H gh Treas Scot* III 287 For tua pund vergreis to the said wyfe 1596 *Ibid* 288 I pund vargreis. 1551-2 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 63 Pro duabus libris ly wergrease ij*s* 1595 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 103 For vergrease to stresse the oxe feete.

*b transf* (See quots ) *rare*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 286 There is no part of the Frog so medicinable as is the bloud The same also being made into a Verdigreace, & drunke Hist Four Cl. ] *The Turtles* 116 He mention'd Aldermen deceased, And speculated on that *verdigreasn* That isn t poison ]

c With qualifying adjs (see quots ).

1597 WESLEY *From Hooker's Eccl Pol* (1604) 60 Two or two Drams of distill d Verdigreasse 1755 *Dict Arts & Sci* s v These are the crystals of verdegrease, improperly called distilled verdegrease 1800 tr *Lagrange's Chem* II 40 Crystallized verdigrise or acetite of copper 1855 J SCOFFERN *Elem Chem* 490 Neutral acetate of copper is known popularly by the absurd term distilled verdigris 1865 WATTS *Dict Chem* I 14 The bibasic salt or blue verdigris is prepared at Montpellier *Ibid* 15 Green Verdigris.

2 *attrib* , as *verdigris blue, colour, water* , ver digris **green,** a green of a bright, bluish hue , scrupulous green

1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol Anat* II 1 29 His skin became of a Verd greese or yellow green colour 1674 W LEYBOURN *Compl Surveyor* 321 Verdegrease water and yellow berry water make a very fine green 1790 Dodsley *Eng Exercises* (1761) II 84 The Unwholesomeness of the Rust and Verdegrease Suffusions. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed. 2) I 28 Verdigris green—that [ore] in which no shade of yellow is perceptible, rather bluish. 1805-17 R JAMESON *Char Min* (ed 3) 67 Verdigris green is emerald green mixed with much Berlin blue, and a little white. 1842 J BROWN *Bk Butterflies* & *M* (1834) I 213 A rich verdigris blue of fine satiny lustre 1896 GEORGIANA M STISTED *True Life Ser R. F Burton* II 31 The Nile is a verdigris green, which one associates only with early spring in the temperate zone.

Hence **Verdigrisy** *a* , of the colour of verdigris 1897 C MORLEY *Stud. Bank of Schools* 193 Can that bit of verdigrisy green be dried salt?

**Verdigrised,** *ppl a* [f prec + ED ] Coated or tainted with verdigris

1831 TRELAWNY *Adv Younger Son* I 218 We hoisted up four verdigrised brass nine-pounders 1853-8 HAWTHORNE *Eng Note Bks* (1879) I 63 An old verdigrised brass bugle.

**Verdingal(e),** variants of VARDINGALE *Obs*

**Verdit(e,** obs. forms of VERDICT.

**† Verdite.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. VERD-OUS *a* + -ITE ]

4 b.] A salt produced by the action of verdous acid on a base

1838 T Thomson *Chem. Org Bodies* 159 The precipitate consists of verdite of lead. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 256/1 The earthy or metallic verdites are yellow, while the verdates of the same bases are green.

†**Verditel.** *Obs*⁻¹ = next 1.

1778 Pryce *Min Cornub* 250 lly gradually adding the powder, in some time, on the ceasing of the violence of effervescence, the Copper will precipitate in a green powder, called Verditel.

**Verditer** (vɜ·dɪtəɹ). Forms *α* 6- **verditer**, 6 **viriditer**, 8 **verdeter** *β* 6 **verdytor**, 7 **verditor** 7-9 **verditure**, 7 **virditur** [a. Ob *verd de terre* (later **l** *verd de terre*), lit. 'green of earth' see Verdi *sb* Holland *Pliny* (1601) II. 528 employs the Ob. form ]

1. A kind of pigment of a green, bluish green, or (more freq ) light blue colour, usu prepared by adding chalk or whiting to a solution of nitrate of copper, and much used in making crayons and as a water colour

*α* 1505-6 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* III 284 iijlb pund verditer ilk pund vjs. 1558 in Feuilleraz *Revels Q Eliz* (1908) 94 Rossat j lb vunt', verditer xiiij*s*. 1662 in *Statutes at Large, Ireland* (1765) II 417 Verditer, the hundred weight £1 6*s* 8*d*. 1675 W Levingstone *Compl Surveyor* 310 Verditer, washed and tempered with Gum water is a good Blew 1738 Chambers *Cycl* s.v *Dyeing* Bright green is their finest blue, then black is tied with brasletto, and verditer 1783 Priestley in *Phil Trans* LXXIII 406 An ounce of copper from verditer absorbed 403 ounce measures 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 930 Incenen l lue, or verditer, a greenish blue colour obtained from copper mixed with chalk or lime *Ibid* 1275 Verditer, or Bremen (reen is a light powder, like magnesia having a blue or bluish green colour 1873 *Hutton's Dict Chemistry, Coating Blue* is a composition of gum lac, melted and incorporated with resin, and afterwards coloured with some pigment, as verditer, ultramarine.

*β* 1532 in Ld. Liaw *Rolls Ser I Inl* (1885) 363, 2 lb of verdytur, at 16*d* the lb 1660 *Act 12 Chas II*, c 4 (1786) III 137/2 Verditor, the hundred weight, j lb vjs viijd

γ 1608 Peacham *Art Drawing* 54 I take your Verditure, and grind it with a weak Gum Arabick Water, it is the faintest and palest green that is 1674 W Levingstone *Compl Surveyor* 310 Verditure washed and tempered with Gum water, makes a Green not transparent.

b. With particularizing terms, as *blue, green, refined blue, refiners's verditer*

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc, Printing* xxiv P 17 Virdi grease, and Green Virditer, for Greens But all must be ground with soft Varnish 1732 ] Pelle *Water Colours* 62 Blue Verditer is a very bright, pleasant blue 1799 G Smith *Laboratory* (ed 5) I 158 Blue Verditer or smalt, is used with enamel, will make a good blue paint 1837 *Penny Cycl* VII 504/1 Its [blue carbonate of copper] is of a fine light blue colour, and known by the name of refiners' verditer 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade* s.v, There are fine refined blue, and green verditers. 1867 Box M *Chem* 345 The paint known as blue verditer is hydrated oxide of copp obtained by decomposing nitrate of copper with hydrate of lime.

c Hence occas. in pl

1665 Hooke *Microgr* 72 For Smalts and verditures I have been at le with a microscope to perceive their particles very many of them triangular 1823 G Field *Chromatography* 113 These blues as pigments are precisely of the character of verditers.

2 The blue or green colour characteristic of verditer

1819 H Busk *Vestriad* v 402 The sacred hill Clad in bright verditure and Prussian blue 1858 *Nat Rev* 20 Nov 307/2 Here d ne in the hues of verditer and ultramarine 1877 Miss A B Edwards *Up Nile* vii 185 The prevailing colours are verditer and chocolate

3. *attrib* & With names of colours, esp. *verditer blue.*

1551-2 in Feuilleral *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 71 Grownde white leade, vi *lb* Verditer grene, xiid 1683 Moxon *Mech I exer., Printing* xxiv P 17 Virditur Indico and Bice for Blews. *Ibid*, Virditur Indico and Verditer 1738 ] Pelle *Water Colours* 62 Verditer-Green is a light Green 1857 *Fraser's Mag* LVI 551 Greenish blue approaching in richness to verditer blue 1864 *Tennyson Enoch Arden* 11 xiii (1868) 239 A patch of feathers on the top of the head glows and flashes with metalic splendour, and is of a vivid verditer blue 1892 G B Shelley *Catal Birds Brit Mus* XIX 55 Throat verditer blue, with paler blue central lines 1901 *Q Rev* July 18 The magnificent verditer blue giant plantain eater

b In the sense 'of the colour of verditer'.

1857 *Fraser's Mag* LVI 571 A gray ish white chin is fol lowed by a verditer throat. 1893 Symonds *In key of Blue* 12 Verditer hues of water-snakes

**Verdius, Verditulo.** obs ff, Verjuice.

†**Verdivre** *Obs* = [Fr] the var *verdor* Verdour ] = Verdure 2 c

1586 Ferne *Blas Gentrie* 149 The Smaragd (commonly called the Emeraud) exceedeth the cullors of all herbs or Verdures.

**Verdoit,** obs variant of Verdict *sb*

‖ **Verdona.** [Sp, f *verde* green ] A variety of wine (see quots )

1703 Dampier *Voy* III 1 to Verdona is green strong-bodied Wine, harsher and sharper than Canary 1833 S Redding *Hist Mod Wines* (1851) 210 Verdona, a green wine, of good body, formerly grown on the western side of that island, and shipped at Santa Cruz for the West Indian market, little or none coming to Europe

†**Verdour** ¹. *Obs* Forms. *α* 5 **verdour**, 5-7 **verdour** (6 *Sc.* **wer-**), 6 **veerdour**, *Sc.* **ver-deour**, 5 *Sc.* **wardur**, 6 **vardour**, *Sc* **wardour**(e.

*β* 5 *Sc* **wardor**, 6-7 **verdor**, 7 **verdore.** [a OF *verdour*, *verdor* (13th c ; = Prov, Sp., Pg *verdor*, It *verdore*), later *verdeur* (mod F. dial. *vardeur*), f *verd* green see -OR ¹ and cf. Verdure ] and Verdure ]

1. Fresh greenness (of vegetation), *fig* fresh or flourishing condition

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb ) 213 The verdour of grene newe & the redolence Of good fame 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 156 b/2 The blessyd George was hygh in despysyng lowe thynges and therfore he had verdour in hym self 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III vii. (1611) 106 He beareth Argent, three sterued branches, this being mortified and vnuested of the verdour which sometime it had 1646 Quarles *Judgem*, etc., *Prayer Wks* (Grosart) I 83/1 *Deadness*, I is worldly man s Verdour. Contrasting the prosperous condition of the worldly man [etc.]

b Taste, *esp* fresh or pleasant taste , = Verdure 4. Also *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 154 And the vyne answered sayenge, I may not leaue my swetnes ard pleas naunt verdour, whiche so delyteth bothe god & man 1549 Coverdale, etc., *Paraph Erasm Tess* II 23 But every fruite is lyke unto hys owne tree, and hathe the verdour of the juyce of hys owne rote 1570-6 Lambarde *Perambn Kent* (1826) 229 Those grapes planted which our auncestors had brought hither out of Normandie had lost their native verdour, whether you did e ste their substance, or drink their iuice, which we call Verjoice 1662 Boate *Irel Nat Hist* 1 § We see in all other pleasures [than learning] there is verdure, and after they bee used, their verdour departeth

2 = Verdure 2

1480 *Wardrobe Bk Edw IV* (1830) 118 Oon other [counterpoint] of greene verdours with trees, oon other of white verdour with a scripture 1493 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) A la tuvarny of wardur, cost 12*s* 1532-8 *Rutland Mss.*3 (Hist Mss Comm ) IV 271 For my pieces of verdours for hangings vyjs viijd and a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII*, 165 b, The newe banket chamber was hanged with a costly verdour of Arras, and round there was set a border of the flowers were all of Sattyn silver 1574 *Burgh Rec Glasgow* (1876) I 32 Ane lettgard bed furneist wyth Flandreis werdour, blanketis, scheittis, and coddis

*attrib* 1488 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 157 A verdour bed to the Dnk 1501 *Ibid* II 31, vj elne cammas delivert to Jame Inglis to mend the verdour clubis in Strevelin 1532 *N C untry Wills* (Surtees) 133 A covering of a bedde of verdour werke lyned with canvas

3 = Verdure 2

1588 Wheatley *Tua Mastix Wemen* 30 As new spynist rose, Arrayt in alle about with mony rich wardour 1589 Hornbeio *Chron* (ed 2) III 857/1 Vnder it antike images of gold couered with verdour of diuis colours 1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* I vi § 11 So Solomon bee, ime inabled to compile a naturall Historie of all Verdor, from the Cedar vpon the Mountaine, to the mosse vppon the wall

4 = Verdure 3 b *rare*

1555 Fiben *Decades* (Arb ) 266 There appeareth to the eye a certeyne verdour shyny nge lyke the beames of the soonne

†**Verdour** ². *Obs rare* Also 6 viordour, 6-7 verdor. [a. Ar *verdour* (1327), var. of *verder* Verdier ] = Verdurer 2

1502 Arnolde *Chron* p lxxx/1 And to this Swanmot shall com to gedurs foresturs and verdours and non other be dvstraint. 1504 Crompton *Jurisd* 169 If a man be indicted of Trespasse done in the forrest before vj verdors Regarders, iuguors, and other Ministers of the Forrest [etc.] 1607 Cowell *Interpr*, *Verdour*, a Iudicial Officer of the Kings forest, chosen by the King, in the full county of the same shire, within the forest, where he doth dwell' *Ibid*, The verdour is made by the Kings writ, which is directed to the sheriffe of the shire, whose office it is to impanell 1656 Blount *Glossogr* (after Cowell) *Verderer* or *Verdor*, a Judicial Officer of the Kings Forrest 1818 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* XXXIV 210 A forest has Verderers and other officers of its own, as foresters, verdours, rangers, and agisters.

†**Verdous**, *a Chem Obs.* [See Verdic *a.* and -ous.] *Verdous acid* (see quots ).

1836-41 Brande *Chem* (ed 5) 1198 On evaporation [of an extract of *Scutellaria minor*] a yellow scaly pro duct is obtained in this state Berzelius proposes to call it *verdous acid* 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 256 ‡ Berzelius proposes to call the colourless the *verdous* and the coloured the *verdic* acid

**Verdoy,** *sb* and *a* [ad. F. *verdoyé*, pa. pple. of *verdoyer* see next ]

†**A** *sb.* = Verdure 3. *Obs*⁻¹

1598 *Test Test* (Surtees) VI 166 Item v peces of verdoyes for hangings.

**B** *adj Her.* Of a bordure (see quots. 1562 and 1610).

1562 Leigh *Armorie* 190 b, The sixte [embordvring] is called Verdoy, because it is charged with fewres, leaues, or slippes 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* v v (1611) 90 This terme Verdoy is appropriated to all bordures charged with leaues, flowers, fruits, and other like vegetables. [Heraldry in Phillips (1658), and in later Dicts ] 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* II vi 62 Sable, a bordure or, charged with Verdoy of Trefoiles aliped to the number of eight. 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v *Bordures* ‖ a Bordure is charg'd with any Parts of Plants or Flowers, they say *Verdoy of Trefoils*, or whatever Flower it be 1882 Cussans *Her* (1893) 66.

†**Verdoy**, *sv.* *Obs*⁻¹ [vd Ob *verdoser* (13th c ), *verdoyer*, f. verd *Verd sb* ] *intr* To become green

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met* x 1, A grene medowe full of herbes verdoying or wexying grene.

†**Verd-sauce**, variant of Vert sauce. *Obs*

1499 *Prymp Parv* (P ), Verdsawce, *viride salamentum.*

†**Verdue**, irreg variant of Verdure.

In the earlier instance app a simple misprint, but perh. accepted by later writers

1641 *Sylvester's Du Bartas* II. 1. *Handycrafts* 334 A Grove

Upon the verdue [edd 1605, 1621 verdure] of whose Virgin-boughs Bird had not perch't. 1650 Earl Monm tr *Senault's Man hec Guilty* 176 T will make snow black, to make a womans face seem fair, tarnish the verdue of the rose, to exalt the freshnesse of her Complexion *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp Williams* I (1692) 204 The month of May coming in with its verdue

‖ **Verdugal.** *Obs* Also 6 vardygall, 7 vertugal, vertigal [Of *verdugale*, *vertugale* see Vardingale ] A farthingale

1558-9 Sir R Clough in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I lv 251 After that, came 1 other hose covered with cloth of golde to the growide, which stoode lyke unto the gentylwomens vardygalls 1584 Hudson *Du Bartas Judith* v 215 Amongst his vertugals for ayde he drew From his Lieutenant 1611 *Corpet & Lovelines* Panegyr 1 verse, I the Gallery of 'Donna Amorosa' in Arabia Deserta which is a meere Magazin of verdugals.

‖ **Verdugo,** *Obs. rare.* [Sp (also Pg ) *verdugo* hangman, lash, rod, shoot, = It *verduco* narrow-bladed sword ] A hangman or executioner Also employed as a term of abuse

*a* 1616 Braum & Fl *Scornf Lady* II 1, *Wal* Where are my slippers Sir? *Serj and* Here Sir *Wal* Where Sir? have you got the pot Verdugo? have you seen the Horses Sir? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* IV 1, Contrive your beard o th top cut like Verdugoes

Hence † **Verdugoship,** the personality of a verdugo or executioner

1620 B Jonson *Alch* III, iii, His great Verdugo-ship [=a Spaniard] has not a jot of language; so much the easier to be cosen'd, my Dolly

**Verdulet,** *dimin* obs variants of Verdict.

†**Verdurant,** *a. Obs*⁻¹ [f. next + -ant ¹ ] Green, verdant

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* N iv b, As she walked one daye in her verdurant garden alone

**Verdure** (vɜ·dɪuɹ) Also 5 verdure, 6 verdur, 7 verdeur, 8 verdeer [n OF. *verdure* (12th C., = It., Sp., Pg *verdura*), f *verd* green + -ure Cf. Verdour ¹ ]

I. 1 The fresh green colour characteristic of flourishing vegetation, greenness, viridity

13 *Gaw & Gr Kn* 161 Alle his vesture vnrayly was clene verdure 1413 *Liber Sonde* (Caxton, 1483) IV 1 58 Ihs appel was borne fro the tree ihs appel was borne grym in his verdure 1610 Sharp *Lempl* 1 11 87 He was the luy which had hid my princely Irnuck, And suckt my verdure out on t 1639 N N tr *Boaistuau's Theat Wld* 1 65 We see the Ivy full of Verdure, on the most withered tree. 1675 Traherne *Chr Ethics* 404 Ingr titude cuts off the soul I be a branch from the root that gave it life and verdure. 1700 Pit in *Camden Scolare* xli, Let twisted Olive bind those I aurels fast, Whose Verdure must for ever last 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 229 When the snow lay very thick upon the burnet, that part of it which was above the snow had all the verdure of spring 1838 *Murray's Hand Bk N Cern* 165/2 Another valley clothed with meadows of the brightest verdure. 1910 *10th Cent Feb* 281 The perpetual verdure of cypress and pine, lilex and box was invaluable *fig* 1675 Traherne *Chr Ethics* 390 A spark of fire, if it falls into green wood or watery leaves, does not so Penitent tears, and the verdure of humility prevent such flames and extinguish the quarrel.

b. With *a* and *pl* A shade or tint of green

1535 Stelton *Cant Lament* 376 A cronell of lawrell with verdura light and darke I haue deuysyd for skelton 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* (1611) 10 Most vegitables, so long as they flourish are beautified with their proper verdure but most wholesome and pleasant to the eie 1706 H Hunter tr *St-Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) I p xxv, He clothed with leaves stuff, fiiform, and of a dark verdure

2. Green vegetation ; plants or trees, or parts of these, in a green and flourishing state.

*a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4979 A fery faire tre void of all hire verdure & valant of leues. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 104 Some ran for to gader of the grene verdure for to caste a long on the ways 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII 431 The tyme of wynter which trees doth deface And causyth all verdure to a voyde quyte. 1667 Milton *P L* III 628 Then shall this Mount Of Paradise by Verdure on my Roof yield 1775 Johnson *Lett* (1788) I 288, I can look into Lucy's garden I believe she has hardly any fruit but gooseberries; but so much verdure looks pretty in a town 1805 Shelley tr *Calderon's Magi Prodig* III 59 Voluptuous Vine, To the trunk thou interlacest [thou] Art the verdure which entbraces. 1832 Hr Martineau *Hazelbrook* I 9 Flourishing young plantations put forth their early verdure 1886 Sheldon tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* 14 The fire spread from tree to tree, until the tall mass of verdure resembled a volcano beginning to smoke.

*fig* 1818 Keats *Endym* III 187 At this a surprin'd start Frosted the springing verdure of his heart

*Comb* 1912 *Blackw Mag* Sept 316/1 Around us were the precipitous verdure clad cliffs.

*b. esp* Green grass or herbage.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb ) 3 In may was neuer no medewis sene Medeyd with flours on hys verdure grene. 1515 Barclay *Eclogues* v (1570) D ij/1 What time the verdure of ground & euery tre, By frost and stormes is priuate of beauties. 1598 Cowley *Love's Riddle* IV, [thoughts] and the pleasant verdure of the fields Made me forget the way 1650 Locke *Hum Und* IV. xiii. § 2 The earth will not appear painted with flowers, nor the fields covered with verdure, whenever he has a mind to it 1794 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* III, Along the bottom of this valley the most vivid verdure was spread. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 143 The Cheviot

hills are distinguished by their fine green verdure. 1858 Browning *La Saisiaz* 59 Praising still That soft tread on velvet verdure, as it wound through hill and hill.

**† o.** *pl.* Green plants or herbs. *Obs*

*c* 1405 *Partenay* 3824 She lapte the fenestre vppon, Aboue beheld she uerdures flouresshing. *c* 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 13/22 In wodes ben the verdures, Brembles, brembe beres. 1851 G Townshend *Temple Rector & c* All this second story seem'd of Silver worke mixt with fresh Verdures. 1893 Evelyn *De la Quant Compl Gard* II 199 Parsley is com prehended under the Title of Verdures or green Pot herbs 1729 London & Wise *Compl Gard* IX 282 May It is now the time of the flourishing reign of all Verdures and green things. 1794 Wollaston *Relig Nat* II 206 He might perhaps now and then meet with a little smooth way or be flattered with some verdures and the smiles of a few daisies on the banks of the road

**† 3** A rich tapestry ornamented with representations of trees or other vegetation *Obs*

Common *c* 1526–*c* 1550 after French usage see also Verder 1, Verdour 2

1513 *MS Papers i. Hen VIII* No 4101 (Publ Rec Office), A Counterpoynt of paly veluette, an old counterpoint of Redde verdures. *c* 1550 *Disc-Pl-ys* (Percy) 9 Divers well trymmed chambers, the worst of them apparelled with verdures. 1586 *Rates of Customs* h viij, Tappistry with wul or Verdure the flemish elle, xii d

**II. † 4** Freshness or agreeable brakness of taste in fruits or liquors, also simply, taste, savour.

1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* II 670 A water tree bryngeth forth ,Swete fruyte and delycyous 111 taste and verdure *c* 1540 tr *Pol Verg Eng Hist* (Camden) I 216 Being parched and brent in manner of corne, they made taste of salte 1574 R Scot *Hop Gard* (1578) 6 That Ale boroweth the Hoppe as without the which it wanteth his chiefe grace and best verdure. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 254 Upon such a chaunce and unhappie accident it [new wine] looseth the verdure and quicke tast 1611 Speed *Theat Gt Brit* xxiv (1614) 471/1 The very wines made thereof being little inferior in sweet verdure to the French wines.

*fig* 1630 Donne *Serm* (1640) 133 Every word in them [the Scriptures] hath his waight and value, his taste and verdure

**† b** Sharpness, tartness, or unpleasantness of taste *Obs.*

In last quot. perh only a contextual application of the general sense of ' taste ' see prec

1598 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W de W) B v b This wyne is of verdure *Hoc vinum est acre* 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 352 The wines which by age and long keeping, ivy downe their verdure and become sweet 1626 Bp Hall *Contempt*, *O T* xxi 2 312 Something they must haue to complaine of, that shall giue an vnsauory verdure to their sweetest morsels.

**† 5** Smell, odour Also *fig. Obs*

1520 Whittinton *Vulg* (1527) 15 This wyne drynketh of a sourge verdure (*delectat a sorte*). 1589 Greene *Pullyes Lone* Wks. (Grosart) VII 165 Let lillies wither on the stalke, and weare violets in thy hand, the one faire and vnsauoure, the other blacke but of sweete verdure 1594 R Carew] *Huarte's Exam Wits* (1616) 309 What is the cause that the excrements of bruit beasts haue not so vnpleasant a verdure as those of mankind? 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 377 The go ol Baulme in smell should have an harsh verdure *Ibid* 409 The Oile made both of all other the best verdure and in tast excelleth the rest 1716 M Davies *Athen Brit* II 351 The powerful Verdures of the foresaid Allium Cepa, &c

**6.** *fig* Fresh or flourishing condition

*c* 1586 Ctess Pembroke *Psalms* lxxi v, Do not then, now age assaileth, Courage verdure vertue faileth, Do not leave me cast away 1593 Shaks *Two Gent* I 2 49 Even so by Loue, the yong and tender wit Is turn'd to folly, blasting in the Bud, Loosing his verdure, euen in the prime. 1619 Donne *Lett* (1651) 178 Whereunto I should write some of any passages of these days, would lose their verdure before the letter came to you. a 1664 Kath Philips *Poems* (1667) 44 In Youth she did attract for she the Verdure had without the Vanity) 1691 Clerendon *Contempt on Psalms* Tracts (1727) 653 If he discontinues to give, all his former bounties have lost their verdure, and wither away 1796 Port *Odyss* VIII 192 A lord's protecting hand alone would raise My drooping verdure, and extend my praise 1754 H Walpole *Lett* (1846) III 67, I am in no fear of not finding you in the Elect verdure. 1829 Lytton *Disowned* I x, Those years make the prime and verdure of our lives

*7 fig* Signs of gullibility, = Green *sb* 2 c

1861 H C Pennell *Puck on Pegasus* 75 Perceiv st thou verdure in my eye?

**Verdured** (vɔ̈ ddĭnd), *ppl a.* [f prec + -ed]

**† 1.** Of wine Having a (specified) taste *Obs.*

1533 Elyot *Cast Helthe* iii xviii (1541) 69 Moderate use of small wynes, clere and well verdured, is herein very commendable. 1548 Udall *Erasmus Par Luke* vi. 73 The sower verdured wyne of the olde supersticion.

**2** Clad with verdure or vegetation, covered with grass.

*a* 1718 T Parnell *Gift of Poetry* (1894) 193 Lonely plea sure leads To verdur d banks, to paths adorn d with flowers 1798 W Mavor *Brit Tourists* V 71 The terrific ascent of St Catherine s is well verdured 1839 Arnold in *Life & Corr* (1844) II App. 398 There are two houses just built by the roadside, and opposite to them a little patch of ground just verdured 1893 *Scribner's Mag* June 734/2 A peculiar valley made up of palisades and verdured plateaus.

**Verdureless** (vɔ̈ ddĭúles), *a* [f Verdure + -less] Destitute of verdure, lacking vegetation, bare, bleak. (Freq from *c* 1850 )

1824 Moir in *Blackw Mag* XVI 394 The bright feather d tribes of the sea beak on the verdureless brow of the deep 1832 James *Phil Augustus* xiv My heart is like a branch long broken from its stem, withered and verdureless. 1877 Dawson *Orig World* vii. 181 It was a world of bare, rocky peaks, and verdureless valleys.

**Verdurer,** variant of Verderer 2,

**Verdurous** (vɔ̈ ddĭúrəs), *a.* Also 7–9 *poet.* verd'rous. [f. Verdure + -ous.]

**1** Of vegetation Rich or abounding in verdure, flourishing thick and green.

1604 Drayton *Moyses* II 51 The loathsome Hemlock as the verdurous Rose, I hese filthy Locusts equally deuoure 1618 — *Polyolb* xv 196 He sent fall Camomil, the ver durous Costmary 1708 J Philips *Cyder* 1 35 Where the lowing Herd Chews verd'rous Pasture. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Ecem* iv 1 129 Lovely as when th Hesperian fruitage amid d Amid the verd'rous grove' 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg* xxix 85 Four animals, each crown d with verdurous leaf 1835 J P Kennedy *Horse Shoe R* xii, The rich verdurous and lively forest that encompassed this blighted spot 1837 Howitt *Rur Life* II 1 (1862) 89 Green fields and verdurous trees or deep woodlands lying all round 1885 *Athenæum* 23 May 669/1 Verdurous masses of foliage and sward disposed with great simplicity and breadth

*fig* and *transf* 1897 Wilkins *Heart of Asia* 128 Of these Philosophy is one of the most verdurous and throws the broade-t shadow 1876 Blackie *Songs Relig & Life* 197 With ban ners of gold and of silver, And verdurous power in his path When he comes in the pride of the May

**2** Of places, etc Covered or clothed with verdure displaying a rich (green) vegetation.

1577 E Fenton *Poems* 93 I here the Flocks And Herds of Phebus pass on verd rous Lawn Bowre fatt ning pastures 1772 Sir W Jones *Seven Imit* Poems (1777) 37 Green hillocks, And verdurous plains with winding streams Indeed 1796 Coleridge *To Chas Lloyd* v, That verdurous hill with many a rustic cottage 1818 Keats *Ep Y H Reynolds* 58 The verd rous bosoms of those isles. 1846 J C Mangan *Mystics* (1860) II 80 Spots like those in the lowland of Northern Germany verdurous and seem ingly solid 1892 Mrs H Ward *Dist Gracet* II 302 A playing wind sprang up, freshening the verdurous ways through which they passed

**3** Consisting or composed of verdure

1667 Milton *P L* IV 143 Yet higher then thir tops The verdurous wall of Paradise up sprung 1772 Nugkntt *Hist Ver Gentlem* 1 533 Why did they not the Jew pretend her verdurous offerings. 1817 Shelley *Rev Islam* VI xxvii, Clasping its gray reins with a verdurous woof A hanging cone of leaves. 1818 Keats *Endym* III 51 Then when the light of morn Stole through its verdurous matting of fresh trees 1860 Motley *Archerl* (1868) I v 259 The soldiers themselves entered in verdurous garments of foliage and flower work paraded the bridge

**3** Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, verdure.

1820 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 19, I brough verdurous glooms and winding mossy ways 1851 Meredith *London by Lamplight* xxiv, This night of deep solemnity And ver durous serenity 1899 Neale *Disciples at Emmaus* in *Victorian Poets* 599 Every tinted leaf Opes its young chs nel to the verdurous sap 1883 *Harper's Mag* July 166/1 Its verdurous hue is more noticeable than its elevation

Hence **Ve rdurousness**

1898 *Sat Review* 26 Nov *Scattered* (1870) 557 Many of them [sc sermon ] have an ii vigorating verdurousness, and are like the wide green fields.

**Verd(u)yt,** obs. variants of Verdict

**Verdyngale,** variant of Vardingale *Obs*

**Vere,** *sb.*[1] *Obs* forms *a* 4 5 veir, 5 veyr, 5c weyr, 6 Sc weir. *β* 4 vere(e, 5 weere, 6 veare, 6 vear. *γ* 4–6 vere, 5 *Sc* were See also Ver *sb* 1 [A Of *ver* masc. or *vere* fem —L *vēr* Ver *sb* 1]

The season of spring , spring-time.

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxiii 28 Pou madest alle pe cuntres of perpe, somer and veir, pou formedest þo þry ges. *c* 1400 *Sir Degrev* 1 1 Whan veir is come, *c* 1408 *Sir Degrevant* 1 Whan vere is comene and blosmes be sprede 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii 1697 God Wallace Krest in weyr to Sanct Johnstoun coud hym lede. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* III 1 27 Stant begunnin was the fresch weir, Quhen that Anchises Bad wes mak sail *Ibid* x Prol 11 Fresche veir to bargis maid ful weil, *Scotis* 1 8 Ane Ile in Hesperian ful the daies of veer 1822 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 243 The time of weere is hote and moist. 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 244 b/2 Some say the day of transfyguracion was made in May. 1887 Mrs Romanne *Palestrina* II iv, In winter, the husbandmen lop their trees, to the intent that afterward they may grow the better

Hence **† Vere-time,** spring time. *Obs*

1380 Wyclif *Gen* xxxv 16 He goon out thens, com in veer tyme to the loond that ledith to Effratam. 1388 — *Ps* lxxiv 17 Thou, madist alle the endis of erthe, somer and veer tyme thou formedist the 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 48 b/1 He wente thens and cam in veer tyme unto the londe that goth to effratam.

**† Vere,** *sb.*[2] *Obs* [Of obscure origin ] *trans* To raise *up*, to uplift.

13 *K E Allit P A* 254 That fuel bonne in gemmya genie, Vered vp her vyse with ygen gray●

**Vere,** ME. var Fere *sb*, Fire *sb*, obs. f Very *a*, obs. Sc var. War *sb*, obs f Wear *v*, Sc. f Were (doubt) *Obs*

**Vereound** (ve rkʉnd), *a* [ad. L. *verēcund-us* (whence obs F. *verecond* (Cotgr.), It. *verecondo*, Fg. *vercundo*), f. *verēri* to reverence, fear ] Modest, bashful; shy, coy.

c 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* III 325 Than said Venus with vult verecund, Say quhat 3e will and keip 3ow within bound. 1656 Blount *Glossogr* (following Cotgrave), *Verecund*, modest, shamefac'd, demure, bashfull [Hence in later Dicts ] 1872 ' Alpin Cheem ' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1896) 2 One day this said verecund Mr McPherson He chanced at a nauch to be present in person 1873 Ruskin *Fors Clav* xxvii 12 And verecund Mr M'Closh, has he no sug gestion to offer?

Hence **Vereou ndity, Ve recundness.** *rare*—0, 1721 Bailey, *Verecundity*, Modesty, Bashfulness. 1727 *Ibid* (vol II), *Verecundness*, Modesty. 1847 in Craig.

**† Verecu ndious,** *a Obs*—1 [f prec + -ious ] Characterized or accompanied by modesty.

*a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq* (1651) 160 Your brow proclameth much fidelity, a certain verecundious generosity graceth your eyes.

So **† Verecundous** *a* [ous] *Obs* —0

1656 Blount, *Verecundous*, modest, shamefac'd, demure.

**† Verefiance,** *Obs*—1 [f *verify* Verify *v* + -ance ] Verification confirmation.

*c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xliv 113 To morwen schole 3e hem alle se to londe aryven, Whiche to 3ow schal ben gret verefiance And gret fulfillynge of youre creance

**Verefie, -fy,** obs ff Verify **Verejouse,** obs. f Verjuice **Verelaie,** obs f Virelay **Verell, -liche, -ly(e,** -lyche, obs ff Verily *adv*

**† Verement.** *Obs*—0 (See quot )

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 56/2 Buschement, or verement, *cunctè* [Alle 908/1]

**Veren,** obs. pl f. *were*, pa t of Be *v*

**Veresimilous,** var Verisimilous *a Obs*

**Veretie,** obs. Sc form of Verity.

**Vereti lliform,** *a. Zool.* [f mod L. *Veretill-um* + (1)form ] Having the form of a member of *Veretillum*, the typical genus of *Veretillidæ*, a family of pennatuloid polypa.

1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 240/1 Not to be ordinary or Veretilliform *Holothuria* 1881 in *Cent Dict*

**Verey(e, -liche,** obs. ff. Very, Verily

**Vergaloo,** *U S* Also vergaleu, virgaloo, -leu [var of Virgoleuse, prob. taken as a pl ] The white doyenne or Winkelburg pear of Belgium

1828–32 Webster, *Vergoulieuse*, a species of pear; contracted to *vergaloo* 1840 ] Burl *Farmer's Comp* 269 It is as easy to cultivate the vergaleu as it is the choke pear 1845 A J Downing *Fruits & Fruit-trees* 328 Virgaleu of New York Virgaloo Bergaloo, of some American gardens It is an old French variety, but with us, is in the most perfect health.

**† Vergantine.** *Obs rare* [a older Sp *vergantin* (sp *bergantin*, Fg *bergantim*) Bergantine ] = Brigantine 1

1576 T Nicholas] tr *Conq W Indies* 18 Hee then bought a Carvell and Vergantine 1648 Exact Narr 38 Hernando Cortez went from Ihaxcallan to Mexico, to beseige it by land and by water, with Vergantines which for that purpose he had caused to be made

**Verge** (vɔ̈dʒ), *sb*[1] Also 6–7 **verdge, vierge,** 7 **varge** [a. OF (also mod F.) *verge* (= It *verga*) —L *virga* rod, ctc of Virga ]

**I 1 † a.** The male organ , the penis *Obs*—1

*a* 1400 *Stockh Med. MS* 1 343 in *Anglia* XVIII 303 3if þe verge be brente, As man of women may so be scharde.

**b** *Zool* [After mod F use ] The male organ of a mollusc, crustacean, or other invertebrate

1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1824) III 114 All [sea snails] . that have this orifice, or verge, as some call it, on the right side 1852 Dana *Crust* I 142 The male verges are similar in position 1861 Hulme tr *Mogum Tandon* II vii 333 In these animals the sexes may be separated or united. The males are generally provided with verges or cirrhi

**† 2** *Arch* ' The shaft of a column, or a small ornamental shaft in Gothic architecture ' (Parker) *Obs* —1

1422–30 Lydg *Chron Troy* II 653 If I schulde rehersen by and by þe kowe moolles, Of arches imageries, Pe fresche enbowyng with vergis rist as linys [etc.]

**† 3.** A species of torch or candle *Obs rare*

1494 *5 Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 653 Pro factura vet torchiez, xij torchetes, cum iij vergez capella d'ni Priois. 1500 *x Ibid* 656, ij torches, ij torchetez, ij verges.

**4 a** A rod or wand carried as an emblem of authority or symbol of office, a staff of office, a wardor, † sceptre, mace *† Sergeant of the verge*, = Sergeant *sb.* 8 b.

1494 *Fleanch. Ord.* (1790) 124 The abbott to take to her her scepter and her verge to her hand. 1514 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser II 1 251 The said Cardinall delivered her the Scepter in her right hande, and the verge of the hand of Justice in her lyfte hande 1566 Adlington *Apuleius* 11, I pray you tell me what meaneth these servitours that follow you and these bodies or verges which they beare? 1602 Shak *Ham*, *Mit & Cit* IV vii 84 218 To this degree of Archduke belongeth a Surcoat hee also beareth a Verge or rod of gold. 1609 Holland *Amm Marcell* (1862) I xvi 15 He used to go before the Emperour with a golden Verge or Warder 1679 Blount *Anc Tenures* 32 To support his [the King s] right Arm whilst he held the Regal Verge or Sceptre 1688 Holme *Armoury* IV iii (Roxb ) 506/2 Then marched the sergeants of the Verge of the Guildhall in Paris 1708 J Chamberlayne *St Gt Brit.* I II vi. (1710) 60 Putting into his Hand a Verge of Gold. 1792 Burke *App Whigs* Wks. 1842 I 530 His mind will be heated as much by the sight of a sceptre, a mace, or a verge. 1807 *1st Rep Commissioners Publ Worship* 38/1 Have you any cross or other emblem carried in procession in your church?—Only a verge. 1894 C N Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 131 The verge formerly borne in state before a newly-appointed member of the Board

**†b.** A rod or wand put in a person's hand when taking the oath of fealty to the lord on being admitted as a tenant, and delivered back on the giving up of the tenancy Also in phr *tenant by the verge Obs*

1607 J Norden *Surv Dial* III 101 Tenants of Base tenure are they that hold by verge at the will of the Lord 1628 Coke *On Litt* 61 b Tenants by the Verge are in the same nature as tenants by copy of Court roll 1652 tr *Aitchin's Courts Leet* (1655) 261 How holders of base tenure are those which hold by Verge at the Will of the Lord

**5. †a.** A chariot pole. *Obs* —1

1622 Sexed *Hist Gt Brit* v iv § 13. 25 They will run vpon the verges [L *per temonem*], and stand stedfastly vpon the beames [L. *in jugo*], and quickly recouer them selues backe againe into the waggons.

**b** A rod, wand, or stick *rare*

1897 *Church Q Rev* 5 The Pope a pastoral staff gradually swallowed up the sceptres of Kings, as Aaron's verge de voured the other rods.

**†6.** An accent-mark. *Obs* —1

1555 Eden *Decades* III vii. (Arb.) 166 The names are pronounced with thacute, as, yowe may know by the verge sette ouer the heddes of the vowels.

**7** *Watchmaking* The spindle or arbor of the balance in the old vertical escapement.

1709 in J Harris *Lex Techn* II 1737 *Phil Trans* L 301 In the clock the verge that carries the pallets, was bent downwards. 1825 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanic* 391 The socket is turned pretty small on the outside, in order to allow the arbor of the balance to be laid as close to the verge as may be. 1876 *Clin Soc Trans* IX 145 He contrived to break the verge of one watch and the cylinder of another. 1878 *Watch & Clockm* 270 The Verge has no pretensions to accuracy in presence of such escapements as the Lever and Chronometer

**b** *attrib.* A verge watch (see next)

1891 'M' Iegrand *Cumbr Fashion* 111 Mr Samuel had previously worn an antiquated verge, once the property of the worthy Captain 1904 *Times* 11 July 9/6 The watch was simply described as a 'verge' with seal.

**c** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *verge escapement, -file, hole, -maker, pivot, spring, watch*

1792 *Trans Soc Arts* X 217 Common verge watches have no oil upon the pallets 1849 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanic* 308 The verge watch of a good wired pocket watch 1841 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* IV 295/1 The end of the screw is attached to a strong verge spring 1898 Simmons *Dict Trades*, *Verge-maker*, a maker of pallets a branch of the watch movement trade. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.* 2707/1 *Verge file* a fine file with one safe side, formerly used in working the verge of the old vertical escapement *Ibid* 2708/1 The vertical or verge esc pe ment is old fashioned. 1884 F J Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 128 In good clocks the pallets and verge holes are jewelled.

**8. a** A part of a stocking frame (see quot ).

1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl Useful Arts* (1867) II 877/1 In front of the needle bar is a small piece of iron, called the *verge*, to regulate the position of the needles.

**b** *US* That part of a linotype machine which carries the pawls by which the matrices are released , an escapement pawl link.

In recent use

**II. †9. a** A measure of length or superficies for carpentry work. *Obs* —9

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Verge, yn a wrytys werke, *virga*.

**†b** *Verge of land* [tr OF *verge de terre*, med.L. *virga terrœ*] = Virgata *Obs rare*

1467-8 *Rolls of Parl* V 609/1 A mese, iii verge of Land, iii Acres of Medowe. 1651 tr *Aitchin's Courts Leet* (1675) 152 Upon two Verges of Land are built houses 1692 *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Virgata terræ*, a quantity of Land various, according to the place It is called a Verge of Land, *anno* 28 E. 3, Statute of Wards.

**II. 10** *Written of the verge*, within an area subject to the jurisdiction of the Lord High Steward, defined as extending to a distance of twelve miles round the King's court Also with *in*, and freq. const *of* (the court, etc ) *Obs* exc *Hist*

The phrase is a rendering of Ar *dedeina la verge* (in Anglo L. *infra virgam*) in which *verge* originally referred to the Steward's rod of office (see 9 a), in early use it was the full expression *verge de noster hostiel* (L. *virga hospitii nostri*) is employed. In the 18th century commonly denot ing the precincts of Whitehall, as a place of sanctuary.

1309-10 *Act 2 Hen VIII, c* 14 § 1 The Lorde Stuarde of the Kynges House within the Verge and Justices of Assise, and Justices of Peace, have also power to inquere of every Defaulte 1529 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II (1726) 177 According to the ancient custom us d within your verge 1592 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 38 That the Marshall of the Kings House have the place of the King, to heare and determine Pleas of the Crowne within the Verge 1604 *Proclam Privileges Precincts Verge* 10 July. The Clarkes of the market of our Houshold within the Verge of our Court 1643 in Clarendon *Hist Reb* VI § 231 That both He, and the Lord Herbert, may likewise be restrain d from coming within the Verge of the Court 1669 E Chamberlayne *Pres St Eng* 244 Murders committed in the Court or within the Verge, which is every way within 12 miles of the chief Towne of the Court 1711 Addison *Spect* No. 101 P 7 Men and Women were allowed to meet at Midnight in Masques within the Verge of the Court 1764 in 10th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 373 M D Eon who was to have receiv d his sentence on Friday last chose rather to take post in the neighbourhood of Whitehall, in the Verge of the Court 1829 *Penny Cycl* XIV 448/1 The original court of the marshalsea is a court of record, to hear and determine causes between the servants of the king s household and others within the verge.

*transf* 1868 Br Andrewes *Serm.* (1841) II 208 We were not only within the dominion, but within the verge, nay even within the very gates of death.

**b** Hence *The verge* (*of the court*), employed with other prepositions or in other constructions to designate this area or jurisdiction

1509 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II (1726) 177 All manner of victuals within the precinct of the verge. 1614 *Nottingham Rec* IV 319 Ye Clarke of the Markett for the verge 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 361 The Coroner of the Kings house cannot intermeddle within the County forth of the Verge because that his office extendeth not thereout to 1748 Smollett *Rod Rand* (1812) I 231, I got safe into the verge of the court, where I kept snug 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 76 By the statute of 13 Ric II *st* 2 *c* 3 the verge of the court in this respect extends for twelve miles round from the place of residence 1823 H & J Smith *Horace in Lond* 75 Place me beyond the verge afar, Where alleys blind the light debar 1865 Nichols *Britton* I p xxxiii The office of steward is confined to the court of verge, for killing one Mr Holborne 1730 Bailey (fol.) *Court of Verge*, is a Court or Tribunal in the Manner of a King's Bench which has Cognizance of all Crimes and Mis demeanours committed within the Verge of the King's Court 1904 Mary Bateson in *Scottish Hist Soc Misc* II 11 A writ called the Court of the Verge (1292) was sent by Aldermen by Charter, title lay (Cause with ith City s Verge) to my new play 1693 Southerne *Maid's 1st Prayer* 11 A word not be known by any, good will out of the verge of Whitehall 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* II xxxvi 294 She should be beheaded within the verge of the Tower 1778 *Eng Gazetteer* (ed 2) II v *Tilt-yard* The parish [of Eldred] may compare with any in the kingdom, the whole forest of Dartmore being in the verge of it

(*b*) 1696 Fuller *Pisgah* 304 I robably there were some wells within the verge of the old wall 1709 Dryden *Virg* III 1 13 The Canary Islands are within the usual Verge of the True or General Trade Wind 1727 A Hamilton *New Acc E India* I 46 Alvis a Venetian Commanded within the Verge of a Temple, it is secured from Pursuit or Violence. 1772-84 *Cook 3 Prof Voy* I iii 1 31 This shews that the Cape de Verd islands are either near to, or within the verge of the Trade wind, or that they are situated just beyond its verge 1860 Hawthorne *Marb Faun* xxxviii, All splendour was included within its [*sic* the cathedral's] verge

*fig* 1742 Young *Nt Th* II 633 The chamber Is privi leg'd beyond the common walk Of virtuous life, quite in the verge of heav'n

**†b** In *pl* in the same sense *Obs. rare*

1680 H More *Apocal. Apoc* 46 The Circle of the Throne is thus conceived to be drawn about it, but so near that the Verges of it have the same Bores proper within the verges of the Throne that appeared without 1690 C Nesse *O & T Test* I 324 Thus only of all Jacob s children was born within the verges of the land of Canaan

**†12** In phrases (as prec ) **a** The range, sphere, or scope *of* something, all that is naturally in cluded or comprehended under a particular concept, category, etc. *Obs* (common in 17th c )

1309 Mashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks (Grosart) V 219 Voide ground is that which lyeth in the walls of the houses in it within the verge of my Geometry 1633 P Fletcher *Purp Isl* I xlvi, He gave it a perfe t motion To move it self whither it would leave it, And know what that motion is the direction 1664 Owen *Vind Animad I tat Luc* Wks. 1855 XIV 294 These thi gs are without the verge of Christian religion, and therefore need not be spoken to 1679 C Nesse *Antichrist* 188 They fall within the verge of th it dispensation 1717 *Col Rec Pennsylv* III 35 Made without the Verge of the ancient Laws of that Kingdom 1734 *Treat Drop & Proper Ans* 3 hey do not fall within the Verge of my Undertaking in the present

*transf* 1667 Tourneur *Rem Trag* I iii, Nay, brother, you reach the verge now

**†b** The pale or limit *of* a class or community

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* v vi We will live inclos'd In holy verge of some religious order 1649 Jer Taylor *Gt Exemp* II iv. As he was included in the verge of Abrahams posterity 1699 Shaftesb *Charac* II i 1 § 2 'Tis as hard to persuade the other [sort] that there is any Virtue out of the Verge of their particular Community 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ. Dessert* (1778) I 188 Driven out of their own proper class into the very verge of another

**c** To the power, control, or jurisdiction of a person or persons. *Obs*

1648 Milton *Observ Art Peace* Wks. 1851 IV 573 For the Conscience, we must have patience till he within our verge. 1653-4 Whitelocke *Jrnl Swed. Emb* (1772) I 297 The matter of the ceremonies (as in his own verge) imperi ously urged Whitelocke to pledge the health. 1678 Marvell *Gen Councils* Wks. 1875 IV 143 The dextrous bishops hooked within their verge, all the businesse and power I could be catch'd 1709 Swift *Mech. Operat Spirit* (1711) 201 Engag'd in wise Dispute about certain Walks and Pur lieus, whether they are in the Verge of God or the Devil

**IV. 13.** The edge, rim, border, or margin *of* some object of limited size or extent. Now *rare*.

1489 *Paston Lett* I 468, 1 gallon pottes of silver wrethyn, the verges gilt. *Ibid*, 1 flagons of silver, with gilt verges. 1580 *Ibid* III. 282 A scochen with a scripture wretyn in the verges therof containing thise wordes, Here lieth Margret Paston [etc ] 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III 1337/2 About the verges [of the coins] was written; Francis of France duke of Britaine 1626 B Jonson *Masques, Hymenaei* 926 A transparent veile, whose verges, returning up, was fastened [etc ] 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Love Un known* 25 A boyling caldron, round about whose verge Was in great letters set Affliction. 1673-4 Grew *Anat Trunks* I I § 14 On the inner Verge of the Barque, stands another Sort of Sap-Vessels, in one slender and entire Ring 1716 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) V 59 A Rowsoon, round the verges of which [etc ]. 1747 Gray *Death hat Cat* 29 Again she bent, Nor knew the gulf between The slipp'ry verge her feet beguil'd She tumbled headlong in. 1804 Boutell *Hist & Pop Her* xix § 5 (ed 3) 310 The Verge of the Escutcheon charged with 4 half fleurs de lys or 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* III i, He stood on the verge of the rug

**†b** With *a* and *pl*, etc. A brim or rim, a circle of metal, etc *Obs*

1561 J Daus tr *Bullinger on Apoc* (1573) 64 b, A rainebow lyke an Emeraud compaseth or inclooeth it as a verdge 1594 Shakes. *Rich II*, v iii 89 The inclusive Verge Of Golden Metall, that must round my Brow 1622 Ainsworth *Annot 1 ent ii* 1639) 102 These Cups had verges at the bottome, that they might rest upon the table 1640 Marshall *Eng Housew* 11 (1683) 1 hen having rold the coffin flat, and raised up a small verdge of an inch, or more high : 1670 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 139 There is another [statue] whose garments are all naked and a verge all down before and round ye neck with ye figures of the Apostles done in Embroydery as it were

**+c** *Hat* (see quots.) *Obs*

1704 *Dict Anat* (1726) *Verge*, among Florists, is taken for the edge or outside of a Leaf: as *A dente I verge* 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v , Among Florists, a dented Verge, is a jagged edge or outside of a Leaf.

**d** *Arch* (See quots.) Cf. Verge board

1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 83 To give a slight inch nation to the verge or border slates, where they butt against brick work *Ibid* § 849 The verges are the external edge of the tiling in gables, which are covered with lime and hair, or Roman cement 1875 *Encycl Brit* II 475/2 *Verge*, the edge of the tiling projecting on the gable of a house

**14.** The extreme edge, margin, or bound *of* a surface of an extensive nature, but regarded as having definite limits. Also occas without const.

1593 Shaks. *Rich II*, I i 93 The furthest Verge That euer was z ruey'd by English arme 1600 Barston *Cert of Mel* III Wks 1856 I 30 I be shuddering morne flies the West With silver tincture, the east verge of heaven 1608 Wither *Lett Remedie* 173 The spacious verge of that well peopled Towne. 1667 Milton *P L* III 543 Or where the Gates Of light, his Sabbath worke ended alike On Earth bestow Her farthest verge, and Chaos to retire 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 56 To return to Johanna; the innermost part we suppose to be fruitful, by what the Verge of it declares 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 944 Sad he sits And views the main that rests below, Still fondly form ing in the f rthest verge 1735 Somerville *Chase* III 342 Close to the Verge Of a small Island 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) III 337 The jackall pursues even to the verge of the city, and often along the streets. 1793 Mrs. Radcliffe *Acon Forest* II, The first tender tints of morning now appeared on the verge of the l orizon 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* II trod r n He owed his fame in a great measure to his residing on the very verge of Hi hland 1832 Tennyson *Hall Hist Eng* II 342 About a day s journey south of Leed s, on the verge of a wild moorland tract, l y an ancient manor 1876 Elgar *Adv Lett Sk Geol* 24, 53 On the western verge of Egypt

**b** *fig* The end *of* life

1750 Johnson *Rambler* No 72 P 11 The computer believes that he is marking out to reach the utmost verge of hun an existence 1804 Pybey *Lect Damnel* (1870) 503 The utmost verge of this life. 1874 Holland *Mistr Manse* xxvii, It had the power to make first Yet dreadful the verge of life 1884 W C Smith *Kidsrostan* 55 The mind was wandering, as it often does On the dim verge of life.

**c** The utmost limit to which a thing or matter extends, the distinctive line of separation between one subject and another

1796 Mme D Arblay *Camilla* V 406 Having lived up to the very verge of his yearly income. 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* x, He carried his dislike to such amusements beyond the verge that religion and reason demanded 1820 Hazlitt *Lect Dram Lit* 173 Sforza s resolution is out of the verge of nature and probability 1870 Emerson *Soc & Solit. Work & Days* Wks (Bohn) III 70 The verge or boundary of matter and spirit 1874 L Stephen *Hours in 1 ibr* (1892) I v 180 The very outside verge of the province permitted to the romancer

**15. a** The extreme edge of a cliff or abrupt descent. Used absol or with *of*

(*a*) 1605 J Robbe in Capt Smith *Virginia* (1624) 19 The rocky cliffs are all overgrown with Pine and Cedar, the Verge is with Gousberries [etc ]. 1788 Eliza Heywood tr *Mme de Gomez Belle A* (1732) II 61 He fell off the Verge he had been so bold to climb, dying the Sea with his Blood. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI 552 His steed , wheeling swiftly round, Or e er his hoof had press d the crumbling verge, Baffled his rider, saw d against his will 1813 Byron *Corsair* I xvi, The verge which bounds the beach. 1832 W Irving *Alhambra* II 236 In the centre of this basin yawned the mouth of the pit. Sanchica ventured to the verge and peeped in.

(*b*) 1677 Gilpin *Demonol* (1867) 300 Like a man that walks upon the utmost verge of a river s brink 1837 Moore *Lalla R*, *Fire Worshippers* iv 108 The mighty Ruins Upon the mount s high, rocky verge. 1843 F Cliffold *Ascend Mt Blanc* 83 This rock is seated upon the verge of a precipitous eminence. 1865 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 257 I horbjorn advised and brought Gretir and his brother to the verge of the cliff

*fig* 1742 Young *Nt Th* I 60 My hopes and fears. o'er life's narrow verge Look down—on what? a fathomless

abyss. 1766 Gray *Let to Wharton* 29 June, You see him [i. e. Sterne] often tottering on the verge of laughter 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit Indi* II iv viii 276 The fortunes of Hyder tottered on the verge of a precipice 1849 Sir J. Graham in *Parker Life & Lett* (1907) II iv 86 He is now tottering on the verge of the grave. 1861 Sir G. Lewelyn *Horace at Athens* III (1869) 39 We still consume Veal that is tottering on the verge of beef.

b The margin *of* a river or the sea Also with out const

1806 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iv *Trophetis* 1137 The flowry Verge that longs all Jordan lies. 1814 Gordes *Luc* BK I 26 Where the Tarbellians bound at large A calmed sea with crooked verge. 1824 Capt Smith *Virginia* IV 121 Upon the verge of the River there are five houses. 1824 Scott *Let of Jules* V xv The leaders urge Their followers to the ocean verge. 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* XII III 163 There, at length on the verge of the ocean the imperial race turned desperately to bay. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* I 81 What do they [sc. ships] bring to us? who Sport by the verge and gather rosy shells

*fig.* 1843 Neale *Hymnbook* (ed 3) 5 A vd when I tread the utmost verge Do Thou divide the flood

c *poet* The horizon

1820 Byron *Heav & Earth* I iii Their brazen-colour'd edges streak The verge where brighter morns were wont to break 1847 Tennyson *Princ* VII 93 She sees a great lack cloud Blot out the slope of sea from verge to shore.

18 With *a* and pl A limit or bound, a limiting or bounding belt or strip Somewhat *rare*

1660 H More *Myst Godl* I 26 Within the narrow verges of this mortal life. 1667 Milton *P L* XI 877 Serve they as a flaming verge to bound The limits of that sin no wall or Cloud? 1790 Evans *Soc Arts* VIII 6 A verge, six yards broad on two sides is filled with a variety of forest trees 1851 Meredith *Death of Wife* iter 19 He melts between the border shore And leaps the flowery verges. 1858 Wiggins *Embanking* 136 Such pasturable verges or grassy fringes as have already been subject to acts of ownership.

b *spec* A narrow grass edging separating a flower border, etc, from a gravel walk

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Gravel* The Quarters, or Verges, are to be prep ared with Earth to by the Turf on. 1732 Miller *Gard Dict* Garde ing is generally understood to be a Slip of Grass which joyns to Gravel Walks and divides them from the Borders in the Par er e Garden 1858 Glenny *Every Lady Bk* 72/1 Mow the verges of green turf so apt to encroach upon the gravel walks and inwardly upon the beds

*attrib* and *Comb* 1822 Loudon *Encycl Gard* § 617 Verge Shears are a smaller variety 11 which the blades are joined to the handles by kneed shanks, to leaven stoop ng in the operation I hey are chiefly used for trimming the sides of box edgings [ed 1824 *adds* and grass verges] 1882a *Garden* 28 Jan 65/1 Verge cutting and levelling of turf

17 The brink or border *of* something towards which there is progress or tendency (from without), the point at which something begins Usually in the phrases *on* or *to the verge of*

Various types of context are illustrated by the different groups of quotations.

(a) 1802 Marston *Ant & Mod* Induct, I will ding his spirit to the verge of hell 1718 Pope *Iliad* XV 14 His senses wandering to the verge of death 1749 Smollett *Regic* IV ii, But let us seize him on the verge of bliss. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* V 787 Sheer into it a bore He g reced him but [ore Him rescued even on the verge of fate 1820 Scott *Abbot* XIII, Her maternal fondness for her grandson carried almost to the verge of dotage. 1841 J. Pardoe *Exp Yoush* V 88 He see ns to have been driven to the very verge of despair *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist Eng* XXI 1 (1861) V 5 Spencer was more than once brought to the verge of ruin by his violent temper 1884 *Lpool Mercury* 20 Oct 5/4 He was jealous and volatile to the verge of insanity

(b) 1754 Johnson *Let to Chesfield* 7 Feb I have been pushing on my work and have brought it at last to the verge of publication. 1778 Shrubsole & Denne *Hist Rochester* The nation seemed on the verge of a civil war 1848 W H Kelly tr *L. Blanc's Hist Ten Y* I 599 A generous city driven to the verge of revolt 1851 Robertson *Serm* Ser II xi (1864) 145 Such men tread on the very verge of a confession 1866 G Macdald *Ann. Q Neighb* XXIV, I had driven Catherine Weir to the verge of suicide

(c) 1793 Skeaton *Polystone L* § 121, I was now upon the verge of the proper reason for action 1876 Mozley *Univ Serm* V (ed 2) 107 Just before death h s express ons and sig ns upon the verge of that moment awaken our curiosity

(d) 1837 Whewell *Hist Sci* (1857) I 173 [It] brings us to the verge of modern astronomy 1866 Sir B Brodie *Psychol Inq* II iv 138 We are he n on the verge of an inquiry which has the greatest philosophic interest *elliptl* 1859 Meredith *R Feverel* XXXVIII Sl e touched on delicate verges to the baronet, and he understood her well enough.

b With vbl sbs *On the verge of*, on the very point of (doing something)

1858 Froude *Hist Eng* III XIII 123 He reached the town to find the commons and the gentlemen on the verge of fighting 1858 Dickens (1880) II 42 We were on the very verge of granting an annuity 1887 [Miss Ingham] *I see Nellie* (1888) 91 I wice she was on the verge of telling all.

18 The space within a boundary, room, scope. Also const *to* or *for*

Chiefly in echoes of quot 1757

1599 Devonn *Don Sebastian* I I Let fortune empty her whole quiver on me I have a Soul that like an ample Shield Can take in all and verge enough for more. 1757 Gray *Bard* 51 Give ample room and verge enough The characters of hell to trace 1837 Lockhart *Scott* II I 8 The bard had ample room and verge enough for every variety of field sport 1860 Hawthorne *Marb. Faun* XXIV, In this vast house a great grandchild and all his descendants might find ample verge. 1877 H. A. Page *De Quincey* I xiii 283 When numbers of freebooters found ample verge for their predatory propensities.

b. *Arg.* and in fig. context.

1896 Sir W Hamilton *Discuss* (1852) 338 In no other country was there so little verge, for less encouragement, allowed to theological speculation 1863 D G Mitchell *Mr Ik ers of Keforsioad* 283 Here is verge surely for a man s cultivation 1879 M Pattison *Milton* 178 Not giving verge e ough for the sweep of his soaring conception.

† **Verge,** *sb* 2 *Obs rare* [f Verge *v* 1] The act of verging or inclining *to* or *towards* some object, etc

1661 Glanvill *Van Dogm* 223 If by this verge to the other extream I can bring the opinionative Confident but half the way 1662 *Lux Orient* XIV 119 I hough they have had their Verges towards the body and its joys, as well as their Aspires to nobler objects

**Verge** (vəɪdʒ), *v* 1 Also 7 **verdge** [f Verge *sb* 1]

† 1 *trans* a. To provide *with* a specified kind of verge or border to edge Chiefly in passive Also with *about Obs*

1609 J Rosier in Capt Smith *Virginia* (1624) 1 20 An equall plaine verged with a greene border of grasse. 1621 Markham *Pover Hunger* 13 Ihis Net shall be verdged on each side with very strong Corde. [Hence in later works] 1625 — *Bk Hors* II x § 10 Long Manties verdged about with a small fringe of silver 1708 *New View of London* I 102/2 The Figures of a Man and a Woman in Brass, and the Stone verged with Plates of the same

b To bound or limit *fig* something *rare*—1

1739 Mortus tr *Boerhaave's Hush* I viii 20 Sending for horse dung to mmure those very lands which never fail of be ng verg'd or bottom d by a substance more proper for the evil they are to be corrected

c To form the verge or limit of

1817 Chalmers *Astron Disc* iv (1830) 132 How to draw the vigorous land mark which verges the field of legitimate discovery

d To pass along the verge or edge of to skirt

1890 F Barrett *Bstuo Life & Death* III xxviii 179 The chariot can verge the dals all the way

2 *intr* To be contiguous or adjacent to, to lie on the verge of Const *on* or *upon, along*

1787 G White *Selborne* VII Forests and wastes are of considerable service to neighbourhoods that verge upon them 1821 Clare *Vill Minstr* II 32 The ash trees still ; he blue mist, thi ly scatter d round Verg d along the distant h ll. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr & It Note Bks* (1872) I I. The Place de la Concorde , verging on which is the Cha nps Elysées

b To border *on* or *upon* some state, condition, etc (Cf Verge *v* 2 3)

1805 (see Vergency). 1. 1887 Faraday *Chem Manip* VII. (1842) 370 Water which verges upon 0 e (sc a temperature) verging upon, or even surpassi ng a red heat 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xviii Your generosity must have verged on extravagance 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt* V § 3, 352 Philo however verges on allowing the λόγος to be the centre of the personality of God

*fig.* 1841 Emerson *Nature, Addr & Lect* 21 Vague desires made all kinds of thought That verged upon them, sweeter than the dream [etc]

3 To rise *up* so as to show the edge *rare*—1

1726-47 Thomson *Wr ter* 868 With d Spring retur s and The welcome sun just verging up at first, By small degrees extends the swelling curve

Hence **Ve·rging** *ppl a*

1796 W H Marshall *Rur Economy of England* I 165 Wild Deer we e fou d very injurious to the verging crops

**Verge** (vɜːdʒ), *v* 2 [ad L *vergere* to bend, incline turn Cf Converge *v*, Diverge *v*]

1 *intr* Of the sun To descend toward the horizon; to sink, or begin to do so Also *transf*

1610 G Fletcher *Christ's Tr* II xxv Yet when the Sun] verges or is hardly ris She [the moon] the vive image of her abse it brother is 1825 Scott *Talism* in, The light was now so much verged to set several the Knight still to discern that they two were no longer alo e in the forest 1890 R Bridges *Indolence* Poems (1912) 270 I be summer day Had verged half-way on its hot decline.

2 To move in a certain direction (esp downwards), also, to extend or stretch

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies Somerset* (1662) 32 Henceforward the Sun of Kings cause declined, verging more and more Westward, till last it set in the Grave 1732 Pope *Ess Man* I 59 So Man Touches some wheel, or verges to some goal 1773 S J Pratt *Liberal Opin.* cv (1783) IV 6 A fear still verges the last to set in verging to the very finger that [etc]. *Ibid.* cxxvi. 149 The h gher we climb the nearer to the gods as we verge towards earth we con volve with them 1875 *Knowledge Mag* III 513 Where we not downwards, a prec pice lies under the earth 1882 B Cornwall *Misc. Poems Hall of Ebbs* The pillars verged inward in long ornate ceramic avenues. 1886 Miss Hungerford *Lady Branksmere* I, Towards th is ra her dilap dated apartment they always verge when perplexed

*fig.* 1589 Cowper *Proger Lrr* 430 I can ing o nce th ough exclusive pride See ns verging fast towards the female sde

b To diverge or deflect, to run or trickle *off*

1892 Bentley *Boyle Lect* 215 The Epicurean theory, of atoms descending down an infinite space and verging from the perpendicular no body knows why 1780 S J. Pratt *Pen Contett* (ed 4) II 74 The tear had verged off, possibly while he was bowing

3 To incline or tend, to approach or draw near, *towards* or to some state or condition Also with advb complement (Cf Verge *v* 1 2 b)

(a) 1664 H More *Myst Inig, Apol* 514 Presbytery that verges nearer toward Popidry or Democracy 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I II iv A man of light will, verging towards fourscore. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* VII lvi. 135 At a time when the people is supposed to have been verging toward utter degeneracy 1896 Dowe *Logic Chr Faith* Introd. § 5. 19 The more human knowledge progresses, the more does man verge towards the infinite

(b) *a* 1667 Barrow *Serm.* xvii. Wks. 1686 III 193 The farther we go on, especially in a bad course, the nearer we verge to the dregs of our life 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* 256 Where the Blood verges to the contrary State. 1737 Pope *Let to Swift* 3 Mar The nearer I find myself verging to that period of life which is to be labour and sorrow 1762-71 H Walpole *Vertue s Anecd Paint* (1786) IV Advt. 6 As refinement generally verges to extreme contrarieties 1823 Scott *Quentin* I introd. A man whose credit was actually verging to decay 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. lxi. 125 When the reign of Demetrius was verging to its close. 1845 Trench *Poems* 14 When I began First to verge upward to a man. 1865 Parkman *France in Amer* II. (1876) 16 Yet, verging to decay, she [Spain] had an ominous and appalling strength

(c) 1776 Bentham *Fragm Govt* iv Wks. 1843 I 288/2 It is not that or any discourse verging that way, that can tend to give him the smallest satisfaction 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I i ii In such a decadent age, or one fast verging that way

b Const *to* with inf *rare*—1

1818 Colebrooke *Import Colo ial Corn* 45 A country in which capital has accumulated population become dense, is necessarily a manufacturing one, or verging to become so.

c To approximate in shade or tint *to* a specified colour

1815 Stephens in Shaw s *Gen Zool* IX i 87 Plumage nearly black, with a green gloss, which in some parts, verges to a violet 1835-6 *Todd Cyc Anat* I 462/2 When large, its colour is dark red verging to purple.

d To pass or undergo gradual transition *into* something else

1756 Burke *Subl & B* Wks 1842 I 57 It is not to make a strong deviation from the line of the preceding point ; nor to verge into any exact geometrical figure 1854 *Poultry Chron* I 282/1 The 'Poultry Chronicle is fast verging into a state of unbroken s. 1868 Brewer *Readers Handbks* II xiii 267 The close and trumly st rubbery verged after a few l undred yards into a beautiful copse

4 To have a particular direction, to lie or extend towards a specified point

1796 Leoni *Alberti s Archit* II 74/2 A large semi circular area verging to the South 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I 557 The flat [boat] always being put in an oblique direction, and moving and working towards the line described by the rope 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* IX 7 Whose rays Verge to one point and blend for ever there 1822-7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) IV 6 An ulcerated tumour in the left hypochondrium, verging towards the spine 1828-32 Webster s.v., A hill verges to the north

Hence **Ve·rging** *ppl a*, approaching, converging

1791 H Brooke *Constantia* (1816) 297/1 Through his face a shield the verging weapon press d And ras d the plume that wanton d on his crested brow. 1910 *Century Rev* Mar 330 My sleek limbs stamp on the verging bloom.

**Verge-board.** *Arch* Also *deal* **verge-.** [f. Verge *sb* 1 13 d] = Barge-board

1823 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 470 Sixty six feet lineal one and a half inch verge board to gables. 1828 F Goodwin *Rural Archit* Add. 2 The Verge-boards to be cut out of 2½ inch Timber plank, well spiked to the rafter ends of the Roof and Purlins 1862 B Poste in *Archaeol Cantiana* IV 116 There are mouldings on the verge-boards of the pediment. 1910 *Athenæum* 3 Sept 272/2 The Church of Witley has good fourteenth-century verge-boards attached to the gable of the stone porch.

Hence **Verge-boarding** *rare*—1

1832 F Goodwin *Rural Archit* Add. 2 The Gables and Verge Boarding

**Verge-line** *rare* [f Verge *sb* 1] (See quot.)

1728 J James tr *Le Blond's Gardening* 129 The Verge l ine in the Business of Terrasses, is the Place where the Corner of a Wall, or the Bank of a Terrass, comes to terminate. *Ibid* 121 The Verge-Line of the Terrasses.

**Vergelt,** obs. St. form of Wergild

**Ve rgency** [f Verge *v* 1, cf next] The fact of bordering *on* something

1829 Lb. Cockburn *Mem* III. (1856) 179 [He] said of him self I often verge on nearly on absurdity [etc] This was quite true ; especially the vergency on absurdity

**Vergency** 2 (vɜ·ɪdʒĕnsi) [f. Verge *v* 2 + -ency]

† 1. The act or fact of verging or inclining towards some condition, etc ; tendency, leaning, an instance of this. Also const *to, towards Obs*

a 1665 J Goodwin *Filia t with the Spirit* (1867) 486 The general vergency and leaning of the Scriptures on that hand we speak of 1668 H More *Div Dial* II 452 The visible vergency of the World to another Degeneracy or Apostasie from the Kingdome of Christ. 1680 — *Apocal. Apoc.* 27 Which is a sign you are in a state of languishment and vergency towards death 1700 *Philos Trans Abridg.* *Chr* III II xxix 164/1 Scarce a Minute [would] pass him without a turn of his Eye towards Heaven w hereto his heaven touch d Heart was carrying of h n with its continual Vergences.

† b Bent or inclination *Obs*

1699 J H *Motives to Paul A to Learn.* 33 It were but justice to him that the naturall vergency of his Genius should be found out.

2 The fact or condition of being inclined toward some object or in some direction

1668 Wilkins *Real Char* II vii § 3 That respect of the imaginary face of a h g toward s or from the place called vergency, tending, leanq g inclin ng *a* 1696 Scarburgh *Euclid* (1705) 13 First, there must be an Inclination, Vergency or Tendency of 2 wo lines one to the other

b *Optics* (see quots)

1832 Sir W R Hamilton in *Trans R Irish Acad* (1837) XVII 85 We may therefore call the curvatures of these two diametral sections the two vergencies of the final ray have 1860 Worcester (citing Lloyd) *Vergency* the reciprocal of the focal distance, being the measure of the degree of divergence or convergence of a pencil of rays

**Ve rgent,** *a. Geol* [ad L *vergent-, vergens,* pr. pple of *vergĕre* to Verge] Constituting, or

belonging to, a series of Appalachian strata corresponding in age to the middle Devonian strata of British geologists
1858 H D Rogers *Geol Pennsylv* I 108 Vergent Flags (Portage Flags of New York) *Ibid* Vergent Shales (Chemung Group of New York) *Ibid* II 732 The Cadent and Vergent rocks contain important bands of fire-clay.

**Vergeous**, obs form of Verdjuice

**† Ver'ger**1, *Obs* Also 5 **vergere, vergier,** *Sc* **virger** [a OF *verger* (12th c. = It *verger*) —L *virdiarium, viridiarium* (also *viridarium*), f *viridis* green] A garden or orchard a pleasure garden
13 *Seuyn Sag* 169 Thal made make a inche halle, With outen Rome in on verger bi o riuer *c*1400 *Rom Rose* 3831 Why hast thou ben so nechgent To kepen This verger Ieest left in thi warde? *c*1450 *Merlin* xix 310 Merlin lete lere a verger where ynne was all maner of fruyt and alle maner of flowres 1480 Caxton *Ow & Mel* xiv xii, To wode and vnto alle the verdherlers and welders out of her verger or gardyn 1501 Douglas *Pal Hon* 1 Prol 44 The greshoppers amangis the vergers gnappit
13 *Seuyn Sag* 169 Thal made make a **† virger** [prob a Alt **verger*, f *verge* Verge sb 1 Cf OF *vergiere* (*vergier*) gauger, *vergier* maker of rings, obs F *verger* verger (Cotgr), also med L *virgarius*, and Virger]
1 An official who carries a rod or similar symbol of office before the dignitaries of a cathedral, church, or university († or before justices)
1470–3 *Rolls of Parli* VI 48/1 Howe that Henr late Duke of Lancastr founded a Churche of a Deene vi Choresters and a Verger perpetuell. 1530 Palsgr 284/2 Verger that bereth a rodde in the churche *sergent de larchet* *c*1549 in Strype *Stowes Chronicle Acc* (1876) 75 To Thomas Johnson yᵉ verger at owr ladye churche 1607 Cowell *I Verge Vergers* be such as carry white wands before the Justices of either banke &c. ; otherwise called Porters of the vergē. 1618 B Jonson *Devil an Ass* iv iv I must walk With the Fe ch sticke, like an old Verger, for you. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 197/1 The Verge [of the Cathedral Church] a Man in a Gown whose Office it is to conduct the Reader to his place [etc.]. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har* IV Notes 1 7 The Emperor taking a wand in his hand officiated as a *verger* preceding the pontiff to the altar 1846 Hook *Ch. Dict* (ed 5) 900 *Verger* he who carries the mace before the dean in a cathedral or collegiate church. *Mitre* (ed 7) 382 *Verger* An officer with a similar title prece les the vice chancellor in the English universities 1867 Trollope *Chron Barset* II xliv 59 For nearly a week he had been unable to face the minor canons and vergers
*altrib* *c*1530 in Gutch *Coll Cur* II 340 Item oone Verger Rodde of silvar pauler gilte 1546 *Inv Ch Goods* (Surtees) 137 Two verger rodys of syluer
*transf* 1615 Chapman *Odyss* XII 555 Thus by Calypso, I was told: and she Inform'd it from the verger Mercurie
b One whose duty it is to take care of the interior of a church, and to act as attendant
1707 Farquhar *Beaux Strat* II ii Then I Sir tips me the Verger with half a Crown 1784 *Lentl Mag* May 349/1 I felt a secret satisfaction on visiting the tombs in West minster Abbey that the verger amused me not a little by quoting vulgar [etc.] 1844 W Irving *T Trav* I 258 The parish clerk bowed low before him the sexton and the vergers humbled themselves until they touched his presence 1861 *Sat Rev* 30 Nov 568 How splendid an opportunity for architectural study is afforded by the Abbey if only the vergers would allow any one a to enjoy it 1881 Besant & Rice *Chaplain of Fleet* I 182 The beadles and vergers curtsied to the quality and remained beh nd for doles.
**† 2** [See quot.] *Obs* = Verdjuice
1469 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 48 Mynstrelles xiii, whereof o e is verger that directeth them all in festivall dayes to theyre stat ons, to blowenge payynges [etc.].

Hence **Ve rgeress** *a*, unaccompanied by a verger **Ve rgership**, the office of a verger
1485 *Rolls of Parli* VI 383/2 The Office of our Sergeaunt ship at Armes and the Office of Vergersh p of Wyndesore 1871 *Daily News* 12 Aug, The Vergersh ip in St Paul's Cathdral vacant by the death of Mr Cummings 1881 Hussey *On Box Seat fr Lond to Lands End* 167 The cathedral over which we were considerately allowed to ramble vergeless, much to our enjoyment

**† Verger**3 *Obs* —1 [ʔa AF *vergiere* (Gower)] A rod carried as a symbol of office, = Verge *sb* 1 4 a
1547 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) II App A 10 Then came the sergeant of the vestry with his verger and after him the crosses with the children [etc.]. 1647 Hexham 1 A Verger, *een roedeken.*

**† Ve rgeress**, *Obs* Also 5 **vergerar** [Extended f Verger2 f sce -er3] = Verger2 1
Hence **† Vergeresship** *Obs*
1485 *Rolls of Parli* VI 347/2 The Office of Vergerarshipp of Wyndesore 1566 in *Bezas Admon to Parli* D3 Cathedrall churc es where t natter Deane pentioners readers Vergerars &c. 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* IX 1017 Middlesex *Ductor* xv Vergerers be so t as carry *Virgas* 15 1 rodds before the Iustices of e ther banck &c 1678 Wood *Life* (O H S) II 369 His father was sergeant of Westminster

**Vergeress** (vɑ ɜdʒərés) [f Verger4 + -ess] A female verger or caretaker of a church
1889 *Daily News* 13 Nov 3/3, I wonder some old verger ess did not come forward to claim the purse. 1901 *Westm Gaz* 4 Jan 3/1 The vergeress who sweeps the floor

**Vergerism**, *rare*—1 [f as prec. + -ism] Action, etc, characteristic of a verger
1837 Ruskin *Elem Drawing* II 135 There is always some discordant cavility, or jarring vergerism about them [*sc* English cathedrals].

**Vergery** (vɜ ɜdʒərɪ) *rare*—1 [f as prec. + -y] = A sacristy.
1882 M Clintock & Strong *Cycl Bib Lit* VIII 515 Cassell s Suppl ), The consecrated priests repair to the vergery and put down the missal garments.

**Verges**, obs form of Verjuice

**† Verge salt** *Obs*—1 (Meaning obscure)
1656 S H *Golden Law* To Rdr All which are a material to Matter and but ceremonies to substance as Rose leaves and Verge salt are to a sound and wholsome dish of meat

**† Verge sauce** *Obs rare* = Verd sauce
*c*1440 *Promp Parv* 509/1 Vergesawce *virida salamen fucus* *c*1450 *Two Cookery Bks* 102 Pe sauce is verge sauce

**Vergesse, -geus**, etc, obs ff Verjuice

**Vergier**, variant of Verger1 *Obs*

**Vergiform** (vɜ ɜdʒifɪəm), *a Zool* [f Verge *sb*1 + (i form)] Of the feet of certain crustaceans Resembling a rod, rod like
1837 *Penny Cycl* VIII 107/2 Podophthalm a 1 feet or extremities vergiform, partly prehensile partly ambulatory
1852 Dana *Crust* I 433 There are a few in which these feet are vergiform.

**Vergin**, var Virgilian

**Vergine**, obs f Virgin

**Vergious, -is, -ius** obs ff Verjuice

**Vergobret** (va ɜ,ɒ bret) [ad. L. *vergobretus*, of Gaulish origin So obs F *vergobret* ] The chief magistrate among the ancient Æduan of Gaul
Also *transf.*
1563 Golding *Cæsar* 12 The principall office, which they call Vergobret, is an office for life, to which hee is put from yere to yere and for the ty me hath absolute power of life a d deathe
1656 in Blount *Glossogr* 1839 Keightley *Hist Engl* I 73 The power of the Vergobret or Prince of each tribe was absolute 1852 Freeman *Hist Ess* Ser IV v 107 The present literary *vergobret* of the Æduan state refused all help.

**Vergon**, southern ME variant of Forgo v

**† Vergoyne.** *Obs* [ad OF, (also mod F) *vergogne* = *vergongna* Pg *vergonha*] —L *verecundia*, f *verecundus* Vergound a] Shame
1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II xv Hyre thou no shame ne vergoyne to come in oure compayne *c*1500 *Mel sine* xxxvi 285 I shuld haue grete vergoyne yf I smote the belyf.

**† Vergoynous**, *a Obs* [ad. OF *vergoignos* (12th c, later F *vergogneux* = It *vergognoso*, Sp *vergonhoso*), f *vergogne* see prec.] Ashamed
1483 Caxton *G de la Tour* cxxxiv 190 Wherof he was moche vergoynous and sha mefull *c*1500 *Melusine* IV 21 Whan Raymondin herde thus spek hys vncle, he was in hymself vergoynous

**Vergres, so**, obs ff Verdicris Vergus, -uys, -ww, etc, obs ff Verjuice **Vergyn(e**, obs ff Virgin **Verhede**, southern ME var *ferhede* Ferred *Obs* **Veri**, obs f Very

**Veridical** (vɪri dikal), *a* [f L *veri-fic* us (whence F *véridique*, It., Sp, Pg *verídico*), f *verum* truth, and *dic* stem of *dicĕre* to speak ]
1 Speaking, telling, or relating the truth truthful, veracious
1663 Urquhart *Rabelais* II xxvii 183 Who of all read this so ver cidatory *a* 1693 *Ibid* III xlvi 375 The verid cal Trit oulet did therein I i t at what I liked well 1784 S Henley *Beckford's Vathek* Note (1868) 147 Notwithstanding the reference, I decline to make it ver dicti a dcliberation. 1816 Keat *Nge Trat* I 321 Tl e veridical Gulliver 1847 Mervin *Life Shelley* I 235 That very verid cal review wh ch rug the reference to the oracle of literature 1861 A Hayward *Sel Lets* (1878) II 105 Mr Cladstone s argument for converting Homer i to a veridical historian
2 *spec in Psychol* Of hallucinations, phantasms, etc Coincident with, corresponding to, or representing events or persons
1884 F W H Myers in *Proc Soc Psychical Research* Apr 48 The truth tells g or as we may call them *veridical* hallucinations which do, in fact coincide w th s me crisis in the life or person who sees them 1898 *Athenæum* 25 Ju e 824/1 The vision of the lady is certainly spoken of as if it w d been veridical
Hence **veridicality**, **Veri dically** *adv*, **† Veri dicalness**
1727 Bailey (vol II) *Veridicalness* Truth speaking or the Quality or Faculty of speaking Truth 1836 *Johnsons ann Ed.* People drawn human characters the most veridically of any poetic delineator *a* 1901 F W H Myers *Hum Personality* (1903) I p xlii The only valid evidence for veridical ty depends on a coincidence with some external event

**Veri dicous**, *a.* [f L *vēridic us* (see prec.) + ous ] Veridical, veracious
App. used by Peacock only
1817 T L Peacock *Melincourt* xix Our Thalia is too veridicous to permit this detortion of facts. 1832 — *Crotchet Castle* xvii, Tl is veridicous history began in May

**Verie**, obs. form of Very *a* and *adv*

**Verien**, obs form of Verry *v*

**Veriey, Veriest**, compar and superl Very *a*

**Verielle**, obs form of Verily *adv*

**Verifiability** (ve rɪfaɪəbɪ liti) [f next + -ity ] The fact of being verifiable
1892 in *Cent Dict* 1893 F Adams *New Egypt* 234 Doubts as to the verifiability of that conception

**Verifiable** (ve rɪfaɪ,bl), *a* Also 7 **verefiable** [f Verify *v* + able.] That can be verified or proved to be true, authentic, accurate, or real; capable, admitting, or susceptible of verification.
Common in the 17th cent, and freq from *c* 1865.
1593 G Harvey *Pierce's Super* Wks. (Grosart) II 216, I could peraduenture arread him his fortune in a fatall booke, as verifiable as peremptorie. 1593 R Harvey *Philad.* 9 Why should not Geffrey be as plaine and verifiable as Buchanan? *a* 1638 Mede Wks (1672) 789 It is commended for a modest, discreet, learned, regular and of all in that list most verifiable discovery. 1661 Glanvill *Van Dogm* 199 If this not on be strictly verifiable. 1677 Cary *Chronol* II i 1 iv 102 T l at of the Foundation of the City is verifiable by the like Authorities 1843 Ruskin *Mod Painti* I II v 1 § 4 A few only of the broadest laws verifiable by the reader s immediate observation 1846 Grote *Greece* II xix (1862) II 76 Neither Homer nor Hesiod mentioned any even fiiable present persons or circumstances. 1888 Clodd *Myths & Dr* II xii 227 I he autho ity will rest on the accredited, because verifi ol le experience of men.
Hence **Ve rifiableness**, verifiability.
1881 A Bruce *Chief Ind Revelation* I. 42 While the abstract possibility of n revelati n is admitted its verifiableness is in effect denied 1886 — *Moral Element Gospels* 274 They satisfy the modern requirements of verifiableness.

**† Veri fical**, *a Obs*—1 [f med L *verific us* (Diefenbach), true truthful + -al ] True, veridical
*a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir Archæol Soc) I 157 This proposition transposed unto th veri fical sense.

**† Veri ficate**, *v Obs*—0 [f med L *verificat-*, ppl stem of *verificare* see next ] (see quot )
1721 Bailey *To Ver ficate*, to prove a thing true

**Verification** (ve rɪfɪkˈ ʃən) Also 6 **verifica tioun, acioun, veryfyacyon** [a OF *verification* (mod F *vérification*), = It *verificazione*, Sp *verificacion*, Pg *verificação*, f *verificare* see med L **verificatio*, **verificatio*, f *verificare* see Verify *v* and -ation ]
1 The action of demonstrating or proving to be true or legitimate by means of evidence or testimony formal assertion of truth Now *rare*
1523 *Fyge Aler'on* (Manl C) I 388 For he verifica tioun and prewyng of his title ought and necessarie to my lor his precept 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I xix (S T S) I 110 In verificatiou hereof [i e an intended act of treason] be mad turnus did mani ordinis against him 1599 Sir *De Verb Sign* (ed 2) Q 3 b The Statute suffe sufficient to summond certaine persons & suffe re present in proper persone with the verification of the saidis sun mounides 1634 W Tirwhyt *Ir Blanc e Ferry* 1 Wee (my Lord) I am not ready to sweare in verification t of my belief 1660 Jer Taylor *Doctor* II i rule 7 § 9 If si e be a woman s she can be a wife, and can be thing, which by the Lord] I am not ready to sweare in verificatio

**Verificatory** (ve rifik$^{a}$tări), *a* [f. as prec. + -ORY 2] That verifies; having the property of verifying, of the nature of, serving as, a verification
1834 *Fraser's Mag* X. 362 There is nothing new under the sun—an observation which is indeed verificatory of itself 1870 J H Newman *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 297 Syllogism has no part, even verificatory in the action of my mind 1875 W Jackson *Bampton Lect* 156 The evidence becomes accumulative, or, if you please, verificatory

**Verified** (ve rifaid), *ppl a* [f as next + -ED1]
1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam Wits* Proem to Rdr ii By this example of our first parents it is a verified conclusion, that he infused the lesser portion [of wisdom] into her 1911 *Edin. Rev* Oct 282 To lay down principles as a basis or verified induction.

**Verifier** (ve rifai,ər) [f Verify *v* + -ER]
1 One who verifies in various senses
In quot. 1778 a translation of the Aral le tale of Abubekir
1648 Hexham II *Een voer maker*, a Verifier, or a Maker good 1718 Ockley *Saracens* II 355 Then the Verifier succeeded him with the good hilting of the Mussulmans. 1726 Ainsworth 1, A verifier, *confirmator assertor* 1885 *Reader* No 141 283/2 Valued by some verifier of the past 1888 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Christ Kirkland* II vii 223 Who will keep the keeper? and who will verify the verifier?
2 *techn* In the names of tools or devices (see quots.)
1881 Raymond *Mining Class*, *Verifier* a tool used in deep boring for detaching and bringing to the surface portions of the wall of the bore-hole at any desired depth 1884 Knight *Dict Mech.* Suppl 304 *Gas verifier* an apparatus intended to verify whether the gas comes up to a given standard

**Verify** (ve rifai), *v* Forms 4 6 veryfy, 5 fye, *Sc* weryfy, 6 verefye, 4–7 verifie (5, 7 verrifie), 6 verifye, 5– verify (4 ferify), 4–6 verefy (5 effy, 6 *Sc* vare-, warefy), verefye (6 *Sc* werafye), 5–6 verefie [ad OF *verifier* (1348, = mod F *vérifier*, Sp, Pg, Pr *verificar*, It *verificare*), ad med L *verificāre*, f L *verus* true]
1 *trans Law* To prove by oral evidence or valid testimony, to testify or affirm formally or upon oath. Also const *that*, and *to* with inf
*a* 1325 [see Verifying *vbl sb*] *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 638 [The abbess appeared denying] but she leued or cauzid the seruice to be done, and verifyed as hit was pre sentid afore, & but she is a redi to verifie. *c* 1480 in *Cal Prov Chanc Q Eliz* (1830) II Pref 65 Alle whiche maters the seide Richard is redy to verifie, as the kinges court woll awarde 1533–4 *Act 25 Hen VIII*, *c* 12 Pr To the intent to maynteyne upholde, and verifie suche reporte as he had made 1561 in *Rolls Chap Ch* (1862) 289 The saide George and William disconn warefyn That thas lawfullie chergit ye said Mr Thomas Meffen to compeyr 1579 W Wilkinson *Confut Famn Love* Brief Descr iij b, John Carelas in his examination before Martin verifieth this to bee true whiche those two were burdened withall by Steuen Norlah 1632 3 *Canterb Marriage Licences* (MS.), Catherine Whitfield is expressly consenting to that intended marriage, as is verified by Thomas Hatcher 1689 *Acta Parli Scott* (1875) XII 66/1 The Heraulds who denounced the viscount of Dundee at the mercat cross did verefie their executiones upon oath [1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 312 In any stage of the pleadings, when either side advances or affirms any new matter he usually avers that it to be true; and this he is ready to verify] 1786 Burke *W Hastings* Wks XII 298 The said charge to be verified by the oath of the said Peter 1838 W Bell *Dict Law Scot* 1028 He must be prepared with a caution'er at giving in his defences, unless he instantly verify a defence excluding the action 1884 *Law Times Rep* 50 May 390 The Court ordered that the receiver should withdraw and verify his accounts by affidavit
b In general use To testify to, to assert, to affirm or confirm, as true or certain Now *rare*
1598 Lo Berners *Froissart* II. cc 252 b/2 The landes, seignories, lordshippes and baronyes in Acquytayne which a they verifyed to pertayngne to the kynge and reaime of Englande 1586 Day *Eng Secretorie* II (1625) 80 Hath, whose approued fidelity for that it remaineth of no small record to my certaine knowledge I will presume to verifie 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxvi 404 In this 1054 At first the tidings seemed so incredible, that the formost messenger was held for a vaine lyar but after that there came one after another, and all with one voice verefied and affirmed the same 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 19 So that it may as truly be verified of the Serpent as it was of Esau that the hands of all men and beastes are against them 1617 Morrison *Itin* I 230 I his Novice at his entrance made this vow which I after verified as much to the Guardian and chiefe Friars. 1866 Merrotth *Vittoria* xxxix 'Does Major Weissprese know it to be true?' The question came from Anna. Weissprese coolly verified it, on the faith of a common servant a communication
c To support or back up by testimony
1607 Shake *Cor* v ii. 17, I haue euer verified my Friends with all the sinc that verity would without lapsing suffer
2. To show to be true by demonstration or evidence, to confirm the truth or authenticity of, to substantiate 2. Of persons Now *rare*
*c* 1386 Chaucer *Can Yemannes Prol & T* 552 As witnessen thise olde wyse; And that ful soone I wol it verifie In this Chanon 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 35 'Prosperitee in blynd And verifie I can wel and do 1445 Audelay *Xl Paunc Hell* 811 in *O & Misc* 217 In erth, þo fyndis hem verefyd,[The soul] Dispind godis laus euerechon. *c* 1500 *Melusine* I 16 Be nat you displeased yf I haue recounted vnto you this auenture, For it is for to adiouste more of feyth, & for to verifiy thistory 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 150 This saith example I verifie ma nocht wait be the Britis. 1580 Hanley *Mon. Matrones* III 286 Verifie Lord the words on me, drawe me after thee. 1595 Shake. *John* II i 277, I bring you Witnesses Twice fifteene thousand hearts of Englands breed, To verifie our title with their liues. 1627 *Lysander & Cal* v 87 [He] only deseru'd to cleer so dangerous a suspicion, and never to speake of it but when he could verifie it 1671 Milton *P R* I 333 Gabriel this day by proof thou shalt behold how I begin To verifie that solemn message late, On which I sent thee 1782 J Brome *I ter Nat & Rev Relig* v ii 430 The covenant form of this law is not changed; and God hath verified it in the dreadful sufferings of his only begotten Son 1828 Webster s v The first act of the house of representatives is to verify their powers by exhibiting their credentials to a committee of the house, or other proper authority
b Of things, or in passive
*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* I x 53 I herfore neuer neither of the 3j textis serueth neither forto grounde neither forto verifie the seid firste opinoun *c* 1479 *Wanking* in *Macro Plays* 2 Pat may be seyde & veryfyede mankynde was dere bought 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w Dunbar* 354 In to thy mowis and mokis it may be verifeit that thy wit is thin 1580 Dade tr *Skiddaw's Cosmo* 150 If this might be verefied of us in dede, it were detestable to be heard of 1583 Stocker *Cro Worrest Lomo C* 11 63 The prince greatly marueileth that such great learned men would set downe and propound such matters, as neuer can nor shalbe any way veri fied. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* II xxvi 142 The knowledge of the Lawes of Nature, publique Counsels, publique Ministers, and publique Seales; by which all Lawes are sufficiently verified 1796 Mitchell in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser II IV 58 All which has been verified by the examination of the persons in whose company he was. 1849 Macau Lay *Hist Eng* v I 629 The strongest evidence by which the fact in question could be verified 1878 Huxley *Trans Serm* iii (1877) 55 The same scene of action which brought the rational expectation brings also the event which tests and verifies the correctness of it
3 In games To be proved true or correct by the result or event, or by some confirming fact or circumstance, to be fulfilled or accomplished in this way.
1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 213 So þat now beeþ fen fed be vers þat Hildebertus made. *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxiii 128 Pus it is prophecied 1466 Sir G Have *Law Armes* (S T S) 10 That is ane office of ane angel to bring the hye new tydingis, the quhilk is verifyit be the holy writ 1483 *Cath Angl* (Pynson) (Halliw) Scripture sauthe heritage holdyn wrongfully Schal never cheve As haithe be verified late ful playne 1509 *Pynne Life St Brandon* (Percy) 49 Than the sayenge of Sayed Brandon was veryfyed 1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 38 The old Pro uerbe is herein verified the ill weede ouercropeth the good corne 1593 *Shake Rich II* III ii 93 Of such things the like hath been verified time after time 1667 Milton *P L* x 182 So spake this Oracle, then verifi'd When Jesus Saw Satan fall like Lightning down from Heav n 1738 Butler *Anal* I vi Wks 1874 I 121 This reasoning from fact is confirmed and verified, by other facts 1799 Hy Lee *Canterb P Preachm* 7 (ed 2) I 221 Of these doubts one very material was, that H & J Smith *Rep Addr* 2, Professions lavishly effused and parsimoniously verified are inconsistent 1852 Miss Yonge *Cameos* I xxxiv 286 The Pope's expectations were verified 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) IV 226 The picture is verified in the course of the dialogue.
b Const *in*, *of*, *on*, or *upon*
1387–8 T Usk *Test Love* I 1 (Skeat) I 71 God graunt that þis prophecie be verifyed in me 1400 *Rom Rose* (Caxton) 8 And he pope is Petur s vicar, perfor it be howfip to trowe þat his fest is verified of him 1456 Sir G Have *Law Armes* (S T S) 18 The ye pheryes be verifyit in your maist noble and worthy princehede 1530 Rastell *Pk Purgat* 1 vii, Everythynge in the world is verefyed upon one of these 1577 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 53 A saying that was spoken of the Pharisays, I feare me it may be like wise verified in vs. 1597 Hooker *Ec I Pol* v lxix § 2 That which is uttered of the time, is not verified of time it selfe, but of agents who those things which are in time *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* (1650) I 242 If he doth I fear it will be verified in him, that a fool and his money is soon spented. 1719 Pope *Temple of Fame* (Cluse) 181 Here they made Fences; but Solomon s Words were never better verified than in them. 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ*, *Dessert* I 191, I could not but smile with the truth of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by lane of Paris.
c Used actively of the circumstances, person, etc, serving as proof or confirmation
*c* 1430 *Hymn to Virg* 127 For noth then y sobbed Verefy-ynge thys wyng, þat y ne *Trauo* n (Cluse) 181 Here they made Fences; but Solomon s Words were never better verified than in them. 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ*, *Dessert* I 191, I could not but smile with the truth of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by lane of Paris.
d Used actively of the circumstances, person, etc, serving as proof or confirmation
*c* 1430 *Hymn to Virg* 127 For noth then y sobbed Verefy-ynge thys wyng, þat y ne *Trauo* n (Cluse) 181 Here they made Fences; but Solomon s Words were never better verified than in them. 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ*, *Dessert* I 191, I could not but smile with the truth of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by lane of Paris.
e Used actively of the circumstances, person, etc, serving as proof or confirmation
*c* 1430 *Hymn to Virg* 127 For noth then y sobbed Verefy-ynge thys wyng, þat y ne *Trauo* n (Cluse) 181 Here they made Fences; but Solomon s Words were never better verified than in them. 1768 Sterne *Sent Journ*, *Dessert* I 191, I could not but smile with the truth of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by lane of Paris.
+d *refl* To demonstrate or prove (oneself) to be of a certain character *Obs*
*c* 1586 Cress Presbore *Pr* lxxvi v, And so him self [the Lord] most terrible doth verify, in terrifying kings 1586 Drayton *Lett*, *Dk Normandie* (1748), Fortune Turned her selfe, as shee away would flie, As what she was, her selfe to verifie.
4. To ascertain or test the accuracy or correctness of (something), esp by examination or by comparison with known data, an original, or some standard; to check or correct in this way
1597 R Thorne in Hakluyt *Voy* (1589) 954 For this cause can be no certaine situation of that coast and islands, till this difference betwixt them be verified 1559 W Cunningham *Cosmogr Glasse* 162 When you will verifie your nedle you shall vse the healpe of the Sunne 1774 M Mackenzie *Hearsthume Surv* II 67 To verify these protracted Distances, go to any of the Objects as D take the Bearing of X and Y to find if they agree with the Protraction 1796 H Hunter tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) III 18 Let us now proceed to verify the elongation of the Poles 1820 Mar Edgeworth *Moral T*, *Forester A Clerk*, Hours spent in casting up and verifying accounts. 1834 Hy Martineau *Demerara* III 43, I have seen a calculation and I mean to verify it 1848 H H Wilson *Brit India* III 237 Capt. Dilton was sent back to verify the reported existence of some of the surveyors of the wreck. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl* No 133 7 A set of instruments which have been properly verified at Kew Observatory
b To establish by investigation
1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V 386 A medical committee was appointed to verify the phænomena which precede, accompany, and follow the Vaccine Inoculation 1834 Badham *Halieut* 537 In reading over various poetic bills of fare preserved by Athenæus, we have verified twenty six species in one Attic supper 1880 Harwell *Analysis* 92 If the disease [be] verified as seated on the second or third part of the subclavian vessel.
5 To give the appearance of truth to, to cause to appear true or authentic *rare*
1588 [see Verifying *vbl sb*] 1768 H Walpole *Hist Doubts* 99 All Henry s art and power could never verify the cheat of Perkin 1815 Scott *Guy M* xl He assumed the name and profession of his friend Dudley having contended enough of the pencil to verify his pretended character to his host of Allonby
Hence **Verifying** *ppl a*
1634 Wood *New Eng Prospect* (1865) 61 A false asseveration usually winneth more beleefe than two verifying negatives can resettle 1870 J Bruce *Life Gideon* xxiii. 419 An appendix of verifying deeds and documents 1881 R Burn in *Athenæum* 25 Nov 690/3 Its [s e archæology s] verifying and corrective spirit in historical investigations.

**Ve rifying**, *vbl sb* [f Verify *v* + -ING1] The action of the vb in various senses, the prov ing of something, verification
*a* 1325 *MS Kaml B* 520 fol 147 b, Wan has he iscleped to perefining, þoru bat bulke i vocheed weren in present. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 93 In verefying of thys thyng be fyrst mase begi nnyng with thus 1581 *Rogr Fryth Counsel Scot* I 196 Sik richtis and documentis as thai will vse for verefying of thair content 1582 Sidney *Apol Poetrie* (Arb) 37 Zeuxis fayned Helena to be painted because of his King for verifying of which he caused his own nose and eares to be cut off 1598 Florio *Verificatione*, a verifying an approouing 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* IX. (1632) 1 Vellei Paterc 168 Catullus seconds to none in verifying of the worke which he tooke in hand *a* 1653 Binning *Serm* (1845) 480 For verifying whereof We appeal to the Knowledge of some Noblemen and Gentlemen 1670 Milton *Hist Eng* II 79 The verifying of that true sentence the first shall be last. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Verification*, a verifying, or proving
† **Ve rifyment.** *Obs*—1 In 4 uerefiement [a OF *verifiement* see Verify *v* and -ment] Verification
*a* 1325 *MS Kaml B* 520 fol 47 3if bike has it I vocheb wole warant þe tenaunt þe forescide uerefiement to þe askare ne costumer nost
**Ve rigreen** *U S slang* [f Very *a* + Green *a*.] A very simple or gullible person
1854 in M Johnson *W Dict Americanisms* (1880) 969 That man must be a veritable vergreen who dreams of pleasing slaveholders by any method but that of letting slavery alone.
**Verilay**, obs form of Virelay
† **Veri loquous**, *a Obs*—1 [f L. *vēriloquus*] Speaking the truth, truthful, veracious
Cf *Veriloquent* (Blount 1656), *Veriloquious* (Bailey 1727), and *Veriloquy* (Blount)
1676 G Thomson *Cato Maj & Stubbe* 14 Those Galenists contrived therefore a scurrilous Pamphlet against a veri loquous Treatise of mine
**Verily** (ve rili), *adv* (and *a*) Now *arch* or *rhet* Forms *a* 4 verraliche, verraylo, 4 5 verrayly (4 verrayli), verrayli, 4 6 verraly, 5 verally, 4 verel, ver(e)yliche, verreyly, 11, verreill, 4–5 -ly, 5 verreilly *B* 4 verali, 4–6 veraly, 4–5 verraly, 5 verralye, 5 6 -ie, 6 verailie, 5 *Sc* wer(e)aly, weralie 7 5 verelyche, ilohe, 4–5 verrely, 5 vereli, 5–6 verelye, 5–7 verely, 6 verelie, verraie, *Sc* werelie *B* 4 verilyes, verrylys, verrylyes, 4 5 veryr, verrily (5 varily), 5–8 verylye, 6 verilye, *Sc* verie-, weri(e)-, verrilie, 5– verily [f Very *a* + -LY2 Cf next and Verament *adv*]
**A.** *adv* In truth or verity, as a matter of truth or fact, in deed, fact, or reality, really, truly
Freq, latterly almost entirely, used as an emphatic affirmation of the truth of a statement, esp. with verbs of believing, thinking, etc In ME and older Sc poetry often used as a mere rime tag
*a* 1250 *Cursor M* 17288+422 Pau told pam [ac the apostles] openly, How þat aa3e crist & with him spake on ilue ful verraily *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 9239 Pe terrur þat he had, þat hyne be, þan he verraly wyst 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 177 So þat pe raþer welles beeþ now but lakes, oþer more vereyliche dreye chanels wiþouten water *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xv 70 Pe whilke descryued me þe maners of oþer cuntrees als graythely and als verraily as hai hade bene euer þit dwelland in þam. *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* I lxxxvii (1869) 49 With þinne thus bred al the soueryn good is put, presentiche and verreyliche. *c* 1490 *Mir Salvacionn* (Rockh) 44 This prophecie was fulfillid in dede fulle verrayly. 1585 Canton

*Paris & V* (1868) 33 Knowe ye veray ly that it is not longe sythen that the said Jewels were gyuen to me

*B a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii 175 My saule sall veerely & perfitly lone pe in now an ge & 1380 *Wyll & verm* 5197 I schal hawlk me hye to venge be verai for o 3t þat þi tidde 1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 235 Who so werely desyryth good rennou e he shall be renouned and pres'ed *c* 1475 *Gologrus & Gaw* 2036 Me thynk farar to dee Than achamyt be ver al e, Ane sclander to byde. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* iv 50 Gud Maister Walter Kennedy, In poynt of dede I sa verely 1562 Winjet *Wks* (S T S) I 87 Gif he beleue that our Saluiour did thir tl ings veraise and indeid

*v.* c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* ii. pr iv (1868) 127 Whan I consadre þi resours & q od, I ne trowe not þat men seyn any þing more verrely *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 399 Lazar a id oþer seven verely deden ariȝt veraly ryȝtid by Crist to lyve 14 *St. Benet* (O) 2577, I thanke you, sayde Heuys verely *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs & Lim Mon.* (1885) 153 Wh ch matires thr ugly considered it semyth verely good, þat [etc.] *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* (1516) vii Whennne he had reyȝ ed or more verely vsurped by the terme of ti 3 yeres. 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 295 I think verely by hys valyant nesse that he will not fail vs. 1581 *Pilk. Yeowth's Ju* II 7 I doo verely beleeue y^t the spirit of God did make them to be of that i nature *a* 1647 Habington *Queen Worcs* (Worc Hist Soc) II 301 The father, I verely thincke, of Sir Walter Skule

*b* 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 10045 What he vble was on pe auter leyd Pat he post pan verrylyk Iudere be prest þat a chyld lay quyk 1380 Wyclif *Serm* Sel Wks I 374 Pei weren verrili hem bat Crist is Goddis Sone *c* 1410 *Sir Clege* 1305 I the vsacher lyfte vp the lede a rurtly A id sawe the cheryse verily *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom I* 48 I the wold make yow promys that ye myght verily trust upon hym 1483 *Cath Angel* 399/2 Verily *vere a* 1533 Lo Heaven *Hann* Iexeii (1879) 1 I beleue verily that those tydyngs dye on the holy crosse to redeme vs all 1552 Huloet, Verilye so manye *totide* 1604 E [Grimstone] *D Acosta's Hist Indies* I ii 147 Some in the paroyse demaundded confession thinking verily to die 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 207, I a n tl erefore ver ly perswaded that the name of Britcilla ever to this place came either [etc.] 1884 *Temp I Archit* I 55 Though I could very h hope my enc my were reco ciled 1708 Swift *Sacram Test* Wks 1755 II 127 We are verily persuaded the consequence will be an e tire alteration of religion among us. 1771 *Junius Lett* xiv (1788) 293 He verily believes him an honest man 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T Forester, A Citizen*, A person whom he now verily believed to be as he had orig nally suspected insane 1830 Carl yle *Chartism* I (1858) 3 The time is verily come for acting in it 1851 Mrs Browning *Casa Guidi Wind* I 122 I hou couldst laugh the laugh back I think verily

*Co ish* 1586 Day *Eng Se ret wry* 11 (1625) 4 The first apparatt to be Accurate in which either a nuply l y conectures or by m tter of knowne or verily supported truth may bee conueyed

**b** Placed in front of a sentence or statement, as an emphatic asseveration of its truth or accuracy, freq connoting the truth of a preceding statement

I t versions of he N T regularly used to render L *amen*, G ἀμήν, which are freq strengthened by repetition

1393 R Brunne *Hand Synne* 10068 Pys ly beleue and euer y shal For verily we se ly 1582 Welsh *Gru* xx 12 Forsothe and verrell my sister she is *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* xlvi 194 (Harl MS) Perefor he that hathe þe Rigge of Ieuthe verielche he shalle be al thinges to his likinge *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs & Lim Mon* (1885) 114 But verely that liuen in the nost extre ne pouerite and miserie. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi 54 Verrell e that war ryȝt ! 1535 Coverdale *Isa* xlvi 13 Verely verely I saye vnto the [etc.] *Ibid* 22 Verely I saye vnto yᵒ[e c.] 1548 Hall *Chron Edw IV*, 44 b Verely the kyng of England had leuer to greet trust in the honor of the French kyng. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 268 And verely there re mineth yet a great Castle 1638 Jackson *Verity* I 1 Disciplining were an especiall kind of offendi ig or scandal ing. And verely so it is, especially to the Weake. 1712 Steele *Spect No* 43 P 4 Verely Mr Spectator we are ioth offended at the Act for Imposing ℔ French Wines 1720 Lyton *Cautions* 3 Verily at times he looked on h n as a book 1872 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) II ii 111 Verily we sit see rely ! 1879 Butcher & Lang *Odyssey* 138 For verily the might of the sun was sore upon l m

**c** Used to emphasize a negative or affirmative particle

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* lx 224 Dyde ever ony man so grete a trayson as I I ave doon nay verely 1509 Fisher *Fun Serm* (Cress Ricdm Wks (1876 307 Were not she an vnkinde & vngentyl moder ? Yes verayly 1549 Chaloner *Praise on Folie* A iij Nate, Vtilius, That it is to be a man 1550 W Cunningham *Cosmogr Glasse* 138 You saye I shall take the Angles of sight of euerye place that I can see Yea verely 1597 Hooker *Introd Man Ecclus* Should they then beconn perfect chords ? No verily 1611 Bible *Acts* xvi 37 Nay verily but let them come them selues and fetch vs out 1697 Heximan Yes verily, *tis owens oft ye vvorvaer* [1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* iii viii, Yes verily my lords and ge ntleme so you must ]

**+B** *adj* True, very *Obs rare*

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii 8 I ord, verallyest lord noght as men ere lordis. *c* 1425 Lydg *Assembly of Gods* 1285 Morpheus, That hym before warnȝd of the verryly tyde

**+ve rzinent,** *adv*, *sb*, and *a Obs* Forms **+verol-, verrey-** ȝ-ȝ- **verray-**, 6 Sc **verrie** , 6 **veriment** [a. OF *verai-*, *verrai-*, *vraisement*, etc (mod b. *vraiment*) truly, f *verai* true see **Very** *a* and **-ment** and cf Verament *adv* ]

**A** *adv* In truth or verity, truly, verily

13 *A Alis* 717 (Laud MS), By sterren & by be firma me i He hym tauyste verrayment *c* 1395 *Chron Eng* 6171 in Ritson *Metr Rom* II 296 From him verrament He hrabie a riche present 1390–8o *Visions of St Paul* 935 in *O E Misc* 259 Po Fendes seuden verreyment—He hab seyen his Iuggement *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw* 1491 The lady said, Sir, verrayment, I wil do al yower cumandment

**B** *sb* Truth, verity

1528 ] ynderay *Dreme* 801 Efter my sempyll intandiment, I sall declare the suith and verrayment As I leest can 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 27 Gif that he traunit nocht on ane side of the controuersy 1599 ] Lawrence in *Monthly Mag* (1819) XLVIII 124 The advantages of sophistry are infinitely beyond those of real truth ; because a fortunate and well sounding verisimilitude is so adapted to the comprehension of nine tenths of mankind 1821 Lamb *Elia* 1 *Old Benchers Inner T* , Henceforth let no one receive the narratives of Elia for true records ! They are, in truth, but shadows of fact—verisimilitudes, not verities 1850 L. Hunt *Autobiog* vii (1860) 108, I felt that there was more truth in the verisimilitudes of fiction than in the assumptions of history

**+Verisimilitu dinary,** *a Obs*—1 [Cf prec and Similitudinary *a* ] Of persons Having a show of being correct in opinion or judgement

1675 E Wilson] *Spadacrene Dunelm* 4 Those that hold the materiality of the Air to be from water are not in opinion altogether paddoxal, but verisimilitudinary

**+Verisimil ity.** *Obs.* Also 7 veri similarity [f L type **verisimilitās*, f *vērisimilis* (*veri similis*) see Verisimilitude ] Verisimilitude

1646 Sir T Brown *Pseud Ep* iii xxi 157 Touching the verisimility or probable truth of this relation. *Ibid* vii xviii, 382 Assuredly it was a noble Nation upon whom if not such verities at least such verisimilitudes of fortitude were placed 1668 Dryden *Dramat Poesy* Ess. (Ker) I 59 The spirit of man cannot be satisfied but with truth, or at least verisimility 1706 tr *De Fites Art Painting* 71 The third [copy] which is Faithful and Easy puzzles the great est Criticks, often baaneth their Prompting against the Truth, tho it may be agreeable to Verisimility

**+Verisimilous,** *a Obs* Also 7 **veresimilous** [irreg f L *veri similis*, *vērisimilis* see Verisimilitude ] Verisimilar

1652 B White *Sabbath* 18 Those erroneous doctrines of Pontificians, are in our dayes wholly supported by veri similous and probable reasons. 1662 Gauden *Three Serm* 62 A Judge needs bee a Critick to discerne betweene man and man cause and cause just and unjust, when it is very similous 1675 E. Wilson] *Spadacrene Dun elm* 33 Any verisimilous conjecture concerning the causation of Springs

**Verism** (vi· rizm) [f as next + -ism Cf Verisimil ] The theory or artistic style practiced or advocated by the verists

1892 *Illustr Lond News* 24 Sept 407/1 This triumph of realism versus, naturalism, or whatever sort of ·ism it may be called

**Verist** (vi·r rist) [f L *ver ·us* (neut ) or It *ver·o* true + -ist Cf Veritist ] One who believes in or practises the rigid representation of the truth or reality in literature or art Also *altrib*

1884 *Contemp Rev* Mar 395 This observation would l lead us to a controversy with the verists, realists, naturalists, or whatever their name 1899 *Academy* 28 Feb 213 9 These provoked the Verist reaction which followed

Hence **Veri·stic** *a*

1884 *Contemp Rev* Sept 450 The veristic school does indeed go too far in hol ling up the things of sense as exclusively true and real 1891 *Blackw. Mag* CL. 865/1 The key note of George Eliot's work is that Vegri qualities as essentially realistic, or, as he puts it veristic

**Veritabl ity.** *rare*—1 [f next ] A truth or verity

1864 A Leighton *Myst Log Edmb* (1886) 219 It even happens often that true ty verisabilities pass through the mind without leaving any traces

**Veritable** (ve ritab l), *a* (and *adv* ) Also 5 **veritabill**, 6 **verytable** [a. OF and AF *verit able* (mod F *véritable*, = It *vertevole*), f *verite* Verity see -able

App. the word had become obsolete by the middle of the 17th century, and was revived early in the 19th. Webster (1828–30) notes it as 'little used ']

**1** Of a statement, etc That is in accordance or conformity with the truth or verity, true *? Obs*

1474 Caxton *Chesse* II i (1883) 21 Therfore hym ought to saye no thynge but yf hit were veritable and stable *c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) iv 1068 We shall here tidinges shortlyn ! For that is such veritabill 1514 Barclay *Ecl 4 Uplondyshm* (Percy) 20 In good fayth thy tale is veryd able, Grounded in lerynge, and gretly commendable. 1604 Shaks. *Oth* III iv 36 Then would I say that I saw't. Mere veritable, therefore looke too t well 1649 Evelyn *Liberty Servitude* iv Misc Writ (1825) 21 It was not lease lawfull to men who comprehended the rights of liberty and servitude, such as we might have of things divine, to posesse an heart elevated and a courage invincible

**+b** Of persons Speaking the truth, truthful, veracious. *Obs*

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A* i vii 21 The maners and condi cions whiche belongen to a good conestable ben these, that he be not testyf ne angry, but amesured and attemporat verytable in wordes and pressa hardy 1533 Lo Berners *Gold Bk M Aurel.* (1546) E vij b, The greatest faute is to spare the trouthe and not to be verytable 1594 R Abbot tr *Lorge Rep* 46 The second warned him to bee all his life true, and veritable

**2** Genuine, real, true, not counterfeit, false, or spurious, correctly or properly so called

1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 29/1 And to thende to preve that his deth was veritable he wold lye therin thre dayes 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* v xix 266 But where the real works of Nature, or veritable acts of story are to be described, digressions are aberrations.

1890 ] O Struty *Sybra Brit* 24 Few persons form any thing like just estimates of the veritable size of trees. 1892 Miss Cobbe *Intuit. Mor.* i 23 Then Intuition must be given its natural position as the basis of the whole

System of Ethics. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 8 A moral relish for veritable proofs of honesty

**b** Of things or persons.

1649 Earl Monm tr *Senault's Use Passions* 9 The same Philosophers imagined it (the soul) had parts as well as the body and though they were more subtile, they were not less veritable. 1833 Lamb *Elia* II *Imaginative Faculty in Productions Mod Art*, He had painted a laudable orchard with fitting seclusion and a veritable dragon 1852 Miss Yonge *Cameos* II xxiii. 249 A veritable personage was Whittington 1881 *Lit World* 21 Jan 37/1 Nelson, we all know, was a veritable sea king

**c** With *this*, in emphatic use

1832 Miss Mitford in L Estrange *Life* (1870) II xiv 320 A cast of the skull of Raphael—the veritable skull dug up at Rome 1896 Kane *Arct. Expl* II ix 94 Next sugar: what complex memories the word brings back!—the very able sugar has been long dead. 1897 Blackie *Four Phases* i 130, I who am now talking am the veritable Socrates

**3** In extended use, denoting possession of all the distinctive qualities of the person or thing specified

1861 C Stretton *Chequered Life* I 24, I tell you that Charley is a veritable eel 1869 A Harwood tr *De Prezsac's Early Years Chr* III. i 360 They had a succession of governors who were veritable lands 1897 *Standard* 2 Feb 7/5 At Rochefort there was a veritable hail of tiles, slates, etc blown off the roofs

†**4.** As *adv* Veritably, truly *Obs*—1

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxvi 93, I believe veritable that it is for to take vengeance of the feyth & of the grete othe whiche I haue violated fadly

Hence **Ve·ritableness**, truth, veracity. *rare*—1

1664 *J* Newburgh in Evelyn *Pomona* etc 44 I am so well assured of the veritableness of my neighbours relation, that I dare not question it.

**Veritably** (ve·ritabli), *adv* [f Veritable *a* + -ly 2] In a veritable manner, with truth or verity, truly, truthfully, genuinely, really.

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cxliii 214 The nombre of them that were slayn was neuer verytably knowen 1513 Fabyan *Chron* I xxiii 18 Kyrsopolus one of Scithia, was verytably borne but more veritably as sayth yᵉ olde Cronycle the brother of Iago was maker of Brytayne. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd Fr in Palsgr* 1530 Veritably, *verayement*. 1567 Maitland *Gr Forest* 25 b, They esteeme many things by figure and fantacie but few veritably and vprightly

1804 Anna Seward *Lett* (1811) VI 243 All possible hazard may be precluded by observing more verity towards the youthful render that [etc.] 1875 Poste *Gaius* II (ed 2) 237 Veritably after both that is to say born after their father has made his will

**Veritism.** [f Verit + -ism] = Verism So **Ve·ritist, Veriti·stic** *a* = Verist, Veristic *a*

Originally and chiefly *U S*

1892 *Nation* (N Y) 54/3 53/2 Veritism is the name by which devils are to be cast out and the artist himself is to be a veritist. 1894 H Garland in *Forum* (N Y) Aug 690 My own conception is that realism (or veritism) is the truth ful statement of an individual mind corrected by reference to the fact *Ibid*, The veritist chooses for his subject not the impossible not even the possible, but always the probable *Ib* 691 693 The critic cannot distinguish between the ar tirely fictitious ci aracters of the veristic novel and the characters dr wn fro i life

**Verity** (ve·riti) Forms 5 **varyte**, *Sc.* **weryte**, 5–6 **verite**, *Sc* **verite**, 6 **veritee**, *Sc.* **varite**, 5–6 *Sc* **veretie**, 6 **veritye, verytie, ueritie**, *Sc.* **weritie, weratie**, 6–7 **veritie**, *Sc* **veritie**, 7– **verity** [a AF and OF *verite, veriteé* (mod F *vérité*,= It *verità*, Prov *veritat, veritat, verdad*, Sp *verdad*, Pg *verdade*) —L. *veritāt* , *veritās*, f. *vēr* us true, Very *a* see ITY

Appy not in common use in the 18th cent , but revived in the 19th ]

**1** Without article Truth, either in general or with reference to a particular fact , conformity to fact or reality Also *personif*

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* (*Peter*) 254 But yyf bat pece be and concorde to fynd, yyf it to na thing may be profyte. 1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 161 Verite getyth hatredyn *Ibid* Verite [is] caste doune when any vnrygthy thynge is preferrid to trouthe 1447 *Bokes of vse* viii 1466 And verite war seyn That ye me luffyt I awcht yow luff sagyn 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov* 87 I han demaunded he of hym, what thyng he professed Verite 1548 Hall *Chron* 1 Mich 38 Mirth, and free-mundednesse Simplicitie, These be the lovely play mates of pure verite 1653 Gataker *Vind Annot Ner* 66 Historical verity, saith he shews the sepulters of their false Gods to be dead 1658 G Vincent *Penitents* 30, I have all along and shall still decline nothing but Verity 1816 Scott *Old Mort* xxxiii, He is a prelatist and all and more than all, that has been said of him must needs be verity 1881 Carlyle *Sterling* II vi (1872) 137 A little verdant flowery island of poetic intellect, of melodious human verity 1894 H R Reynolds *John Bapt* v § 2 392 The hypothesis of Catholic verity does not attempt to solve the problem

*Comb* 1806–25 Bentham *Ration Judic Evid.* (1827) I 191 A motive of any description may be termed a veracity or verity promoting, or mendacity restraining, motive

**b** In various propositional phrases and constructions used adverbially, freq with emphatic force, as *in (of) verity*.

*14 Sir Beues* (S) 4313+197 Foure bousand men, pur verayte, bey brousten with hem to I undone cyte. 1533 Gau *Rechi Vay* 39 Hic cleyne virginite wes (w)nderbe and in verita prouithe be the prophetis. *a* 1550 *Disc. Scotus* (Bann. Cl) 14 The quhilk Johne Scott fastit without meit or drink of verite xxxij dayes 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol* v lvii. § 5 For we take not baptism nor the eucharist for bare resemblances , but (as they are indeed and in verity) for means effectual 1849 James *Woodman* xxxiv, It is somewhat sudden in verity and truth ; but he must depart for Dorset by daylreak tomorrow 1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav* lvi 232 In verity it was not I who fed my nurse, but my nurse me

†**c** *Of verity* (used predicatively) True *Sc Obs* (Cf 3 b)

1549 *Compl Scot* v 35 Bot admittend that Socrates opinionis war of verite, 311 (etc ). *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 134 The provest answerit and said that is of truth ar of weratie and gif (etc), *c* 1593 in *Spalding Club Misc* I 5 Gif this be of veritie I remit me to the Erlie of Angus declarationn 1658 in *Hewuck Archæol Soc Trans* (1868) 30/2 The which the said David Hatton has maid faith before the bailies that it was of veritie

**2** With article or pronoun The truth , the true or real facts or circumstances.

Freq in the 16th c in reference to religious belief some times taking the sense of the true religion or faith

1422 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 167, I say that ham lackyth men that sholde say to ham the Verite or the trouthe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xii 372 Telle me what ye be and of youre felowes telle me the verite *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables Sheep & Dog* x, Selkand full mony Decreitis of the Law and Gloss alsa, the verite to knaw 1535 Coverdale 2 *John* iii. 19 Hereby knowe we that we are of the verite 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II (Arb) 46 King my fauth I plight herre to relate the verye soothlye 1667 Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 22 Therefore Lactantius approacheth nearer to the verite. 1813 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 73 The Apostle preached here the Christian verite 1696 in *Aubrey's Misc* (1721) 212, I have set it down fully being curious for nothing but the Verity 1754 in *Nourne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 55 [20] grant commission for taking his oath on the verity

**b** Const *of* (something)

1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xi (Percy) 39 The comon wyt Maye we nat fynde Of the perfyte verite 1530 Palsgr 253/1 Verite of a thynge, *verité* 1535 in *Lett Suppress Monasteries* (Camden) 80 Howbeit no farder than the verity of Scripture will justifie my cause 1604 J Wilson *Sermons* 1 x 31 By which Ignorant Proverbes may be collected the verity of the assertion set downe 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* iii xl 250 The verity of his Miracles 1679 Penn *Addr Prot* ii 11 (1692) 79 We cannot allow the Answerer Belief of the Verity and Authority of the History and Doctrine of Scripture is Faith 1797 Swift *Further Acc E Curll Wks* 1755 III I. 154 The verity of this hypothesis is justified by the symptoms. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog* Wks. 1840 I 210 He wrote a volume denying the verity of my experiments 1830 Carr *Travels Spain* (1892) I 238 The most powerful proof of the verity of the rule. 1880 Lyndall *Clue* I x 66, I felt in all its force the heavy verity of the remark of Mirabeau 1881 *Rev* 22 Jan 83 I do not pretend Mr Ashton should not have clearly distinguished between the veracity of the author and the verity of his book.

**c** Said of God or of Christ. Usu with defining adj preceding

1535 Joye *Apol Tindale* (Arb) 6 The verite hath sayd it and wryten it. 1559 *Homilies* I *Of Faith* ii. Giue vnto Christ himself the eternal and infallible verite. 1563 *Ibid* in *the Resurrection* G 4 b, O man, call to thy minde that therefore hast thou receyued into thyne owne possession the euerlasting veritie, our Sauuour Iesus Christ 1645 Vane *Lost Shepe* 41 Nothing can the Prime Verity [= Christ] 1650 *Norman Grain Assent* I v 126 We have no experiences in our memory which we can transmute into an Image of the infallible Verity

**†d.** The exact wording and meaning of the original Hebrew or Greek text of the Bible *Obs*

1535 Joye *Apol Tindale* (Arb) 45 But yet let Tindale loke ouer the Testament once agene and conferre it a lytle better with the text and spoke [= locke] 1539 Bible (Great) *title*, The Bible in Englyshe truly translated after the veryte of the Hebrue and Greke textes. 1697 W Sherlock in *Lett Clergy* (Camden) 136 For the translation was made (being not in the Vulgar, but according to the Hebrew verity). 1699 Br Walton *Consid Considered* 91 The reputed Author of the Hebrew verity 1777 Lowth *Isaiah Hist Print* Pref B2 b When they quote the Scripture wrong , the authority of the Greek or Hebrew verity should be first appealed to

**e** The actuality or reality *of* something

a 1633 Austin *Medit* (1635) 176 He [Christ] offered also his Hands, to the other Disciples, to proove the verite of his humane Body 1688 R Holme *Armoury* III *Bodge* 61/1 Dissert v (1688) 75 Concerning the Verity of Christ's Body and Blood in the Eucharist 1913 *Act* 3 & 4 *Geo V* c. 20 1 (1) Such oath shall be taken by him to the verity of the debt

**3.** With *a* and pl. A true statement, doctrine, or opinion , an established fact, a reality , a truth

1533 Bp Fisher *Assert Luther* (1540) 48 There are many verities, which yet may be no such articles of our faithe. 1577 Harrison *England* II viii. In *Holinshed* I 80/2 Sith conclusions are no verities & mere opinion is but one mans judgement 1605 Camden *Rem* (1623) 221 Magicke, in the time of Nero, was discouered to be but a vanity in the declining state of the Roman Empire, accounted by the Christians a verity 1611 Florio *Montaigne* III xiii 1000 A great Anatomist, whom I find running away with an errour instead of a conceited verity 1690 Locke *Hum Und* iv vii. § 11 Which [propositions] being settled in the minds of their scholars, as unquestionable verities. 1765 Sterne *Tr Shandy* viii xxxiv, But it is an indubitable verity, con tained in a discourse I have to communicate 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 222 Thus dreams are verities. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq* (1877) I App 643 The quarrel and the reconciliation are unquestionable verities. 1898 Tait & Stewart *Unseen Univ* vii. § 203 So our strength lies in keeping up a communication with those verities which we all acknowledge

**b** *Of a verity* (chiefly in parenthetic use)

Truly, assuredly, in truth, indeed (Cf 1 b) *vhet* 1890 W Irving *Mahomet* vi. (1853) 33 Oh Mahomet of a verity, thou art the prophet of God ! 1898 Kane *Arct Expl* II i 15 The liver of a walrus eaten with little slices of it is fat; of a verity it is a delicious morsel. 1900 Sala *Baf dington Peerage* I xv 272 Down she came, in about ten minutes, looking of a verity radiant.

**4** Truthfulness, veracity sincerity ? *Obs*

*c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen VIII* (1878) 51 Justice verity, holiness fear of God 1565 T Stapleton *Fortr Faith* 12 b, I hou hast sworen to David in thy verite 1605 Shaks *Macb* IV iii 92 The King become g Graces As Iustice Verity, Temp rance, Stal linesse 1626 Bayneyt *Cry Life* 240 Verite is the vertue by wi ich a man in all his conuersation, in all his actions and in all his words shew eth himselfe sincere and ful of truth 1808 E S Barrett *Mist fed Convent* 45 If my verity is called in question, I will state in what manner and by what means it was paid 1848 *S ottish Jrnl Topog* etc. II 167/1 Scoto Gallicisms On my veritie [from French] vérité My certie, [from French] certes

**Verjuice** (vɔ·rʒus), *sb* Forms *a* 4–5 **verious**, 5 **veryous, -yose**, fus(e, -iuys, jusse, iowce (**vere jouse**) 6 **werius, veriovce, -juce** (**verdjuice**), 6–7 **veriuice, -iuce, iuyce**, 7 **ver-juyce, -juce, jus**, 7– **verjuice** *β* 4 **vergws**, 5 **wergos**, 6 **vergus, -uys**, 4 **vergieux**, 4–6 **ouse**, 6 **-ews, -eus**, 5 **vergyous**, 6 **-ious, -ius**, 4–5 **verdius**, 5 **verdiouse**, 5 **verjous**, 5–7 **vergis**, 6 7 **verges**, 6 **vergeos, vergease**, 7(9) **ase**, 7 **verdges**, 6 **vergeos**, 6–7, 9 *dial* **vargos**, 7, 9 *dial* **vargis** [a. OF *verjus, verjus, verjus* etc (mod F *verjus*), f *vert* green, unripe + *jus* Juice ]

**1.** The acid juice of green or unripe grapes, crab apples, or other sour fruit, expressed and formed into a liquor , formerly much used in cooking, as a condiment, or for medicinal purposes Also in comparisons as *as sour (bitter, etc.) as verjuice*

*a* 1300 3 *Eliz Sacr Rolls* (1907) II 18 Pro I jarillo ad verious. 14 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 619 *Verjus succus*, veriuys *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Veriowce sawce *agrestat*. 1450–80 tr *Secreta Secret* 161 Take the iuice of verious and wnite *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* xii 236 A calf lyuer skorde with the veryouse; Good sawse This is a re storer. To make a good sawce of verious Wood *Eng Cab Furniture* (1866) 187 A brake to make veriovce with 1544 *Phaer Regim Life* (1560) B iv b The juice of Purcelane of Plantayne, and verjuice of crabbes 1562 Turner *Jewell* hi III 71 Crabs after the vertuice is expressed from them 1626 Middleton *Woman Beware Wom* III iii Having a crabbed face of verjuice she lik'd no sweet verjuice with her mutton 1657 Trapp *Comm Lurca* vi 13 II 22 Their obedience was wrung out of them as verjuice is out of a crab. 1748 Hartley *Observ Man* I. 124, I find Effects of Vinegar Verjuice Spirits of Wine, in Sprains. 1799 G Smith *Laboratory* (ed 6) I 343 Beat pumice stones to an impalpable powder and mix up with verjuice 1853 Kovle *Mat Med* (ed 2) 348 The unripe acid fruit is remarkable for the harsh acidity of its juice which is then called verjuice 1881 *Harper's Mag* LXIII 266 To distort the face as if one were quaffing verjuice

*fig* 1626 R C *Time's Whistle* (1872) 80 They must have veriuice that will squeese such crabbes 1684 Middleton *Game at Chess* v iii Sf Look thus Fat Bishop hath so squelch d and squeez d me I ve no verjuice left in me 1686 Herbert *Body Div* 1 269 Take heed of matching with o e crabbed face of death he that grafts into a crab stock is like never to want verjuice

*β* 1349–50 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 551 In xvj lag de vergeous 1392 *Feod Durham* 21 Et in decem lag de pro visi galionibus vergws. *a* 1400 *Lex Holy Rood* viii 175 St Moyses in Rule hab rad We schulde eie vv lomb in our vergeous *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* iii cxlviii (1869) 134 I sende of vinegre and of vy geous, and of grys pes I ben soure *c* 1440 *Donce MS* 55 fol 7 I then take a quantite of verious & saffron & salte & cast ther to. 1463 *Mary of Wallis* (Camden) 23 A barell with vergeous, and a barel for wynne 1513 W de Worde *Bk Kervynge* in *Babees Bk* 278 It ought for to be eten with grene garlyke or with screll or tender vynes, or vergeous, or with somer rasin 1598 Warde tr *Alexis' Secr* (1568) 65 b, Boile it in iii glasses full of good vergeous or white wyne 1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* II (1586) 57 Some adde thereunto Vergius, or the iuyce of soure Grapes to make the taste more tarte.

*γ* 1412 3 *Ashm Acc* (Camden) 75 De vn s pro ver gis unde fact *c* 1518 *Skelton Magnyf* 1779 Somtyme I parde I must vse largesse Ye mvry somtyme in a messe of vergese 1587 *Luton Priv Accounts* (Camd) 141 Payd for galouse of wargis. 1855 *Lanc & Ches Wills* (Chetham Soc 1884) 64 ij barrells to keepe vergens 1873 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 53 Be sure of verg s so good for the kitchen 1880 Marshall *Masters* I lacs 148 You shall then onely giue t a pint of strong verdges to dri ke 1630 J Taylor (Water P) *Beggar Wks* I 97/2 And for a Sauce he selde t at Charges For euery Gralsree doth afford him Verjus 1630 O Wood *Alph Bk Secrets* 102 Make a posset of Varges or Vmigar and Milke, bath the joynt very hot t ere with. 1850 Hood *Ode to Dr Nabobmann* 38 A drop of *vargus* 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt Gloss* 375 As sour as vargis 1904 E Step *Wayside & Woodland Trees* 103 Cyder is made from the rotting fruits, also a kind of vinegar called verjuice or vargis.

†**b** In fig phrases *to crowd, crush, squeeze to verjuice Obs*

1605 *Tyrall Chro* II 3 In Bullen *Old Pl* (1884) III 289 And that sowre crab do but have time to shed sweete fruit to Vargis. 1621 Fletcher *Isl Princess* III i They love a man that crushes em to verjuice *a* 1625 — *Wife for Month* II i They have crowded me to Vergis I sweat like a butter box

**2.** In fig use, with reference to the characteristic acidity or sourness of verjuice

1598 E Guilpin *Skiad* (1878) 59 Oh how the vargus from his blacke pen wrung! Would Crabtree dash a full squeese him to Vargis. 1621 Fletcher *Isl Princess* III i They love a man that crushes em to verjuice *a* 1625 — *Wife for Month* II i They have crowded me to Vergis I sweat like a butter box

**2.** In fig use, with reference to the characteristic acidity or sourness of verjuice

1598 E Guilpin *Skiad* (1878) 59 Oh how the vargus from his blacke pen wrung! Would Crabtree dash a full squeese him to Vargis. 1621 Fletcher *Isl Princess* III i They love a man that crushes em to verjuice *a* 1625 — *Wife for Month* II i They have crowded me to Vergis I sweat like a butter box

**3.** In fig use, with reference to the characteristic acidity or sourness of verjuice

1598 E Guilpin *Skiad* (1878) 59 Oh how the vargus from his blacke pen wrung! Would Crabtree dash a full squeese him to Vargis. 1621 Fletcher *Isl Princess* III i They love a man that crushes em to verjuice *a* 1625 — *Wife for Month* II i They have crowded me to Vergis I sweat like a butter box

Hang him, an austere grape That has no juice, but what is verjuice in him 1685 CROWNE *Sir C Nice* i The Devil of Envy suck it all out, and left verjuice in the roome 1709 MRS DELANY *In Life & Corr* (1862) 143 To be sure there must be an infinite deal of verjuice in her composition! 1791 J WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Knights of Ar* 44 XVIII Wks. 1816 II 209 The heart should be a mellar of sack Milk, and not Verjuice, from its fount should flow 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, Raoul, glancing towar is her a look of verjuice [etc.]. 1833 I HOOK *Parson's Daus* II xi, MISS Budd although she said nothing looked vinegar and verjuice 1873 SIMMONDS *Cork Trade* IV 101 The ten per of ia proposed son in law was a mixture of gall, wormwood, vinegar, verjuice, vitriol and nitric acid

**3** *attrib* or as *adj* a Simple attrib, as *verjuice barrel, lottle brake house sauce, tub vessel*

1432 *F I. Wills* (1882) 91 A vergy us barell *c* 1450 *Two Cookery Bks* 103 The sauce is verjuice sauce of sauce ginger 1516-7 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 106 Pro ostiis le Wertuil ouse 1551-60 in Hall *Eliz Soc* (1887) 150 A vergyus tubbs. 1576 *Kenrush Wills* (Surtees) I 134 In the buttrie a kitt a verjuyus brake. 1588 *Lanc Ch Chesh Wills* (Chetham Soc 1893) 250 ij kneadinge tubes iij cheives ij verges barrells. 1629 *Inv Hesash Goods in Trans Essex Archæol Soc* III ii 161 In the West Larder 8 vergis vessells

b Passing into adj in the sense of 'bitter, sour, sour looking', as *verjuice countenance, face, wit*

1598 MARSTON *Sco Villanie* I To ludicrall Persons, I dare defend my plainenease against the verjuice face of the Crabbedst Satyrist that euer breathed 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II iii She scarce will let me kisse her, But shee makes verjuice faces. 1630 BROME *Court Beggars* I Thou hast a verjuice wit. 1823 SCOTT *Tvanhoe* VII, A very ice countenance is no such temptation 1853 DICKIE *Tr Aristoph* (1887) I 12 You bve the basket prettily with a verjuice face

†**c.** *Verjuice grape*, one or other variety of grape suitable for the making of verjuice. (cf quot 1731 and *F verjus* a sour or green grape) *Obs*

1548 HEXHAM II *Verjus de Raisins* Verjus or Sowre grapes. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I xxv, The great red g apes, the muscadine the verjuice grape. 1664 EVELYN *Kal Hort* Sept 24 The Verjuice grape is best for sauce, &c 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retter'd Card* I xi 53 Having planted your Trees you ought to set some Chasselas, or Verjuice Grapes, about your Stocks 1731 *Fam Dict* s v., There are three sorts of Grapes to which they properly give the Name of Verjuice viz. the Gouais Farineux, and Bourdelas, otherwise le Grey; and us from these three that they com monly press Verjuice

Hence **Ve·rjuice** *v trans*, to embitter, make sour, **Ve·rjuiced** *ppl a*

1636 W H MAXWELL *Capt Blake* xv The maid was a verjuiced spinster 1848 HOWELL *Table Tr Critics* (1865) 207 His sermons with satire are plenteously verjuiced 1892 W G THORPE *Still Life Mild Temple* 3 Sir John Key where the inherent rhyme to 'donkey' verjuiced the baronetcy

**Verk**(e, obs Sc forms of WORK *sb*

†**Verken,** obs form of FIRKIN

1485 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 184 I^st per me for an verken of gonpouder, viij *li*

**Verlay, Verlet**(te, obs. ff VIRELAY, VARLET

**Verlich**(e, ME. vart FERLY *a* and *adv Obs*

†**Verling line** *Naut Obs* (Origin and meaning obscure)

1480 in *Arch Soc* 3 *Hen VI*, 9 haunsers pro verlyng lynes ponderis cc lb

**Verlore,** var f pa t and pa. pple FORLESE *v Obs*

**Verlot**(te, obs ff VARLET Verm, southern dial var FARM *sb*, obs Sc. var. WORM *sb*

**Vermayn**(e, obs. ff. VERMIN *sb*

†**Verme.** *Her Obs* [ad I *vermis* worm (Honorius of Autun *De Imag Mundi* I xiii), in correctly taken as the name of a fish] An alleged fish of the Ganges, able to seize and destroy elephants.

Boswell elsewhere (ii 66) has the form *vermante*, prob. an error for *verme harrante* by accidental omission of letters.

1592 B BOSWELL *Armorie* II 95 b, H hathe to hys Creste a Verme harrante prope subiugated aboute the tayle with a scrowe

**Ve·rmean,** *a rare*—1, [f VERME *s* + -AN] = VERMIAN *a* 1

1905 *Q Rev* Apr 493 Parasites, both external and internal both protozoan and verman were met with

**Vermechuilli,** obs f VERMICELLI

**Vermeil, vermil** (vɔ·mil), *a* and *sb* Forms: *a* 5 vermaile, mayle, meyle 6 vermayll, 7 meyl, 6 vermeill 8–9 meille, 6– vermeil. *β* 6 vermell, 7 vermel, 6 7 vermilo, 7 -myle, 8–9 vermil [a AF and OF *vermeil vermeil* adj and sb (11th c, mod F *vermeil* = Prov *vermelh, vermel*) —acc sing of L *vermiculus*, dim of *vermis* worm see VERMICLE, and cf VERMILION *sb* and VERMILY ]

**A** *adj* Of a bright scarlet or red colour, vermilion. Chiefly *poetical*

*a.* *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 3645 Ful fayre it [*sc* the rose] spradde the god of blesse For suche another as I gesse Aforne ne was ne more vermayle *c* 1440 LYDG *Ballad at Reverence Our Lady* 45 (Skeat), Benigne braunch eel of thepy e tree, Vyneyerd vermayle 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1570) 74 Take not colde water in stede of vermayll wine. 1549 *Compl Scot* vi 37 The pretty fische vvthi there rede vermeil fynnis. 1589 SPENSER *Prothal.* II, With store of vermeil Roses, To decke their Bridegromes posies 1820 *Sporting Mag* XII. 359 Nature s vermeil robe and lilied vest 1807 WORDSW *White Doe* II 12 This Maid, who wrought In verme l colours and in gold An unblest work. 1812 S ROGERS *Columbus* Poems (1839) 42 Tinging with vermeil light the billows blue 1898 MRS M DOWIE *Crook of Bloach* 165 The vermeil flood mounted in her cheeks, but she met his glance fully

*B* 1592 WILLET *Armourie, 1st Chandos* l, A vermelle crosse the Cyprian king still wore. 1627 MILTON *Lycidas* (MS draft), That sad Floure that strove To write his own Woes on the vermel Grave 1692 J SALTER *Triumphs Tex et sy* A Face with Vermile Paint still over laid 1791 F DARWIN *Bot Gard.* I 14 In noon s bright blaze thy ve mil vest unfold 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* lvi, The ripe and vermil wine, Sweet infant of the pregnant vine.

**b** Freq of the countenance, lips, etc

*c* 1614 SIR W MURE *Dits & Æneas* I 626 The dimples of a m mile cheek 1754 GRAY *Pleasures of Melancholy* 3 With vermil cheek and whisper soft She [*sc* the morn] woo s the tardy spring 1780 S J PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed 2) II 176 The invisible sugh steals through its vermeil passages 1820 C R MATURIN *Melmoth* (1892) III xxx 198 A lip as vermeil as her own 1864 MUSGRAVE *Ten Days in Tr Passengage* I 229 The vermeil cheeks faded away into clammy hues.

*transf* 1759 MALLET *Fragment* Wks. I 50 The vivid pulse the vermil grace Youth, beauty, pleasure, all are thine! 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* xiv *note* So many vermil, honeyed kisses, I vvy can never count our blisses.

**c** With names of colours, esp *vermeil red*

1590 SPENSER *F Q* II ii 22 In her cheekes the vermeil red and lilly queint Doe mingle themselves 1625 BACON *Ess* (1632) 121 They vermeil red and living green In mimic folds thou shalt display 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 364 Like a blossom vermeil white In it lightly broke a faded flower aheath 1906 E M DOUGHTY *Dawn in Britain* I 68 Her red as apple blossome vermeil white Her locks Like sun ty rays.

**B** *sb* 1 Vermilion hue or colour

1590 SPENSER *F Q* II xii 47 The nowy substaunce [*ante* frothy billowes] spreint With vermeil, like the boyes blood therein shed 1633 P FLETCHER *Purple Isl* x xii 50 When cleare vorie vermeil fitly blots, By stains it fairer grown, with purple *Ibid Poems Amaptest* I v, It liva exagitated my complexion to that exorbitancy of ver neile *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Rural Abbey* 180 The vivid vermeil bloom Of health 1798 WORDSW *Nutshell* III 18 The ve mil with sinkin g red and lurid, amulst long cloud wracks of vermeil and purple 1892 M FIELD *Sight & Song* I A cloak Of vermeil, and of thus

†**b** *transf* Blood *Obs rare*

1590 SPENSER *F Q* II x 24 How oft that day did sad Brunchildis see The greene shield dyde in dolorous vermeill? 1594 I SHERRY *Sclimar* 870 He follow Mars And die my shield in dolorous vermeill 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad* XVI 151 With these [I] saw her so glorious and so just that ne er The like by them, Which had hung reverse, Or through division been with vermeil dyed

†**2** = VERMILION *sb* 1 *a Obs rare*—1

1610 G FLETCHER *Christ's Vict* II xxxii A painted face belied with vermeil red

**3** (See quots)

1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 250 Oriental Ruby Its colour is carmine red, sometimes red and white or red and blue, sometimes called sapphire ruby or orange red, by some called vermeille or rubicelle 1864 *Intp Dict*, *Vermeil* a jeweller a name for a crimson red garnet inclining slightly to orange.

**4.** *Gilding* (see quot) Also *attrib*

Directly from mod F *vermeuil* the quotation is part of a description of the French method of gilding

1830 URE *Dict Arts* 693 The *vermeuil* gilt Vermeil is a liquid which gives lustre and fire to the gold, and makes it resemble *or moulu* [Hence in later Dicts]

**5.** *Comb* gilt bronze

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade Vermeil* (French), silver gilt, or gilt bronze [Hence in later Dicts] 1869 *Harper's Mag* Aug 331/2 The scenostase or screen is a high wall of burnished vermeil 1872 *19th Cent* May 841 Golden pheasants sat on platters of embossed vermeille.

**C** *Comb* (chiefly parasynthetic), as *vermeil-cheeked, dyed, rimmed, tinctured, tinted, veined*

1590 SPENSER *F Q* II xii 72 What time a ver mil tincture lip for that? 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Furies* 451 Let th' Athenian train now advance, Array'd in richest vesture blushing round The vermeil tincture d radiance 1810 SHELLEY *Hymn to Pan* Long Poems (1862) 18 The vermeil [*sic*] tinted flowers. 1818 KEATS *Endymion* I 50 Before the dasies, vermeil rimm d and white, Hide in deep herbage 1820 W *Apollo* 278 Where the vermeil veined heart-leaf and vermeil dyed 1821 L HUNT *Indicator* No 67 (1822) II 157 The bearded and the vermeil-cheeked. 1905 HOLMAN HUNT *Pre Raphaelitism* I. 4 Cheeks vermeil veined by the pencilling of nature

**Vermeil, vermil** (vɔ·mil), *v* Chiefly *poet* [f prec. Cf the earlier ENVERMEIL *v*] *trans* To colour or suffuse, to stain *over*, with or as with vermilion or bright red. Also *transf*

1598 DANIET tr *Countess* (1614) 278 The presses painted & vermiled with golde 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit Troy* XIII lxxxiii, Euen till his armes with blood were vermeil'd o re 1616 J DAVIES *Scourge of Folly* 161 Their bewties, all sophisticate to weeve (Vulgarlie vermilld to prezerde as trewe). 1785 J STERLING *Cambuscan* cclii, Abundant roses vermil o er the plain. 1832 J BEES *St Herbert's Isle*, etc I was vermil'd o er with sweetest dye That nature a pencil ever spread

Hence **Ve·rmelled, Ve·rmiled** *ppl a.*

1616 J LANE *Contn Sqr s T* ix 17 Her painted trauth, her vermild modestie.

**Vermeillone, -meleon,** obs ff. VERMILION

†**Vermelet.** *Obs*—1 [ad. OF. *vermellet, vermeillet*, dim of *vermeil* VERMEIL *a*] Vermilion.

*c* 1330 *Cri of Love* 141 O bright Regina, who made thee so fair? Who made thy colour vermelet and white?

**Vermelon**(e, -oun, etc, obs. ff VERMILION.

**Vermen,** obs. form of VERMIN.

**VERMICELLI.**

†**Verment.** *Obs*—1 Aphetic f AVERMENT.

1472 *Rolls of Parit* VI 64/1 By his Othe, withouten any issue, traift or verrament to be takyn bitwene you and hym theruppon.

**Vermego logist** [f VERME-*s* + -OLOGIST] One who treats of worms, a helminthologist.

1858-32 WEBSTER.

So **Vermeo logy,** = HELMINTHOLOGY (*Ibid*)

**Vermeon,** variant of VERMION *Obs*

**Vermes** (vɔ·mīz). [L, pl of *vermis* worm]

1 *Path* (See quot 1728)

1683 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2) *Vermes*, see *Lumbrici* 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl Vermes* in Medicine, a Disease popularly call d *Worms*; arising from some of those Reptiles being generated, and growing in the Body 1800 *Med Jrnal* IV 203 Observations on Diseases in London Vermes, Epistaxis, Epilepsia.

2 *Zool* One or other of the primary divisions, sub-kingdoms, or groups of the animal kingdom proposed or adopted at various times by certain classifiers, comprehending worms and allied forms, but differing widely as to the nature and number of the classes or families included

The term was introduced by Linnæus in his *Systema Naturæ* (1766)

1771 *Encycl Brit* III 362/2 Linnæus divides the whole animal kingdom into 6 classes Class VI Vermes, or Worms 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 225 The following catalogues of insects and vermes. 1848 STARK *Elem Nat Hist* II 418 Linnæus arranged the whole in his class *Vermes* 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp Anat* 125, I arrange the various divisions of the *Vermes* in the following order 1. Platyhelminthes II Nemathelminthes [etc] 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 677/1 The group *Vermes* as used by Claus includes several distinct phyla, viz Nematoidea (etc). 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim Life* 579 Other Vermes are certainly unsegmental

**Vermeselly,** obs f VERMICELLI

**Ve·rmetad.** *Zool* [ad mod L *Vermetid æ*, f *Vermet us* VERMES] The individual of the family *Vermetidæ* of holostomatous gasteropods

1860 P T CARPENTER in *Rep Smithsonian Instit* 1859 205 [The Vermetidæ (worm shells) *Ibid*] Some of the Vermetids assume a looseness of growth as great as that of the worm

**Vermi-** (vɔ·mi), comb form of L *vermis* (cf. VERMES), used in various words, as VERMICIDE, VERMIFORM *a*, VERMIFUGE, VERMIPAROUS *a*, etc., also as a base in a few other terms, as **Vermi ecous** *a*, of or pertaining to worms, wormy (Webster, 1847), **Vermi cious** *a*, = prec (Craig, 1849), **Ve·rmidom** [cf I *dom* house] *Zool* (see quots), **Vermi ferous** *a* [FEROUS], producing worms, **Vermi gerous** *a* [GEROUS], infested with intestinal worms

1877 HUXLEY *Anat Inv Anim* v 242 The ova undergo their development in masses of gelatinous matter which adhere to the tubes of the Vermidom in *Protulus*. 1894 *Trnl Marine Zool* May 57 The examples were not all from the same cluster of tubes or vermidom 1894 H MILLER *Sch & Schm* x (1897) 206 *Manyleds* half hour I've I spent beside it watching its numerous inhabitants — insect, reptilian, and *vermiferous*. 1853 G JOHNSTON *Nat Hist Berd* I 129 The inexperienced mother is recommended to give cakes and puddings tanned with I a ey to her *ver* igerous child 1880 *Encycl Brit* (ed 8) XXI 974/1 It must not be concluded that every indivi dual [animal] is vermiparous

**Vermian** (vɔ·miăn), *a* [f VERM-ES + -IAN, see VERMI and -AN]

1 Of or pertaining to *Vermes*, characteristic of worms, worm like

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp Anat* 307 In this point also we can make out an affinity with Vermian larvæ (Actinotrocha) 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim Life* 578 The types of structure seen in most Vermian classes are very distinct from one another 1903 *Outlook* 28 Oct 489/2 Human nature is not the same in all ages it was once sin an nature, once vermian, once lower still

2 *Anat* Pertaining or belonging to the vermis of the cerebellum (In recent Dicts)

†**Vermicell.** *Sc Obs*—1 [a F *vermicel, celle*, ad It. *vermicelli* see next] *Soup vermicell*, = next 2

1724 RAMSAY *Health* 63 Soup vermicell, sous'd turbot, cray, and soles

**Vermicelli** (vɔ·sĭmɪ·lɪ, vɔ·smɪt|e·lɪ). Also 7 **vermechuilli, virmiscelli,** 8 **vermigelly** , 8 **vermicelly** (**oella**), **vermeselly.** [a It. *vermicelli*, pl of *vermicello*, dim. of *verme* —L. *vermen*, acc. sing of *vermis* worm Cf. prec]

1. A wheaten paste, of Italian origin, now usu made of flour, cheese, yolks of eggs, sugar and saffron, prepared in the form of long, slender, hard threads, and used as an article of diet. *Cf. Macaroni* 1

1656 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* I, Vermechuilli shall my Palat please, Serv'd in with Bisques, Ragous, and Inter *mets* 1674 BOYLE *Excell Theol.* I 5 Vermicelli, wafers, and pit-crusts, are all of them diversified meal. 1709 PEGGE *Pseud Purgants* 65 With Oysters, Eggs, and Vermicelli, She let Him almost burst his Belly 1747 MRS GLASSE *Cookery* xix 255 It will run up like little Worms, as Vermicella does 1767 *Ann Reg* I 92 The free importation of rice, sago dust, and vermicelli from the American colonies. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II clxx, Ceres presents a plate of vermicelli 1832 URE *Dict. Arts* 1076 The macaroni requires to

be made of a less compact dough than the vermicelli. 1887 L. Oliphant *Episodes* (1888) 153 A soup in which was floating what appeared to be pieces of vermicelli

**b.** *attrib*, chiefly in the sense 'made of vermicelli', as *vermicelli pudding, soup*, also 'resembling or suggestive of vermicelli', as *vermicelli bread, braidings*.

1769 Mrs Raffald *Eng. Housekpr* (1778) 1 When you make any kind of soups, particularly portable, vermicelli, or brown gravy soup. *Ibid* 175 Vermicelli Pudding Boil four ounces of vermicelli in a pint of new milk till it is soft [etc.]. 1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed 3) 207 White Vermicelli Soup. 1882 *Illustr. Lond News* 20 Sept. 267/2 We had vermicelli soup (flavoured with grated parmesan cheese). 1904 *Daily Chron* 23 Aug 8/1 Quite the newest of these embroideries are the so-called vermicelli braids, narrow crinkled cords formed with intriguing devices of no decidedly definite pattern. 1907 *Ibid.* 2 Oct 8 Sleeveless coats in fine cloth, covered entirely with vermicelli braiding

**2.** *elliptical* Vermicelli soup.

1773 Smollett *Humph. Cl* 26 April, We commonly stop at Mr Gill's, the pastry-cook, to take a jelly, a tart, or a small basin of vermicelli. 1830 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* xiv, Perhaps you would prefer Julienne or vermicelli, gentlemen? inquired the Don.

**Ve·rmicidal,** *a* [f next + -al] Of the nature of a vermicide, destructive to worms, anthelmintic (In recent Dicts.)

**Vermicide** (vɔ·rmisəid) *Med* [f. Vermi- + -cide 1] A medicine for killing intestinal worms, an anthelmintic, a vermifuge

1849 tr *Pereira's Mat. Med. & Therapt* (ed 3) 230 Anthelmintics are of two kinds —Some act obnoxiously on intestinal worms—destroying or injuring them These are the vermicides of some authors 1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med* (1879) 490 Vermicides are remedies which kill as well as expel worms. 1899 Cagney *Jabish's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed 4) 228 Sandwith finds thymol by far the most efficient vermicide in cases of anchylostomiasis.

**Vermicide** (vɔ·rmik 1) Also 4 vermycide [ad. L. *vermiculus* little worm, also (late L.) scarlet colour. Cf Vermiculæ and Vermeil.]

†**1.** = Vermilion *sb* 3 a. *Obs rare*

1382 Wyclif *Exod* xxxv 25 Ech womman with nedlis of iacynct, and purpur reed cloth [*altered from* vermycle], and bijs *Ibid* xxxix 2

**2** *Biol* A small worm or grub, a vermicule

1658 Tom Hedge *Rem. Nat.* 29 A certain insect, or fly or vermicide 1667 *Phil Trans* II 496 A little Vermicle, as small as a Mite 1746 *Ibid* XLIV 313 The Vermicles [of Ants] in a few Days transformeth in a soft silken kind of Tissue 1747 Gould *Eng Ants* 76 The next Exercise belonging to the working Ants, is feeding the Maggots or Vermicles. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) III 356 Vermicles or the larvæ of insects are at times been found In the open ulcer of a cancer *Ibid* V 661 An egg, which gives rise to a minute vermicle or larve 1880 *Nature* XXI 153 The bodies thus evolved simulate worms so closely that Gaule styles them 'Wurmchen', which may be translated vermicles

†**Vermiculant,** *a Physiol Obs* —1 [a med. L. *vermiculant-, vermiculans* (*pulsus*), pres. pple of L. *vermiculari* see Vermiculate *v*, and cf *vermiculant*, Pg. *ante*] Of the pulse = Vermicular *a* 1 b

1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse Watch* 33 The Pulse before a Syncope is very quick, then small, languid obscure, vermiculant, formicant

**Vermicular** (vɔɪmi·kiŭlăr), *a* and *sb* [ad med L. *vermicularis*, f L. *vermiculus* see Vermicule So F. *vermiculaire* (Paré), Sp., Pg. *vermicular*, It *vermicolare*]

A *adj* **1.** *Physiol* †**a** Full of vermicules. *Obs rare*—1

1665 Culpepper & Cole tr *Rivernius* VII iii 159 Sometimes it [the blood] is intermitting watery, vermicular, when the Lungs are rotten by too much moisture

**b.** = Peristaltic *a*

Freq from c1825

1672 *Phil Trans* VII 5119 We instance the Vermicular motion of the veins [of plants] when exposed to the air 1713 Derham *Phys. Theol* (1716) 236 After this a like [as food] is continually moved by the vermi ular motion of the guts. 1791 E Darwin *Bot Gard* 1 Notes 99 In such a structure it is easy to conceive how a vermicular or peristaltic motion of the vessel must forcibly push forward its contents. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed 4) I 9 Its [the stomach's] muscular fibres are calculated to produce a constant undulatory vermicular movement 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 668/1 On the supposition that the arteries undergo an undulatory or vermicular contraction 1881 Mivart *Cat* 182 This form of movement is also spoken of as the vermicular motion of the intestine.

*transf* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 801 Sometimes these muscles are seen working under the skin in vermicular fashion

**2** Having the sinuous shape or form characteristic of a worm; consisting of, characterized by, tortuous outlines or markings, sinuous, wavy.

1728 tr *Pomet's Hist Drugs* I 180 The Vermicular, or Worm like Gum, is one of the Arabian or Senega Gums. 1753 *Phil. Trans* XLVIII 87 This second furrow was not in a strait line, but in a vermicular direction 1784 *Cowper Task* I 30 A generation more refin'd made three legs four, Gave them a twisted form vermicular 1815 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* xiv, (1816) I 438 The vermicular shape of the masses with which the [larval] cases are surrounded 1860 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. I. 33 His mantle ornamented with stripes or vermicular figures. 1879 Fortnum *Maiolica* ii. 16 Pottery of Moresque character and ornamentation with vermicular pattern in copper lustre.

**b** *Bot* (See quot 1866)

1866 *Compl Farmer* s.v *Madder*, The [madder] plants which are raised from layers produce very few of those vermicular roots, which are the only valuable ones. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot* Gloss 641/1 1866 *Treas Bot* 1210/2 *Vermicular*, worm-shaped; thick, and almost cylindrical, but bent in different places

**c.** *Anat* = Vermiform *a* 3, 3 b

1845 J G Wilkinson *Swedenborg's Anim Kingd* I v 146 The vermicular appendage is seen on one side of the fundus of the cocum, resembling a miniature intestine. 1852 *Cyc. Pract Med* s.v, Vermicular appendix or process

**3.** Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a worm or worms, resembling or like a worm.

1713 Derham *Phys Theol* (1716) 385 In the Vermicular State it is a red Maggot 1776 S Parker *Bibliotheca Biblica* I 130 Without the Paint of the polluted Vermicular Life. 1792 *Phil Trans* XLVII 449 Several species of vermicular tubes found in the sea 1800 Bingley *Anim Biog* (1813) III 7 Across the body there are several annular divisions, or rather rugæ of the skin, from which the fish should seem to partake of a vermicular nature 1804 J Graham *Aphrodisiacks* (1839) 16/2 We may compare the strict spirit of a British legislature with the vermicular servility of the senate of France. 1894 *Scottish Leader* 24 May 4 Vermicular reptiles, however, has its limits.

**b.** Accomplished or made by worms, performed by means of worms. Also *fig*

1715 tr *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem* II i 266 From thence came also Indian Figs, Nuts and Canes and a vermicular kind of Web made of Silk. 1822 *Blackw Mag* XII 153 The party, which the work stood pledged to oppose through all its vermicular attacks on the glorious fabric of British Institutions 1887–9 T Hazard *Mem T L. Disston* v 338 The trout here disdain flies As Lewis phrases it, vermicular fishing is what succeeds

**c** *Vermicular work* (see quot and Vermiculated *ppl a* 1 c)

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Vermicular Work*, in Sculpture, a sort of Ornaments used in Rustick Work; consisting of Frets or Knobs, cut with Points, representing, in some sort, the Tracks of Worms

**4.** Of the nature of a worm, *Vermicular ascaris*, the threadworm, *Oxyurus* (*Ascaris*) *vermicularis*

1784 Cowper *Let* 13 Dec., No animal of the vermicular or serpentine kind is so much and but the most formidable of all 1802 Bingley *Anim Biog* (1813) III 395 The Vermicular Ascarides are very common in the intestines of children 1828–9 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 365 For the cure of vermi cular affections, the worms and baits, these oils have been used in the form of injections

*fig* and *transf* 1848 *Examiner* 307/2 Fawcett wanted a little more vermicular flexibility 1 he cannot, at his time of life, be sufficiently vermicular 1864 Lowell *Cambridge 30 Y Ago* Prose Wks 1890 I 89 Refusing to molest the quieter vermicular existence we were all vermicular alike 1872 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II 189 Criminals are partly men, partly vermin; what is human in them you must punish—what is vermicular, abolish.

**b** Caused by, consisting of, worms.

1886 H F Lester *Under two Fig Trees* VIII 117 Their [*sc* worms'] minds, like their bodies, must be glutinous; hence they stick to a thread-like theory There is no sect of 'bigendians in the vermicular fold

**5** *Path.* Of diseases. Due to, caused by, intestinal worms.

1704 R J Sullivan *View Nat* I 237 Hence the probable utility of fixed air in combating vermicular diseases. a 1820 Shelley *Devil* Pr Wks. 1880 II 400 Persons subject to vermicular and animalcular diseases

†**B** *sb.* = Vermicule *Obs rare*

1690 R Clark *Vermicularis Destroyed* 9 A sort of invisible Worms or Vermiculars *Ibid* 11 The Putrefaction is degenerated into innumerable Vermiculars

Hence **Vermi cularly** *adv*

1822 *New Bot Gard* I 84 The seeds vermicularly wrinkled.

**Vermiculate** (vɔɪmi·kiŭlĕt), *a* [ad L. *vermiculat-us*, pa pple of *vermiculari* see next

Several other senses given in various Dicts are merely inferences from uses of the ppl. adj.]

Vermiculated, vermicular; sinuous. Chiefly *fig*

1605 Bacon *Adv Learn.* I iv § 3 It is the propertie of good and sound knowledge to purifie and dissolue into a number of subtile, and vnholesome, and (as I may tearme them) vermiculate questions. 1658 Phillips, *Vermiculate*, worm-eaten 1684 R Choute (Webster), Vermiculate logick. 1872 G Macdonald *Wand Death* III xvi 214 My life seemed only a vermiculate one, a crawling about of half thoughts-half feelings through the corpse of a decay ing conscience. 1891 *Cent Dict* s.v, Vermiculate color markings.

**b.** *spec* in *Ent* (See quot)

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlvi 271 *Vermiculate*, having tortuous excavations as if eaten by worms.

†**Vermi culate,** *v Obs* [f L. *vermiculat-*, ppl stem of *vermiculari* (Pliny), f. *vermiculus*, dim of *vermis* worm.

Other senses which appear in various Dicts are merely assumed from the ppl adj.]

**1.** *intr.* To breed worm-eaten. *rare*—1

*c* 1631 *Elegy on Donne* D 4 Poems (1654) B b iv b, Speake, Doth his body there vermiculate, Crumble to dust, and feele the woes of Fate?

**2** To beat with peristaltic motion *rare*—1

1706 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) I 183 Her pulse indeed vermiculates, Her Breath is short & little

**Vermi culated,** *ppl. a.* [See prec. and -ed 1]

**1.** Worm-eaten, covered or ornamented with markings resembling those made by the gnawing of worms.

1623 Cockeram I, *Vermiculated*, worme-eaten. [Hence in Blount] 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I 78 The pinnæ set in the middle are largest, having on the backside several vermiculated, ferruginous lines, in which is the seed. 1886 C D Warner *Their Pilgrimage* vii (1888) 157 The worms worked underneath until the bark came off and exposed the stems most beautifully vermiculated 1894 H L Joly *Catal Bedgrave Coll* IV 24 Bronze Koro, vermiculated design charged with dragons

†**b** *Bot* Of plants or leaves ? Presenting a worm eaten appearance *Obs*

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict, Santolina, vermiculata, Cretica, Lourisfeet*] Vermiculated Lavender Cotton of Candy 1746 Rob. James *Introd. Monfet's Health's Improv* 177 Those Vegetables also which contain an aromatick alcaline Oil [include] Savory Acred vermiculated Houseleek Mustard 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s.v *Santolina*, The species enumerated by Mr Tournefort are these. 1 The common santolina with cylindric vermi culated leaves. And 14 The Cretic santolina with vermi culated leaves.

**c** *Arch* Of stone-work or other surfaces so carved or moulded as to present the appearance of worm-tracks

1788 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) II 849/1 The rustics may either be plain, hatched, or vermiculated 1823 P Nicholson *Pract Build* 482 In different parts of the Louvre, many of vermiculated rustics are to be found 1832 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1926 The rocky surface, the vermi culated, and the punctured, are among the kinds used by the Italians 1881 Young in *Mem Sir wm Meek* I 113 The caps and key stone are frequently of stone, the latter being vermiculated, as it is called, or indented with irregular hollows.

**2.** Of mosaic work Wrought, ornamented, or inlaid so as to resemble the sinuous movements or tracks of worms.

After L. (*opus*) *vermiculatum*.

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vermiculated*, embroidered, wrought with checquer work, or with small pieces of divers colours representing sundry pictures as we see in Tables and Counters 1712 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) III 311 So lavelly were their Countenances described in this vermiculated work 1882 *Encycl Brit* XVI 850/2 For Walls and Vaults:—Pietile or vermiculated; pieces of opaque glass, in small cubes, arranged sons to form complicated designs.

**3** Ornamented *with* sinuous or wavy lines or markings of a specified colour

1872 Coues *N Amer Birds* 124 Our species are white more or less evidently vermiculated with black

**Vermiculation** (vɔɪmikiŭlē·ʃən) [ad L. *vermiculation-, vermiculatio* (Pliny), noun of action f *vermiculari* see Vermiculate *v*]

**1** The fact or condition of being infested with or eaten by worms, conversion into small worms

1611 Florio, *Vermicolatione* a vermiculation, a breeding or crauling of vermine or grubs. 1650 Howell *Lewis* 46 Vermiculation of the Teeth 1658 Phillips, *Vermiculation*, is an Infection of Plants by Worms. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vermiculation*, the breeding of Worms in Trees, Herbs, or Fruits

*fig* 1907 *Daily Chron* 3 Apr 3/1 The decay and vermi culation of faith has already brought European theology to the verge of collapse.

†**2** *Path* Vermicular or peristaltic movement of the intestines, etc, peristalsis. Also *transf*

1652 Sparke *Prim Devot* (1663) 117 [There is] a vermi culation in his muscles. Convulsions seize on his whole body. 1671 [R. Mac Ward] *True Nonconf.* 44 This is the vermiculation of your pulse. a 1676 Hale *Prim Orig Man* I i (1677) 31 My Heart moves by the motion of Palpitation my Blood by the motion of Circulation my Guts by the motion of Vermiculation 1710 J Lucas *Pharm Extemp* 192 Hypochondriac Affections, such as Vermiculations Flushings

†**b** (See quot) *Obs*—0

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vermiculation*, the griping of the Guts, a Disease

**3** With pl A tortuous boring or marking made by, or resembling the track of, a worm

1850 Rawlins *Rawlins' Jrn.* 66 In the wood of the Encina when old, is curiously chambletted, and embroid ered with Natural vermiculations. 1874 T Hardy *Far from Madding Crowd* I. The face of the boards is shown to be eaten into innumerable vermiculations. 1891 G E Shelley *Catal Birds Brit Mus* XIX. 24 The under surface of the body pale sulphur yellow, more or less mottled with dull ashy vermiculations.

**b** (See quot.) *rare*—0

1808–32 Webster, *Vermiculation*, the act of forming so as to resemble the motion of a worm.

**c** Without article. Vermicular marking or ornamentation.

1866 *Daily Tel* 17 Feb 3/3 This enigma of honeycombing and vermiculation 1872 Coues *N Amer Birds* 21 *note*, Cross wise streaking is called barring and always runs transverse to the axis of a bird; if the lines are straight, it is banding; if very fine and irregular, it is vermiculation

**Vermicule** (vɔ·rmikiŭl) *Biol* [ad L. *vermicul-us*, dim. of *vermis* worm Cf Vermicle.] A small worm or worm-like creature, a maggot or grub. Also *attrib*

1713 Derham *Phys Theol* VIII vi. (1716) 391 We see many Vermicules towards the outside of many of the oak apples. 1778 [W H Marshall] *Minutes Agric* 24 Jan 1775, Perhaps, from insects or vermicules, or both; comes

smut 1822 7 Good *Study Med* (1829) IV 392 A transfer f vermicules from one individual to another 1858 P Manson *Trop Diseases* 28 The haltericlium slowly changes form becoming elongated into a pigmented spindle-shaped body or vermicule. 1859 *Aliburt's Syst. Med* VIII. 143 In the former there is a corresponding or travelling vermicule stage.

Hence **†Vermi'culist**, a supporter of the view that generation is due to vermicules.

1784 tr *Spallanzani's Diss Nat Hist* II 249 The three principal systems respecting the generation of animals, the system of the ovarists that of the vermiculists, and that founded upon the two liquors

**Vermiculite** (vəɹmi kiləit) [f. L *vermiculi* dim (see Vermiculate *v*) + -ite ¹]

1 *Min* ‘Hydrous silicate of aluminium, iron, and magnesium, occurring in small foliated scales’ (Chester)

1824 I H Webb in *Amer Jrnl Sci & Arts* VII 55 If objected to the flame of a blowpipe, it expands and shoots out into a variety of fanciful forms, resembling most generally small *worms*. If this proves to be a new variety I term it Vermiculite (worm breeder) 1862 Dana *Man Min* 149 Vermiculite looks and feels like steatite; but when heated before the blowpipe, it exfoliates, or separates into thin leaves composing the grains 1888 Rutley *Rock-forming Min* 199 Vermiculite and Jefferysite are considered to be altered varieties of philogopite.

**b** *pl* (See quot)

1875 *Ure's Dict Arts* (ed 7) III 1074 *Vermiculites*, a group of minerals resembling the chlorites, remarkable for their exfoliation before the blowpipe.

**2** *Geol* ‘A short worm track seen on the surface of many flagstones’ (1848 *Imp Dict*).

**Vermiculo se**, *a rare* [ad. late L *vermiculos us* (Palladius), f *vermiculus* Vermicule Cf It *vermiculoso* and next]

†**1** Of the pulse = Vermicular *a* 1 b *Obs* —¹

1707 Floyer *Physic Pulse Watch* 124 The Pulse is languid slow vermiculose if without a Fever

**2** Infested with worms, worm like *rare*—⁰

1727 Bailey (vol II), *Vermiculosus*, full of worms 1847 Webster, *Vermicul us*, ¹ full of worms or grubs. 2 re sembling worms [Hence in later Dicts.]

Hence **Vermiculo sity**. *rare*—⁰.

1727 Bailey (vol II), *Vermiculosity*, Abundance or Fulness of Worms.

**Vermiculous** (vəɹmi kiləs), *a.* [See prec and ous Cf F *vermiculeux*]

**1** Full of worms *rare*—¹

1690 R Clare *Vermulars Destroyed* 14 Slime and vermiculous matter

**2** Of or pertaining to worms

1823 T Busby *Lucretius* I 111 Comm p xxv, Otherwise the vermiculous souls will be portions of human souls. 1829 H Busk *Banquet* III 462 The race vermiculous.

**3** Having a wormy appearance.

1818 Lond, *Vermiculosus*, resembling grubs. 1839 *New Monthly Mag* LVII 468 The more prominent part of the [man s] nose, on whose vermiculous top, the Prussian blue mostly prevailed

**4** *Path* Of strangury Accompanied or marked by the discharge of worms or helminths

1822–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) V 469 They lay a foundation for the following varieties Spasmodic strangury Scalding strangury Vermiculous strangury

**†Vermi culus**. *Obs* = next. **†Vermiculi**. [L., dim. of *vermis* worm. Cf. Vermicule]

**1.** A small worm or grub, a vermicule

1694 W Salmon *Batt's Dispens* (1713) 12 All the *Verm culi*, or *Miasmata*, which are the Progenerators of the Plague or Pestilence 1708 Chambers *Cycl* s.v *Vermes*, Some Authors assert, that this *Spolium* is not animated, but receives its Sense and Motion from *Vermiculi*, or *Cucurbitini* Inclosed in it. *Ibid* s.v *Vermiculus*

**2** A species of marine annelid; a sea worm

*a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I II 22 A Vermiculus growing to a Piece of a *Pinna Marina*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s.v, These shells are called *vermiculi*, from the fish contained in them, which is always a sort of worm 1776 Da Costa *Conch Anat* 24 A chambered Vermiculus, taken from Davila's Catalogue

**†Vermified**, *pa. pple Obs*—¹ [See Vermi- and fy ] Troubled with, infested by, intestinal worms.

1666 G Harvey *Morbus Angl* xvii (1672) 36 Persons thus vermified seldom go to stool without avoiding a great quantity of those vermicular seeds.

**Vermiform** (vəɹmifɔɹm), *a* [ad. med L. *vermiform-is* (whence F., It, Sp, and Pg. *vermiforme*), f L *vermis* worm see -form Cf. Vermes and Vermis

*Vermiformed* is used by Urquhart *Rabelais* (1653) II xiii, translating F *vermiformer* ]

1 *Zool* Having the form of a worm, resembling a worm in appearance or shape, long, thin, and more or less cylindrical

1730 Bailey (fol.), *Vermiform*, shaped like a Worm 1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* I 437 A covering of vermiform masses, apparently composed of honey and pollen 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* II 211 Body elongated but not vermiform or linear 1837 *Trotter's Mag* LVI 611 [It] feeds on the insects with its protruded vermiform tongue 1881 Darwin *Veg Mould* iv (1889) 186 Five or six vermiform castings had been thrown up

**b.** Of animals.

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlvii. 374 One species, which much resembles the vermiform larvæ of *Hymenoptera*. 1846 Patterson *Zool.* 57 The Leeches and Worms present very much the same aspect as the vermiform or worm shaped Echinodermata 1846 Carpenter *Man. Phys* 503 In some of the lowest Vermiform (worm like) Fishes, such as the Lamprey 1883 *Fisheries Exhib Catal* 283 These young vermiform and semi transparent eels.

c *spec.* (see quot.)

1877 Coues *Fur Anim* iv 116 In general form, the Stoat typifies a group of carnivorous Mammals aptly called Vermiform, in consideration of the extreme length, tensity and mobility of the trunk, and shortness of the limbs.

**2** Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, a worm, like or resembling that of a worm, vermicular

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 327/1 The Spleen in Birds sometimes presents an elongated and vermiform shape. 1859 Darwin *Orig Spec* (1860) xiii 442 If we look to the admirable drawings of the development of this insect, we see no trace of the vermiform stage 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp Anat* 118 In the Discophora they form tufts of filaments, and execute vermiform movements.

**3.** *Anat* &c. *Vermiform appendix* or *appendage*, a small, worm-like process or diverticulum extending from the cæcum in man and a few other mammals.

(*a*) 1776 *Encycl Brit* (ed 2) I 368/2 Of the little vermiform appendix of the cæcum, it will be sufficient to say that its uses have not yet been ascertained 1852 Huxley *Phys* VI. 150 An elongated, blind process which from its shape is called the vermiform appendix of the cæcum 1888 Roleston & Jackson *Anim Life* 28 Cæcum with vermi form appendix of rabbit

(*b*) 1841 I R Jones *Anim Kingd* 680 In Man, the Orang-s, and the Wombat, both cæcum and vermiform appendage are met with 1876 Bartrum *Use & Prac Med* (1878) 674 Concretions are mostly found in the vermi form appendage and are the usual causes of perforative ulceration of this part

**b** *Vermiform process*, the median lobe of the cerebellum, the upper and lower laminæ of which are distinguished as the *superior* and *inferior vermiform processes*

Also, so prec (in some recent Dicts)

1836 *Todd's Cycl* V. 329/1 The cerebellum In the centre of its upper surface there is a distinct prominence termed the vermiform process. 1840 E Wilson *Anat Vade M* (1841) 581 The vermiform is divided into two lateral hemispheres or lobes, two minor lobes called superior and inferior vermiform processes and some small lobules. 1859 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII. 197 A very little lymph on the superior vermiform process of the cerebellum.

Hence **Vermiformous** *a*, ‘shaped like a worm’ (Bailey, 1727, vol II)

**Vermifugal** (vəɹmi fiugăl), *a. Med* [f next + -al ] = Vermifuge *a*

1830 Gunlby *Med Syst Bot* 8 The seeds of Delphinium Staphisagria are vermifugal and caustic 1875 H C Wood *Therap* (1879) 447 Especially in the case of the seat worm the vermifugal enemata should be medicated

**Vermifuge** (vəɹmifiudʒ), *sb* and *adj Med* [a. F *vermifuge* (= It, Sp, Pg *vermifugo*), or ad mod I type **vermifugus*, f. I. *vermi-s* worm see -fuge ]

**A** *adj.* Causing or promoting the evacuation or expulsion of worms or other animal parasites from the intestines, anthelmintic.

In some instances perh an attributive use of the sb.

1697 in *Phil Trans* (Surtees) 58 Vermifuge pills, a box 3*l* 4*d* 1769 E Bancroft *Guiana* 54 Their vermifuge quality justly intitles them to particular attention 1803 *Med Jrnl* VII 468 The physician had suspected the presence of worms, and prescribed vermifuge medicines accordingly 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Sindhookha, Sondyna*, worms in India the *Vitex Negundo*, the fruit of which is considered vermifuge 1876 Bristowe *The & Pract. Med.* (1878) 721 The administration of vermi fuge drugs.

**B.** *sb* A medicament or substance having the power or property of expelling worms from the intestines; an anthelmintic

1728 Quincy *Compl Disp* (1729) 210 It is used hardly in any other Intention in Medicine, than as a Vermifuge 1765 *Phil Trans* LIII 1 Vermifuges of the most celebrated kind, and such other medicines as tend to carry off or destroy the worms, were assiduously administered 1820–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 564 In the former class of anthelmintics[e] we may rank all the oleaginous vermi fuges, as oil of olives, beech nuts, castor, and turpentine [etc.] 1843 Youatt *Horse* xxi (1847) 292 Arsenic was once in great repute as a tonic and vermifuge 1871 Garrod *Mat Med* (ed 3) 404 Anthelmintics are employed for the following purposes: 1 Direct, indirect, or vermifuges, to expel any worms, living or dead.

†**Vermi fugous**, *a. Obs rare* [f as prec + ous.] Vermifugal, vermifuge

1706 C. D'Anvers *Craftsman* xxxix (1727) 374 If my ingenious friend can by any vermifugous preparation bring away or destroy this pernicious Animalcule

**Vermigelly**, obs form of Vermicelli.

†**Vermilion**, obs. var Vermilion *sb* (perh. after It *vermiglione*).

1590 Greene *Cony Catch* III Wks. (Grosart) X 234 Paynters coulde not make away theyr Vermiglion, if tallow faced whoores vade it not for their cheekes.

**Vermil(e**, obs. or var fl, Vermeil *a*, *sb*, and *v.*

**Vermilion** (vəɹmilyən), *sb* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 3 vermelyon, 6 -elon, -eloun ; 4–5 vermilyon, 5 -ylyoun, 5–6 -ylyon(e, 6 -ylion ; 4–5 vermillioun, 5– vermilion (6–7 -millan, 7 virmilion). *β.* 4 vermeilione, 5 -elone, 5–7 -elon, 6 *Sc.* -eloun ; 4–5 vermylone, 4 fer-, 5 vermyloun, 5–6 vermylon, 4–5 vermulon, 4–5 vermilon(e, -iloun ; also 6 vermelonde, *Sc* vermeling, -myling. *γ* 6–9 vermillion, 7 virmillion. [a. AF. and OF. *vermeillon, vermillon, vermilo(u)n*, etc. (mod.F. *vermillon*, = Prov *vermellon, vermillon, vermelho*, Cat. *bermello*, Sp. *bermellon, bermillon, vermellon*, Pg *vermelhão*, It *vermiglione*), f *vermeil* Vermeil *a* Hence also Du. *vermiljoen*, Da. and Sw *vermilion* ]

**A.** *sb* **1.** Cinnabar or red crystalline mercuric sulphide, esp. in later use that obtained artificially, much valued on account of its brilliant scarlet colour, and largely used as a pigment or in the manufacture of red sealing-wax; also, any red earth resembling this and similarly used as a pigment

In early use rendering L. *minium* and occas confused with ‘red lead (as in quot 1546 in *B*) see Minium

*a.* 1296 *Acc Exch K R* 5/20 m. 4 In duabus libris de Vermelyon emptis 1336–7 *Ely Sacr Rolls* (1907) II 83 In 1j libris de vermilioun empt *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508 Vermylyone, *minium* 1497 *Invy Comp Alch* Aulm 1 in Ashm *Theat Chem Brit* (1652) 189 Many Expery ments I have had in hond Which I wyll tell the re-hersing sone Beginning with the vermilion 1533 Ld Berners *Gold Bk M Aurel* (1546) K k j, All the facade was written with blacke yrke, and these wordes with redde vermylyon 1535 Lord *Decoder* (Arb) 284 Cinoper or vermilion which the paynters use to peynte withall 1561 Hacon *Sylva* § 291 Metals give Orient and fine Colours in their Putrefactions or Rusts, as Vermilion Verde grease [etc.] 1669 Stubby *Mariner's Magazine* II 119 This will be as ready to you, as if these Letters were painted out for you in Vermilion 1758 Reid tr *Macquer's Chym* I 82 Cinabar finely levigated acquires a much brighter red colour and is known to painters by the name of Vermilion 1841 Thackeray *Gt Hoggarty Diam* xii, All this while Mary was anxiously looking in his face, as pale as death ; while Gus was as red as vermilion 1871 Garrod *Mat Med* (ed 3) 203 Dark scarlet shining crystalline masses, forming, when powdered, a beautiful scarlet colour, known by the name of vermilion

*β* 1300–1 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 503 In tribus libr Gummi, di li de vermilion, iij *li* 1356 *Piers Pl Crede* 331 In 3*li* & 1*li* In 1*li* clothes ferri xxx*d* lb de vermeillone 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 63 Of the strondes of þe Reed See is i gadered vermilion *Ibid* II 331 And here is i gadered fyer mylyoun [*L. minium*] *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 580 in *26 Pol Poems* 139 Yake blak or rede, Made with gumme and vermylyone 1412–20 Lydg *Assem Gods* 477 We may al day oure colour grynde & bete, Tempre our azour and vermylyon 1480 *Robt Devyll* 21 Robertes clothes were reddde as vermilion 1506–6 *Acc Durham Hosp Sext* III 184 For 1*li* di pund vermelon to him, xiij *s* 1546 Langley *Pol Verg de Invent* II xiv 59*b* Vermilon or redde lead was founde in Spayne by Gallius an Alchemien 1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 98 The Parret about hir necke hath a Collar or Chaine naturally wrought like to Sinople or Vermelon 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jos.* 1 18 If they be red as vermelion, they shal be white as wool.

γ 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* 1 iii 901 He only now emboss my Book with Brass, Dye't with Vermillion deck't with Coperas. 1594 Plat *Jewell House* 11 To mingle Vermilion with Masticke for a red colour 1604 E Grim stone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xi 237 Quicke-silver is found in a kinde of stone, which doth likewise yeelde Vermilion 1698 T Frocer *Voy* 119 Calices made of Gold, Vermillion and silver 1708–72 H Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint* (1786) IV 8 Painting Mosaic with ultramarine, lion and ultramarine 1706 Withering *Brit Pl* (ed 3) IV 357 Dust the colour of vermillion 1839 *Ure Dict Arts* 1278 The vermillion of commerce is often adulterated with red lead, brickdust, dragon s blood, and realgar 1869 Watts *Dict Chem* III 512 Mercuric Sulphide, in the latter [crystallised state] has a fine red colour and constitutes the well known pigment called cinnabar or vermilion

**b** Used as a cosmetic or for painting the body

In later use chiefly with reference to the ‘war paint’ of the American Indians

1600 J Pory tr *Leo's Africa* III 144 The morrow after a compaine of women goe to dresse the bride, to combe her locks, and to paint her cheekes with vermilion 16 Middleton *Old Law* v i, Their Banketting vessell filled up but the vermilion is seen too thick 1635 Swan *Spec M* vi (1643) 294 Camillus, when he triumphed in Rome, was painted with the Vermilion 1788 *Imcyclo Brit* (ed 3) I 540/2 A thick coat of vermilion commonly distinguishes the [Red Indian s] cheeks 1809 A Henry *Trav* 247 The men were almost entirely naked and their bodies painted with a red ochre, procured in the neighbourhood called vermilion 1836 W Irving *Astoria* II 71 Happy was he who could render himself hideous with vermilion 1843 Marryat *M Violet* xxiii Which they doed as humanely turn his back on receiving the vermilion from his chief? Never!

**2.** The colour of this pigment, a bright red or scarlet

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4336 Nouthire to toly ne to taunde transmitte we na vebiles, þo vermylyon we violet ne varnaunt littis. 1430–40 Lydg *Bochas* II xiii (1554) 51 b, Fenix as Clerkes eke endite Found fyrst the colour of vermilion 1590 Spenser *F Q* I v 9 Vermylyon, and goulden sable 1597 A Day *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 51 A vermilion more perfect, thair rested in the freshe springing rose. 1590 Spenser *F Q* I v 9 Strowne with flowres of blood With which the armes, that earst so bright did show, Into a fayre vermilion now are dyde 1638 *Guillim's Her* (ed 3) I ii 19 Amongst Colours this Colour Vermilion, or Red, hath the prime place. 1648 J. Hall *Poems* 52 A Rose can more Vermilion speake, Then any cheeke 1681 Dryden *Abs & Achit* I 649 His long Chin prov'd his Wit: his Saint like Grace A Church Vermilion, and a Mocer's Face. 1708 Orell tr *Boileau's Lutrin* 30 Streight the Vermillion vanish d from her Face. 1793 Beddoes *Calculus* 230 The blood became of a brighter vermillion. 1822 [M. A. Kelly] *Dunwod* I 274 The soft vermillion of her complexion. 1838 Thirlwall

*Greece* II xv 253 The negroes of Nubia—with their bodies painted half white, half vermilion 1882 *Garden* 23 Dec 548/1 The flowers are vermilion.

**†b.** A blush. *Obs* —1

1589 *Menaphon* iii ix. 183 Miss Charlotte never beheld me without the vermilions increasing in her cheeks.

**†3 a.** (Rendering L. *vermiculum*.) Wool or yarn of a red or scarlet colour *Obs*

1388 Wyclif *Exod* xxxv 25 Tho thingis, whiche thei hadden spunne iacynt, purpur and vermylion, and lyn. —*Lev* xiv 4 He schal comaunde to the man which is clensid, that he offre for hymsilf a tree of cedre, and ver mylyoun, and snope

**†b.** A fabric dyed with vermilion *Obs* —1

1641 L. Roberts *Treas Traffick* 33 They buy Cotton wooll, in London, and perfit it into Fustians, Verm lions, Dymities, and other such fabrics.

**†4.** A red or reddish coloured variety of pear

1699 Evelyn *Kal Hort* (ed 9) 169 Pears Ambrosia, Vermilion, Lunbac

**†5** (Also *vermilion stone*.) A particular gem or precious stone Cf Vermeil *sb* 3 *Obs*

1703-4 in Ashton *Soc I yfe Reign Q Anne* (1882) I xiv 281 Several Gold Rings set with Turky and Vermillions. a1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I i 191 The Common Crystal appears to be the Basis of the Opal, the Jacinth, the Vermilion 1747 *Phil Trans* XLIV 504 The Vermilion Stone is more tawny than the Jacinth

**¶ a.** *Comb*., as *vermilion dyed*, *-like* adjs ,

**†vermilion-writer**, a scribe or illuminator using vermilion

c1470 *Cath. Angl* 400 A vermylion wryttter, *minograpkus* 1582 G Pettie tr *Guazzo's Civ Conv* iii (1586) 125 b Those dawbed, painted vermilion cheeks. 1647 Hexham 1 Vermilion like *roodtachtigh*

*b attrib* with *colour*, etc (passing into next), hence in combs , as *vermilion coloured*

1594 T B *La Primaud Acad* ii 227 The face is painted with a vermillion colour 1665 tr *Sorel's Com Hist Francion* 1 iii 56 It was of a vermilian colour like blood. 1679 Trahern *Christ Ethics* 265 Modesty is a ti icture of humility visible in a vermilion and deeper die 1697 Mirge *Gt Br Di t* ii xv A vermilion Tincture *couleur vermeille* 1697 Dryden *Virg Past* v 40 Corydon Fan arrived His cheeks and temples of vermilion hue 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vermillion Tincture* a Natural red Die upon the Face; a Cherry red 1708 Chambers *Cycl s v Kermes*, Vermilion cannot be so called from its beautiful Verm illion Colour 1796 H Hunter tr *St Pierre's Stud N ti* (1799) III 382 Of a vermilion hue 1825 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 1 The vermilion coloured blood be subjected to the action of carbonic acid 1826 Henslow *Di t bot Terms* 107 *Miniatus* (of a vermilion colour).

**B** *adj* Having the colour of vermilion, of a bright red or scarlet colour

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb) 45 Shee died her cheekes with such a vermillion hi sh 1622 Drayton *Poly ol* x 153 The pure verm lion blood that issu'd from her veins 1699 G Daniel *Verses* 442 Let let that fatall Dy record my Name, In bright vermilion Letters 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* 101 For the good ship with this vermilion cheeks The Cyclopes have not 1721 Prior *View of Bray & Str I Moor* 264 A lusty young Fellow with large white Teeth and a Vermillion countenance 1768 Gibbon *Decl & F* Ixvii. VI 462 The Church of Monarch with his own hand impressed three vermillion crosses on the golden b ill 1853 C Brontë *Villette* xvi How warm (the room) in its amber lamp light, and vermilion flush! 1878 H M Stanley *Dark Cont* II vi 267 The handiwork of their artisans in copper and iron and wood, the vermilion canwood

*Comb* 1818 Keats *Endymion* II 111 My clear eyed fish Golden or rainbow sided, or purplish Vermilion tail d

**†b** Painted with vermilion, rouged *Obs*

1630 Lithgow *Trav* I 27 These vermilion Nymphs, to let me vnderstand they trauelled with a chearefull stomacke, would oft runne races.

**c** With names of colours, as *vermilion crimson*, *red scarlet*, *-tawny*, etc

1815 J Smith *Panorama of Sc & Art* II 411 With mercury, a vermilion red with silver, a carmine red 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* I 246 Rump and upper coverts vermilion red 1882 *Garden* 25 July 57/1 Well formed flowers of a bl illiant vermilion crimson *Ibid* 14 Oct 347/2 The colour being a vivid vermilion scarlet 1887 W Phillips *Brit Discomycetes* 85 *Peziza asperior* Scattered vermilion taw ny, applanate

**Vermil lion**, *v* Also 7–9 **vermillion**, 7 **vir** million [f the sb Cf *Of vermeillonner*, later and mod F *vermillonner* ]

1 *trans* To colour or paint with, or as with, vermilion, to give the colour of vermilion to (the face, etc.)

1606 Warner *Alb Eng* xvii ci. 400 Nay, why should faces faire indeed bo peepe behinde a Fanne Or be con ceald in batten now Vermilion'd, now drugd wanne. 1740 tr *Du Moulyn's Foot Country Maid's* (1741) II 85, I dis approv d of the Red with which their Faces were ver million d 1756 Toldervy *Hist 2 Orphans* IV 213 Lusty lowly health vermillion'd the honest cheek. 1772-84 *Encyc Br Batchelor* (1773) I 93 When a blush vermilions the face of a well bred woman. 1812 G Colman *Br Grins, Lady of Wrench* II viii. A transient hectic spread, Vermilioning health a softer red. a1849 Maginn *Sel Poems* (1857) 205 The pall of the sunset fell Vermilioning earth and water

*fig.* 1667 Denham *Direct Painf* 10 wai, Vermilion thus mans guilt, cerase his fears a1849 Maginn *Poems* (1859) 254 By thee [*sc.* Hope] are his visions vermilioned.

**b.** Const *over (o'er)*

1658 S Holland *Zeno* (1715) 32 That lip was not Vermillion'd over for any to kiss. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* II iii, I chaf'd Thy temples, 'till reviving blood arose, And, like the morn, vermillion'd o er thy face. 1769 W Jackson in *Monthly Rev* XLII 127 The choicest fruits vermillioned over with maiden blushes.

**c.** *slang* To cover or besmear with blood

1819 *Sporting Mag* L 53 Holt's face was completely ver milioned.

**2.** *intr* To blush. *rare*—0.

1739 Boyer *Duct Royal* II 8 v

Hence Vermil lioned *ppl a*

1632 R Nicolls *Marriage b Witwoug* vii 21 To what end is the laying out of the embrodred haire, embared breasts, virmilioned cheekes allaring lookes [etc.] 1705 *Hum Duct* 8 v *Voyniez* The secret how to keep Verjuice Grapes as vermillion'd and as fresh as if they were growing 1773 J Ross *Fruticetic* v 637 (MS.) Those once vermillion'd lips now pale with death! 1836-48 B D Walsh *Aristoph*, *Acharnians* 1 1, The citizens are running up and down, To get away from the vermilion'd rope. 1887 Augusta Webster *Yasbel* xxv, Then ye sk flesh hazel eyes, vermil lioned lips, and glossy hair had preferred incontestable claims to beauty

**Vermilione tte.** [f Vermilion *sb* + -ette ] A substitute for or imitation of the pigment vermilion, the chief constituent of which is eosin or similar dye

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 989 Several of the bright red colours used as pigments contain arsenic; for example cochineal red Persian red, vermilionette, and rosanline 1900 *Daily Chronicle* 3 Aug 7/4 [He] said defendants had been making vermilionette, without providing a bath

**Vermi lionize,** *v rare*—1 [f as prec + -ize ] *trans* To vermilion

1828 *Mayne Reg* LXXVI 385 The genius of Mr Owen Jones, which, plunging into colouring matter, would ver milionise the palest face of Death.

**†Ve rmily.** *Obs*—1 [irreg f *vermile* Ver-mil *sb*] Vermilion

1599 Sanders *P of P* III viii 6 The same she tempred with fine Mercury And virgin wex, And mingled them with perfect vermily

**Vermin** (vɜ·mĭn), *sb* (and *a*) Forms *α*. 4–6 vermyn, 4–7 vermyne, 6 vermayne, *Sc* vermane, 6–7 vermine, *Sc* vermin, 7, 9 *dial* varmin, 7, 9 *U.S.*, virmin *β*. 6–7 vermen 6 varmen 7 § vermayn, 6 vermayne See also Varment [a Ab and Of *vermin* masc, *verm ine* fem (mod F *vermine*, Pg *vermena*, It *vermine*) —pop L. **verminum*, *-ina*, f *vermis* worm The rare y-form is prob directly from the OF variant *vermain* (of mod Burg *vermagne*, Picard *vermenne*).

1 *collect* Animals of a noxious or objectionable kind a. Org applied to reptiles, stealthy or slinking animals, and various wild beasts, now, except in *U S* and *Austr* (see *b*), almost entirely restricted to those animals or birds which prey upon preserved game +Also in phr *beast of vermin*

*α* (a) 13 *K Alis* 6112 (Lanc Inn MS.), Eustu & snakes and Addokes brodu, pat hesm pouye mete gode Al vermyn bey eteb *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 5422 A vale full of vermyn & all of vile neddrs. 1406 *Potent Roll 7 Hen IV*. 11 m 28 Feras & alia animalia vermyne nuncupata. 1430 *Rolls of Parl* V 24/2 Chese and Butiur is a Merchaundise that wil take grete empayryng by beates of Vermyn and Wormes. 1530 Palsgr *Introd* 24 When they haue brought forthe theyr byrdes to see that they be well kepte from the gleyd, crowes, fullymartes, and other vermyne 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 335 The Lion driueth away ratties, myce, and noysome vermine. 1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* 40 When the Corne is ripe it is to be cut downe out of hande, leaste birdes and other vermine wyll deuoure it. 1609 G Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 208 I he rest are rather vermyne than beastes of game; such is the wild Catte, the Brocke and such like. a1631 Drayton *Quest of Cynthia* 1 His father's Arbor, he from ravenous vermin hourly us'd to free, His only arms his sling and sheephook were. 1642 D Rogers *Naaman* 23 We are still at Gods advantage in the field by destroying by fire, and yer mine. 1684 *Contempl St Man* II vi (1699) 293 A hole filled with Snakes Lizards, and other poisonous Vermin 1739 [W Bond] *Voyage* I 120 Some fellow Cats, I after wards came to be so pester d with Cats, that I was forc'd to kill them like Vermin, or wild Beasts. 1825 Hone *Every day Bk* I 327 The other dogs were good looking savage vermin, averaging about 40lbs. weight 1892 Darwin *Orig Spec* iii (1860) 68 I hat the stock of partridges, grouse, and hares on any large estate depends chiefly on the destruction of vermin 1900 *Westm. Gaz* 29 Dec. 10/1 The fox is regarded in the Highlands by farmers and game-preservers as one of the worst species of vermin.

*b* 1388 Wyclif *Wisdom Bam* xvi, The finest place to catch *vermin* as they call the three latter species of animals (racoons, opossums and rabbits) 1892 De Vere *American Forests* 64 *Vermin*, as all wild animals are called in hunter s' phrase, whether they are hunted for sport for profit, or for extermination 1897 E. Jenks *Govt Victoria* xxxi. 951 *notes*, 1 Vermin' includes kangaroos, wallabies, dingoes, stray dogs, foxes, and rabbits, and any other animal or bird proclaimed by the Governor in Council.

*c* a 1300 *Flgr Sonde* (Caxton, 1483) iii. x 36 There also sawe I a wonde grete pytte full of vermen. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x 12 A certayne vessell where in wer all maner of tiil fotel beastes of the erth and vermen and wormes. — Actr vii 8 Power was geven vnto them to kyll with swearde, and with honger, and with deeth that cometh of vermen of the erth. 1530 Wynkyn *Alb Engl* viii xxxvii (1620) 178 The Weasell, Prince of Vermen.

*γ* a1523 Fabyan *Chron.* ccxlix. 240 b/1 Of the Famyne , wonders are reported that they shuld ete all maner of Ver mayne, as Catten, rattes, doggen, & other

**b.** Applied to creeping or wingless insects (and other minute animals) of a loathsome or offensive appearance or character, esp. those which infest or are parasitic on living beings and plants; also occas applied to winged insects of a trouble some nature.

*a* c 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 916 Afur man, vermyn es, And afur vermyn stynkand uglynes *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) viii. 31 In þat abbay commen neuer fleies ne flyes ne nan oþer swilk vermyn of corruptioun. 1484 Caxton *Curtoys* 16 We after ouermoche dryuyknyg of wyn es and grete paynes lye doun ofte in beddes ful of vermyne 1486 *Bk St Albans* e v b, A medecyne for vermyn 1552 Huloet s v, Vermyn, as flees, lyse wormes, etc 1592 Nashe *Pregnatiskton* Wks. (Grosart) II 165 Beggers on Sunne shine dayes commit great murthers vpon their reuell ous vermine. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 103 Some of them are transformed very strangely into a kind of vermin or wormes, who being couered with a hard crust or shell lye as it were dead all the winter 1665 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 324 In Summer their Slaves attend about them to scare away the Gnats and such like vermine 1672 Milton *Samson* 574 Here rather let me drudge and earn my bread, I ill vermin or the draff of servil food Consume me 1722 De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg) 178 Hot Weather fills the Air with Vermin. 1748 *Anson's Voy* I iv 43 These operations were extremely necessary for correcting the no some stench on board, and destroying the vermin 1830 Keats *Otho* iv ii, No wanderer ever ate Ambrosia neath in Lake crannied vermin 1840 J Baxter *Libr Pract Agric* (ed 4) II 374 Vermin of the Insect kind The in sects which infest plants, orchard trees, &c are almost as numerous as the plants or trees themselves 1875 H C Wood *Therap* (1879) 363 For this reason tobacco ought never to be employed, as it formerly was, to kill vermin on the person

*transf* and *fig* 1590 Lodge *Enphues Shadow* (Hunter Club) 10 Many there were that would not abide their toongues to open secrecie. 1621 Donne *Serm* lxvii (1640) 585 To the Consideration of those Vermine of the Soule, leaser and Uncondidered Sins.

**β** 1533 Eden *Treat New Ind.* (Arb) 16 When any fl es or other creping vermen are entered into the sayde rites c f theyr skinnes. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakl Soc) 54 We were sodonly wonderfully tormented with a vermen that was in our pillowes, for we did late farr worss than fleass. 1609 Holland *Amm Marcell* 222 This Crocodile is a dangerous vermine used to both cli ments. 1634 Wither *Rimbl* 215 Though the mice a harm full vermine be 1778 T Hodgkin in *Farmer Lefevre* (Hist. MSS Comm) VI 110 A fox just suspended on a pole, the shepherds being much infested by this vermin all hereabouts *a* 1794 Juckes *Disp Round* (1845) 44 Nauseous proceeding from an imperceptible vermin swarming within us.

**†b** A single animal or insect of this kind. *Obs*

*c* 1460 J Metham *Phis* (E E T S) 62a/1668 A wo at the sege off Thebes Amppyarus Fyl i; to helle alle qwyk, r ight so this foule best an vermyne My ght falle thore the erth to helle pyne. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Aesop* iii xxxvii & eu ylle serpent vermyn and fals traytour, thow hast de ces ued me 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxviii. 5 He shuke of the vermen [L. *bestia*] into the fyre 1611 Cotgr *Verd'ver's Ianitis* 77 Ihe subtill vermin [ic apider] creeping closely neare, Did in his drinke shed poyson prunate. 1624 Breton *Passionate Sheph* Wks. (Grosart) I 161 If I see the Wolfe the Brocke, the Foxe, Or any vermin stealing downe a furrowe 1633 Chapman *Rev Busy D Ambois* K) ii, Storme not, beate not your selfe thus gainst the dores, Like to a sauage vermin in a trap 1678 Butler *Hudibras* III 1090 'Tis true, a Scorpion s Oyl is said To cure the Wounds the Vermine made. 1809 Scott *Poacher* 11 Thine eye, applru sive, each sly vermin sees, That baulks the snare, yet latteus on the cheese.

**†c** In *pl* in preceding senses *Obs*

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* viii iii 227 Of beestes of venery and beestes of chace, and also of beestes of vermyn 1530 Ib. ix. 80 Whiche were beestes of chace and beestes of venery, and whiche were vermyns 1563 *Homilies* II *Apert Idolatry* III Nu 19 We know not how many kyndes of vermynes in makyng of images of beastes, fyshes, and vermins also 1585 Parsons *Chr Exerc* 1 viii 86 It must be cavt out to serue for the food of vermines. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 145 Their doe engender in pulse, certain little venomous Vermins 1648 Hexham II. 8 v *Vermelwuen* To be full of Maggots, Vermine, or Wormes

**2** *fig.* Applied to persons of a noxious, vile objectionable, or offensive character or type.

Freq used as a term of abuse or opprobrium in mod dial. sometimes without serious implication of bad qualities

**a.** In collective use

1566 Wimbt *Wks* (E E T S) II 31 On the whitr syde, con trare cyrcle certain pedokis filthy vermine and flees of the qulilk sort are the Pelagians. 1577 *tr de L isle's Legeadarie* M v b We may then vtterly roote out this vermine (so did the Catholiques to the Protestantes) 1586 T B *La Primaud Fr Acad* 1 (1594) 148 Dancers min strels, bands, and such like vermin, whereof commonly there is no want about great persones. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 107 Whole swarmes of duskish vermin, to wit, a number of hideous highland Scots and Picts 1690 T Burnet *Theory Earth* II 214 No knaves, cheats Sycophrtes; the vermin of this earth, that swarm every where. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 81 He that falls once into the com pany of such vermin has a misfortune 1767 [A. Young] *Farmer's Lett to People* 245 These vermin, who are gener ally labourers, swarm in every village round me. 1820

Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I ii. 98 A coronation all unknown To Europe s royal vermin. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint* 217, I will avenge this insult And I will track th s vermin to the e earths. 1876 G Meredith *Beauch. Career* I ii. 29 The poacher was another kind of vermin than the stupid tenant

b A single person or individual of this type.

1581 J Bell *Haddis s Answ Over* 96 b O most struous vermine did I ever speake or thinke any such matter? 1607 J Taylor *Nancy f La d Sl pe* Cviij As a Horse being dead in the fields and up pd, is banquet for Dogs so Is a Surety to th ue Vermin who prey vpon his estate *a* 1656 Rolle *Abr Ign Ist Actes i sur Case* (1668) 57 He is a corrupt man he is a Verm ne in the Commonwealth 1682 Devden *Medal* 31 A Vermin wriggl ng in th Usurper s ear. Bart ring his venal wit for sums of gold 1720 *Humourist* 192 Human Soc ety s not infested w th a more dangerous Vermin than a Flatterer 1796 Southey *Lett fr Spain* (1799) 373 Here I was shown a den in which a Hermit lived twelve years; a small l ole f r so large a vermin. 1844 J Wilson *Chr North* (1857) I 197 The accursed vermin died somewhere in the Cottage. 1881 Lb Salisbury in *D ily Tel* 14 Nov 2/5 I he landlord is an outcast, and a vermin so horrible [etc.]

**4.** *To stand true vermin*, to show pluck and persistency *rare*—1

1834 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II 67 My horse shed and down we both came But I stood true vermin and tried the islands afterwards for snipe.

**5** *attrib* and *Comb* a Simple attrib, as *vermin head, trap* etc b Objective and obj genitive, as *vermin catcher, -destroyer, killer destroying, killing* c Instrumental or similative, as *vermin covered footed, haunted ridden, tenanted* adjs, *vermin like* adj, *vermin proof* (see *proof*).

It is not clear whether *vermine s vnes*, i lossing L *nervica* in Wr Wülcker 644 is an attrib use of this word

1821 *Sporting Mag* XXXVIII 221 Were they associated as a body of "vermin-destroyers, *Ib id* 222 They were a club of "verm n-destroyers. 1888 *Dogs* (Brit. Stand Handbks) iv 18 Any of the "ver nin-destroying powders 1865 E Burritt *Walk Lands End* 182 There were scarcely any daisies or buttercups or even the "vermin footed charlock 1831 Gen P Thompson *Exerc* (1842) I 417 To throw it off like a "vermin haunted garment 1861 Neale *Eccles Dalmatia* 97 A tolerable inn not more dirty nor verm n haunted than usual. 1799 *Addingha n* (Cumberld) *Par Rk* (MS.) 8 "Vermin Killer, 8 s. 1680 W W *Ironside* (1881) "Vermin Killer, being a very necessary Family Book containing Exact Rules and Directions for the Artific al Killing and Destroying of all manner of Vermin etc. 1772 T Simson (*title*) The Complete Vermin killer. 1885 *Daily News* 21 June 7/2 I wo packets of verm n killer containing about six grains of strychnine. 1893 W H Hudson *Idle Days Patagonia* v 59 The common dog of the country is a good watch-dog and vermin killer 1772 *Ann Reg* 1. 170 He acquired 2000/ by "vermin killing 1829 Scott *Guy M* Note B i he race of Pepper and Mustard are in the h gh est estimation at this day not only for vermin kill ng but for intelligence and fidelity 1863 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* (1864) 69 Vermin-killing was well carried out there 1688 *Roxb Ballads* (1884) V 214 His disagreeable "Ver min like Face 1850 Ogilvy *Vermin Piddle* puddle formed of stiff clay and small stones or gravel mixed together until it forms a mass l ke pudding stone. It is used in the embankments of reservoirs to prevent the inroads of water and other vermin 1861 Neale *Notes Did matics* 104 The "vermin tenanted houses are washed by the pure green waves of the lovely bay 1664 Evelyn *A al Hort* 61 February Cont nue Vermine Traps, &c. 1862 *Catal Internat Exhibit Brit* II No. 6133 Every destruction of wild beast, game and verm n traps. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 139 The "vermin voices here May buzz so loud—we scorn them but they sting.

†**6** As *adj* Verminous *Obs*—1

1602 *2nd Pt Return fr Parnass* I iv 443 See how a little vermine poeuty afereth a whole milkie disposition

†**Vermin,** *v Obs*—1 [f the sb.] *trans* To clear of vermin

1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 72 Get warrener bound to vermin thy ground

†**Vermina·lle.** *Obs*—1 [f Vermin *sb*, after *cattle*, etc.] = Vermin *sb* 3 a

1600 O F (M Sutcliffe) *Repl Libel* I v 129 The Parliament of Paris did banish the whole society or rather verminaille of Jesuites out of France.

**Verminate** (vɜ·mine·t), *v rare* [f L *vermināt* ppl stem of *verminare* to have worms or griping pains, f *vermis* worm. Cf L *vermina* griping pains caused by worms, stomach ache]

1 *intr* To breed or produce parasitic vermin

1693 S E T P Blount *Nat Hist* 263 He having taken extraordinary care and pains to observe, that always on the Flesh, before it d d Vermi nate there sate Flies of the self same kind with those it at were afterwards produc d thence.

1721 Bailey, *To Verminate* to breed Worms 1912 D Crawford *Thinking Black* xxii 442 Here, then, we see them [*sc* people] crowding and verminating in their filth.

†**2.** *Path* (See quot) *Obs*—8

1721 Bailey, *To Verminate* (among Physicians) to have a griping or wringing in the Belly; to void Worms.

Hence **Verminating** *vbl sb* (used *attrib*) and *ppl a*

1702 S Parker *Bibliotheca Biblia* I 158 The Seed of the Serpent and the Verminating Principle 1858 Roscoe *Leonor de Guzman* i 1 Out, thou flea bitten verminating rogue! 1912 D Crawford *Think ng Black* vi. 97 Their average beehive but is a verminating hole, a den of disease.

**Vermination** (vɜ·mine·ʃən) [ad L. *vermination*, *verminatio*, n of action f *verminare* see prec Cf obs F *verminaton*]

†**1** The fact or condition of being gnawn by worms, vermiculation. *Obs rare*

1608 Donne *Serm* liv (1640) 542 Against this vermination, (as the originall denotes) against this gnawing of the worme, that may bore through and sink the strongest vessell that that man can build in this world there is no other remuh

**2** The breeding growth, or production of vermin, esp parasitic vermin Also *fig* ? *Obs*

1626 Feltham *Resolves* II lxxxiv 241 A Mouth nasty w th offensive fumes till it sicken the Braine with g ddy vermination. 1665 Needham *Med Medicinæ* 203 This may serve to give some light how much Diseases are altered from their old state l reference to Vermination 1699 R. Burthogge *Sense of Worl d* 37 The Vermination in Human (as well as other Animal) Bodies of which there are innumerable Instances in Medical Writers. 1713 Derham *Phys Theol* viii vi 414 Swgneur Redi tryed more Experiments relating to the Vermination of Serpents Flesh Fish, putrified Vegetables than any one hath do e since.

†**3** (See quot.) *Obs*—9

1696 Blount *Glossogr* (copying Cooper) *Vermination* a disease with worms, properly in Cattle a vehement ache by the wringing of the Guts as if they were gnawn with worms.

**4** The fact of being infested with parasitic vermin esp *Med*, the morbid condition due to this

1818–20 E Thompson *Cullen s Nosol. Method* (ed. 3) 318, 76 *Parasitism a* Vermi ation 1822–3 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V 656 Cutaneous Vermination *Ibid* 657 Generally speaking vermination is a proof of weakness, whether in animals or in plants. 1836 J M Gully *Magendie s Formul* (ed 2) 91 His success was particularly great in the vermination of children.

**Vermine,** *a. Zool rare* [ad mod L. *vermine us*] = Verminous *a*

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* III 237 The smaller ones with a long slender body and short extremities as the Weasel or Vermine tribe *Ib id* The canine and verm ne genera

**Vermined,** *ppl a* [f Vermin *sb*] Infested with vermin

1892 *Meanderings of Mem* I 210 Von vermined Sarcophagus. 1894 Gen P Thompson *Anals Alt* II lxxxvi 55 Why not bring back the Stuarts, or install Saint Thomas of the vermin d shirt at Canterbury?

†**Vermi·nent** *a. Obs*—1 [f mod L. *vermine us* (Kay) see -ous] Belonging to the animals classed as vermin

1653 *Phil. Trans* XVII 851 The Wolf Fox Badger which from their long slender Bodies like to the Weasel, we call the Vermi nous or Weasel kind

**Verminer,** *rare* Also 7 varminer [f Vermin *sb* + -er1] A destroyer of vermin

1615 Markham *Country Contentm* I i 5 The grassell shag haird [hound] are the best varmners, and therefore are chiefly to hunt the Fox Badger or any other hot sent. 1848 Ainsworth *Lancs Witches* III i (1878) 421 The ruinchers and lastly, the varmners, or as we should call them, the vermin destroyers.

†**Vermi·nian,** *a. Obs*—1 [f Vermin *sb* + -ian] Consisting or composed of vermin

1640 Balfour in Maidment *Scottish Ball* (1868) I 334 God, Who hath made this world his verminian hoast Hath quell d our courage and laid all our boast.

**Verminiferous,** *a rare* [f Vermin *sb* + -(i)ferous.] Breeding or producing vermin Also *fig*

1885 Farrar in *Clarion* 9 Nov 1/2 Places horrible to l ve in foul with gin and vermi niferous dirt. 1898 — *One Flock Many Folds* 53 I usually commit these verminifer ous fragments [R C newspaper cuttings] to the purging flame immediately.

†**Verminly,** *a Obs. rare* [f as prec + -ly1] Of the nature of vermin, like (that of) vermin

1653 Gauden *Hieraspi* Pref 37 A verminly generation (ever destroying and breeding) who owe their best education to their bellies. *Ibid.* 379 They have nothing in them but a verminly nimbleness and subtlety

**Vermino logy** *rare*—1 [f as prec + -ology] The science of vermin

1830 Kirby in Eadie *Life* vi (1857) 184 On removing some clothes one day I found one [scorpion] and not being sufficiently acquainted with verminology to recognise it, I felt no alarm.

†**Vermino se,** *a Obs*—1 [ad L *verminos us* see next and -ose1] = Verminous *a* 4

1747 tr *Astruc s Fevers* 9 In like manner the verminose fevers are so called from their cause, viz worms.

**Verminous** (vɜ·minəs), *a* [f Vermin *sb* + -ous, or ad L *verminōs us* (whence OF *verminous, vermenous, eux*, etc., = mod F *verminеux, euse*, It, Sp, Pg *verminoso*, Prov *vermenos*) = *vermis* worm]

1. Of the nature of, consisting of, vermin, like or resembling vermin in character, noxious, objectionable, offensive: a. of animals or persons.

1582–3 Stubbes *Anatomie* I. 58b That soft clean of delicates who spare The verminous brood and cherish what they spare While feeding on their bodies. 1830 Southey *Lett* (1856) IV 177 Both in Russia and Poland I believe they [i.e. Jews] are a verminous population, preying upon others. 1887 Swinburne *Stud Prose & Poetry* (1894) 140 He has exactly as much claim to a place beside Dante as any other murderous and verminous muckworm.

b Of things.

c 1626 Chapman *Batrachom* Ded If yet the vile soul of the verminous time Love more the sale muse and the squir rels chimes. 1646 Lamdor *Emog Conv* Wks II 201/2 The smoky, verminous, unconcocted doctrine of passive obedience 1884 Browning *Ferishtah, Sun* 14 Fancies verminous Breed in the clots there

**2.** Infested with, full of, vermin, esp. parasitic vermin foul or offensive on this account

1632 Brome *Cyt Beggar* I i Note the necessity that they [perruques] be well made Of No verminous or sluttish locks or combings But [etc.]. 1641 Milton *Irel. Epitic* 12 Searching among the verminous and polluted rags dropt overworn from the toyling shoulders of Time. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist Aire* (1692) 230 He fou d that divers drugs salves and espe cially ointments were verminous. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1862) I xix 210 In these tropical climates also, drugs and plasters lose their virtue and become ver minous. 1819 *Metropolis* III 128 The lively companions of a verminous bed 1865 *Pall Mall G* No 211 1/2 A very vermin ous, over crowded vagrant ward 1899 *Allbutt s Syst Med* VIII 866 In verm nous persons the hair is sometimes matted together by pus nits, scales and scabs.

*transf* 1861 Dickens *Tom Tiddler's Ground* i How long he had held verminous occupation of his blanket and skewer

**3** Tending to breed vermin *rare*—1

1666 G Harvey *Morb Angl* (1672) 92 A wasting of their [*sc* children s] flesh must depend upon some obstruction of the Lentrails, or Verminous disposition of body

**4** Of diseases, or morbid conditions, etc. Caused by, due to, characterized by the presence of, parasitic vermin or intestinal worms.

1666 G Harvey *Morb Angl* (1672) 35 Of a Verminous Consumption 1684 tr *Bonet s Merc Compût* x 366/2 There is hope the disease is sufficiently known concerning vermin ous putrefaction 1733 tr *Bellosta s Hosp Surg* II 71 Pestilence Small pox and all Verminous diseases. 1748 *Phil Trans* L. 837 The lead might by its weight, assist it i removing the verminous filth, especially as the bowels were made al ppery by the oil. 1756 P Browne *Jamaica* 25 You may frequently observe Children poisoned with barks in verminous inflammations. 1832 Baron Larrey in *Lancet* 1 *Observ Disease Dict* (ed 2) I.v *Æthiopia* Almost all these people die of verminous diseases produced by this food 1862 Hulme tr *Mequin Tandon* II vii 330 Fish appear to be more predisposed to verminous affections than others. 1897 *Allbutt s Syst Med* II 1033 There have been many instances of verminous abscesses of the bowel

b Of persons Subject to vermin or intestinal worms.

1880 *Encycl Brit* (ed 8) XXI 974/2 Females may be more verminous than males.

Hence **Ve rminously** *adv*, **Ve rminousness.**

1727 Bailey (vol. II) *Verminousness* Fulness of Worms Worm-eatenness. 1860 Worcester citing *Ec Rev*) Ver minously 1891 *Cent Dict* s v Verm nously unclean

†**Vermi·nulous,** *a Obs*—1 [f Vermin *sb*] Made by vermin

1665–6 *Phil Trans* I 205 In the shaking he saw all the Communications of these little Vermiculous holes like to the hole of the Worms in Wood

**Vermi·ny,** *a rare* [f Vermin *sb* + -y] Infested with vermin, verminous

1859 *All Year Round* No. 36. 219 I avoid his verminy robes and his flowing rage.

**Vermion,** -eon, obs var Vermilion *sb*

Of med L. *vermineum* var of *vermeillum* etc

1399 *Mem Ripon* (Surtees) III 299 In j lib de vermilon emp pro pxdicto vale [= veil], *and a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3915 [An come a figtir in the fowll as it dawld To vion on as vowtres as vermeon bewid 14 *Ms Harl* 2257 *Minographia* a writer with vermion *Minium est genus colores ri bus angice vermeon*

**Vermi parous,** *a rare* [f Vermi- + -parous] Cf Sp and Pg *vermiparo*]

1 Producing young, or produced as young, in the form of small worms or maggots

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud Ep* 135 We deny not that many animals are vermiparous begetting themselves at a distance *Ibid.* 297 In creatures oviparous, as birds and fishes; in vermiparous, as Flies Locusts, and Gnats; in animals also viviparous, as Swine and Con ies. 1692 *Ibid* (ed. 2) v 209 The same may be also true in some vermi parous exclusions. 1765 *Treatise on Dom Pigeons* 14 All animals are distinguished into three sorts oviparous, vivi parous, and vermiparous, as we see in the instance of a worm 1910 D A W Thompson tr *Aristotle s Hist Anim* 538 In oviparous and vermiparous creatures the female is larger than the male.

**2** Producing verminous parasites

1880 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 8) XXI 974/2 Very few averte brated animals are vermiparous, while there is probably no species of vertebrate that is exempt from parasites

Hence †**Vermi·parousness,** 'worm breeding quality' (Bailey, 1737, vol II) *Obs*—0

‖**Vermis** (vɜ·mis) *Anat* [L. *vermis* worm] The vermiform process of the cerebellum

1890 *Cent Dict*, *Postvermis*, the vermis inferior of the cerebellum *Ibid Prevermis* the anterior and prominent part of the vermis of the cerebellum. 1899 *Allbutt s Syst Med* VII 565 In one [case of cerebellar atrophy] the vermis was less affected by atrophy than the hemispheres.

**Vermivorous** (vɜrmi·vŏrəs), *a* [f mod L *vermivor-us* worm-eating + -ous Cf F *vermivore*, Sp and Pg *vermívoro*] Feeding on worms, grubs, or insect vermin, said esp of certain birds

1706 J Harris *Lex Techn. I, Vermivorous*, are such Animals, as Feed upon Worms. 1848–50 Webster & W, Vermivorous birds are very useful to the farmer 1861 H Macmillan *Footnotes fr Page Nat* 172 Guano, the product of those vermivorous shore birds which inhabit the desolate islands of the South Seas. 1870 Gillmore tr *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 344 They [*sc* the Presslrostres] are mostly vermivorous; some, however, are granivorous or herbivorous.

Hence **Vermi·vorousness,** 'a worm-devouring nature (Bailey, 1730).

**Vermouth** (vɛ·mʊ̄t, vɛ·mʊ̄þ) Also **vermuth**. [a F *vermout* (vɛrmut), ad G. *wermuth* wormwood, WERMUTE] An alcoholic cordial or liqueur consisting of white wine flavoured with wormwood or other aromatic herbs and taken in order to stimulate the appetite Also *attrib*

1806 J PINKERTON *Recollect Paris* II xv 208 A decanter of Jamaica rum, Wormwood wine or that of Vermouth 1837 LYTTON *A Maltravers* VII i, I thinking that you soften the hearts of your friends by soups *a la bisque*, and *Vermouth* wine at a guinea a bottle! 1870 *Pall Mall G* 5 Nov 12 Absinthe and vermouth began to be sold in them 1884 J COLBORNE *Hi ka t asha* 63 There is one Italian firm importing good vermouth wine

**b** A glass or drink of this.

1899 J CONRAD in *Blackw Mag* Feb. 201/1 As we sat over our vermuths he glorified the Company's business.

1903 MAJORIBANKS *Half Hundred* 151 His fate discommoded, and ordered a Vermouth to gain time for reflection.

**Vermulon, -ylone, -yl(y)oun, etc**, obs ff VERMILION

**Vern**, southern dial var FERN *sb* 1

**Vernacle, var** VERNICLE

† **Vernacly**, *adv Obs*—1 [Irreg f L *vernaculus* see below] = VERNACULARLY *adv*

1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg F Greyd* 284 By Hebrew Jews you mean Jews that vernacly speak Hebrew

**Vernacul**, obs f VERNICLE

**Vernacular** (vəɪnæ·kiŭlăr), *a* and *sb* Also ? **vernaculer** [f L *vernaculus* domestic, native, indigenous (hence It *vernacolo*, Pg *verna culo*), f *verna* a home born slave, a native

The LATIN adj occurs in a large variety of applications; the restricted use common in English is represented by *vernacula vocabula* in PLINY

**A.** *adj* **1.** That writes, uses, or speaks the native or indigenous language of a country or district

1602 BP W BARLOW *Defence* 2 A vernacular pen man hauing translated them into English 1725 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* I 77 The Office of the Virgin Mary is Trans lated also in most Languages for the Use of the Vernacular Roumans 1726 *Ibid* III 38 The Learned vernacular Editor of Hippocrates's Works in French Mr Dacier 1819 W TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag* XLVII 330 The vernacular public remained unmoved and gazed at the labours of authorship as Londo ers at the opera. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1875) III xii 145 The vernacular poet more kindly helps us to the real names.

**2** Of a language or dialect That is naturally spoken by the people of a particular country or district native, indigenous.

Usu applied to the native speech of a populace in contrast to another or others acquired for commercial social or educational purposes; now freq employed with reference to that of the working classes or the peasantry

*c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett* II lvi 78 The Welsh is one of the fourteen vernacular and independent tongues of Europ 1697 BENTLEY *Phalaris* (1699) 316 Being Dorians born, [they] repudiated their vernacular Idiom for that of the Athenians 1705 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* I Pref 38 They don t understand their Breviaries and Mass Books, not when translated and expounded in their respective vernacular Tongues 1832 J DOWNES *Lexil Construct* I 197 The congregation here being chiefly peasants and artisans, a sermon was delivered in the vernacular dialect. 1856 GLADSTONE *Homer* II 16 So the Celtic and Gaelic tongues became the vernacular and the old Hebrew disappeared from common use 1874 H R REYNOLDS *John Bapt* v § 3 358 There were voices which expressed in some vernacular idiom of Hebrew or Greek the thoughts of the Almighty

*transf* 1778 WARTON *Hist Eng Poetry* II 30 They much improved the vernacular style by the use of this exotic phraseology 1785 *European Mag* VIII 467 Several passages are modulations on the vernacular airs of Otaheite. 1890 *Scotsman* 15 Jan 2/3 Rome, then, cannot consistently blame words to the vernacular Gregorian melodies.

**b** In predicative use Also with preps

1808 SYD. SMITH *Wks* (1859) I 203/2 The Scriptures translated into the vernacular language, which is vernacular in the southern parts of the peninsula. 1835 MACAULAY in Irevelyan *Compbt Wallah* (1866) 321 The intellectual improvement of those classes can only be effected completely by means of some language not vernacular amongst them 1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* II xxiii 323 He commenced a speech in that peculiar slang dialect which was vernacular with them 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer Bd* III iv 52 The Arab speaking race must receive the gospel mainly from those to whom the tongue is vernacular

**c** Coupled with the name of the language

1778 WARTON *Hist Eng Poetry* (1870) 61 The vernacular English, as I have remarked, was rough and unpolished 1820 BARHAM *Ingol Leg* Ser in *Leg Sk Adorn*, The 'Requiem' was sung; Not vernacular French, but a classical tongue. 1884 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II 20 I he vernacular Anglo-Saxon before the Conquest was undergoing that change which all languages suffer 1885 FROUDE in *Contemp Rev* XLIV 28 He [Luther] began to translate the Bible into clear vernacular German

**3** Of literary works, etc Written or spoken in, translated into, the native language of a particular country or people

1661 GLANVIL *Van. Dogm* 236 Though, in Greek or Latine, they assume us, yet a vernacular translation unmasks them 1716 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* III 20 Dr Harvey s Family Physician, and most of Will Salmon s Books, with other such like Vernacular Pharmacy 1768 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 170 Long vernacular Sermons from Dr Pratt 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit* Pref (1859) p. iii, A history of our vernacular literature has occupied my studies for many years. 1888 J H BLUNT *Ref. Ch Eng* I 495 Vernacular prayer books had, indeed, been long known in England 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* I § 3 (1876) 49 The Chronicle remains the first vernacular history of any Teutonic people

**b** Performed in the native language

1874 A SOMERVILLE *Lect Missions* XIII 243 A paper which he read on Vernacular Preaching at the Ootacamund Missionary Conference

**4** Of words, etc. Of or pertaining to, forming part of, the native language

1716 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* II 174 This Ralph is call d also Roger, the Latin name Ranulphus, being possibly capable of both those Vernacular Appropriations. 1728 POPE *Dunc* I. *Notes* Which being a French and foreign termination, it no way proper to a word entirely English and vernacular 1788 V KNOX *Winter Even* XXII. (1790) I 293 Brown preferred polysyllabic expressions derived from the language of ancient Rome, to his vernacular vocabulary 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort* Peroration, O, ignorance! as if the vernacular article of our mother English were capable of declension! 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* I II 146 Low born vernacular idioms were handed down to posterity as the poet a creation 1864 BRYCE *Holy Roman Emp.* XV (1875) 237 Whose official style of Augustus, as well as the vernacular name of Kaiser' [etc]

**b** Native or natural *to* a particular language

1864 *Brit. Philol Soc* I 176 The finding an isolated term in an Anglo-Saxon or German vocabulary by no means proves it to be vernacular to that language.

**5** Connected or concerned with the native language

1843 STOCQUELER *Handbk Brit India* (1854) 234 The south ern side of the building is appropriated to the verna cular department, and the northern to the English 1883 R B SMITH *Early d. & successes* II 333 Efforts were made to extend vernacular education

**6** Of arts, or features of these Native or peculiar to a particular country or locality

1857 H BUCKLE *Civilization in Eng* I 1 Literature 6 Look at the vernacular cottage building of the day *a* 1878 — *Lect Archit* (1879) II 315 The revived knowledge of the architecture of Greece rudely disturbed the vernacular style derived from Rome 1893 *Academy Weekly* 4 Dec. 1/2 The ti eatre is a big, rather bare room, apparently of verna cular Javanese construction

**7** *Linguistics* Characteristic of, occurring in, a particular country or district endemic *Obs*

1666 G HARVEY *Morb Angl* I. (1672) 2 Which instances do evidently bring a Consumption under the notion of a Pandemical Disease, or rather a Vernacular Disease to England. 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s v Diseases which reign most in any particular Nation, Province or District, are called Vernacular Diseases.

**8** Of a slave That is born on his master's estate, home born *rare*—1

1804 W TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev* II 326 A disposition to use kindly and to emancipate frequently the vernacular slave

**9** Of private

1840 G S FABER *Regen* 38 I was favouring my evil propensities, as if they were specially my own vernacular property

**B.** *sb* **1** The native speech or language of a particular country or district (see A 2)

*a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist Relig* (1850) I 427 It is written in the Chaldneo-Syriac, which was th e vernacular of our Lord 1864 *Brit. Philol Soc* I Pref, Mr Maguire, in his acco int of the late Coronation retains his own rich vernacular 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr* II i 94 Even within the narrow household of the Jesuits vernacular 1874 SAYCE *Compar Philol* v 179 A child can learn as readily the vernacular of Ca nton as the language of London

*transf* 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No *Ann Rev* V 575 By neglect ing the vernacular in idea he has missed in part the advan tage of ho i e praise and hereditary sympathy

**b** Freq in *phr in the vernacular*

1815 J SMITH *Horticr Soluta ve Lett* (1816) I 176 The court confessor in his sermon at St. Denis took the oppor t inity of what is called in the vernacular preaching *at* the Duke of Orleans. 1898 DOUMIC *Jean de Kerveal* (1903) I 337 The performance of the services of religion in Latin and no longer as of old in the vernacular. 1889 JESSOP *Coming of Friars* I 37 Of the five no one of them was qualified as yet to preach in the vernacular

**c** Without article (Cf next)

1887 HUGHES *Tom Brown's* I, Repeating in true sing song the vernacular of the legend of St Boniface and his knife. 1892 B D W RANSAY *Recoll. Mid. Serv* I 1 95 The fair song stress opened upon me such a volley of choice Tuscan ver nacular, that I fairly fled

**2** With *a* and *pl* A native or indigenous lan guage

1715 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* I 325 Charles the Fifth, King of France, order d the Bible to be translated in the Vernacular Tongue of those times 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III 320 Latin, and the vernaculars westward carry nearly the same idiom. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* VII The wayfarer Of small learning is responsible For each verna cular 1880 *Athenæum* 5 Mar 280 Some of the peoples and tribes whose vernaculars that class comprises 1892 *Times* 24 Dec. 3/1 Spain, destined to be for long the most active enemy of the circulation of the Scriptures in modern vernaculars.

**3** *transf* The phraseology or idiom *of* a particular profession, trade, etc.

1876 TAIT *Rec Adv. Phys Sciences* VI. 151 To use the vernacular of engineers. 1892 *Century Mag* May 128/2 On the bar we found friends that we had made in Panama who had preceded us a few days long enough to speak the ver nacular of mining

Hence **Verna cularness.** *rare*—0

1797 BAILEY (vol. III), *Vernacularness*, Properness, or Peculiarness to one's own Country

**Vernacularism** (vəɪnæ·kiŭlărɪz'm) [ISM]

**1.** A vernacular word, idiom, or mode of expression.

1846 WORCESTER (citing *Q Rev.*). 1863 NEALE *Eas Liturgist* 527 Wherever the Church was not established till a late period, there such vernaculariams are scarcely or not at all, perceptible. 1873 F HALL *Mod Eng* 307 *note* The more of such vernacularisms [as 'belongings'] we call up from the past, the better

**2** The use of the native language

1850 *Ecclesiologist* XI 176 If Rome not merely allows, but authorises such vernacularism, who can forbid us to employ our own Ecclesiastical English?

**Vernacularity** (vəɪnækiŭlæ·rĭtĭ) [ITY]

**1** The fact of belonging or adhering to the vernacular or native language

1840 SIR W HAMILTON in *Reid's Wks* I 100/2 *note*, As the expressions are scientific, it is perhaps no loss that their technical precision is guarded by their non vernacularity ] 1847 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag* XIV 299 The merit, which justly you ascribe to Swift is vernacularity; he never forgets his mother tongue in exotic forms.

**2** A vernacularism.

1867 CARLYLE *E Irving* in *Rem* (1881) I 335 Rustic Annandale begins it with its homely honesties, rough ver nacularities safe innocently kind

**Verna cularize, -ise.** [f next + ATION] The action of making, or fact of being made, vernacular or native to a language

1873 F HALL *Mod Eng* 105 Thousands of words, on their first appearance or revival as candidates for vernacularization must have met with many objections.

**Vernacularize** (vəɪnæ·kiŭlăraɪz), *v* [f VERNACULAR *a* + -IZE] *trans* To render or translate into the native speech of a people, to make vernacular

1841 W TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev* XCIV 384 The Stephens, or Stephenses, as their names have been vernacularized among us. 1850 — *Hist Sunt Germ Poetry* III 450 (codifed of Strasburg who vernacularized *Tristan & Rayslin*. 1866 *Songs & Ball Ireland* 297 Prince Louis Lucien Buonaparte employed him to veri acularive the Song of Solomon

Hence **Verna cularized** *ppl a*

1879 in A Somerv lle *Le t Missio s* XIII 243 His sanc tified and vernacularized intellect lives in the numerous Tamil works.

**Vernacularly** (vəɪnæ·kiŭlărlɪ), *adv* [f as prec + LY 2]

**1** In conformity with the vernacular manner, in the native or mother tongue

1808 SCOTT *Let* 23 Feb in *Lockhart* To expound more vernacularly I would refer you to the simple epistle of con cerning German Romances. 1822 *Blackw Monthly Mag* VI 298 He sang very vernacularly 1840 *Fraser's Mag* XXI 23 A wonder that he a Spaniard could write Eng lish so vernacularly 1857 MACLEAR *Celts* VIII (1859) 123 The family, vernacularly called *mwnitir*, consisted of brethren

**2** With or among the people of a particular country

1839 MAGINN in *Fraser's Mag* XX 263 An author so ver nacularly popular as their familiar and national dramatist

† **Verna culary,** *a Obs*—1 [Irreg f VERNACULAR *a* + -Y] = VERNACULAR *a* 2

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks (1834) 202 After the manner of our English and other vernaculary tongues.

† **Verna culate** *v Obs* [Irreg f VERNACULAR *a* + -ATE 3]

1 *trans* To call or term in the vernacular

1887 *Sens weekly Tribune* N Y) 15 July (Cent.) Very large Antwerp patches as they are vernaculated by the average fruit grower

2 *intr* To use vernacular language

1895 in *Funk's Stand Dict*

**Vernacule,** obs form of VERNICLE.

† **Vernacule,** *a Obs rare* [ad I *vernāculus* see VERNACULAR *a.*] = VERNACULAR *a.* 2

1656 *Glass Cent Lee* I 57 The Syriac Tongue is now no where vernacule, save in son e few town s about Libanus. *Ibi* 76 Mariana Victorius makes three Dialects of the Ethiopic Tongue the Vernacule, the Babylonic the Sacred

† **Verna culous,** *Obs*—1 [See prec and ICE] *transf* = VERNACULARIZE *v*

1800 A GEDDES *Notes Ps* cvii 42 (1807) 905 *Tongue-tied* in *mouth shut* which perhaps might be not im properly vernacul ous

† **Verna culous,** *a Obs* [f I. *vernaculus* see OUS]

**1 a** Low-bred, scurrilous.

1605 B JONSON *Volpone* Ded., When a Name, so ful of authority is become the language of the age and those men subject to the petulancy of every vernaculous Orator it is ere wont to bee the care of Kings.

**b** (See quot)

1623 COCKERAM 1 *Vernaculous* a yong or green wit

**c.** (See quot)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr* (following Cooper), *Vernaculous* that is born and brought up in our own house

**2** Of products Indigenous, native

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk Burniall* (1833) 11 Where gold is verna culous and plentifull 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp* 388 Some of them are excisall to us, as by excuscle in our soyle, as the Cedar of Palestina and Lebat on. othe s are indeed Ver fraculous, but altogether wild and Sylvestrian.

**3** = VERNACULAR *a* 1 and 2

1658 PHILLIPS *Dict* Ded. I have rendred it worthy of the greatest masteries of Rhetoricians and the tongues of our Vernaculous Orators. 1680 SIR T BROWNE *Tracts* VII (1683) 130 The common Language which besides their vernaculous and Mother Tongues, may serve for commerce between them.

† **Vernage.** *Obs* [a. OF *vernage, vernace, vernache*, ad It *vernaccia* 'a kind of strong wine

like malmesie or muskadine, or bastard wine' (Florio, 1598) Cf. med L *vernagium, vernaccium, vernachia* ] A strong and sweet kind of white Italian wine

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T* 563 He drinkith ypocras, clarre, and vernage Of spices hote, to encrese his corrage 1390 Gower *Conf* III 8 In stede of drinke I underfonge A thoght so swete in mi corage, That nevere Pyment ne vernage Was half so swete forto drinke. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks* 29 Take vernage oper strong wyne of pe beste pat a man may fynde [etc.] *c* 1460 *Play Sacrum* 238 They faryd as dronk men of pymente or vernage. *c* 1500 *Colin Blowbol's Test* 359 Malmasyes, Tyres, and Rummeys, Vernage, Cute, and Raspays also

*attrib.* a 1400 *Sir Isnue Degre* 754 Ye shall have rumney and malmesyne, Both ypocrase, and vernage wyne

†2 o **Vernagelle**, a variety of vernage *Obs* —1

*c* 1460 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 118 The namys of swete wynes y wold pat ȝe them knewe: Vernage, vernagelle, wyne Cute, pyment

**Vernage**, Sc form of Warnage *Obs*

**Vernakill**, -yllle, obs. forms of Vernicle

**Vernal** (vɔ̈ măl), *a* (and *sb*) Also 6–7 ver nall [ad L *vernāl-is* (rare), f. *vernus* pertaining to spring, f. *vĕr* spring, Ver *sb*1 So OF. and F., Prov, Sp, Pg. *vernal* It *vernale* ]

1 Coming, appearing, happening, occurring, etc, in spring a. *Vernal equinox* (or *+equinoctial*) see Equinox 1 and 2.

1534 More *Treat Passion* Wks 1308/1 The xiiii. daye after theyr vernall Equinoctiall in the euenynge. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc* 1 xvii. (1597) 131 The beginning of Aries which is called the vernal Equinoctiall. 1667 Lovell *Hist Four-f Beasts* 299 From the vernall equinoctiall to the 2 summer solstice. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* 1 (1722) 39 At this time the Vernal Equinox is on the 23d of March. 1725-6 *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I 316 'tis not while the Longitude sought from the Vernal Equinox 1756 H Hunter *St-Pierre's Stud. Nat* (1799) I 155 The tides at our vernal Equinox, in March, rise higher than those of September 1832 Brewster *Magnet* 215 During the three months be tween the vernal equinox and the summer solstice. 1858 Lockyer *Elem Astron* § 177 The days and nights are equal all over the world on the 22d of March and the 23d of September, which dates are called the vernal and autumnal equinoxes.

b In general use.

1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 4 Such time as the Sunne is ver tall, [the Island of Ferro] becomes exceeding hot and scalding 1660 Sharrock *Hist Man* 1 Which are general rules for vernall and autumnall settings 1709 T Robinson *Vend Monarch Syst* 69 These Worms are ordained for the Food of the Vernal Birds, such as the Cuckow 1765 *Gent Installation Ode* 61 Sweet is the breath of vernal shower 1767 Winter *Syst Husb* 34 The vernal heat of the sun 1820 Combe *System. Cucurol.* I (Chandos Cl ) 139 T'was as a vernal evening clos'd. 1840 J Wilson *Chr North* I 244 The whole building is as fresh as if just washed by a vernal shower 1850 Yeats *Geogr. Comm* 24 The Babylonian plain was subject to vernal floods.

c. *Med* Of affections or diseases

1822-7 Good *Stud Med* (1829) II 134 The vernal agues generally disappear with the advance of summer 1843 Sir T Watson *Lect Princ & Pract Physic* I xl 710 You will hear and read a good deal of vernal intermittents, and autumnal intermittents.

2 Of, pertaining or belonging to, the spring-time; appropriate to the spring, spring like a. Of weather, scenery, etc

1611 Beaum & Fl, *Maid's Trag* 1 11, We must have none here But vernal blasts and gentle winds appear 1634 T Johnson tr *Parey's Chirurg* I xiii. (1678) 18 Such an Air, if it have a vernal temper, is good against all diseases 1646 Crashaw *Sospi d'Herode* xiv, He saw a vernall smile sweetly dalliere With the fresh face. 1667 Prior *Truth & Falsehood* 8 The purling stream, the margin green, With flowers bedeck'd, a vernal scene 1778 Warton *Hist Eng Poet* II 51 We fondly anticipate a long continuance of gentle gales and vernal serenity But winter returns with redoubled horrors. 1820 W Irving *Bracebr Hall* xix, It was a beautiful morning, that sort of vernal temperature, that seems to thaw all the frost out of one's blood 1847 L Hunt *Jar Honey* ii (1848) 23 Both heaven and hell are in it—the freshest vernal airs, with the deepest of sighs 1871 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) II i 1 6 The Alpine meadows sloping, vernal, A newer beam descends.

*transf.* 1869 Lowell *Under the Willows* 39 By vernal Chaucer whose fresh woods Throb thick with merle and mavis all the 3 ear

b *Vernal season*, the season of spring

1644 Milton *Educat* 7 In these vernal seasons of the yeer, when the air is calm and pleasant 1687 Miege *Gt Br Dict* II, The Vernal Season or the Spring, *le Printemps* 1808 *Med Jrnl* XV 120 In the vernal season 1884 J McKay *Hist Kilmarnock* 196 In the vernal season of the year

c In miscellaneous uses.

1756 *Fam Dict* s v *Sallet*, They also make an excel lent Vernal Pottage 1764 Goldsm *Trav* 118 Whatever sweets salute the northern sky With vernal lives that blos som but to die 1819 Wordsw *Waggoner* (title), Vernal Ode. Beneath the concave of an April sky (etc.) 1838 J L Stephens *Trav Russia* 67/1 Moscow seemed basking in the mild climate of Southern Asia, posting in its brief period of vernal existence 1885 Pater *Marius* I vi 112 A kind of mystic hymn to the vernal principle of life in things.

d *fig* Suggestive of spring, having the mildness or freshness of spring; early, youthful

1790 Coleridge *Monody Death Chatterton* viii, Ah! where are fled the charms of vernal grace, And joy's wild gleams, light flashing o'er thy face? 1803 Foster *Ess* I 12 What is become of all those vernal fancies, which had so much power to touch the heart? 1819 Southey *Funeral Song Princess Charlotte* 17 Late in beauty's vernal bloom,

1844 Mrs. Browning *Catarina to Camoens* II, When I heard you sang that burden In my vernal days and bowers. 1898 T Hardy *Wessex Poems* 200 Captain and Colonel, Sere Generals, Essayist vernal, Were there

3. Of flowers, plants, etc Appearing, coming up, or blooming in spring-time

1692 Lo Preston *Boeth* III 121 Fading sooner than a vernal Flower! 1726 Pope *Dunc* III 33 As thick as bees o'er vernal blossoms fly 1742 Collins *Ode to Liberty* 4 The youths, Like vernal hyacinths in sullen hue, At once the breath of fear and virtue shedding 1799 *Med. Jrnl* II 491 A Journal kept in Spring 1798, to record the time of flowering of several vernal plants. 1812 H & J Smith *Horace in Lond* 65 The wood nymphs crown'd with vernal flow rs.

b In specific or popular names of flowers, plants, or grasses, as *vernal crocus, cyclamen, gentian, sandwort, sedge, squill*, etc (see quots. and cf Spring *sb* 1 7 *c a*)

1778 *Encycl Brit* (ed. 2) III 2321 The varieties of the "vernal crocus are, the small and large [etc] 1820 *Garden* 18 Mar 188/3 The common Vernal Crocus is so predominant among spring flowers 1795 *Fam Dict* s v *Cyclamen*, Our Botanists reckon upon several Sorts of this Plant as the "Vernal one; another white Vernal single, and the small Purple Cyclamen. 1798 R Bradley *Dict Bot*, *Gen tianella vernalis* Linn, the smaller "Vernal Gentian. 1820 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II 182, I thought it possible that the vernal dwarf Gentian might be our plant 1822 *Garden* 18 Nov 442/3 The lovely Vernal Gentian. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.* s v *Orobus*, The "vernal, wood *orobus* with a pale red flower 1732 Miller *Gard, Dict* s v *Orobus*, The vernal Purple Wood Bitter Vetch 1848 Johns *Flow Gard & Lizard* 303 *Arenaria vernal*, variety *Gerardi*, "Vernal Sandwort, is a small plant with numerous needle like leaves, and star like flowers of the most dazzling white. 1859 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* II 296 *Carex vernal* Spear acee "Vernal Sedge. A humble plant from 3-8 inches high 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II 13 *Veronica Chamæ drys*, "Vernal Speedwell 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* IV 102 Vernal Speedwell This very rare Speedwell has pale blue flowers 1796 Withering *Brit Pl* II 338 *Scilla vernal*, "Vernal Squill. This plant grows in woods and pastures 1832 Johnston in *Proc Berw Nat Club* I 10 It was believed that the vernal squill was peculiar to the west-coast of England. 1796 Withering *Brit Pl* II 5 *Callitriche verna*, "Vernal Stargrass Water Starwort Water Fennel 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* II 296 *Calli triche verna*. "Vernal Water Starwort

c *Vernal grass*, one of the grasses commonly cultivated for hay

1760 B Stillingfleet *Misc Tracts* (1791) 382 I saw this spring a meadow not far from Hampstead with some of the Vernal grass in bloom 1796 Withering *Brit Pl* II 182 *Anthoxanthum odoratum* (odoratum) 1820 *Med Jrnl* VIII 477 The vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*, L) which is frequently met with in hay 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 489 This substance (coumarin) is found in the sweet scented vernal grass, to which much of the fragrance of hay is owing

d Sown in the spring

1790 A Young *Trav France* 331 They sow here a vernal rye, which is a true spring corn, that will not succeed if sown in autumn

4 *Comb*, as *vernal-bearded, -seeming, -tinctured* adjs

1744 Akenside *Pleas Imag* II 104 The melting rain bow's vernal tinctured hues. 1857 Whittier *Last Walk Autumn* xvi, And that the vernal seemin breeze Mocked faded grass and leafless trees 1874 L Morris *Old Mayside* 111, Here be stalwart youths and lissome, honest-eyed and vernal tinctured

5 *elliptical* or as *sb* † a. The vernal season; the spring. *Obs* —1.

1654 L Johnson *Wonder-worke Provid.* 106 The vernall of the yeare 1657 being now in his prime

b = Vernal grass (see 3 c above).

1772 Young *Farmer's Lett East Eng* II 256 The grass has consisted chiefly of the holchus, a little meadow fox tail, and great poa: it is remarkable that no vernal has appeared 1894 *Brit Husb* II 314 *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, or sweet scented vernal, is one of the earliest of our grasses 1908 *Animal Managem* 114 The aroma of good hay is due to the aromatic grasses contained in it, Sweet Vernal being the variety which is mainly responsible.

c *pl* Seeds of vernal grass. *rare*—1.

1764 *Trans Soc Arts* II 60 Mix the Vernals and Hay seeds together

Hence **Ve rnally** *adv rare*

1727 Bailey (vol II) *Vernally*, according to or in the Spring of the Year 1888 Ainger *Lect in Sickness* (1906) 109 He thinks the Tweens are also vernally cleaning themselves

**Verna'lity**, *rare* [f Vernal *a* + -ity ]

†1. The 'spring-time' of something *Obs*

1658 Wotton in *Reliq* (1672) 477, I was then surprized with an advertisement from Court, of the death of my dear nephew, in the vernality (as I may term it) of his employments and fortunes.

2 (See quot.)

1896 *Agric Gaz.* 18 May 470/1 Vernality expresses that property of rich and shaded pasture land which makes them to keenly green, with tender and close clustering spring shoots.

**Ve rnalise**, *v rare* [f as prec + -ise.] *trans.* To render vernal or spring-like

1830 *Fraser's Mag* I 500 By the amenity of their smile and their dallying jocundity, irradiating and vernalising whatever that smile and jocundity consecrate by tipping and touching 1898 W Watson *Poems, Lones Richmond Park* 165 The stored sunlight in your hair and eyes Would vernalise November, and renew the aged year.

**† Vernancy.** *Obs.*—1 [See next and -ancy ] The condition or quality of being vernant.

1669 *Addr hopeful yng. Gentry of Eng* 6 He that expects after a deluge the same vernancy, disposition and order, the soil was before adored with.

**Ve rnant**, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 5 vernand, 6 vernaunte, vernaunt [a OF *vernant* vernal, ad L *vernant-*, *vernans*, pres. pple. of *vernāre* to flourish, be verdant.]

1 Flourishing or growing in, or as in, spring.

*c* 1440 *York Myst* xxv 498 Hayll! vyolett vernand with swete odoure. 1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* I. 606 A plante, Whiche dayly encreased by sufferaunce dewyne, Mercuyously growynge in her, freshe and vernaunt. *Ibid.* 2808 Whiche tree to this day, endurynge all the yere, By myracle is vernaunte, freshe, green, and clere. 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W. 1531) 83 A floure, whan it is freshe, vernant & newe, is moche delectable & swete 1567 Turnerville *Poems* 110 Vernant flowers that appeere To clad the soile with mantell newe. 1625 Brathwait *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 216 The tree sent out her Branches, which did couer their corps with vernant blossoms 1667 Milton *P L* x 679 Else had the Spring Perpetual smil'd on Earth with vernant Flours. 1708 J Thomson *Spring* 81 The pene trative Sun sees the steaming Globe at large, to wander o'er the vernant Earth 1842 *Fraser's Mag* XXVI 80 The vernant branches feel the breeze. *Ibid* 82 The cool delicious shade Of vernant oak

*transf.* and *fig* 1607 Brewer *Lingua* I i, And b. Oft haue I embelisht my extreatiue phrase With smelling flowres of vernant Rhetorique. 1625 Brathwait *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 317 Let not ȝour vernant bosome so retaine, all comfort from the oat pope of a Swaine 1661 Bp Rust *Origen & his Opponents* 85 The excellence of the vernant ȝouth and spring of the renewed world

b Freshly green, verdant

1596 Willobie *Avisa* (1880) 97 The flowring hearbes, the pleasant spring, That decketh the fields with vernant hew 1621 Brathwait *Nat Embassie* 3 Should I not garnish her with Flora s vernant hue?

2 Pertaining to the spring; vernal

1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* III 111 The Trees were so closely interwoven, that the vernant and estivall Sunne beames could not pierce their rare imbroidery

3 Of or forming the 'spring time' of life

1704 W Roberts *Tocker on* III 381 The green platform of our vernant years

†**Ve rnate**, *v Obs* — [f L *vernāt-*, ppl. stem of *vernāre* (see prec.) ] *intr* (See quot )

1623 Cockeram I, *Vernate*, to wax young againe

**Vernation** (vəɪnē·ʃən) [f. *vernat-* ppl. stem of *vernatio* (Linnæus), f L *vernāre* see Vernant *a* (So F *vernation* ) In sense 2 directly f. L. *vernāt-*, ppl stem of *vernare.*]

1 *Bot.* The arrangement or formation of the leaves of plants or fronds of ferns in the bud, the manner in which the rudimentary or unexpanded leaves are disposed, prefoliation,

1793 Martyn *Lang Bot*, *Foliation*, prefoliation vernation, or leafing 1819 Lindley *Syn Brit Flora* 88 *Prunus*, vernation convolute *Ibid*, *Cerasus*, vernation con duplicate 1832 — *Nat Syst Bot* 189 The vernation of both the calyx and petals. 1837 F H Goss *Omphalos* 131 The green and leafy arches were once coiled up in a circinate vernation 1882 *Vines Sachs' Bot* 248 The leaves of Ferns are usually characterised by a circinate vernation

2 Vegetable growth or development, as characteristic of the spring. *rare* or *Obs*

1887 Stuart *Plaister's G* (1888) 300 The season of vernation coinciding with some rain, the leaves will be enlarged, and assume a far deeper and more lively green 1867 A L Adams *Wand Nat India* 68 From the earliest appearance of Vernation in March up to the end of May

**Verne**, obs. var *Fern* *sb* 8 (wyndlase).

†**Verne**, obs. var *urne* Run *v*

*a* 1325 *MS Rawl B* 520 fol 32 Pat alle ben certein in eueriche contreie pat te foreseide peine sal verne [*F curra*] ȝreliche

**Verneuk** (vəɪnʉ·k), *v S African slang.* Also vinook [ad Cape Du *vernuenken* (also in W Flem , with variant *vernukken* ) *trans.* To cheat, humbug, swindle.

1872 *Cape Monthly Mag* III 46 (Pettman), How Hend rick enjoyed vernuuking D Blackheath *R Hartley, Prospector* xiii So you have verneuked me? 1909 R Cullum *Compleat* xviii. 213 He has vinooked the Kaffir chiefs into granting large concessions.

Hence **Verneu ker**. Also **Verneu'kering** *vbl sb*, **Verneu'kery** [a. Cape Du. *vernuukerie* ]

1896 in *Westm Gaz* 4 July 8/1 But we women of South Africa despise such maudlin *vernuukery*. 1900 Sir J Robinson *Life's Time S Africa* vii 185 Hence arose the practice of 'verneukering'—by which buyer and seller each sought to get the better of the other 1905 D Blackburn *R Hartley* xiii, Do you take me for a Boer verneuker?

**Vernice**, obs. form of Varnish *sb*1

**Vernicle** (vɔ̈ nik'l) Forms: *α* 4, 8–9 vernicle, 4 fernycle, 4–5 vernycle *β* 5 vernasul(l, -oule, **vernakill**, -kylle, 5–9 vernacle, 6 **vernacule**. [a. AF. and OF. *vernicle*, = OF. *veron(m)icle*, var. of *veronique*, ad med L. *veronica* the sudarium of St. Veronica: see Veronica 2 and cf. Veronicle, Veronique. On the change of *-ique* to *-icle* see the note to Cherubicle *sb.*]

1. The picture or representation of the face of Christ said to be impressed upon the handkerchief or sudarium of St. Veronica (see 2); any similar picture of Christ's face, esp. one engraved, painted,

or worked upon a vessel, garment, ornament, etc, used for religious or devotional purposes, an ornament or token bearing this as worn by pilgrims.

a. 1386 Langl. *P Pl A* VI 14 Moni Cros on his coloe and keyes of Rome, And þe vernicle [*c* fernycle] bi fore for men schulde han knowe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* 685 Swiche glarynge eyen hadde he as an hare, A vernycle hadde he sowed vp on his cappe. 1469 *Paston Lett* Suppl. 111 My maister gaff me a fayr syght of goolde with the vernycle 1726 Bailey (ed 3) 1805 Forbroke *Encycl Antiq* (1843) II 805 The Vernicle, or Veronique, or face of Christ, miraculously impressed upon a handkerchief 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III x 438 A medal stamped with the vernicle showed the pilgrim had visited Rome 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 131/3 The vernicle, or face of our Lord, appears in the centre of the patera

*β a* 1400 *Leg Rood* (1871) 170 O vernacule [*r* vernacul], I honoure him and the, Pat þe made þorow his preuite *c* 1490 in *Mantl Club Misc* III 200 Item a clull of the vernakill in the vestre. 1727 *Will of Belsaeze* (Somerset Ho) My newe chalice with a patent of silver, the crucifix in the foote of the same chalice gilt and the vernacle upon the same patent gilt. 1816 *Will of Grene* (ibid) Lytle masser of syluer and gylt with the vernacles bed in the bothom 1536 in E. Ledwich *Antiq Aberyst* (1771) 202 A cope of Green cloth of gold, with a goodly Orphery, having in the Morse a Vernacle. 1834 in Peacock *Eng Ch. Furniture* (1866) 196 Item a Mauser with a wodde band with a picture of the vernacle in the bothom. 1721 Bailey 1849 Rock *Ch of Fathers* I iii I 193 A large convex piece of fine crystal showing beneath it the vernacle or face of our Lord Redeemer 1901 P Hoskins *Hora B Mariæ Virg* 125 (tr text of 1510) The pope John the xxii hath granted unto all them that devoutly say this prayer beholding the glorious visage or vernacle of Rome 1 thousand days of pardon *Ibid* 127 A devout orison to the blessed vernacle of our Lord

**2** The cloth or kerchief, alleged to have belonged to St Veronica, with which, according to legend, the face of Christ was wiped on the way to Calvary, and upon which His features were miraculously impressed

This cloth is preserved at St Peter's, Rome, and is venerated as a relic.

*a* 1400 *Stac Rome* 59 Whon he vernicle schewed is, Gret pardoun forsoþe her is 1537 Torkington *Pilgr* (1884) 33 We came to Rome, where as our blyssyd Sayvor impressyd the ymage of his Face in hyr wymple whiche ys at Rome. And it ys callyd ther the Vernacle 1598 *Sepr Piety* (W S) 133/2 The V blessed relyke the Vernacle whiche is the very Lyniaments & impresyte of thy blessed & gloryous vysage. 1781 J Bell *Haddon's Answ Osor* 460 His Vernycle wherewith Christes face was wyped is shewed in S Peters Church at Rome. *a* 1648 Lo. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 605 He would ask leave to see the Vernacle; which he said was the picture of Christ given to Veronica by himself as he went to Calvary 1677 W Hughes *Man of Sin* II iii 52 A large Handkerchief or Towel whereunto with many others, they put up this devout Oraon namely to the Holy Vernacle as they christen it *Ibid* 52 The most holy Face Imprinted on a Snow white Cloth by th Power above, And on the Vernacle bestow'd as Pledge of Love 1849 [see C *Cabinet Pict Life, Chancer* 14 Thus originated the Sudarium or holy kerchief—the Veronica—and, by corruption, the vernicle.

**Vernioo se,** *a. Bot rare* [ad mod L *vernicōs us*, f med.L. *vernic ium* Varnish *sb* 1] 'Covered with a natural varnish' (*Treas Bot*, 1866)

**Vernier** (vɔ·niəɹ) [From the name of the inventor, Paul *Vernier* (1580–1637), a French mathematician, who described it in a tract on the *Quadrant Nouveau du Mathématiques* published in 1631]

**1** A device, consisting of a short movable scale, by which more minute measurements may be readily obtained from the divisions of the graduated scale of astronomical, surveying, or other mathematical instruments to which it is attached.

Sometimes erroneously called a *Nonius* (q v)

1766 *Instruct for Hadley's Quadrant* 17 A scale of divisions graduated on the inferior edge or sloped side of the index which scale is called the vernier 1774 M Mackenzie *Maritime Surv* 28 It would likewise be an Advantage if the Vernier was made to go every Minute of a Degree, in place of four or five as in most Theodolites 1778 *Phil Trans* LXXXVIII 473 Another small slip of ivory is placed at each end of the arm, serving as a vernier, and subdividing these divisions into five parts 1825 J Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 26 The scale of variation is furnished with an instrument called a vernier or nonius 1868 Kane *Arct Explor* I xii 144 Though I had much clear weather we barely succeeded by magnifiers in reading the verniers. 1888 J Rutley *Rock Forms & Min.* 188 For very exact work, the circle may be divided to half degrees, and a vernier may be employed

**2** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *vernier circle, division, piece, plate, scale*, etc

Also with the names of instruments or tools having a vernier scale or attachment as *vernier caliper, compass, transit* (Knight *Dict Mech*)

1706 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) II 587/2 The first division of the vernier piece marked 15. 1797 *Ibid* XVIII 644/1 *Vernier scale*, a scale excellently adapted for the graduation of mathematical Instruments. 1842 *Penny Cycl* XVI 167/1 In order to read off the hundredths of an inch whelh the vernier zero advances beyond any tenth in the scale we have exactly to see what vernier division comes nearest to a division of the scale. 1862 *Catal. Internat Exhib., Brit* II. No. 5047. The vernier plate is carried on four arms, and a diagonal brace. *Ibid*, The horizontal limb, vernier circle, &c. 1884 Knight *Dict Mech* Suppl. 941/1 *Vernier Scale eight (R Ede)*, a hind sight with a vernier scale for accurate adjustment. 1889 F J Britten *Watch & Clocks* 148 To the bottom of the stock of a Vernier slide guage he attaches a spring

**†Vernile,** *a Obs rare* Also 7 vernill [ad L. *vernilis*, *i verna* a home born slave] Servile, slavish.

1623 Cockeram I, *Vernill*, slaoish 1727 Bailey 1843 De Quincy in *Blackw. Mag* LIV 60 This scandal of Roman society was not a pure product, from the vernile scurility of which we hear so much in Roman writers.

**†Vernility,** *Obs* [ad L. *vernilitās*, *f vernilis* see prec and -ity] Servility, slavishness.

1623 Cockeram I, *Vernilitie*, slavery 1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vernility*, flattering, servile or slavish behavior 1665 Evelyn *Let to Sir J Wyche* 20 June, I conceive the reason both of additions to and the corruption of the English language has proceeded from affectation of travellers, vernility & mincing of citizens, pulpits, political remonstrances, &c 1708 R Clarke *Sch. Candidates* (1877) 9 Oh, the stupidity and vernility of mankind, that these things should be permitted such an abuse of power in the world, as either a public or domestic Gynecocracy!

**Vernish,** obs form of Varnish *sb* 1 and *v*

**‖ Vernix** *Obs rare* [med.L.. see Varnish *sb* 1] Varnish

1737 *Acct Lumining* 9 To make a kynde of colouring called Vernix wherewith you may vernishe golde, siluer, or any other colour or paynynges

**† Vernoil** *Obs rare* = Vernal *a Obs*

1658 R. France *North. Mem* (1694) 2 The Vernon Ingress smil'd a Blessing, when she sent the melodious Harmony of Birds to melt the Air *Ibid.* 127 The Race of Salmon, especially the *Female* in the Vernon Aequinox, is for the most part casting against the rapid Streams

**Vernysoun,** Sc form of Warnison *Obs*

**†Verol.** *Obs rare* Also 7 veroll. [a F *vérole*, doublet of *variole* Variola]

1 French pox, syphilis

1596 Harington *Metam Ajax* Prol. B j, He met a french Surgeon yᵗ cured him both of that and the Verol, yᵗ he had before in his priorums.

**2** (see quot) *rare*—⁰

1688 R Holme *Armoury* II 238/2 The Veroll, the Web, are two Diseases in the eyes of Hawks, some call them the Pynne; they do proceed from Rume

So ? 1 Cat *Anim* 124 [Cat *Anim*] = prec 1 *Obs*—¹

1600 Breton *Fasqut's Fesse & Passeth Not* Wks (Grosart) I 9/1 From The French Verola and the English feuer he blesse Lord of hosts in deliuie me.

**Verona** (vɪɹo·nə) [a It *Verona* see def]

**1.** The name of a city in northern Italy used attrib to designate articles found or produced in, or associated with, the locality, as *Verona brown, earth, green serge*, etc (see quots)

1796 *Dict Rust* (ed 3) s.v *Touch*, Verona (peach) 1831 *Encyclop Metallurgy* 189 The green coal called Verona green and Verdeito are similar native pigments of a warm or colour 1839 *Urs Dict Arts* 619 Verona green is the name given to the mineral called green earth. 1850 *Austed Elem Geol, Min.*, etc ¶ 435 Hisingerite Verona earth, Nontronite, are also impure sil cates of iron 1858 *Simmonds Dict Trade* s.v. *Verona green*, a thin worsted and cotton fabric. It is also made of mohair and cotton and of various colours. 1889 *Cent Dict* s.v *Brown*, *Verona brown*, a pigment used by artists in oil painting. It is a calcined ferruginous earth, of a reddish brown tone.

**2** *elipt* (See quot)

1904 *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug 480/2 *Ver nas* a thin make of woollen material with a cotton warp, having a bright twill; used for linings.

**Veronal** (vɛ rŏnăl) *Chem* [a. G *veronal*] Diethyl-malonyl urea, a white crystalline substance used as a hypnotic Also *attrib*

1903 *Merck's Ann. Rep.* XVII 283 Veronal has been thoroughly tested in a large number of noted public and private hospitals. 1906 *Lancet* 23 Ja 223/2 A box of veronal cachets, each containing 5 ghr grains.

**Verone se,** *a* and *sb* [a It *Veronese* see Verona and ese.]

**A** *adj* Of or belonging to, made in or obtained from, Verona in the north of Italy

1757 tr *Keysler's Trav* III 181 Four hundred and fifty Veronese feet 1778 tr *Encycl Brit* (1780) VI 4124/2 The Vicentine and Vero nese lavas and volcanic ashes. 1833 C. Redding *Hist Mod. Wines* (1851) 278 Even a wretched Veronese compound is 'vino sano' 1885 *Encycl. Brit* XIX 88/1 Veronese earth or terra verde a form of ochre 1888 *Ibid* / XXIV 171/2 Many good pictures of the Vero i ese school 1890 *Cent Dict* s.v *Green Veronese green*, a pigment consisting of hydrated chromium sesquioxid. Also called *ver dian.*

**B** *sb* 1 The natives or inhabitants of Verona Also as *sing*

1737 tr *Keysler's Trav* III 176 The Veronese might justly erect statues to other illustrious persons. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 143/2 The revolutionists threatened the other provinces which remained in obedience to the senate, and especially the Veronese 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarel* I 56 The Veronese used to call me L'Uccello.

**2** The form of Italian spoken in Verona

1879 Rushton *Penny Class* II xix 21 Some talk followed, of cold and heat, and anything else one knew the Italian for, or could understand the Veronese for (Veron ese being more like Spanish than Italian).

**‖ Veronica** [1 (*Vēgnikă*) [med l *veronica* (whence also Sp and Pg *veronica*, F *véronique*), app. from the name of St. Veronica ]

**1** *Bot.* A large genus of scrophulariaceous plants (herbs or shrubs) having leafy stems and blue (rarely white or pink) flowers borne in racemes or spikes.

Many species are indigenous to the British Isles and are commonly called Speedwell. Others are cultivated in gardens for their foliage and flowers.

1597 Andrew tr *Bruncrophs Distyll Waters* II Lxxix F ij/2 A dragma of pouder of ye same herbe Veronica 1576 *Lyte Dodoens* 97 The Female Veronica is much weaker, and not so good as the Male. 1657 S Purchas *Pal Pilgrim Ins* I xv 92 Ordinarily they gather not of many little or small flowers, as Veronica. 1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* 67 May Flowers in Prime . . Valerian, Veronica double and single. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Veronica* the Herb Fluellin, or Speed well good to wounds and to provoke Sweat 1753 *Chambers's Cycl* Suppl s.v., The common small procumbent Veronica, called male Speedwell 1796 Withering *Brit Pl* (ed 3) II 15 Brooklime, and some other species of Veronica, afford nourishment to the Papilio cinxia 1833 Hrase Burnem in *Hare Life* (1892) I ix 377 For the first time in Italy I found my mother's favorite veronica. 1834 Mas. Somerville *Connex Phys Sci* 275 The primrose the lily of the valley or the veronica which adorn our meadow s.

*attrib.* 1868 J T Burgess *Eng Wild Fl* 42 One distinguishing feature of the Veronica tribe

**b** With distinguishing epithets, as *earth oak, field foreign veronica* Cf Speedwell b

1846–90 A. Wood *Class bk Bot* 406 *Veronica arvensis* Field Veronica. Corn Speedwell 1849 Hamilton *Injurious Weeds*, etc (1860) 227 *V. peregrina*. Foreign Veronica Purslane Speedwell Neckweed 1856 Delamer *Fl Gard.* (1861) 105 *Veronica Chamædrys* var *trips* or Earth Oak Veronica (from the shape of its leaves)

**2** a With *a* and pl A plant or species of the genus Veronica

1855 *Poultry Chron* III 58/1 To make the garden gay the following rig routs may be sown out either in beds or patches American cowslips, veronicas wall flowers. 1882 *Garde.* 26 May 517/3 I half Ve onicas will now need tying up 1899 R. Bridges *Idyls & Epigrams* (1912) 353 Blue-eyed Veronicas And grey faced Scabious.

**b** In pl with *The* The various species which compose this genus

1856 Delamer *Fl Gard* (1861) 105 The Veronicas (have) something graceful feminine, and fragile in their a pect

**Vero nica** [Proper name see Vernicle] = Vernicle 1 and 2

In quot. 1812 stressed *Veron ca.*

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* (1827) IV 1645, The Zitelle walked in procession to St. Peter's, where th e Veronica was shew d 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v Veronica s are limitations of that celebrated Original one preserved with great Veneration at St Peter s in Rome 1788 Gibbon *Decl & Fall* xxxi 95 I have the *veroni a* of Rome, or Spain or Jerusalem which Christ in his agony and bloody sweat applied to his face. 1812 Cary *Dante Parad* xxxi 95 Like a wigl t, Who hasply from Croatia wends to see Our Veronica. 1855 Milman *Lat Chr* IX vii 187 The Veronica was shown at Rome once, and allowed him to touch the holy face of the Lord *transf* 1788 *Encycl. Brit* (ed. 3) I 74 It is disputed whether the Veronica of Montreuil or the gra nte obelisk mentioned by Caris. in *Adolescent*

**†Veronicle.** *Obs rare* [a. OF *veron(n)icle* see Vernicle] = Vernicle

1 *L. c. Anal* (1871) 170 O vernacule [*Addit MS* veronicle.] honoure him and the : for he is pe to borow his preuite *c* 1450 *MS Hart* 149 fol 270 Here after followith a story of be veronycle

**† Veronique,** *Obs rare* Also 7 **veronicke** [a. OF and later F *veronique* Veronica 2]

Vernicle I Also *fig*

1624 Gataker *Transubst* 95 The vernicke or the print of Christs face in a towel. *a* 1721 Ken *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV 292 My soul Lord, thy Veronicke is, For that I may thy Resemblance take 1825 [see Veronica 2 a].

**† Veropy.** *Obs*—¹ Also **veroni, veroni** [a. AF or OF *'veronie* —med L. *veronica* ] = prec

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 10859 O suilk a moder wel slik a ch ld, Wit fair wisage and modde mild, it es sene be þe veroni [*v r* veroni veroni]

**† Verport.** *Obs* [f the Du personal name *Verpoort* or *Verport* ] A class of tulips (see quots.)

1756 C. Marshall *Garden* xix (1813) 350 The tulips are called whole blowers, or breeders; and accordingly as they break into other colou s stripes and variegations are denominated and distinguished by the names of *verports* and *bizarres*. 1884 London *Encycl Gard* (ed 2) 832 The Dutch florists class their late blow ng tulips as t. Feu c baguets, Baguets Rigaut , Incomparable Verports.

**† Verquere.** *Obs.* [Ultimately (prob. through an obs F **verquere*) ad Du *verkeer* (in the comb *verkeer bort*, *t bert*) backgammon, *f verkeren* to turn round to play at backgammon (Kilian) ] An old form of backgammon

*a* 1700 *Gamut more & Die* in The Famous Game, call d Verquere came originally from Holland and is said to be t e only noted Game, upon the Tables, tl at they pract se and are good at. 1714 J Lucas *Gentl Gamester* (ed 6) 67 He was very dextrous also at Verquere, Tick tack, Grand Trick tra ck, Irish, a nd Back Gammon. 1721 I. Ayrton *Compl Gamester* (title p.) The Famous Game of Verquere, Tick Tack, Irish Back Gamm on.

**Verra,** southern dial var **Rarrow** *a*, Sc and northern dial f Very

**Verralliche, -ly,** obs. ff Verily *adv*

**Verrament,** var Verament *adv Obs*

**Verray,** obs. Sc. f. Worry *v*

**Verrayly, -ly,** obs ff Verily *adv*

**Verrayment,** var Verament *adv Obs*

**† Verre.** *Obs* Also 4 verr, 5 ver, virre [a. OF, (also mod F ) *verre* —L *vitrum* glass.]

**1.** Glass.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 867 And forthi, who that hath

an hede of verre Fro caste of stonys ware hym in the werre. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4551 Make we na vessail of virre na of na clere sulur. 14.. Lydg. *Life Virgin* (MS. Antiq. Soc. 134) fol. 14 (Halliw.) In alle the erthe y-halowid and y-holde, In a clost more clere than verre or glas. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Verre, glasse, *vitrum*.

**2.** A vessel made of glass, esp. a drinking-vessel; a glass.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxiii. 31 Ne beholde thou the win, whan it flouresh, whan shal shine in the verr the colour of it [1388 the colour therof schyneth in a verl. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1830) iv. 32 It is alle full of Gravelle,..of the which Men maken fair Verres and clere. *c* 1450 *Mauter of Gemz* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Putte it in pe houndes þrote þe mountance of a verre full. *a* 1450 *Ant. de la Tour* 37 She.. lepte upon the horde,.. and brake the verres, and spilt all that there was on the borde. 1530 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 75 For iiij verris with thair cacels,..price of the pece vj s.

**Verre,** ME. var. Far *a.* and *adv.*; obs. f. Very.

**Verrel** (lly, etc., obs. ff. Very, Verily *adv.*

**Verrel,** *sb.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 verelle, 7 verrill, 8 verril, 8–9 verrel, 9 verel, verrell. [ad. OF. *virelle, virol* (mod.F. *virole*): see Ferrule *sb.* and Virl *sb.*] A ferrule.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/1 A verelle of a knyffe, *stirula*. 1611 Cotgr., *Ferrie*, a Verrill (sh') a ring, band or hoope that keepes a wooden toole from riuing. *Ibid., Tourillon*, an inner Verrill; the round plate of yron whereby a peece of wood, often turned on, is preserued from wearing. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Verrel* or *Verril*, a little Brass or Iron-ring, at the small end of a Cane, or Handle of a Tool, &c. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 218, I cover this part of the tube with a brass verrel. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 129 On the upperend of this spar is fixed a stout ring or verrell. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Verel*,..a small iron hoop.

**† Verrel,** *v. Obs.*[−1] In 5 virell, vyrell. [ad. OF. *virer, viroler.*] *trans.* To furnish with a ferrule; = Ferrule *v.*

*a* 1450 *Fishing w. Angle* (1883) 8 Pen vyrell [*v.r.* vyrell] þe staff wel at bothe endys with hopy[s] of yren.

**Verrelay,** obs. f. Virelay. **Verrelle,** -ly, obs. ff. Verily. **Verrement,** var. Verament *adv.* **Verren,** ME. var. Ferren *adv.* and *a.*

**† Verrer.** *Obs.*[−1] In 5 verrour. [ad. AF. *verrer* (1300), = OF. (and mod.F.) *verrier* (1265 in Godef.), f. *verre* Verre.] A worker in glass; a glazier.

1425 in *York Myst.* p. xxvi, Sellers, Verrours, Fuystours.

**Verret,** dial. f. Ferret *sb.*[1] **Verrey,** obs. f. Very; obs. Sc. f. Worry *v.* **Verreyll, -liohe, -ly,** obs. ff. Verily *adv.* **Verreyment,** var. Verriment *Obs.* **Verril,** southern ME. var. Far *v.*; obs. f. Very *a.* and *adv.*

**† Verri'cular,** *a. Obs.*[−a] [ad. mod.L. *verriculāris*, f. L. *verriculum* Verriculus.] Resembling a net in form or construction (see quot.).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Verricular Tunick* (in Anat.), a Coat of the Eye, the same with *Amphiblestroides*. [After *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* 1693.]

**Verri'culate,** *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *verriculāt-us*, f. L. *verriculum*: see next.] (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 277 *Verriculate*,.. having one or more verricles.

**Verri'culum.** *Ent.* [ad. L. *verricul-um* a dragnet, seine, f. *verrēre* to sweep, etc.] (See quot.)

1826 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 277 *Verriculi*,..a thick-set tuft of parallel hairs.

**Verrie,** obs. form of Very.

**† Verril,** obs. variant of *vervil* Varvel.

*c* 1665 *God Speed the Plow* 93 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1889) VI. 324 When the Hauk on his fist doth stand, His hood and his verril's brave, and other things we have, Which yeelds joy to a Serving-man.

**Verrili, -ly,** obs. ff. Verily *adv.* **Verrinus,** var. Verinas *Obs.* **Verritie,** obs. Sc. f. Verity.

**Verrore,** southern ME. var. *farrer* Far *a.* **Verrour,** var. Verrer *Obs.*; var. *werrour* Warrer.

‖ **Verruca** (verū·kă). Pl. **verrucæ** (verū·sē), [L. *verruca*, excrescence on precious stones. Cf. It. *verruca*, Prov. *verruca.*] **1.** wart. In mod. *Bot., Conch., Ent.* A wart-like formation, growth, or prominence.

The pl. appears as *verruce* in Lanfranc's *Cirurg.* (E.E.T.S.) 206-7.

a. 1565 J. Hall *Lanfrank's Cirurg.* Table 41 Galen (reksening it with *Verruca*,..and other lyke affectes of the skinne) teacheth how with a holowe quille to plucke it out. 1657 Salmon *Syn. Med.* 1. xlviii. 113 *Verruca*, a Wart, is a little tubercle on the Skin. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) *Verrucæ*, Warts, a sort of *Tubercula*. 1770 Pennant *Zool.* IV. 65 On the chin [of the Noctule bat is] a little verruca. 1856 Dunglison *Dis. Skin* 370 There is a hard or soft, rounded, fat, or accuminated, circumscribed, papillary formation. *a* 1883 Kane *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 718 Warts.—*Verruca, papilloma.*—These are small cutaneous tumours consisting in overgrowth of the papillæ of the cutis.

b. 1820 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 118 The upper parts of all the areas [of *Echinus pentagonous*] are remarkably bare; but, about the rounded margin, the verrucæ..become frequent. 1846 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 273 *Verrucæ*, a small flattish wart-like prominence. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* i. 51 When sessile glands consist of cells containing solid secretions so that they form hardened spherical or other appendages upon the surface of the epidermis, they are termed *verrucæ* or *warts*.

**Verrucated,** *a. Conch.* Also 8 verrucoated. [f. mod.L. *verrūcāt-us*, f. L. *verrūca* Verruca + -ED 1.] Having or covered with verrucæ or warty growths.

*a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I. ii. 33 This small Shell has Stripes of brown, very thick, running parallel with the Volutæ. Two verrucated. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 88 Verrucated shell (of a crab).

**Verru'ci-,** combining form, on L. models, of L. *verrūca* Verruca, occurring in a few terms in *Biol.* and *Bot.*, as **Verruci'ferous** *a.*, of a zoophyte: bearing verrucæ; **Verru'ciform** *a.*, wart-shaped.

*Verruciform* adj. (= prec.) occurs in Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* (1856) s.v.

1833 Hooker in Smith *Engl. Flora* V. 2. 139 *Apothecia* verruciform. 1846 Mrs. *Leoph.* (1848) 506 Cruciform with deep immersed cells, interstices verruciferous, verrucæ convex. *Ibid.* 525 Summit branchlets verruciform.

**Verrucose** (verūkō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *verrūcōs-us*, f. *verrūca* Verruca.]

1. Covered or furnished with, full of, verrucæ or wart-like excrescences or growths. Now *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 181 A verrucose stone found near a petrifying Spring. 1721 Bailey, *Verrucose*, Full of Warts. 1846 Mrs. *Lee & Sr. Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 273 *Verrucose*, having several verrucæ. 1848 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 68 *Trilonia Hombergii*,..Body oblong, subtetragonous, verrucose above. 1856 Dana *Zoophl.* (1848) 527 Branches rather stout,..verrucose. 1883 Le Conte & G. H. Horn *Classif. Coleoptera N. Amer* 240 Head roughly granulate, or verrucose. 1890 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 816 The skin is covered by epidermis, in some parts thin and delicate, in others thick, horny, and verrucose.

*fig.* 1824 *Lit. Mag.* XIV. 321 What designation could be more apt to mark the scurvy, verrucose, uneven,..and repulsive style of this man?

**2.** *Bot.* Studded with small warty swellings or protuberances; tubercular.

1820 R. Hall *Dict. Bot. Terms* 194 *Verrucose*,..warty. 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 79 Seeds numerous, small, oval, verrucose, yellowish. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 77 Like sporidia in many cases are large, reticulated, echinulate or verrucose, and mostly somewhat globose. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 293 The verrucose epispore distinguishes this from its congeners.

Hence **Verrucose'ness,** 'fulness of warts'.

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

**Verrucous** (verū·kəs), *a.* [ad. L. *verrūcōs-us*, f. *verrūca* Verruca: cf. prec. So OF. *verrucueux, verrugueux*, mod.F. *verrugueux, -euse.*]

1. = Verruciose *a.* 1 and 2. *rare.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (following Cooper), *Verrucous*, full of warts, hillocks or knaps. 1658 Phillips, *Verrucous*, full of warts or little excrescences of the flesh. (Similarly in Chambers *Cycl.* (1728).) 1828–32 Webster s.v., A verrucous capsule.

**2.** *Path.* Of the nature of a wart or warts; characterized by the formation of warts.

1728 Chevne *Gout* 4 Scurvy. *Verrucous. Verrucosa* is applied to any Excrescencies which have a resemblance to Warts. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1262/2 The urethra is sometimes beset with verrucous vegetations, the result of gonorrhœa. 1876 Dunning *Dis. Skin* 165 In thickened,.. localized patches of eczema a peculiar warty, verrucous condition at times shows itself. 1890 *Hutchinson's Archiv. Surg.* XI. 223 They are of the kind known as the Verrucous nævus.

**Verruculose** (verūkiūlō·s), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *verriculōs-us*, f. L. *verriculum*, dim. of *verrūca* Verruca.] Covered with small verrucæ or warts.

1846 Dana *Zoopl.* (1848) 636 A series of granules..range along each side of the medial space, as if the surface were minutely verruculose. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1211/2.

‖ **Verruga** (verū·gă). *Path.* Also Pg. and Prov.) *verruga* wart :—L. *verrūca* Verruca.] A febrile disease endemic in Peru and characterized by warty eruptions or tumours on the skin; Peruvian wart. Also in pl. *verrugas.*

[a 1883 Faget *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 744 Yaws ..appears to be identical with what is known ..as *Verruga* in Peru.] 1890 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 499 Patients suffering from verruga..do not communicate the contagion to others. *Ibid.* 503 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 498 Verruga may also do better in warm places. *Ibid.* 499 The inhabitants of these verruga districts.

**† Verry,** *a.* (and *sb.*). *Obs.* Forms: 6 verrye, verie, 6–9 verry, 6–8 verry. [var. of *varry* Varry *a.*]

**1.** *Her.* = Vairy *a.* 1.

*a* 1580 *Leland Itin.* II. 93, I marked yn the Wyndowes 3 sortes of Armes, one al verry of blew and white. 1586 Lieh *Armorie* 131 b, The seuenth doubling, is properly called verry, and is on this fashion, Argent and Azure, or els Asure and Argent. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 31 b, Some are borne Barrie vndee, barrye verrye, or ensuscked. 1610 Guillim *Heraldrie* (1632) ii. 73 His Scutcheon Verry, Or and Asure by the name of Claude de Rochford. 1688 M. Carte *Hon. Roch.* (1660) 90 The next is called Vayre or Verry, this being of Argent and Azure, is termed Vaire *gouly*; but if any other Colours, then must it be blasoned Verry of such Colours. 1688 Blount *Glossogr.* [Hence in Phillips, Harris, Kersey, etc.] 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. *Verray, or Varry*, are names given to..fur..called *Vair*, if it is composed of..any other tincture than argent and azure.

¶ **2.** Used as *sb.*, as if the name of a material or colour. Cf. Vairy 2.

Drayton's use may be due to confusion with Vair *sb.* 2.

1603 Drayton *Ber. Heart. n.* xxii, A Ladies sleeue his spirited Hastings wore, Ferrer his Tabard with rich verry spred. 1822 Cary *Dante, Par.* XVI. 100 The column, clothed with verray [*It. vaio*], still was seen Unabaken.

**Verry,** southern ME. var. Far *v.*; obs. f. Very.

**Vers,** southern ME. var. Frees *a.*; abbreviation of Versin.

**† Versabi'lity.** *Obs.* [See next and -ity.] *a.* = Versatility 2. *b.* Aptness or readiness to be changed or turned (round).

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* xi. 122 Wit.. consists (saith Thesauro) in 1. perspicacity, which is the consideration of all..circumstances: and 2. versability, or speedy comparing them together. 1721 Bailey, *Versability*, an aptness to be turn'd, chang'd or wound any way. 1780 Stebbs *Tr. Shandy* v. xlii, By the versability of this great engine, round which they are twisted, to open new tracts of enquiry.

**Versable,** *a. Obs.*[−a] [ad. L. *versābilis*, f. *versāre* : see Verse *v.*[2]] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram I, *Versable*, which may be turned. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Versable*, that turns, or may be turned: turned or wounden one about another. 1721 Bailey; and in later Dicts.

Hence † **Versableness.** *Obs.*

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Versableness*, Aptness to be turned, or wound any way. (Hence in later Dicts.)

**Versaill,** var. Versile *v.*

**† Versail,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vers-*, ppl. stem of *vertĕre* to turn (cf. *reversal*), associated with Verse *sb.*] = Versification 3.

1657 Barnfield in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 222 Such..as they shall think fit to advise with, concerning the best reveal of the Psalms. *Ibid.*, The amendment of Mr. Sternhold and Mr. Hopkins's Versal of the Psalms.

**Versal** (vē·săl), *a.* ? *Obs.* Also 8 **'versal.** [Illiterate or colloq. abbrev. of Universal *a.* Cf. the later Versal *a.*]

1. Universal; whole. Usu. coupled with *world.*

1598 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 219 Shee lookes as pale as any clout in the versall world. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 930 Some, for brevity, Have cast the Versal World's Nativity. 1777 Sheridan *Trip to Scarborough* I. i, That whole city call pin-money, is to buy everything in the 'versal world.

**2.** Single; individual.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 151 She had provided no versal thing for the Child. 1727 Susanna Wesley in Southey *Wesley* (1820) I. 444 We are resolved from sight, or hearing, of any versal thing except Jeffrey.

**Versalle,** pres. subj. of Versile *v. Obs.*

**Versant** (vē·sănt), *sb.* [a. F. *versant* (1565 in Littré), f. *verser* : see Verse *v.*[2]]

1. The slope, side, or descent of a mountain or mountain-chain; the area or region covered by this. (Usu. with specifying epithet.)

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* iv. 1341/2 The species of oak which produces the cork vegetates ..over the versants or faces of the Pyrenees. 1883 *Encycl. Amer.* I. 477/2 The best part of the United States for Lee-farming is considered to be the Pacific versant. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 18 The conifer forests.. which clothe the eastern versant of the Victoria Nyanza.

**2.** Tendency to slope or descend; declination.

1899 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 9 Thus the oriental half of the African continent has a compound versant, eastward with southing, and westward with southing.

**Versant** (vē·rsănt), *a.* [f. L. *versant-*, *versans*, pres. pple. of L. *versāre*, *versāri*: see Verse *v.*[2] Cf. Conversant *a.*]

1. Concerned, anxious, or busy *about*, occupied or engaged *in* or *with*, something.

1645 *Arraignm. of Persecution* 15 [His] nature hath ever been and is always versant in such cruelties. 1681 Flavel *Method of Grace* xxv. 432 His fears were more versant about noxious creatures, now God is the object of the fear of reverence. 1682 Bovle *Cont. New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Pref., The other [matters] are not so well to be versant about those trials, which were not to be made..with natural air..but factitious air. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 409 The literary question of the age was versant almost exclusively with verbal accuracy.

**2.** Of persons: a. Skilled, versed, or experienced *in* a subject, practice, etc., as the result of having been occupied with it.

In frequent use from *c* 1790 to *c* 1860. Now *rare.*

1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 3 It may be known ..by any person versant in accounts, what sums are due. 1777 Bell in *Trans. Johnson Club* 1907 (1908) 32 Not being so much versant in old English poetry. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 107 Who is perfectly versant in the method of breeding the insect. 1809 T. Bernal *Scenes of Life* II. 113 This gentleman..was completely versant in the grammatical niceties..of the language. 1842 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 669 These excellent directors, versant in wood and metal. 1850 Burton *Hist. Scotl.* (1873) VI. 321 Persons versant in the history of Scotland.

**b.** Conversant, familiar, or intimately acquainted *with* a subject or person.

1787 J. Howard in *Reformadoim Princ. Readship.*, etc. 151 The Author,..being mostly versant with country-people, labours to speak and write in the vulgar dialect. 1820 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 455 A man not versant with courts of justice will not believe it. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 289 Mr. Puff..had become versant with all the private affairs of all the boroughs. 1877 H. A. Page *Dr Quincey* II. xvi. 92 A shepherd..who was versant with all the approaching changes of the weather.

**3.** *Conch.* Turning or curling twice.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 308/1 *Spirula*, Columnellite..Shell without a canal, but having the last whorl in aperture scattered or versant, and the whole of the spire large.

**4** *Her* (See quot) *rare*—⁰.
c 1808 Henry *Encycl Her* I Gloss., *Versant*, the same as *reclinant*, called also *surmant*; and implies erected, or elevated

**Versate,** *v rare*—¹ [f. L. *versat-*, ppl stem of *versāre* see Verse *v* 2] *trans* To turn about
1887 *Sat Rev* 17 Sept 405 An edition which we can really versate in the hand without causing the said hand to droop and ache.

**Versatile** (vɔ·sătəil, vɔ·sătil), *a* Also 7 **versatil, versatill, versatille** [= F *versatile* (16th c.), = It *versatile*, Sp, Pg *versatil*), or ad L *versātilis*, f *versare* see Verse *v* 2]

**I 1.** Marked or characterized by changeability or inconstancy subject to change or fluctuation, variable, changeable
1609 Bacon *Adv Learn* I iii § 6. 15 It is rather the reuerence which many times both aduerse parts doe giue to honestie, than any versatile aduantage of their owne carri age 1659 *Quæries on Propositals of Officers of Armie, to Parlt* 4 To.mold the versatile hypocrisy of his depraved mind 1669 Glanvill *Sceptsis Sci* xxvi. 162 Those versatile representations in the neck of a Dove 1682 Burnet *Nights of Princes Pref* 36 He is a man of the Versatile Temper of the Jesuits 1791 Burke *Let to Member of Nat Assemb* Wks 1842 I. 482 The versatile tenderness which marks the irregular and capricious longs of the Assembly 1809 Grant *Short Prov Moray* 279 The number of scholars vibrates from 20 to 90; but from the versatile state of the establishment it is not possible to form a correct *Parmer's Mag* Jan 67 Our author is of such a versatile disposition, that he states [etc.] 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp* ix (1857) 67 The things were there like the old saga. I saw them capri cious versatile full of forms, but bright and definite as the phases of sober life

*Comb* 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxxi For at one instant to hate and defy a man and at the next to be friendly with him was not an unusual process with our versatile minded Baronet

**b** Of persons Fickle, inconstant *rare*
1682 Burnet *Reflcts Pri ces* viii. 293 Thomas Becket was a proud versatile and factious Man 1697 Evelyn *Numism* ix 315 The French Versatile Unconstant 1855 Milman *Lat Chr* viii v (1864) IV 148 The versatile people rose on his side [and] drove out the troops 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt Royal* III He is too versatile too soft hearted and impressionable

**2.** Characterized by readiness or facility in turning from one subject, pursuit or task to another, marked by many sidedness or variety of talent
In early use somewhat rare from *c* 1795
1656 Stanley *Hist Philos* (1687) 251/1 He was of a ver satile wit and in comparative of his speech a difficult adver sary 1667 Sprat *Hist Royal Soc* 18 Disputing is a very good instrument, to sharpen mens wits, and to make them versatil 1792 Cowper *Odyssey* I 2 Make the man thy theme for shrewd ess fumed And genius versatile 1796 H Hunter tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) II 299 Whit then is that versatile faculty called *reason*? *a* 1828 H Neele *Lit Rem* 29 Chaucer's genius was vast versatile and original 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* I 158 A multitude of other subjects, with which his versatile ability made him conversant 1874 Green *Short Hist* I § 6 (1876) 32 His nature was sunny versatile artistic
*transf* 1792 Newte *Tour Eng & Scot* 172 The phy sical as well as the moral aspect of man is extremely versatile and accommodating to circumstances. 1801 *Lus gnan* IV 153 Absorbed in meditations and versatile reflections he wandered unconscious of the stress of time

**3** Of persons Turning easily or readily from one subject or occupation to another, having an aptitude or faculty for fresh pursuits or tasks, showing facility in varied subjects, many sided
1760–72 H Walpole *Verue s Anecd Paint* (1786) II 95 In 1665 the versatile Sandrart published a large folio Subsidium Peregrinantibus. 1818 W H Ireland *Scribbleomania* 213 Of this versatile writer, ah! what should be said 1842 Macaulay *Fr Lyrical Poetry* (1851) 63 A liberable and versatile Henry Dundas. 1851 Thackeray *Eng Hum* vi (1858) 327 The vivid and versatile genius who has touched on almost every subject of literature. 1874 Stubbs *Const Hist* II xii 460 He was an able man of business, versatile, politic.

**b.** Const *in*
1807 D Isaacs *Curr Lit* (ed 5) I 22 An individual how ever versatile and extensive in his gen us would soon be exhausted 1842 Miss Mitford in L Estrange *Life* (1870) III iv 144 O Connell is versatile in his words and ways, and the Repeal seems to me incomprehensible 1872 Minto *Eng Prose Lit.* i. 58 He is more versatile in the pinch of his style

**II 4** Capable of being turned round on, or as on, a pivot or hinge, that may be turned different ways In later use *spec* in *Ent* and *Ornith*
1668 Phillips, *Versatile*, apt to be wound or turned any way 1671 R. Bohun *Wind* 72 A feather or other versatil body 1698 *Phil Trans* XIX 350 The Eyes resemble a Lens or Convex Glass set in a Versatile globular Socket. 1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xliii 172 Some muscle of this kind must be in *Gryllotalpa*, and in those that have a versatile head *Ibid* 173 The Head is sometimes versatile. 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVIII. 306/1 Tarsus (in barbets is) shorter than the vestatile toe. 1872 Coues *N Amer Birds* 200 Hallux of average length, quite too more or less per fectly versatile (but never permanently reversed)

**b.** *Bot* Of an anther Swinging or turning about freely on a filament to which it is attached
1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* III xxii (1765) 298 The Anthera is versatile and incumbent, when it is fastened on at its Side 1787 *Families of Plants* I 254 Anthers oblong, versatile 1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 47 Their small round and versatile anthers. 1861 S Thompson *Wild Fl* I (ed 4) 65 The filament may be so attached to some point of the anther as to allow it to swing loosely, when a *versatile* anther is constituted. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 182 Dipsaceæ, anthers versatile.

**c** Of a leaf Turning either way *rare*—¹
1870 Hooker *Stud Flora* 335 Populus tremula. Leaves 1–4 in., versatile.

Hence **Versatilely** *adv*, **Versatileness**
1646 Gaule *Cases Consc* 130 [A which] that works not only darkly and closely, but variously and versatilly, as God will permit [etc.] 1654 R Codrington tr *Institue* viii. 129 According to the versatileness of his wit 1727 Bailey vol II *Versatileness*, aptness to be turned or wound any way 1791 J Learmont *Poems Mutability of Man* 20 Versatileness attends him still; A deep unwoven art Conceals the guile And rancour of his heart 1829 M Collins *Two Plunges for Pearl* iv An intellect so different from his own—so versatilely fluent yet passio ately obs t ate.

**Versatility** (vɔ·sătĭlĭti) [a F *versatilité* (= It *versatilità*), Sp *versatilidad*, Pg *idade*), or directly f prec + ity]
**1** The condition or quality in persons, their con duct, etc, of being changeable, fickle, or inconstant, tendency or liability to vary in opinion or action, variableness, inconstancy
1758 Johnson *Versatil ity* the quality of being versatile 1768 Ward *Serm* (1823) I 72 This versatility and du plicity of the *grande monde* 1783 W Thomson *Watson's Phil p III* v 324 To his holiness, whom they suspected of a versatility of character which might soon lead him to adopt these answered (etc.) 1824 D Israeli *Quar Auth.* (1867) 346 We are apt to condemn the r versatility of prin ciples as arising from dishonest motives 1849 Macaulay *Hist* I 547 Ashley's versatility was the effect, not of levity but of deliberate selfishness. 1855 Milman *Lat Chr* VII ii 168 He might indeed dread the versatility of Henry's character, and his ready assent to the advice of flattering counsellors.

**2** The faculty or character of turning or being able to turn readily to a new subject or occupation, esp of an intellectual nature, facility in taking up varied pursuits or tasks with some success or distinction many-sidedness.
1798 Hibbet *Life Burke* 210 Wedderburne [was] eminent for acuteness, versatility and ingenuity 1827 Scott *Sir J Mac* II, 83 Versatility of genius, his learning, above all, his versatility and freedom from cant, are of every kind. 1874 Green *Short Hist* VI § 6 (1876) 325 It was with Italian versatility that he turned from the camp to the counting house 1881 J Sully in *Mind* No 27 366 In the scientific treatment of the subject we shall make versatility synonymous with what is usually called the faculty of adaptability in all its measures

**b** 1773 Chesterf *Charac Pitt* (1777) 46 He had such a versat ility of wit that he would adopt it to all sorts of con ver sation 1842 Arnold *Rugby Ref* II 495 Cæsar was in the very highest degree versatile, having all the best gifts of a great statesman. 1853 J H Newman *Hist Sk* (1873) II i 1 70 Not often indeed do the Oriental nations prese t us with a single ex ample of versatility of character 1866 Felton *Anc & Mod Gr* I xii 231 [Aristophanes] reminds us still ofte n of the splendid versatility of poetical genius dis played by Goethe

**c** *pl* Features or traits of versatile intellect
1842 D Israeli *Amen Lit* (1859) II 123 A voluminous commentary expounded the morality of the ravishing ver satilities of Ovidius.

**3** Diversity of nature or character, variety of application, etc
1802 Playfair *Illustr Hutton The* 339 The Huttonian system cannot boast of theories of equal versatility 1820–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) II 419 She sought to, thus prin cipally mark the progress of this disease in all their varia tility: it is thus versatility that has produced the chief differences in manners, entertained concerning it 1871 Earle *Ihilol Eng Tongue* 458 The Book of Proverbs abounds in examples of the versatility of the Hebrew *and* 1879 Cassell's *Techn Educ* IV 35 The inexhaustible versatility of the English tongue.

**4.** Capability of turning about as on a pivot
1804 Coues *Key N Amer Birds* 126 We have no case of true versatility of the hind toe; the outer opposing can not
† **Versatlous,** *a Obs rare* [f L *versātil-us* Versatile *a* + ous] Marked or characterized by versatility or variableness, versatile
1629 H Burton *Truth e Triumph* 347 He can finde no certain foundation for his opinions to stand upon but his versatilous wit 1630 Elderfield *Cro Right Jythes* 135 Whose versatilous shifts are hard to be avoided

Hence † **Versatilousness** *Obs*—
1630 R Reynolds *Passions* xxvi. 269 Another cause of Boldnesse is Immunity from Danger, or at least a Versa tilousnesse and Dexterity of wit to evade it

† **Versa tion.** *Obs* [=d L. *versātion-, versatio*, con of action f *versare* see Verse *v* 2] A turning over or backwards and forwards Also *attrib*
1656 Blount *Glossogr* (following Cooper), *Versation*, a turning or winding 1673 Ray *Jrnl to Jachtem's Wks* I p xxx, Reader if thou will believe thirty or forty years experience, or versation of this author, thou will find at every return new matter both of observation and delight in him 1716 M Davies *Athen Brit* III 8 By order of the Rough Versation Orders of our Dissenting Separatists. 1837 *Fraser's Mag* XV 717 Requiring such perpetual versation of the pages backwards and forwards to connect one section with another.

**Ve rsative,** *a rare*—¹ [f L *versat*, ppl stem of *versāre* Verse *v* 2] Marked by adaptability or variety
1846 *Blackw Mag* LIX 416 Homer possibly had no choice but in the hexameter there is the greatest versative power

**Versche,** southern ME. variant of Fresh *a.*

**Verse** (vɔ̄s), *sb* Forms **1**, *4* fers (*1* fæs, fyrs), 3 *Orm.* ferrs, 1–4 uerr, 1, 3–4, 5–6 *Sc* , vers, 4–5 werr, 4–verse, 5, 6 *Sc* , wersse, 5 versees, veerce, 6 vearse, 5–6 *Sc* veire, 6 *Sc* veirse [OE *fers*, corresponding to OFris *fers* (WFris *fers*, NFris *fes*, etc), MDu (Du) and MLG *vers*, OHG, MHG *vers*, *fers* (G *vers*), ON (Da, Sw) *vers*, ad L *versus* a line or row, spec. a line of writing (so named from turning to begin another line), verse, f *vertere* to turn, in ME. reinforced by or newly a. AF and OF (also mod F) *vers* (= Pr *vers*, It Sp, Pg *verso*) from the samesource

In OE (the word being neuter), and to a certain extent in ME, the pl was the same as the sing]

**1** A succession of words arranged according to natural or recognized rules of prosody and forming a complete metrical line, one of the lines of a poem or piece of versification
c 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* iv xxiv (1890) 344 Þa ongon he sona singan in berenesse Godes Scyppendes þa fers [*v r* uers] & þa word þe he narre ræhyrde *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gr sm* xxxvii (*Z*) 318 *Versi fices* þe feorrige oððe ic wyrce fers. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* (1885) VIII 323 Iset þentumenneris byð þe todæl þet wes on hys oð sum fet *c* 1200 Chron Dan 4 And acc ne mi hi nohit min ferrs A33 wiþ Godd-spelless wordess Wel fillenn all. 13 *Cato* 633 in *Minor I Vernon MS* 609 [*c*] (these] meruiles of ihse nykeds vers þhich he makeð in his hali tresse) *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* I 463 He made of ryme ten verses (*r r* vers) or twelue Of a complaynt *c* 1380 Wyclif *Last Age Ch* (1840) 33 Sibille acordib here to þis seche tribulacioun is nyge in þes verse *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb.) ii 5 As it es contende in þis werse whilk es here writen 1470 *Lestora Lyst* III 42 Then tor vere after veyde he of myn own makyng 1483 Caxton *Cato* 9, I haue made this lytel book in double verses the whiche cot teynen two hyrte and styls sentences for the symple folke. *a* 1533 Fabyan *Chron* (1516) 200 And for this Sesame thus gra ciously was endyd a Vercifier made this vese folowyng Lux fulsit mundo cesset Felix Hibernia 1569 in *Child's Godlie B* (STS) [p cxxxiv] Sing thir four vers efter cuerie Psalme as follows. 1597–8 Bacon *Ess Ceremonies* (Arb) 26 Some mens behauiour is like a verse wherein euery sillable is measured. 1604 E Hake *Eccl & Prof St* iv xv 316 When the Spanish Embassadour had su i med up the effect thereof in a Tetrastich she instantly in one verse rejoined her answer 1611 Bible *Ps* cxix 84 But those that write in Rhime still make the one Verse for the others sake, 1709 Hearne in *Chron R Gloucester* (1724) App 601 There are two Verses wanting at the end, wh ch are not in the common Printed Copies. *a* 1772 *Gray Observ Eng Metre* Wks 1843 V 260 The verse of fourteen (sy llable ) and verse of fifteen 1781 Cowper *Progress of Poet* Wks (1833) p xx/2, Eight verses of hexametrical dimensions. 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXII 370/2 An hexameter verse which has 13 spondees in the fifth place, is called a spondaic verse 1845 A W Ward in *Pope's Il Ir p* h The ordinary rule as to the position of the *cæsura* in the verse.

**b** In the pl occas merging into sense 5
1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 14 Whan I made many verses techying folkis to eschewe their propre wikke 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lix 16 He hes indorsit myn indyting With verss off his awin hand wrytting 1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal June* 41 He could I sing of love and of my pyne Vnto my plaintiue plens in verses made. 1601 Shake. *Twel C* III iii 34 *Cinna* I am Cinna the Poet *Ath Cit* I eare him for his bad verses. 1683 W Cooper *Elegy Lowe's Convert* iv v They do swarm hither with their Verses, like Town poets on 30 i e Lord's Son's Wedding day 1724 (title) Rymer's Tragedies with Criticisms, Latin and Italian Poetis; with other Verses and Songs. 1779 Johnson *L P Lyttelton* P I The verses cant of shepherds and flocks, and crooks dress'd with flowers 1803 H K White *Lett to B Maddock* 18 Oct I have this week written some very elaborate verses for a college prize.

**c** With distinguishing terms (Cf 6 *c.*)
1545 Ascham *Let to Cheke* in *Arber's Eng Garner* I 18 A songe of Exameter Verses. 1578 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 377 To write in Heroicall Verses 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1246 A chronicler penning the Historie of the Britans in elegiack verses. 1656 [see Serpentine *a.* 3 b]. 1658 [see Leonine *a.* 2]. 1708 Chambers *Cycl s.v. Acrostic*, Epic Poems as the Iliad, Odyssee, Eneid, &c. consist of Hexameter Verses alone. 1806 Hoyle *Games* I 4 A songe of Rest *Lope x* (1780) II 211 Like Ovid's Fasti, in hexameter and pentameter verses. 1816 Scott *Hart Eng Poetry* (1870) 30 The verses which we call Alexandrine 1815 [see Ischennine *a* 1]. 1818 J C Hobhouse *Hist Illust* (ed 2) 448 [Italian] heroic verses have not the advantage of the hexameral length

**2** *Liturg* = Versicle 1 Now *rare*
*c* 960 *Rule St Benet* ix (1885) 33 Cweþe æresst þis fers Deus in adiutorium meum intende. *Ibid.* 34 Þis fers man sære t six sealmas and þonne on ende fers. *c* 1030 *Ibid* (Logeman) 41 Æfter þisum ræddingum fylian six salmas and þæt pistolboc, þanne awa þa æresten & nigon fersa 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 88 R' Delyuere me lord With these thre uerses. V Now cruy t. Brennynge oules wepe þei lect. V Schappere of alle þynges 1436 *Myroure Our Lady* 114 What is vnderstonded by the thre lessons with the Responces & verses folowynge. *a* 1500 *Charcter a Dvonn* 1806 Many orisones and verses Without note full sothe 1548–9 Compl *Scotl* (1872) 84 Mar) *Bk Common Prayer* Pref, Respondes, Verses, vaine repetitions. 1607 *Cotton's Conf* (Surtees) I 121 Doth he begin with the Lords Prayer? orderly proceeding with the Verses and Responds. 1657 Sparrow *Rationale* 29 Then follow the Verses, O Lord open Thou our Laps, And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise 1782 *Priest's Office of Church* (ed 2) Directs. 3 Then is sung the Hymn with its Verse and Responsory 1763 Burn *Eccl. Laws* I 38 The invitatories, responsories, verses, collects, and whatever is said or sung in the quire 1877 J D Chambers *Div Worship* 91 The Gradual, Alleluya, and Responsory and Verses.

**†3.** A clause, sentence, or the like, an article of the Creed *Obs*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram* I. (Z.) 291 Se þridda hatte *distinctio* oððe *periodus* se belyco þaet fers [= *vers* fyrs] *c* 1000 — *Ælfric Genesis* (Grein) 23 Ic sty on Jare Ieo on þam formum fersse *Ic skrive i forebarer ingeongnesse* *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 75 þet rihte leue setten þe twelue apostles on write, & ec of heom wrat ther of his uers, & sancte peter wrat þet ernste. *Ibid.* 77 We habbeð ihaunneu on te seggen on engliseh hwat hi þeoh þe crede & habbeð ou iseid twa uers *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* V xi. 3405 Sancte Jerome wrat til him *At ilke Pistre* in til twa uerse. 1535 Coverdale *Deut* iv 13 He declared vnto you his couenaunt, which he commaūded you to do, namely, the ten verses. 1560 *Prouide li yeas Pastor's Diar* 116 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV 157, I pray you, gossyp dere, vnderstand well this verse

**4** One of the sections of a psalm or canticle corresponding to the compound unit (usually a couplet) of Hebrew poetry (Now merged in next)

*c* 1200 Ormin 11943 Forr þurr iss sett an oþerr fers þatt sekepp off þe deofell *c* 1225 *Juliana* A 38 Þe vorme þsalm is tubfatæ , þe vifte, Laudate Dominum in sanctis eius' and in euerchon booð vif vers. *c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 34 (Hrl) seide þese two vers of þe Sauter. *Ibid.* 222 He fowelles sunge ek here matyns, & of þe sauter seide þe uers *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw* 460 Sein Daui seiþ if þu wolt loke in a vers of þe sauter loke [etc.]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 290 Þe glose graunteth vpon þat vers [Ps. xxiii 4] a gret mede to treuthe. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* V xi 3308 Of þe psalmys diuynyly þe xx begynnand be first verse say þe tothir þe next verse ay Sulde begyn. *c* 1450 *Revele S. iætrix Memoriales* (1953) 103 þan þe quere on þat one syde schal take anober verse [of Ps. lii]. 1508 Fisher *7 Lenit Ps.* cxxx Wks. (1876) 208 It is also profytable for good & ryghtwyse people ofte to reherse this verse (i.e. 1) wherby they may auoyde the grete peryll of this wretched worlde. 1566 *Pilgr Perf* (W. de W. 1531) 163 b, Yf for ony necessite, a psalme scape ony persone or a lesson, or else yf they ouyrt one verse or twayne

**b** One of the sections into which a chapter of the Bible is divided Freq abbreviated as *v*

The practice of dividing the chapters of the Bible into verses, introduced by Stephens in 1551, was adopted by Whittingham in his New Testament (1557) and followed in the Geneva Bible (1560)

*Chapter and verse* see Chapter *sb* 10 b.

1560 Bible (Geneva) 1 Kdr The argumentes bothe for the booke and for the chapters with the nombre of the verse are added 1643 Casey *Jephe Job* 178 Verse 2 [of ch. iii]. This verse is only a transition into the matter of the next. 1678 Butler *Hud* III ii 1170 One single Red Coat Sentinel could disperse Whole Troops with Chapter and Verse 1682 Leybourn *Pleasure Math.* I. 2 John 10 The last Verse of the foregoing Chapter and the eleven first Verses of this Chapter 1739 Law *Serious C.* 1 8 That Religion is to be found in every verse of Scripture 1818 Hosne *Introd Script* (1834) II 75 The verses into which the New Testament is now divided 1849 *Aytoun Cyc Brit Lit* II 309 The twentieth verse of the tenth chapter of Matthew 1888 F. Arbot *Brit Fish* xx 465 The first edition of the New Testament divided into our present verses was printed by Robert Stephens at Geneva in 1551

*Comb.* 1855 I. Taylor *Restor Belief* (1856) 186 A verse by verse commentary

**5** A small number of metrical lines so connected by form or meaning as to constitute either a whole in themselves or a unit in a longer composition, a stanza

In quots. *c* 1340 and 1387 applied to elegiac and hexameter couplets In later use the pl. is sometimes not clearly distinct from 1 b.

*c* 1308 *Sat. Kildare* 1 in *E E P* (1862) 153 Þis vers is ful well ywrit, hit is of wel furre y broȝt *Ibid* 111, þis vers is imaked wel of consonantes and vowel *c* 1340 Hampo *Pr Conse* 246 Of þis Saynt Bernard writnes bers And er þa four wryten in þis vers 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 83 So hit semeþ þat þis vers wolde mene þat þese feyned goddes regneþ in Chestre. 1500 Douglas *Pal Hon* III xcii In laude of honour I wrait thir versis thre 1573–80 Baret *Alvearie* V, A verse a staffe a foot *versus* 1586 Greenewey *Tacitus, Ann* III xiii. (1622) 83 The Smyrnæans alleaged an oracle of Apollo the Tenians a verse [L. *carmen*] of the same Apollo commanding them to offer an image and Temple to Neptune. 1601 Shaks *Twel N* II iv 7 Now good Cesario but that peece of song, That old and antique song we heard last night Come, but one verse 1711 Addison *Spect* No. 74 ¶ 5 The Country in the Scotch Warriors dies tibbed in these two last Verses [of Cheyy Chase] 1793 Burns *Let to G. Thomson* 7 April I remember the two last lines of a verse in some of the old songs of Logan Water which I think pretty 1801 Robby *Dict Mus* xi In secular music, as a song or ballad, each stanza of the word is a verse 1838 Dickens *O Twist* xxvi, A young lady proceeded to entertain the company with a ballad in four verses 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I. xxii 167 It was at once proposed to sing a verse from the Swiss psalm

**b.** *Mus.* (see quot)

1802 Busby *Dict Mus Verse* the appellation given to those portions of an anthem meant to be performed by a single voice to each part.

**6.** Without article. Metrical composition, form, or structure, language or literary work written or spoken in metre, poetry, esp. with reference to metrical form Opposed to *prose*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 22257 We wat bath thurs stori and wers, þat þe kingrikes o grece and pers War held kingrikes in form tide 24 *Chaucer's Sompn T* 297 (Harl MS.) Schortly may no man, by rym and vers, Tellen her thoughtes, thay ben so divers. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* V xi 3492 This Damasyus Couth mak ryght weill in metyre vers. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol Poetrie* (Arb.) 50 That Verse farre exceedeth Prose in the knitting vp of the Matter, the reason is manifest 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II xxvi. 141 In antient time, before leitters were in common use, the Lawes were many times put into verse. 1696 Prior *Secretary* 16 Athens . . Where people knew love, and were partial to verse 1798 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Stanza*, For though we speak Verse on the Stage, 'tis still presumed we are speaking Prose. 1879 Johnson *Lives Dryden* (1868) 286 To write verse, is to dispose syllables and sounds harmonically by some known and settled rule 1887 Pollok *Course T* III, He searched again For theme deserving of immortal verse 1889 R. Hobe in *Contemp Rev* Nov 709 *note*, We find much nakedly argumentative ratiocinative verse, but that is not, strictly speaking, poetry at all

*personif* 1580 Spenser *Let to Harvey* Wks. (1912) 656 Vr happy Verse, Make daily selfe fluttring wings of thy fast flying Thought. *c* 1645 Milton *Sonn to Lawes* 9 Thou honour st Verse, and Verse must lend her wing To honour thee

**b** Freq *in verse*, in metrical form Also *fig* (quot 1390

*c* 1315 Shoreham *Vit* 191 O god hyt hys and stent in vers Ine þulke song *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon) 128 He wenþ lihte wel nourti yer, ase ȝwyþ elyuans ine uers of þe dyaþe 1390 Gower *Conf* III 3 For Dronkeschipe is so divers It may no whyle stonde in vers. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* VI ix 859 His epitaphi þan in verse Wrytyn þus men may rahers. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 3 Two partyes—the fyrst is in prose and the second in verse. 1500–20 Dunbar *Lament xxiii* 43 I will no langar put in verse. 1557 *Lottel's Misc.* To Rdr That to haue wel written in verse deserueth gret prause [etc.]. 1586 W. Webbe *Eng Poet* (Arb.) 30 Hunting verse *Ibid* 61 He learnedly written in verse which fell not out in rime. 1643 Cartl. *Elegos Jol* 178 Job breaths out his passion in verse and in verse receives his answer 1700 Dryden *Fr. to Dufresnoy* Wks. (1882) IV In Verse or Prose, We write or chat 1768–71 H Walpole *Vertue's Anecd Paint* (1786) I 132 The Introduction to knowledge, chiefly in verse and partly in prose 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II 124 In Crete and at Sparta the maxims of the constitution were delivered in verse 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Lit* II 292 The Romans choose this form for conveying their feelings in verse.

**c** With distinguishing terms (Cf. 1 c)

*Adonic Alexandrine, blank, elegiac, heroic(al, hexameter, Leonine, Saturnian* † *rime* etc. see those words.

1586 Hume *Epithets* 20 Heroicall, or sixe feete, *versus heroicus* 1589 Jas VI *Ess Poetic* (Arb.) 68 For flyting, or Inuectiues, vse Rouncefallis or Lumbking verse 1598 *Dyvinell Sevile* The seventy ninth Ode of the third Book of Horace paraphrased in Pindarick Verse 1711 Addison *Spect* No 39 ¶ 5 Aristotle observes that the Iambick Verse in the Greek Tragedy was the most proper for Tragedy 1855 Milman *Lat Chr* xiv iv VI 488 An interminable length of harsh hexameter, or of elegiac verse

**7** The metrical or poetical compositions of a particular author etc, a certain amount of metrical work or poetry considered as a whole

1586 W Webbe *Eng Poetrie* (Arb.) 32 Lydgate, surely for good proportion of his verse comparable with Chaucer 1611 Shaks *Wint T* v 1 101 Thus your Verse Flowd with her Steele: if not, from Iohn Gower? 1678 *Ivry Epist* 2 Ll is Verse be thine, my friend nor thou refuse This, from no venal or ungrateful Muse 1810 Scott *Lady of L* I xxxii, Till on her lips in measured frame The minstrel verse spontaneous came 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* III 1 401 The verse of Waller still breathed the sentiments which had animated the generous Opposition 1908 *Lett Shirley* 15 Nov 487/2 Some of the poems are spoiled by hate of England Had it been omitted the verse would have been improved

**†b** A particular style of metre or versification. 1586 W Webbe *Eng Poetrie* (Arb.) 30 A singuler gyft in a sweete Heroicall verse *Ibid* 34 Master D Phaer had the best peece of Poetry wherevnto to sette a most gallant verse

**8** *attrib*, as *verse-book, craft, -cup, -shot, -suit*, etc , **verse anthem** (see quots ), † **verse-fellow**, a fellow or companion verse maker, **verse-service** (see quots )

1801 Busby *Dict Mus*, **Verse*, the epithet applied to an anthem beginning with verse. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict Mus Terms* 446/1 A verse anthem is one which begins with solo portions as opposed to full anthems which commences with a chorus. 1849 Lytton *Caxtons* 22 Rude songs, modelled from such 'verse books as fell into my hands. 1894 *Daily News* 20 Oct 6/4 Her own skill in Versecraft 1597 unusual felicity of insight 1885 In Cox *Expositions* xxii. 290 We have kept the best wine in this little Verse-cup until now 1598 Nashe *Jour Lett confessed* Wks (1910) II 215 Who hearing this vnlet verse fellow noble M Valringer company 1852 J S Adams *5000 Mus Terms* 105 **Verse service*, a service in which verse anthems are sung 1885 *Grove's Dict Music* (1900) IV 257 A verse service or verse anthem sometimes includes portions set for 1 voice *solo* 1794 Mathias *Purs Lit* (1797) II 13 *note*, I store they were half finished, as many of the others as were within hearing or **treasure shot* were all found fast asleep 'I 1668 Dryden *Evening's Love* III i, The prose was pleasing and the *verse was rocking.

**b** In the sense ' composed or written ' in, consisting of, verse', as *verse exercise, miscellany, narrative, part, tale, text, translation*, etc

1685 Dryden *Sylvæ* Pref P 2 The hot [prose], which sue cooled them, in this y lume of Verse Miscellanies. 1689 Norris *Coll Miscellanies* (1699) 4 That much for the Verse part 1817 Coleridge *Biog Lit* 23 In verse or prose, or in verse text added by prose comment 1881 *Lancet Brit* XII 1 Verse is narrative, even where it deals with true events, is either more or less than history 1896 R Palmer *Mem* I 111 122 He gained both the University prizes for verse-exercises

**c** *Comb* Objective or obj genitive, as *verse-gracer, merchant, reciter, smith, -wright, writer; verse making, reading, -repeating* ppl a, *-writing*; instrumental, as *verse commemorated* adj. Also *verseward* adv.

**1848** S. C Hall *Ireland* II 339 The long celebrated and *verse-commemorated month of August **1881** W. Wilkins *Songs of Study* 127 *Verse gracer ! deign to grace mine With lucky chosen words **1812** *Anstey Scott's Pleasure* p. 8, My attachment to *verse making **1873** Symonds *Grk Poets* v 149 A father taught the trade of flute-playing and chorus-leading and verse making to his son. **1845** Brown ing *Lett* (1899) I 18 The Rialto where *verse merchants most do congregate. **1584** Jas. I *Ess. Poems* (Arb.) 31 Ye procure By your lasciuious speaches, that fathers saye Defends *verse reading, to their yonger age. **1820** Shelley *To Jane, The Invitation* 56 You, tiresome *verse reciter, Care **a 1700** T Brown *Dial Dead* Wks. 1711 IV 75 The *Verse repeating Banks of Will s Coffee House. **1820** I Mitchell *Aristoph* I 205 Ye *verse-smiths and bard mechanicians ! **1887** Saintsbury *Hist Elizab Lit* I (1890) 8 The supposed editor is but a journey man verse smith **1820** Miss Mitford *Lett* 3 Apr in L Eastrange *Life* (1870) I 59 That feeble *verse spinner Bloomfield **1809** Byron *Bards & Rev* 230 But if, in spite of all the world can say, Thou still wilt *verseward plod thy weary way **1729** Savage *Wanderer* I 235 Here scorn (said I) the *verse wright of their age **1840** Barham *Ingol Leg* 2nd S. v, The pieces that make up this volume will be seen to be the wares of a verse wright made to order **1798** Saint *Gile's*, Advice to the Grub-street *Verse Writers **1883** Percy *Martini* I vii 121 A familiar playfulness of tone Latin verse writer in dealing with mythology **1850** Thackeray *Fr Gennets* II, If he was distinguished by anything it was for *verse writing **1884** Tennyson *Becket* II ii, So if the city be sick your lordship would suspend me from verse writin g?

**† Verse,** *a Obs rare* [ad L *vers us*, pa pple of *vertere* to turn, change, vary ] *Verse sine*, = versed sine see Versed *a* 3.

1772 *Phil Trans* LXII 102 An arch equal to the verse sine of the deviation

**Verse** (vəːs), *v*[1] Also † fyrsian, **fersian, uersian,** † **uersale** [f Verse *sb*, prob formed afresh at different times ]

**1** *intr* To compose or make verses, to versify. Also with *it*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram* xxxvii (Z.) 218 *Versificor*, ic fersige [= *vers* uersige fyrsige] oððe ic wyrce fers 1393 Langl. *P. Pl* C xviii 109 For ich am lered for to versyfie heele, That can uerse [*v.r* versihe] fayre oþer formeliche endite 1606 Chapman *Mons D Olive* i 1 Ile vp, Prettie little Witt, y faith I can be verie serious. I know how to versifie 1847 Ward *Sand Cobler* 87 You verse it simply, what need have we of your thin Poetry 1688 W Scot *Hist wots* iii (1776) 73 Some on as many as you will And for a wager, I'll verse with them still 1789 in Currie *Burns Wks* (1800) II 105 It sets ro ony lawland cheel Like you to verse or rhyme 1812 Combe *Tour Dr Syntax* I. 2 Now, sir, you must here I'll verse it there, And picturesque it everywhere 1896 Meredith *Shar Nkaphal* (1909) 66 He began to verse extemporaneously in Italian

**2.** *trans* To tell in verse, to turn into verse, to write, recount, or celebrate in verse

1446 Lydg. *Two Nightingale P ems* 1 108 This bird of whom y haue to you rehersed, Whych in her song expired thus ande depeede, In latyn þat I haue to you versyd 1590 Shake. *Mids N* II 1 67 When thou sate all day, Play ing on pipes of Corne and versing loue To amorous Phillida *c* 1712 Prior *Full of Adam Mod* 4 Our Phillis dances, and I verse 1886 Rossetti *Poems* 1890 I Hallek *Connecticut* xxxiv, He versed the Psalms of David to the air of Yankee Doodle for Thanksgiving Days. 1898 Stopford Brooke *Early Eng Lit* I 12 The war deer sang his stave of thanks, or versed for the chief in the high seat, who he was

**† 3** To accompany or bring with verses *Obs.*[-1]

1602 Marston *Ant & Mel* v If that thou canst not give, goe hang thy selfe He time thee dead, or verse thee to the rope.

**Hence Versing** *ppl a.*

1630 J Taylor (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr* Wks. I. 125/1 My versing Muse craues some repose, And whilst she sleeps Ile spowt a little prose. 1665 J Spencer *Vulg Prophesies* 55, I should throw out the vast rabble of rhyming, chanting, versing, Prophets, as persons that tell the worst lies in the best maner

**Verse** (vəːs), *v*.[2] [= F *verser* (12th c., = Prov and Pg *versar*, *vessar*, Sp *versar*, It *versare*), or ad L. *versare*, freq of *vertere* to turn, etc In mod use, in sense 4, app a back formation from Versed *ppl. a.*1]

**† 1.** *trans.* To pour *out* (the voice) *Obs* [-1]

*c* 1530 Le Roneberg *Arth & Lyt Prof* (1814) 453 Than she [= a nightingale] fylled her throte full of wynde, the more shryller to verse out her swete voyce.

**† 2.** To overthrow, overturn, or upset *Obs* [-1]

1598 [T. Feyerse] *Spider & F.* 1400 As his formost spider and flie, in furiusfrett, this prouesse then perst And venge able venumly, ech other verst

**† 3** To turn over (a book) in study or investigation *Obs.*

1608 Bible *Kirk Buriall* (1833) 6 By versing and searching the Scriptures. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold Rem* 1 (1673) 272 If you be versing the Ancient Histories, then provide you Ptolomy s Maps.

**† b.** To revolve or turn over (something) *in* the mind *Obs*

1624 T Adams *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 260 Who versing in his minde this thought, can keepe his cheekes dry?

**4.** To instruct, to make (one) conversant or experienced, *in* something. Now *refl.* Cf Versed *ppl a* 1 ).

1673 O Walker *Educ* 132 For reading verse him well in inventive Authors 1677 W. Coles *Diabolical* (1727) 43 Having verst them in each common evil, [you] Lead them to Masques to personate the Devil 1706 Mrs A. M Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr* V 164 The intrigues of state affairs had thoroughly versed him in chicanery and dissimulation. 1895 O. Alexander in *Daily News* 4 Oct, n/a If

students while versing themselves in the classics were [etc.] 1898 R F Horton *Communaudn Jesus* xx 367 This is my own feeling—a feeling which grows and intensifies the more I verse myself in His commandments.

**+ Verse,** *v* 3 *Cant. Obs* [Of uncertain origin, perh a special sense of Verse *v* 2 Cf Versed 2] 1 *intr* To practise fraud or imposition Also with *it*

1591 ? Greene *Def Conny catch* (1859) 4, I had consorts that could verse nippe, and foyst 1591 Greene *Disco. Coosnage* 10 b, If the poore Farmar be bashfull and passeth by one of these shameles strumpets then wil she verse it with him and claime acquaintance of him. c1592 — *Hornes Falling and* (1615) A iv, We goe so neate in apparell that wee are hardly smoakt; versing vpon all men with kinde courtesies and faire wordes

2 *trans* To impose upon, to cozen, cheat, defraud Also const *to*

1591 Greene *Discov Cosenage* 10 b, Till shee and her crosse biters haue verst him to the beggers estate *Ibid* 11 b, Heere is a Simpler, quoth shee, He Verse him or hang me

Hence ? **Versing** *vbl sb Cant Obs*

1591 Greene *Discov Cosenage* ? Versing Law, cosenage by false gold

**Verse,** obs form of Vert

**+ Verse-coloured,** obs var Vericoloured *a*

1607 Topsell *Hist of Beasts* 57 The Chamæleon and Polypus-fish are pilled or bare without haire and therefore may more easily be verse coloured

**Versed** (vɔ·sst), *a* [f mod L. *vers us* (sc *sinus*), pa pple of L. *vertĕre* to turn]

1. *Versed sine* a. *Trig* Originally, the segment of the diameter intercepted between the foot of the sine and the extremity of the arc, in mod use, the ratio of this line to the radius, or (equivalently, as a function of an angle) the quantity obtained by subtracting the cosine from unity

In mod use also in the contracted form Versin

1706 W Hunbodd[illegible] *Invention of Compasse* B 5 b The versed signe of the semidiurnall arke *a* 1652 S Foster *Decer Ruler*, A large Scale of Versed Sines 1690 I Bourn *Curs Math* 307 The Line Vs. is the Line of Versed Sines 1732 Hadley in *Phil Trans* XXXVII 353 Draw b D the Sine, and *b r* the Sine complement of the Arch B b HD is the versed Sine of the same Arch 1763 Emerson *Meth Incre ments* 91 Hence we have the following series of versed sines. 1828 J M Spearman *Brit Gunner* (ed 2) 239 The arcs being similar, the versed sines are proportional to the arcs or to their radii 1833 Sir H Douglas *Milit Bridges* (ed 3) 43 A segment of a sphere whose radius is *r* the sagitta, or versed sine being *d*

b. *Bridge building* The rise of an arch

1858 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* 1 197/1 The Dover road is carried over the railway by a flat segmental arch 30 feet span the rise or versed sine (*greatest* line) is only two feet 1861 *Ibid* II 191/2 Span of the arch, 58 feet—the rise or versed sine being ten feet 1879 *Cassell's Techn Educ* IV 384/1 It forms the strongest arch . . but in consequence of the height of the versed sine it becomes necessary to limit the span.

**+ 2.** *Versed scale, a* scale of versed sines *Obs*

*a* 1652 S Foster *Decer Ruler* viii 31 The Versed Scale is of the length four times the sine *Ibid* 32 Let the Tangents be measured out of the Versed Scale

**Versed** (vɔrst), *ppl a*[1] Also ? verst [ad L *versatus*, pa pple. of *versārī* to occupy oneself, be busied or engaged (in something). So F *versé*, It *versato*, Sp. and Pg. *versado*]

1 Of persons Experienced, practised, or skilled *in* a subject, matter, art, etc., conversant with, having an intimate knowledge of, something, expert, skilful, = Versant *a* 2 a.

Very frequent from c1630 in this and sense 2 b

1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 16 [The bishops of Ely and Exeter] had been both versed in the Affaires before he came to the Crowne 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 24 A Clarke of the works must be verst in the prisces of Materials 1666 tr *Chardin's Trav Persia* 31 Levant Merchants, and others that were versed in the Affairs of Turkey 1718 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) III 361 Neither of us being vers'd in Latin 1769 *Junius Lett* xii (1788) I. 83 A man versed in the politics of the north 1822 W Irving *Bracb Hall* xviii The servants are all versed in the common modes of trying luck 1849 Mill *Logic* I 8 § 3 A man not previously versed in the meaning and right use of the various kinds of words 1880 L Stephen *Pope* vi 137 Curll was versed in every dirty trick of the Grub street trade

b. With defining or limiting adverbs, esp. *well* (*better, best*) *versed.*

(*a*) *a* 1610 Healey *Theophrastus* To Rdr. (1616) I 1b Such as are well versed in Anti-justice 1693 W Ramesey *Astrol Restored* 160 A Physician must be better versed in his Art before he can do any thing 1858 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II 176 He is certainly best versed in all his Majesty's present affairs 1871 *Daily Telegr* 15 Feb 5 He is extremely well versed in all the little Handicrafts of an idle Man 1791 Burke *Appr Whigs* Wks 1808 VI 18 Man [*sc* Jews] well versed in usuring 1822 Corbett *Amer Rides* 279 He was very well versed in his prayer book 1841 Borrow *Lincoln* II xx. III 56 Reverend gentlemen much better versed in the points of a horse than in points of theology 1874 Burnand *My time* xxiii 277 Our tutor was sufficiently well versed in his subjects.

(*b*) 1634 W Tirwhyt tr *Balnac's Lett* A iv A man no less versed in the art of well speaking then himself 1641 *Vind Smectymnuus* x. 109 He that is but meanly versed in Cyprian 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig Sacr* III iv § 10 Those who profess themselves most versed in their own Antiquities *a* 1721 Prior *Ess Learning* ? 3 Other parts of general Learning in which they may not be so perfectly versed. 1747 tr *Astruc's Pleurisy* 206 He was ill versed in anatomy, botany and chemistry. 1788 ? Pickering in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV 3 I wish I was sufficiently versed in politics [etc.] 1825 W H Ireland *Scribblemania* 190, I am not much versed in Egyptian hieroglyphick. 1836 H Coleridge *North Worthies* introd (1859) p. xxxiii, Men long versed in public affairs 1888 Bourgon *Lives xx Gd Men* I ii 346 He delivered his opinion like one thoroughly versed in the law of farms

c Without const *rare*

1734 tr *Rollin's Anc Hist* xviii iii (1841) II 214/1 A general prudent, able, versed by long experience 1888 *Pall Mall* 10 Feb 6/2 Observing that Lord Randolph Churchill used to keep the Premier and Foreign Secretary combined in order, which at present there was no one in the Cabinet versed enough or bold enough to do.

**+ 2** Employed or exercised *about* something, = Versant *a* 1. *Obs* ~1

1654 Vilvain *Theol Treat* 11 80 Hope is properly versed about some good to be attained by industry

**Versed** (vɔ·sst), *ppl a*[2] [f Verse *v* 1] Composed or written in verse, turned into verse

1830 *Athenæum* 1 Jan 8/2 *Sketches and Poems* An versed biography of a dog 1901 *Dublin Rev* Apr 413 Versed commonplaces set to florid music

**Verselens,** *a* [f Verse *sb*] Lacking verse or poetry, unable to compose verses

1738 *Gentl Mag* III 653 Verseless myself, I conn'd not blithsom song Nor lute had I, nor harp nor tuneful lyre

**Verselet.** [f Verse *sb* + Let] A little verse, a small poem

1836 B D Walsh *Antisiphanes, Acharnians* II iii 43 His muse, which in collecting small verselets out of doors, is not at home. 1865 *Reader* No 151 567/2 Each page containing a verselet 1880 Warren *Book plates* 18 Mottoes, texts, and verselets against borrowers

**Versemaker.** Also **verse maker, verse maker** [f Verse *sb* + Maker *sb* Cf Du *versenmaker*, G *versmacher*, Da *versemager*] One who makes or writes verses, a poet or versifier

1647 Hexham I s v, A verse maker, or a Poet 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (ed 3) *Poet*, Verse maker 1692 Boswell, *Johnson* (1904) II 124 A mere verse maker in whose numbers there is no poetry 1836 Southey in *Life and Corr* VI 301 He versemaker is fit the halt of my fancy the meanings and qualities of words. 1871 Ylor *Prim Cult* I 269 What we call poetry was to them real life not as to the modern versemaker a masque made of gauze and leathern

**Verseman** (vɔ·smăn) Also **verse man, verse-man** [f as prec + Man *sb*] A man who writes verse, a versemaker, a poet, esp (in recent use) a minor poet or versifier

1638 Gaule *Mag vates* 235 To conclude, all the antient verse men excellent in this 1708 Prior *Better Answer* vi The God of us Verse men (you know Child) the Sun 1733 (see Proseman) 1779 Johnson *L. P. Prior* 13 When the battle of Blenheim called forth all the versemen 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women & B* I xv 300 Even miserly Pulteney was a verseman 1883 *Pall Mall G* 30 Oct 5/1 Almost alone among recent English versemen he preserves a fine gentlemanly air of urbanity 1892 A Dobson *18th Cent Vignettes* 171 Madrigalists and minor versemen

Hence **Versemanship,** verse-making *rare*[−1]

1760 J Lukes *Dr Brown* 82, The dull mechanical part of versemanship indeed is found, but the spirit of true poetry is wanting

**Versemonger** (vɔ·smŋgəɹ) Also **verse-monger** [f as prec + Monger] A versifier, esp one who writes poor or indifferent verse, a poetaster

1634 Br Hall *Contempt N T* iv xii, Which of those verse mongers ever durst write a I allad without imploring of some deity? 1708 Baretti *Acc Mann & Cust Italy* I 254 Some few verse mongers of Rome 1866 Blackie *Homer & Iliad* I 120 A set of inferior versemongers. 1901 W L. Mathieson *Pol & Relig Scott.* I x. 338 His virtues were not recognised even by the scurrilous verse mongers of the day

Hence **Versemongering** *vbl sb*, **Versemongery.**

1856 *Fraser's Mag* XIV 488 Earning his bread by scribblement and verse mongery 1875 Lowell *Spenser* Prose Wks 1890 IV 268 I here include it to distinguish it from the contemporary verse mongering south of the Tweed

**Verser** (vɔ·sɔɹ) [f Verse *v* 1 + -er 1] Cf *versificator* s v Versifiar 1 a, quot *c* 1440]. A writer of verse, a verseman, versifier

*c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xiii Comm Such as abuse the name of Critics 'st many versers do of poets. 1619 Drumm of Hawthornden *Sonn* Wks. (1711) 29 He thought not Bartas a poet but a verser; because he wrote not fiction 1644 *Sir* Cleveland *Gen Poet* 2 (1677) 63 O that I could but vote my self a Poet Or like the Doctors Militant could get Dubb'd an adventure Verser Thineter. 1854 Mrs. Oliphant *Magd Hepburn* I 9 The archer Simon, a verser as much as a bowman 1907 *It is no Goss d Aug* 2/1 The invidious task of separating the poets from the versers.

**+ Verser²,** *Cant* [Cf Verse *v* 2] One of a gang of cozeners or swindlers (see quots)

*c* 1550 *Dice Play* (Percy Soc) 38 He lightly hath in his company a man or two younglings, that must hatch the countenance of a possessioner of land and he is called the verser 1591 Greene *Discov Cosenage* 1 There bee requisite effectually to all the Art of Conny catching three seuerall parties the Setter, the Verser, and the Barnacle. *Ibid* 3 Imagine the Connie is in the Tauerne, then sits down the Verser, and saith to the setter, what sirha wilt thou giue mee a quart of wine, or shall I giue thee one? [etc.] 1606 Chapman *Mons Dol* IV, I Fit b, *D Ol* Can he verse? *Pac* I, and sett too, my Lord; Hee s both a Setter and a Verser

**Verset** (vɔ·sst) Also 5 **verset.** [a OF (also mod F) *verset* (= Prov *verset*, Pg *verseto*, It *versetto*), dim of *vers* Verse *sb*]

1 = Verse *sb* 2, Versicle 1 Now *Hist*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 176 Sigged so al he imne vt mid te uerset ? mitte Spiritum tuum *Ibid* 192 Her sigged fiftuesues , alast pei uerset, Ecce ancilla Domini [etc] 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xii 289 *Dominus pars hereditatis mee* is a meni verset *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (Prose) 16 Wen þat [i e psalms] ere said and ie versed, þalbasse sase be benecun *Ibid*, And efter [sang] oþir sexe salmis wid be antefenn, wid be verset 1641 Milton *Animadv* Wks. 1851 III 209 They leave an equall part with the Priest in many places and have their cues and versets as well as he 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax Ch* (1858) I App. M 378 The many scraps, both here and in 11 several other places, interposes two versets with their responses

2 A little or short verse, esp one of the Bible or similar book, a short piece of verse

1629 Ieue *Du Bartas, New* Pref 1 Among the sundrie versets or prosets which besides the I have or shall set out 1851 I Taylor *Spir Heir Poetry* 335 The metrical Scripturesunlined as they were in the memory by the very means of these artificial divisions—became fitted to the mind 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I 143 A Koran verset is often written above

**Versicle** (vɔ·sikl), *a rare* [f Verse *sb* + -ical, after *poetical, metrical*] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, composed or written in, verse

1864 *Tait's Mag* XXI 257 He already made some versical efforts in the literary periodicals of Vienna. 1886 R. J Burton *Arab Nts* viii 1 I re- p. ps. before When treating the versical portion I have not always bound my self by the metrical bonds of the Arabic

**Versicle** (vɔ·sikl) [ad L. *versiculus*] *Obs* & *Sc* **versikill,** 5 6 **versicle,** 6 **versickil** [ad L *versiculus* Versiculus Cf Versicule]

1 *Liturg* One of a series of short sentences, usually taken from the Psalms and of a precatory nature, said or sung antiphonally in divine service *spec* one said by the officiant and followed by the response of the congregation or people, often *collect pl*, a set of these with their accompanying responses

*a* 1380 *St Paula* 191 in Horstm. *Altengl Leg* (1878) 7 Þeos versacles heo seide and bad 1495 in Antick *London* (1766) IV 354 This psalm, *de profundis*, with the versicles and *Orazions* that longeth thereto *Ibid* 355 The Vigil of Mild (1903) 16 I-o go on procession syngyng a Respond ; I that done a versicle with the colet of S3 Stephen 1539 W Bulker *Bef Baptef* 143 The very sound and tone of the Respondes and Versicles, declare whence they proceeded. 1625 *Comunion & Sp Inquis* 97 The Psalme being ended, the chiefe Inquisitor singeth a versicle, and the whole Quer answereth them with their Responses 1631 Brathwaite *Whimzies Zealous Brother* 120 Anthems and versicles he holds papisticall 1710 Wreatly *Bk Com Prayer* iv § 22 Of the Versicles before the Lord's Prayer 1721 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* VIII 295 The Ordinary Discipline is to last the time of a *Miserere*, with the Versicle *Christus factus est* with the prayer *Respice quæsumus* 1795 Mason *Ch Mus* II 254 The unaccompanied Chaunt, used in the versicles and responses. 1832 W Palmer *Orig Liturg* I iv 180 It appears, that these versicles were not, perhaps, originally repeated in church, but at home, as a preparation for divine service 1893 W Walker *Three Churchmen* 255 When the Creed and the versicle Lord save thou woman, Thy servant ! the clerk responded (etc.).

b The sign (*V*, *Ỹ*, or *℣*) with which these are noted or indicated in prayer-books, etc.

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc* 231

2 A little verse, in various senses of that term

**+ a.** A short clause or sentence ; = Verse *sb* 1 3.

1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 231/1 A boke in wl'che was wreten thys versycle In euerlastyng memorie shal be my rightful hoostesse 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 198 Proceed in like manner, with the tables attributes, and workes of God Doe it for thy name, Doe it for thy good nesse, &c in seuerall versicles. 1668 Hale *Rolle's Abridgm* Pref 5 In Justinians time there were an incredible number of Versicles and Volumes of their Laws. c1710 Hearne *Antiquity* II (1902) 50 The Condemnatory versicles in Athanasius Creed 1721 R. Keith tr *J a Kempis' all Lives* vi. 13 Expound me this Word which thou speakest, open the Sense of this Versicle for the Comfort of thy Servant

b. + A verse of the Psalms or the Bible (*obs*), now *spec*, one of the subdivisions of a Hebrew verse

1624 Br Hall *Acct Medit Mysteries* 1 Wee lift up our heart and voice to God in singing some versicle of Dauids diuine psalmes. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang T* 1. 82 That versicle of Paul 1 Tim, 4 Righteous art thou O Lord and right are thy Iudgements 1737 Whiston *Josephus' Mem* (1821) II 1 204 The psalms were in number fifteen, made in imitation of David s Psalms; being digested into versicles. 1737 Challoner *Catech Ch Instructed* (1753) 20 Those words being the Chalice, he goes to the Book, and reads a Versicle of the holy Scripture, called the Communion 1783 Blair *Lect* xli. II 389 When one band began the Hymn thus 'The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice', the chorus took up the corresponding versicle 1873 *Speaker's Commentary* IV 483/2 The second clause of the first versicle of this verse.

c A short or single metrical line, a little verse.

1573 G Harvey *Letter bk* (Camden) 128 On[e] pore simple versicle Had bene too much for such an article. 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* v (Arb.) 96 The American and the very Canniball do sing and also say, their highest and holiest matters in certaine rumning versicles and not in prose 1620 Venner *Via Recta* v 89 It behoueth him to be mindfull of that prouerbiall versicle *Cauens est semus, quem dat cauere monemur* 1630 Gillespie *Eng Pop. Ceremn* II iii. 7 The principall circumstances . are compre-

hended in this versicle *Quas Quid, ubi, Quibus auxilius, cur, Quomodo, Quando* 1652 Needham *Selden's Mare Cl* Ep Ded 8 According to that old Versicle *Brangat & attollat vires in Militis causa* 1817 Hymn *Let to Moore* 93 Mar, Here are some versicles. 1849 Thackeray *Yellowplush Papers* (1850) II 257 To these pretty little compositions Mr Pen replied with points of wit in y with pretty little verses very likely, in reply to the versicles of the Muse of Mrs Larnes 1893 M Carthy *Red Diamonds* III 143 She was fond of writing versicles and setting them to music

**†-d.** Without article *Obs*—1

1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* I v (Arb) 26 How the wilde and sauage people vsed a naturall Poesie in versicle and rime as our vulgar is

Hence **†Ve rsicle** *v intr* (with *it*), to sing versicles *Obs*—1

1550 Bale *Apf* I 118 b I knowe they progresse was great, as ye were wont to versycle it on theyr daies

**Versicler.** *rare*—1 [f Versicle *sb*] A writer of versicles or short verses, a versifier

1885 Meredith *Diana* xxx, I'll read your versicler to morrow morning early

**Versicolorate,** *a Ent* [-ate 2] = Versicoloured.a.

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlvi 292 *Versicolorate* when a surface changes its colour as the light varies

**Versicolorous,** *a rare* [f late L *versicolorus* cf Versicolour *a*] = prec

1847 Hardy in *Proc Berw Nat Club* II 242 Abdomen shining versicolorous.

**† Ve rsicolour,** *sb Obs*—0 (See quot and next)

1775 Ash *Versi olour*, a variegated or changeable colour

**Ve rsicolour,** *a rare* Also 7, 9 color [ad L. *versicolor*, f *vers*, ppl stem of *vertere* to turn, change, Verse 1 + *color* Colour *sb* So Fr. *versicolore*] = next.

1628 Burton *Anat Mel* (ed. 3) 264 Neate gardens full of exotick versicolour diuersly var ed, sweete smelling flowers 1652 *Ibid* (ed 5) 298 Why do they decke them selues with chaines, girdles, rings versicolor ribbands? [1828 32 Webster, *Versicolor*, having various colors; changeable in color]

**Versicoloured** (vɔ·sikŏlɔ·d), *a* [f as prec. + Coloured *ppl a* Cf the earlier Versecoloured] Changing or varying in colour, iridescent, also, of various colours, variegated

1721 Bailey, *Versicolo red* changing Colour of sundry and changeable Colours 1822 Goode *Study Med* (1829) I 421 Under these circumstances the bile has at different times been found whitish black green, sanguineous and versicoloured 1846 Loudon *Encycl Cottage Farm & Villa Arch* II thou hadst enveloped him in thy versicoloured and cloud like vestiary 1873 M Collins *Squire Silchester* III xxii 246 A rocket drops its versicoloured shower

*Ag* 1887 Vict Strangford *Selection* (1889) I 135 Such views on the subject of the versicoloured policy of France in the East

Hence **Versicolouredness,** 'the being of changeable Colours' (Bailey, 1727, vol II).

**†Versi cular,** *sb Obs*—1 [ad med L *versiculārius*, f. L *versiculus* Versiculus see -ar 2] One whose office it was to say or sing the versicles.

*c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 364 Of the versiculars for the wyke. The two sustres that be tabled to synge the versicles schal synge the *Pewte*

**Versicular** (vɔsi·kiŭlăr), *a.* [f L *versiculus* Versicle *sb* + ar 1] Of or pertaining to, characterized by, consisting of, versicles or verses, esp Biblical verses.

1822 J Hen *Corr* (1834) II 72 The theological uses of the hebraic versicular system 1840 G S Faber *Christ a Disc Capernaum* so That the sort of unconscious delusion produced by the versicular figures may be dissipated 1 Don omitted those figures altogether 1888–3 *Schaff & Lange's Relig Knowl* III 2292 It was in this edition that the versicular division of the Bible was introduced.

**Versicula'tion.** *rare* [f. L *versiculus* or Versicle.] The action or practice of making versicules, the result of this

1893 *Edin Rev* Oct 484 But here we will escape from the polyglot versiculation of Mr Edwin Arnold.

**Versicule** (vɔ·sikiul) *rare.* [a Of (also mod F) *versicule* (14th c; = It, Sp, Pg *versículo*), or ad L *versiculus* see next and Versicle *sb*] A versicle, a short verse or poem

1496 *Cartul St Nicholas Aberdon* (New Spald Cl) I 256 Quhr he be ane choresche or playne Sangster bat can singe Anthons, Responseris and Versicules. 1830 in *Archæol* LXI 84 A booke with the Invitatorys and the versicules noted 1 1500 *Wyntoun's Cron* (Wemyss MS) v xx 3625 Versiculis thare to he can write And sympnis alsua mad he dite. 1861 W H Russell in *Times* 14 May, A variety of versicules, songs, and rhetorical exercitations

**† Versiculus** (vɔsi·kiŭlĕs). Pl. -uli. [L., dim of *versus* Verse *sb* Cf prec and Versicle *sb*] A versicle Chiefly in pl

1755 *Gentl Mag* XXV 93 The late lushop Hare began his enquiry by attempting to discover the length of the ver siculi or lines. 1820 *Blackw Mag* June 323 A sentence of panegyric on my own versiculi 1820 Byron *Lett & Jrnls* (1900) IV 395 Pray let not these versiculi go forth with my name, except among the initiated

**Versie** see Versy *a Obs.*

**Versifiable** (vɔ·sifəi,ăbl), *a rare*—1 [f Versify *v* + -able Cf OF. *versifiable*] That can be versified or put into verse.

1808 Southey *Lett* (1856) IV 109 Names and dates, &c, will precede it (I e. the epitaph) in the usual form, telling all that is not versifiable.

**†Versifical,** *a. Obs*—1 In 6 **verseyfycall,** [f late L *versificus* (cf L *versificāre* to versify) + -al.] Of or pertaining to the making of verse

1545 7 in *Archæol* XXXIV 40 They have the verseyfycall rules of Sulpice gevyn in the morning of one of the vijth formes.

**† Ve rsificate,** *v Obs*—0 [f L. *versificat*, ppl stem of *versificāre* to versify] *intr.* To make verses (Bailey, 1721)

**Versification** (vɔ·sisifikē·ʃən [ad F *versification*, *versificatio*, noun of action f *versificare* to versify So F *versification* (1680), Sp *versificacion*, Pg *acão*, It *-azione*]

1 The action of composing verse, the art or technique of versifying

1 1 Rolland *Crt Venus* (c 1550) II 276 'Versification, meter should perhaps be read for 'Versificat in meter of the text

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1158 The order of writing an Historie came downe as one would say from the stately chariot of versification, to prose, and went a foot 1658 Phillips, *Versification*, a making of Verses. 1706 Pope *Lett* Wks 1736 V 53 The thoughts I have already sent you on the subject of English Versification 1774 Warton *Hist Eng Poet* III 87 Cawdrey affirms, that Adelme first taught his countrymen the art of Latin versification 1790 Cowper *Lett* 23 Sept, After perpetual versification during five years I find myself reduced to it for my amusement 1824 Coleridge *Table t* 7 June How lamentably the art of versification is neglected by most of the poets of the present day! 1861 Wright *Essays Archæol* II xx 153 The southern ecclesiastics adopted this new style of versification for their chant music 1875 Ouseley *Mus Forms* 13 You may teach a man the rules of versification or of melody

2 The form or style in which the words in a poetical composition are arranged, the structure of poetry or verse, measure, metre

1693 Dryden *Juvenal* Ded p v, Donn alone, of all our Country men, had y or Talent, but was not happy enough to observe as y our Versification 1712 Warwick *Pref to Howe's Lucan* p xlvii, As to the Translation it self, the Language is pure and the Versification both musical and suitable to the Subject 1729 I Cooke *Hedd* 137 His Versification is in ostly as faulty as his Sentiment 1759 Johnson *Idler* No 60 P 7 The versification of Rowe he thought too studious for the stage 1823 Byron *Don* Ded, I shall take my chance with that versification in which I have hitherto published nothing 1841 W Spalding *Italy & It Lit* I 139 Virgil was the great model, and his picturesque groups and flowing versification were imitated by many men of letters 1880 L Stephen *Pope* III 75 To make the versification as smooth and the sense as transparent as possible

3 A poetical or metrical version *of* something

1821 *Q Rev* XXV 36 Of this song we have been favoured with the following beautiful versification 1858 Jorax *Crt Knole* 3 Many of his epigrams are said to have been versifications of his own jokes.

**Versificator** (vɔ·sifikē·tɔr) [a L *versificātor* (whence also It *versificatore*, Sp, Pg *versificador*, F. *versificateur*), f *versificare* to versify] One who writes verse, a poet, versifier

1612 Coton, *Versificateur*, a versificator versifier, maker of verses 1688 Shadwell *Medal* Ep A 3 b, His fort is that he is an indifferent good Versificator 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* Ded p v, Donn the best Versificator 1697 — Virgil 1746 W Horsley *Jvol* (1748) I 15 The Sons of Imagination, whether Lovers or Prose Writers, or Versificators 1778 Dibdin *Tours* II 105 Erasmus was no versificator from being as mean a poet as the versificator 1805 *Edin Rev* V 291 The system upon which a certain set of verse makers have lately proceeded 1841 D Israeli *Amenn. Lit* (1867) 477 Alliterations and epithets with mechanical versificators are a mere artifice.

**† Ve rsificatory,** *a Obs*—0 [f Versificate *v*] Belonging to versifying' (Bailey, 1727, vol II)

**Versifica trix** (vɔ·sifikē·triks, L. type **versificātrix*, fem of *versificator* Versificator] A female versifier, a poetess

1784 Beattie in Forbes *Life* (1806) II 247 Johnson told me, with great solemnity, that she [Hannah More] was 'the most powerful versificatrix in the English language

**Versified** (vɔ·sifəid), *ppl a* [f Versify *v* + -ed] Written or composed in verse

1841 W Spalding *Italy & It Lit* III 205 His versified epistles are greatly prized for their taste and feeling 1874 L Stephen *Hours in a Libr* (1892) II vii 210 His poems were versified sermons

**Versifier** (vɔ·sifəi,ə) Forms *a* 4 5 **versifiour,** 5 **fyowre,** 5 **verseflour, -fyour** *β* 5 **vesyfyer, fyar,** 6 **vesyfyer,** 5 **vercifier,** 5– **versifier,** 6 **fyer,** 5 **verseifier,** 5–6 **fyar** [f as next + -ier 1, *versifiour*] (13th c), *versifiour*, OF *versefiere, fierre* (13th c.), *versifieur* (14th c.), f *versifier* see Versify *v* and -er 2]

1 One who versifies or composes verses, a verser or verse maker, a poet

*a c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse* 897 He suld fynd ful litel maistre To mak ioy whilles he here duelles, Ala vn esyfiour in metre þis telles. 1382 Wyclif *Job* Prol, 'Tis whiche thing versifiours more than a symple redere vnderstonden 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xvm xci (Bodl. MS) It is seide þt versifiours likned þe lelye to mannes inwitte. *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 4 Wherfore sen þ a versifiour, 'lat werke onercome thi worde, for boste lesseneþ gode lose' *c* 1450 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Versifyowre (*Vr* versyowre), *versificator*

*β* 14 *Voc* in Wr-Wülcker 681 *Hic versificator*, a versyfyer *a* 1480 *Hanklind* 746 in *Macro Plays* 27 As a nobyll versyfyer makyth mencyon in þis verse. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 13 Omer was an auncient versifier in Greee *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII 405 Of this noble prynce a verysyer made these ii. verses folowynge 1567 Drant *Horace, Sat* II ii H iv, Euil versefyers mocked be, yet haue they to theme ioy 1603 Daniel *Def Rhime* Wks (1717) 32 I his Self Love, wherewith we Versifiers are ever noted to be especially subject 1630 Milton *Hist Eng* v Wks 1851 V 227 Other pretious things, describ d in Malmsbury, tak n out of an old versifier, some of whose verses he re cites 1742 Watts *Improv Mind* I xi § 1 More elevated language than the fondest critics have ever found in any of the Heathen versifiers either of Greece or Rome 1789 Bicknal *Fax* I xii 232 Pope has often been stiled the best versifier in the English language 1826 *Harrovian* 46 He was a good classic, and an excellent versifier 1873 Symonds *Grk Poets* x 333 Those purely rustic poems which have been imitated by versifiers ominous of his gracefulness

2 With depreciative force A mere or poor writer of verse(s), a rhymester, a poetaster

1531 Elyot *Gov* I xiii, Semblably they that make verses, expressynge therby none other lernynge but the craft of versifyeng, be of yncient writers onely called versifyers. 1582 Sidney *Apol Poetrie* (Arb) 28 Now awarme many versifiers that neede neuer answere to the name of Poets 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* I i (Arb) 19 The translator, who may well be sayd a versifier, but not a Poet 1642 Milton *Apol Smect* Wks 1851 III 260 Rather more and humorous in what was tolerable then patient to read every drawling versifier 1652–62 Heylyn *Cosmogr* IV (1682) 85 Philip whom the Versifier (I do not say the Poet) called Philippus Hispanus. 1698 Phillips *Pref Cyder*, A meaner of Verses, generally taken in an ill sense 1781 Sir J Reynolds *Journ Flanders* Wks. 1797 II 112 The modern versifiers, who without a spark of thought easily fall into that false gallop of verse 1821 Lyron *Diary* Wks (1840) 531/2 As different from a n orator as an i provisatore or a versifier from a poet. 1823 Byron *Don* Ded 2 *Just as I am* xix, She thought Byron an ephemeral versifier

**Ve rsiform,** *a rare*—0 [ad L *versiformis* (post class) see -form] (See quots)

1797 Bailey (vol. II), *Versiform*, that changes its Shape 1824 *Imp Dict*, *versiform*, varied in form, changing form used in botany

**Versify** (vɔ·sifəi), *v* Also 4 **versifye, -fie** (5 **uersefie, vesfy**), 5 **veresyfyn, wersyfy,** 5–6 **versyfy** [ad L *versificāre*, *versificari* (13th c. in Godef *Comp*!, = Prov *versifiar*), ad. L *versificare* (whence It *versificare*, Sp, Pg *versificar*), f *versus* Verse *sb* + *facĕre* to make]

1 *intr* To make or compose verses, to write poetry, = Verse *v* 1 1 Also const *upon* (or †*of*) a theme

1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xv 367 For is none of his newe clerkes Pat can versifie faire for to semble children *a* 1440 *Promp Parv* 508/2 Versyfyn, *versificor* 1483 *Cath Angl* 401/1 To versifye, *versificare*, *versificari* *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf* 1262 Yes, yis, sayth I, and versifye 1579 Lodge *Def Poetry*, etc (Hunt Club) 15 Tully attributeth it for prais to Archias y^t vpon any theame he cold versify extempory 1812 Bisset *Life Burnet* (1631) 121 To learne to versifie *ex tempore*, of any ordinary Theame 1656 H More *Enthusi Tri* (1712) 8 Maracus a Poet of Syracuse, who never versified so well as when he was most distracted fits. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* 1 94 Since the World with Writing is Possest, I'll versifie in spite 1728 *Free thinker* No. 136 236 I the Subject promises no small Glory to the Genius who shall versify upon it 1809 Mary Robinson *Ode to Betham I ett* (1905) 51 Cannot 50th versify as you walk? 1884 Dyson *Trans* xiv xix, Speculating On what may suit my story, And never versifying 1841 D Israeli *Amen Lit* (1867) 394 A few scholars had the intrepidity to versify in French with the ancient metres 1897 *Pop Sci Monthly* L 200 Many a poet does not versify because he would, but because he must

2. *trans* To narrate or recount in verse, to treat as the subject of verse

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's Prol* 90 They [tragedies] ben versified communely Of vj feet which men clepen Exametron 1596 Daniel *Crt Ware* I vi, I versify the truth, not poetize 1766 Goldsm *Vic Wf* xviii, The silly poet runs home to versify the disaster 1868 Browning *Ancient Conq* II App 533 The story is versified at great length in the French Life 1872 Lowell *Study Wind*, *Pope* 315 His more ambitious works may be defined as careless thinking carefully versified

3 To turn or convert (a literary piece) into verse, to change from prose into verse, to translate or rewrite in verse-form

1538 Pore (*title*) The Satures of Dr John Donne Versified 1756 J Warton *Ess Pope* I 21 The exalted prophesy of Isaiah which Pope has so successfully versified. 1789 Burney *Hist Mus* III 35 *note*, The 30th Psalm was the first which Luther versified 1824 D Israeli *Quarrels Auth* (1867) 256 Bolingbroke really wrote the 'Essay on Man' which Pope versified. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I, viii 247 These are all in prose like their originals but he also versified some lyrical fragments of Goethe

**Versifying** (vɔ·sifəi·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f prec. + -ing 1] The act or practice of making verses, an instance of this, the art of composing verse; versification

*c* 1450 *Cov Myst.* (Shaks Soc.) 189 No clerke abyl to bere oure book Of versyfyyng, nor of other scyens. 1479 *Paston Lett* III 241, I lake no thynge but wersyfyynge, whyche I wote to have with a lytyll more dylygence. 1508 Barclay *Skholem* II (Arb.) 147 Yet neither of them hath fulfile hite perfite and trew versifying 1580 Sidney *Let to Harvey* Wks. (1912) 636, I perceiue you other whiles continue your old exercise of Versifying in English *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm Hebr* V 14 A scholar exercised in versifying will readily distinguish between a true and false verse 1677 J Partis (*title*), Artificial Versifying; a New Way to make Latin Verses. 1740 J Clarke *Educ. Youth* (ed 3) 61 Of what Use Versifying is, I do not understand 1830 Southey *Bunyan* p. xlix, In versifying he was attempting an art

which he had never learnt, and for which he had no aptitude. 1890 *Athenæum* 6 Aug 190/1 What really genuine poetic inspiration he showed is lost in the commonplace of too idle versifyings.

**b** *attrib*, as *versifying dialogue*, etc

1686 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 424 As to yo[u]r Versifying Dialogue with Him, I like it very well 1726 WATTS *Logic* III ii § 3, I confess some of these logical Subtilties have much more Use than those versifying Tables 1737 *Gent Mag* VII 148/2, I shall exemplify by a Text, where a Singing, or mere Versifying Repetition, is literally express'd 1787 SKINNER *Let in Ms Burns* (1800) II 127, I know a classical education will not create a versifying taste 1821 BYRON *Hints fr Hor* 599 If free all fly his versifying fit 1889 *Athenæum* 11 July 50/2 Godwin desired Wordsworth to undertake the versifying part of the business

**Versifying,** *ppl a* [f as prec + -ING 2] That versifies or writes verses

1580 *Sid & Syd Blast Plays & Theatres* 110 These versifieng Plaie makers 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 18 Shame of the versifying tribe! 1893 WALKER *Three Churchmen* 234 The reverend he looks upon as "quickeners," doing invaluable service to literature by keeping the versifying poochers off Parnassus

**† Versiloquy** *Obs* — [Cf Inte L *versiloquus* that speaks in verse] (see quot)

1727 BAILEY (vol II), *Versiloquy* speaking in Verse

**Versin,** contracted form of *versed sine* VERSED *a*

1807 AIRY in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) I 685 Versin *c* = 1 — cos *c Ibid*, Versin *c* = *a* — *b* (1) 1859 PARKINSON *Optics* (1866) 254 The quantity of light received by the rays is $2r^2 \cdot \text{versin}^2 \frac{1}{2}$ versin a

**Version,** variant of VERZINE *Obs*

**Versing** (vē·sin), *vbl sb* [f VERSE *v* 1 + -ING 1] The action or practice of writing verse; an instance of this, the art or science of verse-making

1581 SIDNEY *Apol Poetrie* (Arb) 49 That which giueth greatest scope, is rymyng and versing 1613 W BROWNE *Brit Past* II i (1616) 19 Verse as well as seemes in versing he hath skill. 1633 G HERBERT *Temple, Flower* vi I once more smell the dew and rain, And relish versing 1644 BULWER *Chiron* Aij, Nay (sayes he) versing in his flaming Chaire Plac'd Phoebus and bestow'd that blazing Haire 1856 ANNE MANNING *Faso & Leonora* 46 Charmed with his smooth versings 1892 M COLLINS *Transmigr* II 102 The man who can relish versing has something much the matter with his psychical health 1892 STOPFORD BROOKE *Fairy Ind Poet* I viii 146 He had before him some ancient versings of the fight

*attrib* 1645 G DANIEL *Poems* Wks (Grosart) II 51 What mad man are we of the versing trade!

**† Versing box** *Obs* — [f obscure meaning; perh connected with VERSE *v*,3 and VERSER 2] *a* 1540 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 230 As I stode musynge in my mynde Haruy Haffer came leping, I ghte as I rode Vpon his breste he bare a versyng boxe

**Version** (vē·ʃən), *sb* [? F *version* (It *version*, Sp *version*, Pg *versão*), or ad L *version*, *versio*, noun of action from *vertere* to turn]

**1.** A rendering of some text or work, or of a single word, passage, etc, from one language into another, a translation, also (rarely), the action or process of translating

Freq with adjs denoting the language into which the translation is made

1582 N I (Rheinish) Pref b ij, Trusting that it may giue occasion to you hereafter to aduance your more impure versions as hitherto you haue been forced to occupy e 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f Beasts* 435, I vtterly seclude al their opinions, which translate this word Amhan wolues for the Hæbrew notes cannot admit such a version or exposition *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett* (1650) II 61 Things translated into another tongue lose of their primative vigor and strength, unless a paraphraticall version be permitted 1682 LEIGH *Anat Plants* Pref, The Second Lecture is also translated into French by Mons. Mesmin, whose Version is very well approved by those who are competent Judges 1728 PRIOR *Poems Several Occas* Pref, His excellent Version of the *Carmen seculare* 1794 BURKE *Pref to Brissot's Addr Constit Wks* VII 327 The Translator has only to say for himself, that he has found some difficulty in this version 1806 H K WHITE *Rem Poems Poets* Remains (1825) 356 None of our better versions of Ossian have failed to preserve the original graces of these verses [of Ps xviii] 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist India* I iii vi 503 Such of those literal versions as we possess in English (which are mostly from the 'Rámáyana') 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* viii § 1 448 The English version of the Bible remains the noblest example of the English tongue

**b** *Sc.* A translation from English into Latin prose done as a school or university exercise, a piece of English prose set for translation into Latin

1711 *Burgh Rec Aberdeen* (1872) II 345 Their proficiency in themms, versions, poeticall composurs, and orations. *c* 1890 HUME in Walker *Burgh Sch Accord* (1896) 69 When we our versions wrote, nae Lexicon had we to help us.

**2.** The particular form of a statement, account, report, etc, given by one person or party, an account resting upon limited authority or embodying a particular point of view.

1588 in *Ld Auckland's Corr* (1861) II 93 The version which we received here respecting the famous Scarborough cruise 1885 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xviii IV 274 The Whig version of the story is that the old soldier Mac Donald had laid an ambuscade for the soldiers. The Jacobite version appeared in the Paris Gazette of the seventh of April. 1897 *Source Cæsar* xi 140 The version generally received of what he actually did say 1907 *Verney Mem* II 254 Sir Roger sends his version of the reconciliation between Monk and the City.

**b.** A special form or variant of something

1838 I TAYLOR *Spir. Despot* viii 345 To see Christianity freed from the bonds of every peculiar version 1858 MADDEN *Milton* (1859) I 679 In the cause of true religion, or of the Scottish version of it 1908 SIR H MAXWELL *Guide Holyrood* 20 This painting is a larger version of one at Windsor Castle

**† 3** A turning about, a change of direction *Obs*

1625 BACON *Ess* II *Cases of Treas* (Arb) 521 What Kinde of Comet, for Magnitude, Colour, Version of the Beames or Lasting produceth what Kinde of Effects 1706 CONGREVE *Disc Pindaric Ode* A ij b, The first was call'd the Strophe, from the Version or circular Motion of the Singers in that Stanza from the Right Hand to the Left

**b** *Obstet* The operation of manually turning the child so as to facilitate delivery

1853 J V SIMPSON *Obstet Path & Treat* 17 I now found an obstruction to the complete version of the infant 1889 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* VII 628/2 The term version is applied to all operations by which the long axis of the child is changed in its relation to the long axis of the uterus

**† 4.** CONVERSION, transformation *Obs*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 27 Springs, which the Ancients thought to be made by the Version of Aire into Water 1656 — *New Atl Wks.* 1011 Version of bodies into other Bodies 1666 BOYLE *Orig Formes & Qual* 407 As to the version of Water into Earth, by a seemingly slight Operation

Hence **Version** *v trans*, to translate. **Versional** *a*, pertaining to a version or translation **Versioner, Versionist,** one who produces a version, a translator **Versionize** *v trans*, to render into another tongue, to translate

1716 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* III *Arcanum* 19 Baddes brief Description His Name was cause of to be versioned into Latin 1884 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Jan, At the time the Scriptures had been versioned into the King James version 1892 *Academy* 19 Oct 343/2 And still the suggestions for emendations [of the Bible], whether textual or versional 1910 *Expositor* Nov 409 The versional variants exist only in that Hebrew text 1806 in *H A Hebrew Reader* (1829) 159 Our versioner, by adding an *s* to it, has rendered them both plurals. 1782 LEPHINSTON tr *Biar Prud Ivod* 118 [or Mantua] 5 Editor and Versioner 1811 R DIXON *Interpr Sixty eighth Ps* 46 note All the ancient versionists seem to have thought, that the valley in this verse represented Egypt 1823 J TAYLOR *Hebr Poetry* 338 Serviceable as Jewish versionists are, it was not their function to concern themselves with the soul of the national literature 1874 H COPPÉE *Eng Lit* (ed 3) 4 Wyclif's psalm was soon again to be "versionized into English.

**† Versipellous,** *a Obs* — [f L *versipell-is*, f *vers*, *vertere* to turn + *pellis* skin] Having the faculty of changing the skin In quot *fig*

1650 *Bp Hall Humble Remon* 128 I could demonstrate it to be Heterogeneous, Heterodoxous Incongruous Versipellous.

**† Versity.** *Obs* [Abbrev of UNIVERSITY] = VARSITY

1618 HECKERINGILL *Hist Whiggism* 1 Wks 1716 I 37 M Lantivet is a Gr duate and no small Fool I assure you he has been at the — Versity 1691 MRS D ANLES *Academia* 8 Where e re he's sent to th Versity

**† Versle,** *v Obs rare* Also 3 **uerslen, uerselian,** 4 **vorsail** [ad OF *verseiller, sailler, seller*, etc — I type **versiculare* f L *versiculus* VERSICLE *sb*] *intr* To say or sing versicles or verses of the Psalms, esp during Divine Office Also *trans*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 44 Mid him ne schule se nouðer uerslen ne singen 1340 — *Prick of Conscience* 1 120 Pauls heu uerselie, & sigge hire vres, & hire Pater nostres *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* 1 Lord y shil synge mercy and iugement to þe y shal vnderstonde in a wai vnfiled *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 16472 Þys salme þey songe & versiled hit al wyþ-outyme.

Hence **† Versling** *vbl sb Obs*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 44 Verslunge of lure sautere, redinge of Englischis, o'er of Frenchis holi meditacius.

‖ **Verso** (vē·sō) [L *verso* (sc *folio* leaf), abl sing neut of *versus* pa pple of *vertere* to turn So F and Pg *verso*]

**1** The back of a leaf in a manuscript or printed book; the side presented to the eye when the leaf has been turned over Also abbrev V or v

The left hand page of a book is the verso of that leaf, an its faces the RECTO of the next

1839 HALLIWELL *Maundeville* Introd p xiii, See f 71 v° 1850 GOODWIN *Mansfield Inscription Bible* I 51 In the verso commences with the eleventh chapter of the Epistle to the Romans 1873 *Acad Brit Assoc* 1 43 Sines counes and secants are given on the versos of the pages of volumes 1898 *Athenæum* 12 Nov 676 The text begins on the verso of the title page

*fig* 1893 HENRY *Amer Ism* I Pref 77 It was not long before I had the verso of this agreeable recto of one leaf of my library life

**2** The reverse of a coin, medal, or the like

1891 *Cent Dict* 1914 P E NEWBERRY in *Anc Egypt* 6 On the verso of the same palette there is a scene (etc.)

**Versoke,** southern ME. pa t FORSAKE *v*

**† Versor** 1. *Obs* In 5 versour(e [a AF **versour* (F. *verseur*), f *verser* to pour, VERSE *v*.4] (See quots)

*a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 77 One chief sobyr yeoman vessour, to receyve all the ale or beer that shall be pourveyede. *Ibid* Othyr twoe grooms vessours in this office to helpe to lodge theyre ale, to helpe drawe it [etc.]

**Versor** 2 (vē·sɔɹ) [a. L. type **versor*, f *vers-*, *vertere* to turn]

**† 1** The needle of a compass. *Obs rare*

1640 G. WATTS tr *Bacon's Adv Learn.* V ii 229 So the versor of a Mariners needle applies it selfe to the Poles of the world.

**2** *Math* In quaternions, an operator which changes the direction of a vector without altering its length

*a* 1865 SIR W R HAMILTON *Elem Quaternions* II i (1866) 133 We shall now say that every Radial Quotient is a Versor. A Versor has thus, in general, a plane, an axis, and an angle. 1886 W S ALDIS *Solid Geom* (ed 4) xiv 235 If the two vectors OA and OB be of equal length the change of one into the other is merely an operation of rotation In this case the quaternion is called a versor

**Versse(e,** southern ME. var PRESH *a*

**Verst** (vɔɹst) Forms *a* 6–8 **werste,** 6, 8 9 **werst,** 7 **worst** 7–8 **wurste** *β* 6– **verst,** 6 8 **versto,** 7 **vorst** 6 **verse** (*pl* **versse**), 7 **ferse** [ad Russ *peperstá* partly through G *werst* and F *verste*] A Russian measure of length equal to 3500 English feet or about two thirds of an English mile

*a* 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 322 From Moscouia to the citie of Vuolochda are numbered [500] Wurstes one Werst conteynynge almoste the space of an Italyan myle 1606 J DAVIES tr *Olearius Voy Ambass* 27 We left Novogorod and got forwards 36 Werstes or seven Leagues 1715 *Lond Ga.* No 5393/2 He was not gone above 12 Wurstes or Russian Miles 1774 *Ann Reg* II 151 Having approached this island within almost three wersts or two English miles, the vessel was suddenly surrounded by ice 1818 BARON *Hasselqu* xvii Many a verst have I passed in a wood burst, The weary brute still stagger'd on 1841 MOTLEY *Corr* (1889) I iv 73 The road fr m Twurogoen to Petersburg is 24 wersts

*β* 1557 JENKINSON in Hakluyt *Voy* (1886) III 198 Vologhi 4 and Mosco are accon pted 500 versstes asunder *c* 1571 J STOW *Chron* (1580) 1141 (Soc.) In 339 The river oca, which is 20 verste distant from Mosco 1591 *Sylvester Du Bartas Second Colonie* (Hakl Soc) 2 Little inthmus of narrow shippe of lande, 3 fewe wersts onethe broad 1857 MORYSON *Itin* I 295 In Russia among the Moscovites confining upon Poland a mile is called a ferse 1633 PAGITT *Christianogr* 23 From the farthest part vnto Sibe ria Eastward, is 4400 verst or thereabouts *a* 1670 [S COTLAND] *Lyric St Austin* (1671) 83 Some run away ten Versts before they could be overtaken 1760 *Phil Trans* LI 490 It runs from a great lake which I saw in the year and a half from its mouth 1773 WRAXALL *Jour North Europe* 218 Muscovite lords commonly go fifty and sixty versts to make visits to each other 1808 R K PORTER *Trav Sk Aust & Swed* (1813) I 27 Seventy or eighty versts above St Petersburgh 1864 BUCKINGHAM *Eng Mech* 488 A country house of the Tzar's seven versts from Moscow 1879 BROWNING *Jean Jean* 194 No strength old crone — not a Czar to crawl forth I shd vex!

**Verste,** southern ME var FIRST *a* and *adv*, obs Sc ff WORST *a* **Versuore,** southern ME var *forswore* I ORSWORN

‖ **Versus** (vɔ·sŭs) *prep* [L] Against, employed in *Law* to denote an action by one party against another Also *transf* Freq abbrev I also *ver*, *vs*)

1447–8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett* (Camden) 53 Also the juggement by twene John Hus et *versus* John Notte 1451 *Paston Lett* I 121 I se dyuw the *sayes[ ]cas* for Osbern and Foke *versus* Heydon a d Wyndham. 1621 *Decades Ben Law* (Camden) 6 Suyt per Fowles it is Starr et umber *versus* Lake and others 1744 J COMYNS *Reports of Cases* 934 Mallis *ver* Eyre and Underhill 1774 J ADAIR *Anal L ii* (1856) 19 I am engaged in a famous cause — the cause of King *v* Sacrborough *versus* the mob that broke into his house 1822 SCOTT *Pereril* Pref Ep. She may use me for damages as in the case of *Scrogs versus* Dr Quincey *Casuistry Rom Meals* Wks 1890 VII 22 Generally such a person is "rather yellow, rather yellow (to quote Canning *versus* Lord Durham) 1873 H SIDGWICK *Pol Synod* ii 8 The old battle ground of free will *versus* necessity 1894 *Outing* Feb 397/2 The Rambler *v* the Lumberman an indictment for assault

**Versute** (vɔɹsiūt, vɔ·ɹsiūt), *a* [ad L *versūt-us*, f *vers*, *vertere* to turn] Cunning, crafty will

1626 J LANE *Contn Spr* 47 IX 15 Her 2 t the heire with tenuite threes. No lee nor wrong attached at vers te politice or once out runn at harde chivalrie 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch* 1 xix 332 A person of very sly, reclusive gravity, also of versute and vertiginous policy 1790 PERRY *Fr w Land* 1 6 The second, which is a more versute and specious forgery

Hence **Versutely** *adv*, **Versuteness.**

Also † *versutiously* 'a crafty talker one using words craftily' (Blount *Glossogr*, 1656), and † *versutiousness* 'talking cunningly or craftily' (Bailey, vol II, 1727) both after L. *versutiosus*

1626 J LANE *Contn Spr* 47 2 x 108 Now guilte Horbell Leifurcke, Gnartolite castinge on chaunge the hipp versutle bite. 1685 H MORE *Cursory Refl Bacster* 29 That he may become really sensible and ashamed of his present Crooked Versuteness and Hypocrisie. 1710 R WARD *Life H More* 81 Some Keenness of Stile, Versuteness of Temper and Hypocrisie in Religion 1859 MAURICE *Mor & Met Philos* IV vi § 89. 286 An ingenious explanation of a cuteness and versuteness

**† Versutious,** *a Obs* — [f L. *versūt-us*] = prec.

1660 *Strd Conf Bethn Cromwell & H Peters* 7 What do I not owe thee for thy versutious Complements to my Lady Lambert

**† Versy,** *a. Obs* — *Her* In 6 versie [a F *versé*, pa pple of *verser* see VERSE *v* — F *versé* has been used in some mod. heraldic books] Renversé, reversed

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II 36b He beareth d'Or, a Cheuron Versed d'Azure.

**Verayole,** obs form of VERRICLE *sb*

**Verayowre** see VERBER[1]

**Verd** (vɜːd), *adv* (and *a*) Also 5 **veert** 5 7 **verte** [a AF and OF *vert* (=o mod F , for merly also *verd* VERD *a*.), = Prov *vert*, Cat *verd*, Sp, Pg, and It *verde* —L. *virid em, viridis* green, VIRID *a*.]

**1.** Green vegetation growing in a wood or forest and capable of serving as cover for deer

1[5] *Forest Laws* (MS. Ince 339) fol 73 As touching the kinges veert, that is to say the kinges wodes if ther be ony mann that hath felled ony gret okes [etc] 1577 HARRISON *Englande* II xv 20 *Holinshed* I 89 b/1 The better preservation of such venison and vert of all sortes as were nourished in the same 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* vi § 1 33 b [Hence in later Digests etc.] 1702 *Phil Trans* XXIII 1097 While this Country was a Chace, and while the Vert was preserv'd 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm* III 71 The punishment of all injuries done to the king's deer or *venison*, to the *vert* or greenwood 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) III 143 Destruction of vert is destruction of venison 1830 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 62 A royal demesne covered with vert, and well stocked with deer 1871 *Daily News* 18 Sept, The Lord of the Manor had enclosed four hundred acres of waste land, and had destroyed the vert on parts thereof

*transf* 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem Clergy* 19 b The fourth is humble Ivy intersert, But lowlie laid, Preserved in her natural bed of Vert, No faith's more firme, then where t doth creep

**b** Coupled with *venison* (The common use)

Freq without article

1455 *Rolls of Parl* V 319/2 The overaight of verte and venyson in all the Parkes. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* II 459/2 The k[ing] appointed foure iustices to be as surueyers abous all other Foresters of vert & venison 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xvii 95, I that which tendeth to the hurt and annoyance of the Vert and the Venison 1612 SIR J DAVIES *It by Ireland*, etc. (1747) 164 The great plenty both of Vert and Venison within this land 1790 PYNNEL *Hist Fug* II 820 Every Forester in Fee shall Attach Pleas of the Forest as well concerning Vert as Venison 1772 *Journ Lett* Iowan (1938) 4 Holding Courts of Attachment with vert, or venison, it was declared to be equivalent to indictment 1835 J P KENNEDY *Horse Shoe* I xxxvii He gave much of his time to the concerns of vert and venison 1840 *Encyc Cycl* XVI 1752/1 In the same Chapter also with ke pers duty is to preserve the vert and venison in their respective bailiwicks and walks

**†c** *Neither, ever, special vert* (see quots) *Obs*

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* vi § 2 34 There are two sorts of Vert in euery Forrest, that is to say, Ouer vert and, Neather vert. Ouer vert is that, which the Lawyers do call Hault Boys, and Neather vert is that, which the Lawyers do call South Boys and in the Forrest lawes, Ouer vert is all manner of Hault Boys or great wood, nawel such as beareth fruit, as such as beareth none. *Ibid* 35 Specuall vert, which is euery tree and bush within the Forrest that doth beare fruite to feed the Deere withall as Peare trees, Crabtrees Hawthornes, and such like [Hence in later Law Digts, etc.] 1787 NELSON *Laws conc Game* 231 *Special vert* which may be either ouer or nether vert or both if it beare fruit for nourishing of the hunted special vert but such which beareth fruit to feed the deer

**2** *ellipt* The right to cut green trees or shrubs in a forest Now *arch*

1639 in Maitland *Hist Edinburgh* (1753) II 251/1 All their antient Rights, with their Coallowes, Sack and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert Wrack Waifs [etc] 1707 in *State, Fraser & Fraserfield* 320 (Jam.), Cum furca fossa, vert, veth, venison put et Coallows 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl The Holy Cleek shall have a grant of vert and venison in my woods of Warncliffe. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* vii, His rights of vert and venison extended over a wide district, by around 1884 KINGSLEY *Rom & Teut* 257 The nobles about gave up to him their rights of venison, and vert, and pasture, and pannage of swine

**†3.** A green plant or shrub *Obs*[-1]

1648 J RAYMOND *H Merc Hal* 129 Byves, Locusts, Pomegranates, and such like Verts, that grow wild in the Hedges.

**†4.** A green colour or pigment *Obs*

1481-90 *Howard Housh Bks* (Roxb) 339 Item for iij dos of golde paper, and silver rowsche clere and verte, vnl 1572 in Feuilleret *Revels Q Eliz* (1908) 178 Item Sapp Crymsen, White, Broune. 1582 *Ibid* 359 Paste bord, paper, and paste, white, sise, verte, Syneper

**5** *spec in Her* The tincture green Also as *adj*

*c* 1567 *Testes M* xxxvi 28 in Hail *Q Eliz P* II 114 For a cognysaunce Of Mayes month they bare a souenaunce Of a verte cocle was the resemblaunce, Tatched rygth fast 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 1 That is, the greene, & blased Vert *Ibid.* And nowe we to the fourth colour, Vert a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr & Stell* xiii In vert field Mars bare a golden speare 1860 PEACOCK *Compl Gentl* xv (1906) 194 A plaine crosse Vert, by the name of Hussey 1846 G DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I 44 [To] tell you how they beare Gules, or, vert, azure—heathen words for Red Yellow, green, blue 1855 FULLER *Anthologica* (1869) 278 The whole field was vert or green 1856 BLOUNT *Glossogr* (Hence in Phillips, etc.) 1727 BAILEY (vol II), *Vert* (in Heraldry) signifies Green and in Graving is expressed by Diagonal Lines, drawn from the Dexter Chief Corner, to the Sinister Base. 1815 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* I (1816) I 20 Some [insects] she has

‖ **Vertebrata** (vɑ̈tbrē′tă). *Zool.* [mod.L (Cuvier), n. L *vertebrāta* (sc *animālia*), neut. pl of *vertebrātus*: VERTEBRATE a ]

1. With *the*. A division of the animal kingdom including all animals which have a backbone or its equivalent.

1826 KIRBY & SP *Entomol.* xxvii III 44 The difference here between Insects and the Vertebrata seems very wide. 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 232 The blood of the Mollusca appears to contain a smaller proportionate quantity of fibrine than that of the Vertebrata 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI 277/1 In the *Vertebrata* the brain and principal trunk or chord of the nervous system is enclosed in a bony or gristly case composed of the skull and the vertebræ. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat Inv Anim* 49 Even the hiatus between the *Vertebrata* and the *Invertebrata*, is partly, if not wholly, bridged over

2. A group or class of these, a number of vertebrate animals

1881 D WILSON *Preh Ann* IV VII 644 The geologist, without seeking to reanimate these extinct vertebrata, learns much regarding the past composition of the colossal remains. 1895 H SPENCER *Princ Psychol* (1872) I I I 4 Between the water breathing vertebrata and air breathing vertebrata there is an equally conspicuous difference in energy 1890 ROLLESTON *Anim Life* 3 In every Mammalian skeleton the vertebræ in the trunk always differ from those of the different lower vertebrata in the following points

**Vertebrate** (vɜ̈ stĭbrĕt), *a.* and *sb* [ad L *vertebral-us* (Pliny), jointed, articulated, f *vertebra* VERTEBRA. Cf. prec and INVERTEBRATE ]

A. *adj* 1. *Zool* Of or belonging to the Vertebrata, characterized by having a backbone or spinal column Freq in *vertebrate animal*

1826 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* xxviii III 42 Here forms a pretty accurate distinction between insects and the great bulk of vertebrate animals a 1843 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 292 The passive motive Organs or Skeleton of the Vertebrate Series of Animated Beings 1879 GILMORE tr *Figuier's Reptl & Birds* Introd 4 A bountiful Creator appears to have adopted one general plan in the organization of all the vertebrate animals 1881 *Nature* No 631 337 I he highest of them, called the vertebrate sub kingdom comprises ourselves with all beasts, birds, reptiles, fish, frogs and toads, and fishes

*Comb* 1863 DANA *Man Geol* 276 In most of these vertebrate tailed species the vertebral column extends into the upper lobe of the tail

b. *Bot* (See quot )

1832 LINDLEY *Introd Bot* 390 *Vertebrate*, when the leaf is contracted at intervals, there being an articulation at each contraction, as in Cassytha filiformis

2 Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, found in, a vertebrated animal or animals

1848 OWEN (*title*), On the Archetype and Homologies of the Vertebrate Skeleton 1854 H MILLER *Sch & Schm* XII (1860) 229/1 The second age of vertebrate existence—in our planet 1857 H SPENCER in *Westm Rev* Apr 450 The earliest known vertebrate remains are those of Fishes 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 665/2 In the vertebrate eye, the film ments of the optic nerve penetrate the retina,

*Vbl* 1879 MINTO *Eng Prose Lit* I III 201 A vertebrate skeleton of the work.

3 *fig* a. Of persons. Having connective mental powers

1879 O W HOLMES *Motley* XIX 146 The archivists and annalists will pile up facts until the vertebrate historian comes with his generalizing ideas

b. Of writings, etc Connectedly put together, characterized by strength or consistency

1882 GOSSE in Grosart *Spenser* III p XIVI, Ramsay's *Gentle Shepherd* remains the most vertebrate and interesting bucolic drama produced in Great Britain 1884 *Athenæum* 15 Nov 633/2 The new comedy is more than a little lachrymose and is scarcely vertebrate 1900 *Nat Rev* 14 Mar 367 We have a right to expect something more vertebrate, if he is to take place in literature

B. *sb.* A member of the Vertebrata, a vertebrate animal

1826 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* XIV IV 240 The antennæ of insects are analogous to ears in Vertebrates 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. King* I 33 The general plan of their organization is not so uniform as that of the vertebrates 1870 P HOWEN *Logic* VI 155 Some wingless animals are not vertebrates

**Vertebrate,** *v.* [f prec.] *trans.* To connect or join after the manner of vertebræ

1891 in *Cent Dict* 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 199 As like each other as two vertebrated in one pod 1910 *Q Rev* Jan 69 They [*sc* satires] were written in rough diction and vertebrated with peasant phrases and peasant wit

**Vertebrated** (vɜ̈ stĭbrĕtĕd), *ppl a* [f VERTEBRATE *a* + -ED ]

1. = VERTEBRATE *a.* 1. Freq in *vertebrated animal*(*s*).

1828 STARK *Elem Nat Hist* I 371 Vertebrated animals with cold red blood, respiring by gills or branchiæ 1835 J DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat Lib) 74 Certain relations of analogy which some of the species are thought to bear to the vertebrated tribes. 1849 SAXE *Poems* (1873) 120 One of those vertebrated vermin That lie in the grass so prettily curled 1874 CARPENTER *Ment Phys* I II § 57 (1879) 57 The Vertebrated series, of which Man is the highest representative.

2 Consisting of, provided with, vertebræ

1863 DANA *Man Geol* 276 All these ancient fishes [Ganoids] have vertebrated tails 1884 BOWEN *Logic* x 323 Among inorganic bodies, the metallic property is an instance of the former class; among animals, the possession of a vertebrated column or backbone.

3. *transf.* Constructed in a manner suggestive of vertebræ.

1840 *Civil Eng & Arch. Jrnl* III 36/2 A vertebrated carriage left the station at Euston Square with one of the trains for Birmingham *Ibid*, The vertebrated carriage adapted itself to all curves with the greatest facility

**Vertebration** (vɜ̈ stĭbrē′ʃən). [f VERTEBRA ]

1 Vertebral formation, division into segments like those of the spinal column Also in fig context

1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 179/2 Some writers have maintained that the vertebration of the *Vertebrata* may be understood as having reference to the segmentation of the muscles of the body wall 1889 *Theol Monthly* Jan 48 His style rather resembles a cellular tissue which may admit of growth on many sides, rather than a compact logical vertebration.

2 *fig* ' Backbone', strength or firmness.

1884 W G WILLS in *Pall Mall G* 28 July 4/2 Poetry and rhetoric, which have not the heart, life, and vertebration behind, are an impertinence and intrusion 1892 W S LILLY *Gt Enigma* 313 Doctrine is the vertebration of religion

**Vertebratish,** *rare*—1 [f VERTEBRATE *sb* + ISH ] An authority upon the spine or back bone

1866 *Reader* 31 Mar 331 (Theory of the skeleton), The 'orthodox' ideas of ordinary vertebratists.

**Vertebre.** *Anat.* and *Zool* ? *Obs* Also 7, 9 verteber [a F *vertèbre* see VERTEBRA In sense 1 ad. L *vertebrum* ]

†1. The rounded top of the thigh-bone *Obs*—1

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest Chirurg* I v, The endes of the bones of the thyghes, called vertebres.

2. = VERTEBRA 1

1578 BANISTER *Hist Man* I 19 b The first Vertebre of the necke is more solid, then all the bones els of the backe 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 9 That part of the necke which is next to the Atlantick Vertebre 1692 RAY *Disc* 109 The Vertebres of Thornbacks and other Cartilaginous Fishes 1738 *Phil Trans* XL. 37 The upper extremity of the *medulla spinalis*, in the first vertebre of the neck 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* (1776) II 32 A kitten had its head cut off between the first and second vertebre of the neck 1834 CAUNTER *Oriental Ann* VIII 107 A morsh or footstool, formed of a vertebre of some large creature *Ibid* 108 The attendants brought away the jaw and half a dozen of the vertebres

*b* 1808-32 WEBSTER, *Vertebre* a 1843 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 292/2 The animal consists of a set of consecutive, cartilaginous, horny pieces called vertebres

†3. The spine, = VERTEBRA 2 *Obs*—0

1643 COCKERAM 1, *Vertebre* the chine or backe bone.

†4. = pisces *Obs*—0

1696 PHILLIPS (ed 5), *Vertebres*, the whole Ridge of the Back Bone

**Vertebriform,** *a rare.* [f VERTEBRA + (I) FORM ] Having the form of a vertebra

1847-9 TODD'S *Cyc Anat* IV I 672/2 The mode in which the vertebriform scapulæ contract a connection with the costiform clavicles and coracoid bones *Ibid*

**Vertebro-** (vɜ̈ stĭbrē), comb form, on Greek models, of VERTEBRA, occurring in various terms of *Anat*, as *vertebro-arterial, -basilar, -chondral, -costal, -femoral, -iliac, -sacral, -sternal*

In recent medical and other Dicts

**Ve rted,** *ppl a Her rare*—0 [f VERT *v* 1] (See quot c 1828 s v VERTANT *a* )

**Verte(e)go,** *obs.* ff VERTIGO

†**Verte(e)r,** *adv. Obs*—1 [After OI *vertement, vetement* (15th c ) in the same sense, f *verte* green, youthful, energetic, etc ] With activity or readiness, quickly, readily

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 3168 Vertely the awaumwarde voydez there bonesez, In the Vertemonne vale, the vines i manges

**Vertent,** *a Obs rare* [ad L *vertent-em*, pres. pple of *vertĕre* to turn, etc ] *Vertent year*, a cycle of the celestial bodies, containing 15,000 solar years

After L *annus vertens* (Cic *R p* vi 22, 24)

1623 HEYWOOD *Hierarch* III 147 Thus great and vertent years is, when the Sun, all stars and planets brought to their first station After their much and long Peregrination 1636 *Love's Mistress* and Prol, Who so un read doth not of Plato hears, The Mighty Magnus, that his Vertent year set

**Verteous,** -**ly,** obs. forms of VIRTUOUS, -LY.

**Vertew,** obs. form of VIRTUE

**Vertex** (vɜ̈ rteks). Pl. **vertices** (vɜ̈ rtĭsēz), also **vertexes.** [a L. *vertex* whirl, whirlpool, VORTEX, crown of the head, highest point, summit, etc, f *vertĕre* to turn Cf VERTICE ]

1. *General* The point opposite to the base of a (plane or solid) figure, the point in a curve or surface at which the axis meets it, an angular point, as of a triangle or polygon

1570 DEE *Math Pref* C ij, From the vertex, to the Circumference of the base of the Cone 1571 DIGGES *Pantom* IV XXV Hh b, A triangured Icosaedron may be resolued into 12 Pentagonal and 20 hexagonal Pyramides, concurring with their toppes or vertices all in the centers of this transformed Solide 1658 PHILLIPS *Relat Spher* I (1659) 355, 4 Triangles or rather Cones, of water, whose vertices rest cut off (as it were) by the middle stream of water 1672 BOYLE *Particular Rainbow* 22 The two triangles that terminated like those of a Pyramid in a Vertex 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr* 13 Two half Parabolas whose Vertex's are Cc. 1745 SIMSON *Fluxions* 1950 In the vertices of Curves where they cut the Abscissa at right angles. 1840 LARDNER *Geom* II 17 These lines are called the sides of the angle, and the point C where the sides unite, is called its vertex 1860 TYNDALL *Glac* I VII 54 Along the two sides of a triangle the vertex of which was near the centre of the glacier 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl Kinemat* 12 The parallelogram must now be pointed at its four vertices.

b. *Optics.* (See quot.)

1704 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* I, *Vertex of a Glass* (in Opticks) is the same with its Pole. 1797 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) XIII 288 Draw the ray RC through the centre, cutting the [spherical] surface in the point V, which we shall denominate the *vertex*, while RC is called the *axis* 1803 HUTTON *Sci & Art* I 348 To find the vertex or centre of a lens 1867 J HOGG *Microsc* I II 18 The point where the axis cuts the surface is called the vertex of the lens.

c. *Astr.* (See quot )

1876 G F CHAMBERS *Astron* 922 *Vertex* a term used to designate that point in the limb of the Sun, the Moon, or of a planet intersected by a circle passing through the zenith and the centre of the body

2 The point in the heavens vertically overhead, or directly above a given place, the zenith *Latitude or meridian of vertex* (see quot c 1850)

1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Epi* II ii 62 The true meridian is a major circle passing through the poles of the world, and the Zenith or Vertex of any place 1665 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* (1677) 4 These coasts of people freeze within the polar circles, the Pole being the Vertex, and the Æquator their direct Horizon *Ibid* 39 The heat when the Sun comes to the Vertex, is much more intense than it is about the Polar Circles 1715 tr *Gregory's Astron* I 326 When the Phænomenon is in A Z the common Az muth of the two places on the Earth's Surface upon for this purpose, whose Vertex are Z and Z 1748 *Anson's Voy* II v 182 The Sun was within about three degrees of the vertex c 1850 *Ainsw Navig* (Weale) 54 Either of these points is called the *vertex* of the great circle which it belongs; the arc intercepted between the vertex and the equator is the *latitude of vertex*; the meridian that passes through the vertex is the *meridian of vertex*

*Sailor's Word-bk, Vertex*, the zenith, the point overhead

3 *Anat* (and *Zool*) The crown or top of the head, *esp* in man, the part lying between the occiput and the sincipit

[1615 CROOKE *Body Man* II ii (1631) 434 The middle part of the scalpe is gibbous or round, the Latins call it *Vertex*, because in that place the haires runne round in a ring as waters do in a whirle pooles] 1658 A. *Wood Life* (Oxf Hist) III 389 *Vertex*, the crown, that which is betweene the former two, somewhat arched 1680 S HAWORTH *Disc Com Mist* 115 The middle Line between them, which is oblique is called Vertex 1754-64 SHELLIE *Midwif* I 86 [In child birth] the crown or vertex is the first part that is pressed down, because the bones at that part of the skull make the least resistance 1775 *Encycl. Brit* II 226/2 The [Columba] turbita, with a short bill, and a plain vertex 1840 E WILSON *Anat Vade M* (1842) 43 The skull is divisible into four regions—the occipital region or vertex, a lateral region, an inferior and an interior region 1873 COUES *Birds N W* (1874) 282 That the young males have more or less of the vertex yellow and the whole of an occipital crescent of scarlet 1888 P L SCLATER *Argentine Ornith* I 137 Vertex more or less tinged with rufous *attrib* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 446 In the vertex cases [of tuberculous meningitis] *Ibid* VIII 8 The forceps was employed fifteen times in vertex presentations

b *Ent* (See quots )

1826 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* III 365 *Vertex*, the horizontal part of the *Facies*, next from that lies behind the eyes and between the temples *Ibid* 487 In *Blatta* and some other *Orthoptera* the posterior angle of the head is the vertex 1861 J LE CONTE *Classif Coleopter N Amer* I I fol 1 x II e upper surface is divided into regions, the back part being called the *occiput*, the *vertex*, and the anterior the *front* 1897 W F KIRBY in Mary King ley *W Afric* 719 *Trachomeira insignis*. Face nearly smooth, shining black below the vertex

4 The top, summit, or highest point of something, esp a hill or structure, the crown of an arch

† Also, a high piece of land, an eminence (*obs* )

1641 R BROOKE *Eng Epis* 21, I am neere the Apex of this question, which yet (For I was like) hath a double Vertex, a twofold tope 1651 HOBBES *Leviath* II xxvi 161 The great diversity of Soyls that are found there every Vertex or Eminency almost affrighting new kinds 1702 FALCONER *Shipwr* III 243 Its fan altar a Vertex calculi from the ground 1770 PENNANT *Brit Zool* (1777) IV 142 *Lat lia fulgata* Vertex pretty near the centre. 1821 PINKERTON *Petralogy* II 338 I have more than a hundred and fifty paces distant from the vertex of the cone 1827 *Cent Mag* XCVII II 9 A conical dome on the vertex of which is a gilt cross 1879 *Gentlem's Mag* CCXLV I 137 The highest point in the intrados is called the vertex of the curve

*fig* 1865 MOZLEY *Miracles* VI 130 The question whether man is or is not the vertex of nature

**Vertexes,** *gren*(*ĕ*)*s*, etc. obs ff VERTICIRIS

**Verpe, Verping, Verpore, Verpuorp,** sonth em ME. variants of FOURTH, FARTHING, FARTHER, FAR FORTH

†**Vertibi lity.** *Obs* Also 5 vertybylyte 6 vertibilite [ad med L. *vertibilitat-em*: *vertibilitas* see next and ITY Cf Sp *vertibilidad* ] Capacity for turning or changing, changeableness, inconstancy, mutability

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb) 255 Whom his servi I on dycyoun fortune up hente Of hyr whele by verty bylyte And put hym in the state of hy degre a 1529 SKELTON *Agst Venerous Dauncer* Wks I 134 Ye are so full Of vertibilite And of frenetyke folabilite a 1617 P BAYNE *On Eph* I 11 (1618) 568 God may will that his creature shall sinne, being suffered to it selfe, by accident of its owne vertibilitie 1675 H MORE in R Ward *Life* (1710) 96 In this capacity of being United with the Matter consists the Liberty and Vertibility of the Soul

†**Vertible,** *a Obs.* Also 5 vertybyl [a OF *vertible*, or ad. med L *vertibilis*, f L *vert-ĕre*, stem of *vertĕre* to turn see IBLE ] Capable of turning or being turned, changing, inconstant, mutable

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb) 272 By the vertybyl cours of fatal deth 1627 J SANFORD *Sckism Disgra Ad* 134 A parallel f your vertible and Wind mill uncertainty. 1667 H MORE *Div Dial* II xx (1713) 151 But were it not better

that God Almighty should annihilate the Individuals of this middle veritable Order, as you call it as soon as they lapse into Sin?

Hence † **Ve ritibleness,** ‘quinsss or easiness to turn’ (Bailey, vol II, 1727) *Obs* —°

**Vertic,** *a poet* Also 7 **vertick** [Irregular shortening of next, after *tropic*, etc] Vertical esp of the sun

1607 Barnfield *Mirrha* (1876) 51 Thus much the Goddesse of the floods doth daign to change thy shape, and to a vertick Rose 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* I 745 While Phœbus lows the vertic circle glides *a* 1769 — *Ode to Fleet* iv Unfelt by you the vertic sun may glow 1800 J Sanderson *Virg Pastorals* Where vertic suns that torrid fervour pour Cheek the groves music and the vernal flow'r 1876 J Fells *Cæsar in Egypt* 79 Their sacred Well, One day illumined by the vertic Sun

**Vertical** (vɔ·tikal), *a* and *sb* Also 6 7 ver ticall [a F *vertical* (1545, = Sp, Pg *vertical*, It *verticale*), or ad late l *verticalis* (Quicherat), f *vertex*, stem of *vertex* Vertex ]

**A** *adj* **1.** Of or pertaining to, placed or situated at, passing through, the vertex or zenith, occupying a position in the heavens directly overhead or above a given place or point

† **a.** *Vertical point,* = Vertex 2 Also *fig*, the culminating or highest point, the point of greatest development or perfection (freq in the 17the ) *Obs*

1559 W Cunningham *Cosmogr Glasse* 16 Leuell with th earth and his vertycall point, in the forand Æquinoctyal 1622 Peacham *Compl Gent* xiii 91 (1906) 61 Latitude is the distance of the Meridian, betweene the vertic ll point (or pole of the Horizon) and the Æquinoctiall 1653 W Rampsey *Astrol Restored* 1 viii 14 Those that live further North are of stronger body, because their vertic l [*sic*] point being, far removed from the Suns course they more abound in cold and moysture 1775 tr *Cronegen's Astron* (1796) I 368 Let XBL be a Vertical Circle, X the Zenith, (for the Vertical point may be considered as moved in regard of the Ecliptic unmov d) 1798 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Point*, The Zenith and Nadir are the Vertical Points

*fig* 1611 Sibbes *Hist Gd Brit* ix xii 103 Such successe, as well declared it was Gods will that the English name should now be brought to the vertical point thereof without any thing being able to resist it 1626 T H *Caussin's Holy Court* 363 Saint Ireneus calleth Christ the top, and vertical point of all vertues, guifts and frutes of God 1649 Drumm of Hawth *Hist Jas III*, Wks (1711) 43 This fumly seemed now in the zenith and vertical point of its greatness 1671 Jer Taylor *Worr* (1850) 103 How was the vertic al point on which the army's honour and reputation turned into reproach and scandal 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 48 Unhuwsonity made their Country are past their Vertical Point, and are upon their Declension

**b** *Vertical circle,* an azimuth circle (see Azimuth 1)

1559 W Cunningham *Cosmogr Glasse* 22 Here you se A B C, to represent the vertycall, and D E the plaine of the world by which and A (being the vertical circle) is the meridian rule A B C D delineated 1594 Blundevil *Exerc* vi (1636) 548, There is another great circle called the circle Vertical, which passeth right over our heades through our Zenith 1594 J Davis *Seamen's Secr* ii (1626) 8 Circles of Azimuth, or vertical circles, are quarters of great circles, concurring together in the Zenith 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* vi iii 112 Measure the extent CM on the Vertical Circle, and apply it to the Line of Signs 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn, Astronomy or Vertical Circles* are great Circles intersecting each other in the Zenith and Nadir and cutting the Horizon at Right Angles 1715 tr *Gregory's Astr* n (1726) 246 Let ABL be the Vertical Circle, in which Z is the Zenith 1846 A Young *Naut Dict* 24 The vertical circle which passes through the east and west points of the horizon is termed the Prime Vertical 1860 Olmsted *Mex Hurricane* 23 But if the point is *at* one the horizon, then its azimuth is estimated by passing a vertical circle through it (1727)

**c.** Of the sun, stars, etc , or in general use

1594 Blundevil *Exerc* iv xxvi (1597) 293 As many stars as passe right vnder your Zenith are said to bee vertical 1685 N Carpenter *Geog Del* 1 ix (1693) 130 To them the Sunne is twice in the yeere vertical, that is directly ouer their heads. 1695 Sir P Hobbert *Trans* (1697) 43 The extream heat of the Sun, which is vertical usually raises vapors in abundance 1699 Moxon *Math Dict* s v *Vertex*, the Equator is said to be *Vertical* to them who have a continual sunnox because, it constantly passes by the Vertex of the Place 1715 tr *Gregory's Astr* (1726) I 246 The Ecliptic must be turn d about till the first of these Places becomes Vertical, (which it will be, when it arrives at the Meridian of the Globe) 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I 21 He knew that the sun, at the summer solstice, was vertical to the inhabitants of Syene. 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sc & Art* II 53 We find the services of the winds almost equally important in meliorating the fervour of a vertical sun 1844 Kingsley *Eothen* xvi, Becalmed under a vertical sun in the midst of the wide ocean 1880 *Daily Tel* 6 Aug 1 It is 36 At each equinox the sun appears vertical over the equator

*fig* 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super* Wks (Grosart) II 266 Conceall the damned damnation of that sanguine and doe hom age to your Vertical Starre *a* 1734 North *Exam* I ii 136 (1740) 82 It fell out in a Conjuncture so vertical that without it both Nations might have plunged into a mischievous Condition of Civil War 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* iv, The strong vertical light of Homer's poetry is blazing so full upon the people and things of the Iliad

† **d** *fig* Pertaining to, characteristic of, or denoting the period or position of greatest eminence or perfection, at one's highest point or position Cf. *vertical point* (a. *fig* above) *Obs*

1641 I D Digby *Sp in Ho Com* 19 Jan 25 In voting thus bill, we shall contribute to the perpetuating our Sun, our Soveraigne, in his vertical face, in his noone day lustre 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist* iv 175 But now in the time of the aforesaid William Heyworth the Cathedral of Lichfield was in the vertical height thereof 1665 — *Hist Camb* (1840) 186 As Cambridge was his vertical place, wherein he was in height of honour 1673 Hickeringill *Greg Cracb* 38 Though Greg and his virtuoso's seem to them selves to be vertic l and cock a hoop

**2** *Vertical angle.* **a** An opposite angle (see Opposite *a* 1 and quot. 1704). **b** The angle opposite the base of a triangle or polygon

1571 Digges *Pantom* I vi C iij Two right lines crossing one another, make the contrary or vertic l angles equall 1660 Barrow *Euclid's* xv Schol , The vertical (or opposite angles) 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I s v *Angles* Opposite or vertical Angles, as, 1 Those that are made by two Right Lines crossing each other and which touch only in their Angular Point 1727 *Encycl Brit* III 3310 2 The tangent of half the vertic l angle *Hid*, The line CP bisecting the vertical angle. 1796 Hutton *Course Math* (1836) I 368 In a Triangle, having given the two sides about the Vertical Angle 1862 Todhunter *Euclid* 115 If two straight lines cut one another the vertical or opposite angles shall be equal

**3** Placed or extending at right angles to the plane of the horizon, perpendicular, upright

**a** *Geom* Of a straight line or plane surface

1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I *Line Vertical* in Perspective, is the common Section of the Vertical Plane and of the Draught *Ibid*, *Plane Vertical Plane*, in Optick and Perspective, is a Plain Surface which passeth along the Point at Ray and consequently thro the Eye and is perpendicular to the Horizontal Plane 1715 tr *Gregory's Astr* n (1726) I 436 Therefore there is given the Angle *LDA*, the Difference or Sum of the n and *DF* Vertical to it 1811-16 Hutton *Math Dict* II 582 If a line be drawn any where perpendicular to the line in which bodies gravitate is called a horizontal plane, and any plane passing through that line is called a vertical plane 1851 S P Woodward *Mollusca* i 62 In this shell it usually will be found in a vertical plane 1871 Tyndall *Fragm Sci* (1879) I iv 111 When the short diagonal of the prism was vertical

**b** In general use.

1726 J *Duck* tr *Windmill*, That is reputed the best made with vertical Sails, like the ordinary Windmills 1756 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760) I 10 Vertical rainbows in the sky are not uncommon, when the horizontal ones are extraordinary 1813 Hakewill *Introd Geol* (1815) 187 In some coal fields one part of a stratum is inclined to the other part vertical 1831 Brewster *Optics* xxxii 269 Some phenomena both of vertical and lateral image 1855 Maury *Phys Geog, Sea* vi 326 Under the vertical rays of the never clouded sun, 1882 Vines *Sachs Bot* 940 The adaptation of the vertical organs to the climbing vertical walls

*C ub* 1857 I Moore *Han ilk Brit Barns* (ed 3) 10 The vertical ring-shaped pieces when mixture split suddenly with a strong report

**c** With abstract nouns, esp of movement or direction

1794 [see Verticity 2] 1802 Paley *Nat Theol* iv § 6 The compound motion of the lower jaw half later l and half vertical 1813 Bakewell *Introd Geol* (1815) 189 In Plates of rock separated by seams which have generally a vertical direction 1830 Lyell *Prin* C I 410 Four fifths of the whole Cumbrian vertical drawn by vertical shock 1859 J R Greene *Man Anim Kingd* i *Proto a* Introd p xxix, The relations of animals to the elements in which they live Their vertical distribution 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xi 273 We give a vertical nod of approval when we approve of their conduct.

*Cond Engin Dictation to Clock Watch* 94 It would fail for a balance or vertical force m ,notemeter

**d** Of mech anical appliances or structures Also in technical use applied to machines which operate vertically.

Numerous other examples are given in Knight *Dict Mech.* 1875 and 1884

1825 J Nicholson *Oper at Mech. Instr* 141 The comparative power of horizontal and vertical windmills 1859 *Handbk Surveying* I 8 Vertical or shaft cutter 1874 Knight *Dict Mech.* 2708/1 *Vertical Boring machine*, a drill or boring machine having a vertical spindle 1877 *Slater Dict* 114 *Vertical care grinder*, the treadmill 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* vii vi 121 The Vertical Dial, whose Plane lies in the Horizon, for which cause many call it the Horizontal Dial 1728 [see B 3 a] 1877 *Knight Brit* VII 155 2 *Vertical dials*, when on a vertical plane facing one of the cardinal points. 1850 Denison *Treatise Clock & Watch making* 33 The escapement was exactly the same as that of a bottle jack or the commonest kind of watch, and is called a vertical escapement 1884 F J Britten *Watch & Clockm* 248 Vertical Escapement [is] an escapement in which the pallet axis or the balance staff is set at right angles to the axis of the escape wheel 1842 Bunn *Nav & Mil Techn Dict* I xv *Few words about vertical* curved or "vertical fire, generally from mortars laid at an angle of not less than 15° 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk* 712 *Vertical fire* in artillery, that directed upward at such an angle as that it will fall vertically, or nearly so, to its destination 1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 302/2 We shall now give a description of a common "vertical watch 1850 Denison *Clock & Watch m* 145 The old vertical watch, so called because the scape wheel stands vertically when the other wheels are horizontal

**4.** Having a position at right angles to the plane of the axis, body, or supporting surface; pointing or situated directly upwards or downwards.

**a.** *Bot.* Of a leaf or other part.

Martyn *Lang Bot* (1793) also gives *vertical leaf* (after Linnæus's *folium verticale*) as *obverse leaf*, but objects to the use of the term

1776 J Lee *Introd. Bot* Explan Terms 382 *Vertical*, Leaves so situated that the Base is perpendicular to the Apex 1866 *Treas Bot* 1212 1 1879 A Gray *Struct Bot* iii § 4 (ed 6) 108 *Vertical leaves*, those with blades of the ordinary kind, but presenting their edges instead of their faces to the earth and sky, or when erect with one edge directed to the stem and with no other away from it

**b** *Zool*, esp of certain fins of fishes.

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 203 A vertical caudal, as in Gymnetrus, but shorter 1886 Günther *Fishes* 40 The vertical fins are situated in the median dorsal line, from the head to the extremity of the tail

**5** *Zool*, *Anat*, etc. Of or pertaining to, situated on, affecting, the vertex of the head

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV 215 Stemmata *Vertical*, when they are placed in the Vertex 1831 *Cent Dict* s v, Vertical eyes of a fish *Ibid*, The vertical crest of some birds is horizontal when not erected 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 546 Meningitis, whether vertical or posterior-basic is caused by an invasion of micro organisms.

† **6** Belonging to giddiness *Obs.*—°

1623 Cockeram, *Vertical* (in Phi)

**B** *sb* [Elliptˢ use of the *adj*]

† **1** The vertical point; the vertex or zenith. In quots. *fig Obs*

1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* ix xv § 119 King Henries glory thus ascended to the highest vertical in France 1654 J Smith *Sel Disc* iv (1821) 61 A mind and intention of eternal truth which is always the same, which never rises nor sets, but always stands still in its vertical and fills the whole horizon of the soul with one and gentle light 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* IX 100 Now she was in the vertical of her favour, wherein hence forward she began to decline.

**2** A vertical circle, line, or plane.

*Prime vertical* see Prime *a* 9 b

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* vii x 15 If you have not time until the Sun cometh unto the Azimuth of the Wall, or the Vertical of it, which cutteth the Pole thereof *Ibid*, The Sun is neerer to the Meridian, than to the Vertical of the Plane 1674 Moxon *Tutor Astron* v Prob iv (ed 3) 154 You may reduce all Verticals to Horizontals 1771 Hutton 1774 M Mackenzie *Maritime Surv* 52 This Angle PZs is therefore equal to the horizontal Distance of the Vertical of the two Stars from the Meridian 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connec Phys Sci* vii 55 The difference of the latitudes being the angle contained between the verticals at the extremities of the arc 1868 Lockyer *Outlines Physical Geog* (ed 4) 44 Every portion of matter left to itself falls in the direction of the vertical of the place on which it falls 1882 Ginn *Euclid Geom* vi xi 526 In an inclined fault the level of the selected stratum may be carried across the fault until a vertical from it will reach the level of the same bed

**b** *Math.* A vertical angle (see A 2).

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Angle*, The Measure of an Angle without the Centre, is half of the Arches H I and L M, where on it and its Vertical K do stand

**c** *The vertical*, the vertical line or position; the perpendicular.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connec Phys Sci* vii 56 Local attractions, which cause the plumb line to deviate from the vertical 1840 *Ibid* xxix (ed 5) 335 The dip (of the needle) was 89° 59', which was within one minute of the vertical 1882 Vines *Sachs Bot* 849 A line drawn horizontally to the apical portion will very nearly coincide with the vertical *Dict* In consequence of the continuing curvature the now erect apical portion becomes more and more out of the vertical

**3.** A vertical dial (see A 3 e)

In contrast to Inter use, Sturmy gives the name of *vertical* to the horizontal dial

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* Aaaa 2 I will name the Dials, viz Right Verticals and Decliners 1728 Chambers *Cycl*, *Vertical Dial*, is a Sun Dial, drawn on the Plane of a Vertical Circle; or parallel to the Horizon These are particularly call d East, West, South and North Verticals, when opposed to one, or other of these Cardinal Points of the Horizon

**4** (See quot )

1908 Cornish *Naturalist I hames* 180 In the slang of the rock garden the plants living on upright rocks are called Vertic ls

Hence **Ve rtically** *adv*

1797 Bailey (vol III), *Vertualness*, the being right over one s Head [Hence in later Dicts.]

**Vertically,** *adv*[1] [1834.] = next 2 b

1860 Colchrun Muir *Pigeon & Christian* I xii 88 The spirituality of Verticalism is so positive and manifest, that it is hard to believe that the pious Architects had not these things ever in their mind

**Verticality** (vɔ·tikæ·liti) [f Vertical *a.* + -ity] Cf F *verticalité*, It *verticalità* ]

**1.** The fact on the part of the sun or other celestial body of being at the vertex or zenith.

1570 J Dee *Math. Pref* 23 To consider Sterres in their Longitudes, Latitudes, Declinations, and Verticalitie. 1646 Sir T Browne *Lusus Ded* vi 284 For unto them the Sunne is vertically twice a year, making two distinct Summers in the different points of verticality 1696 W D tr *Comenius's Gate Langs Unl* § 557 The heat received anywhere depends on the directness of the sun s rays, or its apparent verticality overhead.

**2** The condition or quality of being vertical or perpendicular, vertical position; perpendicularity

1709 Kirwan *Geol Ess* 283 Their (i.e. argillites) verticality arising only from the drain of water 1833 Lyell *Prin Geol* III 318 The verticality of the strata in the Isles of Wight and Purbeck 1898 Rubbin *Mod. Painter.* IV. xvi § 6 Precipices which produce on the imagination the

effect of verticality 1884 G M Dawson in *Handbk Dom Canada* 325 Good sections of Cretaceous rocks become folded together and lie at all angles up to verticality

**b** Of buildings, or architecture

1843 *Encl Eng & Arch Jrnl* VI 99/1 The verticality which is designed and usually conveyed by the orders he communicated to his buildings by rustic quoins 1860 Cockburn Muir *Pagans or Christians?* 61 The first and most striking feature [of the architecture of the 12th and 13th c.] is the Verticality of composition, as directly opposed to the Horizontality of all anterior structural modes 1880 Lightfoot *Hist Exs* III (1895) 146 The leading conception of Gothic architecture, I mean its verticality, as contrasted with the horizontal lines of the Greek

**c** In weakened sense Erectness, uprightness

1838 *Fraser's Mag* XVII 687 She walked in unswerving verticality

**Ve rtically,** *adv* [f Vertical *a* + -ly 2] In a vertical manner, direction, or position, so as to be vertical to the plane of the horizon, the earth's surface, or some other horizontal line or plane, perpendicularly, or approximately so; directly overhead or down below

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* VI x 326 The Diameter, although it be not vertically unto any part of Asia, yet is so unto America, and vertically passeth over the Habitations of Peru and Brasilia 1677 Grew *Anat Fruits* v § 17 the Seed Case of Anagallis opens not by its Meridian or Vertically, but by its Horizon 1828 Moxon *Math Dial* 2 v *Vertex*, A Star is said to be *vertical* that Vertically hangs over any place 1686 Plot *Staffordsh* 27 If Lighten ing cause these Circles, it must also be allowed that it descends vertically 1794 G Adams *Nat & Exp Philos* II xvii 261 *note*, The pupil in animals of the cat kind is oblong vertically 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) III 763 Capsules opening vertically 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* II 221 Some [insects] as the butterflies, raise their wings vertically in repose 1828 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 615 Some modification of lattice framing will in almost every case be found preferable to training vertically 1880 Haughton *Phys Geog* 11 21 An earthquake occurred, vertically under the town of Arica

*Comb* 1793 Martyn *Lang Bot* xv *Verticale*, A vertically ovate leaf is the same with an obversely-ovate or obovate leaf, and a vertically cordate leaf is the same with an obversely cordate or obcordate leaf 1878 Abney *Treat Photogr* xxxiii 268 A fair general focus can be obtained by using with the camera a vertically pivoted swing back

**b** *Math* (Cf Vertical *a* 2)

1660 Barrow *Euclid* I xv Schol If four right lines proceeding from one point make the angles vertically opposite equal 1840 Lardner *Geom* 24 When two straight lines cross each other, the angle BAD is said to be vertical by oppos te to the angle EAC.

**† Ve rtice.** *Obs* —1 [= F *vertice* (= Sp, Pg, and It *vertice*), ad L *vertic-em, vertex* Vertex] The vertex or zenith

1665 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 5 But the *Persees* have their shadow circulating their meridional shadow having no existence from the vertice but oblique and extended to the plain of the terrestrial Horizon

**Verticil** (vō stilsl) Also 8–9 **verticel** [ad L *verticill us* Verticillus] Cf F *verticille* in sense 2 (also, in earlier use, a whorl)]

**† L** (see quot) *Obs* —1

1703 A de La Prime *Let to Sir H Sloan* (Sloan MSS 4056) fol 53 Verticels or glass Bevels formed on purpose to wind thread on.

**2.** *Bot* A number or set of organs or parts arranged, disposed, or produced in a circle round an axis (see quot 1882), a whorl *False or spurious verti.il*, a verticillaster

Also similarly in *Zool* (in recent Dicts)

a. 1793 Martyn *Dict Bot* A 2 A Vertical or Whirl may be t Sessile or pedunculed 2 Naked 3 Crowded 1806 J Galpine *Brit Bot* §258 *Angea.* Heary verticils crowded into a pyramidal form nearly flowerless 1829–34 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 43/2 The stamens in the same verticil are sometimes joined together, and sometimes with the neighbouring verticils 1882 in Syd. Soc. *Lex Bot* 370 An axial structure may produce either several equivalent lateral members at the same level or only one; in the second case the members formed in succession are termed solitary, in the first case a Whorl or Verticil

*b* 1856 Hyndman *Dict Bot Terms* 214 Verticel *Verticillus*. A whorl 1870 Hickson *Talabot* 283 The joints of the stems give off verticels of leaves. 1881 Spencer in *Science Gossip* No 202 229 It is generally supposed that the branches were also arranged in verticels

**† Verticillary,** *a Obs rare* [f L *verticillus* Verticillus see -ary] Of motion Rotatory, whirling, vertiginous.

1757 E Darwin in *Phil Trans* I 247 The verticallary motion given to charcoal dust thrown on nitre in fusion

1794–6 — *Zoon* (1801) III 145 When the legs are straight, as in standing erect, there is no verticillary motion in the knee joint

**Verticillaster** (vō stisilə stər) *Bot* [mod L, f. L. *verticill us* Verticillus + -aster] A form of inflorescence occurring in certain labiate plants (see quots), a false whorl

1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 112 If the cyme is reduced to a very few flowers, and those few become corymbose such a disposition has been called a *verticillaster* by Hoffmansegg 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 213 The Verticillaster.—This kind of cyme is seen in the White Dead nettle 1870 Oliver *Elem Bot* II 217 A coarse perennial herb, with axillary cymes (forming verticillasters) of lilliaceous white flowers.

**Verticillate** (vəstisilət, vəsti silĕt), *a* Also 9 **verticellate** [ad mod.L. *verticillāt us*, f L. *verticillus* Verticillus see -ate 2] So It *verticellato*, Sp *verticilado*, Pg *verticellado*, F *verticillé* (1694)]

**1 a** *Bot* Of plants Having leaves, flowers, branches, etc, arranged or produced in circles or whorls around the stem Now *rare* or *Obs*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char* II iv § 4 81 Herbs considered according to their flower may be distinguished into *Verticillate*, by which those kinds of Plants are meant whose flowers grow in rundles or whirles about the stalk. 1686 *Phil Trans* XVI 286 The Verticillate Herbs, so called from the Flowers encircling the stalk like a whirle or wherle 1721 Petiver *Gazophyl* x 94 A Verticillate Water Herb whose Husks stick to Cloaths like Burrs or Chevers 1790 P Blair *Bot Ess* 135 The Verticillate Kind are for the most part Irregular 1798 C Marshall *Garden* xix (1813) 357 Coreopsis, verticillate, yellow 1822 J Good *Study Med* (1829) I 174 The verticillate order affords an adundant stock from which we n ay select [carm natives] at pleasure. *Ibid* IV 568 Many of the warmer sedatives and a ti pasmodics, as assafœtida, camphor, most of the verticillate plants, and calepat

**b** *Ent*, etc (See quots)

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlvi 324 *Verticillate*, antennæ beset with hair in whirls. 1883 L. Coste & Hoss *Classif Coleopt rn N Amer* Introd p xv, In this form the joints are freq ently surrounded at tip with a circle of longer hairs, in which case the antennæ are said to be verticillate

**2 a** *Bot* Of leaves, flowers, branches, etc Disposed in, or forming, verticils or whorls

1793 Martyn *Dict Bot* s v Verticillate flowers, or flowers growing in a Whirl or round the stem, having one above another at each joint 1830 Lindley *Nat Syst bot* 202 Square stems and verticillate leaves [of the Madder tribe] 1835 Willis *Physiology* II 326 Specimens of a common tribe of coal plants whose verticillate f hage is too remarkal le to escape n tice 1882 Vines *Sachs's Bot* 596 The branches and roots spring, re latively from within the base of the leaf sheath and s this forms a whorl the branches and roots are also verte llate

**b** Similarly in *Zool Ent*, etc

1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol Introd* III 378 Antennæ filiform long of from fifteen to sixteen globular joints furnished with verticillate hairs 1846 Dana *Zoophi* (1848) 673 Vertucæ ascending, verticillate 1871 Duncan *Transform Insects* 24 Each tubercle carries several verticillate hairs

**3.** Marked or characterized by verticillation

1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 113 The most exter or vertical late series of the integuments of the flower within the fructose. 1836–9 *Todd Cycl Anat* II 414/1 Simple tubes divided in a verticillate manner 1877 Coues & Allen *Amer B* 1 475 The verticillate rib of scales betwe i which they are inserted 1882 Vines *Sachs Bot* 1 564 The phyllot axis is sometimes verticillate, sometimes spi al

**Verti cillated,** *a* Now *rare* [Cf prec.]

**1** = prec 1 and 1 b

1698 Fryer in *Phil Trans* XX 315 Like the Whorles on a Verticillated Plant 1752 J Hill *Hist Anim* 110 The Lacerta, with the tail verticillated with denticulated scales. 1820–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) IV 532 The verticillated stamineal filaments have in many instances been found serrulated. 1882 *Card Chron* XVIII 70 To make trial of seeds of any verticillated plants

**2** = prec. 2, 2 b, and 3

1718 Chambers *Lexic Philos* I x § 117 184 Tho the Calculation had been made from a greater N umber of the Parts of a verticillated Body 1789 *Inquis Bot* (ed 2) III 400 Duffe ent spec es of verticillated or verticillated leaves 1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist* II 377 At the ca furnished with verticillated hairs or simply pubescent 1854 *Fam Friend* (1856) V 74 flowers produced from the base of the bulb on a long drooping raceme verticillated along the raceme 1857 H Miller *Test & Rocks* 20 Its fluted and verticillated series of lineæ be aches

**Verticillation** (vəstisilē ʃən) [f Verticillate *a.* see -ation] The formation of verticils, a verticillate form or structure a verticil

1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 97 The degree of verticillation requisite to constitute a calyx 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 1 The tail is terminated by a tuft of verticillations composed above, of large tubercles and below, of flat, quadrangular scales 1888 *Amer Nat Hist* II 167 In the *Dendrocolaptes* the spines are hollow, long and set with rings or verticillations.

**Verticillato-,** combining form on Greek models, of mod L *verticillātus* Verticillate *a*, as *verticillato pinnate* see quot.)

1829 T Castle *Introd Bot* 71 Verticillato-pinnate—when the leaflets instead of being arranged in the same plane on each side of the common leaf stalk are placed around it

**‖ Verticillus** (vəstisi ləs) *Bot* Pl **verticilli** ( si lai) [L *verticillus* (Pliny) whorl (dim. of a spindle), dim of *vertex* Vertex Cf Verticil.] A verticil or whorl

1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* iii iv (1765) 174 *Verticillus* a *Whorl*, expresses a Number of Flowers that are subsessile, and are produced in Rings round the Stems. 1783 *Ann pol Brit* (ed 2) V 85/2 The smaller creeping germander, hath reddish flowers, growing almost in a verticillus or whorls, round the stalk 1829 T Castle *Introd. b* 1 94 In the verticillus or whorl the flowers surround the stem in a sort of ring 1832 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* Introd p xxv In most orders the sepals occupy one series or verticillus only 1870 *Youchat's Universe* 388 When the floral apparatus is complete it is formed of four rosettes or verticilli of depressed concentrated leaves.

**Verticity** (vəstisiti) Now *rare* [ad mod L *verticitas*, f L *vertex*, stem of *vertex* Vertex So F *verticité*, Sp *verticidad*, Pg *verticidade*.]

**1.** The faculty of turning, or tendency to turn, towards a vertex or pole, esp. as exhibited in the loadstone or magnetic needle.

Very common in the 17th c now *rare* or *Obs*

1625 N Carpenter *Geog Del* I iv (1635) 72 The Verticity is that whereby the Poles of the Earthly Sphear conforme and settle themselves unto the Poles of the Heaven 1661 Glanvill *Van Dogm* 140 We believe the verticity of the Needle, without a Certificate from the dayes of old 1705 Derham in *Phil Trans* XXV 2156 And having again straitened it I was surprized to find it had quite lost its Verticity 1794 G Adams *Nat & Exp Philos* (1806) IV 393 His joker and to go were natural magnets and had their verticity fixed by being heated and cooled in a vertical position 1837 Hebwyer *Magnet* 169 The little magnet or needle turned itself briskly, shewing great verticity 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk* 772

*fig* 1687 Norris *Coll Misc* 184 The Soul will then point to the center of Happiness with her full bent and verticity 1691 — *Pract Disc* 170 His Will has lost much of its Verticity or Magnetick Inclination towards the chief Good

**b** With *a* and pl

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* 68 A Loadstone fixed accordi g to the position i n cooling co tracts a new verti city 1658 — *Gard Cyrus* v 72 If any shall further quarry why magnetticall Ph losoph y excluded decussations, and needles transversely place I do naturally distance their vertacities 1705 C Purshall *M h Mysterium* 265 If you heat an Iron Rod and let it cool per e dicular to the Earth, its lowest end will gain a Verticity towards the North Pole 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Magnet* A Bar of Iron that has gain d a Verticity by being heated red hot and cool d again *fig* 1661 Glanvill *Lux Orient* 21 Though the Soul by a kind of Magnetism be d wn down yet the thus impregnate spirit contracts a Verticity to objects above the Pole

**2** The power of turning or revolving, rotation, revolution ? *Obs*

1672 Hooker in Rigaud *Corr Sci Men* (1841) I 183 The verticity of Jupiter and Mars on their axes 1690 Locke *Hum Und* IV ii § 11 Suppose a certain number of Globules, having a verticity about their own Centres. 1819 H Busk *Banquet* 111 242 Hence on all subjects sparks of light you throw Bliss with them! Bliss with his swift verticity Or I use us with a flash of electricity

**II** +**3** The vertex or top of something *Obs* —0

1656 Blount *Cl ss &c*

**4** Vertical position in the heavens *Obs rare*

1646 J Gerlow *Vertex & Obs* (1651) 151 The verticity of any of the e [stars] could not have come and stood over the place where the y now s tand 1686 Goad *Celest Nobles* II xi 333 If A verticity of Heaven does more invigorate those Planets which attend the C not only by their higher Exaltat o n or Approches to Verticity but fel. 5

**5** *Pole of verti city* (see quot.)

1886 Cumming *Electricity* 4 Hence are two point o n the earth called the Magnetic Pole s, one in the n orth ern hemisphere and one in the southern, at which the dip is 90°, or the magnetic force is vertical These points are called the Magnetic Pole s or the Poles of Verticity. The term *Po e of verticity* is sometimes applied to them.

**† Ve rticle,** erron f Vertical *a* and *sb Obs*

1612 Cotgr *Azimuth*, an Azimuth or Vertic cle circle which discendes from the Zenith 1653 Walton *Angler Learn ng* 51 Now grows Our Nation to it s Zenith Fame is no friend to Continuance; the Verticle is ne r when Admiration from abroad and Luxury at home threaten our Change

**† Ve rticule.** *Obs rare* [ad L *vertic ula us, uni* joint, vertebra, dim of *vertex* Vertex or Of *certs tule* (rare) vertebra] A vertel ra

1658 A Fox *How to Write* v 363 So a Chil dren back bo e have I seen crackt in two and the verti les thereof were dujovned

**† Vertico rdious,** *a Obs* —1 [f L *vertic o rdia* turner of hearts (an epithet of Venus), f *vertere* to turn + *cord, cor* heart see -ous] That turns the heart (from evil), regenerative

1702 C Mather *Magn Chr* III ii xxvi 149/1 The Regenerating and Verticordio s Grace of Heaven took dvantage from his Religious Education to steal into the Heart of this young Disciple

**† Verti cularly,** *adv Obs* —1 [f I *verticula*, etc, Verticle] In a vertical or verticulate manner

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 610 Spinous cups do ver ticularly circumvest its Cotiledons

**† Verti gınal,** *a Obs* —1 [f I *vertigin, ver tigo* Vertigo] = Vertiginous *a* 2

1612 *Benvenuto Passenger* 1 ii. 177 For vertiginall dizzines.

**Verti ginate,** *a rare* —0 [Cf next] 'Turned round, giddy' (Webster, 1864)

**Vertiginate** (vəstidʒinĕt), *v rare* [f L. *vertigin , vertigo* Vertigo] *intr* To turn round, spin, or rush dizzily

1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph* (ed 2) 23 My steed with an incredible acceleration of velocity, vertiginated in a desirable *Mahl. Sp* Brue that the vertiginated in the pacifick ocean] *a* 1814 *Last Act* 1 in *New Brit Theatre* II 322 I, your great Chiron was your instructor and thither ward my slow vertiginates *a* 1834 Coleridge in *Lit Remn* (1839) IV 212 Surely never did argument vertiginate more!

**Vertigine, -ine** see Vertiginy

**Vertigino sity.** *rare* [ad F *vertig.n osité* (16th c) Cf next] (See quot)

1898 Hoblyn *Dictionary* (copying Cotgr.) *Vertiginousity* a giddiness, dizziness swimming of the head or brain.

**Vertiginous** (vəstidʒinəs), *a* Also 7 **virt** [ad I *vertiginōsus* one suffering from giddiness, f *vertigin , vertigo* Vertigo So I *vertiginoux*, Sp, Pg, It *vertiginoso*]

**I.** Of persons, the head, etc. Affected with, suffering from, vertigo or giddiness, giddy, dizzy

1601 Burton *Anat Mel.* I. iii. 1. 1. Many phantasticall

as very we dith is health 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* II xxvi 147 Also Unwritten Customes by the tacite consent of the Prince are very Lawes 1679 — *Rhet* xvi (1681) 39 The written Lawes but examin. justice the Law of Nature very justice 1868 Morris *Earthly Par* I 58 Half dead with very death still drawing nigh

c Of maternal things

a 1330 *A. Iland & I* 109 For to wite pe sobe here, 3if pe r likes very were *c* 1375 *Sc Leg. Saints* xvii (*Maria*) 188 Scho had pame hyre in askis lay & schaw til hyre a cruce verre. *c* 1440 Pecock *Repr* II ix 193 Bob lyuyng in alle verrer lynage of Crist than is eny vnqwyk stok. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth De P.* A xvi xlvi 569 It is harde to knowe be wete the verre fruytes stones and fals 1505 Barc *Dyctes* (Arb) 136 Many bowwes and branches mu he like vnto very trees that are in owlde wodes 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I (1586) 23 The other parts which we call compound or intermixt mat, which are the verie members of the bodie 1598 Barrie *Ien. Ranger Lepers* K b They which are out of their writtes do not see the verie things, but the fantasies of their passions 1598 Hobbes *Decam* IX 106 buch Iron were indeed a very and vigorous Londstone

†d Full, thorough, unqualified *Obs*

1446 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 339 The said maister shal do it verray diligence to pourveye a place as gode 1496 *Rolls of Parli* VI 512 1 The said Queene is of verrey will and my ide that the same Pryc shall be truly and fully co stente†

†e *spec* in *Law* (See quot 1607) *Obs*

1544 in *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 96 b But if he verrey I hed a d very tenibuit, and the mannicate maketh a feoffe- me in in fee [So Coke *On Litt* (1628) 269] 1607 Cowell *In verbo* s.v. Very Lord 1 d very Tenent are they that be immediate Lord & Tenant one to the other

2 With limitation (usually expressed by *the* or a possessive) to particular instances The true or real, that is truly or properly entitled to the name

*Now rare in Adn.* Of material things or places

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg. Saints* xiii (*Christophe*) 61 pe king cam ma pe takine of be pece verrai of be Croice 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 255 Isidre seip þat verrey [*L. propria dicit*] Germania hab in þe est side þe mouth of þe ryuer Danubius, 1440 *Yorp Rich Hussy* App 11 (W) The marys will tred that was befo e is turned into Chrystys verrey body. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx 320 Than he made vpon hym the signe of the verrey croise 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W de W 1531) 4 They nourrey sugarlyche the nourrey to y^e very Jerusalem 1535 Coverdale *John* vi 55 For my fle h is y^e very meate, and my blode is y^e very drynke 1567 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 18 Thy verray Sone to vs is gyfe sn I lyfe The verray [r verray verie] port till heuen full tyght 1582 Hobbes *Tr. with* 1. 4 Though the reall and very subject seem invested with the Empire 1849 Neale *Hymn is for Sick* (1906) 261 by very Flesh and Blood

b. Of abstract things, conditions, etc

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* III pr iii (1868) 69 And by a maner poynt ye looken from a fer til pilke verrey tyme of blisful nesse *c* 1400 Maundev (1839) xii 119 He pat schalden bon conne ted to Crist ben thorghe oure wykednesse fer fro a nd strangeres and fro verrey heritage 1 Eleez *c* 1440 Pecock *Repr* I xi 65 But the trewe and very vndir tonding ther of is this. *c* 1465 *Pol Rel & L* xvii (1903) 3 be welfar of be Chirch here mowte rail Thei is be verie purpos that we labure fore *c* 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 161 The verray cause of his come I know right the cace 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 18 Thyse religious persone shulde intende the perfeccyon of his soule whiche is the very peace of the spiryte 1538 Starkey *England* I 1 to thys sys the verray true and cyuyle lyfe 1577 *Sc. Mercat. Maxwell* (Longman) 168 the very weyes vnto of God wil shew himselfe to them 1647 Saltmarsh *Sparkles* (1703) (1847) 80 Pastors who can not now minister as the oracls of God nor according to the very gifts of the Holy Ghost then 1859 Gen. P Thompson *Audi Alt Lart* II lxxxvii 37 The vulgar animo ity against a skin —the stamp of lowly mundedness, and very indication of tart blood

c Of persons or the Deity

*c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* 3 Krist, goddes verray son and wy3dame 1456 Sir G Hayr *Lawe Armis* (S T S) 24 The verray pape sanct Innocent 1526 Tindale *Matt* iii 17 This is my verey beloued sonne 1543 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) 13, After 3 y^e eternall & the very e 3od had shewed hym selfe vnto Adam 1548-9 (title) *Compl. Scotl. Prayers, Comm. Exhort* 126 He is the very Pascall Lambe 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball* (S T S) 184 The Priestis ar the verray Anti christis. 1600 Shaks *A Y L* III i 71 What would you say to me now, and I were your verie, verie Rosalind? 1604 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 21 His minde was enlightened to know the onely very God

†d Proper, correct *Obs.*—1

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) xv, Pough per be alaunties of alle hewese þe verrey hewe of þe good alaunte s should be white with a blake spotte aboute þe ees

3 In emphatic use, denoting that the person or thing may be so named in the fullest sense of the term, or possesses all the essential qualities of the thing specified Cf Veritable *a* 3

Common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1700 now chiefly in the superlative, freq qualifying something bad, objectionable, or undesirable. Occasionally repeated in order to give additional emphasis.

a With *a* or *the* preceding (or rarely without article), or with pl. *sb*

(*a*) 1384 Chaucer *L. G. W* 259 (*Prol*) Thow thynkst i am thyn wif that he nyst but a verray propre fole 1481 Caxton *Fables of Aesop* vi He is a very fole 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* xix 19 They shall become a very desolacion and curse 1545 Brinklow *Complt* xxv 25 Euery one of them is become a very Nero. 1576 Gascoigne *Kenilworth Castle* Wks 1910 II 122 Heaven was not heaven, it was rather a verye Hell 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell* F b When he was dead, Valentinian his sonne a very childe was by the army stiled Augustus. 1660 Petty *Taxes* 83 Not to rate wood until it be cloth, or rather until it be a very garment 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. 592 When Poor she's scarce a tollerable Evil But Rich, and Fine, a Wife as very Devil 1711 Steele *Spect* No. 157 P 1 Marius was then a very Boy 1771 Franklin *Autobiog* Wks. 1840 I 155 The attorney was a very knave 1886 Disraeli *Vy Young* III vi, Yes it is madness very, very madness 1889 Scott *Anne of G.* xxi Sigismund Bilderman will aid him willingly, and he is a very horse at i labour 1888 J Inglis *Tent Life in Tigerland* North Bhangulpore is admittedly ever India n very sportman s paradise

(*b*) 1593 Hooker *Iustif Ad* II §6 Which insolency must be repressed, or it will be the very bane of Christian religion 1648 *Anti Peace in Mitt n & Ilk* (1851) IV 546 The intermedling of Governours, and Parties in this King dom with Sydney and Parties in England have been the very betraying of this Kingdom to the Irish 1728 Addison *Spect* No 393 P 2 A Region which is the very Reverse of Paradise. 1799 Law *Serious Cr* 234 Mortifications, of all kinds, is the very life and soul of piety 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemps* (1844) IV 108 And then for Pitt to be the very kingdom 1872 Morley *Voltaire* 5 Voltaire was the very eye of modern illuminat m 1883 *Manch Exam* 29 Nov 5/4 The atmosphere of most of the courts is the very reverse of healthy

b With *a* inserted between the adj and the *sb* qualified, esp as or *so very a* Cf *So adv* 14 d Now *rare* or *Obs*

1560 Daus *Sleidane's Comm* 405 There can no man be imagined so very a coward or so barbarouse 1565 Cooper *Admon Martyrs*, quen v very a wretch 1580 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 69 For oftentimes seene no more verie a knaue than he that doth counterfait most to be grane 1634 W. Browne *Shepherd's Pipe* (1852) 11 152 I verily conteut myself to protest that you were never so very a poet, as when you spake of me 1667 Pepys *Diary* 29 July, He is so very a woman in everything 1711 Addison *Spect* No 111 I took my self to find as very a Madman As ever rav d in Chains 1739 A Hill in *Richards n's Corr* (1804) I 6 I am a very boy when I suffered that light piece of work to be published that [etc] 1747-8 Richardson *Hist I* 182 A thing so very a nothing in itself 1804 H Martin *Serm* (1837) 80 So very a Heathen 1818 Scott *Tapestr Chamb* I 47 I sank be k in a swoon as very a victim to panic terror as ever was a village girl 1844 C. Macfarlane *Camp of Lesser* (1859) 77 Without know ing how I was very a long time in the house

c In the comp *verier* and (in later use more commonly) the superl *-erest*

(*a*) 1548 Cooper *Epost Dict* xx *Certus*, There is no verier knaue 1579 Fenton *Gaillon Hist Tim* 76 b/1 The Lord will make vs to come home verier fooles and dolties then wee went 1648 *Hunting I hor* 40 Your wives, verier beasts then the h gs you bor t 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* (1824) 11 Sin is a very trifle and nothing seems less than, than the e his agants have done a 1701 Mund ell *Journ Jerus* (1732) 94 Where the stump of the Tree stood is now a very little hole, few tourists so much verier stocks than it self as to fall down and worship it 1735 Pope *Donne's Sat* II 98 A verier mon ter than n Africk's Horse 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* I, or what business have *Whos minutes peace?* iv, All too long in blood had he been nurst And ne er was earth with verier tyrant curst 1840 Lough ed *Proverbs* xxvi 11 As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly. 1844 Mrs Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I 251 Who came down To do the w rld with swift retributive 1856 Kitson *Bothwell* (1857) 8 A verier knave ne er stepped the earth

(*b*) 1530 Palsgr 270/2 (The) Veryest fole *le plus fol* 1572 Diggys *Pantom* I xxx K b, He hath erred euen in the principall, and as I might terme them the veriest trifles 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II (1586) 24 b I know it which of these two sorts are the veriest fooles 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn* 155 He is no more for the Elect then Reprobate the veriest Reprobate 1660 — *To a for I* III vi I swear Mr Benjamin is the verriest Wag in nature an absolute Sea wit 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 241 P 1 Of all the Fools that ever were, I have the veriest Rogues living 1742 Blair *Grave* 642 The veriest Gluttons do not always cram 1780 *Mirror* No 104, From the same causes, the veriest trifle had become to him un accountable pleasure 1832 Chastenay *Mem* (1896) (1835) I ii 129 There is no enjoyment whatever in the veriest hell of assembled outcasts 1859 Kingsley *Misc* (1860) I 8 Which would lead by the veriest schoolboy makes music of itself 1898 Huxley *Physn Sc* 200 Even the deep sinking at the Rosebridge Colliery is but the veriest trifle in the Carboniferous surface

4 †a Truthful, true, sure, reliable *Obs*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 3473 Oure lauerd Hadd don hir in to sikernes Thora his verrai prophecie, Quist suld be baa childer 1393 Langland *Piers Plowman* (C) xxi 96 Pese wordes are verrey and clere: Dauyd hem seyn ys be sautere. 1395 Barbour *Bruce* II 87 Sekyrly I hop that from is prophesy Off Heraldoune sall verray be to him *c* 1450 *Merlin* x *Sataciam* 34 Some lord of the prophesie be fonden lele and verray *c* 1450 *Hart Contin Higden* (Rolls) VIII 516 A verey prove cowthe not be hade in that matter, wherefore the kyng e grauntede to pesen bothe theire lyves. *c* 1505 *Chron Lond* (Kingsford) 222 This yere came verey tydynges vnto the kyng that the frensh kyng was dede

b Of truth Exact, simple, real, actual

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T* 158 This is a verray sooth with outen glose *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 66 Herkenes now, and be wyse, pat wolle haue verrey glorie *c* 1425 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1226 And I shall yow tell the verrey cheuisaunce of all. 1483 Caxton *G de la Tour* e vij b, And alle this is very trouthe. 1534 More *Comf agst Trib* II Wks 1193/2 If he can by no meane be shogged oute of his deadde slepe, but wil nedes take hys dreame for a verye trouth. 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV* III ii 237 In very truth sir, I had as lief be hang'd sir as goe 1621 Florio *Veritá* truth, veritie, verie-sooth 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol Anat* I v 8 To speak the very truth 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet L* xi (1892) 133 He had spoken the very truth, and transformed it into the veriest falsehood 1880 Myers *Tennyson* viii, And is the World a tin very truth An imperciptent Soul?

†c Of decisions, etc Just, true. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* I xlvii 200 (Addit MS), Therfore we are turned ageyn, to here a verrey dome, what is for to done of this thynge. 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 86 b/1 Alle they merueylled and said that thys was a veray and right good answere of the question

†d. *Of very (due) right*, justly, properly, rightly, truly *Obs*

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 1697 This welle is clepid, as welle is knowen, The welle of Love, of verray right *c* 1450 Lydg. *Mim Lenvoy* (Percy Soc) 7 Fortune gaff him the prosperite, and habesse Withe scripture aspryng in ther sighte, To him applyed of verray dewe righte *c* 1440 — *Horse, Sheep & G* 57 Lques, als 'equo' is seid of verray riht And chenalere is saide of cheualye 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x lxxxvi, 565, I and ony knyght oughte of verray ryght socoure and rescowe soo noble a knyghte as ye are 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 117 He that of very ryght owed y^e cappe

e *In* (or †*of*) *very deed* see Deed *sb* 5 c

†5 Exact or precise, as opposed to *approximate* = True *a* 4 *Obs*

1398 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 83 How mykelle lond & rent holy kirke had to a prowe, Alle þei did extend to witte þe verrey valowe. 1582 Wyclif *Dan* xxv 15 Wyet thow shalt haue iust and verrey and euen bushel and verrey shal be to thee. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol* I § 17 Euermo this cercle equinoxial turneth Iustly fro verrey est to verrey west 1483 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 40 The which places with the portenances [to] be sould to the verray valew 1543 *Goth Kep Hist MSS Comm App* V 318 The verray value of the same. 1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* II (1586) 53 The verie time as Theophrastus writeth, is at the spring 1594 West *Symbol* II *Chancerie* § 95 Gently requiring him to deliver such and so many of the said sheepe, or the verie value thereof 1602 Norden *Surveior's Dialog Cl* 33 They are not well agreed about the very particular place 1657 Trapp *Comm Job* xxxix 25 Horses will per ceive aforeband the very sound of the Drum

†b Of a copy, writing, etc *Obs* (Cf 10 c)

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* xix xii 796 And by cause I haue lost the very mater of la cheualer du charyot I departe from the tale of sir Launcelot 1483 Caxton *Cheve Regne* (1485) 49 b, His swne confession written with hys awne hande, the very copy wherof herafter ensueth

†6 Of a friend, servant, etc. True, faithful, sincere, staunch. = True *a* 6 *Obs*

Very common in the 16th c In later use perh merely intensive

c 1385 Chaucer *L C W* 1686 *Lucretia*, To drawe to men wyf 2 The verray wif, the verray trewe Lucresse. *c* 1386 — *Wyfes T* 348 Pouerte a spectakele is, as thynkyth me, Thorw which he may his verray frend n see *a* 1475 *Contn Higden* I 245 Wherfore þat cannot assure verre from bad shal haue no verrey freendes þat be sad *c* 1489-1500 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 474 Your verrey bedesman the p yor of Kynges College 1509 Barclay *Ship* xviii in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) I 347 My verrye Frend and below Mr John Welsborne 1584 B R tr *Herodotus* Ep Ded I wish my selfe to be your verie friend 1607 R [Carew] tr *Estienne's World of Wonders* 283 A gentlewoman of Lorraine, my very friend 1608 Rowlands *Hum 2 Looking Gl* 14 A Gentleman a verie friend of mine. 1656 Wyrley *Ill Instruct* 11 b, Sir, your very best vsant, I was afraid you had forgotten me

†7 Of persons Truly or rightfully standing in a certain position or relationship, rightful, lawful, legitimate *Obs*

1465 *Paston Lett* II 68 I am very beyre, by the duceas of my fader, to a place called Keswyk 1495 *Act 11 Hen VII*, c 56 Preamble, Landes to the whiche the vere owners be now restored by this Acte 1513 *Doc Exch* (Surtees) V 51, I do give my full power unto my saide suster Lucie and I do charge hir as she is very mother of my saide nece [etc.]. 1545 *Rolls of Parlt* V 734/2 Hys very lawfull executionaris donatouris and assignats. 1568 Grafton *Chron* (1809) II 205 Neither King Edward hinselfe nor the Duke of Clarence were lawfully begotten, nor were they very children of the Duke of Yorke 1606 *Munim Milros* (Bann Cl) 657 We constitutis Oure verrie lauchfull vndoubtit and irreuocabill Procuratouris, act ing, faulzeis [etc.]

*transf* 1570-6 Lambarde *Peramb Kent* (1826) 203 In the yeere, 1146, was founded Boxley in Kent, the verie daughter of Clarevalle.

†b Legally valid or established *Obs*

1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb) 24 To be put in remembrance of youre auncien enheritaunce verray right and title in youre duchies of Lancastre and Guyan 1487 *Records Norw* (Bann Cl) 618 Pe Abbot hes verray richt to Je erde sliwe of be quer of be said Kirk

II. S. Used as an intensive, either to denote the inclusion of something regarded as extreme or exceptional, or to emphasize the exceptional pro minence of some ordinary thing or feature.

In very common use from the 16th cent With slight change of syntax the sense may commonly be expressed by the adv 'even' or 'actually' Various types of context (with *the*, possessive etc.) are illustrated in the several groups of quotations, the use in (*d*) is now obsolete and that in (*c*) a rare archaism

(*a*) 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr T* 565 Kan cow and calf, and eek the verray hogges Sore fered were for berkyng of dogges. 1526 Tindale *Luke* ii. 35 The swearde shall pearce the very hert off the 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xcvi 6 The very heauens declare his righteousnesse, & all people se his glory 1590 Sir J Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded 8 b, All Coronells and Captaines of footmen, yea euen the verie I eutenants generalls 1892 J Hayward tr *Biondi Eromena* 1 Scire was she troubled with vomiting, so as having nothing in her stomach, she cast up the very pure blood 1898 Fuller *Ch Hist* iv 284 The Provost, being provided for in all particulars, to the very points of his hose 1918 Steele *Spect* No 306 P 1 It goes to the very Soul of me to speak what I really think of my b ace 1908 Pope *Dunc* II Notes (1736) 223 All tastes and degrees of men, from those of the highest quality to the very rabble 1780 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. ix, The very air was rent with cries 1899 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii, He flew like the very wind. 1852 Warren *Diary*

*Late Physic* II iii 122 The room was crammed to the very door 1824 GREEN *Short Hist* iii § 5 (1882) 140 The very retainers of the royal household turned robbers 1892 ' J S WHITE ' *Mumby* xv, It is absurd on the very face of it.

(*b*) 1535 COVERDALE *Hab* iii 2 In thy very wrath thou thinkest vpon mercy 1563 *Homilies* ii *Rogation Week* iv 2 To striue for our very rightes and duetues, with the breche of loue & charitie, is vtterly forbydden. 1595 *Locrine* i 1 68 A greater care torments my verie bones. 1600 in Morris *Franklin Cath. Fncy.* (1872) 31 Oftentimes their very beds they lie vpon are sold before their faces 1620 T GRANGER *Div. Logike* 100 Yet in their verie vnmouth reia tion there is also force of arguing to explicate a sentence. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit* i To Kdir, The Chyrurgeon's work of an *Enae rescindendum*, which I wish not to my very Enemies. 1705 tr *Boureau-Deslandes* 27 You may imagine what Case we were in, when one of them began to hack our very doors with an Ax 1768 GOLDSM *Good n Man* i 1, His very mirth is an antidote to all gaiety 1807 CRABBE *Par Reg* I 793 His very soul was not his own 1831 CARLYLE *Sart Res* i 1, That we do not see what is passing under our very eyes 1838 J H NEWMAN *Par Serm* (1837) III vi 86 The plain and sober sense which they have on their very front 1880 McCARTHY *Own Times* III xlvii 433 His very defects were a main cause of his popularity

(*c*) 1548 UDALL, etc *Erasm Par John* 118 b, So nowe they sawe certainly at very hande the thing to be true 1561 T HOBY tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* ii (1577) K iij, There needeth no art, because very nature hir self is ynough to shapeth men apt to expresse pleasantly 1571 DIGGES *Pantom* i xvii F iij b, And yet in conueying of waters any great distance, very expensiue will bestow an euery 1600 BIBLE (Douay) *Numl xiv comm*, It is so absolutely necessarie in everie communitie to have one superior of al, that vnto mutineers themselues can neuer choose such a one 1617 MORYSON *Itin* i 233 I hey keepe the Roman Le it, but more strictly, abstaining from fish an l very Oyle (which they use for butter) 1640 EARL MANCH *Semanti's Ch Pass* 84 (1671) 81 The name of Trumpets puts them in good hu mor, and very hurls do animate their courage. 1657 CROMWELL in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II 329 I hear greatest perse cution hath been of the people of God as I think very experiences will sufficiently demonstrate 1851 KEMBLE *Occas Papers & Rec* (1877) 240 By the way 11 which things are managed all Apostolic and Primitive, decreed in the Church, and very unbelievers may settle what we are to believe

(*d*) 1516 in J Russell *Rarg t* (1881) vii 158 For fear that his very best p my brother left somme ress o1 of the truth of his accusations. 1605 BOYLE *Occas Reft* v x (1675) 335 I hose Beams, which derive a new Glory from their very being Taken

b Limphasizing sbs which denote extremity of degree or extent

*c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol* ii § 1 Ley thi reule vp that same day & th one wol the verray point of thy rewle sitten in the bordure vp o i the degree of th ryght Ascendent 1530 PALSG 818 At the very dawny ig of the dyse *It l* 820/1 In the very myddes of a thyng 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Yobs* viii 4 The verines said Marsh, the woman was taken in adulterie, in the verie act 1565 ALLEN *Def Purgat* (1886) 3 That matter which I per eived of all other causes in the world, must to touch the very core of h. ey 1590 SHAKS *HENRY Testaments* 61 He that is at the very point e of death 1605 CAMDEN *Rem* i It cs not be imperti ie it, at the ve e entrance, to say somewhat 1609 HOLLAND *Amm Marcell* 116 From the very brums of Ilgris ba ke, as farre as to Euphrates, there was no greene thing l ft 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist Winchester* 401 He then drews the lower part of that noose close vnto it to the very corner of it 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 359 The Milan government, we are in forme l, was a bankrupt from the very outset 1872 *Rout ledge's Ev Boy's Ann.* 193/1 Before the commencement of the very minimum 1878 BROWNING *Ln Saisiaz* 18 Quiet slow sure money making proves the matter s very root.

†c Qualifying pronouns in order to give emphasis. Sometimes emphasizing identity (cf sense 10 b) *Obs*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph* 281 I wys even very I myself am y⁹ manne. 1548 — *Erasm Lat Luke* 17 And verily he shall be the expectacion of all indio s. 1561 T HOBY tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* i (1577) P v, For very such make the greatnesse and gorgeousnesse of an Oration 1624 QUARLES *Job* xv 26 I in turn'd a laughing stock To boyes & th se, that sau d to send my Flocks, these times very the e I hate at my sorrowes 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupæd* ii 200 And this is even very she, whom you were wont to sport with at your Sein ir *Louis* & *Sir* (1760) 56 I am iyd to very thee By ev ry thought I have.

d Coupled with *own*

1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) I vi 89 A prince who wielded with his own hand the power of All the Russias 1884 MRS EWING *Mary s Meadow* (1886) 72, I had to have it, for my very own

9 Neither more nor less than (that expressed by the sb qualified), exactly that specified without qualification; = SHEER *a* 8

Qualif ing abstract nouns, esp. those denoting emotions or conditions, and usually f llowi g a prep esp *for*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt T* 132 For verray feere so wolde hir herte quake. *a* 1440 *Partonope* 849 She gynneth to wepe For verray joye 1456 SIR G HAYE *Lawe Armys* (S T S) 69 [He] throu verray fors was the first lord of that realme 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 37 I yeve to my neve my best purs and xxli to put ther in nne, and wil he be servyd apart with the fyrst, of verray love 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus* viii 1 Iochange not with a mighti man leste happely he come in thy daylye susteyned at the handes of his concubines, shee founde meanes to strangle him 1671 MILTON *P R* iv 12 As a man who for very spight Still will be tempting him who foyls him still.

1812 CRABBE *Tales* xviii 73 Fondly she pleaded and would gently sigh, For very pity; or she knew not why 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I ii 191 The sailors mutinied from very hunger 1898 *Maqme Poets* 31 For veriest joy her red mouth laughs.

VOL. X.

b. With a limiting or restrictive force That alone to the exclusion of any thing else, = MERE *a* 5

1546 *Yorks Chantry Surv* (Surtees) 495 Having no other promocions but theyre verye stipende or wages 1574 BOURNE *Regiment of Pope* xix (1577) 50 b, I hen haue they no other helpe but onely the very account of the shippes way 1612 SHAKS *Cymb* ii iv 9 Your very good sense, and your company, Give payes all I can do 1628 *For Gut h Coll Cur* II 424 I here be 27 000 Sheets of paper in that Book, which, upon ordinary ac ount cometh to eight hundred and fifty pound, the very writing 1697 CROMWELL *Speech* 23 Jan (*Carlyle*) So give me leaue, in a very word or two, to congratulate with you 1793 ROWE *Fair Penit* i 1, At thy very Name My eager Heart springs up. *Ibid*, Sure its the very Error of my Eyes. 1817 JAS MILL *Brit India* II v vii 505 The Governor General treated the very request as a high offence. 1849 A W POTTER *Add Revis Chr Archit* 40 The very we ght and massiveness of the work causing it frequently t settle and give 1896 P. H HUNTER *Yas Jennock* xii 153 I he verra mention o' Tod-Lowrie s name was eneuch

10 Used (after *the, this, that,* etc ) to denote or emphasize complete or exact identity a. Of points of time

1580 N T (Rhem) *Luke* v 20 In that very houre he receiued sight, and said Iesu 1600 in *Eliz Hasttwood's* (1915) 90 Even in this nicke of time this very very instant. 1617 MORYSON *Itin* i 293 I he bell of that Church was sounded vpon the very day of Saint Bartholmew 1683 *Brit Spec* Pref p. ii, To which this our Island has been so fortunate as to have been subjected from its very first being inhabited to this very Day 1724 SWIFT *Drap Lett* xxvii, Come this very instant 1738 SWIFT *Lol Convertat* 141 She died just this very Day Seven Years 1796 STED MAN *Surinam* I 29 On the very day of Christmas 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) II 268 It is a rule of law that a remi der must vest, either during the continuance of the preceding estate, or at the very instant of its determination 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xiv, My lady fair the conjuror plays This very night 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* v I 643 Jeffreys gave directions that Alice Lisle should be burned alive that very afternoon

b In general use

In quots. under (*b*) corresponding to a defining clause which follows the sb

1598 SHAKS *Merry W* ii 1 84 Why this is the very hand the very words 1605 — *Macb* i vii 76 When we haue mark d with l lood those sleepie two ' ants which did seme their Chamberlaine 1611 BIBLE *Exod* ix 18 Such an horrible tem pest as hath fall n since 1657 SPARROW *Bk Com Prayer* 72 We are taught to pray ' And lead us not into temptation , which very word 1681 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit* Pref, I insist that very Definition let him fall. 1697 SPARROW *Bk Com Prayer* 72 We are taught to pray ' And lead us not into temptation , which very word 1711 ADDISON *Spect* No 178 ¶ 2 Such as are truly Witty *John Bull* iii 1, Timothy Trim — w om they did in their con science, believe to be the very prisoner 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist Portsm* 390 We cut neither 'o nor any thing else over the very Dedication 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi, Young woman said he, ' your sister s case must certainly be termed a hard one ' God I less you, sir, for that very word 1824 *Miss Mitford* I 1836 GLADSTONE *Church Princ* 1850 201 It must be made apparent, that what was demanded of human nature was the perfection of that very human nature 1880 *Nature* 1 *Into* (ed 2) I 354 First of all answer this very quest on

(*b*) 1641 J SMITH *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 151 We have both the very Scripture granted that God should gratifie us ; the very individual thing that we desire. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit* i 61 Those very Jews who at the very be i ihe r Hum mor more than Loyalty expect Now worded 1704 STANHOPE *Paraphr* III 586 Each are respectively appointed 1780 *Mirror* No 99, The supposition that it is this very churcher which Shakespeare meant to allot him. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej* x Seeking the acquaintance of some of those very people, against wi m his pride had revolted in the very be i ing 1817 *Lett* I 1 If They take for grs ted the very question at is ue 1891 *Law Times* XC 463/2 The contents of the deed were falsely stated to be very person who ought to have advised her on such legal matters

c Of words Exactly corresponding to those of an original or previous statement

1598 [see b] 1778 JEFFERSON *Anl shng* App Wks 1859 I 140 Some of these very words were afterwards established 1838-9 HALLAM *Hist Lit* II ii i § 57 51 He has neglected to quote the very words of his authorities 1869 GOLDWIN SMITH *Lect* iv, I said it, I said it Those were my very words!

d *The very thing*, the thing exactly suitable or requisite

1768 STERNE *Sent Journ*, *Montreuil* (1778) I 90 It occur'd to me that *that* was the very th ng 1800 MRS J WEST *Infidel Father* II 123 This behaviour was certainly the very thing 1868 NEWMAN *Let in The Month* July (1909) 66 I am both surprised and glad at your news I think it is the very thing for you

B *adv.* †1 Truly, really, genuinely , in or with truth or reality , truthfully *Obs*

13 *R I Allit I* C 133 I dewotly aw owe, pat verray bes halden Sothely to be sacrafyse when I schal asoyn worpe *c* 1375 *Cursor M* 29073 (Fairf ), Bot man man pat wele can rede vnderstandis nost al verray quat pe vale of fonaphat is to say *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H Fame* ii 572 It hath so very lyknes That spack the wordes *Romé florence* 1508 The abbas, and odur nonnes by, Tolde hyt full openlye, That hyt was so verray e *c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) ii 257 The compyler here of shuld translat veray so holy a story

†b Qualifying an adj or pa. pple *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from next

1587 THYNNE *Hyeden* (Rolls) V 309 But for he was verray repentaunt he was exculed for be fey 1483 JAS. I *Kingis Q* clxix, O I verray sely wrech, I se wele by thy doleful colloure pale, Thou art to feble of thy self to streche Vpon my quhele *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 335 None schal be ouer skabyed in any wyse for any suche chaunge, withe oute a very reasonable cause *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii 191 I wo thousand knyghtes all yonge men of pryme berde, whiche were very frenshe. 1549 MORE *Dyalogue* iii, Was 24s/1 both those tonges [i. e. Greek and Latin] wer as verye vulgare as ours *c* 1593 in *Spalding Club Misc* I 5 Your Maiestie and the conseill hes to Judg of thay lie laudchil, and verary quahlit

2 In a high degree or measure , to a great extent , exceedingly, extremely, greatly

Sometimes emphasized in speaking, and italicized in printing, to give additional force (Cf 4)

a. Qualifying positive adjs (and ppl adjs) used predicatively, attributively, or absolutely

= *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* i 86 Erle Patrik than till Berwik couth persew1 Ressawide he was and trastyt verray trew 1548 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 298 In the latine it hath a verey good grace. 1554-5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q Mary* (1914) 173 Of verey fayer quaint & strange attier 1580 DALE tr *Stelliones Comm* 255 Machlin in verye fayre Towne in Brabant) *a* 1598 LINDSAY (PITSCOTTIE) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 4 Topray me think it is verray necessarie

*a* 1600-34 *Cow Cork Christs Ll* ii 513 Those fowlys the ar full far fro me And wern yowt for me to fynde 1890 PALSGR 327/a Very good *fort lon. Ibid.* 828/1 Very farre, very hye, very lowe, etc *a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 37 This was done in the towne of kirkcaldie that thair deit verrie mony 1588 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I 169 My father yt a verye old man 1600 J PORY tr *Leo's Africa* 1 The vale is very scarce of oile and of corne. *Ibid* iv 224 Bathe, whereof now there remaine but very few ru nes 1661 PR. RUPERT in *12th Rep Hist MSS Comm Duppa* 44 I will him that [I] am very glad to heere of th recouvry 1676-7 MARVELL *Corr* Wks (GROSART) II 530 A I ill fer exporting Coals free or at a very small rate 1790 SIBBALD *Letter* No 44 P 6 I have, I fear huddled up my Discourse having been very busy 1774 COLDSM *Nat Hist* (1776) V 56 They lay very large eggs some of them being above five inches in diame er 1799 P. LE BON *Jour Paisley Hosp* III 175 You say this to relieve me and tis very kind of you 1803 *Med Jrnl* X 304 An intermittent tendency was also very observable in the pulse 1807 CRABBE *Par Reg* ii 1128 *Son Chem Org Bodies* 580 A soft mass very soluble in alcohol 1898 LD GRANVILLE in *Life* (1905) I 212 Very few of our Embassy were there 1810 in Parish 1880 DISRAELI *Endymn* lxvii Cards of invitation to banquets and balls and concerts and very eatles

b Qualifying another adv verb

1448 *Paston Lett* I 96 Vere bartely your Molsyns. 1530 PALSGR. 814/1 Very erly in the morlyng *au plus matyn. Ibid* 843/a Very gladly, *moult voulentiers* Very hardly, *a grant pt. Ibid* 844/1 *Very secretly* 1533 UDALL *Royster D* iv vi (Arb) 70 But very well I wist he here did all in scorne *a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 22 The Douglasses were verrie weill pleasandlie 1630 B JONSON *New Inn* Drum Pers Sir Glorious Tipto talks gloriously of any thing but very seldom is in the right 1646 JER TAYLOR *Serm. Repent* iii § 8 118 For if it were [necessary] very extren ely few would do their duty 1692 R *Emblanme s Frauds Rom Mon* (ed 3) 130 The next day we set out very betimes in the Morning towards Mount Alverne 1708 *Modern Spect* No 58 ¶ 4 Several Pieces which I have lived very near as long as the Iliad it self 1798 *Contl Mag* 54/1 The inuring clergymen and their families have been very largely of his benevolence 1818 CRUISE *Dig* ii (ed 2) III 510 Courts of equity would do very ill by not adopting that rule 1835 URE *Philos Manuf* 18 The cotton trade should proceed very quickly in the spinning frame 1867 DEANE *Chr Schools* II iii 129 The school at Sempringham very soon became famous

c Qualifying past pples used predicatively or attributively – Very much (See MUCH *adv* 1 c) Also exceptionally with *like* sb.

The correctness of this usage which has been prevalent from the middle of the 17th cent. depends on the extent to which the partic ple has acquired a purely adjectival sense

1641 in Nicolas *Prit Mem Digby* (1827) II 61 p 81 At which the g od Knight seemed very well pleased 1664 *Extr St P rel Friends* (1912) VI 55 Elder a Jerman, being a very suspected person reather of cruilty principalls 1702 ADDISON *Ital Ritdals* ii (1736) 35 Many very valued pie es of French Italian and English poetry in the same dres [i e dialogue]. 1782 R CUMBERLAND *Anc & Fashies* (1785) II 90, I was a very interested and an anxious spectator 1792 W ROBERTS *Look 2 rm* II 14 (1793) I 179 Betsy looke I very pleased at several passages . 1804 SYD SMITH *Mor Philos* (1850) 54 A very over rated man 1848 CHO LMLEY *Life in Lett & Jrnls* (1887) I 289 Everything very hurried 1874 DASENT *Half a Life* III 60, I should so very like to know who this Mr Fall and his daughter are *Ibid* 177 Her foot is very very swollen 1882 *Cornh Gleam.* (1879) I 79 In this rather confused and very di appointed letter

d With a negative, freq denoting ' only moderately ', ' rather un— '.

1720 SWIFT *Jrnl to Stella* 31 Oct, Then it went off leaving me sicksh, but not very 1758 J S *Ir l rans Obsery Surg* (1771) 169 It was not very vehement to any other Place than the Coccyx 1780 GIBBON *Lett* (1896) I 204 They leave them unnoticed and I are not very willing to admit them in their full extent at all

3 In purely intensive use a Emphasizing superlatives, esp *best, all, most*

†Also with various superlatives as *perse fal*

1567 DRANT *Horace Sat* vii Dru He will see the wyth the swallowe were firste that cu nes into that place 1654 GATAKER *Disc Lots* 17 This fel out to be the verie next day after Queen Elizabeths decea e 1664 *Extr St P rel Friends* ii (1911) 188 A greater meeting at her house then ever the very next Sunday after the Sessions. 1684 *Scanderbeg Redrv* vi. 142 The City was now reduc d to the very last Extremity 1737 ATTERBURY *Serm* v *Pref* ii 81 (1734) I vi 163 How then should the very Best of us .

expect to be free from them? 1753 Miss Collier *Art Torment Gen. Nature* (1811) 199 If's w know yourself to be of s me c nsequence although not the very principal p rson of the party 1767 Sterne *Tr Shandy* iv xxx, In the very t ext page 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* iii I 308 Three of the very richest subjects in England 1865 Harine Gould *Werewolf* v 53 Whenever they stray in the very least 1892 B. Reeves *It interested bound* 143 You have missed the *very* best thing in Kandy

b Denoting and emphasizing absolute identity or difference, esp. with *same* or *opposite*

1a 1500 *Chester Pl* (Shaks. Soc.) 215 It is the verye same [I find man] 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* i *Socrates* § 86 (1) Plat, whiche in rebukyng hym [Socrates] did commiite the verye selfe same faulte, that he rebuked 1601 Shaks *All's Well* iv iii 330 In the last I would have said the verie same 1666 J. Davies tr *Olearius's Ivy Ambass* 182 That which happen d on the very same day the year before 1712 Addison *Spect* No 476 P 6 Whose Murther he would revenge in the very same l t ce where it was committed 1781 [see Spearman a 1] 1833 T. Taylor *Ancient* 1 7 The very same spirit of kindness which should rule us in the performance of a task such as t e one now in hand 1835 I. Mitchell *Charm of Arctic* 690 *note*, The very opposite word was of course rejected

†c. With adva of time, degree, number Exactly, precisely, just. = Even *adv* 6 *Obs*

(1) 1530 Palsgr 808/1 Even very l ow, *tout fin mayn tenant* 1553 Udall *Roister D* iv iv (1566) 59 *Trinity* But when goeth this for him? *M Merry* That do I very nowe *a* 1555 Philpot *Exam & Writ* (Parker Soc.) 334 It is possible some part of the Church for a time to be deceived when they have a rule of the truth yea, very then when they err, and plunge into any v e or sin 1644 Maxwell *Pract Chir Aimat* 74 If we shudge lent us, it is to be feared he l ave no better for a great while 1 hath very now rejected all we have of him 1645 Quarles *Sol he out* viii 41 Did not that to e that voted Wisdome want But very now, now you are wise 1

(2) 1530 Palsgr 823/2 Very here very ther *de ic ey dro t* l's 1612 *Two N Ile K* v iv 115 In this place first you fought even very here I entered

(3) a 1592 Greene *Upstarte* 11 What newes is this? and is it very so? Is our Alphonsus yet in his nine tale? 1603 Shakespeare *Scene* 98 Very s ought we to conceive the meaning of the v niversall particle Every man

4 Repented in order to convey greater emphasis

1849 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) ii 8 I l ve a very very great jealousy Lord Dynevor will be left in the lurch 1853 Walton *Angler* 137 He [the salm ] is very very seldom observed to bite at a Minnow in l nt of th s 1728 De Foe *Pkarm* (1840) 11 It was under l very very very dreadful. 1829 Sir R. Wilson *Jrnl. Diary* 13 July (1861) II 317 The retribution may be just but it is very very severe 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Sec II *Man of Many Fr* I. 'Tis a fine pleasant, an handsome and — 'Oh! very very said George 1873 Dickens *Ed Dr* 11 Oh I see — regus too strong here—liberal landlord—very foolish very

†C *sb* Truth, verity *Obs*—1

1382 Wyclif *Pon* Pr 1 Thes reuokith the apo tle to the verey (1388 treuthe] and the p spels bolue

†D *Very, sb.*, or *adj.* as *sb.* Truly verily *Obs*

15 *Smyth's his Dame* 52 in Hazl *P E P* III 203, I am mayster of all That smyteth with hamer or mall A lad as may thow me call, I tell the t verely 1550 R. Crowley *Cet l enus* tr 56 Terpsichore [the] fift is cull t on very verely *Hist* 772 Ane mess nger said unto verray Thair erandis gaif baith nocht and als be day

†**Very(e** *Obs* Of uncertain obscure, occurring only as part of a charm )

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Millers T* 229 Thenn Crist and saint Eneudict Blesse this hous fr m euery sikked wight For nyghtes verye [*v r* very e verie verray] the white pater noster

**Very(e,** obs sc ff Wary *v*, Weary *a*, Worry *v* **Veryen,** southern ML var Ferry *v* **Verynly,** obs form of Verily *adv* **Veryn,** obs variant of Fern *sb* 3 **Veryness,** obs sc f Weariness **Veryneysse** sc. Vileness **Very-similar,** obs f Verisimilar

**Verzete,** southern MF var Forget *v*

†**Vervine.** *Obs rare.* Also **vesvine** = next

1558 Warde tr *Alexis Secr* 90 A pont le of Verzine or Bryoyl cute in pie es 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 1 218 South the Marsons Verzine, Bricoll, or Chima.

‖ **Verzino.** *Obs rare* Also **verzina** [It.] Brazil wood

[1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 80 None other trees then brazile whiche it e Indians calle *Verzini* 1598 Hakluyt tr *C. Frederick's Voy* 31 At whose harbour entere there Indeth s me Ships with Verzina Nyps and Benzamin 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 1 213 There goeth another ship f r the said Cyp ame of Malacca to Sion, to lade Verzino

**Ves,** obs. Sc. form of *was* see Be *v*

**Vesage,** obs Sc form of Visage

**Vesalian** (vĭsē·lĭăn), *a* [f. the name of the Belgian anatomist Andreas *Vesalius* (1514–64) ]

1. Connected with anatomical researches.

In quot with reference to l sly snatching

1870 H. Lonsdale *Life R Knox* 65 The students set out on Vesalian crusades, and succeeded beyo d expectation

2 *Vetalian foramen* vein (see quots ).

1891 *Cent Dict* s v., The Vesalian f ramen (foramen Vesalii) of the sphenoid bone (a small venous opening) 1900 *Hughes Mem Pract Anat* III 188 The Vesalian an emissary vein from the cavernous si us which however is only occasionally present 1913 *Dorland's Med Dict* 1040 *Vesalian vein*, a vessel which connects the pterygoid plexus with the cavernous sinus.

‖ **Vesania** (vĭsē·nĭă) *Path* [L *vesania*, f *vesanus* mad, f *ve-* not + *sanus* sane] Mental derangement, esp of a particular type (see quot 1847)

1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2) *Vesania*, Madness from Love *c* 1793 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XI 282 Order IV Vesaniæ ] 1800 tr *Cullen's Nosology* 130 *mania* For who he wild consider why other Hallucinatio or Mor sania, which do not depend on the judgment, as a Vesan a? 1820 *Good Pr Medicine* 278 Parr makes Vesania th genus and arranges mel ncholia, mania, and even ones ness as sepa rate species under it 1857 Dunglison *Diet Med* 'ac 964/1 *Vesania* madness] derangement of the intellectual and moral faculties, without coma or fever

**Vesa nic,** *Path* [f L. *vesan us* insane + ic ] Of or pertaining to of the nature of, vesania

1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 196 This includes eight types [of mental disease] namely 1 vesanic type

† **Vesa nious,** *a.* [ed I *vesanus* ] (see quot ) 1656 Blount *Glossogr* (following Cooper) *Vesanous*, mad, wood, furious, out of his wit, cruel, outragious.

**Vesar,** obs. f Visor **Vesatour,** obs Sc var Visitor.

**Vesch, Veschale, -all, -el,** obs ff Vessel *sb* 1

**Vesche** *sb*, obs Sc var Wash *v*

**† Ve seulent,** *a Obs*—0 [ad med L. *vesculentus* (Du Cange), f L. *vesca* small, dainty), associated with L. *vescus* to feed ] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vesculent* apt to eat or feed 1658 Phillips, *Vesculé it*, to be eaten, fit for food

**Veso,** ML var Vease *Obs* and Freze *v* 1; obs var Visit *v*

**Vesoal,** obs ff Vessel *sb* 1

**Vesofe,** obs Sc f Visor **Vesen,** southern ML var Freze *v*.1 **Veshel(l,** obs Sc. ff. Vessel *sb* 1

**† Vesiar** *Sc Obs* [? *vesy* Vizy *v* ] An inspector So † **Vesiater** *Obs*

? *a* 1500 *Aberdeen Reg* (Jam ) Cercioure, vesiatre 1517 *Inuyt. Aberdeen* (1892) 107 Vesiater and serchare of the skynnis within the said burgh

‖ **Vesica** (vē·sĭkă) [L. *vesica*, a bladder, blister ]

1 *Anat* A bladder

Rarely used exc with defining term, esp *v natatoria* or *v seminalis*

[1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2) *Vesica* the Bladder, in hollow men it is a sinous Part, wherein any Liquor that is to be voided is contained 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vesica*, 1 Bladder [Hence in Bailey, etc ] 1859 Maunder *Sci & Lit*

† 2 A peculiar vessel used in distilling *Obs*

1683 Salmon *Doron Medicinum* 21 Put a quarter of the infusion into a vesica and powre on more rain or river wa er 1694 *Bate's Dispens* (1713) 137 In this way either distil in a Copper Vesica, or in a Glass Body 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn* I *Vesica* the large Copper Body fixne l within side, which is commonly ti ed in Distillation of Acids et Spirits 1728 tr *Lemery's Chymical Dictionary* I 126 Put all the Matter into a Copper Vesica tinn'd within 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Distillation* Odoriferous Herbs are commonly distilled in a Copper Vesica, or *Cucurbit*

3 *Vesica piscis* (also *piscium*), a pointed oval figure, the sides of which are properly parts of two equal circles passing through each other at their centres, freq employed as an architectural feature and by early artists as an aureole enclosing figures of Christ, the Virgin, etc

The reason for the name (fish s or fishes bladder) is disputed (see quot 1813)

1809 T. Kerrich in *Archæol* (1812) XVI 353 [A figure] formed by two equal circles, cutting each other in their centres, was told that it was called Vesica Piscis 1813 J. S. Hawkins *Gothic Architect* 244 Vesica piscium cannot, therefore, signify a fish's bladder, but a bladder, which when filled with wind, would be in the form of a fish 1809 T. Kerrich in *Archæol* XIX 353 Observations on the Use of the mysterious figure, called Vesica Piscis, in the Architecture and Sculpture of Middle Ages, and on the Seal-stone 1845 Parker *Gloss Archit* (ed 4) I 399 *Vesica piscis*, a name applied by Albert Durer to a pointed oval figure [etc ] 1856 *Ecclesiologist* XVII 189 Their [seals] [sc fill e two portals of Ely] were formerly filled with the Vesica Piscis

*attrib* 1844 *Imp Dict* s v., Vesica piscis Seal Wimborne Minster 1901 *Athenæum* 16 Nov 667/2 A Vesica Piscis window f unustual character at Millon Church, Cumberland

*b elliptical* in this sense. Also *attrib* and *Comb*

1820 T. Kerrich in *Archæol* XIX 361 The precise form of the Vesica which was used 1848 Rickman *Styles Archit* App p xxxvi A figure standing in a shallow niche holding a vesica, probably intended to represent the Trinity 1858 M'Vittie *Christ Ch Cathedr* 65 The figures are combined in vesica shaped medallions 1907 *Times* 1 Suppl 25 Jan 9/2 The very beautiful vesica form adopted in consequence of the desire for long lines for the pointed arch, and the fashion for the vesica in architecture

**Vesical** (vē·sĭkăl), *a* [ad. mod L. *vesical is*, f L. *vesica* see prec., and AL So F. *vésical* (16th cent ), Pg *vesical*, It *vesicale*.]

1 Of or pertaining to, formed in, the urinary bladder

1797 *Phil Trans* I XXXVIII 45 The specimen, which was said to be a vesical calculus of a horse 1857 Miller *Elem Chem*, *Org* 712 Urine always contains a little mucus vesical, together with some other ill-defined azotized principles.

*b spec* in *Anat* of various appendages of the bladder (see quots )

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat* 511 Vesical Nerves. These nerves vary in number and are irregularly interlaced 1835 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 388/2 The pelvic and vesical fascia 1840 R. Wilson *Anat Vade M* (1842) 348 The vesical and prostatic plexus is an important plexus of veins which surrounds the neck and base of the bladder and prostate gland 1881 Mivart *Cat* 213 Amongst them we have the superior vesicel [brunch], which goes to the side of the bladder

c *Ioth* Affecting or occurring in the urinary bladder

1846 G. E Day tr *Simon's Anim Chem* II 183 When mucus is separated in large quantity (as in vesical catarrh) 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr Afr in Trans* 300 XXIX 61 A violent cough and vesical irritation 1876 Gross *Dis Bladder*, etc 82 Of the causes of vesical neuralgia very little is known 1888 Doherty *Archiv Dermat* I 527, I found the women lying on the ground far gone in a vesical disease

2 Having the form of a vesicle; pointedly oval

1865 *Reader* No 121 462/2 Seals of vesical shape. 1880 *Archæol. Cant* XIII 72 The circular boss or knob, and the elliptical or vesical shape, are seen upon the jewels in the cover of the celebrated Durham Gospels of St Cuthbert

**Vesicant** (vē·sĭkănt), *sb* and *adj* [ad med L. *vesicant-*, *vesicans*, pres. participle of *vesicare* see next and -ANT So F. *vésicant*, Pg *vescante*, It. *vescicante* ]

*A. sb.* An application employed to raise blisters, a vesicatory

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 459 Vesicants Simple Roots, of sharpen, and pellitory of the wall. 1811 *Quart Journ Sci* VI 449/1 The terebinthinate solution may be used as a most efficacious vesicant 1871 Garrod *Mat Med* (ed 3) 419 The paucilamin induce a still deeper action, and are sometimes of greater value than vesicants

*B adj* Causing, efficacious in producing, blisters, vesicatory

1806 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xlviii 468 There appears no particular affinity between the Predaceous and Vesicant beetles 1887 Henfrey *Elem Bot* § 532 *Ledum palustre* Hydropiper, a common native weed, is very acrid even vesicant when fresh 1894 Garrod *Mat Med* (ed 4) 421 A nitrogenous, irritant, vesicant, or even escharotic, according to the mode of its application

**Vesicate** (ve sikĕt), *v* Chiefly *Med* [f ppl. stem of mod L. *vesicare* see Vesica and -ate.]

1 *trans* To cause to rise in a blister or blisters, to raise blisters on (the skin, etc )

1657 G Starkay *Helmont's Ind* 173 He will perhaps apply pigeons or the like to the feet or vesicate the external members for revulsion sake 1676 Wiseman *Surg Treat* vi viii 435 Celsus proposes, that the external Parts be vesicated to make more powerfull Revulsion from within 1720 Quincy tr *Hodges' Lues Ingrea* 189 The Skin was vesicated were never suffered to heal till the Malignity of the Disease was spent 1733 *Phil Trans* XLVIII 249 If thin bark is stripped off with their teeth, it inflames and vesicates their lips and gums.

b. In *pa pple.* Covered with, converted into, blisters

1676 Wiseman *Surg Treat* I vi 38, I saw [the arm] swelled, the *Adipola* vesicated, and shining with a burning heat of a citron colour 1802 Jenner *Instr Vaccine Inoculation* (1884) 59 A little red s t will appear on the third day which becomes perceptibly vesicated on the fifth 1892 *Med* VIII 482 Outbursts of persistent wheal like forma tions, sometimes vesicated

2. *absol* To produce blisters.

1809 *Phil Trans* XCIX 343 The fluid effused by vesicating with cantharides 1816 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* (ed 2) I 315 In America the *Lytta cancrina* and *pittata* are said to vesicate more speedily and with less pain 1881 R. J. Graves *Syst Clin Med* xii 133 Blisters [applied] would be doubtful, and the prol ability was that the patient would sink before they vesicated 1892 *Garrod Mat Med* (ed 3) 41 Liquor ammoniæ fortior will vesicate rapidly, if evaporation is prevented

3 *intr.* To become blistered.

1809 T. *Hutchinson's Arch Surg* X 120 It (i e an eruption) consists of erythematous patches which vesicate at their borders and spread

Hence **Ve sicated** *ppl a*, **Ve sicating** *vbl sb* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl a*

In quot 1703 *ppl* meaning 'having large air cells' of Vesiculated 2

1703 *Phil Trans* XXIII 1393 The Lungs of these Water Lizards being Vesicated, and not vesicular 1806 *Med Jrnl* XV 44 Blistering plasters were applied and the vesicated parts treated as above 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst Clin Med* ii 104 Dressing the vesicated surface with the French blistering paper 1863 Boyle *Vet Pract Physics* II ii 61 The Churrigon, as known to me, made u e of Cantharides among other ingredients in the vesicating plaister 1771 T. Percival *Ess* (1777) I 106 Neither mustard, nor any other vesicating stimulus but cantharides, excite this complaint 1896 *Penny Cycl* VI 240/1 A yellow vesicl matter which dries into vesicating power 1872 *Thomas Dis Women* 297 There are two preparations of vesicating collodion

**Vesication** (vesikē·ʃən). *Med* [ad mod L. *vesicatio*, noun of action from *vesicare* see Vesica. So F. *vésication* (16th cent ), Pg *vesicação*, Sp. *vejigacion*. Cf. Vesiculation.]

1 The result of blistering or of rising in blisters, a bluster or group of these.

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg* II xl 25 This appayseth the paine, and purgeth the vesication or blysteryage and inflation 1676 Wiseman *Surg Treat.* II 25, I applied a Pledgit of basilicon upon it, and dressed the Vesications with *unguent tutiæ* 1720 Quincy tr *Hodges' Lumoloyia* 110 Those poisonous Vesications called Blains 1769 R. Bancroft *Guiana* 105 These leaves are also applied to vesications, to promote a copious discharge. 1785 C. Kirk in *Med Commun* II 47 A small vesication appeared on the navel 1813 J. Thomson *Lect Inflam* 595 The early opening of the vesications will not occasion pain 1861 Hulme tr *Mayne's Pandora* II iv 136 The stinging apparatus of the Medusæ may even give rise to vesications 1899

*Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 466 In exceptional cases vesications are produced

**2.** The formation or development of **blisters**, the action or fact of blistering

1793 *Phil Trans* XLVIII 335 An enlargement of the eyelids, and vesication of the *tunica conjunctiva* 1807 *Med Trnl* XVII 320 A complete vesication had taken place over the whole anterior part of the metatarsal bones 1843 R J Graves *Syst Clin. Med* vii 85 They have no hesitation in applying a large blister, leaving it on until it produces full vesication 1864 Gairdner *Med Mcd* (ed 2) 335 Vesication is also made use of on account of its revulsive action in internal congestions, as of the head, &c

**Vesicatory**, (ve sike'tări, vesi kătări), *sb* and *a Med* [adj med or early mod L *vesicatorius, -orium* (whence F *vésicatoire*), It *vesicatorio*, Pg *vesicatorio*, Sp *vesicatorio*, f. L. *vesica* see VESICATE *v* and -ORY ]

**A** *sb* A sharp irritating ointment, plaster, or other application for causing the formation of a blister or blisters on the skin , = BLISTER *sb* 3

Very frequent from *c* 1650 to *c* 1780 now somewhat rare

1694 F Hering *Med Dispens* 18 Vesicatorys to be applied neere vnto the most principall Part 1855 Culpeper, etc *Rcformat* 1 vii 32 You must apply a Vesicatory to the fore part of the head 1878 I DE Carnochers *Lectr* 58 Carrying in his pocket a vesicatory made of cantharides 1794 F Fuller *Med. Gymn* (1711) 38 It can't be done by Vesicatories without some Pain 1758 *Phil Trans* XLVII 504 These were blistered slightly, by means of a small vesicatory 1803 *Med Jrnl* X 310 A vesicatory is plied to the affected part, consequently the pain and irritation the desire I effect 1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 7 The leaves of Knowltonia vesicatoria are used as vesicatories in Southern Africa 1875 H C Wood *Therap.* (1879) 561 Epispastics, or vesicatories or more colloquially, blisters

**B** *adj* Of the nature of a vesicant, capable of, characterized by, raising blisters.

1612 Woodall *Surg Mate* Wks (1653) 173 The use of Vesicatory medicines, consequently, exhilarates and swoline limbs 1663 Boyle *Usef Exp Nat Philos* II 43 If you duly perspend what I briefly mentioned, of the transmutation of vesicatory and exulcerating substances 1817 Kirby & S *Entomol* II 227 The vesicatory beetles are not improbably defended from their assailants by the remarkable quality that abounds in their juices 1843 *Todd's Cyclop Anat* I 400 The vesicatory fluid which possesses a vesicatory power nearly equal to that of the lytta. 1868 *Rep Pract Obstetr Soc Lond* 102 Many of these beetles (see *Veloudæ*) possess strong vesicatory powers.

**Vesicle**, (ve sik'l) Also 6, 8 **vessicle** [ad F *vésicule*, or L. *vesicula* Vesicula ]

**1** a. *Anat* and *Zool* A small membranous bladder like vessel in an animal body, a cavity or cell with a membranous integument, a small sac or cyst

Freq with defining terms as *blood-, food germinal, seminal umbilical vesicles*; see also Graafian Follicle&c

1578 Banister *Hist Man* II 1 The lungs which receiue the dryer excrement as the Vessicle of Choler 1607 Walkington *Opt Glasse* ix 103 Those men which want the vessicle of choler are both strong and very wise 1664 Power *Exp Philos* I 41 I spy'd out the Bee near the neck, you shall see the heart beat most lively which is a white pulsing vessicle 1691 Ray *Creation* II (1692) 63 I bor the Lungs should be made up of innumerable Air pipes and Vesicles interwoven with Blood Vessels 1711 or ler to p rifie ferment or supply the sanguineous Mass with Nitro aerial Particles. 1713 Derham *Astro-T* v (1726) 92 In the mucous in the Finger cells is also contained in their membranous vesicles 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1862) I ii 136 The ve sicles, that go to form the brain 1797 M Baillie *Morbid Anat* (1807) 300 The small vesicles which make a part of the natural structure of the ovaria. 1843 R J Graves *Syst Clin Med* xxii 360 Those cells may be represented as so many minute vesicles. 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* Introd p xxxvi, The brain [of Amphioxus] consists of three primary vesicles

*C ref* 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 155 Contractile Po tun vesicle like sacs are developed

**b** Similarly in *Bot*

1676 *Phil Trans* V 1116 There are found many leaves of other trees, on wh h grow Vesi les, or small bagge. 1673 Grew *Anat Trunks* I ii § 3 A simple white, and close Parenchyma or Barque made up of Vesicles ; hardly vis ble without a Glass. 1760 *Life Instinct Bot* III v (1765) 181 *Lapsilli* it, nipply ; when it is covered with Vesicles little Bladders 1766 *Compl Farmer* s v *Vegetal on* All the roots becoming longer, put forth new branches out of the sides the second leaf withers and its vesicles are emptied 1832 Lindley *Introd. B* I 158 This thin envelope always begins by being a mass of cellular tissue and generally finishes by becoming a vesicle 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot* 59 The older hypothesis of a deposition of new layers from within presupposes that the starch grains were at first hollow vesicles.

**c** *Physics*. A minute bubble or spherule of liquid or vapour, esp one of those composing a cloud or fog

1732 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Dew* The thin Vesicles of which Vapours consist *Ibid*, The Warmth forms those Vesicles that are specifically lighter than the Air 1794 G Adams *Nat & Exp Philos* IV lii 446 Clouds are composed of a mass of vesicles like soap bubbles. 1864 Brewster *More Worlds* iii 61 The aqueous vapour which is [ec the atmosphere] contains, whether it exist in minute vesicles, or in masses of clouds 1869 Phipson tr *Guillemin's Sun* (1871) 42 When the vesicles which constitute clouds are cooled they unite to form drops 1884 J Tait *Mend in Heather* (1890) 87 The salt is brought by the travelling clouds, each vesicle charged with a precious burden

**d** *Geol*. A small spherical or oval cavity produced by the presence of bubbles of gas or vapour in volcanic rocks.

1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* II 328 The vesicles are some times of an oblong form, but often spherical 1849 Dana *Geol* vi (1850) 346 Occasionally we see fragments in which the vesicles are thickly disseminated 1879 Ruttley *Study Rocks* xi 191 In some of the obsidians of Hawaii the vesicles are quite spherical

**2** A hollow swelling *rare*—1 (Cf next )

1678 Marvell *Lick Primer* 11 21 He demonstrates at large how impossible it was for Mankind to be produced at first from certain Vesicles or Pimples of the Earth

**3** *Path* A small, generally round, elevation of the cuticle containing fluid matter

1799 Jenner *Further Obs Variolæ Vaccinæ* (1801) 33 The patient felt no general indisposition although there was only a number of vesicles 1801 *Med Synl* V 338 He his twice scratched off the surface of the rising vesicle 1847 Youatt *Horse* viii 204 Vesicles will sometimes appear along the under side of the tongue 1867 Baker *Nile Tributt* viii (1872) 107 Small vesicles rose above the skin 1876 Hutchinson *Ilk & Pract Med* (1878) 295 The amount of fluid relatively to the solid constituents of vesicles varies very much

**b** Without article

1845 *Encycl. Metr* 1 VII 755/1 The vaccine pustule runs a course of various kind of vesicle.

**Vesico-** (ve sike), combining form, on Greek models, of Vesica, occurring in various terms referring to the bladder in connexion with some other part of the body denoted by the second element, as *vesico cervical, -intestinal, prostatic, -rectal*, etc (So *b vésico* )

Various other forms as *vesicule-vesico-ilei, vesico abdominal pubic spinal* etc appear in recent Dict

1889 *Buck's Hanlth Med Syst* VIII 581/2 The tear beg ining in a rigid or extends up the cervix to the Vesico cervical plexus 1843 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 400 "Yes co-intestinal fistulæ sometimes establish a communication between the bladder and the ileum or colon 1878 *Dunglison Med Lexicon* (1879) 11 64 Vesico intestinal Fistula is sometimes met with 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl Anat* III 933 2 The veins in the neighbourhood of the prostate gland form a plexus round the bladder are called the "vesi prostatic plexus. 1876 Gross *Dis Bladder* etc 156 Vari cose enlargement of the vesico-prostatic plexus of veins was described. 1878 Dunglison *Med Lexicon* 11 64 Vesico Rectal Fistula is between the bladder and rectum and between the butter tube and the urethra 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 400 2 When the abscess is vesico-urethral 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 400 "Yes co-urethral fistulæ sometimes establish a communication with the summit of the bladder 1884 *Buck's Handbk Med. Sci* 596/2 "Vesico urethral fissure is a crack or fis ure between the folds of the mucosa, at the point of junction of the urethra and bladder 1839-47 *Todd's Cyl Anat* III 943/1 There are 3 pair of recto uterine peritoneal folds in the female no 1 pair of "ve sico-uterine folds. 1884 *Buck's Hanlbk Med Sci* 585/2 All the tissues below may heal leaving an opening at the upper angle of the tear—"vesico uterine fistula. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 400 2 "Vesico-vaginal fistulæ are sometimes the result of the progress of a uterine cancer 1876 Gross *Dis Bladder* etc. 326 Vesico-vaginal fist ile is an opening between the bladder and vagina 1884 *Buck's Hanlbk Med Sci* 580/2 The tear reaches up to or dissects off the vesico vaginal tissue from the uterus.

**‖ Vesicula** (vesi kiŭlă) **vesiculæ** (-ĭlī) [L. *vesicula* a little blister, a vesicle, dim of *vesica* Vesica ]

**1** Vesicle 1 Usually in pl

In *Anat* and other defining terms as *tunica seminales*

**a** *Anat* 1725 Cheyne *Pract Archit* III § 22 (ed 2) 111 Spiral Vessels, which divide these hollow Fibrils into many elastick Cysticæ or Vesiculæ. 1728 Chambers *Cycl s v Lungs* A Stone Cutter the Vesiculæ of whose Lungs were stuffed with Dust 1771 *Encycl Lond* I 292 2 The Bronchiæ terminates in some subject by a number of vesiculæ 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 360 (Bladder) Towards the vesiculæ it [the cellular coat] is dense and white, and is called the tunica vesiculosa 1849-52 *Ib* IV in 1431/1 The difficulty of proving the identity of sac-called vesiculæ in other animals.

**b** *Bot* 1798 Willdenow *Cycl s v Trapeolum* These Seed Leaves consist of a great Number of little Vesiculæ, or Bladders. 1832 Lindley *Introd Bot* 2 *Vesiculæ* in Botany are little bags filled with air by means of which the plants are enabled to float

**c** *Physics* 1713 Derham *Phys Th* I ii n 22 *note*, Vapours being, as other thin inflated Vesiculæ of Water

**2** *Path* = Vesicle 2, 3

1876 Duhring *Dis Skin* 43 Vesiculæ are circumscribed r unded elevations of the epider nis, varying in size from a p ppoint to a split pea containing a clear serous fluid

**Vesiculate** (vesi kiŭlăt), *a* [ad early mod L *vesiculare-is* (whence F *vésiculaire*, Pg *vesicular*, It, *vesicolare*), f. L. *vesicula* see prec ]

**1** Having the form or structure of a vesicle bladder-like

**a** *Anat* *c* 1790 Gibson *Farrr's Cattle* App (1792) 310 These receive the bile into the vesicular Receptacle The Mesenters 1795 *Encyc Brit* V *Lungs*, Each cell is also furnished with a vesiculate membrane 1839-47 *Todd's Cyclop Anat* IV 1 The vesiculate cells of the lungs, in which the blood is exposed to the influence of the air 1860 Good *Study Med* (1829) V 10 There are no organs of generation that differ so much as these vesiculate tubes 1868 *Rep Pract Obstetr Soc Lond* 226 A sample vesiculate ovule may be continued on forwards into a medium variety 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim Life* 859 The nucleus is simple in the large, when full grown, vesiculate, with chromatin globules or ribbons.

**b** *Bot* 1848 Lindley *Introd Bot* (ed 4) I 147 A vesicular organ, which he terms *Cystome* 1867 J Hogg *Mic rosc* II 303 The spores are developed freely in the vesicular cells destined to produce them 1882 Vines *Sachs' Lect* 514 Their capacity for transport is increased by the vesicular hollow prominences of the cuticle

**c** *Physics* 1860 A Gresley *Amer Weather* vii (1888) 60 It was formerly advanced that these minute drops of rain or fog were vesicular—that is hollow spheres 1863 Tyndall *Heat* vi § 224 (1870) 176 If the particles of water be sufficiently small they will float without being vesicular

**2** Characterized by the presence of vesicles, composed of parts having the form of vesicles

**a** *Anat* 1725 Cheyne *Princ Medic* i vi § 37 (ed 2) 312 A Muscle is a bundle of Vesicular Threads or of solid Fibrils enclosed in one common Membrane. 1833 Sir C Bell *Hand* (1834) 69 Cold blooded animals require less frequently than other creatures, hence their vesicular lungs 1868 Carpenter *Anim Phys* i (1872) 76 We find a form of nerve as tissue generally known as the vesicular 1885 Bain *Senses & Int* I ii § 16 These central masses all contain grey substance, the cellular or vesicular matter 1860 Good *Rom Nat Hist* 364 A true serpent, with large vesicular lungs

**b** *Bot* 1793 Martyn *Lang Bot Vesicularcs scabrotes* vesicular or bladdery ruggedness 1800 R. Hill *Hort Bot* 105 *Vesicular* Having small bodies like bladders on the surface

**c** *Physics* 1794 Sullivan *View Nat* I 357 He calls them vesicular vapour wl se part cles may be distinguished by the eye 1838 Mr Gregory *Lect Philos* xvi 204 In the beginning of March the air is full of vesicular vapours became visible 1834 Mrs Somerville *Connex Phys Sci* xxviii 396 The vesicular state constituting a cloud 1880 *Nature* 25 Dec 5 The silicate of soda was left in the state of a highly vesicular mas s

*d Geol* 1811 Pinkerton *Petral Ir* II 328 (*heading*) Vesicular Lavas 1813 Babington *Instr d Geol* (1815) 330 The cavities in vesicular lavas are rarely of a greater size than a small nut 1843 Portlock *Geol* 1 6 The whinstones are also sometimes vesicular from the local removal of the calcareous parts 1880 Geikie *Textbk Geol* II iii 83 When this cellular structure is marked by comparatively few and small holes, it may be called vesicular

**3** *Zool* Of worms (see quot 1861)

1830 R Knox *Liebaud's Anat* 58 The worms with certain vesicular worms 1861 Huxley tr *Moquin Tandon* II viii 311 Under the name of Vesicular Cystic Helmintha are included those entozoa whose organization as vesicle are contained in a cyst or are composed of the latter only 1876 *Wagner's Ger Path* (ed 6) 215 Vesicular Larvæ worm a not considerable size

**4** *Path* a. Characterized by the formation or presence of vesicles on the skin

1818-20 b. Thomson *Cullen's Nosol Method* (ed 3) 328 Pemphigus; Vesicular Fever 1843 R J Graves *Syst Clin Med* xxv 328 The vesicular and scaly eruptions occurred in delicate persons 1876 Duhring *Dis Skin* 78 Vesicular eczema exhibits the lesion in its most perfect state 1886 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* II 852 2 Vesicular eczem s may occur in very small patches or it quite extensive areas.

**b** Affecting or connected with the vesicles or air cells of the lungs.

1829 Cooper *Good's Study Med* (ed 3) I 672 These organs [the lung ] are in a state f ve icular r f im mary emphysema 1853 Markham *Skin Diseases* 111 Hy vesicular breathing I understand that murmur only wh h is heard during in pi ati n 1866 A Flint *Pr n Med* (1880) 244 Vesicular emphysema consists in an abnormal accumulation f air within the air cells whereby they become distended and the walls often atrophied a 1883 Packe *Princ Surg Pract Med* 1886 I Fisher *Comp only* called the vesi l emphysema 1 ng bec ause it resembles often the sheath that is seen in the cells fetch g was accepted without que tion

So **Vesi culary** *a rare*—1

1754 *Phil Trans* XLVIII 6 2 We found that the animals in the vesicles were de d but we had an opportunity of discovering the ir cellary polypes alive in another of the vesicles

**Vesicule** (vesikiŭl *a* [ad mod F *vésicule*, or L. *vesicula* Vesicula ] = Vesicle and *a*

1828 32 Webster s v *Vesicle* a bladdery full of bladders. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1 1 *Vesiculæ* a diffused, bladdery 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 25 Intermingled with hyphæ which soon become round vesicule cell 1881 *Encycl Brit* XII 552 2 One of the vesicule is enclosed

**Vesiculate**, *v* [ad mod L. *vesiculat-us*, f. L. *vesicula* Vesicula ] = Vesiculated *a*

**1** *trans* To make vesicular or full of vesicles.

1865 *Intell Mislt* 12 Oct 10 He tells us that bread is "vesiculated by the carbonic acid gas formed into the dough

**2** *intr* To become vesiculate, to develop vesicles

1891 *Cent Dict*

**Vesiculated**, *a* [f as Vesiculate *a* + -ed ]

**1** Having the form of small cavities or air cells

1703 *Phil Trans* XXIII 1360 Pages 5 and 6 that shake their leaves like Fans, which are as well as vesiculated 1774 *Phil* LXIV 213 Any air which gets beyond the vesiculated lungs themselves 1886 A H Church *Food Grains Part* 93 Under wheat [of the appearance of] greatness for the making of a light vesiculated bread

**2** Of the nature of a vesicular eruption

1808 P Manson *Derm Diseases* xxxiii 565 A threatening he I may often be aborted by t Turpentine but vesiculated pustules with a base of inflammation, or vesiculated papulæ with some penetrating stimulant

**3** *Path* Covered with vesicles

1868 Bright *Obs Med Diseases* (1869) 1 This [ch presented most extensive specimens of the vesiculated kind.

**Vesiculation** (vĕsikiŭl'ē shŏn) *Path* [f. as Vesicula + -ation. Cf Vesication ] The formation of vesicles, esp on the skin, a vesicular condition or pustule

1876 Duhring *Dis Skin* 67 Typical fl l vesiculation is observed in vesicular ma the vesicl l eczema and herpes 1879 *Lancet* 10 May 1 Vesi les may cease the minute papules with characteristic vesiculation or pustulation

*Trop. Diseases* xxxv 546 There may be evidence in the shape of vesiculations and thickening of the mucosa of a greater or less degree of catarrh

**Vesiculi-** (vɪsɪkɪlɪ), combining form of VESICULA, occurring in a few terms, as **vesiculi-ferous** *a.*, bearing vesicles · **vesi culiform** *a.*, resembling a vesicle, **vesiculi gerous** *a.*, vesiculi ferous

1846 DANA *Zoopha* 135 The inner tentacles clavate and vesiculigerous. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1339 Vesiculi ferous 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. Vesiculiform

‖ **Vesiculitas** (vɪsɪkɪlɪ·tɪs) *Path.* [f. VESICULA + -ITIS.] Inflammation of a vesicle, esp of the seminal vesicles

1861 BUMSTEAD & *Lon. Dis.* (1892) 183 A case in which vesiculitis terminated in an abscess. 1893 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IX 380/2 In chronic vesiculitis local measures are of little value.

**Vesiculo-** (vɪsɪkɪlo), combining form, on Greek models, of VESICULA, occurring in a few terms referring to vesicles in connexion with some part or thing denoted by the second element, as *vesiculo-bronchial*, *spinal*, *tympanitis*

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX 356 Ano spinal and vesiculo-spinal centres. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II 83 In emphysema a characteristic sound somewhat less resonant, it heard which is called vesicul tympanitic. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V 968 Mingled with this drumnoke I dulness not with the 'vesicula-bronchial breathing may be heard an adventitious murmur

**Vesiculose** (vɪsɪkɪlō·s), *a* [ad. L. *vesicul-ōsus* full of blisters · see VESICULA + OSE] Full of vesicles, vesicular

1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* II 223 The elytra shrowed ing its ve ic lose shdome ; give it mu h the appearance of a fine flower 1856 *Mayne's Exp. Lex.* 1339 *Under Integuments* I 332 Abdomen inflated vesic lose 1861 HOGG *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 171 Ab lomen compressed at base, vesiculose trapezoid

Hence **Vesiculo so-**, employed as a combining form to *vesiculose cellular* ɔ ɔ

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entom.* IV xxxvIII 69 In *Sphinx Ligustri* the *bronchiæ* terminate in oblong vesiculoso cellular bodies, simular like lungs.

† **Vesi culous**, *a Obs* [f. VESICULA + OUS So F *vésiculeux*.] = VESICULOSE *a*

1658 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 119 The vesiculous Parts of the Body which accor ing to my Notion, are p t Muscles, part Glands. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 150 This Rind covers a Vesiculous Substance

**Vesigh**, obs form of VIZY *sb.* 5c

† **Ve sike**, *Obs.* Also 6 **vesyke, vsyke** [ad. L. *vesica* VESICA.] = The bladder b A bladder-like vessel or formation, a vesicle

1540 R. JONAS *Birth Man* 1 14 b Somet yme the vesyke or bladder be also apostumat & blystered 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 9 If the vsyke or bladder be swollen or e ncombred with the stone 1598 ?? VICARY *Anat.* VI (1888) 71 I he cheat of the Gal is as a purse or a pannicular vesike in the holowmesse of the Liuer

**Vesir**, obs form of VIZIER

**Vesper** (ve spəɹ), Also 7 *pl* **vespres** [Partly a. L. *vesper* masc (hence OF *vespre*, older F *vêpre*, Pr *vespre*, Sp *vespero*, Pg *vespera*, It. *vespero*, *vespro*), evening star, evening; cognate with Gr ἕσπερος HESPERUS · Partly ad. older F *vespres* (nom. *vespres*), vespers, evensong; ad L. *vesperas* (nom. *vesperæ*), acc. pl of *vespera* fem , hence also Pr *vesprar*, Sp *visperas*, Pg *vesperas* For the use of the plural see cf *matins*, *nones*]

**I.** In the singular form

1. *poet.* (or *rhet.*) With capital The evening star, Hesper, Hesperus

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II 109 Whan that the lhit is faded And Vesper scheweth him aloffe 1508 DUNBAR *Gold Targe* 2 Rycht as the stern of day begynith to schyne, Quhen Vesper to hir war Vesper and I tucyne I rais. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod* etc. Rujb, Hebus His course was done & Vesper she with Lucyne I ame. 1593 C. PEREIS *Hon. Order Garter* B) About the time when Vesper in the West Gan set the euening watch 1633 F. FLETCHER *Purple Isl* v lxx, Vesper for fair Cynthia mutters and her train See th apish earth hath lugged many a starre. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I 243 Red Vesper kindles there the tapers of the night. 1798 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I 657 While glowing Vesper leads the starry train 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 27 Fairer than Phœbe's sapphire region d star, Or Vesper amorous glow worm of the sky

*transf.* 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 1161, Assume thy winged throne thou Vesper of our throng!

2 Evening, eventide, an evening Also *personif* Now *rare* or *Obs*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV xiv 8 Thou hast seene these Signes They are blacke Vesper's Pageants. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 123 From which ninth houre the Jewes began their Vespers or Euening In these Vespers, as also on the Euen of euery Feast and Sabbath after the euening sacrifice, they which doe any worke shall neuer see good signe of a blessing 1728 BUDGELL *Spr.* No 425 P 3 The one [companion] was Aurora. The other was Vesper in a Robe of Azure beset with Drops of Gold 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* 76 In mist or cloud, on mast or shroud It perched for vespers nine. 1849 THORPAU *Week Conc. Rivs* 26 From highest noon till the red vesper sinks into the west

*fig.* 1901 NORRIS *Ideal World* I iii. 160 There cannot be any vespers in the great sun of truth

3 Vespers, evensong (See 6) Also *transf* † In early use with *a* or *the*.

1636 MASSINGER *Bashful Lover* I i, If you miss him when She goes to the vesper or the matins, bang me! 1657 THORNELEYE *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* A iij b, I will tell you a storie, one I had at a Tavern vesper 1737 *Gent's Radelian* I xl 315 A Mass, a Matt ie, a Vesper well sung is half said 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 694 Mighty Earth From sea and mountain, city and wilderness, In vesper low or joyous orison Lifts still its solemn voice. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II 309, I knew that many of those with whom I was accustomed to attended mass and vesper at this chapel

4 *ellipt* The vesper bell

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* II xxxIII, Even in the vesper's heavenly tone They seem d to hear a dying groan 1827 MOORE *Loves of Angels, Paradise & P.* 440 But, hark! the vesper calls to pray r

**II** In collective pl **Vespers**

† **5. a.** In Univ use The public disputations and accompanying ceremonies which immediately preceded the inception or commencement of a bachelor of Arts, esp in later use at Oxford, the day on which these were held, the eve of the Act Cf VESPERS' *Obs.*

1574 M STOKYS in Peacock *Stat Cambr* (1841) App A. p xxii The Bedyll shall bring the Inceptours in Arte to the Vesper where the commencement shall be kepte, and so shall begynne the Vesperys in Arte a tim Civil *Acad.* p xxvi, The Father in Arte in the Vesjpers si all sytt in the West ende off the Chyrche. 1657 OWEN *Ind. Treat. Schisme* 1 Vesp. 1655 Such as a learned gentleman whom I honour pre vailed withal to answer in the Vespers of our Act, sent me his questions. 1681 CREW *Museum* IV ii 361, I read two Publique Lectures at Oxford, on the Vespers of the Publique Act 1725 HEARNE *Collect* (O H S) V 93 Lectures in the Vespers The Vespers in Saturday

† **b** The eve of festival or of the Passion

1609 DOUCE *Verm.* 73 Wh at a diuine Vespers of a glorious festiv all 1660 JER TAYLOR *If why Common* I ¶ 3 49 The Sacrame t of the Lords Supper being instituted in the vespers to the passion 1662 — *Serm. Consecr.* 27 And as the Apostles in the vespers of Christs passion so he in the Ives of his own dissolution was heavie unto death 1691 HICKMAN *Dis. Holy Assemb* 132 Our blessed Lord in the vespers of his death

**6** *Eccl* The sixth of the Canonical Hours of the breviary, said or celebrated towards evening, = EVENSONG 1, also, the time of this office

U sually without article, but occas with *the* and some times with a varying number

1561 COVAT *Crudities* 14 I came into their Church at the time of prayers in the afternoone the Nunnes being then in their Vespers 1624 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1903) 343 The parish Church in Rueil where the King and Queene were at Vespers. 1706 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII 127 Afternoon at Vespers in the Abbey of St Hubain, a Benedictine Order 1723 *Diary Blue Nun* 1 But [I] 92 About three a clock in the afternoon we use were at vespers. 1796 *Oxford Terms* (1760) IV 19 On A ren s on-eve, vespers are performed with great pomp and splen dor 1830 G. DOWNES *Lett. C nt Countries* I 34, I stopped to attend vesper-s at the Cathedr il of St Denis. 1872 MISS HOWARD *Estate Fanshaw* 149 Vespers is conclude, s ha y rather it on a mass. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I 94 Then we went into the Capella del Coro to wait for the vespers

† **b** Applied to the Evening Prayer or Evensong of the Church of England *Obs. rare*

1660 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Oct., At Will « I met with Mr Spacer, and with him to the Abbey to see them at vespers.

**c** With distinguishing terms denoting special forms of this office

*Sicilian vespers* see SICILIAN *a* 2 a

a 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX 368 At y^e first vespers of y^e Annunciation of y^e Blessed Lady 1762 *Evening Office of Church* (ed 2) 300 In the second Vespers is a commemoration of S Paul *Ibid* 363 After *Dies licentiæ* & *Domine, the Vespers* are said 1908 *Ch. Times* 13 Mar 347/2 Vespers for the Dead, in the form san toned by Bishop Creighton was sung

**d** *poet* Evening prayers or devotions

1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI (1887) I 456 Adieu, remem ber love at vespers before sleep, I do not omit my prayer. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* XXVI Her vespers done, Of all its wreathed pearls her hair she frees.

*transf* The evening song of a bird. Cf EVENSONG 2 Chiefly *poet*

1678 H VAUGHAN *Pious Th.* 225 I heard last May The pleasant Philomel her vespers sing 1795 1814 WORDSW *Excurs* IV 1180 Hark! the solemn nightingale be mute And the soft woodlark here did never chant Her vespers. 1821 KEATS *Nightg.* V, Hence thou wilt listen to the moan Of the rousing crowns. 1869 THORPAU *Walden* IV (1884) 135 The whippoorwills chanted their vespers for half an hour

**III** 8 *attrib* a In the sense 'of or belonging to, used at or for, vespers or evensong' as *vesper-bell*, *-carol -chime*, *hymn*, *light*, *psalm -song* etc , **vesper book** (also † **vespers book**) = vesperal , **vesper music** (see quot ), **vesper service**, vespers, evensong

In general use freq pass ing into next

1794 MRS RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* xxxvI The monastery whose *vesper* bell she had heard on the preceding evening 1844 DICKENS *Pictures from Italy* (Cllins) 244 To the ringing of vesper bells, darkness sets in 1864 SWAT *Uhland's Poems* 223 The sun sinks down, the vesper bell bids men to rest and pray 1778 in *Catholic Records Soc. Publ.* I 138 4 Vols of Mass Books, *Vespers* Book 1850 (title) Vesper Bo k containing the complete Order for Vespers for the entire Year according to the Roman Brev ary 1865 *Fait Mail C.* No 140 3/1 The vesper b ok used by Roman Cath lics. 1868 KEATS *Endymion* IV 834 Therefore for her these *vesper*-carols are a 1885 MRS HEMANS *My own Portrait* Poems (1875) 487 Even as a sound of *vesper*-chimes Can wake departed things. 1898

SKURRAY *Bidcombe Idyll* 7 The blackbird from the ivied temple chants His *vesper* hymn 1886 ENGEL *Nat Music* viii 288 The Roman Catholics have their Vesper Hymns, and the singing of these appears to be customary in most countries where the Roman Catholic faith prevails 1892 *Ch. Times* 4 Nov 1094/2 An oaken altar with *vesper* lights. 1888 JACOBI *Primitive Soc.* 251 *Vesper music*, plain chant or Gregorian music is thus designated 1893 MRS. HEMANS *Vespers of Palermo* III, Here meet me, when the bell Doth sound for *vesper* prayer 1896 SOWER *Ch. Serv* 62 The *vesper* l salms were five in num ber, recited as at Matins in regular course 1797 MRS RADCLIFFE *Italian* VI The *vesper* service of the monks. 1894 DICKENS *Mary C Claus.* v, The old cathedral bell began to ring for vesper service 1904 WORDSW & LITTLEHALES *Old Service Bks* 79 The Evensong or vesper service of Sun lay and oth er days of the week 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III xxIII, To morrow eve My *vesper* song (may be) thy wail sweet maid! 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II *Baron St Castine* 169 No; day is so long But it comes at last to vesper song 1813 SCOTT *Trierm* I i, Holy as her-mit's *vesper* strain 1866 NEALE *Segnen ta & Hymns* 81 It shall blend its *vesper* orisons With their sweet evening smile 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* V vi There must the Baron rest Till past the hour of *vesper* tide 1849 MARGAN *Lyrics* (1850) 49 From streaky gleam of morning light Until the *vesper* toll 1845 R. S. HAWKER *Ballads & Lyrics*, etc (1869) 45 Teach me, Father Joh , to say *Vesper* verse and matin lay

**b** In the sense 'of or belonging to, characteristic of, occurring in, the evening, vespertinal'

1792 E. DARWIN *Bot Card* I 63 Soft fell the vesper drops, condensed below Or bent in air the rean refracted bow 1794 *Sporting Mag* IV 58 A fine vesper breathing 1810 *Associate Minstrels* 6 Pair shi es el le vesper star 1832 G DOWNES *Lett Cont Countries* I 63 To preside over I read and listen at the vesper tea table 1845 CHURCH *Recoll Lak* 1 Wks 1862 II 134 Yet in these eyes of vesper gentleness, there was a considera le obl quity of vision 1887 J ASHBY-STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 208 When rooms with the ve per tol sounded a ludeil *Nat Mag* 23 Aug 225/1 Rich in every imagin ble tint of vesper beauty

**c** (Chiefly *U.S.*) In the names of animals, birds, or insects, as **vesper beauty, vesper-bird** or **sparrow** (see quots), **vesper mouse**, a mouse of the genus *Hesperomys* or *Vespertimus* or related genera, a white footed mouse

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Brit. Lep.* & *M.* 135 The Vesper Beauty (*Hyptne vesperaria*) appears the middle of July 1889 S. F. BAIRD *Mammals N. Amer* 455 A striking feature of the North American vesper mice to a glance Wagner's name, is their diminutive size compared with the South American 1869 J. BURROUGHS in *Century Mag.* Aug 1 Day (*i e* grass finches) sing much after sundown, hence the aptness of the name vesper sparrow, which a recent writer, Wilson Flagg, has bestowed upon them 1884 COUES, *N. Amer Birds* 364 *Passerculus graminens*, Grass Finch Bay winged Bunting Ve per Bird 1893 *Scribner's Mag* June 764/1 Our little vesper sparrow is said to have had the same end in view when he made his soft sweet carol the vesper song of the uplands

† **d** In sense 5 a, as *vesper disputation*. *Obs* 1715 HEARNE *Collect* (O H S) V 93 Vesper Disputations in Philosophy Vesper Disputations in Law

**Vesperal** (ve spɛrɹl), *a* and *sb* [ad late L. *vesperal-is*, f. L. *vespera* see prec. Cf F *vespéral* sb.]

**A.** *adj* **a.** Vespertinal, vespertine **b** Pertaining to vespers or the vesper bell *rare*

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vespertall*, of or belonging to the euening [Hence in Blount] 1827 CARLYLE *Germ Rom* III 135 Amid the vesperal melodies of the steeple sounding holes

**B** *sb* 1 *Eccl* An office book containing the psalms, canticles, anthems, etc., with their musical settings, used at vespers; an antiphonary containing the vesper-chants

1869 *Use Marg M. Hall-than* (1870) 431 They were presented with a Vesperal and Processional 1884 *Church Music* IV 257 The most correct Vesperals now in print are those published at Mechlin in 1870 and at Ratisbon in 1875

2 An evening song

In quot as the title of a poem

1866 L. DOWSON *Verses* 39 Vesperal ' Strange grows the river on the sunless evenings I

† **Ve sperate**, *v. Obs.*—0 [f ppl stem of med I *vesperare* to become evening, f. L *vesper* VESPER] = TO MAKE NIGHT (Cockeram 1, 1623)

**Vesperian**, *a rare*—1 [f. VESPER + -IAN] Vespertine

1777 TOPLADY *Solar System* Wks. 1794 IV 293 [Venus] enters on her short vesperian regency, and shines by the means of Mercury, or the evening star

**Vesperti Han**, *a rare*—1 [See next and -AN] Bat like In quot *fig.*

1874 RUSKIN *Fesperpina* I iv § 22 Mr Darwin in his vespertilian treatise on the owls of the Argus pheasant

‖ **Vesperti lio**, *rare*—1 [L. *vespertilio* bat, f *vesper* VESPER] A bat

In modern Zoology *Vespertilio* (*pl. tones*) is one of the many genera of Cheiroptera. Cf next

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav* (1677) 385 These vespertilios hang in swarms upon the boughs of trees

**Vesperti lionid**, *a Zool* [ad mod L. *Vespertilionid-æ* (see def.)] Of or belonging to the *Vespertilionidæ*, a large family of insectivorous bats, including the common British species

1875 DALLAS in *Cassell's Nat Hist* I 332 The tail traverses the interfemoral membrane in the fashion of that of a Vespertilionid Bat.

**Vespertilionine,** *a. (sb.). Zool.* [f. L. *vespertilion-, vespertilio* bat + -INE] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to, comprising or consisting of, a large distinct group of insectivorous bats included in the sub-order *Microchiroptera.*

1873 G. F. Dobson in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* XVI 350 The families of Microchiroptera form two natural alliances, which may be called the Vespertilionine and Emballonurine alliances respectively

b *sb.* A bat belonging to this group.

1891 *Cent. Dict.*

**Vesperti lionize,** *v. nonce word* [f. as prec. + -IZE] *trans.* To convert or turn *into* a bat.

1854 Badham *Halieut.* 451 Others have vespertilionized this skate into the Sea bat.

**Vespertinal** (vespəɹtai năl), *a.* [ad. late L. *vespertināl-is*, f. L. *vespertinus* see next and -AL. Cf. obs. F *vespertinal, el*] = next.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX 469 All my troubles, cares, anxieties, perplexities—matutinal, meridional, and vesper tinal. 1849 Thoreau *Week Concord Riv.* 119 The vesper tinal pout had already begun to flit on feathern fin. 1854 Lowell *Cambridge 30 Years Ago* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 90 F became purely vespertinal, never starting abroad till after dark. 1901 *Athenæum* 28 Dec. 876/3 Vespertinal events might be dated in Saxon times in four different ways.

**Vespertine** (ve spəɹtain, -tin), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. L. *vespertin-us* (hence also OF. *vespertin*, It., Sp. Pg. *vespertino*). F. *vesper* VESPER: see -INE.]

**1.** Of or pertaining to the evening; coming, occurring, or taking place in the evening; *spec. in Astrol.* (cf. 2).

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* 168 Yfthou wil kepe late set plantis, kepe hem from vesperyn reynes. c 1550 Rolland *Cal. Kynd* 11 653 Fra Thetis vesperyne hour vespertine. c 1610 Sir C. Heydon *Astrol. Dis.* (1650) 60 The second is the Vespertine oriental Apparition which he calleth the last rising. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1638) 217 He starves it's their helmvall, acronicall, matutine, and vespertine motions. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 331 The Morning and Vespertine Service in that Church. 1811 Carr *Dancy, Pseq* xv 14 Far onward as our eyes could stretch against the bright Vespertine ray. 1851 Goodwin *Handbk. Ft. Cant* 68 It is desirable on account of its powerful vespertine fragrance. 1901 *Athenæum* 28 Dec. 877 The ve-pertine portion of the ecclesiastical day

b. Of animals, birds, etc. Appearing or especially active in the evening.

In quot. 1607 after L. *lupus vespertinus*, the Vulgate rendering of Heb *z'êb ʿereb* in Hab. i 8

1607 Topsell *Fowre-f. Beasts* 435 Thus first and vulgar kinde of Hyæna is bred in Cilicia and Arabia. God himselfe in holy scripture calleth it by the name of a Vespertine Wolfe. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 124 Vespertine Frog Native of Siberia. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The vespertine or evening grosbeak, *Hesperiphona vespertina.*

†**c.** Dim, imperfect. *Obs.*—1

1623 Br. Hall *Best Bargaine* Wks. (1693) 518 If ye had already that vespertine knowledge of the Saints which ye shall once haue in heauen

**2.** *Astr.* and *Astrol* Of a star, planet, etc.: Setting at or just after sunset.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II xvi I 31 These stars or planets in their evening setting, are meant to the earth: and then they be called Occidentall Vespertine, when the sun toward the evening covereth them with his rayes. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol* cxxvii 577 An Unfortune in the Nativity, Vespertine (shows) long Diseases. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict. Vespertine* when a Planet sets after the Sun. [Hence in Harris, Kersey, etc.] 1691 Lucas *Curt. Mech.* 249 She [= Venus] is sometimes almost full, at other times Gibbous, as well when she is Vespertine as Matutine. 1819 J. Wilson *Dict. Astrol.* 288 Vespertine planets, viz those between the 10th and 7th, or on the cusp of the 4th or near it, or ♁ and ☿ rising vespertine by day

**3.** *Geol* Used to designate the lowest carboniferous formation of the Pennsylvanian coal-measures

1858 H. D. Rogers *Geol. Pennsylv.* II 725 The horizon which separates the Umbral red shale from the underlying Vespertine conglomerate *Ibid.* 736 The Vespertine, or Lower Carboniferous series. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII 258/1 In its Vespertine areas are numerous patches of anthracite and semi anthracite coals.

†**4.** As *sb.* Vespers, evensong. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

a 1659 Raworth *Treat. Humanity* v. Wks. (1872) 463 Their breakfasts are their matins holy zelibus, Their vespertines are eating beef and veliblus.

**‖ Vespergo.** *Obs rare* [L.] Evening, or the evening star. = Vesper 1 and 2.

In mod. *Zool* used as the name of a genus of bats belonging to the group Vespertiliones

1600 Tourneur *Trans. Metam.* VII, The skie Is cloath'd with mourne Vespergoes coate. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict., Vespergo*, the Evening Star, Venus, when she shines after Sun Set [Hence in Kersey, Bailey, etc.]

**Vespery.** Now *Hist.* [n. *b vesp/ere* (16th c.), or ad. med.L. *vesperia*, f. *L. vesper* VESPER.] *pl.* = *Vespers* VESPER 5 a.

[1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cotgr.), *Vesperies*, Evening Exercises or Disputations (among the Sorbonists). 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vesperies*, the last Act or Exercise for taking the Degree of Doctor, among the Sorbonists in France.] 1886 Lyte *Hist Univ Oxford* 213 The vesperies of the Faculty of Arts might be held on any day that was available for lectures. The exercise consisted of a disputation between the inceptor and some Masters of Arts on certain questions propounded in Latin verse by the presiding Master.

**Vespiary** (vespiări) [Irreg f. L. *vesp-a* wasp, after *apiary*. Cf. med.L. *vesparium*] A wasps' nest.

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol* II 108 The number of females in a populous vespiary is considerable. 1830 *Insect Archi tecture* (U. K.) 71 We have never met with a single vespi ary in any situation likely to have been frequented by moles. 1850 *Science Gossip* XXVI 129/1 Wasps clothe their vespi ary with ten or twelve layers of paper.

**Ve spidous,** *a. Ent. rare* [f. med.L. *Vespid-a* (see def.) + -OUS] Of or belonging to the *Vespidæ*, an extensive family of wasps, including the social wasps and hornets; vespoid.

1848 Maunder *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 724 A Vespidous insect having the first Joint of the abdomen elongated into a pedicel

**Ve spiform,** *a. Ent.* Also 8 vespæ-. [f. L. *vesp-a, -æ*, wasp + (i)FORM.] Having the form or appearance of a wasp; wasp-like.

1758 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 31 The vespæform Asilus, with the antennæ longer than the head. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol* II 263, I once found one of the vespiform bees (*Apis Gondensana*) hanging by its mandibles from the edge of a hazel leaf

**†Vespillo'n.** *Obs. rare* Also vespilone. [a L. *vespillōn-, vespillo* (also *vespa*), acc to Festus f. *vesper* evening. So obs F. *vespillon*] (See quot. 1656.)

1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 111 Such as were of high parentage were buried in the euening by certaine men who had that charge, who were called Vespillons *Ibid.* 112 Such were buried in the night time, by the Vespillons clothed all in white. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 38 By raking into the bowells of the deceased, common Sextons, Anatomies, Skeletons, or Cadaverin us reliques, like Vespillons, or Grave makers. 1656 Blount *Gl. sogr., Vespilone* he that carries forth dead bodies in the night to be buried, as they use in time of plague and great sickness

**Vespine** (ve spəin), *a.* [f. *vesp-a* wasp + -INE.] Of or pertaining to a wasp or wasps; consisting of wasps

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII 105/1 The neuters are the busiest class of the ve pine community. 1863 Miss Yonge *Wars Wasphurg* 25 Vespine laws of fortification could not be more perfectly observed. 1882 *Garden.* Oct. 400 To meet this abnormal fancy of the vespine intellect, the fig wort makes its sensitive surface mature first

**Ve spoid,** *a. Ent* [f. L. *vesp-a* wasp + -OID] Resembling a wasp, wasp like, *spec* of or belonging to the *Vespoidea*, a super family of *Hymenoptera* containing the typical wasps.

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol* iv (1826) I. 122 *Pompilus viaticus*, a vespoid insect that deposits its eggs in spiders. 1899 Mayne *Expos Lex* s.v. *Vespoidea*

**Vespoidea** (vespoi dea) [neut. pl. of Vespoid] = prec.

**†Vesse.** *Obs* [Of unknown origin.] A kind of worsted fabric formerly made in Suffolk. Only in pl.

1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 8 § 18 The makyng of any Clothes called Vessees, Dagwre, or Worsteds. 1512 *8 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 11 The drapyng and makyng of woolles, called vesses, rayes, sayly nge clothes, and other clothes. 1523 *Act 14 & 15 Hen VIII* c. 12 That Vesses otherwyse called Set Clothes Dyvers Colours le made in your said Counte of Suffolk, which be made to be worne in far Countries and nat in England.

Vessel (ve sĕl) see Verssey *Obs*

**Vessel** (ve sĕl), *sb.*[1] Forms *a.* 4, 6 vessele (4 wessele), 4–5 vesselle (5 wesse-), vessele, 4 vescel, vessil, 4– vessel (4–5 wessel, uessel, 4, 6 fessel), 5 f vesselll (wessell, f. fessell), 4 vessesl, 5 vessal, vessall. *B. Sc.* 5 vyscele, vesshele, 5–6 wesch, veschale, 5 wes(s)chael(le, 5 wischeall, 5–6 veschall (5 wesche), 6 weschail; 5–6 weesch-, 5 f veschell (6 vessch-), 6 veshel, 7–8 veshall. *γ* 4–5, 7 vessayle, 5 vessaylle, vessaile. *δ* 5 vayssell, vaissel [a. (1) AF. and OF. *vessel*, OF *vaissel, vaussel, vaisseau*, etc (mod F. *vaisseau*) masc.; = Pr. *vaisel*, Sp *vasillo*, It *vascello* —I *vas ellum* small vase or urn, ship, etc, dim of *vas* Vase, (2) AF. and OF *vessele, veselle*, OF *vasselle, waasselle, vaissele*, etc (mod F *vaisselle*) fem, repr. the L. pl *vascella* and used in a collective sense]

**†1.** In collective singular Vessels or utensils for the table or use in the household, esp those made of gold or silver = Plate *sb* 15. *Obs*

Freq from c 1300 to c 1600.

a a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6145 Fra his folk he tolk of israel to boru Asked silueren vessel [= wessel] sere 23 *Cov. Myst.* 148 Wyth vessell I serue the Bye on vessel gret plente, Dyschys, cuppys, and sawsers, Bolles, treyes, and platers. c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xx 220 Alle the Vessells, that men ben served with, in the Halle or in Chambres, ben of precious Stones. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 A dosen of peutre vessell. 1424 *Ibid* 56 All my seluere vessell. 1477 *Rolls of Parli* VI 182/2 That Sterling Haliperp or Pertyng, shuld not be molten for Vessell. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I xx 29 All his Vessell was of golde and siluer potts, basons ewers, dyshes, flagons barels cuppes and all other thynges. 1587 Harrison *England* II. xi. 88 *Holinshed* I 237/2 Such furniture of houshold of this mettall [*sc* pewter], as we commonlie call by the name of vessell, is sold vnwillie by the garnish. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 192 They shamed now to drinke out of earthen vessell. 1623–8 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1686) 107 He made restitution of much Church vessell, that had beene taken and sold for ransome. 1664 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 148 Have I layd them in mine own beds, mane own hangings, and treated them continually in mine own vessel?

β 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XI 117 All that thargit war Of palseonys and veschall with all. c 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii (*Mary Egypt*) 1094 Pan gods bluid & his body put in to wes hale, panto worthy. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II xi 1073 Golde, siluir and weschealle, Cleynly made of gud mettalle. 1490 *Acc. Lib. High Treas Scot* I 132 For the caryage of the siluer vesschell to Lythkow & vm Papee. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. IX 109 Siluer pl ait was brocht Io set on burdis, and weschal forgit of gold. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii 145 Coppar, bras, and tyn and vthir mettellis var mellit to mak vtensel vescheil necessair to serue vne hous hald. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I 338 Castellis, yeding, veschell and naiperie according for ane king. 1627 [see sense 2].

γ 8 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II v (1883) 69 He sayde that hit was better and more noble thynge to shyne in good maners than in vyssel. 1605 *Leycester's Ghost* 181 And so, sir, you that walk in pewter vessayle, like one of the worthyes, will you be ruled by me? [1820 Scott *Monast.* xvi Every bit of vessail and silver work have we been spoiled of since Pinkie Cleuch.]

b *distal* (See quots.)

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss* 375 *Vessel*, all the plates, dishes, and cul n ry utensils which are put into requisition during a meal. "Wash the vessel up." Never applied to a tea service or to glasses. 1893 *Wilts Glass* 176 To wash up the vessel is to wash up plates and dishes.

**2.** Any article designed to serve as a receptacle for a liquid or other substance, usually one of circular section and made of some durable material, *esp* a utensil of this nature in domestic use, employed in connexion with the preparation or serving of food or drink, and usually of a size suitable for carrying by hand.

Often with defining term preceding (sometimes hyphened), indicating its special use, as *dairy, drinking, kitchen milk, time vessel.* See also Air Steam vessel.

a a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13395 Ioseph bad pam ioseph nan fil pair gret wessels [*Fairf* vessels] o stan O water clere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Pe longes bet byeb y halsed ase pe wesseles] I hiused, pe chalus pe cuppes. c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 304 Goth, I ringeth forth the vessesalle The which my fader in his pro perite Out of the temple of Jerusalem byraft. c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi 42 Vessell of gold full of manna. c 1450 *Myr. Devot Eng* 61 et Steep hem with sugre water in to a feyre fessell. c 1471 Ripon *Reg.* (1869) 458 Oftymes in his Hughnesse must and will ye Vessels, Westin ents, and other Ornaments for the Chapell. 1496 Lindlar *Tuke* v. 17 Also to man poureth newe wyne into olde vessels. 1550 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees, 1908) 28 Such vessels, barkes, and ther thinges as belonged to fishermen craft. 1577 Harrison *England in Holinshed* II 170/2 After ward putting it [*sc* brawn] into close vessels they poure good small ale thereto till it be couered. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 650 An earthen vessel in which was hoarded a mighty deale of Romaine coine. 1658 J. Hall *Hyginus Prerog. P. Gent* 1 v 10 Hee Entombes himself ing down his Statues, made homely Vessels of them 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 121 To my great Masfortune I had my Vessel to hoal or stew any Thing. 1731 Lond. *Gaz.* No. 6981 Joan thou the sutors and provide, I separate vessels stow'd all needful stores. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xi 23 Let the board with its pedestal be placed in a glass vessel of water. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* I. 25 Bending over a steaming vessel of tea. 1907 *Jerney Mem* I 8 Queer tin vessels of many shapes.

*Prov. phr.* 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, III iv 71 Put the saying is true, The empty vessel makes the greatest sound *transf.* 1645 Usher *Lody Dis* (1647) 100 The third night (as it seemeth) God caused the Waters to retire into their Vessels.

β c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* v 1458 Pat his blude In til a weschal it chit and gude Vaskit he put. a 1500 *Ballad. Antiq.* etc. tot As lekour wesche hell halde no thing pe sycon tung has no trastynge. 1561 Winjet *Helv.* (S. T. S.) I 94 The weschells and or name is appropriant to the seruice of God. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II 141 In diuchis of daintie, in veschels of al sortis. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood *Jrnl* (1884) 84 They immediatly put those veshells into cold water

γ 13 *E. E. Allit P.* B 1713 Pou has hofen fyr hert agaynes pe hyze dryzstyn, & now his vessayles fare] avyled to vanyte vnclene. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 60 Lay pyggys in a vessayle, with bothe hande

b In various fig applications (Cf 3.)

1393 R. Briane *Handl. Vyne* 7803 Je few by called a vyle vessel, And Gwdye, wt his fayre wordes. 1611 Bible 1 Sam. 1 548 Per fore eich man wesche and greydy hys fased And do trwly the hys charge. 1587 Holinshed *Chron* (ed 2) III 1232/1 The vessell of mans bodie betweene the midriffe and the French being first broched by thy popes letters. 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, IV Chorus 3 Of a time, When creeping Murmure fills the wide Vessell of the Universe. 1605 — *Mach.* III i 67 For them the gracious Duncan I haue I murther'd; Put Rancours in the Vessell of my Peace Onely for them. a 1650 May *Old Couple* v. Gently my ye vdant Least you do breake the vessell you should fill. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII 559, Greatly instructed I shall hen e depart and leave my fill Of knowledge, what this vessel can contain. 1883 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* (1884) 270 Who will not willingly exchange his shallow vessel for Christ's well of living water?

c The contents of a vessel, a vessel ful *rare.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf* (W. de W. 1531) 25b The vyctuar gyueth freely a taste of his wyne til he se pat it be a hole vessell at ones. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj. Stat. A. William* 3 Ane free man sall gif for multure at the mline the sextene vessell

**†d.** *Arch* [See quot and Vane I b.] *Obs*—1

1704 J. Harris *Lex Tech.* I, *Vessels*, in Architecture, are certain Or aments usually set over the Cornices and so named, because they repre ent divers sorts of Vessels, wh h were in use am ng the Ancients

**†e.** *slang* The nose *Obs*

1823 *Vocation. Voc.* XLI 170 There d—n your eyes, I've tapped your vessel

**3** *fig* (chiefly in or after Biblical use) **a.** Said

of a person regarded as having the containing capacity or function of a vessel. Freq const *of* (a condition, quality, etc.) Now *arch*

For the phr *the weaker ves el*, see WEAK a.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 16674 Pou ga til him [*sc.* Paul], he es me lele, And o mani chesing he es vessele ... 15811 Wrecch 2 *Trin* 11 21 He schal be a vessel halwid into honour, and profytable to the Lord ... 1382 — *Gen* xlix 5 Symeon and Levy, fyttynge vessel of wickidnesse ... *a* 1400 *N T* (Paues) Acts IX. 15 For he es maaked vnto me a vessel of choos to bere my name bifore kenges and folke 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St Gilbert* XXXVII. 115 [They] came on to be grave wher Gilbertes body was had and pe liffe up pat holy vessel of God 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 19 Ther fore let vs apply our wylles at all tymes to be vesselles of grace. 1552 LINDESAY *Dreme* 354 The curst Emperour Nero Of euenlik vice the horrabyll weschell 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* v xlix § 1 We know there are vessels of wrath *a* 1600 HIXON *T Brasbridge* (1614) 6 If he [God] had a purpose to reserve him as a vessell of honor and for his own house. 1667 MILTON *P L* IX 89 Him after long debate Irresolute of thought, I then at last Of many a frail and brittle vessel found In whom To enter 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* LVI v, And cast into the burning Lake The Vessels of thine Ire 1773 MRS CHAPONE *Improv Mind* (1774) 131 We know not whether they ought not prove ... chosen vessels to promote the honour of God 1829 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVIII Nature grieves that so goodly a form should be a vessel of perdition 1837 DICKENS *Pic Nic*, In, It makes a ves-sel's heart bleed! 1905 A INNES SHAND *Days of Past* VII 129 As for the archbishop, he was a seasoned vessel.

†b Said of the body, esp as the receptacle of the soul. *Obs*

*c* 1360 *Know Thyself* 4 in *E E P* (1862) 130 Vche cristen creature knowen hym self ouht His oune vessel 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess* IV 4 That ech of you kunne weld his vessel in hooliyneese and honour ... 1 *Pet* III 7 Seuynge honour to the wommans vessel or body 1532 DU WES *Introd Fr in Palsgr* 1061 The body ... is the vessell of the soule. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* VI 11 He shulde fynde his vessel then be able to comprehende the waye of the Hyest? 1610 HEALEY *St Aug Citie of God* 526 The seede of generation should have been sowne in the vessell as seede is now in the fielde. *a* 1629 HINDE *J Brunen* VII (1641) 28 They possessed their vessels in holinesse and in honour 1706 SWIFT *Mr A Dyer Postscript* (1711) 299 The Saint felt his Vessel full extended in every Part

† *c* In other Biblical uses (see quots) *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* VII 14 And pare in he has redd vessels of deed [L. vasa mortis] pat es, pe whilke he has made. [So in WYCLIF (1382)] 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc* XIV 10 The citees he ordeynyde pat thei weren vessels of strengthing 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 1 (Arb) 71 Dauid in the Psalmes calleth bowes the vessels of death. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc* XIV 10 He gaue victuals to the citie and he appointed them that they should be vessels of munition

4. Any structure designed to float upon and transverse the water for the carriage of persons or goods; a craft or ship of any kind, now usually one larger than a rowing boat and often restricted to sea going craft or those plying upon the larger rivers or lakes

Freq with distinguishing terms, as *bomb fishing gun*, *machine*, *sailing*, *steam*, *trading*, *transport*, *war vessel*, etc.

*a. a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1662 Rot ar I wil mi wengeaunce tak I wil pat bou a wessel mak. A schippe be-houes pe to dight. 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 61 The dedp gotn in another hem alle And hath the vessell undergete Which Maister was of al the 3 lete. 1452 *Wars Eng in France* (Rolls) II 477 Ordeyne as many good vessels of thoo that belonge to oure port of A. as ye shul mowe *a* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* XXXV 131 Blanchardyn drew hymsylf aside wyth in his vessell. *a* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* XXXV 121 Sum maner of shippe or wessell to passe ouer ye see 1590 SIR J SMYTH *Disc Weapons* 12 All the long boates and vessells of oares for the seruice of men 1629 EL ALLEN *Wks* 59 A little saile to a large vessell, rule no way 1683 *Col Rec Pennsylv* I 69 All Ships and Vessells vnder 10 Tunne to pay no fees. 1736 *Stat Statutes* II 21 Where parting surges round the vessel roll 1780 FALCONER *Lost Man'n Vessel*, a general name given to the different sorts of ships. It is, however, more particularly applied to those of the smaller kind, with one or two masts 1815 *Naval Mariyat Midsh. Easy* XIX 67 All the varier ex of vessels which float upon the weve 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* VI I knew enough of Greek language to be sure that our vessel would cling to earth. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit* 13 For ships of ordinary form (including probably the great majority of vessels)

*fig* 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb* IV II. 329 Damn'd Pisanio Hath with his forged Letters From this most brauest vessell of the world Strooke the maine top! Oh Posthumus alas, Where is thy head? 1761 *Hist Hope* 168 Hope, as an anchor ... holds fast The Chri tian vessel and defies the blast 1896 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* II v 250 In 1832 the vessel of Reform was still labouring heavily

*transf* 1888 F M CRAWFORD *Mr Isaacs* I 6 And every variety of horseflesh may be seen ... from Lord Stephen Kil dare's thoroughbreds to the broad sterned equestrian vessel of Mr Carrie Ghyrkins.

*b* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* XVII (*Martha*) 106 Bot for na vyrgyne was lesse mete he in riuere fane Sa wessell to ay *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI 336 He A weschell gat and maid him to the se. *a* 1508 SEMPILL in *Satir Poems Reform* xl. 25 A fair weschell alone he writtar 1609 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 71/2 The dewtie of coquetting entres of shippis, barkis, crearis and wtheris vesshellis

*c* 1440 FORTESCUE *Abs & Lim Mon* VI (1885) 123 To worde with carrikkes and oper grete vessailes 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII VI 282 He commaunded his scruaunt Gouernayle to goo to his vessaile ageyne 1497 *Nt at Acc Hen VII* (1896) 250 The said vessayle fyrst freight at London with cordage.

*d c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 76 And the sayd vaissels and ships were blowen into the perrilous yle of Colchos.

†**b.** In collective singular *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 13956 Whan Eneas was exiled, euyn were his shippes Two hundreth full hole, all of hede vessell 1436 *Libel Eng Policy* in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 160 The haven of Sluse Where many wessell and fayre arne abyd 1440 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 749 Sum fled to Tay, and in small weschell 3ard

5 *Anat* and *Zool* One of the membranous canals, ducts, or tubes in which the fluids of the body are contained and by means of which they are circulated, freq. a blood-vessel

Often with distinguishing term as *blood*, *iliac lymphatic*, *pulmonary*, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P R* IV VII (1495) 90 Veynes ben the vessels of blode 1548-77 VICARY *Anat* (1888) 21 Ther is no more difference betweene these two vessels of blood, but that the Artere is a vessel of blood spiritual or vital 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 213 The double membrane of this mesenteree doth inclose and sustaine the vessels which runne through it 1635 *tr* COWLEY *Davideis* IV Poems (1905) 380 A nimble thrust his active En emy made And opened wide those secret vessels where Life's I ight goes out, when first they let in aire. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. 60 Of all the Bones, and all the Muscles, and all the Vessels of the Body 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 279 In short whatever relaxeth the too strict vessels, or straitens the too lax, is a Cordial 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Physiog* XII 65 Vessels everywhere partake the bones, supplying them with juices and marrow 1832 R KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 5 The Vessels are canals which divide and subdivide into I tunches, are more or less elastic, and are formed by the superposition of different membranes They are distinguished according to their uses and general disposition into Arteries, Veins, and Lymphatics. Vessels. 1871 H GREEN *Introd Pathol* 286 Portions of new growths, which having perforated the vessels, have been carried away by the current 1893 W R GOWERS *Man. Dis Nerv Syst* (ed 2) II 422 If a cast forms in an artery it may be detached and may obstruct the vessel further on

b *Bot* One of the cellular or tubular structures composing the vascular system of plants and having the function of containing or carrying sap or other secretion, a duct

1671 GREW *Anat Plants* I III § 30 Of the Lignous Body it is so apparent by its Pores, or rather by its Vessels, that we need but to refer to the Indexes. For to set down the Vessels but for the conveyance of Liquor? 1731 MILLER *Gard Dict* s v *Vegetable*, Bulk for Bulk, the Plant imbibes into its Vessels 17 times more Fluid than the Quantity of the Chyle which enters the Stomach 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L* 413 Hulls of *Hush* 93 Air passes into the absorbent vessels of the root 1796 WITHERING *Brit Plants* (ed 3) I 368 The leaf has no rib but is composed of vessels variously interwoven 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 40 Whenever the sap in the vessels of a plant freezes, they become ruptured and the plant dies 1875 JAMES *Gardening Pl* III 283 Some of the vessels are barred and punctured instead of being spiral

6 *Bot* = PERICARP *rare*

Common in the comb *seed vessel* see SEED *sb* 8

1691 RAY *Creation* I (1692) 100 Such Mosses as grow upon Walls, and other high Places, have Seeds so excessively small that when shaken out of their Vessels they appear like Vapour 1704 J HARRIS *Lex Techn.* I, *Vascula Spermatica Plantis*, are such as have besides the common Calyx or Flower Cup a peculiar Vessel or Case to contain their Seed.]

7 *attrib* and *Comb* a In senses 1 and 2, as *vessel anthrax*, *-cleaner*, *cloth*, *house*, *maker*, *-man*, *stuff*, *Chemistry*, *Sc*

*Vessel bearing* defining *tasserous* (q v) is given by Coles (1676) and Bailey (1721).

*c* 1450 *Bk Curtasye* 367 in *Babees Bk* For wesselle clothes, and napry, Pe seruandes in holde *Acts Dom Conc* (1839) 98/2 A weschale almery a cop almery 1532 *Acc Ld. High Treas Scott* VI 39 To the court wesschellmen 1611 HENRY *Stock Rolls Scott* XXXIX 121 To William Murra ad 11 the vessel hous. 1698 FLORIO *Vasellaro* a potter, or vessell maker 1697 *Reg Dacuments St Andrews* C 1 93 Clapebursh, pype staives, weschell and weschell stuff pitche, tar, rosin etc. 1886 *Cheshire Glass* 373 *Vessel-cleaner*, an under dairymaid whose business it is to clean the cheese tub, cans, and dairy apparatus.

b In senses 2, 3 *vessel-builder*, *-sheath*, *-wall*

1809 *St George's Hosp Rep* IX 408 In the right lateral sinus where the clot was adherent to the vessel wall. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 234 Vessel dilators are of special use 1899 *Lancet* VIII 609 A proliferative inflammation of the vessel sheaths.

c In sense 4, as *vessel load*, *man*, etc

1694 *Phil Trans* XLIV 483 The first Russian crew I found the lading of a vessel of Constantinople near was Turkey 1898 *Daily Tel.* 6 Jan 10/7 Other counters were despatched to see the railroads and the vessel men.

**Ve ssel**, *sb*.[2] [Of uncertain origin connexion with prec, but not clear.] Used *collect* (see quots).

1790 GROSE *Prov Glost*, *Vessel of pewter*, half a quartern of a sheet. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc E Anglia* 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl Forby*, *Vessel*, was used for theme papers formerly at Bury School; a half quarter of Long paper 1901 *Sat Rev* 10 Dec. 751/1 Acton made copious extracts written on vessels of paper specially made for him

**Ve ssel**, *v* Now *rare* or *Obs* [f VESSEL *sb* 1]

1 *trans* To put or enclose (a liquid, etc.) in a vessel. Also with *up*

1577 HARRISON *England* III vi (1878) II 37 Our honie is harder, better wrought, and clenlier vesselled up, than that which commeth from beyond the sea 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 529 The Fourth Rule shall be to mark what Herbs some Earths doe put forth of themselves; And to take that Earth, and to Pot it, or to Vessell it 1640 HARVEY *Synagogue* (1647) C vij b I would have this bread, This wine, Vessel'd in what the Sun might blush to shed His shine, When he should see 1670 W SIMPSON *Hydrol Ess* 129 In vesselling up and stopping in the Turbid ig-waters.

*transf* 1656 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 2 Man had at

the First, and so have all Souls before their Entrance to the Body, an explicit methodicall Knowledge, but they are noe soonner Vessel d but that Liberty is lost

2 To take or lift *out* by means of a vessel

1673 *Phil Trans* VIII 6028 When they pour this solu tion into the Vessel, they use a stick, whereby they agitate and beat the Wine in the Vessel, and then they vessel it out into other vessels.

**Vessel-cup**, north. dial var WASSAIL-CUP

**Ve sselful.** [f VESSEL *sb* 1] As much or as many as a vessel will hold 1806 WORCESTER

**Ve sselled**, *ppl a* [f VESSEL *v* or *sb* 1]

1. Enclosed in a vessel Now *rare* or *Obs*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp Phys Mech* III 42 The Vessel d Mercury 1664 POWER *Exp Philos* II 92 You may with great facility move the Tube to and fro in the vessel'd Quick silver 1670 BOYLE in *Phil Trans* V 2037 That 4 parts of 5, or rather 5 of 6 of the vessel d Air (if I may so call that which was shut up in the Receiver) had been pump d out 1708 R NEVE *Retractor*, 10 Upon opening of the inverted Tube into the vessel d Mercury

2 *Bot* Having or provided with vessels or ducts.

1895 *Pop Sci Monthly* Feb 496 The vesseled thorns are disposed in a fixed and regular manner

†**Ve sselling.** *Obs rare* [f VESSEL *sb* 1 + -ING 1] Vessels collectively (Cf next)

*c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* IV 410 When they beth cold, in pitched vessellynge And cleyed, close hem vp. *Ibid* XI 110 The chanels of this ston vessellynge

†**Ve sselment.** *Obs.* [a AF *vesselement*, OF *vesselement*, *vaisselement*, etc, f *vaissele* VESSEL *sb* 1 see -MENT] Vessels collectively, esp church vessels or plate

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9338 Curteynes, or ouper vestyment, Or any oper vesselement Pat belde3 to holy cherches seruysse *Ibid* 9480 For sacrylage, alle pys 3e tolde, Pat vesselement of cherche ys wyp holde 13.. *E E Allit P* B. 1180 Dere dayntes, pe dryȝe & dubbetes fayre, pe vyoles & pe vesselment of vertuous stones *Ibid* 1288

†**Vessey.** *Obs rare* Also 6 vesse (9 vesey)

[f uncertain origin (cf FESSE [2]) *Vessey colour*, a light blue or sky blue colour

1586 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 116 b, Fishes or something appertaining to them, Wherof the maisterie must bee of colour vesse, that is, the colour of the Turcas. *c* 1593 in Nichols *Progr Q Elizab* I 413 (1823) Hath hem clokes th one of Vessey Collor garded with black Clothe and twisted lace. [Hence 1826 HOR SMITH *Tor Hill* I 186 A vesse-colored cloak, guarded with black cloth, and twisted lace of carnation]

**Vessiole**, obs f. VESICLE.

**Vest** (vest), *sb* Also 8 *dial* **west**. [a F *veste*, a lt. *veste* (also *vesta*) robe, gown —L *vestes*, *vestis* garment, attire, clothing, cognate with Gr ἑσθής, Skr. *vastra*, *vastram* garment, † *vesta* vest, Pg *veste* garment, *vestia* vest]

1 A loose outer garment worn by men in Eastern countries or in ancient times, a robe or gown

1613 SHIRLEY *Trav Persia* 20 We were forced to send his master three vestes [*sic*] of cloth of gold, for beholding his person. 1634 SIR T HERBERT (1677) 232 [Persians'] out Garment or Vest is commonly of Calfico quilted with Cotton 1665 *Ibid* (1677) 131 Artaxerxes the Great gave Mithridates a Coat of Cloth of gold which he wore during a Royal banquet 1725 DE FOE *Voy round World* (1840) 84 The Persians make their long vests of such cloths. 1746 FRANCIS tr *Horace*, *Epistles* I. xvii. 28 Nor am I asham'd to furnish for a Play An hundred martial Vests. 1791 COWPER *Odyss* I 355 Putting off his vest Of softest texture. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev Islam* XIV, A hermit's vest Concealed his face 1838 ARNOLD *Hist Rome* I 25 A scarf was put on his vest, such as the Roman generals were used to wear in battle 1842 BARHAM *Ingol Leg* Ser II *Sergeant*, The slanting ray of the evening sun shone With fitful light on regal vest and warrior s sculptured mail

*transf* 1643 DAVENANT *Unfort Lovers* 1, Not in his Perfume and Silks but in his Vest of Grass *Ibid* 2 In this high feast Weave the loose robe, and paint the flowery vest 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xli, O gentle hunts man hast thou seen A lovely maid in vest of green? 1810 — *Lady of Lake* IV xii

c A garment, in various fig uses.

1595 H VAUGHAN *Silex Scint* 118 The fair woods flourishe in that youthfull vest Wherwith their great Creator had them drest 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell Syst* I v 790 The Ancient Asserters of the Souls Immortality, stop poing it to have been this Terrestrial Body another Spirituous or Airy Body as its Interiour Vest or Tunicle 1746 COLLINS *Ode Pest Charac.* 45 Truth, in sunny vest array'd 1781 COWPER *Charity* 670 When av ning in her sober vest Drew the grey curtain of the fading year *Ibid* SHELLEY *Witch Atl* Ded. v, Light the vest of flowing metre She wears.

†**d.** Without article Clothing, attire *rare*—[1].

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v 252 Our Means of Life are Pots, and Cibe, and Vest.

**2.** An ecclesiastical vestment. *rare*.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Feb, A priest was taken in his vests officiating somewhere in Holborne the other day *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov 1644, The precious vessels of gold, silver, and gems, with the vests and services to be seene in the Sacristy. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II VIII. 222 The

initiate's vest hung out under my cuirass. 1809 CASSAN *Bps Bath & Wells* 162 He gave also many splendid vests to the Churches of Bath and Wells.

**3** a A sleeveless garment of some length worn by men beneath the coat (introduced by Charles II see first cit.) Now *Hist* b A short garment worn beneath the coat or jacket as a usual part of male attire, a waistcoat

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Oct., The King hath yesterday, in Council, declared his resolution of setting a fashion for clothes. It will be a vest, I know not well how, but it is to teach the nobility thrift. *Ibid* 25 Oct., This day the King begins to put on his vest; being a long cassocke close to the body, of black cloth, and pinked with white silk under it, and a coat over it, and the legs ruffled with black riband like a pigeon a leg 1667 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 300, I doubt the old fellow must have a new vest and turlick 1668 ETHEREDGE *She would if she could* III. iii, You are not To learn how absolutely necessary A rich Vest and a Periquque are to a man that sues At first favours 1712 *Ourserret Acc Holy Cross Canterb* Payd for mackg a west and briches for gouddins child (*f.*)o. 1 6 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* v, She wore a coat, vest, and hat, resembling those of a man 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, Provided with some of the most splendid vests that Calcutta could furnish. 1907 *Daily News* 3 Sept 3/2 Lightish striped cashmere trousers would not be correct if worn with a dark blue coat and vest

*transf* 1830 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 1237 The rivets of the vest Which girds us with its mail like armour 1863 BATES *Nat Amazon* viii (1864) 220 A bird resembling our starling in size and not unlike it in colour with the exception of the rich rosy vest 1876 TROLLOPE *Sir Oakes* I Among the charms that dangled from this liquid chain—depending from the vest of a landscape, which ended in a ruffle of woods

c A knitted or woven undergarment for the upper part of the body, worn next to the skin.

1851 *Catal Ct Exhib* 583/2 Cotton spun silk, merino and Cashmere gentleme 1 s and ladies vests. 1883 'SYLVIA' *Lady s Guide to Home Dressm. & Millinery* xiii. 107 [List of under linen] 4 marino vests, [&] 5 9.

d. Part of a woman's dress bodice, consisting of a collar and front, usually of lace, net, silk, or other soft materi l

1887 *Lady s World* June 256/1 Vests of spotted kersey mere are made with military collars 1 d two pocket 1923 *Daily Graphic* 26 Mar. 11/1 The bodices having vests and collars of écru lace. 1923 *Play I ictorial* N 134 p ii 1 It [a 'waistcoat blouse ] has a soft net vest that ends in short sharp points.

e *attrib* and *Comb*, as *vest maker, pocket*, also *vest pocket voter U S* (see quot 1883)

1823 *Mass Spy* 3 Dec (Thornton) He found him asleep, took from his vest pocket the key [etc] 1848 *Weekly Visiting*, cloth for vests; vest patterns. 1879 G W CABLE *Grandissimes* xiii, I could be a confectioner a milliner, a dressmaker, a vest maker. 1883 Bryce *Amer Commw* (1888) III v lxxxix 217 The class of ve t pocket voters' —men who come to the poll with their tickets made up, to the confusion of 'the boys.

**Vest** (vest), *v* Also 5 *Sc* west [ad OF *vestir* (mod F *vêtir*, = Sp and Pg *vestir*, It *vestire*) —L. *vestire* to clothe, f *vestis* clothing see prec.]

**I 1** *trans* To place, settle, or secure (something) in the possession of a person or persons, = INVEST *v.* 6. Chiefly in passive, and usually const *in* (rarely *upon* or *with*) a With reference to estates, rights, titles, etc

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* VIII. 3081 Sothly Al Gascon wyle be portynance To be inesit and westit He and al his ayris wyth 1473 *Rolls of Parli* VI 147/1 That all such estate, title right and possession, the same persone and persones and their heires be vested 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen VII, c* 34 § 7 The said Castels [shall] in the same persone or persones and their heires be vested and they therin be intiteled 1585 HOLINSHED *Hist Scot* in *Chron.* II 244/2 The right of which countie king Dauid affirmed to be iustlie in him as truelie vested in his possession by the forfeiture 1629 *Feod Prerogat Charles I* 60 24 Wife vested in me, I may give or derive to another; what is intrusted onely, I cannot 1651 N BACON *Disc Govt Eng* II viii (1739) 52 No Legacies are to be given him before the Crown is vested upon him 1702 *Lond Gaz.* No. 3830/4 Until all the said Estates and Interests vested in them are disposed of 1758 in *Nalson Parergal Hist* (1759) 68 In the late act of parliament vesting the estates of certain traitors in his majesty 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) II 22 There were no words to vest the portion of the eldest born till a marriage with consent. 1827 BAILEY *Sp Ireland* 13 Dec. (1876) 155 A bill with that title to vest the ownership of the land with the present occupiers. 1905 [in] St LEONARDS *Handy Bk Prop Law* xvi 107 The Court may direct the parts so laid out to remain vested in the trustees.

b With reference to power or authority

1699 HAMMOND *On Pr* lxxx 17 By which the power is vested on him 1872 MARVEL *Rehearsal Transp.* II 98 The Government of Religion was vested in Princes by a antecedent right to Christ. 1892 T HALE *Acc New Invent* p lxxvii, That power of abating Nuisances is vested in both of their Offices, both by Grant and Prescription 1896 C. LUCAS *Rec Waltern* III 244 There is a particular jurisdiction vested in the officers. 1904 PERMANT *Tour Scotl* in *1772*, 45 The right of voting is vested by burgess tenure in certain houses. 1801 WELLESLEY in Owen *Desp* (1877) 220 It is my intention to proceed immediately to vest the administration of the ceded districts in the hands of the Company's civil servants. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist India* I 37 The government of the society thus constituted was vested in an absolute monarch. 1887 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* I 333 That vague power of recommending a successor which the Law vested in him

c *transf*

1849 RUSKIN *Sev Lamps* v § 21 157 If completeness is thought to be vested in polish, and to be attainable by help of sand paper 1852 I HACKERAY *Esmond* I. iii, Proud of this confidence and secret vested in him

**2** To put, place, or establish (a person) in full or legal possession or occupation of something, = INVEST *v* 5 Chiefly in passive, and usually const *in* (or † *of*)

In early use only *Sc* in the phrase *vested* (also *vest*) *and seised*.

1464 in *Acc Pam Innes* (1864) 78 The said schir Robert deyt last vest(it) and seisit as of fee 1488 *Acta Dom Audit* (1839) 123/2 It bein prefit but Williame be barde deit last vestit and Seisit in be said landis 1557 *Rec Inverness* (New Spald Cl) I 6 For seising takyn of all landis Wilyam Paterson his fadyr deit last vestit and seisit conforme to his sewing 1597 *Regist Privy Sec Scotland* (1878) I 186 All landis, rowmes, hereitages, quhairin he dyt last vest and seasit 1672 *Petty Pol Anat* (1691) 329 Of which the Irish that are vested by restoration soem rather to take part with the divested 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX iv The sergeant presently inquired for the principal magistrate of the town, and was informed by my landlord that he himself was vested in that office 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist Greece* I 108 Miltiades thus vested in the supreme command [etc] 1905 *Times* 8 June 6/4 The Government proposed that the Free Church should be vested in the property to be allocated to her

*fig* 1654 H L ESTRANGE *Chas I* (1655) 226 Not all his most gracious and debonair mine towards them could vest him i th' affections of the Rebels. 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm* (1729) I 29 In order to their being actually vested in that salvation 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 442 All, who partake of this Mercy, are then only certain of being vested in the sense he said already vested in the Happiness, which [etc]

**b** To invest (a person) *with* some quality, esp power, authority, etc Chiefly in passive

1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 226 It is his Person as vested with all his Offices, that is the immediate Fountain of all Grace unto us. 1699 BURNET *Sp Art* IV (1700) 67 He is vested with an unconceivable high degree of Glory 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II (Globe) 574 God's most glorious and best Gospel vested with a reasonable power 1728 *Hist Appar* IV (1840) 32 They may be reasonably supposed to be vested with the same powers 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist Eng* I 513 [He was] created a peer, and was soon after vested with the dignity of chancellor 1797 HY LEE *Canterb T Old Woman's T* (1799) I 361 [Thou] art vested with the powers of thy king 1803 in Gurwood *Wellington's Desp* (1837) II 50 *note* I further vest you with full powers to decide any question which may arise. 1819 *Ann Reg Hist Europe* II iv 12 288 To vest the Governors of the Crown in India with powers independent of the Company 1844 H H WILSON *Brit India* I 227 The Indian Government was vested with the power of sovereignty within its own limits.

**c** To endow formally or legally *with* some possession or property

1726 *Anson s Voyages* (ed. 8) I. v 70 This company in consideration of a million paid to the king is vested with the property of all diamonds found in Brazil. 1858 in J B Norton *Topics* 246 We propose that every ryot should be vested with the freehold of his farm.

**3** *intr* To become vested (IN a person), to pass into possession, to descend or devolve *upon* one as possessor

1592 WEST *1st Pt Symbol.* § 44 Euerie estate either executed vnuntruant, or executorie by limitation or vse, which vested in possession by vertue of the Statute of 27 H 8 1647 N BACON *Disc Govt Eng* I xli (1739) 66 In those days the vested not unless the Child opened his eyes. c 1700 HUBNE *Oten Tour* (1706) II 137 If the Heir came to be King the prerogative would by that vest in him. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 136 For the right of the crown vests, ere the heir enters 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) VI 500 The Court held that the whole estate vested in L his executors and administrators. 1897 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* I 322 The principle does not apply if there be an express declaration that the land shall vest at twenty-one 1805 LOWELL *Recantitrot* Prose Wks 1890 V 227 In all cases of land descending to a freedman no title should vest till a fair price had been paid. 1885 SIR R. HAGGALLAY in *Law Times' Rep* LII 671/2 The property vests in the official receiver *pro* tunc.

**II. 4** In pa pple Dressed, clothed, robed *in* some garment. Also without const (*spec* with reference to ecclesiastical vestments)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII ii. 3 And belch abuf clerlie schane Aurora vestit into broun sanguane. *Ibid* xi. 99 In rych vpsall I vest my body and myne armys 1611 BIBLE *Rev* I 13 One like to the Sonne of man vested in a priestly garment to the foote 1620 I W *Oudin s Sp Gram* 207 He seized what a Freer usurps for your readie vested at the Altar 1665 MILTON *Sonn* xxiii, My late espoused Saint Came vested all in white, pure as her mind *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Fair Favorite* Wks (1673) 57 Your Brother (Madam) and he brings A Lady with him vested like a Nun 1718 OZELL tr *Tournefort's Voy* I 92 The Priest being vested sets about the Preparation of the Bread and Wine at the little Altar 1791 *Gent Mag* II 956 On the dexter side, a pil grim or friar vested in russet 1849 ROCK *Ch of Fathers* I v (1903) I 328 I he thurifers and taper bearers in our large collegiate and cathedral churches, vested in cottas and cinicles. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* VI 76 A priest, vested in surplice and stole.

*b transf* and *fig* Also const *with*.

1679 DRYDEN *Troil & Cress* Prol Eas. (Ker) I 219 Spirits, according to Plato, are vested with a subtile body 1706 EVELYN *Hist Acelg* (1850) I 81 We see other living creatures come vested, armed alike immediately to find their pasture. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial. betw Charles 1 Clenard* I 18 Hast thou not seen me vested in all the Types and Ornaments that Human Eloquence is capable of receiving 1805 D JOHNSTON *Serm for Blind* 44 The brightest ornaments with which our natures can be vested. 1865 NEALE *Hymns Paradise* 6 The Saints, in beauty vested.

**5** Of a garment: To clothe or cover (a person) Also *fig* Cf INVEST *v* 1 b.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I (Arb) 38 Which plad vested Helen, from Greece when to Troy she flitted. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad* XXI. 59 The light that vests me.

**6** To dress (a person) in a robe or garment, esp as a formal act or ceremony Cf INVEST *v* 1

In the 17th cent. chiefly with reference to Oriental usage

1648 W L. *Newes fr Iurkie* 7 My Lord was privatly informed he intended an affront by not Vesting him. 1670 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* XV § 47 The Speaker vested him with a rich purple Velvet Robe lined with Ermines. 1695 *Voy Ling Mersch to Tadmor in Misc Curr* (1708) III 230 I do draw him near the City, he vested and caressed some of his Followers. 1840 H JOLLY *Sunday Services* 219 The words formerly pronounced at vesting the baptized with their white garments, were very solemnly expressive. 1868 GLADSTONE *Two Mundi* VIII. 292 The Charites receive her on her return from the scene of the Net to Cyprus, where they bathe, anoint, and vest her

*fig* 1639 G DANIEL *Ecclus* II 71 Prepare their hearts, and in Humilitye New vest their Soules

**b** *Eccl* To drape or cover (an altar)

1857 *Portuary Catholicon* 9 v Our right to vest the Altar in colours is grounded on the old law of the English church. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod Par Churches* 305 It is best for the ends as well as the front of the altar to be vested. 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 641/2 Altars are vested during service; that is, covered with cloths of various kinds

**7** *refl* To apparel or robe (oneself), esp in ecclesiastical vestments Also *fig*

*a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy Italy* (1698) I 41 Thinking it had been a priest putting on the amice and vesting himself to say Mass. 1797 DR FOE *Hist Reformat* (1840) 50 If we grant that spirit may vest itself so with flesh and blood 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII 63 I shall vest my self, as I may say, in classical armour 1771 in R H Burton *Life & Challenor* (1909) I IX 140 Just before the Bishop vested himself to say Mass 1892 C E. NORTON *Dante s Purgat* III. 17 Those who vest and veil themselves. 1905 R BAGOT *Passport* XVII 159 Don Agostino disappeared into the sacristy to vest himself

**b** *absol* in the same sense

1882 MASKELL *Anc Liturgies of Eng* (ed 3) 219 A common custom that the priest (whether or not he vested before the altar) should vest in the sanctuary 1892 in A E Lee *Hist Columbar* (1910) II 67 The imposing procession moved up the main aisle to the sanctuary where the celebrant vested

**III 8** *trans* = INVEST *v* 9 Now *rare* or *Obs*

1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 36 The Merchant vesting this Hundred Pounds in English Goods 1772 H WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd Paint* (1786) IV 139 He was then in good circumstances, and it was said came to vest his money in our stocks. 1794 BURKE *Corr* (1844) IV 247 He vested in some kind of property all or almost all that he had brought out of India. 1804 *Naval Chron* XI 81 Vesting it [in 1803] 178 He vests his capital either in seed or in a stock of cattle. 1845 M'CULLOCH *Taxation* Introd (1852) 11 Her capitalists were tempted to vest very large sums in foreign countries. 1869 [see INVEST *v* 9].

**Vest**, southern ME var. FAST *a*, obs Sc. f WEST

**I Vesta** (ve stă) Also 4 **Veste** [L *Vesta* the goddess of that name (see sense 1) answering to the Gr *Estia*, identical with *ἑστία* hearth, house, household.]

**1** *Mythol* A Roman female divinity, the daughter of Saturn, goddess of the hearth and household

1387 TREVISA *Higden* Rolls) III 73 He ȝaf a temple wiȝ fyre to be goddes Vesta and here maydenes to be worshipped 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 157 Sche which was the Prophesse In Vestes temple the goddesse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II v 91 The garlandis Of Vesta, goddes of the end and fyre. 1589 GREENE *Roundelay* Poems (1876) 102 Vesta a virgin with fire burning in the temple Is thought that fancy hath deified 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII 24/6 The minds of men were put in feare for the going out of the fire in the chappell of Vesta. 1632 MASSINGER *Emperour* I yet thou art higher far descended, Thee bright haur d Vesta To solitary Saturn bore. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II 395 He said, and brought me To Vesta's temple and the Powr's of Hell. With ancient Vesta from the sacred chour 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl, s v I estals* The Romans were not the only People who kept the perpetual Fire of Vesta in an imitation of the celestial Fires 1820 SHELLEY *With All* XXXVI. 3 If ever the sacred fire of Vesta did go out, the negligent vestal was to be punished by scourging

*attrib* 1888 *Encycl Brit* XIV 193/1 Fire was solemnly sent from the prytaneum or Vesta temple of the mother colon

**2** *Astr* One of the minor planets, revolving in an orbit between Mars and Jupiter

1807 *Phil Trans* XCVII 245 Observations and Measurements of the Planet Vesta 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 285 s Vesta performs its revolution in about 1326 mean so ar days. 1868 LOCKYER *Outlines Astronom* (ed 3) 214 The distance, and other elements of the orbit of Vesta, presented serious differences both with this theory and Bode s law

**3** Used as the distinctive name of a special make of household stove.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII 68 a In the 'Vesta stove, the ashes can be raked from the grate without any dust rising into the room 1843 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* VI 422/2 The various stoves Vesta, Chunk, &c are all founded on the Arnott Stove

**4** A kind of wax match Orig *attrib*

1859 CATH SINCLAIR *Holiday House* II 5 Laura after wards singed a hole in her muslin frock while lighting one of the Vesta matches to seal these numerous notes. 1869 *Act 20 & 21 Vict c.* 62 § 2 The following Duties of Customs shall be charged Lucifers Ve ta, of Wax, the

1,000 Matches, o. o 4 1859 Cornwallis *Panorama New World* I 326 Wax vestas pipes, maccaroni, and candles. 1863 Areil in *Lond.* (etc.) *Phil. Mag* Nov 336 Varieties of wax or Vesta matches 1864 Strauss, etc. *Eng Work* 1893 The vesta boxes are put in parcels of half a dozen and one dozen 1886 D. C Murray *First Person Singular* xix Frost's trembling fingers had to strike one or two vestas. 1899 T H Ellis *Three Cat-eye Rings* 68 The major pulled a vesta-case from his pocket.

**Vestal** (ve stăl), *a* and *sb* [ad L. *vestālis*, f. *Vesta* Vesta So Sp and Pg *vestal*, It and F. *vestale* ]

**A** *adj* **1** *Vestal virgin*, one of the priestesses (originally four, subsequently six in number) who had charge of the sacred fire in the temple of Vesta at Rome

1432 50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) IV 473 Cornelia the most noble of virgynes vestalle, was put in to cherithe on lyve. 1533 Belenden *Livy* II xix (S. T. S.) 1 209 Pai condampnit Oppia be voytal for hir Incest. 1600 Holland *Livy* I xx 14 Numa instituted also a Nunnerie as it were, of religious vestal virgines. *Ibid* xxviii xi 676 The Vestall virgin who had the charge that night was throughly skourged 1692 tr *Sallust* 20 Cataline had Debauch'd a Lady of Noble Extraction and a Vestal Virgin 1720 W King *Mystical Gods & Heroes* IX (1732) 76 The Vestal Virgin Claudia whose freedom of Behaviour had made her Modesty suspected 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) II 882/2 If there in Rome so sacred and venerable as the vestal virgins who keep the perpetual fire? 1865 Lecky *Nation* (1878) I 23 The miracles which clustered so thickly round the vestal virgins. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xlix, In defiance of every law he had recently seized Rubria, one of the Vestal Virgins.

**2** Of fire, etc. Of or pertaining to Vesta.

1599 *Broughton's Lett* xii. 207 They counted it unlawfull to refresh the Vestall fire 1627 Drayton *Saph. Sirena* 53 My coate with light should shine, Purer then the Vestall fire. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iv 553 Sheepmild takes with Wine, the Vestal Fire 1819 J. Knox *Ess* cxiv (1819) II 287 Those institutions have still kept the light burning like the vestal fire. 1798 S Rogers *Ital. Mem* Poems (1839) 4 Oblivion steals upon her vamp lamp 1833 Lytton *Grinnell Exh* xxxiv (1856) 301 Three stoves and a cooking galley four Argand and three bear fat lamps, burn with the constancy of a vestal at rest.

*fig* 1792 Young. *Brothers* I. i, Thou in whose eye, so modest and so bright, Love ever wakes and keeps a vestal fire 1817 Shelley *Rev Islam* xi, Through thine eyes, even in thy soul I see A lamp of vestal fire burning internally 1853 *Chr Remembrancer* Jan. 70 Then it was that the Jerseans and the Guernseians retired from a world whose light seemed on the eve of extinction to nurse the vestal fire which was never to be really put out.

**3** Resembling a priestess of Vesta in respect of chastity , chaste, pure, virgin

1595 *Lucrece* v iv 14 Beleeve me, Locrine, but the gyrle is wise And well would seeme to make a vestall Nunne 1798 Pore *Jan & May* 202 Demure and chaste as any vestal Nun 1799 Hellhus *Temper* xv 121 Ignes had no reason to imagine the lady to have been of the vestal kind 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 390 The day is come and thou wilt fly with me To whatsie er unprofaned solitudy it may remain a vestal sister still 1822 W Irving *Bracebr Hall* xviii, Mrs Hannah, the vestal gentlewoman of my Lady Lillycraft, has had long walks and talks with Phoebe

*transf* 1806 Moore *Epistle Anster* 1, Upon the bank awhile I stood And saw the vestal planet weep Her tears of light on Ariel's flood 1818 Keats *Endym* I 874 Oft have I brought thee flowers, on their stalks set Like vestal primroses.

**4.** Pertaining to, characteristic of, a vestal virgin or virgins , marked by chastity or purity

1592 Shakes. *Rom & Jul* II ii. 8 Her Vestal livery is but sicke and greene. 1594 Drayton *Mrs Poems* (1907) 4 Since holy Vestall lawes haue been neglected. 1612 *Two Noble Kn* V i. 116 This is my last Of vestall office; I am bride bathed but maydenhead. 1789 T Cooke *Poems*, etc. 18 Young Men, and Virgins, Attend a Song fit for a vestal Ear 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* III. 68 O dear and blessed peace ! Why dost thou cheat thy vestal purity In penury and dungeons? 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xvii, Necessarily introducing many male guests within those vestal precincts. 1847 Emerson *Repr Men* 204 Love-whispers may not breathe Within this vestal limit.

**B** *sb* **1** A vestal virgin

1579-80 North *Plutarch's Lives, Numa* (1612) 68 He also hath the keeping of the holy vyrgines which they call Vestales. *Ibid* 69 [He] taketh out the condemned Vestall, muffled vp close 1618 Bullokar *Eng Exp* s v , These Vestals were first instituted by Numa Pompilius, or as some write, by Romulus. 1671 Phillips (ed. 3) s v *Vesta*, Certain Virgins called Vestalls who were to take care of the Vestal fire. 1792 J Richardson *Acc Statues*, etc. *Italy*, etc. 135 The Head of the young Vestal was the most engaging thing I had seen in Italy 1740 J Dupré *Conform Anc & Mod Ceremt.* 47 The Chief of the Vestals was called Maximus. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) II 265 A Lamp formed exactly like the Venus of Medicis, or the sleeping vestal 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 286/1 The habits which the vestals had acquired during their priesthood 1869 Lecky *Europ Mor* I iii 433 *note*, The vestal Urbinia was buried alive on account of a plague.

*fig* and *transf* 1594 Drayton *Mrs. Poems* (1907) 4 Here Chastity that Vestall most diuine, Attends that Lampe with eye which neuer sleepeth. 1767 Sterne *Tr Shandy* IX. xvii, I keep neither man or boy — or any thing that can eat or drink except a thin, poor piece of a Vestal (to keep my fire in) 1868 Hawthorne *Fanshawe* iv A flame which Hugh was so far a vestal as to supply with its necessary fuel at all seasons of the year

**2** A virgin ; a chaste woman , a nun.

1590 Shakes. *Mids N* iv i. 158 A certaine aime he tooke At a faire Vestall, throned by the West. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T* 80 A grosse pencild Painter, who vnder colour of drawing of pictures, drawes more to his shady Pauilion, then depart thence pure Vestals 1608 Shakes. *Per* iv v 7 Shall s go hear the vestals sing? 1717 Pope *Heroic to Abelard* 207 How happy is the blameless vestal's lot ! The world forgetting, by the world forgot. 1782 Cowper *Task* iv 554 The stain Appears a spot upon a vestal s robe, The worse for what it visits. 1848 J Hackeray *Van Laar* x, She was the most hospitable and jovial of old vestals, and had been a beauty in her day 1879 Gladstone *Gleanı.* II i. 10 He states that he never knew souls more polluted than those of some of the professed vestals of the Church.

Hence **Ve stalship**, the state or condition of being a vestal or virgin

1893 F Thompson *Poems* 42 A mouth too red for the moon to bless it, But her cheek unwon its vestalship

**† Vestament**, erroneous var of Vestiment or Vestment

1630 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* iv 1 Hjb, His vestaments sit, as if they grew vpon him

**Veste**, southern ME var Fast *v* and *adv* , Fist *sb* 1

**Vested** (ve stĕd), *ppl a* [f Vest *v* + -ED ]

**1** Clothed, robed, dressed, *spec* in ecclesiastical vestments. Also *fig*

1671 Milton *P R* I 497 Just Simeon and Prophetic Anna spake Before the Altar and the vested Priest 1769 Goldsm *Des Vill* 360 The cooling brook, the grassy vested green 1841 Challoner in Husenb *Conv* (1851) IV 256 Why do I not go forth as a forgiven and vested creature 1842 Worksop *Ecclis Sonn.* III xxvi The Vested Priest before the Altar stands

b *Her* (See quot )

c 1828 Berry *Encycl Her* I Gloss., *Vested*, habited, or clothed, as a cubit arm, &c *vested as* or the like

**2.** Established, placed, or settled in the hands of, or definitely assigned to, a certain possessor

1766 Blackstone *Comm* II 168 *Vested* remainders are where the estate is invariably fixed, to remain to a deter minate person for a determinate estate is spent *Ibid* 513 A legacy to one to be paid when he attains the age of twenty one years is a *vested* legacy 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V 1 Estate tail is to be vested in fee in the 1832 Lewis *Use & Ab Pol. Terms* iii 25 In its legal sense, vested is opposed to contingent 1845 Williams *Real Prop* 241 The alienation of an executory interest, before the contingency happens, is void 1866 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I Introd p xiv, After months of struggle with the vested privi leges of record keepers

b *gen* with *right* or *interest* Also *fig*

(*a*) *a* 1797 J P Andrews *Man Constit* 211 (Thornton), Violation of a vested legal right. 1832 Austin *Jurispr* App p xxxiv Vested rights essentially differ from rights which are contingent 1848 Mill *Pol Econ.* I iv § 3 (1876) 89 The vested right which Parliament has allowed to be acquired by the existing companies. 1858 J Martineau *Christ Life* 226 But its vested interest, of pay is out its truth be flung into the free air of history 1876 Digby *Real Prop* v § 3 233 It is not such a right as the law regards as vested that is, as completely vested

(*b*) 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed 2) V 482 The limitation gave him an immediate vested interest in the surplus of the estate. 1846 Spence *Equity Jurisd* I 154 Finding that new truths have not as many vested interests to recommend them as old fallacies 1859 Mill *Liberty* iv (1865) 53/1 The doctrine ascribes to all mankind a vested interest in each other s moral, intellectual and even physical perfec tion 1889 W Donnisthorpe *Individualism* iv 122 Vested interests may perhaps be defined as rights based not upon contract but upon custom

**3.** Invested

1863 P Barry *Dockyard Econ* 20 The returns for vested capital and the comfort of the working classes both [being] considered

**Vestee**. *Law rare* [f Vest *v* + -EE ] One who is vested with a right, property, etc.

1879 *Austin's Jurispr* II iii. 883 Subject to a series of vested rights (the vestees from present vesters)

**Vesten**, southern ME variant of Fast *v*

**Ve ster.** *rare* [f Vest *v*, 8*f*] One who in-vests money , an investor

1829 Southey *Lett* (1856) IV 146 They declare that their vesters call a community in land and in goods.

**† Vesterer.** *Obs rare.* In 4 **westerer** [f *vester-ie* Vestry, or Of *vestter* vestiary ] A person having charge of vestments

1388 in *Archaeol* LII 213 Fyrste the westerer shall lay the abbotes coope vpon the auter and then the sayd westre.

**Vesterie**, obs. form of Vestry !

**† Vesteye**, *v Obs rare* Also vestoy- [app ad an unrecorded AF **vesteer*, OF. **vestoier*, of obscure origin ] *trans* 1o inspect, examine. Hence † **Vesteying** *vbl sb*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) xxv, It is to weten how oft tymes a deere is herbored wenyng of mannys eye *Ibid.* xxx If his lymber be dislaue, I-te him vesteye it with his eye *Ibid.* xxxiii, And if he lymer over-shete, or lean not put it forth euery hunter bat here is, ought to go somedele a broode forto se yf bei may fynde be reghtes with vesteynge of eye.

**Vestiarian** (vestiē·rĭăn), *a* [f. Vestiar-y + -ian ] Of or relating to, concerned with, ecclesiastical vestments or their use

1850 Marsden *Early Purit* (1853) 19 The question of the habits, or as it has since been termed the vestiarian controversy 1866 *Contemp Rev* II. 557 The ecclesiastical Adria. agitated by ritualistic and vestiarian gales, has thrown up a great heap of pamphlets. 1881 *Guardian* 16 Feb 232/3 We should have been well pleased had these vestiarian differences never found place amongst us.

**2.** Of, belonging or peculiar to, clothing or dress , vestiary. *rare*—1.

1844 R H Patterson *Ess Hist & Art* (1869) 34 Whitening of the seams—a disagreeable vestiarian phenomenon produced by the surface, or best-coloured portion, of the cloth being rubbed off

**† Vestiarier** *Obs rare*—0 Also **vestyaryer**(e. [f med L. *vestiārius* sb. Cf Of *vestiarour* (Godef ) ] = Vesterer

c 1440 *Promp Parv* 509/1 Vestyaryer [*printed* -er] (*K* vestiere [*Winch. MS* vestyaryere], *P* vestyar), *vestiarius*

**‖ Vestia rium.** *rare* [L *vestiarium*, f *vesti-s* clothes, clothing sec -ARIUM ] A vestiary, vestry

1893 Thackeray *Newcomes* xlvi, The chapel by the little door near to the Vestiarium. 1895 *Encycl Brit* II 132/1 The upper story of the refectory [in a Benedictine abbey] is the vestiarium', where the ordinary clothes of the brethren were kept.

**Vestiary** (ve sti,ări), *sb* Forms 3–6 **vestiarie**, 4 **vestiare**, 5 **vestyarye**, -iarye, 5– **vestiary** [a. OF *vestiarse*, *vestiare*, *vestyarye*, etc. (mod F. *vestiaire*, = Pr *vestiars*, Pg and It. *vestiario*), or ad L. *vestiarium* clothes-chest, wardrobe, neut. sing of *vestiārius* adj , f *vesti-s* clothing, vesture. Cf. Vestuary ]

**I** L. A vestry of a church Now *rare* or *Obs*

c 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 455 A lodlich cloth he bought for fif panes; to be bischope he gan it bringue Pe bischop code into pe vestiarie : pis clope he gan to werie 1470-85 *Arc St Mary at Hull* (1905) 69 For a pioner on pe vestyarye 1448 Hen. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 384 The vestiarie to be seete on the north side of the saide Quere. 1503 in Blyth *Hist Notices & Rec Fenchurch* (1863) 57 My bodye to be beryed in the vestiary of Sent Martyns Churche. 1852 T Wilson *Lapide* (1580) 57 b, The Church, the pulpite, the vestiarie, the chauncell 1668 J. Smith in *Phil Trans* (1697) XIX. 604 Toward one end of the English Church, just by the Vestiary 1707 Bailey (vol III), *Vestiary*, a Vestry or Vestiary Room 1819 W Tennant *Tapistry Storm d* (1827) 212 And monie ane that day did herrie Brave spulyie frae the vestiary 1841 Gresley *Eow Arden* (1842) 61 The new tower was lately finished, he returned to the Vestiary 1866 Mrs. R T. Ritchie *Village on Cliff* xvii, The curé walked through his wild overgrown wilderness to the vestiary

b A room or building, esp. one in a monastery or other large establishment, in which clothes are kept Also, a cloak room (quot 1893).

c 1450 Capgrave *Life St Aug* 45, I haue do mad 300 clothis & hosyn and schon which I will be pes be kept in a comon vestiary, pat euery man may haue pert as him nedith 1467-8 *Rolls of Parl* V 596/2 Davy Clarke, Yoman of oure Vestarye of oure Houshold 1708 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vestiary*, a place in a Monastery where the Monks Cloaths are laid up; the Friers Wardrobe 1860 Ainsworth *Youngedown Grange* 157 The room being used, at the present day, as a vestiary 1880 Sir R Temple *St Clement's Eow* II 1 Go to the vestiary, wherein thou'lt find Provision of all garbs for the masqued ball 1893 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* II 161 'All right, said Granton, turning to the vestiary for his hight overcoat

† c. (See quot ) *Obs*—0

1658 Blount *Glossogr.* (copying Cooper), *Vestiary*, a Wardrobe, Press, or Chest where apparel is laid. [Hence in Phillips, and recent Dicts.]

**† 2** = Vestibule 1 Cf Vestry 1 b. *Obs rare*

1382 Wyclif *Exod* xxxv 17 The tentis in the 3atis of the vestiarie [L. *in foribus vestibuli*]. 1388 *Ibid* xxvii 38 Then wenten in a swift passe in the hows of a maner man in Bahurym, that hadde a pit in his vestiarye

**II.** 3 Clothes, clothing, dress , *rare*—1.

1846 Landon *Imag Conv* Mrs. I 467/1 I by versicoloured and cloudlike vestiary, puffed and effuse, rustling and rolling

**Vestiary** (ve sti,ări), *a* [ad. L. *vestiarv us* see prec, and -ARY 1 Cf obs F. *vestiaire* (Littré) ] Of, pertaining or relating to, clothes or dress

1622 E. Misselden *Free Trade* (ed. 2) 109 The Superfluity of other Commodities may be restrained by many lawes Vestiary and Sumptuary 1648 [? Hall] *Select Th* 893 931 Some are for manuary trades another for Vestiary services. 1829 *Blackw Mag* XXV 346 I i e soul may remain the same, but a new body is actually given to it by the interposition of vestiary talent 1866 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I 9 A collection of vestiary curiosities. 1870 W R Greg *Polit Problems* 167 Some vestiary materials have become more abundant and lower in price. 1879 Lynch & *Meredith* 78 We learn of vestiary elegances, and temper

**Vestible**, obs. form of Vestibule

**Vestibular** (vestī bĭŭlăr), *a* [f. next + -AR ]. Cf obs. F. *vestibulaire*.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, resembling or serving as, a vestibule *Anat* (Cf Vestibule *sb* 2 ).

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl Anat* II 537/1 The vestibular part of the membraneous labyrinth is all that is really fundamental in the structure of an organ of hearing 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I (1856) 23 As in the vestibular cavities of fishes. 1879 Huxley *Phys* viii. 211 The vestibular nerve tells us that sounds are weak or loud, but gives no impression of tone or melody or harmony 1890 *Allbutt's Syst Med.* VII 580 The vestibular termination of the auditory nerve.

**b** In general use.

1861 Bennett *Hore Eng Catheder* 29th C 158 The outer world was fenced off by the interposed atrium or vestibular cloister

c *Pool* (See quot.)

1879 Sollas in *Encycl Brit* XXII 416/1 This pseudostomosis is due to a folding of the entire sponge, so as to produce secondary canals or cavities, which may be incurrent (vestibular) or excurrent (cloacal).

So **Vestibularly** *a. rare*

1843 in F. H. Ramadge *Curab. Consumption* (1850) 37

The morbid conditions of this vestibulary portion of the respiratory apparatus.

**Vestibule** (ve·stibil), *sb* Also *a.* 7–8 vestible. [ad. L *vestibulum* (hence F *vestibule*, OF *vestible*, It, Sp and Pg *vestibulo*), entrance-court, fore court, entrance. The origin of the *L* word is uncertain.]

1 In reference to ancient times The enclosed or partially enclosed space in front of the main entrance of a Roman or Greek house or building, an entrance court or fore-court.

In some instances approximating to next

*a.* 1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vestibule*, the porch of a dore 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr Vestibl*, a void place without the door, a Porch, an Entry 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. s.v *Atrium*, Some have mistakenly confounded the *atrium* with the porch or vestible, from which it was distinct 1796 BURNEY *Mem Metastasio* II 163 Porticos, vestibles of temples, and other public buildings

*β* a 1725 BOLINGBROKE *Study Hist* I (1752) I 19 The citizens of Rome placed the images of their ancestors in the vestibules of their houses 1779 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1821) II. 108/2 The king would not suffer his guards to do duty in the palace, but only in the vestibule and portico about it 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XI. 942 While ye on preparation of the feast Attended both, Ulysses and myself Stood in the vestibule 1819 KEATS *Lamia* II 163 He met within the murmurous vestibule His young disciple. 1829 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 103 [Ul] Throw you as ballast into the ship's hold, And then deliver you, a slave, to move Enormous rocks, or found a vestibule. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* I, In its vestibule was a bronze statue, fifty feet high.

b In modern usage A chamber or hall immediately between the entrance-door and the interior of a building or house (usually one of some size), to which it gives admittance, an ante-chamber, entrance hall, or lobby.

*a.* 1730 BAILEY (fol.), A *Vestible* is also used for a Kind of little Anti Chamber before the Entrance of an ordinary Apartment 1749 in *Maurice Jerrage Evidences* (1874) 80 In the low vestible sits an old clock

*β* 1796 MRS. DELANY in *Autobiog & Corr* (1861) III 437 Her apartment is the prettiest thing I ever saw, consisting of a skylight antechamber or vestibule adorned in the Gothic way 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, He was soon admitted to a small vestibule, where he found Bianchi winding balls of silk. 1828 *Eng Encyc* V 376/1 A scene almost of butchery took place in the staircases and vestibules. 1861 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXVII The clock in the vestibule struck ten as Robert opened the library door 1872 OWEN in *Nature* No. 618 495 The impressive and rather gloomy vestibule which leads to the great hall

*Comb* 1887 *Pall Mall G* 6 Oct 1/2 This room opens into a long and lofty vestibule like chamber

c *transf* and *fig*

Freq from c1800 ; usu *const of* as in the first group

(*a*) 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* Wks 1757 IV 241 The dark solemn approaches to or dismal vestibules of, the grave. 1763 BURKE *Common pl Bk* Oct If ever any you g man in the vestibule of the world, chuse to throw his eye over these pages [etc.]. 1800 *Med. Jrnl* III 254 There can be no very great devastion, while we remain at the vestibule of useful inquiry 1831 H COLERIDGE *Lives Northerns* I A single copy of verses [by Marvell] keeping its station in the vestibule of Paradise Lost 1861 J G HOLLAND *Less Life* III 38 Todday we are in life's vestibule 1875 GRINDON *Life* I 4 True figurative language is the vestibule of philosophy

(*b*) 1781 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* II IV 106 Looking upon Knowledge to pass into the Mansions of the Mind thro' Language, they were careful not to offend in the Vestibule 1848 K. W HAMILTON *Rctr & Pumishm* VIII. (1853) 379 The present is the vestibule to a boundless existence 1850 MAURICE *Mor & Met Philos* (ed 2) 131 One large class of the Platonic Dialogues, which are the induction or vestibule to the rest 1873 SYMONDS *Grk Poets* I. Language and Mythology form the vestibules and outer courts to Homer, Pheidias, Lycurgus.

d An enclosed and covered in portion at either end of a railway carriage, serving as a means of passage from one carriage to another *spec applied in vestibule train* (see VESTIBULED a ).

A number of these, as *vestibule of the aorta, larynx, mouth, sheath, etc.*, are specified in recent encyclopædic and medical Dicts.

**a.** The osseous cavity which forms the central portion of the labyrinth of the ear and is situated between the tympanum and the internal auditory canal, immediately behind the cochlea.

1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v *Ear*, The Labyrinth is divided into three Parts; the first called the Vestibule 1782 A *Monro Anat* 72 The other [hole] ends in several very small canals that allow a passage to the branches of the *portio mollis* into the vestibule and cochlea. 1836–9 *Todd's Cyc Anat.* II 530/1 Of the compartments of the osseous labyrinth, the vestibule lies in the middle, the semi-circular canals behind it, and the cochlea in front 1858 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys Anat* II 96 The essential part of the organ of hearing is the vestibule. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 188 The bony labyrinth consists of an irregular central cavity, the vestibule

b (See quot 1857.)

1841 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr Medicine* 55 The *Meatus Urinarius*, which is the canal leading to the bladder, is situated at the further extremity of the vestibule 1857 BULLOCK *Caesarean Method* 43 The vestibule is a small triangular space placed at the upper part of the vulva. 1883 DUNCAN *Clin. Lect Dis Wom* (ed. 2) XVII 167, I call them inflammations of the pudendum; but they are often called inflammations of the vulva, and sometimes of the vestibule.

c *Membranous vestibule*, the membranous sacs contained within the osseous vestibule of the ear

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex* s.v., There is also another membrane, constituting the membranous vestibule, but it is not an exact imitation of the osseous cavity

d *Zool* = VESTIBULUM 2 b. *rare*

1879 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem Biol* 87 When fecal matters are discharged, they make their way out by an aperture which is temporarily formed in the floor of this vestibule

**Vestibule**, v. [Back-formation from next.] *trans* To provide or supply (a railway carriage) with vestibules, to unite by means of vestibules

1891 in *Cent Dict* 1895 *Westm Gaz* 20 Apr 2/1 The two cars are 'vestibuled together by a central lobby 1904 *N & Q* 10th S. I. 316/2 Through carriages on a certain train between London and Hull will henceforward be 'vestibuled through to an express

**Vestibuled**, *a.* [f. VESTIBULE *sb* ] Of a train Provided with vestibules Orig *U S*

1890 T M COOLEY, etc *Railways Amer* 249 The first of the vestibuled trains went into service on the Pennsylvania Railroad in June 1886 1898 *Westm. Gaz* 26 Apr 6/4 The vestibuled corridor dining-car trains on the East and West Coast routes to Scotland.

**Vestibuli-tis.** *Path* [f VESTIBULE *sb* + ITIS ] Inflammation of the vestibule of the vulva

1879 DUNCAN *Clin Lect Dis Wom* (ed 2) XII. 65 When they do so women suffer from slight superficial inflammation—vestibulitis.

**Vestibulotomy.** *Surg* [f as prec. see -TOMY ] The operation of cutting or opening the vestibule of the ear

1908 *Lancet* 9 May 1321/2 We have come to regard inferior vestibulotomy as a good and adequate means of draining the vestibule in cases of suppuration Possibly vestibulotomy was performed with partial removal of the cochlea.

**Vestibulum** (vestī·biliăm) [L see VESTIBULE *sb* ]

1 = VESTIBULE *sb* 1

1666 J DAVIES tr *Olearius Voy Ambass* 286 In the midst of the *Vestibulum* there was a great Fountain 1664 EVELYN tr *Freart's Archit* 132 In those large *Ayatias*, *Porticos*, *Atrens* and *Vestibula* of the Greeks and Romans, 1699 TEMPLE *Gardener Dominion* Wks. 1704 I 64 Delivering the Keys of the Celestial House of God he should also have the Keys of the Terrestrial Bethel; which is but a sort of Vestibulum or Vestibule to the other 1718 OZELL tr *Journefort's Voy* II v 176 In the Vestibulum of a Convent of Greek Nuns there is a Christ very ill painted 1834 LYTTON *Rienzi* I III, You enter by a small entrance-passage (called vestibulum) into a hall

2 *Anat* and *Zool* a. = VESTIBULE *sb* 2

1704 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* I *Vestibulum*, is a Cavity in the Os Petrosum, behind the *Fenestra Ovalis* 1708 A. MONRO *Anat.* 101 Canals, that allow a Passage to the Branches of the *Portio mollis* of the seventh Pair of Nerves, into the *Vestibulum* and *Cochlea*. 1797 E. BAILLIE *Morb Anat* (1807) 420 The external parts, particularly the inside of the nymphæ and the vestibulum, are subject to inflammation 1866 *Treas Bot* 1222 The vestibulum is completely separated from the tympanum. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 116 The membranous vestibulum is continued by a canal to the single opening in the roof of the skull.

b *Zool* The cavity or chamber in certain infusorians into which the œsophagus and anus open

1829 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd*, *Protozoa* 56 In addition to the oral orifice, the vestibulum is provided with a lateral aperture which would appear to discharge the function of an anus. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol* 87 A groove [in the bell-animalcule] which, at one point, deepens into a tube, the wide depression at the base *Vestibulum*.

†**Vestigate,** *v Obs rare* [f L. *vestigat*, ppl stem of *vestigāre* to track, trace out, investigate.] *intr* and *trans* To investigate, in various senses.

*a.* 1562 G CAVENDISH *Wolsey*, etc. (1825) II 4 Wherefore Dame Reason hath perused, and move To be content with my small estate, And in this matter no more to vestigate. 1623 COCKERAM 1 *Vestigate*, to tracke, or trace. 1658 BLOUNT (followed by Cooper), To vestigate, to seek out, to seek by the print of the foot, to trace, to search, diligently, to hunt after 1780 J T DILLON *Trav Spain* (1781) 98 To vestigate their mode of propagation.

Hence †**Vestigating** (vĕ·stĭ), *a.* a footprint. (Cf VESTIGIATING) †**Vestigation** (see quot. and INVESTIGATION). *Obs rare*

1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 189 [The Cingalese hold] that Adam was their Created and lined there; they believe it rather in regard his vestigatings are yet imprinted in the earth 1656 PHILLIPS, *Vestigation*, a seeking any one by the print of their foot, a searching diligently

**Vestige** (vestĭj). [*a.* F *vestige*, ad L. *vestīgium* footstep, footprint, trace, mark, etc. Cf. the earlier VESTIGY.]

I. 1. A mark, trace, or visible sign *of* something, esp a building or other material structure, which no longer exists or is present; a piece of material evidence of this nature; something which remains after the destruction or disappearance of the main portion.

In the singular freq in negative phrases.

*pl* 1600 J COLVILLE *Parænesis* u ij, Not farder nor vnto ye vall of Septimius Severus wharof the vestiges yit re maine 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov 1644, Descending the Mons Cælius we come against the vestiges of the Palazzo Maggiore 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 297 We see the beginning of a Vault with the Vestiges of the Stair upon it 1791 W GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II 136 The vestiges of different buildings, and the walls of a small chapel, still remain 1826 SIR H DAVY in *Faraday's Exp Res* (1859) 5 Vestiges of extinct volcanoes exist in all the low countries on the western side of the Appennines. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* III VII 1 159 They had not been molested by enemies. But more than once they had seen vestiges of them in smoking hamlets and ruined bridges. 1864 D G MITCHELL *Sev Stor* 243 Others wandered thither, seeking vestiges of old inheritance

*sing* 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 240 Of these there is not the least Vestige remaining 1743 KAMES *Decis Cr Sess 1730-42* (1799) 62 There was no remaining vestige of any moveable effects. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess Waters* III. 370 No vestige of the inflammable principle [will] appear 1802 *Med Jrnl* XV 98 Not the least vestige of a slough could be perceived. 1829 VEOWELL *Anc Brit CA* XII. 150 A vestige of some ancient fabric may be seen near the church 1882 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 1 There is now scarcely a vestige left of any building prior to the fifteenth century

b A surviving memorial or trace *of* some condition, quality, practice, etc , serving as an indication of its former existence Usu in pl

*a.* 1790 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Jan 1645 The haughty Capua shewing some vestige of its former magnificence in pieces of temples arches [etc ]. 1792 BURKE *Corr* (1844) III 378 That line of policy which government has pursued . . . through every vestige of the vestiges of conquest. 1809 FOSTER *Ess* I. III. I 35 The vestiges of the first indelible impressions. *a* 1830 CALHOUN *Wks* (1874) III 160 These considerations destroy every vestige of a right to the soil of State Rights. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 197 A toll drove away the last vestige of lawful traffic. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) V. 71 Modern enquirers have also detected the vestiges of a patriarchal state still surviving

c Without *of* in prec senses

1728 THOMSON *Liberty* II 404 Scarce any trace remaining, vestige giv'n, Or nodding wall, to point where Corinth, or where Athens stood 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ France* I 227 A mole that I think will leave no vestiges behind 1789 J WILLIAMS *Mon Antiq* I 8 A solid body of stone which exhibits no manner of vestige or leader whatever to point out which way the coal is gone 1824 SCOTT *Border Antiq* I 1 This ancient boundary is now so effaced, and nothing scarcely remains but a few melancholy vestiges, which [etc ]. 1830 G A COOKE *Topogr Descr Surrey* 68 Not a vestige is now standing of the once splendid palace, stones etc. prove that the materials have not been entirely destroyed.

d. A very small or slight trace, indication, or amount (*of* something), a particle, a scrap

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess Waters* I 111 If it contains the least vestige, the slightest tast : prec pitation follows 1781 COWPER *Conversat* 219 On all the vestiges of truth attend, And let them guide you to a better end 1820 PLAYFAIR *Illustr Huttonian Theory* 334 The mountain appeared to me to be without any vestige of stratification. 1834 TRINGLE *Acy Sk* 12 1398 Not a vestige of organic remains or bituminous matter was to be descried. 1864 *Chr Comm cxxvi* 18 June 824/1 The general ruck and run of our politicans have scarcely a vestige of lofty motive or noble principle.

2 *Biol* A surviving trace *of* some part formerly existing in the species, a vestigial organ or structure (see quot 1869)

1859 DARWIN *Orig Species* xiii (1860) 454 Rudimentary organs as the vestiges of a par in useless hoods. 1868 LYELL *Prine Geol* (ed 10) III. XXXV II 274 The aquatic reptile called *Proteus anguinus* which retains only the vestiges or rudiments of eyes. 1870 A. RYDER in *Proc U S Nat Mus* VI. 80 On investigating the condition of the vestiges of these limbs we find that the skeletal parts have actually been arrested. *Ibid.* note, Structures which are disappearing should be called vestiges.

II. 3 A mark or trace left on the ground by the foot, a footprint, a track *rare*

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr* (following Cooper), *Vestige* the print of a mans foot 1 footstep a trace or track or mark of any thing 1759 BOYSE *Deluge* I. 1 *Vestige*, step, footstep, vestige. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc* XXXVII, Who with unwearied feet could e er impress The sand with such enormous vestiges? 1841 ELLIOTSON *Hist Indus* I. 363 In a dry country a bare foot leaves little print to common eyes ; but ones of these will pursue a robber by these vestiges for a distance that seems incredible

*fig* 1824 LANDOR *Imag Conv* I 8 A country where prophet comes after prophet, and each treads out the last vestige from the sand

b *transf* An impression made upon the brain by an image. *rare*

1885 J MARTINEAU *Types Eth Thc.* I. II. § 2 Through the senses, external objects act upon the brain, leaving a durable vestige there. *Ibid* I. II. § 8 An image of sense is memory, persistent in proportion to the depth of the cerebral vestige.

†**Vestigia,** error for VESTIGIUM

1789 J WILLIAMS *Mon. Antiq.* I. 40 Every slip of the coal metals has a vise, or vestigia, which points out to a skilful eye which way the metals are thrown out of their former course.

**Vestigial** (vestī·dʒiăl), *a.* [f L *vestīgi-um* (see VESTIGE) + -AL 1.] Of the nature of a vestige; remaining or surviving in a degenerate, atrophied, or imperfect condition or form. a. *spec* in *Biol* of certain organs or structures

1884 COUES *N Amer Birds* 215 The transitory wolffian bodies and ducts ultimately disappear from the female, leaving only a trace of their former existence in certain vestigial structures. 1892 *Month* Jan. 16 The existence of what are called 'rudimentary' or 'vestigial' organs. 1896

*Allbutt's Syst Med* V 737 A triangular fold—the 'vestigial fold of Marshall—formed by a duplicature of the serous layer passes between the left pulmonary artery and the subjacent pulmonary vein.

b In general use

1892 *20th Cent* Jan 37 They are only the stunted remnants, the vestigial and atrophied traces indicating the later stages of ages of [mental] development *a* 1901 F W Myers *Hum Personality* (1903) II 308 Vestigial beliefs which still encumbered the spirit have had time to atrophy

Hence **Vesti gially** *adv*

1900 *Amer Anthropologist* IV 33 This conception persists up through barbarism albeit vestigially, into civilization

**Vesti gian,** *a* and *sb* *rare* [f Vestige + -ian] **a.** *adj* Of or pertaining to, or designating, the theory of evolution propounded by R Chambers in his *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation* (1844) **b** *sb* One who agrees with or supports this work or theory

1860 Darwin in *Life & Lett* (1887) II 295 The case would be a decided difficulty on the Lamarckian or Vestigian doctrine of necessary progression. 1891 *Tablet* 12 Sept 414 Men who had never been known to read a scientific book in their lives, were found poring over it and taking sides as Vestigians and anti Vestigians.

**† Vesti giary.** *Obs*⁻¹ [f L *vestigi um* + -ary¹] A vestige; a trace

1651 Biggs *New Disp* § 238 The adored Fontanell helpes nothing before the crustous eschar be taken away, and the vestigiaries of heat and dryenesse be first removed.

**† Vesti giating** *vbl sb* [f L *vestigi um* cf Vestigating] Footprints, tracks

1638 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 307 Upon Colombo's high peake is also shew'd and seene the vestigiating or footsteps of old Adam.

**‖ Vesti gium.** Pl **vestigia** (also ? **vestigia's**) Now *rare* or *Obs* [L see Vestige] A vestige or trace a mark or indication left by something destroyed, lost, or no longer present

1637 Nabbes *Microcosm* v 1 Dudsley *O Pl* (1744) V 355 Repentance stays as the vestigium Or mark impress'd by which the past disease is found to have been. 1644 Dicby *Nat Bodies* VII § 7 50 Experience assureth us that after it [ac light] is extinguished it leaueth not the least vestigium behind it of hauing been there. 1665 Sir I Herbert *Trav* (1677) 333 Upon better view I may discover his [Jerahn] Vestigia near Malacca amongst his other Brethren 1739 *Phil Trans* XLVI 107 Ruinous Heaps and Vestigia nearly effaced by Length of Time

b Const *of*

1644 [H Parker] *Jus Populi* 54 Neither Nature nor History afford us any Vestigia of a Monarchy. 1684 *Trans Acad Archit* II 9 Of which there is to th's day some Vestigia remaining 1722 Wollaston *Relig Nat* v 92 So un ver sally and utterly abolished, that no part no vestigium of them should remain 1769 B Banlbroft *Guiana* 42 It is covered with bark of a light brown colour variegated by the vestigia of the fallen off stamina of the leaves 1777 *Ann Reg* II 200/1 The vestigia of antiquity in a vicinage ought always to have great weight in deter minations of this kind

**† 0** *spec* (See quot 1704) *Obs*

1695 Woodward *Nat Hist Fossils* 22 The same Vestigia of Tendons in each [fossil shell] 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I *s.v.* Vestigia of Tendons, are the little Hollows in the Shells of Fishes, in which are formed on purpose for the fastening or rooting of the Tendons of their Muscles.

**†Ve stigy.** *Obs* [a older *k vestigie*, or ad L *vestigium* Vestige see Y] A vestige or trace

1545 Joye *Exp Dan* I 23 b In that cite yet there remaineth the temple of Neptunus image, or els is there no nother memorial or skant any vestigie thereof *Ibid* x 169 b It behowed not one stone vpon another nor vestigie of the temple to stand as it was before. 1639 Gillespie *Eng Pop Ceremon* III viii 192 The Canon Law it self hath some vestigies of the auncient order 1644 Digby *Nat Bodies* xxxvi § 13, 317 We see how the d ubting the resolving and the like, which we experience in beasts are but vestigies we have traced out, be followed vnto their roote

**† Ve stiment.** *Obs* Forms 3–4 **uestiment,** 4–5 **uestiment,** 4–7, 9 **vesti** ment (5 *St* **westiment**), also *pl* 3 **menz,** 4 **mens,** 4–5 **mentis.** [ Of *vestimentum* (= *Pvestamen*, Sp, and It *vestimento*, Pg *vestimenta*), or ad L *vestimentum* clothes, a garment, etc, f *vestire* to clothe Vest *v* Cf Vestment *sb* ]

L A vestment, esp one worn by an ecclesiastic

Common from *c* 1280 to *c* 1600 freq in pl

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 18 Ne ȝe nout in oure huse of oðer monnes þinges ne nout ne vnder so þe churche uestimenz. *c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 131 þo se nt thomas hadde is masse i songue his chesible he gan of weue Alle is opour uestiemz on him he let be. 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 9337 Curteynes or ouþer vestyment Or any oþer vesselement Þat falleþ to holy cherches seruyse 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V 89 He ordeyned þat mynystres of holy cherche schulde noust were holy vestymentis in þe comyn use of every day *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) I 332 Now been prestes pokes so wide That men must enlarge the vestiment *c* 1450 *Merlin* VI 107 And ther with theirlaien vp, and toke hym by twene their armes and leide hym to the vestyments roall 1543 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1574) L 3 This day the priest hath a redde vestiment and when he synyeth masse of requiem, he hath on a blacke vestiment 1552 Robinson tr *More's Utopia* II (1895) 287 Then prestes, whiles the armes be fighting together knele vpon the r knees in their hallowed vestimentes. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks (Grosart) III 108 Hee crediticd Newgate with the same metamorphized costly vestiment. 1605 Bacon *Adv Learn.* II § 5, 9 Socrates answereth you haue reason, and it becomes you well beeing a man so trimme in your vestimentis. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* II ii. 27 The High Priests Vestiments was linnen Breeches next his flesh 1850 Browning *Christmas Eve* II 74 Mine's the same right with your poorest and sackliest, Supposing I don the marriage vestiment [*prose* 1 estament]

*Comb* 1470–85 *Harl MS St Mary at Hill* 1505/3 107 The Vestyment makere *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B* 10 Stacyoners, vestyment sewers and ymagers

*transf and fig.* 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii 29 All that day she outwore in wandering Till that againe the second euening Her coueted her with sable vestiture t. 1600 E Blount *Horse Subj* 30 Howsoeuer a man may appeare to b maelle more comelie, and full in the vestiments of Vertue. 1655 T Vaughan *Euphrates* 91 With the fire he attracts the Air which is the vestiment or body of the fire 1656 Henlin *Surv France* 51 There we beheld nature in her richest vestiments.

**2** *collect* Clothing, garb, vesture *rare*

1637 G Daniel *Genius of Isle* 25 The Naiades in Azure vest ment, With Haire vnbound the willing Sand shall print

**Vestimental,** *a rare* [f. as prec + al] = next

1849 Rock *Ch of Fathers* I v 495 John of Salisbury in one of his letters to Alexander III reminds that Pontiff of a belt — very likely one of these vestimental ones, which he had deigned to bestow upon him 1908 *Times* 25 Nov 4/2 If they were going into vestimental matters, it would take too long

**Vestimentary** (vestimentări), *a* [f as prec + ary¹] Of or pertaining to, in respect of, clothes or dress, vestiary

Freq in journalistic use

1862 in *Sat Rev* 1 Feb 134/1 The vestimentary sufferings as he has been exposed to in the changi g course of fashion. 1890 *Spectator* 10 Mar, An American dentist's wife was not quite the person to i augurate a vestimentary revolution

**Vestin,** obs Sc. form of Westen *a*

**Ve sting,** *sb* [f. Vest *sb* 3 b] Cloth or material for making vests or waistcoats Usually in pl

1828 Webster *Vesting* cloth for vests, vest patterns. *United States* 1851 *Catal Gt Exhib* III 1056/1 Chinese pr nts for vestings. *Ibid*, Ang ra velvet plushes for vest ings. *Daily Telegr* 6 Sept. Advt, Damasks, Vest ings, Piques, Twills 1892 *Daily News* 5 Dec, 2/4 The Berli vesting is still much liked, as it is produced in such pleasing combinations of colour

**Ve sting,** *vbl sb* [f Vest *v* + ing¹]

1 The action or fact of investing, confirming, or establishing, esp by le al process

1596 Bacon *Max. Com Law ix* (1630) 42 But that holdeth place onely vpon the first vesting of the ves 1621 Cotta *Tri ton* 1 *vesting*, sesing or putting into possesion of 1638 Cudworth *Intell Syst* 798 This Chri tian Resur rection of life is the Vesting and Setting of the Souls of Good men in their Immortal Bodies 1729 Jacob *Lone Dict s.v Remainder* The Vesti g of the Estate in the Crown, during the Life of the Father 1826 G Bell *Conveyancing* (ed 3) II 60 Of some Points in the Vesti g of Estates in Trust Judicial or Voluntary 1827 Jarman *Devises* II 217 The Court held that the adverbs of time whereby the Testator made any thing consist to precede the settling (i e the vesting) of the remainder 1880 Muirhead *Ulpian* xxiv § 23 It is requisite that when the time of vesting arrives, the legatee shall be no longer in the heir's *potestas*

*attrib* 1700 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) IV 631 Yesterday the lords went thro most part of the land tax and Irish forfeiture bill postponed the first clause, called the vesting clause.

**2** The action or process of putting on, or investing with, vestments. Also *attrib*

1548 W Patten *Expedic for Scotlde* 9 To hander his Lordsh pa Vesting *c* 1660 Jer Taylor *Serm* Wks 1831: IV 144 That observation of St Jerome made concerning the vesting of the priests in the Levitical ministrations. 1859 Simmons *Lay Folks Mass bk* 264 The sul sequent directions prove that this vesting was not at the altar 1905 *Times* 27 Sept. s/a Liturgical vestments are worn and the vesting prayers said in the Church of Rome

**† Ve stite,** *v Obs rare* [f L *vestit*, ppl stem of *vestire* to Vest] *trans* To cover or clothe as with a garment

1597 A M *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 40 b/1 [To] vestite the bodie of the Infantes comes ve ry hard. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 372 Cirrhus vestited with a thin cortex

**Vestiture** (ve stitiuə) [ad med L *vestitura*, f L *vestire* to Vest Cf. Investiture]

1 Investiture of a person in an office or *with* power etc, = Investiture 2 and 3 *rare*

1587 Fleming *Higden* (Rolls) VII 419 He resigned to God and to saint Peter þe vestiture of prelates þat was I doo by seculer hondes 1861 J A Alexander *Gosp Jesus Christ* xxxix 581 A proof of man s original formation in God i image and his original vestiture with delegated power as God s vicegerent.

**2** *concr* That which clothes or covers **†a.** = Vesture *sb* 2 *Obs rare*

In quots. translating L *vestitura* in documents of the second half of the 13th c

*c* 1460 *Oseney Reg* (1913) 150 Þe saide Abbot and oþer lordes aforenamed haue I suffrid þat þe saide John the vestiture (or grasse) of þe same tenithe þe which abode in þis 3ere alone may gadur & haue. *Ibid* 156 Þe vestiture of þe saide In hoke

**b** Clothes, clothing, vesture Also *transf* and *fig*

The first quotation is the source of the inexact definition given by Worcester (1846) and some later Dictionaries

1820 R. Paul *Tautology* (1827) 472 Under the head of Vestiture, we include all those arts which relate immediately to the manufacture of cloth, and preparation of cloth ing 1823 Kane *Grimwell Ess* 21 (1826) 366, I claim to be the first who has reduced all vestiture to a primitive form 1898 — *Arct Eskd* II 1. 23 A pair of bear skin breeches, the characteristic and national vestiture of this strange people 1877 *Tinsley's Mag* XX 532/1 It is night in the streets of a fair Italian city, and the lovely queen of light is arraying in snowy vestiture the tall shafts and broad walls of marble that rise here and there 1879 J Hawthorne *School Strome* II 21 177 Many have felt herself pointedly unequal to introducing her ungainly nerves under a graceful vestiture of words

Hence **† Ve stitured** *a Obs* =

1625 Lockharan tr *Vestiebrand* (printed *steel*), apparelled

**Ve stless,** *a* [f Vest *sb*] Having no vest, lacking a vest

1888 *Daily News* 28 Sept 5/3 The plucky clergyman pursued the vestless burglar 1891 *Ibid* 29 April 7/1 Bodices are often vestless now

**Ve stlet** *Zool* [f Vest *v*] A sea anemone of the genus *Cerianthus*, which is invested with a tube like stem

1860 Gosse *Actinologia Br t* 168 The Vestlet, *Cerianthus Lloydii Ibid* 172 The Vestlet feeds freely in captivity

**Vestment** (ve stmẽnt) Forms *α* **vestement,** 4–6 **westement**(e, 4–6 **vestement** (6 **festement**) *β* 5–6 **westment,** 5 **vestmente,** 5– **vestment** (7 **vest'ment**) [a AF and OF. *vestement* (mod F *vêtement*), ad L *vestimentum* see Vestiment ]

**1** A garment or article of clothing, esp one of the nature of a robe or gown, freq an outer garment of this kind worn by a king or official either ordinarily or upon some ceremonial occasion. Also *collect*, clothing, dress, vesture

Now somewhat *rare or rhet*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 3702 Þe cedor o þi uestement It smelles als o pument. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr s T* 51 This Kambyn skan In rail vestement syt on hys deys 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iv v (1883) 176 He is bounden to deffende and kepe them that make his vestementis & couerturis agayn vnto his body 1489 — *Feytes of A* iv xvii 280 The scripture saith that the vestement of Ih[es]u Crist dide seme to his apostles white as snowe 1535 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 374 The heraulds with thair awfull westmentis. 1590 Shake *Com Err* II ii. 94 Doe their gay vestments his affections baites? 1655 T Gage *West Ind Voy Ahuas* 288 The five principal Persons of the Ret nue had each of them a satin Vestment and another of Taffata. 1718 Pitcairn *Solon* 20 1 99 A furer Red stands blushing in the Rose, Thus that which on the Bridegroom's Vestment flows. 1764 Harmer *Observ* VI § 23 280 Presents of vestments are frequently made in the countries to the great and those that are in power 1771 Smollett *Humph Clink Vestries Anecd. Fam* IV 2 The sl ghtness of their vestment and the lankness of their hair 1790 Cowper *Odyss* VI 313 Her charge Of bridal vestments neat if the Princess placed Within the royal wain 1826 Lamb *Elia* II *Wedding* She stood at the altar in vestments white and candid as her thoughts 1836 Kane *Arct Explor* I xxiii 382 Their clothes saturated with the freezing water of the floes, these iron men did not strip themselves naked a d hang up their vestments in the stove 1842 *Hillhouse Syst Med* VIII 497 Remembering to warn [the patient] against heated rooms, stewing in bed and any po-sible irritation by vestments.

**2** A garment worn by a priest or ecclesiastic on the occasion of some service or ceremony, a priestly robe † In early use also *collect*, a set of vestments

13 *K Alis* 1560 Laud MS] Þe Bishop dude hym on a vestement, And made To jubiter sacrifise. *c* 1485 Wyntoun *Cron* v 1898 Hest as Duke of Jupiter] tuggit he vpe his teythe in taggis His westin ent rewyn al in raggis *c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) III 2183 To my awter I wyll me dresse] On sall my vestment and my ma ment 1560 Bible (Geneva) 2 *Kings* x 22 Bring forthe vestements for all the seruants of Baal And he brought them out vestements 1598 J Howson *Serm at May* 35 Thinkest thou, Antichrist, had bought by chaunce son e holy vestement and abused it publickly in the open theater 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* III xxxvi 228 The High Priests put on the holy vestments, and enquired of the Lord [etc] 1737 Whiston tr *Josephus, Antiq* II vii § 2 Over this he [the priest] wore a linen vestment made of fine flax doubled *Ibid*, This vestment reaches down to the feet and sits close to the body 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* II 659 The surplice a vestment of the Pagan Priests, introduced into churches. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* V v (1864) 371 A long vestment of fine cotton, wild and blood stained vestmer ts were to be seen 1868 Marriott *Vest Chr* Introd p v The attempt to trace out in detail a correspondence between the vestments of the Jewish high priest, and those of Christian ministry

**b** An article of attire worn by the clergy of various branches of the Christian church, or by certain of their assistants, during divine service or on some special occasion, *spec* one or other of those worn by the priest or priests at the celebration of the Eucharist, esp the chasuble

In early use perh sometimes (like med L *vestimentum*) employed in the collective sense of 'a set of vestments'

*a* 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 6763 3yf prest or clerk lene vestement Þat halwed is, longeþ nozt to pacmanes longe *Ayenb* 41 Pe crouchen, þe callces, be creyme þe corporesus, þe yblissede uestemens. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* xxii in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) I 312 They hallow no thing but for hire, Church, ne font, ne vestement. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 140 Thys was þe fyrst man þat euer song masse yn vestementys, as prestes now doþe 1493-4 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 199 Payd to maistyr parson for halowyng of the vestementes, xij d. 1549 *Bk Com Prayer, Holy Communion*, The Priest shall put upon him a white Albe plain, with a vestement or Cope. 1566 in Peacock *Eng Ch. Furniture*

(1866) 25 Item 13 vestements—sold to Christopher Bandwine in anno 1565 who hathe put them to prophane vse.

*b* c1440 *Promp Parv* 509/1 Vestment ; *vestimentum*. c1465 Pastepaul *Abr & Linn Mon* vii (1885) 125 Often tymes he [the k ng] wolf bie riche hangynges and other apparell for his howses; vestaill vestmentes a d oiher or a mentes for his chapell ... 1509 *Will in Archæologia* LXVI 312 A payre of Vestimentes of Whit clothe of gold of Tissue. 1532 *Test Eber* (Surtees) VI 23 Item I will that a vest ment be made of my damaske gowne. 1580 Parsons in *Relig Pamphlets* (1849) 166 For this Sacrifice was Prestes apparell made Vestments, Sensors, Frankensence and the lyke. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xi xiv, In costly vestments sacred William digbt With fear and trembling to his altar went 1689 A. Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* i 82, I shall not here spend time in describing their way of celebrating Mass, nor shall I speak of their Sacerdotal Vestments. 1788 In J H Harting *Hist Sardon Chapel* (1905) 25 Priest s vest ment two dalmatics to correspond with maniples and stoles [etc.] 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvi Your years, old man, and those sacred vestments protect you 1816 Scott *Antiq* xxv Another churchman in his vestments bore a holy water sprinkler. 1867 Tolton *Chron Barrie* I xlix 59 He had kept h s surplice in his own room and had gone down in his vestment 1881 A O Shaughnessy *Christ wold Reform Songs of Labour* Sacerdotal Vestments, 1788 In the glory Of vestments rich, are Joseph s working coat And Mary s rags?

3 *transf* and *fig* Something which covers as a garment, a covering

1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 118/2 Ryght so the majesta of god hydde the lyght of hys dyuynyte by a carnal vestament whyche he toke of our nature humayne. 1620 Quarles *Jonah* 1300 Their nakedneſs he seeckleth let them hide And mue the vest ments of their silken pride 1660 Shar rock *Vegetables* 40 The verdure that is generally the beauteous vestment of all vegetables 1665 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 146 This hidden spirit putting on new shapes according to the mineral vestment wherewith he is cloathed 1733 Hogarth *Rake's Progress* 84 Green ... which colour nature hath chosen for the vestment of the earth 1836 Emerson *Nature Lang* Wks. (Bohn) II 152 A material image arises in the mind, contemporaneous with every thg ght, which fu nishes the vestment of the thought 1844 W A Butler *Serm* Ser 1 x (1849) 172 His per petuated humanity is, then in heaven, the vestment of the divine priesthood

4 *Comb* in **vestment maker**

Freq in 15th and early 16th c. accounts.

1429 *Close Roll 6 Hen V* h, Johannes Est, vestment makere 1477–9 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 80 Item, paid to a vestment maker for the mendyng of the Blak Copes. 1530 Palsgr 189/2 Vestmentmaker, *chasublier* 1537–8 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 378 Paid to a vestment maker for xxvij dayes labour

**Ve stment** 2, *rare*—1 [f Vest *v* Cf Invest ment ] A right or privilege with which a person or body is invested or endowed

1796 J Phillips *Hist Inland Nav* Add 249 It is an acted that they be one body politic and corporate by the name of The Company of Proprietors of the Mersey and Ir well Navigation , with all customary powers, privileges, &c.

**Ve stmental,** *a rare*—1 [f Vestment 1 + al Cf Vestimental *a* ] Vestimentary

1849 Rock *Ch of Fathers* II vi 249 Amongst the few episcopal ornaments still to be found in England is one of the cal gan or vestmental socket of Bishop Wandlete s

**Ve stmented,** *a* [f as prec.] *a* Of per sons Dressed or robed in vestments *b* Of a service Celebrated or conducted in vestments

1859 Sala *Twice round Clock* (1861) 338 The black vest mented groom of the chambers. 1867 *1st Rep Commrs Ancient Publ Worship* 48/1 From your changing the service from the high choral to the vestmented service 1875 Miss Muloch *Fair France* 142 There came filing in a line of priests richly vestmented

**Vestni,** southern ME var Fasten *v* **Vestorie,** obs. f Vestry 1 **Vestour,** var. Vouster, boxster *Sc.* **Vestoure,** obs. form of Vesture.

**Vestoy,** var Vestete *v Obs*

**Vestral, Vestrical, Vestrification,** etc see after Vestry 1

**Vestry** 1 (vɛ·stri). Forms 4, 6 **westre,** 6 **vestee,** 5 **vestrel,** 5 6 **vestrye,** 6–7 **vestrie** (6 **vestorie,** 7 **vestrey**), 5– **vestry** [Prob a AF **vestl(e)rie*, f Vest *v* + (e)ry, substituted for OF *vestiarie, vestsaure* see Vestiary Cf Revestry ]

1 A room or part of a church, usually situated in close proximity to the chancel or choir, in which the vestments, vessels, records, etc , are kept, and in which the clergy and choir robe for divine service , a room used for other purposes in connexion with any church, chapel, or place of worship

The vestry of parish churches is also used as a place of meeting for the transaction of certain parochial business (see 2)

1388 in *Archæologia* LI 223 The awter w^t in the said westre, 24 in W. Wilcker Eilg *v Feldholme* 4 vestrye, *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 509/2 Vestrye *vestiarium*. 1496–7 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 225 For coles to brenne in the vestrye 1526–7 *Ibid* 305 For makyng of ij keyes for the tresory chest in the vestry vid 1540–1 in *Archæologia* XIX 272 On the South Syde of the same Churche ys the Vestrye well covered with tyle 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees, 1903) 8 When the monkes went to any or singe the high masse they put on theire vestments in the Vestrye 1607 Morton *Il n* 1 170 In the Vestrie is the bodies of nine kings in coffins of wood 1628 N O. *Bolleau s Lutrin* II 25 With equal pace the Temples Nave they measure ! Into the Vestry came Here lies the Treasure ! 1658 T Fuller *Pisg* 111 The Jesuits are very potent there. Their Vestry is one of the most magnificent that ever was seen. 1756–7 *Keysler s Trav* (1760) III 73 Formerly, in the Tribuna hung a large picture of St. Joseph but this is removed into the vestry 1796 Mrs. D Arblay *Camilla* I 303 They sauntered about the church while the Doctor retired to the vestry to take off his gown. 1798 Southey *Surgeon s Warning* xxiii, Three men in the vestry watch To save him if they can 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxvii, The ceremony was performed in the parish church, and Mr Pickwick s name is attached to the register still preserved in the vestry thereof 1864 A McKay *Hist Kilmar nock* 5 The church consists of a nave, with organ gallery a chancel and a vestry. 1873 Hale *In His Name* viii 73 So that this rough Garment to deceive we bring ye once again Grave Sirs into your own Vestry 1847 Emerson *Repr Men Swedenborg* Wks (Bohn) I 324 The worshipper escaping from the vestry of verbs and texts, is surprised to find himself a party to the whole of his religion.

b A similar room or part in a temple or other non Christian place of worship

1535 Coverdale s *Kings* x 22 Then sayde he vnto him that had the vestry of the vestre sprynge forth rayment for all Baals mynisters. 1584 B R tr *Herodotus* I 57 In this sacred house or vestry no image is erected. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Exod* xiii 29 They shal put of from them their vestiments and shal lay them up in the vestrie of the sanctuarie 1641 Milton *Reform* i Wks 1851 III 2 In Palls and Miters and golden vaies s fetcht from Arons old wardrope or the Flamins vestry

c A place or room where clothes († or valu ables) are kept, a robing room, cloak room, † a treasure house or chamber Now *rare*

1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam Ep* (1577) 263 Also they make report of your Ladysh p here that you entred the vestor e or treasure house of Toledo to fetche the plate that was there. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxv 35 For all that the holy money which they found they bestowed againe in the privie vestries where the treasure was kept. 1613 J Gowsh *How and Beasts* (1634) 84 By his Scene in this place I vnder stand the partition betweene the players vestry and the stage or scaffold 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr* II (1900) 192 Then said the Interpreter again to the Damsel that waited upon these Women Go into the Vestry and fetch out Garments for these People. 1891 G Gissing *New Grub Street* I 198 Where are your out-of door things? I think there is a ladies vestry somewhere un t there!

2 In English parishes An assembly or meeting of the parishioners or a certain number of these, held usually in the vestry of the parish church, for the purpose of deliberating or legislating upon the affairs of the parish or upon certain temporal matters connected with the church (see next)

Also with specific qualifications:

(*a*) 1589 R. Harvey *Pl Perc* (1590) 24 This worke being finished and red over and over by the head of the parish they called the Vestrie 1640 *Canons of Archbp of Canty* xxiv (1685) 195 William Peiche notatur for keeping a private vestry in Rookit s hall on Easter Munday in tyme of divine service. 1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp on Relig* 29 The Parish Minister to hold weekly Vestries 1730 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Nov 1692 There was a Vestry call d about repairing or new building of the Church. 1762 Foote *Orator* Wks 1799 I 194 I d speechify a vestry to some purpose. 1885 *Suppl Brit* XVIII 396/2 Common vestries are meet ings of all the ratepayers, assembled on a three days notice (*b*) 1589 Wing *Ann Steeple Aston* (1872) 6 It was agreed at vestry to sow Sandhill *turnoops* this next year 1845 Stephen *Comm Laws Eng* (1874) I 220 The affairs of a parish are managed in vestry which is properly speaking an assembly of the minister churchwardens and parishioners. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I iii, He himself had gone burds nesting with the farmers whom he met at vestry

b The body of parishioners meeting in this way and constituting a parochial board or council of management

This body had formerly the administration and management of the whole of the business affairs of the parish ; but now its authority is almost entirely restricted to certain temporal matters connected with the parish church, its former powers being invested in the Parish or District Council

a 1652 M Wren in Cutch *Coll Car* I 229 It was very difficult to find a man who followed the persuasion of Calvin who had not also strong propensions to the Elder ship and Vestry a1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Apr 1662 Being of the Vestry We order d that the Communion Table should be set as usual altar wise. 1708 Swift *Reply to Bickerstaff detected* S 2 Wks. 1755 II 1 167 If I had not used my utmost endeavours in the vestry 1768 Entick *London* IV 45 The vestry is select pursuant to the will of William Tudman who hoping thereby to prevent the in conveniences which usually arise from a general vestry [etc.]. 1792 Young *Trans, France* 249 The first attempts towards a democracy in England would be the common people demanding an admission and voice in the vestries. 1820 Southey *Wesley* I 402 As the vestry would not be persuaded to erect a gallery he built one at his own ex pense. 1822 Besant *Revolt of Man* iv (1883) 78 The Lower House had degenerated into something nearer than a vestry 1882 *Encycl. Brit* XIV 820/1 The vestries and district boards are entrusted with the management of local sewers, the lighting, paving, and cleaning of their own thoroughfares, and the removal of nuisances.

c Any similar body elected by members of the congregation of a church and invested with the conduct of its business affairs , a meeting of such body 1892 *Cent. Dict.*

† 3 Clothing or vesture Also *fig Obs rare*

1606 J Welbie in *Sel Biog* (Wodrow Soc.) I 20 She shall be arrayed with the golden vestry and needlework of his manifold graces. 1616 B Jonson *Masques, Love freed fr Ignorance*, One o the Black guard had his hand in my vestire.

4. *attrib* and *Comb* a. In sense 1, as *vestry door, fire, keeper, window*, etc.

1477–9 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 81 A key to the vestry dore hende. 1530 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 200 The largienge of the vestrie dore. 1611 Cotgr , *Sacristain* a Sexton or Vestrie keeper in a Church. 1670 G H *Hist Cardinals* I iii 238 To fry and oblig d to give to the Popes Vestry keeper five and twenty Ducats. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vestry Keeper* a Sexton whose Business is to look after the Vestry 1722 tr *Life Lady Guion* II 5 I had taken the office of Sacristan (or Vestry Nun) and the care of waki g the Sisters at the hour they were to rise 1844 D Cresse *Mart Ch* x xxxi I have left the vestry window unfastened 1855 — *Florist* xiv Having stirred the Vestry fire he looked round the shelves of registers.

b In sense 2, as *vestry assessment, brother, -business, -consult* (= consultation) *meeting*, etc

1632 T Powell *Tom All Trades* (1876) 239 Like a Reuer end Vestry wit 1682 N O *Bp Iean's Lutrin* I. 224 Him time prefere d From poor Church warden to a Vestry brother a 1683 Oldham (1987) *Poems* (1686) 194 A Vestry Consults wi en he does appear For choosing of some Parish Officer 1732 *Gentl Mag* I 159 In the Parish where I serve the Vestry is compos d of 61 of my neighbours besides the Rector and two Vestry Justices of the Peace a 1734 North *Exam* II v § 94 (1740) 374 No more of Plot than a Vestry Meeting to settle their Rates. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII 509 An imperial sovereign summoned to settle a petty vestry squabble ! 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will IV* c. 37 § 53 Such Ex pences as have been hitherto defrayed by Vestry Assess ment in Ireland. 1888 W Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II 206, I don t see why they should not keep out of the vestry business.

c Special Combs. **vestry book,** (*a*) a book in which the proceedings of a parochial vestry are recorded , (*b*) a book kept in a vestry in which the births, marriages, and deaths of the parishioners are registered **vestry cess,** in Ireland, a church rate or tax levied by a vestry, **vestry clerk** the clerk of a parochial vestry, **vestry tax,** = *vestry cess*

1573–4 *Ir Acts* 13 & 14 *Geo III* c. 10 § 4 The said election or nomination sl all be entered in the *vestry book of every parish union or chapelry 1760 Sir W Scott in J Haggard *Eccl Consist Cert London* (1822) I 134 It would appears for Anthony and the vestry book which must be taken to be the authentic book makes no mention of him, I cannot look on him as elected 1896 Lyon *Hertford Corr M* lxv I was sent for to the Castle to give a private opinion on a *vestry meeting that I would bring the vestry book along with me for the registration 1912 A Gordon in *Trans Bristol Soc* IX. 02 A modern *vestry minute in the church wardens vestry book at Cheltenham 1864 *Act* 27 & 28 *Vict* c 17 § 1 It is exped ent to abolish *Vestry Cess in Ireland 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) *Vestry Clerk* a Scrivener t at keeps the Parish Accounts. 1763 Burn *Eccl. Laws* II 478 The vestry clerk is chosen by the ve try 1836 Jackson *Nh Box Over Parish* 18 The *vestry clerk is an attorney and generally in a bustle 1807-8 Syd. Smith *Plymley s Lett* Wks. 1859 II 170/1 I request to know if the *vestry taxes i Ireland are a mere mat er of romantic feeling!

Hence in various terms, chiefly in nonce use, with reference to sense 2 **Ve stral** *a.*, of or pertaining to a vestry or vestries **Ve stralisa·tion,** admin istration by means of **vestries. Ve strical** *a.*, = *vestral* **Ve strifica·tion,** the action of vestrify ing **Ve strified** (*-fɑid*) *a.*, governed by a vestry **Ve strify** *v trans.*, to transform into a vestry, cause to resemble, a vestry in character or function **Ve s·trydom,** the system of local government by a vestry or vestries , parochial vestries collectively hence, the parochial narrowmindedness or selfish spirit regarded as characteristic of vestries. **Ve stryhood,** = prec. **Ve stryish** *a*, affected with or charac terized by the spirit of vestrydom **Ve strymen,** vestrydom **Ve strytise** *v trans*, *vestrify*

1884 *Contemp Rev* June 800 The Irish brigade administe red by the *vestral authorities. *Ibid.* 805 The disadvan tages of disunity under the vestral administration 1886 *Times* 13 Mar 5/1 The vestrification scheme. 1881 *Daily News* 31 Jan 5 The magistrate discovered on Saturday an instance of *vestrical rapiscence which [etc.]. 1884 *Ibid.* 31 Dec 5/4 The *vestrification of Parliament. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz* 4 Feb 144/1 We can hardly expect a coalition ary *vestrified general reading Englishman to understand the intensity of passion [etc.]. 1884 Chaplin in *Daily News* 5 Dec 3/1 If he might call it general effect would be to *vestrify the House of Commons. 1880 *Temple Bar Mag* I 80 It was the defeat of beadledom and *ves try dom. 1884 *Christ Ch Times* 21 May 406 The organi tion raised by a stolid vestry dom to a more rational sy stem of local self government. 1871 *Contemp Rev* XVI 374 *Vestryhood had for generations flourished as a calling 1882 *Society* 16 Dec 10/2 The public instinct recognises something petty and *vestryish about the Board. 1861 *Illustr Lond News* 23 Feb. 168 2 The House displayed a greater tendency to what may be called *vestrymen than ever 1870 W R Greg *Felix Problems* 226 To deal systematically and thoroughly with the grant evil of pauper ism would bring those who undertook it face to face with the vast opposing army of vestryism. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI 235 How many disappointed competitors for that honour will submit to be *vestryised

**Vestry** 2, *Mining* [Of uncertain origin ] The refuse or rubbish of a mine

1694 (MS.), Rubbish and vestry from a lead mine. 1830 *Eng & For Mining Glass* (Newcastle), *Vestry*, refuse.

**Ve stryman.** Also **vestry man, vestry man** [f VESTRY 1 2] A member of a parochial vestry.

1614 in W H Hale *Prec Causes Office* (1841) 30 So many of the vestrie men as shall meet there for the makeing of a rate 1642 SANCTAMANDE *Vind Answ* Pref 2 iij b. Indeede hee saith that these were but as our Church wardens, or Vestry men 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 26 These Linsie-Woolsie Vestry men 1702 *Maryland Laws* (1723) 1 Two New Vestrymen shall be annually chosen in the Places of Two others *a* 1721 PRIOR *True Statesman* 38 If thou ever hast a voice To be not only in the Choice Of Vestry Men or grey Coat Boys. 1849 C. O. ADDISON *Law of Contracts* xv § 3. 301 Vestrymen, in vestry assembled, may, like any other persons, exceed their duties as vestry men. 1873 B HARTE *Pliocene* 37 She was roused by a formal vote from a vestryman

Hence **Ve strymanly** *a*, befitting a vestryman, **Ve strymanship**, the position of a vestryman

1882 *Pall Mall G* 13 Jan 1/1 That may be vestrymanly, but it is hardly gentlemanly 1879 BSCOTT *England* I 123 The mere fact of a parochial office being the coveted prize of a political competition raises its duties above the level of vestrymanship

**Vestry-room.** Also **vestry room** [f VESTRY 1] The vestry of a church, the room in which a parochial vestry assembles

1570 *Lond Gaz.* No. 4721/4 The Vestry Room of the Parish Church of Lamb's Conduit Street 1745 VIDAL *Abridgm Law & Equity* XXI 549 His proper Remedy for the Injury do is by the Defendant, by hindring him to come into the Vestry 1810 W WARD *Hist Dissent Ch* III 224 He opened a day school in the vestry room of his meeting 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXII 227/1 It compre hends a nave and aisles, now used as a vestry-room. 1891 S MORTON *Cornish* 136 I thought I should have seen you in the vestry room

*attrib* 1858 DICKENS *O Trust* v The clerk who was sitting by the vestry room fire.

**Vestschipe** see I ANTHSHIP *Obs*

**Ve stuary.** Now *arch* [ad OF *vestuaire* (= Pr and Cat *vestuari*, Sp. and Pg *vestuario*), or med L *vestuarium*, f *vestura* VESTURE *sb* Cf VESTIARY *sb*] A vestiry or vestry, a wardrobe Also *transf*

*c* 1490 CAXTON *Rule St Benet* 136 Whan in be chirche he shall doo of his seculer arraye and be cladde with the habite of the place those [clothes] that he puttyth off shall be kept in the vestuary 1611 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1/1 Some small bones wrapped up in fine silke of fresh colour, which the Abbot tooke for the reliques of some Saints, and laud uppe in his Vestuary 1612 TRENCH *Serm Westm Abb* xxxii. 368 The trappings of men s outward existence must be laid aside in the vestuary of the grave.

**† Ve sturage.** *Obs* —[1] [f VESTURE *sb.* + -AGE] An allowance for vesture or clothing

1679 F CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres St Eng* II (ed 2) 269 Note that out of the Sergeants afore mentioned, the King by Writ usually calls some to be of his Council at Law allowing each one Wadage Fee-dogg, Vesturage and Regardage.

**Vestural** (ve stiūrăl), *a* [f as prec + -AL] Of or pertaining to vesture or clothing, vestiary

1831 CARLYLE *Sart Res* I 1 How then, comes it that the grand 'issue of all Tissues should have been quite overlooked by Science — vestural Tissue, namely, of woollen or other cloth? 1883 *Times* 13 Nov 9/3 Vestural adornments less suited to military purposes than to a masquerade. 1891 MISS BROUGHTON *Girl in Autp* II 15 The vestural advantages are what I grudge a man sole possession of

**Vesture** (ve stiūr), *sb* Also 5 **vestoure, wester** (9 *dial* **vester**), 6–7 **vestur** [a AF and OF *veiture* (mod F *vêture*), f *vestir* VEST *v* Cf med L. and It *vestura*]

I. 1 That with which a person is clothed or dressed. a. With *a* or pl An article of apparel or clothing, a garment or vestment

13 *E. K Alisaunder* P. B. 1288 Wyth alle be coyntyse bat he [i. e. Solomon] hadde, he made hem be vesselment be vesseliment be vestures cleene. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H Fame* III 235 Alle and euery man Of hem Had on him thrown a vesture, Wh che that men clepen a cote armure. *a* 1400-30 *Alexander* 3130 (Dublin) And sithen be cassis on a Cape of kastand hewes, A vestoure to vise on of violet floures. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII 558 Fyre was put to the vestures of the Kynges chamber. *c* 1550 *Disc Commun Weal Eng* II (1893) 75 I haue beardes vestures weare made only of gold then. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 113 A certeyne Kynge made towarde the warre apparelled with vestures of gold sampine cotton 1612 BIBLE *Gen* xli 42 Pharaoh arayed him in vestures of fine linnen 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp Hosea* xi (1650) 344 In anathematizes all those that shall judge one vesture one garment more holy then another 1827 G HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 214 Clothed with never fading vestures 1898 MRS BRADLEY *Our Lady's* 332 The white ing *white* Of choral vestures. 1871 LONGF *Wayside Inn* II. *Lay Beautiful* 17 And he saw the Blessed Vision Of our Lord, with light Elysian Like a vesture wrapped about him.

b *collect* Apparel, clothing, garb, raiment

*c* 1385 CHAUCER *L G W* 2650 (*Hypermenestra*), I am a mayde, And be my semblant, and by my vesture Myn handes ben nat shapen for a knyfe 1393 LANGL. *P Pl* C II 23 Aren non nedfull bote bo bre[thurgh]. The first of be vs fode, and vesture be seconnde 1432–50 tr *Higden* Rolls V 347 A knyghte clothede also with regalle vesture as if he hadde bene the kynge. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 235 Lete nat the pouer Comyns be dysguised Nee haue precious clothe in theire Vesture. 1529 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I ccxx 283 The kyng of Cypre hoped them to compleyne the deths of the kyng and clothed hymselfe with the vesture of doloure. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps* xxi 18 They bane parted my garmentes amonge them, and cast lottes vpon my vesture *a* 1548 HALL *Chron, Hen. IV*, 23 They adorned Magdalene in roiall and princely vesture. 1602 SHAKS. *Ful C* III ii 200 Kinde Soules, what weepe you, when you but behold Our Cæsars Vesture wounded? 1670 MILTON *Hist Eng* III Wks. 1851 V 139 The Abbots Coop, which he had thrown over them thinking by the reverence of his vesture to have withheld the murderer 1790 COWPER *Except Mother's Pict* 75 Could time restore the hours When playing with thy vesture s tissued flowers, I prick d them into paper with a pin 1813 SCOTT *Tyrem*, III xxxv, Her graceful vesture swept the ground 1835 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xiii III 501 Queen swapped themselves up in bulls hides, and awaited in that vesture, the inspiration which was to reveal the future. 1856 MRS BROWNING *Aur Leigh* 1. 887 The rustling of your vesture through my dreams.

*attrib* a 1743 SAVAGE *Progr Divine* Wks. 1775 II 119 To tear off rings, To part em, for the vesture shroud cast lots.

c *transf* and *fig* (Freq in the 19th c)

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 8 For there all shall be clothed with the vesture of immortalite & garment of glory 1575–80 ANT SAMUEL *Sermon* (Harker Soc.) 108 To cloth ourselves with the comely vesture of innocency 1620 MARSTON *Ant & Mel* II Wks 1856 I 26 Would st thou have us sluts, and never shift the vesture of our thoughts? 1653 J HALL *Paradoxes* 76 The strongest and most hand some Animalls are satisfied in their owne naturall Vestures 1727 DYER *Grongar Hill* 99 Thus in nature's vesture wrought, 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 271 The moon through all the dreary vapour spreads The radiant vesture of her silver light 1768 JOHNSON in *Johnsoniana* (1836) 438 When a man writes, he makes use of such ideas, as must necessarily have a suit able vesture for them 1860 STANLEY *Jew Ch.* I xii (1877) 223 The golden clusters of the Syrian vine, so beautiful a vesture of the bare hills of Palestine. 1867 H MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iii (1870) 45 Nature as a whole was meant to be for man the vesture of the spiritual world

d. *Comb* (See VEST, VESTI-)

1755 *Gent Mag* XXV 32 *vesture*, the Inner covering of a shell that first appears upon removing the epidermis.

2 *Law* All that grows upon or covers the land, with the exception of trees, one or other of the products of land, such as grass or corn

1455 *Rolls of Parlt* V 320/1, 21 acres of Wode and the Vesture of the same in my forest. 1467–8 *Ibid* V 575/2 The vesture of Grasse and Cornes therof 1593 FITZ HERBERT *Surv* 25 Vesture is required of pasture bows many acres ar conteyned in them, and for how moche the vesture of e iery acre may be sold 1620 CALLIS *Stat Sewers* (1647) 110 In which both the Vesture or Herbage of grounds may be el arged to the repairs 1630 CAPT SMITH *Advt Planters* 25 The best [ground] is ever knowne by the great nesse of the trees and the vesture it beareth. 1708 BLACK STONE *Com* III 210 It is requisite that the grantor have a lease and possession of the vesture and herbage of the land 1827 W SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed 4) II 1215 Where pits sink in the vesture of land and the trees, grass, underwood and the like. 1869 *Austin's Jurispr* (ed 3) III 881 In England law it has been held that one person may have a freehold in the soil and another in the vesture 1882 *Law Times Rep* LII 572/2 Certain hay straw, and other vestures which have arisen on the said farm

II. +3 The investiture of a person as a novice in a religious order *Obs* —[1]

1639 S DU VERGER tr *Camus' Admir Events* 184 The two youngest designated to the monastery, were yet farr from the age not only of profession but of vesture

† 4. = *Vesting* [spot and INVESTITURE] *Obs* —[2]

1607 COWELL *Interpr*, *Vesture*, in the vse of our common lawe, [is] turned metaphorically to betoken a possession, or an admittance to a possession

Hence **Ve sturer** = *transf*, to array in a vesture or vestments *rare*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 309 That he shuld bee honor ably receaued and vestured with silke.

**Ve stured,** *ppl a* [f prec] Clothed or dressed in vesture, wearing vesture. Also *transf* Chiefly *rare*. Primitive use and const *with of* or *in*

1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I ccclxxxi. 640 They ar clothed in velvet and we be vestured with pore clothe *c* 1530 — *Arth Lyt Brytt* (1814) 256 She was vestured with a samyte of green. 1818 KEATS *Endymion* IV 1 *New Spirit To-day* III 319 When I contrast my naked ignorance, With that rich-crown d, that flowing vestured knowledge. 1880 *Nature* XXI 14 Apr 1/1 We have been filled richly vestured with the spoils of the bottom 1893 R H CHARLES *Bk Enoch* 129 They will be vestured with life.

**Ve sturer.** [f VESTURE *sb* + -ER. Cf VESTRER.] (See quot 1877.)

1779 G. LEIGH *Sketches fr Vat* (ed 2) 1 20 The vesturer conducted us thro this great repository of the dead 1877 F G LEE *Glass Eccl & Liturg. Terms* 437 *Vesturer* 1 A sacristan. 2 A keeper of the vestry

A sub treasurer of a collegiate church or cathedral 1898 *Guardian* 31 Aug 1313 The site [of the depository of the Easter sepulchre] has recently been localised by the worthy b p vesturer

**Vestynge,** obs form of FASTING *vbl sb*

**Vesuvian** (vĭsū vĭăn), *a* and *sb* [f *Vesuvius*, the name of the active volcano on the Bay of Naples in Italy Cf G *vesuvian*, F *vésuvien*]

A *adj* Of or pertaining to Vesuvius, esp (*a*) like or resembling Vesuvius, or that of Vesuvius, in volcanic violence or power

(*a*) 1662 J. CHANDLER *Cautrop Acad.* 11 The fury of this smoaking rage being abated, and having pretty well drench d their Vesuvian throats. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert Wyom* III xx, Then looked they to the hills, where fire o erhung The bandit groups in one Vesuvian glare. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart Res* II v, Such a fire did actually burst forth, with explosions more or less Vesuvian in the inner man of Herr Diogenes 1876 HUXLEY in L. Huxley *Life* (1900) II xxv 432 The inflammation of the pudding was highly successful—in fact Vesuvian not to say Ætnaic.

(*b*) 1833 LYELL *Princ Geol* III 125 There is a tendency in almost all the Vesuvian dikes to divide into horizontal prisms. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 87 History records a large number of Vesuvian eruptions 1887 GEIKIE *Anc Volcanoes Brit* II. II 472 The three modern types of Vesuvian cones.

† b *Vesuvian salt*, aphthitalite *Obs*

1823 SMITHSON in *Phil Trans* CIII 369 This Vesuvian salt has presented no less than nine distinct species of matters

B *sb* 1 *Min.* A silicate of aluminium, lime, and iron, or other base, occurring massive but more often in square crystals of various colours, found originally in the ancient Vesuvian lavas, idocrase

Named by Werner, the German mineralogist In 1795

1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 285 *Vesuvian*, or white Garnet of Vesuvius. ♄ found principally in the lava of Vesuvius. 1815 AIKIN *Min* (ed 2) 224 Vesuvian occurs crystallized in groups, or lining cavities, or massive 1859 R HUNT *Guide Mus Pract Geol* (ed 2) 255 *Idocrase* was first observed in the ancient Vesuvian lavas, and thence it is called sometimes *Vesuvian* It is a compound of silica, alumina lime and iron 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* x 142 Idocrase or Vesuvian is an ore chemical composition closely allied to the lime-alumina garnets.

2 A kind of match or fusee, burning with a sputtering flame, used especially for lighting cigars or tobacco pipes in the open air

1853 *Pract Mechanics Jrnl* V 147 One of Palmer s Vesuvians is a still more sure way of igniting the fuze 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Inside Bar* 348 Striving by the aid of a 'Vesuvian to relight my cigar 1886 R C LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 103 Beyond a few vesuvians, they had nothing among them that would burn

*attrib* 1879 *Man Artillery Exerc* 175 A vesuvian match box 1904 F NESBIT *Phœnix & Carpet* 1 4 They tried to light it with Vesuvian fusees.

**Vesuvianite.** *Min* [f prec + ITE 1] = VESUVIAN *sb* 1

1888 *Cassell's Encycl Dict* 1890 E S DANA *Min* 480 Vesuvianite was first found among the ancient ejections of Vesuvius and the dolomitic blocks of Monte Somma.

**Vesuviate,** *v. nonce wd* [f *Vesuvius* + -ATE] = VESUVIAN] *smir* Of weather To be very hot *c* 1876 M. COOL *Sh. on Th.* 61 (1880) 11 Wea ther viates. This sudden heat in the atmosphere has something to do with the eruption of the mountain which killed Pliny the Elder

**Vesuvin** (vĭsū vĭn) *Chem* [a G *vesuvin*, f *Vesuv ius*, from its explosive property see IN 1] Phenyl brown, used esp as a staining matter for histological preparations

1885 KLEIN *Micro Organisms* 84 Stained with methylene blue and vesuvin. 1888 *Amer Jrnl Sci* III 678/1 Bismarck Brown, Vesuvin The chloride of tramido-azobenzol 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 4 Bismarck brown, essin or vesuvin may be used as a counter stain.

**Vesy,** obs. form of VEST *v* Sc

**Vesyke,** variant of VESIKE *Obs*

† **Vesyness.** *St Obs* —[1] [f. **vesy*, aphetic f ADVISY *a* + NESS] Caution, foresight, prudence

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* VII 6555 Wip wit And vesynes, throu quham bai was Thir fatall

**Vesyte,** obs form of VISIT *v*

**Vet,** *sb* [Colloquial contraction of VETERINARIAN or VETERINARY] A veterinary surgeon

1862 H MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* III 328 A lieutenant, accompanied by the vet did the honours of the stables. 1876 BURNABY *Ride to Khiva* I 72 Several of the Khanic themselves have but little faith in doctors or vets. 1883 E PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh* 293 A battered stud was left in the hands of the groom and the vet

**Vet,** *v* [f prec]

1. *trans* To submit (an animal) to examination or treatment by a veterinary surgeon

1891 ANNIE THOMAS' *That Affair* II I 22 Beau is shaky in his fore legs. I shall have him vetted before the races. 1904 *Times* 9 Mar 8/1 Of the 73 stallions only 39 came back for a second inspection after they had been vetted

2 To examine or treat (a person) medicinally

1898 MRS CROKER *Peggy of the Bartons* XIV, You will have them [ac friends] round to vet you 1900 *Westm Gaz* 14 Apr 2/1 'Who was you going this afternoon? 'Going to be vetted, he grunted.

**Vet,** southern ME var FAT *a*, *feet* FOOT *sb*, southern dial var FET *v*, obs. Sc. f WET *v*, WIT *v* **Vetail(l)e,** obs f VICTUAL *sb* and *v*

† **Veta tion.** *Obs* —[2] [f L *veta re* to forbid] A forbidding to do a thing

1657 COCKERAM 1 (Thomason Tract, Blount and Phillips.)

**Vetayll,** obs form of VICTUAL *sb*

**Vetch** (vetʃ). Forms. *a* 4 5 **feoch(e,** 5 **feohohe, fehohe, fech,** 5–6 **feohe,** 4 7 **fetche,** 4–8, 9 *dial* **fetch.** *β* 5 **vache,** 5, 9 *s w dial*, **vatch**, 5 7 **veche** (5 **vesseche**), **vech** (5 **wech**), 4–6 **vetche,** 6– **vetch** (9 **veitch**). See also FATCH and FITCH *sb* [a. ONF. *veche, vecche, vesche, vesse, vece, veisse* (mod F *vesce*) —L. *vecia*, whence also It *vecce*]

1. The bean-like fruit of various species of the leguminous plant *Vicia*

Also with defining terms, as *gore vetch*; see 3 b.

Occas. used as a type of something of little or no value (see quots. *c* 1374, 1632).

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III 936 (Harl. MS.) This seid is by hem but he not worth two fecchis. *c* 1400 *Lan franc's Cirurgy* 209 Oon (cancer) comeb of malancolie rotid, & bigroweb for to waxe in be mychilnes of a feoche or of

a peas. c 1523 Fabyan *Chron.* vii 612 For this scaricyte of wheate in Englande, in many places the people made them brede of fetches, pesyn, and benys. 1533 in *Archaeologia* XXV 310 Fetchys bought for 2s6d ‖ cooste of fetchys. 1552 Cooper *Elyot's Dict., Ervum*, is greater and bitterour then a fech 1613 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 95 Take of allises the quantity of a Fetch unwashed 1632 Rowley *Woman never vext* II. 26 You may imagine it to be I wesle-day at night, and the Beane found in the corner of your Cake, but 'Tis not worth a fetch I assure you 1661 *Petit for Peace* 12 The Fetches are beaten out with a staff.

β 1388 Wyclif *Ezek* iv 9 Take thou beanys, and tilin, and mylin, and vetchis [1382 vetche] 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xvii xcv (Bodl MS.) Amonge codware tilles & vecches beb smalleste in quantite *a* 1483 Caxton *Dict.* 29 Ores, vesches, Beans *Peason* 1530 Palsgr *Cato Helthe* 84 b, Some is lyke lyntelle redde vetches 1576 I tyte *Dodoens* 482 Afterward there come vp long flat coddes, wherein is placed the seede, like vnto the Tares 1611 English Merchants bring into Italy Conny skins, Veches, Kersies, and sometimes English Corne. 1712 Addison *Spect* No. 59 ¶ 4 Cicero was marked on the Nose with a little Wen like a Vetch 1756 J Kennedy *Curres Wilton House* (1786) 65 The Busts of Cicero, with the Mark of the *Cicer* or Vetch on his Face 1790 Cowper *Iliad* xiii 715 As vechches or as rowarthy beanes Leap from the van and fly athwart the floor, By sharp winds driven. 1866 C C Felton *Anc & Mod Gr* I vi 406 Beans, lupines, radishes, Vetches, wild pears, when we can find a locust and dried figs. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* xiii 11 32 The swarthy beans Or vetches bound before the whistling wind 1901 *Daily News* 12 Mar 8/6 Some large Swedish gore vetches are now offering at attractively low rates.

† b = Fitch *sb* 1 2 (q v). *Obs.*

2 *pl* Plants belonging to the genus *Vicia*, esp to the species *Vicia sativa*, the common tare.

Frequently with special reference to the produce.

a. *a* 1389 *Simon Barthol* (Anneed Oxon) 43 *Vesces*, i. fecches ou mous pese. 1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxviii 25 He schal not sette wheete in lynyes and barli in ordeyn and coostis. *c* 1440 *Sallad on Husb* 1 237 I sayne and fetches sleyn, and on thaire roote Up dried are as dounging landes boote 1460 Snape *Tonp* iv 1 62, Rich Leas Of Wheate, Rye, Barley, Fetches, Oates and Pease. 1580 J Smith *Lit et Berkeleys* (1883) I 303 From hence also came their great proportions of wheat, rye barly and fetches apples and pears. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies Wilts.* I 118 Of old 126 Wheresas lean land will serve for puling peas and faint fetches. 1870 Miss Jackson *Shropsh Word-bk* 145

β 1552 Huloet, *Fetches or vetches*, a kinde of pulse or grayne, *eruilia, ervum, orobum* 1575 in Phillipps *Wills* (c 1830) 457 Cornein the felde. Item, 9 acres of peaze. Item, 12 acres vetches. 1598 Florio *Worlde*, Vetches, a kinde of pulse or graine

*Univ Cycl* (1893) I 355/2 The proportion was at first a little over three pieces for 1,000 infantry but as the latter became more veterinized this was reduced to about two pieces. 1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispat h* 7 Oct. They were the first to veteranize, and this signified a great deal at that time.

**† Vetera scent,** *a Obs*⁻¹ [ad pres pple of L. *veterascĕre* to grow old] Growing old

1656 Gauden *Three Serm* 136 The clothing of our soules, is da ly veterascent and mouldring away

**† Veterate,** *v Obs rare* [ad L. *veterāt us*, f *veter*, *vetus* old]

**1** Of long standing inveterate

1541 R Copland *Galyen s Terap* 2 G ij b, Seing y' he made no mention of veterate vlceres. 1562 Bullein *Bul warke* 49 b My sickneese is so veterate and olde, that the aure was unsufficient to bee my helpe.

**2** Having the authority of age or antiquity

1565 J Hall *Hist Expost* 31 I have thought good to gather the councels and good documentes of dyvers good and veterate authores

'so **† Veterated** *a Obs* (Cf next)

1547 Boorde *Brev Health* cviii. 41 They may be holpen so be it that the infirmite or the impediment be not veterated or fi s longe continued

**† Ve terate,** *v Obs*⁻⁰ [f late L. *veterāre*] *intr* To wax old' (Cockeram, 1623)

**† Veterato rian,** *a Obs*⁻⁰ [f L. *veterātor us*, f *veterator* an old hand] (See quot)

1656 Blount *Glossogr* (after Copper), Veteratorian, crafty, subtil, gotten by long use.

**Vetere,** southern ME. variant of Petter *sb*

**Veterean,** obs. form of Veteran

**Veterinarian** (ve tĕrine rian), *sb* and *a* [f L *veterinārius* (see next) + -an]

*A. sb* **1** One who is skilled in, or professionally occupied with, the medical and surgical treatment of cattle and domestic animals, a veterinary surgeon

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud. Ep* 107 The second Assertion that an Horse hath no gall is very generall nor onely swallowed by the people, and common Farriers but also received by good Veterinarians 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh* 179 Thus the subtile Veterinarians procure white stars or other cleared marks in the fore heads of their horses 1716 M Davies *Athen Brit* III 12 Such were call d at first Unguentarians, Emplastrists, Veterinarians, Hippo Jatrists. 1810 *Med Jrnl* VIII 271 Mr Bartier veterinarian is said to have observed a disease 11 dogs, perfectly si nilar to the small pox in men. 1844 H Stephens *Bk Farm* II 81 It is not desirable that you should consider yourself a veter inarian 1888 E R Lankester *Advance s Sci* in (1890) 124 Rabies in a dog is recognised without difficulty by the skilled veterinarian.

**+ 2** (See quot) *Obs*⁻⁰

1656 Blount *Glossogr* (after Cooper), *Veterinarian* he that lets Horses or Mules to hire a Muletor a Horse courser a Hackney man

*B. adj* = Veterinary *a*

1656 Blount *Glossogr Veterinar an* is also used adjec tively 1716 M Davies *Athen Brit* III 43 Ne ther is the Collection of the Veterinary Greek Physicians much less representative of the Series of the old Minor Physical Prophets of Medicinal Greece. 1789 *Trans Soc Arts* VII 75 A few remarks on the necessity of a Veter inarian School 1861 *Times* 11 July This may be a reason why some very eminent veterinarian authority should occupy a place on the bench

Hence **Veterina rianism**

1816 L. Towne *Farmer & Grazier's Guide* 10 Analogy will often hold good between the human (malad es) and those which come under the Head of Veterinarianism

**Veterinary** (te tĕrinări), *a* and *sb* [ad L. *veterinārius*, f *veterīn-us* belonging or pertaining to cattle (*veterīna* fem pl, *veterīna* neut. pl, cattle) So F *vétérinaire* (16th cent.), It, Sp, Pg *veterinario*]

**A.** *adj* Of or pertaining to, connected or concerned with, the medical or surgical treatment of cattle and domestic animals.

1791 *Gentl Mag* LXI 1066/1 The Veterinary College, London Established April 8 1791 For the Improvement of Far nery and the Treatment of Cattle 1799 *Med Trnl* I 182 Experiments made at the Veterinary School have confirmed this hypothesis. 1823-3 (*title*) The Veterinary Examiner; or Monthly Record of Physiology Pathology and Natural History 1825 H Hunter *Dict Sports* v *Cynanche* They may be purchased at any of the veterinary instrument makers in London 1865 *Daily Tel.* 16 Oct. 4/6 Medical or veterinary problems are regarded by some as absolutely in capable of definite solution 1888 *Field* 21 Jan 99/3 It is curious to notice the entire absence of any idea of specific infection among the older veterinary writers.

b *Veterinary art*, etc.

1790 *Gentl Mag* I 298/2 The veterinary art as a practical application of sure and scientific principles to the preserva tion of health in animals. *Ibid* 496/1 The important sub ject of Veterinary Medicine. 1799 *Med Trnl* I 412 The Veterinary Art 1804 *Ibid* XII 378 Hence they were led to bring the therapeutics of the human body to veterinary science. 1805 Bingham *Ration Reward* 218 The veterin ary art or the art of healing as applied to animals, has only within these few years been separately studied in England 1884 *Americus* VII 343 Medicine, veterinary

c *Veterinary surgeon*, = Veterinarian *sb* 1

Frequently abbreviated as Vet

1800 James *Milit Dict* 1809 *European Mag* LV 22 The ancient farriers of our metropolis have conferred on themselves a title highly pre-eminent that of veterinary surgeon. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I 393/2 If an experimental hospital could be established under the care of a veterinary surgeon.

**B** *sb* = Veterinarian *sb* 1.

1861 S Lysons *Claudian & P* 18 I must have an especial portion set off as a forge, for the armourers and veterinaries. 1881 S. R. Macnial *Retig Horse of Pitsscottie* II 51 Sometimes, indeed, a man was veterinary and a member of the fraternity too.

**† Veterine,** *a Obs rare* [ad L. *veterīn us* see prec.] (See quot. 1656)

1656 Blount *Glossogr* (after Cooper), *Veterine* that bears burdens, used in carriage, 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* Isagoge b j b The hoofes are solid in those [animals] that are not comigerous and they are renewed only in the veterine. The salle is setous in the veterins.

**Veterlok,** southern ME. var Fetterlock

**Veth,** dial var Faith *int*, Sc var Waith *Obs*

**Vethym,** southern ME. variant of Fathom *sb*

**† Vetite,** *ppl a Obs*⁻¹ [ad L. *vetit us*, pa pple of *vetāre* to forbid] Forbidden

1a 1500 in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunterian Cl) 768 Gnt was the l st that thow had for to fang The fruct vetite.

**Vetitive** (ve titiv), *a rare*⁻¹ [f L. *vetit*, ppl stem of *vetāre* (see prec) + -ive.] Amounting to a veto

1823 F Lieber *Cvnl Liberty* xvii 164 The only case in which our executives have a real vetitive power is the case of pardon.

**Vetiver** (ve tivəa) Also veyr, -vert vitl vert. [ad F *vétyver*, ad Tamil *vettivēru* (*vēr* root) = Cuscus.]

1848 Lindley *Veget Kingd* 113 The Anatherum muri catum, called Vetiver by the French and Khus in India] 1856 Simmonds *Dict Trade Vetiver* a name for the Khuskhus grass or perfume so named 1882 *Ibid*, *Vetivert* a perfume name for kuskus root. 1886 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* II 308 1 Aromatic substances such as vela, the bean tonka, and vetiver might 1893 M Thom hill *Finants Indian Official* 18, I saw some [roots of Khus khus] once years ago in a shop in Bond Street. It was there known under the name of vitiver

**Vetkes,** southern ME. variant of Fetles *Obs*

**Veto** (vī to) *sb* [t L *veto* I forbid (1st pers. sing pres ind of *vetare*), the word by which the Roman tribunes of the people opposed measures of the Senate or actions of the magistrates. Hence also F, Sp, Pg, It *veto*]

**1** A prohibition having for its object or result the prevention of a proposed or intended act, the power of thus preventing or checking action by prohibition Freq in phr. *to put* (also *place*, *set*) *a veto on or upon* (something)

1689 Sir W Mure *True Crucifix* 1108 Hee who doth exalt Himselfe to raigne Dare gainst this Law most im prudently rebell And God s great Veto boldly counter mand 1694 Tsapp *Comm Zach.* ii 13 God refraineth the re mainder of mans wrath. If he do but interpose h s *Veto* 1788 H Walpole *Remin.* in *Lett* (1857) I p cxviii They persuaded her to demand of the new King an earl s coronet for Lord Bathurst. She did—the Queen put in her veto, and Swift returned to Ireland [etc] 1794 U Price *Exc Pastorwelism* 1 Had I not advanced so far to think of retreating I might possibly have been deterred by so absolute a veto from such author ty 1809 Syd Smith *Wks* (1859) II 33 Is it not the practice with destroyers of ver min to allow the little victims a veto upon the weapons used against them 1837 Lockhart *Scott* III x 323 Upon this ingenuous proposition Scott at once set his *veto* 1866 Geo Eliot *F Holt* xxiv, The Rector had beforehand put a veto on any Dissenting Chairman 1867 Baker *Nile Tributt* xv (1870) 255 They will not absolutely bid me my immediately placing a veto upon their bloody intentions

*transf* 1865 Mozley *Mirac* iii. 73 Confounding the re sistance of impression to a miracle with the veto of reason

**2** *spec.* The right, on the part of a competent person or body, of preventing or checking legisla tive or other political action by the exercise of a prohibitory power, the right or power to inter pose prohibition against the passing, or putting in force, of an enactment or measure

[1759 E W Montagu *Anc Republics* 372 The Carth aginian senate reserv d the power of the last resort intended senator referr d the decision of the most important affair to a wrong headed ungovernable populace] 1792 A Young *Travels in France* (1794) I 344 Should the King of France must have no *veto* on the will of the nation 1800 *Gazetteer Scot* (ed 2) p. xxvii In fact though the king possesses the *veto*, yet nothing could come before parliament which could require his negative 1841 W Spalding *Italy & It lit* I 87 He deprived the plebeian tribunes of every prerogative except the veto which has restricted to certain cases. 1860 Horace Mayhew *Shirked* 228 It could neither enact its own decrees nor interpose a veto on the decrees of the Governor 1888 Bryce *Amer Commw* I xvi 253 The power of a veto kills off some vicious measures

b Without article

1827 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I vii 1 Journalism is busy France rings with Veto. 1879 M Arnold *Mixed Ess Irish Cathol* 124 The bishops claimed the right of veto on the appoint ment of professors.

**3** *attrib*, as *veto power*, *proposition*, etc

*Veto Act* an act of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland passed in 1834 providing that no minister should be presented to a parish against the wish of the congregation

1838 *Edinb Christian Instructor* Jan 47 Cases of Tain and Strathbogie—Veto Act 1840 in *Acts Gen. Assembly* (1843) 1103 The act anent calls, called the Veto Act 1861 W J Fox Patrick *Life Dopdr* (1862) I 165 The friends of the Catholic claima had abandoned the old veto propositions. 1883 *Harper s Mag* Nov 941/2 While it did not give them actual control, [it] allowed the exercise of a veto power somewhat akin to it.

**Veto** (vī to), *v.* [f. prec.]

**1** *trans.* To put a veto on, to refuse consent to; to stop or block by this means a. With reference to legislative measures or similar matters

1706 Hearne *Collect* 2 Apr (O H S) I 213 Letters for degrees vetoed by the Proctors. 1892 Hy Matthews *Soc Amer* II 210 Mr Monroe vetoed the bill authorising the collection of tolls for the repair of the Cumberland road 1861 May *Constit Hist* (1863) III xvii 572 Measures passed by the assembly were refused by the council, or vetoed by the governor 1888 Bryce *Amer Commw* I v vi 74 Washington vetoed (to use the popular expression) two bills only *Ibid* App. 563 The President is permitted to veto any particular item.

b In general use

1879 E K Bates *Sportsm Bonds* I vii 146 Fred s common sense vetoes this suggestion at once 1886 H F Lester *Under Two Fig Trees* 7 The area garden plan was unan imously vetoed 1900 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 189, I proposed shooting which he promptly vetoed

*transf* 1872 E F Burr *Ad Fidem* iv 66 [God] will be hampered by no necessity of general laws. The nature of free moral agents will not veto His activity

**2** To refuse to admit or accept (a person)

1885 *Graphic* 24 Jan 74/2 The right of vetoing persons whom they deemed ineligible. 1892 *Spectator* 21 Mar, The power of choosing their own Prime Minister and the power of immediately vetoing and removing him

Hence Ve toed *ppl a*, Ve toing *vbl sb* and *ppl a*

Also Ve toer, one who vetoes.

1893 Sir A Gordon *Earl of Aberdeen* 144 Another vetoed minister appl ed to the Court of Session to issue a similar decree on his behalf 1888 *New York Weekly Tribune* 24 Oct 1 (Cent.) *Vetoer 1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 27 Sept. Cleveland a record as a vetoer of pension bills. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 72 The President used his pardoning and his *vetoing powers 1888 *Weekly News* 12 July 5/3 A total of 133 Presidential vetoings in the century 1789–1889 1892 *Pall Mall G* 28 Feb. 2/2 The committee suggested the establishment of a controlling and vetoing body

**Ve toism.** *rare* [f Veto *sb* + -ism.] Exercise or advocacy of the power of veto

1897 *Westm Gaz.* 17 Dec (Cassell s Suppl.), Vetoism has nothing to say against the immense amount spent in that way

**Vetoist** (vī to,ist) [f Veto *sb* + -ist] One who exercises the right, or supports the use, of the veto, one who advocates the possession of a power of veto esp for some particular purpose

The term has been specifically applied to supporters of (*a*) a veto on the appointment of Roman Catholic bishops in Ireland (*b*) the Veto Act of the Church of Scotland (*c*) local veto on the sale of liquor

1820 *New Monthly Mag* V 484 A little further on you will come upon another, a group of learned vetoists and anti vetoists 1832 *Blackw Mag* XXXI 355 The vetoists animate their disapprobation by hissing the unfortunate performer 1840 Gladstone *Ch. Princ* 489 The principle for which the Vetoists contend I believe is really this [etc] 1865 H Chantrell *Life T Robertson* 68 If the vetoists desired to give effect to the people s conscientious objections. 1896 *Westm Gaz* 25 Nov 5/2 He considers that unless the Liberal Party is dissociated from the Tem perance reformers and Vetoists its future will be disastrous

Hence **Vetoi stic,** **Vetoi stical** *adjs*

1825 J O Connell in W J Amherst *Hist Cath. Emancip* (1886) II 283 He came into Ireland on a vetoistical mission 1861 W J Fox Patrick *Life Dopdr* (1880) I 163 Dr Milner branded Mr Plunket a bills as vetoistic 1862 F C Husenbeth *Life Bp Milner* 155 His subsequent uniform opposition to every Vetoistical arrangement.

**† Vetony.** *Obs* Also 5 vetoyne, 6 *Sc* vetoun, veyton, 7 vett'ny [a AF *vetonse, OF, *vetoyne*, var (after L *vettonica*) of *betoine* Betony] The plant betony

a 1400 *Stockholm Med MS* in. 99 in *Anglia* XVIII 310 Betoyne is be erbis name I wot wele 1440 Promp *Parv* 42/2 *Vetony* or erbis name 1483 Catholicon *Anglicum* 390 Vetoun 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (1881) 14 Vetony is a kynde of betonye 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. 504 From Spanish Woods the wholoun Vett ny came, The only Glory of the Vettons Name

**Vette,** southern ME var Fat *v*, Fet *v*

**Vettell,** obs form of Victual *sb*

**‖ Vettura** (vetū ra) [It –L *vectūra*, conveyance, carriage, f *vect-*, *vehĕre* to convey] A four wheeled carriage used in Italy

1790 [see FARE 5] 1817 Byron in Lady Eastlake *Life* II (1870) 45, I proceeded on my way in the vettura. 1883 C E Norton *Lett* (1913) II x 152 We took a little one horse vettura and drove to Santa Cecilia

**‖ Vetturino** (vetūri no) Pl -ini Also 7 -ine [It, f *vettura* see prec]

**1.** In Italy One who lets out carriages or horses on hire, also, a driver of a vettura

In early use one who provided horses and made other arrangements for the convenience of travellers whom he accompanied on a journey

1617 Moryson *Itin.* 1 99 We agreed with a Vetturine or letter of horses, that each of us paying him fifte five Poll, hee should finde us horses, and horsemeate, and our owne diet to Rome 1656 Lassels *Voy Italy* (1670) II 258 Others take with them a *Vetturino*, that lets them have horses and dyets them to 1758 tr *Keysler's Trav* XXIV I 304, I made a little excursion into the Milanese, in which I found that the best way of performing it is with the *vetturini* 1796 A. Young *Trav France* 209 Yesterday I agreed with a *vetturino*, to take me this morning at six o'clock, to

Brescia; but I insisted that he should not come for me without his *vetturin.* c 1820 S ROGERS *Italy, Harper* (1838) 230 *note*, Within a crowd and tattered vehicle. Then degraded, and belonging to a Vetturino. 1883 W H RUSSELL in *19th Cent* Sept 483 Asserting my right of way notwithstanding the fierce opposition of many of the local *vetturini*, I toiled up the steep ascent for the hotel 1909 R BAGOT *Passport* xl 204, I must drive back to Gemano. I told the *vetturino* to wait

**2.** = VETTURA

1789 A. YOUNG *Autobiog* (1898) viii 176, I went by a *vetturino* to Turin 1897 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog* in (1862) I 16 A lumbering post coach, the Irish *vetturino*, the 'leathern convenience' of that time (like those of Italy of the present day) 1881 *Blackw Mag* July 129/1 The lumbering *vetturino* was packed with the jolly party of bachelors.]

*3 attrib*, as *vetturino-carriage*, *-fashion*, etc.

1838 *Murray's Hand-Bk N Germ* 193 In vetturino travelling, he must expect to start at break of day, in all weathers 1842 HELPS *Comp Solit* vi. 82 It was necessary to stay some time (for we travelled in vetturino fashion) at the little post house 1856 LEVER *Dav Dunn* lxx, A miserable-looking vetturino carriage stood at the inn door

**Vetu st**, *a rare* [ad. L. *vetustus*, related to *vetus* old] Old, ancient

1623 COCKERAM I. 1637 BASTWICK *Answ Inform Sir J Banks* 11 Neither novell nor heretical but according to both the Divine Scriptures and all Antient truth, and Orthodoxe Bishops, and by the whole clergy of England in King Henry the eights dayes 1847 *Blackw Mag* LXI 748 There is something too vetust to abide the shock of any agitation

Hence **Vetu stness**, 'ancientness, antiquity'.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II)

**Ve tusty**, *rare*—1 [ad. L *vetustas*, *f vetustus*: see prec.] Antiquity

1861 J H BENNET *Winter Medit* III xv (1875) 499 Some had on two or even three of these bournous in various degrees of vetusty and dilapidation

**Veuterer**. Obs. [ad AF. *veutrer* see FEWTERER, and cf VAUTERER.] As an epithet of a hound Employed for hunting.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS Dugby 182) xv, Oper per be put men cleepeth alaunts veutreres. *Ibid*, Pat oher nature of alauntes is ycleped veutreres

**Veveres**, obs Sc form of VIVERS, provisions.

**Veveri**, erron obs form of IVORY

**Vew** (viū), *north dial.* Also 6 veiwe, 7–9 view, 7 vewe, vue [Prob an alteration of VEW.] A yew tree, or the wood of this

1562 in Weber *Flodden Field* (1828) 383 A Scottishe Mynstrell broun,ithe a bowe of vewe, & 2 arrowes 1699 M. LISTER *Journ Paris* 215 Here are several Acres of young Pines, Cypresses, Vues, &c 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser I (E D S) 79 *Yew or View*, *Vewe*, *Vue*, etc. 1828 in northern dial. glossaries (Yks., Lancs., Chesh., Derby.)

*attrib* 21600 *Robin Hood & Guy of Gisborne* xv, John bent vp a good vewe bow, And fetcheel him to shoote, *c* 1675 O HEYWOOD *Diary*, etc (1883) III 213 4 view trees set about my house Sept 1 1674 1790 GROSE *Prov Glost*, *Yew-tree*, yew tree.

**Vew**, southern dial. var. FEW *a.* **Vewar**, obs. Sc. f VIVER, a fishpond **Vewe**, southern ME var. FEW *a*, obs. f VIEW **Vewlie**, obs. f VIEWLY **Vewter** (in hunting) see FEWTERER, and cf. VAUTERER and VEUTERER.

**Vex**, *sb.* [f the vb ]

1 *Sc.* A cause (or state) of vexation or grief

1814 SCOTT *Guy M* xxxvi, I was a sair vex and grief to a her kith and kin 1824 *St Ronan's* II, That is another vex to auld folk such as me. 1877 G MACDONALD *Marquis of Lossie* III, Here man s m sair vex. 1881—*Castle Warlock* 161, A sair vex it wad be to mony a puir body like mysel to lowse the richt o' t.

2. Distressing or vexing commotion.

1820 R S HAWKER in *Life* (1903) xxxi 393 The Vex of the coming Confirmation is now over. 1866 ALGER *Solit Nat & Man* IV 419 Let trust sink in peace beneath the struggling vex of mortality

**Vex** (veks), *v.* Also 5–7 vexe, *vex* (§ uex, wix). [a. OF. (also mod F.) *vexer*, ad. L *vexare* to shake, agitate, disturb, etc., whence also It. *vessare*, Pg *vexar*, Sp *vejar* ]

I 1. *trans* To trouble, afflict, or harass (a person, etc.) by aggression, encroachment, or other interference with peace and quiet.

1406 *Paston Lett* I 26, I have nought trespassed ageyn noon of these iij, and yet I am fonde and noyenply vexed with hem, to my gret unease. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 333 So on a day hym happend to com vnto a place per a damysell was vexid with a fend 1483 *Mirour to Redeve* (Bann Cl) 618, I sall neuer inquiet, vex, nor distrubil pe sand Abbot and conuent 1535 COVERDALE *2 Macc* viii 30 They sieve Philoches that wicked gouernour, which was with Timotheus, and had vexed many fewes 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 184 b, He, to thend he might vex the Turkes in an other quarter, was fully resolved to go forward 1596 FLEMING *Pangal Epist* 383 By whose meanes I am so molested, vexed, & disquieted. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 95 His Lordship hereupon had called the Counsellors to Tredagh, to deliberate how the Army might be imployed most to vex Tyrone. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxvi 142 He doss unjustly, and bewrayeth a disposition rather to vex other men, than to demand his own right 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* II v, Then shall He in his Wrath address, And vex his baffled Enemies. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* XXXV, Let me not vex, with inharmonious sighs, The silence of that heart's accepted sacrifice. 1845 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II 783/1 When intestine divisions vex a state 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXIX, With such compelling cause to grieve As daily vexes household peace. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* VI. 111 A thousand arrows, that vexed our flight as we came, Safe from the ranks of the foemen.

b Const. with (some action, etc ).

*a* 1500 BARNES *Wks* (1573) 246/1, I wyll bryng you S Augustine worden, the which was neuer vexed in Heretickes with thys same reason *a* 1548 HALL *Chron*, *Hen IV*, 16 b, it was not sufficient , this realme to be vexed with the craftie practices and inventions of the Frenche men 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* (1637) 126 They never ceased to vexe the Britans with skirmishes and in roades. 1641 J JACKSON *True Bounds Ch* I 40 So did hee vexe the Church with various and interchangeable pomp of sufferances. 1667 MILTON *P L* II 801 These yelling Monsters bursting forth Afresh with conscious terrours vex me round 1897 POLLOCK *Course of Lime* III (1865) 62 Whom she praised to-day, Vexing his ear with acclamations loud

c To worry (one) *out of* something *rare*—1.

1678 *Pendyf. Sou* III. 103 Such openhanded fellows are not often to be found So we must fasten on him, till we have stolen and vexed him out of all he has.

2. Of diseases, etc. : To afflict or distress physically , to affect with pain or suffering. Now *poet*

1489 *Caxton's Faytes of A* II xxi 219 b/2 Pute in reproue a man that is vexed with suche a maladie what a valyaunt nes were it 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm Cicss Richmond* (1714) 58 To endure the most payneful and most soo greuously vexynge her *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 179 b, He was so sore vexed with the gout that he refused all suche busynesse 1598 MARSTON *Scourge of Villanie* III viii. (1599) 214, I doe sadly grieue, and inly vexe, To view the base dishonour of my sire and sire-in-law 1608 SMITH *Vrania* 346 If we should faile, I should haste my selfe, and vexe inessantly at my fortune 1663 Bp PATRICK *Parad Hope* XXIII (1687) 412 Infirmities and diseases, tossed in the least of our desires. *a* 1691 WILKINS *Nat. Relig* 257 Men usually vex and repine at that which is extraordinary and unusual. 1770 MRS. THRALE *Lett to Johnson* (1788) I 32 I think particularly verses best that should vex Matlock on a moon light night 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I 137 But since it is so, I must not vex about it.

II 3. *trans* To disturb by causing physical movement, commotion, or alteration; to agitate, toss about, work, belabour or tear up, etc.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol* (1630) 151 Even there where they [the minerals] are most vexed and wrought upon yet they not worne out 1666 TORRY *Hon Merch* 4 cevii, Some English wool, vex'd in a Belgian Loom, And into Cloth of spungy softness made 1697 — *Virg Past* IV 40 And sharpen d Shares shall vex the fruitful ground 1759 MILLS tr *Duhamel's Husb.* I. 6 Lime is also vexed in these laxatives are to be prescribed and continually vexing it with the spade or plow 1775 BURKE *Sp Concil Amer* Wks. 1842 I 186 No sea has been so vexed by these fisheries. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev Islam* VII vii, Some calm wave Vexed into whirlpools by the chasms beneath 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* II xviii. 213 We have had a hurricane that even in summer vex the upper Apennine 1879 J D LONG *Æneid* VII 905 His followers they, who vex The Massic glebe, so fruitful of the vine.

b To disturb by handling , to twist *rare*

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh* 35 He exalts his supercilliums and vexes his formal beard.

c *fig* To press, strain, or urge.

1698 MARVELL *Def Hoyne Wks.* (Grosart) IV 191, I would not too much vex the Similitude. *a* 1880 BUTLER *Rem* (1759) I 218 Distinctions, By b'ing too nicely overstrain d and vext, Have made the Comment harder than the Text.

*7 To subject (a matter) to prolonged or severe examination or discussion, to debate at excessive length*

*a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 20 The best way to finde the truth in this matter was to debate and vexe it. *a* 1648 LD HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1683) 243, I shall now come to the business of the Divorce ; so much vexed by our Writers. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D* xli Be that as it may, and not vexing a question (settled for ever without our vexes), let us own that he was, at least *in posse*. 1897 R. L. BURTON in *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 569/1 Upon this point I must join issue with him, with Stanley and with others who have vexed the subject

**Vex**, obs. form of VAX *v.*

**Vexable** (ve ksăb'l), *a. rare* [ad L. *vexabilis*, of f VEX *v* + -ABLE.]

†1. Troublesome, oppressive *Obs.*

1590 in *Antiq Repl.* (1808) II 290 Without distrol ill, enstynching, or any other vexable demaunds of his lage people.

2 Capable of being vexed

1820 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II 191 The printers use me ill, but they do not vex me, because I am not vexable by such things.

**Vexation** (vek•ē'ʃən) Forms 5–6 vexacione, *acyon* (5 vexacion), 6 vexatyon, 6–vexation ; 5 wex-, vexacioun, 6 vexatioun. [a. OF (also mod F ) *vexation*, or ad L. *vexatiōn*, *vexātio*, n of action f *vexare* VEX *v* Cf Pg *vexação*, Sp. *vejacion*, It *vessazione* ]

1. The action of troubling or harassing by aggression or interference (sometimes *spec* by unjustifiable claims or legal action), the fact of being troubled or harassed in this way

Common in the 16th cent : now *rare*

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 3848 Yee shulle fynde mendes for to make For our vnkeene vexacioun. 1431 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 324 Such persones as will cum to the citte be fre withoute eny wexacion, cumyng goyng and abydyng a day before and a day after 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk* 504 Be his longe delleryges, cautels, vexacions & troubles,

he wold neuer haue concluded but fynde meanes of trouble & vexacion to hurt & disheryte the pore comeins here of their rightfull comen, which he wolde do. 1523 *Act* 13 & 14 *Hen VIII*, c. iii § 9 The said maire may have and use all powers and auctorities without trouble, lette or vexacion of any of the inhabitaunts. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidanes Comment.* 144b They loved rather the vexation of the common wealth, than peace and quietnes. 1621 Sir I. Coventry in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 156 The vexacions of informers and other new devised straynes I shall endeavour to represse. 1647 N Bacon *Disc. Gouvt. Eng* i lxvii (1739) 161 Therefore the Law provided a Writ of remedy against unjust vexation 1654 tr. *Martinus Cony Cenus* 191 Finally came out an Edict which forbad all further vexation after they had killed a hundred thou sand men 1770 Goldsm *Des Vill* 98 I still had hopes my long vexations past, Here to return. 1788 Cowper *Hoyle's Compl* 37 He foreseeing what vexations Attic s sons should undergo. 1824 Sir W Hamilton *Discuss* 232 He was constrained by their vexations to abandon that University

† b Strict examination or calling to account *Obs* —1

a 1526 *Chron Lond* (Kingsford, 1905) 262 This yere was Sir William Capell sworn out of vexacion for thinges doon by hym in the tyme of his maralte.

† 2 The action of troubling, disturbing, or irritating by physical means, the fact or state of being so troubled or disturbed *Obs*

c 14 Hoccleve *Minor Poems* (1892) 220 The vexacioun Of cheeth so hasatid him, hat his spiryt Anoon forsoke his habitacioun *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxvi 298 Abowte cockis crowe be mayde, for gret vexacion hat she haddo with be tempest, fell on slepe. 1548 *Patrr Catech* (1900) Though she had of brennynge greate feruence Twene colde and hote vexacion inportable There was no grutchinge 1555 liar clay *Eglogue* ix. (1570) Sixt I In all hat ihy vexacion. Declaration Thy greedy tasting hath great vexation *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII*, 3 b By the tormentis ng and vexa cion of which sickness, many of the Scottes were dyed 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (1636) 1 48 Maiming racking and scourging and thousands of other vexations 1580 Sidney *Ps* N *V* i. 3 Thy vexation

May thinke no more of this nights accidents, But as the fierce vexation of a dreame. 1610 B Jonson *Catiline* III ii No noise, no pulling in vexation wakes thee The lictorian is such. 1700 J Harris *Lex Techn* s v *Assedes fœtæ* The Distemper usually arises from the Vexation of the Stomach by sharp and choleric Humours

3 The state or fact of being mentally troubled or distressed, in later use esp by something causing annoyance, irritation, dissatisfaction, or disappointment

*c* 1485 *Pol., Rel., & L Poems* (1903) 2 Ray nyng with Rewles resonable and Rightfull The whiche for oure sake hathe soffelde grete vexacion *c* 1472 in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 279 What vexacioun was then To the quene and the lordis. Then aftur kynge Edwarde thay cryed and did wepe 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv 41 'Tak consolatioun of your pane, In tribulatioun tak consolatioun, Out of vexatioun cum hame agane 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 91 Contente onely to satisfie nature without further vexation for knowe lege of thinges to come. 1590 Shaks *Mids N* i. i 22 Full of vexation, come I, with complaint Against my childe, my daughter Hermia. 1685 *Boyle Spec. Nat. Exper. Britannia* did so infest the Roman Province, that the very Vexation of it cost Ostorius his Life. 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 344 They let a [a canoe] go to the first ship act and had the vexation of seeing it dashed all to pieces 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III. viii, [She] very openly ex pressed her vexation and displeasure 1840 Scott *Perth* xx, The King heard of this new trouble with much vexation. 1864 *Poultry Chron.* II 122/2 The vexation of the poultry owner when he sees his favourites fall under the ravages of disease. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II 19 I spoke of the constant vexation I suffered because I could not draw better

b In the phr *vexation of mind, spirit*

1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* lxv 14 Ye shal cre for sorow of hert, and complayne for vexation of mynde. 1540–54 Chron 1st *Chap Eccles* (Percy Soc.) 49 Nought fynde I but vexa cion Of spyrite and myndis. 1611 Bible (Genev.) *Eccl* i 18 All is vanitie, & vexacion of the spirit 1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Logike* Ded 2 b, The perpetuall vexation of spirite, and continuall sorrowe. 1598 — *Ivychurch* 1 a, accident every scholler 1621 Cotgr., *Marrision* chafing, fuming vexation of mind 1621 Burton *Anat Mel.* II iii vii 422 Many men spend themselves upon small quarrels with much vexation of spirit and anguish of minde. 1626 Scott *F M Perth* xiv, She found her reward in vanity and vexation of spirit.

4 *a.* Source or cause of mental trouble or distress, a grief or affliction Chiefly with *a*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv iv 305 Your Children were vexation to your youth, But mine shall be a comfort to your Age 1612 Brinsley *Lud Lit* 169/2 13 It is an extreme vexation that we must be toiled amongst such little petties. 1638 R. Baker tr *Balzac's Lett* (vol III) 165 Sir I am your vexation in ordinary 1765 Cowper *Let to Lady Hesketh* 1 Aug It is a mark of their great charity for one who has been a disappointment and a vexation to them. 1833 Hr Martineau *Loom & Lugger* ii. v 94 It may be a vexation and disadvantage to us. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xx 344 My own vexation is that I must pay Cæsar my debt.

† *b* The action of subjecting to violence or force, the fact of being so treated *Obs*

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* IV ii As the wind doth try strong trees, Who by vexation grow more sound and firm. 1610 — *Alch* II. v, Name the vexations, and the martyrizations Of mettalls, in the worke. 1692 L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq* iv viii. (1733) 94 The Earth hath enough to do without the superfluous Vexations of the Plow over and above.

**Vexatious** (veksē˙ʃəs), *a* Also 6 vexacyus. [f prec see -ious]

1. Causing, tending or disposed to cause, vexation (in later use in sense 3) a. Of persons, their disposition, etc.

1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II 329 Henry of his vexacyus mynde purchased a writte of monstraverunt in the Comen place against the said defendeant 1561 W ye *Comet's Inst* 126 They might meerly through envi and the ple usure they took in being vexatious, take men upon Writs. 1696 Whalley *Pl. Deuter* 1. 1, She is as vexatious as her father was, the great Actress. 1725 *Lond Gaz* No 5343/2 The Town smen are turbulent and vexatious to the Regi ment 1738 Wesley *Psalms* cxviii iv Begirt with Hosts of Enemies Vexatious as thick swarming Bees. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xxiv The Lord Chancellor described him, in open court, as a vexatious and capricious infant.

b Of things

1664 Power *Exp Philos* III 184 If he could but stuffy wrangle out a vexatious dispute of some odd Perpatetick qualities *a* 1680 Butler *Rem* (1759) II 38 Fines and Grants are more vexatious in hot Climates than Creatures that are able to do greater Mischiefs. 1705–6 Penn in *Pennsylv Hist Soc Mem* X 208 The buisi ess of Beaumont proves very vexatious to me here. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No 176 P 1 There are many vexatious accidents and uneasy situations which raise little compassion for the sufferer 1804 Anes brewn *Navy* 1 The opening of the cyst generally leaves a vexatious and intractable sore. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 709 It is most vexatious to find a fruit tree has been planted under the trees to shade. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III xii. 75 It is somewhat vexatious that we have to trust almost wholly to authorities on one side

c *spec* In legal actions Instituted without sufficient grounds for the purpose of causing trouble or annoyance to the defendant

1677 Yarranton *Eng Improv* 9 It is a Sin, that a Gentle man should be the occasion of ruining so many Families by putting them to such vexatious Suits for their Moneys lent 1696 *Phillips*, *Vexatious Writ*, c. 11 Diverse evil dis posed Persons are incouraged to bring frivolous and vexa tious Actions. 1746 Francis tr *Hor., Sat* 1 vi. 6 Persius had written Nothing to traffic gain'd a vexatious Suit with King maintain'd. 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) II vi. 72 Their courts were unceasingly occupied with vexa tious suits.

*transf* 1909 H M Gwatkin *Early Ch Hist* I viii 249 If the charge turns out vexatious (*calumnium gratia*) the accuser shall be punished

† 2 Full of trouble or uneasiness. *Obs*

1644 Digby *Two Treat* Ded a1b, He leadeth a vexa tious life that in his noblest actions is so gored with scruples, that he cannot take a step, but by the authority of an other to warrant him 1671 H M tr *Arcana Collog* 529 Riches and honours which bring not a pleasant, but vexatious and vexatious life

† 3 Vexed, annoyed *Obs* —1

1750 Tolderyv *Hist 2 Orphans* IV 106 Heartley grew vexatious with himself for having parted with the watch

**Vexatiously** (veksē˙ʃəsli), *adv* [f prec + -ly 2] In a vexatious manner, so as to cause annoyance or irritation

1653 R Sanders *Physiogn* 140 Thy soul is vexatiously perturbed 1709 Swift & Addison *Tatler* No 43 P 2 The rugged Temper of Diedrick Backhuysen, which he brings with it, which does so vexatiously affect the Heads of other great Men 1748 *Anson's Voy* II ix 227 We were most strangely and vexatiously disappointed by finding that the light was not to be on board the Centurion 1818 Mar lay *Diary* 2 Aug Very vexatiously, however, my message arrived late. 1847 S Austin *Ranke's Hist Ref* III 532 At the same time the Catholics were vexatiously thrown in the way of the protestant procurator 1879 S. C Bartlett *Egypt to Pal* xi. 242 We paused here and interrogated our Arabs, but vexatiously enough, we could extract from them no such tradition

b *spec* In *Law* (See Vexatious a 1 c)

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* iv § 172 The praetor allows an oath to be exacted from him 'that he is not vexatiously denying his liability 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct 412/1 The bankrupt must not have vexatiously defended any action.

**Vexatiousness** (veksē˙ʃəsnes) [f as prec + -ness] The character of being vexatious

1668 Dr Hopkins *Sermons, Vanity* (1685) 39 There is a fourfold vexatiousness in all worldly things. 1797 Bailey (vol. II) *c* 1825 Lb Cockburn *Mem* (1856) 300 Amidst the vexatiousness of the complicated case, Monypenny sat serenely *a* 1859 De Quincey in H A Page' *Life* (1877) II xvi 54 The vexatiousness of writing letters.

**Vexatory**, *a.* (f. L *vexāt-*, ppl. stem of *vexare* to vex + -ory) = Vexatious a 1

1900 *Speaker* 8 Sept 602/1 The objection that they are not Englishmen may be brushed aside as futile and vexa tory. 1900 *Fortn Rev* Oct 583 The only people who would gain by this vexatory measure would be the lawyers.

† **Vexed**, variant of Faxed *a. Obs*

a 1259 [see Faxed a]. a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks* III (1662) 200 Hence Mathew Westminster calleth a Comet a Vexed Star.

**Vexed** (vekst), *ppl. a* Also 7 vex't, vext, 7, 9 vex'd [f Vex *v*]

1 Troubled, harassed, kept in a disturbed or unquiet state.

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 509/2 Vexid, *vexatus* 1589 Mel bancke *Philotimus* (1815) 11 If you will needs still abuse in vexed plighte, for some offence I have committed, then shew (etc.). 1592 Kyd *Sp Trag* III ii. 13 The night With fearful visions makes my vexed soule to fly. 1596 — *Life* 6 Sept. 1645, Col. Legge charged them so gallantly that the rebels ran back Yet farr had they not gone, before these vexed rebels came on againe. 1816 Shelley *Sweet* 44 The tomb of thy dead self Which one vexed ghost inhabits. 1870 Burton *Hist Scot* (1873) VI lxx 189 He thus was chosen to settle the vexed affairs of Scotland.

2. Distressed, grieved, affected with vexation; annoyed, irritated.

1620 and *Pt. Return fr Parnass* II. i, 564 O how it greeues my vexed soule to see Each painted vaze in chayre of dignitye. 1892 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro, Epithasie* Wks. (1904) 211 (The sun) hiding his vex't cheeks in a bur'nt mist. 1798 S & Hr Lee *Canterb T* II 96 The vexed father now sighed to himself 1820 Scott *Lady of Lake* II v, While her vex d spaniel from the bench Bay'd at the prize beyond his reach 1848 Mrs A Marsh *Father Darcy* II iv 95 The priest looked vexed and perplexed 1894 Mrs Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 247 You think I look it? he said, with a vexed little laugh

*absol* 1824 Campbell *Theodoric* 193 Hers was the brow That cheered the sad and tranquillised the vexed

3 Subjected to physical force or strain, tossed about, agitated, bedoldered, greatly

1620 Shaks. *Temp* I ii. 229 Where once Thou calidst me vp to fetch dewe From the still vext Bermoothes 1667 Milton *P L* II 660 Vex'd Scylla bathing in the Sea that parts Calabria from the hoarse Trinacrian shore *Ibid* x. 314 A ridge of pendent Rock Over the vext Abyss. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xviii 549 The ponderous hammer lounds his better hand, His left with tongs turns the vexed metal round 1817 Shelley *Rev Islam* I i, The peak of an aereal promontory, Whose careened base with the vexed surge was hoary 1850 Hackie *Arabyn* I ii What time the Chalcian strand Saw the vexed Argive masts In Aulis tides. 1852 G W Curtis *Lotus Eating* viii 137 The vexed river rages and tumbles among channeled rocks.

4. *Vexed question*, a much debated or contested question

1697 Hawlin *Ecclesia Vind* 212 Nor do I mean to meddle in so vexed a question 1848 Mill *Pol Econ* I v § 8 (1876) 48 This leads to the vexed question, Corn Laws Chalmers has very particularly adverted 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iii § 54 The vexed question of the destinies of the unemployed workman 1874 Maurice *Lect Ch Greece* ii. 9 The great vexed question of the origin and composition of the Homeric poems

Hence **Vexedness** *rare*.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* V xx. 90 My teasing uncle broke out into a loud laugh, which had more of vexedness than mirth in it

**Vexedly** (ve ksĕdli), *adv* [f prec + -ly ] In a vexed manner, with vexation

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II xxiv 165 My heart is vexedly easy, if I may so describe it. Vexedly—because of the apprehended interview with Solmes. 1796 Anna Seward *Lett* (1811) IV 44 I am vexedly busy. 1818 — I am vexedly feel the rapid flight of those weeks, whose period must close an it intellectual intercourse very gratifying 1856 *Household Words* XIII 121 Then he turned round vexedly and impatiently. 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* II xvi Eugene answers and answers hastily and vexedly 'No no, no he doesn t mean that 1901 *Clive Holland tro Mounted* 223 Some one else come and have her, she remarked vexedly

**Vexer** (ve˙ksəɹ). Also 6 vexar, or. [f Vex *v*] One who or that which vexes or annoys

1530 Palsgr. 284/2 Vexare or vexer, *vexateur* 1552 Huloet, Vexor, *animaduertor* *c* 1586 Cyrus Pembroke *Psalms* lxxxix viii, I will quasle his vexers in his sight 1608 Torsell *Serpents* 93 Hooked vexers of mens liues and troublers. 1620 Rowlands *Night Raven* 34 Pray speake had you this vexer and abuser, And were thou plagu d as I, how would you vse him? 1630 Taylor (Water P) *Wks* I 238 He was a vexer of two Parishes with continual suits of Law *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks* (1723) I 45 They can t be blessed because they are their own Vexers and Tormentors. 1788 Burke *Impeachm. W Hastings* Wks. XIII 193 The disgracers of government, the vexers and afflicters of mankind.

† **Vexful**, *a Obs rare* [f Vex *v* + -ful 1] = Vexatious *a*

1598 Florio, *Esseoso* vexfull, cruell, exacting 1603 — *Montaigne* II xl. 243 Maintaining for his exercise the peevish frowardnes of his wife, then which no essay can be more vex full

**Vexil**, Anglicized f Vexillum 2 (Webster, 1828–32) The stem of *vexillum* is also the base of the following formations given in Dicts without evidence of their currency Ve'xillar *a*, of or pertaining to a vexillum, spec in *Bot* and *Ornith* Vexilla'rious *a*, = Vexillar Ve'xillate *a*, having a vexillum or vexilla (*Bot* and *Ornith.*)

**Vexillary** (veksi˙lări), *sb* and *a* Also 7 vexiliarie [ad. L. *vexillāri-us* standard-bearer, etc, f *vexillum* standard, Vexillum]

*A. sb.* a One of the oldest class of veterans in the Roman army, serving under a special standard b A Roman standard bearer.

1592 Savile *Tacitus, Hist* iv xvii. 63 Three Pretorian cohortes, and a thousand Vexillaries 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* vi xi. § 7 84 The Vexillaries of three British Legions followed Vitellius in his Expedition against the Illyrian Army 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1793 A. Murphy *Tacitus* (1805) V 290 In the left wing were placed the vexillaries of the thirteenth legion 1877 Ellendorf *Zeneth & Lysette* 1179 In letters like to those the vexillary Hath left crag-carven o er the streaming Gelt.

B *adj* † 1. *Vexillary soldier*, = prec a *Obs* —1

1598 Grashawy *Tacitus, Ann.* ii. (1622) 26 Certaine vexillarie soldiers which continued vnder ensignes, and were placed for a guard to the country

2. *Bot.* Of estivation (see quot.).

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot* 411 *Vexillary*, when one piece is much larger than the others, and is folded over them they being arranged face to face.

**Vexillation** (veksilē˙ʃən). [ad. L *vexillātio*, f *vexillum* standard, Vexillum] A company of veteran soldiers (see prec. A. a) or of soldiers grouped under one standard

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Vexillation*, a company of men of

arms under one Standard. 1772 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 307 The quantity of Work perform'd by the Vexillations, appears to have nearly equalled that of the whole Legions. 1851 J. Wilson *Pract. Anat* (1863) II iii ii 44 The vexillation of the twentieth Legion dedicated four thousand paces of their wall to the Emperor whose name it bore 1896 Skene *Celtic Scot* I II. I 78 The vallum [was] constructed by the second and twentieth legions, or rather by their vexillations

**Vexillator** (vɛksɪlēɪtəɹ), [a med L *vexillātor*, f. *vexillum* see next.] A banner bearer in a mystery or a miracle play

1802 Strutt *Sports & Past* III. II 137 The prologue to this curious drama is delivered by three persons, who speak alternately and are called vexillators. 1832 Collier *Hist. Dramat. Poetry* II 155 In the Chester plays are preceded by a kind of proclamation made by certain Vexillators in various parts of the city.

**Vexillum** (vɛksɪləm) [L. (in sense 1), f the stem of *vehĕre* to carry]

**1. a.** A flag or banner carried by Roman troops; a body of men grouped under one banner

1706 Gordon *Itin. Septr* 79 The Figures of two winged Victories, supporting the Roman Vexillum. 1805 James *Mil Dict.* (ed 2), *Vexillum*, the standard which was carried by the Roman horse 1892 *Cent Dict* s v, These vexilla averaged from 300 to 600 in strength

**b** *Zool* A small pouch of linen or silk attached to the upper part of a crozier

1877 F G Lee *Glost Eccl & Liturg Terms* 438 Many examples of the vexillum are represented in illuminated MSS. 1905 *Ch Times* 7 July 3/3 The Vexillum sometimes attached to a pastoral staff was a 'sudarium or handkerchief, in all probability

**2.** *Bot* The large external petal of a papilionaceous flower

1707 Bail tr (vol II), *Vexillum*, the Banner of the broad Single Leaf, which stands upright 1760 J. Lee *Introd Bot* II xx. (1765) 116 *Vexillum*, the Standard, a Petal covering the rest *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) III 446/2 The superior [petal] exceeding, (called the *vexillum* or flag) 1822 W P C. Barton *Elem N. Amer* I 11 Corolla with a long sac or shaped vexillum 1870 Bentley *Botany* (ed 3) 111 Corolla papilionaceous, white; vexillum large

**3** *Ornith* The vane or web of a feather

1867 P L Sclater tr *Nitzsch's Pterylography* 10 The Barbs form with the parts seated upon them the so-called Vexillum (*vexillum*) 1878 Coues *N. Amer Birds* 2 The rha lus alone bears vexilla *Ibid.* 34 Except in the case of a few of the innermost remiges, their outer vexillum is always narrower than the inner

**Vexing** (vɛ ksɪŋ), *vbl sb* [f Vex *v.* + -ing 1] The action of the verb in various senses.

*a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 281 þat is of no wexyng of þe feend, but of grace of God 1530 Palsgr 284/2 Vexyng or troubly vexing, *conturbation* 1611 Cotgr., *Inquietation*, a disquieting, vexing molestting troubling 1617 Hieron *Wks* II 263 It is a kind of vexing to him that he cannot master it 1666 Jer Taylor *Doctor* I. 1. 82 The first is that which Nazianzen calls accusations and vexings of a man when he is in misery

**Ve xing,** *ppl a* [f Vex *v* + -ing 2] That vexes; causing vexation

*a* 1586 Sidney *Psalms* xi vi, The while a swarm of foes with vexing feates My life besitteth 1599 Davies *Immort Soul* xxii vi (1714) 79 Trembling fear and vexing Griefs annoy 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 28 Rouing Impossibles not to concerne our Desires; nor Unavoydables our Feares, nor things past our Remedy, our vexing sorrow 1684 Leighton *Comm. Peter's Epistles* 58 The burden of vexing carefulness 1797 Bailey (vol. II), *Vexatiousness* troublesome, perplexing, vexing Quality 1762 Kames *Elem Crit* (1783) 286 From this vexing dilemma I am happily relieved. 1813 Scott *Guy M* xiv, I am glad to see that this vexing job basna teen awa your appeuite, Captain 1910 *19th Cent Feb* 279 Let others seek the games and pleasures which bring with them a thousand vexing cares.

Hence **Ve xingly** *adv*

1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* iv 82 At Courts, and Seats of Justice to complain, Was to be robb'd more vexingly again 1643 J. Cargill *Respon. Duff* 168 If they did so vexingly, that they are said to wrest his words 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 269 P 3 It is the same poverty which makes men speak or write amiss[ly], that makes them to talk vexingly

**Vexor,** obs form of Vexer

**† Vey,** *v Obs* — [ad OF. *veser* cf Survey *v.* and Vevor] *trans* To inspect, examine.

1328 *Act 4 Hen. VIII, c* 18 § 3 Accomptes to be taken, veyed, surveyed, &, & confirmed

**Vey,** southern ME. var. Fey *a*, obs f. Weigh *v* **Veyage,** obs Sc. f Voiage **Veyght,** obs. Sc f Weight **Veye,** obs f Way *sb* , obs. Sc. f Weighw. **Veyle,** obs f Vail *sb* 1 , obs Sc. f Well *adv.* **Veyllard,** obs f. Vieillard **Veyn,** obs f. Vain, Vein, Wenn. **Veynde,** obs Sc. f Wund *v* **Veyne,** southern ME. var. Feign *v.*; obs f Vain, Vein

**† Veyne.** *Obs* Also veine [a. OF *veine*, ad. L *venia* pardon] = Veni 1

*c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* xlv 71 When þai say 'Kirieleison', sal oþo take hir veine by fore þe auter at te frece *c* 1450 in Anglia *Hist Ymn* (1854) 349 Any brother that hathe be seek schal first ryse and take his veyne for hys defawtes and omissyons in tyme of hys sekenes *Ibid* 328 Than ... the sustres may take ther veynes, and proclame ther defautes.

**† Veyor.** *Obs.* Also 5 veyour, vayowr, 7 veiour (7–8 vejour), veighor [a Of. *veisour* (also *veour*, *veier*, *voier*, etc.), f *veier* (*voier*) : see Vie 2.] One appointed to view or inspect a thing.

1370 *Little Red Bk Bristol* (1900) II 132 Veyours sworne before John Shipward, Meire, to make vewe and put in sight of a ground and tenement 1493 *Ibid* 134 The vew of the parishe wall, the namyses of the sayd vayowres and ther verdyt 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Veiours*, signifieth in our common lawe those, that are sent by the court to take view of any place in question, for the better descision of the right 1765 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 305 An action of deceit must be brought during the life of the Sommoners, but not when all the Sommoners and veighors be dead *Ibid* 344 To take the land into the Kings hands by the view of lawfull men, called thereupon Veyors.

**Veyr,** southern ME. var Fair *a*, obs f Vair, var Vere, spring, obs Sc. f War *sb* , Wear *v*

**† Veyra.** *Sc Obs* [Of Vera.] (See quot.)

1549 *Compl Scotl* xv 140 Than the marymais began to veynd the cabil vnthi mony loud cry And as it aperit to me, thai cryst thir vordis as eftir followis, veyra veyra, veyra veyra, gentil galandis etc.

**Veyre,** obs southern var. Fire, obs. f Vair

**Veyton,** var Veton *Obs* **Veyze,** southern ME. var Fey *a* **Vezer,** southern ME. var. Fair *a*

**Vezar,** obs. f Visor. **Vezе,** obs. var. Freze *sb* and *v* 1; var. Vease *Obs.* **Vezir,** var. Vizier.

**† Vezon** *Obs* — (Meaning obscure)

1570 F Marot *Hind Rediv* (1576) II 77 4 Look, look, Joan, how the Vezons fight Who d think they were so full of Spite?

**Vey-**, obs Sc variant of Wh-

**Vi-,** *pref*, reduced form of *vis-* Vice .

(See Vicegerent, †Politic, President, †Queen.)

‖ **Via** (vəi ā) *sb* [L *via* a road or way]

Several senses of the word (by itself or with I stin adjs), which are recorded in earlier and copied in later Dictionaries, appear to have no real currency in English.

**1** *Via Lactea*, the Milky Way.

1615 [see Milky Way 1] *a* 1633 Sibbes *Breathing after God* (1639) 144 As we say of the *Via lactea*, or Milky way in the heavens, that nothing but a cleare sight from a company of little starres that makes a glorious lustre 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn.* I, *Milky way* or *Via Lactea*, the Galaxy, Latteous Path or Track encompassing the whole Heavens 1706 M Cutler in *Phil. Trans* (1888) II 938 In the *via lactea* he found the whitish appearance completely resolved into a glorious multitude of stars of all possible sizes. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XIII 267 He found that the *via lactea* and *nebulæ* consisted of a collection of fixed stars. 1820 J. Dick *Sidereal Heavens* 185 This mighty zone ... is sometimes termed the *via lactea*, but more frequently the Milky Way, from its resemblance to the white ess of milk

*transf* a 1661 Fuller *Worthies London* II (1662) 208 Sir Thomas More was born in Milkstreet London (the brightest Star that ever shined in that *Via lactea*)

**2** A way or road a highway Also *fig.*

1587 J. Williams (A. Pasquin) *Childr Theseus* II (1750) 157 Tis but few little years since the Storms of his Fate Made thousands rejoice And by walking approvd thro the Thespian *via*, The a slave to the tribes, prov'd the Drama a Messiah 1797 W. I. Don in A Reid *Regularity of Nature* xxiii 301 It was no mere track, but a substantial *via*, 20 feet wide

**3.** *Via media*, a middle way, an intermediate course or state. Hence **via-medialism** (see quot. 1881)

1845 Ford *Handbk Spain* I 168 The whole nation is divided into two classes— bigoted Romanists or Infidels: there is no *via media* 1866 Geo Eliot *Felix Holt* I 3 They were kept safely in the *via media* of indifference 1881 *Church Times* XIX 128 Via medialism, then signifies a scheme which every party is asked to believe will secure, and the other a little less than what they conceive to be true. 1886 Mrs Lynn Linton *Paston Carew* xxxiv There was no via media, seeing that money was not to be found

‖ **Viaa,** var Veagh *Obs* etc *arch* Also 6 fia [It *via* (special use of *via* way see prec.) 'an aduerbe of encouraging, much vsed by riders to their horses, and by commanders' (Florio, 1598.)]

**1** As an exclamation encouraging, inciting, or preparatory to movement or action, = Onward, come on, come along, etc.

1596 *Edward III* II ii 19 I han't an for the spatious bounds of Poictou. 1597 *Second & Third Pt Hen VI*, II i 182 Why via to London will we march 1602 Middleton *Blurt, Master Constable* II Bivb *Via* for fate, Fortune, loe this is all At which I gallop reloond He mount, although I fall 1619 Fletcher *Mons Thomas* II ii *Tho* Away then find this Fuller, and do not miss me By nine a Clock *Lu*[*ncelot*] Via 1623 Massinger *Duke of Milan & Lord Heath* I ii (ed 3) 25 For the voice which sounding sharply and cheerefully crying *Via how, hey* and such like adde a spirit and liuelinesse to the horse. 1828 Scott *Woodst* xxi, He exclaimed,' Thy death-hour has struck—betake thee to thy sword—Via!'

**2** As an exhortation or command to depart, = Away, be off, begone

1596 Shaks. *Merch V.* II ii 9 The fiend bids me packe, *Via* sayes the fiend, away sayes the fiend 1611 Chapman *Mayd Day* IV i 56 Your reward now shall be that I will not cut your strings nor breake your fioles *via*, 'tis 1616 B. Jonson *Devil* II i, *Sir Jo. Pecunior* I when shee's mine and gone, And fled and dead; then will I fetch her againe. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* vii, Horsewhip the rascal to purpose—via—fly away, and about it

**b.** Used to check argument or reply, or to dismiss a subject.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II ii 159 Ah ha, Mistresse Ford and Mistresse Page, haue I encompass'd you? goe to *via* 1821 Scott *Kenilw* xxi, And what was Ralph Sadler but the clerk of Cromwell *via*? I know my steerage as well as they *Ibid.* xxix, Why, via, let that pass too.

**Viaa** (vəi ā), *prep* Also via. [L. *vīā*, abl sing. of *via* way, Via *sb* ] By way of, by the route which passes through or over (a specified place)

1779 J Lovell *Let to A lams* 13 June, A s Wks. 1854 IX 483 I his night is the fourteenth since we first had the news of his victory, via New Providence 1823 Sir R. Wilson *Privy Diary* (1861) II 139, I would sweep through Berlin, revictual the fortresses, and return via Magdeburg 1832 J. Hogg *Jarvis's Dance* III 11 Lord Weybridge is on h s way to London via Paris 1888 Ir. Winot *Equator* 127, I arranged to proceed through Spain and via Paris, home

**Viability** (vəiəbĭlĭti) [ad F *viabilité* (1812), or f Viable *a* 1, see ITY.] The quality or state of being viable, capacity for living, the ability to live under certain conditions.

In common use from *c* 1860.

1843 Bouvier *Law Dict U S Viability*, med Jur., an aptitude to live after birth. extra uterine life 1853 Simpson *Obstet Path & Pract* 21 I have repeatedly been astonished at the vial ity of the infant after traction had been applied to it 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 44 Ihe general a d ultimate re uit of breeding in and in is to produce barrenness and sterility, children of a low degree of viability and of imperfect me tal and physical development etc. 1883 *Cent Mag* Sept 727 1 An animal or plant which is only partly adapted to its conditions of existence is ugly in exact proportion to its lack of viability.

*transf* 1893 C. B. Upton *Bears Relig Belief* 157 It means spiritual viability or immortality

**Viably** *adv.* [ad F *viablement* (1878), or f Viable *a* 2.] The condition of being traversable

1882 W Gray *Guide Mo* 1 The country is viably traversable in every direction, and the quality which converts gave it [Assamaria], can be expressed by one word 'viability' they made some roads

**Viable** (vəi ăb'l), *a* 1 [a F *viable* (1539), f *vie* life see -able 1] Capable of living, able to maintain a separate existence.

**a.** Of children at (normal or premature) birth

1828–32 Webster, *Viable* capable of living, as a new born infant or premature child 1859 *Todd's Cycl Anat & Physiol* The delivery of a fœtus of sufficient size 1881 *Trans Obstet Soc Lond* XXII 276 Such narrowing or deformity of the female pelvis as will absolutely preclude the birth of a viable child.

**b** In other physical applications

1885 Goodale *Physiol Bot* (1892) 446 Polyembryony [is] the production on of two or more viable embryos in a seed *c* 1890 Stevenson *In Youth Days* I 11 Judge by the eye there is no race more viable, and yet death reaps them with both hands

*c fig.* Of immaterial things or concepts

1848 *Last Days* XV 202 The rest are waiting for the proper medium the viable medium, the medium of harmony 1883 G P Lathrop *Hawthorne's Wks* XI 435 What we have here is a romance of romances, a power, that never attained to a viable stature and constitution

**Vi able,** *a* 2 [f L *via* way cf Viability 2.] Traversable

1856 *Sat Rev* II 331/2 If the building has the advantage of standing at the end of a vista, it is but mocking the needs of the many not to make the vista viable

**† Viadant** *Obs rare* [Irreg ad Sp, Pg, It. *viandante*, f *via* way + *andar*(*e* to go] A wayfarer, traveller

1619 Litegow *Travt* III. 120 They are but poore cattle, yet wonderfull kinde to all Viadants. *Ibid* VIII 353 The voluntary exposement of many vnnecessary Viadants.

**Viadge,** obs. form of Voyage *sb*

**Viador,** variant of Verdor

**Viaduct** (vəi ădŏkt) [f. L *via* way, after Aqueduct. So F *viaduc*.] An elevated structure, consisting of a series of arches or spans, by means of which a railway or road is carried over a valley, road, river, or marshy low lying ground

1816 Repton *Fragm Landscape Gard* 161 I have ventured to suggest a hint for such a structure as may support the road, rather calling it a Via-duct than a Bridge. 1837 *Civil Eng & Arch Journ* I 57 Great Viaduct now erecting over the River Wear, near Sunderland The viaduct consists of four large and six small arches 1869 *Times* 25 Oct 7 5 New bridges and viaducts and new streets can do much in enabling Londoners to spare more quickly to their places of business 1869 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1875) III xii 240 The modern viaduct a work worthy of old Roman days. 1878 Bryce *Transcaucasia* 1 The railway by the valley viaduct bridge consists of nine arches of fifty feet span 1897 *Daily News* 11 Feb 6/4 The viaduct ganger, who would be responsible for the erection of timbers.

**Viage,** obs var Voiage *sb*

**Viaggiatory,** *a nonce wd.* [f It *viaggiare* to travel] Given to travelling about

1847 Medwin *Life Shelley* II 54 The viaggiatory English old maids who scorn the continent

**Vial** (vəi ăl), *sb* Forms 4–6 vyol(e, 4 viol(e, 4. 6–7 violl(e, 5 6 vyoll e. 8 5 vyal, 6 voyalle, vialle, 6–7 viall, 7 vial [*var fyole, fiol, fiall*, etc, Phial *sb* See the note on the letter V ] A vessel of a small or moderate size used for holding liquids, in later use *spec*, a small glass bottle, a phial

*a.* 13 *E. E. Allit P* II 1180 Dere dusches of golde & dubbers fayre, þe vyoles & þe vesselemt of vertuous stones. *c* 1386 Chaucer (*an. Yeom Prol & T* 840 sondry vessels maad of erthe and glas, Vyals, crokes, and eek lymnotones, Cucurbites and alembikes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 185 Sette þe viol vpon soft cols & lete hem boile. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron Troy* I 3052 After þat, for his chefe socour, Sche toke to hym a viol with lettour 1490–85 Malory *Arthur* v x 178 Pryamus toke fro his page a vyole ful of the four waters that came oute of paradyse 1530

Palgr 1863/1 Viole, a glasse, *fiole, viole* c 1550 H 1 Loyd *Trans Health* E v] Mengle them together and put them in a vyol of glasse, and stop the mouth thereof close 1609 Dekker *Satiro-Mast Alm* Wks (Rouxw) IV 238 The Jewe sayed the Violl that is the poore man bell in his hand vnder his cloke 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* vi 53 The Air in the little Vial began to dilate it self 1705 Addison *Italy* 259 I placed them in a vyol, well stopp'd up with Wax, within the Smouk of the Vapour

*β* a 1450 *Mirk's Festival* 146 He t ke vyals of cristall and of lambur and of glas and put hys blod yn hom 1530 Palsgr 284/2 Viall a cruese or viall full of sweete and smelling water 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 433 Glass vials also and sundry small earthen vessels 1683 W Hedges *Diary* (Hakl Soc) I 86, I gave him a small Vyall of Balme of Gilead 1747 Wesley *Prim Physick* (1760) 67 Put a spoonful of this Water in a Vial 1756 Nugent *Gr Tour, France* IV 298 The holy vial, containing the oil used at the coronation of their kings. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atlas* xvii Liquors clear and sweet She in her crystal vials did closely keep. 1842 A Combe *Digestion* (ed 4) 114 [He] placed the vial in a ba i i of water on a sand bath 1872 R H Hutton *Ess* I 296 I'm ce would not be what she is if men had not believed for a thousand years in the holy vial of Rheims

*altrib* and *Comb* 1647 Hexham 1, a vial maker *sen Polem modern* 1824 I Disraeli *Amen Lit* I 81 *Mystery of Any Friends* I 321 There were two little vial bottles and a box of corn plaster in the drawer of the basin stand 1880 Mrs Cameron *Three Colonies* I 8 He was upon the table a large vial bottle with something very black in it

b. In allegorical or purely figurative use

Freq in allusion to Rev xv 7, etc (see first quots)

1398 Wyclif *Rev* xv 7 Seuen golden violes, ful of the wrathhe of God *Ibid* xvi 1 Go ye and schedde ye out the seuen violes of Goddis wrath in to erthe. c 1420 Lyfe *Ballad Comment Our Lady* 133 O glorious viole O vitre inviolate! 1603 Drayton *Barons' Warr* II vi And with a vial fild with baneful wrath Which in her blacke hand readily she hath, And drops the poison vpon euery weight. 1612 Shakes *Wint T* v iii 122 Your Gods looke downe And from your sacred Vials poure your graces Vpon my daugh ters head. 1656 Blount *Glossogr* s.v., Vials of wrath, men tioned in the Apocalipse, are Gods readiness to be fully revenged on sinners. c 1680 Beveridge *Serm* (1729) II 5 To beh ld the almighty Creator po ring out the vials of wrath of his wrath upon them 1718 Prior *Solomon* II 386 The frighted Angels o er the Earth from wrathful Vials pour'd Tempests and Storm 1760 Burke *Econ Reform* Wks 1842 I 535 You have tuns of an tent pomp in a vial of modern luxury 1820 Byron *Vis Judg* iv 134 Then the destroying angel hovers in Venice and pauses ere he pours the vial. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xvii, Everywe ere sen suality, division hatred, cruelty, uncertainty, terror! the vials of God s wrath poured out 1880 W G Blaikie *Livingstone* vii 135 For one so patient and good he had a very large vial of indignation and on occasion poured it out right heartily over all injustice

Hence **Vi al** *v trans* , to put into a vial, also *fig.*

**Vi alful** *a* , kept or stored in a vial **Vi alful,** as much as can be cont ined in a vial

1634 Milton *Comus* 847 Helping all urchin blasts, and all luck ripes. Which she with precious vialed liquors heals 1805 W Taylor in *Ann Rev* III 46 She distilled perfume of the bookmaker s style in here not spirt kled over every p ge and vialled in every l ne 1866 Ruskin *Fors Clavigera* xii 404 I had in my little clay pitcher, vialfuls, as it were, of Wo dsworth s reverence [etc.]

**Vial,** *a rare*—1 [f. *Via* way, or ad L *vialis* ] Serving for a way of road

1813 J Forsyth *Rem Excurs Italy* 353 The arch of Augustus being a vial one was necessarily much wider than the triumphal arches usually erected

**Vial i, Vialle,** obs. forms of Viol *sb.*

**Viallin,** obs form of Violin

**Via meter** *rare* [f. L *via* way + Meter.] A device for recording the number of miles traversed by a wheeled vehicle, a hodometer or cyclometer

1832–5 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 311/1 *marg* , Counting Machines for road carriages or viameter 1858 Mrs. Sinnett tr *B Möllhausen's Diary* I vi 75 The viameter gave an accurate measurement of the number of miles passed by counting the revolutions of the waggon wheel 1860 Worcester [Hence in later Dicts.]

**† Vianoe** *Obs*—1 [Alteration of *vyandes* (see next) after forms in *-ance* cf Gardeviance ] Food, sustenance

a 1300–50 *Alexander* 4121 He at hom enquires, Quat was baire viaunce in ba vales. 'ser venyson,' pai said

**Viand** 1 (vī ănd) Forms 4–5 vyaunde, 5 **viaunde** 4, 6 vyand(e, 6–8 viande, 6– viand (7 viond) [a AF *viaunde, viande* OF *viande* (= Sp and Pg *vianda,* It *vivanda*) —pop L **vivenda,* for *vivenda,* neut pl gerundive of L. *vivere* to live ]

**1** *pl* Articles of food, provisions, victuals

c 1400 Maundev (1839) xxiii 253 Flesche and dyverse vyaundes. a 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VIII,* 80 b Then spices fruites, ielies, and banket viandes wer brought 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 46 b/2 His viandes or meate and drincke, must only be Dieteticke. 1615 W Crooke *Body of Man* 629 Whilst we chew our meate the Tongue rowleth it selfe on euerie side of the mouth and applyeth it selfe to the Viands to take a say or Taste of them 1646 J Hall *Horæ Vac* 92 A good and strong stom ack will convert course viands into good nourishment 1692 Ray *Creation* 1 (1692) 216 Neither of which Viands (honey and bee bread) is any where to be found amass'd by Nature 1735 Somervile *Chase* I 154 Soon as the growling Pack, with eager Joy, Have lapp'd their smoking Viands 1805 *Med Jrnl* XIV 555 The means of inducing the invalid or convalescent to derive every benefit that arises from delicacy and variety of viands 1884 Milman *Lat Chr* IV v (1864) II 190 He dished the wine on the earth and scattered about the other viands 1886 C Bigg *Chr I atonists of Alexandria* in 104 Viands or meats are now provided by the liberality of the wealthier brethren

*fig.* 1826 Lamb *Elia* II *Sanity of True Genius* Lane s novels, th se scanty i tellectual viands of the whole female reading public

*transf.* 1870 Emerson *Soc & Solit, Farming* Wks. (Bohn) III 61 He will pamper his peaches and grapes on the viands they like best

**† b** Applied to a viaticum. *Obs*—1

Compare sense 2 b quot 1555

1607 Hieron *Bapt Annuch* (1613) 7 To passe ouer the Sacrament of the supper to some old people who must take it (as was said in the dares of superstition) for their viands, being neerer (in opinion and possibility) to their la t passage

**2** *jocose* & *collect* Food, sustenance

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xvi 563 Othir viaunde hadde he non vernament But everday swich as God him sente a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 17 He daily dyet was ale wyne in sotyle and delicate vyaunde c 1515 *Interl Four Elem* 465 I oft refreshe nature agayns With delycate vyand a 1548 Hall *Chron, Hen VI*, 7 b The same time treasure [sc] spent in folie, not paying pore men for their vitail and viande *Ibid, Edw IV*, 233 Euery table was abundantly furnished with all sortes of delicate viand 1600 Shakes *Much Ado* II iii 209 The Belly is mu dd e a th body idle and vnactiue. Still louing thy Vnderstanding. Viand 1603 Daniel *Sea Voyage I* vi 1 (ed 2) 95 All things necessary both for viands and apparell 1847 Emerson *Prerep* iv 17 Before us glow'd Fruit, blossom viand, amber wine, and gold 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl* (ed 2) 46 Say I grow hourly thinner, Tho I do try and absorb some viand Each day

**b** With *a,* etc. An article or kind of food. (Cf 1 )

1597 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser III II 298 Two small bar rells of viands to be sold among the lordes here 1555 W Waterman *Fardle Facions* II xii 287 That euery christian maine, when he stode in any daunger of death, should receiue the sacrament as a warlyke viande 1611 Shakes tr *Dighy's Powal Symp* 36 liy this thin viand (the a r), they came in sease the a rear to a foot long 1704 W Kidd *Vanity of Mankind* 9 Thy White wine Sugar, Milk, together club, to make that gentle viand Syllabub 1829 Lytton *Disowned* I 7 Not a viand they had fed on but had its appropriate legend 1849 W Irving *Astoria* 320 Having a great variety of viands, there this wand happed ed to be unusually plenty 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* I iv, After some discussion a decision was pronounced in favour of veal-cutlet as the viand itself seemed to purchase best

**† c** *Viand y sal,* as the name of a dish, *spec.* one composed of paste, eggs, sugar, wine, etc, and ornamented with gold and silver foil

c 1400 Maunde v (1839) xxiii 193 Of these Snayles men make Viaunde Ralle, for the King and for other grete Lordes. 14 *Anc Cookery* in *Housek Ord* (1790) 455 Viande Riall for xl Meals. [Recipe follows] c 1500 in *Pollock Bk* (1868) 376 Veneson in broth, viaunde Ryalle, veneson rosted

**† Viand-** *Obs*—1 [ad. Du *vyand* see Fiend ] An enemy

1616 J Lane *Contin Sqr s T* vii 87 Arme, arme, the viand comes!

**† Viander 1,** *Obs* Forms *a* 4 vyaundour, viandoure, 5 *Sc* vyanddour, vyandoure *β* 5 vyander (?), 6 vyandre, 6–7 viander [a AF *via(u)ndour, viandere,* Ob. *viandiere, viandier, f viande* Viand 1 ]

1 One who provides or good cheer for his household or guests, a (liberal) host or entertainer Usually with adj as *good*

c 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 4076 Knyght was he fol god in stour & lyberal mon, & vyaundour [v r & metegift man viandoure] 14 *Forme of Cury* in *Wars e Antiq Cantn* (1791) I 83 King Richard the Secunde ky g of Ingland the which was accounted the best and ryallest vyand[er] of alle cristen kynges c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* IX 1x 1 Of gud vyandour wys and delonare, Gud vyanddour and fed hym fare 1519 Horman *Vulg* 152 b, Plato is kepe all maner of foulle be required in a good viandere 1577 *Satyr Cantn* (1792) I 83 King Richard the Secunde ky g of Ingland the which was accounted the best and ryallest vyand[er] of alle cristen kynges c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* IX 1x 1 Of gud vyandour wys and delonare, Gud vyanddour and fed hym fare 1519 Horman *Vulg* 152 b, Plato is kepe all maner of foulle be required in a good viandere 1577 *Satyr Cantn* (1792) I 83 King Richard the Secunde *Fullyes Offices* II (1540) 101 One called Cimo in Athenes was also a lyberall vyandre to his frendes. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr Irel* in *Holinshed* Wherein she fareth lyke one that, to purchase y^e name of a sumptuous francklene or a good viander, wouldle ladde diuers guestes to a costly and dantie dinner [etc.]

**2** One who provides himself with good cheer; one who is fond of good living

1539 Cranmer *Let* in *Misc Writ* (Parker Soc) II 396 How prebendaries have spent their substance in nuper blous belly cheer : Comonly a prebendary is neither a learner, nor teacher but a good viander 1780 Legge *Pref to Poems of Cury* p v It is certain that Hardicnut stands on record as an egregious glutton but he is not particularly famous for being a curious Viander

**3** A supplier or seller of provisions

1598 Barret *Theor Warres* v ii 151 These vianders and many hants of the Lord Marshall insure and guard these F Markham *Bk Husb* III iv 94 The Armie shall ever haue great resort of Victuallers, Vianders, Sutlers and all occupations to relieue euery want

**4** (See quot )

1778 *Eng Gazetteer* (ed 2), *Newport, Cornwall*] has sent members to parliament ever since the 6th of Edward VI who are returned by two officers, called vianders.

**† Vi ander 2,** *Obs* Also 6 viandre, 7 -dour. [ad Ob. *viandier,* f as prec.] Viands, victuals, food

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Hen VI*, 149 b, The Englishemen prohibited the Gascoynes to minister to his arm e, viandre and sustenaunce *Ibid* 148 b, The sumptuous feast the delicate viander 1587 Maplet *Gr. Forrest* 105 She goeth another way to the Viander and vittailes and there eateth hir fyll 1625 J Robinson *Ass* xxxi (1851) I 134 Though it seem unreasonable that the less way men have to go, they should be careful for the more viandour and provision for their journey

**† Vi andry,** *Obs* In 6 viandrye, -rie, viaundrie. [f Viand 1 + -ry ] = prec.

1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 55 They had bounteous stewardes and proctours for all their neces-saric store of foode and viandrie. 1563 Grafton *Contn. Hardyng* 574 When they had as well sufficiente viai drye as all other thynges ready they tooke theyr iourney to Welles. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm I ar Luke* IX 36 The Apostles had provision of viaundrie

**† Vi ary,** *a. Obs rare* [ad L. *vārī-us,* f *via* way ] Relating to, occurring on, a road or way

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II xcvi 282 So in Beasts, in Birds, in Dreames, and all vnary Omens they are onely the guesse like interpretations of dim eyes & Man full of doubt, full of deceit. 1656 Blount *Glossogr*

**Viate oture** *rare*—0 [Irreg f L *via* way, after *architecture* ] (See quot )

1890 R. Park *Pantology* (1813) 447 We propose the term Viature, as nearly synonymous with Civil Engineering, to include the construction of roads and bridges, railroads, and canals, and water works; and the improvement of rivers and harbors [Hence in later Dicts.]

**† Via tic,** *sb Obs.* In 7 viatioke — Viaticum 1643 *Impeachm Father Phillips* A 1b, After a Viatioke, hee was dispatched againe for England, with some few small Gifts

**† Via tic,** *a Obs*—1 [ad. L *viatic-us* (rare), f. *via* way ] (See quot )

1656 Blount *Glossogr* , *Viatick* pertaining to a journey, or travelling by the way [Hence in Phillips, Bailey, and later Dicts.]

**Viatical** (vəi,æ tikăl), *a* and *sb rare* [f L. *viatic-us* or *-um* see prec. and Viaticum ] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to a way or road , relating to a journey b *sb pl* Articles for use on a journey

1805 Landor *Jour Corr* Wks. 1876 I 450 His luck would have been best under the weight of armour and viaticals which Titus [Livius] carried with him easily and far 1883 J G Baker *N Yorks Stud Bot*, etc 188 Such stations as are devoid of the terms pedestal, viatical, agrestal, sylvestral and septal exist no longer

**Via ticated,** *a rare*—0. [f L. *viaticāt-us* (Plautus), f *viatic-um* see next ] (See quot )

1727 Bailey (vol II), *Viaticated,* furnished with Things nece ssary for a Journey

‖ **Viaticum** (vəi,æ tikŏm) Pl **viatica** [L *viaticum* travelling money, provision for a journey, neut sing of *viaticus* (rare), f *via* way Hence Sp , Pg , It *viatico,* F *viatique* ]

1. *Eccl* The Lucharist, as administered to or received by one who is dying or in danger of death

1562 in Cooper *Annw Prer. Diurn* 1 Let the wives Christians would be always sure to have their *viaticum,* as it is termed in the old canons that is to say, their voyage provision 1569 J. Sanford *Hours of Death* 116 Whiche the auncient fathers called *Viaticum,* the viage provision of Christen men departing oute off this world c 1632 *Women Saints* 78 After that she had received her holie *Viaticum* or voiage foode for vnto her holie life. 1667 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* III 63 Wee durst not giue him the holy viaticum, he being so farre spent 1685 Evelyn *Hist Godolphin* 158 As if presaging he was not like hand she furnish d herselfe with the heavenly viaticum 1744 in J O Payne *Old Eng Cath Missions* (1889) 28 I administered the viaticum to him and at I. 30 he died Sep 3 1774 *Ann Reg* 151 Many people were dangerously wounded 18 of whom had the viaticum administered 1839 [Wiseman] *Lives St Alph Rodriguez*, etc 19 Before he fell so dangerously ill that the Viaticum was brought to her 1855 Kingsley *Westw Ho!* xxvi, No absolution, no viaticum, nor any thing I like 1894 J Fowler *Glastonbury* Introd p liv, Having received the holy viaticum at the hands of St Kevin, he passed away in peace

*attrib* 1886 *Charden's Trav Persia* 101 I they make their *Viaticum* bread once a year: that is to say, upon Holy Thursday

2 A supply of money or other necessaries for a journey , a sum given or taken to cover travelling expenses

1582–8 *Hist James VI* (1804) 100 This was very accept abill to the Duke and thairfor he gaue him a reasonabill viaticum for performance of this fact. 1594 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* V 243 He was sent to Scotland, and had fifteen[n] crownes for his viaticum. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* I ii A poor viaticum ; very good gold, Sir, But holy men it bear a better treasure 1636–50 Ussher *Whole* (Wodrow Soc) 423 The Earle of Dumbarre dealt many angells of gold pretended for a viaticum, but indeed for voteing 1649 Jer Taylor *Gt Exemp* I vi 108 The smallnesse of their viaticum and accommodation for their voyage were so many circumstances of poverty 1721 Wodrow *Corr* (1843) II 587 There is L 120 of debt on the Church and the viaticums are stopped. 1792 in *Scots Mag* (1793) 512 This pannel caused to be sent him his baggage, and a *viaticum* of money 1822 T Taylor *Apuleius* xi 285 When a few days had elapsed, I regularly collected together my viaticum in bundles 1899 B Camm *Brave Days of Old* 85 This money had been given to him by the most munificent Pope Gregory XIII, for his viaticum or travelling expenses the year before

b. Without article.

1658 *Fuller Ch Hist* III. 88 He allowed them only bare *victlyum* to bear their charges. 1883 *Law Rep* 9 Probate Div 41 *The Gustaf* is an authority in favour of the seamen's

claim for viaticum, and it is always the practice to give subsistence money.

**c.** Provisions taken for use on a journey Also *transf* (quot 1862).

1665 Patrick *Parable Pilgr* xviii, It will be a very good *Viaticum* for you, and in the strength of this Food you may travel many days 1666 J Davies *Hist Caribby Isles* 239 Afterwards sitting down on the grass, every one fell to what he had brought along with him for his *Viaticum*. 1901 Wolley *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 36 This Indian Corn is their constant Viaticum in their travels and War 1791 W Bartram *Carolina* 344, I comforted myself with a frugal repast of biscuit and dried beef, which was all the food my viaticum afforded me by this time 1864 Rawlinson *Anc Mon*, *Chaldæa* I. 135 In the Chaldæan sepulchres a number of dishes are always ranged round the skeleton, containing the *viaticum* of the deceased person 1880 W G Blaikie *Livingstone* v 89 Purchasing a loaf and a piece of cheese as *viaticum*, he started for a college at Oberlin

**3.** *transf* and *fig* (from senses 1 and 2).

*a* 1618 Davies *Wittes Pilgr* Wks (Grosart) II 46/1 And with thy Pilgrimage in silence pass Thou needst the lesse *Viaticum* for it 1640 Fleetwood *Irnal* xxxiii (1667) 103 'Tis to travel without *viaticum* for any to undertake a voyage without the Graces of the Country, where he goes. 1649 Jer Taylor *Gt Exemp* II § 12 96 The grace of God is our viaticum and entertains us by the way. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* II (1677) 186 He hath a great freedom from fear of Death, and no small *viaticum* to support a tranquility of mind in his life 1741 Warburton *Div Legat* VI § 6 The doctrine of a future state was then constant viaticum through life 1775 J Brand (1849) I 20 Banbury's etchings and Sterne's journey are almost as good viaticums in France as the post book 1853 C D Yonge tr *Lucretius* v 189 Another of his sayings was that eduction was the best viaticum for old age 1891 Farrar *Soc & Present Day Quest* 221 There is all Biography to nourish you with the viaticum of good examples

**Viator** (vəɪ,ē′ tɔr) Also 6 **vyatour** [a L. *viator*, *f via* way. Cf obs. F *vyateur*, It *viatore*, Sp *vador*.] A traveller, a wayfarer.

The ancient Roman sense of 'courier' or 'officer appointed' is given in various Dicts. from Cawdrey (1598) onwards

1504 C Tres Richmond tr *De Imitatione* IV 1 (1893) 262 He is our helth and redempcyon and the consolacion of vyatours, and the eternall foeycon of all sayntes. 1655 Cotel *Instit. nov* 22 Because the vigils of God is not a duty of one whilest we are viators here. 1660 T Watson in Spurgeon *Treas Dav* Ps iii 2 The saints are not only blessed when they are comprehensors, but while they are viators. *a* 1704 J Brown *Comm pl Bk* Wks 1709 III 11 228 We find the Inscriptions address'd to the Viator or Passenger 1875 Rusden *Story Cleve* iv 137 Concealed by the fine trees, so . that the passing viator remains unapprised by them

**Viato rial,** *a rare* [f I. *viatori us*, f. *viator*. see prec and -orial.] Of or pertaining to travelling

[1567 A Campbell *Lett sph* (1774) 54 We continued our viatorial progresse through the royal perambulations] 1816 Keatinge *Trav* I 5 As to France and Flanders if ever a subject were exhausted of viatorial novelty, this is the case with regard to these countries

Hence **Viato rially** *adv*

1880 *Daily Tel* 22 Nov, The Americans, viatorially considered, are the most patient and long suffering people in the whole world

† **Viato rian,** *a. Obs* —0 [Cf prec] (See quot)

Also † **Viato rious** *a Obs* —0

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Viatorian*, belonging to the way, travelling or journeying, or serving to way faring men. 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Viatorious*, belonging to the Way

† **Vi atory,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *viatori us*] Of the nature of wayfaring.

1629 Donne *Serm* Wks. 1839 V 252 In a word, this is our viatory, our preparatory, our imitatory, and inchoative blessedness 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond* 86 A Militant condition and a viatory state

‖ **Vibex** (vəi bɛks) *Path* Pl **vibices** (vəi-, vibəi sīz) [f *vibex*, dial mark of a blow or stripe, a weal.] A long and narrow mark or patch in the skin caused by the subcutaneous extravasation of blood, occurring esp. in some fevers Usually in pl

[1563 T *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2) 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Vibex*, a black and blew Spot occasioned by a Effuse of Blood.] 1772 *Encycl Brit* III 681/2 Small livid or large livid or dark greenish marks, seldom appear till very near the fatal period 1793 Bardsdon *Consumpt* 115 Dark coloured spots, vibices, or rany other scorbutic symptoms 1822–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) II 164 Petechial spots, vibices, and hemorrhages from different parts 1876 Bristowe *Th & Pract Med.* 288 In malignant cases [of diphtheria] petechiæ and vibices appear beneath the skin.

† **Vi·brable,** *a. Obs.*—0 [ad. L. *vibrabilis*, f. *vibrare* to brandish, shake] 'That may be shaken or brandished' (Bailey, 1727, vol II).

**Vibra cular,** *a. Zool* [f Vibracul-um + -ar.] Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, vibraculæ; furnished with vibraculæ.

1891 *Cent Dict* 1896 Harmer *Polyzoa* xvii. (Camb. Nat Hist II) 486 The large vibracular zoœcia occupy nearly the whole of the surface

**Vibra culoid,** *a Zool* [f next + -oid] Resembling (that of) a vibraculum or vibraculæ

1896 Harmer *Polyzoa* xvii (Camb Nat. Hist II) 484 Avicularium with vibraculoid mandible *Ibid* 485 in *Hecoporella eximia* the avicularia are very variable, and in some cases take on a 'vibraculoid character

‖ **Vibraculum** (vəibrɛ′kiŭlŏm). *Zool* Pl **-ula** [mod L., f. L. *vibrāre* to shake] One of the long whip-like movable processes or organs possessed by certain polyzoans; now regarded as a modified zooid.

1854 S P Woodward *Mollusca* 165 Eye tentacles deflected at the tips, beyond the eyes, vibracula much shorter, also deflected 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 295 But there are some special organs of defence which were wanting in the Canda One of these is called the vibraculum or the whiplash 1877 Huxley *Anat Inv Anim* viii. 457 The dilated bases of the vibracula contain muscles by the contraction of which the flagelliform appendage is moved

**Vibrancy** (vəi brănsi) [f next sec -cy] The condition or quality of being vibrant.

1895 *Funk's Stand Dict* 1898 *Sat Rev* 8 Dec. 703/1 With a vibrancy of tone that seemed to bring her voice quite close to him.

**Vibrant** (vəi brănt), *ppl. a.* [ad. L *vibrant-*, *vibrans*, pres pple of *vibrāre* to Vibrate Cf F. *vibrant*, Sp, Pg, and It *vibrante*.]

† **1** a. Agitated with anger or emotion *Obs* —1

c 1550 Rolland *Cri Venus* t 735 This is the case I haif to sow to mene, Quhilk in ane part to yow als dois pertene, As to my self thocht I be mair vibrant

† **b** Moving or acting with rapidity or energy; stirring. *Obs* —1

1616 Lane *Contin Sqr's T* xi 295 Next came a stowt couragious vibrant knight, largile proportiond and as large of might

† **2** *Her* Brandishing, flourishing *Obs* —1

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II 97 b, P beareth Gules an Ibelle, a Lyon rampaunt d Or, vibrante a sworde d Argente

**3** Of or pertaining to rapidly vibrating

1816 Lane *Contin Sqr s T* vi 273 There theare three three squares of vibrant pikes out glides. *Ibid* viii 222 Till pikes, and pikes, sidewayes, and forenght, vibrant thrustes in strikes 1876 Falconer *Shipwr* i 239 While Phœbus down the vertic circle glides He, o'er th' horizon, vibrant seems to swim, And, tangent, sweeps at wish his nether limb 1877 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* XLIII 238 His voice of song

Thro their crystaline caves the vibrant billows bear 1860 J W Holmes *Elsie V* (1861) 136 She dan ed with a kind of passionate fleetness her round arms wreathing and unwinding, alive and vibrant to the tips of the slender fingers. 1876 *Dowden Poems* 29 A vibrant tongue Had in a moment pricked many hearts 1877 Miss Thackeray *Old Kensington* I 48 Vibrant energy 1898 W Cory *Ionica* 87 That vibrant hearts of ours repeat What they with him were wont to feel

**b** Vibrating or thrilling; sounding

1867 Bard *Overruled* Poems 8 Ye corbs, Even the nebulous star, with fearful joy Vibrant conclude God is. 1883 *Cent Mag* Oct 828/2 The greatest of commercial communities, peopling and vibrant with commerce and speculation 1895 Zangwill *Master* II vii 213 The wonderful city vibrant with the swirl of perpetual currents of traffic

**4** Of sound Characterized by, exhibiting, vibration, resonant

1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed 3) 204 While yet these words were vibrant on my tongue 1874 Howells *Foregone Concl* viii The vibrant accents of Chioza 1892 Zangwill *Pure Colour* 132 The speaker paused a moment, his low vibrant tones faltering into silence.

**Vi brate,** *pa. pple* and *ppl. a. rare* [ad L *vibrat us*, pa pple of *vibrāre* see next]

† **a.** *pa. pple* Vibrated (cf Vibrate v 7 b)

c 1440 *Ballad Commend Our Lady* 115 O fyry Tytan persing with thy bemes, Whos vertuous bry ghtnesse was in thi brest vibrate

**b** *ppl a* Vibrating *with* something, *rare*—1

1849 *Poet's Mag* XVI 9 The sightless belfry clock had rung vibrate with triumph

**Vibrate** (vəi brēt), *v* [f I *vibrāt*, ppl stem of *vibrare* to move rapidly to and fro, to brandish, shake, etc. So F *vibrer*, Sp and Pg *vibrar*, It *vibrare*.]

**1** † **I** *intr.* Of persons To move to and fro in a fight or struggle *Obs* —1

1616 Lane *Contin Sqr s T* ix 177 Pusshinge repushinge, stryvinge agen as valient mortal and immortal men

**2** Of a pendulum, etc To swing to and fro, to oscillate.

1667 *Phil Trans* II 440 A Pendulum three foot, three inches & twelve lines in the middle of the Bullet and the upper end of the Thread, did vibrate in that time 1828 Kelly *Exam Th Earth* (1734) 265 At Cayenne in America it is observ'd, the t e Pendulum Vi rating in a second is shorter [etc.] *Ibid* 279 The Gravity where the swiftest Pendulums vibrate more slowly than short ones 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* II (1842) 33 To ascertain that they (i e balances) really are in adjustment, and that, after vibrating long, they take a horizontal position 1883 *Encycl Brit* XV 718 1 The double compl ex pendulum, when it vibrates in one plane

**3** a. Of sounds To strike on, sound on, the ear, etc, with an effect like that of a vibrating chord; to resound, to continue to be heard Chiefly *poet.*

1735 Pope *Prol. Sat* 317 The whisper that to greatness still too near, Perhaps, yet vibrates on his Sov reign's ear 1824 Young *Nt Th* iii 91 Her song still vibrates in my ravish ear 1797 Mrs Radcliffe *Italian* I, The touch ng accents of her voice still vibrating on his heart 1813 Byron *Corsair* ii vi, Yet hears the clang of tumult vit rate on his ears. 1822 Shelley *Music*, when first [etc] a Music, when soft voices die, Vibrates in the memory. 1910 Mac intosh *Poetic Asyrakire* 56 The sound of the anvil loud ceased to vibrate in the streets.

**b.** To circulate *about*, move or pass *through*, pierce or penetrate *to*, by or as by vibration

1756 W Toldervy *Briss d Orphans* IV 267 This strange news had vibrated about the town 1764 Golden *Trav* 220 Those powers that Catch every nerve, and vibrate through the frame. 1836 *Johnsonians* 303 Surely the finest sensabilities must vibrate through his frame, since they breathe so sweetly through his song! 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* I 221 The consequences of the ambition of the French Emperor thus vibrated to the heart of Asia. 1863 Geo Eliot *Romola* xl, The voice had vibrated through her more than once before. 1875 B Taylor *Fanat* I Notes 230 The puppet play echoed and vibrated in many tones through my mind

**4.** To move or swing backwards and forwards, or upwards and downwards, with some degree of rapidity, to quiver, shake, or tremble

1726 Hurle *Motl* v 87 Wks I 269 The whole capacity of the eye, vibrating in all its parts must approach near to the nature of what causes pain 1802 *Med Jrnl* VIII 345 I he heart cot inued to e whole time to vibrate about thirty times in a minute 1816 Tilkey *Navy Disord. & Cure* vii. (1818) 91 A variety of palm trees vibrating in the breeze 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp* xxix (18 6) 250 The timbers vibrated so as to communicate to you the peculiar tremor of a cotton factory 1897 Mary Kingsley *W Africa* 358 The burning heat making the whole desolate, hideous scene vibrate before your eyes as you can see things vibrating through the hot air over a line f gas jets.

**b** *spec* in *Physics* (see Vibration 3)

1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) II 163 If we strike a bell, or a stretched string for instance a su ple blow 1 pro duces a sound wh h is multiplied as often as it happens to undulate, or vibrate 1812 J Playfair *Nat Hist* (1814) I 287 A musical string g enerates, and is affected by a bit of cloth, or any soft body, no sound is heard 1832 Brewster *Nat Magic* vi 120 If th e string is taken by the middle and pulled aside so as to make it vibrate, it will vibrate between its two fixed points 1874 Tyndall *Fragm Sci* (1879) I xiv 384 When a hammer strikes a bell, the latter vibrates 1875 Manning *Mist on Of Ghost* i 25 You know that if you strike a note of music, all the octave notes will vibrate

*c transf* and *fig*

1833 Shelley *Q Mab* iii 186 When Nero felt A new-created sense within his soul Thrill to the stage, and vibrate to the sound 1852 Miss Srowe *Uncle T* ni C xl, Nerve and bone of that poor man's body vibrated to those words 1862 Burton *Hist Scotland* V 466 A deep pang of grief and wrath has vi rated behi d that placid countenance. 1898 'Merriman *Actor's Corner* xxiv 306 The sight of him, the sound of his voice, stirred something within her that vibrated for hours

**5** *fig* To move or oscillate *between* (or *betwixt*) two extreme conditions, opinions, etc , to fluctuate or vary *from* one extreme *to* another Also without const To vacillate in opinion

1782 Priestley *Inst Relig* III 107 A person who is less conversant in these things would feel his mind, as it were vibrate between both [gains and losses] 1798 *Sentry Provence of Min* IV iii 279 His estimate of the crop varies from 20 to 90. 1818 Ranken *Hist Prince* V v 403 The mayor of silver vibrated betwixt 5 hi ees and 20 or 30 livres 1857 Mac kie *Mor & Mist Hist* VIII § 3 The only effectual method is to vibr te between these two opposite statements 1874 Green *Short Hist* iv § 1 389 The life of a man of fashion vi rated between frivolity and excess. 1875 Benham *Eng Hist Anec* 184 While his unbridled imagination was in this state of fusion, his rival was vibrating furiously from one s de to the other

**II** † **6** *trans* To brandish or flourish (a sword) *Obs rare* (Cf Vibrant *ppl a* 2)

1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 188 They shake and vibrate their Swords upon their Shields. *Ibid.* 97 In this their Extasie the boyes vibrate a readie sword against the beholders.

**7.** To throw with vibratory motion, to launch or hurl (a thunderbolt, sentence, etc). Now *Obs.* or *arch*

1642 † Sheets mueler *Anat* ix (1653) 59 Excommunication was never vibrated but by the hand of those th t stand in the Word and Doctrine 1660 H More *Myst Godl* To Rdr p xxi Such a Bishop as I have but erto described, that vibrates that sacred thunder and lightning 1662 Gauden *Hier Dikes* full sentences of Excomm unication 1664 — *Myst Inig Ab L* 504 Though I must confess that this is very stoutly and smartly vibrated as a dart from a strong and agil arm 1840–1 De Quincey *Style* iii in *Tait Self Educ*, etc (1886) 272 That orat r ic I sentences of whom (amongst so many that vibrate thunderbolts) it was said pecularly that he thundered and lightened 1866 Landor *Imag Conv* II 44/2 Many vibrate sharp communications from the enbrasures of portentously slit sleeves

**b** To emit, give forth, send out (light, sound, etc) by, or as by, vibration or vibratory motion

*c* 1643 Lo Herbert *Autobiog* (1824) 59 A Foil whereby it (i e a diamond) may the better transmit and vibrate its native lustre and Rays 1665 Hooke *Microgr* 218, I have seen the D g stare to vibrate so strong and bright a radiation of light 1788 *Encyc l Brit* (ed 3) I 81 2 As to the frequency with which they (ac chords) vibrate the deepest tones 1810 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* XIX 418 O chear, Editha and allow thy bosom To vibrate sym pathy 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F* 578 Star to star vibrates light 1874 *Cent Ency A* XVII 1 Any number of strings that are in unison will vibrate an answer to one of themselves when str ck

**8** *Of* a pendulum, etc To measure (seconds) by vibrating; also, to swing (so many times)

1667 *Phil Trans* II 440 A Pendulum, vibrati g Seconds, must be three foot, three inches, and one fifth of an inch long 1747 *Ibid* 441 A Pendulum held in the hand vibrating 58 single strokes in a Minute 1704 W Derham *Phys* XXV 1785 The Movements were an Hight duy Clock vibrating seconds and an Half seconds Movement of mine 1760 in *North Dep Hist Soc* App. II 130 A pendulum which . will vibrate sec n ds in a true and regular manner 1803 J. Wood *Prime Mech* viii 173 A pendulum which vibrates seconds in very s nall arcs 1871 C Davies *Meter Syst* ii. 22 The length of a pendulum which should vibrate seconds at a given point on the earth's surface

**9** To give a vibratory motion to (something), to cause to move to and fro or up and down, esp. with a quick motion, to put in vibration.

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Sept. 1657, 2 Virginian rattle-snakes swiftly vibrating and shaking their tailes 1708 Young *Love Paneg.* vi. 109 With skill she vi rates her eter al tongue, For ever in it divinely in the wrong 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 221 Their tails terminate with a hard horny spur, which they vibrate very quick when disturbed 1822 J. Taylor *Apalomet* III. 145 Though I vibrated my pendulous lips with excessive rotundity 1879 G. Prescott *Sp. Teleph.* 115 Bars, which when to be vib rated by the action of heat, are made of brass. *a* 1889 C. C. Abbott *Naturalist in Bramble* 303 The last spotted adder vibrated the tail in a very marked manner

*To fig* or *in fig* context.

1815 Keats *Ode to Apollo* v. Each vibrates the string That with its tyrant temper best accords. 1875 Lowell *Words worth* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 365 He saw man such as he can only be when he is vibrated by the orgasm of a natural emotion 1876 — *Among my Books* Ser. II. 165 The 'Motopomon' pleases us all the more that it vibrates in us a string of classical association

**c** *refl.* To bring *into* a certain state by or after vibration *rare*—1

*a* 1849 Poe *Tales Mouse & Una* (ad fin.) That feeble thrill had vibrated itself into quiescence.

Hence **Vi brated** *ppl. a.* **Vi brating** *vbl. sb.*

1669 *Addr. Young Gentry Eng.* 58 The pale face vibrated ears inequal pulses shew this to be under an acute fever 1743 Emerson *Pleas. Theor.* (1768) 108 The Time of Pendulums v brating in the Arch of a Cycloid 1888 Bain *Mind* II. 133 There was a clear walk wh h was his principal place for vibrating to as he [Bentham] called his indoor exercise

**Vibratile** (vəi·brătil, -təil), *a.* and *sb.* Also f. "*vibratilis*" see Vibrate v. + -ile. Cf. F. *vibratile*]

**1** Of the nature of vibration, marked or characterized by vibration, vibratory

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 301 Motion *Vibratile*: when there is a constant oscillation of any part 1857 *Edin. Rev.* July 58 The effect is produced by the propagation of alternating atomic polarisation in a vibratile way 1862 H. W. Feiler *Dr. Fox* 156 A body not possessed of much molecular elastic ty or vibratile power 1881 Mivart *Cat* 245 The vibratile, lash ig action of th e spermat zoon

**2** Of cilia, etc. Endowed with the power of vibration, having a rapid and constant oscillatory movement

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 108/2 *Dygastrica*, aquatic animals, with a circular ex ertile dental apparatus around the mouth, and with vibratile cilia for respiration and progressive motion 1847 Lyonet *Org. Mov. Insects* 15 This larva swims by means of minute vi tratile hairs or ciliae 1888 Robertson & Jackson *Amer. Text-Bk.* 80 The longer process is vibratile and breaks away the other bo nes vibratile as soon as it has absorbed the remaining protoplasm

**b** *transf.* Of persons, or parts of the body

1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf. T.* iv. (1883) 168 'She [a woman] is vibratile and evoua it all over' 1898 H. G. Wells *Personal Matters* 135 One has to resort to the extended arm and fin. ers vibratile

**Vibrati lity.** *rare*—1 [Cf. prec.] The quality of being vibratile; vibratory power

1747 tr. *Astruc's Incest.* 183 The differe t degrees of the elasticity and exc citation [*sic*] of the fluids and vibratility of the solids. 1888-90 Watson & Burnett *Hydrotherapy*, 61 Position to preternatural vibrati n or motion

**Vi brating,** *ppl. a* [f. Vibrate v.]

**1** Of, or characterized by, vibration, causing vibration; vibratory

1685 Boyle *Effs to Mots* iv. 108 That a vibrating motion is thereby produced may be aid by the dancing of the water 1710 J. Harris *Lex Techn.* II. *Vibrating Motion*, is a very quick and short Motion of the solid Parts of Bodies, caused by the elastick Force of some Body like to them 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 105 'Tis weight supported him in a vibrat ng state. 1788 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 252 The vibrating ends of arteries 1848 J. Spearman *Brit. Gossner* (ed. 2) 313 The angular velocities of the vibrating system

**2** That vibrates, having a vibratory motion, oscillating

17 Ramsay *Ep. to Friend at Florence* 33 The vib rating harmonious strings, And breathing tube which the soft nymphs inspire. 1743 Emerson *Pleas. Theor.* (1768) 108 The Center of Oscillation is the Point in the Axis of a Vibrating Body [etc.] 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xviii. 134 Suppose a vibrating string to give the lowest C of the pianoforte 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. i. 25 The little sac-shaped organ of voice is a vi rating instrument resembling the reed of a clarionet 1879 Stainer *Music of Bible* 149 A stringed, cut or with three rings on each lar, or with three vibrating bars.

**b** Of machines or their parts, implements, etc

1831 3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 181/1 Vibrating engine. It may be worked either by high or low pressure steam, or by means of a vacuum 1837 Herbert *Pugin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 711 The vibrating lever, called the tumbling bob 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts &c.* [In the] Vibrating Steam Engine, the steam cylinder vibrates upon two hollow gudgeons 1875 Knight *Dict. Me h.* 2709/2 Vibrating propeller. Vibrating rotor 1878 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 36 In the latest form of transmitter the vibrating diaphragm is done away with altogether

**c.** Of insects, etc. Having vibratile antennæ or cilia. *rare.*

1710 tr. *Fouchet's Universe* III. iii. 163 Some schneumons, or *vibrating flies* are much more rapacious and bold!

**3** Of sound Vibrant

1849 James *Woodman* IX. The swinging of the great bell, as it continued to pour forth its loud vibrating call for assistance. 1858 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 754 In different cases it [i e a pericardial friction fremitus] is described as harsh and grating, rasping, vibrating or creaking.

Hence **Vibra tingly** *adv.*

1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 580 A note to which all the tender sympathies of his Penny vibratingly responded.

**Vibration** (vəibrē·ʃən) [ad. L. *vibration-*, *vibratio*, n. of action f. *vibrare* to Vibrate. So F. *vibration*, It. *vibrazione*, Sp. *vibracion*, Pg. *vibração*]

**+1.** (See quots. and of Vibrate v. 6.) *Obs.*—0

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vibration* a brandishing, shaking, or wagging, as men do drawn swords, when they threaten others

**2.** The action on the part of a pendulum or similarly suspended body of moving or swinging to and fro; oscillation

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 191 The most probable way for the effecting of this is that wi ich wa first suggested by Doctor Christ opher Wren n ymely by Vibration of a Pendulum. 1700 *Motte Math. Dict.*, *Retard on* the Motion of a Pendulum in a Clock, which n oves in the long sort a Second in Time i ncreased and forward 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn.* I. *Vibration* is the Swing or M otion of a Pendulum, or of a Body hung by a String on a Pin 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 119/2 Whence the lengths of pendulums are as the squares of the numbers of the times of vibration. 1822 Webster *Imitation Sec. & Art* I. 80 The vibration of bodies when suspended o ust have been long ol served 1830 Kater & Lardner *Mech.* 129 When the alternation [of motion] is constant and regular it is called os illation or vibration, as in pendulums and balance wheels 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 314/2 The time of vi ration depends entirely on the length of the pendulum

**b** A single instance of this

1665 *Phil. Trans.* II. 442 The Pendulum was this Day adjusted, there having been but 56 vibrations in a Minute, the other Day 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 191 Let the Ball be s spended by this String being extended to such a length that the space of every Vibration may be equal to a second Minute of Time 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. The Proportions of the Vibrations of Pendulums 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 118/1 The point or axis of suspension of pendulum is that point about which it performs its vibrations 1803 J. Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 124 Such swing that it [i e a pendulum] makes is called a vibration or oscillation 1819 Pantalogia *Anat. Phil.* 1180/1 The time of one vibration of the pendulum in seconds. *Ibid.*, The times of the vibrations of pendulums are as the square roots of their lengths 1830 H. Pitman *Theoretical Mechanics* (ed. 5) 103 The acceleration of gravity is proportional to the square of the number of vibrations of the same pendulum in a given time

**3.** *Physics.* The rapid alternating or reciprocating motion to and fro, or up and down, produced in the particles of an elastic body by the disturbance of equilibrium, the motion in the particles of a sonorous body by which sound is produced

1668 tr. *Hobbes Elem. Philos.* (1839) 527 When the string of a lute is broken the vibrations, that is, the reciprocal motions of that string in the same strait line, cauaeth like vibration in another string which hath like tension 1720 Penn *Brief Letter to Locke & Hemingway* 18 Sept. in H. 243 The vibration of the Air and its Undulation 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 168 An æther, rendered luminous, by a vibration occasioned by the planetary motion 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* iii. The office of the vibration of the ear is to spread out an extended surface, capable of receiving the impressi ns of sound, and of being put by them into a state of vibration on a vibrating surface, which is connected with the ser sation of sound in our organs of hearing

**b** A single movement of this kind

1666 Pepys *Diary* 8 Aug., A certain number of vibrations proper to make any note 1732 S. Halsall *Nat. Fire* 30 Which perspiration is effected by the brisk rarifying vibrations of warmth 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. xx. But still their vibrations The deep vibrations of the sounding string 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 406 The height of the longitudinal vibrations is inversely as the length of the sonorous body 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xvii. 153 When the particles of elastic bodies are suddenly disturbed by an impulse, they return to their natural position by a series of isochronous vibrations. 1892 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1897) II. 240 Each vibration exerts its individual rights, and all are at last shaken forth into the air by a second sound board

*fig.* 1748 Anson's *Voy. Misc.* (Bohn) I. 358 Ben Jo son had no suspicion of the elastic fame whose first vibrations he was attempting 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxviii. I felt a shock within him and stirred innumerable vibrations of memory 1866 — *F. Holt* (1878) 8 Vibrations that make human agonies are often a mere whisper in the roar of human existence

**c.** *spec.* A supposed movement of this kind in the nerves, regarded as the means by which external impressions are conveyed to the mind *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Madness*, Confused Vibrations of the Nerves and a remarkable Energy of Imagination 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. 11 External Objects impressed upon the Senses occasion first in the Nerves, and then in the Brain, Vibrations of the small medullary Particles. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* III. 93 Those more or less pleasing vibrations of the optic nerves, which serve to inform the mind 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. 120 The vibrations of the brain are [not] themselves the perceptions. 1801 Reinham *Philosophy of Mind* § 4. 38 The theory of vibrations suggested by Sir Isaac Newton, [and] adopted and amplified by Dr. Hartley, assumes that the nerves are continuations of the medullary substance of the brain, that impressions made upon the organs of sense produce vibrations in the minute particles of the nerves. 1829 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 204 Hartley's vibrations and vibratiuncles. 1857 [see Vibratiuncle].

**4.** In wider sense. Movement to and fro or up and down, esp. when quick and more or less continuous, a quivering, swaying, or tremulous motion of any kind

1682 tr. *Willis Rem Med Wks* Vocab., *Vibration*, a shaking, striking or quavering 1785 N. Robinson *The Physick* 83 An increa d Motion of the Blood, arising from a Vibration of the Vessels. 1822 Shelley *Lines Bay of Lerici* 16 Feeling ever—oh! too much!—The soft vibration of her touch 1833 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 251 Our brig had just mounted the floe, and as we stood on the ice watching her vibrations, it seemed so certain that she must come over on her beam ends. 1870 Dickens & Dredd x. There was a vibration in the old lady's cap 1902 D. Hall & Ln. A. Osborne *Swallows & Swift* II. 17 The vibration and smells of the modern steamer

*attrib.* 1797 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 678 Massage, vibration massage; electricity and the constant current are said to give excellent results in suitable cases.

**b** An instance of this, a quiver or tremor.

1855 Vaughan *Sikes Scient., Midnight* (1858) 54 What Emanations, Quick Vibrations, And bright Stirs are there! 1876 Glanvill *Ess.* III. 27 He will perceive the Quick salver to descend from the Index into the subject Vessell, if it comes to 99 Digits or thereabouts there, after some Vibrations, it ordinarily rests. 1821 Shelley *St. Irvyne, Sister Rosa* xviii. In long vibrations shuddered the ground 1849 Lyell *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 298 The vibrations and noise [are] much less than in other boats on the same high pressure principle 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* ix. 254 Accompanied by tremors or vibrations in the rocks

**5.** The action or fact of oscillating or varying in respect of conduct or opinion, an instance of this, a changing or swinging round.

1785 Jefferson *Corr.* (1829) I. 300 The late proceedings seem to be producing a decisive vibration in our favor 1792 Boswell *Johnson* (1799) III. 301 Such was the alternation of that vibration between pious resolutions and indolence 1848 Gallenga *Italy* (1852) 177 It is of little importance to talk about the perpetual vibrations of Charles Albert's weak mind at this period 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 170 There was the same restlessness and fickleness, the same vibration between submission and abject submission 1882 Bancroft *Hist. Const. U. S. A.* II. 354 In Virginia there had been a great vibration of opinion

**b** Variation in extent, etc

1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* viii. 339 The breadth of the calms of Cancer is also variable The extreme vibration of this zone is between the parallels of 17° and 38° north

**6.** *Electr.* (See quot.)

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts* 1 *Vibration*, in electricity, is known as a quantity of the fluid intermediate between a spark and a shock

**Vibra tional,** *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Of or pertaining to vibration; vibratory.

1878 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 249 The number of vibrational forms which may arise from the composition of simple forms are mathematically infinite 1884 H. R. Hawes *Mus. Physical Life* iii. 81 The very appearance of the wood would guide him to its probable vibrational powers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 249 In order that the vibrational impulse may be given as nearly as possible at the centre of the mass of air in the resonant box

**b** *Vibrational number* (see quot. 1881)

1879 C. Parry in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 670 As far as the ratios of the vibrational numbers are concerned 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 48 We are accustomed to take a second of time as the unit and consequently mean by vibrational number the number of vibrations which the particles of a sounding body perform in one second of time

**Vibra tionless,** *a.* [f. as prec.] Free from vibration.

Free, in recent use, of motor cars.

1896 *Prospectus Lond. Electrical Cab Company*, We are of opinion that they [the motor cabs] are thoroughly adapted to meet these requirements, being practically noiseless and vibrationless.

**Vibratiuncle** (vəibrē·ʃiŋk'l) [ad mod L. *vibratiuncula*, dim of L. *vibrato* Vibration.] A minute or slight vibration. Cf. Vibration 3 c.

1798 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. 88 Diminutive Vibrations, which may also be called Vibratiuncles and Miniatures. *Ibid.* 102 Concerning the Derivation of ideal Vibratiuncles from sensory Vibrations. 1864 Reid *Inquiry* iii. § 3 Our sensations arise from vibrations and our ideas from vibratiuncles or miniature vibrations 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* IV. 156 Do you take the soul to be an Eolus's harp, and all the fine things in it, to be vibratiuncles? 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 244 Their hearing or analogous sense is much nicer than ours, collecting the slightest vibratiuncle imparted by other insects, &c to the air. 1857 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. viii. § 43. 478 Through what vibrations or vibratiuncles that conviction came to him we do not care to enquire.

So **Vibratiuncula tion,** a vibratiuncle.

1888 Coues *Damon of Darwin* 58 (Cent.)

**Vibrative** (vəi·brătiv), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *vibrāt-*, ppl. stem of *vibrāre* see Vibrate v. and -ative.] Vibrating, vibratory.

1669 Sprat *Hist. R. Soc.* 254 The variation of the vibrative motion of Pendulums 1673 J. S[mith] *Horolog. Dial.* 28 The vibrative trains of the Pendulum or Balance. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 292/2 The sun, by which the ethereal medium is always kept in a vibrative motion 1854 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 804 It throbs in on us like a plaintive heart, Pressing, with slow pulsations, vibrative, its gradual sweetness through the yielding air

‖ **Vibrato** (vibrā·to), *adv* and *sb. Mus.* [It., —L. *vibrāt-us*, pa. pple of *vibrāre* to Vibrate.]

*Adv* With much vibration of tone.
1861 J S Adams *5000 Mus Terms* 106.
*B sb.* (See first quot.)
1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict Mus Terms* 446/1 *Vibrato*, a tremulous quality of tone, as opposed to a pure equal production 1902 *Daily News* 5 Jan 3/2 Dr Stanford characterised the vibrato as the most detestable of devices except when used in the proper places

**Vibratop** (vai·brătap) [Agent-noun, on L models, f. Vibrate *v.* + -or. Cf It *vibratore*] 1 That which vibrates, or causes vibration.

a One of the vibrating reeds of an organ, harmonium, etc, by which the sound is produced.
1860 *Catal Internat Exhib, Brit* II No 3301, Notes or vibrators, keys, pipes stops, &c., for harmonium making or organ building 1873 *Routledge's Ing Cent Mag* Feb 167/1 This vibrator is the origin of our reed instruments 1885 C G W Lock *Workshop Receipts Ser* IV 293/1 There can be no escape of wind from the wind chest, except through the vibrators and pallet holes.

b. One of other of various appliances, instruments, or parts, which have or cause a vibratory motion or action. Also *attrib*

A number of these are specified in recent American Dicts
1888 *Amer Cycl Brit* XXIII 706/1 A composition roller, called a *vibrator* 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Ink* 152 *Vibrator rollers*, those rollers on a machine which have a vibrating motion, and convey the ink to the slab for distribution 1896 *Daily Chron* 6 Apr 5/5 There are also beauty rollers and massage vibrators.

2 *Math* (See quot)
1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat Phil* I i § 345 The reciprocal of this time we shall call the rapidity of the system for convenience of comparison. The frequency of a vibrator or of a rotator, which is the name commonly given to the reciprocal of its period.

**Vibratory** (vai·brătari), *a.* [f Vibrate *v.* + -ory 2 Cf F *vibratoire*, Sp. and Pg *vibratorio*]
1. Of the nature of vibration, characterized by or consisting of vibration.
1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v *Vibration*, Sensation is supposed to be performed by means of the vibratory Motion of the Nerves. *a* 1734 North *Examen* (1740) I. 247 When the vibratory pulses are so slow as may be distinguished, sound vanisheth 1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* xliii IV 306 An impulsive or vibratory motion was felt [in the earth]. 1801 Belsham *Philosophy of Mind* § 44 Impressions made upon the principal organs of sensation, are vibratory; the vibratory agitations of the nerves and of air 1822-9 Good *Nat's Med* (1829) IV 449 The vibratory and irregular action, which we denominate palpitation of the heart 1878 Pavy *Lect Sp Telephone* (1879) 7 The tone or pitch which depends upon the regularity of the vibratory movement

2 Causing or producing vibration.
1756 Burke *Subl & B* iv § 21 The smoothness of the oil and the vibratory power of the air cause the sense we call sweetness 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L* § 323 So many vibratory strokes can do it no service 1812 *Religuiosum* 44 Vibration lends its aid; for human throats have vibratory powers, that swell out tones 1899 R W Raper *Time & Tune to Infinite* vi (1900) 128 Don't be afraid to voice your desires In this way you set into operation vibratory forces which go out and make their impress felt somewhere

3. Of or pertaining to, connected or associated with, vibration
1832 Blakey *Free Will* 170 The vibratory, or automatic system of Dr Hartley 1834 Hr. Martineau *Comte's Pos Ser* xvii 140 All the particles of an undulating fluid which are at once in a vibratory state 1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 85/2 Producing a peculiar vibratory sensation 1889 *Science Gossip* XXV 43/1 This is explained by the vibratory theory of light

4. Capable of vibrating, readily admitting of vibration.
1859 Darwin *Voy Nat* i 17 The animals move with the narrow apex forwards, by the aid of their vibratory cilia 1862 R H Patterson *Ess Hist & Art* 13 The vibratory rays of the spectrum. 1898 Pasquoty *Sp Telephone* (1879) 23 It being necessary to keep the vibratory bells at each station in circuits, in order that calls may be heard

b. Of the voice Vibrant Also const. *with*.
1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 95 He commenced in a resonant vibratory voice. 1891 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* VII, A voice vibratory with excitement

**Vibrio** (vi·briǒ, vi·briǒu) Pl **vibriones** (-ōu·nēz) and **vibrios**. [mod L., f L *vibrare* Vibrate *v.*]
†1. A genus of minute nematode worms; an anguillule *Obs*
1835 Kirby *Hab & Inst Anim* I iv 150 The species of *Vibrio* found in diseased wheat by M Bauer is oviparous. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl Anat* II 113/2 The higher organized *Vibriones* have distinct generative organs, and are ovoviviparous.

2 A group or genus of bacteriold or schizomycetous organisms characterized by vibratory motion; a member of this genus, *spec.* in *bacteriol* a form of bacterium having vibratile cilia and closely resembling spirilla.
1879 H A Nicholson *Man Zool.* 33 The bacteria and the vibrios now exhibit a vibratile or serpentine movement through the surrounding fluid 1879 Payne *Jenner & Vacc Pathol. Anat* (ed 2) 98 This has been shown to depend upon the presence of a peculiar vibrio which lives on the surfaces of wounds and the bandages 1879 *Encycl Brit* IX 95/1 Processes of putrefaction having long been known to be invariably accompanied by the formation of vibriones and other microscopic organisms endowed with voluntary motion.
*Comb.* 1877 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 190 In examining the secretion I regularly found certain vibrio-like bodies in it. 1898 P Manson *Trop Diseases* xvii 281 If the cholera vibrio be the germ of cholera, then such healthy, vibrio-bearing individuals may well suffice to start an epidemic

**Vi brioid,** *a. rare* [f. prec see -oid] Of or belonging to, allied to, the group *Vibrio*
Also in recent Dicts as *n sb*
1862 *Intell Observ* VI 70 Parasitic vibrioid worms.

**Vi brion.** [ad. mod L. *vibrion-* Vibrio. Cf. F. *vibrion*]
1 A vibratile filament or appendage.
1893 Kane *Grinnell Exp* xlvii (1857) 433 Cloes were flashing colored light in shady places from their ciliary vibrions

2. *Bacteriol* A vibrio or vibrioid bacterium
1882 *Pop Sci Monthly* XX 801 Studies on butyric fermentation and the vibrion which is characteristic of it. 1889 *Nature* 7 Nov 3 Vibrions' or microbes and the so-called bacteriology

**Vibrionic** (vai-, vibrip nik), *a* [f as prec. + -ic] Of or pertaining to, caused by, vibrios
1873 H C Wood *Therap* (1879) 6.7 It was found that the 1 roto sulphate of iron completely prevented the develop ment of either protoplasmic or vibrionic life 1876 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 883 A firm believer in the vibrionic unity of cholera

**Vibrisse** (vəbri·sē), *sb pl* [L (Festus), f. *vibrire* to Vibrate Cf next]
1 *Anat* (See quots I
1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2), *Vibrissæ*, the Hairs in the Nose. 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I *Vibrissæ*, are the Hairs which grow in the Nostrils They, with the Mucus which the Glands separate, stop any Filth from ascending too high up into the Nostrils 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl Anat* III 730/1 Those hairs which converge from the sides towards the nostrils towards the centre of the nostril The e hairs are of the kind named *vibrissæ* 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 883 1 The *vestibule* or entrance to the nasal chamber is studded with numerous short hairs or *vibrissæ*

2 *Zool.* Stiff or bristly hairs, esp those growing about the mouth or other parts of the face in certain animals.
1862 *Trans Berw Nat Club* I 202 These vibrissæ [of an aquatic larva] possess no vibratory motion, nor do they appear to be furnished with cilia. 1871 Darwin *Desc Man* I 15 These hairs apparently represent the vibrissæ which are used as organs of touch by many of the lower animals 1877 Coues *Fur Anim* ix 265 The vibrissæ are sparse and short the longest scarcely or not attaining the eye. 1894 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 490 They also gly suggest the function of vibrissæ

*b Ornith* The coarse hairs or bristles growing about the rictus of certain birds, esp of insectivorous species
1891 G Wood *Nat Hist* 287 The beak of this species [of goat suckers] is not so powerful as in many of its relatives, but the vibrissæ are long and well developed.

**Vibri ssant,** *a rare* [rd pres ple of *I vibrissire* (Festus) *f vibrare* Vibrate ] Vibrant
1866 Rowe *Exp Philos* I A gree ish glitteri g circle, which is the Iris as vibrissant and glorious as a cat's eye)

**Vibrissa tion.** *rare*—° [f L *vibrissiæ* cf prec. and -ation ] (See quot )
1658 Phillips, *Vibrissation*, a quavering or wavering in singing a shaking a thing

**Vibro-** (vəi bro), irregular combining form of L. *vibrare* to vibrate, used in some recent technical and scientific terms, as vi brograph, vibro meter, vibromo tor, vi brophone, vi broscope (hence *vibrosco pic* adj ), etc
1892 *Nature* 31 Mar 511 I re t Greater accuracy [in studying the relation between pitch and vibration] may be attained, with the so called "*vibrograph*" or *l honaut graph* 1904 *Nature* 15 Dec 161 The Vibrograph, or instrument for reco ding phot graphically vibrations of a building or of the ground 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz* 24 May 2 2 An impro ous instrument termed "vibrometer" accurately records the vibration, and by its means every bost is te ted before it leaves the bu ilde s hands 1894 *Standard* 8 Feb By Mr Hammond's method the waves of vibration are converted into a "vibromotor 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2 2 2 *Vibroscope*, an instrument invented by Duhamel for counting the vibrations of a tuning fork. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus Acoustics* 101 Another method of measuring pitch is the vibroscope, which as its name implies, is a method of making vibrati ns visible

**Viburnum** (vəibū·nəm). [L *viburnum* the wayfaring-tree ] An extensive genus of shrubs, natives of Europe, Asia, and N America to which the guelder-rose and laurustine belong, a species or plant of this genus.
1732 Miller *Gard Dict* s.v *Acacia*, The third Sort will stand in a common Stove amongst Cotava's, Viburnums, &c *Ibid* s.v, The common Viburnum, or Plant Mealy Tree 1760 J Lee *Introd. Bot* App 331 Viburnum Americanum, *Lantana*. 1762 J Scott *Pract Hist Acc* 67 And white viburnum over the border stands. 1842 Bryant *Poematum* 11, The viburnum there, Paler of foliage, to the sun holds up Her circlet of green berries. 1867 A L Adams *Wand Naturalist* 204 Viburnum, differing in several respects from the English Guelder rose, bloomed sweetly by the sides of streams. 1869 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 808 1 The remaining third includes rhododendrons, rues, viburnums.
*attrib* 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl, *Viburnum Gallz*, a species of gall, or small protuberances, frequently found on the leaves of the *Viburnum*

Hence **Vibu rnian,** a moth of the genus *Loxotænia*; **Vibu rnic** *a.*, derived from *Viburnum*; **Vibu rnin,** a substance found in viburnum bark.
1892 J Rennie *Comp Butterfl & M* 157 The Viburnian (*Loxotænia Viburnana*) 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem* V 998 The bark and berries of the guelder rose contain valeric acid (viburnic acid) 1886 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* III 509/2 The bark [of *Viburnum prunifolium*] is said to contain viburnin, valerianic, oxalic citric, and malic acids, besides other ingredients

**Vica mbulate,** *v nonce-wd* [f L *vicus* street + *ambulare* to walk ] *intr* To walk about in the streets
1873 M Collins *Square Silchester* II xiii 159 Many strangers were there among them, as Musical Willie, who vicambulated greatly, soon perceived
So Vica·mbulist *rare*—1
1820 *Blomfield* I 5 To see and to be seen,' is the professed object of these unwearied vicambulists

**Vicar** (vi kar) Forms a. 4 vikere, 4 6 vykere, vyker (5 vykeyr), viker, 4 veker, 6 -ere; 4, 6 vicker (6 ficker, fycker, vycker) *β* 4–6 vicare (4 wic-, 6 vycare), 4– vicar (5–6 vycar, 6 *Sc* wicar, 5 vikar, 6 vykar), 6 *Sc*, 7 vicoar (6 *Sc.* vycoar, wickar), 5 vicour 7 4, 7 vicaire, 5 vic, vycowyre, 4, 7 vicair, 5 vicayr, 6 vycayr [L. *At vikere, vicar, vicarius* (OF and F *vicaire*), ad. L *vicarius* substitute (Victory *sb* 1), f *vic-* is change, occasion, place (of another), etc. Cf It and Sp *vicario*, Pg *vigario*] One who takes the place of, or acts instead of, another, a substitute, representative, or proxy. Chiefly *Eccl.*

1. Applied to persons, etc, as earthly representatives of God or Christ, also to Christ or the Holy Ghost as representing the Father
The second line of the first quot is partly corrupt
a 1300 *Cursor M* 27106 N ght anes to prest his sinnes [to] scrive Iot elles to godd I tot was wicare In mans scrape he sittes bare. c 1386 Chaucer *A & C* 140 God hath pre maked vicair & maistres e Of al be world c 1389 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 30 Sip prelatis ben wikeres of crist c1400 Love *Mirrour Mirror* (1908) 121 He be pre yes that be specially ordeyned in his stede as his vikeres 1546 *Supplic to the Comm* 16 (L. L 1 S) 73 These breethern intended to be taken for Godds vicars upon earth 1548 Udall etc *Erasm Par Ps* 4 Ps 1 Thou that art the vicar of Wyit succede me as my vicar thou must fight with no other swerde than of Godds woorde 1621 Burton *Anat Mel* II 3 1 290 He calls a Magician Godds Minister and his Vicar 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert Ans* II 32 Christ sitting at the right hand of his Father holds but a second degree with him in honour and rule next to God 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* IV 1 (1808) 30 He is the very vicar that he represents 1698 R Barclay *Apol Quakers* II § 22 Knowledge might be brought to perfection by the holy Spirit that Vicar of the Lord. 1829 I Taylor *Author* VII 161 Though the vicar of Christ [i. every true Christian minister] be not uncondi tionally re pon ble for the h pi s re ult of his labours 1848 Lowell *Biq Pap Ser* I vii Introd., By and by comes along the State Godds vicar c1850 *Arab Ant* (Ridlg ) 496 I tell y u no, I I am Commander of the Faithful, and vicar upon earth of the Lord of both worlds.

*b spec* Applied to the Pope as vicar of the Patriarch of Jerusalem), also to St. Peter in a similar sense (cf quot 1548 above)
1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 3837 Pat falles hym of office to haide, For he es in erthe, Godes vicer calde. ? 1370 *Rolls Ser* I 150 Hys son brodur in povlte Is dew generalle vykere P pe of Rome, as ye may here c 1440 *Gesta Rom* xix 60 (Harl MS.) How of the Pope? — He is godes son seid he, and I perfore he hath made a vyker 1481 Caxton *Myrrour* xcv 301 The due Godeffroy and the prynce buymont whiche had given to hym this h n or as for to be the vycayre of Jhesu Cryste in that londe, passyng ouer the lewes Patmark 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 203 Heare deuoute chrystyan what sayst Peter the apostle and hye vicear of Chrystes churche sayth 1570 Jewel *Sedet Ist* (1609) 37 Would the vicar of Christ get his own seelf? 1638 *Lenit Cinf'ni* (1657 132 God and the Pope are not always of one mind a d if Chri t confirm not in heaven the sentence of his Vicar on earth we [etc.] 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v The Pope pretends to be Vi ar of Jesus Christ on Earth 1756-7 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760.) II 244 The vicayor gat ed by the Ottomans, being Leo the Tenth XII when he made war upon the Vicar of Christ. 1847 S Austin *Anabs s Hist Ref* III 321 I he divi eright of the catholic church and the character of the vicar of Christ 1864 Bryce *Holy R m Emp* x (1875) 160 Proclaiming that to the Pope as Godds vicar, all mankind are subject, and all rulers responsible

*c nonce wds* (See quot )
1641 Milton *Animadv* Wks. 1851 III 198 For Antichrist we know is but the Devils Vicar, and therefore pleases him with your liturgie, and you please his master

2 In early use, a person appointed to serve in a parish in place of the rev l parson or rector or as the representative of a religious community to which the tithes had been appropriated, hence, in later and modern use, the incumbent of a parish of which the tithes are impropriated or appropriated, in contrast to a Rector
*c* 1235 *Vetr Homl* 89 Erles, kinhes, and baronnes, Prestes, vikers, and parsones. c 1380 Wyclif *Ir Wks* (1880) 76 Pei don neiper office of prelatis, neiper pe office of parsones ne vekeres to here pa t eiries *Ibid* 424 Pe fend hap founden cautels to bringe in vikeris in persoun stede. 1425 *Rolls of Parl* IV 290 2 All ma ner of Pers es and Vykeys, and Hospitilers. c 1456 Proctor *Fr Scalds* (1901) 224 A great famel humanist, maister of divinite is curat, and parsoun and viker 1533 in *Archæol* XXV. 523 To the vykers woman of Dykynge *Ibid*, The vykers of Sneth sham serv ite 1556 *Chr Grey Friars* (Camden) 49 A great generalle processione of alle parsons, vekeres, curattes, with alle other prestes. 1588 ? Udall *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 18 How shall we doe for the parsons and vickers?
*β* ? 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel Wks.* III 493 Pat no persone

ne vicare ne prelate is excusid fro personele residense in per beneficys. 1402 *Y Upland* 279 Sith personnes and vicares alone with bishops above hem, were y nough to do prester office. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt* V 15 She openly sede unto y^e seide Vicar, that she wold never have hym to hur Husbond. 1488— VI 320 Upon the same appropriation, ther shuld be a vicour endowed sufficiently. 1541 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 90 Sir Thomas Markby vykar off the sayd church. 1551 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) VI 29 The vicare to have mid and the clerke xii. 1560 (see PARSON 2). 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W* II 1 Ev. Sir Hugh, persuade me not my mind you shall not bucke a Priest. 1609 DEKKER *Coll Hon-b* 88 Was (Grosse) [1] 206 I like some pedantical Vicar at stammering out a mumbl false and cracke latine oration. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* I §185 He was preferred to the Bishoprick of Coventry and I itchfield before he had been Vicar or Curate of any Parish Church in England. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Mar 1682 Our Vicar preached on Prov verbs. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 1 21 3 1 A vicar has generally an appointed over him. 1796 H HUNTER *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) III 482 Not a simple village Vicar ought to be without the actual necessaries of life. 1818 *Christ Disciple* (ed 3) III 59 Were the vicar to produces an endowment, then the situation of the parties is reversed. 1870 R. R. WILSON *Ch Ireland* 99 The present vicar speedily brought about a different aspect. 1875 *Lancaster Visit* 82 (Phillimore) Pope, bishoppes, and cardinals. Chan as persons, and vicare, In goddes service. 1580 *Lanc & Chesh Reg* VII 96 (*pt*) There was decreed yt all personnes & vycaryes shoilde be called prestes.

**b** *fig.* or *transf.*

1563 *Homilies* II *Peril Idolatry* III V 313 b We nede not to complayne of the lacke of one dombe person, hauyng so many a dombe dead image, set vp in euery vicars rome (and paynted puppettes) to teache in theyr stede. 1588 *Marprel Epist* (Arb) 38 I lookt not to get a hundreth of these straitwaistes, especially if their purses were ye vicars of the vikers of hell are. 1662 *2nd Pt Return fr Arcadia* IV II 3722 And you Master Amoretto, that are the chiefe Carpenter of Sonnets a priuiledged Vicar for the lawfeese marriage of Inke and Paper. 1660 PATHAM *Rump* 11, Sure the vicar of fools was his ghostly father.

**c.** *Vicar of Bray*, one who readily changes his principles to suit the times or circumstances.

Bray is the village of that name near Maidenhead in Berkshire. According to Fuller (see ref below) the 'vainglorious vicar' held the benefice from the reign of Henry VIII to that of Elizabeth and was a Papist and twice a Protestant. In the later song to which the currency of the phrase is mainly due the sovereigns under whom the vicar successively changes his religion and politics are those from Charles II to George I.

[a 1661 FULLER *Worthies Berks* (1662) 82 But first we will dispatch that notable Proverb of this County viz. The Vicar of Bray will be Vicar of Bray still. 1720 SOME *Vicar of Bray* (Chorus), This is the law I will maintain, Until my dying day, Sir, That whatsoever King may reign, Still I'll be the Vicar of Bray. 1735 BISHOP IN *Lord Lyttelton Pamphlets* (1833) II 100, I have had a long chase after the Vicar of Bray on whom the proverb I am informed it is Simon Alleyn Vicar of Allen, who was Vicar of Bray about 1540, and died 1588.]

1795 J. HARLEY in *Dk Portland's MSS* (Hist MSS Comm) VI 116 His chief concern is to know, been once a Papist, and playing the Vicar of Bray up to them, and keeping his living when the rest of his Episcopal brethren were ejected. 1785 [GROSE *Dict Vulg Tongue*] *A Vicar of Bray, a time serving man*, one who frequently changes his principles, always siding with the strongest party. 1828 F. CUNNINGHAM *Y's Weeks* (ed 3) II 248 He regularly educated thieves are *Vicars of Bray* to every religion, and their visages to match in humour,—blaspheming with the blasphemer and praying with the saint.

*transf.* 1893 *Daily News* 12 June 5/4 A habit which the Iguana shares with many birds is the habit of changing its colour most lizards are Vicars of Bray to this extent.

**d.** *Temporal vicar* (see quot.) *Obs*

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 309 Temporal vicars are much the same with our Curates is we now call them, and these are constituted for some particular Acts and Seasons.

**3** = VICAR CHORAL.

1387 TREVISA *Higd* (Rolls) VI 465 For clerkes ha be travayle of be queere, and be vicaires in here stede bot hadde ful litel for to lyue by. 1531 *Protocols Pynnell's Rds Glaycestr* (1870) IV 31 To the vicars of the quyer, for the borrow maell. 1561 BARON *Chron Pilc.* 116 This Queen ordained a Dean, Forty Schollers, Vicars Singing men, &c. 1700 J. BRADE *Tem Ep* 328 A Collegiate Church consisting of a Dean four Prebendaries, five Singing Men three Vicars, and four Deacons. 1878 *Greek's Dict Hist* I 52 His choir was well appointed, and every vicar, clerical as well as lay, gave his daily and efficient aid in it.

**b** *Lay vicar*, = prec. (Also *Priest vicar* see PRIEST *sb* 10.)

1393 *Penny Cycl* VII 110 The Choir is also the term by which the lay vicars or lay clerks and choristers, *i. e.* the singers, of a cathedral are collectively designated. 1843 *Penny Cyclop* XXV 108 The lay Vicars of the old Cathedrals are sometimes the subscribers of the inferior Colleges, sometimes merely part of the foundation at large. 1877 FR. *Glass Liturg & Relig Terms* 184 *Lay vicar*, a term used in the statutes of some of our cathedrals to designate the superior grade of singing men.

**4.** One who takes the place of or acts as the representative of, another (esp. the Pope or other high dignitary) in the performance of ecclesiastical or religious functions, *spec.* in the Roman Catholic Church, a bishop's deputy.

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sermons* Sel Wks I 28 3if be Pope and his vikeris holden stedefast wel bat, 1426 LYDG *De Guil Pilgr* 1393 And sempte that he shoilde be I yk a vyker domteyn Of Aaron & of Moyses. 1506 W. LANDRAKE *Perambl Kent* 130 This Prelate (the Bishop of Fly), hauing now by the Kings commission the power of a Viceroy, and besides by the Popes gifte the authoritie of a Legate and Vicar 1586 in *Cath. Rec Soc Publ.* V 129 Directed to the Archbishop of Cant or to his vicar or Commissary generale. 1612 SIR D. CARLETON *Let in 10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App. I 146 Upon y^e late remove of our patriarch's vicar there hath fallen vacant a benefice annexed to y^e vicariate. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist* I 172 When S. Paul sent for Timothy from Ephesus, he sent Tychicus to be his Vicar. 1657 BARROW *Pope's Supremacy* VI Wks 1687 I 261 The Pope began to practise a fine trick, which was to confer on certain Bishops the title of their Vicar or Lieutenant, the they pretending to impart Authority to them. 1781 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt Chr* II x 1 2 8 They (the patriarchs) appointed vicars, or deputies to act for them in the remoter parts of their dioceses. 1820 MILNER *Useful Meas Engraft* 228 The late B. Berington a Vicar, Dr. Bew. 1858 W. BRIGHT *Some Acts Trials Ch Life* II § 6 83 This 'high and Divine power', which Cyprian claimed as inherent in the episcopate was no larger than that which St. Paul had entrusted to his own vicars.

**b** With defining term preceding, as *grand, papal, Pope's vicar.*

1662 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* VIII 236 Mr Hodon 'Grand Vicar of Paris being Superior. 1688 [see GRAND 2]. 1698 PHILLIPS s.v. The Pope's Grand Vicar, who is a Cardinal has a Jurisdiction over all Secular and Regular Priests [etc.]. 1756 *Nicolson & Burn's Cumberland Lett Records* (1916) I 249 Some days since, the king unexpectedly nominated him grand vicar to the archbishop. 1790 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *Lett France* (1846) 108 One of my college companions has become grand vicar and first co fidant to the archbishop of my diocese. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII *Boy* 2 Fabre, grand vicar to the bishop of Constantine. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch* (1858) I App E 341 The bishop of Arles the 'papal vicar in Gaul' in place of the pope, whose representative he was. 1902 J. K. MANN *Hist Papacy* I 122 He came to Thessalonica as metropolitan was a papal vicar. 1670 G. H. *Hist Cardinals* III 84 And first I shall begin with the Vicar who is the most antient of all, and was for a long time executed by Bishops, and other Prelats. 1902 J. K. MANN *Hist Papacy* I 159 Augustine was also consecrated bishop by Virgilius of Arles, the Pope's vicar in Gaul.

**c** With defining term appended, as *vicar apostolic, capitular, episcopal, foranᵉ(e)* or *foreign, provincial.*

See also VICAR GENERAL.

1566 in E. H. Burton *Life Challoner* (1909) II XXVII 83 After all, by the terms of the circular letter, the Vicars 'Apostolic have, in case of necessity, a power to dispense. 1795 T. *Cassell's Encycl Dict* s.v. The Vicar Apostolic is the highest district claimed him as belonging to that district, and appointed him to a mission in Staffordshire. 1836 *Penny Cyclop* VI 1 The Vicar Apostolic exercises spiritual jurisdiction during the vacancy. 1903 *Westm Gaz* 5 Sept 2 A special meeting for the purpose of electing a Vicar Capitular has been summoned. The See of Southwark during the vacancy. 1877 [see *Glass Eccl Terms* 439 *Vicar Apostolic*], an office corresponding in some particulars to the English suffragan bishop as well as to the Greek chorepiscopus. 1825 DODD in Fitzpatrick *Life* II (1861) 1 282 Whenever a priest falls into any dangerous illness, the Vicar Apostolic is then to devolve his duties upon him. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl Dict* s.v. *Vicar foranᵉ*, Roman Church, a dignitary or parish priest appointed by a bish op to exercise limited jurisdiction in a particular town or district of his diocese. 1896 *Tablet* 18 Apr 619 The *cure* and vicar foran at Castries receives £200 a year. 1896 VAUGHAN *Pastor* (1860) II 134 Vicar 'provincial of Andalusia, he plies his task anew.

**5** In general use: One acting, or appointed to act, in place of another, esp. in administrative functions, a vicegerent.

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xli (*Agnes*) 250 [The prefect] deput in his stede a lorde, bey to hald pann, a vicarie & sonefull went away. *c* 1400 *Secreta Secret. Gov Lordsh* 109 Fellow pynne vche comyn lour tene vicaires, & vche vicaire vche leuere vche pynne. 1548 HALL *Chron* 1 VIII 158b/1 In his empyre he set two vicars, (saue them power in euery region [etc.]. 1583 CALTON *Gov Lg* 369/2 Godzym that was vicary vnder Iulyan Emperour. 1599 BELLENDEN *Livy* V vii (ST'S) II 170 I will mak him (for he is weil institute in chevelrie) vicire and lieutenent for me. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's First Scot* (STS) II 288 He com mandes that women, bairnes, and citizenis all to haue sum and craue mercie as to the Kingis vicare. 1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol* 38 To assemble his friends, and witnesses of his will, and whome he pleaseth to make his buyers, his vicars, and sui status. 1655 FULLER *Ch Hist* XXV 207 Lord Cromwell sate in state above all the Bishops as the King's Vicar or Vicegerent generall in all spirituall matters. 1702 *Lond Gaz* No 3814/3 It is said, the King of Spain has made the Duke of Burgundy Vicar of the Spanish Low Countries, which Title gives him a Power over those Provinces, equal to that which the King would have if he were there in Person. 1753 *Scots Mag* XV 27/1 During a vacancy of the Imperial throne, the government of the empire devolves upon the vicars. 1781 GIBBON *Decl & F* xxvii. (1787) II 37 The eleven remaining dioceses [provinces] were governed by twelve vicars, or vice prefects, whose name is sufficiently explained the nature and dependence of their office. 1835 LYTTON *Athens* III iii He was chosen afterwards vicar (or vice gerent) of Lours in Aversa. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks* Ser I (1873) 169 We may be very sure that Hemings and Condell did not, as vicars, take upon themselves a disagreeable task.

*transf.* 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 45 The rookes ben vycayrs and legates of the kynge. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest Chirurg* C iv b, All the synewes of the body brede and come out of the brayne by it selfe, or of the noddle that is his vycare.

**b** A thing substituted for another. *rare.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 16 All dungings and other sordid temperings, being but the vicars succedaneous to that improvement. 1846 TRENCH *Remains Archbp Leighton* 1 Abraham caught the Ram, which was to serve as the vicar of Isaac.

**Vicarage** (vi·kăredj). Forms **5 vikar(i)age, vicerage, 5 vicarage, 6 vicar-, vyc(o)ar-, &c vicar-, vycarage, 7 vicaradge, 5 vycary-, 5–6 vicariage; 5–7 vicarege, 6–7 -edge, -ige, 6–8 -idge, 7 vicoari(d)ge.** [f. VICAR + -AGE.]

**1** The benefice or living of a vicar.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 290/2 That they holde residence opon thaire Parsonages, Vicerages, and Hospitalites, opon peyn of leesyng the value of thaire Benefice. *c* 1438 JO. CLIFFORD in *Archæologia Oxoniensia* (Surtees) 71 There is a vicerage in Craven of the which the presentacion longith to you. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt* V 365 The decision of the Vicarage of the same. 1536 *Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV 98 Factouris as thai allegit to the vycarage of Mwnkland. 1580 COOPER *Admonit* 47 In the Canons concerning the Vicarage of Warwike, is maliciously reported. 1631 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 246 He was charged with the unmerciful wasting and wood bestowing of the vicaridge of Castor upon a young man, a minister. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj* 206 I sythes appertayning to Parishchurches, Prebends, Hospitals, Vicaredges. 1696 E. KENNETT *Eccl Antiq* II 98 We meet now with no such early record that make them distinct and proper Vicarages. 1729 SWIFT *Tithes on Dr Delany* 132 The offals of a church diverted to a hungry vicarage at best. 1794 PYE *Farm Living Wedster* 12 It is a Vicaridge in the Deanery of Reading and Diocese of Salisbury. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* IV, Though the vicarage of Highbury is large, he has been known to have some independent property. 1883 H. COX *Instit* III VII 700 The hereditaments of the Crown (except advowsons of vicarages). 1894 *Blackw Mag* CLV 1 May 5/2 The plaintiff, a clergyman, who at one time had a vicarage at Bow.

*transf.* 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron* (ed 2) III 338/2 The three perpetuall prelats stroue together for the sacred see of papasie Gods vicarage. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf Infabr* 11 Whether they were redeemed by the Vicarage of a Levite, or by a ransome.

†**b** A benefice attached to a parsonage *Obs*—1

1501 *Reg Lyrey Scat Scotl* I 58 The parsonage of Sanct Colmes Kirk with the annexis and vicarages thairof, that is to say, Kilmolowok in Rossay and Kilmory in Waltersmen.

†**2** A college of vicars. *Obs.*

1485 in *Repon Chapter Acts* (Surtees) 277, I will that my messe bake be gyffyn to the vicarage in Ripon. 1505 *Ibid* 304 The said messe apon to the vicarage of Ripon, they doynge ther for a yerely obbett.

**3** The house or residence of a vicar, also, those who live in this.

1530 PALSGR. 285/1 Vycarage a prestes house *presbytoire*. 1611 COTGR. *Presbitere* a Parsonage, Vicarage, or Priests house. 1612 *Peacham Coral Learn* III 137 The ancient coate of Bassingbourne which I found carued in wood vpon the Vicaredge in Fulham. 1820 PRARD *Poems* (1864) II 136 The traveller was to blame And not the Vicarage or the Vicar. 1892 'G. MOIR' *Scientist* 150, I had bidden the Vicarage farewell the night before.

†**4.** *Sc.* A (or the) payment due to a vicar; vicarial tithes or other dues. *Obs*

1579 *Monum de Melros* (Bann Cl) 653 Be tend scheva with small temtis and Vicarage, as pertenit to be sumyne. 1595 in *Maitland Club Misc* I 73 The sum and quantitie of the vicarages of the said benefices with the glebis and manss. 1684 *Acc Cases Or Stitches* (S J) 25 For not paying of Vicaridge at Mertimas which the Judge decerns them to pay punctually. 1762 in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 92 The tend and lands of Kinnaird and the lands of Tully beagles with all the tiends parsonage and vicarage of the saids haill lands. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist Moray* 333 The Stipend is 80 Bolls of Victual and about L. 50 of Vicarage. 1828 *Scott Fair Maid* viii, What have I been paying all this time and tend parsonage and vicarage, for?

†**5** The position, office, or duties of a vicar or representative. *Obs rare*

1620 DONNE *Serm 7 Jan* 11 35 My vicarage is to speak of his [Christ's] compassion in and in his wrath. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epist* 837 264 This whole discourse shews that they [the bishops] have sole jurisdiction, and the Presbyters only in subsistation and vicarage. 1643 *Sir E. Dering Sp Ho Commons* 7 *Life Challoner* (1909) I 93 He gave up his pious spirit in the ninety second year of his age and forty sixth of his episcopate and Apostolic Vicarage.

**6** *attrib.*, as *vicarage church*, † *duty, house, stipend, tend.*

1732 *Gentl Mag* I 118 From hence the Writer takes occasion to consider the State of Vicarage Churches. 1597 *Reg Mag Sigil Scot* 303 p. 505 Lyndis money as for the parsonage dewtie and 10 merkis for the Vicarage dewtie forsaid. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin* (1769) IV 118 From the which Water is conveyed to the Prebendaries Vicarge, to the Vicarage House and the Choristers. 1569 BP PARKHURST *Injunctions* A iv, Whether your Parsonage and Vicaredge house be well maintained. 1638 H. SERJEANT in *Tell Ltt Mem* (Camden) 156 I have no vicaredge house upon it. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Two Oxford Scholars* Wks 1730 I 20 An old rotten Parsonage or Vicarage house. 1785 J. WESLEY *Sermon* lvii Wks 1812 IX 24 He removed into the Vicarage House. 1837 J. OCHTART *Scott* II xii 378 An ornamental cottage in the style of the old English vicarage house. 1869 J. CARMICHAEL *Indemnities & Advantages* II. 1 170 He was also minister of Logie and drew its *vicarage stipend. 1610 in *Pearl's Topogr Acc Cunninghame* (Maur. Cl.) 185 To Mr. Williame Birsbane, of *vicarage teynd the said yeir, aucht pund. 1840–1 *Kircudbr. Warr. Comm Min* 8b (1855) 163 The halls of the said glieb and vicarage tendes.

**Vicarate** (vi·kărĕt). [f. VICAR + -ATE. Cf. VICARIATE.] A parish, district, etc., under the jurisdiction of a vicar; a vicariate.

**Vicar choral.** Also vicar-choral [VICAR 3] (See quot 1854, and cf CHORAL a 1 b)

The pl occurs in various f rms as *vicars choral*, †*vicars chorals*, and rarely, *vicar chorals*

1530 *Act 22 Hen VIII* c 10 § 4 All other canons petty canons vicars chorall & clerkes. 1546 *Joths Chantry Surv* (Surtees) 348 The same prebendaries have vicars under them called vicars choralles which are bound to discharge the said prebendaryes of all their cures and ser vice in the said church *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies Wilts* III (1662) 157 William Lawes, son of Thomas Lawes a Vicar Choral of the Church of Salisbury 1704 *Acc Innov Alt Dublin* 3 He calls the Vicar Chorals and orders them to answer, notwithstanding, [etc.] 1770 in *Mem Rev W Richardson* (1822) 14 You seem to have been much taken with York Minster and Cathedral Service would you like to be one of the Vicars Choral? 1837-8 *Acts & Resol* c 106 § 39 Any Spiritual Person being Prebendary Canon Priest Vicar Vicar Choral or Minor Canon 1854 HOOK *Church Dict* (ed 7) 792/1 *Vicars choral* [are] the assistants or deputies of the canons or prebendaries of collegiate churches, especially though not exclusively, in the duties of the choir or chancel as distinguished from those belong ing to the altar and pulpit. 1893 PHILLIMORE *Eccl Law Ch Eng* 161 The two classes of petty or minor canons and vicars choral *Ibid*, A vicar choral of the cathedral church of Wells.

Hence **Vicar-cho rialship**, the office of a vicar-choral

1868 *Ecclesiologist* XXIX 171 The endowments of vicars choralships 1892 *Sat Rev* 5 Nov 5/2 The vicar-choral ship of St. Paul's is by no means a poor appointment

**Vicaress** (vi kăres). Also 7 **vicaris** f. VICAR + ESS 1

1 The sister ranking immediately beneath the Abbess or Mother Superior in a nunnery or convent

*c* 1613 in *Camb Rev Soc Publ* (1914) XIV 34, 2 years before her death [she] was chosen first Vicaress of 31 Ursu astery *a* 1700 *Diary Blue Nuns* Ibid VIII 21 Sister Margarite Bruno alias Floyd was again chosen Vicaress 1701 *Ibid* 291 The Office of Vicaress is nearest the Ab besse in Authority The Vicaresse represents in every place, the Abbesse when she is absent 1804 in *Archæo logia* V (1840) XXVIII 198 Mother Austin was afterwards Vicaress [of the Blue Nuns convent] several years 1857 G OTHER *Coll Cath Relig Cornwall* etc 136 The vicar ess, the Rev Mother Austin, was sent to Hinges 1892 J M STONE *Faithful unto Death* 244 To govern the new community as abbess and vicaress respectively

2 A (female) representative In quot *fig*

1662 J CHANDLER *Vind Answ to Q* (1663) 14 The sensi tive Soul the vicaresse of the m nole doth surely rejoyce in a greater liberty than th e souls of brute Beasts.

3 The wife of the vicar of a parish

1792 W HUDDESFORD in J Granger *Lett* (1805) 146 I am under the greatest obligation to the vicaress, for her for giveness of my impertinence 1849 LD COLERIDGE in *Life & Corr* (1904) I viii 190 Nothing could be kinder than the Vicar and Vicaress. 1862 MRS HOUGHTON *Recommended to Mercy* xii The encroachments of the Vicaress in the government of the parish

**Vicar general.** Also **vicar general** [VICAR 4 c after med L *vicarius generalis*, F *vicaire général*]

The pl occurs variously as *vicars generals*, *vicar generals* †1. The title assumed by or bestowed upon the Pope, as head of the Church under Christ *Obs*

1500 GOWER *Conf* I 253 At Rome The vicair general of alle Of hem that lieven Cristes lawe 1512 HALL *Laws Armes* (STS) 104 God, and next him his vicare generale the pape 1539 TUNSTALL *Serm Palm Sund* (1823) 46 All power is given to me that Christe had and I am his vicar general as Peter was here in erthe ouer all 1581 ALLEN *Apol* 17 Whither should we rather flee for releefe either of body or soule then to the Vicar general of Christ? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath* II xlv 333 Consequent to this claim of the Pope to Vicar Generall of Christ in the present Church is the Pretension that it is necessary for a Christian King, to receive his Crown by a Bishop

*transf* 1586 CHALCH *Doctor Dod* 20 Lo I, Nature Thus can I forme and peynte a creature, Which I thus call the Former principall, Hath made me his viker general [etc.]

2 *R C Ch* An ecclesiastical officer, usually a cleric, appointed by a bishop as his representative in matters of jurisdiction or administration

*c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 8083 Before his pepull ordeaned he pe prior ambrosius forto be And his generall vicare 1498 *Reg Priory Seat Scotl* I 36/1 A presentation

Direct to the vicare general of Sanctandrus the sege thar of vacand 1509 *Plumpton Lett* (1839) 105 Master Plumpton, at his departing out of England, comaunded to me John Carvar his Vicker generell, to wryte unto you *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (STS) I 268 Peyne Johnne Hepburne was ane of that time wicar generall of the bischoperick of Sanctan drus *c* 1628 in Foley *Rec Soc Jesus* 5 7/1 1 137 His inferior officers, dispersed through all the Countyes of this realme with titles powers, and formalities belonging to any Catholique Bishops whereso ever, as Vicaires Generalls. 1672 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ* III 200 Mr George Richardson was ordained in Ireland by ye Chr dimissoryes given him by ye Vicar Generall 1708 PHILIPS (ed Kersey) *Vice Dominus Episcopi*, the Official, Commissary, or Vicar general of a Bishop 1767 *Phil Trans* LVII 461 The vicar general of this diocese 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* XXVI While Vivaldi spoke the vicar general listened with attention 1799 C. BUTLER *Life A Butler* III, He was immediately appointed vicar general to the bishops of Arras, St. Omer's, Ipres, and Boulogne 1849 S AUSTIN *Rambles North Rep* III 81 The bishop sent some delegates, under his vicar general Faber 1885 LADY HERBERT tr *Lacrange's Life Lingard* I 358 The Abbé Vaglalier, .. and the Abbé Desnoyers, were made titular vicar generals

b Similarly in the Church of England, *spec* a permanent lay official serving as a deputy or assistant to a bishop, or to the Archbishop of Canterbury or York, in certain ecclesiastical causes.

1536 *Act 28 Hen VIII*, c 10 § 4 All and every Arche bishoppes Bishhippes and Archedeacons, their Commissaries, Vicars generall, and other their Ministers shall make diligente Inserch [etc.] 1586 *Marprel Tract* (Arb) 13 To the right puisante, and terrible Priests my clearge masters of the Confocation house whether fickers generall or any other of the holy league of subscription *a* 1700 ELSTOB *Diary* 32 Aug 1663 After which the Vicar general went to the vestry, and brought his Grace into the Chapell [at Lambeth]. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 161 According to the common way of speech a Chancellor is a Vicar General to the Bishop to all Intents and Purposes of Law 1836 *Tenny Cyd* VI 481/2 The Chancellor of a Church or of a Bishop is Vicar general to the bishop holds his courts [etc.] 1856 HOOK *Church Dict* (ed 7) 792 The Vicar General, an ecclesiastic al offi er who assists the bishop in the discharge of his office, as in causes and visitations 1887 *Ill Mail G* 23 June 2/2 The Vicar General [in the Isle of Man] is a man of many calls ge holding in addition to the Vicar Generalship the seaulsives of returer to the lord keeper of the records, coroner, and magi trate 1907 *Who's Who* 413 Cripps C A Vicar General of Canterbury; Chan cellor and Vicar General of York since 1900.

3 *Hist* The title given to Thomas Cromwell in 1535 as representative of the King in ecclesiastical affairs (Cf VICEGERENT 2b i quots. 1536 38)

1679 BURNET *Hist I of I* III 181 The first act of the Kings Supremacy was, his naming Cromwell Vicar General and General Visitor of the Monasteries, and of all other Ecclesiastical places 1706 in *Duplin Eccl Hist* 80th C II iv vii 419 *note* The name of Vicar General as appointed by the Prince, had been in use long since Cromwell's management of that office in Henry VIII's time; and was never for that reason taken up afterwards 1714 JER COLLIER *Eccl Hist Gt Brit* II ii 104/1 A Mistake in co flounding this Vicar General with his following Title of Lord Vicegerent in Ecclesiastical Matters 1850 GLADSTONE *Chem.* (1870) V 293 II e Vicar generalship of Cromwell and the episcopal Commission of both these reigns 1892 *Pall Mall G* 4 b 1/1 Twenty five years of Vicar Generalship under Manning ought to weigh in the balance even against aristocratic descent and Court favour

**Vicariage,** obs form of VICARAGE

**Vicarial** (vai, vikɛ·riăl), *a* [ad L type **vicarial-is*, f *vicarius* VICAR So F and Sp *vicarial*]

1 Delegated, deputed, vicarious

1617 SLINGSBY *Diary* 79 (1836) 297 Our Lord communicated his power to the Apostles and his mimisters after wars, and so that power is ministerall a id vicarial as they call it *a* 1730 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I 392 By these vicarial offices in the house his bishop was educated to the employ thereof, 1749 WEST *Resurrection* (ed 2) 275 God promised to continue that delegated vicarial Sceptre of Righteousness in his David 1837 Posterity for ever 1803 *Edin Rev* I 390 The contest for vicarial and deputed power is more prevalent than the struggle for that which is original and supreme. 1850 COL. WISEMAN *Pastoral* 7 Oct The silver links of that Catholic chain has connected their country with the See of Peter in its Vicarial Government 1868 LIGHTFOOT *Philip* (1885) 267 His office is representative and not vicarial.

2 Of or belonging to a VICAR OR VICARAGE

1744 J COMYNS *Reports of Cases* 634 Wallis ver Pain and Underhill Mr Underhill the Vicar insisted upon the Tithe of Clover Seed as a Vicarial or small Tithe. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 390 Rectors in any things, as wood in particular, as in some countries a prædial and in some a vicarial tithe 1825 R CHURTON in R Chandler *Trin Asia M* I Introd 31 It is called upon the vicarial tithe 1840 *Penny Cycl* V Nov 540/2 A question relative to the liability of vicarial lands to Church rates was mooted before the bench 1865 M F C *Cathedrals* 265 The vicarial stalls of Gras major and Sandiacre have been also restored

3 Consisting of vicars

1772 in *Mem Rev W Archardson* (1821) 23 In May, the death of poor Frank by a consumption, made a vacancy in the vicarial body

4. Holding the office of a vicar

1806 V KNOX *Serm Ira xxxiii* 26 Wks 1824 VI 377 The vicarial preacher of Islington 1840 *Penny Cycl* V Nov 540/2 A question relative to the liability of vicarial lands to Church rates was mooted before the bench 1865 M F C *Cathedrals* 265 The vicarial stalls of Grasmajor and Sandiacre have been also restored

**Vicariate** (vai, vikɛ·riăt), *sb* and *a* [ad late L *vicariatus*, f L *vicarius* VICAR, or independently f *vicari-us* + -ATE 1]

**A.** *sb* †1. A substitute or deputy holding some office *Obs*—1

1598 MARSTON *Sco Villanus* I iii (1599) 183 Shall Balbus, the demure Athenian, Dreame of the death of next Vicariat? Cast his natiuitie?

2 One who accepts the view of religious vicariousness.

1851 RUSKIN *Stones of Venice* 37 Ecclesiastical tyranny has, for the most part, founded itself on the idea of Vicariatism, one of the most pestilent of the Romanist theories. Of this I have a word or two to say to the modern Vicarian

**B** *adj.* Of or pertaining to, governed by, a deputy ruler

1643 USSHER *Disputs Asia* 16 The greater part of the in land I ydia was brought under this Vicarian regiment 1654 VILVAIN *Theol Penal* VI 256 The Dragon coverily excited a Vicarian Kingdom

Hence **Vica rianism** (see A 2 above.)

**Vicariate** (vai, vikɛ·riĕt), *sb* Also 7 **vicariot** 7–9 **vicariat** [ad med L. *vicariat us*, f L *vicari-us* VICAR Cf OF and F *vicariat*, It, Sp, Pg *vicariato*]

1. The office or authority of a vicar in a religious or ecclesiastical sense a. Of persons acting as earthly representatives of God or Christ

1610 DONNE *Pseu to martyr* 249 [To make] Kings which before had their Lieutenancie and Vicariate from God, but Magistrates to his Vicar 1664 — *Progr to Lee Harrington* Poems (1669) 249 To deliver up to God that state Of which he gave thee the Vicariate *a* 1676 HALE *Hist Relig* II (1682) 28 Hold what you well if you hold not the Supremacy and Vicariot of the Pope all the rest of your Religion is not worth a rush 1882 *Schaff's Encycl Relig Annot* III 2456/2 Through St Peter the vicariate was forever conferred on the bishop of Rome

b. Of the deputy of a bishop, etc.

1611 SIR D CARLETON *Let in Soth Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 146 Upon my recommendation to procure a vicar there hath fallen vacant a benefice annexed to my vic ariat 1795 tr *Duplin Eccl Hist* 25th C I iv 110 Vigilius gave his Vicariate to this Archbishop. 1773 A BUTLER *Lives Saints* (1845) XI 203 St Charles established a vicariat that things might be done with deli beration and counsel, which many other bishops imitated

c Of a vicar in the Church of England Also *freq*, the period of a vicar's ministry

1897 J JORDAN *Paroch. Hist Enstone* iv 191 The Rev J Bockingham was at some period of his vicariat ejected 1887 *Pall Mall G* 24 Jan 2/2 The first incumbent of the present vicariate was John Wyse, who held the record of his fifteen years vicariate, during which he had taken none of the parish income.

2 A political office held by a person as deputy for another, deputed exercise of authority by a person or governing body

1619 F CORTINGTON *Let in Eng & Germ* (Camden) 33 If he should chance to fayle, the vicariate of Upper Germany must needes fall upon the Palatin 1721 *Lond Gaz* No 5842/2 He has accepted and taken upon him the part of the Vicariate of the Empire during the prese t Vacancy 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. I* II Wks. 1813 V 249 The vicariat of that part of Germany which is governed by the Saxon laws devolved to the elector of Saxony 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* V viii 220 An educated nation recoils from the imperfect vicariate of which a scalled representative governs me 1858 DALE *Rom Sen Vast L* II *Western Empire* 16 Flavianus received the vicariate of Africa

*attrib* 1762 tr *Busching's Syst Geog* IV 38 They may hold vicariate aulic courts

3 a. A district under the rule of a deputy governor

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix* (1803) IV 204 Donna Guoin ar de Quinones, wife to the regent of the vicariate of Naples. 1840 *Penny Cyc* XVIII 404/2 The provinces which con stituted under the Christian emperors successors of Con stantine, the vicariate of Rome *Ibid.* These provinces were under the lay jurisdiction of an imperial vicar]

b *A C Ch* A district under the charge of a vicar apostolic the see of a vicar apostolic

1818 HALLAM *Mid Ages* (1831) II 226 By the constitution of the church every province ought to have its metro politan and every vicariate its ecclesiastical exarch or primate 1857 G OLIVER *Coll Hist Cath Relig Cornw* 11 *etc* 435 This western vicariat becoming vacant by the death of Bishop Biggs. 1890 *Cath Dict Nat Biog* XXI 374/1 He was selected by the propaganda to preside as bishop over the vicariate of the West Indies.

c A church ministered to by a vicar

1762 tr *Busching's Syst Geog* IV 355 In it is one collegi ate and seven other churches, which are vicariates of the former

4 VICARIOUSNESS. *rare*—1

1877 A. CAVE *Scrapt Doctr Sacr* 1 11 32 They knew that the lives of innocent animals were taken in lieu of their own; what did they regard as the reason of this singular vicariate?

Hence **Vica rialship** *rare*—1

1753 *Sc is Mag* XV 27/1 There is a dispute between the Elector Palatine, and the Elector of Bavaria, about one of those Vicarialships

**Vica riate,** *a rare* Also 7 **vicariat.** [f L *vicari-us* + -ATE 2 or attrib. use of prec.] Pertain ing to, characteristic of, a deputy or representative, delegated

1619 NAUNTON in *Eng & Germ* (Camden) 33 Such strength and forces as may enable him to maintaine the vicariat dignitie when it shall fall uppon him *a* 1677 BARROW *Expos Supr m* VI Wks. 1687 I 261 We thought it a given rent that you should be held up by the vicariat authority of our See 1849 ROCK *Ch of Fathers* II vi 137 To the Bishops of Arles had the Holy See deputed a vicariate power there

**Vica riate,** *v rare* [f VICARIATE *sb*] *intr* To act as a deputy or substitute

1827 CARLYLE *Germ Rom* III 129 Her he edified by his Literary History, as relating to himself and the Subrector, how for instance, he was at present vicariating in the second Form [etc.]

†**Vicaried.** *Obs*—1 (App a misstranslation of med L *vicaridtus* VICARIATE *sb.*)

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus* XXXII 6 *note* Nebeheu he [an evil prelate] scorneth God and taketh the office of his vikeried, and chargith not of his onour

**Vicarious** (vɑɪ-, vikē·rɪəs), *a* [*f. L. vicārī-us* adj and sb, *f. vic-is* change, turn, stead, office, etc see VICE, -ARIOUS.]

**1** That takes or supplies the place of another thing or person, substituted instead of the proper thing or person

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Ceremon.* III iv 56 If I tell grossly adore before the Pastor as the Vicarious Supper of Christ himself 1664 H. VI. *Myst. Iniq.* 379 The Inferences are necessarily re lucil le to the Regal Power being but a vicarious Appendix thereto. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* 70 Gospel and little stones are often found in their st machs where they prove a vicarious kind of teeth 1709 I. ROBINSON *Iand Messiah Vpst* 29 God made it [ac the moon] a vicarious Light to the Sun to supply its absence in this lower World 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1842 I 320 These modern flagellants are sure to whip their own enormities on the vicarious back of every small offender 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus* VII 161 Every right minded and heaven commissioned minister of religion is in a real sense a vicarious person. 1840 BLK. KW. *Pr. Infidel* II 68 This, And worse expect unless some god endure Vicarious thy tortures. 1853 ANN THOMSON *Lamps Path* 3 59 The cry or excla mation would be co scionsly reproduced to represent or recal the feeling, on another occasion, and it then became a word or vicarious sign.

b Const *of* (something) *rare*

1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss* (1852) 404 The University and Colleges are thus neither identical nor vicarious of each other 1836–7 — *Metaph* VIII (1870) 331 If the science be able to possess no single name vicarious of its definition

**2** Of punishment, etc Endured or suffered by one person in place of another, accomplished or attained by the substitution of some other person, etc., for the actual offender Freq in *Theol* with reference to the suffering and death of Christ

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect* ix 319 Some means of Reconciliation must be contrived some vicarious satisfaction to Justice. 1698 NOEL *Is Pract Disc* (1707) IV 137 But as Precious as it was, it was not the very thing that the Law required but a Vicarious Punishment. 1738 BUTLER *Anal. Relig* II v 272 Vicarious Punishments may be absolutely necessary 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell's* June Whatever difficulty there may be in the doctrine of vicarious punishments 1838 J. CILBERT *Chr Atonem* III (1859) 80 The Christian doctrine of vicarious expiation 1850 BLACKIE *Prometheus* II 113 The notion of vicarious sacrifice, or punishment by substitution does not seem to have been very familiar to the Greek mind 1860 PUSEY *Min Proph* 72 The manifold barriers which He should set forth by His vicarious Death 1883 GELSHOM *Mongols* XVII 202 Vicarious suffering too seems strange to the i, their own syste n teaching that for his sin a man must suffer, and there is no escape.

**3** Of power, authority, etc. Exercised by one person, or body of persons, as the representative or deputy of another

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vicarious* belonging to a Vicar subordinate as Bishops to Apostles 1777 JOHNSON in *B xwell* (1904) I 126 I shall be considered as exercising a kind of vi arious jurisdiction 1807 J. HARLOW *Colonob* I 5 Nb sway'd a more ab olute with vicarious power Than a sceptre 1844 H. WILSON *Brit India* III 285 Such vicari ous powers were conferred upon His Majesty's Courts at all the Indian Presi iencies. 1855 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* I xvii 487 He had held during some months, a vicarious primacy *transf* 1835–6 *Todd's Cyc Anat* I 322/1 Reds s pontion, that the pebbles [swallowed by birds] perform the vicarious office of teeth.

**4** I erformed or achieved by means of another, or by one person, etc on behalf of another

1806 FELLOWES tr *Wilton's and Defence* Wks VI 377 He had not the courage to give a dedication to Charles with out the vi arious aid of Flaccus 1822 I AMB *Elia* I *Bachelor's Complaint*, I m st prote tagainst the vicarious gluttony of Cerasus, who sent away a dish of Morellas to her husband at the other end of the table. 1846 *Mirror* XLVII 68 The increasing laxity of the Mussulman world, and the practise of vicari ous pilgrimage, have greatly diminished the numbers of the sacred host. 1877 CLADSTONE *Gl an* (1879) IV 347 May we never be subjected to the humiliation of dependence upon vicarious l bour 1894 H. DRUMMOND *As ent Man* 301 Much of their vicarious service the butterfly and the bee carry the fertilizing dust to the waiting stigma.

b Of qualities, etc Possessed by one person but reckoned to the credit of another

1842 PUSEY *Cross Eng Ch* 136 To confound individual duties with vicarious merits 1856 FROUDE *Hist Eng* (1858) II vi 36 A system where sin was expiated by the vicarious virtues of other men.

**c** Of methods, principles, etc. Based upon the substitution of one person for another.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II 11 It may be called the vicarious method it obtai ned amo ngst big fell ws of lazy or bullying habits and comes ed amily in making these boys do their whole vulgus for them 1870 J. H NEWMAN *Gram Assent* II x 400 On this vicarious pri ciple, by which we aj propriate to ourselves what others do for us, the whole structure of society is raised

**5** *Physiol* Denoting the performance by or through one organ of functions normally discharged by another, substitutive

1780 *Fmgyel Brit* VI 2717 The Vicarious Hemorrhages 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I 650 With a view of exciting a vicarious action, I opened an issue in one of the arms. *Ibid* 668 Where the complaint is situ tly idiopathic and uncombined it has often been found to give way to some local irritation or vicarious drain 1846 DAY tr *Simon's Anim Chem* II 170 The vicarious action of the skin and lungs 1877 FOSTER *Physiol* (1878) 477 Vicarious reflex movements may also be witnessed in mammals.

**Vicariously** (vɑɪ-, vikē·rɪəslɪ), *adv.* [f prec. + -LY².]

**1** By substitution of one thing or person for another, by means of a substitute

1796 BURKE *Regic Peace* II Wks 1808 VIII 237 Not being able to revenge themselves on God, they have a delight in vicariously defacing his image in man. 1828 SCOTT *F M Perth* xvii Some one must drink it for him, he shall be cured vicariously 1835–6 *Todd's Cyc Anat* I 333/1 Respiration is also carried on vicariously in a very large proportion of animals. 1861 J. G SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* vii 397 His campaigns were vicariously ca ried on by a general whom common report designated as the Achilles of the Vandals 1883 OUIDA *Wanda* I 60 She never did anything vicariously which concerned those dependent upon her

**2** As a substitute for another

1868 GARBOD *Mat Med* (ed 3) 310 To cause the skin to act vicariously when the action of other secreting organs is excessive. 1886 J MORLEY *Crit Misc* I 298 He suspected the practice by which one man offered up prayer vicariously and collectively for the assembled congregation.

**Vica riousness.** [f as prec + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being vicarious

1797 BAILEY (vol. II) 1898 J MARTINEAU *Stud Chr* 288 If the vicariousness be real this mere presence will exhibit an outraging upon the first principles of rectitude. 1874 H R REYNOLDS *John Baptist* v § 2 128 The vicariousness of the sacrifice makes a more severe demand upon our conscience and intelligence 1885 *Lancet* 27 July 175/1 Another favourite assertion of the opponents of vaccination —the vicariousness of zymotic mortality

**† Vicarity.** *Obs rare*⁻¹. [f. VICARY *sb* 1] = VICESHIP.

*c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* I xv (1869) 11 Thow shuldest also not forȝete of whom thow doost the vicarishipe

**† Vicarly,** *a Obs*⁻¹ [f VICAR 2.] Holding the position of a vicar

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep Ded, A deuine vicarly brother of his, called Astrologicall Richard

**Vicarship.** Also 6 -shyp, vycarship(pe [f VICAR + -SHIP.] The office or position of a vicar, in various senses of the word

1534 HENRY VIII in *Rolls Ho Rec* (1834) I p. viii, Every other person that hath any dignitie prebend vycarship or other office 1546 BALE *Eng Votaries* I (1560) 49 The general commission, whiche he held of Sathan his great maistre, in that vycarship of his 1579 FULKE *Confut Sanders* 540 Y^e Bishop of Ierusalem should more reasonably claime this supreinace & vicarship vnto Christ. 1622 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* ix 1000 Hee [*Gabriel Severi*] *Anno* 66 After he returned at Rome, Cardinal Capucino paid him all the profits accruing of his Vicarship by him administred in his absence 1697 W HUGHES *Man of Sin* III v 139 If St Peters, and so his Holiness universal Vicarship follow hence 1739 SWIFT *Let to Pope* to May, here is a man in my choir one Mr Lamb! he has as much right to a vicarship. 1760–7 *Sheridan's Swift* (1784) III 130 The crown of Spain held the vicarship of Siena as a fief of the Empire 1839 J TAYLOR *Ancient Ch* I 368 The universal vicarship of the bishop of Rome. 1867 R. FALLON *Ep Honour* I 71 He was commended to the master general by Cardinal Pole for the vicarship of the province. 1868 *Oxford Chron.* 25 July 5/4 The Bishop of Oxford has lost no time in filling up the Vicarship of Abingdon.

**† Vi·cary,** *sb* 1 *Obs* Forms *a* 4–5 vicarie (4 vik-), arye, 4–6 vycary (4 arye), 4–7 vicary (5 -ari), 6 vykary. *β.* 4–5 vicori(e, vicoory, 4 vycory, 4–5 vycory, vycory, 5 vicorye ȝ 4 vy(c)kery, 5 vekery. [ad L. *vicāri-us* VICAR.]

**1** = VICAR 1 and 1 b.

1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 11789 Pe prest ys cri)stis vykarye 1338 — *Chron* (1810) 283 No man has powere Jef of Cristis vycary Pe Wiltunne hys owne prest 1340 — vicarie *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl Foules* 379 Nature, vicarye to the almyghty lord 1393 LANGL *P Pl C* XV 70 Cleregie ys cristen vekery to conforte and to counseyle 1398 TREVISA *Chron* (1811) V 310 The most holyest and fauorablist Prince in erthe Vicary and Lieftenaunt of Cryst. 1549 MORE *Dyalogue* II Wks 179/2 The Pope which is vnder Christ vycary & the head of our churche.

**2** = VICAR 2

*a* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 11697 Alle prestes haue nat powere to assoyle pe But hyt be by pe vyrysshe preste Or by parysshe cure vycary *c* 1330 *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 5775 To parsones & to vicaries Was graunted grete seignouryes *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's Prol* 92 (Corpus), Noo Frere, noo false ne vicaire, Or any lyk a person I may seyn by yy fey 1417 *E. E Wills* (1882) 28 Sir John Dey, parsone of Bageworthe . . . sir Edward Osbourne, vicary of Hamme 1463 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 200 I he same writinges I send you nowe by the vicarye of Porestoke *c* 1500 *Joseph Arim* 253 I the vykary of welles, that vyker hald ouer all pe Wiltunde by pe wyll of pe kyng 1509 SKELTON *Col Clowte* 572 Of persons and vykeryes They make many outcryes 1538 *North Country Wills* (Surtees, 1908) 258 To the vicarye of Willoby a mortuary

*β.* 1377 LANGL. *P Pl* B XIX 207 Thanne is many man ylost, quod a lewed vycory 1406 *E. E Wills* (1882) 12 Y wyl to the vekery of the same Kyrke xij^d 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 16 Alas I e ner a parsu i or a vecory *c* 1450 *Chron London* (Kingsford 1905) 134 Ther was a prest of thakested, that whan vicory some tymes, whan brent in Smythfelde 1479 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 421 The Maire and the Vicorye and the Propters [*sic*] with them.

**3.** = VICAR 3

1431–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) VI 465 For those men sleynge the laboure of the qwere ordeyned vicaryes to occupye theire places 1505 *Will R Cyphys* 26 March (Prerog. Ct. Canterb.) Alice to Owen Parsons my owe cuppe i but if he shold dye, thenne to my brethren the Vicaries of the Quere

**4.** = VICAR 4.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI 243 He sat to be pope, Peter his vicary, a rente by pe gere of everich house of pe kyngdom *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* I xiii (1869) 8 A maister ȝ ugh fastely that seemede to be a vikarie of aaron or of moyses.

**5.** = VICAR 5.

1414 *S Eng Legendary* (MS Bodl 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXII 383/57 I o nyssian be vecory pey were berake anon, pat he hem cholde make here sacrefise to don 1426 VOWLER *Secreta Secret* 214 When that haste mesee to the Service of ten thousand men, thou cal a governoure, and hym shal Serve ten vicaries, and wyth euery vicarie shall cvm ten leders. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr* I civlii (1495) 166/a One of the sayd chylden was made Senatour of Rome; the other Consul of Cartage, and thother vycarye in Affrycye. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* (1649) 8 Yet this [council of state] is not our new intended King; this is but his vicary.

**† Vi·cary,** *sb* 2 *Obs* Also 5 wycari, 6 vicarye. [a AF and OF *vicarie* (*vikarie*), or ad. med L. *vicāria*, f. *vicārius* VICAR.] The office or position of a vicar, a benefice held by a vicar

*c* 1420 in *Test Ebor* (Surtees) II 219 *note*, Forasmuch as I am enfourmed that there is a vicary voide with your College of Hemmynburgh I pray yow w^t all myn hert that ye will graunte I ym the said vicary 1430 *Goldtow Reg.* 437 The lond of the vicary of ses^t Cyle without the north gate of Oxenford *Ibid* 580 Longyng to the said church of Seynt Peter by the vesyn of the vicary 1483 *Cath. Angl* 401/2 A wycari, *vicaria*. 1563 BECON *Reliques of Rome* 254 Houses of holy graunges personages, or vicaries, or any manner of men of holy church 1598 MARSTON *Sco Villanie* I iii (1599) 185 By chance [he] Hath got the farme of some gelt vicary 1612 R. SHELTON *Spear St Matthew* 4 The ambitious Bishop and Monarch of Rome in his pretended Vicary for the Messias. 1718 *Lond Gaz.* No. 5079/3 I he Vicary, part of Killcrusaper Tythes

**† Vi·cary,** *a Obs rare.* [ad. L. *vicāri-us*] VICARIOUS, delegated

*c* 1400 *Apol Loll* 85 If ymagis be worschipid, not bi vicary worschip but by pe same worschip of God, doulies it is idolatre 1660 J. *Apsu* in *Somers Tracts* (1809) I 8 Under hand and seal of his high est Vicary authority, as God's Vice gerent, to the resolves of the subordinate Vicary authority of the Vicegerents of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Vicayr(e,** obs forms of VICAR

**Vice** (vɑɪs), *sb*¹ Forms 3– vice (5–6 *Sc* wice), 4–6 vyce (5–6 *Sc* wyce), 5 vise, wise, wisse, 5 vys, vijs (vyhs, *Sc* vis), 6 vyse, *Sc* wys. [a. AF and OF *vice* (mod F *vice*, = Pr. *vici*, Sp and Pg. *vicio*, It *vizio*).—L. *vitium* fault, defect, failing, etc.]

**1.** Depravity or corruption of morals, evil, immoral, or wicked habits or conduct, indulgence in degrading pleasures or practices.

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 4025 Hit is ney vif ȝer pat we abbeb yliued in such vn.e, Vor we nadde nost to done, & in such delice 1300 *Cursor M* 10599 Pe vice (Edinb.) pat man in vice be cast He mai him draw fra pat last And be pat he was are *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Consc.* 4116 In wham is pe fyrest of malice bat be hidde vnder name of vice 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 I ho was the vertu sett above And vice was put under fote *c* 1400 *Pilgr Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV xxiv, 70 Vyce destroyeth the myght and the rygour of the sowle 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (1835) 18 God hereyn I pray hem gladly Wych to hym preyse, puryd from vyhs. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc 3662 Quhen thau tak it our mesour, thau turne it wys and in arrours 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* xi (Percy Soc) 46 Ey vpon slouth the nourysher of vyce, Whych vnto youth doth often prejudice. 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 119 b, Thurch e is represhended the thefies, robberies, and all other kynd of vice 1600 J GRANGER *Dst Cygibe* 123 As vertue is to be imaied: Exyle vice is to be eschewed 1614 MILTON *Comus* 5 In stinting til em more amply in the kowledge of virtue, and the hatred of vice 1687 A LOVELL tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 104 It is impossible but that Vice must reign, where People are so ignorant of the commands of God. 1709 BUTLER *Serm* Wks. 1874 II 109 Vice is vice to him who is guilty of it 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V*, IV Wks. 1813 V 305 In order to avoid vice long habit, men must undergo perpetual mortification 1821 LYRON *Mar Fal* II i Vice cannot fix, and virtue cannot change, for vice must have variety 1852 USE *Philos Manuf* 296 To exalt by hypocrisy or plunder in idleness and vice 1873 OUIDA *Pascarel* I 6 You, who blush for your mirth because your mirth is vice

**b** Personified

*c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 602 A son of myn bastard, Whos name ys Vyce—he kepeth my vaward 1600 SHAKS. *Ham* III iv 154 Vertue cannot so inoculate our old stock, but we shall relish of it. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 760, I hate when vice can bolt her arguments, And vertue has no tongue to check her pride 1730 R. HOLE tr *Desiderius Erasmus* 56 Folly in the mingled Scene, I've chang'd the Name A. ter'd Vice, to any 1754 GRAY *Progr Poesy* Bo Alike they scorn the pomp of tyrant Power, And coward Vice that revels in her chains. 1784 COWPER *Task* III 101 Vice has such allowances, that her shifts And specious semblances have lost their use 1813 SHELLEY *Fatalhood & Vice* II Where War's mad fiends the scene environ, There Vice and Falsehood took their stand.

**2.** A habit or practice of an immoral, degrading, or wicked nature.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 23186 Pai Ne wald noght here bot pair delices, Pat drogh pam vntil oper vices 1340 *Ayenb* 17 Vor prede makeb of elmesse senne, and of virtues vices. 1377 LANGL *P Pl* B XIX 308 Pat loue myste wexe Amonge pe foure vertues and vices destroye. 1422 YONGE tr *Secretes Secret* 205 Als often [as] he is touchid wyth any wyce. *Ibid*, Ofte Preyer quynchyth the Pryckynges of vices. 1474 CAXTON *Chesses* i (1883) 9 Whan he receyueth not ner taketh hede unto them that repreue hym and his vices. 1546

**Brenklow** *Lament* 79 They sett vp and maynttayne idol strye, and other innumerable vices and wickednes 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 452 Such unaccustomed vices semed not so muche to be forbodden, as shewed 1609 Skene *Lear* v iii 170 The Gods are iust, and of our pleasant vices Make instruments to plague vs 1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* i § 3 Nor [to] speake of Persons otherwise, than as the mention of their Virtues or Vices is essential to the work in hand 1779 *Law Sarcens C* ii (1732) 16 How it comes to pass that Swearing is so common a Vice amongst Christians 1772 *Junius Lett* xlv (1788) 257 There are degrees in all the private vices 1818 Miss Mitford in L Estrange *Life* (1870) II ii 46 An Englishman's worst vice is more humane than a Roman a best virtue 1841 Emerson *Ess* i. 6 (1903) 180 The virtues of society are vices of the saint 1878 J C Morison *Goldon* 160 Madame de Maintenon, a woman, cold at ice and pure as snow, was freely charged with the most abhorrent vices.

**b.** Const. *of* (the vice in question)

1393 R Brunne *Hand Synne* 5067 Non art falle pan yn be vice Of couetyse, pefft, and usaryce. c1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* Prol 7 Thru þe vicis of ydines gret foly ; & van tones a 1450 *Myrk's Festial* 118 Per may no man fynde a payne, forto poynych dewly be vyce of vnkyndnes 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xlix 2 In vice most vicius he excellis That with the vice of tressone mellis 1597 Shaks *1 Hen IV*, iii ii 325 How subiect we old men are to this vice of Lying 1637 B Jonson *Underwoods* iv *Ep to Friend* 8 Not like their country neighbours that commit Their vice of loving for a Christmas fit. 1791 J Bowles *Prayer Will* iii 171 The Vertue of Temperance is regarded as a necessary Means of gratifying the Vice of Covetousness 1859 Kenny *sou Gerraint* 193 The dwarf's doubling all his master's vice of pride, Made answer sharply that she should not know

**c** In horses A bad habit or trick. Also without article (cf. sense 1)

1596 *Dict Facet* (ed 2) 44 Bad Horsemen occasion most of these Vices, by correcting unduely or out of time. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v, The rider is first cautiously to find whether this Vice proceeds from real stubbornness or from faintness. 1810 *Sporting Mag* XXXVI 154 The horse was warranted sound, free from vice and not more than three years old 1817 T Brown *Mod Farriery* 377 Of all the vices incidental to the horse, shying is one of the worst *a* 1901 F W H Myers *Hum Personality* (1903) I 200 Those defects of stability which in a horse we call vice

**3** A character in a morality play representing one or other vice, hence, a stage jester or buffoon

Very common c1560–1630 now only *Hist*

1551–2 in Feuilleat *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 73 One vyces dagger & a ladle with a bable pendante delyvered to the Lorde of myrrules foole *Respublica* (1905) 1 Avarice

The vice of the plate 1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 147 His face made of brasse, like a vice in a game, His iesture like Iauus, whom Janus, in matters of weight, doth name 1602 W Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 156 He stands at their deuotion, and is but like an Ape a Parrot, or a Vice in a play, to praise what is prompted or suggested vnto him 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 169 Lucela a common vice in playes followed the stage and acted thereon an hundred yeares. 1645 Milton *Colast* Wks 1851 IV 408 For I had rather not to have to doe with Clowns and Vices. 1767 S Patterson *Another Tract* 1 123 I am now in the vice of every comedy, and the punch of every puppet shew 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past* iii ii 140 *note* I remember to have seen a stage direction for the vice, to play about him lustily with a great pole 1886 A W Ward *Eng Dramas* (1909) 297 A favourite piece of horse play in the old miracles and morals, when the Vice belabours the Devil

*transf* 1564 Caithill *Answ Treat Crosse* (1846) 210 When the Vice is come from the Altar, and the people shall have no more sport [etc.].

**4.** Moral fault or defect (without implication of serious wrongdoing); a flaw in character or conduct

1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 106 Sir Henry mad be fyne, & mad be mariage þe may withouten vice, his weddyng was wele dight 1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi 355 For hardyment with foly is vice; Bot hardyment, that mellit is With wyt, is vorschip ay 1509 Shaks *Hen V*, iii vi 161 Yet forgive me God, That I doe bragge thus: this your ayre of France Hath blowne that vice in me 1538 Starkey *Paint Amendm* 229 Whilest they thinke it enough to be without vice, they fall into that same maine vice to lacke vertues 1794 Paley *Evid* I iii iv (1825) 319 Credulity is a vice, incredulity often an intellectual vice. 1827 Macaulay *Ess*, *Machiavelli* (1897) 44 Ferocity and insolence were not among the vices of the national character

**5** A fault, defect, blemish or imperfection, in action or procedure or in the constitution of a thing

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T* 93 He with a manly voys seith this message, Withouten vice of silable or of lettre *a* 1400 *Ex Courtesye* 131 In Dedwode he is salet yclept; þat is pit Oper fisshe or flesshe hat men may wyt, Pat is a vyce, as men me telles *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth* 911 He vesure, the avenaile, Voyde with-owten vice, with wyndowes of sylver *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb* i 100 The londis fatte, or lene or thikke, or rare, Or drie, or moyst, and not withouten vice, 1548 Cooper *Apot Dict*, *Amechthia*, a vice in writyng or speakynge, when the wordes aunswere not the one to the other 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* iii xxii (Arb) 257 The foulest vice in language is to speake bar barously 1604 E. Grimeston's *D Acosta Hist Indies* iii. xxii 188 There growes neither bread nor wine in these Ilands, for that the too great fertilitie and the vice of the soile suffers them not to grow 1700 Rowe *Ambitious Step-Mother* Ded., I will engage not to be guilty of the common Vice of Dedications. 1799 Shelvocke *Artillery* iii 166 The first and most remarkable Vice in Rockets. 1798 J Moore *View Soc Italy* (1790) I xxxvii 405 In edifices capable of solidity from their bulk the vice of diminishing is not compensated by harmony 1820 Southey in C C Southey *Life* (1849) III 374 The vice of the Friend is its roundaboutness. 1854 A. W Fonblanque in *Life & Labours* (1874) 513 Tenacity to fopperies and neglect of essentials is the vice of our Service. 1881 Armstrong in *Nature* XXIV. 451 The vice of the steam-engine lies in its inability to utilise heat of comparatively low grade

**b.** A physical defect or blemish; a deformity; a taint, imperfection, or weakness in some part of the system

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T* 99 Myda hadde vnder his longe heres Growynge vpon his heed two asses eres: The which vice he hydde, as he best myghte *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 181 If itso be þat allopucia comeþ of vijt of humourys, þanne vicera wole be in þe skyn. *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula* etc 81 Iuyse of capsfolk þat is called lus um availeþ hi itself to al be vices of be mouþe *c* 1440 *Alph Ivles* 218 Demostenes laburd so agayn a vice & ane im pedyment in his mouthe, þat no man myght speke fayrer 1541 R Copland *Guydon's Terap* 2 b] Nat that the dyuturnatye undyketh the curacyon but the vyce of the blode 1598 Holoky, Vice of a shorte breath, or winde, *opnea* 1643 Sir J Browne *Relig Med* i § 41, I perceive I doe anticipate the vices of age 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 603 Loue the Sore, And cut the Head; for till the Core be found, The secret Vice is fed, and gathers Ground 1743 tr *Heister's Surg* 303 Physicians attribute most Disorders of the Body to some Vice in the Blood 1830 R Knox *Dieffenbach Anat* 65 The numerous vices which consist in a disunion or separation in the median line *ibid* 104 Vices of conformation are observed in some of these membranes 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* lvi Shall it take a thing so blind, Embrace her as my natural good; Or crush her like a vice of blood?

**†c** A disease or vitiated condition *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xvi vi. (Bodl MS) Mete and wyne ikept in suche a vessel takeþ an horrible sauoure and smelle of pe vice of brase

**6.** Wilful sinfulness, harmfulness

1837 [Miss Maitland] *Lett fr Madras* (1843) 162 The poison will dry up, but will not lose its virtue or rather its vice 1857 H Reed *Lect Eng Lit* v. 71 Even half the vice of the dagger's hitting is neutralized, he darent lunge out freely.

**7** *Comb.* **a.** With pa pples, *-vice bitten*, *-corrupted*, *-created*, *-haunted*, *polluted*, *worn*; also *-vice* adj.

1603 Harsnet *Pop Impost* 215 For a Devil to be so Vice haunted as that he should roare at the picture of a Vice burnt in a piece of paper. is a passion exceeding all apprehension 1623 Lodge *Incan* 1 Vice-corrupted our vice corrupted times. 1735 [Thomson *Liberty* ii 406 Independence stoops the head, To Vice enslav'd and Vice created Wants. 1742 Young *Night Thoughts* v 440 Which a paltry creature is a man vice bitten and sensible of detected folly 1777 Potter *Aeschylus*, *Choephorae* 337 Rouse, sing and drive the vice polluted wretch With keen scourges torture d thro the city 1849 H Coleridge *Ess* (1851) II 223 He has converted the ever grown concomb boy, into the vice worn worldling of debauchee. 1884 T Edwa. Lally *We Two* iv, The usual careworn or vicework faces. 1890 F Johnson *Rise Christendom* 104 Many a vice haunted monk must have gone mad but for this resource

**b.** With vbs *loathing*, *-punishing*, *-rebuking*, *-taming*, *-upbraiding*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii 1 *Imposture* 506 Vice loathing Lord, pure Justice, Patron strong, Law's life, Right's rule 1611 Bible *Titus* ii 15 Rebuke with all authority. [*Heb* ἔλεγχε] 1735 Such vice upbraiding objects Who Spares neither mother, brother kill' nor kin. 1612 Cotgr., *Satyre* a Satyre a Bluestrue or vice rebuking Poeme. 1819 J. Newton *Wesley Hymns* (1820) 6 And still vice punishing Authority, He (outlaw like) would shun 1842 H More *Song of Soul* iii iii v, Religious Plato, and vice taming Orpheus.

**c.** With vice's *corruption*

1635 Quarles *Embl* ii x 4 A Hag repair d with vice complexion, paint, A quest house of complaint.

**Vice** (vaɪs), *sb* - Forms (4 vis, vice), 4 6 vyz (5 vise, 6 Sc wyce), vyce, 5–6 *Sc* wice, vyse, 4 6 (9) vyze (6 Sc vyce). 4– vice [Sc. Obs. (also wice), vyz, vize, etc. —L. *vitis* vine, with reference to the spiral growth of the tendrils. So Fr *vrille*, It *vite* screw.]

**1** A winding or spiral staircase *Obs* exc *arch*

[1334–5 *Ely Sacr Rolls* (1907) II 73 In j serrura empt pro hostio in le Vice in novo campanile, vj d 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xxv 8 Bi a vyce [L. *cochlea*] þei medlen vp into the mydil sowpynge place, and fro the mydil into the thridde 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III 87 He ordeyned games and plaies, þat made wrastlyng, and obere suche stryng places 1435 *Contract for Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 28 In the said stepill shall be a Vice towr-ryng, servyng till the said Bridge 1450–1530 *Myrr* 1. 1450 Crowne, and obere stronge gell come doun fro be stage on high, by a vice, and sette a croune of golde & precious stonez & perles apon be kynges hed 1585 Holyb *Wills Northern Counties* I 144 be bylding and fynyshynge of be vyce of Seynt James a Chirche 1643 *Dunmow Churches MS* fol 36, vt. days worke and a half shoen the vice & the vice dore & the stepill 1648 Hexham II xv *Spille*, A Vice to gett up on, or a Winding staires

1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* I 16 A handsome stone vice or spiral staircase. 1900 Hope in *Archaeol Trnl* XV 334 In the north east corner is a vice partly built of glazed bricks

**†b** A screw or shaft of a spiral stair *rare*

1466 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III 93 Thes shal make the Roofe of the vice of the staire And shal fynde alle the bord and tymbre for the Roof of the vice aforsaid 1483 *Cath Angl* 420/2 A vyce, *cochlea* 1548 Alle

Till I a winding staire found, And held the vice a-ye in my hond, And upward softly so gan creepe

**†2.** A device of the nature of a screw or winch for bending a crossbow or catapult Hence *bow* (etc.) *of vice*. *Obs*

13 *Cœur de L* 3970 Richard bent an arweblast off vyze, And schotte it to a tour [1372–3 *Acc Exch K R* 397/10 m 2, iij vice ad tendendum balistas.] *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2494 Thane they beneyde [*read* bendyde] in burghe bowes of vyze. *c* 1485 Wynton *Cron.* viii 4807 Awblasters, and bowis of wise, And al thynge þat mycht mak seruice

**†b.** A mechanical contrivance or device by which some piece of apparatus, etc, is worked *Obs* (common in the 16th c.).

Orig no doubt implying some applicati n of a screw, but in later use employed more loosely and perhaps associated with Device 5 (cf Vice *adj*).

*a* 1400 *A Cloue Chron.* (Rolls) II 780 Man mai þunche muche wonder how hij were awaked For nis þer noþer gyn ne vyze but hat mytte þe wakyng of þe Cloue nis (Percy Soc.) 15 I he little turrets with ymages of golde About was set, whiche with the wynde aye moved, Wyth propre vices *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* v. clvi. 145 Images on horse backe aperyd out of sondrye placis, and after departyd agayne by meane of seriayne vyces. 1547 Whitthebley *Chron* (Camden) II 1 He shewed a picture of the resurrection of our Lord made with vices, which pult out his legges of sepulchree and turned his heade 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chyrurg* p xiii b/1 The vice, or meanes, wherby this Instrumente is opened and shutte agayne *a* 1614 Overbury *A Wife*, etc (1638) 169 His whole body goes all upon skrewes, and his face is the vice that moves them 1621 F Williamson tr *Guicciard's Hist Low Countrey* 49 Idolles, and Statues, which artificially are moued by vices & gynnes 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* viii 80 All the people was in the Burgesses, at whose pleasure they were nominated and moved, like wooden Puppets with a Vice.

**†c.** A clasp or fastening for a hood *Obs*

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/1 Vice, hood sperynge, *spira*.

**†3** A screw *Obs*

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 2 b

1428–30 Lydg *Chron Troy* iv 6282 Many vys and manys sotyl pyn In be stede be ston was in be Burgeneis, at vche ende ouerychon. *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Man Isode* iv xxii (1869) 184 Pe angushe bat so harde presseb troubel herte, þat it þinkeþ it is strepped as a þef in a vice. *a* 1450 *Pynkynge vo Angels* (1883) 8 [A staff] with a pyke 3n pe neber ende fastnyed with a remevyng vise 1527 *Inv Goods Dk Richmond* 18 In the Kechyn ... a Bedstede of waynscote, well kerved with vices and garthes to the same 1552 Sir J Williams *Accomplet* (Abbotsford C.) 73 Paid for viij paier of vices for the Kechin and for seven im iges. 1647 *Trag Jew* 76 An other paier of candelstockes lackinge a vice 1571 Digges *Tantow* i xxvii H ij b In his backe preparate a vice or screw to turne vp the Sunne at the 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 484 A broad goblet or standing peece there was with a devise appendant to it for to be set too and take off as a vice. 1615 Stow *Ann* 1281 A Pulpace was made by an house Carpenter this was made to be taken a sunder, and set together with vices. 1621 Corvat *Crudities* 134 He is pourtrayed in white stone his Cloke with a vice turning in it, and his bookes vnder it

**b** A screw-press *rare*

1633 G Herbert *Temple Agony* ii Sinne is that presse and vice, which forces pain To wring such drie consciencs cruell food through ev'ry vein 1866 Rochester *Agric & Prices* I xxi 548 Apples were pressed in a mill with a screw or vice.]

*c spec* (See quot.)

1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2316 *2 f vice* Coopering] a gimlet pointed hand screw employed to hold up the head while the staves are closed around it

**+4** A tap of a vessel, a screw stopper *Obs*

1530 Palsgr 158/1 *Levis*, a vice of a cuppe, or suche like *Hist* 284 A vice to putte in a vessell of wyne to drawe the wyne out at *chantepleure* 1564 *Richmond & Hls* (Surtees) 174 One vice of gold enameled one 23lver spone doble gilt 1591 Har sheton *Orl Fur* xxxii. 130 The vice was broken from the aruze skire From whence, with turning of some cock or vice, great store of water would mount up on high 1612 in *Hist barton's Ledger* (1867) 205 Flagones of glase with vices covered with leather, the dozen xiii s. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* v v (1664) 26 The bottle is stop ed and shut up with a stoppel, but a flaggone with a vice.

**5** A tool composed of two jaws, opened and closed by means of a screw, which firmly grip and hold a piece of work in position while it is being filed, sawn or otherwise operated upon, used especially by workers in metal or carpenters Cf Hand-vice

The spelling *vyse* is now usual only in U S

1500 *Nottingham Rec* III 72 Unum vyse et diversa files 1584 *Amersh Wills* (Surtees) I 245 All my studdes one vice all my naile tooles and all my hammers 1677 Moxon *Mech Exerc* i 5 The two ends of the Vice are round stand asunder, the wider at throws the Chaps of the Vice open 1688 R Holme *Armory* iii 321 2 The Vice, called by the Mechanical Vice holders to set their work fast requires Fileing 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect* No. 10 (1748) II 201 There is no doubt but a pair of globes will make a better figure in their Parlours than a Pair of the vice and wheel 1797 *Encycl Trans* LXXXVII 258 In this machine the body to be filed is called asunder is held fast by two strong vices. 1827 N Ashton *Vice* 1 The vice is that which draws together the iron jaws of a smith's vice 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* xxiii, A long low workshop, fitted with benches, and vices, and odd scraps, and shavings, and filings. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* xiii (1880) 464 The vice for trout flies is a small brass table vice 1884 F J Britten *Watch & Clockm* 284 For nearly all operations connected with watch making either the work or the tool is grasped in the vice

*fig* 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV*, ii. 1 24 If I can close with him I care not for his thrust If I but fist him once if he come but within my knee 1886 R Taylor *Views Wit Waves*, Bound in the vice Of the Arctic ice 1901 *Munsey's Mag* XXIV 805/1 The doctor's hands, pecking at the ir vise at his wandspige grew feebler

**b** Used in similes or comparisons

1828 Scott *F M Perth* ii, To secure him with a grasp like that of his own iron vice, was, for the powerful Smith, the work of a single moment 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II v 110 Catesby, stretched out his hand across the table; took hold of that of his friend, and held it with a grasp as of an iron vice 1871 Tyndall *Fragm Sci* (1879) I xii 363 The jaws of a gigantic vice appear to have closed upon them 1885 *Harper's Mag* Dec. 90/1 The other hand was crossed upon my breast and held there as if in a vice.

6 A tool used for drawing lead into grooved rods for lattice windows

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vice* an Instrument with two Wheels made use of to draw the Lead in Glazing work 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v., There are some of these Vices double and that will draw two Leads at once 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 638 A vice with different cheeks and cutters to turn out the different kinds of lead as the magnitude of the window or the square may require

7 *attrib* and *comb*, as (sense 1) † *vice door, foot*, (sense 3) † *vice candlestick, -hasp, -nail, -pin, turcas* (sense 5) † *vice bench, block, board, -end, jaw, leg, maker, pin, -post, -screw*, etc , † **vice arch** (see quot ), **vice hand** (see quot , in mod use — next) **vice man**, a workman who manipulates a vice (cf quots ) Also **Vice-Iter** 2 ª

Also *vice-cap*, *-clamp*, *press* (Knight, 1875 84)

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 71 There were somtyme buldre wib †vice arches and fontes [*v* voutes] in be manere of Rome [L. *Romano more*] *clerestoria* 1850 Weale *Dict Terms* †*Vice ben h* the bench (?) which a vice is fixed 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 94 *Vice* Blocks.—Of various sizes, shapes and uses, tapered supports upon which to bend tubes 1808 A Scott *Poems* 140 An Vulcan loud, wi' squeakin clang Was at the †vice board risin' bu soon tha day 1572 in Feuillerat *Q. Eliz. Revels* (1908) 176 †Vice candlesticks xii xiiid. 1576 ? *Ibid* 363 vj vice candlesticktes at xijd the peece, vjs 1687 Miège *Gt Tr Dict* 1 *Vicheares* if *Vice* 1850 Weale *Dict Terms* A Vice 1354 *Mem Ayton* (Surtees) III 91 In mercede reparantis serur et claves de †vicedores in ecclesia 1463 *Pasq Wills* (Camden) 49 Item I bequeth to mari keye of my cost of the vice dore goyng vp to the candilbem 1501 *Latte i Churchm Acc* (Som Rec Soc) 135 A Key for y* fyxe door 1518 3 *Rec of Mary at Hill* (1909) 281 Nayles for be garnettes on the vp-side in the steple 1875 *Carpentry & Join* 35 At the left hand or †vice end of the bench 1533 in E Law *Hampton Ct Pal* (1885) 348 The dore at the †vice fote goyng up to the Iaye Inysshed of the hall 1644 Bulwer *Chiron* 76 The †vice-hand or Thumb ex tended out with the Fore Finger 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 332 †Vice hookes the dozen wais. 1793-4 *Matthews's Bristol Directory* Austin Aaron Clock and †Vice maker, Old market 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade* †*Vice maker*, a manufacturer of vices 1839 W. B. Adams *Carriages* 179 The business of the †vice man is to file and smooth the work from the rough marks of the ha mmer, to fit joints, and finish screw bolts and nuts 1898 Simmonds *Dict Trade* *Vice man*, smiths whose work is at the vice instead of the anvil 1488-92 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 85 A grete †vice nail maid of silver 1501 *Ibid.* II 66 For mending of a vice nale of the Kingis cowp that was brokin 1622 F. Markham *Bk War* I ix 34 His screwes, with which he shall unloose euery †vice ioinne or engine about the same 1642 Sir W. Mure *Nevad Tracts* III (1704) 353/2 They neither want Vice Iaws nor Scourers 1694 Motteux *Rabelais's* VII 28 The Hole for the Vice pin. 1823 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II 145 The vice pin intended to be screwed is placed in the stock *Ibid* 146 A very simple machine used for cutting †vice screws. 1549 *Sp Liturgy* (1889) 58 That the great achoirs, ane raingus, ane †vice turkes

**†Vice,** *sb* 3 *Obs* Also 4 **vis, vijs, wijs,** 4–5 **vys** (4 **uys,** 5 **vyys**), 4 **vis, vys(e,** 5 **vyce** [a OF *vis* —L *vis unus, visus* face ] Face, visage

Common in the first half of the 14th century

a 1300 *Cursor M* 18841 His vis [*cott* vijs vyys] sundel wit rede was blend; On nese and muth was noght at mend a 1325 in Horstm. *Allengl Leg* (1878) 144 Ase we went toward paradijs bui be †vis we vnder stode 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1810) 104 Vnto be se side chaced be Sir Iowys He durst not abide no turne Thebald his vis 1400 *Emare* 742 Leue we al be lady Emare And turne we 1400 *Land Troy Bk* 7733 His vice was red as ury fir

**Vice,** *sb* 4 *Obs* ex *dial* Also 4 **vyse,** 6 **vise,** *St* **wice, vyce,** 9 *dial* **vise** [Aphetic f *avise, anyse*, etc , Advice ] Counsel ; advice

1386 ? Tune *Test Love* (Skeat) I. 60 Now thou counest goodly by thyn owne vyse to comforte me with wordes. a 1500 *Lancelot* 1303 Mot euery king hiye this wice in myntl In tyme 1513 Douglas *Æn* A. Scott *Poems* (S T S) v 23 Sic sentyeris tymis our weill this sessone Vpoun thar vyce war fang to wak

a 1537 *Isle of Wight Lore* (E D S) 240 †*see* or *Vice* advice

**†Vice,** *sb* 5 *Obs* Also 5 **vyce, 6 vyse** [Aphetic f Device ] Design, figure, device

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1539 (D ) A vesture of vyce of vyolet flourer 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* (Percy Soc ) 180 On the fourth head, on the hel et crest There was a stremer of pure white, Wherein was written with vyse of the best My name is Variaunce a 1650 *Sir Lamdwell* 116 in Burnv *Percy Folio* I 148 In the pauilion was a bed of price that was couered ore with goodlie vice

**Vice** vais), *sb* 6 Chiefly *Sc* [a L *vice*, abl of *vicis* (gen sing ), change, turn, stead, place, etc ]

1. Stead or place (of another) Now *rare*

1598 Florio, *Vece*, stead place, liew, vice, standing for another 1607 Hume *Adamnat* (Bannatyne Cl) 13 If such a man, indewed with so gryte giftis did so Who ar ye litle ones to succede with ygitie in his vice? 1672 *Burgh Rec Aberdeen* (1892) 283 Nominating and setleing ane post master in the decesit John Wells his vice 1681 Stair *Institt* 1 xix. § 55 397 Succeeding in the vice is a kind of intrusion, whereby after warning any person comes in possession by consent of the partie wa ned 1838 W Hill *Dict Law Scot* 1027 The pers n succeeding in the v e ral be subjected as an intruder unless he have a colour ble title of possession to protect him 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vic* c. 101 § 105 The medlate over superior as acting in his vice of such superior

† 2 Turn (of sequence or alternation) *Obs*

1637–50 Row *Hist Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 356 It was Mr Thomas Sydserf his *vice* to have sermon that day in the brayfrer kirk 1672 *Burgh Rec Aberdeen* (1892) 279 Ane watch of the inhabitants [to] be setled, ,and no person to be absent in their vice without sickness or vther lawfull excuse 1721 *Ibid* 344 That the saids elementarians be taught for this vice be Mr William Mestone 1775 ? Shaw *Hist Moray* 357 After this, the Family of Seafort claimed a Vice[of nom nation) 1793 *Statist Acc Scot* VII 34 Messrs Alexander Hamilton and Cunningham of Sea bank are vice patrons [of the parish] The former has the next vice

**Vice** (vais), *sb* 7 Also 6 **vise** [Absolute use of Vice- *prefix*] One who acts in the place of another , a substitute or deputy.

In mod use the second element is usually implied or expressed in the context as in quot 1859

1597 Harvey *Trimming I Nashe* Wks (Grosart) III 17 The Barbers were serued and they cut them, and were vs Ioues Vises to make them fit for warre. 1728 Chambers *Cycl Deputy* is frequently used among us for an Office, or Employ not a Dignity and stands indifferently for a Vice or Lieutenant. 1811 *Ora & Julliet* II 180 Lord Berlington offered himself as Henry's Vice, to conduct the other en l of the table. 1820 Byron *Mar Fal* v iii 66 The few shill fawn Round a barbarian Vice of Kings Vice gerent 1832 Dickens *Bleak Ho* v He selects his imagina tion, too, by thinking of the many Chancellors and Vices, and Masters of the Rolls who are deceased. 1889 Greyton *Memory s Hours* 140 It was indirectly a proof of the esti mation in which the [ Vice Chancellor] was held

**Vice,** obs Sc form of Wise *sb* (manner).

**Vice** (vais), *v*.1 [f Vice *sb*.2]

**+1** *trans* To fix *on* with a screw *Obs* —1

1548 in *Archæol Jrnl* XVIII 144 Item oone Cuppe of glasse with a cover, the fote being of silver and gilt and viced o n.

2 To force strain, or press hard as by the use of a vice to fix, jam or squeeze tightly.

In early use only in highly figurative context

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* II ii 33 I see false suspect Is viced; wrung hardly in a vertuous heart 1621 Shakk. *Wint I* I ii 416 He swesres As he had seen't or beene an Instrument To vice your Iawes 1711 Pope *Messiah* 8 Seize Forbiddenly 1837 N Whiting *Albino & Pellvina* 12 Who viceth honour, lyes 1806 J Beaumont *Miseries Hum Life* 1 vi 1 Sorrow suddenly viced us, from the shoulder to the hip 1849 De Quincey in *Blackw Mag* LXVI 748 The conchman's hand was viced between his upper and lower jaw 1870 *Eclectic London Mag* VI 306 The glory may envelop one in a voluminous robe, or may pinch and vice one s arms into that succinct garment [a spencer]

3 *intr* To employ or apply a vice *rare*—1

1612 Sturtevant *Metallics* (1854) 99 Pressing or impressioning of things is performed secondarly by screwing or viceing.

Hence **Vi cing** *vbl sb*

1648 Hexham II *Een vijsinger*, a Viceing or a Screwing

**Vice,** *v*.2 *Sc Obs* Also **wyce** [app ad OF *vicier*, med L *vitiare*, I *vitiare* to spoil, vitiate, but with change of meaning ] *trans* To treat arrogantly or oppressively

For the etymology of *malaspina* see Volpntine.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 928 Thus wyce [*r* vicit] he the valeist ne thraly and thrawin, That all the fowls plenzeit to Nakit

‖ **Vice** (vai si), *prep* [L. *vice* see Vice *sb* 6] In place of , in succession to

1770 *Scots Mag* Jan 55 : 6th reg of foot Capt. Mathew Dereniy to be Major vice John Forrest, by purchase 1797 *Gentl Mag* LXVII 1095 / The Lieutenancy of Dover has appointed James Miller Lieutenant of the said fort, vice Frederic Gottsched who is gone to Halifax 1808 *Edin Rev* XI 370 *Horrocs Hum Life* iii 11 A farming hat ,—a right hand hat for a left handed player —a hat, vice stumps. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxii He was gardener and man, vice Upton resigned 1886 C E Pascoe *London of Today* xi (ed 3) 111 It was soon afterwards reorganized, with Mr Randegger, *vice* Mr Leslie as conductor

**Vice-** (vais), *prefix* representing L *vice* in place of see prec. Originally this governed a following word in the genitive, but in late L the tendency to use the phrase as a compound noun appears in *vicequæstor* (equivalent to *prôquæstor* of analogous origin) In med L. such formations became common, as *vicecomes, -consul, -decanus, -dominus, -princeps, -rector, -rex*, etc From the 13th cent onwards in explanation of these appears, at first usually with the prefix in the form of *vis-*, *vis* , but latterly assimilated as a rule to the Latin original Similar compounds with *vice* are also employed in It , Sp., and Pg The older examples in English, having been taken immediately from French, also present the prefix in the reduced forms *vys-*, *vis-*) and *vi* (*vy* ), subsequently replaced by *vice* (also in early use *vise-*) except in Viscount In the more important compounds are given below as main words , the following are illustrations of less usual or more recent terms

a With personal designations, especially titles of office, indicating that the person so called acts temporarily or regularly in place of, in the absence of, or as assistant to, another who properly holds the office or bears the title or name, as *vice-abbot, -agent, -Apollo, apostle, architect*, etc Also occas *transf*, as *vice nature*

In the dictionaries of Florio and Minsheu examples of similar forms are employed to render the Italian and French equivalents, e g *vice-captain, cardinal, censor, commissary*, etc

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies* II (1662) 50 Gregory of Huntington



.., was bred a Benedictine Monke in Ramsey, where he became Prior or †Vice Abbot. 1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v. xli § 2 A vassal whom Satan hath made his †Vice-agent 1648 Crashaw *Poems* (1904) 138 Him the Muses love to follow, Him they call their †vice Apollo. 1641 Smectymnuus *Vind Answ* xiii 214 They were *Comites*, and *vicarii Ap stolorum*, †*Vice* Apostles 1779 *Phil Trans* LXIX 598 M Forfait , †vice architect of the French navy 1890 *Lond Gaz* No 26173/2 The Troops there under the Command of the Ban and †Vice Ban, were obliged by the bad weather to separate 1686 *Ibid* No 2202/2 He who formerly commanded that Garison was †Vice Bassa 1778 Wyllie *Diary* (1901) II 288 The Diploma Examinatorum was delivered to the President, who gave it to the †Vice Bedellus, directing him to read it 1671 F Phillips *Reg. Vecass* 433 The Baron of Lampurgh †Vice Butler to the King of Bohemia 1800 J Pinkerton *Lives Abbots* I 30 Hauing first put to flu,ht the †vice Calish of Aegypt 1860 *All Year Round* I No 46 475 The unmanageable Jerry who was a species of †vice chair, and was also provided with a hammer 1888 J Hardy in *Proc. her Nat Club* IX 440 Mr Charles Watson discharged the duties of the vice-chair 1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade* †*Vice chairman*, a person who presides at the lower end of a table, supporting and aiding the chairman or president ; the deputy chairman of a board of officers 1859 Board of *Agr Cattle* 1 300 Prove that Christ hath commissioned a †Vice Christ 1861 —*Not Churches* x 42 Being an Usurpation of Christ's Office, and making a Vice Christ 1888 *Amer Antiquarian* 1772 [see Vice-god] 1497 in Ellis *Orig Lett Ser* I 3 38 It is thought expedient that the Popes Holy nesse command the said nide to be publnished by his †vicecollector 1898 Simmonds *Dict Trade* †*Vice commodore*, the vice commander of a naval squadron 1631 Weever *Anc Funeral Mon* 542 Edward the third did substitute Edward Bohun, the Earles younger brother, †vice Earle vnto him. 1878 J Gairdner *Hist Rich III*, iv 175 Sir Ralph Ashton was appointed Vice Constable to exercise all the powers of the Lord High Constable for particular purposes) 1566 tr *Bezæ Admon. Parlt* D b Cathedrall churches where master Deane, master †Vicedeane readers, ver gers, &c. 1911 in *Encyc Relig & Ethics* VIII 161 Deanes 1635 Heylin *Cosmog Top Cerem* iii viii 161 Deanes, Vice Deans, Subdeacons 1697 *Lond Gaz* No 3341/1 The Vice Dean with the Clergy, make a Congratulatory Speech to the Duke 1906 *Pasts Elect & Sacrist Rolls* 365 There is always a distinction to be observed between a †Vice Dean or a Locum Tenens and the †Sub Dean 1647 R Stapylton *Juvenal* 153 He made choice of his minister for †vice-emperour 1611 —*vice dictatour* 1888 *Macm Mag* XI vi 249 A †vice-director of the military college. 1818 Shelley *Prometheus* 844 But Death prometh'd Earth's †vice-king Hither to be made †Vice Emperor 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII lxvi 451 Before Dicæus came to Corinth, a council was held there by the †vice governors 1911 Encyc. *Brit* XI 1 *Vice Great Chr Priests* (1847) II 188 Would he not have been a †vice high priest as well as a viceroy? 1746 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi 2 As I have been †vice-father to this office of †vice husband or guardian to an eloped lady 1827 Byron *Beppo* xxix And so she thought it prudent to con nect her With a vice husband to protect her. 1850 J Davies *How Heaven* II cvi, My †vice loues quoth he are ne r afraid 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb ) 112 Lupus Olanus the conductor of one of the shipes of Nauigation, and nowe also †vice Lieutenant in his steede 1691 *Lond Gaz* No 2597/3 And after them Count Popenheim, †Vice Marshal of the Empire, carried the Sword of State naked before the Emperor 1599 T Hawkins *Parsons Cat* Wks (Grosart) II 222 He hath not play ed the †Vicemaister of Poules, and the Foolemaster of the Theater for naughtes. 1618 *Barnevelt s Apol* G.) The Vice-Admiral of Holland the fees hath not allowed one halfe penny for stipend 1690 C Nesse *O n Nat Test* I 370 Politiphar who had vice power over Ioseph 1886 *Ann Reg* 80 Bennet in 1529 I sate next to the Vice Master 1 1631 Donne *Lives Deaths* 1, Since this god produc d a Destiny, And that †vice nature custome lets it bee 1707 *Lond Gaz* No 4395/2 Advice from Hungary say that the †vice Seneschall had declared Count Berenni †Vice Palatine of that Kingdom 1775 L. Shaw *Hist Moray* 357 Fraser of Strichen, who, as Vice Patron presented Mr John Grant to Kirkmichael 1732 [see Vice *sb*.2 2] 1643 Prynne *Fopish & Fatuouste* 69 And therefore the Popes Holinesse hath given these his †Vice popes instructions, Commanding him but to con- 1795 Hickeringill *Priest cr* 1 (1721) 54 As the Pope keeps the Keys, they say, of Heaven Gates, being †Vice porter under St Peter 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xvii (1787) II 37 The eleven remaining dioceses were governed by twelve vicars, or †vice prefects, whose name explains the nature of their office. 1877 J Morris *Fresh Path Forefathers* Ser III. 116 During this time he was Second Secretary to Bentham *Nation Judic Evid* (1827) V 161 The celebration of the ceremony proved by the habitual operator, the †vice priest, a tobacconist 1911 *Encyc Brit* XI 209 Edmund Hall Principal, George Thompson, D D †Vice Principal, Daniel Wilson, M A 1864 J H Newman *Apol* i (1904) 7/2, I became very intimate with him [Whately] in 1825, when I was his Vice Principal at St Alban Hall 1827 G Oliver *Coll Hist Cath Relig Cornwall*, etc 486 Adeodatus †Angevin, elected †vice prior at the fourth general chapter 1600 *Holland Livy* xxvi 1 The Romans in 1 o present ourselves first to the Protector and †Vice protector c 1850 Stevenson *In South Seas* I xiv (1900) 122 The sergeant of gendarmerie enjoys the style of the Vice resident. 1898 Stubbs *Const Hist* xx III 421 The undue return made by the †vice-sheriff, who had substituted another name 1704 *Lond Gaz* No 4018/2 Baron Tuston is made †Vice Stadholder and will preside over the Regency at Amberg 1710 *Ibid.* No 4664/2 Lieutenant General Weede, Vice Stadtholder of Norway, is lately dead 1835 *Appl Municip Corp Rep* IV 1345 (Lincoln), A Deputy Recorder †Vice Steward, Gaol Chaplain [etc ]. 1894 *30th Lanc* XXXVI 495 The †vice sultan of Haura received us right well 1631 Brathwaite *Whimzies, Zealous Brother* 119 Hee was once in election to have been a †vice verger in Amsterdam, but he wanted an audible voice 1848 Curzon *Monast Levant* 1 iii. (1897) 22 The great man, who was †vice viceroy on this occasion

**b.** With nouns or adjs. derived from personal designations, as *vice apostolical, -cancellarian, -deity, -duchy*, etc, or associated in some way with the holding of office, as *vice chair, -government, -throne*.

This type is represented in late L *vice quæstura*, med L *vice comitatûs -comitatus -dominium* etc, and occurs freely in French and the other Romanic languages.

1641 SMECTYMNUUS *Vind Answ* xii 219 He bids him goe on with speed to execute his ᵃVice Apostolicall office 1843 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 285 Much too should I like to see you in your ᵃVice Cancellarian chair 1850 MACKENZIE *Pendennis* lxxvi The chair was taken by Sir Francis Clavering, the ᵃvice chair being ably filled by — Barker Esq 1884 *Cyclists Tour Club Gaz* Mar 82/2 Messrs W B Turner and A E Sheppee occupied the vice chairs. 1886 SOUTHEY *Vind Eccl Angl* 304 You have to reconcile the pretensions of the Popes with their practices, their ᵃvice deity with their crimes. 1611 FLORIO, *Vicedomini* ones, a ᵃvice-gouernment 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* IV xxxvi 153 The offer of a baronetcy and the vice govern ment of Virginia. 1896 MERIVALE *Hist Rom Emp* (1865) VI 188 In the mean time he was invested with full pro consular, or ᵃvice imperial, power beyond the city 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud Shaks* 240 His poor little vice regal or vice imperial parasite 1884 HARPER *Cry Colonx* 1 9 (1634) 97 We must not supply Him with ᵃvice ministerial heads. 1574 *Lib 30th Abp Canterb.* Pref C vij, The same Austen hauinge thus gotten his ᵃvicepapacie ouer England. 1775 L SHAW *Hist Moray* 343 How far the King may claim a ᵃVice Patronage I shall not determine 1891 MOZLEY *Fr Dict* 1, *Vice rectorat*, a ᵃVice principalship 1870 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* Apr 221 Fortunate enough to obtain the vice principalship of the college 1882 *Daily News* 23 Oct, The ᵃVice Provostship of Eton College 1890 ROBERTSON *In South Seas* I xiv (1900) 125 He was being hailed to the ᵃvice residency, uncertain whether to be punished or re warded. 1884 A FORBES *Chronicles* 114 A royal salute was fired and then Gordon had to make his speech from the ᵃvice throne.

**c** With verbs, as *vice reign* (after *vice-roy*)
1889 *Sat Rev* 1 June 653/2 If it were not for the Civil Service the Viceroy simply could not vice reign

**Vice-a dmiral.** Also 6 *Sc* **wice admerall, weis admirall, 6 vise-, 7 visadmirall, exall** [a AF *visadmiral* OF *visamiral*, Pr *vicamiral*] see VICE- and ADMIRAL bo It. *vice-ammiraglio*, Sp and Pg *vicealmirante*]

**1** A naval officer ranking next to an admiral
1520 in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser 1 I 165 Your Grace hath deputed the Master of the Rolles and the Vice Admirall to examyn the Inglyssh marchantes robbed and spoyled in September 1562 *Acts & Pcss.* C. 5 § 33 The Lorde Admirall of Englande or any his Viceadmiralles. 1589 BIGGES *Sanmaria Drake's Int Voy* 22 The Lieutenant generall, the Vizeadmirall and all the rest of the Captaines. 1604 E G[RIMSTONE] *D Acosta s Hist Indies* III. xi 156 Returning now to the Spanishe ships they tooke the sea 1620 R COCKS *Diary* (Hakl Soc) II 122 The admerall and visadmerall gave hym to understand shipps were ready to departe 1679 COVEL in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakl Soc) 102 Capt. Robinson in the rear, as Admiral, and Capt Wild, in the Assurance, as Vice Admiral 1726 Swift *Gulliver, Lilliput* VIII, I desired his Imperial Majesty to send me three thousand men, under the command of his vice admiral 1777 R WATSON *Philip II*, II 259 Philip giving him Martinez de Recalde a seaman of great experience for his vice admiral 1840 *Penny Cycl.* I 126/2 There are two vice admirals and rear admirals of each flag the former ranking with lieutenant generals in the army 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* s v There are vice-admirals of three grades who bost respec tively a red, white, or blue flag

**b.** (See quot 1756.)
*a* 1618 RALEIGH *Royal Navy* (1650) 37 If the VICE-Admirall of the Shire where men are mustered had directions given, to joyn with the Mustermasters 1702 J CHAMBERLAYNE *State Gt Brit* (ed 2) II 61 A List of the Vice Admirals. Sir John Molesworth, Bar., North parts of Cornwall Earl Rivers, County of Essex [etc.] 1769 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780) s.v *Admiral*, Vice Admiral is also a civil officer appointed by the lords commissioners of the admiralty There are several of these officers established in different parts of Great Britain with judges and marshals under them, for executing jurisdiction within their respective districts 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 159 2

**c** (See ADMIRAL *2b 4*.)
1598 *A 10 Hen VII c 14* That the Master of every such Second Fishing Ship as shall enter any such Harbour or Creeke [in Newfoundland] shall be Vice Admiral of such during that Fishing Season 1708 [see ADMIRAL *2b* 4].

**† 2** A vessel commanded by a vice admiral *Obs*
*c* 1395 CAPT WYATT *Dudley's Voy* (Hakl Soc) 3 Our Generall concluded that the vice-admerall with her pinness should sett sayle and make for Plymworth before. 1508 W PHILLIP tr *Linschoten* 4/1 Their names were the Admirall S Phillip, the vice Admiral S Jacob. These were two new ships. 1629 WADSWORTH *Ship* iv 34 I the Captaine of the Vice Admirall began to encourage his Mariners. 1660 INGELO *Bentivo & Ur* II (1682) 180 Lysander commanded the Vice Admiral 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel* (1857) III 9 Another Tripoline, their vice admiral, was the next day taken by the Malta galleys

*attrib* 1706 STEVENS *Span Dict* 1, *Almiranta*, the Vice Admiral Ship of a Fleet

**3.** *Conch* A variety of shell of the genus *Conus*.
1819 [see ADMIRAL *2b* 7].

Hence **Vice-a dmiralship.**
1677 SIR C WYCHE in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II 118 That some man of integrity should succeed him in ye vice Admiralship of Munster

**Vice-a dmiralty.** [f prec + -TY Cf F *vice amirauté*] The office or jurisdiction of a vice-admiral (in sense 1 b), an area under the jurisdiction of a vice-admiral. *Court of vice-admiralty*, = vice admiralty court.
1620 CAREW *Cornwall* I 85 b The Vice admiralty is exercised by Mr Charles Treuanion 1679-88 *Secr Servy Money Chas & Jas* (Camden 29 Daniel Colyer, Marshall of the Vice Admiralty of Southampto and the Isle of Wight 1702 *I reclaim in I and C* Ass N 2872/2 All Vice-Admirals and Judges of the Vice Adm iralties are also to do the same 1708 *Act 6 Anne c* 11 § 13, That the Heret able Rights of Admiralty and Vice Admiralties in Scotland be reserved to the respective Proprietors as Rights of Property 1773 *Gentl Mag* XLIII 402 The extending the power of the courts of vice admiralty to so enormous a degree, as deprives the people in the colonies of their in estimable right to trials by juries. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* II xxxi 283 The crown lawyers overruled all objec tions and the king set up his courts of vice admiralty in America]

b *Vice admiralty court* (see quot 1867)
1761 *Ann. Reg* I 127/2 Their lordships reversed the sentence of the vice-admiralty court, and ordered restitution of ships and cargoes. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm* III 69 Appeals from the vice admiralty courts in America may be brought before the courts of admiralty in England 1829 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxi, The true bloodied Vanes was libelled in the Vice Admiralty Court at Cape Town 1863 H Cox *Instit* I v 28 The Queen may regulate the practice of her Vice Admiralty Courts abroad 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk Vice admiralty courts*, branches of the High Court of Admiralty, instituted for carrying on the like duties and powers in our colonies, pra courts &c

**Vice-cha mberlain.** [VICE-] A subordin ate or deputy chamberlain, *spec* an officer of the Royal Household under the Lord Chamberlain
1545 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1713) XV 81/1 Our Vice chamberlane, Our two Principall Secretaries for the tyme being 1577 HOLINSHED *Scotland* 258 Master Vicechamberlain at her Maiesties tolde the Bishop that her Maiestie mis liked nothing 1614 SELDEN *Titles of Honor* 398 Upon knowledge had hereof I gaue order to the Vice-Chamberlain of the Houshold or Vicechamberlaine for the time being 1645 *Doc Lett Pat ot Oxf* (1837) 403 Bills subscribed and followed by Our Vicechamberlaine Viscountlaine, or Chiefe pal Secretary of his Maiestie 1695 LD LONSDALE in *Eng Hist Rev* Jan (1913) 93 The Prince had reserved for me the Vice Chamb lain's place 1708 *Gent Mag* 160 In the Rt Hon Peregrine Bertie Esq, Vice Chamberlain to Her Majesty 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks. III 287 He has no honour of his appointment as has the vice chamberlain to assist him 1835 *App Munic Corp Rep* I. 134 The Chamberlains [at Worcester] are annually elected

Their business, which is performed by a deputy called a Vice chamberlain, is to receive the rents and keep all the accounts of the corporation

**Vice-cha ncellor.** 1 orms 5 vichaun-celler, 6 vyohanceller, vyschaolour, vice-chancellour, -lor, -chancelor, 6-9 vice-chan-cellor (7 our), *Sc* 6 **vicechancellar,** 7 **ellar, -eler** [a OF *vis(t)chancelier* (F *vice chancelier*), or ad med L *vicecancellarius* see VICE and CHANCYLLOR *Sb* So It *vicecancellierie*, Sp *vice-canciller*, Pg *vicechanceller*.]

**1** The deputy or substitute of an ecclesiastical chancellor, *spec* the cardinal at the head of the Papal Chancery
1430 in *Anglia* (Rolls) VII 207 This bischop indeede the prior of Durhem firste with his honoure that he is deane in that bischoprychе and as vichauncellor 1670 G H *Hist Ceremonies* 1 The Abbreviators places are in the Gift of the Cardinal Vice Chancellor *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Feb 1645, Belonging to Cardinal Francesco Barberini as Vice-chancellor of the Church of Rome. 1845 SMYTH *Rankes Hist Ref* V v, We have already alluded to the proceedings of his vice chancellor, Waldkirch 1884 *Cath. Dict* (1887) 263 The more pre sing weighty, public and solemn of the Apostolic See pass through the hands of the Vice Chancellor

**2** The acting representative of the Chancellor of a university, usually the head of a college specially appointed to the office for a limited time, or the principal of the university.
1530 *Act 21 Hen VIII* c 12 Scolers of the Universeties of Oxford & Cambrydge that goo about beggyng not beyng auctthorysed by the Commyssary, Chauncellour or vichauncellour of the same 1542 BARNES *Wks* (1573) 222/2 Because I had once submitted my selfe to the Vice chancelour, a d I was thereby circumuented 1577 HARRI SON *England* I ix (1877) I 82 Once euery summer also there is a seuerall chancelor, whose offices are perpetuall, howbeit their substitutes whom we call vicechancelors are changed euery quarter 1629 WADSWORTH *Ship* iv (1637) 17 The Reuerend Vice Chancellor, Doctors, Proctors Gouer nors of Colledges and Hals. 1682 *Lond Gaz* No 1656/3 Afterwards was admitted Ad Nobilem gradum Doctor of Law, His Majesty allowing the Vice Chancellor to be Covered in His Presence, while the Orator presented them 1705 *Ibid.* No 4114 1 Mr Vice Chancellor and the other Members of the University waited upon the Prince 1763 3 CHURCHILL *Author* Poems 1767 II 128 Vice Chan cellors, whose knowledge is but small Ill brook d the gen rous Spirit in these days When Learning was the cer tain road to praise. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI 480/1 In both the English Universities the duties of the Chancellor are m ostly nominal, discharged by a Vice Chancellor 1864 J H NEWMAN *Apol* 235 The late Vice Chancellor threatens to take his own children away from the church

**3** A deputy or subordinate of one or other state official bearing the title of chancellor
1587 *Reg Privy Council* IV 167 S hir Jo hne Maitland of Thirlstane, knycht his Majesteis secretare and vice chancellar 1618 *Maitland Club Misc* III 113 Appoynting him [to the archbishop] to be Vicechancellor in the Parlement, if my Lord Chancelar thoght not the Chancelarie and Commissionarie compatible. *c* 1633 BAILLIE in J. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd 53 The Vice-Chancellar was dead. 1694 I UTTRELL *Brief Rel* (1857) III 272 Mr Hambden, vicechancellor of the exchequer has land down that place 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s.v. *Chancellor*, Sometimes the Lord Chancellor [of England] had a Vice Chancelior who was Keeper of the Seal 1777 R WATSON *Philip II*, II 217 She was offended at their artifice and immediately despatched her vice chancellor to complain of their conduct 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* V I 54 The vice-chancellor [at Monmouth], therefore, calmly explained the impossibility of conceding the request for troops. 1889 *Dict Nat Biog* XVIII 49 Eustace (*d* 1215), bishop of Ely, became vice chancellor and keeper of the royal seal, and ultimately chancellor

b *Spec* One of the higher judges in the former Court of Chancery
1813 *Act 53 Geo III*, c 24 To nominate and appoint from time to time a fit Person to be an additional Judge Assistant to the Lord H gh Chancellor and to be called Vice Chancellor of England 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict Vulg T*, *Vice Chancellor's court* creditor's last shift. 1832 TOMLINS *Law Dict* I s.v *Chancellor*, In his judicial capacity he hath divers assistants and officers, viz. the Vice Chancellor of England the Masters in Chancery, &c 1876 *Encycl Brit* V 390/1 Previous to being merged in the New Supreme Court of Judicature the Court of Chancery consisted of the Lord Chancellor, and three Vice Chancellors.

Hence **Vice-cha ncellorship,** the office or dig nity of a vice chancellor, the period during which this is held
1572 *Trevisa Gwicciard* 1 4 He made the Pope promise him the office of vicechancellorshipe (the princi allest place in the Court of Rome). 1589 [? NASHE] *Almend for Parrat* 39 ¶ C in Cambridge first inuented this violent it nouation when as his time was expired he through euery kinde of Ami tuo, to compasse the Office of the Vice chauncelour-ship 1665 T BARLY *Life Bp Archer* 10 But now Vicechancellor-ship and Mastership are almost be laid downe 1691 WOOD *Ath Oxon* I 593 He did undergo with great honor the Vicechancellorship of this University 1761 T WARTON *Life Sir T Pope* 1 The particular services which he spoke in his Vice cl ancellorship 1823 SIR S ROMILLY *Parl Deb* 13 Feb The Vice Chancellorship m ght in a short tin e become an honourable sinecure 1876 W Wright *Stats* § 426 (1893) 266 [The German chancellor] is ultim ately responsible in every case—even for the non exercise of his office. The vice chancellorship is only a subordinate

**Vice-co nsul,** *a* [Cf VICE COUNTY 2 and COMITAL *a*] Belonging to a vice county (sense 2)
1859 H C WATSON *Cybele Brit* IV 275 The comital and vice comital floras are yet incompletely ascertained

**Vice-co nsul.** [VICE- So med L, F, Sp, Pg *vice-consul*, It *viceconsolo*]
**† 1** A Roman proconsul *Obs*
1559 Bp SCOT in Strype *Ann Ref* (1709) I App x 33 Certeyn wycked persons brought hym before their vice-consul called Gallio 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 306 The author of this epigramme reckoneth the two times of his being viceconsull for two whole Consuls pres 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 526 Attempts made by men of Rome who otherwise had been vice Consuls in Gallia Narbonensis

**2** An assistant or deputy of a consul
1601 W PARRY *Trav Sir Geffray Poole* The English con sulls and vice consulls. 1702 W J *Bruyn's Voy Levant* xxxii 121 The next Morning we waited upon the Vice Consul. *c* 1742 in Hanway *Trav* (1762) I xxxi 377 Which oath or affirmation, the said embas ador, agent, resident consul or vice consul respectively is hereby authorized to administer 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ* (1859) II 455 The consul's presence in that port should stop, for the time, the functions of the vice-consul 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk* 713 If there be a resident consul, the vice consul is appointed and paid by him 1882 LA FONTAINE *Let to Mary Gladstone* 9 Mar (1904) 128 The Vice Consul is a singularly intelligent and practical man.

Hence **Vice-co nsular** *a*, **Vice-co nsulate, Vice-co nsulship**
1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiii (1592) 344 In Affrik they sacrificed men vnnill in the vicecounsulation of Tyberius. 1819 BYRON *Let to Murray* 9 Oct Yours, not ing of the vice consulate for the Ravenna patrician 1838 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 164 They found Mr Hicks looking very red and vice-consular indeed 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vii, The only anomaly w i h has been detected by the vice consular wisdom 1885 *Van h Exam* 12 Jan. 5/1 We should re establish our two vice consulates in the interior of Macedonia.

**† Vice-count.** *Obs* [VICE, after Med L *vicecomes*] A viscount.
1461 *Rolls of Parli* V 477 Henry late Erle of Northum berlond William Viscount Beaumont 1462-3 1633 T STAFFORD *Pac Hib* III xvii (1821) 618 John Barry, brother to the Viscount 1655 DIGGES *Compl Ambass* 367 The Vice Count of Turayne a Gentleman very dear unto Monsieur 1672 *Phil Trans* VII 5018 Died in the Right Honourable Richard Lord Vice Count Ranalaugh

So **† Vice-countess,** a viscountess, hence **† Vice countess ship † Vice-countle** *a*, vis countile
*c* 1684 J WILLIAMS *Let* in *Cabala* (1654) 79 A strange Creation passed of late, of a Vice Countesship of Maiden head passed to the Heires Males, who must be called here after Vice Countesse Fynch 1685 *Ivondivle Covenat Iames II* (T Newcomb), Vice Countesses Four a Breast. *c* 1630 RIDDON *Surv Devon* (1810) 13 The ᵃviscountile jurisdiction was heredituy

**Vice-co nty.** [in sense 1 ad OF *viconté, et, ey* etc (mod F *-té omté*) VISCOUNTY, or med L *vicecomitatus, -tus -comes* see prec In sense 2, f VICE + COUNTY[1 2]
**† 1.** A viscounty *Obs* [-1]
1630 FULLER *Holy & pr* III xxii 147 And for a breakfast

to begin with he [Simon de Montfort] was seised of the Vicecounty of Besiers 1706 Stevens & Du Fresnoy *Villa Nova de Carlenas*, a Town in Andalusia, made a Vice County by K. 2 Philip the 4th

**2** A division of a large county, treated as a county-area with regard to the distribution of species of plants etc

1859 H C Watson *Cybele Brit* IV 130 Smaller and more numerous sections could be formed by dividing the great counties into vice counties 1873 *Topographical Index* (title p) The 112 Counties and Vice counties of England Wales, and Scotland 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 21/1 Not more than ten out of the 112 counties and vice counties into which Great Britain is divided

**Vicege rence.** Now *rare* [Cf next and ENCE So model *Vicegerence* (model *-gérance*).] = next

1597 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* P iij Also yf cyde be made of the same flowres it hathe the office of bawme and vicegerence of his vertues 1660 Milton *Free Commwth* Wks 1851 V 432 Christ hath not left the least shadow of a command for any such Vicegerence from him in the State. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 38 His title, signifies substitution and vice gerence 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xix 438 In which words the vicegerence of his death is plainly expres ed 1814 Mrs. J West *Alicia de Lacy* II 202 He could have enough ed the consecutiness of his rights invaded from a hope that the vicegerence of truth and retribution would return 1835 *Penny Cycl* III 173 (Wigmore) The Court of Vicegerence was for all cases in which the military and civil judges orders were to extend 1902 R Bagot *Donna Diana* xiv 156 The Papal Court is no freer from petty jealousies than the Court of any ruler in no wise claiming Divine vice-gerency

**Vicegerency** (vəisdʒɪ·rensi) [sec next and ENCY So mod L *vicegerentia* (1601 in Du Cange), fr *vicegerens*.]

**1** The office, dignity, or rule of a vicegerent, the fact of ruling or administering as representative of another

1596 Drayton *Legends* iv 511 But to the great Vicegerencie I grew, Being a Title as Supreme as new 1600 W Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 119 If euery Priest should take place agreeing to their Vice gerencie vnder Christ, there could be no order 1641 Milton *Reformation* Wks 1851 III 73 Timothy and Titus had rather the vicegerency of an Apostleship committed to them then the ordinary charge of a Bishoprick 1658 Dauphant *Transact Vegat Lovers Wks.* (1673) 323 The Duke, During the time of your Vicegerency Remain'd here in disguise 1702 Sacheverell *Political Union* 19 The highest in dignity to any crown'd head is denying its vice gerency 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* III Api 75 James was vainly his divine vicegerency 1789 Milton *Sonnets* xi *Fairfax* 12 To gain a just conception of civil government If it be that Divine vicegerency which many have described [etc.] 1891 *Daily News* 29 Dec 6/1 He has put to death more than forty persons who have dared to question his authority or argued against his vicegerency

*transf* 1728 G Hickes *Two Treat Our Priests.* I ii 16 This Vicegerency, or mediatorial Office to transact and minister in sacred Matters betwixt God and Man

**b** A district or province ruled by a vicegerent

1865 W G Palgrave *Arab* I vi 244 History and tradition record no rebellious outbreak of any importance during their sway among the numerous vicegerencies of Arabia

**†2** Vicarious nature or character *Obs*

1675 Flavel *Fount Life* (1691) 8 Manifesting himself for us plainly speaks the Vicegerency of his Death. 1679 C Nesse *Antichrist* 24 Antichrist signifies substitution and vice gerency

**Vicegerent** (vəisdʒɪ·rent), *sb.* and *a* Also 6 **vice-, 7 vise-gerent** [ad med.L *vicegerent-*, *vicegerens*, f L. *vicem* (acc.) stead, place, office, etc, and *gerens*, pres. pple of *gerĕre* to carry, hold So F *vicegérant* (also *gérant*), It, Sp, Pg *vice gerente* The hyphen, formerly not uncommon, is now rarely used in this and the preceding words]

**A.** *sb* **1** A person appointed by a king or other ruler to act in his place or exercise certain of his administrative functions

1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 26 Thomas Crumwell keper of the priwey Seale of our said soueraigne Lorde the king and vitrgerent to the same for all his Jurisdiction ecclesiastical within this Realme 1538 *Ibid* 151, I Thomas lorde Crumwell Vice gerent to the kynges said highnes, 1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII* c 17 Censures ecclesiastall made by your Highnes and your Vicegerents, officialls commissaries and Judges and visitators. 1593 R Harvey *Ideas* 1 Mordred Arthurs kinsman being appointed Vicegerent in his absence 1603 Holland *Camden's Britain* 6 Saxon. 1606 G W[oodcocke] *Hist Pastime* vi 30 I yeander whome Agesilaus appointed his Vice gerent the time of his absence 1643 N Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* II xv (1739) 79 It hath therefore been the ancient course of Kings of this Nation to constitute Vice gerents in their absence 1733 Swift *On Poetry* Wks 1755 IV i 198 Now sing the ministers of state Thou great vicegerent of the king [etc.] 1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* lvii V 671 He was trusted by the sultan as the faithful vice gerent of his power 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II 194 His vicegerent was at first will ng to resign his authority 1878 Stubbs *Const Hist* III xvii 95 He intended Gloucester to act as his vicegerent in England

**b** In general sense One who takes the place of another in the discharge of some office or duties

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm Par Tim* 1 3b I left the there euen as my selfe, to bruse the autorite as a notable vicegerent in so excellent and so paynefull an office 1641 Baker *Chron. Elis* 24 The Governours of Ireland were at first called Justices, afterwards, Lieutenants and their Vice gerents were called Deputies. 1683 *Brit Spec* 114 [His] Vice gerent was the Vicar General of Britain, honored with the Title *Spectabilis* 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 47 The humanity and generosity of some of these parochial vice gerents the farmers or managers of workhouses. 1782 Gibbon *Decl & F.* xvi (1787) II 38 These prerogatives were reserved to the prefects their vicegerents were confined to the trifling weight of a few ounces 1851 Hussey *Pastoral Power* iii 130 For what respect will he though he due to the vicegerents of the holy apostle St Peter if what they ordain be undone 1868 M Pattison *Academ Org* iv 109 There is in all cases a vice gerent, who in the absence of the head exercises his powers

**c** A ruler or commander of a country, etc., in virtue of deputed power

1577 Holinshed *Chron* II 482/1 Herewith he [Richard I] dothe commaunde them also to obey Robert Earle of Leycester whome he appointed as his Lieutenant or vice gerent of those parties during his absence 1589 Greene *Pollo's Love* Wks. (Grosart) VIII 117 He Romanes had made choyce of two vicegerents of their forces 1610 *Women Saints* 151 Asdrubas the vicegerent of Rome 1786 Burke *Art. against W. Hastings* Wks 1842 II 208 The said Mogul has been tenderly the vicegerent 1842 Milton *Ch Govt* v Wks 1851 III 114 We acknowledge that the civil magistrate wears an authority of Gods giving and ought to be obey'd as his vicegerent 1881 Davies *Acts & Achiev To Rdr* God is infinitely merciful, and his Vicegerent is only not so, because he is not Infinite 1700 Astry tr *Saavedra Faxardo's Idea* 230 The same has place in Princes, who not only Vicegerents in Temporals 1776 Priestley *Corr Luther* ii 120 All Governours of Nations being Gods Vicegerents they are bound in all things to order their Government according to his Will 1820 Hackeray *Paris Sk Bk* (ed 2) II 274 Dieu seul est grand said courtly Massillon but next to him a the greatest thought was certainly Louis, his vicegerent here upon earth

**b** Applied to priests, and *spec* to the Pope, as representatives of God or Christ

1572 R T *Discourse* 49 Hee onely is Antichrist that vsurpeth Christes office, as all the Church can doo to bee his vicegerent in earth to set vp his place 1593 J Morris *Jesuits Catch Forefathers* Ser iii (1877) 130 Unto all which blasphemous conclusions the Iniquity of the Pope, Christ's Vicar and Vicegerent, did extend 1660 Milton *Free Commwlth* Wks. 1851 V 432 All Protestants hold that Christ in his Church hath left no Vicegerent of his Power 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* Wks 1875 IV 255 The Pope does persecute those to the death who dare word up the Author of their Religion instead of his pretended Vice gerent 1732 Prisoner *Cath Chr Instr* (1753) 81 The Priest that officiates in the Mass officiates as Christ's Vicegerent 1841 Cdl. Wiseman in B Purcell *Life A I de Lisle* (1900) I 285 Let me know that the Vicegerent of Xt approves of my course and I shall not care for all the world 1893 H Rogers *Orig Bible* ii (1873) 78 Moses did not affect to be like the Pope the visible representative and vicegerent of God

*transf* 1624 Gataker *Transubst* 56 They say it to Christ, as Gods vicegerent, and vse against the truth of him

**c** Similarly applied to man in general or in some special respect, also (*b*) to nature, the sun, conscience, etc

(*a*) 1601 Sir W Cornwallis *Disc Seneca* (1631) Mm viij I hat this confusion is incident to our lues, is our owne fault whose disorders of a state incongree to the Gouernors of a state so this to man who is Vicegerent of the earth 1626 Jackson *Creed* viii x 93 Our first parents being Gods vicegerent here on earth 1628 Hall *His* visible creatures 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 344 In liffer ently bent to the Continuance of it, or change, as God, and his Vicegerent Reason shall think fit 1845 *Encycl Metrop* II 561 [A Deity who] communicates to men a knowledge of his purposes that they may be his vicegerents in executing them 1861 T A Alexander *Leaves Journal* 1 The sight is proof of man's original formation in God s image, and his original vestiture with delegated power as God s vicegerent

(*b*) 1646 J Trapp *Comm Saints' Sufferings* 76 Nature (God s great vice gerent) 1676 Sir M Hale *Contempl* II 82 God Almighty hath substituted the Soul of Man as his Deputy or Vice gerent in the Body, and hath communicated to it 1681 Flavel *Meth Grace* xxviii 356 Conscience that noble power God s vicegerent in the soul 1704 G Adams *Nat & Rev Phalus* (1708) II xxi 415 When the sun is said to rule the day what else can be understood but that he acts as a vicegerent 1821 Shelley *Hellas* Prol 142 Thou destiny Go, thou Vicegerent of my will no less than of her Fathers 1834 Sir S Glynne *Memorials* iv, Let man beware how he wilfully or carelessly perverts and blinds God s vicegerent, conscience 1860 Pusey *Mem Prophet* 191 They dethroned Conscience, the representative and vice gerent of God, and made it rest on the ground 1881 C A Young *Sun* I (1882) 12 It has been reserved for more modern times to discover how the sun himself [is] the symbol and vicegerent of the Deity

**d** Applied to persons as representing some other supernatural or spiritual power

1588 Shake *L. L. L.* I i 222 Great Deputie, the Welkins Vicegerent, and sole dominator of Navar 1615 Heywood *Joure I prentisse* i xviii Joves great Vice gerent over all the world 1701 De Foe *Trueborn Eng* i 17 The Lust of his [the Devil s] Vice gerents and Commanders Outdoes your Cæsars or your Alexanders 1708 Fort *Ulysses* xi 310 Now in the time s full process forth she brings Jove s dread vicegerents, in two future kings 1763 J Brown *Poetry & Music* v 61 Apollo, the God of Music, was their Author [of oracles]; the Pythia or Priestess was his Vice gerent 1786 tr *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 104 Merciful Prophet I stretch forth thy propitious arms towards thy Vicegerent!

**3** A thing which takes the place of another

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Cc ij, If my lasie legges should deny to make this voiage, my hearte would substitute my handes to be their vicegerentes 1872 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue.* 390 The pronouns are as their name signifies, words which are the vicegerents of nouns.

**4.** A vicarious bearer of sorrow *rare*—1

1594 Southwell *St Mary Magd Funeral Teares* (1823) 73 All creatures leaving me as the vicegerent of all their sorrow

**B** *adj* (or *attrib*) **1.** Taking the place, or performing the functions, of another.

1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 853 The Scripture teacheth that Christ ascended into heauen, and hath established a vicegerent power, to wit, the holie Ghost. 1669 Milton *J. L.* x 56 But when send I to judge them? whom but thee Vicegerent Son 1728 Blackmore *Creation* 355 Next Man arose at thy creating word, Of thy terres trial realms Vicegere t Lord 1749 *Delty* 17 But Conscience, fur vicegerent light within, Asserts its author

**2** Characterized by deputed or vicarious power

1567 Milton *J. v* 609 Under his great Vice gerent Reign abide [yet, for our happier state] 1862 *Pictorial Chr Knol* II v (1861) 208 The vicegerent office to be maintained, and the gracious ends to be secured make it indispensable that parents should themselves be living in the Spirit

Hence **Vicege rentship.**

1600 O. E. (M Sutcliffe) *Regt Libel* 1 vi 157 Let this Noddy shew forth the popes communion either by his vicegerentship, or for his primacie, or for his priesthood 1646 Gillespie *Male Assist* 10 The capacity of a Vicegerent, which he hath by his Vicegerentship *Ibid* 35 The two fold Vicegerentship of God and of Christ

**Vice-god.** [Vice ] One who (on earth) takes the place, or exercises the power, of God

Freq in the 17th cent as a hostile designation of the Pope

1600 Darrell *Detect Harsnet* 204 Our Vice Godes where ere here on earth in Gods name 1606 A Speed *Theat* of those traitors 1624 By Mountagu *Gagg* 63 There is an headship which will not reach that illimited power given to the Pope, Our Lord Vice God upon earth 1664 Power *Mind. Animad Phil Lnce* xvi Wks 1855 XIV 392 The consequences so startled the wise state of Venice that you know they d sputed it to the utmost with your vice god Paul V 1712 M Henry *Popery Spir Tyranny* Wks 1853 I 342 To call them Anti gods and Anti christs, how ever they pretend to be Vice gods and Vicars of Christ 1824 R Wetton *Chr Faith & Pract* 434 Man is a vice God in the world 1830 Bantham *Constit Cods* Wks 1843 IX 38 On neither side has any vice god been seen or fanned 1873 L Stelfox *Freethinkers* 18 Man, who is hopelessly ignorant, but set on a throne and properly manipulated he becomes an infallible vice God

Hence **Vice-godhead.**

1659 Baxter *Key Cath* xx 84 Not only the Romish Universal Monarchy and Vice godhead but even its Patriarchal Primacy was no Apostolical institution

**Vice-go vernor.** [Vice-] An official acting under, or in place of, a governor, a deputy governor Hence **Vice-go vernorship.**

1598 Florio *Vicegouernatore* a vicegouernour, a deputie gouernour 1748 Woodrooffe in Hanway *Travels* (1762) II xxii 77 The governor, vice governor and commander of the garrison came on board 1760 *Ann Reg* 73 He has for some time resided as vice governor under the King of Prussia. 1842 J F Cooper *Jack o Lantern* I 159 Who Win had long before gone up the river to see the vice governor 1876 Bancroft *Hist U S* VI 500 [Francis Bernard] thankfully accepts baronetcy and vice governor ship of Virginia 1897 Mary Kingsley *W Africa* 593 Spanish possessions under a Vice Governor to the Governor of Fernando Po. *Ibid*, The Vice-Governorship of Eloby

**Vice-king.** [Vice-] One who rules as the representative of a king, a viceroy

1579 in Halkett *Exp* (1656) III 8 Reign in coasting along the Island of Mutfy belonging to the King of Ternate, his Deputie or Vice king came with his Canoa to vs. 1622 Mabie tr *Aleman's Guzmman d'Alf* II 312 Vnder his protection we went vp and downe the Citie as if we had beene so many Vice Kings of the Country 1659 Baxter *Key Cath* xlii 300 A Deputy, or Vice King 1680 Hickeringill *Jacke vu Lan* 16 There is no need of a Vice King to make this a Kingdom 1681 G J Scott *Chr Life* (1747) III 562 So that now he is subject to the Father in the Capacity of a Vice King to a supreme Sovereign 1820 *Hist Europe Ann Reg* 24/2 He appointed Don Francis D Almeyda Governor general with the pompous title of Vice King of the Indies 1848 Sutton *Harold* II iii 99 For Harold, the shall are the great civil lords and vice king vassals of the 'Lord Paramount' 1876 Tennyson *Harold* II ii, Thou shalt be verily king—all but the name—as upon a viceroy in Normandy! And thou be my vice king in England

**Vice-le gate.** [Vice-, after F *vice-légat* or It *vicelegato* (Sp, and Pg *vicelegado*).] One who acts as the representative or deputy of a (Papal) legate

1589 Sir T Hoby *Treaty* 17 in *Camd. Misc* (1902). The Pope is lord of yt Viceleger there for him was Annibale Bono 1670 G H *Hist Cardinalat* i iii 83 To meet the eldest son of any Prince, or the Ambassadors of the Dukes of Savoy, the Cardinals send their Vice Legats with some small number of Coaches 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iv 31 The conference the Queen had, as she passed by Avignon with the Vice Legat, which gave him wonderful satisfaction, pleased them not so well 1708 *Fond Gas No* 4497/1 The Legat and Vice Legat are excluded from having any part in the new State 1765 *Ann Reg* 143 At Avignon the vice legate dispatched couriers to the neighbouring cities 1835 *Penny Cycl* III 173/1 The popes governed the city [of Avignon] by a cardinal legate or rather, as the legate was always non resident, by a vice-legate.

Hence **Vice-le gateship.**
1691 *Lond. Gaz* No. 2685/1 The Vice Legatship of Avignon is given to the Bishop of Fiesch: 1818 *Gentl Mag* Aug. 127/1 In the exercise of the several governments, he has acquired great praise, as likewise in the Vice-legateship of Bolonia.

**Viceless** (vai·slés), *a* [*f* VICE *sb*1 1 ] Free from vice

1580 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 5 To that effect, that he may viceles be Of all vices, and sic thing ne gain wrang 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist* 1 xliv 27 Galba rather viceless than greatly vertuous 1665 BOYLE *Occas Reff* v ii (1675) 301 Errours about Religion, maintain'd by Men that are resolute, and viceless. 1671-4 LADY WARWICK *Autobiog* (Percy Soc) 164 Mr. Henry St John was very good natured and viceless *Ibid*, The young men were not viceless 1859 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 321 Viceless virtue undecaying Shed her lustre on our name 1890 *Sat Rev* 22 Nov 575/1 Those who are themselves harmless and viceless

**Vice-like,** *a*1 *rare*—1 [*f* VICE *sb*1 1 ] Partaking of the nature of vice

1590 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks (Grosart) I 184 Beeing once entered into the vicelike vaine of foolerie I was carried most wickedlie in a scorne against the Saincts of God

**Vice-like,** *a*2 Also *U S* **vise-like.** [*f* VICE *sb*2 5.] Resembling (that of) a vice, firmly tenacious or compressive

1585 BAILEY *Festus* (ed 3) 137 Traitors! that vice like fang the hand ye lick 1856 EMERSON *Eng Traits* I ii Wks (Bohn) II 104 What he relishes in Dante is the vice like tenacity with which he holds a mental image before the eyes 1890 D DAVIDSON *Mind Evol Life* x 298 [He] seized my hand in his vice like fist

**Vicelinge,** ME var *fikeling* FICKLING *obs1 sb*

**Vicena rious,** *a rare*—0 [See next and IOUS ] 'Of or belonging to the twentieth' (Blount, 1656)

**Vicenary** (vi·sénări), *sb* and *a* [ad L *vīcēnārius*, f *vicens*, distrib f *viginti* twenty ]

†**a** *sb* One who has command over twenty persons. *Obs*

1603 HARSNET *Pop Impost* 49 Delicat another Captaine, or vicenarie in Sara hauling vnder him twenty assistants

**b** *adj* 'Belonging to twenty' (Bailey, 1727), based on the number twenty *Cf* VIGENARY *a*

1826 PEACOCK in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) I 371/1 Such a practice would naturally lead to the formation of a vicenary scale of numeration. 1864 *Pearson's Cycl* II 337/2 In France the scale from 60 to 100 is strictly vicenary (by twenties)

**Vice nnala.** *rare*—0 [ad L *vicennālia* ]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *Vicennals* solemn games and vows for twenty years

**Vice nnial,** *a Sc Law* [f L *vicennium* use next *Cf* L *vicennalis*, F *vicennal* ] Extending to twenty years

1737 KAMES *Decis Cri Sess 1730-52* (1799) 19 What use would there be for the vicennial prescription of retours, if a purchaser [etc.] 1784 ANNOT *Parish* (1812) 261 Lord Fountain hall laid down this doctrine, that the vicennial prescription of Crimes had no place with us 1826 G J BELL *Comment Laws Scot* (ed 3) II Vicennial Prescription of Holy Lands Obligations. 1838 W BELL *Dict Law Scot* 770 By the act 1617 c 13, a vicennial prescription of retours was introduced

‖ **Vice nnium** *rare*—1 [L, f *vic*, stem of *vicies* twenty times, etc, + *annus* year ] A period of twenty years

1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc Brit Empire* (1854) II 623 The danger of dying of consumption is greater in this than in the preceding vicennium.

**Vice-pre sident.** [VICE-. So F *vice président*, It, Sp, and Pg *vicepresidente*.] One who acts as the representative or deputy of a president (in various senses), an official ranking immediately below a president

1574 tr *Hvloet's Apocalips* 66 Under Sergius the Vice president of Asia ther arose a great strife about the keeping of the Easter 1586 tr J MORTIN *Frondi Cath Fore fathers* (1877) 84 The Lord Evers sitting as vice president with Maurice Hurleston, Clerke, and the rest. 1601 WADSWORTH *Pilgr* vii 64 This North was created D D in Paris, and was sometimes Vice President of the Colledge of Dowey 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj* 235 The President, or Vice president of the Queens Council retaining still in the North 1775 GOLDSM *Hist Eng* (1789) IV 18 The college [Magdalen, Oxford] was filled with catholics, and Chadnock was made vice president 1798 F LWINING *Irat India*, etc (1893) 54 The Vice President always breakfasted in his own room 1800 *St Papers in Asiat Ann Reg* 6/2 That nothing shall prevent the Governor when absent from nominating a Vice President and Deputy Governor of Fort William 1841 W SPALDING *Italy & It Isl* III 57 Melzi d'Eril was vice president 1 and in the Council of State were found Serbellioni [etc] 1855 *Poultry Chron* III 412/1 The society consists of a president vice president, committee, secretary, and members 1894 HANCOCK *Foodpr Time* ii 234 The Vice President becomes an officer of much power or dignity

Hence **Vice-preside ntial** *a*., **Vice-pre sidentship.** Also **Vice-pre sidency.**

1800 *Lond. Gaz* No. 4060/1 The Vice Presidentship of the Council of Arragon 1804 G ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II 132 I would accept the Vice-Presidentship of the Board of Trade 1833 STORY *Comm Constit U S* III 1436 Suppose there should be three candidates for the presidency, and two for the vice presidency 1889 W WILSON *State* § 1099 (1893) 562 Each party nominates the candidates of its choice for the presidency and vice presidency 1904 *Daily Chron* 20 June 5/6 There has never before been so pronounced a reluctance to accept the vice presidential nomination

**Vice-queen.** [VICE ] **a.** A woman ruling as the representative of a queen **b** The wife of a viceroy (*Cf.* VICEREINE.)

1578 T N tr *Cong W Indian* (1596) 7 His mother and three sisters came to the Iland of Santo Domingo, with that vicequeene the *Lady* Mary of Toledo 1628-9 DIGBY *Voy Medit* (Camden) 77 I sent some letters to the Vice queene of Sardinia. 1669 *Lond Gaz* No 221/3 Naples, Dec 13. The next day the Vice Roy went *incognito* to visit him, which was the day after returned him by the Cardinal who paid also his complements to the Vice Queen 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* III 15, Heavens! what luxury and magnificence! I believed myself in the palace of a vice queen 1796 NELSON 28 Sept in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) II 284 If the Enemy land near Bastia, the Vice-Queen's Match may be useful. 1842 Miss MITFORD in L Fstrange *Life* (1870) III ix 139 Think of the vice queen of Portugal labouring as a bookseller's drudge 1894 *Dublin Rev* Oct 363 A great Roman lady who played the part of a vice queen in Judea.

**Vice-re ctor.** [VICE Cf F *vice recteur*, It *vicerettore* Sp *vicerector*, Pg *reitor* ] A deputy rector (of a theological college).

1589 WARNER *Albion* Epilogue iii 13 Entire obeisance and duty to bee performed to the Rector, next to the Vice Rector as his minister 1824 in *Oxford Mag* Dec (1913) 150 When he went to Vice Rector has been at Ushaw some days. 1890 J MORRIS in *Month* Apr 491 With Dr Ferdinand English then Vice Rector of the English College at Rome, I left England

Hence **Vice-re ctorship.**

1896 J MORRIS in J H Pollen *Life* (1896) vii 165 When the Vice Rectorship of the English College was offered me, I did not hesitate to accept it

**Vicere gal,** *a* [VICE + REGAL *a*, after VICE *roy sb* ] Of or pertaining to, associated with, a viceroy

1839 LEVER *H Lorrequer* ix One of my fellow passengers was a gentleman holding a high official appointment in the viceregal court. 1841 LADY *Hand India* 295 I have found a carriage ready to convey him to the vice regal dwelling 1874 STUBBS *Const Hist* I xiii 563 The viceregal character, which the justiciar certainly possessed

Hence **Vicere gally** *adv*, next to the Vice Roy sb ] Of or pertaining to, associated with, a viceroy

1839 LEVER *H Lorrequer* ix One of my fellow passengers was a gentleman holding a high official appointment in the viceregal court. 1841 LADY *Hand India* 295 I have found a carriage ready to convey him to the vice regal dwelling 1874 STUBBS *Const Hist* I xiii 563 The viceregal character, which the justiciar certainly possessed

Hence **Vicere gally** *adv*, as a viceroy

1847 MISS GORE *Castles in Air* xxviii, In many things, our poor vice regalized kingdom only too strongly resembles Ireland. 1881 *Academy* April 271 The people whom he had ruled vice regally

**Vice-re gent.** [VICE Cf It *vicereggente* ] One who acts in place of a regent

In some early instances perh an error for *vice gerent*

1556 *Lel Coll Prvt Scot* II 315 To a boy ryn-nand to Dunkell with clois writtingis of the viceregentis 1581 MARBECK *Bk Notes* 852 Who doubteth then but if the Pope bee Vice to the Prince of this world he is Vicergent to the Diuell 1659 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* iii ½ But Monarchs are the Gods Vicegerents here 1827 SCOTT *Surg Dean* xxi Nawaub has placed his young son, Tippoo as Vice Regent of his newly conquered territory of Bangalore 1885 W WILSON *State* § 104 (1893) 69 The five Ephors were originally mere deputies of the king appointed to act as vice-regents in the absence of their royal principals.

*transf* 1660 MARQ WORCESTER *Water Comm Engine* (1663) 3 A Viceregent or Counterseal supplying the place and performing the full force of a Man Wind Beast or Mill

‖ **Vicereine** (vi·srĕin) Also **vice reine** [a F. *vicereine*, f *vice* VICE + *reine* queen ] The wife of a viceroy also (less usually), = VICE-QUEEN a Common Error.

1823 REV. A JUDSON *Amer Bapt Miss Burman Empl* Contents, Letter v Vi it of the Vice reine [*Cf* p 63 Her highness, the viceroy s wife visited us.] 1833 LADY BRUNSWICK *Journ Lett* (1868) I 391 Reception of the vicereine at Brussels at the time that it belonged to Austria and had the Arch D Mary Christine for Vice Reine 1882 *Times* 27 July 5/1 Fears have been expressed in other quarters that the Vicereine and [the Khedive] himself their sympathy 1896 *Ill Mail Mag* Jan 105 The Viceroy and the Vicereine stand before Tippoo's throne supported by the leading officials.

**Viceroy** (vai sroi), *sb* Also 6 7 vicероye 6 **wise roy, vicreroy** (7 roy), 6-7 VICEROY, 6 7 *pl* roies [a older F *vice roy, vicroy* (F *vice roi*), f *vice-* VICE + *roy* king So It *vicerè*, Pg *vicerei*, Sp *virrey*

1 One who acts as the governor of a country, province, etc in the name and by the authority of the supreme ruler, a vice-king

1494 FABYAN *Chron* (Camden) 34 The xxiij of February Francis the frenche kynge was taken prisoner by the vice roy of Naples. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 103 Inacus Lopez Mendoncia, viceroye of Granada. 1598 BARCLAY *Felic Man* iii (1631) 241 The part rather of a tyrant then of a vice roy 1642 Sir MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 135 The customs being in Persia that in the necessary absence of the Prince his State the Heire apparent was Vice-roy 1698 FRYER *A & India & P* 151 A long Gallery hung round with the Pictures at length of all the Vice Roys that had been in the Indias down to the present Vice Roy 1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 684/2 His Catholick Majesty's dispatching all the necessary Orders to his Vice Roys to governors, and other Officers 1787 A HAMILTON *Hist* (1886) VII 15 The government lately established in Canada—the splendid title of Viceroy—seems to look beyond the dreary regions of Canada and Nova Scotia 1818 PRIC *Sources Missouc* III App. 4 The whole political government of the vice roy of Mexico. 1877 W R. COOPER *Egypt Obelisks* xx (1878) 61 This obelisk was presented to the late Duke of Northumberland by the Viceroy of Egypt 1880 *Encycl Brit.* XII 768/1 The supreme authority over all British India is vested in the viceroy or governor general-in Council.

**2** 1582 N LICHEFIELD tr *Castanheda s Conq E Ind* i. lxxvi. 156 b And so they remained until the comming of the Vireroye Don Francisco de Almeda. 1590 WEBBE *Trav* (Arb) 24 These 60 Kings here are all but Vice Royes in seuerall places 1601 R. JOHNSON *King t & Commw* (1603) 9, 56 The viceroies of that huge tract do acknowledge him for their soueraigne and supreme gouernour 1620 HEYWOOD *Hit Dreame* Wks (Grosart) III 20 About him, round (Like petty Vice royes) Spirits (me thought) all Crownde

**2** *transf* One having authority or rank comparable to that of a viceroy

c 1590 GREENE *Friar Bacon* 178 Now Masters of our Academicke State, That rule in Oxford Vizroies in your place 1592 LAMBARDE *Ar heion* (1635) 97 The King is within his owne Kingdome the Vice roy of God 1631 DONNE *Serm* i (1634) 21 God creates man whom He constitutes His Vice roy in the world 1644 [H PARKER] *Jus Popul* 45 The Judges were Gods Vice Roys, in regard they did transact affairs by direction from Gods own mouth 1676 GREW *Anat Fl, Exper Inst* 238 For what Dominion a Prince hath over the Animal that a Physician hath, as one of God Almighty s Vice R ys over the Corporeal World 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog* (1859) 279 When Barr is reigned, and the beautiful Madame Lallien reigned viceroy over him 1827 *Quart Chron Canongate* in Christie Steele was my mother s body servant, her very right hand and something like a viceroy over her *attend* 1696 COWLEY *Chron Wks* (1710) I 111 b her place I then obey'd Black ey'd Bess, her Viceroy Maid: To whom enau d a Vacancy

**3** *Ent* An American species of butterfly, *Basilarchia Archippus*, distinguished by handsome red and black colouring

1881 S H SCUDDER *Butterflies* VII. 103 The caterpillar of the Viceroy signifies its displeasure at any disturbance by toss ing the head upward

Hence **Vi ceroy** tr (with *it*), to rule as or like a viceroy

1821 *Examiner* 596/1 They forsooth, may viceroy it over authority with propriety

**Viceroyal,** *a* [f prec + AL *Cf* VICEREGAL *a* ] Of or pertaining to a viceroy

1. 1728 SWIFT *Two Lett Imprm Irelan d* Wks 1841 II 91 Burnet has not hitherto been able to persuade his vassals to settle a revenue on his viceroyal person 1868 MRS. HORACE MANN *Lifen Argentine Republic* 122 A viceroyal government was expressly created for it [= Buenos Ayres in 1777].

**Viceroyalty.** [ad F *vice royauté* see VICE and ROYALTY ] Stressed either on the first or second syllable ]

**1.** The office, rank, or authority of a viceroy

1703 *Lond Gaz* No. 3883/1 He Amba sador is not contented having entertained great hopes of being advanced to the Viceroyal y of Naples 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VIII ii Here I saw commanders and knights of Calatrava and St Iago soliciting for governments and viceroyalties 1800 *Hist Ind in Ar t Ann Reg* 29 2 Pedro Malaer exhibs on whom the viceroyalty devolved on the decease of Menesez. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* vi II 156 Sunder land offered to procure for Tyrconnel supreme military command enormous appointments anything but the vice royalty 1867 PERRSIAN *Norm Conq* I vi 475 This fact coupled with Thurkill's similar viceroyalty in Denmark shows that Cnut [etc.].

**b** In quasi concrete use A viceroy or viceregal household

1842 LORD *Handy Andy* ii Fancy might suggest that the house rejoiced as it were in its honoured position because it was under the care of viceroyalty. 1909 *Westm Gaz.* 16 Sept 4 2 This property was bought by the Government in 1864 as a dwelling for Viceroyalty

**2** A province or dependency commonly administered by a viceroy

1715 *Lond Gaz.* No 5278/2 The Ship which is to carry the Prince to his Viceroyalty of Peru 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist Amer* vii (1778) II 332 Cota Rica and Veragua belong to the vice royalty of New Spain 1816 TURNER *Amy Emb t & Zinire* iv (1818) 159 The opposite sides of the river form two vice royalties. 1844 *Regul & Ord Army* 7 The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland shall be entitled to receive from the forts and batteries within His Vice Royalty a Royal Salute 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* VI iv 442 The seats of rebellion in 1781 were in 1782 sown in the vice r yalties of Buenos Ayres and Peru.

**3** The period during which a particular viceroy holds office

1849 H MARTINEAU *Hist Peace* v ii (1877) III 207 Ireland had never been so well governed as during the viceroyalty of Lord Mulgrave 1866 MAFFEI *Brigant's Life* II 21 During the vice royalty of the Count of Castrillo 1883 H SMITH *Life Ld Lawrence* I 354 I have had often been a deficit in more than one year of his Viceroyalty.

**Vicoroydom** *rare*—1 [f VICEROY *sb* + DOM ] = prec 1

1721 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 1 5 To put allwayes the Viceroydom into the hands of an Irish Catholick

**Vicoroyed,** *a rare*—1 [f as prec.] Committed to a viceroy

1839 BAILEY *Festus* 327 His is the sway of soul sovereign peace His is the vice royed vouched safe away of God

**Vi ceroyship.** [f VICEROY + SHIP ]

**1** = VICEROYALTY 1

1639 FULLER *Ch Hy Ir* II xxiv 89 The Saracen Caliph commanded in Egypt: under whom two great Lords fell out about the sultane or Vice royship if that land 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2156/2 The Viceroyship of Sardinia, vacant by the removal of the Count de Furnasleich to the Government of Milan is not yet disposed of 1721 *Ibid.* No. 5953/2

The Prince took Possession of the Viceroyship of this Kingdom 1794 Nelson 24 Oct in Nicolas *Diogr* (1843) I 498 Since your Excellency has taken upon you the Viceroyship of Corsica. 1803 Vis H W Nonsuch *Mem* (1908) 207, I cannot face the Viceroyship [of India]. I feel I am not really equal to five years of arduous work

2 = Vicerovalty 2

1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy Soc) 24 These gardners, or guardians, of this their little viceroyalty, were now approached on. 1703 J Savage *Lett Anti nis* lxxxii 224 The Dominion and Viceroyship of the Lyballians. 1766 J Z Holwell *Orig Pretic Anc Braminis* II iv (1779) 20 Thus the empire was divided into as many kingdoms as there had been Vice royships and Governments. 1849 Scott *Napoleon* xlvii I will divide it [sc Spain] into five vice royships

3 = Vicerovalty 3

1709 E Ward *Ir Corna ics* 200 The Viceroy resolv'd to be more favourable to Don Vincent 11 case he should be found in Valencia before his Viceroyship was expir'd 1822 *New Monthly Mag* VI 51 His viceroyship will never be forgotten 1889 Sir S Wood *Mem Mr Russell* I I xvii 460 During the first few months of his Viceroyship

**Vicesimal** (vəise·simăl) *a rare* [f L *vicesimus* twentieth, f *vicens* see Vicenary] = Vigesimal *a* Also † Vice sim *Obs*

1658 Hooker *Diospolitana* I *testamur* 1 The same with Vicenarious. 1902 *Daily Chron* 11 Jan 5/2 Our system has inherent advantages for conversion over the former vicesimal and duodecimal system of France

† **Vice sima** *Obs* [ad L *vicesima* (sc *pars*) see prec ] A twentieth part

1600 Holland *Livy* III xvi 260 He proposed a law concerning a twentith part or vicesime to be levied of their goods that were made free

**Vice-tress surer.** [Vice ] One who acts as the deputy or representative of a treasurer, *spec* an official acting in this capacity in the govern ment of Ireland

1541 2 in R Bolton *Stat Irel* (1621) 231 Which 3l all be proued by writing before the two chiefe Iustices the chiefe Baron and the Vicethesaurer 1547 *Irish Council Acts* (1890) II 135 The Vicethresaurer of the Mynt at Bristowe 1552 Sir J Williams (Aldenham) 29 Rolles 1553 Fowler vice-treasurer and Thomas Fowler receivor 1633 T Stafford *Pac Hib* I (1821) 31 The Vice treasurer and generall Receiver of the Queenes Majesties revenewes of this Realme. 1676 Earl Essex in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II 57 All the projects which arise from our Vice Treasurer do still tend to this not to have any money left here in the Treasury. 1710 *Lond Gaz* No 4693/3 Mr Pratt Deputy Vice Treasurer delivered several Papers relating to the Receipts and Payments of the Vice Treasurer *a* 1717 in *Hist MSS Comm* 43/6 Mr Flood & Mr Hussey Burgh the two best popular speakers were very much softened & Flood made Vice Treasurer 1860 L Hansard *Diaries G Rose* I 71 The office of Vice Treasurer of Ireland

Hence **Vice treasurership**

1671 Marvell *Corr* Wks (Grosart) II 396 My Lord Angier w o bought the Vicetreasurership of Ireland is, betwixt knavery and foolery, turned out 1765 J h Holland in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp* (1843) I 394 Will he have a Vice Treasurership of Ireland? 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVII 396/2 Lord Rock ngham had offered him the chancellor ship of the exchequer and the vice treasurership of Ireland

† **Vicety** *Obs*⁻¹ (App f Vice *sb*¹ + ty, for the sake of rime )

1633 B Jonson *Love's Welcome* Wks (1641) 378 *A ce* Here is to the fruit of Fem *Ivis* (crafted upon Stub h Stem *Acts* With the Peakish Nicetie. *Iuts* And old Shewood s Vicetie.

**‖ Vice versa** (vəi si və rsă), *adv phr.* Also **vice versâ.** [L (also *vers i vice*), from *vice*, abl sing of *vicis* turn, place position etc., and *versa*, abl sing fem of *versus*, pt pple of *vertere* to turn So F *vice versâ*, Sp , Pg, It *vice versa*, *viceversa* ] With a reversal or transposition of the main items in the statement just made, contrari wise, conversely

1600 A. Copley *Anstr. Let Jesuited Gent* 23 They are like to bee put to such a penance and the Arch Priests *vice versa* to be suspe ided and attainted as Schismaticall 1665 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 335 When it rains and blows all along the Coast of Guinea, it does appear as constantly those Countreys on that side Bellagate have then clear Sun shine weather And *vice versa* the season varies. 1683 Penn *Fruit of Solitude* To The Thing *vice versa* put, Should Hebrew wise be understood 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 78 Nor can we ask his favour upon occasion and so *vice versa* he can make no use of us. 1770 *Free Reflect Service at Sea* 21 The Number of the first Entry is to be noted against the Number of the Re entry and *vice versa* The Number of the Re entry against the Number of the first Entry 1803 *Med. Jrnl* X 524 It may probably happen that those who have the disorder mildly are con sidered only to have a common cold and vice versa, a heavy accidental catarrh may rank as influenza. 1830 R. Knox *Blclard's Anat* 315 So that each portion of muscle is single at one extremity and at the other is continuous with two portions and vice *versa*, each of the latter is con nected with a double portion of the opposite extremity

**b** Freq in *and* (*too*) *vice versa*, *or vice versa*, used to imply the complementary statement with out expressing it in words

1642 Howell *For Trav* 12 (Arb) 47 The yeare of the Conquering of France [by Spain] is the morning of the Conquest of England (and *vice versa*) 1697 Plot *Oxfordsh* 246 For Clay ground they have their seed from Kedland or Chalk, & *vice versa*. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes Nat Things* IV 227 Not Anatomical but Chymical or Vice Versa. 1761 Stiles in *Phil Trans* LV 253 These separated parts sit tching or contracting themselves from round to oval and cylindrical and *vice versa*. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 42 The larger he [the pike] is, the coarser the food and so *vice versa* 1835 W R Hamilton tr *Sherer's Ins Birds of Aristoph* 101 Flying is compared to rowing and sailing and vice versa. 1854 *Poultry chron* I 313/2 The young birds are sent packed in the old class hamper, or, *vice versâ* 1885 Laudesdorf *Ceremonies Prop Coun* 122 Consequently the tangents at four harmonic points are harmonic, and *vice versa*

**Vice-warden.** [Vice ] A deputy warden (esp of the Stannaries or the Borders). Hence

**Vice-wa rdenry, -ship.**

1536 in *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) App p cxxxv, The lord Ogle being admytted as vice warden *Ibid* p cxxxvi, Sir Ingram Percy being discharged of the vice wardenry 1548 Hall *Chron Hen IV*, 17b In the returne he was encountered with therle of Northumberlandes vicewarden, an d other gentil men of the borders 1640 *Act 16 Chas I* c 15 The Warden Vice Warden or Stewards of the said Stanaries. 1703 Ld. Granville in *Lond. Gaz* No 3951/2, I refer to my Vice Warden to lay before you the present state of the Stannaries. 1790 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) V 462/1 (Cornwall) The lord warden appoints a vice warden to determine all stannery disputes every month 1836 *Act 6 & 7 Will IV*, c. 106 § 2 The Court of Equity of the Vice Warden of the Stannaries 1863 *Mins for Appeals to Lord Warden of Stan iaries* 1 Any person desiring to appeal to the Lord Warden of the Stannaries from a de cision of the Vice Warden 1901 *Victoria Hist Cty's* Ejected from the Vice wardenship of the Stannaries, he was again returned to the House of Commons.

**Vich, bl.** Also Eache , obs 3c f Which

**Vichancellor,** obs f Vice chancellor

**Vichcraft,** obs 3c form of Witchcraft.

**Vicht,** obs 3c var Wight *sb* and *a*

**‖ Vichy** (vi·ʃi) [see def ] The name of a town in the department of Allier in Central France, used *attrib* and *ellipt* to designate a mineral water obtained from springs there

1898 *Encyclop. Dict. Trade* s v Vichy water 1876 *Nature* XIV 282 2 Vichy waters, from a physiological and hygienic point of view 1903 *Smart Set* IX 16 He mixed the contents of the phial in a glass half filled with vichy

**Vicinage** (vi·sinedʒ). Also 4 **vesinage,** 7 **viconage, visinage** [ad OF *visenage* (*voisnage*), *vicenage*, or *vosinage* (see Voisinage), with assimilation of the stem to the original L *vicin us* cf Vicinity ]

**1** A number of places lying near to each other taken collectively , an area extending to a limited distance round a particular sp ot a neighbourhood

Used with *the*, *this*, or similar word but occasionally with *a* or *in* pl.

*a* 1325 *Ms Rawd B* 350 fol 55 Somune þoru godе som time sit þe men and trewe of vesinage of N 1562 Hulsot Vicinage *vicinia*, *vicinetum* 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* II iv 135 King Ethelred began the tryal of Cusses by a Jury of twelve men to be chosen out of the Vicinage 1683 *Tryal Lenney Mr Penn* (T) 8 All our most able and Eminent Doctors of th s Vicinage. *c* 1700 Pepys *Diet Wks* (1833) 37 Adam by an injured Maker driven From Eden s groves, In the vicinage of Hesperus and Atlas grew 1711 *Spect* CXX The regiments are recruited from the vicinage 1791 Burke *Appl Whigs* Wks VI 122 The Metropolis and the vicinage 1813 Vancouver *Agriculture Devon* 216 All such other parts of the district as at this time are open to all the inhabitants of the vicinage. *a* 1853 W Jay *Autobiog* (1854) 130 At that time I was with the vicinage all around Marlborough 1868 Lossing *Hudson* I The agricul tural and mineral treasures of its vicinage

**b** Freq in the phrase *in the* (also *this, our*, etc) *vicinage*

1638 Baker tr *Balzac's Lett* (vol II) 182 I am afraid of a Potgun or a Squib far from running upon Muskets and Swordpoints as they say in our Vicinage. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III 204 No less than twenty thousand pounds worth of this coarse commodity [lime] is yearly made, and vended in the vicinage. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 92 Until they obtain the favour and blessing of all the Witches in the Vicinage yea in the Hemisphere 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I xxxiv 255 She is the only Flower of fragrance that has blown in this vicinage ten years 1787 H Walpole *Let to Mason Berry* 22 Sept (1840) VI 455 The French ladies in my vicinage. 1814 Scott *Waverley* x, He had lived in retirement, conversing almost entirely with those who had known participants in the scene 1861 Bereso Hope *Jrnl Cathedr 19th C* VIII 274 The recommen dation of a sufficient population in the vi cinage 1885 *Manch Exam* 30 Oct 5/1 People in the vici nage were not in a mood to regard it as a gratuitous picturesque display

**c** *Jrnl* Ld. Taylor *Gt Britnp* Disc v § 24 That soul that invites an enemy to view its possessions and live in the vicinage, loves the sin itself

**c.** *transf* The people living in a certain district or neighbourhood

1647 H Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* I lxvii 262 Barrons shall be amerced by their Peeres others by the vicinage. 1672 [H Stubbe] *Rosemary & Bayes* 17 I could wish they would not disturb the vicinage with declamations against Mr Calvin 1796 Burke *Regic Peace* I Wks VIII 187 Where there is no constituted judge the vicinage itself is the natu ral judge 1841 Cobbett *Rur Rides* (1885) I 46 Relying, for influence, not on the good will of the vicinage but upon the dread of their power 1856 Ld Cockburn *Jrnl* (1874) I 122 Towns and their rustic vicinages are agitating against th is measure 1864 J Inderp *Anglo Saxon Home* 269 The vicinage applied to the bishop for leave to dig up the body and burn it.

**2** The fact of being or living close to another or others, nearness, proximity. **a** Of persons; *spec* in *Law* as entitling to certain rights of common.

1598 Marston *Sco Villanus* I iii 180 He winke at Robrus, that for vicinage Enters common, on his next neighbors stage 1600 Fullerton *1st Pt Parall* 14 If I prescribe to have common because of vicinage in such a village. 1606 Daniel *Hist Eng* Wks (Grosart) IV 101 By reason of the vicinage and innumerous populacie of that Nation. 1659 J Goodman *Penit Pard* I II (1713) 30 As if his father's presence or vicinage would put too great a restraint upon him 1766 Blackstone *Comm* II 33 Common be cause of vicinage, or neighbourhood, is where the inhabit ants of two townships, which lie contiguous to each other, have usually intercommoned with one another 1823 Cobbett *Ann Rides* (1830) 205 The tarred, trowsered and blue and buff crew whose very vicinage I always detest 1830 Mackintosh *I artition of Poland* Wks 1846 II 338 In a de claration delivered at Warsaw, Catherine declared, that she did nothing but in virtue of the right of vicinage acknow ledged by all nations. 1891 J Winsor *Columbus* xvi 357 St Augustine St Basil and St Ambrose had placed the Garden of Eden far in the Old World s east, apart from the common vicinage of men

**b** Of things or places

1686 Goad *Celest Bodies* I ix 34 I began to guess the Reason of its Activity as borrowed from the vicinage of the warmer Corpuscles 1696 Whiston *The Earth* IV (1722) 356 The particular Prerogatives do not entirely depend on the Vicinage of the Central Sun 1846 Cobbett *Poor Man s Friend* II Are they now to complain, if the vicinage of these same works causes a charge of rates there? 1844 Disraeli *Lenor etdy* VI II, 8 The common water pump will not bear vicinage to a brisk kitchen fire for half an hour 1880 *Scribner's Mag* Mar 660/2 The vicinage of the tra veling studio was an occasion and a pretext for unprece dented larks.

**3** *In the vicinage of*, near or contiguous to, in the neighbourhood of Cf Vicinity 4

1782 Mrs. H Cowley *Bold Stroke for Husb* v II, In the vicinage of Rosalvo bounded on three sides by the river 1789 *Trans Soc Arts* I 131 If I had had any in the vicinage of my plantation. 1812 J Henry *Camp aignt Quebec* 59 The Canadians in the vicinage of Quebec lived as comfortably 1832 Penny Cycl II 169 The length of canal navigation in the vicinage of London 1852 H Rogers *Ecl Faith* (1853) 251 They had become a centre and a source of much pestilence, in the vicinage of which it was unsafe for men to dwell

**Vicinal** (vi·sinăl, visōn nal) *a* [ad L *vicināl is*, f *vicin us* neighbour So Ob and F *vicinal* ]

**1** Belonging to neighbours or neighbourhood ; local

1623 Cockeram I 1656 Blount *Glos gr* 1707 Bailey (vol II)

**2** *Vicinal way* or *road*, a local common way as distinguished from a highway , a by road or cross-road

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh* 324 Of these [public ways] amongst the Romans some were called publick or Regiæ, and others Vicinal. 1727 *Magna Brit & Hib* IV 210/2 Among the Vicinal Ways, or *Chemins minores* there is also one in this County 1790 Pennant *Journ Scotland* (1911) 13 A vicinal way went under Aldgate towards Oldford 1791 Newte *Tour Eng & Scot* 259 From this permanent station, a vici nal or cross road is carried through Glenartney 1807 G Chalmers *Caledonia* I i iv 135 From this place there probably went off a vicinal way to the Roman stations in Tweedale. 1812 J Bigland *Beauties Eng & Wales* XVI 15 The highways in this district are chiefly vicinal of the Roman sts. 1876 Hardy *Ast Nature* I 1 In many portions of its course it overland an old vicinal way which branched from the great Western road of the Romans.

**b** Similarly with other sbs.

1799 R Warner *Walk thro W Counties* (1800) 8 The operations of husbandry have depressed and u deed obliter ated in many places this general vicinal [printed Local] 1837 Wilson *Prch Ann* II iii 73 A small vicinal camp on the banks of the Kirble. 1901 *Speaker* 31 Aug 618 He saw a good looking curé smoking a cigar on a vicinal railway

**3** Neighbouring adjacent, near.

1739 Maitland *Hist London* I II 10/1 The noisom Vapours incessantly emitted from that and the vicinal Marshes 1790 *Phil Trans* LXXX 232 In vicinal situa tio s the next best mode to angular measurement is no doubt that of marking, by means of well regulated clocks the repeated explosion of Jame s Balfour *Edinb Encycl* Sw (1843) 355 Sparks will pass from such a wire, and, there fore, from a lightning rod, to vicinal conducting bodies

**b** *Math* and *Min* Nearly coincident with a given surface or plane

1825 Cayley *Math Papers* VIII 309, I investigate the values of *p*, *q*, for the point P on the vicinal surface, *Ibid* 309 The lines which correspond to the principal tangents of the vicinal surface must be the principal tangents of the given surface

**c** *Org Chem* Of substituted groups or atoms . Y ing in consecutive order , adjacent to each other.

1898 J Wade *Introd. Org Chem* 288 With regard to the higher substitution products these, should the three classes of tri derivatives and only three all conceivable arrange ments being reducible to the positions 1 2 3 or vicinal, 1 2 4, or unsymmetrical, and 1 3 5, or symmetrical. 1900 E F Smith tr *Richter's Org Chem* II 39 We call them adjacent or vicinal.

**4** Connected with the relations between a per son and his neighbours.

1893 *Jrnl R Agric Soc* XVI II 570 No harm, agricul tural or fiscal, vicinal or political, shall betide the giver of such assistance

**† Vi cinate,** *v Obs rare* [ad. L *vicināt-*, ppl stem of *vicināri*, f *vicinus* see next ] *trans* To lie near to, to adjoin

1658 Sir I Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 83 The Land seated so advantagiously for traffique and vicinating those golden countries of Mozambiq , Guilos [etc.] *Ibid* 114 Isaques and Kostack in Margatan vicinating them

**Vicine,** *a* Now *rare*. Also 6 **vycyne,** 7

**vicin.** [ad. L. *vīcīn-us* neighbouring, near] = VICINAL *a* 3

*a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII 312 These men subdued y^e Partyes, and many other vycyne countreys *a* 1550 LI LAND *Itin* (1769) V 2, An Mytes a this side Montgomerie in a River cumming owt of the vicin Hilles. 1553 in Hakluyt *Voy* (1599) I 229 God vnder whose mercifull hand nauigants aboue all other creatures naturally bee most nigh, and vicine 1605 L. HUTTEN *Assertors* 28 With due regarde alwaies had, to the easines and familiarity of the Cerenoine, that it be vicine, hard at hand, and obvious, not far fetcht 1661 GLANVILL *Van Dogm* 35 The opening of other vicine passages might quickly obliterate any tracks of these 1676 JAS COOKE *Mas-pro Chirurg* IV II 1 775 In Ustion take heed of Vicin parts and apply Cauteries through a Pipe 1824 *Guide to Aberystwyth* 31 The visitor of Aber ystwyth parading the Terrace Castle Ruins or the vicine hills gives the subject but an ordinary thought

**Vicinity** (vɪsɪ·nɪtɪ) [ad L. *vīcinitās*, f. *vīcīn-us* see prec and ITY So It. *vicinità*, Sp. *vecindad*]

**1** The state, character, or quality of being near in space, propinquity, proximity

1586 DAUBT *Sleidane's Comm* 128 b For the Frenchmen come of the same offspring that we do and for the vicinitie therof are very necessary for the Italians and us 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* V § 4. 275 The vicinitie also of the soil with moyeth much, for change workes off we little esteeme. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evange I* III 169 The third is 'to feed, and eate together Another degree of vicinity, and nearenesse 1677 GALE *Crt Gentiles* I *Italie & P* 226 The most unhealthy of these [winds] are the South East, for that then the Air is thicker, by reason of the Seas Vicinity 1797 SWIFT *Sir Trial* WKS 17.5 V 11 166 The abundance and vicinity of country seats 1846 GROTE *Hist Greece* I 105 But the Athenians were not to be intimidated by any vicinity of danger 1855 SCOTT *Betrothed* XIX, The Constable alleged the vicinity of the Welsh, as what might possibly again render the abode of his betrothed bride perilous. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* V. 11 102 He had protested that vicinity should not influence his decision 1852 *Philogr Ann.* II 247 Under these conditions all vicinity of watercourses, unless bridged, should be avoided

**b** Const *to, with*

1651 BAXTER *Left to Church at Bewdley* 10 That we may enjoy the comfort of unity according to our vicinity with you on Earth 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 23 All those Epithets of changeable, inflective, and the like are derived from her too near vicinity with the Earth 1781 COWPER *Heroism* 52 Ill fated race! how deeply must they rue Their only crime vicinity to you! 1856-7 DICKENS *Sk Box, Scenes* XXV, How often before awful Death to reflect on this near vicinity to the dying! 1858 J MARTINEAU *Stud Chr* 206 This vicinity to the great capital drew him however, into a wider circle of duties

**†2** Nearness in degree or quality, close relationship or connexion, resemblance, likeness *Obs*

1594 WEAT *and Pt Symbol Chancerie* § 145 Unto whom your said Oratrices husband, for the vicinity of blood, and alsitie of substance, was bolder to make his mone for helpe 1599 *Broughton's Lett* XII 42 Speeches farre more differing from any vicinitie to prophanenes then this of yours 1614 W B *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed 2) 5 The vicinity with mans nature it hath 1642 JER TAYLOR *Rpnce* (1647) 281 An honorary, and extraordinary priveledge indulged to them for their vicinity and kindred to our Blessed Lord the fountaine of all benison to us *a* 1676 HALE *Prim Orig Man* I. III. (1677) 83 There is a vicinity between Agents and Patients.

**3** = VOISINAGE I

1781 JEFFERSON *Corr* Wks 1859 I 293 Lord Cornwallis had advanced to the vicinities of the Moravian towns 1789 *Ibid* III 26 The vicinity of sight has equalled expectation in Paris only and its vicinities 1833 I TAYLOR *Scr Design* IV 173 That tendency of things which places the clergy of a vicinity in opposition the one to the other 1843 J YTTON *Last Bar* I viii, It commanded a full view of the vicinity without 1860 TYNDALL *Glac* I xi 75 We were glad to escape the vicinity of that ugly crevasse 1878 HELPS *Soc Pressure* 141 That might gradually have the effect of removing all noxious trades from London and its vicinity

**4.** *In the vicinity of*, in the neighbourhood (of), near or close (to) (Cf VOISINAGE I b and 3)

(*a*) 1796 H HUNTER tr *St Pierre's Studi Nat* (1799) II 229 It would most probably have in it a vicinity the tree which Nature designed should contrast with it in the same site 1820 W IRVING *Sketch Bk* I 121 The merchant has his anug retreat in the vicinity of the metropolis 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 161 How extraordinary transparency of the atmosphere in the vicinity of the Rhine 1864 J KEYSE. VAN *Compst Wallah* (1866) 185 Amidst the park like undulating scenery in the vicinity of the town 1891 *Science Gossip* XXVII 241 During a severe storm in that year the Port Glasgow ship 'Marseilles' capsized in the vicinity of Portpatrick

(*b*) 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip* XVIII. (1842) 479 The minute hole may be obliterated by a little pressure towards it upon the lute in the immediate vicinity 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar* III v, A young man of fine stature slowly approaching towards the arch, and every cap in the vicinity was off, and every knee bowed

**b.** With similar sense in other constructions Also *transf.*, something near to (a specified amount, etc.)

1817 JAS. MILL *Brit India* IV IV IV 145 A detachment of grenadiers were very expeditiously quitting the vicinity of danger 1901 *Proc New Eng Hist General Soc* 9 Jan in xvi, Raising the extra cost of that number of the Annual Proceedings to the vicinity of one hundred dollars

**Vicinous,** *a rare*—1. [f. L. *vīcīn-us* see VOISINE *a.* and OUS] Extending to immediately adjacent parts

1820-7 *Good Study Med* (1870) V 620 Local retter Limited to particular organs, stationary, or vicinous

**Vicinosity,** variant of VITIOSITY.

**Vicious** (vɪ·ʃəs), *a* Forms *a.* 4- vicious (5-6 ouse, 6 *Sc.* -us), 4 vecyous, 6 vicyous, *Sc.* vicious, 5-6 vycious(e, vycyous (5 owse, 6 vicyous, 4 5 vycyous, 4 5 vicioe (4 vycios) *β.* 5-6 vitius, 6-8 (9) vitious (6 ouse) [a AF. *vicious*, OF. *vicious* (*vitious*), *vicieus* (= *vicieux*,=Sp and Pg *vicioso*, It *vizioso*), or ad L. *vitiōsus* (med L also *viciosus*), f. *vitium* fault, VICE *sb* 1]

**1.** I Of habits, practices, etc Of the nature of vice, contrary to moral principles, depraved, immoral, bad

*a* c1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr* 15 Righte als before be lykynges in be sensualite ware fleschely, vayne and vecyous rightes ne now bay are made gastely and clene 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 430 Pe mor part of men li her vicious lif, ben combred in his bereseye 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 111 He is to forbode Amourous He not what thing is vicious Touchende love *c*1420 LYDG *Assembly of Gods* 2097 From hys gloryous syght thus he ys estraunged, For our vycyous lyvyng, thorough owre owne foly *c* 1430 — *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 70 O hode sterre of al goode governaunce! Alle vicious lustes by wisdom to represse 1535-6 STEWART (1778) *Cron Scot* I. 258 Her [or monks] vycyous lyvyng shamelesly encreasseth & augmenteth 1548 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 53 Dissolute lyuynge licentious talke, and such other vicious behauiours 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 390 Richard Johnson praised the English, by his vicious liuing, to bee worse accounted of then the Russes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* II xxi § 45 He who prefers the short pleasures of a vicious life upon any consideration 1736 BUTLER *Anal* I III. Wks 1874 I 54 Vicious actions, considered as mischievous to society should be punished 1742 YOUNG *Nt Th* I 1 Pleasure's poison'd cup, The Marquis pursuing her with insult and vicious passion 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V xliii 249 Interpreted by his enemies as a proof of unmanly luxury and vicious habits 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) IV 13 Plato attempts to identify vicious pleasures with some form of error

*β* 1548 *Compl Scot* (Rolfe II 146 How Donal lus wes crownit King of Scottis and of his vitius Lyfe 1585 T WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* I xviii 21 [He] changed his good manners and vertues into most vitious tyrannies 1611 BIBLE *Wisd* XII 11 xi 24 Thence come many times vitious Habits customes, ferall Diseases *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial Com Laws* (1681) 7 How can a man be indicted of Vitious living, Hypocrisie or any other vitious Habit till it be declared? 1700 PRIOR *Carmel Seculare* XXXIV, Some [Societies] that to Morals shall reveil the Age, And inspire Wonder into Times the sinking Stage 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* XV 54 To fire with vitious hopes a modest her 1791 BURKE *Let to Sheriff But Assembly* 30 Though his practical and speculative morals were vitious in the extreme. 1817 JAS MILL *Brit India* II V II 370 His conduct was vitious and weak

**2** Of persons Addicted to vice or immorality, of depraved habits, profligate, wicked

*a* 1388 CHAUCER *Monk's T* 2 Alipschalte Nero were as vicious As fende bat hipe ful lowe adoune *c* 1400 *Pilgr Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV XXXV 83 Vpon theues and murderers myspowede men and vicious they walle be 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII I 21 43 Thence come many times vitious Habits customes, ferall Diseases *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial Com Lawes

1765–8 Erskine *Inst Law Scot* III ix § 49 Though vitious intromission be a delict it may be referred to oath *Ibid* § 52 Before he be cited by any creditor as a vitious intromitter 1838 W. Bell *Dict Law Scot* 599 The term vitious intromission is applied exclusively to the heir's unwarrantable intromission with the moveable estate of the ancest in 1856 G. Oliphant *Lyrs* 1 (1887) 95 (L.D.) I then attempted Vitious Intromission And was immediately conveyed to prison *Ibi L* 216 Vitio is Intromitter

**6** Impaired or spoiled by some fault, flaw, blemish, or defect; faulty, defective, imperfect, bad, corrupt, impure, debased ▲ Of language, style, spelling, etc Also *transf* of writers

1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* III xxi (Arb) 206 It hath bene said before how a good figure may become a vice and a vicious speach go for a verte ue in the Poeticall science 1638 Baker in *Bibl Soc Lett* (vol III) 208 He shall have the honour to purge his country of a vitious phrase 1655 Vaughan *Vind Scout* I Pref The complaint against vitious verse is of some antiquity in this kingdom 1695 H. Wharton in *Jaw's Works* (1813) V 327 Although the orthography be vicious (a matter common to many learned men of that time) 1711 Shaftes. *Charac* I 145 Which ever Quarter we may give to our vicious Poets, or other Composers of irregular an I short lived Works. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It Lit* I 141 His mode of writing is vicious, rhetorical, antithetical and forced 1883 H. Wheeler *By th eye Lit* 100 It is believed that the Welsh Keltic manuscripts are unusually vicious in the texts

*b. Logic* Of syllogisms, etc

1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* II xiii § 3 50 The Induction which the Logitians speake of  their fourme of induction I say is vitterly vitious and incompetent 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud Ep* I iv 16 The Fallacy he largely taken it is committed in any vitio is illation ffending the rules of good consequence 1697 tr. *Burg. rsdic ius his Logic* II viii 40 If from true prem s it follow what is false it is a sign that the form of the syllogism is vitious. 1774 Reid *Aristotle s Logic* v § 1 229 If e for n [of syllogisms] lies in the necessary connect on between the premises and the conclusion, and where such a connecti n is wanting they are said to be informal or vicious in point of form 1856 P. F. Dove *Logic Christian Faith* v 1 290 We have de parted from the region of mind and spirit and introduced the natural method where the natural method is utterly vicious and illegitimate. 1864 *Logic* VI 189 It is not difficult to prove  that arguments are vicious only when they fail to observe this method and are always good when it is observed

**c** In general use

1638 Junius *Paint Ancien* 228 The uttermost on either side is vicious. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropol* 41 A vitious figure of the head is known by such  1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* II 90 b Rightly supposing that the truth is not be in some medium  between these two vicious extrem s 1746 Francis tr. *Hor Sat* II iii 35 Here the rudest tizel rougher strokes I trace  In his vicious hardness I see 1846 *Art Union Jrnl* Oct 285 The foundations of the bridge were origi nally vicious. 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxi IV 611 A wooden model of this edifice the finest specimen of a vicious style was sent to Kensington for his inspection 1880 *Fraser's Mag* May 672 Thus the country's money becomes thoroughly vicious  it breaks down in its most essential quality

†**d** Of a person Wrong mistaken *Obs*

1604 Shaks *Oth* III iii 145 Though I perchance am vicious in my guesse

**7** Foul, impure, noxious, morbid ? *Obs*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III xxxv 1168 Berries  full of clammie or vicious moisture. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 188 I theyr I ure is very vitiuous, and causeth the whole body to l e of ill temperament 1641 Milton *Reform* 55 Thou that art but a bottle of vitious and hardend excrements 1656 J. Smith *Pract Physick* 49 The vicious matter must be evacuated 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 721 Here from the vicious Air, and sickly Skies, A Plague did on the dumb Creation rise 1831 South *Otia e Path Anat* 73 The last object of pathological research is the consideration of vicious contents  which have no organic connexion with the animal body

†**b** Harmful, noxious *Obs* —1

1696 Earl Monm tr *Boccalini's Advts fr Parnass* I x (1674) 12 Those Shops wherein vitious things are sold

†**8** Of a part or a function of the body Morbid, diseased, irregular *Obs*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 304 Who euer saw a conception, although it were vitious and illegitimate which was not couered with a Filme as it were with a Garment? 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep* III xxiii 342 The vicious Ebullition in the number of fingers and toes. 1707 Floyer *Physic Pulse Watch* 373 The five Members and their Intestines being chinged twice five times by five vitious Pulses. 1733 Cheyne *Eng Malady* II. vii (1734) 185 A vicious Liver seems to be one of the primary  Causes of Nervous Distempers

**9** *Vicious circle* a. *Logic* (See sense 6 b and Circle *sb* 19)

*c* 1790 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) X 65 † How runs into what is termed by logicians a *vicious circle* 1812 Woodhouse *Aurora* VIII. 52 This seems to be something like arguing in a vicious circle. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat Phil* 209 It may seem to be arguing in a vicious circle to have recourse to observation for any part of those conclusions. 1865 Morley *Miscel* IV 76 The whole account of revelation becomes a vicious circle 1876 [see Circle *sb* 19]

*transf* 1829 Sir H. Holland *Med Notes & Reff* 100 Thus the practice proceeds, in a vicious circle of habit, from which the patient is rarely extricated without  injury to his future health.

**b.** *Path.* A morbid process consisting in the reciprocal continuation and aggravation of one disorder by another

1883 Duncan *Clin Lect Dis Women* (ed 2) x 78 There is, in this disease  what is sometimes called a vicious circle and I shall have, in the course of this lecture, to point out to you several instances of this vicious circle

**10** *Comb*, as *vicious-looking*

1872 ‘M Leonard’ *Canub Freshm* 247 The gray mare expressed her denial by giving one or two slight but uncommonly vici us looks & kicks. 1894 Mrs Dyan *Maus's Keeping* (1899) 90 Those vi ious-looking knives looked as if they could do such work well

**Viciously** (vi ʃəsli), *adv* Also 4 viciouselliche, 5 viciously, 6 8 (9) vitiously. [f prec + -LY 2] In a vicious manner

**1** With addiction or inclination to vice, immorally, dissolutely

*c* 1325 *Poem Vaillee* xlviii 13 Þis her way his sclaunder to hem i- rad of her vices pleien viciouselliche in her n ube *c* 1400 *Apol Lol* 41 Sum vre gostly pore and sum bodily, sum vicyously and sum vicously or eyly fully i sum sum peynfully 1415 Hoccleve *Addr to Sir J Oldcastle* 230, I putte cas a prelat or a preest Him viciously governe in his lyvynge 1446 Lydg. *Wightyng de Deemyng* 285 Moch people viciously Were i-l l in age dampnably demeyned 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1570) 57 He viciously living to counsaile is ill gyle 1560 Daues tr *Sleidane's Comm* 41b They live dissolutely and viciously at Rome 1611 Cotgr *Vicieusement* viciously lewdly, corruptly, fuilthy 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr Mor* § 17 (1716) 97 Perversity of Will, immoral and sinfull enormities  pursue us unto Judgment and leave us viciously miserable 1876 Bowen *Prog Arv* 432 By nature weak, or viciously inclined

**b** In weaker sense In an improper manner or to an improper extent, reprehensibly Also *spec*, illegally (quot 1880)

1627 Moryson *Itin* III 17 Many are viciously proud, that their neighbours should see what fingers they wear them *Ibid* 35 The Italian bee g a great and somewhat viciously curious observer of ceremonious compliments. 1640 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 17 They that spend forty pounds  viciously use the night for the day 1824 Southey *Nelson* I *Mores* (1831) II 200 A practice virtually or rather viciously the same has been introduced in the Venetian aristocracy. 1880 Muirhead *Caius Dig* 522 He eventually prevailed who proved that he was actually in possession and had not taken it viciously from his adversary, *i e* either forcibly, stealthily or by permission

**c** Spitefully, ill naturedly, savagely, with (or as with) animosity or intent to injure.

1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* IX ‘I wouldn t,’ said Miggs viciously, as, not for the first five and forty pounds 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C* xxxii The mill from which he had viciously driven two or three tired women who were waiting for grinding 1872 *Routledge's Ev Boy's Ann* 114/2 One of the sharp little telegraphic bells rang viciously

†**2** Faultily, badly, incorrectly, corruptly

1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* III Note 58 Which Lucan (methinks) has viciously taken an example like this 1679 Dryden *Pref to Tr & Cres* Epis (ed Ker) I 226 The thoughts are such as arise from the matter, the expression of em not viciously figurative. 1686 Boyle *Form* (1696) 266 They have th e Goldsmith in Greek Capitals but th ey are viciously writ in many places 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vice wisly* corruptly falsely as *I i tonsly turn* 1790 Burke *Fr Rev* V 80 An ode  is not viciously or feebly composed in a very great part of it

**Viciousness** (vi ʃəsnes) Also 5 vycyowsnesse, 6 vycyousnes-, vyciousness, 6 8 (9) vitiousness, etc. [f Vicious *a* + -ness] The character or quality of being vicious

**1** Imitation or addiction to vice or immorality, depravity of life or conduct

1440 *J* Shirley *Dethe A James* (1818) 5 He wexe full of viciousness yn his lyvyng *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Vycyowsnesse *vesanitas* 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* I 81 For a wyfe whose fame generates speces ted the maides of men to be prone & extremely inclyned to viciousnes, he had gret affeccion to subdue suche maners. 1561 T. Norton *Calv's Inst* IV 307 Wherin wyth vs from the womb of our mother a vnnaturelesse planted in our begetting 1598 Marston *Sco I illanus* II vii 203 Marke those for naught, but sinfull and vitiousnesse Pre graced him 1625 Sandys *Trav* 218 Venus, their go ldesse of viciousnesse 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* II 99 Now began the Saxons to be infected with inveterate Viciousness 1736 Butler *Anal* I iii 72 The advantage  is gained by the action itself, not by the morality, the virtuousness or viciousness of it 1796 J. Watson *Apol* 379 Some men have been warped to infidelity by viciousness of life 1838 Dickens *Nich Nick* xliv, I never will supply that man's extravagances and viciousness 1840 Tennyson *Poor stern* II 1, These be the two people tell of us, because we seek to curb their viciousness.

*transf* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* K iv b, Hatefull viciousnes is to be turfull loosnes 1611 Bible *Isaiah* III 9 The viciousnesse of their countenance

**b** Tendency, on the part of animals, to be savage or refractory

1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1824) I 383 In this country they [*sc* stags] are become less common than formerly; its excessive viciousness during the rutting season inducing most people to part with the species 1775 Adair *Amer Indians* 427 The youngambitious heroes ascribed the whole disaster to the viciousness of my horse saying ‘he was mad 1818 Ranken *Hist Frances* IV iv iii § 2 267 If the owner of it [*sc* an animal] swore falsely that he was ignorant of its viciousness 1849 J. Brown *Mod Farriery* 372 It is not an unfrequent occurrence for horses in harness to back instead of drawing when first started, and some add to this considerable viciousness 1908 *Animal Management* 81 A playful habit of snatching at the man whilst being groomed which some horses display may not come under the head of viciousness.

**c.** Maliciousness, spitefulness

1879 Huxley *Hume* II viii. 159 One feels ashamed of having suspected many excellent persons of being moved by mere malice and viciousness of temper to call other folks atheists

**2** The quality of being faulty or defective.

1602 Dracon & Walker *Spurtes & Dunele* 50 The absence the vitiousnesse, the deprivation or fault of some other thing 1648 Fuller *Holy & Prof St* II xvii 114 Then the low value shews the viciousnesse of it 1687 M. Clifford *Notes on Dryden's Poems* IV 13 I intended to have made no more Animadversions upon the viciousness of your Style 1758 Lawe *Hist Eng* (1759) III 565 The arrest above mentioned being repealed, these conservators were to judge of the goodness or viciousness of cloths.

†**b** Faultiness or badness in respect of physical constitution *Obs*

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* v xii 67 The Brimstone will burn up the gross vicitiousness [*sic*] of the Salt peter 1706 Stevens *Span Dict* I *vicio*, Rankness, Viciousness in Land or the like.

**3** Improper or illegal procedure

1802 18 Bentham *Ration Judic Evid* (1827) II 458 In the ca es above brought to view, as cases of unfairness or vitiousness

**Vici saitous,** *a t S* = Vicissitudinous *a*

1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 165 A city set upon such a hill could not have been hidden in the vicissitous ex periences of a nation 1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 9 June, About all of them reach their affluence along the same vicissitous road

**+Vici saitudal,** *a Obs rare* [f next] = Vicissitudinal *a* Hence **+Vici saitudally** *adv.*

1598 J. Kerbye tr *A Aemylius's Historie* 4 The mutable world hath two parts one subiect to vicissitudinal generation and corruption  the other is the celestiall world 1618 *Bonnemie s Pourgeret* I iv 322 The which sport they continuing for foure times vicissitudinally [*sic*] euery day [etc.]

**Vicissitude** (vi sisitēd) [a Or and b *vicissitude* (14th c), or ad I *vicissitudo*, f *vicis* turn, change see Vice *sb* 6 and *prefix* So Sp. *vicisitud*, Pg *vicissitude*, It *vicissitudine*]

**1** The fact of change or mutation taking place in a particular thing or within a certain sphere, the uncertain changing or mutability of something

1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb Kent* (1826) 105 Rochester came to ruine, by the alteration and vicissitude of the Sea 1625 Bacon *Ess*, *Vicissitude of Things* (Arb) 570 The Vicissitude or Mutation of Things is the Scripture Phrase for it Matter for this present Argument 1640 G. Sandys *Christ's Passion* III 268 Of the Vicissitude of Things' 1654 Branhall *Just Vind* (1661) 115 According to the Vicissitude and conversion of humane affairs and the change of Monarchies 1690 Locke *Hum Und* II xxvi 153 The notice, that our Senses take of the constant Vicissitude of Things 1720 Welton *Suffer Sav of God* I 59 From the Consideration of the Fleeting Inconstancy and Vicissitude of the Dangers with which we poor Mortals are surrounded 1773 Cook *Voy round World* I iii 66 And many are the changes of life we thought ourselves happy in having regained a situation wh h but two days before it was the utmost object of our hope t  visit 1864 Percy *Lect Diseases* 61 It is remarkable that this vicissitude of human things, this ma ked out line of the succession of Empires till our Lord should come, is laid open to the Heathen Monarch

**b** With a, in the same sense

1631 Weever *Anc Fun Mon* 3 Of all things else there is a vicissitude, a change both of cities and nations 1643 Sir I. Browne *Relig Med* I § 17 Because the glory of one state depends upon the ruine of another there is a revolution and vicissitude of their greatnesse 1753 Johnson *Adventurer* No 95 P 5 There is likewise in composition as in other things a perpetual vicissitude of fashion 1772 *Birmingh im Counterfeit* II viii 106 Her history abounds with such an amazing vicissitude of incidents

**2** Without article Change, mutation, mutability, as a natural property or tendency in things or in life generally, successive substitution of one thing or condition for another, taking place from natural causes

1596 Drayton *Legends* iv 757 Vicissitude imparitually will'd The goodlyest things be subject to annoy 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1330 Where were no Springs, our Harvests pleasant  ies, Unless Vicissitude did their production 1758 Johnson *Idler* No 4 P 11 Whatever is left in the hands of chance must be subject to vicissitude 1781 Cowper *Hope* 17 Vicissitude wheels round the world; Summer is a rich grow poor, the poor become purse proud 1833 § J. H Newman *Hist Sk* Ser III (1873) I 1 This is a world of conflict, and of vicissitude in the conflict 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuvius* VII 197 On such a fault line atmospheric vicissitude has been effective.

**3** A change or alteration in condition or fortune, an instance of mutability in human affairs

1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* I iv 38 Nature hath these vicissitudes  She makes No man a state of perpetuity, Sir 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C Wars* 429 That the critical tides of War should be brought to a stay, if Commands should be found on both sides 1681 J. Flavel *Right. Man s Ref* 220 His people may find  rest and comfort amidst the vicissitudes of this unstable world 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 41 P 4 A deplorable instan e of the Fortune of War, and Vicissitudes of humane Affairs 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 314 Mr Collins promised, as far as he was able, to have an eye upon my vicissitudes 1832 Lytton *Pelham Conf* II 2 We shall treat first of the vicissitudes to which *species* are subject 1896 Kane *Arct Expl* II xxvii 281 My sturdy second officer, long accustomed to the vicissitudes of whaling life, shed tears at the prospect 1879 Church *Spenser* 31 For fifty years the English people had had before its eyes the great vicissitudes which make tragedy

**4.** Alternation, mutual or reciprocal succession,

of things or conditions *esp* alternating succession of opposite or contrasted things

1684 Burton *Anat Mel* (ed 2) II ii. III 211 At Berna a shippe was digged out of a mountaine. Came this from Earth-quakes, or is there a vicissitude of Sea and Land as Anaximenes held of old? 1696 Sir I Browne *Tanid Ep* 105 Reason cannot conceive that an animall should live in a continuall motion, without that alternacy and vicissitude of rest whereby all others continue 1697 Milton *P L* VI 8 Which makes through Heav'n Grateful vicissitude, like Day and Night 1689 tr *Locke's Let Toleration* 96 How the Church was under the Vicissitude of Orthodox and Arian Emperors is very well known 1721 Steele *Spect* No 143 P 1 This Vicissitude of Motion and Rest which we call Life. 1740 Cheke *Hist* (1756) I 323 When I consider that various vicissitude of hopes and fears we had for twenty years struggled with 1773 Monboddo *Language* (1774) I i. 111 Corporeal forms which are in a constant vicissitude of generation and corruption. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I vi 219 The succession of light and darkness the vicissitude of the seasons 1854 Mrs Oliphant *Magd Hepburn* II 21 Her girlish shyness made the colour come and go in rapid vicissitude upon her cheek.

**3** An instance of an alternation or succession, a change from one physical state to another, esp as one of a constant series

1648 Wilkins *Math Magic* II v 183 How those vicissitudes of rarefaction and condensation may be maintained 1690 Bentley *Boyle Lect* 1 80 The regular periodical and constant Vicissitudes of Day and Night 1728 Prior *Solomon* II 832 What Pangs what Fires, what Racks didst Thou sustain? What and What Vicissitudes of enduring Pain? 1747 I Story *Life* etc 86 I kept close to Meetings, and to Business, in their proper Vicissitudes 1781 Gibbon *Decl & F* xvii. (1787) II 6 The vicissitudes of robes are scarcely felt in those seas. 1822 J Good *Study Med.* (1829) III 352 Extreme heat and cold are far more injurious when flowing in irregular vicissitudes than when an uniform tenour 1853 Phillips *Rivers Yorksh* 111. 90 The surface influences of descending rains and all the agency of atmospheric vicissitudes 1893 Ball *Story of Sun* 319 There must have been remarkable climatic vicissitudes during past ages.

† **6** Reciprocation, return *Obs* —1

1565 *Testimonial to R Campbell* in *Wodrow Soc Misc* (1844) 288 In doing whairof so shall you bynd us to the lik vicissitude

† **7** A turn or occasion of action *Obs* —1

1608 Bacon *Adv Learn* I vi § 13. 30 In the next vicissitude or succession he did send his diuine truth into the world.

† **b** *By vicissitudes*, by turns *Obs*

1749 Lavington *Enthus Meth & Papists Ill.* (1754) 49 The Moravian Mystics are the Persons whom Mr Wesley reprehends by Vicissitudes as the best, and as the worst, of Men.

† **Vicissitn dinal,** *a Obs* —1 [See next and AL ] Vicissitudinous Also † **Vicissitudina rian** *a*, **a rious** *a*, **a riously** *adv*

1588 J Harvey *Disc Probl* 23 A *vicissitudinall* conuersion or temporall transformation of the elementarie or terrestriall globe of this world *c* 1709 W Stukeley *Mem* (Surtees) I 210 Here we measure not time nor have we need of your *vicissitudinarian* planet called the sun 1667 Waterhouse *Fire of Lond* 182 by whom only they [the dreadful effects] can be transformed into comforts (which as elementary and *vicissitudinarious*, they can in no true sense be) 1715 *Meteorologicall Essays* II 291 *Vicissitudinariously*

† **Vicissitn dinary,** *a Obs* [f L *vicissitudin* , stem of *vicissitudo* see -ARY ]

1 Marked by alternation, coming alternately or by turns.

1624 Donne *Devotions* etc. (ed 2) 296 We say the dayes of man [are] vicissitudinary, as though he had as many good days, as ill 1640 Br Hall *Episc* II xvii 180 This prescience is not perpetual, but only for the time the vicissitudinary 1650 *Discr Future Hist Europe* 6 A vicissitudinary time of Affliction and Ease, Persecution and rest pure Doctrine and Heresie, is signified.

**2** Reciprocal, responsive *rare*—1.

1699 Maxwell tr *Herodian* (1635) 92 When a mans Friend hath (first) obliged him by Signall Offices; if hee shew not all vicissitudinary Expressions and a thankfull heart (etc.).

**Vicissitu dinous,** *a* [f as prec + -OUS ]

1 Marked by vicissitudes, subject to various or frequent changes of fortune

1806 Worcester (citing *Q Rev*) 1823 Stevenson in *Trans CA Historical Soc* I 227 In this mode was the king's administration conducted during the whole of his vicissitudinous life 1865 *Reader* 23 Sept 335/1 His career has been vicissitudinous in the highest degree 1892 *Nation* 4 July 2/1 A second Oxford innings, which though vicissitudinous, almost equalled the first Cambridge total.

**2** Of a person That has experienced changes of fortune or circumstances

1856 Hawthorne *Eng Note Bks* (1870) II 289 An English inhman who suggests himself as a kind of contrast to this warlike and vicissitudinous backwoodsman

† **Vici sality** *Obs* —9 [ad. L. *vicissitas* (rare) change, alteration ] (See quot.)

1721 Bailey, *Vicisity*, a changing or succeeding by Course; an interchangeable Course.

**Vicker(y,** obs forms of Vicar, Vicary.

**Vickid, -it,** obs. forms of Wicked *a*

**Vicont,** obs form of Viscount.

† **Vico ntiel,** *sb* and *a Obs* Also 7 vicondell, viscontiel *β* 6–7 vicountiell, 7–9 -iel. See also Vicountille. [a AF. *vicontiel*, f *viconte* Viscount Cf. OF. *vicontial*, F *vicontial*]

**A** *sb pl.* Certain sums regularly payable to the Crown by a sheriff and charged against him in the Exchequer accounts.

1398 *Act* 2 *Hen* VI, *c* 4 § 3 [To] be discharged of all such Fermes and Sommes of money excepte onlie of the Viscontuelles of their Shires wherewithe they shalbe charged 1607 Cowell *Interpr* s.v There are also certaine fermes called Viscontiels, which the Shyreeue for his time payeth a certaine rent for to the King and maketh what profit he can of them 1642 C Vernon *Consid Sch* 11 The Sheriffe to deliver a book written in parchment declaring of whom and where he receiveth the vicondells, and other the Rents and Farmes written into him in the Summons of the Pipe. 1738 *Hist Cnt Exchqr* v 89 This sum was an Item placed after his Vicontuels. [1819 *Statutes of Realm* IV 43 *marg* Allowance to all Sheriffs for Vi countels out of lands coming into the King's Hands ]

**B** *adj* 1. Of or pertaining to a sheriff

a. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 253 Our officiarie *Vice comites* or Shrifes which have diuers Actions Viscontiel, and inquire of criminall causes 1620 Calvin *Jud Sheriff* (1824) 230 The highest authority that he [the sheriff] hath is but viscontiel. 1647 N Bacon *Disc Gov't* I xxi 191 Other Courts also were in the countrey, and were Viscontiel or Courts of Sheriffs and Lords of Hundreds and corporations. 1670 *Act 22 Chas II*, *c* 6 § 1 Guild Rents, Pensions Viscontiel Rents 1698 *Lords' Journ.* Oct. 850/1 Not far from the church of Bromham lies the chantry house to which appertained certain annual viscontiel or fee farm rents.

*β* 1630 Doddridge *Hist Wales* 40 For all the ordinary Ministers and executioners of the processe of the Lawes of England I, or which haue Viscontiell iurisdiction are the Officers and particular Writes 1820 *Statutes of Realm* IV 43 *marg* Sheriffs taking Tallies shall be chargeable for Viscontiel Farms &c.]

2 Of wits (see quots.)

1607 Cowell *Interpr* s.v *Viscontiel* Writs viscontiel are such as are triable in the countie or Shyreeues court 1658 Scrogge *Courts Lect* (1714) 84 This Writ is in Vi countiell Court of the Nature of a Justicies in which the Sheriff shall hold Plea. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 278 This writ of admeasurement is one of those writs that are called *viscontiel*, being directed to the sheriff: and may be returned to any superior court till fit ally executed by him

**Vicori(o,** etc , variants of Vicary *sb* 1 *Obs*

**Vicount,** obs variant of Viscount

† **Vicountell** *sb* and *a Obs* Viscontiel 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen VIII c* 26 § 2 Where divers soomes of money been respected to Shrineffes upon theyre accomptes of the foresaide fermes and other vicountyes 1593 Shakes *Rich III*, *Epist* 12 Herefordshire in the time of Edw III was annexed vnto this shire as towching vicountelle iurisdiction. 1664 *Speiman's Gloss* 555/1 *Vice comitatus*, *vicontiel*, belonging to the sheriff: and such I be returned to any superior court till fi ally executed by him

**Vicori(o,** etc , variants of Vicary *sb* 1 *Obs*

**Vicount,** obs variant of Viscount

† **Vicountille** *sb* and *a Obs* Viscontiel 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen VIII c* 26 § 2 Where divers soomes of money been respected to Shrineffes upon theyre accomptes of the foresaide fermes and other vicountyes 1593 Shakes *Rich III*, *Epist* 12 Herefordshire in the time of Edw III was annexed vnto this shire as towching vicountille iurisdiction. 1664 *Speiman's Gloss* 555/1 *Vice comitatus*, *vicontiel*, belonging to the sheriff: and such I be returned to any superior court till fi ally executed by him

**Vicori(o,** etc , variants of Vicary *sb* 1 *Obs*

**Vicount,** obs variant of Viscount

† **Vicountiell

Romans, the Priest did not kl the Victime, but the Pope or Victimarie, at the beck of the Priest 1778 Anthony *Perval Chr* 298 Who had the same office as the latin pappe and victimaries that of killing the victims.

† **Victimate,** *tb Obs rare* [ad L. *victimat us*, pa pple of *victimare* see next] = Victim *sb* 1
1583 Stubbes *Anat Abuses* Ep Ded., Sacrifices Victimates & Holocaustes offred *Ibid* O ij b, Hauing offred vp their sacrifices victimats and holocaustes to their false Gods

† **Vi ctimate,** *v Obs*—° [f L. *victimat* , ppl stem of *victimare*, f *victima* Victim *sb*] (See quots)
1626 Bolloxar *Eng Expos*, *Victimate*, to offer in sacrifice to kill and sacrifice 1656 Blount *Glossogr* *victimate*, to Sacrifice to make an Oblation

**Victimhood.** [f Victim *sb*] The state of being a victim
1882 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett* (1883) III 138 Wearing a sullen look of victimhood

**Victimizable,** *a* [f Victimize *v*] Capable of being victimized
1842 Emerson *Ess* II iii. (1901) 273 Have you been victimised in being brought hither?—or prior to that answer me this. Are you victimisable?

**Victimization.** [f next] The action of victimizing, or fact of being victimized, in various senses.
1890 *New Monthly Mag* LIX. 397 The man who does not grow savage at victimization is an inert unsentient booby 1892 A. L. Windsor *Ethi a v* 378 On Pope s com pletie victimization perhaps less remains is to be laid 1885 L. Oliphant *Symphrenmatia* 57 But the vi timisation of the infant terrestrial man was not to le so fully consummated 1900 *Pilot* 30 June 4/1 The Companies Bill and the Money Lending B ll had the common object of putting down fraud and victimisation
b *spec* in *Theol* (See quot)
1893 *Month* April 464 By Christ s Body in its Eucharistic state, wh.h theologians, when they explain the sacrificial character of the Mass call a state of victimization

**Victimize** (vi ktimaiz), *v* [f Victim *sb*]
1 *trans* To make a victim of, to cause to suffer inconvenience, discomfort, annoyance, etc., either deliberately or by misdirected attentions
1870 Lytton *Let* Sept. in *M Noptser's Corr* (1879) 87 Your contributors are at full liberty to ridicule abuse and (allow the author of Paul Duffard to employ a slang word) victimize me. 1879 Cal. Harper (1893) II 166 I had the honour of being kindly v ctimised on the occasion by our hospitable host as the leader of the shooting world. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xl. Becky remembered the occur rence and how she had been victimised by Lady Southdown
b To cheat swindle, or defraud
1839 (see *Victimising* ppl a.) 1848 Thackeray *Bk Snobs* xxxiv In a turf transaction either Sharon or Cockspur would try to get the better of his father and, to gain a point in the odds victimise h best friends. 1859 J. Lang *Wand Indies* 20 After several officers have been victimized at play their friends are apt to talk about the matter in an unpleasant manner 1883 Greenwood *Odd People* 96 In what way has the rascal victimised his customers?
2 To put to death as, or in the manner of, a sacrificial victim, to slaughter
1853 *Last s Day* XX 487 Fifty thousand Gentoos were victimized by the scimitar 1858 Singleton *Virgil* II 541 By this wound Tu Pallas Pallas victimiseth thee And taketh vengeance on thy cursed blood 1899 *19th Cent* Nov 816 *note* The sacrifice used to be human and virgins were victimized on the hill of Ida
*transf* 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* I ii. IV 148 The prisoners must have shared the fate of those who were vi timised outs de (by an explosion).
b To destroy or spoil plants) completely
1849 *Jrnl R Agric, Soc* X 1 96 The wireworm had been at work to so fearful an extent that in ten days the whole crop seemed victimised 1881 Harper in *Proc Berw Nat Club* IX 463 Some shrubs had been victimised by the winter
Hence **Vi ctimised** *ppl a*, **Vi ctimising** *vbl sb* and *ppl a*
1849 Soyer *Mod Housew* 242 "Victimised Cutlets. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxiii, [He] had pledged his word to lie co tent with the allowance which his victimized wife still awarded him 1857 Hughes *It Convedale* IV ii. system of reprisals which tl ese victimized individuals appeared inclined to res st 1859 *Habits of Gd Society* xv 372 The broken sentences of the victimized bedegroom. 1874 *Smith Mod* I 392/2 The Jews were to have his money any way If not for their conversion, then for his own victimising 1879 Thackeray *Pr Dennis* iv There was no such thing there was no victimizing 1879 *Morning Herald* 2 Sept The defrauded victims of a "v cumising act

**Victimizer.** [f prec] One who victimizes another or others.
1832 *Fraser's Mag* IV 578 A gambling house in which the cards are played for the victim by the victimiser 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* II. felt the presence of a vic timiser as a hare does of a greyhound 1863 Bates *Nat Amazon* II 46 The dress of the v ctimisers is arranged with especial reference to tl eir prey 1879 E Garrett *House by Works* II 137 Rather partners in fall and loss than victimiser and victim

† **Victita tion.** *Obs rare* [f L *victitare* to subsist (on something), f. *victus* food, sustenance] The taking of food or nourishment
1597 A. M. tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 51/3 In eatinge and drinckinge without observinge anye rule of victitation 1599 — tr *Laboulaye's Bk Physicke* 155/2 He must observe a good diyet in al his victitations

**Vict lar,** obs. form of Victualler

† **Vi ctless,** *a. Obs*—1 [f L *vict-us* food cf. Victitation] Lacking food, hungry, starved.
1615 Chapman *Odyss* xvii 185 Why thou vnenused Swaine Whither dost thou leade this same victles Leager? Thus bane of banquets; this most nasty begger?

**Victor** (vi ktăr), 6 *pl* 1 forms 4 -*ur* victor, 5 victore, victour, 6 *Sc* victor *B* 4–7 victour (6 *Sc* victour), 5 victur, oure, vyctour(e, owre [a AF *victor*, *victour* (OF *victeur*), or L. *victor*, agent noun f *vict-*, ppl stem of *vincĕre* to overcome, conquer]
1 One who overcomes or vanquishes an adversary, the leader of an army which wins a battle or war Sometimes *collect*, the winning army or nation Also const *of*
a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxiii 2 A bedel bat eftere be victory cries bat all be land is be victors. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 99 pe Saxons were victors and eueriche pronince, as he was ofte gere made hem kynges. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 9145 Ofte saith hit is sene That a victor of a vyle is vile ouer-comyn 1448 9 Metham *Wks* (h. E. T. S.) 52/409 Sche wyll haue and prosperyte In my vyage, yff I may victor be 1570 Levins *Manyp* 171 A victor, *victor* 1592 Wyrley *Armorie Capitall de Bue* 1 Assailant con querors then, Englishs king Triumphant victors, his noble off-spring 1606 Shaks. *Tr & Cr* IV v 67 What shalbe done To him that victory commands? or doe you purpose A victor shall be knowne 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C Warres* 235 His Body, when found by the Victors was exposed to publike shame and laughter 1697 Dryden *Aneid* xii 497 In vain the vanquish d fly the victor sends The dead men s weapons as the first rewards 1762 Hume *Hist Eng* I 6 Boadicea herself rather than fall into the hands of the enraged victor put an end to her own life by poison 1781 Cowper *Iliad* v. *F* xix (1791) I 161 The Huns soon withdrew from the presence of an insulting victor 1821 Scott *Kenilw* xxxvii The light yet strong buckler and the short two-edged sword the use of which had made them victors of the world 1841 Elphinstone *Hist Ind* II 567 Iwo of the surviving brothers soon after came to a fierce conflict and the third sacked the victor on the morning after the battle 1871 R Ellis *Catullus* lxiv 112 Thence in safety a victor in height of glory returned
b 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 87 Pan afterward bey serued pe Macedonyes, when pe Macedoynes were vic tours in pe est lot des. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 186 Pan sall bat victour haue pe croun on your vile fass 1470–85 Harding *Chron Irely* 1 4321 pe feld bei han and ben bat day vic tours *c* 1440 *Iromp Parv* 510/1 Victowre *victor*, *tri umphator* 1548 Hall *Chron* 70 b/2 Adam mynicht le victour moste wourthy 1581 A Hall *Iliad* v 78 Thinking that victour now he stoode thus Pandarus doth braue At the stoute Greeke. 1658 Phillips, *Victour*, an overcomer or Conquerour
b *transf* and *fig* One who overcomes in any contest or struggle
a 1400 *Minor Poems fr Vernon MS* xxiii 132 Com to vp wip outen wem, pou victor of olde Enemys. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc) 97 Verray victor wipe his wounden fyve. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb) 90 Help lady pat be of his gostly enmy-we may victour be 11 1450 Cade-grave *Life St Gilbert* 81 These same maydenes, desyring to be victours of her kynde & eke of pe world 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maried Wemen* 326, I crew alsone pat crois do ie aa cok that wer victour 1569 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 23 Christ Victour of deid and hell 1638 Junius *Paint Ane* 345 How leuing obed tha chay, the victor calleth for a knife to take vesay 1687 Boyle *Martyrd Theodora* vii (1703) 104 O admirable contest! where the noble antagonists did not strive for victory, but death, that the victor might perish for the vanquished 1730 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 313 There Victor of his health of for tune friends, And fame this lord of useless thousands ends 1811 Shelley *Nightmare* 3 Hence withering pain no power possessed, Nor time s dread victor, death confessed 1865 *Daily Tel* 31 Oct. 6/5 The silent Victor that meets us all, sooner or later
† c *Sc* The dux of a school *Obs*
1851 *Caldwell Papers* (Matl Cl.) I 105 To y^e shoillmaster and doctor in Glasgow for W^m Mure his candlimas offering, be being Victor that year 20.0.0 1724 R Wodrow *Corr* I 7 *Wodrow* (1828) 78 The Archbishop Paterson s second son was then in it [the school], and was what we then called victor
2 *attrib* (chiefly appositive), passing into *adj* (cf Victorious *a*) **a** Of weapons, etc, as *victor arms*, *arrow*, *banner*, *spear sword*
1590 Spenser *F Q* II x 23 He with his victour sword first opened The bowels of that monstrous feend Shake *Lear* v. 139, I protest Despite thy victor Sword thou art a Traitor 1726 Pope *Odyss* xix 477 My victor arms Have sowd the realms around with the alarms of war xxiv 500 Then pursing the victor arrow with 1776 Mickle tr *Camoens Lusiad* 168 O'er the wild waves the victor banners flow'd *Ibid* 290 The victor spear One hand em ployed. 1821 Shelley *Rev Islam* xxv xxv Why pause the victor swords to seal his overthrow?
b Of persons, animals, etc, as *victor brethren*, *eagle*, *god*, *hand*, *head*, *hero* etc
c 1380 Sinnr *Ser Conf Ayen & Ulysses* (1659) 128 Upon Death purple Arthur now See where the Victor victim bleeds. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 747 The Victor Horse, forgetful of his f rood 1 he Palm renounces, and abhors the Food 1703 Pope *Thebaid* 668 To Argos realms the victor god resorts *c* 1716 Somerville *To Addi son Estate Warwicks* The victor host amaz d with horror view d Th assembling troops 1727 Pope *Iliad* xii 257 The victor eagle whose sinister flight Retards our host 1730 Hobson *Sophonisba* II ii 7 If she may touch Thy knee, thy purple and thy victor hand 1776 Mickle tr *Camoens' Lusiad* 96 On Jorda i s bank the victor hero strode. *Ibid* 328 The victor youth the Lusian flag displays. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* v xxx O Scotland! shall it e er be mine To raise my victor head, and see Thy hills thy dales, thy people free? 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed 2) 388, I, it seems, am first Of all my victor brethren to declare The triumph past and coming
c Miscellaneous, as *victor-deed*, *pæan*, *-palm*, *-pomp*, *share*, *-shout*
c 1381 Chaucer *Parl Foules* 182 The olyue of pes, & ek the dronke vyne, The victor palm the lauer to deuyne.
1576 Mickle tr *Camoens Lusiad* 272 Twas his in victor pomp to bear away The golden apples from Hesperus s shore 1803 Leyden *Scenes Infancy* iv xviii The groans of wounded on the blood red plain And victor shouts exulting o er the slain 1808 Scott *Marmion* iii xxiv, Shouting crews her navy bore, Triumphant to the victor shore 1814 — *Lord of Isles* v xxxii Then long and loud the victor shout from turret and from tower rung out 1819 Keats *Otho* i ii I wonder not thus stranger s victor-deeds So hang upon your spirit 1885 J. H. Dell *Dawning Grey*, *Pro fatory* For the leader that shall bring To the field the mightiest forces shall the victor pæan ring

† **Victor,** *sb* 2 *Obs* Chiefly *Sc* Forms *a* 4–5 victor, 5 *Sc.* victour, wictour(e, 6 *Sc* wict, victore. *B* 4 victoure, 5 victoyre [a. OF *victore* and *victoire* see Victory] 1
*a* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 197 Schyr Iohn had him till the battale spede For he vsit victor full drede. *Ibid* viii 255 Gif that we may Haf victour of our fayis her *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xi (*Simon & Jude*) 176 To knaw byme & his helpe s afe be wichan he mycht be victour safe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2296 Alexander be athill A vanced with pe victore & vengid on his fase 1413 26 *Jnl Parens* xii 131 Pat hald ye victor, wolle be ye wate, Pey good men ben lest. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii 148 The gold takynnis Victour in armys that thou sall haiff be grace 1533 *Gau Richt Vryy* 48 Ane victour sall haue ane fre kingis *Compl Scott* Ep. 4, I suld nocht forget the tryumphant victore conquest be the vailseant kyng of scelie
*B* 1390 Gower *Conf* I 140 Of hem fieble hyth wonne the victoire. *Ibid* 125 To kepe and drawe into memoire Of his bataille the victoire 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II iv (1883) 59 Scylla that was Duc of the Romayns wyth oute had many fayr victoyres ageynst the Romayns wyth Inne.

† **Victor,** *v Obs* [f Victor *sb* 1] *trans* To overcome, vanquish Chiefly in pa pple and ppl a Vi ctored Hence † **Victoring** *ppl a*
1576 Bedingfield tr *Cardanus Comf* 38 For that neither in victory or victored he would hinder the common wealth. 1599 — tr *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist* (1595) 12 It was condescended among them to divide the places victored, by foure parts 1602 Segar *Hon Mil & Civ* III xii, 124 Whosoeuer is defender ought to be reputed victorious if hee be not victored 1604 A Hall *Quiet and Godly Feast Forescotors* 3 All the Pamphlets and the Voyes Which I haue seene in hands of V ctoring Boyes. 1608 Gadbury in *R Saunders's Wks* Pref. Wks 1682 Noble and Valiant Sir Jacob Ashley was unfortunately victor d, and taken Prisoner

† **Vi ctorage.** *Sc Obs*—1 In 5 wictorage [f. as prec + age] Victory
*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 138 Fere mare loyfull wictorag pu sal resawe syne to pi wag

† **Vi ctordom.** *Obs rare*—1 [f as prec + dom] The condition of being a victor, victory
1506 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1532) 135 Innumerable martyrs by the lyght & strengthe of this gyfte had the triumphe & victordome of pacyence inuyolable. 1552 Barnes *Wks* (1573) 278/1 Then will I stand by, and looke on and see what victordome thou shalt get

† **Vi ctoress.** *Obs* Also 6 victorour, victourer [Latinized form of Victor *sb* 1, in common use *c* 1650] A victor or vanquisher
1553 Brende *Q Curtius* iv 57 He that is so juste an enemy and so merciful a victorour 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 50 Greater comodytie hath there ensewed to the vanquished then the victoures 1570 B Goodk *Heresbach's Husb* 1 (1586) 5 b The Earth in the meane time reioysing to be torne with a Victoress sharpe 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 300 The manner was to bring Victoresses puppet under the chariots of noble victors ridi g in triumph. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowes* iii § 71 314 Like victoures they continued to the end conquering 1706

† **Vi ctoress** *Obs* [f Victor *sb* 1 + ess] Cf Victress]
A female victor
1586 Warner *Alb Eng* II xi (1589) 44 I am his Victor, but thy selfe art Victoresse of me 1590 Spenser *F Q* II xii 44 But then the victoresse I feare Neither of them she found where she them lore 1644 Heywood *Gunaik* v 237 Oh Elphlede mightie both in strength and mind The dread of men and victoress of thy kind 1634 [see Victress, quot. 1601].

‖ **Victoria** 1 (vikt5·riă) [L *victoria* (or Sp and Pg *victoria*) see Victory *sb*]
1 The word employed as a shout of triumph
1598 Ford *Lady's Trial* ii 1, Steal her away and to her Cast caps and cry *victoria!* 1678 Dryden *Assignation* iv *Victoria Victoria!* he loves you madam. 1691 Wood *Ath Oxon* II 284 The judicious reader may easily rout those Troops which began too soon to cry *victoria*, and thought but of dividing the spoil 1855 Kingsley *Westw Ho!* xxxi "There go the rest of them! Victoria! shouted Cary, as every Spaniard set all the earl he could 1861 Gen F Thompson *Audi Alt Part* III cixi, 175 The opposite party at the same time made simpletons of them selves by throwing up their caps and crying victoria
*transf* 1863 *Bradford Advertiser* 18 July 5/9, If you conquered, all the post horns in Europe were set to sound "Victoria"
2 A figure of the goddess Victory *rare*—1

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 May 1645 The stamp of the Roman *Denarius* varied: if with a Victoria, so nam d

**Victoria** ² (vɪktōˑrɪă). [The name of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, etc., from 1837 to 1901, employed attributively or by itself as a designation of various things.]

1 A light, low, four-wheeled carriage having a collapsible hood, with seats (usually) for two persons and an elevated seat in front for the driver

1844 *Art Union Jrnl* VI 238 A calèche which the French have named after Queen Victoria.] 1879 *Pall Mall G* 24 Aug 12 I have taken a victoria and driven to the Porte Maillot to watch the engineers fell the trees in the Bois de Boulogne 1876 Mary M Grant *Sun Maid* xi, A victoria is the prettiest carriage a man can possibly drive in 1886 *Pall Mall G* 10 May 3/2 We are threatened with an inundation of new cabs and victorias for the coming season

*attrib* 1903 *Motor Ann* 258 The motor-car best suited to India would be that with a canopy—or, better still, a victoria top

2 *Bot.* A gigantic species of water lily, *Victoria regia*, indigenous to South America

1846 Lindley *Veg Kingd.* 411 Floating plants on the continent of South America are represented by Victoria, Victoria, the most gigantic and beautiful of water plants, is called Water Maize in South America. 1852 *Phil Trans* CXLII 289 The specimen of Victoria which flowered in the Garden of the Royal Botanic Society 1866 *Treas Bot* 1215 The *Victoria* has delighted thousands, by the size of its leaves and the beauty and fragrance of its flowers

*attrib* 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 445 The plant is commonly known in this country as the Victoria Water lily 1880 Bessey *Botany* 558 *Victoria regia*, the Victoria Lily of the Amazon Valley in South America

3 *Astr* One of the minor planets, discovered by Hind in 1850.

1851 J R Hind *Solar System* 91 The name selected for the twelfth member [of the extra zodiacal group] is Victoria. *Ibid* 92 The discovery of Victoria was quickly followed by that of another small planetary body 1868 Lockyer *Elem Astron.* 328

4 A variety of domestic pigeon

1879 L. Wright *Pigeon Keeper* 208 Victorias are simply Hyacinths of a lighter shade 1881 Lyell *Fancy Pigeons* 97 These varieties have been promiscuously named Hyacinths, Victorias and Frizzles in our pigeon literature

b *Victoria crown(ed) pigeon*, a queen's pigeon (Queen 16. 14 b)

c 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* IV 127

5 A variety of plum characterized by its luscious flavour and rich red colour.

*attrib.* 1860 R Hogg *Fruit Manual* 456 Denyer's Victoria. Skin bright red on the side next the sun, but pale red on the shaded side 1883 H. Drummond *Nat Law in Spir W* (1884) 364 He arranged them in shop windows. He may tell me a magnum bonum from a Victoria. 1883 *19th Cent.* Nov 870 Some sixteen years ago I planted two Victoria plums *Ibid*, A Victoria tree.

6 A kind of woollen dress material.

1891 *Times* 26 Oct 4/2 The parcels of miscellaneous goods have consisted of blue victorias, meltons in all colours, brown venetians

7 *attrib* a. *Victoria Cross*, a British military and naval decoration bestowed for conspicuous bravery in battle (Abbreviated V.C) *Victoria Day*, the anniversary of the birthday of Queen Victoria, May 24 (Also called *Empire Day*)

1856 *Royal Warrant* in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 197 Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct that the distinction shall be styled and designated 'The Victoria Cross', and shall consist of a Maltese Cross of Bronze with Our Royal Crest in the centre and underneath which an escroll bearing this inscription 'For Valour' 1863 Chambers *Bk Days* I 339/1 The 1st of March 1857, is one among many days associated with the bestowal of the Victoria Cross upon heroic soldiers 1901 *Statutes* 38 Feb 7/4 A bill was introduced in the Canadian parliament to make Victoria day—May 24th—a permanent public holiday throughout Canada.

b Misc, as *Victoria black, blue, Court, crape, frilling, lawn* (see quots)

1888 *Jacon Painters' Voc.* 152 *Victoria black*, a fancy black letter character 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, Victoria blue 1892 *Buck's Han'bk Med Sci* IX 429 *Victoria Blue* is a brilliant and useful nuclear stain 1899 Cagney *Yaksel & Am Diagnosis* x 236 Staining with alcoholic solution of Victoria-blue. 1887 Mc Culloch *Brit Emp* (ed 3) II 220 The principal sheriff visiting the county for the purpose of holding statutory, registration and small debt, commonly called "*Victoria Courts*" 1897 *Encycl Brit* VI 553/1 A very successful imitation of real crape is made in Manchester of cotton yarn and sold under the name of "Victoria crape" 1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 513/1 *Victoria frilling*, a description of cotton cambric Frill ing *Ibid*, *Victoria lawn*, a description of muslin employed as a lining for all dresses. 1891 *Catal Ist Exhib* 495 Cloakings —Praser tartan, *Victoria* (tartan), Royal Stewart, Forbes, and Gordon *Ibid* 491/1 Silk and worsted and cotton and wool Victoria velvet damasks

†**Victorial**, a and *sb* *Obs* [a OF. *victorial* or ad late L. *victorial is*, f. L. *victōria* Victory *sb.* So It. *vittoriale*]

A *adj.* Of or belonging to victory; victorious.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 1119 in *Macro Plays* 72 Now ye haue receyuyde þe crownnys victorial To regne in blys with owtyn ende! 1502 in *Dunbar's Poems* lxxxviii 38 London, thy Tour founded of old May be the hous of Mars victoryall 1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* II 998 They kneled all downe with mycle reuerence, Salutynge the ahrvne with honour victorial! 1611 Cotgr., *Victorial*, Victorialll, of or belonging to victorie. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl* 114 Thu Song is a Triumphant Victorial Song, or Song for Victory that Israel had over Sisera's Host. 1663 Urquhart *Rabelais* II xxvi (1694) 163 Pantagruel for an eternal Memorial wrote this victorial dittoo

B *sb pl* Games in honour of victory.

1637 Thornley tr *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 83 They crowned it, and danc'd, and celebrated victorials

**Victorian**, *a*¹ [f the name of *Victorius*, an ecclesiastic of the 5th century.] *Victorian cycle, period* (see quot. 1728 and Dionysian *a.* 3)

1728 Chambers *Cycl s.v Period, Victorian Period*, an Interval of 532 Julian Years, which elaps'd, the new and full Moons return on the same Day of the Julian Year 1905 J B Bury *St Patrick* App 372 The Celtic Church in Britain and Ireland never adopted the Victorian cycle

**Victorian** (vɪktōˑrɪăn), *a*² and *sb.* [f. Victoria ².]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to, designating, or typical of the reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901).

1875 Stephen *Fict Poets* I. 6 The significant likeness between the Alexandrian and Victorian eras. 1880 C H Pearson in *Victorian Rev* I 544 The changes were more radical than any programme of Victorian Liberalism suggests 1897 May Kingsley *W Africa* 592 An old fashioned petticoat such as an early Victorian age lady would have worn 1907 Miss E F Montrésor *Burning Torch* 208 The furniture was adorned in a heavy Early Victorian style.

B *sb.* 1 A person, esp an author, who lived in the reign of Queen Victoria

1896 *N Amer Rev* CXXIII 209 We can scarcely avoid calling Lowell a Victorian, the greatest poet of the Victorians 1886 F Harrison *Choice Bks* in 61 He [Tennyson] alone of the Victorians, has definitely entered the immortal groups of our English poets.

2. An article of furniture from the time of Queen Victoria

1905 Elin Glyn *Vicus Evangeline* 189, I shall have the taste done up with pale green, and burn all the Early Victorians.

Hence **Victo rianism**; **Victo rianize** *v.*

1905 *Westm Gaz.* 2 Feb 4/2 The turban is, of course, an early Victorianism 1905 *Speaker* 8 April 32/2 They Victorianise his [Banyan's] spelling and parade his Calvin ism on shiny paper

**Victo rian**, *a* 3 [See def.] Of or belonging to, native to, the colony of Victoria in Australia (named in 1851 after Queen Victoria).

In recent use occurring in a number of plant names, as *Victorian dogwood, laurel, lilac parsnip*

1857–65 (*title*), The Victorian Hansard, containing the debates of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Colony of Victoria 1867 *Chambers's Encycl* IX 787/1 The Victorian samples [of wheat] at the last Great Exhibition rank amongst the finest 1885 Mueller *Usefal Pl* 449 *Eucalyptus globulus* [Called] Tasmanian or Victorian Blue Gum from the colour of its foliage

†**Victo riate**, *sb.* *Obs* [anl *victoriat us*, f. *victōria* Victory *sb.*] A Roman silver coin stamped with the image of Victory, equal in value to half a denarius Also *attrib*

1601 Holland *Pliny* II 182 If this hearbe be taken in wine to the weight of a victoriat peece of silver, r halfe a Victoriate it stoppeth the course of a new cough 1657 W Rand tr *Cassendi's Life Peiresc* vi 205 They make so frequent mention of Coines and Weights as Talents, Sicles, Victoriates, Sesterces. 1731 *Phil Trans* LXI 490 What is now called the Victoriat, was coined by the Clodian Law

**Victorine** (vɪktōrīn), *sb* 1 [? f Victor-ia ² + -ine ⁵.] A kind of fur tippet worn by ladies, fastened in front of the neck and having two loose ends hanging down.

1849 *Ann Reg* 111 The several articles now produced a bonnet, a fur victorine &c 1860 *Catal Internat Exhib*, *Brit* II 82 Joseph Manufacturer of veil fasteners for victorines and mantles. 1881 Miss L. M Yonge *Lads & L asses Langley* I. 47 The first prize was a lovely fur victorine 1902 *Whitehead Peerage* 614 The Victorine and collarette are again promised favour

**Victorine** (vɪktōrīn), *sb* 2 and *a* [ad F *Victorin*, f the name of the monastery of St *Victor* near Paris] a. *sb* One or other of the founders or adherents of the type of mysticism developed at St. Victor in the 12th and 13th centuries b *adj* Of or pertaining to the mysticism of St. Victor

1881 *Encycl Brit* XII 583/2 The art of the Victorine school was carried to its greatest perfection by Adam of St Victor 1882 *Schaff & Lange's Relig Encycl* I. 1603 There is a palpable connection between the pseudo-Dionysian writings and the Victorines. 1886 C Bigg *Christian Platonists of Alexandria* v 189 Thus Origen became also the spiritual ancestor of Bernard, the Victorines, and the author of the *De Imitatione*

**Victorious** (vɪktōˑrɪəs), *a.* Also 5 6 victorieuse, -yous, -ius (6 -yus), 5–6 victoryous(e, 6 lous. [ad AF. *victorieus* (= OF. and F *victorieux*) or ad L. (ante and post-class.) *victōrios us*, f *victōria* Victory *sb.* So Sp. and Pg *victorioso*, It. *vittorioso*]

1. Having gained victory or obtained supremacy as victor, triumphant over adversaries or rivals, successful in any contest or struggle a. Of persons or an army. Also const *over*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1101 Hit was neuer herd In any coste where ye come but ye were clene victorius. 1438–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) IV 171 This Mitridates apperede ever more victoryous after that he noble conuulles of the Romanes hade victory of hym 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv (1883) 53 Be mercyfull to them wyth whom we haue ben victorious 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus* xviii. 1 God onely is righteous, & remayneth a victorious kynge for euer 1596 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 197 I be most valiant and victorious kinge, kinge Edward 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 182 (Grosart) III 183 The victorioust Captaines and Warriours, the inuinciblest Cæsars and Conquerors. 1617 Morrison *Itin.* I 39 With much wonder that shee was so victorious against the Spaniards. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II 967 Henry n Gates Pourd out by millions her victorious Bands Pursuing. a 1727 Newton *Chronol Amended* iv (1728) 293 They led their victorious armies against the King of Egypt. 1757 tr *Keysler's Trav* III 309 Giacomo da Pesaro, victorious over the Turks in war, and over himself in peace. 1781 Cowper *Table t* 473 Vengeance at last pours down upon their coast, A long despis d, but now victorious, host 1837 J Sterling *Ess.*, etc (1848) I 176 Montaigne yet had honesty and warmth of soul to see in Socrates a victorious witness for the lastingness of truth. 1840 Keightley *Rom Empire* II vi 246 Victorious over all his rivals, Aurelian celebrated a triumph with unusual magnificence 1864 Pusey *Lect Daniel* II 60 The young monarch had already shown himself energetic and victorious.

b *transf* Of things.

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T* 358 Victorious tre protecciour of trewe, That oonly were worthy for to bere The kyng of heven. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III xxiii. (1904) 485 Love, be ashamed to be called Love cruel like to this victorious over thee. 1667 Milton *P L* II 142 Th ethereal mould Incapable of stain would soon purge off the baser fire Victorious 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 720 The smouldering flame the trunk receives; Ascending thence, it 1719 Watts *Horæ Lyr* (1834) 38 Victorious Love! Conquest so Now the disarmed heart of dauntless Victorious seem d 1889 J B Bury *Hist Later Rom Emp* II ix I 185 Julian s championship of the dying cause furthered the victorious cause

2. Of, belonging to, or characterized by victory, producing victory, emblematic of victory

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvi 62 He shulde be dygne to obteyne by batayles the conqueste victoryouse of the empyre of Italye c 1513 Bradshaw *St Werburge* 1428 For the why che victoryous acte the sayde Charlys obteynyd a surname, and was called Car lus Martellus. 1596 Spenser *F Q* VI iv 36 As their victorious Enemies he them showen, Being with fame through many Nations blown 1606 Shaks *Ant & Cl* IV ii 33, I hope well of to morrow, and will leade you, Where neither fate, nor my victorious life, Then death and Honor c 1630 Milton *At a Solemn Mus* xii 14 The Cherubick host With those just Spirits that wear victorious Palms 1791 A Pope *Reply Look* 111 The Sudden, these honours shall be snatch d away, And curs'd for ever this victorious day 1792 Cowper *Iliad* VIII 332 And I will give to thy victorious hand, After my own, the noblest recompense 1809 Scott (*wy M* Introd He had not power to explain the assurance of pardon which he continued to assert, or to name the victorious name on which he trusted 1832—*Ct Robt* II. 10 Now looking back and doubtful question whether our victorious eagles might be able to penetrate any farther into the country of the enemy 1847 Mrs. A Kerr *Indian Alpine Sports* 95 They who had borne victorious arms against the Furks.

**Victoriously** (vɪktōˑrɪəslɪ), *adv.* [f prec. + -ly ².] In a victorious manner, triumphantly.

1500 *Orol Crysten Men* (W de W) 1 b, Whan he shall come victoryously ayenst the Iuges 1526 Pilgr *Perf* (W de W) (1531) 98 b, Of as moche that they ben escaped the more victoryously a 1533 Fabyan *Chron* VI clxxvii 175 He bare hym so victoryously ageynst the Danes 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen* VI 1 b, Gouge *Serm Dignity Carnality* § 6 [They] waged many battels valiantly and victoriously 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* III viii § 7 All whom he in said victoriously to have vanquished 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVIII Argt, Hector enters the Head of his Troops, who victoriously pursue the Grecians even to their Ships 1755 Johnson, *Triumphantly*, victoriously, with success 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXIV 240/2 Wks III 105 Over all which the benignity and nobility of his nature mount victoriously to the last 1884 *Manch Exam* 8 April 5/1 The Liberal Party in the course will be sent victoriously to the House of Lords.

**Victoriousness** (vɪktōˑrɪəsnĕs) [f as prec. + -ness.] The state or quality of being victorious.

1595 T *Bosmans s Guinea* 4 Several Australian wars represented Guinea as a Mighty kingdom, whose Prince by his Victoriousness had subdued numerous Countries. 1805 A. Knox *Rem* (1834) I 38, I will add another instance of Christian victoriousness. 1851 H Rogers *Ess* II 369 I have an intense feeling in me about the power and victoriousness of truth 1876 M Arnold *Last Ess Ch.* (1877) 144 No one has spoken more truly of the natural victoriousness of virtue.

†**Vi ctorise**, *v Obs rare* [f. Victor *sb* ¹ + -ise.] a *trans* To make victorious. b *intr* To win the victory for one

1614 Sylvester *Lobwasser Psalme* VI 189 Most of all did Ammon s Prince admire God s dreadfull Judgement and to shape his ire, Who Israel thus of vanquisht victorie d 1641 J Jackson *True Evang* II 11 (O.D.) Christ was a Lyon, but it was to victorize for us, not to prey upon us.

†**Vi ctorship**. *Obs rare* [f Victor *sb* ¹] The position of a victor, the chief place

1618 Bisseley *Lud. Isl.* 281 To have a disputation for the victorship once every quarter at the years. *Ibid* To incourage them and all the rest of them by their emsample to strive at length to come vnto the Victorshippe.

**Victory** (vɪktōrɪ), *sb* Forms 4–7 victorie (4 wict-, 4–5 victorie, 5 *Sc* victorie, orrie), victorye, 4 victory (5 *Sc* wictory), 4 6 vyktorye (4 fyctorye), vyctory (6 vyctorie), 4 5 vict, 4 wict-, vikt, 5 vittori [a AF. and OF *victorie* (var. of OF and F *victoire*), ad L. *victōria*, f. *victor* Victor *sb* ¹ Cf Sp. and Pg. *victoria*, It. *vittoria*]

1. The position or state of having overcome an

enemy or adversary in combat, battle, or war; supremacy or superiority achieved as the result of armed conflict

a. With *the*, as in the phr *to have (get, win) the victory* Also const *of* (an enemy etc)

13 *A Alex* 7663 (Laud MS) Of troye was þerinne al þe story How Gregeis hadde þe victory *c*1330 *Arth. & Mer.* 5 1370 (Kölbing He þouhte I be king of Grete Rom ȝif þan hadde ȝouen þe victorie To ouercomen his fomen. 1389 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 167 þese men beeþ i woned to haue þe victorie and þe maistrie in euerich fiȝt *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 6134 Our goddis þe gouerne & soche grace lene þat þou the victorie wyn in worship to saue. *c*1400 Maldwyn (Roxb.) 1 5 Whi þan any man had þe victory of his enmy *c*1440 Lydg *Assembly of Gods* 1011 To wete whyche of hem shuld haue the victory *Ibid.* 1790 Thus they contynu fyght for the vale ty . . . Whan þat victorie was in my (Harl MS) So þis yong knyȝt fought with the enemeys, and wan þe victorie 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi (Percy Soc.) 190, I for her sake shalbe invincible Of this great monster to have the victory 1535 Coverdale *Dan.* vii 21 I behelde, and the same horne made battail agaynst the sayntes, yee and gat the victory off them 1596 Kyd *Span Trag.* I ii 64 In all this time nyghtes, three long houres and more The victory to neither part inclin'de 1621 Bible 2 *Macc* xii 13 Whereupon there was a very sore battell, but Iudas & de got the victorie 1647 Jackson *Creed* I. to carrie away the victorie. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 29 July, A letter from Sir W Coventry tells me that we have the victory 1727 L. Clarke *Mist. Bible* (1740) I 582 For Lathyrus having gotten the Victory pursued it to the utmost 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* 374 This so encouraged the Grecians, that they fought stremuously, and obtained the Victory over the Persians. 1811 G Bruce *Poems & Songs* 19 To him Wha can the victory bestow On those, who to his precepts bow

b. Without article

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I 473 With few folk that hyd victory Off mychty kingis. *Ibid.* III 224 Scipio . . . has off the templis tane the armys In maner off victory afferyt thar 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. (Bodl MS) Pe cok . . . crowiþ after bataile & victorie. 1412–20 Lydg *Chron. Troy* I 3868 Nor in armys conquest nor victorie Ben not assured vpon multitude 1457 Hawteyn *Caron in Anglo-Norm. Rev.* Oct (1932) 748 Of his foe he had ay victory 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W de W 1531) 25 By the whiche they crucifye the worlde and hath victorie of the same 1535 Coverdale Ps. cxliv. 43 Thou hast taken awaye the strength of the aswede and geuest him not victory in the battayll 1593 Shakes. 3 *Hen. VI* IV i 147 Why so: then am I sure of Victorie Now therefore let vs hence. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen* (1676) 515 Surena covered with Blood and Victory came to my Chamber 1708 Gradual *Sol. Ps* xliii. IV 260 Victory is the fruit of moral as well as military virtue. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xvii. 681 For him Jove leads to victory 1839 James *Louis XIV* I 144 In following up the flying squadrons of Grammont and Chabot [he] suffered victory to escape from his hands. 1847 Grote *Greece* II xxxi IV 229 Victory still continued on the s de of Athens. 1881 F W H Myers *Wordsworth* 80 When in victory Nelson passed away

c. *personif*

1563 B Googe *Eclogs*, (Arb.) 124 In fyne to Vic torye at hasle Bent for to spoyle our Foes of Fame. 1596 Shakes *Rich III* v 73 Iustice, with Iudah, and Victory all on thy Helme 1667 Milton *P L* VI 762 At his right hand Victorie Sate Eagle wing'd 1783 Crabbe *Village* II 152 Victory seems to die now thou art gone 1820 Keats *Hyperion* II 342 That was before we knew the winged thing, Victory, might be lost, or might be won 1885 *Harper's Mag.* April 819/2 He has now fallen in the arms of victory

d. Used interjectionally as an expression of triumph or encouragement. (Cf Victoria 1 i)

1591 Shakes. 1 *Hen VI*, IV vi 1 Saint George, and Victory; fight Soulders, Saint George, and Victory 1593 — 3 *Hen VI*, v 1, 23 Lords to the field Saint George and Victorie 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxxvii. 479 The day of a believer's death is better than the day of his birth. Never till then, do we put off our armour, sheath our sword, and cry victory, victory 1817 Shelley *Rev Islam* v Song vi, Victory. Victory to the prostrate world! 1821 — *Hellas* 948 Victory! Victory! Russia's famished eagles Dare not to prey beneath the crescent's light.

2 An instance or occasion of overcoming an adversary in battle, etc, a triumph gained by force of arms

*Cadmean, Pyrrhic victory* see those words. *Moral victory* see Moral *a.* 7 *c.*

13 *Sir Beues* (A) 2500 Ofte he þankede þe king in glori Of is grace & is victorie a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii. 15 A bedel, þat efter þe victory cries hat all be land is þe victorie, *c*1385 Chaucer *L G W* Prol 72 These olde aperoode storyis Of bataylis of regnys, of victoryis, Of loue, of hate [etc.] *c*1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 Lyke for Dauyd after his victory Reyoysyed whan alle Jerusalem 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* 33 The se, [labour of Hercules] is the gret victorie of the beste Achilides, that blewe out fyre at his mouth 1598 Dunbar *Poems* vii 66 At parliament þow auld fule renownit I hat did so mony victoryse opleyn 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 211 Let vs choose vnto vs a head, to leade direct, and gouerne vs such without a head, there is no victorie to be looked for 1601 Chester *Love's Mart* 31 His Victory was dying in warres a Conqueror, And wondrous happie in his Victories. 1659 B Harris *Parival's Iron Age* 53 Where, after they have been repulsed or routed they have rallyed and carried away many glorious victories 1769 Robertson *Chas V* III 125 The victory at Villalar proved as decisive as it was complete. 1815 *Morning Chron* 22 June We stop the press to announce the most brilliant and complete Victory ever obtained by the Duke of Wellington 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng* (1858) I ii. 90 The victory was great, but like many victories it was fatal to the conquerors.

3 Supremacy or superiority, triumph or ultimate success, in any contest, struggle, or enterprise

a. With *the*, or in pl., etc.

13 *Lay Food* (1872) 88 Mak þis in þine armes forþi, þan sal þou haue þe victori *a*1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxvi 6 I hope be victory thoro his help 1377 Langl. *P Pl B.* xiii 160 Ac what Salamon seith in 'sapiencia' bokes, it hat biȝ þat þise thinges þe vn tone wyunnit 14 *Iundalet's Vis* 88 Who n [ic martyrs] Cryst Ieus eternally in glory Ordeyned hath a palme of his victorie 1526 Tindale 1 *Tohn* v 4 This is the victory that ouer commeth the worlde, euen oure fayth 1573–80 Harlew *Lett* Wks. (Grosart) I 236 From my chamber the days of my victorye 1590 Shakes. *Com. Err.* v 1 *Ant.* Why so, my Lord, it is not meet the firstl victorie of all truth 1639 ] Taylor (Water P.) *Part. Summers Travels* 33 (Hindley, III) The cooks hath had small l-les of mutton, which you may prevaile With stomach & knife and spoon With these, the victory you cannot fail 1683 Norris *Passion of Saviour* 130 Thus little V ctory His won, Shew'd what He could have done. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 164 Observe, if he disdains to yield the Prize Of Loss im patient, proud of Vi tories. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 398 But I hope I have got the Victory over my self 1779 Burke *Corr* (1844) II 273 We have obtained two victories, victories not over our adversaries, but over our own passions and prejudices. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi II 74 The victory of the cabal of evil counsellors was there fore complete 1876 Morley *Voltaire* v (ed 2) 189 The victory over the terror of death, in self devotion pro duce the highest state of mind.

b Without article

*c*1325 Shoreham *Vit* 407 Hyȝt moste neades be ȝyfore, Ellis bedde y bydde victorye 1340 *Ayenb* 165 Wyþ oute pacience nou ne hyt victorie 1382 Wyclif *1 Cor* xv 57 Victorie and worshipe shal [he] purchace, that ȝeueth ȝiftis *a*1450 *Knt de la Tour* vii (1868) 20 And that fayt is to make your self victorious ayeyn your fleesshe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxvii 27 All honour we this Lord with glory, That wan on tre tremphe of he victory 1592 Shake. *Rom & Jul.* III i 106 The mues haue got small victories by that For it was bad inough before their spight 1603 Bacon *Adv Learn* I v § 11 Men have entered into a desire of learning and knowledge, sometimes upon fashion and contradiction 1667 Milton *P L* XII 570 That suffering for I truths sake Is fortitude to highest victorie 1792 Gouv Morris *Diary & Lett* (1832) II 267 He has gained no victory but over his own conscience 1820 Scott *A M I erth* xxxii, 'There is neither victory nor defeat in the case, returned the Prince, drily. 'The girl loves me not 1855 T Miller *Land. Harv.* xi (1856) 150 Thus The daughter of Antæus is placed at the goal, as the prize of victory

4. The Roman goddess representing or typifying victory, a figure or statue of this

1569 Spenser *Sonn.*, 'I saw vnaside th'on pillers' On eche side portraade was a victorie With golden wings 1589 T Warner *Albions Eng* v xxx 116 b, Without it [the chariot] was Victory sitting with two wings. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit* 95 Indeed by this very same portraiture I haveseen the goddesse Victorie expressed 1709 Hearne *Duct Hist Lit* (1711) I 32 The Sepulchral Monument of one Tatius at Sipylus whose Tomb was adorned with Wreaths of Plenty held up by Victories. 1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* xlv IV 144 Crowned with a winged figure of Victory 1820 Shelley *Naples* 60 Bright Altar of the bloodless sacrifice, Which armed Victory offers up unstained To Love, the Reconciler 1824 Miss Taucherey *Sir Fran. Varney* 63 Statues of plaster representing victories, and other female personages painted in oil so as to represent marble 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 20 Sudden golden lettering, down their statue of Victory fell. 1872 Mrad *Sir Greb Ernt* vi *Electrotype first Miss* 6 Above is a flying Victory, crown ing the bell with a wreath.

5 *attrib* and *comb*, as *victory-anthem, flashing* adj, *-match, -worthy* adj

1558 Hulsot Victory worthy *palmarines* 1709 *The Post Boy* 1 3 Dec., The Victory Handkerchief, which gives account of five most Glorious Victories over the French 1769 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* 70 A cricket match was played at Swaffham (being the victory match) 1800 Shelley *Liberty* v. Let all the victory flashing scene Be shut 1865 W P Mackay *Grace & Truth* (1875) 122 After we have joyfully sung the victory-anthem recorded in Romans viii

**†Victory,** *v. Obs. rare* [ad. OF *victorier* or med L *victoriare*, f. *victoria* victory] = prec.

**Victorious** *a.* [f. *victory* + *-ous*, after OF *victorieux*, med L *victoriosus*] Of persons, conquering, victorious

*a*1450 Hardino *Chron* clxxxvii. 12, Greate sykenesse so hold hym victoried And droue hym out from all his region 1536 Bedingfield tr *Cardanus Comf* 45 b, If he had been victorious, here could haue left to Alexander meanes and power of high prosperity.

**Victoriously,** *a* [1888.] Lacking victory.

1890 *Pall Mall Budg Lay Lit* II xvii 100 Helt is then described, as she is, as ordynyt hyr pars out rydere, Par wtale to be house to by *c*1400 *Pewaine & Gaw* 1873 Syr Alex., with swith grete force wente to the kastel to assay 1489 *Act 3 Hen VII*, *c* ix. 8 That every freman may lede carie, and goo, with his or their Vetaile, Ware or merchaundise *a*1500 *Berthe* (E E T S) 1 10 Geff thow hase to sel wetale in gret substance, Se be na way na derth þat thou desyre.

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 4376 In þat prouyns is plenty all of prise vetell, Of corne, & of cattell 1472 *Presentmts of Juries in Surtees Misc* (1890) 53 We say yt yer have bought of late . . . unseasonably yt wetyl, yt is to say, Otes & berrynge, Iohan Symth & Iohn Clyffe. *Ibid.* 57 For bryngyng in of wetell for the welfare of combons. *c* 1475 Henryson *Fables Two Mice* 101 (Bann. MS.), Their harbery was tane in till a spens with vitall of gret plenté 1513–4 *Act 5 Hen VIII*, *c.* 6 The great scarcyte of grayne and vytell at this present tyme. 1532 in Bulloch *Synonyms* (1889) 61 The berne of sale . . . and all wher with borne be the Romains. 1538 Starkey *England* i iii 74 In so much that vytel and nuryschment suffycyent for them can skant here be found 1570 Lavins *Manip* 13 Vitall, *penus, victus*

*b c* 1480 *Wyntoun's Cron.* 1 564 (MS. E), Within þat ile ar cetels ten Stuffit with wittall gud and men 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 108 They schall facke no men nor vetell 1490 *Act Ld High Treas Scot* I 247 For a bayte that carett the wrychis and thar wyttell to the loche, *v r* 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 41 Twise a day giue him fresh vittle and drinke 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy Launch* (Hakl.

Soc] 88 The iland Zante hathe all theire provition of victuall from thence *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 355 Th' Heav nly Herald sees there the Brethren lyyng Along the Grasse, and buske at their Victle. 1665 Butler *Hud.* I. 1 316 For, as we said, he always chose To carry Victle in his Hose 1723 Swift *Stella at Woodpark* Wks. 1755 IV 140, I must confess, your wine and victle I was too hard upon a little 1798 Mary Leapor *Poems upon Occasions* 124 When you gather Strength a little, Can walk abroad and eat your Victle. 1799 Burns *Robin shure in Hazerst* IV, Robin prov mued me A' my winter victle. 1847- in dial glossaries, etc. (Wore., Hereford, Shropsh, Warw., Glos., Dorset) in the form *Attle* 1881 *Gd. Words* 846/1 It's a pity as you've no victle to offer a stranger.

*c.* 1593 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) I 39 The Frenche men lye yn wayte to destroye the Conductours of our victuayle. 1595-6 in *Hedsor Par. Misc.* (1844) 71 To hinder the victuall from comeing to Edinburgh 1870-6 W Lambarde *Perambl Kent* 230 Devouring and consuming the victuall of the countrey 1603 Knolles *Hist Turks* (1621) 1247 Germanicus hath spent in three moneths victuall into Hust in Transylvania 1627 Bacon *Nehm & Ayle* § 649 The Making of Things Inalimental, to become Alimental, may be an Experiment of great Profit, for Making new Victual 1681 H Neville *Plato Redit* 92 The cheapness of Victual and the want of Labourers. 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 60 It might seem to prohibit the buying of grain and other victual 1827 Byron *Beppo* xxix, And Laura waited long, and wept a little, She almost lost all appetite for victual 1829 Southey *Nav. Hist* (1830) I. 111 A refreshment room, with drinks and cakes and pastry, but no substantial victual 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 201 A far hard youth, that in his hand Bare victual for the mowers

† **b** Produce of the ground capable of being used as food *Obs*

*White victual* (quot 1709). = next.

*c* 1372 Chaucer *Pardoner's T.* 37 Ther as vitayle is ek so skars and thinne Pat nat but mast or apples is ther inne *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 3 Ther is at the West side of Vitalie A lusty plaine habindant of vitaille 1628 Bacon *Eng., Translation* (Arb.) 531 Sallets, when Victuall, when Victuall, Exculent Things there are, which grow speedily, and within the yeere 1829 May *Lucan* IV 99 Nor can the souldiers goe To forrage the drowned fields with victuall, which That victuall quhere they please 1678 Sir G Mackenzie *Crt o Lamw Scot* v xxiv § 3 (1699) 117 Usurys is that Crime committed in Bargains of Victuals or Taxes. *Ibid* v xxv § 211 A landed man, whose Rent exceeds a thousand Merks, or ten Chalders of Victual 1726 P Walker *Life A Peden in Biog Presbyt* (1827) I 53 He engrossed at Borthwick Steil, if she wanted a Servant for threshing Victual? 1785 Burns *3rd Ep st to Lapraik* vi, I [will] a the vittle (be] in the yaird, An theekit right bien 1793 Robertson *Agric Lerth* 190 In drying on the iron floor, the victual must be constantly turned 1812 G Chalmers *Dom. Econ Gt Brit* 262 I hough neither the wool nor the price of victual were equal to those of the times of queen Anne 1820 Galt *Sir A Wylie* xiii, He has been very kind to the poor, having divided five load of victual among a' the poor o' the parish 1843 *Report Tedburgh Chirkee Trust* 8 A portion of that corn or victual, ground at the mills, which is kept by the miller

† **d** (See quot.) *Obs* —0

1688 R Holme *Armoury* II 241/1 *Victell, or Viande*, the term for Hawks meat

**2** *pl.* Articles of food, supplies, or various kinds of provisions, in later use *esp.* articles of ordinary diet prepared for use

*a* 13 *K Alis* 855 (Laud MS.), And Olyfauntz & ek Camayles, Bobe hij charged wip vitailes. *a* 1350 *Will Palerne* 1121 Wel pei were warnestured of vitayles i now, plentiously for al peple 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 161 Whanne derbe of vitailles is in al Engeland aboute pere is be lasse i soile. *c* 1444 Lydg in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 220 To chese suych victuayle whych ys nedefull for mannys lyfe Caxton *Faytes of A* II. xxx 142 Cartes shal folowe for to bryng and arryse the vitailles fro the shippes. *a* 1533 Lo Berners *Huon* lii 173 Thou shalt fynde all in to ye shyp, & ye tayiles sufficyent. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 77 The vytayles (especially the byskette breade) corrupted by takynge water 1598 Br W Barlow *Dial Nav.* Ii. 40 Among Famine and Dearth of victuails is not the least 1607 Dekker & Webster *Sir P Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III 103 Good victuales makes good blood. 1608 T. C. *Tomkis' Wisdom* (1671) 85 Which I paide, Because they should not think I came to sharke Only for vittailes.

*b.* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XV 92 Schir Edward gert men gang and se All the vitaile of that cite. *c* 1445 Wyntoun *Cron* VIII 5097 [He] Saw his victaila war nere gane, And hop of reskew had he nane. 1453-4 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) I 280 That al maner victelleres shulde have bene arrested by har bodys that bylnn of them any vitalia. 1538 Coverdale *Pr* cxxxi 15, I will blesse hir vytales with increase, & will satisfie hir poore with bred 1547 Boorde *Introd, Knowl.* ii (1870) 127 In the whych is vsed good fashion and good vytailes. 1578 G Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 97 Myne miserable Mistriss is oftentymes driven very harde for her vittales and lodginge

† *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1195 He garte dele his vetells then Firste amanges oure wondied men 1401 in Ellis *Orig Lett Ser* ii I 55 We fayiyth vitels and men. *Ibid* 56 They mowe have godes and fytelles plente. *c* 1480 J Kay in *Camerale's Siege of Rhodes* p 5 Also they lakked vytalles. 1510 *Sel. Cases Crt. Star Chamber* (Seldon) 103 So he toke fro many pore men their vitals to ther grete hurte. 1546 Brinklow *Compl* ii 23 In London and other places ther be many offended with the great price of vitells. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakl Soc 8) We could not gitt any vitels. *Ibid* 86 We ever had vitals reddie dreste for 3 dayes

† 1554-9 *Songs & Ball Phil & Mary* (Roxb.) 12 And deer chepse of vitels withe the thowe hast brought Io the towne 1556 *Chron Gr Friars* (Camden) 46 With plate, monny, harnes, horse, & wettelles 1573-80 Tusser *Hush* (1878) 98 To thy sheepe go and looke, for dogs will haue vittles. 1606 *Sir G. Gosscappe* I, Good companions yfaith I see you come not for vittles. 1622 in Foster *Engl factories Ind.* (1906) I 271 Wee had great store of fresh victles. *c* 1645 *Fuller Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 27 One John Head who pretended to fetch vittells out of the Country 1656 *Mouthfull Newes* 7 VII In We saw vast Provision of Vittles and Ammunition 1732 § Swift *Pol Conversat* 112, I would rather want Vittles than Elbow Room 1838 Jas. Grant *Sk Londn* I 178 You know that no one can live well without vittals, and I have not had a mouthful since yester day 1844 Dickens *Mart Chuz.* ix Dinner was announced by Betsey punctual to the time — The vittles is up! 1849 'Q (Quiller Couch) *Ante Three Ships* vi 106 And so say I, wi all these vittles cryin out to be ate

*c* 1593 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) I 39 As for victuayles in our ways we shall be sure none to fynde 1660 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 452 b, The Frenche men, to the intent they might have victuailes in a readines [etc.] 1667 Milton *P L* IV 41 2 That neither victuals nor supply of men May come to succour this accursed towne 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 422 Great store of victuals and munition necessary 1618 in Foster *Engl factories Ind* (1906) I 45 When the Bannyans sayle by it they heave victuals overboard as a sacrifice *a* 1687 Petty *Pol Arith* (1690) 20 The Wages of a Labourer is 1*s* per week without Victuals. 1727 Swift *Gulliver* I vi, I had three hundred cooks to dress my victuals. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) II 299 The surrounding animals began to dispute about their victuals, although they were given more than they could use 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng Philos* I 56 She once lost a salt spoon by one of them, whom Master Gilbert was forced to bring to her chamber with victuals 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 218 It seems to me a very odd proceeding for a town to lay a tax on the persons who bring it victuals 1847 Emerson *Repr Men* (1876) 24 These are stocking the hall in the best hangings , cooking of victuals, broaching of casks,

† **b** *Medicine of victuals*, = the victualler of Calais (see Victualler 2 a *note*) *Obs*

*c* 1570 R Turpyn in *Chron Calais* (Camden) Introd 18 Havinge ther another offyce of the Quenes Majesty called by the name of Clarke of the Victuals

† **c.** *absol.* = engaged in eating *Obs*

1681 H Foulis *Hist Romish Treasons* 40 Books read to him whilst he was at Victuals.

† **3** *pl.* **a.** Animals serving for food *Obs*

*c* 1550 *Disc Husbandm Weed* ii (1893) 60 The more husbandrie is occupied the more vniversall brede should be of all victuall, as of neate, sheepe, swyne, geese, egges, butter, and cheese 1562 *Pore s Kete* 104 The Page nuts were amazing shy and night at Westminster, and vitailes killed which afterwards was cast away

† **b** Military stores , munitions of war *Obs*

1563 H Cooper in *Strype Grindal* (1710) 70 Moreover he added, that they had great abundance of Victuals, amongst the which there were 12 Bamiska.

**4.** An article of food *rare*

1598 Br Watson *Sch Slander* IX 50 This heauenly foode is a strong vitale, making vs able to endure the pain ful sorrey to the kingdome of heauen 1829 *Carlyle Mscr., Germany* (1869) I 50 Like Germany, it is a country instead of a measurable and suffcable spacing of theatric matter, have in fact nothing else to live on but that highly unnutritive victual.

**5.** *attrib* and *Comb.* (chiefly *Sc.*), as *victualdealer, -house, land, male, -merchant, office, rent, -scanting* adj., *silver, stipend, waim.*

1496 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 310 Giffin to the skippar of the schip for lonk Gherardis mennis fraucht and victuall vitaillyng 1597 *Balfour Practicks* (1754) 105 The victuall silver 1809 Nashe *Christ's T* Wks (Grosart) IV 95 If there were any that had repining victual scanting Masters yrannous dealing for their worke. 1600 *Rec Mag Sug Scot* (1890) 354/2 Pro preservatione navium contra tempestates et *his victuell houss* 1668 in *Exte St P el Personall Rights* (1905) 1 Victuall Office 105 The female expying his time when and how she may come to the Lawier or Victuallouse 1790 in *Reg Mag Sig Scot* (1892) 90/2 In victuall land mentis of Dalrumpill 1815 Scott *Rob Roy* xxiii, There was no knowing how long he might stay, in the next terrible year 1898 *Daily News* 28 *Dole White Company* xix, The rogue got between me and the nearest French victual wain

**Victualage** (vi'tl'j), *sb.* Forms *a.* 4–5 **vitaile** (5 **-aille**), 4–6 **vitayle**, **-aylle**, 6 **vitall**, 4–5 **vet-ayle**, 5 **-aille**; 4 **vytaile** (5 **-aille**), 4–6 **vytaylle**, 5 **ayle**; 4–7 **vitaille** (6 *Sc* **victaile**), 6 **vyttayle**, **vittaill**- (*Sc.* **victaill**) *β.* 5 *Sc* **vitt-**, **wittale**, 5–6 **victale** (5 **vytalo**) *γ* 4 **vitele**, 5–6 **vitel**, 5 **veiele**, 5–6 **vitell-**; 5 **vytel**, 6 **-ell**, 5 **vitule**, **-ale**. *δ* 5 **victell**, 6 **vitt-**, **vyttell**. 5 *Sc* **wittule**, 6 *Sc.* **wittall**, **wictill**; 5 **vitle**, 6–7 **vittle** (7 **victle**) *ε.* 6–7 **victuale** (6 *Sc.* **victuall**), 6–8 **victuall** (6 *Sc.* **wictwall**), 6– **victual** (7 **victu'l**) [ad. AF. and OF. *vitaille* (also OF. *vit-*, *victuaille*), f. *vitaille* **victual** *sb* Cf. *Sp vituallar*, Pg. *vitualhar*, It. *vettovagliare* ]

1 *trans* To supply or furnish (a ship, castle, garrison, body of troops, etc ) with victuals, esp with a store to last for some time.

*a.* 13 *Coer de L* 1382 Two hundred schyppys ben wel vytailed, With force hawbekys, swerdes and knyvys 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III 339 For thaim thocht that mycht sekyrly Duell thar quhill thar war victaillit weile 1390 Gower *Conf* I 194 I charge yvu and bidde it us That in the same Schip vitaile *c* 1450 *Pryd* lx 468 That Towne and the Castelle weren welle vitailid and eke manuyd 1472 *Paston Lett* Suppl 143 Thei stuffe and vetaill nore the place 1485 in 10th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* Appx V 318 That no man victaile, nor make to be victailed none of the saide men of warre 1523 4 R Grufvthe in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser 1 I 193 They have vaylde at d victualled the Kyng's enymyes. 1553 Brende Q *Curtius* D vij So great an army as he had could not be vitailed in a desolate country

*β* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV 63 The castell well vittailit that With met, and fwail can purvay 1473 Warkw *Chron* (Camden) 2 Certeyne castelles whiche they hade vytaled *c* 1500 M Ninny *Arch* xii 20 Ihai sekit pece, for alsmekle that thure cuntrees war vitaill of hum

*γ* *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 274 He were 3it more traitour, for he letide ofere hym to vitele hem then enemyes. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 4710 At this tenydon truly was a tried castell Wele vitaild, I wisse for wintars 3nogbe. *c* 1450 *Merl's Prophsd* 205 When he had vytelid his shippis, and made hym ryed 1488 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 109 Thaye have vetellyd and manny'd the town of Ary *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* lii 203 It was impreygnable so it were well vytelid 1534 in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) (Seldden) II 290 They may always vitaile there townes castelles and fortresses with suche playnte of vitailes 1550 J Cooke *Eng & Fr Heroicles* § 35 Richard destroyed the Citie of the Egiptians commynge to vytell the Soldane in Jerusalem

*δ* *c* 1445 Wyntoun *Cron.* II 1580 (Cott. MS.), I neas gert twa schyp pe be Wittild wele and manyd 1496 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 129 Eftir at the Kingis schip wes chayst in Dumbertrne, send with Johne of Hwe to wittill hir, xviij li. 1555 Bradford in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III App. xlv 129 For we have the more to do to vyttell us, we shall have powre to rule England 1587 Harrison *England* II i (1877) I 6 The king commaded the Londoners not to send victuell to Dublin 1613 Davies (Heref.) in Coryat *Crudities* I. 3 He his Gorge with Capons did vittle 1670 Milton *Hist Eng* II Wks 1851 V 248 New Ships in every Port were builded, vittl'd and appointed to meet all at Sandwich

*ε* 1558 Br Watson *Sect Sacrum* Ser 1 3 The fift thing is when ane ministre is installed : then he is to provide for the forward 1583 Stocker *Cit Warres Lovve* C iii 97† Letters from the Prince aduertising them that he hee meant the night following to victuall them. 1598 Bacon *Nav Medit, Miscellan Tracts* (1638) 11 [Tunis] moreouer did the scarsitie of a few loues and fishes to a sufficiency to victuale an hoste of people 1640 Earl *Annie in Gr* 1 B 9 A Leaguer cannot be shutt vp, but the Towne will be munita nd with a small nagazine 1670 R Coke *Disc Trade* 34 Before the Act we could Victual Ships with good and substantial Food cheaper then the Dutch 1708 *Lex Latter* No 28 p 5 These dangerous Captains who could victual an Army as well as lead it 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 196 The very large extent of Russia which requires a great many more ships to be victualled out now than formerly 1777 Robertson *Hist Amer* II (1795) I 160 This spot from was well suited to victual ships. 1800 Wellington in *Gurw Disp* (1837) I 265, I have also written requiring the reason for which he did not victual this corps as I ordered 1838 Marryat *Phantom Ship* xvi Jack pushed his way through the crowd, and being recruited, insisted to be victualled 1865 H Phillips *Amer Paper Curr* II 84 By unscrupulous foraging the troops were victualled from day to day

*fig* 1598 Beaumont *Lyche* XII 189 They who with all riotous Dainties strive To fortify the Belly, but can finde No time to victuall and enforce their Soules. 1670 Bendlo

*b refl* To provide or stock (oneself) with victuals

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 75 They vytaile[d] them selues with fresshe meate. 1570 in Feuilleral *Accts Q Eliz* (1908) 163 Expences in victuelling him selfe & his fellows. 1622 Selden *Illustr Drayt* ni *Polyolb* IX 326 I hewelin compeld the English campe to victuall them selves with horse flesh 1630 in *Lisle Letters* (1890) III 15 If they could get Provisions to victual themselves with 1768 in Kitson *Life Yas Cook* xl. (1907) 90, £120 a year for victualling himself and boy 1776 *Gentleman's Mag* 81 We will do wisely to victual himself for at least three days. 1887 *Field* 24 Dec. 973/1 To see that the crew properly victual themselves.

2 *intr* In. To partake of victuals, to eat Also of animals, to feed or pasture

1577 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 187 At meales my friend who vitleth here, Shall both be sure of better chere, and skape with lesser care 1587 *Flower Fr Garden* 17 Then euery man at boorde Had vittled well, and all was whiste. 1620 Markie tr *Alemen's Guzman d'Alf* 1 38 In houses, where men vittle vpon this way, a man shall not haue foure times with a bare couple of Hens. 1820 Byron *Juan* III xlviii As a bell wether [will] form the flock s connection By tinkling sounds, when they go forth to victual 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D* ix, Soon we found Peggy and Smiler (the horses) in company, victualling where the grass was good

b To lay in or obtain a supply of victuals

1615 Chapman *Odyss* III 418 When he (there victling well, and store of gold Aboard his ships brought) his wild way did hold 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II 322 Others [say] that he hath only victualled or taken in fresh water in those partes and is gone southward *a* 1687 Petty *Pol Arith.* (ed. 1691) 61 Because the French cannot Victual so cheap as the English, and Dutch, nor Sail with so few Hands 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No 4582 3 Men belonging to Ships which are Cleaning, Refitting, or Victualling at the Ports. 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 56 Which was a voyage of such a length, that no ship could victual for

Hence **Victualled** *ppl a*

1845 KINGSLEY *Westw Ho!* xxxii, Some five and twenty of the soundest and best victualled ships.

**Victualage.** *rare* [f. VICTUAL *sb*] Victualling, victuals

1622 MABBE tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf* II 343, I imployed all that little money that I had, in matters of victuallage. 1847 C BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xvii, I could not proceed to the schoolroom without running the risk of being sur prised with my cargo of victuallage

**Victualler** (vi·tlər). Forms α 4 vit-, 4, 6 vittailler, 5–6 vitailer (6 vict-), 6 vi(c)tayler (vict ), 4 vytail(l)er, 5–6 vytayler (6 ayller), 6 viteillour, vitaylour, vittaillor β 4, 6 viteler, 5–6 vitteller, 5 vital(l)er, vitalar, ver, vituller, 5 veteler, 6 eller, -ular, 5 vytalere, 6 vytteller γ 5 vittaler, 6 alar, victaller, 5 vitteleur, 5–6 vitteler (6 wer, wyttelier), 5–7 vitler, 6 vittler δ 5– victualler (7 -aller), 6–7 (9) victualer, 6 victualar, 7 vict'lar [n. AF. and OF *vitaill,i)er, vitailleur* (OF also *vit ailleur, vit-, victuailleur*), † *vitaille* VICTUAL *sb*]

1 A purveyor of victuals or provisions, *spec* one who makes a business of providing food and drink for payment, a keeper of an eating-house, inn, or tavern, a victualler (cf b)

Also *spec* (in local trade use), a butcher

α 1377 LANGL. *P Pl* B II 60 Forgoeres and vitailers and vokates of pe arches. 1386 *Rolls of Parli* III 226/1 While victuallers, be suffe-ssence remains thulke statute upon hem 1453-4 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 273 Al maner of victeloures, as wel deysynzes as foreyns. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c 13, Here bee noted bakers whiche become comon vitaylers 1550 ] CORE *Eng & Ire Herald's* § 133 I o robbe the marchaunites of Englande, lykewyse pore vytaylers and fysshermen of all nacions. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Caupo*, a huckster, a victualer, a victayler

β c1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 153 Hot men of lawe and mychaunts and chapmen, and viteleres, synnen more in avarice pen done pore beggeris. 1393 *Langtoft Chron* II 425 We commanded pat no vitaler passe out of the Cite of Couentre for to by fische, ne non other vitayle comyng toward the Cite. 1422 STIL. YTYLMAN *Dialogue Victuarius* 1477 *Rolls of Parli* VI 186/1 Every Merchaunt Alien, and every other Vitaler, and other Straunger 1534 *Presentments of Surrey Archæol Collect* (1899) 32 That no vetteller, nor other man, herber no begers nor vaca bundys 1539-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 (1551) C v, Bere bruers and bakers, whiche bene comon vitelers. 1596 *Canon Gr. Friars* (Camden) 72 Every vitteler to selle as they wolde and had done before.

*transf* 1430 Lydg *St Giles* 109 [The hind] Of god provided to be thy vitteleer, With a repaast of hyr mylk moost soote.

γ 1389 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 408 That no maner vitteller pay eny thynge for the occupacion of the kynges Horde 1523 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 400 Common vittlers and hostlers. 1530 in W H Turner *Select Rec Oxford* (1880) 89 Other vittlers and artyficers yn Oxford. 1573 in Feuilleriat *Revels Q Eliz* (1908) 227 The vitteller at Reading for the dyet of sundry persons. 1599 BARTON *Mores ant Manilius* Wks (Grosart) II 372 I had sent away this olde vitler with more crownes then shee was mistresse of many a day before 1600 in ROWLANDS *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc) 145 The vitlers poasts all chalk'd with scores.

δ 1568 CRAFTON *Chron.* 1568 The Vitelers Brewers, and other vitlers of the City 1592 GREENE *Groats W Wit* (1617) 34 Let not Tauerners and Victuallers bee thy Executors. 1614 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Sculler, Arbour Diu* 89, The vintner and the victlar get most gaines From dayly drunkards, and distempred braines 1642 *Ord. & Declar Both Houses' Lords Spir* 9 Any other Victuller or Victualler whatsoever within your Ward 1699 *Poor Man's Plea* 19 We have as firm Laws in England as need to be compel the Victualler to sell a certain Measure of Drink, according and not otherwise 1794 *Lond & Country Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 79 This may be a benefit to a Victualler that brews to sell again, and cannot vent his small Beer. 1795 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 274 The several inn keepers and victuallers throughout the kingdom 1835 WILLIS *Pencil Ings* I 11 so I remained with Villa Franca, who is to be our victualler during the journey 1844 LD BROUGHAM *Brit Constit* xv (1862) 221 Making victuallers pay for a license to retail wines

b *Licensed victualler*, one who has a licence to sell food or drink, but esp the latter, to be consumed on the premises, a publican

1824 (*title*), The Licensed Victualler's Almanack and Tablet of General Information for 1825. 1841 DICKENS *Barn Rudge* xii, Believing that the publicans coupled with sinners in Holy Writ were veritable licensed victuallers 1878 E JENKINS *Haverbolme* 26 They are hardly governed by the abstract principle that a Licensed Victualler is a healthy institution, I suppose.

2. *spec* a. One who supplies, or undertakes to supply, an army or armed force with necessary provisions, † *pl* those engaged in bringing up victuals to an armed force.

Applied both to purveyors on a large scale, and to mere sutlers. † *Victualler of Calais* occurs as a special designation in the 15th century

α. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 3144 pe vytailers bay alto-hewe, & pe vytailles with hymself ladde. 1447 *Ordinances of Exchequer* 35 c. 62 (6) A v, Item for the tresourer of Calais, xl s. Item for the vytaylier of Calais, xxiiis s iiiid. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A* I xiii 35 Dyspensatours and vitaillers of the ost. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII. 450 The kynges hoost was plenteously vytaylled by ye Brabmynges and by other vytayllers. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 24 b, The duke of Vandosme toke his aduantage and set on the victaylers. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist* II. lxxxvii 104 With infinite vitaliers and followers of the campe

β, γ 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xiv 407 Thai rad till meit the vittelleris, That with ther wittale Com, haldand to the host the way *Ibid.* 429 Sum of thar mekill host has seyne Thair come, and wende weill thai had beyne I hair vitteleurs. 1436 SIR G HAYE *Law Arms* (S T S) 116 Playntis of the mais as to merchandis and vitalaris of the ost and otheris 1487 *Rolls of Parli* VI 407/1 William Rosse Esquier Vyttaler of the Towne of Calays and Marches of the same 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed 2) III 893/2 At last they met with a vittaller comming from the campe, which was their guide and brought them thither

δ 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist* IV xv 179 The victuallers and marchants [were] cut of 1601 LD MOUNTJOY in Mory son *Itin* (1617) II 200 The Victualer issues, but one pounde and a halfe of beefe *per diem*, to a souldier 1633 T STAFFORD *Irish Hist* II. ii (1821) 235 Although it seemeth to us by the Certificate of the Victualler, that you were better stored at your writing, then you have been 1640 *Hearne's Collect* 3 Which careful foresight nothing could hinder from being effected but the negligence of the Victuallers. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 39, 1 Charles II victualled his Navy, with the Bread which one of his Dogs chose, rather than trust to the Asseverations of the Victuallers. 1802 JAMES *Milit Dict. Artillery and Victualler* may be considered as synonimous terms as far as they relate to military matters.

*attrib* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III xvi (Roxb) 103/2 Things necessary for Armyes. Victualler sutlers.

b Those engaged in victualling a ship or navy with provisions. Also *agent victualler* (see quot. 1769).

In early use, one who undertook to provision a trading vessel in return for a share in the profits.

1432-50 *Gen. Cart. Scot.* (1909) I Pref 38 On half-penny gave the Cristofre, and therof Wolfe maister, and Sir Ramfray Arundell and Sir John Trerys Knyghtes owners and victallers 1623 WHITBOURNE *Newfoundland* 16 Those ships are victualled by their Owners, and Victuallers fourth of ships in those voyages. 1626 CAPT SMITH *Accid Eng Seamen* 35 The ship hath one third part, the Victualler the other two parts. 1646 *Ordinance* in *Rushw Coll* 1647 HAWARD *Cromwell Acc* 20 Victualer of the Navy Fee, li£58 0 0 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 18 The Victuallers Agent Victuallers Board 1769 *Equal Accountant* it will be needless to anumadvert thereon 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Agent Victualler*, an officer who is owned as a royal agent by the Commissioners of the king's ships, under the direction of the commissioners for victualling the navy 1796 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) I 81 Yeatly the great victualler, writes me that the supply he is now procuring will be the last and last, for the Port of Genoa will be shut 1809 R LANGFORD *Introd Trade* 101 Beg your victualler to get the beef properly salted 1834 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 1/1 To the Victualling establishment [at Malta] there is attached an agent victualler and clerks.

3 A ship employed to carry provisions for a fleet or squadron (or for troops over seas), a victualling ship.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist Ref* Wks 1846 I 216 Besydis the galayis, being twyse ty twa then in nomber thei had threscor great schippis, besydis victuallaris 1588 *Lopez Lond Disc trasses of the Spanish Navy* A iij b, They were in all, at their coming forth a hundred xxxv sayle wherevof foure were Gallaseas foure galleys, and six & thirtie great victallers. 1591 in Hen. *Ellis Orig Letters* (1846) I 63 To your last of the fleet you must add five victuallers and as many horse ships having only seamen in them 1668 *Lond. Gaz* No 283/3 All Masters Men of War and Victuallers 1709 by a proportionable number of Galliots, Advice Boats and Victuallers. 1712 E COOKE *Voy. to Sea* 454 A Dutch Squadron of Men of War and Victuallers 1748 *Anson's Voy* II ii 138 We never were joined by any other of our ships, except our Victualler, the Anna Pink 1760 *Acts Privy Council Colonial* V 80 He had under him with a convoy of store ships and victuallers to the island of Minorca 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I 145 There were now above two hundred victuallers, gun boats, and ships of war

4 *Sc* 'One who deals in grain, a corn factor' (*Jamieson*).

1808 JAMIESON

Hence **Vi ctuallership.**

1450 *Rolls of Parli* V 176/1 As in the vitelershipp of the Castell. 1481 *Ibid* VI 499/1 The Office of Vitelershipp of the forsaid Towne [Calais].

**Victualling** (vi·tlĭŋ), *vbl sb.* Forms (see VICTUAL *v*) [f VICTUAL *v*]

1 The action of providing or storing a ship, town, army, etc. (now esp. the Navy) with victuals

α 1462-3 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 313 For the victualing of the sayd citte 1462a *Paston Lett* II 102 My Lord Treasorer had put hym to a gret charge for the vetelyng of Harflu 1477 *Rolls of Parli* VI 186/1 Vytaylyng, ne vytayleth ne vytayle & fewell bought for vytaylyng of the said Ship 1544 *Stat Chamb Cases* (Selden) II 281 His highnes pro claimacion for the vittalyng of his highnes Toune of Calis 1570 B GOOGE *Pop Kingd* I. (1880) 15 b, Ihey looke vpon the tayling of Campes, when bloudie warres doe raigne 1606 J CLAPHAM *Hist Gt Brit* II i 11 179 By attaching some of the Inhabitants they became first acquainted with their manner of vittailing.

β 1509-10 *Act 1 Hen VIII* c 20 § 1 Victuale goyng oute of this your said Realme for the victualyng of your Towne of Calice 1555 SIR J WILLIAMS *Accompts* (Abbotsf Cl) 88 Towardes the victuallinge of his maiesties armyes then in Portyngale 1604 KNOLLES *Turk Hist* (1603) 1015 He commanded also the Prince to make prouision for the victualing of his campe 1650 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 68 It was become necessary for the victualling and setting forth your fleete 1705 *Lond Gaz* No. 4091/3 His Royal Highness has appointed Captain Thomas Harlow to be a Commissioner of the Victualling 1735 MAGENIS *Rec Innumences* I 169 The dear Victualling of the Ship in America. 1834 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VI 339/1 A Comptroller of the Victualling of the Navy and of the Transport Service. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* iii I 390 There men might learn how grossly the Navy Board had cheated the crown in the victualling of the fleet 1901 *Whitaker's Alm* 154 Admiralty Director of Victualling

b The business of supplying food and drink for payment, supply of food for this purpose.

1534 in Gross *Gild Merch* (1890) II 191 It ys enacted that no person nor persons shall exercise any vytelyng, lyyng or sellyng wythyn the seyd Town 1552 in 10th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 300 A comon house or ynne for victuallinge and lodginge of strangers 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 252, I keepe no victualling, yet is my house an Inne. 1892 *Harper's Pictorial Hist War* II 709 The average return saloon fare is £6 including very liberal victualling

2 A supply of food for personal use.

1532 *Acc Ld. High Treas. Scott* VI 119 To be in Edin burgh the v day of Januar with xxx dais wittaling 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 234, I have delyvered unto him money for two monethis wages victualling and al other thinges for that tyme necessary 1628 SYLVESTER *Letanie* 4, 7 They from these prepared had Each one his sev rall victualling, after his kind, he b, fruit and seed 1792 N CHIPMAN *Rep* (1872) 97 The prisoner should pay to the gaoler one shilling and sixpence per day for his victualing 1819 R ANDERSON *Cumbrid Ball* 112 Lets me whisper, 'twad be best, For victuals beanse to run

3 *attrib*, as *victualling bill, -board, -book,* † *booth,* † *cart,* † *cook, department* (also *transf*), *dry store, establishment, note, place, provisions, service, ship, society, yard.*

1795 *De Foe's Eng Tradesman* II (1841) I 41 From whence proceeded that black trade of buying and selling navy and victualling bills, and transport debts 1809 R LANGFORD *Introd Trade* 130 *Bills victualling*, bills issued by the Victualling Board, bearing interest, till they are paid 1846 A YOUNG *Naut Dict* 72 The master of any vessel outward bound has to apply to the searcher for a victualling bill, which is a warrant for the purchase of such victuals as may require. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk*, *victualling-bill*, a cash::m house document warranting the shipment of such bonded stores to the master of an outward bound merchantman may require for his intended voyage 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 13 Half an Hour after the Victualling Board broke up, I was sent for 1834-6 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 380/1 The Victualling Board consumes many hundred tons [of old hoops] annually for the service of the navy 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk*, † *victualling-boat*, a counterpart of the ship's orgen list, which is kept by the purser, to enable him to make the necessary entries in it 1588 *Kirk Sess Rec* (1887) VI 304 And †victuling boothes in plenitie were Where they sold meate, breid, cheese, and beere 1598 *Norwich Wills* (Surteen) I 134 One †victualling carte, a bord and a carte in the haie lath 1588 WITHALS *Dict* 41 b/1 A †victualling Cooke 1893 *Pall Mall Gaz* 3/2 To the eastward of Valletta are spacious stores for the †victualling department 1898 *Athletic World* 31 May 99/2 Mr. Cuthbert Swan will dribble on the chin Bass-ano then retaliated on the victualling department [stomach] 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 37 He was appointed to succeed Mr. Wilkinson in the Victualling Dry Stores. 1834 †Victualling establishment [see VICTUALLING 2 b]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, †*Victualling note*, an order given to a seaman in the Royal navy by the paymaster, when he joins a ship, which is handed in to the ship's steward as his authority for victualling the man 1867 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Aug., I bought I lay down my †victualling place 1st as long as he continued victualling, I shall be the better by him 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1852) II 837/2 He furnished himself also with cattle and other †victualling provisions 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 20 One had been in the †Victualling Service from a Boy 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 28 April Down the River to visit the †victualling ships 1721 *Brookshaw Gunner & Hardship at Sea* (title p) The loss of Seven large Iron ports and a Victualling Ship 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, †*victualling society*, a union or association of journeymen, &c. to supply themselves with meat and bread, &c at the lowest prices 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 48 The Timber sent into Portsmouth †Victualling yard was complained of 1846 A YOUNG *Naut Dict* 72 The victualling Yards for the Royal Navy, where provisions and similar stores are deposited

**Victualling-house.** [f prec.] A house where victuals are supplied or sold, an eating-house, inn, or tavern.

a 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov* 57 To see that no vitailyng house shoulde haue their doores open either before the sonne rysen or after the sonne set 1552 HULOET *Victuals* (Arb) 148 They determyned to buylde townes, that they myght bee baytinge places and vytaylynge houses for auoyde as shulde nonney lyenge 1568 WILLIAM *Rates Wines* 41 b/1 A vitellynge house, where meate is to be solde 1617 MORYSON *Itin* I 122 I tooke a chamber in a vitling house, in the Market place

b 1571 in 13th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App IV 2 I licenced to keep a victualinge house within the towne of Ry 1600-9 ROWLANDS *A mouse of Clubbes* 16 I'll be my castle for some three months while this house is mine, I'lauerne, rifle victualing house 1666 in *Fortr Sir P reyl Friends* II (1911) 146 I to keepe an Alehouse or Victualling house within your precincts 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* II 151 After dinner at a victualling house, I walked to Mr Dawson a. 1777 *Gentl Mag* VII 373/1 No License shall be granted to sell it by retail but to Publick Victualling Houses, Inns, Coffee Houses or Alehouses. 1842 *Act 5-6 Vict* c. 45 § 1 Any Act or Acts in force touching the Regulation of Victualling Houses. 1885 *Law Times* 4 Mar 389/2 A refreshment and victualling house on the Steep Holms, a rocky island in the Bristol Channel.

**Victualling-office.** [f as prec.] An office concerned with the victualling of ships, esp. of ships of the Royal Navy.

1668 *Extr M P reyl Friends* III (1912) 278 The Place was originally called Maison de dieu, but now his Majesties victualling office in this Port is seated there 1910 C. SHADWELL *Four Quarter Deal* L. 9 We pry into the Rogueries of the Victualling Office 1757 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 48 The Advocates of Portsmouth Victual ling Office are employed in extra Hours. 1791 *Engineer's Gauntlet* s.v. *Dover*, The courts of chancery, admiralty, &c relating to them all, are kept in St. James's Ch., and here are a custom house and victualling-office. 1897 SCOTT *Chron Cannongate* III, Now, my wife had keept a victualling office.

1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1843) VI 350 The Victualling Office at Plymouth ..is now brought almost into juxta-position with it [*sc* the Dockyard].

b. *Boxing slang.* The stomach.

1752 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic* c. He . found it impracticable to smite his antagonist upon the victualling office. 1788 GROSE *Dict Vulg. Tongue* s v 1800 *Sporting Mag.* I 7 So Spring put in a heavy claim on his opponent's victualling office

‖ **Vicuña** (vikū'nă), **vicu'na.** Forms: *a.* 7 beounia, 7- vicuna, 8–9 vicunna, 9 va-, vecuna, vicugna, vicunnia, 9– vicuña. *β.* 7 vicugne, 9 vicuane. [*a.* Sp. *vicuña* (Pg *vicunha*), the Quichuan name of the animal. See also VIGOGNE, VIGONE, and VIGONIA.]

1. A South American animal (*Auchenia vicunna*), closely related to the llama and alpaca, inhabiting the higher portions of the northern Andes and yielding a fine silky wool used for textile fabrics.

a 1622 R HAWKINS *Voy S Sea* 47 It may be surmised, that it is as that of the Becuna, and other Beasts, which breed the Beazer stone 1661 LOVELL *Hist Anim & Min.* 28 I he beast is about the bigness and likeness of a Stagg Their hair is said also to be good: *sc* Of the called Vicunas 1704 *Collect Voy* (Churchill) III 11/2 The Wild Goats are numerous; they are call'd Vicunna s 1748 *Anson s Voy* I vi 68 There are in all parts of this country a good number of Vicunnas or Peruvian sheep. 1771 tr *Pernety's Voy Malouine Isl* (1773) 289 Several of our people went a shooting and saw some Vicunnas. 1805 LUCOCK *Nat. Wool* 14 We allude particularly to the camel, and the dromedary, in the East, and the vicuna in South America 1849 PERCIVOT *Peru* (1850) II 100 His dress was composed of the wool of the vicuña wrought into mantles, so fine that it had the appearance of silk. 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 598/1 The vicugna is a much rarer animal than the alpaca. 1894 LOUDON *Roy Nat Hist* II. 413 During the wet season of the year the vicunas seek the highest ridges of the Cordillera.

β 1604 E [QUEENSTON] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xi 316 Amongst the most remarkable things at the Indies of Peru, be the Vicugnes, and sheep of the countrie, as they call them. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 732 The Vicugne somewhat resembleth a Goat, but is greater *c* 1806 *Acc Viceroyalty Buenos Ayres* 21 *note*, There is also a wild species of the pacos, called vicunes

2 *ellipt.* Vicuña cloth; also, a garment made of this.

1851 *Catal Gt. Exhib* 491/1 Ponchos —Plain and brocade, striped: aravenna, Vicunas 1853 *Household Words* 24 Sept 76/2 Those serviceable thick coats are transformed into alpacas, vicunas, ponchos, and siphonias. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept 3/3 A dress of cigar brown vicugna 1887 *Standard* 15 Sept 2/1 A black diagonal vicuna has been introduced as a jacket cloth.

3. *attrib* and *Comb.*, as *vicuña-fur, -hunter, -skin*; vicuña-cloth, cloth made of vicuña-wool (hence ellipt. *vicuña-costume*); vicuña-wool, (*a*) wool or fur of the vicuña, (*b*) a mixture of fine wool and cotton.

1851 *Catal Gt Exhib* 490/1 Union cloth *Vicuna cloth 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict Needlew* 515/1 Vicuna cloth is employed as a dress material, and is very soft in texture. 1889 *Daily News* 19 Sept 2/6 Vicuna cloth is now in favour for dresses just now 1884 *Cassell's Fam Mag* Oct. 697/2 The standing figure wears a pale brown *vicuna costume 1892 *Catal Fall Exhib* 487/1 *Vicuna fur, with woollen back 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv Bark* 125 I his ed us down into a valley, where I parted with my young *vicuña hunter 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVIII 298/2 The finest [ponchos] are made of *vicuña skins 1804 *Gentl Mag* Nov 1059 On board were 20 sacks of *Vicuna [*swipe* Vienna] wool 1818 *Amer St Papers, Pub. Relat* (1834) IV 327 I he imports consisted of 371 arrobas of vicuna wool 1860 *Catal Internat Exhib, Brit* II No. 4073 Tweeds made from Vicugna wool 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv Bark* 135 The exquisite fabrics they weave from vicuña-wool

† **Vi-curate.** *Obs*⁻¹ [See VICE- *prefix.*] A substitute in ecclesiastical functions.

a 1687 HERON *Aarons Rod* (1693) 20 Their unlearned and for the most part ungodly Vi Curates.

**Vid** 1, abbrev. of VIDE v.

1609 SKENE *Reg Maj* Table 94 The father by reason of povertie may revoke the gear donation made to his sonne. *vid father Ibid* 95 Quarrell (complaint, plea) *Vid. Pleyes* 1706 STEVENS *Span Dict* 1, *Exaxaduduras*, vid. *Exyaguduras* 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng Lat Dict* 1 Index Geogr; Aitchil. *Vid* 1788 LEMPRIERE *Class Dict Iphimedia* one of the daughters of Danaus. *Vid* Danaides. 1803 LEYDEN *Scenes Infancy* 1 xxii *note*, Vid 'Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border' 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* II 1060/2 Vid. the diagram *fig* 283

† **Vid.**, 4, abbrev. of VIDELICET *Obs.*

1596 W HARBORD in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 61 He was found guilty of manslaughter by 6, vid Ld. Treasurer, Ld Privy Seale [etc ].

‖ **Vidame** (vī'dăm) Also 6 vydam(e, vis-damme, 7 vidam. [*a. F. vidame*, OF, *visdame*, ad. med L. *vicedominus*, f. *vice* VICE- + *dominus* lord.] Formerly in France, one who held lands from a bishop as his representative and defender in temporal matters.

1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I xlv 95 b/2 The Vydame of Calons dyd marueyles. 1550 *Acts Privy Council* III 121 Ordre ,for the sending of one of the Grones of the Chambre, to be furrer or harbenger to the saide Vidamme. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 252 Neither is there in France any Vidame which holdes not of some Bishopric, vnlesse that of Beauuais, and from the chief Town of the Bishopricque are the Vidames denominated. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz* 1 47 The French Embassadour in England solicited her that the Vidame of Chartres might be delivered to the King. 1680 MACKENZIE *Sci Her.* 87 To Counts, Vidames, and Viscounts [they allow] a direct standing Helmet, with 9 Barrs 1705 tr *Dupin s Eccl Hist 17th C.* I. v. 193 The Advocates and Vidames succeeded the Defenders, and by little and little these last Offices were abolish d. 1801 RANKEN *Hist. France* I 334 They employ'd a vidame, vice-dominus or commissary 1802 *Ibid* II 259 They commissioned generally their avoués, or vidames, or some superior vassal, to levy and head the troops of their barony 1830 SIR J STEPHEN *Lect Hist France* I 131 The advocate or vidame of an ecclesiastical corporation was usually some powerful count.

*transf* 1622 in Birch *Crt & Times Jas I* (1849) II 346 Here is a speech of a new dignity of vidams to be created, which should wedge in 'twixt knights and baronets.

Hence † **Vidamesship.** *Obs.*

a 1642 CLEVELAND *Acct Deeds* Eng Wks. (1723) II 242 These Officers obteyned likewise of their Lords the Bishops to have the Office of Vidameship in Fee.

**Viddful,** obs. Sc. form of WIDDIFU *a.*

**Viddie,** obs Sc. form of WIDDY *sb.*

‖ **Vide,** imp. sing of L. *videre* to see ] 'See, refer to, consult'; a direction to the reader to refer to some other heading, passage, or work (or to a table, diagram, etc.) for fuller or further information.

Freq abbreviated as *vid* see VID.¹, also occas as *v* V 5 1580 *Lyly Euphues* (Arber) 44 *Erasmus* 240, *Pyrrhus* the sonne of Strophius: Vide *Pandos* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 59 For which I haue compounded an Ointment of Excellent Odour, which I call Romish Ointment, vide the Receit 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 51 The Lemon is somewhat more acide, cooling and extinguishing Thirst *Vide* Limon 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 111 She then referr'd them to a place In Ovid's Book call'd Vide. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom Amusem* 33 *Vide* Rollin *passim.* 1837 WH KINSON *Mann & Cust Ane Egypt* II. (1841) I 66 *note*, I cite my Egypt and Thebes as *Vide* Wilkinson 1886 *Graphic* 21 Sept 304 *note*, I have already proved that blood must have been in the newly-created Man (*vide* p 276, *supra*)

‖ **Vide,** aphetic form of DIVIDE *v.* *Obs*⁻¹

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1249 The bourder of his basnet [he] bresties in sonder, And vided the viser with a vile dynt

† **Videl**, abbreviated f next.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng Poesie* (Arb) 82 But the three is made of one number, videl, of two and an vnite. 1615 W BROWELL *Moham Impost* II 59 Therefore there remaineth yet another great difficulte, *videl* How this law should be vniuersall.

‖ **Videlicet** (vide'liset, vai-), *adv* and *sb* Also 7 videlliset. [L. *videlicet*, f. *vidē-*, stem of *vidēre* to see + *licet* it is permissible. Cf. SCILICET

The pron (vi-, vaid'liset) is also to some extent in use ]

A. *adv.* That is to say; namely; used to introduce an amplification, or more precise or explicit explanation, of a previous statement or word. (Cf. the abbreviated forms VID ², VIDEL., VIDE(T , and VIZ )

1464 *Mann & Househ Exp* (Roxb) 152 Alle odre parcellis that are enteryd and engrossyd in my lordis book made licet: Fenel. 1490 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1711) XII 460/1 To serve him in his Werres, *videlicet*, himself, having his Contrell and Page 1509 *Will in Archæologia* LV. 310 Masses of Requiem ... to be said and song for my Soule by Preestes in maner and forme following videlicet Euery Preer [etc ] 1563 FOXE *A & M* 706/2 Sundry clauses pointes matters and articles, videlicet, amonges other things, where the bishop offred to make particuler aunswere [etc ]. 1579 FULKE *Heshins Parl* 231 We doe not take one thing vide licet breach of Sabbath for many. 1596 *Lyly* The vnder cut of saunuor following the former in S. Mathew videlicet I wil geeue thee the keyes of the kingdome of heauen 1665 in *Pepys Diary* VI. (1896) 21 *Sailor's Song* MS 1, Due to Nath Clemson for work done to the Clock Videlicet for a new Spring, for wyer and oyle, 5[*s*] 1797 SWIFT *Cir cumvision & Cruel Wks.* 1755 III 1 165 The wisest man that ever lived, and inasmuch the richest, being all per adventure was a Jew, videlicet, Solomon 1769 *Phil Trans* LIX 452 To confirm farther what I say, videlicet, that the matter, that evaporates is the more it is disposed to become luminous. 1809 SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd , One of Rob s original profession, *videlicet* a drover 1840 BARHAM *Ingol Leg* (1847) 1 *Oddity* 1 *Letter* (1864) 173 Look at Cork and Otto, and while one survives, Succumb to *our* She Saints—videlicet wives!

B. *sb.* The word itself as used to introduce an explanation or amplification, esp in legal documents

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Wks* (1687) 100 You shall never take a Pamphleteer, one of these Haberdashers of small Wares without his *videlicets*, or his *I hopetos Ibid*, *A I oldicet* in *Mr Edwards* Gangrena a Bungling Writer, as that a Painter 1774 LD MANSFIELD in Cowper *Rep* (1783) 370 He has stated it to be in Minorca, with a *videlicet* 1805 EAST *Reports* V 125 *Oakley* v *Butler* (1804) 129 Lord C. J. Hobart speaking of the use of a videlicet, says [etc.] 1824 STEPHEN *Pract. Pleading* 313 And here, as in the case of a local venue, a videlicet will be allowed 1871 *Daily News* 17 Jan 5/1 A videlicet will give no help.

‖ **Vide ndæ,** *sb pl rare.* [L., pl of *videndum*, f. *vidēre* to see ] Things worth seeing or which ought to be seen

1760 SKENE *Tr. Shandy* VII xxxi, In my last, therefore, of Videnda at Lyons, this, which I meet,—was not, you see least 1771 M LYSON *Let* in Nichols *Lit Anecd* (1814) VII 571 Gray's notes contain the Videnda in all parts of Great Britain, as Houses, Antiquities, Views, &c.

† **Vident.** *Obs rare.* [ad. L. *vident-*, *videns*, pres. pple. of *vidēre* to see ] (See quot.)

1588 ] HARVEY *Disc Probl* 40 The holy prophets were properly called Vidents or Seers.

**Vide-ruff** see VIDU *ppl a.*

**Vidette,** variant of VEDETTE

**Vidian** (vi'diăn), *a. Anat.* [f. Vidus *Vidius*, Latinized form of the name of Guido Guidi, an Italian anatomist (died 1569).] The special designation of certain anatomical features of the head, as *Vidian artery, canal, nerve.*

1832 R KNOX *Cloquet's Anat* 39 The posterior orifice of the vidian canal. *Ibid.* 473 The superficial petrous filaments of the vidian nerve. *Ibid* 663 The Vidian or Pterygoid Artery . 1840 E WILSON *Anat Vade M* (1849) 279 The Vidian branch passes backwards along the pterygoid canal 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit* I. 829/1 At the roof of the ptery goid processes is the vidian canal, for the transmission of a nerve of the same name 1886 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* II 328 2 A small nerve goes to the sphenopalatine ganglion, and, after being joined by a branch from the carotid plexus, is known as the Vidian nerve

‖ **Vidimus** (vai'dimĕs). [L. *vidimus* ' we have seen ', 1st pers. pl. perf. of *vidēre* to see. So F. *vidimus* (from 14th c.) ]

1. A copy of a document bearing an attestation that it is authentic or accurate Also *attrib.*

1436 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 500/2 Credence shuld be yeven to the copie named Vidimus sealed under the autentyke seales, and approved as to ye Originall. 1508 ARNOLDE *Chron* (1811) 230 We will the vidimus or copy auctentike take effect and strenght as this present saulconduyt after ten monethis past 1580 ROLLAND *Crt Venus* (1575) iv The prothogoll heirof I wald haif drawin In writ, for cost to be my Vidimus 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict* s v *Innotescimus*, An *Innotescimus* and *Vidimus* are all one. 1728 EPHRAIM CHAMBERS *Cycl* (1728) s v 1823 F S THOMAS *Handbk Publ Rec* 93 A Vidimus is similar to a Notarial Certificate, in which the tenor of Royal charters and other writings is copied and attested. 1884 *Athenæum* 1 Nov 559/2 These persons was supplied with a vidimus copy of such letters, properly sealed and authenticated 1899 ] H ROUND *Cal Doc France* I p xxxvii, He claims that the transcription is carefully made from charters, cartularies, ' vidimus ', or other authentic sources.

† b. Without article Confirmation of authenticity or correctness *Obs*⁻¹

1523 in *Trans Roy Hist Soc* VI 362 The said Schir William is oblist to gif vidimus tharepone

c (See quot 1850 )

1850 OGILVIE, *Vidimus*, an examination or inspection ; as, a vidimus of accounts or documents 1880 BLACK *White Wings* xxi, He told us that the last vidimus of the affairs of the Burgh of Strathgovan was most satisfactory.

† 2. *Arch.* A design for a painted or stained-glass window. *Obs*

1546-7 in H Walpole *Vertue s Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I App Ddd ), Good and true patrons, otherwyse called a vidimus, for to fourme glasse and make by other four wyndowes of the seid churche. 1762 H WALPOLE *Ibid* 108 What a rarity in a collection of drawings would be one of their vidimus s !

† 3. The fact or reality *of* something *Obs*⁻¹

1610 B. RICH *Descr. Irel* xvi 64 The *vidimus* of the matter is, our Londoners are neither vowed nor sworne to the Pope

4. (See quot )

1884 *Imp Dict, Vidimus*, an abstract or syllabus of the contents of a document, book, and the like.

‖ **Vidonia** (vidō'niă). [Of doubtful origin : (see quot. 1833) ] A white wine made in the Canary Islands Also *attrib*

1723 *Lond Gaz.* No. 6173/3 31 Pipes of White Vidonia Madera Wine. 1816 ACCUM *Chem Tests* (1818) 191 Various wines or spirituous liquors 1833 C. R. REDDING *Hist Real Wines* (1851) 210 What is called Vidonia is properly the dry Canary wine, of a good body Perhaps it was so called because it is derived from the *vidogna* grape or is a corruption of Verdona. 1876 *Encycl Brit* IV 797/1 (Canary Islands) None, however, is considered as good as the wine of Madeira. The esteemed kind is sent to England under the name of Vidonia.

**Vidou, Vidoy,** obs. forms of WIDOW.

**Vidugge** (vi dŭgg) [f L *vidua* widow cf next and AGE ] The condition of widowhood, viduity, widows collectively.

1838 LADY *Lyell* xviii (1869) 91 What can twenty votes do for one hundred and two widows? I cast my eyes hope less among the vidugge 1894 *Story of My Two Wives* 67 One of the last acts of her vidugge.

**Vidual** (vi dŭal), *a* Also 6 widual [ad late L *vidual is*, f *vidua* widow. So OF *vidual*, Sp. *vidual*, It. *vedovale* ] Of or belonging to, befitting, a widow or widowhood , widowed

1550 BALE *Apol* 30 The estate of widual cleanesse is than most pure. 1598 FLORIO, *Vedovile*, vidual, widow like 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* VI 282 Others there bee that have kept a vidual chastitie even in wedlocke 1647 TRAPP *Comm* 1 *Tim* v 10 Widual chastity is rare Not that of their baptisme but their vidual promised chastity and service to the Saints. 1710 NORRIS *Chr Prud.* iii 106 One may as well say, Virginal, Act Conugal, or Vidual Prudence as any of these 1752 RICHARDSON *Lett* in Mrs. Barbauld *Life* (1804) III 192 Shall we show Harriet, after a departure glorious to the hero, in her vidual glory ? 1896 *World* V 12 She too retains still a deeply vidual costume. 1897 F THOMPSON *A new Poems* 34 She Who in most dusk and vidual curch, Her Lord being hence, Keeps her cold sorrows by thy hearse *Ibid* 44 No more shall you sit sole and vidual.

Hence **Vi dually** *adv*,

1828 ] Brown *Psyche* 93 If marriage solace she prefers Before a solitary pillow, Or wearing vidually the willow

† **Vi dunate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *viduāt us*, pa. pple. of *viduāre*, f. *vidŭus* destitute.]

1. Destitute *of* something

1650 PLUKERNETT *Let to Ray* 17 July (1718) 249 Its Stalks really vidunate of Leaves.

2. Widowed.

*c* 1780 *Mock Ode* in Boswell *Johnson* (1904) II 623 Cervisial coctor s viduate dame

**†Vi duated,** *pa. pple* and *ppl a Obs* [f L. *viduat-*, ppl. stem of *viduāre* see prec.] Left widowed, desolate, or destitute

1662 Waterhouse *Arraignm.* 175 St Pauls, thy vidu ated Mother Church 1687 Wood *Life* (O H S) III 218 In the beginning of this month came up at Oxon 'a health to the Church's dowager, a distressed or vilidated Church of England 1718 *Life R. Frampton* (1876) 202 To inter cede with them at helm, that the Church might not be vidated 1797 Bailey (ed. 11)

**† Vidua tnom.** *Obs rare* [f L *viduare* · cf prec. and -ation] The state of being widowed or bereaved

1653 Waterhouse *Apol I earn* 149 (T.), Their triumphs rise from the church s viduation, from her learning s con tempt and prosternation 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vi duation*, a dividing a leaving alone, a depriving, a making widow]

**Vi duine,** *obs* 5c form of Widow

**†Vidui fical,** *a. Obs* —1 [f L *vidua* widow see -FIC and -AL.] (See quot)

1657 Tomlinson *Renon s Distp* 267 Mezereon is as much as vidufical or widow making plant

**Vi duine,** *a Orn* [f mod.L *vidua* widow-bird see INE1.] Belonging to the *Viduinæ* or wi low birds.

1896 G. E. Shelley *For Finches* 294 By scientists the Viduine Weavers are placed among the Ornamental Finches.

**Viduity** (vidiu·iti) Also 5 *Sc* 6 viduitie, 6 7 tie [a Ob *viduate* (AL *veduete*, F *viduité* = It *vidutà*), or ad L. *vidutas*, I. *vidua* widow see -ITY.] The state of being or remaining a widow, the time during which a woman is a widow, widowhood.

1420 *Indenture* in J. Campbell *Balmerino* IV L (1867) 258 The said Sr Williame in obligat that he sal nocht freit the forsaid (Vlesoun f) of Murray nother in virginite na viduite, til falenate]] ony parte of his heritage fra the richeswrtais. 1572 *Misc Aberdeen Bannatyne Club Hist MSS Comm* App. V 334 Every widowe shoulde have ye benefitt duringe her viduite Aldermen s widowes shall have but a bolwe shall during their viduite 1575 in Agnew *Sheriffs Galloway* (1849) I 204 Patrick M'Kie shall inlefft

Katheren Agnew in her viduity in all and hall the lands of Larg 1620 Br Hall *Honour Marr Clergy* 111 As for that other which he imagines a vow of continued viduitie it was neither 'faith' nor 'first' 1647 Trapp *Comm Corinthians* 79 Yet doth not the apostle simply prefer virginity c viduity before marriage as better 1754 Gilbert *Law & Evidence* (1791) 497 If a Woman who has an Estate during Viduity makes a Leave for Years [etc.] 1789 *Macfarl ane s General Collect* (1797) II 101 Indenture be twixt Marion Oliphant in her Viduity on the One Part and Pat Gray of Broxmouth on the other Part. a 1856 G Outram *Annuity Lawyer* (1858) 111 There I met a weedow wife Lamenting her viduity 1866 *Abst Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) III 9 *note* Widows of rentallers in the barony were entitled to enjoy their husbands lands during viduity

**Viduous** (vi diu·əs), *a rare*—1 [f L *vidu us* or *vidu-a* + -OUS.] Empty, unoccupied.

1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxvi, She gone, and her vidu ous mansion your heart is in, her successor the new occupant finds her mimature hidden away somewhere.

**†Vids**(t., obs variants of Viz = Videlicet

1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* II iv (Arb) 85 Both verses be of equall quantitie, viz. seuen sillables a peece. 1616 in *Battlan t Co* (Camden) 158 That the same [allowance] be raysed vidrt to twenty nobles apeece 1669 Mrs A. Thorn ton *Autobiog* (Surtees) 80 The articles of agreement vide, that all his estate should be passed by fine and recovery

**† Vie,** *sb*1 *Obs* Also vye, uye, uie, vi. [a OF. (also mod F.) *vie* —L. *vita* life.]

1. An account of life or a sector.

*a* 1200 *St Mother* 34 Here i mai tellen ou The vie of one meidan, was hoten Maregrete. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 3 Her cumsed be ure of seinte suliane, ant telled of liflade hire *a* 1300 *Marinus* 227 in Horstm. *Altengl Leg* (1878) 373 Ich bat made & wrot pis vie, & hyre hap in memorie, From shome Crist him shilde

2 Way of, or lot in, life

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 3474 Oure lauerd Had don hir in to sikernes, Quat suld be boa childer vie, O Jaar weird and o þair luf *Ibid.* 21740 Pe croice es Fondement of ur clergi Keuie it es of hali vi. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B xiv 122 Angeles þat i helle now ben, hadden ioye some tyme And diues in deyntees lyued and in douce vye.

**† Vie,** *sb*2 *Obs rare* Also vye. [Aphetic f. *envie* Envy *sb*1.] Envy

13 *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1098 Tho Vpocras wel he fond Bi craft of the childes hond That he coulde al his maistrie, And brast negh forth [*read* for] onde and vie *a* 1450 Myrc 435 Pese crist þat vndo[n]ge was Was I take for vye and hate, And asoffrede peyne and passyone.

**† Vie,** *sb*3 *Obs* Also 6–7 vy(e. [Aphetic ad F. *envie* increase of stake (in OF, challenge, provocation), vbl. sb. from *enveer* to increase the stake (in OF, to challenge, provoke, invite) —L. *invitāre* see Envy *sb*2 Sc. Sp. and Pg. *envite* (Sp + *embite*), It. *invita*. The adv Avie is found slightly earlier (1509–).

1. In card-playing A challenge, venture, or bid; a sum ventured or staked on one's cards. Also in fig context. (Common *c* 1590–1650)

1533 More *Debell Salem* Wks. 955/2 He fareth as though we sate together playing at poste For first he casteth my contradiction as a vye, to wite whether I would geue it ouse with a face. 1591 Greene *Conny Catch* (1859) 27 The Conny upon thys, knowing hys Card is the third of Worton Castle, pawnes his rings if he hath any, hys sworde, his cloake, or al what hee hath about him to maintaine the vie 1592 Wotton *Lett* (1907) I 273 Not unlike a bad game at Mawe, wherein the first vye being seene, the cards are given before the second *a* 1618 J. Davies (Heref) *Witties Pilgr.* Wks (Grosart) II 32/1 Both which an end do make Of all Loue s Games saue when the Vies are paid 1648 Gage *West Indies* 96 So the cards were handsomely shuffled, the vies and reves were doubled 1680 Cotton *Compl Gamester* xxii (ed 2) 106 The Vye is what you please to adventure upon the goodness of your own hand

b In the phr. *to drop vie(s*, in big use.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks (Grosart) V 227 But Paulsh for Parsh, both for numbers in grosse of honest householders and substantiall graue Burgers, Yarmouth sh ill droppe vie with them to the last P dward groate they are worth 1636 B. Jonson in *Ann Dubrensia* (1877) 23, I cannot bring my Muse to dropp Vies Twixt Cotswold, and the Olympicke exercise.

2. A challenge to contest or rivalry, a display of rivalry or emulation; a contest or competition Occas const *of* (Very common in 17th c.)

1598 T Howell *Arb Amitie* (1879) 64 O Gratious Golde, Whose glistring beames doth enlieve and lecher gaining eie. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II *Captaines* 70 Samuel succeeds Jews crave a King, a vie Of People Sway Of Shiles Rule and Monarchy 1611 Speed *First Gf Brit* IX xxiv 876 i they beganne a vie who should be first in shewing their alteration 1660 Owen *Animad Fiat Lux* 10 Here is a vie, who can say Let there be light 1668 Dryden *Wild Gallant* I i, Now we whom he pleaseth i if I live and God will, I will try this matter with him before competent judge. 1674 *Gent Longue* vi 109 The King of Ethiopia sent to the King of Egypt, proposing a vie and a Problem tohim, to drink up the Sea

b In prepositional phrases, as *at (a) vie, at the vies, in vie (of)*, *on vie* Cf Avie *adv.*

1597 Harington *Orl Fur* xxxix. xiv, They wast the fields, and burn the towns, to ruine, By which of them most damage may be donne. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I xxxix, Philip having heard his some great Alexander sing at a feaste in vie of the best musitians. 1611 Daniel *Hist Eng* Wks (Grosart) IV 231 The Empresse at the Vies with her Councell, resolues to send ouer her brother into Normandie 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* i xvi 264 It was worth him above ten thousand Duckats, wherewith the Lords rewarded him as it were in vye of one another in recompence of the good service he did 1654 *Gent of Tongue* vi § 22 177 However in this particular of defaming, both the sexes seem to be at a vie *a* 1700 B F *Dict Cant Crew* s v *Laudry*, They Bedeckt the Shines and Altars of the Saints with Flowers in vie with each other upon that occasion

3 A challenge as to the accuracy of something, an objection or difficulty. *rare*

1591 Horsey *Trvio* (Halk. Soc) App 340 [He] hindred al the possessions of the Kingdom, standinge vpon termes and vyes, saeing they were not the Quens letters I brought, neither her hand and seale 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1197 Then came in a Woman also with his vse, declaring moreover & saying, that it could not be denied, but that in truth herein there haue bene great changes & mutations. 1640 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 177 For private men to put in their vies, to call in question the decency or expediency of the things so established, is it self indeed the most indecent and inexpedient thing

4 *attrib*, as *vie counsels*, *staks*

The meaning of *three* [? read *thee*] *a vie tools* in quot 1589 is not clear

1570 Foxe *A & M* (ed 2) III 2292/2 The Lord of Tame, with his other Gentleman beyng at tables, playing, and droppyng vye crownes, y' Lady Elizabeth passing by, sayd she would see the game out 1589 [Lyly] *Pappe w Hatchet* (J.) Now thou thou hast a good wit as none can outwrangle thee? Yes Martin, wee will play three a vies with *Thid*, Art thou so lackt that none dare blade a thee? Yes Martin, we will drop vye stables 1593 Harvey *Pvo e Superer* Wks. (Grosart) II 128 Vie stabbed, good Ecclesiasticall learning in his Apologie i and good Christian Charitie in his Homilies.

**Vie** (vəi), *v.* Also 4, 6 9 vye, 7 vy. [f. prec. or ad. F. *enveer* see prec Sp. and Pg. *envidar* (Sp + *embidar*), It *invitare* are used in sense 1.

For an isolated earlier instance of the form see the note to sense 3.]

**† 1** *intr.* In card-playing To make a 'vie', to hazard a certain sum on the strength of one's hand

The use of the word by Singer *Hist Playing Cards* (1816) 245 is merely an echo of *invitare* in the Italian original (1526) of the quot here

1565 Jewel *Replie Harlings Answer* iv 302 He commeth in onely with ioyly braggs and great vauntes, as if he were plaieinge at poste and shoulde winne all by stringe. 1591 Greene *Conny Catch* Wks (Grosart) X 27 They vse and reuse till some ten shillings bee on the stake *Ibid* 95 The next game they vied, and laid some fiue pound by on the bell. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam Wits* viii. (1596) 112 To play well at Primero and to face and vie, and by conse cutes to know his aduersaries game, are all workes of the imagination 1604 Dekker [see Revie *v* 4].

**† b** In fig context *Obs.*

1622 Mabbe tr *Aleman s Guzman d'Alf* II To Rdr, He hath made a second part out of my first; and I onely imitated his words: but if he shall vye with me in the like, being elder hand, he shall vye vpon me 1646 Quarles *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I 83/1 As for thee, thy Cards are good, but thy skill enough to play thy hopefull Game, vie boldly, conquer and triumph. 1654 [see Revie *v* 4].

**† 2.** *trans.* To hazard, stake, or venture (a certain sum, etc.) on a hand of cards. Freq in fig. context. *Obs*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod*, etc. Pj, Then will they vse and reuye, each their vyrginitie 1591 Greene *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X 28 At last the barnacle pleas it so, that perhaps he vies more mony then the cony hath in his purse 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* i xvi 84 The worlds false-hood, that playeth with Scepters, and vieth Diademes, vsing men like Counters. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* 1 iv c Liv, You,

Princes of this lower World, who vye Kingdomes, and wine Crownes 1685 Howell *Lett* II xv, I find that you have a very hazardous game in hand, therfore give it up, and do not vie a farthing upon't. 1698–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III 35 *note*, The Commonwealth party and the Protector s or Court party, began to vye stakes, and pecked at one another in their light skirmishes.

**† b.** To venture (money) in other ways. *Obs*

1599 Hall *Sat* IV ii 93 More than who vies his pence to view some tracke Of strange Mooncozen shrimmocke crumbsnacke

**† 3.** To back (cards) for a certain sum, to declare oneself able to win (a game, etc.). *Obs.*

In first quot in fig context for the use of *pair* of quot a 1618 in 3 b.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E ciij, So that hee which hath my misadventures and is enthralled with thy presente state, maye vie the paire for sorrowe, whatsoeuer the stake be 1591 Greene *Conny Catch* (1859) 27 Cosnage I will reuie euerie card at my pleasure, til either yours or mine come out 1598 B Jonson *Ev Man in Humr* IV ii, *Wel* S light, here s a trick vyed, and reuy'd with a trey. 1611 Cotgrave *Wits Interpr* (1660) 366 The first, or eldest, tis possible, sayes, Ile vye the Ruff, the next saies, Ile see it.

**† b.** In the phr. *to vie to*, also in fig context 1591 Florio *2nd Frutes* 62 S J. Let vs plaie at primero *A* What shall we plaie for? *S* One shilling stake, and three rest. I vye it, will you hould? I will Yea Sir, I hold it, and reuie it 1608 Dekker *Bvron* I v, Ile lay a Crowne, or Paires of both 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* iv ix 235 All this time the Knights play'd it at Dutch Gleek, and had so vied it, and reviad it, that they were at all Honours in their faces. 1688 R Holme *Armoury* III xvi. (Roxb.) 73/1 The eldest hand may pass and com in againe, if any of the gamsters vye it, else the dealer may play it out, or double it

**† 4.** To outdo, vie with *Obs*

1604 Middleton *Father Hubbard's T* in Bullen *O Pl* VIII 98 One likened me to a sea crab another fellow vied it, and said I looked like a rabbit. 1641 R. Harrison *God's Sabbath* 31 As for the Protestant writers, we dare vie it with the Anticipatrans, and give them oddes, two for one at least 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* I 5 He makes grievous complaint elsewhere of scurrilous Merriments, to vie it with his scurrilous Merlins 1673 [R Leigh] *Transp Rehi* 100 To vye him, and see him and re ve him in contradictions. This figure now is lost to us; I guess that is not a gametier.

**4.** To display, advance, practise, etc, in competition or rivalry *with* another person or thing, to contend or strive *with* in respect of (something). *Obs* or *arch* (Very common in 17th c.)

*c* 1570 *Bugbears* II iv 39 in R W Bond *Early Plays from Italian* (1911) 306, I will vye sleepe with him that lookes oute of a hood 1605 B Jonson *Volpone* IV vi, Out, thou Chameleon harlot! now, thine eyes Vie teares with the Hyæna. 1654 Fuller *Ch Hist* V iv 267 In the Queen, vying gold and silver with the King of Spain, had money or credit, when the other had neither 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv & Ur* i. (1682) 100 Their eyes vied drops with the other 1692 R L Estrange *Fables* ccclxxx (1694) 401 Nothing else will serve him but to vye Exellencies with those that took him out of the Dirt 1708 S Patrick *Cicero s De Finibus* II 126 The Mortal might vie Pleasures and *Summum Bonum* with the Eternal Being 1720 Mrs. Manley *Power of Love* (1741) II 82 Beautiful, that thou may st vie Advances with the East and West 1820 Lamb *Elia* I *Some old Actors*, I have seen some very sensible actresses who have seemed to set their wits at the jester, and to vie conceits with him in downright emulation

**† b.** Similarly without const. *Obs*

1597 J King *On Jonas* (1618) 282 An ancient historie of vowes vied and reuied in the Citizens of Ezeki 1598 F Guilvin *Skial* (1878) 60 By and by There'le be by the ears, vie stabs, exchange disgraces 1642 J Jackson *True Iustg Ch* 140 They were Gentlemen, and Ministers who should overcome each other therein. 1650 Weldon *Crt Jas I*, 7 Had you seen how the Lords did vye courtesies to this poor Gentleman, you would have pronounced them of much basenesse. 1694 Atterbury *Serm* (1723) I 79, I think it by no means a fit and decent thing to vie Charities, and to erect the reputation of one upon the ruins of another

**† c.** To rival (a thing) *Obs rare*

1607 *Schol. Disc. aget Antichr.* I ii 72 He did it to vie that triple crowne which the Pope doth weare 1610 J. Wilson *Belphegor* III. i, Batung that Palace, there's not a House in Genoa better furnish d—and for Picture—I dare almost vie Italy

**5** To match (one thing) *with* another by way of return, rivalry, or comparison Now *arch*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* T ij b, Though I enuie thee now thou shouldest not vye it with malice. 1633 G Herbert *Temple*, *Sacrifice* xxxiii, The Jews vying malice with my gentleneese, Pick quarrels with their onely happiness 1664 J Wilson *A Commonsus* II ii, I'll vie his Autumn, with the pride of springe. 1685 Lady R. Russell *Lett* I xxvii 73, I will take your advice, and vie my state with others 1728 *Entertainer* No 19. 124 People would never be so solely corrupted, as to vie Shade with Substance, and prefer Trash to intrinsick Worth 1877 Tennyson *Har v* 1 86–7 *Leofwin* And someone saw thy wily nuly nun Vying a rose against our golden fern. *Harold* Vying a tear with our cold dews, a sigh With these low moaning heavens.

**†6** To increase in number by addition or repetition. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks *Tam Shr* II i, 311 Shee hung about my necke, and kisse on kisse Shee vi'd so fast That in a twinkle she won me to her loue 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II i 111, *Fervent 665 Sorrow* Creeping in corners, where she sits and vies Sighs from her heart, tears from her blubbered eyes

1630 Brathwait *Exp. Gentlem* (1641) 34 Lest shee be forced to vie slights for their sinnes 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Easter* iii, Since all musick is but three parts vied And multiplied

† **b.** To add on, to give or take by way of addition *Obs*

*a* 1635 Randolph *Amyntas* II iv 161 Minds in love, Doe count their daies by minutes, measure howres, And for each vie a teare 1635 Quarles *Emblemes* I viii Wks. (Grosart) III 57/2 One dotes; the other loathes One thinks and sings, and vies a flagon more To drench dry cares.

7 *trans.* To enter into, or carry on, rivalry; to be rivals or competitors, to contend or compete for superiority in some respect Also const *for* or *in* (the object or matter of rivalry)

In Chaucer's *Dethe of Blaunche* 173 the Tanner MS (15th c) has *vie*, and Thynne (1532) *vye*, for *enrye* of the Fairfax MS., which is prob. the correct reading

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 246 Her teares by his finde their renew'd Supplies Both vie as for a wager which to winne, The more she weepe the more she forced him 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 209 In Rome Sir William Hamilton vied much for the said Cardinals Cap 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 June 1687, The Ambassadors profusely vying in the expence and magnificence of tents. 1728 Paton *Protogenes & Apelles* 86 Howe er Protogenes and I May in our Rival Talents vie 1738 Thomson *Liberty* III 393 Not unworthy, she [sc Genoa] Vy'd for the trident of the narrow seas. 1785 Wolcot (P Pin Iar) *Lyric Odes To R Pindar* I Here slow'd their feet and fled with fleetness, like the Ocean vies Now sallies frequent vied 1806 Miss Mitford *L'Estrange Life* (1870) I xi 54 They all vied in paying me every attention 1814 Scott *Lay of Last* I v As vainly had her maidens vied In skill to deck the princely bride 1820 Maury *Phys Geog Sea* (Low) III § 1168 The China seas and the North Pacific may vie in the fury of their gales

b Const *with*, *and*, *in* + *on* + *upon*

1620 [see Revue I 4 b] 1624 W Browne *Sheph Pipe* v § 3 Who gainst the sun (though weakned by the morne) Would vie with lookes, needeth an Eagles eye *a* 1690 Montrose in Watson *Coll Scots Poems* (1711) III 108 If in the Empire of thy Heart, Where I should solely be, Another do pretend a Part And dare to vie with me. 1683 Kennett tr *Erasmus' Lov of Folly* (1724) 128 How that they will butterflies vie upon one another 1692 Washington tr *Milton's Def Pop* VII Wks. 1851 VIII 183 Many other things I omit for my part, not to vie with you in Impertinence 1732–8 Swift *Polite Conv* Introd 81 One Isaac Newton might possibly pretend to vye with me for fame in future times. 1777 Robertson *Hist Amer* IV (1778) I 359 They vie with one another in refinements of torture 1832 R & J Landen *Exped Niger* I i 1 In fact they all vied with each other in taking them selves agree able 1840 Macaulay *Ess Clive* (1877) 531 The wealth of Clive was such as enabled him to vie with the first grandees of England 1892 Fiske *Amer Pol Ideas* (1913) III xii 79 Distant kings would have vied with one another in offering their daughters to such a bridegroom.

*a trans.f* Of things.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 173 For know (though my ab ility be poore) My good will vie s with ar y Emperour 1698 Fryer *Acc E Ind & P* 184 We beheld Lamps at Night striving to vie with the Stars for Number and Lustre 1700 Poor *Dryope* 23 Fruits that vie In glowing colours with the Tyrian dye. 1747 Gray *Death Fair Cat* 10 Her coat, that with the tortoise vies 1773 Johnson *Lett Mrs Thrale* 25 Aug, A library that for luminousness and elegance may vie at least with the new edifice at Streatham. 1823 P Cunningham *Ascent Mt Blanc* 23 The glassy pinnacles of the Alps, vying with the brightness of the western horizon. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* x II 617 The wealthiest merchant of London whose banquets vied with those of kings. 1870 Rossetti *Commonweal Poet of Advice* (1879) 224 The view from the summit will vie with that from any one of the Lake mountains.

† **8** To contend in debate *Obs*

*a* 1620–*a* 1774 [see Revue v 4 c]

Hence † **Vied** *ppl a*, **Vie** ing *vbl sb*, and *ppl. a*, **Vie** ingly *adv*

1605 Armin *Foole upon F* (1880) 5 Jack Oates was dealing to himselfe at *vied-ruffe* (for that was the game he toyed in). 1607 Heywood *Wom Killed w Kindn* 128 Gentlemen, what shall our game be? Faith let it be vide ruff, and let s make honours. 1611 Cotgr R *Gobet Disarp* (1900) 114 Dec 10 Loste at vyed ruffe iij s vj d 1612 Bacon *Charge touching Duels* Wks. 1879 I 681/1 A difference made in case of challenge and destroying man, upon a fore-thought purpose, between foul play and, and as it were between single murder and vied murder 1620 Shelton *Quix* (1746) III 125 My Sport shall be vyed Trump at Christmas. 1892 Percival *Sp. Gleanings* *vieing at any game 1894 *Times Literatio* 1689 *Loyal Ballo* 6 The King's Counsel have answered your Objections, and we must not permit Vying and Re vying upon one another *a* 1660 *Cautionary Disc. Iret* (Ir Archæol. Soc) II 43 Colonell Jones, governor of Dublin, the other *veyinge gamster, played his parte very well hitherto 1832 *Examiner* 691/1 People would have to be careful how they exaggerate their afflictions, as they are apt *vyingly with each other to do.

**Vie**, southern ME. variant of Fat *v* 1

**Vieilde**, southern ME. variant of *falde* Fold *n.*

**† Vieillard.** *Obs* Also 5 **vieillars** (*pl.*), **veyllard**, 6 **villard**, **vylarde** [a F *vieillard* (OF also *veillard*, *-art*, *villard*, etc.), f *viesl* old: see -ard] An old man

1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb.) 64 That noble duke Agamemnon required of the goddis six suche wise viellars as was Nestor 1484 Caxton *Chas Gt.* 117 Of whens art thou, veyllard? *Jas* 1300 *Chester Pl* I 156 That oulde vylarde Jacobe, doted for age 1530 J Stewart *Poems* (S T S.) II 38 This vilius viellard now mychi tak Of his his pleasur 1620 T Williamson (*title*), The Wise Viellard or Old Man. Trans lated out of French into English.

**Viel rin(e.** *Hist* Also **viorin(e.** [app f the Portuguese surname *Vieira*] (see quot)

1893 *Dungilson's Dict Med Sci*, *Vieirin*, bitter principle from bark of Remijia Velloti of Brasil where it is used as an antiperiodic and tonic like quinine

**† Vielle** (vi|e l) [F *vielle*, OF *veele*, of doubtful origin] A musical instrument with four strings played by means of a small wheel, a hurdy-gurdy. Also *Comb*

1768 Sterne *Sent Journ*, *Grace*, The old man had been no mean performer upon the vielle 1782 *Ann Reg* II 82 Few superior guitars, violes, or organs enliven the evenings 1807 [see Hurdy-gurdy 1] 1880 Shorthouse *J Inglesant* II ii, He played upon a small and curiously shaped instrument called a vielle with four strings and a kind of small wheel instead of a bow 1905 *Edin. Rev* July 129 The vielle player's story, and the Papal election, and much of the talk about music and the drama!

**Vienna** (vi|e nă), the name of the capital of Austria used in various collocations, as **Vienna** blue, cobalt blue, **Vienna** caustic, = *Vienna paste*, **Vienna cross**, a stitch used in fancy embroideries, **Vienna green** (see quot 1853), **Vienna paste**, a paste made up of equal parts of caustic potash and quicklime, **Vienna white** (see quot)

1853 G Field *Chromatography* 111 [Cobalt blue] has been called "Vienna blue Paris blue azure, and very improperly, ultramarine. 1865 G B Wood & Bache *Dispensat U S Amer ed* 1111 This preparation is sometimes called, in powder, sometimes called "*Vienna caustic* 1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 188/1 *Lesvan Cross stitch* a stitch also called Vienna Cross 1842 Francis *Dict Arts*, "*Vienna Green*, then same as Schweinfort green it is an arsenate of copper 1852 W Gregory *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 2) 314 Schwenfurt or Vienna Green is a double salt formed of arsenite and acetate of copper 1867 Burgh ley Hill *Essentials of Bandaging* 148 "Vienna paste, that is equal parts of potassa fusa and quick lime worked into a paste with alcohol 1888 *Pall Gaz* 11 Dec 3/1 *Med Sci* II 5/2 To prevent its diffusion it is usually mixed with quicklime in what is known as Vienna Paste, or Potassa cum Calce 1861 *Chambers's Journ* II 744 The "Vienna white of artists is simply purified chalk.

b The distinctive name of a grade of wheat-flour, and of certain forms of plain or fancy bread

1879 *Spon's Workshop Receipts* 1 Vienna Cake. To take a large round spo geake and cut it very carefully into thin slices (etc.) 1889 R. Wells *Pastryco k & Confect Guide* 12 Vien na Bread To make 8 lbs of Vienna flour (etc.). 1893 — *Mod Bread Baker* 50 Vienna Bread This I claim to be our highest grade of white bread *Ibid* 52 Common Vie na Loaves 1906 *Sch Housek Treasury* 8 Vienna Rolls may stand half an hour before baking if desired

**Viennese** (vi|enĭz), *sb* and *a* [F Vienne + ese.]

**A.** *sb* **a.** A native or an inhabitant of Vienna, also in collective sense **b** The variety of German spoken in Vienna

1839 J Pagett *Hungary & Transylv* I 2 The fools he takes the good Viennese told us. 1860 *Chambers's Journ* I 375/1 In order to prevent the Hungarians coming to the aid of the Viennese [in Oct 1848]. 1894 Parry *New Gt Composers, Beethoven* 166 His behaviour was not of the kind affected by the Viennese

**B** *adj* Of or belonging to Vienna, originating in Vienna

1839 J Pagett *Hungary & Transylv* I 2 Viennese Reports of Hungary 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXII 221/2 The Viennese school of painting 1889 R. Wells *Pastrycook & Confect Guide* 10 Viennese Rolls. Take 8 lbs. of Vienna flour (etc.).

**Vier** (vi|ər), *sb* Also 7 **vyer** Vie *n*

One who or that which vies with another

*c* 1700 W Hamilton in Watson *Sc Poems* (1706) I 68 They'll witness that I was the Vier Of all the Dogs within Tiber I ne'er did never yet 1902 *Academy* 18 Oct 411/2 We have flocks of poets who are word painters and nothing more, mere viers with painting

**Vier**, southern dial var. Fire, dial var Vair *sb*, and Veer *sb*

**Vierdour**, variant of † Verdure 2 *Obs*

**† Vierge** *Obs*—1 [a. OF (also mod F) *vierge* —L *virgin-em* Virgin *sb*] The Virgin

1482 *Inf of Poems* (Rolls) II 270 Now blyssed saint George, pray the vierge immaculat To be good mediatrix

**Viergyn**, **-yne** *obs* forms of Virgin

**Vieres**, var Vexes 8 **Viesly**, obs f Wisely

**View** (viū), *sb* Forms 4–6 **vewe**, 5–7 **vew**, 6 **veu(e**, **vue**, 5 7 **vywe** 5–7 **viewe** (6 **veiwe**), 5 8 **view** (6 **viewe**, 8 **viue**, 5– **view** [a AF *vewe*, *veue*, *vue*, *viewe*, *view*, = OF *veue* (F *vue*), ppl sb. from *veoir* (F *voir*) to see The OF *veue* corresponds exactly to It. *veduta* in the same sense]

**I. 1 a.** A formal inspection or survey of lands, tenements, or ground, for some special purpose Now *rare* or *Obs*

1415–6 in Madox *Form. Ang* (1702) 16 Wee [masons and carpenters], beyng Vewers for the tyme of the sesd Cite, have to the same Vewes sworn, veritee, parte our saulles. 1550 *Surrey Register* 183 We schall geve to them sufficient Exchaunge, by the vewe of Maister Hall, in my other londes to conteinhall valewe 1599 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II 7 As it appeareth by the views and ouerweyng [of the fields] taken by maister Brudenell one of the kynges Justeces. 1823 Fitzherb. *Surv* 35 b The view of the manor of Dale taken the tenth day of May the 28th. yere of the raygne of kyng Henry the viii 1607 J Norden *Surv. Dial.* 1 81 It is true that you say, such a view was taken at the time, that every Tribe might haue his portion of inheritance 1620 Callis *Stat Sewers* (1647) 80 There is a diversity between a view and a survey for by the view one is to take notice only by the eye but to survey is by using other ceremonies and circumstances 1834 Lincoln, etc. in Nicolay & Hay *Life* (1890) I 129 *note*, We respect fully report that we have performed the duties of said view and location [of a road], as required by law and that we have made the location on good ground

† **b** A formal examination or inspection of something, made by a properly appointed or qualified person, the charge or office of inspecting something *Obs*

In early quots. denoting the submitting of accounts to inspection The sense in quot 1652 is not quite clear *View of frank pledge*: see Frank-pledge 1 b.

1454 *Rolls of Parlt* V 273 2 That the Collectours paye the money in youre seid Kesett and make the views of their accompts 1472 *Paston Lett* III 4 And on Saturday next comyng he shall send me a vewe of hys scompte 1499 *Naval Acc Hen VII* (1896) 83 It semeth necessarie that another were be taken of all the Kynges said ordenaunces within his said Tour of London 1520 *Coventry Leet Bk* 674 A vew was taken by the said Maier and his brether: what stonde in Maner of Cotte, and what nombre of people was then whithin the said Cite. 1548 *Cartular Alb de Kirkwalle* (burtees) 353 The office of the forme gathering in Swawdall and the oversight of the woddes and vue of ther grone 1558 in *Feodary Lands Q Eliz* (1908) Table 1, The Master and officers shall peruse the remaines of the whole stuffe and other stoare left at the laste veew. 1647 N Bacon *Gavelkind* (1662) xxxviii 92 The Coroner even in those old dates had the view of bloodshed 1654 G Goddard in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I lxxiii 188 That the Committee of all tobacco of the English plantations, be reduced from 36 to 18 the pound: and that thereupon, no view or allowance be made for or in respect of the said tobacco. 1744 Harwood *Alford* II 819 Our Regarders or Viewers shall go through the forests to make a View or Regard 1800 James *Mil Dict* I 1 The view of a place is to be taken when the general accompanied by an engineer reconnoitres it 1822 J Smyth *Pract of Customs* (1821) 329 Bill of View or Sight 1827 Hallam *Const Hist* iii (1876) I 132 A view of this armour was to be taken twice in the year by constables chosen in every hu dred.

† **c** A review (of troops etc) *Obs*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Censeō*, *Laurum condere*, to appoint a muster or view 1681 W Robertson *Phraseol Gen* (1693) 1269 A View of soulders at a Muster, *armatus lustrum* 1693 Luttrell *Brief Relat* (1857) I 353 The duke of Ormond took a view yesterday of his troop and ordered all that had bay or grey horses to change them for black 1721 De Foe *Mem Cavalier* (1840) 56 The view being over, and the troops marched to their camps.

**d** *Law* (See quots.) ? *Obs*

1567 *Expos Term s of Law* (1579) *View* is when anye action real is brought, and the tenant knoweth not well what lande it is that the demaundaunt asketh then the tenantal al praye the viewe. 1607 Cowell *Interpr Words* s.q. sheth in our common lawe those that are sent by the court to take view of any place in question for the better l sci ion of the right *a* 1625 Sir H Finch *Law* (1636) 366 View is in real actions of the thing demanded when it is so necessarie as without view it is impossible to answer 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 298 He may, in real actions, demand a *view* of the thing in question, in order to ascertain it's identity and other circumstances.

† **e** *By view of*, under the inspection of *Obs*—1

1700 Tyrrell *Hist Eng* II 820 Every Earl or Baron, coming to us at our Coron and and passing through our Forest by Lawfully take one or two Deer by view of the Forester if present

**2.** In general use An examination, inspection, or survey (Cf 18)

1568 Grafton *Chron* II 277 They rode in the fields all that daye, and made a diligent vewe. 1592 Stow *Ann* 518 The wich volume was since against by view of those 3 written copies, corrected and red by you 1620 *Hen VII* (1870) 59 Edward Plantagenet having passed the view of the streets was conducted to Paul s church 1668 Dunbar *Poems* 87 Ip. Ded Anb Neither look I any need of such shifts, for most of the parts of this book have already had Your Majesties view 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 450 We too far the pleasing Path pursue; Sur veying Nature with too nice a view

† **3** An interview or meeting *Obs rare*

1520 Sir R Wingfield in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser I I 270 Suche personages as shall attende upon hym at the Vewe. *Ibid* 273 The kinges highnes and the noble Scalus be asmoche affectionatt to this Veue as could be wyshyd.

**4.** The exercise of the faculty of sight, the possibility or opportunity of seeing something **a.** without article.

*Build of town* see Field *sb* 16 b.

1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 211 At length by vew, to shore I drew 1577 Holinshed *Chron* I. 35/1 Thinking it good to vnderstand all things by view that might appertaine to the vse of that warre. *c* 1600 Shakes. *Sonn.* cxli, 'Tis my heart Who in dispight of view is pleasd to dote. 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 203 House built vp to the greater height of view 1671 Milton *Samson* 723 And now at nearer view, [it is] no other Than Dalila thy wife 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 1233 The hero measur'd first with Turnus eye, The destin'd mark. 1790 [see Point *sb*1 D 12]. 1864 *Ecclesiologist* XXV 274 The steeple may be taken into view with the lofter saddleback of S Mary's 1876–7 in Abney *Photogr* 178/1 By the continuation of light from the centre towards the marg ns of the pictures from both these causes increases rapidly with any increase of angle of view beyond 40°

**b** In the phr *to view* chiefly after vbs.

*a* 1393 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I 1 Whose lookes set forth no mortall forme to view 1605 Woodward *Nat Hist Earth* (1723) 64 Their Parts when dissolved have the same Appearance to View 1746 Francis tr *Horace, Art of Poetry* 5 If he gave to View a beauteous Maid 1759 W.

Wilkie *Edgewood* IX 270 Towards the Cadmean gate] where fall to view Expos'd, the armes and the camp she knew 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit India* II v vi 586 One of the most important features of the case was then held up to view 1854 Mrs Stowe *Un Tc Tom's C* xl, Tom was already lost to view among, the distant swamps of the Red River 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I iii 28 The snow floor had, in fact, given way, and exposed to view a clear green lake.

c Similarly with *the* (Cf 14)

1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II IX 42 b, Where he sayth the second to be upon the North part, he may by the view & straight onely be reproued 1603 G Owen *Lanis brokesthire* I (1892) 3 That euerye shere is of bigenes as the same appeareth to the vywe 1604 Power *Exp Philols* Pref 15 The knowledge of Man (saith the learn'd Verulam) hath hitherto been determin'd by the View or Sight 1721 Ramsay *Tartana* 148 These give not half that pleasure to the view 1791 Mrs Radcliffe *Rom Forest* II It seemed as if heaven was opening to the view 1820 Shelley *Skylark* 50 Like a glow worm Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the view! 1842 Tennyson *Talking Oak* 23 [I hey] Caught each other with wild grimaces, Half invisible to the view

d With limiting terms (possessives, etc)

1587 Fleming *Contin Holinshed* III 1337/2 He hath set downe to the view of all these necessarie notes follow ing 1598 Shake. *Rom & Jul* I I 177 Alas that loue, whose view is muffled still Should without eyes see path way of will to his will 1614 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 73 For your flight to the Hearne, it is wrought, flown and maintained by the eie and view of the hawke 1815 Jas & Reynolds *Passions* Ded, This treatise hath had the marvellous felicity to light on the view of a very gracious Prince-s. a 1668 Lassels *Voy Italy* (1670) II 220 Nor suffered to go or speak anything scandalously that may shock civility or publick view 1721 Pope *Temple Fame* 420 Before my view appear'd a structure fair 1747 *Hanbury Mem* I xxii 10 Elsewhere now I hid then turn thy view 1833 Tennyson *Lady Clara Vere de Vere* 34 When thus he met his mother's view. She spake some certainties of you. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* II Pref *note* Between 1 and three thousand papers of one sort or another must have passed under my view

*fig* 1590 Spenser *F Q* II xi 11 My Lady and my loue is cruelly pend In dolefull darkenesse from the vew of day

e Range of sight or vision

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 184 Lest any sparkle of bonesty should by meanes of them shine in their view 1821 Wollaston *Relig Nat* I 29 No one can tell in strict speaking where another is, if he is not within his view 1732 T Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 3 Considering that the crook in his lot should not be set afresh in his view 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* lxxv Somewhere out of human view, Whatever crimes may be done to do it wrought. 1855 — *Maud* I xx, Was it gentle to reprove her For stealing out of view From a little lazy lover?

f Reach of looking or beholding, a sight, look, or glance

1581 W S *Compend.* 21 b, The first view would displease many 1590 Shake *Mids N* III I 144 Mine eare is much enamored of thy note On the first view to say I loue thee 1611 Sir W Cope *Apol Def* 50 Some haue not the subdue And kill ane hert bot for a vieu. 1667 Milton *P L* II 190 Who [can] deceive his mind, whose eye Views all things at one view? 1697 Dryden *Virg Pref* VIII 53 I view'd there first, how fatal was the View! 1704 J Harris *Lex Techn* I s v *Measures*, To see in one View an Account of the Ancient and Present Measures of several Parts of the World 1711 Addison tr *Horace, Art of Poetry* 495 That gives us Pleasure for a single View And thus, ten Times repeated still is new 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* II 100 The throng'ig thousands, to a passing view Seemed like an ant hill's citizens 1886 *Cornh. Mag* Aug 222 For an hour at each view will this monstrous eye gaze angrily on many hundreds of stars at once

g *ellipt* A view halloo

1903 *Longm Mag* Jan 244 There is, however in my humble opinion, no great harm in a view when the hare is first found

6 The sight or vision *of* something Also with possessives

1588 Shakes. *Titus A* III II 25 Out on the murderous thou kil-st my hart, Mine eyes cloy'd with view of Tirranne 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIV xiv, Thy weak eyes shall take new strength, new courage at his view 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* (ed. 3) III II 123 Thus should their view put us euer more out of doubt, and our thoughts to Godward 1634 Sir I Herbert *Trav* 23 Towards night [we] got view of Ioanna Ile *a* 1721 Gray *Dante* 29 Pisa's Mount that i tercepts the view Of Lucca 1794 Sullivan *Caleb Williams* 247 The view of his figure immediately introduced a train of ideas into my mind 1820 W Irving *Sketch Bk* (1821) II 29 We had now come in full view of the old family mansion 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV viii 263 He proceeded to thread his way westwards, across moor and bog until we lost view of him.

*transf* 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 191 Hitherto the distinction appears to have been scarcely thought of The distinct view of it was accidentally obtained by Stephen Grey, in the year 1709.

7 Visual appearance or aspect

1551 Recorde *Cast Knowl* (1556) 152 If the earthe were of anye bygnes in comparison to the worlde, then should his semidiameter be seane some what bygger to the semidiameter of the skie 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb Kent* (1826) 102 The same man also persuaded partly by the view of the place itselfe, supposeth, that Rochborow was of auncient time a cittie of some price. 1590 Shake. *Rom & Jul* I i 175 Alas that loue so gentle in his view, Should be so tyrannous and rough in proofe. 1603 G Owen *Pem brokeshire* L (1892) 2 It most Consequentelye followe that the shere must be but little, much lesse then other sheres which seem lesse in vywe 1667 Milton *P L* IV 142 In Silvan Scene a wooder Theatre Of stateliest view *Ibid* 247 A happy rural seat of various view 1713 *Guardian* No 1 F1 His Countenance is communicated to the Publick in several Views and Aspects. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI 203 Lake furious, rush'd the Myrmidonian crew, Such their dread strength, and such their dreadful view 1812 Crabbe *Tales* XVII 9 As certain ores in outward view the same *fig* 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ Conv* III (1586) 125 To maintaine himselfe in that view which belongeth to his calling

b Aspect as affected by position.

1847 Leitch tr *C O Muller's Anc Art* 450 The coins exhibit his head generally in front view

8 †a. *Hunting* The footprints of a buck or fallow-deer *Obs*

Common in 17th c works of reference, but merely as an echo of Turbervile.

1576 Turberv *Venerie* XXXVI 97 Then if she aske, what Slot or view I found I say the Slot or view, was long on gr und. *Ibid* 239 The footyng or printe of an Harles foote is called the Slot: Of a Bucke and all other Fallow Deare, it is to be called the View 1611 Cotgr, *Foulée*, the Slot of a Stag, the Fuse of a Bucke (the view, or footing of either) vpon hard ground, grasse, leaues, or dust 1659 Lovell *Indic Univ* 26 The strain, view, slot or footing of a deer are the marks he makes in soiling

b A sight or prospect of some landscape or extended scene, an extent or area covered by the eye from one point.

1606 Bryskett *Civ Life* 93 Hauing the prospect not onely of the citie, but also of the sea and hauen, and some com mending the ayre, some the delightfulnesse of the view 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 143 A neuer saw goodlier more pleasant for view 1667 Milton *P L* II 890 Before thir eyes in sudden view appear The secrets of the hoarie deep 1718 Prior *Hannah* 122 Fish ponds were made, where former Forrests grew. And Hills were level'd to extend the View 1756 Mrs Calderwood in *Collness Collect* (Maitl Cl) 1 Sept 1 Sept 1 Sept

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. i. 51 The Enemy's in view 1667 MILTON *P. L.* i. 563 And now Advanc't in view they stand, a horrid Front Of dreadful length 1732 W HALFKENNY *Perspective* 4 Here inserted more plainly to discover what part of the Cube is in View 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V*, IV Wks 1813 V 415 His soldiers, now that they had their prey full in view, complained neither of fatigue nor famine 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 570 None sends his arrow to the mark in view, Whose hand is feeble or his aim untrue 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX 88 The hounds were run ning a hare hard in view 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II xxvi 262 Here was nothing in view except Dalrymple Rock *&c* 1757 POTTS *Author* II Wks 1770 I 149, I shall never be able to hold out long I had rather be taken in view

(*b*) 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1030 Then let us seek Som safer resolution, which methinks I have in view 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II x. § 1 By keeping the idea for some time actually in view, which is called contemplation 1779 *Mirror* No. 66 It is necessary that we keep in view the character of Lady Anne 1793 SMEATON *Pertone* I Introd 2 It is probable the resemblance Josephus had in view, was chiefly that of the outward form. 1840 *Trnl R. Agric Soc* I iv 455 This should always be kept in view 1891 L. MALET *Wages of Sin* II 38 I have a quantity of work in view

(*c*) 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Henry* 165 This this our faithfu trustees have in view, that unanimously will the task pursue. 1775 *Junius Lett* lviii (1788) 312 I liberty we all profess to have in view 1788 A SHIRREFS *Poems* (1790) 278 So fiercely they fought, having honour in view, Ten hours quite elaps d 1853 BROWNING *In a Balcony* Wks. 1907 VII 30 Who keeps one end in view makes all things serve 1858 STUBBS *Const. Hist* III xvi 59 The only profitable in vestigation is that directed with a view to the history of our institutions 1878 R SIMPSON *Sch Shaks* I 26 Masters were being taken through England in view of wars with Scotland & all France

(*d*) 1819 T HOPE *Anast. Isms* II 160 In view of the readi ness she showed to second my search, all was at appeared to be forgiven 1832 — *Ow. of Ist* III 213 In view of the excellencies of the works embodied in it, [the Eu gnage] continued to be occasionally used 1874 MORLEY *Voltaire* 54 For a theory, in view of all such consi tions as may surely be allowed to have at least a provisional utility 1885 L OLIPHANT *Symphon nata* 212 In view of th a aspect of the class of phenomena an question, we regard with leniency their presence in the human nature of the past

**16** *On* or *upon* (*the*) *view of*, on ocular inspection or perception of, *spec* by way of inquest

1488 *Acts of Privy Coun* VI 414/1 The Instruments taken afore any of your Coronere s, upon the view of the Body of the said Thomas Portington. 1528 *Act 4 Hen I III* c 20 Preamble, [they] caused the Coruer to sit and inquere on the view of the Bodies of the said John Lincolne & Gerard, and Genet 1541 *Act 33 Hen VIII* c 12 § 1 All inquisicions up on the view of persons slayne within any the Kinges saide Realmes 1600 *Rec. Leicester* 200 *In Councilsda.* 028 Yet upon view of the horse, they mette them with the keies of the cite 1661 W LOWTHER *Purg. Vol. rat. Pref.* 8 Upon the Petition of the Maieslys Jus tices of the peace upon view or hearing Information of such persons soe offending 1779 *Mirror* No 66 The feel ing that arise on the view of nobility, is diseased in, know ledge of character 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron* 47 An in quest was held on view of the body 1841 *Specif. Improv.* 25 An inquest was held before Mr Carry, on view of the body of Wm Clare, aged 21

**b** *On the view*, by simple inspection

1823 J BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem* 31 Making an estimate of the original purity of the material may be accomplished, first on the view second by heat. 1889 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXI IV 615 The High Bailiff then walked round the three companies of horsemen, and pronounced, on the view, that Montague and Fox were duly elected

**c** *On view*, on exhibition, open to general or public inspection.

1880 MRS BRADDON *Mt Royal* III vi 104 He shall be on view in the drawing room before dinner

**17.** *With the* (or *a*) *view of*, with the object or design of (doing something).

1723 *Pres St Russia* II 112 You acted only with a view of deceiving me 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc* (1759) I i 18 Religion must be formed with a View of securing a future Happiness 1800 O GREGORY *Treat Astron* 257 With a view of acer taining more accurately the nature of the sun 1827 FARA DAY *Chem Manip* xxiv 590 With the view of expediting the acquirement of the necessary habits. 1886 in A Cawston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 106 Power of taking possession with the view of carrying out the necessary work

**b** *With a view to*, with the aim or object of attaining, effecting, or accomplishing something, const. (*a*) with nouns or pronouns, or (*b*) with verbs. Also (*c*), with regard to, (*d*) in view of.

(*a*) 1726 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s.v. *Hair*, It was with a View to this, that such procured their Hair to be shaven off 1767 COWPER *Let* 20 Oct, I am willing to suspect that you make this inquiry with a view to an interview when time shall serve 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Vandeleur* & *L.* I 20 [He] allowed that such an indulgence might,—especially with a view to increased knowledge,—be extended to a sufferer like Christian 1866 R CHANNING *Eas Ser* II 89 Providence has constituted us with a view to activity 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press* III 49 The tendency is more and more to pro mote individual effort with a view to mechanical economy 1891 *Law Times* XC 373/1 The Belgian Government desired his extradition with a view to his trial in Belgium

(*b*) 1703 *Present Ch. Russia* I 160 With a View to secure the Cuban Tartars to the Russian Interest 1765-8 BLACKSTONE *Laws Scot* IV iv § 55 The forcible ab duction of the woman a person, with a view to violate it 1800 *Annat Anon Reg., Charac* 54/2 The troops had been embarked with a view to retake the island of Grenada 1824 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 53 They might be advan tageously introduced with a view to watering summer crops 1891 *Law Times* XCII 105/2 The Lady had contracted specifically with a view to land definite separate estate

(*c*) 1788 FELIX *Hor. Philos* VI xii, What may be con sidered with a view to its causes and its conduct

(*d*) 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* V 329 With a view to the ensuing nuptials Lord Castleton presented him with a handsome service of plate

**o** *With this* (or *that*) *view*, with this intention or aim, for this purpose

1765 H WALPOLE *Vertue's Anec I Paint* (ed 2) III 159 Strodtmann came to Wilton with that view 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V*, IV Wks 1813 V 413 With this view he dispatched a courier to Bourbon 1815 J SMITH *Panor. nania Sac & Arct Lit* 191 With this view he fixed a cord to a nail which was in one of the beams of the ceiling 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis* I ix 573 With this view, the people, even in their commercial capacity, were carefully and carefully superintended 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* II xxv 164 With this view the writer reviews fourteen of the Articles.

**18** *To take a view of*, to take a look at, to make an inspection, examination, or survey of † Also with *for* or without *a*.

1476 *Paston Lett* III 162, I suppose that my lorde wile take the vywe off alle hys retynywe here 1526 *Tinder Pref* (W de W 1531) 17 [They] had sente theyr spyes to take the vewe of the countrey 1548 *Hall Chron. Hen VI* When Vewse is taken, whether the same Chide be living in the Howse or at Nurse 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz* (1908) 208 When my Lord Chamberlain hath a view of the stuffe at mr Brydemans. 1631 WEEVER *Anc Funerall Mon* To Rdr I likewise tooke view of many ancient Monu ments not extant in Mr Camdens Britannia 1670 *Rec. Dundee* had he taken a view of it than he declared that he had made the paper 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sac & Arct II* 305 In order to take a view of the means employed to lessen, increase, or otherwise modify the affinitures of bodies

**IV 19** *attrib* and *Comb* **a.** In senses 1 and 4, as *view day, making, worthy* adj.

1589 GREENE *Ciceronis Amor* Epistle Ded Thinking the hu ge state of Maecenas worthy sufficiently patron zed whilome shrowded vnder the protection of so honorable a Maecenas 1600 *Milton* (PSEUD.) *Documents* (Bundle 1(2) 11 XXIII for fire, and bredd, and beare spent in the Moote halle on the peticion day 1600 *Jan* W HALL *Rules & Ord. Service of Office* (1842) 20 They shall certify of the vew making by the workmen and likewi e how farr they have proceeded in the repayring of the same

**b** In sense 8 b and 8 c, as *view hunter, hunting, -lens, station, -taking*, etc, **view-finder**, an attachment to a camera by which it is more readily adjusted to take a particular view.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterl Ant* iii vi I mean the epidemic now endemical among [them] 1857 J B MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II 65 The most greedy view hunters of them all will leave it [Cangoo] satisfied with the beauty and long duration of the prospect 1886 *Field* 11 Sept 413 It was no delight to make good roads to all the best view stations on his estate 1889 *Anth my's Hist gr Belgium* II 18 Within the ordinary view lens, giving fairest distor tion is used *Ibid* 339 If they are view taking in a region of streams and woods 1891 *Ibid* IV 426 A revolving view-finder, brush lamps, dark slide covers, &c

**View**, var VEW (yew tree) *dial*

**View** (viu), *v.* Forms 6 7 veue (6 vue), vewe (6 veawe), viewe (6 vieue) 6 view, veu, vew, 6- view (6 veiw, *Sc* wew) [f. the sb. Cf AVIEW *v.*]

**1** *trans* To inspect or examine in a formal or official manner, to survey carefully or professionally, † to review (troops)

1503 ELIZ BERNERS *Boke Husb* I (1868) 298 b/2 When they were nombred and viewed, they thought themselfe able to fight with the greatest prince in all the worlde 1539 CROM WELL *Hil Rec* (Camden) 1 *Life & Corr* (1902) I 87 Furthermore his Maiestie woulde that you shuld cause the stretes and Lanes there to be viewed for the pavementes 1560 DAUS *tr. Sleidan's Comment* Captayn ien s ere omitte nothinge for the situation of theyr ennemies Campe 1617 MORYSON *Itin* II 251 In Christmas holidayes his Lordship viewed the towne of Calloway, not judging it worthy of any im portaunce [etc] 1643 GOUGE *Serm Parliament Gods Word.* § 15 The Coroner and his Inquest coming to view the bodies found remaining but 63 1697 J LEWIS *Archit. Glocester* (1780) 21 About this time, there came Scotch regi ments of dragoons to be viewed by the King in Hyde Park 1714 *Bk of Rates* 419 Offices in which all Goods coming from Foreign Parts, or going to Foreign Parts, shall be declared, viewed, visited, and discharged 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII xii The Surgeon, having viewed the wound ordered his Patient instantly to bed 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 207 We took the opportunity of viewing the progress of our moorstone works at Lanliverry

1809 SHELLEY *Cenci* I i 17, I once heard the nephew of the Pope Had sent his architect to view the ground, Meaning to build a villa 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xi, Well, gentle men I resumes the Coroner, the first thing to be done is to view the body

† **b** *spec* To inspect or examine (accounts, etc.) by way of check or control *Obs*

1534 HENRY VIII in J Bacon *Liber Regis* (1786) 9 vi, [They shall] also se and veu such regesters, books of accompt, Exter boks, and all other writings. *c* 1545 in J S Leadam *Sel Cas Cr Requests* (1898) 88 A com maundement to vue, serche, & ouersee certayn Courte Rollis 1554-5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q Mary* (1914) 178 Comissyoners specially appoynted and auctthorised to vewe and take the accompte state and remayne of and with that offyce 1647 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 495 The said twelve men shall view the late booke of Excise.

† **c** To survey or explore (a country, coast, etc.) *Obs*

1552 BIBLE *Josh* vii 2 Then Josua sent men from Jericho to Ai , saying get you vp and vewe the countre 1697 J NORDEN *Surv. Dial* i 31 Joshua commanded that euery tribe should choose out three men that he might send them thorow the land of Canaan, to view, survey, and to describe it 1852 NEWMAN tr *Sozomen's Hist Marc Ct* 189 They permitted none besides Merchants to sail unto the Island without their leave : or any man at all to view or sound the Ports and Sea Coast 1715 T HOMAS *Syst Antonn Liv* 32 The Conductor and Tribune first Stoop to view the Island 1796 MORSE *Amer Geog* I 143 John DAVIS viewed that and the more northern coasts.

**2** To look at (something) more or less attentively, to scrutinize, to observe closely.

Cf examples of *view and re-view* s.v REVIEW *v.* 2

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm in Luke* xxiv 199 View and beholde you my handes and fete 1 Goodes *Sceptre & Scholers* (Arb.) 125 When I had vewd these wrytten lines and markde the Storye well, I loyed muche 1577 — *Heresbach's Husb* II (1586) 7 b Let vs walke into the next Inne, and view your house till dinner be redy *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. i 73 *Iliu* Looke where she comes Æneas view her well. *Æn* Well may I view her, she sees not me 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* IX 390 [He] sent a Gentle with me to view the Mountayne more strictly Hauing viewed and reuiewed this [etc.] 1673 RAY *Journ Low Ct* 29 A Museum well adorn'd with curious Artificial Rarities, which we viewed 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* III 36 I to the Temple will conduct the Crew The Sacrifice and Sacrifices view 1718 LADY M WORTLEY *Let to Abbé Conti* 31 July, The women flocked in to see me and we were equally entertained with viewing e one another 1748 *Anson's V* II iii x 240 The Spaniards contented themselves with viewing it [the conflagration] 1792 MRS RADCLIFFE *Rom Forest* II She stood for some time viewing the shadowy scene 1821 T HOPE *Achaian Ode to Lyph* 428 *notes*, The writings of one who had viewed the manners of Greece with no incurious eye. 1892 *Law Rep Ann* II 895 they gave no false impression when viewed in the developing tray

*absol* 1818 SHELLEY *Hymn Mnerva* 18 Pallas from her immortal shoulders threw The arms divine wise Jove re joiced to view 1827 PELLOE *Cruise I* vi Hans view ing one they saw on hasty wing Directing towards heaven his course

**b** To see or behold, to catch sight of

*c* 1586 CTESS PEMBROKE *Psalms* cxix G ii, I quake to view how people vile Doe from thy doctryne swerve 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 51 Where a little from us, we viewed a Blacke Tent, and by it a great company of old Arabians 1660 F BROOKE tr *Le Blanc's Trav* 131 One plainly views the Isle, and go to the place you find nothing 1708 *Satyrical Rare Pamphlet* 11 *Hearne* Look up and view me then *Sym* That's a Jest indeed, when tis so dark I can t see my own Hand 1773 *Ld St Pernode* 27 I was not a little surprized to view such an Assembly 1849 and Water 1810 *Sporting Mag* XXXV 152 The fox was viewed several times by the horsemen 1848 THACKERAY *Van Ree* law, The alternations of splendour and misery which these people undergo are very queer to view 1887 *Field* 31 Dec 981/3 Mr Godson viewed our hunted fox sneaking away

† **c** To admit to an interview *Obs*

1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz* III i 1435 I will view this Captive Queen to let her see I pra rs and Complai ts are lost on such vi ns.

**d** *Hunting* With *away* To see (a fox) break cover, to give notice of (the fox as doing so) by hallooing

1833 WHYTE MELVILLE *D Cranal* x Excitement not dimin ished by my vi ws, away a magnificent old fox 1856 NIMROD in *Brit Journal Sports* 1/1/2 The first whip is sent on to the point where the fox is most likely to break in order to view him away and save time, by hallooing

**3** To survey mentally; to consider under mental review or examination, to consider

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus Agricola* 255 When I view and consider the cause of this wrrcle and poor present i essesity 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 33 Hee had well viewed the seuerall forces. 1657 SPARROW *Bk Com Prayer* (1661) 50 These have been viewed and allowed by the Church f r many ages past 1679 PENN *Addr Prot* 11 If we will yet rise higher in our enquiry and view the Mischiefs of Farlier Times. *a* 1704 T BROWN *Satyr Antients* Wks 1730 I 20 When we have run to the bottom we find in him all the Gods together 1748 SECKER *Serm* I *Jesus v* 21 2 (1770) I 16 Viewing Things as on every Side it grievous Labour to Indolence and Impatience 1845 PATTISON *Ess* (1889) I 43 Locke viewed the world entirely from the retirement of his cell 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) IV 28 All knowledge may be viewed either abstracted from the mund or in relation to the mind 1875 HELPS *Soc Press* V 65 He has viewed the matter in hand more gravely

**b** Const *with* (pleasure, etc.)

1746 FRANCIS tr *Horace Epist* I viii 14 Whate er may hurt me I with joy pursue. Whate er may do me good, with Horror view 1758 S HAYWARD *Serm* xvii 309 The soul views his various perfections with pleasure. 1769

Robertson *Chas V*, iii ¶ 38 To view all the constable's actions with a mein and unbecoming jealousy

**6** To regard or consider in a certain light

1765 *Museum Rust* IV 110 If you gentlemen, view this matter in that important light I do 1799 *Mirror* No. 28, He seems to have viewed the unhappy people of that country merely as the instruments to furnish himself and his countrymen with wealth 1834 Lewis *Use & Abuse Pol Terms* v 84 A third manner of viewing mixed govern ments. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed 2) *Agam* 1548 *note*, So far from regarding the murder of her husband as a crime, she views it simply as a just retribution 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 32 Wisdom viewed in this new light merely as knowledge of knowledge and ignorance

**7** *intr* To look or see *into* something *rare*—1.

1711 Swift *Exam* No 27 P 111 Mr Harley [is] sagacious to view into the remotest consequences of things

Hence **Viewed** (vi·ud), **Viewing**, *ppl adjs*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod* F iij b, In my viewing eyes I have seene your prynting penne 1888 *Society* 4 Nov 5 2 The hounds ran on the line of a viewed fox

**View ably**, *adv rare*—1 [f View *v* + -ably] Visibly

1680 C. Nesse *Chemist* 155 Which wine was seen to fall like lightning from heaven, to wit, viewably, violently, and velociously or swiftly

**Viewed**, *a rare*—1 [f View *sb*] Inclined or given to views or theories

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm Reg* (1641) 33 It is a certaine note of the times that the Queene in her choyce, never tooke in her favor a meere view'd man or a Mechanicke

**Viewer** (viu·ə) *Also* 5 **vywer**, **vyewer**, 5 6 **vewar**, 6 **vewar** [f View *v* + -er 1]

1. A person appointed to examine or inspect something, either on a special occasion or permanently, in later use *esp* an inspector or examiner of goods supplied by contract, + *spec* in *Law*, one appointed by a court to inspect a place, property, etc, and report upon it

*Formerly* the designation of certain officials in the town of St Albans see A. 2 Gibbs *Gerefas Sce St Albani* (1890) 11

1415-8 (see Vintner sb 1) 1447 *Sculpture Ts* 2 (Surtees) App p cxxxix The said Alexander [etc] shall werkmen like wirke the said myne be the sight of certeyn vewers thatto assigned 1479-81 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 111 Item payd to the vywers for to serche the howse bat dyghton dwellith in *Hord*, Payd for the vywers labour and attendaunce at diverse tymes 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VIII* 103 For the expulsion of the bar enemies was appointed sir Edward Oxlyfford by whom the carriers and viewers of the countrey were appointed 1601 J Keymor *Dutch Usurpe* (1664) 7 She [the port] hath also her Viewers, Packers, Tellers Dressers, Couchers to make the Herrings lawfull Merch in lawe. 1651 C. W. *Court's Inst* 252 The Judg commands the Sheriffe That a day assigned he cause a view'r to be taken by such Viewers or Surveyers as may certifie the Court [etc.] 1707 Terrell *Hist Est* 84 Orig Our Regarders or viewers shall go through the Forests to make a View or Regard 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St Gt Brit* (171) 499 Viewer and Examiner of Tobacco [at the Port of London] 1714 in *Hist Northfield Mass* (1857) 134 On behalf of said fence to be a counted as Publick Fence and the whole to be to der the viewers for the security of the Great Meadow 1828 Webster *Viewer* 2 In Massachusetts a town officer whose duty is to inspect something as a viewer of fences, who inspects them to determine whether they are sufficient in law 1838 in Nicolay & Hay *Abr Lincoln* I 119 *note* To appoint viewers to view and locate a road from Musk k ferry on Salt Creek 1863 *Cornh Mag* VII 323 The very viewers who first examine the stores, and in the future of whose report so much depends 1866 *Rud Mailto* 6 Mar 4/2 A large number of viewers, male and female are kept, whose sole duty it is to see that everything is faultless and in good order

*transf* c 1540 J Heywood *Witty & Wilkes* (Percy Soc) 2 And that experyens may schowe the trewer Accept we reason to be our vewer 1577 Harrison tr *Lemnius's Fam Ep* (1577) 225 For if I will bee a Judge of your goodes for the same you will be a viewer of my life.

**b** An overseer, manager, or superintendent of a coal mine or colliery

1708 J C *Compleat Collier* (1845) 31 And now I must leave you to your Viewer, or Head Under over Man who is to take charge of a regular working if the colliery 1761 *Brit Mag* II 668 Mr. Parry, a viewer and three others were burnt at Hartley Colliery near Newcastle upon Tyne, by an explosion of foul air 1797 Curr *Coal Viewer* 8 The viewers or superintendents of collieries 1813 *Ann Reg Chron* 49 Among the sufferers [was] one of the Viewers 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 964 Coal viewers or engineers regard the coal-seams now known as being subject in one respect to a general law 1867 W W Smythe *Coal & Coal mining* 175 Many of the most experienced colliery viewers hold to the opinion that the only substitute one danger for another 1883 Greenly *Gloss Coal M* 173.

**2.** One who views anything closely or attentively, one who looks at a thing with attention or interest.

1595 Cooper *Thesaurus Speculator*, a beholder a viewer 1597 J Jones *Bathes of Buxton* 88 The Historian is a viewer and searcher out of Nature 1599 W Burke *Conf Sanders* 603 You are such a mervyew viewer of such idle pictures. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xlvi 13 The rest of the gentlemen viewers of the heauens] the starre gazers. 1729 G Adams tr *Sophocl Oedip Colon* I iii 11 87 He silent for hither come some ancient Men as Viewers of your Land 1859 Dickens *Dorrit* II xv, [The bride's outfit] was exhibited to select companies of female viewers. 1892 *Daily News* 25 May 6/8 There will probably be amongst viewers of the collection more than one who will covet [etc.]

**3** One who sees or looks at anything, a beholder, observer, spectator

1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 143 The Prounce where you are hath many viewers of a yong Gentleman right nobly disposed. 1593 Q Eliz *Boeth* 56 Not thy nature but weakines of vewars sight makes the seeme fayre 1599 Greene *Alphonsus* IV ii 16 A canapie was set all beset with heads of conquered kings which strooke a terror to the viewers harts 1625 Fletcher & Massinger *Custl Country* III ii, Can it be possible this frame should fall? And built on slight affections fright the viewer? 1652 Benlowes *Theoph* III xxix, Her eyes amaze the Viewers and inspire To hearn a warm yet chast desire 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxiv 33 In summer now, all objects gay and new Smiling alike the viewer and the view 1864 L. Wallace *Fair Harvard* VII 74 The features were dull by a certain expression which, as the viewer chose, might [etc.] 1885 Meredith *Diana* xxvi, Teaching gloom to rouse a song[ful nest in the bosom of the viewer

**View-halloo** (viu hălū·). Also 9 -holloo *β* hollo(w *γ* holla *δ* hallo(a, holloa, hilloh, -hulloo [f View *v* + Halloo, Hollo(w, Holla, Hallo(a, and Hilloa

The earliest form recorded is *tayo hollimo* (see *β*) and really is a cry of *tayo hollo!* to give the view on the penultimate as in the first quot. The various forms are freq written or printed as two words without hyphen]

1. The shout given by a huntsman on seeing a fox break cover. Also *fig*

a 1792 S Rogers *Fleas Mem* II 208 He scour'd the county in his elbow-chair, And, with view halloo, rous'd the dream'st hound 1798 *Sporting Mag* XII 1 At the very moment of View! View! Woop! a view halloo was given by a third 1858 Trollope *Dr Thorne* I i 21 He had a fine voice for a view halloo 1859 *Art of Taming Horses*, etc. 202 When a horse in turn carries the cry we lead to a view halloo 1873 Black *Pr Thule* xxv, Lavender in the distance heard a long view hollo

*β* 1788 Sheridan *Pizarro* IV, i 11 What is become of the Lady all this while? You tol l me she was not here, and I was just drawing off another Way if I had not heard the View Hollow 1808 Cox Hakes *Hunting* (1813) 14 A dragoon gave a view hollow 1833 in R. E. Warburton *Hunt Songs* (1881) II 8 Once more a view hollo from old Oulton Lowe 1846 J. Hill *Taming* III 198 Lord Mel ville was soon seen to mount the wall Sir Thomas Mostyn is said to have given a view h llo!

*γ* 1816 J. Peacock *Heading Hall* 101 Their landing was hailed with a view holla from the delighted Nestor 1858 Geo P Thompson *Audu Art* I lxv 250 The dogs that answered to the view holla that chased them to their end 1861 Thackeray *Four Geo* (1869) 184 Hark for ward, tally ho, and the View Holla is not far off

*δ* 1840 J. J. Hewitt *P Tregenna* V Mr Scrope gave a loud view hallo! a full peal after me 1853 Lytton *My Novel* I ii, The Squire bellowed out with all the force of lungs accustomed to give a View hallo! 1886 Harwood *Bootle's Child* I give a view halloa, took to my heels, collared my gentleman

**Viewiness** (viu·inės) [f Viewy *a*] The state or quality of being viewy, tendency to specu lative or unpractical views

1852 J. H Newman *Sc & Unrev Educ* Pref (1859) p xvi, If it spins its full sophism, which shows itself in wh t, for want of a word I may call 'viewiness' 1860 *Guardian* 3 May 473 1 It exhibits the broad views f the writer of one set with a moderate and cautious tendency to over generalisation and viewiness 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Oct 440/1 Viewiness is bad, no doubt, but it is still worse to be with out views.

**Viewing** (viu·iŋ), *vbl sb* [f View *v*] The action of beholding or observing, examination or inspectin.

1548 Cooper *Thesis Dict*, *Inspectio*, a viewynge 1561 J. Norton *Calvin's Inst* I xv (1634) 79 The Under standing doth not rightly with quiet viewing discern all those things that Reason is wo t to discourse upon 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III (Arb) 79 Thee mount Lucates Vp pyld with Cedars viewing Carthage 1593 *Gabriel Arch's Vocab Hist MS's Comm* App V 453 A generall Assembly houlden for vewinge of the waste plott of grounde 1613 in *Scott Fam Rev* Oct. (1910) 12 Denton had the mea suring and marshalling of all his services and travells to have access unto them at his pleasure 1633 Earl Manch *At Mould* (1636) 239 Often viewing will make familiar even a thing most distaste 1670 Ray *Low Words* 172 6 I 45 Such as foolishly think thy Dreams and Impos tures worth a viewing 1785 Burns *To R Simpson* Postscr Now They thought the Muses Were by degrees, till I er last poor Gwed past their viewin 1838 J. P Kennedy *Rob of Bervl* xiv People are quick to censure, especially such as look to the tobacco viewers 1873 Trollope *Prime Minister* xxxiii 11 *attrib* 1571 Diggs's *Pantom* I xxi G j If at be lower at the glasse than at the viewing station in 1897 *Pop Sci Monthly* Nov 138 The viewing differ from the taking screens.

**Viewless** (viu·lės), *a.* [f View *sb* + -less]

1 That cannot be perceived by the eye; incapable of being seen, invisible (Cf Sightless *a* 2)

Originally and chiefly *poet* in the 19th cent. not unusual in prose, but frequently as a direct echo of quot 1603

1603 Shakes *Meas for M* III i 129 To be imprison'd in the viewlesse windes 1634 Milton *Comus* 92 But I hear the tread Of hateful steps, I must be viewless now 1645 Daniel *Civil Wars* II xli 56 Their viewless thing call'd Life 1718 Pope *Odyss* VI 25 Light as the viewless air, the warrior maid Glides through the valves 1760 Sir W Jones *Scrutan* (1777) 105 Thus pipe, on which the god of shepherds play'd Whose love inflam'd him and the viewless maid Receive 1794 Mrs Piozzi *Synon* II 328 Whence is heard the heavy roar of waters dashing through a bottom almost viewless, and the hoarse whistling of the winds 1803 Scott *Pirate* VI The air of majesty with which she ad dressed the viewless spirit of the tempest 1849 C Phoebe *Shirley* xxiii, The speed of the current in her veins was just then as swift as it was viewless 1873 M Arnold *Lit & Dogma* (1876) 289 We shall find ourselves more and more, as by irresistible viewless hands, caught and drawn towards the Christian revelation

*adapt* 1831 Campbell *View from St Leonard's* 88 The imaginative power That links the viewless with the visible.

**2** Devoid of a view or prospect

1840 R Bremner *Excurs Denmark*, etc II 350 Long and viewless, but with lofty, handsome houses on each side.

**3** Having no views or opinions

1885 Ac ms Clerke *Pop Hist Astron* 72 The turbid sense of groping and viewless ignorance 1890 *Pall Mall* (4 May 1/3 The passion less, conscience less, viewless creature of the *Chronicle's* fancy portrait

Hence **Viewlessly** *adv*, invisibly.

1828 Mrs Hemans *Spanish Chapel* VI For something viewlessly around Of solemn influence dwelt 1842 *Tait's Mag* IX 21 They rose higher and viewlessly in distance on either side 1890 *Lippincott's Mag* May 668 Viewlessly your whole being has become slowly interfused with hers.

**Viewly** (viu·li), *a.* Now only *dial.* [f View *sb* + -ly 1] Of good or attractive appearance

c 1536 *M in Dk Richmond in Camden Misc* III p lxxiii, To knowe whether the kinges hughnes will take a sertyne of my lordes servauntes such as be viewly men, and men of good honesty 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl* III (1818) 137 A captain's wife most viewlie 1845 Brockett *N C Gloss*, Viewly, pleasant to the sight, strik ing to the eye; hence in the 1828- in northern dial glossaries. 1907 M C F Morris *Nunburnholme* 233 The more viewly' appearance of the country side

**View-point.** Also **viewpoint** [f View *sb*] A point of view **a** A mental position or attitude from which subjects or questions are considered.

1856 W L Lindsay *Pop Hist Brit Lichens* 13 To point Nature from a higher and holier view point 1875 Moulton *Lect* 16 Bourne *Ang Antiquities* (ed 2) 146 Milken's private life was at no stage blameless from a modern viewpoint 1890 M M Sweeney *Dies Irae* 13 Writing from the Roman Catholic viewpoint

**b** In literal sense.

1858 W Arnot *Lands & Heaven* Sel II xxv 200 Change the view point and the scene will change 1875 W McIlwraith *Canada Highways* 175 Moulton Loch is of striking beauty from this view point 1880 Miss Bird *Japan* I 127 A rugged path on the face of the precipice leads to a view point 200 feet below

**Viewy** (viu·i), *a* [f View *sb*.]

1 Of persons Given to adopting speculative views on particular subjects, inclined to be un practical or visionary

1848 J H Newman *Loss & Gain* I iii 20 Sheffield was for her of hunting, Fr ncis was more in danger of taking up false ones. That is, he was 'viewy', in a bad sense 1865 *Lall Mall* 6 Feb/2 He there tempts views and in experienced investors with a view to profit

**vigidity**, v. *obs*—1 [irreg. f. L. *vig ere* to flourish] Vegetation, growth.

1608 T. SPENCER *Logich* 46 We have an example of this, in the rationalitie of man, and vigidite of plants.

**Vigil** (vi·dʒil), *sb*.1 Forms 3 **wigile**, 4 **6 vigile**, 5–6 **vygyle**, 4–7 **vigille** (5 **vygylle**), **vigill** (6 **vygyll**), **vigell**, **vygell**, **wygell**, 6 *Sc* **wigel**, 5–6 **vygyl**, 6 **vigyl**, 6–**vigil** [a. AF. and OF. (also mod F.) *vigile*, = Sp. and It. *vigilia* —L *vigilia* watch, watchfulness, wakefulness, *f. vigil* awake, alert. Cf. VIGILY.]

**1** *Eccl.* The eve of (the preceding) a festival or holy day, as an occasion of devotional watching or religious observance.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Se schulen eten euerriche dere twie, bute urdawes and umbridawes and 3oung dawes and vigiles. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 232 Eche halyday to huyre holiyche pe seruice, Vigiles and festyng-dayes forthe-more to knowe. 1417 in *Wills* (1882) I. 268 The date of his my testament on Seinysday in pe vygyle of pe Holy Trynyte. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 91 Whiche takyng, hym in the vigille of Pasche, was chose to hym [etc.]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. 1 612 The vygyl of Pentecost whan alle the felaushyp of the round table were comen vnto Came lot. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxiii. 108 b/1 And y^e next mornyng y^e whiche was in the vigill of saynt Symonde and Iude the Frenche kyng departed out of Calais. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 173 The 15 daye before the calendes of Aprell which was that yeare the vigile of the Resurrection of owre Lorde. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 45 He that shall see this day, and liue old in Age, Will yearely on the Vigil feast his neighbours, And say, to morrow is Saint Crispian. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Prophesying* III. xiv. 43 The dayes from henceforward to the death of Jesus we must reckon to be like the Vigils or Eves of his Passion. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* IX (1733) 166 If any of these Feasts fall upon a Monday, then the Vigil or Fast Day shall be kept upon the Saturday next before. 1828 SCOTT *Fair Maid* I. xxiii. Once on the vigil of St. Bede, in evil hour, he cross'd the Tweed. 1834 K. H. *Diary M. Rect. Cath.* v. VIII. 233 By the rules of former times of workmen always lying rounds on the vigil of Christmas subjected often fees to be banished from the society. 1884 ADDIS & ARNOLD *Cath. D.* 843 He even contends that the law of fasting has no vigil of the Epiphany *transf.* and *fig.* a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) F.iv, The calme season moste sure to the vigile of the more vnfortune. 1637 T. JACKSON *Creed* VIII. 188 The very time itself being the vigils if that great anniversary, November 5. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I. (1902) 42 This manifesto is dated on the vigil of the festive day of cordial unanimity so happily celebrated by all parties in the British Parliament.

**b** A devotional watching, *esp* the watch kept on the eve of a festival or holy day, a nocturnal service or devotional exercise. Chiefly in pl.

84 *Chancer's Prof. Audit. Tales* (Lansd.) It is ful fair to be cleped *ma dame* And gone to vigiles al yfere. *c* 1484 *I. Misc* (Warton Cl.) 24 When thy concubine wold the haue mad chastessed, Vp to vygilies, fastynge or with almysdeide. 1504 CTESS RICHMOND in *De Imitatione* IV. xii (1893) 269 Wepe and haue sorowe that thou art yet so slepy to holy vygylye. 1552 HULOET *s.v.*, Vigill, or vyncres euen beynge fested, *pervigilium*. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Eng. Commonw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 138 They have also three vigils or wakes in their great Lent and the last Friday their great vigil, as they call it. 1603 TOURNEUR *Owles* II. 13 Thy ancient Vigils yearely, I have observed cleerely. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. xvi. 54 There are some things voluntary, such as are prostrations, prayers, vigils, etc. 1681 WHARTON *Lasts & Fest* Wks. (1683) 31 At length the Vigils themselves were inhibited, and these Fasts instituted in their stead. 1782 CURRIE *Doct. & Pract.* xxvii. (1787) III. 242 In the putience of the multitude might have been exhausted by the length and uniformity of nocturnal vigils. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Ser. Subj.* III. xxi. (ed. 2) 398 Their holydays, were commonly ushered in by vigil or religious watching. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Church Hist.* I. 22 Then came the sad decree back to the farthest West and astonished the schools of France by its penances and vigils. 1898 SADLER *Ch. Services* 29 The solemnity of the Easter vigil was deepened by a tradition that the Second Coming of the Lord would surprise the world on some Easter Eve.

*transf.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 110 Ek to thee, Dame I preie, With al myn herte I wolde serve Be nyhte, and thi vigile observe.

**c** In the phr. *to keep (a) vigil* or *vigils*. Also *transf.* (Cf. **4** b.)

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 296 The night afore euery ordenary holyday or feastefull daie, the whole clergie, and the people vsed to kepe Vigill in euery churche. 1626 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 40 They expose the Blessed Sacrament, institute supplications & keepe a vigil throughout the whole night in prayer before the same. 1695 PRIOR *Ode to King*, At Mary's Tomb, (sad sacred Place!) The Virtues shall their Vigils keep. 1714 POPE *Hor. Ep. of Bath* 285 Vaux to ev'ry Church we daily paid, The Stations duly, and the Vigils kept. 1717 — *Eloisa* 21 Shrines! where their vigils pale ey'd virgins keep. 1803 HERBERT *Palestine* 251 Ye faithful few, Who round the Saviour's cross your sorrows shed Not for his sake your tearful vigils keep. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 89 The first discoverer of the river and country, kept a kind of vigil there. 1824 ADDIS & ARNOLD *Catb. Dict.* 841 St. Charles forbade the keeping of any vigil except that before Christmas.

**d** *pl.* Prayers said or sung at a nocturnal service, *spec* for the dead.

Sometimes applied to the Office for the Dead cf. F. *vigiles des morts*, and med. L. *vigilia*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* A iv, And she sayd vygylles for the dede men. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 182 They in Heav'n their Odes and Vigils tun'd. 1679 *Hist. Jetuits* I. If they would vse further song four Vigils for his Soul. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* VII. 84, I have seen the sublime Cathedral of Amiens on the night of All hallows, when the vigils of the dead were sung there.

**†2** A wake. *Obs*

*c* 1376 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 305 Of the fyr and flaumbe funeral And of the feste and pleyes palestral At my vigile, I pray thee take gode heede That al be wel. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 234 Vpon the top of the Apennine Hill, hee celebrated a sacrifice, with a Vigil [*marg.* Or wake] all night long.

**†3** a One or other of the four watches into which the Romans divided the night. *Obs*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 44 Aboute be fourbe vigile of be nyst cam Crist to hem, walking on be water. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 65 At be fourte vigill he raist his baner. 1536 — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 259 The Romanis at the third vigill maid thaim reddy to battall. 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., The 3d Vigil began at six of the clock in the Evening, and continued till nine.

**†b.** A place from which watch was kept. *Obs*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 284 The romanis be willfull trauersis fra pare stattouns and vigilis [or wigelis], effrayit be equus.

**†c** *Jbot* (See quot.) *Obs*

1763 *Farquel Brit* (ed. 2) X. 8716/1 *Ingels of Plants*, The Lime Tree, Willow, and Ash, in which the flowers of different plants open, expand, and shut. 1802 R. HALL *Elem. Bot.* 196

**4.** An occasion or period of keeping awake for some special reason or purpose, a watch kept during the natural time for sleep.

1511 BRIAN *Pynson* (1520) 1 With studies pale with mid night vigils blind. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 120 P 7 There is not ing that wears out a fine face like the Vigils of the Card Table. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XXV. 260 Soft after nocturnal vigils, and duy dreams. Conspire against thy peace. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* III. iii. 2 He hath pursued long vigils in this tower. 1818 — *Manfred* I. i. The quiet search and vigil long Of him who stretches ups to wring. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXIV. V. 339 His delicate frame worn out by the labours and vigils of many months. 1879 HEPWORTH DIXON *Free Russia* I. 231 I should have liked some companion to enliven my weary vigil.

*transf.* 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i. 6 In my heart There is a vigil that these stars, which I Behold Shine not. 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 166 The vigils of eternal Providence.

**b** In the phr. *to keep a vigil* or *vigils* (Cf. 1 c.)

*c* 1605 *Sir Thomas, All perswade it that* x. O may my Guardian while I sleep Close to my bed his vigils keep. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 93 While pensive Poets painful vigils keep Sleepless themselves to give their readers sleep. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 42 There industry an I gain their vigils keep. 1845 HART *Com. Mammoth*, etc. 98 I ates some quantity sculptured. Cf. the scene no vigil keeping. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* Poet Wks. 1875 I. 4 I steal forth to keep my twilight vigil. 1856 HARRIETT PARR *'Hear my prayer, O heavenly Father* 1, Bid Thy angels Round my bed their vigil keep.

**c** Without article Watching, watch

1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* XIII. While he alone where thou dost repose, Shall of sleep the vigil keep. 1818 — *Juan* I. cxxxiii. Or on 1853 KANE *Farewell Voy.* xxiv. (1856) 195 Many miles to the south, Captain Back passed a memorable term of vigil and exposure. 1856 MERIVALE *Hist. Rom. Emp.* xli. (1871) V. 191 The unwilling sense of moral obligation which should hold sleepless vigil round the desk of the historian. 1892 C. TAYLOR *Hermits & Gospels* 35 Hermas and the twelve commandments of vigil by the tower.

**5** A wakefulness, or period of this, due to inability to sleep. Somewhat *rare*.

1747 BERKELEY *Tar-water in Phil.* Wks. 1871 III. 481 In the plague are observed drowsiness, answering vigils, waking spells. 1816 COLERIDGE *Dejection* VIII, Tis mid night but small thoughts have I of sleep Full seldom may my friend such vigils keep! 1822 SHELLEY *Fragm. On Unrisbed Drama* Like a wintry bough the widowed bird Renewed the vigils of a sleepless sorrow.

**6** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vigil keeping, rage, service, -wasted* adj.

1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell the 3rd* VII. xv. To wakeful frenzy's vigil track, Such as were the sin-plagued visited. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc* (ed. 3) 240 But wh is this that comes with manlike rude And vigil-wasted air? 1896 WARIE *Ch. Services* 29 The vigil service was instituted by a vigil servi e. 1897 R. KEARTON *Nature & Camera* 330 The terrible loneliness of his vigil keeping.

**†Vigil**, *sb*.2 *Obs*—1 [a. L. *vigil* see prec.] A watchman, custodian.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Panegyric to Sir L. Pemberton* 23 For no black bearded Vigil from thy doore Beats with a button d staffe the poore.

**†Vigil**, *a.* *Obs*—1 [a. L. *vigil*.] Vigilant.

1656 CROMWELL *Conditions* Prof. 3 What can ope ily the Actours deeds in place shall straight appeare Beefore your vigill wakefull eyes.

**Vigil** (vi·dʒil), *v. rare* [f. VIGIL *sb*.1] *intr.* To keep a vigil or vigils.

1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 110 So I've claim'd task By what right you task My patience by vigiling here?

**Vigilance** (vi·dʒilăns) Also 7 **ence** [a. F. *vigilance* (= Sp. and Pg. *vigilancia*, It. *vigilanza*), or ad. L. *vigilantia* see next and -ANCE.]

**1** The quality or character of being vigilant, watchfulness against danger or any action on the part of others, alertness or closeness of observation.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 92 Vigilance, *vigilantia*. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 14 In regard of which enormities it behooveth parents to reprease and bridle their wilde and untamed affections with great care and vigilance. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 15 For now they are oppress'd with trauaile, they Will not, nor cannot vse such vigilance As when they are fresh. 1656 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 266 Yr discovery and prevention of the designes attributed to yr vigilance of Monke. 1723 STEELE *Guardian* No. 18 P 3 A Soldier's [profession] should put him upon this religious Vigilance. 1798 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 253 Thus we kept up our hopes, and did not abate of our vigilance. 1781 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 284 His vigilance has supplied the want of force in preventing the enemy from crossing the river. 1845 ELLESMERE *Hist. Ind.* I. 45 The King is to provide for his safety by vigilance and a state of preparation. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* III. 40 Does not this one fact show what constant vigilance it requires to preserve the public health in a large city?

**†b** A guard or watch. *Obs*—1

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 580 In at this Gate none pass The vigilance here plac't.

**2** The state of being awake, *spec.* in *Path.*, abnormal wakefulness, inability to sleep, insomnia.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man.* I. i. § 3. 92 That moderate Degree of Contraction, which is observed in all the Muscles during Vigilance. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* I. iv. 36 That imperfect manner [of thinking] which we call dreaming and which is nothing more than an approach to a state of vigilance. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lexicogr. Inum*, dissimulation to sleep watching vigilance. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 25 The prol ability of its occurrence is still further increased by additional circumstances, as obviously high tem perature, unusual restlessness or vigilance be present.

**3** *attrib.*, as **vigilance committee** (*U.S.*), a self-appointed committee for the maintenance of justice and order in an imperfectly organized community, hence, *vigilance man, work*.

1858 *New York Tribune* 30 Sept. (Bartlett), As gross a violation of justice as vigilance committee lynching mob was ever guilty of. 1871 *Mobile Register* 1 Sept. Whether the resource of the strongest be the ti unders of Sinai or the rope of the Vigilance Committee. 1885 W. A. COOPER in *Life & Pub. Paton* (1914) xii. 211 The ordinary phases of vigilance work had failed to arouse their enthusiasm. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1913) 84 They had organized a Vigilance Committee before they built the town of Hardscrabble. *Ibid.* 85 The best citizens of these villages are Vigilance men.

**†Vigilancy.** *Obs* Also 6 **vigilancye**, 6–7 **-ancie**, 7 **vigillancy**, 7 **vigilency** [ad. L. *vigilantia*, f. *vigilant*, *vigilans* see next and -ANCY.]

**1** = VIGILANCE 1. Very common *c* 1550–1700.

1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 97 For your vigilancy touching the investigation of the choice currantes there. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 3 If we should by our vigilancye fynde out such like mistakes. 1594 J. B. *La Primaud. Acad. Franc.* 382 We must have recourse to quench such inclinations as such as wee can through sobriette vigilancye, and continuall practise to the contrary. 1604 CAPT. SMITH *Pocahontas* 17 Our vigilancies were prevented the aduantage they expected. 1650 WELDON *Cert. Jus. I.* 29 Endeauring himself to the King by shewing his diligence and vigilancy for his safety. 1686 F. SPENCER tr. *Varillas's Hist. Med.* 65 While he was labouring at this with that indefatigable vigilancy that made him subdue so many places. 1707 *Sir Geo. Rooke* 182 We must have recourse to quench such inclinations as such as wee can through sobriette vigilance, and continuall practise to the contrary. 1664 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. 217 Our vigilancies were prevented the aduantage they expected. 1650 WELDON *Cert. Jus. I.* 29 Endeauring himself to the King by shewing his diligence and vigilancy for his safety. 1686 F. SPENCER tr. *Varillas's Hist. Med.* 65 While he was labouring at this with that indefatigable vigilancy that made him subdue so many places. 1707 *Sir Geo. Rooke* 182 We must have recourse to quench such inclinations as such as wee can through sobriette vigilance, and continuall practise to the contrary. 1. easily subsist in state of perpetual vigilancy.

**2** = VIGILANCE 2. *rare*.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp* 620 This Antidote takes away too much vigilancy, and restrains fury.

**Vigilant** (vi·dʒilănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **aunt**, 7 **ent** [a. F. *vigilant* (= Sp., Pg., It. *vigilante*), or ad. L. *vigilant-*, *vigilans*, pres. pple. of *vigilare* to keep awake, f. *vigil* awake.]

**A.** *adj* **1** Wakeful and watchful, keeping steadily on the alert, attentively or closely observant.

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Laddock & Mouse* XXIV. Be vigilant, thairfor and ay reddie, For mannis lyfe is vncertaine, and ay mortall. 1538 TURNER *Libellus* C.iv, Be vigilaunt & diligent Saint Paule sayth. Cyue you to prayer be ye vigilant in it. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidanes Comm.* 120 Would to God you were as diligent in mak ing as he is vigilant to spye out and circumspect in handlyng of their matters. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Pet.* v. 8 Be sober be vigilant. 1640 QUARLES *Em. Christ* IV. xxiv. Be very vigilent over thy Childe in the April of his understanding. 1660 in *Pepys Mem.* (1907) I. 361, I am forced to be vigilant least I should be by him ensnared. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 65 P 4 You are so little vigilant, as to let the Dogs run from their Kennels to this Place. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XVIII. (1787) II. 109 The vigilant citizens improved the opportunity of the night. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. iii. Dispatch them to your posts be firm and vigilant. 1840 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 274 A vigilant observer of all those minute circumstances which throw light on the character of a people. 1851 SCOTT *Philip II*, II. iii. I 171 He evaded the vigilance of the custom house officers and the more vigilant spies of the Inquisition.

*absol.* 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* 691/1 Laws come to the assistance of the vigilant not to the sleepy.

**†b** Const of *Obs. rare*

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 186 Blacius is so vigilant of his Daughter that your Ris I can derive no advantage by his freedom. 1739 SHIPP *Let. to Ld. Arran* Wks. 1841 II. 859 A Lord Lieutenant is never a long extremely vigilant of all your Lord I p interests, has lately renewed the claim of the Ormond family to those rights.

**c** *Her* Of animals (see quots.)

*c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Colour. *Vigilant.* This term is applicable to the cat when borne in a position as if upon the watch for prey. 1863 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* (ed. 2) 57 The Lion may be Vigilant or Vorant—watching for his prey, or devouring it.

d. *Vigilant man*, members of a Vigilance Committee (see VIGILANCE 3) *O S*

1824 *Missouri Intelligencer* 12 Feb (Thornton) We hate what are called vigilant men: they are a set of suspicious mean spirited mortals that dislike fun

2 Of attention, etc Characterized by vigilance

1532 ELYOT *Governour* I XIII (1880) I 131 To the augmentation of understandyng is required to be moche redyng and vigilyu st studi e in euery science. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Eirenarch Aemt* (1826) 145 He tooke order with one Clere that he should have a vigilant eie to h s arrivall 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* V XXXIII § 1 That vigilant and exact attention of mind which in prayer is verie necessarie. 1642 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Life Walker the Ironmonger* A iv b In wh h h s cease there was used such vigilant care, that as they were both taken th s very day 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 12 P 2 A long week I lived w th my cousin before the most vigilant I try could procure us the least hopes of a place 1784 COWPER *Task* III 340 She has lost Much of her vigilant instinctive dread Not needful here 1836 W IRVING *Astoria* III 64 They kept a vigilant eye upon every height where a scout might be posted 1844 H H WILSON *Brief Indus I* 400 It was impossible for him to exercise a vigilant personal supervision over the officers of the police

†3 Wakeful, sleepless. *Obs rare*

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* VI 131 It is a drinke very profitable for students for them that are too vigilant 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* X 459 Least the vehemency of their croking frogs vexe the wish of Reposo and cast him i a vigilant perplexity

**B** *sb* 1 A guardian or keeper *rare*

1822 *Repos Isetv* No. 8 Perhaps women of rank hardly move but on horseback and escorted always by trusty vigila ts of eu uchs and other trusty vigila ts

2 One who is wakeful or watchful

1822 T G WAINEWRIGHT *Ess Crit* (1880) 267 Nims no doubt shrank within her shadowy bower from the hazy vision of these vigilants

Hence †**Vigilantness**, vigilance *Obs rare*

a 1598 ROLLOCK *Lectures* 15 (1616) 97 Pilate had a great vigilantnesse in his conscience. 1727 BAILEY (vol II) *Vigila ntn ss*, Watchfulness

**Vigilante** (vidjilæ·nte) [a Sp *vigilante* VIGILANT a.]

1 *U S* A member of a Vigilance Committee

1865 A D RICHARDSON *Beyond Mississippi* (1867) 487 The power (in Montana) is vested in the Vigilantes a secret tribunal of citizens organized before civil laws were framed 1883 *Cent Mag* XXIV 194/2 An old time Virginia City vigilante 1888 *Pall Mall G* 4 Sept 7/2 Forty well armed vigilantes surroun ded the camp and sent in a comm tee to demand the surrender of the thieves

2 A night watchman

1899 P I BULLEN *Log Sea w ii/78* We found a big jug of water which Zeke carefully poured upon the head of the muttering vigilante

**Vigilantly** (vi dʒilæntli), *adv* [f VIGILANT *a* + -LY 2] In a vigilant manner, watchfully, alertly

1531 ELYOT *Gov* II XIV (1880) II 185 To the intent to perswade the riders to enserche therfore vigilantly 1589 in 20th *Rep Hist* MSS Com App V 445/2 To serve God truly humbly diligently vigilantly and faithfully 1617 COLLINS *Def Bp Ely* II IX 361 Then more vigilantly more accurately, and more circumspectly he denies it vtterly 1688 R HOLME *Armoury* III 115/1 The Corrector in his first reading of it e Printed Coppy ought to be very carefull and vigilantly examine the proofe 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr* VI § 21 How vigila ntly you guard against imposture 1788 GIBBON *Decl & F* lxiv VI 312 These passes had been vigilantly guarded 1832 WILLIAMS *Life Hale* 156 ff p ix Such a misuse is to be vigilantly avoided 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* II 217 There is a group of them which show how vigilantly he had watched the intriguers of Elizabeth s a id James s Courts.

†**Vigilate,** *v Obs rare* [f L *vigilat*, ppl stem of *vigilare* to remain awake] *intr* To be wakeful or sleepless Hence †**Vigilating** *ppl a*

1758 *Phil Trans* L 517 The flowers are in their expanded or vigilating state from five or six in the morning till about ten 1774 *West n Mag* II 184 If the same quantity be given to a person who is heated with exercise instead of producing sleep it will cause him to vigilate

†**Vigila·tion.** *Obs rare* Also 7 vigill- [ad L *vigilatio* (rare), noun of action f *vigilare* see prec] Wakefulness, watching

1597 A. M tr *Guillemeau s Fr Chirurg* 28/1 The patient might be debit tated [by] great abstinence continuale vigilations 1623 COCKERAM I *Vigilation*, watching 1658 tr *Sorel's Com H st Francion* X 92 He believed that his elaborate Vigilations were not well recompenced

†**Vigilia.** *Obs*—1 [L *vigilia* see VIGIL *sb* 1] = VIGIL *sb* 1 5

1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl s v Poison* A good Anodyne, useful in Vigilia s, Rheumatisms, Hysteric Cases &c.

**Vigilous** (vi dʒiləs) *a rare*—1 [f L *vigil* wakeful, watchful + -OUS] Of or pertaining to watching

1853 G J CAYLEY *Last Attorney* II 1 I believe vela mea is both, acquiring its metaphorical sen e from the vigilous uses of a rushlight

†**Vigily.** *Obs* Also 5 vigille, vigylye [ad L *vigilia* see VIGIL *sb* 1]

1 = VIGIL *sb* 1 1

1377 LANGL *P Pl* B V 416 Vigilies and fastyng dayes Alle pise late I passe 1398 WYCLIF *Y An* XIX 42 Therfor there thei putten Jhesu, for the vigilie of Jewis feeste 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Intr (Roxb) 6 In the vigylye of the natyvyte 1465 *Eng Chron.* (Camden) 40 The king sailled forth us to Normandie and landed at Kitcaux in the vigily of Assumpcion of our Lady 1588 in *Cath Tract* (S T S) 210 Observe the fastes commandit in the ounnes or vigilies of certane solemne daies.

2 = VIGIL *sb* 1 5

1665 G HARVEY *Advice agst Plague* 3 Continual vigilies, or a perpetual restlessness with anguish ing jactitation s, or throwing ones self from one part of the bed to the other 1694 *Phil Trans* XVIII 23 A confused expansion of the Optick Nerve attended with continual Vigilies

**Vigints-** (vɪndʒɪntə) [a L *vigints* twenty], a first element employed in a few combs in the sense 'having or consisting of twenty (things)', as

**Vigintia ngular** *a* [L *vigintiangulus*], having twenty angles Also †**Vigintiquintuple** *Math*, the result of multiplying by twenty five

1696 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey) *Math* 349 If any Figure I e multiplied by 25 the Product shall be the Root of the Vigintiquintuple of the Squares of the Multipliers 1822 T TAYLOR *Apu leius* 229 He calls the other [body] vigintiangular

†**Vigintile,** *a Astr Obs* [ad med or mod L *vigintilis*, f L *vigints* twenty see ILE] *Vigintile aspect*, the aspect of two planets when distant from each other a twentieth of a circle or 18° Also *absol*

1674 JEAKE *Arith* (1696) 10 Aspects Vigi ntile[etc] 1680 CHAS. COTTON *Comet Math* 31 39 Sometimes the Quintile makes a shew, and if That h ve ought in it the Biquintile will look for some Respect and if so then the Vigintile and Quindecile, and Sextile will also look to be courted 1819 J WILSON *Dict Astrol* 99 lo these [aspects of Ptolemy] Kepler added eleven more viz the Vigintile, the quindecile the semi-sextile and twenty

†**Vigintivirate.** *Rom Hist Obs* [ad L *vigenti virat us*, f *vigenti viri* a board of twenty men] The office or position of the *vigintiviri*, a body of twenty men charged with certain administrative functions this body itself

1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus, Ann* III vi 73 He (Tiberius) reconsidered the case of Clemens my Children to the Lords of the Senat and requested that he might be dispensed with for the office of Vigi ntivirat 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr Vigintivirate* the Office of the *Vigintiviri* or of twenty men 1693 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V *Ann.* III XXIX 196 That the young prince might be excused from serving the office of the vigintivirate

**Vigier,** variant of VINIER, vineyard *Obs*

**‖Vigneron** (vinʲərɔn) Also 5 **vigneroun,** 7 **vineron** [F *vigneron*, f *vigne* VINE *sb*] One who cultivates grape vines, a wine grower

a 1456 SIR G HAY *Bk Knighthood* WKS (S T S) II 60 The vigneurons labourars had wroucht all the day fra the morne quhill the evin 1480 CAXTON *Ord Le Hert* A iv b/1 Lyke a vigneron beryng a sarpe or croked knyf to cut vygnes 1585 JAS I *Lett Poesie* (Arb) 15 Let Readers also surely think it enough They see the painfull *Vigneron* pull the grapes. 1604 E G[IRNSTONE] *D'Acosta s Hist Indies* II XXIII 296 They are become with time and practise n ore expert vignerons 1658 EVELYN *Fr Gard* (1675) 223 Because it is a plant which is to be governed like the other vines I refer it to my vignerons. a 1680 BUTLER *Rem* (1759) II 111 Next prac es I the End of Life an Vignerons Cut short the Branches of a Vine 1732 P MILLER *Gard Dict* s v *Vitis*, But as to this you need not consult either the Merchants or the *Vignerons* 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ* (1859) II 292 I can give no advice to you on the best crops from the vigneron himself 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett Solit Wand* II 123 Assisting the vignerons in their work Commencing at the vintage 1834 MRS HENRY *Fr il* (1865) III 424 To make some new wine to give the vignerons when getting in the general crop 1884 *Blackw Mag* 756/1 *Le Vigneron et Sa Vigne* South Australia successfully succeeded in producing a vinous l quid that [etc]

**B** 1683 PENN *Wks* (1782) IV 317 I would advise you to send for 100 or 200 thousands of plants out of Languedoc where able vinerons and people of the other vocation 1698 C THOMAS *Pensetl auna* 16 [These lands] have produc d Choice Wine, being ably cultivated by skilful Vinerons

**Vignette** (vinʲe t, vine t), *sb* [a. F *vignette* see VINET]

1. An ornamental or decorative design on a blank space in a book or among printed matter, esp at the beginning or end of a chapter or other division, usually one of small size or occupying a small pro portion of the space, *spec* any embellishment, illustration, or picture uninclosed in a border, or having the edges shading off into the surrounding paper a head piece or tail piece Cf VINET 2

1751 H WALPOLE *Lett* (1891) III 13 June [He is drawing vignettes for his [Gray s] Odes 1802 DIBDIN *Introd Classics* 33 *note* The engravings have a spirit and brilliancy equal to the best finished French vignettes 1880 T HODGSON EEL *Stereotype Printing* 132 In the American bank notes the vignette words and writing usual in such notes are surrounded by a curiously engraved border 1886 GEO ELIOT *F Holt* III An excellent guide book and descriptive cards, surmounted by vignettes were printed 1886 *Irish Trader Trvl* XXX 5 Charming vignettes, and head and tail pieces for book work

b. An ornamental design, drawing, or picture in a manuscript or written document

1830 B MES BUNBURY in Hare *Life* (1879) I IX 347 How many vignettes did I make in my idea for my intended letter to my mother! 1860 ADLER *Prom Poet* XVI 352 On the vignettes of the old manuscripts he is represented in the costume of a traveller 1879 H JAMES *Transatlantic Sk* 213 Assisi, in the January twilight, looked like a vignette cut of some brown old missal

2 A photographic portrait, showing only the head or the head and shoulders, with the edges of the print shading off into the background

1862 *Catal Internat Exhib, Brit* II No 3182, Un touched and coloured photographic portraits, vignettes, cartes de visite 1869 *Eng Mech* 17 Dec. 298/2 Our present style of vignettes, and the former style of cartes-de visite, are very pretty 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Viginie* I 296 He found a coloured vignette of her that pleased him

†3 (See quot) *Obs*—1

1790 BADCE *Trans* I Introd p IX, Vignettes or little ornamental shrubs, which generally hang from and adorn the projections and edges of the several members [of ruined architecture], are finely expressed

4 *attrib* in various senses, as *vignette head, moulding, view*, etc

1848 FRANCIS *Dict Arts, Vignette moulding* a moulding ornamented or enriched with vine leaves, grapes, or ten drils. 1869 FORBES *Hugh Lorkey* I 129 The prettiest effects were produced by the vignette views seen through the depressions 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav* XVIII. P 131, I can get a pretty little long vignette view of the roof of the Pa theon through a chink between the wrecking and the freestone 1892 *Photogr Ann* II 302 Placing eight lengths ought vignette heads and so on together

**Vignette** (vinʲe t, vine t), *vb* [f prec] *trans* To make a vignette of, *spec* in *Photogr*, to produce (a picture or portrait) in the style of a vignette by softening away or shading off the edges, leaving only the central portion

1823 DE MORGAN in Craven *Life Hamilton* (1889) III 478 I shall remember to have an Hippopotamus neatly vignetted for the title page 1878 ARNOT *Photogr* 246 For outdoor portraiture an angle of a wall facing the north with a background formed by a thin kn is suitable for producing pictures that can be vignetted. 1888 C G WILLIAMS *Work shop Receipts* Ser IV 401/2 A very good enlargement is made by vignetting the picture with the opal

*transf* and *fig* 1883 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 5 May 307/2 Forgetting that its chief function is to finish off and vignette isolated sketches of manner, character and thought with more precision than is possible or necessary in prose 1895 *Athenæum* 5 Oct 451 1 How happily is autumn vignetted here and there!

b To take *in* or introduce as a vignette

1892 *Photogr Ann* II 54 keep moving the mask so as to vignette in the clouds

Hence **Vigne tted** *ppl a*

1867 *Routledge s Ev Boy s Ann* March 169 An album of vignetted heads of the royal friends 1886 *Athenæum* 18 Dec 831/3 *The Wrath of the Fury*, with vignetted designs in outline.

**Vigne tter.** [f VIGNETTE *sb* + ER] 1 A device for producing photographic vignettes, usually consisting of a mask or screen with a central hole or of graduated opacity from the centre outwards.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2310/1 *Vignetter* , the photographer a instrume t for giving a vig nette appearance to a portrait or pi t the e ges fading away insensibly into the background 1889 *Anthony s Photogr Bull* II 23 A head rest vignetter and other necessories

**Vigne ttng,** *vbl sb* [f VIGNETTE *v*] The action or process of producing vignettes, esp in photography

1885 *Lalli Mall G* 7 May 11/2 The vignetting is, without doubt the most difficult form of printing 1889 *Anthony s Photogr Bull* II 297 Generally n less vignetting is desirable the background may be made of hangings of some ro gh mater al al sorbent of light

b *attrib* as *vignetting glass, mask, table*, etc

1889 *Anthe y s Photogr Bull* II 261 For q arter plates and half plates, the s pace should be such that the rear quarters of an ir ch from the negative 1892 *Photogr Ann* II p clxxix Vignetting Glasses *Ibid* 486 Revolving Vignetting Table

**Vignettist** (vinʲe tist, vine tist) [f VIGNETTE *sb* + IST] An artist or engraver who produces vignettes

1884 F WEDMORE in *Fortn Rev* Jan 67 Volta re wrote to congratulate Basen, the vignettist 1892 *Ath n um n* 7 May 590/1 This lil rary is rich in the work of the vig ettists.

**Vignite** (vɪ nʲait, vi gnait) *Min* [ad G *vignit* (see def)] named by Karsten (1828)] A variety of magnetic iron ore found near Vignes in the department of the Moselle France

1846 WORCESTER (citing Dana) 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 999 and in recent Dicts.

†**Vignoble.** *Obs rare* Also 5 **vygnoble** [a F *vignoble* —pop L **vineobulum*, f L *vinea* vine plantation, vineyard] A vineyard

1480 CAXTON *Ord s Met* XI a He [Bacchus] lefte this contre and translated hym into the isoil les of Tynoil in a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July 1683, This gentleman was owner of that excellent vignoble of Pontnaq and Obrien

**Vignour,** variant of VINER 2 *Obs*

‖**Vigogne** (vigɔn') Also 7 **vicogne** [F, ad Sp *vicuña* VICUÑA]

1 = VICUÑA 1

1666 F BROOKE tr *Le Blanc s Trav* 381 Vicognes are like Deer without horns. 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* (1869) I XIV 334 The Sheep the Goat the Lama, the Vigogne, the Gazella.

2 A textile fabric made from the wool of the vicuña, used as a dress material vicuña-cloth.

1876 *Echo* 30 Aug (Stanf) 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict Needlew* 315/1 *Vigogne* a delicate all wool textile, twilled, and produced in neutral colours 1887 *Pall Mall G* 19 Feb 8/2 The bride s going away dress was composed of chocolate brown vigogne

3. *Vigogne yarn*, a mixture of the wool of the vicuña, or other fine wool, and cotton

1884 W S B MCLAREN *Spinning* 47 In making vigogne or angola yarns, which are mixtures of cotton and wool *Ibid* 185 For mixing wool and cotton together for Vigogne yarn.

**†Vigone.** *Obs.* [ad. F *vigogne* : see prec.] (See quots.)

1696 Bl Ount *Glossogr* To Rdr The Haberdasher is ready to furnish you with a Vigone, Codebec, or Castor &c *Ibid Vigone*, a kind of Demicaster, or Hat, of late 2 called, from the fine Wool, which for the most part they make of, borne by a kinde of sheep of Spain of that name 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vigone*, a sort of Spanish Wooll; or a Hat made of that Wooll 1714 *Fr Bk of Rates* 309 Hats of Vigone

**Vigonia** (vigōu·niă) Also **vigo(g)na, vegonia.** [App a Latinization of F *vigogne* Vigoonne.]

1 a *Vigonia wool*, vicuña wool

1765 *Ann Reg*, *Chron* 63 Bales Vigonia ard 1 ditto Alpaca wool 1804 *Centl Mag* Nov 1069 Vigona wool

b. *Vigonia cloth*, vicuña cloth Also *ellipt*, = Vigoone 2

1852 *Pop Tractates Exhibition 1851* 325/1 [Brown & Foster 1] waistcoatings of plush composed wholly or in part from remarkable for novelty and excellence 1857 J ames *Worsted Manuf* 438 Vigona cloth, merino robe cloth shags vigogna shags.

2 = Vicuña 1 *rare*

1834 *Nat Philos* III *Phys Geog* 55/2 The paco, which in its domestic state is called lucuna or vigonia. 1839 *Penny Cycl* XIV 73/1 A herd of 36, including the kinds called Llamas Alpacas, and Vicunas or Vigonias.

**† Vi grate,** *v. Obs* [f L *vigrare*, ppl stem of *vigorare* to animate, invigorate, f *vigor* Vigour *sb* see ate 3] *trans* 1 To invigorate or strengthen

1613 M Ridley *Magn Bodies* 63 They will be much refreshed, vigorated and animated with the polar and directory vertue 1658 J Smith *Sel Disc* vi 207 All this foreign force that is upon them, serves only to vigorate and impregnate their fancies and imaginations 1670 Mayne *Waring Physician's Repos* 21 This Medicine vigorates and cherisheth that part 1781 Paine *Let Abbé Raynal* (1791) Introd To call there powers of the mind into action at once, in a manner that each shall aid and vigorate the other

Hence **† Vi gorating** *vbl sb Obs*

1670 H Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 8 The Mercurial Cylinder moves and falls in the Manner of the Pump according to the lessening or vigrating of the Spring of the Air

**† Vigo rious,** *a Obs rare* Also **vigoryouse, vygoryous,** 1618 [Lrron var of Vigorous *a*]

= Vigorous *a* 1

1598 *Ord Cryston Men* (W de W) v vi OOq By hym the whiche is so vygoryous in all his puyssaunces. 1641 *Vox Borealis* C3 b, Man by the contrary being too vigor lous loseth God his Image in his privilcgde

So **† Vigo riously** *adv Obt*

c1450 Lovelich *Grail* xli 413 More vigoryously neuere reden men Into non place thanne they diden then *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* 26 Reynawde vigoryously spelled hymself vygorously amon, the frenshemen. 1608 Warner *Alb Eng* Epitome 367 (The Danes) whom albeit the King vigorously withstood, yet they forceably helde themselues in the I and

**Vigorist** (vi gŏrist) *rare* [f L *vigor* Vigour *sb* + 1st] One who acts with vigour or energy, or who advocates vigorous action

1809 Syd Smith *Lett Ca Bolles* viii An addition of pole mict which must highly gratify the vigorists, and give them an a nple opportunity of displaying that foolish energy upon which their claims to distinction are founded 1901 *Daily News* 2 Mar 6/1 A massive study of the young er vigorist who replaces the old Abbé

**Vigorite** (vi gŏrait). [f as prec. + -ite 2] A nitro glycerine explosive used in blasting.

1879 Webster *Suppl* [Knight's *Dict Mech* Suppl 928/1 Bjerkmann gives the following recipe for the manufacture of the new explosive, vigorite.

**† Vi gorize,** *v. Obs* — [f L *vigor* Vigour *sb.* + 1ze] *trans* To invigorate

1654 J Davies (Heref) *Wormsnon* Wks (Grosart) I 29/1 And for the Verties and Artires neede each other, They meete and g:o together thereby to vig rize the vitall Hand Which the Hart a vertue wholy doth command

**Vigorous** (vi gorăs), *a* Forms 4, 7 **vigrous,** 5 **vygrous,** 5–6 **vigorus-,** 7–9 *poet* **vig rous** 5–6 **vygorous** (5 **vygorowse,** 6 **-ouse**, 5 *Sc* **wygorous**), 4– **vigorous** (5 **vigorowse-**, *Sc* **wigorus-**), 4, 6 7 **vigourous** [a AF *vigrus, vigerus, vigoroise*, OF *vigorous, vigoureus, vigoros*, etc (mod F *vigoureux*), = Pr *vigoros*, Sp, Pg, It *vigoroso*, med L *vigorosus* (Diefenbach) see Vigour *sb* and -ous]

1 Of persons or animals Strong and active in body; endowed with or possessed of physical strength and energy, robust in health or constitution, hardy, lusty, strong

App not in common use during the 15th and 16th cent. 13 *K Alis* 6023 (Laud MS) We habbeb many pryuee foo Pat willen I-lede to preuen vs, Bot bou bee make vigourous! *c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 9060 (K Ibing) Hoom bat was vigorous & lijt On be schold him bit a dint hard *c* 1400 tr *Secreta Secret*, *Gov Lordsh* 59 Euer ordeyn þ boughtes in goodnesse 3eld i-y selwyn glorious & vygorous. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 510/1 Vygorowse, *vigorous, ferox.* 1530 Palsgr 328/1 Vygorouse *vigoureux* vigoreuse 1621 Cotgr, *Vigoureux* vigorous, lustie liuely, strong 1658 Phillips, *Vigorous* full of vigour, strength courage, lustinesse *a* 1687 Waller *Prevaqe Rom Turkish Emp* 20 Bred in the camp, fam d for his valor young I At sea successful, vigorous, and strong *a* 1721 Prior *Dial Locke & Montaigne* Wks 1907 II 238 We commend a Horse for being Vigorous and Handsom 1780 Harris *Philol Ieng* Wks (1841) 450, I have seen great geniuses miserably err and, like vigorous travellers who lose their way only wander the wider on account of their own strength 1795 S & H Lee *Canterb T* (1799) I 350 Vigorous in health and youth, to him the water had long been an element almost as famil liar and as natural as air 1844 Emerson *Lect New Eng. Ref* Wks (Bohn) I 268 Men are Conservatives when they are least vigorous or when they are most luxurious They are Conservatives after dinner, or before taking their rest; when they are sick or aged 1852 Grekn *Short Hist* viii § 7 428 At forty five he was so vigorous that he made his way to Scotland on foot 1892 Mivart *Lyz & Cvst* I 161 The life of every healthy and vigorous animal consists mainly in the repetition of actions which have become habitual

b So of the body or its parts, health, etc

1618 J Taylor (Water P) *Pennilesse Pilgr* A nuj b, Mithridate, that vigorous health preserues. 1652 — *Yeares Wakes* (1859) 8 He was more then 80 yeares of age, yet of a very able body, and vigorous constitution 1683 Burnet tr *Moreri's Dictn* (1684) 131 Their Bodies are vigorous and lively 1708 *Lond Gaz* No 4469/4 Thomas Scott, round fac d, little vigorous Eyes 1784 Cowper *Task* iv 363 The learned finger never need explore Thy vig rous pulse 1813 Shelley *Q Mab* ix 65 How vigorous then the athletic form of age! 1841 A Combe *Physiol Digestion* (ed 3) 294 In twenty five days the dog was in the ei joyment of vigor ous health and strength. 1860 Maguire *Rome Pietro* xiv, I he strong frame, the vigorous pulse, and undimmed eye.

c Of plants, etc. Growing strongly and freely Also of growth or vegetation

1706 London & Wise *Retir d Gard.* I 109 Some Trees are weak children of strong and vigorous 1748 *Anson's Voy* I v 45 The vigorous vegetation which constantly takes place there 1783 Crabbe *Village* ii 119 I he tall oak, whose vigorous arms form An ample shade 1806 *Med Jrnl* IV 237 My strongest and most vigorous plants grow in a bed or bank sloping to the south 1842 Loudon *Sub Urban Gard* (1878) 31 In general the seeds produced by them [are] the largest and most vigorous of growth. 1881 T Moore in *Gard Chron* N S XII 242/1 Near the base of the stem are two prominent buds, which would produce two vigorous shoots.

d Manifested, characterized by, requiring or involving, physical strength or activity

1697 Walsh *Life Virgil* P 8 in Dryden's *Virgil* Which work took up seven of the wor k, in 8 years of his life 1721 Strype *Eccl Mem* No 260 P 2 The Duke of Norfolk and vigorous Manhood 1746 Francis tr *Horace Epist* I xviii 79 While He the vigorous Chace pursues. 1797 Burke *Regic Peace* (1851) I 115 I me n plentiful nour ishment to vigorous labour 1836 J H Newman in *Lyra Apost* (1849) 237 The keenness of youth's vigorous day Thrills my nerve and limb 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I ii 77 His professional visits to Roxburghshire and Ettrick Forest were in his vigorous life, very frequent 1895 Kane *Arct Expl* I xxxi 433 It requires the most vigorous efforts to tear the sledges for a single day's forward journey

2. Full of, exhibiting, characterized by, vigour or active force, powerful, strong

a Of natural agencies or phenomena, substances, etc Now somewhat *rare*

(a) 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VIII*, 57 b He had sayled no great waye before that a vygorous tempest ) re nson of contrarietie of w nds sodenly arose 1632 Lithgow *Trav* vi 295 [They] tumbled downe starke dead, being suffocated with the vigorous heate 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* xvi 105 We 3pply d a Load stone moderately vigorous to the out side of the Glass 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (R) I 201 The air was [in] a vigorous state, want of that vigorous heat which clears and rarefies it 1794 Sullivan *View Nat* I 209 At first they [ice m nsoons] are feeble, they soon become vigorous. 1909 H Balfour *Regality of Kerrieinuir* xxiv 215 Granted a more vigorous flow of water the Northmuir need fear no local rival

(b) *a* 1568 Fellie *Worthies* (1840) III 2 The fat of venison is conceived to be of all flesh the most vigorous nourishment 1691 Ray *Coll Words Making Salt* 209 A Rock of Natural Salt from which issues a vigourous sharp Brine 1693 Lister *Journ Paris* 111 364 The lusty vigorous Brine too fiercely wrought; And added Fury to the Strength it brought 1728 Chambers *Cycl Elaterium* is a vigorous Purge and Vomit 1760 Lethargies 1795 H Macneill *Hist* I 23 Of a more vigorous and h gh Spirit than the Hereford Cyder 1802 Mar Edgeworth *Mar I Forester*, *Fortune*, I shall needs scattered upon the vigorous soil took root and flourished 1826 Disraeli *In Grey* vi 1, A paint of most vigorous and powerful wine.

b Of the soul, mind, etc

1690 W Penn *Addr Quakers in D s Serm* C3 His mind was liberall, and unwearied in the search of knowledge with which his vigorous soule is now satisfied 1797 Mrs Rad cliffe *Italian* xvii His soul became stern and vigorous in despair 1800 in Southey *Comm Pl Bk* (1849) 111 Whilst they lay apparently senseless, their minds were more vigorous than they had ever been before 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vii II 226 His [Bunyan's] vigorous understanding and his stout English heart.

c Of immaterial things, qualities, etc

1634 Milton *Comus* 628 He Would shew me simples of a thousand vertues Telling their strange and vigorous facul ties 1662 H Hibbert *Body Divinity* II 105 All the core monies, services and sacrifices at that time through Christ were vigorous and f r his sake acceptable to God 1675 J Owen *In welling Sin* x (1719) 121 Suggestions of the Law of Sin, adva nt ged by any suitable or vigorous t emptation 1709 Berkeley *Th Vision* 74 As to the certainty I have experienced [in object] to make a vigorous and large appearance 1758 S Hayward *Serm* xvii 418 Grace may not be always in the same lively exercise sometimes it appears cold and indifferent at other times vigorous and lively 1791 Mrs Radcliffe *Rom Forest* ii 18 Whose hopes are therefore, vigorous 1837 Lockhart *Scott* x 347 In her calm sound sense as well as vigorous ability had unfortunately condescended to an absurd disguise 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* iii I 330 Where the o portunities of acquiring intellectual exercise were frequent. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 6 So vigorous and minutely penetrative was the quality of his understanding

d Of language, etc Energetic, forcible, powerful

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi, Doth your new spirit of chivalry supply no more vigorous ejaculation, when a noble struggle is impending? 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV ii, 40 It contains many vigorous pictures, and splendid verses. 1864 Tre velyan *Compleat Walltsh* (1866) 156 A notorious fount of vigorous English 1873 C M Davies *Unorth Lond* (1876) 43 A vigorous hymn was being sung

3 Of actions, measures, etc. Characterized by, attended, carried out, or enforced with, vigour or energy.

Freq connot ng some degree of boldness or severity

1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II 82 i hey had so sharpe and vigorous answere, that there was not one mantellet that made whole an houre 1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* i § 146 No Man could expect that the vigorous designs and enterprizes undertaken by the Duke, would be pursued with equal resolution and courage 1679 Everard *Prot Prince Europe* 12 [He] did also by his most vigorous Representations cause his Imperial Majesty to resolve to arm vigorously 1708 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 81 The allies made a vigorous attaque on the contencarpe of Kesserswart 1769 Burke *Corr* (1844) I 182 Various matters have so disagreed as to render me from a vigorous pursuit of this object 1777 Watson *Philip II* xiii (1822) II 171 This measure shewed how firmly determined the citizens were to make a vigorous defence 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* I 33 The Nizam s troops being either unable or unwilling to sup press the insurrection it became necessary to adopt more vigorous measures 1850 *Hillhouse's Syst Med.* VII 556 If in a severe case [of simple meningitis] vigorous treatment is adopted at an early stage of the disease, recovery is by no means hopeless.

b Of persons, etc Acting, or prepared to act, with vigour

1638 Baker tr *Balzac's Lett* (vol II) 115 Having you on my side and knowing you to be as vigorous a friend of mine, as I am [of yours]. 1701 Penn in *Penn-Pennsylv Mem* I IX 44 Be vigorous about my property matters. 1706 Burke *Let Noble Lord* Wks 1842 II 258 To be commended by an able, vigorous, and well informed statesman 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) II 12 A vigorous govern ment placed in circumstances of extreme peril

4 *Comb*, as *vigorous growing, looking* adjs

1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 37 When it is wished to have plants of a vigorous-growing species, see Kolbrewood *Col Reformer* (1891) 269 A frank, stout, gray haired, but vigorous-looking man

**Vi gorously,** *adv* Forms (see prec) [f. prec + -ly 2] In a vigorous manner, with vigour or energy, by means of vigorous action, measures, etc., actively and strongly

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III 142 Then the king Strak at the tothir wigorusly, That at the fyrst strak he him sleu *c* 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 1 The forth wente down to the pres vigorously fyhtyng with owten les *c* 1450 *Merlin* x 155 Thei smyten in a monge hem so vigorously that oon myght here the crassinge of harneys half a myle longe 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xvi 44 The people of the Ruyame of Fraunce after they beste thes prechyng, enterprysed so vigorously the werke of oure lord 1578 Banister *Hist Man* 1 b, Having vigorously followed my studies at Utrecht, Leyden Amsterdam, and France 1709 Strele *Tatler* No 1 P 6 Except more effectual Measures were taken for acting vigorously against the Enemy 1782 A Monro *Compar Anat* (ed 3) 304 Pronation is performed vigorously 1813 Sir H Davy *Agric Chem* (1814) 67 At the time the leaves are most vigorously performing their functions. 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I xxv 190, I saw Balmat thrust his hands into the snow and commence rubbing them vigorously 1877 Lady Brassey *In Sunbeam* IX (1878) 148 Cheery lookin g little dogs, barking vigorously

b Intensely, prominently

1638 Junius *Paint Ancients* 279 One or other inl gibned part of the picture becon meth more vigorously bright

c *Comb*, as *vigorously correct, disciplined, -phrased* adjs

1844 J Foster in *Life & Corr* (1846) II 60 There is no one thing, more urgently wanted than a class of vigorously disciplined young thinkers 1859 J H Ludlow *Hearing to Turkish* 12 A young man of such vigorously-correctness habits 1897 *Daily News* 31 March 8/3 The Lady Mayoress made a short but vigorously phrased plea.

**Vi gorousness.** [f as prec + Ness] The quality or state of being vigorous, vigorous condition, vigour

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 510/1 Vigorowsnesse *vigorositas, ferocitas* 1530 Palsgr 285/2 Vygorousnesse *vigueur* 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* IX 158 Perpetuall sparks of Vigor ousnesse they shot From the two fountes of their prospective fire. 1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* IX xvi 67 Her coming to the Crown inspirited the weakest and oldest with vig rousnesse and vivacity for a time 1709 Berkeley *Th Vision* 74 *Ibid* § 56 The vigorousness or faintness of the aforesaid visible appearance 1797 Bailey (vol II *Synrighticness* fulness of Spirit, Liveliness Vigorousness, 1800 Fleay *Mir f pl* 629 The fulness of health, that is, the vigorousness of in corruption

**Vigour** (vi·gəɹ), *sb* Forms 4– vigour, 4 5 vigoure, 4–6 vygour, 6 vygure, vygueur, vigour, 7 vigor, 5 vigore 6 vygor 4 5 vigor [a. AF *vigour, vigour*, OF *vigor (vigheur, etc.*, later and mod F *vigueur*, = Pr, Sp, It *vigor*, L *vigorꝰ*), nd. L *vigor*, *vigour* liveliness, activity, force, f *vigere* to be lively, to thrive, flourish, etc. In some instances directly ad L *vigor*]

1. Active physical strength as an attribute or

quality of living things; active force or power, activity or energy of body or constitution

a In persons, animals, or their limbs.

13 *E E Allot P* A 971 In wyth not a fote, To streck in he strete þou has no vigour, Bot þou wer clene with outen mote. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Lawes T* 845, I seye this entente That right wyod spirit of vigour sente To hem, and saued hem out of mechance So sente he myght and vigour to Custance. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab* 2738 There was no man durst hem assayle, Pr diede of here vigour 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v xii, Thenne the dogge toke strenghthe and vygour wherne 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 196 b Bycause thel wolde shewe hym selfe more than man he wolde after that all his blode was shed, reserue in hym vygour and vertue of lyfe 1588 SHAKS *L L L* iv iii 308 As mutton and long during as mutton tyres the sun, nowy vigour of the translater 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod* 259 His naturall strength or vigor was not abated 1667 MILTON *P L* xi 436 Now we find this our Empyreal forme Incorruptible and though peirc'd with wound, Soon closing and by native vigour heal'd 1680-90 TEMPLE *Lett Health & Long Life* Wks 1720 I 278 That the Natives and Inhabitants of hilly and barren Countries have not only more Health in general, but also more Vigour than those of the Plains. 1737 *Whiston Josephus* II 198 Thus He who runs or dances, begs the Gentle Vigor of the Two Legs 1775 HARRIS *Philos Arrangem* (1841) 289 Health and sickness, vigour and decay are all to be found in each individual of the human race 1785 CRABBE *Village* II 132 When Honour lov'd and gave their every charm, Fire to thy eye and vigour to thy arm 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 8 So that my vigour, wedded to my blood Shall stir and heat within thy pulses. 1841 LAMB *Arth Rex* I 113 And this is the cause that prevents the return of vigour to my body 1888 GOODE *Amer Fishes* 276 The Muskellunge, *Esox nobilior*, is the rival of the Pike in size and vigor

*transf* 1501 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S T S) lxxxviii 19 London, thou art the flour of Cities all, Strong Troy in vigour and in stremyour

†b Freq in ME. verse in the adverbial phrase *with* (*) *vigour* Also in pl *Obs.*

13 *K Alis* 1431 (Linc), Bope wip Coppe and wip vigour, He wan of þat lond þe honour 13 *Cœur de L* 1936 And ever men lokid after them wip wib fevoure, And shew them with great vigours *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 2322 Now habbeb bes fre suche lordes stouten conquered þe stronge tour, And habbeb a wyf, bi dryhtes oute þe Saxyne wib vigour *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 13339 The vitwardis met with gret hidoure, Thei rod to gedur with gret vigoure

c. In plants or vegetable growths.

1604 E D[ENISTON] *D'Accius His Italies* IV iii 209 Nature is contented to give them vigour to bring fo th fruites. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxix 90 It should be in this status, vigour and perfe ction, that a Plantation should be celebrated 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard* I 181 That the Branches for Wood may not shoot out with so much Vigour 1732 P. MILLER *Gard Dict* s v *Vine* The Vines must be annually dress'd according to the Vigour of the Plant 1807 J F SMITH *Phys Bot* 33 The more vigour there is in a tree the sooner is its albuminum made perfect wood 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 470 In order to equalise the production of fruit, and maintain a sufficient degree of vigour in the vines. 1856 STANLEY *Scand & Pol* VI (ed 3) 286 The tropical luxuriance of feeling out-runs all neat unnatural vigour whatever vegetation receives the life giving touch of its waters.

d. Const *of* (life, etc.) Sometimes with implication of next

1608 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev* III 1, Before I touch The banks of rest my ghost shall visite her Thou vigor of my youth, iuyce of my loue, heire on reuenge. 1736 BUTLER *Anal* I i Wks 1874 I 29 These seem to prove even greater vigour of life than bodily strength does. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* v § 1 212 The vigour of English life showed itself socially in the wide extension of common rights.

2 Mental or moral strength, force, or energy, activity, animation, or liveliness of the mind or the faculties

1587 W FOWLER *Wks* (S T S) I 22 In his youthe at that tyme when the senses had most force and vigour 1617 MORYSON *Itin* I 197 I considered, that those kindes of gaining onely required strength of body, whereas this and the like required also vigor of minde. 1677 TEMPLE *Pol, Gout* Wks. 1720 I 135 The vigour of the Mind decays with that of the Body 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 11 Those kindly cares, That health and vigour to the soul impart 1777 ROBERT SON *Hist Amer* VI Wks 1851 V 584 A race of men in their bodily constitution, as well as vigour of spirit, nearly resembling the warlike tribes in North America. 1823 GILLMAN *Aristotle's Ethics* II 308 The mind retains its utmost vigor to forty nine 1840 DICKENS *Barn Rudge* II, Leaving their hearts and spirits young and in full vigour 1856 SIR B HODGSON *Psychol Inq* I I 6 He had lost none of his intellectual vigour.

3 Active force or strength as an attribute of things, natural agencies, conditions, or qualities; intensity of effect or operation.

*a* 1445 GASCOIGN *Life St Bridget* in *Rel Lit Engl and* (Pynson) 125 Nat dredyng the vigour of the colde nor the impedyment of the great here. 1534-5 MORE *Treat Sacrament* (1576) 61 Although we beleeue it, yet is that beliefe in many of vs very faint & farre fro the point of suche vigour and strength, as would God it had 1554 W PRAT *Africa* C viij b, Moysines shed by nyght and by the vigueur of the sonne. 1590 SHAKS. *Com Err* IV iv 81 My bones beares witnesse, That since haue felt the vigor of his rage. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* VI 293 The vigour of the day gone, and the cooling night come, we aduanced 1638 R WILKINS *New World* XIV (1707) 129 The Loadstone does cast forth its own Vigour round about its Body 1653 W RAMESEY *Astrologus Restored* 72 Moreover a Planet that is hot and dry, is lessened of his vigour in a term that is cold and moyst 1789 W BUCHAN *Dom Med* (1790) 243 If at the turn of the disease the fever assumes new vigour, the patient must be bled 1798 FRERE *Thucyd* I *Introd* I. 12 They had seen absurdity in its full vigour 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xlv, Her enthusiasm was continually stirred to fresh vigour by the influence of Savonarola 1880 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* I 211, The crystalline vigour of a truth

b Of drugs, medicaments, wine, etc.

1548 BOORDE *Dyetary* xv (1870) 280 Borage doth set a man in temperaunce. And so doth buglosse, for he is taken of more vigor & strength, & efficacye 1599 A M tr *Gabelhouer's Ist Physicke* 23/1 Thus salue must be prepared before you annoynt your heade and it continueth in his vigor two yeares after other 1602 SHAKS *Ham* I v 68 And with a sodaine vigour it doth posset And curd The thin and wholsome blood 1664 EVELYN *Pomona* 2 xxix, It is a laudable way of trying the vigour of Cider by its promptness to turn

c Of words, quotations, etc.

1532 MORE *Confut Tindale* Wks. 613/2 Some thinges yet shal I shew you in this leste booke beside that shal haue much vygour and strength therin shut [etc.] 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ Conv* II (1586) 57 It is certaine that a sen tence hath so much the more or lesse force and vigor, according to the difference of persons from whom it com meth and of the words by which it is uttered 1596 *Edw I* III, I 1 44 The fiery vigor of thy words

d As an artistic or literary quality.

1774 MORTON *Phil Harmony Lang* 135 Vigor is added by the rapid flow of the short syllables. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev Lamps* III § 23 91 The relative majesty of buildings depends more on the weight and vigour of their masses, than on any other attribute of their design 1873 E SHUM *Werdenhoff Accepts* Ser I 255/1 If the whole picture is wanting in vigour and contrast, it is caused by over exposure. 1896 E HOLLAND *Wanderings* I 24 The painter has to suppress the two main processes till he has obtained the necessary vigour and depth in his work

4 Legal or binding force, validity. *In vigour*, in force or operation

1425 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 277/1 But þat neverþeles þapponitement stand in al thynge unhurte and in his vigor and strenghe 1455 *Ibid* 329/1 That the saide Lettre Patentes be in al thinges of vigore and effect 1644 MILTON *Judgem Bucer* xxii 6 Neither did she know the vigor of the Oath, wherein all cause of marying is debard from women, during their husbands live 1694 BRAMHALL *Just Vind* I. (1661) 4 Secondly, in abandoning the Court of Rome they make not any new Law, but onely declare and restore that Law which is the Lawes power vigor 1698 SIR G MACKENZIE *Crim Laws Scot* I xxiv § 2 (1699) 190 Then the former Act was in vigour, and so the Lords could not restrict the annulments to six years, gainst an expresse Law 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* VII 11 201 The Five Mile Act and the Conventicle Act were in full vigour

5 Strong or energetic action, esp in administration or government, the power, exercise, or use of this, esp as possessed by or as an attribute of a ruler or governor

Freq implying some degree of severity or rigour

*a* 1618 MONTGOMERY *Iron* IV iii 11. 279 The Cantons of Switzerland, by inviolable observation of theire leagues, constantly governed theire Commonwealth in the old viger 1712 *Spect* No 479 Never failing to exert himself with Vigour and Resolution in the Service of his Prince. 1741 C MIDDLETON *Cicero* I iv 234 The vigor of his Consulship had raised such a zeal and union of all the honest in the defence of the laws. *a* 1781 R WATSON *Philip III* II (1783) 143 When they reflected on the vigour and great abilities he had exerted during this campaign 1830 D ISRAELI *Chas I* III 61 Laud was the Star Chamber invested with a vigour beyond the laws. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* XIII The slaying of the guide was of course easy enough, and would look like no more than a shot publicans call 'vigour' 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* VII § 4 375 The issue of the Scotch war revealed suddenly to Europe the vigour of Elizabeth

b. In wider use Force, heartiness, energy.

1908 HEWLETT *Richard Yea* xxiii, Sometimes, when the vigour of their verses where the youth of their sonnes Took to flourish 1965 J SMITH *Select Phys* 153 [As a remedy for thirst take] the decoction of the Roots of Sorrel, which will look like red Wine, Give drink in the vigour of the Fever 1680 *Hist Earthq* 78 For the vigour of the Inflammation 1688 KYD *Homech. Philos* Wks. (1901) 244 They are in the vigor of their yeeres when the youth of their sonnes Take to flourish 1696 *Phil Trans* XIX 361 Where this Disease is at its state, or vigor, all the symptoms are worse 1798 FRERE *Monsr Nicolas* II 31 Is it not introduced in the vigour of his fancy 1822 LAMB *Elia's Distant Correspondents*, Your puns and small jests are extremely unseasonable at this time. Therefore suppress them in the instant of their birth 1842 D ISRAELI *Amen Ist* (1867) 544 Shakespeare, in the vigour of life withdrew from the theatre and the metropolis 1855 BROWNING *Honiton* II xxvii 99 The flower of his youth, and the vigour of his manhood were entirely devoted to science

†7 *By or in vigour of*, by force of, in virtue of. *Obs. rare.*

1656 BRATHWAIT *Rom Emp* 383 Who refused to perforine homage in vigour of a cession made by Albertus the Arch Duke 1841 HEYLIN *Hist Epist* II (1657) 366 By vigour of the Episcopall function, and the Authority of his Charge, he had power enough, to be straightway avenged of him for the same.

**Vigour,** southern ME. variant of FIGURE *sb.*

**+ Vi'gour,** *v. Obs*—1 In 7 **vigor.** [f. VIGOUR *sb.*] *trans.* To invigorate, to inspire with vigour.

1656 FELTHAM in *Ann Dubrensia* D 3 b, Nor does Apolloes harpe ere sound more high, Then when 'tis vigor'd from a Ladies eye

**Vi'gourless,** *a.* Also **vigorless.** [f. VIGOUR *sb* + LESS.] Destitute of or lacking vigour.

1798 *Mil Trans* I. 756 Indeed one can scarce call it living, merely to breathe, and trail about a vigorless body 1888 *Outlook* (N Y) Apr 483/2 The marked contrast between the vigorless conscience of Continental Europe, and the vigorous conscience of the Puritans. 1900 *Westm Gaz* 20 Jan 4/2 In those vigourless days of Whig ascendency.

**Vigourous(ly,** obs. forms of VIGOROUS(LY.

**+ Vigourously,** *adv* In 5 **vygour(o)sly.** [var. of VIGOROUSLY *cf villanously*, etc.] Vigorously.

*c* 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) xiv 155 I bet [at Damasin] gon often tyme in sowd and thei men tenen hem self right vygouresly *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 14192 Merveilleng sore what these knyhtes were, That so Vygourosly fowhten there

**Vigrous, Vig'rous,** obs. and poet fl. VIGOROUS *a* VIGURE, southern ME. var FIGURE *sb.*

**Vihte(n,** southern ME. var. FIGHT *sb* and *v.*

**Vijs,** obs f VISE *sb*, obs. Sc. f WISE *sb* **Viked,** ME. var WICKED *a* **Vikel(s,** southern ME. var. FICKLE *a* and *v*1 **Viker(y,** etc, obs. ff. VICAR(S, etc.

**Viking** (vai kiŋ). *Hist* Also **vikingr, -er, -ir, wiking, wicking** [ad. ON and Icel. *víking-r* (whence also Norw , Sw , Da *viking*, G *wiking*), = OE *wícing*, OFris. *wtsing, wising* Cf. also ON and Icel *víking* fem , the practice of marauding or piracy.

The ON word is commonly regarded as f *vík* creek, inlet, bay, + *-ingr* -ING 1, a name for one who came out from, or frequented, inlets of the sea The name, however, was evidently current in Anglo Frisian from a date so early as to make its Scandinavian origin doubtful *wícing sceadna* is found in Anglo-Saxon glossaries dating from the 8th century, and *se wícinga* occurs in the early poem of Exodus, whereas evidence for *víkingr* in ON and Icel is doubtful before the latter part of the 10th cent It is therefore possible that the word really originated in the Anglo-Frisian area, and was only at a later date accepted by the Scandinavian peoples, in like manner as it was probably from OE *wíc* camp, the formation of temporary encampments being a prominent feature of viking raids ]

1 One of those Scandinavian adventurers who practised piracy at sea, and committed depredations on land, in northern and western Europe from the eighth to the eleventh century, sometimes in general use, a warlike pirate or sea rover

*a* 1807 G CHALMERS *Caledonia* I iii iii 341 At the age of fourteen Iuffin commenced his career, as a viking *c* 1827 W MOTHERWELL *Poet Wks* (1849) 23 It is a Viking that Who kisses thy hand 1838 CRICHTON *Scandinavia* I 276 Hakon commanded the intrepid Vikings to be put to death 1864 [H W WIEBELMANN] *Lect Hist* (1847) 23 It is a Viking that I 8 When the 'Viking or pirate vessel bore the Vikinger or dreaded sea pirate to the opposite shores of Britain

*fig* 1840 LONGF *Skeleton in Armor* 1 Speak! I am a Viking old! 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI v, A fleet of vikings from Norway ravaged the western coasts 1877 BLACK *Green Past* xxviii, I am already convinced that my ancestors were vikings.

**+** 1857 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1877) I iv 165 He [Rolf] is described as having been engaged in the calling of a wiking 1868 *Ibid* II vii 96 I he wikings harried far and wide. 1883 VIGFUSSON & POWELL *Corpus Poet Bor* I 139 The warden of the land had the heads of many Wikings (pirates) cut short with keen weapons 1904 F. RICHEY *Xenfer* 53 Beyond that, we were Wickings, back to the time of Odin

2 *attrib*, as *viking age, expedition, invader, line, ship, vessel.*

1847 I A BLACKWELL *Mallet's Northern Antiq* 86 Halfdan enriched himself by successful Viking expeditions 1862 [see 1 *c*] 1866 G STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I 256 The lower compartment is a noble Wiking ship 1867 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1877) I App 665 He may have joined the Danes or have done anything else in the wiking line 1881 *Daily News* 2 Sept 2/2 This Viking ship, with its sepulchre chamber, in which the Viking had been buried 1883 VIGFUSSON & POWELL *Corpus Poet Bor* I 259 The Northmen confederates of Hialmar invaded Ireland 1885 DU CHAILLU *Viking Age* I 11 26 We must come to the conclusion that the 'Viking Age lasted from about the second century of our era to about the middle of the tenth

Hence **Vi'kingism, Vi'kingship,** the practices or spirit of vikings.

1880 STUBBS *Lect Stud Hist* (1886) 222 The conquest of Palestine was to Robert of Normandy a sanctified experiment of 'vikingism. 1889 ROBERTSON & HANNAY *Shetland* 239, I prefer their total lack of interest in seafaring matters to the blatant Vikingism of the average male. 1893 G. STEPHENS *Runic & Hieratic Monum. Essays* 15 *Wikingship began to be felt as an unbearable curse.

**Vikit, Vikkid,** -it, obs. Sc. ff. WICKED *a*

**Vil,** obs. f VILE *a*, obs. Sc. f WILL *sb* and *v.*

**Vilain(e,** etc, obs ff. VILLAIN, etc. **Vilains(ly,** var. VILLAIN(LY *Obs.* **Vilainly,** -ye, obs f. VILLAINY. **Vilans,** var. VILLAINS *a Obs.*

**‖ Vilayet** (vilā yet). Also **vilayat** [Turkish, ad. Ar. *wilayeh, yet* district, dominion.]

A province of the Turkish empire ruled by a vali, or governor general.

1869 *Times* 15 Oct, Those Ottoman subjects who have passed an examination will be admitted for three years as boarders to the Lyceum in each chief town of a vilayet. 1880 *Fortn Rev* Feb 174 An honest man is sent to introduce reforms into some vilayet. 1884 *Pall Mall G* 5 April 1/1 Everything seems to be going as well in the late Vilayet of the Danube as it is going ill in the Pashalik of the Nile.

**Vilayn,** obs form of VILLAIN.

**+ Vild,** *sb Obs*—1 (Cf next, but perh. an error.) 1609 *Lowton Perilous* I 165 My daughter is missing; hath been looked for; cannot be found A vild upon thee!

**Vild** (vaild), *a.* *Obs* exc. *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6–7 vylde, 6 7 (9) vilde; 6 *Sc* vyld, 6–7 (9) vyld, 7 vil'd [Variant of VILE *a*, with excrescent *d* The earliest instances are Scottish (cf *tylde* for TILE *sb*1), but the form is extremely common from *c*1580 to 1650] = VILE *a*, in various senses. Of actions, things, etc

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 481 The morne he sall go to the deid maist vylde Howbeit he be ane vyle gottin Chylde. 1568 HOWELL *Arb Amitie* (1879) 35 Shall I be prest in simpler sort and vylder case then hee 1597 J PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 24 Since whose vile death manie a good Christian have bene no less vmbraded and reproched 1598–9 E FORDE *Parismus* i (1661) 49 With great patience he endured the imprisonment, continuing in that most vilde place *a*1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 38 Her breath should be as horrible and vild, As ev'rie word you speake is sweet and mild. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 158 A vild thing thus to force and wrong Nature 1723 CROXALL *Orig Canto Spenser* XIV (1714) 24 With Wrath cruel vild he then reweng'd the wrong 1748 THOMSON *Castle Indol* II XXVI O hide thy head, abominable war! From Heaven this hie 3sprung from hell thy glories vild! 1767 MICKLE *Concub* I XX, Long'd to wreak angrie then Gan vile of shame and heaviour vild complain 1809 Scott *Last Minstrel* III XIII Could he have had his pleasure vilde He had trampled the joints of the noble bird 1853 *N & Q* 1st Ser. VII 234/1 (N C) 8vyngs), Looks as vild (worth less) as a pair of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmith's shop 1866 EDMONDSTON *Gloss Shetland, Vild*, dirty, filthy, vile

b. Of persons.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 122 Quhen I was impotent, Fragile, vaine vylde, and pure 1581 RICH *Farew* (1846) 216 The desolate damsell ceased not to rebuke the vilde caitive 1588 BARNFIELD *Lo Pr Tr* (1598) 53b The good Prophet had a bad seruant a vilde Gehezi. 1608 TARLTON *Cobler Canterb* (1844) 218 Vilde strumpet as thou art 1648 (GAULE *Pract*.) 115 Too how the wisest Earth Worme now turnes against thee! 1656 HEYLIN *Surv France* 324 That vilde Butcher (Herod) caus'd to cut in sunder Esaey Male children of two yeares old and under 1661 MICKLE *Concub* I XXII, She clept her Lemman and vild Sluit aloud 1665 GIDLEY *Alcies* 145 Their influence mild Withdrew from presence of those monsters base and vild, Intolerance and Injustice

*absol* 1597 SHAKS 2 *Hen IV*, IV 1 I 15 O thou dull God why hast thou set this world the vile In loathsome Bed? *Ib* 1607 — *Timon* I 1 13 When we for recompence haue prais'd the vild

**Vild**, obs Sc form of WILD *a*

**Vilderbeeste**, var WILDEBEESTE (gnu)

**† Vilderey** *Obs*—1 Also 7 vilderie A kind of some fabric 1789 *Lloyd's Even Post* 30 Oct–1 Nov 420/3 Damasks, Vilderoys, Paolis, corded Tabbies.

**Vildever**, dial variant of FIELDFARE

**Vildirnes**, obs Sc form of WILDERNESS

**Vildly**, *adv* Now *rare* or *Obs* [f VILD *a*, Common *c* 15–50–1650] = VILELY *adv*

1575 CHURCHYARD *Cheapfe* (1817) 127 So vildly agaynst my honour and trueth 1588 BARINGTON *Prof Lett Lord's Pr* (1596) 234 I to haue true good will so vnkindely yea so vildly requited 1600 MORYSON *Itinerary* II 338 Can I (am I) off with that noble title th'u becomest it vildly 1635 *Theophania* 162 If Pyrmenio had sense of honor he could not thus vildly betray the verrie life of his honor 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Book Conf* II. Wks. 1716 II 20 They are vildly loth to lose their domineering, insulting Kingdom of Darkness. 1748 MORGAN *Phœnix Britan* II XXIII 82 *Gent Coll Poems* (1753) IV 150 Have I not cause to weep from rising morn To see my dearling s fame thus vildly torn?

**Vildness**, *Obs* exc *arch* or *dial* [f as prec] = VILENESS.

1597 J PAYNE *Royal Exch* 35 What vyldnes and wycked nes is not fownd in many of you? 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 46 Enraged with a consideration of the vildenes of his men, [he] brake from them in a fury 1607 MARKHAM *Caval* 1 (1617) 22 His inward parts may retaine a secret vildnes of disposition which may be insufferable 1654 F CALAMY *Serm* 30 Oct (1655) 2 The body of vildnesse shall then be a body of glory 1866 EDMONDSTON *Gloss Shetland* 140 *Vyldness* dirt filth

**Vildyveer**, dial variant of FIELDFARE

**Vile** (vail), *a*, *adv*, and *sb* Forms 3–4 vil (3 vill, 4 vvil), 3–5 vyl (3 wyl), 5–6 vyll, 3–7 vyle (4 vyle, 5–6 vyld, 6 vylle), 3– vile (3–4 ville, 4–5 wile, 5 *Sc* wille) [*a* AF. and OF. (also mod F.) *vil* masc, *vile* fem (= Pr, Sp, Pg. *vil*, It *vile*) —L. *vilem*, *vilis* of low value or price, cheap, common, mean, base]

**A** *adj* 1 Of actions, conduct, character, etc. Despicable on moral grounds, deserving to be regarded with abhorrence or disgust; characterized by baseness or depravity

*c*1290 *S Eng Leg* I 398/4 Pare ne scholde vil dede ne word neuere fram hire wende 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 4504 Modred huld hire in spousbruche, in vyl flesses dede. *Ibid* 10093 He nuer he scolde wurche be of pis vil tresnas 1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 1586 Here wordys were al vyle & waste. 1377 LANGL *P Pl* B XIV 79 So vengeaunce fel vpon hem, for her vyl synne. 1393 *Pol C* 331 Thenne gan fadli foully be false fewes to despisen, And calde hem 'caytifs a corsed, a vyl as vil vilanye *c*1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 216 The Spritwow Wrous be weist for his vyle dedis, Lyand in lichory, laith, vnlovaible 1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 67 Summe thinges that ye loue & preyse ar euil and vyle 1580 DAUB tr *Stellanee's Comm* 65 These wycked theues cloke al this abomination with the cover of Christianitie, which is the vylest and moste vnworthiest thing, that can be imagined *a*1586 SIDNEY *Psalms* v liv. Let their vile thoughts the thinckers ruine be 1605 BACON *Ess*, *Envy* (Arb) 517 It is also the vilest Affection, and the most depraued 1651 HOBBES *Leviath* II xviii 89 Not onely an act of an vniust but also of a vile, and unmanly disposition 1671 MILTON *Samson* 376 If aught seem vile As vile hath been my folly who have profan'd The mysterie of God 1727 DE FOE *Hist Appar* III (1840) 22 Turning the whole frame of nature upside down by his vile doings there. 1784 COWPER *Iliroc* 761 Within some pious pastor s humble cot. Where vile example May never more be stamp'd upon his breast 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 80, I see already that from the world, vile as it is, you have nothing of courage to fear 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii That abandoned wretch, of whose vile arts he became a victim 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* v I 555 The Earls past life had been stained by what they regarded as the vilest apostasy

**b.** Used to qualify nouns denoting faults of mind or character *rare*.

*a*1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* IX 2 A vile errour it is þat sum men hauue, þat God does vnrighteusly *Ibid* XIV 1 Here is he vile pride of men confoundid 1567 *Satyr Poems Reform* lv 91 Quhat sall I wryte of youre vyle vanitie?

**c** Of names, etc. Implying (moral) baseness or depravity

1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 383 This greeved the moste, yt their religion was described by so vile & con temptuous a name 1580 SIDNEY *Arcad* III 111 107 Where is Demetrius? oh how fit a word Is that vile name, to perish on my sword! 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMING *Voy S Seas* Pref He knew not a Gentleman or Merchant, or this English Merchants in a very vile Light 1 2 1800 A YOUNG in Baxter *Libr Privat Agric* (1846) II p xxiv, I am disgusted with such vile assertions. 1808 FRERE *Monk Mariana* (1872) II vii 316 This was the vilest epithet in the English language.

**2** Of persons Of a low, base, or despicable character, morally depraved or degraded, capable of the basest conduct

*a*1300 *Cursor M* 1153 Wit all bon sal he halden vile, Quar sa þou wendes in exile 1303 R BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2597 Syf an okerer myȝt founde be Pey helde hym vyler þan a Sarsyn 1377 LANGL *P Pl* B XIV 79 So vengeaunce fel on pe traitours vile, Sparep nouȝt, ac sle doun rist *a*1400 50 *Alexander* 186 Pan sall þat victoure gow venge on your vile foes 1598 Wyrrall *Conc* Depruilland Hum as sottis vile For to lieff it fayntly, And leif lowndearis crayfelly 1600–10 DUNBAR *Poems* xx 14 In cumpany chess honorable, And fra the vyle fekit craw he far pe mair 1758 COVERDALE *Job* xv 16 An abhominable and vyle man, which drynckeih wickednasse like water 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 248 b, Ther were vile ydle beggers vnder the hoode 1603 DEKKER *Batchelars Banquet* Wks (Grosart) I 196 I pray thee wife tell me where lies thy ghetto? wherevpon the vile woman fetching a deepe sigh makes this answere 1677 EARL DORSET *Def Libel Answer* (1679) 11 I must say I was a vile woman who has t'in guilty of several wicked practices here 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sp trrow* 429 Notions like these, from vile Hearts, prove false Religion 1711 ADDISON *Freeh* No 2 1716 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II 47 I was against the making use of so vile a man 1807 CRABBE *Par Reg* III 578 A vicious life in the state, Thro' vile attorneys for the weak prepare 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* v I 591 In every age the vilest spectacle is of human nature are to be found among Parliamentary Committees 1866 ROSSETTI *Goblin Mkt* (1862) 37 With that vile lad to head them off, they would have stumbled through the woods.

*absol* 1865 HOOKER *Talla R*, *Fire Worshippers* II 278 Bondage grows foo vile for ev n the vile to bear!

**b.** Applied to animals, esp of a destructive or dangerous nature

1578 *Newes* (*t*) 16564 Par fore hu drade ln dedli nsme After in a fen on white Pai be-come dragouns vile 1393 LANGL *P Pl* C XXI 158 Of alle f etynge venymes þe vilest is þe scorpion *c*1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 88 The Howlet wylest of wyngis, Raikit vnder the 13.. *Gaw & Gol* 1 *Wallace* XI 287 Lordis, behald inwy the wyle dragoun, In cruell fyr he bynnys þat religion

**3** Physically repulsive, esp through filth or corruption, horrid, disgusting

Also depreciatingly applied to the body

*a*1300 *Sarmun* iii in *E E P* (1862) 2 To hedrid if we hold loke we ben vile 1340 *Ayenb* 10 Ine comse *Ord* iv, Hit is wel vile þat commiþ vte 23 *Seuen Sages* (W) 1353 Was nowt the bot of wit bereued, Whan he tok his fader heued, Pat a vil gonge dung hit inne! *c*1390 HAMPOLE *Prose Comic* 610 He seyes: Suld thynk of be wrechednes of his body, þat is vile inclosid 1567 PRYNNE *Will in Documents agst P* (Camden) 56 My vile body I bequeath to the dust. *c*1738 *Wesley Journal* (1744) 129 Arms as in glorious Grave Shall these vile Bodies raise 1746 FRANCIS tr *Horace*, *Epist.* II II 106 Hence runs a maddiug Dog : Thence a vile Pig polluted with the Mire.

**b.** Filthy, dirty, etc. Mean, wretched

1526 TINDALE *Jas* II 2 A man in goodly apparell and a poore man in vyle rayment 1560 DAUS tr *Stellanee's Comm* 463 b, I beg þat vpon ham a most vile garment 1591 SPENSER *M Hubberd* 465 Faire vnfit it is, that person base Should with vile cloaths approach Gods maiestie. 1783 CRABBE *Village* I 209 Such is that room Where the vile bands that hand the chairs at e seen, And lath and mud are all that lie between 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v 1 85, I will pass, wrapped in a vile disguise; Rags on my back.

**4** Of conditions, situations, treatment, etc Base or degrading in character or effect, ignominious. *Durance vile* see DURANCE 5

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 4374 Wanne hu wolde nolleman, as 3e beþ, bringe in so vil servage 1340 *Ayenb* 181 Huo set him let ouercome be his ulesse, he is ine a wel sorzuol þreldome and wel vil *c*1400 *Destr Troy* 2140 Hit sittis va sill, þ or to proffer our persons & our pure goodes, To venge of our kinsmen and our vile harme *c*1480 *Henrelok Hynt* i 146 Thou has vs doyn a vyle dispyte, and broght thi self to sorow and sitt 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 83 Many thousandes of men lende vnto vs miserable & vyle captiuitie 1653 R SANDERS *Moles xxvii* 15 A Mole appearing on the lower part, or tip of the right Ear To a Woman it predicts she is desperately forlorn and of most vile conditions 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 616 Rescue my poor Remains from vile Neglect. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II iii, Such base born children ought to be brought up to the lowest and vilest offices of the Commonwealth 1770–94 (see DRANCE 5) 1784 COWPER *Verse* 456 To work at a vile trade For wages so unlikely to be paid 1879 FARRAR *St Paul* (1883) 689 He had been a slave, in the vilest of all positions

**5** Of things Of little worth or account, mean or paltry in respect of value, held in no esteem or regard Also *absol*

*c*1320 *Cast Love* 1112 Woldestou þi finger þeue, So vnworþ and so vyl chaffare to bugge? 1340 *Ayenb* 82 Hi ne conne de-ne bettere precious on vil 1390 GOWER *Conf* Prol I 33 This world That wt whom was so magre fied And now is old and feble and vil 1486 LYDG *De Guil Pilgr* 21232 A thyng of no valu And Most wyl off reputacioun 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 81 b The transytory honours of this worlde sholde appere to vs vyle and nought 1580 DAUS tr *Stellanee's Comm* 333 b Thei doctryne began to wexe vyle in their eyes more and more. 1670 *Moral State Eng* 24 Who contemneth Religion as a vile thing? who never nameth God but in his Oaths or Burlesque? 1 2 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* III 173 The vilest and commonest stones. 1698 R BARCLAY *Apol Quakers* v § 23 171 That it may cut off Iniquity from him, and separate between him and the Vile 1700 ROWE *Amb Step Moth* I 1 261 All returns are vile but Words the poorest. *Ibid* 424 Everlasting Fame Grows vile in sight of thee 1709 *Tatler* No 181 ¶ 3 That low And sordid gravitation of his pow rs To a vile clod 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal & Helen* 667 All that others seek He casts away, like a vile weed Which the sick soil engenders 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IX 288 And all the feasts that thou hast shared erewhile With other kings to mine shall be but vile. 1878 BROWNING *Ag Sanctus* 75 Thou sea, wherein he counts Not one inch of vile dominion

**b** Similarly of persons (or animals)

1340 *Ayenb* 133 Pe zobe milde wyle by hyzilde uor vyl, nayt ase milde y praysed 1390 GOWER *Conf* Prol I 119 To so vil a povere wrecche Him dede pite 1580 DAUS tr *Stellanee's Comm* 398 b Thei vsa Barth *De P R* VI XIV (Bodl MS) Soche children for trespas be made vile pore ser vaunites. *c*1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 61 Ane vile catyve wrecche, and wyle vnworth ly thing 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov* 8 His bondemen and moste vile servauntes 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb) 72 Suppose me them Judges that are moost abiecte and vyle in the congregation 1579 SPENSER *Sheph Cal* Oct 37 Abandon then the base & vile vplet clowne, Lyft vp thy selfe, vnto thy selfe be true 1653 W RAMESEY *Astrol Restor* 245 They shall be indigent, poor and vile 1674 *Gent Trayne* II 20 Ld God only that hath power of annihilation send vs vile beggers here to steal that incommunicable right. 1718 POPE *Iliad* II 2, 5 But if a clamorous vile plebeian rose Him with reproof he check'd, or tamed with blows

**† c** Cheap, low (in price) *Obs*

*c*1490 *Rule St Benet* (Caxton) 134 To bye suche cloth that is made in that countre or prouynce of the wilest and lyȝtest and vyle 1542 CROWLEY *Epigr Lord Chan* 185 I marry, thinke he made my bloude vylar tl en golde 1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus Annt.* VI IV (1622) 127 The value of lands was rated at a very low and vile price. 1 2 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 21 ¶ 2 *Thus* 1 1 61 For he thats so respectlesse in his course Oft sels his reputation vile and cheape

**6** Of poor or bad quality, wretchedly bad or inferior

Now freq used as an intensive to express strong disapproval or disgust

*a*1300 *Leg Kende* (1871) 34 Pe tre was wil and old 13 *A Scite* 50 3 (Laud MS) Porouȝ goddes wreche (þey) þoken awey In þat lande vile corne 1560 *Lond Treas Pley* 2574 I was þer hadde a vile nyȝt It myȝt haue ben no worse weder Off heuene & erthe hadde gon to gedur 1 1496 *Rule St Benet Rennet* 2000 þai shal haue vile bed & vile forest þai sal not be, Bot þe wil st 1521 *Bradshaw's St Werburg* Prol 20 [He] take the pryme and laboure Thy legende to man late Out of thy vyle corage 1560 *Lond Treas Pley* 2574 I was þer hadde a vile nyȝt It myȝt haue ben no worse weder Off heuene & erthe hadde gon to gedur 1 1496 *Rule St Benet Rennet* 2000 þai shal haue vile bed & vile forest þai sal not be, Bot þe wil st 1521 *Bradshaw's St Werburg* Prol 20 [He] take the pryme and laboure Thy legende to man late Out of thy vyle corage 1560 *Lond Treasy

vile harted cowardree 1607 Tourneur *Rev Trag* I i, I wonder how ill featur'd, vile proportion'd That one should be [etc] 1660 Jer Taylor *Duct* I v rule 8 § 6 The necessities of women married to morose vile natur'd husbands. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* II 290 The Hâyil princes are perhaps mostly like vile spirited in their youth.

**B** *adv.* = Vilely *adv* Now only in combs

a 1300 *Cursor M* 16462 ludas stode for to be bald and se His vile pat pat wit him delt *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 2145 Ofte sith hit is sene That a victor of a victe is vile ouer conuyn 1590 Spenser *F Q* IV x 18 The noble daughter of Corineus Would not endure to be so vile disdaind 1595 Shaks *John* II i 586 A most base and vile-concluded peace 1600 Marston *Antonio's Rev* IV v No, no song I twill be vile out of time. a 1734 North *Lives*, *Cwillford* (1890) I 288 Roe was a close servant of Monmouth's, which comes vile near siding against his master and benefactor the Duke of York 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 1/3 The vile smelling tramp on which we had taken passage

† *C* 16 A base or despicable person *Obs*

*c* 1450 *Lonel Tryg Bk* 818 Sche wolde be more certayn That he schulde here no-wayes be gile Ne holde here affire for no vile *c* 1460 *Song of Lokand* 76 They sy nnyd so sore in pat ylk while that many men wept and cursid pat vile 1530 Palsgr 285/1 Vyle a knaue, *vaulant*

† **Vile,** *v Obs* Also 4, 6 vyle, 4 vill [ad AF and OF *viler* to blame, revile, or aphetic for Anvile *v*]

**1** *trans* To bring to a vile or low condition to abase or degrade Also *refl*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 80 Pus pis he bigan is mone Alas alas pou luper wate [= Fortune], pat vilest me pus one, Pat pus clene hringst me adoun *a* 1300 *Leg. Kath* (1871) 34 Pe tre was vil and old *a* 1400 *Pearl* 1180 Our lord also pat hem poste put tre to vair pat he were ful vnclo 13 *E E Allit P* B 883 Auoy! hit is your vylanyne pe veyen your seluen 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de V. 1531) 228 That the hye god omnipotent wolde vouchesafe to vyle hymself so lowe 1530 Palsgr 765 2 Thu oughtest to be a shamed to vyle thy selfe with thyn yuell tonge.

**2** To revile

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 25509 So i lauerd i has felun puus das and night vild [*Fairf* reuiled] pe wit al pair might

**3** To defile

*c* 1400 tr *Mayden* (Rolls) VII 147 In pe nyzt bysore he viled hym self [L *se fedauisset*] with a comoun womman

**Vile,** southern ME var Filb *adj*

**Vile ootte,** obs. form of Wilfeoat

**Vilefy,** obs. form of Vilify *v*

† **Vilehead** *Obs* = [F Vilté *n*] Vileness

1340 *Ayenb* 230 Huanne pe man knuph his pourehede, pe vilhede, pe brotelhede of his berne,e

**Vilein, Vilein-** see Villain, Villein, etc

**Vileins,** variant of Villains *Obs*

† **Vilely,** *a Obs* In 5 villiche filoch [f Vile *a* Cf next] Vile in appearance

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* R v vi (Tollem MS) The fayrer it was by his first onynge to be fyle pe more unsemely and pe more vilicbe [*Bodl MS* filich; L. *vilior*] in quenchynge of pe fyr

**Vilely** (vai·lli), *adv* Forms *α* 3–4 villiche (4–5 illiche), 4 vylliche vyllyche *β* 3–5 viliche (4 vileche), 5 vilich, 4 vilike, wilik, 4, 6 vyly, 6 7 vyile, 4, 6–7 vily (4–5 vill), 6 vilie, vilye *γ.* 4 5 vileliche (5 villiliche), 4 vilelik, 4, 6- vilely [f Vile *a* + -ly 2, after AF and OF *vilement*] In a vile manner (in various senses of the adj)

*a* 1300 *Sing Leg I* 206/82 Huy nomen and drowen pat holie man villiche poruz pe strete, poruo huy comen with oute toun. *c* 1300 *Marguerite* 123 Pilate sente tendre flesch so filliche to drawe was so; Alles hou muste eni man for reuhe such dede do 23 *Seuyn Sages* (W) 1435 And than before the folk him bring, And thourgh pe toun him villiche drive 1340 *Ayenb* 133 Pet is wylinz to by 3 byealde vyl and villiche to hy y drage.

*β a* 1300 *Cursor M* 18833 Pus buried on him vilker pan he had ben a hund 1382 Bruner *Handl Synne* 2609 No man was so hardy To bryng hym hyng openly, pat he ne shulde vyly be shent *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* 1. 6 Hatben men sal vilere be shamed 1388 Wyclif *2 Esdr* xviii 28 Be ye war, lest it caste out vilche also 3ou in ilk manere. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 6912 Vlixes, his anne coyn,

*To venge of pat vilany* [etc] 1405 *Eng Gaw Ireland* 4 Of the schame pat hyme was done & of pat pat he was so vilich out of hys kynd lond I dryue 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet* 56b We should make our adversaries to be lothed if we declare how cruelly how vilie, and how maliciously they haue vsed other men heretofore 1568 Leighton *Chron* II 61 For I neither cowardlye shrinke, nor vilye forsake my flocke committed to my charge 1616 Chamfney *Voc Bpt* 119 For which reason doubtles do our English Puritans esteeme so vily of ordinations made by Bishops. 1697 Gale *Crt Gentiles* I 1 § 6. 31 It is a vile thing vily to obey any vile thing such as sin is

*γ* 13 *Cursor M* 16951 (Gott) He pat neuer no sin did, ne wones all he bare, And wilelik for vs was ledd 13 *K Alis.* 3068 (Laud MS) Ne had myne hauberk ben pe strongere Pou haddest me vilely yslawe *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Mankode* iv ii (1869) 175 Pilke beste was disgused so vilelliche, and so foule figured bat [etc] 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 186 Declaringe howe vilely, vylaynously, and violently he had byn vsed of owre men. 1582 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii (1887) 261 So vilely to abuse, where they ought to honour 1611 Bible *2 Sam* i 21 The sheild of the mightie is vilely cast away 1694 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III 462 The commons [were] enraged at it and spoke vilely of the Earl of Abendon and his son—called them Jacobites 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl Anson's Voy* 144 This so generally received, tho' vilely mistaken Opinion, has caused many poor Sufferers to Endure more than from the Distemper itself 1766 Goldsm *Vic W* xxxi, How is it sir, that his daughter [is] vilely seduced as a recompence for his hospitality? 1815 Scott *Guy M* xxi, Some drawings I have attempted but I succeed vilely 1856 Mrs Browning *Aur Leigh* IX 619 A woman proud As I am, and I m very vilely proud 1894 Gladstone *Horace* III v 20 Swords, that Roman stomach had been from unreasuring legions vilely ta en Lands. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* II 290 The Hâyil princes are perhaps mostly like vile spirited in their youth.

**Vileness** obs form of Villeinage

**Vileness** (vai·lnés) Also 5–6 vylenes se, 6–7 vilenes(se, 6 vylynesse, [f Vile *a* + -ness]

† **1.** Foulness, filthiness, foul matter *Obs*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P* R viii xxvii (Caxton) 341 Thoughe it passe by vyleynesse and fylthe, it is not defoylled 1599 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 229 By suche vileines disfigure they nature Their chekes dirtie their teeth by rotines Their foule and rotten expresseth their vileines 1530 Palsgr 283/1 Vylenesse nothyng clenly *folardise* 1552 Huloet Vileness, fylth, or ordure, *sordes*

**2** The quality or character of being morally vile moral depravity, baseness of character

1496 *Dyetc Percy Soc* (W de W 1531) 169 b secondarely [are to be considered] the vylenesse, vnkyndnesse & vnworthy lesse of man to that loue 1555 Bradforth in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III App xxiv 128 The natural disposition of the spaniards whose vylenes doubtles I cannot shewe 1588 *Marpref Epist* (Arb) 32, I will so lay open your vileines yat I will make the very stoones in Kingstone streets shall smell of your lewdenes 1633 *Life Long Mcp of Wexfor.* xvii 46 (Hindley), I do enjoin you that you come into the church, and there declare to the people the vileness of your sin 1677 Barrow *Works* (1687) I xii 85 God being most holy and pure we sensible of our corruption and vileness may be fearfull and shy of coming near to him 1693 Congreve *Way Worlds Introd* xiii (1697) 18 He ex patiates on the Vileness of the Times. 1740–2 Richardson *Pamela* (1783) III x 45 Her Vileness could hardly be equalled by the worst Actions of the most abandoned Pro curess 1769 *Lett Junius* I (1788) 37 Judges are superior to the vile arts of pe unruly corruption 1850 Lennyson *In Mem* lx, Is this the end for which we toil'd To rule our inner vileness that we dread? 1868 F Edwards *Ealegh* I 118 One of the very few worthies who had redeemed the vileness of a reign 1879 R. White *Cent Rev Reign* 95 The vileness of the tempter which affros ts the Eternal Mercy by the response of a scoffing cnticism

b An instance of this

1863 Pusey *Lect Daniel Serm* 14 When years of life have been pent in such preference of self will, ambition vileneses to God 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N* § 79 Ghastly convulsions in blood and vileneses in action

**3** Any mean condition

1549 Coverdale etc *Tvamin Par Rom* xv 4t He ther fore submitted hym self to our vilenes, to thend I le would by lyttle and lyttle exalt vs to a hygher state

**4** Untrue or baseless or mean thoughtlessness

1723 I. Thomas in *Portland Papers* (Hist MSS Comm) VI 74 One [picture] which, upon accou t of the vileness of the work, ought not to have been placed there. 1807 Anna M Porter *Hungar Bro* (1830) 40 While she plied the modelling sticks, or the chisel with equal vileness.

**Vilens(ly,** var Villains(ly *Obs*

**Vilentyne** see Volentine

† **Vilens,** *adv Obs rare* [a OF *vullesse* ( *esce*), var *vuellesce*, etc (mod F, *vuellisse*), f *vuel* old] Old age

*c* 1340 Lydg *Mm. Poems* (Percy Soc) 32 Thouhe she be yong, yet wol she take a buffard riche of gret vilesse. *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Mankode* iv ix (1869) 181 Pou shalt, quod she, wite whan pou hast seyn vilesse and pat she shal becomen in bee And where is vilesse, quod i and where shal hit bee, and what thing is it? In ch le, p 200, of this work the reading *vilette* is prob an error for *vilece*]

**Vilet, Vilet,** obs forms of Violet

† **Vilety,** *Obs* Forms *a* 3–5 vilte, vilte, 4 filte), 4–5 vylte, 6 vilty *β* 4–5 vilete, 5–6 vylete(e, 6 vilety, 6 7 vileti [a. AF and OF *vilte* (= It *viltà*, Pr *viltat*), f *vil* Vile *a* Cf Vilth] Vileness, in various senses, a vile action

*a* 1250 *Ancr R* 30 Pe vorste sunne pat is hweche wis, he ledde hat lif on eorde 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 108 Gret vilte pou askest ous wanne we of one kunde Beb some 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 5302 He bat was hanged on a tre Bysyde Ihesu for vilte. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. 22 pat pou wil pat pou ill did and see pi vilte 13 *E E Allit P* B 1005 Pe veyen yet in pis bone bereued I bernde Pat euer he wrek so wyberly on werk pat he made, Ne venged for no vilte of me synne. *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* lviii Proloc 3303 B

†b. To make morally vile; to degrade, also, to defile or dirty. *Obs.*

1628 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Taylor's Rev* Wks. (1630) II 146/1 Such Motley, Medley, Linsey Woolsey speeches Would sure haue made thee vilifie thy breeches 1629 H. Hutton *Follie's Anat* (Percy Soc.) 19 You vilifie your selfe with endleasse shame, Imposing scandall to each poet's name. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI 513 Their Makers Image then Forsook them, when themselves they vilifi'd To serve ungovern'd appetite 1684 *Contempl. St Man* I. IV (1699) 38 Altho' the Soul be of it self of a most Noble Substance, yet his Vices do so much vilifie it, that he makes it more abominable than the Body 1781 [see Vilifying *ppl. a.*]. *absol.* 1749 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) I 440 Nothing vilifies and degrades more than pride.

†c. To bring disgrace or dishonour upon *Obs*

1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt* 139 The Anabaptists resisting the most plentifull godly Ministers, and reproaching and vilifying them, by their wicked lives. 1656 Earl Monm *tr. Boccalini's Advis fr Parnass* I lxxxvii (1674) 117 [They] blush to think that their Ancestors have so shamefully vilified their house 1674 *Scheffer's Lapland* ii 31 Their Priests, who either take no care of instructing the people, or vilify their doctrine by the sordidness of their lives 1749 Smollett *Regicide* I. x, Heav'n shall not see A deed so abject vilify my name.

**2** †a. To depreciate or disparage in discourse, to talk slightingly or contemptuously of *Obs* (passing into next)

1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I (1595) 77 Your Vncles care, was by vilifying his wealth vnto you to purchase for you the endowment of a farre more greater and assured treasure *Trade* II Burton *Treat. Wealth* 288 The Pontificians so much depressing and vilifying his owne indisposition 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr* (ed 2) 71 As these Sectaries vilifie others, so they magnifie themselues 1667 Anne Wyndham *Lady Conceitus* (1681) 53 Some envious persons have sought to diminish and vilifie the faithful services which the Colonel performed 1691 Ray *Creation* I (1692) 162 To disparage, deride, and vilifie those Studies which themselves skill not of. 1736 Butler *Anal* II iii. Wks 1874 I 180 I express myself with caution, lest I should be mistaken to vilify reason 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 127 P 2 The disposition of vulgar minds to ridicule and vilify what they cannot comprehend

b. To depreciate with abusive or slanderous language, to defame or traduce, to speak evil of. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* Prol (1599) 168 When I once hear some span new come fry Of Innes a court striuing to vilefy My dare reproofe. 1624 Gataker *Transubst* 12 After he hath thus spent some part of his railing Rhetorick in traducing and vilifying the Protestantical Diuine his Aduersary 1659 T. Fuller *Pharmacopr* 175 Mother in-Lawes, Poets much Vilifie 1670 Baxter *Cure Ch. Di.* Concl. Pref § 5 Not to hate and flye from one another; nor to vilifie and backbite one another 1723 Steele *Prejudice no* 13 B 1 I shall not vilify what is so rer. Please sure in seeing him employed in vilifying me. a 1720 Sewel *Hist Quakers* (1795) I iv 348 One of those persons whom even his enemies could not vilify without praising him. 1764 T Hutchinson *Hist Mass* III (1765) 351 Randolph, in return, vilified Dudley, in a great number of letters. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* I xxxvii The priestly party spared no effort to vilify me 1850 Mrs Jamieson *Lyc Monast Ord.* (1863) 115 He was slandered and vilified by the corrupt monks 1881 G. Brodrick in *Oxf Guard* 11 May 7/1 Those who had devoted their whole influence to vilifying such a remedial policy

*absol.* a 1834 H Reed *Lect Eng Lit* iv (1855) 439 So artfully does he misrepresent them, so vehemently does he vilify.

†3 To regard as worthless or of little value, to contemn or despise *Obs.* (Common in 17th c.)

1598 Marston *Sco Villanie* III x (1599) 223 Opinion mounts this froth vnto the skies, Whom iudgemente reason instly vilifies. 1641 Baker *Chron. Hen I* 60 A private man, vilified, and thought but little of in his owne Neighborhood Heylyn *Cosmogr* IV (1682) 64 Gold here so vilified that they exchange it gladly for Brass 1671 Trenchfield *Cap Gray Hairs* (1688) 30 For no man but vilifies that person in his own estimate, who is loose bodied upon that account.

†4. *intr* To become common or worthless, to lose value *Obs* —1

a 1654 Binning *Sinners Sanctuary* x. Wks. (1735) 210/1 It is an ignorance that magnifies other Mysteries, which vilify through Knowledge

Hence **Vi lified** *ppl a* , **Vi lifying** *vbl sb* and *ppl a* , **Vi lifyingly** *adv.*

1848 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiv. He knows how willingly Clement Blair will lay down a vilified life upon earth 1811 Bible *Transl Pref* P 12 Their second defence of their vilifying and abusing of the English Bibles 1843 Chas. *Preacher* Wks. 1662 II 345 To countenance the vilifying of the Book of Common Prayer 1676 Hale *Contempl* II 183 In the midst of all the Vilifyings that the World heaps upon me 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pharisee & Publ.* xv, I will not recite all the 'vilifying language which he was affronted with 1793 Stanhope *Paraphr* I 81 That vilifying Malice and Contempt, which Pronii and Portugals People let fly at Them and their Office 1781 J Moore *Voyage* VI *It* (1790) II 1 68 Free from all the vilifying effects of dirt 1688 Bunyan *Holy War* (1701) How diligent also tends the Town of Mansoul to speak contemptuously, and 'vilifyingly of their great King Shaddai

**Vilike,** obs f. Vilely *adv*

**†Vi·lorate,** *v. Obs* —1 [f L *vilior*, compar. of *vilis* Vile, after *meliorate*] *trans* To make less good, to worsen.

a 1730 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 303 There is a medium in the watery temperature of the earth, either extream of which vilorates the juice

**†Vi·lio rity** *Obs* —1 [f as prec.] The fact of being cheaper or of less value.

1703 [R Neale] *City & C Purchaser* 281 Mr Wings Prices are much cheaper than those about London; which proceeds from the Vilority of Commodities in his Country

**Vilipend** (vi lipend), *v* Also 5–6 **vylypende** (5 **pilipend**), 6 **vilypend**, 7 **villipende**, 8 **-pend**, 6 **vilipend**, *Sc.* **veilipend**, 6–7 **vilipend(e** [a Of (also mod F) *vilipender* and L *vilipendere*, f *vilis* vile, worthless + *pendere* to consider, esteem Cf It. *vilipendere*, Sp and Pg *vilipendar*]

1 *trans* To rate or regard as being of little value or consequence, to contemn or despise, to treat contemptuously or slightingly.

Very common c 1500–1660, in some cases not clearly distinguishable from sense 2

c 1470 G Ashby *Active Policy* 105 For your hurte of them discended, In whome al vices ben vilipended c 1480 Henryson *Fables, Lion & Mouse* 135 For thy trespas thow can mak na defens, my noble persoun thus to vilipend 1492 Caxton *Vitas Patr* (W de W 1495) I xxxvi 46/1 The chyrches were pylled and the sacred vessels vylypended or dyapysed 1502 Athynson tr *De Imitatione* iii xlvii (1893) 234 The more profoundly he descendeth in humble knowledge of hym selfe and vylypendyngs hym selfe 1573 J. Lloyd *Marrow of Hist* (1653) 137 Pindius was threatned with death to vilipend so great a Goddess and to make her in liuty, which was wont to be honoured in Marble 1606 Holland *Sueton* Annot 25 Whom they did vilipend and despise, they were wont to cast stones at their Images and Statues 1635 Swan *Spec. Vert* II (1643) 331 The terrible accidents that succeed eclipses may not be forgotten nor vilipended 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v 251 Since, thanks be Jove Bumgentry is not so valid Choose not a Fiend State, while yours is so frail, Unless Salubrity you vilipend 1772 Shollett *Humph Cl* 4 Aug I would not willingly vilipend any Christian, if perdventure it deserveth that epithet 1824 Scott *Waverley* A youth devoid of that petulant volatility, which is impatient of, or vilipends, the conversation and advice of his seniors 1856 Kane *Arct Expl* II 182 The learned Richard Hunt was esteemed for vilipending his lordship a jurisdiction 1879 Farrar *St Paul* II 213 Thus then is the proof that the doctrine of Justification by faith is not new to Scripture, and does not vilipend, but really establish the Law

**2** To speak of with disparagement or contempt, to represent as contemptible or worthless, to abuse or vilify (Common in 15th c.)

a 1549 Skelton *Bk 3 Poles Wks* 1843 I 202 If that I am assealed with hostilite, then will he vilipende me with thy wordes a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen I III*, 246 b, Vilipending all holy Religion, affirmyng, it to be ben an vsuion of the people 1584 *Legend of Cornelius*, vilipends he me with dede diminish, vilipend, and debase among his friends, the inestimable benefites hee hath receiued from her Majesty 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III v 800 Some vilipend and vnderprise both good and bad 1611 Speed *Hist* ix. (1632) 1 Iam the obiect of her detestation She will seeue her opportunity to vilipend me

Hence **Vi lipended** *ppl a* , **Vi lipending** *vbl sb* and *ppl. a* Also **Vi lipender,** one who vilipends, **Vilipendatory** *a* , abusive

1835 Hor. Smith *Tor Penang* I 9 Pleasant was the well known revenge of the 'vilipended author 1849 H Mayo *Lay Sermons* (1851) 127 The 'unvilipended influence of Mammon 1879 Farrar *St Paul* II 514 He is reserved to be laughed at with the mathematical 'vilipender of Milton's poem 1596 *Sir Jas. Perrot Commit Sect* I 163 I wanted the vilipending of my Honour, but was not 1626 Bp Andrewes *Comm. Decalogue* 398 (T.), If it be to the scorning and vilipending of a man, it may be called the sin of the men of Succoth who laughed Gideon 1659 G. Noble *Anim. Imm. & Quercrec* 6 What greater vilipending can be cast upon any man? 1884 *Manch. Exam* 20 Feb 4/7 An occasion for a whole sale vilipending, of the Government 1878 *Hist Lords & Commons* 15 Neither security or preamption ... of their owne greatness, nor 'vilipending and slight regard of the contrary a 1720 Fountainhall *Decis* I 548 The Lords considered his 'vilipending expressions and carriage, and thought that deserved a fine 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* xii Sir Bingo ... was in a thoughtless and wilful manner 'vilipending his neighbours 1818 Coleridge *Lit* (1838) II 195 The passionate Rome's and the vilipending Mercutio 1884 *Kendal Mercr & Times* 22 Feb 5/3 If vilipendatory rhetoric could overthrow a Government then Mr Gladstone ought to have collapsed

**†Vilipe ndency,** *Obs rare* [f prec. see -ency] The expression of disparagement or contempt.

1653 Waterhouse *Apol Learn* 149 The mighty Goliahs of Rome, who by their way of vilipendency hope to give our Clergies flesh to food for the birds of the Air a 1670 Hacket *Abp Williams* I (1692) 77 Some Lords, not content with vilipendency, would have this contempt against the 5 relates inserted in their Journal Book

**†Vilipe ndious,** *a Obs rare* [f as prec. Cf. Pg *vilipendioso*] Contemptible. Also **Vilipe ndiously** *adv* , abusively, opprobriously

1538 in Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) III 168 [They inquired whether Cromwell] whom they called most vilipendiously [was put out of the King's council]. 1630 [Taylor (Water P.)] *Laugh & be Fat* Wks. II 79 t Th o use he hoose rubbing peasant, being but a vilipendious mech anical Hostler

**†Vilipe nsion.** Chiefly *Sc Obs* Also 4–6 **vilipensioun,** 6 **-pentioun,** 7 **vilepension** [a OF. *vilipension*, *-pention*, or ad. med L *vilipensio*, noun of action f L *vilipendere* Vilipend *v* Cf also It *vilipensione*.] The action or fact of contemning or despising

1466 Sir G Hayt *Gov Princes* (S T S) 98 Mekle lauchter engenderis vylipensioun and lichtlynes quhen it excedis 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii 116 I rejoiss in be exaltit artro 5ai cc, derisioun scornie and vilipentioun 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 519 With so grit schame and lak, In vilipensioun of the nobill blude 1574 *Regr Privy Council Scot* II 386 Committand heirthrow contemptioun and vilipensioun of his authoritie and lawis 1608 *Ibid* VI 377 In gritar contempt and vilipensioun of hir Majestie 1654 in *Misc Cl Misc* III 274 In vilipension of his precious blud sched for me and mankynd

b. The condition of being despised

1538 Abp Brown in *St Papers Hen VIII* (1834) III 6 The very occasioner and author off the vilipension and contempt that I am yn

**Vilipe nsive,** *a* [f ppl stem of I *vilipendere* see -ive.] Abusive

1824 *Blackw Mag* XVI 3 Strains not simply laudative of Oporto, but vituperative and vilipensive of Bourdeaux 1838 *Fraser's Mag* XVII 488 Southey tacks vilipensive prefixes and postfixes to several of them

**Vility** (vɪ·lɪti). Obs exc arch Forms 5–6 **vilite,** 6 **vylyte, vylite, vilitee,** 6 7 **vilitie,** 7, 9 **vility** [a OF. (also mod I) *vilité* (var of *vilté* Vilety), ad *vilitas*, f *vilis* Vile *a* see -ity So It *vilità*.]

1 Vileness of character or conduct, moral degradation or baseness.

1388 Wyclif *Deut* xxiv 1 If she fyndith not grace befor hise eyen for sum vilite [L. *foeditatem*], he schal write a libel of forsaking 1526 Pilgr *Perf* (W de W 1531) IV (1890) 190 That all vylyte or synne specyall thyn owne synne & foulenes, displeasse the 1549 Chaloner *Erasm on Folly* F iij, They seeme to be more then in to yelde their valiant soules to God any where els than in a foughten fielde 1599 Sandys *Trav* 30 *for* 'pice (1632) 209 I then surely I vse not now so great courage to dread him, as to flatter our selues and our vices with vilitie

1888 Dolchy *Arabis Deserta* I 550 Zelots, who of their natural vility were busy bodies, questioners of other men's religion

**†2** a. Mean or low estimate *Obs* —1

c 1430 I *ger Lyf Manhode* I lxi (1869) 37 For charitee holdeth in cheertee that doth ere bolden in vilitee

**†3** b. Meanness of price, cheapness *Obs*

1549 *Compl Scott* xx 170 Al our gloire veltht and dignite sal change in vilite c 1550 *Disc Comm on Weal Pref.* (1881) 13 It neerwhe more then now in our age a vilitie and contempte of the thinge, will occure in the feate of hus bar dine at all 1596 Bell *Surv Popey* II iv 165 He suffered in time of his infancie baseness of his mothers w mb povertie, aspe rsion in his younger ye 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 221 The vility of habits [i e dress] should be measured by the custome of every country

**†3** Imp urity. Filth *Obs*

1540 *Sc Acts Jas V* (1814) II 374 2 Becaus of be vilite bat cumis be slayng of fleis be be fleschevris 1545 Raynald *Lyfth Abortyues* (1626) 11 Let the vilitie and vilest part of the outher blod separated from the purer for the vilitie & euil qualitie therin conteyned

**Vill** (vil) Also 5–6 **vyll.** [a AF *vill, vile* Cf *ville, ville, vile* form, country house, village, collection of villages around a city (mod F *ville* town) —L *villa* see Villa *sb*]

1 *Law* and *Hist* A territorial unit or division under the feudal system, consisting of a number of houses or buildings with their adjacent lands, more or less contiguous and having a common organization, corresponding to the Anglo Saxon tithing and to the modern township

1596 Bacon *Maxims Com Law* iii (1630) 14 If part of the ville is his severall and part his waste and common a 1625 Sir H Finch *Law* (1636) 261 A plea of land which is for land or other such things in the ville, whereof it is to be brought in a ville or place knowne out of any ville And not in a hamlet which is parcell of a vill 1672 Manley *Cowell's Interpr s Vill*, is sometimes taken for a Mannor and sometimes for a Parish, or part of it a 1676 Hale *Hist Com Law* (1677) 215 There are very many more Villa and Hamlets now than there were then, and very few Villages, Towns or Parishes that are not now divided into that Day 1721 *Act 7 Will in Lond Gaz* N 5917 6 Any Parish, Township, Hall or Extraparochial Place 1768 Blackstone *Comm* IV 291 The party raising it must acquaint the constable of the vill and thereupon the constable is to search his own town, and cause all the neighbouring ville *Archæol* XLII 1 *Antiquaries* 136 This borough [i e Stablegate] was some time past erected into a ville in order to maintain its own poor 1839 Stonehouse *Archæol* 218 One ... was on all houses have been built here, but they are hardly sufficient to constitute a hamlet or vill 1874 Stubbs *Const Hist* I i 54 The word organisation of the vill may be clearly set perhaps with that of the mark 1891 Atkins *Suff Hundred* (ed 2) 87 If there were more than one [hel] in which the

2 *pleon* A village

a 1700 Kay *Dynamidic* Poet Wks 1721 III 383 Parochial Priests we never had in every Vill Who under them should saving Truth instil 1814 Wordsw *Excurs* VII 100

Among the tenantry of thorpe and vill Or straggling burgh
1821 Clare *Vill Minstr* II 69 In every vill at morning's earliest prime, To early risers musty a Hodge is seen 1834 Sw H Jaelon *Arric tide* II iii 81, so in field or forest Or in wall d town, I y stipend lured or vil Surprised and sack d, by turns he lived at large.

†3 A villa *Obs rare*

1688 tr *Fortescue-Aland* [Constanti e] died in ye publick Vill of the City Nicomedia 1755 Amory *Mem* (1756) II 61 He saw a vill that seemed to him of wood and consisted of ground rooms. 1766 *Bemis* (1770) III 203 The vill here was very odd but a charm ng pretty thing The house consisted of [etc.].

**Vill**, obs 8c. form of Will *a*

**Villa** (vi la) [Partly a I. *villa* country-house, farm, etc., perhaps a diminutive from the stem of *vicus* village, hamlet, country seat, partly a. It *villa* (whence also F, Sp, and Pg *villa*) from the same source ]

1 Orig, a country mansion or residence, together with a farm, farm buildings, or other houses attached, built or occupied by a person of some position and wealth, a country seat or estate, as later and more general term, a residence in the country, or in the neighbourhood of a town, usually of some size and architectural elegance and standing in its own grounds

a Among the ancient Romans, Greeks, etc

1615 G Sandys *Trav* 274 Passing by Cicero Villa, even at this day so called, where yet do remaine the ruines of his Academy 1644 Stapylton *Juvenal* 111 Who built so many villa s? when wast knowne Our Fathers with seven dishes satisfied? 1697 Warre *Life Virgil* 83 The beautiful *Villa s* of the Roman Nobility equalls y the Magnificence of the greatest Kings 1772 H Walpole *Portuus Ancet Paint* (1786) IV 254 Pliny has left us descriptions of two of his villas As he used his Laurentine villa for his winter retreat [etc.] 1781 Gibbon *Decl & R* xxxvi (1787) III 441 The villa was pleasantly seated on the margin of the lake 1797 S Lysons *Roman Ant ig Wood hester* 16 The remains of a Roman house or rather, perhaps of a *villa* 1838 G R Porter *Porcelain & Glass* 269 The ruins of a villa built by Tiberius in the island of Capri 1838 Thirlwall *Greece V* 92 The dwellings which were thickly scattered in the neighbourhood of the capital seem to have been chiefly villas of the more opulent sojatrains. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* iv 32 Their great men had country houses and villas, the surest sign of a settled state of society

b. With reference to modern Italy or other Continental countries

1612 Coryat *Crudities* 113 A certune Gentleman called Bassano lived at a villa that he had in the country 1636 Massinger *Gt Duke Florence* Act 1 And how I pass you all or we, that never lo k beyon l our villas Must be inquisitive) are st ile affairs Carried in court! *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Feb 1644 We went to see Cardinal Rudolea s villa at Ruell *Ibid* 10 Nov 1644 We went to see Prince Ludovisio s villa The house is very magnificent and the extent of the ground is exceeding large 1738 (S Johnson) *C de Lue a s Mem* (1758) 238 Their Villa's or Palaces of Pleasure, are scattered all over the Country 1756–7 tr *Keysler's Trv* (1760) I 410 The road from Pistoia to Florence exh bits no villa s or plantations to the view, and consequently there s the greater number of them in the neighbourhood of Florence 1806 Dallaway *Observ Ing Archit* x 231 He capriciously dismisses of an Italian villa 1838 *Murray's Handbk N Germ* 320/1 On the borders of the Havel is the little villa of Gillenecke once the rest dence of the minister Von Hardenberg 1905 G Thorne *Lost Causes* iii The gay villa at Nice by the old citadel of Mont Albano

c. In English use Now merged in next.

1711 Shaftes. *Charac* III *Misc* iii 184 *note*, Be hold the Disposition and Order of these finer sorts of Ayrt ments, Gardens Villa s 1748 Hanbury *Observ Mans* iv §1 427 The Villas and Cabinets of the Noble the Rich and the Curious 1799 *Med Jrnl* I 338 The profits of some of whom are so extravagant, as to support them in enormous magnificent town houses and country villas. 1830 Praed *Poems* (1865) II 227 Hurrying madly after marriage To some lord s villa. 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1677 A villa should always form part of a village, and be placed if possible on rather high ground 1842 Gwilt *Archit* § 3000 The villas at Boot Cray and Mereworth, imitations of Palladio s Villa, Capra are the maxima of villas be yond the s ville becomes a man sion

*fig* 1748 Young *Nt Th* ix 1732 What behold I now? A wilder ness of wonders burning round, Perhaps the villas of descending gods!

d Hence, any residence of a superior or handsome type, or of some architectural pretension, in the suburbs of a town or in a residential district, such as is occupied by a person of the middle-class; also, any small better class dwelling-house, usually one which is detached or semi-detached.

The word is frequently employed in the names given to particular houses of this type, as *Winchester Villa*

1755 Johnson *Connoisseur* No 81 P 4 I cannot help observing, that persons polite enough to be fond of such exquisite refinements, are partly in the same case with the mechanic at his dusty Villa 1781 Cowper *Retirem* 481 Suburban villas, highway side retreats, That dread th en croachment of our growing city 1792 A Young *Travels France* (1889) 114 To Havre de Grace, the hills almost covered with little new villas 1825 C M Westmacott *Eng Spy* I 218 Incongruous edifices called villas 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* iii I 349 No long venues of villas, embowered in lilacs and laburnums, extended from the great centre of wealth 1853 R S Surtees *Sponge's Sp Tour* ii. 6 The farm houses are dotted about as thickly as to look like inferior 'villas' falling out of rank. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt Royal* II ix 167, I wish you would let me build you a villa at Torquay or Dartmouth.

†2 (See quot) *Obs* —1

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 May 1645, In these [valleys] are fure Parks or Gardens call d Villa, being onely places of recesse and pleasure at some distance from the streetes, yet within the walls [of Rome].

3 *attrib* and *Comb* a Simple attrib. (passing into adj), as *villa architecture, garden, -gate, style, work*, etc., **villa house**, †(*a*) a house attached to a villa, (*b*) a villa residence, **villa dwelling, residence, or** = Villa 1 c, d

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov 1644, In the villa house is a man s body petrified 1813 Scott *Let* 13 Mar in *Lockhart* What I shall finally make of this villa work I d n t know 1828 R Lugar (*title*) *Villa Architecture* 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1620 All the essential com forts of a villa dwelling *Ibid* § 1624 Of the Choice of a Situation for a Villa Residence 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* iv iii, A dwelling house, built in what is called a villa style, with a variety of gardens and conservatories. 1855 Browning *Old Pict in Florence* i, The aloed arch Of the villa gate 1876 Oulda *Under Two Flags* xii 367 Nine. Miss was organising alfresco dinners in villa gardens.

b In instrumental or similative combs, as *villa-dotted, -haunted, like villa* Also in objective or obj gen. combs, as *villa dweller, owner*, etc

1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 264/1 The houses are for the most part neat and villa like 1857 Miss Craik *Fair France* 154 Flat tame, and villa haunted, what we should call Cockney 1861 Miss Braddon *Aspholdel* III 148 The smiling waters of Thun, with its villa dotted shores *a* 1894 Stevenson *Lay Morals* etc. (1911) 123 It is from the villa dweller that we hear complaints of the unworthiness of life 1898 *Engineering Mag* XVI 35 This sort of villa owner s selfishness

Hence (in nonce use) **Villaette** (vilăe t), a small villa, **villadry** (vi lădri), *v trans*, (*a*) to turn into a villa; (*b*) to cover with villas

1836 *Tait's Mag* III 563 Sweet nesting cottages and villaettes upon the shrubby brass 1862 W H Russell *Diary North & South* I 286 31 272 Pretty villaettes [sic] in charming groves of magnolia orange trees, and lime oaks. 1884 *Harper's Mag* Aug 338/1 [The château] has been restored and 'villafied' 1887 *Oxford Mag* 9 Mar 129 A railway has villadried villa by the shores of Rydal

**Villadom** (vi ladom) [f Villa + dom ] The world of villas, suburban villas or their residents collectively. (Freq in recent use.)

1880 *Macm Mag* May 76 Respectable and well to do villadom 1882 *Punch* 20 Jan 27/1 Villadom 1888 Earl of Dufferin *Heroe Lodge* I 1 2 Oases in the desert of gorgeous villadom 1897 S S Sprigge *Life Wakley* xxv 233 The street still remains a specimen of suburban villadom *attrib* 1898 *Daily News* 2 Mar 5/6 The roads look to be of the lower villadom type

**Village** (vi ledj), *sb* Forms 4– village, 5 **vylage**, **vilache**, 5–6 **vyllage**, 5–7 **village**, 6 **villadge**, *Sc* **village**, **-aige**, **welage**, also *pl* 6 **vyllagies**, *Sc* **villagies**. [a OF *villa*, *e*, *village* (mod F. *village*), = Pr *vilatge*, Sp *village*, Pg *villagem* (fem), It *villaggio* —L *villāticum*, neut sing of *villāticus* of or pertaining to a villa, f *villa* Villa see -age Cf. late L. *villagium*, *vilatgium* ]

1 A collection of dwelling houses and other buildings, forming a centre of habitation in a country district; an inhabited place larger than a hamlet and smaller than a town, or having a simpler organization and administration than the latter (Cf. the note to Town *sb* 4)

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard T* 225 Henne ouer a myle, with in a village *a* 1400 *Sir Ionne Degre* 491 He had not ryden but a lytell While Or he was ware of a vyllage 1442 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 184 A Cundrede in frensh and in Irysh, is a Porcion of grounde that may contene an hundred Plowes 1477 Rolls *Parlt* VI 184/1 In any Toune or other village not corporat *c* 1515 *Cocks Lorell's B* 14 They sayled England thorowe and thorowe, Vyllage, towne, Cyte, and borowe 1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 85 Much carting, till village makes som to file village 1600 Shaks. *A Y L* iii. iii. 60 A wall'd Towne is more worthier than a village 1611 Speed *Theat Gt Brit* ix 18 A large and ample village containing to the number of sixe thousand or mo families 1617 Morison *Itin* I 51, I handled the matter in more pleasant sort in the large and ample village containing to the number of sixe thousand or mo families 1627

1819 Byron *Let to Hoppner* 6 June, I shall go back to Venice before I *village on the Brenta.. 1867 McDowall *Hist Dumfries* 211 144 William I raised it [Dumfries] from humble *villagedom to be one of the King's own burghs 1881 F. T. Palgrave *Visions Eng.* 4 O er the land it wrought the happy villagedom by English tribes From Elbe and Baltic brought 1890 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV (1900) 312 A *villageful of gay companions 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 401 They come down in villagefuls among the older tribes 1820 *Murray's Mag.* May 561 Caudebec is only redeemed from pure *villagehood by its possession of a Mayor 1889 Hissey *Tour in Phaeton* 169 An old and lonely country church, standing by itself *villageless, on rising ground 1858 Thoreau *Lett.* (1865) 371 Let it be a local and *villageous book 1768 tr. *Busch Eng.* v. 331 *Geog* IV 72 The town contains some corporations of villages or *villagelings. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 493/2 We strolled *villageward. 1884 May Crom Meliin *Brown Eyes* xix Then the two groups went back villagewards. 1772 Nicholson *Hist. Westmorland* VI 169 To say, 'Command me, in every thing, they would think a vulgarity and *villagism

**Village-like,** *a.* [f. Village *sb.*] Like or resembling a village or that of a village

1838 Hr Martineau *West. Trav.* I 251 The village like character of some of the arrangements at Washington 1840 Arnold *Hist. Rome* (1846) II xxxv 437 They lived mostly in villages, or in small village like towns. 1884 Mc-Kay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 186 The town no longer presented a village like aspect

**Villager.** [f. Village *sb.* + -er 1.] One who lives in a village, now usually, a working-class inhabitant or native of a village

1570 Levins *Manip.* 80 A villager, *villicus.* 1601 Shaks. *Twel. C.* II. iii. 172 Brutus had rather be a Villager Than to repute himself a Sonne of halfe so good a these hard Conditions. 1634 Milton *Comus* 166 Som harmles Villager Whom thrift keeps up about his Country geer 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan's* 50 No Chariot for the Villager is seen 1790 *Young Brothers* II. i. Each villager Is queen of her affections. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 47 Vast districts which the nearest villagers took possession of 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. i. The desolate parsonage was committed to the charge of one of the villagers. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U.S.* IV. § 214 All Frenchmen, alike townspeople and villagers, were free.

*transf.* 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prospt.* (1865) 36 These waterie villagers [=fish] with thousands more, Doe passe and repasse neare the verdant shore.

Hence **Villageress,** a female villager, a village girl or woman

1873 M. Collins *Miranda's* II. 22 The villageresses were terribly jealous at first 1894 D. D. Whistler *Disc. & Fish* 101 She was so indifferent about what the squiresses and villageresses might say about her

**Villagery** (vi·lėdʒĭri, vi·lɪdʒəri) Also 6 **villagree** [f. Village *sb.* + -(e)ry] Villages collectively

Now chiefly as an echo of the Shakspearian passage.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 35 Are you not hee That frights the maidens of the Villagree 1822 W. Tennant *Thane of Fife* III. i. Crowning with flowers from all her copsewoods nine Of villagery 1839 Galt *Demon Destiny* (1840) 5 A state bright appeared Of rural villagery 1883 *Hackw. Mag.* Jan. 76/2 Unkempt mountain pomes startle the maidens of the villagery

**Villaget.** *rare* [f. as prec. + -et Cf. older f. *villagette* (Godef.)] A little village

1781 *Touring Papers* Ser. II. (1883) 81 The mountains are for some distance, so close to the river as to scarce allow room for even a village 1846 D. W. Pudge *Hist. Welch Castle* 26 Nantwrog is a romantic village!

**Villagy,** *a.* [f. as prec. + -y] Somewhat village like

1882 *Advance.* (Chicago) 21 Dec., Washington Street lays aside entirely the villagy aspect commonly ascribed to it 1889 A. I. Pask *Joys I have not* The quiet westerside, so villagey, and all that kind of thing is now

**Villagio,** ettor or misptr for *villago* Villiaco

1820 Scott *Monast.* xv, I rely good villagio, your question hath in it somewhat of embarrassment

**Villain** (vi·lan), *sb.* 1 forms: *a* 4 **vylayn,** 6 **villein(e**; 4 **vilaine,** 4 5 **vylayn** (5 **vil**), 5–6 **vylayne,** 5 **vyllayn,** 6 **ayne, -aine,** 5–7 **villayne** (7 **-ayn**), 6–7 **villaine,** 7– **villain.** *β* 4 **velaun,** 6 **vyl-, vilane** (*Sc* **voill-, vill, willane**), **villan, wellanst-,** 7 **villiane,** 7–8 **villian,** 8 **villin** [a AF. and OF. *vilein, vilain, villain* (→ Prov. *vilan,* It and Sp *villano,* Pg *villão*) –pop L. **villan** *nus,* acc. sing. of *villanus* (= Late Gr. Βιλλάνος), f. L. *villa* Villa. See also Villein ]

1 Originally, a low-born base minded rustic; a man of ignoble ideas or instincts, in later use, an unprincipled or depraved scoundrel, a man naturally disposed to base or criminal actions, or deeply involved in the commission of disgraceful crimes. a Used as a term of opprobrious address

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11557 Goddys treytour, and nyȝt ryfyer! Hast þu mynde of Marye Maudelayn, 1320–30 *Horn* CA. (Rason) 857 The begger answered in that tide, Vilaune, cunestow nought ride? 1376 *Sir Ferumb.* 5471 Þanne he cryde and gan to asayn ' Whar artow now, Charla, how vylayn?' 1501 Douglas *Pal Hon* I. lviii, Ane we hand, quhilk sand and great disdenyeit, ' Aunst veillane, thow reckis unperfit 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* vi, Villaine have I not bound thee to tel me any thing? 1596 Shaks. *Tam Shr.* I. ii. 90 Now knocke when I bid you sirrah villaine 1620 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Martyr* IV. iii, *Theoph.* It matters not, We can discharge this work without his help. *Sap.* Villain! 1663 Cowley *Cutter Coleman St.* v. xii, Villain Rebel, Traitor out o my sight. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* i, Presumptuous villain! cried Manfred, dost thou provoke my wrath? 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xii, Drunken villain, thy idleness and debauched folly will stretch a halter ere it be long 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* v, 'Villain!' give me your papers!' cried Amyas.

b. In descriptive use (Common from *c* 1590.)

*a c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2283 Thise vilayns arn withouten pite, Frendship, love, and alle bounté I nyl reweyve unto my servise Hem that ben vilayns of emprise. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 99 They answerd to hym that he was a vylayne to requyre & desire of them thynge that was so perylous 1483 – *G. de la Tour* b iv/1 For he is a chorle and a vylayne that of his mouthe sayth ony vylony 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1874) II. 282 In all the worlde nought vyler can I fynde Nor wors, than is a fals unkynde vylayne. *a* 1533 Lo Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel* (1546) E vij b, The greatest vylany in a vyllayne is to be ygyuen in largesse of eyes. 1590 Shake *Com. Err.* v. 19 thou art a Villaine to impeach me thus He proue mine honor, and mine honestie Against thee presently, if thou dar st stand 1604 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. 84 The two most exact villaines in all the Country 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 260 He told me there were two desperate Villains among them, that it was scarce safe to shew any Mercy to. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xv (1788) 89 Every villain fancies himself a man of abilities 1823 Byron *Corsair* I. xi He knew him still a villain—but he deem'd him less a villain than the thing he seem'd *a* 1840 Arnold *Hist. Later Rom. Commn.* (1845) II. 56 The soldiers told him that if he pitied the villain he might take the throne 1869 Rossetti *Sp. Aur.* § 128 They are not made villains by the commission of a crime but were villains before they committed it.

*transf.* 1589 Hanham *Verses* 121 Thus they slander Human Nature and make a Villain of it

*b* 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxx 8 They were the childre of fooles & vylaines which are deed awaye from the worlde. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 80 A Villayne, *villicus.* 1611 Cotgr., Villanin that slew that Prince must wise 1573 *Nottingham Rec.* IV 154 For be callyng the Constabelles knaves and vellanyns. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Lang. Subject* Wks (Grosart) II. 319 The Straunge Newes of the railing Villan 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Q 1) v, Gvt. I obey thee varlet, but for thanking thee villaine, I scorne it. 1600 – *Every Man out* iv. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 132 He hath not been afraid to rail on you, my Lord calling you an ungodly Villain 1700 Dryden tr. *Juvenal* & *Pers.* (1711) 228 A vast Villanin that slew that Prince 1737 *Whiston Josephus* (1841) II. 138 Several of them of the most noted people preachers he affronted and abused with the most opprobrious & vilifying names as Dog, Rogue, Rascal Villin, Jesuit 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 606 Those villains had most sacrilegiously rifled and ransacked his habitation

*c* Used playfully, or without serious imputation of bad qualities Also applied to a woman

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 30 A trusty villaine sir that very oft Lightens my humour with his merry jests 1601 – *Twel. N.* II. v. 16 *Enter Maria.* Heere comes the little villaine. How now my Metheglin? 1606 – *Ant. & C.* II. iii. 35 He fetch her in as the prettiest villaine. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* i, Jock, ye villain, are ye lying, routing there, and a young gentleman seeking the wy to the house? 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiv, Where's that villain Joe? Here I am but I hunt a villain replied a voice It was the fat boy's 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxiii 300 If this after this I see you going on a letter from Jim, I shall telegraph to the young villain

*d* (Usually with *the*.) That character in a play, novel, etc., whose evil motives or actions form an important element in the plot Also *transf.*

1822 Lamb *Elia* II. *Old Ch.* 72 The fact is, you do not believe in such characters as Surface—the villain of artificial comedy even while you read or see them 1867 Farman *Run. Jok.* 13 In the 25th round Jack will appear as the villain of the piece 1879 D. Cook *Art at the Play* (1883) II. 222 Mr Vezin represented the villain, a welcher, pretending to be a Russian count

*e* 2 A bird (*esp.* a hawk) of a common or inferior species. *Obs*

1480 Caxton *Myrr.* II. viii. 85 Ther ben popengayes of whom vs men sayn, they that haue on eche foot fyue clawes han vertue, and the vylayns haue but three 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 123 Of all kinde of hawkes, as soares (ser vilaines, peregrine falcons, and Vilaines *Ibid.* 124 The Vilaine and the Lanerette may be sette vpon the stone in continuance, as soone as they be made

3 A person or animal of a troublesome character in some respect Const *to* with inf

[1895 G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 201 The sable is a villain to train

4 *Comb.*, as *villain like* adv

1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 98 He that names me Traitor, villain like he lies. 1611 – *Cymb.* v. v. 218 Villain like, I lye

**Villain,** variant of Villein

**Villain** (vi·lan), *a.* Now *rare* Forms *a* 4 **vilein,** 4–5 **vil, 5 vyleyn, 4 vyl, 6 vileyne, villeine, 7 -ein, 5–6 vyl, 6 vilayne, 5–6 vyl ayn, 6 vylaine, vilane** 5–6 **vyllayne,** 6 **villayne,** 6–7 **-aine,** 5 *Sc* **villayn,** 5 *Sc.*, 7– **villain.** *β* 5 **veleyne, velaine,** 6 **velayn, velen** [a. AF and OF. *vilein, vilain* see prec. and cf. Villains *a.*]

†1 Deficient in courtesy or good breeding, boor ish, clownish. *Obs*

1340 *Ayenb.* 194 Zome ber byeþ zuo vilyeyne to be poure huanne hi nam yeuep enye cimesse þet wel is worþ bet zeluer 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 319 Will seith That such an herte is to vilein Which dar nought love 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1108 And she [Venus] kan also in certein, Hertys which that be velayn Disposen hem to gentilesse.

2 Base in character or disposition, given to committing vile or criminal acts

1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Vor zobe he is wel vilein and ontrewe auoreye his lhord þet alle good him heb zuo, and þe] yelt him kuead uor good 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 282 And whanne he hadde ben so forlein, As he the which was al vilein,

He dede hem out of londe exile. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 226 To a cros of tre naylyd was he And bangyd up betwyx theyys tweyne As mayster of hem and most veleyne 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii 690 Thou art the moste vileyn knyght that euer I mette in my lif 1489 Skelton *Death Earl Northumbld* 24 Vilane hastarddis in theyr furious tene Fulfylled with malice of froward entente *a* 1500–34 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Pl.* I. 802 Owt! veleyn wrychis har apon you I cry! 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 170 Ye villaine generacion, full of pestiferous malice 1598 *Hire Archdeaconry Colchester* (MS.) 211 b, He sayd that Thomas Reinolds, senior dyd call him theefe and villaine thefe in the Church 1609 Rowlands *Hell's Broke Loose* (Hunter Club) 23 No these leawd wretches spring from Villain race That had all Pietie in detestation 1612 Shake. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 71 Soft what are you That flye me thus? Some villaine Mountaineers? 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 569 Where gloomly retired The villain spider lives cunning and fierce, Mixture abhorred! *c* 1750 Shenstone *Poet's Hon.* 269 No may the deep my villain cone devour 1812 Shelley *Mexican* III. 8 Thousands wake to weep Whilst they curse a villain king 1897 Gunter *Ballyhoo Boy* x. 123 Go, leave me, villain girl!

*transf.* 1591 Spenser *Visions Bellay* xii, A troupe of Satyres in the place did rout, Which with their villeine feete the steame did ray

3 Marked by baseness or depravity, partaking of the nature of villainy

1340 *Ayenl.* 59 De zenne of zelyynge is wel grat and wel uoul; wel uale; and wel vileyn. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1824 (Cl.) Allas of the vileyn sleighte of Eneas 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 134 To thende that they shold kepe them at id defende them fr; t at vylayne and horrible synne 1593 Lo Berners *Froiss.* II. xxvii 240 God ye father glorious be your comfort, and put out of all vylayne thoughtes *Ibid.* ccxxix 308 To washe clens, and purge hym of suche vyllayne deades as he was gylty in 1689 Prior *Ep. F. Shepheard* 178 When Lobb had sifted all his Text, Now to apply, has plagu'd me more Than all his Villain Cant before. 1850 Johnson *In Mem.* cii Narrow mess of spite Or villain fang to worry fleeting life 1894 *Lorna D.* xv This villain job shall not have ending here

†b Bringing or casting opprobrium *Obs.*

1538 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 53 He did a grete outrage, His broþer's foule deades and vyleyn maners to chaste. *a* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 154 A vyleyn word is scharpere þan a rasour, & more perys schanþe þan an alys poyit *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 128 There shamed her for to eschewe durese pleasuncer and who were loue drede and shame shame to be aused and saued from velame [read velas el reproche. 1530 Lo Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt* (1814) 374 I ensure you I wyll shewe him these vylayne wordes that ye say of hym

4 †a Of occupations Low, mean *Obs*

1466 Sir G. Haw *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 124 He suld nocht be an stewart, na procurator na advocate or ony othir vylayn craft. *a* 1533 Lo Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel* (1546) D6 yet I cannot lese you with so vyle a thyng

b Low or mean in respect of birth or position, belonging to the common herd

1483 Caxton *Cat.* C v Thou art of vylayn blood by the fadres syde. *Ibid.* 143 Thou oughtest not to doubt neyther old nor vylayne power 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1874) II. 290 In Hael A. F. F. III. 36 Who can than holde hys selfe no loue nother fre nor vilayne? 1553 Brasbridge *Fr. Welbeyng.* (1909) Nother of duke erle lorde knyght squyer nor vylayne people 1598 Roy *Rede Me* (Arb.) 106 This is a great pretumpcion For a villayne bochers son e 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxv, Sweeping, from their native fields, whole few hundreds of villain churles who are born but to plough it

+c Of disposition Mean spirited, base *Obs*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pl.* xx. xii (Percy Soc.) 48 The vylayne courage they do muche reioyse in Of wronge and vnlde of governaunce 1534 More *Con. fagest Treb.* III. x. 34/1 That seruaunte could skinte be founden that were of so the an vnkynde nor vylayne courage that [etc.].

5 Of bad quality; vile *rare*

1607 Cowell *Interpr.* *Villein fee est* are fleeces of wolle that are shorne fr m scal bed sheep 1851 Mitchell *Fresh Leaves* 216 Anti-setters about to their mules in such villain *pat is Ly nnais*

†**Villain,** *v. Obs* Also 5 **vileyn** 6 **vilayn, villan** [ad. OF. *vilainer, vilener,* etc., f. *vilain* Villain *sb.*]

1 *trans.* To debase or degrade to insult

1418 *Rolls Lving Chron. Trop.* 1 Pur ce fuit il hygh a routhe A man tappere or dare do shewe his head Wher he hath ones his honour vylaneide 1475 *Lk. Obeisse* (Roxb.) 74 Suffre ye not the prelates of the Church of that kinde to be oppressed revaled ne vileyned 1538 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 344 1 When they have once vilayned the sacrament of matrimonye then wolde they make vs vylaine it e sacrament of the aultre also

2 To call villain, to address as a villain

1609 Rowlands *Crew Rand. Scripe* b 2 Some Rascall told my wife, And I was villand for it sound at night

**Villainage,** var Villenage

**Vi·llaindom.** *rare*—1 [f. Villain *sb.*] The class of villains.

1880 W. F. Butler *Far Out* 267 In the simple and unlettered Africander the educated villaindom of our present America has found a rich field for exploit

**Villainess** (vi·lănĕs) [f. Villain *sb.* + -ess.] A female villain. (Common in recent use.)

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii. My wife, my Queene and Empere-se Villainesse to shame disdaine, and misery 1865 *Reader* 20 May 563/3 Her villainess is a she devil 1870 M. Collins *Ev. Claire* II. xii. 99 He can follow his hero and heroine in villain and villainess into holes and corners.

†**Villainist** *Obs*—1 [f. Villain *sb.*] A confirmed villain.

1596 Nashe *Saffr. w. Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 66 Some glorious Remembrancers (not with the multiplying spirits of the Alchumist, but the villanist).

**Villainize** (vi lăinəiz), *v.* Also 7–8 villanise, 9 villainise [f. VILLAIN *sb*.]

1 *trans* To render villainous, to debase or degrade

1623 tr *Faerne's Theat Hon* iii xii 487 To blame & abuse Ladies is for a man to villainize & shame him selfe. 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath's T* 405 Were Virtue by Descent, a noble Name Could never villanize his Father's fame. 1745 LAW *C. and State Hist* ii 245 That those Writings which *to shame* Mankind I have a pernicious tendency towards propagating and protecting Villany

**2** To treat or revile as a villain.

*Cf.* VILLAINIFY below

1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm & Engl* II 437 Here in Rouen had he been villainized, disgraced, hooted, im prisoned, bullied, degraded

**3** *intr* To play the villain

1888 *Echo* 21 Feb 3 Let us hope that these gentlemen (le actors), whose mission it is to dabble in crime, will in future 'villainise' no more

Hence **Vi llainising** *vbl sl* Also **Vi llainizer,** one who reviles or defames

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec* (1605) P m b Whatman u c rs of God, blasphemers of his onely begotten sonne villainizers of his Saints 1678 *Hobbs Decameron Physiol Syst* i v 8 2 The foundation [of the atheistic ethi s and politics] is first laid in the villanizing of Human n Nature. 1693 DENNIS *Usury* 12 In the debasing and villainizing of Mankind to the condition of Beasts.

**† Vi llainly,** *adv Obs* Forms α 4 vileyn, vileyn-, vyleyn-, vilain-, vylaynlıoke, 4 vilayn-, 5–6 vylayn-, 6 villaynly *β* 4 vilan liche, 5 vylanlyche, 4 vilenlych villenliche, 4 vylenly, 5 vylanly. [f. VILLAIN *sb*. + -LY 2.]

After the manner of a villain, villainously, vilely

α. a 1325 *Ms Rawl B* 520 fol 49b *Hi stowle* pat is quite of amercament for entre of houses uilenliche ant pe boute leue aзen be hauingnes pe 1340 *Ayenb* 64 Ferward huanne me zuereр vileyliche ly, and vnd by his halзen c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1345 How wer þou so ludy come aimed on þy se le No þou vylaynliche o by tesoun by messag & to me abedē? 1483 CAXTON *G de la Tour* K vj, Within a lyttell tyme after she deide vylaynly and sodenly of an euyll deth c 1500 *Melusine* 240 Perceyue you not how thu Dogge spekyst vylaynly these vylayns be worthy crystens? a 1560 HALL *Chron* Ep. Aaiij b If but one harme suffired had ther ensue, and not with spyte all female kinde thus vylaynly be spoken

β c 1330 *Arth & M* 1751 (Kolbing) Sybus deden sıker liche, Defuilan tvilanliche To ard king Rion c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1845 Io pouerest vilanliche, & to ourage ivy heuedes bi fore him set ze, & so ryelyr beode ys m sake c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 7439 Thow nat now dede a it owre throwen, Velenly þu wrecche. a 1450 *Le M yte Arth* 1156 Thou oughtyste with no Ryghte to calbe on hym so wylanlyche, thou bryngyst me oute of lyssyghte

**Villanous** (vi lănəs) *a* Forms α 4 vyl-aynous, 5 vylaynous, 6 velaynous, vylayn ouse, 6 vyllayny, villayn 6– villainous, villainus, -einous) *β* 4, 6–7 villanous, 5–6 vylanous, 6 ouse, vilanus, 4, 6–9 villanous (6 ouse) 5 vilenous e, 6 villenus, 7–8 -ous 7 villonous. *γ.* 6 velanus, velanous, 7 vealin ous [f. VILLAIN *sb*. + -OUS, or ad. OF *villeneus* insulting, defamatory]

**1.** Of persons = a Churlish, ill bred, unmannerly. *Obs rare*

13 *Gaw & Gr Ant* 1437 Se ar stif i-nogħe to con straγne with strenkhe stif y w lykez, sif any were so vilanous þat sow deuyse wolde. 1a 1300 CHAUCER *Rom Rose* 178 Full foule and vnlyke semed she, And eek vylayneus for to be And litel coude of nurture

**b** Having the character or disposition of a villain, infamously depraved or wicked, vilely criminal.

c 1250 ROLLAND *Cri Venus* iv 287 Not for to say Venus is velanous Bot that hir warkis may na les be vnd ne N r of before, bot Vesta is mair famous 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 206 Villanouse *Egitinus* 1596 SHAKS *1 Hen IV* iii iv 138 There is nothing but Roguery to be found in Villanous man 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 473 The furious outrage of that most villanous Rebell Ket 1623 in Foster *Eng Factories Ind* (1908) 13 Shoot of that villanous atrompitt Nabar Malle 1658 FRYER *Acc E. India & P* 368 They are yet reckoned a villanous sort of f reed. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II (folio) 100 We have not half done yet, villanous Hell hound Dogs! 1793 MRS INCHBALD *Ir One has Faults* III ii I repeat he is the vilest the most villanous of men 1839 DARWIN *Voy Nat* ix 83 I should think such a villanous, banditti like army was never before collected together 1855 BROWNING *Newton* II xv 56 The Ele tor of Hanover whom this villanous English would have deprive of the succession to the kingdom. 1869 D COOK *Nets at the Play* (1883) I 116 Mr Cowper gave a careful portraiture of the villanous Stukely

**2** Miserable, wretched *rare*—1

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II (Arb) 45 Oh, quod he, what region shal shrowd mee villenous outcast?

**3** Of actions Of the nature of villainy, marked by depravity or vileness of conduct; deserving severe condemnation on moral grounds

14 *Chaucer's L G W* 1824 (Fairf), Allas of thys was a vilenouse dede 1573 & BARET *Alv* s v A Vilanous and shamefull act 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 84 He came but to speake with our Iurke about their vilanus plott. 1664 H MORE *Myst Iniq* 111 Which fragment is still the more vile, if we consider with what villanous and barbarous impiety it must neoe sarily be co nceived to be accompanied 1681 H HALLEWELL *Melampus* [The] have incorporated themselves into the Dark Society by all manner of villanous and flagitious actions. 1725 DE FOE *Voy round World* (1840) 27 If their brutish rage led them to one villanous action, they would soon go on to another 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst Relig* (1782) I 127 One villanous action is sufficient to inhabit a man's whole life 1823 SHELLEY *Q Mab* iv 184 Their cold hearts I lend Decent with sternness, ignorance with pride, All that is mean and villanous 1837 LYTTON *E Maltravers* II ii I have done a villanous thing but I thought it only a clever one 1846 GRIFFITH *Sch Chancery* 153 A villainous system of covering or plating barrels with fine iron, over a body of iron of the most inferior description

**b.** Of looks, etc. Indicative of villainy

1808 SOUTHEY *Epistle to Allan Cunningham* I shall show thee, Allan, an array of villanous visages 1840 DICKENS *Old C Sh* xxxii, I was fond a very ill favoured face and a most sinister and villainous squint 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I iv ii 284 With an expression so extremely villanous that I felt unwilling 1863 LEE *Lenten Ser* 83

**3** Of words, etc. Pertaining to or characteristic of a villain, vile, scurrilous, offensively opprobrious or profane.

a 1470–85 MALORY *Arth* i xxvii 74 the most vylynous and lowd message that euer myn herd sende vnto a kynge 1529 MORE *Dyal* 2 ii Wks. 161/2 I but these wretched heretiques lay more vilynyouse rel uke to the great maieste of god, than euer any one rib uicke layd vnto a nother. 1532 —*Confut Tindal* Wks 594/1 Wee lynde not that he called hym false wretche, nor no suche vylynyous word a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Apr 1656 A most villainous revil ing book against the Jesuites. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX viii, My heart swelled with indignation at so villainous a calumny 1883 STEVENSON *Treas Isl* i 1, He at last broke out with a villainous low cry.

*β* 1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I lxvi 36/2 When the other commons saw this, they began to sterne and say de to the burgesses many villanous words 1559 *Homilies* I *Fast Contents* n ii (1569) M viij b Peoples being prohibited to anger with many villanous wordes answered not a worde 1605 SHAKS *Macb* IV v 165 One that hath spoke most villanous speeches of the Duke and Right *Richard* III v 288 Princes due rather pardon ill decdes, than Villanous words.

**† 4.** Shameful, atrocious, horrible *Obs*

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 301 b, Euer conspyr ynge for thy grace the moost vyllaynous & shamefull deth of the crosse 1559 BALE *Chr Q Scotlandes Exercyse* H vii 106/2 To procure and to abomy nable wyre yt not the vyllanouse payne and torments that they deuysed on yᵉ selfe women 1563 LD BERNERS *Huon* lxx 239 They are worthy to haue moost villanous deth 1600 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 359 I rune I dare d was there put to death and in most shamefull and villanous manner his braines dashed out 1616 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* 1 Hard by An hr Daniel the good Brechyne Was put to sa villanous a de ed

**† b.** *Villainous judgement*, a sentence of extreme severity (see quot 1641) passed on one found guilty of conspiracy or other grave offence

1607 *Dom Interpr*, *Villanous Judgement* is that which casteth the reproch in f shame vpon him & vnto whom it is giuen as a Con pitour &c. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 490 The judgement is that the party (on d guilty shall l se the benefit of the law that his lands, goods & chattels shall be seised into the Kings hands and his trees digd up and his body imprisoned 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm* IV 376 It now is the better opinion that the villanous judgment it is by long disuse become obsolete, it not having been pronounced for some ages

**5** Extremely bad or objectionable, atrocious, detestable

1596 SHAKS *1 Hen IV*, ii i 15 I thinke this is the most villanous house in all London rode for Fleas 1598 —*Merry W* iii iii 2 There was this case of villanous smell that ever offended nostrill 1607 T BARNES *Divils Charter* v ii K4 Out vpon thee thou hast poysoned mee with thy stinking breath or with thy villanous powders 1638 R BAKER tr *Balzac Lett* (1881) 123 Women are I sund for the very interest of th ir beauty, to shun a passion, that makes such villanous faces, and sets so many wrinkles upon their countenances. 1672 MARVELL *Rch Transp* I 5 The Press (that villanous Engine) invented much about the same time with the Reformation 1706 *Mother Bunch of Rel* II 18 Some ugly and old And a villanous Scold 1806 J HERKSFORD *Miseries Hum Life* I 102 The only place which my some villainous mis chances have not visited 1820 CORBET *Our Riches* (1885) I 20 I passed through that villanous hole Cricklade, about two hours ago 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped* xxvi 201 Another villanous night 1 ll Those who have suffered with this our curbine 1884 *Chr Observ* Sept. 719/2 The weather was villainous It rained every day

**† b** As *adv* Villainously, vilely. *Obs* —1

1610 SHAKS *Temp* iv i 250 We shall lose our time And all be turn d to Barn acles, or to Apes With foreheads villanous low

**† 6.** Low or base in respect of social position; servile *Obs* (= VILLEIN)

1607 TOPSELL *Interpr* s v *Villa*, Base tenents be they... which do to their i nis villenous service *Ibid* s v *Villenage* I his villanous seruage is to cary the Lords dung into his fields, to plow his ground &c 1643 USSHER *Brit Eccles* (1647) 143 The slavish and villanous estate of the parents is communicated into all their off spring 1679 BLOUNT *Anc Tenures* 155 *note* I suppose by *sanguinem suum emere*, was meant that the Tenant being a Bondman, should buy out his Villanous blood, and make himself a freeman 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II 62 These were the only free holdings or tenements in the days of villanous servitude

**7** *Comb*, as *villainous looking* adj

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vi They were villainous-looking ruffians 1844 DICKENS *Pictures fr Italy* (1846) 163 Seeing nothing but a villainous looking shepherd 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W Africa* 271 I must admit my good friend was a villainous looking savage

Hence **Vi llainousness** (Bailey, 1727, vol II)

**Villainously** (vi lănəsli), *adv.* Forms (see prec.) [f prec.] In a villainous manner, in senses of the adj., atrociously, vilely, detestably.

a. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* IX, Beste is to lyue in pouerte than to deye vylaynously and oppressyd of the cyche. c 1489 — *Blanchardyn* vi 76 Her true louer, pe whiche ye haue betrayd & wounded vylaynously 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 86 Howe vylely, vylaynously, and violently he had hyn vsed of owre men 1585 T WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Nav* i xx 45 They were thus villainously intreted, lying along the ground as halfe desperate 1630 FULLER *Holy War* iii xvii 137 His sonne was villainously strangled by Alexius Ducas 1689 *Lond Gaz* No 2443/3 On Sunday last Sir George Lockhart was Villanously [*sic*] Assassinated by one Chesseley, who shot him through the I ack. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xviii xi, The Man whose Rum he hath so villanously contrived 1758 L. TEMPLE *Sketches* (ed 2) 5 His Verses were what one may call most villainously bad. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, He had a villainously formed head 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist Columbus* I 72 The drainage of the town was villainously bad.

*β* 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol 20 For a thynge more noble is to dye than vylanously to be subdued 1533 MORE *Apol* ix Wks 865/2 Agaynste the bestes, these blasphemous heretiques in theyr vngrin youse bookes so vilanously ye taste and rayle. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron* II 53 They set nothing by them but hated and spake shamefully, and villanously of them. 1601 SHAKS *Twel N* III ii, 80 *Maria* Hee's in yellow stockings *Sir Toby* And crosse gartred? *Maria* Most villanously 1631 GOUGE *God's Terrours* III § 60. 206 They had Villanously entreated the Ambassadors sent unto them. 1674 JEAKE *Arith* 1 Rules 3 Verily I have most villainously ugly spot I ever saw in England. 1863 W C BALDWIN *Afr Hunting* ix 436 I have been living villain ously one to death of my nags.

**† Vi llains,** *a Obs* Forms α 4 vyleyn(y)s, vileins, 4–5 vileyns (5 vileynes-), 4 vilains-, 4 5 velaynes, 5 vilayn(e)s-, vylayn(e)s, vyllayns, villaynis *β* 4–5 vyleins, vilens (5 vyl-, vilenis, vylenoe, velens-), 4–5 vilans (5 velans, vilance), 5–6 vylans, 5c welan(y)s, willans, 6 vilanes, 5 uelonis, vilonis-, vilonys-, vylonys [f. VILLEIN *sb*. + genitive sing. masc.) -eyps [= *-eyns*] see VILLAIN *sb* and *a*] = VILLAIN *a*, VILLAINOUS *a*

**a.** Of actions, speech, etc.

a 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 1555 Many tsme a vyleynes ber vyleins) wurde Gadrys foule boнb to hurde *Ibid* 1847 For þei yche vyleynye þat þei myзte Ouercomyd a twynne c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* 946 (Camb NIS.), He dede neuere vyлne ne neuere cam there a vileyns word out of his mouthe 1450 *Merlin* 1 xxxiv 59 Now haue I yette save frendes to so vileyns deth 1456 SIR G HAYE *Law Arms* (S T S) 116 Qui a ever vrrykis with wai pin or vthir villayns maner 1474 CAXTON *Jason* 11 (1483) 97 For a man ought not to demande ner doo to be doon to his frende no vyllayns thynge that ought to be kept secrete

*β* c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conscience* 1227 Her other bat wille noght do It is nede bal be d ne to vilana deds a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4114 He Comet to a velans vale þare was a vile cheek. c 1400 *Destr Troy* 5 7 Vonlis me noght of vnius, ne vilans of ti ige c 1440 *Alphab Tales* 238 And ye laste be sulde hafe a vylans dead a 1450 *Ant de la Tour* (1868) 23 With gret vnlonis wordes, dispruving hym 1460 CAP GRAKE *Chr in* (Rolls) 122 He made many vnlonis wordes the Semt 1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I xxxiv 48 He that dyde otherwyse, shulde be reputed as an evyll doer, and for a vylans dede

**b.** Of persons

1300 GOWER *Conf* I 28 Rome laste so Long time amonges the Romeins Til thei become so vilens þat I 1400 tr *Secreta Secret*, *Cyv Servants* 204 Be not hardy as a lyon, vyleyns and boysterous asse, rebell as a rambe. c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens* 3800 A cowarde. and of no renoun, And vileyns of condicioun. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth* i 8 I wil be be fool, or fell, or vilens, ye owe better to suffre hym than eny other 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x xxii 450 He is the moost coward and the vylaynest knyght that euer was now lyuyng 1536 CROME *Apol* 42 Their vocatyues were neuer ful ynough of such mysclieuous villanes popes

**† Vi llainsly,** *adv Obs.* Forms (see prec.). [f prec.] = VILLAINLY *adv*, VILLAINOUSLY *adv*

a 1300 CHAUCER *Rom Rose* 178 Thus foule and vnlyke

What sotowe trewe lovers lovers maken, I had ben so velaynesly forsaken c 1386 — *Parst* I 812 Than was his visage velaynsly hyspt c 1400 *Rom Rose* 1202 Ne lyve I nat 215 Sit wa hir sorwe moote more, seynge hir maister and lorde so vilenysly ferde with c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* II c (1869) 112 Thou shalt neuere keepe thee so wel, that thou ne shalt be vilely neuerthelesse 1498 SIR G HAYE *Law Armz* (S T S) 47 Ihat war discomfyte ycrh vilaynsly 1583 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 139/3 Than they had so vylaynsly beten hym they put hym out at the gate

**† 1388** WYCLIF 2 *Sam* x 5 The men weren schent ful vilensly a 1400 *Cast Love* (Halliwell) 1628 How vylenesly he was ladde yet, Whan he was bounde to a tre! 1400 *Destr Troy* 1445 WYNTOUN *Cron* IV 165 Pat þe commonys willansly Grewit sude be throw þar mastry *Ibid* v 1676 Pat he had suppryst by wrang and wilans *Cron* (1813) 233 I bet that were his rebelles he killid vilensly 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x lxx 593 Whanne syre Harre sawe hym doo so vylaynsly, he cryed tmytour knyght leue of your shame 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* v 164 Thainoblyt rnand thar worthy Ar distroyit so vilonsly ! c 1500 *Gest Robyn Hode* cxiii 11 Child *Ballads* III 62 I the abbot lothely on hym gan loke, And vylaynesly hym gan call.

**Villainy** (vi lăni), *sb.* Forms α. 3–4 vileinie (3 uil-), 4 vileynye, vyleyny(e, vileyne, 4 vylaynye, vilaynie, 5 vylany. *β* 4 vilanie, vilani(e, 6 vilanie, 4–5 vylanye (6 -ie), 4–6 vylany, vilany(e; 4 velani(e, -ie, 4–5 velanye, 4–6 -any (5 -ane), 6 welany, 5 villane, wylanye, 5c wilany, 6 vyllany, 6 7 villanie, 6–9 villany (7 -ey) *γ.* 4 vilonie, -ye, vylonye (fyl), 4–5 vil-, vylony, 5 vylney, 5c. vilne, 5 velonl, -eny; 6 villeny(e, 6–7 -enie. *δ.* 4–5 vilonie, -ony(e, 4–6 vylonye, 5 -ony, velonl,

**velonye, velonye ; villonye** *c.* 7 **villainie, 7– villainy.** [a AF. *vile(s)nie, vilanye, vilanie*, OF. *vilennie, villenie, vilane, vilonie, vilenie* (so mod F.), etc., = Pr. *vilanya, -onia*, Sp., Pg., and It *villania*, whence also med.L. *villania* see VILLAIN *sb* and *-y*.

The present spelling was rare before the 18th c, and did not become established until the 19th, when it gradually displaced the more prevalent *villany*.]

**1** Action or conduct befitting, characteristic or typical of, a villain, evil or wrongdoing of a foul, infamous, or shameful nature, extreme wickedness on the part of a person in dealing with others.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 46 Leoðure, þe habbeð se uuo unrichen scheome þet ham nis nowhit of schoome auh seche8 hwu heo muwen mest uileinie wurchen 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 1599 Vor it is sch. prince wes & king vileine To defoule is knigtes boru wam he ne be maistrie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Þe ne3e wel vileyn and ontrewe auoreye his lhord, and yelt him leuand uor good, and vileynye uor corteysye 13 *P. E. Allit P.* B 865 Dos away your derelyng & derez neuer my gestes, Avoy! hit is your vylaynye, se vylen your seluen *B* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2492 Hot godd hir [kept] pat was hir wil pat moght nanan o þaim do vilanie bodi neghi wat wil anie 13 *E E Allit* P C 71 For iwysse hit arn so wykke þat in bat won dowellez, & her malys is so much I may not abide, Bot venge me on her vilanye & veynm bulyue 1396 ? in *Eng Hist Rev* (1909) XXII 297 We knowe wel þat euery leysng opanli prechid turnith him to velanye þat euere was trewe and with oute leesyng 1399 Wyntoun *Cron.* II 98† Tenelayus mad hym cortasse welcummynge Bot he did willany þar agayn Þis Tenelayus he walde bat slayn *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk M. Aurel.* (1546) F vj b The greateste vylany an a villayne is to be gyuen in iuesse of lyes 1538 Elyot, *Obscuritas* villany in actes; rybauldrie 1595 Shake *John* III. i. 116 Thou little valiant great in villanie, Thou euer strong vpon the stronger side 1616 R. C. *Times Whistle* (1857) 53 From thur t of we ith & golden villany I now am come to brutish gluttome 1679 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. He hath been twice pilloried, and committed all manner of villany *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks* (1723) I. 95 He will hardly ever be able to carry his Matters to extremity, but this villany will at last be discover'd 1737 *Pamms Lett* liv (1788) 300 I his may be logic at Cambridge, but among men of sense and honour it is folly or villany in the highest degree 1842 James *Brigand* iii. 41 There is some mistake here and I think some vil lany 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xii III 217 He had been unduced, by the villany of Tyrconnel, to trust himself at Saint Germains

*Personif.* 1 *a* 1566 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 166 Another image, that Vilanye Y cleped was, iangli I. Vilanye was hyt somdel That other image is ( Felony), and She semed a wikked creature

*transf* and *fig* 1621 Shake *Cymb* v ii 23 Nothing vowes vs, but I he villany of oure feares 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 349 Ignorant of the deceits of men, and unused to the villany of powder

*y c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* 328 Ac 3s [deadly sin] I nt uuole wyl al so To swyche fylenye 1393 Lan. *P. P. C* vii 163 Ich can nouht speke for shame I he vylenye of my foule mouþe and of my foule werkes *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 4405 (Trin.), Here may men se þe vileny þat he sonste on þat lady *a* 1450 *Nat de la Tour* (1868) 36 He and y hadd gret communication diuerse tymes but it was neuer in no uelenı, nor in no eell thought nor in dede 1582 Stany hurst *Æneis* II (Arb) 61 In father his presence with spightfull vilanye eye cancred Thee soon that murthrest, my sight with boucherye stayning 1596 Spenser *F. Q* v vii. 23 The gentle knight Would not be tempted to such vilenie

*b c* 1380 Wyclif *Tracts* Wks (1880) 204 To be aschumyd of o he euil speche, & namely of lecherie & euyl contenaunce of syrme & ribaudrie & vilonye *c* 1430 *How the Good Wyfe taught Doghter* (Rawl. 1888) 8 Kepe þee from alle fro vilonye, & fro blame 1485 Caxton *Chas Gt* 44 Who woid haue thought that I should haue had vylony of Rolland? *a* 1605 *1st Pt Jeronimo* (1618) sig. G, That villainy should be found in the great Chamber 1728 Wollaston *Relig. Nat* vi 133 He may endeauour to recouer what has been by any kind of violence or villany taken from him. 1778 Pennant *Tours Scot* (1774) 10 Murdered by a-assassins who crossed the moat to perpetrate their villainy 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii 173 Manhood a purpose stern, And age a firm, cold, valor villainy 1843 Bethune *Sc Fireside Stor* 107 Jenny and his other friends de lamned loudly upon the villainy of Mr M'Quiddit, in keeping him so long from his own. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xlii. (1880) III. 133 The same kind of villany was meditated in China.

**b.** With *a* and pl, *this, that*, etc. An instance or case of this ; a piece of wicked conduct or dealing ; a vile act or deed.

13 *Gaw & Gr. Knt.* 1634 Gawan was for gode knawen, & as golde pured, Voyded of vche vylany, vch vertuus annourned in mote 1377 Langl. *P. Pl B* xviii 94 For þis foule vylenye venniance to 3ow alle 1390 Gower *Conf* II 133 Him thenkth it were a vilenie, But he rewarde him for his dede *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 6912 Vkes To venge of þat vilany vil disturit 1483 *Cath Angl.* 400/1 A velany, *delictum* 1588 Grafton *Chron* II 715 Requiring them therefore to studie how to reuenge and punishe so great a villanie 1590 Kyd *Sp Trag* iii vii 12 Bought you a whastle and a whipstalke too, To be reuenged on their villanies? *c* 1618 Morrison *Itin.* iv (1903) 462 Though indeede they take it rather for a grace to be reputed actiue in any Villany, especially Cruelty and theft 1697 Gildon *Damonol* II 187 Other Enormities are, that lead to beastly and unnatural Villanies. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 33 Under pretence thereof Wars might be raised, Robberies and all manner of Villanies committed 1795 De Foe *Fry remund World* (1840) 42 If they are honest men and would not appear in this villany, 1798 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xiii, The greatest villanies are daily practised to please them. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng* vi II 132 He was determined to keep his place, if it could be kept by any villany but one. 1880 Geo P. Thompson *Audi Alt* cxxvIII. III. 80 But such is what the poor have to expect, when they assist in the villainies of the rich 1867 Freeman *Norm Conq* I 422 Æthelred, if he had not ordered this villany, at any rate made himself an accessory after the fact

**† 2.** Treatment of a degrading or shameful nature as suffered or received by a person ; ill-usage, injury, indignity, insult *Obs*

Not always clearly distinct from sense 3

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17250 Before mi maister euen Sufferd i þat bitterli þe villani 13 *A. Alex* 5292 (Laud MS.), Per dude Alisaunder curteisie, He kepte hem from vche vilenye, Darries moder, & darries wif *c* 1375 *Sc Leg. Saints* (Ivo) 348 Þe ne3e ne lyȝt of be schame, of be vsine, and of þe blame, þat I þtil before thoit be *c* 1440 *York Myst* xxii. 70 And gladly suffir I for thy sake swilk vilanye 1567 *Trial Treas* Cvjb, Ye ye they haue vse I me with so much vilanie. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist Irel in Holinshed* III 82/2 Kildare pursuing Ormond to the chapter house doore, vndertooke on his honor that he sh uld reuenge no villanie 1590 Greene *Orpha B.* 6 Wks (Grosart) VII 263 I to see villanie offered him, an I to holde his peace

**† b.** In the phr. *to put* (a person) *to villainy*.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (Words) II. 207 Widdowes and wyues were put to vilany, Maydens were corruppit and shipe chamfully 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Luke Marke* IX (2 Syth menne shoulde se him [or Jesus] sone after putte to so much vilanie and villany 1585 Cooper *Thesaurus, Concubo*, to treade vnder foote to put to extreme vilanie

**† c.** ? A punishment of a degrading or ignominious nature *Obs* ?

*a* 1400 *Morte Arthure* 56 in *Balees Bk*, Vf þou make mawes on any wyse A velay y þou kacches or euer þou rise

**† 3.** Disgrace, dishonour, ignominy, discredit *Obs* (freq *c* 1400–*c* 1500)

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 803 (Fairf.) Þai chid hym þan for velane with þrade fete & eger tree 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 545 Schir Amery Raid till Ynglland and archast ther Of armyt men gret cumpany, To venge hym of the velany *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 1 Þe whilk prey he meekly prey to many but so þat y nane no vyleny here by 1436 Hen VI in *Acts Parl Mass. Comm* Var Coll IV 199 To caste this Iond oute of þe kynges possession perpetuell rebuke and shame thorwgh the world *a* 1470 Harding *Chron* vii clxxxix, The kyng Edwarde had all the victorye, The kyng Edward had the victorye, & losse & vilanye fell to kyng Henry *Hist* (1812) 23 Dame Iuke ‘I new wel y‘ her doughter Perron was no myslie therfore she dond let greatly to haue vylynde, hence *Hen* VI 201 It shalle greatly to your velenye and reproche yf I be thus shente your cosyn 1596 Jewell *Reply Harding* (1611) 371 they thought great villanie in that kind of Death 1594 ? *Edwardus Tertius* (1596) 1 For this cause there is no Nation not onely a feare of vill ine, but indignation also, after the committing of some fault

**† d.** Used predicatively A fact or circumstance bringing disgrace or discredit *to a person* Also without const *Obs*

*c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr* 27 It es a velany a man for to be curyously arrayde apone his face and all his body he nuked and bare it we no clathes 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 224 But she hym holpe I wil I armie to aw ssays Hir thought it ellis a vylanye *a* 1400 *Pistel of Susan* (Trin.) 238/240 Þat I be thus lyinge your cosyn 1596 Jewell *Reply Harding* (1611) 371 they thought great villanie in that kind of Death 1594 ? *Edwardus Tertius* (1596) 1 For this cause there is no Nation not onely a feare of vill ine, but indignation also, after the committing of some fault

**† e.** Foul or filthy condition *Obs*

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 1894 Þe wende wib is ferete [to] hine do be vylonye. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 289 Aetheluc hyhte ȝyuelocches ssorȝinge, and Pauncius, and i doo hym grete vilonye. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* I xvii 100 Ther in thei doon foul vilonie to Cristus lawe of feith 1474 Caxton *Curia* II. 1 (1883) 20 Thanswer of a mulle & debonair prynce That suffred that villonye don to his doughter

**† f.** *To say* or *speak* (*a, no, etc*) *villainy*, to speak evil, to use wicked, low, obscene, or opprobrious language. Also, *to speak villainy of*, to defame or throw discredit on (a person). *Obs.*

After OF *dire vilonie* (Du Cange s.v. *Villania*).

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 7832 For qua lais hand in feloni O king or sais him vilani, wt vten grith, He des. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 1540 A nunne þat yolde to helle for no lyng ellys But for she spake eune vylenny *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 70 He neuere yet no vileynye ne sayde In al his lyf vn to manner wight 1419 in S. Bentley *Excerpt Historica* (1831) 38 That no man saye no vilony to non other, throughe the whiche vilony saynge may falle sodenly man slaughter or rysinge of people. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II 1 (1883) 20 This prince had also a frende that sayd on a tyme as moche villonye unto the prynce as ony man myht saye 1483 — *Gold Leg* 424/1 She said many Iniuryes & vylonyes to fyr ere contumelyeuse & blaspheming hym 1611 Bible *Isa ah* xxxii 6 He vile person wil speake villeine, and his hart will worke iniquitie

(*b*) 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX xiv 832 Alle the world wylle speke of yow vylony 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 285 Do not a thing in it sh uld I blemishe your renowne, neither geue occasion for any to speake villaine of you 1581 A Hall *Iliad* v 83 Al men of vs great villany would say

**† b** So *words of villainy Obs*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 28511 I ha bene wont thoru luchen Wordes to speke of villany *c* 1386 Chaucer *Lars T* 822 If he be a talkere of yll wordes of vanite or of vilonye 1568 *Bk Nurture* To Parents, take heede thy speake no wordes of villany

**† 6.** Lack of courtesy or politeness, discourtesy, incivility, rudeness, boorishness, rusticity *Obs*

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 15 8 For þat somtyme men held velny Now yhing men holdes curtesy And þat som tyme was curtesy nou Now wille yhong men hold velny *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 740 Crist spak hym self ful brode in hooly writ, And wel yk woot no vileynye is in 14 *Tale* of Jn Wr Wickler 590 Now I pray yow, for Cristes sake, That in Hauf *F P* I 45 Syr erle he seyd, take and beȝyn, He seyd nas, be seynt Austyn, That wys to me vylony *c* 1481 Caxton *Dictes, etc* 29 For I reffuse not The cuppe, That were vylonye (*F. villonie*).

*a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Titus* iii. 3 Wks (1687) I 2.9 This practice (of railing at and reviling others) argues all breeding and bad manners. In our modern languages it is termed *villany*, as being proper for rustick Boors. 1694 Dryden *Pref. Juvenals* 111 But this large courtesy, this overprise You give his worth, in my other mouth Were villany to me.

**† 7.** The condition or state of a villein ; bondage, servitude, hence, base or ignoble condition of life, moral degradation. *Obs*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars T.* 109 Certes wel aughte a man haue disdeyne of synne, and wisdr we him fro þat braid an villeynye 1540 Cartdrale *Bruslf Lett* 1 Wks (Parker Soc.) I 300 Jesus took upon himself the most extreme shame to deliuer us fr m eternal villa ) 1543 T. Becon *Acts etc* 6 Wks 1560 I 415 b, These, these goo about to bring vs into villany

**† b** Low or wretched condition *Obs.*

1570 Jhari Iten *Scholemus Bull* (1582) 47 Haue not they vp tied & wasted those two noble Cuntries & brought them to sch villanie & miserie as neuer was heare before?

**† 8** Imperfection, defect, or injury in things *Obs* —1

*c* 1400 *Pilgr Semle* (Caxton) II xlvii (1859) 56 The bones sc uden vij, as men in the same persone, right as they were by fore, without on y spot or vilanye

**9** Base, villainous, or wicked quality

1702 Addison *Dial Medals* II (1736) 101 Ingratitude can stand from nothing but a natural baseness and villany of soul

Hence **+ Villanyful** (*vanf*, = VILLAIN *a* 1) *Obs* —1

1483 Caxton *Cato Lett* 1533 I as moche as they haue vylanyfull and vyolowed the blood of Jhesu

**Villakin** (vi·lakin) [f. VILLA + -KIN] A little villa, a villa residence

Chiefly in familiar or jocular use, or with some degree of disparagement

1730 Swift *Let to Cay* 19 Much I wot lately to Mr Pope I wish you had a little Villakin in his neighbour hood 1733 *Gay Let to Swift* 31 Much I envy thy building villakins and I am given over this sort of castles. 1805 J Armon *Corr Bridges* V. 9 In this cottage (or *villakin* as he usually termed it) he pas s d the pleasantest hours which he had enjoyed since the period of his adversities. 1841 *Penny Cycl* XVII 208/1 Many of the villas introduced into a domestic yard are 1883 Miss I oughton *Belinda* II 153 Spack and Spot villas and villakins, each with its half acre of tennis ground and double daisies

**Villaless, a.** [f. VILLA.] Having no villa or villas

1833 *Fraser's Mag* VIII 481 The touch at the end, as to the villaless condition of Buxton, is admirable.

**Villan.** Also **6–7, villaine** [ad med L. *villan us* villager, etc., f. L. *villa* VILLA.]

**1.** *Hist* A villein ; an occupier of land in the feudal vill

1552 Huloet, Villan, *servus villanus* 1570 Levins *Manip* 39 Villane, *vcr a* 1609 Skene *Acts Marg* 98 (of an over lord causes mane his heretor of his vassall beir, in his custodie, with villans ( r bondmen) or Burgesses, quhereby the heires are disparaged (etc.) 1699 Temple *Hist of Irel* (ed 2) 258 What now is left of the ancient and how many villains pon their re pective Estates. 1809 Lawman *Domesday* IV 4 There we only two villains(?) cit. and four borders having one (1) sah an a half 1841 H. Turner *Dom Archit* II 15 Unless a sock fat Oxterly, Middleseey) resorte I more ver all lawless men, fugitive villans, and persons of the like de cription

**† 2** A villager, a peasant. *Obs*

1685 Herbert *Poetry* (Bohn) 108 Vineyards stored with excellent good grapes, which the villanes carry every night to sell at Shiraah

**Villan, obs** f. VILLAIN **Villanage,** variant of VILLEINAGE. **Villane, obs** f. VILLAIN

**‖ Villanella** (vilăne·lă) Pl -elle [It., fem of *villanello* rural, rustic, ‖ *villano* see VILLAIN *sb* and *a*.] (See later quots.)

1597 MORLEY *Introd Mus* III 180 Though many times the ditte be fine enough yet because it carrieth that name *Villanella* they take those disall'wances as in being good enough for plow and cart. 1609 C. SURFLET *C. mpend Mus* 19 Then, Cansonets, Villanella's, Arts of all sorts or what else Poetry hath e mitted to be set and sung in Musick [Hence in K. Holmes *Ars Anglic* (1688) III 1592/1] 1802 BUSBY *Dict Mus*, *Villanelle* is the air of an old rustic dance, the time of which was gay and brisk, and the measure strongly marked. 1884 W. H. HUSK in *Grove Dict Mus* IV 264 *Villanella* a unaccompanied Part Song of light rustic character sharing, in about equal proportions the characteristics of the Canzonetta and the Ballette.

**Villanelle** (vilăne·l) Also 6 villanell, 7 -el [a. F *villanelle*, adj. It. *villanella* see prec. In the sense 'rural poem' an Anglicizing of the Italian word.]

†**1** — prec. *Obs*

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* etc (1620) 535 To the tune of a Neapolitan Villanell [1598 FLORIO tr. *Montaigne* III 370 *The villanell* a lonely gaggee and countrie songs of Gossips. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I lii. I 472.

**2** A poem of fixed form, usually of a pastoral or lyric nature, consisting normally of five three-lined stanzas and a final quatrain, with only two rhymes throughout.

The first and third lines of the first stanza are repeated alternately in the succeeding stanzas as a refrain, and form a final couplet in the quatrain.

1877 GOSSE in *Cornhill Mag* July 65 It appears that villanelles may be any length at only they retain this number and arrangement of rhymes. 1879 B. HARTE in *Scribner's Lake & Rondeaux* (Canterb. Poets) 252 A dainty thing is the Villanelle Sly musical a jewel in rhyme It serves its purpose passing well. 1886 C. DICK *Motet*, etc. 90 A Vacation Villanelle.

**Villaner.** *rare* [f. VILLAN + -ER¹.] = VILLAIN.

1862 TOLLEMIN SMITH *Yard Rememb* Oct. 189 The 11 quisite Heinsius' states that it was to have been the record of an inquisition made on the oaths of the priest, the provost and six villaners of every Vill.

**Villar** (vi·lăr) *sb* and *a rare*. [ad. I *villaris* f. *villa* VILLA see -AR.] **a** *sb* A peasant holding land in the feudal will, a villein. **b** *adj* Pertaining or relating to, concerned with, the feudal will or vills

1874 A. P. FORBES *S Annan* 5 *S Kentigern* Notes 313 Steg hen gave the f rest of Furness a fishery at Lancaster and one or two villars with their property. 1897 MAITLAND *Domesday & Beyond* 13 Manorial and fiscal geography interferes with phy i al and villar geography.

**Villarsite** (vi·lărsəit) *Min* [f. *Villars site*, f. the name of the French botanist D. *Villars* (1745–1814)] named in 1842 by Dufrenoy] A hydrous silicate of magnesium occurring massive or in rounded grains at Traversella, Piedmont.

1846 WORCESTER (citing Dana) 1850 ANSTED *Elem Ge l*, *Min*, etc § 409 *Villarsite* silicate of magnesia with iron and manganese. 1855 *Dict Science*, *Art*, etc. 511 Villarsite Prismatic Translucent Colour] yellowish green. 1889 A. IRVING *Metamorphism of Rock* 55 *Villarsite* wh h agrees with olivine in crystal form and optical characters contains 4 to 6 2 per cent of water

**Villate** (vi·lăt) *Hist* [ad med L. *villata*, f. L *villa* VILLA.] A feudal territorial division consisting of a number of vills

The Latin term has had some currency in English historical works

1897 LEADER *Rec Burg Sheffield* p xxvi, Proceedings were taken against the constable and villate of Wakefield.

**Villatic** (vilăt·ik), *a.* [ad. L. *villaticus*, f. *villa* VILLA.] Of or pertaining to a villa or villas, or the inhabitants, *esp* (after the original sense of *villa*), rural, rustic, village-

The Miltonic passage has been freely echoed in the 19th c see the first group of quots. under VILLATICAL.

(*a*) 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1695 The perched roosts, And nests in order rang d Of tame villatic Fowl. 1822 LAMB *Corr* (1870) 164 Widgeon snipes barn door fowls ducks, geese—your tame villatic things. 1889 *Gd. Words* Nov 786/2 [Jacob] herding the tame villatic sheep of his father (*b*) 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 147 P 8 He consulted with her how I might be disentangled from villatick bashfulness 1771–2 *Ess fr Batchelor* (1773) I 162 Two rebellious enchanters, whom villatic rusticity styled, Cow herds,—or Cow boys. 1822–98 DE QUINCEY *Confess* (1899) 259 Little asteroids that formed ample inheritances for the wants of this or that provincial squire, of this or that tame villatic squireen. 1846 LOWELL *Biglow P* Ser 1 18 Introd A feeling of villatic pride in beholding our townsman occupying so large a space in the public eye.

**† Ville**¹. *Anat Obs* [ad. L *villus* VILLUS.] = VILLUS *q.v.* (Only in pl.)

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Chirurg* 30 pe corde whanne he entrib into pe brawn is departid into many smale þredis, & þei ben clepid villes [= *v* villes]—þat is to se e wrappingis & þese villes ben of tij manner 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest Chirurg* b, Of what villes is the stomacke composed? 1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke*, *Dial Sorenes* 4 *Chir* 26 Iskyng [= yexing] procedyng of dryyng of the villes of the stomacke.

**† Ville**², etc., VARR FILLE, chervil *Obs*

*c* 1265 *Voc Plantis* in Wr Wülcker 557 *Cerefolium*, t cer foil, t. *ville* *a* 1387 *Simon Barthol* (Ancul Oxon) 15 *Cerefolium*, t *villes* *Ibid* 43 Ville, *cerefolium*

Ville, obs f VILL, var FILLE *Obs*.

**‖ Villeggiatura** (vilędʒātū·rā). Also (incorrectly) **villegiatura.** [It., f. *villeggiare* to live at a villa or in the country, f *villa* VILLA.] Residence at a country villa or in the country; a holiday spent in this way.

1728 WALPOLE *Let to Mann* 1 Nov, I don't wonder that she hates the country. I dare to say her child does not owe its existence to the villeggiatura. 1785 SMOLLETT *Fer Lex* (1796) II 80 The mountain Viterbo is covered with beautiful plantations and villas belonging to the Roman nobility who come hither to make the *villeggiatura* in summer. 1822 SHELLEY *Let to Ollier* (1882) IV 284 Lord Byron is in *villeggiatura* near Leghorn. 1845 LESCOTT in *Life Longfellow* (1891) II 22 We keep our *villeggiatura* at Pepperell, not flitting at all to Nahant this summer. 1885 *Times* (wkly ed) 18 Sept 15/3 [They] occasionally left the cares and dignity of the Prefecture for a visit to some dawn f rquet *villeggiatura* here.

So ‖ **Villegiature** *Obs* —¹ [F *villegiature*.]

1740 *Corr betw C tess Hartford & C tess Pomfret* (1805) II 172 I am sorry the nobility of Florence did not defer their *villegiature* 'till Christmas.

**Villein** (vi·lĕn). Now *Hist* Forms *a* 4, 4–5 vileyn, 5 veleyn, 6 vylleyne, 6–7 villeine, 6- villein, 8–9 villyen, also 6 7 vilen *β* 5 vylayn, 5–6 ayno, 6 vyllayn(e, vyllayne 6–7 villaine, 6- villain (7 vilain) [a. AF *villain* (*vilein*, *eyn*, *vylyn*, etc.), var. *villein*, *vilain* etc, VILLAN *sb*. Both types of spelling have been freely employed for this special sense of the word, and the tendency to use the form *villain* has increased in recent years.]

**1** One of the class of serfs in the feudal system, *spec* a peasant occupier or cultivator entirely subject to a lord (*villein in gross* GROSS *sb* 2 e) or attached to a manor (*villein regardant* REGARDANT *a* 1), a tenant in villeinage, also applied to a person regarded as having a similar position in other communities, a bondsman. † Hence formerly in general use, a peasant, country labourer, or lowborn rustic.

*a* 1325 *Mir R ttel B* 520 fol 56 b, Also luh assise after exception of villenage sif þat vileyn vnder his lourdes ne were ipreued to be bonde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 352 Nu lete we this maiden here And speke of Diomse mayn Asil of hospitalite the vileyn Of whiche I spoke of in the fyrst. 1458 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 388 Also hit is ordeyned that he make thef f to ben brought up amonges his Vileyns. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 11625 And while the vileyn bridde sat alle this I here vnder Vlphyn and herkned þat I was 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron* (ed 2) III 1209/1 In vse my aduersaries vilein or bondman be impaneled, I may lawfullie challenge him. 1590 SHAKESPEARE *Pericles* I 4 Amongst men Of high and low name, compounded sweet; Forsooth you are a villain. 1600 J. HERKINSON *Courts Baron* 146 If any bill in the Court Baron of a Copihold tenant be found within his Lordship the Lord may seise both it and such villes as goods at his pleasure. 1648 J. JENKINS *Works* 13 The Vil laine of a Lord, in the presence of the King cannot be seized. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist Eng* 65 The villein, that hel l nothing but at the Will of the Landlord. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm* I 93 Villeins might be enfranchised by manumission. 1772 *Archaeol* III 80 Is it or l able that two day labourers and at that time *villeins* should have 203 fine to compound? 1818 CRUISE *Digest Fines* vi 3 6 After the conquest the estates of the great lords were cultivated by their villeins. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I v, The villeins are many and their fate as strong. 1875 J. D. MAYNE *Real Prop* (1876) 51 If the villein could not depart from the land n more could the lord remove him so long as he rendered t e service due to the lord.

*fig.* 1598 HERON *Wks* I 333 The scorner and scoffer at the word is euen a villein to his own profanitee.

**‖** 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII 111 277 That alle men of worship shall be free as a gentylman for a yoman and from a yomen a vylayne. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 148/2 It happed upon a day that he tormented a vylayn or a caple for the correccion of his good 1548 HALL *Chron Hen* I, 2 ohn P v, Vf a vyllyn he made a preste yet neuerthelesse the lord spake wise his goodes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron Hen* I 1, 204 There were taken and taken foure hundred gentlemen and the villaines frankely let go. 1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb Kent* 452 Bondseruants, which we do now sence call by a str nger word Villaines, ar not here talked of. 1600 IRELAND *Pilgr* 123 In the time of King Edward the First acknowledge & cal himselfe the freed villaine and vassaile of the people of Rome. 1620 BACON *Henry I* II 156 John de Cut Hereford, and such other Cattell and Villaines not Ib nobyotes than to Cultivate the Farms as Villains, not Inheritors. 1714 *Speci* No 607 P 12 The Steward shall cause these two Neighbours to swear if he be a free man, or a Villain. 1730 *Digest Fines Pref* 9 An Act for disabling the villains or copyholders of prelates and monasteres to purchase lands in fee. 1776 DALRYMPLE *Ann Scot* 320 A covenant between the Lord and the villain. 1839 KNIGHTLEY *Hist Eng* I 168 They the judges were likewise required to receive the oath of fealty from all persons from the earl down to the villain. 1866 ROGERS *Agric & Prices* II 62 Time out of mind the services of the villains had been commutable for money payments. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* V 478 The villain was not a slave but a freeman minus the very important rights of his lord. As against all men but his lord, he was free

**† b.** A servant, a retainer *Obs* —¹

1535 *Goodly Primer Passion* iv The villains had made a great fire beneath in the midst of the hall

**2** *attrib*, as *villein burgher, class, tenure, land*, etc, **villein service,** service which a villein was bound to render to his lord as a condition of holding his land; **villein-socage,** socage or tenure by villein service (cf quot. 1766), *so villein socman.*

1509 RASTELL *Pastyme* P iij b, Swanus besegyd Canterbury, and wan it, and slew the monkys; but euer kept the x monk alyue to do vylleyne seruyce, & slew ix of them. 1544 tr *Littleton's Tenures* xi 40 b, Lande holden in vyllenage or vyllayne landes. *a* 1625 Sir H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 23 A villein shall make free land to bee villein land, but villein land shall not make a free man to be a villein. 1652 G W tr *Cowel's Inst* 9 There may be vil lain base between those which are our Captives. 1652 tr *Aitchin's Forstalls* (1657) 327 If my Villain Infant be in ward of one, by reason that he holds of him by Knights service. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II 61 These villeins socmen do villein services. *Ibid* 79 But socage is of two sorts free socage, and villein socage, where the services, though certain are of a baser nature. 1776 LLEWELLIN *Ann Scot* 320 *Mercheturn* was also used for expressing a nother *villain* custom. 1864 ‖ H. KERR *Chr the Bold* I v 344 For what purpose were the tattle and the gabble levied on the villain burghers if the nobles derived no benefit from these exactions. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop* (1876) 51 Freemen sometimes held lands by villein services. 1878 STUBBS *Const Hist* xiii III 367 The villein class aspired to holy orders as one of the avenues to liberty

**+3.** As *adj* Of base or servile birth, belonging to the class of feudal villeins or serfs *Obs.*

1552 in J. S. Fendam *Sel Cases Cer Requests* (Selden) 55 Your Orator reppliyeth that he was Free and of Free estate and not vyllayne

**Villein,** obs f VILLAIN *sb.* and *a.*

**Villeinage** (vi·lĕnedʒ) Now *Hist.* Forms *a* 4–9 villenage (6 vyllenage, vyllynage, vyellenage), *b* 6 villenage *β* 6–9 villanage, 7 villon-, villainage, 7–9 villainage, 7- villeinage (9 vileinage). [a AF *vilenage*, *villenage*, OL. *vilenage*, *villenage*, *vila(s)nage*, = Pr *vilanatge*, Sp *villanage*, Pg *villanagem*), or ad. med L *villenagium*, *vill(a)nagium*, *vilenagium*, from the same source see VILLEIN and -AGE.]

**1** The tenure by which a feudal villein held or occupied his land, tenure of lands by bond service rendered to the lord or superior. Also called *tenure in villenage*

*a* 1325 [see VILLEIN 1 a]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* (1905) 207, iij acres and an half acre and half a Rode of arable land, the whiche he holdith in vilenage or bondage. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv* 12 All these tenures maye holde lande landes by dyuers tenures as by burgage tenures and tenure in vyllenage. 1544 tr *Littleton's Tenures* xi 40 Tenure in vyllayn ma e is where a man holdeth of another by vyllayne certayne landes & tenementes after the custome and manor or els at the wyl of his lorde, and so do he worke in husbandry. 1598 MARSTON *Sco f Villanie* I n 176 Once Albion lin d in such a cruell age Ihen men did hold by seruile villenage. 1602 ‖ *Ibid Sco f Villanie* (1811) 111 Who is he that holdeth of his Lord either by doing vnto him some particular l ase seruice, and such a one is called a tenant by villenage or by doing generally whatsoeuer base seruice his Lord will command and impose vpon him, and such a tenant is termed in our Law n villaine. 1607 COWELL *Interpr* s v, For euery one that houldeth in villenage is not a villein, or a bond man. 1628 DALTON *Country Justice*, etc (1727) 204 There was but one freeholder made in a whole country, which was the lord himself, all the rest were but tenants at will or rather tenants in villenage. 1629 MANLEY *Cowell's Interpr* s v, Copy holders is but a new Name, for anciently they were called Tenants in villenage, or, of base Tenure. 1766 BLACKSTONE II 92 With regard to the folk land, or estates held in villenage. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed 2) I 308 Copyholds being derived from the tenure in villenage, they were not originally within the jurisdiction of the king's courts at Westminster. 1818 HALLAM *Mid Ages* III vii (1819) III 259 The tenements in villenage, whether by law or usage, were never separated from the lordship. 1879 STUBBS *Const Hist* xvi (1880) II 475 So villenage grew to be a base tenure, differing in degree rather than in kind from socage, and privileged as well as burdened

*attrib* 1679 BLOUNT *Anc Tenures* 21 This was an usual restraint of old in Villenage Tenure.

*b.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* *Conuersari* rusticall people, tenantes in villanages. 1607 NORDEN *Surv Dial* II 77 A matter almost out of vse, a tenure called Villanage that is, where the Tenants of a Mannor are Bondmen and Bondwomen. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Rem* (1644) 59 The bondmen were grievously prest by their Lords in their tenure of Villanage. 1681 ‖ NEVILE *Italy Redin* 133 Not only all Villanage is long since abolished, but other Tenures are so altered and qualified, that they signifie nothing towards making the Yeomandry depend upon the Lords. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W N* III ii 423 Personal villanage gradually wore out. 1812 G CHALMERS *Dom Econ. Gt Brit* 23 It is extremely difficult to ascertain the time, when villanage ceased in England, or when it had its decline. 1870 O W HOLMES *Poet Breakf t* vi, We return to the state of villanage, holding our tenement houses of the State.

*fig.* *a* 1653 G DANIEL *Idyll* v 132 The Earth runs in one Tenure, and we but Prevent Repaes; Villainage is the Lott

**†** 1641 *Termes de la l y* 262 To hold in pure Villenage, is to do all that the Lord will him command. 1845 S AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist Ref* II 225 The abolition of the punishment of death, of the lesser fines, and of villenage were especially insisted on. 1845 WILLIAMS *Real Property* III 265 Villenage is to hold part of the demesnes of any lord by villein services

**† b.** Land held by this tenure *Obs*

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* (1906) 576 The tythes of the villenagis of medya and litell medis of the same towne. *c* 1460 *Osney Reg* (1932) 26 In cleydon, ij hides of villenage, in which my modur sate to be same church

**2.** The state or condition of a feudal villein; complete subjection to a feudal lord or superior; bondage, servitude, servitude.

*a.* 1532 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II, 206 Ony maner of Entree into the said Courte Kolles Concernyng ony

vyllenage against the seid defendauntes 1552 in J S Leadam *Sel Cases Crt Aequests* (Selden) 58 To dyscharge the vyllynage and bondage of the bloudde of the said com playnants 1600 Holland *Livy* xli viii 1101 They shut were to leave such yssue at home, gave their children as it were in villenage to some Romane citizen or other whom they liked of 1643 Milton *Sov. Solve* 26 Reduced to the terms of the Peasants of Russia, of villenage and slavery 1699 Temple *Hist Eng* 59 The Children that were born of these miserable People, belonged to the Lord of the Soil and thus begun Villenage in England 1818 Hallam *Mid Ages* (1872) II 57 The villenage of the peasantry in some parts of Catalonia was very severe 1834 H. Rogers *Fel Faith* 418 Mr Newman says that it was *Christ* 's not *men*, that the Church sought to enfranchise it intl matters, she sought to abolish all villenage 1866 Rogers *Agric & Prices* I iv 95, I do not doubt that the social state of Villenage existed

*fig* 1590 Spenser *F Q* II xi 2 No wretchedneese is like to sinfull villenage. 1604 Hieron *Wks* I 481 The con tinuall grunster is, as it were, in the state of villenage to his humor 1644 Milton *Divorce* II iii 56 I spake ev o now, as if I am were condemn d in a perpetual villenage never to be free by law, never to be manumitted

*fi* 1589 Warner *Albion's England* v xxiii 101 Thus England hope with Hierusalem heire in one same Bark did scale When despratt from their vnhappie was English blood of baile 1607 Topsell *Fourf Beasts* 449 For those (vehemuons) that are overcome in combates one with another, are branded with a vvhicke marke of Villenie and or subiection to their Conquerors 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath's T* 443 Their Glories shine, But Infamy and Vil lanage we chuse 1776 Gibbon *Decline & Fall* (1869) I 245 Joseph II rendered an essential service to humanity, in abolishing the servitude or villanage of the peasants of Bohemia. 1845 Lingard *Hist And* III 311 The original population had been con quered and reduced to a sort of villanage by certain Afghan tribes. 1876 Freeman *Norm Conq* IV 480 While the churl sank to the state of villainage the slave rose to it

y 1542 *Termes de la Ley* 262 b The division of Villenage, is villeine of blood, and of tenure 1834 Hr Martineau *Demerara* II. 22 Then c ume the bondage and villenage of the Gothic nations 1873 Spencer *Stud Socy* v 103 When villenage had passed away, serfs were no longer main tained by their owners 1886 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* 66 A man or woman born in villenage could never shake it off

**3.** The body of villeins, villeins collectively.

1864 Bristow *Scot Ch Hist* I 1 31 The French peasantry or villenage of the period

**Villeiness.** *rare* [f Villein + ess] A female villein

1621 Cotgr s v *Corps Femme de corps* a Villeinesse, a woman of a servile condition *Ibid* s v *Femme*

**†Villeining** *Obs*—1 = Villeinage.

1472 in *Archaeol* XLVII 196 That yc pyye yerely the same of ten mares according to the terms of th enden tures of Vilenyng between us & the said William

**Villeinous, -en(o)us,** obs ff Villainous *a.*

**Villenie, -enye,** obs vars Villainy Villi, pl of Villus

**Villiaco, -ago,** vars Villaco *Obs*

**†Villicated,** *ppl. a Obs*—0 [f i *villicat us*, pa pple of *villicare* to act as bailiff] (See quot) Also Villcon ted [ad L. *villicatus*]

1623 Cockeram I, *Villicated, bused* about husbandrie *Ibid*, *Villication*, husbandry. 1656 Blount *Glossogr* (copying Cooper), *Villicatio* the rule of Hu bandry under the Master or Owner of a Manor

**Villiohe,** obs form of Villely *adv*

**Villiform** (vi lıfəɪm), *a Zool* [ad mod L *villiformis* fr see Villus and -form. So F *villiforme*] Of the teeth of certain fishes Having the form of villi, so numerous, slender, and closely set, as to resemble the pile of velvet.

Also *Ibid*, resembling villi

1849–52 Owen in *Todd's Cycl Anat* IV 874/1 The teeth of the Sheat fish present all the gradations between the villiform and radaliform conditions 1859 Muruhison *Siluria* (ed 3) App 562 The minute villiform teeth of osseous fishes 1880 Gunther *Fishes* 126 Very fine conical teeth arranged in a band are termed villiform teeth

**Villity,** obs. form of Villeity 2.

**†. Villin,** obs. f. Villain *sb*

**Villinet** (vilĭn·t), *a Bot* and *Ent* [ad. L. *villus-us* hairy, rough, f *villus* Villus] Cf. It *villoso, velloso*, Sp, Pg *velloso* ] = Villous *a*

*a.* *Bot* 1797 Bailey (vol III), *Villose*, hairy 1733 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v *Leaf*, *Villinet leaf*. See *Hook Lindl*, supra 1812 *New Bot Guard* I 29 The involucre remote and villose 1844 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) V 26 The various parts of plants when clothed or furnished with hairs are described as being downy, pilose, villose, tomentose 1887 W Phillips *Brit Discomycetes* 185 Margin finbriate villose-white

*b* *Ent* 1819 Samouelle *Entomol Compend* 156 *Dryas (a) emarginata* Blue, pu nctate villose 1826 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV 59 The substance is unusually thick in the spurose caterpillars of butterflies ; and in the pupæ of one it is villose 1847 Hardy in *Proc berw Nat Club* II 215 Abdomen and elytra fulvo pubescent the last with a villose cinereous angulated band 1881 Hagen *Synop Neuropteran N Amer* 153 *Libellula julia*. Fuscous, villose

**Villosity** (vilp·sĭti) [ad. L. type **villositas* see prec and -ity So F. *villosité*, Sp *vellosidad*]

**1.** *Bot, Zool*, etc The condition or fact of being villose or villous.

a. 1777 Lightfoot *Flor Scot* II 606 This villosity [of the leaf] soon wears off 1823 Scoresby *Trnl* 414 They differ from both in the form and villosity of the leaves. 1839 Lindley *Introd Bot* (ed 3) 59 *Pellicity*, when they [ec hairs] are very long, very soft, erect, and straight 1857 Darwin in F Darwin *Life* (1887) II 98, I find Moquin Tandon treats in his 'Tératologie' on villosity of plants.

Vol. X.

b 1789 Bentham *Princ Legisl* xvii 309 The villosity of the skin 1852 Dana *Crust* I. 200 But slight traces of any villosity can be detected 1861 Hagen *Synop Neuropteran N Amer* 180 Thorax obscure brassy brown, with brown villosity

**2** a A villous formation or surface b A villus

1828 Stark *Elem Nat Hist.* II 229 This villosity is supposed to be composed of tubes adapted to taking up the surrounding fluids. 1857 Bullock *Caseous Metastasis* 70 Its internal surface exhibiting granulations, and some extremely delicate villosities 1859 *Pe Quetrefages Intern Spec* 50 The modifications of the hair and villosities.

**Villo so** , combb form of L. *villōsus* Villose *a* , as in *villoso-scabrous* adj.

1846 Dana *Zoophi* (1848) 390 Exterior finely striate and villoso-scabrous or squamulous

**Villous** (vi lŏs), *a* [ad L *villōsus* Villose *a* Cf F. *velleux* ]

**1.** *Anat* Covered with numerous thick-set, slender projections resembling short hairs a Of the inner coat of the stomach or intestines

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy* 169 Pe stomak & pe gutte is ordeyned a skyn, pat is clepid pe villosa. & is a fyn sengle skyn & is not villous. 1732 Arbuthnot *Aliments* v. (1735) 7 The quick Sensation of the inward villous Coat of the Stomach 1733 Cheyne *Eng Malady* II viii §1 (1734) 184 Either it [the stomach] is too thi i and weak or if the inner villous Membrane is worn off 1769 Hewson in *Phil Trans* LIX 210 The lacteals in the colt are remarkable for having a beautiful net work of vessels between the muscular and villous coat of the intestines 1842 Combe *Digest* 94 On examining the villous coat with a magnifying glass 1881 Mivart *Cat* 163 There is thus a great co tra t between its interior and the villous internal surface of the small intestine

b In general use

1764 Reid *Inquiry* ii. § 1 The *membrana pituitaria* and the olfactory nerves, which are distributed to the villous parts of the membrane 1797 *Encycl Britan* I.XXXII 173 The tongue itself is extremely villous having some very long villi at the point which act, I conceive, somewhat like capillary tubes in drawing up the saliva 1803 *Edinb Encycl* 1 The surface of the ethary processes is retic ulated and villous 1846 Carpenter *Man Phys* 192 The villous and vascular condition of a Mucous membrane 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 31 The lung parts has a coarsely villous exterior

**2** Of the nature of villi.

1664 Power *Exp Philos* 1 22 An Appendent Proboscis or Trunk consisting of many villous fil aments in figure of a Cone 1854 C H Jones & Sieb *Pathol Anat* IV 188 Kokitansky describes a variety of ca cer which he calls *villous* from its re emb ance to a fi ld of ha r 1858 in stilk branching at its end into villous processes 1873 F R Roberts *Handbk Med* I 44 The weak new vessels in cer tain vascular cysts, or villous processes 1876 Bentley *Fl & Forest Bhd* (1878) 93 Fungous, pupular, villous, or cystic formations

*Comb* 1869 G Lawson *Dis Eye* (1874) 13 Covered with small red villous granulations.

**3** Of animals Hairy, furry, *rare*—1

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* Isagoge b, H rses, bove most have upon the mane, hons upon their shoulders, and the bore is most villous, in all they grow t ick

**4** *Bot* Of parts of plants Thickly covered with long soft hairs

1706 *Phytanth Anal* VI 444 The flowers are succeeded by a seed-vessel, villous 1787 *Trans Linnean Soc* I 41 Nigritan two, villous on the e side 1808 Roxburgh in *Asiat Res* VIII 500 Leaves alternate, smooth above, villous under neath 1844 *Florist's Jrnl* (1846) V 18 The petals being fo less taper pointed and n t villous 1881 *Gard Chron* XVI 780 The whole plant is more or less villous.

**b** Consisting of villi

1821 W P C Barton *Flora N Amer* I 37 The lower leaves invested beneath with a villous pubescence.

Hence **Vi llously** *adv*

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 429 Empty glumes villously ciliate.

‖ **Villus** (vi·lĕs). *Bot* and *Anat* Pl. villi (vi lai) [L *villus* tuft of hair, shaggy hair, etc ]

**1** *Bot.* A long slender, soft hair

1704 J Harris *Lex Techn.* I *Villi*, in Botany, are small Hairs like the Grain of Lush or Shag, with which as with a kind of Down many Plants are cloathed 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner* 90 I he multicellular heads of the glandular hairs, villi, and scales.

**2** *Anat* A slender hair-like process or minute projection forming one of a number closely set upon a surface

pl 1728 Chambers *Cycl*, *Crusta Villosa*, the fourth Tunic of the Stomach On the inner Surface of this Coat, are seen innumerable *Villi* or *fibrillæ* 1771 *Encycl Brit* I 960/1 The villi of this intestine [sc the duodenum] are thicker than in the stomach 1798 Villous *a* 1 b], 1848 Carpenter *Anim Phys* 172 The lacteals originate in the numberless villi or minute projections with which the mucous membrane thut lines the alimentary tube is covered 1861 J. R. Greene *Man Anim Kingd*, *Cuticle* 32 The surface of this layer is often elevated into a number of villi or conical processes. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 96 It may be pro duced into many, often relatively large, papillæ or villi *ying* 1848 Carpenter *Anim Phys* 40 In the intervals of the digestive action, only a few granules can be seen at the end of the villus 1880 Beale *Slight Ailments* 84 Every part of the internal canal is supplied with nerve fibres.

**Vilm(e,** obs. vars. Film *sb* **Vilne, Vilony(e,** etc , obs. vars Villainy. **Vilou,** obs. f Willow

**Vilte,** var Vilety *Obs* **Vilthy,** southern dial var. Filthy *a.* **Vily(e,** obs. vars. Vilely *adv*

**Vilycoit,** obs. f Wylecoat.

**Vim** (vim). Org *U.S.* [Commonly regarded as a. L. *vim*, acc. sing. of *vis* strength, energy ; but the earlier adverbial use (see quot 1850) suggests a purely imitative or interjectional origin ] Force or vigour, energy, 'go' †Also as *adv*, vigorously, sharply

1850 *Old Fellows* 51 (Thornton) He thought of his spurs so he ris up on dr ive them vim in the l oss flanx. *Ibid* 91 1875 *New York Herald* 17 April (Bartlett), With a vim and determination that sometimes makes victory half assured 1876 F L Gale in Orton *Andes & Amazon* vi xliv 386 [The Portuguese] seem still to carry about the vim of a Vasco de Gama in their wanderings. 1880 Johnson *W L Garrison* 128 I here was a Garrisonian grip and vim in the anti slavery sentiment of the county 1894 *Outing* XXIV 259/1 He fought well and with a vim that I have never seen equaled

**†Vimane** *Obs*—1 [ad OF *vimaune*, mod l *vimaune* Cf Maw *sb* 4] Marsh-mallow.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* xii (MS Bodl 546) fol 58, Penne take ye of be mauys & of be vimauys & of be white lyyes

**Vi mınal,** *a rare*—0 [ad L. *viminal is*, f *vimin* , *vimen* oster ] (See quots )

1623 Cockeram I, *Viminal*, apt or fit to bind with 1656 Blount *Glossogr* (copying Cooper), *Viminal* apt to winde or binde, belonging to Osiers or Twigs [Hence in later Diets with varying definitions ]

**Vimineous** (vimi nĕəs), *a* Now *rare* Also 7 viminious. [f L *vimine us* (f *vimin* , *vimen* see prec ) + -ous ]

1 Made of pliable twigs or wickerwork.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Distp* 189 Chirurgions have in vented an Ar tistry of making Viminious Cradles and cage 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 37 The Timber is incomparable be cause it is exceedingly light, for Vine and Hop-prope and divers viminious sts works 1672 Evelyn *Kalendar* 172 An o Hives viminious Dome, ten thousand Bees enjoy their Home 1736 H Brooke *Univ Beauty* vi 309 Here lightly some viminious bees

**2** *Bot* Producing long, flexible shoots or twigs

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 23 Willows and all the Viminious kinds which are r used of Sets only 1694 Westmacott *Script Herb* 154 Hanc vimineam Salicem I so properly but of two kinds *Ibid* 222 This [the willow] is one of the Viminious family 1731 I Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Ligustrum* In some it [the grain] doth last as much as the Roots, and all over the Trunk and Branches, as in the Viminious or Willow Kinds. 1857 A Gray *First Less Bot* 256 *Vimi neous*, producing slender twigs, such as those used for wicker work 1866 *Treas Bot* 1216/2

**Vin,** southern dial variant of Find v.

‖ **Vina** (vi nā) Also 8 **vena, 9 veena.** [Skr and Hindi *vīna* ] An Indian musical instrument consisting of a fretted fingerboard, to which seven strings fitted with pegs are attached, with a gourd at each end , an Indian lute

1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett Hind a Rajah* (1821) I 221 A musician softly touched the chords of a vena 1817 Moore *Lalla R ukh Fire worshippers* v Introd As the cy mi was softly to be told in song, he borrow ed the v a of Lalla Rookh's slave 1837 [Mrs. Maitland] *Lett fr Madras* (1843) 65 I is at came in an old man to play and sing to the vina an instrument like a large mandoline 1856 *It Mag* Jan 39 Instrumen tal music on the veena is so much in vogue among them

**Vinaceous** (vinē·ʃəs), *a* [f I *vinace us*, f *vin um* wine + -aceous ] Of the (reddish) colour of wine , wine coloured

1688 Holme *Armoury* II 244 The Throat [is] tinctured with a lovely vinaceous graphike colour 1776 Pennant *Arct Zool* (ed 2) I 268 The rump and coverts are breast n i belly, pale chestnut dol ored with a tinge of vinaceous 1802 Pinkey *Anim Biog* (1805) II 388 The fore part of the neck and breast are vinaceous 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen Zool* IX 1 91 Throat and sides of the head vinaceous 1889 P L Sclater *Argentine Ornith* II 140 Beneath plumbeous with a strong vinaceous tinge.

b Qualifying names of colours

1788 J White *Jrnl Voy N S Wales* (1790) 146 The genera l colour of the bird otherwise is brown, changing, to vinaceous red on the breast 1817 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen Zool* X 1 5 Vinaceous grey Lead-coloured with a full crested head and short g reen occiput *Ibid* XI 1 84 Pigeon with the head of a vinaceous purple. 1872 Coues in *Amer Nat* VI 221 Olivaceous with a reddish tinge crown and under parts vinaceous red 1889 P L Sclater *Argentine Ornith* II 140 Above pale vinaceous brown

c *elliptical* as *sb* = Vinaceous colour

1824 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen Zool* XI 1 126 The bell sides thighs, and under tail coverts, of a reddish vinaceous. 1877 Coues & Allen *Y Amer Rod* 811 The prevailing tint of the dorsal surface varies from grey to vinaceous

**Vinacre, Vinager,** obs forms of Vinegar

**†Vinager.** *Obs*—0 [Cf med l *vinagraria, vinacheria* (Du Cange') ? A wine-vessel

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 510/1 Vynagere (A vynagre *l* vynegyt), *vinarium*

‖ **Vinaigrette** (vinigre t) Also 7 **vinai gret, 7, 9 vinegrette, 9 vinaigaret** [F *vinaigrette* vinegar sauce (also in senses 2 and 3, f *vinaigre* Vinegar *sb*.]

**†1** A condiment prepared with vinegar *Obs*—1

1599 Evelyn *Acetaria* 20 Cucumber tho very c ild and moist the most approved salleter also, and c mpanion of all the Vinaigrets, to sharpen the Appetite.

**2** A small two-wheeled carriage drawn or pushed by persons, formerly in use in France Now only *Hist.*

1698 W Kinchin *Travels Journ Lond* I, I saw a little Master in a little Vinegrette drawn along by two Boys, much bigger then himself, and push d behind by a Maid 1698 M Lister *Journ Paris* (1699) 13 The Vinegrette, a

Coach on Two Wheels, drag'd by a Man and push'd behind by a Woman or Boy, or both 1898 A Balfour *To Arms* xxiv 274 The vinegrettes plying hither and thither are like sedans mounted on two thin wheels

**3** A small ornamental bottle or box usually containing a sponge charged with some aromatic or pungent salts, a smelling bottle

1811 Miss I M Hawkins *Cleas & Genr* I 55 She had no resource but sal-ce her fan and her *vinaigrette* 1847 C Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxvii The matrons meantime, offered vinaigrettes and wiel-ed fans 1866 Geo Eliot *F Holt* xxxix, She took up a gold vinaigrette which Mrs Tran some then liked to every with her

**b** *transf* Applie to a person

1836 T Hook *G Gurney* I iv 140, I would not have ventured to confess to my most exemplary parent more espe tially in the pre ence of the fair vinaigrette, the adventure at Twickenham

**Vinaigrous,** *a rare*—1 [f. F. *vinaigre* vinegar] Vinegary, sour tempered.

1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I vi iii The Fr nch the ancient vinaigrous Lantes admit at the King's Aunt ancient Gruille and Sisterhood

**Vinakir,** obs Sc. form of Vinegar

**Vinal** (vai nal), *adj.* [ad L *vinal is* (rare), f *vin um* wine, or directly f *vin um* + -AL ]

†**1** Addicted to, fond of wine *Obs*—1

1652 S S *Hireper* 6 His Vinal and Venereous temper opened the little Wicket for the five other Deadly Sinnes

**2** Produced by, originating in, wine

1658 R White tr *Digby's Powd Sympa* (ed 2) 110 The bodies attract unto themselv s such kind of their nature as wine doth the vinall spirits a 1700 Ken *Ed on I* poet Wks 1721 II 91 Nor is it Nectar's vinal Power alone, they Felt of their mutual Vigour the Joy 1894 Hoskyns *Jerusmus* xi 210 She then kit [he w s] to the first de [ ] Then she tried to pitch him overboard There is vinal energy for you

**Vina rious,** *a rare* ° [f L *vinari us, f vinum* wine see -ARIOUS ] Of or belonging to wine

1656 Blount *Glossogr*

**Vinatio rian,** *a rare*—° (See quot and Vinatorian *a* )

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vinatorius* belonging to the dresser of a Vineyard

†**Vince,** *v. Obs*—1 [ad L *vincere*] *intr* To win the day, be victorious

1530 Cromwell in *St Papers Hen VIII* I 367 the Florentynes dothe styll continue and defende the power of the Pope, and as yt s supposs I that they shall vyn e

†**Vincent,** *sb. Obs rare* [Of obscure origin ] The dupe in a betting game of lowls or the like Also *I ncent s lare*, the art of cheating at bowls etc

1592 Greene *Conny catching* II B j b The Vin cents Law is a common decent or cosenage used in Bowling alleys and such like I ucers as it [*sic*] *Ibid* iii B iij b The vincent that is the simple man that stands by and not acquainted with their cosenage

**Vincentian** (vinse nsian), *sb* and *a* [f *Vincent* (see def) + -IAN ] **A** *sb* A member of an order of Roman Catholic mission priests founded by St Vincent de Paul (1576–1660) **B** *adj* Of or pertaining to this order

1854 Newman in W Ward *Life* (1912) I xi 338 (I) went off to Cork to the Vincentians.

**Vincentian** (vinse nsian), *a* 2 [f *Vincent* (see def) + -IAN ] Originating or associated with St. Vincent of Lerins (died *c* 450 A D )

The reference is to St Vincent s test of orthodoxy 'quod ubique quod semper quod ab omnibus creditum est

1875 Lindsay *Hist Reform* (1906) III 200 Your difficulty seems to be the meaning of 'semper' in the Vincentian Canon 1887 Ld Acton *Lett Mary Cholmondeley* (1913) 189 No consensus, no Vincentian Rule, exists that can decide this question.

†**Vincetoxic.** *Obs*—1 [ad med L *vincetoxicum*, *-icus* (used as a plant name), f L *vincêre* to overcome + *toxicum* poison ] An antidote to poison.

1658 J Robinson *Calm t e titation* VII in *Fuduxa*, etc 151 Some Vincetoxicks [*print* f tonicks] are generall, and will be contrary to severall kinds [of poison].

**Vinoh,** obs Sc form of Wench *sb.*

**Vincibility** (vinsibi liti) [f. next + -ITY ] The state of being vincible, capability of being conquered or overcome

1752 Richardson *Clar* (1804) III 203 An instance of his favourite observati n in behalf of the vincibility of a first love 1753 *Gentleman's Mag* (1731) I 45, I don t know what to say to the vincib lity of *such* a Love 1807 *Ann Rev* V 344 A belief in the vincibility of Bonaparte 1856 J Strang *Glasgow & Strathclyde* 242 In Egypt they had testified to the *vincibility* of the French *Invincibles*

**Vincible** (vi nsibl), *a* [ad L *vincibilis*, f *vincêre* to overcome see -IBLE So obs F. *vincible*, It *vincibile*, Sp. *vencible*, Pg *vencivel* ]

In the 15th cent version of Higden (Rolls) IV 167 *rincible* occurs as an error for *incible*

**1.** Of persons That may be overcome or vanquished in battle or conflict, or in some contest, susceptible of defeat or overthrow

1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par Matt* iv 33 b Christ once came hym to shewe vnto vs that he was vincible 1590 R Adams in *Harl Misc* I 120 The English fleet dispersed that invincible Navy, and made it vincible 1630 J Hayward *John VII* 38 He not easily vincible in spirit drew his sword and caused others to doe the like 1680 C Nesse *Ch Hist* 481 That Spanish Armado (which was stiled Invincible but proved Vincible) 1736 Ainsworth *Lat Dict* s *Invincibilis* vincible conquerable. 1852 Wilkie *Hist Hanoverians* 68 The allies could scarcely believe that the Napoleon who had so often conquered them was really vincible 1869 S P Hebbert in W H Salmon *Chron Arder Marshal* I 290 And the heart is so exultant, so vigorous and the man is so feeble and so vin ible.

*Transf* 1882 *Atlantic Monthly* XLIX 418 He [Peel] was vincible by the truth

**2** Of material or immaterial things, obstacles, arguments, etc That may be overcome, conquerable, surmountable

a 1568 Corderius *Hb Death* (1579) 110 To heare how a hurtfull yea wholesome and vincible death is become thereby Christ 1589 *Warfare Christ* Epist p Very insufficiently furnished with notable inhabitue of most vincible reasons. 1632 Fuller *Purch's Pilgr* xxxv (1868) 40 N ught is so hard but may be vincible by pames. 1666 J Smith *Old Age* (1676) 153 All imminent evil is looked up on either as vincible or invincible 1686 Plot *Staff* viii 191 All by time, i e vincible without Miracle] 1752 Hutcheson *Cram tsman* (1781) III xxvii 315 Were this great difficulty to be vincible 1786 Miss A M Bennett *Juvenile Indust* V 130 He deemed it her chief duty by her obedience to her parents, ha t their objects no less vincible 1824 *Lockhart Mag* XVI 582 The form of faith that Lydia held to vincible objections in matters of unnecessary w s made a matter of duty *Chr World Pulpit* II 183 It is because these influences are vincible that we are exhorted not to grieve the Spirit of God

**b** *Vincible ignorance*, an ignorance the means of overcoming which are possessed by the ignorant person himself Cf Invincible *a* 2 b c

*c* 1626 Donne *Serm* lxxii (1640) 775 God forgives none of that which is ill under ne out of a willfull and vincible ignorance 1628 *Prac Piety* In 1 *Hop Prac* 5 Though I must tell you I im ts vincible ignorance for that you have not read it is your sin fault 1724 V Sheilds *Life T Ken* I 8 Ep Ken (1677) p vii Their Ig orance is also proved vincible, when they hav e t that One M n ster, whom he so reproaches 1884 *Cath Dict* 424 2 All invincible ignorance supposes things which one is required him to know is in itself sinful 1891 *Cath News* 31 Jan 3 4 Viol tion of duty attended by culpable or vincible ignorance

Hence **Vi nciblenes s**; **Vi ncibly** *adv.*

1654 Gataker *Stud Word* v (1660) 157 Such Papists as they count vin ibly ignorant of Roman errours 1656 — *Kebbe* viii 195 He Roman Church doth not excom municate Protestants Kings of Mark Vnity, but only such as by erre vincibly or sinf lly 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Vincibleness* Culpableness or Liableness to be vin quere l e

**Vi ncture** *rare*—° [ad L *vinctura* f *vinctus* to bind ] 'A binding or tying'

1656 Blount *Glossogr* [Hence in Inter Dicts ]

**Vi ncular,** *a rare* [f L *vinculum* + -AR ] Of a vowel Connective Also *ellipt* as *sb* So Vincula tion (see quot )

1877 Key *Philol Educ Ess* (1890) 157 Such Papists as they count vin ibly ignorant of Roman errours 1656 — *Keble* viii 195 He Roman Church doth not excom municate Protestants Kings of Mark Vnity, but only such as by erre vincibly or sinf lly 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Vincible ness* Culpableness or Liableness to be vin quere l e r mem ri on of a Vincular Vowel

†**Vi nculate,** *a Obs*—1 [ad L. *vinculat us*, pa. pple of *vinculare* to bind ] Bound

1542 R Copland *Galyen's Terap* D j Vf the vlceres be not bou le d thus mytygate the phlegmon For it is necess ry that they be not vinculate

‖ **Vinculum** (vi nkiŭlĕm). Pl. vincula [L., f *vinc*, stem of *vincire* to bind + *-ulum* -ULE ]

**1.** A bond of union, a tie Usually *fig*

1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* I iv 607 The Religion of an Oath is the strongest *Vinculum* of Civil Society 1699 *Phil Trans* XXI 236 Which does diffuse it self through the Whole and breaking the Vinculum f the more solid Parts, does divide their Compages 1710 T Fuller *Harm Exhemp* (1733) 4 The gentle Intestine motion of Fermentation knocking a under their *Vincula* of mixture they reduce the Particles 1832 *Blackw Mag* XXXI 198 In maternal objects we do not see the c nnecting principle —the *vinculum*, as it is termed which links causes and effects together 1844 R A Vaughan *Hours w Mystics* III iii 279 The vinculi of the Intellectual World are principally formulas of invocation *a* 1871 Grote *Exh Fragm* i (1876) 13 I imute connection drives us to consi der an invocation

**2** *Math* A straight line drawn over two or more terms, denoting that these are to be considered as subject to the same operations of multiplication, division, etc ; by another term

1706 J Hunter *Lexic Techn* II, *Vinculum* is a Term in Fluxions, implying that some compound sund Quantity is multiplied into a Fluxion, &c 1743 W Emerson *Fluxions* 24 The fluxionary Part may be divided by the Fluxion of the Root (or Part under the Vinculum) 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1807) II 232 When the Root under a Vinculum is a Compound Quantity and the Index of the part or factor without the Vinculum, is creased by 1, is some Multiple of that Under the Vinculum 1824 Brande *Dict Sci*, etc 1297 Vets first used the bar or line over the quantities for vinculum ] 1829 B Smith *Arith & Algebra* (ed 4) 5 The sum — vinculum, placed over num bers, is used to de ote that all numbers under the vinculum are equally affected by all numbers not under the vinculum 1875 *Encycl Brit* I 519/1 Each of these [quantities] has a line drawn over it called a vinculum

*fig* 1897 Tate *York Mirrors in Theatre of Greeks* (ed 2) 127 The words from vow to vaida are inclosed as it were in a vinculum of syntax 1871 R H Hutton *Ess* (1877) I 38 The other notion of unity denotes the vinculum, or sheath, under which branches of thought or existence, really different in kind, are taken up into a single complex root or stem

**3** *Anat.* A ligament or frenum.

1899 Mayne *Expos Lex* (and in later Dicts)

**Vincus,** obs. or dial. Sc var Vanquish *v.*

**Vind,** southern dial var. Find *v* , obs. Sc. f. Wind *v* **Vindage,** var Vendage *Obs.* **Vindak,** obs. Sc var Window **Vinde,** southern ME var Find *v* , obs f Vine *sb*

**Vindemial** (vindi mial), *a rare* [ad. L (post-classical) *vindēmial is*, f *vindēmia* Vindemy.] Of or belonging to, associated with, the gathering of grapes.

1656 Blount *Glossogr* [Hence in Philips, Kersey, etc ] 1819 J Bush *Dessert* 418 Yes come, Lyæus, leave thy lucid vills Thy ivy borders and vindemial hills

**Vindemiate** (vindi miĕt), *v* [f. L. *vindēmiāt-*, ppl. stem of *vindemiare*, f. as prec ] *intr.* To gather ripe fruit, esp. grapes. Hence **Vindemiating** *vbl sb*

1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* Aug 72 Now vindemiate and take your bees towards the expiration of this Moneth 1670 Blount *Glossogr* (ed 3) *Vindemiate*, to gather grapes or ripe fruit in harvest [Hence in Phillips etc ] 1728 Chambers *Cycl Vindemiating*, the gathern g of Grapes or other ripe Fruits 1831 Warburton in Tollu tr *Ace Hervt* (1836) II 123 I epole will ask you to reckon your fruits so vindemiate as fast as you can

**Vindemiation** (vindemiā'ʃən) [ad med L *vindemiātio*, f L *vindemiāre* see prec ] The gathering of grapes or other fruits Also *transf* and *fig*

1609 C Butler *Fem Mon* x (1623) L ij Of the fruit and profit of Bees Wherein is shewed first the Vindemiation or taking of Combes 1653 W G *Bac u Hist Wonth*, etc 305 Let this be the first Vindemiation or inchoated intery retain n of the Forme of heat 1669 Worlidge *Syst Agri* 277 *Vindemiation*, the gathering of Grapes or reaping the Fruit of any thing 1726 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Vinge* stars in the Constellation Virgo (Under) Upper of N th Wing Vir de ri tria 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 371 1 Of the bright stars in this triangle Vindemiatrix is the one nearest to the h e joining Arcturus and β Leonis 1860 Otwell *Meth Hi n* 347 Twenty degrees north of Spica is Vindemiatrix, in the arm of Virgo, a star of the third magnitude

**2** 'A female vintager' (Bailey, 1721)

†**Vi ndemy,** *Obs*—1 [ad. L *vindemia* vintage, fruit gathering ] The taking of honey from beehives

1609 C Butler *Fem Mon* v (1623) Kiij At the Vindemi in s far calm morning before any Bees be abroad, shut up close all the stalls in your Garden

**Vinden,** southern ME variant of Find *v*

**Vindicabi lity,** *rare* ° [f. next ] 'The quality of being vindicable, or capable of support or justification

1828 in Webster (citing *Jrnl of Science*)

**Vindicable** (vi ndikăb l), *a* [ad late L *vindicabilis* (Du Cange), f L *vindicāre* to vindicate Cf Of *vindicable* punishing ]

†**1** Vengeful, vindictive *Obs*—1

1632 Litho on *Trav* 1 7 Any of us more ol sect of disastrous misfortune or perhaps any vindicable action [which] might from an unsettled rat ekour be conceived

**2.** Capal le of being vindicated, admitting of being justified or maintained.

1649 *Lengl. Resented and Sickly Water State* 5 These freedoms liberty of per on, property of Estates given away and become meere Notions, and not vindicable, nor preservable by Law 1733 *Lond Gaz* No 5096/1 The most vindicable Quarrel can be imagin d 1736 Chandler *Hist Persec* 436, I think this manner of sul scribing to Creeds is infamous in its nature, and vindicable upon no principles of conscience and honour 1775 S J Pratt *Liberal Opin* xlvii (1783) II 9 I think every work of God vir dicable 1836 J Halley in W Amos *Mem* (1842) 61 Feelings which were natural but by no means vindicable 1844 H H Wilson *Brit India* II 356 Hostilities in this campaign were generally prosecuted in a stern and inflexible spirit, vindicable, perhaps by the cruelty and treachery of the Mahratta princes

**Vi ndicant.** *Roman Law* [ad. L *vindicant-*, *vindicans*, pres pple of *vindicāre* : see next ] The claimant in a suit.

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* II § 24 The praetor adjudges the thing to the vindicant *Ibid* IV § 16 The vindicant held in his hand a rod

**Vindicate** (vi ndikĕt), *v.* Also 6 ? as *pa pple.* [f L. *vindicāt-*, ppl stem of *vindicāre* (also *vendicāre* see Vendicate *v* ) to claim, to set free, to punish, etc., f *vim*, acc. sing of *vis* force + *dic-*, stem of *dicĕre* to say. Cf It *vindicare*, Sp. and Pg *vindicar*, F. *vendiquer.*]

†**1** *trans* & To exercise in revenge *Obs.*—1

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S T S) II 326 Praying pam to provid pat be pople vindicat ns bre nor wraith [*altered to* vse na vengeance nor punyciou] on pam

†b. To avenge or revenge (a person, cause, wrong, etc.). *Obs.*

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vindicate*, to revenge 1655 Stanley *Hist Philos* 1 (1687) 17/2 Solon declared, that it behoved them that they should vindicate the Gods cause 1660 Ingelo *Bentivi & Ur* 1 (1682) 104 Resolving by God s assistance to vindicate his Wrongs. 1668 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 67 News being brought King Ackbar that Mirza Sharoph had been injured by the Ouzbeg Tartars the King resolves to vindicate him 1713 Swift *Cadenus & Vanessa* Wks 1755 III 11 28 But Cupid, full of mischief, longs To vindicate his mother's wrongs

†c. To punish; to visit with punishment *Obs*

1632 Lithgow *Trav* VIII 367 There are severall Seates of Justice heere (though none to vindicate beastliuesse) 1659 Pearson *Creed* 1 86 God is more powerfull to Rebell and Sedition, and to vindicate rebellion 1665 Manley *Grotius Low C Wars* 574 Private Trespasses should be vindicated upon the Authors thereof themselves, or else where they lived 1770 Burke *Pres Discont* 8 Because our grievances are not precisely those which we bore from the Tudors, or vindicated on the Stuarts.

†2. To make or set free; to deliver or rescue. Usually const. *from*. *Obs* (common 1620–60).

1568–71 (title), The Warkis of Schir Dauid Lyndesay Newly corrected, and vindicate from the former Errouris quhairwith thay war befor corrupit. 1570 Buchanan *Admon* Wks (S T S) 22 How to vindicate that miserable city from the calamities of strangeans 1613 Sir A Sherley *Trav Persia* 85 Nothing will gaue you more honour then first to vindicate those places, in which your religion is oppressed 1620–51 I Jones *St ne Heng* (1655) 9 To vindicate, as much as in me lies the Founders of this venerable Antiquity 1650 Howell *Lex Mercat* 1 *Nummum* in *Fisc Chem* 166 A faithfull Teacher, that may make the clear Sun conspicuous unto them, and vindicate their eies from darkenesse 1657 Trapham *Mod Physician* 267 The Liquor ferments, and is vindicated from Putrefaction and Stagnation 1756 Burke *Irish Act* Wks 1842 I 21 We should renounce their dreams of society, to gether with their visions of religion, and vindicate ourselves into perfect liberty 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* I xiii 328 His successful valour seemed to vindicate the nation from the ignominy into which it had fallen by its tame submission.

*absol* 1628 Gaule *Pract The* (1629) 110 Cæsar vindicates from a knowne Enemie, Christ redeemes from a secret Aduersarie

3. To clear from censure, criticism, suspicion, or doubt, by means of demonstration; to justify or uphold by evidence or argument

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm Reg* (Arb) 61 And so I shall onely vindicate the sayings and doubtfull conclude him 1651 Baxter *Inf Bapt* 150 O that God would find out some way to vindicate his own honor, and clear his cause 1691 Langhaine *Def Eccl Angl* 1 I might be capable of doing them better service, in vindicating their Fame 1736 Butler *Anal* II viii 389 The design of this treatise is not to vindicate the character of God 1776 Sir J Reynolds *Disc* (1778) 280 Poussin is said to have vindicated the conduct of Julio Romano for his inattention to the masses of light and shade 1784 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II, I dont mean to vindicate what has happened 1817 Jas Mill *Brit India* I ii ix 413 Mr Playfair admits that the Indian tax he cannot be entirely vindicated in this respect 1858 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xvii IV 75 Those who had effected this Revolution thought it prudent to send a deputation to France for the purpose of vindicating their proceedings. 1884 *J Parker* 18 Feb 5/2 He has no secret treaties to vindicate, no occult motives to gloss over in dubious pleadings

b With personal object

1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple Treatise Charity* 13 These learned leaves shall vindicate to thee Thy holiest humblest, hand maid Charitie 1659 in *Burton s Diary* (1828) IV 338, I rise up to vindicate the Committee 1679 Burnet *Own Time* II ii 238 I must be so far justified, that in vindicated against Calumny by my innocency in those points. 1702 C Mather *Magn* I iii 41 Let the memory of this gives me an opportunity also to vindicate another great man unto the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ

*refl* 1659 Manwaring *Sermons* 5 It is time for us to vindicate ourselves and do not what they allure Cupid to Vindicate thyself And do not own it 1 a 1668 in Herbert *Hen VIII* (1683) 232 I am not ignorant, by some, he might have Vindicated himself in great part 1679 J Smith *Narr P Jesh I* 1 19 There being no way left to vindicate themselves, or discredit their Accusers, save the making their recourse to Jes. 1682 *Chas II* 1 II v 150 He could have vindicated himself if his enemies had chosen to be his Interiors. 1846 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 661 The wicked judge and the wicked king attempted to vindicate themselves by throwing the blame on each other

c Const *from* (a charge, imputation, etc.).

1668 H More *Apol in Hyst Imp* 487 I hose more notable Philosophick Truths in the Scripture doth vindicate her from that vile Imputation of Ignorance in Philosophy 1675 J Howe *Living Temple* 1 II 20 He makes Vellelius highly vindicate from the imputation of Inelling, I do not see 1723 J Dart *Westmonasterium* I 87 This I here mention to vindicate my self from those Mistakes of which I am not guilty 1798 Fernian *Hibernia Scenica* 36, I must vindicate Sterne from a charge of plagiarism. 1805 Scott *Betrothed* xxix, When he vindicated hi n from the suspicions thrown out by Osborne. 1845 M Patteson *Pis* (1886) I 18 He turned all his defence to vindicate himself from the charge of treason 1851 *Speaker* 2 May 526 2 It is the first serious attempt that has been made to vindicate Horace Walpole from the aspersions of Macaulay and his followers.

d. To provide justification for (something), to justify by facts or results Also with personal object

1708 Farquhar *Twin Rivals* IV iv, For Heav n s sake, Mr Richmore, what have I ever shewn to vindicate this presumption of yours? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI The infidelity of Molly, would perhaps have vindicated a much greater degree of resentment than he expressed on the occasion a 1763 Shenstone *Ess* Wks 1765 II 203 One should not destroy an insect without a reason sufficient to vindicate one through all the courts of morality 1836 J Gilbert *Christian Atonem* vii (1852) 205 The mere fact of voluntariness is insufficient to vindicate the justice of allowing the assumed responsibility 1882 Pergov *Ang Journalism* xx 150 No man has more brilliantly vindicated the sagacity which placed him in a position of power and responsibility.

4 To assert, maintain, make good, by means of action, esp in one's own interest, to defend against encroachment or interference

1630 Maxwell *Hieration Ode* 62 He nothing common did, or mean, Nor called the gods with vulgar jests To vindicate his helpless right 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind* 1 (1661) 4 That they vindicate that liberty left them as an inheritance by their Ancestours, from the incroachments of the Court of Rome 1691 Milton *P A* II 47 Arise and vindicate Thy Glory, free thy people from their yoke 1738 Wesley *Ps* lxxx 11, Stir up thy Strength, thine Arm make bare And vindicate thy chosen Race 1777 Robertson *Hist Amer* VI (1778) 196 He thought the happy period was at length come for vindicating his own rights 1861 Sir J Smith *Wks* (1891) I 394 A Prevention of intrusion upon private property is a right which every proprietor may act upon, and use force to vindicate. 1875 Stubbs *Const Hist* II 4 The liberties of the nation are not yet vindicated.

5 To claim as properly belonging *to* oneself or another; to assert or establish possession of (something) *for* oneself or another

1680 Dryden *Oted s Pref* Pref, Ess (ed Ke ) I 235 It appears not from any Author that ever any of the Greeians ever touched upon this w s, which our poet therefore justly has vindicated to himself 1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 332 Though Thomas Cromwell appeal to the 20th vindicates that Psalm to David it vindicates none else 1822 I Taylor *Apuleius* 218 Exciting a frivolous controversy about the boundaries of the kingdom you vindicated the whole of the latter to himself 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, I (1857) 76 Paul the Fourth one of those remarkable men, who have vindicated to them selves a supremacy over all the crowned heads of Europe *Ref & Lit Note bks* II 42 Grand enough to vindicate for him all the genius that the world gave him credit for 1884 *Harper s Encycl of Amer Literat* III 240/1 Robert Hawk vindicates him (as Voltaire) an honorable place in the development of the philosophy of history

b. Without const To claim for oneself or as one's rightful property.

1795 Pore *Odyss* IV 624 Affianc d in your friendly power alone, The youth wou d vindicate the vacant throne. 1733 — *Ess Man* III 38 Is time d in the seed that strews the plain? Does Autumn vindicate the grain? 1798 Coxler *Iruth* 492 The soul Can I o sess herself of all that s good or true As crt the skies, and vindicate her due 1807 J Hawkins *Calumet* III 830 The wide headed hawk, that now beholds me die, Soon my flesh shall tear, And wolves and tigers vindicate their share.

c *spec* in *Law* Also *absol*.

a 1849 Austin *Jurisprud* (1879) II 507 A right to vindicate or recover the object from any who may be in the possession of it 1880 Muirhead *Rudes Ulpian xix* § 17 The se ate has declared that he shall not be entitled to deduct his fourth nor yet to vindicate gifts under the testament that have become caducous 1880 — *Gaius* II § 74 When he has thus vindicated the praetor asks the cedent whether he makes any opposition

Hence **Vi ndicated** *ppl a*, **Vi ndicating** *vbl sb* and *ppl a*., **Vi ndicatingly** *adv*.

1624 Gataker *Transubst* 42 The vindicating of this piece of truth may by his light Auditor 1644 Milton *Areop Wks* (1851) 1 The vindicated Crowns His Equal Hand prescribd their ancient Bounds 1724 A Shuts *Life Reynolds* (1827) 177 Instead of a reproached Master, we got a vindicated Martyr 1892 Miss Browning *Sown for Poring* xi, I obtain From that same love this vindicating grace, To live on still in love 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq* xii Her mother required schooling to tell the story vindicatingly and proudly

**Vindication** (vindikē·ʃən) Also 5 **vyndi**, **vyndyvacion** [a Of (now F dial ) *vindication* vengeance, or ad. L *vindicatio* action of claiming, defending, punishing, etc, *vindicare* to free, etc. see *Vindictive*, Pg *ação, t vendi cation*, It *vendicazione*]

†1 a The action of avenging or revenging *Obs*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I xvi, An asse smote hym [the lion] in the f rhede with his feete by maner of vyndiacion 1490 — *Eneydos* xxii, I shal pursued by t at alles houres, in alle places, for to distroye hym in makynge vyndicacion of the deth of his sayd moder 1658 Phillips 1690 Boyle *Reflections* (1694) 77 As to private Vindicti n of Injuries, that which we more especially call Revenge, this I shall readily allow to be utterly unla vful

†b Retribution, punishment *Obs* —

1647 H More *Myst Iniq* I ii 17 Things carried so far on in a wrong way must needs require a vindication so sharpe and amazing, as that the nation would groan under it

†2 Deliverance, emancipation *Obs*

1613 Sir T Overbury *Wife* (1638) 2 So shall record a neigh bour, from whom their vindication, into liberty must bee maintained by their own constancy

3 The action of vindicating or defending against censure, calumny, etc, justification by proof or explanation

1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* I § 1 So the Mem ry of those, may not loose the recompense due to their Virtue, but may find a vindication in a better age *Ibid* v 285 The soldiers published a Vindication as they call it, of their Proceedings and Resolutions 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* To Rdr, The vindication of the Jewish and Christian Religion, against the Gentile Philosophers. 1705 Addison *Italy* (1733) 33 Pere Mabillon is now engaged in the Vindication of this Year, which a learned Ecclesiastic would have suppressed, as a false and ridiculous Relick 1769 *Junius Lett* 12 (1788) 65 The author of the vindication of your conduct writes from his own mere motion 1885 J Neal *hrs Jonathan* I 299 Leave the vindication of your character to your children 1897 Lytton *E Maltravers* I 21, He enriched Mrs Jones for life, in gratitude for her vindication of his lost and early love. 1890 Dickens *E Drood* VII He begged to thank Miss Landless for her vindication of his character.

b. In the phr *in vindication of*.

1660 Cole *Power & Subj* 266 It will not ill become mee, sure, to add a word or two in vindication of Sir Edward Coke 1667 Cowley *Ess Obscurity*, This seems a strange Sentence, and looks as if it were in vindication of the men of business. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 39 P 3, I can add other circumstances in Vindication of the Account of this Learned Body 1752 Br Thomas in 10th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 307 Then Lord Sandwich spoke in Vindication of the Measure. 1845 M'Culloch *Taxation* I iv (1852) 114 It has been said in vindication of this inequality, that the properties are of a different description

c A justifying fact or circumstance

1846 Trench *Mirac* Introd 45 The position which it has won is itself its vindication now 1848 I Haye *Jars of Honey* x 134 The great vindication of it we could not manifest so much virtue without it 1856 Kane *Arct Expl* II xxii 179 It must stand on my vindication for the step, in case we should be overtaken by disaster

4 The action of asserting or maintaining

1871 R W Dale *Communion* vi 106 The Command ment ' thou shalt not kill ' is a vindication of the sacredness and sanctity of man 1874 Green *Short Hist* viii § 3 490 The bulk of the members supported Eliot in his last vindication of English liberty

5 *Roman Law.* (See quots)

1880 Muirhead *Gaius* II § 194 A legacy by vindication is so called because the thing bequeathed becomes the pro perty of the legatee in consequence of the enactment the inheritance has been entered upon *Ibid* II § 85 Actio *in rem* are calle l vindications, while those in which we contend that som thing ought to be given to or done for us are called condictions.

**Vindicative** (vindi kătiv, vi ndikĕ·tiv), *a* Also 6 **vendicatife**, **-yue**, **vindicatyfe**, **-iue** [ad OF *vindicatif* (also mod F ), or med L *vindicativus* see Vindicate v, and -ive. So Sp *vindicativo*, It *vendicativo* ]

†1. = Vindictive, 1. *Obs* (Common c 1590–1690.) 8 Of persons (or things personified)

1521 *Bradshaw's St Werburge* (Chetham Soc) 211 O cruell deth, o theffe vindicatyfe To persons vertuous enuemy mortall 1584 *Lycastes Lett* (1632) 13 His his tonne, who is farre more insolent cruell vindicative and fox like then ever he was 1637 N Ferrar in *Vaiden 210 Council* (1658) 89 Understanding that he doth not pardon, wel en lise is offe sded, we shall find him full cruell inhumane and vindicative 1664 Bargrave *Pope Alex VII* (1867) 53 Some people believe him vindicative but his anger is only a sodeh impetus 1693 Dryden *Juv Satire* (1697) 111 89 I, being naturally vindicative have suffered in silence, and possessed my soul in quiet

†b Of nature, disposition, etc *Obs*

1549 *Compl Scotl* xiii 101 For that ar of ane vendicative nature *Hist* xx 177 My vendicative p rticular affectione 1608 Donne *Serm* xxix (1640) 287 They discerned not between a re al sin and a vindicative spirit 1646 Sir J Temple *Irish Acts* 68 They let loose the reins of their own vindicative hum o r and irreconcilable hatred 1689 Shad well *Scourger* 11 Here is one of the No bless and his nature s vindicative in Honour s cau e a 1734 North *Examen* III vii 579 (1740) 560 When I reasons are fallen upon in our Heart, as upon the vindicative Turns of Parties

2. = Vindictive *a* 2 Now *rare* (Common in 17th cent )

1610 Br Carleton *Jurisdict* 31 Vindicative power or coaction belongs not to the Church 1649 Jer Taylor *Gt Exemp* Dwe iv 320 Repentance being in my many actions a primitive duty affective and vindicative 1658 Gale *Crt Gentiles* IV iii 200 That wherein he per petually is most then is the making, of Rewards or Negative Repobation a Vindicative act the confounding it with the judicial Sentence of Dam nation 1818 *Ann Reg*, (1819) *Hist* 38/1 Mr Wilberforce he also opposed as vindicative of the injuries he had sustained 1854 Trench *Sermons* V Ser i (1866) 27 The vindicative character of the punishment is the predominant thought

b *esp* As an epithet of *Justice*

1626 J Yates *Ibis ad Cæsarem* II 30 G d may separate fi m any creature in regard of his love, and yet n t be angry with them when, always presupposeth vindicative justice or futherly castigations 1647 N Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* 1 iii 150 In proceedings in cases of vindicative justice delinquents ought seem to be left rather to the fury then mercy of the law 1679 Massey *Narr I Jesh I Addr* 22 b, They will find it ill suiting as must the Stream and Current of Vindicative Justice

3 Serving to vindicate the defence or assertion

1660 T White (*title*), Religion and Reason mutually corresponding and assisting each other a brief, t the Vindicative Answer lately published against a Letter [&c.] 1863 H Cox *Institut* I iii 204 We have to treat of the vi dica tive powers of each H use that is its independent power to vindicate its authority

**Vindicativeness**, vindikĭtivnes

1655 Fuller *Ch Hist* v Died Whilest his sign rant audit ors condemned the r mutin ly s t ctiveness, the wiser sort admired the pea ce of the ir m ns. 1721 Shaftesb *Charac* III 300 They exer l v lupti usness, Wilfulness, Vindicativeness Arbitrariness, Vain Glory

**Vindicator** (vi ndikĕ·tə) [L late L (eccl.) *vindicator*, agent n f *vindicare* **Vindicate** v So

OF *ten Iveateur*, [f. *vindicator*.] One who vindicates, in various senses of the verb
1566 PAINTER *Pal Tdeas* I 68 For as Romulus was the first builder and peopler of that cittie, so was Camillus the vindicter and deliverer of the same 1647 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* III § 3 Which was in the memory of many present, had sate in that House an earnest vindicator of the Laws 1651 BAXTER *Inf Bapt* 144 Dr Twisse and all our modern vindicators of grace 1693 DRYDEN *Don. Sebast.* Ess (ed Ker) II 87 A noble soul is better pleased with a real no vindicator of Roman liberty, than with a tempting port 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pretog wes Abs* 5 *Vind Mon* Def 4 Our Author was so great a Lover and Vindicator of it [the English Constitution] 1791 *Cent Mag.* Jan 30 An certain vindicator of the Marlets has taken occasion to insult Le Clerc. 1827 SCOTT *Surg Dau* xii When this eager vindicator of betrayed innocence arrived in the capital of Hyder 1849 ROBERTSON *Sermons* Ser I xii (1858) 150 Job knew that God was the vindicator of wrongs 1884 *Spect* 4 Oct 1274 Our author has entered the lists as the vindicator of the claims of the Highland Ge fers

Hence **Vi·ndicatorship**, the personality of a vindicator *rare*—1
1698 J SAGE *Fanatism Charter Presbyt* Pref (1699) 14, I was necessary for his Vindicatorship to justify this Separation

**Vindicatorily,** *adv* [f VINDICATORY *a*] In a vindicatory or justifying manner
1854 N P WILLIS in *Lef & Lett II Irving* (1864) IV 173 This vindicatorily of his having invoked the just and kind Geoffrey Crayon 1891 *19th Cent* Dec 1019 The vindicatorily personal denial of Councils of War in 1866

**Vindicatory** (vi·ndikătŏri), *a* [f. VINDICATE *v* + ORY]

1. Serving to vindicate justificatory, defensive.
1647 *Rights Subjects Ireland* The warres on the Kings side is vindicatory and defensive 1755 JOHNSON *Vindicatory*, defensory 1808 MAY *Hist Parliament Tudors* III 203 No precedent of a like declaration would be usable in her minister 1863 GEO ELIOT *Romola* III xxiii, Yes surable men, they were with a great vindicatory letter to Rome on their behalf 1884 *Nineteenth Cent* May 869 The teaching of the parent Legislature does not end with the record If the famous attention and vindicatory triumphs of the past are to be retained

2 Avenging, punitive, retributive
1855 BRAMHALL *Def True Liberty* 83 The afflictions of Job were no vindicatory punishments to take vengeance of his sins, but profitable chastisements to make trial of his graces 1765 TUCKER *Light Nat* I 56 It makes the sanction of their laws thereon literary but not remunerative or to consist rather in punishment, than in rewards and rewards 1800 *Ann Reg* 53 The laws I could be vindicatory on such occasions 1874 H SIDGWICK *Methods Ethics* III 188 By the law we can only hold ourselves open to exploit and not of vindictive punishment 1884 *Eighteenth Cent* May 869 The teaching of the parent Legislature does not end with the record If the famous attention and vindicatory triumphs of the past are to be retained

2 Avenging, punitive, retributive
1855 BRAMHALL *Def True Liberty* 83 The afflictions of Job were no vindicatory punishments to take vengeance of his sins, but profitably chastisements to make trial of his graces 1765 TUCKER *Light Nat* I 56 It makes the sanction of their laws thereon literary but remunerative or to consist rather in punishment, than in rewards and rewards 1800 *Ann Reg* 53 The laws I could be vindicatory on such occasions 1874 H SIDGWICK *Methods Ethics* III 188 By the law we can only hold ourselves open to exploit and not of vindictive punishment 1884 *Eighteenth Cent* May 869 The teaching of the parent Legislature does not end with the record If the famous attention and vindicatory triumphs of the past are to be retained and with the record If the famous attention and vindicatory triumphs of the past are to be retained

**†Vindict,** *Obs rare*, [ad L. *vindicta*] Vengeance, revenge, retribution
1639 GUILIM in Spalding *Trs Hist Antiq Scotland* (1828) I 314 As Simeon and Levi, pretending religion but in anger, threw the private action of their own revenge 1654 GAULE *Holy Mag* 11 You have vindictive people to deal with, and you have gone too far to be forgiven 1808 JAMIESON *Hermes Scythicus* 1 Knox & Jebb *Corr* (1914) I 447 Such is human nature in perturbed dread of some superior powerful and most vindictive being 1847 MRS A KERR *Rankes Hist Servia* 276 He was not vindictive and his traitorous pardoned no offender he never incurred again to the offence 1875 W S HAYWARD *Love as it Was* II 181 He is as vindictive as a demon

b. Of actions, qualities, etc.: Characterized by a desire for, or the exercise of, revenge
1607 J CARTER *Plain Popes* 46 To forbeare vnrefull and vindictiue courses to say or doe nothing at all in anger, or hot blood 1699 J MAUNDRELL *Herodotus* (1963) 430 Nor let any of you imagine that any vindictive resolution is harboured against you, either by us or the Romans 1743 FRANCIS tr *Horace, Odes* II viii 8 When you engage To meet high Heaven's vindictive Rage 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III 450 Then with vindictive strides he rushd again On Paris 1807 R W *Living Advoc* (1822) 195 This spirit of vindictive cowardice is not owing to any inherent depravity of soul 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I 180 After the fashion of oppressed sects, they mistook their own vindictive feelings for emotions of piety 1863 GEO ELIOT *Romola* II xxx, With the first movement of vindictive rage awoke a vague caution

2. Involving retribution or punishment; punitive, retributive, avenging. *Now rare.* b. As an epithet of *justice*. (Cf VINDICATIVE *a.* 2 b)
1623 R CARPENTER *Conic. Chr.* 100 They are ever awaked with the remembrance of Gods presence, in all your actions and censures of vindictive or remunerative Justice. 1660 JER TAYLOR *Ductor* II iii rule 7 § 5 For in all penal laws and inflictions, although there be much of Vindictive justice, yet this justice is but a handmaid to Government and Correction *a* 1721 KEN *Dy Love Wks* (1838) 353 Our sins, which are the cruel debts we owe to thy vindictive justice 1742 IN CHOMONDELEY in *Johnson's Deb.* (1787) II 150 It has been unanswerably shewn that vindictive justice is of the highest important use to the happiness of the public 1824 SOUTHEY *Colloq* xiv (1837) 203 The shallow mordists who exclaim against vindictive justice, when punishment would cease to be just, if it were not vindictive

b In other contexts
1656 BRANHALL *Replic* I 22 The judgements of God in this life are more exemplary for the amendment of others, than vindictive to the delinquents themselves 1695 BLACKM ORE *Ps Arth* II 456 In Almighty has Vindictive Arm makes Hare 1718 P IX *Iliad* XVI 604 Burst to the fight his native troops he warms Then loudly calls on Ilion's vindictive arms 1780 COWPER *Progr Err* 84 Pleasure hunger is surely in her train Remorse and Sorrow and vindictive Pain 1829 POLLOK *Course of* II, He Amidst vindictive thunders lies them try The sentence of their lord 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I Introd, Sometimes the sanction is retributive or vindictive, the expression of the conscience or moral sentiments of the society

c Of deities. Inflicting punishment for wrongdoing
1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III ii, Vindictive Jove prepares his Thunder Let the Wrongdoer and the Tyrant tremble 1788 COWPER *Task* II 476 The Bard may thank his inborn genius, and suspends The stroke that a vindictive God intends, Is to renounce hypocrisy

3 = *vindictive damages*, damages awarded not only as compensation to the plaintiff but also as a punishment to the defendant
1813 *Ann Reg*, *Chron* 67 It seemed estal lished that there was no gio a misconduct on the part of the coachman, to call for vindictive damages

†**B** *sb* An act of punishment. *Obs* —1
1726 DE LA RIVE *Hist Devil* I 12 Who could give a full account of the deluge, whether it was a meer vindictive, or a general punishment

**Vindictively** (vindi·ktivli), *adv.* [f prec + -LY 2] In a vindictive manner, revengefully
1797 BAILEY (Vol II) 1755 JOHNSON, *Ac enzingly*, with vengeance, vindictively 1827 PUSEY *Course Fx* II His Heart was not vindictively set against the Jews, while he t poured Vindictively on nation s guilty long? 1837 SIR SMITH *Bk Ex* (1859) II 287/2 Such a power might be vindictively exercised 1838 LEIGH *Peerage of England* 118 C I IV 534 The leaders of fashion steadily and vindictively derided them

**Vindictiveness** (vindi·ktivnĕs). [f. as prec + -NESS] The state or character of being vindictive, revengefulness.
1676 HALE *Contempl* I 476 If it found any corrupti ns within, either of Pride, Vain Glory, Insolence, Vindictiveness, or the like 1679 PRIDEAUX *Add Notes* 45 That which makes it the more remarkable is that this Vindictiveness was exercised towards men of his own Religion 1740 RICHARD SON *Pamela* (1824) I 381 Here, to recapitulate my faults, is in the first place Vindictiveness I will not call it, but right revenge 1800 COGAN *Trans* III 11 (1802) 195 There is a vindictiveness in fear, which may render it dangerous 1824 HT ELLIOTT *Journ Travel* 1824 II 18 WILSON *Brit Indian* III 180 The shell thrown over their depend nts again t their tyranny or wish vindictiveness 1884 A R PENNINGTON *Wesley Fam* 142 He tells us that vindictiveness had mingled with his nighest minds, and

**Vindicti volence** *nonce wd* [f I *vindicta* vengeance, after *malevolence*] The desire of revenging oneself or of taking vengeance
1805 J GROSE *Virtual Infidels* (1851) 261 Ill will or perhaps always a desire of vindictivolence is more connected with a feeling of ourselves as somehow wronged

†**Vindi ctor.** *Obs* —1 [Irreg. f I *vindicta* + -TOR.]
1677 GALE *Gentiles* III 6 It being a Science that teacheth the difference of [. od and evil, and the Constitution and Vindictor of it] law

**Vindo,** obs Sc form of WINDOW.

**Vine** (vain), *sb* Forms 4 a vygne (7 vigne), vynbe, 5 vyny, *β.* 4–5 vyne (4–5 vyn, 5 vyin), vyn (5 vyen, vyine), 6 vynne, 6–7 vine. [ME vine, vyne, vyn(e, OF *vigne*, vyne, vin, *visne*, *Ibid* 510/2 Vyny, late brynge ythe farfye greate grapys, *Sumerian*. 1604 E G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xxxii 296 Peru and Chilé, where there are vignes that yeeld excellent wine *β* 1393 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 262 Every zere at be flory ywake, when be vynys shulde sprynge, A tempest fordede here vynys alle 1340 *Ayenb* 43 Pe zenne of ham let vor wynnynge ouer be vines oper cornes. 1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 847 Se telle vs pis se tende nauht to vse pe erbe, no plaunte vnnus 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 168 For he fond how men schulden sette vines 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret* 254 In al regions be hetes nere necrechid, be wynes growyth, be cornes wiat rippe *c* 1450 *Merk's Festi* 20 He taketh a branche of a vyne and puttyth yn Flowre 1538 COVERDALE *Ecclus* xl 9 I dreamed that there was a vyne before me, and the knopes therof were ripe 1562 WINJET *Wks* (S T S) I 45 The vyedene barn, quha infectis the tender burgeonis of be young vynis 1590 SPENSER *F Q* II xii 54 A Porch with rose decave, Archt ouer head with an embracing vine 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* (1637) 269 The vines which we have had in Britaine rather for shadow then fruit 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* II 388 Raisins from the Grapes of Psythian Vines 1731 MILLER *Gard Dict* s v *Vitis*, Those in the Plains sow a Hole of Barley between Vine and Vine. 1794 MRS RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* xv, The vines were torn down from the trees that had supported them 1830 M DONOVAN *Dom Econ* II 220 The quantity of wine could not have been first known at an Egyptian town, if the bags pinus had no vines 1870 H MACMILLAN *Pro Time* V (1872) 192 The celebrated vine of Hampton Court is a most productive bearer

**c** A representation of a vine, in metal, embroidery, etc; also, in mod use, an ornamental figure cut by a skater on the ice.
*c* 1400 *Sir Beues* (A) 3997 With vines of golde set all aboute Within your shelde Fulfylled with ymages
*c* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3667 Be twene be pelers were pat with precious knys, Golden vynes with gripes of precious stones
1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 4 A white pece with a lover yne, wroght with grapes or vynes on it 1633 P FLETCHER *Purple Isl* xi xii Adorn Spying Methos fens, I am a iron vine Poet. Rom his swing branch 1838 *Penny Cyclop Salamanca* 9 These cups were embellished on each of their six sullen faces by an emerald vine 1891 G H KINGSLEY *Sport Far* 1900 40 When I have a piece of skates on, and an admiring circle of spectators to excite you into developing your most exquisite 'vines'.

**d** *collect* Vine plants *rare*—1
1599 LODGE *Fig for Momus* Sat iv, The Chimese keep the grou d very clean between the rows of vine.

2 *fig. a.* Applied to Christ, in renderings or echoes of John xv 1 and 5.
*c* 1325 SHOREHAM 1 804 Pe iersus seib pe vygne he hys And eke be grevn of wete 13 *Cursor Mund* P A 628 In pe water of faibem bay dyssente, Jen ure bay ber sat in to be vyne. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xv 1 I am a vyne pe ben be heu chis *c* 1450 *Myre of Lewed Men* 81, I sa a vyne haue fruited be swetne se of smelle In this Chapyter oure Lorde ys lykened to a vyne 1526 *Tyndale Pr* (W de W 1531) 240 b For in pis vyne our Lorde Ihesus Crist and all chrystens be as be braunches of be sayd vyne 1568 TURNER *Godlie Tract* 395 Christ Iesus, the faithfull vine 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* V lvi (1907) II 348 But true it is, wherof we both spiritually and corporally are branches 1870 H MACMILLAN *True Vine* 26 His full significance was not known until Christ, the True Vine, made it known

**b** In allusion to Is v 1–4
1787 M CUTLER in *Life*, etc (1888) I 289 He has married a wife, who bids fair to be a fruitful vine, for she has had three children in four years 1807 CRABBE *Par Reg* I 477 Now of that vine he did even more increase, Those playful branches now distuib his peace

**c** In miscellaneous uses
1599 [see FLOWER 3] 1611 COTGR *Wks* Sparks *Cymb* IV iii 60 Grow patient And let the stinking Elder (Grieefe) vntwine His perishing roote, with the increasing Vine 1639 S DU VERGER tr *Camus Admir Events* 149 Antique had like a furious wild Boare made a prodigious spoyle in the vine f many womens honesty [Cf Ps lxxx 8, 13] 1643 [see LAWD 3b] 1784 COWPER *Task* VI 969 He recompenses well the state, beneath the shadow of whose vine he sits secure [Cf 1 Kings iv 25] 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh Unb* II iv 64 That vine Which bears the wine of life, the human heart 1887 MRS BESANT *Autobiog* I 42 The training of Love's vine of flame Was writ in laws.

3. Applied, with distinguishing epithets, to some species of *Vitis* distinct from the ordinary grape-vine, and to many plants of other genera which in manner of growth, or for some other reason, resemble this: a. *Wild vine*, the fox-grape, *Vitis Labrusca* (now *rare* or *Obs.*); also, one or other of several wild climbing or trailing plants, esp bryony and traveller's joy.
In quot. 1382 (and similarly in later versions) *vine* is a literal rendering of the original text, the 1 [ mt intended is app the colocynth
1382 WYCLIF *2 Kings* iv 39 And oon foond as a wijld vyne, and he gederde of it wijld gourdis of the feeld *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) vii 56 Pat er lyke vnto wylde vynes *Ibid* xxvii 83 Pepre growez in maner of wilde vynes be vyde pei be kreene of pe forest 14 in Wr Wülcker *Voc Glossaries*, wylde vyne, *Labrusca*, wylde vyne, 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E D S) 45 Labrusca may be called in englishe a wild vine 1562 — *Herbal* II 168 Of the seconde kinde of *Vitis sylvestres*, called wild vynde. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI xxii. 774 Grapes...like vnto

them which the wilde vine (called of vs *Labrusca*) doth now bring forth 1607 Topsell *Fourf Beasts* 372 Lake of the stalkes of *Vitis alba*, otherwise called *Bryonia*, or wilde Vine two handfuls 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s.v. *Vitis*, The Wild Vine, commonly called the Claret Grape. This Sort of Grape is pretty well known in England 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. s.v. *Vitis*, The species of Vine enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these: 1. The common or wild Vine 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II. 67 Redberried Bryony. Wild Vine 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* i. xxvii, As the wild vine in tendrils spread, Droops from the mountain oak 1895 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* I. 18 *Clematis vitalba*. Country people call it Wild Vine *Ibid* II. 312 A very pretty climber is this Wild Bryony, called also Wild Vine

b. In other special names, chiefly of non British plants.

**Alleghany vine**, an American biennial plant (*Adlumia fungosa*), also called 'climbing fumitory' **Arbor vine** see Spanish a. 9 **Balloon vine**, an Australian plant (see quots.). **Bean vine**, *Phaseolus diversifolius* (see Bean 8) †**Black vine**, black bryony **Burdekin vine**, an Australian species of *Vitis* (see quots.) **Caustic vine** (see quot.) **Climbing vine**, †(*a*) the Virginian creeper; (*b*) a cinchonaceous plant, *Psychotria parasitica* **Condor vine**, *Gomphotus Condrocarpus* **Cypress vine**, quamoclit **Deer vine**, the twinflower (*Linnæa*) **Granadilla vine**: see Granadilla b. **Harvey's vine**, an Australian plant, *Sarcopetalum Harveyanum* **Hungry vine**, the green briar or cat brier (*Smilax*) **Indian rubber vine**, *Cryptostegia grandiflora* **Isle of Wight vine**, bryony or black bryony **Lawyer vine**: see Lawyer 1. **Link vine**, a West Indian species of vanilla (*V. articulata*) **Madeira or Mexican vine**, the climbing plant *Fousiria gaultha baccifera* a native of the Andes **Matrimony vine**: see Matrimony 2. **Mignonette** b. **Milk vine**, (*a*) the Southern European plant *Cynoglossum officinale* (*b*) a Jamaican plant, *Tournefortia Humboldtiana*. **Negro vine**, a West Indian species of *Tournefortia toxicum* **Pea vine** see Pea vine **Pepper vine** see Pepper 18 **Pipe vine** see Pipe 18 **Poison vine**, the plant *Rhus toxicodendron* **Potato vine** see Potato 7. **Red-bead vine**, *Abrus precatorius* (Indian) **Rubber vine**: see Rubber 18 c. b **Sand vine**, *Galactodendron utile* (N America) **Scrub vine**, *Austr.* (*a*) the dodder laurel (*Cassytha*) (*b*) the native grape (*Cissus antarctica*) **Seven year vine** see Seven year **Silk vine**, *milk vine* (*a*) **Sorrel vine**: see Sorrel 2b † c. **Spanish arborvine**: see Spanish a. 8. **Strainer, Virginia n, Water, White vine** see these words

Many of these names appear to be first recorded in the *Treas Bot* (1866), and Nuttall's *Gen N. Americ. Plants* dictionaries in *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. (1753) four others species of *Vitis* twenty six in number, are enumerated

1889 Maiden *Useful Pl. Australasia* 40 In America the 'Heuteseed.' Hevea pec. Winter cherry 1 [*sic*] Wilson Vine *Ibid* 161 'Billson Vine (because of its inflated membranous capsule) 1552 Huloet, "Blacke vyne, *uproma* 1760 J. Lee *Introd Bot* App. ii. Vine, Black, *Uniola* 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 400 † "Burdekin Vine Called also Round Yam *Vitis pedata Hook* f. & Benth. Lindl., or Cissus Vine 3a. "*Cissus antarctica* 1760 J. Lee *Introd Bot* App. ii. Vine, "Climbing five leaved of Canada, *Hedera* 1846 So A. Wood *Class Bk* 443 *Quamoclit vulgaris* Hook. (Cypress Vine) *Ibid* 444 *Ipomæa Jalapa* "Matrimony Vine 1866 *Treas Bot* 1234/2 Some of the Australian species (of *Cissus*) are called 'Scrub vines' 1889 Maiden *Austral Pl.* 271 *Bauera rubioides*, the Scrub Vine, or Native Rose

**4** The stem of any trailing or climbing plant. Also *collect*, without article

1563 Hyll *Art Gard* n. (1574) 124 And if not with sweete then may you let their fr[uit]s ripen. Vine run also upon the earth, if you list 1707 Mortimer *Husb* (1721) I. 173 On the outside of this Floor the Pickers [of hops] sit and pick them into Hampers, which 2 Men are employ'd to carry the Poles 1731 Miller *Gard Dict s.v. Melo*, When your Melons begin to appear upon the Vine 1779 Forrest *Voy N Guinea* 382 They do not let the vine, which bears the pepper [viz. round a dead trunk or tree, to] run to any size on Sumatra 1844 Welby *Leonie* (ed 7) 103 When sweet jasmine vines their wealth were losing Around Iher bower 1855 Delaware Indians 15 Having cut off the leading points in blowing, frame cucumbers are to pinch off the shoot to keep the frame clear of useless vine 1898 Jean A. Owen *Vita-cura* 31 Pick the whole head of flowers of a long rope made of convolvulus vines into the trays

**b** *dial* A straw rope

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb* 28 Rye straweis gentle and flexible, serving for vines 1884 *Harrison's Rural Deer* v. 97 The farmers hang a vine of straw along from stake to stake. A vine is a rope of twisted straw

**c** *U S* A trailing or climbing plant

1842 Longf *Skeleton in Armour* Xvi. 4 Where the cedar grows, and the poisonous vine Ivy-like, in all its folds, the snake 1856 A. Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 2 Ran in all manner of vine (or woody vines) with a colorless aerial juice 1879 Burnham Wyckham *Garden & Bird Gleanings* 9 Nearly every house has a garden, and passion flowers, morning glory, and other vines creep up the pillars 1886 C. H. Wateker *Sweetwater in Cord.* 114 The bean is a graceful, confiding, engaging vine

**II.** † **5** A vineyard *Obs*

So AF *vine, vyne* (Gower)

13 *E. E. Allit P.* A. 107 Pe lorde ful ofte vp he ros To byre werkmen to hys vyne. *Ibid* 5 † Gos in to my vyne 1388 Wyclif *Ierem* xxxii 16 She beheld a feeld, and bouȝte it of the frut of hir labour, she planntide a vyne *c* 1400 Maundev (1839) xii The cursed Queen that toke awey the Vyne of Nabaothe 1430 40 Lydg *Bochas* iii xxxi (1554) 67 Fruit [that] He will not refuse, thyne axing, But thee receyue to labour in his vine 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsope* x, A man was som tyme whiche fond a serpent within a Vyne 1514 Bainbridge in *Ellis Orig Lett* Ser. II. 2 Your vine in the Cuntie and also in vynes and garthynges without the Citie 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Song Sol* i. 5 The[t made me the keper of the vines: but I kept not mine owne vine

**6. A grape.** *Obs* or *poet.*

*a* 1285 in *Archæus's Treat Fistula*, etc. 56 If bai be rede bai ar called wee, i grapes, and bai bene be schap of a rede vyne or grape 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* i. 54 Ah! that your birth and mine's had been mine—I to pen the sheep and press the swelling vine!

**7** *Roman Antiq* = Vinea. *rare*

1563 Golding *Cæsar* (1565) 51 b. He made Vines (*marg* an instrument of wyr made of timber & hurdles for men to go vnder safe) & drew the walles of y towne, and began to make prouision of things meete for the siege *a* 1643 He Mountagu *Acts & Mon* (1642) 480 The Romans plyed their mines, their vines, and other engines against the walls and gates *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann* (1658) 142 Some say those Engines of Battire, as Rams and Vines, and Galleries were then first invented 1862 Kingston *Fr Ch. II*. 191 Various warlike Machines . . . The Sow, the Vine, and the Cat

**III** *attrib* and *Comb* **8** a. Simple attrib, as *vine-arbour, border, bough bower, bunch*, etc.

1731 Miller *Gard Dict s.v. Vitis* Care is to be taken not to mingle with them the Grapes of the Vine-Arbour 1839 *Ir Cumberland's Trav* 191 Houses hung under the shade of vine arbours or plane trees 1814 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 467 He must valuable manure that can be deposited in a vine border 1867 Merrin *Gypsy Life* 222 A golden vine bough wreathed her golden head. 1848 tr *Hoffmansegg's Trav Ceylon*, etc xii 462 A few Vine-bunches appear somewhat lower down 1832 Lennyson (*Œnone* 177 Between the shadows of the vine-bunches floated the glowing sunlights 1886 Cowen *Sprays & Spurs* (1896) 221 A door sculptured with vine bunches 1611 Bible *Ezekiel* 19 a vine close, a vine plot 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* I. xiii. 152 There were vines from the Vine country of Helbon 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 238/2 The success of vine culture in the Canary Islands 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 530 Strengthned with the wood of vine cuttings 1782 *Encycl Brit Add* II. 834/1 From where is cultivated some the title of *maille huit* the vine cuttings 1857 Miller *Elem Chem, Org* vii. 405 Such vine filled with vine cuttings and rapes 1886 Hardy *Woodl Life, Country Wife* 358 The cross pieces in the vine-e palters 1847 Darlington *Amer Weeds* (1860) 81 *Vitis æ* (Vine family) 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* xii. 750 To cut off the vine-germe pe from of the vine frames 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vua passa* A vine-garlande 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxv. 376 Vine hedg or vine hedge 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) To smoot er the vi-lous wounds 1818 Jas Morgan *Autobiog* (1850) 324 The vine groun is being nothing but black earth and dry sticks until the middle of summer 1611 Cotgr., *Autruche*, a hunting or vine hatchet 1733 Tull *Horse Hoeing Husb* 158 The Ancients were perfect Masters of the Vine Husbandry 1841 Elliot *Q Molly* lv. 267 A little vine-leaf-y string, more of the vine than the vine 1886 Mrs. Caddy *Stolen Jeanne Dale* 25 O cuss shd make a point of seeing these vine-hands in their best

1601 Holland *Pliny* I 537 A certaine heardse, which the Sicilians in their language call Ampelodesmos, (i Vinebind) 1866 *Ure's Dict Arts* (ed 5) III 566 *Vine *black*, a black procured by charring the tendrils of the vine and levigating them. 1858 Johnson *Gard Dict* *Vine Bower, *Clematis Vitticella* 1864 Forrester in *Proc Royal Soc* VII 156 On the *Vine Disease in the Port wine Districts of the Alto Douro. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 536 The manner of planting by a trees side a *Vine Dragon (for so we use to call the old braunch of a Vine put all service which hath done bearing, many a yeare, a d is now growne to be hard). 1858 *Zool gist* XIII 4680 Speyer gives Agrotis aquilina as a *vine feeder 1661 Walton *Angler* (ed 3) 97 Now for Flies I will name you but some of them vs the cloudy or blackish flie, the flag flye, the *vine flye 1668 Charleton *Onomast* 47 *Ips*, the Vine Fly 1708 Cham bers *Cycl* v. *Inlaying Or* Natural Boxes are instrumental in the Tawny Fly, the Vine Fly the Shell Fly 1857 Henfrey *Bot* § 616 The *Vine Fu gus appears to be a plant f his tribe [*Oidium*] as ely produces no perfect fruit 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Supplt. **Vine Callimech* an insect of the gallinsect class principally found on the Vine though cap able of living on some other plants 1611 Cotgr. s.v. Vigne III xvi. 383 Whanne money is paied to a laborer in a *vyne yarden for his day labour in the same vyne gar lein 1839 W. Chambers *Tr for Home* 371 A tolerably long reach on the river between banks planted with vine gardens. *c* 1440 *Alph Tales* 201 When þei come þer þe *vyne garth at no fruit was in befor was growyng full of tyne grapis 1687 Miege *Gt Fr Dict* (ed 3) Vendangeur, or *Vine-dresser, a 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vine-grub* s kind of Worm that gnaws the Vine 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s v Reaumur observes, that the Vine-fretters are the only kind of Vine grubs are females. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 547 Men are wont to like their *Vine hookes when they be newly ground & sharpe ed 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Amonas Dict* (ed 1650) *Averrunco* to p rge vines with a v neh oke 1483 *Cath Angl* 402/1 A *vyne knyfe *falx ja scula*. 1611 Cotgr. *Serpette* a Vine knife or Sickle like 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v *Vintage* You must also prov le Pans s Dres ers, Vine Knives, Shovels a nd Rakes 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II Ixxxviii. 339 The *Vine Leeke groweth of it selfe in vineyards and neere vnto vi nes in hot regions whereof it both tooke the name Vine Leeke and French Leeke 1852 G W Johnson *Cottage Gard Dict* 244/2 (*Allium*) *vine & braseum* (vine leek) 1884 *Gard Chron* 3rd Ser. I 30 The new *Vine louse Convention held at Berne 25.0 Coverdale *Spir Perle* vi. Wks. (Parker Soc.) I 215 The heavenly *vine brought the heavenly branches and the vnspeakable 1557 80 North *Plutarch* (1612) 368 In the morning he went out with his vine men to labour in his vineyard 1588 Fraser *Lauvers Log* 1. 1 The word *vinetahpuncheli , being borrowed of the *Vinemayster 1855 Ogle in *Suppl* 283 *Oidium t ckeri* is the *vine mildew para nical upon the leaves and green parts of vines 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX 800/2 The vine disease or vine mildew has of late years made great ravages. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Gard* 512 A very efficient mode of destroying the *vine moth in France 1704 *Dict Rust* (1726) **Vi e Pean, or Damsel Lear*, a grey red fish round and pretty b g 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* (ed 4) s.v. *Vine Pots de Vigne 1 The *vine Pest 1887 *Hestia Ky* June 174 The ravages of the *vine pest with the terrible name of *Thyll isera astatrix* in France 1897 *Outing* XXIX 434 1 Then came the terrible vine pest and all the vineyards were ruined 1597 Gerarde *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI 237 Alaying the heate of Bacchus *vynepresse, with the sweete consereses fetch from Mynerues Library 1483 Caxton *Golden Legend* 453/4 Vne presse bouse, standing alone amongst Vineyards 1760-72 H Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1809) II 125 As grapes are squeezed in a vine press 1846 Keightley *Antiq Greece* I 4 The vinepress or vat in which they trod the grapes. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2710/2 **Vine rake* an implement for pulling vines to or other vines off from the ridges preparatory to the digging of the ground 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 406 For the Centurion hath the honour to carve in his hand a *Vine rod. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juv sat* (1673) 265/1 They may say a vine rod, that is a centurions place 1856 Merivale *Rom Emp* xlii (1871) V 145 So one showed him the scars of their wounds others the marks of the centurion s vine rod. 1731 T W Harris *Insects Vine* 1 65 vi (1862) 512 Fig 3 s.w Fly—*Vine Saw Fly.—Rose-bush Slug. *Ibid* 522 A kind of saw fly which attacks the grape vine, named *Nematus Vitis* The saw fly of the *vine is of a jet black color ] 1886 Conder *Syrian Stone Lore* ix (1896) 357 The *vine scrolls and grape bunches on the oldest mosaics in Rome of the 8 Rock 1881 A. H. Grant *Bush Life* xiii Impenetrable *vine scrubs line the river banks at intervals 1885 J Dumont *Among Cannibals* 94 Among the streams woods often abound 1838 J. Davies *Mat Med* 413 Some animals of no inferior class, such as bull frogs, the *vine snail turtle viper crayfish &c 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 406 The *Vine wand is now entred into the camps, and by all our armes are raunged into battailons. 1736 Bailey *Household Dict* s.v, The *vine water without distilling will have the same effect 1880 *Garden* 11 Mar 174/1 Specimens of the black *Vine weevil (*Otiorhynchus sulcatus*) a very destructive insect 1896 Lodeman *Spray Plants* 280 Fire worm, Cranberry worm, *Vine worm Blackhead (*Acrobasis vaccinianella*) 1846 Lindley *Veg Kingd* 439 The propriety of placing Leea along with *Vineworts has been questioned 1890 H Macmillan *Fruit Vine* vii (1892) 296 *note*, The vine worm, distinguished for their wholesome and nutritious qualities, seem closely allied to the Unl elifera

**Hence** *Vine v trans* , to graft (*in* or *into* a vine) , *intr.*, to develop tendrils like a vine

1599 W Wilkinson *Confut Family Love* 153 The vine braunch is to be vined in the vine. *Ibid* 16 Neither doth the Greeke or Latin translation afford any such te mes of *vnspring into* or *vine*, as ye seme to report 1796 C. Marshall *Gardening* xv (1813) 247 Sticking pease is to take place as soon as they begin to vine (or put forth tendrils)

**Vine**, obs. Sc form of Wine *sb.*

**¶ Vinea** (vi nēă) Also 7 vinia. [L *vinea* see Vine *sb* ] A kind of protective shed or pent house anciently used in siege-operations

1601 Holland *Pliny* I 206 How to approach the walls of their enemies, to give an assault under a frame devised for the purpose, which thereupon took the name Vines. 1624 Gorges tr *Lucan* III. 106 Their Vinias to the wall they brought, Couerd with greene turfes all aloft 1698 Phillips (ed 4) 1728 Rowe tr *Lucan* III 371 Beneath the Vinea close the Assailant lies. 1783 W Gordon tr *Livy's Rom. Hist* II xvii (1809) 130 The Vineae and other works were repaired. 1885 *Owen Art Arch* 47 The vineæ and testudo, the catapult ranger and balista, were as well known in the tenth century as in the first

**Vineal** (vi nĭăl), *a rare.* [ad I *vinealis*, f. *vinea* Vine *sb* ] Of or pertaining to vines or wine, living on vines, consisting of wine

1659 H More *Immort Soul* III xii 454 These exhalations f the Vineyards must spread from the Canaries to England So that there will be an Hemisphere of vineall Aire as it s an incredible extent 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex., I ine this* applied by Mirbel to pla nts that grow spontaneously in the vineal zones vineal 1908 *Daily Chron* 30 Oct 9/5 To obtain a 50 per cent drop on Italian vineal exports to that country

**Vineat**, variant of Vinet ! *Obs*

**Vinea tic**, *a rare*—0 [ L *vineatic us*, f *vinea* Vine *sb* ] (See quot )

1658 Phillips (ed 4) *Vineatick Vineatick*, belonging to Vines apt, or that serves for Vines.

**Vine-branch.** Also **vine branch** [Vine *sb* ] A branch of a vine tree

*c* 1400 *Lanf Treat Bk* 11201 The vyne braunche with alle here grapes 1440 *Prompt Parv* s.v *Vinch* Tvdie (1846) 15 Vyne braunchis to enoynte 1535 Coverdale *John* xv 6 He that abydeth not in me is cast out as a vyne brau nche 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Ver* 11 2 The vine-tvers ha ve emptied them out & mvrred their vine branches. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 685 He that gladly would in vention weave a chaplet of vine branches. 1633 *Gouge Heart A cut Treatise* § 8 8 In Summer time the Vessels also, in the Barque of a Vine Branch do Bleed 1 So ver Sap 1692 Ray *Creation* II (1692) 126 If in Summer you shall blende a Vine branch of its leaves the Grapes will never come to maturity 1731 Miller *Card Di t s v Vines* That Bulk which they have acquir d upon the Vine branches 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II 1107/1 He lifted up the vinebranch with which the centurions chastise such as deserve stripes 1818 in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 1 The vine-branch is a plant of the thickness of a small vine branch 1845 J Coulter *A tv in Pacific* xi 233 Posts of wood, interlaced by vine branches

**Vined**, *a rare* [ Vine *sb* ]

¶ Covered with the representation of a vine

1577 Harrison *Englis d* II xxiii (1877) I 351 A table hauing at each hand an image vined and finelie florished both aboue and beneath 1624 Wotton *Elem Arc hit* 31 Other lesser ornaments 1641 Milton *Reform* II. (1851) 50 Figured Colum es which our Author himselfe condemneth

2 Impregnated with the qualities of a vine.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III xxxiv 498 These Olues will talk in the one and of the other, and be come as it were vined Olues.

**†Vinedage**, variant of Vendage *Obs*

1579 Hellowes *Gue evara's Fam Ep* (1577) 237 Since your grapes is blasted, your vinedage ended your prune time finished

**Vine-dresser.** [Vine *sb* ] One occupied in the pruning, training, and cultivation of vines

1560 Bible (Geneva) *Joel* 11 Howle, ye vine dressers for the wheet and for the barly 1611 Bible *Jer* lii 16 Nebuzaradan left certaine of the poore of the land for Vine dressers and husbandmen 1629 Gouge *Domestic Duties* vii (1655) II 131 The Apostle expresseth the equity of this by a Vine dressers partaking of the fruit of it 1709 *Lond Ca* 4556 6 If these there are, Husbandmen and Vinedre sers one thousand eighty three 1763 Mills *Syst Inact Husb* IV 341 That so the vine dresser may dig all round the vine 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog* (1859) 123 When the vine-dresser all gathered, the vinedressers came in procession under the castle windows 1884 J De Mille *Castle in Spain* IV, Shepherds, goatherds, and vine-dressers stared lazily up

*fig* 1770 Burke *Pres Discont* Wks 1808 II 273 I do not mean those branches [of trade] which bear without the hand of the vinedresser

**Vine-fretter.** Now *rare or Obs* [Vine *sb* ] A grub or insect (in later use, a species of aphis) feeding upon vines

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 105 After the manner of Vine fretters, which are a kind of Caterpillers, or little hayrie worms with very long feete, that eate Vines when they begin to shoote 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* Inagoge c 2 The buttyn in vines, and ipes, and the vinefretter in the leaves thereof 1795 *Farm Encycl* s.v *Diseases of Trees*, The Vine fretter, a little black Animal, does a great deal of Mischief to Trees. 1766 Mills *Syst Pract Husb* 471 At most till the peas in his neighbood were destroyed that year by a kind of vermin called vine fretters. 1777 W Hooper *Hebrides Treat Man* I 91 *note*, We should in those a vine fretter in a phial 1848 Bartlett *Dict Amer* 374 *Vine fretter*, an insect very destructive to vines rose bushes cabbages, &c. in the Southern States. 1895 *Dublin Rev* Oct 444 He considered the generation of vine fretters from a new point of view

**Vinegar** (vi nĭgăr), *sb* Forms *a.* 4–6 vyne gre (4 fyn-), 5–6 vynagre, 6 -ygre , 4–7 vinegre (5 uin-, win-, 6 winnegre), 7 vin'gre, 5 ven agre 5–7 venegre, 5 vynegyre, aygre, 7 vinaigre *β.* 5–6 vyneger, 6 egyr, vynyger, 5–7 vineger (7 ere, vinneger), 6 7 vinigar (7 win-), 5 venegur, 6 -eger, 5, 7 vinager, 7 vinaiger, 5–6 vinegger 7 6 vynegar, 6– vinegar (8 ven ) *δ.* 4 vynsore, 5, 7 vinaore, 7 vinaore , 6 vinycare, vinyker, vyncker, venyker, -iker, *Sc* vinakir, venaker, wynakar, -akir, 7 *Sc.* winiker [a. OF. *vyn egre* (14th cent.), *vinaigre* (so mod. F ), *i. vin* —L. *vinum* wine + *egre, aigre* Eagre *a.* Cf. Pr. *vina(s)gre*, Sp. and Pg *vinagre*, It *vinagro*. Some of the spellings are influenced by the later F. form, or by mod.L. *vinum acre* ]

1 A liquid (consisting of acetic acid in a dilute form) produced by the acetous fermentation of wine and some other alcoholic liquors or special compounds, and employed either pure or with various admixtures in the preparation of food (or as a relish to this) and in the arts, etc

The chief sources of vinegar are indicated by the names *wine-, malt-, sugar-* and *wood-vinegar* Radical vinegar see Radical *a.* 9. *Thieves' vinegar* see Thief 3

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 16762+13 Vinegre & gall þe jewes blend And to his mouth put pore. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* I 829 At so longe hyt lyys bled Ase lest þe forme of wyne, Nauȝt of fyngre kende [se kind] ch ild 1388 Lanf. *Tract Pulse* 70 Venim , or vinegre I trouwe Walleȝ in my wombe *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 40 þe iuyse of celidoun y medlid wib vinegre and warmed at þe fire 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A* I xiv 37 Flessh, benes, salt and vynaygre *a* 1500 *Babees Chron* in *Sch Troun Chron* (1911) 218 Powles stepie was sodeynly fallen but it was holpen and quenched wt venegre 1502 Arnolde *Chron* a ij b/1 To make winnegre shortly it nedeth 1552 Huloet, Vynygre, and honye ymedled together, *oxymeli* 1581 Hollybush *Hom Apoth* 21 et the same put a little vinegre therto 1662 Charleton *Myst Ventners* (1675) 164 Of which we have an instance in the making of Vinegre *a* 1699 ] Beaumont *Psyche* (1702) IX 81 A flood, to which most fruitful Vinaigre [1648 Vinager] is gentle Oile

*β c* 1298 *Purchase Lett* Kaleph (1900) 52 Vn vyneger et cepe empita 1409 *Ibid* 53 In j quart de vineger empt *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Goode wyne sothe tarte to venegur be done *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* xxvii 105 (Harl MS) Vynegre was gode, and made sharpe and made shalle be gode. 1520 Arnolde *Chron* 75 b/1 To make veneger shorth it[ye] haue nede 1539 Elyot *Cast Helthe* 21 Olyues . . dothe corroborate the stomacke eaten fasting with vyneger 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* v iii 133 Vineger to coole the Ordinance 1608 Armin *Nest Nonsen.* (1842) 20 The king calls for vineger to make sause his vineger is sweet meate should haue sower sauce. 1612 Webster *White Devil* iv iii. 105 Best wine Dying makes strongest vinegar 1647 Cowley *Mistr Incon* xiii Some have been poysoned by poyson there, Has made it worse than Vinegere. 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech* 189 Spirit of Vinegar being try d after the same manner, exhibited a considerable number 1685 Boyle *Excell Theol* iii. 148 Hard Cheese wrapped in cloutes wet in Vinegar returne to a softnesse 1696 Lodge *Wits Miserie* 18 One cast his paile of water at his head another his ale, another his vinegre 1839 Woodall *Surg Mate* Wks. (1653) 11 Vinegar I utterly mislike 1652 in Gross *Gild Merchant* (1890) I 233 In buying and selling a cask of vinegre 1732 Pope *Ess Man* II 138 As heav ns bleat berm turns vinegar more sowre. 1750 tr *Leonardus Mirr Stones* 93 If it be drenched nine times in vinegre it will grow ve salve 1789 W Buchan *Dom Med* (1790) 109 They ought to keep the patient very clean to sprinkle the room where he lies with vinegar, or other strong smells 1791 Boswell *Panoramia Sci & Art* II 386 Vinegar appears to have little or no effect upon iron unless assisted by the air 1858 J Thomson *Chem Org Bodies* 1035 The water the wine or tl e beet , the more readily it is converted into vinegar 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 241/2 All sources of alcohol may be regarded as possible materials for making vinegar

*δ a* 1400 in *Rel Ant* I 206 Þeih þei sette þe measure of wyne 1497 *Naval Acc Hen VII* (1896) 88 Vinacre, j loggshed *c* 1500 Kennaby *Passion of Christ* 563 Until my vnkur has soupit in Vinacre and Gall 1530 *Palsgr* 244/1 Thay sulde giff to hime vinakir and gal to drinke 1583 *Anittlewontke Acc* (Chetham Soc ) 8 A querte of vynycare, viij*d* 1585-4 *Ibid* 16 For foure quartes of venakre, xij*d* 1586 *Ibid* 26 A gallon of vyneker, xvj*d* 1658 Gaule *Magastrom* 44 The water of the wisemen, the philosophers vinacre the minerall water slept in *Fremide Archipel Soc Trans* (1905) 13/2 Item] for osters and winiker, brands and spis, £2 6 0

*Fig* 1670 Hacket *Abp Williams* I (1693) 89 To stoop this Vinacre to the very Lees, some will say [etc.]

†**b** *ellipt* The accidental conversion of wine into vinegar. *Obs.*—1

1584 R Scot *Discov Witches* xii xiv (1886) 201 A charme against vinegar That wine wax not eager, write on the vessell [etc]

o With *a* and pl A particular kind, or special preparation, of vinegar

1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 13 The fallacy of trusting to the hydrometer for determining the strength of vinegars. 1875 H C Wood *Therap* (1879) 18 Vinegars are those prepara tions in which vinegar, or dilute acetic acid, is used as the menstruum

**2** In allusive use **a** With reference to the painful or harsh effect of vinegar on a wound, or on the teeth (after Prov x. 26)

1548 Udall *Erasmus Par Mark* ii. 20 He that put in the vinegre of sorowe, dyd also ioyne him the oyle of good hope 1590 Nashe *Mart Marprel* Wks. (Grosart) I 224 It is vengeer to his teeth, and maketh him very sawcie with his g of Cant 1642 Quarles *Sol Recant* III xii. To qualify with oyle The soule afflicting vin gre of his toyle 1656 in Clarendon *Hist Reb* xv § 209 Our desire is not to pour Vinegar but Oyl into the wounds

**b** With reference to Hannibal's use of vinegar in making his way over the Alps, according to Livy xxi 37 (cf Juvenal x. 153)

Cf the quotation for *vinegar railing* in 6

1636 Quarles *Elegye* Wks (Grosart) III 13/1 We cut our way Through these our Alpine griefes, and sadly rise With the sharp vinegre of suffused eyes. 1776 in Boswell *Johnson* 12 Apr , Davies said of a well known dramatick authour, that he made his way as Hannibal did, by vinegar, having begun by attacking people . 1779 Warren

In Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp* (1844) IV 108 The Alps of your difficulties subside before you, and without vinegar.

**3.** *fig* Speech, temper, etc., of a sour or acid character. (Cf 5 b)

1601 SHAKS *Twel N* III iv 138 Heere's the Challenge, reade it: I warrant there's vinegar and pepper in't 1681 CROWNE *Hen VI*, Prol, A little Vinoger against the Pope 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xiii, Mrs. Pipchin freshened the domestics with several little sprinklings of wordy vinegar 1873 [see VERJUICE *3b* 2]

† **b** In the phr. *to wash one at vinegar*. *Obs* —1

1774 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp* (1844) III 73 He will soon do something and play some prank, which I dare say his uncle will wish him at vinegar for.

**4.** *slang* (See quots)

a 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew*, *Vinegar* a Cloak 1785 *New Cant Dict*, *Vinegar*, the Fellow that makes a Ring, and keeps Order among Wrestlers, Cudgel Players, &c. 1788 GROSE *Dict Vulg*, *Vinegar*, a name given to the person, who with a whip in his hand, and a hat held before his eyes, keeps the ring clear at boxing matches and cudgel playings.

**5** *attrib* and *Comb* a Attrib., as *vinegar-bottle* (also *fig*), *cask*, *-cruet* (also *fig*), *-manufactory*, *-pot*, *-poultice*, *-powder*, *-work*, *-yeast*, obj. genitive, as *vinegar drawer*, *-maker*, *making*, also *vinegar-flavoured*, *tart* adjs

1499 *Paston Lett* I, 490 Item, ij *vinegre* botell. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T* To Rdr, I will bee none of those, that intend to carrie the vinegar bottle ere they die 1608 *2nd Pt Return Parnass* I ii. 2 What Ingenioso, carrying a Vinegar bottle about thee, like a great scholie boy going the world a bloudy nose? 1706 STEVENS *Span Dict* I, *Vinagrera*, a Vinegar bottle or Cruit 1837 HERBERT *Fugin & Mech Exercel* II 850 In some country districts, the people keep a *vinegar cask into which they pour such wine as they wish to acetify 1713 *Lond Gaz* No 5086/3 A Sett of Casters with *Vinegar Crewets 1744 PARSONS in *Phil Trans* XLIII 187 A little Piece of Campthuria, exactly shaped like a common Vinegar Cruet, having a round Bottom and a long taper Neck 1851 H MELVILLE *Whale* xvii Mrs Hussey mounted guard over a mustard-pot in one hand and a vinegar-cruet in the other 1873 LELAND *Egypt Sketch Bk* 123 A more e. narrow mouthed, bulb bounded set of vinegar cruets at 1704 *Phil Trans Lowthorp Abr* Wks 1721 IV 32 He is a *Vinegar-drawer 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 158 *Vinegre dregs are knowne to be verie good for to heale burnes 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII xiii P 18 A *vinegar hovoured mixture 1611 COTGR *Vinaigrier*, a *Vinegar glasse, violl, or bottle *Ibid*, *Vinaigrerie*, a Vinegar man or *Vinegar maker 1697 *Lond Gaz* No 3283/4 All Masters of Merchant Vessels, and Vinegar makers 1783 *Ibid* No 6134/4 John Gregory Distiller and Vinegar maker 1853 URE *Dict Arts* (ed 4) II 905 This acetous mixture is then introduced into the mouths of vinegar makers 1868 MILLER *Elem Chem*, *Org* (ed 2) 60 In the ordinary process of *vinegar making from sugar and water 1611 COTGR *Vinaigrier*, a *Vinegar man, or Vineger maker 1839 URE *Dict*, *Arts* 1278 *Vinegar manufactory, by malt 1842 *Penny Mag* 29 Oct 425/1 The vinegar manufacturers are but few in number 1598 R MORTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS* (Hist MSS Comm) I 448 A *vinegar pot, oil pot, and sugar box 1854 MAYNE *Expos Lex Cataplasma Acetis*, the *vinegar poultices made of vinegar and bread crumbs or the like 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s v, A sort of *Vinegar powder or Vinegar in a dry form 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks (Grosart) V 307 Let none of these scumme of the suburbs, be too *vinegar tarte with mee 1608 [TOFTE] *Alcida's Nat* iv (1611) 53 A vinigre tart looke or clowdy brow 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s v *Ape*, The Ape is put into a Place to sour itself, before it is cast into the *Vinegar Vessel 1830 URE *Dict Arts* 3 When new vessels are mounted in a *vinegar work, they must be often hoed filled with the best vinegar that can be procured *Ibid* 2 Several azotized substances serve as re agents towards the acetous fermentation,—such as vinegar ready made, *vinegar yeast, or lees

**b** Attrib, in the sense 'extremely sour in temper or disposition'; also in comba., as *vinegar-faced*, *-hearted* adjs.

1596 SHAKS *Merch* V i 54 Other of such vinegar aspect, That they'll not shew their teeth in way of smile 1597 *Return fr Parnass* I ii 165 Such barmy heads wil alwaies be working, when as sad vinegar wittes at souring at the bottome of a bowle! 1654 H L'ESTRANGE *Chas I* (1655) 28 The Commons nothing mortified with these tart and vinacre expressions [of the king], kept close to their proper stations. 1662 *King Charles* (1) 161 From a vinegar Prison on a Crab tree stock, Libera nos. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V iii 21 More grum, vinegar faced, than any kind whatsoever in the whole Island. 1844 MRS PARKER *Inher* xxix, The habitual vinegar expression of his long triangular visage. 1848 MIALL in *Nonconf* II 145 A peevish and vinegar hearted step-mother 1846 DE QUINCEY *Orchyr Multineers* Wks. 1880 XIV 108 He was too vinegar a fellow for them; nothing hearty or genial about him 1849 E BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* ii, Vinegar faced Joseph projected his head from a round window of the barn 1850 MRS CARLYLE *New Lett* (1903) II 13 You may fancy the vinegar looks of the Lady of the House and the visitors whom I had kept from their dinner one mortal hour

**6.** Special Combs. **† vinegar beer**, beer employed for conversion into vinegar; **Vinegar Bible** (see quots); **vinegar-eel**, a minute nemat oid worm (*Anguillula aceti*) breeding in vinegar, **vinegar-field**, = *vinegar-yard*; **vinegar mother**, = *vinegar-plant* (b); **vinegar-plant**, (*a*) the Virginian sumach, *Rhus typhina*; (*b*) a mould which grows on the surface of liquids undergoing acetous fermentation; **vinegar-railing** *fig*, bitter abuse; **vinegar tree**, = *vinegar-plant* (a); **vinegar worm**, = *vinegar-eel*, **vinegar-yard**, a yard or open space in which vinegar-casks are arranged.

1677 *Acct Sr Thos Clifford* II, c. 9, For every Barrell of Beere commonly called *Vineger beere brewed or made to be sold, Six pence 1834 LOWNDES *Bibliogr Man* I 180 A most magnificent edition, called 'I be *Vinegar Bible,' from an error in the running title at St Luke chap. xxii, where it is read 'the parable of the vinegar,' instead of 'the parable of the vineyard' 1868 MARTIN *Annals Bodl Lib* 141 Haskett, the writer, presented to the Library a magnificent copy on vellum of the 'Vinegar' Bible printed by him in 1717 1876-9 *Lod Cycl Anat* II 1132/2 The *Anguillula aceti*, or common *Vinegar eel 1842 *Penny Mag* 29 Oct 426/2 Behind the store house is the **vinegar field*, a remarkable feature in most vinegar works 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 4 The Germans call it the *vinegar mother, as it serves to excite acetification in fresh liquors 1853 *Ibid* (ed 4) I 2 In the vinegar of wine there appears a peculiar mould plant, belonging to the genus *Mycoderma Aceti*, which is usually called vinegar mother 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVI 228/1 The Virginian sumach, or *vinegar plant, grows naturally in almost every part of North America 1857 HENFREY *Bot* § 637 Flocculent or gelatinous masses, constituting the curious object called the *Vinegar plant 1866 *Treas Bot* 1217/1 The exact mode in which the Vinegar plant operates on the solution is not known 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn Bk* (Grosart) II 203 I hough, with Hannibal, you bring whole hogs-heads of *vinegar to nothings, it is not for you to quench or coole your fiery Alpine resolution 1874 *Treas Bot* Suppl. 1350/2 *Vinegar tree, *Rhus typhina* 1896 tr *Bona Text Bk Anat* 163 *Angusta vinearii*, the *Vinegar worm, lives in sour paste and in vinegar 1703 *Lond Gaz.* No 3893/4 A Distilling house Brew house, and *Vinegar yard 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, *Vinegar yard*, a place where vinegar is exposed to season.

**Vinegar** (vi·nigăr), *v.* [f. prec] *trans* To treat with vinegar in some way, to add or apply vinegar to, to restore by means of vinegar Also *fig*. Hence **vinegaring** *vbl sb.*

1620 B JONSON *Alch* III iv, Then, to her Cue Hoping, that he hath vinegard his senses, As he was bid the Faery Queene dispenses By me this Robe 1721 CIBBER *Rival Queens* Pref, Vinegar'd her all No, by my faith I'll not, she must be vinegar'd! 1804 W IRVING in *Life & Lett* (1864) I 83 Where I should be detained, quarantined, washed, vinegared and fumigated 1807 HUNTER *Inferior Inh* Wks 1843 XI 73 You do as you do by a cucumber, when you cut it into slips to be eaten when it has been pepper'd, salted and vinegared 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* xl, The lustily proceeded to vinegar the forehead beat the hands titillate the nose and unlace the stays of the spinster with. 1842 — *Barn Rudge* xix After much dumping of forlornly neglected little couples, and hard vinegaring of noses and so forth 1897 *Westm Gaz.* 18 Feb 2/1 Aurora rose and thrust a smelling, bottle under his nose, limped back, and vinegared him

**Vinegarette**, variant (after *vinegar*) of VINAIGRETTE

1855 THACKERAY *The Almack's Adieu*, And at parting I gave my dear Harry A beautiful vinegarette

**Vinegarish** (vi·nigărĭʃ), *a.* Also **† vinegrish** [f VINEGAR *sb*] Somewhat resembling vinegar (in taste), sourish Also *fig*

1648 HEXHAM II, *Assynachtigh* Vinegrish 1669 W SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym* 163 Animal juyces degenerate into acid, vinegrish and rancid liquors 1693 PERCIVAL *Dr Lib Quint Compl Gard* I 141 Tis another fault to be some times so Vinous as to contract from thence a Vinegarish sharp taste 1706 PHILLIPS (ed E H) *Cocker's Pract Arithm* (1904) I vii 167 I expected that Scott would have given him rather a vinegarish reply, but [etc.] 1869 C J SMITH *Syn & Antonyms*, *Acid* Syn Acetose Vine garish

**Vinegarist**, *rare*—1 [f as prec] A vinegar-maker

1676 MOXON *Cyder* 146 The Rape our Vinegarists make use of, they have out of France.

**Vinegary** (vi·nigări), *a* [f as prec] Resembling vinegar, sour like vinegar Chiefly *fig*

1730 BAILEY (fol) *Acetous* Vinegary, or being something like Vinegar 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxvi, Mrs Bell has Miss Miff 1899 KINGSLEY *A Locke* (1876) II 33 So you'll just leave alone that vinegary, soul-destroying trash 1902 *Westm Gaz* 11 Nov 1/1 Comm tapioca bishops and vinegary bishops wives. 1904 Miss BRADDON *Vixen* III This is one of Miss Skipwith's servants, rather a vinegary personage

*Comb* 1866 *Chicago* (Chicago) 6 Aug 509/3 A vinegary visaged lady 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer* 116 The only person who was in the house was a vinegary looking woman who told me that I could not stay

**Vine** ity *rare*—1 [f L *vine us* vinous + -ITY] Vinous quality or property

1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr* VI II 42 Innocent the third acknowledged that, after consecration there did remain in the elements a certain quantity and vinosity, as he called them, which satisfied hunger and thirst

**Vine-leaf.** [VINE *sb*] A leaf of a vine

a 1440 LYDG *Assembly of Gods* 351 Of grene vyne leues he weryd a wely crowne. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Vyny leef, *pampinus abstrusum* *c* 1475 *Ipomedon* (A) 1v Walkker 810 *His pamphus* a vyneleffe *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VI (1811) 89 They were driven to take vyne leyes to couer with theyr secret membrys 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I Table 4 v, Vine leaves to be cleansed once in the spring 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl* iii (1906) 109 Whereby we are taught to know Bacchus by his Vine leaues. 1732 MILLER *Card Dict* s v *Vitis*, That vile Taste of a rotten Vine Leaf 1765 STEVENS *Tr Shandy* VII xliii, There were two dozen of eggs covered over with vine leaves at the bottom of the basket 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal & Helen* 1058 Its casements bright Shone through their vine leaves in the morning sun 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 238/2 The imago shortly after lays its eggs upon the upper surface of the vine leaf

*attrib* 1894 H H COLE *Catal Ind. Art S Kens Mus* 258 Muslin Figured; diaper vine-leaf pattern

**b** *Vine-leaf miner*, an insect infesting vine leaves.

Also *vine leaf folder*, *hopper*, *roller* (In recent Amer. Dicts.)

1830 *Insect Architecture* (J F K) 238 The vine-leaf miner, when about to construct its cocoon, cuts two pieces of the membrane of the leaf

**Vineless** (vəi·nlĕs), *a* [f. VINE *sb*] Having no vines, destitute of vines

1898 MEREDITH *Odes by Hor* 7 Broken hoops, vineless poles, worm-eaten posts.

**Vinelet** (vəi·nlĕt) [f VINE *sb*] A young vine.

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* VI A human form rolled in upon a newly potted platoon of those sensitive vinelets

**Vinell**, obs variant of VENNEL.

**Vinello**, obs variant of VANILLA

**† Viner**[1], *Obs* Forms 4–5 **vyner** (4 **vigner**), 5 **viner**, **-ere** [? ad med L *vendrarum*, f L *vinum* wine Cf VINERY 1] A vineyard

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxvii 52 He sloghe in haghil þe vyners of pa. *Hist Cant Hall* 27 Burgoyn all noght be in þe vyners 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiii 7 Sum man hadde a fyge tree pl.untid in his vyner *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* III xvii 389 The lord of the vyner and of the werk doon in his Vyner

**† Viner**[2] *Obs* Also 4 **vinour**, 5 **oure**, **vyn-**, **vignour** 6 **vyner** [A OF *vignour*, *vigneur*, or AF *viner* (Gower) vine grower, with sense 2 cf. OF. *vinier*, *vignier* wine merchant.]

**1.** A vine-grower or vine dresser.

*a* 1390 GOWER *Conf* I III 148 The king and the vinour also Of wommen comen bothe tuo 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* xvii cexiii (Bodl MS), Vigo is ] e kinde vinoure of pe erbe for pis tre reneyp vp and sauneyp bowes fruit, & sprayes of vines. *a* 1470 H PARKER *Direc & Pamfet* (W de W 1496) I xxii 58 I some ben shepeherdes, some vynours, some of oil er crafts as the contre asketh 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II iii (1883) 41 Yf the smythes the carpentiers, yᵉ vignours and other crafts men saye that it is most necessarye to study e for the comyn prouffit

*β* 1552 HULOET, Vyniar, or vyner, or tryumner of vynes, *vinet* r 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 77 A viner *vintor* 1611 FLORIO, *Vignaro* a vinerolI a viner a vine dresser

**2** A member of the Vintners' Company

1674 MARVELL *Ld Mayor & Crt Aldermen* xviii, And now, worshipful sirs, Go fold up your furs, And Viners turn again, turn again.

**Viner**[3] *US.* [f VINE *sb* 4 c + ER[1]] An implement for gathering the product of 'vines'.

1902 *Encycl Brit* (ed 10) XXVI 558 1 By the aid of modern machinery, the [pea ] pods are gathered by a viner

**† Vinerol**, alteration of *viner on* VIGNERON

1598 FLORIO, *Vendemmiatore*, a vintager a vinerolI, a vintner a maker of wines or a grape gatherer 1611 *Ibid Vendemia*, a v neroll, a viner, a vine dresser

**Vineron**, obs. variant of VIGNERON

**† Vinerous**, *a. dial Obs.* (See quot)

1674 RAY *N Co Words* 50 *Vinerous*, hard to please

**Vinery** (vəi nĕri) Also 5 **vinary**, 6 **vynery** [ad med L *vinarium* (cf VINER[1] and OF *vigne* VINE) or f. VINE *sb* + ERY]

**† 1.** A vineyard Also in fig context. *Obs*

*c* 1420 LYDG *Commend Virgin* 1 Parodys of plesaunce dighten so till good, Vnarye enuermailyd *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII (1811) 511 The kyng shulde haue in recompencement 1 of his wronge, the erledam of Bygorre, & the vy ery of Rame

**2** A glass house or hot house constructed for the cultivation of the grape-vine Also *attrib*

1789 ARBUTHNOTT (*title*), The Hot House Gardener on the Methods of forcing the Grapes, Peaches, Nectarine Fruits, in Hot Houses, Vineries, Fruit Houses, Hot Walls, &c 1805 LOUDON *Improv Hot Houses* 34 A considerable depth (of flue) may generally be obtained in vineries and peach houses. 1842 — *Suburban Hort* 215 A vinery twenty five feet long by thirteen feet six inches wide in the roof 1879 *Kerrick's Geologist* Mar 37/1 A three-quarters span of bay roof vinery 1897 for general purposes there is no better form of vinery than this

**3** Vines collectively

1883 *Land Mag* XXVI 229 Overgrown with masses of vinery 1895 *Outing* XXVI 445/1 Its ruins are over grown with vinery and bushes.

**† Vinet**[1], *Obs* Forms *a.* 5 **vynnett**, **vynette** -ett, 5–6 **vynet**, 5 **vynett**, 6 **vinite**, 7 **vinnet**, 5 **venet(e**, 7 **venet** *β* **vynyette**, **vynet**, **vinnet**, **vinette**, **vineat**, 7 **vignet** [ad OF *vignete*, *vignette* (whence obs. It. *vignetta* (Florio), Sp *viñeta*, Pg *vinheta*) dim of *vigne* VINE *sb* headopted in the 18th century as VIGNETTE *sb*]

**1** A running or trailing ornament or design in imitation of the branches, leaves, or tendrils of the vine, employed in architecture or decorative work

1412–20 LYDG *Chron*, *Troy* II 656 And be vowsyng full of babewynes [= baboons], pe rooke vnsyngyng, be lusty table mentis, Vynnettis rennynge in pe casementis. *c* 1430 *Life Alex* (1932) 64 Batwene pe pelers of golde ware hyngande veinettes of golde & sylure, wit leues of golde *Ibid* And pe brawnches of this venett ware sum of cristalle & sum of Onyches, and pay semed as pay hade leene verray vynes *a* 1548 HALL *Chron Hen. I* 11/2 A parayled in Cypmoys, satyne, and purpull, embrowdered with golde and by vynyettes [*Holinshed* vinet] ran floure deli es of golde. *Ibid*, Kyrtel of Cypmoys ne and purpul satyn embroudered with a vynet of Pomegrannettes of golde

*attrib* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 91 The Pervincle Passing good and proper indeed for vinet and stone worke in borders.

**2** = VIGNETTE *sb*. 1 b and 1.

a. 1467 *Paston Lett* II 336 For viij hole vynets, prise the vynett xiiid Item, for xxj demi vynets 1573 *Art Vinning* (1588) 2 Fence all the litters and set thy Vinets or flowres, and then thy imagery if thou wilt imbrace it 1579 Tusser *Conſut Sundrie* 69t Commonly such super fluous vinites (if I owe they call them) I ee not set to vntill they preese the whole bowle 1611 Peacham *Compl Gent* x xv (1634) 47 You may if you list draw any kinde of wilde traile or vinet after your owne invention 1637 *Star Chamber Decree con Printing* 11 July 8 9 That no person shall hereafter print vpon any booke or books the name, title, marke or vinnet of the Compan y or Society of Stationers

*β* 1584 *Star Chamber Decree Printers & Stat* (1865) 10 That everie founder of letters cutter and pocher be likewise bound not to cast any letter vineyet mark singing notes or such like 1611 Cotgr., *Vignettes*, Vignets branches or branch like borders or flourishes in painting or Imbroderie

**b** An ornamental border on a page

1630 Brathwait *Eng Gentlem* Draught of Frontisp, Upon the other Border or Vinet I the Picture is presented a Summer Arbour *Ibid*, In the middle betwixt the Vinets is the Portraiture of a comely Personage.

**3** An ornamental title page or similar production containing various symbolical designs or figures

1562 Leigh *Armorry* (Somerset), The Description of the Vinet with the circumstaunce thereof contayned in the first Page of the booke 1570 Bokr *A & M* (ed 2) I 688 2 Certaine there were which resorted to him of whom some were drawers for his pety gree and vinet 1625 ? Markham *Bk Honour* II iii § 3 Prudence is to be esteemed ab ue all other Vertues for Philosophy cals it the Guide and ou Heraulds make it the first the Vinet.

Hence **†Vinetting** (**vignetting**) *vbl sb Obs*

1612 Cotgr., *Vignettement* a vignetting; a bordering or flourishing with the branches of Vines, or other plants

**† Vinet** *t. Obs* —1. In 5 **vynet**(te [f 1. *vinea* ] = Vinea

1408 tr *Vegetius Art War* iv xv (MS Digby 233) fol 290/2 The vynet [*MS Laud* vynette] is a gynne of werr & framed of iij tymber

**Vineter,** variant of Vinter.

**Vi ne-tree.** Also 4 **vintre**, 4–5 **vyntre**, 4 6 **vyne tree** (5–6 *Sc* **wyne**) [Vine *sb*] A tree of the genus *Vitis* bearing grapes Also *fig*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 7159 And sua fair corns did he brin, bar olives, wit pair vintres 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxvii. 3 Pi wife as vintre fruboundand in sides of pi house c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 401 Ensampil tane mn be suffoundly be wyne tree 1483 *Cath Angl* 408/2 A vyne tree *arguta propago vitis* 1502 *Arc Invent* 1 *Sc* II 105 To the Franch man thyt set th e wyne trees in Strivelin xiiijs 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 336 The Vinetree hath yeelded her purple grapes, by clusters. 1602 Holland *Pliny* I 515 The manner how to graffe a Vine tree. 1614 Bisher in *N* Whites Treat Sundry Matters The Vinetree hath yeelded her purple grapes, by clusters. 1760 G Fraser *Fall of Man* 136 You will be as a fruitful vi e tree 1786 Abercrombie *Arrangem* 43 in *Cardi Assist*, lower green Trees and Shrubs Proper for shrubberies, &c [in clude] Vine tree, winged leaved 1813 *Q Accv* IX 169 Oft to mark, with curious eye, If the v ne tree s time be nigh

**† Vinetry** *Obs* —1 [App f Vinet 1 + -ry ] Ornament, decoration In spot *fig*

1622 Peacham *Compl Gent* 43 First your hearer coveteth to have his desire satisfied with matter ere he looketh upon the form or vinetrie of words which many times fall in of themselves to matter well contrived.

**† Vi new,** *sb Obs* Also 6 **vinue**, 7 **vinow**, 8 **vinnow**. [var of Finew *sb* Cf mod Hampshire dial *vinny*.] Mould, mouldiness

1538 Elyot, *Mucor*, filth vinue suche as is on bred or meate longe kept. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 9 If it wey not thus well followed soone would it catch a vinow, begin to putrifie [etc] 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Vineu* Mouldiness Fustiness, Mustiness a 1722 Leigh *Heath* (1737) 203 Two sorts of vinnow on cheese, one in the nature of mouldiness, or long downy vinnow, not blue.

**† Vi new,** *v Obs* Also 6 **venu-**, 6 7 **vinow** [var of Finew *v* Cf mod Som and Dev. dial. *vinny*] *intr* To grow mouldy

1570 Foxe *A & M* (ed 2) III 2250/2 Which bread doth vinow and mice oftentimes doe eate it 1581 [see Finew *v*] 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 364 Soone it vinoweth and catcheth a kind of mustiness.

Hence **† Vi new ing** *vbl sb*

1552 [see Finewing *vbl sb*] 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus Mucor*, filthe vinewynge Roarenesse 1580 Hollyband *Treas Fr Tong*, Moisi, Moisissure, Moisissure

**† Vi newed,** *a Obs* Also 6 **venued**, **vynued**, **vinewed**, 7 **vinnewd**, **vinowed**, **vinnow d** [f Vinew *sb* or *v* Cf Finewed *a* and Vinnied *a* ] Moulded, mouldy.

1538 Elyot, *Mucidus* filthy vinewed 1558 Warde tr *Alexis Secr* (1580) 103 You must take first of the sated paste, that is not mouldie vinewed or putrified 1574 Newton *Health Mag* 55 Sweete Almonds decline to mouysture, unlesse they be vinewed and rested for then they are drye. 1576 — *Eminies Complexe* (1633) 179 Such a like hunry downe or vinewed mouldinesse 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 530 If it be let alone [the vine] would proove to be slender, vinewed, leane and poore 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* iii n. 71 Like a mouldy Cheese, where three parts are blew and vinnow d 1668 Wilkins *Real Char* 70 Mould, Hoariness, Vinewed.

*fig.* 1601 [see Finewed *a* ]

Hence **† Vi newedness.** *Obs rare*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Situs* horenesse mouldinesse vinewednesse. 1611 Cotgr., *Chanessure*, mouldinesse, vinewednesse *Ibid*, *Moisissure*, mouldinesse vinowed nesse.

**† Vinewiness, -ewy,** vars of Finewiness, ewy 1727 Bailey (vol. II) *Vinewiness*, Mouldiness, Hoariness, Mustiness *Ibid*, *Vinewy*, mouldy, hoary

**Vinewird** (**vnwyld**) Forms: 4 **vinjerd**, 6 **-yard**(e, **vinzard**, **-yeardе**, 6 **vyny(e)arde**, **wynyard**, 7 **vinard**, 4–5 **vynyerd**(e, 5 **-jorde**, **yo(e)rd** 6 **-yearde**, 4 **vineyard**, 5 **-yerd**, 6 **y(e)arde**, 5– **vineyard**, *Sc* 5 **wyne-**, 6 **winejarde**, **wyneyard**, **-yaird** [f Vine *sb* + Yard *sb*, after the earlier *wineyard*, OL *wingeard* ]

**1** A piece of ground in which grape vines are cultivated, a plantation of vines

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxv 31 He smate baire vynyerds & baire Ige tree 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A xvii 1xii (Bodl MS), Pis tree is beste in gardines to close hem wip and vineyardes 1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 331 In pis lond is plente of hony and of mylk and of wy n and nougt of vynejerdes. c 1450 *Merk's Festiv* 66 A husband man hyred men to his vyneyarde for labour 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg Pour* fvj A good man whiche had an Aker of a vine yerd 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxiv 6 They gather the grapes out of his vynyarde whom they haue oppressed by violence. c 1585 [R Browne] *Answ Cartwright* 45 Where no yarde is there may be vynes growing, but there can bee no vineyarde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 171 There is ought learned in on that feareth best bee have inconsiderably put this down in writing, as if this land were unfit for vineyards 1661 J Childrey *Brit Bacon* 71 This Shire is very full of Orchards and Vineyards 1691 Ealyn *Late Occas Consid Cart* II 73 The good Grapes, which Compose part of our Cyder ing, and the common Grapes that grow in Vineyards 1756 P Nayler *Voy Levant* (1760) IV 248 The Arabs begin to bear two years after their planting; and continue in heart fifty or sixty years 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* IV 221 When they [baboons] set about robbing an orchard or a vineyard they do not go singly to work. 1832 tr Downes *Lett Cont Countries* I 218 We sought the elevated Cardinal [1] stands about the town in the midst of vineyards. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 162 I was rather disappointed at Bonn, by the first sight of what sounds so poetically as a vineyard 1858 Simmons *Misc Rom Catholic* Wks (Bohn) III 387 The wine merchant has also, I fear, his debts to the chemist as well as to the vineyard

**b** *fig.* A sphere of action or labour, esp of an elevated or spiritual character

Chiefly in allusive passages of the New Testament, as Matt xx 1 and xxi 28 40

c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Machor*) 1293 Trawale jar for all pis myzth in goddis wynge pat for to wyne hem is put pat bunden ben to pe devel 1380 Wyclif *Serm Sel Wks* I 98 pis housbonde is God and pis vyneyerde is his Chirche 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 51 This noble and Catholyke prince vnderstandyng well by the Scripture how a good manner they myght ouercome theyr enemies and pourge his vineyarde from suche wycked weedes 1596 Dal rymple tr *Leslie* II 41 *Ane Exhortatioun* was a faithf l labourer in the Lordes vinyard ernist and busie 1618 Bayne (title) An Hippo ome or the Vineyard of Horsemen grounded vpon these Bookes 1628 in *Rec Ir Fiats Jacobus Infra* (1909) III 295 Their principall merchants and facto s who are indeed the true labourers of their vinyard and the other if rightly considred, no other things 1704 *Clarendon's Hist Rebell* C vi 2 p xvii Every Man that had laboured all the heat of the day in the Vineyard was not recompenced immediately according to his Labour 1777 Shoolbred *Homer's Iliad Ser W Pindi* pt 10 Ju e The vineyard of methodism lies before you. 1791 Hamilton *Mem Wesley* III 110 The weakness of the labourers in this vineyard the effect of visible cause of their success 1804 *Med Jrnl* XII 22 Sincerely wishing you success in your labours in the vineyard of humanity 1805 C Thomas *Last Charge* 11 The Lord the Lord of the Vineyard 1809 *Gentl Mag* LXXIX ii 1194 Vining and whitherry Improvement 1897 *Nat Rev* (N Y) 4 Mar 5/3 The vining maples twined in so close about it that we had to get right in the water and follow up the stream

**Vinipote** *rare*—. [f *L vinum*, *vinum* wine + *potus* having drunk ] (See quots )

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vinipote*, a wine drinker 1656 Blount *Glass gr Vinipote*, a drinker of Wine, a Wine-bibber, a Drunkard

**Viniter(1e,** obs forms of Vintner, Vintry

**† Vinitor.** *Obs* Also 7 **vinetor**, **vineyetour** [a L *vinitor*, f *vinum* wine ] A vine grower

1559 Abp Sandys *Serm* in (1585) 48 Nowe it behoueth the vinitor to take great heede what vine he plaunteth in his vineyard 1595 Charlton *Fulfordo et Fulfordia* 33 This skilfull vinitor hath caused the stones that pestered the vineyard to bee gathered out 1611 Cotgr., *Vigneron* V 155 The Vineyard Vineyetours had brought it to good forwardnesse 1631 R H *Arraignm Whole Creatures* xvi 280 Had not Iezabel made him a Potion and Caudell of the blood of the Vinetor, and Grapes of the Vineyard

**Vinito rian,** *a rare*—. [f L *vinitōrius* (Columella), f *vinitor* see prec ] (See quot )

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vinitorian*, of or belonging to the keeping a Vineyard or Vines

**Vinnel,** obs. variant of Vennel.

**Vinnewed,** variant of Vinewed *a. Obs.*

**Vinnied,** *a dial.* [var Vinewed *a.*] Mouldy.

1519 Horman *Vulg* 163 b, This breddе is olde and venyed 1670 H Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 40 The moon in a Cheese oddly figured (and perhaps a little vinnyed in some parts) 1787 Grose *Prov Glosr*, *Vinnied*, fenny, mouldy 1834– in south western dialects (*Eng Dial Dict*)

**Vinnow, Vinnowed, Vinnowy,** variants of Vinew *sb*, Vinewed *a*, Finewy *a* **Vinny,** dial. var. Veny 2, Fenny *a.* 3, Finny *a* 2

**Vinny,** *v. Obs.* exc. *dial* Also 6 **vnyve.** [var of Vinew *v.*, Finew *v*] *intr* To become mouldy.

The necessity of depending mainly upon professional vineyardists 1897 L H Bailey *Prune Fruit-growing* 295 Careful vineyardists are able to continue the practice [of girdling] year after year without apparent injury to the vine

**Vineyet,** var Vinet *Obs* **Vineyetour,** var. Vinitor *Obs* **Vinger,** southern ME var Fingen *sb* **Vingre,** obs f Vinegar *sb.*

**[Vingt-et-un** (vænt-eɔ̃), **vingt-un** (vænt-œ̃). Also 8 **un** [ *t*, 'twenty one' ] A round game of cards in which the object is to make the number twenty-one or as near this as possible without exceeding it, by counting the pips on the cards, court cards counting as ten, the ace one or eleven as the holder chooses. (Cf Van John )

Also applied to a game at dominoes see Stone *sb* 13.

a 1781 *Italian Mag* IX 604 Give the Beau monde im pertinent advice, Prompter *Ving t un*, a prohibit box and dice! 1790 A C Bowker *Diaries & Corresp* (1903) 109, I was sat down with every Miss in Winchester to play Vingt une 1804 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 343 Maple I have nothing but vingt un of late 1868 F F Pardon *Card Player* 69 Vingt un may be played by two or more players

*β* 1824 Dickens *Amer Notes* (1850) 231 This passenger is reported to have lost fourteen pounds at Vingt et un yesterday 1853 C Bede *Verdant Green* xi 102 It was a very different thing to playing *vingt un* at home. 1892 L Braddon *Lyle India* viii 338 Happy gamblers, who look upon the scientific game much in the same way as they do *vingt et un*.

**Vinic** (vəi nik), *a Chem* [f L *vin-um* wine ] Obtained or derived from wine or alcohol.

1835 T Thomson in *R D & T Thomson's Rec Gen. Sci* II 98 The term racemic acid given by the French is preferable 1 because unlike the name applied formerly on the Continent to tartaric acid 1857 Miller *Elem Chem Org* 98 Vinic Acids. *Ibid* 129 Ethylic or Vinic Alcohol, Spirit of Wine *Ibid* 155 Ethylic or Vinic Ether 1881 *Nature Koyle's Mat Med* 330 Vinic ether prepared from alcohol

**Vi niculture.** [f L. *vini-*, *vinum* wine + Culture *sb* ] The cultivation of grapes for the production of wine

1851 *Echo* 3 Jan The fair for the best and newest specimens of viniculture has been held in Florence but week 1882 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Nov Viniculture from year to year is gaining ground in the Southern Palestine 1889 H M Stephens *Portugal* 368 He did not neglect to encourage agriculture and viniculture.

Hence **Vinicultural,** a , **Vinicul turist.**

1888 *Voice* (N Y) 5 July, The Viticultural Commission will establish in San Francisco a Wine Exchange 1888 *Sci Amer* 24 Nov 327/2 The harvesting of the grape crop is of period of anxiety for the viniculturist

**Vinlet,** variant of Violet.

**Viniferous,** *a rare* [f L *vini*, *vinum* wine see Ferous ] Producing wine

1838 G Downes *Lett Cont Countries* I 80 On the left lies the vineferous district of La Côte.

**Vinification** (vainifik ʃən) [f as prec see Fication ] The conversion of grape juice or the like into an alcoholic liquid by fermentation

1880 *Trib Unw Knowl* VII 71 The vinification [ f Greek wines] is very imperfect 1894 Thudichum (*title*) A Treatise on Wines with Practical Directions for Viticulture and Vinification

**Vining** (vəi nin), *a* [f Vine *sb* ] Twining like a vine

1824 Lewis & Clark *Trav Missouri* xxvi (1815) III 174 Vining and whitherry Improvement 1897 *Nat Rev* (N Y ) 4 Mar 5/3 The vining maples twined in so close about it that we had to get right in the water and follow up the stream

**Vinipote** *rare*—. [f *L vinis*, *vinum* wine + *potus* having drunk ] (See quots )

1623 Cockeram 1, *Vinipote*, a wine drinker 1656 Blount *Glass gr Vinipote*, a drinker of Wine, a Wine-bibber, a Drunkard

**Viniter(1e,** obs forms of Vintner, Vintry

**† Vinitor.** *Obs* Also 7 **vinetor**, **vineyetour** [a L *vinitor*, f *vinum* wine ] A vine grower

1559 Abp Sandys *Serm* in (1585) 48 Nowe it behoueth the vinitor to take great heede what vine he plaunteth in his vineyard 1595 Charlton *Fulfordo et Fulfordia* 33 This skilfull vinitor hath caused the stones that pestered the vineyard to bee gathered out 1611 Cotgr., *Vigneron* V 155 The Vineyard Vineyetours had brought it to good forwardnesse 1631 R H *Arraignm Whole Creatures* xvi 280 Had not Iezabel made him a Potion and Caudell of the blood of the Vinetor, and Grapes of the Vineyard

**Vinito rian,** *a rare*—. [f L *vinītōrius* (Columella), f *vinitor* see prec ] (See quot )

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vinitorian*, of or belonging to the keeping a Vineyard or Vines

**Vinnel,** obs. variant of Vennel.

**Vinnewed,** variant of Vinewed *a. Obs.*

**Vinnied,** *a dial.* [var Vinewed *a.*] Mouldy.

1519 Horman *Vulg* 163 b, This breddе is olde and venyed 1670 H Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 40 The moon in a Cheese oddly figured (and perhaps a little vinnyed in some parts) 1787 Grose *Prov Glosr*, *Vinnied*, fenny, mouldy 1834– in south western dialects (*Eng Dial Dict*)

**Vinnow, Vinnowed, Vinnowy,** variants of Vinew *sb*, Vinewed *a*, Finewy *a* **Vinny,** dial. var. Veny 2, Fenny *a.* 3, Finny *a* 2

**Vinny,** *v. Obs.* exc. *dial* Also 6 **vnyve.** [var of Vinew *v.*, Finew *v*] *intr* To become mouldy.

16 *Vac* in Wr Wülcker 597 *Mucldo*, to vynye 1837- in Somerset and Devon glossaries.

**Vino-** (vəi·no), combining f L *vinum* wine, employed in a few chemical terms, as *vino acetous, -methylic, sulphureous*

1730 *Phil Trans* XXXVI 289 And the Retort being clapped in the Hand, there is found in the Receiver a Vino sulphureous Gas. 1843 LIZARD *Brewing* 519 Vino acetous fermentation. 1864 WATTS *Dict Chem* II. 503 Methylate of Ethyl, Ethylmethylic Methylethylic, or Vinomethylic Ether

**Vinolence.** *rare* [see next and -ENCE] = next

1430-40 LYDG *Bo has* IV IX (1554) 106 b He through vynolence lost oft his reason 1607 I BARNES *Deuils Charter* I II A 4 Such odious Auarice and perfidie, such vinolence and brutish gluttony 1727 BAILEY (vol II), *Vinolence, Violentness* Drunkenness]

**Vinolency.** *rare* [ad. L. *vinolentia* f *vinolentus* see next and -ENCY.] Drunkenness

1623 COCKERAM I [Ale Bailey (1731), etc.] 1864 I MOTTER *Drunkenness* II 22 Now, no bad assemblage of the phænomena of Vinolency

**Vinolent** (vəi·nŏlĕnt), *a* Also 4–6 **vyno-**, [ad L. *vinolent us*, f *vinum* wine] Addicted to drinking wine, tending to drunkenness

1382 WYCLIF *Titus* 1 7 It bihoueth a bischop for to be without crime, not proud not wrathful, not vynolent. 1386 CHAUCER *Wyf of Bathe Prol* 463 In wommen vinolent is no defence, This knowen lecchours by experience *c* 1386 — *Sompn T* 223 I hey ben Alvinolent as botel in thespence 1412–20 LYDG *Chron Troy* II 5738 For man or women þat is vinolent Is verely y-bete vnreasonable *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St Kath* IV 1533 Venus was lecherus & al also vynolent 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* (1570) C vij/a There is no secrete with people vinolent, By beastly surfet, the life is breviate 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 285 Se sulde nocht chuse vnto that cure Ane Vinolent nor wod Pasture 1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr* 1832 WHEELWRIGHT *Aristoph* II 80 *note*, The violent propensity of the Athenia i females.

Hence **Vi nolentness**, drunkenness *rare*—°

1727 BAILEY (vol II)

**Vinologist.** *rare*—1. [f L. *vin um* wine + -OLOGIST] A connoisseur in wines

1845 FORD *Handbk Spain* I 309 The true vinologist should go down into one of the *cuevas* or cellars and have a goblet of the ruby fluid drawn from the big bellied *Tinaja*

**Vinoma defied,** *a rare*—1 [f L. *vin um* wine + *madefiere* to be soaked] Sorked with wine

1656 [Aquinas' Prayer] Wks (1852) 29 He, with his vinomadefied reinrue, resolved to press in upon the page

**Vino meter** [f. L. *vin um* wine + OMETER] An instrument for measuring the strength or purity of wine, an cenometer

1865 ATKINSON in *Gaudet Physics* 81 Lactometers and vinometers are used for measuring the quantity of water which is introduced into milk or wine for the purposes of adulteration

**Vinook,** variant of VERNEUK *v*

**Vinose** (vəinō·s), *a* [ad I *vinos us* full, or fond, of wine Cf It, Sp, and Pg *vinoso*, Pg *vinhoso*] = VINOUS *a*

1727 BAILEY (vol III) 1732 *Hist Litteraria* III 382 The Acids are divided by the Author into Vinous and Acetous 1846 *Examiner* 187/2 Their salaried tutors, their rich professors, their vinose and indolent fellows

**Vinosity** (vəinŏ·sĭti). Also 7 **vinocitie.** [ad I *vinositat* (Lertullian), the flavour of wine, f *vinos-us* see prec. and -ITY. So OF and F *vinosité*, It *vinosità*, Sp *vinosidad*, Pg *vinosidade*]

1 The state or quality of being vinous, vinous character or flavour

1658 SIR T BROWNE *Hydriot* 33 Vessels of Oyles and Aromaticall Liquors will and some yet retaining a Vinosity and spirit in them, which if not altered they have left as exceeded the Palats of Antiquity [Hence in Blount *Glossogr* (1661)] 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab Bees* (1733) II 210 If we consider, how necessary Fermentation is to the vinosity of the liquor 1757 A COOPER *Distiller* II. (1760) 50 It is common with Distillers, in order to give it a agreeable Flavour, or Vinosity 1843 LIZARD *Brewing* 465 The vinosity and mellowness [of vinous liquors] are at the same time improved 1889 *Lall Mall G* 30 July, A Médoc wine requires cask room for the ground a bottle of wine has grown in that grown on a stony layer is marked by greater body and vinosity 1890 O CRAWFURD *Round Calendar* 130 All the rich and subtle chemistry of vinosity, which help to cheer and sustain the body

2 Fondness for, addiction to, wine.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* VII 348 The soulders reprooving his intemperate vinositie. *Ibid* IX. 441 Riots, Revels, Banquets, Pride, Surfeits, Vinocitie, Vocatrice 1857 *Fraser's Mag* LVI 486 Aristophanes himself, notwithstanding his jokes on the vinosity of Cratinus, is said in Athenæus to have been well primed with wine when he sat down to write

**Vinour(e,** obs variants of VINER 2.

**Vinous** (vəi·nŭs), *a.* [ad L. *vinōs us*, f *vinum* wine cf VINOSE *a* and *I. vinoso* (OF *vineus*)]

1 Of the nature of wine, having the qualities of wine, tasting or smelling like wine, made of, or prepared with, wine

1684 POWER *Exp Philos* I 65 The fermentation and heat presently appears, with a kind of vinous steam 1686 BOYLE *Exp Chem Princ* 1 26 Fermentation rarefy's the oyly parts of the Juice of Grapes, and subtilizes them into vinous spirits. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens* (1713) 124/2 So will the Liquor be Vinous in smell and more delicious in Taste 1713 J WARNER *True Amazons* 156 The most wholesome



of all the Vinous Liquors in the World 1741 C MIDDLETON *Cicero* I IV 304 He was obliged, he said, to take some vinous medicines. 1818 ACCUM *Chem Tests* 92 All vinous fluids, even the mildest, contain a portion of a free acid. 1856 N HAWTHORNE *Eng Note bks*, I 249 They would perhaps have preferred a vinous potation. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt* III 154 John was deprived from his birth of all vinous stimulus.

b Producing wine or similar liquor *rare*

1676 WORLIDGE (*title*), Vinetum Britannicum: or, a Treatise of Cider Together with the Method of Propagating all sorts of Vinous Fruit-Trees. 1708 OZELL tr *Boileau's Lutrin* 41 Burgundia a vinous Fields she lovers round

2 Pertaining to, characteristic of, wine

1708 J PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 106 Water will imbibe The small Remains of Spirit, and acquire A vinous Flavour 1779 LONDON & WISE *Compl Gard* 781 It has a vinous and delicious Taste. 1775 SIR E BARRY *Observ Wines Ancients* 9 A more rich and sweet taste than is natural to them in a recent true vinous state 1834 J FORBES *Laennec's Dis Chest* (ed 4) 173 An accumulation of blood which tinges the lungs of a livid or vinous colour

b *Vinous fermentation* (see quot 1857)

1728 HARLEY *Observ Mem* II iii § 2 220 All Liquors which have undergone vinous fermentation have a Mark set upon them as dangerous *c* 1790 *Inspect Brit* (ed 3) VII 216/1 After the vinous fermentation was finished, the liquor was found e nverted into vinegar 1815 J SMITH *Panorama* XI 4 *Art* II 502 The vinous fermenta i n recommences, and the sugar in the substances containing sugar and it is most remarkable in those which contain the most of the saccharine principle 1857 MILLER *Elem Chem Org* 224 When the juice of wine is formed from sugar, the change is called the alcoholic or vinous fermentation. *fig* 1870 LOWELL *Among my Books* Ser I 147 The Re formation had passed the period of its vinous fermentation, and had ceased to produced by, resulting from, indulgence in wine

1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 12 Apr, I have heard none of those drunken,—nay, drunken is a coarse word—none of those vinous orgies. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XII, It has even been reported by malingers, that I sung a song while under this vinous influence 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* XIVI, Frank and his familiars from vinous entertainment 1856 LYTTON in Lady Balfour *Lett* (1906) I 318 On our way back to town I was seized with a vinous inspiration

b Affected by, showing signs of, the use of wine

1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B* I IX 161 He was a shortish stout man, with a powder, with a huge vinous fa ce. 1848 THACKERAY *Van Jaar* XXIV Winking at his cousin with a great vinous leer. 1882 F ANSTEY *Vice Versa* III 44 C. gave a vinous wink

4 Addicted to wine

1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* II, Indefatigable in his requisition for the proximity of his vinous Acl ates. 1820 IRVING *Juan* III. xiii, The vinous Greek to whom he had address d His question, much too merry to divine The questioner filled it up a glass of wine 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin* x, Let us fancy them reeling to bed, and their vinous General conducted to his chamber by the young gentlemen of the house

5 With names of colours Like that of (red) wine, having a wine coloured tinge

1834 *Penny Cycl* II 79 2 The general colour of the body is a dull vinous brown on the upper part and silvery grey beneath 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar 2 3/2 The colour of the flowers is a yellow green with blotches of deep vinous purple on the lower part of the flower 1889 W PHILLIPS *Brit Discomycetes* 65 Cup rough vinous brown 1894 R B SHARPE *Handbk Birds Gt Brit* I 65 Ear coverts and throat vinous chestnut

b Of the colour of wine, vinaceous Also *Comb*

1894 R B SHARPE *Handbk Birds Gt Brit* I 19 The white or vinous throated birds *Ibid* 80 The median and lesser wing-coverts vinous

Hence **Vinously** *adv*, **Vi nousness.**

1727 BAILEY (vol II), *i nousness* winy Quality, Taste or Smell 1836 *Fraser's Mag* XIII 733 He felt himself vinously inclined to quarrel with Mr Mewton 1837 — determined to overbear his client vinously 1891 — *Our of our Cang* VI, His voice and words had a swing of convic tion they imbibed vinousness to a heart abhor

**Vinoused, Vinowed,** variants of VINEW *sb*, and *v*, VINEWED *a*

**Vinquish,** Sc var VANQUISH *sb*

1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III 1122 It is quite a new disease in the Border; nor did I ever hear its name save from calloway, where it was called the vinquish

**Vint,** *sb rare* [Back formation from VINTAGE *sb*. Cf next] Vintage

1639 G DANIEL *Eccles* XXIV 88 Opulent As Gehon, in the season of the vint 1895 SWAITH *Dorothy Morton* VII, Such is the beauty of this rarest of vi nts [that, et c]

**Vint** (vint), *v.* [Back formation from VINTNER or VINTAGE]

†**1.** *trans* To sell or vend (wine) *Obs*—1

1598 NORTH *Mem Mores* (1846) 112 The taverner finding the sweets of vinting wine and taking money

**2** To make (wine, etc), = VINTAGE *v.* 1.

1887 TROLLOPE *Barchester T* XXI II 38, I wouldn t give a straw for the best wine that ever was vinted, after it hvil lain here a couple of years. 1908 *Academy* 11 April 666/1 Mr Pickwick drunks a brandy that was vinted and distilled in Sirius

**Vintage** (vi·ntĕdʒ), *sb* Also 5–6 **vyntage** [a AF. *vintage* (1353), altered f. of *vindage*, *ven dage* VENDAGE, OF. *vendange*, by association with VINTER or VINTNER]

**1.** The produce or yield of the vine, either as grapes or wine; the crop or yield of a vineyard or district in a single season Now *rare* or *Obs*

Quot 1460 refers to the capture of large supplies of wine from the French

*c* 1450 *Brut* II 372 Pere pay restid ham 1 while, and sette pe cuntre yn pees & rest tyll pe vyntage were redy 1 take. *a* 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron* 239 Than the vyntage of Yngland took a othir felauchip, where thei had a thousand tunne wyn and V hundred 1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* XXII (1812) II 55 And there he taryed tyll they had inned all their corne and vyntage 1589 LEMING *Virg Georg* II 22 Not one mild selfe same vintage hangs on our Italian trees. 1605 BACON *Adv Learn* I IV § 12 By reason of their seasoning and digging the mould about the roots of their vines, they had a great vintage 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 377 The commonwealth will be cheated, for most of the wine of this vintage is now in the vintners cellars. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past* V 109 Two Goblets will I crown with sparkling Wine, The gen rous Vintage of the Chian Vine 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* II 348 Shine we in arms? or sing beneath our vine? I hine is the vintage, and the conquest Thine 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 57 With grain delight the bread of winter wine A brighter day , bcent the new fragrance of the breathing rose, And quaff the pendent vintage as it grows. 1818 MRS SHELLEY *Frankenst* I. (1865) 51 Now and the wine had a more luxuriant vintage 1818 SHELLEY *Enganean Hills* 221 Where the milk white oxen slow With the purple vintage strain, Heaped upon the creaking wain

*fig* 1586 WARNER *Alb Eng* IV XXI (1589) 89 I he Vintage of my ill rifles loue is blasted in the bloome. 1647 N BACON *Disc Govt Eng* I II (1739) 13 Thus was the vintage of Kings and great n en, but the gleanings of the People more mark plentiful 1820 SHELLEY *Ode Liberty* XII 7 How like Bacchanals of blood drunk Europe basks, lulled by vintage, stood Destruction s sceptred slaves, and Folly's mitred brood !

**b.** *good* Wine, esp of good or rare quality

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh* I (1630) 17 Sir I will ex cellent cheere rare vintage, and were drunke after supper 1725 POPE *Odyss* IV 67 In solid gold the purple vintage flows 1820 KEATS *To a Nightingale* II, O for a draught of vintage, that hath been Cool'd a long age in the deep delved earth 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 266 The great knight Will thank me with great vintage for this jousting And talk and minstrel melody entertain it 1887 BOWEN *Annet* I 279 Soon for the goblet she asks Then with the vintage fill it

*transf* 1826 B TAYLOR *Summer's Bacchanal* 109 Where the crystal vintage of the mountain Runs in foam from dazzling fields of snow

c Used with reference to the age or year of a particular wine, usually connoting one of good or outstanding quality, now *spec* a wine made from the grape crop of a certain district in a good year and kept separate on account of its quality

1726 FRANCIS tr *Horace, Epist* I v 6 Nor old, nor excellent, my Wine, Of the same Vintage and a mellowing Time 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No 97 P 4 He may regale his palate with a succes ion of vintages 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II i 18 I taste my wine 1822 IMPERIAL *Magazine* 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F* 407 Honest Averill Such d His richest brewing from 1 him reserved For banquets praised he was ng red an l ld like vintage 1888 *Pall Mall Budget* XXIV 501 The principal claret vintages of the 19th century are considered to have been those of 1815, 25 28 [etc.] *Ibid* 608 The last year when the wine was shipped as a vintage

*transf* 1874 L STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1879) III 231 There are vintages, both maternal and intellectual, which are more frequently praised than they are enjoyed

d A property yielding wine *rare*—1

1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 231 Last summ er we purchased a small cask of wine from a woman who owns a little vintage

**2** The gathering of the grapes and the process to make them into wine, including the preliminary processes of wine making, as pressing and placing the juice in the fermenting vats, etc, the grape harvest.

Also in the phrase † *to make vintage* (see *b*).

(*a*) 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen* VIII c 14 § 2 From Burdeux to London for every tonne Wyne at the tyme of the vintage, xvj s 1550 NICOLLS *Thu jdi list* IV 214 b, Sone after that a lytle before the vintage 1611 COTGR., *Vendange* The Vintage, Time of Gathering Wine 1708 J CLARKE tr *Echard's Ec Fables* (1729) I 175 For if it rains a little before the Vintage, the Wine is sharper 1790 BURKE *Fr Revol* 361 The produce of this vintage in Guienne and Languedoc. 1833 REDDING *Mod Wines* III (1851) 43 The time of the vintage being fixed, the gathering is begun as early in the day as possible 1893 J G SHAW *Wine Vine & Cellar* XI. 285 The vintage is often delayed to such a late period of the season as to incur the danger of injury from frost. (*b*) 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 60b/1 The vintage in Médoc usually commences between the middle and end of September and lasts from two to three weeks. In the process is very simple 1611 COTGR., (*b*) 1860 PUSEY *Minor Proph.* 197 It was a vintage, not of wine, but of woe

(*b*) 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* Fill Thy My Lord askes thee, what vintage thou hast made? 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer* XXXI 5 The planters shal plant and tit the t me come they shal not make vintage 1732 MILLER (*card Pet Ep Vitra*, My Conjecture is founded upon more than twenty five Vintages, which I have seen made.

*fig* 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *I am* 1 12 See if there be sorow like to my sorow because he hath made vintage of me, as our Lord hath spoken

b The season or time when this is done. Also with a and pl

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng Expl*, *I ruit ime* the time of yeare when wine is made 1651 R CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 148, I lived in Charanto 1 two leagues from Paris, a while Vintage purposely to see how wine was made in France. 1764 HORNER *Observ* I § 18 41 If St Jerome may be believed the vintage f Judæa is not till the end of September or beginning of October 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict.*

*Tende I intage*, the season of gathering grapes. 1876 W C Bryant in *St Nicholas Mag* Dec 101/2 The cider making season in autumn was at the time of which I am speaking somewhat correspondent to the vint ige in the wine countries of Europe.

3 *attrib*, as *vintage hall -day, -dinner, eve, feast, festival, god, home* (after *harvest-home*), *-man*, etc.

1696 Dryden *Virgil Georg* xxv, For the Palestrina 'vintage halls. 1827 Hemans *Poems* 51 I was the 'vintage day of field and wood 1838 Miss Pardoe *Miner & Dessert* II 11 A 'vintage dinner at which I have just assisted 1806 Mrs Hemans *Forest Sanctuary* 1 xiii, The hour, the scene, came floating o cr my mind—A golden 'vintage eve 1880 S Rogers *Jacquel* Poems (1839) 24 Thro Provence had ceased The vintage and the 'vintage feast. 1846 Grote *Greece* (1869) I 36 Even the spontaneous joy of the vintage fea t was conferred by the favour of Dionysos. 1833 *Penny Magazine* II 297 The difficulty of assigning a 'vintage festival to the month of February 1877 *Fraser's Brit* VII 247 The lesser Dionysia were held in the month of December. This was a vintage festival 1875 Symonds *Grk Poets* IX 276 The cultus of the 'vintage god [*sc.* Dionysus] 1697 Thornley tr *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 61 The young gallants thinking to keep the 'Vintage holy days. 1839 Mitchell *Progs of Arrsteph* Introd p cxix, The ingathering of grapes, and if we may be allowed such a term, the 'vintage home which followed. 1800 Moore *Anacreon* lix 12 The choral song the 'vintage hymn Of rosy youths and virgins fair 1706 Stevens *Indimador.* a 'Vintage man that gathers the Grapes. 1564 Mottex *Rabelais* V viii 99 An infinite number of little pumping Wine ; presses, all full of 'Vintagemongers, who were pick ing, examining, and raking the Grapes. 1860 Pusey *Min Prophs* 197 Where aforetime was the 'vintage shout in thankfulness for the ingathering there should be w iling *c* 1800 S Rogers *Italy* (1839) 280 I from the first hour when 'vintage songs broke forth 1828 F Am. Cranmayor *Forth ead & Gallican* I 94 Groups of vintagers were gathering grapes, and singing the vintage song 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 148 Staphis wanteth hope at 'vintage time 1667 Milton *P R* IV 15 As a swarm of flies in vintage time 1732 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Vitis* Dew is rarely wanting in Vintage Time 1820 *Keepsake Pyrmonth Club* 1 51 In the vintage time for death and sin 1885 Pater *Marius* xxvii II 222 To see their emperor living there , his hands red at vintage time with the juice of the grapes.

b In sense 1 c, as *vintage claret, class, wine*, etc.

1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 608/2 The cheaper wines are an exception also those of the so called 'vintage class, which are the finest wines in a good year, separate and shipped as the produce of that year 1899 *Westm Gaz* 31 Dec 1/1 There does not seem to be much 'depressio n in the market for vintage wines 1900 *Ibid* 3 Sept 2 s We are allowed to take out little bids for fame with clean shirts cut hair sound coats vintage clarets.

**Vintage,** *v* [f prec.]

1 *intr* (See quot.) *rare*

1598 Florio, *Vendemmiare*, to vintage, to gather grapes, to make wine.

2 *trans* a To strip (vines or a vineyard) of grapes at the vintage. Also *fig t Obs*

1618 Bacon *Lett* (1734) 87 I humbly beseech his Majestie that these royal bodyes of forfeitures may not be vintaged or cropped by private suitors. 1648 tr *Senault's Paraphr Job* 221 They either carry away the corne which is not yet cut, or pillage the vines which are not yet vintaged 1891 Mottrux *Rabelais* IV xxii 99 The Devil take me if the Close of sevelld had not been all gathered, vintag d, glean d and destroy d

b To gather (grapes) in order to make wine, to make (wine) from gathered grapes.

Usually with special reference to the production of wine of fine quality (cf Vintage *sb* 1 b).

1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 60/2 If a first growth is vin taged a little too late and does of succeed so well as some second growths. 1890 *Pall Mall G* 29 Sept 3 2 The Be parment of the Marne, where the true sparkling champagne is vintaged

**Vi ntager.** [f Vintage *sb* + er ]

1 One who gathers grapes in the vintage, a labourer or worker at the vintage

1598 Florio *Vendemmiatore* 11 The grapes which Le blan vintager doth crop from Methym vine 1611 Cotgr, *Vendengeur*, a Vintager or vine-reaper 1706 Ph Lilps (ed Kersey), *Vintager* a Vintager 1828 Grape gatherer 1851 Miller *Gard. Dict* s v *Vitis*, Because there are green Grapes that the Vintagers ought not to gather and mingle with the others. 1876 Bunyan *St Peter's Stud Nat* (1799) II 454 The basket of the vintager, and the apron of the reaper 1806 W Taylor in *Ann. Rev* IV 719 The annual dances of the vintagers, in which they smeared their faces with lees of wine 1846 Landor *Story of Juan tander* Wks II 464 The officer was threatening both vintagers and mules for their intractability 1889 Pater *Imag Portraits* 169 The sound of a bell—death bell, perhaps, or only a crazy su nmons to the vintagers.

*fig* 1680 H Moore *Appeal Apoc* 141 They are the same that are pressed here by the Vintagers or Wine-pressers. 1865 Mozley *Mirac* I ii 207 An element of prophecy unfolding itself beneath the fostering care of the Divine vintager

b *transf.* Also *attrib*

1607 Topsell *Four f Beasts* 6 A hall, abounding in these beasts [*sc* monkeys], who are a great hi derance to the poore vintagers of the countrey of Calchut for they will climbe into the high palm trees breaking the vessels set to re ceiue the Wine. 1829 T L Peacock *Misfort Elphin* 16 From the flower cups of summer on field and on tree One mead cups are filled by the vintager bee 1871 Lowell *Study Wind* 7 A dozen of these winged vintagers [*sc* robins] bustled out from among the leaves.

2. A bright star in the constellation of Virgo

After L. *vindēmiātor* cf Vindemiatrix.

1588 Ashley *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr* B3, Prœundematrix. The Vintager 1601 Holland *Pliny* I 604 Eleven daies before the Calends of September, the star named in Latine Vindemiator *i* the Vintager beginneth to shew in the morning

**Vi ntaging,** *vbl sb* [f. Vintage *v*] The action or process of gathering the grapes at the vintage

1820 H N Coleridge *Grk Poets* (1834) 218 I hen follow successive representations of a city at peace, of reaping, of sheaf binding of vintaging 1850 Morris *Earthly Par* III 280 And tumorous must be let the time go by for vintaging 1890 O Crawford *Round Calendar in Portugal* 198 The maize harvest comes just after the vintaging of the grapes

† **Vintaine.** *Obs rare* Also 5 vintayne [a OF *vintaine, -esne, -ene*, (also mod F ) *vingt ain* (= Pr and Pg *vintena*, Sp *ventena*), f *vingt* twenty ] A company of twenty soldiers, etc

13 *Sir Beues* (A.) 3367 Make we bre yntaine, Pat be gode and certaine! Pe ferste ich wile me self out lede *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxv 114 Pai er wele arayd and ordayni by thowsands, hundreths and vintaynes

‖ **Vintem** (vinte n) Forms α 6 vintin (vinton), 7 vendin, vinteen, 8 vinten, 8–9 vintan β 8–9 vintain γ 8–9 vintem. [Pg *vintem*, f *vinte* twenty ] In the coinage of Portu gal and countries colonized from there A small silver coin of the value of 20 reis, equivalent to about 1½d sterling, also, a copper coin of the same value

α 1584 Barrett in Hakluyt *Voy* (1599) II 1 974 5 vintins make a tanga, and 4 vintons make a tanga of base money 1598 W Phillip tr *Linschoten* I xxxv 65/1 There is like wise a reckoning of *Vintins* which is not likewise in coyne, but only serueth to telling of things good, and that I holde doe make a *Tanga*. 1662 J Davies tr *Mandelslo's Trav* II (1669) 86 Eight of these *Basaruccas* make a *Vintin*. 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & P* 300 The *Tanga*, 5 *Vintens* 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy S Seas* 206 We had hitherto been supply d at the Rate of eight Vintins each Lunch *per* Day 1775 in Ash *Pocket Lettrig* & *Sp* 22 Exacting more at about three halfpence per head 1805 T Lindley *Voy Brazil* 260 The ships sell the beef on board by retail, at two vintins a pound.

β 1598 W Phillip tr *Linschoten* I xxxv 66/1 Portuguese Coins The Vintain whereof they have two sorts, the one Silver and the other Billon 1819 J H Vaux *Mem* I 218 They stop only 1 penny [water ] vessel for which they receive a vintain

γ 1736 Chandler *Hist Persecc* 183 Dr Geddes tells us of one who was ordered no more than three Vintems a day a Vintem is about an English penny farthing 1801 Southey in C C Southey *Life* (1849) II 130 The ferry price was 40 reis, one vintem more than three Vintems a piece, is shilling 1820 *Pennny Cycl* XV 326/2 At Rio de Janeiro there are vintems of copper also current for 20 rees 1856 H Owen *Here & There in Portugal* 122 I purchased for three *vintems* (a trifle more than three pence), a cap tal figure of a negro dandy

† **Vintenary.** *Obs rare* Also are [ad med L *vintenarius*, f *vintēnum* twenty of next ] A military officer in command of twenty men

*c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* 540 Sir John Ward, knyght, with x Centenynes and vij vyntenaries. *Ibid* 541 Sir Howell Griffith with vj Capitaynes, and iij M CC Walsh men

† **Vintener.** *Obs rare* [ad OF *vintenier* (*vingt* ), f *vintene* Vintaine ] = prec

*c* 1450 *Cov in Myst* 241 The nombre of pe retenue that is to say of erles, Constables, Centeners, capteyns, vyntenars Archers and horsbak [etc.]. 1832 [see next].

† **Vinteney.** *Obs rare* [f Of *vintiene, vintene* Vintaine ] = Vintaine

1533 *Chron Calais* (Camden) 156 One vintener with his hole vinteney shall kepe the stand watche *Ibid* 157 Ile saide vintener and constables shall not depart more than fyve of the vinteney and nj of the constables at one tyme

**Vinter.** *Obs* Forms α 3 vintenere, 5 vinetr, 5 vyntere, vyntier, 5 vinter AF *vinter vinetr, vyn , vintier*, OF. and early mod F *vinet(t ier* (= Pr *vintatier*, It *vinattiere*, Sp *vinatero*, Pg *vinhateiro*, med l *vinetarius, vinatarius*) wine-seller, f L *vinum* wine ] A vintner.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11256 In pe soulphalf of pe toune & pe vinteneres 1340 *Ayenb* 144 Ine pe vyntieres *Ballad* in Percy *Reliq* I 1 The vintere troste be n er was vintiere bi breke pe vintere 1428 *E E Wills* (1882) 77 John Toker, Citezein and Vinetr of London *c* 1430 Lydg. *Mir Chorch* (Percy Soc.) 192 I he vintere troste be of his hoboun wynes Of gentille frute lostethe the gardener 1486 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 10 John Wolf alyas late Citezen & vynter of london

‖ Etym = Vi ntaress, Vi ntneress.

1681 Rycaut tr *Gracian's Critick* III The Nobles were served with Cups of Gold which a pretty Nimph, the Vinteress of the House presented. 1708 Countess of Wilton in *Ann Reg* (1758) 1 [Alteration of Vinter ] One who deals in or sells wine , a wine-merchant , † an innkeeper selling wine

a *c* 1430 Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 211 Masouns, carpenteryes, of Yngeloud and of Fraunce, Bakerys, browsterys, vyntneryes, with fresh hyeour *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 510 Vyntenere, *vinarius* *c* 1470 *Cath Angl* 402/1 (Add. MS.), Vyntyner 1596 *Hugo Pers* (W de W 1532) 85 Or as the vyntenar groweth frely to his customars or byeres a taste of his wyne. 1530 in W. H Turner *Select Rec Oxford* (1880) 91 No vyntoner should sell any wyne a broche 1587 Harrison *England* II vi (1877) 1 149 Such [wine] as was anie waies mingled or brued by the vintener 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III 156 I hey had not our Vintners fraud to mixe their Wines 1636 J Taylor (Water P ) *Iorn Segnes Zodeach* A v b, All the worthy Company of Vin toners 1660-70 Maxwell *Cyder* Wks. (Gosaert) II 301 One Mr Waldow, a vintener, was represented as notoriously faulty

b *c* 1460 *Promp Parv* (Winch. MS.) Vyntnere, *vinarius* 1483 *Cath Angl* 402/1 A vyntner , *vinetor, merothecarius* 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict Octopalus*, a tauerner or vintner 1570 B Googe *Pop Kingd* IV (1880) 54 Straight after this comes Vrban in, the Vintners God deuine 1598 Greene *Upst Courtier* G ij, Now sir for the vintner, hee is an honest substantiall man, a friend to al good fellowes. 1605 Breton *Old Man s Lesson* B ij, The Vintner, the Grocer, the Comfit maker doe by the venting of their wares, the better maintaine their trades 1657 Trapp *Comm Joh* xxiii 3 They may here learn not to backster the Word of God or corrupt it with their own mixtures, as Vintners do their wines. 1689 *Lond Gaz* No 2485/4 Charles Courtney Vintner and Partner with Theodor 1795 Hamilton Jenny *Sound Building* List of Subs , Mr Peter Hudson, of Richmond Vintner 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* 6 April, Mr Put ruight think it an advantage to a thing for him to make him a vintner, and get him all the Portugal trade; but [etc ] 1820 Crabbe *Borough* V 195 Uncheck d, the vintner thinks he possess ench [etc ] 1600 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 653 Once merely from a malignant whim, he stood all the wine in a vintner s cellar 1880 Dixon *Windsor* III xxxi 306 A vintner was a big man in Elizabeth s time

† b. *Merchant vintner* = Merchant *sb* 1 and Merchant tailor, etc ] *Obs.*

1538–3 *Act 34 Hen VIII, c* 6 If at the tyme of any suche sale of Wyne purposed to be made, the merchaunt vyntener, or other owner thereof, do declare [etc ] 1600 *Chester Pl* Proem (Shaks. Soc ) And you, worthy marchaunte vintners that nowe have plenty of wine, Amplifye the storie of those wyne Knights of Rome

Hence **Vi ntneress,** a female vintner. **Vi ntnership,** the occupation or position of a vintner **Vi ntnery,** the trade of a vintner ; wine-selling

1641 ] Johnson *Acad Law* 89 Hosts and Vint'neresses looke to your score 1675 in Walker *Educ* 67 He that lives abstemously needs not study the wholesomness of this meat, nor is critical in cookery and vintnership 1816 Struthers *Poet Wks* (1850) I 148 Before engaging in the templ g career, let them look well into how they will enjoy a Vintnership 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* II v ii, Unless the father of him did, in an unexceptionable manner, perform Cookery and Vintnery in the Village of Quatre-Vingts.

† **Vinton.** *Obs* [Obscurely related to Vintenary or Vintener ] (See quots )

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* I 975 The whole country [i e the Isle of Wight] is divided into 11 eleven parts and every of them hath three severall Centonry, which they call say Centurion, their Vintons also, leaders as it were of twenty 1751 *Ing Gazetteer's* v *Wight Island*, The militia here is divided into 11 bands, over each of which is an officer, called a centurion, though he commands more than 100 men ; and the inferior officers are called vintons.

**Vinton,** obs f Vintner, Vintone, obs. f Vine tree. **Vintress** see Vinteress.

**Vintry** (vi ntri). Now *arch* or *Hist.* Forms . 3 vinitherie, 5 vyntrye, 6 vyntry, 5–6 vyntre (6 ventre), 6 vyne , vintree, -trie, 6, 8 vintrie, 6– vintry [† Vinter + -y see -ery ] A place where wine is sold or stored, a wine shop, a wine-vault, or a number of these

1297 [see Vinter] 14 *Joc in* Wr Wulcker 610/20 *Vinitria*, vynetye 1593 P Prulpace *Bocchus Bononia* C3, Claudius Tiberius, for the reale hee had to the vintree, was merely termed *Calitus Ibernus mero* 1901 *Contemp. Rev* May 728 In the markets, restaurants, and taverns, Jesus saw that men s faces were not joyful and friendly

b With *the* (and usually with initial capital)

A large wine store formerly existing in the City of London , also, the immediate neighbourhood of this as a part of the city

The name survives in the designation of the church St Martin Vintry, now united with St. Michael Paternoster Royal and All Hallows the Great and Less

a 1856 Morgan *Ballad* (Reading), At a souper of forcheit merchande in the Vyntre in London *a* 1540 Skelton *Replye* Wks. 1843 I 208 I hey suge them selfe able to be Doctours of the chayre in the Vintry *Ballad* in The Three Cranes 1556 *Chron Gr I rians* (Camden) 86 Item the furst day of february [1554] the qwenes grace came un to the ȝelde halle of Londone, & wente hame ageyne by water at the Crane in the ventre 1557 in Marsden *Cases in Adm* (Selden) II 98 Haye Wharf or the Three Cranes in the Vyntree. 1598 Stow *Surv* 191 Then next ouer against St Martins church, is a large house builded for the ease of such as come with vaults for the stowage of wines, & is called the Vintry *1689 Misc Gt Br Dict* II, Vintry, a great Place for selling of Wine. (hence in Phillips 1706 and 1720) *Pennant London* 310 In this neighborhood was the great house called the *Vintry*, with vast wine vaults beneath 1886 Stow *Woodst* 171, The bargain was made in a cellar in the Vintry 1836 Herbert *Livery Companies Lond* II. 630 St. Martin in the Vintry was, in the reign of Edward I, called St. Martin Baremanne church

*attrib* 1598 Stow *Surv* 189 The Vintry ward, so called of Vintners, and of the Vintre.

**Vinue,** variant of Vinew *sb. Obs*

**Viny** (voi ni), *a.* Also 6–7 vinie, 7, 9 viney [f Vine *sb* + -y ]

1 Of or pertaining to, of the nature of, vines ; composed or consisting of vines.

1570 B Googe *Pop Kingd* IV 54 Fast vpon his head a crowne of vine leaues is wounde 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III xxxiv 498 Both the nourishment and vnie qualitie of the stocke of the said vine 1624 *Trag Nero* I.

ill In Bullen *Old Pl.* (1882) I 29 Not Bacchus drawn from Nisa downe with Tigers, Curbing with viny rains their wilful heads. 1912 tr *Pomet's Hist Drugs* I. 143/2 *Cote vuinidia* is a Fruit that grows upon a climbing, or viny Plant 1715 POPE *Iliad* II 701 Whom strong Tyrinthe's lofty walls surround, And Epidaure with viny harvests crown'd 1816 *Ann Reg., Chron* 139 The cranberry is of the low and viny kind 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed 3) 213 Who enter are by kindest angels clad in robes Woven of sunset clouds, while viny wreaths Gemberries bearing form their coronals

**b** *fig* Of an embrace Clinging, close

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV (1605) 305 These unfortunate louers not forgetting with vnite embracements, to giue any eye a perfect modell of affection.

**2** Abounding in, full of, or covered with vines, bearing or producing vines.

1812 DRAYTON *Polyolb* XV 109 The Skeld the goodly Mose, the rich and Viny Rheine, Shall come to meet the Thames 1633 P FLETCHER *Isle Aet* II XIII From thence he furrow'd many a churlish sea, The viny Rhene, and Volgha's self did passe. 1680 BOGHEAD *Gr. & Rom Germany* (1685) 135 Wurtzburg, environed with Meadows Gardens, and Vinie Downs 1709 BENTON *Dod Lindy Harley* 104 (1790) 375 Trophies adorn'd on Gallia's viny plains. 1735 THOMSON *Liberty* I 58 Baum's viny coast; where peaceful seas ever kiss the shore. 1841 W SPALDING *Italy & It Isl* I 377 The steepest, but most lovely of pleasure-paths, conducts through viny woods and white villas to [etc.]. 1854 F TENNYSON *Days & Hours* 87 Whisper of viny hills, and sands of gold!

**3.** *Comb.*, as *viny-crowned* adj

1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* 122 Twas too sad For viny crowned Thalia.

**Vinyl** (vəi nil). *Chem* [f L *vin-um* + YL] The compound univalent radical $CH_2CH$, isomeric with ethenyl, and characteristic of many derivatives of ethylene (which is the hydride of vinyl). Also *attrib*

1863 WATTS *Dict Chem* I 675 Bromide of vinyl, $C^{bH}$ Br 1879 — *Fownes Chem* (ed 11) 601 Vinyl alcohol is produced by combining ethine or acetylene with sulphuric acid, whereby vinyl sulphuric acid is f rmed *Ibid* 612 The univalent radical vinyl may be supposed to exist in it [vinyl alcohol]

**Vinzhe,** obs form of VINE *sb*

**Viol** (vəi əl), *sb*[1] Forms *a.* 5 vyell, 6 7 viall, vyall (6 wyall), 7 vial. *β* 6 veol, 6–7 viole (7 vyolle), viol (7 vyoll), 7– viol (7 vyol) [Orig ad AF and OF. *viele, vielle* (see VIELLE), but subsequently assimilated, so far as placed by, OF and F *viole* (= It, Sp, Pg *viola*, Prov *viula*).

† That OF *viole* and *vielle* represent earlier **vidule* and **videlle* (with variant forms of the diminutive suffix) is indicated by the med.L. *vitula, vidula*. On the relation of these to Germanic forms, see the note to FIDDLE *sb*[1]

**1.** A musical instrument (in common use from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century) having five, six, or seven strings and played by means of a bow

Now *Hist* or *arch*

*a.* 1483 CAXTON *G de la Tour* K vj, Syre Geffroy called hym before hym and demaunded hym where hys vyell and cluay cordes were *c* 1500–34 *Cov Corpus Chr. Pl* I 538 The whyle that I do rest, Trompettis, vialles and othur armone schal blys the wrkyng of my mynde in hevyn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II 170 He spyed lyeng beside hym an harp and a vyall wheron he coude well play 1540 *Rutland MSS* (Hist MSS Comm) IV 304 To a man to helpe to bryng the wyalls betwixt Croxton and Belwer ij *d* 1578 E CLIFFE in Hakluyt *Voy* (1600) III 751 I they were exceedingly delighted with the sound of the trumpets, and shalles. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 102 If any Man think that the String of the Bow, and the String of the Viall, are neither of them Equall Bodies he is in an Error. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Sept., So home and find Mercer playing on her Vyall, which is a pretty instrument. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr* II. (1847) 336 Christiana could play upon the Viol

*B* 1542 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* VIII 149 To be x pair of hous to the four playeris on the veolis, four trumpettis of ware and twa taburnettis of tyn HERLE (GERNEY) *Hous* v 23 For I will not heare the melodie of thy violes. 1581 MARBECK *Bk of Notes* 545 Sing vnto him with Viole, a iid instrument of ten strings 1604 DEKKER *Ant. & Lanthorne* Wks (1873) I 307 Then shall the Boyes sa ug the Psalme following to their viols and other instruments. *a* 1609 HINDE *Y Brune* III (1642) 10 By occasion of Musitians and a chest of Viols kept in the house, he was drawn by desire and delight into the Dancing schoole. 1676 T MACE *Musick Mon* 247 The Viol is an Instrument very much in use 1748 YOUNG *Nt Th* I 745 Dost call the bowl the viol, and the dance, Loud mirth, mad laughter? 1776 HAWKINS *Hist Musick* IV iii 339 Compositions of many parts adapted to viols, of which there are many 1837 BUSBY *Dict Mus* s v, The viol was for a long while in such high esteem as to dispute the pre-eminence with the harp 1839 *Lower Black Knight* v, Pipe and viol call the dances, Torch light through the high halls glances. 1875 POSTHUM *Marolica* x 88 On another [cup] are the figures of a gentleman and a lady who plays the viol, in the costume of the 15th or early 16th century

† **b** One who plays a viol *Obs rare.*

1540 in *Vicary's Anat* (1888) App xli 241 Item, for Hans Highorne, Viall, wagis, xxxiij *s* iij *d* 1647 L. HAWARD *Cromw Rev* 25 Musicians and Players, Six Sackbuts: Eight Viols: Three Drumsticks.

**2** With distinguishing terms, denoting esp the form or tone of the instrument

See also BASS VIOL, *gamba viol* GAMBA[1] 2 [quots 1598, 1710], *lyra viol* LYRA 5 and VIOL DA GAMBA

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 250, I heard much good musicke, especially that of a treble viol. 1676 [see VIOL DA GAMBA 1]. 1684 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Oct., The new instrument was brought called the Arched Viall, being tuned with lute-strings, and played on with keas like an organ 1724 *Short Explic For Wds in Mus Bks Viola Bastard* a Bastard Viol, which as a Bass Violin, strung and fretted like a Bass Viol 1730 BAILEY (fol.) *Viola Tenore* a Tenor Viol Ital. 1876 DUBOURG *Violin* I (1878) 7 The *viol* class —consisting of the *viol d'amore*, or treble viol the *viol da bracca* or tenor viol: and the *viol da gamba*, or great viol 1889 *Cowen Dict Mus* IV 267 *Viola di Fagotto* (Bassoon Viol), a name sometimes given to the Viola Bastarda.

**b** *Viol d'amore* or *d'amour* (see quot. 1801).

Cf *viola d'amore* s v VIOLA[2] The F form *viole d'amour* is also occasionally employed

*a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov 1679, The *viol d'amore* of 5 wyre strings plaied on with a bow 1700 TH BROOKE *Pool of Quail* (1809) III 145 The psaltery the *viol d'amour*, and other instruments 1801 BUSBY *Dict Music, Viol d'Amour*, or *Love Viol* a viol, or violin furnished with six brass or steel wires, instead of sheep-gut, and usually played with a bow [1856 MRS C CLARKE tr *Berlioz Instrumentation* 29 The viole d amour is peculiarly appropriate to chords of three, four, or more notes] 1880 SHORT HOUSE *Englesant* xxiii, If you could accompany me for some months, with your viol d'amore, across the mountains.

1889 *Daily News* 25 Jan 2/2 Two performers upon that once obsolete but recently revived instrument, the viol d amore

† **3** A variety of organ-stop *Obs*[-1]

1688 BIBL SMITH in Hopkins *Organ* (1870) 453 Choir Organ A Violl and Violin, of mettle, 61 pipes, 12 foote.

**4.** *attrib* and *Comb.*, as *viol bow, case, class, -lesson, -play, -pieces, -string, viol maker, -tuning*

*a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play house to Let* Wks (1673) 76 A man may bring a Pageant through the streets As privatly upon my Bishop's back; As a burden of Viol cases hither 1674 PLAYFORD *Music* 101 In the choice of your Viol Bow, let it be proportioned to the Viol you use. 1676 T MACE *Musick Mon* 158 Thus may either the Best Directions in Viol Play *Ibid* 264 Viol Lessons of all sorts of the Newest and Suitable to the Five Best of the Viol Tunings 1680 *Miscel Curios for Lovers* II A Viol-maker. *vn Faustus de Violes.* 1776 HAWKINS *Hist Music* IV iii viii 342 That sweet and delicate tone which distinguishes the viol species 1856 [see 3] 1897 H N HOWARD *Footsteps Prospective* 14 The viol string is the thinnest of all strings.

Hence *Viol v intr*, to play the viol *rare*[-1]

1865 J M LUDLOW *Epics Mid Ages* II 212 A thousand dancing, and a thousand violling

† **Viol-and-bow.** *Obs* Also 7 vial, violl, vyoll, 8–9 voyol, 9 voyal [Of obscure origin] (See later quots)

1627 CAPT SMITH *Seaman's Cram* II 8 The viol is fastened together at both ends with an eye or two with a viall and bow passed together. 1652 C CARTWRIGHT *Dial Sen Services* (1686) 256. 1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I 1 *Must within* Our viol's broke *Vent. within* Tis but a viol-and-bow I can give you 1721 W SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild Assist* 153 Viol cabl'd as big as the Fore Stay *Ibid* 165 *Viol*, a large Hawser used to heave in the Cable 1769 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780) *Viol*, a large rope used to unmoor, or heave up the anchors of a ship, by transmitting the effort of the capstern to the cables. 1841 W H DANA *Seaman's Manual* 133 *Viol* or *Voyol*, a larger messenger sometimes used in weighing an anchor by a capstan [Cf 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 713 *Viol* or *Voyol*, a large messenger formerly used to assist in weighing an anchor by the capstan.] 1869 W M THOMPSON *Hugo's Toilers of Sea* 191 Its chain was there and might still be of service, unless the strain of the voyol should break away the fastening

**b** *attrib*, esp in *viol block*

1667 [see above]. 1694 in *Navy Board Latt* XXIX 833 Blocks. Vyoll of 54 inch 1752 SMOLLETT *Per Pic* LXIII He may man his capstans and viol block if he wool but he ll as soon heave up the Pole of Teneriff as bri g his anchor aweigh! 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I 157 *Voyol or Viol Block* a large single sheaved block. It is used in heaving up the anchor 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 713 *Viol or Voyol Block* a large single sheaved block through which the messenger passed when the anchor was weighed by the fore or after capstan. *Ibid*, This voyal purchase]

**Viol,** obs. form of VIAL.

**Viola**[1] (vəi ălă) [a L. *viola* violet]

† **1.** The violet. Also *fig Obs rare*

*c* 1430 LYDG *Minor Poems* (1911) 300 Haile freshe Rose, pleinted of nature, Haile Viola, violet, thou sonner shal fade, *c* 1580 HENRYSON *Fabl* 2, *Lion & Mouse* 16 The Rois rest The Prymeros and the Purpour Viola

**2.** A botanical genus of herbaceous plants of the order *Violaceæ*, including violets and pansies, a plant or species of this genus

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict* (as Latin generic name, and so in many later Dicts) 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 345/2 The principle species separated by botanists from some species of Viola *Ibid*, The capsule is like Viola. 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 241/2 The violas are credited with powerful emetic and diuretic properties. 1904 *Westm. Gaz* 23 July 4/6 The Alpine viola, in wondrous shades of mauve and violet and purple, stands an inch above the grass.

**b** A hybrid garden plant of this genus, distinguished from the pansy by a more delicate and uniform colouring of the flowers.

1891 *Field* II 250/2 There is still a good early flowering white Viola wanted 1898 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 241/2 Bedding violas,' which differ from pansies in some slight technical details, have been raised by crossing *V. lutea* with *V calcarata*. 1899 *Westm Gaz.* 29 Nov 1/3 Patches of pale mauve and purple show where colonies of violas and pansies are in bloom

*attrib* 1891 *Field* II 250/2 Another manifest want in the Viola tribe 1896 *Daily News* 22 June 3/5 Viola Show — The first show of the National Viola Society was held on Saturday afternoon

**3.** *attrib.* In chemical terms denoting substances derived from the violet or pansy

1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1001 *Violin*, or *Viola-Emetin*, an emetic substance contained according to Boullay in all parts of the comm on violet 1887 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* V 490/2 Little if anything of value has been found in pansy a glucoside, violaquercitrin, of probably no active properties and a little salicylic acid

‖ **Viola**[2] (vɪ|ō·lă) [It. and Sp. *viola*, = F. *viole* VIOL *sb*[1]]

**1.** A four stringed musical instrument slightly larger than a violin, the alto or tenor violin

1797 SOUTHEY *Lett Resid. Spain* XV 265 The King of Spain wished to hear his daughter play on the viola, and an express was sent to Lisbon for her instrument 1801 BUSBY *Dict Mus Viola* a tenor violin The part it takes in concert is between that of the bass and the second violin 1845 E HOLMES *Mozart* I 74 The father took the bass part on the viola, Wenzl played the first violin, I the second 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq* XXVIII, Colney brought his viola for a duet

*attrib* 1856 MRS C CLARKE tr *Berl on Instrumentation* 25 Viola players were always taken from among the refuse of violinists.

**b** One who plays the viola

1894 *Daily News* 25 Apr 5 Herr Ludwig Strauss for many years viola in the quartet at the Monday Popular Concerts.

**c** A variety of organ stop

1876 HIGGS *Catech Organ* (1878) 65 *Viol*[1] an open stop of narrow measure, and a particularly soft and agreeable tone

**2** *Viola da* (also *di*) *gamba*, = VIOL DA GAMBA I

1724 *Short Explic For Wds in Mus Bks Viola Da Gamba*, is the same as *Viola Basso*, or Bass Viol 1727 *Ars n Reg*, *Chron* 220/1 The Viola di Gamba is not an instrument in general use and will perhaps die with him but his performance rendered it exquisitely charming 1885 *Daily News* 17 Aug 6 5 (Stanf.), The early 18th century room contains the spinet the viola da gamba, and the viola d amore

**b** = VIOL DA GAMBA 2

1876 HIGGS *Catech Organ* as (1878) 66 *Viola di Gamba* or *Gamba*, is of tin or wood, and the tone is soft and veiled, what cutting 1889 E J PAYNE in *Grove Dict Mus* IV 367 Under the incorrect title of Viola da Gamba it designates an organ stop of 8 ft pitch, with open pipes, in the choir organ

**3** *Viola d amore* (or †*d'amour*) see VIOL I 2 b

1724 *Short Explic For Wds in Mus Bks*, *Viola D'Amour*, a kind of Treble Viol, strung with Wire, and so called because of its soft and sweet Tone 1885 [see 2]. 1889 *Grove Dict Mus* IV 367

**Violable** (vəi ălăb l), *a* [ad L (poet) *violābilis*, f *violare* to violate So OF *violable*, It *violabile*, Ig *violavel*]

†**1** Destructive *Obs*[-1]

*a* 1470 HARDING *Chron* LII II YE Pightes & fugitives Destroyed the lande by wa re full violable

**2** Capable of being violated, in senses of the vb

1552 HULOET, Violable, or that may be defiled or easy to be violated, *violabilis* 1612 SHELTON *Illustr Drayton's Pol* xiii xvi 255 Churches, Plough-s and High waies al old h ue le erties of Sanctuarie by no authoritie violable 1633 MARMION *Fine Con pmion* III 1 Alas my heart is Tender and violable with the least weapon Sorrow can dart at me 1674 *Case of Bankers & Creditors* Introd 4 The Subjects property is not violable but by his own consent 1858 BUCKNALL *Serm New Life* 347 If God had no violable sympathy he would be anything but a perfect character 1888 J MARTINEAU *Types Eth Th* I 331 A rule which Spinoza treats as absolute, and will not allow to be violable even to save one s life.

Hence **Violableness,** † capableness of being violated[1] (Bailey, 1727) vol II[1]

**Viola cean,** *a. rare*[-1] [-ACEAN] next

*a* 1721 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks 1721 II 162 The Hyac nth of violacean Hue The purple Amethyst and Sapphire blue

**Violaceous** (vəiōle·ʃəs), *a* [f L. *violace us* VIOLET + -ACEOUS]

**1** Of a violet colour, purplish blue

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou s Disp* 408 Incra sated by coction to make it more violaceous 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh* 175 (A transparent st ne) of an Amethy stine violaceous colour, and a genuin luster 1790 SHAW *Nat Hist* III § 2 The Violaceous Partridge 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool* XI 1 42 The inferior tail-cove rs are white h with violace us tinges towards the ends of the feathers 1826 KIRBY *Entom* IV 17 The flowers differ in having the violaceous tint mixed with the crimson in the texture of the flower 1876 DURRING *Dis Eczema* 29 In color they possess a dull red or even violaceous hue.

**b** Qualifying names of colours.

1790 SHAW *Nat Misc* III 8 n, Violaceous-blackish Partridge with a cast of green 1802 — *Gen Zool* III ii 321 Violaceous brown Snake *Ibid* 549 Violaceous-green Snake. 1808 STARK *Elem Nat Hist.* I 198 Violaceous black; sides of the wing and tail feathers white. 1854 H *Perceval Polarised Light* (ed 2) 268 The extraordi ary violaceous blue tint which immediately precedes the yellow tint red

**2** *Bot* Belonging to or resembling the order *Violaceæ*.

Hence **Viola ceously** *adv*

1888 *Harper's Mag* Aug 336 The stricken flesh changes color spots violaceously

**Vi|olal,** *a.* and *sb. Bot* [f VIOLA[1]] **a.** *adj* Resembling or related to the genus *Viola*. **b** *sb pl* The ' violal alliance ' in Lindley's classification

1846 LINDLEY *Nat Assng* 320 They seem evidently to join the Violal Alliance *Ibid* 325 A perigy nous form of Violals. *Ibid* 338 Violal Exogens, with polypetalous flowers.

**Violan** (vəi ălăn) *Mus* [f L *viola* VIOLA[1], named by A Breithaupt, 1838] (See quots)

1850 ANSTED *Elem Geol Main* etc § 407 Pistacite Vio lane Withamite are either synonyms or varieties of Epidote 1857 DANA *Min* (1862) 182 Violan is a dark violet blue mineral resembling glaucophane 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1000 *Violan*, a silicate of aluminium, calcium magnesium, and sodium It occurs massive, and in indistinct elongated, granular concretions

**Violan(d,** obs. variants of VIOLIN

**Violant,** obs form of VIOLENT *v*

**Violantin** (*vaɪ*ˈlæntɪn) *Chem* Also -ine [f L *viola* VIOLA 1 + ALLOX)ANTIN] 'A compound containing the elements of violuric and dilituric acids' (Watts)

1866 W ODLING *Anim Chem* 128 Baeyer has increased the list of compounds by his discovery of pseudo uric acid hydantoic viola tine (etc ) 1873 WATTS *Fow as Chem* (ed 11) 939 Hydurilic acid with nitric acid of ordinary strength yields alloxan together with violuric acid, viol antin, and dilituric acid

**Violar,** variant of VIOLER

**+ Vi olary.** *Obs*—1 [ad L *violarium*, f *viola* VIOLA 1] A violet bed

1657 THORNLEY tr *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 182 The Violaries how are they spurned and trodden down!

**Viola scent,** *a rare* ° [f L *viola* VIOLA 1] 'Approaching a violet colour' (Smart, 1840)

**+ Violastre** *Obs*—1 [a OF *violastre* (mod F *violâtre*) violaceous] (See quot)

c 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) xiv 186 There ben also Diamandes in Ynde that ben cleped Violastres (for here colour is liche Violet or more browne than the Violetteye

**Vi olate,** *pa pple* and *ppl a* Now only *poet* Also **violated,** 6-8 -ate, 6 **violate,** *Sc* **weol ait** [ad L *violat us*, pa pple of *violare* see next ]

1 Characterized by impurity or defilement

c 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) iii 1557 Now lord of lordes, to pi blyssyd name sanctyfyed, most mekely my feyth I recummend Pott don by the spyll of manneistes violate! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v 1 12 For weill wist Eneas In violait [L *polute*] luif quhat things myclit be controvit By wemen in fury rage that stra tgite lovit 1594 *Warres Cyrus* 1 3 The prince bare my daughter thence with violate hands Vnto his pallace 1896 MRS H KING *Dis tables Agesilao Milano* (1873) 300 Hath not the lesson ben, Who makest of this lovely land God's garden, A nation violate corrupt, accurst

2 As *pa pple* Violated, in various senses of the verb, subjected to violation or injury

1503 HAWES *Examp Virt* VII 112 Mayden and moder yet not violate *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII 321 The peace was, by the kyng violate and broken 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 337 Wherwith a parte of the mate ie of kyng is violate. 1590 H HARROW *Brief Discoverie* 4 That heaue ly patterne left by the Apostles was soone violate *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom* II xi § 5 (1622) 203 If Iustice may be violate for any cause at all 1675 MARVELL *Corr* Wks. (Grosart) II 479 It was declared a d resolved to be an undoubted ancient standing order not to be violated. 1733 W CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 159 The law of innocency being violate by man s apostacy 1847 I ENNYSON *Prine* VI 44 And now O maids behold our sa ntuary Is violate our laws broken

**b.** = VIOLATED *ppl a*

1555 *Theophania* 169 My fathers blood Agnessas languishing purels my violate marriage, raused several passions.

**Violate** (*vaɪ*ˈlēɪt), Forms 5 **violati,** 6 **-at,** 5–6 **violat(e,** 6 **voyolate,** *Sc* **violate, violet,** 7– **violate.** [f L *violat*, ppl stem of *violare* to treat with violence, to outrage, dishonour, injure, etc.]

1. *trans* To break, infringe, or transgress un justifiably, to fail duly to keep or observe a An oath or promise, one's faith, etc

1450-80 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 41 His bloode be schedde to lyke vesye that dothe violate and breke this bonde of luffe 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1532) 187 I haue despoused you to a noble man se yt you violate not your fayth & spousage 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb) 30 If any man be afraid to violat the oth of obedience which they haue made to suche monsters 1598 FLORIO *Ital*, IV iii 97 Ah but it is m ne ofte violated Lord Which I m ne oth science may not violate 1624 CAPT SMITH *Virginia* III vii 76 Your promise I find euery day violated by some of your subiects 1652 HOBBES *Leviath* I xiv 68 A Power set up to constrain those that would otherwise violate their faith 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas V* VII Wks 1813 III 51 The s ie ency of violating a recent and solemn engagement 1777 R WATSON *Philip II* II (1839) 25 Being convinced that Henry would ever violate the truce of Vaucelles 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 57 Fearing lest the sight of the fertile land might tempt the Herafeeds to violate their compact with him 1844 H H WILSON *Brit Indian* I 189 These arrangements were scarcely concluded when the Raja manifested h disposition to violate them. 1878 BROWN 190 *La Saussas* 18 She violates the bond

b A law, commandment, rule, etc

1552 HULOET Violate s laws or custome *soluere legem uel morem* 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 105 Thou praisest ye Empresse for instituting good lawes, and grieuest to see them violated by the Ladyes. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek* XXII 26 Her priests haue violated my law a d haue prophaned mine holy things 1651 HOBBES *Leviath* II XXVII 173 He which does Injury should suffer punishment without other limitation than that of his Will whose Law is thereby violated 1692 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 363 If we live contrary to this we violate the Law of him that made us 1726 *Swore Gulliver* II VII Power, liberty and dominion All which however happily tempered by the laws of that kingdom, have been sometimes violated by each of the three parties 1774 BURKE *Corr* (1844) I 485, I have not usually made any scruple to violate, in some degree, the strict letter and *summum jus* of decorum and propriety 1836 J GILBERT *Chr Atonem* VII (1853) 204 It is of the essence of atonement that while it protects all rights it must not violate any 1841 W SPALDING *Italy & It Lit* I 126 The sovereig is resolved to violate then own late protections of non intervention 1875 MANNING *Mission of Ghost* I 21 The predestination of God in no way violates or takes away the perfect liberty of the human will

c Abstract and moral qualities, etc

1588 A DYCE *Hutch Philos* Wks (1901) 253 First wold I that the puished earth did t ue, Ere I to lose or violate my chastity begine 1671 MILTON *Samson A* 893 An impious crew Of men violating the ends For which our country is a name so de r 1728 WOLLASTON *Relig Nat* VII 137 He th it would not violate truth, must avoid all injustice *a* 1745 SWIFT *Hen I* Wks 1768 IV 290 He was a strict observer of justice which he seems never to have violated. 1794 PALEY *Evid* III VII (1817) 369 Differences of opinion accompanied with mutual charity, which Christianity forbids them to violate 1836 J GILBERT *Chr Atonem* III (1853) 62 Let not the Rationalists be suffered, in the very name of justice sacred as it is to violate justice 1892 TENNYSON *Dawn* III The press easily violates virgin Truth for a coin or a cheque

2 To ravish or outrage (a woman)

*c* 1440 *Alph Tales* 57 I hafe violitt & fyld many mens wyvis & ser chuldre *a* 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* cxiii 398 He wyll violate this mayde in my presence ryght nat man shulde be so hardy on payne of dethe to vyolat any woman, or deflowre any mayd 1585 J WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* 1 xxiii 38 Where he sawe his wife that his daughter violated and violated 1611 COTGR, *Forcer*, to violate force, or rauish (as a woman) 1656 PHILLIPS (ed 5) 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No 117 ¶ 2 She was discovered by Neptune, and violated after a long and unsuccessful Importunity 1736 SHERLOCK *Disc* (1759) I XIII 344 We grutify our Lust by violating his Wife or Daughter 1841 LIPSHITSTON *Rist Jul* I 8 Julius young man having attempted to violate the wife of a Bramin, was imprisoned 1879 FIFE COOKSON *With Armies of Balkans* 38 It was alledged however that they [the Cossacks] committed wanton excesses and their own, violating, all the Turkish women they could find

*absol.* 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 951 Impale the remnant of the Greeks and despoil Violate! make their flesh cheaper than dust!

3 To do violence to, to treat irreverently, to desecrate, dishonour, profane, or defile

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XXI 76, I haue not rented, violated no temple, the priuylege of the sepulture I a 1500 *Chester Pl* (Shaks. Soc) I 217 His man Is not of God Which doth violyate the Sabaoth daye 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II 227 Quha ever with wond does hurt or violat Hyr haly body onto me dedicat. 1548 UDALL etc *Erasm Par John* XIII 135 A place perdye detestable and violated with all kynde of wickednes W 1611 COTGR, *Violateur*, a violater of Lawe 13 Gods ministery is an holy and sacred thing, in thin ght not to be violated 1635 PAGITT *Christianos graphie* II 61 (1636) 109 Any chancel or church violated with slaughter 1641 *Smectymnuus* 1 vii 277 Some of the most famous and richest temples were violated and ransacked 1849 JAMES *Woodman* IX, It would be seared and the sanctuary violated *refl* 1606 SHAKS *Ant & Cl* III iv 24 Experience, Man hood, Honor, ne re before Did violate so st selfe.

b To destroy (a person's chastity) by force

1590 *Mother Bombie* 38 I am not more grieued, that attempts To violate my deare wyues chastitie 1610 SHAKS *Temp* I ii 348 Thou didst seeke to violate The honor of my child 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm* IV 213 The civil law not allowed any punishment for violating the chastity of her, who hath indeed no chastity at all

c To interfere with by appropriation

1823 LAMB *Elia* II *Oxford in Vacation* A particular elbow chair was appropriated to him, which was in no case to be violated 1840 DICKENS *Old C Shop* XXV, No boy attempted to violate the sanctity of seat or peg

**+ 4** To vitiate, corrupt, or spoil, esp in respect of physical qualities. *Obs*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 98 If wee consyder the large nes and wydenes of the mouthes of the famous ryuer of Inder and the violence of the streame wherwith he waloweth with theu freshenes 1598 YONG *Diana* 61 But this mischeiuous absence doth violate and dissolue those thinges which men thinke to be most strong and firme 1620 VENNER *In Mischief* VII 79 Your sweet physique, violate the lungs, and soone offend the stomack by their windie and cloying substance 1656 STANLEY *Hist Philos* IV iii (1687) 141/2 He said, that Lightning is a violent separation of Wood, acquire a solidity not to be violated by moisture

**+ b** To damage or injure by violence *Obs*

1595 DANIEL *Civ Wars* I lxxxiii, Like to a River that is stopt by Art, which violate his Banks 1606 G WILKES *Locke Hist Iustine* XLIV 136 For first it hieth not within the raging heate of the Sunne, as Affricke doth neither is it violated with outragious winds like Europe 1634 T JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg* XV XIV (1678) 333 If the fracture violate the spinal marrow contained therein then the Patient can scarce scape death 1658 EVELYN *Fr Gard* (1675) 208 Couch it down without violating any of the leaves 1678 J ROSE *Eng Vineyard Vind* 41 Fear not your wall if well made since the force of the working will not violate it in some measure.

**+ c** To despoil *of* something *Obs*—1

1646 G DANIEL *Poems* Wks (Grosart) II 57 When the lieke Face of winter spreads The Earth, and violates the Meads Of all their Pride

**+ 5** To treat (a person) roughly or with violence, to assail or abuse *Obs*

*a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl Love* (1631) 88 If a man should come and violate thee with ill termes thou wouldest be angry with him 1629 CHAR I *Declarations* Wks 1662 II. 27 Precedents of former times were disobeyed, the Speaker violated [etc.] 1633 R N tr *Camden's Hist Eliz* III 239 The Act was made against those which should violate the king by seditious writings.

**6.** To break in upon, to interrupt or disturb, to interfere with rudely or roughly

1567 MILTON *P L* IV 883 So question thy bold entrance on this place Implied it seems to violate sleep. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII 474 O Trojans! cease From impious arms, nor violate the peace 1728 WOLLASTON *Relig Nat* VI (1724) 132 Since he, who begins to violate the happiness of another does what is wrong 1775 JOHNSON *Let to Lyr* 31 Legislation passes its limits when it violates the purse 1796 W COMBE *Boydell's Thames* II 3 [Pope's] garden has not yet been violated It retains its early form 1809 W IRVING *Knickerb* III VI (1849) 175 The dark forests which once clothed those shores h d never been violated by savage hand of cultivation 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V 1 13 Lo violate the sacred doors of sleep

**7** To treat without proper respect or regard, to do violence or injury to (feelings, etc) in this way

1692 DRYDEN *St Evremond's Ess* II Never were they more careful of hindring the Majesty of the Roman People from being violated 1705 ADDISON *Italy Monaco* 15 They have never entertain d a thought of violating the Publick Credit 1723 BERKELEY in *Guardian* No 3 ¶ 11 A Body of Men, whom of all other a good Man would be most careful not to violate 11 ean Men in Holy Orders 1729 BUTLER *Serm* Wks 1874 II 44 Man must act in a way quite inconsonate to, and violate his real proper nature 1798 BISHOP PIELD *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 336 Fire tyrant customs strength sufficient bore To violate at the feelings of the poor 1817 SHELLEY *Rev Islam* VIII XXVII, Do ye thirst to bear A heart which not the serpent Custom s tooth May violate? 1822 LAMB *Elia* 1 *Complf Imitator* 11 Let not the imagination at all violated when we read of the true ballad, where King Cophetua woos the beggar maid?

Hence **Vi olating** *vbl sb*

1548 COOPER *Apost Dict Violatio*, a violatyng, a breakyng 1581 NOWELL & DAY in *Confer* 1 (1584) C iij Master Campion did ws wrong to charge vs with violating of the Maiestie of the holy Bible 1611 COTGR, *Violement*, *Nicholay s Voy* II XIII 181 The violating and defloureing of his daughters, & other Ladies. 1612 COTGR, *Violation*, a violating or violatin, 1671 PHILLIPS (ed 3) *Sacrilegious*, A rob bing of Churches, or violating things Sacred 1765-8 BLACKSTONE *Inst Law* I ii 11 iv ¶ 32 The violating of a bride, or espoused wife, in 1769 in *B Siren Gra* 8 Jan (1770) 3/1 Since the Lories are so very cunning I am convinc d as not even to scruple the violating their own plighted faith

**Violated** (*vaɪ*ˈlēɪtĕd), *ppl a* [f prec + ED 1] That has been subjected to violation

1593 SHAKES *Lucr* 1059 Thou shalt not know The stained taste of violated troth I dare not vow 1 2 L 141 Violated vowes, twixt the soules of friend and friend 1625 K LONG tr *Barclay's Argenis* III XXI 277 He fore saw the infamy of violated hospitality 1644 MILTON *Divorce* Wks 1851 IV 164 They argue nothing to the contr uance of a false or violated Marriage. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII 201 Of ev ry Latian Fur whom Juno mindful Inspires by stealth my violated bed *c* 1700 SHOLLETT *Ode to Indep* 6 Deep in the frozen regions of the north A goddess violated brought forth 1784 COWPER *Task* V 320 By him the violated law speaks out Its thunders 1828 J TYLER *Hist Scot* I 118 In vindication of his violated rights 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II xii 131 The violated charters were restored

**Violatee** (*vaɪ*ˌlēɪˈtī). Now *rare* [f VIOLATE 7] = VIOLATOR

1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I CCXII 707/1 Ye shall punysshe all such as violaters and brekers of the peace as the cas shall require 1608 WILKES *Hezekiahs Exod* 274 In the punishment of the violater of the Sabath 1645 GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 83 Amnon was an incestuous violater of his sister 1665 MANLEY *Corinna Lond* II *ant* 914 They made a League wherein it was agreed, that the King should give Assistance against the Violaters thereof 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *St Ch Boyl* (ed 4) II III xi 267 The two Proctors assist in the Government of the University, punishing all Violaters of Statutes. 1767 R BURN *Eccl Law* (ed 2) III 32 Violaters of virgins consecrated to god 1822 L HUNT in *Examiner* 1 Dec 760/2 Against the violaters and violaters of the law 1863 W H RUSSELL *Diary North & S* I 355 Here were seventy murderers, pirates, burglars, violaters, and thieves

**Violation** (*vaɪ*ˌlēɪʃən), Also 5–6 **violacion, violacion(e,** 6 **-acyon, -ationne** [f OF *violacion* (F *violation*), = Sp *violacion*, Pg *violação*, It *violazione*), or ad. L *violation-*, *violatio*, noun of action f *violare* to violate] The action of violating, in various senses.

1. Infringement or breach, flagrant disregard or non-observance, *of* some principle or standard of conduct or procedure, as an oath, promise, law, etc, an instance of this

1450-80 tr *Higden* (Rolls) III 291 An objection was made to hym of the violacion of his religion and beleve *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* XXXIV 233 (Harl MS) pe Emperour beynge in grete wrethe, for violacion of pe Statutes & Commaundement. 1518 *Star Chamb Cases* (Selden) II 150 The further violacion and disordrying of the ordenances, vsages, and auncient customes of the said towne 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* V liii § 15 I he harme that groweth by violation of holie ordinances 1611 SHAKS. *Wint T* IV iv 488 It cannot faile, but by The violation of my faith 1695 J ASHE *Fun Norm Catalect* 18 It will be no violation of the Law of charity to affirm, that he was never truly good who doth not strive to be better 1881 FLAVEL *Meth Grace* xxxiii 556 That is a sure rule, that the greatest violation of conscience is the greatest sin. 1721 ADDISON *Spect* No 99 ¶ 7 The great Violation of the Point of Honour from Man to Man, is giving the Lie. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm* III 153 The violation, or non performance, of these contracts might be extended into as great a variety of wrongs, as the rights which we then considered 1778 GIBBON *Decl & F* II (1782) I 73 Without any violation of the principles of the

constitution. 1844 L Murray *Eng Gram* (ed. 5) I. 232 Of this rule there are many violations to be met with 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) I 360 It would be regarded by the Czar as a flagrant violation of treaty 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) V 11 Laws are passed concerning violations of military discipline.

**b** Without const *rare*

1481 *Coventry Leet Bk* 435 Eny thyng wherby the seid trewes & other conuencions passed betwen vs myght fall in vyolacion or Rupture in any wyse *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII 472 The peas whiche they was prodayned whiche endured nat longe without vyolacion 1640 Grimston *Speech* 9 Nov (1641) 5 To adjourne the house upon any command whatsoever, without the consent and approbation of the House it selfe were breaches and violations that highly impeached our priviledges

**+2** The action of tearing or handling violently and injuriously *Obs*

*c* 1484 *Digby Myst* (1882) II 179 All with furyous vyolacion Thus shalbe subduyd 1616 Bullokar *Eng Expos*, *Violation*, an offering of violence, a breaking *a* 1656 Usher *Ann* VI (1658) 424 Persons sent away with the Reliques upon Vessels, and Eudemus their President without violation, nay even civilly entreated 1699 Evelyn *Kal Hort* (ed 9) 23 To apply the Collateral Branches of his Wall fruits (without violation and unnatural bending, and reverting) to the Earth or Borders.

**3** a Defilement *of* chastity, etc , in later use esp by means of violence

1497 St Alcoe *Mirror of Our Lady* Dij, In clennes of body & soule without voluntary pollucion or vyolacio 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 182 Thou conceyued thy chylde without corrupcyon or vyolacyon of thy virginite. 1596 Phillips (ed 5) s v, A forcing of a Woman against her Will, is call'd a Violation of her Chastity 1727 Bailey (vol II), *Rape*, a Ravishing, or forcible Violation of the Chastity of a Woman, or Virgin

**b** Ravishment, outrage, rape

1599 Shaks *Hen V*, III iii 21 What is to me when you your selues are cause, If your pure maydens fall into the hand Of hot and forcing Violation? 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v 1769 Blackstone *Comm* IV 82 By violation is understood carnal knowledge, as well without force, as with it 1830 Southey *Kehama* II 126 Lifting the howling, in hour with evil fraught, For violation seized the shrieking Maid 1843 *Lanny Cycl* XXV 171/1 He hw [of treason] has been held to apply to a criminal connection by consent as well as to a forcible violation.

**4** Desecration or profanation of something sacred.

1526 Gardiner *Detect Devil's Sophistrie* 15 b The breaking of the most blessed sacrament, by the ministre in the masse, doth no violacion to christs most precious body there present 1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Luc Matth* iii 26 They sawe the dumme beast to sight lawfully be drawen out of the hole, lest it shoulde perysshe, without any vnlefull n or breache of the sabboth 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v 1777 R Watson *Philip II* (1839) I 126 The Span ish Masters themselves were afterwards touched with remorse on account of their violation of the churches 1849 James *Woo lm* ix, What he desires to do, that he will do—even to the violation of sanctuary 1896 C Knight *Hist Eng* I. xxvii 425 The violati n of a sacred place by murder was considered a greater crime than the murder itself

**5** Improper use *of* something

1822 Shelley *Chris I*, n 75 Look that those merchants . take fullest compensation For violation of our royal forests.

Hence **Violationa·l** *a. rare*.

1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 94 Something or other 'injurious,' 'prejudicial,' hurtful,' or 'violational' 1876 J J G Wilkinson *Hum Sci & Div Rev* 25 Medicine lives inside great strides of late, and thus is owing noticeably to violational science. [*Violentonism* and *violatic mist* are also used in this work, pp. 577, 579, etc]

**Violative** (vəi·ɹlətiv), *a.* Chiefly *U S* [f Violate *v* + -ive.] Involving or causing violation (*of* something).

*a* 1797 J P Andrews *Man Consist* 211 (Thornton), Violative of a vested legal right 1856 P Pierce *Message to Congress* 1 That no act shall remain on its statute book, violative of the provisions of the constitution. 1878 *Masque Poets* 26 Those Who have dared in violative wise T assault with strong and impious blows, The awful, slumbering Pharaohs. 1891 *Nation* (N Y) 24 Dec 495/2 Four of the judges held that the act was violative of the amendments, and therefore invalid

**Violator** (vəi·ɹlətəɹ, -ɔr) Also 6–7 our [a. L. *violator*, agent noun f *violare* to violate So in *violateur* (OF. *violatour*), It *violatore*, Sp and Pg *violador* Cf Violater ]

**1** A ravisher or outrager of women.

1432 50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) III 33 Sardanapallus, a man hauenge grete delectacion of women, and a violator of hem 1603 Shaks *Meas for M* v 41 That Angelo's forsworn, is an adulterous thiefe, An hypocrite, a virgin violator 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VI 327 If, by vowing love and honour at the altar to such a violator, I could sanctify his un precedented and elaborate wickedness 1864 Tennyson *Boadicea* 50 Me the sport of ribald Veterans, mine of ruffian violators!

**2.** A desecrator or profaner of something sacred or venerable.

1577 Holinshed *Chron* II 805/1 But Guye de Mountfort was excommunicate as a violatour of the churche. 1591 In Jas Campbell *Balmerino Abbey* (1867) 111 n 178 Ordanis the sessione of the kirk of Balmerinoch to cause violatoris of the Sabbath day publicklie to make publict repentance thairfor 1858 Barker tr *Bolton's Lett* (vol III) 13 The persecuters of those who submit themselves are to me in equal execration with the violatours of sepulchers 1865 Manley *Grotius Low C Wars* 30 Commanding to the Inquisitors to execute judgement upon violators, and novelties in Religion 1841 Lytton *Nl & Morn* I 2, Now glared upon the startled violators of the sanctuary with glassy eyes and horrent visage, a grim monster 1865 Baring Gould *Were Wolves* xv 250 It is well known that Oriental romance is full of stories of violators of graves 1868 Meredith *Odes Fr Hist Rev* x, They, violators of home, dared hope an involate home

**3** An infringer, breaker, or transgressor (of a law, compact, etc ).

1642 C Vernon *Consid Exch* 104 That due punishment be inflicted upon the violators thereof 1644 Milton *Y Duces* Wks 1851 III 331 They are no more to blandge to such violators of Marriage 1676 Temple *Let to Sr J Williamson* 22 Mar , Nor could it easily be found out how the Violator of any such Treaty should be punished 1728 Warburton *Dr Legat* I 16 The Violator of the Laws of the Society 1775 Dr Lolme *Eng Const* II xvi (1784) 239 To give up the violators of these laws 1809 W Irving *Knickerb* (1820) 109 Whoever thought wrong, was a flagrant violator of the inestimable liberty of conscience 1881 Jowett *Thucyd* I 76 Those who attack others, not those who defend themselves, are the real violators of treaties.

**4.** One who injures, disturbs, or interrupts violently

1792 A Young *Trav France* 31 The incendiaries, robbers and violators of mankind 1828 32 Webster s v, A violator of repose

**Violatory,** *a rare* [f Violate *v* + -ory ] = Violative *a*

1802 *Times* 23 July Nothing was so violatory of the rules of ratiocination a d eloquence 1850 W Anderson *Rise generation* 144 To conceal, that the dogma is glaringly un philosophical and violatory of common sense.

**‖ Viol da gamba.** Also 6–7 de gambo, 7 di gambo, de gambeo, 7– de gambe, 9 di gambe. [ad It *viola da gamba* 'leg-viol' cf Viola 2 and Gamba 2 ]

**1** A viol held between the legs of the player while being played, in later use restricted to the bass viol corresponding to the modern violoncello

1597 J Dowland *Lachr* The First Booke of Songes or Ayres of foure parties with Tableture for the Lute So made that all may be soe g to the Lute Orpherian or Viol da gamba. 1598 Jonson *Ev Man out of Hum* III iii, *Fast* I doe more admire your predominate perfections, than euer I shall haue facultie to expresse *Saut* Vp'on the Viol de gambo your common sense. 1601 Shaks *Twel N* I iii 27 He playes o'th Viol de gamboys 1621 Corvat *Crudities* 252 Their instruments ten Sagl uts foure Cor tets and two Violes de gambo of an extraordinary great bignesse 1668 Playford *Skill Mus* II (1674) 91 Of the Viol de Gambo there are three several sizes viz, Treble Viol Tenor Viol, and Bass Viol. These three Viols agree in one manner of Tuning 1711 Collins *Mus Agr* 301 I think the effect was equal to any *viol di gamba* I ever heard 1789 Burney *Hist Mus* III vii 361 Charles I had been a performer on the viol di gamba 1801 Busby *Dict Mus Viol da Camba* or Greater Viol a viol with six strings, formerly much used i Germ ny 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 240/2 Carl Friedrich Abel was the last survivor of the family of viols 1908 *Aberde n Jr 1 N* 4 7 1 32/1 The music served and died away in a long note, like the stroke of a viol de gamba

**2** An organ stop having a tone resembling that of the above instrument

1852 Seidel *Organ* 108 Viol di gamba or simply gamba is one of the finest registers. 1881 C A Edwards *Organs* 157 The Viol di Gamba is soft, reedy and sweet

**†Viole,** *v Obs rare* Also 5 vyole [ad Ol *violer*, ad L *violare* see Violate *v* ] *trans* To violate

*a* 1450 *Knt de la Tour* 75 He took fro them all that he couthe, and vyoled many wyues and vyoles I wil nought tento. 1481 Caxton *Ovid's Met* xi xxii, She moche e forced her for to flee for t escape fro hyme to th ende that she were not vyoled ne defowled

**Violed** (vəi·ɹlɛd), a. of Vial, Viot *sb* 1

**Violence** (vəi·ɹlĕns), *sb* Also 4 violence, 4–6 vyolence, 5 *Sc* wyol-, violence, 5–6 violens (7 voyolence) [a Ai and Ol (also mod F) *violence*, ad L *violentia* vehemence, impetuosity, etc , f *violentus* Violent *a* Cf Pr. *violencia*, -*anza*, Sp and Pg *violencia*, It *violenza* ]

**1.** The exercise of physical force so as to inflict injury on, or cause damage to, persons or property; action or conduct characterized by this, treatment or usage tending to cause bodily injury or forcibly interfering with personal freedom

*c* 1290 *Beket* 932 in *S Eng Leg* I 233 Sif ani man bonl on ov set ich ov hote al so pat se pe sentence f boli church, for to suffre violence pe do 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 11142 Clerk to bete or handes on leyn vyolence hyt ys gret vyolence *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 1175 Pe worldes wrake [myght] wrecheednes Of filthe and of corrupcion Of violence and of oppression *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 161 Pei holden neuer neiber lawe of god ni dymes takynge & taken hem bi vyolence & stronge cursed meyntenaunce goode wille *c* 1420 *Pyrmus & Thisbe* 1 Lord 3 suffre violence answere pou for me! *a* 1445 [? Gascoigne] *Life St Bridget* in *New Leg England* (Pynson) 123 When 3 e cytezens were sore by prayers profyted nat somwhat with vyolence, neuertheleese reuerently they ledde hir out of hir house vnto the waterside. 1504 Atkynson tr *De Imitatione* 1 xxiii 124 They that by violence restrayn te theyr selfe fro 23 one and euer be busy to make the bodye obedyent to the soule 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 38 Then might they also be in the more hope to gyue the repulse to the Turke, with all his violence *a* 1596 *Sir T More* II 11 They intend to offer violence To the amared Lombards. 1617 Moryson *Itin* III 47 Charles the fifth was wont to say, that the King of Spaine ruled ouer Asses, doing nothing without blowes and violence. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II xx 100 Promises proceeding from fear of death, or violence, are no Covenants. 1718 *Free thinker* No 38. So Almost all the Governments had their Commencement in Violence 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxxvii(1), The violence of war admits of no distinction 1784 Cowper *Task* I 604 In remote And barb rous climes where violence prevails, And strength is lord of all. 1844 H H Wilson *Brit Indra* III 524 The Government protected it em against the perils of violence and rapacity and ensured them tran quility and repose 1876 Bristowe *Theory & Pract Med* (1878) 532 It occasionally originates in the effects of very violent muscular exertion or of violence i flicted from without

*personif.* 1609 Dekker *Ii ork Armourours* Wks (Grosart) IV 131 Violence hath borne many great offices, and Money hath done much for him 1787 Burns *Death & Dunbars* v, Mark ruffian Violence ingrain d with crimes, Rousing elate in these degenerate times

**b** In the phr *to do violence to, unto* (or with indirect object) To inflict harm or injury upon, to outrage or violate + Also *to make violence.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 19325 Pai durst na violence to bam do For pe folk bam helded to 13 *E E Allit P* B 1071 When venkkyst was no vengyng3 Ne violence made 1390 Gower *Conf* III 340 He telleth hem the violence, Which the tretour Strangulio And Dionise him hadde do 1535 Coverdale *Luke* iii. 14 *Do* no man violence neyther wronge 1596 Kyd *Cornelia* IV 1 28 Iuba and Petreus, fiercely combatting Haue each done other equall violence 1602 Shaks *Ham* I ii. 17 Nor shall you doe mine eare that violence To make it truster of your owne report Against your selfe. *a* 1619 Fletcher etc *Knt Malta* II 1 They have done violence to her breath, No granting rest unto her in the grave 1692 Dryden *St Evremond's Ess* 93 I make no question, but that in the violence of the Triumvirate he did much Violence to himself 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII viii, To say the truth we have often done great violence to the luxuriance of our genius. 1860 Pusey *Min Prophs* 474 They did violence to the majesty of the law, and then, through profaning it, did violence to man

**c** In weakened sense Improper treatment or use of a word, wresting or perversion of meaning or application, unauthorized alteration of wording

1596 Lambarde *Eirenarch* (ed. 2) 143 But Master Camden with lesse vi lence deruieth it [sc. *dele*] from the Britisih *Dole* 1659 Pearson *Creed* 11 294 Being in some places Adoi ax cannot be read for I should without manifest violence offe ed to the Text 1668 Barlyn *Chalcogr* 7 Neither the I arad ig matic or ar gy of the Plastic can be call'd Sculpture without a manifest violence and torture 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* IX vi A passion which might without any great violence be brought to the word be called love. 1856 Maurice *Gosp St John* VII 94 Wherever violence is done to the truth of languages, I believe more or less of violence is done to some higher truth 1881 Palev *Æschylus* (ed ) *Supplices* 510 *note* But this is a reckless alteration He might with less violence read ἐπεύχεται 1891 E White *Life in Christ* IV xxvii (1878) 446 The violence of the proposed interpretation is conspicuous.

**d** Undue constraint applied to some natural process, habit, etc , so as to prevent its free development or exercise

1715 tr *Gregory's Astron* (1726) I 200 We must not make our Reason and Philosophy perpetually offer violence to our Sight and other Senses. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VI iv, He was obliged to attend near a quarter of an hour, tl ough with great violence to his natural impetuosity, before he was suffered to speak. 1849 J H Newman *Hist Ch* IX 74 The first Christian mis ionaries in Ireland seem to have carefully avoided all unnecessary violence to the a cient habits of the nations.

**e** *Law.* (See quot )

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk* 713 *Violence*, the question in tort, as to the amount of liability incurred by the owners for our ages and irregularities committed by the master

**2** With *a* and pl An instance or case of violent, injurious, or severe treatment, a violent act or proceeding

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxiv (*Pelagia*) 234 pe feynde can cry 'Alace! I thole pat defence of hyme bivald gret wio lence 1390 Gower *Conf* III 108 Of the violence Of his owne kinde 1398 Dunbar *Ode Large* 159 Our age in than e wes nouht begonne to spring, Full sott thay dred to done a violence 1556 Spenser *St Ire Prol* 3 b, She perhaps, for very compassion of such calamities, will not only stop the stream of such violences, and return to her wonted mildness, but [etc ]. 1649 Milton *Eikon Pref*, Attedons warr on his subjects, wherein he hath so farr exceeded his arl itrary violences in time of peace. 1680 Burnet *Rights Princes* II. 64 He laments the Violences that were used in some Elections 1704 *Cal Rec Ireland* 1700–11 298 If they were clear of the violences done lately upon a fan ily of the English 1739 H Walpole *Let to G Montagu* 23 Dec, His son by another lady was drowned in Ireland! 1818 Comptt *Jol Reg* XXXIII 12 They saw nothing but the violences on bir Francis s side 1850 Kirkman *A Lake Prof* 11 On the violences and tyrannies of Democracy are to be really warnings to us [etc ] 1864 Mains *Anc Law* vi. (1870) 206 The violences inseparable from the best ordered ancient society

**b** In weakened sense (cf 1 c and 1 d).

1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* II v, I yielded to the In treaty of my Friends, Acted a violence on my reluctant He art And gave my trembling Hand to th' other 1777 Hume *Ess & Treat* I 184 If he have not res stan ce enough to impose a violence on himself 1793 Smeaton *Eystone* I § 139 It would yet be a viole ce to myself, to refrain from doing the Proprietors justice. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV 371 Then a violence would be offered, as well to the words, as to the mean ng of the party

**3** I orce or strength of physical action or natural agents, forcible, powerful, or violent action or motion (in early use freq connoting destructive force or capacity)

Now often merging into next, with an intensive sense
*c* 1384 Chaucer *H Fame* II 375 For when a pape is blowen sharpe, The aire ys wrwyst with violence *a* 1386—*Can Yeom Prol & T* 355 Thise metals been of so gret violence, Oure lewed wittes nat make hem resistence *c* 1400 Maundev (Rozb) xxxiii 150 Whan thei ben drouned by violence of be wawes 1426 Lydg *De Guil Pilgr* 12710, I sawh a whel
By vyolence tourne a-boute Contynuelly to-for my face
1560 Daus tr *Sleidanes Comm* 414b, I han chiefly was the cite meruelouslye beaten with shot the violence wher of was so great, that [etc.] 1603 Shaks *Meas for M* III i 195 To be imprison d in the viewlesse windes And blowne with restlesse violence round about 1620 Holland *Cam Brit Essex* 513 The river Anfon breaketh forth with more violence upon the flats adioyning 1659 Leak *Water tak t* To make the Water enter therein with force, the vessel shall be made as high as may be, that it may give so much the more violence to the Water 1703 Moxon *Mech & Exerc* 84 The shorter the Stuff that the Tennant is made on the less Violence the Tennant is subject to 1793 Smeaton *Eystone I* § 61 *note*, the strokes of the sea may at the Fdystone so great as to wash the poison out again from the wood, that in a situation of less violence could slowly insinuate itself 1841 Lane *Arab Nts* I 104 He knocked a fourth time, and with violence. 1882 Darwin *Fertil Orchids* II 57 The pollinia cannot be jarred out of the anther-cells by violence. 1895 *Law Times Rep* LXXIII 156/2 Two vessels drifted through the violence of a storm on to the toe of a breakwater

**4.** Great force, severity, or vehemence, intensity *of* some condition or influence
1390 Gower *Conf* I 280 Wrathe Which hath hise wordes ay so hote, That all a mannes pacience Is fyred of the violence. *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxiii 108 The tymme for to be visited by violence of hete þat dissoluez þaire bodys 1577 Googe *Heresiach & Husb* 28 B3e suffereth the violence of mystes and frostes. 1604 E. G[iffiniustone] *Acosta's Hist Indies* II x 191 In Arabia, the which is burnt with the Sunne having no showres to temper the violence thereof 1658 Phillips *New Interpreter*, An extraordinary cold day, being caused by the violence of the disea e 1702 J. Purcell *Cholick* (1714) 137 If an Inflammation arises, Bleeding is to be order d, and repeated according to its Violence 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* xli, She went off as peacefully as a child, for all the violence of her disorder was passed 1809 *Med Jrnl* XXI 518 The inflammatory complaints particularly pneumonia, have recurred with considerable violence 1874 J. L. Patterson *Ess Relig & Lit* 3rd Ser 134 It is yet obvious that these principles with a far different and more grievous violence to the Catholic than to any other Church

**†** Intensity or excess *of* contrast.
1674 H. H Cook *Camel Ind Art S Lent Mus* 218 Violence of contrast either of light or dark colours, or gaudy, florid, and large ornament are among the common sources of error which ruin design

**5.** Vehemence of personal feeling or action, great, excessive, or extreme ardour or fervour; also, violent or passionate conduct or language, passion fury
*c* 1430 Lydg *Mins Poems* (Percy Soc) 47 But arche wives, egre in ther vyolence, Fers as tygres for to make affray
1563 Golding *Cesar* (1565) 102 The enemy being not able to withstand the violence of oure foremen tooke them to flyght 1604 Shaks. *Oth* II i, 274 Mirke me with what violence she first loud Marry me 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II 84, I was trubled to see the violence it putt him into 1696 Phillips (ed 5) *Violence*, figuratively spoken of Human Passions and Desires, when unruly, when not to be govern d 1735 Somerville *Chace* III 544 He vents the cooling Stream, and up the Breeze Urges his Course with eager Violence 1818 Cobbett *Parl Hist* XXXVI 142 I do expect that the violence of party spirit is never more to return 1821 Scott *Kenilw* xxxii I said nothing to deserve such a horrid imputation as your violence infers 1841 Elphinstone *Hist Ind* II 321 It was concluded by Akber s reproving the mullahs for their violence.

**†6** Violation *of* some condition *Obs* —1
a 1754 Fielding *Remarks upon Wks* 1775 IX 251 Nor is there any dissuasive from such contemplation [of the loss of friends] it is no breach of friendship, nor violence of paternal fondness.

**† Violence,** *v Obs* [f prec ]
**1** *trans* To do violence to, to violate.
Common in the 17th century
1612 T. Taylor *Comm Titus* II 2 The one was so farre from violencing the other as one of them could not stand without the other 1650 tr *Causin's Angel Peace* 6 The most Sacred things are violenced, and the most Profane are licenced *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm* (1686) III 304 In doing otherwise he would thwart and violence his own conscience, and be self-condemned

**2.** To compel or constrain; to force (a person) *to* or *from* a place, etc, or *to do* something, by violence.
1620 Brent tr *Sarpi's Counc Trent* VII (1676) 618 Shewing there was a desire to violence the Fathers by weariness
1647 Hammond *Power of Keys* II 8 Sure it will not be thought reasonable, that these shall be forced and violenced to consent to that 1648 Symmons *Vind Chas I* 276 They have done what they could to violence him from his Religion.

Hence **† Violencing** *vbl sb Obs*
1612 T. Taylor *Comm Titus* I 6 Christ himself taxeth it as a violencing of the first institution *a* 1625 Donne *Serm* (1651) 82 The distortions and wresting of Scripture to violencing Hammond *Char Oblig*., etc. 68 A kind of constraining and violencing of the spirit.

**† Violency.** *Obs.* Also 6 violensie, -oye, 6-7 vie. [ad. L. *violentia* see Violence *sb* ] Violence, in various senses.
1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* Y v, Accordynge to the aptitude or feeblenesse in resistence of the place receauyng it and the force or violencye of nature sendynge it 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xix 25 My carte wheele catcheth holde of the corner poaste Against my will and by violencie, Asunder crusheth it. 1559–65 *Hist Estate Scot* in *Wodrow Soc Misc* (1844) 66 To resist the violence of their adversaries. 1657 W. Walwicke *Opt Glass* (1664) 13 Such fare, as may banish and expel contagion and violencie from nature

b In pl. Cf Violence *sb* 2.
*c* 1630 Sanderson *Serm* (1681) II 258 Although the text speaks expresly only of death yet all other violencies and injuries are intended 1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr *Matthew's Unhappy Prosperities* 199 Of all his violencies, the most execrable was the death of the Architect, who skilfully recedified the portall of Rome 1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* III ii rule 3 § 2 He may do what is in his natural capacity to avoid the violencies and extremities of nature.

**Violent,** obs form of Violow

**Violent** (vəi ɔlənt), *a.* (*adv* , *sb*) Also 5 **wyolent, 5–6 vyolent, violente** [a Of (also mod F ) *violent*, or ad L *violent us* (whence It , Sp , and Pg *violento*) or *violent* , *violens* (whence It *violente*), forcible, impetuous, vehement, etc , *f vis* strength ]
**A.** *adj.* **1** Of things Having some quality or qualities in such a degree as to produce a very marked or powerful effect (esp. in the way of injury or discomfort), intense, vehement, very strong or severe **a.** Of the sun, heat, etc. **†** *Violent signs* (see quot 1679)
*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Cons.* 852 It myght be aye sua correumped with þat nowrysyng þe dede wille take, Swa vyle it es and violent 1390 Gower *Conf* III 116 That planete which men calle Saturnus His climat is in Orient, Wher that he is most violent 1400 *Destr Troy* 539 A playne, Full of hires freschnesse, With seeders vnder vnes for-wrought 1418 *in* Lydg *Chr in Troy* I 2158 So violent and fervent was þe hete 1585 T. Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* IV xxi 97 Vppon the coales they cast a certaine seede, the smoke whereof was so violent that foorthwith it made them dissy 1604 E. G[irstone] *D Acosta's Hist Indies* II xxvi 97 The waters become so violent, that they draw no fogge from the rivers, if they be violent [etc] 1611 G Sandys *Ovid's Met* VII (1626) 67 Signes onely vtter their vnwtnest loues But hidden fire, the violentest proues. 1679 Moxon *Math Dict* 161 *Violent Signs* are those in which the Malefick Planets, viz Saturn or Mars have any notable Elg tate in them 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl* s v Sign, Those Stars of note, and within the Zodiac [Hence in Phillips, 1706.] 1779 London & Wise *C mpl Card* 121 Till such time as the violent heat of the Sun 1815 J. Williamson *Sea & Art* II 380 Being again evaporated to dryness, it is exposed to a violent heat in a crucible 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 815 And thunder of storm on the sand, Fierce on violent light.

**b** Of poison, **†** the blood, etc
*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard T* 539 Sterue he shal and that in lasse while. Than thou wolt goon a paas nat but a Mile, This poyson is so violent and strong 1530 *Stockholm Med MS* II. 24 *in Anglia* XVIII 308 Powdyr of betonye eke is good, Medelyd with hony for vyolent blod 1560 70 *Ik Quechesoure* 19 Discreet manners seyn, þat he feuere agu comouly is caused of a vyolent reed color adust [etc ] 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Sublimate*, Corrosive Sublimate is then a violent Medicine, which corrodes and destroys the Parts of the Body with much Violence

**c** Of pain, disease, etc
14 W Paris *Cronicon* 374 (Horstm. 1878). Foure men rolede him to Rome, To make hire payne more violente
*c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 257 And þen was þys kyng smyten with a mesely pat was soo yvolent to hym, þat he slogh hymselfe 1607 Topsell *Four Bk* III 222 Those old wayes, That seeme like prudent helpes, are very poysonous Where the Disease is violent. 1726 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Poison*, The Hypocyanus is successful in Hæmorrhages violent Heats and Inflammations 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII iii 1 The violent fatigue which both her mind and body had undergone. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/2 Some days he has violent pangs, at other times he gets better 1799 *Med Jrnl* II 474 As the intestines had been sufficiently emptied by a violent diarrhœa. 1803 *Ibid* X 109, I think the inflammation is not so violent as it was formerly, inasmuch as the symptoms are in general, more violent, painful and distressing 1843 R. Graves *Syst Clin Med.* II 100 The fever was attacked by intensely violent remedies 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 739 The condition was associated with violent headaches and neuralgia of the tongue of the same side

**d.** Of passions. (Cf sense 8 c )
1586 T. B *La Primaud Fr Acad* 1 291 Even the violentest and most common passions of mans nature 1605 Shaks. *Macb* II iii 116 Th' expedition of my violent Loue Out run the pawser. Reason *Ibid* IV iii 169 Alas poore Country! Where violent sorrow seemes A Moderne ecstasie 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I 948 A love so violent, so strong, so fierce, as cannot be cast off or change, nor yet cure. 1721 Addison *Spect* No 120 P 10 This natural Love in Brutes is much more violent and intense than in rational Creatures 1789 W Buchan *Dom Med* (1790) 119 Love is perhaps the strongest of all the passions; at least when it becomes violent, it is less subject to control. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* I 2 She was of violent passions, haughty, vindictive, yet crafty and deceitful 1808 W Wilson *Hist Dissent Ch* I 272 Parker was a man of violent passions.

**†e** Of taste or smell Very strong *Obs*
1604 E. G[irstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xxvii 284 It hath a strong savour, and in my opinion too violent 1780 *Newgate Cal* V 230 In the morning she perceived a violent smell of sulphur

**f.** Of colour Intensely or extremely bright or strong, vivid Also *fig.* of outline
1768 Sterne *Sent Journ La Domanche* As the blue was not violent, it suited with the coast and breeches very well
1879 B. Harte *Bell Romans* 12 Her hair, which was a very violent red, was fet h 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II 204 The accurate study of tree branches had more and more taught me the difference between violent and graceful lines. 1888 *Cent Mag* Feb 539/1 Rouge, if too violent, by a natural law of color causes the planes of the cheeks to recede from the planes of the whiter portions of the face.

**2** Of natural forces Possessed of or operating with great force or strength; moving, flowing, blowing, etc , strongly and impetuously.
*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxviii (*Adrian*) 505 Of þe hawine a rayne gert fall, sa wyolent & fellonny, þat þe fyr slokit wes in hy 1508 Dunbar *Gold Targe* 203 Thay fyrit gunnis with powder violent 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III i 34 For violent fi es soone burne out themselues. 1600 E Blount tr *Conestaggio* 230 Hee knewe it [a river] was verie violent, running betweene high mountaines without anie fonde 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 680 It carrieth so violent a streame that presently it is able to draue a mill. 1698 J. Willebond *Nature's Secrets* 107 Winds and Storms. 2. Increases the flowing of the Seas, causing violent Tides 1722 E. Cooke *Voy S Sea* 382 The South and S.W. Winds which are the violentest Winter Winds there 1794 Miss Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* xxix, The accumulating clouds assumed a red sulphureous tinge that foretold a violent storm 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 46 In some places the time of change is attended with calms, in others with violent tempests 1854 *Poultry Chron* II. 407/2 The circumstance of their having been in a violent storm and completely drenched 1875 *Encycl Brit* III 809/2 The violent explosives disintegrate the rock into a plastic mass

**b** Of noise Extremely loud
1600 *Kyd's Span Trag* III xiii 132 Then, sir, after some violent noyse, bring me this Ghost with my torch in my hand 1768 in *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) X 56/2 There appeared a prodigious smoke, attended with the same violent noise 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 46 In some places of its beginning to melt, it explodes with a violent report 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho* vi, The stranger only answered with another violent sneer

**3** Of persons Acting with or using physical force or violence, esp in order to injure, control, or intimidate others, committing harm or doing illegal possession
1382 Wyclif *Matt* xi 12 The kyngdam of heuenes suffrith strenghe, or violence, and violent men rauyshen it
1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 87 Men þey accounte3 violent and wommen mylde, and mores þan beo3 wrest to hir kende 1560 Rolland *Crt Venus* 1201 Be violent, I tyr With myght I se be people yvoirt 1533 More *Apol* xl 225 The man is bysyde so violent and so subardouse, that none of theym dare be a-bowe to speke of it 1555 *Sc Acts, Mary* (1814) II 494/2 The actioun aganis the violent occupyaris and possessours forsaidis 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Ps* lxxxv 14 The proude are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent men haue sought my soule 1662 *Bk Com Prayer, For Restoring White Peace* The out rage of a violent and unruly people 1687 *Liberty Lands* 195 A violent possessor of Church lands. 1788 J. Brown *Nat & Rev Relig* I 2 90 Violent injurers of others being public pests of society 1844 Macaulay *Ess* V 1 602 He had been very unwilling to employ as his deputy a man so violent and unprincipled as Goodenough *absol* 1388 Wyclif *Josh* v 15 God schal make sauf a pore man fro the hond of the violent 1535 Coverdale *Ps* lxxi 12 Fr kyngdome of heauen suffreth violence, and the violent plucke it vnto them

**b** Of the hand Chiefly in the phr *to lay violent hands on* or *upon* (also Sc. *† vit*)
*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Margaret*) 195 þan ware hand3 wyolent layd one þat cristin Innocent 1589 More *Hypolyn* 1 Wks 1074/1 Alas, what shall become of me, or of devcende by the violent hande of God 1588 Shaks *Tit A* III. ii. 22 Teach her not thus to lay Such violent hands vppon her tender life 1597 in *Hearn's Collect* I 129 A H is fu d sire quha hes put violent handis in his father 1605 Shaks *Macb* v viii 70 His Friend like Queene, Who (as 'tis thought) by selfe and violent hands, Tooke off her life. 1666 in *Cons Cons Irelands* 1 (1824) 64 The Office assuing is not to be used for any that have laid violent hands upon themselues 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII iii, He laid violent hands on the cash of poor Bridget 1823 *Edinburgh Cycl* Suppl s v *Vices*, Stabbing him [as a horse] by degrees, with a steady, not a violent hand *c* 1850 Irvine *The Faith* 70 What saith he then who, in their greed or spite, Undo thy holy work with violent hands!

**† c.** With *to* (a person or thing). *Obs*
1588 Shaks. *Tit A* v 110, I pray thee doe on them some violent death, I they have done their mother violent hands
1645 Milton *Introach.* 67 Colluders your selves, as violent to this law of God by your unmercifull binding, as the Pharisees by their unbounded loosning
**4.** Of actions & Characterized by the doing of harm or injury, accompanied by the exercise of violence.
23 *E E Allit P* B. 1033 þis was a vengaunce violent bat voyded bise places, Pat foundered has so fayre a folk & be folde sunkken. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Wycelf* 216 Pe first persecucion of þe chirche was violent, whenne cristen men weren compellid be exalyngis, betyngis, & dehes to make sacrifice to ydols. 1548 Gough *Erp. Dict., Rapto*, violent taking of a persone. 1598 Shaks *Merry W* III iv 44 To these violent proceedings all my neighbors shall cry aame. 1606 *Tr & Cr* II iii 11 To use] violent thefts, And rob in the behalfe of charitie 1617 Moryson *Itin* III 43 The more violent, at least more lasting persecution of them by fier under Marie, late Queene of England 1790 Sewell *Hist Quakers* I Pref 23 They have at length triumphed by suffering, and under violent Oppression from High and Low 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) I 240 There could be no motive for a sudden and violent change of government 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lii, Thus violent deeds live after men upon the earth. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 546 The injustice with which he had been treated would have excused him if he had resorted to violent methods of redress.

**b.** Characterized by the exertion of great physical force or strength; done or performed with intense or unusual force, and with some degree of rapidity; not gentle or moderate.

In later use (*b*) tending to a weaker sense

(*a*) 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* iii xv (1495) 60 By violent stopping of the throte and of the arteryes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 114 b, By the violent hail of the sayd crosse in to the mortays *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 27 The lofty pyne the great windes often roues: With violenter swey faine turnèd stepes. 1599 Shak. 2 *Hen. IV* v. vii. 49 Oh, I am scalded with my violent motion And spleene of speede, to see your Majesty. 1601 — *All's Well* III ii 112 O you leaden messengers, That ride vpon the violent speede of fire. 1664 H. Power *Exp. Philos.* 93 We perceived the little particles of air on the suddain to become more visible by a violent and rapid dilatation. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v xii 69 The Piece is Level and will carry the Bullet Horizontally in his violent Course. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 332 There was some more violent motion at a distance. 1798 S. & H. Lee *Canterb. T.* II 133 Wine acted powerfully on a constitution already feverish with violent exercise. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Inductive Sci.* (1857) I. 7 Classifying them into Natural Motions and Violent Motions

(*b*) 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem. Org.* viii 336 The action of bromine upon indigo is analogous to that of chlorine upon it; it is less violent. 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* i v § 32 (1875) 119 During those early stages both political and religious changes are relatively violent; and necessarily entail violent retrogressions. 1868 Bain *Mental & Mor. Sci.* iv iii 341 A certain impetus has been given, and, if restrained outwardly, it seems to be more violent inwardly

c Tending to wrest or pervert the meaning

1720 Waterland *Eight Serm.* 104 That we ought not to be wise beyond what is written nor put a violent Construction on any Passages.

5 †a. *In violent*, by force or constraint. *Obs.* —1 *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 148 þat told hym þat þai tuke not his son & made him free [=infranchised] but, he offerd hym þerto on his awn gude will

†b Due or subject to constraint or force not free or voluntary, forced *Obs*

1566 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 124 They desyre the kynge to forsee, that there be no violent counsell called, in a place suspect & perilous to the intent that vnder the name of a counsel, the true doctrine be not extinguished. 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 297 All violent marriages engender hatred between the married. 1605 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II v (1635) 71 This conformity of the water droppes in a round figure is rather Violent then Naturall. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II 92 Ease would recant Vows made in pain, as violent and void

c Of death Caused by or due to physical violence, not natural

1588 Shak. *Tit. A.* v ii 108, I pray thee doe on them some violent death. 1593 — *Hen. VI*, 3 *Pt.* II v 54 The Prince yet liues that Henry shall depose But him out liue, and dye a violent death. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II xxi. 114 Though sovereignty in an Army be by consent, yet only subject to violent death, by foreign war; but also [etc.]. 1790 Paley *Serm.* Wks. (1834) 598/2 Sudden violent or untimely deaths leave an impression upon a neighbourhood. 1828 Scott *Nigel* xxv, Men who had both within less than half an hour suffered violent death. 1838-7 Dickens *Sk. Boz Scenes*, Whose miserable career will shortly terminate in a violent and shameful death. 1865 Boyd *Graver Thoughts Country Parson* Ser. I iv 67 The violent end of the martyr Stephen.

d. *Sc. Law* Of profits (see quot 1706–8)

1504 *Sc. Acts Jas VI* (1816) IV 65/2 In all tyme cuming the partie pursewit be ane vther for exeecioun sall find cautioun for the violent profittis. 1606 *Ibid* 286 The saidis decreittis may bring furth of the partie vtherwyis callit, fentfis vpoun the pretences. 1708 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim Laws Scot* II vi § 4 (1699) 190 When spoilzies or ejections are cryelly pursued, the courts give violent profits (which is the double Rent of the Lands, and restitution of the thing craved). 1752 W. Stewart in *Scots Mag.* (1753) 294/1 It can be no more than violent profits, which is often modified in inferior courts. 1765-8 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. xi. 80 § 54 Violent profits are so called, because they become due on the tenant's forcible or unwarrantable detaining the possession after he ought to have removed. 1824 Scott *Waw.* lxvi, Even when ye hae gotten decreet of spuilzie, oppression and violent profits against them. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 1028 In leases of tenements, the violent profits are held to be the full profits which the landlord could have made. In urban tenements, the violent profits are generally estimated at double the stipulated rent.

6 Of persons their temper, etc Displaying or exhibiting passion, excessive ardour, or lack of moderation in action or conduct *Cf* sense 3

1647 Clarendon *Hist Rebl* II § 149 If this Bill were once passed the Violenter Party would be never able to prosecute their Designs. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol* 87 Some of the violenter sort of the other partie. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I 291 Dunster one of ye Violentest Whiggs. 1715 Burnet *Hist. Own Time* (1766) I 553 One of the violentest Ministers of the whole party. 1769 Burke *Corr* (1844) I 215 He entertained me with an account of the present state of Lord Chatham's politics and conduct against the ministry. 1838 Lo. Granville in Fitzmaurice *Life* (1900) I 306 Shaftesbury is much more violent for you than he was against you. 1880 R. Mimpo *Autob.* ix 39 In my passions I was violent and impatient.

*absol.* 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* To Rdr., The Violent on both sides will condemn the Character of Absalom. 1713 Pope *Lett.* (1733) I. 200, I am no way displeased that I have offended the Violent of all Parties already.

7 Of language, or writings Resulting from, indicative or expressive of strong feeling

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi v He concluded by a very fond caress, and many violent protestations of love. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midd.* xiv, I be letter, the contents of which were as singular as the expression was violent. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v xi, He wrote violent letters, protesting his innocence. 1872 J. Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 5 The tem perament which mistakes strong expression for strong judgment, and violent phrase for grounded conviction

II. 8 In intensive use. Very or extremely great, strong, or severe. a. In legal use, chiefly *Sc.*, of suspicion or presumption

1526 *Sc Acts Jas V* (1597) XII 36/a All Lawis excludis be said governour fra administracio'n and governance for suspicioun vehement and violent. 1698 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim Laws Scot* II xxiv § 3 (1699) 256 Except the Presumptions be very violent I cannot allow this Limitation. *Ibid* xxv § 4, 263 Presumptions are divided in Presumptions that are violent and these that are not violent. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III 371 Violent presumption is many times equal to full proof

b In general use

1576 Times *Catalne on Gen* 30 It is too violent a cavill that Moses for instructions sake distributeth all those thinges which he made at once, into sixe dayes. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* iii ii (Arb.) 153 My Lord the supie woman is not so much to blame as her lewde abbettours who by violent perswasions haue lead her into this wilful neves. 1607 Shakes. *Lear* iv vi 73 He and Auffidius can no more attone Then violent st Contrarietv. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* v Wks 1738 I 92 If your meaning be with a violent Hyperbaton to transpose the Text thus 1809 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* Wks 1859 II 176/1, I cannot make use of so violent a metaphor. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat Phil* 154 Ammonia is however, a violent outstanding exception. 1832 Farrar *Darkie & Daniel* 211, Judea was in a state of violent revolt and the presence of an able general was urgently needed

c Of feelings, etc

1593 Shaks. *Lucr* 804 Thy violent vanities can never last. 1609 Dekker *Guil's Horn-bk* 27 That argues a violent impatience to depart from your money. 1638 Junius *Paint Ancients* 45 A blind fit of a most violent and irresistible fury. 1742 Fielding *Jos Andrews* I iv, The violent respect he preserved for her. a 1770 Jortin *Serm* (1771) II ii 28 Repining must arise from too violent affection for things here below. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* I xxiii, The duchesse was in a violent fright. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II iii. 231 With that feeling of violent irritation which the slightest contradiction now produced. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) V 76 The intemperate life has violent effects, and will most violent desires

†B As adv. Violently *Obs*

1709 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let to Mrs Hewet* 12 Nov. These wars make men so violent mark that these good ladies take it into their heads to quarrel. 1711 Steele *Spect. No* 39 This was a fair pleasant Day but violent hot. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Cart* 171 If it freezes so violent as that we are forced to Cart.

†C *sb* Something which acts with violence or force, a violent passion or person *Obs rare*

1619 Lushington *Resurrect Rescued* (1659) 21 All those Violents of the Soul which have mischiefs for their Objects, as sorrow, fear, despair. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius* 53 Did the Covetous extortioner observe that he is involv'd in the same sentence [and] remember that such Violents shall take not heaven but hell by force.

†**Violent**, *v Obs* [ad OF (also mod F.) *violenter*, or ad. med L. *violentare* to compel by force see prec.]

1 *trans* To strain or wrest the meaning of (words, a passage, etc) *rare*

1549 Latimer *5th Serm bef Edw VI* (Arb.) 150 Thus they violent the text to make a place to make for their purpose, wher no such thynge is ment

2 To constrain or force by violence, to compel or coerce (a person)

1579 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* 249 in Scottish writers.

1598 Florio *Vehementare* to vge to, force, to constraine, to violent. 1634 Lo. Warriston *Diary* (S. H. S.) 200 My wife violented me to be urged (sed by him arguementing prayer 1655 R. Baillie *Dissuas Vindication Pref.*, I could no longer be dumb but so violented I at last do open my mouth. 1698 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim Laws Scot* I xxxiv § 7 (1699) 154 The evil Law in detestation of Force and Violence, did allow three several Remedies to the person violented. 1717 Boston in *Acc Life* (1908) 227, The repenting Conscience will not violent me, which they will do if they transport me to Closeburn. 1725 Wodrow *Corr* (1843) III 179 This matter would be softly ha died and title human and but brother like cruel and in human people in violenting the good man in this matter. *refl* 1730 Boston *Mem* (1899) 225 I would fain have caused the matter to cease, because of one that was present I restrained and violented myself

b. To compel or force (a person) *to* (*unto*, *into*) some action or *to* do something

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist* xi xvii. 157 When a great Adver sary violented him to request his Majesty to Try what it was that all was frustrated 1660 — *Mixt Contempl* xxxvii. (1841) 208 Surely many moderate men designed a good mark to themselves, and journey whereby, in due civil destruction, they were not violented to outrun the mark. 1710 Blackwell *Schema Sacrum* v 103 Sin and Dam nation charity to others it were) then the same. 1721 Wodrow *Hist. Sufr Ch. Scot* II 269 The Procedure of this Period in violenting People into the Declaration.

3 To bring about (an action) by force or compulsion *rare*

1691 Cheyne *Considerations* 13 The free putting him self into his hands being done willingly not violented by any extrinsecall power

4 To perpetrate or attempt with violence

*a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies Anglesea* iv (1662) 19 This Bishop Farrar was afterwards martyred in the raign of Queen Mary. I find not the least appearance, that his former adversaries violented any thing against him under that Queen.

5 *intr* To act or rage with violence *rare*—1

The 1st Folio reads 'no lesse'.

1608 Shakes. *Tr. & Cr. iv* iv 4 (Q.), Why tell you me of moderation? The griefe is fine, full, perfect that I taste, And violentesh in a sence as strong As that which causeth it.

Hence † **Vi olented** *ppl. a. Obs*

1642 Howell *Twelve Treat* (1661) 90 It reaches to their very soules and consciences by violented new coercive Oaths and Protestations. 1643 *Observ on his Majesty's late Answere* 24 A strange vi lented wrested conclusio

**Violently** (vəi·ələntli), *adv* [f. Violent *a* + -ly 2.]

1 By means of physical strength or violence, by the exercise of improper or unlawful force, forcibly. Now *Obs* or *arch*

1382 Wyclif *Ezek* xxii. 29 Puphs of the loond violenli raujsheden the nedi man, and tourmentiden the pore man. *c* 1400 Maundev (1839) viii 72 And there was oute lord scourged and amytten a dy3ten violently entretee. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 16 He þis article are þey vnderstonde acursyd þat stelyn or beryn violenly out of holy cherche holy cherch good. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 How violenly and without all ...tie they racked that blessed body. 1533 Coverdale *Lev* v 23 He shal restore agayne that he toke violently awaye, or ...ge wrongeously. 1580 W. T. (Rhem.) *John* vi Annotations, Not compelling or violently forcing any against their will. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowe* ii § 7. 142 What is violently or fraudulently gotten, wilbe lavishly spent. 1695 Lo. Preston *Boeth* i 32 If thou hadst rather be thought to have been violently remov'd thou hast done thyself this Injury. 1788 Burke *Pr. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II 108 After he had unjustly and violently expelled the rajah Cheyt Sing from his sand lordship. 1813 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii To range under the banners of the community, which you took violently from it.

b With other than physical violence, in some illegal unwarrantable, or improper manner

1552 [Wilson *Logike* (1580) 16 Neuther can any Lawe bee stable, violently to force the inordinate lewdnesse of man. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm* 216 Luther was in dede condemned at Rome, but his cause not heard, voide ly and tyrannically. 1626 Gouge *Serm. D. prep. Ezekias* 17 The forenamed point the Dignity of Chvalry, i not violently wrested but properly arisech out of my Text. 1849 Rubens *Anc. Europe* iv § 18 Rome could not have made itself with the vulgarity of the thing to which you have violently attached it

2 By or with great or extreme force, strength, or vigour, with impetuous or violent motion or action. so as to produce a violent effect

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 25 Peyh al an oost stood by pe pond and torned pe face thiderward pe water wolde drawe hem violentliche toward pe pond. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2571 With pe venymous swerde a wayte hase he towchede! That voydes so violently þat alle his wytte changede! *a* 1425 tr *Ardenne's Treat Fistula*, etc. 54 Som tyme a man is smytyn with sorwe & anguysch violently without wondyng of pe skynne *Ibid* 65 þis [remedy] werkeþ nogt so violently as þulius sine pan for he wer gret pat enyoh not here. 1485 *Caxton Jason* (1477) P. A xi xiii. (Caxton) 398 Though a bledder be lyghte yet it makyth grete noyse and nowne yf it be sodenly blowen and afterwarde violently thrusted. 1535 *Coverdale 1 Pet Acts* (S. T. S.) III 339 The greattest appetite ariseth in the less and charyes the man away violently with hir. 1595 *Leicrtus* iii vi 66 He cutteth a veyne with sawn me violently with blood. 1597 A. M. tr *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 20 If the Arterye be greate and violently beateth. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 351 The streame shooting violently ouer til eir heads without wetting them. 1687 *Mariner's Mag* v xii 69 At 10 deg inounture, [the gun] carries the Bullet violet thy 248 Paces. 1912 Budgell *Spect No* 161 P 3 An huge brawny Fellow who had thrown about, and shook the little Man so violently that [etc.]. 1750 tr *Leo arcana Mirr. Stones* 132 When it is kindled by fire it rarifies and is violently inflated. 1818 Todd *Johnson's Dict.* xxi (1839) 449 The ships were driven violently against each other. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxvi, The bells rang violently through the house. 1875 Miller & Procter *Gen Org* 148 The chlorinated derivatives of Dutch liquid are violently decomposed by potassium. 1880 Tyndall *Glac* i xxvii. 181 The windows shook violently

3 With great intensity or severity, to a high degree or pitch, intensely, severely

14 *Brut* ii 328 Grete hetes, & herewipal a grete pes tiens destroyed & slow, violently & strongly, bot men & wymmen without noumbre. 1587 Fleming *Holinshed Chron* I 438 Leste shoulding Show rs should pierce her secret Seat Or scorching Suns too violently heat. 1784 *Lond. Gaz* No 6906/2 The small Pox is very violently prevalent on the Queen W dow. 1796 *Le ban fyl'e Moore Carew* 34 Violently afflicted with the Sea sickness. 1802 *Arab Ats* (1815) II 172 He wept most violently. 1842 Macready *Fitzhoodle's Prof* Misc. Wks. 1857 IV 6 The conscience was that I became so violently ill as to be reported intoxicated. 1855 Macaulay *Hist & Eng* xiii III 351 The civil war broke forth again more violently than before.

b In intensive or emphatic use To a very great or extreme degree or extent, very greatly, powerfully or strongly

1602 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess Seneca* (1631) 43 It is no charity to give so violently as to lay waste the estate of an estate. 1621 Fletcher *Isl Pris.* III v, I may be mad or violently drunk. 1827 Jas Mill *Brit India* I i 1 3 This splendid fortune had violently attracted the attention of Europe. 1845 Dickens *Chimes* I Pt A great multitude of persons will be violently anton shed. 1869 *Eng Mech* 19 Nov 224/3 We see it [an ellipse] violently foreshortened.

4. Strongly, in respect of feeling with deep feeling or emotion, ardently passionately, vehemently.

1617 Morvson *Itin* III iv 55 My wife weary of expecting companions, and violently carr ed with the desire to returne into my Countrey did all al ne ...sease our the Alpes. 1682 Norris *Heroicles* 35 Not violently agitated by our domestick passions. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II v. He then desired to know how it came to pass that people were so violently bent upon getting into this assembly. 1780 *Mirror* No. 98, As I was not violently inclined towards literature. 1841 Lane *Arab Nts* I 90 Upon which the man became violently enraged. 1908 *Lit World* 15 Nov 492/1 Her work throws her in contact with a fiery young idealist, and she falls violently in love with him.

**5** *colleg.* In a flashy or showy manner; ‖ loudly; 1781 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 15 Dec. She was violently dressed —a large hoop, ribands and ornaments extremely shown

**Violentness.** *? Obs* [f Violent *a*] The state or quality of being violent, violence

1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 148 If all that I do not in my the violentness I this Pursuit 1727 Bailey (vol. II). *Violentness* Vi le nce, Forcibleness, Vehemence, Sharpness, Boisterousness, Outrageousness 1737 Bracken *Farry ry Impr.* (1756) I 24 The Violentness of the Seasons 1748 Warburton *Jrnl. 4 Apr.* Writ (1889) I 5 This day our tent was blown by ye violentness of ye wind

‖ **Violento.** *Obs*—1 [It —*l. violentus* Violent *a*] A violent person, one using or inclined to use violence

*a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies Cumbld & I* (1662) 228 He was no Violento in the Ir ulles of Francfor't, but with all meekness to his might, e ideavoured a pacification

**Violer** (vai·ălăi) Now *arch* Also 6 *Sc.* **veolar,** 6, 9 **violar,** 7 **violler** [adl. Fr. *violier* (A.F. *violour*)] see Viol, -ER 1] A player of the viol, in early use esp one attached to the household of the king, a noble, etc , a fiddler

Chiefly in Sc use, and frequent in Scottish records and accounts of the 16th and 17th centuries

1551 *Acc Ld Privy Seal Treasr Scot* 32 To the saidis violaris to by thame leveray 1555–8 *Ibid* 67 Be the lordis compositionis specialie command to my lord governouris violaris. 1587 Reynold *Contr Hatchard* 111 *Ysaie* An other scrattle pageant made by an other compaine of the rhetoricians, called painters or violers 1617 in 3rd *Acct Hist M.S. Commn* 414/1 Mr Hamilton violer to the scotsh parleit the saidis knychtis to this burgh 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim Laws & Ct. of Sc* §4 (1699) 185 James John stoun Violer, arraigned before the Magistrats of Edinburgh a 1722 Sir J. Lauder *Decisions* (1759) I 364 A Violer was serenade g in the night time with his fiddle 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* lxii, They have brought another violer upon my walk! 1825 – *Betrothed* xxx I had forgot the distance between an Armorican violer and a high Norman baron 1842 James *Forest Days* iv, Come Master Violer let us hear the notes of the catgut

**Violescent** (vəiō·lĕsĕnt), *a* [f L. *viola* Viola 1 + -escent. Cf. Violaceant *a*] Tending to a violet colour, tinged with violet

1847 Webster 1863 Tuzelius tr. *Oella & Dr Pascal* 1 Under the sky of a fiery violescent blue 1896 — tr. *Zola's Rome* 4 The yellow sunflashes sharply outlined the violescent shadows

**Violet** (vəi·ălĕt), *sb*1 Forms 4– violet (6 *Sc.* violat), 4–7 violett, 5–6 yvolet (5 -ett, wyolet); 5–6 violette (5 6 -ete), yolette (5 -ytte), 5 yvalett, violet, 6 vilet, 7–9 vi·let. [In senses 1–2, a Of *violete, violette* (mod.F. *violette* = It *violetta* sp and Pg *violeta*), dim of the Viola 1 In senses 3–4, a Of *violete violete, violette* fem., or *violet, violet, vilet* (mod F *violet*) masc , of similar origin ]

**1** A plant or flower of the genus *Viola*, esp *V odorata*, the sweet smelling violet, growing wild, and cultivated in gardens , the flowers are usually purplish blue, mauve, or white **a.** In sing. without article or with *the*

*c* 1330 *Arth & Merl.* 8446 Alisne it is in ume of June, Violet & rose flour Wonep han in maidens bour 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 261 Of bat hille [the stone] smelleb swete as violet 1400 *Destr Troye* (Caxton, 1483) iv xxvii 74 The white lely, the rede rose, the fresshe violet. *c* 1440 *Lailed on Hull* 1 1014 In bushis, treen & leri is they may fynde Herbe and time, and violet 1480 Henrysoun *Tables Lyon & Mouse* in The ro is red and the purpour violat blu *c* 1530 *Cct of Ladies* 1 Like as at other thewe the fyne violet is straight. The grene rose the violete, and the gold 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 36 There growes the cowsloppe the primrose an I the violet 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 893 Grapes, Currans, Raspis, and Hyacinth with rich inlay I rostered the ground *a* 1718 Prior *Garland* 4 The Pride of every Grove I chose, The Violet sweet, and I illy long 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct xxxi. (1756) 477 Anturrhinum, Fumitory, Violet Impatiens, and Orchis. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem Org Bodies* 386 The violet is well known to be coloured by a blue matter which acids change to red 1855 Kingsley *Heroes, Theseus* i. 199 The meadows [are sweet] with violet

b. With *a* and pl. A single flower, plant, or species of this

c 1390 Chaucer *Boeth* i. met vi (1868) 28 Yif pou wilt gadre violettis ne po pou not to be purper wode whan pe felde chukynge agrisep of colde. *c* 1400 Maundev (1839) xiv. 160 Here colour is more lyvenee than the Violettes 24 *Nom* in Wr. Wülcker 712 *Hecviola*, a violyte 1483 *Cath Angl* 402/2 A violett, *viola*. 1576 Fleming *Panopl Epist* 352 What man is able to affirme, that he ever sawe the Spring tide without Marche Violettes? 1598 Yong *Diana* 469 Roses and violets strowing 1613 Drayton *Strange Horse Race* Ep. 1 And I'e can bee no shame to gather a Violet, growing close to the ground 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iv. 269 He spoils the Saffr n flowr he nips the Blues Of Violets. 1798 *Ib* Thomson *Spring* 448 Where purple violets lurk With all the lowly children of the shade 1791 Cowper *Odyss* v 86 Meadows of softest verdure, purpled o er With violets. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond Disp* (1818) 208 Violets have an agreeable sweet odour, and a rather slightly bitter taste 1880 Besery *Bot* 551 The genus *Viola* the Violets, includes about half of the species of the order

c *collect* and pl The plant, or more usually the flowers, pulled or plucked for use in medicine or in making confections.

*collect* a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med MS* 21 For to makyn surripe of violet 24 *Med Rec in Rel Ant* I. 52 For the stanie tek grummel, percel, rede nettil, violet, franken ensens, and christiane kimels. *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistulis*, etc 63 Oile of violets with white of an ewe well stired to gidre 1562 Turner *Herbal* ii 164 The violet is better that is gathered in the morning. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond Disp* (1818) 688 Syrup of Violet

*pl a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistulis*, etc 93 Oile of violettez may be made in be same maner *Ibid*, Oile of violettes 1562 J. Turner *Herbal* ii 164 Violettes make a man to slepe, and they are good for the disease of the viula. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden* (1593) 83 The Violets ought esps cially to be gathered in March, and stayed in the shadowy place of the sne 1632 Jordan *Nat Bathes* vi (1669) 41 If Matthiolus his reason were good, then Roses and Violets, and Vinegar should be hot 1718 Quincy *Compl Disp* 181 Violets are in every one's acquaintance, for their Use in Medicine 1736 Bailey *Houzh. Dict.*, *Violets* are of a laxative quality, and are us d medicinally in syrups, julaps, conserves oils, &c. 1855 Mayne *Expos Lex* 539 *Isiaachar*, old name for the sugar of violets 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 458 The Violets generally, have been used on the Continent as demulcent expectorants 1887 *Lady* 20 Jun 58 3 Small cut glass dishes of pink and white bon bons, together with candied violets

d *fig* (Applied esp to persons)

1418–20 Lydg *Chron. Troy* iii 4380 Somme also With be lillye of virginite And violettis of parfit chastite, Ascendyd, as I haue be-seen ere 14 — *In My Sovereyne Lady* 96 O violet, *O fir our desiree*, Sith I am for you so amorous (etc) *c* 1440 *Jacob Hyst* xxv 498 Hayll! I voylett, vermodi colour 1593 Shaks. *Rich II*, v. iii. 68 Welcome my sonne. who are the violets now, That strew the greene lap of the new come Spring? 1842 Tennyson *Will Waterproof* 24 How out of place she makes The violet of a legend blow Among the chops and steaks!

**2** With specific epithets & Denoting species of *Viola*, or varieties of the common violet.

The number of these is very large and only the older or more prominent are illustrated here Tournefort's species (53 in all) are enumerated in *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl (1753) s v *Viola*. Many more may be found in London *Encycl Pl.* (1829–40) 286 and Johnson *Cottage Gard Dict* (1850) 512–3 American species are given by Gray *Man Bot* (1850 etc) and in recent American dictionaries See also Dog Violet

1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v *Viola*, The purple Spanish Violet, with very small leaves 1770 Petiver *Catal. Rar y Exot Plants* 1 Violet, Blue Violet, Dog Violet 1807 Hogg *Pilgrims of Sun* Scott (1839) II 1109 *Viola hirta*, Hairy Violet 1578–1601 March Violet [see March sb.2 2 b] 1748 Hanbury *Sci Gard* I 106 Sweet-scented March Violets *Ibid*, Double March Violets 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Viola* Greater hairy March Violet, without smell. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v *Viola*, The second leaved March Violet *Ibid*, Double March Violets 1777 Lightfoot *Flora Sc* I (1789) I 506 *Viola palustris*, Marsh Violet 1657 Coles *Adam in Eden* 175 Mou tain Violets with jagged leaves 1763 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl s v *Viola*, The great flowered yellow mountain Violet 1858 Irvine *Handbk Bees* II 688 *Viola lutea*, Yellow Mountain Violet, Yellow Pansy 1866 Treas *Bot* 1256 Dog-violet ‖ [see Neapolitan *a* b] 1856 Delamer *Fl Gard* (1861) 106 The *Parma* Violet has very light blue double flowers. 1866 Delamer *Fl Gard* 22 Any sandy or conservatory all ddown with snowdrops and Parma violets Cetiv Petiver *Catal Rar y Exot Plants* 1 xxxvii Yellow Violet with jagged leaves 1753 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl Such are the "Russian and the Neapolitan Violets, amongst the singles. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1218 2 Large flowered simple kinds—2. Violets 1866 Treas *Bot* 1258 Lute *Dodonæi* ii. 48 The "sweete Violet is called in Lutine *Viola nigra*, *Viola purpurea* 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xxvi (1794) 405 The sweet Violet is that among the herbs, hedges, and banks of woods 1853 Royle *Man Med* (ed 2) 337 The Sweet Violet is found wild on the borders of fields 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Viola*, The sweet-scented Violet 1832 Baines *Mist Mid*, 338 Sweet Scented Violet *Viola odorata* 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 705 The upright Pancie is called *Viola arvensis*, *Tricolor*, that is to say Straight, or upright Violet *Pansies* 1763 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl. s v. *Viola*, The mountain three coloured Violet, or pansie, with variegated flowers. *Ibid*, The "tree Violet, with blue and white flowers *Ibid* The "yellow flowered tree Violet 1852 Glenny *Handbk Fl Card* 164 The tree violet is a double flowered, dark variety, which, if kept trained to a single stem, acquires the appearance of a miniature tree 1846–59 A. Wood *Class Bk Bot* 178 *Viola tricolor* "Tricolored Violet Pansey Heart's-ease 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 700 The "white violet 1763 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl. s v. *Viola*, The white violet 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Viola*, Wild or Dogs Violet 1731 Petiver *Catal Rar y Exot Plants* 1 xxxvii, Hairy Yellow Violet 1866 Treas *Bot* 1256 Dog-violet ‖ [see Glenny *Handbk Fl Card* 164 The tree violet is a double flowered, dark variety, which, if kept trained to a single stem, acquires the appearance of a miniature tree 1846–59 A. Wood *Class Bk Bot* 178 *Viola tricolor* "Tricolored Violet Pansey Heart's-ease 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 700 The "white violet 1763 *Chambers' Cycl* Suppl. s v. *Viola*, The white violets 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Viola*, Wild or Dogs Violet *c* 1510 Petiver *Catal Rar y Exot Plants* 1 xxxvii, Hairy Yellow Violet 1866 Treas *Bot* 1256 Dog-violet ‖ [see Glenny *Handbk Fl Card* 164 The tree violet is a double flowered, dark variety, which, if kept trained to a single stem, acquires the appearance of a miniature tree 1846–59 A. Wood *Class Bk Bot* 178 *Viola tricolor* "Tricolored Violet Pansey Heart's-ease 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 700 The "white violets

1829 *Greenhouse Comp* I 107 Purple *violet like flowers on coniaceous roundish leaves 1840 Mag. Norton *Dream* 338 The *violet scented lanes—the warm south wall 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xii, An afternoon in which destiny poisons us with violet scented breath. 1891 Mas. Brown-ing *Casa Guidi Windows* I 140 Like some new bee swarm leaving the old hive, Despite the wax no *violet sweet

**c.** With vbl sbst., as *violet farming, -plucking, -poisoning, -selling*

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb* (1896) 268 Violette settyng in Feuerer 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daughter* I 15 Daisy picking and violet plucking [were now] the only pursuits she really loved 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 8/2 The above case of violet poisoning 1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 July 6/3 Rose culture, violet farming, bee keeping, or poultry rearing

**6** Special Combs. †**violet-apple**, a violet-scented sort of apple, **violet blind** *a*, colour-blind as regards the violet rays of the spectrum; hence *violet-blindness*, † **violet pear**, a violet-scented sort of pear, **violet-powder**, a variety of toilet-powder, hence *violet-powder* vb., † **violet tables**, lozenges made from violets and sugar, **violet tree** (?), **violet wood**, (*a*) kingwood, (*b*) the wood of the Australian *Acacia pendula*, (*c*) the wood of *Andira violacea* a tree of Guiana, **violetworts**, Lindley's name for the *Violaceæ*

1664 in Evelyn *Pomona* 47 Herefordshire affords several sorts of Cuter apples, as ... the Cenon monk, the yellow *violet or Fillet and the Winter fillet. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* 163 The Violet Apple is of a most delicate aromatick taste 1834 Abney *Colour Vision* (1895) 70 The kind of colour that these colour blind imagine as white, whether they be red, green or *violet blind *Ibid.* 73 So far I have only met with what appears to be one genuine case of *violet blindness 1683 P. Velyn *Kal. Hort* (ed 7) 104 *Violet pear Petworth pear, otherwise called the Winter Windsor 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, *Violet powder*, powdered starch or flour scented, used to powder the skin 1899 *Habits of Gd Society* 114 The use of violet powder after shaving, now very common ... is one that should be avoided 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* v. 58 I say, however violet powder her fresh cheeks 1620 Venner *Via ad Ia* vii. 147 There is made of Violets and Sugar certaine Plates called *Violet Tables which are very pleasant to the taste. 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II ix 281 You may also see here [sc. Barundu] the *Streitzan vogum*, or the wild banana, or the *violet tree a 16 Nov. Sherry-tree 1598 T. Fawkner *Voy* 129 Latter wood (as they call it) and that of *Violet are very common in that country 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I 85 K 19, wood called also Violet wood is imported from the Brazils. 1852 [see Myall ²] 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1218/2 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 338 The *Violet worts are distinctly defined by their definite stamens.

† **Violet**, *sb.*² *Obs.*⁻¹ [cf. *violetta*, dim of *viola* Viola ¹.] (See quot and cf Violette.)

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III xvi (Roxb.) 58/1 The Violet or Violin a diminutive of the viol being a very small Instrument, yet in all respects answereth to the forme of the Treble Viole in the body

**Violet** (vai·ŏlet), *a* Also 4–6 **violett**, 5 **vyo-let**(te **vyelett**, **violit**. [a OF *violet*, *vielet*, *violet* (mod *F violet*) adj. see Violet *sb* ¹ Cf. It *violetto*, Pg. *violeta*.]

**1** Having the colour of violets, of a blue or bluish purple colour

In early use only of woven fabrics.

1370 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 5, 3 violett toga. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/2 Violet, ɜ. *colore violaceus* 1484 *Mankind* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 40, No. 6, ij togas blewe et violette, ij doblet. *c* 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 202 Item ij stykkes of tamy asheyr the violett asteyn of Bruges 1524 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 130 A violett reband with silver aglyttes 1544 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I 34 To Agnes Gill my violett kyrtell 1579 *Reg. Privy Council* Scot. III 193 Three single pandis lynit with violet silk *c* 1620 Moryson *Itin* iv v 1 (1903) 438 Next rode some 20. of the Pope's Chamberlayns and cheefe officers cloathed in gownes of violett Color 1812 J. H. Smith & Cary *Horace Philos* 223 The luminous particles at the violet end of the spectrum 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* Org. viii. 537 Boiling nitric acid colours it violet 1882 Ruskin *Proserpina* II (1903) 1/1 *Life* (1905) II 64 Directly fronting you, rises a magnificent violet stretch of mountain

**b** Qualifying *colour*, *hue*, *tint*, etc

*c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb.) xvii 80 Men find dynamaunds of violet colour 1548 Cooper *Elyot's Dict.*, *Violarius* he that dieth violet colour 1601 Holland *Pliny* II 602 There is not one of these Amyrynes but it is transparent with a Violet colour 1622 3 *Essex Archæology Depositions Bk* (MS.) 27 b/b 26 One cloake for a man made of broade cloath and of a violett colour 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *Delight in Disorder* 1 Violet Dye or colour 1706 London & Wise *Ad. Gard.* I ix 41 The Maugeron is [a plum] of a Violet Colour large and round 1750 tr. *Lemarchal Mem. Stones* 79 The carbuncle brandishes its fiery rays, of a violet colour on every side 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I 193 Hydrogen gas alters the colour of brasil, and gives it a violet tint 1834 J. Forbes *Lacunæ Dr. Chast* (ed 4) 363 The lung was of a violet hue, soft & flabby *a* 1876 W. Carleton *Farm Ballads* (1893) 84 The squire swore oaths of a violet hue.

**c** Qualifying names of other colours, as *violet black*, *blue*, etc.

In later use frequently hyphened (cf next) and in some cases (esp. *violet blue*) also very loosely used simply.

1708 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Red* In Limning and Fresco, for a Violet Red they use a natural Earth found in Kingland 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I 11 754 The quills of a violet brown 1819 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool* XI i 3 The wings are of a fine deep violet blue 1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) IV 111 Flower-spike producing three to four flowers, and very handsome, of a beautiful violet-purple. 1880 *Garden* 17 June 528/1 The petals bordered with violet-crimson.

**d.** Forming adj combs., as *violet black*, *-blue*, etc Many examples occur in Shaw's *Gen. Zool*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV 394 From one Root the rising Stem bestows A Wood of Leaves, and Violet purple Boughs 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. s.v. *Star-wort*, The tall hairy New England aster with very large violet purple flowers. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool* III ii 443 Violet black Snake with the abdomen and sides crimson 1819 Stephens *Ibid.* XI i 59 The upper parts of the body [are] violet red 1838 J. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 746 The whole liquid assumes a very strong and fine violet blue colour 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 70 Hymenium violet brown; juice violet.

**2** *b.* In names of varieties of fruits or plants, as *violet clover*, *maize*, *plum* etc Also *elliptd*

1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard* I 147 The Fourth [kind is] the Violet Fig *Ibid*, The Violet ripens per fectly well. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 379 A violet plum is standard, which is a plum that does not ripen but the stone 1725 *Bain Dict. Plum* The Violet Damson or Maugeron Plum 1760-72 tr. *Duhamel's Veg* (ed. 3) II 340 To pulverize the cochineal by grinding, and after mixing four ounces of it, with twelve of violet maize, they form it into square cakes. 1786 Abercrombie *Gardening* (ed. 2) 22 The Violet, or Purple Cluster plum, Apricot plum 1880 Hogg *Fruit Man* 72 Figs Skin dark Flesh red Early Violet Malta *Ibid* 251 Purple Grape: Violet 1897 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX 803/2 The Violet Moss (*Byssus lolithus*) was formerly in use as a popular remedy for feverish cutaneous eruptions. 1899 *Pomona* 19 The 2 the cut of violet clovers in France is not likely to be large.

**b** In names of birds, insects, etc., as *violet bee*, *cormorant*, *crab*, *creeper*, *heron*, etc., **violet-ear**, one or other species of the genus *Petasophora* of humming-birds, **violet fly**, an artificial fly used in angling, **violet tip**, an American butterfly (see quot.)

Latham's names are repeated in Shaw's *Gen. Zool* (1811–26).

1845 *Encycl Metrop* XIV 153/1 A *violet bee which they store sent off [from the balloon] flew quickly away with its usual humming noise. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* V 367 The Violet Carpenter Bee (*Xylocopa violacea*) inhabits the south of Europe. 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III ii 600 *Violet Corvorant. This bird is said to be wholly black, glossed with violet 1806 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XII ii 1 *Violet-eared Humming-bird 1774 Goldsm *Nat. Hist* (1824) III 86 The *Violet Crab of the Carribee Islands. 1895 *Fall Mall G.* 26 July 2/2 The violet-vertised land-crabs are going the same violet crab round on similar tropical islands 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I ii 702 *Violet Creeper 1802 Gould *Troch.* II Pl. 123 Brazilian Violet-ear 1838 *Ibid* Pl. 226 Mexican Violet-ear 1887 R. B. Sharpe *Gould's Trochilidæ* Suppl. V Pl. 1 *Petasophora Germana*, Guiana Violet-ear 1796 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds Heathen's* VII. 1823) 255 A fly called the *Violet Fly is made of a dark violet stuff with the wings, of a grey feather of a mallard 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 102 I have likewise fly'd Dubbed with dark violet mohair with a thin bear's hair mixed with it 1838 Lytton *Leila* I x The old Corporal busily employed in fixing to his line what anglers call the *violet fly 1815 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool* IX ii 249 *Violet Grosbeak, with a streak above the eyes. 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III i 97 *Violet Heron, of a blueish black, glossed with violet 1788 *Ibid.* II ii 718 *Violet Humming Bird; the whole head, the neck back, breast and belly, of a violet purple 1854-5 J. G. Wood *Homes without Hands* (1888) 88 The *Violet Land Crab of Jamaica (*Cœnobita vuricola*) is the most familiar of these cre atures. 1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 203 The *Violet Pygmy (*Myrina silenus*) ... Wings: fore pair deep black with a tinge of violet 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III ii 600 *Violet Shag Violet Corvorant. 1898 Baird *Cyc. Nat. Sci.* 309/2 *Tanthiana* The *Violet Shells. —A genus of mollusks belonging to the class *Cæsteropoda*. 1845 Gosse *Ocean* vii. (1849) 343 The *Violet snail (*Janthina fragilis*) whose shell is of a pearly white above, and violet below. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* iv 76 Those singular molluscous swimmers by fin or float known to zoologists as violet snails. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II ii 511 *Violet Swallow general colour of the plumage deep blue reflecting violet in different tints. *Ibid.* i 222 *Violet Tanager colour of the plumage a deep violet. *Ibid* 57 *Violet Thrush; the whole plum age of a changeable violet blue. 1881 S. H. Scudder *Butterflies* 167 The most conspicuous case [of dimorphism] is the violet tip (*Polygonia interrogationis*), where the two forms were once universally considered distinct species.

**c** With names of minerals, etc.

1706 Stevens *Dict. Span. & Engl.*, *cermesil*, etc. xv 497 The violet rock crystal or amethyst, seems scarce. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl* IX 803/2 *violet Stones*, certain stones found in Germany, which are of a violet colour, and in consequence of being covered with Violet Moss, emit a smell like that of violets. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 333 Violet wood is used for making inlaid chairs.

**3** In parasynthetic combs., as *violet-eared*, *-headed*, *hooded*, *-horned*, *ringed*, etc.

1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I ii. 767 *Violet Eared Humming Bird; beneath the ears, is a very spleudid violet spot 1834 Penny *Cycl.* II 12 Feb. 6/3 Violet-eared Aracari, African fireinches, black-crested yellow bulbuls. 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I ii 718 *Violet Headed Creeper 1806 *Gentleman's Magazine* LXXVI ii 1202 *Violet Cow. *Zool* IX 1 8 Violet headed Curucui (*Trogon violaceus*). 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* II 354 With scraps of thundrous Epic lilted out By *violet-hooded Doctors. 1820 *Hortus Angl* II 10 *Violet horned Poppy 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Variety* 4 A *violet ringed Oak Eggar caterpillar 1821 Shelley *Epipsych* 69 Art thou not A *violet-shrouded grave of Woe? *a* 1822 — *Death Adonais* 4 Wake *violet stoled queen, and weave the crown Of Death 1865 Arbe crombie *Arrangem.* 17 in *Gard. Assist.*, White, *violet striped (tulip). 1823 Shaw *Gen Zool* IV ii 382 *Violet striped Acanthurus *Acanthurus Sohal* 1768 Latham *Gen Synop. Birds* I ii 734 *Violet tailed Humming Bird 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool* VIII i. 208 *Violet throated Creeper *Certhia affinis*

**Violet** (vai·ŏlet), *v* [f Violet *sb* ¹ or *a*.]

**1** *trans* To tinge with a violet hue

1603 tr. *Pettie's Guazzo's Civil Conv.* I iv 35 For the Noble Kings of Fraı ce mourne in Scarlet violetted 1822 [R. Cattermole] *Beckett*, etc. 198 The sea, Yet darkner violetted almost frowned With splendor 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marriage* v On flanks of the white in heaven was violetted wonderfully

**2** *intr* To gather violets.

1823 Miss Mitford in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) I 226 Tomorrow I shall go violeting 1827 Mrs Hemans in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1836) I 151 Having accompanied you again and again as I have done in 'violetting' and seeking for wood sorrel. 1873 *Argosy* XVI 270 How delightful was that day among the Kentish Downs! We began it by violeting in the woods

**Violet-coloured**, *a* [Violet *sb* ¹ or *a*.] Having the blue or bluish purple colour of a violet.

1552 in *Inl Hist MSS Comm., War Coll* IV 221 The xlviij and other onneste men in violet collord gownes 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxxv. 252 Six or seven pieces of Violet coloured Damask 1671 Woodhead *St Teresa* II 276 A longer Coffin in fashion of a Tomb was provided, which they covered with violet coloured Silk 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III ii. (ed. 3) II 244 The Violet coloured Tulip striped with White 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. s.v. *Star wort*, The broad leaved panicled aster with deep violet coloured flowers 1800 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 516 A violet coloured glass stops 955 rays of light. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem. Org.* vii § 1 447 The liquid deposits beauti ful violet-coloured prismatic crystals. 1886 Proctor *Ocean* II. 27 Looking round us and down into nothing but the violet-coloured ocean

**Violetish** (vai·ŏletiʃ), *a* [f Violet *sb* ¹ + -ish ¹] Somewhat violet in colour

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 359 A grey partak ing of a violetish tone 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Feb. 16 3 Its flesh is a violetish black or a blackish violet, overrun by a thin network of wi te veins

**Violette.** *rare*⁻¹ [ad It *violetta*] = Violet *sb* ²

1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* I 259 The smaller viols or violettes of the seventeenth century fell into violins.

**Violety** (vai·ŏleti), *a* [f Violet *sb* ¹ + -y] Of or belonging to violets, more or less violet in colour

1891 Keightley *Mythol Anc. Greece & It.* 399 His mother called him Iamus, *Violety Hair* 1 *Hist. Vis* (1900) 96/2 Dark eyelashes and brows, and large eyes violety bluey blackish

**Violin** (vaiŏlin, vai·ŏlin), *sb* Forms 6 violine, 7 violyne, violihn, 7– **violin** [ad It *violino* (l *violino*, Sp *violin*), f *viola* Viola ².

Cf Violon]

**1** A musical instrument in common use, having four strings tuned in fifths and played with a bow, a fiddle

In general structure the violin is composed of a resonant box of elaborately curved outline and a neck or handle from the end of which the strings are stretched over a bridge to a tail piece

1599 Sparnon *Steph. Cal*, *April* 103 These Calliope speede her to the place, where n y Goddesse shines And after her the other Muses trace with ti ar Violines 1589 R. Harvey *Pl Perc* (1590) 6 Then were it high time for all Pipe-Makers to put up their pipes, or else in steed of the soft violine, learne to sound a shrill trumpet 1608 B. Jonson *Masques* Wks. (1616) 964 The first [dat ce] was to the Violyne 1611 the second to the Violihn 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 115 Some excellently pleasing lesson plaid upon soft winde instruments or Violins. 1660 Peters *Diary* 6 Mar, I play'd upon a small Violin, after dinner 1772 Sterle *Spect* No. 258 P 4 Violins, Voices, or any other Organs of Sound 1776 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II 30 Orpheus or Amphion is frequently playing upon a violin 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* i 1, He was not only a composer, but also an excellent practical pe former especially on the violin 1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* I 237 The violin is not an i vention it is a growth

**b** With distinguishing terms.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetast* III iv Come, we must have you turne fiddler against the maske, get a basse violin, or a treble violin. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* (O H S) I 212 Before the restoration of K. Charles 2 and especially after viola began to be out of f shion and only violins used as treble violin tenor and bass-violin 1685 Playford (*title*) The Division Violin containing a Collection of Divisions upon several Grounds for the Treble Violin. 1708 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. Ground Violin alone, stands for Treble Violin *Ibid*, The Counter Tenor, Tenor or Base Violin 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 245/1 The tenor violin, in compass a fifth lower than the treble violin, appears to have preceded the latter

**c.** *To play first violin*, to take the leading part. (Cf Fiddle *sb* 1 b)

1780 Mme D'Arblay *Diary* May [He] seemed to think nobody half so great as himself and chose to play first violin without further ceremony

**2** One who plays on the violin a violinist

1667 Pepys *Diary* 20 Feb. They talked how the King's violin, Bannister, is mad *c* 1670 Wood *Life* (O H S) I 485 Thomas Baltzar one of the viol ns in the king a service. 1699 J. Jackson *Let to Pepys* 23 Dec., Corelli the famous violin player, in concert with above 30 more 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 346 *b* At the early age of twenty he was chosen to fill the situation of first violin in the royal chapel of Turin 1878 Miss Fothergill (*title*), The First Violin.

**3** A variety of organ stop. *rare*—1.
1688 [see VIOL *sb*1 3].

**4** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *violin bow, case, class, family*, etc, *violin maker, -making, -player, violin tune, shaped* adjs.
1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* **violin bow* a bow strung with horse hair, for playing on a violin 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2713/1 The Hindus claim to have invented the violin bow 1685 *Lond Gaz* No 2041/4 Lost a black Leather *Violin Case, with a Violin in it. 1840 DICKENS *Old C Shop* XXVII 'She might as well have been dressed in a violin-case. 1884 ENGEL *Mus Anc Nat* 86 Two other Hindoo instruments belonging to the *violin class. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict Mus Terms* 440/1 **I olin clef*, the G clef placed upon the first line of the stave 1865 HULLAH *Transition Period Music* 14 Of these instruments it would easily be found that incomparably the most important were the *Violin family 1837 *Penny Cycl* VIII 198/1 **I olin cmusical* instrument of the *viol'n kind 1884 EGAN LYALL *He Two* xix, *Violin like sensitiveness of nature 1683 *Lond Gaz* No 1862/8 Mr Aguttar, *Violin Maker in the Strand 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 346 The same author [M Otto] also gives the names of many German violin makers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech.* 2711/2 Antonio Stradivarius stands by common consent, at the head of all violin makers *Ibid* The art of *violin making appears to have reached its culminating point in the productions of the Cremonese school 1881 ADAMS 3000 *Mus Terms* 108 *Cembe'no* or violin music, educate, the cembe string 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2712/1 **I olin pi no*, a form of the pianoforte patented in England by Lodd 1869 BARING-GOULD *Postboy* IX 137 A *violin player, who confessed to thirty four murders. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz* XXIV 243/2 *note*, *Violin rosin is called in French *colophane* 1860 *Catal Patents Chubb Bevill* 5438, *Violin school for joint practice of the elementary and advanced classes 1802 R. HALL *Chem Dict* 158 Pandari form **violoriform* of violin shaped 1842 SPALDING *Italy & It Isl* III 160 Among the manufactures those of the fine arts, leather, and *violin strings are alone industriously practised 1871 tr *Schellen's Spectr Anal* App 433 The motion of a point near the end of a violin *string 1864 THOMPSON *Tu ours of Bladder* 82 A very small c vascar, with violin-string ligature. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 346 A lyre or lute may be considered as the parent of all instruments of the *violin tribe.

**Violin**, *v rare* [f prec.]
†**1** *trans* To entice by violin-playing *Obs*—1
1713 *Guatt Instructor* (ed 5) 63, Supp'd by a violin Was not Madam W plaid out of her Reputation, and violin'd into a Match below her Quality!

**2** *intr.* To play the violin, *fig*, to play a leading part
1805 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* XXX, How does he enjoy playing second fiddle with the maid while Mr tall brown face Taffy violins it to her ladyship?

Hence **Violining** *vbl sb*, and *ppl a*
1899 *Daily News* 15 Feb 5/2 The songs and the violining all perfect in their degree.

**Violin, var.** VIOLINE[1].

‖ **Violin na.** *Chem* [INA[1]] = next.
1826 SMART 1838 T THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 293 Violina is more soluble in water than emetina. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 345,2 The principle on which this property seems to depend has been separated by Boullay from some species of Viola, and has been called Violina.

**Violine**[1] (vəi·ləin) *Chem* Also -in [a. F. *violine*, f *viole* VIOL[1] + -INE[5] Cf prec.] A bitter emetic principle found in the common violet
1831 J DAVIES *Man. Mat Med* 338 An alkaloid principle, nearly related to emetine, discovered by M Boullay, who has called it *Violine* 1861 BENTLEY *Man Bot* 458 The emetic property is due to a peculiar alkaloid named *violine*, which greatly resembles, if it be not identical with *emetine* 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med Sci* V 490/2 *Viola odorata* contains a gastric irritant called violin

**Violine**[2] (vəi·ləin) *Chem* [f L. *viol a* VIOLA[1] + -INE[5]] A violet blue colouring matter or colour Also *attrib*
1850 D G FRASER in *Repertory Patent Invent* (1860) XXXV 159 The colouring matters I produce embrace shades of purple and pink Three of these I name respectively violine, purpurine and violeine 1862 *Calvert's Encycl* III 721/2 Violine is very slightly soluble in water, is readily dissolved by alcohol 1903 *Daily Chron* 31 Oct 8/4 Green is a dye that has receded from the affections of the smart, while violine is one that is equally ascending the scale of success. *Ibid.* 5 Dec. 8 4 A model in violine beaver trimmed with a plume to match.

**Violinism.** *rare*—1. [f VIOLIN *sb*] Violin-playing
1844 H F CHORLEY *Music & Manners* III 61 Royalty thus did its part in fostering a school of violinism.

**Violinist.** Also **violiniste.** [ad. F. It (also Sp) *violinista*, f *violino* VIOLIN *sb* Cf F *violoniste*] A player of or performer on, the violin
*c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O H S) I 374 N thinal Crew, M A, fellow of Lanc. Coll. a violinist and violist but always played out of tune. 1696 *Lond Gaz* No 3151 98 Mr Bevis Mell (the famous Violinist at Clock maker) 1773 *Hist Trans* LXIII 270 Our ablest violinists conceived that it was too difficult to be performed 1845 HOLMES *Mozart* 121 A natural surprise that the most striking acquirements of great players in our own time should be found in a violinist of that early date. 1888 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* VI 36 Violinist's cramp may attack the right hand which holds the bow, or the left hand which fingers the strings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 123, I have been informed that in violinists the bow arm is always considerably longer than the left arm.

**Violist** (vəi·ləst). [f. VIOL *sb*1 + -IST] A player on the viol (Also as the title of a book)
*c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O H S) I 274 He was a violinist and the two former violists. *a* 1699 B HELY (*title*), The compleat Violist, or An Introduction to the Art of Playing on the Bass Viol 1705 *Hist Trans* XXV 2069 Upon these, a Sonata was performed by those two most eminent Violists in 1734 NORTH *Exam* I 13 He outdid all his teachers and became one of the neatest violists of his time 1782 BURNEY *Hist Music* (1789) II IV 266 The Minstrels were at all times the best Vi lists of their age 1894 *Daily News* 5 Feb 5/3 A large viol, so large that a boy was placed inside to st g the air while the violist played the bass.

**Violl**, obs form of VIAL *sb*, VIOL *sb*

**Violon** (vəi·lŏn) Also 6 violan, -and, 7 ent, vyolon, phialon [a F *violon* (16th c) violin, or (in sense 2) It. *violone* bass viol Cf Sp *violon* violoncello]
†**1** A violin Also, a violinist *Obs*
a 1552 *Hausch. Eccl Princess Elis* 38 in *Camd Misc* (1853) II Paid in rewarde unto sondrie persons at S. James, her grace then being there— to the warderobe xl s.; the violons xl s. 1594 PLAT *Jewell ho* 1 39 Were it not, I could finde in my heart to commaunde the Violands to cease 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV vi 200 Hee beareth gules three treble violents tra xposed argent stringed sable
*fl* 1593 DRAYTON *Eclogues* iii 213 Tune the Taber and tr e Pipe to the sweet violons. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 130 In He could not only tune and make Virginals Organes, Violons but also tune and handsomely play vpon them. 1603 in *York Mem Mus Comm* App 122 Gifte to a sat of phialons when they played at my chamber dor xls. 1606 SILVESTER *Du Bartas* II iv *Trophees* 436 In Argos the chaste Violon For a absent Sovereign doth grave sweetly grone.

**2** A variety of organ stop.
1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 140 Violon is one of the finest and most common pedal stops of the organ. 1896 HILES *Catech Organ* IX (1878) 63 *1 lon* or *Violone* D uble Bass An open flue stop; the tone is penetrating a d fine, in imitation of the Double Bass Viol.

**Violoncellist.** [f next + -IST] One who plays the violoncello
1825 G HOGARTH *Musical Hist* 423 As a violoncellist, Lindley has for many years been unrivalled 1882 *Macm Mag* LXVI 60 I remember on one occasion that the violoncellist's instrument did not arrive

‖ **Violoncello** (vəiəlĭnse·lo, -tʃe·lo, vĭ,ŏlĭn-tʃe·lo). Also 8–9 **violincello** [It *violoncello*, dim. of *violone* see VIOLON Hence also Fg *violoncelle*, Sp *celo*, F *-celle*]
1. A large four-stringed instrument of the viol class a bass violin Cf. 'CELLO
a 1724 *Short Explic For Wks on Mus Bks*, *Violon cello*, is a Small Bass Violin, just half as big as a common Bass Violin 1748 Mrs BRADLEY *Princess* 1758 FR. BARSANTI (*title*) A Collection of Old Scots Tunes with the Bass for Violoncello or Harpsichord 1795 MASON *Ch Music* 73 I know a d confess that thus and the violoncello are the most perfect of all stringed Instruments 1867 TROTTER *Chron Barrel* II xiii 55 Of all the works of his life this piece is the only violoncello had been the sweetest to him 1881 C A. EDWARDS *Organs* 149 If the bass string of a violoncello be vibrated other sounds besides that proper to the string are sometimes detected
*fl* 1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil Trans* LXIII 271 note Mr Zeidler who plays the violincellon at Covent Garden theatre 1790 W. REVELEY *Proms G M Archeology* p cccxvi Dr Berkeley was esteemed the finest gentleman performer on the violoncello in England 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* vii, Mr Skimpole could play on the piano and the violoncello
**2** An organ stop having a tone similar to that of a violoncello
1876 HILES *Catech Organ* IX. (1878) 63 *Violoncello*, an 8 feet stop resembling in construction the Violone.
**3** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *violoncello bow, player, score*
1818 BLAQUIERE tr *Panaudi's Resid Algiers* 267 The *arabebbah* of the violincello species, with one string 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 246/1 One of his best violoncello bows, which he recently sold in Paris for £44 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 12 In the violoncello players who perform solos there is very great strain
Hence **Violoncelling** *ppl a*
1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* I (1863) 266 One fluting brother one fiddling ditto, a violoncelling music master; and a singing papa.

‖ **Violone** (vəiəlō·nē). [It, f *viola* VIOLA[2]] The double bass viol.
Also as the name of an organ stop see VIOLON 2
1724 *Short Explic For Wks in Mus Bks Violone* is a very large Bass Violin or Double Bass. 1730 *Treat Harmony* 34 This Error is daily run into, by giving Divided Basses to be play'd on the *Violone* or Double Bass 1824 *Mechanic's Mag* 31 July 335 Having made a violin a viola, and a violoncello I have long since conceived the idea of making a viol no [*sic*] or double bass also 1865 HULLAH *Transition Period Music* 118 Those Gothic abominations, the violin the viola, the violoncello and the violone 1872 H C. BANISTER *Music* 221 The Contra basso or Double Bass (also termed *Violone*), is the largest of the stringed instruments.

†**Violous**, irreg variant of VIOLENT *a*
1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* III 1 *Fra.* The Count shall pay for it! *Gil* You are so violous.

**Violurate** (vəiə·lĭurĕt) *Chem* [f VIOLUR-IC *a* + -ATE[1] C.] A salt produced by the action of violuric acid on a base
1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1001 Hydruric acid is warmed with water and nitrate of potassium, whereby deep-blue violurate of potassium is formed *Ibid* 1002 Violurate of Ammonium.

**Violuric** (vəiə·lĭu·rĭk), *a Chem.* [f VIOL(ET) + URIC *a*] *Violuric acid*, an acid produced by the action of nitric on hydruric acid
1868 OLLING *Anim Chem* 108 Baeyer has increased the list of compounds by his discovery of pseudo-uric acid, and the violuric and barbituric acids. 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1001 Violuric acid crystallises in shining, yellowish, rhombic octahedrons.

†**Viorne** *Obs*—1 [a. F *viorne* (16th c) —L. *viburna*, pl of *viburnum*] The wayfaring-tree
1637 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 491 *Inter viburna Cupressus* that is, the Cypresse tree amongst the Viornes [Ed 1610 among small twigges]

**Vipa·rious**, app a mistake or misprint for *vivacious* 'tenacious of life'
1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XII II, A cat the most viparious is limited to nine lives.

**Viper** (vəi·pəɹ) Also 6 **vyper, vypar, veper** [a OF *vipere, vipre* (mod F *vipère*) = Pr. *vipera vipra, vibra* fem, *vibre* masc, Sp. and Pg. *víbora*, It *vipera*) or ad. L *vipera* viper, snake, serpent, contracted from *vivi pera*, f. *vivus* alive, living, and *parĕre* to bring forth See also WIVER.]
**1** The small ovo-viviparous snake *Peltas berus* (formerly *Coluber berus* or *Vipera communis*), abundant in Europe and the only venomous snake found in Great Britain, the adder; in general use, any venomous, dangerous, or repulsive snake or serpent
The flesh of the viper was formerly regarded as possessing great nutritive or restorative properties, and was frequently used medica ally
1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxviii. 3 When Paul had gaddered a boundle of sti ks And putt them into the fyre a viper (the coulde of his hete) crepte out 1545 BRUNFELSH *Practyse* 116 The vyper about all other serpentes is most fulleth of poyson 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) I B v Garlyke helpeth the bytyng of a veper 1583 GOLDING *Mamillius* 1 Wks (GROSART) II 74 The Help'ant being stung with the Viper eateth him vp and is healed 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng Expos*, *Viper*, a venemous serpent in some hot countries lying much in the earth hauing a short taile which graateth and maketh a noise as he goeth 1634 PEACHAM *Compl Gentl* (ed 2) xi 109 Some mortals also are knowne by their coqu'ations, as Cleopatra by a viper 1696 PHILLIPS *Theod Lyr Georg* III 629 With that rank Odour from thy Dwelling place To drive the Viper's Brood and all the venom'd Race 1730-36 *Lemuel Gulliver* (1735) I 54 The principal Virtue of the Sicilian is, to subdue the poison of vipers. 1769 PENNANT *Brit Zool* III 17 Vipers are found in many parts of this island 1805 BEWICK *Quadrupeds* (1811) II 320 The Viper is the only one, either of the Re tile or Serpent tribes, in Great Britain from whose late we have any thing to fear 1827 BOSWORTH *Germany* A S II p. lx The laity of the true Goths, is to play the part of a lamb, and not of a viper, *trans*f and *fig* 1535 JOYE *Apol Tindale* 24 Ar not these the venomouse teshe of vepers that thus gnawe a nother mans name? 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb) 142 Those that bend and swalowyng sa des the Spannardes caule Vypers And that by good reason bycause in them many shyppes are entangled 1606 SHAKS. *Tr & Cr* III i 145 Hot blood, hot thoughts, and hot deedes why they are Vipers, is Loue a generation of Vipers? 1713 WATERLAND *Scrip Account Candor* 23 Special care therefore must be taken to find out this lurking Viper [*sc* pride] in our Bosoms, and to cast it far from us. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVII, I hen comes remorse, with all its vipers, mixed with vain regrets for the past
b *Zool* Applied with distinguishing terms to other species of the genus *Vipera*, the sub order *Viperina*, or snakes resembling the common viper.
For *horned, pit, red, sand, water, yellow viper*, see those terms
1758 MORTIMER in *Phil Trans* XXXIX 454 *Vipera fusca* the brown viper in Virginia In Carolina it is called the Truncheon Snake 1763 CATESBY *Nat Hist Carolina* (1772) II 44 The Black Viper of Carolina, is of slow motion. *Ibid* 45 The Brown Viper is in length about two feet, and large in proportion 1778 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) III 2096/1 The Vipera, or common viper of the shops. It is a native of England and other warm countries. 1806 SHAW *Gen. Zool* III II 377 Egyptian Viper *Ibid.* 382 Swedish Viper 1834 MACGILLIVRAY *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 185 *Vipera*] *Seychyera*, Cu. (The Minute Viper) 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 347/2 Variegated Viper—that described by Mr Bell from Hornsey Wood 1845 *Encycl Metrop* XXV 1099-1100 [Various species] 1861 HUXLEY *Mequm Tandon* II v 1 250 The *Vipera Berus* (Daud) or Small Viper (*Coluber Ammodytes*, Linn.). 1881 Nose-horned viper [see VIPERA]
c *Zool.* One or other of the snakes belonging to the genus *Vipera*, of which the common viper is the type, or to the family *Viperidæ*
The vipers were formerly classified (following Linnæus) under the order *Colubri* from which they are now separated (cf quot 1834) The *Viperidæ* form one of the four families into which the suborder *Viperina* (or *Solenoglypha*) is now divided.
1820 SHAW *Gen Zool* III II 364 The species [of Coluber] differ greatly in size and habit, according to their respective tribes some as the Vipers, having large flattish and subcordate heads with rather short fleshy long bodies and tails 1834 MACMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 185 The vipers most of which were confounded with the Colubers by Lin naeus on account of their double sub-caudal plates require to be separated from them from the circumstance of their having poisonous fangs. *c* 1882 *Cassell's Nat Hist* IV 321 The Vipers (*Viperidæ*) have a large head, a vertical and long pupil in the eye, and the top of the heads covered with very little plates and scales.
**2** *fig* A venomous, malignant, or spiteful person, a villain or scoundrel
In some quots. the influence of sense 3 or 3 b is perceptible
1526 TINDALE *Matt* iii 7 He sayde vnto them ; O generacion of vipers, who hath taught you to flee from the vengeaunce to come? 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch* Wks (GROSART) X 39 These villanous vipers, vnworthy the name of men, base rogues, .being outcasts from God, vipers of the world 1607 SHAKS *Cor* III. I. 265 Where is that Viper, That would depopulate the city, & be sure'r man himself?

1623 J Taylor (Water P.) *Watermen's Suit* Wks (1630) 173. I will regard such Vipers and their slander so little, that their malice [etc.] 1624–4 Vicars *God in Mount* (1844) 149 That most mischievous Viper of the Church & State too, Mathew Wren Bp. of Ely. 1653 Bayden *Juvenal* vi. 836, I (she confesses) in the Fact was caught; I wo Sons dispatching, at one deadly Draught What Two, Two Sons thou Viper, in one day! 1819 Shelley *Cenci* i iii 165 *Cenci (to Beatrice).* Thou painted viper! Beast that thou art! Fair and yet terrible! 1832 Warren *Diary Late Physic* II ii. 88 'Cannot this infamous scoundrel be brought to justice?' I inquired 'If he were, he may prove, perhaps not worth powder and shot, the viper!' 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II iv 85 'What a generation of vipers!' thought he, 'what a hydra brood of oppressors!' 1850 Marsden *Early Purit* (1853) 403 The seditious carriage of some of the Vipers [here bound].

**3** In other figurative or allusive uses **+ a.** In allusion to the supposition that the female viper was killed by her young eating their way out at birth *Obs*

Cf. Pliny *Nat. Hist* x lxix 89

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v iii, Out viper, thou that eat st thy parents, hence! 1608 Shake *Per* i i 64, I am no viper, yet I feed On mother s flesh which did me breed

**b** In allusion to the fable of the viper reared or revived in a person's bosom. One who betrays or is false to those who have supported or nourished him; a false or treacherous person. Cf. Snake *sb* 2 a.

Partly after the similar **L. uses,** *in sinu viperam habere* (Cicero) and *viperam sinu fovere* (Seneca (Hermann).

1596 *Edward III* i 105 Degenerate Traytor, viper to the place Where thou was fostred in thine infancy *a* 1688 Bp. Parker H. Coleridge *North Worthies* (1859) I 68 Ienderness and indulgence such men were to nourish vipers in our bowels. 1689 *Mutes Farew to Popery* 28 Ev n thy Royal Patron was not spar d O strange return to a forgiving King, But the warm d Viper wears the greatest Sting 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xviii viii, He is the brother of that wicked viper which I have so long nourished in my bosom. 1821–8 Shelley *Chas. I*, ii 214 Mark the consequences of warming This brood of northern vipers in your bosom 1918 Riker *Ld Holland* I iii 164 The Newcastles had been in terror last they had reared a viper in their midst.

**4** *attrib* and *Comb.* **a** Comb., as *viper curled, haunted, headed, mouthed, -nourished* adjs; *viper catcher, -hunter, hunting*

*a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* iii xi 26 Our verse great Jupyn a huge space out wanders, And gives the viper curled Dogge three heads. 1607 Topsell *Four f Beasts* 506 If it happen that any man chaunce to light vpon these Viper s nourished bi de Dornuba. 1702 R. Mead *Pois on* 90 Our Viper Catchers have a Remedy . . in which I hey do place great Confidence 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1776) VII 199 The seeming rvshne-s of one Torn s viper catcher 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool* III i 48, 65 Viper headed snake *C. ater Viperinus.* 1804 *Ibid* V i 320 Viper mouthed Pike *Esox Siomatus* 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 349/1 In England these reptiles were caught with a cleft or forked stick, which the viper-catcher drove down immediately behind the head. 1851 Horrow *Lavengro* iv When a person is timd in viper-hunting he had better leave off *Ibid.* Besides being a viper hunter I am what they call a herbalist 1904 W M Gallichan *Fishing Spain* 102 These viper haunted spots

**b.** Simple attrib., as *viper bite, fat, flesh, grouse, kind, oil, spirit, wine.*

1721 Bailey, *Viperous,* of the Viper kind or belonging to Adders 1754 Bartlet *Gentlem Farriery* Index Viper bite, how to be treated 1767 Goldsm *Treat Wounds* I 197 Viper oil or fat, which is found in the intestines remaining unt the stinging of bees and other venomous insects 1778 G White *Selborne* 29 April 'Tis little fry [of fifteen vipers] issued into the world with the true viper spirit about them 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 349/1 Pliny, Galen and others praise the efficacy of viper flesh in the cure of ulcers [etc.] 1870 Gillmore *Stray Shots & Stories in Scotland* 81 Such are the terrible weapo s of the Viper group 1891 Son of Marshes *On Surrey Hills* 61 Viper oil . . you would find in all the woodmen s cottages. 1894 *Outing (U.S.)* XXIV 8 Beheading some viper virus at a temperature of 85 degrees Centigrade

**c** With intensive force (passing in later use into adj.) = Venomous, extremely bitter, viperous.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i vi 95 York and Lancaster, Ambitious broachers of that Viper War. 1605 *Ibid Sous Late Peace* xxvii, All the tempests of our Viper Warre 1788 Burns *Poet s Progr* 30 Viper critics curs'd from spleen dart 1876 Sir E. M Thompson *Chron A. de Usk* 221 The viper race of Lombardy, split up into Guelphs and Ghibellines. 1899 Miss B Harraden *Ferrier* 73, I can t abide the little viper man *Ibid* 83 He don t like that little viper gentleman any more than I.

**5** Special combs., as **viper-broth,** broth made from vipers, or in which a viper has been boiled, formerly supposed to possess nutritive or invigorating properties, **viper-fish,** a deep sea fish of the family *Chauliodontidæ* esp *Chauliodus sloanei* (*Cent Dict.* 1891) **viper-gourd,** an East Indian climbing gourd, *Trichosanthes colubrina,* remarkable for its ugliness (*Treas Bot* 1866), **viper-grass,** = viper s grass, also *attrib* , **viper jelly** (*cf viper-broth*), **+ viper mouth** (see quot. and *cf. viper-fish* above), **+ viper-stone,** = Serpentine *sb* 3, **viper-weaver,** the lesser weever, *Trachinus vipera* , **viper wine,** wine medicated by an extract or decoction obtained from vipers, formerly drunk on account of its supposed restorative or vitalizing properties; **+ viper worm,** = Viper i.

1707 Flover *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 327 Hunted Venison, Stale Meats, *Viper* Broths, or Wine . . 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet in Aliments,* etc. i 509 Viper broth is both anti acid and nourishing 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 349/1 The lingering belief in the wonderfully invigorating qualities of 'viper broth is not yet quite extinct in some places. 1856 J Smith *Pract Phytol* 238 Topicals must be Specifical Resolvers, as Viper grease 1771 C Clive in *Lyttelton's Pleads* iii C 2 Wks. III 347 Viper grass, full of a milky Juice Good against Poison 1787 A Cooper *Distiller* iii iv (1760) 170 Of Viper grass two Ounces. 1791 *Encyclop Brit* III 1003/2 A decoction made of barley, viper grass root, and liquorice 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed. 3) II 332 Wall Viper grass *Ibid*, Common Viper grass 1805 Pilon *Brit Fl.* 234 Viper grass, *Scorzonera edulis* 1702 R. Mead *Poisons* 34 The Patient ought to eat frequently of Viper Gelly : or Broth 1743 Catesby *Nat Hist Carol Ismia* (1771) II 1 1 *Viper Maurena,* the Viper Mouth This Fish is eighteen inches in length 1758 *Phil Trans* XL. 442 Speaking of the Serpentine or Viper Stone, he relates a very extraordinary Accident 1805 Vigo *Brit Rather.* II 48 The Viper Weever, however is common on most of the shores of Britain and Ireland 1631 Mabsinger *Belcer s ar Vow Act* iv 1, Your Viper wine; So much in practise with gray bearded gallants, [is] But vappa to the nectar of her lippe. 1631 Quarles *Hist Samson* Wks. (Grosart) II 294 Viper Wine, to make all ages green Tis Viper s new lust, and youthfull fluentes pain 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect* No. 12 (1748) II 292 Lady Frolick pouring a glass of viper wine down his throat. 1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool* III ii 372 Galen relates very remarkable cures of this disease [*sc* elephantiasis] performed by means of viper wine. 1856 *Academy* 28 Nov 448/2 The legend that Lady Digby died of drinking viper wine. 1901 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i vi 199 Th innammed d Scorpion, and the *Viper* worm. 1902 — *Tri Faith* iv v, The deadly sting of th ugly Viper Worm

**b** Special collocations with *viper's,* forming names of plants, as **viper's bugloss,** the plant *Echium vulgare* or a variety of this, **viper's grass,** a plant of the genus *Scorzonera,* esp *S. hispanica* , **+ viper's herb,** viper's bugloss, **viper s plant,** viper s grass

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III ccliii Sexxxii. 658 *Viper's* Buglosse, or wall Buglosse. 1678 Phillips (ed 4), *Vipers Buglosse,* a Solar herb the roots and seeds whereof are Cordial and Sudorifick 1842 Penny *Cycl* XXI 158 Pervinca in *Phil Trans* XX 402 In Texture very much resembling our Vipers Bugloss 1777 Jacq *Catal Plants* 23 *Echium angl.* vum, English Viper s Bugloss *Echium vulgare,* Viper s Bugloss. 1840 *Florist s Jrnal* (1840) I 106 A thirsty soil nourishes the Three leaved Speedwell and the Viper s Bugloss. 1869 Heward in *Ecton Hist* 58 Viper s grass or Spanish Salsify 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cclxxii 659 It is called in English vipers Buglosse, Snakes Buglosse, and of some 'v pers herbe and wilde Buglosse the lesser 1884 in *Ye Cauldrife Orts Cultivate l Pl* 45 *Scorzonera hispani a* . . was for merly supposed to be an antidote against the bite of adders, and was sometimes called the 'viper s plant

Hence (the nonce use) **Vi peran,** + **Vipe r-eal,** + **Vi pered, Vipe rian** *adjs* , of or pertaining to a viper, viperine, viperous, **Vipe riform** *a* , having the form of a viper, viperine.

1877 Talmage *Serm* 338 The acid of a soured life the Vsperan sting of a bitter memory 1748 *Phil Trans* XLV 162 Having perhaps the Vsperal Venom 1947 *Discov to Fortune.* 1560 Pitzwilliam *Tet* in Pro ide *Hist Eng* (1863) VIII 16 There was not under the sun a more cruell Vsperal tyrannising generation 1866 J Rankin *Studies in Ovid's Met* 115 And Perseus triumphant homeward brings Vsperian spoils. 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* IV 301 The poisonous Snakes may be said to have two fangs—the 'Vipers' form Snakes and the Venomous Colubrines.

**+ Vi peral.** *Obs*—1 [ad I *viperal is* f *vipera* Viper] A medicament derived from the viper

1716 M Davies *Athenæ Brit* II 326 Dr. Mead's book which can scarce ever be cur d without Viperals or Mercurials.

**+ Vipe reous,** *a Obs*—1 [f L. *vipere us* (hence *It viperco*), f. *vipera* Viper see -reous. Cf Viperious *a* ] Viperous, venomous

In the first quot after Ovid *Met xm, iv* 490 ] in the second translating Virgil *Æneid* vii 349 51

*c* 1600 Robinson *Mary Magd* 547 A dreary hagge of Acheron in the palaces of Pleasure stood Shaking vp'n frie of her vspereated locks *Ibid.* 565 And one vp n y' wretched mayd shee slunge That kindled on her breast with gentle heat, And there vspereous c qitati ses plac t

**Vi perous,** *rare*—1. [f Viper + -ous ] A female viper. In quot. *fig*

1647 R Stapylton *Juvenal* 102 But Pontia did confesse, 'My sons I would have poyson d Viperesse

**Vi perine,** *sb.*1 *rare.* [f Viper + -ine 1 ] (See quot )

1882 Hulme in *Mequin Tandon* II v ii 284 P mce I ocsits Bonaparte has shown that the poison of the Viper c onsists essentially of a principle to which he has given the name Echidnine or Viperine

**Viperine** (vai pĕrain, in), *a.* and *sb* 2 Also 8-in [ad. L *viperīn-us* (hence Of *viperin, f. vipēr-is*, It., Sp , and Pg *viperino*), f *vipera* Viper see -ine 1 ]

**1.** Resembling a viper or that of a viper, having the nature or character of a viper; venomous, viperous, viper like. Chiefly in fig. or allusive use (cf. Viper 3 )

*a* 1550 *Image Hypocr* II 295 in *Skelton's Wks* (1843) II 426 His cruty quaintyance Haue coustome colubryne, With codes vyperyne And sworne serpentyne. 1604 R Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (1613), *Viperine,* like a viper, or of a viper 1648 E Simmons *Prof to Wedenotes a Heron Theol* A 8 b, If ever the l itle of Rex diabolorum was rightly applyable to the King of this land, tis since the viperine birth of these miscreants 1657 J Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 92 Lingua viperea ! Viperine tongue ! 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* x 299 Cæsar Borgia s Viperine Aspect. 1718 M Davies *Athen Brit* II, 150 Of all the Poetick Salts, the batyrical [is] most Viperous and Piercing, the Ecliptical and Iditan the most Country wine and Native 1873 *Routledge's Yng Gentl Mag* June 401/1 He [a grass snake] roused himself up in true viperine fashion.

**+ b** *fig.* Of glosses (see Viper 3 a). *Obs*

1647 Trapp *Comm Matt* v 22 Our Saviour taking away their viperine glosses that did eat out the bowels of the text. 1648 *Commonwor's Lchcrip* 18 Had he any other way to weaken what must of necessity be inferred from them, but by such viperine glosses.

**c** Of persons

1852 Laur *Magastrom* 362 Archilocus, a viperine satyrist, and not onely so, but a petulant obscure poet. 1926 M Davies *Athen. Brit* II 10 To Rdr 40 Implacable Enemies of the most inveterated Viperin r or rather Viperin s nature, who are continually gnawing and corroding the very Bowels of the Church of England 1845 Browning *Lett* (1899) I 48 A viperine she friend of mine who I think, rather loves me, she does so hate me 1894 *Temple Bar* CIII 145 The convention of the virtuous heroine and the viperine adventuress.

**2.** Of or pertaining to a viper, obtained from or natural to vipers.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 286 They (tortoises) ate Origan, for that herbe is an antidote against Viperine poysons for them 1684 tr *Bonet's Compl Cookb* 1 297 Viperine Medicines are good in the Itch and Leprosie 1702 R Mead *Poisons* 33 The main Efficacy of the Viperine Flesh is to quicken the Circle of the Blood 1708 *Chemistry Cyc* s.v *Viper* The Virus proves a nimble Vehicle to carry the Viperine Spicula almost every where suddenly 1851 W J Broderip *Leaves fr Note Bk Nat* (1852) 224 The viperine remedy had classical authority for it was mentioned by Virgil 1864 *Brit Med. Jrnl* 17 Sept 670 These two beg examples of mixed colubrine and viperine poisons

**3.** *Zool* Of snakes Resembling or related to the common viper, *spec.* belonging to the suborder *Viperina* (*Solenoglypha*).

1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool* III ii 355 Viperine Boa. *Boa Viperina.* 1870 Gillmore in *Fincher s Reptiles & Birds* ii 41 His Venomous Colubrine Fangs 1882 *Garden* 17 Nov 1 ever resemblance in other re. pects to the *Colubridæ* than they have to the Viperine Snakes. *Ibid* 47 The Viperine Snake (*Trophidonotus t perinus*) This is the smallest of all the European *Colubridæ* 1887 Cuvier in *Encycl Brit* XXII 191/1 The poison of Viperine snakes invariably destroys its coagulability

**4.** *Ich Zool* A snake belonging to the *Viperina.*

1889 Günther in *Encycl Brit* XXII 191/1 In the other venomous snakes (Viperines and Crotalines) the maxillary bone is very short *Ibid* 198/2 The Death Adder differs from the other Viperines in having the poison fang permanently erect

**+ Viperious,** *a Obs rare* [f Viper + -ious Cf Viperous *a* ] Viperous, venomous. Hence

**+ Viperiously** *adv. Obs*—1

*c* 1580 *Treat Lawes* 102 If ye beholde the gal aunts progeny e vyperyous That out of France be fledde 1538 *St Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III 2 He made there a comment on the said letter which was so viperiously and ill like that three hundred Cerberous of Hell couldn n t have uttered it more viperiously *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp Williams* i (1692) 92 Our Protestanting countrymen, the English Jesuits in Flanders retorted that argument upon us

**Viperish** (vai pĕrĭʃ), *a* [f Viper + -ish ]

1. *fig* Venomous, viperous, spiteful.

1755 Smollett *Quix* (1803) II 40 Tell me you viperish scoffer what you ll think before this kingdom 1820 W Collins *Hom Whitie* iii iv W Ch struggled vit She cast one viperish look at me as I entered the hall. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xli He listened to her viperish speech. 1889 *Spectator* 2 Feb 159 All sorts of characters from the most malignant and viperish to the noblest and most self forgetful.

**2** Somewhat resembling a viper viper like

1863 Miss Braddon *Aur na Floyd* xx It seemed as if her footfall had startled some viperish creature 1873 Symonds *Ch Fields* vii 218 [Medea s] viperish loose hair and throb bing skin

Hence **Viperishly** *adv* , with the rapid and sinuous motion of a viper

1870 *Temple Bar Mag* XXIX 180 Men with hssom wrists that can make a foil curl viperishly rou d an ant's ne ck or a blade

**Viper-like,** *adv* and *a* [f Viper ]

**A.** *adv* In or after the manner of a viper. Only in allusive use (see Viper 3)

1630 Drayton *Muses Elys.* x 152 This cruell kinde thus Viper like devoures That fruitfull soyle which them so fully fed 1646 ] Hall *Poems* 143 Had not th'y mother born thee toothlesse thou Hadst eaten Viper like a passage through 1677 Hoskins *Cr Law Cenvt I iv* (1794) 191 If Absalom had not had a kingdom t his eye he would hardly have, viperlike preyed upon the bowels that did feed him 1700 Dryden *Y to Hist Lucrece* Wks 1821 XVII 162 The g vernment in which they live, and which viper like, they w ull devour 1709 Madden *The masterkey to Lesl.* 3 Let us all live By Athens Rules, working out my Way Into the World most Viper like, by gnawing Down thro my Mother s Bowels? 1771 Kelly *Clementina* 29 – 2

iii 1, They'll else blast all the comforts of your life And, viper like, with death return your fondness. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 277 He couldn't bring himself at that late day to arise viper like from the heartstone and smite

**B** *adj.* Like or resembling a viper

1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 247 The genus *Echis* consists of but one species (*E. arenata*) It is a viper like snake. 1903 *Westm Gaz* 3 Mar 5/1 The nose of the little Asian viper like being in the corner as it whirred and hissed and snapped its teeth

**Viperling.** [f. Viper + -ling] A young viper

1847 *Blackw Mag* I XII 299 Young viperlings come into the world in full maturity of malice 1881 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 3/2 About three weeks ago the nose horned viper distinguished herself by presenting the Zoo with one fell swoop with six-and forty viperlings. 1897 G. C. Bateman *Victorians* 222 The Viper produces, at one time, from thirty to fifty little Viperlings.

**Viperous** (vai pĕrəs), *a.* Also 6 **vyperos, ouse, vyperous, 7 8 viporous, 6 vipros, 7 viprous, 7 8 poet vip'rous** [f. Viper + -ous]

**1** Of or pertaining to a viper or vipers.

Rarely in literal use.

*Ap* 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 144 With vipros vennum inwart in his mynd Dissatisfiit that tyme he gart him trow, That he wrocht ay for his plesour and prow 1560 Rowlands *Tr Reynard the Foxe* (Arb.) 61 No viperous tongue thy pleasant vayne will strike. 1608 D. Tuvill *Ass Pol & Mor* 130 With the filthy slime of their malicious and viperous iawes. *a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Pelleo the Spirit* (1670) 51 Of the viperous spirit, who desperately set upon their own ruin and destruction 1765 Beattie *Judgm Paris* cxii, Censure spreads the viporous hiss around 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxiv (1861) I 304 Papers about the brazen forehead the viperous tongue, and the white liver of Jack Howe 1886 *Daily News* 8 April 5/3 What viperous vapours and what rat like rage

*fig.* 1614 Gorges *Lucan* ix 391 But when she [Medusa] comb'd her crawling crowne The viprous venome trailed downe. 1706 De Foe *Turn Dr'ine* xii 268 In vain supplies of vip rous Blood they bring

**†b** In allusive use (see Viper 3 a) *Obs*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst* iii v (1634) 319 Out of that ancient custome the viperous and said factions that are at this day used, tooke their beginning Truly very viperous births. 1603 J. Davies (Heref) *Wits Piper* Wks. (Grosart) II 152/2 The Viper's iron teeth of Time may gnaw away to wrack through my Works Wombe. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* (ed 2) 227 Whether [it be] from vapors engendred in the bowels of the earth, and loth to bee im prisoned in a wrong orb, [the subterranean fire] reuds its passage by a viperous horrid motion, or [etc.].

**2** Composed or consisting of vipers. Freq with admixture of sense 4

Chiefly in fig use or as a term of opprobrium, esp in *viperous brood* or *generation*; freq in the 17th c, now *rare or arch.*

*Ap* 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 1574 Oh ragynge serpentes and vyperouse generacyon 1586 J. Hooker *Hist Irel* in *Holinshed* II 42/1 The loose life of that viperous nation 1602 Dent *Pathw Heaven* 152 This viperous brood [of liars] doe but watch their times and opportunities. 1643 Quarles *Loyal Convert* Wks. (Grosart) I 142/2 A viperous Generation (which hath long nested in this unhappie Island) 1670 *Dent Convert* (1688) 124 That the Lord of all should take into his bosom the viperous brood, that have so often spit their venom in his face? 1706 E. Ward *Hud Redim* (1707) II vii 31 Of this pious Church and Nation There is a vip rous Congregation [etc.] 1714 L. Milbourne *Traitor's Reward Pref*, His way of extolling his viperous generation is so very ridiculous and ridiculous, that [etc.]. 1824 Southey *Roderick* v 115 These were Witiza's hateful progeny, And in an evil hour the unhappy King Had spared the viperous brood. 1874 Farrar *Christ* viii (1884) 53 A formidable and falsity which made them vipers of a viperous brood.

*Jr* 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyches* 128 She rent from thence, before Psyches sad mind's eyes that viperous fry Which her snar'd soul in unfelt bands did ty 1688 *Phil Trans* XVIII 128 Vipers and all the Viperous Brood

**†b** In allusive use (cf 4 b and see Viper 3 a).

1615 W. Hole *Mirr Beautie* 59 Sinne is a viperous brood: the life of the daughter is the death of the mother 1627 in Rushw *Hist Coll* (1659) I 514 That forwardness of you is the more remarkable, when the Viperous Brood of Rebellion, did at ease with tooth and nail, easay to rend the bowels of their Mother 1648 *Canterburie's Man's Bp* Hence Vi prous Brood: what make you heare, Who thus the King domes Bowels teare?

**†c** Of hair, etc. Cf. Svary *a* 1 *Obs rare*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl* x 1 xxx Her viperous locks hung loose about her eares, Yet with a monstrous snake she them restrains. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xi 8 Then from his own viperous Tresses He Pluck d three large hand fuls of his longest Snakes.

**3.** Of actions, qualities, etc. Worthy of or befitting a viper, malignant treacherous, venomous

Very common in the 17th c; now *rare or arch*

1548 Brinklow *Complt* xxiii 48 b, How haue they be wricked the Parlament last yere in making such vyperos actyas as the beast of Rome neuer made him selfe! 1555 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III App xlvi 142 Their wicked lyves, and vipersshe behauyours toward the said bishope. 1604 Coke 3 *State Trials* 26 I want words sufficient to express your viperous treasons 1633 Wreyen *Anc Funeral Mon* 252 The viperous malice of this Monkish brood 1646 J. Hall *Joans* 1 xi. 27 Wee l suffer viperous thoughts and cares To follow after silver hairs. *a* 1716 South *Serm* (1744) X 285 Let us now see into how many cursed consequences this viperous piece of villany is like to spread itself 1824 Jefferson *Writ* (1830) IV 399 Passions so vehement and viperous.

**b** Of language writings, etc

1605 Camden *Rem* Epit 34 Upon Stigand I finde this most viperous Epitaph in an old Manuscript 1612 Shake *Cymb* III iv 42 Tis Slander, whose tongue Out venomes all the Wormes of Nyle; the Secrets of the Grave this viperous slander enters 1632 Lithgow *Trav* 1 3 The viperous murmurings of mercenarie villaines. 1748 P. Walker *Life Peden* (1827) 270 This is a viporous, groundless wicked Story 1809-10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 58 In one of those viperous journals, which deal out profaneness hate, fury, and sedition throughout the land 1860 Motley *Netherl* (1868) I ii 37 Wit expended in darting viperous epigrams at Count Isabella. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Aug 173/1 Lockhart was annoyed especially by the viperous notes from a Whig hand.

**4** Of the nature of a viper, resembling a viper in character or action, having the attributes or evil qualities of a viper.

Freq in the 17th c, now *rare*

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super* Wks (Grosart) II 90 Good Sir, arise and confound those Viperous Cryticall monsters 1607 Shake *Cor* III i 287 Speake breefely then, For we are peremptory to dispatch This Viperous Traitor 1621 in Foster *Eng Factories Ind* (1906) I 247 These viporous, treacherous, and crocadilike cutts. 1688 *Spirit of Popery* 24 The Viperous Author of the Reformed Bishop. 1700 H. Brooke *Fool of Quat* (1809) 130 Nostep-dames, that viperous Nativitie, shall never hereafter insinuate between us. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxxvi What deaf and viperous murderer could crown Life's early cup with such a draught of woe?

**†b** In allusive use (see Viper 3 a) *Obs*

1592 Shake *1 Hen VI*, III i 72 Civill dissention is a viper ous Worme That gnawes the Bowels of the Common wealth. 1603 J. Davies (Heref) *Microcosmos* Wks (Grosart) I 56/2 Woe woorth such vip rous Cousins that wil rend Their Mother's wombe (the Common wealth) to raigne 1648 *Hunting of Poor* 11 Such viperous Schismaticks as would eate out their way 1652 *Benlowes Theoph* xii 12, T'was vip rous Nero slew his own indulgent Mother.

*c fig.* Of things

1829 Shelley *Epipsych* IX 506 The stings of viperous re morse, Trying their strength, enforced him to start up, Aghast and prayerless. 1880 *Sat Rev* No 1312 734/1 Co sidering how much damage these viperous little craft are likely to do in a war 1885 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xi, A savage beast, The viperous scourge of gods and humankind

Hence **Vi'perously** *adv*, in or after the manner of a viper, venomously, **Vi'perousness,** viperous nature or character, venomosity *rare*

1589 Holinshed *Chron* III 419 In that copious treatise hauing spoken as maliciou-ly & viperousile as he might of William Rufus 1603 J. Davies (Heref) *Wits Pilgrimage* (1614) 383 This Sultan presented him with the head of that Virago Petiaconcona vpon the top of a Speare 1652 H. Montagu *A & M* (1654) 361 She so ruled as Queene eight yeers and better: a man like virago of a stout and noble spirit. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* (1865) II 20 That young Virgo kept the door fast against them 1714 Pope *Lady's Ch* v 37 To arms! to arms! the fierce virago cries, And swift as lightening to the combate flies. 1787 Cowper *Let* 5 Mar., And as to the frustration, I really think the Russian virago an impertinent puss for meddling with us. 1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* III xi Did not the same virago boast that she had a navy? Regiment, wherever neither horse nor man could be injured 1885 *19th Cent* May 472 She [Victoria Colonna] was a virago a name which how ever much apprehended now, bore a different and worthy signification in her day

**†b** Applied to a man *Obs rare*

*c* 1600 Day *Begg Bednall Gr* iv 1 (1881) 78 Come then my mad Virgoes now I'll make you swagger with a Shaks. *Fuel N* III iv 300 Wi'y man hee's a verie dreull I haue not seen such a firago They say, he has bin Fencer to the Sophy

**3** A bold, impudent (**†** or wicked) woman, a termagant, a scold

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T* 359 O Sowdanesse roote of Iniquitee, Virago, thou Semyramee the secounde [etc.] 1880 C. Nisbet *Lett* 78 Scotch wives are but black brand upon ivy to rago Jezabel 1724 Swift *Quiet Life* Wks 1755 IV 148 He saw virago Nell belabour, With Duck's own staff his peaceful neighbour 1770 Lloyd *Nightm* 234 In 230 No heroine in Billingsgate can go beyond the patriotic scolding of our republican virago 1858 Jas. Grant *Sk Lond* 175 It now devolved on the active part of a wife who played both the tyrant and virago at home 1865 Trollope *Belton Est* xxvii 239, I believe Lady Aylmer to be an overbearing virago, whom it is good to put down 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer* 30 Mrs. —— is a mother and two daughters. These were the greatest viragoes I ever saw

*transf* 1713 Warder *True Amazons* (ed. 2) 23 But the Numbers are not great of these forward Viragos [young bees]. 1793 G. White *Selborne* iii, Every hen is in her turn the virago of the yard.

**4.** *a. attrib*, chiefly appositive, as *virago family, girl, heroine*, etc, also *virago-strain*

1598 Florio, *Brisalida* a mankinde virago woman 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Superb Flagellum* Cvi, Like shame-lesse double sex'd *Hermaphroditicall Virago* Ladies. 1639 G. Daniel *Vernic* 161 But the Virago Queen doth aggravate Th aggrieved Lords. 1796 Franklin in *Phil, Soc* I i 131 Such a bold woman, of right virago strain Cleft with an axe the wretched wight in twain 1760-8 Golden *Cit W* lxii, Petticoated philosophers, blustering heroines, or virago queens 1824 Southey *Chron of Cid* (1851) I 270 Edward III's queen Philippa was of a virago family 1880 Anstey *Channel Isl* 360 Montfort was taken prisoner; his countess, one of the virago heroines of the time, was besieged in Hennebon 1891 Farrar *Darkn & Dawn* I, If she had not made Galba and his virago mother feel the weight of her vengeance, it was only because they were too insignificant

*b* *Comb*, as *virago face.*

1602 Marston *Ant & Mel*, Induct, Wks. 1856 I 4 An Amazon should have such a voice, virago-like 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 92 He doth renew his battery, and stands too't, And she, Vyrago-like, yeelds not a foote.

Hence **Vira goish** *a.*, somewhat resembling, or

**virago**, n. Also 4 **virage**, **virgo**, **virgoo**, **virgoe**, **virgoy**, **virgoye**, **virgoie**, **virgoi

the Virgilian Verse, *Quadrupedante putrem* [etc.). 1718 J. Trapp tr *Virgil* Pref. to Æneis (1735) I p lxxxvii, What could be more well manner'd, more delicate, and truly Virgilian? c 1754 Warton in Boswell *Johnson* (1904) I 180 I told him, I thought it a very sonorous hexameter I did not tell him, it was not in the Virgilian style 1782 V Knox *Essays* lxxii. (1809) I 160 The style [of the poem] is beautiful and Virgilian 1846 Knightley *Notes Virg. Georg.* ii 485 The mode of supplying the ellipse is certainly the more Virgilian 1888 Swinburne *Misc* 151 An instinctive dignity and precision not unworthy to be called Virgilian

**b.** *Virgilian lots* [tr. L. *sortes Virgilianæ*], a method of divination consisting in taking a passage of Virgil at random.

1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV 737/1 It is said that Charles I and Lord Falkland made trial of the Virgilian lots a little before the commencement of the great civil war

**2** Of agriculture Practised according to the methods described in the Georgics of Virgil. Also of persons following these methods

1724 W Benson *Wks. Husb.* II Pref p xvi, I am certain the Husbandry of England in general is Virgilian 1731–3 Tull *Horse Hoeing Husb* xiv 271 The Virgilian Farmer must be content to have only his Labour for his Travel. 1764 J Randall (*title*) The Semi-Virgilian Husbandry, deduced from various Experiments.

**3** *sb* I One who is specially devoted to, or skilled in, the study of Virgil's works.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. Q iij b, You would a good Virgilian be.

**2** One who practises agriculture after the methods laid down by Virgil.

1731–3 Tull *Horse Hoeing Husb* xiv 272 The Virgilian is commonly late in his sowing *Ibid* 279 Thus puts the Virgilians upon a Necessity of using of Dung

Hence **Virgil Hanism**, the characteristic style of Virgil; a Virgilian expression.

1890 L. Huxt *Autobiog.* (1960) 164 When I had the pleasure of hearing him [Campbell] afterwards, I forgot his Virgilianisms.

†**Virgilin**, *sb. pl Obs*—1 [ad. L *Virgilium*] The Pleiades.

*c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* x 154 In somer tyme hym liketh wel to glade, That whan Virgilia doun goth, gynneth fade

**Virgin** (vɔ·rdʒin), *sb* and *a.* (forms *a* 3, 5 virgine, 3–7 virgine (6 wir-), 4, 6 virgyne (5 wir-), 4–5 virgyne (4 vyr-), 5 vyrgine, *ß* 4 virgyn, 4–6 virgyne (5 virgynne), 5–6 vyrgyn (6 vyr-), 5–virgin (5 vyr-, 6 wirgin) γ. 4 vergyne, 4 5 vergine (4 uer-), vergyn. δ 5 vyrgene (wyr-), 5–6 virgen(e. [A. AF. and Of *virgine, virgene, viergene*, etc. (— It *vergine*, Sp. *virgen*, Pg. *virgem*) —L *virginem*, acc of *virgo* maiden. OF. also had the reduced forms *vierge, vierge*, mod F *vierge*.]

**1** L. *Eccl.* An unmarried or chaste maiden or woman, distinguished for piety or steadfastness in religion, and regarded as having a special place among the members of the Christian church on account of these merits.

Chiefly used with reference to early Christian times

*c* 1200 *Ymn Coll Hen* 185 Dat haue þi martires, and confessours, and virgines maked hem ate ende to wunen *a* 1225 *Leg Kath.* 2310, I be feire ferreden of virgines 11 heouene *c* 1290 *Beket* 2302 in *S Eng Leg* I 192 Pair was bat processioun Of Martirs and of confessours and of virgines ber to. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 8270 And she ys callede Seynt Iu tyme, A martyr and an holy vyrgyne 13 *E. Allit P.* V 1090 Pis noble cite Was sodainly bi-sunder croun. 1389 in *Eng Gilds* (1871) 8 Seint Katerin to be glorious vyrgine and martir 1390 *Gower Conf* III 126 Pe wykked tyraunt saat in hys astat and bei þat be holy vyrgyn schold be presented to hym 1500–20 Dunbar *Lament* xxv 46 Patriarchis, prophetis, and appostillis Pair, Confessours, virgins and martiris cleir *c* 1600 *Women Saints* (1886) 92 Modwene became the mistresse of verie many like professed and holie virgins 1652 J Taylor (Water P.) *Short Relat of my Trav.* (1857) 10 The pious and chaste virgin Winifred 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v., In the Roman Breviary there is a particular Office for Virgins departed. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav Russia* (1839) 56 The host of saints, virgins, and bishops, whose pictures covered th walls 1862 Burton *Bk Hunter* iv. 326 St Ursula and her eleven thousand virgins

**2.** A woman (esp a young woman) who is, or remains, in a state of inviolate chastity, an absolutely pure maiden or maid

In early use chiefly of the Virgin Mary cf 4 and 5.

*a* 1310 in Wright *Lyrics* xiv 28 When þ lyge on dethes bed, On o ledy myn hope is, modor and virgyne *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* Prol 50 Til scho consawit g ald sone, scho beand altyme virgine chaste *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2665 Vondis & vacand of vices as virgyns it ware *c* 1430 Lydg *Mim. Poems* (Per Sy Soc) 8 Alle clad in white, in token of cleenes, Lyke pure virgins as in their ententis *c* 1486 *Sir Mar.* (Warton C.) 56 When he dyssendyt Into a chast wombe of a vyrgene clene 1536 Bellenden *Cron Scot* (1821) II 163 He that revaus ane virgine but gif scho desire him in marriage, sal be heatit. 1568 *Satir Treas Reform* xlvii 58 Remember first your former qualitie, And wrak na virgenis with sour wilfull weir 1601 Shaks *All's Well* I 1, 146, I will stand for't a little, though therefore I die a Virgin 1634 W Tirwhitt tr *Balmes Lett* (vol I) 318 Nor am I ignorant that never any woman was so vicious, who hath not heretofore bin a Virgin 1672 Milton *P R* I 138 Then [thou] toldst her doubting how these things could be To her a Virgin, that on her should come The Holy Ghost 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq* III xii. § 2 Moses per mitted him [sc the high priest] only to marry a virgin. 1807 *Med Jrnl* XVII 494 Ruysch's subject, though not a virgin may have yet been troubled with this complaint. 1845 Day tr. *Simon's Anim Chem* I. 230 The venous blood of virgins gave, in 1000 parts [etc.].

*fig.* 1526 Tindale 2 *Cor* xi. 2 For I coupled you to one man, to make you a chaste virgen to Christ 1860 Pusey *Min Prophs* 207 God regarded as a virgin, the people whom He had made holy to Himself; He so regards the soul which He has regenerated and sanctified

**b** An old maid, a spinster.

1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 53 P 6 Lady Biddy Porpoise, a lethargick virgin of seventy six

**c.** *transf* Of things.

1620 Capt Smith *New Eng Trials* Wks. (Arb) I 243 From which blessed Virgin [i e the colony of Virginia] springs the fortunate habitation of homer Iles. *Ibid*, This Virginis sister (called New England, An 1616, at my humble suite). 1750 Nugent *Gr Tour, France* IV 303 They [wine it [sc Percone] the name of *Virgin*, because it was never taken 1837 Whewell *Hist Induct Sci* IV iii 292 In the language of the New Platonists, the number seven is said to be a virgin, and without a mother 1897 *Westm Gaz* 18 Jan 8/3 Similarly, in Africa, the highest mountain is still a virgin

**4** Virginity (After I Cor vii 37) *rare*.

1649 Jer Taylor *Gt Exemplar* Disc § 12 S Jerome affirms that, to be continent in the state of widowhood is harder, then to keep our virgin pure

**c.** *Entom.* A female insect producing fertile eggs by parthenogenesis (Lf 1 2 g)

1883 *Imperial Dict* (and in later Dicts.)

**3** A young woman, a maid or maiden, of an age and character affording presumption of chastity.

13 *Sir Beues* (A) 2687 A wende, a myte leue namore, And sei þat þou were a virgun Him bouȝte out of al a pine. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 330 God seiþ in Job þat a man child make couenaunt wiþ hise wittis to benke not on a virgyne 1390 *Gower Conf* II 150 (Rolls) III 37 Whiche commaundede also virgines to be married with owte eny dowery *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 16 Then was scho to meke yn all hor doyngys, but all othyr vyrgenes called hor qwene of maydens. 1598 Barkery *England* II i 151 The wych some schold be dyrb-butyd partely to the dote of pore damoselys and vyrgynys 1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 20 Nothing more vnlike then Virgins to Virgins Talentes. 1596 Shaks. *Tam Shr* IV v 37 Yong budding Virgin, fare, and fresh & sweet, Whether away? 1697 Dryden *Virg Æn* vi 260 She seemed a virgin of the spartan blood *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 May 1645, Rare pieces, especialy of Guido, Domenico, and a virgin named Isabella Sirani 1737 Rowe *Abraham* ii, Sons, virgins, wives Vortigern was struck with the beauty of a Saxon virgin, a kinswoman of Hengi t. 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Anodyne for Afflicted* ii, Sons, virgins, wives dost thou delight to dwell? With maids of honour sturtful virgin? 1806 W Herbert *Sel Lat Poetry* 1 119 Two (The Valkyrie, or virgins of Odin), 1818 Keightley *Fairy Mythol* I *Wish* 311 beautiful virgin took another pinch [of snuff] 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv 87 A royal virgin, in odours sinkèd nestled

**b** In allusion to the parable of the wise and foolish virgins (Matt xxv. 1–13)

1620 Gataker *Spirituall Watch* 62 Either you are a wise Virgin or a foolish one if a wise one, the company hath rest before you, when unwise one you get it 1630 *Keyser's Treas* (1760) I 182 On the sides of this entrance are seen the five foolish and the five wise virgins in stone. 1826 Scott *Woodst* ii, Why should not thou not talk like one of the wise virgins? 1872 *Brit Quar Rev Jan* 22 Next in rank an ancient virgin took pains to call on us, Her lamp all trimmed and a burnin' to kindle another fuss.

**4** *Of the Virgin Mary*, the mother of Christ

Also, in the phrase *our virgin* representing her

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24977 Concelnd o þe hali gast, born o þe virgine manie *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 91 Here is he sone of þe veryne marie *c* 1400 Maundev *Prol* (1839) 1 The seconde Book specifieth of the Life of our Lord and of the Virgine Marie 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii v 697 Also the holy ghoost shewed hym the conynge of the glorious vyrgyne mirye 1533 Gau *Acts & Mon* I 39 Chiefe the vyrgin Marie throughe the salutations of the angell 1547 *Homilies* i *Obedience* iii And here let us not forget the blessed virgin Maries obedience 1611 Bible *Matt* i. 18 Beeshlng] Christ was borne of the Virgin Mary when she was espoused to Joseph. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint* Died Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, and the sacred Virgin Mary 1717 [see Madonna] *c* 1776 Jo Haines *Ann Wortl* I 134 He ascribed his deliverance to the Virgin Mary. 1823 Scott *Quentin D* v He wore his national bonnet, with a Virgin Mary of massive silver fixed to it. 1900 W. *Angl Hymnology* 3 The hymn of Hannah is the prototype of the Virgin Mary's 'Magnificat'

**b** *attrib.*, or in possessive, in popular names of plants (see quots.), also (after Gaelic use) *Virgin Mary's*, *the*, Bonfire or Molucca nut.

1703 M Martin *Western Islands* 39 If she would but take the White Nut, called the Virgin Maries Nut, and lay it in the Pale into which she was to milk the Cows 1823 Jamieson *Scottish Wds Virgin Mary Thistle*, the beautiful and magnificent *Cardunus benedictus*, or Blessed Thistle. 1856 Miss Pratt *Flower Pl* III 230 Milk Thistle. This very handsome and showy plant, the Virgin Mary's Thistle [etc.]. 1869 *N & Q* 4th Ser III 414/2 In some parts of Berkshire the spotted persicaria is known as 'The Virgin Mary's Handkerchief.' 1880 Miss Jackson *Shropsh Word-bk* 464 Virgin Mary's cowslip. *Pulmonaria officinalis*, common Lungwort

**5** *The Virgin* (also *the blessed, holy*, etc , *Virgin*), = sense 4

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 5823 Syn Crist cam of be vyrgyne, Nyne score ȝer euene, & syne *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 4370 Pis was þat Iohan saw in a vision Of hym bat semed be virgin son 1390 *Gower Conf* II 286 For be bat cause be godhede Assembled was to the manhede In the virgine *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I 37 God, that of the vyrgyn was borne in bedeleym 1526 *Pilgr Perf.* (W de W 1531) 10 b, Hymselfe sayenge in the gospell, except ye eate the fleshe of the sone of the vyrgyn [etc.] 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 139 Desyringe almyghtie God and the blessed virgin to fauour his beginninges. 1623 Cockeram III, *Valentinianus*, a certaine heretiques, who held opinion that our Sauiour receiued not his flesh from the blessed Virgin 1643 Canyl *Eschol.* 306 xx 17 And this is the food which the Virgin Mary and Joseph prepared and supplied to eat 1706 [see Annunciation 2] 1756–7 tr *Keysler's Travels* (1760) I 286 The church of the holy virgin at Liresyo. 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* I 139 Praise we the Virgin all divine Who hath rescued thee from thy distress! 1801 Scott *Fire St John* xi,' Alas! away, away!' she cried, 'For the holy Virgin's sake!' 1867 Jas Campbell *Baltasarena* II ix 120 A full length figure of the Virgin and Holy Child standing within a Gothic niche 1869 Bancroft *Hist U S* III xxxiii 390 Uttering a special prayer to the immaculate Virgin

**b.** A picture or image of the Virgin Mary; a madonna.

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 April 1646, There are two Sacristias, an one of which is a rare Virgin of Leonardo da Vinci 1823 Galt *R Gilhaize* IX, My grandfather seized the Virgin a timber leg, and flung it with violence at them 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVII 140/1 A most exquisite Virgin in a tabernacle in the open street 1881 *Murray's Guide to Oxford* 87 The niches have been filled with the Virgin and Child [etc.].

**6** A person of either sex remaining in a state of chastity. Usually in pl.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24685 He leds hyf lik til angels, For virgins all ar þai 1390 *Gower Conf* III 277 How that Adam and Eve also Virgines comen bothe tuo Into the world and were ashamed [etc.] 1589 *Pappe w Hatchet* 307 When be Emperour Henrie and Ranegunde his wyfe abode alway clene virgins 1452 Capgrave *Life St Gilbert* xxxi 209 For þat tyme in which he was clerk to þe world, a non was he set a mongis þe dauns of virgynes

**7** A youth or man who has remained in a state of chastity

*c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 8913 (K.), þis Nacien become preat, meake to smal; Virginis he was. 1386 Chaucer *Lars T* 7930 Virginitee baar oure lord Iheau crist, and vir gine was his sembe. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxix 559 A virgyne ever schal he be alle dawes of his lyve certeine 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii xxii 715 Now arte a clene vyrgin above all knyghtes. *a* 1513 Fabian *Chron* vi ccxiv 238 This knyght Edwarde had a fayre lyym or sone, but he was accompted for a vyrgyn when he dyed 1588 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* III xvi 101 These Calenders say themselues to be virgins 1613 R Cawdrey *Treas Vow Ans*, 4 1636 It is certaine also that Anselme, the most earnest enforcer of single life, died not a Virgine 1653 H Cogan tr *Scaliger Comm* 14 It is held for certain, by them who know him, that he is still a Virgin 1700 Tyrrell *Hist Eng* II 785 He was reputed a Pure Virgin 1847 tr *Raczi's Life St Ladislaus* II xiii 253 A famous harlot, having heard it said that Philip was a virgin, studiously boasted that she would cause him to fall 1880 A I Ritchie *Ch. St Baldred* 49 King Malcolm [IV] is universally said to have died a virgin

*fig* 1798 Lamb *Rosamund Gray* iv 498 His temper had a sweet and noble frankness in it, which bespake him yet a virgin from the world

**8** *Astr.* = Virgo.

*c* 1480 Henrvsson *Fables, Fox & Wolf* iv Mercurius, the God of Eloquence Into the Virgin maid his residence 1. 1491 *Chast Goddes Chyld* 1 Whan be sonne of yere begynneth to wythdrawe dounwarde thenne reigneth he in a planete that we call Virgyne. 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xxiii (Percy Soc) 108 Till peace and mercy be in the right to enclose Out of the Lyon to enter the Vyrgyne *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* Prol 43 The Virgin, Libra, and the Scorpion 1596 Siderer *Pr Q V* 11 The Virgin, sitting on her degree. 1667 Milton *P L* v 596 Thence down amaine By Leo and the Virgin and the Scales, As deep as Capricorne 1697 Creech *Manilius* II 70 The Lwins, Virgin, Virgin force his sign to keep Nature a law. 1720–40 Thomson *Autumn* 23 When the bright Virgin gives the beauteous days, And Libra weighs in equal scales the year 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* I 197 Now the bright Virgin hears sphere, the sun Thro' the bright Virgin and the Scales had run 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 326 The Virgin and Bootes are, with the Lion, the most important constellations in view

**9** a. *ellipt* Applied to varieties of apple and pear

1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* 80 The Squish-pear, Spindle pear, Virgin, Gregories-Bergamot 1886 *Cheshire Glass* 378 *Virgins*, a kind of apple.

**b.** *Lnt* Applied to species of moths and butter flies

1834 J Rennie *Contp Butterfl & M* 49 The Virgin (*Triphæna Innuba*) Wings two inches to two inches one third, of uniform colour *Ibid* 100 The Virgin (*Brephæ Parthenias*) appears the end of March

**10.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *virgin birth, -born* adj., *-produced* adj., *-solitary, -worship*, virgin-bower, -honeysuckle, -mother, virgin-stock, the Virginia stock; **virgin-tree**, Oriental sassafras.

1652 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro* Poems (1904) 271 The virgin births with which thy sovereign spouse Made fruit full thy fair soul. 1884 Pusey *Lect Daniel* VII 484 That announcement of the Virgin birth of Him, of whom it is said, she shall call His Name Emmanuel 1899 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 6/1, I fail to see how those who deny the virgin birth of Our Lord can in any way claim part in the Christian Church 1671 Milton *P R* IV 500 Then hear, O Son of David, *Virgin* born 1846 Trench *Mirac* 46 The Virgin-born, the Son of the Most Highest. 1795 *Pom Dict.* *Virgin-bower*, a Plant of which there are two sorts (etc.) 1820 Scott *Lady of Lake* I xxvi, The clematis, the favour'd flower Which boasts the name of virgin-bower. 1882 *N. Syd Soc Year-bk. Med & Surg* 1880, 377 They are

altogether equivalent to *virgin produced 'zooids'. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard Assist* 55 Sweet peas, pansies, *virginstock. 1882 *Cent Diet* s.v. *Stock*, The somewhat similar *Malcolmia maritima*, in England called *Virginia* or *virgin stock*. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1219/1 *Virgin-tree. *Sassafras Parthenoxylon.* 1603 SHAKS. *Meas for M* v i 41 That Angelo is an adulterous thiefe, An hypocrite, a *virgin violator. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast's Trans* Introd p. xviii, I should have copied the introduction of *Virgin worship into the original tale.

11. In possessive collocations **virgin's garland**, a garland of flowers and coloured paper formerly carried at the funeral of a maiden; † virgin's honey, -oil, = *virgin honey, oil* (see 17 b); † Virgin's sea, = *Virginian sea* VIRGINIAN *a* 1 d, Virgin's spike (see SPIKE *sb*1 1 b), † virgin's thread (see quot).

1825 BROCKETT *N C Glass.* **Virgin's garland*, many country churches in the North are adorned with these garlands; in token, says Bourne of estee n and love, and as an emblem of reward in the heavenly Church. 1828 *Craven Glass., Virgin s Garland* Many of the Churches in the Deanery of Craven are adorned with these garlands. [Description follows.] 1879-81 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh Word-bk* 461 Virgins garlands are kept at Munslow, in which where there are several the most recent of them being of the date 1764. 1611 COTGR. *Miel vierge*, Virgins honie, the fome which of it ariseth, and floateth, possessing, distilled from the combe. 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v. *Empyema*, They mix a quartern of Virgins Honey, with two Paris Pints thereof. 1611 COTGR., *Huyle vierge*, Virgins Oyle; the Oyle that comes from the Olive of it selfe, and without pressing. 1603 in *Shirburn Ballads* lxxvii 7 His Empyre

Hielfe which her bestowed, Seventh doth lyan from Germas to the Virgin's [*v.r.* Virginian] sea. 1704 *Dict Rust* (1726) *Virgin's Thread*, a sort of Dew, which flies in the Air, like small untwisted Silk or Yarn, and falling upon the Ground or Plants, changes it self into a form like a Spider's web.

11 *attrib* passing into *adj* 12 Of persons (usually of the female sex) being a virgin or virgins, remaining in a state of chastity.

*Virgin Queen*, a name for Queen Elizabeth of England.

1560 BIBLE (Genev) *Jer* xiv 17 For þ^e^ virgine daughter of my people is destroyed with a sore grieuous plague. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids Nt's D* iii 2 Pardon, goddesse of the night Those that slew thy virgin knight [*cr* Hero]. 1611 SPED *Hist Gt Britain* i xi 21/1 Ursula, with her companie of canonized Virgin Saints. 1633 *Country Brothe Heart* Prol., The virgin sisters then deserv'd fresh bays. *Ibid* iii v, To virgin wives such as abuse not wed lock By freedom of desires. 1652 HUNT. *Triumph* vi xxx, Hail, blessed Virgin Spouse, who didst bequeath Breath unto him who made thee breathe! 1697 DRYDEN *Aneid* xi 754 The Volscians, and their virgin leader, wait His last commands. 1718 PARNELL *Hesiod* 34 In such a shape As virgin goddesses are proud to wear. 1738 tr *Guasso's Art Conserv* 45, I am, with Respect to any concern with Women, as true a Virgin man as I came from my Mother's womb. 1786 POLWHELE tr *Hyllus of Theocritus*, etc (1792) II 58 And still the Arabian maids have their hair Inwreathed with hyacinths, like the virgin companions of Helen. 1889 POLLOK *Course T* x Stars, the virgin daughters of the sky. 1834 I RITCHIE *Wand by Seine* 40 The virgin martyr St. Honoria.

b. In reciprocative use. Also *fig*, and cost of *and to rare*.

1667 MILTON *P L* ix 306 Likest she seemd to Ceres in her Prime, Yet Virgin of Proserpina from Jove. 1849 SO AUBREY *Hist Europe* lxii xxvi § 21 118 Germany, all the virgin to revolutionary passions, and unused to revolutionary suffering, has had a firebrand tossed into its bosom. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 553 Yet not less, O Guinevere, For I was ever virgin save for thee.

c. *The Virgin Mother*, the Virgin Mary

[a 1712 KEN *Sion* Poet Wks 1721 IV 321 His Virgin-Mother had Angelick Grace.] 1790 WILTON *Sufferings of God* I x 292 The Humble Deference of the sacred Virgin Mother in Regard to Him, who was her Son, and her God too. 1817 SCOTT *Monks of Bangor's March* ii, On the long procession goes, And the Virgin mother mild In their pea ofal banner smiled. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II i 13, I would fain enlist every holy saint in the calendar, and implore the virgin mother herself. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 234 The Virgin Mother standing with her child High up on one of those dark minster fronts.

d. *Virgin widow*, a widow who has been deprived of her husband before the consummation of the marriage.

a 1644 QUARLES (*title*), The Virgin Widow. A Comedie. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal & Arc* III 927 A Virgin Widow and a Mourning Bride. 1819 STEVENSON *Mem & N* 243 Isabella, virgin widow of our Richard II. 1887 *Encycl Britannica* IX 401/1 On 2 or 3 April [1502] he [Prince Arthur] died at Ludlow, and Catherine was left a virgin widow.

e. *transf* (See quots.)

1674 JEAKE *Arith* (1696) 663 Seven, the old Magi called a Virgin Number, supposing the Force thereof great, as a Virgin in her full strength. 1725 *Fam Dict*, *Virgin Vine*, a Plant reckon'd by many among the sorts of Snake-Weed.

'Tis call'd the Virgin Vine, because, If it may be so said, it is a Maid, and has hitherto brought forth nothing. 1849 OWEN *Parthenogenesis* 87 The development of an *Aphis* in the body of a virgin parent. 1888 F R CHESHIRE *Bees & Bee Keeping* II 330 The cage may be used in introducing both laying and virgin queens.

f. Of a fortress, city, etc. That has never been taken or subdued.

1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks III 240 That household, which has been the stronghold of prodigality, the virgin fortress which was never before attacked. 1856 *N Brit Rev* XXVI 103 She stands and grows and thrives, a virgin land for now eight hundred years. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl* X 186/1 Waddin is called by the Turks the Virgin Fort, from its never having been taken 1873 TREITSAM *Mosb* v. 78 Ibrahim was never able to take Kerak, whose proud boast is that it yet remains a virgin city.

g *Virgin generation, procreation*, or *(re)production*, parthenogenesis

1849 OWEN *Parthenogenesis* 28 The structures which Reaumur called in order to solve the problem of the alleged virgin procreation. 1859 *Todd's Cycl Anat* V 371/2 Professor Owen has given the name of Parthenogenesis, or Virgin production, to that mode of generation. 1881 *Encycl Brit* XII 574/2 While *Hymenoptera* reproduce by the union of the two sexes, 3 set parthenogenesis or virgin reproduction in of not uncommon occurrence.

13. Composed or consisting of virgins

c 1586 C TESS PEMBROKE *Ps* LXVIII. iv, Laught by thee, in this tryumphant song, A virgin army did their voices try. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch V* II ii 58 Yong Alcides, when he did redeeme The virgine tribute, paied I o the Sea monster. 1598 FRYER *Acc E India & P* 290 The Graces Adorn our Parks and Malls Crowned with Virgin Garlands. a 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet Wks 1721 IV 306 Psyche then left the lovely virgin choir. 1820 KEATS *To Psyche* 30 Though temple have been none, Nor virgin choir. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 13 The lover watched his graceful maid, As mid the virgin train she strayed. 1865-94 R. BRIDGES *Poet & Psyche* Poet Wks 1898 I 68 Let the virgin tribe on white forms all deck.

14. Of or pertaining to a virgin † appropriate to, or characteristic of, virgins a. Of parts of the body, articles of dress, etc

1588 SHAKS. *L L L* v ii. 816 Come challenge me And, by this Virgin palme now kissing thine, I will be thine. 1608 — *Per* iv ii 160 United I still my virgin knot will keep. 1616 DRUMM OF HAWTH *Madrigals* xlv, This virgine Lock of Hure To idmon Anthea gues. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 69 Some Virgins have the Cheeks of the Virgin Zone cashere. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr* II Introd Lines 182 Come see her in her Virgin Face, and learn t'wixt Idle ones, and Saints discern. 1725 POPE *Odyss* IV 199 Iphthima the fair, whose blooming charms Allured Eumelus to her virgin arms. 1809-8 WORDSW *Excel Sonn* xxxv Mother whose virgin bosom was uncrost With the least shade of thought to sin allied. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* iii v, Yet ne er again to braid her hair The virgin snood did Alice wear. 1819 G. ROGERS *Poems Life Poems* (1839) 10 Morn in her virgin veil the gentle breaks. 1846 PROWETT *Prometheus Bound* 31 Thou favoured maiden, Why in thy virgin zone still braced?

b. Of the state of *Nonconnect* XEXIX, Whenever you found him he seemed watchful and serene, his modest virgin lamp always lighted and trim

1611 BIBLE (*title*), Feelings, etc.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* xvii (1622) 165 Though the pureneese of my virgin mind be stained, let me keepe the true simplicity of my word. 1611 *2nd Maiden's Tragt* iii i, In Virgin thoughts I hate a woman. 1667 MILTON *P L* ix 270 Her virgin fancy, pouring forth more sweet Wild notes from every tree. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I, vi, *Lucia*. Was ever virgin love distress'd like mine? 1720 WELTON *Suffer Son of God* I iv 67 Without the least Injury to her Virgin Purity. 1737 *Whole Duty Man* 218 Her face Attemper'd sweet to virgin grace. 1766 GOLDSM *Cit W* lxxxviii, A lady in the virgin bloom of sixty three. 1818 HELEN TH. VICTOR *Nurse of Pr Canada* I 55 These are mere virgin scruples. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll Lakes* Wks 1862 II 201 The honourable elevation of a self-sustaining virgin seclusion, by preference to a heartless marriage! 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fair* III, The picture of youth, unprotected innocence, and humble virgin simplicity. 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *Valerie's Fate* II, We must not disturb her virgin thoughts with a question of marriage.

16. Comparable to a virgin in respect of purity or freedom from stain; pure, unstained, unsullied in early use in this context.

13 *E E Allit P A* 406 We leuen on mary^e^ þat ber a barne of vyrgyn flour *c*1450 *Godstow Reg* 90 With blessyd Seynt Cuthbyrge, þat virgyn flour. 1596 SPENSER *Prothalamion* 34 The lusty Lasses, lyke the Primrose trew. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch V* II vii 23 What saies the Silver with her virgin hue? 1610 — *Temp* IV 55 The white cold virgin snow upon my heart. 1634 FORD *Broken H* I i The virgin bays shall not withstand the lightning With a more careless danger than my constancy The full of thy infamous deeds. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 69 Some have that must be call'd the ancientest and most virgin times betweene Christ and Constantine. 1665 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint* I Search ye holy shades, and cells, Ears virgin flowers, and hallow'd Wells I could trove in. 1743 J RAMSAY *Cyrus Odes* I xxvi, 9 Sweet Muse, who low'st the virgin Spring, Hither thy sunny Flowrets bring. 1819 S. ROGERS *Hum Wishes* (1839) 11 Fill'd with a fuming flagon of virgin wine. 1818 KEATS *Endym* II 113 My veined pebble floor, that draws A virgin light to the deep. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll Lakes* Wks 1862 II 201 The pure and virgin snow. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* IV 225 To level a pure life, to keep your honour virgin. 1885 R BUCHANAN *Annan Water* iii, The garden was covered with a sheet of virgin white.

b. Not yet touched, handled, or employed for any purpose, still undisturbed or unused, perfectly fresh or new.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids N* I i 70 The Rose which withering on the virgin thorne dies in single blessedneese. 1638 DRUMM OF HAWTH *Exequies A. Alexander* 66 How oft have we Some Colors Name graven in each Virgin tree? 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 29 Unbought, unbless'd, the virgin copies wait In vain for fame. 1799 WORDSWORTH *Nutting* 51 The hazels rose Tall and erect, with temping clusters hung. A virgin scene. 1829 D'ISRAELI *Cur Lit* Ser II 2 415, I propose to give what may be called the Philosophy of Proverbs—a topic which seems virgin. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II xii 108 A Samian, named Colaeus, reached Tartessus, and found as Herodotus says, a virgin mart. 1867 F FRANCIS *Angling* lx (1880) 307 Salmon, hatched in perfectly virgin waters. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl Baluchistan* 376 It was at least a virgin country which had never yet been entered by white man. 1887 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II. 258 The ravages of Small pox in a virgin race.

c Perfectly free or clear *of* something.

1889 *Harper's Mag* May 878/2 The Sierra Madres in Mexico are still virgin of sportsmen and skin hunters.

16 Employed for the first time

1697 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc 85 When th' Earle of March Hal Virgine valour on that day bestowes. 1725 POPE *Odyss* I 389 His virgin sword Ægysthus veins imbru'd. 1760 STERNE *Tr Shandy* I ix, But [it] is honestly a true Virgin Dedication untried on, upon any soul living. 1832 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II 16 As on the day that saw him wield His virgin sword in battle field

b. Forming a first essay or attempt; coming at the beginning or outset.

1697 E F *Hist Edw II* (1680) 8 The first Virgin works of his greatness. a 1628 F GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 295 Her Virgin triumph over that invincible Navy. 1692 R CULVERWEL *Treat* 1 21 (1661) 16 Instincts the first born faculties that are presently espoused to their Virgin objects. 1708 CIBBER tr *Boileau Lutrin* 121 A Youth entring the Lists, his Virgin Motion makes. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph Cl*, *To Sir W Phillips* 10 June, 'Tis Croydale had happily wound up the Catastrophe of a virgin Tragedy, from the Exhibition of which Mrs. [Hannah] Pritchard. 1857 HELPS *Realmah* (1869) 27 Now quit thee well on this thy virgin field. 1873 HAMPERTON *Intell Life'r* iii 192 That interest y u preserve in all the virgin force, and bloom of your powers. 1892 *Daily News* 21 Feb 3/2 That any measure dealing with the House of Lords could only be undertaken by the virgin energy of the session.

17 Special collocations & *Virgin earth, soil*, etc., soil which has not hitherto been brought into cultivation, and retains all its natural power of producing vegetation *Virgin forest*, a forest of natural growth as yet untouched by man *Virgin rock*, etc, native rock not yet cut into or quarried. 1799 T ROBINSON in *Linn Research Systems* 103 A small Parcel of "Virgin Clay, digged from a Harbour Gardner Ground. 1852 FRENCH *Forbish Spa* ii. 13 Helmonts *tartarum* or "virgin earth, which he saith is a certain sand contained from the Center of the earth in vast places, even to the superficies of the same. 1698 BOYLE *Hist Air* 44 Hoping to find in the salt of what he supposed to be Virgin Earth, the true receptacle of the Universal Salt. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 141 Virgin earth becomes ferule, crops of new plants ever and anon shew themselves. 1799 J ROBERTSON *Agric Perth* 80 Hence the surprising fertility of all new soil, or what is called virgin earth. 1818 *New Botanic Gard* I 64 A third part of fresh virgin earth, from a pasture ground. 1881 RAYMOND *Mines Rocky Mts* 1 *Terms* 69 "*Virgin field*, a mineral field untouched or solid. 1851 G F RICHARDSON *Coal* (1855) 443 A "virgin forest of the Isle of Goodman one of the Marquis of Westminster. 1878 H DAVY *Agric Chem* (1814) 358 Strawberries and potatoes at first produce luxuriantly in "Virgin Mould recently turned up from pasture. 1877 J NORTHCOTT *Catacombs* I 1 To They choose rather to excavate in their own fashion in the "virgin rock below. 1837 H MARTINEAU *Soc Amer* II 106 The slave population is kulled off on the "virgin soils to which alone it is in any demand. 1857 J IVINGSTONE *Instr* xix 372 Virgin soil does not give such a heavy crop as an old garden. 1888 BOYLE *Amer Commerce* III xxxv 6 No event, no single circumstance, can upon a perfectly virgin soil. 1868 *Rep U S Commissioner Agric* (1869) 18 It [sc present practice] will doubtless continue in vogue till our "virgin wheat lands are run over by pioneers.

b. In special names of various substances (usually denoting one in a pure unmixed state or obtained as a first product), as *virgin bark, breccia, comb, copper, dip, gold*, etc. (see quots.)

1893 R. WELLS *Mod Farrier* IV 1 Barbour, or "Virgin barm, or bastard barm, as it is sometimes called, is made in somewhat the same way as Parisian barm. 1839 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* II 454/1 *Scissa Sanito*, or "*Virgin Breccia* Very small red chocolate, white and yellow angular fragments. 1891 *Cent Dict*, "*virgin clay* in industrial arts, clay that has never been molded or fired, as distinguished from the ground or prepared clay. 1881 it is often mixed with it. 1639 G DANIEL *Ecclus* xxiv 65 My Memory Is pleasant as the Honey and my flee Is sweeter then "Virgin Combes. 1666 DRYDEN *Annus Mirab* xxxvii, With glewy wax some new Foundations lay Of Virgin combs, which from the Roof are hung. 1867 *Tomlinson's Cycl Arts* Alb. 69/2 Some virgin combs that had never seen the light was placed in clean linen. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl*, "*Virgin Copper* is that which has never been melted down. 1796 BOWEN *Acc Coal* 8 167 Remarkable for the abundance of virgin copper. 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v. *Virgin Cream*, a Dish for which having the Whites of five Eggs, let them be well whip'd and put into a Pan, with Sugar [etc]. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 11 The flow of the first year is of higher value than the ordinary dip. It is called "virgin dip. 1884 C S SARGENT *Rep Forests N Amer* 537 Virgin dip is the white gum turpentine—the product of the first year the trees are worked. 1673 E. BOWNE *Acc Trust Hungary* etc 59 I here have been pieces of pure or "vi gin Gold found in this Mine. 1708 CHAMBERLAYNE *Cycl s.v. Gold Virgin Gold* is Gold, just as it is taken out of the Mines before it have undergone any Action, or Preparation of Fire. 1727 ROBERTSON *Hist Amer* VII (1778) II 343 A fine governor of Santa Fé brought with him to Spain a lump of virgin gold. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) IV 41 Sir John Mal colm had given him some Indian coins to supply virgin gold for the setting of this relic. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb* xiv 282 This came out of the Rocks at Whitney with a much finer Colour, and as fine a smell as the "Virgin-Hay. a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 4 It is of three sorts, "Virgin-honey, Live honey, and Stock honey. 1679 M ROSDEN *Further Discov Lett* 64 The ignorance of many Country people not knowing which is right Virgin Hony, and which

is not 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* (1721) I 283 The Honey which first flows of it self from the Combs is called Virgin Honey (as is also the Honey which comes from the first Years Swarm) 1772 FLETCHER *Appeal* Wks 1795 I 202 *note* Some poor hungry hearts will say, One thing is need ful for us. We cannot have too much virgin honey! 1867 *Jamblichus's Cycl Arith* App 5/1 Any experiments on it is subject must be with virgin honey, or that drained from the new comb a 1708 WOODWARD *Nat Hist Fossils* 1 (1729) I 297 I need scarcely to pure so nearly to approach the Fineness of *Virgin Lead* 1669 *Phil Trans* IV 1080 *Virgin Mercury they call that which discovers itself with out the help of fire* 1757 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760) IV 124 *Virgin ore* can it be, which is entirely prepared by nature 1668 *Phil Trans* III 821 Yet sometimes there are great Masses found all of pure Silver, which is call'd *Virgin* in estal. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* 1 292 With his Iron Tool of tough best *Virgin* Oak in rising (he) aads His tremb-ling, Limbs. 1719 BOYER *Dict Acad's De Chaulx* *virgin*, sweet or pure Oyl, Virgin Oyl 1823 URE *Dict Arts* I 284 In the district Mo spelluer they apply the term virgin oil to that which spontaneously separates from the paste of crushed olives 1881 RUSSELL *Horse Keeping* 259 The first ripe olives are first subjected to pressure without the applica tion of heat in this manner the finest oil, or virgin oil is obtained 1758 BOSWELL *Nat Hist Corsica* 290 The most perfect copper is the Malleal le (from its purity called in Cornwall the *Virgin-ore*) 1821 BYRON *Sardanap* IV 1 The miner lights Upon a vein of virgin ore. 1611 COTGR., *Larchemin verre* Cleere Parchmet or *Virgine Parch* ment 1706 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey), *Virgin Parchment* a sort of fine Parchment made of the Skin of a young Lamb 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* xiii The was fastened round his middle by a broad belt of virgi n parchment 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 897 The best [olive oil], called *virgin* salad oil, is obtained by gentle pressure in the cold 1888 *Cassell's Handbk Med Sci* VI 297/1 In this way the bubbles and sour odor are developed and what is known as "*Virgin* Seammony" is produced 1796 STODDART *Jrnl Virginia World* 167 1300 dollars weight in ingots of *virgin* silver 1776 ADAM SMITH *W N* I xi 11 I 182 Silver is very seldom found *Virgin* or in its *Beautiful* State It had the appearance of metallic malleable, or what is called virgin silver 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser 1 238/2 The silver found in the trade, even under the name of virgin silver contains traces of copper 1823 in HOLLAND *Manuf Metal* II 39 Run, or *virgin* steel — which indeed in the pr oper sense of the term is no steel at all but rather good cast iron! 1808 PINKERTON *Dissert* 235 *Sulphur Virgineu u* *Virgin Sulphur* 1696 *Compl Gunner* xv 16 This is called Sulphur Vivum, and by some *Virgin* Sulphur 1752 CHAMBERS *Cycl Supp* s.v. *Sulphur* *Sulphur vivum native* or *virgin sulphur*, is that which is dug in thus form out of the earth 1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 283 On this they laid their Pencils with light strokes of the pencil. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal Beauty* xiv. 130 Let us then call class 4 of each colour bloom tints, or if you please, virgin tints, as the painters call them 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I 430 Take the first, or *virgin* wine, which runs of itself from the grapes.

**18** *Comb*, as *virgin eyed, -minded, -vested* adjs.

1848 B. D WALSH *Aristoph* 365 *note* Jove a virgin-eyed daughter 1867 EARL STANHOPE (1905) I 224 The Church exists nowhere a more virgi n minded community of young men. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs b f Sunrise Quia Multum Amavit* 18 Thou wast fairest and first of my virgin vested daughters.

Hence **Virginly** *v* a. *intr* with *it* To remain a virgin b *trans* To speak of, mention (virgins)

1607 SHAKS. *Cor* v iii 48 I have I carried from thee dearej and my true Iippe Hath Virgin d it ere since 1625 MASSINGER *Actio Will* iv *Marg* You ll have me sir preserve the distinction that Confines a virgin! *Orav* Virgin me no virgins I must have you love that name or you lose me.

**Virginal** (və ɹdʒinal), *sb* Forms 6 **virgin-alles, -ynal(le)s**, 6–7 **virginall s**, 6- **virginal s**, 7–8 **virginelles** [App of the same formation as VIRGINAL *a*, but the reason for the name is obscure.]

1. A keyed musical instrument (common in England in the 16th and 17th centuries), resembling a spinet, but set in a box or case without legs

**a.** In plural form applied to a single instrument.

1530 PALSGR 721/1 Set my virginalles, *entonnes mes espi nettes* a 1548 HALL *Chron Hen VIII* 8 Exercising him self daily in playing of recorders, flute virginalles and in setting of songes 1591 FLORIO *2nd Frutes* 129 He plaies also upon the cittarn, virginals, violone and flute 1601 P. JOHNSON *Fic Mus Hum* (Q.) II iii. 161 I can compare hi n to nothing more happely, then a Barbers yung nals for euery one may play vpon him 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Dec. Her daughter played after dinner upon the virginals 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus* I i 4 But Lessons for the Organ Virginals, or Harp two staves of six li es together are required. 1707 CURLL in E. Dunbar *Soc Life* (1865) 15 I can play on the Treble and Gamba, Viol Virginelles and Manicords 1706 *Younger* (1787) II 192, I could play pretty well on the Virginals at home 1823 ROSCOE tr *Sismondi's Lit Eur* (1846) I v 128 The clari cord was a sort of spinet resembling the virginals 1841 BARHAM *Ingol Leg* Ser II *Will Cook* And fine upon the virginals is that gay Lady's touch. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* xii. II. 298 Himself a player on the virginals and organ

**b** *A pair of virginals*, in the same sense. (Cf PAIR *sb* I 6.)

1542 *Test Vivor* (Surtees) VI 159 A paire of virginalls. 1543 *Lanc Wills* (Chetham Soc) II 67 My best paire of virginalls. 1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt Honest Wh* IIIv No, for she s like a paire of Virginals, Alwaies with Iackes at her taile 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Sept., Hardly one lighter or boat in three that had the goods of a house in but there was a pair of Virginalls In it 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr* II 93 The Dining Room, where stood a pair of excellent Virginals. 1725 J COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Let* Wks (1775) 177 You know I have a pair of rusty old Virginals in a Corner of the School, which have about eight Strings left out of forty five

**c.** As a singular, with plural denoting more than one instrument

The plural use (a) prob. preceded the singular

(a) 1566 STERNHOLD & HOPKINS *Ps* cl 14 Praise him with Tymbrell and with flute, organes and virginals 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II 1 *Handycraftes* 367 Wherr Cym bals Rebecks si news twi d Sweet Virginals, and Cornets curled winde. 1630 R. *Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 187 I have (saith) that a lord keeping in the heads like Jacks in Virginals 1644 DIGBY *Nat Bodies* vii (1658) 57 Artificial musical instruments (as organs and virginals that played by themselves) 1696 *Pitent Specif* (1856) No 337 1 Harp ch rds virginalls or the like. 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Three Ages* 1 7 Large and airy study ornamented with books, manuscripts, maps, viols, virginals, and other musical instruments.

(*b*) 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 18 Virginall, *cymbalia*. 1597 BARTON *Wits Commonwealth* Wks. (Rossett) II 14/1 Let me euer loue muscke though I cannot tune a virginall 1625 GILL *Sacr Philos* II 188 In an Organ or Virginall, all manner of tunes all concords, and discords are which are possible to bee made or conceived by any Musician 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Jan., He a d I did see the organ but I do not like it, it being but a double, with a virginal joining to it 1694 *Pat Rec* XVIII 23 He shews the best way how to have an Organ or Virginal tuned. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No 157 ¶ 8 That ancient serious Matron like In struction the Virginal, 1789 BURNEY *Hist Music* III 1 5 note The Virginal is a keyed instrument of one string jack and quill, to each note like a spinet. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 160/2 The compass of the virginal was less than the second added line below the base to the second added line above the treble—or four octaves. 1889 BRINSMEAD *Hist Pianoforte* 31 The virginal must have gradually superseded the clavichord 11 Englis d was the virginal

*2nd sing.* 1593 HARVEY *New Lett* Wks. (Grosart) I 266 Is not the Verse of M. Spencer in his braue Faery Queene, the Virginall of the diuinest Muses and gentlest Quaresmo 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II 1 *Handycraftes* 367 Wherry Cym bals Rebeckis si news twi d Sweet Virginals, and Cornets curled winde. 1630 R. *Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 187 I have (saith) that a lord keeping in the heads like Jacks in Virginals 1644 DIGBY *Nat Bodies* vii (1658) 57 Artificial musical instruments (as organs and virginals that played by themselves) 1696 *Patent Specif* (1856) No 337 1 Harp ch rds virginalls or the like. 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Three Ages* 1 7 Large and airy study ornamented with books, manuscripts, maps, viols, virginals, and other musical instruments.

(*b*) 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 18 Virginall, *cymbalia*. 1597 BARTON *Wits Commonwealth* Wks. (Rossett) II 14/1 Let me euer loue muscke though I cannot tune a virginall 1625 GILL *Sacr Philos* II 188 In an Organ or Virginall, all manner of tunes all concords, and discords are which are possible to bee made or conceived by any Musician 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Jan., He a d I did see the organ but I do not like it, it being but a double, with a virginal joining to it 1694 *Pat Rec* XVIII 23 He shews the best way how to have an Organ or Virginal tuned. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No 157 ¶ 8 That ancient serious Matron like In struction the Virginal, 1789 BURNEY *Hist Music* III 1 5 note The Virginal is a keyed instrument of one string jack and quill, to each note like a spinet. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 160/2 The compass of the virginal was less than the second added line below the base to the second added line above the treble—or four octaves. 1889 BRINSMEAD *Hist Pianoforte* 31 The virginal must have gradually superseded the clavichord 11 Englis d was the virginal

*2nd sing.* 1593 HARVEY *New Lett* Wks. (Grosart) I 266 Is not the Verse of M. Spencer in his braue Faery Queene, the Virginall of the diuinest Muses and gentlest Quaresmo 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II 1 *Handycraftes* 367 Wherry Cym bals Rebeckis si news twi d Sweet Virginals, and Cornets curled winde. 1630 R. *Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 187 I have (saith) that a lord keeping in the heads like Jacks in Virginals 1644 DIGBY *Nat Bodies* vii (1658) 57 Artificial musical instruments (as organs and virginals that played by themselves) 1696 *Patent Specif* (1856) No 337 1 Harp ch rds virginalls or the like. 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Three Ages* 1 7 Large and airy study ornamented with books, manuscripts, maps, viols, virginals, and other musical instruments.

*3 plural* 1593 HARVEY *New Lett* Wks. (Grosart) I 266 Is not the Verse of M. Spencer in his braue Faery Queene, the Virginall of the diuinest Muses and gentlest Quaresmo 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II 1 *Handycraftes* 367 Wherry Cym bals Rebeckis si news twi d Sweet Virginals, and Cornets curled winde. 1630 R. *Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 187 I have (saith) that a lord keeping in the heads like Jacks in Virginals 1644 DIGBY *Nat Bodies* vii (1658) 57 Artificial musical instruments (as organs and virginals that played by themselves) 1696 *Patent Specif* (1856) No 337 1 Harp ch rds virginalls or the like. 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Three Ages* 1 7 Large and airy study ornamented with books, manuscripts, maps, viols, virginals, and other musical instruments.

*4 transf* Fresh, pure, unsullied, untouched.

a 1659 OSBORN *Observ Jacks* Wks (1673) 344 Learning resembling dead Honey which is the coarse and unwholesome honey pure and Virginal but what is sucked from every Flower that may be found in the wild Field of a general Commerce [1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lucifer* 1 A novel exhibition which is pure virginal] 1821 W. R SPENCER *Poems* 152 Shall the earth mid the roses of June, May s virginal violets scorn? 1866 M ARNOLD *Empedocles* 1 ii, The stars is cool on the seaside sat Pure virginal in mountain flowers More virginal and sweet than ours 1889 JOS. THOMSON *Two Morocco* 94 From no point of view does I anger look so beautiful and virginal as from this particular gateway

**† Virginity.** *Obs rare* [f prec. + ITY ] The state or quality of being virginal

a 1450 *Ant de la Tour* 149 Within her pure virginalite of her flesshe, blode, and bones 1481 CAXTON *Godef* 240 Iuno the goddesse of virginalite

**Virginally** (və ɹdʒinăli), *adv* [f VIRGINAL *a* + LY 2] In a virginal manner, like a virgin.

1882 STEVENSON *Men & B* 95 He primarily pleded at the fluttering of her dress in the spring wind 1882 Miss C P WOOLSON *Anne* 101 Young ladies, dancing virginally by themselves.

**† Virginarious,** *a Obs rare* [f L *virgine us* (f *virgin-, virgo* virgin) + -OUS ] Virginal, virgin 1585-7 ROGERS *39 Art* Pref (1607) P 3 Her Faith, her wisedome, her virgineous and chast behaujour he would euer celebrate 1604 MOUFFET *Nobilis* 1 (1885) 4 Which robustly propit with ease produces Fractions in many weak Virgineous Cruises

**† Virginet,** var of (or error for) VIRGINAL *sb* † c 1680 ASHOLE *Mem* (1717) 4 Mr Henry Hinde Organ ist of the Cathedral taught me the Virginetts and Organ.

**† Virginhead.** *Obs* [ HEAD ] = next

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II 1 *Reben* 662 Unlike it is Such blessed state the noble flower shoulds tas Of Virgin head 1612 J DAVIES (Heref) *Sco Folly* Ep CXXV Two foes of honord name in Honors bed, (The field) descrie (like Virgins) newly wuesi I o lose their maiors lusty virgin head

**Virginhood.** [f VIRGIN *sb* + HOOD ] The condition or state of a virgin, virginity

1636 DAVENANT *Iutenuch Lovers* iii, To live in sweet unskilfull virgin hood The Angels 1 hey no sexes know 1897 Browning *Balaust* 821 But thou the girl, how will thy virginhood Conclude itself in marriage fittingly? 1874 WITHROW *Catacombs of Rome* (1877) 547 The abandon ment of the lofty vantage ground of virginhood

**Virginia** (vəɹdʒiniă) [f L *virgin-, virgo* VIRGIN *sb.* (in honour of Queen Elizabeth) + -IA 1] With the various applications of the word of those of VIRGINIAN *a.*

I The name of that part of North America in which the first English settlement was made in 1607, subsequently one of the original thirteen States of the North American Union, used attrib in *Virginia colony, company, landscape, trade*, etc

1609 in Capt Smith *Wks* (Arb.) 901/1, I am bold to write the truth of some late accidents, he hath had Mutes. 1611 VIRGINIA colony 1. 1621 *Ibid* 641 It came to be appre hended by some of the Virginia Company 1773 in *Nairne & Lerrage Rev Lenox* (1874) 170 Copartners in a Virginia trade carryed on by them under the firm of Orrell Vandrebenck and Company 1781 *Ann Reg., Hist* 47/1 The Virginia militia gave the British troops a warm reception. 1853 KINGSLEY *W Ewy Isles* I (1879) Joyfully unloaded their Virginia goods, and replaced them with powder and shot 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 256/2 The most striking feature of the mountain and sequence ranges of Virginia landscape

**b** In names of plants and trees, as *Virginia cedar, corn, vvy, pea tobacco, wheat*, **Virginia creeper**, *Amplopsis hederacea* and *quinquefolia*, common climbing plants of the family *Vitaceæ*; **Virginia vine** (see quots.).

Also *Virginia snake root, spiderwort, stock, sumach, watch-hand* see the sbs.

1731 MILLER *Gard Dict* s.v. *Juniperus*, The three Sorts

of *Virginia* Cedars afford excellent Timber for many Uses. 1688 *Encycl. Brit* XXIV 258/2 The principal timber trees are yellow or pitch pine; red or Virginia cedar 1842 in Cage. Smith *Wks* (Arb) 564 Whatsoever is said against the *Virginia* Corne they finde it doth better nourish than any proulsion is sent thither 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* II xiv. This adheres to Trees by its hoary fibres, as our *Virginia* Creeper does to Walls by its tendrels. 1706 Abercrombie *Gard Assist* 153 Train and nail climbers—to walls, &c as virgin's bower passion flower, Virginia creeper, &c 1837 Henfrey *Bot.* § 452 The species of *Ampelopsis* known as 'Virginia Creepers' exhibit some interesting phænomena. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* II, The Virginia creeper on the cathedral wall has showered half its deep-red leaves down on the pavement 1689 Parkinson *Parad* 612 *Vitis, seu potius Hedera Virginensis* the *Virginia* Vine, or rather Iuie. 1699 in Capt Smith *Wks* (Arb) 97 We daily feasted with good bread, *Virginia* peaze, pumpions, and putchamins. 1857 Cozzs *Adam in Eden* 333 Some have called the yellow Lupine Spanish Violets, and *Virginia* Roses. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Virginia-Tobacco*, the Tobacco-Plant growing in those Parts 1786 Anne Grant *Letters* II 213 Some scarce marigold, yellow sultan Virginia tobacco, &c 1689 Parkinson *Parad* 564 The *Virginia* Vine beareth small Grapes without any great store of iuice therein. *Ibid* 565 This slender, but tall climing Virginia Vine (as it was first called; but Iuie, as it doth better resemble) 1681 R. Child in *Phil. Trans.* XVI 255 The hill on which their Corn is planted, called 'Virginia Wheat' 1688 *Phil Trans* XVII 978 English Wheat (as they call it, to distinguish it from Maze, commonly called 'Virginia Wheat')

c In names of birds, insects, etc, as *Virginia bat, chafer, dsidapper, frog, goatsucker, red-bird, snap beetle, squirrel*, **Virginia nightingale**, the cardinal grosbeak.

1688 *Phil Trans* XVII 991 The Night Raven which some call the 'Virginia Bat, is about the bigness of a Cuckow 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* II Tab xxxvi 8 Marshal 1 *Virginia* Chaffer 1688 *Phil Trans* XVII 997 Teale, Wigeon, 'Virginia Dsdapers. 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Virginia Frog*, a kind of Frog that makes a noise like the bellowing of a Bull 1783 Latham *Gen Synop Birds* II ii 595 'Virginia Goatsucker inhabits Virginia in summer; arrives there towards the middle of April. 1688 *Phil Trans* XVII 995 Of 'Virginia Nightingale, or red Bird, there are two sorts 1698 *Lond Gaz* No 3108/4 A Parcel of choice Virginia Nightingales, with Stock Birds, are to be sold by Tho Bland 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Virginia Night-jgale* a Bird of a pure scarlet Colour with a tuft on the Head 1731 [see Red a 7 b]. 1808 A Wilson *Amer Ornith.* (1831) II 273 Numbers having been carried over both to France and England in which last country they are usually called Virginia nightingales. 1783 Latham *Gen Synop Birds* II ii 727 *Vireo Virginianus* 'Virginia Partridge, smaller than the Common Partridge 1808 A Wilson *Amer Ornith* (1831) II 276 They are generally known by the names red bird 'Virginia red bird and crested red bird. 1702 Petiver *Gazophyl* I § 10 The Velvet eyed 'Virginia Snap-Beetle 1699 in Capt. Smith *Wks* (Arb) p c, I could him of the 'Virginia squirrills which they say will fly

d. Miscellaneous combs, as *Virginia tobacco* (cf. 2), **Virginia fence**, a rail fence made in a zig-zag manner; *to make a V. fence* (see quot. 1861), **Virginia reel**, a country-dance

1748 Franklin *Drowne's Diary Wks* 1887 II 26 He (being drunk) makes a 'Virginia fence 1789 Anburey *Trav* II 324 The New Englanders have a saying when a man is in liquor he is making a 'Virginia fence 1826 T Ewell *Recollections* 206 The universal fence split rails, laid in a worm trail, or what is k nown in the North by the name of Virginia fence. 1844 F H Gosse in *Ecclesiologist* II 708 The fences, which are almost wholly made of rails set up in the zig zag fashion so general in the north, commonly called a Virginia fence 1861 Lowell *Biglow P* Ser ii Introd Poet Wks (1912) 285 'Virginia Reel, to make a to walk like a drunken man 1859 Bartlett *Dict Amer* (ed 2) 497 *Virginia reel*, the common name throughout the United States for the old English 'country-dance 1694 Kersey *Bate's Dictionc* (1713) 1/1 If you steep good 'Virginia Tobacco in the Water, it will be much more effectual 1747 W Douglass *Brit Settlements N Amer* (1760) I 115 Virginia tobacco, and Brasil, and Varinas tobacco, differ upon this account.

2. *elliptical* A variety of tobacco grown and manufactured in Virginia. Also *attrib*

1618 in Capt. Smith *Wks* (Arb) 541 There are so many sofisticating Tobacco-mungers in England were it neuer so bad, they would sell it for Verinas, and the trash that remaineth should be Virginia 1690 B *Discollimenarum* My bare purse will reach no higher then to Democraticall Virginia, which many times tasts like some Levellers old mashine linings. 1881 T Farman *Herculaneum Relicts* No 9 (1773) I 53 The Reforming Troops offering the Inhabitants of Virginia, and the Drink-offering of the Bottle, to their Idol of the Long-nose 1728 Addison *Spect* No 329 P 6 He bid him stop by the way at any good Tobacconist's, and take in a Roll of their best Virginia 1803 Sir A Boswell *Sport of Justice* xxii, He's in his sanctum for his breaks For a quid o the right Virginia 1864 Hawthorne *S Felton* (1883) 230 A German pipe puffed out volumes of smoke, filling the pleasant western breeze with the fragrance of some excellent Virginia.

3. *Astr.* One of the minor planets.

1866 Lockyer *Elem Astron.* 328 Minor Planets [include] 18 Doris 49 Pales 50 Virginia 1879 *Encycl Brit* II 807/2 Virginia [discovered] 1857, October 4 [by] Ferguson [at] Washington

**Virginian** (vəɹdʒi niăn), *sb* and *a.*[1] [f prec. + -AN]

A. *sb.* One of the aboriginal natives or inhabitants of Virginia.

1588 Hariot *Brief Rep Virginia* B 1 b, [If mulberry trees are planted] there will rise as greate profite in time to the Virginians, as doth now to the Persians 1607–12 in Capt Smith *Wks* (Arb) 79 Of the manner of the Virginians governement 1619 Middleton *Love & Antig* in Bullen *O Pl* VII 322 The civilly instructed Irishman and that kind savage the Virginian 1719 Foe *Crusoe* I (Globe) 209 The Brasilian, and Virginians, and other Natives of America 1858 Thackeray *Virginians* xl, A young savage Iroquois Chieftain, or Virginian, who has lately been making a little noise in our quarter of the globe

b A white settler in Virginia, a native or inhabitant of the modern State of Virginia.

1707 *Freq Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 659/1 The Virginians who are rich, very generall amiable, polite and hospitable and of an independent spirit 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 372/2 Parts of the Navigation Laws were deemed highly injurious to the interests of the Virginians. 1876 Bancroft *Hist U S* III xiii 208 Two regiments composed of Penn sylvanians, Marylanders, and Virginians, remained as a garrison

B *adj* Of, belonging or relating to, the State of Virginia; connected with or interested in Virginia

With the various applications of the adj, cf the attributive uses of Virginia

1699 in Capt Smith *Wks* (Arb) 169 For the honorable and better sort of our Virginian adventurers I think they vnderstand it as I haue writ it 1614 Chapman *Masque Iuno* & *Paw* Wks (1873) I 241 On their heads high spruc'd feathers, compast in Coronets, like the Virginian Princes they presented 1781 *Ann Reg., Hist* 46/2 The second line [was composed of] Virginian militia. 1797 H Watkins *Journ* (1822) I 346 An Indian half king, who in the Virginian accounts is called a very considerable monarch. 1859 Thackeray *Virginians* vi The scanty pay and patronage of the Virginian government 1876 Bancroft *Hist U S* I xx 545 Virginian and Maryland volunteers joined to gether, and besieged the fort.

b. In names of plants and trees, as *Virginian anemone, asarole, bindweed, cowslip, date plum, dogwood, fir, grape, guelder-rose, hemp, ivy, jasmine, poplar*, etc, † **Virginian climber**, = Maracock, **Virginian creeper**, = *Virginia creeper*

Also *Virginian poke, snake root, spider-wort, stock, swamp, tallet tree* (see the sb.).

1822 *Hortus Angl* II 50 'Virginian Anemone Petals green; flower stalks long; seeds shaggy 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* (1793) 194 'Virginian Arbutus 1597 Gerarde *Herb* 1633 1/1 The leaues are like vnto Parsly, but broader, wedge shaped at the base, shining and deeply serrate. 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Smilax*, Rough 'Virginian Bindweed, with a smooth Ivy Leaf, commonly call'd Sarza parilla. *Ibid* s v *Symphytum*, Red 'Virginian Cedar *Ibid*, The White berry'd Virginian Cedar 1861 Bentley *Man Bot* 660 *Juniperus virginiana*, the Virginian Red Cedar 1688 *Phil Trans* XVII 1011 The Virginian Cherries, or these Flowers are of a whitish colour, thick spotted with a Peach colour 1704 *Dict Rust* (1726), *Virginian Climber or Maracock*, *Bignonia virginiana* is the Virginian Trumpet round winding Stalks 1856 A. Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 323 *Martensia Virginica*, 'Virginian Cowslip or Lungwort 1688 *Garden* to May 333/1 The Virginian Cowslip attains true development in semi shady spots. 1856 A Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 58 *Ampelopsis*, 'Virginian Creeper 1871 H Macmillan *Pour Vine* ii (1892) 41 The Virginian Creeper is known to botanists by the generic name of Ampelopsis derived from its vine like habit of growth 1866 *Treas Bot*, *Virginian Dog-wood* is the Virginian Date Plum or Persimon a native of the United States. 1725 *Fam Dict*, *Virginian-Dogwood*, a Tree of the natural growth of Virginia, about the size of the common Cherry Tree blossoming early in the Spring 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Abies* The 'Virginian Fir Tree, with small roundish Cones. *Ibid* s v *Vitis*, The wild 'Virginian Grape 1880 Cassell's *Family Mag* 95 The 'Virginian gelder rose, a common garden shrub, affords a very perfect specimen of this kind of inflorescence. 1829 London *Encycl Plants* 838 *Cannabis*, 'Virginian Hemp 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Hedera*, Round leav'd 'Virginian Ivy 1664 Evelyn *Kal Hort* Sept. 75 Yellow 'Virginian Jasmine 1822 *Hortus Angl* II 420 Sweet blue of 'Virginian Lungwort combines happily with alpine Auriculas. 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Acer*, The 'Virginian flowering Maple was in 1724 from Seeds which were brought from Virginia. 1669 Evelyn *Kal. Hort* (ed 3) Aug 23, Single flowers, Shrub Spireæ, *Agnus Castus*, the 'Virginian Spartagon, *Mala* & *Arbores* 1725 *Fam. Dict* s v 'Virginian Nightshade, otherwise call'd Candle Berry Tree. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXV 341/1 *Twisp tree*, the English name of the *Liriodendron tulipifera* in America, where it is native. It is also known by the names White wood 'Virginian Poplar, and the Poplar 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Rubus*, The 'Virginian Raspberry bush with black Fruit 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Rosa*, The Wild 'Virginian Rose. 1692 Parkinson *Theat* 444 'Virginian Sallee. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict*, *Periploca*, Virginian Silk The Flower consists of five Leaf 1880 *Chambers's Encycl* V 468/1 *Asclepias Syriaca*, Syrian or Virginian Swallow wort, sometimes called Virginian Silk, appears to be a native of North America. It is frequently cultivated in flower gardens 1866 *Treas Bot* 1103/1 Virginian Silk, *Periploca græca* 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Veronica*, Tall 'Virginian Speedwell, with many Spikes and white Flowers. 1869 Eliza Acton *Modern Cookery* (ed 13) 396 Virginian Spinage. 'Virginian Swallow wort 1866 [see *Virginian silk* above]. 1892 *Penny Cycl* XXIV 217/2 *T Virginiana*, the 'Virginian Tamarisk, a handsome shrub with reddish flowers. 1844 Stephens *Bk Farm* I 393 The cock's spur thorn (*Crataegus crus galli*) and the 'Virginian thorn (*C Virginiana*) have been proposed 1741 *Compl Fam Piece* II iii 386 There are several other Trees and Shrubs which are now in Flower, as 'Virginian Trumpet flower Olives Cassen 1842 Howell *Dodona's Gr* 180 In this 'Virginian Vine, the saying of the wisest of Kings may be verified, That a good Wife is a Tree of life 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict* s v *Vitis*, The Virginian Vine or Common Creeper 1793 *Farm. Dict*, 'Virginian Wild *Cress-tree*, a Plant that blossoms somewhat like the Apple, but very pleasant to the Smell.

c In names of birds, quadrupeds, etc., as *Virginian colin, deer, nightingale, owl*, etc.

1843 Yarrell *Brit Birds* II 348 *Ortyx Virginiana*, 'Virginian Colin 1781 Pennant *Quad* I 104 'Virginian Deer with slender horns A quite distinct species, and peculiar to America. 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* III 68 The Virginian Deer is the 'Common Deer of North America and is slightly smaller than the Fallow Deer *Ibid* 301 The Eagle Owl and its relative, the 'Virginian Eared Owl of America, are the largest of all the family 1802 Shaw *Gen Zool* II i 255 'Virginian Flying Squirrel *Sciurus Volucellus*. 1817 Stephens *Ibid* X i 153 'Virginian Goatsucker *Caprimulgus virginianus* 1809 *Ibid* VIII i 225 'Virginian Horned Owl *Strix Virginiana*. 1668 Charleton *Onomast* 85 *Cacothraustes Virginiana*, the 'Virginian Nightingale 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl. s.v *Nightingale*, *Virginian Nightingale* the common, but improper, name of a bird of the grosa beaked kind 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. i, She is a nightingale—a Virginian nightingale. 1896 P. A. Bruce *Econ Hist Virginia* I 129 The cardinal or red bird which was always described as the Virginian nightingale, on account of the clearness and strength rather than the variety of its notes. 1800 Shaw *Gen Zool* I ii 473 *Didelphis Virginiana*, 'Virginian Opossum 1843 Yarrell *Brit Birds* II 348 *Perdrix Virginiana* 'Virginian Partridge 1884 *St James Gaz* 28 Apr 6/2 The so-called Virginian partridge has unsuccessfully failed to adapt himself to the English climate 1867 *Chambers's Encycl* IX. 809 'Virginian Quail or Colin (*Ortyx*), a genus of birds of the family *Perdricidæ*, closely allied to quails and partridges. 1882 *Century Mag* XXIV 1 Some of the American Partridges are familiar to us in this country such as the Virginian Quail (*Ortyx virginianus*) 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop Birds* I 2 pt 588 *Coturnix Virginianus*, 'Virginian Rail [Hence in Pennant (1792) and Stephens (1824).] *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Sept. 1657 2 'Virginian rattle snakes 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* (1834) II 71 The grey 'Virginian squirrel is larger than a rabbit and of a greyish colour 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop Birds* II ii 546 *Parus Virginianus* 'Titmouse [Hence in Pennant (1792) and Stephens (1817).]

d Miscellaneous uses, as **Virginian plate**, silver (see quot) **Virginian sea**, that part of the Atlantic Ocean lying off the coast of Virginia, † **Virginian vapour**, tobacco-smoke.

In quot. 1617 (and under 1618 in *Virginian* is an error for *Vergilian*, an epithet (derived from Ptolemy) of the Irish Sea

1864 Bescs, etc *Eng Workshops* 60 This new compound to which the inventors have given the name of Virginian plate or Virginian silver 1618 Capt Smith *Map of Virginia* Map The 'Virginian Sea. [1697 Mouvson *Voy* II 136 The famous Harbour in the Virginian Bay olde Writers called Iarma by the English at this time Ireland] 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 256/1 On the S it is bounded by North Carolina and Tennessee, on the E by the Virginian Sea of the Atlantic Ocean 1630 Lenton *Char. Act* F 7, He then lues by 'Virginian vapour a week after

† **Virginian**, *a*[2] *Obs* [f. *Virginia sb.* + -an] Virginal, virgin

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 754 Whether it be Virginian modestie, and after the vse of Virgins, shee would say nay at first. 1758 *Elaboratory laid Open* 319 The best virginium honey.

† **Virginic**, *a. Chem Obs.* Also **virginicic**. [f Virgin Tan *a* 1 + ic] *Virginic acid*, an acid obtained from the fat oil of Virginian snake root.

1837 R D Thomson in *Brit Ann* 350 *Virginic acid*. Quevenne considers the whole of the oil to constitute the acid to which he has applied the name Virginic, from whence the plant was originally sent by Dr Tennant in 1738 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 1000

**Virginity** (vɪrdʒi nĭti) forms 4–5 **vir gynyte**, 6 **-ite**, 4–6 **vyrgynyte**, 5 **-eynte**, 6 **inite**, 4–6 **virginite** (**itee**, 4 **virginitie**, 5 **Sr verginite**) 5 **yte**, 5–7 **itie**, 6– **virginity** [a AF. and OF *virginite* (mod F *virginité*, = It *verginità*, *virginità*, Sp *virginidad*, Pg *idade*), ad L *virginitat-*, *virginitas*, f *virgin-*, stem of *virgo* see Virgin *sb.* and -ity.]

1 The condition of being or remaining in a state of chastity, abstinence from or avoidance of all sexual relations, bodily chastity, as a virtue of great commendation, or as conferring especial merit or sanctity, the mode of life characterized by this, esp as adopted from religious motives.

a. Of persons of either sex (or without special limitation of sex)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24681 Man or womman quelper it be pat lues in wirginite, Sal haue pe more heghe gle 1297 Langl. *P I* B xi 302 Wedlokes and widwehode with virgynyte ynempned In toknynge of be Trinite was taken ordre of man 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* vi. 6 When swee ye in eny maner age That hathe God defended maryage By expres word? Or wher commanded be virginite? 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 83 Well may virginite be compared to a flowre. Nothyng is more fayre more lusty ne more pleasaunt than is virginite 1547–64 Boulwin *Mor Philos* (Palf) i 111 vii The first degree of chastity is pure virginity, and that is when one hath not vsed carnall acte. 1582 Ascham *Scholem* (Arb) 1 85 Commonlie they cum lothest, common contemners of marriage not because they loue vir ginitie, nor yet because they would liue chaster than [etc.]. 1651 Cartwright *Cert Relig* 1 174 Origen saith that such as live in virginity doe not that which is commanded, but above what is done. *a* 1721 Ken *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV 266 Virginity s a Heav nly tender Grace, Connatural to the angelick Race. 1837 Hallam *Lit. Lit* I. vi. 57 The faculty of theology at Paris, censured the Colloquies for slighting the fasts of the church, virginity, monkery, pilgrimages and other established parts of the religious system. 1840 Newman *Par Serm.* V vii. 103

Therefore marriage was in repute, and virginity in distesteem 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq* (1876) IV xix. 422 An exaggerated reverence for virginity had been growing up in the Church from the beginning

b Of men (esp ecclesiastics or other religious persons)

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* xxxvi (*Baptist*) 74 Angele als callit wes he [John the Baptist], fore kepyng of vyrginite. 1382 Wyclif *John* Prol., Double witnesse of virginyte is 3oouun to hym in this that he is seid loued of God byfor othere disciplis 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* 1 (Rodl. MS) 58 a He lyued eure in virginite 1456 *Coventry Leet Bk* 281 *John Emanuelesis* Holy Edward crownyd kyng brothur in vir ginite 1585 I Washington tr *N cholay s Voy* iii xvi. 101 Hee that will enter into this religion must observe virginitie and abstinence 1613 Heywood *Mohum Impost* ii § 68 By this protection that is by virginitie it is knowne that he was of God accepted for his perfection. 1657 Farindon *Serm* (1672) II 192 Some have also placed Perfection in Virginity making the selves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven; and have had a cr imputation upon the state of Matrimony as most imperfect 1658 Broadgate *Treat Specters* v 307 [He] defended the married Priests against the Monks, which observed the vow of Virginity 1868 Freeman *Norm Conq* (1877) III App. 538 The resolution of Eadward to devote himself to a life of perpetual virginity 1884 *Cath. Dict* 556/2 Catholic feeling has attached itself amongst us to the virginity of St. Joseph

a. Of women. Also in phrases *flower, gem*, etc , *of virginity*, chiefly with reference to the Virgin Mary.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars T.* 948 The thridde manere of chastites is virginitee, and it behoueth hat she be holy in herte and clene of body, lyuinge as she spouse of Jhesu crist and she is the lyf of Angeles. 1390 Gower *Conf* II 356 And thus cam this Calistona into the wode of Iegea Wher ache virginite he hath Mad Dane 1440 Pallad. on Husb. *Mother of God* 65 Wel oghten we thee worschipe & honure, Paleys of Cryst flour of virginitee 1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) VI 91 Seynte Zedechie whiche contynuede in virginite thaughe sche was mariede twyes. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* Introd (Roxb.) 6 Whan I gan inwardly to remembre Of hyr that a perfyte vyrgynyte kept so fayr. *Id. Poems* lxxxvi 37 Roiss Mary O chast conclaf of clene virginite, That closet thu3 crymes criminale 1540 Hyrde tr *Vives' Instr Chr Wom* (1541) 15 Virginite was euer an holy thinge euen amonge the wyues beaknes of Say s tuary, vngratious liuers [etc ] 1603 Dekker *f iuenil r s still* 816 Master Farneze sweet virginitie is that inuisible God head, that turns a vile drudg into a Queene, makes vs saints on earth, and starres in heauen 1634 Milton *Co mus* 738 List Lady, be not co en d With that same vau ted in e Virginity 1711 Addison *Spect* No 165 ¶ That Vow of Virginity in which she [a nov ce] was g ng to e gage her self. 1911 *Edin. Rev* July 62 Jacqueline aspired to the veil, dedicated herself to virginity and the spiritual life.

d. Personified

*c* 1400 *Pilgr Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv iv 60 This noble lady was suster to Aungels and wys cleped vyrgynyte, *c* 1440 Lydg *Assembly of Gods* 842 Many petty capitayns aftyr these went As Clen ssse Continence and Virginite

2. The state or condition of a virgin or chaste woman, chastity, as the natural or normal condition of an unmarried woman, maidenhood Also, a condition affording presumption of chastity, spinsterhood

1390 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 2875 Grannte me two moneþes ar y dye, Pat y may wepe my virginite. 13 *E E Allit P* B 1031 By how comly a kest he was clos bere, When wenkynd was nost3 ne wyckednesse marked *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 18560 For me is leuere in my contre Be sclayn in my virginite Pat I falle not in ioure handis Pan go with Pelleus 1440 Wyntoun *Cron* viii 130 Pat scho myght m y nand be I'wa moneth her vir ginite 1500–20 Dunbar *I e* clxxiii 13 Evin so women wantis their virgi nite Or thame that maist ar holdin on worthe. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* iv iii 248 I deeme her Virginitie: I was taken with a Maide. 1634 Sir I Herbert *Trav* 20 The [Malagasy] youth scarce knowing twelue the maid ten yeares in his lord, title of Virginity 1709 Addison *Tatler* No 202 P s Some pleaded their un spotted Virginity others their numerous issue 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 30 ¶ The whole solitude of antiquated virginity 1796 H Humphrys *St. Pierre s Stud Nat* (1799) II 243 They dispense premiums on v rginity 1825 Scott *Last Ly* Aug in *Lockhart* (1837) I 8 I deem her Virginitie I was taken with a Maide. 1634 Sir I Herbert *Trav* 20 The [Malagasy] youth scarce knowing twelue the maid ten yeares in his lord, title of Virginity 1709 Addison *Tatler* No 202 P s Some pleaded their un spotted Virginity others their numerous issue 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 30 ¶ The whole solitude of antiquated virginity 1796 H Humphrys *St. Pierre s Stud Nat* (1799) II 243 They dispense premiums on v rginity 1825 Scott *Last Ly* Aug in *Lockhart* (1837) I 8 I deem her Virginitie I was taken with a Maide. selected this charming spot for the repose of their time honoured virginity 1884 *Cath. Dict* 556/2 Mary then, was the Virgin Mother of God She remained in perpetual virginity

b Freq in phrases, esp with possessives, as *to ravish, rob*, etc. (a woman s) *virginity; to keep, lose*, etc. (one's) *virginity* , sometimes with approximation to a concrete sense.

1390 Gower *Conf* II 316 Thus this tirant there Berafft hire such thing as men seen Mai most honoure hir ayen And that was the virginite. *Ibid* 339 To robbe the vir ginite Of a yong innocent aweie. 1440 Quixley *Ballade* xii. in *Verdch. Archæol.* (1908) X 56 Dha Tirranne Herodyan kyng The virginite ravyschit by treson Of Philomene *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lx 23 (Harl. MS ) Whan he was ded, per come a knyst and spoiled me of my virginite 1485 Caxton *St Wenefr* 9 She chase leuer the sympleyng of of her bede than to lose her vyrgynyte 1563 83 Foxe *A & M* 94/2 Her hearte hanging about her shoulders in two parts deuided (wherewith her shamefull chastitie and virgin tie were couered). 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* iv i 49 If you Haue vanquisht the resistance of her youth And made defeat of her virginitie. 1602 Rowlands *Good Newes & D* 21 Since Nans Virginity past help 11 lost, They'l teach him what a maidenhead will cost. *c* 1706 Prior *True Maid* 1 For my Virginity When I lose that, says Rose, I'll dye 1708 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v , That the next Relation of the Maid s, shall undertake to enjoy her before him, and take away her Virginity 1799 A. Butler *Lives Saints* (1821) X 489 These holy martyrs seem to have met a glorious death in defence of their virginity from the army of the Huns. 1866 B Taylor *On Leaving California* Poems 272 Mother of mighty men, thou shalt not mourn Thy lost virginity

*fig.* 1640 Chapman *Caromen Deo Nostro, 3rd Elegy* 6 O had he nere been at that cruell cost Nature s virginity had nere been lost

†o With *a* or pl *Obs*

1604 E. G.[immstone] *D Acosta s Hist Indies* v xv 367 Some were appoynted to serve the Guacas and Sa ctuaries, keepi g their virgi nities for ever 1632 Lithgow *Trav* iv 157 The men and the Virgines both shall haue their Virginities renewed as fast as lost 1634 W Tirwhyt tr *Balsac s Lett* 269 Nor was ever any virginity so brittle, as that she brought into the world

d. Used as a title A virgin or unmarried woman *rare*—1.

1755 Mrs. F Brooke *Old Maid* No. 9 64 You must know then my good sister virginity that [etc ]

3 *fig.* The state of being virgin, fresh, or new

1590 G Fletcher *Christ s Vict* iii lix, See, see the flowers that blowe And of all, the virgin rose How they all unlaued die Loosing their virginitie 1639 Fuller *It ly Warr* xix (1647) 31 Cana the less where he shewed the virginity of his miracles, turning water into wine. 1692 South *Serm* (1744) XI 8 As the purest water , when it slides into a dirty and a muddy Kennel it immediately loses its clearness and virginity. 18 Whittier *I r Wks* (1889) II 187 What avail your abstract theor es your hope in the luminary ages if democracy cannot from the violence of meanings? 1896 *Daily News* 14 Feb 5/4 Pretty well for what Lord Rosebery wo uld call the virginity of the Session 1915 J Kenan *Sadie I to th Fore* ix 121 Men s prejudices had destroyed what Ruskin calls the virginity of the eye and it was the main endeavour of Jesus to restore it

Hence **Virgi nityship**, spinsterhood

1741 Mrs. Montagu *Lett* I 209 Old Virginityship is certainly Milton s Hell Where hope nte er comes that comes to all !

**Virgin-like,** *a* and *adv* [f Virgin *sb* ]

**A.** *adj* Resembling a virgin or that of a virgin, characteristic of or befitting a virgin, maidenlike

1596 *Edward. II* (1622) 46 Ah wanton, I sp Oh cursed and furious enuie ! seeing by thee man was first beguiled and inducted vnto water the earth being yet a virgine like with his hitherto blood *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iii i, And here we met faire Venus virgine like, Bearing her bowe and qu uer at her backe 1603 Florio *Montaigne* iii v 520 When I heare them bragge to haue so many 1000 s of Souldiers and Gode mother Virgin like Att re *a* 1704 S n W Jones *Lucha te I Prut* Wks 1709 VI 189 Rich bowls , Some virgin like in native pride, And vestu 1709 Addison *Tatler* No 202 P 5 That Vow of Virginity in which she [a nov ce] was g ng to e gage her self. 1911 *Edin. Rev* July 62 Jacqueline aspired to the veil, dedicated herself to virginity and the spiritual life.

**B** *adv* = Virginly *adv rare*

1595 J. Weever *Faiery* (1599) E vj, Chaste Lucretia virgine like her dresses.

**†Virginly,** *a Obs*—1 [f as prec + -ly1 ] Virgin, virgin like

1548 Udall, etc *Iterum Par Luthe xxiv* 88 Dooe ye not knowe how the vyrginly fleshe is to be enclosure & tabernacle of the virginly chastitee, whiche neither any mortall man entreyng vnto it na the soonne of God hath violated or defouled?

**Virginly,** *adv.* [f as prec + -ly2 ] As or like a virgin , in or after the manner of a virgin , in a way becoming to a virgin or virgins

1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 194/1 The holy ghoost shewed into vs gentyeuyn of vertuous ancrey that lyuede vyrgynly & holyly & vyrgy nly 1823 Moore *Rhymes on Road* v 28 Whose beginnings are virginly pure as the source Of some mountainous rivulet. 1855 Meredith *Ordeaning Marriage Eg. a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1912) 173 As you use vile Vulcans spight to melt that Virgin waxe, Which while it is, it is all Aglaia light.

*adverb* 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 256 The most intemerate Virgine wax phisonomy 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* iv viii 223 The convoy presently departed, leaving him with a Virgin waxe light, in a golden Candle stick

*b* 1495 *Trevisa s Barth De P R* xix lxi 807 The more newe waxe is the more it is virginal and pure And pryntynge of dyuers figures and shapes, and suche wex is callyd vyrgyng wexe 1535 *Wardr Accth Arragon* 41 in *Camden Misc* III, Item seeuyn bolla papers of vyrgyn a waxe 1567 Maplet *Gr Forrest* 37 Corfoide being wrought & tempered with Virgins Waxe remedieth all kinde of swelling 1607 Walkington *Opt Glass* 30 The purest virgins wax. 1658 Rowland *Moufet s Theat Ins* 915 Simple and natural Wax is the thicker part of the combs that contains the honey ; and it is either virgins wax, or of a second sort ; virgins wax is the purest and whitest of Bees make from the young branches of flowers. (That is the first Swarm put into a new Hive) 1660 Boyle *New Exp Phys Mech.* x 96 Another Taperer of white Wax (commonly called Virgins Wax) 1736 Bailey *Househ. Dict* s.v *Eye-salve*, Take one ounce of May butter half an ounce of virgins wax [etc.].

‖ **Virgo** (vɔ1 rgo) *Astr* [L see Virgin *sb* ] (With initial capital ) a The zodiacal constellation lying between Leo and Libra , the Virgin.

b The sixth sign of the zodiac, which the sun enters about Aug. 20–23

*a* 1000 in *Saxon Leechd* III 244 An þæra tacna ys gehaten *aries*, ðæt *leo* synna *virgo*, þæt is maeden 1390 Gower *Conf* III 121 After Leo Virgo the nexte Of signes cleped is the sexte *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol* ii. §28 Alle signes in thy zodiak fro the heued of aries vnto the ende of virgo 1588 Shake. *Tit A* iv iii 64 *Tit* Good Boy in Virgoes lap. *Marc* My Lord, I sams a Mile beyond the Moone, Your letter is with Iupiter by this. *c* 1600 W Fowler *Wks* (S T S ) I. 269 Leo [may] lye of al the beastes forlorne,

as virgo may with gemini bewar 1664 Butler *Hud* II iii 534 Quoth Wizard, So! In Virgo? Ha! quoth Whachum, No. Has Saturn nothing to do in t. 1697 Creech *Manilius* II. 72 Against the Crab and Bull the Goat declines, And Virgo too, and Libra feels his Wars. 1771 *Encycl Brit* I 460/2 In 24 days afterwards, the moon comes to Virgo and Libra, which are the opposite signs to Pisces and Aries 1787 Burns *Let to Moore* 2 Aug., Yet I went on with a high hand with my geometry, till the sun entered Virgo, a month which is always a carnival in my bosom 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 373/1 Virgo, the sixth constellation in the zodiac. It is best known by two remarkable stars the first, Spica (a Virginis); the other, Præviendemiatrix or Vindemiatrix (ε Virginis). 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 395 This zone is known under the name of the nebulous regions of Virgo.

**†Virgoule**(a. *Obs* Also 7 **vergoule** [a. F. *Virgoule*, the popular pronunciation of *Villegoureix*, the name of a village in the province of Limousin (Hatzf.).] = next.

1699 Evelyn *Kal. Hort* (ed. 9) 18 Pears. Winter Musk Vergoules, the great Surrein. *Ibid* 134 Ice Pear, Dove Pear, Virgoule, Deadman's-Pear. 1719 London & Wise *Compl Gard* 53 *La Virgoulee* The Virgoulee, otherwise call'd the Bolaleuf, Chambrett, the Ice Pear [etc.] *Ibid.* 160 Autumn, and Winter Pears, especially the largest. . . the *Beurrees*, *Virgoules*, and *Bon Cretiens* 1742 *Compl Fam Piece* II iii 406 These Pears:-[Nov] Martin Sec. . Virgoule, Sucrevert.

**‖ Virgouleuse** (*virgulöz*) Also 7 **Virgouleus**, 7, 9 **Virgoulease**, 8 **Virgoulouse** [*F virgouleuse*, f. *Virgoulle* (see prec.).] A juicy variety of winter pear Also *attrib.* with *pear*. Cf. Virgaloo

1698 M Lister *Journ Paris* (1699) 159 The Virgouleus Pears were admirable 1699 Evelyn *Kal Hort* (ed. 9) 167 Pears. Bergamot de Busy Vergouleuse. 1706 *Gentle's Fardenser Solitary* 40 The Marquise, the Easter Bergamot, the Virgouleuse 1725 *Fam Dict* s.v. Pears Pears which become ripe in November —The Virgouleuse is an old Pear, well known for its Goodness. 1806 Sir Webster, *Pomologia* a species of pears contracted to *virgoule*. 1845 A. J Downing *Fruits & Fruit trees A ner* 450 Virgouleuse. An excellent old French variety [of winter pear]. It is, however, a very different pear from the Virgalieu of New York, which is the White Doyenné 1860 Hogg *Fruit Man* 219 Virgouleuse Fruit large and pyriform Skin smooth and delicate, pale lemon colour November till January

**‖ Virgula** (vɔ ɪgɪŭlă). [L., small rod or twig, critical mark, dim. of *virga* twig, rod, wand, etc.]

**1** *Zool* A small rod like growth or formation

**†a.** One of the spines of a ray. *Obs*

1661 Lovell *Hist Anim. & Min* 56 They [ie rays] take their prey by hiding themselves in the mudde and putting out their virgulæ, and so alluring the small fishes, coming to them as to worms.

**b.** The rod-like axis of a graptolite

1907 *Fossi Invertebr Anim Brit Mus.* 47 The colony acquired a median supporting rod or virgula: this ended often in a disk

**2 †a.** *Virgula divina* or *divinatoria*, a divining- or dowsing-rod *Obs*

1656 Cowley *Pindar Odes To Mr. Hobs* Note 28 *Virgula Divina* [see Thynne *ob! ob* 2] 1669 Worlidge *Syst Agric* vi § 3 80 It is the onely Plant for the *Virgula Divina*, for the discovery of Mines. 1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) *Virgula divinatoria* is a Rod of Hazel, wherewith Miners pretend to discover where the Ores of Metalls lie. 1691 Locke *Lower Interest* 40 Not of the nature of the dousing rod, or virgula divina, able to discover mines of gold and silver

**b** = Rod *sb* 6 b

1826 Peacock in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) I 411 Of this description are the *virgulæ* or *rods* of Casper which were formerly much celebrated and very generally used

**3 †a** = Virgule 1. *Obs rare*

1728 Chambers *Cycl* 2 v. *Point*, A Point with a Virgula, call'd a Semicolon *Ibid.* s.v. *Comma*.

**b.** *Mus* (See quots.)

1801 Busby *Dict Mus*, *Virgula*, the name of one of the ten notes used in the middle ages. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 450/1 *Virgula*, (1) The stem or tail of a note. (2) A neume.

**Virgular** (vɔ ɪgɪŭlăr), *a* [f. L *virgula* (see prec.) + -ar 1]

**†1.** Of musical syncopation Denoted by a small dash or stroke *Obs*

1609 Douland *Ornith Microl* 51 To the same Signe there may belong a double Diminution to wit virgular and numerall, thus ℄ ꝛ Virgular syncopation is much used

**2** Of Ogham characters, etc. : Having the shape of small thin rods; consisting of slender rod-like lines or strokes

1807 G Higgins *Celtic Druids* 3 Another example of an Irish character called a virgular ogham *Ibid* 35 The virgular alphabets of the Druids

**Virgulate,** *a.* [ad. L. *virgulāt us*, f. *virgula* see -ate 1] (See quots.)

1840 Smart *Walker's Dict*, *Virgulate* shaped like a little rod 1892 Crozier *Dict Bot Terms* 190 *Virgulate*, diminutive of *virgate*, shaped like a little twig or rod

**Virgule** (vɔ ɪgɪŭl) [a. F *virgule*, or ad L. *virgula* Virgula]

**1.** A thin sloping or upright line (/, |) occurring in mediæval MSS. as a mark for the cæsura or as a punctuation-mark (frequently with the same value as the modern comma)

1597 Hallam *Hist Lit* i vii § 26 In the manuscripts of Chaucer, the line is always broken by a cæsura in the middle, which is pointed out by a virgule 1898 Horsman *Beginnings of Writing* 111 According to Orosco y Berra these virgules or commas represent the verb to blow or to hum

**2** *Clockmaking.* (See quot.)

1884 F J. Britten *Watch & Clockm* 284 [A] Virgule [is] an escapement having points of resemblance to the verge and to the horizontal

**†Virguler,** error for prec or Virgula

1610 Marcelline *Triumphs Yas I*, C j b, Let them measure the Syllables, weigh the Words, controule the points and Virgulers

**†Virgult.** *Obs.* [ad L. *virgulta* (neut pl.), bush, thicket, copse, slips or cuttings of trees, f *virgula* Virgula ]

1. A bush or shrub, a set of young shoots, a branch or twig.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon* I Prol. xii, Amyd the virgultis all in till a fary. As feminine as febbit fell I drown. 1696 Blount *Glossogr*, *Virgult*, a company of young shoots, or many young tender Sprigs and Sprouts growing together out of the ground 1697 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 240 Certain red berries adhere to its virgults.

**2** A thicket or copse.

1736 *Drake's Eboracum* I vii. 334 A toft and a virgult and three oxgangs of land

**Virgultate,** *a rare*—0 [f mod L. *virgult um* (see next) + -ate 1] Virgulate

1888 *Cassell's Encycl Dict*

**‖ Virgultum** (vɔ ɪgɒ ltʊm) *Bot* [mod.L. see Virgult.] A young slender branch or twig.

1866 *Treas Bot* 1209/1 and in recent Dicts.

**+Vir-hirne,** southern ME. var Fire-iron I

c 1325 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw* in *Rel Ant* II 81 Flint, *castellum* vir hirne, *silicili*

**Viral** (vī răl) *Physics* [a G *virral* (Clausius), f L. *vīr*, pl stem of *vis* force, strength.] In Clausius' kinetic theorem of gases (see quots)

1870 tr *Clausius* in *Lond*, etc. *Philos Mag* Aug 123 We will therefore give to the mean value which this magnitude has in the stationary motion of the system the name of *Virial* of the system. 1875 *Encycl Brit* III 39 When an attraction or repulsion exists between two points, half the product of the mass strees into the distance between the two points is called the *virial* of the stress

**Viricide.** *nonce wd* [f L *vir* man, husband + -cide 2] The slaying of men or of husbands

1756 G Canning *Anti Lucretius* I 71 The impious Danaides, Grecian stories tell, For barbarous viricide con demn d to hell

**+Viriound,** *a Obs*—1 [Irreg f L. *viro-dis* (see next), after *redound*.] In a green state

1599 A. M *Gds Doctor* 1 *Bk Physicke* 191/2 Take hoppes with the stalckes, and roote, ether viricome, or exsiccated.

**Virid,** *a poet* and *rhet* Also 7 **viride.** [ad. L. *virid-is* green, blooming, vigorous] Green, verdant

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xii xciv, Her tombe was not of viride Spartane greet, Nor yet by cunning hand of Scopas wrought 1698 H Crompton *Parnelus* 82 The vivid Marjoram Her sparkling beauty did but see. 1796 T Taylor *Pausanias' Descr Greece* I 61 There is, also, a temple of Earth the nurse of youths, and of vivid Ceres. 1811 H & J Smith *Rej Addr* (1873) 97 The pillars blooming in vivid antiquity, like two massy evergreens 1866 J B Rose *Occid's Mist* 341 And on it spoke the virid bough upon Wound as he was, the dragon turned to stone.

**‖ Virida·rium.** *Roman Antiq* [L. *virī dārium* plantation of trees, pleasure-garden, f *viridis* Virid *a*.] A pleasure garden or green court of an ancient Roman villa or palace

c 1590 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov 1644, We went to see Prince Ludovisio's villa where was formerly the *Viridarium* of the poet Sallust 1838 W Gell *Pompeiana* I viii 168 A sort of court, probably planted with flowers, and some times called a *viridarium* 1848 Lytton *Harold* I i, The wide space between the columns, which had once given ample vista (from graceful awnings into *toblinnum* and *viridarium*) 1884 Hare *Dorbo & Darou* x As This went across the viridarium, or chief green court of the Palace.

**+Viridary,** *sb Obs rare* [In sense 1 ad med L. *viridarius* verderer, f L *viridis* Virid *a*, in sense 2 ad. L *viridarium* Viridarium ]

1. A verderer.

?13 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1503) p lxxx/1 And moreouer euerych xl dares bi al the yere foresturs and vyridaries shall come [others to same effect]. 1601 W Watson *Sparing Discov* a 3 Being but aduanced to the dignitie of a vice president, nay but of a vicepротonotary, nay but of a vice Viridary

**2** A viridarium or garden

1657 Thornley tr *Longus*, *Daphnis & Chloe* 190 Seeing how fair and flourishing the Viridarie [was].

**+Viridary,** *a Obs* (Of obscure meaning.)

Perh. an attrib. use of the *sb* (see sense 1, quot. 1601), but the allusion is not obvious.

1600 W Watson *Decacordon* (1600) 147 (The Jesuits) haue a new kinde of a viridary post or current of time to game time withall, in keeping Nobles, State and all the people in suspence of euents, vntil they haue what they looke for.

**Vi ridate,** *sb Chem* [f Virid-io + -ate 1] A salt formed by the action of viridic acid

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 1008 Coffee beans owe their green colour to a small quantity of calcic viridate. *Ibid.*, The blue precipitate of lead viridate is decomposed by sulphydric acid

**+Vi ridate,** *v Obs.*—0 [f late L. *viridāre* to grow green, f. *viridis* Virid *a*.] (See quots)

**VIRIDITY.**

1623 Cockeram I, *Viridate*, to wax or make greene. 1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Viridate*, to make green and lusty

**+Virideer.** *Obs*—1 [ad med L. *veridarius* (see Viridary *sb*.), after words ending in *-eer*.] A verderer

1609 Skene *Reg Maj., Stat K William* 12 Gif be be found the third time with grene wode, he sall be presented to the virideer (be keper of be grene wode and grasse)

**+Viri deous,** *a Obs.*—1 [Irreg f L *virid is* Virid *a* ] Virid

1688 Holme *Armoury* II 313/2 *Viridis*, viridseous, green colour

**Viride scence.** *rare* [Cf. next.] The quality of being viridescent

1841 *Blackw Mag* L 697 An artist of this school is signalized by the flatness and viridescence of his canvas in a moment. 1922 *Nature* 25 May 289/2 More like potatoes than the tender viridescence that we like best

**Viride scent,** *a. rare.* [ad ppl stem of late L. *viridescēre* to become green, f *viridis* Virid *a.* see -escent ] Somewhat green or verdant

1847 Darlington *Amer Weeds*, etc (1860) 433 *Viride scent*, greenish 1889 Stevenson *Catt* (1899) II 158 The front of the mountain lived and furred with clinging forest, one viridescent cliff 1907 *Sat Rev* 5 Oct. 420/2 Philosophers like gods may have a certain viridescent old age

**‖ Viri dis.** *Chem* [mod L., f. *viridis* Virid *a* Cf. Viridine 3.] A vegetable alkaloid obtained from the rootstock of *Veratrum viride*, an American variety of white hellebore jervine

1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat Med* 383 The researches of Dr H C Wood have led him to conclude that Viridis and Veratroidea both exert a depressant influence on the heart

**Viri dian,** *sb* and *a.* [f L *virid is* Virid *a* ] **a.** *sb* Veronese green. b *adj* Of or pertaining to this colour.

1882 W T Suffolk in *Science Gossip* Mar 49 The following list of colours contained in my own box may prove useful Viridian. [*Note*] A transparent oxide of chromium, perfectly permanent, of great use both by itself and in compounding other greens. 1903 *Lit Ken* 21 Mar 356/2 The patch of green bank shimmering up to viridian patch encouraged by greys.

**Viri doc,** *a Chem* [f as prec + ic ] *Viridic acid* (see quot )

1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 1002 *Viridic acid*, an acid produced by the oxidation of caffetanic acid in presence of ammonia.

**Viridine** (vi ridəin). Also -in [f. as prec. + -ine. Cf ‖ *viridine* ]

1 *Bot* = Chlorophyll, Chromule

1837 P Keith *Bot Lex* 59 The pulp constituting the parenchyma of the leaves was at one time designated by the appellation of *viridine* because it is generally of a green colour 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* s.v

**2** *Dyeing.* A green aniline dye (see quots )

1875 *Ure's Dict Arts* (ed 7) I 720 Viridine A green dye has been obtained by acting on rosolic acid with aniline and benzoic acid 1882 *Nature* XXV 546 R Meldola investigates the action of benzyl chloride upon diphenylam ine and the action of oxidising agents upon the product The substance thus produced is a green dye, 'viridin'

**3.** *Chem* = Viridia, Jervine

1877 H Watts *Forowes's Chem* ed 12) II 660 Parvoline, Coridine, Rubidine, Viridine $C_{18}H_{13}N$ 1888 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* III 604/1 The viridine and veratroid ine of Bullock are now supposed to have been impure con diments of jervine and rubijervine respectively 1888 H C. Wood *Therap* (ed. 7) 392 The root stock of Veratrum viride contains two alkaloids, *jervine* and *veratroidine* Dr George R Wood named them *viridine* and *veratroidine*

**Viridite** (vi ridəit) *Min* [f as prec. + ite 1 2 b Named *viridit* by H Vogelsang, 1872 ] A mineral compound occurring in certain rocks in the form of minute greenish particles.

1879 Rutley *Stud Rocks* x 166 Viridite includes mineral matter which is probably referable to different species of chlorite and serpentine 1883 *Science* II 111 1 Yellowish green needles of epidote and viridite 1892 J D Dana *Min* (ed. 5) *viridite* A colorless mineral, generally in scaly or fibrous forms and are often the result of the decomposition of amphibole, pyroxene chrysolyte, etc.

**Viridity** (vɪri dĭti) Also *rare* also 5 **virditee**, 6-7 **viridity.** [ad OF (also med F) *viridité* (= It *virsidità*), or L. *viridităt-, viriditas*, f *viridis* Virid *a.*]

1 The quality or state of being virid or green, greenness, verdancy Also in fig context

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc ) 78 God Almyghti Hath borrished the erthe on every side The woodes and the medowes wyde, With grete habundance of virditee 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 209 b Ther re mayneth somtimes a virditye or greenes about the apertione *Ibid.* 53/2 The matter of the four wounds reuyveth it selfe into viriditye. 1608 J Dove *Confut Atheism* 90 The Bush bore the heat of the fire without losse of viriditye 1661 Feltham *Resolves* (ed 8) II lvii 304 The Soul (Man was planted in the Element of Vertue, and while tis nourisht by it, it spreads and thrives with fruit and fair viridity 1670 Ralegh *Hist* (ed 3) 370 That dessication of their Trees, and amongst other things, for their Age and perennial viridity might spring from the manifold use which they afforded 1875 *Sat Rev* XL. 534/1 To mark more clearly the distinction between black and green tea, the practice has arisen of imparting to the latter 'an obvious viridity' by means of various pigmentary substances

**2** *fig* †a (See quot ) *Obs*—1

1656 Blount *Glossogr* (copying Cooper), *Viriditie*, lustiness, strength manliness. [Hence in Phillips, etc.]

**b** = Verdancy 2

1885 T Hook *Sayings* Ser II *Passion & Princ* IV, What intellectual virility that exemplary creature possesses! 1898 *Chamb Jrnl* IX 99 A desire to extenuate my dear parent's virility and trustfulness in the matter 1899 Hulbs *Friends in C* Ser II I viii 264 The next in innocency — may we say in virility?

**†Viridour.** *Obs rare* In 6 virydour [rd, med L *viridarius* verderer, with ending assimilated to VERDOUR 2] = VERDERER 2 1.

1413 *Charter of Forest* in Arnold *Chron* (1811) 272 [That] euerych forester of our fee shall from henceforth attache plees of forest as wele of grasinges as of our venen and them presente to y^e viry dour of y^e prouince.

**Virl** flo, *a rare*—1 [f L *virl us* VIRLS + (1)FIC] Virulent, poisonous

1885 *Pall Mall C* 20 Jan 4/1 It was further ascertained that the maximum of virific effect is produced in the medulla oblongata.

**Virle** (vɪ rəl, ɪl, vɔɪr rəl, ɪl), *a* (and *sb*) Also 5 **virylle** 6 **vyrryll**, 6–8 **viril** (7 ill) [a OF *virril* or adj. 1 *virilis*, f *vir* man see -ILE So F, Sp, Pg *viril*, It *virile*]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of a man, manly, masculine, marked by strength or force

a Of things, qualities, etc

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* x lx 36 O the fortytude vyrile of wymmen or lode & prowes of fayr & feble amyynyone 1604 I Wright *Passions Chymact Years* 3 The next ch y nacter icall yeere in them of solide and virile constitution is 21 to 100. 1651 N Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* II iii (1739) 173 And yet the power of this grew as virile and Royal as it would acknowledge no Peer but the Parliament 1679 J Goodman *Penit Penit* III ii (1712) 230 Hence it is, that the Grace of veritue attainable when duly is turned into y nature 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v The Virile Age is the Strength and Vigour of a Man's Age, viz from fourteen to forty & a Years. 1822 J Taylor *Apotheus* VIII 175 Stammering we do of an uncertain meaning she breathed out her virile soul 1858 Gen P Thompson *Audi Alt Poet* II Virtue 7 It was a fact not reconcileable with virile sense, on the part of either the proposers or the acceptors. 1875 G Macdonald *Mal Alm* III xv 199 She punished her husband for the virile claim to greater freedom

*absol* 1876 Stedman *Victorian Poets* (1887) 407 Only the virile and heroic can fully satisfy her own nature and master it for good or evil

b. Of dress Denoting the attainment of man's estate, distinctively belonging to men in contrast to youths (or women)

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 51 Having put on your virile robe and grown to mans estate 1631 Brathwait *Eng Gentlew* (1641) 340 One of this ranke forbore not to unwoman herselfe, by assuming not onely a virile habit & a virago's heart. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Robe*, At Rome they gave the Name Virile Robe *Toga virilis*, to a plain kind of Gown which their Youth assumed when arrived at Puberty 1761 *Ace of Books in Ann. Reg* 258/2 Gown wore (i e the *praetexta*) till they were married, and youths till they took the viril robe 1848 Thackeray *Van Faar* xliv The assumption of the virile jacket and pantaloons.

2. Of persons & things: Of masculine energy or strength, not weak or effeminate

1518 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom* (1828) III 52 He semed almost a man vi il in his face 1880 *S Ireland's Mag* May 274/1 His instrument broke for wa t of s rim and even hand to use it A virile treated master to prolong the strain 1890 Hosmer *Anglo Sax Freedom* 319 All h d been disciplined and made strongly virile by that priceless polity which had been inherited from Anglo Saxon ancestors 1893 J Strong *New Era* 102 The more virile a man is the more positive are his defects

†b Of a woman. Nubile *Obs*—1

1648 Herrick *Hesperides*, A maide that is Marriageable or ripe for a Husband, or Virili

c Of sex Male

1697 Evelyn *Numisma* VII 287 A Treatise of Illustrious Women showing how far they surpass the Virile Sex in all sorts even of Martial undertakings and Affairs.

*d. absol* as *sb* A virile person

1903 *Cruise* XLIII 374/1 It is the fashion of the 'virles' —O cant a word—to stigmatize the poetry as 'decadent.'

3. *Virile member* (or *yard*), the male organ of generation

1541 R Copland *Guydon's Quest Chirurg* K ij It is the yerde vyryll that is the deliuer a and conueyour of the felde of mankynde 1600 Tofsell *Four-f Beasts* 89 But it is good to leaue as many of the vaines and nerues of the virile member vntouched and whole as may be. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 135 Priap, whose image they deuise and pourtray with a great viril member 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Penis* The Member or virile Member, one of the principal Organs of Generation in the Male Kind. 1856 Mayne *Expos Lex* 672/1

**Hence Vi rileness,** ' manhood, manliness'

1727 Bailey (vol II) *Virileness*

**Virilescence** (virile sĕns), [See next and -ESCENCE] The condition of becoming virile, *spec* of assuming physical characteristics of the male

1876–9 *Todd's Cycl Anat* II 776/2 The change to viril escence in the former [ie birds] being more marked and striking than in the latter [ie mammals] 1883 Dickinson *Med Lex* 908 *Virilescence* the state of the aged female in which she assumes certain of the characteristics of the male —Mebius 1912 A. Harrison in *Eng Rev* Feb 493 The virilescence of women would seem to imply the emasculation of men.

**Virilescent** (virile sĕnt), *a* [f Virile *a* + -escent] Assuming characteristics of the male

1876–9 *Todd's Cycl Anat* II 776/2 Two cases in which a virilescent type was shewn principally in the hair of the female deer

**Virilify** (vɪri lɪfəi), *v.* [f. Virile *a.* + IFY] *trans* To make virile or manly

1849 J Wilson in *Blackw Mag* LXVI 647 It is merely his manhood that quails, which his wife has to virilify

**†Viri louisly,** *adv Obs rare* [Irreg f L *virilis* Virile *a* ] Manfully

1632 Lithgow *Trav* v 178 [The] Knights of St John virilously expulsed the barkeans from thence. 1637 — *Siege of Breda* 25 The Enemy did divers times sally forth upon them but they were ever virilously repulsed backe to their owne repugnable limits

**Virilism** (vɪ rilɪz'm) [f Virile *a* + ism] A form of hermaphroditism

1896 *Nat Scien* 9 Sept 154 They can be referred to infantilism and virilism

**Virility** (vɪri lɪti) Also 6 **7** -tie, -tye. [ad F *virilité* (OF *virilite*) or L *virilitas*, f *virilis* Virile *a* see -ITY So It *virilità*, Sp *virilidad*, Pg *idade* ]

1. The period of life during which a person of the male sex is in full vigour, mature or fully developed manhood or masculine force.

1586 T B *La Primaud Fr Acad* 1 532 The parts are these: viz voon, childhood youths, adolescency, virility, a d old age 1623 J Wodrophe *Marrow br Song* 1 371/2 The first Aage of Man is called Virilitie in which he is in his Prime, Vnderstanding and Disposition 1652 J Wright tr *Camus Nat Paradox* 1 4 At such years as but just passing out of Virility he saluted only the first and freshest fume of Old Age 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s v *Virile* [e]ither Reason some compare Youth to Summer and Virility to Autumn 1757 Burke *Abridgm English Hist* Wks X 3 9 When a young man approached to virility he was yet admitted to be a member of the State 1822–3 Good *Study Med* (1829) II 27 At puberty it [the pulse] is only 80, about virility 75 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1333/2

b *transf* or *fig*

1622 A Court *Constancie* 1 41 The ruine of Townes is still at hand they house their Youth their virility, their olde age like ruine 1667 Dunton *Serm* 21 Our Virility, our Holy Manhood our religious Strength consists in a faithfull Assurance [etc] 1671 J Panton *Spec Iuventutis* 6 In his Youth and Virility of our Empire our Nobles handled all affairs of State. 1875 Maine *Hist Inst* xiii 395 During the virility of his intellect.

c Masculine vigour, masculinity of sex

1890 *Cent Mag* XLI 202 Never more shall we may infer, therefore that sexual power and high sexual characters go hand in hand, and that in proportion to the advance toward complete virility is the rarity and uncertainty 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med.* V 839 Both these men were literary men of more sensitiveness than virility

2 †a The generative organs *Obs* b The power of procretion, capacity for sexual intercourse

1597 A M tr *Cullenus in Fr Chirurg* 2 b/2 That suture or seame which passeth along the viriliti'e. 1611 Speed *Hist G B Introd* IX. iii § 23 Willam of Anco was punished with losse of both his eies and his virilitye. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 2 5 He never after would trust any of his Eunuchs with any part of their virility 1659 Milton *Civ Power* Wks 1851 V 316 No less then the amercement of their whole virilitie 1721 G Roussilion tr *Perrot's Rem Jorten,al* 136 The King was for bringing half the prostitutes of London to prove his virility 1756–7 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760) III 174 Such mutilated persons as have voluntarily and deliberately deprived themselves of their virility 1859 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1333/2 *Virility* more particularly the generative power of man

†c *pl* = prec. *Obs*

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* III ix 124 Castrated and mutilated persons no longer lived then they wanted some their virilities 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet* 206 Sealing up his Virilities in a Box, delivered it unto the King

3 Manly strength and vigour of action or thought, energy or force of a virile character

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 1025 Yet could they never obtaine and keepe the virilitie of visage, and lion like looke of his [ie Alexander]. 1632 Lithgow *Trav* v 211 Thus discharged he the function of his calling with prudent and magnanimous virilitie 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No 26 P 7, I have lately been told of a Country Gentlewoman, pretty much famed for this Virility of Behaviour in Party Disputes 1798 *Ann Reg Chronicle* 1 Scotch Etymologists deri e virtue from virility supposing it to denote a manly strength a d vigo r of mind 1845 Ford *Handbk Spain* 2 That the weight and virility of the noble people has been neutralised. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep* II 1 (1866) 118 The famous moustache upon her upper lip was supposed to indicate authority and virility of purpose 1891 Farrar *Darkn & Dawn* xix, A mind in which every spark of virility was dead, and which was rapidly degenerating into a mass of sensuous egotism

b *transf*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 177 These motions be more masculine causing in the song more virilitie then those accidentall coolers 1889 W Wilson *State* § 1198 The result some day to be reached will be normal liberty, political vitality and vigor, civil virility 1894 E Brooks in *Outlook* 1 Feb 159 Those universal and comprehensive principles of education which unite the parts of the science into an organic unity of power and virility

**†Viring-rope** *Obs*—1 [app f. Vire *v* ] ?A warping rope

1336 *Acc Exch K R* 19/31 m 4 (Publ Rec Off) In ix petris cordis de canabo pro tribus viryngropes inde facientis.

**†Virinius,** obs var Verinas, Varinas.

1566 J Dauncy *Hist Carolby Isles* 159 It is made more excellent than that which commonly goes under the name of Virinus-1 obacco

**+Viri potence** *Obs*—0 [f Viripotent *a.*1 see -ence] = 'Marriageableness' (Bailey, 1727). So †**Viripotency.** *Obs*—1

1632 Peyton *Catastr. Hn. Stuarts* (1732) 6 Mary Stuart when she attained to viripotency, was sought for a Consort to the Dauphine of France

**†Viri potent,** *a* 1 *Obs* [ad late L. *viripotent-, viripotens*, f *vir* man, husband + *potens* able ] Of a woman Physically fit for marriage, of a marriageable age

1587 Holinshed *Chron.* (ed 2) III 38/1 The kings daughter affianced vnto him, and being now viripotent or mariable *Ibid* 101/1 He would not suffer his sonne to marrie her, being not of ripe yeares nor viripotent or mariable. 1623 Cockeram I 1696 Blount *Glossogr.*

**+Viri potent,** *a* 2 *Obs*—1 [ad. L. *viripotent-, viripotens* (Plautus), f *virēs* strength ] Possessed of strength or energy.

1646 Gaule *Cases of Conscience* 113 Of giving Potions to make people love or hate as they please Making the strength of youth impotent, and dead strength viripotent

**† Viritrate.** *Obs*—1 [Of obscure origin cf MI *vratte, trat* 'I rot' *sb.*?] An abusive term applied to an old woman

c 1386 Chaucer *Frere's T* 284 His Somonour clappeth at the wydowe 'Com out, ympudent, thou olde viritrate, I trowe thou hast som frere or preest with thee

**Virk,** dial var Firk v. **Virk(e,** obs. Sc f Work v **Virkin,** dial. var Firkin **Virking,** obs Sc. f Working *vbl sb*

**Virl.** Now only *Sc* Forms 4–5 **vyroll** (5 **vyrole**), **virol** 6–8 **vyrol**, 6 **vyrall**, **virall** (5 **virolle**, **vyrle**, **virelle**, 6 **virrell**, 9 **virrel**, 8– **virl** [a OF *virolle* and *virelle* see Virole, Verrel, and Ferrule.] A band of metal, ivory, or bone, placed round the end or some other part of a piece of wood, etc, to keep it from splitting or wearing, a ferrule

a c 1440 *Promp Parv* 525/2 Vyrolle, of a knyfe (A. vmol, f vyrol), *spirula* c 1450 *Medulla* (Cant MS) *Virolus est summitas templi eminens rotundatus*, a bolle or a toppe or els a rownde vyrolle 1530 Palsgr 283/1 Vyroll, *virolle* 1580 *Reg Privy Council Scott* III 319 Ane lantirt monist upon ane auld stok and hir axtre and quheils garnyeit with foure virols of im

β 1498 *Acc Lal Heath Treas* 305 Item for iij nalys to the wyndbandis and the vyralis, iij s 1503 *Ibid* II 389 Item, for sevin score virlis and diamandis for sparris ilk pece vj d 1547 in *Ir Ant* (1818) 528 Item three staves, every of them having a picke with two greynes at the nether end and a wyrall of iron tynned 1552 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) II 539 One of the kings cases garnished with gold; and having on the end a viral of gold

γ 14 in Wr Wülcker 715 *Hec spirulus* a virule 1488–9 *Acc Exch A R* 496/28 (Publ Rec Off) Virelles Plates pro diversis poleys 1583 *Cath Angl* 402/1 A vyrelle of a knyfe 1511 *Acc Ld Heath Treas Scot* IV 279 Foure dussoun of wirrells with diamondis 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sh ph* 1 1 A winsome flute O plum tree made, wi' ivry virles round 1787 Burns *Bergs Aye* 84 Five taper staves as smouth a head, Wi' virls an' garlands at the head 1813 W Tennant *Anster Concert in Ayr* (1861) 25 Braw flute wi ivory virls, man 1890 Service *Notandums* 115 I gaed in to Willie Gaud s as I cam by e and got him to put a new virrel on my staff

*transf* 1823 Galt *Gilhaize* xii, He walked with slow and tottering steps, wearing a virl of the round on his neck

Hence **Virled** *ppl. a* 1 furnished with a virl or ferrule Also **Vi rlet,** a small virl.

1793 *Statist Acc Scot* IX 371 The blade is set in a haft of Tort ise shell, or stained horn, gut with silver virlets 1822 Galt *Sir A Wylie* III v 85 A finely headed cane virled with gold 1842 D Vedder *Poems* 227 A staff Cut frae the gallows wood, Weel virled about wi murderer s bauns.

**Virlat,** obs. Sc form of Varlet.

**+Virly** *Obs*—1 [ad OF. *virely, virelz*, in origin probably a meaningless refrain employed in dancing songs.] A light dance, or sport accompanied by dancing,

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* III xxx (1869) 130 Bestows I am and bathinge, and swynge I o the virly I go hippynge

**Virm,** obs Sc f Worm *sb.* **Virmet,** obs Sc var Wormwood **Virmilion,** obs f. Vermilion **Virmin,** obs or U S f Vermin *sb*

‖**Virole.** *Her* Also virol6 [a. F. *virole* ring, ferrule (see Virl), and *virolé* provided with a ferrule ] (See quots)

1724 A Nisbet *Her* 206 From Vires, are the Terms Viroles, and Virole, in the Blazons of Figures, that have Hoops and Rings round them 1780 Edmondson *Her* II *Virolé*, is the hoop, ring, or mouth piece of the bugle or hunting horn

Hence **Viroled** *a.*

c 1828 Berry *Encycl Her* I Gloss, *Virolied*, this term is sometimes used for the garnishings of the bugle horn, being the rings or rims, which surround it at various parts.

**†Viron,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 viroun, 5 **vyroun, vyrown, vyrone** [a OF *viron* (*virer* to turn), used as prep or in the phr *en viron* Environ.]

1. Circuit, compass; a circling course *In the viron of*, round about

a 1380 *St Augustine* 1021 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1878) 82 Pe vyroun [L. *circuitum*] of pe waitres wondurliche He schewed 1386 Wyclif *Judg* II 12 The sonne of Yesai folweden allen goddis, goddis of the puple that dwelten in the viroun of hem *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* (L.) 1616 Pe rade

dragoun Drof peo white feor adoun In to pe pleyes a gret vyroun *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 520/2 Vyrne, or sercle, *cirus, ambitus, circuitus*

**2** *In viron*, round about, = ENVIRON *adv.*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* II 312 In viroun and wijnne pei weren ful of ien 1449 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (ROXB) 107 Summe blowe so sore that the flaume up sprong Abouryn hyr sydys even in vyroun *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 3196 [He must] serchen jn market & town Alowtes al this contre in vyrown *c* 1450 — *Grail* xlii 46 3it loked he bothe vppe and down Al abowtes that schipe in vyroun

**† Viron,** *v. Obs.* Also **5** vyroun, 5–6 viron (6 vyron), **5** vyrnyn [ad. OF *vironner*, f. *viron* see prec. and cf. ENVIRON *v.*]

1 *trans.* To go round, to make the circuit of 1382 WYCLIF *Prof Epist St Jerome* 1 We han redde in olde stories, sum men to han vyrounde [L *lustrasse*] pro uynces.

**2** To environ or encircle, to surround (*with* something)

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Vyrnyn a bowte, or closyn (*K* closynabowtyn), *vallo circumvallo, cingo, &c.* Yborne, or gon a bowte, *ambio, circuum* to *c* 1440 *Pictus Vocat* (1894) 10 Thu art my refute yn my woo, That hath vyroned me bestone 1543 LO BERNERS *Froiss* I ccccviii 711 That hath vyroned rounde aboute the towne *c* 1550 — *Arth Lyt Bryt* (1814) 139 The curtaynes were of grene sendall vyrouned with golde & saure 1598 FLORIO *Iruge T* (1631) 40 We may presume the service there was rare, Because the board was vironed round with states

**† Vironry.** *Obs*—1 [Cf prec and ENVIRONRY] Environment

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf Metam* lxxxv D vj, Her streaming rayes haue pierc'd the cloudie skies, And Cleared the world of her black imprecations.

**Virose** (vəiro·s), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad L *virōsus*, f. *virus* VIRUS.] Poisonous, suggestive of poisonous qualities; rank and unwholesome. a. Of things, esp plants

1680 MORDEN *Geogr Rect, Germany* (1685) 124 The virose streams and particles of Mercury, or other Minerals descending from off them 1796 PRIOR *Pract Forms* XXIII 1167 Most of them are of an Aromatic Smell and Taste, but some are fatid virose, and fervid in their Taste 1797 *Nat Hist in Ann Reg* 98/2 The root of the cinanthes that is like hemlock, with virose juice. 1845 SO MRS LINCOLN *Lect Bot* App 205 *Virose*, nauseous to the smell, poisonous 1866 *Treas Bot* 1219/2

b. Of smell or flavour

1756 P BROWNE *Jamaica* 174 This plant is of a virose heavy smell 1761 *Phil Trans* LII 92 By that time the plants will have acquired their virose smell 1817 E SMITH in *Rnceyc Brit* (ed 4) Suppl II 405/1 Son e [leaves] have a virose or nauseous flavour about them 1832 J DAVIES *Manual Mat Med* 393 Its smell is virose and nauseous 1840 *Penny Cycl* XVII 206/1 The virose and nauseous odour which characterises crude opium

**† Virour** *Obs*—1 [ad late L *viror, f. vir-ere* to be green.] Green growth, verdure

1657 TORLINSON *Renou Disp* 1 VII XIII 403 Ivy cir cumveats vicine Plants; which it kills with its multifarious convolutions and virour [L *orig virore*].

**Virous** (vəi rəs), *a rare* = VIROSE *a.*

1681 LOVELL *Hist Anim & Min* 240 They are pleasant to the palate; but of evil juyce and virous 1687 A M BROWN *Anim Alkahests* 26 The liquid ptomaines possess a virous, cadaverous odour, occasionally suggestive of musk or odoriferous plants

**Virr** (vər) *Sc* Also vir [Of obscure origin] Force, vigour, energy

*c* 1575 *Bellenden's Practicks* (1754) 493 Making of the course of the water to be of greater force or strenth than of befor, or 3it to be of less force or virre than of befor 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss Douglas Æneis Bir*, force none which an ettow, or such like word is used for *Scots teroalcht Vir pronunciant* 1748 R FORBES *Jrnl fr London* (1755) 31 Syne we laid our heads together an at it wi virr 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 141 Sleety rain and brought some whins, wi vir Frae out the nook 1808–28 in *Eng Dial Dict*

**Virre,** southern ME var FIR, var VERRE *Obs*

**Virrok** (obs Sc.) see WIRROCK **Virry,** obs. Sc. f WORRY *v* **Virschepe, Virschip,** obs. Sc ff WORSHIP, **Virshypfull,** obs f WORSHIPFUL **Virse,** southern ME var FIRSE **Virsling,** obs Sc. var WRESTLING **Virst,** southern ME var FIRST *sb* and *a.*, FRIST *sb* **Virste,** obs var WRIST *sb* **Virsute,** obs var VERSUTE *a* **Virtiginous,** obs f VERTIGINOUS. **Virtigo,** obs f VERTIGO

**† Virtival** *Obs*—1 [ad F *vertivelle* cf VARTIWELL.] A bush or metal support for an axle

1704 *Ann Reg, Chron* 32 The lightning finally threw the axis of one of the clock-hammers out of the bouches or virtivals, by which it was supported

**‖ Virtu, vertu** (vəɹtū, vɹ tū) Also vertù, virtù. [a It *virtù* –L *virtūt em*, acc sing of *virtus* VIRTUE The form *vertu* follows French spelling without justification, as the Italian sense of the word has never been current in French.]

**1.** A love of, or taste for, works of art or curios, a knowledge of, or interest in, the fine arts, the fine arts as a subject of study or interest.

a 1722 RICHARDSON *Statues*, etc. in *Italy* 290 The whole Nation have a sort of Love to what they call the *Virtù*, and know Something of it. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* Prol, Virtù to such a height is grown, All artists are encourag d—but our own. 1762 HAN MORE *Fet* in W Roberts *Mem.* (1834) I 248 Mr Locke a man of fashion, and so deep in virtù, that every artist of every sort allows Mr Locke to beat him even in the secrets of his own art. 1820 SCOTT *Let* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV xi 358 It may be the foundation of a set of bronzes, if stout Lord Walter should turn to *virtu* 1858 CARLYLE *Frede Gr* II viii. 1 266 His noble Nation sunk from virtue to virth, ever offered such a spectacle before.

*Jocosely* 1841 LYTTON *Nt & Morn.* Introd, A lumber-room. Lumber, indeed! what *Virtù* double locks in cabinets is the real lumber to the boy!

**2** 1728 POPE *Dunc* IV 569 Her children Who study Shakespeare at the Inns of Court, Impale a Glow worm or Vertù profess 1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feel* (1886) 147 Fashion Bon ton, and Vertu are the homes of certain idols, to which we sacrifice the genuine pleasures of the soul 1815 W H IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 118 A Walpole for love of vertù far renown'd 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit Painl* I 256 His countrymen that period exported swarms of men with the malady of vertu upon them 1871 SMILES *Char set* IX (1876) 262 There [at Rome] the virtus or valour of the ancient Romans has characteristically degenerated into vertu, or a taste for knicknacks.

b *Man* (*or gentleman*) *of virtu*, a virtuoso

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII v, They may be called men of wisdom and vertu (take heed you do not read virtue) 1787 *Gentl Mag* 1163/1 Being in company lately with several gentlemen of virth I found in their conversat on frequent use of the word Taste in a sense I was unacco tomed to 1818 J JEFFREY in *Edin Rev* May 31 There are few things, about which men of *virtu* are more apt to rave, than the merits of the Grecian architecture

c *Article, object, piece, &c., of virtu*, an article such as virtuosos are interested in, a curio, antique, or other product of the fine arts

a 1771 GOLDSM *Haunch of Venison* 8 I had thoughts in my chambers to place it in view, To be shown to my friends as a piece of *virtù* 1781 COWPER *Lett* 30 Sept (1904) II 17 *Many fine* (Colburn) 148 Soon were they doomed to with draw their eyes from the innumerable bits of virt i which surrounded them. 1807 C SUMNER in D Longeville *Life Longf* (1890) II 343 Stirling's house is full of the choicest articles of virtu 1809 S C BARTLETT *Egypt to Lal* IV 74 An immense number of articles of virtu from Egypt are now scattered through the world.

β 1815 J SCOTT *Vis Paris* (ed 2) 116 The manufacture of some decoration some piece of vertu some elegant trifle. 1848 THACKERAY *Lett* (1887) II 3 Veterans Castle was theirs, with all its costly pictures, furniture and articles of vertu 1900 SMITH *Wayfarers* II, Every object of *virtu* that I ever possessed

**2** A special branch of this study or interest

1745 6 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr* (1861) II 429 Last Tuesday Mr Brstowe, an uncle of Miss Dashwood's, dined here; he is a great virtuoso, understands all the *virtus* to perfection

**3** *collect* Objects of art, curios

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 1

1748 R WALPOLE in *Corr* (1820) II 60 Gems My books, my *virtu*, an I my other follies and amuse ments take up too much of my time to leave me much leis ure to think of other people s affairs 1768 *Lett* I 13 H Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp* (1843) II 308 My longing to see my own collection of *virtu* at Castle Howard is wonderful 1773 W MASON *Heroic Ep* 2 A *Spirit* of virtu, Whose curious collects, in one colorful gent view, The scatter'd glories of Chinese Virtu 1839 HARMAN *Ingoldsby Leg* Ser I *Acc New Play*, Some Vandal or Jew, With a deep purse for virtu, Has knock'd off his note to place, I suppose, In some Pickwick Museum 1858 D COSTELLO *Millionaire of Mincing Lane* II, Pictures, crockery, gimcracks of all kinds—what is generally known as VERTU

*attrib* 1798 J WOLCOTT (P Pindar) *Ep Sir W Hamil ton* Postscr 4 What Britons *knowing* in the *Virtù* trade, Soon on a medal discovry shall be made, Near these, prepar d to bite?

**Virtual** (vɔ·ɹtiăl), *a.* (and *sb*) Forms 4, 7–8 vertual (7 all), 5 *Sc* vertuel(e, -ell, 5–7 virtuall (5 -alle), 6–virtuel [ad med L *virtua lis*, f L *virtus* virtue, after L *virtualiter* Hence also F *virtuel* (fem. -elle), Sp. and It *virtuale*, F *virtuel*.]

**1** Possessed of certain physical virtues or capacities, effective in respect of inherent natural qualities or powers, capable of exerting influence by means of such qualities Now *rare*

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* XIX VIII (Bodl MS) But vertual list igudered in a litel place or in a pointe is eschaped moche 1497 TORKINGTON *Pilgr Arch* in *Archæol* LIII 58 But our chiefe Digesture for our intent, Is virtuall heate of the matter digerent. a 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* II 89 So each of objects his senses finds Flowd from his parts with force so virtuall It fird with sence things weere insensuall 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 See if the Virtuall Heat of Fire, or Warm Waters will not mature it 1657 R LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 106 Though the virtuel beans of the Sun, give growth and life to all the Plants and Flowers and Gardens on 1675 E WILSON *Advocates Dunsiennis* Pref, Even ordinary water admits of a virtual mixture at least, as Experience evidenceth in Chalybeate waters. 1698 MERRETTE *Orders For Hist* 91 It was the foreign France the virtually feared, Not virtual France the France benevolent, The chivalrous.

b Of herbs Possessing specific virtues *rare*

1666 TWOOSE *Hist Stone Troyes* 364 To relieves they sacrifice the shels that come from them, to fountains fruits and vertual herbs 1830 I AIRD *Captive of Fez* III She knew every virtual plant, and every sovereign flower Beneath the moon

**† 2.** Morally virtuous *Obs*

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII 1218 His awyn oysse to lif vertuall. May mirroure and ensample 3e 3it alkyn statis *Ibid* VII 1220 Iohun of Salerne prest cardynale, Com mendit a lorde vertuale 1607 DEKKER *Wh of Babylon* Wks. 1873 II 216 You by your heauenly influence chang e his vilenes into a vertuall habit fit for vse

**† 3** Capable of producing a certain effect or result, effective, potent, powerful. *Obs.*

1438–80 tr *Higden* (Rolls) II 177 For a man and the worlde be assimilate in 11 thynges, in dimension diamet ralle, in disposicion naturalle and in operation virtualle. *Ibid* 185. 1506 *Pilgr Perf* (Pynson) III. IX. 47 b That is called after Saynt Thomas virtuall attencyon which causeth a person in the begynnyng of his prayer to haue an ac tuall consideracion of the prayer or dusty that he hath to do 1619 W SLATER *Exp 1 Thess* (1630) 37 So ver tuall was the speech of Paul a Prisoner in the heart of his Iudge 1640 STRELER *Arcadia* IV III, I meant it A draught for false Zelmane, it being virtual To increase affection. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng Rarities* 19 The Loone is a Water Fowl, alike in shape to the Wobble and as virtual for Arches. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 1 Dr Dee as a ver tual Proof of his own Learned Plea, quotes two Authentique Authors.

b *Mech* (See quots)

1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* I 124 Whatever is the real length of the leg *b a* [of a siphon] the virtual or acting length when in use, only extends from *b* to the sur face of the fluid 1824 J NICHOLSON *Oper Mech* 67 The velocity due to a head of 15 inches, and this we call the *virtual* or *effective head*

**4** That is so in essence or effect, although not formally or actually, admitting of being called by the name so far as the effect or result is concerned.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres* 21 We affirm that Christ is really taken by faith, they say he is taken by the mouth and that the spiritual and the virtual taking him in virtue or effect is not sufficient though also 1664 — *Dissuas Popery* II § 8 Put even tl a attention is not necessary that it should be actual but it suffices to be vir tual 1697 BURNHOPE *Disc Eccles Assem* 14 We shall find it to amount to no less than a vertual renunciation of our baptism 1734 WATERLAND *Divin Epist Birth Canon* 30 Such Persons as *perform* not the Conditions We shall in virtual 1769 BURKE *Obs Pres St Nat Wks* 1842 I 112 One part of it could not be yielded without a virtual sur render of all the rest 1787 BENTHAM *Def Usury Postscr* 173 *Heading* Virtual Usury allowed 1880 MILNER *Suppl Mem Eng Cath.* 132 To prevent the virtual choice of a Catholic bishop by an A Catholic clergy 1884 H H WILSON *Brit India* III 211 He had reigned thirty three years, during the first ten of which he was virtual sovereign of the greater part of Hindustan. 1885 A BARRATT *Phys Metamorpore* 157 The simplest conscious action involves actual or virtual thought.

b *Virtual Church*, a council or similar body acting in the name of the whole church. Also *ellipt* as *sb*

1646 J MAXWELL *Burden of Issachar* 20 Whatsoever power the Catholike Church or her virtuall and Repre sentative an ecou nenical Council, justly challengeth; this general Assembly vindicates to it self. *Ibid* 41 It was not consented to by the Church that is the Virtuall Church the Generall Assemblie 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind* viii (1661) 230 In all which matters the Catholick Virtual Church which is inuested with Ecclesiastical power, that is, the Pope with his Cardinals and Ministers.

c *Optics* Applied to the apparent focus or image resulting from the effect of reflection or re fraction upon rays of light

(a) 1704 J HARRIS *Lex Techn* I, *Virtual Focus*, or *Point of Divergence* in a Concave Glass 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s.v. of Dioptrics* 20 In that wherein the Rays begin to dive ge u ually call'd the Virtual Focus 1808 J WEBSTER *Nat Philos* 185 They issued from the virtual focus in the axis of the lens 1832 BREWSTER *Optics* 21 The point A behind the mirror is called their *virtual focus* because they only tend to meet in that focus 1874 *Lommel's Light* 90 The lenses of the second group I have virtual foci

(*b*) 1832 BREWSTER *Optics* II 18 In convex mirrors the image is always a virtual one formed behind the mirror 1859 PARKINSON *Optics* (1866) 130 A familiar instance of a *virtual* image is that formed by a common looking glass of an object in front of it —the image of an object under water is *virtual*. 1883 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* I 397/1 If their direction after the refracted rays be produced backward, their prolongations meet to form a virtual image.

d. *Dynamics* Of velocity or momentum (see quot 1867)

1818 BARLOW in *Encyc Metrop* (1845) III 451/2 [The] principle of virtual velocities now by most foreign writers, made the foundation of the whole theory of statics 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXVI 373 2 11 e name of the principle of virtual velocities is very ill fitted to express the idea which is to be conveyed [Full account follows] 1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat Phil* I § 337 If the point of ap plication of a force be displaced slightly in any direction, the resolved part of the displacement in the direction of the fo ce has been called its Virtual Velocity *Ibid* The pro duct of the force into the virtual velocity of its point of application has been called the Virtual Moment of the force.

**Virtualism** (vɔ·ɹtiălĭz m) [f prec + ISM.] The Calvinistic doctrine of Christ s virtual presence in the Eucharist

1823 *Ch Times* XXI 275 The haze and cloud of Genevan Virtualism 1905 *Treas Ty* Oct 5 Charles Wordsworth a learned exponent of virtualism in Eucharistic doctrine

**Virtualist** (vɔ·ɹtiălĭst) [f as prec + IST] One who holds or advocates virtualism

1808 *Month* Sept 321 Without devoting much space to the attempt to prove that St Thomas was a Virtualist 1908 *Sat Rev* 12 Sept 328/2 Our countrymen knowing their Church Catechism, are neither Zwinglians nor Vir tualists

**Virtuality** (vɔɹtiæ·lĭti) Also 5 vertualyte [f VIRTUAL *a* + ITY, perh after med L **virtualitas* Cf F *virtualité*, It *virtualità*, Sp. *virtualidad*, Pg *virtualidade*]

**† 1** a. The possession of force or power. *Obs*—1

1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 45 b/1 Now we may saye that Jhesus in his ascension was right hye of lill maners of

heyght that is to wyte of place, of remuneracion or reward, of knowleche, and of vertualyte or strengthe

†b Something endowed with virtue or power

1612 Ralegh *Hist World* I. 7 (his omnipotent Spirit of God St. Augustine sometimes taketh for the holy Ghost sometime for a winde or breath, or for a created virtuality

2 Essential nature or being, apart from external form or embodiment.

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* VII II. 343 In one graine of corne there lyeth dormant the virtuality of many other, and from thence these sometimes proceed an hundred eares 1688 R L'Estrange *Lives Hist Times* II Pref, The Two Main Pillars of the Old Cause were the Protestation (that was afterwards Improv'd into a Covenant) and the Virtuality of the Sovereign Power in the Two Houses. 1843 T *Custine Empire of Czar* II 272 When the church abdicates its liberty it loses its moral virtuality 1858 H Bushnell *Nat & Supernat* xiii (1864) 418 The government of the world is waiting on Christianity, and is thus in highest virtuality a supernatural kingdom.

3 A virtual (as opposed to an actual) thing, capacity, etc ; a potentiality

1836-7 Sir W Hamilton *Metaph* xxxviii (1870) II 357 Our inclinations, dispositions, natural habitudes or virtuals 1841 Carlyle *Past & Pr* II. iv. 71 Virtuality perfected into an Actuality 1885 Mrs. H Ward in *Ansell's Tract* II 263 is not mind the universal virtuality, the universe latent?

**Virtually** (vɔ̈ ɪtʃuălɪ), *adv* Also 5 vertualliche, 5, 7 **vertually** [f. Virtual *a* + -ly².
Cf F *virtuellement*, It , Sp , Pg *virtualmente* ]

1 In respect of essence or effect, apart from actual form or specific manner ; as far as essential qualities or facts are concerned

Passing into next by a slight weakening of the sense the idea of simple equivalence becoming more prominent than that of essential qualities.

*c* 1430 *Hicke If Mankinde* I. lxxxvii (1869) 49 Serteyn, quod she locallyche ȝ vnderstonde ȝ nat, but vertuallyche wyȝ vertualliche ȝ vnderstonde summe ȝ magnifie ȝ fiche summe 1495 *Treveza Barth. De P. R.* VIII. I Sonnes ys the vertue of god made and ordeyned principall maister in ye whiche as it were in a massy thynge the foure elementes were vertually and not dystyngued in tale and nombre as they were after actually born 1618 *Ilf Ep Exon* 40 But these and many more voluminous engines (for the ramme alone had an hundred men to manage it) are now virtually epitomized in the muskets 1711 Ld Lansdowne *Heb* 22 He defeated the other ten nations virtually and inclusively 1890 C Nesse *O & N T* I 206 All the lesser pearls are contained vertually in this one diamond *a* 1768 Secker *Serm* (1770) III xvi 378 If the Jews had prevailed, they would have imagined their Success a full Proof that the Messiah was yet virtually though not corporally, amongst them.

b. In effect, though not formally or explicitly, practically, to all intents , as good as

*a* 1600 Hooker *Disc Just Bcation* (1612) 32 No man is ignorant of their first principles, which are vertually contained whatsoever by naturall meanes, is, or can be knowen *a* 1666 Bp Andrewes *Serm* (1856) I 237 That was but virtually as good as born who actually born indeed 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof St* III. iv 160 Continue correspondence with some Professour or Secretary who virtually is the whole University or State. 1691 Baxter *Inf Bapt* 92 It is sufficient that the parent be virtually and dispositively a present a believer *a* 1718 Prior *Alma* II 183 By the Peep holes in his Chest Is it not virtually confest That there his Eye took distant Aim 1748 Hartley *Observ Man* II § 34 170 As far as this is virtually included in the Precepts for loving God above all and our Neighbour as ourselves 1791 Burke *App Whigs Wks.* 1842 I 497 It is virtually a begging of the question 1817 W Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II 1152 The seamen may sue the owners as the contracting parties virtually contracting with them through the agency of the master 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) I ii 160 The cause was virtually transferred to Rome, where Henry was unlikely to consent to plead 1898 Lecky *Eng in 18th C* I ii. 301 Before the middle of the 18th century the laws against Catholic worship were virtually obsolete

2. Virtuously, morally : *rare*

1530 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) I App. cx 896 [All per sons shall] virtually and devoutly hear their divine services and masses. 1812 Cary *Dante Purg* xxx. 118 (his man Was So gifted virtually, that in him All better habits wonderously had thrived

3 In respect of (physical) virtues *rare*—1

1660 Barrow *Expos Apostles* (1661) 75 The Prince is not placed in his Chair of State, as the Sun has its spherical collocation amidst the Planets, and its chiefest vertually

4. With virtue or power , effectively *rare*—1

1604 Dekker *King's Entertainm* Wks. 1873 I 302 Beames from thine eyes So vertually shining, that they Beames from thine eyes So vertually shining, that they Beames from thine eyes So vertually shining, that they

c. *All the Virtues*, a name given to the Opposition in the House of Commons in 1815–16.

On the model of 'All the Talents' applied to the Grenville Ministry of 1806–7: see TALENT 2b 6d

1816 Sir G Bingham *Lett* 1 Jan ; in *Cornh. Mag* (1900) Jan 34 Bonaparte has heard that 'All the Virtues', with Sir Francis Burdett at their head, were to advocate his cause and recall

d A personified moral quality, or a representation of this in painting, sculpture, etc.

1851 E J Millington tr *Didron's Chr. Iconogr* I 84 Each Virtue bears a characteristic attribute . . Liberty, like the twelve elder Virtues, is decorated with a large mural-crown. 1885 J R Allen *Early Chr Symbolism* 277 Crowned figures armed with shields to symbolise the Virtues trampling on the Vices overcome

4. *To make* (*a*) *virtue of necessity* (or *+need*), to do with apparent willingness, or as if performing a meritorious action, what one in reality cannot help doing; to submit to circumstances with a good grace

After OF *faire de necessité vertu*, L *facere de necessitate virtutem* [Jerome *Adversus Rufinum* 3, 21 a]

(*a*) *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv 1583 Thus maketh vertue of necessitie By paciens and benk pat lord is he Of fortune ay, pat nought wole of here recche. *c* 1386 *Sqyr's T* 393 That I made vertu of necessitee And took it wel ryn pat it moste bee. 1421–8 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 1952 Make of necessite reed I vertu ; For better rede can I non. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test Creseid* 1478, I conclude the mak vertew of ane neid 1578 Whetstone *2nd Pt Promos & Cass* v v, Good Maddame way, by lawe, your Lord doth dye, Wherefore make vertue of necessity 1646 Earl Monm tr *Biondi's Civil Wars* v 115 Villandras weighing the danger made vertue of necessity, hee went to Toulouse 1652 J Washington tr *Camus' Nat Paradox* x 245 However, I will have patience, and making Vertue of Necessity, I will forbear

(*b*) 1583 Stocker *Cor Warres Louis C* 1 28 b, They were enforced to behaue themselues and of necessitie, to make a vertue 1588 Greene *Pandosto* (1607) to Shee was faine to make a vertue of her needs. 1614 Day *Festivals* 2 (1615) 297, I will make a vertue of this Necessitie 1699 S. Du Verger tr *Camus' Admir. Events* 46 They make a vertue of that necessity 1677 W Hughes *Man of Sin* 11 144 Their Modern Doctors, whom the Arguments of the Protestants have compelled to make a Vertue of Necessity *a* 1708 [see Necessity 16 5] 1764 tr *Gil Blas* v v 1 21 And making a virtue of necessity, I put the best face I could upon it, and went about the work she set me upon. 1837 [see Necessity 16 5]

b. *To make a virtue of*, to make a merit of, to gain credit by.

1820 Lover *Handy Andy* xiii, Mat who saw Furlong was near the mark, thought he might make a virtue of telling him

5 Superiority or excellence, unusual ability, merit, or distinction, in some respect.

1382 Wyclif *Wisd* v 13 Whanne he hadde put fro his gilte, and saf to hym vertue of hauynge alle thingis. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H Fame* II 18 Now shal men se Yf any vertu in the be To tel al myydreme aright. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 529 Myche peple wer out of here mynde, & God hab sent hem her mynde ageyn prouy vertu of pat holy marti^r. *c* 1450 Hoccleve *Regiment* 164 Thise vertues certainly awysti, full of vertewes, The maner, the mater, and how it remayn. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 162 I how bes walkit, I wys, 11 mony wyld land, The mair vertew thow sall haue, to keip the fra blame. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonsus* xii, For what vertue that ony man hath none oughte to preyse hym self 1602 *Sought's Chaucer* (ed 9) 61v, Vertue flourisheth in Chaucer still. Though death of him hath wrought his will 1821 Markham *Cheap Husb* (ed 6) I ii 10 Our English Gentry aime for the most part at no more skill than the ruling of a sudden and perfect horse which is but onely the settling forth of another mans vertue 1828 Macaulay *Ess*, *Hallam's Constit Hist* (1857) 85 That unsparing impartiality which is the highest distinguishing virtue.

b An accomplishment. Now *rare* or *Obs*.

15 *Aberdeen Reg* (Jam) The singeir to pas & remane in Pareis for ane yeir to ie t wertewis. 1592 Shaks. *Pass Cent* iii 3 313 Item she can sowce and make pome. *Ess.* A speciall vertue. 1608 — *Per* iv vi 195 Proclaim that I can sing, weave sew, and dance, With other virtues which I'll keep from boast. 1625 Markham (*title*), The English Hus-Wife, Containing, The inward and outward vertues which ought to be in a complet woman. As, her skill in Physicke, Cookery (etc.). 1656 Duchess of Newcastle *True Relation in Life* (1886) 280 Virtues I sorts of virtues, as singing, dancing, playing on music, reading, writing, working and the like. 1808 Scott *Auchindrane* in *Lockhart* 1 (1842) 41 Robert sung agreeably—(a virtue which was never seen in me)

c. = Virtu 1, *rare*.

1709 *Tatler* No. 38 P 12 He has by rote, and at second hand, all that can be said of any piece of figure wit, and virtue in town. 1828 *Edin Rev* XLVIII 61 The Italians commonly call a taste for the fine arts, or skill in them, by the name of Virtue

†6. Physical strength, force, or energy *Obs*

Common *a* 1325 1480 as a rendering of L. *virtus*

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xxvii 10 Our Lord shal 3eue vertu to his folc. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxii 16 Geaunt sall noght be safe in multitude of his vertu 1382 Wyclif *Luke* x 19, I haue 3euun to you power of tredingus, on serpentis, and scorpiouns, and on al the vertu of the enemy *c* 1400 *Lond Treas Bk* 1902 He myght not wel his breth blowe, He was In poynt to oper throwe; His vertu hadde he clene lore 1480 Yonge tr *Secreta Secret* 242 Hit servyth to the stomake and to the entrayll, and than thay gederith hare strayth and vertu, wyche was amenuset and febelet *c* 1480 tr. *De Imitatione* III lx 76 Pou art oure helpe, our vertu, & our strenghe *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxx 296 He smote Zeloditus vpon his helmet, by suche strengthe & vertue that he made hym to enclyne vpon his hors neck.

†b. An armed force. *Obs rare*

1382 Wyclif 1 *Macc* I 4 And he gadride vertu, and fulstronge cost *Ibid.* xiii. 34 And Symont seet3 Joon, his sone, that he was a man of lateil, and he putte hym duyk of alle vertues.

†c Flourishing state or condition *Obs*.

*c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 8 Whan pe cites of Acon florished and stode in his vertue, loye and pros perite. 1488 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* iii 216, He that gouerneth not wel his bely withe grete payne he may hold the other lymmes in theyr strengthe and vertue.

7. The possession or display of manly qualities, manly excellence, manliness, courage, valour

In later use tending to pass into sense 8

13 *Coer de L* 2810 A baroun of gret vertewe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5324 Quat may bi vertu now a vaile & all pine wayis pride? *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1092 Syres put no dowte Vertu shall restore & haue hys enteste Thys felde shalbe our *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 056 The Bretouns ben dishonnered be spite of grete vertu. 1523 Lo Berners tr *Froiss* I excii. 228 The lord Pynnaod his company defended themself by great vertue 1549 *Compl Scotl* Ep 2 Quhar for 3our heroyque vertu is of maist admiratione 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* II 104 The bastard of Burbon was made prisoner, notwithstanding he fought with great vertue. *Ibid.* Yet vertue defended his person *a* 1608 Lisander *Y. Iacke* (1658) B iii 86 Marius from a common soldier came by his warlike vertue to be seven times consul. 1710 Shaftesb. *Advice to Author* II § 1 67 They [*sc* the Muses] never were to him than his Arrow or Virtue. 1758 Johnson *Let to B Langton* 21 Sept. in *Boswell*, A man that languishes with disease, ends his life with more pain, but with less virtue. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit Ind* in I iv II 70 The English were called upon for the utmost exertions of their virtue.

II As a quality of things.

8 In a prepositional phrases *in* or *by* (also *+through* or *with*) *virtue of*, by the power or efficacy of (something aiding or justifying), hence, in later use, by the authority of, in reliance upon, in consequence of, because of. (Cf 10 e)

(*a*) *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Engel & meiden beon euening in uertu of meidenhades mihte *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 18 Pis lond he wan in vertu of Brutus name, pis pris he had wonnen in vertew of Cristes passioun 1617 *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 50 They should talke of the points of Religion by vertue of the Commission [etc.] 1660 Jer Taylor *Worthy Communn* 1 iv 75 Christ in heaven perpetually offers a.d representa that sacrifice to his heavenly Father and in vertue of that obtaines all good things for his church 1703 Maundrell *Journ Jerus* (1707) 105 In vertue of which pretended Grant, Stones, and Olive stones, and Oil which they produce became an excellent commodity in Spain 1754 Sherlock *Disc* (1759) I 11 77 He was the Head of all Creatures in Virtue of having created them 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 352 The experiment was ordered in virtue of an observation that had occurred in the course of the work 1833 Ht Martineau *Hero Ages* II 39 In virtue of an office which he held, he had liberty to pass through the palace garden 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xiii. 188 He remained a senator in virtue of his quæstorship.

(*b*) *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1 2 Pou conjure pe vertu of ping pat pou most in pis world louest *c* 1580 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 32 Bi vertue of pis cheef domesman he owip to be excused for pe sorouznesse of worldly prelatis 1780 Chaucer *Parsons T* 7 500 It may wel wexe fieble and faille I yvertu of baptesme and by the grace of god thurgh penitence and pees. *Pr. Ws of Pardn* IV 290/1 I haue they mowe be vertue of the same bulett, be fully assoiled at alle ypres 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen VII, c* 53 § 1 Noo persone the whiche therwith entermedeale to your use or by vertu of your lettres patentes 1598 Barckham *Justif Virtues* 1 Vertue, by vertue of a warraunte signed with her Maiesties owne handes. 1598 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III 1376/2 They shall receiue 20 shillings that they receiued before by vertue of my will. 1617 Sir T Fenti worth in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 65 When indeed he was in effect out of the Councell by vertue of a secret direction 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 47 Upon some pretense of private business of the Colonels and by vertue thereof in a Disguise of a Servant [etc.] 1681–5 J Scott *Chr Life* (1747) III 283 So we Christians by vertue of our Covenant with God in Christ, are separated from all other Societies. 1695 *Exp Assist Engr* 44 Notwithstg, the Parliamental Laws and consti tutions of the Government by which he succeeded in Scotland King 1785 Burke *Sp Nabob Arcot* Wks 1842 I 318 No others, by virtue of general powers, can obtain a legal title to them, but those special donations. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* III 287 The refugees who retired by virtue of the treaty from Amphipolis found shelter at Eion 1868 Lockyer *Elem Astron* § 374 The planets, when they are visible, appear as stars, and, like the stars, they rise and set by virtue of the Earth s rotation

(*c*) *c* 1390 *L Leg* I 1/546 And borw vertue of pe bolle crois he ouer-cam alle is fon *c* 1390 *Sir Tristr* 1804 Hole sche was & sounde burch vertu of his gle. *c* 1580 *Sir Ferumb* 137 pe haroune prayede god borw vertue of hem Schold saue hem pat pis tabe were. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 691 pis come to be Gildehall of London and axede pe keiser pat he suffred pe citee brouy vertue and strengh of his com mission.

(*d*) 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt Tamburl* v ii, So Must I tamburlaine by their resistesse powers With vertue of a gentle victorie, Conclude with title & honour to my hope

9 Without article : †a. Of precious stones Occult efficacy or power (as in the prevention or cure of disease, etc.) ; in later use, great worth or value. Also

*a* 1250 *Lume Rem* 170 In O *E Misc* 98 Hwat spekstu of my stan pat beop in vertu oper in grace. *c* 1390 Hampole *Pr Conc* 5098 Pus may a man . . alle pe cote of heven lyken to precyouse stanes of vertow [etc.] *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 4415 pe wan of so stif vertu, pat neuer man vpon mold migt it him on haue, ne schuld he with wiche craft be wicched neuer-more. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 978 His helme & his hawberke holde, Freth ouere with rede golde, With stones of vertue dere 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII xxvii. 254 A coronal of gold beseet with stones of vertue to the valewe of a thousand pound 1593 Hawes *Example Virt* xiii 242 The roof was set with stones of vertue 1599 — *Past Pleas* xxvii. (Percy Soc) 127 With peries and rubis rubicond Muste with emeraude so full of vertue.

b Of plants, waters, etc : Efficacy arising from physical qualities, esp. power to affect the human body in a beneficial manner; strengthening, sustaining, or healing properties

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 34 Bot be the fruit may scilwis se O quat vertu ai tikn tre *Ibid.* 1026 Treis o frut pan es par sett Pat serekin vertu has at eite 1300 Gower *Conf* III 129 His herbe is Anabulla named, Which is of gret vertu proclamed *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 52 Se schall draw waters Oute of welles of oure Saviour, Whiche have vertu to cureu alles langueres. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II 37 It is sayde that there is an other Magadaris in Lybia. . . It hath like vertu with Lasarpitio 1602 Shaks. *Ham* IV vii 145 No Cataplasme Collected from all Simples that haue Vertue Vnder the Moone, can saue the thing from death. 1655 Culpeper *etc. Riverius* I xii 48 This following Fomentation is of wonderful Vertue 1698 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep Hist MSS. Comm* App. V 48 A wolfes tooth for my pritty Godson that lies sick, have me as a thinge of much vertu and antidotal against convulsions 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Birds Eye* an Herb of singular Virtue against the Yellow Jaundice 1708 *Lett to Mrs Thrale* 15 Oct., The second (night) not so much better as that I dare ascribe any virtue to the medicine. 1841 Myers *Catik. Th.* III 8 Every one is not fortunate into better waters. 1865 Parkman *Huguenots* I (1875) 6 There was a fountain of such virtue that, bathing in its waters, old men resumed their youth

c Efficacy of a moral nature, influence working for good upon human life or conduct ; †also, in early use, miraculous power (of the cross, etc.).

*c* 1300 *St Margarete* 316 Of gret vertu is hire lyf ho so beron bo3te *c* 1305 in *E E P* (1862) 99 If þu woldest þat nobe þinre Gret vertu ic wolde te telle of be seinte croche *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr Pref 12 In þis boke is muche vertu to reders wip deuocyown. *c* 1430 Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 52 Vertu of pis Sacrament . . Is muche, must, ( ally corages most soverenely delyte 1549 Latimer *Fr 1 ghers* (Arb ) 32 Purposinge to euacuate Christes death, and to make it of smal efficasie and vertue 1611 Speed *Hist G Gr Brit* B (S T S) 14 Our Baptisme doth with sanctitude, And great vertue to wesh e our sinfulnesse 1842 Myers *Cath Th.* III § 17 64 Few questions could well be more important, if Divine virtue is to be ascribed to every letter of Scripture.

d. Superiority or excellence in respect either of nature or of operation, worth or efficacy of any kind

1300 Gower *Conf* III. 16 Selden get a domb man lond Tak that proverbe, and understad That wordes ben of verth grete *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 8388 The walles [were] vp wrought With stones full unlyke pe stiffest of vertue 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q* xx In vere that full of vertu is and gu le Quhen nature first begynneth hir empire 1596 Spenser *F Q* V x 10 He blade . was of no less vertue, then of fame 1665-6 *Phil. Trans* I 282 Yet have these two Load stones no colr exion or tye, though a Common Center of Virtue according to what they jointly act 1696 Buchan *Loyalty Crie* 153 Gold is the chose and chief of all Metals both for worth, c lour and vertue 1779 Forrest *Voy N Guinea* 139 The latter [*sc* cinnamon] is vastly superior in richness, sweetness and virtue 1820 Keats *Lamia* I 132 The elements Are by created virtue inform d 1830 Herschel *Study Nat Phil* 59 There is virtue in a bu bel of coals properly consumed, to produce a certain quantity of mo tive weight a foot high 1883 *N York Chr Union* 21 June, The new Sound steamer 'Pilgrim' is regarded as a model of mechanical and constructional virtue

†e. Of laws, etc, Operation, vigour *Obs*

*c* 1450 *Hart Contin Higden* (Rolls) VIII 511 Whyche statute was ordeyned to take vertu and begynnynge at the feste of the Purificacion. 1470–5 *Assize of Bread* (1797) 1 That the said late Ordenar ce be and stond in strenght and vertue, unto the xxvi day of May 1652 Nerdham *Selden's Mare C* 59 The Sea Laws which were used and in full force and virtue in both the Empires were borrowed from the Rhodians. 1686 *Col Acc Exemptn* I 171 All those laws shall and are hereby Continued to Stand and be in full force and Vertue u till 5th End of the first Session.

†f *In virtue*, virtually *Obs*

*a* 1633 G Herbert *Priest to Temple* xxi, A most plain and easy framing the question, even containing, in virtue, the answer also.

10 With limitation to special instances (usually *the virtue of* . . , or with sentences). As sense 9 a and 9 b.

*c* 1290 *S Eng Leg* I 323/488 Also man, ȝwanne he is i-be-re-ued, leoder heore *pe* is pleoweȝ i wou, Schulden hobbe diuers luf eueres aeo heore vertue is. *a* 1300 *Le K od* (1873) 32 Pat water hi honurde muche Ac hi nuste nobing of pe vertue pat hi pe vertu hadde. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 697 Rimneld ha tauȝt him a ring pe vertu wele schs hewe 13 . (*Guy Warw* (A) 1660 Thilke monk Sorgie i was pe vertu he knewe of mani a gras. *c* 1400 Maundev *V* (1839) 50 Who so kitte hem [*sc* the leaves of the tree] ten 3 schulde destroye his Vertue and his Nature. *c* 1490 *Myrr our Ladye* 17 & drynke whiche is swete to taste, and effectuall to hele the woundes of the vertues 1592 Lamb or Shrewsbury in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser 1 III 39, I would your Lordship wolde once make trial of my Oyle of Stagg blud, for I am stronely per uaded of the rare and great vertu thereof 1626 Bacon *Sil* § 817 It is an Errour in Phisicians, to rest simply vpon the Length of time, for encreasing the vertue But if you will haue the Infusion strong [etc.] 1640 Narnia *Berk t* ii, Like those pills which an unwilling patient Doubting their vertue takes. 1757 A. Cooper *Distil* 11 (1760) 6 Till at last the whole Virtue or saccharine Sweetness of the Malt is extracted. 1759 Mills *Duhamel's Husb* I. lix. (1762) 32 By this means

the sun . will be prevented from exhaling the virtue of your manure 1769 Mrs Raffald *Eng Housekpr* (1778) 2 It will draw all the virtue out of the roots or herbs and turn it to a good gravy 1845 M Davidson *Exx* (1880) I 12 The virtue of St Martin's ex- tous- h- a was in the most active operation during the fifth and sixth centuries.

b In sense 9 c

*c* 1250 *Hend Ma ageele* xiv Schiwen was þe dragun þoru þe uertu of þe rod *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 3821 Pardon es of þe treasur of holy kirke Þat es gaidrid Of þe vertu of Cristes passion 1382 Wyclif *Acts* i 15 For with I schyne not the gospel I- it is the vertu of God in to helthe to ech man I biseynge *c* 1450 *St L Met* (Heinrich) 138 I conjure you I- e croppen in þe vertes of þe v- wounds I- þat crist suffred I- on þe roode tree 1473 Warkw *Chron.* 18 Kynge Edwarde requyredde hyme by the vertu of sacrament that he schulde pardone alle the whos names here follow 1526 *Pilgr. Perf* (Wynkyn) I vii 20 Hauyng grace and werkyng therafter by the vertue of the same he may merytt and deserue the crowne of glory 1557 N L (Genev.) *Hist* 10 10 That I may knowe him, and the vertue of his resurrection *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph* (1658) 23 A thing wrought not by any power of nature but by the vertue of Gods Spirit *a* 1693 Hickm *J Bruen* ii (1641) 168 Doth not the vertue of the death and resurrection of Christ require it that henceforth wee die unto sin ?

a In sense 9 d

*a* 1340 Hampole *I rose Tr* 2 It falles the flesche may noghte of his vertu noghte defaile ay while he sailes in swylk joyes is ryght ste for to joye. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's P* 302 But symally the kynge of knaues the knaue of vertu this courser and the myght, And prayd him tellen of his governaunce 1477 Norton *Ord Alch* 1 in Ashm (1652) 19 Of course nothing of Mettalls finde ye shall Only I- in the vertue Mineral! 1535 Coverdale *Writ* xiix. 19 The fyre had power in the water (contrary to his awne vertue), 1584 Sir F Chat- ton *Letter*, A. Where the Discourse of Fire must rare- Vertue of Nitre wherein is declared the cures by the same effected 1594 Daniel *Compl Rosamond* Wks (1717) 47 Pleasure had set my will school'd thoughts to play And bid me use the Vertue of mine Eyes *a* 1628 Preston *Effectual Faith* (1631) 118 If it bee the vertue of a horse to goe well; if it be the vertue of a knife to cut well, if it be the vertue of a Souldier to fight well. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* 209 At the top [of the date-palm] is a soft pith in which consists the soule and vegetative vertue of that tree 1759 Franklin *Lett. Wks* 1840 V 364 Both these stones have evidently the two properties the virtue seems strongest towards one end of the five 1815 J Smith *Panorama* 3 : 4 *Art* II 170 A piece of soft iron . capable of supporting as much as the magnet from which it derives its virtue 1841 4 Lord Bacon *Ess Sp & Lang* Wks (Bohn) I 57 The virtue of a pipe is to be smooth and hollow 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 3, 74 Is there such kindly wrench what wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

d In similar use of immaterial things † Also in sense 9 e

*c* 1325 *Spec Gy Warnw* 638 If þu conbest knowe and se þe uertu of humilite 1340–70 *Alexander* 513 þe uertue of il uictorie Is noght ti- sted in strength of no stiff prese 1390 Gower *Conf* III 30 The vertu of hire goodly speche Is verraily my- heres leche 1 *Rolls Rolle of Parth* V 446 That the seid Letters Patentes afire the strengthe forme and vertue of the sa- ne stonde a- id abide in the force and vertue. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 6 Ye ar- lordes duplese you not yf the vertue of my cou- rage knowe not now the fel- le se of my body 1563 Man *Miracules Com nonpl* 28 The Apostle witnesseth that true is the vertue of sorow 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 122 The old verse standeth as yet in his old vertue 1607 *Puritan* III 1 74 The amand window Will wonder at the vertue of my wode 1642 J Mi[ddl] *Argt conc Militia* 18 The fine of a Parliament onely, and not the power and vertue of it 1691 T Hale] *Acc New Invent* 48 Whether the Harwich suffered any thing from her said sheathing in her late Sailing 1746 *Wesley Prim. Methodist* 63 Works beyond the Virtue of Natural Causes, wrought by the Power of h- vil Spirits 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xliii David came to the great vertue of praying to be of opinio- that he might safely so act in that matter. 1858 Robertson *Sermons* Ser iii xvii (1882) 227 He hath imparted to us the virtue of his wrestlings 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 4 A collective religious tradition that had lost its virtue.

† 9 e *By (or in) the virtue of,* = sense 8 *Obs*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 32 He schal be excused fro þe lasse þe he vertue of be heisere iuge 1654 R. Cobbington tr *Justine* xvi 254 [Many of them] delivered themselves from their calamities by the virtue of an ingenuous shame. 1656 Bramhall *Replic* vii 292 I confess persons deputed by the King doe often excommunicate and absolve but thus is by the vertue of their jurisdiction. 1681 tr *Varillas* J Scott *Chr Life* (1747) III 201 By interceding for us as Priest in the vertue of his Sacrifice 1695 Dryden *Ess* (ed Ker) II 124 The painters by the virtue of their outlines colours lights and shadows, represent the same things and perso- s in their pictures

**II** With *a* and pl A particular power, efficacy, or good quality inherent in, or pertaining to, something a Of plants, medicines, precious stones, etc (Cf 9 a, 9 b, and 10 a.)

1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xiv 71 Vitailes of grete vertues, for al maneere bestes *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med MS* 26 The vertius of violet *c* 1400 Maundev vi (1839) 69 Many other Vertues it [an oak tree] hathe where fore Men holden it fulle precyous. *c* 1425 *Cursor M* 1011 (Trin.) Mony vertues here is sene þe erbes euer I liche grene 1470–85 Malory *Arth* xvii v 696 This Salomon was wyse and knewe alle the vertues of stones and trees 1551 Turner *Herbal* Pref A iij I declare also the vertues of euery herbe. 1585 T Washington tr *Methlay's Voy* ii in 32 b Wild asses, whiche haue in their head a stone hauing the vertue against the falling sicknes 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* i ii 4 These kindes of grasses do agree as it is thought with the common Medow grasse in nature and vertues. 1607 Topsell *Four f Beasts* 34 There are sundry vertues confected out of this beast. 1649 Bp Reynolds *Hosea* 1 22 Wine draweth a nourishing vertue from the flesh of Vipers 1699 Dampier *Voy* (1729) III 1. 379 The Sulphurousness or other Vertue of this Water 1762 H Walpole *Vertue's Anecd Paint* (1786) I 280 It is said in the note that Sir Nathaniel was famed for paintin, plants, and well skilled in their vertues 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) I 324 The plants of this class are supposed to have various specific vertues 1806 *Med Jrnl* XV 327 Have practitioners yet proved the full virtues of the digitalis? 1838 *Murray's Hand bk N Germ* 374/2 The hot mineral springs owe their virtues to the presence of sulphur and alkaline salts 1856 R. O. Vaughan *Mystics* viii iv (1860) II 253 Each planet accordi- g to its mind or mood, shed virtues healing or harmful into minerals and herbs.

b Of animal bodies, the elements, or other physical entities

*Expulsive virtue* see Expulsive a 1

*c* 1384 Chaucer *H Fame* ii 42 For so astonyed and a-wened Was every vertu in my hered *c* 1386 — *Pr's a* When that Aprille hath ibathed every veyne in swich licur Of which vertue engendred is the flour *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy* 15 þe vertues of ly nes þou must knowe þat he se, wonynge & worchinge of ony vertu fulfyld in ly lyme 1451 Capgrave *Life St Gilbert* 120 His left arme I- id lost be vertue of felyng 1480 Caxton *Myrr* iii viii. 145 The sterres þat ben in heuen whiche haue vertues on therthe 1614 Phare *Regim Life* (1560) Sv When a child is- rseth out of measure, that is to say with a long co- tinuance & therby the i- a- n & vertues annual be felled it is good to stop it 1658 Whitlocke *Jan Angl* ii *Notes* 144 The sacred fountayne is of such a vertue, that putt- g into to any burning thing (tis) is sodainly extinguished 1694 F Gardiner *Of Angelicall Nature* iii 44 The vertue & moisture from heaven hath such a vertue that ceasing to fal vpon the earth, it bredes a great discommoditie as a defect of grass and seedes. *a* 1698 Preston *Effectual Faith* (1631) 59 If the Loadstone be of such a vertue let it shew it by attracting the Iron to it 1884 R Waller *Nat Vapor* 26 The immediate cause of the pressure is that by which the attractive Virtue issues out. 1709 T Robinson *Nat Hist Westmorel* v 26 A very active Principle, or Virtue, which operates the I- ssolution of Stones 1755 B Martin *Magz of Arts & Sc* 389 What seems most wonderful, is, that the magnetic Virtue should not be interrupted by the Glass.

c In miscellaneous uses

1486 *Bk St Albans, Her* a ij, I her ben here the vertues of Chyualry 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 206 No- vey is of so great a vertue that it corrupteth Popes 1589 Greene *Pandosto* (1588) 18 Fortune a great and a little I- am imposed by way of command I doth one and the same virtue to make subject 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* Pref (1686) 1 Concerning the Virtues of Epick Poems 1702 *Ash Spect* No 501 ¶ 1 *Unat* Advert. 4 They may i- wardly perceive by a most powerful and most secret Vertue imprinted in their Souls a- d Hea- ts. 1815 J Scott *Vis Obadiah* 1 The Spirit of Poetry is not meant that there is any peculiar vi tue or charm in the point called the centre. 1872 Ruskin *Fors* I A § 18 Over these three kingdoms of Imagination, art, and love is their reign- a virtue or faculty the appoi ted ruler u d g ade of every method of labour

**III 12** *Comb*, as *virtue-binding, proof, vase* adjs.

1667 Milton *P L* v 384 No vaile Shee needed, Vertue proof, no thought infirme Altered her cheek 1691 *Satyr against French* 21 And she mu t be but little Vertue proof, Who is's a Woman that's not much fonder of Love 1707 *Hearne Remains* iii 6 The holy cheat the virtue binding sin 1838 S Bellamy *Betrayal* 49 And wisdom s self revealings, in su- ne art, the comprehensive ingenuity, and love- e there reigns a virtue or faculty the appoi ted ruler u d g ade of every method of labour

**III 12** *Comb*, as *virtue-binding, proof,* vase adjs.

† **Virtue,** *v Obs*$^{-1}$ In 4 vertue. [f prec.] *refl* To exert (one self)

1390 Gower *Conf* I 372 For schrifte stant of no value Io him that wol him noght vertue Io leve of vice the folie.

**Virtued,** *a rare* [f. Virtue *sb*] Endued with virtue or efficacy

1609 Heywood *Brit Troy* iv xi He discends into his knees Taking the vertued chaplet from his head 1635 Quarles *Emblems* iv iv 21 But has the virtu'd Steele a pow'r to mov'e the smouch'd needle point straight? 1897 J Primmer *J Primmer in h- na* (1903) 130 The old woman rubs her hand on the toes and passes the virtued hand across the child's forehead.

**Virtuefy,** *v rare*$^{-1}$. [f as prec + -fy.] *trans* To render virtuous

1631 Celestina *On Const Man* ii ii 144 It is this which *vertuefies* emotion even though there be nothing virtuous in which it can voluntary

† **Virtuehead.** *Obs*$^{-1}$ In 5 vertued, -hede [f as prec + Head.] Virtuousness

*c* 1450 in *Archit stud new Spr* (1900) CIV 308 In þat meyny ye ofl bere grete drede, Where a begynnyng causith vertued [*v r* vertuhede]

**Virtueless,** *a* Also 4–7 vertu-, 6 7 vertue- [f Virtue *sb* + -less.]

1 Destitute of efficacy or excellence, ineffective, worthless.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii 344 Wo worth he faire gemme vertueles, Wo worth þat herbe also þat doth no bote 1390 Gower *Conf* III 129 The seconde is noght vertules, Clota or elles Pliades It hatte. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par Mark* vi 56 In the presence of the disciples they appeased the name of Jesu as a thing vertueless and of no efficacie 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* iv lxviii, And vertueless she wash with herbes and charmes Wherewith false men encrease their patients harmes 1627 Hakewill *Apol* II v § 3, I do not consent with them who would make those glorious Creatures of God vertueless 1629 *Observ his Majesty's late Answ & Expresses* 9 Parliaments are thus vertuelesse and void Courts. 1824 *New Monthly Mag* X 264 The winds of March are far from being virtueless 1856 Ruskin *Mod Paint* III iv v § 4 The architecture of Palladio is wholly virtueless and despicable

2 Destitute of virtue or moral goodness, immoral, vicious

1400 Hoccleve *Let of Cupid* 262 But swyche filthes [= low women] as weren vertulesse, they quyten thus, this olde clerkis wisse. 1407 Scogan *Hor Balade* 233 That, whan ye come in your juges presence, Ye be not set as vertules behynde 1533 More *Apol* x Wks 867/2 Howe I addes so euer they reken me, I am not yet fully so vertuelesse but that [etc.] 1594 O. B. *Quest Profit Concern.* 93 The strange and monstrous life and death of a vertueless recreant. 1602 *Hors Loose Good Wife* 1 in Hunt *Dodsley* IX 9, too- u kind unto so kind a wife, Too vertueless to- one so virtuous 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* ii (1869) 112 We know the wicked man's vanity, and yet his vertueless name shall rot 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* I 307 You are not to become a worthless, virtueless, shameless fine lady 1849 G. Harris *Life of Hardwicke* xxiii III 222 Sallies of indign ation possibly not altogether virtueless, which on special occasions were wont to emanate from this monarch's lips

Hence **Virtuelessness**

1891 H S Constable *Horses Sport & War* 221 The cowardice, imbecility, and virtuelessness of the other classes

† **Virtuifica'tion.** *Obs*$^{-1}$ [Cf Virtuefy *v*.] The action of enduing with virtue

1611 Urquhart *Jewel* 73 The Generation and virtuification of Lully, Scotus's Heresy, and Albedinity of Suarez

‖ **Virtuosa** (vəːtiuō·sə). Now *rare*. [It , fem of *virtuoso* Virtuoso.] A female virtuoso.

1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* II, D ye think I that am a *Virtuosa* understand no better, than to leave you now you are not well? 1675 Plume *Life of Hacket* (1865) 20 Pope Gregory XV had ca- onised Is- natius Loyola and Madam Te- esa, a Spanish Virtuosa 1711 Addison *Spect* No 98 ¶ 8 Consequently those respectable titles of virtuoso and virtuo- a have not the least relation to the moral characters of the p- rsons 1765 Goldsmith *Hist Mutuellasia* II 161 The *virtuosa* being unemployed, will doubtless have offers from other quarters 1826 Margravine of Anspach *Mem* I 211 She was the only woman I ever had sung a Hebrew air which began at the end 1847 Leitch tr *C O Muller's Anc Art* § 425 505 A musical virtuosa ; lay at the same time on a standing and lying stringed instrume- t

† **Virtuose,** *sb Obs*$^{-1}$ In 8 vertuose [Anglicized form of Virtuoso cf next.] A virtuoso

*a* 1721 Prior *Ess I earning* P 6 The Gentleman who likes Medals very well will be apt to esteem the Vertuose the best of them, and the Antiquary or Vertuose will be sure to top- raise ones upon him.

**Virtuose** (vəːtiuō·s), *a* [ad. It. *virtuoso* cf prec.] Having or exhibiting the characteristics of a virtuoso, of or pertaining to virtuosi

1890 *Academy* 17 May 346/1 Mme Carreno is essentially a virtuose ; layer and it was in pieces by Liszt that she astonished her audience 1892 *Athenæum* 31 July 173/3 The virtuose element is paramount, in thought, feeling, and a post cal atmosphere are evident in the music

**Virtuose,** obs form of Virtuous *a*

**Virtuosi,** pl of Virtuoso

**Virtuoso** (vəːtiuō·sō sik), *a* [f Virtuos-o + -ic.] = Virtuose *a*.

1889 *Academy* 13 April 261/3 Of late we have had only fug tive pieces of the romantic and even virtuosic, schools 1899 *Scotsman* 13 Nov 9/4 The Orpheus and the other band can only be described as a piece of virtuosic music

**Virtuosity** (vəːtiuō·sĭti). Also 5 vertuousyte, 7 vertuositie [In sense 1 ad med L *virtuositas* f late L *virtuosus* Virtuous *a* In other senses f Virtuos-o + -ity cf *virtuosité*.]

† 1 *a.* Manly qualities or character *Obs*$^{-1}$

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace Chron* vi 1 Of þe vertuousyte, Albe he was, as Chrony cles could-e fele ; To haue ruled all the emperalyte.

† *b* Virtuousness *Obs* (Bailey, 1721).

2 The pursuits, interests or temperament, character-istic of a virtuoso ; interest or taste in the fine arts, esp of a fastidious, finical, dilettante or trifling nature.

1673 H Stubbe *Further Vind Dutch War* 82 We are regenerated from the School of Aristotle to that of Epicurus, from all Moral Philosophy to the most impertinent and effe-minate Virtuosity 1676 Wood *Life* (O H S) II 366 Edward Bendlowes, a great poet spent about 7 hundred a- years in- erest and on flattering poets 1823 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* IV 408 Charles Augustus had imbibed a taste for merit, a virtuosity in human excellence, to employ his preceptor's phrase 1840 *Blackw Mag* XLVIII 40 Goethe's passion for wise virtuosity do the thing [*sc* eating and drinking] gently, and like gentlemen 1886 Symonds *Renaiss II, Cath React* (1898) VII 281 In this state of things was due rather to the abuse of science and of virtuosity

b *spec.* Excessive attention to technique, or to the production of special effects, in vocal or instrumental music (also *transf* in art or literature)

1864 *Reader* 18 Mar 341/3 For this sentiment, this type of art, as applied to matters musical, there is a special name It is called 'virtuosity' 1867 E. Prout in *Academy* 17 Feb 150 We have a short sketch of the history of piano virtuosity 1884 Hawkis *Musical Life* II 608 It is doubt ful whether two such extraordinary personalities as those of Paganini and Liszt have ever appeared in the world of virtuosity

c With *a* and pl. A special study or interest of the kind affected by virtuosi.

1883 *Century Mag* XXVI 280 I've been cultivating some virtuosities, among other things.

3 Virtuosi collectively

1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* 1 iii, Where all the Virtuosity and nearly all the Intellect of the place assembled of an evening.

† **Virtuous** (vəːtiuəs, $^{6,8}$ əz) Also 7–8 vertuoso. Pl virtuosi (7 vert-) and virtuosos. [It. *virtuoso* (also *vertuoso*) ' learned, skilful, skilful,

full of learning' (Baretti) —L. *virtuōsus* sec Virtuous a Hence also F *virtuose*, *t virtuose* ]

It is frequently difficult in particular instances to decide which of the senses is intended

†1 One who has a general interest in arts and sciences, or who pursues special investigations in one or more of these, a learned person, a scientist, savant, or scholar *Obs*

Sometimes tending towards a depreciatory sense as in 2 a 1641 J. Brent tr *Sarpi's Coun. Trent* (1676) xxv, There have happened to come to Venice divers Virtuosi in several professions 1660 Howe *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Prosm 2 Perceiving by Letters from Paris that several of the Virtuosi there were very intent upon the examination of the Velocity of the Ayr in blowing the descent of the Quick silver 1684 J — *Mem. Waters* 73 The little Bodies that the ingenious Mr. Lewenhoeck and since him divers other Virtuosi, have observ'd in Water wherein Pepper has been infus'd 1709 T Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld.* xii 63 I hat new Hypothesis so stiffly maintained by some of our learned *Virtuosi* 1739 *Dublin Soc. Weekly Observ* I No 26 172 So the Virtuosi tell you that continued Fermentation and repeated racking certainly spoil your Cyder 1754 Fielding *Voy. Lisbon* P 161 I he former receives the thanks of mankind the latter (i e. the antiquary) of that valuable part the world 11 [1855 Kin s *Vertuoso's Hist* vi 1 Philip Skippon was given to the rightful place toward the head of the table that he may have a knot of virtuosi all to himself ]

*β* 1696 Earl Monm in *Boccalini's Advts fr Parnass* I v 8 The gallant Dispute which arose between some Letterati of the State deserves to be written every one of these Virtuosos defended their own Opinion as the best 1668 Glanvill *Sceps. Sci* xi 58 As great Wits as it may be ere saw the Su i, such as Pythagoras Des Cartes, Copernicus Galileo More Kepler and generally the vertuosos of the awakened world 1727 T Bignell tr *Pet. Cato's Amusem.* 36 The Projectors who are generally broken Citizens were coop'd up in the Counters and Ludgate, the Virtuosi were confined to Bedlam or College

γ 1656 Blount *Glossogr* , *Virtuoso*, a learned or ingenious person or one that is well qualified 1660 Ingelo *Bentivi & Ur* ii (1682) 1 I was not offended that Virtuoso s with laughing at them 1676 Glanvill *Ess* iii 30 Another excellent Virtuoso of the same Assembly Mr John Evelyn, hath very copiously adva need this History of Fruit and Forest Trees 1706 F Ward *Wonders World Disc* (1708) 60 He is no Diglian Virtuoso, for he knows not how to sympathize with any mans Wounds whatever 1732 Berkley *Alciphr* ii § 2 Some Virtuosi have discovered in that a mmal by a modern virtuoso. 1778 *Eng Gazetteer* (ed 2) 1 v *Comb Martin* They were neglected till the reign of queen Elizabeth by Mr Bevis Bulmer, a virtuoso in refining metals, got great quantities of silver from them [1834 Southey *Doctor* vi (1862) 19 There were in him undeveloped talents which might have raised him to distinction as a virtuoso of the Royal Society ]

δ 1656 Earl Monm tr *Boccalini's Advts fr Parnass* I. 2 Appearing much displeased at the affront done to the man he first honoured h n with the name of Vertuoso [etc ] 1683 Kennett tr *Erasmi on Folly* 60 To these are to be added those pitiful ng Vertuosos, that plunder the most inward recesses of Nature. 1691 Wood *Ath Oxon* I 852 He was afterwards an eminent Physician Vertuoso and Knight 1700 T Brown tr *Fresny's Amusem* ix (1709) 89 The *Vertuoso* despises the Rich for making such a bustle about so foolish and pale fac d a Metal as Gold.

**2.** One who has a special interest in, or taste for, the fine arts, a student or collector of antiquities, natural curiosities or rarities, etc , a connoisseur, freq , one who carries on such pursuits in a dilettante or trifling manner.

*α*, *β* 1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr* iii 34 The Greeks and inventive Romans who publish'd so many thousands of medails, and coynes as are in the hands and collections of the *Virtuosi* 1675 Hobbes *Iliad & Odyss* Pref , There be many readers called critiques, and wits, and vertuosi, that are accustomed to censure the poets and most of them of divers judgements *d* 1721 Shaftes *Charac* III 157 A Worse thing than this happens commonly to these inferior *Virtuosi* In seeking so earnestly for Rarities they fall in love with Rarity, for Rareness sake *c* 1721 J Moore *Poem Soc Liberty* (1790) II lxxi 367 The beautiful head of Alexander is universally admired by all the virtuosi 1839 Hallam *Hist Lit* iii viii § 61 The well known word virtuoso, applied in these lovers of what was rare and beautiful in art or nature. 1851 D Wilson *Pref. Ann* (1863) I v 153 The virtuosi to whose inspection it was committed 1878 Morley *Diderot & Encyc* Sec 1 (1877) 249 For intellectual dilettanti and moralising virtuosi

*γ*, *δ* 1665 Lowley *Queen s repairing Somerset house* 86 If any prouder Virtuoso s sense At that part of my Prospect take offence 1667 Dryden & Dr Newcastle *tr M Marmall* iii (beginning) I am sure, in all companies I pass for a virtuoso 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Mar (1944) One of the greatest virtuosos in France, for his collection of pictures, achates, medails, and flowers 1709 Mandeville *Fab Bees* II 414 Look upon the mighty labours of antiquaries, botanists and the vertuoso s in butterflies cockle shells and other odd productions of nature 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. 2, A great number of nicknacks and Curiosities, which might have engaged the attention of a virtuoso 1767 Mme D Arblay *Diary* June Virtuoso being next named, Colonel Manners inveighed against them quite violently 1825 *Genil Mag* XCV 1 332 The Virtuoso will appreciate justly this small volume as a very instructive and agreeable manual 1838 Merivale *Rom Emp* iii (1865) VI 324 For painting and sculpture, the arts he may have acquired the taste of a virtuoso 1885 J Payn *Talk of Town* I 283 He was a *virtuoso* and antiquary himself, and therefore recognised the full extent of his danger

*trans*/ 1829 Lytton *Devereux* II vii, Salter is a shaving virtuoso 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV v 161 Excellent dishes, —such as Scotland borrowed from France before Catherine de Medicis brought in her Italian *virtuosi* to revolutionize the kitchen like the court.

**3.** One who has special knowledge or skill in music, *spec* , in modern use, one who excels in, or devotes special attention to, technique in playing or singing.

1743 Bp Berkeley in Fraser *Life* viii (1871) 289 Such virtuosi as the country affords I mean in the way of music 1764 *Advert* in *N & Q* 3rd Ser V 386 The late famous Vertuoso Handel, received during his Life time such partial culat protection. 1834 Hr Reford *Italy* II xxxi 222 *note*, All these *virtuosi* were either *castrattes* of the softest note, or *sopranos* of the highest squeakery 1859 Weaxall tr *R Houdin* xi 155 I had often heard a multangular sing, which I thought was the 'star' among the virtuosi 1900 *Daily News* 19 June 4/7 A piece of little or no musical merit has of late years come again into fashion with violin virtuosi

**4** *attrib* , as *virtuoso collection*, *country*, *expression*, *kind*, *scheme*, etc.

1668 Cowley *Ess Verse & Prose*, *Of Avarice*, As if thou No other Use of precious Gold didst know, But that of curious Pictures to delight With the fair stamp thy *Virtuoso* Sight 1700 T Brown tr *Fresny's Amusem* x. (1709) 100 The Philosophical, or Virtuosi Country 1710 Shaftes. *Charac* (1711) I 157 In Philosophy, Matters answer actly to this *Virtuoso* Scheme *Ibid* 333 To the Academys of Painters, Statuarys and to the rest of the *Virtuoso* Tribe, 1727 *Gay Fables* I xxi 49 Her head of virtuoso kind 1728 S J Pratt *Liberal Opten* civ (1783) III 251, I would peep into the opinions of men with a sort of virtuoso vigilance 1832 Willis *Dencliffe* I v 38 About his mouth and eye there was the proper virtuoso expression of inquisitiveness and discrimination 1856 Kane *Arct Expl* II ix 93 Near these is a virtuoso collection of cups grouped in a tumulus 1882 Jennie Edwardes *Bills non Repent* I 52 With her Stradivarius tucked in true virtuoso style, under her chin

**Virtuo sonship.** [f prec + -ship.] The state or condition of being a virtuoso; the profession of a virtuoso

a 1721 Shaftesb *Charac* III 160 Let us view Philosophy, like mere Virtuoso ship in its usual Career 1749 Mrs Montagu *Lett* (1813) III 48 Your natural curiousity go hand in hand 1778 *Phil Surv S Irel* 34 Too refined, by Italian virtuosonship, for the relish of his country neigh bours 1781 Cowper *Misc Ess* , *Scholar* (1979) III 68 Apart from virtuosonship or any such dal object, who'd hold have such things on our universal curiosity as men 1889 *Gardener Lexicum Qui* II 110 The most brainless and soulless of all virtuosonship

**Virtuous** (və·tiuəs), *a* Forms *a.* 4–5 vertuos, 4–6 -uose, 4–7 -ouuse, 4–8 -uous (4 ouous, -uuus, -ueous), 5 -uus, uows(e, ueux (*Sc* wertuo(u)se, uwisse, -uus, 6 vertwus), 5 vertues (wert-), vertuys (*Sc* -uyse, uise), 5–6 vus, 5 vertus (*Sc.* -use), wertus (*Sc* -use), 4 vertiuous, 4–6 vertuous, 6 *Sc* -ewous, ewus, -eus, werteous Also *superl* 5 vertuest, 6 vertuest, vertuost *β* 4 virtuous, virtuus, 5 virtuose, 7– virtuous [a AF and OF *vertuous*, OF. *vertuos*, *vertuus*, (also mod F) *vertueux*, etc , = Pr *vertuos*, Cat *virtuós*, Sp and Pg *virtuoso*, It *ver* , *virtuoso*, late L. *virtuōsus*, f L *virtus* Virtue *sb* See -ous ]

**I.** Of persons, personal qualities or actions, etc

†1 Distinguished by manly qualities, full of manly courage, valiant, valorous *Obs*

13 *K Alis* 2408 (Laud MS) Alisaunder and tholomeus, Mid her men pat were seed so vertuous Pat hy weren passed estes to hy 1340 *Hampole Prose Treat* 80 Barely knight So stronge on horse ne so vertuouse *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl* 4310 For alle hem werreþ Galeus þe riche king so vertuous *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii 355 The daughter I was gotten on hothe sides Nevertheles whan Merlin sawgh the sadness so vertuouse he [etc ] 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iv vi 178 Ye shalle vnderstande that they ben stronge and vertuous in batayle. *c* 1477 *Knowyt of Aryon* 54 Thow, Alexander, sayd reynawde 'I prayе you that ye shewe yours-sife vertuous & stronge agenste our enmyes 1606 Chapman *Gent Vsher* I. 1613 Lord, I know you will ever vertuous spirit ; Take heede for God's loue if you rowse the bore You come not neere him *c* 1611 — *Iliad* xiii 148 With this all strengthen and widen the mind, but scourging Paphlobus, Old Priam s son, amongst them all was chiefly virtuous. 1612 Braum. & Fl. *King & No* i, Must all men that are vertuous turne suddenly to matche themselves with me? I conquered him and bravely, did I not?

†b Of an act Evincing a manly spirit , brave, heroic, courageous *Obs rare*

1560 Whitehorne tr *Machiavelli's Arte Warre* 85 Then had appeared in every vertuse acte as he shvt faighting, saued the life of one of his Citesens, to him that had slaine the enemie and so euery vertuous act, was of the Counsilles knowne rewarded 1653 Cogan *Diodorus Siculus* v ii 174 The child, catching them [sc two Dragons] by the throat, strangled them both for which vertuous act, the Argives called him Hercules.

†c. Capable, able. *Obs* ?

1583 Caxton *Cato* 8 viij, It happeth oftymes that they to whome nature hath denyed her forces or strengthes been better and more vertuous to gyue a good counceyl than the other

**2.** Possessing or showing virtue in life and conduct, acting with moral rectitude or in conformity with moral laws; free from vice, immorality, or wickedness; good, just, righteous.

The prevailing sense. In some early quots as a general term of commendation (cf sense 3)

*c* 1340 *Hampole Prose Tr* 14 þe mare þat a saule es joynede to oure Lorde God, þe mare stabill it es and mygthy, gude paysable, luffande, and mare vertuous. 1390 Gower *Conf* II 78 Bot if a man of bothe two Be riche and vertuous also, Thanne is he wel the more worth. *c* 1400 *Apoll Loll* 91 Crist is more exellent & vertuouse þan ol er creaters *a* 1475 G Ashby *Active Policy* 480 Looke that youre servauntes be of the best And euerichе in his degre vertuest 1590 Fisher *Funeral Serm Cless Richmonde* Wks. (1876) 301 All the vertuous and deuoute persones to whome she was as a louynge sister 1534 Cromwell in Merrim in *Life & Lett* (1902) I 305 Diuerse other vertuose presies men of good lernyng and reputation shuld so testifie of her 1563 *Homilies* ii *Peril Idol* III Sis ii, The vertuous est and best learned amongst fathers. 1567 Fenner tr *Treas Amadis of Gaule* b ij b I neuer saw a wiser vertuouser or a more temperate prince. 1611 Bible *Transl Prefr* 8 A man may be counted a vertuous man, though he haue made many slips in his life 1640 Quarles *Enchirid* xci, If a Prince expect vertuous Subjects, let him Subjects have a vertuous Prince 1698 Lo Preston *Bath* iv 172 The Reward of vertuous Men 1701 Rowe *Amb Step Moth* Ep Ded 1 wo Vertuous (or at least Innocent) Characters 1706 Stanhope *Paraphr* III 206 Approving ourselves vertuous in our Behaviour as well as orthodox in our Belief

*trans*/ 1426 Lydg. *De Cruc I liger* 90098 Byholde yonder a Charitehous An ordur that is full vertuous 1539–96 Wrotheseley *Chron* (Camden) I 109 The howse of Sion which was the vertues [= most virtuous] howse of religion that was in England.

*β* 1487 *Harbour's Bruce* iv 742 He had beyn fals and counius; But his vit mad him virtuous 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv & Ur* ii (1682) 1 It was wicked in them to have unjustly contriv t the destruction of Virtuous persons 1692 Hartlieve *Vertues* 397 It were impossible so long as Men have a desire of vain Honour Happy is that Man should be virtuous 1707 *Curios in Husb & Gard* 7 *Fecile sanctitate* injoins Labour and Agriculture as a Duty of virtuous Men 1777 R Watson *Philip II* (1793) 23 I find this monarch who was not less virtuous than most of his cotemporary princes deliberately resolve to add treachery to the perjury and falsehood into which he had been betrayed 1826 Disraeli *Vivian G* v 44 I have been too weak to be virtuous but I have been tried most bitterly 1859 (*so* Eliot *A Bede* xvii Let your most faulty characters always be weighed with your most virtuous ones o i the right 1881 *Trnl Inst Bankers* II iv 563 The virtuous debtor, whose insolvency was attributable to unavoidable losses and misfortune

b Of women Freq = Chaste *a*

I quot *c* 1400 merely an epithet of commendation

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T* 526 I hey can not gesse That she had doon so gret a cursednesse As hym was seyn hir so vertuous *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 2430 Venus the vertuus was verely the fairest *c* 1420 *Chron Vilod* 1573 Pertaste A wyfe vertuous. Ny vertuouser was ther non, Ny was his holy mayde 1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 22 Soo hath his grace I ti nke chosen the vertuest lady and the most honourable woman that lyueth 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron S of* (S I S) I 257 Que e Margaret was weriе wyse and wertеous in hir husbands tyme but sune efter his deid scho fell in ouris of hir body 1598 Shake *Merry W* iv ii 136 Mistris Ford, the honest woman, the modest wife the virtuous creature that hath the jealous foole to her husband 1611 Bible *Prov* xii 4 A vertuous woman is a crowne to her husband 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 265 That she being a vertuous and a chaste lady he called her whore oftentу e. 1712 Steele *Spect* No 286 P 1 In my Opinion and in that of many of your virtuous Female Readers 27 *Suffolk Miracle* in *Child Ballads* V 66/1 Her beauty was beyond compare, She was the virtuousest young lady 1796 H Hunter tr *St Pierre's Stud Nat* (1799) III 77 She will be virtuous, said she, 'and she will be happy I knew calamity only in ceasing to be virtuous' 1800 *Lett E Maltrav* II 11 Madame D Epinay s memoirs are of the character She was not a virtuous woman—but she felt virtue and loved it 1849 Hickey in *N & Q* 1st Ser I 9/2 A virtuous woman who has given her heart toone whom [etc.]

†c. Used as a title of courtesy in addressing or referring to persons, esp ladies of rank or eminence. *Obs.*

*c* 1332 Du Wes *Introd Fr* in *Palsgr* 896 Most illustare rygh excellentе & right vertuouse lady my lady Margey of Englande 1588 Kyd *Housh Philos* Ded To the Worshipfull and Vertvous Gentleman Mai ter Thomas Reade, Lo yer, Health and all happines. 1621 Sir W Monson *Misc Poems* xvii *title*, Epitaph of the wvey excellent, vertuouse and truthe honoured Lady, the Lady Armstoun *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 14 Aug (1955) II 249 Tragedy of 'Horace (written by the virtuous Mrs Phillips).

**d** *absol* (as pl ), chiefly with *the*

1390 Gower *Conf* III 226 He putte away the vicious And tok to him the vertuous 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vii. 8.2 He chastit þa þat war wicl ouse, And relewit al vertuouse 1589 Nashe *A tat Aduvtd* Wks. (Grosart) I 35 The acts of the vertuous, and the praises of the vertuous. 1597 Morley *Introd Mus* Ded , A second being caused vs liue in the mindes of the vertuous as it were confirmed to the posterity 1611 Bible *Wisd Sol* iv xiv. 373 As if the Vertuous, and their Vertues could be asunder *a* 1721 Ken *Urania* Wks. 1721 IV 498 They prai d an humble modest Air, Being more the Vertuous than the Fair 1739 Johnson *Rasselas* xxvii[i] But the agents of affliction spread their toils alike for the virtuous and the wicked *c* 1800 Lavoisier in *Life & Times* (1895) 195 The soft descending dews of sleep That lave the bodies in serene repose. 1846 Mrs. A Marsh *Father Darcy* II viii 137 The esteem of the noble and virtuous I would still retain.

**e** Of the disposition or mind

1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 398 Of a sound and virtuous disposition. 1598 Shake *Merry W* i 1 180 *Slen* If I be drunke, He be drunke with those that have the feare of God, and not with drunken knaues *Sen* So peace be with me, that is a vertuous minde. 1600 *Lo. Cromwell* iv 1 20 He was my Maister And each vertuous part, That lued in him, I tendered with my hart 1634 Milton *Comus* 811 These thoughts may startle well but not astound The virtuous mind 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv & Ur* ii (1682) 196 Many Vertuous Dispositions are four Resemblances of the Divine Perfections 1780 A Hamilton *Let to Miss Schuyler* Wks 1850 I 187 A virtuous mind cannot long esteem a base one. 1784 Cowper *Three.* 436 The most distain'rested and

virtuous minds. **1816** Shelley *Dymon of World* II. 136 The bliss . . Which . . Dawns on the virtuous mind.

† **2.** *Sc.* Diligent or industrious in work.

Perhaps due to Prov. xii. 4: see b. above, quot. 1611.

**1725** Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii. I've heard my honest uncle aften say, That lads should n'for wives think's vertuous pray. *a* **1825** Scott in Jamieson *Sc. Dict.* Suppl. s.v., Her daughter was the most virtuous woman in the parish, for that week she had spun six spyndles of yarn.

**3.** Of acts, life, manners, etc. : Characterized by, of the nature of, virtue; according with, or conforming to, moral law or principles; morally good or justifiable.

Occas. in a weakened sense : 'estimable, commendable, praiseworthy.'

*c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. 634 God to christofore gafe sic grace of vertuyse lyre. *Cyril. xxxvi.* 424 Angela Jaim.. þat awantis haim-selfe of vertuise lif. *a* **1393** Chaucer *Gentileesse* 17 Ther may no man..bequeythe his heyre his vertuous noblesse. *a* **1400** *Apol. Lollc.* 36 In meknes, pouert, paciens, & labour, & oper vertuus dedis. **1460** *Lett. Mary. of Anjou*, etc. (Camden) 97 The womanly and vertuouse governance that ye be renowned of. **1484** Caxton *Fables of Avian* xi, None ought to preyse hym self but ought to doo good and vertuous werkes wherof other may preyse hym. **1509** Fisher *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 271 Blessyd are they whiche haue made vertuous ende and conclusyon of theyr lyfe in our lorde. **1585** T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 [They] are much giuen too musick and all other vertuous & honest exercises. **1599** Shaks. *Timon* III. ii. 44 If his occasion were not virtuous, I should not vrge it halfe so faithfully. **1667** Milton *P. L.* VIII. 550 That what he wills to do or say, Seem'd vertuous all to each discerning, best. **1712** Steele *Spect.* No. 500 ¶ 3 There is one thing I am able to give each of them, which is a virtuous Education. **1759** Johnson *Rasselas* xxiii, The present reward of virtuous conduct. **1788** J. Brown *Compend. Vieto Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. 25 To constitute an act truly virtuous, it must originate from a virtuous principle or habit. **1836** J. S. Cunningham *Cyc. Aenean.* IX. 1180/2 Can pride be virtue, or can any act be truly virtuous, if done in pride? **1838** Dickens *Nicholeby* I, My Father has got it [*sc.* my uncle's money] now, and is saving it up for me, which is a highly virtuous purpose. **1871** R. W. Dale *Commandm.* Introd. 12 It is only the virtuous man who knows what is virtuous.

† **b.** Of writings : = Moral a. 3 b. *Obs.*—1

**1509** Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xiv. (Percy Soc.) 53 He made also the tales of Cauntebury ; Some vertuous, and some glad and mery.

**c.** Of a hush : Chaste, modest.

**1818** Byron *Juan* I. Ded. vii, Your lays may hide the baldness of your brows—Perhaps some virtuous blushes.

† **4.** Belonging to the virtuosi. Also *absol.* with *the*. *Obs. rare.*

**a 1682** Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 10 Most excellent and virtuous Friends, This great Discovery makes amends For all our unsuccessful Pains. **1685** Petty *Will* in Ld. Fitzmaurice *Life* (1895) 203, I obtained my degree of Doctor of Phisick in Oxford, and forthwith thereupon to be admitted into the College of Phisitians, London, and into severall clubs of the virtuous.

**II.** Of things, their operations, etc.

**5.** Producing, or capable of producing, (great) effect ; powerful, potent, strong.

In some quots. influenced by or approximating to sense 6.

**a 1** *Ædit.* 5228 (Laud MS.), Hij maden fyres vertuous Fyue hundred; vche gret als a tour. **1390** Gower *Conf.* III. 137 That word above alle erthli thinges Is vertuous in his doinges, Wher so it be to evele or goode. **1598** Chapman *Iliad* IX. [vrit.] 22 Then will I (if vertuous top our vertuous engine binde, And by it euerie thing shall hang. **1616** J. Lane *Contn. Sqr's T.* IV. 334 Till happicle her ffather slewe the snake, and by his virtuous wondes did th' venom slake.

**b.** Of actions, qualities, etc.

**1387** Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 285 Touchynge þe bridde likenesse, þat is vertuous worchynge. **1422** Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 256 Therfore the question is the better and more vertuose in wynter than in any othyr tyme. **1426** Lydg. *Dr. Guil. Pilgr.* 3407 And ye may ther..Maken thynges fresshe of hew.. And whan ye lyst, transforme hem newe, Your power ys so vertuous. **1578** Lyte *Dodoens* I (heading), Plantes.. their temperature, complexions, and vertuous operations. **1590** Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 67 Then crush this herbe into Lysander eye, Whose liquor hath this vertuous propertie, To take from thence all error. **1644** [H. Parker] *Jus Populi* 18 Such causes as remain more vertuous then their effects, as the water heated is lesse hot then the fire. **1667** Milton *P. L.* III. 608 With one vertuous touch Th' Arch-chimick Sun, so farr from us remote, Produces..so many precious things. **1797** Coleridge *Christabel* I. xxi, It is a wine of virtuous powers ; My mother made it of wild flowers. **1813** Scott *Rokeby* I. ix, Yet the soil..Had depth and vigour to bring forth The hardier fruits of virtuous worth.

**6.** Endowed with, or possessed of, inherent or natural virtue or power (often of a magical, occult, or supernatural kind) ; potent or powerful in effect, influence, or operation on this account ; *spec.* having potent medicinal properties or qualities ; efficacious or beneficial in healing. Now *arch.*

**a.** Of precious stones, etc.

**13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2027 His cote, wyth be conysaunce of þe clere werkes, Enturned vpon veluet vertuous stones. **13..** *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1280 þe vyoles & þe vesselment of vertuous stones. **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. 128 (Bodl. MS.), [The more] þat Jacinctus is liche to þe Saphire in coloure,..þe more vertuous it is. *c* **1400** Maundev. (Roxb.) xviii. 80 If þe dyamaund be gude and vertuous, þe adamand drawes nost þe nedill to him. **1483** Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 214/2 A Margaryte, whyche gemme is white lyyyl and vertuouse..The virtu of thys Stone is sayd to be ayenst effusyon of blood. **1503** Hawes *Examp. Virt.* iv. 40 Of vertuous turkeys there was a cheyr. *a* **1533** Ld. Berners *Huon* cclix. 562 The stone was so vertuous that none coud estemne the valure therof. **1626** Bacon *Sylva* § 499 There is a vertuous Bezoar and another without virtu which appear to the show alike.

**b.** Of things in general.

**1340** *Ayenb.* 113 Me zayþ þet hit [sacramental head] is ope substaunce þet is wirtuous and substancial aboue onderstondinge. *c* **1440** *Gesta Rom.* lxii. 264 (Add.MS.), This knyght than had a vertuous welle beside his bedde. *c* **1510** *Gesta Rom.* (W. de W.) A iij, All my temporall rychesse I haue exspended, & almoost no thynge is lefte me, excepte a vertuous tre..in the myddes of myne empyre. **1597** Buchanan (*title*), The vertuous bake Of the distyllacyon of all maner of waters of the herbes in this present volume expressed. **1586** Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, For neither rain can fall vpon the earth, Nor Sun reflexe his vertuous beames thereon. **1590** Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 86 Streight way he with his vertuous staffe them strooke And straight of beasts they comely men became. **1590** A. Symmer *Spir. Pestic.* iii. 13 Behold the timely vertuous presence of Gods Providence. **1632** Milton *Penseroso* 113 Canace.., That own'd the vertuous Ring and Glass.

**c.** Of herbs, etc.

**1390** Gower *Conf.* III. 129 And ek his herbe in special The vertuous Feiele it is. *c* **1407** Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4433 The erbys..be so vertuous, That no beste venymous .. Ne may hem no Wyse aproche. **1460** *Wisdom of Doctrynes* 92 in *Macro Plays* 38 The drede of God,..hat makyst..swete vertuus herbys in þe sowll [to] spryngge. **1578** Lyte *Dodoens* V. xxv. 584 The leaues are also of mallow like, and good for all the greefes afore-sayde,..yet they be nothing so vertuous as the roote. **1609** C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 108 Where the flowers are most fragrant there the honey doth abound, and there is most fine and pure. **1614** W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 81 Kylbeards..are vertuous in Medicine. **1632** J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 1. 7 These mountaines are full of vertuous herbes. **1700** Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 418 The Ladies sought around For virtuous herbs. **1853** G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* I. 1. 2 Wormwood is the largest copper-plates containing the figures of many of the most virtuous herbs. **1871** Browning *Balaust.* 2124 Cutting the roots of many a vertuous herb To solace murdered mortals ! **1877** *Scottish Wks.* (1890) II. 665/1 By application of a virtuous root The burning has abated.

**d.** Of drugs, etc.

**1600** Holland tr. *Livy Hymouers Blood* vi. 77 Strong sodden Water is a vertuous thing. *Tr. c* **1614** J. Davies *Let. Wks.* 1876 I. p. xlviii, Least the intention of to much Reading hinder the working of those vertuous drugs. **1615** Chapman *Odyss.* XIII. 80 Then gaue his wiues hills wolues, and lions, and lay Which with her virtuous drugs so tame she made, That [etc.]. **1694** Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 43/1 By that means you will have it very strong and virtuous Spirit. **1871** Hawthorne *S. Fellon* (1879) 99 It is the most virtuous liquor that ever was.

**7.** Of great excellence or worth. *Obs.*

*c* **1400** *Land Tvey Bk.*946o For non is non so glorious, Ne non in this world so vertuous, As Ilion was the while it stode. *c* **1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 1117 Harp he couthe & syng welle bothe of harte well ymyndyd, & of wordes ryght vchiche vertuose werkus he wolde write & doo. *c* **1430** Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 80 The douffe..Unto the erthe she hath hir flight, And sang a song ful gracious, Of al songes most vertuous.

**III.** **8.** *Comb.* (in sense 4), as *virtuous disposed*, *-like*, *-making*, *-minded* adjs.

**1450** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 206/1 By ther Founders and other vertuous disposed persones. **1654** Whitlock *Zootomia* 347 Becoming..as virtuous-making a Pattern among Wives, as she was before among Virgins. **1699** Shaftesb. *Advice to Author* II. 1, If that which is vertuous-minded, and holds him to a virtuous-like Behaviour, be no Affection towards . . Virtue it-self, . . he is not in reality the more virtuous. **1847** Craig, *Virtuous-like*, a. Like a virtuous person.

**Virtuously,** *adv.* Forms : (see Virtuous *a.*). [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

**1.** In a virtuous manner ; according to or in conformity with moral laws ; uprightly, righteously ; chastely, purely.

*c* **1380** Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 46 Qwikenynge hem wiþ my grace, to lyve in mekenes vertuously. **1422** Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 235 How that ye shal kepe youre sowle fro vices and dampnacion, and vertuously to lywe. **1463** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 36 A rememberance of old love vertuously set at alle tymes to the plesseen of God. **1509** *Paternoster, Ave & Creed* A ij, Ye ought to vyse men to be vertuously occupyed in theyr myndes and prayers. **1597** Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 How should a vertuously disposed minde better resolue with it selfe then thus ? **1604** Shaks. *Oth.* I. i. 7 They [*sc.* the mere wenches] vertuously, yet to say. The Diuell their vertue tempts, and they tempt Heauen. **1682** Norris *Hierocles* 22 The denial of Honour to our Parents wherein we doe vertuously. **1691** Hanckliffe *Virtues* 105 To be vertuously Magnificent, is with daily Provisions to feed the Hungry. **1709** Steele *Tatler* No. 32 P 6 This Woman, who could be so virtuously impertinent, as to admonish one she was hardly acquainted with. **1838** Dickens *Nicklely* xxviii, Here Mrs. Wititterly tossed her head—not passionately only virtuously. **1847** Carlyle *Mize.* IV. 223 This we say the present editor has virtuously forborne.

† **2.** Bravely, courageously, valiantly. *Obs. rare.*

**1422** Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 161 Therfor the troians vertuously the grecans into hare tentis fleynge suyr. **1430** Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 109 Hector encountred the first so vertuously, yt he ran him through out with his spere.

† **3.** With great skill or excellence. *Obs.*—1

*c* **1425** Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 981 (Cott.), Pat buk Qwhar Master Iohun Barbere..His dedis dittit mar wertusly Pan I can thynk in al study.

† **4.** Virtually. *Obs. rare.*

**1426** Lydg. *Dr Guil. Pilgr.* 6030 Somme vndarstonde certeynly That he ys ther vertuously; Somme seyn 'ymaginatyue ' And somme ' representatiue ', **1502** *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. viii. 104 Also this fourth commaundement ȝ^e is the fyrst of ȝ^e seconde table conteyneth in hym vertuously ȝ^e .vii. werkes of mercy.

† **5.** Powerfully, strongly. *Obs.*—1

In quot. used affectedly.

**1588** Shaks. *Timon* I. ii. 232, I. *Lord.* We are so vertuously bound. *Tim.* And so am I to you. *a. Lord.* So infinitely endear'd.

**Virtuousness.** Also 5 vertuousness, 5–6 -uousnes (6 -ousness), 6–7 -nesse, 6–8 -ness ; 6 vertouusnes, -usnes, *Sc.* -eousnes. [f. as prec.]

† **1.** The condition of being endowed with inherent virtue or power. *Obs.*—1

**1398** Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* VIII. xvi. (1495) v vij b/1 The sonne..hath a vertu of plente [1535 plentiful] vertuousnes for be yeuyth vertu of generacion to thyse nether thynges.

**2.** The state or condition of being virtuous ; virtuous quality or character ; moral rectitude ; goodness, probity.

*c* **1449** Pecock *Repr.* I. xvii. 96 Thei laborid euere in mekenes for to haue it in greet mesure, whilis thei mysten haue laborid forto haue had kunnyng of moral vertuousnes. **1528** Roy *Rede me it.* (Arb.) 72 They are slaunder of vertousnes, Occasion vnto viciousnes. **1576** Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 39 Behaviour, countenance, rayment.. all smells of vertuousnesse. **1608** L. Machin *Dumbe Knight* III, I know you hate me for my vertuousnesse. **1650** Baxter *Saints' R.* III. xi. (1662) 491 And so their chief Virtuousness lieth in that Will or Love which is contained in them. **1736** Butler *Anal.* I. iii. § 4 The pleasure or advantage in this case is gained by the action itself, not by the morality, the virtuousness or viciousness of it. **1754** Edwards *Freed. Will* III. vii. (1762) 278 In order to the Vertuousness of an Act, the Heart must be indifferent in the Time of the Performance of that Act. **1823** Southey *Omniana More* (1825) I. i. 100 He meddles not with the virtuousness either of humanity or justice. **1865** J. Grote *Moral Ideals* viii. (1876) 119 But that is a very different degree of virtuousness where conscience does no more than guard from wrong action. **1879** H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* iii. 38 Perfection of nature, or virtuousness of action.

† **3.** High or worthy character ; excellence, merit. *Obs.*—1

**1525** Lb. Berners tr. *Froiss.* II. xxvi. 71 *heading*, Of the great vertuousnesse and largesse that was in therle of Foix.

**Virulence** (virĭŭlĕns). [ad. L. *virulentia* : see next and -ence. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *virulencia*.]

**1.** Extreme acrimony or bitterness of temper or speech ; violent malignity or rancour.

**1663** Jer. Taylor *Fun. Serm. Bramhall* Wks. 1831 IV. vii. 75 It was also such honor, that it is greater than the virulence of tongues, which his meekness and humble envy had armed against him. **1696** Tate & Brady *Ps.* cxl. 3 Their sharpen'd Tongue the Serpent's sting In Virulence exceeds. **1708** Young *Love Fame* VI. 130 Our virulence is thrown On others' fame, their fondness for our own. **1748** Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. iv. 28 My sister, who had treated Mr. Lovelace with virulence, came into me and insulted me as fast as I received him. **1816** Scott *Antiq.* xxi. *Philos* 322, I have been frequently shocked at the virulence of your zeal. **1838** Dickens *Nicklehy* xxi, The ill will of Miss Knag had lost nothing of its virulence. **1867** Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* xi. (1880) 194 The persecution .. was carried on with increased virulence, until resistance almost disappeared.

**b.** An instance of this.

*a* **1774** Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 295 The leaders, however they may sometimes encourage these virulences to serve a turn, do not enter into the sentiments of them.

**2.** The property or quality of being physically virulent or full of virus ; extreme poisonousness or venomousness ; malignity or violence (of disease).

**1748** *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 106 A general dejection prevailed amongst us, which added much to the virulence of the disease. **1789** W. Buchan *Domest. Med.* (1797) 319, I have frequently known the disease return with all its virulence after a course of goat-whey. **1815** J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 48 The wind is salubrious, stagnation of air, and removing the virulence of distemper. **1834** Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxvii. 283 Venomous snakes..decrease..in the virulence of their poison with decrease of temperature. **1878** H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 361 The rich disease was rabid:..about a dozen of the men were fearful objects of its virulence.

*attrib.* **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 721 Whether..the virulence test is satisfactory and exclusive is a doubtful matter.

**Virulency** (virĭŭlĕnsi). [ad. L. *virulentia*, f. *virulentus* : see next and -ency. So Sp. and Pg. *virulencia*, It. *virulenza*.]

**1.** = Virulence 1.

*a* **1617** Hieron *Wks.* (1620) II. 487 Men of corrupt minds shall..bee as it were moued..to goe on in their virulency and spite, and scorne of good Profession. **1647** N. Ward *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 6 The seale of the one, the virulency of the other, must..kindle combustions. **1672** Clarendon *Est.* Tracts (1727) 269 Those differences which are elated between Roman Catholics themselves with so much virulency and animosity. **1738** Birch *Milton in M.'s Wks.* I. 28 He was always remarkable for an Haughtiness of Temper and Virulency of Style. **1847** E. Bronte *Wuthering Heights* ii, Several incoherent threats of retaliation that, in their indefinite depth of virulency, smacked of King Lear.

**2.** = Virulence 2.

**1651** French *Distill.* v. 135 The powder..is very good to be strewed upon old ulcers, for it doth much correct the virulency of them. **1665** W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 73 The Hyacinth .. becomes the infallible Indication of the Plague, by which afterward ..the virulency..is driven forth. **1694** Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1723) 561/2 Least the Particles of the Mercury..should..create Pains, Aches, Rottenness, or a Virulency never to be taken away. **1710** T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 283 The Particles of the Quick-Silver.. oftentimes imprest an indelible Virulency upon the Brain.

**Virulent** (virĭŭlĕnt), *a.* Also 5 **verelent**, 6 **vyrulent**. [ad. L. *virulentus* poisonous, f. *virus*

VIRUS. So Cf. and F. *virulent*, It., Sp., and Pg. *virulento*.]

1. *Med.* † a. Of wounds or ulcers: Characterized by the presence of corrupt or poisonous matter. *Obs.* (passing into next).

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg. 77 marg.*, Off olde vereient wounles. *Ibid.* So if he vicus be virulent, pat is to seie venemi, loke if pat pe venym pat goip out be redisch or jelowisch. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Forne.* K iv, The gounersall accomplyshynge the cutencyon after the vlcers cyon is to drye the rottenesse that is thycke and fleshly, blody, and vyrulent. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 28 Chamaepitys ..layd upon great woundes, and virulent..healeth the same. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 266 A certaine person, well knowen vnto me, hauing a virulent vlcer, in manner of a Polipus in his nostrils. 1798 CRABBE *Cycl., Ulcers* xiv ..Virulent, which instead of Pus, or Sanies, yield a malignant *Virus*, &c.

b. Of diseases, etc.: Characterized by extreme malignancy or violence.

1583 T. GALE *Antidot.* 29 b, Yf the desease be malygne or Virulent, .put in more of the *Argentum Viuum*. 1694 SALMON *Iatr's Distens.* (1723) 28/1 It may be us'd..in the Cure of virulent Gonorrhœa. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. 102 The scars of wounds which had been for many years healed, were forced open again by this virulent distemper. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 203 They deny that the contagion has become more frequent..while the disease itself has thus been rendered less virulent and fatal. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 66 Scurvy in its most virulent form, and leprosy, were common disorders. 1879 *Encycl. Britannica Fungus. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 178 Germs..which may be pushed by foul air into virulent energy of reproduction.

*transf.* 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 227, I find the like unity in human structures rather virulent and pervasive. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Empr.* lxv. VIII. 170 A virulent insurrection was still glowing throughout a large portion of the empire. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 299 There is often a virulent contagion in a confident tone.

2. Of serpents, material substances, plants, etc.: Possessing venomous or strongly poisonous qualities; highly injurious or fatal to life; extremely noxious.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 7/2 in *Holinshed* II. Ireland hred no snake before S. Patrick was borne: *ergo*, it engendered no toade, no Adder, no Frogge, nor any other virulent worme. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 196 They giue the too forward maydens a virulent potion. 1637 W. COLE *Adam in Eden* 4, The Viper and all other virulent Creatures whatever. 1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 132 Herbs or minerals, with Virulent, and Deleterious Qualities. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 116 How the same soil..should in a leaf of the vine or sorrel produce a wholesome acid, and in that of a spurge or manchineel a most virulent poison. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* i. (1858) 4 While the virulent humour festers deep within, the general health suffers. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 8 In certain cases it contains specific agents in the causation of disease, and promotes their development or renders them more virulent.

*fig.* 1804 P. PINKERTON *Adriatica, On Arabian Hills*, Jealousy's virulent darts, Formed a opprobrious thrusts.

† b. Potent, powerful, effective. *Obs.*[—1]

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 2/2 A very excellent water for the payne of the heade..It wilbe very good and virulent for the heade.

c. Obnoxiously violent or strong. *nonce-use.*

1772 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl., To Sir W. Phillips* 6 May, Nay, I am convinced that she has likewise a most virulent attachment to his person; though her love never shows itself but in the shape of discontent.

3. *fig.* Violently bitter, spiteful, or malignant; full of acrimony or enmity: a. Of action or feeling.

1600 HEBRON *Wks.* I. 235 Where hee rules, there is a rancourous heart and a raylingtongue, but no salutations and vehlent courses cannot bee wanting. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* III. ii, I bring you..the sting Of virulent malice, festering your fair names, Plucked out and trod on. 1708 TR. WHARTON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 339 Every virulent vote, every passionate reproach..are so many real commendations of my conduct. *Tronian Lett.* xv. (1788) 89 The virulent exaggeration of party must be employed, to rouse..the passions of the people. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribleomania* 98 On my word, I may draw down a most virulent spite. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xviii. 165 We have failed, like Mr. Baily, to discover the ground of Flamsteed's virulent antipathy to Halley. 1867 'QUIDA' *C. Castlemaine's Gage* I She was hated by Whig beauties with virulent wrath.

b. Of speech or writing.

1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 99 He is greatly faulty in his virulent termes and charging the same upon my Lord Falkland. 1689 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 323 A virulent pamphlet, wherein he foolishly reflected on King William. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 25. 101 It is impossible..to escape the virulent Pen of that Rascal the Examiner. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Disc. Philos. Necess.* 172 Your virulent censures of myself..are abundantly too severe. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1841) II. 326 The meetings were large, stormy, even riotous, the debates indecently virulent. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 526 He stops twice in the course of his history to apostrophize..Harold..in terms of virulent abuse.

c. Of persons, their dispositions, etc.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 215 Let him take heed of striking his wife, said another, or to be virulent in termes against her. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. Pt.* Tracts (1727) 472 Let the virulent tongues of ill men traduce us with what calumnies they please. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 150 (Appion), a virulent writer against the Jews. 1714 SWIFT *Prot. St. Af. Wks.* 1841 I. 492 Since the virulent opposers of the queen..have so far prevailed..as to make [etc.]. 1798 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 227 His enemies here are as virulent as ever. 1833 J. TAYLOR *Ennui.* I. 3 The deluded religionist, even when virulent in an extreme degree. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 276 He had since disgusted some virulent fanatics by his humanity and moderation. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Centrad.* I. 49, I am glad you don't consider me very virulent.

Hence **Virulenst** *a. trans.*, to render virulent.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. lvi. 301 They say, Certain spirits virulenst from the inward humor, darted on the object, convey a Venom where they point and fix.

**Virulently** (vi·rĭulĕntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a virulent manner; with virulence or violence: a. Of actions, language, etc.

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* xi. 38 The raising of whose bones, more virulently, then truely, you obiect to this our *Apostolicall* creed. 1607 R. CAREW tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 274 There was neuer yet controuersie in Christian religion so stoutly, so vehemently, nor so virulently canuassed and ventilated. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. 8 101 Which, it may be, made the other to be the more virulently renembered. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 306 Sacheverell..he will find..whatsoever most virulently against him. 1783 HAILES *Anc. Chr. Ch.* ii. 23 The device of forging acts of Pilate, in which Christ was virulently defamed. 1816 KEATINGE *Narr. Journey* IV, Sentiments so virulently misanthropic. 1826 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxvi, Catholics were hunted down both by law and by public opinion, as virulently as Protestants now conformists.

b. Of poisons, diseases, etc.

1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* III. i, This potion that hath wrought so virulently! 1828 COPLAND *Med. Dict.* II. 1321/1 The effects of the malady having become thus virulently contagious. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vi. 112 Though some kinds are virulently poisonous, large number are highly beneficial to man. 1876 *Jrnl. R. Geog. Soc.* XLVI. 54 Several are pitted with small-pox, which ranged virulently..about ten years ago.

**Virulentness.** *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Virulence.

*a* 1676 HALE *True Relig.* III. (1684) 43 These bitternesses and virulentnesses..have been commonly of two kinds. 1797 HAILEY (vol. II), *Virulentness*, poisonous Nature; also Maliciousness.

‖ **Virus** (vəi·rŭs). [L. *virus* slimy liquid, poison, offensive odour or taste. Hence also F., Sp., Pg. *virus*.]

In *Cirurgia's Cirurgie* (*c* 1400) 77 the word, explained as 'a thin venomy quitter', is merely taken over from the Latin text.

1. Venom, such as is emitted by a poisonous animal. Also *fig.*

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* iv. 14 You..haue..spit out all the *virus* and poyson you could conceiue, in the abuse of his..person. 1702 MEAD *Poisons* 76 The Story of Cleopatra.., pouring the Juice of an Asp into a Pomegranate in her Arm by her own Teeth. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Viper*, By the Microscope, the Virus [of the viper] was found to consist of minute Salts, of a lenticular Figure. 1807 T. WILLIAMS *Rep. of Law* i. 37 That the deadly virus shall in a few minutes curdle the blood. 1879 R. T. SMITH *Basil Ct. Ix.* 211 He it was who followed the minute sting of the bee to shed its virus through.

2. *Path.* A morbid principle or poisonous substance produced in the body as the result of some disease, esp. one capable of being introduced into other persons or animals by inoculation or otherwise and of developing the same disease in them.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Virulent*, a Term apply'd to any thing that yields a *Virus*; that is, a corrosive or contagious Pus. 1775 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl., To Sir W. Phillips* 3 Oct., When he examined the *ægrotat*, and felt his pulse, he declared that much of the *virus* was discharged. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 448 Whether opium applied externally, may or may not prove an antidote to the canine virus. 1800 *Ibid.* III. 352 The pustules..contain a perfect Small-pox virus. 1806 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 165 In consequence of the virus being absorbed into the circulation and vessels. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 322 The pustules..contain a perfect Small-pox virus. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 165 In consequence of the virus being absorbed into the circulation and vessels. 1838 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 79 It should never be forgotten that it is the virus which infects the system. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 602 Possibly there is some virus acting on the nerve-centres.

*attrib.* 1860 W. T. FOX in *Trans. Obstetr. Soc.* II. 220 The general symptoms being the result of virus action. *Ibid.* 228 This latter action is alike common to all forms of virus disease.

3. *fig.* A moral or intellectual poison, or poisonous influence.

1798 WYE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 317 Venice is a stink-pot, charged with the very virus of hell! 1807 SOUTHEY *J. C. White* 12 As if there were not enough of the leaven of infidelity in our natures, without inoculating it with this dilutement—this vaccine virus of envy. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Shaks. Notes* (1875) 189 The corrosive virus which Iago pours into words with a view not its own. 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* (1885) 239 The clerical virus would have lingered in the system.

4. Violent animosity; virulence.

1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. *Mem.* iv. 360 Two classes of men, however, he did hate with especial relish and virus.

† **Vis**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vis-us* sight, f. ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see.] Vision, sight.

*c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 34 If a mane lufe anopher whilke es a bestes lik despyris pe ryghte presence for to hafe pe vys of his lufe and his likynge..Pare-fore we may noghte hafe pe vis of His lufe here in fulfilling.

‖ **Vis** (vis), *sb.*[2] Pl. **vires** (vəi·rēz). [L. *vis* (pl. *vires*).]

1. Strength, force, energy, vigour.

*c* 1630 T. GOODWIN *Serm.* Wks. 1681 I. III. 39 [Christ] Who then must be the immediate Uniter, by his own *Vis* or Power exerted in it. 1690 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 102 There is a certain vis, a power infused into the soul. 1788 *Tryffer* No. 17. 231 Charmed with the prospect which the vis of combined effects presented to him, he resolved to investigate the springs of action. 1882 DR. J. BROWN *John Leach*, etc. 183 His verses..had more imaginative *vis*, more daintiness of phrase [etc.]. 1888 ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. v. 200 There is no *vis* and there is also no learning, among them [tr. Reformers], out of Germany. 1907 F. T. FORSYTH *Positive Preaching* v. 163 The great moral *vis* of the Reformation subsided into the renewed intellectualism of the seventeenth century dogmatists.

2. In special collocations with other Latin words. In addition to those illustrated below, various others are or have been in use, as *vis acceleratrix*, *centrifuga*, *centripeta*, *impressa*, *insita*, etc. A number of these appear in dictionaries from about 1700 onwards.

a. *Vis major*, such a degree of superior force that no effective resistance can be made to it.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 599 Hailes, stormes of wind and raine, and such like impressions of the aire, which whensoever they doe light, are termed by the Lawyers, *Vis major*, *i.* the greater violence. 1866 LD. BLACKBURN in Hurlstone & Coltman *Rep.* IV. 571 He can excuse himself by shewing that..the escape was the consequence of vis major or the act of God.

b. *Vis inertiæ*, the resistance naturally offered by matter to any force tending to alter its state in respect of rest or motion; also *transf.*, tendency on the part of persons, etc., to remain inactive or unprogressive.

1706 [see INERTIA 1]. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s. v., This *Vis Inertiæ* is no where more conspicuous, than in the sudden Motion of a Vessel full of Liquor upon a Horizontal Plane. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. *Mem.* iv. i. § 6, 31 Matter is a mere passive thing, of whose very essence it is, to be endued with a *Vis inertiæ*. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. i. 329 Not so much from the dulness of the quantity of powder that takes fire in that case as to the *vis inertiæ* of the generated fluid. 1836 I. TAYLOR *Phys. The. Another Life* iii. 32 The power of the mind in overcoming the *vis inertiæ* of matter.

*transf.* 1755 CHESTERF. *Let. to Bp. of Waterford* 26 June, Writing seems to be another *vis inertiæ* which will not suffer me to undertake. 1780 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1858) VII. 405 By the time absolute power is attained, it will.. be chaining in speculation, but prove to be nothing but the *vis inertiæ*. 1818 *Edin. Rev.* XX. 318 Such is the *vis inertiæ* which strengthens the subject in repelling the aggressions of his rulers. 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Mech. Archit.* vii. I. 272 There is a *vis inertiæ* in Art which is not easily overcome.

c. *Vis viva*, the operative force of a moving or acting body, reckoned as equal to the mass of the body multiplied by the square of its velocity.

1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) III. 5/2 The *vis viva*, or absolute apparent strength of the stroke. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 229 The proposition on which the whole theory of the *vis viva* is actually founded. 1867 SIR W. THOMSON *Mech. & Phys. Papers* (1882) I. 107 Notes on Hydrodynamics. On the *Vis-viva* of a liquid in motion. 1870 *Lond. etc. Philos. Mag.* Sept. 210 But a spin was produced during the efflux has been transformed into heat. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* App. 546 The vis viva of vibration depends upon the force of the stroke.

d. *Vis vitæ*, vital force.

1758 *Gentl. Mag.* 67/1 All medicines whatever, which tend to lessen the *vis vitæ*, are pernicious. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 385 A purgency, entirely peculiar, accompanied the smell; and appeared to lessen the *vis vitæ* in a manner, different from any thing, which I had ever experienced before.

e. *Vis a fronte*, a force operating from in front (as in attraction or suction). *Vis a tergo*, a force operating from behind; a propulsive force.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 15 Hence arose another hypothesis, which ascribed the propulsive power to a progressive *vis a tergo*. 1825 *Phil. Mag.* LXV. 31 If the arteries of extreme arteries..operate by a kind of suction, which may be regarded as a *vis a fronte*. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Psychol.* (ed. 2) II. 14 In the case of a wound, the diminished *vis a tergo* and of the arterial degeneration may, in some cases, be alone sufficient to cause arrest of the circulation.

† **Vis**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Arbitrary shortening of VISIT *sb.*; see first quot.] A short visit or call.

1754 *World* No. 62 P8 When a fine gentleman chuses to signify his intention of making a short Visit..I am for an abridgment of the word, and only calling it a *Vis*. *Ibid.* P9, I may observe..that the Vis seems to be chiefly confined within the bills of mortality. 1807 SOUTHEY *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 562 If you could make me a *visis*, at least make me a *vis*, if you can, before your return to Swansea.

Hence † **Vis** *v. trans.*, to pay a short visit to. (Cf. VIZ *v.*) *Obs.*

1754 *World* No. 62 P8 Lady Changeherfriend's compliments to Lady Fiddlefaddle, and intends to Vis her ladyship this evening.

† **Vis**, *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare.* Abbreviation of VIS-A-VIS 1. Also *attrib.*

1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 276 The Vis Landau will be the fashionable vehicle among the Members of the Whip Club. 1814 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 9 April, In utter contempt of a hackney-coach and vis-à-vis, both of which were deemed necessary for our conveyance.

**Vis**, var. VICE *sb.*[3]; obs. f. VIBS; obs. Sc. f. WISE *sb.* and *a.* **Vis.**, abbrev. f. VISCOUNT.

‖ **Visa** (vi·zä), *sb.* [F. *visa*, a. L. *visa*, fem. pa. pple. of *vidēre* to see.] = VISE *sb.*

1831 *Edin. Rev.* LIV. 200 No trust whatever..can be placed in the simple certificate given by conscience.. Beyond this..its *visa* does not reach. 1859 B. JERROLD *Life D. Jerrold* 309 On going to the Austrian Consul in London for the visa of my father's passport. 1885 *Field* 4 April 439/1 We had hoped to..return through Finland, but were unable to obtain the Russian visa at Stockholm. 1898 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 5/2 Notification of the witness list was made yesterday to the Parquet, which began by refusing its visa.

Hence **Vi sa** *v. trans*, to visé Also **Vi'saed** *ppl. a.*

1847 WEBSTER s.v. *Visé*, Hence, travelers speak of getting their passports *visaed* 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Commerce* 1509/2 For each passport so *visaed* 1876 *Western Daily Mail* 2 Mar. 3/2 For want of the same readily visaed passport.

**† Vi sable,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. VISE *v* + -ABLE.] Able to plan or act wisely.

*c* 1440 LOVELICH *Merlin* ix. 9544 [They] seiden he was a worthy knyht, vaylliaunt & vysable in every fyht.

**Visage** (vi zedʒ), *sb* Forms. 4–6 **vysage** (4 **fysage**), **visage**, 4– **visage** (4, 5 *Sc.*, **wisage**, **wysage**), 5 **visache**, 6 **visadge**, 6 *Sc* **visag** (**wisag**), **vissage**, 4 **vysege**, **fisego**, 5 **fysesge**, 5 **vesage**, **-ysge**, *Sc.* **vesage**, 6 *Sc.* **vesaige**. [a. AF and OF. (also mod ? *visage*, = Sp *visage*, *visaje*, Pg *visagem*, It *visaggio*, f L. *vis* as face (cf. VIS *sb*[1]) see -AGE.]

**1.** The face, the front part of the head, of a person (rarely of an animal).

1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 5887 He hydde hys vysege al pat he myyt, Out of knowlych of here syyt 13 *Cursor Mund* 827 'schir gladd' pan hymself in pe vysage. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 14 Forhede, visage, and browes *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1101 Pe bond pat is bypaȝt pat vysage was bounde wyþ *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy* 141 Ioreten of pe forme of pe visage. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 141 Pen had his Vsapa-yan a maleuy yn hys vysage. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IX. 230 They scratched theyr vysages & pulled theyr heeres. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron. II.* 456 He was sore hurt in the bodye and in the visage 1588 SHAKS. *1, 2, 3* v. ii. 344 Vpon the next occasion that we meete, With Visages displayd to talke and greete 1632 J. POPE in Ellis *Orig. Lett Ser.* II III 272 One out of the house discharged halle shot upon Mr Atturnes sonnes face, which putifully mangled his visage 1633 W. RANKENY *Astrol. Restored* 297 Rubbing their feet about their visage and head, whence the vulgar usually say at such times, the cat washeth her face. 1638 DENHAM *Sophy* 146 If he

1814 Scott *Wav.* lxi, Waverley..found himself in the desired vehicle, *vis-à-vis* to Mrs. Nosebag. 1841 Mrs. Mozley *Lost Brooch* II. xx. 142 Only too well pleased to find myself once again *vis a vis* to Constance Duff. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* xxi, Lothair was there vis-à-vis with Miss Arundel.

Hence **Vis-à-vis** *v.* ; **Vis-à-visness.**

1839 Lever *H. Lorrequer* vi. The hissing kettle on the hob was *vis à vis'd* by a gridiron with three newly-taken trout. 1887 E. Gurney *Tertium Quid* I. 371, I doubt whether it would involve anything like the sense of vis-à-vis-ness or parallelism, suggested to me now by such a phrase as 'posited myself in space'.

**Visc.**, abbrev. form of Viscount.

**Viscacha** (viskɑ·tʃă). Also 8 **viscasho**, 8–9 **viscacha**, 9 **viscacha**, **vischacha**. [a. Sp. *viz-cacha* (also *biscacha*), ad. Quichuan (*h*)*viscacha*. Hence also *F. vicaque*.] One or other of two large burrowing rodents of South America, related to the chinchilla.

**a.** The *Lagidium cuvieri*, inhabiting the upper Andes from Chili to Ecuador ; the Alpine viscacha.

1604 E. G[imstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. xxxviii. 314 There are other small animals which they call Viscachas, and are like to hares, although they be bigger. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 376 Allied to this [Cape Hare] seems the *Viscachas*, or *Vachas*, mentioned by Acosta and Feuillée, in their accounts of Peru. 1801 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. i. 209 *Viscacia*...This species is said to have the general appearance of a Rabbet. 1811 W. Walton *Perav. Sheep* 175 They afford furs and ornamental skins,..particularly the *viscacha*, which is a species of rabbit. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 76 The general colour of the viscacha of the western declivities of the Peruvian Andes is grayish ash, clouded here and there with a tint of brown. 1879 E. P. Wright *Animal Life* (Cassell) 196 The Alpine Viscacha (*Lagidium cuvieri*) inhabits the lofty Andes of Chili, Bolivia, and Peru.

**b.** The *Lagostomus trichodactylus* of the southern Argentine pampas.

1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* II. 26 The Viscacha (*Lagostomus trichodactylus*) is about the size of a rabbit. 1845 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 464 The Viscacha..inhabits the great plains of Buenos Ayres, where it digs burrows for itself. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 111, 138 The Viscacha lives on the Pampas from Buenos Ayres to the borders of Patagonia.

So **Viscache.** *rare*—.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 373 In the viscache the squamous portion of the temporal bone is..deeply indented.

**† Viscate,** *ppl. a. Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *viscāt-us*: cf. next and Inviscate *v.*] Invisicated.

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 136 Pike blood is not viscat in be substaunce of dure matiria, as pe matier is in empoymes.

**Viscated,** *ppl. a.* [f. L. *viscāt-us*, pa. pple. of *viscāre*, f. *viscus*, *viscum* birdlime.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram 1, *Viscated*, taken with Bird-lime. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Viscated*, dressed, or taken with Birdlime.

**‖ Viscera** (vi·sĕră), *sb. pl.* [L., *viscera* internal organs, pl. of *viscus* Viscus 2. Cf. It. *viscere*, Sp. and Pg. *visceras*, F. *viscères*.]

1. *Anat.* The soft contents of the principal cavities of the body ; *esp.* the internal organs of the trunk ; the entrails or bowels together with the heart, liver, lungs, etc.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 174 Exhausting the stock of aliment from the *vasa* and *viscera*. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 545 Also lifting up the Viscera of the lower Belly. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 111 For in the Intestines, the Seat of the Complaint is most commonly in the Viscera. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 83 [It is] to keep them from touching the abdominal viscera of this animal. 1820 *Med. Trnl.* V. 502 Instancing its powerful effects in obstructions of the viscera, especially in liver cases. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 29 Great stress is laid on the case of the viscera, animal or vegetable liver is generally immersion in proportion to their other viscera. 1878 W. H. Dall *Later Prehi. Man* 18 The viscera had evidently been removed, but the muscular and cutaneous tissues were in tolerable preservation.

**† b.** *fig.* = Bowel *sb.*1 3. *Obs.*

1652 N. Culverwel *Treat.* ii. vi. (1661) 141 Do you think now that God will trust these with his more special mercies, with his viscera and tender mercies ?

2. *transf.* The interior ; the inner parts : = Bowel *sb.*1 4.

1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Messiah Synt.* 41 If the Atheist will venture himself into the Bowels or Viscera or Bowels of the Earth. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 210, I dived into the viscera of Newgate-market.

**Visceral** (vi·sĕrăl), *a.* [ad. med.L. *visceralis* (Du Cange) internal, f. *viscera*: see prec. So Of. *viscéral* (fig.), F. *viscéral*, Sp. *visceral*, It. *viscerale.*]

**† 1. a.** Affecting the viscera or bowels regarded as the seat of emotion ; pertaining to, or touching deeply, inward feelings. *Obs.*

1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 117 Thys warre is called Viscerall, for that it is bredde and begon in the hearte, and disclouteth and taken ende in the hearte. 1626 T. H[awkins] tr. *Caussin's Holy Court* 388 He is united to all men, as oftentymes as they receyve him, by a visceral transfusion of himselfe, as one should melt one waxe with another. 1627 Donne *Serm.* (1640) 285 Christ here sends Paracletum in a more entire and a more internall and more Visceral sense—a Comforter. 1642 Br. Reynolds *Passions* xi. 109 Love is of all other the inmost and most visceral affection ; and therefore called by the apostle, 'Bowels of love'.

**† b.** *fig.* Lying in the entrails or inward parts. 1624 Donne *Serm.* xvii. (1640) 167 There is the land of Gold, centricall Gold, visceral Gold, gremiall Gold, Gold in the Matrice and womb of God.

2. *Phys.* Of disorders or diseases : Affecting the viscera or internal organs.

1752 Mrs. Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 500 The Lebanon pool is famous for having wrought many cures..even in visceral obstructions and indigestion. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* II. 919 A spring..much frequented for visceral disorders. 1866 Smith *Engineers* III. 247 Disease also fell upon him,—first fever, and then visceral derangement. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 288 The visceral lesions and cachexiæ which supervene on ague.

3. *Anat.* Of or pertaining to, consisting of, situated in or among, the viscera.

1846 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxxviii. IV. 62 The *bronchiæ* may be considered as consisting in general of visceral ones which enter the cavity of the body, and are lost amongst the viscera and the caul (etc.). 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 259 The lost art of petrified visceral monstrosities seen at the medical schools. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xix, In the sub-kingdom vertebrata..visceral systems exist in specialized and differentiated forms. 1882 Bastian *Brain* 34 Such communicating branches are especially numerous in the course of the visceral nerves.

b. *Visceral cavity*, that part of an animal body in which the viscera are contained.

1846 Dana *Zoogh.* (1848) II A visceral cavity closed below. 1851 S. F. Woodward *Mollusca* I. 31 Sea-water is admitted to the visceral cavity of many of the mollusks by minute canals. 1862 Duncan *Insect World* Introd. 11 It is the unoccupied portions of the great visceral cavity which serve as conductors to the blood.

4. Pertaining to the viscera of animals used as a means of divination.

1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poems 1850 I. 161, I...taught what sign Of visceral lightness, coloured to a shade, May charm the genial gods. 1861 Col. Hawker in C. E. Bylee *Life & Lett.* (1905) xvii. 362, I have visceral augury.

5. *Anat. a. Visceral layer*, a portion of the arachnoid membrane.

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. p. xlvii, The malleus of Manalia...being developed out of the paraxial elements of the first visceral arch. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* i. (1873) 5 These arches are separated by temporary apertures termed 'visceral clefts'. 1875 Sir W. Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 831/1 Immediately below each maxillary lobe four arches, called branchial or visceral, arise in the ventral aspect of the head.

Hence **Vi·scerally** *adv.* (In quot. *fig.*)

*a* 1636 C. FitzGeffery *Comp. tow. Captivez* iii. (1637) 38 Then shall your compassion extend it selfe more viscerally towards your afflicted brethren.

**Vi·scerate,** *v. rare.* [f. Viscera + ate 3, after *eviscerate.*] *trans.* To eviscerate, disembowel. Also *fig.*

1797 Bailey (vol. II), *Viscerated*, having the Bowels taken out. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 53 A butcher was employed one evening to viscerate a mare. 1830 *Examiner* 593/1 A vain pretender, who..foils a victim to his temerity and is dissected ;—viscerated to the edification of the profession.

**Visceration.** *rare*—. [ad. L. *visceriātio*, f. *viscera* Viscera.] (See quots.)

1623 Cockeram 1, *Visceration*, a dole of raw flesh. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (after Cooper), *Visceration*...good chear, a dole or distributing raw flesh at the death of rich men, or when beasts are killed ; also the garbage that Hunters give their Dogs.

**Viscero-** (vi·sĕro), combining form, on Greek models, of L. *viscera* Viscera, employed in anatomical terms, as *viscero-branchial*, *-pericardial*, *-pleural* (*-pleuric*), adjs. Also **viscerotopic**s *Path.* (see quot. 1897).

The more correct combining form *visceri-* is given in some dictionaries, as *visceri-cardial*, etc.

1883 J. Richardson in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 665/1 The pericardium is extended so as to form a very large sac passing among the viscera dorsal wards..the viscero-pericardial sac. *Ibid.* 679/2 The visceral nerves of the viscero-pleural ganglionic chain. 1884 Bowne & Scott *Huxley & Martin's Biol.* i. 108 *Vivero-motor nerves* ; seen to arise from both sympathetic and lumbo-sacral plexus for distribution to the pelvic viscera. 1887 A. W. Hedmann in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 613/1 A third great sinus, the viscero-branchial vessel. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 589 The names enteroptosis or visceroptosis have been applied to cases in which various abdominal organs have become displaced from their normal positions. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 11 In other cases the symptoms are due to visceroptosis.

**† Viscerose,** *a. Obs.*—1 [-ose 1.] = next.

1690 J. Edwards *Demonstr. Exist. God* II. (1696) 83 This viscerose sort of flesh is most suitable..to those vessels and parts of the body which are composed of it.

**† Viscerous,** *a. Obs.* [f. Viscer-a + -ous.] Of the nature of, resembling that of, the viscera.

1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* xliv, It [fumitory] prevaileth in Chronicall diseases arising from stoppings of the viscerous parts. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., Viscerous flesh or the flesh of the Bowels. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Flesh*, The Antients made five different kinds of Flesh : 1. The third, Viscerous, as the Flesh of the Stomach and Intestines.

**Viscid** (vi·sid), *a.* [ad. late L. *viscid-us*, f. L. *viscum* birdlime (see Viscous *a.*). Hence also Of. *viscide*, It. *viscido.*]

1. Of fluid or soft substances : Having a glutinous or gluey character ; sticky, adhesive, ropy. (Cf. Viscous *a.* 1.)

1635 Swan *Speculum Mundi* (1644) 69 Some are watery and sulfurous, others viscid and oily humours. 1657 *Physical Dict., Viscid phlegm*, clammy tough phlegm, roping like birdlime. 1672 Grew *Anat. Roots* i. iii. § 21, I call it a Balsame;..Yet not a Turebinth ; because, nothing near so viscid or tenaceous as that is. 1748 *Loud. & Country Brew.* i. (ed. 4) 46 By which the spirituous Particles are set loose and free from their viscid Confinements. 1777 Forster *Voy. round World* I. 104 Whenever we leaned any of them, they disgorged a quantity of viscid food. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 131, I could not see the surface [of the ulcer] for a very viscid discharge, which adhered to it like mucus. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 268 In persons who die of phthisis, the bile in the gall-bladder..is often very dark-coloured, and viscid. 1875 Darwin *Insectiv. Pl.* i. 13 The secretion from the glands is extremely viscid.

2. Of surfaces : Covered with a glutinous or sticky secretion. Chiefly *Botan.* of leaves.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 182 *Viscid, Clammy* ; when they are smeared over with a fine matter that is not fluid but tenacious, sticky. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Viscidum*, A Viscid or clammy leaf. 1812 *New Bot. Guide* I. 42 The panicle is upright and viscid. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 422 Head..covered with large and hard plates, or a viscid skin. 1870 Hooker & Ball *Morocco* 207 *Senecio viscosus* : annual, glandular-pubescent, viscid. 1874 Lubbock *Wild Flowers* iii. 164 Close behind the stigma is a projection which terminates in a very viscid disk.

**Viscidity** (visi·diti). [f. prec. + -ity. Cf. obs. F. *viscidité* (16th c.).]

1. The quality of being viscid ; glutinousness, stickiness, ropiness.

1611 Cotgr., *Viscidité*, viscidities ; viscosities. 1658 Phillips, *Viscidity or Viscosity*, a tenuminous or sticking to any thing like glue or bird lime. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 100 The Sulphur by its viscidity, does..sweeten the pungency of the Salt. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 189 Then we must dilute the Viscidity of the Humours if it be sizy. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 170 Salmon..offends the Stomach by its Viscidity. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 30 The density, viscidity, and other qualities of this matter. 1838–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 101/2 The viscidity of the solution of sugar ..is very little above that of pure water. 1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 469 Castor-oil has a pale amber-color,.. and is quite viscid. Cold increases the viscidity.

2. A collection or accumulation of viscid humours ; viscid matter or substance.

*c* 1720 Gibson *Farrier's Guide* ii. xxxix. (1738) 144 The cure consists in all those things that are proper to destroy the Viscidities in the Bowels. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 193 For by this means all Viscidities in the Blood will be diluted. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. 107 The parts of the fluid rubbing against each other, destroy all viscidities. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. II. 237/1 They must have honey, sugar, and viscidities. Dante, Petrarch, different as they are, equally avoided these sweetnesses.

**Vi·scidize,** *v. rare.* [f. Viscid *a.* + -ize.] *intr.* To become viscid.

1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 437 It viscidizes in the solution used for washing the true copal. 1876 —*Gorilla* I.. II. 56, I was assured that it does not viscidize in the potash-wash.

**Vi·scidly,** *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] In a viscid manner.

1841 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 83 Plant fetid, ..all over viscidly pubescent.

**Vi·scidness.** [-ness.] = Viscidity.

1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 218 Honey..from its Viscidness, digesteth and heateth. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* L. 876, I have already observed, that Cassia is found in chewing to have a viscidness, which Cinnamon has not.

**Viscidness,** obs. form of Viscidity.

**Viscin** (vi·sin). *Chem.* [a. F. *viscin* (Macaire), f. L. *viscum* birdlime (see Viscous *a.*) + -in.] A substance which forms the main constituent of birdlime, chiefly obtained from the berries and other parts of the mistletoe.

1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 917 The berries, yield to alcohol a brown extractive matter, soluble in water, which smells like viscin. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 19/1 Mistletoe..contains sugar,..and a peculiar, very sticky substance, viscin. Viscin is also contained in a few other plants.

**Vi·scoid,** *a. rare*—1. [-oid.] Of a viscid or viscous nature.

1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 55 A glacier moves like a fluid, though a very stiff, viscous-fluid : its motion may therefore be rightly called viscoid.

**Visco·meter,** variant of Viscosimeter.

1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Viscometer*, a standard measurer for ascertaining the viscosity of oils for cotton-mill and other spindles.

**† Viscontal,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. *viscont* Viscount.] Of or pertaining to a viscount.

1728 J. Clerk in *Bibl. Topogr. Brit.* (1790) III. 71 What you write of the Viscontal seal, found in an urn with bones.

**Viscontiel,** variant of Viscontiel *a.*

1798 *Rep. Comm. Ho. Comm.* (1803) XIII. 107 The Rents whereof (called Viscontiel Rents) are in the Collection of the Sheriffs of the several Counties, Cities, and Towns in England. 1865 H. Cox *Instit.* II. vii. 684 The second consisting of certain rents called viscontiel rents, or rents for which the sheriffs were accountable.

**Visco·se,** *sb.* [f. L *viscum* birdlime + -OSE 2.] A special form of cotton pulp, applied to various industrial purposes.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 April 8/2 A..contract for sacks in this new cotton pulp, to which the name of viscose is given.

† **Viscose,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *viscōs-us*: see VISCOUS a.] Viscid, viscous.

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 33 (Addit. MS.), Synwys by kynde bub nesche and viscose. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 78, It avoide sowerauly ventosmes, and wonderfully puttep out viscose fleume & putrified. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 The nature of a passyon of ire or fylthy pleasure of the body is so viscose & cleuynge, that harde it is for a beginner in perfeccyon to put it away whan he wolde. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), Viscose, clammy, sticky, glewy. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 224 A viscose matter, like that which is seen on fish newly caught, issues from them.

**Viscosi·meter.** [f. L. *viscōs-us* VISCOUS a.: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring the viscosity of liquids.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1003 *Viscosimeter*. This name is given by Dollfus to an apparatus for measuring the viscosity of colouring liquids thickened with gum, &c. 1882 CROOKES *Dyeing & Tissue-Printing* 381 To test the strength of a sample, it is dissolved in water,..and tested with the viscosimeter.

**Viscosity** (viskɒ·sĭti). Also 5–6 **viscosite,** 6 **-ty,** 6–7 **-tie.** [a. OF. *viscosite* (F. *viscosité*) or ad. med. L. *viscōsitās*, f. L. *viscōs-us* viscous: see -ITY. So It. *viscosità*, Sp. *viscosidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

**1.** The quality or fact of being viscous; viscidity.

*a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 65 Hole with his dryues and viscosite consumip be moistenes. *c* 1530 *Judic. Urines* tit. vi. 50 b, Suche maner of froth sheweth alway more viscosite..of humours in the body than doyth any other maner of froth. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phisorav.* III. iv. 9 It taketh awaie the viscositie in the Stomacke, and openeth the powres. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 80 The Liuer..by a little inferiour.., by reason of some viscosity in it. 1669 HOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* ii. (1682) 140 That liquor is very thin, and hath no viscosity to resist the pervading body. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 31 Rarity is nothing but a Privation of Density,.. Friability of Viscosity. 1733 CHEYNE *Engl. Malady* iii. iv. (1734) 304 The phlegm in the Glands ..is nothing but the Viscosity of the Serum of the Blood. 1771 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) I. 190 To dissolve a general lentor and viscosity of the whole mass of fluids. 1821 W. F. G. BARTON *Hora M. Aurorae* I. 65 The extreme viscosity of its pubescence, has caused it to receive the specific name it bears. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 245 The resistances due to the viscosity of the blood in the arteries.

*fig.* 1662 M. W. *Marriage-Breaker* v. i, So I, by my viscosity, Labouring for life in love-lime [am] drown'd in Cupid's gall-pot. 1901 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 825/1 Vehicular traffic...will..block itself from its inherent viscosity.

*attrib.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 461 The determination of the viscosity coefficient of the blood.

**b.** *Magnetic viscosity*, tendency on the part of a magnetic medium to retard the magnetizing force.

1892 *Electrical Engineer* 16 Sept. 287/1 Up to the frequency tried—*i. e.*, about 125 per second—there is no sign of magnetic viscosity; the magnetic cycle is unaffected [such.

**2.** A viscous substance; a collection of viscous matter. Cf. VISCIDITY 2.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 56 Linesede oyle, or oyle of fenegreke, or the viscosite of holioke, and suche other. 1597 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Chirurg.* xlv. 89 When the stomacke is burthened with anye cruditye of vndigested meat or drincke, or with anye other viscosyte whatsoeuer. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* ii. 80 As observable in drops of syrup, yole and seminall viscosities. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 143 It openeth obstructions, and purgeth viscosities of the stomack and bowells. 1696 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 297 These Viscosities depend on Heat. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 493 The sand ..has, by the means of a tenacious viscosity infiltrated by the sea, become so hard, as to become stone.

**Viscount** (vai·kount). Forms: *a.* 3–6 **viscounte** (4 **vescownte**), 5– **viscount** (6 **viscont**). *β.* 5 **vycounte, vicounte, vicound,** 6 *Sc.* **vecount,** 6–8 **vicount** (7 **vicont**). [*a.* AF. *vesc-, viscounte* (*-cunte, -conte*), OF. *viscomte, vicomte* (F. *vicomte*), *l. vic-* VICE- + *comte* COUNT *sb.*2, after med. L. *vicecomes* of VICECOUNT. So It. *vicconte*, Pg. *visconde*, Sp. *visconde.*]

**1.** *Hist.* One acting as the deputy or representative of a count or earl in the administration of a district; in English use *spec.* a sheriff or high sheriff.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 37 The erle Pictaveuse ..rauesched his owne viscountes wyf. *Ibid.* 169 Oon Wydomarus, viscounte of Lemouik ..foond greet tresour of gold. *?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1984 Sir Valyant of Vyleris.. made sicke answere, To vesquyre by victorie the vescownte of Rome! 1484 CAXTON *Fayttes* 23 Kynges oughte to haue vnder them dukes, Erles, vycountes and other lordes. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 289 Otho..pursued after yᵉ vauntgarde of the kyng of Fraunce, which were capitayns yᵉ vicounte of Mylyon, and one named fryer Garny. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 113 The Vicount of Melun, a verye noble man of the realme of Fraunce. 1579 *Lambarde Peramb. Laws* 181 b, Viscount is a magistrate, and officer, of great authority whom wee commonly call (Sheriffe). 1630 WADSWORTH *Pyrs. Estate Spain* 92 Vicountes of Spayne, and the value of their Lordships, of which they are Vicounts. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Viscount*,..*Vicount*, signifies as much as Sheriff. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* iii. 42 All the freeholders assembled under the viscount or sheriff. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 302 Neal, the valiant Viscount of the district.

*transf.* 1611 COTGR., *Vicomptier*, of a Viscount, Viscountlike.

**b.** In the island of Jersey: (see quots.).

1694 FALLE *Jersey* ii. 65 Before whom rideth the Viscount, or Sheriff, with his Staff of Office erected, one End thereof on the Pommel of his Saddle. 1882 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* iv. xxiii. 595 In Jersey there is an officer called Vicomte, or Viscount, who represents the High Sheriff of an English county.

**2.** A member of the fourth order of the British peerage, ranking between an earl and a baron. Occas. contracted *Visc.*, *Visct.*

This use of the title dates from the reign of Henry VI, when John, Baron Beaumont, was created Viscount Beaumont by letters patent of 14th February, 1440.

1450 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 180/2 Notwithstondying that Viscountes were not crecte nor create, in the tyme of..oure Fadre. 1475 *Gentlm. Bewchyp* [a Duke or Northfolke, he Erle of Warwyk, Lord Facounbryge, & Vicound Bowser. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 25 b, Fraunces lorde Louell was then made Viscount Louell, and the kynge his chamberlain. *Ibid., Hen. VIII*, 190 The kyng .. created the vicount Rochforth Earle of Wilshire, and the vicount Fitzwater was created Earle of Sussex. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 111, A Knight would be a Baronet, and then a Lord, and then a vicount, and then an Earle. 1631 MILTON *Ep. M. Wm.* 3 The honour'd Wife of Winchester, A Viscounts daughter, an Earls heir. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Oct. 1664, I went with my Lord Visct. Cornebury to Cornebury in Oxfordshire. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 385 All peerages therefore are not of equal antiquity. The lowest now in use are dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, and barons. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 369/2 Peers of the Realm:..the persons who enjoy this dignity in succession are dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, and barons. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 180 The privilege of wearing Coronets was accorded to Viscounts by James the First.

**3.** In Continental usage: The son or younger brother of a count.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxviii, The postillion who drove us [to Waterloo] was a *Viscount*, a son of some baronial house. [*mod.* in Foreign Peerages.

**Viscountcy** (vai·kountsi). [f. prec. + -CY.] The title, dignity, or rank of a viscount.

1868 *Daily News* 6 July, He exchanges a barony in the peerage of Ireland..for a viscountcy, the fourth order in the peerage of the United Kingdom. 1884 *Lpool Mercury* 3 Mar. 5/1 Her Majesty has conferred the dignity of a viscountcy upon Sir Henry B. W. Brand. 1889 *Twin Soul* I. xvi. 169 Neither Baronetcy nor Viscountcy rewarded his zeal.

**Viscountess** (vai·kountĕs). [See VISCOUNT and -ESS. So F. *vicomtesse*, It. *viscontessa*, Sp. *vizcondesa*, Pg. *viscondessa.*]

**1.** The wife of a viscount; a peeress of the fourth order of nobility.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 134/1 Margaret Viscountesse Lisle, wyfe of the said Henry Bodrugan, which is a grete estate of this Reame. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxi. 80 b/2 The erle then and his wyfe..kneryinge the kynge to suffre his cosyn the vycountes to be in peas. 1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII*, c. 13. § 17 Any Chapeleyne of any Duches Marques Countesse Vycountesse or Baronesse. 1578 *Chr. Prospect in Priv. Prayers* (1851) 521 *The Viscountess.* Viscountesses I do not spare; For of them I have no care. 1643 *Decl. Lett. Patt. at Oxf.* (1837) 39 A Lease made..to the said Viscountesse of parcell of the lands. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2444/4 A Pursuivant, a Viscountess, Viscounts. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Viscount*, A Viscountess may have her Gown trained after her, as out of the Presence of her Superiors; and in their Presence by a Man. 1753 GRAY *Long Story* 134 Why, what can the Viscountess mean? 1805 in A. Duncan *Memoir* (1806) 333 His relict Lady Viscountess Nelson. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 317 Rather disappointed at this aspect of a viscountess's life. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz. Christchild* xiv. 211 Miss Disraeli became Viscountess Beaconsfield.

**2.** A particular size of slate.

1878 D. C. DAVIES *Slate & Slate Quarrying* 136 Princesses ..Duchesses ..Marchionesses..Countesses..Viscountesses 18×9..Ladies.

**Viscountial,** *a. rare.* [f. VISCOUNT + -IAL.] = VICONTIEL *a.*

1791 *Exp. Gazetteer* s.v. *Lincoln*, This city is a Co. of itself, and has a viscountial jurisdiction for 20 m. round.

† **Viscountry.** *Obs.*—[1] [-RY.] = next.

*a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westminster* II. (1662) 242 He forgot not his sister, Lord Verulam. A Viscountry that Kingdom and ended in him dying issu'eless.

**Vi·scountship.** Also 7 **viscount-.** [f. VISCOUNT + -SHIP.] The dignity of a viscount; a viscountcy.

1621 [see VISCOUNTY 2]. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 33 Concerninge the Devereuxes, in whom are included the Earldome of Essex and viscountshyp of Hereford. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 25 Crema was a long time under the Viscountship of Milan untill the year 1405. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* I. xii. 215 The few years of his Viscountship.

**Vi·scounty** (vai·kounti). Also 6–7 **viscountie,** 8 **-ty.** [f. VISCOUNT + -Y.] Cf. OF. *vis-, vicomté(z*, etc., F. *vicomté*, It. *viscontodo*, Sp. *viz-*, Pg. *viscondado*, and med.L. *vicecomitatus.*]

† **1.** A viscount. *Obs.*—1

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 133/2 From thense by lourneies he marched and went to Corke, being met in the waie by the viscounties of Roch and Barrie, and by sir Corman Mac Teege.

**2.** *Hist.* The office or jurisdiction of, the territory under the authority of, a viscount.

1621 COTGR., *Vice-comté*, a vicountie, a vicountship. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Viscounty*, the Territory of a Viscount; a sort of Lordship, or Jurisdiction in France; as The Viscounty of Turenne is very considerable. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 286 Caen has a provostship, a prevsidial, a vicounty, an office of the finances of the admiralty, and other royal tribunals. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 6 Mons. Colmar, a Jew, bought the seignory and estate, including the viscounty of Amiens, of the Duke of Chastines. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xviii. 288 The Viscounty of Dinan ..became..the heritage of a young lady. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. viii. 252 William was now at a point in Neal's own viscounty, at no great distance from his own castle. 1898 S. EVANS *Holy Grail* 46 Five brothers shared among them the viscounty of that city [Marseilles].

**3.** = VISCOUNTCY.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* lxxii, ' But the title ?' ' The Viscounty goes with the English property.' 1874 DIXON *Two Queens* xviii. vii. 111 In 1553 About the time when he received the viscounty of Rochford. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 10/2 His Majesty has..been pleased to confer the dignity of a Viscounty upon Lord Iveagh, K.P.

**Viscous** (vi·skŏs), *a.* Forms: 5– **viscouse,** 6 **vyscous,** 6– **viscous**; 6 **vys-, viscus.** [a. AF. *viscous* (Gower), or ad. L. *viscōsus* (cf. VISCOSE *a.*), f. *viscum* (also *viscus*) mistletoe, birdlime made from mistletoe-berries. Cf. F. *visqueux*, It., Sp., Pg. *viscoso.*]

**1.** Of substances: Having a glutinous or gluey character. Cf. VISCID *a.* 1.

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 33 Senewis bi kynde ben neische & viscouse. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 8 b, Flewme, ..thycke, viscouse lyke hyrde lyme and heuy. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xii. (1870) 264 The which is of an egge, hote and colde. 1547 — *Brev. Health* § 207 By eatynge of euyl & vyscus meates & euyl drinkes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 721 The fruit is..of a viscous or clammie substance. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. x. 39 He cast up from his stomacke all impurity, tough and viscous. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 58 A Nitt is an Egge glewed by some viscous matter to the sides of the hair it sticks to. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xviii. 120 Gossamere..is nothing else but the viscous misty vapour, furled up by the warm alteration of the Air. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philosophica* I. lx. 3 § 3 Oyl of Liquor like Turpentine. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 37 Some sustain, that the Chaos..was a mass of a certain kind of viscous or mucous water. 1804 IRISH *Geol.* 6 *Irel.* I. 207 Water and Mercury may be considered as among the most perfect fluids. Others as oil &c. are viscous or imperfect fluids. 1899 W. H. GARDINER *Egypt* 11 The rocky walls were black and sticky, and seemed to sweat a thick, fatty, viscous liquor. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 800 The blood drawn during life is thin and not viscous.

*transf.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 158 Contact with the abnormal surface sets up an immediate viscous metamorphosis of the platelets.

**b.** *Physics.* Imperfectly fluid; intermediate between solid and fluid; adhesively soft. Also used with abstract sbs. (as *state*, etc.).

(*a*) 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 2) xviii. 111. 683 The ice of a glacier is..supposed to be a plastic or viscous mass. 1865 HARING GRIFFITH *Cornwall* 17 The ridges of the molten [lava] stream cooling and resisting the tension of the still viscous centre. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xii. 261 The water converted into steam, blew out the viscous rock in such forms as we find. 1880 *Times* 1 Dec. 10 His researches on tidal retardation from the action of a satellite on a viscous planet.

(*b*) 1892 HUXLEY *Study Nat. Phil.* 223 The solid, liquid, and aeriform state, to which, perhaps, ought to be added the *viscous*, as a state intermediate between that of solidity and fluidity. 1893 *Nature* 29 June (1895) xviii. 196 57 Forbes' beautifully simple views of a viscous movement. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvi. 311 The inquiry as to what Professor Forbes really means by the term compounded the viscous theory. 1863 — *Heat* ii. § 34. (1870) 36 The viscous character of the space between the poles instantly disappears.

**2.** *fig.* Adhesive, sticky.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learning* II. xxiii. § 33. 100 These graue solemne wittes..haue more dignity then facilitie: But in some it is nature to bee somewhat viscouse and inwrapped, and not easie to turne. 1660 in *Hist. Miss.* (1699) I. 276 Our magistracy and judicatures..have..been intrusted in such viscous and birdlimed fingers.

**3.** *Bot.* Of leaves: = VISCID 2. 2.

1722 tr. *Purnell's Hist. Drreg.* I. 37 Leaves, like those of Linseed, but..more viscous. 1857 *A. Gray First Less. Bot.* Gloss., *Viscous*,..having a glutinous surface.

Hence **Vi·scously** *adv.*

1858 *Abney Photogr.* 55 Note if the collodion flows freely, viscously, or lumpily.

**Vi·scousness.** Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec.] The quality of being viscous; viscosity.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho., Sovle* 88 It is an erronlous opinion to thinke that Marle ..is to be knowen from other moulds by the fattiness, or viscousness thereof. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 238 The thickness and viscousnesse of Sulphur. 1674 GREW *Anat. Trees. Matter* v. ¶ 53 The very Cause of the said Viscousness of Phlegm, is chiefly some great Acidity in the Blood. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.*, *Viscosidad*, Viscousness, Clamminess. 1757 T. BIRCH *Hist. Royal Soc.* IV. 256 Dr. Lister..added, that holly might turn [into stone] suddenly by reason of its viscousness and tenacity.

† **Vi·scuous,** *a. Obs.* [Irreg. f. L. *viscum*, *-us* + -OUS.] Viscous.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 618 They testifie..a repletion of grosse, viscuous or slimy humours, and a great perturbation of the spirits within. 1653 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 135 When the Exhalation by reason of the want of viscuous matter is not enflamed. 1665 T. VAUGHAN *Euphrates* 24 It is even so with the World, for it was originally made of a seed, of a seminall viscuous Humidity or Water. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1977, I expected Water, but there was only a viscuous darkish Humour. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. ii. 8 The coldest and most viscuous Dungs or Soil, such as Cows-Dung. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 468 The albumen is a cold, viscuous, white liquor in the egg.

Hence **Vi·scuousness.**

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. (1658) 262 The solidness and viscuousness of the substance will not permit it to evaporate.

‖ **Vi·scous**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [app. a. L. *viscus* bird-lime, glue.] A soft viscous substance or mass.

1643 J. Stern tr. *Exp. Chymurg.* viii. 36 This following Viscus..incarnateth all sorts of corrupt ulcers. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 157 Snails taken alive shells and all, and pounded in a mortar till they become a perfect pap or *viscus*.

‖ **Viscous**[2] (vi·skŏs). *Anat.* [L. *viscus*, usually in pl. *viscera* Viscera.] One or other of the soft internal organs of the body.

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Liver*, a large glandulous Viscus, of a red sanguine Colour [etc.]. 1754–64 Smellie *Midwif.* I. 144 A tension of the part ensues affecting the nerves of that Viscus. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 238/1 it passes next behind the liver, through the great sinus of that viscus. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 236, I felt the bladder, and could puncture that viscus. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 208/2 In other parts of the body they assume various appearances peculiar to each viscus or organ. 1879 Spencer *Data Ethics* ii. 33 Imperfection of any viscus, as lungs, heart or liver.

*transf.* 1829 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 260 Sap or lymph.. must either be intermediately conveyed to some viscus proper to give it elaboration, or immediately distributed throughout the whole body of the plant.

**Visdamme**, obs. variant of Vidame.

**Visdome**, obs. Sc. form of Wisdom.

† **Vise**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. Vise *v.*] View, contemplation, regard.

*a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 66 Thus thys worlde bow moste despyse, And holy vertues haue in vyse.

**Vise**, *sb.*[2] *Coalmining.* Also ? **weyse.** [Of obscure origin. Cf. Veise.] (See quots.)

1671 G. Sinclair *Mic. Observ., Hydrostat.* (1683) 281 That which the coal-hewers term the vise, or some of them the weyse of the gae..which in effect is..but a dark vestige of the dipp or rise, that the body which now constitutes the gae, should have had originally, if it had been perfected. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 13 Your conductor, with the point of a pick, can open up a little of the vise or fissure in the pavement. *Ibid.* 14 The mine has been made in the vise or fissure of the slip. [See also Vestigia.] 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 *Veine, vees, vise*, the line of fracture of a fault or dyke.

**Vise**, var. (now usually *U.S.*) of Vice *sb.*[2] (see also *sb.*[1], etc.); obs. f. Viss; obs. Sc. f. Wise *sb.* (manner); obs. f. Wise *a.*

† **Vise**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 viss, 5 wyse, 5–6 vyse, 6 *Sc.* vyiss, wys. [Partly (1) aphetic f. of *avise* Advise *v.* or Devise *v.*: partly (2) a. OF. (mod.F.) *viser* :—pop.L. **visare*, f. *vis-*, ppl. stem of L. *videre* to see. Cf. Vice *v.*]

1. *trans.* To devise, contrive, make.

*c* 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 14 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 133 Pis day as leef we may be lift With alle pe murpes pat men may vise To reuele with pise buyrdes brift. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4686 Pe vise now pat-of [*Inc.* weld] vessell for vanyte & pride. *Ibid.* 5651 Pe names of all pe prouynces & pe places pat he was prince oure.. ware viseid all in versis in vnciall letters.

2. *refl.* To bethink oneself (*well* or *better*); = Advise *v.* 5.

*a* 1330 *Syr Degarre* 542 Nou I schal vise me bette. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 345 For-bi is gud 3e wyse 3ur wit & 3e tyne al vnfruitfull-e. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* (D.) 751 Pan ayres hym forth alexander & hys aynde takes..wyses hym how he say wald or he aunswer shuldes. *a* 1500 in *Rutit Raving*, etc. St. Text shu is shai, thar nayt is nay, Thai wysthaim weill, ore at thai say. *a* 1568 ? *This Warlikis joy*[1] in *Baunatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 202 Dreid God, do weill, o Seik weill at weill, and vyiss how to vsandir weil.

**b.** *trans.* To think of as useful or necessary.

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 196 Pen takis to him tresour & trusses in baggis..And obire necessari notis as nedis to his craftis, To sike salmary stangis as him self vyses.

**3.** To advise, counsel, direct (a person); = Advise *v.* 9.

*a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc. agst. Yng. Scolers* 297 Therfore I vyse you to forsake Of heresy the deuylysyke scoles. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* i. iv. (Arb.) 21 Well mocke maide of it, and keepe her well I vise ye. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Horses* (1600) 101 To trust all currant horse-coursers, I vise thee to beware.

**b.** With clause as object; = Advise *v.* 9 c.

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 98, I am content answerd the God, but in your place I vise For better end, that Pallas she do take the enterprise.

**4.** *intr.* To look *on* (something).

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1539/A vestoure to vise on of violet floures. *Ibid.* 3945 Pan come a fligtir in of fowls as fast as it dawid, To vise on as vowres a vermeon hewid.

**b.** To reflect *on*; to consider, contemplate.

1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 118 Within whose troubled head, such throange of thoughts doth rise, That now on this and then on that, I cease not oft to vise.

**5.** *trans.* To look at or regard attentively or closely; to observe. *rare.*

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* ii. 88 She loked smothely vpon him (the storye sayth) and he as gentylye vysed her agayne. *a* 1557 Aap. Parker *Ps. cxix.* 332 Inure my hart; I purpose yet all whole thy lawes to vyse.

Hence † **Vised** *ppl. a.*, = Advised *ppl. a.* 1; † **Vi·sing** *vbl. sb.*, advice, counsel.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Baptista*) 406 Scho gluetit hyme rycht ofte With wysing fare & wordis softe. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 130 Yf thou wolte largely lyue.. thre thyngis thou moste beholde...The thyrde that ye can be visidde, and see the Services and Merits of thy Subiectes.

**Vise**, obs. Sc. var. Wise *v.* (to direct).

‖ **Visé** (vĭzē·), *sb.* [F. *visé*, pa. pple. of *viser* to examine, view : see Vise *v.*] An entry or note on a passport, certificate, or other official document signifying that it has been examined and found correct; a formal official signature or entry of this nature: = Visa.

1898 Hawtrey *Sm. & St. Note-bks.* (1889) 36 The *visé* of a minister carries more weight than that of a consul. 1904 *Times* 26 Aug. 11/6 The..system..requires Consular visés and certificates for all exports to their country.

‖ **Visé** (vĭzē·), *v.* [See prec.] *trans.* To put a visé on (a passport or other document); to endorse or sign as correct and in due order.

1810 B. Silliman *Tyrnl. Trav.* (1820) III. 33 This passport had not been indorsed, 'visé' as they termed it. 1824 Borrow *Bible in Spain* viii, An officer, despatched, a soldier with me to the police office, that my passport might be viséed. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 24 Foreign vessels are bound to have their ship papers *visé'd* by the...Consular Agents. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 May 372/2 The information given to Intendente Viel, who visédd the cablegram.

*transf.* 1894 *Yale's Mag.* XXI. 166 The same ages vis'd other poets who wrote worse, and better.

**Viseire**, obs. form of Vizier.

† **Vi·sely**, *adv. Obs.*—[1] [Aphetic f. of *avisely* Advisedly *adv.*] Carefully, attentively, prudently.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* (1880) I. 380 Pe wiche clergye of seculer lordischipis pat is don bi menene hondis in fraude of pe kyngis statute be visely enquyred.

† **Vi·sement.** *Obs.* In 5–6 vyse-, vysment (5 *Sc.* vias-, wys-). [Aphetic f. of *avisement* Advisement; or directly a. OF. *visement* (rare) f. *viser* Vise *v.*] Consideration, deliberation, reflection, thought.

1414 *26 Pol. Poems* (1904) 58 Wip wit and vysement all anende. Lete werk be witnes 30 can 3oure Crede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 190 Pe first sawme muste be forthowt in thynkyng of þi synnes be-forn, wyth a full vysement, to bryngе hem to bi mynde. *c* 1500 *Debate Carpenters Tools* 25 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 80 Pese arte a fole in pi vysement For pou spekes without wysment. 1538 W. Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 353 And syne agane to him so said this king, Without lang vysment in so grit ane thing. *a* 1568 *The Gratious Quene* 85 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 242 With vertewous vysement counsall gude reasoun.

† **Vi·senage.** *Obs.*—[1] [Of obscure origin.] A term of abuse applied to a woman.

14.. *Douce MS.* 52 f. 20 b, Vysenage, bat evil must bowe the I° Quod Beryne to the damesell, & gan hir fray & feer.

**Visenomy**, obs. variant of Visnomy.

**Viser**, *n. rare.* [a. F. *viser* : see Visé *v.*] *trans.* = Visé *v.*

1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 105 At Tours, they refused..to viser our passports. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 3 July 5/2 The consulates are overwhelmed with applications to viser passports for the great Exhibition.

**Viser(e**, obs. forms of Visor *sb.*, Vizier.

† **Vi·sern**, *sb. Obs.* In 5 vy-, 5–6 viserne, 6 *Sc.* vis(a)orne (7 *Sc.* viserne). [Altered form of *viser* Visor *sb.*!] A visor or vizard. Also *fig.*

*c* 1400 *Antwrp. of Arth.* xxxii, Then he smatyde vppe his viserne [*Caxton* vernalle]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 A vy-serne, *larva*. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 30 b, Thus the very soome of God plucketh of the viserne from these wolues, and maketh them to appeare. 1581 R. Hill *Pref.* to Lee I see the pure flock in no less daunger nor it hes bene at ony time before, except that the Devill hes gottin a viserne vpon his face.

Hence † **Vi·sern** *v.*, † **Vi·serned** *ppl. a.*, = Visor *v.*, Visored *ppl. a.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 To vyserne, *larvare*. *a* 1598 Rollock *Serm.* ix. Wks. (1849) I. 406 All ar visorned folke: he cumis out, vnmaskit, all masked and disguysed.

† **Visevase.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 vyseuase. [a. obs. Du. and Flem. *vise-*, *viese-vase* (Kilian ; W. Flem. *viesevese*) phantom ; mod. Du. has *viesewas*, *-waas* prank, trick, grimace.] A vain or empty matter.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 To vyserne, *larvare*. *a* 1598 Rollock *Serm.* ix. Wks. (1849) I. 406 All ar visorned folke: he cumis out, vnmaskit, all masked and disguysed.

† **Visesae.** *Obs.*—[1] In 5 vyseuase. [a. obs. Du. and Flem. *vise-*, *viese-vase* (Kilian ; W. Flem. *viesevese*) phantom ; mod. Du. has *viesewas*, *-waas* prank, trick, grimace.] A vain or empty matter.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* ix. (Arb.) 8 Now maketh kyweet the hare a counte, and sayth that thyderin ne a vyseuase.]

† **Vi·sgee.** *Obs. rare.* Also ? *pr.* Vysgeis. [app. ad. Sp. and Pg. *fisga* in the same sense.] (See quot. 1620 and Fiziu 4.)

1593 *Sir R. Drake Revived* (1628) 45 Such poore weapons as they had, as a broken pointed Rapier, one old Visgee and a rustie Caliuer: John Drake took the Rapier, and.. Richard Allen the Visegee. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* in The Dolphins and Boniters are taken with seuerall instruments of Iron, which we call Vysgeis, in forme of an Eelespeare, but that the blades are round, and the poynts like vnto the head of a broad Arrow.

† **Visgeis.** *Obs. rare.* Also ? *pr.* Vysgeis. [app. ad. Sp. and Pg. *fisga* in the same sense.] (See quot. 1620 and Fiziu 4.)

1593 *Sir R. Drake Revived* (1628) 45 Such poore weapons as they had, as a broken pointed Rapier, one old Visgee and a rustie Caliuer: John Drake took the Rapier, and.. Richard Allen the Visegee. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* in The Dolphins and Boniters are taken with seuerall instruments of Iron, which we call Vysgeis, in forme of an Eelespeare, but that the blades are round, and the poynts like vnto the head of a broad Arrow.

**Vish**, obs. Sc. form of Wish.

**Vishnu** (vi·shnū). Also ? **Vistney**, 8 **Wistchnu**, 8–9 **Vishnoo**, **Vishnou**. [Skr. *Vishnu*, prob. f. the root *vish*, and meaning 'all-pervader' or 'worker' (Monier-Williams).] One of the principal Hindu deities, holding the second place in the great triad, but by his worshippers identified with the supreme deity and regarded as the preserver of the world.

1598 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 42 Bremaw..has power to create all other creatures. Vistney has order given to preserve them. 1763 Orme *Hist. Mil. Trans. Indostan* I. 182 That identical image of the god Wistchnu, which used to be worshipped by the god Brahma. *c* 1790 Sir W. Jones *Hymn to Nárdyenu* Wks. 1799 VI. 368 The evil beings, who are feigned to have sprung from the ears of Vishnu. *c* 1795 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 526/1 Many of these enthusiasts will throw themselves in the way of the chariots of Vishnou or Sheevah. *c* 1813 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Ch. Catech.* x. 72 At the foot of this tree was a little stone figure of Vishnou (that is, one of this country's gods). 1877 J. E. Carpenter tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 147 In the cultus of Krishna the worship of Vishnu reaches its climax.

**Vishnuism** (vi·shnūiz'm). [f. prec. + -ism.] The worship of Vishnu.

1872 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* 250 Veneration of holy footprints is not a peculiarly Buddhist idea, but is also found in other religions, and particularly in Vishnuism. 1875 Sir W. W. Hunter in P. E. Roberts *Life* xiii. (1901) 238 Brahma-worship..is a strange mixture of Vishnuism, Sivaism, and something much older. 1882 *Athenæum* 17 June 759/1 Prof. Weber's theory that Christianity shaped to a certain extent Vishnuism.

**Vishnuite** (vi·shnūit), [f. as prec. + -ite.] A worshipper of Vishnu ; an adherent of Vishnuism. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. 364 A Vishnuite who has inadvertently killed a monkey..may expiate his offence by a mock sacrifice. 1882 *Athenæum* 17 June 758/2 The great Civaite and Vishnuite systems of more recent times.

**Vishnuvite** (vi·shnūvəit). [f. as prec., with *v* from the Skr. adj. *vaishnavi* belonging to Vishnu.] = prec.

The form *Vishnuvite* has had some currency.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 185/1 The Vishnuvites are chiefly found in the northern districts [of the Madras Presidency]. 1896 *Mission. Herald* (Boston) Oct. 395 This evangelist.. saw a Vishnuvite mendicant approaching, singing a Christian hymn. *Ibid.*, He was singing them in place of his old Vishnuvite hymns.

**Visibility** (vizibi·liti). [ad. late L. *visibilitāt-*, *visibilitas* (Tertull.), f. L. *visibilis* : see next and -ity. So F. *visibilité* (OF. *visibleté*), It. *visibilità*, Sp. *visibilidad*, Pg. *-idade*.]

1. The condition, state, or fact of being visible ; visible character or quality ; capacity of being seen (in general, or under special conditions).

**a.** Of the Church, a kingdom, etc.

1581 W. Fulke in *Confer.* ii. (1584) H j b, What visibilitie could there be in those churches, when their face at all of an outward Church? *a* 1591 H. Smith *God's Arrow* (1593) L j. And consequently visibility (which the Papists make a marke of the Church) is no perfect note thereof. 1629 Lynde *Via Tuta* Ep. Ded. 1 That the world may know, it is no difficult matter for a meane Lay-man to proue the ancient visibilitie of the Protestant profession. *a* 1661 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 53 He maintained the constant and perpetual visibility of the Church of Christ. 1667 Poole *Dial. Netw. Protest. & Papist* 44 If I can prove the same the perpetual visibility of his Church. 1699 Burnet *30 Art.* xix. 183 Another question may arise out of the first words of this Article, concerning the Visibility of the Church. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th. in. Eng.* 1. 89, 2. The visibility of the Theocracy gradually grew fainter and fainter from the first establishment of a visible monarchy. 1866 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Exod.* xv. 18 The kingdom true rising into visibility never again disappears from the earth.

**b.** Of things in general.

1624 Jackson *Creed* III. xxx. § 9 The actual visibility of colours wholly depends upon the light as well for distance as duration. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 74 Where there is not so much as a seeming or visibility, there is no evidence. 1658 Glanvill *Scepsis Scient.* xxvi. The Sun given to things not only their Visibility, but also their Generation. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Hist.* v. v. § 4 This gate had no doors, for it represented the visibility of the heaven. 1772 H. Barnes *Pract. Cas. C. P.* (ed. 2) 322 The Affidavits as to Defendant's Visibility were fully answered, and his total Absconding proved. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxv. 3 They considered the visibility of matter not a necessary consequence of its creation. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* vi. 13 *note*, But the God of Theologians is incapable of local visibility. 1867 J. *Hogg Microsc.* i. ii. 44 The visibility of the effect depends on the distance of the object from the object-glass. 1882 Procter *Pam. Sci. Stud.* 23 The comet attracted more attention when it had passed from view than..during the brief period of its visibility.

**c.** *spec.* The possibility of (a vessel, etc.) being seen under the conditions of distance, light, atmosphere, etc., existing at a particular time ; hence conversely, the possibility of seeing, or the range of vision, under such conditions.

Cf. Harbord *Glass. Navig.* (1863), s.v. *Weather notation.*

1914 tr. *Baudry's Naval Battle* 265 The radius of visibility must be the maximum time allowable for final preparations. 1916 Sir J. Jellicoe *Disp.* 31 June, *Battle of Jutland* 62 The visibility early on 1st June (three to four miles) was less than on 31st May.

**2.** With a and pl. A visible thing or object.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [1.] xciii. 269 St. Paul grants, that they may know God, through the visibilities in his Workes. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 9 The beatitude of that part which seeth and visibilities too weakly affect. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Worthy Communn.* I. § 1. 27 It cannot be natural flesh, however altered in circumstance and visibilities. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 162 Mind, by being modelled in Men's imaginations into a Shape, a Visibility. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* II. xvi, The Highest God dwells visible in that mystic unfathomable Visibility, which calls itself 'I' on the Earth.

† **b.** = Sight *sb.* 1 c. *Obs.*—[1]

1775 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) I. 624 Sir, I have seen all the visibilities of Paris, and around it.

† **3.** Appearance, aspect, look. *Obs.*—[1]

1669 Bunyan *Holy Citie* 114 'And the City lieth four square'.. Now both the City, Gates and Wall, were exactly in their Visibility according to the Word.

† **4.** The faculty or power of seeing ; the exercise of this ; sight, vision. *Obs. rare.*

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Visibilitie*, the ability or powre of seeing. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 120 Why they choose to live by costume and catalogue, or as S. Paul saith by sight and visibility, rather then by faith. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern and Vale Farm.* 47 The Fibers of Corn or Trees..., that in Clays and Loams have firm and holding Bottoms, and will lie two or three Years to visibility.

**Vi'sibilize,** *v. rare*—1. [f. next + -IZE.] *refl.* To make visible.

1899 S. L. Wilson *Theol. Mod. Lit.* 243 Its spirit visibilised and exemplified itself in priests, rabbis, scribes.

**Visible** (vi'zib'l), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: **4 visibil(e, 4–6 viayble, 5–6 vysyble, 4– visible (5 visibal, visibell, 6 visoible, Sc. vissabill).** [a. OF. *visible* (12th c.; F. *visible* = Sp. *visible*, Pg. *visivel*, It. *visibile*,) or ad. L. *visibilis* f. *vis-* ppl. stem of *videre* to see.]

**A.** *adj.* **1.** Capable of being seen; that by its nature is an object of sight; perceptible by the sense of sight.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 1 Bot i sall loue þe in all þi werkis, and tell all þi wondirs: þat is bath þat ere sen & þat ere noght sene, visibles & invisibls. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 3 Multiply vengaunce agayns hym þat ere visible & invisible. *c* 1383 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1911) 744 The sacrament of þe auteer which is whyt & round visible & palpable. 1426 Audelay *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 14 Vse vertuys, and flee vysibal vayne and vanité. 1483 Caxton *Cato* C j b, One onely god...the whyche hath inuysible and preemynence upon alle thynges vysyble and inuysyble. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 920 Colour is lyght incorporate in a body visyble pure & clene. 1540 Coverdale tr. *Calvin's Treat. Sacram.* Pref. A j b, Hu was neuer visyble to the mortall eyen, and yet wyll they make him appere at euerie knaues request that wyl..paye theyr..shote. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. ¶ 1 It was of necessitie that words..should be added vnto visible elementes. 1634 Johnson *Parkinson's Ierusalem.* x. x. 46 Put some eminent and visible mark upon the Crest of their Helmets. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 62 Yet from those flames No light, but rather darkness visible Serv'd only to discover sights of woe. *a* 1721 Prior *Jea. Opinion* 82 All Visible and Audible objects are properly within their Connoissance. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* vi. § 8 The mathematical consideration of visible figure, which we shall call the geometry of visibles. 1803 Imison *Sch. & Art* I. 1 Some sorts of matter are visible, or capable of being seen. 1851 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. iv. x (1876) 124 The visible world presents a different aspect to each individual mind. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 46 The sun's invisible rays far transcend the visible ones in heating power.

*Transf.* 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. ix. 36 Painters who are the visible representers of things..are not inculpable herein.

**b.** Of actions, processes, etc.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Commentaries* 191 Of baptisme, which they saye is a visible and an outward sygne. 1615 T. Adams *Two Sermons* 69 Onely service hath neither ease nor concealment allotted to it, because it consists in a visible action. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 114 [It] depends vpon such accidents as are visible in this World. 1664 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* I. 5 This method is the best, the most certain, visible and tangible. 1796 J. Hutton *Theory Nat. & Rev. Relig.* IV. iii. 362 The Holy Ghost in a visible manner descended upon him at baptism. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* iii. § 114. 127 The conversion of visible energy into heat.

**c.** Of associations, organizations, etc., *spec.* of the Church (see Church *sb.* 4 c).

1550 R. Alison (*title*) A Plaine Confutation of a Treatise of Brownisme...entitled, a Description of the Visible Church. 1655 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 109 For Visibility, it is granted that ordinarily the Church is visible, i.e. that there is a visible company of such as professe the truth. 1691 G. Keith (*title*) The Presbyterian and Independent Visible Churches in New England. 1739 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 I. 117 I please God to unite Christians in communities or visible churches. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* iv. § 29. 315 The first establishment of a visible monarchy. 1859 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* iv. (1877) 35 The Christian Church was intended to be a visible Society. 1879 A. W. Haddan *Apost. Succession Ch. Eng.* iv. 97 That the Church to which Christians are 'to be added' was a visible organized body upon earth.

**d.** *Visible speech*, the distinctive name of a system of phonetic notation devised by A. Melville Bell, consisting of characters or symbols intended to represent the actual position of the vocal organs in the production of speech-sounds; also *attrib.*

1865 A. Melville Bell (*title*), Visible Speech: a new fact demonstrated. 1883 *Science* I. 474/1 An important immediate use might be made of a few of the Visible-speech symbols. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 370/1 Such letter of the Visible Speech Alphabet..is a picture of the vocal organs placed in the proper position for producing the sound indicated.

**†e.** Similar or comparable in appearance *to* something. *Obs.*—1

1428–80 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* 1. 290 Eke of her eyen be lokys moste horible To hurte the stremys we visyble.

**2.** That may be mentally perceived; observed; clearly or readily evident or perceptible; apparent, manifest, obvious.

In earlier use sometimes passing into the sense 'very great, eminent, etc.'

*a* 1613 Sir T. Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 95 His courting language, visible bawdy jests. 1672 Baxter *Bogshaw's Scand.* ii. 16 His next subject..is one of the visiblest lyes that ever I saw written by a man. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* iv. ii, 'Tis above the common rate of wonders, and doubtless portends some visible Calamity that threatens the Nation. 1710 Lutterell *Brief Hist.* (1857) VI. 597 The majority being so visible, as at least two to one, they declined insisting thereon. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* I. § 15. 38 There is a visible opposition betwixt this account..and those words of our Lord [etc.]. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 301 Whatever charms may appear in..the human figure, there is no visible reason why it's physical effect should exert an influence over animals. 1835 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 445 *note*, A visible decrease in the offences which had been previously committed. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 313 Pneumonia..may..arise without any visible cause.

**†b.** In phr. *visible as visible* followed by clause. *Obs.*

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 38, I..say, That in case such a Place full of ill Earth, were too low,.. it is visible that half the Expence would be sav'd. 1722 Swift *Remr. Baxter Treatise* 9 To which if we add the many Towns since taken, [etc.]..., it is visible what Forces the State may be able to keep. 1725 Addison *Freeholder* No. 32 P 8 It is visible that great Numbers of them have of late eloped from their Allegiance. 1751 R. Faltock *P. Wilkins* xix. (1883) 56/1 So that it was visible he could never fly.

**c.** Of means, or revenue.

1779 *Mirror* No. 45 P 7 But all these things a man of fashion can do, without possessing any visible revenue whatever. 1824 *Act 5 Geo. IV. c.* 83 § 24 Every Person wandering abroad..not having any visible Means of Subsistence.. shall be deemed a Rogue and Vagabond. 1898 S. R. Hole *Tour America* xv. 210 It ought to have been apprehended as a tax not having no visible means of support.

**3.** That can be seen under certain conditions, at a certain time, or by a particular person; in sight; open or exposed to sight or view.

*Visible horizon*: see Horizon 2.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 382 On this Mount he appeerd, under this Tree Stood visible. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Jer. II.* 15 Wks. 1686 II. 90 As for example, what would an eye..visible, if there were not light prepared to render things visible thereto. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Horizon*, The Sensible or Visible Horizon, is that Circle which limits our Sight. 1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 55. 353 This elevated Machine was visible to all the People. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 932 Philosophic tube, That brings the planets home into the eye Of observation, and discovers, by new Wonders, his family of worlds. 1822–16 Playfair *Nat. Phil.* (1819) II. 281 The disturbance of Jupiter might have so altered its original orbit, that the Comet for a time should become visible from the Earth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 21 The whole glacier was visible to us from its origin to its end. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 330 When the sun is so situated that it is visible on the eastern horizon.

**b.** *Comm.* Of stocks or supply: Actually in hand or to be seen.

1882 *Times* 22 Feb., If the statistics relating to the visible supply of wheat are reduced. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 3/3 Messrs. ..report deliveries of copper in England and France last month as 2,005 tons in excess of the supplies, and 'visible' stocks reduced by 2,000 tons.

**4.** Of persons: Capable of being seen or visited; accessible to others; now *esp.*, disposed or prepared to be seen or visited, 'at home' to visitors. (Cf. *F. visible*.)

1720 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 224 Spreading from that House to other Houses, by the visible unwary conversing with those who were sick. 1772 H. Barnes *Pract. Cas. C. P.* (ed. 2) 320 Objected, on the Part of Defendant, That he was a publick Officer, and Plaintiff had not endeavoured to arrest him. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* II. i, A foreign signor is with him—but to you he is of course visible. 1848 Thackeray *Van.*, Fair Vashti, for whom up your heels no visible (though she looked at them through the blinds). 1889 F. M. Crawford *Saint' Ilario* ix, He..inquired if he could see the principessa. The porter replied that she was not visible, and that the prince had gone out.

**b.** Of a way of life: Free from any concealment or mystery.

1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, He has been pretty steady in his life since he at the Bower, and done well in a quiet way, but his life has been visible and regular.

**5.** *Visible direction*, in *Optics*, the apparent direction in which an object is seen.

1704 Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. (H.K.S.) These perpendiculars must all pass through one point, which may be called the centre of visible direction.

**B.** *sb.* **1.** A visible thing or entity. Chiefly in pl.

1824 Jackson *Creed* III. xxvii. § 5 Our bodily sight, which sees diuers visibles all immediately, not one after, or by another. 1690 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 57 Visibles are to be seen with the eyes, Intelligibles to be see Invisibles with eyes. *a* 1674 Teakherne *Post. Wks.* (1903) 18 All that in visibles is good Or pure, or fair, or unsoil'd, Invisibles exceed it. 1736 Butler *Analogy* xiii. 200 When thou..beholdest the visibles of this whole Creation. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 248 That the most charming woman on earth..can except the meanest in the customary visibles only. 1871 W. H. Gillespie *Argt. Being & Attrib. Absolute One* II. § 2 (ed. 5) 54 Narrow is their horizon: within it, themselves the only visibles. 1872 *Hist.* (ed. 6) 188 The things which are seen, were not made of phenomenal visibles. 1895 Zangwill *Master* III. i. 177 The flux of centuries, the visibles of Art, the invisibles of religion.

**2.** *The visible*, that which is visible, esp. the visible world.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VI. 246 The visible and present are for brutes; A short-liv'd portion! and a narrow bound! 1856 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1858) 102 In his operations in the material universe, God has seen fit..to make known to us the invisible by the visible. 1857 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 1159 The last chain-link By which he had drawn from Nature's visible The fresh well-water.

**Visibleness.** [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being visible; visibility.

1578 W. Fulke *Confer. tr.* (1584) I ij, There was a time when visibleness was no note of the Church. 1609 A. Wotton *Answ. Pop. Articles* 14 We easily grant a perpetuall continuance of the church, though we denie a necessity of visiblenesse. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 66 Also visiblenesse, touchablenesse, which are inseparable. 1797 Bailey (vol. II). 1842 Manning *Serm.* (1848) I. xiv. 193 We have yet to regain the visibleness and consciousness of unity. *Ibid.* xxvi. 302 There is an inwardness and a reinement about it [*i.e.* the Sacrament] even in its visibleness. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan. 45/2 The owners feel..as if the visibleness of their wealth constituted a danger.

**Visibly** (vi'zibli), *adv.* Forms: **4–5 visibely, 5 visibilly, 5–6 vysybly, 6 visybly, 5– visibly (7 vissiblie); also 5 visablelyche.** [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

**1.** In a visible manner (+ or form); so as to be visible to the eye or sight.

Passing insensibly into next.

*c* 1386 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 522 Pat same body and blood invisibly, and not þe same visibely. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 Pai growe ilk a zere visibilly, so þat þe smale wexes grete. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2141 As þus visablelyche to hurre modur he dude apere. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* xii, The goddesse Venus vysybly shewed her self to me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 124 b, Somtyme as it were an aungell of lyght, somtyme visybly, somtyme fantastically. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 14 The Table wherein all my thoughts are visibly Character'd and engrav'd. 1610 W. Crashaw *Gen. Treasury* Advt. A ij b, The other faults escaped in printing, or figures not visibly printed are..corrected with the pen. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Obs. & Travels, Wks.* 1630 *Heavens Wks.* (1630) iii. 87/1 If it were possible that the hand of mortall men..could visibly set forth the magnificent glory of the Immortall Creator. 1736 Butler *Analogy* i. xvi. Wks. 1874 I. 145 A moral scheme of government then is visibly established. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 390 Solyma's interior shrine, Where..Dwelt visibly the light-creating God. 1827 Shelley *Rev. Islam* xii. xxxiii. 6 Down that mighty stream..The boat fled visibly—three nights and days. 1845 Scott *Betrothed* vi, The moon visibly ascended itself into a smile of inexpressible sweetness. 1857 W. K. Loftus *Trav. Chaldæa & Susiana* 270 Traces of which were still visibly adhering to many of the tablets.

**2.** So as to be clearly evident, manifest, or perceptible; to an extent which can be (readily) seen or observed; evidently, plainly; manifestly, obviously.

1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 81. 337 God hath oft visibly shewed himselfe by extraordinary meanes for their help. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 9 The Envy..was visibly the cause of the Murther. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. iii. 17 God, having..made the Practice thereof..visibly beneficial to all, with whom the Tenour of humane Affairs does converse. 1713 Berkeley *Hylas & Phil.* I. Wks. 1871 I. 289 It being too visibly absurd to hold that pain or pleasure can be in an unperceiving Substance. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 278, I saw my Deliverance indeed visibly put into my Hands. 1839 James *Louis XIV*, III. 308 A war which had been visibly overhanging them for more than two years. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. v. 400 The cardinals were visibly afraid of the position which had been taken by the French king. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *A Bay* iv, Lambert was visibly relieved, and his daughter reflected her father's mood.

**†3.** By actual sight. *Obs.*—1

1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 314 He cast anchor at Saint Sebastian, beginning visible to finde, that the Iland was no lease fortified then had been described vnto them.

**Visie,** var. Vizy *Sc.*

**†Visiere.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **vysiere.** [f. OF. *visiere* : see Visor *sb.*1] A visor or vizard.

1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 226 Tofore the Sarasyns that were on horsback they had ordeyned men on fote whyche had vysieres counterfeyed all blacke & nere.

**Visigoth** (vi'zigɒθ). [ad. late L. *Visigoth-us*, usually in pl. *Visigothi* (late Gr. Οὐισίγοθοι) ; the contrast with *Ostrogothi* (Ostrogoth) has suggested that the first element is to be taken as meaning 'West'.]

**1.** A member of that branch of the Gothic race which entered Roman territory towards the end of the fourth century and subsequently established a kingdom in Spain, overthrown by the Moors in 711–2; a West-Goth. Chiefly in *pl.*

1647 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. France* I. 1 4 The famous incursions of..the Visigothes, and the Longbeards. 1763 Smollett *Trav.* I. xxxv, This province [Languedoc] was fortified as a citadel by the Visigoths. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3349/2 The Romans distinguished the Goths into two classes, the Ostrogothæ and Visigothæ. The Visigothæ settled in Spain in the time of the Emperor Honorius. 1842 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 106 The West Goths (Visigothi)..were followed across the Alps in 405 by a new army of the same nation. 1867 E. F. Bowden tr. *Fathers Desert* 258 Julian was by birth a Visigoth, and had fallen into slavery through the fortune of war. 1889 J. B. Bury *Hist. Later Rom. Emp.* I. 64 The event which at length brought him into contact with Stilicho was the rising of the Visigoths.

**2.** *transf.* An uncivilized or barbarous person. Cf. Goth 2.

1749 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 307 He..had entirely forgot what Visigothe his countrymen are. 1764 Foote *Patron* II. 47 *Sir Thomas* [a gentleman dismissed] meeks impaling. Oh, the Hun! *Dactyl.* The Vandal! *All.* The Visigoth.

**Visigothic** (vizigɒ'þik). [f. prec. + -IC.] Of or belonging to the Visigoths.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 496/1 With regard to the alphabets derived from the Latin, the Lombardic relates to the manuscripts of Italy; the Visigothic to those of Spain. 1858 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 278 Especially as regards the Visigothic and Burgundian partitions. 1895 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* lx, He was an exceedingly tall and graceful

personage, of that *sangree azul* which marked high Visigothic descent. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 655/2 The money of the Iberian Peninsula begins with the Visigothic series, which consists of gold pieces.

**Visinage,** obs. form of VICINAGE.

**Vision** (vi·ʒən), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **visioun,** 4 **-iun, -iowne, -eoun, vysyoun,** 5 **vysyoune,** 5–6 *St.* **visioun** ; 4–5 **vysione, vysyon,** 5 **vysyyon,** 5–6 **vysion** ; 4– **vision** (5 **uision, visionne**), 4–6 **vigon** (6 *Sc.* **vesyne**). [a. *AF. visiun, visiuns,* OF. *vision* (= Sp. *vision,* It. *visione*), or ad. L. *visiōn-, visiō* sight, seeing, thing seen, f. *vīs-*, ppl. stem of *vidēre* to see.]

**1.** Something which is apparently seen otherwise than by ordinary sight; *esp.* an appearance of a prophetic or mystical character, or having the nature of a revelation, supernaturally presented to the mind either in sleep or in an abnormal state. *Beatific vision* : see BEATIFIC *a.* b.

In early texts *a vision* cannot always be clearly separated from *avision.*

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 52 Seint Edward cam al-so anight see in a vision To an hul: mon pat pere was neiȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4454 Als pal lai in pat pe visun, A-naght pam mete a visun. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 65 Who so lokes his life, & redis his vision. What vengeance vndeyned was on Ingland to be don. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4369 Pis was pat Iohan saw in a vision Of hym pat semed be virgyn son. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 193 Pat pere lyfel be secounde siȝt and visioun of Daniel, of þe saungel pat delyuerede þe children out of þe ouene. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 98 The prophete...He a visioune ao hevenly and divyne, Toke a chylde. *a* 1500 *Hyckescorner* 17 When he had told þe kyng of hys vysion, þe kyng made preche hit ouer all þe reme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 The seruaunt of god hadde many tymes ryght wonderful vysyons & visyons. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 65 Secrete teachers that feyned themselves to see visions, and to haue talke with God. 1585 Lyte *Dodoens* iv. iii. 503 I haue had many phantastical visions, for euen now slumbring by your bedides side, mee thought I wasshadowed with a cloud. 1615 G. SANDYS *Travels* 72 But behold an accident, which I rather thought at the first to haue been a vision, then (as I found it) real. 1665 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* 1. i, Clear. What did the Vision shew? *Placid.*...A Town besieg'd; and on the neighb'ring Plain Lay heaps of visionary Souldiers slain. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 ¶ 8, I then turned again to the Vision which I had been so long contemplating. 1737 LEE *Lucius Junius Brutus* Visions of glory spare my aching sight. 1802 LEYDEN *Mermaid* xxvi, Like one that from a fearful dream Awakes,...Yet fears to find the vision true. *a* 1825 J. QUINCEY *Dream-Fugue Pref.* 1897 XIII. 319 On the ocean,...the unknown lady from the dreadful vision, and I myself are floating. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 80 In the vision, God is understood to have represented things to come, as a picture to the prophet's mind.

**b.** Without article. (Cf. Avision 2.)

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3809 Als he lay opon a nyght In a dreme, than thoght him right That he was warned in visyowne [etc.]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxviii. 19 Whon bou sayd bat, Ioon spak in vysyon, bat is, in pryue reuelacioun til prophetis. *c* 1440 Lyng. *Assembly of Gods* 1621 To vndyrstand...the mater of Morpheus hys shewyng As he hath the leddie aboute in vysyon. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 298 Sit of new tressone I can tell the tailis, That cumis on nycht in visioun in my sleip. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* 1. 295 Just Simeon and Prophetic Anna, warn'd By Vision, found thee in the Temple. 1723 *Pope Let. to Mrs. Cowper* 26 Sept., Wks. 1769 IX. 431, I could wish you tried something in the descriptive way on any subject you please, mixed with vision and fiction. 1738 WATERLAND *Script. Vind.* iii. 52 Upon the Foot of this Construction, it is supposed, that Isaiah in prophetic Dream or Vision, heard God speaking to him. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* iii. xix, Nor do I boast the art renown'd, Vision and omen to expound. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 132 Such, not in vision, but in the most certain reality, was that double view of Jerusalem from Mount Olivet.

**c.** A mental concept of a distinct or vivid kind ; an object of mental contemplation, esp. of an attractive or fantastic character ; a highly imaginative scheme or anticipation.

1592 THOMAS *Tru. Reg. Crowne* 1. iv, In the sayde hypocriticall Pharisei then, we see a certaine phantasticall vision, shewing that in forme which it hath not in trueth. 1668 TEMPLE *Wks.* (1900) II. 60, I...have had a vision of a world more just if another Face than what it ought...to receive from the true present State of the Spanish Affairs. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 451 Upon the ship's tall side he stands, possess'd With visions prompted by intense desire. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. 5 And, in the visions of romantic youth, What years of endless bliss are yet to flow. 1855 *Fraser's Chron.* II. 98 Of the success that followed before me all day. 1878 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 212 The Dutch were not excited by those visions of American gold and silver which had inflamed the imagination of the Spaniards. 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 314 The splendid visions which his fancy shaped had taken possession of his mind.

**d.** A person seen in a dream or trance.

1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xviii. 9 Saddle visions appeared vnto them with heauie countenances. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* viii. 367 The vision bright, As with a smile more brightn'd, thus repli'd. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 139 A more than mortal sound Invades his ears; and from the vision spoke. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 105 All..failed not to ask the vision how he should obtain his promised assistance in the like cases of difficulty. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* vi. xl, And thou, for so the Vision said, Must in thy Lord's repentance aid.

**e.** *transf.* A person, scene, etc., of unusual beauty. (Cf. DREAM *sb.*[2] 3 b.)

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xii, Dost thou think it makes thee fit to be the husband of that beautiful vision ? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 2/1 The big dining room is...a vision of walnut and mahogany. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 June 8/3 One girl was a remarkable vision in a creamy white cloth Empire coat.

**2.** The action or fact of seeing or contemplating something not actually present to the eye ; mystical or supernatural insight or foresight.

1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* iii. 1 In the dais was noon opyn vysioun. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 2512 þe same nyȝt bat seynt Dunstone to Salesbury come, He saw by vysione alle bat he saw here, & myche more. *c* 1591 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* Div a, The seconde kynde of vysion is callid Spyrytuall vysion or Imaginayt. *Ibid.* Div b, In yᵉ thirde vision yᵗ is callid Intellectual. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Isaiah* xxviii. 7 Thei faile in vision: thei stomble in iudgement. 1594 HOOKER *Eccles. Pol.* v. xl. 82 The first ... beginning here with a weake apprehension of things not sene, endeth with the intuitiue vision of God in the world to come. 1604 E. CHRISTOPHER] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. xxiii. 567 It may be, that what the laborer reported, had happened vnto him by imaginary vision. 1657 J. WATT *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 153 Ministers...neither have vision to foretell, nor power to confer, blessing. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengzebe* I. i, If Love be Vision, mine has all the Fire Which in first Dreams, young Prophets does inspire. *a* 1748 SWIFT *Th. on Var. Subj.* Wks. 1755 VIII. 273 Vision is the act of seeing things invisible. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trans. Humboldt* I. 18 That truths faithfully extracted from the book of nature are alone calculated to enhance the glory of mental vision. 1851 *Fraser's Wkly. Hist.* iii. 17 It needed, let us say, the divine vision of a Peter, and the inspired eloquence of a Paul, to burst the intolerable yoke. 1879 W. R. INGE *Christian Mysticism* I. 12 Ecstasy or vision begins when thought ceases, to our consciousness, to proceed from ourselves.

**3.** The action of seeing with the bodily eye ; the exercise of the ordinary faculty of sight, or the faculty itself. Also *transf.* (quot. 1854).

*c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* Div a, The fyrst is callyd a corporal vision be cause it is seen outwarde bi bodely eye wytnes. 1597 HOOKER *Eccles. Pol.* v. lxvi. 3 Whereof our felicitie is fulfilled in the vision and fruicion of the humanitie of Christ. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxiii, For it (sc. my eye) no forme delineate...Of his quick obiects hath the mindes bowlds what it doth catch. 1644 HAMMOND *Pract. Catech.* v. iii, (1646) 14 *Faith* here is turned into *Vision* there. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. xxiii. 277 Whereby he may be restored...to blessedness and the vision of his Creator. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 201 Vision in itself is the having or perceiving an idea representative material in consequence of a certain impression made by light upon that organ of vision of the optick nerve which is at the bottom of the eye. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. xii. § 23 Whether he ever saw a man, before Vision is performed. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 58 The Distance of the Eye and the Thickness of the Lines should, by previous Trial, be adapted to the Vision of the Surveyor. 1854 *Ainsworth's Mag.* XXV. 48 Even the vision of natural objects presents to us insurmountable difficulties. 1894 — *More Worlds* xi, 180 The planets appear to us, as they do, of sensible size, because they appeared as globes under the sharp vision of Lord Rosse's telescope. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 32 To understand anything of the physiology of vision, it is necessary to have a general idea of the way in which images of objects are formed by refracting surfaces.

**b.** An instance of seeing ; a look.

1855 BAILEY *Festus* (1906) II. 181 With the blind the case is different; ..their visions of the surfaces of all things are visions of touch. *a* 1861 T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Yielding Half* iii, Our visions met, when pityingly she flung Her passionate arms about me.

†**4.** A visage or vizard. *Obs. rare.*

In both instances perh. a misprint for *vizor.*

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 97 Gyrd with b, As thoughes a wyse, and a christian husband, should delyte to see his wife in such paynted, and flori-hed visions [1623 visages], which commonly vnchaste women do vse. 1611 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. *iii*, Thou art Creſe v. il, Methinks, till this day the times had Likewise a vision on, and look'd not with A true face before.

**5.** A thing actually seen ; an object of sight.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 270 Ha! not you sweet Camillo? (But that's past doubt: you haue,.. For to a Vision so apparant, Rumor Cannot be mute.)

**6.** *attrib. and Comb.,* as *vision-field, machinery, -monger* ; *vision-haunted, -seeing, -struck* adjs.

1878 SHORTER. *Charac.* (1721) I, 50 Whether the matter of Apparition be true or false, the Symptoms are the same... in the Person who is Vision-struck. 1718 *Entertainer* Ded. A iij, Those Athen' and the Infidel...are reinforc'd by the Quaker, the Vision-monger and the Seeker. *c* 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Valkyrior Song,* The Sea-king woke from the troubled Vision-haunted night. 1827 PUSEY *Let. to Liddon Life* (1893) I. vi. 132 A half-distracted, visionary and vision-seeing mystic. 1880 *Academy* 3 July 7 Vision-field contraction is illustrated by the case of a patient [etc.]. 1895 A. NUTT *Voy. Bran* I. x. 250 Early Christian literature likewise supplies similar descriptions without employing the Vision machinery.

**Vision** (vi·ʒən), *v.* [f. prec.]

**1.** *trans.* To show as in a vision ; to display to the eye or mind. Also with *out.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 129 Euen as the age of goates is known by the knots on their hornes, so think the anger of God apparently visioned or showne vnto thee in the knitting of my browes. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenroot* III. 254 Should I return and behold the tomb you have affectingly visioned. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *She* 109 Mankind asks ever of the skies to vision out what lies behind them.

**b.** To call up *up* a vision of.

1902 *Academy* 25 Jan. 100/1 Those eyes, that hair, vision up Spanish princes.

**2.** To see as in a vision ; to bring before the eye of the mind. Also with *forth.*

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 135 We in the morning eyed the pleasant fields Vision'd before. 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. i. 63, I too am his brother, though his face Was only vision'd sweetly in my soul. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. iv. § 5 That we may be able to vision forth the ministry of angels beside us. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* xxxiii, Gentlemen of an unpractised imaginative capacity cannot vision for themselves exactly what they would.

**3.** *intr.* To have a vision ; to look.

1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 6 Up that midway We vision for new ground.

**Visional** (vi·ʒənăl), *a.* [f. VISION *sb.* + -AL.]

**1.** Connected or concerned with, relating to, based upon, a vision or visions.

1828 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 35 Is not true and pure divinitie according to the division of some learned, and reuerant autors, either Expositiue, and Interpretatiue ; or else Visionall, and Prophetical? 1844 JERROLD *Angel of Kph.* 8 In visionall speeches Daniel saith to Nebuchadnezzar [etc.]. 1668 CLARENDON *Contempl. Pt.* Tracts (1727) 574 That this Psalm was composed upon the visional deliberation of the defeat of that enemy. 1732 WATERLAND *Script. Vind.* III. 53 And therefore this visional Interpretation appears to be preferable to the other. *Ibid.* 78 So much in Favour of the Visional Construction. 1908 J. ORR *Resurrect. Jesus* viii. 214 May it not at least be possible to show that the appearance of Jesus can be explained...either by subjective hallucinations, which is the older form of the visional theory, or [etc.]?

**2.** Of the nature of, seen or occurring in, forming part of, a vision ; visionary, unreal.

1647 R. H. *Treat. Exam. Serm. by Hastinwood* 2 There was no material house at the entry gate ; unless he will make the visionall ladder the gate or house. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxii. 376 The teaching of God, and our hearing and leaving of him, is not to be understood of any extraordinary visional appearances. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test. I.* 995 A real and corporal combat not visional or imaginary. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 11. 1/1 We cannot...suppose, that Visional Representations would be exhibited to us under the Notion of Realities. *a* 1767 BOSTON *Serm.* (1850) 41 What sort of worship was it ? how could worm Jacob prevail over an uncreated angel? Some make it visional, and in a dream. 1827 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) II. 70 The Interpretation is visional, not superficially enter into any description of the visional conflict beheld by Daniel. 1858 H. BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* iii. (1864) 41 Some apparition or visional object.

**3.** Pertaining to sight ; visual. *rare*[−1].

1790 *Bystander* 201 With an ardent brand Ulysses deprived him of his only visional organ.

Hence **Vi·sionally** *adv.*, as or in a vision.

1647 *Trust Comm. Lords & Com.* The second woe is past : Visionally past, not eventually. *a* 1679 POOLE *Annot., Rev.* xxxvii. 1 The Spirit of God carrying him visionally not corporally. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 11. 1/1 Whereas the whole as Really, and not Visionally perform'd. 1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* (1857) 169 The reason why the drama of creation has been optically described seems to be, that it was in reality visionally revealed.

**Vi·sionary,** *adv. rare*[−1]. [f. as next.] In a vision ; visionally.

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* III. vi. 37 Nay how impossible is it, to make that expression...to agree to an imaginary Temptation, except we also say, that we are only tempted visionarily and not really.

**Visionariness.** [f. next + -NESS.]

**1.** The quality of being visionary in respect of mind or views.

1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 72 Visionariness seems the tendency of the German!...fanaticism of the French. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 104 The conceptive faculty delights at times in half-formed and hazy visionariness. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* Wks. 1859 XI. 256 Books...labouring with the same two opposite defects...dullness from absolute monotony, and visionariness from the aerial texture of the speculations. 1880 PATER *Coleridge* Wks. 1901 V. 83 A kind of languid visionariness, deep-seated in the very constitution of the 'narcotist'.

**2.** The quality of being visionary in respect of reality, fulfilment, or practical value.

1817 BENTHAM *Paul. Reform.* Introd. 317 Annuality—with all its wildness and visionariness—would be less intolerable. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 98 He...wrote instantly, ...against the new alarmist, pledging his own head upon the visionariness of his alarms. 1878 SHORTER *Chron. Serm.* I. 16 This project of a Universal Empire...may...justly be charged with utter visionariness.

**Visionary** (vi·ʒənări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. VISION *sb.* + -ARY.] Cf. F. *visionnaire,* It., Sp., Pg. *visionario.*]

**A.** *adj.* **1.** Able or accustomed to see visions ; capable of receiving impressions, or obtaining knowledge, by means of visions.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. 231 Such quarrells amongst the Visionary Prophets. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 576 Thus, many not succeeding, most upbraid The madness of the visionary maid. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 79 So visionary brains ascend the sky, While on the ground entranc'd the wretches lie. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xxix, See, in the rear of the warm sunny shower The visionary boy from shelter fly. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Hope* l. 161 What spells entice my visionary mind. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* v. xvii, O, think upon the words of fear Spoke by that visionary Seer. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast.* (1863) 383 And as she grew up, she became a strange, solitary, visionary child, to whom a unseen world had revealed itself. 1883 F. GALTON *Hum. Faculty* (1901) 125 A large natural gift of the visionary faculty might become characteristic...of certain families.

**b.** Given to fanciful and unpractical views ; having little regard to what is actual or possible ; speculative, dreamy.

1707 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. 1. 183 Supplying our wants, faster than the most visionary projector can adjust his schemes. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 124 If a man happens not to succeed in such an enquiry,

he will be thought weak and visionary. 1786–7 Bonnycastle *Astron.* i. 17 We laugh at the absurdities of a visionary pretender. 1817 W. Brougham in *Part. Deb.* 398 Mr. Spence, the visionary author of the new system, lived 20 years ago. 1847 Lytton *Falkland* i. 13, I grew by degrees of a more thoughtful and visionary nature. 1908 W. L. Mathieson *Politics & Relig. Scot.* I. iii. 100 Knox was no visionary enthusiast.

2. Of the nature of a vision; presented or apprehended in a vision. Cf. Visional 2.

1648 Boyle *Seraph. Love* xvi. (1700) 109 The sole Hymn (except a Visionary one I find recorded of the Celestial Quire, was sung for a Blessing to Mankind. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* i. 656 Some things like Visionary flights appear; The Spirit caught him up, the Lord knows where, And (etc.). *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 80 Which, they say, is the Mountain into which the Devil took our Blessed Saviour, when he tempted him with that visionary scene of all the Kingdoms and Glories of the World. 1730 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* I. viii. 161 These Divine Illapses of Revelation, which become Visionary in our Sleep. 1784 Cowper *Odyss.* ix. 633 Sudden shall skim along the dusky glades Thin airy shoals, and visionary shades. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxvii. (1787) III. 619 The visionary fabric melted into air. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxxii. *Song.* The shade of some dead accountant, with visionary pen in ear, would flit by me, stiff as in life. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv. The visionary bridge of Mahomet, where those fairy footsteps had not glided, and that visionary golden head...fleeted along. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. vii. By what visionary hands she was led along upon that journey to escape from the Samaritan.

c. Connected with, or pertaining to, visions.

1797–46 Thomson *Summer* 556 Here frequent, at the visionary hour, When musing midnight reigns, or silent noon, Angelic harps are in full concert heard. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 313 Having intimidated themselves apart from the rest, with visionary notions. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxi. Meanwhile, this pious visionary shuffle had its usual effect, in unsettling Miss Ashton's mind.

d. Disturbed by visions.

1807 J. Barlow *Columbiad* i. 49 When from a visionary short repose, That nursed new cares and temper'd keener woes, Columbus woke.

3. Existing in imagination only; imaginary; not actual or real.

1701 Pope *Odyss.* iv. 246 Vanish'd are all the visionary joys. 1745 J. Mason *Self Knowl.* i. xiv. (1853) 109 Suffer not your Thoughts...to give you a visionary Pleasure in the Prospect of what you have not the least Reason to hope. 1798 S. & Hr. Lee *Canterb. T.* II. 308 So deep a hold had this...visionary delight taken on Emily, that the days hung heavily with her. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Pract. Indus* III. 364 With the consolidation of the supremacy, the apprehension of its visionary evils recurred. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 31 The danger which seemed so terrible to many honest friends of liberty did not venture to pronounce altogether visionary. 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* i, The power of the penniless twins was a shadowy and visionary thing.

b. Of schemes, plans, etc.: Incapable of being carried out or realized; purely ideal or speculative; fantastic, unpractical.

1727 Swift *Modest Proposal* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 67 Vain, idle, visionary thoughts. 1731 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1758) 75 A miserable example of an ill-spent life, fantastic wit, visionary schemes, and female weakness. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Americ.* (1778) II. 130 The crews of three of his ships...insisted on relinquishing the visionary project of a desperate adventurer. 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 77 Those (opinions) of the ancients appear to be either visionary or erroneous. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xiv, These were wild and visionary notions, and with little chance of ever arriving at any successful issue. 1855 Brewster *Newton* I. xix. 402 Kepler abandoned for a while his visionary speculations. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Oct. 5/3 The quiet of the land is being disturbed to suit the visionary tendencies of interesting but unpractical men.

c. Characterized by fantasy or imagination without corresponding reality.

1777 J. Richardson *Dissert. East. Nations* 3 On this visionary field, learned and ingenious men have disputed with much want of temper. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxx, Emily sought to lose the sense of her own cares, in the visionary scenes of the poet. 1798 Wordsworth *Excurs.* I. vi. 141 Lycurgus...had not learnt...to withdraw from active life into a visionary world. 1865 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 228 If Louis Napoleon was going to be content with a visionary life [etc.]. 1874 L. Stephen *Essays in Literary* (1892) I. 194 [He] sought refuge from the hard facts of commonplace life by retiring into a visionary world.

d. Pertaining to (physical or mental) vision.

1814 Worcester *Excurs.* iv. 111 It may be allowed me to remember What visionary powers of eye and soul In youth were mine.

2. *sb.* 1. One who has visions; one to whom unknown or future things are revealed in visions.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Visionary*, one that is subject to Dreams, silly Notions and extravagant Fancies; a fantastical Pretender to Visions and Revelations. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 56 ¶ 3 One of their Countrymen descended in a Vision to the great Repository of Souls...The Visionary...arrived at length on the Confines of this World of Spirits. 1778 T. Hartley *Pref. Swedenborg's 'Heaven & Hell'* p. xi, Of such honourable repute was the name Seer, or visionary, in those times. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* i. 6 It becomes almost in vain to argue with the visionary against the reality of his dream. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1861) 251 On one side kneels the visionary, with features wan and worn. 1870 Baldw. Brown *Relig. Truth* 262 Forms of perfect beauty and purity, of which the keenest visionary has had but feeble dreams.

2. One who indulges in fantastic ideas or schemes; an unpractical speculator or enthusiast.

1708 Addison *Dial. Medal* i. (1726) 78 This science has its visionaries as well as all others. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. p. xii, We must therefore respect the Man, even while we smile at the Visionary. 1834 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* x. 122 He had laid his accounts for being treated as a visionary, and for his own plans being laughed at as absurd. 1868 Peard *Wotton Farm.* xiv. 140 The agriculturist...will not be deemed a visionary, because he calculates on the coming harvest with certainty. 1880 Howorth *Undics. Country* v. He's a visionary, but he's a good man.

**Visioned** (vi·ʒənd), *ppl. a.* [f. Vision *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Seen in a vision.

1510 Clerevelle (*title*), The Copye of the letter folowynge whiche specifyeth of y^e^ greatest and meruelous visyoned batayle that euer was seen.

1803 Scott *Lay Last Minstrel* xxix, Whose cheek is pale, whose eyeballs glare, As one some vision'd sight that saw.

1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* i. 19 Till vision'd ages, opening on his view, Should bless his mind. 1838 Chalmers *Nat. Hist. Ecc. Chr. Def. agst. Infidelity* Wks. 1849 XIII. 298 The battles of the faith against the dark and the visioned spectres of geology. 1863 Ld. Lytton *King Arnaict* II. iii. xii. 82 He uttered that solemn kiss upon the visioned thing I could not see.

2. Associated with, arising from, a vision or visions.

1817 Scott *Harold* vi. xii, Trembling at first, ..Had Gunnar heard the vision'd tale. 1822 Beddoes *Bride's Trag.* iv, iv, I have dreamed and in that visioned agony Twas watched by strange eyes [etc.]. 1853 Jerdan *Autobiog.* III. 177 Over her inmost abstract and visioned moods..she was the Poet. 1891 C. Dawson *Avonmore* v. 79 Never from that visioned thought, I duty did and duty sought.

3. Gifted with vision; having the power of seeing visions.

1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* v. 68 The visioned poet in his dreams, When silver'd by the Moon's pale beam, Sees...Heaven's brilliant bow. 1830 Moir *Tower of Ercildoune* iv, Methinks the visioned bard I see ..Piercing the mazy depths of Time. 1866 R. S. Storrs, *Visioned Soul, &c. Rec.* Feb. (1894). Of such a majestic teacher as Ezekiel, the visioned prophet, ..we know almost nothing.

4. Full of visions.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 682 The dream Of dark magician in his visioned cave.

**Visioner** (vi·ʒənəɹ). [f. Vision *sb.*] One who has visions; a visionary.

1716 [D. Davies] *Athen. Brit.* II. 284 He should exalt his Character by playing the Visioner with a superannuated Superintendant. 1901 Fr. Thompson in *Academy* 12 April 378/1 The dreams..He half made possible; for that he was Visioner of visions, he needed not doubt.

**Visionic** (vigi·nik), *a. rare.* [f. Vision *sb.*] Of the nature of a vision.

1857 *Tait's Mag.* XXIV. 363 Which, if it does not assert, yet strongly suggests, the visionic character of the revelation of the coming Messiah.

**Visioning** (vi·ʒənin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vision *sb.* or *v.*] The action or fact of seeing visions; an instance of this.

*a* 1825 Motherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 33 But still the present is to me with visionings of yore. 1838 Mrs. Browning *Felicia Hemans* vii, Such visionings have paled in sight. 1849 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. viii, Such guessing, visioning, and intervision of the nonexistent future. 1886 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* Poems (1892) 13 By potence wrought of Mortal Visionings In that dark house of which Sleep hath the Keys.

**Visionist** (vi·ʒənist). [f. Vision *sb.*]

1. One who has, or professes to have, visions; a professed visionary.

1665 J. Spencer *Vulg. Prophe.* 43 The many gross fallacies of Original Beings in acquaintance with which these Visionists [cc. Platonists] do swarm. 1681 Hickes *Let. to Pepys* 19 June, P.'s Diary (Chandos) 656, I asked this question, to know ..whether these Second-Sight folks were Seers or Visionists. 1710 *Spect.* No. 195 ¶ 8. 1840 Ht. Martineau *Hist.* 312 This Jacob Behemen..was a kind of visionist. He pretended to see things invisible. 1899 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* X. 81 Mr. Southcott, a fanatical visionist of the present day. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 185 The visionist had deeper thoughts and more concealed feelings than the mere visionary. 1842 Blackw. *Mag.* LI. 1 Chalmers *Life Tyro Sage* xviii. (1878) 347 The third class is that of dreamers or visionists, who discover the nature of the disease.

2. One who supports the view that the Biblical account of creation was revealed to the writer in a vision or series of visions.

1888 A. Cave *Inspir. O. Test.* iii. 129 A third class, the Visionists, also maintain the literal character of the days mentioned...In their view the days..refer to..the actual days of the revelation of the creation.

**Visionless** (vi·ʒənles), *a.* [f. Vision *sb.*]

1. Destitute of vision; sightless, blind.

1820 Keats *Hyperion* i. 243 Half-closed, and visionless entire they seem'd Of all external things. 1848 Eliza Cook *Song for Dog* iv. Tis my Dog that I trust to,..And he minister well to my visionless eyes. 1879 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* III. xxiii. 294 Her eyes rolled stupid and visionless.

2. Having no vision of unseen things; devoid of higher insight or inspiration.

1856 R. S. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. x. ii. Notes 316 Theresa might, in the abstract, rate the visionless altitude above the valley of vision. 1859 Bp. S. Wilberforce *Addr. Ordination* ix. 182 The hindrances to our delivering simply our message may lead us to suppress or tamper with it until we become visionless and dumb. 1891 N. Loraine *Battle of Belief* 181 His cheerless, shoreless, visionless system of negations.

**Visionlike,** *adv.* [f. Vision *sb.*] After the manner of a vision.

1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* I. 78 As if some thoughts had visionlike swept across her mind.

**Visir(ate,** obs. forms of Vizier(ate.

**Visit** (vi·zit), *sb.* Also 7 visite, visitt, visetto, vizet. [ad. F. *visite* (= It., Sp., Pg. *visita*), or f. Visit *v.*]

1. An act of visiting a person; a friendly or formal call upon, a shorter or longer stay with, a person as a feature of social intercourse.

1561 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* xiii. (1626) 274 To Nymphs of Seas,..She bears her visets. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 228 You know I have appointed you here a chamber, and that you are my debter of a visite, now a whole year. 1648 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 94 To ..undertake..for a visitt to him by the Lord Jarmin (who I believe visited none else there). 1681 Vites Campden in 12th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 56 My Lady Skidmore and her lord was at Mr. Cansiby's house upon a visetto. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 102 ¶ 8 Like Ladies that look upon their Watches after a long Visit. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 36/1 Guilty of that most atrocious crime, the owing a visit. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 216 If the monkey ventures to offer a visit of curiosity, the toucan gives him such a welcome, that he..is glad to escape. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* I. On the solemn occasions of the visits of parents. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 April 754/1 To call twice in one week, under the pretence..of a social visit. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 99 He is looking forward to a visit from Ralph in the summer.

*fig.* 1782 Cowper *Table T.* 421 'Tis not..despondence and dismay Will win her [sc. Mercy's] visits or engage her stay.

b. Freq. in the phrases *to make*, or *pay* (also *† give*) *a visit*, *to return a visit*.

(*a*) 1644 T. Prujean *Aurovata* II. E3, Romeo..going to give her a visit meetes Tybalt her kinsman. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 159 Mrs. Shaftsbury did me y^e^ honour y^e^ other day to give me a visit. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 227 An Abbot gives a Lady a visit. 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 128 ¶ 7 He came to give our Family a formal Visit.

(*b*) 1643 Caryl *Expos. Job* I. 636 There is no obligation but that of love, to make a visit. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobiog.* (Camden) 3, I doe not remember that I made a visitt to y^e^ neerest neibour. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 124 ¶ 1, I went on Saturday last to make a Visit in the City. 1753 E. Moor in *World* I. No. 11, Sir She made him a visit of a month, and at his entreaty would have settled with him for ever. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 294 Making him a visit, I found him in the great hall. 1823 J. Simpson *Ricardo the Outlaw* I. 241 She promised that in two years, at longest, she would make them a visit. 1886 W. W. Story *Fiammetta* 195 You promised you would make me a visit in the autumn.

(*c*) 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 503 Surena, by this visit, was in a few days able to pay me one. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 24 ¶ 6 Let us pay a Visit to see one another. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 38 The Dutch captain came off in his shallop ..to pay his visit to me. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 309 Will gayld, with ecstasy we come, As from a seven years transportation, home. 1838 *Court Mag.* VI. 186/1, I quitted Oxford, and paid a visit to a maiden lady dwelling in the Grange Grove. 1855 Tennyson *To Rev. F. D. Maurice* xii, When the wreath of March has blossom'd, .. Or later, pay one visit more, For now are few we hold as dear.

*fig.* 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 3 Where smiling spring its earliest visit paid.

(*d*) 1697 Lady Chaworth in 12th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37, I missed my nephew Anthony the other day who Lady Shaftesbery sent to see me, and I am now going to returne his visit. 1708 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Cr. Mar* 10 March, I returned my visits at three weeks' end. 1766 [see Return v. 21 b].

c. *transf.* A place to which one goes only as a visitor.

1784 Cowper *Task* I. 251 Society for me! thou seeming sweet, Be still a pleasing object in my view, My visit still, but never mine abode.

d. An excursion *to* a place for the purpose of sight-seeing; a short or temporary stay at a place.

Also *transf.* of animals or birds (cf. Visit *v.* 1 d).

1800 (*title*), Visits to the Alps. For the instruction of youth. 1839 Miss Mitford in *L'Estrange Life* III. vii. 97 There is an account of a visit to Lyme in Miss Austen's 'exquisite' Persuasion. 1860 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 245 We had a visit to Fryston in Yorkshire, and after passing through the Highlands to Oban, made a three week's stay in Morven. 1870 Rimbault *Pleas. Crt.* xxi. 90, I spend five hundred in Paris in the two visits I make there.

*transf.* 1831 T. Nuttall in *Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* (1833) I. 101 Crossbills ..pay irregular visits to the northern and middle States. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 3/1 ['The black-cap titmouse] probably extending its visits into Mexico.

e. An occasion of going *to* a dentist, doctor, etc., for examination or treatment.

1884 Thompson *Tumours of Bladder* 10 After two or three visits [to a hospital], he took a sea voyage for his health. 1902 R. Bagot *Donna Diana* xxviii. 356 He felt that he would far prefer a visit to the dentist to the interview before him.

**2. a.** An instance of going to see, and assist or comfort, persons in distress.

1709 (*title*). A charitable Visit to the Prisons, containing counsel to those who are confined there. 1792 [R. Cecil] (*title*). A Friendly Visit to the House of Mourning.

**b.** A call made by a clergyman as part of his pastoral duties.

1724 A. Shields *Life & Remedy* 114 No place did more desire his frequent Visits than those that were most persecuted for him. 1727 Hubbion *Funer. Serm. & Medit.* 41 His visits were generally short, but very agreeable, and useful.

**c.** A professional call made by a doctor on a patient.

1719 Boyer *Dict. Royal* I. s.v. The visit of a Physitian, or Surgeon. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Visit*, the attendance of a surgeon or physician, inspector, etc. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 33 For a doctor to leave the patient and communicate his opinion on the result of his visit within hearing .of the patient [etc.]. 1890 J. W. Martin *Quart. & Auto Navigation* 92 To report anything that may appear unusual to the Doctor at his next visit.

**3. a.** Surgical examination (of a wound). *rare*—1.

1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* IV. 17, I am faint after a visit to my wound.

**b.** An instance (or the action) of going to a place, house, etc., for the purpose of inspection or examination.

1787 Burns *Let. to M. Chalmers* Wks. (Globe) 352, I have been at Dumfries, and in a month more shall be decided about a farm in that country. 1815 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 291 I the Emp.ror. examined the new manufa.ture of Arms. . Napoleon was accompanied only by three officers when he made this visit. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 Sir Thomas More made, as Chancellor, a domiciliary visit in search of heretical books. 1897 J. S. Risley *Law of War* iii. viii. 265 (*heading*) The right of visit and search. A belligerent has the right to visit and search every merchant ship at sea in time of war.

†**b.** An occurrence of inspection. *Obs.*

1653 T. Bruges *Vade Mecum* (ed. 2) 112 Philonium Persicum .is good against the overmuch flowing of womens naturall visits. *Ibid.* 127 Myrrhe .. procureth womens monthly visits. 1726 Bailey *Dict. Vis. Hist. Nat.* 19 The Females of these have periodical Visits like Females of the Human Race.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *visit-day, -paying*; †*visit-leg*, a posture of politeness in paying a visit (cf. Leg *sb.* 4).

1673 Wycherley *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i, *Blackamoor* (*teaching postures to M. de Paris*). Now let me see you make your visit-leg—that's it. 1719 Farquhar *Beaux' Stratagem* 89 With better Strength in Visit-days she bears To mount her fifty Flights of ample Stairs. 1849 Thackeray in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 552/2, I have been most remiss in visit-paying.

**Visit** (virzit), *v.* Forms: 3 **visiti**, 3–4 **visiten**, 4–6 **visyte**, 4–7 **visite** (4 **uisite**, **visitte**, 5 **visaite**), 5– **visit** (4 **wisit**, 6 **visit**, **visyt**), 5–7 **visitt** (5 **visytt**), 6–7 **visit**; 4 **vysyty**, 4–6 **vysyte** (5 **uysyte**, **vyoyte**), **vysite** (4 **uys-**), 4 **vysitte**, 5 **vysid**, 5–6 **vysit**, **vysyt**; 4–6 **visete**, 4–6 **viset** (5 **vise-**, **vyset**; 5 **-ed**, **-et**, 5 **-otte**); 4–5 **vesete** (5 **-ette**, *Sc.* **-eit**), 5 **veoyte**, **vesyte**, **-ite**; *Sc.* 5 **wesit**, 6 **veset**. Also *pa. t.* (*north.* and *Sc.*) 4–5 **visit**, 5 **vyset**, **vised**; *pa. pple.* 4–5 **visit**, **-yt**, 5 **-ide**, 6 **-itt**. [ad. OF. *visiter* (also mod.F., = Sp. and Pg. *visitar*, It. *visitare*) or L. *visitāre* to go to see, to inspect, etc., frequentative of *visāre*, f. *vis-*, ppl. stem of *videre* to see. In early use largely due to the frequent use of *visitare* in passages of the Vulgate, from which senses 1–7 are directly derived.]

**I.** *L. transf.* of the Deity: To come to (persons) in order to comfort or benefit.

Sometimes passing into senses 7 or 8. In *Alexander* 1964 used of pagan deities.

*a* 1154 *Ancr. R.* 154 Me livnt bet heo fluwen monne sturbinge, & wenden bi ham one; & tet God visitede ham & zef ham hore bonen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5785 Sai pam i sal ken and sen visete.. I sal ken him sum of stinck-hede. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* cv. (cvi.) 4 Penche, Lord, on vs in be welikand of by folk, and visit vs in byne helbe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 198 Pe is bet uerste goud bet by holy goed deb to be seneye, huanne he him uisiteb. 1382 Wyclif *Ter.* xv. 9 Lord, recorde thou of me, and visite me, and delyuere me fro them that pursuen me. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 914 God, as him list, visiteth folk. & amys. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 269 Almighti God hase forsaken me, because He visestis not me as He was wunt. 1535 Coverdale *Ruth* i. 6 She had herde, yt the Lorde had visyted his people & geuen them bred. 1553 *Primer* in *Lit. & Doc. Edw VI* (1844) 399 Visit him, O Lord, as thou didst visit Peter's wife's mother, and the captain's servant. 1560 *Rhem. Ex. Jos. Tobi* I. 636 When God comes in kindness and love to do us good, he visiteth us. 1596 Hale *Contempt. t.* 326 But art thou come, dear Saviour? hath thy Love & Pitie made thee stoop .. and thou thy self to dress In dust to visit Mortals? 1727 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* i. (1840) 9 Thus Adam was frequently visited in Eden. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 743 For He .. Shall visit earth in Mercy.

*transf.* 1830 Tennyson *Ode to Memory* 4 Oh, haste, Visit my low desire! Strengthen me, enlighten me!

**b.** *spec.* (See quots.)

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxi. 1 God forsothe visitide Sara, and fulfilide that that he spak. And she conseyuede. [Similarly in later versions.] 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 190 The hihe makere of nature Hire hath visited in a throwe, That it was openliche knowe Sche was with childe be the king.

**c.** To come to (persons) in order to judge of their state or condition. (Cf. sense 9.)

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* iii 16 Visytynge Y haue visitid 30w, and Y haue seen alle thingis that haue fallun to 30w in Egipte. 1535 Carvl *Expos Job* I. 637 In this sense, Job saith, that God visits man every morning, as a shepherd his flock, lest any should be hurt or straid.

†**2.** To come to (persons) in order to observe or examine conduct or disposition; to make trial of; to subject to test or scrutiny. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5195 (Gött.) Godd has be [Abraham] visited here to-dai, bi dede in mannyng sal last ai. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xvi. 4 (xvii. 3) Pou prouedest my hert, and visited it on nipt. *Ibid.* lviii. 6 (lix. 5), 3if entent to nauhten al folkes; ne haue bou nouht mercy on alle bat wirchen wickednes. 1382 Wyclif *Job* vii 18 I hou visitist hym the morntid, and ferst[1388 sudeynli] hou preuyest hym? *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. lx. 51 Wherfore saiþ Iob: 'I hou visitist him by tyme, & sodenly þou preuest him'. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxi. 14 But seynge that God wil sytt in iudgment, what shal I do? And for so much as he wil indes vysyt me, what answere shal I geue him? 1645 Carvl *Expos. Job* I. 637 I he eye of God is alway upon us: he visiteth us, that we can learn no way but he is with us. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 48 But God who oft descends to visit men Unseen, and through thir habitations walks To mark thir doings.

*absol.* 1611 Bible *Job* xxxi 14 What then shall I do, when God riseth vp? and when he vvil visiteth, what shall I answere him?

**3.** To inflict hurt, harm, or punishment upon (a person); to deal severely or hardly with (persons or things); †to cut off, cause to die.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxvi. 14 Therfore thou hast visityd, and to broosedest hem, and lost al the mynde of hem. 1485 *Cov. Lect. Bk.* 548 If your wrodomes will please to chese me

Recorder of your Citie if God visite your Recorder that nowe is. 1535 Coverdale *Amos* iii. 2 Therfore will I vysyt vpon ye all youre wickednesse. 1542 Fisher *Serm.* (1935) VI 152 Benge visit with the hande of God. 1594 J. B. *La Perimand. for Acad* II 312 Let vs alwayes looke to the first cause of our visitation, to God who visiteth vs with sickes. 1611 Bible *Amos* iii. 14, I will also visite the altars of Bethel, and the horues of the altar shall be cut off. 1645 Carvl *Expos. Job* I. 636 When God visits our bodies, our estates, our families, or the kingdom where we live. *a* 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1772) I. iii. 52 We have mentioned several reasons why God doth not immediately visit the disobedient. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 248 If vice reserve her retribution due When we were visited, what hope for you? 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 67 Her life was spared by the clemency of the emperor, but he visited the pomp and treasures of her palace.

**b.** To afflict or distress *with* sickness, poverty, or the like.

1424 Hen. VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* II. I. 200 Ourse bel Uncle of Excestre, whom oure Lord now late visitid with sekenesse. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 1–7 Som withe povert hym list to visite. 1526 *Pilgr. Per. C* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, Whan he visyted them with sickenesse. 1611 & visiteth with payne & reformation 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 2 God .. haung visited mee with a long, and perilous sickenesse. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xxxiii. 24 The people that dwell therein shall be forgiuen their iniquitie. 1701 in *Cal. Treasury Castaneheda's Cong. E. Ind.* v. vii. 19 b, Before his departure he went to visit the town of Monsambick, and the dwellers thereof, with extreme dissentery. 1724 Swift in *Lett. I st. Men* (Camden) 131 It pleased God to visite me with a quartan 1748 Smollett *R. Random* xxvii, His indignation began to be directed to God Almighty, who visited his people with distempers. 1860 Boyd *Graver Thoughts* 52 Holy Scripture sets before us two men, each of whom was visited with a thorn in the flesh to keep him down.

**c.** To charge *of* something. *rare*—1.

*c* 1585 *Faire Em* III. iv, Good father, giue me leaue to sit where I may not be disturbed, sith God hath visited me both of my sight and hearing.

**4.** Of sickness, etc.: To come upon (a person or persons), to assail or afflict. Freq. in passive and const. *with* or *by*.

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 1080 Als we suld ilk day bedes fele, And bayde noght til þe dede us vysete. 1382 Wyclif *Numb.* xi. 33 Whanne yit the flesh was betwixe the teeth, which the wrath of God hadde ioned to be visytid, the Lordis hath not sente me. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 95 The king his father was visited with sickenesse, that was incurable. *a* 1576 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 156 He was thesteike visitit with the heet feweris. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 241, I would the state of time had first been whole, Ere he by sickenesse had been visited. 1645 Carvl *Expos. Job* I 636 When a house hath the Plague, we use to say, Such a house is visited. 1667 *Pr. Lycon Harv. Medicor* (1671) 1 So grievously was he visited with plagues, ..that before a month the living were hardly able to bury the dead. 1692 E. Hooker-in *Extr. St. P. rel. Proceed's in N. Engl.* (1711) 14 The White Lyon prisoners, 23 of them visitted with sickneasse and a high fever. 1727 Swift *God's Rev. aget Punning* Wks. 1735 III. i 177 One Samuel an Irishman, of his forward attempt to pun hath been visited all his life after with bulls and blunders. 1754 *Med. Observ.* (1776) I. 43 Being visited by a gentle attack [of gout] in both feet. 1832 R. R. Madden *Turkey & Egypt* II. xiii. 120 Since leaving Jenna, we have met an incredible number of persons visited with the loss of one eye. 1838 *Poultry Chron.* III. 148/1 Some which were tended with constant care, all died: and similar mortality has visited others also. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 602 Cornwall must have been more lightly visited with the Plague than most English counties.

**b.** *spec.* in *pass.* Bewitched.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 107 On account of their stock thus 'visited', as the term is, the infatuated peasantry almost invariably have recourse to charms.

**5.** To punish or requite (wrongdoing). Also const. *with*, *upon*.

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxxvii. (lxxxix.) 32 Y shal visite in chastesing her wickednesses, and her synnes in vengeaunce. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxii. 34 Y in the day of veniaunce shal visite this synne of hem. [Also *Jer.* xiv. 10, *Lam.* iv. 22, etc.; similarly in later versions.] 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Therfore, now will I vysyt the wickednes of youre ymaginacions, saieth ye Lorde. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* ii. 41 So jealous is Nature of her constitutions that she rigorously visits every infringement of them. *Ibid.* 49 The instinct of Retribution or the vehement desire to see wrong visited with punishment. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* IV. I 496 What, he often said, could be more unjust, than to visit speculations with penalties which ought to be reserved for acts? 1879 Froude *Cæsar* 312 Old offences were visited with the loss of eyes or ears.

**b.** To avenge, or inflict punishment for (wrongdoing) *on* or *upon* (also † *in*, *into*) a person.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Visityngne the wickidnes of hadris in 30wre inuentis seith the Lord. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxiii 2 Y shal visite vp on 30w the malice of youre studies. 1535 Coverdale *Numb* xiv. 18 The Lorde.. vysiteth the wyckednes of the fathers vpon the children. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 179 Thy armies are visited in this poore childe. 1596 — *Merch. I.* III. v 16 So the sins of my mother should be visited vpon me. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xxiii. 2 Behold I will visite vpon you the euill of your doings. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 955, I to that place Would speed before thee, and be waiting there To visit your repair. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 181 Which doubly visits on the tyrants' heads The long protracted fulness of their woe 1832 Keble *Serm. v.* 1848) 128 Thus, reversing the Scripture rule most unfairly, men visit the sins of the children on the fathers. 1866 *G.* Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb* xiii. (1878) 266 He visited the daughter's fault upon the son.

**c.** To inflict (punishment) *on* one. *rare.*

1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* ix. (1852) 202 It is said to be of the essence of legal penalty to visit punishment on the person of the offender.

**6.** *absol.* To take vengeance or inflict punishment. †Also const. *on* or *over*.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* x. 12, I shal visite vpon the fruyt of the gret doonde herte of the king of Assur. *Ibid.* xxvii 1 In that dai visetith alle the Lord his hard swerd, his gret & bistrongh. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Isa.* xiii. 11 And I will visite ouer the euils of the vvould, and against the impious their iniquities. 1820 *Pr. Dom. Estrange* 106 When the vilest outrages were offered by foreigners to their women, probably they [sc. the Sicani] 'visited' part of such atrocities.

**II. 7.** To make a practice of going to (persons in sickness or distress) in order to comfort or assist them.

*c* 1290 *Kent Serm.* in *O. E. Misc* 28 For bo lue of gode wake, go ine pelrimage, usiti pe poure, and to sike. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1032 [To] Vysyty syke and prysone, And helpe powere at nede. *c* 1375 *Sir Beues* (Caius MS.) 1133 Wib mild wrym or stynk lette vs to visite men in presun. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B v. 412, I visited neuere fieble men, ne feiterid folke in prisone. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxv. 36 I was sijk, and vysyd hom; ye intryde diligence, On al nedy have thow compassioun. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 231 Helpe he sike, and vysed hom pat be in prisone. *c* 1491 *Chast Goddes Child.* 21 Also it is regard to visite seke folke pat ben holden goostly lyers. 1526 Pindale *Jas.* i. 27 To vysit the frendlesse and wuldowes in their aduersite. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. 98, 861 You shall find a vvelcome vvhen ye come day to day, Visite the speechlesse sicke. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iii 4 Bound by my charity, .. I come to visite the afflicted spirits Here in the prison. 1610 J. Rerkick in *A. Shields Life* (1724) 219 Ye must visit the Sick and these who are in Distress. 1795 Palmy (*title*), The Clergyman's Companion in Visiting the Sick. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (*ed. 3*) IV. 541/1 The deplorable condition of the female prisoners in Newgate attracted her [Elizabeth Fry's] attention, and she visited them frequently.

*absol.* a 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 22 The devil goeth a-visiting, he will teach the sick how they shall recover their health.

**b.** Similarly with reference to individual cases.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26013 Til his felaus he yede He went him for to visit baim, for bar-of had bai rede. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4466 He lay yn his bedde, pat Sone after beydde a lytle pe kynge come, hym to vysyte. 13 *Sewyn Sages* (W.) 1238 He let of-sende . Hise neyebours him to visite, And told . How his deth was comen him on. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 340 Pese be3 pe prophi ne sister sene othir in prison, [but] pat he shal comyn and vesyten hym and comfordyn hym. 1530 Palsgr. 766/1 It is an almesse dede to vysyte the syke man, he hath ben long sycke. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* I 167 It pleaseth me well that this captaine Huon, who enduryth myche payne, be vysyted by thee. 1548–9 Compl. *Scot.* xi. 104 *Cov. Myst. Sick*, If the person visited bee very sicke, then the curate may end his exhortacion at this place. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. iii. 85 Come, you must goe visit the good Lady that lies in 1645 Carvl *Expos. Job* I. 636 Christ pronounceth the blessing on them who, when he was in prison, visited him. 1718 N. Spinckes *Useful.* The Sick Man Visited; and furnished with Instructions, Meditations, and Prayers. 1808 Mrs. E. Hamilton *Cottagers of Glenburnie* x. The minister had been sent for..to visit a sick parishioner.

**8.** To go to see (a person) as a friendly or sociable manner; to call on as an act of friendliness or politeness, or for some special purpose; also, to stay with for a short time as a guest.

13 *Arth. & Merlin* 701 Biside per wonid an armite, pat pider com, pis [=these] to visite. 13 *Gay Gower* A 1450 Whende kill it was comen, pat Mirre-fremdes to visite & to se. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 325 Pat tyme whanne Moyses visited his breperen in pe lond of Iessen, he slowe a man of pe Egipciens. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 139 And whan the Soudan wille, he may go visite him. 1424–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 3764 Hector in herte causte an appetite To same day Grekis to visite 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II iv. (1883) 47 The knyght enuiphus which came the same nyght with his squyer for to visite his lord *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 46 As though he had gone secretly to visite a familiar frende of his. 1580 E. Knight *Trial Truth* To Chr. Rdr., A friend of myne visiting me at my chamber, and finding me so sodainly exercised [etc.]. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Bacc. almi's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 268 This Duke visited Prospero Colonna, of whom he was received

with all sorts of Honour. 1696 Lady Chaworth in 12th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 29 Lady Cleaveland is not, they say, much satisfied in France because the greatest ladies doe not visit her. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 61 He's too lazy and proud to visit common Sailors. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xv. ix, Who, though some enemies ladies would be be seen with her, is visited (as they term it) by the whole town. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxvi, Vivaldi was visited in his prison by a man whom he had never conversed with before. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii. Had he not been so great a Prince very few possibly would have visited him. 1860 Waren *Soul and I.* 161 How many of the friends I was on my way to visit are no more seen! 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* vii. He comes there visiting his relation, Mr. Jasper. *fig.* 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. i. 60 Let me heare from thee by Letters...And I likewise will visite thee with mine. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 72, I have long promised myself to visit thee w^th a Letter.

†b. To have cohabitation with (one of the opposite sex). *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10820 Now the maner was most of po mylde women, Thre mones with mirthe po men for to viset. 1535 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 41 The men are accustomed to vysyte the women once in the yeare.

c. Of a medical man: To attend (a patient) professionally.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xii. 93 (The physician) is bound to visite the sicke twelue times a day, vntill suche time as he haue recouered his health. 1607 *Peele's Jests* 2 The gentlewoman ..sent one of the men to desire the Doctor to come and visit her husband. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 253 The Physicians themselves in China are Apothecaries, and when they Visit their Patients, they carry a Servant loaded with their Medicines. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Physician,* Clinical Physicians were those who visited their Patients a-bed, to examine their Cases. 1768 *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 5 About four o'clock I visited her again, and found, that she vomited had ceased. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 409 The District, in which the Patients of the Finsbury Dispensary are visited. 1830 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 133/1 For visiting as patient out of his own house [Petrus de Abano] charged ..about six pounds per day. 1886 in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* (1887) 486/1 In cases of urgent necessity, patients will be visited at their own houses.

d. *transf.* To go to (a person, etc.) with hostile intentions.

*a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lvii. 306 Syr, cause your men too be armed, and let vs go vysyte the Admyrall Galaffre. 1596 Shakr. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 20 Now is the Welsh Owen-Glendour visited, ere the King Dismisse his power, he meanes to visit vs. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. i, Before I touch The banks of rosie Tyber, shall with the sword Visite her. 1604 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. v. 148 Set downe...thine own wales, Whether to knocke against the Gates of Rome, Or rudely visit them in parts remote.

e. *absol.* To make a call or calls; to pay calls; to maintain friendly or social intercourse by this means; also, to spend a short time with one as a guest; to pay visits of this kind.

In the first quot. app. 'to go canvassing'.

1646 Meade in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 230 Hercupon on Tuesday morning ..some durst be so bold as to visitt for the contrary in publick. 1649 Cakyl *Expos. Job* I. 636 It is ..more extraordinary to visit in a morning, and much early in the morning. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 24 ¶ 5 They are qualify'd rather to add to the Furniture of the House (by filling an easy Chair) than to the Conversation they come into when they visit. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Torment.* I. ii. (1811) 54 Unless ..she happens to receive any particular address from the young gentlemen who visit at your house. 1798 S. & Fr. Lee *Canterb. Tr.* II. i. 4 I found my-self very sad, and lonely, ..so all my kindred made it a point to have me a visiting among them. 1826 Disraeli *Vin. Grey* I. vii, Busied with his studies, and profoundly averse to visit '. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xiii, Her ladyship knows my address, having visited here. 1894 L. Allen *Tavern. Weight* I. 41 A spinster..who spends her life visiting from place to place.

*fig.* 1829 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, You rayther want somebody to look arter you, sir, wen your judgment goes a wisitin'.

9. To go to look at († or explore); to inspect or examine; to look into or see to (something); in later use *esp.* to examine (vessels, goods, baggage, etc.) officially.

Rarely with clause as object, as in Milton *P. L.* VIII. 45, 53 ... *K. Alis.* 6081 (Laud MS.), Whan hij han rested a lyte, pe lande hij wenden to visite. Hij founden narewe paþes & litit fen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6, 653 Thus pay vysyted the Holy Land How pey myght wynne it to her kennd. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 4 Pe kyng pe gart crie Home forto wend to childe & to wife, To visite per londes, to wite how per life. 1388 *Wyclif Jos.* xviii. 8 And thou visityng thi fairnesse [*gloss*, that is, biholding thi prosperite] schalt not do synne. 14.. *Tretyse in W. de Henley's Husb.* (1890) 56 Also pat ye viset your hyrying wisely & often ..also that you visite often tymys your servaundes. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 94 Also ought they to rede visite and to knowe the statutes..of the cours. c 1500 *Melusine* xxi. 339 There he made come ..all the Captayns & chiefteyns..to behold & vysyte theire harneys, yf euy thing wanted. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 8 Farmtus, aryse thou out of thy lyttre hote, Go se and vysyte our wethers in the cote. 1530 Palsgr. Introd. 5 When they had thoroughly visyted my said two bokes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiii. 21 b, Visiting afterwards their teeth with eyes, as though they had been horses. 1601 Mountjoy *Lett. to Cecil* 13 Nov., in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 157 It groweth now about foure a clocke in the morning at which time I lightly chuse to visit our Guards my selfe. 1654 Brahmall *Just Vind.* vii. (1661) 299 All Bulls and Missives which come from Rome to France are to be seen and visited, to try if there be nothing in them prejudicial (etc.). 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 182 We were introduced into the City by the Truchesman of the Convent, who came with a Turk belonging to the Basha, that visited our Baggage. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* viii. (1899) 261 The synod-book was once a year to be filled up for the General Assembly to visit it. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 685/1 That no British Vessels shall be visited or molested ..by the Judges of Contraband. 1772 *Regul. H. M. Service at Sea* 17 A Captain ..is immediately to repair on board, and visit her throughout, in Company with her Officers. 1778 Orme *Hist. Milit. Transt. Indostan* VI. II. 21 A passport, or *dustuck*...should exempt the goods it specified from being visited or stopped by the officers. 1824 Sinclair *Hexapla. Ordin. Deuteron.* I rose, and went, Visiting my flowers from pot to pot. 1897 *Law Rep.* 40 Dear, as the light that visits these sad eyes.

1796 Mosse *Amer. Geog.* II. 351 The Seine..runs to the northwest, visiting Troyes, Paris, and Rouen, in its way. 1816 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 50 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep. 1847 Emerson *Monadnoc* 12 For me in showers, in sweeping showers, the spring Visits the valley.

d. Of birds, etc.: To resort to or frequent (land or sea, a country, etc.) for a limited period or at certain seasons.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 93 As they never visit land, ..their feathers take a colour from the situation. 1820 Montagu *Ornith. Dict. s.v. Blackcap*, The blackcap is a migrative species visiting us early in the spring. 1840 *Hooker's Anim. Kingd.* 370 The Mountain Chaffinch ..which visits Britain in Winter. 1887 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 577 In winter the Storks of Europe retire to Africa,..while those of Asia visit India.

*absol.* 1831 T. Nuttall in *Mem. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* (1833) I. 96 [The] Canada Jay..regularly visits, if it is not wholly resident, in Maine or Hampshire.

†11. To come to (a person) with some accompaniment; to supply or enrich *with* some benefit.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18158 (Cott.) Þe lem þat come wit him, Brast all þe bandes of ur site, And visite vs wit grett delite. *Tr. ton Mayors Arth.* 1726 Visit them once pe yeare pat vesettet us ever With landes and lordschepper, where us beste lykes. 1592 Shakr. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 83 Visit by night your Ladie, as by day Your manchet and your comfort. 1648 Cakyl *Expos. Job* I. 637 God visiteth his [people] with mercies.

**Visitable** (vi·zităbl'), *a.* [f. prec. + -able.]

1. Of institutions, etc.: Liable to visitation by some competent authority; subject to official supervision or inspection.

1605 Coke *Reports* V. 15/2 All religious or Ecclesiastical houses, whereof the king was founder, are ..only visitable and corrigible by the Ordinary, by ecclesiastical visitation. 1661 J. Stephens *Procurations* 40 When those Religious persons ..had relinquished their habit, rule, and order, for which they were visitable, and became Visitation exempt. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 295 All .. Hospitals .. built since the Reformation are Visitable by the King or Lord-Chancellor. 1767 Blunn *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) VI. 172 Free chapels..being visitable only by commission from the king. 1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* c. 39 § 4 In all cases such holder shall be visitable by the Visitor of the Chapter. 1895 Phillimore *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) 1061 Benefices and free chapels used to pay no procurations to any ecclesiastical ordinary, because they were not visitable by any.

2. Of places or persons: Capable of being visited; readily admitting of a visit.

In the first quot. perh. 'worth visiting'.

a 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 104 In order to see the Sanctuaries, and other visitable places. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 190 Many places and fine churches ..rendered visitable by tourists. 1842 Sir J. Graham in *Illustr. Lond. News* 14 May 7/1 The children easily visitable by their parents. 1876 *Bible Educator* I. 78 Besides the most beautiful columns at present extant and erect in the conveniently visitable world. 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 4 June 811/1 The tropics are visitable in the winter only, and then the preacher is busiest.

*transf.* 1866 Miss Mulock *Noble Life* vi, His rank lifted him above the small proprietors who lived within visitable distance of the Castle.

3. Of persons: a. Capable of being visited on more or less equal terms by those of some standing in society; having some social position in a neighbourhood.

1784 Cowper *Let.* 18 Oct., In about two months time after my arrival, I became known to all the visitable people here. 1832 *Court Mag.* VI. 186/1 The Orange Grove! I was not aware that visitable people were in the island! 1892 Tupper *Castle Cornet* 31 The landlords, having no visitable neighbours, no society within many miles, are necessarily absentees. 1896 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* v, In select party of thirty...few visitable families could be entirely left out.

b. Capable of being visited by a clergyman in the discharge of his pastoral duties.

1904 R. Snell *Hist. U. P. Congregations* I. 474 In the southern division ..there were only ninety visitable families at that time.

4. Such as admits of receiving visitors.

1802 Mrs. Bell *Lett.* in J. C. Colridge *Mem.* (1869) 486 Charlotte was not very much in visiting, or visitable order, during a great part of the time. 1870 Mrs. Whitney *Sights & Insights* II. xxv. 338 Mrs. Lee, however is ill, and affected her face and eyes; she was not really in visitable condition.

†**Visitador.** *rare.* [Sp. and Pg., f. *visitar* to visit.] An official visitor, inspector, or superintendent.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 312 The Father Visitador of the Carmelites, a Spaniard, and a good Scholar. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* VI. (1796) II. 231 He authorised Francisco Tello de Sandoval to repair to Mexico as Visitador or superintendent of that country. 1846 G. Gardner *Brazil* 500 Soon afterwards the Visitador's troop overtook us, consisting of eight or nine horses.

**Visitandine.** [F., irreg. f. L. *visitand-*, gerundial stem of *visitare* to visit + -ine.] A nun

belonging to the Order of the Visitation, founded in 1610 by Mme. de Chantal (St. Frances) under the direction of St. Francis de Sales.

1727 *Gentl. Mag.* 572/1 There is near the same number of Congregants, Ursulines, Visitandines, and other sorts of Beguines. 1870 W. H. Jervis *Gallican Ch.* I. v. 247 A kindred institution took its rise, whose history is one of special interest, namely the Order of Visitandines, founded by François de Sales. 1888 Emily Bowles *Mem. de Maintenon* 198 Madame de Maintenon wisely made choice of some Visitandines..to train the community.

*b. attrib.* or as *adj.*

1888 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 313 Miss Giberne..who afterwards became a Visitandine nun.

**Visitant** (vi·zităn't), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *visitant*, pres. pple. of *visiter*, or ad. L. *visitant-*, *visitans* pres. pple. of *visitāre* to visit.]

**A.** *sb.* 1. One who pays a visit to another; a visitor.

Very common in 17–18th cent.; now *rare* or *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Hee has a rich wrought waste-coat to entertaine his visitants in. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* v. iii, For the most part she hath kept her private chamber, and few admitted. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 22 Nov., Being sick, and full of visitants, we could not speak with him. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 544 No Palace, with a Lofty Gate to wait, T' admit the Tydes of early Visitants. 1722 Pope *Lett.* (1737) 177 As a visitant, a lodger, or a friend you are always welcome to me. 1780 Johnson *Idler* No. 20 His chamber was filled by visitants, eager to gain the indications of a fever. 1857 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* I. v 155 She calmly explained to her visitant the motives of her conduct. 1866 Lady *Ellis* tr. *Polydori Fabricius' Ills* 2 It is not of guests that we complain, but of endless, purposeless visitants. 1892 R. J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 81 He was shy and bashful..and really appeared agitated and afraid of his white-faced visitants.

*transf.* 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 260 The services rendered by such visitants (*sc.* insects) will be understood when we have described all the parts of a flower. 1862 R. Vaughan *Eng. Nonconformity* 357 Rulers who deserve that an avenger should be upon their path, cannot always resist the impression that such a visitant is sent in wrath. 1888 Gladstone *Gleanings* (1879) III. 44 To the absolutely stereotyped forms both of faith and scepticism,..the author of 'Ecce Homo' has been a most unaccepting visitant.

b. Applied to supernatural beings or agencies, etc., esp. as revealing themselves to mortals.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 225 Adam..to Eve, While the great Visitant approached, thus spake. 1782 J. Brown *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* II. 138 We are commanded to hear him, as infinitely superior to Moses and Elias, his then visitants. 1823 Coleridge *Remorse* III. i. 85 Thou sainted spirit, Here on our sight, a gracious visitant! 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. xi, I would ask those mountains..why they no longer received heavenly visitants! 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 248 The spiritual visitant, indeed, which rejoiced the wise poet of Asera, was not the Paraclete of Jesus.

c. One who visits from charitable motives.

1661 Witness *Improv. Imprisonment* (title-p.), A few Crums & Scraps Lately found in a Prisoners-Basket at Newgate, And Saved together, by a Visitant of Oppressed Prisoners.

d. One who makes a short stay at a friend's house.

1769 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) III. 365, I found a young gentlewoman there, a visitant. 1820 Scott *Peveril* xii, An attachment, which lulled..to pleasing dreams, though of a character so different, his charge and her visitant. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii, She was transferred from the little chamber,..to an apartment..usually appropriated to the regular Christmas visitant, the Downger Countess of Chipperton.

2. One who visits some place or object of interest.

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 238 Being often used by way of sport to run the Circuit of the Grot. 1720 Herbert *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 382 Visitants of the Library. 1825 W. H. Ireland *Scribblemaniæ* 88 *note*, Which fact the visitant is given to understand from a long inscription upon a brass plate. 1839 *Civil Serv. G. Arch. Trnl.* I. 1941 Some of the earliest and most extensive specimens of painted glass, well worthy of the attention of the visitant. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Mad's Keeping* (1899) 62 This gallery had frequent visitants.

b. One who visits a place, shrine, etc., from religious motives.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 45 Some of the Visitants count it meritorious to be death under a weighty Chariot of Iron. *a* 1799 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) I. x. 147 The father would accept no money from the various visitants, for which he promised an adequate recompense by the chiefs of his sect. 1818 Cary *Dante, Par.* XXV. 10 Behold the peer of mickle might, That makes Galicia throng'd with visitants. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvi. (1845) 218 The caution [said to be so] applicable to the visitants of Jerusalem as to those of Mecca.

c. One who visits a strange town or country; a stranger who spends a short time in a place; a temporary resident.

1738 Swedlay *Phys. Fic.* (1779) III. lxxxi. 183 Ghent..was much crowded with these young visitants. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* 24 The lodgings for visitants were paltry, though expensive. 1802 J. Jones tr. *Bigge's Trans. Pr. Regt.* I. 22 This town has very little to invite the eye of a visitant. 1823 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 361 The paper..was not written by a Virginian, but a visitant from another State. 1857 G. Musgrave *Pfiger. Daughter* I. ii. 34 A splendid specimen..was continually surrounded by the French visitants. 1865 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 144 To show ..the absurdity of a new visitant pretending to hold any opinion whatever on such subjects.

d. One who enters a country in hostile fashion; an invader.

1768 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 93 The antient and christian inhabitants of the island retired to those natural intrenchments, for protection from their pagan visitants.

3. A thing which comes to one in a casual or temporary manner.

1740 Young *Nt. Th.* v. 723 When your neighbour's knell (Rude visitant!) knocks hard at your dull sense. *a* 1776 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 135 However irregular we find the wind..they have it a more constant and more grateful visitant. 1833 Wrewell in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 300 Digby..is still ill of a rheumatic fever, his not unusual visitant. 1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* xvi, Chasing away sleep and making the faint daylight a welcome visitant. 1876 Geo. Eliot in *Cross Life* (1885) III. 293, I am never in that mood of sadness which used to be my frequent visitant.

4. A migratory bird, etc., as temporarily frequenting a particular locality.

1709 J. Logan *Cuckoo* iii, Delightful visitant I with thee I hail the time of flowers. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 29 Such are our visitants. With regard to those which breed here [etc.]. 1834 Mudie *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 119 Those [birds] which come in the spring and depart in the autumn are called summer visitants. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 60 The fresh-water fishes may be..merely visitants from the ocean for the purpose of depositing their spawn. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 13 The Hooded Crow..being, in some localities a winter visitant only, in others a resident.

**B.** *adj.* Paying a visit or visits; having the position or character of a visitor.

1563 H. Cohan tr. *Scarlet Genoa* 67 One shall never see any visitant Bishop..but he shall be accompanied with xl. then as of a forelorn Cardinal. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* III. ii, I begin to have a knowledge of the visitant Ninnies that do molest us. 1726 [In Fox *Hist. David* (1822) 247 An intimate Devil, or a Devil visitant. 1794 Pigott *Tyneon.* I. 125 The snappish housekeeper gives short answers to the poor visitant niece. 1807 Wordsw. *Song Feast Brougham Castle* 140 He knew the voices which Angels haunt Upon the mountains visitant. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 166 And Edith's everywhere; And Edith ever visitant with him. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 282 My Melvill was entirely amiable in the Church visitant, though not formidable in the Church militant.

**Visiting,** *ppl. a. rare*—. [f. L. *visitāt-*, ppl. stem of *visitāre* to visit.] Visiting.

1818 *True Noble K.* I. i, But our Lords Lie blist'ring 'fore the visiting Sun, And were good Kings, when living.

**Visitation** (vizitā·ʃən). Forms: 4 vysyta-oyun, 5–6 vysytacyon (5 -acyone, 6 -acion), vysitasyon, vysitacyon; 4–5 visitacioun (6 *Sc.* -acioun), 4–7 visitation (7 -acyon), 4– visitation; 6 visitacion, -ation, -acyon, -asyon. [a. AF. *visitacioun* (Gower), OF. and F. *visitation* (= Sp. *visitacion*, Pg. *visitação*, It. *visitazione*), or ad. L. *visitātiōn-*, *visitātio*, noun of action f. *visitāre* to visit.]

**I.** 1. The action, on the part of one in authority, or of a duly qualified or authorized person, of going to a particular place in order to make an inspection and satisfy himself that everything is in order; an instance of such inspection or supervision.

a. A visit by an ecclesiastical person (or body) to examine into the state of a diocese, parish, religious institution, etc.; *spec.* in English use, such a visit paid by a bishop or archdeacon; a meeting or gathering of persons concerned in such a visit.

Quotations for an archdeacon's visitation are placed separately under (*b*).

(*a*) 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2103 He [an abbot] went hys wey To Palestyne, hat ys an abbey, To make hys vysytacyon, ffor he fallyd ye religyon. 1421 *Pol. Verses* (Rolls) II. 21 Why be ye not under your bishops visitations, and leege men to our king? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 b/2 Syr, we be under the visitacyon and auctorite of fathers and bretherne gathered together in maner of a vysytacyon..dyd in this wyse. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 145 The visitacion of Religious persones, makyng of Abbottes,..and other pollynges..had made his threasore egall with the kynges. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 560 All their Parishens..to the Visitours of them complaind it, ..Till at the length he published to holde A Visitation, and them cyted thether. 1862 J. Stephens *Procrastinatus* 17 For what are Visitations other then laborious travellings from place to place? 1730 Herbert *Eccl. Hist.* (1840) *Lett.* (1723) II. 132 It was the year of my primary visitation, and I determined to see every part of my diocese. 1846 Worcester *Dict. W.* s.v. *Visit* 3th, Each bishop in my Visitation..will be the last week in June and the first in July. 1887 Hallam *Const. Hist.* ii. (1876) I. 70 Wolsey, in 1519, began a commission and a visitation of the professed as well as secular clergy in 1523.

(*b*) 1336 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* fol. 22 b, Item payd at the fisyatyacyon, xiiij*d*. 1537 *Ibid.* fol. 23 Item payd at Chelmsford at the vysytacyon for howr coats, xviij*d*. 1596 *Inv. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 56 Imprimis a box made of bone sold to Jho Watres sens the last visitacion who keeps yt to put mony in. 1603 *Cantlle Low Countries* (1604) 1 In Visitations of Bishops and Archdeacons, the Church-wardens.. shall..present the names of all those which behaue themselues rudely..in the Church. 1692 Peterage *Lett.* (Camden) 119, I have yours of the 16th, but it came not to my hands till last Friday, for I was absent at Ipswich on a visitation. 1731 Gibson *Codex* 909 If any Archdeacons are entituled to require Exhibits in their Visitations, it can only be upon the foot of Custom. 1796 Ayliffe *Parergon* 56 For the Bishop ought to visit his Diocese every Year in his own Person, unless he thinks fit to omit the same,..and then in such a Case he ought to send his Archdeacon, which was the Original of the Archdeacons Visitation. 1849 *Words to Churchwardens* (Camb. Camd. Soc.) 1, 3 The Archdeacon at his Visitation seldom ends his charge without a few words to us Churchwardens. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 94 The articles of Visitation issued by him, when archdeacon in 1723, are to be answered by all churchwardens.

(*c*) 1787 P. Walker *Life Semple* Biog. Presbyt. (1827) I. 158 There were few parochial Visitations..but he was at them, for encouraging of laborious godly Ministers, and censuring of such as were scandalous.

b. A visit of inspection made by one or more persons having civil authority or jurisdiction or specially appointed to exercise supervision within a certain sphere; the making of such visits; † the body of persons making an inspection of this kind.

† *Visitation of manners* : see quot. 1607 and Manners.

1533–4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 14 Redresse visitacion and confirmacion shalbe had by the Kynges Highnes. 1586 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 54 Item the v. day after in September [1547] beganne the kynges vysytacion at Powles, and alle imagys pullyd downe. 1607 Cowell *Interpr., Visitation of manners*, was wont to be the name of the Regarders office in auncient times. 1665 in W. Campbell *Ch. & Par. Kirkcaldy* 84 The visitation present appoynts the school to be visited four times in the year. 1691 *Wood Ath. Oxon.* I. 397 On the 8. of May the Visitation of his Library is commonly made. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 349 Sir Thomas Pye..has it in command from the King to acquaint [certain admirals, etc.] that he has been charged with their attention during his visitation at Portsmouth. 1845 Polson in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 826/1 It was held, that in default of a special visitor appointed by the founder or charter, the king, in the person of his chancellor, had the right of visitation. 1874 Bucknill & Tuke *Psychol. Med.* (ed. 3) 9 The bill of 1828, by which the Secretary of State was allowed to appoint fifteen Commissioners annually, for the license and visitation of those houses which had been previously licensed by the College of Physicians.

c. A periodic visit made or duty discharged by heralds to examine and enrol arms and pedigrees. Now only *Hist.*

1572 N. Roscarrock *Prelim. Verses* in Bossewell *Armorie*, Of dubbing knights, the ordres thee they haue; ..With visitacions, which all Heraldes craue. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon.* To Rdr., For the Armes of our Lincolnshire Gentlemen, I haue taken their knowledge from themselues, and by Visitation-*Rolles*. 1686 R. Dallington, An Index to the Pedigrees and Arms contained in the Heralds' Visitations. 1824 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiii. (ed. 3) 133 The Records of these Visitations are preserved in the College of Arms.

d. In general use: Examination, inspection.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* E iij b, The old huddle missing his monye at his next visitation, take the haulter and hanged himselfe. 1693 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 16, I cannot tell by what Logick we call a Toad, a Beare, or an Elephant, ugly, they.. having past that generall visitation of God, who saw that all that he had made was good.

e. *spec.* Examination of goods by a customs officer or similar official; the action on the part of a belligerent vessel of ascertaining, by entry or close examination, the character of a merchant ship belonging to a neutral state.

1755 Magens *Insurances* II. 513 Where these Goods shall be subject to Visitation in the same manner, as those which are made in the Kingdom. 1824 Kent *Comm.* I. 31 Maritime states claim upon a principle just and well and temperately applied, a right of visitation. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 The law of nations gives to every belligerent cruiser the right of visitation and search of all merchant ships.

2. The action of going to a place, either for some special purpose or merely in order to see it; an instance of this.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 555 Therfore I made my visitacions To vigilies, and to processions To prechyng eek and to thise pilgrimages. 1654 Cotherington tr. *Justin* xxxvii. (1675) 377 The Ambassadors of the Romans, made a visitation into those parts to observe the condition and Kingdoms of their Confederates. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 172 We took the way by Tor, partly to see it, and partly to take a view of the Arabian Mountains. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xviii. 495 The Blessed Jesus..found Time enough to make His Circular Visitation thro' all those Towns and about Palestine. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 305 In this manner we find, that no part of nature is wholly secluded from human visitation. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. viii, The town was a favourite place of visitation with all the family. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Const. Countries* I. 311 We proceeded from hence to the Church of St. Mary Segreta, and terminated our visitation at that of the Holy Sepulchre. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxvii. 654 As they possessed estates in widely distant places, it was an object to them that they should have easy and convenient means of visitation. *transf.* 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxix, Lambourne, on whom his last draught, joined to repeated visitations of the pitcher upon former occasions began to make some innovation.

b. *post.* The object of a visit. *rare*—1.

1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 275 O flours,..My early visitation, and my last At Eev'n, which I bred up with tender hand.

c. The action, on the part of animals, of resorting to a particular place at certain seasons, or of exceptionally appearing in places which are not their usual habitat.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 330 Along the coasts of Norway,..these animals are found punctual in their visitations.

3. The action or practice of visiting sick or distressed persons as a work of charity or pastoral duty.

*c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (E.E.T.S.) 79 When Abackuk.. Brought potage in to Babyloun,..After figure this matter to conveye, How almesse-dede and vysytacyon Gretly avayllith to sowlys whan they deye. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 120 And as to them that ben seke contynuell visytacion of them. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* 18 The Order for the visitacion of the seke. 1583 in *Woolrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 460 As touching the Visitacion of the seik, he declairit he was..glad to wisite the puirest creatour. 1777 Bramd *Pop. Antiq.* 319 In performing the Service appropriated to the Visitation of the Sick with one of these Men (who died a few Days after). 1795 Paley *Clergym. Comp.* Pref., The offices of Public and Private Baptism, though no ways relating to the visitation of the Sick, are retained. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 280 The Church of England..retains private confession in the rubric for visitation of the sick. 1866 Kingsley Oliphant *New Engl. Hist* I. 160 An office for the Visitation of the sick, which dates from about 1350.

**b.** The action of pastoral visiting on the part of a clergyman.

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 253 The curate beinge of visitacion in the one parte of his paroch, cannot com to the church by the space of ij dayes. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* iii, Country parsons, jogging somewhere about visitation. 1858 T. H. Kilpatrick *N. Test. Evangelism* iii ii. § 2. 167 The Work of Visitation. Every minister knows that this may be the most profitable part of his pastoral duty. ..The work of visitation can never be stereotyped.

**4.** *The Visitation* (*of our Lady*), the visit paid by the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth, recorded in Luke i. 39 ff.; hence *allipt.*, the day on which this is commemorated, July 2; also, a picture representing the event.

1498 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 588 This yere the Chaptur of blak monkes was kept at Couentre bothe the visitacion of our Lady. 1547 Boorde *Introyt. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 161, I have seen snowe in somer on sayncte Peters day and the Vysytacion of our Ladye. 1621 Cotgr. s.v., The feast of the Visitation of our Lady. 1790 Eveleigh in *Ann. Reg.* 1790 Nov. 1644. There are in it divers good pictures, as the Assumption..; the Crucifix; the Visitation of Elizabeth. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., The Visitation of the Virgin Mary is a feast instituted first by pope Urban IV. in the year 1389. 1880 F. Meyrick in *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 2140/1 Among the black-letter or second-class festivals [in the Anglican calendar] occur:—1. The Visitation, July 2nd. 1880 *tr. Woltmann & Woermann's Hist. Paint.* I. 420 The Visitation..in which..the expression of Elizabeth surprises by its individuality.

**b.** *The* (*order of the*) *Visitation*, the Visitandine order of nuns.

1702 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 94 We were at the Nuns of the Visitation, St. Francis de Sales' Festival. 1748 A. Butler *Lives Saints* (1845) VIII. 277 He [St. Francis of Sales] then mentioned his project of forming a new establishment of a congregation of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary. 1864 Newman *Apol.* iv. (1904) 143/1 There was a lady, now a nun of the Visitation, to whom at this time I wrote the following letters. 1899 A. Shield in *Dublin Rev.* July 64 To visit the Nuns of the Visitation in their convent at Chaillot, founded by Queen Henrietta Maria.

**5.** The action of making a friendly or formal call or calls; social intercourse of this nature; visiting.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xviii. (1912) 463 He..so much abhorred all visitation or honour,..that he besought his two noble friends to carrie him away to a castle not far of. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 190 Many of the Gentlemen of the cittie did go vnto the Spaniards to visite them..in the which visitation they spent all the whole day. 1609 *Statutes of Lord of Dellingham* 90 Sunday, Munday and Tuesday were..spent onely in visitation and matters of complesment with one or other. 1631 May tr. *Barclay's Mirror. Mirodes* ii. 81 Because his new acquaintance betweene the two families, this youth was brought by way of visitation to the Ladies lodging. 1643 Baker *Chron., Edw. III*, 169 The King of Scots came for businesse and visitation. 1829 Craske *Tr. of Health* 41 How much the greater to lose the given day In dissipation wild, in visitation gay. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 411 Family visitation [of the insane] should be prohibited.

**b.** An instance of such visiting; a visit.

1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 157 b, The chaunces of these visitations in deede are so often, and so many, that they spend six daies of the week in them. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 176 He..was more familiar than at his first visitation. 1617 Morvison *Itin.* 11, 37 Men of best quality will easily believe, that their names knowne among strangers, and they take these visitations for honours done them. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* viii. 83 Which Letters and visitations I entertained vntill my Mother had paid my debts. 1632 Eglesham *Freemason of Aytoun* 19 Hee knowing Buckinghams visitation to proceed of dissimulation, requested your petitioner..to finde the meanes to get him away quickly. 1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indisct.* I. 180 As he attended Mr. Orthodox to the door, to press his early visitation next morning. 1798 S. & Mrs. Lee *Canterb. Tales* II. 300 Pease and visitations occupied the Duke. *a* 1817 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 337 In the occurrences of the visitation..she heard Mr. Howard spoken of as the preacher. 1827 Blacke *Green Past.* ii, Her father hearing that she contemplated some charitable visitation of the kind had strictly forbidden it.

**c.** A prolonged visit, or one which is disagreeable to the recipient.

1622 *Metropolis* I. 292 She now went on a visitation (for her visits are far beyond the common length) to Lord ——.

**II. 6.** The action, on the part of God or some supernatural power, of coming to, or exercising power over, a person or people for some end:

**a.** In order to encourage, comfort, or aid.

*c* 1390 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 19 If he..halde it a specyalle vesytacyon of oure Lorde, and thynke it mare pan it es. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 72 Whan God of his grete visitacioun, List out of this worlde for hym to sende. *c* 1440 *Mirk's Festial* 41 Syr, ye mowe blesse pe tyme pat ye wer borne, forto haue suche vysitacion, as I now haue herde. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 306 Now drawe ye therfore holefull water of lore of my welles, & that wt loy, for yt tyme of youre vysytacyon is comyn. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxiii, For which cause we see that the most comfortable visitations, which God hath sent men from above have (etc.). 1643 Canyl. *Explan. Ps.* I. 636 Mercies are visitations; when God comes in kindness and love to do us good, he visiteth us. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 22 My Celestial Patroness, who deignes Her nightly visitation unimplor'd. *a* 1798 Chalkley *Wks.* (1760) 86 The mercifull visitations of that High and Lofty One who inhabits Eternity! 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* I. 222 In such high hour Of visitation from the living God, Thought was not. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 9. 34 In such a high hour of religious visitation and in this etherial region..the Divine Spirit may mingle with the Human.

**b.** In order to test, try, examine, or judge.

1380 Wyclif *Luke* xix. 44 And thei schulen not leeue in thee a stoon on a stoon, for thou hast not knowe the tyme of thi visitacioun. 1382—1 *Pet.* v. 6 Therfor be 3e meekid vndir the myʒti hond of God, that he reise 3ou in the day of visitacioun. *a* 1450 *Manhind* 281 in *Macro Plays* 11 Lyke as he was born in this tyme in pe fleer, So he xal be Godis vysytacyon. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 234 b, It maketh hym..glad to receyue the visitacion of our lorde what so euer it be. 1611 Bible (Genev.) *Isaiah* x. 3 What will ye do now in the day of visitation, & of destruction. 1643 Canyl. *Explan. Job* I. 636 Jerusalem is threatened to be searcht with candles, and that was the time of Jerusalems visitation. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* I. xxvii, In the Day of Visitation, In the fearful hour of Judgement, God will remember thee!

**c.** So as to afflict with sickness or other trouble, esp. by way of punishment for wrong-doing.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wrks.* III. 111 And in pis jingis benym I seeche pe sacrefyse agens God and his visitacion, in gret labour and long, and gret sikenesse, and oper adversities. 1421 Hoccleve *Complaint* 382 My syknesse, which came of goddes visitacioun. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 23/1 That notorie sekenesse or impediment by Gods visitation. 1455 *Ibid.* 313/2 John Baxham Squier,..which is blynde by Godes visitacion. 1513 *Statutory Lect Bk.* 504 And the Casualties of diseases by Godes visitation com vnto the Recourder. *a* 1529 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1016 Pray to God your sorowes to aswage, Or by grudge agayne his vysytacyon encrease. 1693 (*title*), Certaine Prayers..most necessary to be vsed at this time in the present Visitation of Gods heauy hand for our manifold sinnes. 1695 *Life & Preach. of Lord Mayor of Lincoln* (Hindley III. 4) 'Tis the visitation of the Lord for the great sins you have committed. 1645 Caryl *Exped. Job* I. 636 If God in affliction visit us,..let us answer his visitation. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5824/2 The Rt. Hon. *John Bull* 31 Dec. 24/2 A verdict of 'died by the visitation of God' was recorded. 1898 J. Arch *Story of Life* xiii. 312 A visitation of the Almighty..upon a luxurious and dissipated aristocracy.

**d.** A similar action on the part of an evil power or disembodied spirit.

1844 Dickens *Christmas Carol* ii. 14 The ghost had warned him of a visitation when the bell tolled one. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* i. 7 He observed that, to him, this trance looked more like a visitation of Satan than a proof of divine favour.

**7.** A heavy affliction, blow, or trial, regarded as an instance of divine dispensation; retributive punishment operating by this means.

*a* 1450 *Manhind* 791 (Brandl), Yt were to me solace, pe vtell vysytacyon of Mankynd deth. 1589 *Trial Treas.* 37 Enter God's Visitation. I am God's minister, called Visitation...Sometime I bring sickness; sometime perturbation. *c* 1589 *Faire Em* v. 3, Put on, I take thee Hubbie, and could not see—As often times such visitations falles That pleaseth God. 1639 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 173 My late wives kinsman..at the late heavy visitation did take great pitties vpon him. 1641 *Bp. Hall's Hard Texts* 142 Earl. or Eglinton *Let.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 52, I am sorrowfull from my heart for your lordships great losse and late heavie visitation. 1727 *Trials Witchcraft, Visitation*,..the great Sickness with which the People of this Kingdom were sorely afflicted during..1665 and 1666. 1792 S. H. *Wks.* II. 144 [It was] now our duty to account for the severe visitation on me, and mine. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 287 You boast an intimate knowledge of the decrees of Heaven, and tell me what is ordained for the welfare of man. 1865 Saeliy *Ecce Homo* vi. (1866) 35 Jehovah was considered..as punishing by providential visitations and by mysterious pains inflicted on the dead. 1885 Dunckley in *Manch. Weekly Times* 28 Feb. 5 War is here regarded..as a punitive visitation, as a form of retribution for our sins.

**8.** The fact of some violent or destructive agency or force coming or falling upon a people, country, etc.

1588 Coverdale *Prov.* xix. 23 The feare of the Lorde preserueth the life, yee it geueth plentcousness, without the visitacion of any plage. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, iii. 1, In the visitation of the Winds, Who take the Ruffian Billowes by the top. 1757 Chesterf. *Lett.* ccixxix. The Austrians always leave behind them pretty lasting monuments of their visits, or rather visitations. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. vii. (1853) III. 116 In Arabia and India, and other countries, their [*sc.* locusts'] visitations have been periodically experienced. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* I. 287 The period..was marked by the visitations of pestilence as well as those of war. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xv, Thanks to Ibrahim Pasha's terrible visitation the men of the tribe were wholly unarmed.

**9.** The fact of some immaterial power or influence acting or operating on the mind.

1791 Mas. Inchbald *Simple Story* I. Pref. p. iii, In justice to their heavenly inspirations, I believe they have never yet favoured me with one visitation. 1829 Shelley *To Gentle Visitations!* Ye gentle visitations of calm thought. 1841 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. i. *Love* (1901) 100 But be our experience ..what it may, no man ever forgot the visitations of that power to his heart and brain. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xiv, His voice was what his uncle's might have been if it had been modulated by delicate health and a visitation of self-doubt. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xvi, Or was he moved by some visitation of compunction?

**III. 10.** *attrib.* (chiefly in special senses), as *visitation acquaintance, book, court, day, dinner, fee, man, office, sermon, steward, watch.*

1820 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xc, Mary would fain hae had me to cultivate a 'visitation-acquaintance with him. 1708 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 105 Their original 'visitation-books, compiled when progresses were solemn and regularly made into every part of the kingdom, to enquire into the state of families,..are allowed to be good evidence of pedigrees. 1850 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Limsfof.* To the Visitation books show us the old edifice once more. 1843 (*title*), Report of the 'Visitation Court of the Archbishop of York. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 292 The duty still continues to be the 'Visitation-day, when the Curates ..do inspect the Library and call over all the Books. 1900 *Daily News* 27 June 6/3 Chocolate is the time-honoured beverage on visitation days at Greenwich Observatory. 1898 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xi, There was not..a ball, nor an election, nor a 'visitation dinner..but he found means to attend it. 1839 J. H. Newman *Difficulties Anglic.* v. ii. (1892) I. 61 Was it a subject..discussed and denounced..in episcopal charges and at visitation dinners? 1880 *Weylif's Wks.* 249 *marg.*, 'Visitation fees. 1898 *Manch. Guardian* 1 Oct. 5/3 Three 'visitation nuns from the monastery of Chaillot, near Paris. 1795 Paley *Clergym. Comp.* v, Prayers for a sick Child. ('Visitation office.) 1896 Gladwell *Ess. Philist.* 9 *Kelly.* Pref. p. 5, The Fifth [Essay] of the Agreement of Reason and Religion, was at first a 'Visitation Sermon. 1760 C. Simeon in W. Carus *Life* (1847) 28 There is a 'Visitation Sermon preached every Lammas at my own parish-church at Reading. 1747 Br. Sherlock *Let.* 27 Aug., in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 209 As the 'visitation work is divided between me and the Dp. of L. we have got thro' it with great ease.

Hence **Visita·tional**, of or pertaining to a visitation. †**Visita·tioner**, one who performs, or takes part in, a visitation.

1794 Richard *Canon. Clergy* 91 A money-renouncing clergy, that can abstain from seeing a penny a month together, unless it be when the collectors and visitationers come. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 90/2 Without impairing the utility or expedience of visitational charges.

**Visitator.** Now *rare.* [a. late L. *visitātor*, f. *visitāre* to visit. Cf. It. *visitatore*, Sp. and Pg. *visitador.*] An official visitor.

1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII, c.* 10 § 5 If any eccle-iastical Judge or Visitator or Ordinary do concele..any presentment. 1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII, c.* 17 Censures ecclesiastical made by your Highnes and your Vicegerent, officialls, commissaries, and Judges and visitators. 1566 W. Lambarde *Rom. Forgeries* F 1 b, The reuerend Andreas Vander Rijt, ..Canon of Antwerpe, and the censor or visitator appointed to ouerlooke and allow bookes before they be printed. 1856 in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 68 James Darcy, now Guardian of Dublin, but then Comm[ission]ary visitator. 1897 J. M'Cann *Yowlin Vis. in Monastery* 1 The usual course is for the General..to send a deputy to the provinces which is about to hold its elections. The deputy or visitator visits all the monasteries in succession.

**Visitatorial** (visitătōˑrĭăl), *a.* [See next and -ORIAL.]

**1.** Pertaining to, connected with, involving or implying, official visitation: **a.** Of power, authority, etc.

1688 N. Johnston (*title*), The King's Visitatorial Power asserted. Being an impartial Account of the Visitation of St. Mary Magdalen College in Oxford. 1721 Bentley *Corr.* (1842) I. 417 The Crown has, for a century and half, been in safe possession of the Visitatorial power. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 470 In one of our colleges, (wherein the bishop of that diocese..has immemorially exercised visitatorial authority). 1770 (*title*), The Conduct of..the Lord Bishop of Winchester,..with brief Observations on visitatorial Power. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LVIII. 476 Deriving the visitatorial power from the property of the donor. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. I. 678 The Archbishop, which annexed to the crown an almost boundless visitatorial authority over the Church. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 596 The visitatorial jurisdiction by which the first..regulated, and remodelled the second.

**b.** With other sbs.

1771 *Gentl. Mag.* XLI. 19 When I wrote my remarks upon the defence of the visitorial decision I was ignorant of the Presidents of Magdalene College being favoured with the indulgence you mention. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 52 The Pope..left the visitatorial question undecided. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 5/3 In his visitatorial address to the churchwardens..Mr. Chancellor Christie went a little out of his way. 1890 Dockray *Visit. Eng. Cluniac Found.* 3 Formulas for visitatorial duties.

**2.** Having the power of visitation; exercising authority of this kind.

1880 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 5/3 He [a professor at Oxford] may be brought before the Visitatorial Board, admonished, fined, and deprived. 1882 *Nature* XXIII. 471 Leave of absence granted by visitatorial boards.

†**Visitatory**, *a. Obs.*—[ad. L. type **visitātōri-us*, f. *visitāt-*, ppl. stem of *visitāre* to visit: see -ORY.] = prec. 1 *a*.

1632 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvii. 208 It is a visitatory, or a reforming Power which is executed by inquiry of offences against Lawes established, and by executing such Lawes.

**Visite** (vizˑt). [F. *visite* Visit *sb.*]

**1.** A light cape or short sleeveless cloak worn by ladies.

1892 Shedlev *L. Arundel* xxxvi. 303 A *visite*, of light blue *glacé* silk. 1864 *Daily Tel* 2 July, She wore a white dress with a black silk visite, and a white bonnet 1885 *Pall Mall G* 12 May 1/2 We have a 'visite' without arms or any proper accommodation for those useful appendages.

2. Short for Carte-de-visite, in attrib. use.

1858 *Anthony's Photogr Bull* IV 302 A stereoscope camera which can be used to make 24 visite negatives.

**Visited** (vi zited), *ppl. a.* Also 6 vysaet, vysyted. [f. Visit *v.*]

†1. Afflicted with illness; attacked by plague or other epidemic. *Obs.*

1537 *Nottingham Rec* III 378 This towne, the whiche dothe kepe the vysyet folke at Bridmar. 1593 S Cahot *Ordinances* in Hakluyt *Voy* (1589) 261 The sicke, diseased, weake, and visited person within boord to be comforted and helped. 1593 *Nottingham Rec* (1889) IV. 250 Payd more for the charges of the vysyted woman at Hyve House xxiijd 1604 F Herring *Mod Defence* B 2 He will not rush rashly into every infected and visited house. 1630 Somner *Antiq Canterb* 16 Convenient Pesthouses, and Receptacles for the poore visited people of the City 1720 De Foe *Plague* (1896) 33 If any person visited do forbear to come from a place infected to any other place

2. That is the object of a visit or visits.

1673 O Walker *Educ.* II. 223 In receiving visits the Gentlemen meet them at the bottom, & it is always observed that the visited Gentleman attend one degree at least further then the Patron 1754 *World* No 62 P9 The Visited in these cases is invented on their pairs several curious hints towards shortning the length of a Visitation 1873 Smiles *Huguenots France* II. i (1881) 383 Dauphiny is one of the least visited of all of the provinces of France.

**Visitee** (vizits). [f. Visit *v.* + -ee] The person to whom a visit is paid.

1892 *New Monthly Mag* XVI. 181 A very necessary convenance interposed between visitor and visitee in those numerous calls of etiquette. 1892 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 274 To suit the more fashionable hours of our visitees. 1896 *Cornh Mag* July 39 I should think that angels (and their visitees) were very lucky

**Visiter** (vi zitər). Now *rare* Also 6 vycytar. [f. Visit *v.* + -er]

1. = Visitor 2 a and 3 b.

1580 Wyclif *Sermons* III 39 He that in heuens hath dwelling, is visiter and helper of that place 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod* 822 He is also a visitor and punisher of stone vpon the wicked

2. = Visitor 1.

1618 Bereewood *Lawe & Relig* 185 These Jacobites be esteemed to make about 160000 families, or rather 50000, as Leonard the bishop of Sodon, the popes visiter in the six parts hath recorded 1691 Ld. Fountainhall *Chron. Scot.* (1822) 18 The Scots had at first a General visiter, that was really a General Bishop 1830 De Quincey *Benthey Wks* 1863 VI 75 Her Majesty was the true visiter of Trinity College

3. = Visitor 3.

1598 Greene *Conny Catch.* III 30 Country Gentlemen haue many visiters both with neere dwelling neighbours, and friends that iourney farre 1638 Junius *Paint Ancients* 13 We doe moreover shorten our own time, fooling the greatest part of our best houres away among a company of prating visiters 1668 Lady Chaworth in 12th *Rep. Hist MSS Comm.* App. v. 80 She visited me, & kept her bed yet admitted visiters in the afternoone 1797 Swift *What passed in Lond* Wks 1755 III 1 184 It was observed too, that he had few visiters 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* v, I tell me, Sophy, my dear, what do you think of our new visiter? 1773 Miss Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) II 44 The empty compliments of a visiter 1796 J. Austen *Pride & Prej* xi (1813) 225 On the very morning after their own arrival at Lambton these visiters came 1825-7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xx, A squalid looking woman [in Newgate prison] was communicating some instructions to her visiter—her daughter evidently

*Ibid* 1799 Sickelmore *Agnes & Clemens* I 92 The sudden and unwelcome intrusion of his old visiter, the gout, obliged him to alter his determination

*transf* 1798 (title), I be Universal Visiter and Memorialist.

4. = Visitor 4 and 4 b.

1849 Tarbell *Brit Birds* II 286 The Terns are summer visiters to this country 1851 *Catal Gt Exhib* III 729 Immense mirrors occupy a prominent position, which must render them approachable by every visiter 1883 *Liverpool Brit* XV 671/2 The chief object of every Museum being to pallage the visiter in every possible way

**Visiting** (vi zitiŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. Visit *v.*] The action of coming or going to a person or place for some special purpose

1. On the part of supernatural beings, esp. the Deity in order to comfort, try, or punish persons

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 6189 Ioseph prad pe folk and bodi pat queen godd sent baim visiting, pai suld has banes pe tin bring. *Ibid* 11266 Pared war has birdes for pat sight For pai nagh neuer in visiting be for pat night 1382 Wyclif *Jer* IL 28 Veyne ben the werkus, and writh scornyng, in tyme of her visityng thei shul perishe 1548 Aubrey *Mir Prem Hist* 359 in C. *Hist. Soc* God hab me chastyn'd fore my lustyng, I bonke my god my grace treuly Of his gracious vesityng. 1625 Carvl. *Pearse Job* I 637 We may apply it either to Gods visiting of us in afflictions, or in mercies

2. On the part of persons, in various senses of the verb, *esp.* the action of calling upon others in a social or friendly way.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 41 Vs seme lond were al the game ysheni, If that men fled with love as men do here. In visityng, in forme, or seyng here sawe 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B* II 176 Denes and suddenes, drawe 30w togideres, To bere blachopes aboute, abrode in vysytynge. 1580 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Wyclif* (1851) 140 Pei discomforten treu men & putten hem in prison for visityng of cristen men 1597 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot.* I 344 Item, to ane cowpar for mending and visiting of thir pipis,...wirdi. 1630 Palgr 285/1 Vysityng, *visitance, visitation.* 1765 Cooper *Thesaurus, Visitatio*, a visityng, or commyng to see 1619 Mouffet *Ibis* 1 934 Our Consuls burning with desire of returning homeward, appointed the next day for the visiting of the Sepulcher 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xvi 139 Visiting the sick and imprisoned, by which visiting is meant no coming as to comfort and relieve them 1727 Swift *To Very Young Lady* Wks. 1755 II ii 43, I hope your husband will intrust me hereafter to limit you in the trade of visiting 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xiii iv, But pitpatrick, though it was a full hour earlier than the decent time of visiting, received him very civilly 1806 H K. White *Lett* 8 Jan., Visiting and society are very well by way of change, but there is no enjoyment solitude as that of one's own family 1820 I vine *Bracebr* II 8 What with driving and visiting, dancing and dining 1890 *Spectator Gossip* XXVI 68/2 It requires great care before any one can assert that a plant has disappeared, and some years visiting of the station 1891 *Act* 54 & 55 *Vict. C.* 55 § 18 Every such rule relating to the visiting of insured persons by visitors appointed by the society

b. An instance of this; a visit.

*a* 1598 Bingay *Pr* xxi 10, Their courteous visitings are courting lyes 1608 in Foster *Inq Factories India* (1909) III 211 By often visitings, presents, and invitations 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VII 21 Who shall be favoured with the company of Lord and Lady L. as soon as her visits and visitings are over 1770 Wilkes *Corr* (1805) V 38, I begin to recover the fatigue of visitings and gay dinners, which I encountered in Paris 1800 Edgeworth *Ormond* xvi, Say I'm too old and clumsy for morning visitings.

3. Of things (Cf Visit *v.* 10 c.)

1580 Wyclif *Prov* xix 23 In plenteousnesse it shal al tide stille, with auite visiting of the werste 1822 Mrs. Hemans *Songs of Affections* iv (1823) 160, I live sweet o'er the music-tairn of your absence, Wasting my tresses, as the visiting Of storms, upon them! 1851 Moir *Hymn Night* iv in *Poet Wks* (1852) II 370 But not alone to inland solitudes, Are circumscribed the visitings of heaven.

b. Of influences affecting the mind.

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* I xvii 96 Then mow be verified in manye others wise and for manye other visitings, than ben the visitings and the gifte of Cunning 1563 Homilies *Mach* I v 46 Stop vp the wise and passage to Remorse, That no compunctious visitings of Nature Shake my fell purpose 1611 Bible *Wisd Solomon* vi 16 Spirit, Fit and breeze like visitings, He touched thee 1854 J. H. Newman *Fair Serm* I ix 141 Let not these visitings [as many] of the Spirit be cursed as the heathen: they are pursued with gracious visitings, as Jonah when he fled away 1867 Parkman *Jesuits N Amer* vii (1875) 81 Some of them seemed to have visitings of real compunction

4. *attrib.* as *visiting card, visiting day, visiting list*, etc., *relations, terms, way*, †visiting bell, ? a bell used in visiting a sick person; visiting-book, a book containing the names of persons to be visited; visiting card, a small card bearing a person's name, to be left or presented on paying a visit, †visiting-day, a day set apart for receiving visitors, an at home day, visiting list, a list of persons to be visited, visiting-society, a society formed for the purpose of visiting the poor or sick, †visiting-ticket, a visiting card.

1775 Sheridan *Rivals* IV 1, But they are the last people I should choose to have a visiting acquaintance with 1828 Scott *Fair Maid* xxxiii, [Sir Dudley's] very visiting on a visiting acquaintance with the Abbess of Coldingham 1552 3 *Inv Ch Goods, Staffs in Ann Lichf* (1883) IV 41 It[e]m a vesseting bell and a peare of sensors of latten 1882 Lady Wolseley *Angl-Ind* (1892) 137 All my great and small names in my old French visiting book 1858 Hawthorne *I am Rose* 85, Before I go I may have a visiting list, and was driving the next day to distribute cards upon [etc] 1782 Mrs Bunbury *Lett* II, Why, a ticket [for an assembly] is only a visiting card with a name upon it 1806 Lady Granville *Lett* (1894) I 58 Since the Duke of Beaufort's pocket was picked of his visiting cards 1859 *All Year Round* No 30 79 People are photographed on their visiting cards 1893 *Daily News* 21 Jan 7/1 The New Year's visiting card is one of the survivals of old fashioned French politeness. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 10 P 3 I had the Misfortune to drop in at my Lady Haughty's upon her Visiting-Day 1711 *Ibid Spectator* No 251 P 1 The great Peal They rap the Door, I like a Footman on a Visiting-Day 1728 (*title*), The Visiting Day: a Novel 1899 *Habits & Customs of Society* 137 Shawls, laid over the back of the carriage or visiting dress. 1845 Lady Granville *Lett* (1894) I 368 Sitting in judgment over a visiting list. 1870 Miss Bindloss *M. Lynne* II. iii 66 Who would have been unexceptionable wives as regarded their dress and their visiting list 1884 Yates *Recoll* I 229 Visiting relations would, in the main terms, be established between them and the Dickens family. 1844 [W Harness] (*title*), Visiting Societies and Lay Readers 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks* Ser II 302 No one had stood on these visiting terms with heaven. 1900 Cornhill Mag. *Visit Indians* 1 Hurrah! Here's my visiting-book! Come to me your direction; write it upon the back of this visiting ticket—Have you a pencil? 1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Anon* I 253, I will call upon you to-morrow. *Ibid* Anon has return home one morning. 1859 Thackeray *Virginians* lxxxiii, A gigantic footman delivered their ladyships visiting tickets at your door 1777 T. Hurlbert *Dom Digby* 26 Feb., Called on Mrs Burnet and Colonel Feland—which is doing a great deal for me in the visiting way

**Visiting** (vi zitiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Visit *v.*]

1. That visits; that pays visits or is engaged in visiting.

1606 Shake *Ant & Cl* IV. xv 68 There is nothing left remarkable Beneath the visiting Moone 1720 Steele *Tatler* No 131 P 2 The Memory of an old Visiting-Lady is so filled with Gloves, Silks and Ribands. 1807 J. Hamm *Strangeltes through Life* II 21 Should any visiting company wish to see the infant I have known the child brought to the door of the apartment 1899 Lewis *Davenport Dunn* III. To think you're a visiting governess in an Alderman's family 1893 *Daily News* 26 Oct 3 2 None of the visiting teams were on the winning side.

b. *Visiting card* (see quots.).

1855 *Orr's Circ Sci, Org Nat* II 394 One of these species, the *Alta cephalotes*, which inhabits the West Indies, is there known as the Visiting Ant 1888 *Cassell's Nat Hist* V 382 The Driver Ants, or Visiting Ants, of West Africa, generally referred to the species *Anomma arcens* 1899 Mary Kingsley *W. African Stud* I. 27 These ants are sometimes also called 'visiting ants', from their habit of calling in quantities at inconvenient hours on humanity

2 That visits officially for the purpose of inspection or examination

1523 Gibson *Codex* xxiii viii tooq 1 In the Council of Laodicea, ann 360, it was Ord ined, That no Bishops should be placed in Country Villages, but only Itinerant or Visiting Presbyters 1800 James *Milit Dict. Visiting Officer*, he whose duty it is to visit the guards, barracks, messes, hospital, etc 1818 Sir S Romilly in *Lord Dillon* 40 That the royal prerogative should be transmitted between them and the visiting magistrates. 1822 Syd. Smith *Persons* Wks. 1859 I 361 Are visiting justices to doom such a prisoner to bread and water? 1868 (title), The Visiting Justices and the Troublesome Priest.

**Vi sitment** *nonce-wd* [f. Visit *v.* + -ment] A visit or visitation

1754 *World* No 6 P 9, I may very shortly send you a few necessary remarks upon each of these visitments

**Visitor** (vi zitər) Also 5 visitur, -oure, 6-7 visitour (6 *Sc* vesit, vesatour). [a. AF *visitour* (Gower), = Of *visiteor, visiteur* (*f. visiter*), *f. visiter* to visit ]

1 One who visits officially for the purpose of inspection or supervision, in order to prevent or remove abuses or irregularities: a. as commissioner, or in lay commission, appointed to visit religious establishments, churches, etc, for this end, either at regular intervals or on special occasions.

1406 Lydg. *De Cruel Jalge* 3983 Our noble Visitour, Which did this pestyne and his rioute to looke for lucre and gode guerdoun *c* 1440 *Hylt Perfection* I xxiii 64 Pat is he pat chapit pat faith all pat is despys of pis yonge man, when per visitur was per 1483 *Cath Angl* 402/2 A Visitoure, *reformator & perscrutator*, *visitator* 1 2 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII 418 If the visitours of religyous had sondrye benefices. 1585 *Holinshed's Chron* II 1c 61 401/1 After they had discharged both pe, they agreed to haue superintendents, or visitors, ouer euerie diocesse 1618 Cokr *On Lict* 96 Where a speciall Visitor is appointed vpon the found ation, the complaint must be made to that Visitor. 1676 Duckr *Pract in Counsellor* II xv 201 The Clergy and Religious Houses came to this composition, every one to pay such a proportion to their visitors to be freed of that grie at oppression 1721 in *Coll Rec Ann Publ* VIII 305 Whereas the Statutes ordains, the Mother Abbesse and all her Religious shall receive and execute with respect and obedience 1732 Neal *Hist. Puritans* II 18 The management of which is to be under the hands of the Lord Cromwel with the title of Visitor General 1788 Gibbon *Decl & F* xlix V 102 The formidable name and mission of the *Dragons* his visitors gave a general alarm 1828 *Hist. Eng* VI II 90 An Act was passed, which took away from the Crown the power of appointing visitors to superintend the Church 1840 Jewel *Defence Ch* I xxiii 408 An officer, called the Visitor, usually one of the bishops of the province, was appointed to preside over the proceedings

b. One who has a right or duty of supervision (usually exercised periodically) over a university, college, school, or similar institution.

1533 Archam in *Lett Illustr* (Camden) 16 The Visitors have taken this order, that every man shall professe the studie either of divinitie, law, or physick 1589 Le Tureour in *Collect* (O H S) III 161 The University of Canterburye youre Visitor 1643 Cakew *Reapes Job* v I 480 And over Colledges, Hospitals, and such publick Foundations, Visitors are appointed, to see [etc] 1691 *Cons of Exeter Coll* 14 In order to which he gets an Appeal drawn up, and carries it to the Lord Bishop of Exeter, visitor of the Coll ge, then at London 1700 Prideaux *Diary* 29 Aug. 168 The Council of the R Society had it recommended to them to be trustees and visitors, or supervisors, of the Academy which Monsieur Faubert did hope to procure to be set up 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 43 1755 II 1 106 Whatever abuses have crept into the universities they might in a great degree be reformed by strict inquisitions to the visitors 1808 W Wilson *Hist Dissent Ch* I 229 He was appointed by the Protector Oliver, one of the New Visitors of that University 1829 S. Gregg *Serm* 1 Sam xxiii 3 The appointment of the mastership [of Sedbergh] invested in the Master and fellows of St John's College, Cambridge, who are the Visitors to the school 1832 Whately *Kingdom of Christ* I 15 In certain Colleges, fundamental statutes can only be changed by visitors.

c. In other connexions

1555 *Burgh Rec Edinb* (1871) II. 228 Thomas Boyis vis itour of the haster craft within that burgh 1574 in *Miscell Ch Misc* I 104 Superflows bankatting as the bullous and elders that in vesatours presenthe decl ire 1600 Holinshed *Pop* III 861 An order prescribed for the chief Visitors of the shippes, to know whether the ships be well tackled; whether they haue sufficient men. 1824 Brydone *Tell* VI 94 The French discourse printed at Antwerp *cum privilegio*, and approbation of the Visitor of books 1654 tr *Martini's Cony Chym* 154 This Governour, by reason of some corruption and Avarice of the Visitor of the Country, had some difficulties with him. 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I 468 The founder [ e the King] his heirs, or assigns, are the visitors of all lay corporations 1766 Entick *London* IV 170 The visitor (now called the ordinary

of Newgate). 1897 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 7/3 Visitor..is the ..name given to those vigilant officers of the Board whose business it is to run truants to earth. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 Aug. 7/1 In 1899 four ladies were appointed as health visitors.

**2. a.** One who visits from charitable motives or with a view of doing good.

*c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 205 Vertuous visitour to folkys in prisoun. 1538 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 133 Most gracyus lord and most worthyst vycytar that ever cam annoncles us. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 11 *Seb.* He receives comfort like cold porredge. *Ant.* The Visitor will not give him o're so. 1833 J. Tuckerman (*title*), Visitor of the Poor. 1865 *Disgr. St. E. Fry* 45 The cheerfulness visible in their [*sc.* prisoners'] countenances..conspired to excite the..admiration of their visitors. 1870 [see District *sb.* 6].

**b.** One who visits with punishment. *rare.*

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* I. 29, I am..the visitour and seker out of the wyckednes of his fathers in their children.

**3.** One who pays a visit to another person or to a household; one who is staying for a time with friends.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 42 You see this confluence, this great flood of visitors. 1660 S. Sorbiere in *Lett. Lib. Men* (Camden) 177, I hear also my brother Sayer is often a visitor. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. 620 She hires Turnentors, by the Year; she Visitors, and talks. 1712 Collier *Ess. Moral Subjects* II. (1698) 137 They do not care to be crowded with Visitors,..and to be always yoaked in Ceremony. 1790 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* Prol. Too singular in his conduct, to pass unnoticed by the visitors. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. iv, She filled the rooms of the visitors with flowers. 1841 Kane *Arct. Explor.* I. xxx. 407 After sharing the supper of her hosts, the visitors stretched themselves out and passed the night in..slumber. 1871 Grenville-Murray *Member for Paris* I. 289 'Oh, I'm only a visitor', answered Horace evidently.

*transf.* 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 130 What is done heere shalbe reuealed vnto you by mine Epistles, whiche shall not be your soulduers, but your visitors. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 570 The creeping vermin, loathsome to the sight,..A visitor unwelcome.

*attrib.* 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* xxxii, The visitor-wife and the unseasoned prisoner still lingered.

**4.** One who visits a place, country, etc., esp. as a sightseer or tourist.

1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Cynics*, The Nowsky of the Thing drew abundance of Visitors to the Village. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 71 Sometimes the visitors.., after having hired a person to perform a longer recitation, go away before he commences. 1850 Thomas *Glac.* II. xvii. 315 It is usual for visitors to the Montanvert to descend to the glacier. 1869 *B'ham Y.M.C.A. Record* Oct. 3/2 The usual time of year for the arrival in India of visitors is the middle of October.

**b.** An animal or bird which occasionally or at regular seasons frequents a certain locality or area.

1839–62 Sir J. Richardson, etc. *Mam. Nat. Hist.* (1868) I. 495 The Puffin..is a summer visitor to our shores. 1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* 15 The presence of the wild swan, now only a winter visitor. 1870 N. F. Hele *Aldeburgh* vii. 71 The Glead or Kite..is a rare visitor.

Hence **Vi'sitoress,** = Visitress.

Also *visitorish, visitoriess* (nonce-words).

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* Ser. iv. II. (1849) 30/2 Their superior was called the Priestess, and they had Visitoresses, Rectoresses, and other dignitaries.

**Visitorial** (vizitō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. prec. or Visit *v.* : see -orial.]

**1.** = Visitatorial *a.* 1.

1815 *Examiner* 24 May 325/1 We held it to be beneath our visitorial functions. 1843 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 71 One of the visitorial injunctions, in allusion to this class of students, directs [etc.]. 1873 D. Gregory *Holy Catholic Ch. xv.* 153 The visitorial authority of the itinerant Apostolate.

**2.** Capable of visiting.

1893 *Irish Mag.* XX. 486 The more terrible and supposed visible, or at least visitorial deities of the hideous Pantheon of the Hindoos.

**Vi'sitorship.** [f. Visitor + -ship.] The office or dignity of an official visitor.

1880 L. O. Pike *Yearbk.* 13 & 14 *Ed. III*, Introd. p. lxvii, The visitorship was in the Treasurer on the King's behalf. 1894 *Nation* (N.Y.) 29 July 49/1 Thus Balliol stands alone among the twenty-one Oxford Colleges in having the power to bestow the visitorship just given to Mr. Peel.

**Visitress** (vi·zĭtrĕs). [i. Visitor : see -ess.]

**1.** A female visitor. Also *transf.*

1822 E. W. Hannard *Swallow* I, The visitress of man, on earth She resteth not her flagging wing. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 173 Our importunate visitress. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xxxii, Keenly, I fear, did the eye of the visitress pierce the young pastor's heart. 1869 W. R. Greg *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* (ed. 2) 25 It is highly proper that by such an act at this time, you express your contradiction of our importunate visitress.

**2.** *spec.* A woman who undertakes regular visiting of the poorer households of a district in order to help or advise.

1861 M. Arnold *Pop. Educ. France* 104 If she ceases to be a schoolmistress, she becomes a visitress or a nurse, or she gives her labours in the dispensary. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 2/3 There is an understanding..that district visitresses have a..vested right in the society of curates.

**Visive** (vi·zĭv), *a.* † *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *visīv-us*, f. L. *vīsus* seeing, sight : see -ive. So F. *visif, -ive* (15th c.), It., Sp., Pg. *visivo.*] Of or pertaining to sight or to the power of seeing; visual.

1. *Visive faculty, power, virtue*, etc. : The faculty of sight, the power of vision.

In early use *virtus visive*, after med.L. *virtus visiva*; cf. F. *virtu, faculté, puissance visive* (15–16th cent.).

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* IV. 136 Remotion of the matter conjoynt, by evaporation, and consortacyon of the vertue visive. 1576 G. Baker tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 89 b, A waier..with a notable comforting of the virtus visive or seeing. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Deut.* xxxiv. *comm.*, God elevated his visive powes above nature to see so farre. 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. xxix. § 5 As oft as he is disposed to exercise his visive facultie. 1633 Culpeper *Pharm. Londin.* 306 Ocular Medicines are two fold, viz. such as are referred to the Visive Vertues, and such as are referred to the Eyes themselves. 1686 Sprustowe *Spir. Chym.* (1668) 34 A principle, which is as necessary to goodness, as a visive power to the eye, to enable it to discern its object. 1709 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 59 For this end chiefly the visive sense seems to have been bestowed on animals. 1733 tr. *Bellonte's Hasp. Surgeons* II. 263 This man's eye was fair and sound to all appearance, yet was it utterly deprived of the visive faculty. 1804 *Something Odd* II. 54 The next simplicity of Eloisa's dress..struck on the visive faculty of 'my Lord'. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 737 He had thrown a new and important light on the true character of these visive sensations.

*fig.* 1660 S. Fisher *Rustick Alarm* Wks. (1679) 307 He hath given an understanding,..and this all men have, the inward visive faculty, *a* 1679 T. Goodwin *Work of Holy Spirit* v. Wks. 1704 V. 178 This new Spiritual visive power, with which the Understanding is endowed. 1728 E. Erskine *Serm.* Wks. (1797) 229/2 You bid me open my eyes, but, alas! I want a visive faculty. 1830 T. Taylor *Apul. Golden Ass* 11 Viewing the world with organs of sense, you look upward with the visive power of intellect. *a* 1838 Jamieson *Influence Spirit* (1844) 82 Ignorance of such a description is that it cannot receive the light; a want of the visive faculty.

**b.** Serving as a means by which sight or vision is made possible. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1634 T. Johnson tr. *Parey's Wks.* x. x. 26 That [spirit] which comes from the brain, is named the Visive nerve. 1658 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* II. Pref., In curing Diseases of the Eyes, we must alwaies mingle those things which comfort the visive nerves, with the other Medicines. 1697 *Physical Dict., Visive-nerves*, the nerve that is the instrument of the visive faculty, or of seeing. 1698 Swape *Anat. Horse* III. vii. 119 The Optick Nerves, or visive Nerves; so called, because they carry the visive spirits to the Eyes. 1822 Cary *Dante, Paradise* XXX. 49 The lightning..dashes from the blinding eyes The visive spirits dazzled and bedimm'd.

**c.** Of the organ: the organ of vision; the eye.

*a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* IV. iii. (1660) 79 Lucretius.. believes the *Idolum* in his own Visive organ to be adequate to the Sun it self. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 14 Let intellectuals..believe there is a Resurrection of the Visive Organs reach not. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. iii. 110 Vision is here taken materially for that impression which is made upon the visive organs by the light.

**d.** Having the power of vision; able to see.

1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 641 God..impressed three Phantasms on the sensitive or visive Soul..of Abraham. 1793 T. Taylor *Orat. Julian* 22 We infer that the perfective power from the whole phenomena, because he gives vision to visive natures.

**2.** Forming the object of vision; capable of being seen.

1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* II. 146 It longeth the corporal visiue form. 1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet. x.* (1675) 249 For open and solid bodies are not fit to receive or transmit the visive species.

**b.** *Optics.* Falling upon or appearing to the eye.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 136 This doth happen when the axis of the visive cones, diffused from the object, fall not upon the same plane. 1670 E. R. *Ne Plus Ultra* 23 The visive rayn. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 456 In, If the Sight-hole be..any whit large, it admitteth too many visive Rays.

**3.** Sent out from the eyes.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 283 It seeming..that the visiue beames in both..strucke home vpon our faces.

**Visk,** variant of Whisk (whist).

**Visnamy,** variant of Visnomy.

**Visne** (vi·nĕ). *Law* or *Hist.* Also 5 visnee, 6 vyane. [a. AF. and OF. *visné* (earlier *visnet* : see -ned), f. *vesin, visin, voisin* (F. *voisin*) :—L. *vīcīn-us* neighbour : see Vicine *a.*]

**1.** A neighbourhood or vicinage, esp. as the area from which a jury is summoned.

1499 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 150/1 Triable by Enquest, in the same Shire and Visne where the said action shall be taken. 1464 *Ibid.* 562/2 Of the visnee where the said seyser shall be had. 1482 *Year Bk. Law Exp.* I. vii. 9 All visnes.. muste be tryed by xii. fre & lawful men of the vysne. 1620 J. Wilkinson *Coroners & Sheriffes* 3 A Coroner hath a fee from the Crowne for euery visne 1 d. 1677 Sir T. Finch *Law* (1636) 421 In euery suit betweene an Alien and a Demesne..the one halfe of the Iurie shall be the Aliens, if so many be in that visne. 1681 tr. *Ritius's Jurisdiction* (1704) 374 The sheriff returneth a jury of the Visne of D., and the new sheriff returns no such visne. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxvii. 344 The sheriff of the county must return a panel of jurors ..without just exception, and of the *visne* or neighbourhood. 1832 *Index of Rolls of Parlt.* 958/1 The Inquest taken by Men of the Visne of the County where the Plaintiffe were born. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Visne*, a neighbouring place; a term often used in law in actions of marine replevin.

**2.** A jury summoned from the neighbourhood in which the cause of action lies.

1833 Sir J. Borough *Cas. Brit. Seas* (1651) 103 Replevin was brought of a Ship taken upon the west of Scarborough ..to which Mutford tooke two exceptions, one because no certaine Towne, or place was named from whence the visne should come. 1832 Sir F. Palgrave *Eng. Commw.* II. 156 It did not accrue to the Vehmic Judges to put the offender upon his second trial by the visne, which now forms the distinguishing characteristic of the English law. 1865 H. Cox *Institt.* II. iii. 347 *note*, If the visne appeared on the record to be from a wrong place, it was a good ground for arresting or reversing the judgment.

† **2.** = Venue 5. *Obs. rare.*

1641 [see Venue 5]. 1685 Evan *Tryals per Pais* viii. 85 Where the Visne is laid to be in a City, in an Action brought in a superior Court [etc.]. 1708 [see Venue 5 b].

**Vi'sne&,** *vars.* [a. OF. *visnet* (see prec.) or Anglo-l. *visnetum* (also *vicinetum*).]

† **1.** A trial by jury. *Obs.*

14.. in *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1814) I. 398/2 Na Galowa man aw to haf vsnet bot gif he refus þe law of Galowa and ask vsnet.

**2.** *Hist.* = Visne 1.

1872 Robertson *Hist. Essays* 120 The Twelve-hides appears to have been usually regarded as a small *visnet*, or neighbourhood. *Ibid.* 137.

† **Visney.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Turk. *vishnek*, Pers. *wishnah* cherry (with corresponding forms in the Slavonic and other languages of eastern Europe : cf. the note to Gean).] A liqueur of the nature of cherry brandy.

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 143 Cherry Brandy ..to come up very near to the Liquor called Turkish Visney, that used to be sold at Lloyd's Coffee-House at Sixteen Shillings per Gallon. 1736 Bailey *Household Dict., Visney.* Fill a large bottle or cask with morello cherries..and fill up the bottle or vessel with brandy [etc.].

**Visnomy** (vi·znŏmi). Now *arch* or *dial.* Also 6 vyse-, vice-, visnamy, visenomy, visnomye, -nomie, 9 visnomy (*dial.* visomy). [var. of ME. *fisnomye* : see Physiognomy.]

**1.** = Physiognomy 3.

1529 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* (1555) R iij b, For you are euill fauoured, and also vgly, I am the worse, to se your visnamy. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 70 The..Prophet Daniel, and the Apostle Paule: which paynt out Antichristes visnomye unto us with suche lyght and euidence. 1591 Spenser *Muiopot.* 321 Each of the Gods by his like visnomie Eathe to be knowen. 1605 Chapman *All Fools* II. i. 159 Then with a bell regard advant mine eye to her verie visnomie. 1640 Brome *Sparagus Gard.* III. v, You seldom see a Poet look out at a good Visnomy.

1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xvi, The loon has woodie written on his very visnomy. 1821 — *Kenilw.* x, My own ugly visnomy. 1822 Lane *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant Correspondents*, Who would consult his sweet visnomy, if his polished surface were two or three miles?..his giving back its copy. 1838 J. P. Kennedy *Rob of Bowzill*, A thick gray moustache gave a martial and veteran air to his visnomy.

† **2.** = Physiognomy 4. *Obs.*

*c* 1540 Copland *Hye Way to Spyttel Ho.* 432 For all the scuse scryers surely he can; And is sure in physyk and palmestry, In augury, sothsayeng and vysenomy.

**Visometer,** *rare.* [f. L. *vīs* sight + -ometer. Cf. Visiometer.] (See quot.)

1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* Nov. 178 The first instrument, now constructed and used an apparatus, which he calls a *visometer*, for determining the focal length of each eye, was Mr. Salom of Edinburgh.

**Vison** (vai·sŏn). [a. F. *vison* (Buffon), of obscure origin.] The American mink.

By some writers *Vison* has been used as the name of the genus *Lutreola*, to which the mink belongs.

1781–5 Shellie *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VII. 308 The pekan has so strong a resemblance to the pine weasel, and the vison to the martin, that they are often taken for varieties of these species. 1860 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. ii. 148 Vison, Lutra Vison. ..This animal appears to approach ..extremely near to the L. Mustela vulgaris. 1882 Mivart, T. E. Gray *List Spec. Mammal. Brit. Mus.* 64 The Mink, or Nurek Vison, *Vison Lutreola*. 1884–5 J. G. Wood *Homes without H.* I. (1868) 201 The Mink, the Vison and other weasels of Northern America are in the habit of retiring to holes and crevices.

*attrib.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 253/2 *Mink*, a name for the Vison weasel.

**Visor, visor** (vai·zər), *sb.* Forms : a. 4–7 viser, vyser (6 wesser); 5 visere, vysere, *Sc.* vesair, -ere. *β.* 5–6 visar, *Sc.* wysar, 6 vysar, 6–7 (9) visar; *Sc.* 5–6 wesar, 6 vesar, vesar. γ. 5 vesoure, 6 visoure, vysoure(s, 7 visour, 6–7 (9) visor; 6- visor, vizor (7 vizor). [a. AF. *vizer*, f. F. *vis* face, Vice *sb.*[3] Cf. Visière and Visure.]

**1.** The front part of a helmet, covering the face but provided with holes or openings to admit of seeing and breathing, and capable of being raised and lowered; sometimes spec. the upper portion of this.

*a.* 13.. *Coer de L.* 323 Hys pusen therwith gan gon, And also hys beandelles bon, Hys vyser and hys gorgere. *c* 1390 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8552 Bi þe vyser he hym hent, & held it till he had seised his nekke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7090 His .. volde his vyser, vermitil hym wshayn. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 4185 Lamedoun, with a despiteous chere, From his face raced his vysere. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 194 My maistyr lent hym ..a salet with a wesser of maile. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 281/1 Thenne the kyng assayed his vyser with a meke & nobile countenaunce. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxliv. 540 Then Glorysand and Malabron lyft vp theyr wessers and sheuyd theyr faces. 1612 Cotgr., *Visiere*, the viser, or sight of an helmet.

*β.* *c* 1450 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 830 Ans other awkwart apon the face tuk he; Wysar and frount bathe in the feld gert fle. *Ibid.* x. 386 Graym..smate that knycht in twyn, Towart the wesar, a litill be neth the eye. 1500 *Arc. Lat. High Treas. Scot.* III. 367 Item, for ane vesar to ane gret hewmond and ane litill gard that beris the gret gard,.. lvj s. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 76, 1530 Palsgr. 285/1 Vysar of harnes, *visière dung armet.*

y. 1499 *Paston Lett.* I. 487 Item, viii, salettes, white, withe out vesoure. 1500 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vii. 42 She…made him low incline his lofty crest, And bared his battred visour to his breast. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. i. 99 Why then your visor should be thatcht. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Helmet*, Dukes and Princes have their Helmet, damask'd, fronting, the Visor almost open, and without Hare. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 35 In this state nearly globular,.. resembling in figure an antique helmet with a visor. 1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xxxiii, From the rallied stone's shade, his eye, Dark-rolling, glanced the ranks along. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xvi. II. 336 He was pierced with a shaft of a javelin through the visor of his helmet. 1879 Gairdner *Renal. Eng. Hist.* xvii. 82 They were in mail with their visors down.

b. *U.S.* The stiff rounded part on the front of a cap; = Peak *sb.*2 1 e.

1884 Webster. 1892 Bierce *In Midst of Life* 93 His cap was worn with the visor a trifle askew.

2. a. *Sewyn Sages* (W.) 2779 A visage he made more, Two faces blikked and two bafore. c 1386 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 296 Siche fendis wip yuel visers maken men to flee pees. *c* 1485 *Wisdom* 753 in *Digby Myst.* (1896) 166 Here entre vj womans in nuts, pre disgysyd as galaunsy, and pey be in visors, with wonderfulle vysers. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1570) 232 The one hath a viser vply set on his face, Another hath on vile counterfaicte vesture. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 16 Thei were appareled in garmentes long and brode…with visers and cappes of gold.

*b.* 1530 Palsgr. 185/1 Visoure for a mummar, *faulse visaige.* 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII, c.* 12 Any person…with his face hyde or covered with hoode or vysar. 1547 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1910) 14 For vj visors makes for men & women. 1570 Goodr *Pop. Kingd.* iv. 48 Their faces hid alone, With visars close. 1628 Donne *Serm.* (1640) 231 In the Resurrection, God shall pull of that Visar, and turne away that picture, and shew his own face. *a* 1682 Mrs. Behn *W. Cowley's Plants* vi. 1456 His Image…Breaks through the Cloud of Darkness: and a Shine Gilds all the sooty Visar!

c. 1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII, c.* 9 Preamble, Dyvers persones have disgysed and apparell theym, and covert theyr fayces with Vysours. 1555 Eden *Decades* III. (Arb.) 184 The fouler in the means tyme, disguyseth hym selfe as it were with a visour. 1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. Indies* 205 Each of those Idolles had a counterfaite visor with eies of glasse. 1628 Wither *Brit. Remembr.*, 1 Lines, therefore, over-darke, or over-trimm'd, Are like a Picture with a Visour limm'd. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 78 There are some things which are.. scarecrows and visors wherewith Satan frights *Mansoul Town* 127 You can never think an Amour begun in a Visor in the Play-house, will ever end in the Church. 1729 Young *Busiris* III. i, The rest in visors, fearing to be known, Attend ventur'd thro' the streets for your protection. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* vi, They were disguised in cloaks and visors. *a* 1859 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 436 With a fearful visor on his face, And a dagger in his hand. 1908 Mrs. Capes *Loaves & Fishes* 246 The eyelets in its woollen visor were like holes scorched through by the burning gaze behind.

3. *fig.* (or in fig. contexts). An outward appearance or show under which something different is hid; a mask or disguise.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 354/2, I shall so pull of thens gaye payneted visers, that euery man shall plainly perceiue and behoide the bare vgly garyyle faces of their abhominable hereisie. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 1 The crafty cunning traynt, By which deepe guile maskt in his native guise. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnif.* 390 All discover'd lies, The vizor's off. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Vand. Wars* 1. 4 Their Governours…shall plainly perceive and behoide the bare vgly garyyle faces of their abhominable hereisie. 1990

through a large building ; an interior portion of a building affording a continuous view.

a. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4414/3 Newington House built with Stone after the Italian manner, with a Visto through, .. to be let. c 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 118 An abundance of good sizeable roomes leading one out of another in Visto's through the house, something Like our new way of building. 1725 W. Stukeley *Mem.* (Surtees) II. 36 They have opened a visto from the lodg through the gallery, to the library.

*β.* 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. ii, Beyond this Room there were three others, reaching the length of the House, to which you passed through three Doors, opposite to each other, in the manner of a Visto. 1805 A. Duncan *Nelson's Funeral* 39 The central aisle . . forming in itself the grandest architectural vista in Europe. 1838 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 15 The whole [*sc.* galleries of the Louvre] extended into infinite vistas by mirrors that . . multiplied everything for ever. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 15 The door at the end of the narrow little passage stood open, and the westward-fronting casement was shining like a jewel at the end of the vista.

† c. An opening or passage-way. *Obs.*—1

1737 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xiii. 153 To search well, that there should be no subterraneous Communication..[but] finding no Visto that might be suspected, they ordered the Jougies to remove their great Water Jar.

**3.** *fig.* A mental view or vision of a far-reaching nature.

1738 *Lady's Coll.* II. iii. § 8 It must infinitly more do so.. if they please to open a visto into the other world. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. Pref. 3. I pretend only to make a kind of visto into the intelligible world. 1848 R. J. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* III. (1851) 28 The grandest ecclesiastical intimations which open vistas into the mighty depths of God's counsels. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* viii. 178 The human heart takes in all the great vistas and reaches of human reason. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 6/2 The use of reading is to lighten the load of life, and to open vistas of thought which otherwise would be closed to us.

*attrib.* 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. 137 Catching every now and then a vista vision of ten thousand ducats.

**b.** A view or vision, in prospect or retrospect, of an extensive period of time or series of events, experiences, etc.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* vi. 127 Through the long vista of a thousand years, To stand contemplating our distant selves. 1780 Burke *Econ. Reform* Wks. 1842 I. 307 They might see a long, dull, unvaried visto of despair and exclusion, for half a century, before them. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* I. A sort of vision of future grandeur passed before me, in the distant vista of which I perceived a coach with four horses and a service of plate. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. introd. 12 As yet we can gaze but dimly into the obscure vista of these early periods. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 39 Dr. Pauli .. to whose strong historical vision a vista of a few centuries is nothing. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* Index. III. 501 They see a long vista of years stretching out before them in which they will have time enough to cure all their faults.

**4.** *In vistâ*, in continuous view.

1758 J. Kennedy *Curios. Wilton House* (1785) p. xxxvii, The Rooms lie in Visto in a direct Gallery. 1813 W. II. Ireland *Scribblemania Pref.* p. viii, Like a monotonous and undwindling route in the desert, . . beholds the object constantly in vista. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 259 The level road with its aisles of poplars in perspective vista.

Hence **Vi·stal** *a.*, of the nature of a vista. **Vi·staless** *a.*, devoid of *any* vista or prospect.

1860 Maine Reid *Wild Huntress* I. The squatter's clearing . . is a mere vistal opening in the woods. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Feb. 249 Was Ilomlim's life more aimless quite Than the voiceless one of the Sybarite?

**Vi·sta,** *v. rare*—1. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To make into vistas.

1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* xxiii, The night had now closed in, and its darkness was only relieved by the wan lamps that vistaed the streets.

**2.** In *pa. pple.* Seen in vistas.

1841 Lytton *N. Timon* VII. xxviii, And all the galleries vista'd through the wave.

**Vistaed** (vi·stǽd), *a.* [f. Vista *sb.*]

1. Placed or arranged so as to make a vista or avenue.

1832 Lytton *Rienzi* v. iii, They . . extending far down the vistaed streets . . awaited the orders of their leader. 1856—*Str. Story* v, I did not pass through the lane . . but up the broad causeway, with vistaed gas-lamps. 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* xxxviii, She moved slowly and saunteringly along the vistaed aisle.

**2.** Provided with vistas.

1880 Calverley *Verses & Transl., Dover to Munich* 105 Lawns, and vista'd gardens, Statues white, and cool arcades. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* II. 258 They would ride on and on through the many-vistaed forest.

**3.** *fig.* Seen as it were in prospect by the imagination.

1849 W. M. W. Call *Reverberations* II. 85 Gazing steadfastly Thro' vistaed centuries. a 1852 Mrs. Hemans (1892) I. 64 To her appear The vista'd gates of Heaven's eternal year. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems, Hound of Heaven* 6 Up vistaed hopes I sped.

**Visual** (vi·zi̯ăl, vi·ʒ-), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **visuall.** [a. OF. *visual* (16th c., = Sp. and Pg. *visual*, It. *visuale*, OF. and F. *visuel*), or ad. late L. *visualis* (rare) attained by or belonging to sight, f. L. *visus* sight, Vision *sb.*]

**A.** *adj.* **1.** Of beams : Coming, proceeding, or directed from the eye or sight. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1424-50 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 1697 Put of oure sight be stremys visual May nat be-holde, nor I-sen at all,. How Appolle is in his chare schynende. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1360 It fareth with us in this case, as with those who would see a thing very farre distant; for of necessitie the visuall beames of his sight doe faile before they can reach thereto. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* To Rdr., Trusting Authorities at second hand, and rash collecting . . from visuall beam's refracted through another eye. 1671 Milton *Samson* 163 For inward light alas Puts forth no visual beam.

**b.** *Visual line*, the direct line from the eye to the object or point of vision ; the line of sight.

1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xx. F ijb, Agayne my line visuall proceedyng from D to H the sulcelli notche in the suttendente side of the angle, extendeth to my fifte staffe G. 1602 Dolman *La Perimaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 666 By meanes of the shadowes, or visuall beames, representing the said shadowes. 1667 Sir R. Moray in *Phil. Trans.* II. 474 The visuall line that passeth from the Eye to the upper-side of the Mark. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, In drawing a perspective figure, where many lines come together, you may . . draw the diagonals in red ; the visual lines in black. 1850 Nichol. *Archit. Heav.* II. iv. 135 Merely to indicate that they lie in almost the same visual line, or that their proximity is optical only, and not real.

**c.** *Visual ray*, a ray proceeding from the eye to the object seen (cf. *visual beam* above), or in later use from the object to the eye.

1605 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Del.* I. vi. (1635) 134 The visuall Ray wherein the sight is carried is alwaies a right line. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 620 The Alre, No where so clear, sharpn'd his visual Ray To objects distant far. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, The point of sight..is the point where all the other visual rays . . unite. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 649 The great varying refractions of the visual rays. 1819 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II. 710 Visual rays, are those which, passing through the transparent plane, render original objects visible. Principal visual rays, those which proceed perpendicularly to the axis or centre of the eye. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* 203 If the visual ray from the upper extremity A' coincide with the visual ray from the upper extremity A, so also . . shall Lord Rosse's *Specula's Heavens* (ed. 3) 475 The instrument will give us the angle formed by the visual ray with our lase-line.

**3.** Of persons : Faculty : Pertaining or relating to, concerned or connected with, sight or vision.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1345 As the one [*sc.* the sun] kindles, bringeth foorth and stirreth up the visuall power and vertue of the sense. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* 918 The Spirit of the Mind Are lonely . . from the rights of visual sense Usurping. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. i. (1879) 13 That part of the Brain which is the instrument of our Visual Consciousness. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* *Archit. Sci.* VII. 665/2 Comparative researches upon the visual acuity of different parts of the retina.

*Spec.* 1878 Sir J. Lubbock *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 6 Language . . when it becomes too copious, . . altogether destroys the visual power [of the imagination]. 1849 W. A. Butler *Serm.* vii. 141 Faith is the realizing power. Its the visual sense of the Spirit.

**5.** Of organs : Endowed with the power of sight ; having the function of producing vision. Cf. Optic *a.* 2.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 400 An Eye . . hath beene thrust forth, so as it hanged a pretty distance by the Visuall Nerue. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 414 Michael..then purg'd with Euphrasie and Rue The visual Nerve [of Adam], for he had much to see. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. iii, The visual Nerve, which every little accident shakes out of order. 1839 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 228 An assemblage of several organs, which, from the production of a single result, constitutes an apparatus, the visual apparatus, the digestive apparatus [etc.]. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 2 The visual organ . . is very often constructed, so as to possess a peculiar form of sensibility. 1888 Hurley *Cray-fish* iii, 121 Each of these visual pyramids consists of an axial structure—the visual rod invested by a sheath.

**b.** Of the eye, or in phrases denoting this, as *visual orb*. Chiefly *poet.*

1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 90 Neptune . . Affects the chief, to avenge his giant son Whose visual orb Ulysses robbed of light. 1727 *Ibid.* I. 454 Urged by some present god, they swift let fall The pointed torment on his visual ball. 1801 *Lustrum* IV. 177 (She) complained that the light, . . hurt the visual optic. 1807 Horsley *Epic Hades* II. 221 By night when visual Eyes are blind.

**4. a.** Of knowledge : Attained or obtained by sight or vision.

In early use app. contrasted with book-knowledge.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 874 Mathiolus, . . and other Herbalists, have hitherto been busied only about the features, and visuall knowledge of Plants, but all of them..describe vertues out of Authors-bookes. 1909 Conrad & Hueffer *Romance* IV. v. 270 These . . were the only two men of whom she could be said to have more than a visual knowledge.

**b.** Carried out or performed by means of vision.

1849 Roberts *Sermon*, Ser. v. x. (1866) 153 The visual perception of His Form would be a small blessing. 1882 Proctor *Pam. Sci. Stud.* 8 The visual test however is independent.

**c.** Of impressions, etc. : Received through the sense of sight ; based upon something seen.

1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 327 Were the eye fixed in the head . . we should still be capable of comparing the visual impression with the experience of the body. 1842 Mill *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) II. 103 The visual ideas, which thus become our main symbols of tangible objects. 1877 M. Foster *Physiol.* III. ii. (1878) 378 These two things we will briefly distinguish as visual sensations and visual judgments. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* iii. 37 All parts of the retina are not equally sensitive to visual impressions.

**5.** Of or pertaining to vision in relation to the object of sight ; = Optic *a.* 5, Optical *a.* 2. Chiefly in special collocations as *visual angle, axis, focus, point.*

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, **Visual-angle*, is the same with the Optick-Angle. c 1790 Irish *Sch. Arts* I. 205 The Visual or Optic Angle, is that which is contained under the two right lines drawn from the extreme points of an object to the eye. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii. 210 To-day's dinner subtends a larger visual angle than yesterday's revolution. 1873 W. Lees *Acoustics* II. iv. 66 The size of an object depends upon the magnitude of the visual angle. 1874 Hartwig *Aerial World* xiii. 198 If the sun rises, the *visual axis sinks, and with it the rainbow. 1897 Gosing & Pritchard *Microgr.* 63 What may be called the *visual focus of a lens, or its distance from an object upon which we have adjusted its focus as a magnifier. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* I. ii. 136 The making of the actinic and visual foci coincident. 1699 Morris *Math. Dict.* s.v., The *Visual Point in Perspective, . . is a point in the Horizontal Line, wherein all the Occular Rays unite. [Hence in Phillips, Harris, etc.] 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Perspective*, Let the object you intend to delineate..be placed also on the right-hand of the visual point. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Visual Point*, the point of vision from which an object is viewed, synonymous with the point of sight.

**b.** In general use.

1822 Woodhouse *Astron.* xi. 91 Certain smaller corrections belonging . . to some change in the position of the poles of the earth : or to causes merely visual and optical. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 158 It is indeed quite conceivable that, in beings of another race, the visual scale may be much larger than ours.

**6.** That is an object of vision or sight ; capable of being seen ; perceptible, visible.

1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* III. xxvi, A clear and settled idea of visual beauty. *Ibid.* xx. 'Among many remarkable particulars that attended his first perceptions and judgments on visual objects. c 1810 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 293 The second commandment expressly makes the worshipping of God in or before any visual object . . idolatry. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 313 Refraction, with its preternatural augmentation of the visual hemisphere, revisited us. 1870 Emerson in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. 237 Of all the visual waves emitted by the sun, the shortest and smallest are those which correspond to the colour blue. 1871 — *Progress of Culture* (1878) 17 The spectrum embraces three classes of rays—the thermal, the visual, and the chemical. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 240 Work from the visual aspect of colour should appear almost black.

**b.** Of actions, conditions, etc. Also, characterized by visibility.

1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1840) I. 307 (*Goethe*) Everything has form, everything has visual existence ; the poet's imagination bodies forth the forms of things unseen. 1840 — *Heroes* II. (1904) 69 That this no solid-looking material world . . is a visual and tactual Manifestation of Force, and Presence. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* v. § 10. 145 The inclination may be seen by the eye, by bringing it [the wall] into visual contact with the straight lines. 1880 Sir G. F. Chambers *Astron.* I. i. 11 The period required to make a whole visual rotation.

**c.** Of signalling or a signal.

1876 Yoyle & Stevenson *Electr. Dict.* 424/1 Visual signalling was formerly carried on by semaphores. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 396/2 Visual signaling embraces flags, heliograph, torch, flash light, etc. 1900 *Times* 20 Aug. 5/1, I proceeded as far..as ensured my being able to use visual signals to the signal station.

**7.** Of the nature of a mental vision ; produced or occurring as a picture in the mind.

1844 Carlyle *Cromwell* I. 88 Let the reader try to make a visual scene of it as he can. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* x. 192 When we are thinking or talking of a person, we recall some visual image of that person. 1876 *Primer of Jas. for Christ* I. v. (1876) 46 The deeper is the sense of incompetence even to imagine as a visual conception the mass of human beings who have ventured it.

**b.** Carrying or conveying a mental vision or image.

1868 Gladstone *Jun. Mundi* xiii. (1870) 469 The Greek Catalogue is charged throughout with what I may call local colour and visual epithets ; epithets which . . raise up a prospect or scene before the mental eye of a reader or a hearer.

**B.** *sb.* **1. a.** A visual ray : see Visual *a.* 1 c.

1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* III. 2/2 Certain Rays which minister to the sight . . are called Visuals. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 649 The quantity of effects and of errors in the visuals proceeding from this last cause must be very different at different times.

**2.** = Visualist 1.

1886 *Mind* July 415 This division of men into visuals, audiles, motiles and indifferents, as we may respectively call them, is of great interest and significance. 1891 *Alienist's Syst. Med.* VII. 440 These variations depend . upon the question whether the patients are 'auditives' or 'visuals'.

**Visualist** (vi·zi̯ălist, vi·ʒ-). [f. Visual *a.* + -ist.]

**1.** (See quot.)

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 731 Charcot, who classified people into 'visualists' whose recollections were chiefly of things seen, who had to read a name in order to remember it ; 'audists' [etc.].

**2.** = Visualizer.

1900 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* XIII. 544 The visualist probably proceeds more from the standpoint of the object and the enumeration of qualities.

**3.** (See quot.)

1903 G. M. Stratton *Exp. Psych.* 128 There are the visualists, who maintain that sight is the only sense that gives us a knowledge of these things.

**Visua·lity.** *rare.* [f. Visual *a.* + -ity : app. used by Carlyle only. Cf. late L. *visualitas.*]

**1.** The state or quality of being visual or visible to the mind ; mental visibility.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* III. (1904) 90 Every compartment of it is worked-out, with intense earnestness, into truth, into clear visuality. 1898 — *Fredk. Gt.* x. viii. II. 585 The image he has of his Burial, we perceive, is of perfect visuality, equal to what a Defoe could do in imagining.

**2.** With *a* and pl A mental picture or vision
1852 Carlyle *Misc Ess* (1857) IV 242 We must catch a few more visualities. 1865 — *Cromwell* I 154 We have a pleasant visuality of an old summer afternoon 'in the Queen's Court' two hundred years ago

**Visualization** (vɪ zjuːəlaɪzēi ʃən, vɪ z ). [f. next + -ATION ] The action or fact of visualizing; the power or process of forming a mental picture or vision of something not actually present to the sight; a picture thus formed
1883 *Academy* 14 July 31 Investigations into the phenomena of visualization 1884 Gurney & Myers in *19th Cent* July 72 In the next stage of visualisation the percipient sees a face or figure projected or depicted, as it were, on some convenient surface 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Nov 6 8 2 [The book had] a power of visualization that gave it a claim to real originality

**Visualise** (vɪ zjuːəlaɪz, vɪ z ), *v.* Also visualise [f. Visual *a* + -ize.]
**1** *trans* To form a mental vision, image, or picture of (something not visible or present to the sight, or of an abstraction), to make visible to the mind or imagination
Esp in recent use, sometimes in connexion with special branches of psychology or psychical research
1817, 1832 [implied in *Visualised* pa pple] 1863 Tyndall *Heat* § 320 We can hardly help attempting to visualise the atoms themselves. 1892 in *Chr Life* 26 Nov 605 Bunyan, in his immortal allegory, visualised the progress from justification to glory
**2** *absol* or *intr* To form a mental picture of something not visible or present, or of an abstract thing, etc., to construct a visual image or images in the mind
1871 J. A. Symonds in H. F. Brown *Biog* (1895) II 52 For numbers I have no head. I do not visualise except in the most rudimentary way 1882 in *Mag* XLVI 483 This answers to the way in which I visualize for them 1897 A. Lang *Dreams & Ghosts* II 58 A novelist of my acquaintance can't visualise so well that [etc.]
So **Vi sualised** *ppl a*, made visual or visible to the mind, formed in the mind, Visualising *vbl. sb* (also *attrib*) and *ppl a*
Carlyle's use of *visualised* was objected to by Sterling (see Carlyle *Life Sterling* II 2)
1827 Coleridge *Biog Lit* I ii 48 *note*, The images are at least consistent, and it was the intention of the writers to mark the seasons by thus tallying my 'visualised' pains 1832 Carlyle *Sartor Res* I viii, Motion, an Appearance—sine embodied, visualised Idea in the Eternal Mind? 1883 S. Gaylton *Hum Faculty* (1910) 112 A third abiding fantasy of human persons is inevitably to command visualised pictures with words 1880 J. White *Cecil Reloy* 43 A pictorial visualising imagination, which he can fearfully depict the scenes recorded in the *Sart Res* 1894 July 144/1 Mr. Francis Galton's interesting illustrations of the power of visualising 1 1902 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) I 295 For those who are already good visualisers the phenomena are these present no quite unique experience.
**Visually** (vɪ zjuːəli, vɪ z ), *adv* Also 5 visuali, 6 viswally [f. Visual *a* + -ly 2] In a visual manner, in relation to vision; by sight
1448-9 J. Metham *Amor* (1618) 53 The ouer corkyl so vysually, to yche mannys eyze; Abouyn this spere enchaunted apperyyd 1516 *Lett & Pap Hen VIII*, II i 514 [That they might] visually apperceyve [that there was money coming there]
1861 Coleridge in *Blackw Mag* X 249 Outline is but the feeling of otherness (alterity), rendered intuitive, or alterity visually represented 1878 Examiner *Exp* 4 Oct (1850) 295 When the wheels were visually superposed then the appearances of colour or teeth was seen 1878 Ainsley *Philager* 86 That what is known is visually to focus the position of the sensitive plate shall be chemically in focus
**Visuo-** (vɪ zjuːo, vɪ z ), combining form on Gr models of L *visus* sight, vision, employed in a few terms, chiefly *Anat*, as *visuo-auditory*, *-kinæsthetic*, *psychic*, *-sensory* adjs Also visuometer (see quot. 1847 and cf Visometer).
1847 A. Shee *Visuometer Health & Dis* 31 The adjustment of the exact centre of the glass to the optical centres is so important in practice, that I have contrived an instrument to measure the width accurately between these centres I have called the instrument itself the visuometer
1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 425 Destruction of the visuo-kinæsthetic commissure. *Ibid* VIII 445 The other [commissure] conducts impressions from the visual to the auditory word centre (the visuo auditory commissure) 1900 *Phil Trans* CXCIII Se. B 168 Measurements taken from the whole of the visuo sensory area and from the neighbouring visuo psychic cortex
**† Visure,** *sb Obs* Also 5–6 vysur(e. [a. AF. **vysure* (cf. *visurer* pa. pple in Godef) alteration of AF. *veuer* Vision, after forms ending in -ure Cf med L. *vexura* view, in section.]
**1.** Face, visage *rare*—1
c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 14608 Alle that coude of surgerye ..Hadde Achilles in that cure To hele his woundes & his vysure.
**2.** A visor of a helmet. (See also quot. 1688.)
1470-85 Malory *Arthur* VIII x. 289 Now gentyl knyght put vp thy vysure 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* XXXVII (1555) Aaa 3 b, The hote tyme was so intollerable Aboue me fleyng that vnneth I might Through my visure rest aboode my sight. 1523 Lo Berners *Froiss* I ccclxxiii 616 They were afote, armed at all peces with basnettes and visures and good speres 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III xv 2 (Roath) 109/1 The Visures or holes in the Pever to see through
**b** A mask. Also *fig*
c 1460 *Wisdom* 756 in *Macro Plays* 60 Here entreth vi women, in sue, thre dyspoyde as gyotis—with wondyrful vysurs corregent 1533 Tindale *Exp 1 John* (1537) 96 He kepeth it (s. bitter speech) vntyll he come & be present with hym, for than doth he threaten he will pull away hys vysure
**3.** *fig* A mere outward show or appearance (*of* something), a pretence or mask Cf. Visor 3b, 3.
1532 Tindale *Exp 1 John* (1537) 51 The fayth & hope of the Romayne bysshop are no true fayth & hope but vayne wordes and vysures and 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par Mark* VI 51 They have a certayne counterfayte appearance or vysure of stablenesse 1585 Fetherstone tr *Calvin on Acts* 10 He hath in deed suffered Satan to deceive the vnbeleevers with false imaginations and visures.
**4.** A sight or vision *rare*—1
1532 Cooper *Chronicle* 18 Henry 14 There shal straunge visures and monstruous beastes meete one another
**b** Appearance, sight *rare*—1
1545 Coverdale *Def Chr Man* A 1 A man, who neither in matter nor visure hath bene knowne vnto me till this present daye
Hence **† Vi sured** *ppl a*, wearing a visor, only *fig*, masked, false, specious *Obs*
1570 Foxe *A & M* (ed 2) II 1246/2 If kyng Henry the vi had lyued vnto this day, it had bene prest my Lorde of Wynchesters power, to haue visured the kynges highnes with a cope. 1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) I 50 This is rightly to behold the temple, and not as the visured Bishop [*Iurisconsultus Episcopi*] behold their idola in the temple when they consecrate it 1585 Fetherstone tr *Calvin on Acts* 10 This is not spoken of any visured [L. *larvati*] councell, but of a small assembly of men
**† Visu riency.** *Obs nonce wd* [f. L. type **visurire*, desiderative vb, f. *visere*, freq of *videre* to see + -ency.] The desire of seeing
1623 Cockeram I, Visuriency, a vehemency of either by vshering the rathnesse of both made the attractation of both consequent to the inspection of either
**Visy(e,** obs ff Vizy or Sy Vit, obs Sc. f Wit *sb* and *v*, southern dial f Bit *v*
**Vitability.** *rare*—1. [f. L. *vita* see Vital *a*] = Vitality
The only *citable*, in place of *vitality*, was suggested by H. Hall *Mod Eng* (1873) 181
1889 *Nature* 26 Sept, If the assimilation is of service, then presumably it will add to the vitability of the individual
**Vitail(e, Vitaill(e, Vitail(e or,** etc, obs. ff Victual *sb* and *v*, and Victualler
**† Vitaillement.** *Obs rare* [a. Of *vitaillement*, *vitail* Victual *sb*] The provision of victuals, victualling
1453 *Rolls of Parlt* V 235/2 For wages and vitaillement of the Soude sure 1464 *Ibid* 509/2 The payment of wages and victuals and vitaillement
**† Vitaillous,** *a Obs*—1 [f. *vitail* Victual *sb* + -ous] Of the nature of victual
c 1475 *Partonope* 987 Ther all puple preuelge had echon, Euery of that which that wold demaund Off wynes and of vitaillious wynne
**Vital** (vəi'tal), *a* and *sb* Also 5 vytalle, 5 6 vytall, 5–7 vitall, 6 vitalle (vytail, *Sc* wottal) Of (also mod h) *vital* (ɪaɪth c , = Sp and Pg *vital*, It *vitale*) or ad. L. *vitalis* f *vita* life.
**A** *adj* **1.** Consisting in, constituted by, that immaterial force or principle which is present in living beings or organisms and by which they are animated and their functions maintained Now chiefly *Phys* or *Biol*
c 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T* 1344 In hise armes two The vitail strengthe is lo, and al ago 1426 Lydg *Dr Gui Astley* 1220 And thus my vitall spiritis of the verite that called is vital 1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v lv 8 For though it be Christ's body I had a beginning from vs, yes & shall haue an vitall efficacie in me 1611 Beaum & Fletcher *Mad Lover* 1019 For that to each of us that which is mortall and subject to dissolution containeth within it the power which is vitall 1847 H. Miller *Footpr of Creat* (Pref. Reply) The shapes us from an inward vitall Principle into new life and shape. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I (Globe) 321 Men..spent their strength in daily Strugglings for bread to maintain the vital action 1726 Cowper *Task* VI 134 Where now the vital energy that moved, the pure and subtile breath Through all imperceptible meandring veins Of leaf and flower? 1799 Hey *Vent Trial* I 372 Due attention ought also you to be paid to the pre ence and activity of vital power in the animal body 1843 Sir C. Scudmore *Vet Med Gr Brit* 3 The highest superiority is still greater influence of vital force and nervous energy as compared with simple chemical action 1887 Bentley *Man Bot* (ed 5) 24 This internal energy, which is peculiar to living protoplasm, is frequently spoken of as vital force
**b** *Vital spark* † or *flame* Cf Spark *sb* 1 3
(a) 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn* I *Flamma Vitalis* some do suppose, that there resides in the Heart of Animals such a Flame and kindled, but mild Substance, as they call a *Vital Flame* 1794 Berkeley *Siris* § 156 The calidum innatum, the vital flame or animal spirit in man
(b) 1712 Pope *Dying Christian to his Soul* 1. Vital spark of heavnly flame! Quit, oh quit this mortal frame 1816 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* II 342 For some moments it was supposed, that the vital spark was extinct 1862 Hood *Granger Th Country Parson* xv 92 The multitudinous machinery of animal life is there, but the vital spark is not in motion is wanting
**2** Maintaining supporting, or sustaining life.
**† a.** *Vital spirit*, *spirits* Cf. Spirit *sb* 16 *Obs*
Freq in the 16th c, chiefly in pl
(1) c 1450 *Mankind* 805 in *Macro Plays* 30 He ys so tyme rose, me semyth hys vytall spryt doth expyre 1477 Norton *Ord Alch* v in Ashm (1652) 8 The Spirit Vitall in the Hert doth dwell 1539 Elyot *Cast Helthe* (1541) 12 b, Spirit vitall proceedeth from the harte and by the arteries or pulses is sente into all the body 1597 *Bullein's Dev Sores* (1592) 500 Paule calleth him the naturall man which liueth naturally by the vitall spirit 1657 Salmon *Syn Med* III iv 334 The vital spirit resides in the heart, is dispersed by the arteries [etc.] 1725 Pope *Iliad* III 366 The vital spirit issued at the wound
(2) 1532 Elyot *Gov* I xvi, Continual studye without some maner of exercise, shortly exhausteth the spyrytes vytall 1548 Hall *Chron Hen II*, 3 He lyu as though all his vitall spirites had bene from him departed 1608 Hayward *Civ Life* 48 The heart wherein all the vitall spirits are forged, and receiue their strength 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 830 As for living creatures it is certaine their Vital Spirits are a Substance Compounded of an Aiery and Flamy Matter 1667 Milton *P L* v 484 1707 Flover *Physic Antac* II 18 The vital Spirits are the Animal, as they are commonly called, and with them vital, because they move the Heart and Respiration
**b** Of blood, heat, etc., or in general use
*Vital Airs*, in *Bot*, = Latex
1598 Barckley *Felic Man* (1631) 83 Apoplexies and Vertigo will neuer fro thence starte, Vntill the vitall blood be killed in the heate 1683 B. Cooke *Eglogs* etc (Arb) 72 He Came Ouinet by t'vpon his Foes and lost his vitall blud 1698 Barckley *Felic Man* (1631) 393 The vitall parts of vs of this body [is] so consumed that he cannot be known to bee the same man 1612 Conyat *Crudities* 363-4 3 or whose sake he ought not to haue spared his vnfained vitall blood 1667 Milton *P L* VII 236 The Spirit of God vital vertue infusd, and vital warmth throughout the fluid Mas 1697 Dryden *Virg Geor* III 570 Infuse into the brunchers or the leaves to thin, that suck the vital moisture of the vine 1723 Arnison *Cat tiv* 114, The vital blood, that had forsook my heart Returns again in such violence to my head 1768 Ash *Acct Pearse in Wks* VIII 409 Let us wash the wounds and distende, as it now is, even, and now pours forth the vital stream of rough all the more plentiful 1837 W. Irving *Capt* II 354 A fluid secreted from the crude sap with it M Schultz designates by the name of the *latex* or vital fluid 1861 Pusey *Nat Revelation Serpent* (ed 2) 23 A careful nurse will keep a constant watch over her sick bed to guard against the loss of vital heat by the patient himself
*trunk* and *fig*. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* IV iv, She was my vital blood
**c** Of breath or air Chiefly *poet*
Merging into sense 5
(a) 1585 Cooper *Thesaurus* s v *Vitalis*, *Halitus vitalis*, vitall breath 1598 *Mirr for Mag* 71 Vnworthy I to beare this vitall breath 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 814 [He] drawes out his own bruises and at last yeelded up his vitall breath 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 699 Lo going the common Light is spard to share, And drew the vital breath of vpper Air 1727 Pope *Progress on a Coquette* 5 While yet We draw the vital breath 1738 Wesley *Psalms* CXXXIX 11, Should I suppress any vital Breath 1819 Wordsw *Excurs* Oct 47 To every draught of vital breath, Renewed thro, hour the business of death
(b) 1590 Spenser *F Q* II xii 66 All so soone as his enfeebled spright Gan sucke this vitall aire into his brest 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII 8, 6 And with her nostrils sucks the vital air 1704 Lord *Lit to Vernon* 4 The sun's mild lustre warms the vital air 1721 Prior *Colon's Mistake* 2 VI All that under sky breathe vital Air 1820 Shelley *Adonais* 21, Dreams of what the dead may be, Would yet restore him to the vital air 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 35 If the ensuing Doctor still breathed this vital air
**† d** *Vital air*, in *Old Chem*, = Oxygen 1
1791 W. Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I 111 In I placed [it] in contact with vital air over mercury 1793 Bryson *Calculus* etc 213 Venous blood is vivified by the air, gives the vermilion colour of arterial blood 1806 *Med Jrnl* XV 382 Dr Thornton has laid before the public some cases which show the efficacy of vital air in the cure of fits 1827 P. Keith *Brit Ess* 115 It appears that oxygen gas indispensable to the life of animals, is indiscriminately to the life of vegetables on both which accounts it seems to have well merited the epithet of *vital air*, by which it was at one time design ted 1880 Huxley *Comp Anat* 28 A new supply of the needful vital air, as the old chemists called it
**3** Of parts, organs, etc Essential or necessary to the performing the functions indispensable to the maintenance of life
In modern use also of parts of plants: *vital roots* (see quot 1861), *vital vessels*, those containing or conveying the vital fluid or latex
1488 *Sir ad of Eyesham* (Arb) 211 Onethe laste myghte be perseyued in hym a fulle smalle vitall sparke, Ryght as in hys vytalle wyttys. 1568 Cooper *Thesaurus* s v *Vitalis*, the vitalle partes 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 23 Of the Naturall parts he diuideth in the fourth and fift Booke, of the Vitall in the sixt and seuenth 1667 Dryden *Ind Emperor* IV ii, It streams it streams from every vital Part 1856 Phillips (ed. 5) s v The Vital Parts are the Heart, Brain, Lungs and Liver 1878 Prior *Solomon* III 112 If any with Care, and Ignorant of Rest We find the vital Springs relax'd and worn 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr* VI § 5 The heart and brain and other vital parts 1832 Lindley *Introl Bot* II The vital vessels of Schultz 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot* 119 The part where the stem and root diverge has been called the *neck* or *collum*, or formerly, the *vital node*, because it was erroneously supposed to be the seat of the life of the plant

**b.** *transf.* (In modern use denoting especially those parts of a machine, ship, etc., essential to its proper working.)

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 76 Their submiss Reverence to their Princes being a vital part of their Religion. 1658 Krill *Exam. Th. Kirch* (1734) 161 If these be but mentioned be the substantial and vital parts [of his theory]. 1866 Cauvin *Banking* v. 134 Erasure of any vital part of the bill...would justify the banker in refusing payment. 1873 J. Richards *Housekeeping Footcrists* 12 The piston, crosshead connecting rod, and main bearings, are the vital parts to be looked after. 1889 Welch *Naval Archit.* 141 To preserve intact such vital parts as the machinery, magazines, and steering gear.

**4.** Of, pertaining, or relating to, accompanying, or characteristic of life; inherent in or exhilited by living things or organic bodies.

1656 Cooper *Thoughts* xiv. *Vitalities.* To bruise finely or vitalile motion. 1709 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 49 Let not Bardolphs vital thred bee cut with edge of Penny-cord. 1604 — *Oth.* v. ii. 19 When I have pluck'd thy Rose, I cannot give it vitall growth againe. 1652 French *Yorkish. Spa* ii. 13 In which as in a vital abode, and natural place, the water, whilest it remains, is living. 1667 Dryden *Mariage* vi. 1670 There mighty Cæsar waits his vital hour, Impatient for the world. 1705 J. Dunton *Life & Errors* 311 The last sands in his Life were run, and there was no turning the Vitalglass. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 109 When the tempter'd heart, Friendly to vital motion, may afford Soft fomentation. 1828 Shelley *Alastor* 278 Red morning.. Bleeding the mockery of its vital hues from cheek of dead. 1845 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 47 In every case in which we endeavour to explain vital phenomena by the physical or chemical laws governing inert matter. 1873 B. Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* xiv. 330 All actions of individuals being vital actions that conform to the laws of life at large.

**b.** Of faculties, functions, powers, etc.

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 41 Came he right now to sing a Rauens Note, Whose annall tune hereft my vital powres. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 169 It immediatly ouer-charged my vitall sences, and put mee..into a deadly trance. 1696 Phillips *Vital* Faculty, an Action whereby a Man lives..as the Motions of the Heart, Respiration, Nutrition, &c. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* viii. 309 Whose truth is not a motion or a shape Instinct with vital functions. 1826 S. Cooper *First Liner Surg.* (ed. 5) 38 By a gradual decay of the vital powers from old age. 1857 Hersey *Bot.* § 282 The vital forces appear to be of more than one kind. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xvii. 275 The whole mass has been constructed..of the products of denudation, or of those of vital processes.

**c.** *Gram.* Produced or formed by vital action or force; of vital or organic origin.

1855 J. Phillips *Man. Geol.* 49 Proportions of Chemical, Vital, and Mechanical Deposits. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geogr.* iii. 164 *note*, It is conveyed into Chemical and Vital work done by the vegetable and animal organisms that clothe the surface of the earth.

**d.** Of statistics: Concerned with or relating to the facts of life, e. g. birth, marriage, death, etc.

1839 J.W. Farr in *M'Culloch Acct. Brit. Emp.* II. 567 Vital Statistics; or, the Statistics of Health, Sickness, Diseases, and Death. 1885 J. Nicol (*title*), Vital, Social, and Economic Statistics of the City of Glasgow, 1881-85.

**e.** In special collocations.

*Vital affinity* (see quot. and Affinity 9). *Vital capacity*, in *Phys.*, the breathing or respiratory capacity of the lungs (cf. quot. 1851). *Vital contractility*, in *Phys.* = Irritability 3. *Vital germ* (*theory*, etc.): see Germ 16 (b), 6 (c), *Cent. Dict.*). *Vital indication* (see quot.). *Obs.*-1 *Vital line*, in palmistry, the line of life: see Line *sb.* 8 b. *Vital sister* (see quot.). *Vital union*, a union involving common life; also *fig.*

1890 Daubeny *Atom. The.* xi. (ed. 2) 359 "Vital affinity — a force, which is supposed to come in aid of common chemical attraction, and to render the union between the particles of a body more stable. 1892 J. Hutchinson *Spirometer* 84 The most complete voluntary respiration immediately following the most complete inspiration, which we denominate the "vital capacity". 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 372 The vital capacity of women is much less that of men. 1892 R. Knox *Dentition* 1. 1 Those vital properties are extensible, and are even possessed of a high degree of retractility...Their Irritability or "vital contractility is not less evident. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, "*Vital Education*, in the Art of Medicine, is such an one as requires the restoring and reserving of the Natural Strength of the Body. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 84 "*Vital Lake*...is forked in the end, towards the wrist. *Ibid.* 109 The Liver line at a distance, and not touching the Vital line. 1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 600/2 This is a term rather than ordinary..denotes a laborious old age. *Ibid.* 604 Of the Via Martis, the way or Line of Mars, or the "Vital-stem. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacra* III. iii. § 6 Those inferior terrestrial Beings which he [i.e. the soul] communicates through the "vital union which it hath with the body. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 25 Several substances...which, whilst they continued in a vital union with that,...made a part of the same self. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 57 Is this our duty, wisdom, glory, gain? (These heart's benign in vital union bind). 1748 Wesley *Privat. Methodist* 49, I believe there was a supernatural Power.. which occasion'd their Bodies to be so affected by the natural Laws of the vital Union.

**5.** Conferring or imparting life or vigour; invigorating, vitalizing; life-giving. Chiefly *poet.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 12 Lines he yet..that wrought this act, And doen the heauens afford him vital food? 1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 56 The whole temperature of the aire is evermore so vitall, healthie, and holesome. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 245 Vitall and comfortable heate..from the bodie of the sunne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 29 Hail holy light, offspring of Heav'n first-born..: thee I revisit safe, And feel thy sovran vital Lamp. 1729 Young *Revenge* III. i, O Joy, thou welcome stranger! twice three years I have not felt thy vital beam. 1744 Akenside *Hymn. Imag.* I. 72 Till in time complete, What he admir'd and lov'd, his vital smile Unfolded into being. 1865 Neale *Hymns Paradise* 8 There they quaff the vital sweetness of the Well of Quickening. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* vii. 156 The vital foods are derived directly, or indirectly, from the vegetable world.

**6.** Affecting life; fatal to or destructive of life.

1612 Rowlands *Knaue of Harts* (Hunter. Cl.) 46 This Picke-pocket suffer'd vitall losse, Betweene the Court-gate hang'd, and Charing-crosse. 2 1645 Milton *Arcades* 63 The celestial Sirens..That sit upon the nine enfolded spheares, And sing to those that hold the vital shears, And turn the Adamantine spindle round. 1776 S. J. Pratt *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 238 The surgeon, to whom I went myself, in defiance of danger, assures me the wound is vital. 1822 Calhoun *Speech* 24 June, Wks. 1864 II. 29 Throw him into battle, or he is scarcely sensible of vital pushes.

**7.** *fig.* That is essential to the existence of something expressed or implied in the context; constituting or involving an essential part or feature; absolutely indispensable, necessary, or requisite. Also, in wider sense, of supreme importance.

Common in recent use, freq. const. *to* something (*d*).

(*a*) 1659 Lushington *Resurrect. Restored* (1659) 70 The three vital circumstances of a well-ordered Action, Person, Time and Place. 1692 Atterbury *Serm. bef. Queen* 29 May 3 The weakness and worthlessness of external Performances, when compared with the more vital and essential Duties. 1708 — *Serm. bef. Queen* 31 Oct. 8 A thorough Sense, and Vital Experience of his Paternal Care over us, and Concern for us. 1710 *Spectator Friend* (1865) 19 At a time when the views of France became daily more and more incompatible with our own vital interests. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 273 If one of them differed..from the rest on a vital point. 1879 F. Harrison *Choice Bks.* (1886) 10 The really vital books for us we also know to be a very trifling portion of the whole.

(*b*) 1646 J. Hall *Hor. Th. vi.* 506 A competence Is vital to content. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* iv. 215 Hence it was that the raising of the siege of Gibeon..was so vital to the conquest of Canaan. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* xi. (1868) I. 289 A cause which was so vital to both nations. 1893 A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* 2 Doubtless many will hold up for a work so vital to the welfare of the whole community.

**b.** Of questions, problems, etc.

1822 Hazlitt *Table-T.* xxiii. II. 389, I should like to live to see the question of the Corn-laws as vital a question with me. 1825 Corbett *Rur. Rides* 278 He and I never agreed upon this subject; and this subject was, with him, a vital one. 1850 Carlyle *Pamph.* I. (1872) 31 The 'Organisation of Labour'..is the universal vital Problem of the world. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 54 Respecting this question—quite vital to all social happiness.

**c.** Paramount, supreme, pre-eminent.

1810 Wellington In Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) V. 529 In order to concentrate our troops on other points of greater and more vital importance. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 233 Questions respecting pictures, coins, medals, and liturgies, he considered as of no vital importance. 1850 Gladstone *Gleanings* (1879) V. viii. 280 This inquiry..is indeed of vital moment. 1890 *Lancet* 1 Nov. 1061.

**II. 8.** Endowed with, or possessed of, life; animate, living. Now *poet.* or *rhet.*

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 3470 Than this vitall glebe [*sc.* the body of St. Werburge] by diuine ordinaunce Ordinary perysshed natureli resolution. 1582 Hand tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 185 b, For who soeuer shew not themselues obedient, ..onto this beast..are accompted for dead and vnprofitable members, and therefore cut off from this vitall body. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vitellius* 50 The diligent and clay, that doth threaten with death, bringeth vitall breath vnto smart, and things without breath. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 345 For Spirits that live throughout Vital in every part..Cannot but by annihilating die. 1745 Watts in *Trans. & Paraphr. Scripture* xxxvii. vii, Out of the Deep, th' Almighty King did call Both Beast and Man. 1778 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 206 He called the winds, and made them breathe into each, and render them vital. 1817 Shelley *Rosalind & Helen* 1. 1 Some monument Of vital wind. 1820 — *Witch Atl.* xxxv, That bright shape of vital stone which drew the heart out of Pygmalion.

1790 *Solitude & Poet.* v. iii. 63 Death..Hath deprived Erastus (make from breathing vitalitie. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. i. § 6, We say that that motion, vitall and operation, were by incubation, or how else, the manner is only known to God. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. (L.) xxxii. 102 When a man shall consider the many vitalities, for the filling vp of fatall Gold. 1650 Pearson *Creed* iv. 423 When by an act of his will he had submitted to that death, ..it was not in the power of hell and death to detain any longer vitality to the body. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. ii, Let thy vitality Impart New Spirits to his fainting Heart. 1822 *Times* 6 Mar. 2/2 They perceived that vitality had been actually extinct in two of the bodies, for the maggots were being perfectly cold. 1844 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 338 Those which we have now to investigate are organic substances, which are possessed of organization and sometimes enjoying an independent vitality. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* I. i. The mysteries of organized vitality remain impenetrable.

1790 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 115 This is the instant, this the solitude: How populous! how vital, is the grave! 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. vi. 2 This vital world, this home of happy spirits.

**9.** Endowed with spiritual life. *rare.*

1807 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* (1808) 81 Those groaning and garrulous gentlemen, whom they denominate..Gospel preachers and Vital clergymen.

**10.** Employed as an epithet of *life*.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 13 You must be changed you know not when, from your ritches, from this vitall lyfe and the whole worlde vnto a nother place paynefull or Joyfull. 1653 Sir T. Hall *Urtis.* I. 61 I cannot tell whether I should say those Creatures live which doth nothing; Sure I am their life is not vital. 1698 — *Rem. Discontents* 122 Neither indeed is any other life truly vitall, but this; for hereby we enjoy God in all whatsoever occurrences.

†**10.** Having the qualities essential to life; capable of living; = Viable *a.*1 *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 108 When the Butterflyes do lyeue together very late, ..they doe lay or cast their eggs which will continue vitall, and that may liue till the next Spring. 1618 Crooke *Body of Man* 336 The nine-moneth birth is of all other the most vitall and legitimate. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. xii. 228 Pythagoras, Hippocrates,..and others..affirming the birth of the seventh month to be vitall.

**B.** *sb.* †**1.** The vital spirit or principle. *Obs.*-1

1670 Cor. J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* v. 196 When the ulcerous Lungs cannot with dexterity enough perform their Office of cooling the Heart, the Vital is generated more hot than it should be.

**2.** A vital part or organ. *rare.*

Formed from the collect. pl. Vitals.

1720 Oldsworth tr. *Quillet's Callipædia* 1. 492 A florid Bloom with Blushes decks the Face,..And every Vital breathes the sweets of Love. 1849 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxxiv, Forced to keep the fire of my nature continually low, to compel it to burn inwardly...though the imprisoned flame consumed vital after vital.

**3.** *Palmistry.* The vital line.

1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVI. 600/2 This also frequently shows a most perilous Saturnine disease in that part wherein it touches the Vital.

**Vitals** (vəi·tălz), *sb. pl.* [f. Vital *a.*] Vital *sb.* and *v.*, Victuallen.

**Vita·lio,** *a. rare*–1. [f. Vital *a.*] Vital.

1848 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 173 The successive geological revolutions which have attended,..these successive elevations of vitalic character.

**Vitalism** (vəi·tălizm). *Biol.* [a. F. *vitalisme*, or independently f. Vital *a.* + -ism.] The doctrine or theory that the origin and phenomena of life are due to or produced by vital principles, as distinct from a purely chemical or physical force.

1822 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XCIX. 314 His perfect knowledge of anatomy..succeeded in erecting..the standard of Biclot. 1877 Sheilds *Final Philos.* 367 Leading Physiologists also have maintained the necessity of matter and life known as vitalism. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 525 But even at the height of this movement there was a reaction towards vitalism, of which Virchow..was a leading representative.

**Vitalist** (vəi·tălist). [Cf. prec. and F. *vitaliste.*] An advocate of or believer in vitalism. Also in recent use as *adj.*, = next.

1860 Laycock *Mind & Brain* I. Contents p. xviii, Conflicting theories of Life and Mind, ..ranging from the Dogmas of the Vitalists. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 169 The obvious refuge of the vitalist is to the facts that it is impossible now to evolve life artificially out of any combination of physical and chemical forces [etc.]. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 763 Cuvier..was a vitalist, and thought the vital properties of the body a kind of entity.

**Vitalistic** (vəitălistik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.]

**1.** Of or pertaining to, involving or denoting, vitalism or a hypothetical vital principle.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Feb. 158 Though Homer assures us that..Polybius and Machaon excelled in the healing art, nothing..remains to distinguish their system from vitalistic theories. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 395 The Karen doctrine of the ik is indeed a perfect and well-marked vitalistic system. 1889 Duncan *Coll. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) xxviii. 294 The great question implied in vitalistic doctrine.

**2.** Pertaining to or denoting the germ-theory (see Germ *sb.* 6), esp. in its relation to fermentation.

1891 *Nature* 26 Mar. 482/2 It was no easy thing for him to justify the study of fermentation on the lines suggested by what was called the vitalistic or germ-theory.

**Vitality** (vəitæ·liti). Also 6–7 vitalitie. [ad. L. *vitalitāt-, vitalitās* (Pliny) vital force, life, f. *vitālis* Vital *a.*: see -ity. Cf. F. *vitalité*, It. *vitalità*, Sp. *vitalidad*.]

**1.** Vital force, power, or principle as possessed or manifested by living things (cf. Vital *a.* 1); the principle of life; animation.

1590 *Soliman & Pers.* v. iii. 63 Death..Hath deprived Erastus (make from breathing vitalitie. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. i. § 6, We say that that motion, vitall and operation, were by incubation, or how else, the manner is only known to God. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. (L.) xxxii. 102 When a man shall consider the many vitalities, for the filling vp of fatall Gold. 1650 Pearson *Creed* iv. 423 When by an act of his will he had submitted to that death, ..it was not in the power of hell and death to detain any longer vitality to the body. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. ii, Let thy vitality Impart New Spirits to his fainting Heart. 1822 *Times* 6 Mar. 2/2 They perceived that vitality had been actually extinct in two of the bodies, for the maggots were being perfectly cold. 1844 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 338 Those which we have now to investigate are organic substances, which are possessed of organization and sometimes enjoying an independent vitality. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* I. i. The mysteries of organized vitality remain impenetrable.

1790 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 115 This is the instant, this the solitude: How populous! how vital, is the grave! 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. vi. 2 This vital world, this home of happy spirits.

**2.** Endowed with spiritual life. *rare.*

1807 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* (1808) 81 Those groaning and garrulous gentlemen, whom they denominate..Gospel preachers and Vital clergymen.

**3.** Employed as an epithet of *life*.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 13 You must be changed you know not when, from your ritches, from this vitall lyfe and the whole worlde vnto a nother place paynefull or Joyfull. 1653 Sir T. Hall *Urtis.* I. 61 I cannot tell whether I should say those Creatures live which doth nothing; Sure I am their life is not vital. 1698 — *Rem. Discontents* 122 Neither indeed is any other life truly vitall, but this; for hereby we enjoy God in all whatsoever occurrences.

†**10.** Having the qualities essential to life; capable of living; = Viable *a.*1 *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 108 When the Butterflyes do lyeue together very late, ..they doe lay or cast their eggs which will continue vitall, and that may liue till the next Spring. 1618 Crooke *Body of Man* 336 The nine-moneth birth is of all other the most vitall and legitimate. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. xii. 228 Pythagoras, Hippocrates,..and others..affirming the birth of the seventh month to be vitall.

**B.** *sb.* †**1.** The vital spirit or principle. *Obs.*-1

1670 Cor. J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* v. 196 When the ulcerous Lungs cannot with dexterity enough perform their Office of cooling the Heart, the Vital is generated more hot than it should be.

**2.** A vital part or organ. *rare.*

Formed from the collect. pl. Vitals.

1720 Oldsworth tr. *Quillet's Callipædia* 1. 492 A florid Bloom with Blushes decks the Face,..And every Vital breathes the sweets of Love. 1849 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxxiv, Forced to keep the fire of my nature continually low, to compel it to burn inwardly...though the imprisoned flame consumed vital after vital.

**3.** *Palmistry.* The vital line.

1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVI. 600/2 This also frequently shows a most perilous Saturnine disease in that part wherein it touches the Vital.

**Vitals** (vəi·tălz), *sb. pl.* [f. Vital *a.*] Vital *sb.* and *v.*, Victuallen.

**Vita·lio,** *a. rare*–1. [f. Vital *a.*] Vital.

1848 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 173 The successive geological revolutions which have attended,..these successive elevations of vitalic character.

**Vitalism** (vəi·tălizm). *Biol.* [a. F. *vitalisme*, or independently f. Vital *a.* + -ism.] The doctrine or theory that the origin and phenomena of life are due to or produced by vital principles, as distinct from a purely chemical or physical force.

1822 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XCIX. 314 His perfect knowledge of anatomy..succeeded in erecting..the standard of Biclot. 1877 Sheilds *Final Philos.* 367 Leading Physiologists also have maintained the necessity of matter and life known as vitalism. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 525 But even at the height of this movement there was a reaction towards vitalism, of which Virchow..was a leading representative.

**Vitalist** (vəi·tălist). [Cf. prec. and F. *vitaliste.*] An advocate of or believer in vitalism. Also in recent use as *adj.*, = next.

1860 Laycock *Mind & Brain* I. Contents p. xviii, Conflicting theories of Life and Mind, ..ranging from the Dogmas of the Vitalists. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 169 The obvious refuge of the vitalist is to the facts that it is impossible now to evolve life artificially out of any combination of physical and chemical forces [etc.]. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 763 Cuvier..was a vitalist, and thought the vital properties of the body a kind of entity.

**Vitalistic** (vəitălistik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.]

**1.** Of or pertaining to, involving or denoting, vitalism or a hypothetical vital principle.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Feb. 158 Though Homer assures us that..Polybius and Machaon excelled in the healing art, nothing..remains to distinguish their system from vitalistic theories. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 395 The Karen doctrine of the ik is indeed a perfect and well-marked vitalistic system. 1889 Duncan *Coll. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) xxviii. 294 The great question implied in vitalistic doctrine.

**2.** Pertaining to or denoting the germ-theory (see Germ *sb.* 6), esp. in its relation to fermentation.

1891 *Nature* 26 Mar. 482/2 It was no easy thing for him to justify the study of fermentation on the lines suggested by what was called the vitalistic or germ-theory.

**Vitality** (vəitæ·liti). Also 6–7 vitalitie. [ad. L. *vitalitāt-, vitalitās* (Pliny) vital force, life, f. *vitālis* Vital *a.*: see -ity. Cf. F. *vitalité*, It. *vitalità*, Sp. *vitalidad*.]

**1.** Vital force, power, or principle as possessed or manifested by living things (cf. Vital *a.* 1); the principle of life; animation.

1590 *Soliman & Pers.* v. iii. 63 Death..Hath deprived Erastus (make from breathing vitalitie. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. i. § 6, We say that that motion, vitall and operation, were by incubation, or how else, the manner is only known to God. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. (L.) xxxii. 102 When a man shall consider the many vitalities, for the filling vp of fatall Gold. 1650 Pearson *Creed* iv. 423 When by an act of his will he had submitted to that death, ..it was not in the power of hell and death to detain any longer vitality to the body. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. ii, Let thy vitality Impart New Spirits to his fainting Heart. 1822 *Times* 6 Mar. 2/2 They perceived that vitality had been actually extinct in two of the bodies, for the maggots were being perfectly cold. 1844 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (1857) 338 Those which we have now to investigate are organic substances, which are possessed of organization and sometimes enjoying an independent vitality. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* I. i. The mysteries of organized vitality remain impenetrable.

1790 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 115 This is the instant, this the solitude: How populous! how vital, is the grave! 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. vi. 2 This vital world, this home of happy spirits.

**2.** Endowed with spiritual life. *rare.*

1807 Syd. Smith *Lett. Catholics* (1808) 81 Those groaning and garrulous gentlemen, whom they denominate..Gospel preachers and Vital clergymen.

**3.** Employed as an epithet of *life*.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 13 You must be changed you know not when, from your ritches, from this vitall lyfe and the whole worlde vnto a nother place paynefull or Joyfull. 1653 Sir T. Hall *Urtis.* I. 61 I cannot tell whether I should say those Creatures live which doth nothing; Sure I am their life is not vital. 1698 — *Rem. Discontents* 122 Neither indeed is any other life truly vitall, but this; for hereby we enjoy God in all whatsoever occurrences.

†**10.** Having the qualities essential to life; capable of living; = Viable *a.*1 *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 108 When the Butterflyes do lyeue together very late, ..they doe lay or cast their eggs which will continue vitall, and that may liue till the next Spring. 1618 Crooke *Body of Man* 336 The nine-moneth birth is of all other the most vitall and legitimate. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. xii. 228 Pythagoras, Hippocrates,..and others..affirming the birth of the seventh month to be vitall.

**B.** *sb.* †**1.** The vital spirit or principle. *Obs.*-1

1670 Cor. J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* v. 196 When the ulcerous Lungs cannot with dexterity enough perform their Office of cooling the Heart, the Vital is generated more hot than it should be.

**2.** A vital part or organ. *rare.*

Formed from the collect. pl. Vitals.

1720 Oldsworth tr. *Quillet's Callipædia* 1. 492 A florid Bloom with Blushes decks the Face,..And every Vital breathes the sweets of Love. 1849 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxxiv, Forced to keep the fire of my nature continually low, to compel it to burn inwardly...though the imprisoned flame consumed vital after vital.

**3.** *Palmistry.* The vital line.

1824 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVI. 600/2 This also frequently shows a most perilous Saturnine disease in that part wherein it touches the Vital.

**Vitals** (vəi·tălz), *sb. pl.* [f. Vital *a.*] Vital *sb.* and *v.*, Victuallen.

**Vita·lio,** *a. rare*–1. [f. Vital *a.*] Vital.

1848 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 173 The successive geological revolutions which have attended,..these successive elevations of vitalic character.

**Vitalism** (vəi·tălizm). *Biol.* [a. F. *vitalisme*, or independently f. Vital *a.* + -ism.] The doctrine or theory that the origin and phenomena of life are due to or produced by vital principles, as distinct from a purely chemical or physical force.

1822 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XCIX. 314 His perfect knowledge of anatomy..succeeded in erecting..the standard of Biclot. 1877 Sheilds *Final Philos.* 367 Leading Physiologists also have maintained the necessity of matter and life known as vitalism. 1889 *Nature* 26 Sept. 525 But even at the height of this movement there was a reaction towards vitalism, of which Virchow..was a leading representative.

**Vitalist** (vəi·tălist). [Cf. prec. and F. *vitaliste.*] An advocate of or believer in vitalism. Also in recent use as *adj.*, = next.

1860 Laycock *Mind & Brain* I. Contents p. xviii, Conflicting theories of Life and Mind, ..ranging from the Dogmas of the Vitalists. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 169 The obvious refuge of the vitalist is to the facts that it is impossible now to evolve life artificially out of any combination of physical and chemical forces [etc.]. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 763 Cuvier..was a vitalist, and thought the vital properties of the body a kind of entity.

**Vitalistic** (vəitălistik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic.]

**1.** Of or pertaining to, involving or denoting, vitalism or a hypothetical vital principle.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Feb. 158 Though Homer assures us that..Polybius and Machaon excelled in the healing art, nothing..remains to distinguish their system from vitalistic theories. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. 395 The Karen doctrine of the ik is indeed a perfect and well-marked vitalistic system. 1889 Duncan *Coll. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) xxviii. 294 The great question implied in vitalistic doctrine.

**2.** Pertaining to or denoting the germ-theory (see Germ *sb.* 6), esp. in its relation to fermentation.

1891 *Nature* 26 Mar. 482/2 It was no easy thing for him to justify the study of fermentation on the lines suggested by what was called the vitalistic or germ-theory.

Merging insensibly into next.
1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. III. ix. 367 The dependence of ministerial vitality upon parliamentary majorities.
1866 R. W. Dale *Dict. Spec. Cases*, viii. 925 There is terrible vitality both in truth and error. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* I. 123 The vitality of Pope's writings, or at least of certain fragments of them, is remarkable.

**3.** *fig.* Active force or power; mental or physical vigour; activity, animation, liveliness.
Common from *c* 1860.
1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xiii. 110 Which shows that their minds are in a state of diminished vitality.. 1862 Morley *Nethert.* I. ii. 45 Such was the intense vitality of the Réformée prince. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 358 A country whose vitality is strong, and where the administrative power is active and vigorous. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 5/4 To the strong vitality which distinguishes his race, he united intellectual power of the highest order.

**4.** With *a* and pl. Something possessed of vital force. Also *fig.*
1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, He was full of bright speech and argument; radiant with arrowy vitalities. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 36 There was no vegetation to define its course, not even the green conferva, that obscure vitality, which follows water at home. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* xi. Shall, then, the great vitality, France, Signal the backward step once more?

**Vitalisation.** Also -isation. [f. Vitalize *v.* + -ation.] The action or process of vitalizing, or the state of being vitalized; an instance of this.
1826 J. Hudson in *Arch. & Inquire Bot.* (Ray Soc.) 1. The phenomenon of the vitalization of cells is brought about only by an excessive endosmose or nutrition. 1891 T. Lauder *Tests* xxvii. 180 Fear..might result in vitalisations that would inflict upon others what she had bewailed as a misfortune to herself. *a* 1902 F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) I. p. xxxiv, An increased subliminal vitalisation of the organism.

**Vitalise** (vəi·tălsiz), *v.* Also 9 -ise. [f. Vital *a.* + -ize.]
1. *trans.* To give life or animation to (the body, etc.); to endow with vital force or principle.
1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 784 By the idol of the soul Plotinus seems to mean an airy or spirituous Body, quickned and vitalized by the soul, adhering to it after death. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. iii. 707 Seeds which now the body vitalize. 1846 J. Hudson in *Rep. & Papers Bot.* (Ray Soc.) 305 How does it happen that a cell is so vitalized as to be able to produce a phyton? 1868 Pfaff *Weather-form.* xi. 213 Keeping a year..millions of eggs are regularly vitalised and transmitted over the Continent.
*transf.* 1856 J. H. Bennet *Nutrition* ii. 43 The intellectual man..who has vitalised..his brain by brain exercise.
b. *Path.* To excite activity in (an ulcer, etc.).
1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 277 For the purpose..of 'vitalizing' the borders of an indolent ulcer within the nasal cavity.

**2.** *fig.* To make living or active; to infuse vitality or vigour into (something); to animate.
1805 Foster *Ess.* I. iv. 50 A malignant quality appears vitalized into a powerful demon. *a* 1853 Robertson *Lect.* (1859) 124 What he wanted was to vitalize his system—to throw into it not a Jewish, but a Christian feeling. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 111 The Greek genius was endowed with the faculty of distinguishing, clarifying, vitalizing, what the Oriental nations left hazy and confused and inert.
b. To put life into (a literary or artistic conception); to present or depict in a lifelike manner.
1884 *Athenæum* 8 March 319/3 Lord Tennyson..always allows himself room not to vitalise his characters, but to let them grow. 1907 *Ibid.* 16 March 313/1 He is not an artist. He cannot vitalize his material.

Hence **Vi·talised** *ppl. a.*
1843 R. J. Graves *Syd. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 350 The seminal fluid of the male is a highly vitalized product. 1868 Pfaff *Water-farm.* xiii. 227 The largest quantity of this vitalised seed was sown in the river-water. 1894 H. H. Reynolds *John Bapt.* viii. 505 Those who..regard Christianity as an etherealized or vitalised morality.

**Vitalizer.** [f. prec. + -er.] One who or that which vitalizes.
1888 J. Brown *John Leech*, etc. 375 He was not only..an organiser and vitaliser of hunting, he was a great breeder. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 8 June 385 Life is the revealer and vitaliser of truth.

**Vitalizing,** *ppl. a.* [f. Vitalize *v.*] That vitalizes or endues with vitality; animating, invigorating.
1823 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. iii. *Comm.* 2 Which..the seeds..do not possess..any vitalizing quality. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 742 The principal change is that described by Prout as the vitalizing action of the stomach. 1880 Browning *Dramatis Personæ* 149 Not one flower-dust but straight its fall awoke Vitalising virtue.

**Vitall,-er,** obs. ff. Victual, -aller.

**Vitally** (vəi·tăli), *adv.* [f. Vital *a.* + -ly 2.]
†**1.** In a manner which imparts life or vitality; so as to cause or produce life. *Obs.*
1626 Rust *Origen & Opin.* 78 The Body wherewith she (the Soul) is vitally united. 1664 H. More *Apology* 499 What Body more radiant and refulgent then the Sun in his greatest brightness can be vitally organized? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 4 Though that Life be communicated to new Particles of Matter vitally united to the living Plant. *a* 1791 Wesley *Serm.* lxxx. Wks. 1811 IX. 395 You are not now vitally united to any of the members of Christ.
†**2.** By means of vital force or power. *Obs. rare.*
*a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 50 The Mixt sort of Reason seems to be when a thing concurs actively and from an internal principle, and (in things that have life) vitally, to the production of a reasonable effect. *Ibid.*, This reasonable work [of ploughing] is performed actively and vitally by my Brute in the virtue of my direction.

†**3.** In a living state; alive. *Obs.*—1
1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* v. 174 Nature may bring forth the young infants vitally into the world.

**4.** In a way or to an extent which is vital or absolutely essential; essentially, indispensably.
1770 Burke *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 363 The first franchises of an Englishman, and that on which all the rest vitally depend. 1795 — *Scarcity* Wks. VII. 382 Affairs that vitally concern the agriculture of the kingdom. 1852 Miss Yonge *Cameos* II. xxxi. 325 It was vitally necessary to Henry to keep himself respected and feared. 1881 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* (ii. (ed. 2) 21 Due attention would be bestowed on that vitally important matter. 1881 Masson in *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 130/1 His Edinburgh life during those five years divides itself, however, very vitally, in the retrospect of it, into two portions.

**b.** In an important or high degree; intensely, powerfully. *rare.*
1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 187 The effect of this operation was vitally felt by every farmer in America.

**5.** With life-like or vivid realization; vividly.
1869 Ruskin *Sesame* II. § 72 She should be taught to enter with her whole personality into the history she reads; to picture the passages of it vitally in her own bright imagination.

**6.** So as to affect or destroy life; fatally, mortally.
1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The animal was vitally hit or hurt.

**Vitalle** (vəi·tăl), *sb. pl.* [adj. L. *vitālia*, neut. pl. of *vitālis*, or directly f. Vital *a.*]
1. Those parts or organs of the body, esp. the human body, essential to life, or upon which life depends; the vital parts.
Usually as a vague or general term, but sometimes applied specifically to the brain, heart, lungs, and liver.
For the phr. *stop my vitals*, see Stop *v.* and Stop *v.* 9 c.
*a* 1610 Healey *Cebes* (1636) 134 Now hee..purgeth away the causes and nutriment of the maladie, and then corroborateth the vitalls. 1615 Crooke *Microcosmographia* IV. i. (1651) 24, I feel my vitals fail me. 1699 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 50 Like the wound in the heel, far from the vitals, the least hurt. 1708 Swift *Sacramt. Tests* Wks. 1755 II. I. 125 If..you think a poultice made of our vitals will give it any ease, speak the word. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1809) I. 47 The weapon has missed your vitals. 1792 Cowper *Odyss.* IX. 347 Me, then, my courage prompted to approach The monster, And to transfix him where the vitals reach'd. 1861 Pulsy *Accident Insur. Circ.* 266 *note*, The notion in the mind of the speaker is that of a cold chill at the vitals. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 476 A miscellaneous collection of bits of broken iron pots and lumps of lead trickling among their vitals.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.
1641 Milton *Reform.* II. 64 Now heare how they [i.e. the prelates] strive to get the very heart and vitalls [of monarchy]. 1671 Trenchfield *Cup of Gold Hearts* (1688) 32 The dainty Tooths of some corroding so far into their estates, as to reach the very vitals. 1759 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 56 The truest Sign of our Vitals not being tainted, and that we are not wounded in any Noble Part, but go on increasing in Trade. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 350 Such immense sums to drain from the vitals of all France. 1802–18 in Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 536 The very life and vitals of the cause lies in secreting the evidence. 1851 Herschel *Nat. Phil.* i. (1867) 7 Therein..[animals] is brood over the plague-spot he had discovered in the vitals of his country. 1858 Farrar *Seekers* I. iii. (1875) 37 To have fastened upon the very vitals of the national stones.

**2.** *transf.* Parts or features essentially necessary to something; essential points, essentials.
1657 J. Watts *Wond. Ch. Eng.* 30 So long as the vitals and fundamentals of faith and truth abide. 1657–8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 233 If the vitals were preserved, I should not differ for the rest. 1689 *Myst. Iniq.* 9 The all English Protestants have ever been at an Accord in all the Essentials and Vitals of Religion. 1700 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. ii. xxviii. (1852) 502 Of pernicious consequence to the very vitals of religion. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 11/1 When the Parnellite leaders approached the vitals of the issue.

**b.** The vital parts of a ship. Cf. Vital *a.* 3 b.
1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 5/1 *Riachuelo*..Speed 17 knots; 6,300 tons; 8½ in. armour over vitals. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 180 Armour..shielding the gun, the machinery, and 'vitals' of the vessel.

†**Vitaly.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **vytaly.** [var. of ME. *vitaille* Victual *sb.* Cf. obs. Flem. *victalie* (Kilian).] Victual, victuals.
*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 511/1 Vytaly, or vytayl, *victuale*.

**Vitalyge,** obs. f. Victualage.

**Vitascope** (vəi·tăskōp). *U.S.* [f. L. *vita* life + -scope.] A variety of kinematograph.
1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 4 Apr. 1/2 The vitascope shows upon a screen in front of bright lights and powerful lenses the moving life size figures of human beings and animals. 1896 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 380 As yet, vitascope exhibitions are confined to episodes lasting from two to five minutes. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Dec. 181 In some forms of apparatus, such as the vitascope,..the shutter is omitted.

†**Vita·tion.** *Obs.*—0 [ad. L. *vitātio*, f. *vitāre* to avoid.] 'An eschewing, voiding, or shunning' (Blount).
1623 Cockeram I. [Hence in Blount and Phillips.]

**Vitativeness.** *Phren.* [Irreg. f. L. *vīta* life.] The love of life, the desire to live, regarded as a special faculty of the mind or brain.
1843 G. Combe *Syst. Phrenol.* (ed. 5) I. 292 Dr. Spurzheim was disposed to admit the existence of this faculty, which he calls Vitativeness. 1884 G. Cohen *Med. Self-Instr. Phrenol.* 131 To cultivate Vitativeness people should lead a natural and healthy life.

**Vitayle, -ayll(e,** obs. forms of Victual.

**Vitaylor,** -lour, obs. forms of Victualler.

†**Vitch,** obs. var. Fitch *sb.*1 (Cf. Vetch.)
1598 Florio, *Vezza*, the pulse Veccie, or Vitches.

**Vitellour, Vitel,** obs. ff. Victual(ler.

**Vitella.** *Obs.*—1 [a. obs. Pg. *vitele.*] = Betel.
1580 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xvii. 44 In this was y^e Vitela which the king doth chaw in his mouth.

**Vitoler, Vitell,** obs. ff. Victual(ler.

**Vitellarian** (vitelē·rĭăn), *a. Anat.* [f. next.] Of or belonging to the vitellarium.
1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* I. 69 The function of the vitellarian gland may be taken on by cells of the ovary, or oviduct. *Ibid.* iv. 199 Passing between the anterior vitellarian masses.

‖**Vitellarium** (vitelē·rĭŏm). *Anat.* Pl. **-aria.** [mod.L., f. *vitell-us* Vitellus.] An accessory gland in the female productive organs of some worms, by which the vitellus for the eggs is secreted; a yolk-gland.
1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 336 There is added a highly specialised yolk-forming apparatus, or 'vitellarium'. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 178 The two vitellaria, which are long and simple or branched tubes, open into the oviduct.

**Vitellary** (vitelări, vitelări, vəi-), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus + -ary.]
**A.** *sb.* †**1.** The place or part where the yolk of an egg is formed. *Obs.*
1650 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* (ed. 2) III. xxviii. 151 A greater difficulty, is, how the vitellary or yolk first cometh unto every egg, since the vitellary or place of the yelk is very high. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 482 Now this Foundation seems to be in the Vitellary, and not in the Uterus.
†**2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—0
1736 Bailey (ed. 5) *Vitellary*..the Yolk of an Egg; but some use it to signify a Cluster of Eggs.
**B.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the vitellus; vitelline.
1846 *Proc. Amer Philos. Soc.* IV. 307 There can be no manniferous germ independent of vitellary matter. 1854 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* ii. 161 The contractions of this caudal vesicle and of the vitellary. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 323 A cæcal process, the remains, according to Rathke, of one lobe of the vitellary sac of the embryo.

**Viteller,** obs. form of Victualler.

**Vitelli-,** combining form of L. *vitellus* Vitellus, employed in a few scientific terms, as **vitelli·ferous, vitelli·genous, vitelli·gerous, vite·lligine** *adjs.*, producing the vitellus or yolk.
1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 32 The most simple Vitelliferous ovule is that of Lilium. This embryo is composed, like those which are called vitelliferous, of two distinct bodies. 1839 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. Vet.* I. 721/1 'The ova, as they continue to descend in the "vitelligenous part of the tube,..assume the form of sub-triangular flattened bodies. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. cxxv, A complicated reproductive apparatus, in which vitelligenous exist independently of germigenous glands. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 442, I am inclined to believe that these epithelial cells..play the part of vitelligenous cells. 1878 *Proc. Zool. Soc. London* 555 The larvæ of many Teleosteans..in the "vitelligerous condition. 1884 Cosmos *Entomol* 144 In the female organs..consist of two masses of "vitelligenous cells, containing a limited space.

**Vite·llicle.** *Biol.* [f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus + dim. ending *-icle.*] A vitelline sac; a yolk-sac.
1852 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. (ed. 2) Suppl. s.v., In man and mammalia the vitellicle is called the 'umbilical vesicle'.

**Vitellin** (vitelĭn, vəi-). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [f. Vitell-us + -in 1.]
1. The albuminoidal substance in the yolk of egg, a mixture of albumin and casein.
1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 647 These bodies of minor importance, such as globulin and vitellin. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 614 Yolk of egg contains a modification of albumen termed vitelline. 1880 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 640/1 The yolk..is a bright yellow mixture of about sixteen per cent. of vitellin, a substance resembling albumen.
2. A related substance found in the seeds of plants. Also *attrib.*
1882 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 4) 35 The proteids exist in these grains as globulins, which have been known only to occur in animals, that is, as myosin-globulin and vitellin-globulin. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 364 Weyl holds that legumin is a mixture of vegetable vitellin and casein.

**Vitelline** (vite·lăin, -in, vəi-), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 vitellyn(e, 6 vytellyn, 7 vitellin. [ad. med.L. *vitellin-us*, f. L. *vitell-us* Vitellus. Cf. Of. *vitellin* (in sense 1).]
**A.** *adj.* 1. Coloured like the yolk of an egg; deep-yellow with a tinge of red. In early use *spec.* of bile.
?*a* 1412 Lydg. *Two Merchants* 307 Vif of colre he take his groundeme Pure or vnpure, citryn or vitellyne. *c* 1530 *Jyndic. Urines* II. viii. 33 Colre citryn is gendred of a color vitellyn. *Ibid.* ix. 36 b, Coler citrin & Coler vytellyn be all one. 1596 Harsnett *Meth. Physick* (ed. 3) 303 Matter cholericke and filthie (as one would say) vitelline, the which causeth fevers. 1666 G. Harvey *Morbus Anal.* xxv. (1672) 56 If we should commit the first of these, namely yellow, or vitellin choler to the test. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* vi. 244 A yellow colour arises, which Indicates vitelline Bile. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 144 Hymenium vitelline; stem rather long.
2. *Biol.* Of or belonging to the vitellus or yolk of an egg.
1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 545/1 Only the..oily particles

of the vitelline nidus could be expected to be seen. 1849 Owen *Parthenogenesis* 73 An ovum ..may contain a supplementary nutrient vitelline mass, properly called yelk. 1883 *Science* I. 431/2 This sac..was connected with the foetal vascular system by a vitelline artery and two veins.

b. *Vitelline membrane, sac,* the transparent membrane which surrounds the yolk of an egg; the yolk-sac; the investing membrane of the embryo.

1845 Todd & Bowman *Phys. Anat.* I. 48 The former of the vitelline membrane of the ovum, is the wall of a cell. 1862 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cuticul.* 15 In addition to these parts, many ova are provided with an outer envelope, known as the yolk-sac or 'vitelline membrane'. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 106 Generally the vitelline sac of the embryoes is free.

B. *sb.* The yolk, the vitellary substance.

1858 *Cent. Dict.*

Hence † **Vitellinous** *a.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 Ahercromrie *Arr.* 35 in *Gard. Assist.*, Vitellinous, or yellow barked [willow-tree].

**Vite·llo-**, combining form (cf. Vitelli-) of Vitellus, used in a few terms (*Bril. and Chem.*), as **vitello-duct**, **-intestinal** *a.*, **-lutein**, **-phag**, **-rubin** (see quots.).

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 647 Internally it opens, when single, into the vitello-intestinal, or gen-duct. 1854 Bushman in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* II. 81 A communication is found to have arisen between the yolk and the intestine, by a wide duct termed the 'vitello-intestinal duct'. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 247/2 In the red eggs of *Maja squinado* R. Maly found two kinds of coloring matter, which he named 'vitellohæmin and vitellorubin. *Ibid.* 248/1 Vitellohæmin is soluble in alcohol to a clear yellow solution. 1904 *Science* 8 April 558/2 There is no satisfactory evidence to show that the cells..are really such, and not dividing cleavage spheres of the vitello-phagus. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 248/1 *Vitellorubin occurs in an amorphous form, soluble in alcohol to a brown fluid.

**Vitello·genous**, *a.* [f. prec. + -GEN + -OUS.] Producing the vitellus or yolk.

1872 E. R. Lankester *Advancem. Sci.* (1890) 265 The..others disappear as ..vitellogenous cells. 1878 F. J. Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 501 This vitellogenous layer occupies the portion of the chamber behind the egg-cell.

‖ **Vitellus** (vitɛ·lŭs, vai-). [L. *vitellus* yolk of an egg.]

1. *Embryol.* The yolk of an egg; the germinative contents of an ovum-cell.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Egg*, In the middle of the inner White, is the *Vitellus* or Yelk. 1826 Good *Dk. Nat.* (1834) I. 165 In this respect the albumen of the cotyledon corresponds with the vitellus of the egg. 1851 Herbert *Cryptog. Bot.* xv. 26 Nothing can be more close than the mode of development in these..and of the vitellus in the eggs of certain *Hydrozoa*. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 367 In certain Amphipods..the vitellus undergoes complete division.

2. *Bot.* A fleshy sac situated between the albumen and the embryo in a seed.

1847 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 293 The *Vitellus* is esteemed by Gærtner to compose the bulk of the seed in Fuci, Mosses and Ferns. 1849 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 245 The vitellus is an organ of a fleshy substance, situated, when present, between the albumen and embryo. 1861 Hemtley *Man. Bot.* 444 Embryo minute, enclosed in a vitellus, and outside of abundant fleshy albumen.

b. (See quot.)

1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Vitellus*, ..an oily substance adhering to the spores of Lycopodium.

**Vitenlo**, variant of Vitello- *Obs.*

† **Viteroke.** *Obs.*—[1] [app. related to Vittered, Fitered *a.*] A ragged upper garment.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Heo budet eke hore hiole cloŏes, & doŏ an alre vuemeste on viterokes al to teone.

**Vith**, ME. form of With.

**Vipols**, southern ME. var. Fiddle *sb.*

**Viti-**, combining form of L. *vitis* vine, occurring in a few forms, as **viti·ferous** *a.* [L. *vitifer*], † **vitigi·neous** *a.* [L. *vitiginosus*] (see quots.).

Also tin recent dicts.) *viticide* something which kills or destroys vines; *viticulous* adj., living on or in vines.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vitiginous*, that bears Vines. 1782 Bailey, *Vitiginous*, that cometh of a Vine. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Forrum*, The vitiginous wild leek of Gerard.

† **Vitial,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *viti-um* + -AL.] Vicious.

1614 T. Adams *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 253 There is nothing on it [sc. earth] that is of it, which is not become more vitial, then vital.

**Vitiate** (vi·ſiĕt), *ppl. a.* Now *rare*. Also 5–6 viciat(e, 6 vicyate, vyoyat(e. [ad. L. *vitiāt-us* (med.L. also *vicīāt-us*), pa. pple. of *vitiāre*: see next.]

1. Vitiated, depraved, infected, spoiled: a. In predicative use.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 Peple viciate and polute, to whom hit was not lawefulle to offre. *Ibid.* V. 213 A man viciate of body schulde not receyve ordres. 1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* I. (1541) b, Pyre..is the distriyer of other elementes if they be vicyate or out of theyr naturall temperaunce. 1549 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 79 Yf the matrice be perysshed or otherwyse viciate. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 14 The blood is..vitiate or corrupt.

b. Const. *by* or *with*.

*c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lx. 140 Nature sliden & viciat by be first man Adam boruȝ synne. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* Ded. 1 For the elde bokes ..thoru3 thei were mad fauty, set be thei viciat be the writeres. 1533 More *2nd Pt. Confut. Tindale* II. Wks. 656/a The scripture adulterate and viciate with false glozes & wronge exposicions. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* III. 7 Neyther with the sonne beame is viciate the storre, Nor yet by the bearing of a sonne, the mother.

c. Used attributively.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 202 In their viciate and corrupt state. 1665 G. Harvey *Advice agst. Plague* 13 Add thereunto the viciate disposition of the air. 1913 A. Noyes *Tales of Mermaid Tavern, Raleigh*, He never stooped, Never once pandered to that vitiate hour.

† 2. *Sc. Law.* Rendered null or void; interfered or tampered with. *Obs.*

1586 in *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Cl.) 449 Ye auld assumptioun of ye said thrid is vitiat be ye said commendatouris proper deidis. 1593 *Sc. Acts Parlt., Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 25/2 Diuers of the rent of ministeriall teyndis vicial sable recoverit. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxvii. § 2. (1699) 135 It is said to be suspect, if..it appear vitiat by ocular inspection.

**Vitiate** (vi·ſiĕt), *v.* Also 6–8 **viciat(e**, 7 **vitiat, vitiatt**. [f. L. *vitiāt-* (med.L. also *vicīāt-*), ppl. stem of *vitiāre* (whence It. *viziare*, Sp. and Pg. *viciar*, F. *vicier*), f. *vitium* Vice *sb.*[1] Cf. prec.]

I. *trans.* To render incomplete, imperfect, or faulty; to impair or spoil.

1536 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1305/1 Hym must we serue, though we viciately (which is the worst) do it be not good, viciateth all together) yet..also wyth body and goodes and al. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm., Matt. v. 16* (1640) 8 A superstition added, or a seditious end vitiates the best works. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 453 Other Advices were prefer'd, which..do many times vitiate, if not ruine, the most noble and valiant Undertakings. 1678 Bagge *Apol. Conhort Vit.* § 2. 107 This Doctrine of Justification hath been, and is greatly vitiated in the Church of Rome. 1718 Addison *Spect.* No. 258 P 5 A continual Anxiety for Life vitiates all the Faculties of it, and casts a Gloom over the whole Face of Nature. 1738 Warburton *Div. Legat.* I. 166 Time, which naturally and fatally vitiates and disgraces all things. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light, &c.* 124 It would only lead us into error, and thus vitiate the science or philosophy in which it were employed. 1808 Bp. Hall *Contempl. Moral Wks.* I. 8 Not any thing might be urged, that in these instances, the perception was vitiated. 1851 Nichol *Archit. Heav.* (ed. 9) 60 Considering that a revisited earth by the fraction of a hairbreadth, would vitiate the figure.

b. To corrupt (*a*) literary works or (*b*) language by carelessness, arbitrary changes, or the introduction of foreign elements.

(*a*) 1659 Hr. Walton *Consid. Considered* 198 The Septuagint..which now have in some few places vitiated what that anciently used, though..by the injury of time, and frequent transcriptions vitiated. 1788 Reid *Aristotle's Logick* I. There is reason to doubt whether what [works] are his be not much vitiated and interpolated.

(*b*) 1590 Temple *Ess., Poetry* Wks. 1720 I. 243 Whereever the Spanish Colonies had remained, that Language had been generally spoken, the common People used that still, but vitiated with the base Alloy of their Provincial Speech. 1792 *Ch. Ch. Four Years' Trav. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 4 It is observable, that the Normans could not well pronounce Lincoln, but vitiated it to Nichol. 1796 Johnson *Dict.* Pref., Many barbarous terms and phrases, by which other dictionaries may vitiate the style, are rejected here. 1799 'Cassandra' (J. Bruckner) *Crit. Tooke's Purley* 55 Those who consider how much the language had been vitiated in the time they lived, by the importation of foreign words.

2. To render corrupt in morals; to deprave in respect of principles or conduct; to lower the moral standard of (persons).

1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1311/2 We shulde note well that when they say, that the vice of a vicious persone, viciateth not the company or congregacion. 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 59 This will not vitiate persons, but poison and corrupt your posterity. 1681 Answer *Kights Princes* Pref. 13 Mankind is not so vitiated with prejudice. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 177 P 12 The suppression of those habits with which I was vitiated. 1792 *Junius Lett.* xxxvii. (1788) 190 If any part of the representative body be not chosen by the people, that part vitiates and corrupts the whole. 1823 C. Buller *Memoir Jeffy Germaine* 358 In 1806, the army had become thoroughly vitiated by luxury. 1880 E. Kirke *Garfield* 53 In short, he had only one fault, that was drink, and in the end, vitiated the whole man. He was thoroughly selfish.

b. Similarly with impersonal objects.

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witcher.* v. v. (1886) 80 He being a spirit, may with Gods leave and ordinance viciat and corrupt the spirit and will of man. 1598 Marston *Pygmal., Sat.* ii. Many spots my mind doth vitiate. 1634 Habington *Castara* Pref. (Arb.) 12, I encounter'd there . Innocencie, . not vitiated by conversation with the world. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 324 So doth one vice cherished and allowed corrupt and viciate all the vertues in the whole world. 1712 R. Fiddes *Serm. Disc.* II. 91 Sufferings vitiate the best tempers. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 172 P 2 Many vitiate their principles in the acquisition of riches. 1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 263 The encouragement of an amusement which does not..to be vitiated there. 1847 Hamilton *Rewards & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 362 One sin of youth vitiates a protracted life. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* i. 4 To what extent the best methods of mankind have been vitiated ..by the absence of any distinct recognition of an ultimate standard.

c. To pervert (the eye, taste, etc.), so as to lead to false judgements or preferences.

1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed. 3) 120 Stomachs may be so far vitiated as to lose all relish for plain roast, or boiled meat. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. ii. 103 This practice has such a tendency to vitiate the eye and to mislead the mind. 1843 McCulloch *Taxation* I. vi. (1852) 245 It had the mischievous effect of vitiating the public taste and stimulating the consumption of ardent spirits.

† 3. To deflower or violate (a woman). *Obs.*

1547–80 [see *Vitiating* vbl. sb.]. 1604 Heywood *Gunaik.* I. 35 Till she returned into her owne naturall forme, in which he vitiated her, and of her begat Achilles. 1646 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 49 This beutious Maid [Venice] hath bin often attempted to be vitiated. 1673 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* I. 107 Being not..moved by him (as David to murder Urias, and to vitiate his wife). 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 198 P 8 He confessed his Marriage, and his placing his Companion on Purpose to vitiate his Wife. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 81 It was a felony and attended with a forfeiture of the fee, if the vassal vitiated the wife or daughter of his lord. 1792 Burke *Let. Member Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 36 Pedagogues, who betray the most awful family trusts, and vitiate their female pupils.

4. To corrupt or spoil in respect of substance; to make bad, impure, or defective.

1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstone* 15 For blood is the treasure of lyfe, not viciated. 1599 Hughes *Worspe Ayer* (1692) 103 As a dead Flie doth vitiate a whole boxe of sweet ointment. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 125 Euen as women in their monthly courses doe vitiate their looking glasses. 1650 L. S. *People's Liberty* iii. 6 As much water cannot so soon be viciated as a lesser quantity. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inq. into Physic* 33 The very texture of his Stomach and other vital bowels was vitiated. 1730 Miller *Dobson's Husb.* I. xvi. 93 Farmers distinguish the wheat thus vitiated by saying that it is blacked in the point. 1789 Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 565 When the saliva is vitiated, the curing of the disorder is the cure of this symptom. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxxiv, The oncoming of a malady that has permanently vitiated the blood. 1879 Buchan *Med. Topogr.* N. Sc. 177 As I shall endeavour to show you, it vitiates the blood.

b. *esp.* To render (air) impure and so inadequate for, or injurious to, life.

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Fire*, Thrill Humours which go out of their Bodies..vitiate the Air more and more. 1793 Beddoes *Consumpt.* 137 Only a very small portion of the air was vitiated, i.e. converted into fixed air. 1869 Eliz. Fisher *Pract. Hygiene* 31 All the impurity of the air vitiated by respiration. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 84 This gas would unduly accumulate, and ..vitiate the entire bulk of the atmosphere.

5. To render of no effect; to invalidate either completely or in part; *spec.* to destroy or impair the legal effect or force of (a deed, etc.).

1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 170 An earthly judge is subject to subjection, mis-information, partiality, corruption, and sundry infirmities that may vitiate his proceedings. 1726 Aylife *Parergon* 104 A Transposition of the Order of the Sacramental Words, does, in some Mens Opinion, vitiate Baptism. 1792 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 37 All the solemn charities of lawyers and divines were to vitiate the objects in which they are conversant, we should have no law, and no religion left in the world. 1818 Jane Austen *Persuas.* II. 21 If an undefined portion of a bequest is to be applied to a purpose void by the statute, it vitiates the whole. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* xii. 92 I wished them flatly, that, as Mr. Egerton's agent, I would allow no proceedings that might vitiate the election. 1883 *Law Rep.* 12 Q. B. Div. 568 The plaintiff is engaged in carrying out the illegal objects of the association ; . and this circumstance alone vitiates the contract for repayment.

b. To render (an argument, etc.) inconclusive or unsatisfactory.

1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 1. 308 This will not vitiate the foregoing Conjectures. 1846 Mill *Logic* I. v. § 3 The theory of that intellectual process has been vitiated by the influence of these erroneous notions. 1866 Herschel *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1867) 73 His proof is vitiated by an enormous oversight: and the thing..is a physical impossibility. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* II. 8. 91 It is this eternity of atom which vitiates the hypothesis.

† 6. a. To adulterate. *Obs.*—[1]

1728 Sheridan tr. *Perrinet* II. (1739) 35 It was Luxury first made us vitiate our Oyl with Litharge.

† b. To alter feloniously. *Obs.*—[1]

1723 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 420/1 And William Taylor, for vitiating a bank-note.

**Vitiated** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1549 Thomas *Declar. Christ & Office* xii. L viij, The deathe of his chyldre, the conspyricie of Absolon, the viciating of his wiues. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1769) V. 82 The Collegiate Church..is translated to Bridgwill for vitiating of a Maide. 1647 Clarendon *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 392 The yielding to every corrupt affection and passion is as great a vitiating and weakening of the mind. 1669 Boyle *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) *Absol. Rest Bodies* 27 Finding its passage obstructed . by the vitiating of the Pores of the Vessels. 1737 Whiston *Stod. Chr.* 275 A certain vitiating unsoundness of mind. 1850 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xxix, No man can escape this vitiating effect of an offence against his own sentiment of right.

**Vitiated** (vi·ſiĕted), *ppl. a.* [f. the vb.] That has undergone vitiation; corrupted, spoiled, impaired: a. In respect of substance.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 135 Those [almonds] that..[are] resecured all the yeare, are not worth two noot doy, or in their colour and substance vitiated [etc.]. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 43 Wholesome meats to a vitiated stomack differ little or nothing from unwholesome. 1688 Boyle *Vitiated Sight* 271 Some may think that [such] a man has rather an excellent, than a vitiated sight. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Powers* 283 These cells becoming turgid with this vitiated matter, raise the *cuticle*. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 400 It might..seem possible, that blood-letting had only let out the vitiated part. 1823 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 648 When the vesications pass into the state of sloughing, or vitiated ulcers. 1826 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 3) 38 Certain deleterious kinds of food, such as the ergot or vitiated rye. 1869 A. Barry *Sir C. Barry* vi. 166 The smoke and vitiated air of every room in the building. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 213 Confinement in the vitiated atmosphere of an ill-ventilated dark room.

b. In some abstract quality or principle.

1662 R. Coke *Power & Subj* 189 No affliction, or the keeping the thing detained, ought to injure the Appellant, or the vitiated Cause ayded by remedy of the Appeal 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I 201 To have no other Guide than that of their own abominable and vitiated Passions. 1740 Cibber *Apol* IV 68 It is to the vitiated and low Taste of the Spectator, that the Corruptions of the Stage have been owing 1792 Burke *Fr Rev* 100 It is in us the degenerate choice of a vitiated mind 1833 I. Taylor *Lanual.* I 1 Vitiated religious sentiments have too much connexion with the principles of our physical constitution to [etc.] 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit* (1867) 97 This vulgar or corrupt Latin was the vitiated mother of the sister languages of Europe 1871 Darwin *Descr. Man* II xiv 114 Vitiated instincts may also account for some of the hybrid unions above referred to.

**Vitiation** (vɪʃiē·ʃən). [ad L. *vitiātio* (rare), or f. Vitiate v.] The action of vitiating, the fact or state of being vitiated, in senses of the verb.

1635 Jackson *Creed* viii xx § 5 No addition is forbidden, but such as includeth a vitiation of the text 1658 Phillips, *Vitiation*, a corrupting or defiling; also a deflowring 1668 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* xvii (1672) 35 The cause of the foresaid extenuation of body is imputed to the bloods vitiation by malign putrid vapors, smoaking throughout the vessels 1820 Paley *Nat. Th.* xxvi (1819) 423 The total vitiation of taste which frequently occurs in fevers, when every taste is irregular and every one bad 1829 W. Irving *Knickerb* (1861) 61 The original name of the island is already undergone considerable vitiation 1843 Mill *Logic* II v § 5 With the least vitiation of the truth of any proposition 1865 Gen. Ecclus *Remedies* xxv, No man ever struggled to retain power over a mixed multitude without suffering vitiation.

**Vitiator.** *rare*—1 [ad L. *vitiātor* (rare) or f. Vitiate v.] One who or that which vitiates

1846 Lanson *Image Conv* Wks I 68/2 He is the worst vitiator and violator of the Muses and the Graces

**Viti culated,** *a. Bot. rare*—1. [f. L. *viticula*, dim. of *vītis* vine.] See quot.

1772 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* v. 215 Viticulated or Vine-like Leaves

**Viti oulo se,** *a Bot.* [ad. mod L. *viticulōsus*, f. L. *viticul-a* (see prec.).] (See quot)

1866 *Treas Bot* 1222/1 *Viticulose*, furnished with trailing stems or viticula

**Viti·culous,** *a. rare*—1. [See prec. and ous.] Resembling the shoots of a vine

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 264 Out of which (as the root of scammony) slender and viticulous branches [I *viticulosi surculi*] issue

**Viticultural** (vɪtɪkʌ·lʧərăl, vaɪtɪ-), *a* [f. Viticulture + -al.] Of or pertaining to viticulture; connected with the growing of vines

1865 *Pall Mall G* 7 Nov 9 All viticultural operations not requiring the muscular strength of a man 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 610/2 Hungary, from a viticultural point of view, forms by far the most important part

**Viticulture** (vɪ·tɪkĭlʧəɹ, vaɪtɪ-). [f. Viti- + Culture.] The cultivation of the vine, vine-growing

1872 Thudichum & Dupré (*title*), A Treatise on the Origin, Nature, and Varieties of Wine (being a complete Manual of Viticulture and Œnology) 1881 *Spectator* 11 Mar 323 Viticulture can only be successfully followed by those who give to it constant personal attention 1900 A. Dobson *S. Richardson* iii 66 His latest idea was to establish viticulture in England

Hence **Vitice·ulturer, Vitice·ulturist,** one who is engaged in the cultivation of the vine, a vine-grower.

1858 *St James' Gaz* 29 March 6/1 A process of elimination turned to account by the viticulturists 1890 *Nature* 13 Nov 38/2 To aid in these researches, relations have already been opened with horticulturists and viticulturists. 1907 *Westm Gaz* 20 June 2/2 When the viticulturers tried to carry on the trade themselves.

**Vitiginous** (vɪtɪ·ʤĭnəs), *a* [f. L. *vitiginem*, stem of *vitiligo* (see next) + -ous.] Of or connected with, of the nature of, vitiligo

1840 P. Mahony *Prout Bridgew. Treat.* 392 They [leprosy spots] may be mere vitiginous patches.

**‖ Vitiligo** (vɪtɪlə·gō). *Path.* [L. *vitiligo* letter] A skin disease characterized by the presence of smooth white shining tubercles on the face, neck, and other parts of the body; a species of leprosy.

1650 *Physical Dict*, *Vitiligo*, a foulness of the skin with spots of divers colours Morphew 1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2), *Vitiligo*, a sort of Leprosie: there are Three kinds of them [etc.] 1812 Ryman *Cutaneous Diseases* (ed 3) 274 The disease, which is here intended to be designated by the term *Vitiligo*, is somewhat rare 1864 W. I. Fox *Skin Dis* 91 Albinism, vitiligo, deformities of vascular and sebaceous structures 1889 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci.* VIII 604/1 The dark-skinned races are rather more subject to vitiligo than those of fair skin and light hair

Hence **‖ Vitiligoi·des,** a skin-disease resembling vitiligo

1873 F. T. Roberts *The 4 Pract Med* 779 A peculiar enlargement [of the nose] associated with vitiligoides 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 367 Two cases are discussed by Addison and Gull on relation to vitiligoidea.

**Vitili·gate,** *v rare* [f. ppl. stem of L. *vitiligāre*.] (See quot.) Hence **Vitilitigating** *ppl a.*

1670 Blount *Glossogr* (ed. 2), *Vitiligate*, to backbite, to detract, to wrangle, or make bats *Hudebras*. [Cf next] 1819 H. Burr *Pastorad* III 237 In heaven yclept Alecto . But Discord called by mortals here on earth ; A vitiligating horrid girl.

**Vitilitiga·tion.** *rare.* [See prec. and -ation.] Contention, wrangling.

1647 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* 14 It is a most toylsome taske to sunne the wild goose chase after a well heath'd Opinionist : they delight in vitiligation 1661 Hutler *Hud* I iii 1262 I'll force you by right ratiocination To leave your Vitiligation

**† Vitilitigious,** *a Obs.*—1 [f. L. *vitilitig-are* (see above), after *litigious*.] Contentious, quarrelsome.

1685 E. Hooker *Pref Pordage's Mystic Div* 19 Most inexcusably malevolous, vitious, vitilitigious

**Vitiosity** (vɪʃi·ɔsĭti). Also 6 7, 9 **viciosity** (6 -itie, -itee), 7 **vitiositie.** [ad L. *vitiositās*, *f. vitiōsus* see next and -ity. So OF *viciosité* (*vicieuseté*, *etc*), It. *viziosità*.]

**† 1.** A defect or fault; an imperfection. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict* Addit, *Cacus*, viciousite, or that whiche we commonly do calle, a fiute in a thinge 1563 Abp Parker *Corr* (Parker Soc.) 190 With my natural vicisosity of overmuch sharpness I am so brybshed that [etc.] 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* (Arb) 167 It is my come to passe that what the Grammarian setteth downe for a vicisositee in speach, may become a vertue and no vice 1665 Jer Taylor *Dawn Necess.* vi § 16 Any person that hath a fault or a legal impurity, a debt, a vitiosity, defect, or imperfection

**2.** The state or character of being morally vicious.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 247 Reason by little and little doth illumine the, purge and cleanse the soule in shaking and dimminshing evermore the vitiositie thereof 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig Med* i § 28 My unruly affections and confirmed vitiosity makes mee daily doe worse 1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* I iii Contents 104 It is not only necessary which inclines men to adhere 1682 Sir Thos. Browne *Compend View Nat & Rev Relig* I 13 An incomprehensible vitiosity of nature absolutely inconsistent with godhead 1838 Gilbert *Chr Comedy* Notes (1852) 380 The vitiosity of sin and public injury are here correlative

**† b** An instance of this, a vice *Obs*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig Med* ii § 7 There are certaine tempers of body which dispose to such and peculiar vicisosities, whose monstrosity of nature admits no name 1657 Gauden *Sup Just* 9 That, after Baptism, it is no real vicisosity, but only a natural infirmity

**† 3** The quality of being physically impaired or defective. *Obs.*

1647 A. Ross *Mystag Poet* 1 (1672) 9 In this Cure [scil myrrh] Venus is much delighted, as being a help to the vitiosity of the Matrice 1651 N. Biggs *New Disp* v 23 If the more watersh and yellow bloud doth denote its vitiosity

**4.** *Sc. Law* The quality of being faulty or improper in a legal aspect.

1765-8 Erskine *Inst Law Scot* III ix § 52 Such confirmation purges the vitiosity of his former intromissions 1838 W. Bell *Dict Law Scot* 695 It refers to intention on the part of the intromitter to account for his intromissions, which takes off the vitiosity, and renders him liable only to the extent of his intromissions

**Vitiosity,** nonce, var. Vitiousness. -now

**Vitivert, var. Vetiver Vitle, Vitler,** obs. fl. **Victual(ler Vitles,** obs. Sc. f. **Witless** a **Vitnes,** obs. Sc. f. **Witness Vitoll,** obs. f. **Victual. Vitraell,** obs. f. **Vitriol**

**‖ Vitrage** (vɪtra·ʒ) [f. *vitre* glass window, f. *vitre* glass] *Vitrage net* (also *cloth*), a lace-net or thin fabric suitable for window-curtains

1886 *Daily News* 24 June 2/3 Window blinds, vitrage nets, and the goods made upon various machines are only in moderate request 1894 *Times* 19 April 4/3 A steady business is being done in curtains, antimacassars, vitrage nets, &c.

**Vitrail,** *a. rare*—1 [f. I. *vitrail* (usu. in pl. *vitraux*) = glass-window.] Having glazed windows or compartments (of a specified colour)

1884 Ruskin *Bible Amiens* iv § 10 This Lord's House and blue vitrailed House of Heaven

**Vitraillist,** *rare* [f. as prec.] A maker of glass, an artist in glass-work for windows, etc; a designer in stained glass

1607 B. Barnes *Divils Charter* iii v F 3, Th' Italian Vitraillist Which in the Rome Pelegrinum fashion Did worke strange vitrall diddidoes for Dames 1904 *Daily News* 28 July 4/1 In the inner gallery is a large and ambitious picture, and some drawings by the young artist But it is as a vitrailist that he excels

**† Vitre,** *sb Obs rare.* Also 5 **vytre.** [n. F., *vitre*, ad. L. *vitrum* Vitrum.] Glass.

c 1420 Lydg *Ballad Comment Our Lady* 123 O glorius vesle, O virgine inviolate! 1509 A. Hume *Hymnes* iii 55 The glansing thains, and vitre bright, Resplends against the sunne

**† Vitre,** *a Obs rare* [ad F *vitré*, or L. *vitreus*, f. *vitrum* glass] = Vitreous *a* 2 a

c 1550 *Jacke Drawe* 11 v 24 The v space of fewme is called fleume vitrum anghce a flewme vitre *Ibid* ii 1x 36 b A fleume vitre, and a white fleume be all one

**† Vitre,** variant of Vitry *Obs*

**† Vitreal,** variant of Vitrial *a Obs*

1658 Phillips, *Vitreal, or Vitrine* belonging to, or made of glasse

**† Vi·treate,** *a Obs rare* [f. L. *vitre us* vitreous + -ate.] Of or resembling glass

1656 Blount *Glossogr*, *Vitreus*, *Vitrine* belonging to Glass, glassie, glassie green; clear like glass, or resembling glass. 1778 W. Pryce *Min Cornub.* 60 Vitrean Ore of an irregular figure

**Vitree,** variant of Vitry *Obs.*

**Vitrefacture.** *rare*—1. [Cf Vitri- and Facture.] (See quot)

1846 R. Park *Pantology* (1847) 478 Under the head of *vitrefactures*, we include glass, pottery, and porcelain. (Hence *vitrefactory* in Worcester (1846), and later Dicts.)

**† Vitremyte.** *Obs.*—1 (Of obscure meaning.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T* 382 And she that helmed was in starke shoures Shal on hir heed now were a vitremyte [*Lansd* wysteryte]

**Vitreo-,** combining form, on Greek models, of L. *vitreus* Vitreous a, employed in a few special terms having little or no currency

1828-32 Webster, *Vitreo electric*, containing or exhibiting positive electricity, or that which is excited by rubbing glass 1840 *Fr pel Metrop* (1845) VI 496 Lustre [of thraulite] vitreo-resinous. 1873 Knight *Dict Mech* 2713/2 *Vitreograph*, a photograph on glass 1891 *Cent Dict* s.v., Vitreo-dentinal, dentine

**Vitreole,** obs form of Vitriol.

**Vitreo sity.** *rare* [f. L. *vitre us* (see next) + -osity.] The state or quality of being vitreous

1889 A. Irving *Metamorphism of Rock* 110, I have been led to recognise vitreosity as a phenomenon occasionally exhibited by water

**Vitreous** (vɪ·trĭəs), *a* Also 8 **vitrious** [f. L. *vitre us* of glass, glassy, bright, etc, f. *vitrum* glass, Vitrum see -ous. Cf. F. *vitreux*, *-euse*]

1. Of or belonging to, consisting or composed of, glass, of the nature of glass; glassy

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud Ep* II i 51 Calcination or reducing it by Arte, into a subtile powder, by which way and a vitreous commixture, glasses are sometime made hereof 1721 Shaftesb *Charac* III 134 The Rabbi Bendel counts at every Knock, bursts the withstanding Casements, the Chassys, Lanterns, and all the brittle vitreous Ware 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 161 Nature's self had none Where all was vitreous 1792 W. Hamilton *Lerthollet's Dyeing* II iv iv 275 A vessel of earthenware with a vitreous coat. 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* xvi (1842) 241 Glass would then be easily acted upon, and the product obtained would not be pure, but a combination, with part of the vitreous matter 1852 Blackie *Horæ Hellen.* 134 Behold the course, you saw the glass,—composed of various vitreous materials —all over every article 1882 Gehrie *Text Bk Geol* II ii § 104 105 The final stiffening of a vitreous mass into solid stone

*Ibid* 1886 *New Monthly Mag* XLVI 206 He had left the vitreous and mercurial clime of France for the voluptuous and indolent air of Italy

**b** *Geol* and *Min* Resembling glass in brittleness, hardness, lustre, and mode of cleavage.

1774 in Forster *Log* (1777) I 387 Some of them carried veins, which were so united with the vitreous lava 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 409 All real lavas except those of the vitreous kind afford the magnetic needle, unless they are they contain be much decomposed 1811 Pinkerton *Petrol* I 45 I here are evidences of a vitreous fusion of the sides of these 1849 Murchison *Silluria* iii 38 It is often interested by veins of vitreous quartz 1863 *Owen's Circ Sci*, *Geol* etc 498 Hedrubite—Vitreous Silver—Sulphuret of Copper Glance 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 306 *Vitreous silver* Native argentic sulphide 1882 Geikie *Text Bk Geol* II iii § 1 100 Crystalliers seem to be rather peculiar forms of crystallization developed in many vitreous rocks.

**c** *Chem* Resembling glass in composition

1800 tr *Lavoisier's Chem* I 369 There remains in the retort a vitreous mass, which is very pure arsenic acid 1810 Henry *Elem Chem* I 363 Equal parts of potassium and very pure sand and vitre are put into a crucible 1866 Roscoe *Elem Chem* xiv 122 Like sulphur, it is capable of existing in various allotropic modifications one of which is crystalline, the other vitreous

**d** *Anat* and *Zool* (See quots.)

(a) 1858 Humphry *Hum Skeleton* 206 The separation of the outer and inner tables of the skull by the intervening diploe The inner or vitreous table, which is most delicate 1866 *Chambers's Encycl* VIII 759 An inner dense, brittle, and sometimes glass like layer, known as the vitreous table or layer

(b) 1873 C. W. Thomson *Depths of Sea* vii 422 When the first specimen of *Hyalonema* was brought home the other vitreous sponges were unknown 1879 Balfour in *Encycl Brit* IX 378/2 The hitherto *Hexactinellida* may be grouped into three families *Ibid* 385/1 The material of their porcellinous or vitreous skeletons 1898 tr *Boas Text Bk Zool* 121 Vitreous sponges, whose spicules are siliceous forms, characterised by the striking beauty of the skeleton, which is like spun glass

**2 † a.** *Med.* Of phlegm Having the thick viscid consistency of vitreous glass. *Obs*

1661 Jowels *Hist Anim & Min* 437 Of phlegme, if salt, from thirst If vitreous, from fixed paime 1682 tr *Bonet's Sepulch Anglic* iii 98 She vomited much vitreous phlegm and bilious humours. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse Watch* 75 A moderate degree of Cold produces a sweet Phlegm and the greatest an *Acerbe* vitrious slime towards the cold e time of Winter

**b** *Vitreous humour* (or *body*), the transparent gelatinous substance occupying the posterior and larger part of the eyeball. † *Vitreous tunicle* (see quot 1704)

1683 Bovit *Usef Exp Nat Philos* I 56 We have sometimes speedily frozen Eyes, and thereby have found the Vitreous humor into very numerous and Diaphanous Films 1696 *Phil Trans* XIX 741 As to the Vitreous humor, he judges it to be of that nature, that being once lost, it can never be repaired 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn* I, *Vitreous Tunicle* a thin Film or Coat, which is said to separate the Glassie Humour from the Chrystalline 1710 J. Clarke tr *Richardt's Nat Philos* (1730) I 237 The Vitreous Humour being one of the most transparent Things that we know of in the World 1793 *Phil Trans* LXXXIII 175 Its elasticity will assist the cellular texture of the vitreous

humour...in restoring the indolent form. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 559 The Vitreous Body is a soft, perfectly transparent, tremulous mass, occupying the three posterior fourths of the cavity of the ball of the eye. 1877 M. Foster *Physiol.* iii. ii. (1878) 398 The rays of light traverse in succession the cornea, the aqueous humour, the lens and the vitreous humour.

c. *elliptic.* as *sb.* = prec.

1869 G. Lawson *Dis. Eye* (1874) 144 He has succeeded in thus extracting the lens without the loss of any vitreous. 1879 *St George's Hosp. Rep* IX. 479 A quantity of the thin fluid vitreous escaped.

3. *Vitreous electricity*, positive electricity obtained from glass by friction.

1789 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 308 Experiments...respecting the vitreous and resinous electricities, as they are called. 1799 [see Electricity 1 b]. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1904) 18 Thunder was not then mere Electricity, vitreous or resinous. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks (Bohn) II. 357 The genius of reading and of gardening are antagonistic, like resinous and vitreous electricity. 1879 Procter *Pleas. Ways Sc.* xi. 238 If silver be carefully rubbed with silk it becomes charged...with positive electricity, formerly called vitreous electricity for this reason.

4. Resembling that of glass; characteristic of glass.

1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 196 The tears are..brittle, and break with a vitreous fracture. 1841 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 130 This change from the vitreous to the crystalline state sometimes takes place suddenly. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 42 They form a..perfectly black mass, ..generally possessing a fatty or vitreous lustre. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* i. (1878) 10 Modern lavas have often a vitreous structure (glassy) such as obsidian.

b. Having the colour or appearance of glass.

1874 R. Buchanan *Foan* I. 21 Not a tree, not a bush, but the pallid sickle was'd Blue-edged and vitreous o'er the black-ning West. 1882 — *Annan Water* i. The vitreous rays of the moon began playing on the window panes. 1900 R. D. Jackson *Glass. Hist. Theories*...transparent, hyaline; formerly used for the light green of glass.

5. *Comb.*, as *vitreous-like*, *-shelled* adj.

1879 Carpenter in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 378/1 The vitreous-shelled *Foraminifera* constitute the most elevated division of the group. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 6/3 Some of the finer wares will break showing a vitreous-like substance.

Hence **Vi·treousness.**

1730 Bailey (vol. II), and later Dicts.

**Vitreously** (vi·trĭəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vitreous manner: a. With positive electricity.

1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlvi. 264 Those attracted by excited wax, are vitreously...electrified. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 21 We have led to the inference that the cloth is vitreously electrified. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. The. Electr. & Magn.* I. 75 The outside of the vessel will be found vitreously [etc.].

b. Glassily; like glass.

1904 Howells *Son of Royal Langbrith* 62 In the moonlight Hawberk's face had a greenish hue, and his eyes shone vitreously.

**Vitrescence** (vitre·sĕns). [f. Vitrescent *a.*: see -ence.] The state of becoming vitreous or glassy; vitrified or vitreous condition.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 279 Mineral alkali promotes their [sc. zeolites] vitrescence most, next borax, microcosmic salt least. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 264/1 The vitrescence was produced by beacon fires lighted during times of invasion. 1903 *Academy* 24 Jan. 75/2 The difficulty in most cases arises from the high vitrescence of surface [of Chinese porcelain].

So **Vitre·scency.** *rare.*

1728 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 116 Their junction with oils, and their vitrescency. 1847 H. Miller *Rambles Geol.* (1858) 365 They are artificial structures, in which vitrescency was designedly induced.

**Vitrescent** (vitre·sĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -escent. Cf. It. *vitrescente.*] Tending to become glass; susceptible of being turned into glass; glassy.

1756 P. Brown *Jamaica* 48 They seem to be formed chiefly of the vitrescent kind, debased by a less agitated or divided clay. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 440 The stone is of an extreme hardness, and almost a petrifaction ... of many different stones, but all vitrescent. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 162 The nitre and tartar are..rendered still more vitrescent by the borax. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 756 Iron ores..require calcareous additions, and the copper ores, rather slags or vitrescent stones, than calcareous earth. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* viii. 289 A vitrescent coating.

**Vitrescible** (vitre·sĭb'l), *a.* [f. L. type **vitresc-ĕre* to become glass + -ible, or directly a. F. *vitrescible* (a 1762), = It. *vitrescibile*, Pg. *-ivel.*] That can be vitrified; vitrifiable.

1754 Hukham in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 841 Loosely combined with the vitrescible earth. 1786 Wedgwood *Phil.* LXXVI. 400 This effect is constant in certain clays, and begins earliest in those which are most vitrescible. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nature* I. 450 They have likewise been ranked among vitrescible stones. 1829 Hibbert in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1831) IV. 166 The interstices between them being filled full of this vitrescible iron ore. 1872 Veath *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 166 Vitrescible colours..are now laid on the glass, and burned into it.

Hence **Vitrescibi·lity.** [Cf. *F. vitrescibilité.*] 1786 Wedgwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 401 Enabling us to ascertain the degree of vitrescibility of bodies that cannot actually be vitrified by any fires which our furnaces are capable of producing.

† **Vi·trial,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -ial.] Composed of glass; glassy, vitreous.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. xii. 30 Their fixed beasen, or vitriall and chrystalline circles, is a salt body. 1668 Tossell *Hist. Serpents* 161 As for the flesh, it is of a vitriall or glassie colour. 1669 Ashm *Mathl. of More-Cl.* (1880) 125 Place your plate, and pile your vitriall bodies Next vpon next.

**Vitriol**(), obs. forms of Vitriol.

† **Vi·triary,** *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *vitr-um* glass. Cf. L. *vitrcdrius* glass-worker.] Relating to the making of glass.

1668 Sir T. Browne *Let. Merritt* 29 Dec., Wks. (Bohn) III. 508 Though I have not been a stranger unto the vitriary art, both in England and abroad.

† **Vi·triate,** *a. Obs.*—[f. as prec.] *trans.* To make clear like glass.

1631 A. Wilson *Swisser* ii. 1 106 An ounce of Honestie, Cleare, Pure, well vitriated.

† **Vi·triature.** *Obs.*—[f. as prec.] (See quot.)

1769 R. Anderson tr. *Alcaia' Nov. Pr.* ii. 32 It helpeth marueilously to take a drumme of the vitriature or glasing of vessels made in pouder.

† **Vi·trics.** *rare*—0. [f. L. *vitr-um* glass + -ic 2.] (See quot.)

Hence *Vitric* adj., in some later Dicts.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2713/2 *Vitrics*, this term includes the fused compounds in which silex predominates, such as garnets, the paste of the enamie; in contradistinction to the ceramics, in which alumina predominates.

† **Vi·trid,** *a. Obs.*—[f. as prec. + -id 1.] Glass-like, vitreous.

1727 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 11 In some others, the stones seem to have been partly run down, and partly enveloped by the vitrid matter.

**Vitrie,** variant of Vitry *Obt.*

**Vitrifaction** (vitrifæ·kʃən). [See Vitrify *v.* and -faction.] = Vitrification.

1708 J. Harris *Lex. Cycl., Vitrification, or Vitrifaction*, the Act of converting a Body into Glass, by Fire. 1840 Yvar *Oper. Pyramids Gisah* I. 228 In some instances the glaize was of an extremely brilliant colour, and a perfect vitrifaction. 1845 Lady Eastlake *Jrnls. & Corr.* I. 163 We now come nearer into granite Edinburgh: such petrifactions or vitrifactions, of which Scotland [etc.]. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 264/1 In Scandinavia, where there are hundreds of ordinary forts, ..no trace of vitrifaction has yet been detected.

**Vitrifacture** : see Vitrefacture.

**Vitrifiable** (vitrifəi·ăbl), *a.* [f. Vitrify *v.* + -able. Cf. F. *vitrifiable* (1734).] Capable of being vitrified; admitting of conversion into a glassy substance by means of heat.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 69 Vitrification is the last or utmost fashion of a body vitrifiable, and is performed by a strong and vehement fire, which is not felt in that degree red hot. 1688 Boyle *Porosum. Anim. & Solid Bod.* vii. 98 We were wont to add to the vitrifiable matter, either some prepared metal, or sometimes Copper [etc.]. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 382, I believe that with this Oil there is mixed a great deal of the earthy, vitrifiable part of the Metal. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 3 The primary, or vitrifiable, earth...he looks upon as the basis or matrix of all other earths. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 53 Mr. Achard found a mixture of two parts calcareous earths and one part magnesia vitrifiable. 1829 Use *Dict. Arts* 574 The same mixture of vitrifiable materials will yield very different results. 1878 Miss J. J. Young *Ceramic Art* 182 The compartments are then filled with vitrifiable enamels.

Hence **Vitrifiabi·lity.** [Cf. F. *vitrifiabilité.*] 1851 *Cent. Dict.*

**Vitrificable,** *a. rare*—0. [Cf. Vitrificate and -able. So Sp. *vitrificable*, Pg. *vitrificavel*, It. *vetrificabile.*] Vitrifiable.

1737 Bailey (vol. II) and later Dicts.

† **Vitrifica·cious,** *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. next and -acious.] Resembling glass.

1704 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 105 A black, compact, hard bitumen; brittle and vitrificacious in breaking.

† **Vitrifica·ble,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [adj. med.L. *vitrificāt-us*, pa. pple. of **vitrificāre* to vitrify.] Vitrified. Also † **Vitrificate** *v. trans.*, to vitrify.

1492 Ripley *Compl. Alch.* v. xviii. in Ashm. (1652) 152 And make thy fyre so temperat, That by the sydye thy Water be never vyryfycate. 1658 Phillips, Bacon *New Atl.* (1659) 162 We have..crystals likewise, and glasses of divers kinds, and among them some of metals vitrificated. 1702 Bailey, *Vitrificable, pa. pple. Obs.* [adj. med.L. *vitrificāt-us*, pa. pple. of **vitrificāre* to vitrify.] Vitrified. Also † **Vitrificate** *v. trans.*, to vitrify.

1662 Ripley *Compl. Alch.* v. xviii. in Ashm. (1652) 152 And make thy fyre so temperat, That by the sydye thy Water be never vyryfycate. 1668 Bacon *New Atl.* (1659) 162 We have..crystals likewise, and glasses of divers kinds, and among them some of metals vitrificated. 1702 Bailey, *Vitrificate, v. trans.* to vitrify.

**Vitrification** (vitrifikē·ʃən). [ad. med. or mod.L. **vitrificātio*, f. **vitrificare* to vitrify. Cf. F. *vitrification* (16th c.), Sp. *vitrificacion*, Pg. *-açño*, It. *vit-, vetrificazione.*]

1. The action or process of vitrifying; conversion into a glassy substance by fusion due to heat; the fact of being so converted.

1612 W. Sanders *Mans Mut. Wks* (1653) 274 Vitrification is Combustion, converting Calk and Cineres into transparant glasse. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* i. § 30 The last action proper to this element [fire] is but vitrification, or a reduction of a body into Glasse. 1661 Boyle *Sceptl. Chem.* v. 322 Cuppels ... ought to be Destitute of Salt, lest the Violence of the Fire should bring them to Vitrification. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 378 We only look on it as the beginning of Vitrification, or a middle state between Metal and Glass. 1773 Franklin *Lett.*, etc., Wks. 1840 V. 454 There is no earth known so vitrifiable as not to require some auxiliary solvent to facilitate its vitrification. 1804 F. F. Tingry *Paint. & Varnish. Guide* 301 This vitrification is facilitated by the addition of a certain quantity of carbonate of potash ..., or carbonate of soda. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* I. iii. iii. 416 Sandstone, though *per se* infusible, is perfectly capable of vitrification. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* xxxv. (1878) 613 Stones originally separate, get, so to speak, glued together in the process of vitrification.

b. With *a* and pl.: An instance of such conversion.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 891 Likewise in their Putrefactions, or Rusts; as Vermilion, Verdegrease, Bise, Cirrus, &c. and likewise in their Vitrifications. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 53 Crystall...is not onely triturable, and reduceable into powder, by contrition, but will subsist in a violent fire, and endure a vitrification. 1759 Delaval in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 85 Because all vitrifications must proceed from previous calcinations.

2. The result or product of vitrifying; a vitrified substance or body.

1681 Boyle *New Dispt.* P 136 We yet more detest the precipitations, vitrifications, and preparations of Mercury, Antimony, Tutty, Sulphur, &c. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 235 Sir Theodore...communicated to them the process of the principal colours which ought to be employed in enamel, and which surpassed the famous vitrifications of Venice and Limoges. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 17 Both abound with pyrites and crystallizations, or rather vitrifications. 1845 Petrie *Rec. Archit. Irel.* 89 This is also observable in the interior of the building, where there is a slight superficial vitrification. 1860 Smiles *Self Help* ii. 41 He had but to cover this material with a vitrification of transparent glaze.

† **Vitrifiedness,** *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. prec. and -ory.] Causing, or resulting in, vitrification.

1678 R. R[ussell] tr. *Geber* ii. l. n. vii. 54 Having no good Fusion in Heat of Fire but a vitrificatory Fusion only.

**Vitrified** (vi·trifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. Vitrify *v.*]

1. Converted into glass or a glassy substance by exposure to heat; rendered glassy; glazed.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 53 Vitrified and pellucide bodyes are of a clearer complexion in their continuitie, then in their powders and Atomicall divisions. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* ii. 49 The sun...would...convert it at length either into an heap of ashes, or a lump of vitrified metal. 1777 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 15 It was all one heap of vitrified ruins from the top to the bottom. 1786 *Lettre Sidonie* iv, The sand...fluxes and runs by the intense heat, and so causes over the whole face of the kiln with a strong vitrified coat like glass. 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 80 At a little distance from the pit there was a large pile of calcined and vitrified ore. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 329 Ordered...that pipes should only be used in or under buildings. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* II. 37 That foul vitrified matter called lava.

*b. fig.* Icy, frozen.

c 1787 Crabbe *Midnight* 216 The winds that in converging Furrows plough The freezing pool...Are arm'd with pain, and vitrified their Wings.

2. *Vitrified fort*, a hill-fort of a type occurring in Scotland and some parts of the continent, the stones of which have been converted into a vitreous material by the action of fire.

1777 J. Williams *Acc. Anc. Ruins* 05 The largest vitrified fort I ever saw, is on the south side the Grampians, in the shire of Angus. 1791 *New Statist. Acc.* Scot. 115 Upon the top of an insulated hill adjoining, there appears to have been what some would call a vitrified fort; though others will have it to be the vestiges of a volcano. 1805 Hibbert in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1831) IV. 180 The name of *vitrified fort* may with much advantage be exchanged for the more comprehensive and untheoretical one of *vitrified site*. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* I. iii. iii. 413 One of the most remarkable specimens of a vitrified fort in Scotland. 1879 Lubbock *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* ix. 173 The vitrified fort on the Hill of Keith.

**Vitriform** (vi·trifɔm), *a.* [f. L. *vitr-um* glass.] Having the form or appearance of glass.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 449, 120 [grains] of the Vitriform Phosphoric Acid. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 432 You will obtain a vitriform mass, of the colour of an animal's liver. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 217 The tuberculous induration is semi-transparent, vitriform, and humid. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown's Schooll.* 176 The space between the mennios and chorion ..principally filled with a liquid called by M. Velpeau the reticulated or the vitriform body.

**Vitrify** (vi·trifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *vitrifier* (16th c.), or med.L. **vitrificāre* (Sp. and Pg. *vitrificar*, It. *vit-, vetrificare*), f. *vitr-um* glass: see -fy.]

1. *trans.* To convert into glass or a glass-like substance; to render vitreous by fusion due to heat.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* I. 25 Stones which ...endure the strength of fire, and are not consumed thereby, but rather vitrified. c 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. i. xxix, Surely, that grand Universal-fire..at the day of judgment may by its violent ardor vitrifie and turn it into one lump of Crystal, the whole Body of the Earth. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 45 Sometimes also is that heat so very intense, as further to melt it and vitrifie it. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* ii. 46 Clayey soils, and such like, may by the strength of fire be converted into brick, or stone, or earthen metal, and so melted down and vitrified. 1728 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec. App.* ii. 118 Vitrifying the dross of metals so as to mould the same like Bricks or Tiles. 1790 Franklin *Lett.*, etc., Wks. 1840 V. 239 The metal appeared to have been not only melted, but even vitrified. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 418 This glass pierces crucibles and vitrifies them. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* iv. (1878) 39 Shales, sandstones, &c., are often...vitrified at the points of contact with the dykes. 1881 Haughton, and felspathic rocks. 1866 Livingstone *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. iii. 79 The clay pipes..are met with everywhere, often vitrified.

*fig.* a 1628 Raleigh *Rem.* (1644) 155 Every ordinary wit can vitrifie, and make transparent pieces, and discern their corruptions. a 1698 Marvell *Appleton House* Wks. 1786 III. 221 By her flames, in heaven try'd, Nature is wholly vitrify'd. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1850) 103 The sons, ketchups,..and other...compounds, with whose astringent juices we vitrify the coats of our stomachs.

*absol.* 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 54 That...so small a fire can vitrify, will be better understood by him that knows how small a heat at a Lamp-Furnace will melt Glass.

2. *intr.* To become vitreous; to turn into glass or a substance resembling this.

a 1668 Bacon *Phys. Remains* Rem. (1679) 101 We see Metals will vitrify. 1728 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 103 These are apt to vitrifie, and make Glass and Crystal withal. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 246, I imagined that metals might not calcine or vitrify except in the same circumstances. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 328 Such lime easily vitrifies, in consequence of the affinity of lime for silica and alumine. 1856 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 252 Resisting heat without slagging or vitrifying.

Hence **Vi·trifying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1674 Boyle *Greenhill. Corpuscl. Philos.* 38 So strictly united...as to maintain their union in the vitrifying violence of the fire. 1798 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 155 The heat was just below the vitrifying point. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1015 White vitrifying pastes, fit for receiving all sorts of metallic colours. *Ibid.* 1159 The vitrifying colours are laid on by means of larger hair pencils.

**Vitrine** (vi·trin), *sb.* [a. F. *vitrine*, f. *vitre* glass.] A glass show-case for specimens or for objects of art. (Also *attrib.* in *vitrine table.*)

1886 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 430/2 Four large vitrines in the Vase Room are now appropriated to the display of the Greek examples.

†**Vitrine,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. med.L. *vitrin-us*, f. L. *vitrum* glass.] Vitreous.

1656 [see Vitrean *a.*].

**Vitrinopal** : see Vitrite.

**Vitriol** (vi·triǝl), *sb.* Forms : 4–5 **vitiole,** 5 **vit-, vytreole,** 5–7 **vitryol(e,** 6–7 **vitriolle** (6 -olle), 5– **vitriol** ; 5–7 **vitriall,** 6–7 **vitrial,** 7 **vitraell.** [a. OF. (also F.) *vitriol* (13th c.; = Sp. and Pg. *vitriolo*, It. *vetriolo*, *-iuolo*, *vitriolo*, *-iuolo*, *-iuuolo*) or directly ad. med.L. *vitriolum* (Albertus Magnus) f. *vitrum* glass.]

1. One or other of various native or artificial sulphates of metals (see 2 and 3) used in the arts or medicinally, esp. sulphate of iron : a. Used in *sing.* without article.

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 553 Vnsleked lym, chalk,..Poudres diuerse, asshes,...Cered pottes, sal peter, vitriole. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 579 *Draganti*, vytryole, or coporose. a 1425 tr. *Corpus Christi Treat. Vitriole*, 40 Puleres of alume, zucarine brent, of stramant, and of vitriol. 1471 Ripley *Compl. Alch. Adm.* iv. in Ashm. (1652) 190 Also I wrought in Sulphur and in Vitriall, Which folys we do call the Grene Lyon. 1597 Andrew *Newmeyde's Distyll. Waters* F j b, Halfe an ounce of vytryol wherof the ynke is made. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 323/1 Bloodstenchings. Take of the best Vitriolle, beate it smalle, and boulte it through a fine cloth. 1622 Woodall *Surg. Mate Wks.* (1653) 210 Copperas or Vitriol..is a mineral salt which..doth farre exceed many other kinds of salts. 1684 tr. *Bolon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 38 Those Acides, and acrimonious Particles of the Salt and Vitriol which had caused its Sublimation. 1718 Quincy *Lex. Phys.* & *Pract. Disp.* 8 The last is what is forced from Vinegar, Vitriol, and such like acid Substances. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., The Antients give the Name *Chalcitis*, or Chalcites, to native Vitriol..., which is a kind of mineral Stone, of a reddish Colour. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 124 Besides sulphur, vitriol is also made here, of a purplish colour. 1804 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 259 The chloride of calcium melting easily in the still, enables the whole of the acetic acid to be involved at a lower temperature than when vitriol is employed. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* xviii. II. 26 The use of vitriol was recommended among other destructive agencies.

b. In *pl.* (or with *a*).

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 79 Of staramentes, I. of vitriolez, bene many kyndez. 1569 Timme *Querrist.* I. 1x. 37 Some of these salts are bytter as wormewood, some sharpe as vitriolles. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 294 Such as that drink of them purge forth black excrements by reason of the vitriols. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., According to Boerhaave, Vitriols consist of a metallic Part with a Sulphur ashering, a menstruous Acid, and Water. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 305 Vitriols have been discovered buried in the ancient sandy bed of that sea. 1808 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 The several vitriols being distinguished by their colours, or by the metals which they contain.

2. With distinguishing epithets : a. With ads. of colour. *Blue, green, red, white vitriol*, sulphate of copper, iron, cobalt, and zinc respectively.

c 1440 tr. *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 14 Grene vitriol, & he be do to a man of a drie complexioun, engendrith fleisch. [c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 79 Per is a spice of vitriol pat is called vitriol romanum,..i. copporose ; pis it is of yalow colour in reward of pe grenner vitriol. And per is one of white colour bot not schynyng.] 1612 Cotgr., *Marcazite* is white vitriol. 1695 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 617 A salt that had some resemblance to white Vitriol. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., In Blue Vitriol, the Metal, wherewith the Acid, etc. is join'd, is Copper. 1732 Gibson *Diseases Horses* iii. iii. 198 In some cases it (*sc.* the horse's eye) may be touched with the blue Vitriol stone, or the Lunar caustic. 1798 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 66 Green Vitriol hath a saltish and astringent taste. 1819 Brande *Chem.* 297 Copper and Sulphuric Acid—Oxysulphate of Copper—Blue Vitriol. 1837 Dana *Min.* 180 Cobalt Vitriol ... Red Vitriol. Sulphate of Cobalt. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* s.v., White vitriol is a combination of sulphuric-acid and oxide of zinc. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 224/2 Ferrous sulphate is the salt so well known as green vitriol, and also in the impure state as copperas.

b. With other adjs., as *English, German, Hungarian, Roman vitriol.*

1573 *Art of Limning* 7 Then put in it two unces of greene Copporas, or els of Romayne Vitriol, which is beste. 1621 Cotgr., *Vitriol d'Allemagne*, German Vitriol. *Ibid.*, *Vitriol d'Hongrie*, Hungarie Vitriol. 1627 Markham *Ilus.* iii. 134 The English bring into France .. Leade, Tynne, English Vitriall, or Shoomakers blacke. 1652 French *Distill.* iii. 66 Take of Hungarian, or the best English Vitriall. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Roman Vitriol is made by exposing these Pyrites to the Air, till such time as they calcine. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. 36 Take Hungarian Vitriol, Allum, of each half a Pound, Phlegm of Vitriol 10 Pounds. 1827 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 505/1 Sulphuric acid and copper form sulphate of copper, blue vitriol, or Roman vitriol, or blue copperas.

3. With term indicating the base, as *vitriol of cobalt, copper, iron, lead, silver*, etc.

1695 W. W. *New Light Chirurg. Put out* 61 The Powder consists of Vitriol of Copper. 1699 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 453/1 Of this opened Sol to make Vitriol of Gold. 1704 Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitriol of Copper* or *Venus*, is Blue Chrystals made by a Solution of Copper in Spirit of Nitre, Evaporation, and Chrystallization in a cool place. *Ibid.*, *Vitriol of Silver*, or of the *Moon*. 1728 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Of this kind are the Vitriols of gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, and tin. *Ibid.*, Vitriol of Quicksilver, the name of a chemical preparation of quicksilver, with acid spirits. *Ibid.*, Another method of making the Vitriol of mercury. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 381 Fused..on a plate of platina, with the vitriols of tartar and soda, it appeared entirely to resist their action. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 191 If they are considered as Vitriols of Cobalt and Nickel, they are ranged among Ores. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 288 The patient bore large doses of the vitriols of copper and of zinc.

†b. *Vitriol of Mars, Moon, Venus*, etc. (see quots. and 1704 in prec.). *Obs.*

1678 Salmon *Pharm. Lond.* 836/2 Filings of Steel are digested in Spirit of Vitriol, to make Vitriol of Mars. 1698 Phillips tr. *Lemery's Treat. of Metals* 66 Mars and Venus mix'd and distill'd together. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vitriol of Mars*, or *Salt of Steel*, is made by dissolving Steel in some proper Acid Menstruum then Evaporating and Chrystallizing to gain the Salt as above in Copper. 1798 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 66 These crystals are called Green Vitriol, and Vitriol of Mars.

4. a. *Oil of vitriol*, concentrated sulphuric acid.

1580 Frampton tr. *Monardes' Med. agst. Venome* 117 b, In our time there hath been compounded and drawen out an Oyle, which they call Oyle of Vitriol or Coporose. 1610 Philalethes *Introit apert. Mysterium* 1666 Bon's *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxii. 176 This we fill'd with Oyl of Vitriol and fair water. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Oil of Vitriol, which comes next after the Spirit, by hastning the Five wherewith that head been rais'd. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 31 Add, by a little at a time, as much vitriolic acid, commonly called oil of vitriol, as will dissolve the whole. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* iv. (1842) 392 Pouring in so much concentrated oil of vitriol as shall moisten the fragments. 1832 Hurlet *Physiognomy* 110 Water made slightly sour by addition of a little oil of vitriol.

b. *Spirit(s) of vitriol*, a distilled essence of vitriol.

1671 R. Boyle *Wind* 175 Such as Oyl of Tartar and spirits of Vitriol. 1691 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 211 Upon the Acid Saline Principle, I suppose no person who hath tasted the Spirit of Vitriol,...will question its abounding in that subject. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Salt*, Spirit of Nitre, Spirit of Salt,...and Spirit of Vitriol. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 718 If the vitriolic acid contain much water, it is then called spirit of vitriol. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 293 This may be prepared with the spirits of vitriol. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1336 *Vitriol, Sweet Spirit of*,..a term for..sulphuric ether.

c. *Salt of vitriol*, *Sp.* (= Fr. *sel de vitriol*), sweet Earth of Vitriol.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sulphur*, Coloothar, or Xzed salt of vitriol. 1755 *Dict. Arts* & *Sc.* I. 60 Its fine powder is matter, called colcothar of vitriol. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 93 Take red calcined vitriol, or colcothar of vitriol.

5. *fig.* (In allusion to the corrosive properties of vitriol.) Virulence or acrimony of feeling or utterance.

1769 *Junius Lett.* xv. (1788) 90 Flat and insipid in your retired state, but brought into action you become vitriol again. 1796 *Monthly Treas. Domest. Tr.* They cast the vitriol of their calumny over me. 1803 *Literary World* (Boston) 8 Nov. 359/1 This introduction, with its mixture of genius, shrewdness, and vitriol, is a piece of prose not to be missed.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vitriol bath, chamber, -maker, marcasite, -thrower, -throwing, water* ; **vitriol ochre,** a former name of glockerite ; †**vitriol stone,** a native vitriol or sulphate.

1669 Boyle *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) *About. Rest Bodies* 14 A Bath of Vitriolick Water. 1671 — *Short Disc. to a Virtuoso* that lives Inland by a Vitriol-work, whither these among other Vitriol-Stones are brought. 1670 (see Vitriolate *a.* 1). 1681 R. Elsynge in *Phil. Trans.* No. 193 Two vitriol waters in the Copper Mine of Herongrundt. 1696 Whitman *Surg. Treat.* v. ix. 378 If in the incarning the Wound the Flesh grow luxuriant, touch it with a Vitriol-stone, and it will..dispose it to cicatrize. 1726 *Dict. Arts* & *Sci.* s.v. The old iron, picked up by the poor people about our mines, is sold to the vitriol or copperas makers. 1843 Thackeray *Irish Sk.-bk.* viii. We had a talk about the vitriol-throwers at Cork, and the sentence just passed upon them. 1849 Mr. Martineau *Hist. Peace* v. (1877) III. 263 They mourned over the murders, and vitriol-throwing of the operatives, who were enslaved by mercenary delegates. 1867 Holoak *Chem.* 203 Reactions in the Vitriol Chambers. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* iv, Compassion is about as welcome to my feelings as a vitriol bath to fresh wounds.

Hence **Vi·triol** *v. trans.*, to injure (a person) by means of vitriol ; to expose (a thing) to the effects of vitriol.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 5/2, I do not want to be killed, and I have a particular objection to being vitriolled.

†**Vi·triolate,** *sb.* *Obs.* Also 7 vitriolat. [ad. med. or mod.L. **vitriolāt-us*, f. *vitriolum* vitriol. Cf. It. *vitriolato*, Sp. and Pg. *vitriolado*, F. *vitriolé.*]

1. Of or belonging to, resembling that of, vitriol.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* vi. xii. 336 A vitriolate or copperose quality conjoyning with a terrestrious and astringent humidity. 1665–8 *Phil. Trans.* I. 323 This had somewhat of a Vitriolate taste. 1670 Boyle *Ess. Gems* 159 Particles which..I observ'd to be of a Vitriolate nature.

2. Treated with vitriol. *Vitriolate tartar* (see Vitriolated 3 *a*).

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 513 As we see in Tartar Vitriolate. 1673 Salmon *Syn. Med.* iii. lxxiv. 730 Vitriolate Tartar taken in Broath,...extract of Hellebore[etc.]..are here good. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compitl.* 11. 58 I gave him Spring-water corrected with Vitriolate Syrup of Rasberries. 1706 (see Tartar† 3 *b*). 1836 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 60 The solution of this salt was precipitated by the produced if, instead of tartar vitriolate, glauber's salt be used.

3. Affected by, impregnated with, vitriol.

1666 Boyle *Orig. Forms* & *Qual.* 339 This Vitriolate Nitre (if I may so call it). 1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 132 It is also...manifest, that there are in the bodies of men.. solutions or liquors imbued with sundry salts, as aluminous, acid, and vitriolate, etc. 1684 *Phil. Transactions, Anthro.* & *Solid Bod.* viii. 125 So that their Texture was spoiled by the saline and vitriolate Corpuscles.

b. Of water, springs, etc.

1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 339 That Pool..seems to be of Vitriolate water. 1669 *Ibid.* I. 961 The Iron, that is said to be turned into Copper, by the Vitriolate Springs at Cremnitz.. in Hungary. 1670 *Ibid.* V. 1043 There are also two Springs of a Vitriolat water, which also turn Iron into Copper. 1752 *Eng. Gazetteer* s.v. *Worten-Lower*, A vitriolate ferruginous spring.

**Vi·triolate,** *v. rare.* [Cf. prec. and -ate 3.] *trans.* To affect or treat with vitriol ; to render vitriolic.

1605 Timme *Querrist.* I. vii. 97 By reason of a singular temper of sharpness vitriolated by sweet and sulphurus spirits. 1828–32 Webster, *Vitriolated*, to convert, as sulphur in any compound, into sulphuric acid, compound, called vitriolic acid.

**Vitriolated,** *ppl. a.* [f. prec. or Vitriolate *a.*]

†1. = Vitriolate *a.* 1. *Obs.*—1

1651 Biggs *New Dispens.* P. 114 The acid saline vitriolated qualities of wine, vineger, or juice of Limons.

2. Impregnated with vitriol : a. Of liquids.

a 1646 Mennens in *Bacon's Physiol. Rem.* (1679) 125 Iron may be dissolved by any tart, salt, or vitriolated Water. 1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 154 The vitriolated Serum would not flame ; the vitriolated blood did burn with a brisk but short flame. 1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 189 The liquor more acid than the vitriolated liquor in the foregoing experiment.

b. Of minerals, etc., affected by native sulphates.

1704 R. J. Sullivan *View Nature* I. 250 Vitriolated clay, or allum, is rarely found. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 113 Mr. Bergman .. deduces the origin of Vitriolated Silver, from the withering and Acidification of the Sulphuretted Silver Ores. 1820–31 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 87 The vitriolated layers of mire still exhibit traces of sea-weeds and marshes. 1869 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 49 Any spring of water that flows from a neighbourhood, will hence contain both alum and vitriolated iron.

3. Treated with vitriol : a. *Vitriolated tartar*, sulphate of potassium. (Cf. Tartar† 3 *b*.)

1696 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 608/1 Antimonial Tartar vitriolated. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Tartar*, Tartar Vitriolated, which some call Magistery of Tartar, is Oil of Tartar mix'd with rectify'd Spirit of Vitriol. 1798 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 25 Vitriolated Tartar is almost as hard to dissolve in water as the Selenites. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 183 An innocent neutral salt, vitriolated tartar. 1836 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 4) 381 Vitriolated tartar forms very efficient fusions when vitriolated tartar. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 795/2 Potassic sulphate..is the salt formerly called vitriolated tartar and *sal de duobus*.

b. With other sbs. as *ammonia, iron*, etc.

1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 305 Of vitriolated natron (Glauber's salt) four parts. 1790 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 87 Eight grains of myrrh, a grain and a half of vitriolated iron. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. I. 260/1 Sulphat of ammonia..was also called vitriolated ammoniac. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* (1817) 169, I gave her emetics of vitriolated iron and copper. 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, *Vitriolated Alkali* (Chem.), the sulphate of potash.

**Vitriola·tion.** [f. Vitriolate *v.*] (See quot.)

1828–32 Webster, *Vitriolation*, the act or process of converting into sulphuric acid or vitriol.

†**Vitriole·scent,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -escent.] Passing into a vitriolated state. Hence **Vitriole·scence.**

1759 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 60 Dissolved, crumbled, vitriolescent copper-pyrites. *Ibid.* 96 The spontaneous vitriolescence of pyrites.

**Vitriolet,** variant of Vitriolate *a.*

**Vitriolic** (vitri·lik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–8 **vitriolick,** 7 **-ike,** -*iq*(ue. [ad. F. *vitriolique* (16th c., = It., Sp., Pg. *vitriolico*), or f. Vitriol *sb.* + -ic.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or belonging to vitriol ; having

the nature or qualities of vitriol; impregnated with vitriol.

1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 62 The solution of the vitriol marcasite...precipitates the same vitriolick saker. 1696 Gabr *Anat. Pl., Expos. Lactation* II. § 4 Irish Slan.: seems to be nothing else but a Vitriolick Bole. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 257 In the Quartana, the...Pain is from the vitriolic Catochymia. 1736 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 470 It is of a subacid taste, and very nauseously vitriolic. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xl. 215 A mucous substance, which had something of a vitriolic quality, settled under the testicular membrane. 1860 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 35 This compound of metal and sulphur...is destroyed by the contact of moisture and resolved into a vitriolic salt. 1864 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrn.* VII. 108/1 If the pit water be vitriolic...it becomes necessary to use every means to procure better water. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-man's* 49 A fiery white spirit, fresh from the still,...This vitriolic stuff seemed to meet every emergency.

b. *Vitriolic acid*, oil of vitriol.

1749 Wall in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. Suppl. 388, I acidulated the Liquors with the vitriolick Acid. 1778 W. Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 54 It entirely resists the vitriolick acid, which dissolves or corrodes every other known metallick body, except Gold. 1860 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral Tr., Forrester, Introd. notes*, The large bottle of vitriolic acid was broken. 1894 Ordeson *Creed*, xlii. 137 The gas was generated from steel filings and vitriolic acid.

2. *fig.* Of language, persons, etc.: Extremely sharp, caustic, or scathing; bitterly ill-natured or malignant.

1841 H. F. Chorley *Music & Manns.* III. 32 Venting a flood of vitriolic sarcasm, or a flight of intelligible satire. 1866 E. P. Whipple *Characters & Charac. Men* 5 Robespierre...[and] Frederick of Prussia...were both bitter and vitriolic natures. 1879 McCarthy *Hist. Own Times* II. 197 He never became more than a great Parliamentary critic of the acrid and vitriolic style. 1903 Coleman *C. Reade* 314 We cannot read For vitriolic vigour this epistle excels anything in the language.

B. *sb.* A vitriolic substance. *Obs.*—1

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. 1651. It had a taste of a strong vitriolic, and smelt like aqua fortis.

**Vitriolico-**, combining form of prec., employed in a few chemical terms, as *vitriolico-antimoniated*, *-muriated*, *-neutral*.

1782 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 49 Whenever a vitriolico-neutral salt...is evaporated to a certain degree, the vitriolic expels these metals in turn. 1796 — *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 213 (Silver) Vitriolico muriated, or Cornuous Silver Ore. *Ibid.* 122 Vitriolico Antimoniated Silver Ore.

**Vitrio-lify**, *v. rare*—1, [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To vitriolize. Hence **Vitrio·lify·ing** *ppl. a.*

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 71 The expansion of some of those prodigiously active Springy particles, which together with the Spirit of Salt were arrested by Vitrifying principle.

**†Vitrioline**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -ine 1.] Resembling vitriol; vitriolic.

1652 French *Yorksh. Spa* lii. 34 Astringing waters, as Alluminous, and Vitrioline almost every where. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorksh.* (1662) III. 189 In a marish boggy ground ariseth a spring of a Vitrioline tast and odour. 1684 tr. *Bont's Merc, Compit.* iii. 59 The Bath waters, wherein the vitriolic virtue is not eminent, but...*Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2573 How far these Stones are the effect of a Vitrioline Juice, I will not determin.

**Vitriol·isable**, *a.* [f. Vitriolise *v.* + -able.] That may be vitriolized; capable of being converted into vitriol.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 82 That the Iron, in Pyrites, [is] spontaneously Vitriolizable. 1828-32 Webster. [Hence in later Dicts.]

**Vitriolisation.** [f. next + -ation.] The process of converting, or of being converted, into a vitriol.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 109 The vitriolisation of pyrites. 1796 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 74 As Mr. Monnet has observed in his excellent treatise on Vitriolization. 1804 *Ibid.* XCIV. 318 The magnetical pyrites...seems to be liable to oxidisement, but not to vitriolization.

**Vitriolise** (vi·triŏlaiz), *v.* [f. Vitriol *sb.*] 1. *a. trans.* To convert into vitriol; to vitriolate. Also *absol.*

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 453/2 Dissolve again in fair Water and crystallize or vitriolize as before. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 392 By long exposure to the air and moisture they are at last vitriolized.

*b. intr.* To become vitriolated or vitriolic.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 327 Such pyrites as vitriolise strongly and leisurely. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 82 There are some that spontaneously effloresce and vitriolize.

2. *trans.* To injure with vitriol; to throw vitriol at (a person) with intent to injure.

1886 *Daily News* 15 March (Cassell's), The jury did not believe that the child from the same motive vitriolized himself. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 24 July 4/6 The painful case of a handsome girl who was vitriolised by a rival.

Hence **Vi·triolised** *ppl. a.* Also **Vi·triolser**, one who throws vitriol with intent to injure.

1880 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 2 Thinking he had to deal with a vitrioliser the servant ran down to call a policeman. 1892 *Ibid.* 9 Nov. 7/1 Vitriolled spleen and arsenicated coffee. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 6/3 With vitriolised drink supplied to you at fabulous prices.

**†Vitriolous**, *a.* [f. Vitriol *sb.* + -ous. Cf. OF. *vitriolneux.*] Of the nature of vitriol; vitriolic.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxii. 164 Some attrition from an acide and vitriolous humidity in the stomach. *Ibid.* vi. xii. 336, I say, a vitriolous or copperous quality; for vitriol is the active or chiefe ingredient in Inke. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 56 Vitriolous, nitrous, &c. Spirits.

**Vitrious**, obs. form of Vitreous *a.*

**Vitriosh**, variant of Vitry *Obs.*

**Vitrite** (vi·trait). *Min.* [f. *L. vitr-um* glass + -ite 1.] (See quots.)

1866 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 341 Opal, as a rock, usually only forms very subordinate masses, e.g. in the basalt vitrite, which occurs at Marcasin, in Bohemia. 1868 *Watts Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 *Vitrophyl, Vitrite*, the matrix of Bohemian pyrope, related to pitchstone.

**Vi·tro-**, combining form on Gr. models of *L. vitrum* glass, used in a few terms, as *vitro-dentine*, the hard external layer of dentine in a tooth; **vi·trophyre**, a subdivision of porphyritic rocks; hence *vitrophyric* adj.; **vi·trotype** (see quot. 1875).

1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 680/1 The dental plate consists..of a central mass of coarse osseous substance..and an external sheath of very fine..'vitro-dentine'. 1870 tr. *Stricker's Man. Histology* xv. (N. Syd. Soc.) 471 The central portion [of a tooth] consists of vaso-dentine, which is covered with true dentine or external to which again is a thin layer of vitro-dentine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2713/2 *Vitro-type* (Photography), a name given to the processes by which involves the production of collodion film pictures on glass. 1886 Irvine *Trans. Tr. Lit. Soc. Ill.* II. iii. 90 Vogelsang has proposed to classify this type [Porphyritic] in three divisions: 1st, Granophyre,...and, Felsophyre,...3rd, Vitrophyre,...The Vitrophyric-mass is a glassy magma. 1890 *Philos. Mag.* March 288 Among the pyroxenic rocks the most noticeable varieties are the labradorite-audesites the pyroxene-andesites—of which both 'trachytoid' and 'vitrophyric' forms occur.

**+Vitrose**, *a. Obs.*—0 [ad. L. type **vitrōt-us*, f. *vitrum* glass.] 'Glassy, full of glass.'

1727 Bailey (vol. II).

**Vitrous**, *a. rare.* [f. *L. vitr-um* glass. Cf. F. *vitreux*, and med.L. *vitrus* adj.] Vitreous.

1857 *Physical Dict., Vitreous humor*, a moisture like to molten glass or chrystal, which is a part of the eye. 1870 Sir W. Rankine in *Phil. Trans.* CLX. 51 *note*, A flexible, capillary, yellow glass,...with small vitrous globules at a little distance one from the other. 1899 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Vitrous humour, a genus of vitreous rocks comprehending the silicated, vitrified stones or rocks.

**+Vi·trum.** *Obs. rare.* [L.] Glass; a glassy substance; a glass vessel.

1857 *Physical Dict., Vitrum*, glass: it's used to signifie glass drinking cups, or any other vessels made of glass. 1869 Hooke *Microgr.* 51 A certain thin Lamina of a vitrum or vitrified part of the Metal. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 547/1 Le Vitrum makes the Salt...of the Cinders,...but he mingles the Vitrum with its equal Weight of Sulphur in Powder.

**Vitruvian** (vitrū·viăn), *a.* [f. the name of M. *Vitruvius* Pollio, a Roman architect and writer on architecture (*c* 10 B.C.).] Of, relating to, or in the style of Vitruvius.

1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. 116 Our buildings must be na Vitruvian, as writings in the days of Erasmus were voted to be Ciceronian. 1853 R. Willis *Archit. Mist. Ages* II. 23 *note*, The latter [Alberti] published the first treatise on the Vitruvian architecture, in 1485. 1893 Symonds *Michelangelo* xiii. II. 257 Church, cupola, and spires are built up by a succession of Vitruvian temples.

b. *Vitruvian scroll*, a convoluted scroll-pattern employed as an architectural ornament.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* I. 9 A scroll or band of laurel leaves, surrounded by an ornamental edge, usually termed a Vitruvian scroll. 1886 G. Schumacher *Across the Jordan* III. 173 Its lintel-stone, which is...ornamented with the seven-branched candlestick and a scort of vitruvian scroll.

Hence **Vitruvianism**, the style or principles of architecture favoured by Vitruvius.

1859 Jephson *Brittany* viii. 115 Going straight from the debased Renaissance or perpendicular to Vitruvianism.

**†Vitry.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **vetris**, *Sc.* **vitrioch**; 6 **vitre**, 7 **vitree**, **vitrie**, **vittry**, 8 **vitry**; 6–7 **vittery**, 9 **vittory**. [ad. F. *Vitré*, the name of a town in Brittany. The early forms in *-is*, *-ioch* prob. represent F. *Vitrées* pl., canvas cloths made at Vitré.] *Vitry canvas*, a kind of light durable canvas. Cf. Vitrey, Vitrelan.] Also *attrib.*

*c* 1440 *Foreign Accts.* 59 m. 23 a (P. R. O.), [A ship's bonnet containing] iiij di' uln' canab' de vetris. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 345 For xiiij elne of vetrioch canvas to ane litil pailyeone of the Kingis, xiiij s. 1534 *Exch. Acc.* 58/13 Vittery canvas. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* 37 For which is alwaies paide ready Golde, with salt, Canvas Vitre, and great skeins of good twine. 1612 *Ledger A. Holyburton* (1867) 319 Vandoloxe or Vitrie canves the ell, xx s. 1627 Mouyson *Hist.* iii. 134 And they bring from thence Linnen cloathes, called white Ruanes and Vitree Canvas. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 167 Linnens,.. narrow vandales, or vitry canvas. 1721 C. King *Brit. Merch.* I. 181, 17000 Hund. of Vitry and Noyals Canvas. *Ibid.* 34, Canvas Vittry, Canvas Norman. 1739 J. M. Gagoe *Voy. E. Indies* 176 Holland's duck, or vitry, is whiter in use, more pliant, and less apt to split. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Vittry*, light and durable canvas. *Ibid.*, *Vittory*, a fine canvas, of which the waistcloths were formerly made.

**Vitsonday**, obs. Sc. form of Whitsunday.

**‖ Vitta** (vi·tă). Pl. vittæ (vi·tī). [L. *vitta* a band, fillet, chaplet, esp. one worn round the head.]

**†1.** *Anat.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vitta*, that part of the Coat call'd *Amnion*, which sticks to the Infants Head when 'tis just Born. [Hence in Phillips, 1706, etc.]

**2.** *Rom. Antiq.* (See quots.)

Neither of the applications rests upon L. usage.

1708 A. Gordon *Itin. Sept.* 77 He [sc. a Roman soldier] has a Sash or Vitta coming over his Breast, reaching to his Middle. 1849 *Klutz's Cyc. Bibl. Lit.* I. 209/2 The objects above denominated appendages and vittæ...were straps of leather secured to the lower rim of the barrel of a suit of armour, and to the openings for arm-holes.

**3.** *Zool.* A band or stripe of colour.

1829 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. II. 346 The hypochondria [of the Guernsey Partridge] marked with a double black vitta. 1839 Jenyns in *Trans. Entom. Nat. Club* II. 365 Mite...marked on the back with a dark vitta or line forming two zigzoid flexures. 1873 G. N. Lawrence *Birds S. W. Mexico* 31 *Larus californicus*...bill greyish-white, behind the yellowish-white tip a black vitta.

b. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 493/1 The term vittæ is also sometimes applied to the various stripes which are found upon leaves, and which either arise from irregular distribution or entire deficiency of colouring-matter.

**4.** *Bot.* a. One of a number of elongated club-shaped canals or tubes occurring in the pericarp of the fruit of most umbelliferous plants and containing their characteristic oil. Usually in pl.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 4 The ridges are separated by channels, below which are often placed, in the substance of the pericarp, cavities, commonly called vittæ, filled with oily matter, called *vittæ*. 1847 Steele *Field Bot.* 30 Vittæ on the upper half of the fruit only...*Heracleum*. Vittæ as long as fruit...*Pseudodaucus*. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 156 Trinia...primary ridges subequal, thick, smooth, rugose or plaited, with a large *vitta* inside each.

b. One of a number of internal projections occurring in the valves of diatomaceous plants.

1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1900 Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

**Vittail**(e, obs. forms of Victual *sb.* and *v.*

**Vittandly**, obs. Sc. variant of Wittingly *adv.*

**Vittate** (vi·tĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *vittāt-us* bound with a fillet or chaplet, f. *vitta* Vitta + -ate 2.]

1. *Zool., Bot.*, etc. Marked or striped with vittæ. Cf. Vittated *a.*

1826 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 290 Vittate (*Vittata*), painted with several such stripes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1224/1 *Vittate*, striped lengthwise.

2. *Bot.* Having a vitta or vittæ (sense 4 a). Chiefly in combination, *z-vittate*.

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 153 Eryngium;..primary ridges obscure 1-vittate.

**Vittated**, *a. Zool., Ornith.*, etc. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ed 2.] = prec. 1.

1790 Lathan *Ind. Ornith.* II. 827 *Procellaria vittata*,.. Vittated Petrel. 1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 533 Vittated Snake. *Coluber Vittatus*. 1824 *Ibid.* V. I. 22 Vittated Silure. *Silurus Vittatus*.

**Vitte**, obs. f. Wit *sb.*

**Vittee**, dial. var. Fitty *a.*

**Vittel**(, obs. ff. Victual *sb.* and *v.*

**Vit·teller, -lour**, etc. obs. ff. Victualler.

**Vittely**, obs. Sc. f. Wittily *adv.*, Wilful, *adv.*

**Vitten**, dial. var. Fitten *sb.* and *a.*

**+Vittered**, variant of Fittered *ppl. a. Obs.*

*a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 355/265 Viterde bodies and blokes also, Pat wolde schal don hem ful wo. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 609 The wilde Ache or Parseley hath large leaves, al jagged, cut, and vittered, much like the leaves of the wilde Carrot.

**Vittering**, Sc. form of Wittering.

**Vitterly**, Sc. form of Witterly *adv. Obs.*

**Vittery**, var. Vitry *Obs.*

**Vittie-vayr** : see Vetiver.

[1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 403 *Vittie-vayr* the Tamool name, sometimes written *Anatherum*, of the highly fragrant roots of a grass which is found in many parts of India.] 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 699 *Andropogon muricatus*, Vittievayr or Cuscus, yields a fragrant oil according to Dr. Hooker.

**Vitting**, obs. Sc. form of Witting *vbl. sb.*

**Vittle**, obs. or dial. f. Victual *sb.*; obs. f. Victual *v.*

**+Vittorin**, Anglicized f. Vetturino. *Obs.*

1623 Sir A. Sherley *Trvve. Persia* 84 He brought me to a Vittorin, of whom he had already hired Horses, Camels, and Moiles for me.

**Vittory**, **Vittry**, var. Vitry *Obs.* **Vitty**, dial. or slang var. of Fitty *a.*; obs. Sc. f. Witty *a.*

**Vittyng**, obs. Sc. f. Witting *vbl. sb.*

**+Vi·tulate**, *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *vitulāt-* ppl. stem of *vitulārī* to celebrate a festival, keep holiday, be joyful.] *intr.* 'Wantonly to rejoice' (Cockeram 1, 1623).

**+Vitula·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *vitulātio* (Macrobius), noun of action f. L. *vitulārī* : see prec.] A public thanksgiving or festival.

In quots. erroneously associated with L. *vitulus* a calf.

1697 Toplt. *Powrf. Beasts* 90 The ancients called Victoria by the name of the Goddesse Vitula, because they sacrificed vnto hir calues, which was termed a Vitulation: and this was vsuall for victory and plenty. 1623 Cockeram, *Vitulation*, a rejoicing like a calfe.

**Vituline** (vi·tiŭlin), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *vitulīn-us*, f. *vitulus* calf. Cf. F. *vitulinе* (Balzac).] Of or belonging to a calf or calves; resembling that of a calf.

*Vitular, vitulary*, with similar sense, are recorded in the *Cent. Dict.* and other recent Dicts.

1698 Blount *Glossogr.* 1706-1825 Todde *Purley* (1829) II. 444. 1880 Wharton *Life in Sin* ii. 27 In spite of their [i. e. seals'] clumsy form, the vituline countenance wears an expression of calmness and peace. 1892 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 167 If a double allowance of vituline brains deserve such honor, there are few commentators on Shakespeare that would have gone afoot.

**† Vituper,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 vi-, vytupere, 6 *Sc.* vytuper. [a. OF. *vituper, -ere* (obs. or arch. F. *vitupère,* = Pr. *vutupier*), ad. late or med.L. *vituperium* Vituperet.] Vituperation.

1428 Sir G. Hay *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 188 This fals Jowis ..revyis his thame and dois all the vituper that may to haly kirk and to the sacrament. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Anian* xv, Sache is now in grete honour and worship that herafter shalle falle in to grete vytupere shame and dishonour. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxiii. 933 To the moost vytupere & shame of the Catholycal feyth. 1532 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 109 Mark als be wins, vices, vituper, and the wairs Of wntried traisoun and of tyrannys.

**† Vituper,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 5 vytuper. [a. OF. *vituperer* (10th c.: obs. or arch. F. *vitupérer* = Pr., Sp. and Pg. *vituperar*, It. *-are*), ad. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate.] *trans.* To vituperate or revile; to dishonour or disgrace.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. vii, Men preysen sometyme that that shold be blamed & vytupered And ofte men ..vytuperen that that shold be preysed. *c* 1486 — *Xonnes of Ypres* xiv. 237 O, godesse lord.. deliver me from the handes of my enmyes that I be not vytupered nor brought to shame.

**Vitu·perable,** *a. ? Obs.* Also 6 vytuperable. [a. OF. *vituperable* (obs. F., Sp. *vituperable*, Pg. *vituperavel*, It. *vituperabile*), ad. L. *vituperābilis* (rare) blameworthy, censurable, f. *vituperāre* to Vituperate.] That deserves or merits vituperation; blameworthy, censurable, reprehensible; dishonourable, shameful.

*c* 1430 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xix. 22 Yf an accustumed exercise ..be ligly forsaken borugh heynynes o' soule or negligence, it is vituperable, & vol be to be noyous. 1481 Botoner *Tullie on Old Age* (Caxton) C vij, Ceciliyus saide of olde age a thyng is no more vituperable and lothyng, thenne is the same that he seeith here before. *c* 1500 Barclay *Myrr. Gd. Manners* (1570) G v, But a famous merchaunt, great, riche, and habeundant, And rightwisely dealing, is not vituperable. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* § 165. 58 b, There be many other myrthes & consolacions, some beynge good & laudable & some vytuperable. 1586 Day *Engl. Secretary* I. (1625) 80 To ouercome others by vertue is a thing most honourable, but in pursuite thereof to be conuinced of any other, is a thing most vituperable. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 99 Nothing more corrupt and without greene and tender wits, then such vnasuoury and vituperable bookes. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* 357 Of vituperable men there are four species; of which the first consists of the ambitious.

**Vitu·perant,** *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *vituperant-, vituperans*, pr. pple. of *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. OF. *vituperant* (Godef.).] **a.** *adj.* Abusive, vituperative. **b.** *sb.* A vituperator.

1884 *Realm* 17 Feb. 7 We do not think that the most vituperant colonel would express such strong opinions. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 5/1 Whilst Lord Salisbury came here as your most exalted vituperant, you are journeying hither as his most obedient and faithful adulator!

**Vitu·perate,** *ppl. a. rare*—1. [ad. L. *vituperāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vituperāre*: see next.] Vituperated; worthy of vituperation.

1832 *Westm. Rev.* XVI. 7 Wealth was to be discreditable, unmanly, vituperate, because it was found greatly to indispose men to be active thieves.

**Vitu·perate** (vaitiū·pĕrĕt, vi-), *v.* [f. L. *vituperāt-*, ppl. stem of *vituperāre* to censure, blame, disparage, find fault with, etc., f. *vitu-* for *viti-*, stem of *vitium* blemish, fault, Vice *sb.*1 + *parāre* to prepare. See also Vituper *v.*] *trans.* To blame, speak ill of, find fault with, in strong or violent language; to assail with abuse; to rate or revile.

Not in common use until the beginning of the 19th c.

1548 Boorde *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 273 They tonyth not porke nor vytupere thinges, but doth vituperate & abhorre it. 1611 Cotgr., *Vituperer*, to vituperate, dispraise, discommend. [Hence in Cockeram, Blount, Bailey, etc.] 1838 Fenstanton *Arminius* II. 58 Constantly vituperating the sedulous apprehension..without any favourable expostulation..they will unworthily and unwittingly vituperate and reprehend.

1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, The incensed priests..continued to raise their voices, vituperating each other in bad Latin. 1826 Lane *Life* I. 11 *Pop. Fallacies* iv, A speech from the poorest sort of people which always indicates that the party vituperated is a gentleman. 1860 Froude *Hist. Eng.* V. 477 He vituperated from the pulpit the vices of the court. 1883 A. Fonblanque *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 672 Englishmen are not in the habit of vituperating Monk as a traitor.

*Pejor.* 1820 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* x. (1873) 96 Deviation from scenic propriety has only to vituperate itself for the consequences is generates.

**b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To employ abusive language.

1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* viii. v. 46 Vituperated and vituperating, he became a wanderer throughout Germany. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* vi. 168 He loses his temper and begins to vituperate.

Hence **Vitu·perated** *ppl. a.*

1841 Emerson *Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 272 You are yourself the result of this manner of living, this foul compromise, this vituperated Sodom.

**Vituperation** (vaitiūpĕrē·ʃən, vi-). Also 5 -acyon. [a. OF. *vituperacion, -acion, -ation* (obs. F. *vituperation*, = Sp. *vituperacion*, Pg. *vituperação*, It. *vituperazione*), or ad. L. *vituperātiōn-, vituperātio* blaming, censuring, etc., noun of action f. *vituperāre*: see prec. and -ation.]

1. The action, fact, or process of vituperating; blame, censure, reproof, or (esp. in later use) the expression of this, in abusive or violent language; abuse, railing, rating. Also, vituperative or abusive language.

There are few instances of the use of the word before the beginning of the 19th c.: cf. Vituperate v.

1481 Botoner *Tullie on Old Age* (Caxton) C vij, The third part, which Catonanswerith, ..reprouith them of the seconde defaulte of vituperacyon opposed ayenst olde age. 1600 (*title*), Ane Satyre of the thrie Estaits, in commendation of Vertue and Vituperation of Vyce; maid be Sir Dauid Lindesay. 1633 J. Down *Hist. Septuagint* 155 When a man becomes vntractable, and inaccessible, by fiercenesse and pride ..then vituperation comes vpon him, and iniunction of honour followes him. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 165 Of Rhetoric are six kinds..[6] Vituperation, when we declare a Man to be wicked.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xx, It was one of these old women who..answered his petition..with a volley of vituperation. 1825 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 58 Few nations can surpass the Spaniards in the language of vituperation. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 193 A rhyme written..in vituperation of the idle people at Coniston.

† 2. A cause of blame or censure. *Obs.*—1

1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 305 (*sic*) Such a Writing ought to be clean and free from any Cavil or Vituperation of Rasure.

**† Vituperative,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. prec.: see -ive.] Vituperative.

1797 Bourrienne *Life of N. Cottle* 13 Mar. in *Life* (1849) I. 306 Language is not vituperatious enough to describe the effect of its downward elongation.

**Vituperative** (vaitiū·pĕrĕtiv, vi-), *a.* [ad. L. type **vituperātīvus*, f. *vituperāt-*, ppl. stem of *vituperāre*, or directly f. Vituperate *v.* + -ive. Cf. obs. F. *vituperativement* adv. (Godef.), It. *vituperativo.*]

1. Of words, language, etc.: Containing, conveying, or expressing strong depreciation; violently abusive or fault-finding; contumelious, opprobrious. Also, of or pertaining to vituperation.

Freq. in the 19th c.

1797 Eyre, *Visitation of Sinking* 115 The vituperative partition will as easily be replenished with a most choice collection [of arguments]. 1798 Strabe *Yr. Shandy* I. xix, Virtuous Eve, standing by the window of Adam's *Ecgh.* II. xii. 129 His eloquence becoming more and more licentious and vituperative. 1850 Mill *Liberty* II. (1865) 32/1 It is far more important to restrain this employment of vituperative language than the other.

b. Const. *of* (a person). *rare*—1.

1823 Scott *Quentin D.* vii, Had I..heard by report that a question vituperative of my Prince had been asked by the King of France, I had..instantly mounted and returned.

2. Characterized or accompanied by vituperation or abuse.

1754 Chesterfield in *World* No. 101 P 3 The torrents of Hercules's vituperative eloquence. 1815 In the vituperative way, stun all opposition. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. i, The indignant, soon to become vituperative, secession of a considerable number of the cabinet. 1871 Hogan *Lost Mist Barrington* I. ix. 129 When they have been most in fault themselves, they are most prone to shower a general vituperative abuse and condemnation on the other side.

3. Of persons: Given to vituperation; employing or uttering abusive language.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 90 A Whig is a vituperative animal. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. v, Quietly hearing all manner of vituperative visitors speak. 1905 H. Paul *Hist. Mod. Eng.* I. xii. 208 The violent and vituperative champion of the Protestant religion.

Hence **Vitu·peratively** *adv.*, in a vituperative manner; with vituperation or abuse.

1811 Cobbett *Weekly Pol. Register* 1 *Years* (1882) II. 159 The critical republic will cackle vituperatively, or perhaps maintain total silence. 1892 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 456 [He] reminisces vituperatively and vituperatively. 1894 J. Payne *Apost. Life* III. 115 They would not speak their mother tongue if they did not speak vituperatively.

**Vituperator** (vaitiū·pĕrēitəz, vi-). [a. L. *vituperātor*, agent-noun f. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *vituperador*, OF. *vituperateur.*] One who vituperates; an abuser.

1837 *Chambers' Jrnl.* 19 Aug. 239 To stigmatise the vituperators would be now of little service. 1842 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* II. iv. 116, I was tempted to chastise the vituperator. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 5/1 That indignant declamation which is a favourite weapon with the vituperators of the Government.

**Vitu·peratory,** *a. ? Obs.* [f. L. type **vituperātōri-us*, f. *vituperātor*: see Vituperate *v.* and -ory 2.] Expressive of blame or censure; vituperative, violently abusive.

1586 Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 80 Laudatorie [Epistles] wherein is specially praised any thing, and Vituperatorie, in which is mislked or condemned whatsoeuer may be thought worthy either to be abhorred or dispraised. 1660 *Charnac. Italy* To Rdr. A 5, For that [proverb] hath two ends..the one Vituperatory, and the other Laudatory. *c* 1850 Bentham *Deontol.* (1834) I. 315 The very same desire having ordinarily three designations, one laudatory, one vituperatory, and the other neutral. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 343 A fluent array of vituperatory and laudatory phrases.

**† Vitupe·rious,** *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *vitupereus* (implied in the adv. *vitupereusement*; cf. Sp. *vituperioso*), or ad. late or med.L. *vituperiōsus* (Diefenbach), f. *vituperium* Vituperet: see -ious.]

1. Vituperative, strongly abusive or censorious.

1604 Dekker *Moyses* 1, a Muse, I invoke the vtmost of thy might, .. Gainst the vile Atheists vituperious sting. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 190 To confound the calumnious and vituperious Papists. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 88 Vituperious Sarcasms, Secret rejoycings at their ruine.

2. Worthy of blame, vituperable; hence, shameful, discreditable, disgraceful, ignominious.

1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* 1. iv. 281 O what doe I see, and what doe I heare in my dayes, what vituperious crimes? 1624 *Gag for Pope* 12 Clothed with the Sambenito, a punishment as vituperious as the carting of Bawdes in England. 1668 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 153/2 The bearing of these Hellish Vituperious, horrid and vile things, is to deter..the beholder from becoming like them.

Hence **† Vitupe·riously** *adv.*, vituperatively; shamefully. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. (1906) 3 The name and fame of the most righteous alive, ..he thus diversly taxed and vituperiously calumniated. 1650 Howell *Giraffi's Hen. Naples* I. 130 So they concluded to die sooner,..then to yeo vituperiously in such a base manner.

**Vitu·perise,** *v. nonce-word.* [Irreg. f. L. *vituper-āre* + -ise.] *trans.* To vituperate.

1804 T. Wright *Life Defoe* 52 Whoever vituperised 'The True-born Englishman', it is not to be supposed that the ladies did.

**Vitu·perous,** *a. ? Obs.* [ad. obs. or arch. F. *vitupéreux* (= Pr. *vituperos*), or Sp. (also It. and Pg.) *vituperoso*, ad. late or med.L. *vituperōsus*, f. *vituperium* Vituperet: see -ous.]

1. = Vituperious *a.* 1.

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 33 Then they returne againe with vituperous and vile words.

2. = Vituperious *a.* 2.

1610 *Cobler's Prol.* To Rdr. A 2 b, Let him be prest without pity..., and like a vituperous offender, be stamped and stared at. 1652 Culpeper *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 173 White clouds in the Urine, and neer the bottome, are commendable; black clouds, and neer the top, are bad and vituperous.

Hence **Vitu·perously** *adv.*, vituperatively.

1892 E. L. Wakeman in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 18 Aug., Authorities differ not only widely but vituperously as to the origin of practical effort for their betterment.

**† Vitu·pery.** *Obs.* Also 5 vituperye, 6 -ie. [a. AF. *vituperie* (Gower), OF. **vituperie* (= Pr. *vituperi*, Sp., Pg., It. *vituperio*), ad. late or med.L. *vituperium* (Diefenbach), blame, dishonour, shame, f. L. *vituperāre* to Vituperate. Cf. Vituper *sb.*] Dishonour, reproach, shame; blame, vituperation.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* iv. 1 b, It may be yt som ..wolde gladly vse therof (tc. a male-conduct), whiche ought to tourne them in to grete vituperie and blame. 1572 Boswell *Armorie* II. 105 He ought..to defende the same (euen to the death) from all challenge or vituperie. 1590 Barrow & Greenwood in *Cart. Hist. & Contemp.* 36 The rest of the vituperie wherwith you haue laden vs. 1608 H. Clapham *Lerour Left Hand* 35 Emulations, heart-burnings, vituperies, bloudy iniuries. 1611 Speed *Theatre Gt. Brit.* II. liii. 357 At whose perswasions & vitupery, the poore Gouernour tried if he could mouse himselfe.

**Vitus,** in *St. Vitus's Dance*: see Dance *sb.* 6 b. Similarly *St. Vitus' fit.*

*a* 1845 Hood *Sniffing a Birthday* xv, Ring Tom of Lincoln till he splits, And dance into St. Vitus' fits.

**Vitus,** southern ME. variant of Five.

**Vitus** *Her.* : see Vivrie.

**† Viva** (vī·vă), *int.* [It., lit. 'live', 3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *vivere* (:—L. *vīvĕre*) to live. So Sp. and Pg. *viva.* Cf. Vivat.] A cry of 'long live' as a salute or greeting; a shout of applause; a cheer or hurrah: as, As a sb., in the pl. *vivas.*

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Nov. 1641, The multitude..were looking out of their windows and houses, with loud shouts and acclamations of felicity to their new Prince. 1708 [J. De Foe] *Capt. Carleton's Mem.* 268 The Cavaliero.. entertained the repeated *Vivas* of that kind Concourse. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 53 He kept bowing and scraping,..answering the paid vivas of the populace with one of his *yells mots.* 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 490 Whereat the popular exaltation drunk With indrawn 'vivas' the whole sunny air. 1888 'Quida' *Under Two Flags* (1890) 421 Lifting her, with wild vivas that rent the sky, on to the shoulders of the four tallest men.

**b.** As an exclamation.

1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-Fé*, How they shouted, and fired the great guns in the square, Cried 'Viva!' and rung all the bells in the steeple.

**Viva** (vai·vă), *sb.*2 *Univ. colloq.* [Abbrev. of Viva voce.] = Viva voce *sb.*

1892 *Athenæum* 19 Dec. 805/2 The description of his *viva* will bring vivid recollections of similar tortures to many minds. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 1/3 If a man has done his paperwork either very well or very badly, the 'viva' is almost entirely formal.

Hence **Viva** *v. trans.*, to subject to a viva voce examination; also *intr.*, to examine viva voce.

1893 in J. B. Firth *Minstrelsy of Isle* (1908) 190 We shall laugh at our Tutors and leave them to 'viva' themselves and be free. 1907 Barbara Burke' *Barbara goes to Oxford* 132 Facing them..sat the youth who was being vivâed.

†**Vivace,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [ad. L. *vīvāc-, vīvāx* VIVACIOUS *a.*, after F. *vivace.*] Vivacious, lively.

1721 RAMSAY *Content* 356 Another beau, as fine, but more vivace.

†**Vivace** (vivē·tʃē), *adv.* (and *sb.*) *Mus.* [It. *vivace* brisk, lively (—L. *vīvāc-, vīvāx* : see next.] A direction indicating brisk or lively performance (see quots.).

1683 PASCELL *3-Pt. Sonnatas* To Rdr. (1893), Allegro, and Vivace [import]'a very brisk, swift or fast movement. 1705 *Short Explic. Ver. Words, &c. to Mus. Bks., Vivace*, is as much as to say with Life and Spirit. By this Word is commonly understood a Degree of Movement between *Large* and *Allegro*, but more inclining to the latter than the former. 1801 *Busby Dict. Mus., Vivace*, a word implying that the movement to which it is prefixed is to be sung, or played, in a brisk and animated style. 1836 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* s.v., The Vivace in the latter case would imply an absence of passion or excitement, an even rate of speed, and a bright and cheerful character.

**Vivacious** (vaivē·ʃəs, vi-), *a.* Also 7–8 **-eous.** [f. L. *vīvāci-, vīvāx* (whence F. and It. *vivace*, Sp. and Pg. *vivaz*), tenacious of life, long-lived, lively, vigorous, f. *vīvĕre* to live : see -ACIOUS.]

1. Full of, characterized by, or exhibiting vivacity or liveliness; animated, brisk, lively, sprightly.

a. Of persons, the mind, disposition, etc.

In quot. 1647 the reference is to the soul.

1643 HOWELL *Lett. Introd.* (1650) I. 2 When people of a more vivacious and nimble temper com to mingle with them. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xiv, This is that nimble quick vivacious Orb All see, all eye, with rayes round shining bright. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Mar. 1692, The Pr. of Wales, ..seeming ..very much to resemble..his mother, and of a most vivacious countenance. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 P 10 If the Poet had not been Vivacious, as well as Stupid, he could not [etc.]. 1785 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 82 With all the reachings and graspings of a vivacious mind. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 130 Vivacious pupils should from time to time be accustomed to an enumeration of particulars. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xi, Her vivacious doctor made a pathetic grimace. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* March 438 The..question of assigning the palm of beauty to the vivacious Polly..but seems to be a tall, slim, grave daughter.

*absol.* 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 204 P 5 The young, the fair, the vivacious, and the witty.

b. Of birds.

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 291 The scholar pitched upon may not only be more vivacious, but will continue in song. 1827 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 363 It is a vivacious bird, and frequently utters the notes *sic sic sisic.*

c. Of qualities, conditions, etc.

1670 MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* XVI. 159 These Passions.. whose propensities are not so vivacious, nor their Objects vivacious enlivening power. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 520 A most vivacious and everlasting Sense of Pain. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* (1838) 21 Your Love the more vivacious grew, The nearer it to Glory drew. 1824 SCOTT *Diary* 12 Aug., in *Lockhart*, He looks very poorly,.. but seems to retain all the quick, earnest, and vivacious intelligence of his character and manner. 1838 DICKENS *Nick. Nick.* XXII, Mr. Snevellicci..proposed 'The Ladies'! Blass their hearts! in a most vivacious manner. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* I. XXXV, She invited affection by her beauty and her vivacious life.

d. Of writings, language, etc.

1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. XXV. 211 If, instead of collecting ideas, it [i.e. the mind] had been indulging its own pride in uttering vivacious nonsense. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 200 The vivacious anecdotes related .. rendered the whole work a peculiarly amusing one. 1841 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 3/2 The new work is more vivacious than the old.

2. Continuing to live; remaining alive for a long time; long-lived. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. III. § 27 Hitherto the English Bishops had been vivacious almost to wonder. 1686 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 2 Some longevity swelling their impieties, the longanimity of God would not always endure such vivacious abominations. 1690 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* VIII. 282 They will never be able to prove, that therefore Man would be so vivacious as they would have us believe. 1749 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 30 [One sees] Vivacious ill: good dying immature. *Ibid.* v. 851 He gave an old vivacious sinner His meagre aspect, and bade him live as long as he could. 1788 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 2 Some longevity swelling their impieties, the longanimity of God would not always endure such vivacious abominations. 1790 BERTLEY *Boyle Lect.* VIII. 282 They will never be able to prove, that therefore Man would be so vivacious as they would have us believe. 1749 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 30 [One sees] Vivacious ill: good dying immature. *Ibid.* v. 851 He gave an old vivacious sinner His meagre aspect, and bade him live as long as he could.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. III. § 27 Hitherto the English Bishops had been vivacious almost to wonder. 1686 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 2 Some longevity swelling their impieties, the longanimity of God would not always endure such vivacious abominations. 1690 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* VIII. 282 They will never be able to prove, that therefore Man would be so vivacious as they would have us believe. 1749 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 30 [One sees] Vivacious ill: good dying immature. *Ibid.* v. 851 He gave an old vivacious sinner His meagre aspect, and bade him live as long as he could.

3. Of herbs, shrubs, etc.: Tenacious of life; difficult to kill or destroy. *rare.*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Digress. 373 The particular and vivacious Nature of this sort of Fishes [i.e. eels]. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* II. § 3 A late statesman said ..of England, that it was a vivacious animal that could never die except it kill'd it self. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 345 The long round worm,..body transparent,..gregarious and vivacious.

**Vivaciously,** *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a vivacious or lively manner; with vivacity or sprightly animation; † vigorously.

*a* 1716 KEN *Hymnarium* Post. Wks. 1721 II. 40 The more of Spirit things contract, The more vivaciously they act. 1818 *J. Scott Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 19 In the French crowd,.. vivacity is every where apparent;—the soldiers are vivaciously surly; the ladies vivaciously charming [etc.]. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xviii, While she is so vivaciously accosting him. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 40 'By the bye,' said her mother vivaciously, 'didn't you bring a maid?'

*Cornh.* 1899 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 504 A vivaciously-written narrative of a vacation voyage.

**Vivaciousness.** [f. VIVACIOUS *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Tenacity of life; longevity. *rare.*

*a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Devon.* I. (1662) 248 Such their Fleetness, they will outrun many Horses; Vivaciousness, they out live most men. 1826 SYMMONS *Life Milton* (1810) 433 The shameless vivaciousness with which it refused to remit its grasp of political existence. 1849 *Southey's Commonpl. Bk.* II. 605 Vivaciousness of the Acacia Tree.

2. Vivacity of manner or speech; liveliness, sprightliness.

1790 BURKE (vol. II), *Liveliness*, vivaciousness, &c. 1807 S. TURNER *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* (ed. 2) IV. v. 279 There is a vivaciousness in his despair, which no danger can intimidate. 1829 J. J. JEFFERSON *Woman in Spite of Herself* I. v, It has achieved a reputation for humour and vivaciousness. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. XIX, One whose equanimity is not to be upset by the sallies of feminine vivaciousness.

**Vivacity** (vaivæ·siti, vi-). Also 5–6 **vivacite,** 6–7 **-tie,** 7 **vivassity.** [a. OF. *vivacite* (F. *vivacité*, = It. *vivacità*, Sp. *vivacidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *vīvācitāt-, vīvācitās* natural vigour, vital force, liveliness, f. *vīvāci-, vīvāx* VIVACIOUS *a.* : see -ITY.] The state or condition of being vivacious.

1. Intellectual or mental animation, acuteness, or vigour; quickness or liveliness of conception or perception.

In the first group const. of (mind, spirit, thought, etc.).

(*a*) 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Iamfranc[us]..restorede specially to monkes possessions taken from the[m] whom vivacite of wit and fayre of seynte Austain made bolde to do soe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 216 b, He hath this viuacite or quyckines of wytte. 1598 ROB. BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. 143 The vnquietnesse..inuring their horse, both to the crack and fire..wherein consisteth fine skill with vivacitie of spirite. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* II. 145 The vivacitie of spirit there is none can paragonize or equall her. 1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* II. (1684) 80 The Invention, Light, and Vivacity of Mind. 1654 *Continuation Gerv. Tilb. Otia, Spirit*, Active Wit indeed, as it implies a certain uncommon Reach and Vivacity of Thought, is an excellent Talent. 1706 MORSE *Answ. Grog.* 11. 156 What is wanting in the robust frame of their bodies..is in a degree made up to them by the vivacity of their minds. 1829 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VII. II. 217 That amplitude and acuteness of intellect, that vivacity of mind..to Halifax alone.

(*b*) 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. II. 433 Wherein..was may well perceive the great signes of their vivacitie and readie understanding. 1697–12 BACON *Ess., Young Men* (Arb.) 256 Heat and vivacity in age is an excellent Composition for busines. 1822 BURNET *Hale* 122 He had great vivacity in his Fancy, as many prove by his inclination to Poetry. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. Notes (1736) 110 Mr. Colly Cibber, an author..of a good share of wit, and extraordinary vivacity. 1742 *Gentl. Mag.* XII. 213/1 Vivacity IV. 48 A fine youth,..of great parts and vivacity, at Eton School. 1838–9 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1877) I. XIV. 256 How many several objects can the mind simultaneously survey, how vivacious, but without absolute confusion.

b. Of conceptions or ideas.

*a* 1700 T. BROWN *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 I. 27 His conceptions have all the fire and vivacity. 1748 in *Gentl. Mag. Hist. MSS. Comm. Rep.* I. 1925, I greatly apprehend that the Weakness of his Lordships Body will not be able to keep pace with the Vivacity of his conceptions. 1769 REID *Inquiry* (1850) 104 Memory, memory, belief and imagination when they have the same object are only degrees of strength and vivacity in the idea.

† 2. Natural force or power; vitality. *Obs.*

The sense and sense 3 tend to merge into one another and are not always clearly distinguishable.

1621 COTOR, *Vivacité*, vivacitie, liuelinesse, lustinesse, vigor, vitalitie. 1633 *Bp. Hall Contempl.* III. 156 *Aire, ..*of all the Elements the most noble, and fullest of vivacitie and liuelyhood. *a* 1639 BEAUMONT *Psyche* XII. 189 Ah, dead and rotten Faith, which can display No fruit to prove the Root's vivacity! 1724 R. WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 12 The grave shall surrender our crumbled ashes, redintegrated into the same vivacity than ever. 1727 *Astruc's Femers* 130 This fever is much more dangerous in young persons..than in old people; for the vivacity of the former..contribute[s]..to foment it constantly.

3. Animation, activity, sprightliness, vigour.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Ct. Exemp.* Exhort. § 13. 9 Many cases do occurre, which need a president, and the vivacity of an excellent example. 1665 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 74 It is an active and busie affection: having as much Vivacity as it hath strength. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1748) II. 8 See! how languishingly it [the departing sunlight] trembles on the lowly Spire,..what little Vivacity, that remaining, decays every Moment..While I speak, it expires. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 66 To prevent the Vivacity of the Fever and other Symptoms. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 56 (1794) II. 33 While this principle was in its full vivacity, all was sure to go well.

3. The property or fact of living for a long time; longevity. Now *rare.*

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Vivacitie*, long life, liuelinesse. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. Iv. 123 Fables are raised concerning the vivassity of Deare; for neither are their gestation or increment such as may afford an argument of long life. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 347 The vivacity of some of these Pensioners is little lesse than a Miracle, they survived so long. 1686 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 181 In their topical parchies also, they [the ancients] always suppos'd a great vivacity or longevity in those that enjoy'd them.

*Ag.* 1893 TRENCH *Proverbs* 119 The vivacity of the truth, as contrasted with this short-lived character of the lie.

† b. Tenacity of life. *Obs.*

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 1. 16 The strange vivacity we have sometimes..observed in Vipers: Since.. their Hearts clearly sever'd from their Bodies, they may be observ'd to beat for some hours. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 Many more observables there are in Common Flyes, as their Vivacity; for, when they appear desperate..they will be revoked into life, and perform its functions again.

4. Vigorous or energetic action; activity, energy, vigour; spirit. Now *rare.*

1632 KINNAN *Cherie & Louis* 137 He himself killed the Prince of Doudonne, who for a time defended himself with much vivacity. *a* 1698 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 35, I was enabled with much vivacity to perform that service. 1738 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* II. 404 They were charg'd with a great deal of Vivacity by the Enemy. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 359 Nothing is the only thing that goes on with any vivacity. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 302 The preparations were pushed with such vivacity on the part of England, that she..left behind her other objects in view. 1823 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 65 The vivacity with which sounds are transmitted through solid substances, is very remarkable. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. 337 Of course, the Court of France and England tended to place Austria at her ease. 1885 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. 61 The promise..stimulated their irregular vivacity to enforce laws which had become obsolete.

5. The quality, condition, or fact of being animated or lively; esp. lively or spirited conduct, manner, or speech; animation or liveliness of demeanour or disposition; briskness, sprightliness.

Also (*b*) const. *of* (the disposition, etc.).

(*a*) 1697 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* (1702) III. 1. Whoever considers the Acts of power and injustice..in those intervals of Parliament, will not be much scandalized at the warmth and vivacity of those members. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 26 P 2 Mrs. Mary Hey He had a look so spiritual and full of vivacity, that no effeminate Beauty was comparable to it. 1728 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 128 P 11 *Virtuoso* Is full of Life and Vigour, Gravity is that of Man. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. v. 173 Is not extreme vivacity a near borderer on folly? 1795 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* vii, Her natural vivacity resumed its long-lost empire. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. vi. 156 The noisy vivacity which the French usually assume when they would carry their point. 1847 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 1 The principal envoy of Venice remarked, with all the vivacity consistent with his respect for the pope, how important the affair was. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* III. vii. 74 A man of vivacity and of fine humour.

(*b*) 1720 W. J. *Bingo's Voy. Levant* XXIII. 109 The Oppression under which they groan has extinguish'd all the Vivacity of their Minds. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 186 There is a Vivacity and Gaiety of Disposition almost peculiar to him. 1820 *Chenac. in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 30/2 The natural ardour and gay vivacity appear to have been the *Scott Woodst.* I. The vivacity of his eye indicated some fascibility of temperament. 1835 *Jas. Martin's Disc.* Memoir p. xliii, 'The spring and vivacity of his spirit became almost like those of a boy discharged from school.

b. As a literary or artistic quality.

1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) III. 126 An admirable half length..painted and finished with the greatest vivacity and clearness. 1814 SOUTHEY *Espr. Gram.* (ed. 3) I. 195 When narration is full of images or events, the omission of connectives may..give a sort of picture of hurry and tumult, and so heighten the vivacity of description. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., The reckless play of raillery which gave vivacity to his original scene. 1852 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XIII. 111 The first great painter of life and manners has described, with a vivacity which makes it impossible to doubt that he was copying from nature, the effect [etc.].

c. A vivacious or lively act, expression, scene, etc.

Usu. in *pl.*

1692 DRYDEN tr. *St. Evremont's Ess.* 375 The most fertile Spirits come to exhaust themselves,..the most enlivened Vivacities either regulate or languish. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 P 2 Persons who fall into that Way purely to recommend themselves by their Vivacities. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Conway* (1846) I. 28 The Scots are the Pucelle, .. throughout there are many vivacities; but so absurd, perplexed a story is intolerable. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* (1848) 268 The Scots have been driven by a jovial desperation into the vivacities inspired by the sunshine of the south. 1852 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. III, He was full of bright speech and argument; radiant with arrowy vitalities, vivacities and ingenuities.

6. Brightness, brilliancy (of light or colour).

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Pref. 19 The splendour and vivacity of whose colours charm the eyes. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. *Chine*, The vivacity of this colour appears no less in glass of lead than in crystal. 1808 SIR W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 157 The vivacity of the light of the comet..had a much greater resemblance to the radiance of the stars.

† **Vi·vacy,** variant of or error for VIVACITY.

1697 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) 278 Quhat dumpsies, deadnes the vyncke, livlines or heavin's spirit, bot sin? 1718 F. HAUKSBEE *Phys.-Mech. Exper.* (ed. 2) Supp. xvi, 303 Those Gudgeons..now began considerably to abate of their Vivacy.

† **Vi·val,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. L. *vīv-us* alive, living, etc. + -AL.] Vital.

1636 W. BELLAR in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 38 Draw forth the vivall substance of your spring, You Sisters nine.

† **Vivand,** *pres. pple. Obs.*[−1] In 5 **wyvande.** [ad. OF. (*mod*)*-vivant*, pr. pple. of *vivre* to live.] *Ill vivand*, ill-living.

c 1486 *Wisdom* 786 in *Macro Plays* 61 He hat ȝe yll wyrwande, Wo hyt hym, by pe bone.

‖ **Vivandier** (vivandie). [*F. vivandier* masc. (= Sp. *vivandero*, Pg. *vivandeiro*, It. *vivandiere*) a supplier of victuals or provisions, f. pop.L. **vivenda* for *vivenda*: see VIAND 1. Cf. VIANDER 1.] In the French or other continental armies: A person who supplies victuals to troops in the field; a sutler.

The feminine *vivandière* occurs freq. in 19th cent. works relating to Continental wars.

1811 *Garrison's Art Waters* 23 Another doth visite Vivandiers and Victuallers (if any follow the Campe). 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2694/3 They seized several hundreds of Vivandier's Boats. 1810 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurwood *Desp.* (1838) X. 321 Operations so near to the enemy, as that the *vivandieres* and other attendants on the troops cannot with safety remain near them.

**Vivarium** (vaivē·riŏm, vi-). Pl. **vivaria**, also **-iums**. [L. *vīvārium* enclosure for live game, warren, fish-pond, etc., hence, sing. of *vīvāria*, f. *vīvus* alive, living.]

1. A place where living animals, esp. fish, are maintained or preserved for food; a fish-pond or fish-pool; = VIVARY 1 *also fig.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 1389 Whereupon it commeth, that those places or parkes which are set out and appointed for feeding of Deere, we use to call Vivaria. 1893 [see TAYLOR *Sayings, 3rd Year* 1. xxvi. 358 The face of the Sea is our Trafique, and the bowels of the Sea is our Vivarium, a place for fish to feed us. 1849 COSAR *Ocean* II. (1849) 80 In some of the Hebrides, there are the remains of the preserves made by sea-fishes, hollowed out of the solid rock... Great numbers of cod-fishes are kept in these vivaria. 1888 D. BEVERIDGE *Between Orkney & Forth* 16 The dry hollow...in former days served the monks as a *vivarium*, or fish-pool.

2. A place or enclosure, a piece of ground or stretch of water, specially adapted or prepared for the keeping of living animals under their normal conditions, either as objects of interest or for the purpose of scientific study; freq. in later use, an AQUARIUM; = VIVARY 2.

1684 tr. *Combes' Versailles*, &c. By In the *Vivarium* are seen many kinds of Animals which have been caused to be brought from Forein Countries. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644 There is also printing to it a vivarium for catriges, peacocks, swanns, cranes, &c. 1833 *Athenæum* 28 May, The new Fish house...has received the somewhat curious title of the 'Marine Vivarium.' 1878 *Guide Lond. Gard.*, Aquatic Vivarium. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* xiv. 297 Forming a kind of natural museum or vivarium in which ancient types...had been saved from...destruction. 1900 L. HUXLEY *Life Huxley* I. xii. 135 The bay was calm and suitable both for the dredge and for keeping up a vivarium.

b. A glass bowl, case, etc., in which fish or other aquatic animals are kept, esp. for purposes of scientific study; = AQUARIUM 1 b.

1855 *Zoologist* XIII. 4849 Those who would view vivariums merely as interesting subjects for their drawing-room windows. 1856 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) I. 306 We set out for Ilfracombe with our hamper of glass jars, which we meant for our sea-side vivarium. 1890 DR. ARGYLL in *Mem.* xiv (1906) II. 464 Your old vivarium is still standing in its old place.

**Vivars**, obs. form of VIVERS.

**Vivary** (vai·vări). Also 7 **vivarie**. [ad. L. *vīvārium* VIVARIUM: see -ARY 1. Cf. also VIVER 1 and VIVIER.]

1. = VIVARIUM 2. Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1626 DONNE *Progr. Soul* iii, That swimming Colledge, and free Hospitall Of all mankinde, that cage and vivarie Of fowles, and beasts. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 140 Slaves...who have no other office then to hunt the Woods and Marshes for Hare-coloured tortoises for the Kings Vivary. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1720) 118 Of Aviaries, Apiaries, Vivaries, Insects, &c. 1885 *Reader* No. 139, 233/1 Our marine-water vivaries.

b. = VIVARIUM 2 b. *rare*⁻¹.

1728 G. WHITE *Selborne* xcviii, I spent a fortnight at the house of a friend, where there was such a vivary.

2. = VIVARIUM 1. Also *fig.*

1668 COKE *Inst.* (1680) II. 200 Vivarium...in Law..signifieth Parke, Warrens, and Pischaries or Fishings...They might imprison such as they should take in their Parks or Vivaries. 1699 C. CHAMBERLAYNE *Expedient. Exped.* 4 The Remedy that is prescribed is the very Seed and Sperm, the very Nursery, and Fomenter, and Vivary of that difference. 1850 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3) Hence in Phillips, Hailey, etc. 1851 T. H. TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. iii. 140 There was a pond, or vivary, in the garden, and the bailiff expended eight shillings...to feed the pikes in it. 1898 W. JOHNSON *Ionica* 60 In stagnant vivaries they lie Forgetful of their ancient haunts. 1863 J. R. WALBRAN *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 191 The monks converted a marsh into a vivary which may still be traced.

‖ **Vivas** (vai·væs), *int.* and *sb.* [a. L. *vīvat*, lit. 'may he (or she) live', 3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *vīvĕre* to live; perh. partly a. F. *vivat*, of the same origin. Cf. VIVA *sb.*1]

**A.** *int.* A word of acclamation wishing a person (long) life and prosperity, or expressing applause or approval.

The L. phrases *vivat regina*, *vivat rex* have had some currency in English books.

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* II. viii, *Yell.* Here's a Health to the Royal Travailer...*Wor.* Come on Boys, *Vivat*; have at you ages then. 1852 C. BARTER *Derfyl & Veid* xiii. 203 Dingaan...was succeeded by Panda, the present king [of the Zulus], of whom we have every reason to say 'vivat'.

**B.** *sb.* An utterance of this word by way of acclamation or applause.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, These donations were accepted with the usual clamour and *vivats* of applause common on such occasions. 1842 — *Quentin D.* xix, The multitude...greeted Meinheer Pavillon with a loud *vivat*, as he ushered in his distinguished guest. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1878) 31 The king was received with shouts and loyal vivats. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* xxxiv, Followed by the vivats of the whole Principality.

**Vive** voce (vī·vē vō·sē), *adv. phr.*, *a.*, and *sb.* Also **viva voce**. [med.L., lit. 'by or with the living voice', f. L. *vīvus*, abl. sing. fem. of *vīvus* living, and *vōce*, abl. sing. of *vox* voice.

The expression *vivæ voce* is employed by classical Latin authors, but the use of the ablative phrase appears to be of later date. Cf. OF. *par vives voiz* (1258 in Du Cange), *F. de vive voix*.]

**A.** *adv.* By word of mouth; in speech; orally. (Freq. in parenthetic use.) **a.** As distinct from writing. Also *in or with viva voce*.

(*a*) 1581 W. CRANKE in *Conf.* IV. (1584) B b ij, The Apostles taught *viua voce*, by liuely voyce, as in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 243 Confessyd by Thomas Walpoole and by John Ingram (*viua voce*) That [etc.] 1622 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D 2 b, 1873 III. 138 Yes, sir, she's there, *viua voce*, to deliuer her auricular confession. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 66 Instruction from books, and the imagination more faintly than that which is delivered *viva voce*. 1728 J. LIND *Lett. Hanby* II. (1757) 94 The manner of giving in the evidence in writing privately, and not *viva voce* in court, appears to me the great partiality. 1777 MAS. BERRINGTON *Letters G. M. Berkeley* Pref. p. CCCCXXVIII, The good lady has frequently, *viva voce*, said to the Editor, 'Ah! [etc.]' 1820 B. CUTLER in *Life* (1888) II. 102 But I must leave the accounts until I can give it to you *viva voce*. 1848 G. STRUTHERS *Orig. Sectarism Ch.* 63 They were now required to answer separately and *viva voce* to the questions. 1861 *Tom Cringle's Log* vi. 97 Let's hear ye *viva voce* now, man!

(*b*) 1641 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 174 Whoe all 4 with very much accused the said Roan to doe them wrong in their sight. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 234, I thought it was proper for you to examine him in *viva voce*.

**b.** As distinct from silent reading or repetition: = ALOUD *adv.* ? *Obs.*

1669 R. JOHNSON *Scholar's Guide* 7 Read the best Authors by periods, *viva voce*, thereby their stile will be secretly insinked into your minds. 1731 SWIFTEN *Charac.* I. 159 We might peradventure be less noisy and more profitable in Company, if at convenient times we discharg'd some of our articulate Sound, and spoke to ourselves *viva voce* when alone. 1834 in J. A. Henderson *Ann. Lower Dessels* (1892) 222 On the petition being read *viva voce* the Petitioner was called, and required, to retire.

**B.** *adj.* Conveyed or expressed in speech instead of writing; given or stated by word of mouth; spoken; oral.

a 1718 PRIOR *'Lit. Philo'* 10 Pursue me with Satyr:...But from all *vivâ voce* Reflection forbear. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 163 This *vive-voce* testimony of a contemporary witness places the matter beyond doubt. 1852 LATHAM *Ethnol. Brit. Isl.* vii. 139 For Lincolnshire he had *vives voce* information from Mr. Garnett. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VII. 61/1 When *vivâ voce* news and gossip were eagerly sought from fresh arrivals from the country.

**b.** Of an examination, etc.: Carried on or conducted by speech.

In University use applied to a supplementary oral examination following upon one or other of the ordinary written examinations.

1623 SANDYS *Guy M.* XXIV, But there are cases in which a *viva voce* conference [etc.]. 1640 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 135/1 The *viva voce* part of each [examination] is carried on in Latin. 1768 *Gentl. Mag.* 1768 *Christ Church* 1 In that case the *vivâ voce* examination and a second paper of questions may set all right.

**C.** *sb.* A viva voce examination. Freq. abbrev. VIVA *sb.*

1844 ARP. TEMPLE in *Mem.* (1906) II. 433 When the day for Vivâ Voce came I was in no small fright. 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills*, etc. II. 50 His papers were simply admirable, and his *viva voce* [*Cricket*] as he has never heard. 1888 *Temple Bar* Jan. 29 He was in for the terrible ordeal of a *vivâ-voce* before the Bishop.

**Viva-voce**, *v.* [f. VIVA-VOCE *sb.*] *trans.* To subject to a viva voce examination; to examine orally. Freq. abbrev. VIVA *v.*

1880 W. W. R. B(ALL) *Orig. & Hist. Math. Tripos* 11 Every candidate was liable to be taken aside to be vivâ voced by any M. A. who wished to do so.

**Vivax**. *Ork.* and *Shetl. dial.* Also **vifda**. [perh. ad. ON. *vǫfva* (nom. *vǫfvr*, *-vi*) muscular flesh.] (See quots.)

a 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 94 *Vivda*, Flesh dried in a Skeo without being salted. 1809 EDMONDSTON *Shetl. Zetland Isl.* II. 297 They seldom salt their meat, but either smoke it in the house, or dry it in the air. When preserved in this latter manner, it is known by the name of *vivdas*. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxiv, Here, Lasting, bring up the *vifda*. 1880 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 470 Vivda, or unsalted mutton, hung up in their buildings until it was hardened and dried, is no longer known.

**+Vive**, *sb. Obs.*⁻¹ [ad. L. *vīvum*, neut. of *vīvus*: see next.] = LIFE *sb.* 7.

1588 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 53 The image of death, caruen out of woddo, or drawen with the pencille as plere to the viue as is possible.

**Vive**, *a.* Now only *Sc.* or *arch.* Also 5 **vyue**, 6–7 **viue**; *Sc.* 6 **viwe**, 7 **wiove**, 9 **veive**, **veev**. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *vive* fem. of *vif*:—L. *vīv-um*, *vīv-us* living, alive (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *vivo*), or a direct adaptation of the L. word.]

1. Physically lively, forcible, or brisk. *rare.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 31 b, He dyde so well that by vyue force with his tranchaunt swerde he brake the wardes and Arayes of the Ethiaunes. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 43 Thou shalt not sinne in any of thy five senses:.. thy pallat hating wine, flesh, and all other vive things. 1808 JAMIESON, *Viue*, brisk, vigorous.

**+b.** Of minerals: Having active properties.

See also ARGENT *vive*, *cake vive* CALX 2, and SULPHUR *vive*.

1669 BOYLE *Contin. New Exp.* II. (1682) 166, I exposed Vive Sulpher to the Beams of the Sun. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 101 Take a mineral sulphur, whether vive, or in a mercasite. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xv. 224 Being a perfect metal..containing in itself vive-spermatick sulphur, and vive immature Mercury.

2. Affecting or impressing the mind in a lively or vivid manner.

In various applications: see groups of quots.

(*a*) 1548 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1679) I. *Records* xxii. 53 We may declare the Premises unto him:..[and] in as effectual and vive manner as we can, open it unto his Holiness. 1604 BACON *War w. Spain* (1629) 22 By a vive and forcible perswasion, he moued him to a warre vpon Flanders. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 4 Sylvester gives it this true and exact description.

(*b*) *c* 1624 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 521 What woes so vive, charact'red in thy face, Thus ouercloud the eyes of princely grace. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumphant* 116 None of the Israel of God is healed..but by his speciall, cleare, vive faith. 1683 *Trial Pilot* 11 Which it being Another to which I am proceeding, that it seems awakens in you far more feeling and more vive Resentments.

(*c*) 1650 GENTILIS *Considerationes* 1 As if oblivion were not by some much more to be desired, than to have the memory of them to vive. 1654 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Laura* 98 We receive in our hearts all the various and vive impressions of so fair and divine objects.

3. Of images, pictures, etc.: Life-like, suggestive of life or reality; closely reproducing or representing the actual person or thing.

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (1911) 13 Their surely lyues, Of seasons fowre, the glasse and picture viue. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 81 A maist vive representation of our Lords death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 169 Mogallie, Gallies statt vpricht, and ane perfyte vive Image of King Galdus. 1601 ARCHDEACON *Beauty Holiness* 16 As a father delighteth to looke vpon the expresse and vive Image of himselfe in his sonne. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1632) *Table* 35 That sacred Oratory, the vivest resemblance I know vpon the Earth of the Harmony of the Cherubins. 1669 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* 74 There is a vive portraicture of providence in the affairs of the church held forth in that vision [of Ezechiel].

4. Of colours: Bright, vivid.

1591 JAS. I *Lepanto* 436 The Painter mixes colours viue, The Printer Letters sets. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 267 The Croce,..studanlie appeirit, in viue and bricht colouris. 1632 *Epitaph* 2 *Mondrup* in *Stow's Surv.* 869/2 He..ore them laid Such vive and beauteous colours with his Pen. 1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* 373 It hath been my endevour to draw and design in vive collours, that naming would appeare superfluous.

**b.** *Sc.* Of things seen (actually or mentally): Clear, distinct.

1805 JAMIESON *Suppl., Vive*, applied to what may be seen clearly: as, 'I vive green', 'I vive sea', what may be read easily. 1881 J. DAVIDSON *Poems Buchan Dial.* 119 In thought as veev as fan't took place, I see anither scene. 1886 D. M. SMITH *Glen Ogil* 11 Ford *Harp Perthshire* (1893) 327 The hills above Glen Ogil I see from a' the day As veive as when I speel'd them in summer days lang-syne.

**+5.** Alive; in a living state. *Obs.*

*c* 1290 L. STEWART *Poems* (1901) I. 245 Gold Eliaus. Quhom Eliseus with his tes beheld Vyve reft till heawen. *Ibid.* 23 He did suddane sie The veirray vive formoist figure frie Of Angelicus. 1563 A. WALKER *Lect. Lachrymans* 3 Shrunk into Decrepitness, and a Living Death, made a vive Skeleton before he Dyed.

**+b.** Of the voice: (cf. VIVA VOCE). *Obs.*

1616 SURFLET *Short Compend.* VII. 11. 8 Yᵉ singing of Psalmes in the Church with vive voyces, he addicted Orpheus. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. Appeal* iii. 36 Reveiled by the vive-voyce of the Gods themselves.

**+Vive**, *v. Obs.*⁻¹ 1 pres., or directly f. L. *vīv-ut.*] *trans.* To endue with life.

1637 G. DANIEL *Genius of Isis* 295 But I forget this now, vivd by the Beams Of such a maiestie.

**Vively**, *adv.* Now *Sc.* or *Obs.* Also 5 **vyvelyche**; *Sc.* 6 **wife**, **wyfe**, **wyvelie**, **vivly**, 6–7 **vuelie**, **-ly**. [f. VIVE *a.* + -LY 2.]

**+1.** In a lively, animated, or energetic manner; with lively action. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Compl. Alch.* Prol. iii. In Ashm. (1652) 118 After them vyvelyche therefor thou crave. *c* 1550 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 14 Thow fyrie vulcane...My sensis schairpe, And wivelie tham vpsteir. 1648 *Polexem* IV. II. 219 He...did so vively resent it, that the most of his wounds opened again. 1693 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1699) 137 Give no man just cause of offence nor resent too vively injuries towards yourself.

**+b.** Sharply; to the quick. *Obs.*—[

*c* 1590 A. HUME *Poems* (S. T. S.) 77/318 And sick as are with wickednes bewitched, I assaile not how vively they be twitched.

2. Clearly, distinctly, vividly.

1537 CRAN. FOXE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxiii. 109 There be divers places...that cannot so vively be perceived by writing as they should be by conferring the same presently with the writer. *a* 1586 BECON *Policy of War* Wks. I. 105 Whom would it not animate..., seing so

many goodly examples vively described and liuishely set forth in histories before his face? 1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil & Parth.* Sonn. xxv, If the vively Could see my sorrow's name, which none can tread. 1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* Argt. 77 Lovel...describing the effects of Love, so vively, as she...confesseth herself enamour'd of him. 1632 — *Magn. Lady* iv. (1.) vii. *Chorus*, If I see a thing vively presented on the stage. 1663 Blair *Autobiog.* vii. (1848) 97, I supposed the thing had been actually done, when it was so vively represented unto me. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* 124 So Polus the Actor, that he might more vively represent the grief of a Father upon the body of his deceased Son, brought in an Urn the ashes of his own Son newly dead. 1789 Ross *Helenore* (ed. 3) 69 But gin ye like to wave the time, then ye how a' the matter stands, shall vively show.

**Vivency** (vai·vénsi). *rare.* [f. L. *vivi-re* to live + -ency.] Manifestation of the principle of life; vitality.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* ii. I. 55 Not In a distinct and indisputable way of vivency, or answering in all points the properties or affections of plants. [1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vivency*, a living, or injoying life. 1755 Johnson, *Vivency*, manner of supporting or continuing life, or vegetation.] 1843 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 312, I used to enjoy a spring day, its redolence, its vivency, its thrilling sensations of pleasure.

**Viver**[1], Now *dial.* or *Obs.* Forms: 4 viuere, 5 vyvere, wywere; 4–5 viuer (5 veuer, *Sc.* wever), 5 vyuer, 5–vyver, 9 viver. [a. F. *viver*, OF. (also mod.F.) *vivier* (= Sp. *vivero*, Pg. *viveiro*), ad. L. *vīvārium* Vivarium.] A fish-pond.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13764 Jis lik water als þe storl sais, Was nikel renumed in þan dais, Als it war a gode viuere [*perished viuere*]. c 1320 *Sir Tristrem Acc. Roll* (Surtees) 519 In þ fosatto facte de Molend[ino] usque le viuer, viz. iij*d*. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 344 Sinnct paulus hed efsir his discese In a depe vestre [*v. r.* wyuere] 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Roxb.) xxiii. 105 Withouten palm er many vyuers and stankes, whare on er many fewles of riuer. *c* 1449 *Pec.* in Wr.-Wülcker 691 *Hec vivarium*, wywer. 1391 in *Pat. Roll* iii. m. 1 (P. R. O.), Pisces, chaces, warennes, vyvers, pondes. 1875 Parish *Sussex Gloss.* 128 *Vivers*, fish-ponds.

† **Viver**[2]. *Obs.* Also 7 viuer. [ad. OF. *vivre* (rel. *guivre*) serpent:—L. *vipera* Viper.] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Poignastre*, the Viuer, a little sea-Dragon. *Ibid.*, *Traigne*, the sea Dragon, Viuer, Quauiuer. [1674 T. P., etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 412 Potage of Vives (*sic*) or Sea-dragons.]

**Viver**[3] (vai·vəɹ). *dial.* [Alteration of *fiver* Fibre.] A fibre or rootlet.

1877 E. Leigh *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Vivers*, small roots, fibres. 1906 Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill* 250 But the vivers of her roots they hold the bank together.

‖ **Viverra** (vive·rə, vai-). *Zool.* [L. *viverra* ferret.] † a. The ferret. *Obs.* b. The civet-cat (*Viverra civetta*), or other species of the type-genus of the civet family (*Viverridæ*). Also *attrib.*

1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Viverra*, the Ferret, a little Creature that runs into the Burrows of Rabbits. 1872–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 217 Of quadrupedes, there are goats, wolves, pole-cats, a spotted animal of the viverra kind, and several kinds of serpents. 1893 Garrod *Phys. Hist. Mam* iii. § 3. 113 Of the Viverra family. 1895 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* ix. (1817) I. 280 Another species of Viverra (*V. perbrasilia*) is also reputed to be an object of dissipation.

**Viverrid(æ**, *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Viverrid-æ* (see Viverra) + -oids.] Of or belonging to the *Viverridæ* or civet family.

1833 E. T. Bennett in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* I. 137 Notice of a Many-form Animal from Madagascar, constituting a New Form among the Viverridous Carnivora. 1834 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* I. 46 Description of a Viverridous Animal from Madagascar.

**Viverrine** (vive·rain, vai·-), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *viverrin-us*, f. *viverra* Viverra: see -ine 1.]

**A.** *adj.* Resembling or related to the civet, or the civet family; *spec.* belonging to the sub-family *Viverrinæ*. a. In specific names, as *viverrine cat*, *dasyurus*, *opossum*, etc.

1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. 11. 491 Viverrine Opossum. *Didelphis Viverrina*. 1820 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) XII. 497 *Dasyurus Viverrinus*, Viverrine Dasyurus. Black, spotted with white; tail without spots. c 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 53 The Viverrine Cat, *Felis viverrina*. 1883 *Athenæum* 28 Mar. 413/1 A viverrine phalanger (*Phalangista viverrina*) from Australia.

b. In general use.

1874 Woon *Nat. Hist.* 47 A small, but rather important, group of the Viverrine animals. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 436/1 *Cynogale benetti* . . is a curious Otter-like modification of the Viverrine type.

**B.** *sb.* An individual of the sub-family *Viverrinæ*.

c 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 86 The skull has all the essential characters of that of a Viverrine.

**Vivers** (vai·vəɹz), *pl.* chiefly *Sc.* Forms: a. 6 veveres, wewers, 7 viewers, viewers. β. 6 wivers, wiver, wiuere, 6–7 viuers, 6, 8–9 vivers (6 vivars). See also Vivres. [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *vivres*, pl. of *vivre* food, sustenance, substantive use of *vivre* to live]. Food, provisions, victuals, eatables.

Only Sc. till the 19th century; its later literary currency is probably due to its frequent occurrence in the Waverley Novels.

a. 1536 Queen Margaret in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 43 Pa ma be portative be wairye for carying of þar veveres and uthyres necyssaces. *a* 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 78 Ane armie . . weill furnischit with all kynd of wewris and munitioun. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. I*, 20 He sall cume . . weill furnished with siluer to bye viewers for his sustentation.

β. 1598 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 214 The greit . . derth . . of all kynd of victuallis and wiveris. 1598–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 168 The stoir of their victuallis being daylie scand, they directit, as afore, sum horsmen to scour the fields for viuers. 1620 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 108 Viuers are very cheape heere and thay are dere with the enimy. 1795 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 220 The prices of lyring, lowell, fish, flesh and other vivers are latelie arisen to an exorbitant hight. 1796 Mrs. Calderwood in *Colinton Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 149 Every thing of vivers is dear in Holland but vegetables. 1814 Scott *Waw.* xlii, I'll join you at three, if the vivers can carry so long. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* xiii. (1868) II. 164 He liberally complained of the unwillingness of the country-people to furnish wines, weapons, and other necessaries. 1887 Beatty-Kingston *Music & Manners* II. 18 You shall have your beer, vivers, and tobacco cheap.

*Hyp.* 1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 87 By This is our viuers during the pilgramedg of this transitorie lif.

**Vives** (vai·vz), *sb. pl.* Also 6 vyves, 6–8 vives, 7 vives, vies. [Aphetic form of Avives. Cf. Fives[1], Vies[1], and Yves.] Hard swellings of the submaxillary glands of a horse; the presence of these regarded as a specific morbid condition in a horse.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 91 The vives is a sorance vnder a horse ere, betwene the ouer ende of the chall-bones and the necke, and are rounde knottes betweene the skyn and the flesshe. 1566 Blundevil *Horses* iv. xxxvi. (1580) 137 The Vives be certaine kirnels growing vnder the horses eare. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. (1586) 223 There is a disease that is called the vives in horses, called [1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horseman*. 79 It is a disease which growes vnder the eares, and secundum vulgus it is called the fives or vives. 1598 *Sund. Obs. No. Hosp.* (Camden) 4 Buy Horses above thirteen hands high, . . has been burned in the Head for the Vies. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Dictiona.* xiii. (1730) 266 This is particularly of service in the Vives and Strangles. 1754 Bartley *Gentlem. Farriery* 104 The vives or ives differs from the strangles only in this, that the swelling of the kernels under the ears of the horse . . seldom gathers. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 149 Several distinct kernels are to be felt under the jaw. . . The strangles call them vives.

**Vivi-** (vi·vi), combining form of L. *vivus* alive, living, employed in a few terms, as + vivicombustion, = Vivisection 2; vivicremation, the act of burning, or the fact of being burned, alive; + vividissection = Vivisection 2; vivisepulture, burying alive.

1731 G. Grey *Life M. Robinson* in Mayor *Autobiogr.* (1856) 31 He was invited by some learned persons in other colleges to dance at their valedictories of dogs. Mary C. S. Faber *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) I. 220 The horrid penalty of vivi-cremation which a corrupt Church has specially appropriated to those whom she denominates heretics. 1891 J. W. Blakesley *Herodotus* I. 87 Many centuries afterwards . . human sacrifices appear to have been offered to Mithras, . . by vivi-combustion. 1861 E. B. Pusey Butler *City of Saints* 380 They are a superstitious brood and have many cruel practices—human sacrifices and vivisepulture. 1863 Lindell in *Archæol.* XL. 243 Pliny speaks of the practice of vivisepulture as continued to his own time.

**Vivianite** (vi·vianəit). *Min.* [f. the name of the discoverer, J. G. *Vivian*; named by Werner, 1817.] A phosphate of iron usually occurring in crystals of blue and green colour.

1823 W. Phillips *Elem. Mineral. Min.* 238 Phosphate of Iron. Vivianite, . . is of various shades of blue and green, sometimes bluish-green. 1867 Blomam *Chem.* 324 The phosphate and arsenic acid and oxide of iron are found associated in the mineral known as vivianite or native Prussian blue. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 3/3 A small gold coin, doubled up, was found within a lump of bone and vivianite.

Hence **Vivianitized** *a.*, encrusted with vivianite.

1870 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Jan. 12/3 Great quantities of vivianitized bones were found.

**Vivid** (vi·vid), *a.* [ad. L. *vivid-us* living, animated, lively, f. *vīvĕre* to live. Cf. It. *vivido.*]

1. Full of life; vigorous, active, or energetic on this account; lively or brisk: a. Of persons (or animals), their attributes, etc.

1638 Jackson *Creed* IX. xxiv. I 9 In my old and decaying days (to publish the fruits of my former labours in those mysteries which to my apprehension had been well set in my flourishing and vivid years. 1698 W. Burton *Hin. Antonine*, Ep. 8 The whole was very lively and strong. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 234 They have a sprightly vivid countenance. 1799 Corry *Sat. Lond.* (1803) 45 When the fine lady returns home indisposed after a succession of constant morning visits and the exhaustion of her vivid spirits. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 23 Mr. Browning was . . a most vivid and quick-thoughted person. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxix, Mr. Vandermouch . . as good a foil as could well be found to the intense colouring and vivid gravity of Deronda. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* clix, His hope was in the vivid horse Whose neck God clothed with thunder.

*Ap.* 1896 Blackie *Songs Relig. & Life* 234 Let sweet fragrance flow from thee, Vivid breath of pure emotion.

b. Of material things or substances, or their qualities.

1690 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 230 The vertue that was ordained to be in that matter, cannot be so vivid and effectual. 1699 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 99 Elementary fire . . produced from a vivid nitrous or bermetick salt. 1828 Burnt *Gram. Mus.* 481 This vivid and volatile instrument [sc. the violin]. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* Introd. 6 Things emitting at unexpectedly short notice vivid and awful stenches.

c. Of feelings, etc.: Lively, strong, intense.

1844 C. Brontë *Villette* xix, His passions were strong, his aversions and attachments alike vivid. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xi. (1860) 366 We might have remained in this same belief, had not Agassiz and others called vivid attention to the Glacial period. 1862 W. Collins *Wom. White* I. part. V. II. vi, Her face expressed vivid interest and astonishment, nothing more. 1873 H. Rogers *Orig. Bible* I. (1875) 33 The first is clearly proved by a vivid indignation he evoked. 1905 G. Thorne *Lost Cause* viii, There is a sterling and vivid Christianity among them.

2. Of actions or operations: Proceeding, or taking place, with great vigour or activity.

1708 *Keuse's Hexp. Units.* Add. 2 More vivid Operations of the Internal Light of souls. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 472 The combustion that ensues is exceedingly vivid and beautiful. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 257 Whenever any living part is called into vivid action, an increased flow of blood and of nervous energy towards it immediately takes place. 1858 Lardner *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 392 A thin cylinder of oily vapour . . is kept in a state of vivid and constant combustion.

b. Of utterances: Strongly or warmly expressed.

1806 J. Berkenhout *Biblioth. Hom.* I. 72 Homer is vivid. Being mounted on a beast who . . proceeds very coolly to repose himself in the middle of the pond without . . paying the slightest attention to the vivid remonstrances of the subject. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. x. 20 The Spanish government . . made the most vivid remonstrances through its resident minister.

c. Of intellectual faculties: Capable of ready and clear creation of ideas or concepts.

1814 Scott *Waw.* iii, Edward's power of imagination . . was vivid. 1836 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumpt.* I. 24 Vivid conception, and quick sensibility, are the characteristics of good actor. 1865 Tennyson *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 318 Every page teems with the vivid thought, the glowing fancy [etc.]. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* I, I suspect your fancy is tolerably vivid still.

d. Of description, etc.: Presenting subjects or ideas in a clear and striking manner. Freq. with *picture* in fig. use.

(a) 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. v. 257, I mean especially a power of vivid painting—in the true and highest sense of what is called Imagination. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* vi. 339 Nehemiah himself relates, . . in one consecutive vivid narrative, the history of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. iv. 149 A most vivid history of the time. 1878 Lowell *Milton* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 72 Mr. Masson's unhappy infection with the vivid style. 1895 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 296 We have . . a no less vivid report of the real or imaginary speeches.

(b) 1849 Grote *Greece* II. xvii. II. 390 It is not from them however that Herodotus draws his vivid picture of the people, with their inhuman rites and repulsive personal features. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xx. 349 These letters give a vivid picture of the uncertainties which distracted public opinion.

3. Of colour, light, etc.: Brilliant, fresh, lively, bright.

1665 Hooke *Occas. Refl.* vi. v. (1848) 354 Many of the Ladies wear in their Ribbands little less vivid colours, than those of their faces. 1667 — in *Phil. Trans.* II. 582 A piece of such Wood . . that gave a vivid light (for rotten Wood). 1704 Newton *Opticks* I. II. x. (1721) 157 Such Colours . . are more intense as have the fullest and most vivid Colours. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Ruin'd Abbey* 180 The vivid verdure fled his faded cheek. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* xiii, The vivid glow of the western horizon. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 413 In a little time it becomes of a deep vivid blue. 1869 Howitt *Rural Life* viii. The lavish delight in color found expression in the vividest hues upon the walls. 1875 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* (ed. 3) 408 The love of vivid colours seems to increase as we descend south.

b. Of things in respect of colour or brightness.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 212 The Sun alone makes not any Rainbow that is vivid or illustrious. 1798 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 691 Around them shone the vivid planets roll. *a* 1763 Shenstone *Elegies* xi. 42 Then glows the breast.. More free, more vivid, than the linnet's wing. 1796 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 381 Where there is no other effect than the making them [the stars] more vivid in their appearance. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 407 A wreath of laurel, intensely vivid, inclosed the classical countenance of the head. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 21 Like a vivid circular rainbow quite round the sun. 1874 Holland *Mistr. Manse* 114 A bright, threatning bank of mist Grows into groups of vivid isles.

4. Clearly or distinctly perceived or perceptible; appealing strongly to the mind or eye.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xix. 122 Those Motions made on the Organs of Sense, which at other times produce very vivid and sensible Ideas. 1710 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 248 This immaterial Image, ought to be so much the more vivid and perfect, as the Rays fall forth more Rays of Light. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* II. 314 We shall find the traces of this event more vivid and determinate than those of Greece. 1862 Jane H. Ewing *J. Corv.* (1892) I. 297 Sweet sounds awaken latent harmonies within us, and thus produce very vivid impressions of the beautiful. 1868 W. R. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 320 At a moment when the part played by the people in July was still fresh and vivid in recollection. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* ii. (1873) 79 *note*, No book gives a more vivid impression of the growth of Russian influence. 1883 H. Wace *Gosp. & Witnesses* ii. 34 Its vivid internal marks of genuineness.

*absol.* 1846 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 261 Whether the cause lie not rather in a besetting velleity of the picturesque and vivid.

b. Intensely or strongly felt.

1704–5 Atterbury *Serm., Matt. xiv.* 28 (1716) I. 357 Tempting Objects, by their Number and Nearness, make

the most Vivid and Lasting Impressions upon us. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 40 A more vivid Sensation of Cold. 1834 I. Taylor *Spir. Despot.* ii. 55 Sensibus .. in which the clergy are supposed to vivid anxieties or endure actual privations. 1880 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. iii. viii. (1857) 121 When the recollection of his sin is most vivid and most poignant. 1894 Gerard *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 454 The vivid sense of a Divine Purity close to such men made the life of common men seem sin.

**5.** Life-like; resembling life.

1832 Hawthorne *Hillsdale Rom.* xi. He carried a stick with a wooden head, carved in vivid imitation of that of a serpent.

**6.** Quasi-*adv.* Vividly, brightly.

1819 Keats *Fall Hyperion* i. 245 The scenes Still swooning vivid through my globed brain. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xx. iii. (1872) IX. 44 The Prussian camp-fires, they too are all burning unconsumedly vivid.

**Vividity** (vivi·liti). [f. prec. + -ITY.]

†**1.** Living force, vitality. *Obs.*—1

1626 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* 28 Corrupt affections, which like vicious humours gnaw and suck the conscience dry of all vividitie.

**2.** The quality or state of being vivid; vividness.

1772 W. Cullen *Lect. Pathol.* in J. Thomson *Life* (1832) I. 358 A degree of Vividity, of Sacrity, and Levity, or a disposition to change ..can only be considered as states of morbid Irritability ..in the Brain. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* vi. § 12 (1789) 45 Clearness of discernment.., vividity and rapidity of thought. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. v. Comm. p. xi, A vast mass of illumined matter, in the general glow and vividity of which the opaque spots are almost lost. 1880 *Daily News* 18 April 5/1 Being of life size, the vividity of the flesh tints and the extraordinary modelling serve to it a startling appearance of reality.

**Vividly** (vi·vidli), [f. Vivid a. + -ly 2.]

**1.** Brightly, brilliantly, in respect of colour or light.

1667 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 587, I..found it to shine vividly. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 220 The light is still more vividly. 1840 Jonnson in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 36 The shell is strongly ribbed and rather vividly streaked..with yellow or red. 1880 Thudichum *Gheor.* iv. 87 Under the former semicircle remains white, the latter one is vividly coloured. 1896 Huxley *Physiogr.* 203 It burns suddenly into flame and burns vividly.

**2.** Clearly, strongly, intensely, in respect of mental impression or effect.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm. Prov. iv.* 27 Wks. 1686 III. 46 He will not be so forward to engage himself upon such occasions danger and misfortune as more experienced mind to his sight. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* i. iii. § 5. 385 If they rise up quick and vividly one after another, as Subjects, Predicates, and Associates virtual. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* III. xviii. 140 Oh how vividly did early impressions return to my soul. 1862 M'Cosh *Supernat.* ix. § 4. 139 The words are vividly descriptive of the flights of Isaiah. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 287 The way in which treason is spoken of sets vividly before us the difficulties with which William had still to contend.

**Vividness.** [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being vivid, in senses of the adj.

**a.** Of colour, light, etc.

1665-8 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 593 To examine..the Conjecture, ..That the Colours and the Light..might proceed in great part from the Vividness of it. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 June 1664, With such lively colours, that for splendour and vividness have nothing in Europe that approches it. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xliv. 190 In the vividness of its lustre..it exceeded any thing he had ever seen before. 1849 Macculloch *Treat. Humboldt* xviii. 256 Numerous palms are reflected by the surface of the river with a vividness almost as bright as that of the objects themselves. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* ii, The delicate colouring of her cheek seemed to gather more vividness, like flowers at evening. 1883 Miss M. Betham-Edwards *Disarmed* xxxiv, For a few minutes the flashes lightning were awful in their vividness.

**b.** Of ideas, conceptions, impressions, etc.

1768 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* II. i. xiii. 189 A variety of ideas afford us no notion of succession unless we perceive one come before the other; and it is imagined that their degrees of vividness or faintness will do the job. 1820 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 17 The notions of fairies and of genii, which have been rendered rich so much vividness of fancy and liveliness of description. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 207 The very vividness of the conception may have rendered him insensible to the precariousness of the proof. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* xi. 356 Death at sea touched the Greek imagination with peculiar vividness.

**c.** Of description, narrative, etc.

1828 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. xi. 257 She has a mastery of the subject, and a truth and vividness of expression, second only to Cowper. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 7 His graphic narrative has all the vividness that art can give to description of what the describer has not himself actually witnessed. 1884 R. W. Church *Bacon* ix. 210 In the essay on Friendship he describes the process with a vividness which tells of his own experience.

†**Vivier.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **vyuier.** [a. OF, *vivier*: see Viver 1.] A fishpond.

c 1450 *Merlin* xix. 308 He lete make a maner to repeire to, that was right faire and riche for to syuier.

**Vivific** (vivi·fik), a. Also 6 **vivifike**, 7–8 **vivifick**. [ad. L. (post-classical) *vīvific-us*, f. *vīvi-re* living: see -fic. So OF. and F. *vivifique*, Sp., Pg., It. *vivifico*.] Life-giving, enlivening, vivifying.

1581 Bp. Gardiner *On Sacrum.* 1 23 b, Wherby they might vnderstand him verie God, whose feshe, geuen spiritually to be eaten of vs..[is] viuifike and geuasth life. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* 1. iii. iii. 304 Chrysostome calls it..a vivifick Energie. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 39 A Vivifick Spirit or Aura, generated out of the Blood by the Brain. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 29 Light was the Active and Vivifick Principle of Generation. 1768 T. Taylor *Proclus* I. 118 The zoogonic, or vivific goddess, pours through these into the universe, an inexplicable and efficacious power. 1829 Southey in *Q. Rev.* I. 194 There is, however, in all religious communities a vivacious and vivific principle not to be found in the same degree in political bodies. 1832 A. Ballou *Spirit Manifest.* i. 23 Matter inert and passive, spirit vivific and active. 1837 W. R. Cooper *Egypt, Obelisks* v. (1878) 23 [The name] 'The Eternal Generator' contains an allusion to the vivific power of Ra, as the Creator of life.

†**Vivifical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. 1632 L. Rowzee *Queenes Wellet* i, a Vivificall moisture.. maketh them [plants] all to grow and prosper. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 104 That Vivifical Heat, which..gives Life to all Things. a 1686 T. Watson *Body of Div.* (1692) 213 Christ is so full of Sap and vivifical Influence, that he makes all..inoculated into him, grow Fruitful.

†**Vivificant,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vivificant-, vivificans*, pres. pple. of *vivificāre*: see next.] = Vivific a.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* A 3, The temperature of the Ayre, vivificant, nutritiue, and quickening, and full of life. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 992 Every sense findeth benefit of fire as of a vivificant power and quickening vertue. 1693 H. Cromp *Disc. Vine.* 4 The one, having a vivific and fierce, the other a cold and moist nature. 1660 tr. *Arcanidus' Treat. conc. Kelig.* iii. viii. 464 That admirable selestiall and vivificant Medicine which is in the Sun.

**Vivificate** (vivi·fikē't), *v.* Also 5–7 **vivificat**(e, 6 **vivifycate**. [ad. L. *vivificāt-*, ppl. stem of *vivificāre* (Tertullian, etc. ; hence It. *vivificare*, Sp. and Pg. *vivificar*), f. *vīvi-us* alive : cf. Vivific *a.* and -ate 3.]

**1.** *trans.* To give life to, to animate, to enliven or quicken ; = Vivify *v.* 1.

1430 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 289 In the pleyne per of is a pitte where thei saie to vivificate the myndes of philosophres. a 1520 *Cokeblis Sow* 887 Lyk [f]o sede'swin in erd mon vivificate, Spirit mon to Resurrexion. 1530 Palsgr. *Lesclarc.* 558/1 I vivificate, I make a thynge lyue. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Aiv, Whose blood vivificates thy veins.

†**2.** *Instr.* To become endued with life. *Obs.*—1

1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1687) 351/2 This beam penetrates to the Abyss, and thereby all things vivificate.

Hence Vivificating *ppl. a.*

a 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* III. ii. § 3. (1731) 89 The Composition of the Body and a certain Vivificating Light, imparted from the Soul to it.

**Vivification** (vivifikē·ʃən). Also 6–7 **vivi-**, 7 **vivi-**. [ad. L. *vivificātio* (Tertullian), n. of action f. *vivificāre* : see prec. and -ation. So F. *vivification*, Sp. *vivificacion*, Pg. *-açáo*, It. *vivificazione*.]

**1.** The process or fact of being vivified in a spiritual sense. Cf. Eph. ii. 1–5.)

a 1548 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. III. 262 We muste receyve the sacraments and have contrition..and then vivification, whiche is to saye, pearse by faithe. 1589 T. T. *Admt. to Q. Elizabeth* (1651) 48 That Holiness and trewesse of life, ..under the names Vivification, renovation spirituall, and the first Resurrection. 1606 W. Gardiner *Bk. Angling* 116 An assertion from sinne, a conuersion vnto life, a vnderstanding of the olde Adam, and the vivification of the newe man. 1653 Baxter *Worc. Petit. Def.* 9 O the sweet comfort that I have in Christ the Vivification and Vivification of my soule by Friends ! 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 63 The new man ..must be put on by the grace of vivification.

**2.** The fact or conduct of quickening with life ; the fact of being vivified physically.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 329 If that Motion be in a certain Order, there followeth Vivification and Figuration. 1632 A.B. tr. *Camden's Hist. Elizabeth* II. 315 The vivification of the Soule of man with the body, as also the informing and the vivification (as I may tearme it) of the whole body decayed by the fall, in beasts. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 805 The Divine Spirit..which was the Efficient Cause of the Vivification of our Saviour's Body at his Resurrection. 1799 *Monthly Mag.* III. 515 The gods call the soul.. a drop from the fountain of vivification. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. 44 The vivification of ghosts by sacrifices of blood.

**b.** *concr.* That which vivifies. *rare*—1.

1830 Maria *Celestina* I. 80 O reliever of my torment, and vivification of my life.

**c.** *Phys.* The process of converting, or of being converted, into living tissue.

1870 F. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 128 Vivification of the edges not being necessary, the procedure is simpler and less dangerous.

†**3.** Restoration of a metal to its original state.

1660 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. v. *Sub.* And when comes Vivification ? *Face.* After Projection. 1702 Charleton *Pantheon, Widow* iv. 1, He can bring an Artificial Resurrection, and Vivification to Mercury. 1708 Chambers *Cycl., Vivification.*, The Chymists also use the Word in speaking of the new Force, Vigour, and Lustre which by this Art they give to natural Bodies, particularly to Mercury, which after having been fix'd or amalgamated, they restore to its first State.

**4.** The action or fact of investing with an air of vitality or reality.

1858 Bagehot in *Nat. Rev.* Oct. 468 A second most wonderful special faculty which Mr. Dickens possesses is what we may call his vivification of character. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 15 March 333/2 [He] is an industrious scholar..but we do not know that he has the gift of vivification.

†**Vivificative,** *a. Obs.* [f. Vivificate *v.* + -ive. Cf. OF. *vivificatif, -ive.* Sp., Pg., It. *vivificativo.*] Life-giving, vivifying.

c 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 852 The sweit smell, and the suaue odour..Sa weill sawrit, and viuificative. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* Notes 355 Psychic cannot issue out into any externall vivificative act, unless you suppose a body. 1660 Rust *Dorgan's Opin.* 102 The operations of the Spirit of life, or quickning Spirit, are all vivificative. 1735 Amory *Mem.* (1766) II. 194 *note*, By touching them with faith, we may attract the sanctification and vivificative virtue which resideth in them.

†**Vivificator.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -or. Cf. OF. *vivificateur*, Sp. and Pg. *vivificador.*] One who or that which gives life, a vivifier.

a 1535 Bradford *Whs.* (Parker Soc.) 280 We..believe.. the Holy Spirit to be the only Comforter, vivificator, counsellor, and master of all truth. 1648 Herman tr. *Lewandigh maker*, a Vivificatour. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* iv. ii. vii. 449 If they had believed that this Spirit is both Lord, and Creator and Vivificator, they might have had some convenient accesse to life.

†**Vivificent,** *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *vīvi-us* alive : cf. -fic and -ent.] Living.

1593 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33 b/1 It is necessarye that the vivificent parte drive from it the mortified, or else the mortifiede allso cause mortification in the vivificent parte. 1599 — *Godelhaert's Bk. Physicke* 393 Take a vivificent Cocke, and vse him on that sorte. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Vivificent*, lively, or full of strength.

**Vivified** (vi·vifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. Vivify *v.* + -ed 1.] Endued with life, animated, living.

Also *transf.* of metals : cf. Vivification 3.

1707 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* 111, 113 Are we not all originally, sprung from the same vivified mass? 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 2) I. 61 Vivified charcoal..heated with an oxid-ore..leaves at the bottom of the furnace or crucible the vivified or pure metal. 1858 Pirie *Inq. Hum. Mind* vii. 339 A physical feeling or thing, appertaining to the vivified machine. 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 179, I looked back..and saw him still standing there in the dark frame-way, strangely like some vivified portrait by Velasquez.

**Vivifier** (vi·vifəi·əɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who or that which gives life.

1820 Pusey *Min. Prophh.* 310 God's love for us is the great incitement, constrainer, vivifier of His creature's love. c 1825 Watson in *Circ. Sci.* I. 3/1 The oxygen of the air is the great vivifier of nature. 1879 Cm. G. Rossetti *Seek & F.* 06 Light and heat, to our apprehension the great vivifiers of the material world.

**Vivify** (vi·vifəi), v. [ad. F. *vivifier* (OF. from 12th c.), ad. L. *vīvificāre* : see Vivificate *v.*]

**1.** *trans.* To give life to ; to endue with life ; to animate ; to quicken.

1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 11 Throughe these arteyes liuely spirite, and fresshe aere, is dirined out of the mother into the childe, wherwith the naturall hete of the chylde is viuified and refressshed. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51b, Las vs consyder the excellence.. what doth she effect?..[she doth] warme us, vivifye and administare lyfe vnto vs. 1625 Crooke *Body of Man* 261 Mercurius Trismegistus saith excellently, that the sun vivifie which visibleth or quickneth euery forme in the whole world. 1693 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restaured* 86 [They] placed a fiery sign there, which vivifies the Ayre, by which all things are quickened and vivified. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. iii. 39 The Great Soul of the Vniuerse..vivifyeth all manner of things. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 568 In this explosion of life, every particle of native soil was vivified ; and numberless races of vegetables and animals were produced. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 359 An instinct of the beautiful and supernatural lies which underlie and vivify this material universe. 1882 Tyndall *Ess. Floating Matter of Air* 224 An indraught—slight no doubt, but still sufficient to contaminate or vivify the infusion.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* (Common in 19th c.)

1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xix. 80 As in nature one contrarie is vivified by another, so..in the Gospell. 1611 *Bible, Num.* xi. 8 ℣ It [an elixir] restores and vivifies the most dejected Minds. 1776 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* vii. (1876) 108 That Promethean fire, which animates the statue and vivifies the marble. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliv. V. 144 Their execution would have vivified the empire. 1850 Hr. Martineau *Eccl. & Rel.* II. 19 The universal education can do is to extend man's views, to exalt his aims, and vivify his powers. 1853 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1845) I. iii. § 66. 372 His plans was to vivify the State by vigorous measures. 1865 Morley *Mirac.* I. 4 It vivifies the stock we have, but does not add one item to it. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 30 April 543/2 It enables the 'supers' to shout..and thereby vivify a languishing enthusiasm.

**c.** *Phys.* To convert into living tissue.

1859 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 416 An incision..to lay open any sinuous track, vividly vivify its edges, or remove spongy granulations..must be tried.

**2.** To make brighter or more brilliant.

1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* II. The sun appeared in all its glory..vivifying the luxuriant landscape. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. ii. 127 This covering..vivifies the most brilliant colours. 1885 'Max. Alexander' *Valeria's Fate* I. 76 The bright autumnal sunshine was vivifying the many-tinted trees of the dell de Boulogne.

**b.** To render more animated or striking.

1833 Hr. Martineau *Three Ages* I. 26 His ready wit seldom failed to interpose to illustrate and vivify what was said. 1853 Felton *Fam. Lett.* xi. (1865) 100, I always try to vivify an idea by embodying it in some manner. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Feb. 3/3 This little volume is..vivified throughout by the sympathetic yet discriminating appreciation which pays all due honour to the hero.

**3.** *absol.* To impart life or animation.

1666 Bacon *Sylva* § 656 Which should shew, that Snow hath in it a secret Warmth; For else it could hardly Vivifie. 1699 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* II. *Quicksnesse*, 'Tis such a blissful thing, that still Doth vivifie. 1892 L. Hunt *Day by the Fire, Rainy Day* (1870) 294 It [a fire] talks to us;..it is vivified at our touch; it vivifies in return. 1892 Tyndall *Frogm. Sci.* (1897) II. xiv. 359 The one may vivify, while the other kills.

**4.** *intr.* To acquire life; to become alive.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 277 The Ova will vivify or come to Life sooner. 1768 Fourth *Druid* 211, Wks. 1799 II. 276 They quit their torpid state, and vivify. 1824 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 113 The egg begins to vivify and swell with the heat of the spring. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 377 A sign that the eggs have vivified, and that they will probably hatch out. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 8/3 When the eggs have vivified, the young salmon will be tended until the two-year-old stage.

Hence **Vivifying** *vbl. sb.*

1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 2 The calf was the symbol..of.. His continued vivifying of all which lives. 1884 Earl Grey in *Life Mandell Creighton* (1904) I. viii. 247 The ripple which sprung from the vivifying of the waters of Embleton spread over a large surface.

**Vivifying,** *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That vivifies or animates physically; life-giving, quickening.

1635 Heywood *Hierarchy* VI. 374 The second Adam, sleeping in a vivifying death. 1691 T. Burnet *Metallogr.* viii. 127 That vivifying and incombustible sulphur that is Natures true fire and agent. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 59 The vivifying Juice, with which the Earth is impregnated. 1778 Franklin in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 391 In other places..he explodes the doctrine of a vivifying spirit in the air. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 370 The vivifying action of the atmosphere. 1818 Stuart *Planter's Ec.* (ed. 2) 322, I have repeatedly tried it on all sorts of subjects, ..and its vivifying powers have proved extraordinary in every instance. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 246/2 The mineral and the vivifying animalcules of flowering plants. 1871 Tyndall *Frogm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 273 The vivifying gas cannot penetrate to the centre of the film.

**†2.** Of medicines: Restorative. *Obs.*

1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* Prel., Whose Aid was not onely as a Hand to uphold, but a vivifying Medicine to a fainting Body. 1740 *Swirt Further Acc. S. Cavil* Wks. 1755 III. i. 160 That all our members..be provided with a sufficient quantity of the vivifying drops, or Bythall's *sal volatile*. 1762 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxviii. It may sometimes happen that..a countryman who cannot read, dies without ever hearing of the vivifying drops.

**3.** That vivifies spiritually or mentally; imparting interest or energy.

1708 Tucker *Lit. Nol.* (1834) I. 43 That vivifying Ingredient which gives life and vigour to our motives. 1720 Burnet *Pres. Discont.* Wks. 1842 I. 234 Without it,..the people cannot long enjoy..the vivifying energy of good government. 1829–30 Coleridge *Remains* (ed. 3) III. 84 The vivifying influences of the altar, the censer, and the sacrifice. 1838 Farrocott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xiv. 105 The vivifying impulse of patriotic sentiment. 1884 *Athenæum* 7 June 720/2 Human beings..cannot dispense with some such vivifying element in their religion.

**3.** *Vivifying ink*, a liquid which brings out what has been written in sympathetic ink.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Annuam.* 42 Soak a double paper in the vivifying ink.

**† Vivi paral,** *a. Obs.*—[f. L. *vivipar-us* (see Viviparous) + -al.] = Viviparous.

1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* 5 All viviparal creatures (although born liveli privitively) yet in their very first production find a way to their dams pappe.

**Viviparism.** [Cf. F. *viviparisme.*] Viviparous reproduction.

1880 G. B. Buckton *Monograph Brit. Aphides* (Ray Soc.) I. 78 Viviparism continued uninterruptedly through the whole winter.

**Viviparity** (vivipa·riti). *Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. L. *vivipar-us* (see next) + -ity.] The condition or character of being viviparous.

1805 Spencer *Prize. Biol.* I. 211 This homogeneity..in reptiles and fishes..is always essentially oviparous, though there are cases..in which viviparity is simulated. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 358 Instances of viviparity occur among *Lacertilia*, *Ophidia* [etc.].

**Viviparous** (vivi·pàrəs, vaɪ-), *a.* [f. L. *vivipar-us* (Appuleius), f. *viv-us* alive, living + *parêre* to bring forth: see -ous. Cf. F. *vivipare*, Sp., Pg., It. *viviparo*.]

1. Involving the production of young in a living state.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 158 We cannot from them expect a viviparous exclusion. 1826 Hulme tr. *Magnin-Taulon* II. 1. 48 This constitutes the viviparous reproduction of the Mammalia. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 259 This..corresponds to the viviparous habit in some fishes and reptiles.

**2.** Of animals: Bringing forth young in a live state. (Usually in contrast with *oviparous*.)

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 7 269 Quadrupedes..together with us are viviparous, and hitherto more familiar to us, then birds, fishes, and animals viviparous. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 3. 133 Viviparous cartilaginous fish, whose bodies are not long and round. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 160 That uniform warmth, which is so necessary even in the incubation of birds, much more in the time of gestation of viviparous animals. 1768 G. White *Selborne* xvii, Though they [sc. vipers] are oviparous, yet they are viviparous also, hatching their young within their bellies, and then bringing them forth. c 1795 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 469 The Sea-anemone is said to be viviparous. 1807 G. Higgins *Celtic Druids* 138 The oviparous quadrupeds are found..in more ancient strata than those of the viviparous class. 1858 Lewes *Sea-side Stud.* 249 The Pedicellina is viviparous, as well as oviparous, and gemmiparous. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xliii, The true *Cetacea*..are always viviparous.

b. With specific names.

1681 Grew *Museum* I. v. i. 95 The Viviparous Eel-Pout. ..'Tis well pictur'd by Adam Olearius, who calls it a Sea-Wolf. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 11 The viviparous blenny..brings forth two or three hundred at a time, all alive. 1892 T. Bell *Brit. Reptiles* 13 Viviparous Lizard. Nimble Lizard. Common Lizard. *Zootoca vivipara*. 1892 *Cent. Dict., Perch*,..2. Any surf-fish or member of the *Embiotocidæ*: more fully called *viviparous perch*.

**3.** *Bot.* Reproducing from seeds or bulbs which germinate while still attached to the parent plant. Also in specific names.

1727 Lion Ivory *Phil. Trans.* I. 102 Viviparous-Fescue-Grass. 1756 Palmer *Nat. Theol.* xx. (1819) 320 Grasses abound which are viviparous and consequently able to propagate themselves without seed. 1820 *New Bot. Garden* I. 58 The pericarp viviparous. 1858–90 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 472 *Polygonum viviparum*, Viviperous [*sic*] Bistort. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 48 A few roots [of Kocamallee *Yoshu*] are always standling-room as a curiosity, and as examples of viviparous plants. 1889 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* (1890) 24 The buttercup is replaced by the little poisonous yellow oxalis with its viviparous buds.

b. Characterized by this mode of reproduction.

1820 R. Hall *Elem. Bot.* 196 Viviparous Fructification... when the rudiment of the germen grows out into leaves. 1906 *Athenæum* 10 May 581 The viviparous habit, now repressed, by the seedlings hanging from the mangroves, was once nearly universal.

Hence **Viviparousness.**

1853 Dungison *Princ. Physiol.* I. iv. vii. 575 Creatures having large brains were seen to have other characteristics than that of intelligence: as..viviparousness.

**Vivi parously,** *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a viviparous manner; by viviparous reproduction.

1820–21 *Edinb. Med. Journ.* (1824) I. 338 The latter are successively..by hosts of the young insects produced viviparously; for..the aphis breeds both ways. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page* (1868) 133 The plant is propagated viviparously. 1879 Hulley *Anat. Invt. Anim.* vii. 447 Aphides kept in a warm room..have continued to propagate viviparously for four years.

**Vivisect** *Vbl.* [f. L. *vīvi-par-us* viviparous + -t, or act. f. *vivisect-*.] = Vivisection.

1900 B. D. Jackson *Closs. Bot. Terms* 289. 1906 *Times* (Lit. Suppl.) 30 March 119/2 The lost habit is at times revived in the form of viviparous bulbs in some inland plants.

**Vivisect** (vi·visekt, vivise·kt), *v.* [Back-formation from Vivisection.]

1. *trans.* To dissect (an animal) while living; to perform vivisection upon.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 1 Aug., Much as they vivisect live animals at Alfort. 1878 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxx. 290 Modern naturalists, not being able to vivisect the Psyche, have..resolved that animals are to be classed by their bones. 1890 C. A. Smith *Isaiah* II. xii. 202 We do not vivisect our inanimate gift them off by gladiatorial combats.

*transf.* 1890 W. H. Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* 180 These insects..house them in cells where the grubs can be watched. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 413 The piteous cries..of a donkey being vivisected by hyænas.

b. *fig.* To investigate as if by vivisection; to examine or criticize minutely or mercilessly.

1876 Rhoda Broughton *Joan* I. xx, On the contrary, I live in hopes of seeing a successor or two [i.e. autors] vivisected. 1882 Ruskin in *19th Cent.* June 950 The modern novelist, more easily, in a city population, find a healthy mind to vivisect.

**2.** *intr.* To practise vivisection.

1883 S. Colebrook *Vivisection* 13 Surely a man must be at his wits' end who can be could gravely put forward such an argument..in defence of a claim to vivisect by wholesale.

Hence **Vivisected** *ppl. a.*; **Vivisecting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Vivisectee**', that which is vivisected; **Vivise·ctible** *a.*, capable of being, liable to be, vivisected.

1899 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 317/2 The artificial vomiting of "vivisected animals. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* v. The vivisected spirit received the gentle touch quickened him to wholeness at a touch. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 3 June 5/2 Whether any attempt at the absolute prohibition of vivisection would be exact to the disadvantage of the unhappy "vivisectees'. 1878 Hoggan *Let. in Morn. Post* 2 Feb, I am inclined to look upon animalbotics as the greatest curse to "vivisecting animals. 1896 *J. J. G. Wilkinson Hum. Sci. & Div. Rev.* 21 The "vivisecting scalpel is all human cruelty. *Ibid.* 67 Facts of life..which must for ever escape the vivisecting knife. 1890 "R. Holmes *Vivisect. Right* (1899) 59/2 The Doctor..looks at Cyrus with a vivisecting eye. *Ibid.* 65/2 He did not choose to adopt the vivisecting process permitted to counsel in the higher courts. 1897 *Our Dumb Animals* (Boston) Nov. 70/2 The angel conducted him from one laboratory to another, from one vivisecting table to another.

**Vivisection** (vivise·kʃən), [f. L. *vivī* gen. sing. neut. and masc. of *vīvus* combining form, of *vīvus* living + *sectio* cutting. Hence F. *vivisection*. Cf. *vividistection* s.v. Vivi-.]

1. The action of cutting or dissecting some part of a living organism; *spec.* the action or practice of performing dissection, or other painful experiment, upon living animals as a method of physiological or pathological study.

1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. a How sensible those nervous parts are, need not be told any who have seen vivisections, where the least ..touches..will cause a sensible motion. 1736 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 260 Small Parts of large Objects cannot easily be applied to the Microscope without being divided from their Wholes which in the case of Vivi section defeats the Experiment.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 738 *Vivisection*,..the act of opening or dissecting living animals. 1892 Lewis *Meth. Obs. & Reas. in Fol.* I. 161 Of late years in particular vivisection, or anatomical investigation of the living subject, has often been practised upon some of the smaller mammalia. 1899 Bosworth *Pray* 43 By vivisection,..How brain secrets dog's soul, we'll not know.

b. An operation of this nature.

1899 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 317/2 The vivisections which many experimenters have practised, agree in carrying this investigation further. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 321 Such a conclusion seems to result from pathological facts and vivisections.

*fig.* 1893 Belfour in *Daily News* 25 Nov. 6/4 The vivisection of the British Empire—was that a constructive policy?

**2.** *fig.* Excessively minute examination or criticism.

1886 Swinburne *Study Shaks.* I. (ed. 2) 23 This vivisection of a single poem is not defensible as a freak of scholarship.

**3.** *altrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vivisection act, bill, experiment.*

1876 *Nature* XIV. 65/1 Lord Carnarvon's vivisection bill. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 790/2 The first restricting of the practice of physiology is the Vivisection Act of 1876. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Feb. 2/1 The atrocious character of many vivisection experiments.

**Vivisectional** (vivise·kʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec.]

1. Of or belonging to, of the nature of, vivisection.

1866 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 146 It is impossible by vivisectional experiment to know which microscopical elements of the nervous tissues of the animal we destroy. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 65/2 For the purpose of demonstrating physiological facts to students, vivisectional experiments are..not absolutely necessary. 1896 *Daily News* 2 Aug. 6/3 The licensing for vivisectional purposes of the British Institute of Preventive Medicine.

**2.** Performing vivisection. Also *fig.*

1882 W. James in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* April (1883) 216 Vivisectional physiologists. 1882 *Times* 17 Jan. 6/2 A few lively touches, which were the first to vanish under the vivisectional hands of its cleanser.

Hence **Vivise·ctionally** *adv.*

1899 J. W. Epsworth in *Rock. Bull.* IX. p. clxxx, 'The Maid's Comfort' and 'The Merry Cuckold' can be studied vivisectionally or pp. cxxix" and "clxxxii".

**Vivisectionist** (vivise·kʃənist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] One who practises or defends vivisection.

1879 Ld. Shaftesbury *Sp. H. Lords* 15 July, The contradictions of vivisectionists are surprising. 1887 † Edna Lyall ' *Knight-Errant* (1889) 133 Without a deep, living sympathy, the artist surely degenerates into a species of vivisectionist.

**Vivisective,** *a.* [f. as prec. + -ive.] = Vivisectional *a.* 2. In quot. *fig.*

a 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sketches by Vanished Hand* (1879) II. 249, I am not surprised that Mr. Browning, himself a vivisective poet, likes the diagnosis of human malady which Euripides supplies.

**Vivisector** (vi·visektə, vivise·ktə). [f. as Vivisect *v.* + -or. Hence F. *vivisecteur*.] One who vivisects or practises vivisection.

1869 *Times* 2 Aug., That is the case of the tender mercies of French vivisectors. 1876 J. J. G. Wilkinson *Hum. Sci. & Div. Rev.* 80 No man not interested personally, but humanely, can doubt what the vivisectors are doing.

*fig.* 1874 Blunt *Dict. Sects* 237/2 Pascal was the vivisector rather than the anatomist. 1889 Beatrice Harraden *Fender* 113 He had plunged deep into inquiry, and was in fact a theological and historical vivisector.

‖ **Vivres** (vī·vəz). [F. *vivres* : see Vivers.] Victuals, provisions.

a 1630 in Gross *Hilli. Antig.* (1788) II. 222 There are yet ..two quarters more; the one of noblemen strangers, and the other the magazines of the vivres. *Ibid.*, The general of the vivres. 1800 A. Duncan (ed.) *Beda* 1 The marketplace [of Yarmouth]..is very spacious, and remarkably well provided with every kind of vivres for the pot and the spit. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 279 So much for demand and supply of vivres, and special victualling vivres too. 1834 Jerdan *Autobiog.* II. 142 He got into some debt for the vivres and tipple.

† **Vivrey,** *a. Her. Obs.* In 6–7 viurie. [ad. F. *vivré*, i. *vivre* serpent.] Serpentine, tortuous.

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 34 The seconde beareth Veri, a Beade Viurie, Dargent. 1621 Coter. s.v. *Vivré*, A bend Viurie.

**Vix,** *obsolescent* form of Vixen.

1898 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 23 Mr. Russell killed a fat unfortunate soil-running vix.

**Vix,** ME. variant of *wex* Wax *v.*

**Vixen** (vi·ksn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5–8 **fixen** (5 **fixene**), 6– **vixen** (7 **vixin**, 8 **vixin**), 7–8 **vixon**. [repr. OE. **fyxen* (= MHG. *vühsinne*, G. *füchsin*), fem. of *fox* Fox. Cf. OE. *fyxen* adj. ' of a fox ' (= OHG. *fühsîn*, MHG. *vühsîn*). The word is one of the few in which the southern *v* for *f* has definitely established itself.]

**1.** The female of the fox; a she-fox.

c 1440 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vii, Pe firste [*sc.* fisen] of pe foxe berneth as longe, as pe blocke of pe wolfe berneth hir whelpes. 1609 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 334 Fixen..is the name of a she-fox otherwise and more anciently foxin. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vixen or Fixen*,

a Fox's Cub. 1729 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) II. 270 The vixen's just now earthed, see here's the Hole. 1756 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Vixen*, a she fox, who when she has cubs, is remarkably fierce. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 23, I must confess, I felt rather spoony upon that vixen. 1867 Toulouse *Chron. Barrel* I. xxiii. 286 A vixen was trapped just across the field yonder. 1880 *Times* 2 Nov. 4/5 They are familiar as the craftiest old vixen with the country they have been born and bred in.

*Ap.* 1709 Wycherley in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. 29 You may see a Pack of Spaniels, called Lovers, in hot Pursuit of a two-legg'd Vixen.

**2.** An ill-tempered quarrelsome woman; a shrew, a termagant.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. ii, That false fixen..that counts her selfe so honest. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 324 O when she's angry, she is keene and shrewd, She was a vixen when she went to schoole. 1661 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. ii. 636 She is a foole, a nasty queane, a slut, a fixen, a scold. *a* 1664 Quarles *Virgin Widow* v. i, She's a pestilent vixen when she's angry, and as proud as Lucifer. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Prov. x. 18* Wks. 1687 I. 247 Those fiery vixens, who..really do themselves embroil things, and raise miserable combustion in the world. 1701 Anhery *Terræ Fil.* No. 8 (1726) 36 Since they [Oxford and Cambridge] have come to woman's estate they have been a couple of the arrantest vixens. 1787 *Gent. Mag.* 68 Perverseness hurried him to marry a young vixin. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Contrast* (1832) 108 Mrs. Betterworth was a vain, foolish vixen. 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. 561 'That may be very honorable in you; answered the spontaneous vixen, 'but it will be very poor comfort to the Princess.' 1879 'E. Garrett' *House by Works* II. 160 His unhappy secret marriage with the foreign vixen.

*transf.* 1861-8 G. H. K. in *Vac. Tour.* (1864) 136 There are the sixteen of them [sc. hinds]..quarrelling and fighting, rising perfectly furious on their hind legs, and striking at each other with their sharp fore hoofs. What vixens!

† **b.** In the phrase *to play the vixen. Obs.*

1598 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 164 A Gentlewoman; who, howsoever shee scolds and playes the vixen neuer so, wilbe borne with. 1597 Lyly *Wom. in Moon* I. i. (stage direction), She playes the vixen with every thing about her.

† **c.** Applied to a child or a man. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Fixen*, a froward, peevish Child. 1702 S. Parker tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* II. 131 He's the veriest Vixin of a Scholar. 1732-48 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* I. 95 Well, if that Child was mine, I'd whip it till the Blood came: Peace, you little Vixen!

**3.** *attrib.* (passing into *adj.*). **a.** Appositive with *fox*, = sense 1.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vii, The fixene fox wheipeth vnder be erthe. 1845 Youatt *Dog* iv. 102 The mouth of the earth in which a vixen fox—a fox with her young ones—has taken up her abode. 1883 E. Fennell Elmhirst *Cream Lincolnshire*. 274 A little vixen fox jumping out among listless idlers of the pack.

**b.** Appositive, of persons, = Vixenish *a.* 1.

*a* 1660 *Contempl. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 80 O shame of soe greate a peere, imitatinge herin the vixinge callenghe. 1840 Borrow *Bible in Spain* I. The fury which the old vixen queen displayed.

**c.** Of looks, actions, etc., = Vixenish *a.* 2.

1700 Congreve *Way of World* IV. 54 Pshaw, what a Vixen trick is this! 1818 Scott *Antiq.* xxii, Disturbing us with his vixen brawls, and hindering God's peace and the king's. 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* lxxiv, She..Castled her King with such a vixen look, It bodes ill to his Majesty. 1850 S. Brooke *Walpurga, Knights* v, Begone, for God's sake, and hide your vixen face!

**4.** *Comb.*, as *vixen-faced*, *-visaged*.

1836 *Boston Herald* 20 Dec. 1/6 A Mrs. Vaughton was summoned by a vixen-visaged girl, named Susan Jones. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousqueiaire*, Nervous folks still, when they come in their way, shun Old vixen-faced tramps of the Heivere persuasion.

**Vixenish** (vi'ksnĭʃ), *a.* [f. prec. + -ish 1.]

**1.** Resembling a vixen in disposition; cross, ill-tempered, snappish.

1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 103 My friend Daphne, the vixenish pug. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lxvii, Others are married and have vixenish wives. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xiv, He could hardly endure existence in the house that held his vixenish sister.

*Comb.* 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xlvi, Two small vixenish looking ladies.

**2.** Characteristic of, appropriate to, a vixen.

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* iv, A short, thin, squeezed-up woman, with a vixenish countenance. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 261 She..rang the bell with vixenish violence. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Feb. 208/2 The trashy verbiage, the vixenish tattle,..to which they are treated.

Hence **Vixenishness.**

1880 *Examiner* No. 651. 633/2 Madge is too apt to think that vixenishness and virtue are synonyms. 1885 Mrs. Wharton *Gaywortbys* I. 117 She would never sharpen or narrow to vixenishness.

**Vixenishly,** *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a vixenish or ill-tempered manner.

1845 *Bachelor of Albany* (1848) 174 'Barker of the Albany! ..Is he the man?' cried the termagant Mrs. Harry, vixenishly and exultingly. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* xviii, Her mother treated her vixenishly for a week. 1891 Baring-Gould *In Troubadour-Land* ii. 28 [He] endeavoured to get hold of her hand. She snatched it away vixenishly.

**Vixenly** (vi'ksnli), *adj.* and *adv.* Also 7 **vixonly.** [f. as prec. + -ly 1.] **a.** *adj* Resembling a vixen in disposition. **b.** *adv.* Crosly, ill-naturedly.

*a* 1677 Barrow *Pope's Supremn.* Wks. 1687 I. 293 It was onely, which in such a vixonly Pope was a great favour, a forbearance to quarrel with him. 1856 Hawthorne *Scarlet L.* Introd. (1892) 3 Nevertheless, vixenly as she looks, many people are seeking, at this very moment, to shelter themselves under the wing of the federal eagle. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marriage* xiv, Our female government asks it vixenly of our impotent male.

‖ **Vix.,** *adv.* and *sb.* Also 6 **vx.,** 7 **vix1.** [Abbrev. of Videlicet. Cf. Viz(t.

The *x* represents the ordinary med. L. symbol of contraction for *it* or *et*. For the various forms in which the abbreviation occurs in med. L. manuscripts, see Chassan *Dict. des Abréviations* and Cappelli *Dizionario di Abbreviature*. In reading aloud usually rendered by 'namely'.]

**A.** *adv.* = Videlicet *adv.*

*a* 1540 J. London in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 133 Thyder resortyd suche as..badde any slottiche wydowes lockes, viz. here growen to gether in a tufte. 1598 Blagrave *Astrolabe* II. 21 b, If the question..be of the night (vz. you shall finde it about 8½ of clocke in the morning) and wnto that houre (vz. 8½)..set the fiducial line of the Planetary scale. 1624 Kilvert *Waterworks* 28 The stupid King..mistakes the letter..and construes it to a sinister sense viz. that a quarrel was picked with him. 1649 in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 278 His Majesty had opportunity to effect his designe, viz. the reliefe of Westchester. *a* 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1911) IX. 335 In the time of the first Lady-Abbess of that house viz Dame Francis Gawen. 1728 Swift *Mullinix & Tim.* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 213 Observe my counsel, (viz.) Adapt your habit to your phyz. 1788 *Gent. Mag.* 1167/2 *Yorkshire*. The ingenious contriver of it, viz. myself. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé* II, The vestment aforesaid, perhaps, from its hue, viz. yellow. 1861 Pusey *Eirenicon* (ed. 2), 7 *agst. Thebes seven slotes*, To fall...on several devoted heads successively, viz. Laius, Oedipus, and his sons. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xi, Took with me three of the runners, each an escort, viz. Troopers Abrahamson, White, and Parkin.

**B.** *sb.* = Videlicet *sb.* Also, a special clause in a deed introduced by *viz.*

1577 *Agr. Wyl and Testam.* in *Suarez.*, If a bond bear date at any place abroad, that place must be stated in the declaration, with a viz. at such a place in England. 1799 Mrs. M. Robinson *Widow Rich.* IV. 79 If I won't give you a viz and a settlement. 1805 East *Reports* V. 253 The date which gave rise to such repugnancy was laid under a *viz.*

† **Vis.,** *v. Obs.*[1] [For *vis*, abbrev. of Visit *v.* (L. Vis *v.*) *Intrin.* To pay a visit.

1567 *Gude Lyf. Hazon Wks.* (1884) III. 277 Tomorow I go Vizing to Gilside to see the new married Countess.

† **Visament,** alteration of Advisement or Visement.

1802 Shake. *Merry W.* I. i. 34 The Councell (looke you) shall desire it. 1611 Cotgr., Par la foy de Dieu, and not to beare a Riot: take your viza-ments in that.

**Visar,** obs. f. Visor *sb.* **Visaret, -iat, -it,** vair. Vizierate.

**Visard** (vi'zărd), *sb.* and *a.* Now *arch.* Forms: **a.** 6 **vysard(a, visarde, visorde,** 6–9 **visard** (S. *sc.* vizard). **β.** 6–7 **vysor,** 6–8 **vysard,** 7–8 **visard,** 6– **vizard.** [Altered form of *vysar, visor, vizar* Visor by confusion of ending: see -ard.]

**1.** A mask; = Visor *sb.* 2.

Very common from *c* 1560 to *c* 1700. Also † *case of visards*.

*a.* 1558 in Fuller *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 95, I sawe a number of vysardes with long beardes. 1562 *Rolphus* (Arb.) 38 Not the carued visarde of a lewde woman, but the incarnate visage of a luscatious wantonne. 1600 Dekker *Fortunatus* I. iii. 104 She [Vice] and others wearing gilded visards. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 93 In Modena are made the best visards for masquerades. 1718 *Free-thinker* II. 179 The Fairy applied an enchanted Visard to her Face.

*b.* 1598 in Fuller *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 12 Warderobe stuffe, Visardes, Vysors in 1599 *Ibid.* 183 For Moyle for visardes & ffawchins. 1598 Kyd *Hieronymo, Phil.* Wks. (1901) 256 Artificiall Oyles, and dawbings ..for visards, pageants, and poppets. 1600 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, Gaze then, and put in case of vizards o're his head. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 91/2 Some wild young Men..lay in wait for him, attired like furies, with vizards and torches. 1690 Washington in *Mitton. & Amer.* (1904) 1 Wks. 1738 I. 456 He complains that Executioners in Vizards (*personati Carnifices*) cut off the King's Head. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 32 ¶ 3 Will you please to wear what Habit you have worn in all Ages; and ..a Visard had been the constant Crown of their Labours. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 192 Put on the vizard what you have got under your vizard of yours. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiv, A little diminutive urchin, wearing a vizard with a couple of sprouting horns. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. (1858) 115 A gentleman on a grey mare, with a black vizard on his face.

*b. transf.* or *fig.*

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* iv. (1626) 83 The silent Virgin ..vnderneath a vizard of her hands. 1711 Addison *Tatler*, III. 81 When the welkin had put aside the vizard of the night. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 177 A lizard is but the Vizard of a Face. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* v. 356 It was hard to conjecture what their Natural Complexion was, by reason of the thick Vizard of Paint they had on. 1751 Johnson *Vision* ii, The Thunderer calm'd, and Vaucluse did rift, Free the blak vissant of the lift. 1827 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Richter* (1840) I. 18 All Nature is gone forth mumming in the strangest guises. Yet the anarchy is not without its purposes: these vizards are not mere hollow masks.

† **c.** A mask as used to protect the face or eyes.

1814 Ralegh *Hist. World* I. 176 They vsed to wear a visard of defence, with one sight in the middle to serue both eyes. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 25 June, I to my office, .. to write down my journal..and did it, with the help of my vizard, and tube fixed to it, and do find it mighty manageable, but how helpful to my eyes this trial will show me.

**2.** *fig.* or in fig. context. = Visor *sb.* 3.

Very common from *c* 1560 to *c* 1700. The various types of context are illustrated by the different groups of quotations.

(*a*) 1570 *Tindale's Wks., Sacraments* 440/1 The hypocrites that haue put a visard [*ed. c* 1550 viaire] on the face of the law. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 66 Vice putteth on a vizard, and goeth disguised and covered with goodly sheewes that belong onely to vertue. 1693 H. More *Def. Moral Cabbala* iii. *Reading*, That ..it is a shame for the lasting and hypocritike of men that generally have put so sowre and sad a vizard upon it [i.e. Religion]. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 71 For those..Wore Vizards of Hypocrisy, to steal and slink away, in Masquerades, to Hell. 1853 C. S. Farer *Recapit. Apostasy* p. x, Popery, whatever vizard the theological Proteus may wear,..is still..a form of recapitulated Roman apostasy.

(*b*) *a* 1555 Philpot in Strype *Eccl. Mem.*, (1721) III. App. xlviii. 155 Put off your shameles vysards, O ye unbelevyng Arrians. *a* 1565 Kingesmyll *Conflict w. Satan* (1578) 27 We will bring him to the tryall openly, that we may plucke of his maske and vysarde. 1589 H. Hutton *Truth's Triumphe* Pref., We haue assayed to pull off Romes visard. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 93 What are they but the Scum of the people, take off their Visards, and underneath appeare Wicked Jewes, &c. 1681 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 20 Men are glad to pull off their Vizards, and resume themselves again.

(*c*) 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 74 Truth can neuer be Falsehoods Vysarde. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Militant* 185 He took fine vizards to conceal his crimes. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 70 A sober and fair outside, the true visard of Hypocrisie. 1662 *Petition. Addr.* 349/2 The participation of the promised Spirit of Christ, without which all Religion is but a mere Mask or dead Visard. 1706 Swift *T. Tub* xi, He would make use of no other vizard than a long prayer.

(*d*) 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 11 For all that fatherly countenance and graue vizard which sometimes thou vsest to plead the cause of thy Father. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, Clarew'st *Estienne's World of Wonders* 67 The impietie that lay masked vnder this visard. 1696 W. Howard in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xv. 3 It is not to be long since, by peeping a little..under the vizzard of the Impostor, got such glimpses, though but imperfect ones, of his ugly face. 1698 Marvell *Def. T. Hyne* (1706) 10 Under the Vizard of Religion ..from all Protestant protection, is to represent him under a Popish Vizard.

(*e*) 1689 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 4 But who they be, that..with a painted Visarde, or emptie name of the Churche, haue feared al the cattel of the field, it is needelesse to speake it.

**b.** = Visor *sb.* 3 *b.*

1562 Cooper *Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 170 That by this means your doctrine..might have a face or visard of antiquity. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 316 Those things which put on a pretended shew and visard of felicitie. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 10 Whereby every unworthy ignorant impostor (as under a vizzard of hidden skill) made use of the art of Surgery. 1658 J. Webb *Caterà Hyst. xxiv.* 314 Hereafter and schism be a visard, but not the face of holinesse. 1682 J. Renwick in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 263 Another Sort of Folk cover over their Pride with a Vizard of Humility. 1725 *Wyts Logic* introd. 3 So Knavery puts on the Face of Justice, Hypocrisy and Superstition wear the Vizard of Piety. 1743 E. Erskine *Serm.* Wks. (1871) III. 192 Let us put off the name and vizard of Presbyterian. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* IV. v. (1906) III. 55 The Spaniards seemed to cast off even the vizard of humanity.

† **3.** In depreciatory use: A face or countenance suggestive of a mask. *Obs.*

1588 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 38 With hatefull hawtie haunt not, For dainetith vizards daunt not. 1603 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* Wks. (1879) I. 10 For what Fan, it keepes me sometimes from the sight of such a vizard as your good face. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Custom of Country* I. i, This little beauty you see with me, whose Will he so chang'd, so alter'd to an ugliness To such a vizard, ten to one, I dye too.

† **4.** A phantasm or spectre. *Obs.*[1]

*a* 1592 H. Smith *Seven Godly Serm.* vi. 209 If thou thinkest that it is such a mans bodie which thou seest, look in y^e graue..and there thou shalt see the body where it was laid, euen while this visard walked in thy sight.

† **5.** A person wearing a visor or mask; *spec.* a woman of loose character wearing a mask in public, a prostitute. *Obs.* (Cf. Visard-mask 2.)

1652 H. Hall *Luther's Colloq.* 283 For the world cannot live without such visards as strove side-long. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 164 Afterwards I saw the Vizards going into a Chamber there. 1676 Etherege *Man of Mode* I. i, This business of yours Dorimant has been with a Visard at the Play-house. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) II. 75 Or if you find me with a vizard prattle Do you the same with any other man.

† **6.** = Visor *sb.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 252 The Stranger desir'd a Parley; and lifting up the Visard of his Helmet, a Face..appeared [etc.]. 1728 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Paris*, Helmets which had lost their vizards.

† *b. Bot.* (See quot.) *Obs.*[1]

*c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 446/2 *Galea-ringentis*, the vizard or upper lip of a ringent corolla.

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vizard bead, -maker, -making, -manufacture, -monger, vice*; *vizard-faced, -like* adjs.

1573 in Feuilleiat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 218 The vyzard-maker John Owgle for xiiii Heardes. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 117 But that thy face is vizard-like, unchanging. Made impudent with vse of euill deedes. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 4 Bacchus cares not for outward signes a rush, Good vine needs not a bush: he hangeth of a bunch, not thou vizzard-fac't ingratefull Elfe? 1630 B. *Discollinimium* 47 My Recreations [are]..Metamorphosing and Vizard-making. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 1012 Strive who shall be..the most genteelly bred At sucking of a Vizard Bead. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* II. § 7 The old Philosophers and great pretenders unto Virtue, who well declining the gaping Vices of Intemperance, [etc.]..were envious, malicious, uncourteous,..and stuft with Vizard Vices. 1684 Otway *Atheist's.* I, A Way to revenge my self

on that Vizard-monger. 1898 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 216 [Loyola's] order..claimed and merited the monopoly of the vizard manufacture.

**Vizard**, obs. or dial. form of Wizard.

**Vi-zard**, *v.* Now *rare*. Also 7 **visard**. [f. the sb.]

†**1.** *trans.* To conceal or disguise (something) under a false outward show or appearance; to represent falsely or speciously. *Obs.*

1608 Bp. Hall *Christ. Survey* 48 Their dangerous and infectious plague-sores, which are onely visarded and palliated, not clothed nor warmed with the sacred Robes. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 51 Cloakes to hide their knauery, and vizards to visard their hypocrisie. 1660 Shirley *Andromana* iv. vii, Plangus who hath vizarded his ends With vertue.

**2.** To cover or disguise (the face, etc.) with or as with a vizard or visor; to mask.

c 1680 Webster *Appius & Virginia* v. iii, See these Monsters, whose fronts the fair Virginias innocent blood hath visarded with such black ugliness, that they are loathsome to all good men's eyes. 1682 Hickeringill *Body Divinity* I. 279 Jobs comforters..visarding themselves under the cloke of amity. a 1689 H. Foulis *Hist. Rom. Treasons* (1681) 255 They vizarded their wicked meetings. 1870 Clark Russell *Repr. Actors* (Chandos) 2. viii, Women mockingly visarded themselves to conceal the only blushes their cheeks could exhibit—that of the paint-pot.

Hence **Vi-zarding** *vbl. sb.*, the action of disguising with or as with a vizard; also *concr.*, that which serves as a vizard or disguise.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. I. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Now for the cunning vizarding of them and his done. 1694 Crowne *Married Beau* I. i, I'm angry with 'em for their vizarding. 1861 J. Murray *Songs Covenant Times* 77 Skulking from cot to cot, from cave to cave,..In quaint disguise and vizarding uncouth They shunned pursuit.

**Vizarded**, *ppl. a.* [f. Vizard *v.*]

**1.** Disguised with a vizard; wearing a vizard; visored, masked. Used (*a*) predicatively or (*b*) attributively. Also *fig.*

(*a*) 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 72 b, Your mornelike christall countenances shall be netted ouer, and (Masker-like)cawlewizarded, with crawling venomous wormes. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. vii. (1599) 207 She is so vizarded,..I cannot see her face. 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* I., iii. 83 Degree being vizarded, The vnworthiest shewes fayrely in the Maske. 1630 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* VII. 64 These two prostrated Figures..were armed with Pettitions,..their faces Vizarded; their Bodies with Necks hung with little dishes (etc.). 1736 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 29. 243 The obsequious lover approaches in a mask: to say the truth, the lady is generally as well vizarded as he can be.

(*b*) a 1639 B. Jonson *Fortunate Isles* Wks. (Riddel) 1816/1 *Masq.* Have you recovered your voice to rail at me? *Plu.* No, vizarded impudence. 1698 W. Sanderson *Life N. Charlet* 1138 He..humbly bowed down his generous neck to God, to be cut off by the vizarded Executioner. 1691 tr. *Emillianne's Frauds Romish Monks* 400 Many Vizarded Lachrymes came forth with Flambeaus to Light them in. 1715 tr. *C'tess D'Anois' Wks.* 410 Four vizarded Ruffians.

**2.** *fig.* Assumed, pretended.

1663 J. H. *Hist. O. Cromwell* xi. 16 Oliver..in a passion, and transported beyond his vizarded sanctity, with an oath ..dissolved them. a 1688 G. Strahling *Serm. 4 Dioc.* (1692) 350 Bodily worship..which usually concluded like the Turkish Lents after the vizarded austerity of a few spare hours in sightly Bacchanals.

**Vizardless**, *a. rare.* [f. Vizard *sb.*] Having no vizard; visorless.

1674 C. F. *Writ at Venture* 76 Like a Vizardless Miss that peeps under her hood.

**Vizard-mask**. Now *arch.* [f. Vizard *sb.* Cf. *visor-mask* Visor *sb.* 6 b.]

**1.** A mask worn to conceal or disguise the face; a domino; = Vizard 1.

1667 Dryden & Dr. Newcastle *Sir Martin Mar-all* v. iii, Fetch me down two Indian-gowns and Vizard-masks. 1818 Holme *Armoury* III. 191/1 The Vizard Mask..covers the whole face,..being only held in the Teeth by means of a round bead. 1893 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 438, 3 hackney coaches robb'd at Wheatley by 4 Oxford scholars (as 'tis said) with vizard masks. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3985/1 That no Woman be allowed..to wear a Vizard-Mask in either of the Houses. 1786 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 73/2 A man habited like a sailor with a vizard mask on.

**2.** A woman who wears such a mask; a prostitute. (Cf. Vizard *sb.* 5.)

1630 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* Prol. 25 As those Vizard Masks maintain Mankind, To soothe and tickle sweet Imagination. 1672 Wycherley *Love in Wood* v. ii, There are as grave men as your worship .. that adjourn their cares and businesses, to come and unbend themselves at night here with a little vizard-mask. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 193 P 3 His dexterous Insinuations, which prevailed upon a few deluded Women, especially the Vizard Masks, to believe that the Stage was in danger. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) II. 143 The play-houses are so extremely pestered with Vizard-masks and their trade. [1893 Scott *Peveril* xxviii, Billets-doux, my lord...This left at the porter's-lodge by a vizard mask.]

**Vizariat**, -**it**, **vizart**. Vizierate.

**Viz-a-viz**, obs. f. Vis-à-vis.

**Vizcacha**, var. Viscacha.

**Vize**, dial. var. Vice *sb.*[4]

**Vizeroye**, obs. f. Viceroy.

**Vizet**, obs. f. Visit *sb.*

**Vizier** (vizi·er, vizyaz, vizier). Forms: *a.* 6 (*pl.*) **vesirl**, 7 **vesdir**, 7–9 **vesir**; 6–8 **visir** (8 *wisir*), 6–9 **visir**; 9 **visser**. *β.* 6 **visears**, 7 **-ear**, **visetre**, **-ere**, **visciere**, **viseere**, 7–9 **vizier** (7 **viziar**), 7– **vizier**. *γ.* 7 **viser**, **viseur**. [ad. Turk. *vezīr*, a. Arabic *wazīr*, *wazīr*, orig. a porter, hence one who bears the burden of government, a minister or lieutenant of a king, f. *wazara* to carry, carry on. Cf. F. *visir*, *vizir*, Sp. *visir*, Pg. *visir*, *vizir*, It. *visire*. See also Alguazil.]

**1.** In the Turkish empire, Persia, or other Mohammedan country: A high state official or minister, freq. one invested with vice-regal authority; a governor or viceroy of a province; now esp. the chief minister of the sovereign (see 2).

a. 1560 J. Sturte tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 11. 13 b, The Turcke called vnto him all his counsellours called in the Turckishe tonge Vesiri, & all his Baasas. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 377 The Vezirs are Counsellors of State. 1660 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Travels* 22 The Governour of the City hath the quality of Sultan, and hath under him, not a Caleuter, but a Visir or Secretary. 1662—tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 372 The conversation he had with a Persian Visir. 1798 Bingham *Adjectives* 170 Also Yezid, his ambitious and too powerful Visir, or Prime Minister, revolted. 1733 Hanway *Trav.* III. xxxii. (1762) I. 145 He immediately ordered his visier to take me up behind him. 1763 Scanton *Antiatan* (1770) 47 The march of Monsur Ally Cauni, Visir of the empire, into the province of Bahar. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 91 This was an adopted from by Shaah Zemaun, who made a Suddozye vizier. 1841—*Hist. Ind.* II. 9 His visir..had been long in one of the highest employments of the state. 1859 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 606/3 It was..the rivalry of jealous vezirs that invited the interference of Nur-ud-din.

*β.* 1599 Sandys *Trav.* 120 b, below). 1613 Sir A. Sherley *Trym. Persia* 47 The place of the Visiere comprehending in it, the office of Chancellor, and high Treasurer. c 1618 Monahon *Itin.* IV. (1903) 21 The Visers or Viceroyes residing in Constantinople being 4. of old, were at this tyme. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 28 Nassuf Bashaw, the Visier and Generall to Sultan Schmat. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xiv. 79 The Visiers were of the Bench brought up the Rear of this Magnificent Troop. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4363/1 The Janisaries have depos'd the Grand Signior, and set his Nephew upon the Throne, who ..is to act under the Direction of Four Visiers during his Minority. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 6023/1 The Venetian Bailo has not yet been with the Visier. 1765 Baker *Art. Genl. W. Hastings* Wks. XI. 371 A certain prince called Sujah ul Dowla, Nabob of Oude, and Vizier of the empire. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* I. Notes 331 All Pashas, before whom are carried the three horse-tails, have the title of Visier. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 369 In a great council of Visiers and Ulemas assembled at the house of Sehehidi-Ali. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 268/1 The office of vizier, which spread from the Arabs to the Persians, Turks, Mongols, and other Oriental peoples, arose under the first Abbasid caliphs.

*transf.* 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* li, His Lordship's vizier and chief confidential servant..Mr. Wenham.

†**b.** With the title *bashaw* added or prefixed. (See quot. 1819 in *b* above). *Obs.*

1599 Sandys *Relation of Voy. & Journal* (Hakl. Soc.) 60 Our Ambassador Delivered a presente to the Vizeare Basha at his house. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 57 When the counsell hath sitten seauen or eight houres, the Basha vsuall in relation to the Prince, of all that hath bene handled. 1648 W. L. *Newes fr. Turkie* 25 A translate of the Imperiall Commandement, directed to the Vizeere Bashaw.

*c. transf.* One holding a position analogous to that of a Mohammedan vizier; a vicegerent, viceroy, or chief minister.

1709 Swift *Advo. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. 1. 123 The arbitrary will of an unlimited monarch or his vizier. 1715 Shelton (*Ed. Tyr.*) tr. *Il Rè* 8 Emperors, kings, and priests and lords, Who rule by viziers, sceptres, bank-notes, words. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 211 Perdiccas' own office [in Macedonia] was that of vizier or prime minister.

**2.** *Grand* (also formerly *chief*, *great*, *head*, or *prime*) *vizier*, the chief minister or administrator of a Mohammedan ruler, esp. of the Sultan of Turkey.

(*a*) 1592 Weag in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. 1. 304 At the departure of Osman Bassa the chiefe Visier, there was another Bassa appointed in his place. *Ibid.* 305 This reconciliation with the great Visir thus made [etc.]. 1625 G. Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 211 Perdiccas' own office[in Macedonia] was that of vizier or prime minister. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 16 The High Dignity of Prime Vizier. 1825 *Arab. Nts.* II. 20 The King was at that time in discourse with his prime vizier.

(*b*) 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 85 Neither the Gran Visiar, or the Emperour Himselfe will question his [i.e. the Muftie's] decree. 1645 *Cromwell Corr.* I. 70 By the power of his grand Visier..he intended to erect a new Soldiery in Asia about Damasco. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 89 He is Vizir, or Minister, who is the Grand Signior's Lord, for he hath commonly seven Visiers, whereof the first hath all the Authority and does all. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 311 When the grand vizir takes the field, the mufti generally makes him such a valuable present. 1800 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The Grand Vizir possesses great powers, especially with regard to military affairs. 1844 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 203 To save Syria, perhaps Constantinople, Mahmoud turns to his grand vizier, Reschid Mehemet. 1881 Trotter *Visit Crt. Morocco* xiii. 191 The Grand Vizier,..together with his colleagues, looked as black as thunder. 1897 *Whitaker's Alm.* 561/1 Morocco, Empire of. Sultan..., Grand Vizier .. Minister of For. Affairs.

**b.** *transf.*

1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 13 They would rather ..be subject to an usurper like Oliver,..than to a legitimate King who referred them to a Grand Vizier.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vizier-craft*, *-slave*.

1833 *Edin. Rev.* LVII. 142 Into whatever untried vanities of being Faust and his Vizier-slave may pass. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* vii, He is for kingcraft to match his vizier-craft.

**Visieral** (vizi·ərăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] = Visierial.

1870 R. Anderson *Mist. Amer. Board* III. xxi. 373 The American Ambassador also procured a strong visieral letter to the Pasha in the Tripoli district. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 5/4 That is why he held the Grand Visieral office longer than any of his predecessors.

**Visierate** (vizi·ərĕt). Forms: *a.* 7, 9 **vizirate**, 8–9 **visirate**, 9 **visierate**. *β.* 8 **visarist**, 8–9 **visarit**. *γ.* 8 **visirat**, 9 **visierat**. [ad. Arab. *ǰ;ij; wizārat*, *-et*, f. *wazīr*, etc. Visier; or refashioned on Visier + -ate 3. Cf. F. *visirat*, *visiriat*.]

**1.** The dignity, position, or authority of a vizier or grand vizier; also, the period during which a particular vizier held office.

*a.* 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 80 Zornesan Mustapha..who had been made Caymacam before the Visirate of Chiaous Basha. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 10 What an ardent and restless desire Asadu'ddin had conceived for the Visirate of Egypt. 1800 T. Hope *Anastasius* (ed. 2) III. 145 This man..had been made Visir Basha during his short Visirate. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, The change in the Visierate is supposed to indicate an early settlement of the war indemnity question with Russia. 1895 *Times* 9 Nov. 5/1 Kiamil Pasha was dismissed from the Grand Visierate last night.

*β.* 1768 Dow *Hist. Hindostan* II. ii. *Decline* 59 Ahmed Shaw..degraded Seifdar Jung from the visarit. 1787 Beckford *Italy* (1834) II. 44 During the grand visarist of Pomlai. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. Ind.* II. ii. 503 In the reign of Mussood he was raised to the dignity of lord of requests; and in that of Mahmood obtained the visarit.

*γ.* 1823 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Left.* (1826) I. 347 It is ..clear that for some years the power of the crown, or the visierat (it is the same), has been increasing. 1864 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 1464/1 They will rather..fling up a visierat, as Ouseley did, because the King asked him to impede a British design.

*transf.* 1795 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XVI. 539 France has had four religions in four years: the whole at the opening of the States General;..deistical in the visirat of Robespierre.

**2.** A province or district governed by a Turkish vizier.

1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* v. 189 When the Visierate of Bosnia stretched half over Slavonia to the Drave. *Ibid.* viii. 346 The Visierate of Herzegovina.

**3.** The department, establishment, or political residence of a (grand) vizier.

1908 *Times* 15 Sept. 4/2 A communication from the Grand Visierate followed the Bulgarian's receipt.

**Visiere·ss**. *rare*—[f. Visier.] A female visier.

1884 J. Payne *Bk. of 1001 Nights* VIII. 340 The queen entreated Abdallah's wife with honour..and made her her viziéress.

**Visierial** (vizi·ərĭăl). Also **visirial**, **viserial**. [f. Visier + -ial. Cf. F. *visirial* and Visieral *a.*]

**1.** Of a letter or rescript: Issued by or under the authority of a vizier or grand vizier.

*a.* 1849 Layard *Nineveh & B.* v. 130, I received the visirial letter procured by Sir Stratford Canning, authorising the continuation of the excavations. 1883 *Times* 21 Aug. 3/5 The question will now be arranged on the basis of the Imperial firman to the exclusion of the Visierial letter.

*b.* 1870 C. Warren *Recov. Jerus.* i. (1871) 50 In July another visierial letter was received, but it only enforced the former one. 1876 R. F. Burton and Lady Burton *Life* (1893) II. 318 In June 1865 visierial letters were addressed especially to the Hejaz.

**2.** Of or pertaining to a vizier.

1878 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* v. 189 Omer Pasha in 1850..transferred the Visierial residence once more to the Seraï. *Ibid.* viii. 347 The Visierial palace of Moskar.

**Visiership** (vizi·ərĭship). Also **8 visier-**, **9 visirship**. [f. Visier + -ship.]

**1.** The office or function of a vizier; rule or government as a grand vizier. Also *transf.* Cf. Vizierate 1.

1658 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 344 [There are] perhaps others in other courts, that aime at a Visiership in Christendome to the height of the Turkish Visiry. 1659 *Brown Visirat*, (Office de Visir), Visiership. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* X. 393 The visiership of the Prince of Pence. 1840 *Ibid.* LVIII. 183 It is our gracious intention to promote you to the visiership. 1858 Keeley *Stein* II. 238 Omniscenary odium falls upon him, and his power gets the appearance of a Visiriship.

**2.** = Vizierath 2. *rare*—1.

1725 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 163 Dividing them [sc. his dominions] all into four Wazir, or Vizierships, that is, Governments.

**Viziernity**, variant of Visinomy.

**Vizor**, **Vizour**: see Visor *sb.* and *v.*

†**Vizrey**. *Obs. rare.* In 6 **vis reo**, **vizrea**. [ad. Pg. *viceroi* (also arch. *vitorei*), Sp. *visorey* (*virrey*): see Vicerot.] A viceroy.

1583 in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. 1644 To bee at the will and pleasure of the Vizrea. 1588 R. Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. Chines* 1. vii. 23 Some doo esteeme those cities to be metropolitans, where as is resident, the gouernors, presidents, or vis Reos.

**Vizroy**, **Vize**, obs. forms of Vicerot, Vice.

**Vizy** (vi·zi), *sb. Sc.* Also 8–9 **vizzy**, 9 **vizzie**, **vissey**, **vissie**, **vizie**, **visey**, etc. [f. the vb., or ad. F. *visée* (OF. *visee*), look, sight, aim, etc.]

**1.** An aim at an object which it is desired to hit; esp. in the phr. *to take a vizy* (cf. *F. prendre visée*).

1700 Ramsay *Marr. Last Wynnis* vi, The Thane of Fife, wha lately wi' his fiane, And vizy lost, made the blyth bowl his ain. 1808 J. Mayne *Siller Gun* iv. xivii, Roused at the thought, [he] charged his fuzee, Took but as vizzy wi' his e'e—The bullet flies Clean through the target to a tee. 1880 Galt *Steam-boat* viii, Logan took a vizy, and fired. 1884 *Far Eastern* 143 The gun was run into the desired position, the sailor called it a 'vizzey'.

**b.** The sight of a gun.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 288/2 Thus too, the vizy (*Anglice* sight) generally inclined unduly to one side or the other.

**2.** A look or view; a sight *of* something; a glimpse.

1785 Mackenzie *Lounger* No. 6 P 9 He tried to see the stage, and got a flying vizzy now and then. 1818 Scott *Ant. Antonine*, xvi, But ye had best take a vizy of him through the wicket before opening the gate. 1824 *Tait's Mag.* I. 499/1 It unfortunately never was his forte to take a steady fixed vizzy of any one thing.

Hence **Vi'zyless**, *a.*

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 300/1 Oh! that our passion could restore thee (i. e. Nora Nea), lustless, lockless, vizyless, though thou be'st, to the light of day.

**Vizy** (vi'zi), *v. Sc.* Forms: *a.* 5–6 **vesy, wesy, 6 wese, wesie, vese, vesie.** *β.* 5–6, 8 **visy, 5 wysy, 6 wis(e)y, -ie, vis(a)e, wisye,** 6–7 **visie, 6, 9 visale, 8 visaey, 8–9 visay,** 8– **vizy.** [ad. ONF. *viseer* (Wace) :—L. *vīsitāre* Visit *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To go to see; to pay a visit or visits to; to visit. *Obs.* **a.** a person.

Freq. in the 16th c.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 631 He went to vesy be kinge, & tel hym of his travalinge. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 3189 Scho oysyt to wesy Melrose Al pur folk bat was nere by. 1580–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 28, I confess me, Lord I that I..To hunge meit, nor drynk to thristy gaif, Nor vesyt the sek. 1590 in *Evid. Ayrsh. Scotst.* XVIII. 102 *note*, Ane sair leg, quharthrouch I mycht nocht cum weit tyll wisy be and uthir freyndis. 1583 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 260 He wrat..masit with the paiuent creature, lang adversitit or requyreit thairin, to the verray nicht eason. 1600 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 231 Elizabeth..sayd,..how is this commit to me, that the Mother of my lord suld come to visie me.

**b.** a place.

1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 504, I mak ane vow,.. Richt reuerrentlie thy Tempill to visie, 1546 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 Thir tua princis visit oft to vsyne the feildis to tak thir recreatione. *Ibid.* vi. 38 Quhen titan vas visiand antepodos.

**2.** To look at closely or attentively; to regard, see, view.

*c* 1450 Henry *Wallace* III. 103 The worthi Scottis..Send twa skowrrouris to wesy weyll the playne. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 243 The king studie vesiand the wall. *a* 1500 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (N.E.D.) 122 Haffand a gret delyte For to wesy..sculnturis or trumpouris. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* iv. xv. (S.T.S.) 100 Frequent nowmer of pepill bat come to vesy bir playis. *a* 1568 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvii. 33 Quhen scho grouis frech, I draw on dreich, To vesy and behald the end. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* vii, I vizyt him then round about. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* iii. ii. Prol., 'Tis Symon's boon, please to consider it, And vizy 't round and round. 1790 Shirrefs *Poems* 250 When first your Castles I did vizey. 1867 J. Grant *White Cockade* I. 60 An eye was seen to vizy them carefully.

†**b.** To examine, inspect, survey, or view formally or officially. *Obt.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 321 To pas to Borthuik..to vesy tymmyre for gun parading. 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 72 Item3 marymanis for dais quhar the Franchemen pasait to vesy the schippis. 1561 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* XIX. 365 *note*, Thir our letires being anis producit thairin and vesyt be the lordis auditouris therof. 1597 Skene *Acts of Parl.* Table s.v. *Trentes*, Prenters auld not prent ony buikes, or vther thing, bot that quhilk is visied and tryed, bayand the Kingis licence.

†**c.** With cluture as object, or with *to* and inf. *Obs.*

*c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 559 3et wald he [i.e. a bishop] mekly on fete ga..to vysy in quhat wyse þe kirkmen did þar seruice. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 380 To the man that went to vesy ge gif he could wyn sclait, iij*d* vnicornis. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 431 The cric of Marche..and mony lordis mo, Come to his tent to visie how he did. 1598 *Trebles Burgh Acc.* (1872) 235 The thesaurare to vesy gif ony timber be to ty to mak portis of.

†**3.** To visé. *rare*—1.

1867 J. Grant *White Cockade* I. 54 Letters..signed and vizzied by the conservator of Scottish privileges at Campvere, and the British ambassador.

†**3. a.** To afflict or visit (a person) *with* sickness or harm. *Obs.*

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 381 His fadyr..wes wesyed with sekenes. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 395 Throuch the will of God, so as it was, Thay war weseit with suddane soir seiknes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ix. 54, I sal visee you with dreddour, visht fyir, ande visht snolleg (*sic*).

†**b.** To punish (a sin or wrong). *Obs.*

1552 Asp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 58, I will visie and punis the synnis quhilk the fatheris dois..on thair sonnis. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 131 To wky all þir wrangus workis..God gifis þe grace.

**4.** *intr.* (or *absol.*). To look or gaze.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* III. Ix. 113 And wessand all about, I se at last This navy of souris drawand biddir fast. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xliv, And sine they luke and visies throwe the cleir and purifyit watter, quhill they se the musallis. 1899 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Shetland dial.).

**5.** To visit *a* town, etc.; to aim *at.*

1562–6 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 75 He..cuttit ane small hole in the tarlies, quhairby he might visale with his bagbute. 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* viii, They'll maybe has been trying how weel they could viry at the wild ducks. 1894 Macnaggart *Galloway. Encycl.* 457 Some raw hands, when vizzying first at the snail in the bull's eye of the target with loaded ball [etc.].

Hence **Vi'zying**, *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1552 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 148 The lairdis of Cornwell, Auchyngrassill, Cowbill, commissionaris for veseing of the futsome to be rasit within the shereffdomes quhair thai dwell. 1824 R. Chambers *Trad. Edinb.* I. 236 Sometimes the rod was simply stretched across the *viseying hole*, a convenient aperture through which the porter could take cognizance of the person applying.

**Visk(e,** ME. variants of Fisht *sb.* and *v.*

**Visnard,** -*or*, obs. forms of Vizard, Visor *sb.*

**Vi-**, southern ME. and dial. var. of Fl-; occas. ME. and older Sc. spelling for Ul-.

**Visch** (vīsk). Also 9 **Vische.** [a. Bulg. and Serb. *Vlach'*, = OSlav. *Vlachŭ* Roumanian, Italian, Czech. *Vlach* Italian, Pol. *Włoch* Italian, *Woloch* Walachian, Russ. *Volochʹ* Walachian, Italian; these terms are Slavonic adoptions of the Germanic name (O.H.G. *Walh*, *Walah*, MHG. *Walch*; AS. *Wealh*) foreigner, applied especially to Celts and Latins. See Walach and Welsh *a.*] A member of the Latin-speaking race occupying portions of south-eastern Europe; a Walachian or Roumanian.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 246/2 The Vlaches, or Wallachians, dwell in the most south-western angle of the empire (of Russia). 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/1 They call themselves 'Romani' or 'Rumeni', but by their neighbours..they are universally known by one or other form of the word 'Vlach'. 1891 *Speaker* 21 Sept. 683/2 The affinance..would array the scattered Vlachs of Macedonia once more on the Greek side.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/1 This Vlach or Rouman race occupies a far wider area than that included in the present Roumanian kingdom. 1905 *Speaker* 23 Sept. 565/1 The Greek bands..fell to murdering the leaders of the Vlach movement.

Hence **Vlachian** (vlē'kiăn), *a.*

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 19/1 The officials bearing for the most part Vlachian names. 1891 *Athenæum* 7 Nov. 625/1 Vlachian grandeur. 1909 *Q. Rev.* April 681 Not the least interesting constituent of this chaotic population is the Vlachian.

**Vlai,** var. Vlei. **Vlanck,** var. Wlonk *a.* Obs. **Vlanker,** var. Flanker (spark of fire). *dial.* **Vlaske,** southern ME. var. Flask *v.*

**Vlat,** southern dial. var. Flat *a.*

1600 *Contention betw. Liberality & Prodigality* ii. ii, Chil goe vnto the vlat, that's a vile case.

**Vlatsum,** Sc. f. Wlatsome *a. Obs.* **Vlaȝo,** southern ME. pa. pple. of Flay *v.* **Vleau,** southern ME. var. *flew*, p.t. of Flow *v.*

‖**Vlei** (vlāi). Also **vley, vly, vlie, vlaie.** [Du. dial. *vlei*, reduced form of Du. *vallei* valley.]

**1.** In South Africa: A shallow pool of water; a place of low-lying ground covered with water during the rainy season.

1829 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 179 The Hottentots look anxiously around for the well known 'vlei'. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 40, Chil pass the river of the vley or pool of water beside which I had been directed to encamp. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vi. 226 We found the vley, where we fully expected to find water, dried up. 1879 Rider Haggard *Swallow* viii, A large vlei, or pan, where were many ducks and also some antelope.

**2.** *local U.S.* A swamp.

1886 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. Ser.* III. XIX. 432 To the same settlers [the Dutch] are due the geographical appellations of *kill* for stream,, and *sly* or *vlaie* for swamp, so frequently met with in the Catskills. 1889 Bywater *Legend Dau.* I, Up over the grassy edge of the basin which formed the vly, the children came bounding pell-mell. 1902 R. W. Chambers *Cæsar's Wife* May 233/1 Have you reason to believe that an attempt has been made to fire the Owl Vlaie?

**Vleoin, Vleon, Vlesche, Vleys(e, Vlex,** southern ME. varr. Fley *n.*, Flesh, Flex.

**Vlie,** southern ME. var. Flea, Flit *sb.*; var. Vlei. **Vliht,** southern ME. var. Flight.

**Vlindre,** southern ME. var. Flinder (butterfly).

**Vlouting,** dial. var. Flouting *vbl. sb.*

**Vly, Vlyche,** southern ME. varr. Flt *v.*, Flitch.

**Vm-, Vn-,** common ME. spelling for Um-, Un-.

**Vo.**1, abbrev. of Voce. (Cf. Voc.)

1898 Jamieson & *Supplt.* (ed. 2) *Ermine*, Morse's Class. Dict. vo. *Ermine*, 1895 — Suppl. s.v. *Cuttumable*, Skene, Ind. to *Acts*, vo. *Customers*.

**Vo.**2 *nonce-wd.* [f. the last syllable of *octavo.*] A size of book.

1847 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 87/2 Duodecimo, post-octavo, eighteenmo, sixteenmo, and a hundred other vos and mos, bewildered the aged members of the profession.

**Vo,** southern ME. var. Fo *sb.*

**Voce** (vōs). *Orkn. & Shetl. dial.* Also 7, 9 **vore, 9 vor.** [a. Norw. *vaar* (vŏr), = Da. *vaar*, Sw. *vår*, ON. and Icel. *vár* spring: see Ware *sb.*] The spring; seed-time. Also *vore-time.*

1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* III. (1903) 76 Being accusit thairupoun be the said Michaell in vore tyme. *Ibid.* 78 Sex yairis sene or thairby in vore.



1806 P. Neill *Tour* 58 If a man and a dog land upon some of the islands in *voe*-time, i.e. Spring. 1825 Jamieson Suppl., *Voe*, *Voar*, *Voor*, the spring-time. 1898 Edna Edmondston *Sk. & Tales Shetland* II. 133, I ought to go to help our poor father and mother to get their wear finished. 1899 R. Cowie *Shetland* II. viii. 29 The operations of 'Vore' (as the seed-time is called in Shetland) do not commence until the end of March.

**Voc.,** abbrev. of Voce. (Cf. Vo.1)

1794 T. Hearne *R. Brunne's Chron.* (1810) I. p. cxxiii, See the Glossary to this Work, voc. *Kampedene*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Calkins*, Savar. *Dict. Com.* I. p. 1598, voc. crampon. 1870 Allsopp *Dict. Eng. Ld.* (1688) II. 1330 See also, Collier's Bibl. Acct. of Early Eng. Lit., 1865, voc. Paynell.

**Voc.,** abbrev. of Vocative.

**Voc., Vocab.,** abbrev. of Vocabulary.

**Vocabi·lity.** [f. next + -ity.] A spoken or shouted remark or sentence.

1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 54 At the time of the Reform Bill, their [*sc.* the linkmen's] vocabilities had a still more personal tendency.

**Vocable** (vō'kăbl), *sb.* [a. F. *vocable* (16th c., = Pr. *vocable*, Sp. *vocablo*, Pg. *vocabulo*, It. *vocabolo*, *-ulo*), or directly ad. L. *vocābul-um*, f. *vocāre* to call, name.]

**1.** A word or term.

App. reintroduced in the 18th century [mentioned as a Scoticism by Beattie in 1787].

1530 Palsgr. Introd. p. xxii, The great nombre of theyr vocables be evidently deryved forth of latin. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 9 This syllable, *ex*, in composicion of greke vocables betokeneth a certain facilitee. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* I.j, N.O. perceyuing this deuision of vocables, thought good to note the sense thereof. 1600–9 Rowlands *Knaue of Clubbes* 19 He to coniure goes, With characters, and vocables, and diuers antique shewes. 1638 A. Read *Chirurg.* ix. 60 It is not amisse sometimes to coine vocables of art to expresse by them which is in hand.

1706 Geddes *Prospectus New Transl. Bible* 61 There is no language so compleatly copious and distinctive as to have a different vocable for every idea. 1787 — *Lett. to Bp. of London* 82, I had ventured to use the word *vocable*. Some have approved of it, as a term we wanted; others have objected to it, as an unclassical one. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 397/1 Even some of the American jargon dialects contain vocables which indicate an Asiatic or European original. 1805 Boucher *Glossol. Tphanum's Dict. s.v. Ay*, The simple annals, or history, of this vocable in our own language.. would probably be not less curious than its general history is. 1852 Blackie *Horæ Aryan.* If you love the book.. you will muse on the vocables it contains in a speedy and agreeable way. 1879 E. White *Life in Christ* IV. xxiv. (1878) 348 Dreamers, for whom..every vocable is surrounded with an aureola or many-coloured halo of mysteries and 'inner senses'.

†**2.** A name or designation. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 76 Thereof to this daies remaineth these vocables of coine, as libra, pondo, dipondium,.. vocables of weight; that afterward weare given to coines pretending the same weight. *a* 1623 Buck *Rich. III*, v. (1646) 133 We will next endeavour to understand that Vocable, or term, *Tyrannus* (that is, a Tyrant, or an evil King) cast upon King Richard.

**Vocable,** *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *voc-āre* to call + -able.] Capable of utterance.

1892 Meredith *Poems, With the Persuader* 174 Conninger than the numbered strings,..For mastered discords and the things Not vocable, whose mysteries are inmost Love's.

Hence **Vo·cably** *adv.*

1906 J. A. Hobson *Canada Today* i. 3 Canada is conscious, vocably, uproariously conscious, that her day has come.

†**Voca·bula.** *Obs.*—1 [pl. of L. *vocābulum* Vocable *sb.*] A vocabulary.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 360 They have their Grammars, Dictionaries, and *Vocabulaes*, in which are the Roots of the Arabick Tongue.

†**Voca·bular,** *sb. Obs.*—1 [See Vocabulary *sb.* and -ar 2.] A vocabulary.

1530 Palsgr. 10 By what meanes it shalbe knowen in the frenche vocabular whan I amd in be voweres and when I shall be consonantes.

**Vocabular** (vokæ·bi·lăr), *a.* [f. L. *vocabulum* Vocable *sb.* + -ar 1.] Of, pertaining to, or concerning words.

1608 T. L. *Serpents* 282 Which wordes in their seuerall Languages, haue other significations, as are to be found in euery vocabular Dictionary. 1647 H. Hunson *Dir. Right Govt.* ii. 8, 75 To vnscramble the vocabular difficulties, let us but look into the fourteenth Ch. of Gen. and there we shall find a King of Gods own making. 1824 J. Gilchrist *Extem. Interpreter* 61 Besides the prolific origin of verbal multiplication or vocabular augmentation; for thus an indefinite number of nouns are produced by few verbs and adjectives. 1848 Dixon *Poetic Ld.* Learning vocabular ghosts undisturbed in their lexicon-limbo. 1867 Lytton in *Ld. Lytton's Lett.* (1906) I. iv. 206 Too many images and vocabular effects make the sense of the whole obscure.

**Vocabula·rian,** *a.* [Cf. prec. and -ian.] One who gives much or undue attention to words.

1899 *Pall Mall G.* 20 July 4/1 He is not a vocabularian: he uses, as none but a poet can, the full riches of his native tongue.

**Voca·bularize,** *v. rare*—1. [Cf. prec. and -ize.] *trans.* To furnish with a vocabulary.

1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 51 The vernacular French of the Capital,.. amply vocabularized from the other languages of the mixed hosts whom Napoleon had assembled.

**Vocabulary** (vokæ·bi·lări), *sb.* Also 6 **-arye,** 7 **-arie.** [ad. med.L. *vocābulāri-us*, *-um*, f. L. *vocābul-um* Vocable *sb.*: see -ary 1.]

*vocábulum* VOCABLE *sb.* : see -ABY 1. Hence also 1., Sp., Pg. *vocabulario*, F. *vocabulaire* (1481). Cf. VOCABULAR *sb.*, VOCABULER.]

**1.** A collection or list of words with brief explanations of their meanings; now *esp.* a list of this kind given in an elementary grammar or reading-book of a foreign language.

Longer vocabularies are usually arranged alphabetically or according to subject-headings. In philological grammars and readers the vocabulary is commonly termed a *glossary*.

1530 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 327/1 Then must he with his translacion make vs an Englishe vocabulary of his own deuise too. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 55 Maister Heskins fareth as hee were halfe madde, sending vs to the Vocabularies, Calepines, and Dictionaries. 1612 Cotgr. *Vocabulaire*, a Vocabulary, Dictionarie. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. ix. 355 This is the proper signification of the word, [it is] thus used in Scripture by the Septuagint, [and] Greeke vocabularies thus expound it. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. xi. 260 A vocabulary made after this fashion, would, perhaps, with more ease, and in less time, teach the true signification of many Terms. 1746 Watts *Improv. Mind* (1801) 41 It is necessary that we should be furnished with Vocabularies and Dictionaries of several sorts. 1818 Todd *Johnson's Dict. Pref. A. Zaire* (1818) 65 From our visitors I procured a vocabulary of their language. 1897 T. Wright (*title*), A Volume of Vocabularies. *Ibid.* Pref., One of the most valuable of the later vocabularies here printed. 1884 Bradley *Latin Prose Composition* 353 General Vocabulary. *Ibid.*, The Latin words in this Vocabulary are not necessarily equivalent to the English.

*fig.* 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 598/1 As I wene it is expounded in god almighties vocabulary.

*transf.* 1668 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. I. § 3 Otherwise all the use of words is to be a meer vocabulary to the understanding, and an Index to memory.

**b.** Const. *of.* (Formerly into the sense of 'list'.)

1821 J. Q. Adams in C. Davies *Metric. Syst.* (1871) III. 145 A vocabulary of new denominations was annexed to every weight and measure belonging to it. 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Mem. Par.* (1870) 137 He heard a vocabulary of dishes enumerated with grace and fluency [by the French cook]. 1882 Stanley *Peru. CA.* (1897) I. xvi. 309 The most complete vocabulary of arms . . in the Old Testament is taken from the panoply of a Philistine warrior.

**c.** *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Vocabulary*, the system of naval signals last invented by Captain Johnson's improvements.

**2.** The range of language of a particular person, class, profession, or the like.

Used with limiting terms (possessives, adjectives, etc.).

1753 St. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) III. 190, I wore out . . my vocabulary with commendations. 1786 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. v, Let nerves be discarded from the female vocabulary. 1815 J. Connack *Abol. Fem. Infanticide Guernsey* x. 156 The almost infinite variety of an original, from whose vocabulary the word impossible seems to have been excluded. 1892 Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 2 An Innocent, in Shakespearian vocabulary, is a simpleton. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* XXIII. The actor . . had erased the words 'ought' and 'ought not' from his vocabulary as completely as most of his contemporaries.

**b.** Const. *of* (some quality, feeling, etc.).

1770 Cumberland *West Indian* IV. x, In the vocabulary of modern honour there is no such term. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 129 His eloquence becoming more and more vituperative, until it has exhausted either his strength or his vocabulary of invective. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 5 The rank vocabulary of sceptics and hats. 1884 J. Stoughton *Hist. Scouring* v. 80 The more religion appeals to the senses, the more fecund has been the vocabulary of oaths.

**c.** With *a*, or without article.

1823 Emerson *Addr., Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 181 If it were only for a vocabulary, the scholar would be covetous of action. 1858 C. Taylor *Witness of Hermas to Four Gosp.* 130 On the principle that vocabulary is an indication of an author's literary sources. 1898 Watts Dunton *Aylwin* v. i, 'To repeat one's words', I said quietly, shows a limited vocabulary.

**3.** The sum or aggregate of words composing a language.

1780 V. Knox *Ess.* caiv. (1819) II. 285 The Latin Fathers . . wrote . . well enough to preserve a skill in the construction and vocabulary of the language. 1841 Bunsen *Ziscath* II. ii. iii. 107 It is no longer a settled language, its laws, structure, and vocabulary being sufficiently well known. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. i. 4 The largest infusion that the vocabulary of our European tongue ever received from another. 1882 A. W. Ward *Dickens* VII. 206 He recognised his responsibility . . in keeping the vocabulary of the language pure.

**Voca·bulary,** *a. rare.* [f. L. *vocábul-um* VOCABLE *sb.* + -ARY.] Of or pertaining to words; composed of, or concerned with, words.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Vocabularie*, of or belonging to words, which consisteth wholy of words. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 21 April 6/3 The vocabulary code compiled by the International Bureau of Telegraphic Administrations. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 9/1 Treating it as a vocabulary quarrel to which it would be childish to attach any importance.

**Voca·bulate.** *rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ATION.] The use or choice of words.

1891 E. Eggleston *Faith Doctor* xiii. 162 A mind . . felicitous in vocabulation and ingenious in the construction of sentences.

**† Voca·buler.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. VOCABULARY *sb.* and -ER 2.] A vocabulary.

1530 Palsgr. 250 By the helpe of the frenche vocabuler. 1708 Stevens 1, *Vocabulario*, a Dictionary, a Vocabuler.

**Voca·bulist.** Also 6 -iste, -yst(e. [ad. L. type **vocabulista* : see VOCABLE and -IST. So F. *vocabuliste* (1732) in sense 2.]

**† 1.** A vocabulary. *Obs.*

1530 Baynton in *Palsgr.* Introd. p. xiii, Theyr vocabulistes, which have ben of so many yeres, and by so sondry clerkes agathered. 1530 Palsgr. 19 Some fewe sentences whiche the lernar shall fynde before the begynnyng of the sayd vocabulyst.

**2.** A compiler of a vocabulary.

1549 Bale *Apost. Joig.* 9 After the vocabulystes Tortellius ..Calepinus, Guarin' & soche other vocabulystes. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 147 This is an obsolete phrase, and is not to be found in any vocabulist I know of.

**Voca·bulize.** *rare*—1. [Cf. prec. and -ISE.] *trans.* To put into words, to utter.

1823 Leland *Exped. Sketch-Bk.* 233 He was too much disgusted to speak—too much revolted at me and the ring and all mankind, to vocabulise anything.

**Voca·l,** *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōcāl-is* uttering voice, speaking, etc., f. *vōc-*, *vox* voice + -AL. So F., Sp., Pg. *vocal*, It. *vocale*.]

**A.** *adj.* **I.** 1. Uttered or communicated by the voice; spoken, oral : **a.** Of prayer. (Opposed to *mental*.)

a 1395 Hylton *Scala Perf.* I. xxvii. (W. de W. 1494) This manere of prayer is called vocal. a 1500 *Myrr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1533) 159 Bycause this prayer is for the holy chirche, necessary it is that it be vocall, that is to say, eyther songe or openly said with voyce. 1563 *Homelies* II. *Conc. Prayer* Pijp iij, Let vs see whether the Scriptures . . wyll allow any vocall prayer, that is, when the mouth vttereth the petitions with voyce. 1641 'Smectym nuus' *Answ.* ii. (1653) 8 Which Prayers were so farre from being Prescript Formes or Liturgies that they were not vocall but mentall Prayers. 1672 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. vii. 314 If Vocal Prayer be made, as it should, even Mental is an ingredient into it. 1706 Foudyce *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) II. xi. 148 Vocal prayer, whether more or less attractive, will be found by far the most proportionate to the human . . faculties. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. IX. 151 Instead of the ancient severities [of penance], vocal prayers came in, which that was enjoined. 1852 *Laud. Ann.* of July 8 The dangers of unrealityand self-delusion with which *vocal* prayers were beset. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 569 St. Benedict supposes that some of his monks will pray after the vocal prayer in the choir with tears and application of heart.

**b.** In other contexts.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 53 b, Why then do they make accompt of it, but as a vocall word, and outward seruice? 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. (1851) 78 He is diligent and faithfull in preaching the Gospel : either by his pen . or by his vocall sermons. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 91 The Armenian Bishops, who officiate their masses by vocal relation. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 198 Forth came the human pair, And joyn'd this vocal Worship to the Quire Of Creatures wanting voice. 1725 *Pope Odyss.* VIII. 63 When high he sings The vocal lay responsive to the strings. 1757 Gray *Bard* 120 What strains of vocal transport round her play. 1818 Stoddart in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 901/1 It is quite enough that we have one vocal sign, one organic articulation, to advertise the hearer, that what we say is not in the subject of which we speak. 1874 Sturgeon *Fenny Tales* 6 Silent worship is sweet, but vocal worship is sweeter. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 291 John Hobbs, called always, George, to distinguish him, in vocal summons, from my father and me.

**† c.** Expressed in words. *Obs.*—1

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* III. i. 65 The Propriety of Possessions . may be deuided into Vocall and Vnderstood. Vocall properly denotates the Properties of particulars by due Appellation.

**d.** Of sound; Produced by the voice; *spec.* of the nature of words or speech.

1623 Wodenoth *Boadicea* I. iii, I'm a virgin . Presume to clothe her thoughts in vocal sounds, Let her find pardon. 1699 Holder *Elem. Speech* 23 A vibration of those Cartilaginous Bodies which forms that Breath, into a Vocal sound or Voice. 1699 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 24 Her Words were in her Clamour drown'd : For my stun'd Ears receiv'd no vocal Sound. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 305/1 If any two bodies sounding by vocal sounds mutually convey to each other their desires. 1860 Farrar *Orig. Language* I. 19 The more possession of vocal cries not different from those of animals. 1864 Bowen *Logic* II. 32 Vocal sound is the Matter of speech.

**2.** Of music: Performed by, composed for, the voice; that is sung or intended for singing. (Opposed to *instrumental*.)

c 1586 Cites Pembroke *Ps.* xcviii. ii, O sing, . Make lute and harp with vocall musique beare. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 486 Giving herselfe to learne poesie, and likewise vocall musicke. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 161 Vocal-like performed by Instruments which Nature hath invented for delight, ought not to be set at naught. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 276 The Morning being ushered in with Vocal and Instrumental Musick. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 405 ¶ 8 Vocal and Instrumental Musick were made use of in their Religious Worship. 1795 Mason *Ch. Music* 24 When any Song, Ode, or Anthem is set to Instrumental Music . they seldom, if ever, consider it as separated from Vocal. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 29/1 In the accompaniment to vocal music, much greater freedom of imitation is allowable than in the voice part. 1864 Engel *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 9 Vocal music, regarded historically, takes precedence by its antiquity of instrumental music.

**3.** Characterized with singing. *Vocal score* (see quot. 1876).

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 535 The vocal taste of Spain must be very much degenerated, or that of France improved, if the same singer can excite equal rapture in the capital of both countries. 1802 C. Butler *Hist. Mem. Eng. Cath.* IV. xcviii. 464 [Ancient Greek music] was governed by rhythm and quarter tones made a part of its regular vocal scale. 1857 Canon Ainger in E. Sichel *Life & Lett.* (1906) 43, I . shall place myself in a snug corner of the hall, with the vocal score in my hands. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 388/2 A vocal score is (or was formerly understood to be) one in which the voice-parts are written out in full, and the accompaniment (if any) is indicated by a figured bass.

**4.** Having the character of a vowel ; sonorous.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xv(i). (Arb.) 141 The foote (*Tribrachus*) of three short times is very hard to be made by any of our trisillables vnlas they be compounded of the smoothest sort of consonants or sillables vocals. 1691 Wenyen *Anc. Funeral Mon.* To Rdr. 2 Also E vocall, for E diphthong. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *I*, They give it [sc. I,] a name from its consonant use, we from the vocal. 1809 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* I. 179 As their delicate ears could bear none but vocal terminations.

**b.** Actually uttered or sounded. *rare.*

1791 Johnson *Rambler* No. 88 P 11 There is reason to believe that the silent e which our ancestors added to the most of our monosyllables, . was once vocal. 1795 Johnson s.v. *S*, Afterwards it [the letter *s*] was in poetry either mute or vocal, as the verse required.

**c.** *Phonetics.* Uttered with voice (as distinguished from *breath*); voiced, sonant.

1868 Wilkins *Real Char.* III. xii. § 2, 369/2(*A*) the sonorous Consonant, and (*SA*) its correspondent mute, are framed by a percolation of the breath, betwixt the tongue rendered concave, and the teeth both upper and lower . The first being vocal, the other mute. 1869 W. Holmes *Elem. Speech* 53 B. is Vocal, Labial, Occlusive. *Ibid.* 58 L. and R . . are not easie . to be pronounced spiritally, . but are apt to get a tincture of Vocality. 1872 Sweet *Primer of Spok. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 35 The semi-vowels may be subdivided into *vocal* and *aspirated*. The vocal are those which are formed by the voice; the aspirated, like the breath. 1877 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 72 Examples beginning with a vocal letter are found both in the Chinese and in other languages. 1879 Sweet in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 538 There can be no doubt that the *f* in Early Old English was vocal like the Welsh *f*.

**II. 4.** Endowed with a voice, possessed of utterance; exercising the power of speech or of uttering sounds.

1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 233 Brought there were thither . . such [frogs] as would crie in the water : and that whole kind still remaineth vocall. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 109, I am sure neither are Quails, Partridges, nor Owles vocall Preacher, nor the Preaching Auditor. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxxiv. (1713) 272 As probable as the black Hunter ranging the Forrest with his Horn and Invisible, Hounds in Fountainbleau. 1733 Pope *Essay on Man* III. 257, In the same temple, the resounding wood, All vocal beings hymn'd their equal God. 1776 Gibbon *Hist.* (1776) VII. 339 These insects are generally vocal in the midst of summer. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 590/1 The organs of all vocal animals are so formed, as, upon any particular impulse, to utter the same sound. 1877 *Nature* 21 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/3 Though the mechanical theory of a vocal Heavenly multitude proves untenable.

**b.** *transf.* Of inanimate things, voices, etc.

1646 J. Hall *Poems* 57 Were but this Marble vocall, there such an Elogium would appeare As [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 530 He..with Serpent Tongue Organic, or impulse of vocal Air, His fraud is then thought to expound. 1710 W. King *Heathen Gods & Heroes* x. (1722) 40 How these Oracles were deliver'd, is a Controversie, whether by two Doves that spoke, or by the Leaves of the Oaks themselves, which became Vocal. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 159 The poet's or historian's page, by one blade vocal for th' amusement of the rest. 1798 Southey *Joan of Arc* (1799) 160 Many a stream That from the neighbouring hill descended clear Wound vocal thro' the valley. 1805 Lamb *Elia* II. *Oxford-road at Mr. Skeene & Mincing Lane*, . . into the footsteps of what toil-worn clerk are your wayward flights now vocal? 1839 Wilkinson *Mann. & Cust. Anc. Egypt.* II. (1842) I. 59 *note*, The vocal statue of the supposed Memnon is of Amunoph III. 1850 W. Howitt *Rural Life* I. 1 Here are seven steam-hammers . and a remarkably vocal saw for cutting red-hot iron.

**c.** Of musical instruments. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Oct. 1664, There was brought a new invented instrument of musiq. . made vocal by a wheele, and a zone of parchment that rubb'd horizontally against the strings. 1738 Wesley *Hymns & Sacr. Poems* II. 89, no longer vocal now, We cast aside. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* III. i. 23 Nor chaunt of birds, nor vocal lyre To him can sleep afford. 1756 Warton *Ess. on Pope* (1806) I. 43 Rapt I strike the vocal Shell—Hark—the trembling Chords relief.

**5.** *fig.* Conveying impressions or ideas as if by speech ; expressive, eloquent.

1608 Torkill *Serpents* 34 By a mute and silent way it ascendeth, and bringeth all things mortall to a vocall iustice, which speaketh in action though not in voyce. 1608–12 B. Hall *Epist.* (1643) 328 Accusations and Apologues dumbe. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* Introd. 1 Medals . (give me leave to call them) Vocal Monuments of Antiquity. 1790 Walton *Suffer. Son of God* II. xiii. 331 The Multitude of my successive Miseries might become Vocal, and never cease to Importune Thy Mercy. 1794 R. Walton *Christ. Faith & Pract.* 209 That vocal blood and those speaking wounds. 1897 *Garden* 10 April 292/3 Every leaf is vocal, and the air is full of the moist fragrance of the earth.

*Comb.* 1649 Owen *Shaking & Transl. Heav. & Earth* 36 The works of God . are vocall-speaking works : the minds of God is in them.

**b.** *spec.* (See quot.) *rare*—.

1708 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Arms*, Speaking, or Vocal Arms, are those wherein the Figures bear an Allusion to the Name of the Family.

**6.** Operative or concerned in the production of voice. Freq. in *vocal chord, organs*, etc.

1634 Digby *Nat. Bodies* XXVI. § 14. 318 Who would looke curiously into the motions of the dispositions of a beastes vocal instruments. 1656 Blount *Glossiogr.* s.v., Vocal nerves are those noble sinews, which have the vertue of forming the speech. 1794 J. Hamm *Lect. Techn.* I. *Recurrent Nerves*, by some called *Vocal*, because they are spent upon the Instruments of Speech. 1798 Harris *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 208 What these vocal organs precisely are, is not in every

agreed by philosophers and anatomists 1840 *Penny Cycl* XXII 492/2 The upward current of air passing through the larynx produces an effect on the vocal ligaments. 1872 Mueller *Physiol* viii 778 These sharp free edges of the glottis are the so called vocal chords or vocal ligaments. 1887 *Bain's Handbk Med Sci* IV 392/2 The vocal bands deserve a separate notice on account of their great physiological importance

**b.** *spec.* Connected with the utterance of vowel-sounds.

1887 *Allen & Neurol* VIII 7 The vocal (vowel) mechanism is the first that is manifested in the child

**7.** Of or belonging to the voice († or sound)

1644 Bulwer *Chirol* 4 In the report of a Piece, the eye being the nimbler sense, discernes the discharge before any intelligence by conduct of the vocall Waves arrive at the eare 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas I* (1655) 1 Though his (Charles's) vocall impediment accompanyed him till the fatall stroke 1795 Mason *Ch. Music* II 154 They must still endeavour to hit that precise medium in the vocal faculty, who is pronounces and sings at the same time 1840 Dickens *Old C. Vaughan* Old Quilp was certainly entertaining himself with vocal exercise 1860 H. W. Fuller *Dis Chest* iii 18 I the 'vocal fremitus' is more pronounced in adults than in children. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 6 Indifferent to everything but his child's beauty and vocal talents

**b** Of the nature of voice or sound

a 1826 Heber *Transl Pindar* ii 158 Of vocal shafts that wildly fly 1844 Mrs Browning *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xlv, 'Tis the eyes that shoot out vocal light

**8.** Full of voice or sound, sounding, resounding. Also const *by, with*.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v 204 Hill, or Valley, fountain, or fresh shade Made vocal by my Song. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* iv, 4 Sicilian Muse prepare To make the vocal Woods deserve a Consul's care 1727 Pope *Dunciad* iv 548 Each plain roofs as Piety could raise, And only vocal with the Maker's praise 1746 Hervey *Medit* (1818) 247 She flies the vocal grove, and shuns the society of the tuneful choir 1823 Byron *Age of Bronze* xi, I has was not the method of old Rome, When fully fulmined o'er each vocal dome 1834 Prince *A. & Ark.* 88 Thy Ireland streams with vocal sin spring with the shrill chirping of millions of frogs. 1868 Farrar *Silence & V.* 1. (1875) 8 When all the air is vocal with whispering trees, and singing birds

**9.** Readily or fluently expressing oneself in speech; giving vent to one's views or opinions.

1671 Smiles *Charac* ii (1876) 256 The modern English, as compared with their nimbler more communicative and vocal neighbours, the Scotch and Irish. 1711 *Spect* No 281 *Fall Mall Co* 10 Feb. 1/1 That policy [of coercion in Ireland] may have done something to pacify an influential and highly vocal class in England 1887 *Spect* 4 March 1/2 The most vocal elves in the whole community, as the legal professors may fairly be described

**B** *sb.* 1 **a.** A vowel *Obs*

1580 Stanyhurst *Descr. To Rdr* (Arb) 14 Where the next word following beginneth with a vocal. 1586 — *Treat Irel.* 9/2 in *Holinshed* I, In corruption of common talke we find that (u) with his vocale is easilie lost and suppressed; so we saie for cure lure &c.

**†b.** A voiced consonant *Obs*

1669 Holder *Elem Speech* 78 To soften the Occluse Gingival Consonants, by a blend of addition of a Spirital to a Vocal producing the Vowel

**2** Vocal faculty; power of speech.

1838 Mrs. Browning *Seraphim* ii 112 Hath language left thy lips, to place its vocal in thine eyes?

**3.** A member of a Roman Catholic body who has a right to vote in certain elections.

a 1666 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir Archæol Soc) II 109 In Conaght, on the 15th of August, 1630, all the vocals of the whole province there mett, and of Carons faction were the undernamed (though not all, but some, before theire transgression were vocalls) 1708 Chambers *Cyclo* s.v. A Man must have been a Religious a certain number of Years, to be a Vocal. 1811 W. Jones *Treat* v. *Years* 61, I am afraid I should only create disgust were I to dwell on other characters among the vocals, as they are designated

**Vocallo** (vōkæ·lik), *a.* [f. Vocal *a.* + -ic. Cf. F *vocalique*.]

**1.** Rich in vowels; composed mainly or entirely of vowels.

1814 Scott *Waw.* xxii, The Gaelic language has uncommonly vocalic as well adapted for sudden and extemporaneous poetry 1846 Grote *Greece* I xvi I 413 Its richness, its flexibility and capacity of new combinations, its vocalic abundance and metrical pronunciation 1859 Tayleur in Mod Youngs *Life* (1874) I 430 Their language is all vocalic and so easy to put into writing

**b** Characterized by a vowel or vowels.

1874 Sayce *Compar Philol.* ii. 92 The varying vocalic forms of the Imperfect. 1887 A. S. Cook *Sievers' O & Germ* 189 Vocalic or strong declension

**2.** Consisting of a vowel or vowels, of the nature of a vowel.

1852 in *Trans Ethnol Soc* (1854) III. 264 The series of vocalic and consonantal sounds 1868 G Stephens *Runic Mon* I 25 The sing accusative ending in a vowel or a vocalic consonant. 1874 A B Davidson *Introd. Hebr. Gram* 102 Sometimes the vocalic termination is written with *yod* 1892 A L Mayhew *O & Phonology* 59 In final unaccented syllables e was developed from a vocalic liquid or nasal.

**3.** Of or pertaining to, affecting or concerning, a vowel or vowels.

1865 Graham *Eng Word-Bk* Introd, In words of Gothic origin we more frequently find that internal vocalic and consonantal changes are employed to produce the new word 1876 Douse *Grimm's Law* 131 Of the corresponding vocalic affections, the palatal is as much European as Aryan. 1876 Blackie *Lang & Lit. Scot High* I 63 No man with an ear will deny vocalic depth to the following lines.

**Vocalion** (vōkæ·liən). [f. Vocal *a.* + -ion.]

A musical instrument of the nature of a harmonium with broad reeds, producing sounds somewhat resembling the human voice.

Invented in 1882 by J Baillie Hamilton

1882 *Daily News* 17 Apr 2/2 The vocalion resembles in form a small organ, and is constructed of various dimensions, some having but one row of keys (or manuals, others having two keys boards and pedals 1889 Grove *Dict. Mus* IV. 399 A main peculiarity of the Vocalion is that the reeds are placed above the pallets and below the slides

**Vocalism** (vō·kălizm). [f. Vocal *a.* + -ism. Cf. F *vocalisme*, mod L. *vocalismus*, in sense 2 b.]

**1.** The exercise of the voice or vocal organs in speech.

1864 Webster, *Vocalism*, the exercise of the vocal organs 1866 Peiton *Anc & Mod Gr* I 11 Rough and violent intonations embodied in mimetic vocalism the harsh, the painful, the agonizing passions 1873 F. Hall *Mod Eng* 19 We should now be talking in monosyllables, and eking out our scantiness of vocalism by nods, shrugs, winks, and other resources of pantomime

**b** The art of exercising the voice in singing

1884 Sala *Journ due South* I xx (1887) 255 Italian vocalism seems to me to be extremely beautiful everywhere save in Italy itself, where singing out of tune seemed to be the rule 1889 *Daily News* 28 June 2/3 A professor of vocalism to the family of the Prince and Princess of Wales 1903 *Sat Rev* 26 May 674/2 When vocalism is wanted her vocal art is sufficient for the purpose

**2** A vocal sound or articulation

1873 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* (ed 2) § 126 In the schools, children are allowed to utter such thick lipped vocalisms as *Moses*

**b.** A system of vowels, the use of vowels.

1873 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* (ed 2) § 109 I here is one dialect of Gothic which is distinguished by its vocalism, and, even in speech, that is Mœso Gothic 1892 A. L. Mayhew *O & Phonology Pref* p v, The subject of my book is the Vocalism and Consonantism of Old English or Anglo Saxon

**Vocalist** (vōu kălist) [f. as prec + -ist. Cf F. *vocaliste* in sense 2.]

†**1.** An utterer of words, a speaker. *Obs*—1

1613 Jackson *Creed* II iv § 6 The chiefe Magistrates facultie to countenance euery pleating Discontent, or forthputting Vocalist

**2** A vocal musician; a singer.

1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* II i, Preparing himself, like certain other accomplished vocalists, with a few preliminary hems and haws 1879 G. H. Boughton *Eve* I 370 Now, in singing, this tremulousness of voice is very effectively used by some vocalists in highly pathetic passages 1885 Stevenson & Osbourne *Wrong Box* iii, The Vocalist, and, even in speech, her voice commanded a great range of changes

*transf* 1897 G Allen *Type-writer Girl* viii. 86 Little vocalists carolled songs without words in the sky overhead.

Hence **Vocalistic** *a.*, pertaining to vocal music or musicians.

1884 *Bazaar* 12 Dec 609/2 Vocalistic feats which would put to shame most of the public singers of the day

**Vocality** (vōkæ·liti). [f. Vocal *a.* + -ity.]

**1.** The quality of having voice or utterance, the possession or exercise of vocal powers.

1597 J King *On Jonas* (1618) 34 Sentences of scripture, expressing the loudnesse and vocality of sinne 1657 *Divine Lover* 27 Now as concerning the manner of exercising these Heauenly gifts, it ought chiefly to be in a vocall sound, and without any vocalitie at all 1794 J. Darwin *Zoon* I xvii 192 The movements of her eyes and eyelids, and of the interior parts of vocality 1818 *Monthly Mag* XLVI 321 If you consider attentively the proportion of vocality needed in articulating each consonant 1899 Marshall *Phil Speech* 11 Sounds which, like *m*, *n*, *l*, are not confined to vocality 1869 Carlyle *Prus Hi Ca* xv 11 (1872) IX 122 Cuts do execution for a time, but cannot stand the confinement and object (think with what vocality)

**2.** The quality or fact of being uttered or utterable; vocal quality or nature.

1863 Cockeram I, *Vocalitie*, the tune or sound of the voice 1865 A. Melville Bell *Princ Speech* 197 When the Standard Alphabet keeps the tongue and jaw steady during the continuous flow of the vocality of *l*

**b** *pl.* Vocal properties or sounds, *spec* as displayed in singing

1867 Pepys *Diary* 30 Dec, Not understanding the words, I lose the mystery of the vocalitys of the Italiane, and it proves only instrumental 1774 J Collier *Mus Trav* (1775) 91, I was informed that I could not see him, as he was busy [in] performing his vocalities. 1853 J Rose *Christ Human Voice* iii (ed 2) 55 The five tonic sounds to which the vocalities of the subtonic bear a resemblance, are *i*, 00 *u*, *e*, and *a* 1882 *Century Mag* XXVIII 510 What in all the vocalities of Nature is there to compare with this clouterred melodi ti?

**3.** *Phonetics.* The quality of being (*a*) voiced or (*b*) vocalic.

1669 Holder *Elem Speech* 58 L and R being in extreams, one of Roughness, the other of Smoothness and freeness of Vocality, are not easie to be pronounced spiritally 1748 *Phil. Trans* XLV 492 My present Design is to give a List of Vowels, whereby to discriminate, as conveniently as may be, all the Instances of Vocality that occur, distinctly, in the English Language 1874 Sweet in *Trans Philol Soc* 538 I've set in the present list any English we find initial vocality still preserved in the words *when* (from *hwen*), *oat* and *ozen*

**Vocalization** (vōkălaizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ation, or ad. F. *vocalisation* (1835).]

**1.** The action of vocalizing or the fact of being vocalized; utterance with the voice.

1840 *Penny Cycl* XXII 431/2 In this stammer the difficulty is not to produce voice, but to control its quantities. Vocalization freely takes place, but [etc.] 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl* I xxii 410 His vocalization is something between the mooing of a cow and the deepest baying of a mastiff 1865 Tylor *Early Hist Man* iv 73 Mere vocalizations of the movements of the mouth 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 450 A break will at once occur in the vocalisation of the letter *f*

**b.** Mode of utterance or pronunciation, esp of vowel sounds

1855 Patey *Æschylus* 169/1 It is of course uncertain whether the word is a Greek vocalisation of a Persian word 1868 Blackie in *Athenæum* 12 Dec 797/1 In the gamut of the vowels the English have set up a vocalization of their own 1873 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* (ed 2) § 179 Its French vocalisation has resulted in *tout*

**c** Expression in words or speech.

1887 *Spectator* 5 Nov 1473 Sir George Trevelyan has this week contributed largely to this vocalisation of the Homerulers' case.

**2.** *Mus.* The action or art of producing musical sounds with the voice, exercise of the voice in singing

1850 Shedley *L. Arnold* xxv 215 It is not every one who is gifted with the talent of vocalization 1863 E. C. Clayton *Queens of Song* II 386 Ellis Pasolomme bore a certain similitude to the great German singer, though in point of vocalization she was very inferior 1883 *op&Cent* 3 May 867 On a visit to the Zoological Gardens, I heard illustrations of nearly all the principal subjects belonging to the repertoire of technical vocalisation

**b.** *spec.* The action of singing upon a vowel to one or more notes.

1889 *Grove's Dict Mus* IV 321 Vocalisation is therefore one part of the operation of pronunciation, the other being articulation

**3.** The insertion of vowel-signs in forms of writing consisting mainly or entirely of consonants

1845 Pitman *Man Phonography* (ed 7) 27 Vocalization of double Consonants 1847 *Ibid* (ed 8) 35 Vocalization of Words 1848 *Athenæum* 11 Mar 272/1 The question of vocalization is one of the highest importance in Biblical criticism 1883 A Roberts *O J Revision* vii 145 The important subject of vocalization here falls to be more particularly considered.

**4.** *Phonetics* Conversion into a voiced sound

1874 Sweet in *Trans Philol Soc* 539 It seems, therefore, that the vocalization of initial (and also medial) *s* in English is merely a case of levelling, caused by the analogy of the vocal *z* and *v*

**5** The utterance of vowel sounds

1887 *Allen & Neurol* VIII 7 Vocalization (vowelizing) is the expression of an emotion, an incident or sensation, not an idea

**Vocalize** (vōu kălaiz), *v.* [f Vocal *v.* + -ize Cf. F *vocaliser* (1835), Pg. *vocalisar*, -*isar*, Sp *vocal*, It *-izzare*]

**1.** *trans* To form into voice, to make audible by utterance, to utter or articulate.

1669 Holder *Elem Speech* 30 It is one thing to Breath, or give an Impulse to breath alone as ut or thing, to vocalize that breath, *t.e.* to its passage through the Larynx to give it the sound of Humane Voice *Ibid* 60 In the Vowels are made by a free passage of Breath Vocalized through the cavity of the Mouth 1673 [R Lydall] *Trumpet Reb* 119 Every breath of moving air is by some unskilful Musicians vocalized in the Trumpet Sir S Moreland's trumpet 1867 A Melville Bell *Visible Speech* 91 A faithful copy of the native pronunciation which renders it still easier to vocalize aloud 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 65 A similar inability to control the tongue can be demonstrated by making the patient vocalize *r*

**b.** To sing

1708 in *Spirit Pub Jrnls* (1799) II 146 Our small company had vocalized all the songs in the opera, in such a manner as I never heard them attempted upon any theatre in London. 1891 L. Fitzgerald *Lett* (1889) I 213 How would you like to see me scoring up semibreves on a staff for half a dozen Rubies to vocalize?

**2.** *Phonetics* a. To convert into a vowel

1844 *Proc Philol Soc* I 249 It is true that the objection able sound might be got rid of by vocalizing the second consonant, especially if a labial 1892 Kennedy *Public Sch Latin Gram* § 12 n Poets sometimes vocalize *v* consonans before a vowel as *sil·w ar* for *sil·ya* 1892 A I Mayhew *O & J Phonology* 67 Ea = au, the *a* of which is the *w* vocalized when standing at the end of a syllable

**b.** To utter with voice (as distinguished from *breath*); to render sonant.

1876 Smart *Pronouncing Dict* p xxx, *s* is always vocalized, that is, pronounced as *z*, when, in forming the plural of a noun, it can be so pronounced 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz* 111 169 If we were asked why the Cochin Chinese vocalized the *s*, it would be difficult to give any other reason than that some languages are distinguished by the softness of their pronunciation

**3.** To endow with voice, to render vocal or articulate

1858 W Irving in *Life & Lett* (1864) IV 419 In this way, by turns, you vocalize the whole Union, and make the growing chorus of the Revolution rise from every part of it 1872 Symonds *Introl Study Dante* 206 It was not merely the painting of his age that Dante absorbed into himself and vocalized

**4.** To furnish with vowels or vowel signs.

1845 Pitman *Man Phonography* (ed 7) 27 These series of double consonants are vocalized in the following manner 1889 *Amer Trnl Philol* X 232 Arabic books, especially Arabic poetry, are vocalized in the East as well as in the West

**5.** *intr* To perform vocal music; to sing.

1830 *Fraser's Mag* II 503 He would therefore endeavour to vocalize, if an auditory were to be found 1879 H James *Daisy Miller* i 19 The young lady, who was still strolling along in front of them, softly vocalising.

b *spec.* (See quots.)

1873 H C Banister *Music* 354 *Vocalise*, to sing with several notes to one vowel as distinguished from Sol faing, or Solmisation. 1889 *Grove's Dict Mus* IV 321 To vocalise is to sing upon a vowel, whether one note or a series of notes, in contradistinction to singing to separate syllables

Hence **Vo calised** *ppl a* ; **Vo calising** *vbl. sb* and *ppl a.*, **Vo caliser**, one who vocalizes or gives expression (to something)

1880 A Macfarlane *Consanguinity* 17 *** Vocalised equivalent fayoyo 1898 *Westm Gaz* 7 Oct. 3/1 The sweetest and most delicately vocalised dialect in Britain 1901 H Murray *R. Buchanan* 81 Browning and Tennyson, as the typical 'vocalisers of modern religious thought' 1883 A Melville Bell *Vow. Speech* 164 The glottis is in the *vocalising position, and the formula passing through it creates sonorous vibration 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 452 There is great danger of vocalising with the short inspiration

**Vocaller.** *rare*—1. [f. Vocal *a* ] = Vocalist 2.

1876 Besant & Rice *G. III Butterfly* xviii, Presently the little young lady discovers that she is not likely to get cracked up as a vocaller

**Vocally** (vō· kăli), *adv.* [f. Vocal *a* + -ly 2 ]

1. In a vocal manner, by or with the voice, in spoken words.

1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* (1892) 15 As to the thirde [name] vocally, *I* is as moche as by the voys he was callyd Jhesus 1616 A Roberts *Travels Hierarch* 3 Hee ... Her ... Hir ... is vocally made between the Deuill and her, in solemne termes 1856 S H *Golden Lion* 74 Neither Moses nor Joshua were Usurpers, though not vocally chosen by the people. 1859 B Jones *Harmalogium* 42 In that the first and second persons of the Verb be aswell distinctly as vocally notified. 1708 De Foe *Hist Devil* II iii (1840) 198 By whispering to her vocally when she was asleep 1782 Eliz Bicker *Geo Biteman* II 136 The valet though he durst not vocally express his admiration , yet leered familiarly. 1848 J Wilkinson *Christ Creation* viii (1850) 301 That which we in all our prayers and thanksgivings do vocally the ancient Church did weekly 1847 Emily Bronte *Wuthering H.* I. xv, never told my love vocally. 1897 S Crane *Third Violet* 81 He dog gave vent to little sobs in a wild attempt to vocally describe his gladness.

b Contrasted with *mentally*

1638 Mede *Wks* (1672) 362 The Form by which every Christian doth mentally and vocally, when he commends his prayers to God the Father through Jesus Christ 1671 Woodhead *St Teresa* I vi 315 Whatsoever is said, that I mean, who in this manner pray vocally, are very often by God exalted to Contemplation 1738 Waterland *Ch. Sacrifice Expl* App 59 In Baptism we represent and commemorate mentally, vocally, and manually (in Mind, and by Mouth, and by significant Actions) the Death and Burial of Christ our Lord 1870 Spurgeon *Treas Dav* Ps. xxi 8 Jesus prayed vocally as well as mentally.

**2** By means of singing , in vocal music

1726 in *Lond Gaz* No 5487/3 Mr Purcell's Te Deum will be vocally and instrumentally performed 1734 *Ibid* No 6324/4 An Anthem will be vocally and instrumentally performed 1872 Spurgeon *Treas Dav* lvii 8 Vocally and instrumentally will I celebrate thy worship 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 124/3 Madame Suzanne Adams was successful vocally.

**3.** In respect of vowels.

1873 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* (ed 2) § 647 Those syllables which are vocally of the lowest consideration

**To calness** [f Vocal *a* ] (See quot )

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Vocalness*, a vocal Quality. [Hence in later Dicts ]

**†Vocate,** *sb Obs.* Forms a 4–5 voket, 4–5 vokett-, 5 vokett, vokyte *B.* 4 vok , vocate, 5 vocat. [Aphetic f *avoket*, *avocat* Advocate *sb* ] An advocate, in various senses

*a.* 1393 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 5402 3if þou yn falsehede so moche sede, To consente to a fals luggyng Or hyredyst a woket to swyche þyng 13 *Pr Sp. S Jacut* (Vernon MS) in Herrig *Archiv Mod nov Spr* LXVII 315/113 We hun euer a good voket To foren his holi fader 1393 Langl. *P Pl* C 111 61 Were bede to ! at brudale vytaylers and voketus of þe Arches. 15.. in Wr.-Wülcker 680/31 *Hic vocatulcus*, a vokyte *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* lii 372 (Add MS ), In the fore are vndrstondyn vokettes, prelates of causes temporall, courteers, iurrours, and wely men. *c* 1475 *Cath Angl* 404/1 (Ash), *A* vocat, *vel* a plettere

*B* 13 *Curtor M* 20927 (Gött.) Paule, bat saul had first to nam . First he was þe mans vocate [*c.tof* nauocat], And efter he come till postil state. 1377 Langl *P Pl* B II 60 Were baden to þe bridale vitaillers and vokates of þe arches. 1426 Lydg *De Gnd Pilgr* 1897 My vocate I pese To plete for hem when they ha nede I make ther vocat of my blood 1 26 in *Wars Eng in France* (Rolls) II 593 Receyvours, Procutours, Vocate 1509 Barclay *Ship* (1806) 181 Our sauyour Jhesu is a sufficyent vocate for vs before the face of his fader *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii 516 A vocat named Peter Puysour, and a felowe of his named maister John Godarde.

**†Vocate,** *v Obs.*—1 [f. L *vocāt-*, ppl. stem of *vocāre* to call ] *trans* To call or summon

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VII*, 40 Your realme to the which you be bothe (as you saye) inheritoure, and by your people accercised and vocated vnto.

**Vocation** (vokē· ʃən). Forms 5–7 vocacion, 5 -cioun, 5–6 -cyon, tioun, 6 vocatioun, 6– vocation. [L. Of *vocacion*, *alson* (F *vocation*, = Sp *vocacion*, Pg *vocação*, It *vocazione*), or ad. L. *vocātion* , *vocatio*, noun of action f. *vocāre* to call, summon ]

1. The action on the part of God of calling a person to exercise some special function, especially of a spiritual nature, or to fill a certain position ; divine influence or guidance towards a definite (esp. religious) career ; the fact of being so called or directed towards a special work in life, natural tendency to, or fitness for, such work.

1426 Lydg *Do Gnll Pilgr* 10808 Thapostles By choys & by electeoun And also by vocacioun, kam to hym 1526 Tindale *1 Cor* 1 1 Paul by vocacion the Apostle of Jesus Christ thorowe the will of god 1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb ) 107 Of sayntt Thomas of Cantourbury I believe and trust yf that he were of oure lordes vocacion fals ! 1649 P Roberts *Clavis Bibl* 90 His Vocation or calling by God to be Governour of Israel in Moses stead, is repeated 1660 J Beaumont *In Balaac's Trans* 128 A Cordelier, being at Goa, moved with a pious vocation, went to preach the Gospel in those parts 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v., 'Tis a Rule, that none are to enter the Ecclesiastick or Monastick State, without a particular Vocation, or Call 1733 *Unary Blue Nuns in Cath Acc Soc. Publ.* VIII 196 Peggy Johnson (a postulant) left our house haveing no vocation 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* (1901) 147 Luther and Knox were by express vocation Priests, and did faithfully perform that function in its common sense 1852 Lo Colchester *Jeffrey* I 353, I would know of the inward vocation to the holy office 1888 Bernard *Fr. World to Cloister* 3 You see, it is a question of vocation—where I am called there must I go.

b The action on the part of God (or Christ) of calling persons or mankind to a state of salvation or union with Himself; the fact or condition of being so called. (Cf Calling *vbl sb.* 9 )

1500 *Ord Cryston Men* (W de W 1506) iv v P vj, As the deuyll blyndeth the synner, so he hym maketh to lose the heryng of the vocacyon of god 1526 Pilgr de Perf (W de W 1531) 202 b, I hat vnspekable mercy that thou shewed in theyr vocacyon or callynge 1561 T Norton *Calvin on Isaiah* iii 506 As touching election God maketh his elect 1609 Bible (Douay) *Amos* comm , Foreshewing the vocation of vl Nations to Christ 1646 R. Rivers *Ep Manass* 2 *rom* 8 30 Those whom he vocation sayth he you must not look for sanctification, till you come to Christ in vocation 1672 *Disc Evangelical Lets* 13 There is Vocation, or an effectual Calling to the knowledg of Christ by the Gospel *a* 1732 J Gill *Exerc. O. T.* Ps. cxix 7 (1810) IV 192/1 An emblem of the Lord a people in effectual vocation coming out of bondage into liberty 1826 *Ch Ch Remembrancer* (1853) 265 He is filled with a saving and beatifying vocation 1898 C Bell & Dryspan *Cathedral* xi 233 The vocation of the Jewish nation is set forth in these three doorways

c *Vocation of the Gentiles* (cf Acts x 45, etc ). So *Invocation des Gentils* (Calvin)

1649 P. Roberts (*sous Bibl* 61 Vocation of the Gentiles, and many spiritual Priveledges of the Church 1661 J Davies *tr Olearius Voy Ambass* 129 They putch on I welf. day, as that on which sometime happened the vocation of the Gentiles.

**2.** The particular function or station to which a person is called by God, a mode of life or sphere of action regarded as so determined. (Cf Calling *vbl sb.* 10 )

1587 Caxton *Bk Good Manners* d vi b (Stanf.), The pryncipal of theyr vocacyon is for to defende the fayth 1590 *Lord. Cryston Men* (W de W 1506) iv 19 They [e. kings] gouerne truely the realme of theyr conseyence and the estate of theyr vocacyon 1545 Brinklow *Compl* 11 b, He wil geue grace to the kyng to walke in his vocacion 1565 Stapleton *Fortr Faith* 129 (1gory Nazianzen leaving the bishoprick of Constantinople, much serche was made to finde a man to supply that high vocation 1642 Rutherford *Holy's Presb Sf* iv 12 282 Heaven is his vocation, and therefore he counts earthly employments avocations *a* 1732 T Knox *Serm* xxiii 307 Let us go forth to our various employments, resolved to walk worthy of our Christian vocation. 1847 C Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxii, 'I shall probably take the veil . 'The vocation will fit you to a hair', I thought 1901 *Proceed in Chr Synod Protest* XXXIV 388 In some quarters the missionary's life is regarded as a profession rather than as a vocation

b One's ordinary occupation, business, or profession. Cf. *Calling vbl sb* 11 †

1553 T Wilson *Rhet* 95 b, Any occupation of life a soudiour is counted a great brugger, and a vaunter of hymselfe 1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas'* I Ded 5 The same hath contributed much to the better furnishing of my vocation 1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* 13 If there bee any in our vocation or calling, that liue disorderly and out of compasse, what trade can you name that doe not the like 1620 Peacham *Compl Gentl* 122 Vsefull necessaries for seamen, and calling 1631 Massinger *Bash Trampe* 1 118, I cannot but be sorry that he hath undertaken this desperate vocation 1728 Steele *Spect* No 304 3 Your Profession is a Gentleman , and not that Vocation in Britain , who was by way of Eminency called the Stationer 1762 tr H Walpole *Virtue's Amicel Panl* (1786) II 18 It is idle to write a panegyric on the greatest man in any vocation 1820 W Irving *Sketch Bk* II 356 In addition to his other vocations, he was the singing master of the neighbourhood 1872 Ainsworth *Tower Tell* I v, A droll looking wight, whose vocation was proclaimed by his motley garb 1879 St *George's Hosp Rep* IX 554 The vocations of the women expose them to sudden changes of temperature

c *collect.* Those who follow a particular business or profession.

1587 Harrison *England* II v (1877) I 132 Euerie function and seuerall vocation striueth with other 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* III xxiii (Arb.) 289 It is comely that euery estate and vocation should be knowen by the differences of their habit 1652 Hobbes *Leviath.* II xxvi 137 Some Lawes are addressed to particular Provinces, some to particular Vocations, and some to particular Men.

**3.** A call *to* a public position.

1553 Q Mary in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III App. vi 10 Specially synce the tyme of her vocation to the crowne.

b. The action, on the part of an ecclesiastical body, of calling a person to the ministry or to a particular office or charge in the Church. (Cf. Calling *vbl. sb.* 3 b.)

1536 *and Bk. Discipline* III, Vocatioun or calling is ane lauchfull way, be the quhilk qualifeit persons is promoute to ane spirituall office in the Kirk of God 1588 Udall *Demonstr Discipl* (Arb.) 67 The governors of the Church may not meddle, but onely in church matters, as for example, vocation, and ordination 1837 Gillespie *Eng Pop Ceremn* III. viii 195 As the vocation of Ministers pertaineth to the whole Church, so to the same also pertaineth the removing of Ministers. 1849 tr *Bunsen's Ch of Future* v 116 Here the natural and historical form, that of call (or vocation) meets us at once. It is recognised as belonging to the congregation 1860 Hook *Lives Abps* I v 8, A vocation to pastoral duty in the manufacturing districts demanded his energies for five and thirty years

**† 4.** *?* Designation, title. *Obs.*—1

1477 Caxton *Jason* 110 Knowest not thou wel that euery man of noble name or vocacion is holden & bounden to paye and holde his promesse.

**†5.** The action of summoning an assembly or its members. *Obs rare*

*c* 1380 Henrykon *Test Cresa* 272 Before Cupide [he] Speeris the cause of that vocatioun 1772 *Harleian Misc* Suppl 18 Sept. 1/2 The letters of vocation for the new Senators appointed by the King of Sweden

**† 6** Appeal, entreaty, petition. *Obs rare.*

1574 in *Mantl Cl Misc* (1840) I 98 That ane publict humiliation and fast, togidder with an ernest vocatioun and prayer, be vnquhit ane certane tyme 1578 *Lynds Chyrk* (1878) 18 Some on Venus, some to Luna make their vocation

**Vocational** (vokē· ʃənăl), *a* [f. Vocation + -al ] Of, pertaining or relating to, a vocation or occupation.

1682 Gaule *Magastromm* 204 It [i e prophecy] was a gift, or grace, not so much personal as vocational, pertaining not to ordinary duty so much as extraordinary occasion 1732 J Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 16 It may fall in the vocational part Whatever it is men s calling or station the crook in their lot may take its place thereto 1865 *Athenæum* 27 May 715/3 With these appear the Lithologies, vocational name of Saxon Origin, and the Sawyers 1875 Whitney *Life Lang* iv 139 The classes, whether social, vocational, or educational

Hence **Voca tionally** *adv.*

1890 Claire Rumsey *Medora* xvi 229 The seamanship of those days, the strategies, the devices, were no longer of the least value vocationally

**Vocative** (vo· kătiv), *a* and *sb.* Also 5 vocatyf, 6 vocastyve, 6 7 vocative (6 foo-). [a Of *vocatif*, *-ive* (mod F. *vocatif* = Sp , Pg , It. *vocativo*), or ad L. *vocātīvus* (also as *sb* ), f *vocāt-*, ppl. stem of *vocare* to call.]

*A. adj.* **1.** *Vocative case* That case of nouns, adjectives, or pronouns, which in inflected languages is used to express address or invocation

*c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* xcl 418 (Add MS ), The fyfte is the vocatyf case 1530 Whittinton *Vulg* (1572) 1 The verbe shall accorde with his nominative or vocative case 1549 Lily *Introd. Gram.* B ij, The seconde person is spoken to as Tu, thou vos, ye And of this person is also euery vocative case 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* IV 1 54 Wh ot is the Vocative case (William ) 1612 Brinsley *Lud Lit* 101 In construing we begin commonly of a Vocative case if there be one 1668 Wilkins *Real Char* iv 448 Interiections, divers of which are said to govern the Nominative, Dative, Accusative, Vocative Case *c* 1791 *Fuxpel Brit* (ed. 3) VIII 4/1 The Vocative case is that which is put unto a vocative, of which the use is always to solicit attention 1857 Brande & Cox *Dict Sci, etc* III 959 Vocative Case

In strictness of speech it is not a case at all. 1899 D Fraser *Autobiog* 1 14 Rudiments and didactic paragraphs—what I once heard well stigmatised as 'sermons in the vocative case'

b. In *fig* context. (Cf next.)

14 *Peers of Fulham* 370 in Hasl *E P P* II 25 To knowen folke that ben daiyff Their purches be called ablanf They haue their pen vocatyf

**2** Characteristic of, pertaining to, calling or addressing.

1644 Bulwer *Chirol*, 55 To this vocative, salutation, and in like compellation of the Hand 1897 G S Faber *Sacr Cal Prophecy* (1844) II 11 Pope Gregory, in his first epistle to the Emperor I eo Isaurius, salutes him with the vocative title of Basilaeu 1897 Earle *Philol Eng Tongue* 162 As to the sense the O prefixed merely imparts to the title a vocative effect.

*B sb* **1.** The vocative case.

*a* 1522 Lily *Gram Rudim* in *Colet's Æditio* (1527) A viij, When the nominative endeth in us, the vocative shal ende in e 1849 — *Introd Gram* 8 Nouns of the second ende the neuter gendre haue the nominatiue the accusatiue, and the vocatiue lyke in both numbers 1849 Jas Taylor *Lat Gramm* 5 (in neuter nouns) the nominative, accusative, and vocative are alike in both numbers. 1850 *Lat Gram* 6 These Nouns following make their Vocative in s or in us 1856 Ainsworth *Lat Dict* 11, O is often understood both before an accusative and vocative 1881 Harris *Hermes* I viii (1786) 145 *note*, I he Vocative was nothing more than the Form of address in from of names, titles, and epithets *Ibid.* II. iv 206 The Vocative being not only unknown to the modern Languages, but often in the ancient being supplied by the Nominative *c* 1790 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) IX 541/2 Those [Latin nouns] in ius, whose nominative, accusative, and vocative are alike. 1818 Stoddart in *Encycl. Metrop* (1845) I 33/2 The vocative or ablative, which latter some writers have considered as the primary and original case of the noun 1872 Geo Eliot *Middlem.* xxxv, O end less vocatives that would still leave expression slipping helpless from the measurement of moral folly !

**2.** An invocation or appeal. *rare*—1.

1797 Richardson *Clarissa* (1812) II. v. 27 The two latter will hardly come neither, if they think it will be to bear your whining vocatives.

Hence **Vo·catively** *adv.*

1662 Br. Pearson *Creed* (ed. 2) 145 The Nominative may as well stand vocatively without an Article. 1904 Bradley *Making of English* 192 To use the word [fellow] vocatively to an equal in the sense of 'comrade'.

‖ **Voce.** [L. *vōce*, abl. of *vox* voice, word.] Under the word or heading. (Cf. Vo.¹, Voc.)

1838 Bell *Dict. Law Scott.* 866 What regards the calling lists has been explained, *voce* Calling a Summons.

**Voce,** obs. Sc. and north. variant of Voice.

**† Voche,** *v. Obs.*⁻¹ [app. ad. O.F. *vocher, -ier* : see Vouch *v.*] *trans.* ? To call or summon.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* 1221 Legyones of sungelez togeder voched per lesten ensens of swete smulle.

**Vochelte,** error for *vochette* Rochet.

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 7 Ouer their garmentes were vochettes of pleasantes, roulled with Crymsyne veluet, and set w^t^ letters of golde. ‖Hence in Holinshed.]

**Vociferance** (*vosi·fĕrăns*). [f. next: see -ance.] a. Clamour or noise of shouting. b. Vociferant quality.

1838 S. Hellamy *Betrayal* 168 From darkness came The hydra tongued vociferance. 1894 Browning *Master Hugues of Saxe-Gotha* xv. All how it wrangles, abuse and vociferance. 1899 *Pall Mall G.* 28 May 3/2 Alternating between a hoarse whisper and a painfully pitched vociferance.

**Vociferant** (*vosi·fĕrănt*), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōciferant-*, *vociferans*, pres. pple. of *vōciferārī*, *-āre* : see next.]

**A.** *adj.* Clamouring, bawling, vociferating.

1609 J. Davies (Heref.) *Holy Roode* Wks. (Grosart) I. 109/2 For, all his Wounds, with voice vociferant, Crie out they can more than supply each wound. 1630 Lithgow *Trav.* *Ca.* 214 The most vociferant vulgar..do least know what the matter is. 1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* vi. 38 That Theodosius came to Artaxerxes, not to Xerxes, ..he proves from a plain narrative, where there is no mention of any vociferant Ecstatical Oblius. 1836 *Westm. Rev.* XXIV. 82 A race of parsons sprung up, half political leaders, half-fanatical fire-brands..now declaiming in the pulpit, now vociferant in the tavern [etc.]. 1850 Browning *Christmas Eve* iv. 98 My mind was full of the scene I had left, That placid flock, that pastor vociferant. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* xiv, She..shook first him and then his frock..and carried him, vociferant, to the door.

**B.** *sb.* A clamorous or noisy person.

1890 *Atlantic Monthly* May 675/2 Strange as it may appear to earnest but misguided vociferants.

**Vociferate** (*vosi·fĕrēt*), *v.* [f. *vōciferāt-*, ppl. stem of L. *vōciferārī* (rarely *-āre*), f. *vōci-*, *vox* voice + *ferre* to carry. Cf. F. *vociférer*, Sp. and Pg. *vociferar*, It. *vociferare*.]

1. *intr.* To cry out loudly; to bawl, to shout.

1623 Cockeram I, *Vociferate*, to bray or crie out. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 270 You do so insist and vociferate upon it, like one of your bulky Princes [etc.]. 1788 Mary Robinson in G. Harris *Life Lat. Dutch. wicke* (1847) xvi. 111. 437 He vociferated beyond even his usual pitch. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XII. 335 So they vociferating to the Greeks, Sitter'd down to battle. 1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* II. 196 His passion was somewhat exhausted and he ceased to vociferate. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xvii. 202 They were vociferating as if to attract our attention.

2. *trans.* To utter in a loud voice; to shout out clamorously; to declaim or assert with loud vehemence.

The object may be either the words uttered (*a*), or a descriptive noun (*b*).

(*a*) 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VI. 99 Damn'd, damn'd doings! vociferated the Peer. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvi, 'You shall be separated from me from my master, though', vociferated Paulo. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxi, They vociferated loudly, that those who were not with them were against them. 1850 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* viii, He therefore rode along..vociferating occasionally that 'twas 'desp't rough, and bad for Jerry's foot'. 1871 *Mem. Sir H. Paris* I. 233 'You shall apologize,' vociferated the Bench.

(*b*) 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 2. P 6 The cock warbles her lyrics in the kitchen, and the thrasher vociferates his hymeneals in the barn. 1790 *Ess. Irish.* (1809) II. 127 The ignorant plebeian, though he may vociferate the word Liberty in a riot, knows not how to give it an effectual support. 1820 Mrs. K. Pardoe *Mysl. Visit* I. 9 The nursery-maid..loudly vociferated the dreadful accident to the astonished servants. 1848 Emily Brontë *Wuthering Ht.* ix, He entered, vociferating oaths dreadful to hear. 1860 F. Winslow *Diseases Brain & Mind* iv. 53, I then began to vociferate a number of most incoherent expressions.

3. To drive by means of clamour.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 9 April, It would be worse than disappointing..if Lord Beaconsfield should have been vociferated out of office merely in order to please Montenegro and Bulgaria.

Hence **Vociferated** *ppl. a.* ; **Vociferating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1617 Fletcher *Mad Lover* II. ii, Beef we can bear before us.. And tubs of pork; vociferating veals. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. *Argt.*, Then follow the Exercises for the Poets, of tickling, vociferating, diving. 1782 Cowper *Conversat.* 113 Vociferated logic kills me quite.

**Vociferation** (*vosi·fĕrē·ʃən*). Also 5 voce., 5–6 vocyferacion, 6 -cyon, 6 vociferasion. [a. OF. *vociferacion* (mod.F. *vociférations* pl.), = Sp. *vociferacion*, Pg. *-ação*, It. *-azione*), or ad. L. *vōciferātiōn-*, *vociferātio*, noun of action f. *vōciferārī* : see prec. and -ation.]

1. An act or instance of loud speaking or shouting; a clamour or outcry.

*c* 1400 *St. Fridan* MS. 148 Þe vocyferacions Of the gret glawmoure & þe sownes Þat herd in entring of þe place. 1561 R. Cox and Cooke *Gosson's Treagt.* 2 C ij, Ye ought to haue cure of all the body in strengthyng it with diuers exercytacyons, testynges, and vociferacions. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 630 How beit, in this exercise we must beware of ouer-loud vociferations and clamours. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 54 P 3 When our young Heralds are struck'd in the Faculties of making Proclamation, and other Vociferations. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 18 P 4, I can bear the vociferations of either sex without catching any of the fire from those that utter them. 1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 167 How mean and trivial are the vociferations in defence of property. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xxvii. 550 Without paying any attention to his vociferations we went on.

2. The action of vociferating; the utterance of loud outcries or shouts; loud and vehement exercise of the voice.

1598 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 43 With terrible vociferacion They made wonderfull exclamacion The words of peas to subuerte. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 29 b, The people ..woulde openly crye and make vocyferacion that God dyd take vengeaunce. 1592 Barrough *Meth. Physick* 111. xxxiii. (1639) 142 It is manifest that vociferation and crying out.. doth greatly helpe in this evill. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 188 Such exercises as gently dilate and extend the Breast, as those of vociferation, commotion of the Arms. 1728 Addison *Spect.* No. 407 P 8 Violent Gesture and Vociferation naturally shake the Hearts of the Ignorant. 1783 Burke *Sp.* in Parl. Ireland (1816) I. 90 They modulate their voices to a tone consistent with pious thoughts, without that extravagant vociferation practised in some churches. 1818 *Scots Mag. Lit. in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 268 The whole mob of the Middlesex blackguards..almost drive me mad with their noise and vociferation. 1860 Borrow *Wisdom* 21 Here was plenty of vociferation, but not one single burst of eloquence. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* ii. 58 That wonderfully busy scene of embarkation and disembarkation, and of noisy Arab vociferation.

b. *Const of* (the words uttered).

1780 Johnson in *Boswell* (1904) II. 325 Having after some confused reiteration of 'Hear him—hear him!' obtained a silent attention.

**† Vociferative,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. as Vociferate *v.* + -ive.] Vociferous.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 50 With dismall crying and vociferative inculcating vnto her.

**Vociferator** (*vosi·fĕrēi·tər*). [f. Vociferate *v.*, or ad. L. *vōciferātor* (Tertullian). Cf. F. *vociférateur*, Sp. and Pg. *vociferador*.] One who or that which vociferates; a clamorous or noisy shouter.

1824 Moore *Mem.* (1853) II. 50, I dare say I shall put up with their noises till spring, when certainly you shall have the advantage of at least one of the little vociferators. 1844 *Chron. Autor.* 11. 11 A monstrous herd of vociferators in favour of arbitrary power. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. (Cassell's), He defied the vociferators to do their worst.

**Vociferosity.** *rare*⁻¹. [f. next : see -osity.] The quality or state of being vociferous.

1837 Carlyle *Misc., Mirabeau* (1857) IV. 190 Shall we give poor Buffière's testimonial in mess-room dialect; in its native t'wanging vociferosity?

**Vociferous** (*vosi·fĕrəs*), *a.* [f. L. *vōciferārī* (see Vociferate *v.*) + -ous.]

1. Uttering loud cries or shouts; clamorous, bawling, noisy.

*c* 1622 Chapman *Iliad* II. 83 Thrise three vociferous heralds rose to checke the rout, and get Eaue to their loue-kept quarternion. 1707 E. Bohun *Prerog. Parliam.* 228, I sailed into a Presbyterian Meeting..where the vociferous Holder-forth was as bold and saucy, as if the Deity and all the Saints had been his Money. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 131 P 1 The Spanish driver leaning o'er his team Vociferous and loquacious all day. 1818 Southey *Poet's Pilgr.* Proem xviii, The restless Joy Of those glad gills, and that vociferous boy! 1834 James *P. Marston Hall* viii, My companions were very vociferous. 1872 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 56 The whole audience instead of being mute became vociferous.

*Transf.* 1850–5 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* Prol, Sp. iv, Hover downward! Seize the loud, vociferous bells, and..to the pavement Hurl them from their windy tower.

*Fig.* 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 361/1 Mr. Cody ..could scarcely design a vulgar and vociferous work if he tried.

b. Applied to birds.

1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 94 Vociferous Eagle, *Falco Vociferus*. 1829 W. Irving *Knickerb.* III. ii. (1850) 170 Flocks of vociferous geese cackled about the fields.

2. Of the nature of vociferation; uttered with or accompanied by clamour; characterized by loud declamation.

1693 Heathwaite *Whimzies, Piper* 144 All he reedes, he puts into his pipe: which consisting of three notes breaks out into a most vociferous syllogisme. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) II. 50 Though candour and benevolence are silent virtues, they are visible as the most vociferous ill-nature. 1818 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. v. 196 Popular gratitude is as vociferous as it is sudden. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 283 Some of the visitors are the most vociferous ill-natured. 1838 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. v. 196 Popular gratitude is as vociferous as it is sudden. 1839

1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 278 *Vugh*, or *vugal* ..a cavity. 1880 Worcester (citing Ansted), *Vogie*.

**Vogie** (vō·gĕl), *a. Sc.* Also 8 **vogy.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. Vain, proud, conceited.

1719 Ramsay *Epist. Hamilton* Answ. ii. ii, 'Whilst', quoth the voogy jade. 1788 Burns *My Heggie* 4 My only beast, I had nae mae, And vow but I was vogie! 1789 Rose *Herbarist* (ed. 3) 112 Of your ornaments, be sure, I'm mair nor fain, And vogie that I can ca' you my ain. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* vii. xi. (1849) 356, I was somewhat vogie of the valour I had shown her so handsomely off-hand.

2. Merry, cheerful, delighted, gay.

1719 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) 81 We took a spring, and danc'd a fling, And wow but we were vogie! *a* 1772 Fergusson *Ode to Bon Accord* (1845) 38 The Muse thuds ear' and heart-some owre the dews, Fu' vogie and fu' blythe to crap The winsome flowers frae nature's lap. 1822 Galt *Provost* xlii, Many were the thought...that we had got a great catch, and they were both blythe and vogie when he was chosen. 1826 in Proudfoot *Borderland Muse* 323 He's harmless as yon vogie lamb That leaps beside its sleeping dam.

‖ **Vogt** (vōkt, *Sp.* vōxt). Also 7 **voogts, vaught.** [a. G. *vogt* (and Du. *voogd*, † *vooget*), MHG. *voget*, OHG. *fogat*, ad. med.L. *vocit-us*: cf. Vocate *sb.*] A steward, bailiff, or similar official.

1694 Penn *Trav. Holland & Germ.* 91 The Inspector of the Calvinists hath joyned the Vooght, or chief Officer, not to suffer any preaching among our Friends. *Ibid.* 190 The Vaught or chief Officer. 1768 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 252 He acknowledged them to be hereditary vogts of his church. 1879 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 83 The rights of the archbishop being guarded by an advocatus or vogt,...the state was governed by its own landrath.

**Vogthe,** obs. variant of Vault *sb.*[1]

**Vogue** (vōg), *sb.* Also 6 **vog(e**, *Sc.* **wogue**, 7 **vouge**, **vogue**. [a. *vogue* rowing, course, success, f. *voguer*. Id. It. *vogare* to row. So It. and Pg. *voga*, Sp. *boga*.]

1. † **1.** *The vogue*, the principal or foremost place in popular repute or estimation; the most pronounced success or general acceptance; the greatest currency or prevalence. Chiefly in phrases *to have, bear, carry, set* (etc.) *the vogue*. Now *Obs.*

(a) 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 123 Quha hes pe wogue [*printed* woque], him all pe warld dois wow. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 12/24 As mychtie Monarck rair,..He onlie hes the veg amipotent. 1643 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 290 Such are the men that now have the vogue, and...seem to have quite swallowed up both the King's Prerogatives, and those of the Lords. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 1. 1. 1 Scepticism having had for many ages almost the general cry and vogue for Atoms. 1732 Medley *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 65 They have the vogue above all the other Hottentot nations for strength and dexterity in throwing the Hassagaye. 1738 *Observ. Brit. Wool* 9 English Woollen Manufactures have had the Vogue and Name for many Years past, all over Europe. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 210 He had published a theory of electricity, which then had the general vogue.

(b) *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1735) 380 Such scornful and such partial Persons, as have often possessed your Ear and carried the Vogue in your Court. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 47 Though Mustard-seed do carry the Vogue amongst the People. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 123 It bears the Vogue for altering the Blood. 1720 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 152 Mr Fadzean that most bloody Rogue, Who for his Villanies did bear the Vogue. 1732 Betterton *Eng. Stage* i. 9 Notwithstanding the Industry of the Patentee and Managers, it seems the King's House then carried the Vogue of the Town.

(c) 1685 *Choice Coll. Songs*, '*Pill up the Bowl*' v, While you can find one Factious Rogue, To sway the Poll, and get the Vogue. 1710 Swift *Tatler* No. 230 ? 7 Some of which [words] are now struggling for the Vogue, others are in full possession of it. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* i. ii, I'll...win the vogue at market, iron, or fair, For halesome, clean, cheap and sufficient ware. 1730 *Swift Beast's Confess. & Prof.*, London is seldom without a dozen of their own educating, who engross the vogue for half a winter together.

**2.** Without article: Popularity; general acceptance or currency; success in popular esteem.

1604 Wilcocks in *Golding's De Mornay* Ded. Pr. Wales (1617) A 2 b, This booke being countenanced, vnder your Patronage and defence, shall inuse more vogue, and better acceptance with all sorts. 1623 *S. R. Willobie Avis.* (1880) 4 so long as you permit the Schisms of Arminius to have such vogue...in the principal Towns of Holland. 1694 W. Fabee *Sel. Ess.* 3 An Author not in Common Vogue, as well as Authority, looks like one with the Plague-sore upon him. 1709 Swift *Tatler* No. 71 ? 6 vii. Wks. 1768 I. 116 Having observed how little invention any vogue, besides what is derived into these channels. 1716 Wateeland *Serm. def. Cambridge Univ.* 21 A good Man has no Security...but by examining carefully what is true, right, and just in it self, separate from common Vogue or popular Opinion. 1732 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 248 To convince you that fashion, vogue,...and law, were the chief foundation of all moral determinations. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 154 Mr. —...seems to have a good deal of vogue as a sculptor. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 351 Astrologers, magicians, soothsayers,...acquire such vogue, as to attract the indignant notice of both satirists and historians.

**b.** In phr. *in* (*or out of*) *vogue*. Also with adjs. (usually intensive), as *in full vogue*, etc.

(a) 1643 Cleab. I. in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* 1. III. 297 Though Mars be now most in vogue, yet Hymen may bee some tymes remembred. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lix. 224 The Idol which is most in vogue amongst them, and most frequented. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* ii. iv. (1677) 165 The same Words and Phrases that were not used,...in former Ages, become in Fashion, Reputation and Vogue in another Age. 1708 Swift *Gulliver* iv. xii, It is highly probable, that such travellers...may, by detecting my errors,...lustle me out of vogue and stand in my place. 1738 — *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 49 My Book would be out of Vogue with the first Change of Fashion. 1747 Hutcheson *Sermon.* Wks. 1871 II. 107 Corruptions of the grossest sort have been in vogue, for many generations. 1789 Bentham *Def. Usury* x. 98 A method much in vogue was, to let the Jews get the money...and then squeeze it out of them as it was wanted. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 274 The writers whom you suppose in vogue,...have long since had their day. 1832 Newman *Parl. Serm.* (ed. 2) V. ix. 141 The influence of some system of religion which is in vogue. 1879 Proctor *Pleas. Ways Sc.* ii. 30 The system of lunar weather wisdom in vogue to this day among seamen.

(b) 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 101 Letters are in no vogue in that Country, and profound Ignorance reigns among them. 1692 Sprat *Wicked Contrivance* ii. 15 The Popish Plot having been just before in full vogue there, as well as here. 1748 Betterton *Eng. Stage* i. 8 During this Interval, many Plays were brought upon the Stage written in Heroic Rhime; and...in 1668. it became still in greater Vogue. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 35 The following popular song is said to be in great vogue. 1838 James *Louis XIV*. I. 3 As the system of conversation [to the Roman Catholic faith] was at that time in high vogue.

**c.** In phr. *to bring* or *put, to come* or *start, etc., into* (*or in*) *vogue*.

*a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Nov. 1694, It had been brought into vogue by Mr. Tudor an apothecary. 1700 *A London Dial. Medals* Misc. Wks. 1736 III. 15 To bring the study of Medals in vogue. 1750 Chesterfield *Lett.* ccxvii. (1792) II. 340 Those words...would be very much out of use, were gallantries which put them in vogue. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 176 What would the mathematician give to know the newest fashions as they start into vogue, or be let into all the scandal and tittle-tattle of the town? 1845 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. lxii. 148 Austere doctrines...seem to have made little vogue in the higher circles. 1849 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 1 Travelling in a carriage with post-horses was brought into vogue by the Bourbons. 1876 Gladstone *Homeric Synchr.* 134 It had still more recently come into vogue as the national name.

**d.** In phr. *to give vogue* (to something).

*c* 1688 [? Burnet] *Enquiry into Reasons Abrog. Test* 7/1 The main things that gave it Popular Vogue and Reputation with its Party. 1770 Lear *Lett. Pozzo* (1774) 38 That childish nation, the French, have given him vogue and fashion. 1799 in *Med. Trnl.* (1800) III. 14 Those artifices that have given Medical Men vogue in the World. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. xlviii, Although her birth and wealth had given her vogue, Beyond the charmers we have already hinted at. 1832 Hallam *Hist. Europe* II. i. vii. § 27. 402 It contains several feigned letters of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, which probably in a credulous age passed for genuine. 1837 Hope *Costume Ancients* II. 5 Sir Condee *Basis Faith* ii. 69 To give vogue to a phrase by which he hopes to make the idea...ridiculous.

† **e.** *Of vogue*, holding a prominent place in popular repute or notice; fashionable.

1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* iv. iii. iv. 137 Is it not strange then, that Reformed Divines, yea some of great vogue for Pietie and Learning should espouse an error so grosse. 1703 Neville *Plain Dealer* i. 1, The Great Beauties, as Shirley's old People of Vogue, were always her Discourse and Imitation. 1709 — *Tatler* No. 14 ? 3 There are Two who practise Physick in this Town, of the greatest Vogue. 1711 *Spectator* No. 81 ? 1 Upon the Death of Count Conder *Basis Faith* ii. 69 To give vogue to a phrase by which he hopes to make the idea...ridiculous.

† **f.** *Of vogue*, holding a prominent place in popular repute or notice; fashionable.

1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* iv. iii. iv. 137 Is it not strange then, that Reformed Divines, yea some of great vogue for Pietie and Learning should espouse an error so grosse. 1703 Neville *Plain Dealer* i. 1, The Great Beauties, as Shirley's old People of Vogue, were always her Discourse and Imitation. 1709 — *Tatler* No. 14 ? 3 There are Two who practise Physick in this Town, of the greatest Vogue. 1711 *Spectator* No. 81 ? 1 There is a vogue, my Lord; which if you will bring me into, you will lay a lasting obligation on me. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 June 13/3 Others...at once took the thing up and made it a vogue.

† **Vogue,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To cry *up* or *down*.

*c* 1680 in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 32/2 He procured an awe and reverence to himself, which he vogued up by the Clergy, and rendered to the Vulgar as a Pattern of Piety. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 408 Thus may a good Medicine be vogu'd down by a groundless Fancy.

**b.** To bring into, or keep in, vogue.

1687 J. Reynolds *Death's Vis.* Pref. (1713) 9 [That] those Poets shou'd be chiefly Applauded and Vogued, whose sole use of Religion...is to Undervalue it, and Ridicule it.

**2.** To repute or reckon (as something).

1678 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 251 Pythagoras...might put this Honorary Mark upon the Ternary Number, and Vogue it Sacred and Divine. 1711 Keath *Heracleitus Ridens* No. 78. (1713) II. 208 Hellish Rays, and such, forsooth, must be vogued Protestant Zeal. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xiii, Some who would take it ill not to be vogued for first-rate Politicians.

† **Vogue,** *v.*[2] *Obs.*[—] [ad. F. *voguer*: see Vogue *sb.*] *intr.* To float.

1687 Rycaut *Hist. Turks* II. 326 The Turks brake it [the bridge] the preceeding day, letting the materials vogue with the stream into the Danube.

**Voiadge,** obs. form of Voyage *sb.*

**Voice** (vois), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 **vois** (4 **uoys**), 3–5 **voys** (5 **uoys**, 5–6 **woys**), 4–5 **voise** (4 **uoise**), 4–6 (7) **voyse** (5 **woyse**); 4–7 **voyce** (4 **voysce**, 5 **voyc**, 5–6 *Sc.* **woyce**), 4– **voice** (4 **uoice**, 4–5–6 *Sc.*, **woice**, 6 **voic**); also 5 **wyce**, 8–9 *dial.* **vice**. β. *Sc.* and *north.* 4–7 **voce** (5 **uoce**, 5–6 **woce**), 5, 7 **vose**, 6 **wose**. [a. AF. *vois*, *voice*, OF. *vois*, *voit*, *voix* (mod.F. *voix*, = Pr. *vots*, Sp. and Pg. *voz*, It. *voce*):—L. *vōc-em*, *vox* voice, sound.]

I. 1. Sound, or the whole body of sounds, made or produced by the vocal organs of man or animals in their natural action; esp. sound formed in or emitted from the human larynx in speaking, singing, or other utterance; vocal sound as the vehicle of human utterance or expression. Also occas., the faculty or power of producing this; or concretely, the organs by which it is produced.

† **b.** General course or tendency; general character or condition. *Obs.*

1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 74 They seing all things are permitted them, do instantly take that voice, which depraued nature doth present vnto them, they follow the track of pleasure. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Church of Gratpes* i, One vogue and vein, One aire of thought usurps my brain. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol. exlii.* 543 The Native ...shall live gallantly...above the ordinary Vogue of his Birth. 1660 Gauden *Slight Healers* 76 They go with the vogue and stream of times. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 105 Mens merit is generally judg'd of by the Vogue of the Fortune they are in. 1709 Law *Serious C.* xvii. 308 According to the spirit and vogue of this world, whose corrupt air we have all breath'd, there are many things that pass for great, and honourable.

† **c.** Vigour or energy. *Obs.*[—]

1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 3 This is at large inculcated.., with great vouge and ostentation by that Bishop of *Condom*.

† **5.** The approbation, approval, or popular favour *of* some class of persons, etc. *Obs.*

1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* [n, For many to eternize their soone forgot memory, and to gaine the vogue of this vaine world, hes prepared Pyramides of pompe. 1648 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 75 Wouldst Thou wooe a Feature In a glasse?..Or renigne what you may claime To the vogue of vaine glorie? 1662–3 Sprat *Life* (1734) II. 11. xviii. 305 A King...not owing his Kingdom to the vogue of the populace but to the suffrage of nature. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* 2 It is called by the Trout the Queen of Rivers, excellent Fish, by the Vogue of the most curious Palates. 1720 Welton *Snffer. Son of God* II. xx. 565, I would fain recollect with Obtain the Universal Approbation and Vogue in my own Favour.

† **b.** The current opinion or belief; the general report or rumour. *Obs.*

1626 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 131 Some affirm the Earl of Suffolk...gave the Vogue of the Egyptian Pennington hath the vogue to go to his vice-admiral. 1661 Sir P. Tyrill in *Essex Rev.* (1909) XVIII. 95 The generall vogue of the towne is that the Dutch are approached much was agreed upon at the Counsell. 1683 J. Chamberlayne *Coffee Tea & Choc.* 49 Indeed 'tis the common vogue and opinion of this Country, that there is nothing more Sovereign then this plant. 1711 Perry *Dogget's A.-Mob* 79 The Opinion of my Assistants being wig'd, and the general vogue of Men that my Work was carried on in a sufficient Manner. 1730 Swift *Lett. to Gay* 19 Nov., The vogue of our few honest folks here is that Duck is absolutely to succeed Exeter in the laurel.

**6.** The prevailing fashion or tendency; *esp.* that which is in favour at a particular time.

1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* xi. (1662) 46 The common Sewer or stream of the present vogue and humor. 1660 Stillingfl. *Iren.* ii. vi. § 11. (1665) 168 If Jerome speak according to the general vogue, this solution may be sufficient. 1844 Marryat *P. Simple* lxv, His mustachios, bad French, and waltzing,..were quite the vogue. 1880 Sala *Lady Chesterf. Pref.* p. iii, An age when burlesque is the vogue.

**b.** Without article or with *a*.

1688–90 Temple *Ess. Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 283 A Disease, have changed Vogue, so have Remedies in my Time and Observation. 1738 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* III, There is a vogue, my Lord; which if you will bring me into, you will lay a lasting obligation on me. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 June 13/3 Others...at once took the thing up and made it a vogue.

† **Vogue,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To cry *up* or *down*.

*c* 1680 in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 32/2 He procured an awe and reverence to himself, which he vogued up by the Clergy, and rendered to the Vulgar as a Pattern of Piety. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 408 Thus may a good Medicine be vogu'd down by a groundless Fancy.

**b.** To bring into, or keep in, vogue.

1687 J. Reynolds *Death's Vis.* Pref. (1713) 9 [That] those Poets shou'd be chiefly Applauded and Vogued, whose sole use of Religion...is to Undervalue it, and Ridicule it.

**2.** To repute or reckon (as something).

1678 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 251 Pythagoras...might put this Honorary Mark upon the Ternary Number, and Vogue it Sacred and Divine. 1711 Keath *Heracleitus Ridens* No. 78. (1713) II. 208 Hellish Rays, and such, forsooth, must be vogued Protestant Zeal. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xiii, Some who would take it ill not to be vogued for first-rate Politicians.

† **Vogue,** *v.*[2] *Obs.*[—] [ad. F. *voguer*: see Vogue *sb.*] *intr.* To float.

1687 Rycaut *Hist. Turks* II. 326 The Turks brake it [the bridge] the preceeding day, letting the materials vogue with the stream into the Danube.

**Voiadge,** obs. form of Voyage *sb.*

**Voice** (vois), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 **vois** (4 **uoys**), 3–5 **voys** (5 **uoys**, 5–6 **woys**), 4–5 **voise** (4 **uoise**), 4–6 (7) **voyse** (5 **woyse**); 4–7 **voyce** (4 **voysce**, 5 **voyc**, 5–6 *Sc.* **woyce**), 4– **voice** (4 **uoice**, 4–5–6 *Sc.*, **woice**, 6 **voic**); also 5 **wyce**, 8–9 *dial.* **vice**. β. *Sc.* and *north.* 4–7 **voce** (5 **uoce**, 5–6 **woce**), 5, 7 **vose**, 6 **wose**. [a. AF. *vois*, *voice*, OF. *vois*, *voit*, *voix* (mod.F. *voix*, = Pr. *vots*, Sp. and Pg. *voz*, It. *voce*):—L. *vōc-em*, *vox* voice, sound.]

I. 1. Sound, or the whole body of sounds, made or produced by the vocal organs of man or animals in their natural action; esp. sound formed in or emitted from the human larynx in speaking, singing, or other utterance; vocal sound as the vehicle of human utterance or expression. Also occas., the faculty or power of producing this; or concretely, the organs by which it is produced.

a. With *the*, or with limiting terms as *man's*.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 11490 Þis ilk stern ..said to þaim wit mans woice, þat þai suld wend to Juen land. *c 1330 Will. Palerne* 40 þe son of be cry com to be-cowherde euene, þat he wist witerly it was be voys of a childe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 83 þe voys þat þey makeþ is liker to an hounides berkynge þan to a manis voys. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.). To schappe þe voice sire is longe in þe leues of þe lungen. 1580 J. Hay *Demandes* § 17 in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 30 The twey intelligence...and nocht the outward sounding of the woice. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. 59 There is ..a dubble Speech; the one in the mynd,..the other the sounding image therof,..vttered by our mouth and..termed the Speech of the Voyce. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 838 Plato defineth the Voice to be a spirit. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 93 They that haue the voyce of Lyons, and the act of Hares: are they not Monsters? 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint., Holy Scripts.* II. Thou (the Bible) art the great Elixir rare and choice; The Word in Characters, God in the Voice. 1710 M. Henry *Disputes Reviewed* Wks. 1853 II. 464/1 When the tempest is not kept within due bounds, commonly the voice is not. 1780 W. Shaw (*title*) A Galic and English Dictionary. Containing all the Words in the Scotch and Irish Dialects of the Galic, that could be collected from the Voice, and Old Books and MSS. 1831 Youatt *Horse* viii. 152 The voice of animals is produced by the passage of air through the larynx. 1842 *Penny Cyc.* XXIV. 154/1 Speaking-pipes, or tubes to convey the voice from one place to another. 1889 Ruskin *Pentersila* III. 162 The Voice is the eternal musical instrument of heaven and earth, from angels down to birds.

b. Without article.

Occas. put for 'musical voice'; 'power of singing': cf. quots. 1667 and 1697.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 17840 And als sun þai sprak wit woice. *c 1380* Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 75 Among alle þingis vois is a freel þing. *c 1400 Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. 22. 6b See how my sone..hath hym in herte chosen and voys. 1444 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 12 He sal vphald the ladymesse with ouer in Twisdal, Thuirisdal, and Fridal like owke for a yher. *c 1450 tr. De Imitatione* III. xlviii. 219 So I teche wiboute voice of wordes, wiþoute confusion of opiniouns. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlviii. 162 Thaneall the birdis sang with voce on thair kynd. 1598 B. Rich in *Cassilis Catech.* 124 Seing wraith without ony voce of wordes is appointed to iudgement, wraith in voce is appointed to councel quhairin sentence is pronunced. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i. 132 Theres are .. melancholick wormes, That .. counterfet the dead in voyce and figure. 1608 Torwell *Serpents* 134 A vocal iustice, which speaketh in action though not in voyce. 1666–7 Pepys *Diary* 9 Feb. I confess I was highly pleased with the musique. He pretends not to voice; though it be good, but not excellent. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 70 Hollow Rocks retain the sound of voice. And doubled Images of Voice rebound. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* v 10 Your merit and your years command the choice: Amyntas only rivals you in voice. 1727 Bailey, *Speech*, the sound of voice. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., That Canal,..which at first pass'd for the principal Organ of Voice. 1728 Cowper *Cricket* 17 Though in voice and shape they be Form'd as if akin to thee. 1828 Whately *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 295/1 To observe all the modulations, &c. of voice, which take place in such a delivery. 1880 *Encycl. Physiol.* vii. 184 Thus, voice may exist without speech, and .. speech may exist without voice, as in whispering. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 2 He had so much voice that he did not know what to do with it.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1815 Scott *Waterloo* i, We yet may hear the hour Peal'd over orchard and canal, With voice prolong'd and measured fall. 1819 — *Harold* iii. vi, From realms afar Comes voice of battle and of war.

c. With adjs. denoting the quality or tone. Chiefly *with* or *in*. *voice*. Cf. b c.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3850 (Laud MS.), And hem he seide wiþ voice clere Ich bilde frendes hem to mere. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 4833 (Kölbing), Ten com bihinde..Wiþ loude voice & to hem gradde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 584 With styf voys (he) hym called, Lazare, vend hider. 1440 *Sacerdos Sacerd., Priv. Priv.* 140 Therfor criet the psalt, her kynge and his good werkes with hey wuyce commendid and preisit. *c 1460 Ostrey Rog.* 58 His shall be lesful to here..þe voice to saye þe diuyne seruice. *a 1500 Lancelot* 13 Throw birdis songe with opine woxe one hy, That sessit not one luflaris for to cry. 1558 Lyndsay *Monarche* 1588 (Am. edit. 1911. 1. 107) With lyrdour voce, and vehement,—Ryse, [etc.]. *a 1609* Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) 35 When I waill with weiping voce, Lord, to my plaint give eare. 1660 Bunyan *Holy War* (L.) v. 57 Mesthought Close in mine ear one call'd me forth to wail With gentle voice. 1821 Clare *Dante, Purg.* xxv. 24 At the hymn's close They shouted loud, "I do not know a man"; Then in low voice again took up the strain. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. iv. 9 Muttering with hoarse, harsh voice.

d. *In (. .) voice*. Of persons: Having the voice or vocal organs in fit or good condition for speaking or singing. So *out of voice*.

1599 Foote *Author* Epil. O! Such a Sustinuto upon B I Ma'am, when she's quite in Voice she'll go to C. 1760–9 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxxi, You know very well...that I am not in voice [for singing] to-day. 1868 Cornhill *Mag. Nov.* (1883) II. 485 Owing to a cold..I was, as the players call it, not in very good voice. 1868 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 391, I was in wonderful voice last night, but croak a little this morning. 1884 Edna Lyall *We Two* xxvi, I am afraid my wife is quite out of voice.

*transf.* 1883 Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 253 Hounds were in full voice, and several foxes in full flight almost immediately.

e. The sound of voices. (In quot., of birds.)

1832 James *Phil. Augustus* I. ii, The earth was full of flowers, and the woods full of voice.

f. Utterance or expression (of feeling, etc.). Chiefly in phrases, as *to give voice to, to find voice in*.

1855 Arnold *Haworth Churchyard* v, Hail to the courage which gave Voice to its creed. 1889 'E. Garrett' *At Any Cost* xiv. 255 Tom had been unable to suppress sundry conjectures..; but he had never given them voice. 1906 Sutton *Poetry Bodenoch* Introd. p. xxxv, There was always plenty of hero-worship, which found voice in song.

g. *Phonology*. Sound uttered with vibration or resonance of the vocal chords, as distinguished from Breath 12 a.

1842 *Penny Cyc.* XXII. 490/2 The consonants are conveniently classed into those with and those without voice. 1888 Sweet *Engl. Sounds* 18 The relations of breath and voice in consonants are mainly determined by their surroundings. *Ibid.* 89 The intermediate change of voice to whisper is very common.

2. a. The supremacy or upper hand in a struggle. *Obs.*—

Employed merely for the sake of rime.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 21694 Quen þat þai fagt..And moises held his hand vnder, To-quils he held his hend on croice, And his hand ani folk þe voice.

b. The right or privilege of speaking or voting in a legislative assembly, or of taking part in, or exercising control or influence over, some particular matter; part or share in the control, government, or deciding of something. Chiefly in phr. *to have* (or *† bear*), *voice in*. Cf. 10 d.

App. not in common use from the end of the 17th c. to the latter part of the 19th.

1433 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 479/2 Not to be made free, ne herde, ne beren voice ne power in the Assemblee of the said Comyns. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 27 § 11 No merchaunt..[shall] bere any voyce ne have any sayynge in eny Courte..wythin the saide Staple. 1529 in *Reg. Privy Seal, Sc. Accts.* 1877–1883 97 That he be chosin be fremen, and na servandis till have voce amangis maisteris in ony materis. 1586 Allen *Apologie* 38 b, The Parliament is a mere temporal Court, the Bishops them selues hauing voice there no otherwise but as Barons of the Realme. 1666 in J. Hulloch *Pynnors* (1887) 30 The Master of Empost, Wm. Paterson, shall consent to the distribution of the moneyes belonging thervnto. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 323 Persons having Voice or Vote to such Election. 1762 Goldsm. *Lett. Foreigner* xv, Man, thus endued with an elective voice, Must be supplied with objects of his choice. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* v. (1875) 114 If we had more voice in the management of affairs. 1882 *Mod. Europe* I. 344 *May* 31 Nothing since Europe will insist upon having its the political disposal of Egypt. 1889 Jessop *Coming of Friars* iv. 185 The parishioners had more voice in the matter than they have now.

† c. *To give voice to*, to vote for. *Obs.*

1566 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 112 Item, he gave voyce to himselfe in the graunte of lease to him selfe, for the which he is sworne.

3. The expressed opinion, judgement, will, or wish *of* the people, a number of persons, a corporate body, etc., occas. as indicated or shown by the exercise of the suffrage. Cf. 10.

In some instances not clearly distinct from 4.

1390 Gower *Conf.* Prol. I. 7 The world is changed overal, ..And that I take to record Of every lond for his partie The comun voix, which may noght lie. *c 1412* Hoccleve *Mother of God* 286 Of þy grete goodnesse, þou, mem seyne. *c 1470* Henry *Wallace* VI. 909 With the grett seill, and woice off hys parliament. 1528 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.*, App. V. 406 [Order made] by the consent of Mr. Recordar, and the ballyffes with the holl voyce of the town then being present. *a 1548* Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 62 The whole voice of the commons was to yelde, yelde, rather then starue. 1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 88 A President ..in committing freely Your scruple to the voyce of Christendome. 1680 Baxter *Lenitech.* 1. xvi. 85 The voice of the greater number, must be considered as the voyce of them all. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 3 Let me not..be censured..[to] conclude [myself] against it either by Tradition or the common Voice of the World. 1721 Swift *Cond. Allies* 78 It is the Folly of too many, to mistake the Eccho of a London Coffee-house for the Voice of the Kingdom. 1780 *Mirror* No. 77 Before the trial of an atrocious criminal, the unanimous voice of the Public is, that he should be led out to punishment. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. 1 The voice of all France, the Sound that rises. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 167 Recalled by the voice of both the contending factions, he was the very man to whom the Parliament and the people looked. *Ibid.* ii, I will be king of England by the laws, The choice, and voice of England.

b. Without *of*. Now usually with defining adj., as *general*, *popular*, *public*, prefixed (*b*).

(*a*) 1338 R. Hounde *Chron.* (1810) 17 Hakon, Hemebald sonne, of best he bare þe voice, In stede of Kynges banere he did him bere þe croice. 1589 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 33 Whatsoeuer cunning fiend it was That wrought vpon thee so prosperously Hath got the voyce in hell for excellence. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* iv. v, I feare, you wrong him. He has the voyce to be an honest Romane. 1628 Earle *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 70 [He]cries Chaucer for his Money aboue all our English Poets, because the voice ha's gone so. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 30 Shall the Bell-man in Isbacia be for you. 1787 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XI. 181 *note*, Thus stands the matter at present in this State. I think nevertheless success is likely.

(*b*) 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 140 Lucius our Emperour: for well I know, The common voyce do cry it shall be so. 1708 Francis *tr. Horace, Epist.* II. i. 110 Must I...prudure, when writing I would bribe The public Voice. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vii, The public voice..seldom reaches to a brother or a husband, though it rings in the ears of all the neighbourhood. 1773 Mem. Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 212, I believe the general voice will direct you to Hume. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 82 To me, by common voice Elected umpire, Herè comes to-day. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 223 While the king was thus trying to terrify the lords of articles into submission, the popular voice encouraged them to persist.

† 4. That which is generally or commonly said; general or common talk; rumour or report. *Obs.*

Freq. in the 16th c. often with *common*.

*c 1400* Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 97 Þe comoun voice es þare þat þai or be barnes of Joseph. 1548 *Patten Lett.* II. 107 It is my part to enfourme youre maiistirshyp as the comoun voyse is,..for it is half a deth to me to here the generall voyce of the poppyl, whiche dayli encreasyth. 1562 Jos. Bernher *Protss.* I. cccIxxxiv. 651 In this meane tyme voyce and bruyte ranne through London, howe these vnhappy people were lykely to slee the kynge [etc.]. *a 1568 Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 22 Grit foulis so were with fallowis to defence bin, Havand na cause but common voice and sklander. 1577 *Pt de Lisle's Legendarie* K viij, The voyce went the same time, that there was a letter, sent into Normandy, conteining these wordes. 1607 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 70 All Sunday it was current that the parliament did hold, but now the voice runs otherwise. 1639 Wotton *Let. in Reliq.* (1651) 499 Doctour Helcanquel.. shall (as the voice goeth) be removed to the Deanrie of Durham. 1652 Howell *Giraffe's Ren. Neglect* 11, 'Tis the next day the voice went up and down, that..they intended to introduce Foreign force.

† b. A piece of common or general talk; a report or rumour. *Obs.*

1483 in *Sc. Acts, Jas. III* (1874) XII. 30/1 Þe kingis declaration .. quhilk .. þai hald sufficiant to purge be said Alexander..of be said wicket and Rumur. 1538 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 98 There is a voyce that ye shulde be the Duchys of Mylleyn. *a 1540* Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 330/2 There runneth a great voyce of mee, that I haue maried a wife. 1619 in Birch *Crt. & Times J.* (1849) II. 156 There is a voice, that my Lord North sets forth four ships. 1639 Wotton *Lett.* (1907) II. 410 We have a new strange voice flying here, that Palatine is coming towards a marriage. 1652 Howell *Giraffe's Ren. Neglect* 10 The sound of this voice went up to the Castle.

† c. Fame or renown; reputation. *Obs.*

*c 1470* Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1138 Sum off thaim said, the queyn luffyt Wallace, For the gret voice off his be nobilnes. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxviii. xvi. 707 His power increased daily; for that the Fame and voice of his valour him from all parts, upon the noyse and voyce of his name.

5. *Gram.* The form of a verb by which the relation of the subject to the action implied is indicated; one or other of the modes of inflecting or varying a verb according to the distinctions of *active*, *passive*, or *middle*.

In quot. 1591 used instead of 'person'.

1382 Wyclif *Prol.* 57 A participle of a present tens, either preterit, of actif vois, either passif. 1591 Percival *Span. Dict.* C 2 By changing of the ende of the Indicatiue into *ia*, you make the third voice of the preterimperfect tense of the Subiunctiue. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1615) 30 b, Giue the terminations of the Verbes in the Actiue voice alone. *a 1633* Gouge *Comm. Heb.* vi. 1 The word *ἐγειρεῖται*, translated 'Let us go on', is of the passive voice. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* s.v., *Voice*, *Gram.* 23 Participle of the Present Tense and Active Voice. 1765– [see Active *n.* 3]. 1772 A. Adam *Gram.* (1793) 20 Voice expresses the different manner in which we consider an object, whether as acting, or being acted upon. 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* 12 The characteristic..of..the Scandinavian languages is the possession of a Passive Form, or a Passive Voice, existing in the verb. 1858 C. P. Mason *Engl. Gram.* § 180 By means either of a verb in the active voice, or of a verb in the passive voice. 1871 [see Middle *a.* 4 a].

II. 6. In limited sense: The sounds naturally made by a single person or animal in speech or other form of vocal utterance; these sounds regarded as characteristic of the person and as distinguishing him from another or others; also freq., the individual organic means or capacity of producing such sounds.

a. In usages where this sound is taken to represent the person or being who utters it, or is regarded apart from its utterance. Freq. with verbs of saying, introducing the words uttered.

*c 1290 St. Francis* 54 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 55 Þo spac a voir bare-inne [the cross] wel Middeliche and softe, and seide, 'Fraunceys, go be forb' [etc.]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5750 A voys seide as hym þouȝte, as he wes aslepe. *c 1330 R. Brunne Chron. Voce* (Rolls) 16633 Til þe kyng Alwyn he spak, And teld hym what þe vois had seyd. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 260 In þe vois of þe Holy Goost þe Sautier cryeth. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiii, And there-with-all apperit vnto me A voce, and said, 'tak hede, man, and behold'. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxi. 74 Then the voys that said go hens thou ayre Bors. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 13 And a voyce spake vnto hym from heven: Ryse Peter kyll and eate. *a 1548* Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 4 Men commonly reporte that..it was by a heauenly voyce reueled to Cadwalader..that [etc.]. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iii. vii. 36 Some..hurld vp their Caps, And some their voices; eyes cry'd 'God saue King Richard'. 1621 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 2 A voyce forsooth was heard from heauen, saying: Now is poison poured down into the Church, &c. 1697 Dryden *Lucidas* 132 Return Alphæus, the dread voice is past, That shrunk thy streams. 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 167 There had I first Mine eyes till now..Had not a voice thus warnd me. 1718 Rowe *tr. Lucan* I. 460 The secret murmurs thus they sought relief, While no bold voice proclaim'd aloud their grief. 1765 Watts *Logic* II. v. § 2 Proof of divine Revelation by Visions, Voices, or Miracles. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxx, 'It is I', replied the voice. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 191 In the world unknown Sleeps a voice unspoken. 1848 W. Kennedy *Celtic Nat.* 'Tis not a voice that proposal', exclaimed a voice. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 376 About his feet A voice clung sobbing till he question'd it, 'What art thou?' and the voice about his feet Sent up an answer, sobbing, 'I am thy foot'.

b. In ordinary use, with *a*, *the*, *this*, etc., or more freq. with possessives.

The Biblical passage illustrated by quot. 1382 has had some echo in recent use.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 8904 And þan bigan sco for to cri Als wit a voce o prophect. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7490

As none as he haulde made þe croyce, þe lyryde flegh furþ, and left hys voys. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 22 The vois forsothe is the vois of Jacob, but the hondis ben the hondis of Esau. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 56 þan cometh and crieth her owen kynde dame, And þey [the young partridges] flowrith þe nye as þe firist note. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollf.* 31 Cric, creic not, vpbraid þi vois as a trompe. *c* 1430 Henry *Wallace* ii. 218 Compleyne your woice unto the God alsuffe. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. vii. 173 Quhy granitis thus nocht we may joine hand in hand, And for to heir and rendir voicis treit? 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 Though the Swyne will roame at the knowen voyce of theyr swyneheard. 1609 Dousland *Ornith. Microl.* 3 The sound of a sensible creature is properly called a Voyce, for things without sence haue no Voyce. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Despair* i, Beneath this gloomy shade, By Nature only for my sorrows made I'll spend this voyce in cryes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* x. 121 Now let us rise, for Hoarseness oft invades The Singer's Voice, who sings beneath the Shades. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iv. viii, I admired as much at the voices of him and his men who seemed to me only to whisper. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* xii. 214 When with rapid course we had arrivd Where each distance as a voice may reach. 1820 Keats *Isabella* vi, He inwardly did pray For power to speak; but still the ruddy tide Stifled his voice. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* I. iii, He felt sure that he had stammered like a schoolboy, and spoken below his voice, like a young squire to an old knight. 1853 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* 12 Call her once before you go.—Call once yet! In a voice that she will know. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 872 The extremities become cool,...the voice sunk to a whisper, and the countenance Hippocratic.

**c.** With adjs. denoting the quality or tone (sometimes *fig.*). In respect of musical quality or power).

1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xviii. 28 Thanne thei cleiden with a greet voys. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxxi. (1495) an hir is The voice that is dysposid to songe and melodye hath þryes greatnesse in clerer sayth. Voyces be sayth ben smalle, subtyll, thicke, clere, sharpe & chylle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12030 Vlixes . decluret hom pe cause with his clere voyce. *c* 1420 *Liber Assambly of Gods* 439 And with a rewde maner he salutyd all the rout, With a bold voyse, carpyng wordys stout. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 105 Than sang they both with voice cleir and cleir. 1535 Coverdale (Genev.) *Ezek.* xxxiii. 32 A lesting song of one that hathe a pleasant voice. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 105 To take moderatly, softly, and with a cleare voice sayth. *A. V. L. iv.* vii. 161 His bigge manly voice, Turning againe toward childish treble. *Ibid. v.* iii. 14 The unely prologues to a bad voice. 1623 Cockeram ii, *A Voyce* as strong as if it were the noise of 100 men, stentorian voice. 1637 *Scotch Prayer Bk., Morn. Prayer*, Then shall the Presbyter or Minister begin the Lords prayer with a loud voyce. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* i. vii. 20 And then,—with a gentle Voice Instil this Precept at his list'ning Ear. 1768–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 39 Besides painting [he] had a talent for music, a good voice. 1819 Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. i. 127 White-bellied Goura. . it has a very disagreeable and mournful voice, which is repeatedly uttered. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Parry Darcy* II. i. 32 'Come here, both of you', says the lady, in a deep, awful voice. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iii. 102 He ..began chatting away in his squeaking voice.

*Irang.* 1658 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1859) 3 Whose due Praise the Catholike Church doth at this day solemnely sing, but with a more elevated Voyce.

**d.** In or after Bible phraseology, esp. *the voice of God*. Chiefly in fig. use and freq. = * the expressed will or desire *of* God, etc.; the divine command, ordinance, or word *.

*a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* cv. 24 [evl. 25] And hij..gruched in her tabernacles, and hij ne herd nouȝt þe voice of our Lord. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 121 And there I herde noght elles stod The voix of god with wordes clere. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* Prol. 70 [= Hebr. iii. 7, 8] If þat ȝe here hys voice þis day. Turn nouȝt youre hertes fro hym away —Hott tyll þys voice ȝe tak gude hede. 1563 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 7 That ony sentence in the haly Wrait is the voice and mynd of God. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 655 God so commanded, and left that Command Sole Daughter of his voice. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 371 The Voice of Nature is the Voice of God. 1730 Thomson *Winter* 22 And oft they voice in dreadful thunder speak. 1781 W. Hawkins *Ode St. Cecilia's Day* i. *Chorus* 63 Music, essence holy, high,...Daughter of the voice of God. 1861 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 478 The old violence to the majesty of the law, which was the very voice of God. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* ii. x. 398 As prayer is the voice of man to God, so Revelation is the voice of God to man.

**e.** Used in reference to the expression of opinion or protest, or the issuing of a command.

1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 337 Yet to their Generals Voyce they soon obeyd Innumerable. 1720 *Humourist* 23 All the Time the Business of Scandal was handling, there was not one dissenting Voice to be heard in the whole Assembly. 1798 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 329 A convention..ratified the constitution without a dissenting voice. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, Here I will abide my fate; nor is there in Scotland a voice of power enough to bid me stir from hence, and be obeyed. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. II. 452 When the voice of a single powerful member of the Batavian federation might have averted an event fatal to all the politics of Lewis, no such voice was heard. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) VI. xviii. 140 The voice..from Exeter was a voice raised on behalf of the House of Lords.

**f.** *To lose the voice*, to be (temporarily) deprived of the power of using the voice for singing or speaking.

1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) 35 A religious Nun,..famed for Skill in Music and a fine Voice, had her Voice lost by a Hoarseness for ten Years. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 546 In one case..the voice was merely much weakened;..in the other,..the voice was lost altogether. 1877 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* I. 333 Voice is completely lost, and cough becomes aphonic.

**7.** In phrases. **a.** *With one (*to, **a) voice*, unanimously. †Also Sc. *in one voice.*

(*a*) *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 15030 Alle wyl o voys Songen bey le Letanie. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 200 With ane voice all can thai cry—'God king' [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1000 Pan answard him with a voice all his proud princes. 1685 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* ii. 26 Al wyth one voys gaf to hym laude and honour. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 3473 With a voys thay cry al, sir knycht' [etc.]. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 258 They with one minde and voyce gave a determinate answere. 1660 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 221 All the Greekish heads, which with one voice Call Agamemnon Head and General. 1669 Dryden *Tyrannic Love* v. i, We, with one voice, salute you emperor. 1772 *Junius, Lett.* lxviii. (1788) 357 With one voice they all condemn you. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* i. 651 The nations .. cried aloud, As with one voice, Truth, liberty, and love! 1845 M. Pattison *Rev.* (1889) I. 23 All the members demanded with one voice who it was who had charged with the crime.

(*b*) 1550 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1894) I. 18 We the saidis deuyderis..all in one voce deyidis the said land and tenement to the said Johnnok. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 91 Sic bointis as the Lieutenentis in ane voice sall find gude to laid on the watter. 1604 in *Chron. Perth.* (Maitl. Club) 69 The Session all in one voice finds the said Mr. William's proceedings orderly done.

†**b.** *At a voice*, in accord or agreement, unanimous. *Obs.*—1

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) I. 144 Þes bobe at a voice, in one gre will le mynde, To help þe Cristen men..Ageyn þe oste paen.

†**c.** *In my voice*, in my name. *Obs. rare.*

1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* iii. iv. By But what is, come see, And in my voice most welcome shall you be. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* i. ii. 185 Implore her, in my voice, that she make friends To the strict deputy.

**8. a.** The sound *of* prayer, etc.

*a* 1340 *Prose Ps.* cxxxix. 7 [cxl. 6] Here, Lord, þe voice of my prayere. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* vi. 9 [8] The lord hath herd the vois of my weppyng. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 15 The vois of his prayere. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxvi. 7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving. 1615 — *Lev.* v. 1 When a soule hath synned and herde yᵉ voyce of cursing. 1621 Bible *Ps.* xxxi. 22 Thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cryed vnto thee. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 887 'Tis the voice of song—A loud hosanna sent from all thy works. 1791 — *Iliad* xviii. 617 And sweet was the voice of prayer which arose from them. 1827 Jan. Mill. *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 714 From that very moment, complaint was extinguished; and the voice of praise..occupied the vacant air.

**b.** Cries, calls, or sounds produced or emitted by something inanimate, as (*a*) a stream, thunder, the wind, etc., or (*b*) musical instruments.

(*a*) *a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* xciii. 4 [xciii. 3] Þe flodes an-heged her voice. *Ibid.* § [4] Fram be voices of mani waters. *Ibid.* ciii. 8 [cv. 8] Hij at þe voice of þi þonder..be voice of þi þonder. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xciii[i]. 3 The flodis rereden vp ther vois. Flodis rereden vp ther flowingis; fro the voises of manye watris. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 15 The vois of his thonder Of hem that ben warde rounde aboute. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* lxvi. 6 A voice of noyse from the city, a voice from the Temple. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 463 With a resounding voice the flowing Rivers float the nether Ground: And Rocks the bellowing Voice of boiling Seas rebound. 1784 Cowper *Task* i. 191 Upon the roar Of distant floods, or on the softer voice Of neighb'ring fountain. 1820 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. 4 Ay, with a voice of thunder shook the wood. 1807 Wordsw. *Sonn., Thought of a Briton*, Two Voices are there; one is of the Sea, One of the mighty Multitude. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell* iii. 1. 1844 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxvi. (1856) 211 The voices of the ice..are at this moment dinning in my ear.

(*b*) 1595 Shakespeare *Chron.* v. 13 What the voyce arose from 3ᵒ trompettes, cymbales and other instrumentes of musick. 1552 Bible *Exod.* xix. 16 The voyce of yᵉ horne waxed louder and louder. 1660 Shaks. *K. & Q.* iv. iii. 257 Trumpet blow loud, Send thy Brasse voyce through all these fazie Tents. 1807 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 313 They must beat such as will not voyce and gather stomacke at the voice of trumpets and trumpets. 1713 Addison *Cato* iii. iii, O Marcus, I am warm'd; my heart Leaps at the trumpet's voice, and burns for glory. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xvii, Which, from Olympus Of pipes, that fills the clear air thrillingly. 1823 Longf. *Sunrise on Hills* ii. 26 The wild horn, whose voice the woodland fills, Was ringing to the merry shout. 1847 Whittier *Hervé-riel* 56 Clearly on the calm air swells The twilight voice of distant bells.

**c.** In figurative use.

In the second group with reference to conscience or duty. [1 *c* 1340 *Hampole Gen.* 1 Þe vois of þi brober] 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 10 The vois of thi brother crieth to me fro the erthe. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 104 Ye voce of his blwid cryis..to ye lewine. 1732 Pope *Iliad, Sat.* ii. ii. 99 Unworthy he, the voice of Fame to hear, The voice that rings from Pindus' lofty cliff. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* (1888) 257 Can Literature provide no sieve dust? *Ibid.* 91 E'en from the tomb the voice of Nature cries. 1820 Mas. Edgeworth *Mornal T.* (1816) I. xix. 162 He dreaded the voice of truth should be heard. 1849 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* ix. (1847) 90 Where the voice of tradition has been strong, unvarying, and continued. 1853 Lawrence *Lect. & Tr.* iii. 83 Came it anywhere, like the voice of old Eternities, far-sounding through thy heart of hearts?

(*b*) 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 685 'Tis the still small voice is wanted. 1798 Duke Grenv. (1844) IV. 384, I am convinced, that you should obey the voice of what we considered an indispensable duty. 1810 tr. *Mme. Cottin's Chevalier de Versenai* II. 110 That interior voice, that inflexible judge which speaks within us. 1839 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* i. v. 204 We are accustomed to speak of conscience as a voice. 1878 *Jowett Plato* (ed. 2) I. 419 The voice of conscience, how small a sound, reminding the good man that he was not altogether innocent.

**d.** A call or cry. *rare*—1.

1697 S. Purchas *Pol. Firing-Jax.* i. v. 18 With two or three loud voyces Ceaseth all their disputs, ..until the next morning when by a like voyce they have liberty given them to play.

†**9.** A word or number of words uttered or expressed in speech; a phrase, sentence, or speech; a discourse or report. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor Mundi* 3806 (Göt.), And oyle he putt apon þat ston, And made to godd a voice [*Cotton* voo ( = vow)] anon. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 17 It had bene mor expedient vnto þe þat day for to hafe etyn flesch in þi cell, þan for to hafe made þis voyce of pine abstinence emange vs of þi brethir. 1508 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* 130 [The] busy man..go be wyl to Jugis sestes, to markets and to porte; Vsing this vois, 'have you no newes to-day?' 1608 *Torksh. Treas.* i. ii, In thy change, This voice into all places will be hurl'd: Thou and the deuill has deceiued the world. 1636 H. Blair in *Sc. Paraphr.* xliv. iii, 'Tis finish'd, was his latest voice.

†**b.** An articulate sound; a vocable, term, or word. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 Some coude not saye no mocke, but onely expresse suche voyces, that be not in vse to signyfye ony thynge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 164 b, The Greke voice kaxis signifieth bothe a keye ..and also the canall bone. 1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* 4 A gentleman or a nobleman..(for I do wittingly confound these voices). 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* i. viii. § 9 *Cethim* is a voice plurall..and signifieth *mercatores*. 1654 Jer. Taylor *Real Pres.* 129 For as Aquinas said, in all sciences words signifie things, but it is proper to Theologie, that things themselves signified or expressed by voices should also signifie something beyond it. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* i. xxiv. 98 Of Voices. That we call Articulate which consists of so many Syllables, or Letters. So that it may be written, as Man, Angel, Heaven.

**10.** An expression of opinion, choice, or preference uttered or given by a person; a single vote, esp. one given in the election of a person to some office or position or on a matter coming for decision before a deliberative assembly. + *Dumb voice* (see quot. *c* 1618).

Very common from *c* 1540 to *c* 1770.

1380 in Horstm. *Attengl. Leg.* (1881) 150/2 Paschasius gaf his voice in hy To him he wist was leo wurth. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 109 Thus gruntz I myn avisement. Ches for thus bothen, I you preie. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 105/1 Officers have ben chosen at the said Staple, by the voyces of Marchantz, havyng goodes. 1489 *Ibid.* VI. 439/2 If in the said Election..the Voices be divided and equall for sundry parties, then the Voise of the Maire..tostand and be reputted for two Voices in the same Election. 1545 Jo. Bekneys *Cretes.* I. xxxiiii. 547 The Emperour of Rome Conrade assembled togyder, and their voyces rested on sir Robert of Genesue. 1569 Thomas *Hist. Italie* 79 This maner of geuyng their voices by ballotes is one of the laudablest thynges vsed amongest them. 1582 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) 108 b, The new Academikes that were before chosen by private voices. 1596 in Hist. *Rep. Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 62 Upon long debate in the House, and put to the question,..Oxford won it by many voices. *c* 1618 Monyson *Itin.* (1903) 118 Agayne 24 are by lott selected, who being shutt up in a chamber, may not speake but by dumb voyces, that is by divers little balls, they have chosen eight Protectours. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 846 In the year 1626 was a greater Canvass for the Proctorship than 1078 voices given on all Sides. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 223 If it should happen, that three and three should be of each side, the president shall have a casting voice. 1776 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 376 A motion is made, and carried by a majority of one voice. 1800–12 Bentham *Nation. Tactics, Introd.* (1827) V. 470 The number of persons..having a voice, as the phrase is, meaning a vote, in any assembly invested with the form of a body corporate. 1855 J. S. Watson tr. *Xenophon's Anab.* I. x. § 9 *note*, But on the whole, the other interpretation seems to have most voices in favour of it. 1858 *Times* 19 Feb. 9/1 The speaker said he had already collected the voices, and it was now too late for the hon. member to divide.

*fig.* 1781 Cowper *Convertat.* 663 Though common sense, allowed a casting voice, And free from bias, must approve the choice.

†**b.** *To put to voices*, to put to the vote. *Obs.*

1589 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1914) 111 Th' act..being put to voices..past as in note with consent of the hole howse. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 893 After which matter had been thus..debated on both sides in the Senat, it was at last put to voices. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 123 When Hervein had made an end of his speech, they put it to voyces, and the voyces went on Hervein side.

†**c.** Support or approval in a suit or petition. *Obs. rare.*

1598 Shake. *Merry W.* i. iv. 167 There's money for thee; Let mee haue thy voice in my behalfe. 1599 — *Much A.* v. i. 54 In this kind, wanting your fathers voyce The other must be held the worthier. 1622 — *Cymb.* iii. v. 213 Thou should'st neither want my meanes for thy releefe, nor my voyce for thy preferment.

**d.** A right or power to take part in the control or management of something. Chiefly in the phr. *to have a voice in*, *Cf.* 2 b.

1832 Malden *Orig. Universities* 169 The appointments to the remaining five [professorships] are of a mixed nature, but the town-council has a voice in all. 1865 J. S. Mill. in *Essex Star* 10 July, It was a matter of the utmost importance that the ballot should have a voice in the way it was to be decided. 1888 *Echo* 21 April (Cassell's), The one thing which the labourer wants is a voice in the management of the workhouse.

**11.** *Mus.* The vocal capacity of one person in respect of its employment for musical purposes, esp. in combination with others; a person considered as the possessor of a voice so employed; a singer. Chiefly in pl.

1609 in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 107 Sixe corneta and sixe chappell-voyces were seated almost right against them. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 2 Aug., [He] hath sent for voices and painters and other persons from Italy. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Nov. 1650, A concert of French music and voices. 1732 in *Penny Cycl.* (1840) XVI. 468/1 An oratorio in English..composed by Mr. Handel,..to be performed by a great number of voices and instruments. 1849 *Ibid.* 467/2 Dialogues in verse..which he caused to be

performed by the most beautiful voices in Rome 1822 *Chambers' Encycl.* III 9/2 Another Chorus of hundreds of voices, and eighty harps, which had been assembled and trained for the same occasion

**b.** A vocal part in music.

1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Jan., Mrs Anne Jones, .who sings very well, and danced with great pleasure, and then sung many things of three voices 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* III. 58 In this one Voice or Part is mentioned as the greatest Excellency of the Temple Musick

**12.** The agency or means by which something specified is expressed, represented, or revealed.

c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxix 3 All tounges (the voice of soules) giue thee that due, Vttring bare truth 1691 HARTLIFFE *Virtues* 371 The Conduct of Mankind is the Voice of Nature 1864 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* II (1857) 45 Poetry is the voice of imagination 1867 J. H. NEWMAN In B. Ward *Life* (1912) II xxvii 203 Doctrine is the voice of a religious body 1872 BAILEY *Festus* (1880) 3 The scientific reason urgently seeks instruments and a voice

**b.** Applied to persons.

1599 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV* Induct. 19 To vs [you were] th'imagine Voyce of Heauen it selfe. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II iv 61 I (now the voyce of the recorded Law) Pronounce a sentence 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiii, A potent voice of parliament, A pillar steadfast in the storm, Should linger! 1. in *The Princetun Rev* March 173 This no doubt is one of the chief praises of Gray, as of other poets, that he is the voice of emotions common to all mankind. 1903 *Q. Rev.* April 600 They met with no contradiction from Lord Cranborne, the present voice of the Foreign Office in the House of Commons.

**III.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **13. a.** Comb., chiefly objective, as *voice-breaking, -production, -training* abs ; *voice-crazing, -forming, -ordering, voice-like, voice-matched* adjs.

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 295 Jo stodys more in voys brekyng in cherche þan in deuocion & syngyng 1. 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II vi 23 Nobuch voice feigning bird was on the ground 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks (Grosart) IV 197 With other tell-tale-vertue-discouering voyce-straining vehemence 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II ii 11 *Babylon* 575 David's the next, who, with the melody Of voyce-matcht fingers, drawes together *Hird* and *Colony* 715 All these Harps and Lutes Place round about her, prove in every part This is the noble, sweet, Voyce-ord'ring Art 1820 FLINDERS *Voyage Terra Aust.* I 253 And the chattering voiceless sounds that came On the breath of the tempest swelling 1895 & *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 110 The development of the voice producing muscles 1896 *Gentry Mag.* Feb 165/2 We have methods of voice training to overcome this 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV 701 The patient must be instructed in the proper method of voice production

**b.** Simple attrib., as *voice accompaniment, -gesture, -stammer, time,* etc Also in sense 1 g, as *voice glide, sound, stop* etc

(a) 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII 431/2 Voice stammer is of two kinds 1876 LIDDON in J. O Johnston *Life* (1904) 211 The voice accompaniment was beautiful 1879 WILLIAMS *Sanskrit-Lexicon* 369 The utterances which may be classed as interjections are in part voice gestures, in part onom-topoeias 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *Travels in Africa* 181 In all cases the tunes are only voice tunes, not for instrumental performance

(*b*) 1885 SWEET *Pop. Sounds* 21 In North Welsh all long high vowels are followed by an obscure voice glide 1890 — *Primer Spoken Eng.* 1 In the formation of voice sounds, such as *m* in 'father' *Ibid.* 9 Initial voice stops have hardly any vocality in the a by itself

**14.** Special combs., as **+ voice-asker,** one who asks for the opinion of others; **voice-box,** the larynx; **voice-figure,** a figure or graphic representation of a vocal sound, **voice-part,** *Mus.*, a part or melody written for the voice, a vocal part; **voice-pipe,** -tube, a pipe or tube for conveying the voice, a speaking tube, esp as used on ships.

1593 HILTON *Cert Christ's Ch* xiv 317 Much lesse did Paul make him [Timothy] ✱voice asker, to know whether it should please the Presbyters to hue these things done or no 1912 A. KEITH *Ancient Types* 116 The windpipe has already been exposed, and is seen issuing from the ✱voice-box or larynx below the chin 1891 MARY WATTS HUGHES in *Century Mag.* May 151/1 The peculiar forms shown in the illustrations of this article, and which I call ✱Voice-figures 1893 *Daily Chron* 3 June 5/2 The range and variety of the Voice Figures extend to the scope of the human voice 1800 J. PORTER *Lees Africa* II 144 Certain minstrels and singers, which by turnes sometimes vse their instruments and sometimes their musicke 1869 LORD OXENBLEY *Counterp. Canon & Fugue* xv. 111 When the canon is produced simply between two ✱voice parts, it is called 'two in one' 1897 W. SULLIVAN in *Strand Mag.* Dec. 654/1 I then the voice parts are written out by the copyist, and the rehearsals begin 1893 *Daily News* 20 Feb 5/3 ✱Voice pipes have, according to this authority, failed utterly on board ship 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Aug 219 Receiving orders only by ✱voice tube transmitted from the deck 1899 F. BULLEN *Way Navy* 91 Electric wires, telephones, voice tubes, and engines of every sort

**Voice** (vois), *v.* Also 5 voyse, voise, 6–7 voyce, 7 *Sc* woyce. [f prec]

**I.** *trans.* **1.** In passive. To be commonly said or stated ; to be spoken of generally or publicly ; to be reported, rumoured, or bruited *abroad.* ? *Obs.*

**a.** With *for, as, to be,* or simple complement.

1423 *Paston Lett* Suppl (1901) 49 John the, wyfe of Robert Ichyngham, chapman, quich ye voyced for a myxse governyd woman 1626 in Birch *Court & Times Chas I* (1848) I, 148 Here is much lamentation for the King of Denmark, whose character is voiced by all to be exceeding great 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 206 Nor are they to be pointed at by passengers, and voiced the most Valiant among equalls. 1639 HEYLIN *Certamen Epist* 33 A Book of mine called Respondet Petrus was publiquely voyced abroad, to have been publiquely burnt in London. 1698 FRYER *Acc E India & P.* 63 About the House was a delicate Garden, voyced to be the pleasantest in India 1820 SCOTT *Ladyof L.* II xxv, Not long should Roderick Dhu's renown Be foremost voiced by mountain fame 1822 — *Nigel* xxiii, Your father was voiced generally as one of the bravest men of Scotland.

† **b.** In impersonal use, *it is voiced* Usually introduced by *as*, or const *that, how. Obs.*

(*a*) 1498 *Paston Lett* I 425 The King's safe conduct is not holden but broken, as it is voyced here 1503 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb) 71 Which grevous offence, as it is voiced accustumable hathe be more usid under youre obeissance than in othir strange regions 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy* I 605 A prayer made by her Maiestie, as it was voyced 1629 RUSHW *Hist Coll* I 176 Pennington fraited to Oxford where the Parliament was reassembled, but as was voiced, was there concealed till the Parliament was dissolved

(*b*) 1606 DEKKER *Sev Sins* II (Arb) 20 After it was voyc'd that Monsieur Menbaia came to dwell amongst them 1609 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 95 When it was voyced, how graciously he had spoken to the Senate 1648 Lo. HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1683) 128 The Duke of Albany made it to be voiced abroad, that he had no purpose to stir out of France this year 1652 C. B STAPYLTON *Herodian* VI 50 When it was voic'd how Graciously he spoke, All men were pleas'd

† **c** Const. *upon* (a thing or person) *Obs.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec* (1632) 5 For one miracle reported by the Scholler, not so few by the Courtier, not so few perhaps as an hundred are voiced upon those other Images. 1698 FRYER *Street Lyndum* II 54 If the Church groundeth not the determination of Saints upon the report of miracles voyced on them

† **d** In miscellaneous uses. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV xxvii 1219 Giving no credite to the fame voiced and bruited among the Romanes, they cruelly handled certaine Romane soulidiours. 1608 HOBBES *Thucyd* (1822) 32 And how these Articles were published in the neighbourhood, and thence voiced abroad, drew many to them.

† **2.** Similarly in active use To speak of, state, report, proclaim, etc. *Obs*

Used (*a*) with or (*b*) without complement Cf sense 1.

(*a*) 1597–8 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb) 486 Secrecie in Suites is a great Furtherance thereunto, for voyding them is often in forwardness may discourage some kinde of suiters, but doth quicken and awake others. 1609 DANIEL *Civ Wars* III lxxxiii, Which soone sought to feed The vast ambitions of ascend-ants, By voycing him alue 1644 PEATLY *Roma Ruens* 2 So you papists generally, though you are a medly or conte of many heresies, yet you voyce your selves Catholikes, *Sept Mundi Miracula* (1673) II 33 In this second my book all over as a most pernicious engine against the whole body of the clergy

(*b*) 1603 J. DARRINGTON & ROWLEY *Span. Gipsy* II ii, He as report Was bold to voice, retir'd himself to Rhodes 1620 JOHN *Lover's Mel* II i, With much joy [she] returned home, and voiced it about at Athens, enjoyed her happiness. 1633 — *Love's Sacr* II i, Yet for the friendship twixt my lord and you, I have not voic'd your follies.

† **3** To speak much or highly of, to praise or cry up (a thing or person). *Obs.* Usually in the passive.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor* 498 The publike calamities of her country caused her to be well knowne and voiced in the world 1654 W JANEWAY *Iron Screw* Ep Ded A iij b, Nothing is more ordinary than for the wicked to voice up dead Ministers for blessed men, whom in their life time they latterly opposed 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Fr. Gerard* 149 Such was this advancement of Abbots to the Arch Bishoprick, voic'd and carried up so high by the Cabal of the Puritans

† **b.** To speak of (one) in a certain way. *Obs*—1

1597 SHAKS. *Romeo* IV iii 82 Is this th Athenian Minnon, whom the world Voic'd so regardfully ?

† **4.** To elect (a person) by voice or vote ; to name, nominate, or appoint to an office Also with *out. Obs*

1606 BACON *Let Ld Salisbury* Several Lett (1657) 40 Because I have been voiced to it [*i.e.* the Solicitor's place], I would be glad it were done 1623 BP SANDERSON *Serm* I 96 We are not voiced here for a magistracy, nor hath the fewest and least [defects] 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* IV 188 Prasapses begins his oration, Then told them whom in his [ex. Syrian's] stead they had voic'd to be the sacred Empire *a*1650 SPALDING *Troub Chas I* (Spalding Cl) II 363 He deayrst the moderatour to voice out tuelf of thair brethren to sit at thair committee.

† **b.** With complement. *Obs*—1

1607 SHAKS. *Cor* II iii. 242 Say that Your Minds pre-occupy'd made you against the graine To Voyce him Consull

† **c** To vote for (something). *Obs*—1

1640 SIR B. DERING *Sp on Relig* v 20 They that were present had voyce, they who voyced the Canons, joyned in the decrees.

**5.** To speak or utter (a word, etc.); † to sound or pronounce in utterance *hbs* (something).

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav* (ed. 2) 18 Some words I gather'd from one of the gravest of them, which (being voyced like unto) I give it hardly to be pronounced, you may excuse mee 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 167 Again that name hath knelled upon mine ear, Though I have never voiced it since 1866 ROSSETTI *Poems Ballads* I. Introd. The Americanisms with which we are faulted and which we are in the habit of voicing 1904 WEYMAN *Abb Visps* xxiii, He was more than content if the little fool would voice no cries

*Ag* 1875 LANIER *Symphony* 265 And man shall sing thee a true love song, Voiced in our his whole life long

† **b.** To announce (something) *to* a person *Obs*

1629 R. HALL in *Bp Hall's Wks* (1839) XI 407 Was it lately voiced to thee from heaven, concerning these wretched animals stabling in France, 'Arise, Pope Urban, kill and eat'?

**c** To inform or tell (a person) *that* (etc.)

1598 J. HARDY *Wentzc Poems* 134 Till chance had there voiced me That one I loved vainly in nunage Had ceased her to be

**6.** To give voice, utterance, or expression to (an emotion, opinion, etc) ; to express in words or with the voice; to proclaim openly or publicly.

Common from *c*1580 in both Eng. and U S use

1607–12 BACON *Ess., Gt Place* (Arb) 286 Rather assume the right in silence and *de facto*, then voyce it with clamors and Challenges 1892 *Forster's Life* XLVI 499 None daring to give utterance to a thought, or to voice the thrill of emotion which even every coward's lie must have felt 1880 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI ix 264 The will of a united and resolute people was voiced by our great English journal 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll & Recoll* xx 298 St Aldegonde voiced the universal sentiment of his less fortunate fellow citizens

*refl* 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed 3) 203 Again the world soul voiced itself, and I Drank in the fruitful glories of her words.

**b** *poet* Of birds, the wind, etc

1820 B W PROCTER *Misc Poems, Mute Madness*, But I may hear tho I let my sorrow Voice her complaint 1893 SOUTHEY *Young Dragon* IV 57 Wherefore, ye happy Birds your mirth Are ye in carols voicing ? 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* XXI 316 The windy forest, rousing from its sleep, Voices its heart in hoarser, fuller song 1892 *Ibid* 1855 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 101 The bird Makes his heart voice amid the blaze of flowers

**c.** Of words, writings, etc

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I 88 Words in vain shall voice my sorrow 1889 W. M THAYER *Life & Lincoln* XXV 337 These earnest words voice his abiding interest in the loyal army 1892 *Times* 13 June 6/4 This letter voices the opinion of my church in Ireland

**d.** To act as the mouthpiece or spokesman of, to express the opinions of (a body of persons).

1892 *Weekly Sun* 8 July 2/2 The leader of the South German Democrats rose to voice the Opposition 1893 *Pro gramme World's Congress* 3 A series of popular congresses voiced by the ablest living representatives.

**7.** *poet.* or *rhet* To endow with voice, or the faculty of speech or song. Cf. VOICED *ppl a* 1

*a*1721 KEN *Hymns Evang* Poet Wks. 1721 I 33 The God of Harmony now all their Throats, And sweetly harmonic'd their various Notes 1820 KEATS *Lamia* xvi, Th Almighty God, who gave the Sun to blaze, Voic'd the Great Poet, for his Makers Praise 1853 D JERROLD *Chron Clerncook.* Wks. 1859 5/2 Up in the shore its beautiful shells, red lipped as Venus, and voiced with wondrous singing

**b.** *Organ building* To give the correct quality of tone to (an organ or organ pipe). Cf. VOICING *vbl sb.* 4.

1708 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 580 Agreed y^t Mr Christopher do finish the Organ by tuning and voicing it 1725 *Ibid* 581, 30 pounds for cleaning and voicing y^e Chapel Organ 1880 I. SHAW *Devel. Church, Ap to ice*, an expression applied by organ builders to the regulating the tone of a pipe *To voice a pipe* is to bring it to its intended tone and power 1898 *Pract. Instrumentmaker Organs* 27 Such an organ, if properly voiced and played, will have a clear, ringing, truthful tone 1902 W. E. BECK *New Encycl Organ Building* 121 The skill, taste and judgment with which it is finally voiced and regulated

**c** To sound (a musical instrument) *rare*—1

1726 R NORTH *Mem Musick* (1846) 26 It is said the tibia had four foramina , by which means it was voiced either by the lippes, as a cornett, or els by some reeds!

**8.** *Phonology* To utter (a sound) with vibration of the vocal chords Cf VOICED *ppl a.* 3

1877 [see VOICED *ppl a* 3] 1888 SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 18 Dutch still voices final *s* in stressless words such as *is* and *was* when a vowel follows

**II.** *intr.* †**10.** To use the voice, to cry out, exclaim, make outcry. Also *to voice it.*

1624 W SLATYER *Palæstina* (1630) 295 The shiver-Smith at Ephesus made a head of such good fellowes, voycing it as stongly as if our Captaine against the Ayssotie 1632 QUARLES *Div Emblems* II xxvii, Thou wilt give me Dauid's heart He voyce, Great God, with David ; and make David a voyce 1688 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* III i, Were these oak slaves to voice, I doubt my Army 1700 *Ibid* 1 Army How would they voice it ore and o re for Lachmas Joome, and blunt the edge of War again !

†**11** To vote, to give a vote or votes *Obs.*

*a*1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist Ch Scot* VI (1677) 386 Mr Thomas and the rest abode in the place, and according as they had voiced, appointed Mr Patrick Weames to be received Minister 1642 JER TAYLOR *Epist* xxxv 290, I remember also that this place is pretended for the peoples power of voycing in Councells

† **b** With complement. *Obs*—1

1638 *Art Gen Assembly Scot* (1682) 14 In this pre tended Assembly, the voicers were threatned to voice *affirmative* under no lesse pain nor the wrath of authority

**Voiced** (voist), *ppl a.* [f. VOICE *sb.* and *v.*]

1 Endowed with or possessing a voice *like* that of some other person or being

In some instances perhaps the participle is passive

*a*1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* xxxiii 10 Sen we ar voced alyke for suld we refrane, To suffer pain for ony bodies bont? 1642 DENHAM *Sophy* IV 34 That's Erythræ, Or some Angell voyc'e like her *a*1821 KEATS *Wks* (1889) II 15 Where the germs take buoyant root in stormy Air,

suck lightning sap, and become voiced dragons. 1886 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 11 God to her rescue sends Voiced seraphims.

*transf.* 1834 Ld. Houghton *Mem. Tour Greece* 138 How were ye voiced, ye Stars,—how cheerily Castor and Pollux spoke to the quivering seaman. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 108/2 All was silence and all was solitude, and yet all was voiced and all was full. 1861 Ld. Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 34 Oft have you flooded this fair space with song, Waked these voiced walls, and vocal nests yon roof.

b. Having a voice of a specified kind, quality, or tone.

*For clear-, faint-, gentle-, hoarse-, hollow-, loud-, low, † nine-, † rank-* (1513), *rough-, shrill-, soft-, sweet-voiced*, etc., see the adjs.

1637 Austin *Hexc Homo* v. 128 Ovid..advised women (who are so angel-like voyced) to learne by musicks rules, to order it. 1864 W. C. Smith *Kilfenstan* 61 Never were rille and fountains So merrily voiced as these.

†2. Much or highly spoken of; commended, famed. *Obs.*—1

1661 *Life T. Fuller* 14 He continued his pious endeavours of preaching in most of the voyced pulpits of London.

3. *Phonology.* Uttered with voice (or vibration of the vocal chords) as opposed to breath; sonant. Said esp. of certain consonants, as opposed to those which are *voiceless* (see Voiceless *a.* 5).

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Sp.* 67 The Initially voiced *v* sinks imperceptibly into the voiceless consonant *f* when if the word were written *ienif*. 1876 Douse *Grimm's L.* App. D. 195 The action of the chordæ in the production of voiced sounds. 1890 *Syd. Soc. Lex. Med. Vill.* 64 The pronunciation of certain letters is also somewhat indistinct, especially the voiced explosives such as *b, d, g*.

b. Of breath.

1877 Sweet *Handbk. Phonetics* 74 As stops can only be voiced by driving voiced breath into an air-tight chamber, they cannot be continued for any length of time.

**Voiceful** (voi'sfŭl), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.* [f. Voice *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Endowed with, or as if with, a voice; having voice or power of utterance; vocal.

*c* 1821 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. 459 The Seniors then did beare The voiceful Heralds sceptres 1842 Fanne *Styrian Lake*, etc. 109 And for the voiceful Church and poor mute world Doth he not keep his potent Cross unfurled? 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* i. 11 As they supposed that Song had been learned by man first, and by all voiceful creatures.

*transf.* 1842 Fanne *Styrian Lake*, etc. 43 Man's voiceful destinies, Like the surge of meeting seas, Are to them but a wild song. 1866 Rio *Poet. & Mor. Christ.* V. ix. § 24, 301 Death, not silent or patient, waiting his appointed hour, but voiceful, venomous.

b. Of a stream, the sea, etc.

Also in the sense of 'full of or giving out sounds'.

1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 70 To take the kinde ayre of a wistfull morne Neere Tauies voycefull streame. 1818 Coleridge *Fancy in Nubibus* 14 That blind Bard, who..Beheld the Iliad and the Odyssee Rise to the swelling of the voiceful sea! 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* xxviii. 316 Our green lanes and voiceful woods. 1891 Miss Dovle *Girl in Karp.* 202 The soft, mysterious, silver long notes of inconsequent music, which the Ceremonus caught in its voiceful waters.

c. Vocal *with*, expressive *of*, something.

(*a*) 1896 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xiv. § 10 The mountains were thus voiceful with perpetual rebuke. 1853 Gouldburn *Office H. Comm.* I. 79 A law..every statute of which..is voiceful with condemnation. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 520 He sailed along shores of which every hill and promontory is voiceful with heroic mem ries.

(*b*) 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* II. 1 Clarke's poems..run on a sort of parallel of contrast—the one creative, the other voiceful of revolt and self-consciousness.

2. Of or pertaining to the voice; uttered by the voice or voices.

1821 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 75. (1822) II. 177 He has less of the oracular or voiceful part of his art. 1867 Howells *Ital. Journ.* 62 In clamorous Italy, whose voiceful uproar strikes to the summits of her guardian Alps. 1876 Farrar *Marlb. Serm.* xxxi. 338 Every silent, every voiceful appeal to that which each of us has in him of purest and sweetest.

3. Involving much speech or argument; contentious. *rare*—1.

1899 Meredith *Egoist* II. vi. 137 Dr. Middleton assented and entered on the voiceful ground of Greek metres.

Hence **Voi'cefulness.**

1892 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* vi. § 10. 172 That deep sense of voicefulness..which we feel in walls that have long been washed by the passing waves of humanity.

**Voi'celess,** *a.* [f. Voice *sb.* + -less.]

1. Having no voice; destitute of the power of utterance; uttering no words or speech; dumb, mute.

In group (*b*) applied to immaterial things.

(*a*) 1535 Coverdale *Acts* viii. 39 As a lambe voycelesse before his sherer so opened he not his mouth. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. xii, Peace in the silent streets! save when the cries Of victims to their fiery judgement led, Made pale their voiceless lips. 1849 De Quincey *Eng. Mail-Coach* iii. iv. Wks. 1890 XIII. 313 Clinging to the horns of the altar, voiceless she stood. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 1115 Mute As creatures voiceless thro' the fault of birth. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* ii, Lavender did not care to remain among those voiceless monuments of a forgotten past.

*absol.* 1855 Singleton *Virgil* II. 108 He of the voiceless bath a council calls And gains the knowledge of their lives. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* xxiv, The men waited for some seconds silent as the voiceless.

(*b*) 1816 Byron *Monody on Sheridan* 10 Who hath not shared that calm so still and deep, The voiceless thought which would not speak but weep. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 766 It is the public good which is so often powerless and voiceless in presence of the audacity of private wrong. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* liv, The deadly wrong..had excited an indignation..which, though it was voiceless, had made itself felt.

b. Having no voice in the control or management of affairs.

a 1634 Coke *Inst.* IV. i. (1648) 5 The Proctors of the Clergy ..were voiceless Assistants;..and having no voices, and so many learned Bishops having voices, their presence is not now holden necessary.

c. Failing, unable, or not attempting, to express one's feelings or opinions; silent, mute. Also *absol.*

1865 J. G. Holland *Lett. to Jonases* ix. (1866) 199 The world will never come to you; you must go to the world or die voiceless. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 1/1 The surrender of the voiceless, helpless masses of the population to their Turkish taskmasters. 1890 G. W. R. Cooke *I. in Parl.* 69 By the voiceless I mean the men who have the capacity to speak, and the desire, but have missed their opportunities.

2. Characterized by the absence of sound; in or on which no voice or sound is heard; silent, still.

In this and the two following senses chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 662 Motionless, As their own voices, all the earth and air Were vacant. 1820 Byron *Tuan* III. lxxxvi, On thy voiceless shore The heroic lay is tuneless now. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* viii. 27 The sweet content of voiceless woods Enfolded us. 1868 Locker *Guillderoy's Heavens* (ed. 3) 156 To an inhabitant of the Earth, our light-giver by night would appear..but a silent and voiceless planet.

3. Not expressed or uttered by the voice or in speech; unspoken, unuttered.

1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xcvii, I live and die unheard, With a most voiceless thought, sheathing it as a sword. 1839 Longf. *Footsteps of Angels* ix, Uttered not, yet comprehended, Is the spirit's voiceless prayer. 1862 T. C. Grattan *Beaten Paths* II. 228 A dead silence followed the fall of the curtain; and I felt..the voiceless verdict of 'damnation'. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* xi. (1878) 296 Secret as the voiceless language of the soul.

4. Characterized by, or causing, loss of speech or vocal utterance; speechless.

1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxix, The Niobe of nations! there she stands, Childless and crownless, in her voiceless woe. 1843 *Chambers's Edin. Jrnl.* 47/2 Her lips parted with a long, voiceless laugh. 1879 Tourgée *Fool's Err.* xxxiv, 295 Dumb mouths which spoke of the voiceless agony of death.

5. *Phonology.* Produced or uttered without voice or vocalic tone; surd. Said esp. of certain consonants in opposition to Voiced *ppl. a.* 3.

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Sp.* 67 Where the voiceless correspondent of a vocal consonant is separately heard. 1874 Ellis *E. Pronunc.* I. 1333 The great relations between voiced and voiceless consonants. 1877 Sweet *Handbk. Phonetics* 73 Consonants with voiceless stop and breath sib-glide are called 'breath' or 'voiceless' stops.

**Voi'celessly,** *adv.* [f. prec.] In a voiceless manner; without speech or utterance; silently.

1851 Meredith *Daphne* lii, Voicelessly the forest Virgin Vanished! 1887 T. Hempstead in *Harper's Mag.* April 673 The trembling there, Voicelessly, slowly down. 1890 D. C. Murray *J. Vale* xxviii, The engineer, accustomed to rough fare, attacked it cheerfully; but Snelling waved it voicelessly away.

**Voi'celessness.** [f. as prec.] The fact or condition of being voiceless, in various senses.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 74 Dreadful as if distilled from the voicelessness of the graves of a buried world. 1879 Ellis *E. Pronunc.* III. 126 To indicate voicelessness, prefix (') to a whispered, or (") to a voiced letter. 1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 38 The utter voicelessness of the common people in any point when the Law or the Senate had spoken.

**Voi'celet.** [f. Voice *sb.* + -let.] A little voice.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 709 The voicelets of the Dwarfs sounded only like a light whisper.

**Voicer** (voi'sər). [f. Voice *v.*]

†1. *Sc.* One who votes or has the right to do this; a voter. *Obs.*

1678 [see Voice *v.* 1 b]. 1681 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 392 They will force the King either to be our agent, and formall voycer to his death, or else dos the world knows not what. 1692 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) II. 32 He wes..a voicer in Parliament for that ingagement.

2. *Organ-building.* One who voices the pipes of an organ; esp. a skilled workman whose special task it is to do this.

1879 *Cassell's Encycl.* s.v. Touching the manufacture of all pipes, it is of paramount importance to the voicer, that they should be thoroughly well made. 1882 W. E. Dickson *Pract. Organ-building* 11, 119 When completed and fastened over, the pipes are handed to the voicer. 1889 Stainer in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 335/2 Few are equally good voicers both of reed and flue-pipes.

**Voicing** (voi'sing), *vbl. sb.* [f. Voice *v.*]

†1. The action, fact, or process of voting by voice; voting; election, nomination, or decision by vote. *Obs.*

1643 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 94 We must confer our voices ..upon those whom..we conceive to be the fittest; and the greater the place is, the greater ought our care in voycing to be. 1649 Br. Guthrie *Mem.* (1702) 119 It was not the Custom in Assemblies for any Man..to interrupt Voicing by Discourses; every one was to answer to the Question, Yea, or Nay, and no more. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Cl.) II. 292 It gois to voicing, and, be pluralitie of voices, found, no man sould be raisit against the countrie.

2. The action or fact of uttering with the voice; the speaking or utterance *of* something; also, †mentioning, speaking about.

†*c* 1615 Bacon *Wks.* (1879) I. 493/1 That the very voicing or suspect of the raising of the price of silver..would make..a deadness and retention of money. 1831 Maine *Celestina* vi. 72 Being wounded with that golden shaft, which at the very voycing of your name, had struck her to the heart. 1657 J. Webb *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 18 The one professeth by their due bearing, and the other by their due voicing (i.), Preaching the word of Faith. 1871 Earle *Philol. Engl. Tongue* xii. 517 Poetry..makes great efforts to express..this finest part of the voicing of language. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 856/1 When Bryant's sweet and solemn voicing of nature's meanings and life's mysteries will fail in their music to the ears of men.

3. Speech, vocal utterance; enunciation.

1822 B. W. Procter *Joan* i, He silent.., ye ministers Of death and darkness (for your voicing doth Bespeak ye terrible agents). 1850 Rogers *Christ. Life, Beauty* Wks. (Bohn) II. 430 The clergy have bronchitis .. Macready thought it came of the falsetto of their voicing.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1849 M. Arnold *New Sirens* 47 Till at evening we descry At a pause of Siren voicings These vext branches and this bowling sky. 1873 W. S. Mayo *Never Again* xi. 145 Expound me, then, these mystic voicings.

c. Expression or utterance. *rare.*

1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 29 Nov. 772 How much of all that is best in our modern life had voicing and in some manner organic formulation in the past town.

4. *Organ-building.* The operation or process of obtaining the correct quality of tone in an organ-pipe or stop, or of obtaining the same tone in a series of these; the tone so obtained.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 9/1 The tone of the pipes..depending on what is technically called the voicing. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 28 The only difference in the voicing consists in keeping the mouth a trifle lower. 1889 Stainer in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 335/2 In testing the voicing of an organ-stop.

*attrib.* 1879 *Organ Voicing* 25 If..the voicing operations [are] cleanly and correctly done.

5. *Phonetics.* The action or process of producing or uttering with voice or sonancy.

1874 Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* III. 1113 In middle Germany, where the distinctions (p b, t d) are practically unknown,.. recourse is had to what Brücke and M. Bell consider as whispering instead of voicing.

**Void** (void), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–7 voyde (5–6 woyde, 6 wyde), 4–7 voide (6 woide); 4–8 voyd (6 voyed, 6–7 *Sc.* woyd), 4– void (5 voied, 6 woid); *Sc.* 6 vode (9 voyd). [a. AF. and OF. *voide* (OF. also *vuide, vuode*, etc.; mod.F. *vide*), fem. of *voit, vuit*, etc., pop.L. **vocitus, *vocitum*, -*us*, replacing L. *vacuus*. Cf. Pr. *voit, voig*, It. *voto*.]

A. *adj.* I. 1. Of a see, benefice, etc. : Having no incumbent, holder, or possessor; unoccupied, vacant.

*c* 1290 *Rehet* 596 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 123 Pat no bischopriche ne non Abbeie also, Pat were voyde with-oute pouke, In pe kingus hond were I-do. *c* 1440 *Contin. Hoveden* II. 360 Ser Roger Walden, that King Richard had made Archebischop of Cauntorbury, he made Bischop of London, for pat time it stode voyde. 1493–8 in *Coll. Chanc. Oxford* (1890) II. Pref. 61 They beyng so seased, the chirch fell voyde. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII, c.* 25 § 2 Whensoever..any of ther Seet to be voyde be not elected..in xx dayes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 36 The See was voyde five yeres, and the goodes of the Church spent to the kinges vse. 1586 Drayton *Legends* iv. 725 If some Abbey happen'd to fall, By chance of Him that the Superiour was. 1628 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. vii. (ed. 3) 394, I know not..in what Cathedrall Church, a fat Prebend fall voide. 1654 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. iii. 208 Winchester lay void six, and Sherburn seven years. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 684 In the said See, after it had laid void till Nov. 1688, did succeed Dr. Tho. Lamplugh. 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 248 He was removed to Winchester void by Duppa's death. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* III. I. xx, The advowson of a void turn, by law, cannot be transferred from one patron to another. 1791 *Hamp. Gaz.* IV. 229/2 If a donative is the second living taken without a dispensation, the first is not made void by the statute. 1846 Lytton *Harold* III. iii, The chairs of the prelates of London and Canterbury were void.

b. Similarly of secular offices.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 209 Northumberlonde was voyde wipoute lyyng ayein pe kyng. 1535 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 43 Hit was knowyn that thurh the deposicion..and cause forseyd,..the Rewme off England was voyde for the tyme. *c* 1590 *Marlowe Edw. II* 1 Left his landes and possessyons voyde, without lord. 1595 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 398, I am acertaynyd that the Rowmes of your Graces Chaunsellor now farmyshyd & non of theym voide. 1660 Daun tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 158 b, This office had bene for ever voyde synce the death of the Duke of Bourbon. 1671 Morvson *Itin.* I. 54 To bee Lord President of Mounster, which place had layen void some few moneths. 1670 Walton *Lives* II. 123 The Provostship of His Majesties College of Eaton became void by the death of Mr. Thomas Murray. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. i. iii. (1710) 6 Seventy Queen's Scholars are..sent yearly to King's College in Cambridge, as Places become void. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 660 This last was evidently the earldom made void by the death of Ælfhelm.

†c. *Void manay*, money which has accumulated during the vacancy of an office. *Obs.*

1523 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec. off voyd money at be payment off Lomas. Rec. off voyd money off be payment off Phelyp and Jacobe. 1539 *Ibid.*, Rec. of the voyd money vs. ij d.

2. Of a seat, saddle, etc. : Having no occupant; in which no one is sitting, lying, etc.; empty.

13... *Corr de L.* 5079 Ther was a many a voyd sadyl. *a* 1350 *St. Stephen* 286 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 31 Þhis grasse er both voyd & bare. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 1045 Tundale saw...A sige that was full bryght schynand, But byt was voyde wen he saw byt. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 59 At this table was euer a voyde place, that betokeneth the place of Iudas. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* v. ii. (1883) 163 He may put hym in the voyde space to fore the phisicyen. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 209/1 Whan her fader & moder sawe her chare come home empty & voide thenne they did do seke their doughter coueral. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Transtrum vacuum*, a scate voyde or emptie. 1605 Sibbald *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 She was interred in a voyd grave in the isle of Porphichen upon the part of the through stone that was voyd. *a* 1723 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1765) 20, I stept in and sate down on the first void Seat. 1891 Mrs. Hogwind *Caza Guidi Wind.* i. 42 Behold, instead, Void at Verona, Juliet's marble trough. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 120 'We know the Shrine is void,' they said, 'The Goddess flown'.

**+b.** Of a horse: Having no rider. *Obs. rare.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. viii. 129 Accolon mounted vpon a voyde horse. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Evanis*, *Inanis equus*, a voyde or emptie horse: a leere horse.

**c.** Of a house or room: Unoccupied; untenanted. Now chiefly *dial.*

1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 56 A howse at fayster lane, voyd by iij quarters. 1598 (title) Survey (1841) 107 The same ten[emen]t...stood voyde without ani tennant many yeres afore. 1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 70 Happily they shipped into some Noble mans house in London. 1640 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 471, 730. mansions: wherof 224. stood void. 1700 Dryden *Cock & Fox* 217 Eu'ry Inn so full, That no void Room, or no Ground,... was to be found. 1866– in dial. glossaries (Shetland, Shropshire, Worc., Herts., Glouc.).

**9.** Of places: Destitute of occupants or inhabitants; not occupied or frequented by living creatures; deserted, empty.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 302 Tille Acres þei him led, better hele to haue In þer way vile dele þei fond voide als bestes. *Ibid.* 309 Alle wode & wast & voide stedes, Wode & doune all within þat space. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 300 Sen þat place in heven bright Was made voyde thurgh þe syn of pride. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 3315 Wat was Milon bolde aboute a stryde voide þer nas, bat of bat ilke hebenene route al ful was euery plas. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Prov. Prin.* 229 Oliueis sayde he was to drede that he ne shulde fynde the Cite of grece voyde. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxiv. On the quhele was lytill void space. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* ii. (1811) 25 Ye kyng wt thaduyce of his Barons graunted vnto them a voyde and wast countre. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* iii. 45 As for Ierusalem, it laye voyde, and was as it had ben a wyldernesse. There wente no man in nor out at it. 1548 Hall *Chron. Calvin an. Gen.* 209 That he might know that the world...should not be a desert and voyde place for ever. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* i. 184 Finding it [the Castle] voyd, he man'yed it in manner and bair of strang handes to defend it. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* (1678) 79 An appetite keen as a Wolf upon the void plains of the North. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* vii. 1000 Where void spaces on the walls appear, Or thin defence, they pour their force there. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* ii. xvii, In the void offices around Not a hoof, nor hay'd a hound. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* 197 The scanty pasture-fields were void and empty.

**b.** Not occupied by buildings or other useful structures; unutilized, vacant.

1442 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 387 For cariage of xxxj lodes of lome fro the fundacion of the College...in to a voyde place. 1472 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 90/1 A cottage, and 4 voide place conteigning by estimation 8 Rodes. 1518 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* (ed. Nash) 3 A void grownd in the North side of the said mill lane. 1546 *Hetherington Rec.* IV. 93 A tenement lie in the tenure of John Aleatre and a voide peyce of grownde with a gardeyn. 1618 Bible 2 *Kings* xxii. 20 The King of Iudah sate..in a voyd place in the entrance of the gate of Samaria. 1669 G. Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 50 Near this Castle Gate, in a void place of the street are two pulpits handsomely built of stone. 1683 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* ii. 72 Hamadan is a very large Town, but contains many void places, Gardens, and even ploughed Fields within it. 1736 tr. *Rollin's Ant.* (1827) II. 143 In the middle of each square was likewise all void ground. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist.* I. 113 There is a great Deal of void Ground, within the Walls [of Winchester]. 1872 *Yeats Agric. Hermn. Comp.* (1876) IV. xviii. 191 Most likely it stood in the void space between the mound, the gateway, and the later Castle.

**+c.** Unproductive, uncultivated. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. xlviii. (Bodl. MS.), A feelde þat is yered hatte Noualis oþer feelde þat lieþ voide euer þe oþer zere to reste and to ese. 1577 Harrison *Descr. Country Housesn. Gard.* (1626) 6 Men and catrell (that beare put trees thence, from out of Plaines to void corners) are better employed.

**4.** Not occupied by visible contents; containing no matter; empty, unfilled: **a.** Of receptacles, or things of similar form.

1300 Gower *Conf.* II. 191 We..With voide handes schul appiere, Touchende oure cure spirituel. *c* 1420 Maundev. (1839) v. 53 Sit þei seven sepulchres, þei scholden not ben voyd with inne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 255 (Harl. MS.), Hit is a voyde tonne, caste oute with sum men fro sum shippe. *c* 1500 *Rev to serve a Squyr in Bakes Bk.* (1868) 302 Cutte away the nekke in a voyde plate. 1523 Lb. Berners *Froiss.* I. xviii. 25 All there Carriage were sette in voyde granges and barnes. *a* 1529 *Skelton Why* xiv. 195 Incontynent the cuppe was voyde, and yᵉ wyne vanyshyd away. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 83 They vse to serue in sower crawt or cabbage vpon a voide circle of carued Iron standing on three feete. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* iii. 447 But Venus, foam-sprung Goddess,...snapp'd short the brace,...And the void helmet follow'd as he pull'd.

**b.** In general use. (Freq. of place or space.)

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 36 The small corne lyeth in the holowe and voyde places of the greate beanes. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 82 With their shot bestowed, in the 4 voyde angles or corners. *a* 1689 T. Carew *Trees in Love entreated* 1, For see my heart is made thy Quiver, where remaines No voyd place for another Dart. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 88 Nor can endure to fill up a void Place, At a Lince End, with one insipid Phrase. 1697 J. Potter *Antiq. Greece* I. viii. (1715) 39 The Spaces between...left void to admit the Light. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light*, etc. 49 It is therefore plain as it freely through a transparent body as through the voidest space. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 182 There are no void spaces among the basaltes. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xlvii, Dart thy spirit's light Beyond all worlds, until its spacious might Satiate the void circumference. 1895 Swinburne *Atalanta* 428 An eagle wrought in gold That...with void mouth gapes after emptier prey.

*Comb.* 1827 G. Macdonald *Poems* 140 The air is as the breath From the lips of void-eyed Death.

**+c.** *Void room*, an unfurnished or unoccupied room serving as an entrance or waiting hall. *Obs.*

1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* i. (1586) 12 You see a voyd roome before the Kitchin, whiche is an entrie both to the Kitchin...and to the Offouses. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 123/2 Betweene which & the lower end of the house is a void roome seruing for the lower house, and for all suters.

**+d.** Of writing, etc.: Blank, not written on; containing no writing or lettering. *Obs.*

1555 Ascham *Lett.* Wks. 1865 I. ii. 286 Because this paper is void, I cannot leave talking with you. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 617 Here is a void space left, and I cannot heere and there with voide places betweene. 1695 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* iv. xvii. 202 Keep the left side of your Book void, that your many writes may be Passages of the Eye-age. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 360 He had every head of enquiry separately wrote down on a sheet of paper, with a void space opposite to it.

**e.** Having the centre empty or not filled in.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., There were in old time foure maners of pricking, one al blacke which they termed Mulberie, another voyde as we now vse it, which they called black void. 1702 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. *Battions Void or Hollow*, are those that have a Rampart and Parapet ranging only round about their Flanks and Faces, so that a void Space is left toward the Centre.

**+5.** Empty-handed; destitute. *Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1868) 50 Yif þou hadden ytake þe richesses of þis world, & weren wexyng rych, þan woldest þou synge by-fore þe beef. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* xii. 3 The ethe tilieres...beten him taken, and leften him voyde. 1495 *Trevisa's Higden's Polychronicon* (R.T.S.) I. 23 He wolde not go from hym voyde. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. 759/1 My soune...shall not returne againe to me voyde or emptie. For he shall bring with him the fathers out of Limbo.

**+b.** *Void (of) course*, said of a planet: (see quot. 1679). *Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 114 Now fleeth Venus unto Cytherea, and Mars is voyde cours, for loue of Phebus light. 1679 Moxon *Math. Dict., Void of Course.* A Planet is said to be so, when he is separated from one Planet, and doth not come to joyning in that Sign, Aspect to any other, either by Body or Aspect.

**6.** †**a.** Of persons, etc.: Empty or destitute of good qualities; worthless. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 56 Þe bet seib to his broþer þat haþ þe holi gost...þat he is voide & wiþ-oute kunnynge. 1388 — *2 Peter* I. 8 Þei shulen not ordeyne you voyde, ne wiþ outen fruyt, in þe knowinge of oure Lord Jhesu Crist. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xcii. 411 (Add. MS.), Ye dremen or allys ye han fasted to mych, that your hede is voyde. 1563 *Foxe A. & M.* (1596) 1467 They that do persecute, be voyde and without all truth. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 45 Such was the sage who gave, and sounding strain, But senseless, lifeless! idol void and vain!

**b.** Of speech, action, etc.: Ineffective, useless, leading to no result.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* lv. 11 My wrd...shal not be turned azeen voide to me, but shal do what euere thingus I wolde. 1520 Lb. Berners *Golden Bk. Marcus Aurel.* (1535) 151 The worlde onely is here memory makyd. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* i. xx. 23 Wibdrawe þiscilf fro voide spekinges & idel circuities. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. *Prologues* i. 15 Quhat wordis ar all worldely pleasures,..and honour, With all voyde busynesse, and cures transytory. *Ibid.* 1609 O gloryous vyrgyn, replete with grace and vertu, Refuysyng voyde plesaunce. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 145 For all was ioy that I did fele: And of voide wandering I was free. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiv. § 5 Despaire I cannot, nor induce my minde to thinke his faith voide. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* ii. v. § 12 The end ought to be, from both philosophies to separate... whatsoever is emptie and void, and to preserve... whatsoever is solid and fruitfull. 1611 Bible 2 *Cor.* iv. 15 It were better for me to die, then that any man should make my glorying voyd. 1847 Tennyson *Prine.* vii. 19 Void was her use, And she as one that climbs a peak to gaze O'er land and main. 1872 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rur. Sports* (ed. 9) iii. 609/2 Void and means that neither side can score a cast. *Ibid.* 609/1 A void stud shall be included in this provision. 1881 Dufferin in Lyall *Life* (1905) II. i. 13 Any serious communication we may make to the Ministers is as void as though it were addressed to the winds.

**+c.** Of material things: Superfluous, waste. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 23 This stone is ek for pamentacion Conuenient: void leves pulle to be. 1494–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 215 For makyng of j ole in the chirche for voyde water. *c* 1530 H. Rhodes *Bk. Nurture* 293 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 70 Wyth bones & voyd morsels fyll not thy trenchour, my friend, full.

**d.** Of looks: Vacant. *rare*—1.

1796 Coleridge *Destiny of Nations* 253 Her flushed tumultuous features..now once more Naked, and void, and fixed.

**7.** Having no legal force; not binding in law; legally null, invalid, or ineffectual.

*Null and void*: see Null *a.* 1 b.

1433–8 *Rolls of Parll.* V. 437/2 This thaire assent and grant for to stande in strenghie, and ellus to be as voide and of noo valeure. *c* 1475 *Hart. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 321 That parliamente of kynge Ricardus was made voyde & as of noo valoure. 1498 *Rolls of Parll.* VI. 523/1 An Acte for making voyde of a Statute concerning artificers. 1527 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmoreld. Archæol. Soc.* (1914) XIV. 80 This obligacione to be voide and of non effect. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 106 All that was there done to be voyde and of none effe t. 1598 West *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 100 ||, Then the said couenant touching the paiment of &c. and the deliuering of the said bond to be cancelled, and either of them shalbe vtterly void. 1625 Donne *Serm.* 24 Fol. (1626) 43 If the Bill were interlinde, or blotted, or drops, the Bill was voyd. 1691 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxi. 111 Covenants, not to defend a mans own body, are voyd. 1672 Davenn *Comp. Granada* i. 1, The Force un'd on me made that Contract void. 1753 *Statute Englishm.* No. 41. 265 She immediately made void certain Grants she had made. 1774 Jefferson *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 130 The true ground on which we declare these acts void, is, that the British Parliament has no right to exercise authority over us. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 46 All statutes which they deemed void, contradictory, or superfluous. 1861 Lb. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xiv. 202 The Parliament declared that the same marriage had from the beginning been void. 1879 *Mfr. Antiq. Ornce* xviii. 11 23 The election was declared void, and a new writ was issued.

**b.** In general use: Null, invalid.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 Ceremonyes...whiche all were ordeyned for the fayth and honour of our sauyour Jhesu Chryst. 1530 Rastell *Eh. Purgat.* Prol., That repentaunce that he had before shuld be but voyde. 1604 Jas. I *Counterblaste to Tobacco* 11 Of this Axiom, both the Proposition and Assumption are false, and so the Conclusion cannot but be voyd of it selfe. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1683) 99 This makes void that common conceit and tradition of the Fish called *Pater marinus.* 1746 Hoyle *Games, Quadrille* 36 If there happen to be two Cards of the same sort, and found out before the Deal is ended, the Deal is void, but not otherwise. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. 293 The cast is void if the ball does not enter any of the holes. 1822 Canv *Dante, Parad.* III. 57 That vows Were, in some part, rejected and made void.

**8.** Of time: Free from work or occupation; unemployed, idle, leisure. Now *rare.*

*c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 23 Therefore though...a lesson be red but of one alone, yet thinke ye that the hyrde tyme to all the other to do what they will. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 161 To haue a commyn place appoyntyd... wherin they myght at voyd tymys vse ther exercyse. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* iv. (1895) 142 All the voide time, that is betwene the houres of woorke, sleepe, and meate. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* i. 1, Haue you so much time voide time to trouble your owne priuate affaires, that [etc.]. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. i, I'll chain him in my study, that a void hours I may run o'er the story of his many loues. 1852 *Househ. Words* xxiv, That void interval which passes for him so slowly.. teems with events for his friends.

**+b.** Vacant in regard to office; marked by a vacancy or interregnum. *Obs.*

1680 *Waterf. Arch.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 316 They that be chosen bailyffs one yere, shal not be chosen...without they bee one yere voyd betwixt. 1696 *Ibid.* 324 The eldest that have borne the office of Maizalite shall have the same voide day, if he have noo daye before. 1891 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* i. 144 Now Galba and Cæcina might obtaine some voide moneths that expect to be Consuls in. 1624 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. vi. § 8, 329 There can be no void space betwixt Consul and Othoniel. *Ibid.* xxiii. § 11, 558 Yet some conjectures there are made, which tend to keepe all euen, without acknowledging any void time.

**+c.** Of persons: Unemployed. In quot. *fig.*

*c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. lix. 127 Nature louep idelnes, ...but grace can not be voide ner idel, but gladly takip þerwip labour & trauele.

**+9.** Lacking, wanting. *Obs.*—1

1554-9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 In Chryst all fullnes of power and myght dothe dwell; In hyme voyd was nothyng that was nyedfull to saluacion.

**+10.** Powerless, unable. *Obs.*—1

1578 Rowdon in T. Procter *Gery. Gallery* A ij b, But Sicophantes will neuer cease to swell Though (learnedly) themselues be voyde in Arte.

**11.** Const. of (occas. †*from*).

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Complaint to his Purse* 50 The lambish people, voyd of alle vyce. *c* 1385 — *L. W. Prol.* 107 Thus thise foweles, voide of al malice..songe alle of oon acorde. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 And Musik had, voyde of alle vyce, Boeces lore verrayly to compleyne. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1624 A ryall king...herd off Wallace gouernance...and off his pruvyt prys, Off honour, verwyh, and void off cowardy. *a* 1529 Skelton *Why* xiv. 198 Yet is she fayne, Voyde of disdayn Me to retayne Her scruiture. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 231 b, They oughte to be free and voyde from wager. 1593 *Secret* ii. ii. 3 We Coblers lead a merie life:.. Void of all enuie and of strife. 1605 Earl Stirling *Alexandr. Trag.* iv. 1, All love a courteous count'nance, void of Art. 1817 Monthly *Mag.* II. 75 The said point must be thought void of that cunning, wherein the writer excelled. 1818 *Free-thinker* No. 66. 84 Let your Deliberations be void of Animosities. 1819 W. H. Ireland *Scribblemania* 260 Our code void of quirks in a Blackstone is seen. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porce. Insts & Gl.* xi. 253 A piece of flint glass, by no means void of imperfections. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* i, He was a man void of mystery, and not given to secrets.

**b.** Free from, untouched by, not affected or impaired *by* (something unpleasant or hurtful).

*c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 609 On a carnell rydyng, as voyde of all care. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. Clare Richmond* Wks. (1876) 305 A lyfe voyde of all sorow &

encombrance. 1544 More *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 8b/1 So yᵗ neuer any of them had euer in their liues knowen or herd, either themself or any other voyd of those diseases. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 101 A place wyghly assigned for the counsell, voyde of all daunger and suspicion. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Pz.* lix. vi, They prate and babble voide of feare. 1609 Daniel *Femo'r. Beauty* 350 Sense would haue him kept in a close, darke and quiet house, voyde from all noise. 1655 Mabq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* iv. 6 Never clogging the memory with several figures for words . . which with ease and void of confusion, are thus speedily . . letter for letter set down. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 585 Next Day, nor only that, but all the Moon, . . Are void of Tempests. *Ibid.* ii. 688 My next Desire is, void of Care and Strife, To lead a soft, secure, inglorious Life. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) III. xxvii. 330. I, sanguine in my hopes, had expressed myself as void of all doubt but you would become a Catholick. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, Kachin alone had left it [the battle-ground] void of wounds. 1878 Marie A. Hadwen *Runneberg's Nadetschka* III. 37 And void of fear . . She goes to Woldmar.

†**c.** Clear or quit of (a person); vacant in respect of. *Obs.*

*c* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 48 b, Nowe nothinge was contrariant . . to his pernicious purpose, but that his mancion was not voide of his wife. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 293 b, In the countrey round about were forces of Spaniardes and Italians. Of whome to be voyde and free, they . . payde thirty thousand . . crownes. 1633 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* ii. xxiv. 188 The Parliament . . declared the Throne void of Edward the Fourth, and Henry the Sixth King.

**12.** Destitute of, not graced or ennobled by (some virtue or good quality).

*c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) iv. xxix. (1859) 69 Thou arte veyne, and voyde of al manner of vertue. 1567 *Songes Costumes* (Percy Soc.) 56 Ye poope holy prestis full of presumcion, . . voyd of discrecion. 1568 Dunbar *Flyting* 61, I se the halland in thy harlotrie, . . Verteu verteu voyd. 1597 Euden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 24 The inhabitantes are . . vtterly voyde of all godly knowledge. 1555 — *Decades* (Arb.) 52 Vnshamefull bodyes voyde of honestie and shame. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 3 They haue been so voide of the orders and exercises of war of their forefathers. 1612 Chapman *Widow's T.* iii. 1, O thou perfidious That ever gently looked; the voydest of honour That eu'r bore gentle l'oken. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1074 Had Fruit of Knowledge, . . Whither wouldst thou flie, Apostate still? but might not so void of reason at this age bot that I can refrain from duing myself and family any damag by thay. 1708 Ketcouat *Rare Examples* v. 1, Heaso' void of Virtue, has the Power To make as well the Wise as Fools adore. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 136 But Hunger is void of all Compassion. 1788 Miss Burney *Cecilia* vi. 70 She was totally void of judgment or discretion. 1827 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. vii. 600 Whom he represents as too void of character, to write anything himself. 1831 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 44 He was as void of manly as of kingly virtues. 1861 Lb. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xiv. 206 A person void of capacity, without experience.

**b.** Destitute or deprived of, lacking or wanting (something desirable or natural).

The groups of quotations illustrate different types of content.

(*a*) 1400 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1382 Came thedyr Attropos, voyde of all gladness, Wrappyd in hys sheete. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 308 Pal war void of all gude esperance, 1567 Gude & Godly *Ball.* (S.T.S.) 33 Woide of all joy, but full of painfulnes. 1592 Timme *Ten Eng. Lepers* Kiij, They find that they are vtterly void of all helpe. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 341 Voyd of all delight, cold, barren, bleake and dry. 1630 Child *Dias. Trade* (1668) 14 The People poor, despicable, and voide of commerce. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 696 He took this way, thro' Forrests void of Light. 1702 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 90 It would not at first view be altogether void of probability. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* vii. 643 Life void of Joy, but fearful of Termination! 1812 Cranbe *Tales* xxiv. 304 By various shores, he passed, on various seas, Never so happy as when void of ease. 1882 Hurton *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 309 The records of Scotland . . are lamentably void of conscience sake, can never be void of interest.

(*b*) 1488 tr. *Secreta Secret., Prov. Prin.* 240 Rygthfull houre of entryng is, when the ascendaunt is in the cleuen, and voyde of the mette. 1583 B. Goodge *Eclogs* v. (Arb.) 47 Thy face good Egon [is] voide of blud, thine eies amassed stare. 1586 W. Fulke in *Confer.* iii. 18 (1584) O iij b, Nay, bee saith plainely, they are *Sacramenta corporis*, voyde of body. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 185/2 If matter it self be in it self void of measure, it is necessary that it receive measure from some other. 1708 T. Sheridan tr. *Persius* v. (1739) 68 A white Shield void of any Figures in it. 1797 J. Sulivan *View Nat.* I. 378 That water, when new melted, is totally void both of air and of the acrial acid. 1813 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 489 It is colourless and void of smell, but intensely saline and bitter. 1859 *Chambers Phys. Sci.* 144 Leaving 1727 cubic inches void of any material substance. 1859 Jephson & Reeve *Brittany* 237 The surface of the water was perfectly void of any ripple.

(*c*) 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 339 Philippus, kynge of Macedony, scholde destroye sone the cite if that hit were vacuate and voide of discrete men. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 97 Methocht Compassioun, voyde of feirie, Than strak at me with mony ane stound. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1533) II. 8 b/2 To espye when he were voyde of his company, and then to take hym. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* viii. 298 He marched through wilde and desert places voide of inhabitants. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 503 The Inhabitants being left void of a Gouernour, or solid Patrone.

(*d*) 1513 *Life Henry V* (Kingsford, 1911) 126 Whereby the Englishmen, voide of there requests, returned to there lodges. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Animals* III. i. 240 He was depos'd, and declar'd void of the Papacy.

**B.** *ib.*¹ **1.** †**a.** One who is devoid *of* something. *Obs.*—

1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* iv. 286 Their Immodest fame Fires none but Fools, Fanatics, or Voids of shame.

**b.** A state or condition devoid *of* something; a lack or want. *rare.*

1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 273 On account of the impossibility of making a perfect void of air by means of the pump. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 359 Men in whom pride . . supplies the void of sense. 1789 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 559 Nor has the society he has kept been such as to supply the void of education. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 273 Space is the void of outward objects.

**2.** Emptiness, vacancy, vacuity, vacuum.

*a* 1618 Sylvester *Trag. Hen. Gt.* 600 Who, from the Queen, Motion can recall, Heat from Fire, Void from Air, Order from All. 1781 Lovet *Euloeia* vi. 349 In perfect void, the medium lost, . . All substances with like velocity Descend. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. x. 10 Naught shalt thou see in endless void afar. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* iv. § 221. 233 But there is also void in things, else they would be jammed together.

*fig.* 1866 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 472 It leaves the feeling of void and forsakenness.

**3.** *a. Arch.* A space left in a wall for a window, or door; the opening of an arch; any unfilled space in a building or structure.

1626 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 341 The said Thomas . . sall build ane voyd hard be the said passage for letting doun the paissis frome the knock. 1793 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Perspective* 138 Massive is found over Massive, and Void under Void. 1740 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 120 The Thickness of each Pier is not one Third Part of the Void of the Arch. 1789 H. Swinburne *Travels* I. 163 A very loose mode of . . measuring *voids*, as the openings of doors and windows are termed. 1889 Hibbert *Tour in Photog.* 124 The windows are both prominent and graceful features in the building, not merely glazed voids.

**b.** An empty or vacant space; an unoccupied place or opening in something or between things; a vacancy caused by the removal of something.

Examples of the singular with *the* (cf. sense 4) are placed under (*a*). The use often *fig.*, esp. in the phrase *to fill the void*.

(*a*) 1667 Dryden *Enoid* v. 634 From the forbidden space Of void Abyss . . He said, and with the word advanced his pace. 1737 (S. Berington) *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 161 In the middle of this Concave is a golden Sun, hanging in the Void. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*b*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 1 What makes the Sun so full of Heat to rowl, Amidst the Stars, in his Ecliptick Coal, And when the Winter Solstice shortens Light, Contracts the Void, and straightens Day to Night. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*c*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 1010 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*d*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*e*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

**c.** *Spec.* An absolutely empty space; a vacuum.

1707 Swift *Wonder of Wond.* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 53 He is an atomic philosopher, strongly maintaining a void in nature. 1708 Reid *Intell. Powers* iv. xiii. 262 If [*sc.* space] is only an immense, eternal, immoveable, and indestructible void or emptiness. 1854 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xiv. (1858) 124 The incompressibility of matter and the celestial bodies should exert a reciprocal attraction through a void. 1857 Wikewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 33 Whether there was or was not a void, or place without matter, [was] a question debated among rival sects of philosophers. 1905 *Times* 31 Aug. 7/4 Does not . . the Democritean void . . again emerge?

*fig.* 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr. Minut.* i. 243 On superior pow'rs Were we to press, inferior might on ours: Or in the full creation leave a void. 1888 Tennyson *Lucretius* 37 It seem'd A void vast as infinity in her hands created all.

**d.** One of the small unoccupied spaces in a heap or mass which is not perfectly solid.

1837 J. T. Smith tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 87 It is then easy to judge by the quantity of water used, what proportions the void bears to the whole bulk of the sand. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 254 The very sides of the grave itself shall pass, Vanishing, atom and void, atom and void, into that unseen for ever. 1884 *Cassell's Mag.* 2/1 Those large void spaces which fill the voids with water and measuring its quantity. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 774/1 Strength of Concrete with Different Per Cent. of Voids Filled.

**4.** *spec.* With *the*: The empty expanse of space.

1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 829 With lonely steps to tread Th' unfounded deep, & through the void immense To search with wandring quest a place foretold. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* vi. 51 He sung . . How Seas, and Earth, and Air, and Sacred Sky, Fell through the mighty Void. 1697 — *Æneid* xii. 904 Throw through the void the rocky ruin shoots. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 289 This rich variety of Creatures, that fill the Void, in which the Earth in the Beginning was said to be. 1774 Bentley *Miscell. Ir.* xviii, For now no cloud obscures the starry void. 1820 Shelley *Liberty* i. The ray Of the remotest sphere of living flame Which paves the void was there. 1868 Brewster *More Worlds* x. 163 The immense void which lies between our system and the nearest system of the stars. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 65 The scattered Fragments into the Void we carry.

**b.** Const. *of* (heaven, etc.).

1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 438 The void profound Of unessential Night receives him next Wide gaping. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 47 In the Void of Heav'n a Space is free, Betwixt the Scorpion and the Maid, for thee. 1726–46 Thomson *Seasons, Winter* 576 If Nature's boundless frame was call'd, late-rising from the void of night, Or sprung eternal from th' Eternal Mind. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* i. iii. 38 Thus did the venturous Cretan dare To tempt with impious wings the void of air.

**c.** Const. *for*.

1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 273 On account of the impossibility of making a perfect void of air by means of the pump. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 359 Men in whom pride . . supplies the void of sense. 1789 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 559 Nor has the society he has kept been such as to supply the void of education. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 273 Space is the void of outward objects.

**2.** Emptiness, vacancy, vacuity, vacuum.

*a* 1618 Sylvester *Trag. Hen. Gt.* 600 Who, from the Queen, Motion can recall, Heat from Fire, Void from Air, Order from All. 1781 Lovet *Euloeia* vi. 349 In perfect void, the medium lost, . . All substances with like velocity Descend. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. x. 10 Naught shalt thou see in endless void afar. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* iv. § 221. 233 But there is also void in things, else they would be jammed together.

*fig.* 1866 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 472 It leaves the feeling of void and forsakenness.

**3.** *a. Arch.* A space left in a wall for a window, or door; the opening of an arch; any unfilled space in a building or structure.

1626 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 341 The said Thomas . . sall build ane voyd hard be the said passage for letting doun the paissis frome the knock. 1793 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Perspective* 138 Massive is found over Massive, and Void under Void. 1740 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 120 The Thickness of each Pier is not one Third Part of the Void of the Arch. 1789 H. Swinburne *Travels* I. 163 A very loose mode of . . measuring *voids*, as the openings of doors and windows are termed. 1889 Hibbert *Tour in Photog.* 124 The windows are both prominent and graceful features in the building, not merely glazed voids.

**b.** An empty or vacant space; an unoccupied place or opening in something or between things; a vacancy caused by the removal of something.

Examples of the singular with *the* (cf. sense 4) are placed under (*a*). The use often *fig.*, esp. in the phrase *to fill the void*.

(*a*) 1667 Dryden *Æneid* v. 634 From the forbidden space Of void Abyss . . He said, and with the word advanced his pace. 1737 (S. Berington) *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 161 In the middle of this Concave is a golden Sun, hanging in the Void. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*b*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*c*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 1010 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*d*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

(*e*) 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 891 Into this wilde Abyss, The womb of nature and perhaps her grave, Of neither Sea, nor Shore, nor Air, nor Fire, But all these in their pregnant causes mixed Confus'dly, and which thus must ever fight, Unless the almighty Maker them ordain His dark materials to create more Worlds, . . Into this wilde Abyss the warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his voyage; for no narrow frith He had to cross. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 420 ⁷2 Those Beings who are settled in the Void of Space. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1124 Void of Life, Void of Joy, Void of Hope, and void of Fear. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 249 All the trickle That idleness has ever yet contriv'd To fill the void of an unfurnish'd brain. 1817 Moore *Lalla R.* Wks. (1910) 415/1 A wide, dreary, and inland glen, No fathomless gulf to plunge, No eye could pierce the void between. 1861 Maine *Anc. Law* iv. 99 The mind of a Roman lawyer . . would instantly fill the void with the ordinances of the Edict.

*fig.* 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 210 Pride, where wit fails, . . fills up all the mighty void of sense. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* i. ii. 43 Mere Outside ills, to fill the mighty Void Of Life, in Dress and Equipage employ'd. 1795 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. 1842 II. 275 To lose ourselves in the infinite void of the conjectural world. 1822 J. Taylor *Eulæus.* iv. 84 The dark void of infidelity. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* i, To fill up the great void of life with giving small orders to tenants.

**5.** *fig.* **a.** An unsatisfied feeling or desire.

1779 Cowper *Hymns* i, They have left an aching void, The world can never fill. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xiii. 6 [Tears] Which weep a loss for ever new, A void where heart on heart reposed. 1859 Doyle *Dust* (1909) 15/1 You talk about my happiness before I met you, . . but what a void there was!

**b.** A blank in a record.

1886 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* Introd., They are the attempt to satisfy a total void. 1889 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xiv. 329 A void in which history cannot fill.

**6.** A period during which a horse or farm is unoccupied or unlet. (Cf. Void *a.* 2 c.)

1885 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 3/2 For some years it went reasonably well; but with frequent voids and losses of rent. 1903 — 20 Feb. 3 The [income tax] authorities would only allow 'voids' or 'empties' within the financial year in which they occurred.

**7.** In the game of skat: The seven, eight, or nine, which have no value in counting.

1892 Diehl *Skat* 18 By having the best of the plain suit, you will very likely be enabled to make two tricks in that suit.

†**Void** (void), *v.* Forms: 4–5 voyden, 4–7 voyde (4 woyde, 5 ouyde, voyeds), voyd (5 woyd, voyed, 6 *Sc.* woyid); 4, 6 voiden, 4–6 voide, 4–void (5 woid); 4 vewd-, 6 *Sc.* woud. [Partly (1) ad. AF. and OF. *voider*, *vuider* (OF. also *voidier*, *vuidier*; mod.F. *vider* = Pr. *voidar*, *voyar*, *vujar*, etc., Cat. *vuydar*, It. *votare*)—pop.L. **vocitare* to make empty; see Void *a.* Partly (2) an aphetic form of Avoid *v.*]

**I.** *l. trans.* To clear (a room, house, place) *of* occupants; to empty or clear (a place, receptacle, etc.) *of* something. †Also const. *from*. Now *arch.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 373 (Linc.), He voidud beo chaumbre of many velvon. *c* 1386 *Sir Gawayne* 3131 Bi pat ane he feldes alle pe Sarzyns y-wondé with cold. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2025 *Hypermnestra*, Whan that the house voyded was of alle. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1951 Pere wes no thing, pat any man myzte se, . . Bot a hanypald bed wold it [*sc.* his house] of al thing bat was there. *c* 1480 J. Kay tr. *Caxton's Siege of Rhodes* p 7 Anon with grete dyligence they voyded their shippes of al the men of warre of their ordonnances. 15.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), To woud the said biging of the gudis. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 232 Penny royal . . clenseth the Lungues, and voydeth the rewme of the breast from all grosse and thicke humors. 1654 Fuller *Wounded Conse.*, cix. (1867) 187 Bonifi . . causeth the room to be voided of all company. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1080 The cavity of the cylinder and globe containing the thermometer was completely voided of air with mercury. 1861 Lb. Lytton *Harold* v. *Tamelwold* Now the house is voided Of all his multitudes, the mighty Hall . . laid bare His ghostly galleries to the mournful moon.

**b.** To rid, to make free or clear, *of* (or †*from*) some quality or condition.

1398 Trevisa *Barthol. De P.R.* (1495) 947 Pe herons alle aeld, . . pe lond bei wilde voide of pat heriale. 1575 Barbour *Bruce* i. 26 Pai suld weill hawe pryse pat . . war woydyt off cowardy. 1596 *Edyc. Poyf.* (W. de B.) 70 Ye shall first vyrst voyded from all . . clerycon, pryde and contradiccyon. 1625 *Primer* Aij, That our barnes be voyded quyte, From phansy, and fond delighte. 1636 Chaucicke *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 I. 70 Thrice commanded the Castle Hall both thrise happy hope voids the place from feare. 1641 Milton *Reform.* ii. 74 The Parliament shall void her Upper House of the Bishops. 1668 Dryden *Wild Gallant* Rightcous (1892) 273 Having voided thy mind of what is earthly and carnal. 1862 Herrig. Hoyz *Eng. Cathedr. apth C.* I. x. It is neither possible nor desireable so wholly to void either nature of the presence of the other.

†**c.** To bereave or deprive *of* life. *Obs.*—1

*c* 1300–50 *Alexander* 3780 If I be vencuit in be veile & voided of my lyfe, Lat all my seggis & seile be to pl-seife yolden.

**2.** Without const. †**a.** To clear (a table) of dishes, remains of food, etc. after a meal. *Obs.*

*a* 1400 *Sqr. Low Degre* 468 Whan they were voyded fro his knē, And voyded his bordes full gently. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 271 Now this feest is done, voyde ye the table. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* iv. xxii. (1589) 85 The Traitor and table voyded, then he . . Directs her by his tongue and tearcs, vnto his louing heart. 1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* iii. Wks. (Grosart) III. 273/1 The board was veided, and the Sewer had now resign'd his office with the Ewer. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 119 Dinner was done, and the Table voided.

*fig.* 1598 Quarles *Heroicall Epistles* xiii. Wks. (Grosart) III. 192/1 Time voids the table, dinner 's done.

†**b.** To evacuate (the stomach); to clear or blow (the nose); to clean out (slaughtered animals). Also *refl. Obs. rare.*

*c* 1430 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 180) vi. And when pei be ful or sealc, pei fedeth hem with gras, as an hounde

doth, forto voyd hem. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Prov. Prov.* 240 To kepe kynde hete, and to voyde the stomake, good is bit afor meste sumwhate to walke or ryde. 1535 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 191 The bochers ..shall voyd and kyll noe moe ware in the sayd bowses. 1595 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 49 They would neither.. spit, nor void their excrements into the riuers, but reuerenced them aboue all things.

†**c.** To make void or empty; to clear or empty (some thing or place) of its contents or occupants. 1526 in *Mem. Hen. VI* F (Rolls) 288 A little before.. my lord Herberd voided all the King's chamber except lords and officers .. which remained there still. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 297 The chamber being voyded, he brake with him in these tearmes. 1600 Holland *Livy* vii. v. 259 So the roume being voided, and all commaunded to depart farre enough out of the way, he draweth out his sicone. 1618 *Marlowe's Faustus* iii. iv, Good Faustus seize the roomes be voyded straight, His Maiesty is comming to the Hall. 1698 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 4 Thus when your Trench is voided and emptied to the depth which you desire, you shall cast in long dung.

**d.** To render (a benefice) vacant; to vacate. *Obs.* 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 217 When any Archbishop-ric or Bishoprick shall be voyded. 1677 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 327 His living.. being voided by his own act, though it would have been otherwise if voided by death. 1693 Br. Kidder *Serm. Eccles. Bps. Rath & Wells* II. (1830) 126 After I had entered upon this living, and thereby voided that in Essex.

†**e.** To exhaust (a subject) by discussion or exposition; to deal with or treat exhaustively or thoroughly. 1659 H. Thorndike *Epil. Treat. Ch. Gov.* I. xx. 155 Not to insist here, what the respective interests of publick and private persons in the Church are and ought to be, because it is a point that cannot here be voided. 1685 Tombes *Baptism* 273 A question which will best be voided by considering the force of those Arguments, which the condemners .. have produc'd.

**3.** To devise (something) of legal validity; to make legally void or invalid; to annul or cancel. *a* 1325 *Mirr. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 30 b, The parties of bulke fins..ope ssuche fins to voiden ant for te amenden weren i suffred. *Ibid.*, On smuche maneres be fins..ofesiues be voyded. 1489 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 394/1 That..it be lefull to the said Roger..to enter,..and enjoye all that comprised in the same Lettres Patentes voided. 1535 T. Cromwell, in *State Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) VII. 586 [To] desire the Bisshop..to revoke and denounce voyd and frustrate the iuiust and vnadmissible sentence. 1610 W. Tymberlake *Govt. Churches* 132 In some cases they void excommunication that is grounded upon particular interesse. 1647 Digges *Unlaw. Taking Arms* 4. 147 The obstinate shall voide the Parliament. 1691 Locke *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 7 Unless you intend to..void Bargains lawfully made. 1706–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 79 A contract voided by the Crown. 1883 H. Cox *Institit.* I. viii. 98 The giving meat and drink, exceeding £5 in value, to electors, shall void an election. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 814/2 On the principles of Roman Canon law, the Papal succession has been voided many times over.

**b.** To deprive of efficacy, force, or value; to render inoperative or meaningless; to set aside or nullify. Now *rare*.

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cviii. 11 Be counsaile of be heghest bei voidyd [L. *irritaverunt*]. 1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 304 For bou pese to [= two] craftis nemlid were michill more needful in pe elde lawe, pe newe testament hath voydid pese and pe prestis of it. 1464 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 511 That th' effect of the old purpose of the said Sir John Fastolf schuld not be all voyded. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* (1868) 176 Wone beginne to..salke with you of suche matere, lete hym alone..And thus ye shalle voyde and breke his talkynge. 1513 *Lyfe Hen. V* (Kingsford, 1911) 30 By whose departure the intent of the victorious kynge was clerely empesshed and voyded in that Cause. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1057/1 By yr marking of thys one poynt, you voyde almost all the matter, which maister..Frith and Tyndall..labour to deceiue you. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 12 Baptisme..is by a fourth sort of men voided for the onely defect of some Ecclesiastical priorities in the Minister. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 105/1 Now tell me if thy adversary Sue thee, and thou art like to be overthrown For want of witnesses, how wilt thou void His suit? 1693 J. Walker, etc. *Treatise Hebrews* 3 The former expression of the Law..voided and annulled by that farr more preeminent of Christ. *a* 1688 W. Claget *tr. Serm.* (1699) 197 They voided the commands of God, and made his word of none effect. 1752 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 467 O how is man inlarg'd, Seen thro' this medium (i.e. Redemption)!.. How voided his vast distance from the skies! 1870–3 Cox *Pilgr. Pr.* iv. 83 We defeat our own hope and void our own prayer.

†**c.** To confute or refute. *Obs.*

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 963/1 With these and such other like reasons, the Gray Franciscans voyded their Adversaries. 1630 M. Gouwyn tr. *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* (1695) 184 He by such witty answers voided the accusation of his Adversary, that the Lords found him not guilty. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 19 After waiting and voiding, hee thinks to void my second Argument. 1699 Bentley *Phal. xiv.* 479 His Design was..To secure the Low Sicilian Talent, and to void all that Mr. B. had written about it before.

**II.** †**4.** To send or put (a person) away; to cause or compel to go away from or leave a place; to dismiss or expel. *Obs.*

Freq. const. *out of*, also more rarely *from* or *of* the place. Also (?) with advs. as *out* or *aloof*.

(*a*) 23.. *Gest. Alexandrum* (A.) 285 Pilate gart voyde hame alle pai were within pat house. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 1136 Voyde youre man and lat hym be ther oute. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xii. 137 He let ryden out of his Chambre alle manner of men. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 89, Y wille that the same Jonet be vttterlich excluded & voyded fro the foraside Manere of Staverton. *c* 1430 Capgrave *Life St. Augustine* 12 Pe bischop was compelled to voyde hir with swech wordys: Go fro me, woman. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* I.]*b*, The prynce that was voyded and hydde under the bed. *a* 1530 in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 57 That ye voide out of your house Robert laurence and he nomore to resorte to the same. 1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* III. (1558) 164 Al hearers being voided out of the place, he commaunded, the yongman shoulde come to hym. 1608 Dekker *Dead Tearme* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 57 Not to keepe any single woman in his house on the Holy-dayes, but the Bailiffe to see them voyded out of the Lordship. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 80 Now the Bishops abrogated and voided out of the Church..the Episcopall arts begin to bud again.

(*b*) 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* viii. xx. (1554) 190 b/1 Let him also voyde out at his pallace, Ryotous people. 1533 Bellenden *Q. Curtius* Q vij, [He] appointed certaine to waite whiles he slept, which shoulde voide all men a loufe, to the entent he should not be disquieted with any noise. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm. Wks.* 206 If his pastorall care he visited (as the Temple), and in the zeale of God voided them out which did defile it.

†**b.** With double object. *Obs.*

1402 Hoccleve *Let. of Cupid* 468 Voide hem our court, and banyssh hem for euer. 1483 *Presentinite. of Juries in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 28 We wyll be schoy he voydyd the ton [=town]. 1580 Rastell *Pastyme* (1811) 126 He warnyd oft agaynst the Danys, but at the last by agrement he voydyd them the West contrey. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* B 4, I haue one Chamber voyd, but as for this fellowe, I perceiue he is a counterfeit, and therewith commaunded him to be voided his lodging.

†**c.** To dismiss or remove from a situation or position. *Obs.*

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 95 Yf that yoman be from you soo voyded ye shal take away the lyuori of the said Sheref. 1532 Barclay *Eclogue* (1570) C ij b/2 If thou chaunge some better for to haue, Thou voydest a lubber to haue ragayne a knaue.

†**d.** *refl.* To remove or withdraw (oneself) *from* or *out of* a place. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 391 Also he voidede and wip-drow hym from pat place. 1467 *Maldon* (Essex) *Crt. Rolls* (Rundle 43, No. 37), The said Gilbert voided hymself out of the said Court without rent or farme paying.

†**5.** Of persons or animals: To go away, depart, retire, or withdraw from, to leave or quit (a place); to give (ground); to move out of (the way); to get out of (one's sight); = Avoid *v.* 7. *Obs.*

Very common from *c* 1400 to *c* 1625; now *Obs.* (cf. d).

13.. *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 276 Pees bou bi tong, & voyde bi way, & stonde by you pere pat I wyth-oute vylanye myzt voyde bis table. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5388 Bot where so he bere his helme, Romanes fel & dide hem sone voyde be lond. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 16 He commanded but pat bei voided pe citee of Rauenne by certeyne day assigned but men schulden..chasen hem out of toures. 1470–85 Malory *Morte d'Arthur* (1485) I. 45 Smale deer be kynde will rather voyde his couert pan wil a gret herte. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3335 He sent the word,.. To voyde his gronnde and tary not to long. 1484 Caxton *Fables* 236, I aulde sia pe wit with hy hynder fete because pou wolde not voyde pe way, & giff me rowm to pass by pe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. xii. 106 Goo your way & voyde my syght. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxv. 36 So this syr Robert was layne to voyde the realme of Fraunce, and went to Naples. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 149 Paulus would not depart the Church, neither void the house. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 716 They voyded the Church. 1670 Eachard *Contempt Clergy* (1672) 140 Voyd tr. *Martini's Comp. China* 36 They..withall commanded them speedily to void the City. 1732 Sir C. Wogan *Lett.* 27 Pub. in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 670 The whole shoal of virtuoses were sensible to the stroke, and voided the room at once.

†**b.** To dismount from (a horse). *Obs.*

1489 Caxton *Faytes of Armes* I. xvi. 28 Thenne the kynge of the C kynghtes voyded vpon the hors lyghtly.

†**c.** To cover, move over (ground) in progression. *Obs.*—1

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 218 They are slow of pace, and voyde ground very long spaces, and therfore it is iustly termed a heauy and slothfull beast.

**d.** To vacate (a seat). *rare.*

1853 Miss E. S. Sheppard *Chas. Auchester* II. 38 Before I could get out, my glance fell on a bad left item, several seats were voided beneath us. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 17 Dec. (Cassell's), A wholesale system of voiding seats.

†**6.** To remove (something) so as to leave a vacant space; to take, put, or take away; occas., to remove by emptying or taking out. Now *rare*.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 1159 For with an appearance a clerk may make To mannes wyte pat alle the Rokkes blake Of Britaigne were yvoided out of pis Londe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 231 Afterward hem stant no doute To wide with a soubtil bond The beste goodes of be lond. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1898 Let ni yeen marchandise Be voidit of your Shippis. *c* 1440 *Pictell's Wills* 12 pe Abbot & pe prioure of Bridlyngton seydin to pe scolere pat god had voydyd his synnes out of pat lettere, in counfortyng him pat his synnes ben forgeuyn. 1466 in *Rolls of Parli.* (1783) V. 611 The Sower geweth a voyder to the Carver, and he doth voyde into it the Trenchers, and so cleanseth the table cleane. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iii. 58 Whan the table is voyded and take away. 1530 Palsgr. 765/1, I voyde a thyng out of the way, or out of syght, *je oste*. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. vii. 43 A well of purest water, with which he..voyded their *Paracoptius, Goth. Wars* IV. 129 And having voyded away much earth from beneath those timbers, they shook..the Wall, and found it suddenly sunk. *a* 1592 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Dec. 1685, The spectators, were exceedingly pleas'd to see in what a moment of time all that curious work was demolish'd, the comfitures voided, and the tables clear'd. 1895 Browning *Ædipus* 40 'Sooth, it elates me, thus reposed and safe, To void the stuffing of my travel-scrip And share with thee whatever Jowry yields.

*fig.* *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (1911) 78, I shal .. Voyde the chaff, & gadryn out the corn. 1430–40 — *Bochas* IX. xxxviii. *Lemwys* (1558) 371/1 Voyde [ye] the wede, of vertue take the corne.

†**b.** To clear away by discussion or demolition. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1013 Jif we was a vengaunce violent, bat voyded pise places, bat foundered has so fayr a folk & so folde sonkken. *Thrie C.* 370. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1338 He blisches to be burge & sees his bild voidid, als bare as a bast his baistell a-way. 1464 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 560/2 That all such Weres, Mallices and Demmynges,..should be voided and clene beten downe.

†**c.** With immaterial object. *Obs.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 11.

1382 Wyclif *Job* xv. 4, As myche as in pee is, pou hast voidid drede. *c* 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 13 Bot who pat is of charité perfit, He voideth alle sleighes fer aweie. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 285 pis mayde wolde voyde fro pe suche euyll demynges, & euyll thowtys, woordys, and dedys. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 2184, I find ne might, thing that kerved,..Wherewith I might my woful paine Have voided with bleeding of my veine. *c* 1530 *Ur. of Love* 628, I me bethought .. Myne orison right goodly to devyse, And pleasantly .. Beseech the goddes voiden my grevaunce. *a* 1533 Lindsay *Kynrter D.* Prol. (Arb.) 19 Mirth recreates our spirites and voydeth pensiuenesse. 1656 J. Smith *Pretet. Physick* 12 The cause that is joyned with it [the carbuncle] must be voided, with scarrification and cupping.

†**d.** To remove or take off (a helmet, etc.). *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7092 He was glad of the gome, & o gode chere Voidet his viser, auentil hym seluyn. *c* 1467 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1208 Thilke tyme, as I took hede, Her helme was voyded from his hede. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xxiii. 249 He stroke doune that knyghte and voyded his helme and strake at his hede.

†**e.** To cast, fling, or throw away (a sword); to bring or blow *down* (leaves). *Obs.*

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4145 Vulturnus be violent bat voidis doun be leuis. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6309 And Charles voydeth his broken brande, Owte he hent a knyfe in hande.

**7.** Of persons, animals, or their organs: To discharge (some matter) from the body through a natural vent or orifice, esp. through the excretory organs; to eject by excretion or evacuation; †also, to spit or pour forth (venom).

Now the usual sense. Also (?) formerly with *out*.

(*a*) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1893 The verray cxpulsif or animal .. Ne may the venym voyden ne expelle. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* (1495) III. xxiii. 61 Whan pe stomak hab comeþ of pe melke..vnbe must be puidded ait pe fulle. 1551 Robinson *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 203 Sumwhyles those thynges be voyded whych were of to moche or to great abundaunce. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 124 The more filth he gooide at the mouth, the better will it be for him. *a* 1617 Bolton *Florus* III. ii. 145 When good will a mans mouth doe him, if he void it vp, through weaknesse of stomake, as fast as it is eaten? 1617 Morveon *Itin.* I. 215 My brother..fell, and voided much blood at the nose. 1684 Boyle *Porosity of Bodies* 4 *Seiled Bowl.* vi. 53 The Purulent matter hath been voided by Siege and Urine. 1758 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 548/2 Mr. D..took the Medicines, voided three small Worms, and grew perfectly well. 1766 *Slate, D. Macdonald v. Dk. Gordon* Pursuer's Proof 7 The he-fish they carried off with them, and [he] has seen them often voiding the Milt at Inverness. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 243 The patient voided his urine by the natural channel. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iv. (1816) I. 91 A white line, which..is found to consist of innumerable Acari, precisely the same with those that he had voided. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* iii. (1880) 100 It is astonishing what a vast number of eggs the female perch will void.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. v. 52 The Valleyes, whose low Vassal Seat, The Alpes doth spit, and void his rhewme vpon. 1631 Celestina *Decalomb Mistress* 69 Thou man of mouth, ..whose Musk-cat verse Voids nought but flowers for thy Muses herse. 1655 Vaughan *Juvenal Sat.* i. *Rules & Lessons* xiii, I hate vice, I hate vertue's but filth and stench. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 742 For Anaxagoras..Believ'd the Heavens were made of Stone, Because the Sun had voided one. 1883 Villari *Machiavelli* II. iii. 111. 274 No sooner were the Tarquins dead than the nobles began to void their venom on the people.

(*b*) 1587 Golding *De Mornay* (1592) 51 For one part the things that are needfull are taken in, and by another the things that are superfluous are voyded out. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 167 Which Arrius an Arch-heretick, that voided out his bowels at the Jakes.

**b.** *absol.* To evacuate; to vomit.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, When pe wolfe sees [the greyhound] and he be full, he voydeth back before and behynde alle in his rennynge. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Furies* 296 Still her monstrous maw Voyds in devouring. 1625 Culpeper, etc. *Ritterpotus* 108 It is not good to void sparingly in a crisis. 1732 Swift *Strephon & Chloe* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 154 The bride must either void or burst. 1767 W. Motherwell *Poems* (1847) 44 While one and all Hissed, fought, and voided on their detail.

†**8.** To carry off or drain away (water, etc.); to discharge or let out. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 1320 A water thorough that preson ranne, To voyde the filth from any vrine. 1512–20 Lord *Chron. Troyes* 69 Euery house..With spouts boruş, & pipes ..Voyding filpes low in-to pe grounde. *c* 1550 *Merlin* ii. 28 Whan the water was all voyded, they sought the two stones. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 You must looke..that where they [*sc.* sheepcots] stande, the grounde be made fayre and euen..that the vrine may be well voyded away. *Ibid.* 173 The water being voyded and kept out by Sluses and Banckes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 586 The mountaine that was digged through..to void away the water out of the lough or meere Pucinus. 1620 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 213 Under this Middleton, there is voided also another river. 1698 Wilkins *Math. Magick* II. xv. (1707) 166 Every Circumvolution voiding so much (water) as is contained in one Helix. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 91 One of those Pumps..will void a vast Quantity of Water in an Hour, with a great deal of ease.

†b. To empty out (water, etc.) from a vessel. *1480-70 Bk. Quinteſſence* 5 Aſſir þat his ayrly water be voydit,[ete.]. 1530 Palsgr. 769/2, I voyde, I empteye, *je vuyde. Ibid.*, Voyde this water. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 90 As a water held in a close and dark vessel issueth out, & is voyded and emptied.

†c. Of a river or stream. Also *refl.* and *absol.*, to discharge *into* the sea or another river. *Obs.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Colonies* 62 Ob, the King of Rivers.. In Scythian Seas voyding his violent load. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* 44 Finally it voideth into the sea at two mouths, one of which mouthes is a mile broad. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 1. 456 A little above it, the river Blith voideth it selfe into the sea. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Meditt.* (ed. 3) § 19. 45 When the little rivulets have once voyded themselves into the mayes streames.

†9. To make by excavation; to cut or hollow out (a hole, etc.). *Obs.*

1575 Lanehham *Let.* (1871) 51 Holez wear shear also, and cauernz,..voyded into the wall.

†**II.** †10. To leave alone, set aside; to abstain or refrain from; to have nothing to do with. *Obs.* 8. A thing, cause, course of conduct, etc. = Avoid *v.* 8 b.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 744 Nay þaȝ faurty forfete 3et fryst I a whyle, & voyde away my vengaunce, þaȝ me vyl forbi. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 205 For he doth al his thinge be geste, And voideth alle sikernesse. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4017 Ilo..voidet all vanitie, & virtus disyrret. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* 11 Voyde the wisdam lete vs voide pride And wilfulnes. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 12 Pai bause wodid old writhtyrnes of venemus lyfe. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1130/2 His fyrmely purposeth vpon it, no leas glad to do it, then a nother man wolde be glad to voyde it. 1681 R. L'Estrange *Tully's Offices* 64 Beware ..to void things that look Harsh, Rough, and Uncivil.

b. A person or animal. = Avoid *v.* 8 a.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 295, I voyde company, I fle gladnesse. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 249 William.. was ȝe-crowned kyng at Westmynstre of Aldredus archebishop of York, and of Stigandus archebishop of Cauntorbury. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2456 Good sir,..why do yee voide me?..I wol ȝeue no more harm. 2607 Shake. *Cor.* I. iv. 88 For if I had feet wold I flie, Marth, Of all the Men i th' world I would haue voided thee.

†11. To keep clear of, to escape from or evade (something injurious or troublesome); = Avoid *v.* 9. *Obs.*

In later use containing a mixture of sense 6 c.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 30 We þat hoten grete avowis to voiden angres and sikknesis of þis lif. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 347 And for þe Romayns schulde nomdel voyde be cruelnesse, he made trompoure þlowe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2404 (Dubl.), Hot whilke of yow as foundes frist on fote vs agayns, hall neuer voyde my dyrdane ne my derfe lire. 1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 107/1 To eschewe and voyde the perils in thes seid Articles..expressed. 1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 48 A merveilous case it is to here, either the iniquite of that he should haue voided, or the tokens of that he could not voide. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 700 Let se this checke yf ye voyde canne. *c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1901) 514 He may rise or fall his price accordingiye and void manye inconveniences wiche the unskillfull fall in to. 1606 Hevsekyt *Civ. Life* 16 The labyrinth which I desire most to eschew and void. 1620 *Frier Rush* 18 For to voyde all tribulations and misfortunes that might fall in time to come. *a* 1637 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 25 For voiding which prejudices..I shall..propose some of those innumerable advantages.

†b. To get out of the way of (a blow, person, etc.); to avoid in this way. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 159 He..leide a-boute hym on bothe sides, and slow all that he raughte a full stroke, for no thinge they voyded hye strokes and made hym rome. 1598 Sylvester *F. O.* iv. vi. 3 As soone as th' other nigh approaching, vowed The armes he bore, his speare to gore, and voide his course. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 106 He had given streight commandement..that no man should trouble him, and all the way voided as many as were comming towards him. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. iv. 258 A patron of pilgrimages, not able to void the blow yet willing to break the stroke of so..plain a testimony.

†12. To prevent or obviate; to keep or ward *off*; = Avoid *v.* 10. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12109 Hit hade doutles ben done, and hire deth voidid, ffad not Calcas þe cursit carpit before. 1529 *Pard. Deceytes* 2 Wherfore I wyll compile hym vp in a bag, I must me hyde. He voydeth me of with chastyse. 1598 More in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 283 Hym selfe and Your Grace, if it may be voided, will be in case to haue my ware with theym. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas*, *Semm. Late Peace* xl, Henry our King, our Father, voyds our dangers, And..plaintith Peace in France. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 4 To void the dismal Civil War, The two Contendants should submit the Thing, To the Decision of the English King.

**IV.** 13. *Contr.* To go away, depart, withdraw from or leave a place or position; to retire or retreat; to give place, make way; to vanish or disappear: = Avoid *v.* 6. Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

Also const. (6) with *adv.*, as *aside, away, hence, thence, out*, or (c) with prep. as *from, of, out of, to.*

a. Of persons or animals.

(a) 13.. *Coer de L.* 2193 The folk of the countre gan renne, And were fain to void and flenne. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 910 So whan it likked hire to goo to reste, And voyded were pey þat voyden oughte. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2983 Nay, thou shalt nat void', he seid, 'my tale is nat i-do'. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Bonaunt of Doublenesse* 52 What man may..bolde a snake by the tail, Or a sliper eel constreine That it nil voide, withouten fail. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvi. 58 Yonder I see the moste valyaunt knyght of the world..., wherfore we must nedes voyde or dreye. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1075/2 He voyded not at Gods commyng, but abode to see the sentence of theyr dampnacion. *c* 1588 Udall *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 48 Voyde shs, see ye not maister Roister Doister come? Make place my maisters. 1595 Grafton *Chron.* II. 726 Whose warres whoso well considder, he shall no lesse commend his wisedome in them he voyded then his manhood where he vanquished. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 100 He caused all his traine and company to void. [1892 J. H. Wylie *Hist. Engl. Hen. IV*, lxxxvii. III. 477 As he almost got knocked down in a crowd, he very soon voided.]

(b) 1589–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* i. iii. (Skeat) I. 140 Although I might hence voyde, yet wolde I not. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 21, For whoan a wilde boore is in a stronge hate of wode, perauenture..he wolde not voyed pens for be rennynge hounles. 14.. W. Paris *Cristine* 435 (Horstm. 1878), She bade the serpens voyde awaye fa to deserte. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 1) 889/1 The brethren voyded a side, and withdrew themselues. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 349 Erecthius and Aristomenes..voided aside to farre remote and hidden corners.

(c) *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1113 þan waynest him þis vayne God & voidis fra þe chambre. *c* 1465 *Merlin* vii. 108 Thei..hidde hem wele to wite..that he sholde in all haste voide out of the londe and the contree. 14.. *Hist. Cit. Citizen London* (Camden) 208 The queene hyrynge thys she voydyde owte Walys. *c* 1540 *Order in Battayll* B iij b, [To] remoue or haste..& voyde to some oute place. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par., Luke* xi. 109 b, Jesus..commanded the deuil to voide out of hym, and he voided. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Horses, Hogges* (1597) 290 The ordure whose thereof wil cause the moules to void from those places. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxiv. xxix. 590 So they went their waies and voided out of the countrie.

b. Of things, material and immaterial.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1548 Penne hit [sc. the hand] vanist veryly & voyded of syȝt, Bot be lettres bileued ful large vpon be plaster. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* ii. ix. (Skeat) I. 34 So thilke bodily goodes at the laste mote aweye, and than stinge they at her goinge, wherthrough entreth and issen out many thinges of this kind. *c* 1390 *Destr. Troy* 7029 And the duke with a dynt dorit hym ageyn, Pat the viser & the ventaile voidet hym fro. *Ibid.* 7133 Wen þe day vp dregh, & þe dym voidit. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 65 Pi fleschli bondis to-breke, munde and wrecchidnesse wole voide atwynne. 1579 Srenser *Sheph. Cal., Aug.* 169 Let all that sweete is, voyd: and all that may augment My dole. 1598 Florio, *Votare*, to void, to empty. *Ibid.*, *Votato*, voided. (1599) 44 So when the soule filleth it selfe with certaine and true goods, vanitie voideth and giveth place. 1607 Topsell *Serp.* (1658) 687 Least that the smell or fume doe fade, and voide away.

†c. To give up possession or occupancy of a place. *Obs.*—1

1318 *Yorkshire Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc. 1914) II. 92 If the said Cristofer haue nede..to com and dwell vpon the said fermehold..then the said John to wode of it vpon resonable warnynge.

†14. To give oneself up *to*, devote one's time *to*, something. *Obs.*—1

1380 Wyclif *Esther* iv. 17 Thei ordeyneden..that in that time ech ȝer therafter thei shulden voiden [L. *vacarent*] to plentenous feeste in tho ioye, and to feeste.

†15. To form an interval *between*. *Obs.*—1

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Dayes and moubes þat voydede bytwene tweie Kynges were forgendred.

†16. *Law.* a benefice, etc.: To become, fall, or remain vacant. *Obs.*

*a* 1380 *St. Ambrose* 204 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1878) 204 Hit befel afturward sikerliche þat in a cite yvoded a bischopriche. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 209 After he passed ouer into þe pope, he was ded wiþinne many dayes. 1421 Hen. V in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 1. 71 Hit is wel oure entent whanne any sucche benefice voydeth of oure yifte þat ye take collacion to him ȝeue. 1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 75/1 When sumever hit happen the said House or Hospitall here after to void by deth..or any other wise. 1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* (1638) 1. xxxvii. N ij b, If any shall haue benefyces, dygnityes, and personages, voydyng in the court of Rome may not be gyuen but by the Pope.

†17. Of matter, etc.: To come, flow, or pass out, esp. in or by evacuation or excretion; to issue. *Obs.*

1598 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 41 b, To the intent that al the venom may comme out and voide from the heart. 1580 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 33 The..gut through the which the excrements do voyde. 1599 Thomas *Linguæ* (1614) 313 By meanes whereof all fumes voided that troubled his head. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 433 Presently the filth and excrements will not cleave vnto it. 1698 Fryer *Mach. Exerc.* v. 83 Knock hard upon it, till..the Basil of The Chisel will no longer force the chips out of the Mortess which will..till the Chips will void no longer. 1776 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 244 It feeds chiefly upon pepper, which it devours very greedily, gorging itself in such a manner, that it voids crude and unconcocted.

**Voidable** (vōi·dăb'l), *a.* [f. Void *v.* + -able. Cf. Avoidable *a.*]

1. Capable of being annulled or made legally void; *spec.* (as distinguished from *void*), that may be either voided or confirmed.

1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 285/2 The same Feoffments, Statut, Leases..not in anie wise voided ne voidable by reason of Covertur. 1544 tr. J. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 68 Their coppie holdes beynge allwayes voydable in the lawe at the will of the lord. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 241 The testament made by furor is not voide *ipso iure*, but voidable by the helpe of exception. 1602 Fulbecke *2d Pt. Parall.* 3 In the one case the gift or conueyance is voidable onely, in the other it is void to all intents. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* II. 78 Even as a Marriage, Bond, or deed made by Duresse or Menace, are good in Law, and not meerly void, but voidable only upon a Plea and Tryall. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 38 If the Metropolitan ..grants Letters of Administration, such Administration is not void, but voidable, by a Sentence. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 423 These civil disabilities make the contract void *ab initio*, and not merely voidable. 1829 G. Ross *Diaries* (1860) II. 428 Whether the Vicarage..cannot be opened to a new presentation as voidable but not void. 1841 Scott *Kenilw.* v, I have but a poor lease of this mansion under you, voidable at your honour's pleasure. 1879 K. S. Morgan *Real Prop.* x. § 1. (1876) 369 His [sc. an infant's] conveyances are voidable, subject, that is, to be ratified or avoided by him when he comes of age.

†2. *Her.* That may be made void: (see quot. and Voided *ppl. a.* 2 c). *Obs.*—1

1620 Guillim *Heraldry* ii. v. (1632) 148 Voiding..is the excemption of some part of the inward substance of things voidable by occasion whereof the Field is transparent thorow the charge. [Hence in Phillips, Harris, etc.]

3. Capable of being voided or evacuated. *rare.*

1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iii. 79 He had ..no broaken the Stone, partly by crumbling it, and partly by dissolving the Cement, as to make it voidable by Urine.

Hence **Voidableness**, **Voidability**.

1797 Bailey (vol. II). *Voidableness*, quality of being voided or emptied. 1823 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 90 In some cases there must be a nullity, but that there should be a voidability was most objectionable. *Ibid.* 91 A medium between the entire dereliction of parental authority on the one side and entire voidability on the other. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 26 June 755 Despite the quibble about voidness and voidableness.

**Voidance** (vōi·dăns). Also 4–5 voydance, 5 -ans, 5, 7 -ance, 5 voidaunce, -ans. [a. AF. *voidaunce*, *vuedance*, OF. *vuidance*, *voydance*, etc., f. *voider* Void *v.*, or aphetic f. Avoidance.] The action or process of emptying out the contents of something; = Avoidance 1. 2. The discharge or evacuation of something through a natural vent, esp. from the human body by excretion; = Evacuation 1 b. Now *rare*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlvi. (Bodl. MS.), þis wombe is ofte agreued by ydropesie & by voydyng of wynd and þat is nought þanne iholpe but by voidance þat is contrary to replecion. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Voydaunce (or voydynge), *vacacio, evacuacio.* *c* 1450 *Incantatio ad Scorpionem* (Bk. Rt. (1868) 13 Fro spettyng & mestyng & voydyng he also; Be pisuy of voydance, & lette hit go. 1528 More *Dyalogue* i. Wks. 137/1 By the longing for mete with voidance of þ^t she had eten..she was perceiued for to be saint. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 58 This voidance of blood doth at times all surprise me, tho not with such vehemency. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* i. vi. 14 The Nerves of Auditus follow upon the former, viz. the voidance of Excrements. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* vi. § 2 In the bark the same thing is effected by..a more frequent voidance of the Sap. 1802 *Ann. Imag. Conv. Ser.* II. I. 491 The reception, concoction, and voidance of nutriment.

b. The emptying out, carrying off or away, of water, etc., esp. by drainage. Now *rare*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. lvii. (Tollem. MS.), For parties of þe erþe ben digged and holowid..with creping vermes and bestes.. or with voydaunce and oute castynge. 1440 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 44/1 A sufficient passage of all maner Shippes comyng therto, and voidaunce of water under the seid Bregg, as for passage of Man. 1861 Smiles *Engineers* II. 160 To provide for the Drainage of the Fen districts..by means of proper cuts and conduits for the voidance of the Fen waters.

†2. The action or fact of removing, clearing away, or getting rid of something; removal. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1206 The Barons made hem at one with grete prayer and instaunce, Of the more mychelefe to make voydyaunce. 1530 Palsgr. 285/2 Voydyng of dunge, *excrement*. 1620 Sir Hall. *Apol. Brownists* iii. 28 Succeeding times found these Canaanites to be prickes and thornes, and therefore both by mulctes and banishments sought earher their vtter voidance. 1642 Rogers *Naam. Rejoined, Lawfulness. Kneeling* 70 Before the Transubstantiation, or voydance of the substance of bread was resolued of. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 213 What pains..they require, in the voidance of fond conceits, in the suppression..of froward humours.

3. *Eccl.* The fact of a benefice, etc., becoming or being void or vacant; = Avoidance 3.

1422 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 104/1 That tyme of the voidaunce of the same Prebend. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 28 Alle þo, þat wurvyn of newe tymes þe keeping or þe amonicyoun of ony church in tyme of voydaunce. 1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 109 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 158/1 Of the said Wardes, mariages, Reliefs, voydances abovesayd. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* ii. xxxvi. N iij b, If the patron wyll not present within the halfe yere after suche voydance:..That then the kynge shold haue also the presentement. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 1) 1131/1 That presentacion of the Church of Ely hundred Romanes in the chiefest and best benefices in al Englande, at ye next voydance. 1607 Cowell *Interpr. Voydance*, is a Vacant or Void benefice, or Bishoprick: and this voydance is double: either in law, as when a man hath more benefices incompatible: or indeed, as when the Incumbent is dead. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 648 Ethelbert in *Fuller's Abel Redivi.* (1867) II. 282 One of his bearers, having a benefice of great value in his gift,..took a resolution upon the next voidance of it to confer it upon him. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. ii. 73 The voidance of so many Bishopricks happened well for the furthering of the reformation of religion. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 126 The parishioners present twice and the king once in three voidances. 1899 J. Wright *1st Bp. Bath & Wells* 20 How could the occasion arise, except by the voidance of the See? 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 March 5/1 By an Order in Council the lectureship attached to the parish church of Dedham.. will be merged in the benefice at the next voidance.

4. Annulment; = Avoidance 2.

1488 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 419/1 This Acte of Adnullacion or Voidans of Lettres Patentes. 1892–8 Norris *Pract. Dict.* (1911) III. 209 I have argued against the Voidance, and for the Establishment of the Law upon Rational Principles. 1776 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 177 The first part

of those Proposals directly infers a Voidance of the Agreement. 1736 *Monitor* No. 30. 1. 276 I here are men who blush not to promote a voidance of that part of the same act. 1884 *Law Times* 19 Jan 202/2 It was held that the purchaser was not entitled in equity to obtain a voidance of the contract.

†5. A verbal evasion or subterfuge; an evasive answer or argument *Obs.*—1

1621 Bacon *Lett.* (1734) 137 I herefore I am resolved, when I come to my answer, not to trick my innocency by cavillations, or voydances, but to speak to them the language that my heart speaketh in me.

†6. *concr.* Matter voided or cleared away; the clearings *of* a table. *Obs.*—1

1740 *Proph. Prov Poor* 6 Bones and other Voidance of the table, Dish-water.

**Voided**, *ppl. a.* [f. Void *v.*]

†1. Made void or empty, emptied or cleared of contents. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Job* xiv 12 What maner if watris gon awei fro the se, and flood voided [L. *humor vacuefactus*] waxe drie. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6177 Humbely I pray be seke, My voyded bete to fulfylle, Wych so longe . hath voyde be *c* 1450 *Promp. Parv* 522/1 Voydyd, or avoydyd (*K* voydid, avoydid), *evacuatus*. *c* 1480 [The bridge] was made with voyded pypes and with bordes strongly nayled upon them. 1563 A Neville *Seneca's Œdipus* 1 Aij, The corne Now in the voided Barnes nought els but emptie stalkes doth bring.

2. Having a part or portion cut out so as to leave a void or vacant space: †a. Of shoes: Made with the front or uppers cut away or left open. *Obs.*

*c* 1530 in *Archæologia* XLVII 53 That noon of the said religious sustern doo use to sell any such voyded shoys. 1585 W Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. ii 121 They vse a kinde of voided shoes (whiche afterwarde the Grieques toke vp, and called sandalium) 1595 Spenser *Amoretti*, *Cupids*, a low voyded shooe with a latchet.

†b. Of a garment Cut so as to show the skin or another garment beneath. *Obs rare*

*c* 1526 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII*, 56 Doblettes of Crimoan velute, voyded lowe on the backe and before to the cannell bone *a* 1823 G Buck *Rich III*, i (1646) 26 The King and Queene then ascended to the high Altar shifting their Robes, and putting on other open and voyded in sundry places for their Anoynting

c. *Her* Of a charge or ordinary (see quots 1704, 1780). *Voided per cross* (see quot. *c* 1828).

1572 Boswell *Armorie* 18 There are vsuallie to bee seene in armes Crosses doble pointed, pierced, graded, & voyded, &c. *Ibid* II 126 He beareth Argent, on a Bends Gules, three Mascles de Or, voyded of the fieldsouer ye shall see eyther Loenge, Mascle, or other thynge voyded of the fielde, Fesse, bende, &c, whereon theye stande, it is sufficient to saye, voyded, onelye 1704 J Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Voided*, a Term in Heraldry, when there are Lines drawn within, and Parallel to the out Lines of any Ordinary This expresses an Exemption of something of the thing Voidable, and makes the Field appear transparent, thro the Charge 1780 Edmondson *Her* II, *Voided*, is a term applied to any ordinary, as a fesse, chevron, pale, etc. when it is pierced through, so that the field appears, and nothing remains of the charge but its edge *c* 1828 Henry *Encycl Her* I Glass, *Voids & per cross* is voiding in the form of a cross, such as a cross moline, and the like, voided, or cut out in the middle in the shape of a plain cross, through which the field is seen 1864 Boutell *Her Hist & Pop* xxii (ed 3) 460 A cross gu, voided of the field. 1883 C P Keary in S J Pope-Hennessy *Mem Sir Walter Raleigh* (1894) 14 The pennies of Alexander II have short and long voided crosses, like those of Henry III.

3. Emitted by evacuation, evacuated. *rare.*

1784 Cowper *Task* v 95 Their nauseous dole Of voided pulse and half digested grain

**Voidee** (voɪdi·). Now only *Hist* Forms: 4–5 voide, 6 voyde; 5 6 (9) voidee (7 voydee); 5 voidie, 6 voidy(e, voydye. [n. A.F. **voidé* or **voidée*, pa. pple masc. and fem. of *voider* Voide *v.*, with reference app. to the withdrawing from a hall or chamber of those who were not to sleep there] A collation consisting of wine accompanied by spices, comfits, or the like, partaken of before retiring to rest or the departure of guests; a repast of this nature following upon a feast or fuller meal; a parting dish. (Cf. Void *sb* 2)

*c* 1375 Chaucer *Troilus* III. 674 Ther nys no more, but here ofter soone, The vitaille and trauseres drawe anon. Gan euery wight pat hadde nought to done More in pat place out of pat chamber gon. 1440 *?* Shirley *Dethe K Pyamus* (1818) 13 Whan he com the Kyng asked the voidee, and drank, the travers yn the chambure edraw, and every man departid and went to rist 1494 in *Lett & Papers Rich III & Hen VII* (Rolls) I 390 When they wer dry in their beddes they were revested , and soo departed to the chappell, where they had spices, and their voidie. 1533 *Coronation of Anne Boleyn* (1824) 36 There was a voyde of spyces plates and wyne. 1546 *St. Papers Hen VIII*, XI 262 That night there was a greate banckett and after that, twoo riche maskes And after that, a voydye. *c* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII*, 99 When they had daunced, then came in a costly banket and a voidy of spices, and so departed to their lodgyng 1587 Holinshed *Chron* III 849/1 The king and the ambassadours were serued at a banket with two hundred and sixtie dishes, and after that a voidee of spices with sixtie spice plates. 1630 Weldon *Crt Jas I*, 19 He made him the most sumptuous Feast that ever was seen before, and after that a costly Voydee, and after that a Maske

*attrib.* 1882 Rossetti *King's Tragedy* xci, And the King paused, but he did not speak. Then he called for the Voidee-cup



**Voidee** (vol·dɛ). Also 5 voidee, 5–7 (9) voyder, 6 -iar, voydyer, 5, 6–7 *Sc.*, voydour, *Sc.* 5 vyd-, 6 vod-, voydour. [f. Void *v.* + -ee 1, or ad. Of. *vuideur*, *vuideor*, *voideor*, etc. (obs. F. *vuideur*), f *voider* Void *v.* Cf. Avoider]

†1. That which keeps off or away; a screen or defence; a remover or driver away *of* something. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 339 Vmbe the sercle of the Cite was welbeyl a playne, With leffaies vppon lofte lustie and faire, With voiders vnder vines for violent sonnes *c* 1500 *Ewaynoun* B v, A precious tewell T wyll gyue the Called penaunce, voyder of adwenture *Ta* 1550 in *Thynne's Pennie* (S T S) 329 I he sterne of day, voyder of darknes.

†2. A piece of armour covering an exposed or unprotected place (see quot. 1880). *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 10068 Doublet & quyssene, wyb poleyns fol riche, Voydre [etc], breche of maille, wyb paunz non liche. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron Troy* III. 520 [they] did on firste, after her dresse, Sabatoun, greves, cuyssches, & voydes. *Ibid* 6. On his armys, rynged nat to wyde, Per wer wooders frettid in be maille *c* 1425 Hill in *Illustr. Anc State & Chivalry* (Rxb) 5 First bakwerth sabatoun, greves, and cloos gyrpoun with voydours of plate or of mayle, and a cloos breche of mayle [1880 *Encycl Brit* XI 697/1 The vouder in defensive armour was a garment of chain or plate of mail, used to cover a void or unprotected space at the elbow or knee joints.]

3. A receptacle into which something is voided or emptied: **a.** A tray, basket, or other vessel in which dirty dishes or utensils, fragments of broken food, etc, are placed in clearing the table or during a meal. Also *ellipt*, the carrying round or use of this (quot. 1659). *Obs exc. dial*

1466 in *Paston Lett.* (1872) III 21 In the meane tyme the Sewer geveth a voyder to the Carver, and he doth voyde into it the frenchers that lyeth under the knyves poynt. and so departeth the table clean *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 4 *Lord in Bibees Bk* (1868) 372 The keever muste have a voyder to geder in all the broke brede, trenchours, cromys lying upon the table 1523 Douglas *Æneid* I xi 58 Rise the first by me, and the cours remove, Withdraw your plaittis and fat trunscheours away tane, The gobletis greit with mychty wynis in by I hast fillit. 1594 in *Archæol* (1884) XLVIII 322 Item a pewter voyder. *ib.* 1607 Heywood *Woman killed w Kindn* (1617) D 3 b Enter 3 or 4 seruingmen, one with a Voyder and a woodden Knife to take away 1620 Sir R. Rich in *Archæologia* (1886) I 265 I must myself silver voyder to be exchanged for a new 1696 Evelyn *Char Eng* 64 Their ceremony at the Table, and to see the formality in the Sewer, Voyder, which our Nobility and Gentry in France are made to prevent 1703 R Neve *City & C Purchaser* 90 The Butler disposes his Napkin press , Spoons, Knives, Forks, Voyder, Basket, and Table-Cloaths Necessaries appertaining to his Office. 1728 R Bull *tr Dedekindus' Grobianus* 214 See now, the Stripling with his Voider, waits To bear away the greasy Load of Plates 1735 *Gentl Mag.* XXV 190 Ten waiters Produce vast voiders, and a load of bread 1824 R. Moor *Suffolk Wds.*, *Voider*, a pail-like article, of wood or wicker, into which bones, &c. are thrown from the table or during revel 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt Gloss.*, *Voider*, a butler's Tray

*attrib.* 1820 *Although Bk* 11 in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) 180 Voider knives, voider knives, whose blades are ivorie with a case 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xiv (Roxb) 161/2 He beareth sable a Voyder Basket, or a night Basket Or.

**b** *fig.* or in fig. context.

Very common in the first half of the 17th *c*

1609 Dekker *Guls Horn bk* I 7 Piers ploughman laid the cloth, and Simplicity brought in the voyder 1615 T Adams *Lame Beggar* 11 You may as well eat him for voyder of abstinence instead of the table of surfeits 1655 Gurnall *Chr in Arm* verse 13 vii (1669) 130/1 Death comes with a Rotary to carry away all thy carnal enjoyments

†**c.** *fig.* A receptacle for refuse or foul matter. *Obs.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* viii v 631 Haply some conceaued indignitie that our Britannia should make her Virginian lap to bee the voider for her lewder and more dis ordered Inhabitants. 1615 T Adams *Weake Grd. & Helper* 70 How are his Sabaoths made the voider and dung hill for all refuse businesse

†**d.** A tray, basket, or large plate, esp one of ornamental pattern or design, for holding, carrying, or handing round sweetmeats. Also *transf* A quantity or amount carried in this. *Obs.*

1696 Lady Fanshawe *Mem* (1829) 164 Several times we saw the Feasts of Bulls [at Madrid] and at them we had great voiders of dried sweetmeats brought us upon the King's account 1677 *Lond Gaz* No 1221/4 And many Voiders of Sweetmeats were thrown among the People 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav Persia* 259 Every one of the Guests were serv'd with a Voider of Sweet Meats, and Wine, the Voiders themselves being of Wood Painted and Gilt 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Voider*, Among Confectioners, a wooden painted Vessel to hold Services of Sweet meats

†**e.** *Brickmaking.* (See quot.) *Obs* —1

1683 J Houghton *Collect Lett Improv Husb* II vi 188 Then we have a Brick-mould of Beech, because the Earth will slip easiest from it This Mould, Frame, or Voyder is made of the thickness of the Brick abovesaid, only half cloth'd.

†*f. dial.* A large basket or receptacle of wickerwork for holding soiled clothes, etc; a clothes-basket; a wicker basket of any kind

1707 in Boyle *Ch. of St Nicholas, Newcastle* 94 Paid for a voider for ye surplices 1788 W H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 362 *Voider*, a kind of open-work basket 1879 *Saunterer's Satchel* 25 (E D D), I catched a lad running off with the voider 1880 *Wright Cornwall Glass* 62 *Voyder*, a clothes basket; a large basket for holding unmended linen sold by glass women.

†4. *Sc.* **a.** An empty barrel, cask, or the like. **b.** Packing or wrappers removed from bales or bundles of goods *Obs.*

1511 *Burgh Rec Edin* (1869) I 134 It is ordanit be the provest bailies and counsale anent the voydour callit cord and canves of pakkis of lint [etc.] *Ibid*, To deliuer the cords and canves thairof as voidouris.

5. *Her* As the name of an ordinary (see quots.) 1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1597) 70 b, He beareth Temé, two voyders, Or This is the reuarde of a Gentlewoman for seruice by her done to the prince or princes, but then the voiders shoulde be of one of the nine furs or doublings 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II vi (1611) 64 Last of all in our ordinaries, cometh the voider, consisting of one arch line moderately bowing from the chefe of the cheefe by degrees towards the nombrile of the escocheon and from thence in like sort declining until it come unto the sinister base 1780 Edmondson *Her* II, *Voider*, is an ordinary much resembling the flanch, but is not quite so circular towards the centre of the field. 1882 Cussans *Her* 71 Flasques and Voiders are Flanches which encroach less on the Shield

6. One who or that which voids, evacuates, or empties, an emptier. *rare.*

1589 ? Lyly *Pappe w Hatchet* (1844) 25 We are in all cases alike, till we haue brought Martin to the ablatiue case, that is, to be taken away with a Bull: 1598 Florio, *Vuotatore*, an emptier, a voider 1607 Markham *Cavel* iii (1617) 39 Purgations which are the emptiers and voiders of all superfluous humours

†7. A servant or attendant who clears the table after a meal Freq *fig.* or in fig. context. *Obs.*

Often indistinguishable from senses 3 a and b

1609 Dekker *Lanth & Candle Lt* Wks (Grosart) III 221 The voider hauing cleered the table, Cardes and Dice are serued up 1644 Cleveland *Char London Diurnall* 6 O brave Oliver! Times voyder, Sub ester to the Warmes. 1651 *Jus Populi* 8 Then that art able To be a Voider to King Arthurs Table.

†8. *pl* Castings, ejections (of worms) *Obs* —1

*a* 1683 Oldham *Wks* (1686) 83 Hither are lords from emptied Channels brought, And Voiders of the Worms from Sextons bought

**Voidie** (cunning) see Voidite.

**Voi ding**, *vbl sb.* [f. Void *v* + -ing 1] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1 The discharging, emptying, or evacuation *of* something, = Voidance 1 a Now *rare.*

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 304 Thurgh voidyng of venym with vomettes grete *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 96 So by two hole natural dases be it not moued, bot if voydyng of be wombe make it to go out 1495 *Treat Fysshynge Wyth Angle* Hh iij, Betwene each voydynge of these lumps of blud 1612 Cotgr, *Vuidement*, a voyding, emptying, euacuating 1671 Lady *Verney* 8 Apr in *Fam Lett Sir Edm & Hill* (1905) 82 For voyding of it Vnnne owte of a pryve 1523 *bk Kerrynge in Babees Bk* (1868) 372 Kerrynhe of fowle layenge, & voydynge of the same Ibid 373 And H Rhodes *Bk Nurture* 1bid 17 Then if so be yo haue any more courses then on or two, ye may make the more haul in voyding 1622 Bacon *Hen VII*, 121 In the voiding of all Scotishmen out of England 1688 Sir B. Herbert *Helps Cass* 24 In the Statutes for Voiding of Aliens out of the Kingdom

†2 = Vacation 2. *Obs* —1

1468 *Inder B* (Maldon, Essex) fol 14 Ner noon a rest make with-oute a warant of the court, but in the tyme of voydyng

†3. The avoidance of something *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R* xviii 1 (1495) V3/1 Beestes haue redynesse of wytte in 83 hte and voydyng ige of harme 1519 *Interl Powr Plem* (Percy Soc.) 35 And therfore thou shalt have another, for voydyng of the 1538 *Treaty Engl* 1 30 The wyl of man euer commynly folowyth that to the wych opynyon of persecuyng the gud or voydyng of the yl ledyth hym

†4. The action of leaving or going away from a place, etc *Obs*

1507 Brand *Theatre God's Judgem* (1612) 33 Yet notwithstanding for all their voyding and shifting, the pestilence followed them whither soeuer they went 1661 Morgan *Sph Gentry* iv 111 39 The whuche at their voiding and going out shall abide and go in order, so as they sate at the table

5 *Her* (See quot. 1610 and Voided *ppl. a* 2 c.) Also, the vacant space made in the voided charge or ordinary.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II v 49 Voiding is the exemption of some part of the inward substance of things voidable, by occasion whereof the field is transparent thorow the Charge [Hence in subsequent glossaries and Dicts.] 1722 A Nisbet *Her* II ii 18 Voiding he of a different Tincture from the Field 1828 [see Voided *ppl a* 2 c]

7 The action of rendering void or invalid, = Voidance 4.

1649 *Bp* Hall *Cases Consc* iv *x* 288 Now you inquire of the annulling or voiding of marriages made unlawfully. 1707 *Col Rec Pennsylv* II 145 That the voiding of one part might void the whole

8. That which is voided or evacuated **a** *pl.* Excrements *of* persons or animals; castings *of* worms. *rare.*

1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II ii 69 Here be solde the voydings of close stooles. 1884 *Morn Star* 14 Oct., It was manured

year after year by the voidings of sheep only. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) VI. 582 Voidings and trails of worms.

†**b.** Fragments or remains of food removed from the table. = VOIDANCE 7. *Obs.*

1688 OTWAY *Cains Marius* IV. ii, He...fed upon the voidings of my table. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* v, Oh! he stow Some poor remain, the voiding of thy table, A morsel to support my famish'd soul.

*attrib.*, as †**voiding beer**, beer given or drunk immediately before departing (cf. VOIDEE); †**voiding knife**, a knife used to clear away fragments of food from the table; †**voiding plate** = VOIDEE 3 a.

1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 44 b, Set down a charger or a voyder & gadre vp the fragmentes therin, & wt the voydyage knyfe gadre vpthe...cromes clene. a 1600 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* II. 12. WRS. (1912) 193, I must be constrained to call my Maid for a cup of voyding beere ere you will depart. 1607 *Liegan* v. xiii. K iij (*Stage direction*) Gvatvs with a voyding knife in his hand. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. 64 These are called Voiders, either because of the Shallownesse wherein they doe resemble the accustomed voiding Plates with narrow brims vsed at Tables, or [etc.]. 1649 in *Archæol.* (1806) XV. 281, 2 Voyding knives with christall handles.

**Voi'dless**, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. VOID *v.*] That cannot be made void or annulled; not voidable.

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* i. § 12. 6 Some grants of some persons are voidelesse by themselves, by their heires, and by those which shall have an estate in them for ever.

†**Voi'dly**, *adv. Obs.* Also 5 voidli, voydely, 6 -lye. [f. VOID *a.* + -LY$^2$. Cf. OF. *vuidement* (Godef.).] Vainly, uselessly; to no purpose.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4384 At Yasor he veyn pepull voidly honourit Buchan...as a blist god. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 Thanne was the memento put fal[s]ly in the masse, and looli chirche voidli or maali biddith preye. 1493 *Festival* (W. de W.) (1515) 247 b, Of Christ thou shalt thy name...And beware that thou bere not thy name voydely. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. cxcvi. I iv, By whych policie he shal neuer attempte, ne enterprise anye matter voydelye, ...but by all wayes he shall haue hym self cleyre.

**Voi'dness.** [f. VOID *a.* + -NESS.]

†**1.** Freedom from work; leisure. *Obs.*$^{-1}$

1382 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xxxviii. 25 Wisdom wrijt in tyme of voydenesse [1388 *werk*], That is, in the tyme, in which thou art voide of other werkis (1388 vnde).

†**2.** The quality of being devoid or destitute of value or worth; inanity, vanity, futility.

1398 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xiv. 14 For whi the voidnesse of men [L. *inuencium*] foond out hem. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea, Apoth.* xv. 5, But if the voydnesse or emptinesse is in the nethermost membres, then tye hys vpper membres. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 850 Through him, began the hungry F' vice, And voydnesse to seeke full satietie. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 839 The Stoicks say, that the aire...admitteth no voidnesse at all. a 1653 *Cromwell's Exhibits* III. xiii. 103 There is nothing in the Body but a kind of Voidness and Inanity. 1737 RALEY (vol. II), *Voidness*, emptiness. 1802 *Lustgnan* I. 74 They seemed robbed of attraction, and to her preoccupied mind presented the fulness of a desert. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 775 The state of mind we have slightly depicted—so auspicious, one should think, from its troubled voidness, to the reception of religious convictions. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 210 The perfect transparency and voidness about us make the immense power of this invisible medium seem something ghostly.

**b.** A void or vacant space, esp. = VACUITY 8 b. *c* 1430 [see *c* 1400 above]. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 820 The schools of Pythagoras holdeth that there is a voidnesse without the world...out of which the world doth draw breath. *Ibid.* 1336 It is not likely that this world floteth...in a vast and infinit voidnesse. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* I. This precious sweet Ætherial flow'...God...did distil...thorough that hit hollow Vastitude.

†**4.** The state or condition of being without something; freedom *from*, absence or lack *of*, something. *Obs.*

1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 33 The valyaunce of stomake is to be gyue to them and voydenesse from angre and grefe. a 1569 KINGESMILL *Conf. Satan* (1598) 25 This is our Crimosin, no lesse then voidnesse of all goodnesse. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 286/2 He hardeneth himselfe in his impudencie, and voidnes of shame. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1605) 406 In whom a man might perceiue what small difference in the working there is, betwixt a simple voidnesse of euill, and a iudicial habite of vertue.

**5.** The state or condition of being legally void; nullity.

1883 *Stat. Rev.* 16 June 755 The existing system of prohibition (which, despite the quibbles about voidness and voidableness, has notoriously been recognized in England from time immemorial).

†**Void.** *Cant. Obs. rare.* [prob. ad. F. *ville.*] A town.

1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 67 The whole volt was in an uproar. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T., Vell*, a town.

‖ **Voile** (vwäl). [F. *voile* VEIL *sb.*] A thin semi-transparent cotton or woollen material much used for blouses and dresses.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 25 June 6/1 Another dress was made of a material called voile, in biscuit colour. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/2 The term 'voile' covers a variety of makes of stuff, some like muslin, some like cloth. 1899 *Daily News* 29 April 8/4 The veiling that was so popular some years since, but which is now called 'voile.'

*attrib.* 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 3/3 A charming dress of voile with cashmere.

‖ **Voilette** (vwalet). [F., dim. of prec.]

**1.** A little veil.

1862 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* IV. 237/2 The bonnet is of white tearry velvet, made with a voilette of lace. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 3/1 The American whimsical, graceful draping of a veil of velvet-spotted chiffon has given rise to a remarkably pretty voilette in the shops there.

**2.** A kind of thin dress material.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 10/2 A gown made in fine voilette, trimmed with lace insertion.

†**Voillance.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ In 5 **woillaunce.** [a. OF. *(bien)veillance* (mod.F. *-veillance*), ad. L. *(bene)volentia* benevolence.] (Good)will.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 123 Than gouerne ye hame with good Woillaunce and bonerte.

†**Voine**, obs. (southern dial.) var. FOIN *v.*

1796 HUTCHINSON *Hetsam. Agric* Prod. II 9 b, For to voine or strike below the girdle, we consider it base and too cowardly.

†**Voirably**, *adv. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [f. OF. *voirable*, f. *voire* true.] Truly, veritably.

1501 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 165 The king of Romayns] may verify now that the same anytime in as [much] as it is perpotuall...ought not to be availlable to the said rebelles.

‖ **Voir dire** (wär dīr). *Law.* Also 7 **voire.** [OF. *voir* true, the truth + *dire* to say.] (See quots. 1701 and 1708).

1676 T. W. *Office of Clerk of Assize* G j, Such person so produced for a witness, may be examined upon a *Voire Dire*. 1701 *Council Interpr.* s.v., When it is pray'd upon a Trial in Law, that a Witness may be sworn upon a *Voire dire*; the meaning is, he shall upon his Oath speak or declare the truth. 1708 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 332 If however any doubt has, upon inspection, any doubt of the age of the party,...it may...examine the infant himself upon an oath of *voir dire, veritatem dicere*, that is, to make true answer to such questions as the court shall demand of him. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 232 All the persons most intimately connected with Ireland are examined on the *voir dire*.

**Voix**, obs. f. VOICE *sb.*

†**Voidie**, *Obs. rare.* Also 5 *Sc.* **woidie.** [a. OF. *voisdie, voidie* : see VAIDIE.] Cunning, stratagem, sleight.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 747 The said press till derenye your richt, And nocht with woidie [*MS.* woidre] na with slicht. *Ibid.* V. 444 Thai...Assemblyt thar with woidie and ire. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 217 Nou schalt thou here a gret merveille, With what voisdie that he wroghte.

†**Voisin**, *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [a. F. *voisin* :—L. *vīcin-um*, see VICINE.] Neighbouring.

1597 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 129 The voisin Realmes and Lordships shuld be in hassarde.

†**Voi'sinage.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 voisinage, 7 voysinage. [a. F. *voisinage, f. voisin* : cf. prec. and VICINAGE.]

**1.** The fact of being neighbouring or near.

1605 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 283 Erzirum is a Town of great strength...and by reason of its voicinage to the Persian Dominions usually made the place of rendezvous, when the Turks have any design against that Empire. 1661 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* II. i. 203 Worcester and Gloucester had been united, by reason of their Voicinage.

**2.** The neighbourhood; the adjoining district.

1542 JER. TAYLOR *Ephic.* xxi. 112 All the Presbyters that came from Ephesus and the voisinage. 1647 — *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 5, I had no Books of my own here, nor any in the voisinage. 1653 H. STUBBE *Further Ind. Dutch War* 4 We in the City and Country do repine, complain and rage, till the whole Voisinage prove Male-content. 1678 *Scarborough Spa* 22 Near Leeds (1708) 43 Three Priests ..., who are of the Voisinage where the Person testified of, resides.

**b.** The neighbourhood *of* a place.

1699 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Sect. x. 2 There hapned to be a marriage in Cana of Galilee in the voisinage of his dwelling. 1860—*Doctor* I. iv. rule 2 § 13 It occasioned the death of all the little babes in the city and voisinage of Ilerithchem. 1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 415 A City came to be built in the Voisinage of this Holy Place.

†**Voi'som.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 voysom. [ad. OF. *avoisom*, var. of *avoueson* : see VOWSON.] An advowson.

1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 77 The voysom of one benifice. 1580 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 154 b, Pope Paule by his deputes ordeyned a reformation, touching the abuses of the Churche, as permutations, voisomes, benefices incompatibles.

†**Voisour**, *Obs.*$^{-1}$. [ad. OF. *voisure*, var. *voisure, vousure*, etc. (mod.F. *vousure*) : cf. VOUSSOIR.] Vaulting.

*c* 1325 *Coer de L.* 4878 (Fairf.) Thorow pe grundwal of pis tour ffum rennis wip grete voisour.

**Voist**, variant of FOIST *v.*[1], VOUST *v.*

**Voit**, obs. Sc. form of VOTE *sb.*

‖ **Voiture** (vwatūr). [F. *voiture* :—L. *vectūra*, f. *vect-*, ppl. stem of *vehĕre* to convey. Cf. VECTURAL.] A carriage or conveyance; a vehicle.

1698 W. KING tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 6, I drew these Surprising Conclusions. First that a Hackney is a miserable *Voiture* (etc.). 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 83 Hackneys and Chaires, which here are the most nasty and miserable Voiture that can be. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 3 Aug., I...went in the longboat to Helvoetsluys, where we had voitures to carry us to the Brill. 1730 H. WALPOLE in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 48 Having caused an easy voiture to be made, I undertook the journey in it. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 32 But it rained hard, and I could get no *voiture* till I was forced to go to my engagement with Lady Lambert. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 60 To say a few words, in the way of compliment, to the driver of another voiture. 1840 ARNOLD in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. App. C. 418 Weare again in *voiture*, going along the edge of the sea in the port of Naples.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1728 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, I hired an 25s (the only voiture to be had there). 1795 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 347 This was the voiture with which they conveyed themselves quite down to the sea, and one of these boats it was that we spied...coming to us in the bay. 1796 CHERUBINI *Lett.* 9 Oct. (1970) I. 197 In this journey, the understanding is the *voiture* that must carry you through.

‖ **Voiturette** (vwatürĕt). [F., dim. of prec.] A small motor vehicle.

1897 *Daily News* 16 July 5/5 Three motor bicycles, thirteen tricycles, eight voiturettes or quadricycles with one wheel fore and aft and two in the middle and with one or two seats. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 107 It is far better to get a small car or a voiturette.

‖ **Voiturier** (vwatürĭēr). [F., f. *voiture* VOITURE : see -IER.] The driver of a carriage or coach.

1785 SMOLLETT *Trav.* v, I have hired a berlin and four horses to Paris, for fourteen Louis d'ors; two of which the *voiturier* is obliged to pay for a permission from the farmers of the post. 1788 J. DOUGLAS *Trav. Ancot.* I. 41 The *voiturier* said he was in haste, and rung at the door of the diligence. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY in Dowden *Shelley* (1887) II. 188 After dinner our voiturier comes. 1849 J. FORBES *Physic. Holiday* IV. (1850) 44 We arranged...with a voiturier, to take us to Schaffhausen the following day. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 434 A few shopkeepers, indeed, and most of the voituriers are Italian.

‖ **Voiturin.** [F., f. *voiture* (cf. prec.), after It. *vetturino* VETTURINO.]

1. The driver of a voiture; a voiturier.

1788 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Case of Delicacy*, I contracted with a *voiturin* to take his chaise to Lyons. 1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Berry* 9 Nov., I am not surprised at your finding voiturins, or anybody, or anything dearer. *c* 1832 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* (1854) 504 We have to thank our landlord, who hurried us away under the pretence that the voiturin we had hired to drive us to Nice was obliged to be off that very morning.

**2.** A carriage for hire, a voiture.

1788 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Case of Delicacy*, A voiturin arrived with a lady in it, and her servant-maid. 1798 BARETTI *Acc. Mann. Italy* II. 315 Mr. Sharpe's advice...of hiring voiturins through Savoy.

**Voivode** (voi·vōd). Forms : *a.* 6 voy-, voiuoda, voivoda. *β.* 7 uoiuod, 7, 9 voivode, 9 voivode, -wode, woywod. [ad. Bulg. and Serb. *vojvoda*, Czech. *vojevoda*, Pol. *wojewoda*, Russ. *voevoda*, whence also Roum. *voevod*, *-vod*, mod.L. *voivoda*, mod.Gr. *Βοεβόδα(ς)* = VAIVODE.

*a.* 1570 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 401 When we should haue deliuered him with the rest of his felowes vnto the Voiuodaes officers. *Ibid.*, Kneze Voriue your Maiesties Voiuoda at Pinsco. 1599 *Ibid.* II. i. 198 Voyuoda of Bogdania, & Valachia.

*β.* 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 249 That of Vaiuod or Uiuod, vsd in other parts of the East Europe. 1634 HERBERT *Russia* 111 Now but an insignificant-looking place, though formerly the residence of a Voivod. 1685 TOZER *Highl. Travels* I. 141 The protectorate...was entered into by the hands of the Hospodars or Voyvodes of Wallachia and Moldavia. 1884 W. CARR *Montenegro* 82 By repeated efforts the voivode maintains with difficulty a position on the coast.

γ. 1897 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 31 He encouraged Francis I. to keep alive the agitation in Germany,...and to support the Woiwode of Transylvania. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* xvi. 303 Amongst those executed before Belgrade were venerable Senators...and aged and renowned Woiwodes. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 2 Sept., To be prince of its land, lord of its lake, ruler of its river, and woiwode of its woods.

*attrib.* 1888 E. GERALD *Land beyond Forest* xxxiii. II. 84 Only such Tziganes are supposed to be eligible as are descended from a Woywod family.

**Voivodeship.** Also woiwod-, woywod-. [f. prec. + -SHIP.]

**1.** The district or province governed by a voivode.

1792 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (1796) 600 Lithuania...is subdivided into 12 districts, called woiwodships. 1793 *State Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 228 Following the border of the voivodship of Vilna. 1827 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 138/1 Cracow, a republic...formerly part of the woywodship or palatinate of the same name in the Kingdom of Poland.

**2.** The office or dignity of a voivode.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 16/2 Multiplying the candidates for the voivodeship. *Ibid.* 17/1 Serbian...was raised to the voivodeship of Walachia.

**Voi's**, obs. form of VOICE *sb.*

**Voi(s**, obs. variants of FOLK *sb.*

†**Voke.** *Sc. Obs.*$^{-1}$ [Of obscure origin.] Arrogance, vanity, conceit.

*a* 1508 in Laing *Gologres & Gawane* (1827) III. 20 Thou schryne secrete of stinkand voke & pride.

**Voky, vokie** (vō·ki), *a. Sc.* Also 8 **vowkie.** [f. prec.] Proud, vain, elated. (In first quot. 8 *pl.* personified.)

*a* 1810 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 323 To Vant and Voky 30

bair thik rown slef 1599 James Melvill *Diary* (1842) 459 That gossope .. was na litle voike for getting of the bern a name. 1793 S. Foskr *Trvl. Fr. London in Anat.* Sp. 30. I was fidgin fain an' unco voike fan I gat out onet mair. 1798 Rose *Heinsius* III 108 Of your consent..I'm mair nor fain, And vowkie [of 2 voikie] that I can ca' you my ain. 1871 Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxxvii, He was met at the door by his mamma, who was in the mood described as 'voike'.

**Vol** (vɒl). Also 8 vole, voll. [*F. vol* flight, f. *voler* :—L. *volāre* to fly.] Two wings displayed and joined at the base.

1724 Nisbet *Syst Her.* II v. 364 When two Wings are joined together, they are then called a Vole, or two Wings in Lure. 1762 *Ibid* IV. v II. 14 A Crown relevant with Flowers, and issuing out of it a Demi Lion between two Voils for Crest. 1780 Edmondson *Her* II, *Vol*, in the French blazon, is two wings conjoined and expanded. 1864 Boutell *Heraldry Hist & Pop* x (ed 3) 64 The two wings of an Eagle displayed, when conjoined and borne as a charge, are blazoned as a Vol *Ibid*, xxxii 466 Out of a crest-coronet a vol ax and or.

**Vol**, southern Her. var. Full *a* and *adv.* ; var. Vole *sb* ; obs. Sc. var. Weil *sb*, Wool.

**Vol**, abbrev. of Volume.

(*a*) 1682 (*title*), An Impartial Collection of the Great Affairs of State, by John Nalson, I LD. Vol I. *Ibid*, Vol II. 1718 T. Harris & *Brome's Canon.* (1810) 8 p. xcii, At the End of the first Vol of I eland s Iun 1799 Williams *Shrove Tuesday in A Cabinet* etc (1794) 33 I'll purchase Sherlock, Bunnost and Dodd, Thomas Aquinas and old Jerome s vols 1806 Hereford *Miseries Hum Life* VI.1, A few odd vols. of the Rising Calendar 1818 Pasco *Prose & Verse* 1866 I 380 A coloured plate in vol xxx of the 'Pathological Transactions'

(*b*) 1864 Watts *Dict Chem* II 533, a vol. chlorine with x vol. hydride of ethyl.

‖ **Vola** (vō·lă). *Anat* [L *vola*, in the same sense.] The hollow of the hand or foot.

1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict* (ed 2), *Vola*, the Palm of the Hand; also the Cavity of the Foot 1708 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Hand*, The Metacarpus, which is the Body of the Hand, including the Dorsum and Vola 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* p xix, An aspect towards the side on which the radius is situated, and the ulna; and if towards the side on which the vola or *thenar* is situated, thenal

**† Vola·cious**, *a Obs.*—[f. L. *vol-are* to fly + -acious.] Fitted for, given to, flying

1652 H. More *Antid. Atheism* II xi (1712) 73 But the reason is, because they are Birds less volacious 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Volacious*, apt or fit to fly; as A Volacious Creature.

**Volage**, *a* Also 6 *Sc* **vollage**. [a OF. and F. *volage* (vola), f. *voler* :—L. *volāre* to fly] Giddy, foolish; fickle, inconstant. (In later literary use reintroduced from mod. French.) Also in comb *volage brained*

1. 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1284 She fulfilled of lustynesse, That was not yet twelve yer of age, With herte wylde, and thought volage *c* 1386 — *Man e T* 135 Whan phebus wyf had sent for her leminan Anon bay wrousten al her wil volage 1422 Hoccleve *Ballades* xvii in *Works*, *Arch Trvl* (1900) XX 49 Vnto Gawayn may he be resemblyng, Curteys of loue, but he was ouer volage 1480 Caxton *Ovyde Metam* xiv xv (Rotl) 561, He [Jove] hath the herte hvrde, volage & more orageo[us] than the see 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1570) 198 A woman, variable as the winde Being of hir love unstable and volage 1548 Barclay *Eclogues* (1557) 66 A a volage brainded man he fullye determined ag ayne to beygone and continue the warre rather then to yelde hym selfe to deathe or cap tivitie 1549 *Compl. of Scotlande* 1 22 Oure vit is ouer febil, oure ingyne ouer hardie, oure thochtis ouer volage, vnde oure spirit ouer schort *a* 1722 T. Boughtanbill *Decision* (1759) I 184 Some indeed how fault volage are pressions inferred treason, being but *lubricum linguæ* *a* 1773 Mrs E. Montagu in *Lonsdale Private Lett* (1842) II. 275 Lord Lyttelton is more volage, more difficult to fix, than any of Messieurs les Maccaronis [1824 Jamieson *Suppl* s.v., He's unco volage o his siller] 1845 Jane Robinson *Whitehall* xxx, As naturally alluring as beds of flowers to the volage butterfly 1859 Meredith *R Feverel* xxxvi, Both [parties] are volage wine, tobacco, and the moon, influences both wise and foolish 1871 Blackmore *Lorna* I. 94 I he volage, and somewhat indiscreet Princesse de Lurine.

Hence **† Vo·lageness**. *Obs.*

1633 Lo Warinton *Diary* (S H S) 179 The fear of folks speaking, raylong, and jesting at my audaine change and volagnes disuaded me

**Volageous**, *a. Sc. ? Obs* Also 5 **walageous**. [a. AF. *volag(e)ous*, f. *volage* see prec.] = Volage *a.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII 455 He was bath young, stout, and fellon, Richt tolyk als, and volageous [*MS L* walageous]. *Ibid* x 553, I was sum dele volageous [*MS F.* walageous], And tuk sum wenyt her in the toune 1513 *Thornton's Sc Dict* IV. 609 *Volageous*, adj, very light, giddy, or boastful. Clydes(dale).

**† Volaille.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 **vollayle**. [a. OF. *volaille* —late L. *volatilia* fowls, neut. pl. of L. *volatilis*, f. *volāre* to fly.] Poultry; fowls.

1444 *Maldon Eye law in Essex Herald* (188 ) II April 6/2 There shall be no man on the market day selle, ne bye ne fleah, ne fysshe, volaylle, ne other vytayle, tyl the hour of prime.

**† Vola·likali.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. Vol(atile) *a.* + Alkali.] Volatile alkali; ammonia.

[*c* 1785 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) IV. 438/2 Vol alkali] 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II 7 As pure Volalkali consists of mephitic air and inflammable air concreted together 1799 — *Geol Ess.* v 142 Margraff found it to yield volalkali from some remains of the putrid wood that were still contained in it

**Volant** (vō·lănt), *a* and *sb.* Also 6 **wolant**. [a. F. *volant*, pres. ppla. of *voler*, also as sb.; or ad. L. *volant-*, *volans*, pres. ppla. of *volāre* to fly. Cf. also It, Sp., Pg. *volante*. In 1 b and 3 placed after the noun.]

**A.** *adj* †1. a. Riding at full gallop *Obs. rare*

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen. VIII*, 57 They ranne volant one as fast as he might overtake the other *Ibid* 58 b, After that ye king & his aides had performed their courses, their *ranne* volant at al commers [Hence in Holinshed and Baker]

† b. *Mil* So constituted as to be capable of rapid movement or action. (Cf Flying *ppl. a.* 4 d)

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen. VIII*, 167 b, Certain Frenchmen came before Alexandrie & there kept a siege volant 1580 Maitland in E. Russell *Maitland of L.* (1919) II 57 For lack of money the camp volant cannot continue 1577 Holinshed *Hist Scot*, 479/1 in *Chron* I, The French army in Scotland...determined with a siege volant to keepe the Englishmen in Hadington from victuales and all other reliefe. 1639 Weston *Itin* 11 160 Out of these Regiments was raised a squadron *volante* (or flying Regiment) which onely was to attend Alarums *Ibid.* 178 Sir Henrie Powers squadron volant (or flying Regiment). 1633 I. Stafford *Pac Hib* II xxi (1821) 415 The Regiment volant Commanded by Sir Henrie Power] 1642 Clarendon *Hist. Reb* VI § 368 He sent Charles Cavendish, with a Party Volant of Horse and Dragoons, into Lincolnshire.

† b. Used between two sides *Obs.*—1

*a* 1734 North *Examen* I II § 25 (1740) 40 He was not, like the Party volant, waiting for Profers to determine him

† 2. *Volant piece*, an addition to the front of a helmet as a protection for the face, used especially in tournaments. *Obs.*

1599–1613 Sandys *Europ Ansuer* (1824) II 251 These four knights shall present themselves in barneys for the tylt without tache or breket, volant piece on the hedde [etc] *a* 1598 Ibid *Chron*, *Hen VIII*, 22 To which end were ordeined bassenet neuer armorer taketh hede, for it is euermore couered with the viser, burlet and volant pece [1824 Meyrick *Anc Armour* I 251 The grand guard, volant piece and gard de bras were put on with nuts which rendered pieces necessary]

3. *Her.* Of birds, etc Represented as flying; having the wings expanded as if in flight.

Many special varieties, as *volant descendant, displayed, expanded*, etc, are explained in Berry's *Encycl Heraldi* (*c* 1828) I Gloss

1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II 89 b, R beareth Sable and Argente two Faucons volante, and a Greyhounde currante. 1599 R. Linche *Fountain Anc Fiction* F iij b, Downe from his shoulder depended a vestment, curiously and curiously proportioned the head of Medusa, on the one side of him were placed cartaine Eagles volant. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III xxiii (1660) 170 Some call it Pegasus volant 1884 *Lond Gaz* No 25810/4 A Coat of Armes being a Raulcon volant between 3 Mullets with distinction of a half Moone. 1708 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Volant*, in Heraldry, is when a Bird in a Coat of Arms is drawn flying, or having its Wings spread out 1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 143/2 Birds, according to their attitudes, are blazoned Volant, Displayed, *Preying*, etc 1871 Boutell *Her. Hist & Pop* III (ed. 3) 66 Az three butterflies volant or

4. Flying; able to fly, capable of flight.

1665 Sir Herbert *Trav* (1677) 389 Thus in the onely four footed Beast that's volant 1758 *Ll. Evans* XX 167 As to the Fire Flies, I take them to be a Glow-Worm Volant 1798 *Brit Apollo* No 90 3/1 With Engine fatal to the Volant Race, with treacherous Net 1. 1823 *Encycl Brit* (ed 6) IV 4 Birds are considered the structure of all volant animals. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ Prance* I 366 A kind of volant beetle 1822 Tennant *Indian Recr* II 50 In every part of the world there are animals adapted to the several parts, the volant living in the air, and the gradient on the earth 1830 *Fraser's Mag* I 122 The beautiful, bright-plumaged bird of love 1878 Barnar *Marsh Verm* xv 142 Then shall thousands of volant angels bear us down upon their wings

*fig.* 1598 Barckley *Felic Mar* II v 58 No English sulver now was current, and our gold volant in the Popes Courts. 1789 E. Darwin *Bot Gard* II (1791) 60 The first Weights with race are the vowels, liquid, aural, and nasal, in syllables the volant word 1796 Burney *Mem Metastasio* I 351 I et me in volant thought Ideal bliss renew 1818 Br J. Jebb *Life & Lett* lxxvi. 619 But, alas, my paper wings are very nearly volant. 1840 Mag. Theology in *New Monthly Mag.* LX 40 A sort of volant admuration that seemed ready to take wing, and fly off in whatever direction he might please to direct it 1871 Emerson *Prose Papers Napoleon* I 12 Reverberant notes and long blew volant Fame.

*b. transf.* Connected with flying.

1798 Richardson *Clarissa* VI 3 But here, to carry on the volant metaphor — it is pretty little Miss [etc].

5. Of things: Passing rapidly through the air or space, as if by flight; floating lightly in the air.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 639 Alexander the Great, who lanced himselfe in manner of a starre volant in the aire, leaping out of the East into the West *Ibid* 721 The intelligent nature of heaven, he [Plato] calleth, a Chariot volant, to wit, the harmonicall motion and revolution of the world 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II 1 211 It is may be thought that these fires volant proceed from sulphurous exhalations that rise out of the Earth 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II 106 The volant shadows that cross our British hills 1798 in *Spirit Pub Jrnls* (1799) II. 267 The eddying smoke, quick flame, and volant spark 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II 1 Some pass into the bodies tinguishes the volant films of substances from other portions of bodies. 1831 Campbell *Pleas fr St Leonard's* 75 Man's nature Had become liquid space Into wheel or wing 1840 Mrs. F. Hodgson *Widow Married* xxii. 150 She had always some volant ribbon or floating scarf to attend to and arrange. 1865 *Athenæum* 15 July 78/2 The car volant of Armida.

b. Moving rapidly or lightly; active, nimble. Also *fig* of discourse.

1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I*, 176 Now have I brought this great Kings Reign to an end; in a volant discourse, and shall give you his Character in briefe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 561 His volant touch Instinct through all proportions low and high Fled and pursu'd transverse the resonant fugue. 1796 [J. Phillips] *Cyder* II 75 Bards with volant touch Traverse loquacious strings 1783 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) I xxxvi 251 Yes, my volant, my self-conducted quail, begin with the Sister 1799 [H. Dalrymple] *Woodstock* (1761) 13 Their volant fingers o'er the chorded lyre, With modulating touch the artists ply 1809 H K White *Remi* (1825) 95, I could ... in the caverns of the ocean flood, thrid the light mazes of thy volant foot. 1818 *Lights & Shades* II 277 Those dexter fingers, such volat t summoners of sound 1827 Dowden *French Lit* v. II 367 He knew how to wing his verses with a volant [*sic*] refrain

† 6 Of colours Changing, iridescent *Obs*—1

1616 Lane *Contn Sqr & T.* xi 204 *note*, All colors vaund, save white, with all new volant dies of gallant dresse

6. Characterized by, of the nature of, flight.

1818 Mrs Iliff *Corfu* Poems (ed 2) 98 The games, the race, the wrestlers mend, The discus urged with volant speed 1832 *Blackw Mag* XXIX 263 With such quick grace in that volant motion 1883 I yell *Antip Man* xxii 446 A change from volant to non volant habits of living 1891 C. E. Craddock *In t Stranger's Book's Country* xvi 312 He turned to catch through the trees a flitting glimpse of her light dress, her volant attitude, as she sped silently and secretly back to the waiting group on the opposite side

7 Flounced; frilled. (Cf. sense 3 below.)

1901 *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug 3/2 The seamed skirt has the preference over the volant skirt

**B.** *sb.* † 1. *To act, to keep (upon), the volant*, to move between two parties, sides, or opinions. *Obs.*

*a* 1734 North *Examen* I II § 64 (1740) 149 And so they kept the Volant a good While, and did not declare on which Side they would fall *Ibid* III vi § 69 474 The Dutch had acted the volant, and declared on neither side or the other, to have kept the Pure alive *a* 1734 — *Lives* (1826) III 336 He chose to keep upon the volant, free to dis course and censure as he thought fit upon both sides

2. = *Volant piece* (see sense 2 above). *rare*—.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word bk* 714 *Volant*, a piece of steel on a helmet, presenting an acute angle to the front.

3. A flounce or frill.

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict Needlew* 515/1 *Volant*, the French term denoting either a flounce, or a frill, both of which are descriptions of dress trimmings 1908 *Daily Chron* 17 June 6/3 Her muslin Empire dress had a deep white cloth 'volant'

4. = Volet 2.

1898 *Daily News* 14 July 6/2 The most interesting of the late acquisitions is the pair of volants or shutters to Luonardo's Holy Family.

Hence **Vo·lantly** *adv.*, in a volant manner.

1896 *Edin Rev* 384 Those who sympathise with the borrowing o'er the fragile ark, Its puny canvas fanning volantly.

‖ **Volante** (volā·nte). [*sp.* = *see* Volant *a.*] A two wheeled covered carriage drawn by a horse ridden by a postillon (freq with another horse attached at the side), used in Spanish countries.

Recent examples refer to Madrid.

1791 J. Townsend *Journ Spain* (1792) I 105 You pay for a volante with a good mule, attended by a guide, five shillings a day 1817 Kelly *Reminis* I 41 I am author for the clever thing prefixed to the play, which was sung in England, and not for a volante 1854 Bartlett *Mex Boundary* I. 58 Towards evening we took a volante and went out to the bishop's palace 1878 *Mesquw Poets* 183 Drawn (be hind a jaunty Black faced position) in a gay volante.

Hence **Volantiner**, the owner or driver of a volante

1822 J. Townsend *Journ Spain* (1792) I 107 The postillier at five in the morning with a volantiner of Barcelona

**Volante**, variant of Volunty *Obs.*

**Volaptik, -puk** (vɒ lăptik, -puk) [? *vol* world (alteration of L. *world*) + a connecting vowel, + *put* speech (alteration of E. *speak*).] An artificial language, chiefly composed of materials from European tongues, invented in 1879 by a German priest, Johann M. Schleyer, as a means of international communication Also *transf.*

1885 *Sat Rev* 3 Jan 15/1 Volapuk is the name of the re cently invented world language, or universal tongue 1888 *Longman's Mag* Sept 532 The shop boys of the Russian mercifully interprets his Cyrillian characters by th it original volapuk of the world's infancy, the picture 1890 W Hosken *Cor Ira Cupi* 90 Music will be the universal language—the *Volapuk* of spiritual being

Hence **Vo·lapüker**, **Vo·lapükist**, an advocate or student of Volapuk.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Dec 4/1 It seems that the Volapuk fists have published a directory giving the names and addresses of its disciples. 1887 *Scott. Leader* 28 Nov 4 As much practice as in the case of a living language, would be needed to give the Volapuker facility in dialogue

**Volar** (vō·lăr), *a*[1] *Anat.* [f Vola + -ar] Of or belonging to the palm of the hand or the sole of the foot; palmar

1824 Wishart in *Scarpa's Treat Hernia* Explan p xvi, The term *volar* in the adantal extremities is restricted, as in common anatomical language, to the parts within the palm of the hand 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 69 Any sone of similar function in connection with the tendons of the volar side of the hand 1885 *Sucks Handbk Med Sci* I 353 Superficial volar [artery] Very often of small size, so small that it terminates in the muscles of the hand

**Volar**, *a*[2] *rare*—1. [f. L. *vol-are* to fly] Employed in flying.

1840 *Turner's Anim Kingd* 69 The volar membrane is attached more or less near to the middle of the back, in some of the Rousettes.

**Volary** (vō·lări). Now *rare*. Also 7 **volarie**, **vollary**, 7–8 **volery**. [app. ad. F. *volière*, after types in -ary, -ery.]

1. A large bird-cage; an aviary. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

1630 B. Jonson *New Inn* v. i, She…now sits penitent and solitary. Like the forsaken turtle, in the volary Of the light Heart, the cage, she hath shown. 1664 Flecknoe *Enf Years Trav.* 110 In lieu of imagining it flying about the world, we may imagin it rather pent up, and fluttering about some narrow Bird-cage or volary. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 105 On the left hand before a Garden on the River-side, there is a Volary full of rare Fowl, as Estridges, Peacocks and others. 1718 Orell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 233 The gardens, the volaries, the dog-kennel, the falconry, the square and bazar…are worth seeing. †1743 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett., to Mrs. Forster* (1893) II. 194, I find myself so improperly lodged as if I inhabited a volery. 1798 Mas. Calderwood in *Colliness Coll.* (Maitland Club) 186 Here is a flat, laid out like a parterre, …and a volary, which is a little place with the face of it wire. 1892 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 5/3 Birds…living happily in…confinement in very large cages, in spacious volaries.

*transf.* a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* xvi. Wks. (Rtldg.) 694/1, I thought thee then our Orpheus, that wouldst try, Like him, to make the air one volary. 1640 Carew *Poems* Wks. (1824) 34 Yet thou hadst daintyes, as the skie Had only been thy volarie.

*attrib.* 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* vi. iii. II. 62a/1 Edward Story, Esq; Volary Keeper to King Charles II. 1684.

2. *collect.* The birds kept in an aviary. Also *fig.*

1693 Locke *Educ.* § 94 An old Boy, at his first Appearance, with all the Gravity of his Ivy-Bush about him, is sure to draw on him the Eyes and Chirping of the whole Town Volery. 1795 tr. *Lacombe's Dict. Trévoux* III. s. Those things wipe off and remove the nauseating of such of them [thrushes] as sit listening in the aviaries, and make the whole volary more greedy and voracious.

† **Volate.** *Obs. rare.* (Meaning uncertain.)

*c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 87, j. crofte and a volate [L. *volatam*] þat Hemmyng prestis was i-wonyd to have.

**Volatic** (volăˈtik), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *volatic-us*, f. *volāt-*, ppl. stem of *volāre* to fly.]

A. *sb.* A bird of passage.

*a* 1643 W. Cartright *Ou Mr. Stokes* vi, How would they vex their Mathematicks, Their Ponderations, and their Staticks, To shew the Art of these Volatiks! 1657 *Aora's Elegy* in S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.*, I've sometimes viewed thy small Volatiks flye Like golden atom's bov'ring in the sky.

B. *adj.* That flies or flits about; *spec.* in *Path.* of a variety of itch.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 71, I ordered a Cupping-glass…to get out that Volatick Spirit, which daily ranged the whole body. *Ibid.* 72 This is the Remedy is of no great efficacy, that…presently the volatick Itch falls off dead. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 292 Amidst the gloom volatic meteors blaze. 1880 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1338/2 *Volatious*, …flying; flitting; inconstant; volatic.

So **Volatical** *a. rare*—0.

1636 Blount *Glossogr., Volatical*, that flyes or goes away sudd-nly, flitting, inconstant.

† **Volatily**, *v. Obs.*—[f. L. *volāt-* (cf. next) + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To render volatile.

1666 J. H. *Treat. Cf. Antid.* 4 Poure thereon a pint and half of volatile Salt of Tartar volatilised with spirit of Wine.

**Volatile** (vǫˈlătăil, -ĭl), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4, 7–8 volatil, 5 -tille, 6–7 -till, 7 -tile; 4– volatile (4 -tyle). [n. OF. and F. *volatil*, *-ile* (=Sp. and Pg. *volatil*, It. *volatile*), or ad. L. *volatilis* (also late L. *volatile* sb.), f. *volāt-*, ppl. stem of *volāre* to fly.]

A. *sb.* †1. *collect.* Birds, *esp.* wild-fowl. *Obs.* (So OF. *volatil.*)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6386 Volatil sent þam þat king. 23… *Cor de L.* 4225 Off…Partrychches, plovers, and heroun, Off larkes, and smale volatyle. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* vii. 14 Al that moueth vpon the erthe in his kynde, and al volatile after his kynde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4637 Of all he fruita in þe feld we fange at oure will, Bath venyson & volatile & variand fisches. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 512/1 (K.), Volatille, wyld fowle,…*volatilia*. 1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus Fol. Hen. iii.* xv, To noye the small the greit beistis had na wil. Nor rauenous foulis the lyvtil volatill. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 56 As the fals fowler…Throw volatill he wylis in his net. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 164 Esping that greate mortalitie not yett interred, disfigured by volatile and other vermine.

2. A winged creature; a bird, butterfly, or the like; a fowl. Usually in plural.

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxvii. 31 [lxxviii. 27] He rained vphem pudre, flesshes, and volatila feþered as grauel of þe se. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxii. 4, I haue made redy my meis, my boles and volatile ben slayn. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. v. (Bodl. MS.), Alle oþer volatiles bringeþ forþe burþe vnneþe in a yere. 1632 Guillim *Heraldry* (ed. 2) III. xxi. 234 No lesse than other Volatiles, or flying Animals. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 294 Nor is a volatile contrary to a Reptile. 1666 J. Dryden tr. *Rochefort's Carribby Isles* 20 As to the Volatiles of this Country, there are Turkeys, Pintadoes, Parrots, Woodquists. 1716 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 530 That the Tongue of this Volatile was much commended…will appear from the following Quotations. 1730 Hughes *Barbadoes* 61 By Animals I would be understood to mean…such only as are generally termed Quadrupeds, Volatiles, and Insects. 1819 H. Burr *Vestriad* 10 Soon from first bal where Orpheus, first of lutes, Drew reptiles, volatiles, pantiles, and brutes. *c* 1876 R. F. Burton in Lady I. Burton *Life* (1893) I. III. 40 A dove not being procurable, its place was supplied by a turkey-cock, and the awful gabbling of the ill-behaved volatile caused much more merriment than was decorous.

3. A volatile matter or substance.

1686 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Chym.* I. xvii. (ed. 3) 408 These volatiles ought to be taken always in some cold liquor and not in hot broth. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mesmich Syst.* 16 The Earth…was only a confus'd Mass of Matter, consisting of Solids, Fluids, and Volatiles, all jumbled together. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Mans* I. II. § 7, 248 Applying Volatiles to the Nose. 1781 E. Gray in *Med. Comm.* I. 33 Volatiles…which had been given…in order to encourage perspiration. 1810 S. Green *Reformist* II. 2 The excessive heat of the place…rendered the use of volatiles…requisite to the delicate fair ones who composed this religious group. 1890 L. Hunt *Legend Florence* II. ii, Applying a volatile to her temples. 1892 *Times* 8 June 5/9 The machine is fitted with a volatile the fumes of which cause instantaneous death.

B. *adj.* †1. Of meal: So fine or light as readily to fly about. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 46/2 An astringent Plaster, made of Bolus, flower, or volatill meale, of whytes of Egges [etc.]. 1599—*Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 54/1 Sift them till they resemble volatile meale.

2. Flying, capable of flying, volant.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 728 The Catterpiller toward the End of Summer weaveth Volatile, and turneth to a Butterflie, or perhaps rather to a Moth. 1634 W. Browne *Britannia's Pastorals* 94 It produceth likewise all kinde of creatures both terrestriall and volatile, greater and stronger then other regions. a 1656 Hales *Prerog. Man.* iv. II. (1677) 304 The production of Animals aquatil and volatil proceeded the production of terrestrial Animals. 1719 J. T. Philipps tr. *Thirty-four Sorts of Spiders* 6 Gnats will be re-committed into bodies two-footed, four-footed, or volatile. 1770 *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 64 One of those beautiful blue butterflies of Cashmere, which are at once so volatile and rare. 1893 Horn *Insect-Life Bk.* 292 Pheasants by all that's volatile! 1865 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 535/1 Conveyed by some volatile insect.

*transf.* 1798 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 135 The seeds of the largest mountain-trees are no less volatile. That of the maple has two membranous pinions similar to those of the fly. 1824 Combe *Doctor* I. xiii. 81 The cotton wood tree…has been supposed to be the same as the lombardy poplar, but…differs, at least, in the very large quantity of volatile, capillary pappus attached to the seeds.

b. Moving or flitting from one place to another, esp. with some degree of rapidity.

1654 Vilvain *Rsit. Jes.* v. iii, Two Meteors, Thunder and Lightning, are volatile Fires. 1658 Rowland *Ductor* I. iii. rule 1 § 3 It is like a fire-stick which in the hand of a child being gently mov'd, gives a volatile and unfixed light. 1896 *N. Engl. Dict.* s.v. Fly, 1 (b) Mr. De la Hire…describes these muscæ as of two kinds, some permanent and fixed,…and others as volatile, or flying about and changing their place, even though the eye be fixed.

c. Of motion: Rapid passage. *rare*—1.

1653 *Marrow Complements* 8 With volatile haste let us set forward to the temple.

3. Of substances: Characterized by a natural tendency to dispersion in fumes or vapour; liable to, or susceptible of, evaporation and diffusion, at ordinary temperatures.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* Ded., Of which foure elements two are…volatil, as water and ayre. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Take vinegar, Distraw his volatile substance and his tincture. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 252 Nitre is commended because it fixeth volatil things. 1672 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iv. 74 Sulphur is fixt and not volatile. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 21 Now with Milk Volatile Hermes fluid and unmoist, Mounts on the Wings of Air. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* ii. § 1 These volatile particles do probably repel each other. 1790 W. Bingley *Anim. Mech.* (1798) 181 A bit of sugar dipped in compound spirits of lavender, or the volatile aromatic tincture. 1823 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* i. 18 It is soon as long begins to decompose it throws off its volatile parts. 1856 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 49 The volatile or organic portion of coal is composed of the same elements as wood, peat and brown coal. 1876 Routledge *Discov.* 98 This preliminary treatment removes all the volatile matters, expelling the whole of the carbonic acid.

*transf.* 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 234 They afford a very strong, volatile, disagreeable smell.

b. *Volatile salt or salts.*

1839 G. Mantell *Discov. Wolterr. Treas.* 39 The fixed salt of any vegetable is different from the volatil or fugitive salt of the same. 1861 R. Mather *Uni. Alch.* 20 Thy Salt doth also consist of three sorts, a fixed Salt, and a Nitrous, and a volatile Salt. 1867 *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1870 Nervous juices, with the fix'd and volatile salts, are all jumbled into one mass! 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 95 After smelling to volatile salts, or taking strong mustard,…a pain is often felt above the eye-brows. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. III, Few are so happy as the Duke d'Orleans and the Prince de Condé; who will…themselves, with volatile salts, attend the King's anchoredrawn.

*ellipt.* 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gardiner* (1756) 80 Some have sown it (fr. salt) on moist muirish land to great advantage, for being fat for the sun they have little volatile.

c. *Volatile alkali*, ammonia. (See Alkali 3.) Hence *Volatile-alkaline* adj.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Alkali*, No body hath hitherto produced a volatile Alkaly from the Acids of the Mineral Kingdom. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 98 The tincture produced did not effervesce with acids, but retained a volatile-alkaline smell. 1800 Henry *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 121 Carbonate of ammonia retains, in a considerable degree, the pungent smell of the pure volatile alkali. 1854 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 397 Ammonia was formerly denominated the volatile alkali.

d. *Volatile oil*: (see Essential § b.).

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 259 Volatile oils are distinguished from the fixed oils by their acrid taste, their volatility, their aromatic odour, and their solubility in alcohol. 1836–42 Brande *Man. Chem.* (ed. 2) 1143 The volatile or essential oils are generally obtained by distilling the vegetables, or the parts of the plants which afford them, with water, in common stills. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geogr.* vi. 301 Its flora is characterized by bulbous plants and those yielding volatile oils.

e. Connected with volatilization.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 403 The inside of the volatile tube is coated with charcoal in the state of a fine black.

4. Readily changing from one interest or mood to another; changeable, fickle; marked or characterized by levity or flightiness: a. Of the mind, disposition, etc.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 146 If the Volatile, and Unquiet Spirit of the Lord Digby had not prevailed with the King. 1665 Glanvill *Sceptics Sci.* xiv. 81 If we consider the volatile nature of those officious assistants, and the several causes which occur…to scatter and disorder them. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 330 The French…Temper is allow'd to be more volatile, and their Spirits more fluid than in other Nations. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 58 ¶ 3 Sometimes occasions will be wanting to tempt the mind, however volatile, to sallies and excursions. 1798 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 123 Her spirits were volatile, but her heart was tender. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 527 Neither kindness nor the fear of punishment was able to restrain his volatile and restless disposition. 1861 Lp. Brougham *Brit. Const.* App. 461 The fickle, inconstant, volatile temper of the people.

b. Of persons.

1719 Vanbrugh in *Athenæum* (1890) 6 Sept. 332/1 To think, that such a volatile gentleman…should turn his thoughts & application to the Study of Surveying & business, is a monstruous project. 1745 J. Mason *Self-Knowledge* III. i. (1853) 167 What is it, but a Want of Self-Knowledge and Self-Government, that makes us so unsettled and volatile in our Dispositions? 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1826) II. 108, I was volatile enough to repeat to him a little epigrammatick song of mine. 1830 D'Israeli *Chur. I.* III. vii. 129 Henrietta was nothing more than a volatile woman. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvii, Volatile, fickle, and childish as they generally were, they were soft-hearted and full of feeling. 1898 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 118 Most of these stories…may among a people so volatile as the Carthaginians, perhaps be true.

*ellipt.* 1798 C. Smart tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. (1826) II. 259 The melancholy hate the merry,…the volatile dislike the sedate.

5. Evanescent, transient; readily vanishing or disappearing; difficult to seize, retain, or fix permanently.

1665 Jer. Taylor *Unum Necess.* v. § 6 Those transient acts of devotion, or other volatile and fugitive instances of Repentance, are not the proper and proportion'd remedy to the evil of vicious habits. 1691 K. W. *Cavalier* 11 (1860) 58, I cannot give a more substantiall expression to such a volatile subject. 1686 Hoadly *Crucif. Jesus* xvii. 409 Will you prefer a few airy, volatile Joys to a lasting Felicity? 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 234 Whatever Interpretations might have been made of this fragil and volatil Scripture. 1796 Burke *Subj. & B.* Introd., This delicate and aerial faculty, which seems too volatile to endure even the chains of a definition. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* Introd. (1816) I. 9 The incidents which give excellence to biography are of a volatile and evanescent kind. 1824 Disraeli *Vivian G.* I. i, In the Ottoman dominions…wealth…is a highly volatile blessing, not easily transmitted. 1865 — *Crimea* (1877) I. xiv. 239 He was a buyer and seller of those fugitive and volatile interests in trading adventures which go by the name of 'shares'. 1896 Mozley *Unaugustine. Serm.* xi. 224 These are…more volatile day dreams.

**Volatileness.** [f. prec.] The character or state of being volatile; volatility. Chiefly *fig.*

a 1656 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 29, I do not see the Animal or Vital Spirits, neither can they, by reason of their subtilty and volatileness, be discovered immediately to the Sense. *a* 1690 Horneck *Happy Ans.* (1841) 314 This would fix that Volatileness and Fluttiness of our Memories, and make every truth as indelible, as it is necessary. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Volatileness*, a flightiness, or unsteadiness; also a Property of Bodies whose Particles are apt to evaporate with Heat. 1766 *Life Quin* xii. (1887) 48 Many mistakes which our immortal bard Shakespeare had by oversight, or the volatileness of his genius, suffered to creep into his works. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 314/1 With the volatileness of youth, he turned to his own amusements.

**Volatilet** (vǫlăˈtilĕt), [ad. med.L. *volatilitat-*, f. L. *voldtilis* Volatile *a.* Cf. F. *volatilité* (1641), It. *volatilità*, Sp. *volatilidad*, Pg. *-idade.*] The quality, state, or condition of being volatile, in various senses.

1. Readiness to vaporize or evaporate, tendency to be readily diffused or dissipated in the atmosphere, especially at ordinary temperatures.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 994 Heat causeth the Spirits to search some issue out of the Body. 1657 W. Coles *Art of Simpling* 1657 A Quality of Metals. 1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 311 Essentiall or distilled Oyls,…by reason of their volatility, not abiding decoction, are with difficulty made fixe in a Bath. 1661 *Phil. Trans. Min. Waters* 29 Of the fixity or volatility of the Saline part in strong fires. 1728 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 7 By Spirit is understood the most fine and subtile Parts of Bodies, which is discoverable by its Volatility and Quickness to the Smell and Taste. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 427 From one or more of which principles, I apprehend, the volatility or fixity of all minerals…takes its origin. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 45 Ammonia warm has less action on zinc, on account, no doubt, of its volatility. 1897 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. 157 From its great volatility…it [sc. ether] is frequently employed for producing cold artificially. 1880 MacCormac *Antiseptic Surgery* 103 The volatility of the acid renders any but recently prepared gauze untrustworthy.

**2.** Tendency to lightness, levity, or flightiness; lack of steadiness or seriousness.

1685 Fuller *Ch. Hist* xi ii § 33 Those [recreations], which must needs be preacted by the fancy (such the volatility thereof) all the day before *a* 1700 Kee *Edmund Post* Wks 1721 II 78 Consideration Fixes the Volatility of Thought, Till to itself the wandring Soul is brought 1739 Johnson *Rasselas* xvi, Such sprightliness of air and volatility of fancy as might have suited beings of a higher order. 1796 A Young *Trav France* 279 Volatility and changeableness are attributed to the French as national characteristics. 1811 Shelley in Hogg *Life* (1858) I 379 Volatility of character evinces no capabilities for great affections 1870 Emerson *Soc & Solit* viii 171 The imagination infuses a certain volatility and inconsistency 1871 Morley *Voltaire* vi 139 The inner life of man is a struggle with volatility and disorder.

**3** Adaptability for flight. Also *fig.*

1788 Wollaston *Relig Nat* ix (1724) 222 [The soul must] be capable of mounting upwards, in proportion to the volatility of its vehicle 1842 Sir Smith in Lady Holland *Mem* (1855) I 225 The volatility of the butterfly.

**4.** Capacity for ready or rapid movement. *rare*—1.

1797 *Monthly Mag* III 226 Musical pretensions are so much more calculated to promote unmeaning volatility of finger, than grace, taste, or expression.

Hence **Volati'tiyship** [-SHIP 3 b], used to designate a volatile person. *rare.*

1771 P. Parsons *Monumarker* II 134, I repeat my wishes that this may come to the hands of your Volatiliyship.

**Volatilizable** (vplatilsi zăb'l), *a.* [f Volatilize *v.*] Capable of being volatilized; that may be rendered volatile

1818 W Phillips *Min & Geol* (ed 3) 30 There is another Alkali, which, being volatilizable at a moderate heat, is therefore termed Volatile Alkali. 1841 *Circ I Agric & Arch Jrnl* IV 63/2 The portion of the coal, which in common parlance is called 'bituminous', is in a solid or fixed state while in the coal, though, on subjecting it to volatilizable and assumes the form of gas 1876 Bartholow *Materia Med* (1879) 6 Iodine in vapor, iodoform, ai ammoniac, bromum, and other volatilizable solids and gases

**Volatilization** (vplătĭlsizē'shn). [f. next + ation. Cf. F *volatilisation*, Sp. *vaporizacion*, Pg. *-ização*, It. *-izzazione*] The action or process of making volatile, the state of being volatilized

1666 Boyle *Usefu Chem* vi (1680) 420 Multitudes of Chymists have attempted to Vanish Volatilization of the Salt of Tartar 1669 — *Usef Exp Nat Philos* II App 373 This volatile red Balsam (especially if by this volatilization the Antimony have lost its Emetick property) we cannot but think endowed with more then ordinary Vertues 1744 *Phil. Trans* XLIII 243 The Contagion of pestilential Fevers proceeds from a Subtilization and Volatilization of corrupt able Humours. 1780 *Ibid* LXXIII 55 Nor can this be attributed to the volatilization of the acid by heat 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* v (1842) 130 At higher temperatures the volatilization and decomposition of these bodies would occasion inconvenience 1873 E Spon *Workshop Rec* Ser. I 12 In fusing the three metals together there is always a loss of zinc by volatilizati n

*fig* 1888 *Cent Mag* Sept 783 Analyses of humor are apt to leave one rather serious, and to result in an entire volatilization of the humor

**Volatilize** (vp lătĭlaiz), *v.* [f. Volatile *a* + -ize. Cf. F. *volatiliser* (1611), Sp and Pg. *-izar*, It. *-izzare*]

**1.** *trans.* To render volatile; to cause to evaporate or disperse in vapour.

1657 G Starkey *Helmont's Vind* To Rdr, Salt of Tartar volatilized, or made into a spiritual Elixir, with any essential oyle, is an absolute corrector of all vegetal poysons. 1693 Grew *Anat Fl, Anat Roots* (1682) 89 In Air-Vessels, or rather, the Air Ferment contained in them, volatilizing only a smaller portion of the Sap 1755 *Phil. Trans* XLIX. 341 Hence we see how necessary heat is, to volatilize the rancid oil 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) II 513 Glass is likely to detain any of the nobler Metals, which the arsenick only, bit otherwise volatilize 1807 T Thomson *Chem* (ed 3) II 254 The acids belonging to the first order are crystallis able, and may be volatilized by heat without undergoing decomposition. 1849 D Campbell *Inorg Chem* 211 When the protochloride of uranium is carefully heated, so as not to volatilize it, the compound remains. 1874 tr *Lommel's Light* 153 If a fragment of zinc be volatilized between the carbon poles a series of beautifully colored strias are seen

*fig* To render light, airy, unsubstantial, etc.

1664 Power *Exp Philos.* Concl 184 The greatest part of Humanity is [so] lost in Earth that nothing can volatilize them, and set them free at Liberty 1882–98 Dr Quincey *Confess.* (1862) 198 Beyond a certain point it is sure to volatilise and to disperse the intellectual energies. 1896 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* xl 157 Propertius is deficient in that light touch and exquisitely polished taste which volatilise the sensuality and flattery of Horace 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I 77 On the other hand [in Philo's philosophy] angels are sometimes volatilised into ideas

**2** *intr.* To become volatile, to evaporate.

1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v. *Volatilization*, To dispose the fix'd salts of Plants to volatilise, the Process is to be begun by making them into a Sapa 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 33 It does not give out its Acid in any heat, but rather volatilises 1822 *Imrison's Sch & Art* II 225 It easily fuses and Volatilises before the blow pipe 1842 E A. Parnell *Chem. Anal* (1845) 81 The chlorine is expelled almost before the acid begins to volatilise 1880 MacCormac *Antiseptic Surgery* 132 The solution must be renewed from time to time as the carbolic acid volatilises.

*fig* 1892 *Nation* (N Y) 15 Dec 454/2 To those who know pictures as very tangible things it is puzzling to find them volatilizing before their eyes and evaporating into a haze of words

Hence **Volatilized**, Volatilising *ppl. adjs.* Also **Volatilizer**, an apparatus for volatilizing.

1707 Bailey (vol II), *Volatilizing*, making volatile *c*1789 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) IV 513/1 To bring vinegar therefore nearer the state of tartar, we must deprive it of its fine volatilizing phlogiston 1825 J Nicholson *Operat Mechanic* 724 The volatilised mercury is again condensed 1869 E A Parkes *Pract Hygiene* (ed 3) 87 The volatilising turpentine may carry into the air particles (plumbic carbonate 1878 Abney *Photogr* 282 The spectrum of the volatilised metal falls on the sensitive plate. 1897 Kellogg in *Voice* (N Y) 23 Dec 5/2 The employment of medicinal vapors by means of a suitable volatilizer or vaporizer

**Vola tion.** *rare.* [f L *vol are* to fly see -ation, and cf. the earlier †Transvolation] The action of flying, volitation

1758 Johnson, *Flight*, the act of using wings, volation. 1789 Cowes (Cent.), The muscles of volation

**†Volative,** *a. Obs. rare* [f. L *volat*, ppl. stem of *volare* to fly + -ive] Capable of flying

1613 R Cawdrey *Table Alph* (ed 3) 1673 O Walker *Educ* 148 Exercise, and Change is as necessary to the more corporeal? volative? wilde? that flies single, not in flocks.

**†Volatisa tion.** *Obs rare* [f. next + -ation] = Volatilization.

1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym* 76 A vital ferment, out of which the Archeus by a further volatization hews forth these spirits 1818 Accum *Chem Tests* 210 One hundred grains fused fully, but short of volatization

**† Vo latise,** *v Obs.* [f. Volat-ile *a* + -ize. Cf. Volatilize *v*]

1 *trans* = Volatilize *v* 1.

1650 Arnhole *Chym Coll* 96 If thou wouldst Volatise or Imbibe thy prepared Elixer 1672 J Webster *Metallogr.* xii 176 Sandiver or Nitre volatized and melted in warm water 1693 tr *Blancourt's Phys Dict* 75/1 A lymphatick Juice, which it discharges into the gut to ferment and volatise the Food 1696 Phillips *Pr Ket* 277 By this means the spirit of money jobbing and speculation goes into the mass of land itself, and incorporates with it. By this kind of operation that aqueous property becomes (as it were) volatised 1826 Henry *Elem Chem* I 6 The common still . cnu only be employed for volatising substances that do not act on copper.

2 *intr* = Volatilize *v* 2. *rare.*

1685 [implied in *Volatising* pl a.] 1812 Sir H Davy *Chem Philos* 272 It fuses at about 220° Fahrenheit, and volatises even before it fuses

Hence † **Vo latised,** Vo latising *ppl adjs.*

1671 J Webster *Metallogr* iii 45 Ether, which some hold to be nothing else but pure volatile d Salt 1685 Boyle *Salubr Air* 111 Some Mineral Bodies of a very volatising nature

**† Vo latory,** *Obs* —1 [Cf Volaby and -atory] An aviary

1656 Hevlin *Surv France* 61 Here we saw the Volatory full of sundry foreign birds

**† Volature.** *Obs* —1 [ad L. *volatūra*, f. *volare* to fly] A fluttering movement.

1633 J. Done tr *Ariztæus s Hist Septuagint* 62 A little Wind entring within the vessels, running from low to high, making volatures and replies like waves

**‖ Vol-au-vent** (vplovan) [F, lit 'flight in the wind'.] A kind of raised pie, formed of a light puff paste filled with meat, fish, or the like

1828 Sutton *Pelham* I xxiv, The landlady, regaled him with veal *à-la-vol au vent*, and a glas of Curaçoa *Ibid.* To think she should serve me so cruelly, after I had eaten so plentifully of the *vol au vent* 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 24 Serve [the veal] in a vol au vent, or wherever directed. 1899 Doyle *Dust* (1909) 90/1 Oyster patties or oyster volau vents

**Volbet,** obs. Sc. form of Woobet.

**Volborthite.** *Min.* [Named (1837) after its discoverer, Alexander von *Volborth*, a Russian scientist] 'Hydrous vanadate of copper, barium and calcium, found in small, yellowish-green crystals' (Chester).

1844 Dana *Min.* (1868) 611 1868 Lawrence tr *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 41 Volborthite occurs as an accessory ingredient in many sandstones of the Permian formation of Russia.

**Volc,** southern ME variant of I ork

**Volcan** (vɒ lkăn). Now *rare.* [a F and Sp. *volcan* (Pr *volca*), ad L. *Volcan us, Vulcan us*. see Vulcan] = Volcano *b* i. Also *attrib*

1822 J Scott *Journ Lond Mag* 31 Other sulphur founds nigh unto the Volcan of Nicaragua 1604 E G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* iv xxiv 193 Of the Volcans or Vents of fire 1696 Hale *Prim Orig Man* 190 A like Volcan or Fiery Eruption happen sometimes in the Land subjected to the Sea. 1697 Dampier *Voy* I viii 225 Then the Volcan of Guatimala appeared in sight 1850 Lowell *Among my Books* I 178 If we dare not force turned When volcanoes glares set all the east aglow 1853 Rider Haggard *Montezuma's Daw* xv, Ih ve that have seen the sun rise over the volcans of Mexico 1897 *Ibid* xxiii, Within fifteen years . the volcan Popo had ceased to vomit smoke and fire

**Volca'nean,** *a rare*—1 [Cf Volcanist] Maintaining the igneous origin of certain geological formations.

1820 Tr Rose *Humboldt's Trav* I I 36 A mountain in Saxony, celebrated on account of the disputes of volcanean and neptunean geologists

**‖ Volcane llo.** Pl. **volcanelli** [It, dim. of *volcano* Volcano *b*] A small volcano, cap as forming one of a group.

1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I 305 The volcanelli appeared standing so thick that bye and bye I counted above thirty at once.

**Volca'nian,** *a. rare.* [f. Volcan-o *sb* + -ian. Cf Vulcanian *a*] Of or pertaining to, resembling that of, a volcano.

1820 Keats *Lamia* I 155 A deep volcanian yellow took the place Of all her milder mooned body *a* grave 1869 J Phillips *Vesuv* viii 203 In this safety-valve for the volcanean pressure

**Volcanic** (vplkæ nik), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 8–9 -ick [a. F *volcanique* (= Sp and Pg *volcanico*), f *volcan* Volcan *sb*, or directly f Volcan-o + ic Cf. Vulcanic *a.*]

**1** Of ashes, etc. Discharged from, produced or ejected by, a volcano or volcanoes.

1774 in G Forster *Voy round World* (1777) I 291 The country being strewed with volcanic cinders 1777 *Ibid* I 568 Our road was intolerably rugged, over heaps of volcanic stones 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 400 Of Volcanic Scoriæ . Their texture is vermicous, but never fibrous *Ibid* 410 Of Volcanic Ashes, Sand, Pozzolanas [etc] Trass, Tufa, and Puperno 1832 Lyell *Princ Geol* (1833) II 243 This volcanic dust when it fell was in impalpable powder 1841 W Spalding *Italy & It Isl* I 19 The winds and the birds clothe its volcanic soil with vegetation 1877 Huxley *Physiogr* xii 191 In some cases, the lava is broken into such fine particles that it is known as *volcanic dust* or sand

b Used *spec.* with names of rocks, minerals, etc

1822– *Volcanic tufa, tuff* (see Tufa b, Tuff b). 1825 Ainsworth (ed 2) *Volcanic or Specular Iron* occurs in very compressed and irregular crystals 1830 Ansted *Elem Geol*, *Mem etc* § 413 Pumice or Volcanic ash, is a light spongy modification of obsidian 1832 Brande *Dict Sci* (ed 2) App 1491 *Vulcanite*, a mineralogical synonym of the pyroxene, or volcanic garnet 1856 Emerson *Eng Traits* xiii *Resources* Wks (Bohn) II 49 As volcanic action since the work of fire which has been extinguished for ages 1867 Bloxam *Chem* 267 The ammonia which is evolved from the Lucan borazoe used employed in this process is known in commerce as Volcanic ammonia. 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 528 Sulphur occurs native, in opaque, lemon yellow, crystalline masses (volcanic sulphur).

c. *Volcanic bombs, glass* (see quots.).

1798 R Jameson *Mineral Shell Ist* etc 56 Any appearance of what the Volcanists call volcanic bombs 1833 Lyell *Princ Geol* III Gloss 83 *Volcanic Bombs*, volcanoes throw out sometimes detached masses of lava, which, as they fall, assume rounded forms (like bomb shells), and are often elongated into a pear-shape 1880 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VI 527/2 Volcanic Glass, Obsidian 1830 Ansted *Elem Geol*, *Mem* etc § 413 Obsidian or Volcanic glass is also a well known volcanic product

d. *sb pl* Rocks due to volcanic action.

1804 *Cosmopolitan* II 61 These volcanics, in most cases have been subjected to deforming pressures which have converted them into schists.

**2** Due to or caused by a volcano or volcanoes.

1776 Sir W Hamilton *Campi Phlegræi* 11 Many Islands whose Volcanick origin seems to be evidently pointed out c1790 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) VI 286/1 Six days after the immense volcanic eruption in 1783 the sound had ceased 1819 J Ady Morgan *France* viii (1818) II 347 The cause of those volcanic shocks, which finally overwhelm the island Atlantis 1833 W Arnott *Physics* (ed 4) 135 Examining the structure as exposed to view by volcanic or other convulsions. 1876 Page *Adv Text Bk Geol* xvi 304 Thought by some geologists to be of volcanic origin

b. Of or pertaining to a volcano or volcanoes

1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 687/1 To account for the volcanic fire, Dr Woodward and others have had recourse to the hypothesis of a central fire 1828–32 Webster s.v. Volcanic he it 1833 Lyell *Princ Geol* III 362 That great masses of subterranean lava in the volcanic foci may remain in a red hot or incandescent state 1856 Emerson *Eng Traits* x *Wealth* Wks (Bohn) II 101 Even the volcanic forces which twisted the strata 1877 Huxley *Physiogr* 189 At the mouth of the volcanic pipe, there is usually a funnel shaped opening known as the crater.

c. Relating to volcanoes.

1828 Duppa *Trav Italy*, etc 94 Vesuvius makes a great feature in volcanic history

**3** Characterized by the presence of volcanoes, composed of volcanoes, consisting of materials produced by igneous action.

1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) II 661/1 That species of ore is to be met with only in volcanic countries 1804 R J Sullivan *View Nat* II 171 In America, particularly the Southern America what a number of volcanic mountains for its principal link 1832 De la Beche *Geol Man* (ed 2) 19 Hot springs are common to the volcanic districts of different parts of the world 1837 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* II 80 A volcanic tract of similar character is found on Stinking river 1855 *Orr's Circ Sci*, *Inorg Nat* 180 The lava itself is seen where it has burst through the sides of volcanic hills

b. Of the nature of a volcano.

1833 4 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VI 740/1 Constitution of a Volcanic Mountain in General. 1872 Raymond *Silver Mines* I *Mining* 235 The great volcanic vent of the last mentioned mountain

**4** *fig.* Resembling or characteristic of a volcano, or the attributes of this, violently explosive, or latently capable of sudden and violent activity

a 1854 H Reed *Lect Eng Lit* iii (1855) 56 The revolutions were not sudden, devastating, volcanic eruptions. 1862 Shirley (J Nicholson) *Nugæ Crit* ix 407 The military despotism of Napoleon was a volcanic power, which perpetually threatened the tranquility of Europe 1882 J. H. Blunt *Ref C h Eng* II 480 His [sc Charles I's] gentleness and love of peace were ill fitted for the volcanic age in which his lot was cast.

b. Of the mind, passions, etc. Intensely fervid or violent; full of latent or suppressed violence. Also occas of persons.

1809 D'Israeli *Cur Lit.* (ed 3) II 71 His volcanic head flamed with imagination 1850 Sturgeon *Treat. Dom Pa.* xxxix 3 His volcanic soul was tossed with an inward ocean of fire. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* i 4 The tremendous force of the volcanic passions latent in human nature 1883

*Harper's Mag.* July 143/2 *Besant.* But Hugo reaches as high and goes as deep as anybody... *Spencer.* But isn't he rather—rather volcanic.

6. = VOLCANEAN *a.* *rare*—1.

1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate Culross* 31 It is a field well worth being explored by a volcanic Mineralist.

6. *Comb.*, as *volcanic-like, -looking* adjs.

1800 LEYDEN *Tour Highlands* (1903) 132 The red conical top of the volcanic-like hill. 1894 A. K. WALLACE in *My Life* (1905) I. xx. 335 A coarse, volcanic-looking gravel.

Hence **Volcanicness**, combining form, in the sense 'volcanic and —'; as in *volcanico-marine* adj.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 260 The Breccias of Nice, the volcanico-marine valley, as it is called by St. Fond.

**Volcanically**, *adv.* [See prec. and -ICALLY.]

1. In an explosive, eruptive, or fiery manner; with sudden violence.

1820 CARLYLE *Hermes* IV. (1858) 274 The accumulation of offences is..too literally exploded, blasted asunder volcanically. 1873 SYMONDS *Sh. Poets* v. 129 The energies..were restrained by the Aristotelian sphere of individual emotions, ready to burst forth volcanically. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* XXV, Here, in this apparently..unimpassioned place, novelty had volcanically started up.

2. In respect of a volcano or volcanoes; with regard to volcanic nature.

1880 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 4/7 Astronomically, it [the earth] is solid in its relations] volcanically, it is of liquid or plastic consistency. 1890 *Ibid.* 16 Sept. 5/1 Cotopaxi..comports itself, volcanically speaking, in a regular and well-behaved manner.

**Volcanicity** (vɒlkăni·sĭti). [nd. *F. volcanicité*, or f. VOLCANIC *a.* + -ITY. Cf. VULCANICITY.] Volcanic action, activity, or phenomena.

1836 MACCULLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* XXVII, 411 Volcanicity, or the influence which the interior of our planet exercises upon its external surface. 1883 *Athenæum* 28 July 115 One of those earthquakes called perimetric, that are due to a local volcanicity.

**Volcanism** (vɒ·lkănĭz'm). [a. *F. volcanisme*: see VOLCANO *sb.* and -ISM, and cf. VULCANISM.] The state, condition, or character of being volcanic; volcanic action or phenomena.

1869 J. PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* v. 150 Even if no other indication of former volcanism be traceable. 1882 GEIKIE *Geol. Sk.* 196 The vast number of fissures..appeared hardly to connect themselves with any known case of volcanism. 1893 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 577 Much more attention than formerly is now paid to the study of volcanism.

**Volcanist** (vɒ·lkănĭst). [f. VOLCAN-O *sb.* + -IST, or a. *F. volcaniste.*]

1. An asserter of the igneous origin of certain geological formations; a Plutonist or Vulcanist.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 443 This theory having appeared unsatisfactory to many of the volcanists themselves, they next devised [etc.]. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min. & Geol.* 68 Two distinct parties, distinguished according to the notion they embrace, by the appellations of Volcanists and Neptunists. 1850 ARNTED *Elem. Geol., Min. etc.* Gloss., *Volcanist*...A term of reproach belonging now only to the history of geology.

2. One who studies or is versed in volcanoes.

1828–32 WEBSTER. 1848 DAUBENY *Descr. Volcanos* 142 The neighbouring country to the north of Vicenza is interesting to the volcanist.

**Volcanite** [1], *Min. rare*—. [f. VOLCAN-O *sb.* + -ITE, or a. F. *volcanite.*] (See quot. and cf. VULCANITE 1.)

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Volcanite*, a mineral otherwise called augite. [Hence in later Dicts.]

**Volcanite** [2], *Min.* [f. *Volcan-o* one of the Lipari Islands + -ITE 1 4.] (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1004 *Volcanite*, selenide of sulphur.

**Volcanity**, *rare.* [f. VOLCAN-IO *a.* + -ITY. Cf. VOLCANICITY.] a. Volcanic nature, quality, or character. b. Volcanic phenomena; volcanicity.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 433 Their volcanity is ..established by their colour, grain, and the scoriæ,..that accompany them. 1892 *Literary World* 26 July 70/1 Some such work..in which the general principles of Volcanity can be studied.

**† Volcanisa·tion.** *Obs.*—1 [Cl. next, and F. *volcanisation.*] The process of undergoing, or the state of having undergone, change by volcanic heat or action.

1798 tr. *Spallanzani's Trav. Sicilies* vi. I. 191 The limits of the volcanization of the Phlegrean fields.

**Vo·lcanized**, *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. F. *volcanisé* (Buffon, etc.), f. *volcan* VOLCAN: see -IZE.] Affected or altered by volcanic action or heat.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 286 The French naturalists, ..assert the depth to be twenty feet of beds of earth, formed of the ruins of what they style the primitive (granite) and volcanized mountains. 1798 tr. *Spallanzani's Trav. Sicilies* vi. I. 190 So as to form a soil entirely volcanized. *Ibid.* vii. I. 200 In a volcanized country, where stones of any other than a volcanic nature are not to be found.

Hence **Vo·lcanize** *v. trans.* (Cf. VULCANIZE.)

1828 WEBSTER (citing Spallanzani), and in later Dicts.

**Volcano** (vɒlkē·nō), *sb.* Also 7–9 vulcano. Pl. **volcanoes** (7–9 -os, -o's). [a. It. *volcano* (Florio, 1598), *vulcano* (Florio, 1611) :—L. *Vol-, Vulcānus*, acc. of *Volcānus* VULCAN. Cf. VOLCAN.]

1. *Physiogr.* A more or less conical hill or mountain, composed wholly or chiefly of discharged matter, communicating with the interior of the globe by a funnel or crater, from which in periods of activity steam, gases, ashes, rocks, and freq. streams of molten materials are ejected.

See also *mud-, pseudo-volcano* s.v. MUD *sb.* 3, PSEUDO- 2.

a. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* VIII. xiv. 686 A Vulcano or flaming hill, the fire whereof may be seene ..about 100 miles. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 85 They regarded those mighty Vulcanos as the Courts of Pluto. 1720 PALMER *Proverbs* 25 He that would needs peep into mount Vesuvius, and search the depth of its vulcano's. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXIX. IV. 42 The vulcano of Lipari, one of the flaming mouths of the infernal world. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 467 Unusual events, earthquakes, inundations, and vulcanoes altered the face of the planet.

β. 1690 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* II. 55 The burning mountains or vulcano's of the earth. 1696 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 272 The seeds of subterraneous minerals..sometimes cause earthquakes and furious eruptions of volcano's. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 66 A volcano, or burning vent among the hills. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 280 Volcano's bellow ere they disembogue. 1773 HEYDON *Tour Sicily* II. (1805) 16 Of all the volcanoes we read of, Strombolo seems to be the only one that burns without ceasing. 1782 COWPER *Heroism* 85 Some heav'n-protected Isle, Where no volcano pours his flood. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* 302 Hill country (in the moon) broken up in the most tremendous manner by volcanoes of all sizes. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 198 Submarine volcanoes occasionally give rise to new land.

γ. 1846 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xiv. *Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 60 Of all the volcanoes in a roaring volcano of ideas, of material values, glutted markets, and low prices. 1898 D. C. MURRAY *Tales* 207 You're going to offer your old second-hand vulcano of a heart to that fresh innocence?

b. In eruption or discharge of flame.

1716–20 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 65 The very Eruptions, or Vulcano's of Flame, which..are observed to burst out from it on all sides.

c. *Transf.* (See quots.)

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 737 The eclipses That metropolitan volcano's [*sc.* chimneys] make, Whose Stygian throats breathe darkness all the year. 1850 *Lect. Metrop.* 1. 6 Fireworks, made of damp powder, which makes a hissing or fizzing noise when ignited; in one form called by boys a *volcano.*

2. *fig.* A violent feeling or passion, esp. one in a suppressed state.

1697 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 143 Blow him into a Flame, and you may see Vulcano's, Hurricans and Borasco's in him. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ii, A whole volcano of bitter feeling burned in his bosom, and sent streams of fire through his veins. 1870 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXV. 350 Nursing this volcano of wrath in his breast. 1883 MEREDITH *Woods of Westermain* iii, Love, the great volcano, flings Fires of lower Earth to sky.

b. A state of things liable to burst out violently at some time.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* lx, On the edge of a moral volcano that rumbled under my feet. 1890 *Spectator* 10 May, An outburst of the social volcano which some think exists below modern society.

3. *attrib.*, as *volcano-fire, immortality, land, -mountain*, etc.; **volcano-ship**, a kind of fire-ship.

1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) VI. 2174 The next, a volcano-mountain, may readily be known by the smoke issuing from the top. 1804 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rep. to Lit. Satyrs* Wks. 1812 V. 208 *A volcano-ship and elbow* of John Wilkes, Of volcano immortality. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 589 Like mountain-twins that from each other's veins Catch the volcano-fire into their own. 1845 HARLEY *Poems* (ed. 2) 133 As these scenes, Fire-fountains, and volcano-utterances..evince. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xiii. II. 253 York.. had distinguished himself..by..having sprung on board the burning volcano-ship at the siege of Antwerp. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 62, I have seen the other face of it [*sc.* a child volcano land.

**Volca·no**, *v. rare.* [f. prec.] a. *trans.* To attack (a person) in a manner suggestive of a volcano. b. *intr.* To blaze or belch fire like a volcano.

1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxix, Manœuvre your cigar. The plan is, to give half-a-dozen light puffs, and..when you see an Italian head, volcano him like fury. 1878 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 432 The great cannon volcanoing through all.

**Volca·nism.** *rare*—1. [f. VOLCANO *sb.* + -ISM.] The action of a volcano; eruption.

1843 CARLYLE *Past. & Pr.* (1858) 11, Not blaze out, or the seldomest possible blaze out, as wasteful volcanoism to scorch and consume!

**Volcano·logist.** [See VOLCANOLOGY and -OLOGIST.] = VULCANOLOGIST.

1890 *Smithsonian Rep.* 216 A result worthy of examination by volcanologists. 1905 W. J. SOLLAS *Age Earth* iii. 72 Signor Sambon, an experienced and intrepid volcanologist.

**Volcano·logise**, *v. rare*—1. [See next and -ISE.] *intr.* To prosecute studies in volcanic phenomena.

1846 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 69 He has gone to geologize and volcanologize and so forth in Auvergne.

**Volcano·logy.** [f. VOLCANO *sb.* + -(O)LOGY.] = VULCANOLOGY.

1886 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 210/3 The Progress in volcanology and seismology for 1886. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 3/2 Students..will find comparatively little that is new to them, as volcanology, in this..easy-going volume.

**Volck**, southern ME. variant of FOLK.

**Vold(e**, southern ME. var. of *would* WILL *v.*

**Vole** (vōl), *sb.*[1] Also 7, 9 *vol.* [a. *F. vole* (1642), app. f. *voler*, ad. L. *volāre* to fly.] The winning of all the tricks in certain card-games, as écarté, quadrille, or ombre. Freq. *to win the vole.*

1679 DAVDEN *Limberham* IV. I, Pug has sent me to you.. to bring you down to Cards again..She'll never forgive you the last Vol you won. 1712–23 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., I..played at ombre..for three hours. There were three votes against me,..but [I] came off for three shillings and sixpence. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* v. iii, Unless..sometimes winning a great Stake; laying down a Vole, *sans prendre* may come up, to the profitable Pleasure you were speaking of. 1741 MRS. D. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1813) II. 121 Many there would have gone twice as far to have saved a vole at quadrille. 1778 *Camp Guide* 12 To win a great—battle—I think from my soul, is rather more dubious, than Quadrille the vole. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* XVI. 224 Cards answer'd to her call..' A vole ! a vole ! ' she cried, ' I'is fairly won.' 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 131 Unless the winners should choose to undertake to make all the ten tricks [in Quadrille], which is called the vole. 1894 WILKINS & VIVIAN *Green Bay Tree* I. 21 'A gentle flutter at ecarté.' 'In which you began with King and vol each game, I wager.'

b. *To go the vole*, to run every risk in the hope of great gain; to try all shifts.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* IV, Who he be?—why, he has gone the vole—has been soldier, lackey, strolling player, and now is a beggar. 1827 — *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 62 He thinks Cadell's account must turn up trumps, and is for going the vole. 1893 *Daily News* 18 May 5/3 In the old phrase he 'went the vole,' he would be colossal, or a blank failure.

Hence **Vole** *v. intr.*, to win the vole. *rare*—1.

1735 POPE *Donne's Sat.* IV. 146 Shortly no lad shall chuck, or lady vole, But some exacting Courtier will have toll.

**Vole** (vōl), *sb.*[2] [Origin unknown. Form **vollmus* (Icel. *vallarmýs*), f. *vǫll* (Icel. *völlr*, Sw. *vall*) field + *mus* mouse.] One or other of various rat- or mouse-like quadrupeds, esp. the short-tailed field-mouse, *Microtus* (formerly *Arvicola*) *agrestis*; the water-rat, *M. amphibius*; and the red or bank vole, *Evotomys glareolus*; also, the genus or genera to which these belong. Also † *vole-mouse.*

1805 BARRY *Orkney* III. I. 314 The Short-tailed Field Mouse,..which with us has the name of the *vole mouse.* 1848 J. FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 23 Arvicola. Vole.—No subsidiary incisors. Roots of the grinders simple...Tail round and hairy. 1849 *Cornhill Mag.* I. 61 Moles and Voles.. have three grinders above and below. *Ibid.*, The Musquash,..which is a Vole with semi-palmated hind-feet. 1861 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 115 The true Voles..number about fifty known species.

*attrib.* 1896 *Daily News* 21 Apr. 6/2 May the vole-plague ravage the land of those neighbors that deny the ancient fact! 1906 *Country-Side* 6 Jan. 100/3 A committee of gentlemen who had come specially to investigate the 'vole' question.

b. With distinguishing terms (see quots. and prec.; also WATER-VOLE).

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 The 'Alsacian Vole...lives under ground like the Mole. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 72 The 'bank vole or bank mouse. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 978/1 The Bank-Vole (*Arvicola glareolus*). 1894 *Lester's Animm. Kingd.* 114 The 'Economic Vole..inhabits a sort of oven-shaped chamber. 1828 J. FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 23 The 'field vole is most destructive in gardens and corn. 1894 [R. W. WHEELWRIGHT] *Spring Lapl.* 239 Besides these we had another species of field vole (the *Lemmus nearticus*, Nilss.) which is peculiar to the west coast of Greenland. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 114 'Meadow Vole...Size of a Mouse, reddish ash-colour. 1898 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammals* 308 The 'northern Vole (*Microtus ratticeps*), and the 'Orkney Vole (*M. orcadensis*). 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 633/1 Fauna of the Alps..[includes] the 'snow-vole (*Arvicola nivalis*).

Hence **Voledom**, the world of voles. *rare*—1.

1852 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 25 June 407/2 The young vole being greedily gulped down by the eagle-owl, whose appearance must be the prevailing terror of voledom.

**Vole**, southern dial. variant of FOAL.

**Vole, Volee**, obs. forms of VOLLEY *sb.*

**† Volency.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. (post-class.) *volentiæ* will, inclination.] The power of willing or determining to act in a certain way.

1686 H. MORE in J. Norris *Lett.* (1688) 208 Nor can [I] conceive but that the free Agency we are conscious to ourselves of, is placed in the soul as Volent as much as Intelligent, because this Volency, as I may so call it, is employed in her Attention or Advertency. 1708 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 552 This is another kind of agency,..and for distinction sake we shall beg leave to call it free volency; for the speculative will allow one another to coin a word upon occasion) : so the question is not whether a man be a free agent but a free volent.

**† Volens nolens**, var. NOLENS VOLENS. *Obs.*

1620 W. WATSON *Quodlibets* 58 Yet must they keepe such a..strait watch ..continually, as *volens nolens* their will must not be theirs, but their superiors. 1660 SHELTON *Quix.* II. 401 If I should *volens nolens* run away.

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 50 A wronged servant shall have right *volens nolens* from his injurious master.

**Volent** (vō·lĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *volent-*, *volens*, pres. ppl. of *velle* to will, wish, desire.]

A. *adj.* Exercising, or capable of exercising, will or choice in respect of one's conduct or course of action.

1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* II. 47 They say the appetit confined to good is volent, and therefore free. 1686 [see VOLENCY]. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 398 The Laws [*sc.* eternal truths] depend upon the mind of God as decretory or volent,..but only..as intelligible or exhibitive. 1849 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 388, I leave the body to moulder, and I go sentient, volent, intelligent, whithersoever I am called.

**† B.** *sb.* One who freely chooses or determines the course of action which he follows. *Obs. rare.*

1708 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 552 Upon this supposition man is a free agent, and a free volent. [See also VOLENCY.]

Hence **†Vo·lently** *adv.*, willingly. *Obs.*[-1]
1614 T. Adams *Diuelis Banket* iv. 183 Into the pit they runne against their will, that ranne so volenly, so violently to the brinkes of it.

**Volente,** variant of Volunty *Obs.*

**†Volentine.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **vilentyne,** 5–6 *Sc.* **valentyne, valantene.** [Alteration of OF. *volatile, voletile* (see Volatile *sb.*), perh. influenced by *volant* Volant *a.*] *coll.* Birds, fowls.
c 1380 *Sir Ferumbr.* 2355 He made him murie al bilke day, For vilentyne [*F. voletisses*] he fond yrowe On ryuer and on lake. *c* 1440 Holland *Howlat* 918 All birdis he rebalkit, that wald him nocht bowe,..Thus wyrit he the walentyne [*v.r.* valantene]..That all the fowlis [etc.].

**Volero,** obs. variant of Bolero.

**Volery,** obs. form of Volary.

**‖ Volet** (*vole*'). Also 8 *dial.* **vollest.** [a. OF. *volet, vollet* kerchief, or mod.F. *volet* shutter, etc., f. *voler*, a. L. *volāre* to fly.]

**1.** A kerchief or veil worn at the back of the head by ladies. *Obs.*
1398 *Will S. Audubon* (Comm. Crt. London), Unam fiolam picatam vocatam volet. 1507 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 52 Pro ij. voletes de Northfolke-hard, xd.

**2.** *dial.* A handkerchief. *Obs.*
1788 Vallancey *Voc. Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Vollast*, a handkerchief.

**3.** One of the wings or side-compartments of a triptych. (Cf. Volant *sb.* 4.)
1847 Wornum *Hist. Painting* 317 This picture was painted in 1410,..It consists of a centre and two volets or revolving doors, which close upon it. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 707 On the volet to the right is the supper in the house of Levi.

**Volewen,** southern ME. var. Follow *v.*

**Voley,** obs. f. Volley. **Volf(e,** obs. Sc. ff. Wolf *sb.*

**†Volge.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vulgus, vulgus* Vulgus.] The mob; the common crowd.
1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. xxix. (1647) 219 He would prefer to fight with any mean person, if cried up by the volge for a tall man. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* xi. iv. § 32 One had as good be dumb, as not speak with the Volge. 1663 Heath *Flagellum* (1672) 29 Nor did the Volge know when, nor could their Houtefeou tell where to cease.

**†Volger.** *Obs.*[-1] [ad. obs. F. **volgere, vulgere*, var. of *voglaire, veuglaire*, etc.: see Godefroy s.v. *vouglaire* and cf. Fowler 3.] A species of ordnance, longer and less powerful than the bombard.
*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 121 The ordinaunce of bombardes, curtawes, and demy curtaw, slinges, canons, volgers and other ordinaunce.

**†Volgivagant,** *a. Obs.*[-2] [f. L. *volgi-, vulgivag-us* roving + -ant.] (See quot.)
1656 Blount *Glossogr., Volgivagant, Vulgivagant*, pertaining to the common people, poor, base, mean, incertain, inconstant.

**†Vo·lible,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *volibilis*, f. *volvere* Volve *v.* : see -ible.] Capable of turning or of being turned round.
1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xx. 13 He clepide the ilk wheelis volible, or turnynge about. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 270 This beast [*sc.* the hedgehog]..is called red, sharp, maryne, volible, and rough.

**†Vo·lible,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [f. L. *vol-*, stem of *volo* I wish.] Capable of being wished or desired.
1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 76 As sensible good is apprehended by the Intellect, and made volible.

**Volipresence.** *rare.* [f. as prec. : see Presence.] (See quots.)
1828–32 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2413 The glorified body is..volipresent, that is, its presence was subject to the will of Christ. 1850 *Mag. Chr. Lit. Apr.* 3/1 (Stand.) The Saxon Churches generally acknowledged a potential presence (volipresence, multipresence) of the human nature of Christ.

**†Vo·litable,** *a. Obs.*[-2] [f. L. *volit-āre* : see Volitate *v.* and -able.] Volatile.
*a* 1690 Hopkins *Serm. John* iii. 3 Disc. (1694) III. 190 Their Prayers may be so importunate and earnest as if they would take no denial from God; But yet this Volitable Spirit is soon spent.

**Volitant** (*vo*·litănt), *a.* [ad. L. *volitant-, volitans*, pres. pple. of *volitāre* : see next.]
**1.** Flitting, flying, or constantly moving about.
1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 340 We are golden averagers, volitant stabilities,..houses founded on the sea. 1858 Lewes *Sea-side Studies* 358 That snowy mass of cloud..rose from the surface of this brilliant, buoyant, volitant, sea. 1891 *Cent. Dict. s.v.*, The bat is a volitant quadruped.

**2.** Characterized by flitting or flying to and fro.
1857 *Fraser's Mag.* July 65/1 The tremulous volitant motion of breeze upon wave.

**Volitate** (*vo*·lităt), *v.* [f. L. *volitāt-*, ppl. stem of *volitāre*, freq. of *volāre* to fly.]
**1.** *intr.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*
1623 Cockeram I, *Volitate*, still to wander or flie vp and downe. 1658 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Volitate*, to flie often, to run in and out, or to and fro often.

**2.** To fly with a fluttering motion.
1866 J. R. Rose tr. *Virg. Ecl. & Georg.* 67 Then straws and leaves will volitate in air. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 July 120/2 When a few weaks old they take wing, and if from an acclivity volitate down hill for a short distance.

**Volitation** (*vo*·lităʃ·ŏn). [a. med.L. *volitātion-, volitātio* (Diefenb.), noun of action f. L. *volitāre* : see prec.] Flying, flight.
1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. i. 180 Birds or flying animals..are almost erect, advancing the head and breast in their progression, and onely prone in the act of their volitation. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Volitation*, a flying or fluttering about, or up and down. 1864 *Soc. Sci. Rev.* I. 382 The practical means of Volitation are to be sought for in the same mechanical means as those by which Birds fly. 1895 S. R. Holt *Your Amer.* 193 The young rook..exercises in brief migrations..his powers of volitation.

*transf.* 1865 *Hudson. Mag.* XIII. 175 The additional volitation acquired by such a stumble is rather apt to make you run your head plump against the next person.

**Voli·tient,** *a. rare.* [Irreg. f. Volipi-on + -ient.] Of one's own free will or choice; voluntary.
1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 92, I elected it Of my will, not of service. What I do, I do volitient, not obedient.

**Volition** (*vŏli*·ʃən). [a. F. *volition* (16th c., = Sp. *volicion*, Pg. *volição*, It. *volizione*), ad. med. L. *volitiōn-, volitio* (Diefenbach), noun of action f. L. *volo* I wish, will.]
**1.** With *a* and pl. An act of willing or resolving; a decision or choice made after due consideration or deliberation; a resolution or determination.
1615 Jackson *Creed* IV. vi. § 4 Wks. III. 61 That such acts, again, are voluntary, they recognize to the will, and call volitions, as essentially and formally intellections, is most evident. 1690 Br. Reynolds *Passions* xvii. 180 They are onely Velleities and not Volitions: halfe and broken wishes, not whole desires. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 851 They suppose..humane volitions..to be mechanically caused and necessitated from those effulgent Images of Bodies, coming in upon the willers. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 314 We may have vehement Willings, Longings, Volitions and Velleities. 1777 Priestley *Matter & Spirit* 11 A determination to suspend a volition is, in fact, another volition. 1777 — *Matt. & Spirit.* (1782) I. Introd. p. v, Every human volition is subject to the laws of motion. 1843 Mill *Logic* II. vi. § 2 When the animal has received a sensation, and this sensation determines a volition in it, it is by the nerves that the volition is transmitted to the muscles. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* (1851) 11 Grant me such power, that as I can go forth From clean volitions toward a spotted will. 1864 Bowen *Logic* iv. 300 No one can tell how a mere volition moves the body. *Ibid.* 301 Bodies seem to exhibition of a power capable of controlling the universe should supervene. *Fig.* 1864 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 22 Inspired poetry...heightens every species of force in nature by giving it a human volition.

**b.** Used with reference to the will of God.
1654 Warren *Unbelievers* 145 Gods gracious volitions towards Mankind. 1659 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. 76 Shall all sides are over temerarious in their distribution of Gods Decrees and Volitions. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Arminn.* (1827) 56 We..make the volitions of God to come behind the created and temporary volitions of man.

**2.** The action of consciously willing or resolving; the making of a definite choice or decision with regard to a course of action; exercise of the will. Very common from *c* 1830.
1617 Jackson *Doctor* IV. i. rule 3 § 8 The external act does superadd new obligations beyond those which are consequent to the mere internal volition, though never so perfect and complete. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 58 The Acts of this Faculty are generally divided into Volition, Nolition, and Suspension. 1690 Locke *Hum. Understd.* II. xxi. § 5 This Power the Mind has to prefer the Consideration of any Idea?..the actual preferring one to another, is that we call Volition, or Willing. 1723 Berkeley *Hyles & Ph.* Dial. i. Wks. 1871 I. 285 By the motion of my hand, which was consequent upon my volition. 1738 Johnson *Rambler* No. 166 P 12 That when we find worth faintly shooting in the dark hours of obscurity, we may let it lights and nourish upon it, and ripen barren volition into efficacy and power. 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 231, I shifted my situation with a speed that seemed too swift for volition. 1818 Scott *Fr. & Pr.* xxiii, In this answer the citizen saw something not quite consistent with his own perfect freedom of volition. 1843 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) V. 14 Do not the Scriptures show that we are compulsorily in a state of mere individual volition. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* i. 37 Human volition is the result of so many obscure and complicated causes, as to appear at first sight mere caprice and chance.

**b.** The power or faculty of willing.
1758 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 20/2 The Traveller, as he hath Volition, may willingly go to the Right or the Left before he comes to the Guide-Post. 1764 Foote *Patron* II. Wks. 1799 I. 345 To this cabinet volition, or will, has a key. 1794 Paley *Evid.* (1817) III. 66 Is the indivisibility of a mind ..or its volition, that is, its power of originating motion. 1839 Barham *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* 1. *St. Gengulphus*, For Sainte, in ten letters, is the property of volition. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 46 That sort of angel-beings supposed to have a volition of their own. 1893 G. Macdonald *Hillth xx*, Despair restored my volition,..I ran and overtook her.

**c.** Will-power.
1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* I. ii, The four votes..had been increased, by his intense volition and unsparing means, to ten. 1847 — *Tancred* I. ii, Montacute..acted upon a stronger volition than his own.

Hence **Voli·tionless** *a.*, lacking volition.
1888 J. Cowan *Govern. Stephen* II. 113 The volitionless will of the former [*sc.* Schopenhauer] is as instinct with purpose..as the most personal conception of Deity ever evolved from the brain of a theologian.

**Volitional** (*vŏli*·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.]
**1.** Of or belonging to volition; pertaining or relating to the action of willing.
1825 Bentham *Church-ism.* 197 Whatsoever influence..the prospects of them may have upon the will or volitional faculty. 1832 R. Dunn in *Trans. Edinb. Soc.* (1836) IV. 431 The exercise of perception, memory, and volitional power. 1847 Grindon *Life* xvii. (ed. 2) 215 The concious, volitional exercise of our noblest capabilities. 1897 *Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* VIII. 223 It was conceivable that the absolute volitional rest imposed by the severe pain might have acted on the muscle.

**b.** Affecting or impairing the will-power.
1824 Buckhill *Unsoundness of Mind* 28 Insanity may thus be Intellectual, Emotional, or Volitional.

**2.** Possessed of, endowed with, the faculty of volition; exercising or capable of exercising this.
1820–32 Bentham *Nation. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 209 Besides the argument you present to the intellectual part of their frame, you present to its neighbour the volitional part another sort of argument. 1864 Alger *Hist. Doctrine Fut. Life* v. viii. 627 The essence of mind must be the common ground and element of all different states of consciousness. What is that common ground and element but the presence of a percipient volitional force, whether manifested or unmanifested, still there? 1887 M. Roberts *Western Avernus* 5, I began to feel alive, volitional, not dead and most basely mechanical as at home in England.

**3.** Of the nature of a volition.
1832 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 361 It cannot move of itself, but a volitional thought is sufficient to raise it.

**4.** Of forces: Leading or impelling to action.
1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) I. Pref. p. xiii, The volitional forces which acted upon Russia in 1853. 1874 Sidgwick *Meth. Ethics* I. iii. 22 There were the two grounds of objection,..one relating to the cognitive function, and the other to the motive or volitional influence, of the Practical Reason.

**5.** Of actions, etc. : Arising from, due to, characterized by, the exercise of volition.
Freq. from *c* 1875.
1859 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* V. 675/1 The case of the respiratory muscles constitutes an example of mixed movements wherein volitional can be superadded to unconscious rythmic motion. 1873 Poste *Gaius* I. Introd., Such actions are both Volitional (for the motive organs are set in motion by Volition) and Intentional. 1878 *Smithsonian Rep.* 479 The impulse causing the animal to make volitional movements comes from the peripheral centres. 1889 *Dunk's Handbk. Ment. Sci.* VII. 689/2 There is probably one portion of the cerebrum in which volitional work is especially performed, viz., the frontal lobes.

**b.** Depending on volition or free choice.
1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 119 A mode of life more irregular, more volitional, than that which the mechanical regularity..at Australind usually proper.

Hence **Volitiona·lity,** the quality or state of being volitional.
1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

**Voli·tionally,** *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] With respect to volition; in a volitional manner.
1891 W. R. Greg *Enigmas of Life* (1892) 183 They were morally and volitionally more vigorous. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 941 Whether they be performed volitionally or automatically.

**Voli·tionary,** *a.* [f. as prec. + -ary.] = Volitional *a.* 5.
1890 *Nature* 13 Feb. 358/2 Some experiments which extend our knowledge of volitionary movement.

**Volitive** (*vo*·lităiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **volutive.** [ad. med. or mod.L. ***volitivus* (whence It., Sp. *volitivo*, f. Volit-ion + -ive.]
**A.** *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the will; volitional.
1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* I. i. rule 2 § 4 The Volitive or chusing faculty cannot (for the name of conscience) but the intellectual may. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 79 The Command that is given by the volitive Faculty of the Soul. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. 359 The end and actual power of God. 1795 Coleridge *Lects.* Polit. Volitive Power. 1799 Sir H. Davy in Beddoes' *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 139 The perceptive and volitive powers depend..on the constant supply of..blood-vessels divided to the nervous and muscular systems. 1811–32 Bentham *Logic* Wks. 1843 VIII. 280 The volitional, or volitive faculty, or, to use the word, the will. 1878 Huxley *Lay. & Interv.* (1880) 386 In effect the deep cells of the cortical layers are motory, or rather volitive.

**2.** Originating in, arising from, the will.
1659 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. 32 So that no man ever sinned by meer Action as such, whether Vital, Intellectual, or Volitive.

**3.** Performed deliberately or with express intention; designed, deliberate.
1839 J. Rogers *Antipsyche.* II. 321 [The clergy's] intentional barbarity and cruelty, their volitive despotism and oppression, their willed persecution..in reference to Luther and the like.

**4.** *Gram.* Expressive of a wish or desire; desiderative.
1864 Webster s.v. A volitive proposition. 1894 W. G. Hale in *Classical Rev.* Apr. 163/2 The Greek Subjunctives of Will (volitive) and..of Anticipation (anticipatory or prospective).

**B.** *sb.* A desiderative verb, mood, etc.
*a* 1825 Murray *Hist. Europ. Languages* (1823) II. 280 Volitives or desideratives..are formed by using the future consignificative sa with the doubled verb. 1894 W. G. Hale in *Classical Rev.* Apr. 163/2 The volitives never have &c.

**Volito·rial,** *a.* [f. mod.L. *Volitor-es* birds capable of flight + -ial.] Of or pertaining to flying; having the power of flight.
1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 178 The swifts goatsuckers, and hummingbirds .. are birds of remarkable volitorial powers. 1879 C. C. Blake *Zool.* 93 The Hornbills are..instances of the volitorial and the Kamichi in the grallitorial order.

**Volitwis,** southern var. *ME. fulwis* Full *adv.* 2 d.

**Volk,** southern ME. or dial. var. Folk *sb.*

**‖ Volkameria.** *Bot.* Also **Volo-.** [mod.L., f. the name of Johann G. *Volckamer*, a German

botanist (1616–93).] A Linnean genus of verbenaceous shrubs, characterized by their fleshy or corky fruit; a shrub or plant of this genus.

1733 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Volkameria*, in botany, the name of a genus of plants...The fruit is a roundish bilocular capsule. 1843 Chase *Technol. Dict.* s.v., The species are shrubs, as—*Volkameria aculeata*,..Prickly Volkameria, &c. 1853 Bywas Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 403, I have explained with roses, oleanders, volkamerias, and geraniums. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1225.

‖ **Volksraad** (*vo*ʻlksrāt). [f. Du. *volk* people, Folk *sb.* + *raad* scance, council, Rede *sb.*] The chief legislative assembly in either of the former South African republics of the Transvaal or the Orange Free State.

1852 Baster *Dorp & Veld* xiii. 194 A resolution of the *Volksraad*, that no additional natives should be allowed to take up their residence within the colony. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 253/2 While the Volksraad, or peoples' council [of Orange River Free State], exercise legislative functions. 1881 Earl Selborne in *Personal & Pol. Mem.* (1898) II. 5 The Volksraad must yield, or the war be renewed.

† **Voll**, shortened f. of, or error for, Volley *sb.*

1574 B. Rich *Dial. betw. Mr.scrupy & Soldier* A 4, Too my farewell, certayne voll of shot discharged in hope of my good speede.

**Vollary**, obs. f. Volary.

**Vollie**, southern ME. var. Fill *sb.*1, Full *v.*1 (to baptize), Full *a.* and *adv.*

† **Vollenge.** *Obs.*–1 [Cf. Valanche and It. *valanga*.] An avalanche.

1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 456 The vollenge, which overwhelms the whole village, was at first but a little snowball.

**Voller, vollier.** *s. dial.* Forms: 7 vallor, vallow, 9 valler; 8 voler, 9 voller, vollier. [Southern dial. var. of Follower (5 a).] That part of a cheese-press (or cider-press) to which pressure is applied.

1673 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 323 *Vallor*, or *Vallow*, ..a Concave-Mold wherein a Cheese is pressed. [Hence in some later Dicts.] 1736 Bucken *Hurricane fr. Bexhill to Newgarden-town's* A cheese-mill and two wheels were taken from a Shelf in a Chamber. *Note*, The Voler is a round Piece of Inch Board, fitted into the hail, that communicates the Force of the Press upon the Cheese. 1847 Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* 84. 1892 *Hartland Gloss.* 82 *Voller*,..that part of a cider or cheese press to which the pressure is applied by screw or lever.

**Vollere**, southern ME. variant of Fuller *sb.*1

**Volley** (vp*l*i), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 6 volée, volee, (vales), vole, 7 vollee, volle. *β.* 6 vallew, 6–7 volue. *γ.* 6–8 volie (6 vallie, *Sc.* wollie), 7 volie, 7–9 *fl.* vollies; 6 voly, 6–7 volly, 7 *fr.* voyly. *δ.* 6–7 voley, 7 volley, valley, 6– volley. [ad. F. *volée* (12th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), = Pr. and Sp. *volada*, It. *volata* :—Romanic *volāta*, fem. sb. f. l. *volātus*, pa. pple. of *volāre* to fly.

The spellings *volue*, *vollew*, *ace* prob. on the analogy of *vcune*, *vinew* beside *veny*, *vinny*.]

**1.** A simultaneous discharge of a number of fire-arms or artillery; a salvo.

*a.* 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1219/2 The whole fire began to plaie in such sort, that within foure voldes both sides of the house were battered through. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 48 They must alsoe vse to giue a volee of Cannon. *γ.* 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 93 For ordinance thay dung at day and nycht by weirlyk volyis. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Cronicles* (S.T.S.) I. 143 The king ...commandit to charge all the gunnis to gif the castell ane new wollie. 1627 Mowson *Itin.* 11. 263 The enemy played all the night upon them with their volleys, but hurt only three men. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 214/2 In grand Battalia's or feild service the souldier fires by Vollies or as some terme it, by Salvo's. 1706 E. Ward *Step to the Bay, &c. Ind.* 318 A Dutch Company that conducted us out of Town gave three Vollies and went back again. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 280 We then kept a continual Fire upon her of both great and small Arms, not firing in our Broadsides and Vollies. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Mohicans* (1829) I. viii. 101 Rifles which sent their leaden messengers across the reach in vollies.

*β.* 1591 in *Lyly's Works* (1902) I. 440 But from the Snail-mount and the Ship-lle in the Pond..there was a long volley of Chambers discharged. 1611 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 203 They forced the gallions with a fewe vollieies. 1625 Markham *Souldiers Accid.* 9 Let the first Ranke onely giue their volley...and then second to passe through it, and so giue their volley. 1626 J. Davis tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 169 We made some stay before the City,..and saluted it with a Volley both of all our great Guns, and of small shot. 1729 De Foe *Cavalier* i. (Globe) 304 We were by this Method able to fire six Volleys, half of us at a Time. 1827 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 2) 293 A loud coarse laugh burst out from each,—united in a volley of rasquetry, and ending as abruptly. 1846 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 219 After firing a volley, the troops charged and put the enemy to the rout. 1879 Browning *Martin Relph* 103 They level: a volley, a smoke and the clearing of smoke.

**b.** Const. *of* (shot, etc.).

*a.* 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 83 b, The valee of an 150. Canon shot. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 12 If our...Mosquettiers would give their volees of Mosquet shot uppon these shipboates full of men. 1693 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 231 At his putting into the grave 3 volles of smale shotes.

*β.* 1578 Digges *Stratiotic.* 103 These Troupes..hauling deliuered their Volue of Shot, shall marche away. *c* 1595 Carr. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 Giuinge whole vallews of shott at our meetinge. *Ibid.* 45 Wyatt..receaued his Generall with a vallew of small shott.

*γ.* 1584 Lily *Campaspe* v. iii. 37 There is more pleasure in tuning of voyces, then in a volly of shotes. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 39 Betwyxte everie greate shoot a vallie of smale shott. 1630 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* VII. 76 A great Joy expressed by three Vollyes of shot, and the cheerfull sound of Drums. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Lr. Archæol. Soc.) I. 261 The relife gaue a voylly of foure score shot among them. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Oct. 1641, From whence we received many vollies of shot in compliment to my Lord Marshall.

*δ.* 1591 Raleigh *Last Fight Revenge* (1868) 20 After many enterchanged volleies of..small shot. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 4. 170 Resembling a volley of shot speedily delivered. 1625 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. 109 Which gave her a volley of fifteen hundred great shot. 1705 De Foe *Voy. round World* i. 143 His Men fell..as fast to the Ground, as if they had been shot to Death with a Volley of our Shot. 1748 *Anson's Voyage* II. v. 186 He fired a volley of small shot between the masts. 1803 Scott *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 390 A volley of small shot fired through the window. 1847 James *Convict* xvi. Another volley of shot rang from behind the gateway of the...prison.

**c.** *transf., fig.*, and in fig. context. Also without article (quot. 1749); cf. next.

1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 238 Thus haue we..spent a small volley vpon the Pontifician forces. 1738 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 15 Every one was pleased with your..compliments, and volleys have been shot off in return: this stile comes in, I said I was coming to my room to write to you. 1749 Smollett *Regicide* III. viii, I will pour My vengeance in full volley; and the earth Shall shead no blood, but what it receives in succour of mine. 1750 Fielding *Tom Jones* IX. v, She discharged a volley of small charms at once from her whole countenance in a smile. 1817 Byron *Beppo* *lxiii, Some fellows that flash on you in that way for nought. 1836-7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xii, Ginger-beer corks go off in volleys.

† **d.** *In volley*, by simultaneous firing. *Obs.*–1

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* I. 3 Our bowmen may shoot by volleys, as thick as hayle. 1622 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* xix. 1033. § 11 Sometimes..succided the wing of the Romans, showring downe withall great store of theirs vpon them. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 823 Over head the dismal hiss Of fiery darts in flaming vollies flew. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I. 215 Stones and brands in rattling volleys fly. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. xxiv, The English shafts in volleys hail'd. 1820—*Abbot* xxviii, Then thus fly all your shafts..but a breath of foolish affection ever crosses in the mid volley, and sways the arrow from the mark.

**b.** Const. *of.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 31 b, The Archers with their voleys of arrowes did breake both horsmen and foot-men. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxviii. xxxvi. 696 The Romans ..at the first meeting with a volie of shot..put them to flight. 1625 Bacon *Apophth.* 1226 It was told him, that the enemie had such volleyes of arrowes, that they did hide the Sunne. 1688 Shadwell *Scourer's Trav. Persia* 270 The People..ply'd the Top of the Mosque with .. Volleys of Stones. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 345 Numerous volleys of arrows and stones. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlvi. IV. 230 Their engineers arranged a perpetual volley of engines and darts. 1892 Marsden *Early Purit.* (1853) 437 The mob rushed upon them with a volley of stones.

**c.** *fig.* Also, a shower of hail, rain, etc.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 630 Wintry clouds, Surcharg'd with vollies of tumultuous hail, Or stores of sounding rain. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 141 The gloomy clouds find weapons, arrows with the barbing volley, blossom'd brutal hail.

† **3.** A company or troop of birds, etc., in flight; a flight. *Obs. rare.*

1601 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) 111. 760 The ringe doues are seene in companies yeere in great vollies ouer the sea. *Ibid.* 843 Birdes of prey doe not flie together in vollies or troopes. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* II. lxi, But to their Lord, now musing in his thought, A heavy volly thicke the Angels flew.

† **b.** A crowd or large number *of* persons or things. *Obs.*

1595 Daniel *Civil Wars* v. cvii, Therefore easily great Somerset..With all the vollie of disgraces met. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* v. xxxvii. 94 King Alfonsus..being wearied with whole volleys of miseries, ended his life of a bloudy flux. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 564 The Souldiers finding the letters intercepted by a volley of Archers. 1693 *Humours Town* 27 The Vollies of Duns, of believing Vintners, Tailors, Sempstresses.

**4.** An uttering or outpouring *of* numerous words, curses, shouts, &c., in smart or rapid succession. Also without const.

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* 1. C ij b, He giues vs a volley of Scriptures against Non Residents. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 30 A fine volly of words, gentlemen, & quickly shot off. 1620 G. Barlow] *Horn. Subs.* 155 Whatsoeuer he them is performed, shall be sure to finde whole vollies of praises. 1649 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 54, I am resolved ..to answer you with a volley of love and poetry. 1667 Milton *Eikon.* x. Wks. 1851 III. 412 Those thousands of blaspheming Cavaliers about him, whose mouthes let fly Oaths and Curses in the volley. 1708 Steele in *Anecdon Tatler* No. 254 P 5 We heard a Volley of Oaths and Curses, lasting for a long while. 1779 Sheridan *St. Patrick's Day* v. 1, Let him have our grievances in a volley. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. viii, [He] poured forth..a volley of compliments. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 64 This, however, always produced a fresh volley from his wife. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Oct. 219/2 Between them continuous volleys of what is called 'chaff' were kept up. 1874 Lesl. Cash *J. Gwynne* I. v. 163 A volley of dire anathemas against those scoundrelly smuire chaps.

**b.** Similarly of sighs, groans, cheers, laughter, etc. Also without const.

1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 189 After a vole of broken sighes tempered with soone teares, hee fell a sleepe. 1600 Samuel *Christs Passion* IV. 270 Cries Of weeping Women, in lowd Vollies rise. 1648 Crashaw *Music's Duel* 63 A Throng Of short thicke sobs, whose thundring volleyes float In panting murmurs. 1707 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. xii, What vollies of sighs are sent from the windows of Holborn. 1768 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 103 They burst out into volleys of laughter. 1837 Talfourd *Serm.* 334 Let this religion of Christ go down under a volley of merriment. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* II. xv. 65 Giving a volley of British cheers.

**c.** A succession of words of command rapidly or smartly delivered.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1823) 77 The repetition of them by every other individual concerned, must not be strictly successive, but as much as can be in a volley.

† **5.** *At* (*the* or *a*) *volley*, on (or *a*') *the volley*, at random, without consideration. Usu. with verbs, esp. *speak*. *Obs.*

After F. *à la volée.*

(*a*) 1576 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 259 The king.. they knew longe his fierynesse, although it were begun at the volue. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax Apol.* Aa vj b, The sundrie censures I shoulde incure, by letting such a pamphlet fly abroad at such a time, when everything is taken at the voley. *c* 1600 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 125 Like those who speake at random at a voleye. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. i, 'Tis like that ball at Tennis..When we doe speak at volley, all the ill we can one of another. 1686 F. Spence tr. *St. Envremont's Mr.* Pref., Otherwise we cannot but hold of him, he speaks at volley, and unluckily. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xvii, I have always known you ..prompt to speak at the volley and without reflection.]

(*b*) 1629 Massinger *Picture* III. vi, What we spake on the voley begins to work. 1631 B. Jonson *New Inn* I. vi, You must not giue credit To all that Ladies publiquely professe, Or talke, o'th volee, vnto their seruants. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 161/1 He never speaks 'on the *voley*' (that is to say, at random).

**6.** *Tennis.* The flight of a ball in play before it has touched the ground. Cf. Fly *sb.*2 2 b.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 20 To the tennis court stands, as it were, at the line in a Tennis-court, and takes sourie ball at the volly. 1858 Marshall *Ann. Tennis* 122 He frequently takes a difficult service (at the volley) off the pentroise.

**b.** *Tennis, Lawn-tennis, Cricket*, etc. A return stroke or hit at a ball before it has touched the ground; the action of so returning the ball. (Cf. *half-volley* Half- II. 1.)

1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 282 [Mr. Budd] is said to have hit a volley to long-field for nine. 1868 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 124 The match was..loudly applauded every now and then by the spectators, when a brilliant volley was called, or a smash was declared. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/1 Instruction is given in the underhand volley [in lawn-tennis].

**c.** = Volleyer.

1878 Marshall *Ann. Tennis* 112 He was a powerful *force*, and a capital volley.

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *volley-boast*, *loophole*, † *-shot*, *system*; **volley-ball** *U.S.*, a game in which a ball is struck from alternate sides of a high net without touching the ground (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.*); **volley-firing**, simultaneous firing at the word of command by successive parties of soldiers; also *fig.*; **volley gun**, a form of machine-gun in which fires bullets successively or in a volley (Knight, 1884).

1858 Marshall *Ann. Tennis* 107 He..would generally return it by a 'volley-boast against the main-wall. 1859 *Henley Ivory* 60 Every bullet to have its own target, and the hits are to be counted as in "volley firing. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 267 The superior efficacy of volley-firing and reserved fire. 1891 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 5/5 In the Town Hall of Newcastle the representative fighting men of the Liberal party were assembled for volley firing. 1898 Sir G. S. Robertson *Chitral* xxiii. 295 "Volley loopholes are good against an unorganized crowd, but not against a mob. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2433/3 The Night concluded with Dancing, Bella Ringing, Bonfires, "Volly-shots, &c. 1900 *Ibid.* No. 3793/1 The 2 companies of Foot..gave a Volley Shot at each Proclamation. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Sept. 2/3 There has for some time been a feeling in the air that the volley system was going.

**Volley** (vp*l*i), *v.* Forms: 7 volly (8–9 *pa. t.* vollied); 6– volley. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* a. To utter (words, etc.) rapidly or impetuously. Usually with advs., as *forth*, *off*, *out*.

1592 *Troub. Raigne K. John* I. (1611) 5a A prophet new sprung up, whose diuinion vollets words forth. *Ibid.* II. 73 If sobs would helpe,..My heart should volley out deepe piercing plaints. 1593 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 921 Another thymouthful mourner, blacke and grim, Against the welkin, volies out his voyce. 1784 P. H. *Hibernicad* 37 She raves, and vollies off an horrid Cry. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xx, The bursts of applause which were vollied forth. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxxviii, Sir Julian turned on one heel, and volleyed out silver laughter. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xii, She saw an uncouth form..whose parted lips Volley'd their shrill sweetness in a storm.

**b.** To discharge (arrows, shot, etc.) in a volley. Cf. Vollyed *ppl. a.* 3.

1830 Bailey *Festus* 139 When the storm bends his bow, And volleys all his arrows off at once.

**c.** *Tennis*, etc. To return (a ball) in play before it touches the ground; to reply to (a service) in this way.

1877 Stonehenge *Brit. Rur. Sports* (ed. 12) III. x. 650/1 The service must not be volleyed. 1878 (see a b).

*Sat. Rev.* 12 July 31/1 It is bad policy to give the advice not to volley a lob.

**d.** *Cricket.* To bowl or deliver (a ball) which reaches the batsman before bouncing. ↑ *U.S.*

1909 *Cent. Dict.* Suppl.

**2.** *absol.* a. To fire a volley (or volleys). Also in fig. context.

Freq. in recent journalistic use, prob. after quot. 1851.

1626 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 119 Then the boy shall sing, The holding every man shall beate as loud, As his strong sides can volly. 1644 Tennyson *Lt. Brigade* v, Cannon behind them Volley'd and thunder'd. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 2/1 A large line of guerillas...decided swiftly that their presence and position were discovered, and swiftly they volleyed.

b. *Tennis*, etc. To hit or return the ball before it bounces; to make a volley-stroke.

1819 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1825) I. 867 He never *volleyed* [i.e. at fives], but let the balls hop. 1876 Marshall *Ann. Tennis* 191 A young player, if he fancies he can volley well, will always be apt to volley balls which would come well off the end-walls. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 July 7/2 F. Rooke..volleyed more effectively than his opponent.

**3.** *intr.* a. To emit or produce sounds simultaneously or continuously, in a manner suggestive of firearms or artillery.

In recent use freq. in 'to volley and thunder', after quot. 1814 in sense 2 a.

1810 Southey *Kehama* xxiii. xi, When its thunder broke,.. while it volliedround the vault of Hell, Earth's solid arch was shaken with the shock. 1875 L. Morris *Children's Street* 1, Every day about three, Afternoon foul or fair, Shouting and volleying. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxix, For some time Alan volleyed upon the door, and his knocking only roused the echoes of the house.

b. To rush, roll, or stream with simultaneous motion; to shoot rapidly.

1833 C. Brontë *Villette* vii, About a hundred thoughts volleyed through my mind in a moment. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* I. x. 129 The crust of the wave volleys up the incline.

c. To issue or be discharged in, or after the manner of, a volley.

1820 Bowles *Amohia* I. 150 Firebrands fly, stones volley, the weapons furnished of wrath. *Ibid.* III. 577 Molten masses of stone to the skies with a groan and a roar Volley in showers.

**Volley,** southern dial. var. Follow *v.*

**Volleyed** (vɒ·lid), *ppl. a.* Forms: 7 volled, 7–9 vollied; 8 volly'd, 8–9 volley'd, 9 volleyed. [f. Volley *v.* + -ed.]

1. Shouted or uttered in the manner of a volley.

*a* 1626 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* iii. v, Heark..how the air Totters and reels, and rends in clouds, Drums, With the huge vollied clamours. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxxiii, He strove, with vollied threat and ban,...To rally up the desperate fight.

**2.** Of thunder or lightning: Discharged with the noise or continuous effect of a volley.

Very common in poetry of the 18th cent.

1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 928 When in Battel to thy aide The blasting volied Thunder made all speed. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xx. 112 Some pitying God with vollied vengeance hurl their towering pride! 1744 Akenside *Pleas. Imag.* I. 188 She springs aloft Thro' fields of air; pursues the flying storm: Rides on the volley'd lightning thro' the heav'ns. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* xv, The vollied flame rides in my breath, My blast is elemental death. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 60 While skies in vollied rolls are rent.

**Volleyer** (vɒ·liəɹ). *Tennis.* [f. as prec. + -er1.] One who returns the ball before it bounces.

1876 Marshall *Ann. Tennis* 196 When the ball is judged and met by the racket of the volleyer. 1879 in *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* (1884) 36 A generation of volleyers will rise up who will volley from the service-line.

**Volleying,** *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing1.] The action of returning the ball (in tennis and other ball games) before it bounces. Also *attrib.*

1837 D. Walker *Games & Sports* 236 (Rackets), This last stroke is termed volleying. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 28 July 2 The volleying and low play gaining repeated rounds of applause. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 3/2 His exhibited splendid volleying ability, and won by three sets to one.

**Volleying,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing2.] That volleys, in senses of the verb.

(*a*) 1796 Coleridge *Destiny of Nations* v. 53 Some drive the cautious clouds to clash in air, And,..Yoke the red lightning to their volleying car. 1809 Scott *Last Minstrel* IV. ii, When the volleying musket play'd Against the bloody Highland blade. 1819 J. Grant *Kirkaldy of Grange* xxvii, 301 The booming cannon, the volleying harquebusses. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 6 Let...the volleying cannon thunder his loss.

(*b*) 1826 Bysse *Sluga Corinth* II, There the volleying thunders pour, Till waves grow smoother to the roar. 1861 — *Iwan* viii. vi, The volleying roar, and loud Long booming of each peal on peal, o'ercame The ear far more than thunder. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 30/2 The volleying boom of giant trees, uprooted from their rocky foundations, sounded above the shriek of the wind.

(*c*) 1849 Hood *Forge* I. 170 The Forge...With volleying smoke, and many a spark, Vomiting fire. 1866 M. Arnold *Thyrsis* vi, So have I heard the cuckoo's parting cry,.. Come with the volleying rain and tossing breeze.

**Vollichs,** southern M.E. var. Fullt *adv.*

**Vollier.** *s.w. dial.* Also volyer. [dial. var. of Follower : cf. Voller.] (See quot. 1855.)

1858 *Household Words* 23 Sept. 130/1 [in pilchard fishing] there is a second or assisting boat, called the volyer, which carries another net, called the tuck-seine. 1870 J. Couch *Hist. Polperro* vi. (1871) 106 A second boat, the *volyer*,.. has another sean-net of a hundred or more fathoms in length, and eighteen in depth.

**Vollier,** variant of Voller *dial.*

**†Volliere.** *Obs. rare.* Also -yere, -ier. [a. F. *volière*, f. *voler* to fly.] = Volary.

1598 Sir T. Hesketh *Trans.* (od. 2) 148 His Gardens are...prettily confined into grotts, mazes, vollieres, and the like. *Ibid.* 156 [The] ayery Citizens...returne their thankfull notes in a more swift melodious consort, than if they were in the earthen vollyers in the Market.

**Vollit,** obs. Sc. form of Wooled *a.*

**†Vollouth,** variant of Fullought *Obs.*

*c* 1330 Herebert in *Rel. Ant.* I. 87 Crist..so com to seynt Jon, And of hym was y-waxse..,/ To helpen vollouthe wymmen. *Ibid.* 88 And tunne havet vot-don.

**Volly,** southern dial. var. Follow *v.*, Folly *sb.*1 and *sb.*2

**†Volo-nola.** *Obs.*—1 [f. L. *volo* I am willing + *nolo* I am unwilling.] A vacillation or wavering in decision.

1692 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 14 His story of the Bookseller, and all the Volo-Nola's, and shall-I, shall-I't betwixt them, was nothing but fooling.

**Volontary,** obs. form of Voluntary.

**Volonteer(s,** obs. forms of Volunteer.

**†Volowe,** var. of *folowe* Full *v.*1 Hence **†Volower,** one who baptizes; **†Volowing** *vbl. sb.*, baptism. *Obs. rare.*

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 107 b, Baptism is called volowinge in many places of Englonde. *Ibid.*, The child was wett (saye they) : yee and our vicare is a fayre a volower as ever a prest within this twenty myles. 1530 — *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 237/1 They brought them to confirmation before baptisme: so that now oftymes they be volowed and bishoped both in one day.

**Volowynge,** error for *bolwynge* Bolning *ppl. a.* *a* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. xiv. 82 He wrothe ayeins thi wille, and suffre no volowynge pride [L. *tumorem*] to lyve in the.

**Volplane** (vɒ·lplēn), *sb.* [Orig. two words, *vol plane*, properly *vol plané*, f. F. *vol* flight + *plané*, pa. pple. of *planer* Plane *v.*2] A dive, descent, or downward flight at a steep angle on the part of an aeroplane under control, and with the engine stopped or shut off.

1910 in Hamel & Turner *Flying* (1914) 17 The 'vol plané', or aerial dive. 1912 Graham-White & Harper *Aeroplane* 111 The volplane, with engine at a rate of about 1,000 feet. It was not a *vol plane* that he was making, as he had his engine running.

Hence **Volplane** *v. intr.*, to make a volplane.

1912 *Daily Mail* 3 July 5 He volplaned from about 900 feet to 60 feet of the ground, which he skimmed for about a hundred yards.

**†Volpone.** *Obs.* Also vulpone, -ony. [The name of the chief character in B. Jonson's play *Volpone*, the Fox, a. Ital. *volpone*, f. *volpe* fox; the forms in *vulp-* are after L. *vulpis*.] A cunning schemer or miser. Also *Comb.*

1630 G. Thomson *Let. to H. Stubbe* 25 To observe their Vulpone-like windings, intrigues and nimble diversions. 1688 Southerne *Sorrow* (1713) I. 208 Come to an old, rich, professing Vulpony, and tell him, that there is a Church to be built [etc.]. 1709 Sacheverell *Serm. 5 Nov.* 21 In what...lively Colours the Holy Psalmist paints out the cursty Insidiousness of such wisely Volpones! 1710 *Acc. Last Distemper Tom Whigg* 1, 4 Certain Beasts of Prey, Vultures and Volponys.

**†Volsce.** *Obs.* Also 4 Vulce, 6 *Sc.* Wolche, 7 Voloe (*pl.* -es, -ies). [ad. L. *Volsci*, pl.] = Volscian *sb.* 1.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 159 He overcame þe Vulces and þe Gabies, and made pees wiþ Tuscans. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xx. (S.T.S.) I. 214 To seik supporte of þe peplit namyt Wolchis [*v.r.* Wolches]. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1612) 234 Vpon returne of the Volsces ambassadors, Tullus commaunded an assembly generall to be made of the Volsces. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* I. i. 228 The newes is, sir, the Volcies are in Armes. *Ibid.* 253 The Volces haue much Corne. *Ibid.* iv. 28 This last retires, to take him for a Volce.

**Volscian** (vɒ·lʃən), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 *Sc.* Volscan, 7 Volcian, Volcean. [f. L. *Volsci* + -an. Cf. prec.]

*A. sb.* 1. *Hist.* One of an ancient warlike people formerly inhabiting the east of Latium, subdued by the Romans in the 4th century B.C.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. xi. 99 With armyt men and wageouris the Volscanis So neir almost by hippis hym at sanis. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* v. iii. 178 This Fellow had a Volcean to his Mother. *Ibid.* vi. 116 Like an Eagle in a Doue-cote, I Flatter'd (*sic*) your Volcians in Coriolus. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 533 Volscians armed with iron-headed darts. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* II. 163 Coriol was the capital of the country of the Volscians. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 105/2 M. Valerius, who, with an army of 40,000 plebeians, defeated the Volscians, Aequians, and Sabines.

**2.** The Italic language spoken by the Volscians.

1897 R. S. Conway *Italic Dialects* I. 270 The majority of scholars incline to regard them as borrowed from Oscan. From geographical considerations I think Volscian is a more likely source. *Ibid.* 288 The Osco-Umbrian family of dialects (to which Volscian belonged).

**B.** *adj.* Of, pertaining or belonging to, the Volscians; that is a Volscian.

1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 58 The townes Tarracina, called in the Volscian tongue Anxur. 1607 Shake. *Cor.* v. iii, 3 My partner in this Action, You must report to th' Volcian Lords. 1700 Dryden *Fal. & Pal.* 11. 639 The Volscian Queen extended on the Plain. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* II. 186 This proclamation exasperated the whole Volscian nation against the Romans. 1821 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Lit.* III. 289 The Pontine Marshes...were once covered with Volscian towns. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 443/1 The volcanic region of Terra di Lavoro is separated by the Volscian mountains from the Roman district.

‖ **Volse·lla.** *rare.* Also 7 vulsella. [L. *volsella, vulsella* tweezers, forceps, f. *vols-, vuls-*, ppl. stem of *vellĕre* to pluck.] (See quot. 1693 and next.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Volsella*, or *Vulsella*, an Instrument to pull up Hairs with by the Knot, Tweezers: Or a Chyrurgions little Tongs, which are of different shape according to the Diversity of their Use. Likewise in Harris, Phillips, etc.] 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Acanthabolus*, a Surgeon's Instrument; called also *Volsella*. 1889 Duncan *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* (ed. 4) ii. 5 A Volsella is fixed in the cervix.

‖ **Volse·llum.** *Surg.* [mod.L., perhaps from mistaking L. *volsella* (see prec.) for a neuter pl. Cf. Vulsellum.] A kind of forceps used in surgical operations. Also *attrib.*

1878 Cuming *Dis. Rectum* 53 The hæmorrhoidal growths are to be seized separately with the volsellum forceps. *Ibid.* 75 A fold of membrane..is to be seized with a volsellum, or the hæmorrhoidal forceps. 1879 *Quain's Anat.* (ed. 8) *Append.* (ed. 2) 375 A double tenaculum or volsellum forceps.

**Volt** (vɒlt, vǫ·lt), *sb.* [f. the name of *Volta*: see Voltaic *a.*] The practical unit of electromotive force; the difference of potential capable of sending a current of one ampere through a conductor whose resistance is one ohm.

1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* 5 There is already a unit of electromotive force in practical use called a *volt*. The volt is intended to represent 10⁸ absolute units. 1881 Sir W. Thomson in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 518 Naming a force two volts ought..to be admitted..where safeguards against accident cannot be made absolutely..trust worthy. 1892 *Electr. Engin.* 16 Sept. 283/1 The small glow lamp requires from 60 to 70 volts and is intended to be fully lighted.

b. *attrib* (with numeral preceding).

1881 Sir W. Thomson in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 518 To take energy direct from the electric main in Bolton's works, and supply it by secondary 200-volt dynamos to 100-volt dynamos. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 223 Five cells of this battery will light the 32 volt lamp.

**Volt,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*1 and *v.*1; var. Volte *sb.*1 var. obs. Sc. Vult (face).

**Volt** (vɒlt, vǫ·lt), *v.* [ad. F. *volter* (f. *volte* Volte or ad. It. *voltare*); or (in sense 4) variant of Vault *v.*2 under the influence of this.]

†**1.** *refl.* To turn or roll over. *Obs.*—1

1658 Franck *North. Mem.* (1694) 67 See where he comes tumbling and tossing, and volting himself in the stiffest Stream.

†**2.** *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 250/2 [A horse is said to] Voult, when he Reires, or stands upright on his Hoofs.

**3.** *Fencing.* To make a volte. Also *fig.*

1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 101 You must Volt, or leap with both your feet in the Air at once, quite by your Adversaries left shoulder. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 72 Fourthly, you may Volt, and in your so doing, give him the Thrust, which being clearly done, will mainly surprize him. 1771 Lucas *Fencer's Guide* 215, I parry you with a Prime, and cut at your head with a Medium as I volt. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 3/2 When Mr. Chamberlain volts, it is not only his face, but his whole personality he turns round.

†**4.** = Vault *v.*2 2. *Obs. rare.*

1753 Young *Brothers* III. i, This pass'd, as suits his Wisdom, Macedonian! Who volts o'er elder Brothers to a Throne. 1757 — *Love Fame* v. 124 Some nymphs affect a more heroic breed, And volt [*earlier edd.* vault] from hunters to the manag'd steed.

Hence **Volting** *vbl. sb.*

1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 10 Volting is the leaping by your adversaries left side, quite out of his measure. 1823 G. Rolando *Treat. Art Fencing* 131 The same may be said of Volting, or any motion that brings you on the opponent a fair opportunity of hitting the right breast. 1861 G. Chapman *Foil Practice* 34 Volting is prohibited in teaching with the foil, and condemned in fencing.

**‖ Volta** (vɒ·ltă). [It. *volta* turn, etc., fem. pa. pple. of *volgere, volvere* to turn, employed as a sb.] = Lavolta.

1642 Kynaston *Leoline & Sydanis* 1905 These with ten Satyra danc'd an antique round With Volta's, and a Saraband. 1696 Blount *Glossogr. Volta*...a turning Dance so called. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.*, Suppl. s.v., Volta is also a sort of dance of Italian origin, in which the man turns the woman several times, and then salutes her to make a leap or jump; it is a species of galliard. 1893 Chase *Technol. Dict., Volta*, an old three-timed air, peculiar to an Italian dance of the same name. 1901 *Times* 8 Aug. 10/4 At His Majesty's Theatre..the court dances will include a 'volta' with its light-hearted leaps into the air.

**Volta-** (vɒ·ltă), combining form of Voltaic used in a few technical terms, as *volta-electric*, *-electro-*

*mater, -inductric* ; **voltaplast** (see quot.) ; **voltatype** *sb.*, an electrotype ; *v. trans.*, to electrotype.

*Voltagraphy*, given in some Dicts. as a synonym of 'electrotypy', after *Penny Cycl.* (1843) XXVI. 434/2, was coined specially for use in that work, and appears to have had no real currency.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxiii. 338 Volta-electric induction is instantaneous. 1880 *Catal. International. Exhib., Brit. Ill.* No. 3578. The instantaneous generation of volta-electric currents of intensity. 1834 Faraday in *Phil. Trans.* CXXIV. 89 On a new Measure of 'Volta-electricity. *Ibid.* 93 The instrument offers the only actual measurer of voltaic electricity which we at present possess. I have therefore named it a 'Volta-electrometer. 1839 Noad *Electricity* ill. 130 Its terminal wires are soldered to a Faraday's volta-electrometer. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/1 *Voltaelectrometer*, an instrument for indicating the degree of electrical excitation. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 491 The manner in which this machine acts will be clearly understood by reference to the general principles of 'volta-inductric action. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, '*Voltaplast*. Such is the name given to that form of galvanic battery which is adapted to the electrotype. 1842 Isaiah *Dict. Sci.*, *voltaplast*, Gold, silver, and other metals may . . be substituted for copper, and thus a variety of 'volta-types may be obtained. *Ibid.*, It often happens that the article to be *voltaplast*, as this process is called, is not a conductor of electricity. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 *Volta-type*, a cast of an object obtained by the gradual deposition of a metal from a metallic solution, through the agency of electric action.

**† Voltage** [1]. *Obs.*—[1] [f. *volte* Volte + -age.] The action of causing a horse to move in voltes.

1620 Ford *Fame's Mem.* xxxii, He assists, Which way to manage an untamed horse By rein, spur, switch, to trot, to stop, and raise, Close siting, voltage of a manlike force.

**Voltage** [2] (vǫ·ltēdʒ, vǫ·ltēdʒ). [f. Volt *sb.* + -age.] Electromotive force reckoned or expressed in volts.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 4/3 The voltage varied between 200 and 1,300 volts. 1891 *Boynton Electric. Instr.* 111 In calculating the voltage, the desired current must also be considered, and allowance made both for the internal and external resistances. 1894 *Amer. Arch. Syst. Med.* V. 855 It is difficult to say what voltage is fatal to man.

*fig.* 1904 *Spectator* 30 Apr. 670/1 Pope . . was seldom the subject of currents of high voltage like . . the emotional Hazlitt.

*b. attrib.* (esp. with adj. preceding).

1890 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 6/7 There is as much danger from the low voltage as there is from the high voltage system, as far as fire is concerned. 1894 *Ibid.* 22 Jan. 2/8 The question of high voltage conductors.

**Voltaic** (vǫltē··ik), *a.* [From the name of the Italian physician and scientist, Alessandro *Volta* (1745–1826) + -ic.]

**1.** Of apparatus: Used in producing electricity by chemical action after the method discovered by Volta ; esp. *voltaic battery* (Battery 10), *voltaic pile* (Pile *sb.*² 5).

(*a*) 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 41 It has been shown by Experiments made by means of the Voltaic battery . . that compound bodies are capable of being decomposed by Electrical powers. 1850 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 81 A voltaic battery, which consists usually of alternations of two metals, and a liquid capable of acting chemically upon one of them, . . is incapable of acting. 1878 G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 1 When galvanism was discovered, at the beginning of the present century, and the voltaic battery invented.

(*b*) 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 275 The Voltaic pile, as well as the battery last described, are now but little used. 1839 Noad *Electricity* iii. 97 To Volta's experiments we are indebted for the first galvanic instrument, namely, the voltaic pile; it was described by him in the Philosophical Transactions of 1800. 1880 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 352 After the discovery of the voltaic pile the use of the electrical machine gradually fell into disuse.

(*c*) 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 54 Without the Voltaic apparatus, there was no possibility of examining the relations of electrical polarities to chemical attractions. 1817 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* 284 The Voltaic arrangements, consisting of a few large plates rather than many small ones. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 22 In a voltaic cell, an energy is generated and transmitted along a wire with inconceivable rapidity. 1882 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 930/2 A voltaic pencil, by the use of which designers and draughtsmen may be enabled to dispense entirely with the aid of the engraver.

**2.** Of electricity : Generated by chemical action.

1806 Accum *Chem. Tests* 229 When the precipitation of the metallic lead takes place in the surface of the zinc, voltaic electricity is evolved. 1836 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* (ed. 3) xxviii. 305 Voltaic electricity is of the peculiar kind which is distinguished by the force of chemical action. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept., The application of voltaic electricity to the welding and fusion of metals.

**b.** Of a current : Consisting of voltaic electricity.

1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxi. 324 The magnetic and electric fluids, . . arising from all possible positions of the conducting wire, and every direction of the voltaic current. 1880 Prime *Pulp. Chem. Wonders* 180 The effect of a continued voltaic current.

**3.** Of or pertaining to, connected with, caused by, electricity due to chemical action.

1820 Faraday *Exp. Res.* (1859) 65 The little bars . . evidently produced voltaic action. 1857 *Chem. Mentor*, xvii. 260 This formed 1 voltaic combination with the platina and the fluid. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* ii. ii. § 23 The voltaic shock is very different, in consequence of the altered character of the discharge. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 309/1 The invention of voltaic deposition . . created a new era for the manufacture of silver-plated wares.

**b.** *Voltaic brass*, brass deposited by the action of electricity.

1860 *Uré's Dict. Arts* (ed. 3) II. 94 Voltaic brass does not appear to have been obtained in a solid distinct form, but has been successfully produced as a coating upon a copper surface.

Hence **Voltaically** *adv.*, by means of, in respect of, voltaic electricity ; after the manner of a voltaic battery.

1843 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* etc. (1874) 303 Besides employing the usual chemical tests, I analyzed it voltaically. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 144 When a series of some hundred couples of zinc and copper cylinders are arranged voltaically, and charged with common water, a battery is obtained. 1865 Mansfield *Salts* 12 One of these, the Chlorine, is said to be voltaically or chemically negative.

**Voltairean, Voltairian** (vǫltē·rĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the later name of the French author François Marie Arouet (1694–1778), who from 1718 styled himself *de Voltaire*.]

**A.** *sb.* A follower or adherent of Voltaire in respect of opinions or the manner of expressing them ; one whose views on social and religious questions are characterized by a critical and mocking scepticism.

a. 1872 Morley *Condorcet in Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 51 He [Condorcet] was a Voltairean in the intensity of his antipathies to the Church. 1889 *Athenæum* 2 May 567/1 His father, a country squire, and, as the fashion then was, a thorough-going Voltairean, had married one of his own serfs.

*β.* 1873 Gladstone *Gleam.* (1879) VI. 229 We are now engaged in training a nation to consist of Voltairians and of Clericals. 1885 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1888) 212 If it is against the Church it is a fiction of the Voltairians.

**B.** *adj.* Of, belonging to, or resembling Voltaire ; holding opinions like those of Voltaire, or expressing them in his style.

a. 1809 Malkin *Burke* viii. 176 The eager, bustling, shrill-tongued crowd of the Voltairean age. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* i, A shrewd, worldly, voltairean woman.

*β.* 1838 Thirlwall *Hours in Library* (1859) 189 Wolfenbüttel must be reckoned as belonging both in his faults and his merits to the Voltairian school of literature. 1856 W. K. Leask *H. Miller* 14 These skill the Voltairian type of thinkers.

Hence **Voltairianism** (also -ean-), = Voltairism.

1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 187 In order not to offend the Voltairianism of several of his friends, he had framed for it his own constitution on religion. 1850 *Athenæum* 19 July 92/2 He interprets Voltairianism as 'a school based on destructive irony,—and incapable of raising or fortifying the human mind'.

**Voltairianize,** *v. rare.* [f. prec. + -ize.] *trans.* To render Voltairian. Hence **Voltairianized** *ppl. a.*

1872 Lisdon *Elem. Relig.* II. 49 It was . . quite another [thing] permanently to control the heart and convictions even of the Voltairianized multitudes of Paris. 1908 *Academy* 3 Jan. 7/2 Hamlet is completely Voltairianised, in the most audacious fashion.

**Voltairish,** *a. rare*—[1]. [f. *Voltaire* (see above) + -ish.] Resembling Voltaire.

1842 Mrs. Browning *Bk. Poets* Post. Wks. (1904) 639/2 We will not . . set up its grand, luxurious, melancholy devil against Goethe's subtle, biting, Voltairish devil.

**Voltairism** (vǫltē·rĭz'm). Also -ism. [f. as prec. + -ism.]

**1.** Something characteristic of Voltaire.

1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. p. cxxvi, The error confessed, and still retained, is a true Voltairism.

**2.** The body of opinions or views expressed by Voltaire ; the mocking and sceptical attitude characteristic of Voltaire.

1820 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1904) 14 Truly, if Christianity be the highest instance of Hero-worship, then we may find here in Voltairism one of the lowest ! 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 1 We may think of Voltairism in France, somewhat as we think of Catholicism or the Renaissance or Calvinism.

**Voltaism** (vǫ·ltăĭz'm), [f. *Volta* (see Voltaic *a.*) + -ism.] The production of an electric current by the chemical action of a liquid on metals ; galvanism as produced by Volta's methods.

1801 R. Tennant in *Phil. Trans. R. Soc.* 271 In voltaism, it is necessary that the bodies by which it is established have some chemical agency on each other. 1826 Good *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 249 Every one has now some knowledge of Galvanism and Voltaism. 1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 132 That remarkable form of Electricity, known by the name of Galvanism or Voltaism.

**Voltaite** (vǫ·ltăĭt), *Min.* [f. as prec. ; named by A. Scacchi in 1840.] A hydrous sulphate of iron occurring in green, black, or brown crystals.

1846 Worcester (citing Dana). 1892 Dana *Min.* 928 Voltaite is a double sulphate of iron, alumina, potash and water crystalising like alum in octahedrons. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1005 *Voltaite*, a ferroso-ferric sulphate, containing alumina, occurring at the Solfatara, near Naples.

**Voltameter** (vǫltæ·m/tər). [See Volta- and -meter.] An instrument used for the quantitative measurement of electricity by means of the results of electrolysis.

1836 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 4) 385 When the quantity of products was examined by the voltameter, the oxygen . . was always in the same proportion as from water. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1890) 140 To measure one or other of these is the object of a galvanometer or voltameter. 1881 S. P. Thompson *Electr. & Magnetism* 279 The voltameter gives us the 'time integral' of the current.

**Voltamp** (vǫ·ltæmp). *Electr.* [f. Volt *sb.*² + Amp(ere).] = Volt-ampere.

1892 *Electrician* 29 Jan. 346/1 The product of the volts and amperes, or the voltamps, is the watts.

**Voltarian** (vǫltē·rĭăn), *a.* [f. as Voltairean + -ian.] = Voltairian.

1824 Southey *Life & Corr.* (1849) IV. 253 Voltarian infidelity. 1829 Scott *Jrnl.* 31 Dec., Read Voltarian trash.

**Voltarianism** (vǫltē·rĭănĭz'm). [f. as prec. + -ism.] = Voltairism.

1824 Southey *Life & Corr.* (1849) IV. 253 Voltarianism . . is the most contemptible of all the forms of infidelity.

**Voltarish,** *a. rare*—[1]. [f. as prec. + -ish.] = Voltairish.

1824 Southey *Life & Corr.* (1849) IV. 253 Voltarish trash.

**Volt-ball.** [f. Volt *sb.*¹ + Ball *sb.*¹] A ball used in the game of volleyball.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 3/2 Volt-ball is a game that has been played for a number of years in the gymnasiums of the Young Men's Christian Associations. 1896 *Ibid.* XXVII. 3/2 Volt-ball is a game that has been played for a number of years in the gymnasiums of the Young Men's Christian Associations.

**Volt-ball,** *v.* [f. Volt *sb.*¹ + Ball *v.*] *intr.* To play volleyball.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 3/2 Volt-ballers are not required to wear any special costume. 1896 *Ibid.* XXVII. 3/2 Volt-balling is a game that has been played for a number of years in the gymnasiums of the Young Men's Christian Associations.

**Volt-ball player.** [f. Volt *sb.*¹ + Ball player.] A player of volleyball.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 3/2 Volt-ball players are not required to wear any special costume. 1896 *Ibid.* XXVII. 3/2 Volt-ball players are not required to wear any special costume.

**Volte** (vǫlt, vǫlt). [a. F. *volte*, ad. It. *volta* : see Volta.]

**†1.** A kind of dance ; = Volta, Lavolta. *Obs.*

1586 Sir E. Howe tr. *Cognet's Polit. Distr. Truth* 21. 39 The Voltes, courantes, and vyolent daunces proceede from furie. 1597 T. Morley *Introd. Mus.* 181 Like vnto this [the Iranale] (but more light) be the voltes and courantes which being both of a measure, are notwithstanding danced after sundrie fashions. 1610 Dowland *Var. Lute-lessons* R 9, Voltes for the Lute.

**2.** *Fencing.* A sudden dexterous movement to avoid a thrust.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 160/2 A Volt..Is when thy adversarie doth thrust at thee which thou perceiueing, dost first put by his thrust ; and just turne [*sic*] thy body round about, with thy back towards thine adversarie thrusteth him with a quarte in his right brest. 1763 Angelo *Sch. Fencing* 44 You must . . with swiftness and agility perform this turn of the body called volte. 1771 Lennegan *Fencer's Guide* 104 When I disengage a Quarte, single your body from the thrust, by quickly forming a Volt. 1861 G. Chapman *Foil Practice* 34 The volt or spring to the right or left (being) occasionally put in practice. 1889 A. Hutton *Cold Steel* 90 Make a complete turn or turn about on the toe of the right, bringing the left foot well behind it.

**† b.** *Volt-coupe*, a feint in fencing.

1892 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 46 The Volt-coupe, single and double. *Ibid.* 65 Sixteen make his Croup cut. 1884 E. L. Andersson *Med. Horsem.* II. xvii. 148 The school gallop is employed in traversing, and for voltes and pirouettes. The horse may be made to traverse and to do the voltes in the ordinary gallop.

**4.** Turn, change. *rare*—[1].

1592 Meriditie *Fearless Lone* viii, So has there come the gust at South-west flung By sudden volt on eves of freeing mist.

**† Vo·lted,** *ppl. a. Obs.* (Meaning not clear.)

1613-30 I. Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 45 The Rance fretted, not voluted.

**‖ Volte-face** (vǫlt,fēs). [Fr., ad. It. *volta faccia*, *l. volta* turn + *faccia* face.] The act of turning so as to face in the opposite direction ; *fig.* a complete change of attitude or opinion.

1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xvi, Your Excellency has only to hint that the M'Aulays are going in that direction, and my friends of the Mist will instantly make volteface, and go to the right about. 1822 — *Peveril* xxxiv, At last we were obliged to make volte-face. 1883 *Athenæum* 10 Oct. 493/1 He is getting to believe in evolution and has to make various curious *volte-face* in order to retain at the same time his belief in theism. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 697/1 The sudden *volte-face* which Mr. Gladstone and Sir Wilfrid Laurier performed in 1886.

**Volter,** variant of Walter *sb. Obs.*

**‖ Voltigeur** (vǫltĭzǿ·r). [F., agent-n. f. *voltiger* to flutter, hover, vault, etc.] Formerly in the French army, a member of a special skirmishing company attached to each regiment of infantry.

1807 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 95/1 They were received at the mouth of the musket by the voltigeurs. [*Note.* Sharp-shooters, or marksmen, mounted on horseback, whose business it is to hover around the enemy,..and annoy him (etc.).] 1807 Southey *Hist. Peninsu. War* III. 430 The enemy's chasseurs and voltigeurs advanced in considerable bodies under General Lorge.

*attrib.* 1809 Janus *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., They submitted to a long . . training, before they were admitted in the voltiger companies. 1824 Scott *Jrnl.* 27 Nov., *Dict. Mil. Marine.* (1850) 259 Go on, . . and skirmish with him a little more in this voltiguer style.

*transf.* 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 221 The Van Bunchoteens . . would have been put to utter rout but for the arrival of a gallant corps of voltigeurs. 1817 Keatinge *Trav.* I. 155 The most active and habituated voltigeurs of the community . . continue to anticipate, and *foot mann basse* on whatever can be found.

**Voltmeter** (vǫ·ltmītəɹ). [f. Volt *sb.*² + Meter.] An instrument for measuring the pressure of electricity in volts.

1882 *Eng. Mech.* 20 Mar. 4/3, I have two instruments devised by Prof. Perry and myself, an Am-meter, and a Volt-meter, the one for measuring a strong current, and the other a large electromotive force. 1884 C. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 132/1 This can be verified by connecting one terminal of a voltmeter to the negative brush. 1898 *Engin. Mag.* XVI. 139/2 Plan of the plant is given, showing how the dynamo, voltmeter, switchboards, and tanks should be connected.

**‖ Vo·lto.** [It. *volto* = *volta* vault (the same word as Volta.).] = Vault *sb.*¹ 1.

a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Oct. 1644, Entring the Church [St. Peter's, Rome], admirable is the breath of the volto or roofe. *Ibid.* 28 Jan. 1645, The Consistory, a noble roome, the volto painted in grotesq. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xxvi. 373 The garden [at Rome] was bordered by a portico or door-case adorned with ancient statues, the volto or roof of which was painted with classic subjects.

**Voltzine.** *Min.* Also volt-. [-ine [5].] = next. 1858 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 520 *Voltzine.* Oxy-sulphuret of zinc. This mineral occurs at Rosiers. 1892 Amsted *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. § 470 Voltzine. 1892 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Geol.*, etc. 503 *Voltzine*..Found in a vein of quartz..and in some zinc furnaces.

**Volt·ite** (*vǒ·ltəit*). *Min.* [f. the name of P. L. *Volta*, inspector of mines; named by Fournet, 1833.] A native oxysulphide of zinc.

1838 *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 274 Voltzite. This mineral is found at Pont Gibaud, in Puy de Dome. It possesses a pearly lustre; reckons rose-red, or yellow. 1850 Dana *Min.* 252 *Voltzite*, A compound of sulphuret and oxyd of zinc. Occurs in implanted globules of a dirty rose-red color.

**Volu·bilate**, *a. Bot.* [f. next + -ATE.] = next.

1819 Rees *Cycl., Volubile*, or *Volubilate* Stem or Stalk,... a name given those of many plants, as all those the stems or stalks of which are of a twining or winding climbing nature.

**Volubile**, *a. Bot. rare.* [ad. L. *volūbilis*. So F. *volubile*.] = Volubile *a.* 4.

1819 [see prec.]. 1858 J. Murray *Econ. Veg.* 48 Some stems are voluble; or 'twine' as the hop and honeysuckle, convolvulus, and 'scarlet runner.' 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 66 Stems have usually considerable firmness and solidity, but sometimes they..twist round other plants in a spiral manner like Woodbine, becoming voluble.

‖ **Volu·bilis**. *Bot. Obs.* [L.; see prec. So F. *volubilis*.] Convolvulus.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* Mar. 63 Sow on the Hot-bed such Plants as are late bearing Flowers or Fruit in our Climate; as Balsamine,...Volubilis, Myrrh, Carrobe, (etc.). 1722 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 131 This Fruit is the Fruit of a Kind of Volubilis.

**Volubility** (*vǒlubi·liti*). Also 6–7 -itie, 7 -itye. [ad. F. *volubilité* (15–16th cent.; = It. *volubilità*, Sp. *-idad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *volubilitās*, f. *volubilis* : see next and -ITY.]

**I.** † **1.** Quickness in turning from one object to another; versatility. *Obs. rare.*

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 3 The wisedome and reputation of the man, together with the naturall volubilitie of his wit. 1605 Bacon *Of Learning* II. xviii. § 5 Orators...by the observing their well graced fournes of speech..loose the volubilitie of Application.

† **b.** Ready variation of expression. *Obs.*—1

1599 Harrington *Orl. Fur. & Publicola* 18 If you speak of Israel, Athens, Rome, Venice, or the like, they hear you with volubility of countenance.

**2.** The capacity of revolving, rolling, or turning round; aptness to rotate about an axis or centre.

1504 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If Celestiall Spheres should forget their wonted Motions, and by irregular volubilitie turne themselues any way as it might happen. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 31 The first naturall volubilitie and turning about it, driveth the..globe thereof into the forme of a round ball. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1687) 431/2 He who thrust the Cylinder first into the beginning of motion, but did not give it volubility. 1689 A. Lovell tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 86 It began to be out of my power any more to discern the Diversity of their several Motions by reason of their extream Volubility. 1705 Purshall *Mech. Macrocosm* 206 They lose their Fluidity, which depends upon the Volubility of their Particles at liberty. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 75 Blood Globules, by their Rotundity, Volubility, and Elasticity, resist Trituration, that is, Digestion. 1754 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Needle*, In the construction of the horizontal needle a piece of pure steel is provided, of a length not exceeding six inches, fest its weight impede its volubility. 1817 Browning *Pr. Herbarist.* 1930 Under pretence of making it fast and sure The inch [of ascent] gained by late volubility.

**b.** Of the eye: Readiness in moving. *rare*—1.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1275 The cheerefull cast & amiable volubility of his quicke eie.

† **3.** Capacity for moving in an easy or gliding manner. *Obs.*

1609 Bacon *Advt. Learn.* II. xxi. § 5 Except men know exactly all the conditions of the scripture,..his volubility and lubricity. 1620 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xviii. 153 Such Creatures..which...as it were slide from place to place, some more slowlie, but otherwhiles with a certaine Volubility and flexible Agitation of the Bodie. 1653 T. Watson *Art Divs. Contentm. xii.* (1668) 185 The Poets painted Time with wings, to shew the volubility and slipperiness of it.

† **4.** Tendency to change or turn from one condition to another; changeableness, mutability, inconstancy. *Obs.* **a.** Of persons.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. i. 105 Whosoever shall heedefully survay and consider himselfe, shall finde this volubilitie and discordance to be in himselfe. 1643 Sir G. Mac-kenzie *Treat. Peraia* 136 The world by taking notice of your infirmitie will alwayes feare volubilitie in all your actions. a 1660 *Contemp. Hotbed* 1. (1663) 1 Let the Reader observe the lawe, phisicke, and poetrie in the world canot cure or amende the flexibilitie, volubilitie, inconstancie, and treacherie of this man.

**b.** Of fortune or affairs.

1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 286 The volubilitie of inconstant fortune produceth these occurrences in the East parts. 1650 *Moral Stud.* 1. 7 All affairs do resemble the great Machines of Heaven and Earth, in their motion and volubility. 1699 T. Cockman] tr. *Tully's Offices* (1706) 88 The great Volubility and Changeableness of Fortune.

**II.** 5. Ready flow *of* speech, etc.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. v. (Arb.) 91 Which flowing of wordes with much volubilitie smoothly proceeding from the mouth is in some sort harmonicall. 1593 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. ii. 15 Some men...explicate our prayling in the Spirit, by a mere volubility [*sic*] of language. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* V. (1687) 228/2 Cicero being at Athens heard him, and was much taken with the eloquence and volubility of his discourse. 1670 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XVI. § 120 The General was not a Man of Eloquence or Volubility of Speech. 1709 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 43 This unrestrained volubility and wantonness of speech is the occasion of numberless evils. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* XVIII. 30 Gods! with what volubility of speech The table hunter prates. 1823 Lamb *Elia* II. *Old Margate Hoy*, A..young man...with..an insuppressable volubility of assertion. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* III. 11 The sweetness of voice, and the volubility of utterance, with which both [Platarrus and Cimon] expressed themselves.

**b.** Smooth, easy, or copious flow of verse or poetic utterance.

1589 Nashe in Greene *Menaphon* Pref. (Arb.) 6 The spacious volubilitie of a drumming decasillabon. 1598 Johnson *Rambler* No. 92 P 12 The verse intended to represent the whisper of the vernal breeze, must be confessed not much to excel in softness or volubility. 1779 — *L. P., Pomfret* (1858) 113 In his other poems there is an easy volubility.

**6.** The character or state of being voluble in speech; great fluency of language; readiness of speech; garrulousness.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 176 Say she be mute, and will not speake a word; Then lle commend her volubility. 1604 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 23 You have the most graceful presence,..amazing volubility..delicious pronunciation. 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Carthusuls* I. 5 13 It was my fortune to hear a Franciscan Preach..., but with more Volubility than Virtue. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 213 P 5 His great Volubility and inimitable Manner of Speaking. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 157 P 8 Long familiarity with my subject enabled me to discourse with ease and volubility. 1788 R. Reid *Orig. Govt. Soc.* 238 The following accounts, which she delivered with great volubility. 1826 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* II. 12 He took the lead in conversation, and with great volubility, interrupted by no one, carried all before it. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**7.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**8.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**9.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**10.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**11.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**12.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**13.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**14.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**15.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**16.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**17.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**18.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**19.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**20.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**21.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**22.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**23.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**24.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**25.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**26.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**27.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**28.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**29.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**30.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**31.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**32.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**33.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**34.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**35.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**36.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**37.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**38.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**39.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**40.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**41.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**42.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**43.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**44.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**45.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**46.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**47.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**48.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**49.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**50.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**51.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**52.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**53.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**54.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**55.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**56.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**57.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr.* 99 The volubilitie of a smooth tongue is nothing profitable. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* III. 67 A Counsellour of great subtilty and volubility, insomuch that by his tongue only, carried all before it. 1655 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 95 Before he had been a member three weeks, his volubility, his eagerness, and his pertinacity had made him conspicuous. 1875 H. James *Mme. de Mauves* i, Her volubility was less suggestive than the latter's silence.

**58.** Extreme readiness *of* the tongue in respect of speech or utterance.

1628 W. Martyn *Youths Instr

1842 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C* xiv. He was listening to Haley, who was very volubly expatiating on the quality of the article for which they were bargaining. 1880 Contemp. *Rev. Relig* 1 (1873) 3 Every body can speak volubly upon controversial subjects.

**Volucrary.** *rare*—1. [*f.* L. *volucr-is* bird + -ARY 1.] A treatise on birds.

1892 Dowden *Fr Lit.* 40 The earliest versified Bestiary, which is also a Volucrary.

**Volucrine,** *a rare*—1. [f as prec. + -INE.] Of or pertaining to, arising from, birds.

1881 P. S Robinson *Under Purdah* 23 The welcome clamour continued unabated . The passage was filled with bird-cages

**Volue,** obs var. Voll *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. Wolf *sb.*

**Volume** (*vo* lium), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 volum, 5 volom, 5–8 vollum (5–6 vollum, 5 *Sc.* wolum). *β.* 5 volyme, volome, volomne, 5–6 volume (6–7 wolume). *γ.* 7 volumne, 7–9 volumn. [a. OF. *volume, volumne, volumme* (F. *volume*, = It. and Pg. *volume*, Sp. *volumen*), ad. L. *volūmen* coil, wreath, roll, etc., *f. volvĕre* to roll. The chief senses of the English word also exist in French.]

**I. 1.** *Hist.* A roll of parchment, papyrus, etc., containing written matter; a literary work, or part of one, recorded or preserved in this form, which was customary in ancient times. Also *fig.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxiv. He shal write to her a declaracioun of this lawe in a volym. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 97 He despowede Ypocras his bookes as it were, and also he made many tytlynges of volyme, volumyl of his owne. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 65 Hee wrote sixe and thirtie thousand, fiue hundred, and fiue and twentie Volumes, that is to say, 6. of paper, as I vnderstand, in folio portath. 1611 Bible *Ps* xl. 7 In the volume of the booke it is written of me 1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test., Exodus*, Ydras the Scribe wrote a volume, how the people returned from Chaldea to Jury. 1790 Burke *Fr Rev.* 1. Sol. Wks. 1808 II 266 In history a great volume is unrolled for our instruction. 1885 J. Hannett *Bibliophagus* 23 Two strips , attached to the last sheet or cover of the volume, round which, when it was rolled up, they were fastened. 1881 G. W. Moon *King's English* II. 99 The rolls, or volumes, were composed of several sheets, fastened to each other and rolled upon a stick; the whole making a kind of cylinder, which was to be managed by the stick, as a handle.

† **b.** A roll or scroll containing a legal document. *Obs.*—1

1530 *Will T. Brohe, f. d. Cobham* (Somerset Ho ), This my present testament and laste will in two volumes

**2.** A collection of written or printed sheets bound together so as to form a book; a tome.

*a.* c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Wks II. 61 Men algatis don worse now, for in stede of philateries men maken gret volumes of newe lawes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 13 Pei bey mowe be enformed by pis schort treyys, pat hauep fol mony mo pe grete volyms and large, pat bep ful of stories I-write *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* IV. Prol. 25, I haf set me . to tret in his wolum Qwhen bagyt was he Romule Rome. 1643–50 Milton *Divorce* (1658) 157, I reade a olde volumne in this matere subsequent. 1823 Douglas *Æneid* Wks. 1874 IV 228 Virgilis volum of thir sonne Eneas. 1590 *Lyly's Epist Serpent of Division* (1597) 3 Thou by the large writings and golden volumes of that woorthye Chaucer, the froward Dame of Chaunce hath no respecte of persons. 1652 *Burton's Anat. Mel.* (ed. 6) 1 To write in a volume, describe them in particular would require a just volum. 1659 Culpeper *Eng. Physic.* 180 It being sufficient for a Volum by itself to speak fully of them. 1678 Phillips, *Volume*, a Book, Tome, Work. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 275 ¶ 1 My Friend Sir Roger has often entertained me with Parts of a Volume which he is now publishing. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (1840) 145 Of his notable drolls and stories I make a great volume. 1855 Eorn *Decades* (Arb.) 278 It woide requyre rather a holle volume then a booke 1864 Southwell *St. Peters Complaynt* (1602) 35 Sweete Saints stand with learning fit for Saints. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn* I. vi. § 16 You are not knowing the Scripture, nor the power of God: laying before vs two Bookes or Volumes to studie, if we will be secured from errour. 1646 Crashaw *Poems* (1858) 61 Lo, here a little volume, but great book ! 1692 Hartlieb *Virtues* 225 I be lawyers..in those infinite and immense Volumes, which they have written. 1737 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 230 It would take up a larger Volume than this whole Work is intended to be, to set down all the Contrivances I hatch'd. 1765 *Tribune Lett.* xx. (1788) 115 The writer of the volume he question meets me upon my own ground. 1808 *Med. Trnsl.* XIX. 209 The great number of pages, I might perhaps say, volumes, which have been written on the subject. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* iii. I 394 The shops of the great booksellers were crowded. and a known customer was often permitted to carry a volume home. 1893 *Bookman* June 82/1 Mr. Stevenson would have gathered their fugitive pieces into volumes and called them books.

*γ.* 1648 Pagitt *Heresiogr* (ed 4) Ep. Ded., A Volumn will hardly contain the hurt that these Sectaries have done to this poore Church. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl.* 10 The best man upon earth did so many things as all the Volumnes in the world could scarce contains. 1691 Mather *Rem. Transp.* 211 He cannot answer without reading over eight or ten large Volumns in Folio 1693 South *Serm., Rom.* v. 18 2 All in every volume there is a nursery . of vice.

**b.** *The sacred volume, the Bible. The Christian volume*, the New Testament.

1785 Burke *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* xv, Perhaps the Christian Volume is the theme. 1850 Forshall & Madden *Wycliffite Bible* I. Pref. p. xi, *Aelfric* added greatly to the knowledge of the sacred volume [among the Anglo-Saxons].

1863 *Blagr. Sh. E. Fry* 75 Fifty copies of the entire Sacred Volume, and twenty-five New Testaments, were promptly forwarded for her use

**3.** *fig.* Something which in character or nature is comparable to a book; *esp.* something which may be studied after the manner of a book.

1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 82 This night you shall Read ore the volume of young Paris face, And find delight, writ there with beauties pen. 1593 — *Rich. III*, iv. 18 Would the word Farwell haue lengthen'd houres, He should haue had a volume of farwels 1605 Timme *Quersit.* Ded p. iii, This philosophy natural, both speculative and active, is not only to be found in the volume of nature. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol II) 19 The publick proprieties would be less dear unto me if yours were not bound up in one volume with them. 1663 Sir G. Mackenzie *Stoicks* 368 It is as strange that man, having that huge volume of the Cosmos to revolve [etc.] 1709 Prior *Carm. Sec.* 238 Be kind, and with a milder Hand Closing the Volume of the finish'd Age, A more delightful Leaf expand 1814 Byron *Lara* I. ii, Books, for his volume heterodox he was Much guilty more curious he appear'd to scan. 1865 Farrar *Fam. Speech* i 7 Thought which so completely permeates the whole of language as to render it one vast volume of compressed allegories.

**b.** In the phrase *to speak* (also *express, tell*) *volumes*, to be highly expressive or significant.

1810 Shelley *Zastrozzi* iv Pr. Wks. 1888 I 23 A pause ensued, during which the eyes of Zastrozzi and Matilda spoke volumes to each other. 1818 Jane Austen *Northanger Abbey* iv Wks 1889 III 86 The late noble example of the eloquent statesman .. speaks volumes to his political friends. 1859 Jane Hume *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 144 Something which speaks volumes in favour of the King. 1891 J. S. Winter' *Lumley* xv, Mrs. Jock's tone expressed volumes.

**4.** A separately bound portion or division of a work; one of two or more portions into which a work of some size is divided with a view to separate binding; one of a number of books forming a related set or series.

1593 Lo. Berners *Froiss* I. 322/2 Thus endeth the first volume of Froissart, which treateth of the warres of England, Fraunce, Spayne [etc.]. 1549 Coverdale (*title*), The second tome or volume of the Paraphrase of Erasmus vpon the newe testamente. 1660 *Barrow Euclid* Pref. vi. 155 The Argument his Character would require another Volumne. 1706 London & Wise (*title*), The Retir'd Gard'ner. In Two Volumes. *Illust.* The Second is added (etc.). 1798 H. Walpole in *St-Pierre's Stud Nat.* (1799) III. 21, I have given, in the advertisement to my first Volume, the origin of this error. 1798 Fereian *Histor. Sterne*, etc i. 4 When the first volumes of Tristram Shandy appeared. 1823 *Poultry Chron.* III. 555 The 'Poultry Chronicle ..being now complete in three volumes.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *volume form, -swollen, -trophied* adj.

*a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 2 Mighty Telephus . Or volume-swoln Orestes, that does fill The margin of an ample book. 1711 *Lydiat's Letters Chron. Tyre* A vii/1 After he had wryt his books to the taste volume, filled then the mergentes and outwarde sydes with his madnes. 1877 *Vicary's Angl.* 1. 1 Volume-trophied Rome. *Ibid.* 2 Volume-formed Britain, yet in commoditie it is great and profitable. 1821 Brimsley *Lect. Lit. vii.* (1607) 30 The fittest volume for their writing books Is Chaucer in quarto. 1858 Sir T. Hanmer *Trnsl.* (ed. 2) 254 The Alcoran or Bible . is in volume twice so big as the Psalmes of David. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc. Printing* 1. 1 There are four Volumns in this work are differently Imposed, viz. Folio, Quarto, Octavo and 1 welves. ..The places of these Pages for all Volumns the Compositer has always in his mynde.

† **b.** In phr. *of the largest volume*, with reference to copies of the Bible. *Obs.*

1538 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 130 That ye shall provide one boke of the hole bible of the largest volume in paper. 1540 (1565) The Bybles in Englyshe of the largest and greatest volume. 1569 Parkhurst *Injunct.* Aiv, 3. Item, whether you haue in your Churche a Bible, of the largest volume. 1606 *Min. Archdeaconry Colchester* (MS.) (a) 183 They want the Bible, the hyghe of the largest volume. *a* 1699 Hinde *J. Brown* II. (1641) 223 He set up two goodly faire Bibles of the best Edition, and largest Volume that could be provided. 1727 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Bible*, Cranmer's Bible . was printed by Grafton, of the largest volume, and published in 1540.

**7.** A particular bulk, mass, or quantity as an attribute of a thing. Also *fig.*

1580 Sidney *Arcad. Poems, Sithes* (1658) 501 So shall his people cease as well as He Princes (though in a lesser volume) be. *a* 1688 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 32 It [the great hall] is beautified with rare pictures in a great volume. 1813 Shelley *Alastor* 540 The stream, that with a larger volume now Rolled through the labyrinthine dell. 1860 Spencer *First Princ.* II. iv. § 52 (1875) 173 Certain gases, which, by assuming a larger volume, have caused the explosion. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. 376 The torrent had so great a volume that it was worthy to be turned against a foreign State.

**b.** *concr.* A quantity or mass (esp. a large one) regarded as matter occupying space. Also *fig.*

1849 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* iv. 3 98 It was now evident enough what Use they would make upon occasions, of those Volumes of Votes they had often poured out upon all accidental Debates. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 231 The prodigious volumes of water which have from the beginning of the world been falling into [the ocean]. 1806 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xviii, Volume upon volume of black, heavy clouds suddenly rising. 1839 Macaulay *Ess., Walpole* (1870) 272 Every leaden volume of wig and infinite length of ribband had figured at the dressing. 1865 Lyell *Antiq Man* 32 Both in England and Ireland bogs have burst, and sent forth great volumes of black mud. 1872 B. Stewart *Heat* (ed. 2) § 24 The volume of mercury in the stem of a thermometer.

**c.** *Chem.* A determinate quantity or amount, in terms of bulk, of any substance.

1822 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos* 65 Solids differ in degrees of hardness, in color, in density, or in the weight afforded by equal volumes. 1860 Faraday *Exp. Res.* (1859) 51 A mixture of equal volumes of oxygen and hydrogen was made, and two volumes of it detonated . by the electric spark. 1867 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 316, 2 equivalent yields 4 volumes of vapour. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 79 Instead of a given volume or measure, a given weight of air is examined. *attrib.* 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 152 The atomic weights or volume-weights of chlorine, bromine, and iodine. 1881 J. C. Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* I. 234 The volume-density at any point is determined by the equation. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 53 We call the distribution superficial in distinction from the volume distribution hitherto considered

**8.** The bulk, size, or dimensions *of* a thing. Also *concr.*, the mass or solid body *of* something.

1750 *Hanchmann's Treat. Hail* 141 Hail . of several violent darts against the volume of the balloon, so fierce as at length to tear open a great space. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 462 It is sufficient the volume of the muscular elements be augmented sufficiently to enlarge the volume of the section of the interstices, and of the superficial parts dimmishes. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I 249 Considerable labour has been bestowed in computing the relative volumes 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 203 The volume of the Sun is 1,300,000 times greater than that of the Earth. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 185 The volume of the sea is very much greater than that of the land which rises above the sea-level.

*fig.* 1876 J. Parker *Paraclet.* I. v. 63 Inspiration increases as a task as stretches the volume of a man's being.

**b.** The amount or quantity *of* something.

1882 D. A. Wells *Our Merch. Marine* 112 So small a matter apparently as the civility or neglect of conductors.. will sensibly influence the volume of travel. 1886 *Manch. Exam* 13 Mar. 5/1 It would be a good thing to enlarge the volume of the current-y ) to make money more plentiful. 1892 *Daily News* 24 Aug. 2/7 The volume of business is as usual at this season of the year, has undergone considerable diminution.

**9.** Without article : Bulk, mass, dimensions, space. Cf. Bk. I. Sub vivan *Phen. Nat.* 1 It is not true, that the sens diminuh in volume, or sink gradually beneath their level. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 220 A mixture of three parts in volume of hydrogen gas, and one part in volume of nitrous acid gas 1834 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* xivi, The waves, which every moment increased in volume, washed up to us. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* xiv. 130 The brook is clear, of average purity, and moderate volume. 1872 tr. *Moleschott Man. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 96 There is usually some increase of volume and vascularity of the uterus itself.

*Ap.* 1893 Swinburne *Glt. Forest* v. 111 The humble did not carry weight enough or volume to sustain a lengthy narrative. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Deronda* III, The soul of man may know in fuller volume than it has been.

**10.** a. *Mus.* (See first quots.)

1801 Busby *Dict. Mus*, *Volume*, a word applied to the compass of a voice from grave to acute; also to its tone, or power: as when we say, Such a one performed on an extensive or rich volume of voice '. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 451/2 *Volume*, a term applied to the power and quality of the tone of a voice or instrument. 1888 *Athenæum* 18 Sept. 348/1 The voice of Herr Reichmann is in lays of great volume and richness. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Mar. 8/6 The solo voices were not quite of professional volume.

**b.** Quantity, strength or power, combined mass, of sound.

1822 Byron *Werner* v. i. 234, I heard..., Distinct and keener far upon my ear Than the late cannon's volume, this word—' Werner ! ' 1868 Milman *Hist. Lat. Chr.* (1878) II. The new organ pealed out its glorious volume of sound. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 249 The row when we reached the town redoubled in volume.

**III. 11.** *spec.* *a.* (*a*) fold, wreath, convolution, esp. of a serpent. (Freq. in Dryden and Pope )

1698 Crashaw *Delights Muses, Foule Morning* 25 Hee.. will trim And brush her Azure Mantle, which shall swim In silken Volumes. 1808 Milman *Fall Jerus.* 488 She glides some trodden Serpent on the Grass, And long behind his wounded Volume trails. 1895 Blackmore *Pr Arth.* II. 164 The Crested Snake with Ten Thousand Rings, Shining Volumes of his Spiral Train. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 708 Th' Inachian view the slain with vast surprise, Her twisting volumes and her rolling eyes. 1726 Falconer *Voyage*, iii. 60 The wounded serpents, agaz'd with pain, Thus trails his mangled volume on the plain. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 499 The overcharg'd And drench'd conservatory breathes abroad, in volumes wheeling slow, the vapour dank. 1892–6 Carr *Dante, Inf.* IX. 49 Around them greenest hydras twisting roll'd Their volumes. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* 301 In the place of it The ivy and the wild-vine interlink The volumes of their many-twining stems.

**b.** A winding of a stream.

1726 Fenton *Ode Ld. Gower* iii, Where Thames's fruitful Tides, Slow thro' the Vale in Silver Volumes play.

**Volume** (*vo*·lium), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *a. trans.* To send up, pour out, in volumes.

1823 Scott *Waterloo* viii, Through the war-smoke, volumed high, Still peals that unremitted cry. 1865 Manners *Farina* 194 More and more the nightingales volumed their notes.

**b.** *intr.* To rise or roll in a volume or cloud.

1824 Byron *Def. Transc.* I. i, The mighty steam, which volumes high From proud nostrils, burns the very air. 1884 Howells *Silas Lapham* (1892) I. 65 Shutting the registers, through which a wolding heat came volumeing up from the furnace. 1891 Meredith *Progm. Rhoda* in *Illustr.*

*Lond. News* 18 Apr. 307/1 Up from under them volumed the dust cloud, Up o' the plain.

**2.** *trans.* To collect or bind in a volume.

1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* II. 119 It must have a bouquet of chemically prepared sentiment, and then it is fit to be volumed from the rough cask of MS., and decanted into the reviews. 1859 *Punch* 3 Jan. 1/1 For it's always been my practice, Sir,..Since the day that I was volumed, until now I'm fifty four.

**Volumed** (*vo*lisme*d*), *a.* [f. Volume *sb.* and *v.*]

**1.** Made into a volume or volumes of a specified size, number, etc.

1796 Nason *Saffron Walden* I. I b, A little epitomized *Brentfordi Meditationes*, not to bewitch volum'd than a Bedlam at Arnem. 1869 F. Grevil *Montaigne* I. Chorus, There, as in margents of great volum'd bookes The little notes. 1875 A. R. Hope *My Schoolboy Fr.* Pref. 4 Full of the horrors of three volumed novels.

**b.** Filling a volume or volumes.

1796 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. x. 89 Whose volumed works..Kindled around him curse the funeral fire. — *Epist.* I. iv. 3 Do you..Some chiming Labours meditate, That shall in volum'd Bulk arise.

**c.** Furnished with volumes.

1859 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 225 The room . . was volumed round by the collections of her grandfather.

**2.** Formed into a rolling, rounded, or dense mass.

1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xxiv, For the hearth's domestic fame, Ascends destruction's volumed flame. 1821 Hyrcd *Ch. Hor.* II. xviii, The distant torrent's rushing sound Tells where the volum'd cataract doth roll. 1823 *Corrodr* II. v. 18 His breath choked and raging with the volumed smoke. 1825 Bailey *Mystic* 31 They in his hands the volumed lightnings laid. 1887 Meredith *Appeasement of Demeter* In. The volumed shades enfold An earth in awe before the claps resound.

**‖ Volumen** (*vō*lĭmen). [L. *volūmen*: see Volume *sb.*]

**†1.** A volume, a book. *Obs.*—1.

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 163 He drew all the confuist lawis of Scotland in ane compendius volumen.

**2.** A roll (*of* parchment, etc.).

1852 Millington tr. *Didron's Chr. Iconogr.* I. 32 A volumen of parchment unfolded in the centre. 1904 W. H. Ramsay *Lett. Seven Ch. xix.* 262 A small bronze coin, which showed the poet sitting, holding a volumen on his knees.

**Volu·meno·meter.** [f. L. *volūmen* (cf. prec.) taken in the sense of Volume *sb.* 7 + -ometer.] (See quot. 1868.) Also **Volu·meno·metry**, the art of determining the volumes or spaces occupied by bodies' (*Imp. Dict.* 1884).

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 765 Their apparatus or volumenometer consists of a globular flask provided with a long narrow neck...graduated from below upwards, to indicate grains of water. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1005 *Volumenometer*, or *Steresometer*...Instruments for measuring the volume of a solid body by the quantity of a liquid or of air which it displaces, and thence also determining its specific gravity.

**Vo·lumescope.** [f. Volume *sb.* 7 c + -scope.] An instrument for measuring the volume of various compounds.

1892 Hake in *Philos. Mag.* VI. 172 An instrument which I have advantageously employed, in order to illustrate the experimental basis of the theory of volumes,..I shall call this instrument a Volumescope.

**Volu·meter.** [f. Volu-me *sb.* 7 c + -meter.] An instrument for measuring the volume of a gas.

1809 Hare in *Philos. Mag.* VI. 173 Afterwards by means of a volumeter or sliding-rod gas measure, add at once three volumes of nitric oxide.

**Volumetric** (*vɒlĭumetrĭk*), *a.* [Cf. prec. and Metric *a.*1] Of, pertaining to, or noting measurement by volume.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2904 Containing everything necessary for the preparation of the test liquors, or their use in volumetric analysis. 1864 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 352 In making use of the volumetric solutions a graduated tube or alkalimeter is employed. 1870 Proctor *Rough Ways made Smooth* 100 Professor Newcomb has, I conceive, omitted to consider the enormous volumetric expansion.

**Volumetrical** (*vɒlĭumetrĭkăl*), *a.* [f. as prec. + -al.] = Volumetric *a.*

1853 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 283 The volumetrical determination of silver or chlorine. 1862 R. H. Scott (*title*), A Handbook of Volumetrical Analysis. 1870 Maudsley *Body & Mind* 183 Perhaps it might once for all be stated, as a law of vital action, that the dignity of the force is in an inverse ratio to its volumetrical activity.

Hence **Volume·trically**, *adv.* in a volumetric manner. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* 135 The metallic deposit was dissolved off in nitric acid, and estimated volumetrically. 1889 *Athenæum's Photogr. Bull.* II. 435 Acetic acid is, therefore, better tested volumetrically with a standard solution of alkali.

**Volu·metry.** *rare*—1. [Cf. Volumetric *a.* and -metry.] The scientific measurement of volume.

1883 Sutton *Handbk. Volumetric Anal.* p. vi, The main feature of volumetry is not so much analysis..as the quantitative determination of one principal constituent of a substance.

**Volumette** (*vɒlĭumet*). [f. Volume *sb.* 2 + -ette.] A small volume.

1887 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 397 The conventional pictorial embellishment which adorns the hide-bound educational volumette. 1889 W. Andrews *Mod. Yorksh. Poets* 194 He has already published two volumettes.

**Voluminocity** (*vɒlĭumĭnɒsĭti*). [See next and -ocity.]

**1.** The state of being voluminous in respect of literary production.

1878 T. Twining in R. Twining *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 215 Last night I received the Virg. MSS. Thanks again. I was astonished at our voluminocity. 1881 *Academy* 5 Mar. 163/2 A reasonable mean is kept between the voluminosity of Kinglake and the curtness of Livy's 'this year there was war with the Hernicans and Volscians.' 1901 *Ibid.* 16 Aug. 165/1 In point of voluminocity the *Manchester Guardian* easily outdid all competitors.

**2.** The fact of turning or winding; an instance of this.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 149 With what sublime...voluminocities it winds, and wreathes, and whirls, and rolls.

**Voluminous** (*vɒlĭū·mĭnəs*), *a.* Also 7 vollu-minous. [ad. late L. *voluminōsus* (Sidonius), f. L. *volumin-*, *volūmen* Volume *sb.* Cf. F. *volumineux*, It., Sp., Pg. *voluminoso*.]

**1.** Full of turnings or windings; containing or consisting of many coils or convolutions.

1611 Cotgr. *Cruditieux* 301 The manifold turnings and windings of the way, like a company of voluminous meanders. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 952 Many a scaly fould Voluminous and vast, a Serpent arm'd With mortal sting. 1708 Cowper *Heroism* 15 Dark and voluminous the vapours rise, And hang their horrors in the neigh'bring skies. 1792 D. Lloyd *Poems* I. 146 When the serpents twin'd in pubic Tenidos voluminous and vast, Him and his sons with poisonous jaws devour'd. 1820 Pilkey *Nat. Theol.* 180 These voluminous folds are peculiarly useful in guts, because they are necessary. 1832 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 429 These lateral portions [of the cerebellum] are a little flattened, and more voluminous than the middle region.

**2.** Writing so much as to fill volumes; producing numerous or extensive literary works; writing or discoursing at great length.

1612 Sered *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. lx. § 4. 73 Cæsar Baronius, that voluminous Historian. 1654 'Ephemeron' *Principiis* 37 In the voluminous all the Motives.. I should be Voluminous. 1698 Cowley *Misc., Chron.* xiii, I more voluminous should grow..Than Holinshed or Stow. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 2 The most severe Reader makes Allowances for many Rests and Nodding-places in a Voluminous Writer. 1728 V. Knox *Ess. Ilit.* (1819) II. 10 For the very learned and voluminous Grotius was engaged in public life. 1822 Scott *Nigel* Introd. Epist., It is some consolation to reflect, that the best authors in all countries have been the most voluminous. 1841 Elliot-Lockh *Ballads* 223 You should be good-natured and voluminous in your replies. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 118 They were all..voluminous correspondents.

**3.** Forming a large volume; extending to, or consisting of, many volumes; extensive, copious.

1612 Drexer *Loud. Tri.* Wks. 1673 III. 251 Erect thou then a serious eye, and looke What worthies fill vp Fames voluminous booke. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reflf.* I. iii. 84 Those Voluminous Romances that are too often the only Books which make up the Libraries of Gallants. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 1 Voluminous Works have but few Buyers, and much fewer Readers. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 231 Let the voluminous records of the numerous apothecaries' shops at Bath be examined. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 309 Why should we be so obstinately wedded to the infallible correctness of voluminous writings? 1840 Hood *Up the Rhine* xxiii, Can you that the folly of the day..be recorded in voluminous documents. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* viii, Questions which..produced a voluminous literature for several centuries. 1878 Westcott *Gosp. Johannine Loge* 1 A recent and complete edition of Kepler's voluminous writings. *fig.* 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 384 By what the Stars Voluminous, or single characters, In thir conjunction met, give me to spell.

**b.** Containing many volumes. *rare*—1.

1850 Temple *Est. Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1909) 3 The account of this Library at Alexandria, and others very Voluminous in Asia and Rome.

**4.** Of matter of discourse: Extremely full or copious; forming a large mass or collection.

1697 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 108 They made great and voluminous expressions of their affection to the Kingdom and People of England. 1870 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 45, I have now prepar'd Answers to the objections.., but they are so voluminous as I feare will require some time to transcribe. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. iii. 162 Unless they [these passages] were less numerous and voluminous than they are. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1202 One firmament, enough for man to rend! O what voluminous instruction here! 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 434 It is difficult to impress them with a favourable opinion of the wisdom and justice of our voluminous laws. 1821 Hazlitt *Table-T.* VII. 1. 162 The impressions of real objects, stripped of the disguises of words and voluminous roundabout descriptions. 1822 J. G. Adams in C. Davies *Metric Syst.* III. (1871) 247 The assize of casks has been in Maryland,..a subject of frequent and voluminous legislation.

**b.** In general use: Extensive, vast.

a 1691 Boyle *Seat. Disc.* I. 14 Truth is not, I fear, so voluminous, nor dwells into such a mighty bulk as our books do. 1698 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* Introd., Many have taken voluminous Pains to determine the State of the Soul upon Dis-union. 1870 J. Bruce *Life Gideon* xiii. 239 These matters are too varied and too voluminous for any further notice here. 1891 *Times* 31 Oct. 7/5 Not that.. all our splendid English history [is] one voluminous mistake.

**c.** Expressing volumes. *rare*—1.

1809 *Something Odd* III. 96 He..cast a most voluminous look on Clara.

**5.** Of great volume or size; massive, bulky, large, swelling.

The different groups of quotations illustrate some varieties of application.

(*a*) a 1625 Corbet *Poems* (1807) 12 When now Thy observations with thy brain ingendered, Have stuft thy massy and voluminous head. a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Poet to Painter*, I am not so voluminous, and vast, But there are lines, wherewith I imbrac'd. 1668 Fowler *Esq. Philos. Pref.* b 2 b, The larger and more voluminous sort of Animals, as Bulls, Bears, Tygers, &c. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 221 It swells up a great deal, and presents an exceedingly voluminous light mass. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 248 The most voluminous current of lava which has flowed from Etna within historical times, was that of 1669. 1870 Black *Adv. Thaetine* xxx. 307 That young lady with the voluminous light brown hair.

(*b*) a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 84 His Legs are stuck in his great voluminous Britches. 1829 W. Irving *Knickerb.* 73 The voluminous skirts turned up at the corners. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* vi, On no account would Mademoiselle have appeared in her own house without the thick handkerchief and the voluminous apron. 1883 O'Donovan *Merv* xii. 134 The men, with their voluminous turbans. *Ibid.* xix. 218 A long, striped crimson tunic, girt with voluminous white sash.

(*c*) 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 386/2 In *Phascolalla* the stomach is very voluminous and sacculated internally. 1846 Baxter tr. *Mclagtgne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 386 When you fear wounding any rather voluminous vessel, arterial or venous, you may embrace it beyond the diseased parts in a ligature. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 15 The neck is a little shorter and less voluminous than the head.

*Comb.* 1829 Calverley *Fly Leaves* (1903) 116 Now Law steps in, big-wigg'd, voluminous-gowned.

(*d*) 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. II. § 7 The thundery discharge, the bowling winds, are voluminous sounds. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xvi. 259 The voluminous noise of this opening passage. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/7 Tory cheers, which from the first were more loud than voluminous, rather fell away.

**b.** Large in numbers; numerous. *rare*—1.

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiv. 309 Judas Maccabeus in that place got an eminent conquest, and defeated the voluminous army of Lysias.

**c.** Extensive in area or in time. *rare.*

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Lincoln.* II. (1662) 144 [Lincolnshire] being too Voluminous to be managed entire is divided into three parts. 1662 Gerbier *Counsel* 17. II. ii. (1663) 285/1 The Earth was thin sown with People, and the Age of man so voluminous as to contain many centuries of years.

**Volu·minously,** *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a voluminous manner, in senses of the adj.

**1.** At great length; with abundant or copious discourse; to the extent of volumes.

1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav.* To Rdr., It never was any great ambition in me, to low in this kind Voluminously [*sic*] read. 1652 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* Apol. 12 Least we should write voluminously and without end or profit. 1670 — *Bagshaw's Second* II. 17 When I had not only said the contrary, but told where I had voluminously proved it. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Bookseller to Rdr., The doctor falls hard upon a new edition of Phalaris, which Mr. Boyle has supplied ..with great learning and wit, and the doctor voluminously rejoined. a 1751 Bolingbroke *Fragm. Ess.* xxxiii. Wks. 1754 V. 260 They insisted on them so constantly and so voluminously, that natural religion held but the second place in their system. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 464 Elizabeth exercised her poetical pen more voluminously than we have hitherto known. 1880 Blunden *Card. Introd.* On the Edict, both urban and provincial, he wrote voluminously.

**2.** In swelling wreaths or rolls; in turns or windings.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 559 Clouds..Thy flowing mantle form, and, heav'n throughout, Voluminously pour thy pompous train. 1823 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* III. 248 The transparent lake..voluminously winding by banks covered with olives and laurels.

**3.** In a large mass or quantity.

1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1854 II. 175 Stowing away..the snowy folds of a lady's gown..so voluminously, that a very small portion of it, indeed, remained for the lady's own use. 1846 Pen. *Cyc. Clerk* Wks. 1864 III. 121 His hair and whiskers are dark, the latter meeting voluminously under the chin. 1864 E. Bunnitt *Walk* 313 A mineral spring at which the visitors..drink most voluminously.

**Volu·minousness.** [f. as prec. + -ness.]

**1.** The character or state of being voluminous or bulky; copiousness, extensiveness.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* II. 6 The Christian worship being so pure as to abhor from the voluminousness of Judaizing ceremonies. 1687 Winstanley *Lives Eng. Poets* 147 Here he did begin and finish the translation of so many authors, that considering their voluminousness no man would think he had done nothing else. 1764 D. E. Baker *Companion Hayh.* II. xv. *Beaumont*, Our Admiration might first itself in the opposite Extreme, when we look back on the Voluminousness of his Works, and then enquire into the Time allowed him for them. 1800–18 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 443 Having..been wrought up to the highest possible pitch of voluminousness, indistinctness, and unintelligibility. 1877 Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xvii, The distressing voluminousness of the materials is undoubtedly a difficulty in the way of the enquirer.

**2.** The quality of forming many coils or folds.

1820 Shelley *Vision of Sea* 141 The jar, and the rattle Of coiled scales crushed by the infinite stress Of the snake's adamantine voluminousness.

**Volu·mist.** *rare*—1. [f. Volume *sb.* 2 + -ist.] One who writes a volume; an author.

1841 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 245 You write them in your closets, and unwrite them in your Courts, bot Volumists and cold Bishops.

**Volumometer.** [f. Volume *sb.* + -ometer.] = Volumenometer.

1879 Atkinson *Gauot's Physics* (ed. 9) 141 [The] Volumometer..consists of a glass tube with a cylinder *a* at the top ..; the edges of which are carefully ground (etc.).

**Volumometrical,** *a.* = Volumetrical *a.*

1883 *Jrnl. K. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. II. 315 Fehling's volumetrical copper test.

**Volumy,** *a. rare*[−1]. [f. VOLUME *sb.*] Swelling, rounded.

1827 DARLEY *Sylvia* 170 Clouds under clouds with volumy wombs.

**† Volunt.** *Obs. rare.* [a. late AF. *volunt* for earlier *volunde* VOLUNTY.] a. (See first quot.) b. One's own will.

1592 *Termes of the Law* 191 b, *Volunt* is, when the tenant holdeth at the will of the lessor, or of the Lord, and that is in two manners. [Hence in Harris (1704), etc.] 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. 666/1 This I have here promised and sworne, proceedeth of mine owne desire and free volunt.

**† Voluntaire,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *volontaire*, obs. f. *volontaire* : see VOLUNTARY *a.*] Free; voluntary ; of one's own choice.

1615 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 835 Woe to the World because of such Offences ; So voluntaire, so voyd of all pretences. 1697 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 37 His unmistakable example, in this his free and voluntaire suffering.

**† Voluntar,** *sb. Obs.* [Cf. next.] One who rules arbitrarily ; a despot.

1650 B. *Discalitninum* 12 Such . . may . . flatter be called Masters then Magistrates, Voluntar's then Potentat's.

**† Vo·luntar,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [ad. older F. *volontaire* or L. *voluntār-ius* VOLUNTARY *a.* : see AR-².] Freely undertaken or given ; voluntary.

1581 J. HAMILTON in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 80 [He] hes.. sufferit voluntar banesment out of his native cuntrie vitht monie yeris bypast. 1616 *Burgh Rec. Aberdeen* (1845) II. 361 That a voluntar contributioun be crawit to that effect. 1640-1 *Kirkcudbr. Wed. Comm. Min.* (1855) 75 The voluntar contribution that is..collected within your bounds. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 4 (1699) 5 Seing man can only offend in what is voluntar to him.

**Voluntariate.** [ad. F. *volontariat* (1866), f. *volontaire* VOLUNTARY *a.*] Voluntary service, *spec.* of a military character. Also *attrib.*

1881 *Daily News* 7 June 6/4 To the [German] army at large the one year voluntariate has rendered the most precious service. 1888 *Times* 20 Nov. 5/2 In Vienna the medical students have drawn up a petition to the Reichsrath against the proposed changes in the one-year voluntariate.

**Voluntarily** (*vo·lŭntărili*), *adv.* Forms : 4–5 **uoluntarily,** 5– **voluntarily,** 6 **-ilye, -ile,** 6-7 **-ilie ;** 6 **-elie, -oly :** 6 **-ylye,** 6–7 **-ylie.** [f. VOLUNTARY *a.* + -LY ².]

**1.** Of one's own free will or accord ; without compulsion, constraint, or undue influence by others ; freely, willingly.

In very frequent use from *c* 1530.

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth. lit.* pr. xii. (1868) 103 per may no man douten, but pei ne ben gouerned uoluntarily. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 163 Wherefore sche thoughte..men wolde hane selde that sche consente to hym voluntarily. 1440 DK. GLOUCESTER *Manifeste* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) X. 706/2 To see the Worship, that God soe long hath eured hym with..shuld so voluntarily be put in likelyhed of total Perdition. *a* 1523 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 299 Kyng Richarde..voluntarily tooke vppon hym, and promysed to warre vpon Cyrcia enemyes. 1586 DIGBY tr. *Stribeo's Comm.* 196 b, Duke Maurice of Saxonye served in thys warre voluntarily. 1593 SYLVESTER *Anat. Abus.* II. (1880) 84 If the other churche..will voluntarily impart any thing to the supplie of his necessities. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 37 To these mariages, albeit with a king, she was rather haled perforce than voluntarilie assenting. 1683 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xiii. (1687) 87 But he voluntarily, and without any compulsion but that of his Love, died upon a Cross. 1721 STERLE *Spect.* No. 149 P 7 The happy Marriage in which two Persons meet and voluntarily make Choice of each other. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. ix. 76 When Men act voluntarily, and do what they please, then they do what appears most agreable to them. 1808 PINK *Sources Mistlet.* II. 225, I know you do not go voluntarily, but I will give you a certificate..of my having obliged you to march. 1858 MASSON *Milton* I. 609 Milton..seems voluntarily offered a contribution, or was invited to send one. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 160 Him who does no evil, voluntarily I praise and love.

b. Said of animals.

1607 TOPSELL *Pourf. Beasts* 161 Euery night..an assembly of dogs..meete voluntarily at an appointed houre, for the custody of the Temple. *Ibid.* 669 They vse to harden their ribs by rubbing themselues voluntarily vppon Trees. 1891 YOUATT *Horse* iv. 55 It..does sometimes happen, that..the horse..voluntarily presses on, until..he falls and dies.

**2.** Without other determining force than natural character or tendency ; naturally, spontaneously.

1586 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Sicke Man* (1579) 21 The first of them is naturally, as when men do voluntarily sweat, without force of medicine. 1595 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 318 They plume themselues oftentimes, yea and the pendant feathers of their thighes..fal off voluntarily. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* iv. I. 991 The Earth voluntarily and liberally yeeldeth her store. 1678 R. *Verstegan Restit. Decayed Intell.* (1879) 68 Man being left to the mutability of his own will..would voluntarily incline to evil.

**† 3.** At will, at pleasure ; extempore. *Obs.*[−1]

1696 T. MACE *Mus. Mon.* Pref., The Hints and Directions which I have given, as towards the Procuring of Invention, or Playing Voluntarily.

**Voluntariness.** [f. VOLUNTARY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being voluntary, free, or unconstrained ; absolute freedom or liberty in respect of choice, determination, or action ; spontaneity : **a.** Of actions.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 74 Vnto both which branches of his obedience, if you adde the voluntariuesse and freedome of both, the whole will appeare most perfectly meritorious. 1644 HAMMOND *Will-Worship* § 16 The voluntaryuesse of an action is not able to defame it, if there be..no irregularity imputable to the action it selfe abstracted from the voluntariuesse. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Voluntary*, There are two Things..requir'd to the Voluntariness of an Action. 1780 J. BARNON in MacDonald *Mem. Dr. Benson* 167 It requires much voluntary faith to be an infidel. 1878 JOWETT *Plato* ed. 2 V. 74 Unfaithfulness is the voluntary love, as ignorance is the involuntary reception, of a lie. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Learn.* 78 Were faults not voluntary, it could not be praised.

**b.** Of actions : Performed or done of one's own free will, impulse, or choice ; not contrained, prompted, or suggested by another.

Sometimes denoting 'left to choice', 'not required or demanded of one'.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iv. 18 Before that..any voluntarie or wilful assignement of God was soneen to the Iewis. *a* 1523 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 348 The archebyshoppe..shewyd vnto them seryously the voluntary renounynge of the kyng. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1208/2 Restitucion is ..a thing of such necessitie, that in respect of restitucion, almes dede is but voluntary. 1581 T. WILSON *Logike* D v That is called voluntarie, which doth betoken any thing done freely. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 16 The lottrie of my destinie Bars me the right of voluntarie choosing. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7 Thy voluntary wandring, and vncontrasrayed eyrie. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* Ded., This voluntary Neglect of Honours has been of late the example in the World. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. Wks. 1874 I. 84 All inaction is voluntary, as is implied in its very notion. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* viii. (1789) 89 *note*, By a voluntary act is meant sometimes, any act, in the performance of which the will has had any concern at all ; in this sense it is synonymous to *intentional*. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 333 The horse ..throwing high his heels, Starts to the voluntary race again. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. iv. ix. (1876) 82 There must be some voluntary act transgressing some known law or law is no law to us. 1850 *Edin. Rev.* CXCI. 479 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Oath*, A voluntary Oath, by the Consent and Agreement of the Parties, is lawful as well as a compulsory Oath. 1869 LIGHTFOOT *Colossians* IV. 137 [The perjury] is no more penal than in the voluntary extra-judicial oath. 1882 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. iv. The voluntary Miss Belfield was to tell her everything by a voluntary promise. 1888–9 WEBSTER, *Voluntary oath*, in one made in an extra-judicial matter. 1890 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 382 Oaths may be either voluntary or may be imposed by a political superior. 1893 CASTLE *Lessons Dict.* s.v. *Confession*, There existed also an ancient practice of voluntary confession in public of private offences and secret sins.

**c.** *Law.* Of documents, proceedings, etc. (see quots.).

1625 GLANVILLE *Voy. Cadiz* (1883) 29 A voluntary certificate from some of the officers..to prove her a defective Ship. 1794 SALKELD *Reports* III. 174 He, as a Purchaser, shall avoid this Conveyance, because it was voluntary, and therefore fraudulent. 1796–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. ii. § 4 Voluntary (jurisdiction) was that which was exercised in matters that admitted of no opposition. 1818 *Cruise Dig.* IV. 117 If the wadsetter receive his money upon this intimation without compulsion..the redemption is voluntary. 1781 J. T. ATKYNS *Rep. Cases Chan.* III. 391 Upon voluntary settlements, if the words lean more strongly to the one construction than to the other, it must likewise prevail. 1828 *Cruise Digest* (ed. 2) II. 321 Where there is no voluntary partition in, when the eldest makes the division of the lands ; in which case she shall choose last. *Ibid.* IV. 402 Edward Hussey being possessed of a term for 50 years, by voluntary deed, conveyed it to Edward Hussey. 1845 *Penny Cycl. Metrop.* II. 848/2 A voluntary charter is granted by a superior *ex mero motu*. 1860 WHARTON *Law Lex.* (ed. 9) 757/2 *Voluntary Assignment*, a deed by a debtor, which is bill in equity, without being called upon to answer by the plaintiff. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* (1876) 373 Voluntary conveyances of estates in land, that is, conveyances without any consideration, such as money or marriage.

**e.** *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Voluntary charge*, a document delivered with the purser's accounts respecting provisions.

**2.** *Physiol.* Of bodily actions : Regulated or governed by the volitional faculty ; subject to the will. (Cf. INVOLUNTARY *a.* I b.)

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 29 Brawn is maad of fleisch, senewe, & ligamentis, & hap vss of instrument [of] voluntarie meuynge. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 6 Voluntary motion depends upon the Nerves. 1654 HORNES *Leviath.* I. vi. 23 Imagination is the first internall beginning of all voluntary Motion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Muscle*, The Muscles of Voluntary Motion.. have each of 'em their Antagonist Muscles. 1843 GRAINGER *Anat.* 184 The muscles of voluntary life. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. § 17 The Spinal Cord..is necessary to sensation and to voluntary movement (more especially from feeling). 1881 HUXLEY *Crit.* 124 Amongst the voluntary movements are the various movements of the several members.

**3.** Of conditions, etc. : Assumed or adopted voluntarily or by free choice ; freely chosen or undertaken.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22914 Kome florthe, and se an exanplayre Off poverte not voluntarye. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 65 Scipion of affrique..was so poure of voluntarie poueite yᵗ .. he was buried at yᵗ villa[ge] of yᵉ comyn good. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 45 b, The companie which we come into by chance, consisteth of many persons, but yᵉ which is voluntarie, which we ought to coost, containeth but few folke in it. 1589 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxi. 254 Hee ended hys dayes in voluntarie sayle, 1621 BISHOP *Col.*

ii. 28 Let no man beguile you of your reward, in a voluntarie humilitie. 1820 T. Scott *Belg. Pilmire* i The Creatures subjected to his government, in their voluntarie obedience. 1732 Young *Brothers* iii. 1 I pretend t'was voluntary flight To save a brother's blood. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxviii, They discover what nothing but voluntary blindness before had concealed. 1847 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 85 The inhabitants of the town and country took a voluntary share in all the dangers. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Madame Flor.* xv. 366 His exile was voluntary, not forced like Dante's.

*transf.* 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 20 The dead are .. laid to sleep in a neat dormitory, his ornaments, Bracelets, and voluntary shackles accompany him. *Ibid* 38 Many voluntary rings and fetters of Brasse.

**b.** Brought about by one's own choice or deliberate action; self-inflicted, self-induced.

1548 Elyot *tr. Volutarians, Mors voluntaries*, voluntarie death. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 246 *marg.*, Voluntarie death ought not to be attempted of any wise man. 1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 126 These make profession of voluntarie death: and .. when they are disposed to die at any time, they make a great funeral fire [etc.]. 1610 Shake. *Tem.* C. iii. 3 You, I haue made strong powers of my Constancie, Giuing my selfe a voluntary wound Heere, in the Thigh. 1782 Cowper *Truth* 107 His voluntary pains, severe and long, Would give a barb'rous air to British song. 1858 Bosworth *Sax. Salutat* 61 A law to contravene Voluntary passage from this life. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* ix, One of those creatures, who, in this age, so often took refuge from a depraved life in a voluntary death.

**c.** Entered into of free choice; also *spec.* (see quot. 1889).

1612-13 Sir H. Hobart *Reports* (1650) 149 We know well that the Primitive Church .. were but voluntary Congregations of beleevers. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 158 In some districts ..the ministers formed themselves into voluntary associations, for the purpose of mutual help and counsel. 1889 *Cent. Dict. s.v. Association, Voluntary association*, in law, a society which is unincorporated, but is not a partnership, in that the members are not agents for one another.

**d.** Done of deliberate intent or purpose; designed, intentional.

(*a*) 1495 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 488/1 She theryn [*sc.* in lands devised to her] doyng noo voluntary Waste ne Destruccion. 1544 *tr. Littleton's Tenures* 153 b, If the lessee in fee make voluntary waste, as in pullinge downe of houses, or in cuttinge or fellinge of trees. 1586 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 281 Waste is either voluntary, which is the cutting down, or commission, as by pulling down a house; or it is permissive. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 714 *Voluntary stranding*, the beaching or running a vessel purposely aground to escape greater danger.

(*b*) 2530-1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Consyderyng that .. voluntary murders [are] moste highly to be detested and abhorred. 1 a 1600 Peacock (J.) A man be lopping a tree and his ax-head fall from the helve, .. and kill another passing by: here is indeed manslaughter, but no voluntary murther.

**b.** *Law.* Of escapes: Deliberately permitted or connived at.

1660 Young *Vade Mecum* (ed. 6) 94 Voluntary [escape] is when one hath arrested another for felony or other crime, and doth afterwards suffer him to go whither he will. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 130 Voluntary escapes, by consent and connivance of the officer, are a much more serious offence. 1797 Tomlins *Law Dict. s.v. Escape*, If the marshal of the King's Bench..or any other who hath the keeping of prisons in fee, suffer a voluntary escape, it is a forfeiture of the office.

**5.** Of gifts, etc.: Freely or spontaneously bestowed, rendered, or made; contributed voluntarily or by reason of generous or charitable motives.

1580 G. Harvey *Let. Spenser* S.'s Wks. (1912) 627/2 A small voluntarie is bestowed vpon the commendations of hir .. thrice excellent Maiestie. 1624 Ralegh *Hist. World* II. xvii. §8. 490 He exhorted all others to a voluntary contribution. 1652 Horrax *Leviath.* iii. xlii. 487 A common stock of money, raised out of the voluntary contributions of the faithfull. 1682 Penn in Clarkson *Mem.* (1813) I. 321 Let the Lord have a voluntary share of your income for the good of the poor. 1798 Colquhoun *Police, Charity Schools*, Are Schools erected and maintain'd in various Parishes, by the voluntary Contributions of the Inhabitants. 1799 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 68 Is it a voluntary contribution, called voluntary, which is according to the free will of the gives. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 335/1 Neither shall any subsidy be exacted from them, .. what they freely shall be voluntary. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 45 The clergy were supported by the voluntary offerings of their flocks. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 918/2 Voluntary contribution in aid of the national resources. 1891 *Weekly Weather Rep.* 2 Mar. 2/3 You have got to go to the school whether you like to or not, whilst the 'voluntary' part of the maintenance is just twopence out of every shilling.

**II. 6.** †a. Of the will, etc.: Free, unforced, unconstrained. *Obs.*

1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cxxx. Wks. (1876) 230 We knowe ..that almyghty god of his owne voluntary wyll and gracyous voluntry .. redemed vs. 1580 Daus *tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 206 Duke Maurice served themperour..of hys owne voluntarye mynde. 1583 Golding *Cæsar* i. (1565) 31 b, Considering he offered of his own voluntary will, the thing he hadde before denied when it was requested.

**b.** *Voluntary faculty*, the will.

1887 Alden *Klem. Intell. Philos.* xxvi. 261 By the voluntary faculty, or the will, we mean simply the capacity of the mind to perform acts of volition.

**7.** Of persons: That is such of one's own accord or free choice; acting voluntarily, willingly, or spontaneously in a specified capacity; also, endowed with the faculty of willing.

1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. iii. 8 a God did not worke as a necessary but a voluntary agent. 1621 Sharp. *Cymb.* iii. v. 158 That thou wilt be a voluntarie Mute to my designe. 1649 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* iii. xx. 205 No ply is to be shown to such voluntary cripples. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 61 Sending thee Mans Friend, his Mediator, his design'd Both Ransom and Redeemer voluntarie. 1794 Edwards *Freed. Will* iii. iv. 50 The Soul is an active Being in Nothing further than it is a voluntary or elective Being. 1796 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* II. I. 43 These voluntary exiles were engaged, for the most part, in the occupations of commerce. 1868 Huxley *Lay Serm.* iii. (1870) 46 The greatest voluntary wanderers and colonists the world has ever seen.

**†b.** Serving as a volunteer soldier; that is a volunteer; also, composed of volunteers. *Obs.*

1586 *Acts Privy Council* N.S. XIV. 55 A Commission ..to levie..the number of 150 voluntarie footemen. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 3 b, The souldiors thereby being made voluntary, haue obeyed their Captaines no otherwise than hath pleased themselues. 1604 E. Grimstone *Siege Ostend* 50 The Arch-duke had caused a voluntarie Gentleman..to be put in prison. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* viii. 350, I left Mr. Bruce with a Galley Captaine a voluntary Souldier. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* vi. § 249 Sir Nicholas Slanning's, and Colonel Trevanion's Voluntary Regiments.

**c.** *poet.* Of a sword: Offered freely or willingly in aid of some cause.

1761 *Gray Epit. Sir W. Williams* ii, At Aix his voluntary sword he drew, There first in blood his infant honor seal'd. 1808 Scott *Marm.* iv. xxx. Introd. Breathes not the man by me well, Since..our hand First drew the voluntary brand.

**†8.** Favourably inclined or disposed (*to* do something); willing, ready. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. *Gerileon of Eng. Pr. Charging* fiv, I am so voluntarie to accompanie the same vnto certayne of my goode frendes. 1638 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) I. 133 The greater parte of the Common Councell .. beinge all voluntarie & willinge to [do] the best for the good & benefitt of the towne's business at London. 1668 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 He should be so much more at liberty to show how voluntary an Assertor he was to your Corporation. 1741-2 Gray *Agrippina* 36 When yet a stranger To adoration, .. and obsequious vows From voluntary realms. 1788 H. Tod *Heroes of Dwdrs Pref.* 21 Any Monarch successful king is chief justice, historians become a voluntary jury.

*absol.* 1820 Shelley *Ps. xviii.* 9 *marg.*, The voluntaries of the people are gathered into the people of the God of Abraham.

*transf.* 1611 *Sarum Book's Mrt.* 1. (1606) 11 Other Creatures tooke their numerous birth And figures, from the voluntary Earth. 1852 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro, Hymn Nativity* 1, The voluntary Ivy, That would faine be Waited on by a wandring mine, A voluntary mint, that strowes Warm sylver showres where'he he goes!

**9.** Of institutions: Maintained or supported solely or mainly by voluntary offerings or contributions of members or subscribers, and free from State interference or control.

1745 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 277 The education of poor children was all along taken care of by voluntary charities. 1847 Craik *Pursuit of Knowl. under Difficulties* 1. 191 Private or Voluntary Schools. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 647/1 The United Presbyterian Church is..not only in practice, but also in theory, a voluntary church. 1868 *Ibid.* X. 631/1 They held that the same objections did not apply to voluntary organisations [for educational purposes].

**b.** Of or pertaining to, concerned or connected with, voluntaryism in respect of the Church or educational Institutions.

1834 Graham in C. S. Parker *Life & Lett.* (1907) I. 198, I cannot favour in the least the Voluntary Principle'. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 646/1 A great controversy..known as the Voluntary Controversy, 1830-40. 1868 *Ibid.* X. 632 An important article in the Voluntary creed. 1891 E. Kingsley *Australian at Home* 52 The voluntary system ..is almost universal in Australia. The clergyman is the servant of his congregation, and must please them or go.

**c.** Of persons: Advocating or supporting the voluntary principle as opposed to State establishment and control.

1834 C. J. Brown *Ch. Establishm.* iv. 72 Voluntary Churchmen, such as Establishmen, talk of the independence of the Church—our forefathers, within one, bled and died for it. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 24/1 Those known as Voluntary educationists reject the idea of any national system.

**10.** Of muscles, etc.: Acting or moving in response to the volition; directing or controlling voluntary movements.

1828 Webster *Dict.* s.v. I. *pron*/2 The motions..in a natural and healthy state, are subject to the will, and for this reason they are called voluntary muscles. 1843 Graves *Nat. Phil. Mind* xv. 161 A debility of the voluntary muscles. 1864 Webster, *Voluntary nerve*, nerve distributed to voluntary muscle. 1884 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 174 We see here that atrophy begins in the most voluntary limb, the arm.

**b.** *Physiol.* (See quot.)

1886 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1139/1 *Voluntary Motor Power*, ..the power exercised by the brain and nerves in volition, in distinction from the excito-motor power, or that which is peculiar to the spinal marrow and its nerves.

**III.** †**11.** Growing wild or naturally; of spontaneous growth. *Obs. rare.*

1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 130 The wilde or voluntary Strawberries, that I may so terme them. 1633 Ib. Hall *Hard Texts, N.T.* 2 Feeding on such homely and voluntary diet as that wild place would afford. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xiv. 396 Glad earth perceives, and from her bosom pours Unbidden herbs and voluntary flowers.

**B.** *adv.* = Voluntarily *adv.*

In early use perh. partly after L. *voluntarii*.

1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 435 All be forseid persones..cam voluntary, & sold openly ther to be sold Maire, but [etc.]. 1656 *Child-Marriages* 75 The said Henrie did neuer lye with the said Maydes, nor did cohabete voluntarie together. *c* 1698 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Exp.* (Hakl. Soc.) 34 One of them voluntarie profered to goe with him into Englande. 1699 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* d 4 b, He did this voluntarie, according to the example of the ancient Decii. 1634 J. Hayward *tr. Blondi's Eromena* To Rdr., In excuse of my not voluntary undergoing..the burthen of this Translation. 1672 Milton *P. R.* ii. 392 If of that pow'r I bring the voluntary What I might have bestow'd on whom I pleas'd. 1710 Fiddeaux *Orig. Tithes* iii. 245 All should voluntary pay them in their Offerings at the Church. 1769 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* ii. (1876) 32 To go voluntary to a tribunal where he knows he must be humbled.

**C.** *sb. I.* †**1.** Free will or choice; = Voluntv.

In the phrases *of, out of, upon*, or *at* (a person's) *own voluntary, at voluntary.*

(*a*) 1585 T. Washington *tr. Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiii. 23 b, Of theyr owne voluntarie [they] came to surrender themselues. *Ibid.* I. xx. 25 The offer [was] made vppon his owne voluntary. 1590 Greene *Menaph. Garm.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 258 If you were to chuse husbands at your owne voluntary. 1608 G. Woodcock *Hist. Iustine* ii. 18 After this the Spartans, .. out of their own voluntary, inuaded the borders of their Empire. *a* 1627 Bayne *On Ephs.* (1643) 317 How canst thou,..out of a voluntary, commission with them who are not sanctified? 1633 J. Done *tr. Aristeus' Hist. Septuagint* 52 Vpon his owne voluntary, he came often to visite the workes.

(*b*) 1590 Greene *Never too late* Wks (Grosart) VIII. 71 Womens flatteries [were] not to be credible to retire at voluntarie. 1591 — *Conny Catch.* ii. 12 He began to rap out goqs Nowndes, and pronounes, while at voluntarie he had swarne through the eight parts of speach in the Accidence.

**2.** †a. Music added at the will of the performer to a piece played or sung. *Obs.*

1565 Jewel *Reply Harding* (1611) 213 This is the plaine song, and may well stand for the ground: the rest is altogether descant and vaine voluntary, and the most part out of time. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 126 To make two parts vpon a plainesong is more hard then to make three parts into voluntary. *Ibid.*, Rules which may serue him both for descant and voluntary.

**b.** A musical piece or movement played or sung spontaneously or of one's free choice, esp. by way of prelude to a more elaborate piece, song, etc.

1598 Florio, *Preludio*, a voluntarie in musicke, a voluntary before the song. 1628 Ford *Lover's Met.* i. i, Upon his instrument he plays so swiftly, so many voluntaries, and so quick, That [etc.]. 1678 Phillips *New World of Wds.* 1. 60 He with his Harp..ending his excellent Voluntary with some choice Fancy upon this Phrygian Mood. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 211 (Roads) 254/2 The several Keys or points of warre are these, as A Voluntary before the March. 1754 R. Newton *Char. Theophrastus* 7 Something in the nature of a Rourish, or of a voluntary before the tune. *a* 1785 J. Potter *Moralist* (1788) 34 He took up the flute, and touched a few notes of the voluntary he had heard the night before. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlviii, Sitting down to the piano, she rattled away a triumphant voluntary on the keys.

*fig.* and *transf.* 1603 Hynd *Mirrour Worldly Fame* v, Quickly, That lets a voluntary, with a passage is made to unlawful desires. 1609 Gaule *Holy Madn.* 155 Like a fantasticke Musician, he chiefly pleases himselfe; while he leaues the Grounds, to run vpon the Voluntaries. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* iv. viii. 95 The Lark and the Thrush sung their Voluntaries. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 504 ¶ 1 There can..say you are dull to-day, and laugh a Voluntary to put you in humour. 1795 Burke *Let. to W. Elliot* Wks. 1842 II 240, I have been told of the voluntary, which, for the entertainment of the house of lords, has been lately played by his Grace. 1814 Scott *Waverley* xlix, A voluntary off in a wild voluntary of fanciful mirth. *a* 1881 Rossetti *House of Life* ix, This harp still makes my name its voluntary.

*o. esp.* A piece or solo, usu. consisting of two or more movements, played upon the organ before, during, or after any office of the Church; also, the music for this.

*In-, Out-voluntary*, those respectively played at the beginning and close of a religious service.

1728 Steele *Spect.* No. 503 ¶ 9 Now the Organ was to play a Voluntary, and she..kept time..with some Motion of her Head. 1732 in *Antiquary, Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 1 All psalm tunes, fugues, voluntaries, and anthems that are usually sung in churches or chappells. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 193 Several voluntaries which he heard..the organist play at the Cathedral. 1820 Busby *Dict. Mus.* s.v., The voluntary was so ignifally so called, because its performance, or non-performance, was at the option of the organist. 1837 Hood *Up't. R. Wilson* 308 Let the solemn, swelling, organ grave, With Voluntaries rich and deep, Peal forth its hymn. 1870 Anderson *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xxxviii. 344 A voluntary skillfully played..on the powerful organ belonging to the church.

*fig.* 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 448 This scene..will form a choice voluntary as conclusion to our homily.

**†3.** A voluntary oath. *Obs.*—1

1593 Bilson *Govt. Chr. Ch.* 270 In matters of religion that touch the peace and safetie of the whole Church of Christ, do you bind your voluntaries should be received without all authoritie or testimonie to warrant it?

**†4.** An occurrence or event due to some person's voluntary action. *Obs. rare.*

1632 Gage *Negastrom.* 83 Casualties and voluntaries, whose events are not so much as probable, as not having any such causes as aforesaid.

**5.** An extempore, optional, or voluntary piece of writing or composition.

1720 Temple *Ess., Poetry* Wks. 1720 I. 245 The *Priapeia* ..were little Voluntaries or Extemporaries, written upon the ridiculous Wooden Statues of Priapus. 1801 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 387 If I get Phillips to receive his voluntaries in the Monthly Magazine, he..will take the less pains. 1880 Mansfield *School-life at Winchester* (1870) 107 Prefects and Senior part also were encouraged to write, a copy of verses on any subject selected by themselves, which was called a 'Voluntary'. 1896 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. II. 206 At school he wrote some task-verses, and also some voluntaries of his own.

**6.** A voluntary contribution.

1837–8 J. Keegan *Jrnl. 4 Poems* (1907) 80 [The heap of stones] at last assumed a size sufficiently large to attract the attention of every person who went the way, who, in their turn, added their 'voluntary' to the pile.

**7.** A parting of a rider from his horse without sufficient cause; an unwarranted fall. Freq. *to cut a voluntary.*

1865 G. A. Lawrence *Border & Bastille* II. 33 A conscript, who could keep his saddle, through an entire day, without 'taking a voluntary', was considered..a credit to the regiment. 1883 Mas. Kennard *Right Sort* xxi, They will say I cut a voluntary...The scrup-leather alone was to blame. 1890 *Field* 8 Feb. 177 The number of 'voluntaries' which are ever taking place in the hunting field.

**8.** A voluntary examination.

1894 J. Payn *Glimpse of Memory* 75 As an initial step to my becoming a divine, it was..necessary to pass 'the Voluntary'—a theological examination in my case very inappropriately named.

**II.** ↑**9.** One voluntarily, and usually without pay, serving as a soldier in a campaign, battle, etc.; = Volunteer *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

In very frequent use from 1600 to 1645.

1599 Shaks. *John* II. 287 Rash, inconsiderate, fiery voluntaries, ..Have sold their fortunes at their native homes,..To make a hazard of new fortunes here. 1601 Mountjoy in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 38 Diuers worthy men..haue followed the warr here as voluntaries in their very great expence. 1620 *F.* Markham *Bk. War* I. viii. 25 Those Souldiers, which we call by the name of Voluntaries, being a ranke of men which voluntarily, and of their owne meere motion without any constraint at all, doe betake themselues vnto the Warres. 1636 Wintwood *New Eng.* (1825) I. 195 The soldiers who went were all voluntaries, and had only their victuals provided, but demanded no pay. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* v. 219 Turkitel the Dane..got leave of the King, with as many voluntaries as would follow him, to pass into France.

*fig.* 1622 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 6 ] at them now serue as voluntaries vnder the Captaine Iesus Christ.

*transf.* 1699 J. Vernon (L.) *Whigg Lond Shipt* A ijb, There were 7, other needle-se Ships which were in the nature of voluntaries, or hangers on vpon the Navy.

**10.** One who undertakes or engages in any kind of service, enterprise, etc., of his own choice or free-will; = Volunteer *sb.* 2.

1609 Bible (Douay) *2 Macc.* ii, 42 Then there was gathered to them the synagoge of the Assideans.., everie voluntarie in the law. 1612 H. Ainsworth *Annot. Ps.* cx. 3 Thy people shall be voluntaries in the day of thy power. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* iii. 1507 That none durst become a voluntary, in such a Fire, for conscience sake, to taric. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 1 Ye shall be voluntaries indeed ..licence to goe up unto Jerusalem, to carry with him all such voluntaries as would goe.

**†11.** One who is willing or ready to give way or withdraw. *Obs.*—

1620 [G. Bavdoes] *Horæ Subs.* 25 If..they...could haue beene content to withdraw..it would haue expressed an excellent temper, and moderation. But few such voluntaries bee found.

**12.** One who holds or advocates that the Church (or educational institutions) should be maintained by voluntary contributions and be independent of State connexion or support. Cf. Voluntaryist, 1839 *Tait's Mag.* I. 218/1 The Governor was a Voluntary; but Lord Goderich granted [the congregation] the L. 100 from the colonial revenue. 1843 E. Miall in *Nonconf.* III. 941 Where the truth has got hold of a man it makes him a real voluntary. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 691/1 Objection to the establishment of a national system [of education] more formidable than the opposition of the Voluntaries.

**Voluntaryism** (vɒ·lŭntărĭĭz'm). [f. prec.]

**1.** The principle or tenet that the Church and educational institutions should be supported by voluntary contributions instead of by the State.

Freq. from *c* 1830. (Cf. Voluntarism.)

1838 *(title),* Picture of Slavery in the United States of America, with a Practical Illustration of Voluntaryism and Republicanism. 1845 J. Martineau *Misc.* (1852) 146 The voluntaryism of the Independents,..the National endowment of Coleridge and Arnold. 1856 Edin. Rev. CIII. 2 Hard words. 8 They had not at least given in to schismatic rites, and were free from the errors of Voluntaryism. 1869 M. Arnold *Cult. & Anarchy* 11 The abolition of church-rates, voluntaryism in religion and education.

**2.** Any system which rests upon voluntary action or principles.

In recent use with reference to military service.

1823 Chalmers & Hough *Bankruptcy Act* Introd. p. lx, Official assignees..were..totally abolished, and the public entered once more on a system of voluntaryism.

**Voluntaryist** (vɒ·lŭntărĭĭst). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who advocates or upholds the voluntary system of support and control in religious or (now more usually) educational institutions.

Also, in recent use, an advocate of voluntary military service. (Cf. Voluntarist.)

1842 E. Miall in *Nonconf.* II. 305 The proceedings of voluntaryists hitherto..have not been on a commanding scale. 1869 *Spectator* 24 July 861 We are not Voluntaryists, ..but his Grace of Canterbury's remarks seem to us thoroughly intolerant ..in the head of a national Church. 1888 T. W. Reid *Life W. E. Forster* I. 312 A vigorous attack upon the voluntaryists, showing how complete had been the failure of the voluntary system to meet the educational wants of the people.

*attrib.* 1893 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/5 At present parents of all children in School Board districts are contributors to the local rates, and voluntaryist parents receive nothing for what they contribute.

**Voluntative,** *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *voluntativus*, f. L. *voluntāt-, volumtas* Volunty.]

**A.** *adj.* † a. (See quot. 1656.) *Obs.*—† b. *Hebrew Gram.* Of a verbal form: Expressive of a desire; desiderative. c. Having the ability to act or accomplish at will; voluntary.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Voluntative,* that proceeds from the Will, wilfull, or full of desire. 1890 tr. *Lange's Comm., Song Sol.* viii. 3 The following voluntative or jussive future. 1893 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* IV. 495 The simple solution seems to be that the conditioning of a purpose destroys its absolute voluntative power.

**B.** *sb. Hebrew Gram.* A verbal form expressive of a desire to do the action denoted by the verb; a desiderative.

1870 J. F. Smith *Ewald's Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 160 The voluntative, or the expression of the desire that something may be, takes from the imperf. (etc.) 1879 A. B. Davidson *Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 90 By some grammarians this form is called Cohortative; others embrace both the long and short forms under the name voluntative.

**Volunteer** (vɒlŭntī·r), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 7 voluntair(e, 7–8 voluntier, 8 volontier. *β.* 7– volunteer (7 -eere), 7–8 volenteer. [ad. *F. volontaire,* † *voluntaire* (= It. *volont-, voluntario,* Sp. and Pg. *voluntario*), ad. L. *voluntārius* Voluntary *a.* The ending has been assimilated to the suffixes -ier and -eer.]

**A.** *adj.* = Voluntary, voluntarily offers or enrols himself for military service, in contrast to those who are under obligation to do so, or who form part of a regular army or military force.

In early use freq. implying service without the pay given to the regular troops.

*a.* 1618 Rowlands *Melkomet* (1632) 80, 6000 horse and voluntiers infinite accomodated with all provisions. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I.* (1655) 68 The enemy being about one thousand Horse and Foot besides Volutiers, made a very gallant impression upon us. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 25 The Prince honor'd me with the leading of 6000 Voluntiers. *a* 1729 Burnet *Own Time* ii. (1766) I. 306 The earl of Montague..was then a voluntier and one of the Duke's Court. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V,* viii. Wks. 1813 II. 85 To every standard that was erected, volunteers flocked from all quarters.

*β. c* 1600 Drayton *Miseries Q. Margaret* clxxvi, And with fiue thousand valiant Volunteers, Of natiue French, put vnder her Command, With Armes well fitted she towards Scotland steeres. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* I. 14 With a handfull of Volenteers he defeated manie thousands of Reisters. 1634 [W. Habington] tr. *Castara* (1640) 161 Volunteers were by the means of ten thousand Volunteers, who had offered themselves unto him,..to attaccue this fort. 1677 W. Hubner *Relation* 18 A Company of Volunteers, under the Command of Captain Samuel Moseley. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 321 Certain burgesses and inhabitants of the city, offering to serve as volunteers in defence of the city, against the rebels. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 599/2 All this time the American army was increasing by the continual arrival of militia and volunteers from all parts. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Indians* II. 241 He had 14 in this volunteer band, all of their soldiers in war, and bound by no compulsive power. 1890 J. Bruce *Gideon* xxii. 399 These discouraged Israelites who had deserted were here soon returning and flocking as volunteers now, round the triumphant standard of that mighty man of valour.

*b. spec.* A member of an organized military company, or force, formed of voluntary enrolment and distinct from the regular army. In later use, a civilian forming part of the 'auxiliary forces' of a country as a member of such a body.

1642 *Exceeding Welcome Newes fr. Beverley* (title-p.), The Resolution of the Gentry and Commonalty of Yorkshire to joyn with the Volunteers, for the safe-guard of the King and Parliament. 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 435 To warne the watch of the volunteers of the said Towne, the old duste of watch twice a howre every weeke. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 74 The Volunteers march'd before the Army, daring the Enemy in a very haughty Manner. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 689/2 Making their object known to governments, they were, in 1794, embodied in a regiment, called The Royal Edinburgh Volunteers. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* II. 416 At his house were seen the portraiture of the Invincible Volunteers. 1818 Mas. Iliff *Poems Sev. Occas.* (ed. 2) 23 Our tars shall keep the sea,—our coast Be guarded by our volunteers. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* (1880) 115 Every man..I know, is a volunteer though. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 992/2 The personal equipment of the volunteers,..as a rule, is deficient for field service.

† **c.** In the phrase *to go* (also *serve*) *a volunteer.*

1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 24 Octavio Fornese..served a Volunteer against the French. 1685 Bowyer *Sir W. Temple* 5 They would volunteer into a battle, but must be prest to marriage. 1708 Prior *Poems Sev. Occas.* Dedi. In the first Dutch War He went a Volunteer under the Duke of York. 1760 *Cautions & Advt. Officers Army* 23 Whilst Suspicions only are against him, there is a possibility of wiping them out, and that is by desiring to go a Volunteer with the Grenadiers the first desperate Attack they are ordered on. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 215/2 He endeavoured to prevent the young men who offered to go volunteers from giving in their names. 1870 L'Estrange *Life Kelly* I. 1. 2 He had the resolution to part from what he loved, and to go a volunteer into the army.

† **d.** One voluntarily serving in the Navy. *Obs.*

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 18 What Discouragement gives not this to right-bred Tars from entering Volunteers. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4440/1 The Trumpeters, Quarter-Gunners, ..Volunteers by Letter, and Marine-Soldiers. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. ii. 122 King Charles II. then in exile, asked the Dutch to be received in their navy as a volunteer.

**2.** *fig.* (With direct allusion to sense 1.) **a.** Of things.

1636 Quarles *Elegie* Wks. (Grosart) III. 12/6 But stay! what need, what need we presse a teare, When every eye becomes a Volunteer? 1690 Fuller *Pisgah* III. 5 (1837) 167 There are abundance of full tears, which often themselves as volunteers in this service. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 88 Reason..Cares not for service, or for secret when prest,.. But honest Instinct comes a volunteer. 1733 Duchess of Queensberry *Let. to Swift* 3 Nov., I..have not time to think of answering your letters. This is only a volunteer.

**b.** Of persons.

1630 Baxter *Saints' R.* III. ii. 293 They wilfully and obstinately persisted in their Rebellion, and were meere Volunteers in the service of the Devil. 1669 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. 72 They have always gone higher, exhorted men to become volunteers in vertues warfare. 1872 Shadwell *Humourists* iv, I'll be the Devil, Mr. Parson, we'll turn you loose to him; you take pay to fight against him, we are but volunteers. 1725 Young *Centaur* II. Wks. 1757 IV. 150 The clergy are volunteers; the aged are pressed by nature into the service of wisdom.

**3.** One who voluntarily offers his services in any capacity; one who of his own free will takes part in any enterprise.

*a.* 1638 *Penit. Conf.* xl. (1657) 301 He comes in as a volunteer upon his own confession. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 3 Yearly are sent thither Missions.. either of Volunteers, Fryers Mendicants, Priests or Monkes, or else of forced Jesuites. 1677 *Auth. Life in Cleveland Ch. Persons* b, Perceiving the Ostridge that was intended, he became a Volunteer in his Academick Exile. 1688 Penn in *Life* Wks. 1782 I. 112 Volunteers are Blanks and Cyphers in all Governments. 1735 *Connoisseur* No. 120 ¶ 2 Tucker..took the names of any of the Volunteers, to whom I have been greatly indebted. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 257 Such unauthorised volunteers in violence are not ranked among open enemies.

*b.* 1655 Fuller *Hist. Camb.* 104 More probably he was a Volunteer in his Lecture, having no Salary for the reading thereof. 1718 Steele *Spect.* No. 526 ¶ 2 Our Hackney-Coachmen..do still ply as Volunteers Day and Night for the Good of their Country. 1768 Tucker *Light of Nat.* (1834) II. 415 There is a multitude of labourers in the vineyard, as well volunteers in dissertations and essays, as retained servants entered upon the steward's roll. 1794 Southey *Botany Bay Eclogues* II. And the morning came, And off I set a volunteer for fame. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 50 Another party, likewise consisting of seven volunteers, went hastily on board the island. 1853 *Tait's Edin. Mag.* 176/2 The peculiar nature of the agency concerned in the Act..is..a guarantee to the willingness of the victim.. as being that of a voluntary volunteer.

† **4.** A flower or tree which grows spontaneously. *Obs.*—1 (Cf. 8 b.)

1697 Thornely tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 178 Flowers,—some the Earth's own Volunteirs, some the structure of the Artist's hands.

† **5.** a. A deliberate lie. b. A voluntary gift.

1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* III. i, Now will he lie three or four rapping Volunteirs, rather than be thought ignorant in any thing. 1737 Mrs. Gerrish *Lett. Voltaire & Frasmus* (1767) I. 154, I think myself vastly obliged to dear Harry for his obliging volunteer.

**6.** *Law.* One to whom a voluntary conveyance is made; one who benefits by a deed made without valuable consideration.

1744 Jacob *Law Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Voluntary,* Remainders limited in Settlements, to a Man's right Heirs, etc. are deemed Voluntary in Equity, and are not standing under them are called Volunteers. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 135 There seemed no reason..why these general incidents..should be saved in favour of a bona fide or other volunteer, and not in favour of a wife. *Ibid.* IV. 276 Equity will relieve, even in favour of a volunteer.

**B.** *attrib.* or as *adj.*

**1.** Of troops, etc. = Consisting or composed of persons undertaking military service as volunteers.

1668 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* (1911) II. 138 A Company of 100 Volonteere Horse which I drew together. 1682 Dr. Buckins. In *Skinggsby's Diary* (1836) 363, I have sent orders ..to get the volentiere troopes to be in a readiness as they can. 1798 Himberwell *Hist. Scarborough* 236 A Volunteer Corps of one hundred and eighty, raised in the town. *Ibid.,* Five Companies of Volunteer Infantry. 1803 *Gentl. 4 Orders Army* 5 Officers of Yeomanry Cavalry and Volunteer Corps rank as Juniors of their respective Ranks. 1820 *Act* 3 *Geo. IV. c.* 126 § 3 No Fine shall be demanded ..for any Carriage conveying Volunteer Infantry. 1892 Sir C. Napier *Def. Eng.* 13 With regard to your volunteer corps, I think each should consist of from one to four companies. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 169 The military spirit of the 'Volunteer' corps of London.

**b.** Of persons: Voluntarily performing military service; serving as a volunteer in the army († or navy). Also in predicative use (*cf.*).

(*a*) 1699 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V,* cercis, They dance and rore The expectation of a Muster; where They 'mroule themselues, Gentlemen volunteire. 1693 Usquhart *Rabelais* I. xviii, Nine or ten thousand volunteer hardened and fourty thousand volunteer adventurers. 1698 T. Fhoger *(title),* A Relation of a Voyage made..by the Sieur Frogue, Volunteer-Engineer on board the English Falcon. 1710–11 Swift *Lett.* (1767) III. 127, I doubt the scoundrel was broke, and got a commission, or perhaps is a volunteer gentleman. 1786 V. Knox *Ess.* cxxxi, (1819) III. 6 Compare the limbs of the volunteer soldiers in the metropolis with those of the rustic militia, or regulars.

(*b*) 1720 De Foe *Col. Jack* xiv, I was not only honestly drawn in, but was perfectly volunteer in that dull cause. 1744 — *Gt. Law Subordination* 148 You will blame the gentleman, perhaps, for engaging thus volunteer with his servant. 1798 — *Compl. Eng. Gent.* (1890) 144 Those

Lord was a Man of Spirit, had serv'd Volunteer under the Fountain of Glory Gustavus Adolphus. 1744 M. Bishop *Life & Adv.* 57 There is a wide Difference between being prest'd and going Volunteer.

c. Of or pertaining to a volunteer or volunteers.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 136 Indeed it will be a volunteer war, said the king, for the northern gentry have sent me an account of above four thousand horse they have already. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* i. i, If you had the least spirit you would have been...trailing a volunteer pike in the Artillery ground. 1832 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) VI. 118 This was the Volunteer system and the general arming of the people.

2. Voluntarily performing any action or service; undertaking a service of one's own free will.

The predicative use (not in 1707) is freq. in De Foe's works.

1681 Boyle *Style of Script.* 195 He is such a Volunteer Sinner, that he hath neither the Wit nor the Excuse of declining his Conscience. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 10 Sept. 1697 De Foe *Hist. Apparit.* Introd. 7 It was a most incongruous Suggestion that the Devil should come Volunteer to an Atheist. 1713 Wesley *Poems* 31 It was natural for them to be the volunteer-heralds of that translation's merit; they had some share in bringing to perfection. 1760–72 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 119 Probably a volunteer artist. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Horace in Lond.* 105 How many a volunteer muse.. Has met with her death in reviews. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 249 James and John and Peter, who never heastily recognised the Volunteer Apostle.

*Transf.* 1753 Scheue *Enchirhon*, No. 55. 353 There were many hundreds of Volunteer Links brought into this Protestant Illumination.

b. Of vegetation: Growing spontaneously.

1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 44 A remarkably fine growth of volunteer rab, has lately been cut down. 1880 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 333 They had the year before last 80 acres of volunteer or self-sown oats. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 804/2 Crops are raised for twenty successive years, on the same fields, without the soils showing exhaustion, and what are called volunteer crops.

3. Of services, actions, etc.: Rendered or performed voluntarily.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 55 The king desires no man's service but what is purely volunteer. 1779 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 284, I am not very fond of any volunteer modes of raising money for public service. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 292 Mr. Reeves will deter any man from volunteer effusions in favour of any Minister. 1873 Morley *Univ. Serm.* viii. (1876) 167 It cannot be said that it is ..contrary to justice to accept a volunteer offer of suffering.

**Volunteer**, *v.* [Back-formation from Volunteering *vbl. sb.*]

1. *intr.* To undertake military service voluntarily, esp. on a special occasion. Freq. const. *for*.

1795 Johnson, *To volunteer*, to go for a soldier. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., In some instances soldiers volunteer for a limited period, and within certain boundries. 1829 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 51 The Bengálí sipáhís...being asked, 'Do you volunteer?' replied, 'Yes, Sahib, we volunteer, but we don't go willingly'. 1839 Thackeray *Virginians* lxii, Sir John had volunteered for the expedition which is preparing. 1849 Strube *Const. Hist. II.* ii. 31 They volunteered and were bound by honour to their leaders.

b. Const. *to* with inf. (cf. *to serve*).

1800 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The draffs from the militia in 1798, who volunteered to serve in Europe only. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 301 John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave,...volunteered to serve at sea against the Dutch.

c. Const. *into* (a particular regiment).

1841 E. Costello *Adv. Soldier* I, At Londonderry..I volunteered into the 95th, since made the 'Rifle Brigade'.

2. To offer of one's own accord *to* do something.

1842 Hood *Up Rhine* 30 Our old acquaintance volunteering to be our guide, we made the round of the sights of the town. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xi. 292 My guide volunteered to cut the steps for me up to the pickets. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. II. 180 No dean or tutor ever volunteered to help our inexperience.

b. To be thrown from a horse without sufficient cause. (Cf. Voluntary *sb.* 7.)

1840 *Field* 8 Feb. 177 There are scarcely a horseman of experience who will not confess to have been at some time or other taken unawares, and to have 'volunteered' in consequence.

3. *trans.* To offer (one's services) for some special purpose or enterprise.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 127 When I first volunteered my services on this important subject. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 49 Seven men volunteered their services. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* I. vi, Mrs. Bangham..had volunteered her services as ..general attendant.

b. With vbl. sb. as object, or *refl.*

1818 Scott *Lad. in Lochleven* (1827) II. iii. 94 One of the kindest was Lord Somerville, who volunteered introducing me to Lord Spencer. 1829 T. Hook *Sayings Ser.* II. *Passion & Prose.* xiii. 111. 170 He..had volunteered himself an silk-holder, while Miss Harriet..wound off, I know not how many skeins.

4. To offer to undertake or perform (something).

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, Mr. Lindsay...volunteered the perilous task of carrying a verbal message. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shakes. Char.* x. 271 One of the soldiers volunteers the office of interpreter. 1878 Browning *Youth and Art*, I had rather make Latin the schoolroom lesson, and leave German to be volunteered afterwards.

5. To communicate (information, etc.) on one's own initiative.

1838 Dickens *Nickleby* vii, He had grown thoughtful and appeared in nowise disposed to volunteer any observation. 1842 Mrs. Mozley *Last Broach* II. xiii. 99 This was what I call forward in a servant, to volunteer explanations. 1880 W. Collins *Wom. White* III. xi. (1861) 411, I did not feel called on to volunteer any statement of my own private convictions. 1886 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* ii, He volunteered no information about himself and his past life at Smyrna.

*elliptt.* 1893 H. Crackanthorpe *Wreckage* 178 When he started out late at night, he never volunteered where he was going.

6. To offer to give or supply.

1793 Trentham *Mead* I. 6 A delegate of the Ta'amirah..volunteered a guard of his tribe.

7. With *away*: To surrender voluntarily.

1807 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 82, I..do not wish to volunteer away that service of transmitting, which a firm execution of my duties will permit me to enjoy.

Hence **Volunteered**, **Volunteering** *ppl. adjs.*

1797 J. Symmons in *A. Young's Autobiog.* xii. (1898) 304 Yes, I was republic volunteering infantry. 1862 Meredith *Sandra Belloni* xiv, In the end they deputed the volunteering Adela to sait with him in the library. 1886 *Encycl. Brit. XVI.* 791 With God with Shelley had opened a volunteered correspondence late in 1811. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* II. v. ii. 20 He was not forbidden to proce d upon his volunteered mission.

**Volunteering**, *vbl. sb.* [f. Volunteer *sb.* and *v.*] The action of serving, or offering one's service, as a volunteer.

1692 Dryden *K. Arthur* Prol. 47 If you Gallants lose, to all appearing You'll want an Equipage for Volunteering. 1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* i. "I warrant you, our Friends imagine that we are gone a volunteering." 1738 H. Walpole *Corr.* (1837) I. 381 Has he stolen to Southampton and slipped away a-volunteering..to conquer France in a Bowl-dish? 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journey, France & Italy* I. 199 Numbers of young nobility were willing to run a-volunteering in her defence. 1809 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* III. 316 Volunteering voluntary to prevent enlisting. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xii, How strange it is of you to run down volunteering, when it's done to defend you..in case of need. 1884 *Manch. Examiner & Times* 7 Nov. The law permitting the volunteering from the merchant ship to a ship of war should be altered.

**Volunteerism**, [f. Volunteer *sb.* + -ism.] The system of having volunteer military forces.

1844 R. Harwood *Hist. Irish Reb. 1798* 26 The effects of volunteerism on national morals and manners.

†**Volunteerly**, *adv. Obs.*—1 [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] As a volunteer.

1725 *Battle of Sheriffmuir* iii. in *Jacobite Songs* (1871) 30 Volunteerly to assemble With Lord Loudoun Campbell.

**Volunteership**. [f. as prec. + -ship.] The condition of being a volunteer.

1796 A. Bell in *Southey Life* (1844) I. 537 His brother Tom has wrote me from his earliest volunteership.

**Voluntive**, *a. rare*—1. [Cf. next and -ive.] Volitional.

1832 J. Thomson *Life W. Cullen* I. 170 Comprehending the vegetative, sentient, and voluntive faculties of the mind ..under the common term Soul.

**Volunto-motory**, *a. Biol.* [Cf. next and Motory *a.*] Associated with voluntary motion.

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 167/2 The outer division [of the Medulla Oblongata] is voluntomotory, the voluntomotor tract corresponding to the body-wall or somatopleure of more recent authors.

†**Voluntly**, *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 volunte (5 -ee), 6 volunte, volounte; 5 volunte, 6–7 volunty, 6–8 volutee (5 vol-, voulente), volante, 6 volenty. [a. OF. *volonte* (*voulonte*, *-unte*), *volente* (mod.F. *volonté* = It. *volontà*, Sp. *voluntad*, Pg. *vontade*), ad. L. *voluntāt-*, *voluntas* will, f. *vol-*, *velle* to will.] Will, desire, pleasure; that which one wishes or desires.

Rarely, the faculty of willing, volition.

*a.* c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 681 (Kölbing), A forseyd deuel list adoun & of hat wif made a couloun, To don alle his volunte. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5976 For that he May not fulfille his wikke volunte, as he hath requered. 1413 Pilgr. *Sowle* *Repr.* II. xi. 210 That this answere is a feyned and forgid thing bi pure volunte without eny for him sufficient evidence. Ye pouse this. 1430 Lydg. *Knyghtes* iv. 19 O cursid and false deceyvable auntyce whiche blyndeth the voluntees humayn. c 1525 *Doctr. Gd. Servaunts* (Percy Soc.) 7 Servauntes ought not to enuse Their owne wyll nor volunte. 1569 Lever *Sermon's Life & Servit.* Misc. Writ. (1825) II. 12 Our volunty cannot (after some sort) embrace the evill, considering it as evill. 1602 — *St. Frances* 15 The handsomenesse and eloquence of his volutees, and render them at the least specious procedures of Justice.

*b.* 1548–50 J. Pilk. *Siege Rowen in Archæologia* XXI. 48 Byfore Rome that noche cyte Fore that he lovyde as hys own volunte. c 1450 *Merlin* I. 22 Neuer shall I make thedo thynge that shal be agayn the volonte of oure lord Ihesu Cryste. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. 132 But as ever I may leyd in my bedd an euill volente or wil surprised me. 1518 H. Watson *Hist. Oliver & Cattile* (Roxb.) E 4 b, The knyght..sayd that he was redy to do hym the best seruyce that he coude. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xliv. 143 Syth it is your pleasure and volunte yt I shall purswe my wordes, I shall shewe you euery thynge as I knowe.

b. In the phrases *of (free) volunty, of* or *at one's (own) voluntly.*

*(a)* c 1400 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 999 The whiche..Of volunte, withoute more trespas, Myn accusaun hath taken vnto grace. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Sloane MS.) xxxiv. 127 xxxix yere I was bound of volunte, to obedience. c 1450 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 79 The kyng..That..into a vyrgyns wombe incarnacion, Descendid, of free volunte.

*(b)* c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4453 Thow sholdest chese here tabyde..Of thin owne volunte, Syth thou hast swich lyberte. 1439 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 347/1 This that I here have promitted and sworn, proceden of myne owne desire and fre volunte. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 3 Of my most hyest and myteyest wisdome, I wolle it be knowyn to al be word voluntat. 1508 Fisher *Treatise Pr. Cruc.* Wks. (1876) 230 Almyghty god of his owne voluntary will and gracyous volunty..redemed vs. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* iii. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 295 Pis Iulius, of his fre voluntie & benevolence, remittit certane thingis to pe lugement of pepill.

*(c)* 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20335 Bothe to shette and eek vnclose And as hym lyst, for to dispose At ther owne volunte. c 1450 *Merlin* iii. 58 They shall neuer haue power over me at her volunte. 1461 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 492/1 The same Letteres Patentes..to endure and be of force..at our pleasure and volunte.

†**Volupe**. *Obs.*—1 [app. a. L. *volup* with pleasure; but perh. a misprint for *volupt.*] = Volupt. 1669 *Address Eng. Country Esq.* 38 It becomes manne to all the guests by yielding the last he put upon him, and he may easily be understood to have the volupe of his palat extended in all theirs.

†**Volupter**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 4–5 volupter(e, 5 -peer, 6 voluper; 5 voly-, volipere, voly-, wolyper, wulpere. [a. AF. *volupter* (Gower), I. OF. *voluper* (*volper*, *velopер*, etc.), to wrap up: see Envelop v. OF. *envelopeur* occurs (in 1301) in a similar sense.] A form of head-dress worn especially by women; a kerchief.

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 53 The tapes of her white volupter Were of the same suyte of hir coler. — *Reeve's T.* 383 Whan she gan the white thyng expire, She wrende the cloth hadde wered a volupter. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569 *Calamandrum*, a volupter. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/1 Volypere, kercha, *tersitrum*, *caliendrum*. c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 778/17 *Hoc caliendrum*, a wulpere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 404/2 A volypere, *caliendrum*. 1529 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 404 For a bede lace and volupter for Mris. Margarett..xij d.

†**Voluptes**. *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *volupte* or L. *voluptas* : see Volupty.] Pleasure. Also *attrib.*, sensuous.

14.. *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.), In be lyuour is be place of volupt. 1580 *Ibid.* VIII. xxvi. 232/1 In mans body be disposed to be voluptes, wanton and lyking. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 59 [They frequent the baths] aswel for their volupt pleasure as bodily health. c 1590 J. Sewhant *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 295 It is the lionte of ane nyechtie spreit, Vith monie guidlie qualiteis repleit In vincusing voluptis eweil and vaine.

†**Voluptable**, *a.* *Obs.* [ad. L. (ante-classical and late) *voluptābilis*, f. *voluptas* Volupty.] (See quots.) Hence **Voluptableness**.

1623 Cockeram 1, *Voluptable*, which brings pleasure. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Voluptable*, which brings pleasure, pleasurable, that causeth delight. 1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Voluptableness*, Delightfulness.

†**Voluptary**. *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *voluptāri-us*, f. *voluptas* pleasure.] = Voluptuary *sb.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, *Hed.* An excellent confection. *Cri.* And most worthie a true voluptarie.

**Volupte(e**, variants of Volupty.

†**Volupteous**, *a. Obs.* Also -ious. [Alteration of Voluptuous *a.*, probably after *volupte(e* Volupty.] Voluptuous.

1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 70 He set his voluptcous pleasure before his honor. 1548 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 37 b, The vnsatisfaines..and wickednes of voluptcous desire. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 242 False hartednes, voluptcous lithe, and al kynd of vnsaneas.

Hence †**Voluptcousness**. *Obs.*

1526 Tindale *Jas.* iv. 3 Youre voluptcousnes that raymeth in youre membres. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V*, 3b, A private maniues fantasy or voluptcousnes. 1599 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 82 There be some that suppose.. Paradise, to be situated vnder th' Equinoctiall, as a place of pleasure, voluptcousnes, vnder all liberation, and voluntary qualities. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 92 To satisfie the voluptcousnes of the tyche.

†**Voluptibility**. *Obs. rare.* [Cf. Voluptable *a.*] Voluptuousness.

1631 J. Donne *Polydoron* 28 The Stoickes and Pharises [held] that by voluptibility [*printed* -ilitie] heare, wee lost the future ioyes of the other life. 1633 — *Hist. Septuagint* 129 To the end that persecuting the voluptibility, you shall ..shewe your selfe inuiolable against all Voluptibilities.

**Voluptie**, variant of Volupty *Obs.*

**Voluptu-fie**, *a. rare*—0. [ad. late L. *voluptific-us*.] 'Making pleasure or delight' (Bailey, 1721).

**Voluptuarian**, *sb.* or *a.* [f. next + -ian.] = next.

1879 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXIV. 53 The feeblest and least reputable of his brothers, the voluptuarian Joseph.

**Voluptuary** (*vŏlŭptiuări*), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *voluptuārius*, post-classical form of *voluptārius* Voluptary, f. *voluptas* pleasure, Volupty. Cf. F. *voluptuaire* adj.]

A. *sb.* One who is addicted to sensuous pleasures; one who is given up to indulgence in luxury or the gratification of the senses; a sybarite.

*a* 1610 Healey *Cebes* (1656) 126 Here are professed voluptuaries also. 1697 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 8 His very name signifies a favourer of learning, and (as it appeares by this allusion) it may likewise signifie a voluptuary. 1668 Bp. Hopkins *Serm., Vanity* (1685) 47 The most artificial voluptuaries have always allowed themselves an intermission in their pleasures, to recruit nature, and sharpen their sensual desires. *a* 1738 North *Lives* (1826) I. 324 He was a great voluptuary, and companion of the high court rakes. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* vi. I. 149 A rational voluptuary adheres with invariable respect to the temperate dictates of nature. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxix, The admiration which her charms excited, when accident threw her into the power of that unprincipled voluptuary. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* II. (1858) 238 We shall err widely if we consider this man as a common voluptuary, intent mainly on base enjoyments. 1865 M'Laren *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 196 Remember that this cruel voluptuary is the sweet singer of Israel.

*transf.* 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xv. 138 St. Clare, who was in his heart a poetical voluptuary, smiled as Miss Ophelia made her remark on his premises.

**B.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, characterized by, sensuous or luxurious pleasures.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 13 The Arts which florish ..while vertuein decliunation, are voluptuarie:..with Arts voluptuarie, I couple practises Iocularie. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* Ep. 3 Leading a wanton and voluptuary life. 1666 Hibbert *Body Divinity* 1. 308 Art is twofold, of 2. Body. a. Soul. Either 1. Cosmetick,..2. Medicinal,..3. Athletick,..4. Voluptuary. 1779 Johnson *L. P., King* P 8 He did not love..any kind of business which interrupted his voluptuary dreams.

**Voluptuate,** *v. rare.* [f. Voluptu-ous *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make luxurious and pleasant.

1681 Feltham *Resolves* II. xliv. 270 The watching and labour, that voluptuates repose and sleep.

2. *intr.* To delight voluptuously; to luxuriate.

1856 *New Monthly Mag.* XCVIII. 143 The eye voluptuates, if I may coin a word, on peach, and almond, and orange blossoms.

**Voluptuise,** *v. rare*[-1]. [Cf. prec. and -ize.] *intr.* = prec. 2.

1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* II. 136 If you would voluptuize in the full luxuriance of its perfect flavour.

**Voluptuosity** (vŏlŭptiū·ŏsĭti). Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **voluptuosite** (5 -itee, 5–6 -yte, 6 -ytee), 5–6 **voluptuousite** (5 -ituye), 7– **voluptuosity.** [2. OF. *voluptuosité* (= Sp. *voluptuosidad*, Pg. -*idade*), or ad. med.L. *voluptuositas*, f. L. *voluptuosus*-us + -*itas* -ity.] The quality or state of being voluptuous; voluptuousness.

*a* 1380 *St. Augustine* 741 in Hornm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1878) 74 But pat pass is voluptuosite. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 280 Though noise and thought nycete, Of his voluptuosite He spareth no condicion Of rit religion. 1432–42 Hr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 349 Thei schulde not 3iffe theire myndes to voluptuosite, but to theire doctrine. *a* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 90 Epicurus..if all be a sewer of voluptuousite,..seuer-be-les he..said, pat appyla & oper vile meatis salde be vsid. 1483 Caxton *Cato* I ij, Thou oughtest to flee drunkenship, and lechery and all voluptuousites. 1515 Barclay *Eclogues* ii. (1570) B iv/2 Voluptuositie Will haue of dishes chaunge & diuersitie. *c* 1580 – *Turgurth* (1557) 44 This discorde and takyng of armes proceded of them, began amonge them..by superfluous habundance of richesse, voluptuosite, and of other worldely delectations. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1683) 213 The love of action, that now is lawful, if continued, presently becomes unlawful as..particular affection, into concupiscence; recreations, into voluptuosity.

**Voluptuous** (vŏlŭptiŭəs), *a.* Also 5 **voluptuose**, -tuose, *Sc.* **wolluptous.** [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *voluptueux*, -*euse* (= Sp. and Pg. *voluptuoso*, It. *voluttuoso*), or l. *voluptuosus* (Pliny, etc.), f. *voluptas* pleasure, Voluptv. Cf. Voluptuosa *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, derived from, resting in, characterized by, gratification of the senses, esp. in a refined or luxurious manner; marked by indulgence in sensual pleasures; luxuriously sensuous:

**a.** Of desires or appetites.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 1573 Love ne drof yow nought to don this dede, But lust voluptuous, and cowarde drede. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 4714 To soiourne in the Erbere ..Onely ordeyned for delyt, voluptuous appetyt. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 5/c This techith us our sauyour for to kepe us from voluptuous desyres. 1548 *Pilgr. Perf.* (Cott. W. 1531) 82 b, Absteinence from the carnall voluptuous appetyte of the fleshe. *c* 1550 in France *Addit. Narr. Fox. Hist* (1570) 36 The supporters of our voluptuous and Carnal Appetite. 1597 Shute *Serm.* I. 30 God..has corrected the Boundlessness of his Voluptuous desires, by stinting his strengths, and contracting his Capacities. 1598 Hooke *Amer. Geog.* II. 546 (Dancing girls, who) communicate their venereal contagion, the most voluptuous desires to the beholders.

**b.** Of pleasure or pleasurable sensations.

*c* 1407 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 2009 Venus..goddesse is of al pleasance, Of lust, and lustes appetyte, And of voluptuous delyte. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 242 Solyman..lay in great securitie,..passing his time in all voluptuous pleasure. 1685 S. Patrick *Parish. Priest.* xiv, Because I believe you are desirous to know, how they receive and take in those voluptuous enjoyments. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* I. v, That smooth and voluptuous satisfaction which the assured pro-pect of pleasure bestows. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* I. 416 If thou might'st dwell among the Gods the while Lapsed in voluptuous joy? 1865 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* 1. To the long voluptuous dream came to a startling end. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 307/2 Excessive voluptuous sensations may be the result of peripheral or central causes.

*transf.* 1604 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 173 Out of a voluptuous loathnesse to let that taste go out of my mouth. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 11 Spring's voluptuous pantings when she breathes Her first sweet kisses, have been dear to me.

**c.** Of modes of life or conduct.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 79 The luffe of the cuntre and elegancy voluptuous decayede his grevous labore. 1552 Bernde *Q. Curtius* 2. 29 Hauing giuen themselues to this voluptuous and slouthfull life. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* s.v. *Voluttuoso*, Voluptuous, carnall, sensuall, lecherous. 1715 Barclay *Eglogues* ii. (1570) B iv/2 Voluptuositie Will haue of dishes chaunge & diuersitie. *c* 1580 – *Turgurth* (1557) 44 This discorde and takyng of armes proceded of them, began amonge them..by superfluous habundance of richesse, voluptuosite, and of other worldely delectations. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1683) 213 The love of action, that now is lawful, if continued, presently becomes unlawful as..particular affection, into concupiscence; recreations, into voluptuosity.

**Voluptuous** (vŏlŭptiŭəs), *a.* Also 5 **voluptuose**, -tuose, *Sc.* **wolluptous.** [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *voluptueux*, -*euse* (= Sp. and Pg. *voluptuoso*, It. *voluttuoso*), or l. *voluptuosus* (Pliny, etc.), f. *voluptas* pleasure, Voluptv. Cf. Voluptuosa *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, derived from, resting in, characterized by, gratification of the senses, esp. in a refined or luxurious manner; marked by indulgence in sensual pleasures; luxuriously sensuous:

**a.** Of desires or appetites.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 1573 Love ne drof yow nought to don this dede, But lust voluptuous, and cowarde drede. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 4714 To soiourne in the Erbere ..Onely ordeyned for delyt, voluptuous appetyt. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 5/c This techith us our sauyour for to kepe us from voluptuous desyres. 1548 *Pilgr. Perf.* (Cott. W. 1531) 82 b, Absteinence from the carnall voluptuous appetyte of the fleshe. *c* 1550 in France *Addit. Narr. Fox. Hist* (1570) 36 The supporters of our voluptuous and Carnal Appetite. 1597 Shute *Serm.* I. 30 God..has corrected the Boundlessness of his Voluptuous desires, by stinting his strengths, and contracting his Capacities. 1598 Hooke *Amer. Geog.* II. 546 (Dancing girls, who) communicate their venereal contagion, the most voluptuous desires to the beholders.

**b.** Of pleasure or pleasurable sensations.

*c* 1407 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 2009 Venus..goddesse is of al pleasance, Of lust, and lustes appetyte, And of voluptuous delyte. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 242 Solyman..lay in great securitie,..passing his time in all voluptuous pleasure. 1685 S. Patrick *Parish. Priest.* xiv, Because I believe you are desirous to know, how they receive and take in those voluptuous enjoyments. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* I. v, That smooth and voluptuous satisfaction which the assured pro-pect of pleasure bestows. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* I. 416 If thou might'st dwell among the Gods the while Lapsed in voluptuous joy? 1865 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* 1. To the long voluptuous dream came to a startling end. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 307/2 Excessive voluptuous sensations may be the result of peripheral or central causes.

*transf.* 1604 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 173 Out of a voluptuous loathnesse to let that taste go out of my mouth. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 11 Spring's voluptuous pantings when she breathes Her first sweet kisses, have been dear to me.

**c.** Of modes of life or conduct.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 79 The luffe of the cuntre and elegancy voluptuous decayede his grevous labore. 1552 Bernde *Q. Curtius* 2. 29 Hauing giuen themselues to this voluptuous and slouthfull life. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* s.v. *Voluttuoso*, Voluptuous, carnall, sensuall, lecherous. 1715 Barclay *Eglogues* ii. (1570) B iv/2 Voluptuositie Will haue of dishes chaunge & diuersitie. *c* 1580 – *Turgurth* (1557) 44 This discorde and takyng of armes proceded of them, began amonge them..by superfluous habundance of richesse, voluptuosite, and of other worldely delectations. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1683) 213 The love of action, that now is lawful, if continued, presently becomes unlawful as..particular affection, into concupiscence; recreations, into voluptuosity.

**Voluptuous** (vŏlŭptiŭəs), *a.* Also 5 **voluptuose**, -tuose, *Sc.* **wolluptous.** [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *voluptueux*, -*euse* (= Sp. and Pg. *voluptuoso*, It. *voluttuoso*), or l. *voluptuosus* (Pliny, etc.), f. *voluptas* pleasure, Voluptv. Cf. Voluptuosa *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to, derived from, resting in, characterized by, gratification of the senses, esp. in a refined or luxurious manner; marked by indulgence in sensual pleasures; luxuriously sensuous:

**a.** Of desires or appetites.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 1573 Love ne drof yow nought to don this dede, But lust voluptuous, and cowarde drede. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 4714 To soiourne in the Erbere ..Onely ordeyned for delyt, voluptuous appetyt. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 5/c This techith us our sauyour for to kepe us from voluptuous desyres. 1548 *Pilgr. Perf.* (Cott. W. 1531) 82 b, Absteinence from the carnall voluptuous appetyte of the fleshe. *c* 1550 in France *Addit. Narr. Fox. Hist* (1570) 36 The supporters of our voluptuous and Carnal Appetite. 1597 Shute *Serm.* I. 30 God..has corrected the Boundlessness of his Voluptuous desires, by stinting his strengths, and contracting his Capacities. 1598 Hooke *Amer. Geog.* II. 546 (Dancing girls, who) communicate their venereal contagion, the most voluptuous desires to the beholders.

**b.** Of pleasure or pleasurable sensations.

*c* 1407 Lydg. *Resons & Sens.* 2009 Venus..goddesse is of al pleasance, Of lust, and lustes appetyte, And of voluptuous delyte. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 242 Solyman..lay in great securitie,..passing his time in all voluptuous pleasure. 1685 S. Patrick *Parish. Priest.* xiv, Because I believe you are desirous to know, how they receive and take in those voluptuous enjoyments. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* I. v, That smooth and voluptuous satisfaction which the assured pro-pect of pleasure bestows. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* I. 416 If thou might'st dwell among the Gods the while Lapsed in voluptuous joy? 1865 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* 1. To the long voluptuous dream came to a startling end. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 307/2 Excessive voluptuous sensations may be the result of peripheral or central causes.

*transf.* 1604 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 173 Out of a voluptuous loathnesse to let that taste go out of my mouth. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 11 Spring's voluptuous pantings when she breathes Her first sweet kisses, have been dear to me.

**c.** Of modes of life or conduct.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 79 The luffe of the cuntre and elegancy voluptuous decayede his grevous labore. 1552 Bernde *Q. Curtius* 2. 29 Hauing giuen themselues to this voluptuous and slouthfull life. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* s.v. *Voluttuoso*, Voluptuous, carnall, sensuall, lecherous. 1715 Barclay *Eglogues* ii. (1570) B iv/2 Voluptuositie Will haue of dishes chaunge & diuersitie. *c* 1580 – *Turgurth* (1557) 44 This discorde and takyng of armes proceded of them, began amonge them..by superfluous habundance of richesse, voluptuosite, and of other worldely delectations. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1683) 213 The love of action, that now is lawful, if continued, presently becomes unlawful as..particular affection, into concupiscence; recreations, into voluptuosity.

**Voluptuous,** -tuouse. Also 7 **voluptuouse**, -tuouse. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being voluptuous.

1. Addiction to sensuous pleasures; indulgence in pleasure and luxury.

1508 Fisher *T. Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 11 Our prophete ..forsoke to offende almyghty god, seyth that afore tyme he was ouercomen by his owne voluptuousnesse. 1532 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 48 Some call themselues good, which lyue in all voluptuousnesse. 1580 Daniel *Sidetane's Counte.* 56 b, They take your goodsand spende them wickedly in pride, riot and voluptuousnes. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* iv. v. (ed. 2) 365 As their lives were burthened with voluptuousnesse, so they prepared for their deaths. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 340 They delight excessively in all sorts of games and voluptuousnesse. *a* 1700 Maundrell *Journ. Jerusa.* (1721) 128 No place in the World can promise the Beholder at a distance greater voluptuousness. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 273 Complaints of their voluptuousness are without end. 1812 G. Chalmers *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 329 We became more luxurious, and, as our voluptuousness increased, our industry diminished. 1826 Adler *Prem. Poet.* xv. 328 The man who was tormented by voluptuousness was declared incapable of love. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* v. i. 170 Men of the English race are often grandly strong in resistance to every form of voluptuousness.

*personif.* 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Scourge of Folly* (Grosart) I. 91/2 In summe shee was such as Voluptuousnesse With all her coulors cannot well expresse. 1839 N. Dt. *Dr. Elmsley's Compl. Woman* I. 15 There are more who haunt the Schoole of Voluptuousnes, then that of vertue.

*ironyc.* 1768 *Woman of Honour* III. 143, I could with great voluptuousness of scorn have spit in his face.

**b.** The quality of expressing voluptuous ideas.

1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 229 The voluptuousness of Asiatan poetry is not like that of Persian or Indian art.

2. Luxuriance, luxury, or refinement tending to gratify the senses or to impart sensuous pleasure.

1632 Hayles *Cosmogr.* III. 11 The Country very plentifull of all manner of fruites, even unto voluptuousnesse. 1779 Sibthorpe *Artillery* 139 A celebrated Mart in the Decennia with new Sorts of Games, with a new Kind of Pomp, and with the most exquisite Voluptuousness. 1800 S. E. Hy. Lee *Canterb. T.* IV. 180 The species of rustic voluptuousness his garden otherwise afforded. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. vi, Softened by the quiet beauty and voluptuousness around him, Walter's bosom resumed a more kindly glow. 1893 E. F. Howe in *Voice* (N. Y.) 21 Sept., We have..the desert brought into voluptuousness by the development of great irrigation enterprises.

**† Voluptuously.** *Obs.* In 4 -ouste, -oste, 5 -ostee. [f. prec. + -ly.] Cf. obs. f. *voluptuousness*.

= Voluptuosity.

1382 Wyclif *Eccl.* xl. 20 Waxende age and voluptuouste ben veyn. 1382 — *Tert*, xxii. 28 Whether [is he] a vessel without al voluptuosite? *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4043 3e sold ioye eternale for vayne voluptuostee.

**† Volupty.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **volupte**(e, 6 **voluptie**, 6– **voluptv.** [a. OF. *volupté* (mod.F. *volupté*), or ad. L. *voluptāt-*, *voluptas* pleasure. Cf. Voluptv.] Pleasure, delight. Freq. (esp. in earlier use) in pl.

(*a*) *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 380 So volupteis and rychesse of be worlde maken pei to be loved. 1382 — *Titus* iii. 3 We weren sum tyme vnwyse, vnbileeful, erringe, and seruynge to desyris, and diuersite of volupteis. 1382 — *De Imitatione* II. x. 52 Spiritual consolacions passih all pe delices of be worlde, & all fleshly volupte. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 7 b, Semyse nayth that he wyll not haue suche comen foure euylles. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) C j, It is so, because they bee ever among volupties & pleasures, & banketings. 1561 *Homilies* xiii. 68 b, Syth ye at home glue your selfes to voluptes and pleasures.

(*b*) 1380 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxi. 9 Alle the trees of volupte [1388 lust], that weren in paradise of God, sueden hym. 1508 Fisher *T. Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 55 Whan Adam was set in paradyse a place of grete pleasure voyde & rude. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, Ouercome of the fruicyon, that is full volupte & pleasure of 3e same. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 137 For that the same caused in feeble..delicious pleasure & voluptie. 1576 Bolenbroke *Repl. on Exile* (1750) 475 *note*, The doctrine of volupty transferred to Christianity. *c* 1730 — *Progn.* Wks. 1777 V. 402, I will carry out a picture of the Elysian fields, which I intend to draw when he disposed against the partizans of volupty. 1799 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 251 His poems are the sweetest blossoms of the rose-garden of volupty.

*personif.* *c* 1590 J. Sanford *Hours of Recr.* (S.T.S.) II. 166 Dame volupte with proud pernicious spreate.

**‖ Voluta** (vŏlū·tă). *Arch. Obs.* [L. *volūta* scroll, properly fem. of *volūtus*, pa. pple. of *volvĕre* to turn. In later use also from It. *voluta* (Sp. and Pg. *voluta*), of the same origin.] = Volute *sb.* 1.

1563 Shute *Archit.* D ij, The Abacus, that lieth vpon Voluta, is..flat like to a trencher. 1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* I. 93, 9 partes and an halfe: whereof one and an halfe makes the Abacus, and the other 8 the Voluta and circumference or the actowle M. 1609 Wotton *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 238 The Capitall dressed on each side, not much vnlike womens Haire, in a treble wreathing, which they call the Ionian Voluta. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* 128 The Voluta, or as we learn it properly enough, the Scroul,..is the principal, and only appropriate member of the Ionic Capitel in imitation of a turning Lock of womens Haire. 1721 W. Sutherland *Shipbuilt. Assist.* 6 Cupolo's, Pilasters, Voluta's, Columns in several noble Structures. 1789 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 59 The hollow..of the Voluta is even with the body of the Column. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* ii. 17 The scroll or voluta, gradually lessening to its center. *transf.* 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 57 In the parts thereof [*sc.* of plants] we finde Helicaeal or spirall roundles, volutæ's, conical sections, .. and frustrums of Archimedes.

**†Volutate,** *v. Obs.*[—e] [ad. L. *volūtāt-*, ppl. stem of *volūtāre* to roll or wallow.] (See quot.)

1613 Cockeram I, *Volutate*, to wallow vp and downe.

**Volutation** (vɒlĭtā·ʃən). ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *volūtātiōn-*, *volūtātio*, noun of action f. *volūtāre* (see prec.), f. *volūt-*, *volvĕre* to roll.]

1. The action of rolling or causing to roll; revolution combined with progression.

1620 Sir C. Heydon *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 42 For whatsoever moveth another, is doth it either by impulsion, attraction, volutation, or vection. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 Every globular Figure placed upon a plane, in direct volutation, returns to the first point of contaction. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* 47 In Volutation the whole circumference moves by a motion both progressive and circular; but the centre by the progressive only. 1728 Johnson, *Tr roll*, to move any thing by volutation, or successive application of the different parts of the surface, to the ground.

b. Applied to the motion of liquids or sound.

1690 Br. Reynolds *Passions* xxi. 220 In the Sea when a storme is over, there remaines still an inward working and volutation. 1691 R. Bohun *Wind* 190 When as the volutation of the waves so often changes the Superficies of the water. 1692 Ray *Disc.* ii. v. (1693) 205 The ebullition and volutation of the melted Lavaria. 1713 Derham *Phys. Theol.* iv. iii. 170 But being hard, and curiously smooth and tortuous, sounds find an easy passage, with a regular Volutation and Reflection.

c. The action of rolling or turning over in a prostrate position; wallowing. Also *fig.*

1685 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* i. Pref. (1858) 6 A constant seasonal Volutation or wallowing in impure thoughts and scurrilous conceits. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* i. iii. § 37. 161 Not only our nictations..when we are awake, but also our nocturnal volutations in sleep, are performed with very little or no consciousness. 1721 Bailey, *Volutation*, a rolling, tumbling, or wallowing.

2. *fig.* (See quots.)

1683 Cockeram II, *Volutation*, a tossing in the minde. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Part. Adv. Learn.* 25 Considering the..activity of his understanding, and the strange volutations of his affaires. 1806 H. K. White *Let. to R. W. A.* 18 Aug., If these astronomical, mathematical, and metaphysical volutations should displease you, perhaps it would not be amiss to saunter a few weeks on the site of Troy.

**Volute** (vɒlĭ·t), *sb.* [ad. L. *volūta* Voluta, or a F. *volute* from the same source.]

1. *Arch.* A spiral scroll forming the chief ornament of the Ionic capital and employed also in those of the Corinthian and Composite orders.

1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Volute*, a part of the Capital of the Ionick, Compound, and Corinthian Order. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., There are also eight angular Volutes in the Corinthian Capital. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 34 On the top is an apex, with a volute on each side. 1769 Smyth tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 96 The volutes of the capital were generally by the ancients made elliptic. 1829 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 307 To produce graceful effects in the foliage and contour of the volute. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 174 Complete Doric fronts, with volutes and other decorations foreign to the order. 1879 Baring-Gould *Germany* II. 344 The English capital was circular; the volute disappeared at once.

2. A spiral conformation; a convolution, twist, or turn; a thing or part having a spiral form.

1758 in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1793) I. p. lxiii, The smooth volutes of Ammon's horn. 1799 J. Nicholson *Op. Mechanic* (1580), *Cagneville*, a sort of volute or ornament. 1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 93 You may perceive by the drawing that they do not take such beautiful forms and volutes as in fine dry smoke usually does. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxvii. 203 We carefully pare off the volutes and spikelets [of the cacti]. 1882 E. S. Pryn in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 286 The carving of the volute, and the double grooving of its back, are among the most difficult branches of the violin-maker's art. 1895 Hoffmann *Engrav. Writing* 129 Next on top of these are short volutes or commas, similar in type to the speech or voice commas.

*attrib.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 *Volute-compasses*, a draftsman's compasses in which the legs are gradually expanded, so as to trace a spiral.

3. The spiral shell of a gastropod of the genus *Voluta*; also, the animal itself.

1733 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., The Volute, variegated with two reticulated zones. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 238 These anemonies had been found on old volutes, called spindle-shells. 1852 Kane *Arct. Explor. Advent.* I. ix. 260 The cowries are said to have eyes exhibiting both iris and pupil, as have some volutes. 1857 Austen *Anc. World* iii. 58 The numerous groups of gasteropods, the Canine murex, the cone, the volute, the cowry, and many others). 1874 J. G. Wood *Nat. Hist.* 637 When young, the shell is very like that of a volute, having a prominent spire and a rather wide-spreading lip.

**Volute** (vɒlĭ·t), *a.* [ad. L. *volūtus*, pa. pple. of *volvĕre* to roll; or attrib. use of prec.] Having the form of a volute; forming a spiral curve or curves.

*Volute spring, wheel*, are described by Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2714/2 and Suppl. 931/2.

1849 Darwin *Ver. Nat.* xiii. 288 Another was killed in the act of carrying to its hole a large volute shell. 1857 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 108. 67 The Corinthian capital ..was unfolded by an ingenious combination of the volute forms of the Ionic with freer and richer vegetable ornaments. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1872) 161 The beautiful volute and cone shells of the Eocene epoch. 1879 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 302 This plate has a volute spiral groove cut in its surface.

*Comb.* 1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6460, Cast-steel tyres, volute spring buffers.

**Volute'd,** *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. Spirally twisted or grooved.

1820 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 39 A table covered with green plush, the voluted legs of which seemed to have been produced as a great effort of art. 1826 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 281 Its voluted wreaths are doubtless in the natural horn; art could not produce them. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 201 An old high-backed armchair, its voluted oak legs and framework blackened by Time.

2. *Arch.* Furnished with a volute or spiral scroll.

1820 *Rudim. Anc. Archit.* 15 (Jod.) The boldness of the voluted capital with the beauty of the shaft makes it eligible for portticoes, frontispieces, entrances to houses, etc. 1876 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 302 The voluted capital was an accidental introduction from the East. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 14/1 This thing, with its huge voluted buttresses, ..should serve as a warning to all who contemplate bridge building.

**Volu-tiform,** *a. rare*[—1]. [f. L. *volūta* Volute *sb.* + -(I)FORM.] Shaped like a volute.

1853 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 447/1 Glabella..Volutiform: the spire more or less conic.

**Volution** (vɒlĭ·ʃən). [f. L. *volūt-*, ppl. stem of *volvĕre* to turn, after *revolution*, etc.]

1. A rolling or revolving movement. Also *fig.*

1820 J. Mason *Turtle* ii. iii. 83, This..shall conduct him to the land of volutions, amidst whose vales, and the state volutions, the amorous youth must needs be hartyly welcome. 1742 H. Brooke *Constantia* 80 Wks. 1789 I. 306 Yet these idle shades imitation keeps, And still aligns them the boundless deep. 1766 Falconer *Shipwr.* ii. 43 The [water-spout's] swift volution, and the enormous train, Let sages versed in nature's lore explain. 1819 Shelley *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 216 To bear them over the earth, as the rapid volutions of a tempest have the ever-changing trunk of a waterspout. 1833 Brewster *Newton's Lect. to England* v. 132 The art of quickening ..the motion of his heart he certainly possessed, as he made his pulse keep pace with the volutions of the dividing rod.

2. A spiral line or twist; a coil or convolution.

1756 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 132 At the head there stands a small conic clavicle, formed of about four volutions. 1766 *Phil. Mercury* I. 52 The cochlea has such a turning of the aspera arteria in the keel of the sternum; but the volution of this bird is round within the bone. 1786 *Ibid.* LXXVI. 161 It is generally called up into four volutions. 1842 Pop. *Mech. Advan. Life* 164 I. 200 Two circular concentric volutions, apparently the effect of ropes, or of a rope in more than one volution. 1854 S. P. Woodward *Molluscs* ii. 191 Nidamental ribbon rather wide, forming a spiral coil of few volutions.

3. A whorl of a spiral shell.

1828 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 26 Four specimens of a small Malania were collected..all eroded at the upper part of the spire, leaving only four volutions remaining.

**Volutite** (vɒ·lĭtəit). *Palæont.* [f. Volute *sb.* 3 + -ITE.] A fossil volute.

1820 J. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) II. 70 Whole strata full of ..turbinates ..; as well as single volutites, entalites, and pieces of bone.

**Volutive,** obs. variant of Volutive *a.*

**Volu·tor.** *rare.* [f. L. *volūt-*: cf. Volution.] One who rolls.

1839 J. Booth (*title*), Description of the Volutor, an Instrument for Describing Spirals and Volutes. 1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 9300, Volutors for tracing spiral curves.

**Volutory,** *a. rare*[—1]. [Cf. prec. and -ory.] Revolving, rolling.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 918 This second roller being hardened, and placed above the patriotic volutory press, is employed to engrave..the whole of its intended pattern.

**Voluwe,** ME. variant of Follow *v.*

‖ **Volva** (vɒ·lvă). *Bot.* [L. *volva* (Pliny), f. *volvĕre* to roll, wrap.] The membranous covering which completely encloses many fungi in the early stage of growth.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Volva*, ..a membranous matter surrounding the bases of many of the fungi. 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 423 This..vegetable production arises from a volva, which is buried six or seven inches deep in dry sandy banks. 1856 Henslow *Bot. Terms* 159 *Ring*, ..the debris left round the stipes of some agarics by the bursting of the veil. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 28 In Phalloidei the hymenium is at first enclosed within a sort of peridium or universal volva, maintaining a somewhat globose or egg-shape.

Hence **Vo·lvate** *a.* (In recent Dicts.)

**†Volve,** *v. Obs.* Also 5–7 volue. [ad. L. *volvĕre* to turn, roll, etc., or obs. F. *volver* (= Sp. and Pg. *volver*, It. *volvere*, *volgere*) from the same source.]

1. *intr.* To turn over, to roll.

c1380 Herman Visions, *Lyves & Menus* 604 (Bann. MS.), Voluand (*v.r.* Welterand) about with biddous rowmising, Qwhyte to, quhyle fro, gif he myght succour get.

2. *trans.* To turn over the pages of (a book). Also *absol.* (Cf. Revolve 8, 9.)

1593 Lo. Berkeley *Breitz.* 1 Auth. Pref. 2 Whan this ymaginacyon came to me, I volued, tourned, and redde many volumes and bokes, contenyning famouse histories. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* Ep. 1 I will not trouble your eares, nor volued Characters of Kings and Peers, Letters, Consultations. 1598 R. Chamberlain *Noct. Lucubrationes* Ep. Ded. Many ..have..with burning zeale Worship hath vexed and revolved. 1677 P. A. *Pref. Poem* in *Cary's Chronol.*, Even so our studious Friend..is intent On Books and Reading, so doth chuse and pick, Volve and Revolve, and finally doth stick.

3. To turn over in the mind; to consider.

c1500 Barclay *Fugywrthe* (1537) 65 b, Somtyme he volued in mynd rather to subdue hymselfe..than to begynne war agayn. 1626 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* IV. 257 Cambucan ..volvd, revolvd, in diepe perplexitie How to fit love and justice remedie. 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xx, I have been volving and revolving in my fancy..by what clean device I might..modulate them.

**Volvelle** (vɒ·lvel). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also 5–6 volvell(e, 6 (g). volvall. [ad. med. L. *volvella* or *volvellum*, app. f. *volvĕre* to turn.] An old device consisting of one or more movable circles surrounded by other graduated or figured circles, serving to ascertain the rising and setting of the sun and moon, the state of the tides, etc.

24.– *MS. Ashmole* 191 fol. 197 The Rewle of the Volvelle. Now folowip here pe volvelle pat man may clepen a lunarie. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Now folowip pe thrid table pt is cleped a volvelle or a lunary. 1500 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 329 A Coaster pageent wt a volvell by the which the sii signes moved about the Zodiak..and ouer that volvell Sat, in a stage or pynnacle, Raphaell the Arch angell. 1510 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 1317 He turnyd his tirlikin, his volvell ran fast. *a* 1529 — *Sp. Parrot* 137 Tholomye and Haly were cunnyng and wyse In the volvell, in the quadrant, and in the astrolobye, 1893 in Dyce *Wks. Skelton* II. 338 A curious description of the volvell, with directions for its use. 1865 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 231/2 One volvelle and an accompanying table do the work quickly enough. 1880 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 361/2 The curious Kalender, with an astronomical volvelle of which the stylus had been preserved.

**Volvent,** *ppl. a.* [ad. L. *volvent-*, *volvens*, pres. pple. of *volvĕre* to turn.] Turning round.

1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist., Napoleon* xi, Now had the Seaman's volvent sprite..Slung northward.

**Volvocina·ceous,** *a. Bot.* [Cf. next and -aceous.] Resembling or related to the *Volvocineæ* (see next).

1874 H. C. Wood *Fresh Water Alga* 235 A peculiar condition of the Volvocinaceous Algæ.

**Volvocinean,** *a. Bot.* Also -ian. [f. mod.L. *Volvocineæ*, *Volvoc-*, Volvox.] Of or pertaining to the *Volvocineæ*, a family of microscopic confervaceous plants.

1885 E. R. Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 836/1 Other Protozoa are known which are provided with chlorophyll corpuscles and..nourish themselves as do plants. Such are the Volvocinean Flagellata and some of the Dinoflagellata. 1890 *Nature* 8 Feb. 318/2, I have cited the two Volvocinean genera Pandorina and Eudorina as examples of the differentiation of homoplastids into the lowest heteroplastida.

‖ **Volvox** (vɒ·lvɒks). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. L. *volvĕre* to roll.] A genus of fresh-water organisms having a spherical form and provided with cilia which enable them to roll over in the water; an individual of this genus.

*Volvox* as the name of a vine-fretter in Holland *Pliny* (1601) I. 547 is derived from old editions of the *Nat. Hist.* xvii. xxviii., which have *volucrem* in place of *volvorem*.

1798 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* I. 212 Girod Chantram..even distinguished in one species of *conferva* a real *volvox*, which had some similarity to the *rotator* of Gmelin. 1862 Sir J. Slack in *Intell. Observer* V. 83 In one of my specimens I found a small volvox apparently uninjured. 1882 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 373 It would now seem that the celestial spaces have also their volvoxes and diatoms.

**†Volvulous,** *a. Obs.*[—0] [f. L. *volv-ĕre* to turn, after *pendulous*, etc.] Twining.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 264 It is a lacteous, volvulous, scarcely and obscurely ramified.

‖ **Volvulus** (vɒ·lvĭlĕs). *Path.* [med. or mod. L., f. L. *volvĕre* to turn, twist.] A form of intestinal obstruction caused by a twisting or knotting of the bowel. + Also in pl. *volvuli*.

1679 J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revis'd* 247 When the Entrails are stopt that they cannot void, it is the Volvuli or wringing of the Guts. 1794 Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Ileum*, Sometimes the Coats being doubled inward, the upper part of an Intestine sinks or falls with the lower, which makes the Iliack-Passion or Volvulus. 1798 A. Monro in *Ess. Phys. & Lit.* (1756) II. 353 Remarks on ..Intussusceptio, Inflammation, and Volvulus of the Intestines. 1799 *Med. Trnl.* I. 419 Intussusceptio, Volvulus, Proteonal Inflammation, ..Volvulus. 1846 Britton tr. *Malgaigne's Oper. Surg.* 356 The exact seat of the foreign body, volvulus, or strangulation. 1874 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 921/1 Volvulus is sometimes induced by violent muscular exertions, as in jumping or lifting. 1892 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 815 Under the name Volvulus have been included two distinct modes of obstruction. In one the bowel is so twisted about its mesenteric axis that it becomes occluded: in the other the mobile coils of the intestine are so intertwined or knotted together as also to cause an obstruction in their canals.

b. With *a*: An instance of this.

1758 J. S. *La Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1777) 187 There might be a *Volvulus*. *Ibid.* 189 A *Volvulus* may be the Consequence of that Inflammation, and of the antiperistaltick Motion that succeeds it. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 156/2 Once a volvulus has become fairly established, it cannot spontaneously relieve itself. 1892 F. Taylor *Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) 587 Occasionally the small intestine forms a volvulus of the same kind as that described in the sigmoid.

**Volwyshe,** obs. Sc. form of Wolfish.

**Voly,** obs. form of Volley *sb.*

**Volyer,** variant of Vollier.

**Volym,** obs. form of Volume *sb.*

**† Volymare,** *var. folmare*, etc., Foumart.

*c* 1450 *Sir Hemelyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 303 The mewe in this maner schal be sette, that no fucher no volymare enter in.

**Volyper(e,** obs. forms of Volupter.

**Volsine,** variant of Voltsine *Min.*

**Voman,** obs. Sc. f. Woman.

**Vomating,** obs. Sc. f. VOMITING *vbl. sb.*

**Vomative,** variant of VOMITIVE *Obs.*

**† Vome,** *sb. Obs. rare.* Also voom, woom. [f. next.] Vomit.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxviii. 8 Alle forsothe bordis ben fulfild with the vome and filthis, so that ther were no more place. 1382 — 2 *Pet.* ii. 22 An hound turned ayen to his woom [v.r. vome, voom].

**† Vome,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vomēre*: see VOMIT *v.*] *trans.* and *absol.* To vomit. Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xviii. 28 Whan bidewes synnes Y shal visite, that it caste [*early MSS.* vome] out his dwellers. — *Jer.* xxv. 27 Drinketh, and beth drunken, and vometh, and falleth. 1407 *Exam. W. Thorpe* in *MS. Rawl. C.* 208 lf. 24 He & hise felowis mowen sore dredę,..last þei ben sodeynli vomed out of be noumbre of goddis chosen peple. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 67, I sau brume, that prouokis nane persoun to vome aid feurne.

Hence **† Vomˈing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xix. 14 To ciren thei maden Egipt..as ernesch a drunke man and a vomeryle. — *Jer.* xlviii. 26 He shal hurle the hond of Moab in his vomyng. — 2 *Pet.* ii. [22 A sowe waschun [returned] in the walewinge (*v.r.* vomyng].

**Vome,** southern ME. var. FOAM *sb.* and *v.*

**† Voment.** *Obs. rare.* [Alteration of *vomet* VOMIT *sb.*] Vomit.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* xxi. (Arb.) 51 He drew out of his mowthe an horrable voument of venyme and cast hit al abrode. *c* 1500 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de W.) xxvii. (1850) 143 As a dogge whiche maketh a voment, and casteth out the mete that he hathe eten before.

**Vomer** (vōˑmər). [a. L. *vōmer* ploughshare.]

1. *Anat.* A small thin bone forming the posterior part of the partition between the nostrils in man and most vertebrate animals.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Vomer*, is a Bone situated in the middle of the lower part of the Nose. 1708 MORGO *Anat. Bones* 138 The Vomer divides the Nostrils, [and] enlarges the Organ of Smelling. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 26, I..found that the Roots of the Polypus adhered to the *Vomer*. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 66 The *Vomer* is an aygpous bone, situated in the median line,.. forming the posterior part of the septum of the nasal fosse. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 95 The skull of the Common Fowl differs from that of the Common Pigeon ..in its possession of a rudimentary vomer.

2. *Ichthyol.* A bone forming the front part of the roof of the mouth, and often bearing teeth.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 403 Many pointed teeth along both jawa, the palate, and the tongue, but none on the vomer. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 170 The next, or fourth family of the Acanthopterygii,..is for in not having teeth on either vomer or palate. 1880 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 48 Brook Trouts,..distinguished from the true Salmons by a peculiar arrangement of teeth on the vomer.

3. *Ornith.* The longest terminal bone in the tail of most birds; the pygostyle.

1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 37 The bones are few..and short, not projecting beyond the general plumage, and the last one, called *coccyx* or *vomer*,..is large and singularly shaped.

**Vomerine** (vōˑmərəin), *a.* [f. VOMER + -INE.]

1. Of or belonging to the vomer (esp. of fishes); composing the vomer.

1804 OKEN in *Oken's Elem. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 294 The naturalsegment which..is formed by the vomerine, prefrontal, and nasal bones, is very distinct in the ophidians. 1858 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 258 Teeth in vomerine bones in a transverse row. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 647/2 An extremely large basal bone, which extends from the vomerine region on to the anterior part of the spinal column.

2. Of teeth: Situated on the vomer.

1803 DANA *Man. Geol.* 345 *note*, The species of Europe want these vomerine teeth. 1880 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. 983 Here the vomerine teeth of the middle row are larger than the teeth of the other rows.

**Vomero-,** combining form of VOMER, as in *vomero-nasal*, *-palatine* adjs. (In recent Dicts.)

**† Vomice,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 vomike, 8 -lck. [ad. mod.L. *vomicæ in nux vomica.*] *Vomic nut*, = NUX VOMICA.

The sense of 'purulent, ulcerous' given in later Dictionaries (from *c* 1884) appears to have been evolved from VOMICA 2.

1586 TURNER *Herbal* III. 49 First I wil rehearse what he writeth of the vomike nut. 1752 J. HILL *Mat. Med.* 505 Vomick nut is the nucleus of a fruit of an East-Indian tree. 1794 WOODVILLE *Med. Bot.*, Suppl. 29 *Strychnos Nux vomica.* Vomic nut, or Poison-nut.

**† Vomica** (vǫˑmikă). Pl. **vomicæ** (-isi), and **vomicas.** [L. *vomica* boil, ulcer, f. *vomĕre* to eject, vomit. Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *vomica*, F. *vomique*, in sense 2.]

1. **† a.** A vent or opening. *Obs.*—1

1578 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* II. 15 b, It should followe, that where such hote bathes were, there should bee vomica and a chimney, out of whiche that flame should bee expelled.

**b.** A place at which water issues.

1858 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Irnl.* I. 273/1 It is obvious that the conflux of the springs in the Beck, is greater than the unvarying quantity gauged at the vomica or source of each Spring.

2. *Path.* **a.** An ulcerous cavity or abscess in the substance of the lungs or (more rarely) some other internal organ.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Vomica*, a fault in the Lungs, from Heterogeneous Blood. 1730 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 1. 387 If the Ulcer is not broke it is commonly call'd a Vomica. 1779 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1776) III. 104 The lungs become inflamed, a cough ensues, tubercles or a vomica are formed. 1820–9 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 659 Vomicæ or indurated tumours of whatever kind in the substance of the lungs. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 136 A vomica in the middle lobe of the right lung. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 196 The ulcerative cavities, vomicæ, result from a softening of the tuberculous and inflammatory cheesy material and its removal through the bronchi.

**b.** A sudden and profuse expectoration of purulent or putrid matter.

1895– in American dicts.

**Vomicene, -in(e.** *Chem.* [f. (NUX) VOMICA.] = BRUCINE. (In recent Amer. dicts.)

**Vomicose,** *a. Bot.* [f. VOMICA 2 a.] Abounding in ulcerous excrescences.

**† Vomish,** *v. Obs.*—1 [ad. F. *vomiss-*, lengthened stem of *vomir* to vomit.] *trans.* To vomit.

1536 *Stories & Proph. Scripture* S vj, And the Lorde hath commaunded the whayle, and he hath vomished out Jonam vpon the lande.

**† Vomishment.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 vomyssch-. [ad. OF. (also mod.F.) *vomissement*, f. *vomir* to vomit.] The act or fact of vomiting.

*a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1888 He schalt not benne hys bowst take, For vomyschment & castynge sake.

**Vomit** (vǫˑmit), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 vomyt (5 womyt, womyght), 5–6 vomyte, 5–7 vomite, 6 vomitte, 6– vomit (6 womit), 7–8 vomitt; 4–6 vomet, 5 -ete, -otte, 6 womoit, 7 vomett. [a. AF. *vomit*, *-ite*, OF. *vomite* (= It., Sp., Pg. *vomito*), or ad. L. *vomit-us*, f. *vomĕre* : see next.]

1. The act of ejecting the contents of the stomach through the mouth : = With *a* and *pl.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 85 Duke Edrik,...feynge hymself wode or brakyng-e, seide þat he was seek. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13545 The salt water sadly sanke in my wombe, Pat I voidet with vomettus by verti of goddes. 1484 CAXTON *Curial* xvii. 188 Ye shal haue..that other day..a vomyte to caste it up ayayn and make vomytes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 194 b, For very feblenes of nature caused by immoderate vomites he died. 1579 LANGHAM *Garden of Health* 437 Nyx vomica..causeth a strong vomitte. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, I haue pills about me would giue him a vomit. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 123 It gaves them immediately such a Vomit, that they spewed forth most vile Corruption. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse Watch* (1710) 11 Vomits soon grow old, they have..Phrensies, choleric Vomits, and Fluxes. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p. v, Vomits drive forcibly out of the upper part of the chyliferous Tube..its noxious Contents. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* I. 18 Hellebore is effectually by a vomit. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 901 Vomiting in perityphlitis ..may occur repeatedly, or there may be only an initial vomit.

*fig.* 1481–8 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 972 Vnwise is he þat busy bought ne dredeb. In whom þat he his mortel venym schedeb, Pat it a-wreke nere folwe hiyue, As he pat of despeir he may arryue. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 53 Others..stirred up the dregs of those rude humours, which by time..he sought to repose, or to give them all a vomit.

**b.** Without article.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2898 Hym gayneth neither for to gete hym lyf, ne vomyt lasse ne moore, Than he had it neuer. 1420 tr. *Secreta Secret., Prov. Priv.* 247 Vomyte purgyth þe stomake of ill humours aboue, as a medecyne laxatyfe beneþe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 511/2 Vomyte, or vomytte, hakyng, *vomitus*. 1598 FLORIO, *Salerbolo* m., A Vomit. He shulde eate no maner of meates without his stomake be net, and purged of all yl humours by vomet. 1655 EDDS *Theodet & Hydr.* 77 The remedy that worketh by vomyte whiche they prouoke by eatynge of antes. 1964 HARDING *Assyr. Tyrant* 46 When the deacon haul forced her to receive a little of the wine, by vomits and vomits followed. *a* 1670 HEALY *Cebes* (1676) 135 Which purgeth out all their ingulphed evils, as by vomit or ejection. *c* 1670 *Women Saints* 90 As often as they receive of the..meate, she by vomite cast it up again. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 331/2 It is said to be Diaphoretick, and gently to provoke Vomit.

**† c.** With *the*, in specific use. *Obs.*—1

*a* 1598 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 318 The weam-eill, the wildthe, the vomit of the sea.

**d.** (See quot.)

1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 20/1 *Barcoo Vomit*, a sickness occurring in inhabitants..of the interior of Australia. It is characterized by violent attacks of vomiting.

2. Matter ejected from the stomach by vomiting ; = SPEW *sb.* 1.

*c* 1390 *Wycliffite Bible* 2 Pet. ii. 22 An hound turned vpon his vomyt, for to womyt, turned. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 278 (Harl. MS.), He may be likenide to an hound þat turnith ayen to his womyt. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxviii. 8 All tables are so ful of vomyte and fyllthynes, þ^t no place is clene. 1578 H. WOTTON *Cornelius Contreo.* 205 The Image of Bacchus with fat red cheekes, begrimed with vomets. 1631 R. HOLTON *Comf. Aff. Consc.* (1635) 307 As a loathsome vomit is to the stomacke of him that casts it out so are luke-warme Professours to the Lord Jesus. 1843 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 12 The vomit of a dog. 1860 SHELLEY *Childish* v. 33 Here Mr. Chaffy's venom..is mingled with the vomit of the Leech. 1876 BARTROW *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 655 The character of the vomit depends on circumstances. Generally, however, it comprises mucus..and bile. 1882 BALLANTINE *Exper. Barrister's Life* II. 10 A physician ..who was present when the vomit was analysed.

**b.** *Black vomit*, a blackish matter, resembling coffee grounds and due to hæmorrhage, vomited in severer cases of yellow fever ; also, the disease of yellow fever itself.

1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 137 The black Vomit was not known at Cartagena...until the Years 1720 and 1730. 1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 146/2 The Yellow Fever..is the same with that called, from one of its worst symptoms, the *black vomit*. 1823 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 293 A fever, with yellow skin and black vomit in some of the cases, appeared among a party of forty men. 1876 BARTROW *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 109 On the third or fourth day, or later, the vomited matters..begin to contain blood..and they soon assume..a coffee-ground character, constituting the so-called 'black vomit'. 1882 *Century Dict.* 3/1 Hands sent aboard..left on the next day, believing they had detected 'black vomit' in her hospital.

*attrib.* 1823 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 295 A black-vomit epidemic. *Ibid.*, The black-vomit fever of the West Indies.

**c.** (See quots.)

1888 *Fagge's Princ. & Pract. Med.* II. 808/1 Coffee-ground vomit in cancer of stomach. 1895 *Pavy's Stand. Dict., Bilious vomit*, bile forced back into the stomach and ejected with vomited matter.

3. *a. fig.* (Chiefly in allusion to Prov. xxvi. 11 and 2 Pet. ii. 22).

(*a*) 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Argt., Wks. 1910 II. 5 The eldest (turning to their vomit) take their carriage with them, and travaile the worlde. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 80 Turne no more to the puddle and vomit of your filthye, olde life. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 7 They likewise returned to the filthie vomite of their abominable idolatrie. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect. Wks.* 183 II. 200 Some others have started back from the purity of Scripture, to the old vomit of your traditions. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 74 Returning back to his old vomit, he was also drawn with to forsake Philip. 1706 STEVENS *Span. Dict.* I, *Bolver al vomito*, to return to the vomit, to relapse into sin.

(*b*) *a* 1585 POLYCARP *Flying Serpent's Poems* (S.T.S 1910) 170 The loun man lik his wourmis, and euery His schanneles sawis. 1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, i. iii. 99 Now thou would at eate thy words vp, And how base it is to drink it. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio & Mel.* Dedic., I will make thee eate thy vomit up. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I, *Misery* 20, I..Feed on those vomits of my heart.

**b.** Applied with contemptuous force to persons or things of a vile, loathsome, or disgusting character.

1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, Out you dog-leach, The vomit of all pestilons. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* To Rdr., It is not the primitives Truth that I oppose, but a certaine preternaturall upstart, a vomit of Aristotle. 1880 L. WALLACH *Ben-Hur* 532 The vomit of Jerusalem is coming. 1889 J. DICHIE *Il with Good Angels* 172/1 Jesus spenks of him as a vomit, which He will have to spue out.

**c.** *transf.* Substance cast out by discharge or eruption.

1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* III. 65 The lab'ring Mounts Belch drossy Vomit out. 1727 *Pract. Navig.* 172/1 Four companies..had to be detailed to capture it under cover of a mountain battery's vomit.

4. A powder, draught, or other medicine which causes vomiting : an emetic.

Freq. from *c* 1600 to *c* 1800.

*a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* II. 52 in *Anglia* XVIII. 309 3if þou of vomites wylt hawe bote. *c* 1460 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 18 Laxatiues & vomitis nedeful to hem, but han olde rotid woundis. 1542 MORE *Dequat. Novius. Wks.* 900 Fain wold we haue some medicins, as purgacions & vomites, to qual down & suppil ye rumor in ye stomach. 1580 HESTER tr. *Fioravanti's Disc. Chirurg.* 37 The first thing that I gaue him was a vomitie that purged the stomacke. 1663 TIMME *Quersit.* i. xiii. 52 The extraction whereof maketh a very good and gentle vomit. 1664 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 19 A vomit that I took of Mr. Alport, it. 6d. 1712 SWIFT *Tryal. to Stella* 18 Sept., I have taken a vomit today, and hope I shall be better. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Emetic*, The great practice of the antient Egyptian physicians consisted in glysters, vomits, and abstinence. 1765 TUBLER *Med. Time* 11. 61, I told the servant to make up a vomit, and he has made up a purge. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygeia* IX. 155 The state of the stomach had been changed by absorbents, vomits or blisters. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 452 He saw from thirty to fifty gall-stones voided after taking only an oil vomit. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1337/2 *Vomit*, common term for an emetic draught or powder.

*fig.* 1589 NASHE *Pasquil & Marp.* 20 Martin..poysoned her [sc. Divinity] with a vomit, that she shiuered vnto her, to make her cast vppe her dignities and promotions. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 13 The earth..is burdened with them, and cryes to me for a vomit to spue them out.

5. The hood or cover of a vomiting boiler.

1880 J. DUNBAR *Practical Papermn.* (1881) 29 [Rags] boiled with steam..for 10 hours in stationary boilers without vomit. 1898 *Encycl. Brit. Suppl.* XVIII. 220/2 The hot liquid is dispersed all over the boiler by striking against a hood K at the top. This is technically known as the vomit.

**Vomit** (vǫˑmit), *v.* Forms : 5–6 vomyte, 6–7 vomite, 6 womyt, -itte, womit, 6– vomit; 6 womet, (womyt. [ad. L. *vomit-*, pa. stem of *vomĕre* (whence It. *vomire*, F. *vomir* : see VOME *v.*), or ad. L. *vomit-āre* (whence It. *vomitare*, Sp., Pg., and Pr. *vomitar*, obs. F. *vomiter*), frequentative of *vomĕre* to vomit. Cf. EVOMIT *v.*]

1. *intr.* To bring up and eject the contents of the stomach by the mouth ; to cast or throw up ; = SPEW *v.* 1.

1420 tr. *Secreta Secret., Prov. Priv.* 245 If a man haue nede to vomyte, lete hit be done aite myddes. 1599 HOLME *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 320/1 Then shall ye sometime see..al their boslye shiuer for paine, and yat shall neuer vomete at all. 1633 EDGH *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 16 Some..are prouoked to vomitte, euen as they were tossed on the sea. 1992 *Kyd Murder Y. Brewen's* 5 Immediatlie after he began to vomit accordingly. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 127 Sir Herbert Croft..met him upon the water vomiting all the way. 1805 E. WILSON *Syndacr. Dunelm.* 79 In case the Stomach be foul, and the Patient..be apt to Vomit. 1832 DR. FOX *Plague* (1754) 67 The young Lady

complained she was not well; in a Quarter of an Hour more she vomited. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 304 The belly was always greatly swollen, when the animal began to vomit. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 231 She complained .. of extreme sickness, which produced frequent efforts to vomit. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xi. 344 The monkeys in the Zoological Gardens often vomit whilst in perfect health.

2. *trans.* To bring up and discharge (swallowed food or drink) through the mouth; to cast out (a matter or substance) in this way; = Spew *v.* 2. Also *fig.*

1580 Bible (Geneva) *Prov.* xxiii. 8 Thou shalt vomit thy morsels that thou has eaten. 1585 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Vomitus*, Matter of diseases vomited. 1588 Shaks. *Titus A.* III. I. 232 My bowels cannot hide her woes, But like a drunkard must I vomit them. 1622 —*Cymb.* I. vi. 45 Slutt'ry .. Should make desire vomit emptiness, Not so allur'd to feed. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 149 His stomach became uneasy, and he vomited a small portion of the last dose. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 535/1 The matters vomited are merely the contents of the stench, half digested. 1858 J. Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 109 A lady vomited the contents of a very large swelling which had formed.

b. Freq. with adv., as *forth, out, up.*

1541 Elyot *Image Gov.* 23 Yf by chance he espied any of them, he was therwith so greued, that he immediately wolde vomite vp colar. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 72 *Helleborum reuiuiscens*, to vomite out bloudde. a 1592 H. Smith *Wks.* (1866) II. 50 Then might the poor be fed with that which the oftentimes .. loathsomely vomite forth. 1609 Holland (Douay) *Ammian* li. 21 The Camell spoke to the fish and it vomited out Jonas upon the dry land. 1663 Cowley *Cutter Coleman.* Sr. 11. vii, He's vomited out .. all my entrails. 1693 Evelyn *Fr. in Quint. Compil. Contl. Austral.* 181 The Natives say that once some men..became so ill that they vomited forth their livers.

3. *fig.* a. To eject, reject, cast *out* or *up*, esp. with abhorrence or loathing.

1580 Wyner *Wks.* (1851) 1. 74 That that mot..womet out again fra the ground thai bittir and tribulous seis of errouris. 1588 N. T. (Rhem.) *Rev.* iii. 16 Because thou art ..neither cold nor hote, I begin to vomite thee out of my mouth. 1600 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. iii, They faine would cast And vomit him from off their governement. 1636 Sir R. Baker *Cato Variegatus* not too much to be vomited up than to be forc'd in th' end To eate thy words, and vomit up thy friend. a 1704 T. Brown *Dial. Dead, Belgic Hero* Wks. 1711 IV. 87 A haughty Tyrant..was obliged to vomit up numberless Provinces and Towns, which he had dishonourably stolen. 1839 T. Mitchell *Progs of Aristoph.* Introd. p. xcii, A stern admonition, that where such vices are practised, the very earth cast its inhabitants out.

b. To give vent to, belch out, or utter (abusive or objectionable language); = Spew *v.* 2 c. Chiefly with advs. (as *forth, out, up*) or preps.

1592 Breton *Pilgr. Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I. 29/2 Vp did start the heads of Orators, vomiting out theese wordes of villany. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* IV. ii. I hope This Senate is more grave, then to give credit Rashly to all he vomits. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Caussin's Admir. Effects* 270 He..made him vomit out a thousand outragious speaches against the perfidie .. of Babilas. 1679 Cotton *Scoffer Scoff'd* 56 All these abominable names Thou vomits forth so fluently. 1865 Parkman *Champlain* viii. (1875) 289 The Frenchman vomited against him every species of malignant abuse.

*absol.* 1640 Sir E. Dering *Carmelite* iv. (1641) 52 How basely..is unfit for any man to foul his pen with; more unfit for you..to vomit against those dead Prince.

4. *transf.* a. To discharge, to give, send, or throw out (flames, water, etc.) copiously or with force.

1598 Hulsot, Vomitynge or castynge out water, *vadimonium.* 1634 Milton *Comus* 659 His dark and hellish crew..like the pests of Egypt, vomit smoke. 1655 Charles *Emblems* i. xi. (1718) 45 Sol's hot-mouth'd steeds, whose nostrils vomit flame. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 804 The silent plague [Love] through the grave vomits, and, vomiting out the rain, a tardy flame by fits. 1748 Melmoth *Fitzosborne Lett.* II. (1749) 11. 47 Those grotesque heads, which the ingenious architect has represented in the act of vomiting out the rain, which falls through certain pipes. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 559 Many a million-peopled city Vomits smoke in the twilight air. 1859 Kingsley *Water Bab.* 17 That huge black-mouthed sewer, vomiting its pestilential riches across the mud. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 84 The roar Of the dead sea, that vomits Wrecks of the past ashore.

b. To discharge or emit, to send *out* or pour *forth* (persons or things, esp. in numbers) in a manner suggestive of vomiting.

1594 Shake. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 318 A scum of Britaines,.. Whom thale o'recloyed Countries vomit forth To desperate Adventures. 1789 Cyrus Spencer in *Lady Lyttelton's Corr.* viii. (1912) 213 If I find any Englishwoman going home by a disgleeon, Mrs. Bishop may be vomitted out at the Black Bear, Piccadilly. 1820 *Ibid.* 222 All such as you see vomited out of the steam-vessel upon Ramsgate or Margate piers. 1834 S. E. Brydges *Autobiog.* I. 108 An incredible quantity of nonsense is vomited from the press. 1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* xvii, There was Uriah's blue bag lying down and vomiting papers.

c. To eject or cast out by volcanic action; = Spew *v.* 4 c. Also with advs., as *forth, up.*

1814 Earl Stirling *Doomsday* II. (vii), The earth..Doth vomit mountains, and doth swallow Townes. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 109 A little Rockie Island, which.. vomited up incredible Flames. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6128/8 Mount Vesuvius had vomited violent Streams of Sulphur. 1770 W. Hodson *Dict. Temp. Solomon's Mines* 2 Mines vomits forth her livid Fires. 1796 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 76 A mouth of fire is opened in a low place..: that mouth vomits a quantity of burning matters. 1839 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. iv, Mentz is changing into an explosive crater, vomiting fire, bewomited with fire! 1866 Herschel *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1867) 33 The opening of a chasm vomiting fire and red-hot stones and ashes. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 218 The fused rocks..which are vomited forth by volcanoes.

5. *absol.* Of emetics: To cause vomiting.

1691 French *Distill.* 172 You may have a Liquor in the morning which will vomit. 1688 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 50 Which Tincture does variously operate, sometimes purging, sometimes (though rarely) vomiting. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 284 The Mineral Decoct will sometimes vomit. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 274 It [hemlock] seldom purges, very rarely vomits. 1824–9 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 57 Emetic tartar, when introduced into the jugular vein, will vomit in one or two minutes. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* iv. 50 When chemistry reveals why Tartar Emetic vomits.

b. *trans.* To cause (a person) to vomit.

1660 R. Mathew *Unl. Mich.* 3 Yet it will it vomit some, purge others, and make others sweat out of measure. 1732 N. Tobin *Gen. Serv. Treat* 34 We gave some Ipecacuanha, which vomited our Patient, and made her discharge several Membranes and Fragments of Eschars. 1798 Edgar *Midwifery* 141 Some having taken this water in a mistake,..it has vomitted and purged them. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 81 It is true, vinum antimoniale generally always vomits children. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* iv. 50 When chemistry reveals why Tartar Emetic vomits.

b. *trans.* To cause (a person) to vomit.

1660 R. Mathew *Unl. Mich.* 3 Yet it will it vomit some, purge others, and make others sweat out of measure. 1732 N. Tobin *Gen. Serv. Treat* 34 We gave some Ipecacuanha, which vomited our Patient, and made her discharge several Membranes and Fragments of Eschars. 1798 Edgar *Midwifery* 141 Some having taken this water in a mistake,..it has vomitted and purged them. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 81 It is true, vinum antimoniale generally always vomits children. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* iii. 131 Almost every dose vomited him.

c. Said of the person administering the emetic; or in passive of the patient.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 298 We presently proceeded to vomit him; for he was easy to vomit. 1707 Sivitt *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 158, I have been involuntarily vomited; I have been vomited. 1736 *Hist. Old. & Ing.* (1776) I. xxi. 271, I proposed..to relieve her, by vomiting her in the most gentle manner. 1790 J. C. Smyth in *Med. Commun.* II. 178 He was vomited with infus. emetic. 1810 Byron *Let. to Hodgson* 3 Oct., The English Consul..forced a physician upon me, and in three days vomited me, and gave me to the last grasp. 1841 Catlin *H. Amer. Ind.* lviii. (1844) II. 248 He is vomiting and purging his patients with herbs.

*fig.* 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* *Do. Guise* II. ii, I took thee for my Soul's Physician, And dost thou vomit me with this loath'd Piece? 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 10 We'll vomit his purse, And he shall vomit his conscience.

6. *intr.* To issue, or come out, with force or violence; to rush *out*, to spout *up*.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 392 It impetuously vomiteth out, in an outragious Torrent. 1844, 1909 (see Vomiting *ppl. a.*)

Hence **Vomited** *ppl. a.*

1846 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 393 A case in which urea was detected in the vomited fluid. 1873 Ralfe *Phys. Chem.* 48 In certain forms of dyspepsia they have been obtained from the vomited matters.

**Vomit-**, the stem of Vomit *v.* used in a few combinations, as + vomit-grass, a grass causing vomiting in dogs; **vomit-nut,** = Vomic nut (Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, 1858); **vomit-wort** *U.S.*, Indian tobacco (*Lobelia inflata*).

1808 Pursh (title) Its vomiting quality or presence will be to them what the vomit-grass is to a sick dog.

**Vomitary,** variant of (or misprint for) Vomitory *sb.*

1654 Witvie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 448 Much lesse vomitaries; for of all evacuations a vomit is the most grievous and dangerous. [*But p.* 338 vomitories.] 1833 Sir C. Napier *Colonies* 3 The innumerable tributary rivers which send their waters through these mighty vomitaries into the ocean.

**Vomiter.** [f. Vomit *v.* + -er1. Cf. L. *vomitor.*]

1. One who spews or vomits.

1562 Turner *Herbal*, *Vomiters*, *l'omiters*, a vomiter. 1648 Hexham II, *Een braker*, a Vomiter, or a Spewer. 1739 'R. Bull,' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 666 The Vomiter in no small Passion flew, But all his vain 'Vous nothing but his Due, Instead of Food he to be crown'd with Spue.

2. = Vomitory *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1634 P. Lowe *Chirurg.* 265 Purging the grosse phlegmatick humours, and cleansing the stuffe, and vomiter. 1641 Wilkins *Math. Magick* 4 Without any disturbance of Nature, by Loosners, Vomiters, Bleedings, Issues. 1717 Woodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 262 Let blood if your sick continue, and take a vomiter. 1743 *Scots. Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) 190 To Mary Strang, a vomiter, 1/. 3s. 10. 0.

**Vomiting,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Vomit *v.* + -ing1.]

1. The act of ejecting the contents of the stomach through the mouth; an instance of this.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvii. 68 b/1 Thisfloure balaustia..hath also vertue to staunche spewyng & vomytynge. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. v. 73 When they vse to make them vomite, they vse with fasting or vomiting. a 1568 in *Baumstyng M.S.* (Hunt. Cl.) 196 Opium thy crop at morrowing, Cast out flowme, mak vomiting. 1619 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 381 Sodaine passions of vomiting .. is nothing different from a kockish stomacke and a desire to cast. 1683 Boyle *Useful Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. 26, 249 The Water..by the quick operation of a rapid ferment, and by making him giddy, hasten and facilitate his Vomiting. 1706 Stannope *Paraphr.* III. 323 Such a nauseating and indigestion that great Numbers..died..by violent Vomitings. 1749 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1914) XIV. 139 A Sudden Vomiting seiz'd her, which deprived her of y^e Benefit of her Viaticum. 1825 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 590 A mild vegetable ailment, where ailment can be taken without inducing sickness, or exciting vomiting. 1885 Pater *Marius* I. vii, A painful vomiting, which seemed to shake his body asunder.

b. Const. *of* (the matter ejected).

1620 Holland *Pliny* II. Table, s.v., Vomiting of blood out of the stomacke, how to bee cured. 1622 Venner *Via Recta* viii. (ed. 2) 194 It..inducetth vomitings of blood. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Colic*, A Vomiting of bitter green Liquor. 1765 Wesley *Jrnl.* 27 May (1827) III. 215 A young man, brought near death by a vomiting of blood. 1822–3 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 183 Gangrene..accompanied with a vomiting of matter resembling coffee-grounds. 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1337/1 *Vomiting of Blood*,..common term for the disease *Hæmatemesis.*

c. With defining terms. (See quots.)

1704 B. Rush *Acc. Yellow Fever* (ed. 2) 56 Several persons died without a black vomiting of any kind. 1858 Macgillivray *Trav. Humboldt* xxi. 300 The yellow fever or black vomiting is prevalent. a 1883 Page *Pract. & Pract. Med.* (1886) II. 130 'Hæmatemesis' is the wide page C, causes it to strike against the dome or bonnet D.. This is technically called 'vomiting'.

4. *attrib.*, chiefly in the phrases 'causing vomiting, emetic', as *vomiting drink, julep, pap, tartar*, etc.; + **vomiting nut,** = Nux vomica 1.

(*a*) 1575 Banister *Chyrurg.* 106 b. *Nux vomica*, the vomiting nutte. 1589 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1860) 155, iij vomitinges of Ipocras. 1668 Charleton & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. xviii. 49 They are no bigger than a large vomiting Nut. 1681 Grew *Museum* II. i. iv. 210 The true Nutshell; or the Vomiting-Nut commonly so call'd. 1721 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 137 The Vomiting Nuts are round, flat Nuts, of divers Colours. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 53 They use strong Vomiting Drinks. 1727 Bradley *Hist. Plants* 11. v. 186 The Vomiting Medicine, called..Mercurius Vitæ. 1694 W. Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 563/2 A Vomiting Pappe. *Ibid.* 567/2 *Tartarum Emeticum*, Emetick, or Vomiting Tartar. 1733 *Mem. Ars. & Observ.* IV. 32 An Essay towards ascertaining the Doses of vomiting and purging Medicines. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 191 A few spoonfuls of the vomiting julep, will generally answer this purpose.

(*c*) 1652 Wittie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 44 He that first found out the vomiting verjuce of antimony. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 630 Again and again the suggestive..of a tumour in the region of the vomiting centre.

**Vomiting,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing2.] That vomits or causes to vomit.

*Vomiting-boiler*: (see quot. 1844).

1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* ii. 76 A 'vomiting-boiler', that is, a boiler so constructed that the water is made to vomit upwards from a pipe, and then to fall down on the cloth in the boiler. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 1/2 Fixed kiers with a vomiting-pipe. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Paperm.* (1881) 19 [Esparto grass] boiled for 10 hours in stationary vomiting boilers with 10 lb. steam pressure. 1904 R. J. Farrer *Gard. Asia* 248 From the wide plain leapt a vomiting cone of fire.

**Vomitingly,** *adv. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ly2.] In manner suggestive of vomiting.

1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* 24 Take occasion (pulling out your gloues) to haue some Epigram..or Sonnet fastned in one of them, that you may (as it were vomitingly to you) offer it scilt to the Gentlemen.

**Vomition** (vǒmi·ʃən). [a. obs. F. *vomition* (16th c.), or ad. L. *vomitiōn-is, vomitio*, noun of action f. *vomĕre* to vomit.] The action of vomiting.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vomition*, a vomiting, casting, or puebreaking. 1696 Gadbury *Genethl. Jud. Stomach & Guts* vi. 95 The use hereof with Vndulation, is for Vomition. 1701 — *Cosm. Sacra* III. ii. 98 If the Stomack had wanted the Faculty of Vomition, they had inevitably died. 1714 Abbutnot, etc. *M. Scriblerus* I. x, He attended Dr. Woodward through a twelve months course of vomition. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 589 Prof. Hufeland advises the artificial production of the milk observed in infants. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 619 An emetic which..has the additional benefit of exciting the necessary peristaltic vesicular motion by the act of vomition. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* July 200 Some of these..were relieved by a copious vomition and survived.

+ **Vomitive,** *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* Also 7 vomitif, vomitife, 6 Sc. womatyve, 7–8 vomative. [a. F. *vomitif, -ive* (= Sp., It. *-ivo*, It. *vomitivo*), ad. med.L. **vomitīv-us*: see Vomit *v.* and -ive.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of medicines, etc.: Causing vomiting; vomitory; emetic.

1580 *Will of Woman Hill, Aberdeen* 82b, To witheris it is womatiue. 1633 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 142 Being therein helped by certaine vomitive pils. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 337 From this vitriolous quality *Mercurius dulcis*, and vivid vomitive concession black objections. 1658 *Hist. Thes. & Hard. Misc.* I. 232 Now These itself, when given in a large dose,..does often prove vomitive. 1705 Stoane *Jamaica* II. 181 These nuts grow in Jamaica in pods very vomitive,..but called and eaten as Wallnuts. 1754 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 846 [Antimony] being in substance most violently vomitive.

2. Of or pertaining to vomiting.

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* Ep. Rdr. 10 The true preparation of all Vegetals, takes away..the vomitive quality of them, except only in Opium. 1683 Boyle *Useful Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. vii. 189 That Vomitive faculty, of Antimonial Glass. a 1691 — *Hist. Air* (1692) 233 *Antimonium Diaphoreticum*, being kept some Years,..acquir'd a Vomitive Quality.

**B.** *sb.* An emetic; = Vomitory *sb.* 1.
1621 Cotgr., *Vomitif*, a Vomitiue, or Vomitorie; any thing that prouokes vomiting. 1697 Hornbeck *Gt. Law Canad.* vii. (1704) 420 Physicians.. make him sicker than he is..by vomitives. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 401 They gave her also Vomitives and Deobstruents. 1708 Chambers *Cycl.*, The *Ipecacuanha*..is also a gentle Vomitive. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 51 The second indication is to evacuate the morbid humour by vomitives or purgatives, or a cathartico-emetic. 1778 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 337 Vomits may be rendered purgatives, and purges vomitives.
*fig.* 1689 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 192 Slowness in believing is a Vomitive that brings up secrets.

**‖ Vomito** (vǫmi·tō). [Sp. (and Pg.) *vómito*, ad. L. *vomitus*, f. *vomēre* to Vomit.] The yellow fever in its virulent form, when it is usually accompanied by black vomit. Cf. Vomit *sb.* 2b.
1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 290/2 He even says that during the eight years preceding 1794, there was not a single example of the *vomito*. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* (1850) I. 2 The season of the bilious fever,—*vomito*, as it is called,—which scourges these coasts. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 470 The puerperal fever and the true yellow fever or vomito were thought to own a common cause.

**Vomito'rial,** *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *vomitōrius* (see Vomitorium) + -al.] Of or pertaining to a vomitorium or vomitoria.
1850 Dowell *Roman* v. Poet. Wks. (1875) 39 From these wide And vomitorial windows, belched your tumult To me transgressing.

**‖ Vomito'rium.** *Roman Antiq.* Pl. **vomitoria** (also 8 -iums, *erron.* -ias). [Neuter sing. of L. *vomitōrius* (cf. next); recorded only in pl. (Macrobius *Sat.* VI. iv.).] A passage or opening in an ancient amphitheatre or theatre, leading to or from the seats. Usu. pl.
1734 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* I. 130/2 They were entered by avenues, at the end of which were gates, called vomitories. 1766 Smollett *Trav.* II. 128 The arena is surrounded by two galleries one over another; and two vomitoria or great gateways at opposite sides of the arena. 1837 *Antiq. Athens* 48 Those numerous corridors and vomitoria which gave such free.. access to all parts of a Roman theatre.

**Vomitory** (vǫ·mitŏri), *sb.* [ad. L. *vomitōri-um* (whence F. *vomitoire*, Sp., Pg., It. *vomitorio*): see prec. and next.]
**†1.** A medicine or the like which causes or induces vomiting; an emetic. *Obs.*
1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 259 This Tithymall is nothing so strong a vomitorie as the former. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* xix. (1672) 38 Having a power to force themselves a vomiting, by straining, as the manner means in taking Vomitories privately. 1699 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 332/1 A most gentle Vomitory, Dejectory, and Diaphoretick. 1732 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl. s.v. Anacatharsia*, Vomitories, sternutatories or masticatories.
*fig.* 1681 Witte tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. xxxiv. 338 So inhume..are all those things which are ascribed against this sort of poyson, but especially vomitories who do..offer great violence to Nature.
**2.** An opening, door, or passage in a theatre, playhouse, or the like, affording ingress or egress to the spectators; originally (and usually) = Vomitorium.
1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 274 He had made the number of the Vomitories in the Middle full in the second Line. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & Fall* I. 351 Sixty-four *vomitories* (for by that name the doors were very aptly distinguished) poured forth the immense multitude. 1847 Prescott *Peru* (1850) II. 54 Low ranges of buildings, consisting of spacious halls with wide doors or vomitories opening into the square. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 620/1 Yonder are the vomitories through which..the tide of eager population flowed. 1861 E. A. Bradford *Egypt to Sepulchres & Syrian Shr.* II. xxiv. 320 Near this are the remains of a once fine theatre..: some of the vomitories still remain.
**3.** A funnel, vent, or other opening through which matter is emitted or discharged.
1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 427 A low building, which is almost all chimney—it has indeed a wide-throated vomitory ..for so tiny an edifice. 1863 *Trans. Archit. Inst.* 1862 From this vomitory, the old glacier poured into the plains ..that wonderful accumulation of mud. 1904 R. G. Farnin *Coral Asia* 165 Those roaring vomitories [*sc.* volcanoes] of the underworld.
b. In fig. use.
1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 270 His tongue struck dumb in his cheek, and the vomitory of vociferation hermetically sealed. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 917 Our three great theatres, which Mr. Prynne..proved long ago to be vomitories of vice. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 558 The great vomitory of the London press. 1878 J. Thomson *Plenip. Key* 25 Your shameless charlatans whose dirty tricks And frothy gab make all politics..Retard sure progress—damn such vomitories!

**Vomitory** (vǫ·mitŏri), *a.* [ad. L. *vomitōri-us*, f. *vomēre* to Vomit: see -ory 2.]
**1.** Of or pertaining to vomiting.
1620 Venner *Via Recta* vi. 103 Their heating, cutting, attenuating and vomitorie faculties. 1648 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 86 Its Regulus will manifestly communicate unto water, or wine, a purging and vomitory operation. 1670 Gaule *Ichn. Philos. Hist. Plants* § 7 Whence one [faculty] becomes Purgative, another Vomitory, a third Diaphoretick. 1701 Wollay *Syst. New York* (1860) 61 If we will believe the ingenious Dr. Cox,..there is an Emetick Vomitory vertue in the Sea-water it self. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 684 Vomitory agonies, and spasms of the diaphragm.
**2.** Efficacious in promoting vomiting; causing vomiting; emetic.
1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg. Wks.* XXVI. v. (1678) 632 Agarick, and other nauseous and vomitory Medicins. 1680 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 208 A Physician of the City offers him a vomitory potion, whereby he vomited twice every day. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 212 After taking a Medicine, whether sudorifick or vomitory. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1337/2 *Vomitorius*, .. causing vomiting; emetic;..vomitory.

**† Vomiture.** *Obs.*—1 [f. Vomit *sb.* + -ure.] Matter ejected by or as by vomiting.
1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. i. 42 Long as the craftie Cuttie lieth sure In the blacke cloude of his thicke vomiture.

**† Vomiturient,** *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. next and -urient.] Characterized by a desire to vomit.
1666 H. Stubbe *Miracl. Conformist* 43 He was sick at Stomach, and seemed to be in a very vomiturient condition.

**Vomiturition.** [n. F. *vomiturition* or ad. med. or mod.L. *vomiturītiōn-*, *vomiturītio*, noun of action f. **vomiturire* to desire to vomit.] (See first quot.)
1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Vomiturition*,..Ineffectual efforts to vomit. Some authors mean..the vomiting of but little, or..without effort. [Hence in Worcester (1846) and Mayne (1859).] 1847 Dunglison *Chem. Phys.* 6 This can be collected in quantity by irritating the fauces with a feather, and producing vomiturition.

**Vom,** M.E. var. Wom *sb. Obs.*

**Vond(e,** southern ME. var. *fond*, pa. t. of Find *v.*

**Vonde(n, -di-, -dy** southern ME. varr. Fand *v.*

**Vondir, Vondit, Vone,** obs. Sc. ff. Wonder, Wounded, Wone *v.*

**Vonge,** southern ME. var. Fang *v.*

**Vonnyn,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. Win *v.*

**Vonnyt,** obs. Sc. pa. t. Wone *v.*

**Vont,** obs. Sc. f. Wont *a.*

**Vonyng,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. Win *v.*

**Voo,** obs. Sc. f. Woe *a.*

**Voodo** (vū·dō), *sb.* Also **voudoo, voudou, vuudu, vaudoux.** Vaudoux. (Cf. Hoodoo.) [African (Dahomey) *vodu.*]
**1.** A body of superstitious beliefs and practices, including sorcery, serpent-worship, and sacrificial rites, current among negroes and persons of negro blood in the West Indies and southern United States, and ultimately of African origin.
1880 G. W. Cable *Grandissimes* xiv, Do this much for me this once and then I will let voudou alone as much as you wish. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 20 Sept., The Voudoos of Louisiana..were recently viewed at the funeral of a negress and found them to be very much alive. 1889 *Daily News* 15 June 5/1 As generally understood, Voodoo means the persistence, in Hayti, of abominable magic, mysteries, and cannibalism, brought originally by the negroes from Africa.
**2.** One who practises voodoo; a negro sorcerer or witch.
1880 G. W. Cable *Grandissimes* xii, She practised the less baleful rites of the voudoos. 1882 *New Orleans Picayune* 20 May, The fool spends all her money to do us harm, thinking she is a voudou. 1888 *Daily News* 25 June 5/2 Accused, like the Voodoos, of serpent-worship.
**3.** *attrib.*, as *voodoo dance, doctor, priest*, etc.
1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 17 Aug. 2/4 Under the influence of some withered old mummy of a voodoo-doctor. 1889 *Lippincott's Mag.* XLIII. 351 Sixty-four negroes in connexion with the "Jerusalem Jump", 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 July 13/2 An old negro woman who claims to be a great voodoo queen. 1890 *Duluth Weekly Herald* 2 Oct. 1/2 The witch-woman and the voodoo-priest became the centre of Negro group life.
Hence **Voo'doo** *v. trans.*, to bewitch, to cast a spell over, by means of voodoo arts.
1880 G. W. Cable *Grandissimes* xxii, It is true, as he says, that he is voudooed. 1880 *New Orleans Picayune* 30 May, She flung this over into my yard to voudoo me.. She would need but a half dollar to voudoo me. 1884 C. F. Holder *Marvels Anim. Life* 117 Averring that they had been 'voudooed' and nearly killed by the..fish.

**Voodooism** (vū·dūiz'm). Also voudouism, voudouism, and Vaudouism. [f. prec. + -ism.] The system of beliefs and practices constituting voodoo; the belief in, practice of, voodoo as a superstition or form of sorcery.
1871 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. VII. 210/2 What is Voodouism? 1880 *New Orleans Picayune* 20 May, Finding that no Voudou could..voudoo him. 1883 *Philadelphia Times* No. 3023 3 His mission is to supplant Voodooism and its kindred superstitions among the colored population. 1891 *Church Review* (St. Louis, U.S.A.) 28 April, A sort of retired Voodooism disguised in Christian phraseology.

**Voog,** variant of Vug.

**Vool, -lah,** southern dial. var. Fool, Foolish *a.*
1569 Preston *Cambyses* D iv b, I think the vool be mad. *Ibid.*, Has he plaid such a vollish trick? dead?

**Voom,** variant of Vome *sb. Obs.*

**Voor.** *dial.* [var. Vore 3.] A furrow.
1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 334 A Voor, or Furrow of Land. [Hence in Ray, Phillips, etc.] 1880 in south-western dialect (ex. *Dial. Dict.* s.v. Foor *sb.*).

**‖ Voorlooper** (vōrlē·pəɹ). *S. African.* [Du., f. *voor-* before + *loopen* to run (see Leap *v.*).] A native boy who walks with the foremost pair of a team of oxen in order to guide them.
1852 C. Baxter *Dorp & Veld* vii. 49 Our driver and leader, or *voor loaper*, were both Hottentots. 1878 Aylward *Transvaal of To-day* ii. 18 *n.-to*, Every team of bullocks has a leader, generally a native boy, who holds a tow-line fastened to the horns of the front ones, hence the word 'Voorlooper'. 1885 Rider Haggard *K. Solomon's Mines* I, A wagon, with a driver, a voorlooper, and a Kafir hunter.

**‖ Voortrekker** (vōrtre·kəɹ). *S. African.* [Du., f. *voor-* before + *trekken* Trek *v.*] One of the original Dutch emigrants into the Transvaal; a pioneer.
1878 Aylward *Transvaal of To-day* I. 3 Mr. Oliphant, ..in speaking of the Voortrekkers (advanced pioneers), says [etc.]. 1881 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 1/1 To prevent a large and respected portion of the English people from ever doing justice to the Transvaal Voortrekkers. 1899 Rider Haggard *Swallow* Introd. § 2 Sympathy with the Voortrekkers of 1836 is easy.
*attrib.* 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 61 In those days the 'voor-trekker' Dutchmen shot them [the natives] down like rabbits. 1899 Fitzpatrick *Transvaal* 26 The active party among the Boers, i.e. the Voortrekker party, the most anti-British and Republican.

**Vor,** southern var. For *prep.* and *conj.*, southern ME. pa. t. Fare *v.*

**Vor-,** southern ME. variant of For- *prefix.*

**Voracious** (vorē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *vorāci-, vorax*, f. *vorāre* to devour + -ous. Cf. F. *vorace*, It. *vorace*, Sp. and Pg. *voraz.*]
**1.** Of animals (rarely of persons, or of the throat): Eating with greediness; devouring food in large quantities; gluttonous, ravenous. Also const. *of.*
1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 283 Wall may they fear some miserable End,..Whose large Voracious Throats have swallow'd All. 1699 Damper *Voy.* II. 68 The King Carrion Crows..are very voracious, and will dispatch a cadkass in a trice. 1725 tr. *Le Vayer's Round World* (1840) 231 The Spaniards are..cruel, insensible, uncharitable, voracious. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 81 Those (Cockroaches) are very troublesome, being voracious of most kinds of diseased victuals. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 88 All the Indians of South America .. are in general excessively voracious. 1819 Sir W. Scott *Bride of Lam.* XXI. 11. 616 All the species being extremely voracious. 1825 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 69 At the earliest introduction of fishes we find the voracity and the destructive habits of sharks fully represented. 1862 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 229 Yet are the *Ctenophoræ* very voracious, feeding on a number of fleating marine animals.
*trans.* 1852 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* II. (1870) 45, I had seen him about a year before,..and had noted well the unlovely voracious look of him.
*fig.* Of persons: Excessively greedy or eager in some desire or pursuit. Also const. *of.*
1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. ii. 34 Circe's Cups..: Which with his Mates, voracious of their Woe, If he had blindly tasted [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 200 A most voracious believer he is. 1832 Carlyle *Sterling* v. iv, A voracious observer and participator in all things he likewise all along was. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 419 Mr. Rowlands..was a voracious reader.
*c. transf.* Of things.
1767 A. Young *Farmer's Lett. to People* 112 He will advise the practice of sowing no vegetable crop after wheat. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 450 Twitch'd from the perch, He gives the princely bird, with all his wives, To his voracious bag.
**2.** Characterized by voracity or greediness. Also *fig.*
1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Very Old Man* In Hindley III. 22 All Creatures are Made for mans use, and may by Man be usd, Not by voracious Gluttons. 1655 Gurnall *Christ. Suffer. Son of God* II. xxvii. 709 This Miscreant thought of nothing else but how to glut his Voracious Appetite. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 62 He had such a voracious appetite that he would take with indifference either medicine or food. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 45/2 [The snail's] appetite is as voracious as its means of indulging it are perfect.
*b. fig.* Of desires, intercals, etc.: Insatiable.
1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 452 P 3 They have a Relish for every thing that is News, let the matter of it be what it will; or, to speak more properly, they have no Taste of a voracious Appetite, but no Taste. 1820 H. Rogers *Ess.* (1874) I. vii. 342 He took revenge for his transient fit of scepticism by a subsequent most voracious dogmatism. 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Brit. Poets* II. (1857) 52 His appetite for argument was as voracious as his physical appetite.

**Voraciously** (vorē·ʃəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a voracious manner; greedily, gluttonously, ravenously.
1737 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 382 All four of the species of this singular genus are fond of pepper, but this eats it most voraciously. 1776 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1862) II. 208 They came starved, and eat their little dinner voraciously. 1839 Dickens *Nicholby* V. The boys began to eat voraciously, and in desperate haste. 1846 H. Cringle *Life in Woods* II. (1874) 191 Every one here broils voraciously. 1900 J. Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 73, I was voraciously hungry.

**Voracity** (vorē·sĭti). *Also* 6-7 **voracite,** -itie. [a. F. *voracité* (14th c., = It. *voracità*, Sp. *voracidad*, Pg. *-idade*), or ad. L. *vorācitas*, f. *vorāci-, vorax*: see Voracious *a.* and -ity.] The quality or character of being voracious; greediness in eating.
1598 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 99 b, Voracite or

gredyvasse in eatyng...sayth, O, how hungry I am. 1584 Lodge *Alarm agst. Usurers* F iij, What though you cloath your selues in simplicitie of Dooues, and your inwarde habite be worse then the voracite of Wolues. 1649 G. Sandys *Trav.* 28 Those that with the rarities of the earth do pamper their voracities. 1658 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 241 No people in the world have better stomacks, drinke more, or more affect voracity. 1692 Karl. Monm. tr. *Brattogelic's Hist. Relat.* 64 This Army is like a great Animall which lives in continual voracity. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 309 The animal's voracity is greater than its feelings, and it never seizes without bringing down its prey. 1851 J. Rennie *Angling* 6 To me it appears much more probable, that...fishes have intervals more or less extended of fasting, after which they eat with great voracity. 1888 Peard *Water-farms.* xvi. 164 Innumerable Ascidians have been related regarding the voracity of this fish [the pike]. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi, Who is that extremely stout personage...who is devouring his dainties with such brutal voracity?

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* Also const. *of.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 47 What a Nature is that which feedeth the most greedie voracitie in the whole world [*sc.* that of fire] without losse of sufle? 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 274 In Iberia also and Armenia they entred with no lesse voracity. 1664 H. More *Apology* 466 The fierceness and voracity of the ordinary call Critick. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 62 The voracity of time...has left nothing but a few Foundations remaining. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Young* Wks. IV. 146 Of Pope's voracity of fame taught him the art of obtaining the accumulated honour both of what he had published, and of what he had suppressed. 1862 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 398 The eating quality of debt does not relax its voracity. *Ibid., Conduct.* 421 Afflicting other souls...with ministrations to its voracity of trifles.

† **Vorage.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vorage*, or ad. L. *vorāgo* Voragо.] A whirlpool, gulf, chasm.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* x. 39 On that other syde cam vpon vs thyen Neptunus wyth all his vorages and wawes alle full of scume. *a* 1534 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1537) A iv b, The famous Romayne, whiche for to delyuer the towne of Rome..yelded hym selfe to the same vorage, that as than was sene in Rome. [1603 Cockeram, *Vorage*, a Quagmire.]

† **Voragеous,** *a. Obs.*—1 In 5 voragеouse. [ad. OF. *voragieus.*] = next 1.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xviii. 67 The wyndes ben in their furye, the see full of tempest and of grete voragеouse wawes.

† **Vora·ginous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *vorāginōsus*, f. *vorāgin-*, *vorāgo* Voragо. Cf. obs. F. *voraginеux*, It., Sp., Pg. *voraginoso.*]

**1.** Of or belonging to an abyss or whirlpool; resembling a chasm or gulf.

1614 T. Scott *Belg. Updaller* 8 More dangerous then the gaping and voraginous caue, wherein Curtius leapt. 1656 Cokaine *Dianea* III. 233 A voraginous place, about the banks of which those men appeare that have perished by a violent death. 1678 E. Wilson *Apadracr. Dunelm.* 23 The bottom of the Sea...is perforated with sundry voraginous inlets and patent mouths. 1797 Mallet *Anquetor's Theod.* I. 219 His secret sea,...deep amidst A cavern's jaws voraginous and vast.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1624 *Cage for Pope* 3 The Countrey villages know not what a Sermon meaneth, onely Masse and Mattens, with some voraginous deliuery of wonders. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. ii. xlviii, In the course of time voraginous With rapid force is violently just.

**2.** Having the receptive or swallowing power of a gulf or abyss; devouring; devouring.

1633 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 165 This Voraginous appetite gaped after the possession of his countries. 1638 Renld. Lord *Pleas* 85 How it doth grieve me...that we think to get our admission under God with voraginous paunches, and soaked gullets. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 326 No Nation in the World be more idle and voraginous than they. 1691 in C. R. Wilson *Old Port William* (1906) I. 11 Provisions ..being extremely deer, made so by the Voraginous great Armyes neer us.

Hence † **Vora·ginousness.** *Obs.*—1

1656 R. Codrington tr. *Justine* iv. 74 Those Waves did bark, which the voraginousness of the devouring Sea did commit and clash together.

† **Voragious,** *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. Voragkous *a.*] = prec. 2.

1665 D. Dudley *Metiall. Martiall* (1854) 58, I do not wholly compute the vast quantities of charcoles and wood spent in these voragious works.

† **Vorago** (vorā·go). Now *rare.* [L. *vorāgo*, f. *vorāre* to devour. Cf. Voragе.] An abyss, gulf, or chasm.

1654 Howell *Parthenia*, To Rdr. A ij b, The great *Vorago* or fiery Gulph, which rageth in the head of that Mountain [Vesuvius]. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 91 Earthquakes, Chasmes, and Voragoes were at his command. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1008 The top of Ætna must about the same time have sunk down into its old Vorago or hole.

*fig.* 1856 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1876 VI. 450 Adultery and concubinage did you mention! Another voragо, two voragoes, Scylla and Charybdis, of national wealth.

1895 J. J. Raven *Hist. Suffolk* 151 Five years more, and Blythburgh Priory perishes in the general voragо.

† **Vorant** (vō·rănt). [ad. L. *vorant-*, *vorans*, pres. pple. of *vorāre* to devour.]

**1.** Devouring. *Obs. rare.*

1618 Dekker *Owles Almanack* 18 Lofty Lion (said Jove) I will thee clasps thy jawes, and shut the portall of that vorant grave. 1630 G. Daniel *Recbus.* xxviii. 72 As the fierce Lyon from his cunning ward, It shall Surprise him; as the Vorant Pard, It shall destroy them.

**2.** *Her.* Of animals: (see quots).

1766 Fosbr. *Heraldry* Dict., *Vorant*, this term...is used in Blasonry to express the action of any Animal, Fish, Bird, or Reptile, devouring or swallowing up another creature.

1780 Edmondson *Her.* II. s.v., A serpent erect, in pale, vorant an infant. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. (ed. 3) 60 A Lion...may be Vigilant, or Vorant. 1868 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 95 *Trussing* has the same signification when applied to birds, as *Vorant* has to animals.

† **Vora·tion.** *Obs.*—0 [ad. L. *vorātio*, f. *vorāre.*] ‘A devouring, or eating up greedily.’

1658 Blount *Glossogr.*

† **Vora·tile.** *Min. Obs.* [f. *Vorax* in Styria + -ile. Named in 1806.] = Lazulite.

*c* 1800 *Emgel. Mineral.* (1814) VI. 481/1 Asbeite. Klaproths. Tyrolite. Vorouilite....Occurs in attached crystals and massive. 1832 Brande *Dict. Sci.* (ed. 2) App. 1421 *Vorauite*, a mineralogical name of the ferro-magnesian phosphate of alumina,...as species of *blue-spar*, or *lazulite.*

† **Vorax,** *a. Obs.*—1 [a. L. *vorax* devouring.] Voracious, ravenous.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 442 This Alexander,..Of Bustenoch was callit ane bair the vorax wolf.

**Vorb·ard, -bede, -bind,** southern ME. vars. of Forbeard, Forbid *v.*, Forbidden *sb.* **Vorbroide, -broyde,** southern pa. pple. of Forbraid *v.* **Vord,** southern ME. var. Ford *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. Word *sb.* **Vordan, Vordilly,** obs. Sc. ff. Warden, Worthily *adv.* **Vordrye,** southern ME. var. Fulethee *v.* **Vordy,** obs. Sc. f. Worthy *a.*

**Vore,** *Obs.* [South-western var. Fore *sb.* 2. Used in gender L. *vestigium.*] Track, trace.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 373 þe pore man þonked hym, and vansched sodenly awey, and noon wey [*MS. y*: non vore] was knowe of his goynge. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* VIII. 118 Þanne he made my vore be vnder and ofte, And prouen vnpaffit prelates of holy churche. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. vii. (Tollem. MS.), By þe opinion of þe compas, þe whole þis circle, Galaxias, is þe vore of þe passynge of þe sonne. *Ibid.* III. xix. (1495) d v] b/2 Hondes ..followyn the vores of bestes by smellinge.

**Vore** 2. *dial.* [South-western var. (still in use) of *fore*, *fore-* prefix.] Cf. Voor.] A furrow.

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1565 þay..ne spared rigges ne vores til þay meite þat pray. 1580 Batman *Barth. De P. R.* Catal. haud Words, *Vores*, furrowes of land.

**Vore, Voregoer, Voreward(e,** southern ME. vars. of Fore *adv.*, Foregoer, Forward *sb.*[1] **Vorfare, -fret, -gon, -gulte,** southern ME. vars. Forfare, -fret, -go, -guilt. **Vorie,** aphetic f. Avowry 2. **Vorke,** obs. Sc. f. Work *sb.* **Vorlese,** southern ME. var. Forlese *v.* **Vorloffe,** obs. var. Furlough. **Vorme,** southern ME. var. Forme *a.* **Vorne,** southern ME. var. Fern *a.*; obs. Sc. f. Worn *pa. pple.* **Vorold,** southern ME. var. Forold *v.*

**-vorous,** *suffix*, forming adjs., after L. *-vorus* devouring, eating (cf. *vorāre* to devour) in *carnivorus*, *omnivorus* (both used by Pliny). The commoner English examples mainly date from the 17th cent., as *carnivorous*, *herbivorous*, *omnivorous*, *phytivorous* (also *granivorous*, *ossivorous*, *piscivorous*); later instances are *graminivorous* (1739), *metallivorous*, *offivorous* (1713), *serpentivorous* (1882), and *terrivorous.*

1832 Tomlinson *Pict. Nat.* 5 A very singular appetite...at once terrivorous and metallivorous.

**Vorow, Vorre,** southern ME. vart. Furrow *sb.*, Far *adv.* **Vorschalde,** southern ME. var. Forscald (see Fon-*prec.*[1 b]). **Vorshipfull,** obs. Sc. f. Worshipful. **Vorst(e,** southern ME. vart. First *a.*, Frost *sb.* **Vorsted,** obs. f. Worsted. **Vort,** southern ME. var. Fort(e *conj.*

**Vortex** (vō·rtĕks). Pl. **vortices** (vō·rtĭsēz). [n. L. *vortex* (var. of *vertex* Vertex) an eddy of water, wind, or flame, a whirlpool, whirlwind, f. *vort-*, *vertĕre* to turn. Cf. F. *vortex* (Anat.), Fg. *vortices* pl., It. *vortice.*]

**1.** a. In older theories of the universe (esp. that of Descartes), a supposed rotatory movement of cosmic matter round a centre or axis, regarded as accounting for the origin or phenomena of the heavenly and other systems; a body of such matter rapidly carried round in a continuous whirl.

1653 H. More *Philos. Cabbala* App. L (1713) 113 That there are infinite numbers of Atoms or Particles, different in magnitude and figure; and that they are moved in the Universe after the manner of vortices. 1662 Glanvill *Lux Orientt.* xiv. 141 That great orb of fire...shall fly away out of this vortex, and become a wandring Comet. 1665 — *Def. Van. Dogm.* 89 The Cartesian Vortices will serve to account for the Phænomena, and teach a way of Theory not unserviceable to experiment. 1698 Krell *Exam. Th. Earth* (1734) 283 It is no hard matter to prove, that the Vortices can never be the cause of the Celestial motions. *a* 1714 M. Henry *Expos. O. & N. Test., Ezekiel* I. 14 (1737) II, He saw all within this vortex (to use the modern gibberish) which has the sun for its centre. 1785 Sir W. Herschel *Sci. Papers* (1912) I. 233 These will vanish like the Cartesian vortices, that soon gave way when better theories were offered. 1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 29 June, Descartes' vortices were not an hypothesis: they rested on no facts at all. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* I. 389 The false theory of the vortices or the true theory of gravitation.

**b.** In fig. context or use.

1704 Swift *Batt. Brks.* Misc. (1711) 251 Death, like a Star of superior Influence, drew him [Descartes] into his own Vortex. *a* 1721 Prior *Dial. Dead, Locke & Montaigne* 2d fin., Those very Ideas changing, Locke may be led into a new Labyrinth, or sucked into another Vortex; and may write a Second Book in order to Disprove the first. 1790 Cath. Graham *Lett. Educ.* 401 Our benevolence extends at last to the whole race of mankind, like so many different vortices; the center of them all is self love. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 190, I was a sharer in the general vortex, though my little world described the path of its revolution in an orbit of its own. 1855 Bailey *Ess., Poetry & Crit.* (1858) 197 That mighty ocean of intermingling, interacting vortices [*sc.* Time]. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* xvii. 304 The spiral vortices fundamentally concerned in the production of epic poems.

**c.** In modern scientific use. A rapid movement of particles of matter round an axis; a whirl of atoms, fluid, or vapour.

1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 316 Descartes, taught by Gilbert's magnet, with its Vortex, spiral, and polarity. 1852 J. C. Maxwell *Sci. Papers* (1890) I. 489 The theory of molecular vortices applied to statical electricity. 1872 Proctor *Elec. Astron.* xix. 230 Friction between vortices of meteoric vapours and the Sun's atmosphere must be the main source of solar heat. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 184 If there is not vertical motion throughout the whole area, but only local vortices, the integral will reduce to a simple sum of terms equal in number to the number of vortices.

**2.** An eddying or whirling mass of fire or flame. 1599 J. Hall *Herb of Grace to Sepulchre* p. by. The Pits and vortices of the Aetna, whose eructations throw whole stones from its depths. 1827–39 De Quincey *Murder* Wks. 1854 II. 69 Men, of course, read in this hurrying overhead of scintillating and blazing vortices the portents of some gigantic calamity going on in Liverpool. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* iii. 67 It continued to vomit forth from five different openings vortices of flame.

**3.** A whirl or swirling mass of water; a strong eddy or whirlpool.

1704 J. Pitts *Acc. Mohann.* 77 In this place is much Danger without a fresh Gale of Wind, because it is a Field of Vortex, the Water whirling round, and ready to swallow down a Ship. 1759 Stebne *Tr. Shandy* II. ix, [A coach] splashing and plunging...with such a vortex of mud and water moving along with it, to the right and left. 1776 *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 268 The noise of this dreadful vortex still farther contributes to encrease its terror. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* iv. (1818) 141 In crossing the river we passed through several whirlpools...These vortices are formed in an instant..and subside as quickly. 1829 T. Beale *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 218 It is now making but a white-and-green looking vortex in the disturbed blue ocean. 1864 C. Geikie *Life in Woods* xxiii. (1874) 366 The poor wretch was kept constantly whirling with each of his support sunk in the vortex by turns.

**b.** Applied to a waterspout.

1798 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 37 Still round and round the fluid vortex flies, Scattering dun night and horror thro' the skies.

**c.** *ellipt.* A vortex water-wheel (see 7).

1853 *Usk Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 4) II. 504 The vortex admits of several modes of construction. *Ibid.* 505 A low pressure vortex constructed for another mill near Belfast.

**4.** A violent eddy or whirl of the air; a whirlwind or cyclone, or the central portion of this.

*a* 1700 Kin *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 94 Now the North Wind the crazy Vessels tosses, And in the rapid Vortex pris'ner keeps. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Vertex*, Whirlwind, in Meteorology, a sudden, rapid, violent Motion of the Air, in Gyres or Coils. 1830 Herschel *Disc. Nat. Phil.* xxxiii. 59 A direct circuit of rotation in the form of a vortex or active whirlwind. 1845 A. Thom *Nat. Storms* 48 The *Hargarel*, on the opposite side of the vortex, still had the hurricane from the N.W. with a heavy sea. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (Low) xix. 439 The vortex of a cyclone is often and aptly compared to a meteor. 1879 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. vi. 198 We seemed crossing the vortex of a storm.

*transf.* 1871 R. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. ii. 123 The vortex of this night Hath whirled him hither to my sight.

**b.** In fig. context or use.

1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 13 Feb., The whirlwind of his eloquence nearly drew me into its vortex. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 26 In their rhythm is no manufacture, but a vortex, or musical tornado. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Hystics* I. 145 Bernard.. began life by drawing after him into the monastic vortex his kindred...with the irresistible vortex of his own religious fervour.

**5.** *fig.* A state or condition of human affairs or interests comparable to a whirl or eddy by reason of rush or excitement, rapid change, or absorbing effect.

1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lv. 273 The distant parts of the kingdom, being removed from that furious vortex of new principles which opinions were then forming in the capital. 1793 Burke *Obs. Conduct Minority* Wks. 1842 I. 611 No man..may be justly suspected of secretly abetting this French Revolution, who must not be drawn into its vortex. 1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed. 3) 143 Lecturers, who delight in being continually whirled round in the vortex of new opinions. 1838 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 224, I value my peace of mind too highly to suffer myself to be drawn into the vortex of New York politics. 1880 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 137/1 The appointments are kept out of the vortex of party and parliamentary jobbing. 1883 S. Waddington *A. H. Clough* 83 The vortex of religious excitement and discussion kept him ably moving in its ceaseless gyrations.

**b.** A constant round *of* excitement or pleasure.

1766 Fordyce *Serm. Y'ng. Wm.* (1767) I. vii. 266 That whirl of dissipation, which, like some mighty vortex, has swallowed up in a manner all conditions and characters. 1790 A. Young in *Mem. D'Arblay's Lett.* (1842) V. 399 A person

who is constantly moving in a vortex of pleasure, brilliancy, and wit. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Breakfast*, I feel that I cannot be at ease in the vortex of dissipation. 1897 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 191 She and her husband lived in a vortex of gaiety.

c. A situation into which persons or things are steadily drawn, or from which they cannot escape. (Chiefly after sense 3.)

1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* I. ii. 8, I thought it most prudent to remove...where no chance might remain of my being...whirled round again in the vortex of dissipation and gaming. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poet. Wks. (1904) 159/2 Let him hurl me anon, into Tartarus,...With Necessity's vortices strangling me down. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* x, I looked with horror on the gulf of penury before me, into the vortex of which not only I, but my whole trade, seemed irresistibly sucked. *a* 1860 Buckle *Civilis.* (1865) III. v. 356 Generation after generation passes away, successively absorbed in one mighty vortex.

† **d.** A design or figure representing or suggesting vortical movement. *Obs.*—1

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* Time Table, The Figures of Hoar Frost, and the Vortices on windows.

**7.** *attrib.*, chiefly in terms of physical science, as *vortex-atom, -filament, -line, -matter, -motion, -ring*; **vortex turbine** or **(water-)wheel**, a turbine in which the water enters tangentially at the circumference and is discharged at the centre.

1867 Sir W. Thomson in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIV. 15 (*heading*), On "Vortex Motion." 1869 P. G. Tait *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1868 (1869) 351 Sir W. Thomson's splendid suggestion of Vortex-atoms . . will enable us thoroughly to understand matter. 1870 — (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 486 By "vortex-motion" we denote portions of the fluid bounded by vortex-lines drawn through every point of the boundary of an infinitely small closed curve. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* II. 103 Each part of the body inside the tube is called a vortex-filament. 1887 Tait (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 486 By "*vortex-lines*" I denote lines drawn through the fluid so as at every point to coincide with the instantaneous axis of rotation of the corresponding fluid element. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* II. 100 A curve such that the tangent at every point is in the direction of the spin at that point is called a vortex-line. *a* 1721 Keill *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 21 As each Part describes equal Areas in equal Times, it follows that the Beds of the "Vortex Matter have their Velocities in a reciprocal Proportion to their distances from the Center. 1897 Tait (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 491 We may...call the motions which have no velocity-potential, generally, "*vortex-motions*. 1876 — *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* xii. 290 The peculiar properties of vortex-motion were mathematically deduced...by Helmholtz. 1867 — (tr. Helmholtz) in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXIII. 510 These "vortex-rings travel at...and are widened or contracted by other vortex-rings. 1878 W. K. Clifford *Dynamic* II. 205 Suppose that in a mass of fluid there is a single vortex ring of any form (i. e. a vortex-filament returning into itself). 1897 *Century Dict.* 7 Oct. 316 The turbine manufactured by them is termed the "Vortex'. 1884 *Athenæum* 16 Aug. 212/1 A description of the vortex turbine or inward-flow water-wheel. 1853 *Glenn Treat. Power Water* 146 Several machines derive their power from the reaction of water-pressure: such as Dr. Barker's mill,...the "Vortex-wheel, and others. 1880 *Lloyd's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 3) 111, 918 The name of Vortex Wheel has been given to a modification of the turbine by Mr. James Thomson of Belfast.

**Vorth**, southern ME. var. Forth *adv.*; obs. Sc. f. Worth *sb.* and *v.* **Vorpere(more**, southern ME. varr. Forther(more. **Vorthy**, dial. var. Forthy *a.*; obs. Sc. form of Worthy *a.*

**Vortical** (vǫ·rtikăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *vortic-, vortex* Vortex + -al.]

**A.** *adj.* **1.** Of motion: Like that of a vortex; rotating, eddying, whirling.

1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 191 The Matter being coagulated...and set upon Vortical Motion, Light dawned out in infinite parts of the World. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* 206 This universal attraction or gravitation is ...not a magnetical power, nor the effect of a vortical motion; I those common and ordinary explications of gravity. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 43, I have never been able to discern that vortical Motion, by which this Effect was said to be brought about. 1849 Emerson *Repr. Mens. Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 316 Descartes, taught by Gilbert's magnet, had filled Europe with the leading thought of vortical motion, as the secret of nature. 1881 J. Macdonald *Marg Marston* II. ii. 10 She made a sudden vortical gyration, and walked from the wile place. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 155 Twice the product of the area of the curve and the velocity inside it.

**2.** Moving in a vortex; whirling round.

1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 231 The vortical fluid, by which he explains the motion of the planets. 1792 I. Lloyd *Vop. Life* 23 Till all their brain is vortical;—and wreck'd They sink o'erladen with anxiety. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 165 Vibrating cilia...are more developed on these organs, which are also only pushed out at the will of the little animal, when they form strong vortical currents.

**B.** *sb.* A vortical motion.

1884 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 465/2 The summary of the author's theories is :—. That the magnetic vortical can be excited by means of spiral currents of electricity generally.

Hence **Vortically** *adv.*, in a vortical manner.

1872 Proctor *Sat. Astron.* xix. 230 If meteoric matter came in vortically around the equatorial parts of the sun. 1882 Minchin *Uniph. Kinemat.* 183 Energy of Vortically moving Liquid.

† **Vortice**, *sb* Obs.—1 [ad. stem of L. *vortex.*] A vortex.

1661 Boyle *Sprin of Air* (1662) 97 Particles, agitated or whirled round,...whereby they are such of them enabled to drive or force out of their Vortice all such other agitated particles.

**Vortice**, *v. rare*—1. [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To bring by vortical motion.

*a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 213 The heavier bodies...became outermost, and in their whirling vortexed the evil spirits into the centre.

**Vorticel** (vǫ·rtisĕl). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *vorticella*: see next, and cf. F. *vorticelle.*] = next.

1838 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 97 Some, as the vorticels, the wheel-animals by way of eminence, appear to have two wheels.

‖ **Vorticella** (vǫ̆rtisĕ·lă). *Zool.* [mod.L., dim. f. L. *vortic-, vortex* Vortex.] The typical genus of *Vorticellidæ* (cf. next); an individual belonging to this genus; a bell-animalcule. Also *attrib.*

1789 G. Adams (*title*), Essays on the Microscope, containing...an account of the various species and singular properties of the Hydræ and Vorticellæ. 1806 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* vi. 86 A most curious animalcule, called the wheel animal, or vorticella. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 90 Sometimes a rounded body, encircled by a ring of cilia but having otherwise the characters of a *Vorticella* bell, is seen to be attached to the base of the bell of an ordinary *Vorticella.*

**Vorticellid** (vǫ̆rtisĕ·lid). *Zool.* [Cf. prec. and -id 3.] An individual of the *Vorticellidæ*, a family of sedentary infusorians.

1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 38. 101 The jerk of a Vorticellid. 1888 Kellicott *Jackson Amin. Life* 237 Encysted Vorticellids with many nuclei have been observed.

Hence **Vorticellidan** *a. rare.*

1865 H. James-Clark in *Mem. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* I. 197 This singular appendage of the Vorticellidan group.

1880 Saville Kent *Infusoria* I. 68 Members of the Vorticellidan family.

**Vorticism**. *rare*—1. [Cf. next.] = Vortical.

1848 Poe *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 203 Cyclic and seemingly gyrating or vortical movements.

† **Vortician**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *vortici-, vortex* : see Vortex and -ian.] Of or belonging to the theory of vortices.

*a* 1721 Keill *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 23 This is all one of the greatest Men of the Age could say in Defence of the Vortician System. *Ibid.* 27.

**Vorticiform**. *rare*—1. [f. as prec. : see -form.] Having the form of a vortex.

1849–52 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. 1228/1 When the vibratile cilia...are simultaneously effecting their vorticiform movements with rapidity and perfect harmony.

**Vorticist** (vǫ·rtisist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] An advocate of the theory of vortices.

1666 De Morgan in *Athenæum* 26 May 706/3 Giordano Bruno...was, as has been said, a vorticist before Descartes, an optimist before Leibnitz, a Copernican before Galileo.

**Vorticity** (vǫtisi·stĭ). [f. as prec. + -ity.] The condition of a fluid, etc., with respect to vortical motion.

1895 *Athenæum* 23 Nov. 722/2 [Math. Soc.] On the Propagation of Waves upon the Plane Surface separating Two Homogeneous Fluids of Different Vorticities.

† **Vorticle**. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vortic-, vortex*, after diminutives in *-cle.*] A little vortex.

1706 G. Canning *Anti-Lucretius* iv. 309 In the vast Vortex, that surrounds the Whole, Examine how the Vorticles must roll. *Ibid.* 313.

† **Vorticordious**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *Vorti-, Verticordia* : see Verticordious *a.*] Turning the heart.

1669 St. Giles] *True Idea Jansenisme* 135 Then cap. 24 he proves more largely, That this medicinal Grace is Vorticordious or most potent.

**Vorticose** (vǫ·rtikōs·), *a.* [ad. L. *vorticōs-us* (*It. vorticoso*), f. *vortic-, vortex* Vortex : see -ose.]

**1.** Of motion : = Vortical *a.* 1.

1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 2, ii, At times...the motion was undulatory, and at others vorticose. *Ibid.* 194 The first shock ...was lateral, and then vorticose, and exceedingly violent. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geology* I. 418 The wave-like motions, and those which are called vorticose or whirling in a vortex. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xvi. 376 The displacement at first appears to be owing to a vorticose movement beneath each point thus affected. 1881 C. A. Young *Sun* 173 Only a very small percentage of the spots show any trace of vorticose motion.

**2.** Resembling a vortex.

1870 Matt. Williams *Fuel of Sun* § 326. 214 The...orb would be twisted bodily into a huge vorticose crater. 1893 Howlett *Life & Science of Sun* 247 They are illustrative of the development of two different and remarkable groups [of sun-spots]. The first is the elegant vorticose group.

Hence **Vorticosely** *adv.*, in the manner of a vortex; vortically.

1882 *Nature* XXV. 291 There is a strong inflow of the air along the surface of the ground all round vorticosely towards the base of the whirlwind. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 714/2 The strong air currents which...converge vorticosely round the base of the column [of the dust storm].

**Vorticular** (vǫtikiŭlăr), *a.* [Cf. prec. and -ular.] Of motion : Vortical, vorticose.

1838 Redfield in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXIII. 59 Were there no vorticular or whirling action already excited, there could then be no inequality of pressure to produce rotation. 1864 De Penning *Meteorol.* 65 This inward vorticular movement can only arise from the constant lateral pressure that is always maintained towards the partial vacuum of the vortex. 1892 *Atlantic Monthly* LXVIII. 682/2 They [sc. tornadoes] possess truly vorticular motion.

**Vorticulous** (vǫtikiŭlăs), *a.* [f. L. *vorticīgin-, vorticeo*, var. of *verticeo* : see Verticinous *a.*]

1. Of motion : Vortical, vorticular.

1691 R. Dobun *Wind* 230 The spirit or Wind...whirls about in a Circle : for...the density and resistence of the Cloud, gives it an oblique or Vorticulous Motion. 1704 Pennant *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 75 Great circular hollows, the work of the Vorticulous Motion of the Water. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 102 The flat and rooted earth...with vorticulous and hideous whirl Sucks down its prey Irresistible.

2. Moving in a vortex or vortices; rushing in whirls or eddies.

1792 Cowper *Iliad* xxi. 2 Where Xanthus winds His stream vorticulous. 1804 C. F. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U.S.* 168 In the same manner may water-spouts be explained, which are vorticulous masses of air and water, seen only in cloudy weather. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXI. 137 The great, deep, and vorticulous Scamander had dwindled into a scanty rivulet.

**Vorty**, south-western dial. form of Forty.

1600 *Contention betw. Lib. & Prod.* I. iv. D ij, Chast sure chase come, vorty miles and vnruly. *a* 1642 Suckling *Poems* (1646) 37 And there did I see comming down Such folks as are not in our Town Vorty at least, in Pairs.

**Vorwe**, southern ME. var. Furrow *sb.*

**Vory**, obs. f. Worry *v.* **Voryef** (-yif), **-yet** (-yit), southern ME. varr. Forgive *v.*, Forget *v.* **Vose**, obs. Sc. and north. f. Voice *sb.* **Vostre, Vot**, southern ME. varr. Foster *v.*, Foot *sb.*

**Votable**, *a. rare*—1. [f. Vote *v.* + -able.] Capable, or having the right, of voting.

1754 in *New Princeton Rev.* (1887) IV. 253 The votable inhabitance convened in the Min Hill house.

**Votal** (vōu·tăl), *a.* [f. L. *vōt-um* vow, wish (see Vote *sb.*) + -al.]

† **1.** Existing in will or wish, though not carried out in fact. *Obs.*

1622 Bolton *Flor. Hist.* (1636) 368 When not so much as private [baptism] may be well obtained, votall is enough. 1628 T. Adams *God's House* Wks. (1629) 624 He is not like those Debters, that have neither meanes, nor meaning to pay. But though he wants actuall, he hath votall retribution. 1844 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 243 Restitution and requital...must be real, if it be possible: but at the least, it must be votal in the desires and endeavours.

**2.** Of the nature of a vow or solemn engagement.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 5 And teare-rent Sophyre, Synonlike betrayd What votall bathes, loues sterne fort, ne'er beseyd. *a* 1638 Mede *Whs.* (1672) 480 Is it not lawful for and in what sort these Eucharistical and Votal Offerings have been used in the first ages of the Church. 1855 R. Boyle in *B. versus Wiseman* 4 Leaving the Society were purely conscientious, arising solely from strong objections to take any further votal obligations.

† **3.** Bound by vows; devoted to a religious life; appropriate to one under vows. *Obs.*

1636 R. James *Elegy on Lady Jane* (Soc.) 159 Lord Tlicbith's daughter, whoe had promised...tolliue ayre A votall virgin till hir dying daye. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 123 Threatned with speedy death, if she did not restore her daughter to the former mode of votall habiliments.

**4.** Of offerings: Associated with a vow; votive. 1846 R. Hart *Eccl. Rec. Gt. Brit.* 230 The mariner preserved from shipwreck presented a votal tablet on which was depicted the story of his escape.

Hence **Votally** *adv.*, with a vow, solemnly.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 484 He votally vndertooke...that ...I should haue all my money...restored me ngayne.

**Votaress** (vōu·tărĕs). Also 6 -esse, 7 -esse, **voteress**. (Cf. Votress 4.) [f. Votar-y + -ess.] A female votary ; *esp.* a woman devoted to a religious life or to a special saint.

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxx. (1592) 133 The wrong must then by Phœbe be reuenged, Who, rescuing her Votaresse, did so preuent her brother. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 887 Neare this place, at Caspalin, dwelt a Votaresse, who hecting sicke and past recouery, sent her garment to the shrine. 1664 R. Codrington tr. *Justine* xlii. 503 She seemed not so much to be a person condemned, as a Votaresse elected. 1679 Crosse *Vertue Rewp. Ancient* (Hakl. Soc.) 114 If a poor Votaresse there...should by chance steal a taste of forbidden pleasure. 1798 Southey tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 85 Thou heavenly maid! Who hast in this knight thy votaress defended. 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* ii. xiii, Rather will Ellen Douglas dwell A votaress in Maronnan's cell. 1823 Lytton *My Novel* IX. iii, The same [book] which had crowned the circle at Haselden-...chastened now the wearied and tempted votaress of the world. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. iii. 25 At length the votaress yielded to these importunities.

*attrib.* 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 138 Ruled lips Befit a votaress Muse.

† **Votarious**, *a. Obs.*—1 [Cf. Votary and -arious.] Vowed to a religious life.

*a* 1581 Campion *Hist. Irel. xii.* (1633) 39 Where hee erected many Celles and Monasteries, replenished with votarious men and women.

**Votary** (vōu·tări), [Cf. next and -ery.] One bound by a vow; a devotee, a votary.

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* I. v. 5 Wishing a more strict restraint Vpon the Sisterhood, the Votaries of Saint Clare. *a* 1630 Sportswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1677) 12 Divers Virgins ...did in like sort apply themselves to the solitary life; insomuch as the Votaries did that in after-times rose up, for they did not bind themselves by vows. 1698 S. Hellab *Caron* (1719) 44, I believe the Lady...is of too noble a mien to become her Votarist with an affront. 1781 Ellis. Canter *Lett.* (1809) IV. 322 One of the nuns was kneeling very near the grate...If one of our fine dress ladies had been placed near this charming votarist [etc.]. 1781 R. Cumberland *Anecd. Emin. Painters* I. 60 In the fore ground of the groupe of Bacchanals there is a young female votarist asleep. 1823 Shelley *Q. Mab* Notes v. 189 The language of the votarist is this. 1844 R. F. Ward *Chatsworth* II. 188 Like a spotless heifer...surrounded by the proud priests and senseless votarists in whose sight...it is presently to die.

1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VII. 1306 So kneels a votarist, Wends some poor waste traditionary plot Where shrine once was.

*transf.* 1808 H. Siddons *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II. 187 He is but a lukewarm votarist in the cause of truth and virtue, if he is to be thus ridiculed out of his integrity. 1832 W. Godwin *Thoughts Hom* 201 There is still further advantage that belongs to the poet and the votarist of polite literature, which ought to be mentioned.

**Votary** (vōʊtări), *sb.* Also 7–8 vot-. [f. L. *vōt-*, ppl. stem of *vovēre* to vow + -ARY 1.]

**I. 1.** One who is bound by vows to a religious life; a monk or nun.

1546 Bale (*title*) The first two partes of the Actes or unchaust examples of Englysh votaryes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 90 b, The controversie was... especially for the Masse, and Votaries, for herein woulde the Cholliches nothyng at all relent. 1594 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 17 Persons civilly dead, as monks, friers, canons, professed nuns, and such other superstitious votaries. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* v. ii. 106 Sirra, ride strait to Chesson Nunny,...this house, I know, By this time misses their young votary. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 80 The hereticks...growing more outragious then ordinarily against Ecclesiasticks, and especially against Votaries. 1660 Owen *Animadv. Flat Lux* v. Wks. 1853 XIV. 68 Monasteries of votaries under special and peculiar vows and rules. 1708 Addison *Italy* 404 The House of Loretto, the Pride, Luxury and Impertinence of Votaries, and in short the Superstition ...of the Roman Catholick Religion. 1836 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. 16 So Christianity, corrupted by Gentile philosophy, has in like manner its privileged and its inferior order of votaries.

**b.** One who has made, or is bound by, a special vow.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 37 Who are the Votaries my louing Lords, that are vow-fellowes with this vertuous Duke? *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* III. ii. (orig. draft), The votaries that will not cut his haire, Vnlill the vow be vow. 1843 Frank *Comm. Gen.* xxviii. 20 *And Jacob vowed a vow*] The first holy votary that ever we read of. 1872 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxvi. 14 God in answer to his vow restored him to distress, and now the votary desires to make good his promise.

**2.** One who is devoted to a particular religion, or to some form of worship or religious observance; a devotee.

1704 Locke *Toleration* Iv. Wks. 1727 III. 464 Nor is there among the many absurd Religions of the World, almost any one that does not find Votaries to lay down their Lives for it. 1756 Sheridan tr. *Sallust* (1759) I. 1. 16 No other Religion can give any Security of Life and Happiness to its Votaries. 1777 R. Watson *Philip II*, viii. I. 296 That method of justifying Perjury, of which the votaries of the Romish church have so often availed themselves. 1794 Paley *Evid.* I. I. (1817) 32 The ancient religion of a country has always many votaries. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 334, I think of him as of some transmigrating votary of Indian legend. 1860 – *Cond. Life, Worship* (ibid. II. 395 The religion cannot rise above the state of the votary.

**b.** A devout worshipper. (Cf. next.)

1823 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 251 A happier votary at a holier fane. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay of Cuthbert*, In fact, when the votaries came there to pray All said there was nought to compare with it. 1865 Kingsley *Hermits* I. 41 In order to keep these convents up, the priests imagined the plan of causing the votary to pay according to his means at every shrine which he embraced.

**3.** A devoted or zealous worshipper of God, Christ, one of the saints, etc.

1590 Ken *Sion Poet. Wks.* 1721 IV. 388 True Christ-like Love all other Loves exceeds, By which to save a soul Christ's Vot'ry bleeds. — *On the Temptation* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 92 Jesus Satan of the Conquest got, And Gods quest easy to his Vot'rys left. 1742 *Young Nt. Th.* III. 53 In propitious dreams (For dreams are thine) transfuse it thro' the breast Of thy first votary. 1779 J. Moore *Zeluco Soc. Nr.* (1787) II. xcv. 421 A supposed connection between the characters of the Saints and the votaries. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxvii, The Virgin of the Castle Dolbarasse, has never failed a votary. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Odille*, I don't see, as a Saint, how she well could do less Than to get such a votary out of her mess. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. v. 506 The Duke had implored the help of the relic whose sworn votary he was.

**b.** Used with reference to ancient or heathen deities, partly in fig. use.

1730 Pope *To Earl of Dorset* i, Hear, Goddess, hear thy Votary. The meanest of thy Sons inspire. 1746 Pope *Odyss.* xvii. 488 Daughters of Jove!...your votary restore: Oft he some God his coming to our shore! 1756 [Annual] *Bath Guide* iii. 14 Come the Nymphs of various Hues, Vot'ry true of Beauty's Queen. 1778 Br. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* Notes (1810) 340 Nor can they (the idols) answer, or deliver their votaries, who go unto them. 1871 R. Morris *Epic Hades* III. 248, I did not envy any goddess of all The Olympian company her votaries. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xxxi, Silence and solitude Befit the votary of the Muse.

**II. 4.** One who is devoted or passionately addicted to some particular pursuit, occupation, study, aim, etc.

1590 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 58 We know (no Valentines report) You are already loues firme votary. 1738 Gray *Propertius* I. x. Before the Goddess' shrine we too, love's vot'ries bend. 1784 *Rod Imprint* I § 8 If philosophy befools hee Votaries,...let her be sent back to the infernal regions. 1791 Beattie *Minstr.* I. ix, The boundless store Of charms which Nature to her votary yields. 1806 H. K. White *Lett.* (1837) 319, I am...a neglected votary at the shrine of Health. 1830 Herschel *Study Nat. Phil.* I. I. 14 One of the great sources of delight which the study of natural science imparts to its votaries. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* VI. iv. 218 Science requires a certain inward heat and heroism in her votaries.



**b.** Const. *to* (now rare) or *of*.

(*a*) 1592 Shake. *Two Gentl.* I. i. 59 But wherefore waste I time to counsaile thee That art a votary to fond desire? 1594 *Selimus* D 3, I haue liu'd almost a votarie to wantonnesse. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 79, I cannot be a Votary to this practice. 1821 Shelley *St. Isepus* iii, His became...even a more devoted votary to gambling than before.

(*b*) 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 766 They .. do themselues for want of other worke, Value votaries of lasse loue profesie. 1630 Temple *Est., Heroic Virtue* Wks. 1720 I. 233 The usual Acceptation takes Profit and Pleasure for two different Things, and...calls the Followers or Votaries of them by several Names of busy and of Idle Men. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* I. § 5 Are you then in earnest a votary of truth? 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wm.* I. iii. 90 Is it surprising to see the daughters of such become very early the votaries of Folly? 1783 Cowper *Valediction* 71 Vot'ries of bus'ness and of pleasure prove Faithless alike in friendship and in love. 1802 Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 218 The patriotic votaries of whiskey in Pennsylvania and Virginia. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* (1851) I. 32 That an enthusiastic votary of liberty should accept office under a military usurper seems...extraordinary. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xi. 40 Ground from which the votaries of devotion and art and letters were bidden to turn away.

**5.** A devoted adherent or admirer of some person, institution, etc.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 36 It was not safe for any to live at their Houses, who were taken notice of as no Votaries to their Cause. 1698 Burton *Diary* (1828) I. 183, I come to prove How much I've suffer'd for your Love, Which (like your Votary) to win, I have not spar'd my purse or blood. 1682 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Chances* II. iii, I shall not be asham'd to own my self a Votary to all your Commands. 1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 18 ¶ 9 One of the most accurate Strategems wherein Mankind became formidable, was the assurance that Impostor gave his votaries, that [etc.]. 1817 Chalmers *Life* in Churchyard *Chiefes* 46 He endeavoured to cultivate the patronage of Bacon, over it he had ceased to be of any value to his votaries. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 464 The same virtues gained him a still nobler and more powerful votary; he became, as wp have seen, the special friend of Earl Harold.

†**Votary**, *a. Obs.* [*Cf.* prec.]

**1.** Of persons: Consecrated by a vow; devoted to a religious life.

1564 *Bp.'s Bible*, Ii b, The salarie...consecrated .. to theyr holy votaries virgins. 1621 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xix. (1631) 37/2 Elie, had in account for the repute and holiness of votaries, which there lived and were buried. 1697 *Virgil, Georg.* III. Having designed her daughter to be a votary to virtue.

**b.** Of mode of life: Subject to vows.

1840 (*title*), The English Nunnes, being a Dialogue, wherein the Author endeavoureth to draw young and unmarried Catholike Gentlewomen to embrace a Votary and Religious life.

**2.** Of the nature of a vow.

1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 93 Had not I foreanaffied my mynde by votarye promise...Replye this oone finally to queene Dido. 1597 Bacon *Ess., Superstition* (1862) 510 Bacon *Ess., Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 368 Onely Superstition is now so well advanced that...votarie resolucion is made equipollent to Customs.

**Votation** (vōtē·ʃən). [f. Vote *v.* + -ation.] The action of voting in an election or at a meeting.

1816–30 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extr. Const. Code* 28 Modes of votation, two: the secret mode; then, before the votes of the secret mode has been disclosed, or ascertained, the open mode. 1848 *Times* 25 Jan. 4/6 A nominal votation was demanded,...that is, each member should stand up in his place and give his vote at the same time calling out his name. 1877 A. Trollope *Life Pius IX*, II. iv. I. 113 The result of the votation of the population of Umbria.

**Votchell**, obsolete form of Footcloth.

**Vote** (vōʊt), *sb.* Also 7 voate; *Sc.* 6 voit, voitt, voit, 6–7 voite; 6 wote, wolt, wott, 7 woatt. [ad. L. *vōtum* vow, wish, properly the pa. pple. neut. of *vovēre* to vow, desire. Hence also it., Sp., Pg. *voto*; mod.F. *vote* in sense 5 is from English. Before 1600 only in Sc. use.]

**I. 1.** A vow; a solemn promise or undertaking. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. x. (S.T.S.) II. 182 Nochtwith standing þat þai made solempne vote to appollo, þit þai sulde mare regarde of ony vthir thing þan to...fulfil be said vote. 1536 – *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 141 King Hungus ...maid solempit vote, that he and his posterite aall use na ausenye in times cuming...bot the croce of Sanct Andro. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Scotic.* I. 21 Consecrated Religious Persones, or what is vulgarly call'd a Galloping-Nun, without any Votes.

†**2.** A prayer or intercession. *Obs.*

1606 B. Jonson *Fort. Isles, Song* Wks. (Rtldg.) 651/1 All the heavens consent, With harmony to tune their notes, In answer to the public votes, That for it up were sent. 1623 Cowley *Constantia & Philetus* 146 Now at last the pitying God, o'ercome By his constant votes and tears, first in her heart A golden shaft. 1656 J. Feidraux *Eschatologia* 226 Here may be laid those intercessable Votes of Priest and People, which are interposed, 'O Lord, arise, help us and deliver us for thy Names sake!' 1664 Fuller *Triana & Pedemona Wounded Conscr.*, etc. (1867) 223 Being assigned but three hours of three several days, for the begging of the votes of mankind to help her in her extremity.

†**b.** A petition, a request. *Obs.*—1

1649 *Unhappiness Husband betw. two Froggr. Rosses* 1 A most humble Vote, and serious desire to our...Assembly of Divines.

†**3.** An aspiration; an ardent wish or desire. *Obs.* (Common 1630–60.)

*a* 1626 Bacon *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Wks. (Bohn) 498 Queen Elizabeth...carrying a hand restrained in gifts, and strained in points of prerogative, could not answer the votes either of servants or subjects to a full contentment, especially in her latter days. 1640 Harington *Edw. IV*, 165 Nothing was more in the vote of the English; then to preserve King Lewys safe in his estate at home. 1656 Sanderson *Serm.* (1689) 541 The Glory of God, is to be the Alpha and Omega of all our votes and desires. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. P 29 To breath out Moses's wish, if it were mere words, or if that be too hopeless a vote, O that men were not so destructively foolish.

**II. 4–8.** *Sc.* A formal expression of opinion by a member of a deliberative assembly on a matter under discussion; a decision or verdict. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xiii. (S.T.S.) I. 76 Quhen þe maist parte & nowmer of scnatouris war foundin of þe samyn vote as þe first has schewin, it is ordanyt [etc.]. 1562 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Quhat...wes the woccia and woteis of al (the bishops in council), bot that the thing quhilk was techeit of auld suld be haldin? 1581 Lindsay *Chron. Scot. Treat.* (S.T.S.) 154 Thair is na ressoune quhy he sould follow rather the voittis of your ministeris, nor ye the voittis of his bischopis.

†**b.** *Sc. In one vote*, with one consent, of one accord, unanimously. *Obs.*—

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 28 The all in ane vote conseilit and consentit that my Lord Governour auld cause the said bous to be delivirit to the said Erle of Huntlie. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 494 All in ane voit set thair Felicitie On future thingis, and Predestination. 1582–8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 81 The Parliament...all in ane vote [1825 voce], voitit, declarit, and testified, that [etc.].

**5.** An indication, by some approved method, of one's opinion or choice on a matter under discussion; an intimation that one approves or disapproves, accepts or rejects a proposal, motion, candidate for office, or the like.

*Casting vote*: see Casting *ppl. a.*

*c* 1480 in *Liber Pluscardensis* (Skene) I. 304 Be electcioune chosin men of gude, .. Quhilkis has the voits of al the commonis hale. 1552 in *Rec. Aberd.* (1872) I. 3 To woit about throw that haill nowmer,...and he that gettis mouyest wottis to be chosin and sworn inconinent. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 Ayr as he haid beine supreme magistratt appryit be the voitis of this realme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 146 Maldain the fourt sone of Kenneth succedit,...with al voits, is declaired king. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* II. 132 The crime being lawfully provin,...be the suffrages and voites of the estates in parliament, may be condemned. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* vii. § 24. 119 The civill Person sinnes not, but those subjects only by whose votes it was decreed for sinne. 1681 Wood *Life & Lett.* (1848) II. 180 His dispensations for terms and absence from lectures were denied but by one vote. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 192 A young Prussian nobleman...was very near undergoing the same fate..., two votes only saving him from losing his head. 1823 *Local Act 4 Geo. IV*, C. iii. § 8 Where the Number of Votes upon any Question shall be equal (including the Chairman's Vote) the Chairman shall have the casting Vote. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. vi. vi, That so, when the rotten hustings shake In another month to his brazen lies, A wretched vote may be gain'd for a wretched statute. Ibid. It is sometimes done by simply counting the single vote of the preferred person as equal to several votes.

**b.** In the phrase *to give* (in recent use also *to record*) *a or one's vote*.

*a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 269 Lord Patrick Lyndsay that hes gevin the first woit. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (1689) 6 Bishops give not their Votes by Ballot, but in Difference, and by an Office instead of them. 1797 Hailey (vol. II), *Voting*, giving his Vote or Suffrage at the Election of a Magistrate, or making a Law, etc. 1796 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 16 A vote, which it were probable that every man would give his vote freely and without influence. *a* 1856 [see Record v. 9 b].

**c.** *transf.* (Cf. sense 9.)

1632 Crashaw *Poems* (1904) 189 Twixt pen and pensill rose a holy strife Which might draw vertue better to the life. Best wits gave votes to that. 1667 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* II. i. § 27. 217 But this is not against any Examination (blessed be God) do not depend upon the votes and sentences of men. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 367 Profit and Pleasure, therefore, mix with the Reader, the Judgement, nor offend the Heart, Shall gain all Votes. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. iv, You run, ride, leap too, better than anyone else, according to the universal consent of your comrades.

**d.** A means of signifying choice, approval, etc.; a voting tablet or ticket.

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IV. xxii, Her voice, whose awful sweetness doth repress All evil,...And cast the vote of love in hope's abandoned urn. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* *Ackermann's Assemb. Athen.* I. xi. 129 The citizens of each tribe cast their votes of condemnation or acquittal into one urn.

**6.** The collective opinion or sentiment of a community or body of persons. *To take a vote*, to ascertain the opinion of a meeting by formal reference.

1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 482 To beare the chargeis of provest, bailies, eldermen, and counsale of the said burgh, not being electit nocht be commoun consent and voit of the haill inhabitantis. 1597–8 *Rec. Earldom Orkney* lxxix. (S.H.S.) 173 Patrik, Erle of Orkney...sittand in judgement at the head courtis callis the Harmeselve...befoir the haill voit of the countrie. 1644 Massinger *Renegade* Ded., With a full vote and suffrage it is acknowledged that the patronage and protection of the dramatick poem is your's. 1832 *Chron. Perth* (Maid. Cl.) 33 Mr John row was admittit master of the grammer scole, be the provest, bailies, and counsall, without consent or woatt of ony wtheris. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 313 So of the popular vote Inclines, here to continue, and build up here A growing Empire. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 133 Nor can we wyt them, since they had nae vote. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* v. i, Why would the general vote compel me hither? 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 76 The

law of the double vote had been...an Implement of war directed against the throne. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 88 One is to be chosen by lot out of ten who are elected by vote. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 304 A number of groups in each of which a separate vote is taken.

**b.** In the phrase *to put to the vote*, to submit to the decision of a meeting. Similarly (of a question), *to go to the vote*.

1509 *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) 234 It being put to vote ... the malst part voicit to the said incorporation. 1681 in *Acts Parli. Scott.* (1875) XII. 45/2 It was putt to the vote, If the Act should be delayed or not, and was carried in the negative. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* V. 87 Cato, however, before it was put to the vote, ascended the rostrum. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 244/1 He implored the House not to let the question go to the vote. 1867 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 58 He must then put it to the Vote whether the meeting 'approve' and 'confirm' the minutes. 1888 [see Put v. 22 b].

**c.** The collective support of a special number or class of persons in a deliberative decision, election, etc. (Cf. 7 c.)

1852 Gallenga *Italy* 302 We must not, indeed, allow that it was the result of the [famine] rate that turned Sardinia's allies into enemies. 1884 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 July 1/3 Mr. Blaine will get the following 'votes'. The Hebrew vote, because he spoke severely about the persecution of the Jews by Russia; the Dynamite vote, because he is down on the Englis.h.

**7.** The right or privilege of exercising the suffrage; esp. in the phrase *to have a vote*.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* 83 (Laing MS.), They say put wayage neuir luckis, quahir ilk ane hes ane woit. 1624 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1913) 130 It is to be carryed by most voyces, because every Councillor hath equall vote there. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 109 If every man of England has not a like vote and power in electing Members for the House of Commons, then cannot the House of Commons be the Representative of the Nation. 1688 *Chamberlain's Trav. Persia* 5 Who has sufficient to drive a Trade that will bear an Imposition of Eight Crowns, has as good a Vote as he that Trades for an Hundred Thousand. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 165 Every member of the community ...should have a vote in electing those delegates. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* I. x. 229 The common people deceived to have votes. 1849 Macaulay *Mill on Govt.* in *Edin. Rev.* Mar. 177 On these grounds Mr. Mill recommends that all males of mature age, rich and poor, educated and ignorant, shall have votes. 1853 Thirlwall *Greece* I. 379 Each tribe, however feeble, had two votes in the deliberation of the congress. 1856 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xi, He ...was already a forty-shilling freeholder, and was conscious of a vote for the county.

**b.** A person regarded merely as an embodiment of the right to vote; also, a person possessing the right to vote; a voter.

1739 Pope *Ep. to Bolingbroke* 83 That from a Patriot of distinguish'd note, Have bled and purg'd me to a simple Vote. ?a 1800 *Descanthire's Noble Duel* ii. in Child *Ballads* VII. 114/1 Then away to the Parliament these votes all went again, And there they acted like just and honest men. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Tritia* Wks. 1812 V. 398 Oh! had I been a vote, a borough voter, Then Portman would have squeezed me by thy hand. *Ibid.* 399 To enter the votes' houses up and down. 1852 R. S. Hawker in C. E. Byles *Life* 216 (1903) 72, I am not a vote, but a Man. The reverse is the general fact. People are not Men but votes.

**c.** The aggregate of voters, esp. of a certain class. (Cf. 6 c.)

1888 *Daily Chron.* 26 April (Cassell's) Alluding to the large amount of the illiterate vote in Ireland.

**8.** A resolution or decision passed by, or carried in, an assembly as the result of voting; an expression of opinion formally adopted by a meeting of any kind.

1641 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* II. 230/2 Resolved...That these Votes shall be printed; and attested under the Clerk's Hand. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 12 The distempers of the Houses (to see their former votes eluded and Presb[yterians] lately excluded now so numerous to carie all votes with a high hand) will grow worse and worse. 1688 *Trial Mudde Pres. St. Scotl.* ii. 26 The Prerogatives of the Crown are great, as Power of ..giving the Votes of Parliament, the Authority of Laws. 1712 Steele *Englishm.* No. 2 ? 7 That's the Gentleman who gained the first Vote (in the Senate) against Hannibal. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1738 IV. 62 Several smart Votes were printed. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 170 Proceeded to a Vote of the House of Commons, passed in the last Session. 1855 in Blaikie *Livingstone* ix. (1881) 185, I need not say that the award was made by an unanimous and cordial vote. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* ix. § 9. 700 Marlborough was...charged with peculation, and condemned as guilty by a vote of the House of Commons.

**b.** Const. *of*.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiii, Then a vote of thanks was moved to the mayor for his able conduct in the chair. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. vi. 45 Consequently in the session a further vote of public money has been required. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 30 July 125/1 A majority, if it is good for anything, may be relied upon to reject a vote of censure.

**†9.** A declaration or statement of opinion. *Obs.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 206 [China] is by common vote, reputed the greatest Empire in the Orient. 1690 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 228 The Vote of the Proverb, for a handsome Woman, would have her English to the Neck, French to the Waste, and Dutch below. *a* 1686 Glanvill *Sadducismus* i. App. (1681) 179 That a thing should be, and yet not be anywhere in the whole Universe, is so wild and mad a vote...that it cannot be said by any man in his wits.

**†b.** Reckoning, estimate. *Obs.*

1639 G. Daniel *Eccles.* The End 30, I blush to see our great Siracides flall to the Vote of a low Paraphrase.

**10.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vote-catching*, *-concluded* adjs., *vote-monger*; **Vote Office**, the office from which Parliamentary bills and papers are issued to members of the House of Commons; **vote-recorder**, a mechanical contrivance for registering votes.

Also in recent use *vote-begging*, *-catcher*, *-getter*, *-seeker*, *-splitter*, *-steerer*, etc.

1643 Sir J. Spelman *Case of Affairs* 28 Making them Vote-convicted State Heretickes. 1844 *Mag. Treat. Parl. Rep.* 23 The Vote-office is charged with the delivery of printed papers to members of the house. 1892 Disraeli *Lt. G. Benjinck* viii. (1897) 103 The interview by appointment took place in the Vote Office. 1892 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2715/1 Vote-recorder. 1889 Huxley in *Darwin's Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 293 In the form of a vote-catching resolution. 1889 *Amer. Missionary* July 193 Made tools of ...by corrupt vote-mongers. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Feb. 6/1 To expedite business by an electrical vote recorder.

**Vote** (vōut), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* voitt, woit, wott; 8 whoat. [f. L. *vōt-*, ppl. stem of *vovēre* to vow, to desire, or ad. med.L. *vōtāre* to devote by a vow, from the same stem. Cf. It. *votare*, Sp. and Pg. *votar*, Sw. devote, v. to vote, *v. voter* to vote (in older use from It., in mod. use from English). Before 1600 almost exclusively a Sc. word.]

**†1.** *intr.* To vow (to do something). *Obs. rare.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xv. (S.T.S.) I. 86 He voit to consecrate pe harnes and armoure of his inamyis to pe god of Arcus. 1563 *Acts Gen. Assembly* 51 In pe dittour...voit to edifie ane tempil in pe honoure of pe god Castor.

**2.** *refl.* and *trans.* To assign by a vow; to devote religiously. Now *rare*.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. xiv. (S.T.S.) II. 211 All be agit pepill...voitit thame to pe gudis of pe deid, for pe wele of pere cuntre. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. (1592) 135 The Queene...voted, vsurn in her better part, to the loue of Arcesa. 1656 Cowley *Magnificence* 551 In Revelry, or (at least) temerity, of invoking, provoking, voting, devoting, imprecating. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* I. xi. 123 To enumerate what met my eyes in the vases, which the commonalties in their piety voted to the god,...would fill the page on which I write.

**†b.** To devote or consign *to* destruction. *Obs.*

1656 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* 11 The Books of curious Arts, that were voted to Destruction by Apostolick Auti arity and Zeal.

**3.** *intr.* To give a vote; to exercise the right of suffrage; to express a choice or preference by ballot or other approved means.

1552 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs* (1870) I. 3 Thair sall convene in the Tolbuyth the auld counsale and new,..and thair to begyn at the litis of provestrie, and to woit about throw thair haill nowmer. 1639 *Scots Acts* (Robt. Waldegrave Soc.) 191 Because the brethren could not be fullie resolved for the present concerning the office of him who should vote in Parliament. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* vii. ? 1. 110 A Councell ..of all the Citizens, (insomuch as every man of them hath a Right to Vote..) or of a part onely. 1727 Vanbrugh (*title*) Successes; how it will stand, by Playbill, or to whom at our elections. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 171 The statutes..direct..that no person shall vote in right of any freehold granted to him fraudulently to qualify him to vote. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 100 With a compelled appearance of deliberation, they vote under the dominion of a stern necessity. 1845 Gladstone *Corr. Ch. & Relig.* (1910) I. 343 The question is, they voted we were not heard in time by the Board of Heads. 1887 Lowell *Democr.* 31 The right to vote makes a safety-valve of every voter.

**b.** Const. *against*, *for* (?*to*), or with *inf.*

1490 *Rec. Convent. R. Burghs* (1870) I. xviii. 88 Every one, as well he that Voted for it, as he that Voted against it, shall Authorise all the Actions and Judgements of that Man. 1682 Patrick *Lett.* (Camden) 114 The fellows almost unanimously did their obedience to his Majesties commands and voted for Finch. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* III. 86 All vote to leave that execrable shore. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I. iv. Mrs. Miller...would have voted for sending the child...immediately out of the house. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 244 I would humbly propose that each subscriber.. be qualified to vote for the election of a physician to our county hospital. 1832 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 451, I vote for the Abbé Sieyes,—whom do you vote for? 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. xiii. Mr. Lillima...would have voted for sending the child...immediately out of the house. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 244 I would humbly propose that each subscriber.. be qualified to vote for the election of a physician to our county hospital. 1832 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 451, I vote for the Abbé Sieyes,—whom do you vote for? 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. xiii. Mr. Lillima...would have voted for sending not only the right to vote, but the chance of being voted for.

**†4. a.** To declare one's opinion. *Obs.*—1

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 268 [When] the lord Lyndsay had woitit in this maner, the haill lordis was contenit of this conclusioun.

**†b.** To decide, to judge. *Obs. rare.*

1643 Chas. I *Lett.* Wks. (1650) 230 Some finde fault with too much kindnesse to thee (thou maist easily vote from what constellation that comes).

**5.** *trans.* Of assemblies, etc.: To choose, elect, enact, or establish by vote; to ratify or determine by formal expression of will.

1598 *Pudley Burgh Rec.* (1872) 74 The saidis baillies voit the samin be the electioun of the haill communitie. 1603 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. Pref. 44 [The council] voicit, thocht guid and expedient, that the Grey freiris place sould be maid ane resaitis. *a* 1648 Lord Herbert *Henry VIII* (1683) 550 The Cardinal ..was removed to a Chamber apart...till the main question of the marriage was voted and determined. 1669 in Pepys' *Naval Minutes, Rec.* (1883) I. 317 It is generally voted, agreed, thought fit, and so ordered, that the keeping of the fair here on St. Martin's day...shall...for this year be absolutely forborne and forbidden. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 298 They vote a messuage to their absent chief. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxviii. III. 73 Four respectable deputations were successively voted to The Imperial court. 1823 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1071 Having in common council voted a petition to the king. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 280 Next year a parliament was summoned which..voted a new bulla.

1865 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Soc.* III. 19 The following list of presents were read, and thanks were voted for the same.

**b.** Const. with inf., expressing the result of the decision.

1648 Winyard *Midsummer-Moon* 4 Thus Oxford, like the house of office at Westminster, is voted to bee reformed by those who sould it. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 168 Vett in hope of a party, they have voted the Paplats to compound. 1679 F. Ld. Aungier in *Essex Papers* (Camden) 23 The House of Commons after a long debate vote the said persons to be sent to ye Tower. 1709 in Picton *Lpool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 91 The motion..for voteing the aforenam'd persons to be free.

**c.** Const. *away*, *from*, *in*, *into*, *off*, etc.

1641 Sir K. Digby in *Harleian Misc. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 295 You have done exceeding well to vote away this Bishop. 1649 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlviii. 246 Notwithstanding the Canon that had long before this time voted the Laity from having to do with Church matters. 1649 Milton *Observ. Peace Ormond* Wks. 1851 IV. 376 They had no privilege to sit there, and vote home the Author...of all our Miseries. 1653 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 530 *note*, Previous to his voting Agyrrius into office. 1690 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 162 The House met..and voted away their privileges in cases of libel by 238 votes to 133. 1890 *Longm. Mag.* July 255 My name has been voted off the list of your committee.

*refl.* 1914 *Times* (weekly ed.) 24 Aug. 811/2 The...delimitation of the areas which may vote themselves out of Home Rule.

**d.** With appositive predicate.

1649 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 443, I leave the Lords on Tuesday last voted all null since they were seized ye members. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 52 All the Kings commands in prosecution of the Laws, were Voted bresches of the Privileges of Parliament. 1730 *Lett. to Sir Sly. Strickland rel. to Cond Trade* 21 The House of Commons, after an Enquiry..voted both Lighiermen, Masters and Owners guilty of a Combination.

**e.** With cognate object.

1872 Browning *Pr. Hohenst.* Wks. 1897 II. 304/1 Divers hundred thousand fools may vote A vote unstamped with by one wise man.

**†6.** To submit (a matter) to a vote; to vote upon. *Obs. rare.*

1588-8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 130 Efter the reeding of the quhilk supplicatioun, the heads quhairoff being reassonit and votitted, it was fund...that the Queene was compellit...to subscryve the said comissioun. 1689 in *Acts Parlt. Scott.* (1875) XII. 57/1 It was voted if the Committie should be named be the plurality of the whole house or be the plurality of each of the three benches.

**7.** *To vote down*, to defeat, to put down or suppress, by a vote.

1642 Laud *Wks.* (1854) IV. 10 About the tenth of this month, the bishops were voted out of sitting in the Upper House. 1644-7 Cleveland *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 2 And, since the Stages were voted down, the only Play-house is at Westminster. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* ? 5 (1716) 93 Old Truths voted down begin to resume their places. 1858 in Herndon *Life A. Lincoln* (1892) II. 115 The idea put forth by Judge Douglas, that the Missouri Compromise is voted down or voted up.' 1880 A. Blair *Jas. Mill* vi. 268 It is the aristocracy that must, in the House, vote down the Ministry.

**8.** To grant, allow, or confer by vote.

1720 in 14th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 350 The Tories are preparing complaints, among them one against the Admiralty for spending 300,000*l.* more than was voted. 1721 *Scots Examiner* No. 46 p. 181 Parliament voted Subsidies, and the willing People chearfully paid them. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. 91 They voted 1000 heavy infantry, 100 horse, and 50 galleys. 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 510 Some among them talked of voting the revenue only for a term of years. 1873 C. Robinson *N. S. Wales* 83 The amount voted for public works in 1872 was £612,856l and this is about the amount voted by Parliament every year for public improvements.

*transf.* 1877 E. F. Burr *Ad Fidem* iii. 41 All the properties vote him a rest.

**9.** To declare by common assent; to characterize by an expression of opinion; to pronounce. Const. with simple compl. or inf.

1865 Patrick *Parish. Pilgr.* xii, The old ways are much decried, and the last invention is voted to be altogether Divine. 1893 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 305 We may.. safely vote him a true penitent. 1918 *Press-binder* No. 61. 9 Last Wednesday I was voted a bore. 1918 *Times* 5 Nov. 5/4 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* May, He..spoke no more during the whole debate, which I am sure he was ready to vote a bore. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* (1823) I. 40 Nothing was more of this kind being voted a rarity at Atworth. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. xv, Receiving some not very encouraging responses, ..they voted her palpably cursedly satirical. 1882 *Punch* 31 Dec. 309/1 The fair lady's dresses..were voted charming.

**b.** *colleq.* To propose, suggest.

1812 *Scott Wom. Jrnl.* 1 voted we should go to meet them. 1820 Shelley *Cenci* iv. 1. 122, I vote, in form of an amendment, that Purgansk rub a little of that stuff Upon his face. *Ibid.* 127, I vote Swellfoot and Iona Try the magic test together.

**c.** To agree in, decide on, sending (a person) to a place.

1863 Cowden Clarke *Shake. Char.* xvii. 432 So far are we from voting him to Coventry,...there are few of us who would refuse to march through Coventry with him.

**10.** To influence or control in voting; to cause to vote in a particular way.

1895 *Standard Dict.* s.v., He votes his employees.

**Voted**, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

**†1.** Vowed, devoted. *Obs. rare.*

1588 Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. ii. His wife and Sister...with Vesta seeke to shunne The voted fathers deadly doome. 1861 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* XII. (1626) 244 Of a voted Hart The Antlers from a pine he pule.

**2.** Established or assigned by vote.
1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 33 More gantly brooking writ'n exceptions against a voted Order, then other Courts. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 22 April 10 The right hon. gentleman estimated the expenditure...for the voted services £54,188,000.

**Voteen** (vǒtī'n). *Irish.* [prob. f. Devote *sb.*1 or Devoter; the equivalent Ir. *midiún* is however connected with Ir. *midiúin* I dedicate or devote.] A very religious person; a devotee.
1892-2 W. Carleton *Traits* (1843) I. 16 Up near the altar ..you might perceive a voteen, repeating some new prayer or choice piece of devotion. 1896 P. Kennedy *Banks of Boro* (1867) 184 One of the clues that is called in Scotland 'The unco guid', and 'Voteens' among ourselves. *Ibid.* 333 He had considered his neighbour a voteen and twaddler.

**Voteless** (vǒ·tlĕs), *a.* [f. Vote *sb.* + -less.] Having no vote. (Common from 1880.)
1872 R. More *Brief Reply* 87 The Lay Courtiers...were enabled to vote, when so many of the Reverend Clergy were by services made vote-less. 1886 Sat. Rev. *Hist* 18, There was a way of using voteless miners and navvies at Nominations and Elections. 1894 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 212 Many artisans live voteless outside boroughs. 1888 *Co-operative News* 15 Dec. 1961 We only refer to their voteless condition in order [etc.].

**Voter** (vǒ·tər). Also 6 *Sc.* wottar. [f. Vote *v.*]
**1.** One who has a right to vote; *esp.* an elector.
*a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 267 The lordis devyssit and chargit Lord Patrick Lyndsay of the Byarik to be chancellor and first wottar in the consall. 1637-50 *Row Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 191 As to the number of voters, that there should be fifty-one. 1767 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* II. 20 Every freeholder of forty shillings sterl. a year is a voter. 1832 *Reform Act* xxvii, He usually drove his voters up to the poll with his own hands. 1835 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx, IV. 458 In the towns in which he wished to establish an Interest, he remembered, not only the voters, but their families. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* iii. IV. 311 Voters were dragged to the poll like slaves or prisoners.

**b.** One who gives a vote. *rare*—1.
1701 Sir D. Hume *Diary Parl. Scot.* (Bann. Cl.) 78 So by vote it was carried (Haicraig and I being no voters,) to send a mucer...to require them in the name of the Council.

**†2.** One who is bound by an oath or vow. *Obs.*—1
*a* 1660 *Contempl. Hist. Irel.* (fr. Archæol Soc.) I. 240 The Generall would passe none other way than Baltimore, as informed of the said oath to my whether sowe or noone they did proue true voters.

**Voteress,** obs. var. Votaress.

**Votesave,** obs. var. Vouchsafe.

**Voth,** obs. var. Wroth, var. Wothe *Obs.*

**Vother,** southern ME. var. Fother *sb.*

**Voting** (vǒ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* votting; 7 *Sc.* woitting. [f. Vote *v.* + -ing 1.]
**1.** The action of giving a vote.
1575 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* (1840) I. 113 After lang ressonyng, with votting past thairin...this last kirk hes ordanit (etc.). 1633 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1850) 5/2 To haue vote in parliament...and in all vther lawfull meittings...quhair burghes royall..hes place of sitting and woitting. 1649 Quinet *Acacia* xi. (1684) 362 Let him not threaten, and make Voting free. 1721 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 121 The Common's voteing of the throne of England vacant. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 169 Sons, who are suspected to have no will of their own, are excluded from voting. 1822 A. Ranken *Hist. France* IX. x. 250 The sittings and votings of the states should be together, or separately. 1861 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* App. iii. 478 The voting was generally by the beam, or ballot in later times. 1889 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/3 The voting for the Chancellorship of Dublin University took place yesterday.

**2.** *attrib.*, as *voting-place*; **voting machine,** a vote-recorder; **voting-paper,** a paper on which a vote is recorded; a ballot-paper.
1846 Keightley *Notes on Livy* xxiii. 3, 34 *Suaptum* was originally any inclosure, whence the *Saepta* or voting-place of the tribes at Rome. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Voting-paper*, a balloting-paper; a voting-paper. 1861 Mill *Repr. Govt.* 140 It is therefore provided that an elector may deliver a voting paper containing other names. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* iii. IV. 109 The voting-paper principle was abandoned. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 7/1 The adoption of the voting machine would do away with all the delay in counting and checking the ballot papers.

**Voting,** *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.]
**†1.** Votive, dedicatory. *Obs.*—1
1630 Harewill *Apol.* (ed. 2) 293 With Scythicke piety their aged Sier Let strippings tumble from the voting bridge.

**2.** That possesses or exercises the right of suffrage.
1859 Jas. Mill in A. Bain *Mill* (1882) 251 They are the class by whom chiefly the moral character of the voting classes is formed. 1877 W. E. Forster in T. W. Reid *Life* (1888) I. 393, I saw some dreadful cases of voting drunken people, both Whig and Tory. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* v. lxxxviii. III. 104 The voting population seemed determined to give its whole attention to the King for one day at least.

**†Votist,** *Obs. rare.* [f. Vote *sb.* or *v.* + -ist.] One who makes a vow; a votary.
1613 Chapman *Revenge Busy D'Ambois* III. Plays 1873 II. 237 Can if a poore woman, votist of reuenges, Would not performe it. 1700 G. Hickes *To Rdr.* in *Devot. Anc. Way Offices*, Those silly, morose, and saturnine Votists, who are so sparing of bodily Adoration, in our most solemn Services. 1721 — Three *Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 107 A religious mystery, exhibiting one thing to the sense, and another to the understanding of the votist.

**Votive** (vǒ·tiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vōtīv-us* performed, offered, etc., in consequence of a vow, f. *vōt-um* vow Vote *sb.* Hence also It., Sp., Pg. *votivo*, F. *votif*, *-ive.*]
**A.** *adj.* **1.** Of persons: Carrying out a vow; devout. *Obs. rare.*
1509 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 37 That Sepulchre you see is but a thing built vp by Saracens to get mony with, and beguile votiue Christians.

**2.** Dedicated, consecrated, offered, erected, etc., in consequence of, or in fulfilment of, a vow.
1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. xxx. § 2. 126 Which votiue Altar was erected by the Tyrque of Horsemen surnamed Augustæ Gordianæ. 1616 B. Jonson *Pentzster. Disc. Hor. & Tryd.* 57 So that the old man a life described, was seen As in a votive table in his times. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 1. iv. § 13. 400 Those Last Dying words...wherein he required his friends to offer a Votive Cock for him to Æsculapius. 1702 *Athenian Mercury* (1710) I. 36 Sacred to Mars these votive spoils proclaim The fate of Asdrubal, and Scipio's fame. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 230 A marble boat placed before the church, and said to be a votive piece, as an acknowledgment for deliverance in a storm. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 152 The jewels given as votive offerings. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 233 It is a pious custom...to honour the memory of saints by votive lights burnt before their pictures. 1843 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 343 In a third class, which embraces most of the votive pictures, the Virgin and Child are exhibited in glory. 1853 Humphreys *Coin-coll. Man.* xxiv. 357 The altars for Apollo were besieged with votive offerings for the staying of the pestilence.

**b.** Observed, practised, undertaken, etc., in consequence of a vow.
1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [1.] Iekkv. 246 Votiue Abstinence, some confesse, is sometimes may enioyne. 1829 Wordsw. *Prefixed* I. 181 Whence inspiration for a song that winds Through votive changing scenes of votive quest Wrongs to redress. 1876 Stubbs *Victorian Poets* 397 A knight tilting at a wayside tournament to be rid of his votive quest.

**c.** Of the nature of a vow. *rare*—1.
*a* 1606 A. Lake *Serm.* (1641) 116 The King bindeth himselfe to make good his duty with a Votive Oath.

**3.** Consisting in, expressive of, a vow, desire, or wish.
1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* ix. 8 When I command, the people do obey, Submissive subjects to my votive will. 1629 J. Gaule (*title*), Practique Theories or, Votive Speculations upon Christs Prediction, Incarnation, Passion, Resurrection. 1641 Sanderson *Serm.* (1689) 337 The sence hangeth the same in votive as it doth in a reforted verse too. Both together contain a Votive Prayer or Benediction. 1824 Wordsw. '*O for a dirge*' 9 No tears of passionate regret Shall stain this votive lay. 1832 — *To Moon* 34 The fanest Extinct that rushed to votive strains.

**†b.** = Votal *a.* 1. *Obs.*—1
1664 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* I. ii. § 1. 80 A man, by contrition, is reconciled to God, without their Sacramental or Ritual penance, actual or votive.

**4.** *Votive mass* (see quot. 1881).
1738 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Mass*, Votive Mass, is an extraordinary Mass, besides that of the current service, for some extraordinary occasion. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. 161 The Catholic priest will find in his Missal...those votive Masses as they were allotted in ancient times to its own day of the week, by Alcuin. 1881 Burdett *Hist. Holy Eucharist* I. 200 Masses have also been composed for special occasions, and are known as votive masses, or masses according to the votum, i. e. the intention or desire of the celebrant.

**B.** *sb.* A votive offering. *rare*—1.
1646 Shirley *To T. Stanley*, A palsy shakes my pen while I write Votives to thee.

Hence **†votively** *adv.*, in a votive manner.
1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 237 Fruits placed votively on the shrine.

**Votmen,** southern ME. var. pl. of Footman.

**Votoph, Voto-meter,** recent U.S. names for special types of voting-machines.

**Votress†,** Also 8–9 vot'ress. [var. of Votaress, after forms like *enchantress, protectress.*] A female votary.
1590 Shakes. *Mids. N.* II. i. 125 His mother was a Votresse of my Order. 1598 — 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 26 The Imperiall Votresse passed on, In maiden meditation, fancy-free. 1697 *Bevis of Hamptoun* (1877) 21 What Nymph, what Nun, or what disdainful Votresse, shall not pluck'e downe and strike it thro the Sayle? 1847 R. Stapylton *Tancred* 191 Ceres, the goddesse of husbandry, whose votresses none but chast women durst presume to be. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 923 Thy Votress Parthenope, tender Years I am. 1739 Cowper *Betsy, Cless Hartford & Cless Pomfret* (1805) I. 149, I do not wonder that you shed tears at the profession of the unhappy votress at Wilton; I could accurately resemble it myself at the recital of her sufferings. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 18 P 6 Every one...has the pleasure...of hoping to be numbered among the votresses of harmony. 1820 Scott *Talisman*, ii, Surprise at the sudden appearance of these votresses, and the visionary manner in which they moved past him. 1866 J. B. Rogers *Ovid's Met.* 27 A votress of the power Orygian.

**Votress 2.** [f. Vote + -ess.] A female voter.
1894 *Daily Tel.* 23 Nov. 5/4 The votress insisted that she must plump for 'Annie Sinclair'. 1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Sept. 363 Unable to conjecture what the results may be when women shall have become not only votresses but...alderwomen.

**Vots,** obs. var. Sc. Wow *int.*

**Voubet,** obs. Sc. form of Woobut.

**Vouch,** *sb.* [f. next.]
**†1.** = Voucher *sb.*1 1. *Obs.*—1
1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 128 Tell mee, if hee will not stand amazed at your Vouches in Fines and Recoueryes.

**2.** An assertion, allegation, or declaration; a formal statement or attestation of truth or fact. Now chiefly *colleq.*
1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 136 My vouch against you, and my place i' th' State, Will so your accusation ouerweigh. [Also *Oth.* II. i. 147, etc.] 1620 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* To Rdr. p. iii, An Arte lesse Agent can...with the bare vouch of the generall goodnesse of the Ground...baile on the poore Peasant. 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 24 Discrediting their vouches, by empairing their credits, and calling those Honesty into question. 1632 Hevlin *St. George* For having in the generall vouche and confession of the Church, beene reckoned with the Saints departed.

**Vouch** (vautʃ), *v.* Forms: 4 **vouche** (4 *Sc.* wouche), fouche, 4 wowche, 5–6 vowch, 4–6 vouche, 5– vouch. [ME. AF. and OF. *vocher, voucher* (OF. also *voch-, vouchier, vougier, voukier*), to call, summon, invoke, claim, etc., obscurely f. L. *vocāre* to call. Cf. Avouch *v.*]
**1.** *trans. Law. To vouch to warrant* or *to* (also *for*) *warranty*, to cite, call, or summon (a person) into court to give warranty of title. (After AF. and OF. *voucher a garant.*)
*a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 47 Sif pilke pat is I vouched to warant be in present ant mid wille wolle warantí be tenaunt. 1485 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 324/2 And over that, caused theym ..to vouche by coyn, the said Thomas Smyth, whiche also by coyn entred into warrant. 1509–10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII* c. 19 *Preamble*, Margaret vouched to warranty your said Suppliant. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 34 If such tenaunt be impleded by a Precipe quod reddat &c. and he voucheth hys lorde to warranty. 1596 West *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 136 The vouches is he, whom the tenant voucheth, or calleth to warranty for the land in demaund. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 102 When the Tenant being impleaded within a particular Iurisdiction...vouches the Lord to warrant. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* 1. vi. 130 If the Heir at Common Law be vouched for Warranty. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 320 If the vassal's title to the seignory was disputed, he might vouch, or call, the lord or donor to warrant or insure his gift. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 382 When a person is vouched to warranty, and enters and his own accord into the warranty, the law presumes that he parted with his possession with warranty. 1875 K. E. Digby *Real Prop.* (1876) 78 *note*, The person vouched to warranty might in this turn vouch a second person, and the second vouches a third.
*absol.* 1552 *Lint. on Lawes Eng.* II. i. F iv b, When the tenaunte in tayle hath vouched to warraunte. 1895 F. M. Nicholls *Britton* II. 258 If the defendant vouches to warranty, then the like process shall hold [etc.].

**b.** *ellipt.* (with omission of *to warrant*).
1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 34 The wyfe of the feoffour bryngeth an accyon of Dower ageynst the yssue of the feoffe, and he vouched the heyre of the feoffour. 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 370 If the tenant vouch a dead man, the demandant may auerre he is dead, or there is none such. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 386 b, If two men make a Feoffment.., and the one die, the Feoffee cannot vouche the surviver only, but the heir of him, that is dead. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 359 If Edwards therefore be tenant of the freehold in possession, Edward each Beal vouch Barker, and the Barker vouches Jacob Morland to the common vouchee. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 325 This person being tenant to the *præcipe*, vouches the tenant in tail. 1875 K. E. Digby *Real Prop.* (1876) 78 *note*, If at the death of the claim the vouchee were dead, the possessor of the thing claimed could 'vouch the tomb' of the vendor.
*absol.* 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* (1539) 28 b, Their bayliffes were lost they may vouche and resort to the lordes court rolles. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 101 b, The partie, if he hath a Warrantie, shall not vouche, but shall haue his action of warrantie, if (etc.). 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* I. § 49. 23 If a bastard eigne is impleaded and vouch and the vouchee enters into warranty. 1872 [see Vouchee 2b].

**c.** With *over.* Of a vouchee: To cite (another person) into court in his stead. Also *absol.*
1521–8 *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 18 *Preamble*, In whiche.. accione the said tenantes vsed in euery terme to vouche John Kyrley Knyght and he vouched ouer to Warantie Thomas Fynche. 1628 [see Vouchee 2b] 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* 1. vi. 130 If the Heir at Common Law be vouched for Warranty, who vouches the Heir in Gavelkind because of the Possession, they all shall vouch over. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 359 He vouches the tenant in tail, who vouches over the common vouchee. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 451 If a *præcipe* is brought against a tenant in tail, and his wife...and they both vouch over in the usual manner, it will bar the estate tail of the husband and posterity, in which he and his wife vouched over the common vouchee.

**2.** To take or call (a person) to witness. **†**In early use with *to record.* Also *transf.* (quot. 1700).
*c* 1440 Hoccleve *De Regim.* 1538 God vouche I to record, Pat..Thow schalt no cause haue more pus to muse. 1485 *Rolls of Parli.* IV. 265/2 And yat ye same Wauter Wodelarke Baroner..to be present at ye present in yis Parlement, and ver present in yat Counsell. 1676 W. Lowndes *Life in Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 125 Clarke.. quoted Busset's man, a bookseller, to vouch it; and ye yong bookseller vouch't Mr. Freake, a yong bartister of ye Middle Temple. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* xiii. 92 The Sun and Day are Witnesses for me, Let him who fights unseen relate his own, And vouch the silent Stars, and conscious Moon. *Ibid.* 101 That it is not a Fable forged by me, ..I vouch ev'n Diomede.

**b.** To cite or appeal to (authority, example, doctrine, etc.) in support of one's views or statements or as justification for a course of action.
1532 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxv, But the most catholike and renoumed doctours..vouche (as I nought say) to their ayde the autorite of the writers. 1561 J. Heywood *Dialogue Antw. Oner.* 30 Bycause I sayd that our Preachers do alledge Scriptures onely: and yet within a whiles after I added, that they did vouche also the Fathers of the Primitiue Church. 1642 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 105 He voucheth the example of Klaas, how God, upon his prayer, shut and opened heaven. 1662 Bowie *Sevt. Dcg.* 363, I vouch every mans experience to warrant this truth. 1692 Locke *Toleration* 111. ii. 215 So that you cannot vouch the Intention of the Magistrate, where his Laws say nothing. 1884 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 709 There is no such doctrine as that ..which has been vouched in order to take away the effect of this deed. 1885 Lp. Esher in *Law Times' Rep.* (N.S.) LIII. 445/2 A solicitor cannot vouch his privilege in such a case as this.

c. Similarly with reference to the citation of authors, works, etc.

1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 71 In the catalogue of the auctors, you haue omytted manye auctors vouched by chawcer. 1621 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. x. (1623) 651 For more credit to which assertion bee vouched sundry bookes and acts. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn.* 239 We have truly vouched well nigh two hundred that consent with us. 1691 H. L'Estrange *Smectymnuus-mastix* 17 When he is vouched to serve their turns, he is set out with a more honorable encomium, he is then stiled A learned Jew, the famous Rabbi Maymonides. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* iii. 43 For the truth of this I vouch the mathematicians. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 45, I am more certain, whether you will admit such authorities as it is possible I may vouch. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 73 No one now regards such writers as Ascham, Burton, Chapman...as obsolete, or would hesitate to vouch them to justify a word and keep its memory from oblivion. 1866 *Q. Rev.* July 261 As he vouches another person for his former charge, and speaks ailiquely only of the second, it is difficult to say how much weight he attaches to either of these.

d. To cite, quote, or adduce (a passage, etc.) out of a work in support of a view or statement.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 250 b, You recite at the last certeine of my words, vouched out of Augustine, which be as followeth. 1583 H. Howard *Defensative* Oo 3 b, Since I find a sorte of godly verses vouched out of theyr vessels, by the learned Fathers of the Church. 1611 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 79 Neither will I vouch examples out of the ancient histories. 1632 Heylin *St. George* 135 His testimony vouch'd by Authors of that nature, We assure[s] mee...that such a worke was in their times, receiv'd as his. 1698 Sanderson *Serm.* (1689) 488 It would be too long to vouch Texts for each particular. 1842 S. R. Maitland *Reformkr* 72 A statement, that Philpot vouched the major of his argument 'out of Vigilius, an ancient writer'.

†3. a. To put in evidence, to display. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1358 þis bolde Baltazar bi3enkes hym ones, To vouche on [=an] avayment of his vayne glorie,

†b. To announce or declare (a vow). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 165 Vchon glewed on his god þat gayned hym beste, Summe to Vernagu þat vouched a-vowes solemne.

†c. To cast the responsibility of (something) *on* a person. *Obs.*

c1398 *Plowman's Tale* 945 On his bishop their warant [to] vouche, That is law of the decre.

4. To allege, assert, affirm or declare. Also const. *upon* or *against* (a person). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1330 Gower *Conf.* I. 293 But I speak nevere yit..That unto Cheste mihte touche, And that I darste vhi wel vouche Upon hireself as for witnesse. *Ibid.* II. 24 For..sche myn herte toucheth, That for nothing that Slowthe voucheth I mai forȝete him. 1492 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 467/2 Therein..ye sams Wauter seyth and voucheth, ye Parlement yat King Richard held at Westm' [etc.]. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 228 b, From whence shall this mylde & charitable allegation..appeare in the lenght to be truly vouched agaynst Luther? 1623 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 306 What can you vouch against him, Signor Lucio? Is this the man that you did tell vs of? 1664 — *Oth.* I. iii. 103 *Bra.* Therefore vouch against, That with some Mixtures, powrefull o're the blood,..He wrought vp on her. *Duke.* To vouch this, is no proofe. 1668 Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) I. 52 In that Union and Dominion that God gave Adam over the Creatures: In that he was vouched his immediate Deputy upon Earth. 1837 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xxxi. 5 What we have done None shall dare vouch, though it be truly known.

†b. With complement. *Obs.*[−1]

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. v. 87 But like a timorous theefe, [I] most faine would steale What law does vouch mine owne.

5. To assert or affirm to be true or according to fact; to guarantee the truth or accuracy of (a statement, etc.); to attest or certify. Also const. *against* (a person).

1598 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* i. 49 Diuerse miracles vouched by sundry persons terrified the minds of men. 1600 Shaks. *All's Well* v. ii. 5 Nay tis most credible, we beere receiue it, A certaintie, vouch'd from our Cosin Austria. 1700 Locke *Hum. Understn.* (ed. 4) IV. xvi. § 8 When any particular matter of fact is vouched by the concurrent Testimony of unsuspected Witnesses, there our Assent is also unavoidable. a 1703 Burnet *Rights of Christ. Church* 15 What an improbable and unlikely lie this was, which they put into the soldiers' mouths to vouch. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 117, I believe it be saying of Pliny (a very true, that there is no lie so impudent, which is not vouched by authority. 1774 Reid *Aristotle's Logic* vi. § 22. 237 They will..respect nothing but facts sufficiently vouched. 1847 Hallam *Const. Hist. w.* II. 496 *note*, Hoyle in his History of the Reign of Queen Anne, p. 12, says [etc.]. ..I should be glad to have found this vouched by better authority. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Lit.* II. 99 Other legends were vouched by grave citations from a certain Book of Martyrdoms. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* 153 An idle story that Milton died a Roman Catholic..is not well vouched, being hearsay three times removed.

*absol.* 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* I. vi. Further vouches not my lay, Save that such Bruce Britain's isle. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 66 Go and see and vouch for yourself.

b. With subordinate clause: To bear witness, to testify, *that* (etc.).

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 262 Vouch with me Heauen, I therefore beg it not To please the pallate of my Appetite. a 1826 Fr. Horneck *ap. Serm.* (1814) 138 Some few hours after, Peter vouches that he had seen our Saviour. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiv, The Prior of the Dominicans will vouch for me, that they are more than half heathen. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 24 That there are now occasional complaints on this score we can vouch from personal knowledge.

c. With complement to the object.

1684–9 South *Serm., Prov. xvi.* 32 (1697) I. 358 If a man succeeds in any attempt, though undertook with never so much folly and rashness, his success shall vouch him a politician. 1693 — *Serm., Eccl. i.* 18 (1842) V. 3 His [*sc.* Solomon's] judgment, whom God has hitherto vouched the wisest of men. 1902 *Times* 29 Jan. 13/4 The girl..had vouched the man Waugh as having been present.

6. To support or uphold by satisfactory evidence; to back with proofs of a practical or substantial character.

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 3/1 That all they that teache, may vouch it in deede, and of a truth, that Iesus Christ speaketh by their mouth. *Ibid.* 458/1 To vouch our Godlinesse, that is to say, to shewe in deede & without dissembling, that we loue to serue God. 1666 Glanvill *Lux Orient.* i. 3 Let us take some account of what the 2 first opinions alledge one against another..; now, if they be found unable to withstand the shock of one another's opposition; we may reasonably cast our eies upon the third, to see what force it brings to vouch its interest. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 66 His daring hope; though all such bold attempt Vouch'd with a deed so bold. 1697 C. Leslie *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 281 If G. Whitehead cannot, by some better Miracles than these, vouch that Curse and Prophecy. a 1704 T. Brown *Sat. French Poet.* Wks. 1730 I. 59 A change so enormous I could ne'er have thought, Tho' Partridge all his stars to vouch it brought. 1778 *Hist. Eliza Warwick* I. 95 Say, Madam, how can I possibly vouch the sincerity of my words. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I.* II. iii. 49 He afterwards honourably vouched his words by his deeds. 1830 Scott *Demonology* iv. The extreme antiquity of the building is vouched by the immense thickness of the walls. 1912 E. Beveridge *North Uist* vii. 239 The character of this site is fully vouched by traces of five or six old dwellings.

b. To attest or substantiate by written evidence.

1725 Pococke *Descr. East* II. iii. I. 126 When I arrived at Scutari, they took my name from me, as I was not the original writing by me to vouch the property of him. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 462 Either party may appeal to the superior court, whose decree for costs is vouched by two witnesses. 1886 *Law Times Rep.* LXXX. 197/1 All expenses so claimed must be strictly vouched.

7. To support by recommendation; to become sponsor for (a person or thing). *rare.*

1590 Greene *Never too Late* Ded., Knowing you are such a Maecenas of learning, that you will as soone vouch with Augustus a few verses, giuen by a poor Greeke, as of the Italian Virgil. 1591 R. Percy *Faerie Pastorall* 3, I want no Patrons for to vouch my Books. 1775 C. Johnston *Pilgrim* 212 It was impossible to object to such a scheme, espoused by the magistrates and the fellow's sagacity. 1908 A. Noyes *Drake* I. 82 Leicester vouched him; 'This man's tale is true!'

b. To affirm or guarantee (the truth of a statement).

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. vi. 5 Bid them repayre to th' Market place, where I..Will vouch the truth of it. 1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 112 One of our English Merchants came (of good repute, though of little worth to vouch the truth of his story)..told us [etc.]. 1741 C. Middleton *Cicero* II. vi. (ed. 3) 149 The three Tribunes..terrifying the City with false reports, produced their creatures in the Rostra to vouch the truth of them to the people. 1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 131 She had framed a novel against me,..so guarded at all points, that each part of it seemed to vouch the truth of the rest. 1809 Kobzebue *Dt Acton Nunc y Desert* II. 179 Willet..should be summoned to vouch the truth of his own despatches.

c. To give or pledge (one's word of honour) *for* something.

1898 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 4/7 M. Cavaignac has..insulted France by vouching his personal honour for a gross, clumsy, forgery.

8. *intr.* With *for*. a. To speak or bear witness in behalf of (a person); to be surety or sponsor for.

1587 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* Pref. c, As to the Englishing of this Work, since the Translator has no body to vouch for him, he must e'en leave it to take its chances. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* 215 The Salvo of Sir John Friendly's appearing at last, and vouching for Lord Foppington, won't mend the matter. 1718 Chandler *Cycl.* s.v., A Person is said to Vouch for another, when he undertakes to maintain or warrant him in a thing, or passes his Word to Others for him. 1748 Chesterfield *Lett.* 19 Nov., I will knows me well enough to be able to vouch for me that I am not over-much addicted to compliments and fine speeches. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xviii, I dispute not the lad's qualities, for which your reverence vouches.

b. Of things: To supply evidence or assurance of (some fact).

1758 Young *Centaur* v. Wks. 1757 IV. 222 What year, nay, what day, has passed unobserved to vouch for his clemency, and absolute reign? 1787 W. Wilkie *Epigoni.* Pref. p. xxxv, The stories..would have appeared..altogether ridiculous, ..till antiquity had procured them credit, or a tradition been found adapted to vouch for them to the world. 1826 Disraeli *Vic. Grey* v. viii, The very incident vouches for its sweet seclusion. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 508 A plan which he formed, though not successful, seems to vouch for his generalship. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 276 The certainty of the law..is vouched for..by the reference of all events to causes.

c. To give personal assurance of the truth or accuracy of (a statement or fact). Also with *accuracy, truth*, etc., as object.

1577 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* iv. iii, A very clear account, truly I: and I dare swear the Lady will vouch for the truth of every word of it. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clx, I do not vouch for what I have said of the Bellerophon and Majestic. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 310, I cannot vouch for the accuracy of every minute particular, but am certain that the general statement will be found to be correct. 1842 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 84 When he relates anything for the truth of which he can not vouch. 1885 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 176, I can vouch for the great frequency of these sources. 1888 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 54, I love the country better than ever, I can vouch for that.

†9. *trans.* To assert a claim to (something). *Obs. rare.*

1488 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 108/1 Because he said thomas clamit þe said landes to pertene to alane kynnard.., and that he waldo wocht thaim wip the pereil: The lordis þare-fore ordanis þe said maister William to wocht namekis of þe said landis as he pleasis. 1491 *Ibid.* 215/2 The said Johne allegiit þat all be saidis landis wer his fee & heretage, & wocht þe samyn wip þe pereil of law in presens of þe lordis. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* 39 Howbeit this labor of myne, I vouche not as myne, but ayene all to goddes goodnes, by whose helpe all was wrought.

†10. To guarantee the title to, or legal possession of (something). *Obs. rare.*

1620 Shaks. *Hen. V.* i. 217 Will his Vouchers vouch him no more of his Purchases? 1626 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 64 If one ignorantly buyeth stolen Cattel, and hath them fairly vouched unto him,..he cannot be damnified thereby.

11. †a. To deign or think fit to do something; = Vouchsafe *v.* 6. Also with simple object. *Obs.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 31, I was..drawne..to..afford you such companie as a poore swaine may yeeld without offence, which if you shall vouch to deigne of, I shall be..glad of such accepted seruice. 1590 Lodge *Euphues' Gold. Leg.* F 3 b, Marry, if you want lodging, if you vouch to shrowd your selues in a shephards cottage, my house (for this night) shall be your harbour. c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* vii, Then must we all make suit..To Friar Bacon, that he vouch this task, And undertake to countervail in skill The learned Prussian.

b. To condescend to grant or give; to allow or permit; = Vouchsafe *v.* 2 a.

1594 Lodge & Greene *Looking Gl.* 1b, iii. 855 If that I meant not, Rasni, to forgiue,.. I would not vouch her presence in my Court. 1612 *Lusts Dominion* iv. (1931) Our master Mars hath vouch'd his Oracle, and to Arcite gave The grace of the Contention. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 290 Power And means vouchsafed, vouch'd to some, and now To him who words the wonders he hath seen.

†12. *intr.* To deign to accept of something; = Vouchsafe *v.* 6 d. *Obs. rare.*

1589 Greene *Pullitz Love* Ded., Then..if my worke, treating of Cicero, seeme not fit for Cicero's eares..yet I craue your Honour will vouch of it, only for it is written of Cicero. 1590 — *Never too Late* (1600) 6 This Palmer..returning me many thanks, vouch'd of a Cup of Wine, and willing to take my house for his Inne. 1602 Rowlands *Greenes Ghost* 6 But you kind friends, that loue your countries wealth, Vouch of my labours.

Hence **Vouched** *ppl. a.*, **Vou'ching** *vbl. sb.*

1580–90 Harey *Alv. v. Vouch*, Such vouching or constant affirmance. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 60 *Gon.* But the rarlety of it is, which is indeed almost beyond credit. *Seb.* As many voucht rarieties are. 1621 Cotgr., *Vouchement*, a vouching in law. 1697 W. Monick *Coena quasi* Koiv*η* 21, 127 By the vouching of Theophylact I conceive they have gotten nothing. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry and Frances* (1767) IV. 76 A Gentleman had bought a Horse, some Time ago, which happened not to answer his Vouchings. 1818 Scott *Antiq.* xxxvi, Aymer de Gernsdlin..who, by the less vouched, but plausible tradition..of the country, is said to have been descended from the Mother of Goodrisden. 1832 *Rolls of Parl.* Index 1/2 A Collusive Sale of Land, and vouching by Warranty. 1894 A. Birrell *Ess.* I. 4 This side of the account needs no vouching; but there is another side.

†**Vou'chable**, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. prec. + -able.] Able to be cited or quoted in support of a statement, etc.

a 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 544 For this opinion elder Authors are vouchable.

**Vouched-safe**, *ppl. a.* [f. Vouchsafe *v.*] Vouchsafed, granted.

1839 Bailey *Festus* xxx. 347 His is the vice-royed, vouched-safe, sway of God.

**Vouchee** (vuutʃi·). [f. Vouch *v.* + -ee 1.]

1. *Law.* The person vouched or summoned into court to give warranty of a title. *Common vouchee*: (see quot. 1766).

1489 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 293/2 The said Recoveries and Judgments.., and the Vouchees in the same and theire heires. 1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* ii. xxxiii. (1638) 120 The vouchee shal appere, and the demaundantes shall declare ageynst him. 1596 West *2d. Symbol.* § 52 A fine bet weene the vouchee and the demaundant is good..; for that the vouchee is as it were tenant in law. 1607 Cowell *Interpreter* s.v., The party that voucheth in this case, is called the Tenent, the partie vouched is named the Vouchee. 1629 Sir J. Finch *Law* (1636) 372 In an assize of nouell disseisin and nuisance, voucher lyeth not, vnlesse the vouchee be presentin Court, and will by and by enter into warranti. 1633 in Somers' *Tracts* I. 503 By any Recovery or Recoveries had against him as Tenant or as Vouchee in any common Recovery. 1758 M'Donald *Inst. Law Scot.* II. 244 The writ is brought against the tenant in tail himself, or vouchee his common vouchee. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 353 Upon this, Jacob Morland, the vouchee, appears, is impleaded, and defends the title. *Ibid.* 359 The cryer of the court (who, from being frequently thus vouched, is called the common vouchee). 1802–18 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 492 A..man of straw, under some such name as William Nokes, is the ordinary or common vouchee. 1828 Crabb *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 431 Because the wife was named..and appeared and vouched as joint tenant; and the vouchee entered into the warranty, admitting that he ought to warrant to them. 1875 [see Vouch *v.* 1].

2. A person cited or appealed to as an authority for some fact or statement, or in evidence of some assertion. Occas. *common vouchee*, after prec.

1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 99 His Vouchees, Author, or

Advocate (col him which you please). 1673 Hickman *Quinquart. Hist.* 439 Making also the immortal Grotius his Vouchee for this opinion. 1809 Mar. Edgeworth *Manoeuvring* xiv, He had wisely determined to obtain accurate and positive evidence from Captain Lightbody, who seemed in this case to be the common vouchee. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 271 Some respectable names are occasionally attached as vouchees. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 3/1 Poor Nausicaa! She is the common vouchee of every writer on every game of ball.

†**b.** A fact or circumstance cited in evidence or justification. *Obs. rare.*

1637 W. Monck *Corna quasi* Κοινὴ Pref. 8 Importunity of friends (the common vouchees to warrant publications). 1665 Glanvill *Sceptis Sci.* Addr. p. 21, Conceiving Reason and Philosophy sufficient vouchees of Licentious practices.

†**3.** An avouchment or assertion. *Obs. rare.*

1605 Br. Montagu *Apol. Caesar* 119 It insisteth but upon some points only; and that not by or with a generall vouchee neither, but thus only, I see no cause. *a* 1642 — *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 256 Of what credit or authority this his vouchee is, I cannot tell.

**Voucher** (vau·t[ə]r), *sb.*[1] [n. AF. *voucher* Vouch *v.* : see -er 4.]

1. *Law.* The summoning of a person into court to warrant the title to a property. *Voucher over* (cf. Vouch *v.* 1 c).

1532 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* ii. iv. G v b, If suche a recoueree be had of tenne yeres with a voucher ouer, then it shalbe taken to be of lyke effecte as recouerye of landes be in suche manor as we haue treated of before. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 12 And he vouched the heire of the feoffour, and during the voucher and not termyned, the wyfe of the feoffe bryngeth an accyon of Dower against the heyre of the feoffe. 1570 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 5 Any Estate .. by reason whereof any Person .. shall use any Voucher in any Writ of Formedon. 1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 184 When thou .. hast mayled all these with all the appurtenances, his fines, and vouchers, and estayls, as firm as law can make them, to thy child. 1629 [see Voucher 1]. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 358 This is called the voucher .. or calling of Jacob Moabord to warrant Shechem. 1798 *Ibid.* III. 299 Voucher also is the calling in of some person to answer the action, that hath warranted the title to the tenant or defendant. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 143 It is the intent that a common recovery should be had and suffered against them, with voucher of the lessor. [1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* II. 4 In this writ neither view nor voucher lies. *Ibid.* 98 In such case the tenant shall fail in his voucher.]

b. *Double voucher:* (see quot. 1628).

1594 *Wyer and Pt. Symbol.* § 136 In a recouerie with double voucher, the fine ought to be levied, and the whole tenant at the time of the writ of Entre brought. 1600 Shaks. *Hamt.* v. i. 114 His recognizances, his Fines, his double Vouchers. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 258 b, Fines shall be made in bookes a recovery with a single Voucher, and that is when there is but one Voucher, and with a double Voucher, and that is when two Vouchees vouch'd over. 1728 M'Douall *Inst. Law Scot.* II. 944 The above is the procedure in a Common Recovery with a double voucher, and is the most common and safest way. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 359 It is now usual always to have a recovery with double voucher at the least. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 325 In a recovery with double voucher,

2. *Instruf.* A piece of evidence; a fact, circumstance, or thing serving to confirm or prove something; a guarantee.

1612 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. ii. 30 Heere's a Voucher, Stronger than euer Law could make. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 191 Plutarch and Pliny attest it, .. the last bringing Augustus's own Words for his Voucher. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 31 It has no Voucher but the Epistles of Phalaris, the very Book that's under debate. 1739 R. Woodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 436 The vouchers and proofs are such as will, I hope, be found sufficient. 1744 T. Birch *Life Boyle* 112 The philosophy of Des Cartes .. had not the necessary vouchers of repeated experiments tried, to make it good. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist. tv.* xxix, 217 The collection of records ..supplies good vouchers of the truth of all the advances. 1807 T. S. Hunt *Lonsdale Mag.* I. 1 *note*, The Register of St. Andrews is the most ancient voucher for the death of Alpin. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxiv. 297 The situations of the vessels, and the current, .. the log-books, the meteorological registers, the surveys, and the journals. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/2 The strength of the bias which these letters reveal..[is] a sufficient voucher for their genuineness.

b. A written document or note, or other material evidence, serving to attest the correctness of accounts or monetary transactions, to prove the delivery of goods or valuables, etc.

1696 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 28 At last it ended in appointing a committee to repair to the East India house and search their books, if they can find vouchers for the said accounts. 1732 in W. Hale *Prec. Causes of Office* (1841) 68 The vouchers and an estimate of the necessary expenses ..to be laid before the vestry. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 35 Keep all the Serjeant's Pay-Notes, and all receipts, to be produced with your Vouchers when you settle Accounts with your Captain. 1780 Jefferson *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 245 The arms you have to spare may be delivered to General Cntes's order, taking and furnishing us with proper vouchers. 1826 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. xi. 309 At his death, his family discovered that he..had kept no vouchers or any accounts whatever. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 183 When they have regularly to produce accounts, with vouchers, of all receipts and expenditure. 1866 Crump *Banking, &c.* iv. 96 Disputing the payment of a particular cheque, and alleging that all his paid vouchers had been destroyed.

c. A written warrant or attestation.

1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 274, I send along with this a voucher signed by the Mayor .. who saw me make Net on this machine. 1862 R. H. Gronow *Remin.* I. 49 Noone could obtain a box or a ticket for the pit without a voucher from one of the lady patronesses. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Sept. 5/2 The report ..appears to have been sent direct from the Mudir to Cairo, without a voucher from Major Kitchener, who is at Dongola.

**3.** *attrib.*, as *voucher-card, form, number, system.*

1882 Miss Braddon *Asph.* xvii, Where the voucher system is so thoroughly carried out. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 7/2 As I got into the train the guard rushes up and hands me a voucher-card. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 46 The voucher form is printed on white paper for the date, and on tinted green paper for the agents. *Ibid.*, The 'Key' to the voucher number.

Hence † **Vou·cher** *v. trans.*, = Vouch *v.* 5 b.

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. III*, 59 The tenant.. sall woucher, that is, affirme, that he haldis that land.. be the tenour of the charter sublik is tryed.

**Voucher** (vau·t[ə]r), *sb.*[2] [f. Vouch *v.* + -er 1. Cf. Vouchor.]

1. One who vouches for the truth or correctness of a fact or statement or corroborates another person in this respect; an author or literary work serving this purpose.

1654 Whitlocke *Sweg. Mate* Wks. (1633) 890 Without painting of phrases or collecting of great Authours for my Vouchers. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* v. vi. (1692) 22 They would make him a Voucher of all their Falsehood. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 252 Whether the Beams were of Cedar, It is not so fortunate as to have a Voucher of its own Nation. 1713 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 96 For the authentickness of his Chymical MS. he produces no other Voucher than one Reinesius. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. v. 53 The Use he makes of Sayings of the Fathers, whom he quotes as his Vouchers. 1822 Scott *Woodst.* xiv, Tomkins..was in the habit of being voucher for his master. 1836-7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* (1859) I. iii. 47 Heraclides and Solicrates, two later writers of this story. 1843 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. ii. 81 But here I am only concerned with its wealth, for which great writers are the vouchers.

b. The person who vouches for the respectability or good faith of another, or who undertakes to guarantee some procedure.

1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 105 Detaining suspicious persons till they brought good vouchers and cleared themselves. 1713 Lodowick *Spect. Nos.* 253 I'll call the great Writers of that Age..stand up together as Vouchers for one another's Reputation. 1732 Swift *Let. to Barber* 14 Dec. Mrs. Pilkington..says you will be his Voucher that he still continues his modest behaviour. 1792 Mrs. Inchbald *Next door Neighb.* III. ii. 66 Mr. Manly, notwithstanding you are these people's voucher, this appears but a scheme. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Comic Writ.* iii. 54 The only way that the lover of it is to make these old writers, as much as can be, vouchers for their own pretensions. 1849 Scott *Jrnl.* 9 Mar., The Solicitor cannot be voucher that they would keep the terms quite general. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 369 Voucher of him last riseth a prey untimely devoted E'en to the tomb.

c. *Instruf.* Of things, in preceding senses.

1718 Prior tr. *Lucretius* IV. 1, The Seas and Earth, our Virtue shall proclaim, And stand eternal Vouchers for our Fame. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* iv. 553 Religion! the sole voucher man is made! a Supporter sole of man above himself. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1857) I. xiii. 195 Nothing but past acts are the vouchers for future. 1838 Emerson *Addr. Coll. Soc., Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 292 Speak the truth, and all things alive or brute are vouchers..to bear you witness. 1858— *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Ibid. 84 The grand old hall scattered up and down in England, are stands vouching for the..broad hospitality of their ancient lords.

†**2.** A supporter or upholder of some practice or theory. *Obs.*

1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. iii. 56 This Practice must needs stand in a bad case, if a Supporter sole of man above himself. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1857) I. xiii. 195 Nothing but past acts are the vouchers for future. 1838 Emerson *Addr. Coll. Soc., Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 292 Speak the truth, and all things alive or brute are vouchers..to bear you witness. 1858— *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Ibid. 84 The grand old hall scattered up and down in England, are stands vouching for the..broad hospitality of their ancient lords.

†**3.** *Cant.* One who utters counterfeit coin. *Obs.*

1673 R. Head *Counting Acad.* 69 Gilts,..Runners, Paulders, Doubledrests, Vouchers and the like. *Ibid.* 70 The first was a Conyer that stands in a Mould, The second a Voucher to put off his Gold. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Vouchers, that put off* False Money for Sham-conyers.

†**4.** *Arm.* = Vouchee 1. **b.** = Youcher. *Obs.*

1596 Bacon *Use Com. Law* (1633) 53 Which I. H. is one of the Gryers of the Common Pleas, and is called the Common Voucher. 1637 Cowell *Interpreter* s.v., The partie that vouched [to warrant] is called the Voucher, and the partie vouched is termed the Voucher. 1672 Manley *Cowell's Interpreter* s.v., He that voucheth is called Voucher,(*vocans*) and he that is vouched [is called Voucher, (*Warens. Ital.*).

**Vou·cheress.** *rare*[—1]. [ad. AF. *voucheresse*: see prec. and -ess 1.] A female voucher.

1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* II. 272 The warrant is bound to defend the voucheress against the plaintiff.

**Vouchership.** *rare*[—1]. = next. Vouch *v.* 1.

†**Vouchment.** *Obs.*[—1] [n. OF. *vouchement* (13th c.), or f. Vouch *v.* + -ment.] The action of vouching; a solemn assertion or affirmation.

*a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 77 The Peers..lay not their Hand upon the Book, but upon their Breast in stead of Vouchment of their vouchment by their Honour in that Tryal is not an Oath.

**Vouchor.** *rare.* [AF., f. *voucher* Vouch *v.* Cf. Voucher *sb.*[2] 4 b.] One who calls another into court to warrant a title.

1628 Coke *On Litt.* 101 b, Hee that voucheth is called the Vouchor.. and he that is vouched is called Vouchee. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 299 If the vouchee appears, he is made defendant instead of the voucher. 1865 F. M. Nichols *Britton* I. 50 If the warrant makes good his case, then let both the vouchor and his warrant be acquitted. *Ibid.* 116, etc.

**Vouchsafe** (vautʃsē·f), *v.* Forms: a. 4–5 **vowche-**, 5 **vowch-**, 4–6 **vouche-** (4–5 **vouche-**, 5 **woche-**, **vousahe-**), 4– vouch-, 6 **voutchsafe**, etc.; also 4 **votesave**, 6 **voutsalfe**, **vousalf**, **vowt-**, **voult-**, 6–8 **voutsafe**, 7 **voutchafe**. 8. 4–5 **fowche-**, **fouche-**, 5 **ffouch-**, **foche-**, **fuch(a)-safe**, etc.; also 5 **fuchesef**. γ. 4–5 **woahe-** (5 **woahes-**; **whouhe-**), 5 **wooh-**, 4–6 **wouahe-** (5 **wouahe-**), 6 **wouchsafe**, etc.; also 5 **wot-save**, 7 **wow-**, **wouchsafe**, **wouchsaife**. δ. 4 **woche-**, 5 **wych(e-**, **wiche-**, 6 **wich-safe**, etc.; also 5 **wet-saffe**, **wytsaf**, *Sc.* **witsaufe**, 6 **-save**, **-safe**, **-safe**, **wytsaue**, **-save**, **-saufe**; 5 *Sc.* **wichauf**, **wiche-**, **wichsauf**, **-saif**, 5–6 **witschaif**, 6 **with-saif**, **-save**, **-schaif**, **wythsaue**, **-save**; 5 **wite-selfe**, 6 **-safe**, 6 **wytesave** (5 **wyȝt-**). (For usual variants of the second element see Safe *a.*, and for special illustration of forms see sense 6 b.) [f. Vouch *v.* (in the sense of 'warrant') + Safe *a.* In early use still treated as two words, with normal inflection of the verb, and occasional inversion (*safe vouch*), or insertion of words between the verb and adj.]

**1.** † **1.** *trans.* To confer or bestow (some thing, favour, or benefit) *on* a person: **a.** With separable vb. and adj. (Freq. in 14th cent. romances.) *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6345 He vouchede hyt ȝac. [his property] sauyle on ys, bo wyf and bo chyld. *Ibid.* 10144 he deyde. *a* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) liii, And ȝe be a man that wille wedde a wife, I vouche hur safe, be my life, On ȝo that ferye may. *c* 1403 *Sowdone Say.* (P.) 1531 I vowch hym wylle save on the, To do what thy wylle bee. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 203 Quhy suld man tak it ha thame or gif thai vouchis it nocht? 1513 Douglas *Eneados Chrron.* t. in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1912) 742 Seth that pryce is gone..I vouche it sauf, wyth all benyvolence, On yow, gude lordis, hys sonne and hayre that ryne. 1598 *Lett. Robyn Hode* (ccclxxxi. Child's Ballads III.) Child, I put yf I had an hondred pounde, I wolde vouch it safe on the.

†**b.** With vb. and adj. in juxtaposition or combination. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 *Kyng of Tars* 336 Ich fouchesaf on him my blod, To him hee nis not to good, Though heo weore ten so brith. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arct.* 254 Is per now neyber worde ne dede Ye vowchesauf to sayn ayen heynesse? Hamelon *Sir Eglam.* 222 Leade, y have sayd yow many a day, Vowchesafe ye bur on mee. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 175 For yt ys nouthe ywys conveneyent,..Alle forto holde that vnto yow ys brouht, And as weelle on other vouchesauf to take. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) i. 624 But syth pou wytyst saff a dyner on me, with pes and grace I entreyt pi bows. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sagis* 10 Ane Nobill Prince ..Vow saif your grace But to witchaif on me sa greit credence [etc.]. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. Pref. 102, You may see..what gracious prayleges and high prerogatiues worthily haue been vouchsafed vpon them. 1672 Milton *P. R.* II. 210 What woman will you find..On whom his leisure will vouchsafe an eye Of fond desire?

**2.** To give, grant, or bestow in a gracious or condescending manner: **a.** Without const.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1391 Tas yow here my cheuicaunce, I cheued no more; I wowche hit saf fynly, bys feler hit were. *a* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxii, Sche[e]ld, quod oder geyre, Fowre so gud thoffe hit were I woch hit save, bi Sen Jon! 1444 in R. R. Sharpe *Lond. & Kingd.* (1895) III. 369 Of pat pat your lordship pleasse to certifie vouchesauf ... it excedeth inestimablich our power..to yeve you thankynges. 1504 Kyd *Cornelia* Dedic., And so vouchsafing but the passing of a few houres in the perusall hereof, Cornelia, I[etc.]. 1601 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 45, I haue assayl'd her with Musickes, but she vouchsafes no notice. 1642 Chas. I in *Jrnl Reg. Hist. MSS. Comm. 4oth/2* There is hardly anything..that we shall not freely grant him with willingness and readinesse to voutsafe it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 881 Those indulgent Laws Will not now be voutsaf'd, other Decrees Against thee are gon forth without recall. 1712 Prior *Hope* 487 Nature indeed vouchsafes, for our delight, The sweet vicissitudes of day and night. 1838 T. Aldous *Ashore and Afloat* II. i, Will those not join thy fellows at the feast, And taste a cup of wine the king vouchsafes For merriment to-day? 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Hours with Mystics* (1860) II. iv. 82 Forms of glory come and go; gifts of the noblest discernment are vouchsafed. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 2 They ought not to lessen the glad song of praise for blessings formerly vouchsafed of love, of joy, and of happiness.

**b.** With indirect object. + Also (quot. 1595), to make a grant *of* something.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxiii. (1592) 313 Men vouchsafed them not so much as a Tombe, to be buried in. 1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* iii. 19 Not Tubulcain,..but Tubalh, whom Genesis vouchsafeth honourable mention. 1593 Spenser *Col. Clout* 84 But nay, who else vouchsafed thee of grace? They all (quoth he) thy graced goodly wit. 1599 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. 158 On my knees I begge That you'l vouchsafe me Rayment, Bed, and Food. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* To Rdr. 24 As for obscure Etymologies, I have vouchsafed them no place in this worke. 1699 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxii. 1 They are vouchsafed that dignity. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. xxi. 156 Should I once more remind you of the promise you vouchsafed me yesterday? 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IV. 466 Them Tydeus vanquish'd easily, such aid Pallas vouchsafed him. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *Ellon's Hist. Tex* IV. i. 15 It was only those who are not always vouchsafed the use of a church steps or stones of the street for their bed. 1887 'Ouida' *C. Castlemaine's Gage* (1879) 23 That is all you vouchsafe me.

**c.** Const. *to* (or *unto*).

*a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 40 His Lordship may be pleased..to vouchsafe a meetinge..to Sir Walter Dungan. 1672 Milton *P. R.* I. 490 Thy Father.. vouchsaf'd his voice To Balaam Reprobate, a Prophet yet Inspir'd. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1756) I. 20 Whether they will vouchsafe any new memorial to their benefactor,

time must discover. 1781 Cowper *Table-t.* 699 Nature.. But seldom..Vouchsafes to man a poet's just pretence. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxvii, I will be true to my word, while the exercise of my reason is vouchsafed to me. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. iii. 47 We have marked every dash of wit with the great Painter in his benevolence vouchsafed to us. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* 14 It is not yet but a partial revelation that has been vouchsafed to them.

**d.** To deign or condescend to give (a word, answer, etc.) in reply or by way of friendly notice.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiv. § 2 Vouchsafe me here-unto some short answer, such as..may..instruct me in the cause thereof. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i, 252 Vouchsafe a word, young sister, but one word. 1648 Milton *Tenure Kings* 22 Yet to a tyrant we hear him not vouchsafe to humble word. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* II. § 19 Lysicles..smiled at Crito, without vouchsafing any answer. 1856 W. Irving *Astoria* II. 163 So saying, he flung out of their presence without vouchsafing any further conversation. 1858 Lytton *Harold* I. v, Twice the Duke paced the chamber without vouchsafing a word to either. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* iv, 40 All the reply that Tita vouchsafed was to wear a pleased smile of defiance.

*ellipt.* 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. v, *Bob.* You were wish'd for, and drunk to, I assure you. *Mat.* Vouchsafe mee, by whom, good Captaine.

†**3.** a. To condescend to engage in (some pursuit). *Obs.*

*c* 1581 Lodge *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shaks. Soc. 1853) 10 Ask Josephus, and he will tel you that Esay, Job and Salomon, voutsafed poetical practises, for..theyre voice was Hexameter, and Pentameter. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 893 Nor other strife with them do I voutsafe.

†**b.** To receive (a thing) graciously or condescendingly; to deign to accept. *Obs.*

1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 136 Considering it [a letter] came from so honourable a personage as Lentulus, shee vouchsafed it. 1599 T Greene *George a Greene* D j, Geo. Why then, to honour G. a Greene the more, Vouchsafe a peice of bread into your house. 1599 *Sapientia-ton's Lat. Ep.* iii. 11 Whose singular affabilitie and clemencie.. (is) such, that shee will vouchsafe the speech of the meanest. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. i, 178 Vouchsafe good morrow from a feeble tongue. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 152 Vouchsafe my Labour, And long live your Lordship.

†**c.** To be prepared to bear or sustain. *Obs.*

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 43 If your backs Cannot vouchsafe this burthen, 'tis too weake Ever to get a Boy.

†**4.** To acknowledge (a person) in some favourable relationship or manner. *Obs.*

1582 in T. *Watson's Poems* (Arb.) 34 Let Britan beare your spring..That it hence foorth may of your favour boast, And him, whome first you heare vouchsafe to host. 1584 Lodge *Hist. Forbonius & Prisceria* C 4 b, He which whilome hated Orbanius, now vouchsafeth him his son to be. 1594 T. Adams *Two Sonnes* 73 It is no ordinary favour that God will vouchsafe thee his Servant; yet hath he made us his Sonnes. 1634 Ford *Fancies Chaste & Noble* I. i, Your princely mistress Vouchsaf'd me not her servant, twere as good I were reduc'd to clowenry.

†**5.** To grant, permit, or allow, as an act of grace or condescension. Usually const. with clause introduced by *that*. *Obs.*

1338 R. Baumbe *Chron.* (1810) 260 Homage vp to3eld, lordschip to forsake,..As 3e haf mad present, pe Kyng vouches it saue. *c* 1380 *Wyclif. Serm.* I. 55 Pat pou lord, vouchesauf pat his sone hire wedde. *Thrid.* 413 Pat pe queen be offsent sauf wel i fouche. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 315 Now vouchith sauf, that I may yow devise A man, that helpe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2000 My mouthe...to no vilayn was never couthe..For sauff of cherlis I ne vouche That they shulle never rede it more. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. v. (1554) 74 Rehearce I wil, so that ye sauf it vouch, A mortal wrunge which the and me doth touch. 1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* Proheme a ij b, Yvuely yf they wyll eat him a phrafion...I wyssaid they be name me. 1560 Rowland *Seven Sages* 72 War I gyltie or sit committit crime, I wald wischsaf 3e held me out this time. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i, 30 Doe ye vouchsafe the base vicarious title Due to a prince? 1600 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 130 If Brutus will vouchsafe, that Anthony May safely come to him. 1639 Sir W. Mure *Psalmes* xxvii. 2 Vouchsafe furth from before thy face, My sentence may proceid.

**b.** To permit or allow (a person) *to* do something. + Also *ellipt.*, to allow to speak.

1–2. Lydg. *Legh our Lordes Passion* (1484) n viij b, And lord also on me saue thou vouche. That holy mayde to handyl and touche. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 282 Most mighty Duke, vouchsafe me speak a word. 1599 — *Much Ado* III. ii. 3 *Clau.* He bring you thither, my Lord, if you'l vouchsafe me. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* v. Plays 1873 II. 244. a. Truely we are not of the number of warre. *Sau.* Nay but vouchsafe me. 3 Vouchsafe (my Lord) then, else there is no play in't. 1887 Keble *Chr. Y., St. Luke* xx, Be it vouchsaf'd thee still to see Thy true, fond nurslings closer cling.

**6.** To show a gracious readiness or willingness, to grant readily, to condescend or deign, *to* do something; + a. In earlier types of usage (with verb and adj. still distinct).

(*a*) *c* 1330 *St. Stephen* 207 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 30 Gamaliell vouchsafe To lay pat body in his awyn grave. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 339 For as Crist vouchib-sauf to clepe pis Chirche his spouse, so he clepip cursidе men fendis. *c* 1400 *Pepyner* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) II. 33 The maker of mankynde takynge a bodi.. fouchide sauf to be born. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. vi. 69, I blesse pe, heuenly fadir,..for pou vouchist sauf to haue mynde on me. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 376/1 Thou haste vouched sauf to comforte me poure caytyf. 1545 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* (1548) 91 Who..hath vouchedsafe to cast a fauourable eye on me. 1566 W. Waterman *Fardle Facions* Ded. 3 The Emperours Maiestie..vouchedsaulfe to receiue the presentacion thereof. 1586 Golding *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) B1 In vouching safe to let Our sayings to our friendly eares thus freely come and go.

(*b*) *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 73 3it he fouchide nevere sauf to fede bem pus wip a kide. *c* 1400 *Prymer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) II. 29 Fouche pou sauf to lizte pese herbis and bestes. 14.. Lydg. *Legh our Lordes* (1484) I ij, Glad mayst thou be that sauf [he] list to vouche ..To have plesaunce thy wrestis for to towche. 1540–2 Elyot *Image Gov.* Pref., He vouchsafe not sauffe to loke on them. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 6 As Satyres.. Whom into heaven since that as yet we vouch not safe to take.

**b.** In ordinary later forms.

a1. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 55 Lord, vouchesauf to kepe us pis day wipouten synne. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 373, I ponke God..pat he wole vouchesauf pis day to axe me pat he hab i-yave me. 1411 *Rolls of Parth.* III. 650/2 He besought the Kyng of grace, And that he wold vouchesauf to prayse the Lord the Roos, that he wold chese vnto Lordes of hys kyn. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 7, I you beseche frend ryht entierly That yes voucheaf for me to preye. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* v. 24 Blanchardyn..prayed hym that he vouchesauld to leige hym homage. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. xii. 28 Nane is in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 126 The most bountiful gifts.. wich your Grace hath vouchsavid to bestowe vpon us. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 83 b, Diogenes..would not vouchesalve so muche as ones to aryse up from his taille. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love, Brief Descr.* 82 iij b, For the institution of the truth vouchsafe good leasure to read the booke. 1624 *Trag. Nero* II. iii. in Bullen *O. Plays* I. 37 O Piso, that vouchsafest To grace our headlesse partin with thy name! 1633 T. Heywood *Iron Age* I. Plays 1874 III. 7 The only Thing Which Heav'n's peculiar Hand vouchsaf'd to frame. 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-Bk.* 88 We had a conceit that you would have vouchsaved to treate with us personally in person. 1673 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1714) 3 The Revelations, Deliverances and Preservations, which the Lord hath vouchsafed to work for me. 1765 Goldsm. *New Simile* 31 Lastly vouchsafe to take this hand Filled with a snake-encircled wand. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* III. 75 A Maid o'er whom the blessed Dove Vouchsafed in gentleness to brood. 1860 Chr. Year-Bk. *Myst. Mercies* (1870) I. 120 The Providence to give bulls of institution to the ecclesiastics named by the crown to fill the vacant sees. 1880 Mrs. Forrester *Roy & Vic.* I. 30 Had he not even vouchsafed to answer her letter? a 1. 1566 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 85 Onles your Hyghnes wyll voutlsafe to take our cause in hand. 1565 Stapleton *Fort. Faithful* 31 That most louelye Lorde, who was wonte to visit our brethrene, hath voutsafed this day to come to me also. 1577 Fulke *Answ. True Christian Tract.* 8 If any one of these..shall voutsafe to vouchsafe answere. *c* 1597 Sir J. Harington *On Play in Nuga Ant.* (1804) I. 206 Her Highnes can vowsafe to play somtyme with her servantes. 1652 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 329 Were a ample license when God vouchsafes to make man the instrument and subordinate worker of his gracious will. 1667 — *P. L.* VII. 80 Since thou hast vouchsaf'd Thus far to enlarge my power. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Epist. Ded. 1 Vouchsafe to accept of a Present from a Retir'd Author. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 176 They besought her Imperial Majesty, that she would vouchsafe to peruse the Letter.

*b. c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 359 3if pat God wolde vouchesafe to 3yve pes preestis of his grace, pat pei wolden mekeli kesse. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 18 Ich bynke yow a bowesed sythes, pat 3e fowche-saue to seye me what hit hihte. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 2195 3yff God wold fouchesave to sende me leyseris in Crist. *Prov. Poems* 80, in *Ellis.* (1827) I. Introd. 24 That ye wold fuchesef of your benygne grace to graunte a writ of sub pena. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 9 (Harl. MS.) That pray3 hem..that he wold fuchesafe to be hem ayenst they3 enemyes.

*c.* *c* 1420–30 in *Hamplole's Wks.* (1895) I 173 Pla sayght is bot be 1pines, wen god will wroche-sauf forto gifit vnto a wyrke-man pe hire pat he has wroght. *Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 40 My mayster ..pray yow that and ye wold wochesafe to speke to my master Edmund. 1498 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 129/2 Yf pou pray that he wolde wouchesafe to haue me in mynde. 1528 H. Watson *Hist. Olwer of Castile* (Roxb.) C 4, Wherfore I praye the that thou vouchesauf for to sende vnto hym by this bearer and me. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* 769/1 If he wyll nat vouchesuafe to do it, you lese your payne. *c* 1590 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xxxiv. 2 Melpomene, Vouchsaue to help a heavie thrall woman. 1639 Sir W. Mure *Psalmes* cvi. 4 Wowchsife, O Lord, to visite me With thy salvation.

†**d.** *c* 1449 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xx. 2732 To pray his palp Bonyface That he wald witschaf of his grace .. Off pai iniuris to set remeid. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 355 Beseching you that ye will weche safe to be her goode maistre. 1460 *Ibid.* II. 13 Beseching yow that ye wole weche safe to send me sume mony. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 356 Beseiching hyme he wold wichesaf to wende To camelot the Cesten. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 72 Wald ye wischsaf to pray to Quhilk your grace will witchaif for to schaw. 1589 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 408/1 That our said soueraine lord wald wischeaf to pray for him.

†**e.** 1444 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 10 We counsaile..yhour lordschip..that..yhe witchasfe to louse and deliuer frely the said inglismen. 1489 *Records Aberdeen* (Spalding Club) I. 60 Our lorde and thankid him that he wolde white safe to chaste me..in a fayrfully chastment. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) II. 226 Mast nowe meuyth, the taklynge and the sayle, O god wythsaue the wayles thyre to succoure. 1582 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 42 Most humbly beseching..that he wyll of his habundaunt goodnes to wytsafe to take me as I meane. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. 8 b, I Praya God that he wyll witesafe to worke faith in thyne herte. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xiv. (Arb.) 249 O Phebus,..Wouldst thou witsafe to slide a downe: And dwell with vs.

†**6.** With omission of the connective *to*. *Obs.*

a 1500 *Peyneer* (1897) 26 The makere of mankynde takynge a body..fouchesauf to be born. 1534 *Rolls of Parth.* V. 73/2 That they wold wochesaf, for the said considerations, pray and beseche our said Soveraigne Lorde the King (etc.). 1555 *Paston Lett.* I. 357, I besech your gode grace that ye will vouchesafe remember the premisses. 1901 in *Eng. Hist.* (Surteex) 31 We pray..yt thei will voteasye, at our request & prayer, beald, succour, & releffe the said Kic' Hannyton.

†**d.** *intr.* To be pleased to accept *of* something. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. Vouch *v.* 12.)

1589 Greene *Penelope's Web* Ep. Ded., I hope your Ladyships will vouchsafe of Pensiopes Web. 1597 — *Euphues Cens.* Ep. Ded., As Alexander did vouchsafe of Misons rude and unpolished picture of Mars. 1920 — *Honorable Convt.* Conch. So I hope..you will vouchsafe of my Mourning Garment.

†**7.** *Elliptically.* To grant; to agree graciously; to condescend. Chiefly in clauses introduced by *as* or *if*. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1308 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 199 Whan hit is so, ich louye wyche, Ic forsive the this gilte. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 231 Vf pow see bur..pou most lese pyn een-syght.' Then sayde he: 'Syr, I vouchsaf wele, so pat I may se hur.' 1596 *Edward III*, iv. ii. 27 And if your grace no otherwise vouchsafe, As welcome death is vnto ve as life.

(*b*) 13.. *Northern Passion* (H.) 429 Lat his paines pas fra me. And noght anly als I will crawe Bot, lader, als pou vowchis sauc. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conac.* 3002 Pus sal pe saules, als God vouches sauf, For sere synn, sere maledys have. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2344 No worldly goode more wold he have, But lyved as longe, as god vowche save.

(*c*) 13.. *Seyn Segyn* 1307, 3if me a place.. that I may my wonyng haue, At ayme ese, if ye vowchesaue. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 466 And pus 3if god wolde fouche-saf, hooly chirche shulde be purgid of heresyes in pis watir. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 606, I have do so yow at comaunded me, And if ye vouche sauf ye may go see. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 17 Item I will pat William Frankelyn stey the sermon at my interment, if he wochesafe. 1528 Coverdale *Tobit* xii. 9, I praye the..that thou wilt desyre him, if happile he will voutsafe, to take with him the half of all that we have brought. 1534 *Statutes Lat. & Stowell* 25 Sept., If you pleased, or would vouchsafe, or condescend, or think proper, I would rather that you would..charge only five per cent.

†**8.** *impers.* To be pleasing or agreeable to (a person) to do something. *Obs.*—1

1543 Grafton *Contn. Harding* 587 Thomas Trencharde.. went to the lyng, commaundyng him (yf it would wele stande with hys pleasure) to take a lodging at his house.

Hence **Vouchas'fed** *ppl. a.*, **Vouchas'fing** *vbl. sb.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxii. (1634) 459 By that vouchsafing, whereof I have spoken, he is reconciled vnto vs in God. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 100 My matter hath no voice Lady, but to your owne most pregnant and vouchsafed eare. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Sect. I. 82 His graces and all other his vouchsafings and descents into our hearts. 1755 Johnson, *Dejuning*,..a vouchsafing; a thinking worthy.

**Vouchsafement** (vautʃsē·fment). [f. prec. + -ment.]

1. An act of condescension, grace, or favour; a boon, benefit, or blessing.

1628 Gauden *Pract. Thks.* (1669) 135 It was a woundrous vouchsafement, that he would vouchsafe to receive them, should descend to the bottome of Humanity. 1658 J. Pawson *Vind. Free Grace* 22 Christ hath not purchased any such general vouchsafement to all the children of men. 1674 Doyle *Excell. Theol.* I. i. 59, I am apt to think the early discoveries of such great and important things, to be God's account no mean vouchsafements. 1708 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 177 To make a judgement for it will be proper to publish some extraordinary vouchsafements towards them. 1738 Anony *Buncle* (1770) I. 187 A merciful vouchsafement from God to mankind. 1818 Cumberland *John de Lancaster* (1809) III. 231 That indeed..will be a happiness never to be succeeded, a vouchsafement never to be forgotten. 1822 E. Irving *Babylon* (1826) I. vi. 135 But these things..delight me not, save as vouchsafements of my Maker's bounty. 1879 Pusey *Lent. Serm.* 184 But by what patient progress by ways not self-originating correspondence to Divine vouchsafements in time, must that soul have been formed.

2. The action of conferring or granting some boon, favour, advantage, etc.

1666 Glanvill *Serm. Lukn xiii.* 14 in *Discourses*, etc. (1681) 59 [He] believes..that God is in him of a Truth, in a special way of Manifestation and Vouchsafement. 1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* (1839) 9 Inducing them to a..diligent pursuit of, vouchsafement of his merciful hand and vouchsafement. 1883 J. Cosser *Free Admissions* III. xxiii. 52 God doth ascertain Christians of his vouchsafement of such Grace, as doth infallibly produce it. 1721 R. Keith tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xiii. 203 If thou standest astonished at the Vouchsafement of Visions. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* DI Acton *Noun of Desert* I. 229 Did he not duly administer pardon, and peace, and indulgence, to every one who applied properly to him, for such portions of Divine Vouchsafement? 1847 R. W. Hamilton *Rewards & Punishm.* 316 The sovereign vouchsafement of mercy to some.

**Vould(e,** obs. Sc. f. Would *pa. t.* and *a.*

**Voudou,** var. Voodoo. **Vouge,** obs. f. Vogue.

**Vought,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*, Vogue.

**Voure** *a.* **Vouh,** southern ME. var. Faw *a.*

**Voul,** southern ME. var. Foul *a.* **Voulente,** var. Volunty *Obs.* **Voulf,** obs. Sc. f. Wolf.

**Voult(e,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*1 and *v.*1 **Voultour,** obs. f. Vulture. **Voun** (in Sc. mining): see Veal *sb.*2 **Vound,** south-w. dial. var. *found* Find *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Wound *sb.* and *v.*

**+Vounde,** *a. Obs.*—1 (Meaning obscure.)

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7063 Nought rought I..Though it were of no vounde stone, Wrought with sesayre and scantilone.

**+Voure,** *v. Obs.* (exc. *dial.*). Also 4–5 **vowre,** 5 **vower-.** [Aphetic f. Devour *v.*, perh. after L. *vorāre.*] *trans.* To devour, to eat.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1038 In pe water ..Are fisches inne foure maneres:..Nejе fisches alle foure, Ne wyb oper menge ne voure. 1380 Wyclif *Ezekl.* xii. 9 The heed with his feet and entraylis ze shulen vowre. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* v. 1644 He hath..made hir born oute of

þe tovnis boundis To be vowrid of beatis & of houndis. [a 1585 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* 41.]

II cnce + **Vouzur,** a devicer. *Obs. rare.*

1580 WYCLIF *Luke* vii. 34 Lo! a man deuourere [v.r. vourer], ether glotoun. 1533 TINDALE *Supper of Lord* c vj b, I am here compelled to inculpe and leraf it wyth so many wordes, to satisfye..thys carnall fleshe vowerer and fleshly Jewes.

**Vourd,** obs. Sc. f. WORD *sb.* **Voure,** south-ern ME. var. FOUR. **Vourson,** var. VOWSON *Obs.* **Vourtaste,** -tene, -til, southern ME. varr. FORTIETH, FOURTEEN, FORTY.

+**Voury.** *Obs.*—[a. OF. *vouerie, vouerie* 'jurisdiction of a civil or ecclesiastical patron' (Godefroy): cf. AVOWRY 1.] (See quot.)

The privilege was obtained by a payment made to the Earl for his 'avowry' or protection.

*T. 1800 In Cal. Hart. MS.* (1868) II. 395/2 Of a Sanctuary. Way called the Vourys, for Debtors: which is such a Priviledge, that a Man may goe all the way‡ County of Chester ouer, at Liberty, without any Interruption of the Law.

**Vous,** southern ME. variant of FOUR *a.*

+**Vous,** *int. Obs.* Also a **vouss**; and WOUS. [Prob. for *avous* pl. of AVOW *sb.*, by colloquial reduction of the phrase *I make* (*my*) *avous.*] Assuredly, certainly.

The speakers are represented as belonging to Wiltshire.

1674 J. HOWARD *Eng. Mounsieur* v. 41 *Comely* Is it not very hot to-day? *Will* 'Vous Elsha. And I have reason to say so. *Ibid.* v. 1. 55 *Comely.* But what think you of ..finding me your sweet heart instead of him? *Fleda.* No a vous Sir.

+**Vousing.** *Obs.*—[ In 5 vowsyng. [f. OF. *vouser, voussier* to vault.] Vaulting.

1426–50 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 654 Pe freche enbowyng, with wergie nyt as lusy, And pe vowsyng ful of babewy nes, Pe riche koyny ng, be lusty tablementis.

**Vouson,** obs. form of VOWSON.

‖ **Voussoir** (vū·swɑr, -ɑi). Also 4 vousoye, 5 vow-, vau-, wawoer. [a. OF. *vaussoir* (*vaus-*), *vaussoir, vossoir,* etc., mod.F. *voussoir*:—pop.L. **volsitorium,* f. **volsum,* pa. pple. of L. *volvĕre* to turn: cf. VOUSSING. Found in ME., but in mod. use app. reintroduced in the 18th cent.] One of the stones which form part of an arch or a vault, usually having the sides slightly inclined towards each other.

*a.* 1399–60 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 193 In vj** ped de vousoes emp. prec. xxvj s. viij d. *Ibid.* 211 *Acc Norwich Cloister* in Parish *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) 51 Iten de vousoes xliij ped. pr' ped. vj d 1416–7 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 442, 13 pedum de jambes et j Wawcer xiij*. *Ibid.,Pro vij*** vousoil sewis et 1 saucers xvij*. *b.* 1798 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vault,* l the several *Vaussoirs,* or Vault Stones whereof it [an arch] consists 1799 LABELYE *Piers Weaton. bridge* 17 The Coins, or Voussoirs, or Arch Stones 1808 *Norfolk Tour, Norwich* 119 The voussoirs of the arch have their joints worked perfectly smooth. 1842 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Joiner,* Vaulting is the masonry of domes differs from that of arching, in the figure of each voussoir. 1853 ROBIN *Stones Cen* (1874) II. iii. 46 The keystone is of white marble, the vaussoirs of purple 1886 E C ROBINS *Temple of Solomon* (1887) 8 Upon the lowest of these pavements the fallen voussoirs of the arch have been discovered lying

*attrib.* and *Comb.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 370/2 A brick made voussoir-shaped is known as a *compass*-brick. 1886 G SCHUMACHER *Across the Jordan* List Illustr p. xi, Voussoir stones of Arch. 1892 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 727/3 The true voussoir arch was extensively used at Pagân

Hence **Vou sssoired** *a.*, constructed with voussoirs.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II 388/1 A tomb built up in the centre of the excavation,.. covered by three stones as struts, over which was a perfectly formed voussoired arch.

**Voust** (vuust), *sb. Sc.* Also 5 wous, 6 voist, wost, woust. [Of obscure origin. Cf. next and VOUSTY *a.*] A boast, a brag, a vaunt.

*a* 1500 *Rauf Kaylyear* 1932 I hai maid my athis for lytill thing, Great wous and gret manasing. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* x vi 80 And lo, as Pharon cryis and dois rowst With haland wordis mair than mekill wrayth 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 454 Sen sua it is that I hef maid produce Sic vount and vant of manlines and ruce. 1785 JOHNS *Upstairs* in *Poems in Buchan Dial,* 23 Whare then was a' your windy voust? Ye tha la now sa knicht. 1804 COUPER *Poetry* I. 259 Ye dames o' Scotland! ilk your voust, And ask your fame see sair.

**Voust** (vuust), *v.* Sc. Also 6 voist. [Cf. prec.] *Intr.* (and *trans.*). To boast, to brag.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* xii viii. 84 His brothir Turnus in his char, Now brawland in this place, now voustand thar. 1548 FORDUN *Asca* 9 Yet us he dide' slaughter vsour I levd him ilk a dord. 1790 SIBBERS *Poems* p vii, When e'er the Apollo o' the claw Mith voust upon it. 1794 W. FARQUHAR *Poems Sou. Ocean.* 182 For myself, I canna voust my kin. There's no ane here, but tens the Merchim' weil.

Hence **Vou·sting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II 362 Euerie man hes left of vousting vant. 1580–90 STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 19 Is it not vousting vaine to say to Men, Mend now all thing by help of guld vemen? 1600 HAMILTON *Faithe Tractive* 37 This is.. thair auin folische vousting to haue the libertie to reid their allusion in the scriptures. 1813 W. BEATTIE *Poems* 34 For a' your last nights vousting.

**Vouster** (vau·stər). *Sc.* Also 6 wo(u)stour, woistare. [f. prec.] A braggart or boaster.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv 41 Sic vant of wostours with haistie in sinfull stasture. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. vii 62 Bot war I now .. jing as gone wanton woustour [v.r. wolstare]..I suld all reddy be. *a* 1568 *Nine Order Knowes* 18 in *Bannatyne MS.* 447 He is sik..he and prowd as ane vane woustour. 1570 RAY *Prov.* 276 Of vousters or new upstarts. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Douglas's Æneis* Gloss. s.v. *Wolstare,* Scot. *Vouster,* a boaster.

**Vousty** (vau·sti), *a. Sc.* Also 5 **vowsty,** 6 **voustie, 7 vowstie.** [Cf. VOUST *sb.* and *v.*]

+1. ? Puffed up, tumid. *Obs.*—1

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii (*Cecile*) 536 A bose of wynd pat illit ware, & with a preme mocht out be latine..and to-gidder full fel, & pene be vowsty blawing al.

2. Boastful, proud.

1566 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist Scot.* II 219 Of quhilke victorie tha war sa vane and vousty, that [etc.]. 1568 BANNATYNE *Ninth Decretall* (1833) 4 Every Nation seruing it selfe with the owne vowstie deuise 1789 BEATTIE *To Alex. Ross* xvi, And chiels shall come frae 'yont the Cairn-a-mounth right vousty.

**Vout(e,** obs. variants of VAULT *sb.*1 and *v.*1

**Voute,** variant of VULT *Obs.*

+**Vouter.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avouter* see ADULTER.] An adulterer.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frere's T.* 74 (Lansd. MS.), [Better] han his Sonnenour kowes a leef hour Or a vouter [*other MSS.* an avoutier] or elles a paramour

+**Voutry.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avoutry*: see ADULTERY.] Adultery.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon* xiii 74 Thi shenshepe, thi voutereis, and ,,the hidoose gilte of thi fornycacioun. 14.. *Tundal's Vis.* (1843) 139 Myche thou hast usud voutry. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5142 Pai were robbours and vsed voutrye.

**Vouty** (vau·ti), *a.* Sc. var. of VAULTY.

**Vow** (vau), *sb.* Forms: 3–4 vou (uuou, wou, wow, -e, -ou, -owe), 5 voue; 4–vow (4 5–6 *Sc.,* wow), 4–7 vowe (4 wowe, 5 vowhe); 4 *pl.* vouwes, -is, fouwes; 4 voo, 5 voye, *Sc.* woe. [a. AF. *vu(s, vou, vo,* OF. *vo, vou, vowe, veu* (F. *vœu*):—L. *vōt-um* VOTE *sb.*, neut. of *vōtus,* pa. pple. of *vovēre* to promise solemnly, to pledge, dedicate, etc. Cf. AVOW *sb.*]

1. A solemn promise made to God, or to any deity or saint, to perform some act, or make some gift or sacrifice, in return for some special favour; more generally, a solemn engagement, undertaking, or resolve, to achieve something or to act in a certain way.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9823 Vor þere a vowe of him he sone þouȝt & hastede. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2888 He bys owne doghtyr slow For a foly and a wykked vowe. 23 *E. E. Allit P. C.* 239 þer was louyng on lofte on Mo3es vou, & ouerlyue wyth þe solempne vowes. 1390 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 66 To pale þe vowe þe first fro3 tyme, for assoflyngis of wowes, & many feyned iapis. *c* 1440 LYDG *Mins Poems* (Percy Soc.) 136 This was his vowe, with gret humylite, Ful his entent in ful plein language. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W 1506) IV vii. 187 To haue knowlege of wowes, of testamentes, of cases of symony, maryages and other dyffycultes. 1550 BALE *Apol.* Pref. 12 Such are the rashe vowes of the 3 dolatrouse and mockynge papystes. 1563 tr *Musculus' Common pl.* 508 In a foule vowe, after thy purpose Do not that which thou haste vnadui sedly vowed. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 152 The wals are round about hung with Images of men, ..which were offered chiefly upon vow 1643 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* v. 66 Make hast to pay what thy vow'd promise owes; Destruction dwels in unperformed Vowes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 775 With Vows and suppliant Pray'rs their Pow'rs appease. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. VOW, [Of] IV. 1711 was designed for St. Joseph, in consequence of a vow made by that emperor in the year 1702, on the happy return of his fleet from the Indies. Landau. 1820 WORDSW. *Eccl. Sonn.* III xxi. 23 Shame if the consecrated Vow be found An idle form, the Word an empty sound. 1866 R. W. DALE *Disc. Spec. Occas.* 11 Vows which we cannot now fulfil may be recalled. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I 144 The earliest form in which the duty of veracity is enforced is probably the observance of vows.

b. In phrases, as *to make, to hold, keep, pay* (or +*yield*), or *to break, a vow.*

(*a*) *c* 1290 *St. Frides* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I 84 For ich habbe to him mi vou i maked, *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28286 Ic ha made vu vr oth vr-riȝt and haldon hem vr might. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2736 Pou canst not make no vow Bot pou wurschyp God for by prowe. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 1094 Pan has pat man grete drede in hert; He mas him vowes, and cry3e on Crist. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 81 Kyng Oswy made a vow pat 3if he my3te be victorie in pat bataille he wolde offre his douȝter Elfleda to God of holy mayde. 1390 *Sgr Gawan* (Kölb.) 1925 To god anal 3ou a vo3e I make, I shal youre seruice neuer forsake. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 8 He made a woue that the Lorde Hastyng should lese his hede. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* v. 4 Make a vowe to God and to Our Lady e that I shall never slepe one night where I slepe an other, 5 if I have sene hym. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Bermondsey* lx, I made a vowe to tell the man that caused me flye. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 70 He ..Makes Vow before his Vnkle, neuer more To giue th' assay of Armes against your Maiestie. 1700 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 80 May the Gods vows and prayers make, That I give you Troy's imperial town to take. 1718 [see (*b*)] 1809 SCOTT *Anne of Geierstein* I. He proceeded to recount the vow which he had made to the Lady of Engleheim 1867 H. FLEMING *Moral Philos* II ii. ii. 296 We may make a Vow, however, to our fellow-creatures, or even to ourselves

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14907 (Edin.) Do vou, filii, and hald pi vow If pat ta turn til mikel pru. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxv. 6 My wowe i sall ȝelde till lord in sight of all his folke. 1382 WYCLIF *Jud* xxii. 27 Thou shalt make thy prayer vnto him, and thou shalt rendre thy vowes. *c* 1621 CRASHAW *Hymn* II 218 Nor would [these] not pay Their own vows to thee 1851 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xiv. 69 Being a thing unjust to pay such Vow. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 82 They feigned it made For their return, and this the vow they paid. 1728 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 70 Mar, She firmly intended to keep the vow she had made 1829 WORDSW *Misc. Sonn.* I. xl 5 How Shall Pancy pay to thee a grateful vow 1839 TENNYSON *Fellows & Elleree* 549 Have any of our Round Table held their vows? 1876 — *Harold* III i, He did not mean to keep his vow.

(*c*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16674 Pe biscop Durst noght hir do hir vou to breke. 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 581 Pe Fifte is he synne of Falsenesse and Fastinge and of vowes I broken. *c* 1450 *Merl.* (E.E.T.S.) I. 1 Inne swowet chastite. And ..fur ..i wold not breke my vow, pryuely yn a nyght, I stale forpe yn poure wede. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 404/1 To breke vowes, *violare, dissuere.* 1534 ELYOT *Gov.* III viii 179 Only I wyl shewe howe terrible a thynge it was amonge them, to breke theyr othes or vowes (*id* 1531 vowes). 1596 *Edward III*, II. i. 235 To breake a lawfull and religious vowe. *a* 1640 SPELMAN *Tithes* xxvii. Wks 1707 I 131 So doubtless have we just Cause to fear the Dint of this Curse in breaking this Vow. 1792 COWPER *Iliad* I. 78 That is we may learn By what crime we have thus incensed Apollo, What broken vow He charges on us. 1889 TENNYSON *Ring* 401 No pliable Idiot I to break my vow.

c. Const. of (something).

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 190 Many prestis vnwisly taken a wow of chastite. *c* 1400 *Apol Loll.* 38 Pi be vertu of his degre, he made þe vow of chastite. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 To kepe theyr vowe of chaste chastite, whose the better, that is, the vowe of chastite, the vowe of obedience, the vowe of wylfull pouerte and the vowe of perpetuall inclosyon. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 94 Thou and Athens yeelds you vp To death, or to a vow of single life. 1638 BAKER tr *Balzac's Lett* (vol II) 21 Sir, if I had made a vow of humility, you see I have been in the occasion, and found for not breaking it. 1671 MILTON *Samson A.* 319 Against his vow of strictest purity 1787 DARWELL *Ann Scott* 7, I long Having made a vow of perpetual virginity 1789 TENNYSON *Fawne* 543 They bound to holy vow of chastity! Were I not woman, I could tell a tale. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* iii § 6. (1882) 144 The vow of Poverty was turned into a stern reality.

+d. *To take in vow,* to make a vow. *Obs.*—1

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 57 Ye & take it in vowe that they delectacyon shulde be onely in the passyon & paynes of Jesu Christ.

2. *Eccl.* A solemn engagement to devote oneself to a religious life of a definite nature, such as that of a monastic or conventual order. Freq. in pl.; *to take the vows,* to enter a religious order.

*c* 1400 *Apol Lolt* 102 Perfor fuge religiouse men in per conscience, if pei ground hem hem self in her vowes. 1560 JUDE tr *Sleidane's Comm.* 59 Men must be warned that they suffre not them selves to be bounden to Monkish vowes. *a* 1576 LIMEBURNE (Dugdale) *Hist. Scot* (1818) II. 71 How fals heretick hast taught plaunlie against the vowis of monkes freris nunes and preistis 1603 SHAKS *Meas for M* IV iii. 180 By the vow of mine order I warrant you. If my instructions may be your guide 1654 HOWELL *Lexicon.* xv xlvi 376 Monks, and Friers, that are bound by Vow to that simple obedience to their superiour, to which every Subject ought to think himself bound 1722 STEPHEN *Eccl. Mem* I xliv 339 A late proclamation of the king that disallowed of the marriage of priests, and concerning the vows of religious persons, 1741 then in force. 1797 *Encyclopæd Cath. Ch. Instr.* 171 Those who have chosen the better Part, and consecrated themselves by Vow to God 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. iii, The Abbess and Prioress willows Fair Isabel the veil and vows 1845 S. AUSTIN *Randal's Hist. R. C* I 463 On his friends earnestly pressing him to take the vows, he answer ed 1849 JAMES *Woodstock* v, [One] who is very dangerous to all ladies not under vows.

3. A solemn promise of fidelity or faithful attachment. Also const. of (faith, love, etc.).

1590 SHAKS. *Mids N.* I. i. 172 By all the vowes that ever men have broke, (In number more than ever women spoke). 1596 — *Merch V.* v. 1 18 In such a night Did young Lorenzo sweare he lou'd her well, Stealing her soule with many vowes of faith, And nere a true one. 1601 — *Tw. N.* III. iv. 371 Your vowes of Loue, and that great Vow Which did incorporate and make vs one. *a* 1760 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Poems, Spir to Mary O Scot* 18 Men may be false, but all their former vow 1797 MISS RADCLIFFE *Italian* III, Let me lead you to the first Altar that will confirm our vows. 1879 SHELLEY *O Neil* v. 210 The Lord will be hasty dome affords. A temple where the vows of happy love Are registered. 1889 LYTTON *Discowned* xxvii, They stood beside the altar, and their vows were exchanged 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Daughter* 119 O would she give me Vow for vow, Sweet Alice, if I told her all?

4. An earnest wish or desire; a prayer, a supplication. Const. (*to*) *F. pray, I. obtem.*)

Now always chiefly dialectal or archaic.

1563 tr *Musculus' Commonpl* 499 A vowe is oftentymes taken for a desyre, and prayer So whan those thynges which we haue before desyred, do not followe vnto our mynde, we saye we haue oure wishe or vowe. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q* VII. vi 22 His brow (His black eye brow whose doomefull dreaded looke I wont to wield the world into my vowe). 1600 O. E (M STANLEY) *Regl. Libel* v 225 They haue nothing more in their vowes, then her Maiesties raine. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* III. 528 When.. priests with holy vows the Pow'rs appease. 1727 *Gent. Mag. Stos.* I. xvi. (1777) I. 150 Even their own vows, though granted, cannot give them happiness. 1797 HOADLY *Inscribed Husband Ded.*, To send up my warmest Vows that your Majesty may long enjoy the fruits of [etc.] 1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV 259 You have my most ardent vows for an auspicious beginning. 1800 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* I. 16 I bow to whom Kings and laurelled Emperors Offer their secret vows! 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* lxxix, At one dear knee we proffer'd vows, One lesson from one book we learn'd.

5. A solemn affirmation or asseveration.

1593 SHAKS *2 Hen VI*, III ii 159 A dreadfull Oath, sworne with a solemn tongue What instance giues Lord Warwicke for his vow 1621 — *Wint T.* I. ii. *Her.* Nay, but you will? *Pol.* I may not verely. *Her.* Verely? You put me off with limber Vowes. 1882 R. S. HAWKER in C. E. Byles *Life & Lett.* xvii (1905) 386 Every Methodist Preacher or Hearer must attest by Vow and Signature his

attests to a Paragraph in Wesley's xith Sermon on the witness of the Spirit.

† 6. A vow of virginity. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xiii. 6 (early MSS.), 3ee shul come & offre in pat place brent sacrifices, & vowis & 3iftes. 1535 Coverdale *Ibid.* 1611 Bible 1 *Esdras* viii. 58 The vessels are holy, and the golde, and the siluer is a vowe vnto the Lord. 1666 Burnet *Lett.* (1708) 176 The little Vows, that hang without the holy Chapel. 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 May 1645. There is belonging to this Church a world of plate,.. and lamps innumerable, besides the costly vowes hung up, some of gold.

7. *Comb.*, as *vow-maker, -making, -pledged, -sanctifier, -sighing*; † **vow-fellow**, one who is bound by the same vow. Also Vow-breaker, etc.

1588 Shakes. *L. L. L.* iv. 138 Who are the Votaries, my louing Lords, that are vow-fellowes with this vertuous Duke? 1598 Florio, *Votarie*, a votarie, a vower, a promiser, a vow-maker. 1668 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 177 That these vow-makers should be so necessary, when every one of their three vows is directly against the health..of the kingdom. 1682 Davden *Span. Friar* ii. iii, Love you know, father, is a great vow-maker, but he's a greater vow-breaker. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* iii. x. 24 Neither presents, nor vow-sighing strain. 1805 Wordsw. *Waggoner* iii. 44 What have I forgotten? vow-making? 1817 Lady Morgan *France* i. (1818) I. 97 The days of the vow-making Louis XIII. 1832 Mutherwell *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 48 So the Vow-pledged Jane loved another.

**Vow** (vau), *v.*1 Forms: 3–6 **vowe** (4 vouw-, 5 vowpn), 4– vow (5–6 *Sc.* wow); 4 vou, wou, 5–7 *Sc.* wou-. [ad. OF. *vouer, vower* (F. *vouer*), f. *vou* Vow *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To promise or undertake solemnly, *spec.* by a vow to a deity or saint; to swear: a. With subordinate clause (or equivalent).

The subject of the subordinate clause may be different from that of the verb itself.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10603 Pai yald hir to be temple pun, Als pai voud had be-fore pat seo was of hir moder boun. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 182, I vowe to Seynt Michael.. pat for wo ne welo hiben ne salle I fare..tille þe castelle be taken. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 144 That veine gloire I schal eschuie, And bowe unto thin lowe and mule Humilite, and that I vowe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 47, I vow to God,..he shall nocht dey In his realme, bot ane off we sall do. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 418 Gif tha wald nocht, he vowit tha sould hald Sicklike reward as he gaif to tha that raid. *c* 1550 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 88, I vowe to the.. Thay sall not myn ane tiche reward. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* iv. 1. 442 She made me vow that I should neither sell nor giue, nor lose it. 1785 Burns *Ep. to J. Lapraik* 21 Apr. vi, Quoth I, 'Before I sleep a wink, I vow I'll close it'. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* viii. I. 118 Men vowed that in war they would raise a temple to Castor and to Pollux,..if they would aid him to win the battle. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 787, I vow'd that could I gain her, our fair Queen..should make your Enid burst Sanlike from cloud.

b. With infinitive.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2804 3yf þou vowe to do foly,..God wyl nat þou hold yt so But þou by vowe yn wykednes do. 14.. *Lancelot of L.* B. v. 388 (Ashtel MS.), Panne gan gloton grete, and greet deci made... And vowede to faste. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxii. 19 To that condituun..That ye hide nocht fra me Thair lufferay. Ane vper to vow Johne Thomsounis man. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 23 To God he had vowit, with ane armie to invade the Sarecenis gif he had lyfe. 1609 [Dekker] *Guls Horne-Bk.* Prosem. 2, I dehe your perfumd scorne: and vow to poyson your Muske cats, if their cruel excrement doe but once play with my nose. 1646 in *Scot. Hist. MISS. Comm.* App. I. 78 Quhilk dyet [of perliament] the Kinge hes vowed to keepe except sikneese or deathe previne it, 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Whitsun.* 189 He that vows never to have an ill thought, never to commit an error, hath taken a course [etc.]. *a* 1708 Secker *Lect.* xx. (1769) I. 328 Vowing to do what there is no use in doing, is trifling with our Creator. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* iii, He secretly vowed to defend her fame and protect her peace at the sacrifice of every other consideration. 1849 James *Woodman* ii. I. 28 I vowed I would never vow not to tell any secular persons. 1851 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xli, Some Greek..named Hippolytus, who had vowed to live a virgin life for Diana.

c. With direct object.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2825 Euey3 he vowed, and swore hys oth, Per-for with hym 3ys now god wroth. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving*, etc. 573 He..bytis man kep weill gif he ocht vowis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 98 b, [I they] hath vowed all theyr lyues to god and to his holy seruyce. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 66 A tumb to Troytoune and mouldy tempil aneerth Vowd to the godly Ceres. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 202 He tooke vpon him his voiage to S. Claude, to whom as you haue heard he was vowed. 1623 R. Hakcourt *Voy to Guiana* 47 Captaine Harwey,..which hath neuer vowed his time and fortune to bee employed in the prosecution of this honourable action. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* viii. 706 The first inhabitants, of Grecian blood, That sacred Seat to Silvanus vowed. 1703 Pope *Virgil's Pastorals* xi. 25 The victims, vow'd to each Tartarean pow'r, Eurylochus and Perimedes bore. 1823 Scott *Rokeby* iv. xiv, Connaught..vowed to see it once more. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 184 Œnone. 1843 Wordsw. *Inscr. Mon. Crosthwaite Ch.* 16 He to heaven was vowed Through his industrious life. 1896 A. Austin *Poet. Garden* 115 Ships vowed to Heaven, Virgins as white as is the Yule-tide snow.

*transf.* 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* June, Argt. This Æglogue is wholly vowed to the complayning of Colins ill successe in his loue.

b. *refl.* Also const. *into.*

*c* 1300 *Metunise* 292 Vryan & Guyon entred in to the sea, & vowed hemself to Jherusalem. 1388 G. Ferrers tr. *Guevara's Ctn. Comm.* (1568) 21 b, Manles,..from their stateliie pallaces, haue vowed themselues to beggerlie Monasteries. 1590 in J. Morris *Troub. Cath. Forefathers* (1877) 38 Mr. Edward Oldcorne..having vowed himself into the Society [of the Jesuits]. 1602 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 95 They have denied Christ and vowed themselues to the diuell. 1693 Cocksedge *Antid.* 230, I vow'd to Heaven Satisfaction, and vowed themselues for their countrie. 1830 *R. Johnson's Kinged. & Commw.* 478 Some will lay 20, thirty or forty rubbles into the Lords purse, if he vowes to go, if all the cash be spent. 1846 Scott *Talisman* lv, My safety, my lord,..I cast behind me as a regardless thing when I vowed myself to this enterprise.

† b. To dedicate by a ceremony. *Obs.*–1

1600 Holland *Livy*, etc. 1355 The temple..was called Capitolinum ; and Tarquinius Priscus vowed it.

3. To make a solemn resolve or threat to inflict (injury), exact (vengeance), harbour (hatred), etc.

1590 *Troy Sk. Percy Soc.* I. 31 May it be that Iuel-impotent Vowes sets reuenge at she hath daind to say? *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* v. ii, Tell him, I never vow'd at Aulis' Gulf The desolation of his native Troy. 1606 Shake. *K. Lear* iii. vii. 61 Gracious Achilles sate here, weeping, chiding, vowing vengeance. 1629 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 105 They both then vowed reveng if I cam in their power. 1632 Massinger *Guiltie.* v. v, The Emperor could not forbear vowing revenge. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Tryon. Rust* 49/1 In spite of the profound hatred which I have vowed to the Jacobins, I could not endure the cause of the French. 1901 A. McCormick *Words fr. Wilds-Wood* ii. 43 In vain did his protest and vow vengeance upon his rebellious subjects.

4. *trans.* To make a vow or solemn undertaking; to bind oneself by a vow.

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxvi[i]. 11 Vowep and 3eldep to þe Lord, your God, 30 alle þat bringe 3iftes in his cumpas. 1382 Wyclif *Levit.* xxvii. 2 Whanne a man schal vowe to seintis, and aftir the vouwis 3euen drawe. 1560 Bible *Eccl.* v. 4 It is better that thou shuldest not vowe, then that thou shuldest vowe and not paye it. 1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* iii. iv. 70 You are yet vnsworne: When you haue vowd, you must not speake with men, But in the presence of the Prioresse. 1652 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 65 They that Vow in their owne Countrey, are by law of Nature, bound by it. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* xvii. (1732) 237 Knowing no other way to mortifie Sin, but this of vowing against it. *c* 1720 in *Lady H. W. Montagu's Lett.* (1887) II. 51, I had better not vow, for I shall certainly love you, do what you will. 1780 J. Bicknell *View Nat. & Rev. Religion* vi. iii. 608 They were unable to perform the primary law of Nature, that of vowing. 1875

Aurelia. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xii. 19 The trouble of my happie peace, And vowed foe of my felicitie. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. xix. (1821) 204 He was a vowed enemy to the English Government. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* V. v. Whence the bold boast by which you show Vich-Alpine's vow'd and mortal foe?

†**2.** *transf.* Pertaining to a devotee. *Obs.*—1

1665 T. Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 49 Others, after the old manner of Mourning, in a vowed Habit, promise and swear, Never to cut their Hair, untill they had revenged the Blood of those Noble-men.

**3.** Undertaken or performed in consequence of, or under the sanction of, a vow.

1832 [see 2 a]. 1861 T. Norton *Catebel's Instr.* 1. 65 Why do they worry themselues with vowed pilgrimages to visit those images wherof they haue like at home. 1866 Donne *Serm., Luke ii. 29-30* (1640) 30 Nothing that countenances a vowed virginity, to the dishonour or undervaluing of marriage. 1718 P. Metcalfe *Life S. Winefride* (1917) 7 S. Wenefride offer'd herself a Sacrifice, to preserve her Vow'd Virginity. 1720 Welton *Suffer. Sons of God* I. xi. 280 That the Religious might not ever-value themselves on Account of their Vowed Poverty. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 340 That mother Whom to outlive, and cheer, and make My wan eyes glitter for her sake, Was my vowed task.

†**b.** Solemnly consecrated or dedicated. *Obs.*

1589 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin's Serm.* xxiii. 16 Saint Paul shoulde come out on the morrowe to be slaine, as a vowed sacrifice. 1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 603 Curtius...nilly bent his vowed life to spill. *c* 1630 Milton *5th Ode Horace* 13 Me in my vow'd Picture the sacred wall declares t'have hung My dank and dropping weeds To the stern God of Sea. 1692 tr. *Emillianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 181 These Vow'd Pictures we generally find in all the Churches of Italy.

**c.** Confirmed by a vow or vows; solemnly promised or guaranteed.

1589 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 18 Our selues in league of vowed loue we knit. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* v. I 209 This is the hand, which with a vowed contract Was fast belockt in thine. 1609 K. Lond tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. xv. 211 She would not suffer the memory of their vowed love to be blotted out with absence. 1655 Lo. Norwich in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 259, I may without danger now present my humblest and all vowed service to you. 1659 Davden *Rival* ix. 365 No fate my vow'd affection shall divide From thee, thou truth! 1704 J. Trapp *Abra-Mule* v. i. 2544 Nor Fate, nor you, can my vow'd love control.

**d.** Solemnly sworn or threatened.

1592 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 8 Of his way he had no souenance, Nor care of vow'd reuenge, and cruell fight. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 1063, I sought with You vowed destruction of ungrateful Troy. *Ibid.* xii. 1355 If thy vow'd revenge pursue my death. 1818 Scott *Marmion* v. xxii, The vow'd revenge of Bughtrig rouse, May end in worse than loss of hood.

†**Vowee.** *Obs.*—1 Also vowe. [Aphetic form of *avowé* Avowe.] Advocate, patron.

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 4505 Now is it for repreue, By Mahoun, pat ys my vowee [*v.r.* vowe], of jyn heued y wolde pee reue.

**Vowel** (vau·ĕl), *sb.* Also 4 wowel (6 -ell), 5–7 vowell(e. (a. OF. *vouel* (also *vouyel, voy-, voiel*) masc. :—L. *vocālem* or *vŏcāle*, masc. and neut. acc. sing. of *vŏcālis* Vocal a. The later OF. *voielle*, mod.F. *voyelle*, Prov. and Sp. *vocal*, Pg. *vogal*, It. *vocale* are fem., after the L. sb. *vŏcālis*.]

**1.** A sound produced by the vibrations of the vocal cords; a letter or character representing such a sound (as *a, e, i*, etc.).

'A vowel may be defined as voice (voiced breath) modified by some definite configuration of the supraglottis passages, but without audible friction (which would make it into a consonant)' (Sweet *Primer of Phonetics*, ed. 2, § 39).

*c* 1408 *Sat. Kildare* iii. in *E. E. P.* (1869) 3 Pis vsere is imakid wel of consonans and wowel. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 490 in *Macro Plays* 18 Remembre my brokyn hede in be worschepe of be v. vowellys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A vowelle, *vocalis*. 1530 Palsgr. Introd. p. xv, They forme certeyne of theyr vowelles in theyr brest. *Ibid.* p. xvii, Any of the fyue thre vowels *A, E, O*. 1582 N. Wilson *Logike* G vij b, In these wordes there be fours vowels to be considered, and marked. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxiv. (1592) 368 They driue their clauses to fall alike, they eschew nycely the meeting together of vowels. 1621 Bainbrig *Lond. Lect.* 17 More specially to bee carefull, for the right pronouncing the fiue vowels. 1680 Holder *Elem. Speech* 29 In all Vowels the passage of the mouth is open and free, without any appulse of an Organ of Speech to another. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 386 The sense is intricate, 'tis only clear What vowels and what consonants there. 1752 in *Gentl. Hermes Wks.* (1841) 209 It is the variety of configurations in these openings only, which gives birth and origin to the several vowels. 1769 Cook *1st. round World* I. xix. (1773) 208 Their language is soft and melodious; it abounds with vowels, and we easily learnt to pronounce it. 1816 Keats *Epist. to C. C. Clarke* 56 Spenserian vowels that elope with ease, And float along like birds o'er summer seas. 1867 Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iii. 6x Salesbury does not always discriminate the long vowel, though .. be occasionally.. doubles the consonant sign to imply the brevity of the preceding vowel.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1579 Fenton *Pansph. Epist.* 173 This manner of profession is no Vowell in your Alphabet, is no flower in your Garden. 1677 B. Goode *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 11 Marcus Varro diuideth his husbandry necessaries into three parts: vowels, where he puts his owne seruants and such as he hireth: halfe vowels, where his working cattell be; and mutes. 1697 Trapp *Comm. Jud.* xxxii. 7 We use to say, That at meetings young men should be Mutes, and old men Vowels.

†**2.** A vocable; a word. *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. West Ind.* (1596) 201 The Temple is called *Teoualli*, that is to say, Gods house, *Teoti* signifieth God, and *Calli* is a house, a vowel very fitte, if that house had bene of the true God. 1614 T. White *Martyred. St. George* C3, Nor of his Creed one vowell to recant. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 47 Mexico is as much as to say a spring or fountain, according to the property of the vowell or speech.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *vowel-change, -consonant, -ending, -notation*, etc.; **vowel-point**, a sign used to indicate a vowel in certain alphabets (esp. the Hebrew, Syriac, and Arabic); also as *v.*, to supply with points in place of vowels. (Cf. Point *sb.*1 3 b and *v.*1 3 c.)

1648 *Bagster's Analyst. Heb. Concordance* 57 The †Vowel-changes of Nouns. 1872 Kennedy *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 Syllables may be strengthened by vowel-change. 1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 141 This is eminently seen in the †Vowel Consonants, *V, W*. 1881 W. R. Smith *Old Test. in Jew. Ch.* ii. Notes 393 This use of the vowel-consonants is found even on the stone of Mesha. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 261 Nouns of the *a* declension often took the nunnation in the nominative in place of the usual †vowel-ending. 1850 Sweet in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 456-8 iv, The unaccented (ə) is dropped in rapid speech between consonants which combine easily, especially between points and †vowelless. 1888 — *Hist. Eng. Sounds* 9 Those †vowelless or liquid vowel consonants which are unaccompanied by buzz are often also syllabic. 1880 Marsh *Lect. Eng. Lang.* (1862) 484 In accordance with his general system of †vowel-notation. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 419 Nor is it to be wondered at, that, before the invention of the †vowel-points, the quiescent letters should sometimes be supposed. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 138 In fact, with a different notation, nearly all the labour of the vowel-points might be saved. 1893 Forbes Mitchell *Reminc. Gl. Mutiny* 275 The Oordoo in the circular is printed in the Persian character without the vowel-points. 1845 Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 16, I could not well "connect my commonplace letters and syllables with a mystical *other* sound and sense. 1844 R. Garnett in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 263 The †vowel-prefix to certain past tenses (Sanscr. *Gr.* 2). 1620 W. Folkingham *Brachy-graphy* (1), In like sort and position are Letters placed apart in †Vowel Regions to imply interceding Vowels. 1838 Gurney *Brit. Eng. Rhythms* I. 326 The †vowel-rhime, or, in the nomenclature of Coleridge, Consonant-rhime, or Oc. 1872 Kennedy *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 § 12 *E* and *O*, introduced into most other languages as intermediate †vowel-sounds, are wanting in the Sanskrit, arising from *ai, au*. 1820–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 544 The glottis..forms all the vocal or †vowel sounds. 1879 Whitney *Life Lang.* xi. 258 The strange names we give to our vowel-sounds. *Ibid.* 53 The consistency of our †vowel-system.

**Vowel** (vau·ĕl), *v.* [f. prec.]

†**1. a.** *intr.* To utter the vowels in singing. **b.** *trans.* To sing with vowel-articulation. *Obs.* (Cf. Vowelling *vbl. sb.* 1 a.)

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 179 They ought to studie howe to vowell and sing cleane. 1648 Mayne *Serm. Unity* (1647) 32 As if they [i. e. the Psalms]..had been tuned through his two Vowell Organ, or had more softly been sung and vowell'd to his Harpe.

**2.** *trans.* To convert into a vowel; to vocalize. 1612 Coton., *Vocaliser*, vowelled, made a vowell.

**3.** To supply with vowels or vowel-points.

1670 Speke *Taxter No.* 12 P 3 Do not talk to me, I am vowell'd and Cousin, and cursedly out of humour. 1765 Foote *Alimor* I. I, They will vowel you, from Father to Son to the twentieth generation. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s. v., A gamester who does not immediately pay his losings, is said to vowel the winner, by repeating the vowels I.O.U., or perhaps from giving his note for the money in acknowledgment of the debt.

**Vowel**, southern dial. var. Foul *a.*, Fowl *sb.*

**Vowelism.** [f. Vowel *sb.* + -ism.] A system of vowel-sounds; articulation in respect of vowels.

1892 *Bucheim. Mag.* LII. 71 The vowelism of the Scotch is not altogether pure. In some instances it differs, alike from the classic A.-Saxon and from the Icelandic.

**Vowelist.** [f. as prec. + -ist.]

†**1.** One who gives undue study to the vowel-points of the Hebrew scriptures. *Obs.*

1695 Stubbings *Spirit of Salvation* 158 Vowelists and Lettersists having little or no acquaintance with the deep things of God.

**2.** One who employs vowels for poetic effect.

1890 in *Athenæum* 6 Sept. 334/2 The *Glasgow Herald* says 'As a contemporary vowelist Mr. Spevalt is virtuous compared with Milton'.

**Vowelize,** *v.* [f. as prec. + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To modify or produce by means of vowel-sounds. Hence **Vowelized** *ppl. a.*

1828 J. Gilchrist *Philos. Etym.* 59 The vowelized softness of Greek, Italian, French,...proceeds from the same cause.

**2.** To render vocalic. In quot. *absol.*

1867 J. Bell *Visible Sp.* 87 Then vowelize or expand and classify the configuration to remove the friction of the breath.

**3.** To supply with vowel-points or signs representing vowels.

1883 *American* VI. 314 'Tom Brown's School-Days' will be immediately issued in the easy reporting style [of shorthand], fully vowelized.

†**Vowellage.** *Obs.*—1 [-age.] Vowelling.

1620 W. Folkingham *Brachygraphy* To Rdr. A 4, b, All coniunctions of Characters will be meere Incorporations sans Implication of Vowellage or Intrication of the Letture.

**Vowelled,** *ppl. a.* [f. Vowel *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] Of language or words: Supplied or provided with vowels, esp. to an unusual extent. Also with qualifying term, as *well-vowelled*.

1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. xi. (1674) 56 The Italian Language is more smooth and better vowelled than the English. 1684 Dryden *To Earl of Roscommon* 17 Pauses, cadence, and well-vowell'd Words. 1798 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) III. 142 My own sequitively rich and harmonious language; the growing Latinity of which has already..rendered it sufficiently vowelled, sufficiently sweet, copious, and sonorous. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 200 While fluent Greek a vowel'd under-song Kept up. 1880 Farrar *Origs. Lang.* 67 The soft and vowelled understandings of modern Italian. 1889 Meredith *Lett.* 19 Dec. (1912) I. 198 Isn't there a scent of damned hypocrisy in all this lisping and vowelled purity of the Idylls? 1893 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 431/2 By melodious juxtaposition, by artful alliteration, by vowelled breathings and consonantal crashes of bathos.

**b.** Having vowels of a specified kind or quality.

1785 J. Beattie *Diss.* 293 The long-vowelled emphatick syllable..and the short-vowelled emphatick syllable. 1868 Geo. Eliot *Sp. Gipsy* 1. 62 As full-vowelled words Are new impregnate with the master's thought.

**Vowelless,** *a.* [f. Vowel *sb.* + -less.] Having no vowel or vowels.

1890 J. F. Smith *Euvalet's Introd. Hebr. Gram.* 363 A vanishing *e* usually reappears in connexion with the last of the two vowelless consonants which might arise. 1892 Bruce *Apologetics* II. iv. 304 The Masoretic Hebrew text is thus only an approximately correct vowelless translation by Jewish scholars of the vowelless original.

**Vowelling,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Vowel *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** †**a.** The articulation of vowels in singing. *Obs.*

*c* 1500 *Proverbs in Antig. Repr.* 306 Perfite vowellynge of a songe, to the eere is delectable. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 179 Now shall I shew perfomed both so sweetely, as well for the ayring of her notes, as the vowelling of her words.

**b.** The pronunciation of vowels in speech.

1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xxv, The grand organ roll of it [*Paradise Lost*] losing nothing in the Scotch voweling.

**2.** The insertion of vowels in writing.

1687 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 95 It is reported of Ioab, that when his Teacher taught him to corrupt the text but in the vowelling, he let him alone to himselfe. 1870 *Athenæum* 12 June 785/1 Our E. V., following the vowelling assigned to the Hebrew by the Rabbins, renders them "for ever". 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 707/1 The vowelling of Greek and Latin proper names shews that the vagueness of the vowels was not absolute.

**Vowellish,** *a. rare*—1. [f. Vowel *sb.*] Of the nature of a vowel.

1636 H. Dowson *Eng. Gram.* I. iii. (1640) 40 The power [of the letter W] is always Vowellish, even where it leades the Vowell in any Syllabe.

**Vowelly,** *a.* [f. Vowel *sb.* + -y 1.] Having many vowels; characterized by vowels.

1728 Mrs. Centlivre *Perplexed Lovers* v. i, *Sir Reg.* This Italian is very vowelly, it runs much upon the *o* methinks. 1843 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 57 The Northmen, in the shock of their hard, consonantal tongue, lost the vowelly confluence. 1883 *Advance* (Chicago) 6 Dec., In their soft, vowely tongue.

**Vower** (vou·ĕr). [f. Vow *v.* + -er 1.] One who makes a vow, or has taken vows.

1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. 13 He .. called vnto his Apostleship, not wyuelesse vowers, but maryyed men. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 315 b, Vnmaried persons, vowers,..it might be obteined of the byshop, that none should be taken in yong, and before the vowers were of rype yeares. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 136 From whom also no long tho rich for vowers of poverty, he tooke away with one clap above tenne thousand Crownes rent. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 179 This extent of the Vow is beyond the intent of the Vower. 1692 tr. *Emillianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 407 Of all these Vowers of Chastity there are but a very few, and may be, none at all that observe it. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlix, Of both vower and eternal constancy. 1887 H. S. Bowden tr. *Hettinger's Doute* 306 *note*, The vower can only change the matter of his vow to some greater offering to God's honour.

†**Vower** *v.* *Obs.*—1 In 5 *Sc.* wowar. [Cf. Vow *v.*2 and Avoure *sb.*1] A guardian, patron.

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 124 Saynct Androw was, gaiff the that word in hand; Of sanctis he is vowar worthiest.

†**Vower** 2. *Obs.*—1 [Aphetic f. *devoure* Devour *sb.*] Devoir, duty.

1a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 145 When the[y] had done their vower [*v.r.* devour] A beaste shoulde come of greate power.

**Vowerer,** variant of Vourer *Obs.*

**Voweson,** variant of Vowson *Obs.*

**Vowess** (vou·ĕs). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Also 6 voieese, woye(s)e, vowes, wowes; 6–7 vowesse. [Cf. Vower 1 and -ess.]

1. A woman, *esp.* a widow, who has taken a vow of chastity for the remainder of her life.

1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 44, I Jane Harby of Lincoln, Wowes, mak my testament, [etc.]. 1521 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 453 Agnes Mellars, wydowe and vowesse. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. 23 And at his departure in the mortuyse, he neyther commaunded Peter to breake vp hoshouse, nor yet to forsake hys wyfe and make her a vowesse. 1865 *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (Surtees) III. 210 A lady, after her husband's death, was allowed to take the vow of chastity, and she was then called a vowess. 1875 Hendersson *Liber Pontificalis Chr. Bainbridge* Pref. p. xi, At the Benedictio Viduæ, the Vowess in a blue dress with white hood..is kneeling before the Bishop.

**2.** A woman who makes a vow of devotion to a religious life; a nun.

1535 Moss *Anew. Pepysned Rb.* Wks. 1060/1 Some vowesses peraduenture ther are, which as yet neuer intend to breake their vow. 1583 Becon *Reliques Rome* (1563) 37 b,

A certayne vowwasse or professed nunne. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1080/2 Vpon which toome there laie a stone image of Edith in the habit of a vowesse holding a hart in hir right hand. 1681 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vii. vii. 229 She abandoned her Regencie, and built a house of deuotion in the Ile of Shepey, wherein herselfe became a Vowesse. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* iv. 660 A rich Tomb . with her image thereon, in the habit of a Vowess Crown'd.

†**Vowgard.** *Obs.*–1 (Meaning obscure.)

*c* 1480 *Townsley Myst.* xxx. 580 Now is all in oureward, youre yeres ne ron, It is commen in vowgard youre daine mailson, To bynde it.

**Vowght,** obs. variant of Vault *sb.*1

**Vowing** (vau'in), *vbl. sb.* [f. Vow *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10693 Pe biscop ..did pam samblied be, O pis vouing [*v. rr.* vowing] of chastis For to wok o paim sum rede. 1350 *Rule Aspl.* 136 Where as he calleth geldynge or makynge chast for the kyngdome of heauen, a voweynge of the single lyfe, whych Christ neuer ment. 1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 11 That holy Pilgrima farre from dread of way That great Tombe might adore, and vowings pay. 1782 J. Brown *View Nat. & Revealed Relig.* IV. iii. 8 (1796) 302 Vowing is the making a solemn promise to God, in which we bind ourselves to do or forbear somewhat for the promoting his glory. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Romaunt of Page* iii, Love me with thine open youth In its frank surrender: With the vowing of thy mouth With its silence tender. 1886 Corbett *Fall of Asgard* II, 77 The drinking went forward again, and great was the vowing and the boasting at the night went on.

**Vowis,** obs. Sc. pl. of Wolf.

**Vow-less,** *a.* [f. Vow *sb.* + -less.] Not bound by a vow or vows.

1600 Dp. Hall *Hon. Marr. Clergy* 1. xvii. Wks. (1628) 737 How hath done with their owne vowes, and now descends to vs, Whom ben confessen vowfesse.

†**Vow'ly,** southern dial. f. Foully *adv.* 5.

1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* I. ii. And the name day o' the month, as this Zin Vawlmine, Or I am vowly deceiv'd.

**Vowne,** altered f. Vow *v.*2 2 b. *rare*—1.

1785 *Mass. Spy* 13 Oct. (Thornton), Ye yanking lads of our town, ye Are brave fellows all, I vowne.

**Vowre,** south-western dial. variant of Four.

†**Vow'son.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 vowsoun, 5–6 vowsoun (s)vowsone, -sonne, vowsen, 6 vowson. [Aphetic f. *avow(e)son* Advowson.] = Advowson, patronage.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9678 Jaf bituene tueie lewedemen were eni striuing ..as vor voweson of churche weper soolde be churche ziue. 1434 *Paston Lett.* I. 15 Also that he made ageyn the seyd priour of a voweson of the chyrche of Sprouston. 1446 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 74 Pe Maner Enwarle in Essex, with be voweson of 2 chirches, And ..be maner of Thaneccolfyn in Somerset, with be vourson of be church. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 500/2 Londes, Tenementes, Rentes and Wousons of Chirches. 1550 T. Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 115 Not able..to bacske against pluralytyes, impropriacions, lying of vousons, nor against anye cuyll abuse of the cleargies lyuynges. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 156 An other staill was it to geue or bestow the vousons of benefices, as it were in a reuertion. 1590 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 361, I was informed that this Rycall was granted in vowson to one Mr. Hamond of Yarmouth.

**Vowsyng:** see Vousing *Obs.* **Vowt,** var. Vult *Obs.* **Vowt(e,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*1 and *v.*1

**Vowtre,** obs. f. Vulture.

†**Vowtre.** *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *avowtre* : see Adultery.] Adultery. Also †**Vowtre** *v. intr.*, to commit adultery. †**Vowtriere,** an adulteress.

†**Vowtry,** adultery. *Obs.*

1300 *Arth. & Lell.* 11 Kud he ouer liber lawis bat semen to seyy, bat man how to cure for crime of †vowtie, þeft, & swilc oþer. *Ibid.* 87 Þey kepe noiþer clene lif, ne wedding, but.. †vowtrand, or doing a-nowrit. *c* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5232 To vtwrne þe †vowtrere mid ioyst þe vxalle. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Festial* 72 Synne of lechery and of †vowtrye. *Ibid.* 201, I haue made myn ost to sle men, and forto ryn yn lechery and yn vowtry.

**Vowtur,** obs. form of Vulture.

**Vox** (vɒks). [L. *vox* (pl. *vōcēs*), voice.]

1. *Vox populi,* the voice of the people; expressed general opinion; common talk or rumour.

The Latin maxim *Vox populi vox Dei* 'the voice of the people is the voice of God' is first cited or alluded to in English works from the 15th cent. onwards.

*c* 1350 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 409/1 A wonderfull sorte of scrikes, That *vox populi* is named, Of whom hottomlesse welles. 1570 R. Constable in *Sutton's St. Papers* (1809) II. 388, I hard wox *populi* that the lord regent would not, for his owne honor, ..deliver them. 1603 Holland tr. *Plutarch's Mor.* IX. 767 No publicke fame, nor *vox populi* Was ever knowen in vaine to die. 1671 E. Howard *Six Days Adventure* Pref. A 4 There being nothing more unstable or erroneous than *vox populi* in point of plays. 1774 (*title*), Vox populi, or Old England's Glory a Destruction in 1774. 1820 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* xcvi, 'O,—..just a wheen havers!' replied Bell—'causey talk!'—'Vox populi!' 1867 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 308 Well, but I believe in the Vox Populi of two hundred Years: still more of two thousand.

2. *Vox angelica, vox humana* (or †*humane*), varies of organ-stops imitative of vocal sounds. Also *attrib.*

*a* 1706 Tudway in Burney *Hist. Music* (1776) IV. 395 These [stops] were the Vox-humane,...with some others I may have forgot. 1776 Burney *Hist. Music* IV. 147 Of pipes thus constructed are composed the stops called the Vox-humana, Regal,..and many others. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 81 In the seventeenth century several registers were...inserted, among which we may mention the vox humana, and the vox angelica. 1885 *Vox Humana* 3 The effect of the Vox Humana stop..is to make the organ sound like a choir of human voices.

**Vox,** south-western dial. var. Fox *sb.*; obs. Sc. var. Voice *sb.*; obs. Sc. pa. t. Wax *v.*

**Voyage** (voi·édʒ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 voage, 6 *Sc.* veage (weavage, weavage), 7 *Sc.* veadge; 3 veiage, 3–4, 6 veyage (6 *Sc.* wey-); 4–6 veiage, 5, 6 *Sc.*, veyage, 5–6 *Sc.* weyag(e; 5 (9 *dial.*) veage, 5 veig, 8–9 *north.*, 9 *Sc.* veige, 9 *dial.* veyge, *Sc.* vae(d,ge. *B.* 4–8 (9 *dial.*) viage (5 uiage, viadge, 6 viadge, viagie), 4–6 voyage (4 uoyage); 5 *Sc.* voiage, 5–6 voyage. *γ.* 5–7 voiage (6 voiadge, 7 voige), *δ*– voyage (6 voyadge, 7 -adge); *Sc.* 5 woyage, 6 wo(v)age, 7 woag. [a. AF. and OF. *veage, veiage, vayage,* and *voiage, aige, voage, vouaige* (F. *voyage*),—Prov. *viatge,* Sp. *viage,* Pg. *viagem,* It. *viaggio*:—L. *viāticum* provision for a journey, Viaticum.]

1. An act of travelling (†or transit), a journey (†or passage), by which one goes from one place to another (esp. at a considerable distance).

a. In the phrases *to take* or *make* (*a, the,* or *one's*) *voyage.* Now *rare.*

In early use including travel by sea as well as by land; for quotations in which the nautical sense is clear see 3 b.

(*a*) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4900 & Cadwal in Yrlonde 3e ostsarkede vaste & vor þ toward þys lond þe veage nome. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 117 He his viage soyne has tane, And hiterwart toward Ile is gane. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 8 He hath himself conformed ..To schape and take the viage Homward. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 1068 Seint Ambroses legende seith, how he Ones to Rome-ward took his viage. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 226 Now to this lady lete vs turne ageyn, Whiche to Surry hath take hir viage. 1564 Haward tr. *Enterprise* iv. 41 The consuls toke then their viage towarde Carthage. *a* 1593 H. Smith *Serm. Evg. Hist.* (Camden, No. 36) 43 Thei..toke their viage toward Rome, destroying all thinges on everie side. 1594 H. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. iv. 81 Hee would take our voyage on the Sea space of forty dayes by the waters side. 1647 Hexham 1, To take a Viage, *regten.*

(*b*) 1390 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3746 To helle þou makyst þy vyage, *c* 1395 *Metr. Hom.* 54, I mac mi viage, Til sain Jam in pilgrimage. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 152 It schuld be a long tyme ere þat viage ware made. 1484 Caxton tr. *Æneas Sylvius* (1912) 7 Anon vpon the discryuyng of their voyage they were worne sche one to the other that none of them bothe should leue other. 1550 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* xviii. (1838) 93 Anarchium ..maketh fat viages and great iournels..for worldly and transitory gain. 1579 *Poor Knt's Pal. Priv. Pleas.* (Roxb.) B iij, This is shee..whom once I serued, when I made my viage into Scotland. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 13 Now to get our wayage win, they sail nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly viage 'to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*b.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair veage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.) Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*g.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair veage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.) Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*δ.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair voyage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.) Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

b. In other contexts. Now *rare.*

*a. c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 532 Swith, he sayd, wendes with me, Whoso wil that wonder se...Thar was none so lird þam þat he was fayn of þat voyage. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair voyage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.), Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*β.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair voyage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.), Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*γ.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair voyage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.), Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

*δ.* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 He went þat viage To lird þam þat he was fayn of þat viage. 1366 Rolland *Seven Sages* 22 To Romes Court the way thay held on richt. Their seuin Maisters thair voyage passing on [etc.] *a* 1425 Montgomerie *Cherry & Slae* (1597) (using MS.), Bot fra we gett our wayage win, thay sall nocht than the cherrie cun. 1873 [W. Alexander] *St. Life Ain Folk* 305 Mains of Ardgay local scribe has carts on a weekly 'veage' to the burgh of Innerebrie to fetch his supplies of lime.

†*c.* A pilgrimage. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 238 Men that makis vowis of viagis for the lufe of God. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 255 How the kynge Yuon made a voyage to saynte Iames in Galice. 1528 H. Watson *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) P 3 He came towarde ye kynge and sayd to hym that he dyde owe a voyage to Sayntiames, and that he muste nedes do it without any compayne.

†*d.* Without article: Travel, travelling. *Obs.*

1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1650) 11 All Nations have Entertainment of one another, by Voyage into Forraigne Parts, or by Strangers that come to them.

†2. A journey or expedition undertaken with a military purpose; a warlike enterprise or undertaking; a march against an enemy. *Obs.*

*a.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4509 Jo was be king arbure vol of sowe & sore...Jo veage toward Rome be biluede ye pis chesace. *Ibid.* 8023 Sulue wimmen & be bilewede pai hit ne wende buder vaste, Ne song folc bei hi fiede were, be wule be veage [*v.rr.* viage] laste. 1491–2 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 100 Yit is no that the King grace hath purposyd to goo vnto Scotland in wayt upon his grace, now at this his noble vage into France. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xxi. (S.T.S.) I. 215 Pal. had bane pas fordwart, with gude wrede, bat he end of bare veage myght be respondent to pare beyynnyng. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 337 Cardinal Ægedia is sent frome Pope Honorius to Scotland, [and] he requires in great soume of money..to helpe the veyage to Hierusalem.

*β.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 5075 (Laud MS.), A morowe be kyng & his baronage Wenten forb in her viage. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 307 To Scotland ward he londed to redy his viage, With pritti pousand Walsh redy at his banere. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 207 His speke discomfort thame all sua, That thai had left bair hame bar til Fra it was a kingis of gret corage. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 109 Al this forsaydyn hyngynes, viages, and trauaill done and fulfillid be wyse in fyuyll more space þan in fyue yeris. 1450 *Mirk. Festial* 16 *b*, Ye Tour 5e. It happed that .. the aquire come from a viage that he hadde ben atte. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 17 [He] had a gret discomfiture at þe Chirche of Apincourt.. at his first viage. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. clv. (1811) 143 Longe it were to tell all the circumstaunce of this vyage, & victorys of the same. 1536 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 23 This yere the kynge made a goodly army into Scotland by hys brother the duke of Glocester, in the wyche viage he wane Barwike. 1590 L. Lloyd *Dial. Dames* Oct. 31 Mar. Scotus saith that he was slain in Barbarie in his Parthians viage.

*γ.* 1523 Lp. Berners *Froiss.* I, xv. 15 The kyng sent..a great ambassade to syr Iohn of Heynaulte, praying hym..to depe company with hym in his viage agaynste the Scotis. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. 4 The longinquite of his martial voyage, and the grite forse of the oriental pepil. 1584 B. R. tr. *Bonaventure* II. 97 b, Seuenteene Gallies..vnder-taken to voyage of warre, but remayned quiet in his kingdome. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* D 4, If you be a souldier, talke how often you haue beene in action: as the Portingale voyage, Calez voyage, the Island voyage. 1623–8 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 193 Godfrey of Bouillon..was the first that offered vp himselfe to this Famous Voyage. 1630 Fuller *Pisgah* II. v. 182 The unmeritates second voyage against the Amalekites in Mount Seir.

†*b.* In the phr. *to make* (or *do*) *a voyage. Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 89 Mithuldates..hebe to make viage and many fiztinge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 8 He made many viage, and many faire victories hadde. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iii. 118 The knycht Fenwick conwoide the carryage; He had on Scottis maid mony viage. 1513 Douglas *Æneis Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 76 Achabe kyng of Israel, when he intended to make a viage, and to take by force the country of Ramoth Galaad. 1548 Patten *Expedic. Herotical Ep.* Notes (1559) 93 In the great voyage Edward the second made against the Scots, at the battell at Striueling [etc.]. 1886 *Voy. Sir R. Chiton* (Camden Soc.) 170 The Emperour of China made a Voyage into Eastern Tartury, in the beginning of this Year 1682.

†*c. Voyage royal,* an expedition undertaken by a king in person. *Obs.*

1544 tr. *Aldiston's Treurse* (1574) 90 When the king maketh a voyage royal in to Scotland for to subdue y^e Scots. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 248 Euen now his [Edward IV's] Fewer tercian, of the whiche he had languished sore, with his voyage royall into Fraunce, was sodainly turned into a vncurable quartain. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commun.* (1603) 157 More to be dreaded for their..furious incursions, then ..that they are able to make, or vndertakes any voiage royal. 1621 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 44 For his [sc. Richard II's] first voyage in the eighteenth yeare of his reigne (which was indeed his last Royall) was made vpon another motion. 1630 (*title*), The Royal Voyage I or, the Irish Expedition.

†3. An enterprise, undertaking, or adventure of a private character (in early use implying the making of a journey). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2503 Pen benkkes Gawan ful sone, Of his anious uyage. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 738 Ek clanes I the bisekk That this viagge be nat to litherly take. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 353 This wente he forb, behinde of him undertake the viage. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2511, I am meved of pite,..bat se of volunte.. Llat take on bow bis mervellous viage. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* lii. 198 Madame, yf your wyll be, I wyl gladli tak this voyage in hande, and I shall neuer rest noo where tyl that I haue founde blanchardyn. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 59 Sum vnecouth vaage I purposit prepare, Bot not as vncouth as was preparit for me. 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. lxxxiii. 266 *b*, Taky ng in hand an easie viage towardes thina ende. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 185 If he should intend this voyage toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him. 1621 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* III. i, I thinke I fight with a familiar, or the Ghost of a fencer, Sh' has wounded me gallantly, call you this a letcherous viage?

†*b.* In the phr. *to do* (or *make*) *a voyage. Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 73 He..caste and knew in goode plyte was he moone To doon viage and take his way fat sone Vnto his neces paleys ther bysyde. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 804 Y for-bed hem..fro benne pay se scholde go, Or ich hadde sum viage done & til hem come ageyn. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) I. 84 If thou drede anche

[anglers, thy viage to make, understand wel [etc.]. 1612 Sharp *Cynth.* i. iv. 169 If you make your voyage vpon her, and glue me directly to vnderstand, you haue preuayl'd, I am no further your Enemy.

**4.** A journey by sea or water from one place to another (usually to some distant place or country) : a course or spell of sailing or navigation, *spec.* one in which a return is made to the starting-point ; a cruise.

Arising from contextual uses of senses 1 and 2, and clearly separable from them only after the XIE. period. For the phr. *t'bonie, boun, boon voyage* see Boon *a.* 2.

a. c 1300 *St. Brendan* 1530 in *S. Eng. Leg.* i. 224 'Wendep for þ-godes name ! þat þis voyage were ido !' Saint Brendan & his breperen to schipe wende anon. 1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 495/1 That nane...cary ony victuallis tallout or fleche-, except samekill as salbe thair necessare victualling for thair voyage. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 121 The skipper of the schip...said 'God send vs better passadit and mair fordar in our wayage.' 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) V. 494/2 Anne impost..of two shilling scottes to be payed vpoun the tune of all shipes and vessabills...be hawfe four shillingis money foirsaid to be payed be straingeres for ilke veadge. 1784 *Bibliopolich Garl.* (1906) 52 There was a poor little lad that had come a trial viage to Sea. [J. M. E. Saxby *Lady of Lunade* (1868) 123, I don't think there will be much done at the haaf this viage.

b. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8840 When he wyste why þat he cam [to Ireland], & no fer viage for stones nam, He scorned þem on his language. c 1400 Maundev. (1839) Prol., It is longe tyme passed, that ther was no generalle Passage ne Viage over the Sea. 1440 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 [That] noon of the seid vesselles..attendyng to the same viage, be arrested for any viage of ours Souverain Lord ya King. 1496 *Act. Dom. Concil.* (1839) 73 pe profittis & dewiteis..of be said auchtane parte of a hale Raias in zeland..and als of half a danskin viage. 1506 *Acc. Lil. High Treasr. Scot.* III. 211 Item...Hadmowy to furnis the Kingis schip in the Northland the second viage, for tymir. 1579 Twyne *Phis. aged. Fortune* v. l. 2 They that fare by Sea, they are ouer the hoyes, and fore the hoyes not bowe, and many tymes are at their viage ende before they be ware. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1369/1 For want of victels and other prouision they were in a long a viage)..[he] was inforced to set sale and returne for England. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 6 The Portingales whose viages beyond the cape of Good Hope..are more true than to reason likely.

γ. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 85 Paid..to John Coppe..after the said voiage into the parties of Lumbardie ..for the stopping of the Kinges Galeis..xxxiij s. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. Pref. 90a, There they shall read of Godredus the sonne of Olaus his voiage to the king of Norway. 1649 N. Carpenter *Geogr. Delineated* (1659) 196 This North West passage is a long voyage, and hath bin for a long time sought. 1668 Bacon *New Atl.* 12 The Navigation of the World (specially for remote Voiages) was greater then at this day. 1669 Manley *Grotius' Low C. War* 923 Where the Spanish Negotiation was short and safe, it enticed Seamen, by their good will, to avoid long Voyages. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* Introd., A Voyage round the World promises a species of information, of all others the most desirable and interesting. 1774 Goldsmith *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 346 Those who had set sail five months before, were not in the least further advanced in their voyage, than those who waited for the favourable wind. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 165 Ships were sent out to different seas, and had prosperous voyages. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Voyage*, a journey by sea. It usually implies the outward and homeward trips, which are called passages. 1903 *V. J.* Buller *Sea Wrack* 310 *note*, The round trip from home back to home again constitutes the 'voyage', all the port to port journeys are 'passages'.

*fig.* 1864 Browning *Fra Lee's Wife* II. iv, With whom began Love's voyage full-sail.

So In the phrases *to take* or *make a voyage*.

Cf. I a. Also *transf.*

(*a*) c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 Wald Godd þat ber werdly lordes ware at gude accorde, and..wald take þis haly viage ouer þe see. 1475 *Rolls* (Rox.) II. 72 The said King Edward ..tooke his voyage to Cane withe xij^c shippis. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 10 This men of wak vak voyage and sailled to Scotland. 1598 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 233 Quhen S. Columba did sayl in Yrland, thay to the Ile of Jon tuik thair voiage. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 180 With wreaths of anise From fishy caverns their light voyage took To the big rock.

(*b*) 14.. *Sir Beues* (C) 388 Ouer they made gode vinge. The sayl they drew, the wynd was good. 1475 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 387 We..purpose..incontinent to weyne, as wynde and weder wol serue, to make our viage into France. 1530 *Hickescorner* 870 For yf I myȝt make lij good yeages to Shoter's Hyl,..Than wolde I never travell the see more. c 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 518 This viadge ys to be made in 3 weeke yf winde and wether serve. 1582 Fenner *Lloyd's Cambria* 87 Cradock King of England about this time made a viage to Denmarke. 1668 J. Beaumont *Psyche* II. 279 It is a full Commission By which he made this voyage. 1695 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. I. 139 In five Voyages made before that way, [I] knew by Experience there is a Current.

**†c.** A single or return) passage or trip on a canal-boat. *Obs.*

1774 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 145 From Manchester to Warrington..the third cabin is for the passage or voyage upon the canal. 1809 Z. Allnutt *Navig. Thames* 15 The Toll of *4d* per Ton a Voyage on all Goods, Merchandize, is a Trip to London and back again, being two Passages.

**d.** A flight through the air (or through space) ; *esp.* a trip in a balloon.

1667 Milton *P. L.* vii. 431 So steers the prudent Crane Her annual Voyage, born on Winds. 1798 Swift *Gulliver* III. ii, It was about ninety leagues distant, and our voyage lasted four days and an half. 1784 V. Lunardi *New Aerial Voyages* (1786) 30 After a most delightful and glorious voyage of 46 miles, 36 over the water and 10 over land. 1826 *Mechanics' Mag.* VI. 283/2 An aerial voyage, remarkable for its duration, was accomplished at Paris on the 19th of September, 1784. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 640/2 Before they [sc. fire-balloons] became obsolete, several remarkable voyages were made in them. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 290 The Earth in its annual voyage round the sun.

**e.** *spec.* In marine insurance : (see quot.).

1848 Arnould *Martine Insur.* I. xii. I. 333 The voyage insured..., a technical term, which must be carefully distinguished from the actual voyage of the ship,...is a transit at sea from the terminus a quo to the terminus ad quem in a prescribed course of navigation...which is never set out in any policy.

**f.** *Voyage of discovery* (Discovery 3), in fig. use.

1897 Ducange Anglicus *Viaje. Tong., Voyage of discovery*, going out seeking. 1890 R. Bodkenson *Col. Reformer* (1891) 227 After a voyage of discovery round the yard at full speed, [the cattle] return...into the dairy.

**5.** Used *fig.* (in senses 1 or 4) to denote the course of human life (or some part of it), or the fate of persons after death.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 326 Fourtiens yer sche was of Age, Whan deth hir tok to his viage. 1443 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xv, As the ship hait sailleis sterelis...So stant it thus here...And wantis that auld gyde all thy viage. c 1530 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc) 98 Cristallyne water to hym so comfortable, Whan he toke his laste viage. 1548 Hall *Chron. Pilger. Perf.* (W. D. W. 1531) 22 b, Man receyueth by grace all thynges expedyent and necessary for hym in his voage and iourneye. 1549 Sir T. More *Dyalogue* I. iii. 30 Wee haue most special assistence of god with his christen churche in their spirituall viage. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 200 There is a Tide in the affayres of men, Which taken at the Flood, leades on to Fortune ; Omitted, all the voyage of their life, Is bound in Shallowes, and in Miseries. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* vi. 345 Blocks and stones our ghostly enemies cast in the narrow way that leadeth to heaven, to hinder our voyage. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* v. v, So, now I am in for Hobbes's voyage ; a great leap in the dark. 1719 Hickman *Naaman Pref.*-iv. 11, Sr. and what I say to Papists I say to all Protestants, if you like to be Priest-ridden, farewel—a good Voyage to you. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 18 Sally, Sally, cried my fellow-lodgers at Berwick, was a couple from London, bound to Edinburgh on the voyage of matrimony. 1779 Cowper *Retirement* 510 Forgive a transient sally, and unwind your length,...A stranger to superior strength, Man vainly trusts his own. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* ix. 174 Fear not then, Spirit, Birth is but death reversed. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch-bk.* II. vi. 60 And what I say to Papists I say to all Protestants, if you like to be Priest-ridden, farewel—a good Voyage to you. 1772

Hall the bright clime of battle and of song. 1880 Cosmos *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 2 The Arctic voyagers have seen King Winter on his throne. 1879 E. P. Wright *Anim. Life* 129 The Sea Lion of voyagers in the southern seas.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*, in various applications.

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 189 She prays for the little Infant Voyager, That he may so pass the Waves of this troublesome World as finally to come to the Land of Everlasting Life. 1819 Shelley *Lett. Pr. Wks.* 1880 IV. 147 Your boat will be to the ocean of water, what this earth is to the ocean of aether—a prosperous and swift voyager. 1826 *Mechanics' Mag.* VI. 286/2 In this region the voyager [in a balloon] sailed till half-past nine o'clock. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Humble Bee* 15 Insect lover of the sun, Sailor of the atmosphere,...Voyager of light and noon. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June 793/1 This rapid voyager [the dragon-fly] passes over you, proceeds beyond you..., then turns, etc.

‖ **Voyageur** (vwayaʒœ·r). [F.; see prec.] In Canada, a man employed by the fur companies in carrying goods to and from the trading posts on the lakes and rivers; a Canadian boatman.

1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 18 In ascending the Longue Sault, a distance of three miles, canoes were three times unladen, and, together with their freight, carried on the shoulders of the voyageurs. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 90 St. Martin returned to Canada...[and] engaged as a voyageur with the Hudson's Bay Fur Company. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 17 Aug. 121/2 At the nightly bivouac, to the astonishment of the voyageurs, the noises continued.

*attrib.* 1903 *Daily Mail* 7 Sept. 5/5 The party was put into one of the large voyageur flat-bottomed boats.

**Voyaging** (voi·ədʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Voyage *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb (now usually of journeying by sea).

1611 Cotgr., *Voyagement*, a voyaging, travelling, journeying. 1697 Heyman *y.* A visiting, *ces voyages.* 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 8 He was Monarch of far more Territories than ever he touch'd at in all his Voyagings. 1893 J. Babcock *Dom. Annamm.* 165 Native of a port and given to voyaging. 1895 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xvii. 182, I deemed it best to keep up the appearance of ordinary voyaging. 1895 Clark Russell *Marooned* IV. (1901) 97 The marine habits of thought I had carried away with me from my early voyagings.

*attrib.* 1853 Lynch *Sufi-Apron.* II. 25 It is now hurrah! for outset on many a voyaging enterprise. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xl, I have separated from my wife for personal, not voyaging, reasons.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. vii, Our poor Convention, after such voyaging, just entering harbour, so to speak, has struck on the bar. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 1 231 Here I will not listen when men tell us that we can reach Him by weary voyaging on the ocean of intellect. 1862 G. Long tr. *M. Aurelius' Thoughts* I. 84 To...blown Cowes and Dungeness on the countless herds of men and their countless solemnities, and the infinitely varied voyagings in storms and calms.

**Voyal**, var. of Voie *Naut.* **Voyd**, -ance, -e(e, etc., variants of Void *a.*, -ance, -er, etc.

† **Voye.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *voye, voie* (F. *voie*) :—L. *via* way.] Way.

1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) III. 399 They can pay no subcedy, for as much as they be charged other divers voyes. *a* 1598 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 21 Quhan he hes done, fast thy voyes wend To Athoill that most his cuntrie.

**Voyed(e**, obs. f. Void *v.* **Voymbe, Voyme**, obs. Sc. var. Vomb *sb.* **Voyol**, var. Voil *Naut.* **Voys**, obs. f. Voice *sb.* **Voyse**, **Voyte**, southern ME. vars. Fowl *sb.*, *fought* Fight *v.*

‖ **Vrac.** *Obs.* Also 7 **vrack.** [F. dial. (Channel Islands).] The name given in the Channel Islands to a fish resembling a carp. Also *attrib.*

1673 *News from Channel* in *Hart. Misc.* (1809) III. 505 A large fish we call a Vrack or Carp. 1694 Falle *Jersey* ii. 75 But the most common, and to be had at all times, is a Fish we call Vrac, in shape and taste very much like a Carp, and may be called the Sea-carp, with several others. 1724 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (1756) II. 325 Here [in Jersey] is the Mullet, red and grey, the Vrac, or Sea-carp, and the Bar.

**Vrack**, Sc. variant of Wrack.

‖ **Vraic** (vrɛ̃·k). [F. dial. (Channel Islands) *vraic*, also *vrec*, *vrac* : see Wrack *sb.* and cf. Varec.] A seaweed found in the Channel Islands, used for fuel and manure.

1810 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* 1. x. 30 Vraic or Orewood, (Alga Marina) is diuersly applyed for soyling. 1815 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Vrait*, a kind of Sea-weed, of which they make fuel in the Isles of Jersey and Gernsey. 1694 Falle *Jersey* ii. 67 'Tis a Sea-weed; but a Weed more valuable to Us than the choicest Plant that grows in our Gardens. We call it Vraic, and it grows on the Rocks about the Island. 1736 [W. R. Chetwood] *Voy. Vaughan* vi. II. 203 For Fuel...they make use of a Sea Weed, by the Inhabitants call'd *Vraic*, [*sic* Vrab]. 1742 *Gent. Mag.* *Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 269 Their Manure is Sea-weed, call'd Vraic, of which we have taken notice above. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Song. Seaweed* xxix, The Vraic! the Vraic! pile it on to the fire. 1860 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xx. 469 The load of fresh vraic is computed to give three bushels of ashes. 1881 B. Webber *St. Ives' Way* v. 3, Amid this wilderness of rock and vraic and wrinkled sand.

*attrib.* 1895 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* Concl. 236, I have turned over the *vraic*-heaps as they were carted up from the lowest tide.

Hence **Vrai'cker**, one who gathers vraic. **Vrai'cking**, the gathering of vraic. Also *attrib.*

1835 H. D. Inglis *Channel Isl.* 64 At half tide, or low water multitudes of carts and horses, boats and vraickers, cover the beach. *Ibid.* 63 The vraicking parties consisting of eight, ten, or twelve persons. 1892 Lane Clarke *Guernsey & Jersey* iii. 57 For a walk or a ride to either of these bays on a vraicking day. 1882 Ansted *Channel Isl.* I. vi. 103 It is only used...during the vraicking season. *Ibid.* IV. xxii. 515 Vraicking in the Channel Islands is a custom that time has hallowed into an institution.

**Vrak**, obs. Sc. f. Wrack. **Vrail**, southern dial. f. Frail *sb.*[1] **Vrain**, southern ME. var. Fraine *v.*

‖ **Vraisemblance** (vrɛsɑ̃blɑ̃s). [F. (16th c.), f. *vrai* true + *semblance* appearance, semblance.]

1. An appearance of truth; verisimilitude.

1832 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., You remove from the mind the vraisemblance, the veracity, of the whole representation. 1841 Lady Blessington *Idler in France* viii. I. 170 There is a fearful *vraisemblance* in some of the scenes with all that one has read or pictured to oneself, as daily occurring during the terrible days of the Revolution. 1880 *Standard* 30 Dec., He would have given a greater air of fairness and vraisemblance to the story.

2. A representation, picture.

1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* III. ii, Miss Patty's taper fingers transferred to paper the vraisemblance of a pair of sturdy Bondagers.

**Vraith, Vrak**, obs. Sc. ff. Wrath, Wrack.

**Vrakel**, southern var. Frakel *a. Obs.*

**Vram**, southern ME. var. From.

**Vrampol**, southern var. Frampold *Obs.*

**Vran**, obs. Sc. var. Wren. **Vrang**(**us**, etc., obs. (or dial.) Sc. ff. Wrong(ous, etc.

+ **Vray**, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *vray* (F. *vrai*), reduced form of *verai* (Vera) :—L. Verus.] True.

1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 382/2 His dereest Cousyn Richard, vray and rightfull heire. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 89 And none may be vraye and trewe with oute other.

**Vrayth**, obs. Sc. form of Wrath.

**Vrech**, southern ME. var. Frech *a.*

**Vrechit, -nese**, obs. Sc. ff. Wretched, -ness.

**Vrecliche**, southern var. Freckly *adv. Obs.*

**Vreend**, southern dial. var. Friend.

**Vreit**, obs. Sc. form of Write *v.*

**Vreo, Vret, Vridom**, southern ME. vars. Fere *a.*, Fret *v.*[1], Freedom.

‖ **Vriester.** *Obs.*—[1] [Du. and Flem. *vrijster, f. vrijen* to court, woo.] A girl.

1852 Fortescue *Lonsdale Controversy* (1859) 41 Not a Country Uriester but can handle an oar, steer a boat, raise a mast.

**Vril.** [Invented by Lytton.] A mysterious force imagined as having been discovered by the people described in one of Lytton's novels.

1871 Lytton *Coming Race* (1874) 47 These people consider that in vril they have survived at the unity in natural energic agencies, which has been conjectured by many philosophers. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 154/2 Just as...Tich saw the Anu *sweep* their vril-cars over the mountains and valleys. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Dec. 4/1 If so,...we are within hailing distance of the discovery of vril.

**Vrith**, southern dial. variant of Frith *sb.*[2] 3.

**Vrive**, obs. (or dial.) Sc. pa. t. Work *v.*

**Vroefrien**, southern var. Frover *v. Obs.*

‖ **Vrouw, vrow** (vrɔu). Also 7 vros. [Du. and Flem. *vrouw* (cf. Frow *sb.*) = G. *frau* woman, wife, Frau.] A (Dutch) woman, matron, goodwife.

*a.* 1660 [Fletcher & Massinger] *Prog. Barnavelt* IV. iv. In Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 282 Ten hundred thousand Meanings in Jaws and Nose, my vros. *a* 1700 *Songs Loud. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 34 The Dutchman will go to the sign of the Vrow where each man may drink his flagon. 1701 Wolley *New York* (1860) 55 They seized each other's hair with their forefeet, and down they went to the Sod, their Vrows and Families crying out because they could not part them. 1824 J. Fenimore Cooper *Lionel Lincoln* (1825) xi. (1873) 108 Till the riflemen...raised a din...Which nearly deprived the fair vrows of their breath. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 524 The drinking hours of Teniers or the Dutch vrows of Mieris.

*b.* 1791 Nairne *Poems* 129 And Roman dishes, made at Deil, To ornament an old vrow's shelf. 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, There is in a farmer a tall powerful form, his vrouw—in general by no means a tempting lady. 1838 W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 14 His dauntless young vrouw arrived him with overflowing eyes and open arms. 1887 Rider Haggard *Jess* ii, The Boer and his vrouw treated the children fairly well.

**Vry**, southern ME. var. Frie *a.*

+ **Vrychalk.** *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.)

1532–3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 157 Et Lionello Elmedayne 2d ulin. 5 die Maii, pro le vrychalke.

**Vryday**, southern ME. var. Friday.

**Vryt(e, Vryter**, obs. Sc. ff. Write *v.*, Writer.

**Vr-shaped** *a.* : see V *a.*

+ **Vue**, perh. an error for *heue* Bevy.

1472 in *Archæol.* (1836) XXVI. 278 There was a syde table at the whiche satte a greate Vue of ladyes.

**Vuel(e, Vuemest, Vuen, Vuere**, ME. vart. Evil, Ovemest *a.*, Oven, Ofer *a.*

**Vug** (vʊg). *Cornish mining.* Also **vugg, vugh, voog.** [ad. Cornish *vooga* (Williams); cf. Vogl. A cavity in a rock; a cave, a hollow.

1818 W. Pryce *Mineral. Cornw.* The ground which the miner hears, may reasonably be accounted for by presuming him to be at work in the immediate neighbourhood of a cavity, or as he terms it, a voog. 1832 Mrs. Bray *Trad. Devon.* III. 256 It is not uncommon in deep mines, where there are what the miners term vugs...to hear loud and frequent explosions. 1845 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 92 Above this mixed mass, and in the level above, a great cavity (called by miners a *vugh*) was found. 1883 *Enquel. Brit.* XVI. 445/2 Dynamite...is very effective even in ground full of '*vughs*' or cavities.

Hence **Vu'ggy** (also **vughy**) *a.*, full of cavities. 1864 W. W. Smyth *Catal. Min. Coll. Museum Pract. Geol.* 32 The lode is full of cavities, or 'vuggy' (as the Cornish miners term it). 1883 Greenly *Geol. Mag.* 273 *Vuchy rock*, a stratum of cellular structure, or one containing many cavities.

**Vuhel**, southern ME. variant of Fowl *sb.*

**Vuir**, obs. Sc. variant of Over *a.*

**Vul**, southern ME. var. pa. t. Fall *v.*, var. Full *adv.*

**Vulcan** (vʊ·lkăn), *sb.* [ad. L. *Vulcān-us*, the god of fire, son of Jupiter and Juno. Cf. F. *Vulcain*, + *Vulcan.*]

1. *Rom. Mythol.* The god of fire and of metal-working, corresponding to the Greek Hephæstus.

The lameness of Vulcan, and the infidelity of Venus towards him, are occas. the subject of literary allusions.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VIII. vii. 120 Quhilk forgeis beine Vulcanus duelling call, And eftir Vulcane that cuntre nemys all. 1579 Lodge *Defence Poetry* 20 Al lame men are not Vulcans, nor hooke nosed men Ciceroes. 1694 Milton *Comus* 655 Though he and his curst crew Fetter'd the Sea, and bound it in marble, and menace high, Or like those sons of Vulcan vomit smoak, Yet will they soon retire, if he but shrink. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 314 Stung to the soul, indignant through the skies To his bright forges precipitates Vulcan flies. 1733 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vulcanalia*, among the Romans, a festival in honour of Vulcan. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III. v, His wig and gown are his Vulcan's panoply, his enchanted cloak of darkness. 1849 Bowles *Lamentye* lxxxiii, I never associate Vulcan and his Cyclops with the idea of a forge.

b. An image or picture of the god.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 160 There were in old times neere all Chimneys almost some earthen Vulcans set up, seeing that God was the president of these Arts wrought by fire. *a* 1700 Evelyn (*Diary* 1644, In the Vulcan's shop of a chambers hang two famous pieces of Bassano, the one a *Vulcan*, the other a *Nativity*.)

c. *fig.* A lame slow-moving person.

1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 20 (1716) 209 Many, who are sinistrous unto Good Actions, are Ambi-dexterous unto bad, and Vulcans in virtuous Paths, Achilleses in vitious motions.

2. a. *transf.* A blacksmith; an iron-worker.

1636 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 55 Cingis-chan...was at first by profession a Vulcan or Black-smith. 1693 Dryden *Virgil's Æneis* (1697) 255 His Art, the Skeen'd Vulcan of a Shop. 1704 R. North *Lett.* 20 Aug., in *Lives* (1890) III. App. 252 This bearer is the Vulcan of our village, and one of the sisters of the Lamb...[the Carlyle's]. 1710 *Lett. to* vi, Those jingling sheet-iron Aprons, wherein your otherwise half-naked Vulcans hammer and smelt. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 13 Here the muscular arms, the shirt-sleeves and with unbroken legs, are still casting thundebolts.

+ b. A mincr. *Obs.*—1

1668 J. Bargrave *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 121 When we came into the vast high vaults, where hundreds and hundreds of men or Vulcans were at work, one of the overseers...would have let us see their art in working up a part of the mine by gunpowder.

3. A hypothetical planet supposed to have its orbit between the Sun and Mercury.

1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* iii. 58, I would willingly pay some attention here to the story of Vulcan...were it not for the great doubt in which this planet's whole existence is enshrouded. 1879 Newcomb & Holden *Astron.* 310 They comprise Venus, Mercury, and, in the opinion of some astronomers, a planet called Vulcan.

II. + 4. A volcano. *Obs.* (Cf. Volcan.)

In Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 319 and Maundeville (1839) 55 *Vicane* and *Vleane* occur as a name for the Lipari Islands : cf. Vulcanian *a.* 2.

1576 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. Indies* 160 Then appeared the vulcan and concavitie which was about halfe a league in compasse. *Ibid.* 161 This Vulcan is like unto the vulcan of Cecilia. 1604 E. Grimstone *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. iii. 119 Of those which are in the Vulcans or mouths of fire at the Indies...I will speake in their order. 1608 Capt. *West Ind.* 118 60 But they were not gone farre, when the Vulcan began to flash out flames of fire. *a* 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* xi. (1692) 41 The number of these may...be much increased by these Vulcans, that have open Vents to discharge their Fumes. 1707 Funnell *Voy.* v. 122 These Vulcans send out Smoke sometimes.

+ b. Const. of (the matter ejected). *Obs.*

1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* iii. (1675) 72 A Hill, on the top whereof were Lions and Vulcans of fire. 1658 Gage *West Ind.* 179 The Town standeth on the backside of the Vulcan of water. 1660 Mountagu *Devotion* (1680) 553 The other Vulcan of Fire is more unpleasant.

5. Fire; a fire. Chiefly *poet.*

1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Engl.* 138 They make their *Vulcan* or fire near to a great Tree, upon the snags whereof they hang their kettles. 1708 Phillips *Cyder* II. 240 Altho' Devonia much commends the Use Of strengthning Vulcan. 1728 Pope *Dunciad* III. 81 Their rival flames with equal glory rise, From shelves to shelves see greedy Vulcan roll.

†Ience + **Vulcan** *v. trans.*, to make into a Vulcan; to cuckold. *Obs.*

1623 Massinger *Bondman* I. ii, *Corisca.* To me You are a young Adonis. *Gracculo.* Well said, Venus! I am sure she Vulcans him.

+ **Vu'lcanal.** *Obs.*—[f. L. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.* + -al.] An animal living in fire.

1667 Pinnell *Philos. Reform.* 27 To the Fire or the Firmament doe belong the Vulcanals, Pennats, Salamanders.

**Vulcana·lia**, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *Vulcānālia*, neut. pl. of *Vulcānāl-is*, f. *Vulcānus* Vulcan *sb.*] *V. festival*, a Roman festival held in honour of Vulcan on Aug. 23. Also **Vulcana·lian** *a.*

1638 Lundie *Poems* (Abbotsford Club) 12 Seres glade prutais in feisting spent some day's, And pass'd some nichts

in Vulcanalian play's. 1694 Ozell *Virgil, Eneidkes* iii. 17 *note*, The day before and after the Vulcanalia [1684 Vulcanalian] Festivals.

**Vulcanian** (vʌlkē·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -can. [f. L. *Vulcāni-us*, f. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.* Cf. F. *vulcanien*.]

**A.** *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, associated with, Vulcan.

1600 F. Hubert tr. *Oberndoffer's Anal.* 5 They relect incomparable Galens learned Commentaries.., hauing found thorow Paracelsus Vulcanian shop a more compendious.. way. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 835 Nor could Vulcanian flame The stench abolish, or the savour tame. 1700 — *Pref. & Arc.* III. 908 With sounding axes to the Grove they go. Fell, split, and lay the fewel on a row, Vulcanian food. 1708 Pope *Odyss.* XX. 154 Meantime the menial train with unctuous wood Heap'd high the genial hearth, Vulcanian food. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XXIII. 41 Many a saginated bear bright-tusk'd, Amid fierce flames Vulcanian stretch'd to roast. 1854 H. E. J. Howard *Rede Proserpine* 15 The ponderous gates, the threshold, and the wall, Cast in Vulcanian mould, were iron all. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* I. § 45 An armour forged in diviner fire by Vulcan force.

**b.** Fashioned or forged by Vulcan. Also *fig.*

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I, 40/2 God's feare, that strong Vulcanian Armor, must Guard such good Soules as doe regard it best. 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xii. 93 The..slinging Casta of the Vulcanian Thunderbolts. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 1139 The Trojan Chief..On his Vulcanian Orb sustain'd the War. 1718 J. Trapp tr. *Virgil* (1735) I. Pref. to Æneis p. alvii, Ornamental Sculptures upon Homer's Vulcanian Shield. 1760 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 287 Thunders, that shook the skies with dire alarms, And, joined by skill divine, Vulcanian arms. 1798 D. Lloyd *Voy. Life* v. 99 Nor brazen walls, Nor bright Vulcanian shields, can stand before Th' intrepid aim of Resolution. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. III. 181 The Vulcanian panoply which Achilles lent to his feebler friend. 1872 Lonsdale & Lee *Virgil* Gen. Introd. (1903) 8 Cricklean is as powerless against the poet as the sword of the mortal hero against the immortal temper of the Vulcanian shield.

**2.** Sprung from, related to, Vulcan.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 4 The Vulcanean brood of blacksmiths, fire-men, colliers, gunners, gun-founders, and all sorts of mettle men. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 758 Vulcanian Caeculus renews the fight, And Umbro born upon the mountain's height. 1749 G. West tr. *Pindar, 1st Pythian Ode* vi, But he, Vulcanian Monster, to the clouds The fiercest, hottest Inundations threws.

†**b.** *sb.* One who resembles Vulcan. *Obs.*—1

1598 Marston *Pigmal., Sat.* ii, Yet Muto, like a good Vulcanian, An honest Cuckold, calls the bastard sonne, And brags of that which others shun and shame.

†**3.** *Vulcanian Islands*, the Liparl Islands between Sicily and Italy. *Obs.*

1652 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. 72 On the West part of Sicil lie the Æolian or Vulcanian Ilands. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* II. 57 There are no instances in my opinion, that deserve our observation so much, as those that are in and about the Mediterranean Sea; there is a knot of them called the Vulcanian Islands, in which there were at work to prevent subsergence. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 573 Only by the action of her vulcanian energies can the earth maintain her position as an abode of life.

**B.** = Plutonian *a.* 2. (Cf. Vulcanist 3.)

1840 Smart. 1850 Ogilvie tr. *v. Vulcanist*, The Vulcanian theory has been expanded and illustrated by Lyell. 1870 Brewer *Dict. Phr. & Fable* 930/2 The Vulcanian or Plutonian theory, which ascribes the changes on the earth's surface to the agency of fire.

**Vulcanic** (vʌlkæ·nik), *a.* [In sense 1 ad. F. *vulcanique*, It. (also Fg.) *vulcanico*, f. *Vulcano* Vulcano. In sense 2 f. L. *Vulcān-us* Vulcan *sb.*]

**1.** = Vulcanio *a.* 1, 2.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 24 The vulcanic districts of Auvergne and Velay..afford proofs enough of the truth of this opinion. *Ibid.* 27, I have already observed, that there are many vulcanic mountains of a totally different form from the common volcanos. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 20 Of such vulcanic breaches there are many in these limestone rocks. *Ibid.* 21 The Belka chalk is changed by the vulcanic heat.

**2.** Of or belonging to, having the character of, Vulcan. (With initial capital.)

1850 *Surrey. Mag.* I.II. 469/2 What tho' with Vulcanic knocking Thou still may bring forth many a thought. 1866 R. S. Hawker in C. E. Byles *Life & Lett.* xxiii. (1903) 357 The great majority of Vassals of his own which exists in this Vulcanic [*i. e.* manufacturing] nation.

**b.** Of or pertaining to fire; fiery.

1866 Lowell *Carlyle* Prose Wks. 1890 II. 83 Even the burning of a meeting-house, in itself a vulcanic rarity, could not..tickle his out-worn palate. 1867 J. Burns tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 204 Vulcan kept him—in vulcanic lair He breathed forth flame.

**Vulcanicity** (vʌlkăni·sĭti), [f. prec. + -ity, or ad. F. *vulcanicité*.]

**1.** = Volcanicity.

1873 R. Mallet *Palmieri's Eruption Vesuvius* Title-p., An Introductory Sketch of the Present State of Knowledge of Terrestrial Vulcanicity. 1882 E. Hull *Contrib. Phys. Geog. Brit. Isles* 21 Vulcanicity has also played its part in the formation of rock-structures. 1883 *Academy* 3 Oct. 225 He regards the thermal waters as representing a legacy of former vulcanicity.

**2.** The study of vulcanic action.

1879 Rutley *Stud. Rocks* iii. 9 The branches of physical geology known as vulcanicity and seismology.

†**Vulcanio,** Irreg. var. *vulcano* Volcano *sb.*

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 762 This Fire keeping no analogy with other Vulcanio's in any of the particulars mentioned in these three queries, I thought fit to answer them altogether.

**Vulcanism** (vʊ·lkănĭz'm). [ad. F. *vulcanisme*, var. of *volcanisme* Volcanism.] Volcanic action or condition.

1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* III. (1879) 93 The sun may be regarded as a globe in an earlier and more active stage of vulcanism. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 280 The..strata which have been deposited..under the combined influences of internal vulcanism and external atmospherical influences.

**Vulcanist** (vʊ·lkănĭst). [In early use f. Vulcan *sb.* + -ist. In sense 3 ad. F. *vulcaniste*, var. of *volcaniste* Volcanist.]

†**1.** One who works by fire; *spec.* an alchemist, a blacksmith. *Obs.*

1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 277 The Country affordeth sufficient proulsion of water, to encounter the terribest Vulcanist, that euer brandiscth a burning sword, or a ferie tongue. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* II. 23, I perswade my selfe, that no philosophicall vulcanist, or perfect paracelsian, will ere long..bring any true magisterie, tincture, quintessence or Arcanum therein. 1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Years* C 2 b, What Mechanicall hatchanded Vulcanist but perswaded himselfe to bee Maister of the Company.

†**2.** One who is lame, as Vulcan was. *Obs.*

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 60 Your Lame Vulcanist Charity doth not reprove, but pity those poor Vulcanists, who ballance the inequality of their heels, or badger legge, by the art and help of their shooes.

**3.** = Vulcanist 1.

1802 Playfair *Illustr. Huttonian The.* 3 Their followers have of late been distinguished by the fanciful names of Vulcanists and Neptunists. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 90 In addition to volcanic heat, to which the Vulcanists formerly attributed too much influence, we must allow for the effects of mineral pressure [etc.]. 1884 Sir J. Playfair in *Gd. Words* Feb. 93/1 Vulcanists of the old school would be equally perplexed, because petroleum is so volatile that..it would have disappeared.

**Vulcanite** (vʊ·lkănīt). [f. Vulcan *sb.* + -ite 1. Hence F. *vulcanite* (in sense 2).]

†**1.** Pyroxene. *Obs.* (Cf. Volcanite 1.)

1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 190 Pyroxene, Augite, hallaïte, . . vulcanite, sahlite, in part. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 527/2 Vulcanite. Augite.

**2.** A preparation of india rubber and sulphur hardened by exposure to intense heat; ebonite.

1880 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) I. 602 Indian-rubber and vulcanite. 1887 Bloxam *Chem.* 482 When a sheet of caoutchouc is..still further heated, [it] is converted into the black horny substance called vulcanite or ebonite, and used for the manufacture of combs, &c. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xii. 135 They..have about four feet of their length made of teak or vulcanite in order to break the shock of the metal pipe.

*b. attrib.* Made of vulcanite.

1866 *Microscop. Jrnl.* VI. 168 You will oblige me by correcting an error in your report of my remarks on vulcanite cells. 1882 *Engin.* 3 Dec. 473/1 The same effect may be produced by rubbing a vulcanite comb on the sleeve of a coat. 1892 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* II. 34 The vulcanite canula is good for constant use.

**Vulcanizable,** *a.* [f. Vulcanize *v.*] That can be vulcanized.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* (N. Y.) 26 Mar. 193/3 Asbestos and India rubber . . also other vulcanizable materials enter into its composition.

**Vulcanization** (vʊlkănaizē·'shən). [f. next. Hence F. *vulcanisation* (also *volc-*).] The method or process of treating crude india-rubber with sulphur and subjecting it to intense heat, by means of which it is rendered more durable and made adaptable for various purposes.

The first patent for the process is related in detail in *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 5) 1860 I. 589–92.

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11235. 2 Without the process of vulcanization. 1857—*Pers. Narr. India Rubber Manuf.* 107 It appeared desirable to give the material a more definite name . . ; and whilst discussing the subject amongst my friends, Mr. Brockedon proposed the term Vulcanization. 1869 *Amer. Mech.* 4 Dec. 3/2 The mineral ingredients..are necessarily subject to the action of the sulphur employed to effect the vulcanisation. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 940 Carbolic bisulphide is used to soften india-rubber so as to allow of its penetration by sulphur in the carrying out of what is known as vulcanisation.

**Vulcanize** (vʊ·lkănīz), *v.* [f. Vulcan *sb.* Hence F. *vulcaniser* (in sense 2).]

†**1.** *trans.* To subject to the flames.

1827 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 42 That great exploit, which ..drew upon him so libellous an imputation in certain verses which have long since been vulcanised.

**2.** To treat (india-rubber, etc.) to the process of vulcanization.

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11235. 2 When cold I remove them from the moulds and afterwards vulcanize them to make them perform permanent. 1880 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) I. 591 It appears not to be an easy matter to vulcanise large masses of caoutchouc. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 360/2 The time and heat required to vulcanize or harden these compound.

**3.** *intr.* To undergo vulcanization.

1890 *Sci. Amer.* 1 March LXII. 140/1 Rubber vulcanizes at 270° Fah.

**Vulcanized,** *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed.] Affected or altered by the process of vulcanization.

1845 *Mech. Mag.* Feb. 122 The exhibition by Mr. Brockedon of some specimens of Mr. Thomas Hancock's patent 'vulcanised' India-rubber. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* § 31. 16 Gentle suction is then to be effected by means of a tube of vulcanized caoutchouc. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 2/1 Vulcanised rubber is also extremely useful for cleaning off drawings.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 932/2 *Vulcanized fibre*, paper, paper pulp, or other vegetable fibrous substance that has been so prepared..as to give it in a measure metallic toughness and strength.

**Vulcaniser.** [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who or that which vulcanizes; esp., the apparatus used in vulcanizing india-rubber.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3500, Improved gas vulcanizer for dentists. 1880 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* X. 308/2 An iron frame is then secured round the whole, and it is placed in a small vulcaniser, heated by gas. 1884 C. G.W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 9/2 The roll being bound round with a wet cloth bandage, is ready for the 'vulcaniser'.

**Vulcanizing,** *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the verb. Also *attrib.*

1846 Hancock *Patent Specif.* No. 11235. 2 In all the compounds . . I employ sulphur and heat . . , which process is now commonly designated vulcanizing. 1855 Goodyear *Gum-elastic* (New Haven) 177 Soon after the discovery of the heating or vulcanizing process. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 932/2 The heating or vulcanizing is conducted in strong cast-iron cylinders.

**Vulcanizing,** *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That vulcanizes or is used in the process of vulcanizing.

1880 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* X. 326 The dough is . . put into moulds of the desired form, and exposed in the vulcanizing oven to a heat of from 240 to 260 degrees Fahr. 1879 *Cassell's Tech. Educ.* IV. 287/2 The hose is finished by immersing it in a vulcanising solution.

**Vulcano,** obs. variant of Volcano.

**Vulcano-gical,** *a.* [See Vulcanology and -ical.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with vulcanology.

1888 *Nature* 30 Aug. 416/1 Seismology . . is usually treated . as a branch of vulcanological science. 1889 *Ibid.* 21 May 77/2 A . very readable account of the present state of vulcanological science.

**Vulcano-logist.** (Also Volc-.) [See Vulcanology and -ologist.] One who studies or is expert in volcanic phenomena.

1858 Mallet in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1. 133 The subject appears to me worthy of more examination at the hands of Vulcanologists and Seismologists. 1881 *Jrnl. Volcanoes* I. 37 Vulcanologists have only recently commenced those series of exact and continuous observations.

**Vulcano-logy.** (Also Volc-). [f. *vulcan-* (cf. Vulcanio, etc.) + -ology.] The science or scientific study of volcanoes.

1858 Mallet in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1. 117 Books on Earthquakes and Vulcanology in the Gottingen University Library. 1880 *Academy* 17 Jan. 49 The part relating to vulcanology would be considerably improved by a detailed account of some one seismological observatory.

**Vulgar** (vʌ·lgă), *sb.* Also 5–6 vulgare. [Absolute use of Vulgar *a.*, after similar uses of med.L. *vulgaris*, OF, *vulgaire* (also *vulgar*), It. *volgare*.]

†**1.** The common or usual language of a country; the vernacular. *Obs.*

1430–90 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. xxxvi (MS. Bodl. 263) 44r/1 Whos kyngdom hool, as inaad is mencioun, In that vulgar ..Of Malliogres pleynli bar þe name. *c* 1440 *Chaucer's Compl. Pite* (Harl. MS.) *Wordes* þat he Chaucer had ne aurest Poete þat euer was fonde in oure vulgare to fore [þ]nes dayes. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* II. xvii, Sall I nocht..Gaffray Chaucer, as *a per of* gold, in his vulgare. 1586 Day *Engl. Secretary* I. (1625) 7 An Epistle therefore is that which vsually we in our vulgar doe tearme a Letter. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 86 Before Sir Thomas Wiats time they were not vsed, but the vulgar. 1634 *Transl. Pref.* 2 For the behoofe and edifying of the vnlearned .. they prouided Translations into the vulgar. 1665 G. Havers *Tr. Della Valle's Travels* I. 144 The Canara-Language, which is the vulgar in Ikkeri and all that State.

**2.** †**a.** *pl.* Persons belonging to the ordinary or common class in the community, esp. the uneducated or ignorant. *Obs.*

1523 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* Prol. 84 Some small treatyse to wryte breuely To the comyn vulgares they myndе to satisfy. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* C 2 b, Referred also the Idiots and simple vulgars, before other learned and reputed persons. 1598 R. Ireland tr. *Terence, Eunuch* II. iii, I can nothing at all away with these vulgars, wherein there is no excellencie of beastes. 1603 Chapman *Odyss.* VI. 425 For these vile vulgars are extreamly proud, And foully language'd. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 1129 He therefore sent for fat all his Senses, To bring in Intelligence, which Vulgars out of ignorance Mistake, for falling in a Trance.

**b.** A person not reckoned as belonging to good society.

*pl.* 1769 G. Williams in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 364, I have named them those whom you know I most are numerous, but vulgars. 1766 — *Ibid.* II. 32 Lord Lincoln exhibited his person yesterday on the Stein, to the surprize of all the vulgars. 1796 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Pindariana, Ode to Sun* viii, The great retire from routs..And cry, .. 'Vulgars I that never wax-lights handle!' 1823 *Zeluco* I. 339, I think I told you there was quite nothing but vulgars at the two last balls. 1828 *London Lounge. Comp.* III. 147 She associated and assimilated with the very worst in the polar circle of both vulgars.

*sing.* 1769 Lady S. Rumbauer in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 191 A Mr. Drereton (a sad vulgar). 1782 Bourgoyne *Lt. 9th Manor* II. i, It would be as low to accept the challenge of a vulgar as to refuse it to an equal. 1824 C.

Westmacott *Eng. Spa* II 07 The mobbing a *vulgar*, the hooaing a *gent*. All these were among Jekyl's early peculiarities.

3. *The vulgar*, the common people. Also with a. 1590 Spenser *F.* Q. III. xii. 4 To the vulgar beckning with her hand, In signe of silence, as to heare a play. 1591 — *Teares Muses* 194 All places th-y with follie haue possest, And with vaine toyes the vulgare entertaine But me haue banished. 1614 Gorges *Narr.* II. 60 The vulgar most to Pompey bends *Ibid mark*. The vulgar do more affect Pompey then Cæsar 1665 Glanvill *Pl. Van. Dogm.* 57 Which saying holds not only in Morals but in all things else which the Vulgar use to judge in. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 46 This is directly level'd against the gross Idolatry of the Vulgar. 1728 *Genl. Mag.* VIII. 775/1 Here enlightened Horn is turn'd towards the Horizon, or, as the Vulgar speak, The Moon lies on her Back. 1783 Hailes *Antiq. Chr. Ch.* vi. 182 *note*, The heathen vulgar might have inferred the likelihood of an approaching apotheosis. 1827 Hallam *Const Hist.* ii. (1876) I. 86 The mysteriousness of an unknown dialect served to impose on the vulgar. 1848 Scott *E. M. Perth* Introd , We talk of a credulous vulgar, without always recollecting [etc ] 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* ix. vii. IV. 126 Nor was this the suspicion of the vulgar alone; it seems to have been shared by the clergy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 824 The growths .. render the patient a remarkable and hideous object, exhibited for gain to the gaze of the vulgar.

*transf* 1697 Dryden *Æneid* I 266 The Leaders [of the herd] first He laid along, and then the Vulgar pierc'd.

†b. A common sort or class (*of* persons). *Obs.*—1

1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 262 There is a vulgar also of teachers, who are blindly by whom they fancy led, as they lead the people.

†4. *pl.* Sentences or passages in English to be translated into Latin as a school exercise. *Obs.*

1520 Whittinton *Vulg* (1527) 25 b, Hast thou wryten all the vulgares that our master hath given vnto a this morninge. 1545-7 in *Archæologia* (1857) XXXIV. 47 I shall so forme.. hath throwgh the weke overnyght a verbe set up to be exmynyed in the mornyng, and maikth vulgares upon yt. 1580 J. M. in *Baret's Alv.* 10 Rolvaiv, A booke for such that can perause it right, Of profite great, when they their Vulgare write. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* 148, I haue giuen them vulgars, or Englishes, such as I haue deuised, to be made in Latine.

†b. A vernacular or common expression. *Obs.*

1532 *Gower's Conf.* Ep. Ded. 22 b, For the plenty of englyshe wordes and vulgares, whiche make englyshe boystous and vulgare no wyse barbarous because of their antiquyte, wyll throwe asyde.

†5. = Vulgate *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.* (Cf. Vulgar *a.* 2 b.)

1613 Day *Festivals* v. (1611) 110 So the Vulgar Poet read it to, Nisi baptisentur, etc. 1649 Trap *Comm. Rom.* ix. 23 God calls the Church, the beloved of his soul, or (as the Septuagint and Vulgar reade it) his beloved soule. 1659 Baker *Refl. Learn.* 201 I should be as glad, and would go as far to meet with the Ancient Vulgar of the New Testament, as any Man should do[ ] but [etc ] *Ibid.* 202 St. Jerome a manner of the Ancient Vulgar, as he tells us by comparing and reducing it to the Greek Original. 1712 *G Hickes 2 two Treat Chr Priesth* (1847) II. 62 Which expression is also wanting both in the original and in our translation, and in the vulgar.

†6. Common or mean character. *Obs.*—1

1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* I. 17 The Gentleman told his bed fellow, that his Clerk and Countenance, wherein he perceived nothing of Vulgar, was the charm that had won his affection.

**Vulgar** (*vu*lgăr), *a.* Also 4–6 **vulgare**, 6 *Sc.* **vlgare, wlgair -ar**; **vulgar, wulgar, voulgor, y vulgor.** [ad. L. *vulgār-is*, f. *vulg-us* the common people. Cf. OF. and F. *vulgaire*, Sp. and Pg. *vulgar*. It. *volgare*.]

I. 1. Employed in common or ordinary reckoning of time, distance, etc.; esp., in later use, *vulgar era*, the ordinary Christian era

c 1390 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. 19 Thy day vulgare, that is to seyne, from sprung of the day vn-to verey nyht. *Ibid.*, I be same manere maistow workes to knowe the quantite of the vulgar nyht. 1617 Morveon *Itin.* I. 192 The way from Rome to Sienna is thus vsually noted in all nineteene mile miles. I will follow my Italian consorts..who doe not much differ from this vulgar number of miles. 1649 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* (1655) 1. 1/2 [I] confound the vulgar Epocha of the Olympiads with the vulgar 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iii § 1 The vulgar account of years from the beginning of the world. 1728 Morgan *Moh. Chronol. Ch. of N. T.* I. i. 2 The vulgar era, by which we now compute the years from his incarnation. *a* 1797 Newton *Chronol Amended* I. (1728) 80 Seven hundred forty and seven years before the Vulgar Æra of Christ. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* III. xiv. 137 The vulgar Christian æera answers the same purpose as effectually. 1839 Yonge *Hist. Ch.* (1847) App 1 579 The fifty-seventh year of the vulgar computation. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 345 Owing to constant migrations .through-out the fourth and fifth centuries of the vulgar era.

b. *Vulgar fraction*: see Fraction *sb.* 5 B.

1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 279 Simple Cossecal Fractions.. are expressed like Vulgar Fractions. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Vulgar Fractions*, the ordinary Sort of Fractions, distinguished from Decimal Fractions. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Fraction*, Vulgar Fractions, called also Simple Fractions, are always expressed by two Numbers, the one wrote over the other, with a line between them. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1806) I. 51 Of Vulgar Fractions. 1880 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 441/2 Rules are also given for the reduction of vulgar to decimal fractions by a simple proportion. 1873 J. Hamblin Smith *Arith.* (ed. 6) 81 A Vulgar Fraction may be converted into a Decimal Fraction.

†c. *Vulgar arithmetic*, ordinary arithmetic as opposed to decimal. *Obs. rare*.

1683 N. Bacon (*title*), Vulgar Arithmetique, explaining the Secrets of that Art. 1694 J. Salder (*title*), The Tradesman's Help. An Introducton to Arithmetick both Vulgar, Decimal, and Instrumental. *c* 1708 De Foe *Compl. Eng. Gent.* (1890) 220 How many noble artists have we in the greatest and best branches of the Mathematicks (viz.), in Astronomy, in Geometry, in Arithmetick as well vulgar as decimal.

2. In common or general use; common, customary, or ordinary, as a matter of use or practice.

c 1450 Lydg. *Mem. Pawnes* (Percy Soc.) 87 Egipt fonde a diversite Of sundry letters parted in tweyne; First to praise, and to the comunale Vulgar letteres he dide also ordeyne. 1532 Huloet, Vulgar, or more vsed, *vulgatus*. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* I. xxvii. (1597) 33 b, As minutes, seconds, thirds, fourthes, .marked with streekes and vulgare numbers. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv § 2 Were neither omit it nor altogether make it so vulgar as the custome heretofore hath bene. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. i. 40, I could produce many examples euen to this day; were not the vse hereof so vulgar. 1659 H. Thorndike *Il Ia* (1846) II. 458 The solemn times..cannot..have been settled till Christianity was grown very vulgar. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 175 Another thing very ordinary in the vulgar Method of Grammar-Schools there is, of which I see no Use at all. 1729 T. Innes *Anc. Inhab. N. Brit.* I. 18 So the vulgar version of Ziphilin's abridgment of Dio hath it. 1795 Burke *Th Scarcity* Wks. 1842 II. 210 Compelling us to diminish the quantity of labour which in the vulgar course we actually employ. 1806 Diarist (*Pr. Grey*) 12 Jan., It is all as often about our enemies, at least those who have any; which, in my opinion, is the vulgarest of all possessions.

†b. Used to designate the Vulgate version of the Bible. *Obs.* (Cf. Vulgar *sb.* 5.)

1526 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 46 Tyndale].. minustreth a shrewd occasion .by vntrywly translating this sentence *et nuciuqua seminum dat deus suum or proprium corpus* (as hathe the vulgare texte) 1548 Cranmer *Catech.* (1844) 18 *Articles* 1583 Fulke *Def. Tr. Script* xvii. 647 That S. Hieronyme was author of the vulgar Latine interpretation, of the olde Testament. 1758 Simon *Crit. Hist. Vers. N. T.* I. 80 So they are expressed in the vulgar Edition, out of the Hebrew Original, which is lost. 1674 Owen *Holy Spirit* I. iv. § 6 71 the Text Latine in this Place renders the Word by *Ornatus sumtus* — 1677 — *Justif.* IV. 285 All which things prefer the Complutensian, Syriack, and Arabick, before the vulgar Latine, in this place 1711 *Lindisfarne Gospels Rom Monks* (ed 3) 51 Contrary to the express words of the Vulgar Translation. 1823 A. Small *Rom. Antiq. Fife* v. 109 the vulgar Latin translation.

3. Of language or speech: Commonly or customarily used by the people of a country; ordinary, vernacular.

In common use *c* 1595–1650; now *arch.*

*a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* I. xvii 16 Whiche felde or Countre where y^e vulgare speche was fayre is to this daye called Glaimorgan, whiche is to meane in our vulgare tunge, Morgan bys lande 1530 Palsgr. 37 Suche as writte farcin & counterfait their vulgare speache. 1585 J. Washington *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xix. 133 b, They celebrate their office .. in the Armenian tongue, [and] the standers by answere them in the same vulgar. 1610 *Rec. Burgh Aberdeen* (1871) I. 238 *Hypercritica* iv § 2 Mr. Hooke's Preface to his Books of Ecclesiastical Policy is a singular and choice Parcel of our vulgar Language. 1653 W. Rawley *Advice of Bacon* 84 To treat of this noble Art..in a plain manner, and our vulgar tongue. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 141 P 11 To be instructed in their Duties in the known or vulgar Tongue. 1727 J. Clark *Sermons* III. 206 Words of the Text..are not vulgar. There were .more good, and more bad Books printed and published in the English Tongue, than in all the vulgar Languages. 1811 Lee & Kirby *Wint. Journ. Lond.* I. 191 Vis. IV. 185 They read the Gospels, they preached, and they prayed in the vulgar tongue. 1873 Hale *In his Name* II. 8 Those of Paul or Matthew or Luke which had been translated into the vulgar language.

b. Used to qualify the name of the language.

1483 Caxton *Knt. de la Tour* Prol , To translate & reduce this said book out of French into our vulgar English. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VI. xii. 530 They are much addicted to Poetrie, and make long Poems of their warres, hunting, &c. in their vulgar Arabicke. 1689 Prideaux *Connect.* II. 1 Bonnets. 1689 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 102 Though several of them understand Italian, yet their usual Language is their vulgar Greek, which they call *Romaic*, but the literal Greek continues. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 404 Which we are sure .continued to be pure and Vulgar Syriac for 1000 Years. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Pope* 21 Aug., Your vulgar Turk is very different from what is spoken at court. 1766 *Compl. Farmer s.v. Surveying* 2 6/1 This in vulgar English may be called a corner. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1878) 590 We scarcely ascertain in what degree the vulgar Latin differed from that of Cicero or Seneca. *a* 1873 Deutsch *Lit. Rem* (1874) 358 The Samaritan Dialect, a mixture of vulgar Hebrew and Aramean.

†c. In predicative use; also const. *to. Obs.*

1585 Jewel *Reply Harding* (1611) 383 Hebrew, Greek, and Latine, were once vulgar vnto vs Englishmen. Those three peoples, so now to none be they natiue, and vulgar. 1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 2 The Greek tongue.. although it belonged originally to Hellas alone, yet in time it became vulgar to these also. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* I. § 4. 3 After the Captivity the pure Hebrew ceased to be Vulgar, remaining only amongst learned men. 1699 T. Baker *Refl. Learn.* 11. 13 The Greek Tongue had the same Fortune with the Latine, tho it continu'd vulgar longer. 1712 Swift *Let. Eng Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. 1. 183 Neither was that [tr. Ital.] language ever so vulgar in Britain, as it is known to have been in Gaul and Spain.

4. †a. Written or spoken in, translated into, the usual language of a country. *Obs.*

1523 Douglas *Æneid* I. Prol. 498 Thair may be na comparr betwixt his verss and my style vulgar *Ibid., Ane Exclamatioun* 37 Go, wilgar Virgill, to suery churlich wycht Say, I wyow thou art translaiit rycht. 1556 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* Contents, With sundry..newe demonstrations not Written before in any vulgare woorke. 1599 G. Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 215 They have called all vulgar Bibles straightly in againe. 1627 Morveon *Itin.* III. 30, I had some skill in that Language, especially for vulgar speeches. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 79 Never learning anything but reading and writing, and certain vulgar prayers.

b. Of words or names: Employed in ordinary speech; common, familiar.

1676 Hobbes *Iliad* Pref (1686) 1 Forein words, till by long use they become vulgar, are unjustkelligible to them. 1778 Sir D. Dalrymple *Ann. Scot.* I. 3 *note*, I suspect that Lulach was rather his vulgar surname, than his name. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* Introd. (1794) 2 These plants had a different vulgar name in every province 1800 Bewick (*title*), Figures of British Land Birds, to which are added, a few Foreign Birds, with their Vulgar and Scientific Names.

5. Common or customary in respect of the use or understanding of language, words, or ideas.

1553 Wilson *Rhet.* 94 I might tary a longe tyme in declaryng the nature of diuerse Schemes, whiche are woordes or sentences altered contrarie to the vulgare custome of our speache without chaungyng their nature at all. 1611 T. Bodley in Macray *Ann. Bodleian* (1880) 410, I make request y^t all my words be construed directly and in vulgar sense. 1634 *Documents agst. Pyrone* (Camden) 48 My expressions too (at least in my intention, opinion, and vulgar acceptation), are innocent and sincere. 1696 Whiston *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 161 By a Month, in the vulgar way of speaking, is meant 30 Days. 1797 [E. Fox *Spir. Magic* I. 1 (1820) 23 The people called magicians, in the present vulgar acceptation of the word. 1799 *Gentleman's Mag.* LXIX. I. iii. (1762) 14 The word Necessity, in its vulgar and common Use, is relative. 1798 Bay *Amer. Law Rep* (1809) I. 85 The vulgar meaning of the words dying without issue. 1802 Burton *Lib Universal* (1803) 3 In the vulgar everyday-world way of putting the idea. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* I. § 39 57 The doctrine of the resurrection in its vulgar acceptation could not be maintained.

6. Commonly current or prevalent, generally or widely disseminated, as a matter of knowledge, assertion, or opinion. *a.* Of sayings, statements, facts, etc.

1569 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 7 Fra this exempil cummis ane vulgare allegia. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lxxviii. 99 Neither was there any thing more vulgare in euery mans mouth. 1607 J. Rogers *39 Art.* Pref. § 26 Bookes, and open speeches made vulgar within a yeare, and liued more after his happy ingresse into this kingdome. 1683 W. Ramsey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 6 But I shall answer in that vulgar and rustical Proverb, as a good Horse that never stumbles 1693 Dryden *Persius' Sat.* I. 244 *note*, The Story is vulgar, that Midas King of Phrygia, was made judge betwixt Apollo and Pan. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthusiasm* 1830 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss* (1852) 72 One vulgar passage from the writings of that philosopher. 1892 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 5/4 It is the usual, however, on the vulgar, as distinct from his professional, fame.

b. Of discourse, rumour, etc.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 100 If by strong hand you offer to breake in, A vulgar comment will be made of it. 1595 *Lucrine* iv. I. 138 What would the common sort report of me, If I forget my love, and cleave to thee? *Loc.* Kings need not feare the vulgar sentences. 1600 — *Sonnets* xxii. Your love and pitie doth th' impression fill, Which vulgar scandall stampt vpon my brow. 1617 Morveon *Itin.* II. 20 Of late (according to vulgar speech) he had displeased the Earle of Essex. 1700 *Lives of Eth. Authors* I. 321 The then vulgar talk was, the Devil came to take away Olive. Cromwell, who then lay on his death-bed. 1818 Shelley *Julian & Mad.* Wks. 1880 I. 80 Believe what I am now saying..Nor dream that I will join the vulgar cry 1855 Macaulay *Hist. I* 129 xiii. IV. 302 They did not join in the vulgar cry against the Dutch.

c. Of knowledge, opinions, notions, etc.

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 210 b, Notwithstandyng the vulgare opinion ..the wisedome of this world is folishnes before God. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Innovations* (1862) 709 To give the reader some knowledge more then is vulgar. *c* 1630 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 125 He was become careless, following in many things the vulgar opinion. 1655 Culpepper, etc. *Riverius* III. 33 That vulgar difficulty which is controverted by almost all Writers. 1701 Swift *Contests Nobles & Comm.* V. This is a truth of vulgar knowledge and observation. 1774 Huttons *Philos. Light*, etc. 127 According to the vulgar notions of things, cold is considered as absolutely subsisting in bodies, in the same manner as heat. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (1796) 219 Taking the merest and vulgarest view of the matter. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. i. v. II. 10 Monachemdasim . a stern negation, of the vulgar Christian worship prevailed among the ruder Arab tribes. 1869 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Sprnaus* (1875) 375 This mode of interpreting Scripture is fatal to the vulgar use of verbal inspiration.

d. Of errors, prejudices, etc.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd & Commw.* 346 This is but a vulgar errour. 1670 W. Prawich *Delph* (Camden) 92 A vulgar mistake of the death of the Duke of Lorraine Instead of that of the Great Duke of Florence. 1691 T. Hales] *Acc New Invent.* p xxiii, The sole conceit of the Fish Remora, which men notwithstanding hath made a vulgar one. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* I. i. 20 May natural judgement not be a vulgar error? 1798 Fermian *Illustr. Sterne* vi. 165 Mr. Shandy has passed a similar condemnation on some English names, to which vulgar prejudices are attached 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 3 One of the old vulgar superstitions in Spain. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 309, I satisfied myself that it was a vulgar prejudice to regard the liver of the bear as poisonous. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* I. v. 104 One of the vulgarest fallacies of statecraft.

†7. Of common occurrence; not rare. *Obs.*

1697 Totteil *Pourcf. Beauties* 111 Other things I omit concerning this beast (the cony), because as it is vulgar, the benefits thereof are commonly known. 1697 S. Purchas *Pol. Hyperphys.* 7 The Chameleon, a vile (and in many Countries a Vulgar) Creature.

8. Of or pertaining to the common people.

1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV*, i iii. 90 An habitation giddy and unsure Hath he that buildeth on the vulgar heart. 1605 *1st Pt. Jerousme* 436. I will buze Andreas landing, Which, once but creept into the vulgar mouthes, is harryed hece and there, and swome for truth. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* i. 13 Those (apples) of Hesperides, golden, and out of the vulgar reach. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. v. 17 Though a weakness of the Intellect, and most discoverable in vulgar heads, yet hath it sometime fallen upon wiser brains. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* xii 5 The more he was with vulgar hate oppressed, The more his fury boiled within his breast 1783 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III*, vi (1793) II. 132 A veil of pomp concealed from the vulgar eye the symptoms of its decay. 1798 Br. Watson *Apol. Bible* 209 You have merely housed yourself in exposing to vulgar contempt a few unsightly shrubs. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* iii xxvi, Grey Superstition's whisper dread Durst not avert the spoke to vulgar tread. *Ibid* v xxi. With like acclaim, the vulgar throat Strain'd for King James their morning note 1835 *Penny Cyclop.* II. 561 He was in a coop protected from the vulgar gaze, by a covering of green baize 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* xxvii 237 All observations negative the idea that there can be any such influence as the vulgar mind attributes to the moon.

**II. 9.** Of persons: Belonging to the ordinary or common class in the community; not distinguished or marked off from this in any way; plebeian:

**a.** With collective terms, as *people, sort.*

1530 Palsgr. 369 *Sophisme, ortiaude, and mocquerie*, he never used of the vulgare people. 1725 Watson *Logicke* A 3 b, Diuerse learned men .haue with most earnest trauaile made suery of them familiar to their vulgare people 1736 Fleming *Fossil Bod.* 298 In circumstances common to people, he spared no coloured pretence to allure the vulgar sort. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Jer.* xxvi 23 He cast forth his carcasse in the sepulchre of the vulgare people 1611 Cotgr. Lithoon *Fram.* i. 26 They of the vulgar kind are both ignorant, sluttish and greedy. 1667 Milton *Eikon* 13 The last Will of Cæsar being read to the vulgar people, by whom he had bequeath'd them, wrought much in that Vulgar audience to the avenging of his death. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr* I 54 Instead of numerous Guards, and triumphal Chariots, and costly Preparations, we find only the Attendance of a Vulgar and despised Crowd 1718 Prior *Solomon* i. 882 One [elder], in whom an outward Mien appear'd, Add Turn superior to the vulgar Herd 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dramm. Lit.* 12 He [Shakspeare] was not something sacred and aloof from the vulgar herd of men 1821 Byron *Sardan* v i, 'Tis easy to touch or appal The vulgar mass which moulds a horde of slaves.

**b.** With individual designations (in *sing.* or *pl.*).

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv iv 122 The vulgare Arabians doe call it Schiara. 1 *Hen. VI*, i. v. 17 Rather let my head Stoope to the blocke, Than stand vncoun'd to the Vulgar Groom 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 188 If any vulgar Indian be wrong'd herein, they presently shake and vibrate their swords vpon their Shields, crying aloud Nayroe. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xxi 12 Thou seest with what exact Obedience all My vulgar Subjects on their shoulders take My Mayesties yokes. 1709 Steele *Tatler*, *Rep* I. xxxix. 406 This letter may deserve an English translation of it, for the sake of vulgar readers. 1765 H. Walpole *Otranto* i, Secure of the vulgar spectators had run to the great church which stood near the cystle and came back open-mouthed 1779 Johnson *L. P.*, *Milton* Wks II. 168 The vulgar Inhabitants of Pond'æmonium, being mere corporeal spirits, are at large in a limited space 1798 S. & Hy Lee *Canterb T.* II 300 Credulity is the characteristic of the vulgar Italians 1818 Keats *Q. Mab* v 140 How many a vulgar Cato has compelled His energies To mould a pin, or fabricate a nail!

*Transf.* 1667 Milton *P. L.* iii 577 Where the great Luminaire Aloof the vulgar Constellations thick . Dispenses Light from farr.

**† c.** Holding an ordinary place in a certain class; esp. of soldiers. *Obs.*

1609-18 Bacon *Ess.*, *Mar. & Single Life* (Arb) 268 Despising of Marriage amongest the Turkes, maketh the vulgar Souldiour more base. 1631 Howell *Venice* 129 The greatest prisoners were Achmet and Cachoune, with thirty thousand vulgar soldiers 1704 Chalmers *Buddeiman* 90 The magistrates [in 1660] steadily prohibited the vulgar schoolmasters from teaching Latin

**† d.** *The vulgar world*, the world at large. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* A 4 My three Voyages, which are now layd open to the Vulgar World.

**10.** Of the common or usual kind; of an ordinary commonplace character; exhibiting no special or distinguishing quality: As. Of material things.

1588 Edem *Decades* (Arb) 70 Hauinge all other of their vulgare cottages placed abowte the same. *Ibid* (Arb) 159 Of this he made the more vulgar or common bread. 1601 Shake. *Hum.* i. ii. 99 But what we know must be, and is as common As any the most vulgar thing to sence, Why should we . take it to heart? 1617 Moryson *Itin* III. 63 Cooper metaull, adorned with vulgar precious stones. 1656 Beale *Heref Orchards* (1657) 16 That the settings might gather root as well in that vulgar ground, as also in the finer mould. 1669 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) *403* Take the vulgar Flegm, then the volatile Spirit; lastly, the Oil, or vulgar Spirit. 1704 Berkeley *Siris* § 20 The vulgar tar, which cheapness and plenty may have rendered contemptible, appears to be an excellent balsam. 1776 *Med. Obs & Inq* (1784) VI. i. 24 Punch, made with a maceration of black currants in our vulgar corn spirit, is a liquor that agrees remarkably well with him.

**† b.** Of plants, animals, etc. *Obs.*

*c* 1586 Cyres Pembroke *Pr* (1823) civ. vi, The vulgar grasse, whereof the beast is fame, I he rarer herb man for him self hath chose 1607 Topsell *Fours. Beasts* 731 A vulgar weasell being kept very old and drunke in Wine, to the quantity of two drams, is accounted a present remedy against the venome or stings of serpents. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 543, I mean not those vulgar birds which in other places are highly esteemed. 1665-76 Ray *Flora* (ed. 3) 27 The other sorts, you will find, among Greens more vulgar. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1684) 62 Bellonius, observed not the vulgar Oak in those parts. 1782-3 W. F. Martyn *Gerg Mag.* 704 Those of an inferior rank make use of the foliage of some more vulgar tree 1803 G. Ellis *Lett. to Scott* 3 Oct , We possess a vulgar dog (a pointer), to whom it is intended to commit the charge of our house during our absence

**c.** Of qualities, actions, etc.

1559 Knox *Treat Scharf Appr* (Arb) 60 Neyther yit wold I that ye should esteam that mercy to be vulgar and common which ye have receaued. 1582 Bonn *Arts Navig Pref.*, I thynke that he was a man of no vulgare iudgement. 1596 *Edward III*, ii. ii. 314 These are the vulgar tenders of false men, That neuer pay the duetie of their words. 1602 *Let Cromwell* iii iii. 9 I hou art a man differing from vulgar forms. 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 144 Many Lawes were made, of a more private and vulgar nature then ought to detaine the Reader of an Historie. 1649 F. Roberts *Clavis Bibl* 512 Here are not vulgar but extraordinary Histories 1716 Gay *Irvnia* ii 302 Yet let me not descend to trivial song, Nor vulgar Circumstance my verse prolong. 1754 Gray *Progr Poesy* 120 Yet shall he mount, and keep his distant way Beyond the limits of a vulgar fate. 1795 Burke *Th Sincerity* Wks 1842 II. 448 Philosophical happiness is to vulgar minds Cent'ar vulgar happiness is to want much, and to enjoy much. 1848 W. K. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist Pan V.* I. 366 That is assuredly a very vulgar policy, and one which the sense of the most ordinary capacities. 1867 Maurice *Patriarchs & Lang* v. (1877) 104 A history which exhibits God as the actual personal Being, without whom the whole course affairs of men are unintelligible and anomalous

**† d.** Of rank. *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref* *ij, Vulgar Practisers haue Num bers, otherwise, in sundry Considerations 1609 Bible (Douay) *2 Esdras* (*Apocr.*) xvi 68 I present to the vulgar readers certaine cleare and ordinarie rules, by which the learned Diuines do reconcile such apparent contradictions 1664 Power *Exp. Philos* 1 43 We need not be much worried with the Vulgar Philosophers, for whose understandings our body should be made of so durty Materials. 1697 Dryden tr *Virg Georg.* iv. 653 No vulgar god Pursues thy crimes, nor such a Saviour *Lett.* (1811) IV. 290 Read also *Anc Metaph IV Del* I. Pref, p vi, These considerations made me resolve to leave to others the invidious task of reforming our vulgr Histories. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 124 The most vulgar slave can'd sickd by his labour an obolus a day, over and above his maintenance. 1794 Burke *Let to Dk Portland* (1844) I 164 It will not do for you to be vulgar, commonplace mistakers.

**11.** Of an ordinary unartificial type; not refined or advanced beyond the common.

1580 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* S's Wks. (1912) 631 Is it is the vulgarest and naturall Mother Prosodye, that alone worketh the feate 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & D ath* (1651) 1 Omit for the present, all Astrological Observations Observe the vulgar and ordinary Courses of Physicians, as whether they were born by Night or by Day. 1671 J. Webste *Metallogr* 1 2 As also the whole Band of the Chymists, both mystical and vulgar, do sufficiently testifie 1725 Watts *Logic* 1 iii § 4 Ideas are either vulgar or learned. A vulgar Idea represents to us the most obvious and usual Properties that are contained in the Nature of them. 1748 Harte *Essays on Man* 1 i § 1 35 Medicinal Bodies appear, from Observations both philosophical and vulgar, to be endued with more active Properties than common Aliments

**† b.** Adapted to ordinary minds or comprehension. *Obs.*

1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* 1 § 45 Unspeak'd mysteries in the Scripture, which are not contained in the vulgar and illustrative way 1651 Hobbes *Gov t. & Soc* Ep. Ded., If it be sound, if it be useful, if it be vulgar I humbly offer it to your Lordship's judging 1 Smith *Ser Disc* vi 183 Accommodate to the weakest sort of men in the most vulgar sort of dialect.

**† 12.** Common in respect of use or association. *Obs. rare.*

1595 Shake *John* ii. 387 Ide pluck incessantly vpon these Ladies, Iustice till vniuersall desolation. Leaue them as vnlest as the vulgar ayre. 1602—*Ham.* i. iv 61 Be thou familiar: but by no meanes vulgar

**13.** Having a common and offensively mean character; coarsely commonplace; lacking in refinement or good taste; uncultured, ill-bred

**a.** Of actions, manners, features, etc.

1643 J. M. *Sov Salve* 13 Are not such instances [of time serving] as vulgar as the spunis that furnish us with them? 1697 Clarendon *Hist. Reb* II 186 To let single and vulgar men who were transported with those vulgar and vile Considerations 1699 Pompey *Past. I.* 12. 136 Nay, all affronts so unlooked-for, and so vulgar 1711 Addison *Spect* No 131 ¶ 2 A present 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sens.* xxi, The vulgar freedom and folly of the eldest left her no recommendation 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 201 So, the word *vulgar* now implies something base and groveling in actions 1846 Mrs A Marsh *Father Darcy* II i. 17 There is something very coarse and vulgar in their countenances *Ibid* II iv 90 His features were vulgar, his hair black and coarse. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* I 7 This would be a low, paltry, vulgar way of accounting for his acts 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) III. 60 No vulgar sort of trade which is carried on by lending money.

**b.** Of persons.

1658 Marvell *Growth Popery* 40 The mean malice of the some Vulgar Scribblers, hired by the Conspirators at so much a sheet. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xvii, Miss will think us very vulgar to live in London and never have been to an Opera. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iii. iv. p 77, I see the vulgar dog in an almshouse 1833 Willis *Pencillings I* i 18 A vulgar Marseilles shopkeeper. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* § 88 It is in the blunt hands and the dead hearts, in the dis eased habit, in the hardened conscience, that men become vulgar. 1882 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* iii, How hot and vulgar she looks with all that colour.

**c.** Of the mind, spirit, etc.

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 225 In wild excess the vulgar breast takes fire, Till, buried in debauch, the bliss expire. 1766 [Amhurst] *Bath Guide* Bl. 4 A Grace, an Air, a Taste refin d, To vulgar Souls unknown. 1809-10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 113 It is so stimulant to the pride of a vulgar mind, to be persuaded that it knows what few others know. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* v, In all business and imposture there is a coarse, vulgar spirit. 1882 Hare *Two Medi* v 188 Executions and death-scenes are great things for vulgar minds.

**d.** Of language, etc.

1728 Gay *Fresics* 187 Let not such vulgar tales debase thy mind 1823 *Southey* (Mann.) *Cose* II Mar. 2/4 To pronounce him a friend to Great Britain, or, in their language of vulgar abuse, a British Tory. 1863 R. Arnold *Ess Crit. Yonhart* 121 *Smugness* is a rather vulgar French word, but, like many other vulgar words, very expressive. 1891 Farrar *Darkn & Dawn* x, They said that—you—were—dare I speak the vulgar word?—a Christian.

**e.** Of material things.

1812 H & J. Smith *Rej Addr* xii 75 I've heard our front that faces Drury Lane Much criticised; they say its vulgar brick work 1819 Chalmers *Astron Disc* ii (1850) 45 While all the vulgar grandeur of other days is mere mouldering in forgetfulness 1903 G Thorne *Lost Cause* iv, A wilderness of mean little houses and vulgar streets

**14.** *Comb.*, as *vulgar-like* adv., *-seasoning*, *-sounding*; *vulgar-minded*, *-spirited*, *-viewed* adjs., *vulgar-wise* adv.; also quasi-*adv.* in † *vulgar phrase*.

1563 Foxe *A. & M* 1050/1 A certayn seuere & graue grace, which I wished oftentymes to haue bene more popular & *vulgarlike in him 1813 Scott *Lay* V. xxxii. What that *vulgar looking fellow said after the funeral 1826 *Remarks Emg. Manr* 37 Not discriminating between real gentlemen who require no such hint, and *vulgar-minded men who do 1846 Hare *Mission Conf* (1850) 398 The vulgarminded in all ages have been incapable of conceiving that a man can be actuated by any but sensational feelings 1869 Geo Eliot in Cross *Life* III 100 The most vulgar minded genius that ever produced a great effect in literature. 1856-9 Soane *Dict Pract Med* 1 676 Good manners unto all degrees Ys mete for to be *vulgar phrase 1854 Whitlock *Footmonia* 321, I am none of those *vulgar-Roasting Gentlemen 1797 Jane Austen *Lett.* (1811) IV 90 Her *vulgar sounding word, beleaguered, once used in the Paradise Lost, offends us continually in this new epic. 1662 Earle *Microcosm.* (Arb) 50 A *vulgar-spirited Man is one of the basest Natures in the World. 1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* vi ¶ 134 The passions, and affections of the Vulgar-spirited 1858 *Meanderings of Mem* I 149 Mrs Fitzherbert was a Catholic 1711 Addison *Spect* No 1 The selfsame tenor. 1828 P. Cunningham *N S Wales* (ed. 3) II. 21 One bard roasting aristocratically upon a wooden spit, and the other, broiling *vulgar-wise, upon the embers.

**Vulgarian** (vʌlgē·rián), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -ian.]

**A.** *adj.* = Vulgar *a.* (in later use in sense 13).

*c* 1650 Denham *To Sir T Mounet* ii, All on a weeping Monday, With a fat vulgarian drest in Scarlet 1711 Addison [on Bologne is gone 1833 *Fraser's Mag* VIII 625 Compare this with the vulgarian twaddle of the old Blackwood 1876 *World* V No 114 3/3 A position in the world 1 opular amusements precisely analogous to the vulgarian paradise known as the music hall

**B** *sb.* A vulgar person; freq , a well to-do or rich person of vulgar manners.

1802 Mar Edgeworth *Belinda* xxvi, The man is married, to some vulgarian, of course 1821 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 66 ( 822) II 106 You are thought little better than a vulgarian. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* v vi, Such a person in the low cr ature—a vulgarian a trade-man's daughter! 1886 *Athenæum* 21 July 93/1 One of the most repulsive vulgarians we have ever met with out of real life.

**† Vulgarily,** *adv. Obs.*—[ f. Vulgar *a.* + -(l)y 2.] Commonly.

1655 Fuller *Hist Camb* 120 Thomas Lord Audley of Walden changed Buckingham, into Magdalen, (vulgarly) Maudlin College.

**Vulgarish,** *a. rare*—1. [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ish 1.] Somewhat vulgar.

1860 Thackeray *Lovel* v, Low, vulgarish sort of man, he was.

**Vulgarism** (vʌ·lgărı·zm). [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ism. Cf. Sp. and Pg. *vulgarismo*, It. *volgarismo.*]

**† 1.** A common or ordinary expression *Obs.*—1

1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 13 An ineffable latitude of significations whose vulgarisms, varied through such multiplicity of senses, are of like note and consequence, that [etc.]

**2.** A vulgar phrase or expression; a colloquialism of a low or unrefined character.

1746 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 28 Mar, The Countess has entertained the town with a vulgarism 1798 I. Temir *Sketches* (ed 7) 43 The Sentiments cannot be expred with too much Plainness and Simplicity provided all Vulgarisms are studiously avoided 1809 *Edinb. Critic* XI. 136 It took him, in a grove vulgarism 1822 Mar. Shelley in Dowden *Shelley* (1887) II 382 We hear that she hads him and his mother (in use a vulgarism) dead of a fire 1879 Green *Short Hist* viii. (1888) 449 The alspaked vulgarisms of the shopkeeper of to-day.

**b.** A popular corruption *of* a name. *rare*—1.

1892 Miss Yonge *Cameos* (1897) I xiii 158 That romantic story, celebrates the Saracen lady by the extraordinary title of Susy Pye, perhaps a vulgarism of her original Eastern name.

**3** The quality or character of being vulgar; vulgarity.

1749 Chesterf. *Lett to Son* 27 Sept, Vulgarism in language is the distinguishing characteristic of bad company and a bad education 1772 Mrs J Reynolds *Dict* iv (1870) 345 Familiar and interesting to all Europe without being degraded by the vulgarism of ordinary life in any country 1788 Miss Hughes *Henry & Isabella* I 168 They were generally written in a style of pretence and sometimes vulgarism. 1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 24 Shall I gulp wine? No, that is vulgarism 1832 *Examiner* 436/6 We are...struck by the absence of vulgarism in the performance.

**b.** An instance of vulgarity; a vulgar action, practice, habit, etc.

1786 G. A. Bellamy *Apology* (ed. 3) IV. 118 The complaints of having nothing to do, is such a vulgarism, that I wonder any persons..can degrade themselves by the acknowledgement. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansfield Park* xlvii, Violins of good and ill breeding, of old vulgarisms and new gentilities were before her. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 54/1 Since the scent of that flower has been voted a vulgarism!

**Vulgarist.** [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ist.] A vulgarian.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 53 In the every-day pursuits of the vulgarist there is a link connecting them.

**Vulgarity** (vʌlgæ·rĭti). [adl. L. (post-classical) *vulgaritas* the mass or multitude (f. *vulgār-is* Vulgar *a.*), or f. Vulgar *a.* + -ity. Cf. F. *vulgarité*, It. *volgarità*, Sp. *vulgaridad*, Pg. *-idade.*]

†**1.** The commonalty; the common people. *Obs.*

1579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 73 The eternall God hath appointed & diuided his Church militant into four parts: first, into principalities; secondly, into nobilities; thirde, into pastoralities; fourthly, into vulgaritie. 1618 J. Lane *Contin. Sper's T.* viii. 330 So these condemned, thence garded weare to dye, both nobility, gentry, and th' vulgaritie. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 421 A proud Nobility, a familiar and manly Gentry, and a ruvidous vulgarity. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch. Pref.* The meere vulgarity (like Swine) are prone to cry out more, for a little bite by the eare, than for all the sordidnesse of sin.

†**b.** The ordinary sort or run (*of* a class, etc.). 1598 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 25 'Tis true by the vulgarity of Philosophers there are many points believed without probation. 1681 Rycaut tr. *Gracian's Critick* 190 His Humour formed of a disagreeing mould and nature to the vulgarity of the World.

†**c.** Used as a mock-title to designate one of the common people. *Obs.*—1

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 21 For true it is, (and I hope shall effect their vulgarities) if I say they are daily mocked into errour.

†**2.** General use; common diffusion. *Obs. rare.*

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 33 It may well seem that the Roman tongue became not the vulgar language in any of these parts of the empire, which yet are specially instanced, for the large vulgarity of it. c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 387 The Latin is primitive Roman tongue, & though living yet in the Schools,..may be said to be defunct in point of vulgarity, any time these 1000 years passed.

†**3.** The quality of being usual, ordinary, or commonplace; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 12 Although their condition and fortunes may place them many Spheares above the multitude, yet are they still within the line of vulgarity. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulgarity*, the common manner or fashion of the vulgar people. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 108 In these Vulgarities we may..trace out the cause and nature of Light, as in Jewels of greatest value. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 24 (R.), was answer'd that he never differ'd any thing in the Morrow, or some such thing to the same learned purpose of Dissenting Sermons, which are often full of such Unscholar-like Vulgarities.

**4.** The quality of being vulgar, unrefined, or coarse; an instance of this.

a 1774 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 281 It seems too narrow a vulgarity in those who value themselves upon being raised above the vulgar, to despise every old woman..because she does not understand Latin, and has no interest in the county. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* xlvii. (1819) I. 357 Verses.. now stimied for that antiquated simplicity, which once obtained the name of coarseness and vulgarity. 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* x. (1873) 92 The auditor..compares incipient grandeur with final vulgarity. 1833 Chevreuse *Table-t.* 90 Jan., The ignorant zealotry and awful vulgarity of the leaders of the day! 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. vii. § 23 We may conclude that vulgarity consists in a deadness of the heart and body, resulting from prolonged, and especially from inherited conditions of 'degeneracy'. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 260 Our imagination of him has dwelt securely in ideal remoteness from the vulgarities of life.

**Vulgarization** (vʌlgărəizā·ʃən). [See next and -ation. So F. *vulgarisation*, Sp. *-izacion*, Pg. *-ização*, It. *volgarizzazione.*]

**1.** The action of making usual or common; the process of rendering familiar or popular; general dissemination.

1856 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Vulgarisation*, a making common or vulgar. 1867 in *Spirit Pub. Trnls.* XI. 43 She has raised a barrier against the vulgarization of the bump, which cannot be broken down, either by love or money. 1869 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 148/1 Professional exclusiveness for centuries opposed the vulgarization of such knowledge. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* iii. vi. 101 The vulgarization of rudiments is not the advancement of Knowledge.

**2.** The action or process of rendering coarse or unrefined.

1819 W. S. Ross *Lett.* I. 205 From the first appearance of this race..down to their vulgarization under Leopold,..we may remark this preponderating feature. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 12 George Sand has not only consented to the vulgarization of her thoroughly beautiful novel, she has actually lent a hand to the gentleman who has vulgarized it. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 234 There is no fear that the steam-engines will bring about that hopeless vulgarization of the country which usually follows in its track.

**Vulgarize** (vʌlgăraiz), *v.* [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ize, perh. after med.L. *vulgarizare* (1305), F. *vulgariser* (16th cent. and mod.), Sp. *vulgarizar*, Pg. *-izar*, It. *volgarizzare.*]

**1.** *intr.* To act in a vulgar manner; to become vulgar.

1665 Daniel *Rdid. Lady Anne Clifford* vi, Honour..cannot stray and breake abroade Into the private ways of carelessnesse; Nor ever may descend to vulgarize, Or be below the sphere of her abode. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Chor.* (1850) 96 A man having too much regard for his complexion to intrigue upon the wine-cellar, and too much interest in his slimness to vulgarise on ale.

**2.** *trans.* To make common or popular; to reduce to the level of something usual or ordinary.

1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Monitch Syst.* Introd. 6 To Vulgarize and to Allegorize the Scripture, are equally of evil Consequence to Religion. 1786 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* xiii. Wks. 1797 I. 273 To find proper foundations for science is neither to narrow or to vulgarise it. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 145 The great bards..Men who have vulgarized sublimity, And brought up truth for the nations. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 154 The invention of printing, without yet vulgarizing letters, had made the thought and history of the entire past contemporaneous. 1872 Browning *Fifine Fair*, Change yourself, dissimulate the thought And vulgarize the word.

**3.** To make vulgar or commonplace; to debase, degrade.

1756 Mrs. F. Brooke *Old Maid* No. 30. 262 Its being the religion of the whole nation has made it too common, and, if I may be allowed the expression, vulgarized it. a 1776 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 29 It would vilify, and, I may say, vulgarize the Almighty, to imagine Him..engaged among the trifling scenes that occupy our notice. 1800 Hazlitt *Table-t.* (1824) II. 1. 7 They vulgarise and degrade whatever they touch, corrupting or soured in the mind. 1814 V. Knox *Winter Even.* xxxvii. Wks 1824 II. 478 Learning sullied with pedantry, exhortation vulgarized by low wit. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *s.v.*, Many words are obsolete as if all that noise was vulgarizing the poet. 1872 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) ii. 64 Some..peak, not yet vulgarised by associations with guides and picnics.

**b.** *absol.* To debase or produce vulgarity.

1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* vi, Family jarring vulgarises—family union elevates.

Hence **Vulgarized** *ppl. a.*; **Vulgarizer**, one who vulgarizes or makes popular; **Vulgarizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1847 De Quincey in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) I. xv. 349 The absolute realities of "vulgarised life as it exists in obedient submission to our countrymen. 1851 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 568/2 The vulgarized phrase, a gentleman. 1859 *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 105/3 He [Albert Smith] was the Vulgarizer of Switzerland. 1871 Mrs. Hemans in Chorley *Mem.* (1836) II. 276 Beaham's clanging was not equal to the instrumental part, but he did not disfigure it by his customary and vulgarizing graces. 1891 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) xii. 286 The eternal mountains..never recall.. the vulgarising association of old days.

**Vulgarly** (vʌlgăli), *adv.* Also 6 **vulgerely** (e, **vulgarlie.** [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ly 2.]

**1.** In common or everyday speech; vernacularly, colloquially: †*fig.* With verbs of speaking, discoursing, etc. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 1513 And, vulgarly to speken of Substaunce, Of Tressour may we bobe with vs lede, Y-nowh to lyue in honour and pleasaunce. 1657 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xi. 17 And he is the best preacher, saith Luther, that delivereth himself vulgarly, plainly, trivially. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* i. 1 Annot. 6 The Hebrew [word]..vulgarly signifies the seats of the consultation.

**b.** With verbs of naming, esp. in *vulgarly called*, *styled*, etc.

1523 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 160 A greate assemblie of estates of France, vulgarlie called a Parliament, wherin the three estates of the Realme were present. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 28 b, The sociate of saynct George vulgarly called the order of the garter. 1585 T. Washington *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. 4 The mount Rhodope vulgarly called the mountes of siluer. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 50 The chiefest, is called Tencin, but they are vulgarly called the Iles of Diomedes. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxviii. 108 That [river]..enters into the sea in the Empire of Nanquin, vulgarly called Siam. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 331/2 For the Pitchfork (or Pikel, which we vulgarly call it) it is an Instrument much used in Husbandry for their Loading and Stacking of Hay and Corn. a 1718 Penn *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 28 The Fourth Day of the Week vulgarly called Sunday. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. iv, The chandler's shop, the known seat of all the news, or as it is vulgarly called, the Exchange. 1783 Blagden in *Phil. Trans.* I. 589 The parsonage house, vulgarly called the vicarage house, stood about the middle of the island. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 406 He was what is vulgarly called a disinterested man. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 This original factory and staple of the German merchants is vulgarly called "The Stalhof"..still stands on the banks of the Thames. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 95 Many of the species..are here known as fire-flies, or, more vulgarly, lightning-bugs.

**2.** Among or by the people generally; commonly or ordinarily: a. As a matter of knowledge, belief, etc.

1597 *Twelve Months May & June* 59 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 132 Bye wagesty..Known is in euery realme vulgarly To be honour. 1599 Hanmer *Ancient Chron. Ireland* (Camden) II. 273 Which I purposely auoided, as not so vulgarly familiar. 1622 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvii. (1623) 885 Where the Corps is now laide is not vulgarly knowne. 1812 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* I. 22 What I report thus..is truth, and differeth much from what vulgarly is received. 1832 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 29 Whose luxurious lives are vulgarly promulgat in this..prouerbe. a 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 94 Though they be very different,..yet they are vulgarly mistaken for one and the same thing. 1772 Steele *Spect.* No. 462 P 3 The many good-natured Condescensions of this Prince are vulgarly known. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Bulb*, It is vulgarly considered as a root, and was called so by Botanists till Linnæus corrected the error. 1869 Mozley *Miracles* II. 42 The inductive principle is only this unreasoning impulse applied to a scientifically ascertained fact, instead of to a vulgarly ascertained fact.

**b.** As a matter of use or habit.

1817 Monthly *Mag.* II. 183 They vulgarly eate barth Cakes of Oates, but in Cities haue also wheaten-bread. 1699 Hammond *On Ps.* Annot. 2 Not from any sensual pleasure, such as men vulgarly take in Musick. 1697 Bentley *Phal.* (1699) 142 The middle Verse, as it is vulgarly read, is an instance against me. 1808 A. Knox *Rem.* (1844) I. 81 The dread of Popery and the consequent prejudice against everything vulgarly branded with that stigma. 1841 Emerson *Ess., Over-Soul* (1876) 233 Our religion vulgarly stands on numbers of believers. 1859 Mill *Liberty* I. 73 The tyranny of the majority was at first, and is still vulgarly, held in check.

†**c.** With reference to speech: As a vernacular tongue. *Obs.*

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 8 These were the places, where the Greek tongue was natively and vulgarly spoken. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 116 They speake vulgarly and Maternally here the Hebrew tongue. 1698 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1712) I. 72 The Latin Tongue ceases to be vulgarly spoken in Italy [*sic*] first.

†**3.** Publicly; in the eyes of the world. *Obs. rare.*

1600 B. Jonson *Poetaster* iii. iii, Seeke not to eclipse my reputation thus vulgarly, sir. 1604 Shake. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 160 First for this woman, To iustifie this worthy Noble man, So vulgarly and personally accus'd.

†**4.** a. In a commonplace manner. *Obs.*—1

c 1600 *Timon* iv. ii. (1878) 75 *Cælus.* Doth shee loue mee? *Blar.* I knowe shes dothe, and that not vulgarly.

†**b.** By ordinary arithmetic. *Obs. rare.*

1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4895/4 Each Proposition being wrought Vulgarly, Decimally, and in Fractions. 1714 Ramsbottom *Fractions Anat.* 74 Let us now divide 20 Shillings Vulgarly, and then 6*d.* by 6*d.* Decimally, a Pound the Integer.

**5.** In a vulgar, coarse, or unrefined manner.

1831 Scott *Cl. Rob.* vii, The superstition of the Egyptians —vulgarly gross in its literal meaning...—was disowned by the principles of general toleration. 1842 *Mag. Domestic Economy, Women, & B.* II. x. 232 It is too hard, and bold, and vulgarly pretty. 1882 H. James *Portr. Lady* xxii, He lives on his income, which I suspect of not being vulgarly large.

**Vulgareness.** Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Vulgar *a.* + -ness.]

**1.** = Vulgarity 2 and 3.

1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* 10 At this day, the Greek tongue is very much decayed, not only in the standing the largness, and vulgareness of it, but also in the purenesse and elegancy of the language. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* Pref., And for the vulgareness of them: true Axiomes must be drawne from plain Experience. 1848 Hickman tr. *Contemptingkeyd's*, Rarity, not Vulgarnesse, or Commonnesse.

**2.** = Vulgarity 4.

1632 Rogers *Naaman* 386 All such indecency and vulgareness of carriage. 1794 Mathias *Pursuits* (1798) 144 Adapting the manner of the common People. 1729 *Compl. Lett.-writer* (ed. 6) 206 First come, first serve; I detest such vulgarness. 1796 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 160 Alleging that immorality, vulgarness, bombast, and even obscurity, pervaded all my writings.

**Vulgate** (vʌlgĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *vulgāta* (sc. *editio* or *lectio*) and *vulgāta* (sc. *exemplar*), fem. and masc. pa. pple. of *vulgāre*: see next. Cf. (in sense B. 1 b) F. *Vulgate*, It. Sp., Pg. *Vulgata.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** In common use as a version of the Bible (or portion of this); employed or occurring in one of these versions.

Ordinarily limited to the versions specified in B 1, and particularly to St. Jerome's. In various contexts the adj. coalesces with attributive uses of the sb.

1609 Bible (Douay) To Rdr. p. iii b, So that the old Vulgat Latin Edition hath been preferred, and reteined as most authentical above a thousand and three hundered yeares. 1727 Blackwall *Sacred Classics* II. Pref. 16 The Latin vulgate Bible was declar'd authentick and canonical by the council of Trent, A. D. 1546. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v.* M. Simon calls the Greek Version of the Seventy...The antient Vulgate Greek. 1782 V. Knox *Lord's Supper* xvii. Wks. 1824 VII. 423 At this hour it stands so translated in the Vulgate Bible, for ages the only Bible of the people. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* IX. i. (1819) III. 338 The vulgate Latin of the Bible was still more corrupt. 1851 A. Watson in Smith *Dict. Bible* I. 857/2 The Vulgate rendering of Prov. xxvi. 8. 1870 (*title*), The Vulgate New Testament, with the Douay Version of 1582. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Gr. N. T.* Introd. 311 The name Vulgate has long denoted exclusively the Latin Bible as revised by Jerome

c. The usual or received text or version of the Bible or of some portion of this.

1825 F. NOLAN (*title*). An Enquiry into the Integrity of the Greek Vulgate, or Received Text of the New Testament. 1865 *Smith's Concise Dict. Bible* 993 But both the Greek and the Latin Vulgates have been long neglected. 1882 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 809/1 This pre-Lutheran Bible version has been fittingly termed by Gelfcken the 'German Vulgate'. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 824/1 The 20-called Peshîṭa,...the Syriac vulgate.

d. An edition of the Vulgate.

1865 *Smith's Concise Dict. Bible* 994 The splendid pages of the Mazarin Vulgate. *Ibid.* 995 The Sixtine and Clementine Vulgates.

2. The ordinary reading in a text; the ordinary text of a work or author.

1851 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 61 *note*. This is ingenious; but he fails to show that the vulgate is wrong. 1886 LEAF *Iliad* I. Introd. p. xiv, The conclusion is...that the edition of Antimachos was in the main the same as our present vulgate.

3. Common or colloquial speech.

1825 J. E. COOKE *Virginia Comedians* I. xiii. (Cent.), 'Here's a pretty mess', returned the pompous gentleman, descending to the vulgate; 'you threaten me, forsooth!' 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways Lit.* ix. 176 There is always 'a free and easy' vulgate for the street, the market, and the fireside.

†**Vulgate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wigat.** [ad. L. *vulgāt-us*, pa. pple. of *vulgāre* to make public or common; f. *vulgus* the common people.]

1. (See quot. 1656.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. vii. 69 The famous batellis, wigat throw the world or this. 1530 PALSGR. 770/1 This thyng is vulgate nowe howe so ever it happeneth. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Vulgate*, published abroad, commonly used, set out to the use of all men.

2. Rendered common; vulgarized.

1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* I. 127 What delicate elegance he can extract from words the most colloquial and vulgate.

**Vulgate,** *v. rare.* [f. L. *vulgāt-*, ppl. stem of *vulgāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To bring into general circulation. Hence **Vulgated** *ppl. a.*

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 309 Amongst the untruths..few are more detrimental to truth than the epithets vulgated upon Sovereigns. 1857 *Ibid.* III. 90 Amongst the vulgated traditional anecdotes floating about the world.

**Vulgar-ity.** *nonce-wd.* = VULGARITY 3.

1884 J. LACY *Sir H. de Bohun* xxi. I, *Over.* My lord ! No, the word lord is too common ; it tastes of vulgerality. *Aim.* God's so, there's a fine word ! Vulgerality is your own coining, sir! *Over.* Stamped in my own mint, sir.

**Vulgivagant:** see VOLGIVAGANT.

‖ **Vulgo** (vʊ'lgo), *adv.* [L. *vulgō* adv., abl. of *vulgus* the common people.] Commonly, popularly. Also *Comb.*

*a* 1623 BUCK *Rich. III*, v. (1646) 8 The Signiory of Perith, vulgò, Perith in Cumberland. 1804 SYMMONS *Diary* (Camden) 74 Pelym, *vulgo* Pym Church, com. Cornub. 1732 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict., Siliqua, edulis*, C. B. P. The Carob-Tree, or St. John's bread, *vulgo*. [1753 *Lond. Mag.* Sept. 396/2 Hang a small bag on, as big as a crown, Snout it off with a flow'r, *vulgo dict.* a pompoon.] 1872 *North Oxfordsh. Archæol. Soc., Notes Excurs. to Dunkington*, etc., 28 It is called Yard, but that is vulgo, it being Elesford, in correct orthography.

‖ **Vulgus** ¹. [L.] The common people ; the ordinary rack.

*a* 1689 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* Pref. (1690) 2 b, The Fire at London, and Disaster at Chatham, have begotten Opinions in the *Vulgus* of the World to our Prejudice. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. v. § 128 (1740) 304 As for the *Vulgus* of the Faction, we know very well what they was.

**Vulgus** ² (vʊ'lgŭs). [Prob. an alteration of *vulgars*: see VULGAR *sb.* 4.] In some public schools, a short set of Latin verses on a given subject.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iii, The three fell to work with Gradus and Dictionary upon the morning's vulgus. 1870 MANSFIELD *School Life Winchester* 107 We were always excused...Vulgus when the next day was a Saint's-day. 1889 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. v, 118 This was independent of a weekly 'verse task' of greater length, and was called a 'vulgus'.

*attrib.* 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. ii, Tom was the upholder of the traditionary method of vulgus doing. He carefully produced two large vulgus-books, and began diving into them.

**Vull,** southern *ME.* and dial. var. FULL *a.*, etc.

**Vuln** (vʊln), *v.* [Irreg. ad. L. *vulnerire*, f. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound.]

†1. *trans.* To wound. *Obs.*—¹

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Siij, The Lion, who being vulned, taketh such heede, that hee knoweth who first smote him.

2. *Her.* (See quots., and cf. next.)

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. *Vulning*, i.e. wounding, a term applied in Heraldry to the pelican, which is always drawn picking or wounding her breast. 1829 CASSAN *Hist. of Bath & Wells* 67 A Pelican in her Nest vulning herself. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 93 Some writers make a distinction between a Pelican vulning herself, and in her piety.

**Vulned,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. *Her.* Of animals, etc.: Represented as wounded or pierced by a weapon.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 43 b, N. beareth Gules, a Lyon Rampant d'Or, vulned with a darte d'Argent. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xxv. (1611) 275 Hee beareth argent, a fesse Gules betweene three Hearts vulned and distilling drops of blood. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 244/1 The sundry ways that Beasts are besides born in Arms...*Vulned*, wounded, when any part is wounded, or made bloody. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. s.v., A hind's head couped, pierced through the neck with an arrow, vulned proper. 1890 W. D. COOPER *Hist. Winchester* 132 Creed, A halbert erect or, on the point a flying dragon (or wivern) or, without legs, tail nowed sa. bezanée, vulned gu.

†2. *fig.* Of conscience : Wounded. *Obs.*—¹

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] lxiv, 183 Let them that deny the immortality of the Soule, bee immerged in the horrours of a vulned conscience.

**Vulnerability** (vʌlnĕrăbi'lĭti). [f. next + -ITY.] The quality or state of being vulnerable, in various senses.

1808 HAN. MORE *Calebs* ix. I. 108 For fear, however, that your heart of adamant should hold out against all these perilous assaults, its vulnerability was tried in other quarters. 1884 *Reader* 32 Dec. 825/1 Up to the last, however, the self-blinded rulers of China refused to believe in their vulnerability. 1889 REID *Over from the Ship* 21. 253 This report also bears testimony to the vulnerability of the low decks.

b. *spec.* in *Path.* (see quot. 1880).

1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 92 The term *vulnerability* has been, of late, applied to a condition of the system favorable for the morbific operation of any causes, either ordinary or specific. 1892 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 178 A fact which points to the existence of a special vulnerability of this part of the lung itself.

**Vulnerable** (vʊ'lnĕrăb'l), *a.* [ad. late L. *vulnerābilis* wounding, f. *vulnerāre* (see VULN *v.*), but taken passively in accordance with the more usual sense of -ABLE : cf. *invulnerable* and F. *vulnérable*, Sp. *vulnerable*, Pg. *-avel*, It. *-abile.*]

†1. Having power to wound ; wounding. *Obs.*—¹

1609 *Analogye Sir R. Sherley* 13 The male children practise to ride upon greate horses, to throw the Vulnerable and Inevitable darte.

2. That may be wounded ; susceptible of receiving wounds or physical injury.

1699 SHARP *Disc.* v. viii. 11 Let fall thy blade on vulnerable Crests. 1712 *Spectator* No. 415 ¶ 2 Life. 1856 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Vulnerable*, that may be wounded. 1798 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 606 Turn, turn, ye Trojans ! face your Grecian foes. Thrice, like yourselves, are vulnerable flesh, Not adamant or steel. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 217 [Alligators having] plates or scales, said to be impenetrable..except about their heads and just behind their fore legs, where they are vulnerable. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* IX. 211, Thrice through the vulnerable shade The Glendoveer impels the gliding blade, The vulnerable shade flies hissing from the line. 1857 J. G. ROSS tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 150 The vulnerable heel Of dread Æacides.

b. *fig.* Open to attack or injury of a non-physical nature; *esp.*, offering an opening to the attacks of raillery, criticism, calumny, etc.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref., We had further Observed it, to have been the Method of our Modern Atheists, to make their Assaults against Christianity, as thinking that to be the most Vulnerable. 1769 *Junius Lett.* vii. (1788) 59 Reproaches and inquiries have no power to afflict either the man whose character is without spot, or the shameless profligate. It is the middle compound character which alone is vulnerable. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. iii, There, alone, is he vulnerable. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvi, 'How delighted I am,' she said, 'that I have found out where you are vulnerable !' 1883 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Diaries* II. 147 His whole tongue was keen for the really vulnerable gods of Delphi. 1893 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1873) I. i. 4 Modern society, growing more and more vulnerable..., is made to tremble by the mere rumour of an appeal to force.

c. Similarly with *part, point, portion.*

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 357 Yet even calumny is sagacious enough to discover and to attack the most vulnerable part. 1779 JOHNSON *Lives Eng. Poets*, *Addison* (1783) I. 4 Modern society, growing more and more vulnerable..., is made to tremble by the mere rumour of an appeal to force.

c. Similarly with *part, point, portion.*

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 357 Yet even calumny is sagacious enough to discover and to attack the most vulnerable part. 1779 JOHNSON *Lives Eng. Poets*, *Addison* (1783) I. i. 4 Modern society, growing more and more vulnerable..., is made to tremble by the mere rumour of an appeal to force.

3. Of places, etc. : Open to attack or assault by armed forces ; liable to be taken or entered in this way.

1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 104 The immense expence the Spaniards have since been at, to fortify the city on that side, shews it to have been vulnerable then. 1797 ST. VINCENT 16 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) I. 432 *note*, The Town of Santa Cruz in the Island of Tenerife, which, from a variety of intelligence, I conceived was vulnerable. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IV. 321 In the opinion of the Cortes Cadiz is not vulnerable only on the right. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* iii. (1868) I. 65 She felt herself vulnerable in Ireland, and on the Scottish border. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 May 5/1 We should find it easier to hold [Russia] in check in the far East if she had vulnerable possessions nearer home.

b. Similarly with *part, point, side.*

1798 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 8 A vulnerable part of the frontiers of the Company's territory. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* v. 210 Every vulnerable point was guarded. 1852 GALLENGA *Italy* 32 Even within those limits her Lombard subjects had discovered her vulnerable side. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. viii. 277 Charles..was looking for the most vulnerable point at which to strike.

Hence **Vulnerableness** ; **Vulnerably** *adv.*

1797 BAILEY (vol. II), *Vulnerableness*, Capableness of being wounded. 1837 *Foreign Q. Rev.* XIX. 39 We do not think a passage can be quoted to which criticism can be vulnerably attached. 1840 MANNING *Serm.* v. (1848) I. 65 There comes over us what I may call a vulnerableness of mind. 1854 MRS. H. WARD *Marcella* I. 106 The inner vulnerableness, the inner need of her affection and of peace with her.

†**Vulneral,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound.] = VULNERARY *a.*

In the first quot. apparently an intentional distortion of *funeral.*

1589 [LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* E ij, Hee allues one, has a fling at another, a long tale of his talboothe, of a vulnerall sermon, and of a fooles head in souce. 1697 *Physical Dict., Vulneral*, medicines belonging to wounds, viz., plaisters, salves, &c. and inward potions, diet-drinks, &c.

**Vulnerary** (vʊ'lnĕrări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **-arye**, **7 -arie.** [ad. L. *vulnerārius* adj. and sb. (sc. *herba*), f. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound : see -ARY. So F. *vulnéraire* (16th c.), Sp., Pg., It. *vulnerario.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Useful in healing wounds ; having curative properties in respect of external injuries : a. Of applications or potions.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 190/2 Applye thereon a good boneplayster, and let him drinck a vulnerarye potione. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 160 The oile, made of the flours of the wild vine serveth in good stead for vulnerarie salves and plasters. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 77 The same method is observed in Balme, or common vulnerary plasters. 1693-4 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 43 Which did sufficiently denote this Vulnerary Fouder (as it's called in a late Publick Paper) to be Excellent Physick. 1709 *Ibid.* XXVI. 388 A Compress..dipt in a Mixture of four Ounces of Plantain-water, and two Ounces of a Vulnerary Water. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwifry* II. 328 Large tents or dossils dipped in vulnerary balsams. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 378 A species of night-shade, which is made use of..as a vulnerary remedy. 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* 209 They may soon find some advantage in a lotion called Theden's vulnerary wash. 1846 GILLY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 177 Geranium molle and roberti-anum are added to vulnerary potions.

b. Of herbs.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. iv. II. 273 It is..a good vulnerarie herbe besides, and standeth the blood-sheding of wounds. 1688 J. CHILMEAD *Brit. Baccanica* 13 Of the galine vulnerary Plants. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* II. 402 To give a full account of that Vulnerary Root, called *Wichacan.* 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 154 The Flowers are vulnerary : the Seed pectoral. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 47 P 2 The wounded stags of Crete are related by Ælian to have recourse to vulnerary herbs. 1798 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVIII. I. 109/2 Golden Rod ..generally appears among the vulnerary or restorative simples. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxiii, So efficacious were the vulnerary plants and salves with which he was furnished. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 60 Another species of the same genus [Lythrum] is accounted in Mexico astringent and vulnerary.

c. Of qualities.

1766 BERKELEY *Siris* § 61 Turpentines, however famous for their vulnerary and detergent qualities. 1769 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 343 It will be proper to hold medicines, almost continually, in the mouth, of a substringent and vulnerary nature. 1823 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* II. 109 The herb wod, in former times, was famed for its vulnerary virtues. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 654/2 The plant is further credited with the possession of vulnerary and astringent properties.

†2. Skilled in curing wounds. *Obs.*—¹

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIX. I. II. 345 Called he was (by report) The vulnerarie Physician or Chirurgian.

3. Causing a wound or wounds ; wounding. Also *fig.*

1625 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 26, I call it Artificiall, to distinguish it from that which is rash and at aduenture, which Galen calleth Vulnerary Section. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. lvi. 301 The aspect of his eye alone, does sometimes become not only vulnerary, but mortal. 1820 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 35 All those who have been either struck, or struck at, by the instrument thus vulnerary to sentimental feelings.

B. *sb.* I. Any preparation, plant, or drug used in the cure of wounds.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. iv. II. 274 Highly commended by Hicesius a Physician of great name and authoritie, also by Aristogiton, for an excellent vulnerarie. 1689 HOVE *Acc. Cheyne's*, *&c.* 18 Of the most wounds and broken Bones, then you must carry more quantity of Vulneraries. 1713 P. BLAIR *Misc. Observ.* (1718) 109 *Pyrola unif.* is said to be a stringent and a good Vulnerary. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 88 This is the grand Indian vulnerary, for wounds (etc.). 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 477 Externally, they use the fresh leaves as to straiter wounds. As a vulnerary, I can myself affirm, it possesses such powers, that [etc.]. 1826 *Ait Year Round* No. 47. 484 Once upon a time surgeons did not believe that wounds were to be healed properly without vulneraries, balsams, and charpies. 1887 MORRIS *Farmer's Ward. Ap.* xx. 279 The yellow resin found at the roots of old (gamboge) trees is used as a vulnerary and diuretic.

†2. A cure of wounds. *Obs.*—¹

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Vulnerary*, he that healeth wounds, a Chyrurgeon.

†**Vulnerate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *vulnerāt-*, ppl. stem of *vulnerāre* to wound.] *trans.* To wound. Also *Her.* (cf. VULNED *ppl. a.* 1).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 54/1 If any bodye weare vulnerataide in the Eyes, inspargo, and strewe this poulder in his Eyes. 1603 DEKKER *Ieland Gvlls'd* 137 He..loaded my Rapier hands, and in that passade vulnerated my hand thus deepe. 1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 60 For the strongest poyson of Animalls or minerals can but vulnerate the flesh. *a* 1640 ARMOUR *Antiq. Berks.* (1719) I. 145 The Crest is a Stag Couchant, vulnerated through the Neck by a broad Arrow. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 48 So as to thurt the edge of it, and keep it from vulnerating any part of the bladder.

*fig.* 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 10/1 Heal'd in with cares,..Whose piercing pricktes the

minde doe voluntare. *a* 1618 — *Wittes Pilgr.* lxxiv, I can proue Where thou thy Chastitie did'st vulnerate. 1652 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Lania* 104 Without their being vulnerated by the thorns of compassion.

Hence **Vu·lnerated** *ppl. a.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 44/2 We must also harder binde on the vulnerated parte then on any of the adioyning partes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Phisicke* 303/1 When you are...sente for to a vulnerated, and wounded Person. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 208 It is enough for me that *de facto* there is such an entercourse between the Magnetick unguent and the vulnerated body. 1706 C. D'ANVERS *Craftsman* No. 39 (1727) 370 The violent rackings and corrosions of a vulnerated conscience.

**+ Vulnera·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *vulneratio*, n. of action f. *vulnerāre*: see prec. So F. *vulnération*, Sp. *vulneracion*, Pg. *-açaõ.*] The action of wounding; the fact of being wounded.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* c11 b/2 The vulnerations of the bullese, which hath brokene the Legge. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 213/2 If in anye vulnerationes, the membre doe chaunce to wither, applye as then theron a Sparadrape, which must in this sorte be made. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* v. 409 He speaks of the Son of God, which was to be the Son of man, and by our nature liable to vulneration; and withal foretells the piercing of his body. *a* 1662 H. STUBBE *Serm.* (1672) 127 The Son of Man, who alone was liable to Vulneration, and could be pierced.

**Vulnerative,** *a. rare*—1. [f. as VULNERATE *v.* + -IVE.] Causing a wound or wounds.

1818 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXV. 494 With a sort of hedgehog hostility, which points its vulnerative quills in every direction alike.

**Vulnero·se,** *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *vulner-*, *vulnus* wound + -OSE.] Full of wounds.

1721 BAILEY. [Hence in later Dicts.]

**+ Vulni·fic,** *a. Obs.*—0 [ad. L. (poet.) *vulnificus*, f. *vulnus* wound. Cf. OF. *vulnifique* (15th c.).] (See quot.) Also + Vulni·fical. *a. Obs.*

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vulnifical*, which woundeth, or makes wounds. 1721 BAILEY, *Vulnifick*, that maketh or causeth Wounds.

**Vulning** *Her.*: see VULN *v.*

**Vulpanser** (vʌlpæ·nsəɹ). *Ornith.* [mod.L., f. *vulpēs* fox + *anser* goose, after Gr. χηνάλωπηξ.] The sheldrake (*Anas tadorna*). Also *allrih.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Vulpanser*, the Bergander, or Burrow-duck, a Bird of the kind of Geese. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Vulpanser*, in zoology, a name given by some authors to the shell-drake, or burrow-duck. 1839 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* i. 8 2 (ed. 2) 24 Wild and tame fowl abounded; the vulpanser goose of the Nile, bustards, partridges, quails, and wild-geese, frequented the shore of the desert, and the valley of the Nile. 1910 THOMPSON tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* 559 Wind-eggs are laid by a number of birds: as for instance the common hen,...the goose and the vulpanser.

**Vulpecidal,** *-cide, -cidism,* common varr. of VULPICIDAL, etc.

‖ **Vulpecula** (vʌlpe·kiʊlă). *Astr.* [L. *vulpēcula*, dim. of *vulpēs* fox.] A small northern constellation lying between Hercules and Pegasus.

Name fully called *Vulpecula et anser* (fox and goose) or *cum anseri.*

1866 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* 407 Another remarkable example of these optical transformations...is furnished by a nebula situated in the constellation Vulpecula.

**Vulpe·cular,** *a. rare*—0. [f. prec. + -AR.] 'Of or pertaining to a fox; vulpine.'

1884 *Imp. Dict.* (hence in later Dicts.).

**+ Vulpe·oulated,** *pa. pple. Obs.*—1 [f. as prec. + -ATE.] Robbed by a fox.

1671 T. B. *Let. to T. Hyde* 63 The Night before Widdow Wamford was vulpeculated of her brood goose.

**Vu·lpic,** *a. Chem.* [f. L. *vulp-ina* (see def.) + -IC.] *Vulpic acid*, an acid occurring in the lichen *Cetraria vulpina*, and extracted from this or obtained artificially. (Also called *vulpinic acid.*)

1882 MORLEY *Outlines Organic Chem.* 349 Hydric Phenylacetate...obtained...by boiling vulpic acid...with baryta. 1894 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 899/2 Vulpic acid is also formed by dissolving pulvic anhydride in a solution of KOH in MeOH.

**Vulpici·dal,** *a.* Also vulpe-. [f. next + -AL.] Committing or taking part in, connected with, of the nature of, vulpicide.

The common spelling of this and the following words with *-e-* is not justified by analogy.

1826 J. COOK *Fox-hunting* 123 A known vulpicidal character. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* iii, You would be astonished at the immense collection I had of brushes, pads, and chops—a perfect museum—a vulpecidal curiosity. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 25 May 11 If ever the progress of a vulpecidal agriculture should prove fatal to the last of our foxes.

**Vulpicide**[1] (vʌ·lpisəid). Also vulpe-. [f. L. *vulpēs*, *vulpēc* fox + -CIDE 1.] One who kills a fox otherwise than by hunting it with hounds.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 367 Would that all the pheasants of all the Vulpicides...were heaped up on one pile. 1848 *Ibid.* XXII. 23, I mean *man*-kind, always save and excepting vulpecides. 1849 PHILLIPPS-WOLLEY *Sport in Crimea & Caucasus* 43 The absence of fences to make a run interesting, if rare took place in this land of vulpicides. 1867 A. C. SMITH *Birds Wiltshire* 357 Perhaps in the eyes of some as odious an appellation as that of regicide, or even vulpicide.

**Vulpicide**[2]. Also vulpe-. [f. as prec. + -CIDE 2.] The act of killing a fox otherwise than by hunting with hounds.

1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* x. (1877) 245 Vulpicide, committed in defence of property and condemned neither by religion, nor by equity, nor by any law save that of sportsmen. 1888 *Land & Water* 13 Oct. 472/2 Dandie Dinmont doubtless excelled in sportsmanship,...yet his method would be denominated vulpicide in any of the shires to-day.

**Vulpicidism.** Also vulpe-. [f. as VULPICIDE 1 or 2 + -ISM.] The practice of fox-killing.

1865 *Murray's Handbk. Russia*, etc. 44 Vulpicidism is not here considered a crime, and many is the gallant fox who has fallen before the deadly barrel in a battue. 1880 *Yorkshire Post* 24 May, The discovery of a dastardly act of vulpecidism.

**+ Vu·lpinariness.** *Obs.*—0 [f. L. *vulpin-us* VULPINE *a.*] (See quot.) Also + Vu·lpinary *a.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vulpinarinesse*, craftiness, deceipt. 1721 BAILEY, *Vulpinary*, crafty, subtile, wily. 1820 *Edinb. Mag.* Aug. 129 The name by which this vulpinary veteran of the black art was universally known.

**+ Vu·lpinate,** *v. Obs.*—0 [f. as prec.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Vulpinate*, fox-like to deceiue. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vulpinate*, to play the Fox: to deceive with crafty wiles or deceits.

**Vulpine** (vʌ·lpin), *a.* [ad. L. *vulpin-us*, f. *vulpēs* fox + -INE 1. So obs. F. *vulpin* (16th cent.), Sp. *vulpino*, It. *volpino.*]

1. Characteristic of a fox; similar to that of a fox.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. (1.) xii. 34 There is an innocentall prouidence, as well as the slynesse of a vulpine craft. 1848 LYTTON *Pelham* lxix, Round those vulpine retreats was a labyrinthean maze of wrinkles, vulgarly called crows feet. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. 12 A very close vulpine nature, that, we all were, may succeed better in deceit. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 146/1 Men of business glide about in glossy black cloth, with vulpine features, and hands as brown as a mummy. 1894 J. A. STEUART *In Day of Battle* I, A vulpine calculation and duplicity marked all his doings.

2. Resembling a fox; *spec.* in *Vulpine Opossum* or *Phalanger.*

1789 PHILLIP *Voy. Botany Bay* xv. 150 Vulpine Opossum. This is not unlike the common fox in shape, but considerably inferior to it in respect to size. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 459/2 The Vulpine Phalanger (*P. vulpina*), who delights in...Illawarra. 1880 *Athenæum* 17 July 77/1 *Hist. Hill.* 225 The Vulpine Phalanger, an animal with long loose fur, which inhabits New South Wales, Western Australia, and North Australia.

b. *Zool.* Fox-like, sly.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 599 How cunningly the vulpine Canaan has shapen his phraseology.

3. Consisting of foxes.

1849 S. S. MAYO *Waholoh* vi. (1850) 36 Which [food] soon brought numerous lupine and vulpine visitors. 1889 *Field* 19 Feb. 233/2 Sparrow Gorse...seems to offer small inducement to the vulpine fraternity.

4. Of or pertaining to a fox or foxes.

1854 THOREAU *Walden* (1886) 293 Sometimes one came near to my window, attracted by my light, barked a vulpine curse at me, and then retreated. 1885 *Field* 3 Oct. 501/1 A singular instance of vulpine sagacity and daring was witnessed.

Hence **Vu·lpinism,** foxy character.

1892 GEORGE *Eastern Fancy in Last Words T. C.* (1892) 187 A healthy Human Animal, with due beaverism (bigh and low), due vulpinism, or more than due. 1898 — *Fredk. Gt.* IX. v. (1865) II. 457 He was without guile, and had no vulpinism at all.

**Vulpinite** (vʌ·lpinait). *Min.* [f. *vulpino* (*Volpino*), near Bergamo in Lombardy + -ITE 2 b. Named by C. F. Ludwig, 1804.] A granular variety of anhydrite.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Elem. Introd. Min.* 374 Siliciferous Anhydrous Gypsum,—Vulpinite. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min., etc.* § 388 Anhydrite, Muriacite, Vulpinite, Anhydrous sulphate of lime. 1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 101 The Volpino quarries near Bergamo in Italy, takes a fine polish, and is used for ornamental purposes.

**Vulpone, -ony** : see VOLPONE.

**Vulsella,** obs. form of VOLSELLA.

‖ **Vulsellum.** *Surg.* [ad. L. *vulsella* (*volsella*) dim., but taken as neut. pl. f. *vulsi-*, ppl. stem of *vellĕre* to pluck.] = VOLSELLUM. Also *attrib.*

1863 WEISS *Catal. Surg. Instr.* Pl. xxix, Spring Forceps with Vulsellum Points. *Ibid.*, Long Vulsellum Forceps. 1870 COOPER *Dict. Pract. Surg.* Even satisfactory plan consists in drawing the enlarged gland out from its bed by means of a double vulsellum.

**+ Vulsion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *vulsio*, n. of action f. *vellĕre* to pluck.] (See quots.)

1552 HULOET, *Eſpuls, Eſpuſt, Aqueſpuncta*, a vulsion. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vulsion*, the twinging or pulling of the cramp or any other thing.

**Vulstan,** southern ME. var. FILST *v.*

**+ Vult.** *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5–6 **wilt, wult,** 5 **wilt,** 6–7 **volt**; 5 **voute, vowt, wout.** [a. OF. *vult, volt, voult, vout* (= It. *volto*, Sp. and Pg. *vulto*) :—L. *vult-us* face, etc.] Face, countenance; esp. expression of the features, cheer or bearing.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 310 Sancte Iohne..croyst hi, & drank al oute but rednes with blith wite. *Ibid.* xxv. (*Julian*) 705 *Abaydy*..with blyth wil,..sad to pame pat stud about. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 137 pe voute of thi vesage has woundyde us alle ! *Ibid.* 3054 He weres his vesere with a vowt noble. *c* 1449 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 3539 Fayr of lasson and of face,..Fert of vult and sloquent. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1078 To that lordly on loft that ludly can lout,..Saluist the bauld barne, with ane blith wout. 1470–85 HENRY *Wallace* x. 77 Quha couth behald thair sawfull lordly vult, So well beseyn, so forthwart, stern, and stult. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. xi. 93 In the thrar wise, in the schar ene, but fail, The Latyn pepill castis thair bestis athsail. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 497 He was nathing content of this estate; howbeit, he schew gud volt for the time. 1580 *Wills of Wemyss Hall, Aberdour* A iij b, This wairtar, being drunkin, cuirand...prolapsion of the vult, and dolour of the Tonsallis. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 70 She welcomed me with a merry volt, and thanked me for the diligence I had used in hasting to give her that intelligence.

**+ Vultuo·sous,** *a. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *vultuōs-us* having an affected look, f. *vultus* VULT.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Vultuosous*, of a grave and solemn countenance, or of a heavy and sad look.

So **+ Vu·ltuous** *a. Obs.*—1

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 5 When we delight in discord, our assemblings are dissemblings, our convocations provocations, every man vultuous. 1721 BAILEY.

**Vulture** (vʌ·ltiŭɹ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 **volture,** 5 **vowlture,** 4– **vulture** (5 **fulture**), 5 **voultur,** 7 **vultour.** *β.* 4–9 **vultur,** 5 **wltur, fultur, vowtur.** 7. 4 **vultre,** 5 **w(u)ltre, vowtre**; 4, 6–7 **vulter,** 6 **voulter, vultar,** 7 **voltar.** [a. AF. *voltur* and *voutre*, OF. *voltour, voultour, voutour* (F. *vautour*), or L. *vultur*, or ad. L. *vulturius*. The OF. forms, like Pr. *voltor, voutor*, and It. *avoltoro, avoltojo*, represent L. *vulturius*, while AF. *voutre*, Sp. *buitre*, and Pg. *abutre* are from L. *vultur.*

In Maundeville (1839) xxii. 237 the form *ventour* is prob. inexact for *voutour.*]

1. One of a number of large birds of prey of the order *Raptores* which feed almost entirely upon carrion and have the head and neck altogether or almost featherless.

The American vultures belong to different genera from those of the Old World.

*a.* *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 788 Ticius yn helle, Whos stomak foughles tiren euere mo, That highte volturis as bokes telle. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), The vulture hab bot litel flesch vpon hym. *Ibid.*, Whan manye vultures comeb ayein and fleeb togedres bit bodeb bataille. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Rawl.) xxxiv. 153 Vowltures, egles, ibaynes, and oper fowles of rauyne. 1450–1530 *Myre Low Arrest* (S.T.S.) 1 Ourie foulis the wrinc callit voultouris. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 38 Quandina is a stone..It is found in the Vulture his heade. 1584–7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) III. 71 The Vultar is mortall enimie to the Eele. 1625 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 784 On his bosome sat Two Vultures, digging through his caule of fat. 1658 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 11 The destruction of men and women...better contenting them, whose dead carkasses they devoure with a vultures appetite. 1679 COLLIER *Ess.* II. (1709) 129 (Despair) pays upon the vitals, like Prometheus's vulture. 1791 YOUNG *Revenge* IV. i, Give them the vultures, tear them all in pieces! 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 59 The Vulture, in its intellects, manners, and seldom attacks living animals, when it can be supplied with dead. 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 118 The vultures have eyes flush with the head, and reticulated tarsi...an elongated beak,...and a membranous portion of the head, or even the neck divested of feathers. 1843 VARRELL *Brit. Birds* I. 9 Vultures are most numerous in warm countries, where a high temperature soon produces rapid decomposition. 1858 B. TAYLOR *Denkalion* II. v. 84 There wheels a vulture, giving to the blue The shade or sparkle of his slanted wings.

*β.* 1388 WYCLIF *Job* xxviii. 7 The fie of a vultur [*v. r.* vowtur], ethir raueneuse bird, bihelde it not. *c* 1420 *Prose Life Alexander* 71 In be morenynge are3 bey pare come many fowlis als grete as vultures, of diuerse colour. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XII. ii. 410 That egle..dredyth the Fulture. 1580 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* 36 A Valius smelling, a pes tasting, sight of an Eagle, a Vultur eyeing (1656) 982 When the Vultur in his crooked clawes Shall graspe the locust. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 431 As when a Vultur on Imaus bred...flies toward the Springs Of Ganges or Hydaspes. 1695 PHIDN *Rallad on Taking Namur* II, Too like a Vultur Boiseau flies, Where scrofid Interest shows the Prey. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* I. 61 So the fell vultur, at the sound a vulture's wing. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The vultur is one of the largest kinds of fowls.

*γ.* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 57 Seuen foules ycheweb hem to Remus, pat beeb i-cleped vulteres. *Ibid.*, Fourtene vulterus [*v. r.* vultres] schewed hem to Romulus. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3945 Pan come a flizte in of fowles..170 vise on as vowtres. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* (Harl. 221) 10 Thre honded birdes that men calle wultres. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIII. cxv. 918 Wltres suppose be grete as be lyons. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Frenche Tongue*, a raueuous birde called a voulter or geyre. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 153 Doth not the Lyon for strength..excell man? Doth not the Eagle see clearer, the Vultar smell better? 1587 *Gest. Scottorum* 8 Spuis the Egle and Lillis that made her look more like a Vulter then a Dove.

b. With distinguishing terms.

**Bearded vulture**, the lammy-large, and only some of the more important are here recorded. See also *Naturalist's Libr. Ornithol.* 1. 274 Griffin 1 4, Maltese 2. 9, Secretary 2b. 1, 7, Sociable 2. 1 b.

1768–74 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 22 ***Alpine Vulture** = *Vultur percnopterus.* 1829 SCOTT *Anne of Geierstein* II. One of ibis..flight chanced to be a lammer-geier, or Alpine vulture. 1856 H. *Bost' Text Bk. Zool.* 160 The small Alpine Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), with naked head and very long, slaty beak. 1865 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 36 ***American Vulture.** 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 5 ***Arabian Vulture.** According to Edwards, the also exceeds that of a common eagle, by one third. 1862 *Ore's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 374 The *Vultur monachus*, or Arabian Vulture. 1775 TUNBERG *Jakoovie* 16 The ***ashe-coloured Vulture**

is the most large byrde of preys that is to be founde. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 64 *Vultur Cinereus*, the ash-coloured Vulture. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 252 In this tribe we may range...the ash-coloured vulture. 1790 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 106 The "Bearded Vulture. This Bird is of the Bigness of an Eagle. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 13 From which circumstance the name of Bearded Vulture is particularly applied to the present species. 1822 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 243/2 Lämmergeyer...or Bearded Vulture, ...one of the gentlest birds-of-prey of its Palæarctic Region. 1875 Tuberv. *Falconrie* 18 There are two sortes,...the sahe mayld, or "blacke Vulture, and the browne or whitish Vulture. 1801 Holland *Pliny* tr. vi. I. 274 The blacke vultures are the best. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 31 Black Vulture. This bird is described as larger than the Golden Vulture, and of a black colour. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 825/2 The Black Vulture (*C. atratus*) is a darker and smaller species. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 12 "Californian Vulture. 1872 *Coues N. Amer. Birds* 221 Californian Vulture. Brownish-black, lustrous above, paler below. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 302/1 *Pseudogryphus*, the great Californian Vulture. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop.* Suppl. I. 24 "Cinereous Vulture. The size of this species is about that of a Turkey. 1849 Tennyson '*You might have won*' 35 For whom the carrion vulture waits—To tear his limbs! 1874 Coues *Birds N.W. Bk. Zool.* 461 The smaller Carrion Vulture (*Catharista*). *a* 1870 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 The "cinereous or ash-coloured Vulture. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 3 Cinereous V[ulture]...The size is that of an Eagle, or rather bigger. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 470/1 The Cinereous Vulture is chiefly seen in the plains of Hindostan. 1779 Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* 171 The "Crested or Coped Black Vulture...is a very large bird. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 824/2 The "Eared Vulture (*C. auricularis*) is an African species of a blackish colour, with a fleshy crest on each side of the head under the openings of the ears. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 3 "Egyptian V[ulture]...is said to be of a rufous ash-colour, spotted with brown. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 825/2 Egyptian Vulture (*P. percnopterus*)...also, from its abundance in Egypt, called 'Pharaoh's chicken'. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 302/1 One of them [sc. *Neophronine*] is the so-called Egyptian Vulture or Pharaoh's Hen, *Neophron percnopterus*. *a* 1679 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 *margine*, The "Fulvous Vulture, like Bellonius his Cheanut one. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 27 The Fulvous or Golden Vulture is one of the largest of the kind, exceeding the size of the Golden Eagle. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 165 The Fulvous Vulture...is the most widely-diffused species, inhabiting the mountainous parts of the whole ancient continent. *a* 1678 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 67 Viewing the skin of the "Golden Vulture, sent me once out of the Alpine Country of the Grisons,...I described it. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 252 The Golden Vulture seems to be the foremost of the kind. 1809 [see *fulvous* vulture]. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 4 "King Vulture]...is about the size of an hen Turkey. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 374 Another species of the genus *Sarcorhamphus*...is the King Vulture (*S. papa*), which is not uncommon in Brazil and Guiana. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 19 "Tawny Vulture...inhabits Falkland Islands. 1837 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 824/1 The Tawny Vulture (*V. fulvus*) is a large bird, and has been long known to natural history. *Ibid.* 825/2 The "Turkey Vulture (*C. aura*) is another American species of smaller size. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 374 The common American Vulture is the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), or Turkey Buzzard. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 461 The large "White-headed Vulture (*Vultur fulvus*).

c. *King of the vultures*, the king-vulture (*Sarcorhamphus papa*).

1743 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 2 The King of the Vultures. This Bird is about the Bigness of a Hen-Turkey. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 250 There is one of the kind, called the King of the Vultures, which from its extraordinary figure deserves a separate description. 1776 Stedman *Surinam* II. 300 The bird called the king of the vultures is not very common in Surinam. 1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 375 It is from this that he derives his title of the King of the Vultures.

2. *fig.* a. Something which preys upon a person, the mind, etc., after the manner of a vulture; *esp.* a consuming or torturing passion.

Commonly in allusion to the punishment inflicted on Tityus (*Odyss.* xi. 576).

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* li, A Vultur worse then his teares all my vaines. 1598 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 50, I am Reuenge sent from the Infernall Kingdome, To ease the gnawing Vulture of the mind. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm., Ps. xc. 18* (1640) 813 That fearfull Vulture, the Inquisition, hovers over them. 1639 J. Taylor (W. P.) *Swearing & Stabbing* (1873) 33 The Client having Tityus empty mew (His guts tormented with the Vulture Law). 1742 Gray *Eton* 62 Thine shall the fiery Passions be, The vultures of the mind, Disdainful Anger, pallid Fear, And Shame. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* iii. lix, And could the ceaseless vultures cease to prey On self-corroding bosoms, it were here. 1861 C. Reade *Cloister & Hearth* lxxv, The bereaved heart is still heavy as lead within his bosom; but now the dark vulture Remorse sat upon it rending it. 1883 Macfadyen in *Congregat. Year Bk.* 71 The reason seems preyed upon by vultures of lust and superstition.

b. A person of a vile and rapacious disposition.

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* III. ii, Time shall mature...what we, with no good vultures, have hunted. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. i, Ye dregs of baseness, vultures amongst men, That tyre upon the hearts of generous spirits. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 38 P 10 He...will be at last torn to pieces by the vultures that always hover over fortunes in decay. 1868 Lytton *Pelham* III. ii, Before midnight I was in high fever; they sent for the vultures of physic—I was bled copiously. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Sept. 4/2 Lord Ripon...showed that India was not merely the favourite hunting-ground of English vultures.

3. *Astr.* One or other of two northern constellations, distinguished as the *falling vulture* = Lyra 2, Harp *sb.*1 3, and *flying vulture* = Eagle *sb.* 4.

1638 Chilmead tr. *Hues' Treat. Globes* II. iii. (1889) 53 The ninth is Gallina or Cygnus, the Hen or Swan, and is called in Arabique...the flying Vulture. 1697 Lowde *Astron. sceptisms* 6 The Harp, otherwise called the falling Gryze, or Vulture. *Ibid.* 10 The Eagle, by some call'd the flying Gryze or Vulture, consisting of 19 stars. 1901 [J. F. Hewitt] *Mythmaking Age* I. i. 8 When Vega in the Constellation of the Vulture or Lyra became Pole Star.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. with *beak, claw, eye, feather*, etc., denoting either 'of a vulture' or 'like that of a vulture'; also vulture-feather, a species of moth.

1834 W. Howitt in *Tait's Mag.* I. 375/2 With a heart free from the "vulture-beak of care. 1867 Morris *Jason* v. 255 Within her filthy "vulture-claws clutched tight. 1903 A. Chute *Beautie Dishonoured* (1908) 210 When cowards death...Lookes on her fayre face, with a "vultur eye. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxiv, Under the eagle, or rather the vulture eyes of the baron. 1832 J. Rennie *Insect. Butterfl. & M.* 208 The "Vulture Feather (— *Gryphipennella*) found amongst grass. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Vulture-feathers*, feathers of the "*Cacaphilenus* imported from Bombay, and sold for stuffing beds, &c., the larger ones for making artificial flowers, &c. 1883 *Ibid., Vulture feathers*, a commercial term for those of the *Rhea* and *Cathartes* in America. 1885 Rider Haggard *King Solomon's Mines* ix, She turned her bald "vulture-head towards us. 1864 *Poultry Chron.* I. 128/2 "Vulture hocks [in Cochin-China chickens] are a matter of taste. 1855 *Ibid.* III. 348/2 The boots, or as Shanghai fanciers would style it, the vulture hock, must be white. 1892 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 204 The chest of a "vulture-like kite. 1892 J. Hay *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 86 Cast from the hovering "vulture-wings of one dark thought of woe and death.

b. Attrib. with nouns of quality or action.

1593 A. Chute *Beautie Dishonoured* (1908) 105 To vultar greedinesse of an easie crowne. 1800 Campbell *Scene in Banana* v, Where Britain's vulture wrong, not wonton The vulture cover of its wing. 1808 T. Maurice *Fall Mogul* II. iv, All our treasures His vulture-grasp has seiz'd. 1821 Shelley *Hymn* Victorious Wrong, with vulture scream, Salutes the rising sun.

c. Appositive, also in fig. use (cf. sense 2).

1590 Shake. *Wm. 4 Ad.* 551 Whose vultur thought doth stoop with pride To winged obiects. 1607 Shakespeare *Lear Arch.* II. if it prove Disdaine, that torrent will devoure My Vulture-hopes. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 85 The eagle kind, or the vulture kind. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 2 The chief of the Vulture tribe...is undoubtedly the Condor. *Ibid.* 13 One of the principal distinctions between the Eagle and Vulture kind. 1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 620 Cursed, cursed Circe! O vulture-witch, hast never heard of mercy! 1843 T. Edmonston in *Zoologist* I. 1 The Vulture-eagle lay in her own nest, bound, gagged, and powerless.

d. In instrumental and similative combs., as *vulture-gnawn, -rent, -torn, -tortured*; *vulture-hocked* (see 4 a), *-like* adjs.

1598 Chapman *Iliads* XI. ii. *Colonies* 298 The Vulture-rented Promethean, 'mong the Greeks had fire invented. 1823 G. Daniel *Sonn.* xv, To her that...lies to view My Vulture-gnawne hart open. 1844 Disney Haig *Soul* 68 Vulture-like in cruelty, and vulturelike cruelty. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* viii. 418 These rush upon thee; Thy vitals seize, and vulture-like, devour. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor. Odes* II. xiii. 37 Where vulture-like the Grecian Fire...Has fed. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 589 To be like poor Prometheus, vulture-torn. 1864 *Poultry Chron.* II. 84/2 They are well boosted, or as the Shanghae fanciers style it, 'Vulture-hocked'.

Hence **Vulturian**, *a. rare*—1, like a vulture.

1828 Keltham *Resolves* II. [i.] xxv. 80 Though pleasure merries the Senses for a while: yet horror after vultures the unconsuming heart.

† **Vulturian**, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. Vulture *sb.*+ -ian.] = next.

1659 T. Pecke *Parnassi Puerp.* 38 A Treasurer, whom Vertue makes to hold, Vulturian Talons, from the Regal Gold.

**Vulturine** (vu·lĭtirain), *a.* [ad. L. *vulturinus*, f. *vultur* Vulture *sb.*: see -ine.]

1. Of or belonging to the vulture tribe; resembling a vulture: a. In names of birds.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxiv. 28 The vulturine eagles especially...follow armies, and feed on carcases. *a* 1679 Willughby *Ornithol.* (1678) 64 The Vulturine Eagle of Aldrovandus, called *Percnopterus*. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 14 Vulturine Eagle, *Falco vulturinus*. *Ibid.* 343 Vulturine Raven, *Corvus vulturinus*. Shaw's *Nat. Miscellany Mammalia* III. 48 The vulturine eagle...makes the mountain precipices its abode. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 91 A little orbital space is bare in the vulturine birds, the true hawks, and some pigeons. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 313 On the coast the chief enemy of the Parrots is the Vulturine Sea-Eagle (*Cryptohalœtus ossifragus*).

b. In general use. Also *fig.*

1791 Bailey, *Vulturine*, ...rapacious. 1792 Pennant *Tour Scott.* I. 58 He...sells it at five shillings,...thus happily disappointing the rapacity of the vulturine monopolizer. 1843 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 299/1 Even the petticoated torch-bearers from rotten Rome, if more bluster-ing,...were less bitter and vulturine. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shake.* 207 But the vulturine zest after the alleged nature of the vulture kind, would appear to have eyes and ears and nose for nothing else. 1888 Guillemard *Cruise Marchesa* II. 219 The rare Pteropus Pasteri, half vulturine in appearance and with the face and throat bare.

2. Of or pertaining to a vulture or vultures; characteristic of, like that of, a vulture.

1698 Bloint *Glossogr.*, *Vulturine*, pertaining to the ravenous Bird called a Vulture. 1858 Phillips, *Vulturine*, belonging to a Vulture or Gryp. 1892 *Zoologist* X. 364/6 It has...the real vulturine fondness for carrion. 1895 Knowlby *Mice, Rabbits* (1899) I. 32 There is no more to be discovered in the matter, save by the vulturine nose which smells a carrion in every rose-bed. 1902 E. O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* II. 230 An uneasy, vulturine expression of the eye, the pupil being quite surrounded by the white.

**Vulturish** (vu·ltiriʃ), *a.* [f. Vulture *sb.*+ -ish.] Somewhat vulture-like.

1826 Sud. Smith *Wks.* (1850) 435 That the majority of the flock thought it essentially vulturish to exclude one third of their numbers from the blood and entrails. 1845 [see Hawkins *a.*]. 1849 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Valiant Wisdom ...escorted by owl-eyed Pedantry, by owlish and vulturish and many other forms of Folly.

**Vulturism.** *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ism.] Vulturine character or habits.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Lawyers too were poets, were heroes...Their Owlisms, Vulturisms,...will disappear.

**Vulturizing**, *ppl. a. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ize + -ing².] Acting like a vulture.

1650 *Decer. Future Hist. Europe* 12 The feet part of Iron and part of Clay, denoted the declining Estate of the Roman Empire...under the present Papacy and now-vulturizing house of Austria.

**Vulturous** (vu·lĭtŭres), *a.* Also 7 vulturose. [f. Vulture *sb.* + -ous.]

1. Resembling that of a vulture; ravenous.

1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* II. ii, There's no question but her tenickness and most vulturous eating of the apricocks are apparent signs of breeding infants. 1647 Jackson *Christ. Oblig.* (1649) 15 And when...he was shut up alone in the bladder, his vulturous stomach lets loose upon himself, and within few minuts more, eats half of him up. 1670 Penn *Spir. Truth Vind.* 14 [It] is invisible to his vulturous Eye, who so disdainfully writes against it. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iv, Without a vulturous hunger for self-indulgence. 1870 Talmage *Crumbs Snapt Up* (1871) 278 They watch about the door for new-comers,...invite him to drink...and plunge their vulturous beaks into the vitals of his soul.

2. *fig.* Resembling a vulture in appearance or character.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* IV. i, The battle, with vurious weapon, of vulturous Quack and Tyrant against vulturous Tyrant and Quack. 1864 — *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. I. IV. 241 The Owlerics and the vulturous Law-Pedantries. 1885 Tennyson *Death of Oenone* viii, The gilded a vulturous Beldam forth, That on dumb death had thriven.

† **Vulva** (vu·lvă). [L. *vulva* (*volva*), wrapper, uterus. Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *vulva*, F. *vulve*.]

1. *Anat.* The external organ of generation in the female; esp. the opening of the true organ.

1528–77 Vicary *Anat.* ix. (1888) 77 Hy it goeth forth the vrin, or ele it shuld be shed through out al the Vulua. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 91, 641 (1631) 237 The last dissimilar part of the womb is called the "mouth of *vulva*. 1894 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1733) 708/1 Anoint the Vulva and Womb with this Mixture. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. 1832 L. Knox *Clayton's Anat.* 325 It is formed of two layers of fibres, which ...are interlaced, between the anus and vulva. 1841 Ramsbotham *Obstetr. Med.* 53 The whole of the external parts together, as well those that are lined by mucous membrane, as those covered by the common cuticle, are called the vulva. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Invertebr.* vi. 272 Anteriorly, each pair of tubes opens into the oviduct of its side, which passes down along the side of the body to terminate at the vulva.

2. *Conch.* An impression behind the umbones of Venus-shells.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 379 The ligament often leaves, behind the beaks, an elliptical impression, to which the term *vulva* has been applied.

Hence **Vulval**, **Vulvar** *adjs.*, of or belonging to the vulva.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 706/1 From the centre of the vulvar orifice to the end of the fornix. 1866 J. M. Sims *Uterine Surg.* 328 The vulval or external face of the hymen is sensitive. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 694/1 Such irritation may lead to excoriation of the vulvar mucous membrane.

**Vulve**, obs. form of Wolf *sb.*

**Vulviform**, *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. L. *vulvi-*Vulva + -form.] (See quot.)

1849 Craig, *Vulviform*, in Botany, like a cleft with projecting edges. 1852 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Valve*, The oval or vulviform conformation presented by certain bivalve shells.

† **Vulvitis** (vŭlvəi·tis). *Path.* [f. Vulv-a + -itis.] Inflammation of the vulva.

1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1338. 1878 Dunglison *Hum. Dis.* (1879) 109 Their effect...is so slight that they are not to be recommended in vaginitis or vulvitis. 1880 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 694/1 In catarrhal vulvitis the pain and redness of the mucous membrane are slight.

**Vulvo-** (vu·lvo), combining form on Gr. models of L. *vulva* Vulva, occurring in a few anatomical or pathological terms, as *vulvo-scrotal*, *-uterine*, *-vaginal*, *vaginitis*.

1849 Craig s.v. *Vulva*, The vagina or vulvo-uterine canal. 1852 Bullock *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 46 The Vulvo-vaginal gland had been completely lost sight of by modern anatomists. 1893 D. J. Cunningham *Man. Pract. Anat.* I. 380 The two fascial pouches...are sometimes spoken of as the vulvo-scrotal sacs. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 113 The urine may be so irritating as to cause a vulvo-vaginitis in the female infant.

**Vum** (vum), *v. U.S. colloq.* [Alteration of Vow *v.*?] *intr.* To vow, swear.

1765 *Mass. Spy* 13 Oct. 2/2 We all must dreadful mindful be That we must fight for liberty And vum we'll 'fend it, if we die. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. xii, 'I vum,' said he, 'what is the matter?' 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf. T.* xi. (1892) 253 But the Deacon swore (as Deacons do, With an 'I dew vum', or an 'I tell youse').

Hence **Vumm** *sb.*

1881 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 249 Darius was piqued, and he said, with a vum, 'I'll pay for the wood, if you'll send it hum'.

† **Vumbard.** *Obs.*–[1] [app. a late form of VAMWARD: for the sense cf. VANTGUARD 2.] ?A front guard.

1564 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 193 My maistyr lent hym a payr of smale curas wyth gardys and vumbarde.

**Vunde,** southern ME. pa. t. FIND *v.*

**Vur, Vurness, Vurther,** southern dial. varr. FAR *adv.*, etc., FARNESS, FURTHER.

† **Vusse.** *Obs. rare.* [? Alteration of FAITH *sb.*] *By my vusse,* used as an asseveration.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* F ij b, But are you my vncle indeed? By my vusse I am sayes the old man. Then vncle by my vusse welcome to Court.

**Vuste,** southern ME. variant of FIST *sb.*[1]

**Vusser,** variant of VIZIER.

1847 *Gentl. Mag.* March 299/2 The Vuzeer Lall Singh .. has been deposed. .. Unable to select a Vuzeer from among their own number [etc.].

**Vus(s,** southern dial. variant of FURZE.

**Vy,** obs. form of VIE *sb.*[3] and *v.*

**Vyall,** obs. form of VIOL *sb.*

**Vyalett,** obs. form of VIOLET *sb.*[1]

**Vyce,** obs. Sc. form of WISE *a.*

**Vych, Vychon,** southern ME. varr. EACH (*one*).

**Vychancellour,** obs. f. VICE-CHANCELLOR.

**Vyche,** obs. form of WITCH *sb.*

**Vycht,** obs. Sc. form of WIGHT *sb.* and *a.*

**Vychtie,** obs. Sc. form of WEIGHTY *a.*

**Vyckyr,** obs. form of VICAR.

**Vycle,** southern ME. var. FICKLE *v.*[1]

**Vycytar,** obs. form of VISITER.

**Vycyte,** obs. form of VISIT *v.*

**Vy'd, Vyde,** obs. ff. VIED *ppl. a.*

**Vyd(e,** obs. Sc. forms of WIDE *a.*

**Vydam(e,** obs. forms of VIDAME.

**Vydele,** southern ME. variant of FIDDLE.

**Vydour,** obs. Sc. form of VOIDER.

**Vye,** var. VIE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *sb.*[3] *Obs.*; obs. f. VIE *v.*

**Vyend,** southern ME. var. FIEND.

**Vyer,** occas. printed for *vher* OTHER *a.*

**Vyf(e, Vyff,** obs. Sc. ff. WIFE *sb.*

† **Vyfnes.** *Obs.*–[1] [f. F. *vif* VIVE *a.* + -NESS.] Liveliness, vivacity.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 4 Therfor.. every man in hym silf let the passions of dolours be turned and empresid into vyfnes of here spiritis.

**Vyftene, -teope,** southern ME. varr. FIFTEEN(TH.

**Vygne,** obs. f. VINE *sb.*

**Vyhs,** obs. form of VICE *sb.*[1]

**Vyhte,** southern ME. var. FIGHT *sb.* and *v.*

**Vyijs, Vyild,** obs. Sc. f. WINE *sb.*, WILD *a.*

**Vying,** obs. form of VIEING *vbl. sb.*

**Vyir,** occas. printed for *vhir* OTHER *a.*

**Vyiss,** variant of VISE *v. Obs.*

**Vyis(e, Vyit, Vyl, Vyld(e,** obs. Sc. ff. WISE *sb.* and *a.*, WITE *sb.* and *v.*, WILL *sb.*, WILD *a.*

**Vylarde,** variant of VIEILLARD *Obs.*

**Vylence, -ens,** variants of VILLAINS *a. Obs.*

**Vyleny(e,** etc., obs. forms of VILLAINY.

**Vylette,** southern ME. variant of FILLET *sb.*

**Vylie,** obs. form of VILELY *adv.*

**Vylie, Vyling,** obs. Sc. variant of WILY *a.*, WILING *vbl. sb.*

**Vylney,** obs. form of VILLAINY.

**Vyloyns,** variant of VILLAINS *a. Obs.*

**Vyn,** southern ME. var. FIN *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WIN *v.*, WONE *v.*

**Vynacre, -eker,** obs. variants of VINEGAR.

**Vynd,** obs. form of WYND *sb. Sc.*

**Vyndage,** variant of VENDAGE *Obs.*

**Vynde,** southern ME. var. FIND *v.*; obs. f. VINE *sb.*; obs. Sc. f. WIND *sb.*

**Vyndle,** obs. Sc. form of WINDLE *v.*

**Vyndok,** obs. Sc. variant of WINDOW.

**Vyne,** obs. f. VINE; obs. Sc. f. WIN *v.*, WINE.

**Vynet(t, Vyniet,** variants of VINET *Obs.*

**Vynetree,** obs. form of VINTRY.

**Vynk,** obs. Sc. form of WINK *v.*

**Vynne,** southern ME. variant of FIN *sb.*

**Vynnett,** variant of VINET *Obs.*

**Vynour,** obs. variant of VINER[2].

**Vyntre,** obs. form of VINE-TREE, VINTRY.

**Vynued,** variant of VINEWED *a. Obs.*

**Vyny, Vynye,** obs. var. VINE *sb.*, VINNY *v.*

**Vynyette,** variant of VINET *Obs.*

**Vyral,** obs. form of VIRL *sb.*

**Vyrchippe,** obs. form of WORSHIP.

**Vyre,** variant of EURE *sb. Obs.*, VIRE *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

**Vyrelle, -lle,** obs. forms of VIRL *sb.*

**Vyrk,** obs. Sc. form of WORK *v.*

**Vyrne,** variant of VERNE *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

**Vyrre,** southern ME. variant of FIR.

**Vysard(e,** obs. forms of VIZARD.

**Vyscele,** obs. Sc. form of VESSEL *sb.*

**Vyse,** obs. var. USE *v.*, VICE *sb.*, VISE *v.*, VIS, WISE *sb.* and *v.*

**Vysenamy,** obs. form of VISNOMY.

**Vyseuase, Vysiere** : see VISEVASE, VISIERE.

**Vysilie, Vysly,** obs. forms of WISELY *adv.*

**Vyss, Vyssyon,** obs. ff. VICE *sb.*[1], VISION.

**Vyssa, Vyssare, Vysyoyon,** southern ME. varr. FISH, FISHER, PHYSICIAN.

**Vyt, Vytch, Vyte,** obs. Sc. ff. WIT, WITCH, WITE.

**Vythulare, Vythule,** southern ME. variants of FIDDLER, FIDDLE.

**Vyue,** southern ME. var. FIVE; obs. f. VIVE *a.*

**Vyuer, Vyver(e,** obs. forms of VIVER[1].

**Vyveri,** obs. variant of IVORY.

**Vywe(r,** obs. forms of VIEW *sb.*, VIEWER.

# W

By W. A. CRAIGIE
C. T. ONIONS
HENRY BRADLEY

# PREFACE TO THE LETTER W.

THE words with initial W here treated include 6,087 Main words, 2,845 Special Combinations explained and illustrated under these, 3,766 Obvious Combinations, and 3,820 Subordinate entries; in all 16,518 words. Of the Main words 1,780 are marked † as obsolete, and 42 are marked ‖ as alien or not completely naturalized. The number of illustrative quotations for the whole letter is 94,097.

The following table illustrates the scale of this portion of the work as compared with that of certain other Dictionaries :—

| | Johnson. | Cassell's 'Encyclopædic' with Suppl. | 'Century' Dict. with Suppl. | Here. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total of words recorded in W | 1,024 | 5,212 | 7,403 | 16,518 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | 882 | 2,066 | 2,501 | 12,951 |
| Number of illustrative quotations | 4,147 | 3,512 | 7,595 | 94,097 |

The number of quotations in the corresponding portion of Richardson's Dictionary is 3,790.

The letter W is primarily remarkable for containing two long series of words of which the initial letters are one or other of the consonantal digraphs WH and WR. The words beginning with WH cover 102 pages, those with WR 63 pages. Separate articles on the digraphs themselves will be found in the proper alphabetical places, explaining their history, currency, and use. Originally they both represented a combination of two sounds, which were subsequently simplified. Otherwise, with the exception of the combination WL (which did not survive into Modern English), initial W is capable of being immediately followed only by a vowel; of the combinations of W with a vowel, WA yields by far the largest vocabulary.

This letter is conspicuously native. The greater part of the vocabulary goes back to Old English, with a continuous history down to the present day. *Water*, with its compounds and derivatives, fills 90 columns; *well* (sb., adj., vb., adv.) another 90; next in copiousness are *wash*, *way*, *white*, *will*, *wind*, *with*, *wood*, *work*, *write*. In *wh-* the interrogative-relatives *what*, *which*, *who*, *why*, etc., fill over 80 columns. All these words have cognates in West Germanic or in Common Teutonic; some have wider connexion with Indo-European. Two common words, *woman* and *worship*, are compounds peculiar to Old English. There is a large number of early adoptions from Scandinavian, notable among which are *wand*, *want*, *wassail*, *weak*, *whirl* and *whirl-wind*, *window*, *wing*, *wrong*. Dutch and Low German contribute *waft*, *wagon*, *wainscot*, *walrus*, *welter*, *wriggle*, *wrack* (sb.[2]). From Old French come a good many words, chief among which are *wage*, *wait*, *war*, *warden*, *warrant*, *waste*, *wreck*; some of these have doublets in *g* (as *gage*, *guardian*); all are ultimately of Teutonic origin. From American Indian tongues we get *wampum*, *wapiti*, *wigwam*; from Australian, *wallaby*, *waratah*, *wombat*, *wurley*. The number of entries of proper names and appellatives derived therefrom is remarkable; they amount to well over a hundred.

Voluntary work on the letter began as far back as 1881. Mrs. L. J. Walkey arranged the original material for *Wa* and *We* alphabetically and chronologically during 1881–1884; the same was done for *Wh–Wy* in 1882 by Mr. H. S. Tabor, who also combined the old and new series of slips for *Whe–Wy* in 1882–1884. *Wa–Wha* was handled by the Rev. W. H. Beckett during 1882–1901; *Wh–Wy* was sub-edited by the Rev. G. B. R. Bousfield in 1891–1894, and *W–Wi* (with abundant additions of new material) by the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson in 1913–1919.

During the editorial progress of the letter, which began in 1919, outside help has been given in the reading of proofs by the Misses Edith and E. P. Thompson for the greater part of the letter, by Mr. G. R. Carline and the Rev. W. B. R. Wilson for some early portions, by Dr. G. F. S. Friedrichsen for *Wh–Worling*, and by Dr. G. Ch. van Langenhove and the Rev. J. B. Johnston for *Wr*. Assistance in the verification of quotations in the British Museum was given by the late Mr. W. W. Jenkinson, by Mr. R. J. Whitwell, and (latterly) by Mr. F. S. Sieveking. Mr. Whitwell, as heretofore for many years, has made generous contributions to the historical evidence for many articles. Expert outside assistance on special points has been given by Mr. R. Ashton, librarian at Blackburn, Mr. St. Clair Baddeley, Professor Paul Barbier of Leeds, the late Mr. A. F. Bettinson of the National Sporting Club, Mr. E. C. Early of Witney, the Editor of the *Field*, Professors Fiedler, Neville Forbes, and G. S. Gordon of Oxford, Mr. F. W. Geary, secretary of the Thames Conservancy, Dr. Alfred Götze of Giessen, the Rev. Dr. Claude Jenkins, Lt.-Col. J. H. Leslie, Mr. John Lister of Shibden Hall, Halifax,

Mr. R. G. Marsden, Mr. Hugh Marwick, Orkney, Monsieur A. Meillet, the Provost of Oriel, Sir Frederick Pollock, Col. E. H. Richardson, the late Mr. W. H. Stevenson, Monsieur Antoine Thomas, Dr. E. J. Thomas of the University Library at Cambridge, and Mr. F. H. Wedgwood. To these grateful acknowledgement of obligation is due, as well as to Bodley's Librarian and his assistants, whose ready and generous help has greatly facilitated the extensive researches imposed upon the Dictionary staff.

The editorial staff regularly engaged on the letter W consisted of three sections: four members associated with Dr. Bradley until his death, viz. Mr. Walter Worrall (who specially prepared portions of *We* and *Wo*), Mr. W. J. Lewis, Mr. H. J. Bayliss, and Miss E. S. Bradley; three belonging to Dr. Craigie's staff (engaged mainly on *Wr*), viz. Mr. G. Watson, Mrs. L. F. Powell, and Miss Rosfrith A. N. R. Murray; and three belonging to Mr. Onions's staff, viz. Mr. A. T. Maling, M.A., Mr. F. J. Sweatman, M.A., and Mr. J. W. Birt. To them the editors make cordial acknowledgements for their zealous and painstaking collaboration in a task which, in the demands that it makes for consistency and accuracy in principle and in detail, is hardly equalled and not surpassed in any field of research.

The history of the preparation of this letter is marked by two outstanding events, the death of Dr. Henry Bradley, the then senior editor, on 23 May, 1923, and the appointment in 1925 of Dr. Craigie to a professorship in the Department of English of the University of Chicago, which did not, however, withdraw him from taking part in what then remained to be done to complete the work. These events, together with the allocation (since 1921) of some part of Mr. Onions's time to collateral works, have been contributing factors to a delay which has, however, in the sequel, the happy result that the publication of the concluding pages of the work falls in the year of the fiftieth anniversary of its first association with the name of James A. H. Murray as editor under the auspices of the Delegates of the Clarendon Press.

W. A. CRAIGIE.
C. T. ONIONS.

*November*, 1927.

# W.

W (dʌ'b(ə)l,yū), the 23rd letter of the modern English alphabet, is an addition to the ancient Roman alphabet, having originated from a ligatured doubling of the Roman letter represented by the U and V of modern alphabets. When, in the 7th c., the Latin alphabet was first applied to the writing of English, it became necessary to provide a symbol for the sound (w), which did not exist in contemporary Latin. This sound, a gutturally-modified bilabial voiced spirant, is acoustically almost identical with the devocalized (*u*) or (u), which was the sound originally expressed by the Roman U or V as a consonant-symbol; but before the 7th c. this Latin sound had developed into (v). The single *u* or *v* therefore could not without ambiguity be used to represent (w), though this was occasionally done, and in some Northumbrian texts was the regular practice. The ordinary sign for (w) was at first *uu*, but in the 8th c. this began to be superseded by *p*, a character borrowed from the Runic alphabet, in which its name was *wyn* (Kentish *wen*). Eventually the use of *p* became almost universal, but in the mean time the *uu* was carried from England to the continent, being used for the sound (w) in the German dialects, and in French proper names and other words of Teut. and Celtic origin. In the 11th c. the ligatured form was introduced into England by Norman scribes, and gradually took the place of *p*, which finally went out of use about A.D. 1300. The character W was probably very early regarded as a single letter, although it has never lost its original name of 'double U'.

In OE. the sound (w) occurred initially not only before vowels but also before (l) and (r). The combination *wl* became obsolete in the 15th c. (in Sc. poetry *wlonk*, alliterating with *w*- words, was used in the 16th c.); *wr* is still written, but the *w* is silent in standard English, though in some dialects it is sounded as (w) or as (v). OE. had also the initial combination (hw), written *hu(u, hp*, and subsequently *Ph, wh*; for the later development of this phonetic combination, and the history of the associated symbols, see WH.

The chief etymological sources of the Eng. (w) are 1 (1) OE. (w), mainly representing Indogermanic *w, gh*, *kw*, or *k*; (2) ON. (w) of the same origin (in cited words expressed by *v*, according to Icelandic usage); (3) OF. (w), retained in northeastern Fr. dialects, but elsewhere becoming (gw) and ultimately (g), whence in English such doublets as *wage* and *gage, warranty* and *guaranty*. The sound also occurs, represented otherwise than by *w*, in words of Latin origin containing the combinations *qu* (kw) and *su* (sw), as *question, suavity, persuade* (in 16–18th c. often written with *zw*); also in a few Fr. words, as *reservoir* (-vwAr).

So far as it remains a consonant-symbol, the letter never denotes any other sound than (w), but in a few words it has ceased to be pronounced, though still written, as in *answer, sword, two*, and in the combination *wr* referred to above. In the unstressed second element of a compound, (w) tends to be elided in colloquial speech. This contracted pronunciation is in some words a mere vulgarism (marked as such by spellings like *backʼard, forrard, allus* for *always*); in *Norwich* and some other place-names in *-wich* it is the only one regarded as correct, and the same may be said with regard to the nautical term *gunwale*; in *midwife* the contraction (mi'dif), formerly general, is now rarely heard. The tendency to elision of *w* beginning an unstressed second syllable is shown also in the change of *housewife* into *hussif, hussy*, where the spelling has followed the pronunciation, though the uncontracted form is now restored exc. in a special disparaging sense.

In some ME. MSS. (northern and north midland), and in many Scottish texts of the 15th and 16th centuries, *w* is written for *v*, and vice versa. In the 16th and 17th c., books printed from continental type often have the letter in the divided form VV, vv.

In ME. a new (w) arose from the development of intervocalic or final (γ), inherited from OE., as in *bowe*:—earlier *boȝe*:—OE. *boga*. This sound, however, has not survived as a consonant, because every (w) after a stressed vowel became a *u*-glide, the terminal element of a diphthong. From the early ME. period *w* was often substituted for *u* in vowel-digraphs (whether denoting diphthongs or simple vowels). In modern spelling *aw, ew, ow* are phonetically equivalent to *au, eu, ou*, though *ow* never stands for (ū), as in the older *yow* = *you* (except in the surname Cowper); the choice between *u* and *w* has been determined to some extent by etymological tradition, but is mainly arbitrary; at the end of a word *w*, not *u*, is used all but invariably. The traditional statement of grammarians that 'W is a vowel as well as a consonant' refers to its use in these digraphs; but in the 14–15th c., and in Sc. also in the 16th c., *w* occasionally represents (ū), as in *trwe* = true, *swne* = soon, *swth* = sooth.

In south-eastern dialects (*w*) is regularly substituted for (v) by many writers of the first half of the 19th c. attributed to the Cockney dialect the habit of misusing (v) for (w) and (w) for (v) on all occasions. No trace of this survives in present-day London speech; and although there is no doubt that the Kentish (w) for (v) at one time extended to London, it is probable that the reverse substitution was merely an occasional (if perhaps rather frequent) result of the endeavour to speak correctly.

1763 Foote *Mayor of G.* i. (1784) 21 *Sneak.* Yes, verry like Wenus. 1803 Pegge *Anecd. Engl. Lang.* (1814) 77 The.. most offensive error in pronunciation among the Londoners ..lies in the confusion of the initial use of the letters *W* and *V*, never to be heard where there is any possibility of inverting them. Thus they always say, *Weal*, instead of *veal*; and *Winegar*, instead of *vinegar*; while, on the other hand, you hear *Vicked*, for wicked—*Vig*, for wig; and a few others. 1809 T. Harral *Scenes of Life* III. 26 'I last night thou gavest me to a villain's arms!'—'A villain?' 'Ay, a villain!' 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiv, 'Do you spell it [Weller] with a "v" or a "W".' 'I spells it with a "V".' 'Quite right too, Samivel.. Put it down a we, my lord'. 1844 T. H. Key *Alphabet* 107 London too is remarkable for the confusion of the sounds, though this confusion does not seem to arise from any inability to pronounce either a *w* or a *v*, each being substituted for the other with a most amusing perversity.

A mispronunciation of (w) for (r), in some persons due to a physical defect, has sometimes been a fashionable affectation.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, 'Gwacious heavens!' said his lordship. 'I thought somebody had seen the new mailcart; it's the neatest, pwettiest, gwacefullest thing that ever was.' 1844 T. H. Key *Alphabet* 93 The letter *r* is at times confounded with *w*. Thus it is not a very rare variety of articulation that *rubbish* is pronounced *wubbish*.

1. The letter, its sound or name.

*c* 1465 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* p. A Doble W. for Warwike, bot gode Englisshe. 1552 Huloet Kk iij, Because there in a diuersitie betwene the single V and the double W, therfore the alphabet of them shalbe set diuersly. [The sequence is: *u, w, v, x*.] 1569 J. Sanford *Garden of Pleasure* (W. Jaggard) 1908 A Frenchman also misnamed to call it double : v : for then shoulde we sounde it : v : v : but his sounde agreeth to the olde name of : y : which is double v. 1595 R. Carew in G. Smith *Voc. Spenser Soc. Ext.* (1904) II. 286 For letters, we haue Q. more then the Greekes; K. and V. more then the Latynes; and W. more then them both. 1596 Percyvall *Spanish Dict. Venue Aninadvo.* (1673) 65 The latyne, Italiane, frenche, and spanyshe haue no doble W. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Engl. Gram.* (1640) 40 W. is but the V. geminated in the Dutch sound, and though it have the seate of a consonant with vs, the power is alwayes Vowellish, even where it leades the Vowell in any Syllabe: as if you marke it, pronounce the two *uu*. like a quicke in passage and these words: fe-line, feu-dal, good-ly, lan-guage, ſa-un. Will sound wine. want. wood. wast. swing. swam. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (e) 5, [In the English dialect where a Vowel ends a word, the next begins either with a Consonant, or what is its equivalent; for our W and H aspirate are plainly such. 1704 *Expert Orthographist* in Hearne *Collect.* I. iii. (1885) 160 All polysyllables ending in obscure *e* have to added for ornament's sake as *arrow, bellows*, &c. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* (1809) 454 One would wonder how the *w* could ever come to be a letter in our language, for it is plainly nothing else but the *u* vowel; for ..*will* spells will, as much as *will*. 1856 Carr, B. Southey *Birds-Nest.* 57 And sprawling W's and V's, and V's, Gaped prodigiously. 1869 Ellis *E. E. Pron.* i. iii. 187 In Europe (w) is thought to be peculiar to England..In Arabic however (w) is quite at home. *a* 1890 W. B. Scott *Autob.* (1892) I. ii. 29 He went over the letters, giving them the broad old Scotch pronunciation: A was *aaw*, B was *bay*, C was *say*, and so on, ending with U sounded like *oo* in good, W as *dyoobiu*, Z as *izzicd*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 449 *note*, The voiceless *W* and the voiceless *Z* have been given above within brackets, the former being now almost confined to Scotland and the latter being peculiar to Wales.

2. The letter considered with regard to its shape. Also *attrib.*

1708 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Chairs in sets.. with W, tablean and X backs. 1892 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 366 The molars show sharp tubercles separated by transverse furrows, generally producing a sort of W-like pattern on each tooth. 1880 Flower *Museum Balachistan* 17 The walls..are.. rendered ornamental by triangular recesses fitting one into another like an endless W, each triangle being filled up with lines of smaller W's.

3. Abbreviations. W. = various personal names, as William, Walter, Winifred; † W. (*Calendar*) = Whitsunday; W. = West (W.N.W. west-northwest, W.S.W. west-south-west; W.C. the West Central postal district of London; W (*Chem.*) = tungsten (mod.L. *wolframium*); W (*Electr.*) = watt; W.C. = water-closet; W.I. = West Indies; W.S. (*Scotland*) = Writer to the Signet.

1533 Sir E. Howard in *Lett. & Papers Hen. Europe* (1897) 94 The wynd fereyd out off the W.N.W. into the E.N.E. *c* 1565 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) Calendar 128 Ye shal finde..at the 29 of April this letter W where begine for Whitsonday. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 We came to an Anchor about Noon, the Wind at W. by S. 1778 *Engl. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Pale*, It rises about 2 miles W. of Roche Hills. 1814 *Cox v. W. Bourne* (1907) 330 A1 pertains to W. C. at Normanby, which had to come from London. *a* 1894 R. Chambers in *Cassg. Lett. Scr.* II. I. 269, I received a regular apprentice-ship to a double-you-ess. 1891 W. Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* v, The..compass was about W. S. W. 1892 Emmison *Epidemic Pneumonia at Scottes* 11 No W.C. or bathroom.

**W**, obs. form of How *adv.*

**Wa**: see Waw, Way, Wha *int.*, Woe.

**Wa'**, Sc. form of Wall.

**Waa**, north. form of Way, Wha *int.*, Woe.

**Waaffery, Waale**, obs. ff. Waffery, Wale *sb.*[1]

**Waam**, var. Wame, north. form of Womb.

**Waan(ie)**, var. Wanie *v.*

**Waand**, var. Wonde *v. Obs.*, to fear, hesitate.

**Waar, -ness** : see Ware, -ness.

**Waarnyng**, obs. form of Warning.

**Waast**, obs. form of Waist, Waste.

**Waat**, obs. pa. pple. of Wet *v.*

**Wab**, north. form of Web.

**Wabain, Wabalo** : see Quabaio.

**Wabble** : see Wobble.

**Wabble, var.** Warble.

**Wabster**, north form of Webster.

**Wac**, obs. form of Wear *a.*

**† Wacadash.** *Obs.* Also 7 wacca-, waka-, wag(g)adash, wakedas(s)h. [a Japanese *wakizashi*.] A Japanese short sword.

1613 W. Eaton in W. Foster *Lett. recd. E. Ind. Co.* (1897) II. 90 He had given her his wacadash or little cattan. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 124 Next those weapons resembling a Welch-hooke called Wagadashes. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (1883) I. 83, 100 bowes, 100 arrow heades, and three waccadashes. 1625 W. Adams *Voy.* (1916) 34 Kattannes wakedashes and pikes. 1820 *Will of W. Adams* in *Athenæum* (1910) 21 May 625/1 I bequeath unto Richard Cock..my best Cattane the other of my Cattans and wagadashes I. bequeath vnto my aforesaid sone Joseph.

**Wacance, -and** : see Vacance, Vacand.

**Wacche, -man**, obs. forms of Watch, -man.

**Wace**, obs. f. was, pa. t. of Be *v.*

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 380, 421.

**Wace, Wach** : see Wax *sb.*, Wash *v.*

**Wach(e, -man**, obs. forms of Watch, -man.

**Wachel, wachle**, var. forms of Wauchle.

**Wachet(e**, obs. forms of Watchet.

**Wacht**, obs. f. Waught *sb.*[1] and *v.*, *Sc.* and *north.*

**Wack** : see War, Wake, Walk *v.*[2], Whack.

**Wacke** (wa·k). *Geol.* Also 9 wacca, wake, wackė. [a. Ger. *wacke*, dial. *wake* (MHG. *wache* large stone, OHG. *waggo* pebble), a miners' word, adopted by Werner as a geological term.] A sandstone-like rock, resulting from the decomposition of basaltic rocks *in situ*. Cf. Grauwacke, Greywacke.

1803 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* II. 115 The calcareous rock above described..sometimes also occurs under the form of Wacke, which is again composed of gritty fragments, caused by the destructive effects of past ages. 1811 Pinkerton *Petrol.* I. 171 Two [German] papers.. 'On argillaceous schistus, hornslate, and on wake'. 1816 P. Cleaveland *Min.* 284 Basalt often forms one member of a series, beginning with gravel, sand, and clay; this clay gradually becomes less sandy and harder, till it passes into wacke, and the wacke is by insensible degrees lost in Basalt. 1839 Murchison *Silurian Syst.* I. xxxvi. 499 The chief portion of the hill consists of a dull rotten wacke.

**†Wacken.** *Geol. Obs.* [app. a. G. *wacken*-, combining form of *wacke*: see prec.] = WACKE 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min* (ed. 2) I. 219 [Basaltine] is most found in basalts, wacken, and lava. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton Theory* 67 The wacken, mellen and crag of Kirwan.

**b.** Comb.: **wacken porphyry.**

1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed. 2) I 355 Wacken Porphyry. 1807 Hendrick *Aviemore* The hills at the head of Glenloy are composed of wacken porphyry

Hence **Wackenl-tic** *a.*, of the nature or composition of wacke.

1866 Lamplugh in *Cotta's Rocks Classified* (1878) 88 We shall use the adjective 'wackenitic' to designate this [decomposed] state of those rocks.

**Wacker,** var. WHICKER.

**Wackerell,** var. WARDRELL, Sanctus bell.

**Wad** (wɒd), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **wadd**, **e**, **wade.** [Of obscure origin; the identity of the word in all the senses is not quite certain.

With sense 3 cf. mod. Sw *vadd*, G. Du *watte*, Fr. *ouate* (whence It. *ovatta*), wadding; the etymology and mutual relation of these words are unknown.]

**1** A bundle of hay or straw (occas. of hemp, etc.); esp. a small bundle of hay, peas, beans, vetches, etc., made at the time of cutting or reaping; a portion of a sheaf of cereal plants or of reed. Now *dial.*

1573 Tusser *Remedi* xi. 26 Hereon the lad aloft on wad of cumbre, shaw they lay. 1596 Spenser *Hymn Heav. Love* 208 Where he entended was In simple couch wraps in a wad of hay. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVII. xiv. 1. 308 When it [a crop of lupines] is cut downe, to make it into wads or bottles, and so to burie them at the roots of trees. 1690 Markham *Farrier Houlds.* ii. 65 Laying before the Plow long wades or roules of the straw of Lupins, Pease, or else Fetches: you shall turne the furrowes upon the wades. 1822 J. Fallon (Walter-P.) *Covenant Theef* (1894) C. 2, A wisp of Rushes or a clod of land, Or any wadde of Hay that is nevt to hand They'l steale. 1847 Trapp *Comm. 2 Cor.* xi. 32 In the Popes imbroglement, a piece of tow, or wad of straw is set on fire before him, and one appointed to say, *Sic transit gloria mundi.* 1893 Evelyn *De la Quiet Compl. Cured.* Diet., To wrap up Pills, in tender Leaves with Wool, or Wisps of Straw. 1706 Vincent *Fair Trample* iii 1, You shall find her upon a Wad of Straw, with one Brat at her Breast. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 64 The reapers lay it on the land in wads as they cut them, or parcels, as near the quantity of half a sheaf of wheat unbound. 1799 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ind Admiral* iii. iii. Wks. 1816 III. 447 At times she lends of hemp a little wad, Sings some young Lovite spun it. 1807 Sir R. C. Hoare *Tour Irel.* 300 A wad of straw, or perhaps heath laid on a damp clay floor. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 311 A bundance penal berley machine, is also used to cleanse the wad of its smut. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Wad*, a bundle of straw tied up by a thatcher. A bundle of reed less than a full sheaf of 28 lbs. weight is also called a wad.

*fig.* 1697 Heywood *Joyre Maydn Lech* i. (C.) b, Yonder bundle of sighes, yonder wad of groanes.

**b.** A heap; also, a stack. *dial.*

1750 Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. iii. 31 [To mow vetches] cock them in little wads as we do the Clover-grass. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 386 It is the usual practice to put them [oat pea crops] into small heaps, termed wads, which are formed by setting small parcels against each other. 1856 J. C. Morton *Cycl. Agric* II. 726 *Wad*, a heap of beans or peas laid out to dry, previous to binding. In the county of Devon, applied to a handful of thatch. 1906 *Times* 25 June 14/4 The wet wads formed by the horse rake are avoided

**2.** A small bundle of a soft, flexible material; esp. for use as a plug, pad, or cushion.

1580 Holybande *Treas. Fr. Tong. Torche* a wad of straw or clouts that witches wet put on their heds when they cary any thing. 1622 Markie *Ir. Husman's Guyman* 168 If it be wet wipe it with old cuils of Rags, or of Flax and Tow, to make wads and wisps for those that goe to the long-horne. 1752 Sir H. Beaumont *Cruise* 17 The vent Wad of Lemon that they put upon the Powder Hand. 1781 Hayley *Pict. Temper* iii. 85 She on the tipes her inky wad let fall. 1802 Mongrall *Ir. Reader* 273 The neck of the duck being cut off, only a wad of cotton. 1889 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 98 I've to go about with wads of cotton-wool ready in my pocket for my two ears.

**b.** Something rolled up tightly, as a roll of bank notes. Chiefly *U.S.*

1778 *Farmer Scolding* Glss. (E. D. S.) 151 A garment rumbled [*sic*] up to a Wad, with many Plaits and Wrinkles. 1804 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept. A little wallet containing one or more dollar bills, or at least a wad of fractional currency. 1888 *Bow-Bells Weekly* 22 June 396 Never roll gloves into each other in a wad, for they will never look as well after. 1890 *Gunter Main Nobody* ix. (1891) 94 Handing Everett a wad of greenbacks. Mrs. F. H. Burnett *De Willoughby Claim* x. 132 He finally rolled his paper into a hard wad and threw it at the counter. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* iii, MacWalter pulled a thick wad of bank notes out of his pocket. 1908 S. J. White *Ki-rman* xiv, Dabbing at her eyes with a handkerchief dampened into a tiny wad

*transf.* 1895 Howells *Impress. y. Fr.* (1896) 164 Such a small, dull wad of out-worn womanhood!—her grey old head bent upon her knees, and her withered arms wound in her thin shawl. 1913 *Sat. Rev.* 24 May 568/2 He will find them well padded by wads of extracts from second hand authorities

**†3.** A material composed of matted fibres of silk, raw cotton, etc. = WADDING 3. *Obs.*

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII* c. 14 Item for every tonne Tolose wadde accompting vij hole bales . for a tonne xx s. 1695 P. Motteux *St. Olon's Morocco* 239 The Traffick of Provence consists in...Velvet, Cottons, Wadds [Fr. *cottonnets*], and other Commodities from the Levant. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wad*, a sort of Flocks of Silk, course Flannel, or Cotton. 1761 *Ann Reg., Chron* 132/1 The plant known by the name of *Asclepias* From the silky wad it affords we [in France] call it *Soyense.*

**4.** A plug of tow, cloth, etc., a disk of felt or cardboard, to retain the powder and shot in position in charging a gun or cartridge.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 476 Another [experiment]. is a Wooden Tampion hollow'd towards the Bullet,...and hollow likewise towards the Powder, and serving instead of a Wadd. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. 211 68 Put the Powder home gently, and after put on a good Wad; then put in the Shot, and after him another Wad. 1769 Bailey *Dict. Mariana* (1780), *Wad*, a quantity of old rope-yarns, hay, &c. rolled firmly together into the form of a ball, and used to confine the shot or shell in the breech of a piece of artillery. 1805 *Sportsman's Dict. Sports* I. 11, 8 Or 9 After using the powder-flask, drive down a single piece of wadding; then pour in the charge of shot, drive down another wad, [etc.] 1862 J. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (ed. 9) 212 No 5 serves No 7 with properties wads, if necessary, and traverses. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 294/1 The escape of gas was prevented by means of a felt wad attached to the back of the cartridge. 1881 Greener *Gun* 320 Wads are punched out of sheets of various materials by cutters fixed in a press. Those most commonly used are made of felts, cardboard, and straw. 1890 D. Davidson *Heron Lough* iii. 31 We vowed too closely past the *Victory* as she was firing her royal salute, and one of her wads just cleared our heads.

**5.** A lump of a soft or plastic substance. *rare.*

1775 *Ash* s.v. *Spunge* III. vii, Eyes like two dead beetles in a wad of brown dough! 1858 Hackenan *Fashionable Inn.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 254 The halderman, who was behjun the tuttle, gave a fluffeters plase a wad of green fat.

**b** A mass, heap, large quantity. *Sc.* and *north.*

1820 *Craven Glass., Wad*, a large quantity. 'We've a wad o' byt to year.' 1915 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 29 June 427/1 True, he has seen plenty of it on hand; but I don't like the idea of that silver being on the premises.

**6.** *Ceramics.*

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 568 When a stopper is filled with clay, and its outer edges are placed the two pieces of coarse clay, called *wads* from their being employed to wedge or closely join the interstice between two saggers. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Wad*, In *ceramics*, a small piece of finer clay used to cover the body of an inferior material in some varieties of earthenware; especially, the piece doubled over the edge of a sagger.

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (sense 4) as *wad gauge, punch, room*; **wad hook,** (*a*) a spiral tool for withdrawing wads or charges from guns; (*b*) *Mining* (see quot. 1881).

1828 Sportsman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 23 'Wad Gauges. 1872 Fleming, *Coast Defences* 1. 1. 1. 1. 'Wad-hook. 1876 Ewing *London* IV. 344 Rammers, hand spikes, wad hooks. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 109 I. the shell extractor and wadhook are placed on the right of the gun. 1881 Raymond *Mines Wad-hook* A tool with two spiral steel blades for removing fragments from the bottom of deep bore-holes. 1895 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, 'Wad punch, a tool that punches wads for cutting gun wads, etc. 1796 *Gentl. Mag.* XVI 4.6 His gunner concealed 43 barrels of powder in the "wad room, covering them with sand and lumber.

**Wad** (wɒd), *sb.*[2] In 7 **wadd.** [Perh. cogn. w. ON. *vað-r* masc., measuring line, MSw. *vaþi* wk. masc., boundary-line between properties (cf. sense 2 below), or with OE. *wadan* to go, Wade *v.*]

1. *Surveying.* A straight line taken in measuring from one mark to another. *? Obs.*

1610 W. Folkingham *Feudgr* II. vi. 53 These dimensions are found or practised either *Counsins* or *Innons*. The first needes no amplification, but for precise keeping in the Wadd or right line. The Wadd is delineated either to a mark in sight, or blind. If the Innons be in Woods, Bushes or Waters Wadd upon the marke by some intermediall eminence, and at the setting down of every pricke, let each man waue his Rod, or Wand, towards the Wadd.

2 *dial.* 'A line, esp. one marked out between two parcels of land' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); also see quots.

1869 *Lonsdale Glass, II. ad*, a line or rank. 1886 *S. W. Line Glass., Wad*, a mark made up as a guide to plough or sow by. Hence Lane, to order, position. 1889 *N. W. Line. Glass., Wad*, a mark in shooting, ploughing, land measuring, &c.

**b.** Way or course of travel, track. *lit.* and *fig.*

1854 Miss A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Wad* s. A way or beaten track, a line of conduct permanently adhered to. 'He goes on in the old wad,' i.e. in the same manner as formerly

3. *Comb.*: **wad-staff, -stick** (see quots.).

1856 J. C. Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Wadstaff*, (Notts.), a guide laid on a plough bout. 1882 *W. Line. Glass., Wad-staff, wad stick*, a tall white wand painted with rims of various colours, used as a mark for ploughmen in setting out furrows.

**Wad** (wɒd), *sb.*[3] Also 7 **wadd, 8 wadd.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. A local name for plumbago or black lead; also called *black wad.* Also *dial.* a black-lead pencil (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1614 in *Mem. Lit. & Philos Soc Manch* Ser. II (1819) III. 169 Except the lead holes and wad, commonly called black cawkes, within the commons of Seatollor, or elsewhere within the commons and wastes of the said manor [of Borrowdale]. 1698 Ploy *Black-lead in Phil Trans* XX 183 The Mineral Substance, called...Black Lead, is only at Keswick in Cumberland, and there called, *Wadt*, or *Kellow*. 1856 *Penny Cycl* V. 225 (Borrowdale) The most remarkable product of the valley is graphite, plumbago, or black lead (provincially wad). 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Lng. Lakes* (1879) 199 The lead, or plumbago, locally termed 'wad,'...is the best material ever discovered for making lead pencils.

**2.** An impure earthy ore of manganese.

1763 *Phil Trans* LXXIII. 284 Some Experiments upon the Ochra friabilis nigro fusca of Da Costa...; and called by the Miners of Derbyshire, Black Wadd. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 465 Mr Wedgewood dissolved a quantity of black wadd in a large quantity of nitrous acid heated. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts, Wadd*, is the provincial name...of an ore of manganese in Derbyshire, which consists of the peroxide of that metal, associated with nearly its own weight of oxide of iron. 1884 *Athenæum* 16 Aug 212/3 The not very interesting manganese mineral wad.

**3.** *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wad-hole, -lead, -mine, -pencil.*

1614 *Wad hole* [see 1] 1780 G. Jars *Voy. Metall* II. 354 (*Webst. Sec. Trans.* 1908, p. 140) Mineral plumb pour les crayons nommés Black-lead or 'Wad-Lead. 1797 *Encycl Brig.* XVII. 583 'Wadd mines in the Cumberland Dialect, signifies the black lead mines. 1838 *Penny Cycl* V. 225 (Borrowdale) The lead mine. 1889 Beckett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., A "wad pencil.

**†Wad,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare*[—1]. Origin and sense obscure. only in proverbial phrase, app. meaning 'in that course there is danger'.

1594 Wilkins in *Sir Thomas Overbury* (1856) xvii. Or Praying you efsones, that the erection of the yong King he not delayed by any diet to be kept upon the Borders or other communication; for in that pad there lyeth a wad.

**Wad** (wɒd), *v.*[1] Also 6 **wadde.**

**1.** To form into a wad.

1. *trans.* To lay up (the cut haulm of beans, peas, etc.) in bundles.

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* ix. § 101, 256 After the silthe they wad both Beans and Peas. 1733 Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 341 I hey take care to Wad them [sc. beans] as soon as Mown, and put them into single small Parcels. 1776 [W. Marshall] *Minster Agric. Observ.* 30 In dry weather, Pease properly wadded with a Prong are much nearer ready to carry than those left in hard bundles by the Foot and Sithe. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric* II. 89 When crops of this sort that have risen to seed, are left it is the usual practice to cut and wad them in the same manner as for peas. 1813 T. Batchelor *New Agric Bedfordsh* 208 (E. D.) The process of wadding, and gleaning beans, is rather a tedious one.

**2** To press (loose or fibrous material) into a small compass or into a close, compact mass; *U.S.* to roll up tightly. Also with *up.*

1673 Ealeyn *Terra* (1776) 74 If you lay about them [*sc.* the roots] any fern-brakes or such like carpets with a little earth let it not be Wadded too close 1896 *N. Y. Weekly Ill stress* 23 Dec. 26/4 A most peculiar cholera-remedy was in use in Persia. It consisted in wadding up a leaf from the Koran and forcing it down the patient's throat. 1913 Mrs. Stratton Porter *Bl. O'Halloran* viii, 'Can you help me?' 'Sure I' said Mickey, wadding his cap into his back pocket.

**3.** *transf.* To join (a ship) in fighting.

1890 Thackeray *Penlennis* lviii, An honest holiday maker with his family waddled into a tax cart.

**II.** To furnish with or as with a wad or wadding.

**4** To put a wad in (a gun, a cartridge).

1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 213 His Gunner to wadde and ramme, to cleanse, scoure, and coole the Peeces. 1881 Greener *Gun* 320 When loaded with shot, the cartridges are wadded in the Pakenham machine. 1894 Crockett *Raid over Ulchtree* I 83 He had wadded it [*sc.* a gun] with three leaves of the Bible

**5.** To line, fill out, pad, as with wadding; to quilt.

1759 J. G. Cooper *Life of Art* ii 212 His skin with sugar being wadded, With liquid fires his entrails burn'd. 1788 *Gent. Magazine* 1 1/1 The wheel-footed studying chair,...Wide-elbow'd, and wadded with hair. 1842 Barham *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* iii, Straight the King's great chair was brought him,...Languidly he sunk into it, it was comfort ably wadded. 1846 — *Ingoldsby Leg.*, Glenlivet, duly fully wadded the insides of the boots with cobbler's wax 1848 — *Lett* 1 Nov., You say your prayers in curved studi wadded with velvet cushions. 1862 Thackeray *Cruise upon Wheels* xiv. (1863) 413 My thick flannel dressing-gown, lined and wadded 1869 Miss M. Betham-Edwards *Disarmed* xxiii, She wore a dress of crimson satin, wadded after the fashion of the olden time

*fig.* 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xx If we had a keen vision and feeling of all ordinary human life, we should be of that roar which lies on the other side of silence As it is, the quickest of us walk about well wadded with stupidity

**†6.** *v. to* sub with a wad. *Obs.*

1610 Holme *Armoury* III. xix (Roxb.) 184/2 Wad or wash him [*sc.* a horse] round.

**7.** To plug (the ears) with wads.

1596 'Ouida' *Winter City* iii, They have waddled their ears and would not hear.

**Wad** (wɒd), *v.*[2] In 7 **wadd.** [f. Wad *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To walk with the chain in a straight line from one mark to another in land-surveying.

1610 W. Folkingham *Feudgr* II. iv. 53 Let the Chaine-leaders Wadd vpon the marke by some intermediall eminence 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 136/1 Geometrical Terms used in Surveying and Measuring of Lands...*Wadding*, keeping in a right Line. 1869 *Lonsdale Glass., Wad*, to set out a line in land-surveying or engineering, by putting in a series of stakes or sticks.

**Wad** : see Wed, Woad; also Will *v.*

**Wadable, wadeable** (wē·dăb'l), *a.* Also 7 *Sc.* **wadable.** [f. Wade *v.* + -able.] That can be waded.

1611 Florio, *Vadeuile*, foardable, wadable. 1811 Cotgr., *Gayer*, a Foord, or wadeable passage ouer a riuer. *Ibid.*, *Gueable*, wadeable; fit, likely, or easie, to be waded ouer. 1861 Moll *Cameral. Law. Libr.* iv. xx. 233 Understanding that the Marshes were wadable. 1893 J. Fraser in *W Macfarlane's Geogr Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 218 Severed by a small streame wadable sometymes when it is low water. 1893 Galt *R. Gilhaize* xvii, As the fugitives were within wadeable reach of the bank, they jumpit out of the boat. 1894 Carlyle *Reminis. Gt. Xvii.* vi. (1873) VII. 62 Where the Brook withal is of firmer bottom and more wadeable,

**[Wadde.** A spurious word, repr. AL. *vadia* 'wages' in the writ appointing a serjeant; the other words represent *feoda* 'fees', *vestura* 'vesture' and *regarda* 'rewards'.
1679 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 12) 262 Out of the Sergeants above-mentioned, the King by Writ, usually calls some to be his Council at Law, allowing each one Wadage, Feodage, Vesturage, and Regardage.]

**Wadd,** obs. f. Wad; dial. form of Wold.

**Wadded** (wo·ded), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **wadid.** [f. Wad *v.*1 + -ed 1.] Lined with wadding.
1595 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 217, 1 pece of wadded buffinge. *Ibid.* 281 Ite' 1 pece blacke wadid buffinge. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 A thick wadded Calico Wrapper, [etc.]. 1833 *Ladies' Cabinet* Jan. 65 Wadded petticoats are expected to be very generally adopted. *Ibid.* Oct. 269 A white *gros de Naples* slip, which, had a deep wadded hem. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. xv, I thought Mirabel was made..in Giroux's shop, and was kept in a wadded box when her mechanism was not wound up. 1890 D. Davidson *Mem. Long Life* viii. 106 His costume..consisted of a hunting cap with a white wadded cover.

**Wadder** 1 (wo·dəɹ). [f. Wad *v.*1 + -er 1.]
†**1.** An implement for wadding a gun. *Obs.*
1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 125, I might here adioyne mallorye Tables..what Bullets, Wadders, Rammers, Ladles,..were conuenient to bee hadde in readinesse.
**2.** One who lays up (the cut haulm of beans, etc.) in bundles or 'wads'.
1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 236 This..lays the beans in regular rows, and saves the expense of a wadder.

†**Wadder** 2. *Land-surveying. Obs.* [f. Wad *v.*2 + -er 1.] One who is engaged in determining a 'wad' or line of direction.
1620 W. Folkingham *Feudigraphy* II. lv. 53 If out of sight.. place two Assistants, the one at the marke, and the other at the eminentest Medium, and then your selfe standing at ..the station giuen, and the first Assistant erecting some visible obiect, waft the Wadders into the Wadd.

**Wadder,** obs. Sc. form of Wether.

**Waddie, Waddin,** var. ff. Waddy, Walbe.

**Wadding** (wo·ding), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]
**1.** The action of Wad *v.*1
1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 14 Sept. 1776, Whether the crop be thick or thin, Wadding puts it equally out of harm's way.
**2.** *concr.* Any soft, pliable material from which gun-wads are made; also, a wad.
1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xiv. 66 Waddings is Okum, old cloats, or straw, put after the powder and the Bullet. 1664 Power *Disco'y* N. Nov., To the Office of the Ordnance, to discourse about Waddings. 1732–48 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 175 The Waddings used in all these..Experiments, were of thick Leather cut round, to fit the Bore of the Piece. 1815 *Chambers's Cyclop. Papers* (1882) I. iii. 73 The whole of the extent..was strewed with the cartridges and waddings of the cannon. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 31 The recruit is to be instructed in the paper, or wadding, home. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* liv, I found the wadding of the pistol with which the deceased Mr. Tulking-horn was shot.
**3.** Any loose, fibrous material for use as a padding, stuffing, quilting, etc. Now chiefly, cotton-wool formed into a fleecy layer.
1734 *Gro's St. Trav.* 2 May 4/1 Handsome Gowns for Ladies, with Silk Waddings. 1737 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Wadding*, a thin, coarse, woollen Manufacture made for line Men's Morning Gowns, the Plaits of their Coats, &c. 1758 Johnson, *Wadding*, a kind of soft stuff loosely woven, with which the skirts of coats are stuffed out. 1784 *Cowper Task* v. 31 A generation more refin'd Improv'd the simple plan t.. And o'er the seat, with plenteous wadding stuff'd, Induc'd a splendid cover. 1796 M. Cutler in *Life, Journ. & Corr.* (1888) II. 113, I presented him a specimen of wadding for Ladies' cloaks. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 2.v., Wadding [for garments]is now made in a large piece of cotton prepared by the carding-engine, which is applied to tissue paper by a coat of size. 1865 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 493 A small ball of cotton wool or wadding enclosed in a piece of linen rag. 1900 Hannan *Textile Fibres* 54 The raw material..when beaten out soft is used for wadding in clothing and coverlets. 1904 *Woollen Draper's Trouss* in *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/2 Wadding.—A loose fibrous material made of cotton waste; one side is finished with paper faces used for padding purposes.
*fig.* 1848 Landor *Imag. Conv., Diogenes & Plato* Wks. I. 455/1 Aristoteles, and all the rest of you, must have the wadding of straw and saw-dust shaken out, and then we shall know pretty nearly your real weight and magnitude.

**Waddle** (wo·d'l), *sb.* [f. Waddle *v.*]
**1.** The action of waddling; a waddling gait. Also, rate of progress by waddling.
1692 Shadwell *Scowrers* II. i. 15 That must be my sweet Duckling—I know her by her pretty Waddle in her Gate.
1823 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* I. 38 A fisherman's natural waddle is two miles an hour. 1827 Kingsley *Two Yrs. Ago* xxv. The lighter woman's step was inaudible to Tom; but the heavy deliberate waddle of the banker was not. 1890 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 168/2 In the *Natatores*..the great intercotyloid distance gives to their gait its peculiar waddle.
*fig.* 1897 Hood *Monkey-Marlow* 50 Striding with a step that seem'd design'd To represent the mighty March of Mind, Instead of that slow waddle Of thought, to which our ancestors inclined.
†**2.** The wane of the moon. *dial. Obs.*
[Perh. a distinct word: cf. OHG., MHG. *wadel* (—**wadlo-*) phases or change of the moon.]
1678 *Kay's Prov.* (ed. 2) 353 Sow or set beans in Candlemas waddle, *i. e.* Wane of the Moon. Somerset.

**Waddle** (wo·d'l), *v.* Forms: 5 **wadill,** 6–8 **wadle,** 7– **waddle.** Also *quaddle,* Quoddle. [freq. f. Wade *v.*: see -le.]
†**1.** *intr.* ? To fall heavily or as an inert mass.
*c* 1400 *Song of Roland* 991 He rent hym vnredily anyn to the nadill: on ether sid of his hore doun did he wadill.
**2.** To walk with short steps, swaying alternately from one leg to the other, as is done by a stout short-legged person.
1598 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iii. 37 Then she could stand alone, nay bi' th' roode she could haue runne & wadled all about. 1600 *Pilg.* (Walter P.) *Jack a Lent* B 2 b, Alwayes before Lent there comes wadling a fat grosse burstenguted groome, called Shrouse-Tuesday. 1681 T. D[Urfey] *Progr. Honesty* ii. 23 Next is fat Author wadled into view. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxviii, This great man [a short of stature, is fat, and waddles as he walks. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. 7 so The old procuress waddled out of sight. *c* 1860 B. Harte *Arctic Vision* 1 Where the short-legged Esquimaux Waddle in the ice and snow. 1893 F. Espinasse *Lit. Recoll.* ii. 14 So fat that he waddled rather than walked.
**b.** said of animals; esp. of ducks or geese.
1611 Cotgr., *Caneter*, to waddle, or goe, like a ducke. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2686/4 She [a mare] waddles in her Trot. 1796–8 Pennant *Zool.* I. 63 As when a dab-chick waddles through the copse On feet and wings. 1819 Crabbe *Tales of Hall* xvii. 216 And a fat spaniel waddled at his side. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xv, Ducks and geese..waddling awkwardly about the edges of the pond. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. in Pacific* iv. 113, I caught sight of a huge seal waddling out of the water. 1888 E. Hume *Minc. Midas* ii. I, The parrot..waddled clumsily across the table to the inkstand.
*c. transf.* said of things.
1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4472/4 Like blas to the bowl, Which, as more pond'rous, made its aim more true, Obliquely waddling to the mark in view. 1858 *Straith's Fortif. & Artillery* (ed. 2) 308 The projectile must be more than one and a half inches in length; if too short, the wheel would waddle (or, as it is sometimes called, wabble).
†**d.** *Stock Exchange slang.* To become a 'lame duck' (Duck *sb.*1 9). In full, *to waddle out. Obs.*
1771 Garrick *Prol. to Foote's Maid of B.* 31 Change-Alley bankrupts waddle out lame ducks! 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Journ.* (1801) II. 372 A *bear* who pretends to sell what he is not possessed of, or is obliged frequently to *waddle out* at a great loss. 1824 *Stock Exch. Laid Open* 20 A Jobber was never known to waddle (to be a lame duck). 1825 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* 39 Jobbers usually brokers, who cannot make good their engagements for the delivery of stock, or run short in funds to pay for what they have bought,..leasons how to waddle out. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* lxv, He's been neither bull nor bear for these three years. He was obliged to *waddle.*
†**3.** To cause to waddle or to waddle *in. Obs.*
1589 Crowley *Sophistrie Dr. Watson* ii. 26 We, whom you would haue men thinke to be defiled with it, are cleare from it, and you your selfe most filthily wadled in it.
**4.** Of animals: To trample or tread down (grass). Now *dial.*
1697 Drayton *Moon-Calf* Batt. Agincourt, etc. 183 They tread and waddle all the goodly grasse, That in the field there scarse a corner was Left free by them.
†**5.** ? To clinch, befool. *Obs.*
1606 N. B[axter] *Sydney's Ourania* I 4, Browne Paper, Lute-strings, buckles for a Saddle, Perwigs, Tiffany, Paramours to waddle.

**Waddle-bag,** obs. and dial. f. Wattle.

**Waddler** (wo·dlə). [f. Waddle *v.* + -er 1.] A person or animal that waddles.
1628 *Lights & Shades* II. 121 A basket containing half a dozen defunct waddlers (ducks). 1830 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 849 A flock of those noisy waddlers [geese]. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* July 3 Many thought Musjid [a racehorse]a 'waddler' with his hind legs. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* I. 143 These waddlers had waddled sufficiently.
b attributive (see Waddler *v.* 2).
1831 *Westm. Rev.* XV. 208 Were he of the Stock Exchange he would rail against waddlers and men of straw.

**Waddling** (wo·dling), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That waddles (see the verb).
1662–7 Torr. *Ch. Ant. Arm.* iii. verse 37. xii. 8 § 50 Thus the little waddling child comes to go strongly, by going often. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* iv. 1, You..Addle-pated, waddling bous of Clouterly. 1732–48 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 81 Like the fox..join in wadlock with the waddling goose. 1799 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 96 A short squad Figure, with a waddling face. 1813 Eclair *Random Rec.* I. 1 Such a little child ..pause from a waddling run and look around him.
Hence **Wa·ddlingly** *adv.*
1882 O Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. i. 23 Great flocks of wild geese sauntered waddlingly on either side.

**Waddy** (wo·di). *Austral.* Also 9 **waddie, whaddie.** [In use among Australian aboriginals; perh. a native word, but possibly a corruption of Eng. *wood.*] An aboriginal war-club.
'The word is sometimes used for a walking-stick' (Morris).
1814 Flinders *Voy.* II. 189 Something resembling the *whaddie* or native sword of the natives of Port Jackson.
1818 Oxley *Journ. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 226 After beating their spears and waddies together for about a quarter of an hour, they went away. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* iv. (1855) 101 The waddy is a heavy, knobbed club, about two feet long. 1890 R. Boldrewood *Col. Reformer* xviii, Blows from the unerring waddy. 1892 J. Fraser *Aborigines of N. S. Wales* 74 A general name for all Australian clubs is 'waddy', and, although they are really clubs, they are often used as missiles in battle.
*attrib.* 1906 W. Craig *Adv. Austral. Golaf.* 283 The waddy blows inflicted..resulted in terrible injuries.
Hence **Wa·ddy** *v. trans.*, to strike, beat, or kill, with a waddy.
1853 Lp. Shrewsbury *Poems* (1885) 100 The black thieves appeared, My shepherds they waddled, my cattle they speared. 1899 Huxley *Lect. 25* June in L. Huxley *Life & Lett.* (1903) I. xiii. 230 The fellows who waddled the Amphitheirium and speared the Phascolotherium. 1899 *Mel. Sowvnr. Argus* 16 Aug. 4/8 He waddled Kate pretty near to death when he got to camp that night.

**†Wade,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* [= MLG. *wade,* MHG., mod.G. *wate* fem., seine; cf. ON. *vað-r* masc., fishing-line, Sw. *vad* masc., Norw. *vad* neut., Da. *vad* seine.] Some kind of fishing net. Also *wade-net.*
1388–9 *Acc. Obedientiarer Abingdon* (Camden) 37, 1 rete vocatum wade et j flowe, cum aliis rete vocato chasnenet. 1630 in *Bennell's Descr. Thames* (1758) 75 Nor shall fish ..except with a Wade Net for Bait only.

**Wade** (wēd), *sb.*2 *rare.* [f. Wade *v.*] An act of wading.
1665 Brathwait *Comment Two Tales* 166 It is a dear wade, when your Life lies upon the last Stake. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 May 5/2 The Japanese..have already begun to erect piers so as to avoid the necessity of that long wade.

**Wade** (wēd), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waded.** Forms: 1 **wadan,** 4–6 *Sc.* **wad,** vaid, **vayd,** 8 *Sc.* **wide,** 6 **waade,** 3– **wade.** *Pa. t.* 1 **wōd,** 3 **wode,** (4 **woude**), 4–6 *wod,* 6 *Sc.* **wood, woide, woyd:** 6– **waded.** *Pa. pple.* 4 **waad, wad,** 8 *Sc.* **wid,** 7 **wade,** 6– **waded.** [A Com. Teut. (orig. strong) verb (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *wadan* (also *gewadan*), pa. t. *wōd,* pl. **wōdon,* pa. pple. **gewaden,* corresp. to OFris. *wada* str. vb. (WFris. *wâdzje* wk., NFris. *waar* str., to wade), MDu. *waden* str., later wk. (Du. *waden* wk.), to wade, to cross, *waet* str. and wk. (LG. *waden, waren* wk.) to wade, OHG. *watan* str., to go, press forward, wade (MHG., mod.G. *waten* wk., to wade), ON. *vaða* str., to go through, wade (Norw. *vada, vaða,* Sw. *vada,* Da. *vade* wk., to wade), f. OTeut. **wad-* : **wōd-* : pre-Teut. **widh-* = L. *vādere* to go, proceed, walk. The root, which occurs only in Teut. and L., is represented also by the sb. OE. *wæd,* ON. *vað,* L. *vadum* ford, shallow water.
The mod. Eng. specific sense, 'to walk in water', though prominent in the other Teut. langs., is not recorded in OE., unless perhaps in the compound *gewadan* Overwade *v.*). In OE. the vb. is almost exclusively poetic.
The strong inflexion became obsolete in the 16th c.]
**1.** *intr.* To go (physically). †**a.** Of persons and animals: To go, advance, move onward; *chiefly,* to go *over* or *through* something. *Obs.*
*Beowulf* 1611 [He] wod þa ofer wæl-stowe. *c* 1000 *Ambreas* 1271 (Gr.) Þa com halcða þrym wadan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 250 þi mawmentis..gerris þe fel bare nakris in þe fyre. *Wyntoun Cron.* 1450 As he towart me cuth wad, a gredy wolf hyrt me. *Alexius* (MS. Laud 622) 348 Alexius fer and ner gan wade, Ant nought wolde he spare. 1581 Stevano *Mod. Disciple.* 1. 85 You may see certaine Pikes in Flanders in the front towards the enimie, which shall wade through to strengthen the battaile. *c* 1648–50 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* iv. (1818) 151 Farewell..Steepy ways by which I waded. And those trugs with which I traded.
†**b.** Of inanimate things, esp. of a weapon: To go *through,* to penetrate *into* something. *Obs.*
993 *Battle of Maldon* 159 Gif he to georne geneðan *Leg.* 60/51 Þe harde scourgene in it tendre flechs deope gonne wade. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2643 He..bi þe shuldre blade A sharpe sword let wade Ioon the bon ase water bere. 13.. *Northern Passion* II. 158/2210 þe bones wode in his flese. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 504 Whan myght is ioyned vn-to cruelnes Allas to depe wol the venym wade. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 478 Through the hoose schuldire the swerde gan wade.
†**2.** *fig.* To go (in action, thought, or discourse); to proceed. *Obs.*
Often difficult to distinguish from 3 c, in which it ultimately merged.
*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 150 They..gonnen wade In mery an vnwise glad and glorious game. 1533 Bp. Gardiner, what they ben met yfere. 1612–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 1762, I holde hym eke vnable To ben acceptid.. Whan I at her tonge wadeth on my fyre. *c* 1440 Cathgaxe *Pr. Addr.* 1604 What will ye farther in this matter wade? 1595 Fisher *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 441 To rehearse his reasons, and so wande in this matter with them, it were inough for an holie diue. 1598 Barle *Dr. Faustus* (1609) Iuciffer he fraud So hyghly to wade To God he wolde be equall. 1599 Jaffmer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 22, I might seeme.. to take this parte of scripture lightly, and so gently swim away there wyth, and dryue my matter at my pleasure. 1588 Grafton *Chron.* II. 877 Which secret Serpent caused their furie to wade beeth then measure without order or restrayne. 1589 Golding *De Mornay* xxv. (1617) 424 Well may mans skill wade into weekes & moneths: but considering the vncertainty of worldly matters, it is rather wade into yeeres. 1589 R. Robinson *Golden Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 60 Thy grace extend to guide my feete Least I should wade awry. 1605 Bretegan *Decl. Infidl.* vi. (1638) 156 Martin Luther waded further, and will haue England also to be a part of Germany. 1626 Jas. I *Sp. Star-Chamb.* 20 June D 2, That which concernes the mysteries of the Kings power, is not lawfull, and will haue England also to wade into the weakenesse of Princes. 1642–7 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. xxxiv, If this Out-world continually hath wade Through a long long-lasting time. 1653 R. Stanihurst *Physiogn.* 279, I have sufficiently waded in this various Doctrine. 1692 Ray *Creation* I. (1704) 64, I will not wade further into this Controversie. 1709 J. Logan in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 381 Thus far I have waded thro' some parts of his conduct in relation to the Proprietor.
†**b.** To 'go'; be (in a certain condition), 'go about' (in certain affairs). *Obs.*
1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Essex* (Camden) Introd. p. xii, Husbandmen..who wade in the weedes of gentlemen. 1596

Fleming *Panoph. Epist* 335 In the want of which two thinges you doe not wade, as wise men hould opinion 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV x 53 My hart gan throb And wade in doubt what best were to be donne

† **0** *To wade out of* to escape from *Obs.*

c1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 440 But lat us wade out of this matere 1585 Ironside *Pronat.* II. cxxviii [cxxix] 363 They by shall you wade out of all wilsunders. 1960 Dalrie *Sleidanus's Comm.* 91 Nr it with standing it waded out of all these daungers it the length [I *et tamen ex his omnibus malis euerrentia tam I m*]

† **d** To continue discussion *with* a person *Obs*

1597 Woleby in *St. Pap. 2 Hen. VIII*, I 203 And thus, wading further with the said Ambassador, he shewed unto me that [etc.] 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 176 Further wading with him, he hath shewed unto me that [etc.] 1540 *Hen. VIII* in *St. Papers* VIII 362 That you shall likewise wade with the said Ambassador of Portugall, to fynde out the very auctours of his tydynges. 1546 Masow in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI 109 This I tell you to thintent that before you shall to farre wade with him in your instructi ns, you may [etc.] 1568 Sir T. Knollys in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser. 1 II 245 Thus farre I waded with him, not to make hys cause this putable, but when I knew hys fears, I forbeare to prosequite myn objection.

**3** To walk through water or any liquid or soft substance which impedes motion. Formerly often, to pass *over* a river, sea, etc. on foot (now *rare*).

Phrase, *to wade (up) to* (the knees, armpits, etc.).

[c893 see Overwade v.] c1220 *Bestiary* 357 Oc on swimmede bi forn, and alle þe o'ðre i legen, wedeð to he swimmeð ar he wade3 **?** c1305 *Lai Conbeyne* 170 Wende i 3eanis in swineal dintle Ich wade up to i þe chynne. c1307 *Song on Exec Sir S. Fraser* 100 in Wright *Lyric Songs* (Camden) 217 He wod into the water his ferst i-nn bo3ȝe to adrenche þe Kyng. Langl. *P. Pl. A* VI 58 Wade in þat water, wyss he yow wel þere. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX 356 I'll at the last he fund a place, That men myght to their shulderis rand [= ran] 398 He wull our wnade, Bot till his throt the water stude. c1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 376 He [sc Cristus] made that the water was so smal That wommen myghte wade ouer it. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I 180 This Gaunt tok this hidi up alofte And in the flode beg in to wade *Lucan's Lad Troy bk* 7962 Men myght with lune a myle wade A mong the hilles vp to the hunne 1400 tr. Malory *Arthur* IV xxvi 156 He drede hym in to a water but the grunt was soo hyghe that he myghte not wade after hym. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x xii 25 The hyddous Orion Quhen he on fute wyod throu the seekle see 1530 Palsgr. 770/1 The ryver is not so depe as you take it, for a man may wade it ouer. a1533 Bp. Frith *Hosen* clxv 589 Hosen and the duches waded in Iordan. 1604 Cat. *Theol. Virginia* VI 230 They were forced to wade a great way vp to the knees in water. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* 8 99 In small Brooks you may wade upwards or else in great Rivers you must wade. 1684 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I 159 The Waters were risen so high that men waded to their middle in most of the Streets. 1727 [Hone-sington] *Philip Quaint* (1811) 7 Finding it but bre ist high we waded to the other side. a1728 Ramsay *To H. Scurral* 30 Aft have I wad thro glens baith chasling fees When neither plaid nor kelt could fend the weet. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* iv I through a deep and muddy lane, he at length waded on to the place. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxvi A rill of water through which we were compelled to wade as high as the knee. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I xvii 215 The men wading through the stream appeared as if climbing up a wall. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 304 Pilgrims, wading knee deep in the river mud, walk round the holy city in sun wise circuit 1894 J. Payn *Glamis of Mistery* 99 The gentlemen waded and carried the ladies on their shoulders.

*intrans. past t.* 1388 Wyclif *Exod.* xiv 9 The depe waters of the stronde hidden were greet, that no man it be wadd ouer [1579 be ouer passed, 1611 Haue Passed] 1 Esdr. II v. What is to be waded ouer 1659 J. Lacy *Lacquet's Mistr. Archit.* 21 It cannot be less than six feet, otherwise a wet Ditch might lie waded over

¶ *Transf* (in nonce uses)

13 *Gaw & Gr. Knt.* 787 De walle'wod in þe water waterd deep 1794 M. Bishop *Lofft Mar.* 255 The Edgar . . was blown up after working through those hazardous seas that we had just strived from

**b.** In figurative context, esp *to wade through blood, slaughter, etc.*

c1440 *Hom. Rose* 3005 Ie wynne the Ivy that is eterne Tho which go bakward youthe hir made, In vyntie to diouna and wade. 1483 *Assizes James* I 46 For I cannat swym, I wand on the bryik Wald ony bot, but cunst I nocht Sendith me konnyng 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Apol Poetrie P 3 b, As one writes very prettily, that children do wade in Scripture, and yet not drowne in heresie. 1593 Hooker *Lect. Pol.* v xxiii, § 4 They had a sea of comfort and joy to wade in 1605 Sharp *Mach.* iii iv 137, I am in blood Steep'd so farre, that should I wade no more Returning were as tedious as go o'er 1841 Jackson *Iron Prophet* T 21, I will carry you along to wade through that *A holy dauntless*, when the Dragon's fury of Persecution so raged 1898 Richardson *Christian* (1811) 3 To encourage a man who is to wade into her favour (this was his expression) through the blood of her brother 1750 Gray *Elegy* 67 To wade through slaughter to a throne 1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. To day* xvi [ed 3] 150 When France went back for a time to the old form of legitimate anarchy which she had waded through seas of blood

**0** *fig.* (Now chiefly, to go *through* a tedious task, a long or uninteresting book.)

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* I (1495) 8 It is ryghte ryllouse to wade depe in thyne materes of dyuynyte c1530 Frith *Disput Purgat* Wks. (1573) 50/1 He thinketh also that he wadeth to deepe to descende to purgatorye by this text 1602 Holland *Pliny* xxv xi. II. 2 Since we are waded so far into the deepe secrets of Physicke. 1684 Rowlev *Vic Witch I dmonium* II (1658) 12 On every side I am distracted Am waded deeper into mischief, then vertue can avoid But on I must 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I Pref., I he gaping critic . . wades through massive volumes in search of faults.

1826-7 J. Berresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xvii IV 154 pence a day for the pleasure of wading through 16 columns of dull lies 1899 Broughan *Contrib Educ. Rev.* (1836) II 302 From the large mass of matter through which Stevenson have obliged to wade, we have selected the publications men tioned in the title. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* II, I warn you that you re wading deep; I wouldn't put myself in your place 1907 *Verney Mem.* I 375 Wading through the endless tangle of their accounts.

**1d.** To perplex *over* difficulties *I nance use* 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist Soc* (1918) 29 We found the Exercise of the day heavy enough to wade under

**4** *transf.* Of the sun or moon To move (apparently) *through* clouds or mist; to be clouded. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north*

a1400 *Sir Perc.* 1141 Pe son wadis & þe wedre gloumes 1646 Trapp *Comm. John* xviii 28, 122 We must, when appeared, salute as the eclipsed Moon, by keeping our mouth, to wade out of the shadow 1697 W. Hubbard *Narration* 18 After the Moon had waded through the dark shadow of the Earth the two Companies marched on 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph* I 1, The sun was wading thro the mist 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* iii, The moon was in the phrase of that country, wading or struggling with clouds. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I 293 When the sun is more or less obscured, and when he is said to be wading in the cloud, rain may come 1846 Mrs A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II xiv 47 In the pale light of a crescent moon wading among the black and lowering clouds.

**5** *trans* To walk through (water, etc.) †Also *fig* c1400 *Ipomydon* M 8964 Soo left he shirt And brufoote wode as i þat burn 1575 Barbour *Troye* xiv 760 The meikill mon that was so bydene for till wend 1580 Henryson *Prud Ho b & Mouse* 1 Quhen Cynthia the bryme hir persewis to wand 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III x 31 Nor the deip see lomum, for all his lychi, Ne mycht he wad equallie wo to ryd. a1598 Ifle of Gulls *Nero* IV, 2 b, Ihe Nyghtelmen in the forefront wade I the dyche 1663 Fox *A & M* 849 b, Whche was he sayde, a matter it he hadde diligently wayed sincerelr auditeth hys grefe and hathe for 1979 Fenton *Guicciard* x (1599) 4 7 Three thousand footmen afterwards waded the ford of Mynzio. 1820 Byron *Juan* VI xxiii, Juan and his companion waded [1869 Tennyson *Height Purbeck* I 291 Our guide made a detour into the mountains to avoid wading the stream 1888 Loom *Amer Life* I 1 Many Americans have been much longer read *transf.* a1891 Morris *Poems by the Way* 122 When we wade the tingled wood

**6** To cause (a horse) to walk through water.

1611 Cotgr. *Lavoir* Any place where horses are wont to be led or wa ded out horses

**Wade,** rare spelling of Vade *v*

c1532 Du Wes *Introd Fr* in *Palsgr.* 946 To wade, *faire l'aye*

**Wade,** obs var. Wad *sb.*1, Weed, Woad.

**Wadeable** see Wadable

**Wader** (wē·dəɹ) [f. Wade *v* + -er 1]

**1** One who wades.

1603 [R Irvin] *Transp. Reb* 120 So great a wader in discovering of Rebels employ'd in preparing for the head of Nile 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 117 I mes Made toward us, like a wader in the surf, Beyond the brook, waist deep in mead or wood 1881 Irish *Hist. Hughes Parish* xxv 372 Muddy channels in which a wader would sink to his waist

**b.** said of a bird, *esp* as the distinctive appellation of those long legged birds (as the heron, plover, snipe, etc, constituting the former order *Grallæ* or *Grallatores*), which wade in shallow water.

1678 Edwards *Indian Bird* in *Phil Trans* LXI 55, I judged it to be no wader in the water 1800 Bingley *Anim Biog* (1813) I 32 *Waders* (*cultr*). These have a roundish bill, long legs, and the legs of most of the species are long The principal genera are the Herons, Plovers, Snipes, and Sandpipers 1834 Richardson *Geol* (1855) 111 Habits of Waders (or Waders) 1880 Payn *Lost Sir Massingberd* I xiv 188 Ducks take to the water, eagles to the sky waders to the sea margin 1903 *Yachts* I 23 May, 1907 Another wader, rather smaller than the red knot, which the present writer has not been able to identify

*attrib.* 1899 H. Miller *Footpr Creat* xi (1874) 201 Birds of the wader family.

**2** *fig* Waterproof boots reaching above the knee, used by anglers for wading.

1841 J. J. Hewlett *Peter Praggins* I 1 30 Mud boots, waders, and snow boots 1883 *Fisherm's Club Catal* 58 Fishing Waders, very light, requiring no separate Braces, 1904 Gallichan *Fishing in Spain* 210 Short mackintosh coats to reach the waders will be required

**Wadge** (wɒdʒ, *dial* wɛdʒ, wɑːdʒ) 1, 2 b] 'A huge loose bundle' (*Lng. Dial. Dict*, s. v. *Wedge*).

1880 *All Year Round* 28 July 568/2 The unhappy children [Plus cost boys] are to supplied [=turn their skirts up and tied them in a great wadge about their loins 1886 C. A. Collins *Cruise upon Wheels* xxiv (1887) 413 That monstrous wadge of a dressing-gown

**Wadge,** obs. f. Wage *sb.* and *v*, dial f Wedge.

**Wadger,** obs var Wager.

**I Wadi, wady** (wā·di). Pl. **wadies, wadis, wadys** [Arab ‹ɔ̄ wādī] In certain Arabic-speaking countries, a ravine or valley which in the rainy season becomes a watercourse; the stream or torrent running through such a ravine.

1839 Kinnear *Cairo, Petra & Damascus* II. (1841) 93 Our route continued among narrow rocky wadies of a less desolate appearance 1843 Whittier *Petuchael Pathi* Pr Wks 1889 I 260 It resembled some Arabian wady, exhausted by a yew sdrought 1850 W. Irving *Mahomet* I (1853) 3 Some of the former occupied the fertile wadies, or valley's, scattered here and there among the mountains 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* I. 11, 70 A star of rock brought us into a *wady* (valley), enclosed between red granite mountains I cannot too often repeat, that these *wadys* are exactly like rivers, except in having no water 1900 S. R. Driver (transl of *Judg* v 21) in *Expositor* Feb. 122 The wady Kishon swept them away, The on-coming wady.

**Wading** (wē·dɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Wade

c1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII 386 Bot sum men sais, this eschaping Apon ane other maner fell I than throu the wading. 1822 R. Hawkins *Voy S. Sea* II. 124 Where of more then the one halfe dyed with famine, and continual wading through Rivers and waters. 1823 [Leigh Hunt] in *Examiner* 29 Apr 248/2 So many creepings in dust and windings through mire. 1870 Kingsley in *Good Words* 1 June 360/2 We were glad to cool ourselves [in fans] by talking over wadings in icy streams beneath the black pine woods

**b.** *attrib.* as in *wading-place*; also in names of waterproof articles of attire for wading, as *wading-boots, -hogues, coats*, etc.

1598 Florio, *Ladetti*, narrow wading places or foards 1883 *Fisheries Exhib Catal* 58 Wading Stockings Wading Trousers. Wading Brogues. Wading Coats Wading Boots. 1888 W. J. Norris *Christ* vi, Prawning is not bad fun for those who have taken the precaution to put on wading boots.

**Wading** (wē·dɪŋ), *ppl a.* [-ing 2.] That wades *Wading bird* = Wader 1 b.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II cclxxxv 677 It may be called *Setum aquaticke*, or water Sengreene in English water Houseleeke, Knights Pondweede, and Pondweede, Long Pondweede 1807 Lyell *Trans Geol* (1875) II iii xli 423 Of all families even of wading birds the woodcocks are perhaps the most migratory 1892 *Hornbook Sea-Angl* XXVII 67 A new fossil wading bird has been found in the cretaceous rocks of Sweden, and named *Scaumenia Ludigeni*.

**Wadle,** obs. form of Waddle.

**Wadle, Wadling,** obs. ff. Wattle, Wattling.

**Wadmal** (wɒ·dmăl). Forms: *a.* 4, 6, 7 wadmoll, 5, 6 -mele, 6, 8 -mole, 6 -madle, 7 -medle, 6 (7 wadmol, 7 wadmol, -nall), 6, 7 wadmell, 9 -mel, 7, 9 mall, 9 -maal, mall, 7, 9 *dial* meal, 8 -miel, 9 mil, 5, 8, 9 wadmal. *β* 5, 6 wedmole, 6 -mell (-moll), (7 -meill, -neil). 7, 6, 7 woodmal(e, 7, 9 *dial* woodmell (7 -mal, woddenell, 8 woodmell), 9 *dial* woodmail. 8 8 *corr.* uptly wadmus. Also Vadmal, -mel [a. ON *vaðmál* (Norw *vadmaal*, Sw. *vadmal*, Da *vadmel*) believed to represent an earlier **váðmál*, f. **váð* cloth (= Ob. *wéd* Wed *sb*.2) + *mál* measure ]

**1** A kind of woollen cloth.

**a.** In England, a coarse woollen material used principally for covering horse-collars, and other rough purposes; also (esp in the sense) for petticoats, mittens, etc *Obs* exc in *woodmall(s* (sec 2)

In the 16-17th c mentioned as manufactured in Wales and at Witney (Oxon)

1392 *Earl Derby's Exped* (Camden) 138 Pro mister vin vestib vocat wadmoll xij ol pr precis 1404 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 65 Item, pannus de wadmoll pro rebus carnalib 1423 in *Rolls Parl* IV 241 Item, iij peces de Wadmole rouge, contenantz xx aunes di, pris xx s. 1495 in Kennett *Par. Antiq* (1695) I 580/2 Item, de Waddemole emptis pro coleris equinis ij sol i den 1536 *Libel Eng Policy* in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 160 [Imports from Spain] Iren, wolle, wadmolle, quyteld, and felte. 1585 in *Lancashire Wills Otchurch St Swithun's, Winch* (1892) 383 Et in solutis pro le Wedmole ad cooperiendum coleres equorum xvjd 1590 *Five Prose Sat* 4 Wadmell for the dyeing of celestyl yerdes of wardemole blewe and murrey for the Queenes barge 1595 Hunnes *Propris* II clxv 270 b, They had no armure, but their coates of wadmoll 1618 *Bp's goe bareoutes* I. 1780 *Direction for drawer trades & merchandise in Eng Hist Rev* (1914) XXIX 516 Item, for all the parties of Guiana Bastnge and woodmalles of Wales 1708 Stow *Surv* (1603) 296/2 A market house for the sale of Woolen bayes, Watmols Planels and such like 1807 Catt J. Smith *Sea Grammar* 27 Which is what you call a Tilt, couered with wadmall in your Boates 1808 *Mem. Mat. & Arts* 15 *Chas II*, c 8 *Bk Rates*, Mittins of Wadmol the dozen pair, 00 09 00 1697 Plot *Oxfordsh* 270 Of their wool [sail wool] they make Wadmall, and Witney [sc Coller-makers 1698 Kennett *Par Antiq*, *Glass Waddemole*, now called Woadmel, and in Oxfordshire Woddenell, a coarse sort of stuff used for the lining of the collars of cart horses 1720 D. Hilman *Trustee Retire* Sept (1744) 119 Sedge Collars (for plough horses) are by much the lightest and coolest, indeed not so comely as those of Wadmal, but will serve a good Team well enough 1721 C. King *Brit. Merch* I 291 Wadmole *alias* Wadding, 830 Yards. 1790 Plancklyn *Nat. Expositor* 189 *Woodmeal*, is hairy coarse stuff made of Island Wool, and supplied to the Contractors of Ships for lining of Ports, &c. a1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wadmal*, a very coarse and thick kind of woollen manufacture.

**b.** In Scotland, a woollen fabric woven in Orkney and Shetland Now only *Hist.*

Down to the 19th c the taxes of Orkney and Shetland were paid in wadmal and other commodities.

1578 in *Reg Privy Seal Scotl* (1882) III 1, 1 a den. pro quolibet ulna aure cuttella 24 cuttellarum pannl lanei, vulgo wadmell 1577 in D. Balfour *Oppress. Orkney & Zetland* (1836) 18 Their clayth, callit Wadmell, quhilk is ane cleuuale thne pay to the Kingis Majestie . . zeirlie 1699 *Blome's Atlas, Scotia* 148 Pannus quidam lipsis [Hethlandicis] est crassus ex lana confectus, patrio idiomate eh Wadmal dictum. 1774 E. Gifford in *Dr's Orkney*, etc. (1809) 143 Payment to the Crown was called Scatt, which was paid in butter, oil, and a sort of very coarse cloth called Wadmal. 1881 Scott *Pirate* v, Her upper garment . was of a coarse

dark-coloured stuff, called wadmaal, then much used in the Zetland Islands, as also in Iceland and Norway. 1885 SHERIFF RAMPINI in *Good Words* Nov. 736/2 All the women ..in scarlet petticoats of Shetland 'wadmal'.

c. A woollen fabric worn by country people in Scandinavia and Iceland. Sometimes in mod. Sw. or Da. form: see WADMAL, -MEL.

*c* 1880 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 84 The general Employment of the People [in Iceland] is either Fishery or the making of Wadmoll, which is a course sort of woollen Cloth, made of their Sheepes Wool. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 10 (Iceland) They likewise manufacture a coarse kind of cloth, which they call wadmal. 1845 [C. H. J. Anderson] *Swedish Bv.* 114 The scarlet kerchief, mingling with the bluish-grey of the wad-meal or striped INTAN. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 838/1 No day is too long..for poor old Niels in his one garment of coarse wadmaal.

2. *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.* chiefly in sense 'made of wadmaal'; wadmaal-cloth (see quot. 1898 and cf. quot. 1627 in 1 a).

1541 *Will T. Normann* (Som.), My dau. Margerie one wedmole petycote. 1544 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 206 Ane schip of lyr...with hir hale sark of wadmale cloith. 1598 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1593-1608 Malcolme..to have the wecht dett thairof because he wantit the samin at his entrie. *a* 1700 in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colon. Times* (1894) 253 Wadmoll mittens..a woollen petticoat. 1821 Scott *Pirate* x, Her dark wadmaal cloak. 1868 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 23 Wadmillitis. 1898 Visct. Dillon in *Archæol. Journ.* (Brit.) Sect. II. V. 196 note, Artillery inventories of to-day will be found wadmillitis, a kind of tarpaulin covering for stores.

**Wadmaw,** Sc. pronunciation of *would no* = would not: see WILL v.

**Wadrop,** obs. form of WARDROBE.

**Wadset** (wɒ·dset), *sb.* *Sc.* Now *obsolescent.* Forms: 5–7 **wadset(t,** 6–8 **wodset(t,** 7 **waddset,** 8 **wadsett,** 6– **wadset.** [f. WADSET *v.*]

1. *Sc. Law.* 'The conveyance of land in pledge for,'or in satisfaction of, a debt or obligation, with a reserved power to the debtor to recover his lands, on payment or performance' (Bell). Phr. (*to have, lie*) *in wadset.* Cf. MORTGAGE 1.

There are two kinds of *wadset, proper* and *improper* (see quot. 1768).

1449 *Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 35/2 Quha sa has tane or taklin landis in wadset, fermes, or *Escaetis Dorgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 196 That the aucht owner of thair Tolbuith on the north syde be laid in wodsett vpoun the soume of ix^ and iiij^^ frankis vnder ane reversion. 1597-8 *Acts* V. 130 The commoun buithis quhilk he hes in wedsett of the guid toun. 1536 *Abster. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 90 The lowsing and raidemyng of his place that lyis in wodset to Jhon Gylsoun of the...land of monyze. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* Table 109 b, The saidis profits, and frutes..sall be payed yerely to him, quha has the wadset. 1644 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1819) VI. 143/2 The Landis, Annuelrentis, Wodsets, and others holden by them of the saids forfeited persons. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. vi. 522 The Scottish Wadsets and Reversions answer to the English Mortgages and Defeazances. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. viii. § 26 A proper wadset is truly of the nature of a redeemable right of property, and not barely of pledge; by which it is covenanted, that the use of the lands possessed by the wadsetter shall, during the not redemption, go for the use or interest of the money lent by him to the reverser. ..An improper wadset is nothing more than a *pignus*, or right of security; in which the wadsetter is accountable to the reverser for the neat yearly sums which he hath, or might have, received out of the wadset-lands. 1814 Scott *Waverley*, His There was little time to get the wadset made out. 1873 Burton *Hist. Scot.* lvii. V. 191 The poor manasked leave to raise money by 'wadset', or mortgage of his estates.

2. A thing pledged.

1796 Burns *'Tha will buy my troggin ?'* Here's a little wadset, linittle's scrap o' truth, Pawn'd in a gin-shop Quenching holy drouth. 1808 Jamieson *Hermit Nicol Muschat Song* (1810) 90 Our guidwife coft a snip white coat,..But it's a wadset i' the town.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1691 in *Inchaffray Chrs.* (Bannatyne Club) 108 Christiane Murray..wodsett haver of the landis under written. 1665 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 69 Free of my such wadsett rigs. *a* 1798 J. Stoddart *Tour France & Italy* (1799) (1732) 241 This, for many Years, was the common and ordinary Reason of Reduction of Wadsett-rights. *a* 1768 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. 19 This power of redemption injects the wadsetter to account for the rent of the wadset-lands, from the time the order was used. *Ibid.* § 28 A backtack of them [the lands] to the reverser..is made to continue during the not redemption of the wadset, for payment of the interest of the wadset-sum.

**Wa'dset,** *v.* Pa. t. and pa. ppl. **wadset, -setted.** Chiefly *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 4, 5 **wed-**(**de)sette,** 4–7 **wedset(t,** 6 **wodset(t,** 6–8 **wadset.** [Sc. form (with *wad* Sc. var. of WED *sb.*) of ME. *wedsett, f.* WED *sb.* + SET *v.*; prob. developed from an OE. phrase **tō weddle settan* 'to set to pledge', to pawn, mortgage. (The recorded OE. phrases are *tō weddle leegan, sellan*; cf. 'Mi lond ich walle sette to wedde', Layamon 25172. OE. and ME. had also *wed settan, to sette wed* = to deposit a pledge.)] *trans.* To put (land, clothes, etc.) in pledge; to pawn, mortgage.

*c* 1350 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11796 Al my lond richal ȝ wed-sette for gold & seluer. *a* 1400 *Burgh Laws* Inxix. (*Sc. Stat.* I). Of lande þat is wedset wythin burgh. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 346 A place here beside, lorde, wolde I wedde-sette. 1506 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 176 A Lettre of Licence..to analy or wedset to quhatsumever person or persons he ples ony all merkis worth of land. 1508 Kennedy *Flyting w. Dunbar* 443 Thon drank thy thrift, said and wedsett thy clais. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 54 All our gay garmentis..We thame wedset, our bodyis to sustene. 1640 J. Boyd in *Zetl. Flowers* (1893) App. 31/1 The said Laird wodset sold and disponed to us..the lands. 1678 [see WADSETTER 2]. 1773 L. Shaw *Hist. Moray* 33 There, and some other possessions, are now wadsetted by William Gordon. 1829 *Bk. Thanes of Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 420 There follows..a list of the wadsets, from which we learn that Hudgnie was wadset to Mr. William Dallas for 10,000 marks.

*fig.* 1648 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 366 Blood, and the blood of God shed, cannot wadset ancient lands.

Hence + **Wa'dsetting** *vbl. sb.*

*c* 1446 *Pronip. Parv.* 520/1 Wedsettynge, *impignoracio.* 1599 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 935/2 The quhilk alienatioun or wadsetting be [the King] willis..sal be in hurt..to the liaris. 1654 Lamont *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 72 No money lent, or bargaine in sailling or wedsetting of land..was to be followed.

**Wadsetter** (wɒ·dsetəɹ). *Sc.* Also **7 wodsetter.** [f. WADSET *v.* and *sb.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who puts his land in wadset; a mortgagor. *rare.*

1629 in Ld. Durie *Reports* (1690) 43 He had Comprived the Reversion of the same Lands, which he had in Wodset of before. 1768 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. viii. 26 *Revised Reg.* Sec. tit. (1902) III. 330 The right of property in the lands remained with the wadsetter, subject to the burden of the wadset; and when the wadset was subsequently discharged, that burden was effectually wiped off.

2. One who holds by a wadset, a mortgagee.

1678 Sir (1. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* t. xxiv. 8 iv. (1699) 121 The Wadsetter..is but a Donatar. Lands Wadset to him. 1758 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 67 James and George Measmyths wadsetters of a part of Ardblair. 1799 St. Bell *Syst. Forms of Deeds Scot.* II. 23 The purpose of this action to preserve the right of the reverser, who, by these absolute rights had been exposed to the acts of the wadsetter. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xx, The elders of his native village, wadsetters and feuars, as they were called, who occupied portions of his estate as mortgagers or lessees. 1889 Lockhart *Ch. Scot. 19th Cent.* 104 *note*, His father.. being a wadsetter at Drumgarth.

**Wadt, Wadth :** see WAD *sb.*[3], WATH.

**Wady :** see WADI.

**Wadyr,** obs. form of WATER.

**Wae,** obs. or dial. form of WOE.

**+ Waedle,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1. In 3 weadle. [OE. *wǽdl* str. fem., *wǽdle* wk. fem., related to next. It is doubtful whether the *wædle* of the Layamon MS. is a scribal error or a genuine metathetic form.]

Poverty.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. § 5 Sio monniscu wædl & nedbe gefylled mid wihtuih; sicc deag hweteb hyssop worulde-wæstm. *c* 1205 Lay. 1002 For ni þat god of þisse londe we scule leden mid us & heo bi-leuen wrecches & wælde heom scal falien.

**+ Waedle,** *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also **waedle.** [OE. *wǽdla*, Mercian *wǽbla.*] **a.** *adj.* Poor, needy. b. *sb. pl.* The poor.

*c* 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark x. 46 Timeus sunu bartimeus sæt blind wiþ þone weg wæddla. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Surtees) cxiii. 7, & ceðeneb þa wædlan of wedlum. *c* 1200 Orrin 5638 All wrecche & wædle & uuell manne. *c* 1205 Lay. 427 Wapmen & wifmen, þa weoleȝen & þa wædlen, alle he heom sumnede. *Ibid.* 3870 For her scullen þe wædlen alle wenden ouer.

**Wael,** obs. form of WALE *sb.*[1]

**Wæl :** see WAL (slaughter), WEAL.

**Wæld, Wælden :** see WEALD, WIELD *v.*

**+ Wæling,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—[1. ON. *vala, valda* to defraud, trick (mod.Norw. *vela* to tempt, flatter, woo) + -ING [1.] In Comb. *wælingword*, words of temptation or courtship.

*c* 1200 Orrin 2192 Full wel birþ ure mæzdenn ben Fortshamedd, ȝiff manin brinngeþ Biforenn hire unnþewfull word & wæining word þurrh scalleȝe.

**Wær,** obs. form of WARE *v.*

**Wæst,** obs. form of WASTE.

**Wæsuck(s** (wē·sʊk, -sʊks), *int. Sc.* [f. *wæs,* Sc. form of WSE ; the ending app. represents *sake(s* : see SAKE *sb.*] Expressing commiseration : Woe is me ! Alas !

*a* 1774 Ferguson *Braid Caith* 13 Wæsucks for him who has nae feck o't. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* xxv, Wæsucks! for him that gets nae lass, Or lasses that hae naething! 1806 [J. Beach] *Falls of Clyde* 133 Ye trust, wæsucks ! in honeycomb. 1832 J. K. Hunter *Arbroath, Artist's Life* xxviii. (1912) 291 Wæsucks for the back places about London.

**Waf,** obs. Sc. f. WOE *v.*

**Wafe,** obs. f. WAIF, WAVE ; var. WAIVE *v.*[2] *Obs.*

**Wafer** (wē·fəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **wafre,** 4–5 **wafre, 5 waffer, wofre, 5 wafer, wafe, wayfre, wofre, 5–6 wafur, 5–7 waffur, 6– wafer.** [ME. *wafre*, a. AF. *wafre*, ONF. *waufre* (= Central F. *gaufre, gofre*, whence GOFER), adopted, with change of *l* into *r*, from MLG. *wāfel* (mod. LG. *wāfel, wāfel*) = early mod.Du. *waefel*, now *wafel*(WFris. *waffel*), whence WAFFLE; the mod.G. *waffel*, Sw. *våffla*, Da. *vaffel* are from LG.

As the F. *gaufre*, wafer, waffle, has also the sense of honeycomb, it is inferred that the Teut. word had originally this meaning, and is cogn. w. OHG. *wabo*, MHG., mod.G. *wabe*, honeycomb; but neither Du. nor LG. seems to have preserved this sense.]

1. A very light thin crisp cake, baked between wafer-irons ; formerly often eaten with wine, now chiefly with ices ; in later use sometimes rolled, sometimes serving as the under part of a macaroon. Cf. Wafron.

The simile 'thin as a wafer', originally belonging to this sense, is now commonly associated with sense 3.

1295 *Will N. Longespee in Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1900) July 524 Tria paria ferrea ad wafras, neulas, et galettas faciendas.] 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* II. xiii. 264 [A waferer says:] Alle Londoun I leue liketh wel my wafres. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 103 He sente hire..wafres pipyng hoot out of the gleede. 1440 in *Archæol. Cant.* (Rolls) II. 233 Ro. Savage, et Robertus servient domini Regentis, portaverunt waffers et pome. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture in Babees Bk.* (1868) 132 For loue may marre many a man changynge his astate, but ȝiff he haue ofter, hard chese, wafurs, with wyne ypocrate. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* (1868) 368 Thenne aftur wafers and frute spended, all maner thinge shalbe take uppe and avayaded. 1530 Tindale *Exod.* xvi. 31 The taste of it [ze. manna] was lyke vnto wafers made with honye [so 1611]. 1596 Shortnehley *Chron.* (1875) I. 163 My lord major did elected and chose that day when he was at wafers and ipocras Mr. Richard Jervis. 1632 Hulsby (ed. Higins), Wafre, suche as they geue to younge children, *crustulum.* 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrodite* (1876) 81 Yet, yea, will he treadeon nice, she would not wafers breake. 1608 Bonham in *Tyndall's Serpents* 312 The people of India..doe make of the Wormes dowes like vnto Cakes, Wafers, Marchpanes, Wafers, and Cheese-cakes. 1619 Drayton *Idea* viii, Thy Lips, with age, as any Wafer thinne. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Chances* II. i, A woman neither can nor will breake with making. 1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* (1682) 1 The inner Coat [of the bean]..so far shrinking up, as to seem only the roughness of the outer, somewhat resembling Wafers under Marquarons. 1709 Mrs. Mapleback *Housekeeper's Guide,* Wafers.—Sweeten dried flour with loaf sugar ; make it into a stiff batter with cream. There are irons for the purpose of baking them...They are used for the bottom of macaroons and some other cakes. 1825 J. Hallam *Worcshop Rec.* Ser. ii. 155/9 (Confectionery) Wafers.—Take 4 oz. sugar, 4 oz. butter, 8 oz. flour [etc.]. *Ibid.* 156 1 Close the tongs immediately ; put them on the fire, turning them occasionally until the wafer is done.

2. The thin disk of unleavened bread used at the Eucharist in the Western Church before the Reformation, and subsequently in the ritual of Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and some Anglicans. Cf. Oblat.

1550 Q. Eliz. *Injunct.* D 3 b, The vsuall bread and wafer, heretofore named singing Cakes, which serued for the vse of the priuate Masse. 1570 Gilby in *Part of a Register* (1593) 16 The adoration of the Sacrament, in the Countrey where they knocke and kneele to a Wafer, is a popishe pollicie. 1598 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 94 The Widow..bestowes Galway, a kind of Sacramentall Wafer. 1715 *Pract. Addr. Hist. Eccl. Engl., Stephen Was* 1768 IV. 297 The English, upon a certain engine, raised the mast of a ship, on the top whereof, in a silver box, they put the consecrated wafer. 1823 Roberson *Sacra. Sacr.* III. xix. 249 Upon which the consecrated wafer is spurious reverence. 1868 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* i. 85 As they went To eat the bishop's wafer at the church. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 8 July 63/2 Many of these unbelievers..obtained and outraged consecrated wafers.

3. A small disk of flour mixed with gum and non-poisonous colouring matter, or of gelatine or the like similarly coloured, which when moistened is used for sealing letters, attaching papers, or receiving the impression of a seal.

[1633 : see *tag-lac* in 4.] 1710 Johnson *Spect.* No. 305 To Pen and Ink, Wax and Wafers, with the like Necessaries for Politicians. 1749 Johnson *Tri. to Miss Porter* 12 July, You frighted me with your wafers. 1781 Cowper, I should your letter had brought me ill news. 1797 W. Johnston tr. *Beckmann's Hist. Inventt.* I. 226 Mr. Speed (Gr.) has made an observation, that, in the time of Lady Elizabeth, no letter was ever found, in a letter written by D. Krapf, at Spires, in the year 1024, to the government at Bayreuth. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Belinda* xvi, Lady Delacour...began ..to put wafers into several notes which she had been writing. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 729 In every kind of tracing, the different papers which are employed upon each other, should be protected either by wafers. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* liii, Poor men always use messengers instead of the post. Who has not had their letters, with the wafers wet, and the contents of which a prisoner is waiting in the hall? 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 15 To put a wafer on a letter was a thing seldom done.

b. *transf.* Applied to a round spot.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxvii. (1856) 258 Duck covered it with black felt, the frozen condensation patching it with large white wafers of snow. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 343/1 The Palmatian, or 'coach dog,' white with black wafers stuck all over him.

4. *Med.* A thin leaf of paste, used to form a cachet for the administration of a powder.

1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 609 1 Wafers are of two forms. One style consists of two watch-glass shaped bodies, whose edges, upon moistening, will cohere, leaving a central space for enclosure of the powder...The other style consists of a single large, thin, circular sheet of wafer-material. Such sheet dipped into water, becomes flexible, and ..is used as a literal wrap for the dose of powder. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* iv. (1917) 74 She looked exactly as she does when the wafer bursts and the quinine gets in her mouth.

**5.** *Gunnery.* A kind of primet.

1867 J. T. Headley *Farragut & Nav. Commanders* 73 Not a gun went off...The gunners had removed the 'wafers' by which they were discharged.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wafer-baker, -maker, roller*; *wafer-like* adj.; (sense 3) *wafer-seal*; also *wafer-sealed, -torn* adjs.; **wafer-biscuit** = sense 1; **wafer-bread**, unleavened bread to be used at the Eucharist in the form of wafers; **wafer-cachet** (see sense 4); **†wafer-god**, an opprobrious term for the consecrated host; **wafer-iron**, an apparatus for baking wafers, consisting of two iron blades between which the paste is held (also *pair of wafer-irons*); **† wafer pancake**, a kind of pancake made thin like a wafer; **†wafer-paper**, a preparation of paste in thin sheets, used in cookery and pharmacy (see 4); **wafer stamp**, a hand-stamp for impressing a device on wafers; **wafer-tongs** = *wafer-iron*; **† wafer-wall**, *nonce-wd.*, a wall flimsy as a wafer; **† wafer-woman, a** woman who sold wafers (cf. Wafers, Wafer-seyers); **† wafer-work**, a kind of ornamental work in which wafers were used to form a pattern. Also Wafer-cake.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Oublierie*, a "wafer baker. 1848 Thackeray *Pen & Pencil* xiv, The hulking fellow carrying the "wafer-biscuits. 1884 Pall Mall G. 7 *To-Day* 3 *Cecil* 30 Apr., in *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 240 These were the orders which they must observe; to wear the cap appointed by Injunction...to communicate kneeling in "wafer-bread. 1637 *Bk. Comm. Prayer Ch. N.-A., Communion*, rubric, Though it be lawfull to have wafer bread. c 1890 M. Creighton in *Life & Lett.* (1904) II. 57 The use of wafer bread is undesirable and should be discontinued. 1893 *Abbott's Syst. Med.* V. 902 Chloralamide...may be given in doses of 20 to 50 grains in "wafer cachet. 1603 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 17 Certain Thieves having stolen the Sacrament Box wherein the "Wafer-God- use to lie. a 1742 Savage *Epist. to Walpole* 79 Lo! the priest's hand the wafergod supplies. 1897 *Daily Mail Yearbook* 111 (1869) 330 Those have profanely spoken of 'wafer-gods'. They might as well have spoken of 'fire-gods', of the manifestation of God in the flaming fire in the bush. 1559 *Patton Lincl.* 3 (Jodrell) "wayre "wafer irons. 1881 *Will T. Fletcher, Glastonb.* Our whafer iron. 1785 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Wafer*, The Wafer-Iron is to be heated and rubb'd on both sides, with fresh butter. 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. 302 Coaxing her to eat a "wafer-like slice of bread-and-butter. 1906 'A. Hope' *Sophy of Kravonia* I. v. 56 Of course the mention of the wafer-like mark puts her identity beyond question. 1911 J. Wild *Roman Era Brit.* xii. 220 Wafer-like bone discs...are also of common occurrence. 1530 Palsgr. 286/1 *Wayfermaker, wayfirer.* 1894 Morton *Hist. Barbicia* 1 *Antiquary, Dogmael.* v. 238 Clergy-Taylors, Wafer makers, Rosary-makers. 1852 Reading *Dict. Nat. etc.* Suppl., Wafers are coloured with various materials...The wafer makers are very unwilling to show the process. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 165 To make "Wafer Pancakes. 1718 Mrs. Eales *Receipts* 29 Then lay 'em in Lumps on "Wafer-Paper, and set 'em on Papers in an Oven. 1773 G. A. Stevens *Trip to Portsmouth* ii. 17 That ever any school-fellow of mine should play truant from old port, and good roast beef, to live upon whey, and wafer-sippets! 1886 R. Fowler *Mrs. Vocab., Wafer-paper*, an article of confectionery, now employed for the exhibition of nauseous cleetuaries, &c. 1889 R. Wells *Bread & Bread Baker* 46 Cover the tins or wire with wafer paper, and lay out the biscuits. 1814 *Gastronomy* (1822) 149 The pastry-bakers, cake-makers, and "wafer-rollers. 1635 *Patent Office* No. 82 Jeremie...Hind and his deputies for the sole makeing of the "wafer seales and he willbe bound to sell one hundred of them for a penny. 1728 Fielding *Love in several Masques* iii. iii. 31 This hot "Wafer-sealed. I'll open it and read it. 1824 Dickens *Mystr. Chas.* xxxii, He took up the "wafer-stamp, and began stamping capital P's all over his legs. 1763 *Gentlemen's Journ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 250, I want "wefter tongs. 1769 [see 13]. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec. Ser.* II. 256/1 Make the wafer-tongs hot over the hole of a stove or clear fire. 1832 *Boston Herald* 29 May 4/4 The error arose from our letter...being "wafer-torn when the figures were written. 1620 Quarles *Feast for Worms* Introd. B 2 b, Thy "Wafer-wallets at dread Tehouahs blast Shall snake. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.-Hater* ii. 1, "Wafer no set meeting certainly; for there was no "wafer-woman with her these three days on my knowledge. 1823 Fletcher, etc. *Maid in Mill* v. iii, Am I to be able, to deliver A Letter handsomly! Is that such a hard thing? Why every wafer-woman will undertake it. 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1815) II. 163 Miss Ludloff's ingenious productions in wafer-work, in "wafer-work, in filigree and coloured paper. 1817 Mar. Edgeworth *Harrington* vi, She sat at some fashionable kind of work—what it was, I think it was called, a work which has been long since consigned to the mice.

**Wafer** (we·fəɹ), *v.* [f. Wafer *sb.*] *trans.* To fasten with a wafer. Also with *on, up.*

1768 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) V. 243 Wafer'd on, as an after-written introduction to the paragraphs which follow. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 4 Mar., My father...wafered the paragraph upon a sheet of paper, and sent it to his lodgings. 1820 Ht. Stanhope Mrs. Crane *Rec. Life W. D. Haverga!* (1882) 34, I enclose...a letter which you may read and then wafer or seal. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Private Theatres*, Such are the written placards wafered up in the gentlemen's dressing-room. 1848 Thackeray *Roundabout Ride* Wks. 1898 VI. 388 Cards of lodgings wafered into the rickety bow-windows. 1860 Sala *Dutch Pict.* xiii. 202 [He] had wafered up the page of the book containing his lesson against the doctor's desk. 1879 Spurgeon *Treas. David* xci. 9, 10, IV. 235 My curiosity led me to read a paper which was wafered up in a shoemaker's window.

**† Wafer-cake.** *Obs.*

1. = Wafer *sb.* 1.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 84/2 *Crustulum*,...a wafer cake. 1593 *George a Greene* (1599) D 1, You shall have wafer cakes your fill.

b. *fig.* as a kind of fragility.

1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 53 Trust nonne: for Oathes are Strawes, nena faiths are Wafer-Cakes.

2. = Wafer *sb.* 2. Chiefly in hostile use.

1536 *tr. Latimer* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. ii. 90 The Papistes...wolde conteyne the natural Body which Christe had (Synne excepted) agaynst all Truthe, into a Wafer Cake. 1584 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 715 A wayer-maker, a pyx, a box of wafer cakes. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* iv. vi. § 1 The vse of wafer-cakes, the custome of godfathers & godmothers in baptisme, are things not commanded nor forbidden in the scripture. 1630 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 476 Hee must...conge to the ground with his head, as Priests doe to their Wafer-cakes.

**Wafered** (we·fəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wafer *v.* and *sb.* + -ed 1.]

1. Sealed, fastened, or attached with a wafer or wafers.

1809 Scott *Jrnl.* 17 Apr., Free from wafered letters, ...notes of hand wanted, and all the worry of an embarrassed man's life. 1832 Sala *The round Clock* (1861) 281 'All the ladies of the ballet at ten.'...So may run the wafered announcements signed in the fine Roman hand of the...stage-manager.

2. *Obs.* = Wafer *sb.* 2.

Also *nonce-use*, touched by the sacramental wafer.

1837 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 286 Our ancestors, who saw peril in wafers and in wafered lips. 1880 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Aug. 11/2, The parishioners...complained of the following practices:—Using water with wine, using wafered unleavened bread [etc.].

**Waferer,** *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 **waferere**, -ere, 4-7 **wafer, waferer.** [a. AF. *wafrer*, *-ere*, *wafre* Wafer *sb.*, f. AL. *wafrarius*.] A maker or seller of wafers or thin cakes.

The itinerant wafer-sellers of both sexes had the repute of being ready to act as intermediaries in amatory intrigues. Cf. *Wayn-woman*, *Wayn-wright*. In royal and other great households there were one or more 'waferers', whose duties probably included the making of confectionery in general.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 190 'I seie,' quod a waferer, 'I wed Piers the Plowman'. 1390 *Gower* I. 202 I peyne forbere a fole for to freres prechinge'. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xvi. 199 Mynstralcie can ich nat inouhes, bote make men murye, As a waffrer with waffres. a 1460 *Towneley Myst.* (1886) 12 Sir, [the religious] ben made wafrers, yeuynge lordes, ladies and riche men a fewe peris, appelis or nuttis to haue huge siftis to be couent, euyl pei kepe ther couentis. 1466 *Paston Lett.* III. 270 Charles Fauconer, Parl. 7. 151 Sygeres with harpes, Baudes, wafereres. a 1483 *Liber Niger in Household Ord.* (1790) 72 Offyce of Wafrer[r]s hathe one yemen, wayting vpon...xiiij. *Ibid.* 74 Gefte to Vermongers, py-bakers, and wafrers. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Vplondyssh.* (Percy Soc.) 2 Fyrste was he hosteler, and then a wafrer. 1605-48 *Manners Soc. Serv. Chas. I's Ct. Jrn.* II (Camden) 107 To William Clopton, in lieu of all fees claimed by him as waferer to his said Majestie on the day of the coronation 30 o o. 1881 *Ore Engl. Home* 70 The brilliancy of a mediæval feast was chiefly due to the ingenuity of the waferers, or confectioners.

So † **Wa·frestre** (-estre, -stER), a female waferer.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* v. 631 'Wite god,' quod a wafrestre (*A text* waferere), 'wist I biis for sothe, Shulde I neuere ferthere a fote, for no freres prechynge.'

**Waferish** (wē·fərĭʃ), *a.* [f. Wafer *sb.* + -ish 1.] Like a wafer, very thin.

1866 Howells *Venet. Life* xx. 330 A thin waferish slice of toasted rusk.

**† Wa·ferm,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wafer *sb.* + -en.] Of bread: Having the composition of wafers.

1570 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* (1781) II. 4 For iiij doz. of waferm bread, for the sacrament of the Communion.

**Wafery** (wē·fəri), *sb.* Also 5 **waffery**, 6 **wafrie, waferye, waffrey, wafarie, 7 wayfary.** [a. AF. *wafrie*, f. *wafre* Wafer *sb.*]

1. A room or building in which wafers or thin cakes are made; the department of the royal household occupied with the making of wafers. Also *attrib.*

1425 *Household Ord.* in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 22 The wayferyes William Overton, Yoman, [etc.]. 1533 in *Archæologia* XII. 362 The Wayferye. Adam Alee, yeoman. a 1558 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* (1781) II. 1 Item, flore for the pastre, and wafery. 1577 *Holinshed* I. 1134 Wafrye-house. Yeoman,...Groom,...[etc.]. *Ibid.* iv. xii. (Roan.) 490/2 Then followed the Groomes of...The Wafry. 1820 Hor. Smith *in Hall Fame* (1821) 1. 1 Not unless you come to him From the wafery, the pantry, the cellerage...or the larder. 1830 Nicolas in *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* 290/1 The Wafory ...still in use in the offices of the royal house-hold.

**† 2.** Wafers collectively, light pastry. *Obs.*

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 170 b, He...bidde them to kepe a corner of their stomakes for the tartes, wafrie, and tounkettes, that wer to bee served...after the meate.

**Wafery,** *a. rare.* [f. Wafer *sb.* + -y.] Like a wafer, extremely thin.

1880 J. P. Struthers *Life & Lett. v.* (1918) 97 A very thin wafery idea. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v., A wafery thinness.

**Waff** (waf), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 **waffe, waffe**, 9 **wauff**(**f.** [f. Waff *v.*1 Cf. Waft *sb.*, Weff, Waif *sb.*3, Wave *sb.*2]

1. A waving movement; esp. waving of the hand or something held in the hand: cf. Waft *sb.* 5, 6.

1676 *Rec. Justiciary Edin.* 23 Sept. in H. Arnot *Hist. Edin.* (1779) 394 *note*, The devil...baptised you upon the face, with an waff of his hand like a downing. 1722 W. Rogers *Voy.* (1918) 296 With orders, if they saw 3 sail in the offing, to make 1 waffs with their colours. 1832 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 177 Beggars...that wadna understand the repulse...o' a waff o' the haun to be awa wi' theirsels.

1847 Halliwell, *Waff*, the movement of a large flame from side to side. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Waff*, a wave of the hand. The kind of flag or signal used at sea for assistance to the ship from the shore. 1888 'H. Haliburton' *Horace in Homespun* (1900) 93 Wi' ae waff o' my wings I soar A mile abune the city's roar. 1889 P. M'Neill *Binnorie* 89 These ...youths...first extinguishing his light. This one of them did by a smart 'waff' of his bonnet.

**b.** *To put out* or *set forth a waff*: to wave something as a signal. Cf. Waft *sb.*1, 6 b, Waif *sb.*2 2.

1620 in Earl Cromarty *Acc. Consipr. Earls Gowry & F. Logan* (1713) 105 And when you are about Kinnaird Head from Shoar, as it were passing by the House, to gar set forth a Waff. 1685 J. M'Farlane *Life & Actions of Baron Bloquier. Prophet.* (1827) 294 [He] got a Waff of that murthering East-wind in the 1679. 1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, This increase of profit at Saint Leonard's Crags may be a visible waff of wind blawing from the frozen land of earthly self. 1880 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* II. xvii. 162 We mun gie something to the young woman and the lassies, that we may get a waff when they will likewise. 1896 *Scott. Mag.* July 208 It was not the Highland strength turn'd them that day, But the waff o' the broad-swords that blew them away. 1897 *Northumbld. Glossr.* s.v., 'The waff o' the train'—the rush of air caused by a passing train.

**b.** A whiff (of perfume), an odour. Cf. Weff, 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 29 A canny waff o' sweet perfume Was blaw'n in breezes thro' the room. 1887 Service *Life Dr. Dugwid* III. ii. 245 The waff of the wild roses...cam in noons o' sweetness alang the air.

**3.** A slight blow, esp. one given by something in passing.

a 1784 E. Erskine *Serm. Abraham rejoicing* Wks. 1791 II. 536 A very little waff of any thing will do it [sc. the eye] hurt. 1828 Jamieson, *Waff*, 3. A slight stroke from any soft body, especially in passing.

**b.** A slight attack or 'touch' (of illness, esp. of cold).

1808 Jamieson, *Waff* 4. A sudden affection, producing a bodily ailment. Thus it is said that one has got *a waff* or *waff of cauld*. 1821 Galt *Steam Boat* vii, I found myself in a very dis-jasked state...with a waff of cold that had come upon me.

**4.** A passing view, a glimpse.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* ii, I sought every glen and cleuch ...but teil a wauff of his coat-tail could I see. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 28 The lassie scow'd clerk smith get A waff o' his face ere off he set. 1887 Service *Life Dr. Dugwid* III. i. 242 It is but seldom,—only at meal times, and aften no' then,—that we get a waff of him a'e.

**5.** An apparition, wraith. = Waft *sb.*1 7.

1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* 99 There is a similar Superstition among the Vulgar in Northumberland: They call it seeing the Waff of the Person whose Death is approaching. 1815 *Dungeon Ser.* II. 163 Your honour forgets I fand my dear naister myael, an' saw him laid in the cauld grave. It's been his waff. 1884 Irvine *Scotch Sk.* 111, There is the waaf, or figure of the person about to die seen by another person.

**Waff** (waf), *a. Sc.* Also **waf, wauf.** [var. of Waif *a.*]

1. Of an animal: Wandering, stray. Also of a person: 'Solitary'; said 'of one who is in a strange place where he has not a single acquaintance' (Jam. 1808).

1720 Ramsay *Tartis & Roger* 127 She...then bade me hound my Dog To weer up three waff Ews were on the Bog. 1776 *Herd's Coll. Sc. Songs* II. Gloss., *Waff*, wandering by itself.

2. Of a person, condition of life: Of no account, worthless.

1788 Picken *Poems Sect. Dial.* 248 Gloss., *Waff*, little worth. 1808 Jamieson, *Waff, Waif, Waf*, adj.... 3. Worthless. A *waff fellow*, one whose conduct is immoral; or whose character is bad. A *waff woman*, who neglects their own, will not associate with him. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, Is not it an odd-like thing that ilka wauf carle in the country has a son and heir, and that the only heir of Ellangowan is without male succession? 1897 Lockhart *Scott* II. viii. 306, 'I dinna think there's a waufer (shabbier) thing in the world than to be a bastie, to sit boring at a desk'. a 1884 J. Russell *Remin. Yarrow* i. (1894) 7 A wauf hand (*i.e.* a bad preacher).

**b.** Comb.: **waff-like** *a.*, shabby-looking; having a suspicious or disreputable appearance; feeble, of little account.

1808 Jamieson, *Waff-like*, one [sic] who has a very shabby or suspicious appearance. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* lxxix. III. 180 Though the folk afore the house are but a wee waff-like. 1880 J. W. Alexander *Yaunt is Auld Archie* 46 A coat o' rusty black The wauflike wretch has on his back. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxiii, I came upon a lane of lighted houses, the doors and windows thronged with waufflike painted women.

**Waff** (waf), *v.*1 Chiefly *north.* Also 5–7 **waffe**, 9 *Sc.* **whaff.** [var. of Waive *v.*2 or Wave *v.*, with onomatopoeic modification. Cf. Waft *v.*1]

**† 1.** *trans.* To put away with a wave of the hand. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 248 *If Dux*... Youre fauchone hym flasse...*Rex*. Nowe lely I leue pe, And therfore schall y waffe it away.

**† 2.** *intr.* To blow (as the wind). *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 54 Pir wise wordis ware noght wroght in waste, To waffe and wende away als wyndis.

**3.** *trans.* Of the wind: To cause (something) to move to and fro.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. vi. 26 (1553) 16 b, Venus..With wind waffing (v.r. wauing) hir harris lowsit of trace. *Ibid.* ix. viii. 113 Quhidder waffit vilaum by storm of the se, Or at command of goddis, come thow, quod he?

**b.** *intr.* To wave to and fro; to flutter in the wind; also *trans.* of a bird, to move (the wings) in flight.

1834 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 IV. 97 Rover begins smokin and twinin himsel in a serpentine style,..wi' his fanlike tail whaffin. 1896 J. Ballantine *Poems* 59 The ragg waffin' round her wan wadden rush In a mair stiever-breasted chield than me. 1881 R. Quinn *Heather Lintie* (1893) 72 Aff they set on tiptan flicht, Waffin' their wee bit wings wi' micht.

**4.** *intr.* To produce a current of air by waving something to and fro. Also *trans.*, to direct a current of air against, to fan.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 91/1 [Among goldsmiths and jewellers] Waffing is clearing the Stones from Dust with a Pencill. a 1898 R. Jefferies *Amaryllis at the Baths* (1820) 190 Waffing her wan face wi' a claith. 1888 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 69 To *Waff*, or *Waft*, to fan out. Firedamp was formerly expelled from the working rooms by *waffing*.

**†Waff**, *v.*2 *Obs.* [Alteration of.Waft *v.*1]

**1.** *trans.* To convey by sea. *Obs.* = Waft *v.*1 2.

1620 Warner *Alb. Engl.* III. xviii. 84 The waffes an Armie out of France, and Vsaile, from Depe. *Ibid.* x. 374 Hee imbarked for Normandie to waffe them into England. 1655 Trap *Voy. E. India* v. 237 Those huge Vessels [Junks] are ..made exceeding big, on purpose to waff passengers forward and backward.

**2.** *intr.* To sail. Also *trans.* To sail (the seas).

1612 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. i. § 3. 163 Volusenus returned, hauing waffed vnto the coasts of Britaine so farre, as with safety he might. *Ibid.* vii. xxxviii. § 6. 364 His nauie waffing along those seas. *Ibid.* vii. xiii. § 6. 370 His Nauie rolail..he diuided into three parts, appointing euery of them to a seuerall quarter to waffe the Seas.

**Waff** (waf), *v.*3 Now *dial.* In 7, 8 **waugh**. [Echoic.] *intr.* Of a dog, esp. of a puppy: To yelp.

1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. Irel. 188 Women too throughout the same County barked like big dogges: but the children and little ones waughed as small whelpes. 1787 Grose *Provinc. Gloss., Wangbing*, barking. Probably from the sound. N. 1888 *N. W. Line Gloss., Waff*, *to waffle*, to bark, yelp. A dog ran waffing out. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., A dog 'wongs', but a puppy waffs.

**†Waffe**, *Mining. Sc. Obs.* In 6 **waffer**. App. an engineering 'work of some kind'; ? a fan (cf. Waff *v.*1 4).

1590 in R. W. Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 80 It is noch possible to men to myn cast sinkes veffers big with quha never saw ony sic waffers.

**Waffet**, obs. form of Waft *v.*

**Waffle** (waf'l). *Sc.* Also **wanfle**. [f. Waff *a.* + -le.] A worthless person, a vagabond.

1808 Jamieson, *Waffle*, a vagabond. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 514/1 Gypsies have actually among themselves outcasts and vagabonds'..by them termed *wuffles*. 1896 'Ian Maclaren' *Kate Carnegie* xxi. 353 A' the waufles in the country-side come here.

**Waffinger**, var. Wavenger.

**Waffle** (wq·f'l), *sb.*1 *U.S.* [a. Du. *wafel*; see Wafer *sb.*] A kind of batter-cake, baked in a waffle-iron, and eaten hot with butter or molasses.

1827 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 64 Waffles (a soft hot cake of German extraction, covered with butter). 1870 D. Macrae *Amer. at Home* I. 292 The Americans eat all fond of molasses; using them regularly at breakfast and supper to their buckwheat cakes and waffles. 1893 T. N. Page *In Ole Virginia* 221 He ordered waffles and hoe-cakes for breakfast.

**b.** Comb., as *waffle party*; **waffle**-iron, an iron utensil for baking waffles over a fire.

1848 in *Scribner's Mag.* (1891) II. 184/1 They are going to have a fine *waffle* party on Tuesday. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 666/1 She tells him of 'little waffle parties' formed by her intimates. 1888 E. Eggleston *Graysons* xxxii. 334 She took down the long-handled waffle-irons. 1889 *Century* 21 Feb. 583/1 Toasting-forks and waffle-irons had long handles, to make endurable the blazing heat of the great logs.

**†Waffle**, *sb.*2 [f. the verb.]

**1.** *dial.* 'The bark of a small dog' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

**2.** *Printers' slang.* 'Twaddle, gossip, or "jaw"' (Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 1888).

**Waffle**, *v.* Now *dial.* Also **whaffle**. [Freq. of Waff *v.*3] *intr.* To yelp. Hence **Waffling** *ppl. a.*

1858 *Christ Exalted* 3 nov. 77 His branding all that dissent from the Whaffling of Mr. Williams to be Whaffling Whelps, that can bark and not bite. 1891 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 93 Waffling curs and shepherd-dogs pursue.

**† Waffure**. *Obs.*—1 = Waffe, Wafter.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 174 They ..souketh the thryfte awey oute of oure honde, As the waffure [*v.r.* waspe] souketh the honye fro the bee.

**Waffuture**: see under Wafter.

**Waffle**: see Wafter.

**†Wa·fron**. *Obs.* Also 5 **wafrun**, 6 **waffron**, 5–6 **wafroun** (*Sc.* **vafrown**). [a. AF. **wafren*, augm. of *wafre* Wafer *sb.*] = Wafer *sb.* 1.

1c 1390 *Reeve of Cury* (2780) 8 Take obleys other wafrouns in stede of losseyns, and cowche in dyshes. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 10 Take obles and wafroun. c 1429 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 789/1 *Hec nebula, Hec gafra*, a wafron. 1486 *Bagf. Mise.* (Surtees) 57 And y' schall lt sraw by craft to be made of waffrons in maner of sraw. 1496 *Act. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 323 Item,..giffin to a man that brocht wafrouns to the King, in a. 1500 *J. Jones Bathes Buckstone* 9 b, And into diuers formes these graines may be reduced,.. some betweene yrons, as wafrons.

*attrib.* 1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 358 Item, to Dinart wafrone seilar, xiiij s. 1538–9 *Ibid.* VII. 140 Item, deliverit to Murdo Stirvelling, patenner, to by foure vafrown irnis to the quenis grace, vj li.

**Hence † Waffroner** = Wafferer.

1457–8 *Mem. Fountains* (Surtees) III. 89 Rob' Waf. roner, *ij d.*

**Waft** (waft), *sb.*1 Also *β* (senses 1, 5–6), 6–7, 9 *Sc.*, *dial.* and *Naut.* **weft**, (**† wefte**, **waift**), 9 **wheft**, **whift**. [Probably two or more formations: in part certainly a noun of action f. Waft *v.*1 and *v.*2; but sense 1 is recorded more than a century earlier than any sense of the verb that could give rise to it; and the *β* forms of the *sb.*, which do not occur in the verb, seem to indicate a different origin. Cf. Waff *sb.*, Weff; also Sw. *vifta*, Da. *vifte*, fan, Sw. *vifta*, Da. *vifte* to fan, Norw. *veift* puff of wind.]

**1.** a. A taste or flavour, esp. an ill taste, a 'twang'. Now *dial.* Cf. Weff.

a. 1628 Middleton *Mad World* IV. iii. F 4 b, A strumpets lippes with a waft in 'em, and stinkes like a rotten vessell: I can hardly beare this. 1866 Brogden *Provinc. Lincolnsh., Weft*, a disagreeable flavour.

β. 1542 Hooper *Dytetary* x. (1870) 256 Ale..muste not be ropy nor smoky, nor it must haue no weft nor tayle. 1854 Miss Baker *Northanpt. Gloss., Weft*, a musty taste, generally applied to cheese that tastes of the cask. 'The beer has a weft of the barrel.'

*fig.* 1697 S. Ward *Serm. & Treat., Coal from Altar* 17 Spices and wefts of these evils may be found in the sincerest Christians.

**b.** A scent or odour passing through the air or carried on the breeze. = Waff *sb.* 2 b, Weff.

a. 1822 Cotter, *Odour*, an odor, scent, smell, waft. *Pnaul*, ..that hath an ill waft, or smell. 1894 Evelyn *Terra* (1676) 70 Aloes and other Sedums, send forth their aromatic Wafts at considerable distance. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* IV. xxvii. 236 Some of them coming on the Wind, carried the waft of the difference of Wafts and Smells. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v. Stitch a waft o' stinkin fish. 1889 Amelia E. Barr *Feet of Clay* II. 37 The salt savour..was crossed by a waft of bayfields.

β. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 833 The Strongest Sort of Smells are best in a weft, a farre off. 1640 Shirley *Arcadia* III. ii. F 3 b, If this Mr. thought the reading of him was like the standing ..by a Canon shot off, the waft of them lickt up all my brains. 1663 W. Thornbury *True as Steel* II. 66 A waft of air wou'ment them [the ashes] apart for ever. 1667 Jean Ingelow *Glad*ys 607 The air was full of voices, and the scent Of mourn'in blossom loaded all its wafts. 1884 Standen *Poetry of Ruskin* 4 Reading sweet verse or inhaling a waft of the barbour breeze.

**b.** *fig.*

1807 Wakkington *Opt. Glass* 106 Riot's a barke in the mindes vnconstant mouze, Toot and fro wth wafts of appetite. 1658 G. Fox *Jrnl.* (1852) I. 345, I saw and felt a waft of death go forth against him. 1820 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* I. xxxvi. 321 If I get a favourable waft o' your good will, I can bide a wee for an answer. 1873 Geeve *Oh! Oh! Flute* 50 Out of grieving at a present blight, Come sweeter wafts of garnered memory. 1880 Shorthouse *John Inglesant* I. xxvii, A waft of peace and calm, like a breeze from paradise, fell upon Malvolti's heart.

**c.** A sound carried by the breeze. Also (*nonce-use*), a transitory gleam (of light).

1797 Vansittart *Songs* v. 69 D'ye hear, Trumpets? When the Bride appears, Salute her with a Melancholy Waft. 'Twill suit her humour. 1845 Bailey *Festus* 214 Sudden and soft, too, like a waft of light, Thou beautiful immortal, come to me. a 1894 Stevenson *Heathercat* iii. Lay Morals, etc. (1911) 319 The voice of the preacher came to him in wafts, at the wind's will, as by the opening and shutting of a door.

**d.** A puff (of smoke or vapour).

1856 Jane Barlow *Mrs. Martin's Comp.* 8 'Twas just the one way wid her as wid the waft of smoke there up in her wid clothes-line; it was there this minute, the next wid the air, and sorra another breath anywheres nigh it. 1897 Blackmore *Dariel* iii, Clusters of stars..and loose wafts of vapour were ready to float them.

**3.** An act of wafting or carrying off as the wind does.

1727–46 Thomson *Winter* 271 Oft the whirlwind's wing Sweeps up the burden of whole wintry plains In one wide waft.

**4.** An act of transporting or carrying over water; a passage across the sea. ? *Obs.*

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 106 They came to a Bury, which was at that time overflown with water, there Jassy and Jocky stood gaping..until a Traveller passing that way, profer'd the courtesie of a waft successively to them both. 1697 Davenant *1st Day's Entertainm. Rutland Ho.* 72 (Hee) with his long pole gives us a tedious waft, as if he were all the while poching for Eels. 1786 Burns *Tam Dogg* 156 Or may be in a frolic daft, To Hague or Calais takes a waft.

**5.** An act of waving (the wings or something held in the hand); a waving movement.

a. 1692 S. Patrick *Funeral Serm. Y. Smith* in *Smith's Sel. Disc.* (1660) 493 He was all in a desire, as if the Angels that fetcht his Father, had lent him a waft of their wings, wherely he strove to fly with him to Heaven. 1865 Trehawen *Caphisa* 72 And the lonely seabird crosses With one waft of the wing.

β. 1700 J. Johnson *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 103 The *oremus* was a sort of warft. The use the Deacon had for it..was to give notice to the people and clerks what they were to do or say, by the several wefts or motions that he made with it.

**6.** *Naut.* A flag (or some substitute) hoisted as a signal; the act of displaying such a signal. (See quot. 1867.) Cf. Waff *sb.* 1 b.

a. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-Manu Dict.* s.v., Also waifs are used for signes to have the boate come aboord (which is Coast, Gowne or the like, hanging in the shrowdes) also it is a common signe of some extremetie, when a ship doth hang a waft upon the maine-stay, either that it hath sprung a-lenke, or is in some distresse. 1719 Da Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 398 We immediately spread our Antient to let them know we saw them, and hung a Waft out as a Signal for them to come on board. 1721 J. Price *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 125 This Day the Gloucester made us a Signal by a waft of her Ensign. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Waft*, a signal displayed from the mast or ship, by hoisting the ensign, furled up together into a long roll, to the head of it's staff. 1854 G. B. Richardson *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 6394 Hoist a waft.

**b.** 1813 J. Sans *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 49 We had sight of a wefte ashoare. 1697 *Admiralty Exam.* (MS.) Bundle 81 fol. 171 A weft hung out for her company to come on board. 1798 *Collect. Acts Admiralty* II. 1 The Sun came up upon the right..: And broad as a weft, upon the left, Went down the Sun. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxiii. I have been sent from the English ensign to hoist over the French, but cannot find one; so I will hoist a wheft over it,—that will do. 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy.* I. 266 The wrecked boat, with two whifts flying as a signal of distress. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waft*, more correctly written *wheft*. It is a flag or ensign, stopped together at the head and middle portions, and tightly rolled up lengthwise, and hoisted at different positions at the after-part of a ship. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 96 A signal of distress..is ascertained by making it into a 'weft,' which is done by knotting it in the middle.

**b.** *To make a waft*; to hang out a flag (or substitute) as a signal.

a. 1673 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 819/4 Being driven near the Shore, they made a waft, and thereupon with a Fire-work in 1721 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 3 He is to make a Waft with his Jack or Ensign. *Ibid.* 455 We made a Waft. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 264 We saw that he made a Sign with her Antient, as a Signal for the Boat to come on Board.

β. 1653 in J. S. Corbett *Fighting Instr.* (1905) 99 Upon the discovery of a fleet, receiving a sign from the generall, which is to be..making a sign for ingaging, or to make sail. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xxix, There have already been made two wefts from the warder's turret, to intimate that those in the castle are impatient for your return.

**7.** An apparition, wraith. Cf. Waff *sb.* 8.

1892 *Longm. Mag.* July 235 I'm bound to die afore t' year is out...I seed my own waft (wraith) go into the kirk last St. Mark's Eve, and it never came out again.

**† Waft**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [? var. Weft *sb.*] (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 99/1 Waft, or Finger Bread [= braid], are kind of Purse strings woven on the Fingers either round or broad.

**Waft** (waft), *v.*1 Pa. t. and pa. ppl. **wafted**. Also 6 ? **waffet**, **wafft**, 6–7 **wafte** (? *pa. pple.* waft). [Back-formation from Wafter.]

**†1.** *trans.* To convoy (a ship or fleet of ships, persons sailing). *Obs.*

1513 W. Gonson in *Lett. & Papers Wer France* (1897) 130 A letter..to the wyche he comaundyth me that..I shall conducte and wafft hys vytellars to hys grett army in the water of Brest. I..made hys Grace answer..I wold go my selfe in the smallist of the Spanyarde that florithe wit me..and lefte John Yeame and Rychiard Barkeley in the other 2 Spanyiarde shyps to wafft over the Zeland fleett. 1513 Southwissan *Ibid.* 150 Sir Edward Brown..hath ben one and Harper in commaundment for to go to Hampton for to wafte the vytlers unto them. a 1598 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 96 Because certaine pyrates were lurkyng at the Temmes mouthe..Thomas Lord Camois with certaine shippes of warre was appointed to wafte over the kyng. 1580 R. Hitchcock *Politique Plat* c iiij, That two or three great shippes of warre, well furnished, were appointed to wafte the Marchants maie continewe vpon her Maiesties Seas..for two yeares: for the defence of those fishing Shippes. 1622 in *Sherwell MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 210 Don Faderique de Toledo, who is gone to waft the West India fleet homewards. 1664 Manwayring *Sea-Manu Dict.* s.v., To waft, is to guard or convoy a fleete at sea. 1670 J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Revivid* 270 The Fishermen agreed amongst themselves to pay a Dollar upon every last of Herrings, towards the maintenance of certain Ships of Warr, to Waft and secure them in their Fishing.

**† b.** *trans. f.* To guide or direct the course of (a vessel, a swimmer, a floating object, etc.). *Obs.*

1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 360 A little Fish, that swimming still before, Directs him the Whales course. Much like a Childe that loving leads about His aged Father when his eyes be out: Still wafting him through every way so right.

**2.** To convey safely by water; to carry *over* or *across* a river, sea, etc. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1593 Shakes. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 124, I go of Message from the Queene to France: I charge thee waft me safely crosse the Channell. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 253. *Ibid.* v. vii. 41 Away with her, and waft her hence to France. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennilesse Pilgr.* E 2, And as by water I was wafted in, I thought that I in Charons Boate had bin. 1668 Boyle in *Limoges Papers* (1886) II. 260 We all landed safely, and the next morning I discharged Capt. Jones.. who I hired to wafte me over. 1679 *Act in Arch. Maryland* (1883) I. 78 No person..other then the owner of the said ferry boat..shall wait or passe any person over the said River.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* 131 Nor wou'd th' Infernal Ferry-Man once more Be brib'd, to waft him to the farther shore. 1708 *Ann. Reg.-Hist. Eur.* 32 Great bodies of the Asiatic troops were continually wafted over to the European side of the Helle-pont. 1789 *Massachusetts Sky* 9 Apr. 3/2 An elegant barge is building to waft the great Washington across the Hudson. 1817 *Mag. Ladies Pocket, Fire-worshippers* 1. 450 Again she sees his pinnace fly, Wafting him fleetly to his home. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lx. 4 Fair ship, . . Spread thy full wings, and waft him o'er.

*fig.* 1616 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* Prol., Plays.. Where neither *Chorus* wafts you o're the seas; Nor creaking throne comes downe, the boyes to please. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* v. 5 That fond invention that wafted hither the fifty daughters of a strange Diocletian King of Syria.

*refl.* 1643 Holcroft *Procopius* Pref. A 2 b, He could gain no footing in Italy, but in all that time was forced to waft himself by stealth from one Port-town to another. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 27 They, taking the advantage of a low tide, either waded over, or else wafted themselves over upon small Rafts of timber.

**b.** Of the sea or waves: To carry, transport. Obs. exc. *poet.*

1613 Day *Festivals* v. (1615) 129 Now the Red-Sea of Baptisme, hath conveyed us, and waft us over. 1671 Milton *P. R.* i. 104 A calmer voyage now Will waft me. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* iv. 330 The sons of Feasts, the Adriatic main Wafts the smooth Eunuch and enamour'd swain. 1748 Thomson *Sch. Wisd.* 153 A soul immortal, . . Thrown into tumult . . At night this scene can threaten . . Resembles ocean into tempest wrought, To those on board who to drown is nought. 1818 B. Taylor *Denkalion* II. iii. 69 The waves of earth are wafting to and fro The ashes of great lives.

†**c.** *Intr.* To sail *about, off, to and fro, up and down*; to cross *over* by water. *Obs.*

a 1582 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (Kelmscott Press) 150 Ther was no lesse than a thousand botts.. wafftyng uppe and down in Temmes, appoynted by my lord's owne tyme. 1777-87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1187/1 Maister William Winter.. made Saile towards Scotland, and wafting along the coast in Januarie came into the Forth. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb. Ded., He had not played long in the Sea, but hauing tooke vp, fro, at his pleasure, but he returned agayne, stroke saile, [etc.]. 1598 Bolton *Florus* IV. viii. (1636) 325 And now his Navie wafted up and down in the Adriatick Sea. 1631 Ancrum *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 92 Where there is no food or shallow place they passe, or waft ouer with a wherrie or ferrie boat. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 181 When all these of the Fleete were returned, fifteene of them wafted off towards Porto di Torre. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xxi. 190 We 2 Pinnaces were waiting upon the ships, to waft them. *Ibid.* 200 We that day wafted about for a good wind. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1042 Satan . . Wafts on the calmer wave by dubious light And like a weather-beaten Vessel holds Gladly the Port. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Metam.* I. 932 High on the summit of this dubious Cliff, Deucalion wafting, moor'd his little Skiff. 1794 Beattie *Minstrel* II. xlix, He braves The surge and tempest, . . And o'er the happier land wafts speedily away! 1814 Capt. Scobell *Trnl. of the 'Thais'* in *Tuckey's Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* (1818) Introd. p. xiii, I met several floating islands, which, wafting to the motion of the sea, rushed far into the ocean.

†**3.** *trans.* To buoy *up. Obs. rare.*

1648 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. vii. 196 Some alledge that spirits are light as bubbles, and naturally ascending do elevate and waft the body upward. 1650 *Ibid.* iv. vi. (1658) 247 Whether Cripples and mutilated persons.. who have lost the greatest part of their thighs, will not sink but float, their lungs being abler to waft up their bodies.

**4.** Of the wind: To propel (a vessel) or convey (a navigator or passenger) safely.

Originally a mere contextual use of sense 2. The frequency of examples in which the verb denotes the action of the wind gave rise in the 18th c. to the notion that the essential meaning of the verb had reference to this agency, and to the identification of the word with the etymologically distinct Wapp v.[2] The older sense 2, so far as it survives, is coloured by association with this sense.

1707 Prior *Songs, 'I'm sure you tell'* 2 In vain you tell your parting Lover You wish fair Winds may waft Him over.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* 18 The Sea, and the Land-Breezes (the one serving to carry the Mariner in long Voyages from East to West; the other serving to waft him to particular Places. 1773 Hawkesw. *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. iii. 535 The gale that drove us upon the coast, to the shore, would then certainly have beaten us to pieces. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* I. ii. 70 While favouring breezes waft his blessed ship From the Plague. 1819 Hersh *Hymns, 'From Grandam's Knee Memorials'* iv, Waft, waft, ye winds, His story. 1842 Tennyson *'You ask me, why'* 25 Yet waft me from the harbour-mouth, Wild wind!

*fig.* 1853 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* I. viii. 98 The sighs of their fears, and the wind of their prayers waft them safely to their port. 1884 *Daily News* 26 May 5/1 The Conservatism of the present is waiting for a wind . . Will it waft and bear to enterprise and rough seas and daring adventure? 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* iii, What wind of utter despair had wafted her to that place of all places.

**5.** To carry (something) through the air or through space. a. with sound, scent, infection, etc. as object: said of the wind. Also with *away, by, round.*

1704 Pope *Pastorals, Summer* 80 Your praise the birds shall chant in ev'ry grove, And winds shall waft it to the pow'rs above. 1788 Cowper *Heroism* 35 The self-same gale that wafts the fragrance round Brings to the distant ear a sullen sound. 1803 *Med. Trnl.* X. 176 Assuredly, then, this affection [influenza] has been rather wafted on us than communicated to us in the way of personal intercourse. 1811 Shelley *St. Irvyne* I. ii. 4 And low, chilling murmurs, the blast wafted by. 1828 Tennyson *Mariana* I. xxii. 1 And the woodbine spices are wafted abroad. 1887 Bowen *Rivals* I. 419 Where sweet scents are wafted from garlands ever in bloom.

**b.** with material object.

1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 485 Nitrous and sulphureous particles..are wafted in the air by diverse winds. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 540 And ev'n the breathing air Wafts the rich prize [pollen] to its appointed use. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor* 457 Our Table Cloth..was in the act of being wafted overboard. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall Gardens*, The balloons were wafted gently away. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 192 Dense showers of such dust have been wafted by winds for even hundreds of miles.

**c.** To send (a sound, fragrance, etc.) through the air; to 'blow' (a kiss).

1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 265 Thames waft it (the sound) thence to Rufus' roaring hall And Hungerford re-echoes hawl for hawl. 1815 Byron *Hebr. Mel.*, *The harp the monarch's* 12 It [the harp] told the triumphs of our King, It wafted glory to our God. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xi, And many a kiss did Mr. Smallweed waft in the air, in acknowledgment of something very like a lady's handkerchief. 1859 Byron Bernese in Hare *Life* (1879) II. iv. 181 At the year's beginning and end, one is peculiarly moved to..waft wishes and kind thoughts to many a far-removed locality. 1871 J. R. Macduff *Mem. Patmos* v. 62 This Tree with its perennial fruits, wafting immortal fragrance and distilling immortal balm.

**d.** To carry in flight: said chiefly of angels.

a 1728 Prior *Translations? ad Amicas Iosit.* 12 Glad I release it from it's Partner's Cares; And bid good Angels waft it to the Stars. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* v. 905 Swift as her pinions waft the glove-ey'd maid. 1818 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. ii, O Heaven protect my faithful Isabel, And waft her safe, as on an angel's wing, To that sweet lake. 1827 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* I. 68 Or, if I've done a kinder deed, Waft angels, I've whispered, to my side. 1840 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 4 With what longing eyes would I gaze after their lessening sails, and waft myself in imagination to the ends of the earth.

**6.** *intr.* To pass through the air or through space; to float upon, come or go with the wind or breeze.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 3 Small hairs, which (by blowing upon a hair) will waft to and fro. 1696 Whitby *Answer.* III. i, Those Trumpets his triumphant Entry tell, And now the Shouts waft near the Cittadel. 1699 — *Antipityrop.* II. i, There is an ill savour that offends my Nostrils, and it wafteth this way. 1717 Pope *Eloisa to Abel.* 214 Tears that delight, and sighs that waft to heav'n. 1820 Mariah Moore *Lucelles* II. 9, I recognized his charming voice in the delightful strains which wafted on my ear. 1890 *Daily News* 7 July 6/2 Great green boxes [of roses] were being opened with very perceptible whiffs of perfume wafting into the streets.

†**b.** Of a bird, winged insect: To pass by flying. *Obs.*

1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 24 Then wafting at one Reach, they proudly Perch On highest Pinnacle of the faint Church. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 80 Soon as the sun their insect-wings unfold, Waft on the breeze, or sink in cold delight.

**c.** Of the breeze: To blow softly.

1804 *Something Odd* II. 26 In vain..did the soft breezes of an approaching summer waft around him. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xxvii. (1856) 176 There wasn't a breath of air yet, either, to tell what seemed now and then to waft out of the thick woods.

**7.** *trans.* To move, drive, or carry *away* (something) by producing a current of air.

1839 *The Dict. Arts* 636 A sort of winnowing machine, which wafts away the finer and lighter parts. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii, It seems to you that it is not the donkey, but the donkey-boy who wafts you along with his shouts.

†**8.** Wafter, v.[2] [App. an alteration of Wapp v.[1], perh. due to the pa. t. or pa. pple. *waft.*]

**1.** *trans.* To wave (the hand or something held in the hand), esp. as a signal.

1604 E. (Grimstone) *D'Acosta's Hist. Ind.* VII. xvi. 540 They were accustomed in their elections to make great feasts and dances, when they were almost tipsie. 1632 Heywood *Womes Mistris.* I. 4 Shee now hath climb'd the Rock, And wafts her hand. *Obs.*

*absol.* 1848 Rx. *Death* in *Bacon's Remaines* 10 These wait upon the shore of death, and waft unto him to draw neer.

**b.** To signal to (a person, etc.) by waving the hand or something held in the hand. Also, of a flag.

1578 G. Best in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 63 We espied certaine of the countrey people, with a flag wafting vs backe againe. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 111 But soft, who wafts vs yonder. 1592 Kyd *Sol. & Perc.* I. iii. 116 Hee that will ryp'ne, his hand shall waft his arme. 1606 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* I. ii. 277 Till you can directly hoord him, Waft him aloofe with hats and other favours. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 70 How do I know the Ancestor of Lord Timon fraies, Whose Fortune with her ivory hand wafts to her. 1608 Middleton *Mad World* III. iii. F 1, The hayre about the hat is as good as a flag vpon't the pole at a common Playhouse to waft company. 1683 Stapylton tr. *Musæus* A 4 b, The Tow'r when Sestian Hero lay, And held the Torch, wafting Leander o're. 1692 Nahumbrom *Trnl. in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* 1. (1694) 49 They saw seven people, making a noise and waiting them to ship. a 1719 Garth *Ovid's Met.* XIV. Wks. (1730) 134 At length a sail I wafted, and aboard My fortune found an humble lord.

**c.** To move (something) *aside* with a wave of the hand.

1781 Cowper *Hope* 370 Now, truth, perform thine office; waft aside The curtain drawn by prejudice and pride.

**2.** To turn (the eyes) aside with a disdainful movement. *nonce-use.*

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 372 When hee's Wafting his eyes to th' contrary, and falling A Lippe of much contempt, speedes from me.

**3.** *intr.* To move to and fro, to wave. *Obs.*

1630 Jer. Taylor *Funeral Serm. C'tess Carbery* 4 The face of the waters wafting in a storm, so wrinkles it self, that it makes upon its forehead furrows.

**Waftage** (wa·ftēdʒ). Also 6 waftage. [f. Waft v.[1] + -age.]

**1.** The action of wafting.

†**1.** The action of conveying merchant-vessels.

1598 Q. Eliz. in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I. iii. 297 To advertize the Admirall.. that order might be taken for his waftage over with the treasure. 1589 Gresham *ibid.* II. 42 Sir Thomas Cotton seant the barck of Bollen with me, for my better waftage. 1963-4 *Admiralty Exam.* (MS.) Bundle 98, 13 Mar., ij frenche men of warr who then had in their company and under their waftage ij Flemishe boyes. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* viii. 130 Hee had beene many yeares Generall of the south Sea, for the carriage and waftage of the silver from Lyma to Panama.

**2.** Conveyance across water by ship or boat.

1598 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 93 Is a Bay, and Kingdom, nam'd Epidamium stakes for me, *S. Dro.* A ship you sent me too, to hier waftage. 1606 G. W(oonncox) *Hist. Iustina* xxii. 84 Agathocles in the same ships that had waftage some out of Sicily, was transported into Syracuse. 1607 Drayton *Agincourt* 13 The Ships appointed wherein they should be sent ouer, And Boats prepar'd for waftage to and fro. 1625 Fuller *Holy State* III. xiii. 230 Ferie boat in the River Grond: A vagrant before (even any where, where passengers could get waftage ouer. 1673 H. Stubbe *Further Vind. Dutch War* App. 132 There was paid.. for waftage.. one year; besides the Tenth fish and Cask, paid for Waftage.

**b.** Conveyance over the Styx.

Very common in 16–17 c. poetry and drama.

1592 S. Daniel *Delia* xlvii. (1718) 41 H. 3 Caron denies me waftage with the rest. 1606 Shaks. *Troylus* III. ii. 22. 1629 G. Daniel *Vercingetuli* 44 Wks. (Grosart) I. 228 The infernall Foords: Where happle Soules want waftage with a Wonde. 1634 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 26 The crazy bark of old Charon, only fitted for the light waftage of ghosts.

**c.** *Transf.* and *fig.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* vi. vi. 356 The *Plantæ*..giueth also to the vessels a safe waftage and a kinde of stability. 1625 T. Adams *Spir. Navigator* 9 Praising God..for their safe waftage ouer the sea of this world. 1662 Gerbier *Counc. in Arm.* iii. verse 17. v. ¶ 2. 36 Afflictions..are as necessary for our waftage to glory, as water is to carry the Ship to her Port. 1699 Penn *Acc. Late India & P.* 69 Is this the Elysium after a tedious Waftage?

**3.** Passage through the air or through space.

a 1698 Cleveland *Lett. Wks.* (1687) 119 As if their Travel (like Witches in the Air) were a Waftage to the Sabbath of a deluded Phantasie. a 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 132 A Chariot for his Waftage was decreed, With long-wing'd Horses of Celestial Breed. 1834 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 775 Forest flies, ephemerals all like ourselves—but happier far in their airy waftage or watery voyaging, than the vain race of man! 1885 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May II. The solitary wood where she was left; And thence in dark and airy waftage reft, How on the flowers she had been disburden'd light.

**4.** The action or power of propulsion which the wind or breeze has; also, conveyance by such propulsion.

1852 Sherburne *Salmacis* 207 She..Sent him by the light waftage of the Wind, A sigh, an Ah Mee, Nuncios of her Mind. 1872 *Phil. Trans.* CLXII. 519 Light bodies (as snow flakes) continual motion and waftage to and fro touching upon each other. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 758 Then there comes fitfully on the feeble waftage of the wandering nightbreeze an uncertain wail of music. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* IV. v, Let us give ourselves to waftage of the winds.

**II.** A means of waftage.

†**5.** A vessel for the conveyance of merchandise or passengers by water. *Obs.*

1560 T. B(aylev) *Worcester's Apoph.* 107 Passes granted unto him, both by Land and Sea, with carts by Land, and waftage by Sea. 1599 Habbington *Art Lawgiving* iv. 106 For these [men] the Commonwealth in her Sea-guard hath always at hand sufficient waftage.

†**6.** A means of conveyance through the air. *Obs.*

1630 W. Strode *Floating Isl.* III. iii, Nothing to carry me but Herges. Coach? Fiend! Litters? through the Aire I'd passe By some new waftage.

**Wafte,** pa. t. of Waive v.[2] *Obs.*

**Wafted** (wa·ftĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Waft v.[1] + -ed[1].] Carried or driven by the wind.

1784 Cowper *Task* II. 68 Ev'n they perceive The soothing influence of the wafted strains. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 166, I could see the wafted snow gradually melt away.

**+Wafter,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5 waughter, 6 waughter, -er. [App. a. Du. or LG. *wachter*, lit. guard, f. *wachten* to guard; but the specific use has not been found in Du. or LG.]

**1.** An armed vessel employed as a convoy.

1484 in *Lett. & Papers Ric. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 287 We understande that certain of you entende hastely to departe towardes Inland, not purveied of waughters for your suerties. *Ibid.*, That ye gadre your Navie, and assemble your said..departe alle togider toward Humbre, to attende there upon our shippes of Hull as your waughters, for the suretie of you all. 1524 Wolsey in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* V. 89 It appereth that 7 prises and oone wafter of the Island flete be lately taken by 2 shippes of Lathe. 1524 — Ibid. VI. 296 Considering what case it shalbe, before we departe from you but in redynes and sent from hens for your condiuyting. a 1546 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 212 b, Commaundement was geuen to the Haberdashers..that they should prepare a barge..with a wafter and a foyst garnished with banners. c 1585 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 58 Shee was a man of war and a wafter either to theire Byskin fleet of fishermen for Newfoundlande or bounde to meet theire Indian fleet now comminge home. 1620 R. Whytbourne *Newfoundland* 53 Those shipps thus sent to guard their [sc. the Hollanders'] Fleets, which are called

Wafters, doe continually breede many ſtr ſeruiceable Seamen. 1629 *Malynes Papers* (Abbotsf. Club) II. 289 The lyke charge being executo againſ the Captaines of the waughtarns at Aberdeenne. 1691 J. SMITH *Engl. Improv. Revived* III. 237 There were about 80 Wafters, as they call'd them, which were Ships carrying about 30 Guns a piece, being the Convoys of the Fleet of Busſes.

**2.** The commander of a convoying vessel.

1482 *Pat. Roll 22 Edw. IV* m. 2 (1809) 326 Certi conductores ſive waftores [*printed* waſtores] picatorum Reg' in ſpiritibus Norff' et Suff'. 1513 T. HOWARD in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 163, I ſhall . send all the victellers there forth to Hampton warde and with them Antony Poynes, Wiſeman and Draper for waſters. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 175 I ha reuered lord great maiſter . ſent veſſels called brigantines, for to cauſe the waſters of the ſea to come into Rhodes for the keeping and fortifying of the towne. *Ibid.* 76 The lord maiſter ſeeing that the Turkes houſe drew neere, and that he had the moſt part of the waſters within the towne, he cauſed generall maiſters of men of armes to be made. 1620 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* liv 9 The Vice-admirall, and other Waſters [*printed* Wasters] that ſhould be the Shepheards to guard and keepe their flocke, were .the Men who made moſt haſt to flie from the Wolfe.

**Wafter** (wɒ·ftəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. WAFT *v.*[1] + -ER 1.] One who wafts.

1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* IV. i. Song, Charon o Charon Thou waſter of the ſoules to and fro. [*Hence in later edd.*]

† **Wafter**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. WAFTER *sb.*[1]] = WAFT *v.*[1] 1.

1618–6 *Privy Council Reg.* 7 Feb. (MS.), The eaſtern counties petitioned 'for two of H. M. ſmall ſhippes to waffter and defend them from the ſaid pirates'.

**Wafter** : see WAFTURE.

[**Wafter**, error for WASTER foil, singlestick.

The error originated with Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) II. 144. The word occurs in a text of 1455; it was not a mere misprint, for Meyrick attempts an etymological explanation from the verb *waft*. Hence in recent DICTS.]

**Wafting** (wɒ·ftiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

**1.** The action of WAFT *v.*[1] ; esp. † the action of convoying or of transporting by sea (*obs.*).

1559 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 263 [He recommends that Queen Elizabeth ſhould ſend] three or four of her beſt ſhips of war that are out, for the ſure waffting of the munition and armour. 1577 HARRISON *Englande* II. xiii. 87/1 *By hir* in *Holinshed*, [it is] employed then [ac. his ſhips] wholly to the waffying in and out of our marchauntes. 1682 Jas. TAYLOR *Holy Living* (1678) 74 So I have ſeen the rays of the Sun or Moon daſh upon a braven veſſel : but being turned back and ſent off with its smooth pretences or roughar waffings, it wandered about the room. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 435 A death like ſleep, A gentle waſting to immortal Life.

**2.** Something waſted or carried by the wind.

1678 SIMON PHILLIPS *On Scotland* 178 And the wild north winds of the winter's day Bring keen freſh waftings from the far-off seas.

**Wa·fting**, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That waſts.

1589 JEAN INGELOW *Tiveed* v, She ſpread her waſting wings. The ſhip—and weighed her anchor to depart. 1608 MERRYDITH *Amazing Marr.* xxxii, The countess was not ſo much a perſuaſive lady as dear, in her breath and gate, a ſweeping and a waſting power.

**Wafture** (wɒ·ftiuɹ). In 7 waftur. [f. WAFT *v.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -URE. Cf. *cleſture, raiſure* ; with the ſpelling *waſter* cf. *ſointer* for *jointure*.

It ſeems most probable that Rowe was right in regarding *waſter* in the former edd of Shake. *Jul. C.* as intended for *waſture*. These is, however, a poſſibility that *waſter* is a word of Shakſpere's native dialect, related to WAFTER *sb.*[2] to wave (MYTC *a* 1450). Since the publication of Rowe's ed. of Shake., *waſture*, of which no earlier examples are known, has been ſomewhat common in literary uſe.]

**1.** a. The action of WAFT *v.*[1] 1, waving (the hand or ſomething held in the hand).

1601 SHAKE. *Jul. C.* II. i. 246 You answer'd not, but with an angry waſter [*ed. Rowe* 1709 *and later edd.* waſture] of your hand, Gaue ſigne for me to leaue you. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 545 Caught by the waſture of a golden lure. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWN *Geo. Bateman* I 32 'Go !' cried ſhe, with an indignant waſture of her hand. 1892 G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* II. v. 73 A few myſterious waſtures of the hand of his aunt ſet him trembling.

b. The waving (of a wing or wings).

1790 H. BOYD *Shipwreck of Lebanon* I. POETICAL REG. (1812) VII. 227 The northern Eagle rous'd, and ſhook his plumes Tremendous : at the waſture of his wings The clouds diſperſt. 1845 F. W. FABER *Poems*, etc. 60 With a murmuring ſoft as the waſture of a ſtockdove's wing. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* viii. 209 Light as the waſture of an insect's wing, that motion might have been.

c. The waving or undulation (of a garment).

1880 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* 209 How we would ..note the waſture of your garments !

**2.** The action of waſting (WAFT *v.*[1]) ; propulsion by air or current.

1795 J. HEAVEY *Thorow & Aſtaſia* III. 204 Where the Waſture [of the blood] is to be ſpeedy, the Channels either forbear to wind in their Courſe, or to lessen in their Dimenſions. 1821 LAMB *Elia Ser.* 1. *Witches*, The gentle Thames, which landed me, in the waſture of a placid wave or two, ſomewhere at the foot of Lambeth palace. 1824 SIR H. TAYLOR *Reason the Pilot* III 1, The wind . Descended with a waſture and a ſweep.

**3.** Something waſted or carried by the breeze.

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 72 What waftures of incense are filling the air ! 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 107 Gratification ſeemed to breathe in every waſture of the new-mown fragrance.

**Wafty** (wɒ·fti), *a.* [f. WAFT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] + -Y.]

† **1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Vagable*, waftio, or waſted ; that ſends vp an ill ſtinke, that yeelds a ſtinking vapor.

**2.** Of the wind : That waſts a perfume.

1815 HEMANS *Autumn Mood* Poet. Wks. 1873 II. 333 Oh, old old Minſtrelsy, oh, waſty winds of Romance, How are your harps !

**Wafui**(l(e, obs. forms of WOEFUL *a.*

**Wag** (wæg), *sb.*[1] Alſo 6 **wagg**(e. [f. WAG *v.*]

**1.** An act of wagging (the head, tongue, etc.).

1589 LODGE *Scilla's Met.* B ij, When firſt with [*printed* which] fingers wagge he gan to ſtull them. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, *Mora.* You become the ſimper, well ladie. *Arete.* And the wag, better. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd, There was more ſympathy in the wag of old Trusty's tail, than of [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xl, With .a scarcely perceptible wag of his head. 1870 F. H. FRASER *Trag. Lesbos* III 68 One wag of thy fool's tongue at her or me, And by the head of Hecate, thou dieſt ! 1889 R. BUCHANAN *Ballads of Human Life* 103, But recognising her, he gave a faint wag of the tail and ſank down again to doze. 1891 *Field* 28 Nov. 835/1 The moſt ſilent of us are apt to let our tongues run on, at times complacently to the wag of other-.

b. Power or diſpoſition to wag.

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xiii. 227 The old houſe dog crawled towards him, with no wag in his tail. 1881 *Century Mag.* XXXII. 932/1 [They] ſtroked his [head and] long ears out of which the wag had gone forever.

† **2.** *To hold* (a person) *wag*: to keep at bay, defy. *Obs.*

1592 J. HEYWOOD *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc) 12, I ſay, may I, and will ſo envey, That I wyll hold ye wagg a nother way. 1608 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cviii. 415 But who againſt that Agen Mars firſt Edward might hold out ? Yet twice this Lewis did him wag.

**Wag** (wæg), *sb.*[2] Alſo 6–7 **wagg**(e. [Prob. f. WAG *v.*

Possibly (as ſuggeſted by Wedgwood) a ſhortening of MAGNATUS, applied playfully to a child or to a joker. But it may have come direct from the verb in ſenſe 1.]

† **1.** A miſchievous boy (often as a mother's term of endearment to a baby boy) ; in wider application, a youth, young man, a 'fellow', 'chap'. *Obs.*

a 1533 UDALL *Respond.* II iv. (Arb.) 58, I will miſſe haue my note twenty times ouergon, Then the naughtie wag not to be auenged. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 177 For euerie trifle leaue tanting thy nag, but rather make lyckey thy wagge. 1592 GREENE *Disput. betw. Pride & Lowl.* Wks. II 55 (Venus ſays to Cupid) Vnhappy wag, what haſt thou done ? 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 27 Mothren wagge, pretie boy. 1600 SHAKE. *Much Ado* II. i. 60 Well ſaid, merry hoa, and thenne they stode wagying and scaterying [1529 skaterynge], pontying, blowynge and bledyng.

**3.** To oscillate, shake or sway alternately in opposite directions, as something working on a pivot, fitting loosely in a socket, or the like. Of a boat or ship : To rock.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* VII. 33 Pe wyndes and pe water and pe boie waggynge Makeþ pe man many a tyme to falle and to ſtonde. a 1398 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1744 I laugh I neuere, by my fader kyn, How that the hoppe wagges til and fra. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 206 His chyn vp a chol lolkede Pat all wagged as a wedercok. 1562 LEVINUS *Manip. Vocab.* 178/1 To wag, *vacillare*. 1598 FLORIO *Worlde of Wordes* (ed. 2), Vacillare, to wag, to ſhake, to ſtirre. 1601 SHAKE. (Bodl. MS.) Luce beroſt hette wiþ vyngre fa-tene[þ] te[e] þatt wuggen *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Wagyn, or wauerin, *vacillo*. 1552 HULOET *Wagyn, or wauerin, vacillo* *c* 1590 SPELTON *Magnyf.* 1801, I ſawe a wethercocke wagge with the wynde. a 1592 KYD *Hist. Of* Who ſhip ſo ſtout but ſtormes myght have bene ſeen wantonly wag from the one wall to the other 1620 WILKINS *New Planet* v. (1707) 296 It could not wag with the leaſt kind of Deſignation. 1654 WHITTLOCKE *Sword Ambaſſy* (1772) II. 371 *Mar.* She waggeſ ſhe waggeſ ! My lord, uppon my life the ſhip did wag, I ſaw her move. 1795 *Anderſon's Trip to Spa* 8 *Tunnel*, I here ſhould be a Stick to keep up the Head and Tail for a ſtalking horſe, which laſt ſhould be at ſome diſtance from the Body, that it may not move, or wag. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii, Better a finger aff as aye waggin.

†**b.** Of leaves, corn, reeds, etc. : To waver, ſhake. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. vii. (1495) 607 A rede waggith wyth the wynde. c 1400 *Lanfr. Cirurg.* 68 As levis wagges with the wynde. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lx, Blot blawe wynd, blawe, I hat ſum tway may wag, and mak hir to wake. 1588 GRANGE *Garden* (1950) 18 The boye coping the buſh to wag, imagined that there lay ſome wilde beaſt. 1658 in *Porter's Nat. Magic* IV. x. 213 Rinde [the Vines]., with ſtrings or thongs, that they may be ſurely tuyed from wagging up and downe. 1663 BUTLER *Hudib. Pilgrim* XXXVI. (1687) 457 If a leaf waggeſ, it was by the ſweet breath of thoſe Nymphians which ſate among the branches. a 1720 LADY *Hervey* (1727) 243 Not a note of any other kind did wag.

† **c** *fig.* To waver, vacillate *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 321 Robard, waggynge as a reed, reuerted anon. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat* I. i A. Thy mynde it waues and waggeth.

†**d.** To dangle on the gallows, be hanged. *Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III xxii (1869) 144 It is ye laſt ende þat maketh the tiran to wagge, and to be kitte 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 151 Let them beware of wagging in the Galowes 23 *A pore Help* 250 in Hazlitt *E. P. P.* (1866) 261 Your happe may be to wagge Upon a wodden pagge.

**4.** Of a limb, the head or tail, etc. To be moved briskly from ſide to ſide.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æſop* III xvii, (The ape ſaid to the fox) What wouldeſt thou ? thou art too long a taylle, but doth but wagge. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX x. I. 241 The Troglodites have among them certaine Tyrrhenes with broad gounis vpon the pogges in a kinde of Hope, and the ſame will wagge and ſhifte ſo, as in ſwimming they helpe themſelves therewith. 1820 SHAKE *Hamlet* v. ii. 290 Why I will fight with him vppon this Theme Vntill my eyelids will no longer wag. 1693 *Humours Town* 92 Their Elbows wag faſter than their Tongues. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* I. 15 A humourist, who planted himſelf with his eyes riveted on the . bronze lion that graces the front of Northumberland-houſe ... and having attracted the attention of thoſe who looked at him by muttering 'By Heaven it wags' ' [etc.]

**b.** Of the tongue, † lips: To move briskly in animated talk: often with an implication of foolish or indiscreet speech.

1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgat.* 24 When her tung could not wagge, she heaued her hands aboue water. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, To the solemne Addresse, two Lips wagging, and neuer a wise word. 1604 BRETON *Grimelles Fort.* (Grosart) 13/1 Being one that loued to heare a tongue wagge, either her owne, or her Gossips, her Maides, or her Pyes. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, 'Daughter,' said Simon, 'your tongue wags too freely.' 1865 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* ii, Boys whose tongues were used to wag in concert at the most brutal street games. 1883 FRANCES M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxvii, I know you will be careful not to set tongues wagging.

**c.** *Prov.*

[13..1 see WAW v.] *c* 1350 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 138 It is a common proverbe, it is mery in hall when beardes wagge all. 1580 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 109. 1673-80 TURBER *Husb.* (1878) 126. 1697 SHARP. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 37. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 170.

**d.** To sway the body from side to side; (of a dog) to walk with a swaying movement.

1598 GARRETSON *Sch. Manners* 36 Run not hastily in the street, nor go too slowly: wag not to and fro, nor vse any antick or wanton posture either of thy head, hands, feet or body. 1868 JULIA KAVANAGH *Dora* xvii, They all left the inn... Eve as usual clinging to Dora's side, and Fido wagging slowly behind her.

**†5.** To move about from place to place; to wander. Also, to drift (in water). *Obs.*

*c* 1395 *Piers Plowm. Crede* 1. 1/2 Yet I ran in *Pet. Swipes* (1839) 239 He wolde wagge aboute the cloistre and kepen hire fet cleene in house. 1580 WYCLIF *Job* xxxviii. 41 Who maketh redi to the crowe his mete, whan his briddis crie to God, hider and thider waggende (*Purvey.* vagantes). *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13548 Thus I skope fro the skathe with skyrme of my hondes, And with wawes of the water wagget to lonke. *c* 1440 HARDYNG *Chronicle* (Camden) 255 The head thus belag aboue, the body beneath in water, wagging and removing to and fro.

**†6.** To move, budge *from* a place. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Lonel. Tour Sch.* 1853 Thei nygth onethes a-wey wagge With sluber and gok. 1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvi. 27. 402 Though his hands wer loosed, he did not once wag from his place. 1598 *Eng. Parnassus* iii. xix. (Arb.) 240 It is said by manner of a prouerbiall speach that he who findes himselfe well should not wagge. 1606 C. RUTLAND *Jrnl.* 30 Aug. in Cal. Hist. MSS. Rep. 12 My armes are stricken, within an houre'after, will not be able to wag out of the place. 1666 GLANVIL *Consid. Witches* (1667) 20 The separated souls of the wicked...cannot possibly wag from the place of their confinement. 1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentleman Dancing-Master Wife* iv. iv, *Mrs. Fin.* Sir go we'l follow you. *Spar.* I will not wag without you. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 133. I cannot wag out of Oxford till the Term is ended. 1730 FIELDING *Rape upon Rape* iii. xi, I'll not wag without you.

**7.** To go, depart, be off. Now *colloq.*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* ii. I. 58 But let mee bee wagging. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iii. 7 Discard (bully Hercules) cashiere; let them wag; trot, trot. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 16 If such a one will smile and smooth his beard, And sorrow, wagge [*read* Bid sorrow wagge], crie hem, when he should grone. 1601 W. PERCY *Unchynnames & Cockolds Errants* iv. 1, (Rod.) 47 My gentleman, let him wagge, whither he please, in the name of Jehous. 1691 A. ROSS *Hist. World* ii. iv. 64 He (Heliogabalus)..never would wag any where without 60 Chariots. 1779 COWPER *Yearly Distr.* 50 Come, neighbours, we must wag.

**b.** To travel or make one's way; to 'jog *along*'. *lit.* and *fig.*

1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* ii. 283 They made a pretty good shift to wagg along. 1798 J. WILKINSON *tr. St. Croix's Christ. Era* (MS.) People in Hampshire not only wag the head or hand, ..but they wag out, when they take a walk.—It always puts me in mind of a Duck. 1840 *Spirit. Sp. Stud.* iii. 11. Thus I wag through the world, half the time on foot, and the other half walking. 1903 MCNEILL *Egregious Engl.* 28 So he wagged along and helped to build up the commercial greatness and probity and honour of his country.

**c.** In proverbial phrases with 'the world' as subject. *How the world wags*: how affairs are going. *To let the world wag (as it will)*: to regard the course of events with unconcern. (For other expressions analogous to these, see the quots.)

*c* 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 90 In flattryng fables men fynde but lytyl fayth: *Sic mundus fertur*, let the world wag. 1538 LATIMER *Let. to Cromwell* Serm. & Rem. (1845) 396 By this bill inclosed your lordship can perceive something, how the world doth wag in the Warwick colleges. 1540 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 361 Let the worlde wagge, we must needes haue dynyke. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 63, I wrestani illum vse your bowe sooner then your wagge. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iv. vii. 23 Thus may we see (quoth he) how the world wagges. 1621 COTGR. s.v. *Galleux*, *Facon la galleux*, let the world wag, slide, goe how it will; let goe a Gods name. 1659 STANLEY-SOMERSON *Serm.* (1864) II. 32 Solomons sluggard,..who foldeth his hands together, and letteth the world wag as it will. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 130 Let us then go and see how the World wags in the City Circle. 1720 *Secret Mercury* 2-9 Sept. 9/1, I retir'd to my Lodgings and let the World wagg for that Night. 1790 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 205 Let the world wag as it may. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* July, I shall not, I hope, be forgetful, when the world wags ill, [etc.]. 1853 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxv, 'I will have a room with Dunois,' said Crèvecœur, 'wag the world as it will.' *c* 1865 C. BRONTË *Professor* i, But you shall hear ...how the world has wagged with me. 1881 *Congressional Globe* 18 Feb. 960/3 But I believe the world has wagged along about the same after as they did before the resolutions passed. 1897 W. Black *Green Past.* xiii, Let the world wag on as it may.

**†d.** To 'get on', associate *with*. *Obs.*

*c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiv. 83 Se wantoun wowaris waggis With thame that hes the cunze. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 90, I with sile, and ale with me wag away.

**8.** *slang.* To play truant. Also *to wag it.* Cf. WAG *sb.*[2] 3.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, 'My misfortunes all began in wagging, Sir; but what could I do, exceptin' wag?' 'Excepting what?' said Mr. Carker. 'Wag, Sir. Wagging from school.' 'Do you mean pretending to go there, and not going?' said Mr. Carker. 'Yes, Sir, that's wagging, Sir.' 1901 W. S. WALKER *In the Blood* i. 23 They had 'wagged it' from school, as they termed it, which..meant truancy in all its forms.

**II.** Transitive uses.

**†9.** To set in movement, cause to quiver or oscillate; to shake or stir by force. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xvi. 41 And þanne fondeth þe fende my fruit to destruye, With alle þe wyles þat he can and waggeth be rote. 1589 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 189 Centauri, as it were an hundred wynde waggers: for þey wagged wel þe wynde faste in hir ridynge. 1587-8 T. USK *Test. Love* i. Prol. 90 Ouer that he had power of strength to pull vp the speare, that Aliander the noble might neuer wagge. *c* 1595 *Cast. Persev.* 1943 *in Macro Plays* 235 þis worthy, wykke werd, I wagge with a wyr. 1671 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Somers) 112 Than he began a lityll and a lityll to wagge the ston and to seke the fyue pointes that helde hit. 1598 FISHER *Penit. Pa.* vi. Wks. (1876) 18 The lefe that with a lyghte wynde is moued and blowen doune. 1686 N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. ix. 25 b, They adiudged that the gabell (*i. e.* cable) had bene wagged or shaken by Alexandre of Fulco called a Prince. 1787 TRUSLER *Trag. Tales* 14 But how much more the lower made his mone, ..The more shoe sate vnmooued, like the stone, Whom waues do beat, but wag not from his place. 1809 C. BUTLER *Ecou. Mon.* (1834) 54 If the Plaintiff must be kept close and quiet; free from noise and noisome cattel, that may either wag or wake them. 1810 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Polyolb.* ii. 18 Hence it is, that many men's veines want strength cannot remoue it, yet with one finger you may wagge it. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* xiv. Wks. 1687 I. 202 A small transient pleasure, a tickling the ears, wagging the lungs, forming the face into a smile [etc.].

**† b.** To nudge. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 199, I wondred what þat was, & waggede þe wenche, and was afered of þe lyȝte.

**10.** To brandish (a weapon). Also, to wave (something) defiantly, as a signal, or to attract notice. *Obs.* exc. in jocular use (cf. *flag-wagging*).

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 89 He was to leste knith at nede, Pat wiste wiþ his suerd wagge, or fast to-driue. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Ix. 24 Be not afrayde for the kinge of the Assirians: He shal wagg his staff at thy... But [etc.]. 1597-8 W. LAMBARDE *Eiren.* (1602) ii. xi. 182 Euery other ...wagging a scroll which he had in his hand before the iudge. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* iv. iv. 18 So these two champions..in their hands their idle ironcheeses held, Which neither sword were to cut nor to weld. 1808 SCOTT *Health Ld. Melrille* vii, While there's one Scottish hand that can wag a claymore, sir.

**11.** To move (a limb or part of the body attached by a joint) to and fro, up and down, or from side to side: usually implying rapid and repeated movement. † Also, to blink repeatedly with, 'bat' (the eyes).

13... *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1484 As pay with wynge vpon wynde hade waged her fyderes. 1530 PALSGR. 770/1 Do you not se that yonder asse wagge his handes and his head. HEMINGE *Lament.* (1874) 222 What a blyndnes is it to thynke my sinnes forgeuen me, when a prest...hath wagged two or three tymes ouer my head? 1594 *Wilhall' Elict.* 67b/1 *Potus*, he that waggeth the eyes. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. i. 324 Achates, see King Priam wags his head, for he is angry. 1600 T. HEYWOOD tr. *Lucan's Pharsalia* 1. 1. 1607 R. ARMIN *Quillenean's Ev. Chirurg.* 2/3 When the patient may easylye wagge his lower chawe bone. 1621 COTGR., *Gaudayer*, to wag the legs in sitting, as children vse to do. 1624 CORYAT *Crudities* 229 They wagge their heads vp and downe very often. 1768 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* I. ii. xxviii. 202 Nothing can be more harmless than wagging your finger reproved at table. 1788 — If the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wronger thing, and why? 1820 SOUTHEY *Ballads &c.* I. 42 He wagg'd his arm, he wagg'd his tail, He knew not for joy what to do. 1823 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvi. (1856) 326 [He] had to wag his leg half an hour by the clock.

*transf.* 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. I. 76 You may as well forbid the Mountaine Pines To wagge their high tops.

**b.** (Chiefly in negative context, typifying the minimum of exertion.) To move, stir (a limb, finger, etc.). Now *colloq.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. 2 He found him selfe, vnwist, so ill bestad, That limb he could not wag. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 281 Travelling on the sands his hoof sinks so deep into them, as he has much to get him to wag a foot. 1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Pract. Phys.* 14 For some hours she would be as seemingly dead, and could wagg neither arm or leg. 1697 R. PIRSCE *Bath Mem.* i. vi. 135 He told me (with great joy) that he could wagg one of his Toes. 1855 PLANCHÉ tr. *C'est D'Aulnay's Fairy Tales* (1858) 16 I'll wagge, now, that this lasse beauty hasn't wagged one of her ten fingers. 1861 C. READE *Cloister & H.* lxii. (1896) 507 Had it been any but you, believe me I had obeyed you and not wagged a finger. 1898 F. HARRISON *Autob. Mem.* (1911) II. xxx. 150, I most positively declined to ask him or anyone to wag a finger to get me there.

**c.** To shake (the head); to move (the head) from side to side.

*a* 1300 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 6 þai spake with lippes and wagid þe heuid. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xiii. 19 'Owh! how!' quaþ ich þo and myn heid wagged. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xix. ix. 787 And thenne the queene wagged her hede vpon sir Launcelot, as though she wold saye sleo hym. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* cccxiii. (1533) 247 When Robert had harde that message to the ende, he wagged hys hedde, as he that conceyued some doughtesse in thys reporte. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 39 They that passed by reuyled hym, waggynge [Gr. κινοῦντες] ther heddes. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B iv, Why waggest thou thy head, as though thou were very angry. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 277 These extreme passions of mynde,...when Democritus had heard,..he waggeth his head too and fro: wherein he had some meanings. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Pararchal Elegy* Wks. (Grosart) II. 291 O! Who so constant, but would grieve and grudge (If not a Christian) at th' All-ordering Iudge? And wag his head at Heav'n,—weak earthly worm! 1823 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, The poor parents were encouraged to hope that their bairn, as they expressed it, 'might wag his pow in a pulpit yet.' 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Jnbn, We were introduced instantly...: the little lord wagged his head, my wife bowed very low, and so did Mr. Coddler. 1841 — *Gt. Haggarty Diam.* vii, Tidd at this looked very knowing; and as our boots suit, off to sleep again,..wagged his head at the captain. 1865 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vi, When once a man is obliged to do something besides wagging his head. 1877 LOADER *Wycliffe Jan* ii. *Cobbler of Hagenau* 92 The cobbler...wagging his sagacious head, Unto his kneeling housewife said: [etc.].

**d.** To move (the tongue, † lips) in animated speech: esp. with implication of indiscretion or malignity. Also of the tongue: To utter (words).

1589 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* lxii. 91 b, They drawe deepe sighes from the harte: and wagging their lippes doe singe to saie prayers. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, i. 1. 53 No Diuinesse Hangs on his Tongue in essence. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps. cix.* 2. II. 860 There is nothing more easie, than to wag a wicked tongue. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* iv, The faithful Tibb and Martin, with other old servants both, and as thorough gossips as ever wagged a tongue. 1897 — *Jrnl.* 10 Mar., It is brave to see how he wags his Scots tongue. 1849 THACKERAY *Fraser's Mag.* (1869) 38 Not a tongue was wagged in his praise. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. xviii. 196 Every one who owed him grudge would eagerly begin to wag his tongue. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* 160 When they spoke, they simply left their mouths ajar, and allowed their tongues to wag the maimed words of an unknown dialect.

**e.** Of an animal: To move (its tail) from side to side: in dogs usually an indication of pleasure; in cats often a sign of anger.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 180) xiii, And when þei se her maister þei wole make hym chere and wag hir tayles vpon hym. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Caudatus*, to wagge his tayle. 1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* iii. (1600) F 2, 'Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. 1600 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sculler* C 2 b, All the Cowards in the Towne, doe wagge their tailes for loye. 1666 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 88 They [sc. lambs] wagge the taile whilest sucking. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 56 The poor Cur looked up and wagged his Tail. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 245 POZZO...asserts, that it [a toucan] leaped up and down, wagged the tail, and cried with a voice resembling that of a magpie. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* xvi. 264 They...Paw'd them in blandishment, and wagged the tail. 1883 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv, And there...lay five or six great salmon,... wagging their tails, as if they were pleased to be looked at it. 1885 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* lxii, The dog coms wagging his tail.

**† f.** Flap (the wings). *Obs.*

1496 *Dav. Lect Bk.* 577 Lifell small been, þat at aloute fleen, They waggen their whyng. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*. xi. vii. 195 Birds...in what sort they wag their wings. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn. Heav. Love* 29 Nor fitting Time could wag his eyns wings About that mightie bound.

**† g.** To sway (the body) about. *Obs.*

1565 SIR T. HESKETT *Trans.* (1577) 150 After the Eastern mode they wagg'd their Bodies and Armes.

**III. 12.** Combinations: **wag-at-the-wall** *Sc.* and *north.*, a hanging clock with pendulum and weights exposed (also *attrib.*); also, 'a spectre supposed to haunt the kitchen.. wagging backwards and forwards before the death of one of the family' (Jam.); **† wag-feather**, a swaggering coxcomb; **† wag-pasty**, a mischievous rogue; **† wag-string** = WAGSTABY; **wag-tongue**, a malicious chatterer; **† wag-wanton**, a wanton; **† wag-with** [? WITH *sb.*] = WAGHALTER. Also WAGHALTER, WAG-LEG, WAGSTABY, WAGTAIL.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words*, '*Wag-at-the-wow, Waggo*', a cheap wooden German clock. Perhaps from the pendulum being exposed; or, because it was waggling against the wall. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Baptist Lake* 82 It's nearly half past four, said he, looking at a wag-at-the-wall that hung behind him. 1598 BARNFIELD *Wiuidena to Parsons* xix, When I entered, the wag-at-the-wa' struck and sate mumpers of the kitchen. 1621 COTGR., *Coqueluchart*, ...a wag-feather. *a* 1553 UDALL *Apoph.* D. iii. ii. (Arb.) 40 A little "wagpastie, A deceiuer of folkes, by subtyl craft and falshode. 1589 *Pasq. Jugler* (Rozb.) 28 Truelye this wage pastie is either drunken or mad. 1880 MAHER tr. *Alaman's Gussmen d'Alf.* ii. 278 That scouldlers boy, who played the wagg-pasty with his Masters pasty [..opened the lid of the pastie,..and supt up all the shrop. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 301 The boy..bethoughte hym of a knauerye fitte for a "wagstring. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 253 [We say,] when we see a graceleose boy, Thou will prove a wagstring, if thou live to be elder. 1633 HEYWOOD *Engl. Trav.* iv, Oh thou crafty Wagstaffe, thou! 1637 — *Loves Mistr.* (1640) C 4 b, A chatterbox she is, and worse,—a regular woman "wagtongue. 1860 DEACON & WALKER *Anim. Dæmd* 72 Every little childe that playeth "wag-wanton. 1604 BRETON *Grimelles Fort.* (Grosart) 8/1 Thou wouldest neither carie a ring, clawe a backe, plaie on both hands, be no waggewanton, with thy mistresse, nor ludas with thy maister. 1621 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Panegyr. Verses Corpat's Crudities* 3 b, While he most like a "Wag-with Tooke of his Grapes as much as he could wag-with.

**Wagadash, Wagan:** see WACADASH, WAGON.

† **Wagand,** var. *vagand*, pr. pple. of *Vagand Sc. Obs.*; also as *sb.* a vagrant.

1614 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* (1878) 196 Giff ony towne's people[l] be found wagand on the gaits after the hour of ten, the person fund wagand sall be poyndt as if thay were wagands.

**Wage** (wēdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4 *Sc.* veg, 4 *Sc.*, 6 wag, 6 waige, wayge, *pl.* wagies, *Sc.* vaig(e, vage, 6–7 wadge, 4– wage. [n. AF., OF. (north-eastern) *wage* (AL. *wagium*) = Central OF. *guage, gage* (mod.F. *gage*), Prov. *gage-s*, It. *gaggio* :—popular L. **wadium*, of Teut. origin : see WED *sb.*]

†**1.** A pledge or security; = GAGE *sb.*[1] 1. Phr. *to hold, lay in wage. Obs.*

[1283 *Pipe Roll* 29 *Hen. II* (1911) 61 Henricus dec' de Walleby debet .v. m. quia renuit dare wagium et plegium justiciarius.] 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 239 He seged fiue castels, & held baun in his wage. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 400 Here-of in witnesyng remanis ay pe forsad tyyng one pe tyngire of pat ynag of vad of weding in-to vag. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. Pr. 139 Or that thar land sul ton be vassalage Thal hand far levir lay thar lyf in wage. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wage or pledge, *gaige*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 39 But th' Elfin knight, which ought ynough That warlike wage, Disdaind to loose the meed he wonne in fray.

†**b.** A challenge or engagement to fight. In full, *wage of battle*. Cf. GAGE *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Laund Troy Bk.* 8476 So it was seyde to the Emperoures . How Hight was comen been bi-twene, And no man myst here ire a-swage And thei hadde yeuen to-gedur wage. 1563 BRENDES *Pronin.* I. cccxli, 223 And y^e same season ther was a wage of batel before the french king, betwene two noble and expert knightes.

**2.** A payment to a person for service rendered. Formerly used widely, e.g. for the salary or fee paid to persons of official or professional status. Now (exc. in rhetorical language) restricted to mean: The amount paid periodically, esp. by the day or week or month, for the labour or service of a workman or servant,

Commonly in pl. (after F. *gages*). The sing. is now either *ideal*, or has a rhetorical flavour; but it has sometimes a special conventional reference to a particular instance or amount (see e.g. quot. 1776 in a).

**a.** *sing.* (For *living wage* see LIVING *vbl. sb.* 7.)

13.. *Cœr de L.* 4264 Ther was non so lytyl page, That ne hadde to hys wage, Of gold and sylvyr [etc.]. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 319 Ilk man pou reti his wage. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wage, or hyre, *stipendium, salarium*. 1510 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 73 Lewed & evyll disposed persons..to whom..the seid Priour gave vage vid be the day. 1528 *Worlde & Child* (Hack) A iij, Whan I was seuen yere of age I was sent to the worlde to take wage, And this seuen yere I haue serued his page. 1621 SCLATER *Quest. Tythes* (1623) F 5, Dreames any man hee meant it to the Lord as Wage for his Worke. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. x. I. 177 When masters combine together in order to reduce the wages of their workmen, they commonly enter into a private bond or agreement, not to give more than a certain wage under a certain penalty. 1855 W. G. CLARK in *Camden Soc.* 289 Millions of children..must needs commence their life of toil in the factory or the field, as soon as their physical strength enables them to get a day's wage for a day's work. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 204 The labourers, having little heart in work for which they had no wage.

**b.** *pl.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 283 He þat take þow 3owre tyþe shulde take 3ow nouȝt þe lasse wages. 1440 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 330/2 Ye scide Lord Talbot, servid the Kynges Fader..without taking of any wages. 1447 *Ibid.* V. 112/2 To serven for wages of the Knyghtes of the shire. *c* 1480 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xv. (1885) 146 It shall not be necessarie, pat the xij spirituell men off this covenant haue any grete wages as the xij temporall men. 1560 *Cert. Elect.* VI. 109, I will that a prest synge for my fayther..and he to have for his wages vij markes be the yere. 1588 KYD *Howard. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 265 Gyuing euery one his salary or day wages. 1624 J. M[ASON] *Argt. conc. Militia* 17 By the Law it is enacted, that no Knight Citizen or Burges, absent himself under the paine of the losse of their wages. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. viii. (*init.*) I. 78 The produce of labour constitutes the natural recompence or wages of labour. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. 169 A mender has no thought..but to earn what are called his wages. These wages amount to two dollars per diem. 1829 CARLYLE *Tyrtæus* in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 83 Thus we have reduced the thought of honour to be equal to the wages of seven or eight thousand other individuals. 1872 RAYMOND *Mines* 282 Wages are still low, 2s per day and board.

¶ The pl. was formerly often construed as sing.

1388 (see 2 c). 1539 in *Antr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 118 Everilk ane to half ane lyik wagis. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 230 Thether they bring wages in so lyte that it will not suffice for the same dayes. 1621 SCLATER *Quest. Tythes* Introd. (1623) B 2, How easie is it to answer, that Tythes was that inheritance, and Tythes is this wages. 1679 J. ANDERSON *St. St. Mountainhaven* 23 As for his wages, it amounted to so little, that it would not do him much service. 1731–9 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* Notes on Pref. (1822) 322 As their wages is supposed to be low, their masters find them in tools to work with.

†**c.** *spec.* The pay of a soldier. Chiefly *plural*. *To take wages*: to enlist, take service (*with* or *under* a commander). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 163 A hundreth knyghtes mo ..& fiue hundreth o fote, to whilk I salle pay IIk day per wages. 1456 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 490/1 Wages of Werre for the said Stondeours. *c* 1460 *Generydes* 2141 With the Sowdon he will take no wage. *c* 1485 CAXTON *Jason & Medea* lv. 216 He..wende that it had ben straunge knyghtes that were come vnto hym to take wages. 1532 COVERDALE 1 *Mace.* iii. 28 Kynge Antiochus..opened his treasury, and gaue his hoost a yeares wages in londe. 1580 DALY tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 190 b, They also, which..take wages under them in this war. 1582 HONESS *Leviathn.* II. xxx. 181 The Wages, due to them that hold the publique Sword.

†**d.** Phr. *At wage, under wages, at or of* (a person's) *wage or wages, to* (a person's) *wages* : in the pay or service of another. *To put out of wages* : to discharge, cashier. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 302, I salle the forthire..Fifty thowsande mane,..Of my wage for to wende, whare so the lykes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 38 The Soudan may lede out of Egipt mo than soooo Men of Armes...And alle tho ben at his Wages. 1400 WATRTON in Rymer *Fœdera* (1700) IX. 881 To come over to swre at four Wage, Arnyld and Arnyde, as langys to thaire Estate to do swre Service. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 909 Xxxti with him off nobill men at wage. 1534 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* let. v. (1537) 120 b, And fynally, ..ye entre newely into the wages of the worlde. 1544 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 187 When he espyed one of the souldiers.. tryumphe at a victorie, hoppe his seate on his backe, he putte out of wages, and discharged of his roume. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 88 b, Many of the Britons..submitted themselues to the lorde regent..whom he gentely accepted and put them in wages. 1581 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* ii. viii. (1895) 253 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye, fyersiye, and fayrthefullye. 1582 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* I. 71 The Greakes y^e were in Darius wagies. 1594 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 318 The King, with companies of horsmen and futtmen under wages. 1611 BIBLE *Ezekiel Lam. C. Warren's* A mariye for want of pay: which was an unavoydable evill in those parts, though in wages under a most wealthy King.

**e.** *fig.* Reward, recompense.

13.. *Cœr de L.* 3956 Pou hast wrouȝt schal seche me þi-self, & loch þe such wages As þou deles me to day. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 139 Fere mare foylful victorag þu sal resawe ayan to þi wag. 1388 WYCLIF *Rom.* iv. 4 To the werkis he that worchith, is yolde his wage, not bi grace. 1586 He were that 3e come in mes-age, Yelcyns dethe schulde be 3oure wage. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 175 Na for wrangis wage, bot for thar kynd and wyle, But spoun Turnus bludis schedding and lyfe. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Pet.* i. 7–9 They y^t serue the world gee about to haue rewardes y^t are transytory & vnperfyte, but they y^t serue CHRIST, LAURE v. iii. 303 All Friends shall Taste the wages of their vertue. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1787) I. vi. 122 Yet we may shew the same temper, by doing our religious and liberties best from the wages of slavery and iniquity. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 2205 The gods give thee fair wage and dues of death. 1913 A. SMITH *Pict. Days Other Heart* I, iii Your Christmas and Redeemer..bears no relationship to sin any more. He has shaken off its wage and tyranny.

†**3.** A payment for the use or possession of property. *Obs. rare.*

1449 *Pecock Repr.* III. 19 *Symptys, Marc.* 232 If she be bonde and vndyr seruage:..Hyr lord wyl 3yue ryht good wage And to my parasour hyr vndyrlonge. 1562 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* xxvii. (1709) 282 The said incumbents paying to the owners the yerely rent of a yeares profit, or the value of all such improviations. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* I. § 25 Letting and hyring..is a Contract by consent of the making or vsing of some thing for a certaine wage. 1628 PRYNNE *Popish Prract. Theories* (1630) 129 How grossely doth hee [*sc.* Judas] undervalue him in this sale, and wage, and rate?

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (usually in sing., *wage-*). **a.** simple attrib., as *wage-day, -earner, -rate, -slave, -slavery, -work, -worker*; **b.** objective, as *wage-earner, -earning* vbl. sb. and ppl. adj., *-paying, -winner*; † *wages-taking* ppl. adj. ; also † **wages-fellow,** *contemptuously*, one who receives wages; **wages-fund** *Pol. Econ.* (also *wage-fund*), that part of the total capital of a community which is available for paying wages; **wages-man** *Austral.*, a man who works for wages; **wage's-sheet,** the list of wages paid by an employer of labour.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/1 Trade will always fluctuate, *wage*-earners will always suffer as a consequence. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 203 The "wages-earning and beef-eating qualities of the Irish. 1882 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 *Wage-Earners* 7/2 To turn their young children into wage-earning machines. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 402 Education..may do much to..raise the power of the *wage-earning* family. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* (1850) I 3 b, That she should sleight me, and run away with a "wages-fellow, that is but a petty Clerk and a Serving-man. 1885 *Labour Gaz.* 20 Feb. 24/1 Trade will always fluctuate, "wage

† c. *To wage deliverance*: = GAGE v. 1 b. *Obs.*
1807 COWEL *Interpr.* s.v. *Gage*, To wage deliverance, that is, to give securitie that a thing shall be deliuered. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Wage*.

5. To put to hazard, venture or risk the loss of.
*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3967, I salle wage for that wyf alle that I welde. *c* 1630 WOMTEN *Apb. y Virg.* III. i. (1651) 25 If you will needs wage eminence and state, chuse out a weaker opposite. 1685 SCOTT *Thilosm.* 15, Therefore have you me, and many better Scotishmen, making war against the infidels under your banners. . If their numbers are now few, it is because their lives have been freely waged and wasted.

† b. *refl.* To throw oneself on the mercy of another. *Obs.*
*c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xv. 11 Ther nys leon ne cruel leoneuse soo fyers..that they nalyse attempren.. ne wyl..to tho that lowely wyl them seluen wage with meke herte.

† 6. *esp.* To agree to forfeit in some contingency; to stake, wager, bet. *Obs.*
1483 CATON *D. de Le Tower* xviii. b v, I ete laye a wager, that whiche wyf of vs then that obeyeth best her husbond.. that he wynne the wager: whereupon they waged a Jewele. 1508 R. WAGE in *Hazlitt's Early Pop.* (1599) II. 309 And holding them [the wives and children of poor tenants] at such a lowe rate as though they had beene no better then dogges, would wage them against a graybound or spaniell. 1607 TORSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 69 The Indians..make no small reckoning of these beasts (..their Oxen), for they..will runne a race as fast as any horse :..waging both Gold and Siluer vpon their heads. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacrif.* v. ii, I dare Wage a thou-and Duckets not a man in Florence Outvies Roselli. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepb.* II. i, They shall rin after yee, and wage the odds, Upo' their owne deceiued sights, yee' are her ! 1640 J. SMITH *Lives Worthies* (1883) II. 386 And her.. being confident shee went with a son, offered to wage with her ten pound to thirty pound, that soe it was. 1674 *Ch. & Court of Rome* 30 Our Author..wages his reputation in the case. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 222 That famous Timotheus Graecus, who having waged his Beard about the Iliupsie of a Syllabie with Francisco Patricio, upon the loss of the Wager was willingly autorized to have it cut off. 1728 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 60 I'd wage a hundred thousand Pounds. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. xii, I'll walked alone.. I would wage a shilling that the pedestrian outstripped the equestrian travellers.

†II. 7. To engage or employ for wages; to hire : a. for military service. *Obs.*
1532 R. HALDANE *Chron. Scot.* (Rolls) 3192 [Jeenne] waged souders. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 258 If þei wage men to werre, þei write hem in noumbre. *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 333, And I salle wage to that were of myche[ef] knyghtis.. Two thousande in bale. 1430-40 LYDG. *Hartl. Londin.* (Rolls) VIII. 478 Freshe men wagede for men that were sleyne. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 148 A man of armes that is wagit with fee to ryd all the yere. 1563 *Hirer. Mag., Ld. Rivers* liv, For hys defende great store of men I waged, Doubtying the stormes which at such tymes betyde. 1598 LODGE *Wits Misery & Worl. Mad.* 1 Turke..hath alwaies in pay for the war 130 thousand Timariste (*sic*) (who are waged by lands which the Turke hath given them..) he hath beside them 14 thousand Janisaries, and 36 thousand Spaies, continually waged by money. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Life Hen. IV*, 68 Assone as the Duke was come into Britaine he waged certaine souldiours, and presently departed to Calice. 1603 BINGHAM *Xenophon* I. As for the Grecians, he waged them as secretly as he could, to the intent to take his Brother altogether vnprouided. 1632-80 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 63 He waged mercenary Souldiers of other Nations.
*fig.* 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 40 Till at the last I seem'd his Follower, not Partners: and He wadg'd me with his Countenance, as if I had bin Mercenary.
† b. *gen. Obs.*
1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 88 If my servauntis faile I had lever wage some other man, for a jonny or a season, than my master should be ony lenger. 1468 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 327, I have wayd for to helpe yow and Dawbeney to kepe the place at Caster, iiij wel assuryd and trew men. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Supererog.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 198 He., waged Zenophantus to enflame and enrage his courage with the furious notes of Bastiali. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commonw.* (1632) 234 Mercenarie princes, to secure their estates doe never trust their home-bred subjects, but wage strangers and slaues, unto whose fidelity they commit their persons. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 497 Such things which a man is waged or hired to keepe.
† c. To bribe. *Obs.*
1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 478/1 Convened with the same Scotis, procuring, desiring and waging them to enter. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 88 Thei wil be waged by the rich, eyther to geue sentence agaynste the poore, or to put of the poore mannes cause. 1580 DANS tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 348 b, The Duke of Brandenburg.. hadd waged him with great rewards and promesses. 1583-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 441 Neither could the darke night serue them to that purpose, nor wine inough nor waging them with monie, which were appointed for watchmen. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxv. 442 As though Cyrus had bene sent of set purpose to verifie the Prophesie, or as though hee had bene waged by the Prophet. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxx. 73 The iudgement of a man that is waged and bought. *a* 1620 PEGGE *Kenelm Digby, Wag'd*, hired, bribed : They wag'd him to do it. North.
† d. *intr.* To make an agreement for wages. *Obs.*
1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 497 He waged with Iakob to keepe his sheep.
† 8. *trans.* To put out to hire. *Obs. rare*—1.
1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 18 Thou..must wage Thy workes for wealth, and life for gold engage.

9. To pay wages to. Now *rare* or *Obs.*
1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* v. 192 And ich dar legge my lyf that Loue wol lene the saluer, To wage thyne, and help wynne that thow wilnest after. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 590 Take a thousande pounde of Frankis fyne, To wage wyth the pepul newe. 14.. *Customs of Mallon* in *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 59 Also in pley of lande and als wele wagyd os be fore. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 300 This were receyved by the duke of Burgundi ful worchipfully, and waged sufficiently. 1585 HAWKINS *Protr.* II. lxi. [viv. 2] b, The kyng of Arragon wawes and sealed..to sende vnto hym ye moche money as shoolde wage fyue hundreth speres. 1630 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 288, I will that a preist be wadgid to sing for the helth of my saull..and to have yerely for his wadges eight marces. 1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII, C.* 21 § 6 The charges of obteynyng the seid licences..and in conductyng of curroures and wayyng solicitours, have be grevous and excessive. *c* 1550 R. BIRKTON *Bayfs Fortune* A iiij b, Who wageth the seruiunt, who paieth the souldeour. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincs.* v. (1562) 102 At ours tyme, phisike is a remedy prepared only for riche folkes, not for poore : for the poore man is not able to wage the phisicion. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 138 The laborying man would for his paine, be wagde with double hyre, Or els would loyter, and not worke At any mans desyre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 726 Knowing his trensurie at home to be so vayne and spent, that it was not able long to wage his Soldiours. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 b, Besides that which is giuen vnto them of almes, they are waged also publikely, or of some in particular. 1640 SIR T. STAFFORD in *Limoges Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 158 There proposition of requiringe 400*li* monthlie to wadge there Army. 1824 SCOTT *Quentin D.* v, It is an art this French King of ours has found out,—to wage his soldiers out of other men's purses. 1833 I. D'ISRAELI in *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 203 The master dresses and wages highly his privileged servants.

† b. Ironically, to reward (for evil). *Obs.*
1418-20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* III. 2419 With his sword..þorgh þe bre-t, & some þorgh be side He percid hab, and waged hem for cures. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xiii. 69 He should be gone To þe furies depe doun in helle,—And þus whan he was waged for his mede, Anon his broþer..Swiche sorwe made.. Þat pite was for to rede and here.

† c. To pay wages for. *Obs.*
1598 HEYWOOD *Wise Woman* II. i, When I receive thee gladly to mine house And wage thy stay, thou shalt have Gracious.

¶ d. *absol.* (*fig.*) ? To bring reward.
13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 416 My lorde he lombe..Corounde me quene in blysse to brede, In lenghe of dayez þat euer schal last.

III. 10. To carry on (war, a contest).
Developed from sense 3 : cf. 4 a.
1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 255 To wage batall is..þat does not earn or receive wages. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 300 Then hast not thou, deere Countrie, com'n to wage Warre with thy sele. 1631 GOUGE *Gott's Arrowe* v. § 6. 415 [They] waged many battels valiantly and victoriously. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 121 To wage by force or guile eternal War, Irreconcilable. *Ibid. Samson* 118 He should be kept from waging War with Words. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LVI. i, My Foes continual battles wage. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) IV. 141 Is it not hard that Christians should not wage war against their Enemies. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVII. 576 Thou therefore, the resplendent reins receive, while I, dismounting, wage the fight. 1799 HERRICK *Oct. to Duchess Devonshire* 23 And some, perchance, might wage an equal strife. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* XIII, I had thought the Hurons had waged peace.. and that he never waged war in person. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* IV, That lady's mother..resided with the couple and waged perpetual war with Barbara. 1845 F. PENNY *Parkman Lect. Ser.* I. 128 Those..conflicts, which the Church..must ere day wage with those forms of untruth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 633 As they had been levied for the purpose of waging war on an infidel power, they bore on their flag..the Paschal lamb. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* LXXII, I wage not any feud with Death For changes wrought on form and face. 1861 BUCHER *Ess.* (1878) 3 Now let us see how this branch of science which reformers are too apt to wage. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 7. 95 In his old age he waged his bitterest war against the Lollards. 1879 LOWE *Org. Ancient Vt.* 82 Ah ! what battles the twain must wage, what legions array.
¶ *transf. (nonce-use).* *a* 1648 *Exc. on Death in Bacon's Remains* (1648) 16 Death..could wish that like peace to all those with whom it wage love.
b. To contend for (a cause). *rare.*
1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* 65 In Thy name we shall O'ercome, for we shall wage it in the right.
† c. *intr.* in various nonce-uses: To struggle, contend *against*; to struggle *through* difficulties; to contend in rivalry. *Obs.*
1603 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 218 No, rather I abiure all roofes, and chuse To wage against the enmity oth'ayre. 1608 *Tr. Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 21 Hector..is not a man for being a man, Vndervertuous gifts. 1656 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 538 My troubles are many, yet..I indifferently wage through them. 1690 CHILD *Discr. Trade* (1698) 19 If Fleets were no others to wage with us, we might..make our own Markets: but as the case now stands, that all the World are striving to engross all the Trade they can, [etc.].

II. *trans.* To wield (a weapon, etc.). *rare.*
1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 17 Mr. Kenrick was mounted on the top of the hay, waging a water-pipe in full play. 1865 SIR J. SCOTT *Narr. Persian Mission* I. 320 Pagans become, and for our kingdom wage 'Gainst impious Godfred, your avenging swords.

**Wage**, obs. form of WEDGE.

**Wageable**, *a. Obs.* [f. WAGE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be hired for military service, mercenary.
1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* v. ii. § 8. 416 The Gessates, Nations about Rhodanus, wageable as the Switzers in these times.

**Waged** (wēdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. WAGE *v.* + -ED 1.] Hired for wages; paid by wages. † Of soldiers : Mercenary (*obs.*).
*c* 1440 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 23 We come not into this londe as waged men. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 293 So weel waged bischopis. 1464 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 227, I may get leve for to send non of my wagyd men home ageyn. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xlvi. 21 Hir waged souldyers that be with her, are like fat calues. 1579 MOUNTAIN *Mem. Affairs Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 21 For the quhilk effect theare wer iiij^c waidged men teane vp vpone the Kinges expensse. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 129/2 Let us mark ..that we may be watchfull to fight against Sathan, and his waged men. 1592 BANSLOW & LINCHWOOD in *Cowper.* 46 You stand a waged Minister vnder them. 1617 MOUNTAIN *Itin.* II. 90 Florence mac Carty..refused to give his son for pledge, lest his waged souldiers should cast him out of his Countrey. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* XXIV, Wouldst thou aid the enemy of the lord under whose banner thou servest, against his waged soldiers ? 1870 *Daily News* 18 June, The continued want of employment among those who live by waged labour.

† b. In bad sense : Bribed. *Obs.*
1581 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 990 Ye leud babblers which do let out to hire the seruice of their waged tonge.

**Wa·gedom.** [f. WAGE *sb.* + -DOM.] The economic system under which wage-earners live.
1885 *Daily Chron.* 7 Sept. (Cassell), By the substitution of Industrial partnership in place of wagedom. 1888 W. DONNINGTON *Essex Individualism* 4 Such is the modern system of wagedom. The wage-receiver gets just enough to keep himself alive for the use of his employers. 1910 *Dubl. Rev.* Oct. 373 The positive translation of wagedom into partnership.

**Wagel, waggel** (wæ·gĕl). *dial.* Also 7 **wagell**, 9 **waggle**. [Perh. Cornish.] A name for the Black-backed Gull, *Larus marinus*, in its immature state, when the plumage is mottled grey and white; formerly supposed to be a distinct species.
*a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* III. ii. § 3 (1676) 266 Wagell *Cornubicnsium*.. The great grey Gull. 1733 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* 1738 NATHAN ALEXANDER *Complete Birds* III. 175 Wagel Gull. 1825 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* XIII. 187 Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus Marinus*)..Wagel Gull. 1843 JARDINE *Birds Gt. Brit.* IV. 292 Larus marinus, Linn.. Great Black-backed Gull of British authors.—(L. nævius, the Wagel, young). 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss., Wagel*, a grey gull. 1893-6 *Northumb. Gloss., Waggle-gull*, the young of the greater black-backed gull or cobble.

**Wageless** (wē·dʒlĕs), *a.* [f. WAGE *sb.* + -LESS.]
† 1. That does not pay a wage or recompense. 1615 [see TAYLESS *a.*].
2. That does not earn or receive wages. Also *wagelessness* (rare). Hence **Wa·gelessness.**
1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xlix, Some intrusive, ragamuffin, wageless lackey. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xii. (1858) 252 By unwearied, valiant, and were it wageless effort, in my Parliament, and in my Parish, I shall aid Each. 1853 WATERS *Sponge's St. Tour* xxiii. (1893) 335 In the former case, of the wageless footmen, with cuirasses. 1889 GISSING *Nether World* II. 18 Employed as a wageless drudge, for any moment find themselves wageless. 1913 *Spectator* 14 June 1004/1 It is impossible..to make up the amount..after several weeks of idleness and wagelessness.

† **Wa·geling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WAGE *sb.* or *v.* + -LING.] A hireling.
*a* 1547 HALE *Image Both Ch.* xiii. (1550) e viij, These are the very false Prophetes, ..wolues, wagelynges, Iudasses, .. (etc.). 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 136/3 A Wagelyng, *mercenarius*.

**Wagen**, obs. form of WAGON.

‖ **Wagenboom** (vā·-n'bōm). *S. African.* Also anglicized **wag(g)on-boom**, and corruptly **vaboom**. [Du., *f. wagen* WAGON + *boom* tree.] (See quots.)
1822 BURCHELL *Trav. S. Afr.* I. 223 We passed some large trees of *Wagenboom* (*Protea elephantina*), of which the colonists because the wood of it has been found suitable for making the fellies of waggon-wheels. 1873 DAWSON *Rivith & Man* 21, 238 Cone-like fruits belonging to the Waggonboom (..wagenbooms, etc.). 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 267 The..Eocene flora..as evidenced by the London Clay fruit beds..shows that..the Waggon-boom (*Protea*) existed.

**Wa·gener**, *sb.*1 *Sc. Obs.* In 4–6 **wageour, wageur, 6 waeger, waigeour, wager.** [f. WAGE *sb.* + -ER 1 (spelt *-our* after words in *-eour*).]
While the known instances are exclusively Sc., the surname *Wager* (‘Ricardus le Wager’ *c* 1275 in *Shropsh. Arch.* I. 126) suggests that the word may at one time have been current in the south.]
A mercenary soldier.
1373 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 48 And off tresour so stuffit is he, That he may vageowris hal plente. *c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 699 Thre hundyr thousande he had Of Wageoure is armyt al at richt. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 87 In the samyn cas, say I of a knycht that is wageour till a king or a lorde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 551 That wageours sone he put to confusion. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 71 Gif thou be against God,..Than art thou wageour onto Lucifer. 1532 DUNBAR *Complaynt of Bell* 144 Throw furnesing of certane waegeris to conuoy our possessaris lordis artaillery. 1558 *Ibid.* 309 To furneis vageris extranearis to the nummer of ane hundreyth men. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 192 The men of weir waigeours, quhom he commandes to bring the gret gunis.

**Wager** (wē·dʒəɹ), *sb.*2 Forms : 4–5 **waiour** (= **wajour**), 5 **wayoure**, 5–6 **wageour** (5 *-or*, *-oure*, **wagour**, 7 **wadger**, 8 **waiger**), 5– **wager.** [a. AF. *wageure* (= F. *gageure*), f. *wager* WAGE *v.*] : see -URE. In the legal use 5, prob. in origin a distinct word, f. WAGE *v.* + -ER 2 ; one of the technical nouns of action framed by lawyers in the 16th c. in imitation of Law French infinitives used

subst.; the spelling *wageour* in quot. 1533, however, shows that it was already confused with the ordinary word.]

**I.** †**1.** A solemn pledge or undertaking. *Obs.*
1306 *Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (1839) 218 A wajour he made, so hit were y-told, Ys heved of to smbyte 3ef me him brobbe in hold wat so byryde.

**2.** Something (esp. a sum of money) laid down and hazarded on the issue of an uncertain event; a stake. Now *rare* exc. in phr. *to lay, win, lose a wager.*
1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5506 A waiour dar y wyth 30w lay, Pat y shal haue some gode at hym. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayoure, *vadium, vadimonium.* *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 192 For a waiour I achal gon & askyn almes of Perys tollers.. he waiour was leyde. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtayse* 207 in *Babees Bk.* 306 Ne waiour non with hym bou lay. *a* 1533 Heywood *Play of Love* III. 280 As for the wager that I sholde wyn thereby, I am content to release it quyte. 1598 Shaks. *Twelfth Nt.* v. ii. 69 *Hort.* Content, what's the wager? *Luc.* Twentie crownes. 1607 Middleton *Hism. Ct.* III. 78 They never play at Dice, seldome at Cardes, and that for small wagers. 1688 J. Heywood *Diaries* (1881) II. 203 Several Lords laid wagers which could out swear one another. 1691 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 207 They being grown so bold and insolent as to offer wagers that Cork will be out of our possession by the last of May. 1700 *Lond. Post* 7–9 Sept. 2/1 Great Wagers are laid in this City, that Cadiz is already in our Hands. 1712 N. Brunswick *Diary* (1715) 17 I layed a Waiger, and Mr. jo. Poole held the stakes. 1738 Johnson *Idler* No. 6 P 11 By this performance, she won her wager. 1817 Hilton *Law Mar. Portion* (ed. 4) II. 1096 It may be proper to state in what cases an action will lie for enforcing the payment of a wager. 1819 Hvson *Beppo* xxvii, Most men.. Will back their own opinions with a wager. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Legs., Black Monasteries* 284 The Captains and Majors Began to lay wagers How far the Ghost part of the story was true. 1844 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, There was a fire last night, there are two to-night, and you may lay an even wager there will be at least one, to-morrow. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 116, I won the match, and beat the dog by four yards. 1865 Pusey *Daniel* 14 Five shillings, which I had. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vii. (1878) 118 He would go down the underground stair.. for the wager of a guinea.

† **b.** The prize to be won in a contest. *Obs.*
*c* 1450 *Brut* cclxiv. 378 For our archers.. schet pat day for a wager. 1523 Douglas *Æneis* v. Prol. 20 At the begynning, the wageouris by and by, And the rewardis, in myddis of the field Befoir.. thair ene war sett. 1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* ii. lv. 53 At the other ende was the wager sette, that they ranne for. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 246 Hit shall giveth most Cotes or most turnes winneth the wager. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* vii. 36 And let nny hooke draw you either to a Fencers supper, or to a Players that acts such a part for a wager. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 14 July, There the girls did run for wagers over the bowling-green.

*fig.* a 1598 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 17 For King Henry ..and Richard duke of Yorke..wrestled for the game, and strove for the wager.

**3.** An agreement or contract under which each of the parties promises to give money or its equivalent to the other according to the issue of an uncertain event; a betting transaction.
a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 7 Certeyn noble men made a wager to runne at the ryngc. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xiv. (1912) 93 Love and mischeefe having made a wager, which should have most power in me. 1600 Shaks. *Hanı.* iv. vii. 156 (1604 Qo.) Wee'le make a solemne wager on your cunnings. 1611 — *Cymb.* i. iv. 182, I will fetch my Gold, and haue our two Wagers recorded. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Oct., One who, upon many greate wagers, went and fro betweene that Citty and Antwerp on foote. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 301 Wagers were very rife among us, who should be the first to the shore of Patagonia. 1761 Burrow *Cases K. B.* (1766) II. 1272 There are many Conveniences from allowing valued Policies: But where they are used merely as a Cover to a Wager, they would be considered as an Evasion. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. 218 He was interrupted by a call from the company to discuss the affair of the wager. 1848 Scott *N. Minster* xvii, I could venture to accept your wager, my lord, ..but there is no time for foolery. 1870 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* i. 9 If one man makes a wager with another, the occurrence of the event on which the wager depends, does involve loss and gain.

† **b.** *An equal, even wager*, an even chance. *Obs.*
1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* i. iv. § 37. 224 It were an even wager there were none such! 1708 Hearne *Collect.* 25 Mar. (O. H. S.) I. 209 But 'tis an even Wager whether his Book proves himself or me a schismatick. 1712 Hoyle *Whist* xviii. 84 It being an even Wager that your Partner has a better Card in that Suit, than the last Player.

† **c.** *To lie upon the wager* : to be at stake. *Obs.*
1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. iii. 22 Full fast she fled, ne euer looked behind, As if her life vpon the wager lay.

**d.** An act of putting to hazard, a risk.
1853 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 220 Nothing could be more natural than that, for the very smallest chance of recovering the three kingdoms, he should be willing to stake what was not his own, the honour of the French arms..[etc.]. To a French statesman such a wager might well appear in a different light.

**e.** A contest for a prize.
1615 Markham *Country Contentm.* i. vii. 102 If you will prepare him [a greyhound] for match and wadger. 1834 *John Bull* 13 July 238/2 Putney Regatta...Twelve pairs of sculls were entered to compete for the prize (a purse of 20 sovereigns). It was what would be termed in the aquatic circles, a double-sculled wager, viz., two pairs in each boat.

**4.** Something on the issue of which bets are or may be laid; the subject of a bet or bets.
a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. vii. (1912) 193 Their ruine was the wager of the others contention. 1624 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. xvii. 391 But what, thinks she, if they cast Lots for mee, as for a trivial or base wager! 1678 Temple *Let. to Hyde* Wks. 1731 II. 474, I would be glad likewise to know your Conjectures there, whether France will come to the Peace or no, without refusing any longer to evacuate the Towns, which is the present Wager current at Amsterdam. 1824 T. Burnett *Wads Lond's End* Iv. 124 Every man and boy of these colored laborers was working as at a wager.

**II. 5.** *Law* (now *Hist.*). The action of Wage *v.* (4 a, b).
a. *Wager of law* : an offer to make oath of innocence or non-indebtedness, to be supported by the oaths of eleven compurgators. b. *Wager of battle* : a challenge by a defendant to decide his guilt or innocence by single combat.
a. 1292–8 *Ir. Act* 13 *Hen. VIII*, *c.* 2 (1621) 73 The parties or parties defendants shall haue none essoine, protection, nc law wager. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* II. xv. 33 Lyke as in the wageour of a lawe, they shall not swere that the defendaunt oweth not the money, but that they byleue that he sweareth treuth. 1536 *Ir. Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, *c.* 5 (1621) 100 Wherein no wager of law, essoine ne protection shall lye. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* § 514. 293 b, The like oath shall noon be made in an Attaint and in battaile, and in wager of law [Litt. *en Bataille & en Ley*]. 1695 Statutes *Ir., Sparts* (1701) 261 In this case the Court overruled the Wager of Law. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxii. 342 A sixth species of bails is by wager of law, *vadiatio legis*. 1833 *Act* 3 *Will. IV*, *c.* 42 § 13 And be it further enacted, That no Wager of Law shall be received allowed.
*Incorrect use.* 1792 Burke *App. Whigs* Wks. 1808 VI. 240 In this part, his defence will not be made by argument, but by wager of law.
b. a 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) The Table, Wager of battell shall not be by Cosins in a writ of right. 1716 W. Hawkins *Pleas Crown* II. xlvi. (1726) 427 He may counterplead the Wager of Battel. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxiii. 337 The trial by wager of battel. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III*, *c.* 46 (*Wager of Battle Abolition Appeals of Murder, Treason, Felony or other Offences, and Wager of Battel.*
*Transf.* 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 150 Having necepted the terms, the gallant champion began forthwith to collect his forces. 1859 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. xi. 5 When Harold and William met face to face in the great wager of battle.

**III. 6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in sense 'done for a wager', as *wager-fight, -shooting, -smoking*; also **wager-boat**, a light racing sculling-boat used in contests between single scullers; **wager-cup**, a 'cup' offered as a prize in a contest; † **wager-hall**, ? the hall of the imaginary guild of betting men; **wager-insurance** = *wager-policy*; † **wager-office**, a place for recording wagers; **wager-policy**, an insurance-policy partaking of the nature of a wager.
1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* ix. (1886) 99 [He] began talking about the sweet wager-boat which his friend ..had bought at Searle's. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. i, It was an amateur sculler in an outrigger-boat that the Doctor remarked: 'A little less on you, and you'd a'most ha' been a Wagerbut.' 1878 W. J. Cripps *Old Engl. Plate* x. 292 The well-known, sometimes called 'wager cups', in the form of a woman holding a smaller cup over her head with outstretched arms. 1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* II. 283 The 'wager-fight between the English and Italian was to be a combat of three men at three in succession. 1851 Howden *K. Arth. Prol.* 32 Betts..[are] grown a common Trade for all, And Actions, by the News-Book, Rise and Fall; Wits, Beauties, Lords, Ladies, Stocks of Wager-Hall. 1824 Barnewall *Mar. Inzur.* 142 The statute 19 Geo. II. c. 37, by which "wager insurances have been declared illegal. 1720 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 1. 1. 1.

**2.** An animal that wags its tail.

1887 Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 346 Should they once deem our emblem Pard Wagger of tail for all save war. 1911 Max Beerbohm *Zuleika Dobson* vi. 89 Corker (a bull-dog) had ever been ..effusively grateful for every word or pat, an ever-ready wagger and nuzzler.

**3.** *pl.* The divining-rod. *dial.* ? *Obs.*

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* N 3. No one...could affirm that there were this or that particular Mine, that owed its Discovery to his Waggers,(for by that Name they then called them) some Miners told me that by his Waggers he could find out a Vein.

**† Wagger,** *v. Obs.* In 4–5 **wager.** [Frequentative of Wag *v.*: see -er⁵.] Cf. Waggle *v.*; also Af. *wa(l)crer* = sense 1.]

**1.** *intr.* To wander, have no settled abode.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sermons.* Sel. Wks. II. 254 Mannys spirit pat is wagerynge aboute desirist of worldli pingis. 1382 — *Prol. Isa.* lv. 17 Thei shulen be wagringe in nacioun[s Vulg. *errant vagi in nationibus*]. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23091 (Trin.) Quen I [Christ] was wagering at rest godely take 30 me to gest.

**2.** To stagger, totter.

1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* xii. 3 Whan..the most strong men wageren [Vulg. *mutabuntur*]. — *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 16 Who enere shal wageren in decreuenesse, shal not togidere sorewen to thee. — *Isa.* xxix. 9 Bicometh alle stonsid, and wndreth flutereth, and wageresh [Vulg. *vacillate*].

Hence **† Wagering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxvi. 9 Enuye, yre, wagering [Vulg. *fluctuatio*], and dred of deth. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 89 It is rajte to blesse pe wageringe wijnde þan þe chaunge-able world þat maketh vs so blinde.

**Waggerell,** variant of Wakerrel.

**Waggery** (wæ·gəri). [f. Wag *sb.*2 + -ery.]

**1.** The action or disposition of a wag; drollery, jocularity; in early use chiefly, mischievous drollery, practical joking.

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. 1. 2 Now, if I could meete with Rhisi, it were a world of waggery. 1611 Cotgr., *Drolerie*, ryes, waggerie, good roguerie. 1650 Cowley *Guardian* I. 1, The Colonel's as full of waggery as an egge's full of meat. *c* 1698 *Sir T. Cholmley Mem.* (1787) 35, I out of folly and waggery, began to kick one of them. 1737 Chesterf. in *C'est Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) II. 163 Since which he has contented himself with a little general waggery on occasion offers, such as snatching the bread and butter out of a girl's hand [etc.]. 1762 Foote *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 199 The misapprehension of the second agent, or the ignorance or waggery of the third. 1804 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 152 He was so good a fellow, so full of fun and waggery! 1832 T. Cheevey in *C. Papers* (1904) II. x. 143 She has a great deal of waggery. 1858 J. Burton *Hora Subs., Lacha 4 Sydenham*, etc. 470 Excited by..the waggery of his more intellectual neighbours. 1894 J. Knight *Dodd Gearrick* xiii. 152 Dear friend..perpetrated a harmless piece of waggery on the subject.

**2.** A waggish action or speech; in early use, a piece of mischievous jesting; a practical joke.

1604 Breton *Grimello's Fort.* (Grosart) 9/2 If I should tell you the tenth part of the waggeries, that I passed through. *a* 1659 Sclater *Table Talk* (1678) 37 An Ape when he has done some waggery. 1665 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 69, I must needs passe by severall pretty waggeries committed this my Pilgrimage. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 183 John Birkenhead..pleased the generality of Readers with his waggeries and buffooneries. 1708 St. Cæsar *Lat. & French Dict.* s.v. Archipp (1730) I. 93 In most of our successful comedies there are frequent lively freedoms (and waggeries that cannot be called licentious, neither). 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxvi. In fact they indulged in a hundred sports, jocularities, waggeries, and *petits tours innocens*. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xxix. 344 Not being a man given to little waggeries.

**Waggish,** rare obs. form of Wagon.

**Waggling** (wæ·gliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Wag in its various senses.

1580 Lanol. *P. Pl. A.* ix. 26 And be wint and be watur and be waggyng of be Bot Maketh be Mon Mony tyme to stomble and to falle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Waggynge, or wauerynge, *vacillacio*. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 100 Byttyng vse the waggynge of theyr rumpe, to gyde theyr flyght: as doth the sterne of a shyp to gyde the saylynge. 1530–77 H. Rhodes *Bk. Nurture* (1868) 11 *Sobrie Lyn.* Yee must not be wagging with thy head. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 229 The meanyng herof, differth not twoo pins, Betwene waggyng of heades and womens dauncyng. 1602 Holland *Pliny* xvii. 241 I. 514 As for the white Poplar or Aspen tree..the leaves keepe such a wagging and trembling, and never hang still. 1611 *True Noble K.* in Ill. 15 The waging of a wanton leg. 1655 [V. Gookin] *Gt. Case Transplantation in Irel.* 25 Can it be imagin'd that a whole Nation will leave their Geese at the wagging of a hat upon a stick? 1858 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii. Diogenes..had expressed that conflict of feeling by alternate waggings of his tail, and displays of his teeth. 1865 Thackeray *Miscellanies* III. 43 Sneers, hums, a meeting of bonnets and wagging of feathers and rustling of silks ensue. 1903 *Times* 9 Mar, 4/3 Did not he..stop the wagging of censorious tongues?

**† b.** *Proverbial phrase. Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Tr. & Cr.* II. 1745 In titerynge and pursuyte and delayes The folk desyne at waggynge of a stre. *c* 1500 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2008 Sometyme I wept for a pew gaw: Somtyme I laughe at waggynge of a straw. 1525 Bremner *Frotis.* II. lviii. 80 They murmured & were redy for waggyng of a rysshe to make debate and stryfe. 1598 Sandys *Serm.* (1585) 30 As fearfull Hares they flee at the wagging of euerie leafe. 1633 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Cert. Trvth, & Vnsett. Yeares.* Wks. 1630 III. 8 They quarrel not for wagging of a straw. 1688 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 595/1 He fears the wagging of every straw.

**Waggling** (wæ·gliŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Wag *v.* + -ing 2.] That wags (in the senses of the verb).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Poudre pereof..fastneþ waggynge tobe pat beþ in poynte to falle. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3060 Fro þe wagande wynde owte of þe weste tyrnede, Brothly bessonnes with tyrre in berynne nailles. 1541 *Bk. Properties Herbs* Cij b, Yf a man haue wagginge tethe and he eate of this herbe, they shall fasten agayne. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Petaus*,..he that hath waggynge and slirrying eyes. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. iii. *Law* 1336 So that a wagging leaf,..Yea, the least crack shall make thee turn thy back. 1889 Whitlaw *Sophocles, Ajax* 109 Whose scornful wagging tongues to thee Are grievous. 1888 Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 570 There lived with us a wagging humourist [*sc.* a dog]. 1918 *Sunday Herald* 5 June 6/2/1 A herd of pigs went by or goats with wagging beards.

**Waggish** (wæ·gish), *a.* [f. Wag *sb.*2 + -ish¹.]

**1.** Of a person: Having the qualities of a wag; playfully mischievous. **† Also,** wanton, loose.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* I. i. 240 And therefore is Lous said to be a child, Because in choice he is often beguil'd, As waggish boyes in game themselues forsweare. 1607 Rowlands *Famous Hist.* 13 Fair Hellen was a waggish wench of Greece. 1624 T. Heywood *Apology* 161 Certainly some very waggish Master of the Ceremonies has taught you this ill manners. 1718 Gay *Trivia* II. 91 When waggish boys the stunted kennels scrape. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* IV. ix. 120 If (the tree dies!) by being shaken or loosen'd at the first sprouting, by waggish People. 1756 Toldervy *Hist. Two Orphans* IV. 130 But, O fortune! what a waggish damsel art thou! 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxiii, Edward inherited sternly at the waggish apprentice. 1836 Hor. Smith (*title*), The Tin Trumpet; or, Heads and Tails, for the Wise and the Waggish. 1859 Carpenter *Mental Phys.* xi. vi. (1879) 509 A long series of ludicrous replies..spelled out..by the direction of waggish questioners. 1904 J. T. Fowler *Durham Univ. Jrl.* Certain waggish undergraduates..sowed mustard seed after dark.

**2.** Pertaining to or characteristic of a wag. Of an act, speech, etc.: Done or made in a spirit of waggery or mischievous fun; prankish.

1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 109, I pray you tell me, what waggish shrewdnesse is this of my waggish youth. 1612 Shake. *Cymb.* III. iv. 160 You must forget to be a Woman: change..Feare, and Nicenesse..into A waggish courage. 1668 Dryden *Sir Martin Marrall* III. 5 The word vnhappie in our Language hath diuers Vnder-standings: as waggish or subtle, &c. 1672 R. White *Cupid's Banishm.* in Hotten *Lit. Curios.* (1872) 111 Fye, leave your waggish wit; I put up your arrows in your quiver and bee gone. 1699 Wood *Life* 16 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 483 Some of the company, who knew the design to be waggish, fell a knocking at the door. 1711 Addison *Spect. No.* 251 ¶ 2 Such a waggish trick as this. 1736 W. Irving *Amherst Papers* (1909) 44 Waggishness is prevalent among boatmen to the crossing of the line among sailors, and was celebrated with like ceremonials of a rough and waggish nature. 1824 Dickens *Mod. Pr.* II. i, She..cried, with a waggish shake of her head: 'Aha! Caught you spying, did I?' 1902 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 234/1 Mr. Tarkington writes in..a vein of waggish farce.

**Waggishly** (wæ·gishli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a waggish manner.

1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* v. i, *Cler.* Faith, now we are in private, let's wanton it a little, and talke waggishly. 1638 Mabbinger *Back. Lover* II. i, I have observ'd him Waggishly to court Mrs. Merelit. 1677 *Modern Wit* One while waggishly smiling, another with a grave mouth and ludicrous eyes. 1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* May, She..rather waggishly than wittily, one would say, with a malignant attention? 1831 Scott *Jrnl.* 19 Oct., [He] used to say, waggishly, that there was nothing so accommodating as a man against whom..[Thackeray] *Newcomes* xxxvi, Other persons in society inquired waggishly why Jack Belsize was not present to give Lady Clara away.

**Waggishness** (wæ·giśnés). [f. Waggish *a.* + -ness.] The state or character of being waggish; sportive mischief; jocularity of speech or behaviour. Also, wantonness, licentiousness.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Travesura*, frowardnesse, wantonnesse, waggishnes. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Of Goodness* (Arb.) 201 A Christian Boy in Constantinople, had like to haue been stifled by his fellowes, in a waggishnesse, in a Hogshead Fowle. 1673 *Humours Town* (1693) 67 The Sofiness of Ovid, the Majesty of Virgil, the Waggishness of Catullus. 1697 Dryden *Virgil Georgics* I. *Argt.* 1 A certain waggishness..generally to be found among minor canons. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Feb. 3/2 It is only in a spirit of waggishness that this could be said of Sir John Gilbert.

**Waggle,** *sb.* [f. Waggle *v.*] The action or an act of waggling; *spec.* in *Golf* (see quot. 1897).

1885 R. L. & F. Stevenson *Dynamiter* 190 With a friendly waggle of the hand. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 464 (Golf) In taking aim or addressing the ball, it is the almost invariable practice to move the head of the club forwards and backwards and forwards over the top of the ball in the direction of the proposed stroke. This is called the 'waggle'.

**Waggle** (wæ·g'l), *v.* Also 6–7 **wagle,** 9 *Sc.* **waigle.** [A frequentative of Wag *v.*] not found before the last decade of the 16th c., but possibly much older. Equivalent formations in Continental Teut. are WFris. *waggelje* to totter, Du. *waggelen* to stagger (early mod. Flem. *waghelen, wagghelen*; also *trans.* to shake); (M)LG. *waggeln, G. wackeln* to stagger, totter (whence prob. Sw. *vakla*, Da. *vakle*); Norw., Sw. *vagla* refl. to rock, sway. Cf. ME. *wagre* Wagger *v.*; also Wiggle, Wiggle-waggle *v.*]

**1.** *trans.* **a.** To move (anything held or fixed at one end) to and fro with short quick motions, or with a rapid undulation; *esp.* to shake (any movable part of the body). In sports or games often (*colloq.* or *humorous*), to wield or manipulate (a bat, oar, etc.).

1599 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* E 2 b, A third [man] wauerd & waggled his head, like a proud horse playing with his bridle. 1599 — *Lenten Stuffe* 37 Our moderne phisitions, that to any sickle languishers if they be able to waggle their chaps, propound veals for one of the highest nourishers. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 27 If to rigorousiye we waggle the tooth vp or downe. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 17 And, as she said, She waggit her wing-wavin' shoon. 1823 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 316 Thou, Pincher, farewell too! in vain Dost thou waggle thine innocent tail! 1880 Thackeray *Level* iv. (1886) 56 She hinted, she sighed, she waggled her head at me. 1897 C. Gibson *Lock of Gold* viii, The swarms of geese and milk-white ducks..would step out to the bank and waggle their tails with satisfaction. 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque* (1895) 98 When the old man waggles his head and says, 'Ah, so I thought when I was your age,' he has proved the youth's case.

**b.** *absol.* Chiefly in *Golf* (cf. Waggle *sb.*): To swing the club-head to and fro over the ball in the line of the intended stroke.

1897 *Outing* Aug. 423/1 On the other hand, another player, probably quite as good,..Mr. Horace Hutchinson, waggles, and waggles, as he addresses his ball, before each shot.

**c.** *U.S. slang.* To get the better of, overcome.

In recent Dictionaries.

**d.** *nonce-use.* To indicate by waggling the head.

1892 Reade *Peg Woff.* xiii. 198 They all nodded and waggled assent.

**2.** *intr.* **a.** With *advs.* or advb. expressions denoting motion: To shake or wobble while in motion; to walk or move shakily; to waddle.

1621 Cotgr., *Triballer*, to wagle, or dangle vpanddowne; to goe dingle dangle, wig wag. 1623 Jackson *Creed* v. v. 40 Apt they are not to mount many yeares higher vpward, but onely to waggle to and fro within a narrow compasse. *Ibid.* x. xxiv. 308 Like to a Pair of Scales which never came to any Permanent Stay or certaine Poize, but still the right Center, but have one while waigled this way, another while that way. 1697 May *Lucan* v. 3 Nor that the crow waggling along the Marsh, should presage a storm, or anticipate a shower. 1698 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccii. 294 Why do you go Nodding, and Waggling so like a Fool, as if you were Hipshot? says the Goose to her Gossip. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 82 This said, the host wi' richt guid will Begoud to waigle down the hill. *c* 1860 Colman *Breed Crime* etc. (1872) 313 A well-fed maggot ..In some deep fruit-place hears, and, slowly gaining pale upon Miss Caroline's pale face. 1864 M. Evre *Lady's Walks S. France* xiii. (1865) 160 The little lizards..waggled off as fast as they could. 1895 Parker-Rhodes *Cornish Changeling* i, The men dance in a circle, stamping the time; the women waggle round and round the circle, outside it.

**b.** Of things held or fixed at one end: To move backwards and forwards with short quick motions, or with a rapid undulatory movement.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Waggle*, to joggle, or move up and down, to be always in Motion. *c* 1800 Colman *Broad Grins* etc. (1872) 162 Harsh crested the rope in its descent, And waggling down the well, the bucket went. 1821 *Sport. Leg., Jackdaw Rheims* 138 His tail waggled more Even than before; But no longer it stagged with an impudent air. 1830 Herbert *Cyclop. Orchidea* v. 193 When in flower the latter species were blown by a breath of wind, the tongue-like labellums all waggled about in a very odd manner. 1881 Ryland & Rice *Engl. Anim.* 87 The mouth, he replied, shaking his great head till his cheeks waggled.

Hence **Waggling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 167 A Hearne..getting upon his waggling wings with pains. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* II. i. 177, I know you by the waggling of your head. 1697 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Aug. 3/2 That 3lb. bat of his must take a bit of 'waggling'.

**Waggle,** variant of Waghl.

**Waggly** (wæ·gli), *a. colloq.* Also **waggley.** [f. Waggle *v.* + -y.] Waggling, unsteady; in quots. *transf.*, having frequent irregular curves.

1894 Eliz. Banks *Camp. Curiosity* 135 They keep in the path, even in its most waggly parts. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 303/2 A mud lane with a Wahlter, *forsifer, perditus*. *c* 1870 *Misogynus* iv. ii. 8 'Stand out of my way whatever or I will britche the nates. 1611 Cotgr., *Badoin*,..a cranke-pate, waghalter, vnhappie rogue. 1660 Berlow *and Fly Dom Quix.* iii. 16 This Bachelour, was..a notable Wag-halter. *attrib.* 1596 [see Slip-string 1]. 1636 Ford *Fancies* I. ii, *Nil.* What a terrible sight to a libd breech is a sow gelder! *Syke.* Not so terrible as a crosse tree that never growes, to a wag-halter-Page.

**Waghe:** see Waw, Wor.

**Waghen, -noot,** obs. ff. Wagon, Wainscot.

**Wagh(e, Waghter,** obs. ff. Weight, Waiter *sb.*1

**Waging** (wē·dʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]

**1.** The action of Wage *v.*

1498 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 146 Na in his condicioun of feyng was divisioun maid of his waging. *Ibid.* 258 In how mony syndry casis law thoilis waging of battell. *a* 1513 *Fabyan Chron.* vii. (1811) 333 Of whome the kynge

receyued...iiii. M. li. sterlynge towarde the wagynge of his knyghtis. 1589 Stocker *Cic. Warres Loue C.*iv. 36 b, For the inslyng, discharging, entertayning, and wagyng, of men of Warre. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Plegiatus*, sued in law, waging of lawe. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Muscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 478 By which means the waging of War is to the Emperor little or nothing chargeable. 1842 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xiii, Such a scrimmage as was here fou't atween the Mohicans and the Mohawks, in a war of their own waging.

† 2. The excrement of a fox: *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Of hares and of conynges he shall say pel crotelh, and of pe fox wagynge.

**Wagging**, obs. variant of WEDGING *vbl. sb.*

† **Wag-leg**. *Obs.* Also 7 **wagge-legge**. [f. WAG *v.* + LEG *sb.*] A gadfly.

1585, 1611: see LONG-LEG 1; 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 643 The milk of sheepe being hot, is of force against al poisons, except in those which shal drinke a venemous fly called a Wag-legge, and Libbards bane.

**Wa'gling**, *nonce-wd.* [-LING.] A little wag. 1878 T. Hook *Jack Brag* iii, The sprightly, pert, impudent-looking wagling.

† **Wagmoire**, variant of QUAGMIRE.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 130 For they bene like foule wagmoires ouergrast.

**Wagnerian** (vāgnī'rĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [-IAN.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to the German operatic composer Richard Wagner (1813–83), his music and theories of musical and dramatic composition. *b. sb.* An admirer or adherent of Wagner.

1873 *All Year Round* 5 July 225/1 The Wagnerian opera ..presumes that the singer of average ability shall be capable of doing justice to the music. 1882 Hime *Wagnerism* 23 But this marriage of true relations was the custom in primitive times, say the Wagnerians. True, no doubt; but that does not make their customs fit subjects for the representations of Art. 1889 G. B. Shaw *Quintessence of Ibsenism* 49 Richter's great superiority to Herr Levi as a Wagnerian conductor.

Hence **Wagne'rianism**, Wagnerian theories, etc. Also **Wagnere'sque** *a.*, resembling the style of Wagner. **Wa'gnerism**, Wagner's theory and practice in the composition of music-dramas; the influence or cult of Wagner. **Wa'gnerist, Wa'gnerite** = WAGNERIAN *b.* **Wa'gnerize** *v.* (*a*) *trans.* to make Wagnerian; (*b*) *intr.* to follow Wagner.

1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* 67 Even Verdi had drunk deep, many portions of 'Aida' being quite Wagneresque. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 448 A number of Wagner caricatures, which really are very valuable documents in the history of 'Wagnerianism'. 1889 *Daily News* 20 Dec., Many of us may like to hear of anything, even in the shape of 'Wagnerism, which can hold its head in Paris by way of opposition to the prevailing taste for Offenbachianalian music. 1889 G. B. Shaw in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* Oct. 49 Hero-worship of Wagner, or adept Wagnerism. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Wagnerist. 1873 *Nation* (N.Y.) 23 Feb. 166/3 Nor is there any reason why a *Wagnerite should refuse to admire the operettas of Strauss. 1882 *Standard* 13 Jan., It would, of course, be premature to affirm that the musical mind of England has become completely *Wagnerized. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. xiii. 252 The Italians don't much more than Wagnerize in exchange for the loss of melody.

**Wagnerite** (wæ'gnĕrāit). *Min.* [Named by Fuchs (*wagnerit*) in 1821, after F. M. von *Wagner*: see -ITE 1 b.] A fluorphosphate of magnesium and iron, found in yellow crystals.

1825 Hausmann tr. *Phillips' Treat. Min.* III. 169. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol, etc.* I. 182. 1869 *Science* I. 341/2.

**Wagon, waggon** (wæ'gən), *sb.* Forms: 6 **wagan**(**e**, **waghon, wagen**, 6–7 **waggen**, 7 **waggin**-**wagon, waggon.** [Early mod.E. *wagan, waghen*, a. Du. *wagen* (formerly also written *waghen*) = OE. *wægn* WAIN.

In Du. (as in Ger.) *wagen* has always been the most general term for a wheeled vehicle; in the 16th c. it was adopted into Eng. in this wide sense (see 2 below) as well as in the specific military application (sense 1) learned in the continental wars.

The Eng. dicts. of the 18th c. have the spelling *waggon*, exc. Johnson, who gives *wagon* without remark, though all his examples have *waggon*. Todd 1818 prefers *wagon* for etymological reasons, but says that *waggon* is the prevailing form. Webster 1828 prefers *wagon*, remarking that 'the old orthography, *waggon*, seems to be falling into disuse'. Smart 1836 gives *waggon* as the current form, and *wagon* as 'a disused spelling'. Stormonth 1884 and Cassell 1888 have *waggon, wagon*; later dicts. *wagon* either alone or in the first place. In Great Britain *waggon* is still very commonly used; in the U.S. it is rare.

The Eng. word has been adopted in Fr. as *wagon, wagon* (vagõ) in the sense of 'railway coach or carriage', a meaning which is now obsolete in Eng. (see quot. 1847 in sense 5b). So also G. *waggon* (pronounced as Fr.).]

1. A strong four-wheeled vehicle designed for the transport of heavy goods. In *Mil.* use chiefly with qualifying word, as *ambulance, ammunition, bread, forge waggon* etc., for which see those words.

1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. lxii. 84 And when these lordes were come other remedy, they trussed all their harnes in wagenes [*Fr. en voicturerl*, and returned to the hoost before Tourney. *a* 1598 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 46 b, The Flemyngynes, made purviaunce for wagans, vitaile and other thynges. 1599 Dan *Heath. Prov.* 6 b, As the force which one man hath with the Duche waghen Rache: therwith to set vp agayne, a mighty waghen laden, being ouerthrowne. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvi. lvi. I. 488 The Phrygians invented first the waggon and charriot with foure wheeles [L. *rehiculum cum quatuor rotis*]. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xlv. 19 Take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wiues. 1683 Holcroft *Procopius, Goth. Wars* I. 4 Theodoricus ..went into Italy with all the Goths, putting their Wives and Children in Waggons, and all the Goods they could carry. 1687 Milton *P. L.* II. 402 The barren plaines Of Sericana, where Chineses drive With Sails and Wind thir canie Waggons light. 1692 — *P. R.* III. 336 And Waggons fraught with Utensils of war. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 317 Thy well-breath'd Horse ..bred to Belgian Waggons. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) II. xlvi. 173 From those barges they [the coals] are loaded into carts and wagons, to be carried to the respective country towns. 1792 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xv, The numerous waggons that accompanied them contained the rich spoils of the enemy. 1810 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 302, I shall endeavour to send you some spring and commissariat waggons. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 73 They [the Indians] had dragged it [Captain Bonneville's party] for a time in secret, astonished at the long train of waggons and oxen. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 2 The waggon is made generally contain every requisite for a farmer's establishment.

*b. transf.* The constellation Charles's Wain.

Quot. *c* 1512 is from a work translated into English by a Flemish, and contains many Flemish words. The quot. therefore does not prove the existence of the word in Eng. at the date of the book.

*c* 1512 *Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) introd. 28/1 The northe sayle sterre or pollumaricum, or the waghen called.] 1867 *Chamb. Encycl. s. v. Ursa major*, The common names Bear, Charles's Wain, and Plough, are stars the Flemish ; Charles's Wain ; 'the Wagon'. 1889 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, Waggon and Horses. *Ursa Major*, the Great Bear.

† **2.** A carriage of any kind for the conveyance of persons, their luggage, etc. *Obs.*

1592 Nashe *Pierce Pen. Apol.* (Arb.) 70 Spesuppius beyng ympotente.. was carryedin a wagen [*Lebeheinf*] towardethe schoole called *Academenfe*. 1595–6 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 91 Item, for a wagen to carry the ladies and Jennie women of our Preyye Chamber. 1598 in T. Phillips *Hist. & Antiq. Shrewsb.* (1779) 46 This yeare 1582.. the right honorable Edward Lord Stanley came to this towne in his wagon in her wagon. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Trav. Lond. to Hamburg's* Wks. (1630) III. 88/1, I appointed a Waggon ouer night to bee ready by three of the Clocke in the morning.

† **b.** A war-chariot; = CHARIOT 1 *c*. *Obs.*

1591 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* 244 Some cuntreyes make warre in wagons also [L. *quadam nationes et curru pugnant*]. 1601 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 30 Their fights are with wagons and chariots [L. *bigis et curribus*]. 1624 Raleigh *Hist. World* IV. ii. § 20 II. 206 He..sends his Brother Hagis with..a hundred armed waggons to entertaine him. Each waggon had in it foure to fight, and two to guide it.

† **c.** *pod.* = CAR *sb.*1 1 b, CHARIOT *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 121 And two lately lyons child drew a light waggon behind. 1598 Barret *Theor. Fit. A.* v. ii. 51 Proudie thee two proper Palfries, as blacke as Jet, To hale thy vengefull Waggon swith away. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 18 Then to her wyn waggon she betakes. *Ibid.* I. v. 44 Whilst Phœbus pure In westerne waues his wearie wagon did recure. *c* 1600 *Z. Boyd Zion's Flowers* (1855) 111 The same waggon wherein th' horrour came. 1638 Joseph *Paint. Ancients* 21 The Poët stepping with Phaëton upon the waggon hath noted [etc.].

**3.** An open four-wheeled vehicle built for carrying hay, corn, etc., consisting of a long body furnished with 'shelboards'.

(In the 16th c. app. distinguished from *wain.*)

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 35 Horse, Oxen, plough, tumbrel, cart, waggon, & waine. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iv. (1586) 121 b, Hey is eyther leyd in the barne in the vpper roomes my Hey, and beneath, Waynes, Cartes, Carres, Waggons, Conches, (etc.]. 1600 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Keatry* (1870) 208 Item waggon and wayn harnes horses [sic] (etc.]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 244 The tow'ring height Of Waggons, and the Cart's unwieldy weight. 1789 W. Marshall *Obs. Rur. Econ.* W. Gloucestersh. 309 The best farm-waggon I have seen in the kingdom...The wheels run six inches wider than those of the Yorkshire waggon. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* (1general) II. 16 Carrying their corns in waggons of hay. 1882 J. C. Morton *Farmer's Cal.* (ed. 2) 418 The carrying of our grain crops..is done differently in different districts. In the South the use of the two and three horse waggon is almost universal. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz. Weekly Suppl.* 11 Oct. 1/1 A waggon..is the pride of the craftsman who builds it, and who is careful to reproduce the exact 'lines' to which the waggon is to be painted and lettered.

**4.** A covered vehicle for the regular conveyance of commodities and passengers by road. (?Now only *colonial.*)

See also Post-wagon (1677–), *stage-wagon* (1761–) s.v. Stage 21, 23.

1615 Stow *Ann.* 865/2 In the yeare 1564 Guylliam Boonen, a dutchman, ..brought the vse of Coaches into England:.. And about that time, began long wagons to come in vse, such as now come to London from Canterbury, Norwich, Ipswich, Glocester, &c. with Passengers, and commodities. 1841 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Sept., I took waggon for Dort. *Ibid.* 11 Sept., I went by waggon to Dynkirk. 1860 Sir W. Duddale *Diary* 13 Mar., in *Archæologia* XX. 472 My dau. Letitia went towards London in Coventre Waggon. 1882 Mrs. L. Baker *Passengers in Stage Coaches* (1899) 137 The two London waggons came in with sixteen and fourteen horses. 1776 *Pennsylvania Encn. Post* 16 July 354/2 A number of Waggons with Teams were ordered for the public service immediately. 1824 Bamewall & Crabewell *Rep. K. B.* II. 717 The following evidence..was then set out: that defendant was a common carrier, and that his waggon stopped in the parish of Elden. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* v. xxxvi, She heard the rumbling of heavy wheels behind her; a covered waggon was coming, creeping slowly along. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvi, An express waggon with a driving seat. *Ibid.*, He is like to turn back..if he journeys with us in the waggon.

**5.** *a. Mining.* A truck used to convey minerals along the roadways of a mine, or from the mine to the place of shipment. (See also quot. 1886.)

1849 [W. Gray] *Chorographia* 25 Waggons with one Horse to carry down Coales, from the Pits, to the Staithes, to the River, &c. 1707 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1841) II. xlvi. 173 [The coals] are then loaded into a great machine called a wagon; which..goes..to the nearest river or water carriage. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 51 *Chaldron* 53 cwt. The waggons which convey the coals from the pit to the place of shipment carry the above quantity, and are called chaldron waggons. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 148 Certain requirements, in connection with the mining of the mineral in the shafts, necessitate the use of particular kinds of waggon. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms to Waggons*, a measure of weight equal to 24 cwt. Coal sold for delivery in carts is usually sold by the waggon of 24 cwt.

**b.** An open truck or a closed van for the transport of goods on a railway. † Formerly applied also to the open carriages used for conveying passengers at the lowest fares, and as the general term for any kind of railway vehicle.

1756 Annal. Dasny *Diary* 31 Jan. in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1913) X. 83 First Waggon of Pigs [*sc. of iron*] came down the Railway in Coalbrookdale]. 1805 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 657 The weight of the engine and 16 waggons is equal to 15,456 lbs. 1840 *F. Wilson's Railw. Gl. Brit. & Irel.* 493 The ordinary train would consist of two waggons, or trucks, of merchandise, &c. placed next to the engine, then the passenger-waggon [or carriage], and lastly the guard's-carriage. 1847 S. C. Brees *Railw. Pract.* 4th Ser. i. 1 The name of waggon is objected to every description employed on railways. *Penny Mag.* 15 Apr. *Supplement* V. (1878) 77 A 'set' is a number of wagons—in fact, a train.

**6.** *U.S.* A light four-wheeled vehicle used for various business purposes; also, loosely, a similar vehicle used for pleasure. *Dearborn wagon*: see DEARBORN.

1837 Halliburton *Clockmaker* Ser. i. v. 34 People soon began to assemble, some on foot, and others on their hack and in waggons. 1841 [see Dearborn]. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xvii, Will you take me out in the trotting waggon with Flora?

**7.** A covered four-wheeled vehicle used as a living house by gipsies, travelling showmen, travellers, etc.

1851 [see Living pol. *sb.* 7]. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 298 The mess waggon is always an important feature when an outfit starts on the 'trail'. *Ibid.*, During a halt he never left the waggon, but hung around [etc.].

**8.** *U.S.* A baby-carriage.

1841: see *waggon-frame* in 11. 1889 Cabot *Mem. Emerson* II. 282 The whole town assembled, down to the babies in their wagons.

**9.** Short for *dinner-waggon* (see DINNER *sb.* 2). Cf. *wagon-table* in 12.

1906 Charlotte Mansfield *Girl & Gods* viii, Margaret proceeded to cut the wire of a bottle, and then fetched glasses from a wagon.

**10.** *Bookbinding.* ' A tool having four edges of cane mounted in a frame, and used to trim the edges of gold-leaf to a size for a book '.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

**11.** *attrib.* and Comb.: **a.** attributive, as *wagon-cover, -frame, -hire, -horse, -ox, -pole, -rut, -sail, -shed, -spoke, -spoor, -sprag, -till, -tongue, -wheel, whip.*

1852 *Boston* (Lincs.) *Herr.* 31 July 2 A great Stock of lately-improved *Waggon-Covers. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Threnody* 47 Awhile to..mend his [a child's] wicker *waggon-frame. 1553 in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) I. iii. 241 And to [be] layd upon every waggon by the *waggon hire xxxiiij and the great charge of *waggon-hyre. 1588 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 40/2 *Innuentum plostrarium*,..a cart horse, or waggon horse. 1890 Scott-Gatty *Yeo. Cadet* 6 The..bold burgher of Ghent, Liege, or Ypres, is as distinct an animal in a knight of Hainault, as a Flanders waggon-horse from a Spanish jennet. 1824 Kingsley *Roman* v. v. 1/1 [1887] The horns of the *waggon-oxen. 1768 E. Holdsworth *Virgil* 154 It is very common at this time, in several parts of Italy, to cover the end of the *waggon pole with plates of brass. 1660 Hexham 11, *Een Wagen-Schelt*, a *Waggon-rut. 1842 Dickens *Donbey* xv, The new streets that had stopped disheartened in the mud and waggon-ruts. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. xvi. 307 *Waggon-sheds are also used instead of *waggon-sails, and are very effectual in resisting both sun and rain. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xvi, We had our own waterproof sheets ready on going to bed, and sometimes have spread the waggon-sails over the waggons. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Waggon-shed, a shelter for carts and waggons. 1882 Harry Hieover *Londres* iv. The daylight revealed the whole of Mr. Melbury's homestead, of which the waggon-sheds had been an outlying erection. 1592 Shake. *Ren. & Jul.* II. iv. 39 Her *Waggon Spokes made of long Spinners bones. 1850 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vi. 174 On reaching the road, I saw fresh *waggon-spoor. 1882 *Times* 31 Oct. 8/3 The railway servants ..armed with sticks and *waggon-springs, to protect upon the criminals' place of concealment. 1832 *Planting* 90 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. The lower ends of ash poles cut from 6 to eighteen feet long..They are chief for the use of the cooper, *waggon-tilts, &c. 1860 Mayne Reid *Hunters' Feast* xvii, The breaking of our *waggon-tongue..delayed our journey. 1888 Shaw *Tit. A.* v. vi. 54, I will dismount, and by the *Waggon-wheele, Trot like a Senuile footeman. 1880 Emerson *Cond. Life, Considerations* Wks. (Bohn) II. 418 But who dares draw out the linchpin from the waggon-wheel? 1861 *Scotsm. Rem. Kemble.* xxv. Their rude drivers ..began to debate precedence with their *waggon-whips and quarter-staves.

**b.** objective and obj. genitive, as *waggon builder, driver, maker, making.*

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 4 A capital waggon ..requires the hand of a skilful *waggon-builder. 1888 Nulgent, *Waggon driver, *ingenius*. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* I. i. 15 A waggon-driver...

a stout active Hottentot. 1858 in Feuilleral *Rivets & Etc.* (1908) 51 Skinner, Sadlers †wagegn makers. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 181 Wagon and carriage makers mainly use parallel iron vices.

c. instrumental, as *wagon-travelling*; d. similative, as *wagon-shaped* adj.

1837 Herbert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 742 The kind of boiler attached to this engine is of the wagon-shaped kind. 1865 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 304 The natural concomitants of wagon-travelling.

**12.** Special comb.: **wagon-bed**, the body of a wagon; also, the bottom of the body; **wagon-boiler**, a form of engine-boiler (see quot.); †**wagon-borough** [ad. Du. or G. *wagenburg*], a defensive enclosure or barricade formed of baggage-wagons placed close together; **wagon-bow** (see quot.); **wagon-breast** *U.S.*, a breast or working place in a coal-mine in which the wagons are taken up to the working face; **wagon-cselling** *Arch.* (see quot.); †**wagon-coach** = Pont wagon; **wagon-corps** *Mil.* = *Corps of Wagoners* s.v. Wagoner 1 1; **wagon-coupling** (see quot.); **wagon-drag**, a shoe-brake for a wagon; **wagon-drift** *S. Afr.*, a passage for wagons across a river; **wagon-gallery**, a gallery in a mine along which the wagons run; **wagon-hammer** (see quot.); **wagon-house**, a house, shed or shelter for wagons; † **wagon-hunter** *canut*, an agent of a brothel-keeper who for base purposes visited the inns at which the stage-wagons stopped; **wagon-jack**, -**lock** (see quots.); **wagon-man**, the driver of a wagon, a wagoner; **wagon-master**, a person who has charge of one or more wagons; spec. *Mil.*, an officer commanding the wagon-train; **wagon-road**, a road for the passage of wagons; **wagon-hammer** (see quot.); **wagon-house**, a house, shed or shelter for wagons; † **wagon-hunter** *canut*, an agent of a brothel-keeper who for base purposes visited the inns at which the stage-wagons stopped; **wagon-jack**, -**lock** (see quots.); **wagon-man**, the driver of a wagon, a wagoner; **wagon-master**, a person who has charge of one or more wagons; spec. *Mil.*, an officer commanding the wagon-train; **wagon-road**, a road for the passage of wagons; **wagon-scaling** *Arch.* (see quot.); †**wagon-scorch** = Pont wagon; **wagon-scorps** *Mil.* = *Corps of Wagoners* s.v. Wagoner 1 1; **wagon-scupling** (see quot.); **wagon-drag**, a shoe-brake for a wagon; **wagon-drift** *S. Afr.*, a passage for wagons across a river; **wagon-gallery**, a gallery in a mine along which the wagons run

23 The wagonette ..did not came into general use until some years after the International Exhibition of 1851, although, according to the Report on the Carriage Department of the Exhibition of 1862, 'the first wagonette was built in 1846.'

*b. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wagonette-driver*; **wagonette omnibus**, a motor-omnibus with accommodation resembling that of a wagonette.

1877 'C. BEDE' *Figaro at Hastings* 50 The wagonette-drivers, with uplifted whip-hand, hailing me with 'Now for Fairlight and the Lower's Seat!' 1902 *Motoring Ann.* 244 A waggonette omnibus. A little waggonette 'bus,..capable of seating about a dozen persons, has been plying on the Putney to Piccadilly route for more than a year.

**Wagonful, waggonful** (wæ·gənful). Also **-full**. As many persons, or as much baggage, etc., as will fill a wagon.

1826 DICKENS *Pict. Italy* 179 A waggon-full of madmen, screaming and tearing to the life. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Squatters* 121 Another arrived, with a waggonful of our effects. 1902 OWEN WISTER *Virginian* xviii, The wagonful of guests whom he had evidently been driving upon a day's excursion.

**Wagon-head, waggon-head.** *Arch.* A cylindrical ceiling, roof, or vault.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 430 Ceilings, formed simply of cylindric surfaces, are termed, by mechanics, waggon-heads. 1875 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 215 The best general form is that of a polygonal 'waggon-head' of five or seven sides.

*b. attrib.* or as adj.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 482/2 Watt adopted a long rectangular form, with a semi-cylindrical top...From this form it is termed the waggon-end boiler. 1870 M. A. LOWER *Hist. Sussex* I. 242 The whole of the building has now a waggon-head ceiling in pannelled oak.

Hence **Wagon-headed** *a.*

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 114 Lunettes...are made either in waggon-headed ceilings, or through large coves. 1827 F. J. BURGOYNE *Library Constr.* 192 A richly moulded waggon-headed roof.

**Wagoning, waggoning** (wæ·gənin), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAGON *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of travelling or conveying by wagon.

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* v. 339 More than thirty miles of wagoning is required to bring the spirits of turpentine to a railroad. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. (1872) V. 11. 59 The greatest activity and wagoning now visible there. 1877 A. DOLIAT *Better Times* (1884) 15 Already in the earliest, darkest ages were invented the arts of...navigating and wagoning.

*b. colleg.* Coach-driving.

1873 REYNARDSON *Down the Road* 49 Tom Hennesy, who was always fond of quizzing, and, when in 'wagoning,' was by whose side I was sitting on the box. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* viii, It's a fine day for a little bit of waggoning.

**† Wagon-lit** (vagonli). [Fr.: *wagon* railway coach (a. Eng. WAGON *sb.*) + *lit* bed.] A sleeping coach on a Continental train.

1884 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 3/4 The wagonlit was abandoned, and our journey was continued in an ordinary carriage. 1902 B. WHITE *Hilarity Box* 229 The child was quite used to strange quarters and *wagon-lits*.

**Wagon-load, waggon-load.** As much as a wagon can carry. (Often used hyperbolically.)

1742 CIBBER *Refused* i. I, Well, how goes Mississippi, man? What, do they bring their money by waggon loads to market still? 1798 YOUNG *Love Fame* v. 87 Imperious some a classic fame demand, For heaping up with a laborious hand, A waggon-load of meanings for one word. 1826 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 471 A waggon-load [of wheat] is 20 or 14 barrels; each barrel 196 lib. weight. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, He wouldn't shy if he was to meet a waggon-load of monkeys with their tails burnt off. 1885 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 66 He carries with him..a waggonload of plate. 1902 J. G. FRAZER *Golden Bough* VII. *Baldur* I. iv. 118 The butchers were rewarded with a waggon-load of wine.

**Wagonry, waggonry** (wæ·gənri). *rare.* [f. WAGON *sb.* + -RY.]

**†1.** ? Chariots collectively. *Obs.*

1598 CHAPMAN *Ovid's Bann. Sonce* C 9, Like the fire Stoine from the wheeles of Phœbus waggonrie To lumps of earth, can manly lyfe inspire.

**2.** Conveyance or transport by wagon.

1642 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. I. 5 So long as the Church is mounted upon the Pontifical Cart..it will but shake and totter, and he that sets to his hand..to hinder the shogging of it, in this unlawfull waggonry wherein it rides, let him beware [etc.]. 1885 *Cassell's Fredk. Gt.* xv. vi. (1891) IX. 118 Provisions..were not to be had by force of waggonry.

**Wagon-way, waggon-way.**

**1.** An artificial road or a line of rails in a colliery upon which the coal wagons are run.

1797 Dr FOR *Eng. Trudeum*, xlvi. (1841) II. 173 [A coal wagon] which by the means of an artificial road, called a wagon-way, goes with the help of but one horse..to the nearest river. 1797 HERBERT *Encyc. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 375 The intended railroad, or waggon-way; as it was termed. *attrib.* 1764 *London Mag.* Mar. 145/1 If the waggon-way-rails..be wet sometimes, a man cannot stop the waggon.

**2.** A road made for the passage of wagons; also a track made by wagons.

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. iii. 148 A Letter..on the Advantages of making good Roads, or Waggon-Ways, in a Farm. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 213 A waggon-way —not a road—has been made across this divide, by which heavy machinery has been hauled over.

**† Wa·gship.** *Obs.* [f. WAG *sb.*[2] + -SHIP.]

**1.** Waggery, waggishness.

1609 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* II. (1608) B 4 b, No rather lets pieces the Rundlets of our running heads and give them a neate coppe of wagships, to put downe their Courtship.

**2.** Used jocularly, with possessive pron., as a title for a wag.

1609 MARSTON *What you will* III. i. E 4, Pleaseth your excellent wagship to bee informed that [etc.]. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* II. iv. E 3 b, You shall to schoole, away with him; and take Their wagships with him.

**Wagsome** (wæ·gsəm), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WAG *sb.*[2] + -SOME.] Waggish, addicted to waggery.

1899 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ballads, Peter the Wag* 37 Still humoured he his wagsome turn.

**† Wag-stert.** *Obs.* Also **5 -sterd, -styrt, 5–6 -stert.** [f. WAG *v.* + STERT *sb.*[1] Cf. MLG. *wagg-, wakstert*; also Da. *vip-*, Sw. *vippstjert*, Du. *kwikstaartje*.] = WAGTAIL.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wagstert [*Winch. MS.* Waggestert], byrd, *lenda, vel todo.* *c* 1475 *Piet. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 763/2 *Hic trudare*, a wagstyrt. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 33/42 A Wagstarte, *motacilla*.

**Wagtail** (wæ·gtēil), *sb.* [f. WAG *v.* + TAIL *sb.*[1] Cf. prec. and F. *hochequeue*.]

**1.** A small bird belonging to one of the species of the genus *Motacilla*; so the family *Motacillidæ*, so called from the continual characteristic wagging motion of the tail. In Great Britain chiefly applied to *M. lugubris*, 'the Pied Wagtail of authors' (Newton), called also *water wagtail*.

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v], *Motacilla*, a wag tayle, is a wagtayle. 1604 [T.CRITE] *Wit of Woman* C 2, I..had my spirit as full of life as a wagtayle, but now the case is altered. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 946 All those Birds called Wagtails ([I am not deceived] love upon Flies. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 24, I always illustrated my Fagleship..by disdaining to make a stoop at worms, phyl-itis, and wag-tails. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 3 Nov., Wagtails, all sorts, remain with us all the winter. 1876 SMILES *Scotch Natur.* xiii. (ed. 4) 266 The melancholy note of the Wagtail.

**b.** With qualifying words, indicating native country, colour, habits, etc.

Chiefly species of *Motacilla*, or species formerly referred to that genus.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 90 *Motacilla Flava*, the Yellow wagtail. *a* 1676 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* II. xvii. (1676) 178 *Motacilla cinerea*...The grey Wagtail. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithology* 181 The white Wagtail. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. ii. 396–400 [Mentions Collared, Pied, Indian, Yellow, Yellow-headed, Cape or African Wagtail]. 1802 *Trans. Linn. Soc.* VI. 222 The Portugal Wagtail...Provincial. Winter Wagtail. *Ibid.*, Wagtail, Yellow...Provincial. Spring, or Summer Wagtail. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 332 A couple of birch, among which darted the redwing and white wagtail. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 284 *Motacilla ocularis*. Siberian Wagtail. 1898 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1028 The so-called Grey Wagtail of Britain.

**2.** Applied to other birds. **a.** *U.S.* One of the water-thrushes, *Seiurus surveins* or *S. motacilla* (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1868 J. BURROUGHS *Wake-robin* viii. (1884) 096 The two species of water-thrush or wagtails, and the oven-bird or wood-wagtail.

**b.** *Austral.* The black-and-white fantail, *Rhipidura tricolor*, also called the wagtail flycatcher (Morris *Colonial English*, 1898). **c.** *dial.* The dunlin (Montagu *Ornith. Dict.*, 1802).

**†3.** *transf.* A familiar or contemptuous epithet or form of address applied to a man or young woman. *Obs.*

1609 SHAKE. *Lear* II. ii. 73 This ancient Ruffian Sir, whose life I have spar'd at suite of his gray beard...Spare my greybeard, you wagtaile? 1609 MIDDLETON *Mich. Term* III. iii. 221 Wagtail, salute them all; they are friends. 1656 Du Gard *Detect. Cloud Error* 1 *Ded.* 191 A wagtail or busibody desiring to know many things beyond measure, and being unable to bee satisfied with enquiries. 1732 FIELDING *De-Bauchee* I. i, Good morrow, my little wagtail—my grasshopper. 1785 GROSE *Prov. Glossary* 70 To dangle, frisk, and hop about like an impertinent wag-tail as you are.

**† 4.** *attrib.* A contemptuous term for a profligate or inconstant woman; hence, a harlot, courtesan.

Common in the 17th c.

1592 LYLY *Midas* I. i, If therefore thou make not thy mistress a goldfinch, thou mayst chance to find her a wagtaile. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch Old One* II. i. 84 If men be wags, are there not women wagtails? 1633 SHIRLEY *Traitor* I. ii, Let's to bed, Sir Seppie and pliant for the Duke; I hope We are not the first have been advanced by a wagtail. 1664 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 237 Hedge-whores, Wagtails, Cockatrices, Whipsters. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 55. 3/2 Like Paris with his Gleek of Wagtails on Ida.

**4.** An artificial minnow used in trout-fishing.

1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 66 Shortly after there was a pull at the rod—and the wagtail was fishing.

**5.** *Comb.*, as *wagtail-family*, *-minnow*; **wagtail flycatcher** = 2 b; **wagtail-warbler** = 2 a.

1882 *Proc. Boston, Nat. Chst* IX. No. iii. 304 Of the Wagtail family, the Pied Wagtail, and the Grey and Yellow Wagtail, visited the Lake. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 309 *Siurus noveboracensis*. Wag-tail Warbler. *Ibid.*, *Siurus motacillus*. Large-billed Wagtail Warbler. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 65 A green and silver wagtail minnow.

**† Wa·gtail,** *v. Obs.* [f. WAGTAIL *sb.*] *intr.* To flutter.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Trophées* 237 Even as a paire of busie chattering Pies...feel a chill fear, From bush to bush, wag-tayling here and there. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 118 From bush to bush they in a panick feare, Wagtayling goe.

**† Wagtailed,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WAGTAIL *sb.* (as if 'wagging tail') + -ED 2.] Tail-wagging; also *fig.* wanton.

1648 HEXHAM II. *Grouisterij*, wagg-tailed, or that moves the Taile. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 64 You spend your Lives, With wag-tail'd Wives.

**Wah** (wā). [Native name.] = PANDA.

1898 *Baird Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Ailurus*, *A. fulgens*, the Wah or Panda...It derives its name *Wah* from its cry. 1899 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 400.

**Wah,** carly form of WAW *sb.*, wall.

**Wahabi, Wahabee, Wahhabi, -bee** (wähā·bī). Also 9 Wuhabee, Wahaby, -habbi. (a. Ar. *Wahhābī*, f. *Wahhāb* (see below).] A follower of Abd-el-Wahhab, a Mohammedan reformer (1691–1787) whose sect flourishes in central Arabia.

1802 E. S. WARING *Tour to Sheeraz* 119 The founder of the religion of the Wuhabees. 1810 *Neuvil Chron.* XXIV. 374 The Wahebbis, as we shall, consequently, style the Neojedis. *a* 1817 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE *Trav., Arabia* (1830) I. 82 During the predominance of the Wahabis, Dijdeh has been in a declining state. *Ibid.*, 354 The Wahabys. 1817 C. MILLS *Hist. Mohammedanism* vii. 375 The tenets of the Wahabees became established all over the peninsula of Arabia. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Journ. Arabia* II. 3 Himself a bitter Wahhabee, and a model of all the noblest virtues of the sect. 1879 W. S. BLUNT in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 257 Abdallah..was acknowledged, without opposition, chief of the Wahhabis.

*b. attrib.* and *adj.*

1810 E. S. WARING *Tour to Sheeraz* 119 The Wuhabee Arabs. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Journ. Arabia* I. 445 These differences give Wahhabee worship a peculiar type. 1881 W. S. BLUNT in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 254 Southern Nejd alone seems to have been fanatically Wahhabi.

Hence **Waha·bism, -beeism, -bism, Waha·bite** [see -ISM, -ITE].

1810 *Narval Chron.* XXIV. 298 The attempts of the Wahabites to reduce their theory to practice. 1817 The Wahebite clan. 1826 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 348 Wahabeeism is Arabia marshalled against Turkish domination. 1885 W. G. PALGRAVE *Journ. Arabia* I. 194 If ordinary Islam proved too strait-laced for Arabia, Wahabeeism is of necessity even more so. 1881 W. S. BLUNT in *Lady A. Blunt's Pilgr. to Nejd* II. 251 The rise and decline of Wahhabism in Arabia. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 773/2 The rise of the Wahhabite power. *Ibid.*, Oneiza sided with the Wahhabites. 1902 *Encycl. Brit. W. Howitzer* xi. 198 In the darkest days of Wahabiism.

**† Wahahowee,** *int. Obs.* Also **wa ha ho, wa hoh.** = HALLOO.

*c* 1595 R. CAREW *Excellency Engl. Tongue* in G. G. Smith *Elizab. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 287 In detestation wee saye *Fky...*; in calling, *wahowy*; in hallowinge, *wahahowee*: all which (in my eare) seeme to be derived from the very natures of those severall affections. *c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 194 Wa, ha ho, man! Your buzzard is a kynde of byrde of prey. 1618 BRAM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* IV. iv, *La-vert.* So ho! our weapons. *Sam.* Wa, ha, ho, our weapons! 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* I. i. 23 *Hog.* The Vicar of Pancrese, Squire Tub! wa' hoh! *Tub.* I come, I stoop unto the call; Sir Hugh!

**Wahoo** (wähū·). Also **washoo, whahoo.** [Indian name.] The N. American shrub *Euonymus atropurpureus*.

1860 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 81 *Euonymus atropurpureus*...Burning Bush. Wahoo. 1886 *Trans. Kans. Hort. Soc.* 1903 NANCY H. BANKS *Round Anvil Rock* 158 The bright wahoo with its graceful cluster of flame-coloured berries.

**Wahs, Wal, Walahe,** obs. forms of WHAT, WAT, WOE, WATCH.

**Waicht,** obs. Sc. form of WEIGHT.

**Waid,** Sc. form of WADE v., WOAD.

**Waidge,** obs. Sc. form of WAGE.

**Waie,** obs. form of WAY, WEIGH *v.*

**Waif** (wēf), *sb.*[1] (and *a.*) Pl. **waifs.** Forms: 3–7 **waif,** 4–9 **waife,** 5 **wayffe,** 5, 7 **weife,** 6 **wayfe, wayff,** 6–7 **weife,** 7 **wafe, waiffe, weyfe, wayve, waive, wave,** 9 **waift.** 6– **waif.** *Also pl.* 5 **waywes,** 5 **weywes,** 6 **wayys,** 6–7 **waives.** See also WEFF. [a. AF. *waif, wayf* (Sk.), *weif, weyf* (Britton), *gwayf* (in Kennett), (Anglo-L. *waivum, wayvium, weyvium*) = OF. (Norman) *gaif, gayf* (fem. *gaive, gayve*) sb. and adj.; early mod.F. (Cotgr.) *vuayves* (sb.), and (*chozes*) *guesves* or *guyves*; prob. of Scandinavian origin, with the primary sense 'something astray or wandering'; cf. OIc. *veif* something flapping or waving (WAIF *sb.*[2]), related to *veifa* trans. to wave, vibrate. Cf. WAIVE *v.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. *Law.* A piece of property which is found ownerless and which, if unclaimed within a fixed period after due notice given, falls to the lord of the manor; e.g. an article washed up on the seashore, an animal that has strayed. Often *waif and stray* or † *straif*: cf. STRAY *sb.* 1. STRAIF.

Not evidenced as Eng. before 1377; the bracketed quots. represent the AF. use of 13–15th c., in which the word is often collect. sing. meaning lost property collectively or the right of the lord to such property.

[1293 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 275 Recognitum est..quod ad nos spectat le Gwayf & in terris nostris. 1298 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Wrek, wayf, stray, murthet. *c* 1300 *Fleta* I. xlvii. (1647) 60 Si quis..libertatem Weyvii habere clamans, animal vagans in feodo suo invenerit. 1309 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 115/1 Omnia Animalia quæ dicuntur Wayf,

Inventa. A prædictis terris. 1330 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 151 Dicte six marce seisnie fuerunt ibidem tanquam Wayf in manum prioris. 1400 in *Liber Custum.* (Rolls) 486 Quod prædictus Dux..haberet..omnimoda catalla vocata 'Way[illegible]et 'Stray'.]

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 94 Of wardes and wardmotes, weyues and straynes. 1461-70 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 126/2 All maner Wayffes and Strayes, and other godes forfeted. 1647 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 99 He and his predecessours.. have had view of Frank Pledge with assi and assaut and all other profits longing to a view. 1655 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 311/2 Wrecke of the Sea, Weyves, Estrayes. 1846 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 128 The sayde Leonard Sumpter fynd vnge the sayde Bryggs..dryv ynge with the streamys as a wayff and forsaken of all creatures toke and seased uppon the same as lawfull wayff and thynge forsaken. 1547 in J. H. Glover *Knaresborough* (1884) 93 That hill weyves and strays from hense forthe shalbe delyvered to the Baylie of the Thurbarrowes. 1602 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 22 When an owner cannot be found, the Common Law giveth it *Domino Regi*, as Waifs, Strays, Wreck of the Sea. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 292 Wrecks, treasure trove,.. waifs, and estrays, may be granted by the king to particular subjects, as a royal franchise: and indeed they are for the most part granted out to the lords of manors. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* II. iv. My Henry is a trooper of Woodstock, and left with right of waif and stray [etc.]. 1892 Ida Pfeiffer *Journ. Iceland* 85 He has a right to all the waifs, which is a privilege of some importance, on account of the wood drifted from the American continent. 1895 Kingsley *Heroes* vi. The country folk, who were prowling about the shore after the waifs of the storm.

*Incorrect use.* 1891 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* I. iii. 18 Hearing that a considerable treasure of ancient coins and medals has been found in the lands of Vidomar, Viscount of Limoges, King Richard sends forth a writ to claim this waif for himself.

**†b.** (See quots.) *Obs.*

1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 186 Waife is when a theefe hath feloniously stolne goodes, and beinge neerstye followed with hue, and crye,..flieth away and leaueth the goods..behinde him, then the queenes officer or the Reeue or Bailife to the Lord of the mannour..may seyze the goodes so wayued to their handes. 1610 W. Folkingham *Feudigraphia* iii. ii. 71 Waiues, Weifes, or waiued goods, import all goods and chattels, which being stolne, are left or forsaken by the thiefe in his flight. 1620 J. Henry *Life* 121 Waiefes are cattell stolne and weived out of the possession of him that stole them. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 286 Waifs, *bona waviata*, are goods stolen, and waived or thrown away by the thief in his flight, for fear of being apprehended.

**2.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1604 Donne *Devot.* xiii. (ed. 2) 312 What a Wayue, and Strye is that Man, that but by Markes vpon him? 1676 Marvell *Mr. Smirke, Hist. Eccl.* 49 Whensoever a Christian transgresses those bounds once, he is impoundable, or like a waife and stray whom Christ knows not, he fals to the Lord of the Manner. 1690 G. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 143 We are fain into our Lands..as wafes and strays; the Lord of the Manour seizeth on us for not paying our fines. 1785 Burns *Tour Highl.* (1787) 11 Sent the waifs and crocks, About the dykes? 1823 Scott *Peveril* xxxix, You are here a waif on Cupid's manor, and I must seize on you in name of the deity. 1848 Lewis *Superstitions* II. 4 I had no scruples of conscience in suffering all the waifs and strays of that conversation to float to me as freely as they would. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 139 Nothing in his mind Odd waifs of rhyme. 1877 Symonds *Sk. & Stud. Italy* (1879) 300 A *chiffonnier* of Paris,..when the night has fallen, goes into the streets..to rake up the waifs and straws in a day of whirling life has left him. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xviii. 398 He was now flung as a waif on the shore of a foreign land. 1918 F. Wood-Jones *Man's Ancestry* 4 Such are the figures of Australasians, the saints (with the exception of a few waifs) of pouched animals.

**b.** *esp.* A person who is without home or friends; one who lives uncared-for or without guidance; an outcast from society; an unowned or neglected child.

1781 Cowper *Task* iii. 80 'Twas hard, perhaps, on here and there a waif, Destrous to return, and not receiv'd. 1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* iv. I. 26 It's no possible..that such poor waifes could be guilty of any thing like that. 1857 Mrs. Gaskell *Tow-Table T.* I. 203 Some blest Alastia..wherein to gather up the waifs and strays that abound in the lye-ways. 1882 'Shirley' (J. Skelton) *Noga Cruc.* iii. 159 They are the waifs and strays, and outcasts always of society. 1893 *Children reclaimed for Life* 82 Little Jen Jervis was simply a friendless waif. 1906 *Whitaker's Almanack* 201, 13 Church of England—Waifs and Strays Society. Home for its lost & waif family of over 4,600 children.. Over 30,000 Children Rescued.

**3.** *Comb.*, as *waif-wize* adv.

1872 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Revol.* 63 Whose multiplying hands The world's web with divers laces fair And cast it waif-wize on the stream.

**B.** *attrib.* and *adj.*

**1.** *attrib.* or *appositive* (indicating lost property, a strayed animal, a homeless person, etc.).

1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Treat.* 130 Also wafe beast, after zeare and day, is eschet to the King. 1678 Sir C. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xiii. 8 iv. (1699) 98 He who finds a waife Beast, which hath strayed from the owner. 1681-2 *Radcliffe Household Book* (Northumb. Assizes), Mustayning a wave child in Distton, 11. 8d. 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 117 Where one finds strayed cattle, or other moveables, which have been lost by the former owner (waif goods). 1898 F. D. How *Waltham How* xix. 267 A Home for Waif Boys had been established.

**2.** *adj.* (*Sc.*) **a.** Stray, wandering, homeless: = Waff *a.* 1.

*c* 1320 Ramsay *Vision* i, Mylane I wandert waif and wae. 1820 R. Jamieson *Rosmer Hafmandiw. Pop. Ballads* II. 203 And wufland waif for eight lang years They saif'd upon the sea.

**b.** Applied to a report or saying: Floating, current. *Sc. rare.*

1733 *Stewart's Trial* Append. 100 Depones, That he heard a waif report in the country, that (etc.). 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xvii. 160, I have heard a waif word in the country ..that you were a hard man to drive.

**c.** Poor or inferior in quality; = Waff *a.* 2.

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* III. 164 It will be but a waiff kind of happiness.

**Waif,** *sb.*[2] [? a. ON. *veif*, something waving or flapping.]

**†1.** ? *A* convolution, coil. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. vii. 25 The grisly serpent sempyl sum tyme to be About hir hals a lynkyt guldin cheyne; And sum tyme of hir curche, lap with a waif, Becum the selvage or lesdoune of hir quayf.

**2.** A small flag used as a signal: = Waff *sb.* 1 b, Waft *sb.* 7. Now *Naut.*

1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 446 And the watch that lies in Sanct Nicholaes stepill to spy out the waifis than he hes, to the part of the toun he seis thame cumand to. 1830 Scott in *Chester's Waiton. Adm. sitv.* (1858) 213 Two waifs, or flags, were immediately set as a signal of distress. 1874 C. M. Scammon *Marine Mammals* 25 (Cent.) The officer who first discovers it [a whale] sets a waif (a small flag) in his boat, and gives chase.

**Waif** (wēf), *sb.*[3] [Cf. Weep, Waff *sb.*] Something borne or driven by the wind; a puff (of smoke, a streak (of cloud).

1824 Patmore *Angel in Ha., Betrothal* 28 The sunny wind that..shaped the clouds in waifs and sonies. 1879 R. H. Elliot *Written on their Foreheads* xxxiii. 11. 1 The first waifs of the hot-weather sea-borne breeze had in the evening begun faintly to fan the topmost heights of the border hill. 1880 J. Russell *Shepherd's Calendar* 132 Nothing but waifs of cloud and howling of wind.

**Waif** (wēf), *v.* [f. Waif *sb.*[1] Cf. Waive *v.*[1]] In *passive*: To be thrown up or cast away as a waif.

1848 Lever *Horsley* II. 291 I will hate this life of life and death over all stranded and waifed on his coast.

**Waif**, obs. form of Waive, Wave *vbs.*

**Waifingir**, var. Wavenger.

**Waift**: see Waft, Weft *sb.*[2]

**Waiftage**, obs. form of Waftage.

**Waig**, **Waigh**: see Wag, Weigh.

**Waight**, obs. form of Waift, Weight.

**Waigle**, Sc. form of Waggle.

**Waik**: see Vake, Wake, Weak.

**Waikin**, obs. Sc. form of Waken *v.*

**Waikrife**, obs. Sc. form of Wakerife.

**Wail** (wāl), *sb.* Also 5–6 **waile**, **wayle**. [Belongs to Wail *v.* Cf. ON. *væl* neut.]

**1.** The action of wailing; expression of pain or grief by prolonged vocal sound.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8110 Mid wop & wayling & wail, wetyng of lere. 1726-46 Thomson *Spring* 725 Till..the woods Sigh to her song, and with her [the bereaved nightingale's] wail resound. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 23 What accents slow, of wail and woe. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* v. i, Ah! a voice of wail! 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. II. iii. (1864) 35 He found such a power for misery in Hamlet. 1871 Smiles *Prob. Ch.* xi. i. (1873) IV. 2 A thousand children..with shrill unison of wail, sang out: 'Oh, deliver us from slavery!' 1885 Lyra Anglon *Songs Britany* (Ridg.) 55 There was weeping and wail from young and old.

**b.** *esp.* Sound of lamentation for the dead.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8119 The dole for pat doghty of his dere Rehersed Of weppyng & wetyng of hondes..no lettur might tell. 1818 Scott *Antiq.* xxvii, The widow o' the house of Glenallan wailed nae wail for the husband, nor the lassie for the father. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* 20, Wail smoke Earl Walter's house: till the wife and nurse. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xc, The dead, whose dying eyes Were closed with wail. 1882 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1887) I. v. 102 The wail 'There was a great cry in Egypt,' the loud, frantic, funeral wail, characteristic of the whole nation.

**2.** A cry of pain or grief, esp. if loud and prolonged.

1565 Geo. Eliot *Romola* vi. Every time we..directed our eyes towards it, our guide set up a wail. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. 2 The newborn babe begins his earthly course with a wail. 1900 F. T. Bullen *With Christ at Sea* xii. 223 Six of them died..and were dropped overboard amid the piercing wails of their companions.

**b.** *fig.* A bitter lamentation.

1589 Pappe *w. Hatchet* (Arb.) 24 (1860) 154 A long wail of anguish was rising from the persecuted all over France. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 104 The record, or rather the wail of the nativity. 1890 *Spectator* 1. 219 A cantata ..with a subtle wail of pain underlying the surface joyousness of the centric melody. 1893 M. Roberts *Salt of the Earth* 4 He made the whole glen a melancholy wail.

**†4.** A state of woe. *Obs. rare.*

1882 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. xxiii. (1716) 113 Dream not of any kind of *Metempsychosis*..but into thine own body, and that after a long time, and then also unto wail or bliss, according to thy first and fundamental Life.

**Wail** (wāl), *v.* Forms: 4–5 **weyle**, **waile**, 4–7 **wayle**, 5 **waille**, 6 **waill**, **wale** (**weale**), 4–7 **waile**, 6– **wail**. [Prob. a. ON. **veila* (cf. *veilan* wailing, Fritzner), I. *vei* int.: see Woe. The recorded ON. word is *væla* (whence *vól*, *vólan* wailing), f. *vá* int., synonymous with *vei*. Cf. Sw. dial. *väla*, Norw. *vøla* to bleat.]

**1.** *intr.* To express pain or sorrow by prolonged plteous cries. Often with reference to funeral lamentations.

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2563 Al pat folk he herd waile For pat erl of Cornewaile. 1380 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 261 A quoynt of men þo þronged to-gidres, Weopyed and waylyd for heore wikkede deden. 1386 Wyclif *Matt.* xi. 17 We han mourned to you, and ye han not weild. 1393 Gower *Conf.* II. 383 Alcone scholde gan to wepe and waile. 1400-20 Lydg. *Troy-bk.* iv. 3005 Pe faire queene Eleyne Wailleth, crieth wip a dedly chere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. v. 61 With that word schir brist out mony a teir, And wailit so that pietie was to heir. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* G iv b, Then may I wake and wayle the night, my bed wt teares besprent. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 7 Then gan she waile and weepe, to see that woefull stowre. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 7 My Mother weeping: my Father wayling: my Sister crying. 1829 Pollok *Course T.* x, Where ye shall weep and wail for evermore. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, Alexander Mac Stinger who had stopped in his crying to attend to the conversation, began to wail again. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 371 To address you, weeping and wailing and lamenting.

**b.** To cry pitcously *for* (something desired).

1573-80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 108 And God the holy Ghost, the soule of man doth winne, By inocuing his to waile for grace, ashamed of his sinne. *a* 1721 Gray *Dante* 45, I heard him wail for Bread.

**†c.** *transf.* Of the eyes: To weep. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1508 An humble gate, calme looks, eyes wayling still.

**2.** *transf.* Of birds, inanimate things: To give forth mournful sounds.

1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 23 Whilest thou wast hence,..The woods were heard to ring and eke many a system: all their birds with one witness to complaine. 1866 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* (revision) ii, The turtle waile on witherit treis. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* III. 109 O tell me, lonely Goddess! by thy harp, That waileth every morn and eventide. 1845 Dickens *Chimes* I. 2 As one not finding what it seeks,..it [sc. the night-wind] wails and bowls to issue forth again. 1850 Bethune *Shorter Poems* I. ii, A flock of gulls are wheeling and wailing round my seat.

**b.** Of music, etc.: To sound like a wail.

1892 Tennyson *Ode Death Wellington* 267 The Dead March wails in the people's ears: The dirge of him who sang *Ode to Duty* and *Ode to Immortality* and *Ode to Memory* and *Ode to Seaboard* 77 While the pibroch wildly wailing tells how all was lost and won.

**3.** To utter persistent and bitter lamentations or complaints. With clause or quoted words: To say lamentingly.

1535 *K. Alis.* 4653 (Laud MS.) Often he crieb, and often synneb waile, He wolde al Perse habbe ysaue And he might haue had his lyue. *c* 1588 *Old Wife's Lett. Sel. Wks.* III. 481 As hepen men skorned þo sabbatic of Jerusalem in per conquestis..as Jeromy weylep. 1885 Fiske *Æneid* I. (1558) A iv b, And therwithin on simoys beapes astis Hatul rage, and wailes in hem selues Troiines a tumbrel bound his wrastling not nuailes. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xii. 138 He went on wailing, complaining of his lot as a child complains. 1892 Hawthorne-Lothrop *Witty Aleen* II. 75 'I wish I was dead,' wailed the poor creature. 1902 *Times* 30 Sept. 10/2 'But I was going with him!' she wails.

**4.** To grieve bitterly.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 556 Art now faile in som devocioun And waylest for thy sinne and thyn offence? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Matt. v.* Scl. Wks. I. 408 Illumsid be þei þat wailen. *c* 1400 *Gesta Rom.* Harl. 7. (1846) 80 Then sore the symer waylithe, or is sory for his synne, he shalle be saf. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1276/1 Thei wayled and dyde payneffull penaunce for their synnes, to procure god to pitie them. 1556-9 *Songs & Ballads Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 13 For thou that be leale, He maketh them to waile, For faute of mete & drinke. And gentil wiues bothe Weaven *Mirr. Mart.* E j b, Though foolishnes it be, For treasure lost, to waile, or make great sorowe. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 III. xxiii. 268 Sit free and wail at that, which, for all we can say, proceedeth from a good intention, and tendeth to good issue, is pitifull frowardness. 1865 Neale *Hymns Parad.* 4 While she waits for her condition. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* iv. Yet it is held unmanly ..for a man to wail that he was not the son of another age and another nation.

**5.** *trans.* To bewail, lament, deplore. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical*. **a.** To lament, manifest or feel deep sorrow for (sin, misfortune, suffering, whether one's own or that of others).

1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 94 Ac for his wynnynge I wepe and waile þe tyme. *c* 1400 *Ante Sl. Benet* (E. E. T. S.) 129 Þeyly waylyng your synnes. 1535 Coverdale *Jeremiah* iv. xxxviii. (1839) 65 Yet weyle I more the weyinge of the kynges worshipp, than of þyn own dyssese. 1585 Caxton *St. Wenefryde* 3 Waylling the deth of their doughter. 1596 *Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W.* 1531) 140 Wepe and waile & wepe theyr negligences, & wymme that they had neuer slepte so longe. 1597 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govtnt.* 1580 II. 58 We should be greeved, and wail the same Greene, And wayle their wastes. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 123 Yet I must not,..but wayle his fall, Who I my selfe struck downe. 1607 May *Lucan* II. 72 C. Who now have time to waile Plebeian fates? 1671 Milton *Samson* 63 Strength.. proves the source of all my miseries; So many, and so huge, That each apart Would ask a life to wail. 1708 *Modest Enquiry into* I. in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1760) 221 Ay she wail'd her wretched life, And cry'd ever, Alake, my auld goodman. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. vi, To wood and stream his hap to wail. 1813 — *Rokeby* IV. xv, Never felt his soul the woe, That wails a generous foeman low. 1888 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. i. 418 Well then might Psyche wail her wretched fate. 1898 Meredith *Napoleon* v. Poet. Wks. (1912) 482 A broken carol of wild notes was heard As when an ailing infant wails a dream.

**b.** To lament, mourn bitterly for (the dead); to lament the absence or loss of.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Chron.* xxxv. 25 Al Juda and Jerusalem walleden hym [Vulg. *lamentauit eum*], Jeremyas most. 1837 Wesves *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 309 They neither esteemed him while he was living, nor wailed him at all, after that

he was dead. 1375 Pore *Oxfys.* xi. 216 If no more her absent Lord she waile. 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* III. xvi, The voice of the weeper Waila manhood in glory.

† **3.** To deplore the lot of. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6207 If ther be wolves of sich hewe Amonges these apostils newe, Thou, hooly chirche, thou mayst be wayled!

Hence **Wailed** *ppl. a.*, lamented.

1596 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 1398 Like as there is no weale, but wastes away sonnime, So every kind of waylful woe will weare away in time. 1598 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 51 To bring into the wailed grave, this Countesse courteous corse.

**Wail** : see Vail *v.*1, Veil *sb.*1, Walk *sb.*3, *sb.*5, *v.*1

**Wailaway,** obs. form of Wellaway.

**† Waile**1. *Obs. rare*—1, [? Alteration (or rhyme) of *toile* rule : see Roll *sb.*1]

1[3]. *K. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5334+8 (Petyt MS.) Tenaucius..had he regne all in his waile.

**† Waile**2. *Sc. Obs. rare*—1. ? A willow.

a 1512 Douglas *K. Hart* viii. 17 Thrid I be nyne, bow-sum and ane waile [*rhyme* begyle, quhyle, ourwyle], I sal be cruikit quhill I mak [him fule].

**Waile,** ? obs. var. Quail *v.*1

1552–90 tr. *Higden* (Caxton) I. 1. There be men also of v. cubites, whiche dye not, neither waile [L. *nec languens uult*].

**Waile** : see Vail *sb.*1, Veil *sb.*1, Wale *sb.*3 and *sb.*5, Wail.

**Wailer** (wē·lər). [f. Wail *v.* + -er 1.] One who wails ; *spec.* a professional mourner.

1697 Henham 1. A waiter or bewailer, *ploratrix*. 1822 Scott *Peveril* xlvii, Those dangers from which the pour blushing wailers of my sex shrink. 1852 G. W. Curtis *Nile Notes* xiii. 94 Before us a funeral procession was moving to the tombs, and the shrill melancholy cry of the wailers rang pitifully. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xiv. 544 A funeral with a train of wailers goes out presently towards the burial-ground. 1913 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1/2 These Bowls have been practised from childhood; they are led in chorus by a professional 'wailer'.

Hence **† Waileress,** a female wailer.

1588 Wyclif *Jer.* lv. 17 Clepe ye wymen that weilen [v.r. weilere-als].

**Wailoway,** obs. form of Wellaway.

**Wailful** (wē·lfūl), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. Wail *sb.* + -ful.]

**1.** Of cries, complaints, speeches : Having the character of a wail, expressive of grievous pain or sorrow. Of sounds : Resembling a wail, plaintive.

1544 Bedham *Precepts War* 1. clxiii. H vj, Suche owte-cryes and waylefull lamentation of women. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1590) 381 Their wailful voices, whose haste had delighted in waillfull duties. 1591 Sharp. *Two Gent.* iii. 1. 69 You must lay Lime, to tangle her desires By waileful Sonnets. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 103 A voice not shrecking or displeasing, but moaning and waileful. *c* 1730 Shenstone *Elegy* iv. 28 Then...Shall...Innocence indulge a waillful tear. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 18 ¶3 Her maids sang tirannas with a waillful monotony that wore my very soul out. 1859 Whiting *No. 5 John Street* xiv. 140 The waillful sweetness of the night, whose haste had hushed waters of the wind. 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Mar. 361/1 Everyone...was indulging in the vociferous brogue and waillful wail. Hence **Wailfully** *adv.*

**2.** Full of lamentation, sorrowful.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 81 (Ly Ewes. Like waillful widdowes longen their clags. *a* 1765 Shenstone *Love & Honour* 21 She, she alone, amid that waillful train Of gentle maids, assigned to Henry's care. 1855 M. Arnold *Balder Dead* i, 176 Then must he not regard the waillful ghosts. 1869 Meredith *Pacific* 1. 1 The waillful lost were the wives of his craftsmen widowed there by her watery music!

**b.** *transf.* Of animals or inanimate things : Producing plaintive sounds.

1618 Kente *Eudym.* c. 450 A waillful gnat. 1820 — *Lo Autumn* 27 Then in a waillful note thou sing'st the small grass mourn. 1870 G. Macdonald *Wilfrid Cumb.* I. xii. 176 A waillful wind made one moaning sweep through the trees. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Sept. 16 Or e'er he joinèd his waillful flock. 1889 Meredith *Ballads & Poems* 157 The tremulous Ever-waillful trees bemoaning him.

**† 3.** Of mournful aspect. *Obs.*

1597 Phaer *Æneid.* viii. (1558) T iv, This dolefull dame vpstertes, with waylful wyngles [*Dunlop...alitis*]. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* E iij, With waillful weeds I clad my corps. 1579–80 Henderson *Chrom.* 1. 1. 1. They fainted punishment...with wailefull countenance craued mercie.

**† 4.** That is to be bewailed, lamentable. *Obs.*

*a* 1547 Surrey *Recitc. Ivc.* 10 That neuer felt the waylfull wrongs that mortall folke receiue. *Æneid* iv. 6 The Phrygian wealth, and waillful realm [L. *lamentabile regnum*] of Troy. 1586 Gabrowne *Jocasta* 1. 1. 19, I must to thee recompte The wailefull thing that is shortly spead. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* Ep. Ded. to Baynes, Who knew my cares, who wist my wailefull woe. 1592 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iv. 38 Farre better I it deeme to die with speed, Then waste in woe and wailefull miserie. *c* 1600 Ibrton *Christ Pembroke's Passion* (Grosart) 5/2 But if these wept to see his waylefull case: Why dye not I to thinke on his disgrace?

Hence **Wai·lfully** *adv.*

1622 Colon, *Dolorencement*, dolourously; heavily, sorrowfully, wailefully, mournfully. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* II. 217 The glass did not say so, but the shrunken heart within him did, and waillfully too. 1906 Smaith *Brake of Cor.* 283 No voice crying in the wilderness can sound more waillfully to human ears.

**Walling** (wē·lilŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wail *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7823 (Laud MS.), Michel spray mychel gealjug Michel weap mychel waylying. 1562 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 41 Than Esau..seide in his herte, The dayes of weilyng of my fader shal come, and I shal slee Jacob. *a* 1400 *Pyvmer*

Pa. xxxviii. 8 (1895) 29 V reorid for be weilyng of myn herte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7255 Myche weping & wo, waylyng of ierle. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. viii. 83 With dulefull sorke and wailing all is confoundit. 1530 Palsgr. *Lesclar. Ivorde* 1. 1. 1.

used at Scorelby. 1868 Atkinson *Cleveland Gloss.* s.v., The veritable Wain, now never seen, was a narrow, long-bodied vehicle, with two wheels only, and these at the hinder end. The front or forenoast end trailed along the ground.

**c.** *poet.* A car or chariot. Chiefly *fig.* or in mythological use. In ME. often applied to the Four Gospels, symbolised as a four-horsed chariot (= *L. quadriga*).

*c* 1200 Ormin Pref. 21 Patt wappn iss nemmnedd quahþrigan Þatt hafe þý fowres wheless. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21262 Four ar þat tald, be wangelistes Þat draues be wain þat es cristes. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 258 See now þe secunde wheel in his dennise wayn. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* i. 830 Wher halwed is þe standyng estyval Of fresche Appollo with his golden Wayn. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 74 Phebus gan mande, His weary wayne. 1590 — *F. Q.* i. iv. 19 May seeme the wayne was very euill led When such an one had guiding of the way, That knew not, whether right he went, or else astray. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 86 Not when the moon accomplishing her wny Upon her silver wayne.. presents the day. 1708 Dr. For *Jure Divino* ii. 259 [They] jointly drive the Wain of Government. 1714 *Steele's Poet. Misc.* 212 He..charm'd the Wain of Night along, With his soft harmonious Song. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* April xx, They set on high upon the bridal wain Her bed for her, and all on one corpse thereon.

*Proverb.* 13.. *All too Late* 7 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 300 At to late..al to late, þan is to wayn atte yate. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* i. 640 Than to cry mercy is to lait, The wane þan standis at þe yate.

**d.** A two-wheeled, wagon-load.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* iv. x. (1614) 398 Thither they bring euery yeare an hundred and fifty waines of twigges.

**†e.** poet. *Winged wain*, a ship. *Obs.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. i. iii *Furies* 194 The Masters skilfull mate, With sayles quite gules driv'n to the whistling Coast. Not with lesse labour guide there winged wayns On th'aaure fore-head of the liquid plains.

**2.** The group of seven bright stars in the constellation called the Great Bear: more fully **Charles's Wain.** *Lesser Wain*: the similarly shaped group of seven stars in the Little Bear.

OE. had *wæner Mt* or *ftela*, 'pole or poles of the wain'. With Scott's 'Arthur's slow wain' cf. 'Arthouris Plowe', Lydg. *Chron. Troy* i. 682; Arthur here represents Arcturus, regarded as the tenement of the slow-moving Bear of night or winter.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Swa awa tungla..þe wa hata'h nemen Siala. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iv. met. v. 5 Who so þou..wot nat why the sterres..about the wardeyne gaderth hir wynes. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 280 We lodged them to hee the charioote or wayne of the south. 1601 Holland *Pliny* iv. xxii. I. 230 The starres about the North pole, called Septentriones, the Waines or Iteares. 1609 Stubry *Mariner's Mag.* vi. 95 The..two Bears..Whose hinder parts and Tails contain The lesser and the greater Wayne. 1703 Pope *Thebaid* 321 When clouds concend Either golden wain. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* i. xvii, Arthur's slow wain his course doth roll In utter darkness round the pole. 1821 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xxiii. 7 The wain, that in the bosom of our sky, Spins ever on its axle night and day. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cl, At noon or when the lesser wain Is wheling round the polar star. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 437 *The-wain-and-horses*, sb., Ursa Major. 1889 Bowen *Æneid* i. 744 Bright Arcturus, the showery Hyades, the Bear, and the Wain.

**¶ 3.** A rendering of L. *plaustrum* (lit. 'wagon') used in the Vulgate for a kind of thrashing instrument with wheels.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xli. 15, I haue set thee as a newe wayn [1609 *Douay*, a newe threshing wayne] threshende. 1776 Lowth *Isa.* xxviii. 27–28 Nor is the wheel of the wain made to turn upon the cummin: But the dill is beaten out with the staff, And the cummin with the flail: but the breadcorn with the threshing-wain.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Obvious combinations, as † *wain-axtree*, *-blade* (Blade *sb.* 10 b), *-body*, † *-cart*, *-driver*, *-fellee*, † *-folk*, *-gear*, *-head* (also attrib.), *-horse*, *-load*, *-wheel*.

1599 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 136 One pare of newe car wheles, both †waine axtre tres [etc.]. 1557 *Ibid.* 101 A pare of †waine bladys. 1390–91 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 392 In factura unius †waynbody, 6 d. *a* 1568 R. Edwards *Damon & P.* (Sch.) F 3 b, preached of late not farre hence, in no Pulpet, but in †Wayne carte, That spake enough of this. 1552 Huloet, †Wayne dryuer, *ingurius*. 1562 *Priory of Pinchale* (Surtees) 9; iiii, j grange de †waine-felles de fraxino. 1568 *Wills Northern. C.* (Surtees) 1 Two gang of wayne fellowes w^th heades and moldebardes. 1641 Best *Farm. Bk.* (Surtees) 53 It is a greate furtherance to have one to teame the waine whiles that the †waindoores are att breakefast. 1538 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 75 All maner of.. †wayne geir. 1587 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 198 Waynes and wayne geares. 1592 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 59 One †waynehedeyoke, one boit and one shakill. 1597 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 101 One pryon bound wayne.. with wayne bed, [etc.]. 1589 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 188 An yrone bounde wayne with a turne teame and a waine head shakle. 1707 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 71 The Steward should see that the Wain-Horses and Oxen be mustled, to prevent their cropping the young Springs. 1860 Hughes *Favourite Village* 57 The stout wain-horse of encumbrance strips. 1877 B. Goode *Hereford's Husb.* II. 101 h, An other [oak] in an other place, that being cutte out, made a hundred †Wayne lode. 1700 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1883) IV. 238 A wainload of timber, 8 oxen and an horse. 1592 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 136 One pare of newe †waine wheles.

**b.** Special comb.: † **wain-beam**, the pole of a wagon (used to translate L. *temo*); † **wain-clout**, the iron covering for the axle-tree of a wagon (see Clout *sb.*[2] 2); † **wain-cope** (see quot. and Cope, Cop *sb.*[1]); **wain-dakes** *dial.* [= M.L.G. *wagenvlechte*], the movable side-boards of a wagon, used to increase its carrying capacity; † **wain-fork**, a fork used in the loading of a wagon; † **wain-gate** 1 [Gate *sb.*[1]], a gate for wains to pass through; † **wain-gate** 2 [Gate *sb.*[2]], a cart-track, wagon-road; **wain-house** (*obs. exc. dial.*), a wagon-house, cart-shed; † **wain- money**, ? tolls collected from wains (*E.D.D.*); † **wain-rake**, a rake used in the loading of a wagon with hay, etc.; † **wain-shackle**, ? a coupling for a wagon (see Shackle 5 a); **wainstang** *dial.*, the projecting pole of a cart on either side of which oxen or horses may be yoked; † **wainstring**, ? = Wain-rope; † **wain-stroke**, a curved segment forming part of the iron rim or tire of a wagon wheel (cf. Stroke *sb.* 4); **wain-trees** *dial.*, the axle-beams supporting the wagon; † **wain-way**, a wagon-road; † **wain-weight**, ? a wagon-load.

1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* iii. 42 Let it creake afterwards, and let the brasen †waine beame strong Draw both the wheele together loind. 1630 Hohn & Ros. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unl.* Foundat. T 9 One overcom with wine guid's the wain-beam [L. *temonem*] inuibly. 1454 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 149, ij †wayneclowez. 1543–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 The wheles..must haue an axiltre, clout with viii. waincloutes of yron. 1396 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 259, v tennes, ij horse-teames.., vij wayne cloutes [etc.]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 339/2 The †waine Cop, that on which the Under Oxen are yoaked under draw the Waine. *c* 1760 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Cart*, The Wain-Cope, is a long piece that comes out from the Wain-body, to which Oxen are fasten'd. 1570 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 101 In his yard and parke..a pare of †waine fleaks. 1796 *Whitby Gloss., Wainfleaths*, the moveable side-boards of the waggon, adapted to heighten it. 1641 Best *Farm. Bk.* (Surtees) 53 Appointed to each waine three fellowes, a forker and a loader; and theire implements which they are to carry to field with them is a †waine-forke and a waine-rakes; theire waineforke should bee in length aboute two yardes and a quarter. *c* 1680 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1849) II. 108 Richard Butcher..took out of y^e highway well nigh two rood of land, and made an enclosure of it, and set up a †wean gate and horse gate. 1396 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1620, 424/1 Cum lie cairt and wane gait ad easdem [morag]. 1661 *Reg. Gt. Seal Scot.* 1874 Therefore alongst one old waingate till you come to the Seggleyke. *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 34 With other out hownes os followith..the furnoot barne..the †wayn howse [etc.]. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* s.v. Carro, A kind of wagon, the company all attend the bailiff (or head of the oxen) to the Wainhouse. 1808 Cass *Craven Gloss., Wain-house*, wagon house or cart house. 1662 *Untrodden Church Bks.* (E. D. D.) Received of the his ward †waine money, 16s. 1641 Best *Farm. Bk.* (Surtees) 46 Theire †waineaxes haue (for the most parte) 4 inches square in the eye, made of seasoned ashe, and theire teeth of iron. 1559 *Richmond Wills* (1853) 136, ij †waine shackles. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* †*Waintaings*, the projections from the front of a waggon for carrying stone blocks. 1464 *Inv. in Feodar. Priorat. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 102, i cowpe-wayne cum †waynstryngs, precium iij s. 1396 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 259, vij †waine clouties, ij hay spades,..a †wayne stoke [etc.]. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Waintrees*, the axle-beams supporting the wagon. 1579 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 189 The †whene ways repayred. 1641 Best *Farm. Bk.* (Surtees) 38 The waine-way into this close is aboute the middle of Timber lane, wheare yow are to pull downe a gappe. 18.. *Burgh Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 47 Item of a †wayne weicht of leid, that is to say xxiij futemellis, iiij d.

† **Wain**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **wayne**, 4 **wayn**. [a. OF. *wain* masc., *waaigne* fem., dial. var. of *gain*, *gaaigne*: see Gain *sb.*[2]]

1. Profit, advantage.

*c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* 199 Þe fyfte, þat hyt lyf Ryygge, Geyst vnbyleue, is wayne. 1320 *Ayenb.* 43 Hiin ne dest nayt to done..grat harm to oþren nor a lite wayn oþer uor ureme to him.

2. Consent, possession gained by conquest; also, booty, spoil.

*c* 1339 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1481 Peyr ffiote wyp al þer wayne Turnede fro be lond of Spaigne. *Ibid.* 1678 Ac þis nou Brutus wayne, Þerfore he dide þis castle Britayne. 1338 *Chron.* (1810) 297 We rede þe sentte to be kyng of Almayn, & 3our londes to defende, & reue Philip his wayn. *Ibid.* 297 Þe Scottis bare þam wele, þe Walcis hede he wayn, & maistere of þat eschele.

† **Wain**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* In 5 **wayn(e, wayyn**. [Of obscure origin.] A hem, border.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayne, of a garlement [*v.r.* wayn, wayyn, *Pynson* of a garment], *lacinia*.

† **Wain**, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Forms: 3 *pres.* **wæzneð**, **wayne**, 4–6 **wayne**, 6 **waine**, 7 **wein**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To transport in a wain or carriage.

*c* 1200 Ormin Pref. 37 Goddspell forr þatt ilke þing Isn Cyrrus Salomonnes, For þatt itt..Wayzneþ soþ Crist fra Israhell. *Ibid.* 5909 Þær þa þe Laferd Crist unnte þrawe selff, & tiderr iss he wayzneddt Uppo þatt hallþe wazzn. 1531–2 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 60 Pro navigacione ulne avene cum le wayenyng x but malvesei, 6 d. 1696 Bibble *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 10 Before that by the Libitinarian cure the dead was weind, the Pollinctors inbalmed the corps of the great.

2. To carry, bring, convey.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 2459 Hys wayned me þis wonder, your wyttes to reue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 249 What wyrde has hyder my iuel vayned. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iii. ii. O ij, Pamphagus wold wayne or bring no geste to Sannios bowse, but he were riche. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 107 Then neighbour..if any you see, good servant for dairie house, waine her to mee.

**b.** ? To bring a report of.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 21520 He coost at the kyng,..Enoas eftsones þat erend for to wend..All þere wille for to wete & wayne at þe last.

**3.** *intr.* To go, rush. [Perh. a different word: cf. ON. *vegna* to proceed, go on.]

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7621 A thondir with a thicke Hayn thrablit in þe skewes,..As neuer water fro the welkyn bade waynit before. *Ibid.* 7633 Ector, wrathed at his wordis, waynit at the kyng, bat he gird to be ground and the gast yaid. *Ibid.* 13796 [Ho] Waynyt vp to the welkyn, as a wan clowde.

**Wain**: see Vain *a.*, Wane *sb.*[1], v., Wean *v.*

† **Wainable**, *a. Law. Obs.* [AF. dial. var. of *gaignable* Gainable.] = Gainable.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wainable*, (in old Deeds) that may be Manured, or Ploughed; Tillable.

**Wainage** (wē·nėdʒ). *Hist.* Also 6 **waynage**. [ad. Anglo-L. *wainagium*: see Gainage.]

1. = Gainage 3 (q.v. with regard to erroneous interpretations).

*c* 1300 tr. *Cf. Charter* in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 217 A villayne other than ours the same wine shalbe amerced, sauyng his waynage yf he falle into our handis. *a* 1652 Cose *Inst.* ii. xiv. (1642) 28 It was great reason to save his wainage, for otherwise the miserable creature, is not to carry it on his back. 1700 J. Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 814 His Wainage (i.e. his Carts and Implements) to Till his Land.

**2.** Land under cultivation.

1893 *Statutes Canut.* (Liebr.) I. xii. 310 That they would..declare how many carucates, or what wainage for ploughs, there were in each township. 1898 W. Farrer *Cartul. Cockersand Abbey* III. 1, 58 The whole service of multure at the grantor's mill of his house and wainage.

† **Wainbote**. *Law. Obs.* Also **weane-boot**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + *bote*, Foot *sb.*[2] Cf. M.L.G. (13th c.) *wagenbote*.] The allowance of timber which a tenant had the right to cut for the repair of his wains.

1721 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 61 (Customs of Manor of Hatell) Plough-boot and weane-boot. 1828–32 Webster.

**Wainoot**, obs. form of Wainscot.

**Waine**: see Vain *a.*, Wane *sb.*[1], v., Wean *v.*

**Wainer** (wē·nəɹ). *rare.* In 5 **weynher**, 6 **weyner**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + -er[1].] (= 13th c. -yere.) The driver of a wain, a wagoner.

*a* 1500 *Tretyce* in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 50 Se þat yor weynheris haue no poketes betwene þer legges to stelle withe. 1566 *Shropshire Cert. Loc. Inc.* (1903) I. 1, 55 Weyners. 1840 Galt *Demon of Destiny* 77 Aghast the wainers stood.

**Wainscoat**, obs. form of Wainscot.

**Wainful**. *rare.* [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + -ful.] As much as a wain will hold, a wain-load.

1713 Lady G. Baillie *Household Bks.* (S. H. S.) 246 For a wainfull Dails bringing from Berwick, o 6 10.

† **Waining**, *vbl. sb. Obs.*[1] [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 383/2 *Ververra*,..the waining or turning at y^e lands end, where one furrow endeth and another beginneth. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Reverseure*.

**Waining**, obs. f. Waning; var. Woning *Obs.*

**Wainman** (wē·nmăn). Also 4 **waynesman**. [f. Wain *sb.*[1] + Man.]

1. = Wainer. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1292 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 180 Duobus waynemen de Dansk pro eodem viagio, iiij marcz. pr. Cuidam waynesman de Dansk pro eodem viagio, ij marcz. pr. 1425 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 283 j wayn-man. 1531 Dial. 1. 19 And sowe the wayn-man. 1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Spn. Sylva* 42 A Carter, a Waine man. *Antiga* (etc.). 1609 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 154 Item paid to the waineres that brought the stone and for there drinkes, ix d. 1629 *Act 3 Chas. I*, c. 2 § 1 No Carrier with any Horse or Horses..nor Waynemen with anie Wayne or Waynes..shall..travell upon the said Day. 1798 P. Browne *Jamaica* 193 The leaves..yield a strong thready substance..which is commonly used in ropes and whips by the wainmen in that part of the world. 1880 C. Gibbon *Under Q. Eliz.* I. 15 At Canterbury..a holy-oil stock was emptied of its sacred contents, in order to grease the creaking wheels of a wainman's cart.

† **2.** The constellation Bootes, regarded as the teamster of 'Charles's Wain'. *Obs.*

1588 A. Ashley *Mariners Mirr.* A 6 b, A catalogue of the more famous fixed starres..The Wainmans right shoulder. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iii. 1. 69 And now the Wainman..with stay drawe His slow-pac'd Teeme. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. iv. 920 Besides these Twelve, toward the Artick side, A flaming Dragon doth Two-Beare divide; After, the Wainman comes, the Crowne, the Speer [etc.].

**Wainny**, obs. form of Waney *a.*

**Wain-rope**. *Obs.* or *arch.* **a.** A rope used as a trace for drawing a wain. (Cf. *cart-rope.*) **b.** A rope used for binding or securing a load on a wain.

1391 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 129, ij waynrape novi. 1441–2 *Ibid.* 79 Item in x Waynrapes, 3s. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 40 Arme your prize-taken prisoner..with wain-rope! 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. iv. 920 Besides these Twelve, toward the Artick side, A flaming Dragon doth Two-Beare divide; After, the Wainman comes, the Crowne, the Speer [etc.].

**Wainny**, obs. form of Waney *a.*

**Wain-rope**. *Obs.* or *arch.* **a.** A rope used as a trace for drawing a wain. (Cf. *cart-rope.*) **b.** A rope used for binding or securing a load on a wain.

1391 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 129, ij waynrape novi. 1441–2 *Ibid.* 79 Item in x Waynrapes, 3s. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 40 Arme your prize-taken prisoner..with wain-rope! 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. iv. 920 Besides these Twelve, toward the Artick side, A flaming Dragon doth Two-Beare divide; After, the Wainman comes, the Crowne, the Speer [etc.].

**Wainsey**, obs. form of Wansey.

**Wainscot** (wē·nskŏt, -skŏt), *sb.* Forms: **a.** 4–5 **waynescot**, (4 **-scote**), 4–7 **waynscot**, 5–6 **wayn(e)scotte**, **wayneskote**, **weynscot**, (5 **-scotte**, 6 **-skot**), 5–7 **waynscote**, **-scott**, (5 **wenscote**, **wanaqwatte**, **waneskott**, **wayn-skote**, **waynscowettes** (*pl.*), **Sc. wanskoth**), 6 **wayn(e)skott**, **wenskot(te**, **weinscot**, **wainscoot**, (**weanscott**, **wainscoate**, **wanskot**(**k**, **wenskets**, **Sc. wynscott**), 6–7 **wa(i)nscote**, **wainskot**, **wanescot**, (6 **-skot**, 7 **-scott**), 6–8 **wain-**

**scot4, wanscoat, (? vain-, *Sr.* vandscott, wean-scot, waynskot, wayn-scote, waincot), 7–9 wainscoate, (8 wanscoate), 6– wainscot. *S. & north.* waynscholte, wandshoth, § waynshe4, 6 wa(y)ne-, wayneschot. [ad. MLG. *wagenschot* (1389 in Schiller and Lübben), app. f. *wagen* carriage, WAGON + *schot* (of uncertain meaning; *cf. bohenschot*, mod.LG. *böhenschot*, beechwood of superior quality). *Cf.* 16th c. Flemish *waegheschot*, *waeghenschot* (Kilian), WFlemish *wageschot* (De Bo), Da. *wagenschot*, WFris. *wagenshot*. The synonymous Flem. or Du. *wandschot* (Kilian), which may be the source of some of the Eng. forms, is either an etymologizing perversion of *wagenschot* or an independent formation on *waand* wall of a room. The Eng. examples of the word are earlier than those given in the MLG. and MDu. dicts., and the first element appears already in the earliest instances assimilated to the Eng. WAIN *sb.*]**

**The** etymology as above stated does not clearly account for the meaning, and there have been attempts to explain the first element differently. Kilian (1598) identifies it with Flem. *waeghe* wave, taken to refer to the undulation in the grain of the wood. Some modern scholars regard it as an alteration of MDu. *wegg* wall (= OFris. *wtch*, OE. *wah*, Wood). These suggestions are however open to strong objection, and the probability is that the first element is really *wagen*, though the original meaning of the compound remains for the present obscure.)

**1.** A superior quality of foreign oak imported from Russia, Germany, and Holland, chiefly used for fine panel-work; logs or planks of this oak; oak boarding for panel-work. Now only *technical*.

1352–3 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 153 Item solut. pro cc et dimid. de Waynescot empt. ad Lenne prec. de cent. xvs. xd. ii. 38 T. 1391–2 *Pipe Roll* (Mich.) Exp. Pell tabulis de Waynescot. 1404 in *Royal & Hist. Lett. Hen. IV* (Rolls) I. 262 Nova navis cum tritico, braseo, farina...et lignis vocatheniscot? [read: waghenscot] 1409 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 238 De chescun c du bord appelle 'wayneostes' silver. 1422 *Rec. St. Mary Hill* (1904) 66 Also for waynskote, vj d. 1483 *Churchw. Acc. S. Mary Virg., Oxford in MS. Wood D.* 3 fol. 960 De 4 a solut pro 4 assertibus vocat: weynshet. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 272 Item for waynscotte. 1498 *Acts Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 230 Item, for xxiij burdis cailit wanskoth, xvj s. viij d. 1522 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 127 A bordc chestc of wayne scott. 1542 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 60 The Dutchemen bryng ouer Iron, Tymber, lether and Weynskot ready wrought. 1550 *Reg. Magc. Sig. Scot.* 19/1 Excepta...300 assertibus querneis *lie wanescheit nuncupatis*. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij b, Playing tables Flaunders making of wainscot the dozen xvs. 1589 [? NARES] *Alcumist for Parrot* 1 A brother in Christ of his...kept his wainscot from waste, and his linnen from wearing; sufficeth he tombled his wife naked into the earth at high noone. 1610 CERVAT *Crucifixe* 231 In the midst of the Synagogue they haue a round seat made of Wainscot. 1630 LEIGHTON *Tears* 252 Seeing a wedge of Wainscot is fittest and most proper for cleaving of an oaken tree. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 108 An ordinary wainscot bedstead. 1678 *Mag. Sig. Scot.* 19/4 Excepta...300 assertibus querneis *lie wanescheit nuncupatis*. 1683 *Rates of Customs* D vij b, Playing tables Flaunders making of wainscot the dozen xvs. 1589 [? NARES] *Alcumist for Parrot* 1 A brother in Christ of his...kept his wainscot from waste, and his linnen from wearing; sufficeth he tombled his wife naked into the earth at high noone. 1610 CERVAT *Crucifixe* 231 In the midst of the Synagogue they haue a round seat made of Wainscot. 1630 LEIGHTON *Tears* 252 Seeing a wedge of Wainscot is fittest and most proper for cleaving of an oaken tree. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 108 An ordinary wainscot bedstead. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 105 Of Wainscoting Rooms. *Ibid.* 106 In Wainscoting of Rooms there is, for the most part, but two heights of Pannels used; unless the Room to be Wainscoted be above ten foot high. 1730 W. WARREN *Collect.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 232 The Treasury...is wainscoted with Deal. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi. This apartment...was now beautifully wainscoted with dark foreign wood. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. iii. Pr. Wks. 1886 II. 162 It was a large room...wainscoted with pine. 1883 G. MOORE *Mod. Lover* xiv. [The room] was wainscoted in light oak.

*in fig. context.* a 1700 T. BROWN *Quakers Grace* Wks. 1730 I. 107 That we...may live to be saw'd out into deal-boards, to wainscot thy New Jerusalem.

**b.** To grain in imitation of oak.

1839 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The house...was fresh painted and peppered from top to bottom; the paint inside was wainscoted.

**2.** *transf.* To line (the walls of an apartment) with marble, tiles or the like; to panel (a wall with mirrors or pictures).

1623–39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 50 To wainscot their Buildings with rich Stones. 1680 DONNE *Verus. a Apr.* (1661) III. 158 The Scriptures are as a room wainscotted with looking-glasse, we see all at once. 1688 LASELS *Italy* (1698) I. 93 Witness those chambers...wainscoted with great Looking-glasses and rich gilding. 1708 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett. Orient.* (1763) I. 160 Mar. The whole apartment was wainscoted with inlaid work of mother of pearl. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. II. i. 5 The east side of it within is wainscoted with fine and beautiful marbles. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 14 Oct., The ladies' closet wainscotted with large squares of glass over painted paper. 1805–7 J. HEARNE-DON *Mem. Gen. Fam. Levins.* viii. (1870) 154 But enough ...of Portraits; though, in truth, the walls are wainscotted with them.

Hence **Wal-nscot(s)ed** *ppl. a.*

1629 EBENDELLE *Pro. Gard.* 82 b, God grant me alwaies the key of th. fieldes, I would like it better, then to be in bondage in the fayrest wainscoted or tapistred Chamber. 1654 TRYPLET *Script. Herbal* 1 Wainscoted Parlours did build their Magnificent Houses,...and Wain-scotted Rooms therewith (Cedar). 1824 SCOTT *Waw.* iv, The apartment of Colonel Talbot...was divided from the hall by a wainscoted partition. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The little wainscoted back parlour. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daus.* xiii, They were taken...into a wainscoted parlour.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1626 F. HUBNER [tr. *Oberndoerffer's Anat. True Physit.* I, This lost Companion [a quack] hauing a Foxes Head and whorish and wainscoted Face.

† **Wainscotage.** *Obs.* [WAINSCOT *v.* + -AGE.] Wainscot-work, wainscoting.

1677 tr. *Tavernier's Gr. Seignor's Seraglio* xv. 73 Yet is there a delicate piece of Wainscotage, of about the height of a man's face, carried round the Room.

**Wainscot(t)ing,** (wē·nskptiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WAINSCOT *v.* + -ING1.] The action or process of lining a room, its walls, etc. with wainscot; also *concr.*, panelling of wainscot; also, wainscots collectively.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Lambris*, a seeling, wainscotting. 1612 COTGR., *Lambrissage*, a wainscotting, or seeling: also, an enbowing, or frettiaing in wainscot. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 870 He...bestowed 100. markes vpon wainscotting of the Hall. 1653 WALTON *Angler Life Hale* 39 He laid by all his Collections..., and that they might not fall into ill hands, he hid them behind the Wainscotting of his Study. 1711 in Fox Bourne *Engl. Seamen* (1841) I. 206 He must sink perhaps a third part, nay, half his stock, in painting and gilding, wainscoting and glazing. 1764 HANNER *Chron.* II. 82 Their carved wainscottings of wood heightened with painting and gilding. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Doctor's Commons*, An old quaint-looking apartment, with sunken windows, and black carved wainscotting. 1859 Geo. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I, The afternoon sun was warm on the five workmen there, busy upon doors and window-frames and wainscoting. 1869 'LEWIS CARROLL' *Phantasmagor* 37 But after twenty years or so The wainscoting began to go.

**Waint,** obs. Sc. form of VAUNT *v.*

1513 WISHART in *Wyntoun, Cron.* VI. (S.T.S.) II. 37 Ioct Apollinaris in a manner erakin and wantis that he can sentis in deid to the vnitie of the Trinitie.

**Wainwright** (wē·nrəit). [f. WAIN *sb.*1 + WRIGHT. In OE. *wæg-wyrhta*. Not found in ME., but its existence is implied by the surname *Wainwright*.] A wagon-builder.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 112 *Carpentarius*, wænwyrhta. 1869 HYDE CLARKE *Dict., Wainwright*, wagonwright. 1891 MERRIFIELD *Dict. of our Comp. Six*, A rill, that was lured a little further down through sewages, ducts, and scaffolded channels to serve a wainwright.

**Wainy,** variant of WANEY *a.*

**Waipone, Waippin,** obs. Sc. ff. WEAPON.

† **Wair,** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. A piece of timber two yards long and one foot broad.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxix. 85 A Tree [an oak]...which yielded of sawn Wair fourteen hundred, and by estimation, twenty Chords of wood. A Wair is two yards long, and one foot broad, as score to the hundred of Deals. The said Tree was 100lo foot of Boards. Hence 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* ed. 3), and in later Dicts.

† **Wair,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*—1. ? Wild, stormy.

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Prauch. Swallow* xii, Bewis bene ate laiftl hair of bliss, Be wickit winds of the winter wair.

**Wair,** obs. form of *were*, pa. ind. pl. of BE *v.*

**Wair(e, Waird, Wairding, Wairdour, Wairdrope,** Sc. or north. ff. WARE, WEIR, WARD, WARDING, WARDER, WARDROBE.

**Wairn,** obs. Sc. form of WARN.

**Wairsche, wairsh,** var. ff. WERSH *a.*

**Wairstall**, -staw, var. ff. WARESTALL *Sc.*

**Wais**: see WALL, WASH, WAVE, WAY.

**Waisall, waissel**, var. ff. WASSAIL.

**Waische, waisshe**, obs. forms of WASH *v.*

**Waisoot**, obs. form of WAISTCOAT.

**Waist** (wēst). Forms: 4–6 **waast**, 4–7 **wast**, 4–8 **waste**, 5 *Sc.* **west**, 7 **wayst**, 5, 7– **waist**. [4th c. *wast*, believed to represent an OE. **wæst*, **wæhst*, corresp. to ON. **wahstr-r* (Icel. *vøxtr*, Sw. *växt*, Da. *vext*), Goth. *wahstw-s*, growth, size, f. Teut. root **wax-* : see WAX *v.*]

1. With regard to the form cf. OE. *wæstm*, growth, fruit :—O Teut. type **waxtmo-z* from the same root. With regard to the meaning cf. F. *taille*, where the sense 'waist' appears to be developed from the sense 'size (of body)'. The word (in the form *waxtle*, which may be either native or Scandinavian) app. occurs with the sense 'greatness' in the following quot.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Je fader ine be sunu on bre wise. On waxte [*Trin. Hom.* iv. on westme], for he is muchel and mihti ouer alle ping.

The spelling *waast* was rare until it was adopted in Johnson's Dict. 1755.]

**1.** The portion of the trunk of the human body that is between the ribs and the hip-bones; the middle section of the body, normally slender in comparison with the parts above and below it.

In quot. *c* 1480 humorously misused.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 142 But his wombe & his wast were worthily smale.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* Prol. 10 He in the waast is shape as wel as I. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 37 Whan I beclipe hire on the wast. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3060 Dyomede.. Halfe-lyuelis .. felle. With a wicked wound thurgh the wast euyn. *c* 1440 *Anturs of Arth.* 378 (Douce MS.) He bronched him pre withe his brande..þoughe he waast of he body. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1150 Of mannys myddyl'..*vastilus*, Cath. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xii. 589 There he fond a knyght that was bounden with a chayne faste about the wast vnto a pyller of stone. 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husbandman* 192 The tod lap on land.. And left the wolf in watter to the waist. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Flyting* 443 In a prippit hir about the west. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleasure* xxiv. (Percy Soc.) 135 His necke shorte,.. His breste fatte and bolne in the wast. 1577 R. HANKAYNE *Tyrant* (Shakespeare Soc.) 170 Cultan and his men..waide to their westis befoir thei cume to dry land. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 134 Gird in your waste, with a towshie belte. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 127 Downe from the waste they are Centaures, though Women all above. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xx. (1653) 338 Young Virgins..who thinking a slender waste a great beauty, strive all that they possibly may by straight-lacing themselves, to attaine unto a wand-like smallnesse of waste. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1113 Those Leaves They gathered.. And..together sewd, To gird his waste. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 29 Over the Doliman, they gird themselves about the small of the waste with a Sash. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 160 He was so tall, that the Spaniards only reached his waist. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 105 And, lo! half of him, from his waist to the soles of his feet, was stone. 1862 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xviii. 131 Hitherto my guides in dangerous places had tied the ropes round their waists also. 1871 *Figure Training* 17 It is not to be wondered at that ten years ago a waist of sixteen inches in circumference, for a full-grown female height, should be regarded as a..much-to-be-admired achievement. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 4 She made her waist fifteen inches round.

*Proverbial phrase.* 1661 CHAPMAN *Homer's Wks.* 1873 II. 401 Hauing chaster and simpler thoughts then Leonoro imagines because he measures my waist by his owne.

**b.** Applied to the corresponding part in an insect.

1723 J. WASBLE *True Amazons* 3 The Bee is..very slender in the Waste [1741 p. 15 Waist] or middle part. 1871 STAVELEY *Brit. Insects* xiii. 135 The insects belonging to these two subsections can at once be distinguished from each other by their waists being large or small.

**c.** *transf.* The middle narrower part (of something compared in shape to the human body). Cf. 4.

1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* VI. 194 That part of Wales,.. Which (as her very waste) the stream from East to West, in length from North to South, her midst is every way. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. I. Mont Blanc is the monarch of mountains,.. Around his waist are forests braced. 1821 SHELLEY *Rom. Romp.* lix. (1869) VII. 325 He had quitted the waist and had here reached the neck of Britain.

**2.** + **a.** A girdle. *Obs.*

1350 CROMBY *Ejigr.* 1315 Hyr mydle braced in as smal as a wande; And some by wastes of wax at the paste wyfes hande. 1588 PARKER tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 77 They do weare wastes or girdles beautified with gold. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 217 Those sleeping stones, That as a waste doth girdle you about By the compulsion of their Ordinance. 1599 PEELE *Dauid & Bethsabe* Wks. (Bullen) I. 238 I might haue gotten thee for thy paines Tenne siluer sickles and a golden wast. 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 264 A faire well glossed purple waste (*σωστρα . φοινικοῦν ἐανόν*).

*transf.* and *fig.* 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* IX. 478 The enemies abandoned suddeinly the towne wherein the french being besieged, planted their artillerie against the first waste [tr. *contra al primo giro*]. 1592 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 29 Spurre to the rescue of the Noble Talbot, Who now is girdled with a waste of Iron. 1599 MARSTON *Aut. 4 Mal.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 12 Weele girt them with an ample waste of loue.

**b.** The part of a garment that covers the waist; the narrowel part of a garment corresponding to the narrowing of the body at the waist (but sometimes, in accordance with fashion, worn higher or lower than the position of this); the place in a woman's dress where the bodice and skirt meet.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* App. (1653) 539 The waste (as one notes) is now come to the knee; for, the Points that were used to be about the middle, are now dangling there. 1728 SELKER *Spect.* No. 109 P. 4 The Hoodoo [petticoat] is gather'd at the Waste. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix. They loaded the pistols, took a pair each and put them in their waists. 1871 *Figure Training* 23 Ladies of fashion in England might be said to have at that period [c 1800] abandoned waists altogether. 1885 *Fairholt's Costume Engl.* I. 495 In 1793 short waists became fashionable. *Ibid.* 498 Open gowns were discarded, and waists about 1798 became longer, until at the end of the century they regained their proper shape.

**c.** The part of a garment between the shoulders and the 'waist' or buttoned part (sec 2 b).

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* III. i, What fashion will make a woman loue the best bodie Taylor? *Tay.* A short dutch waist with a round eathern-wherle fardingale. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Rather short in the waist, an't it?' said the stranger, screwing himself round to catch a glimpse in the glass of the waist buttons which were half way up his back. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* vi, Ladies haymaking, in short-waists, and large hats tied under the chin.

*Rec.* 1592 NASHE *1st Pt. Jacquil's Jest.* C ij, These places are too short in the waste to serue his turne.

**d.** A bodice, blouse. Chiefly *U.S.*

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 189 A lady observing her neighbour's waistcoat, remarked very truly that it was not a waist, drily remarked, it was a waste of satin. 1878 H. JAMES *Europeans* II. ii. 44 She wore a white muslin waist with an embroidered border. 1893 Mrs. L. HUNTER *Chimes Thirty* 3 Had exchanged the waist for a jacket, and left it under a tree. 1908 W. CHURCHILL *Mr. Crewe's Career* xix. 317 Mrs. Fitch..had run from the wash-tub to get into her Sunday waist.

**e.** *U.S.* 'An undergarment worn specially by children, to which petticoats and drawers are buttoned' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1893 HELEN CAMPBELL in *Arena* 435 Two and a half cents each is paid for the making of boys' gingham waists.

**3.** *Naut.* The middle part of the upper deck of a ship, between the quarter-deck and the forecastle.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 194 Stone gonnes of yron in the Waist of the seid Shippe. 15.. *Antwyll of Expences* in *Archæol.* XXIII. 313 Wyndis wyppers in the Waist. 1626 *Sandys Ovid* 1. 1. The wastes decked with serpentynes stronge. 1630 PALSGR. 285/1 Waste of a shyppe, *cars de nauire.* a 1686 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1725) 1. 18 Sometimes he [the fish] did swallow and deuoure from the sterne, to the wast of the ship. 1810 SHARP *Trnsp.* I. ii. 197. + 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. viii. (1903) 156 Hector..brought with him Two Small Keeles for Capacity of Marchandize, they are vnfit to fight at Sea. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. (ed. 4) 41 The waste of the ship was filled with live cattle. 1769 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 18 Neptune will presently be here, And as his gaolship is in haste, Muster the people in the waste. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 9 *Q.* Which is the waist? *A.* That portion of the upper deck contained between the fore and main hatchways. 1915 RUDEN-POWELL *Ind. Mem.* I. 5 The heavy seas had..carried away the ladders leading from the upper deck into the waist.

**b.** In occasional uses: (*a*) pl. – *waist-rails*; (*b*) each of the two sides of the waist.

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 127/4 She has been 52. dayes bearing all sea for most weather, in which she spent her Fore-Top-Mast and her Waste. 1679 A. LOVELL *Indian Voyc.* 192 The waste, or defenses of the sides of a 'Ship'. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 196 A ship having seven boats carried on each waist..; two at each quarter..; and one across the stern.

**4.** Applied to the narrowest or slenderest part of an object which is smaller in breadth or girth near the middle than at the extremities; esp. of a bell, a violin or similar instrument, a boot or shoe.

1810 S. *Art of Ringing* E 2, A piece of lether..which being thrust vp hard to the middle or waste of the said bell, will sticke fast. 1856 MARSON *Print Letters* 26 Describe the outer and inner line of the Waist of a pair of left boots. 1891 SHEATON *Edystone L.* (1959) § 60 It also seemed equally desirable, not to increase the size of the present building in its Waist; by which I mean that part of the building between the top of the rock and the top of the solid. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 51 The 'Cremerian boot', with elastic spring in waist or arch of foot. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch. Ch.* 119 *Ch. Bells Devon* 407 The waist of the bell is studded with stars. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet Player* 26 The amount of spring or elasticity in the handle varies according to the thickness of the waist or middle portion of it. 1895 HASLUCK *Boot Making* viii. 132 To make a square waist, an iron similar to a double iron is used; for other waists, irons are used according to the shape required.

¶ **5.** Affectedly used for: Middle of day or night: *Obs.*

1608 SHAKS. *Haml.* I. ii. 198 In the dead waste [Qq. 1, 5, 6 vast] and middle of the night. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* IV. iv. 113 You know about the immodest waste of night. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Merrie-Wherrie-ferrie Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 7/1 About the waste or Nuuell of the Day [Qq. Noone] you shall take it so]. 1624 — *Crop-eare Curryer* 2 About the Waste or Navel of the night, Drowsie Somnus came stealing to me. 1631 *Lover of Here & Leander* (1653) 9 This was about the wast of day: The middle, as the weight says.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** With sense 'intended to be placed, or worn, on or round the waist', as *waist-belt, -buckle, -clout*, + *-doublet, -girdle, -piece, -plate, -pocket, -scarf*; with *-cutting* or following the contour of the waist', as *waist-line*; objective, as *waist-gripping, -hold, -pressing, -tightening*; with adjs., as *waist-deep, high*.

1672 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* Prol. 20 I'll write a Play, sayes one, for I have got A broad-brim'd hat, and a waastbelt tow'rds a Plot. 1868 *Queen's Regul.* § 1128 Both straps of the haversack are to be worn outside the waist belt, so that the haversack may be easily shifted. 1805 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 394/2 Her Majesty has recovered a diamond waist-buckle which she had lost, and for which 50 guineas reward had been offered for the recovery. 1884 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 4 The merest 'waist-clout of modesty. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 117 There was no way of approaching it [*sc.* the place], but through a morass 'waist-deep. 1824 SCOTT *Lit. of Isles* v. xiv, The eager Knight leap'd in the sea Waist-deep. 1835 TENNYSON *Brook* 118 Waist-deep in meadow-sweet. 1843 In J. C. Jeaffreson *Middlesex County Rec.* (1886) I. 14 Unum dipoloidem vocatum a 'waist-dublett. *Ibid.*, Duos velvet 'waast gyrdles. 1908 Sir H. JOHNSTON *Uganda Protectorate* II. xxiii. 586 A waist-cloth is worn all round the body from below a waist-girdle, down to the knees. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxvii, With 'waist high Arguntes shewd himselfe wishall. 1895 MEREDITH *Diana-champ's Career* xii. (1897) 95 A fence waist-high enclosed its plot of meadow and garden. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 12 Jan. 8/4 Two minutes passed before the men sought the mats and then Chetpillai got a 'waist hold, but failed to turn the American over. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Sept. 3/2 The most critical place in the shirt and skirt costume is the 'waist-line.....One rule is universal in every well-made French gown—that the waist-line slopes downward to the front. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demosthen's Prophecy of War* 108 'Waist-pieces, or great brayettes (Verdingalles) belonging to a Gothic suit of the fifteenth century. 1900 *New Reg. War Office* 58 'Waist-plate. Frosted Gilt Rectangular Plate with Burnished Edges. On the Plate the Royal Crest and Crown in Silver within an Oak-leaf Wreath. On the lower part of the Wreath a Scroll inscribed 'Dieu et mon droit'. 1898-9 R. D. RANSAY *Rewards*, v. (1899) 51 His arms..in a leathern 'waist-pocket. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* xxxv. And the free and easy chuck under the chin, cheirishing, 'waist-pressing kind of a way to get with the ladies. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxiii. 227 I had on a long 'waist-scarf, worn like the kummerbund of the Hindoos, is a fine protection while walking, to keep the cold from intruding at the pockets and waist. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* LXI. 870 The Professor was already come to the period of 'waist-tightening.

**7.** Special comb.: **waist-anchor** *Naut.*, an anchor stowed in the waist of a vessel, a sheet-anchor; **waist-board** *Naut.* (see quots.); **waist-boat** *Naut.*, a boat carried in the waist of a ship, *esp.* of a whaling-vessel; hence **waistboater**, the officer in charge of such a boat; **waist-hammer**, -iron, shoemakers' tools (see 6); **waist-nettings** *Naut.* (see quots.); **waist-panel** *carriage-building* (see quot.); **waist-torque** (see quot.). See also WAISTBAND, -CLOTH, -COAT, etc.

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.*, *'Waist-Anchor*, a spare lower anchor in a ship of war. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk. Dict.* 160 Sheet Anchor, the anchor carried in the waist in ancient times. It is the same in weight as the bowers; sometimes called the waist anchor. 1846 A. YOUNG *Sea Gram.* ii. 9 The 'Waist boards are set up in the ships waist, betwixt the Gun-waile and the waist trees, but they are most used in Boats, set up across their waist to keepe the Sea from breaking in. 1793 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 326 A kind of waste board, about two feet high, built up on the sides, without any railing or pitching, or anything to keep off the sea. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-boards*, the berthing made to fit into a vessel's gangway on either side. 1892 *Century Dict.*, *'Waist-boat*, a boat carried in the waist of a ship; specifically, in whaling, the second mate's boat, carried in the waist on the port side. *Ibid.*, *Waistboater*, the officer of the boat carried in the waist of a whaler; the mate. 1895 HASLUCK *Boot Making* vi. 89 The waist..should be treated with a 'waist- or cramp-hammer. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *'Waist-nettings*. 1849 TH. ROSCOE *Anson's Voy.* (1850) 198 'Waistnetting. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-nettings*, the hammock-nettings between the quarter-deck and forecastle. 1884 FORBES *Cornwall* (Cent. Cornw.), *'Waist-panel*, the panel immediately above the lowest panel on the outside of a carriage-body. 1892 *Century Dict.*, *'Waist-torque*, a girdle, properly one of twisted or spiral bars, worn by the northern nations in the early middle ages.

**Waist**, obs. form of WARTE.

**Waistband.** Also 6–7 **wastband**, **waste-bande**. [f. WAIST + BAND *sb.*2]

1. Anything in the fashion of a girdle intended to go round the waist.

1582 R. B. tr. *Herodian* I. 14 Herewith also were offered the chaynes of the Queene his wyfe, not sparing so much her girdles & wastbands, al which he caused to be dedicated at Dalphos. 1598 *Pall. Pall. Gen.* 6 Feb. 5 ..messages from Gordon ..were ..concealed in a quill thrust into the hair or sewn on the waistband of the natives employed.

**2.** *esp.* A band fitting about the waist that forms the upper part of a lower garment (skirt, pair of trousers or drawers, or the like) and serves to stiffen or maintain it; sometimes used as a receptacle for money, etc.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 294 He only took him up by the wastband of his breeches, and hung him upon one of the hooks in the shambles. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4461/4 He..had I pulled it out of the waistband of my drawers. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v, For the most part reclining with his hands in his waistband, looking at the fire. 1880 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* I. 43 A labourer that had got his wages in his waistband.

**Waist-cloth.**

+**1.** *Naut. pl.* Coloured cloths hung about the upper works of a ship as an adornment on occasions of ceremony, or on going into action, when they also served to screen the men aboard. *Obs.*

1613 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 31 The Chine Capt. being ready to goe for Goto, I lent hym our boate and wastclothes, and delivered hym back 100 Rs. of 8. 1625 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grammar* xiii. 39 Out goes his flag and pendants, also his waste clothes and top armings, which is a long red cloth..that goeth round about the ship on the out sides of all her vpper workes fore and aft, [etc.]..in

well for the..grace of the ship, as to cover the men for being scene. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 16 May, We..had our guns ready to fire, and our scarlet waistcoates and silk pendants. 1840 Hor. Smith *O. Cromwell* I. 284 Hundreds of lighters, pinnaces, and long-boats, dressed up with waistcloths and with streamers.

**2.** *Naut.* A hammock-cloth stowed in the waist of a vessel.

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waist-cloths*, coverings of canvas or tarpaulling for the hammocks, which are stowed on the gang-ways, between the quarter-deck and fore-castle. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Waist-cloths*, the painted canvas coverings of the hammocks which are stowed in the waist-nettings.

**3.** A loin-cloth that the natives of hot climates wear round the waist, either hanging down in front or passed between the thighs.

1810 T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 247 The dress of the *Hajy* is generally very plain, consisting of a turban, a *doture*, (or waist-cloth), and a *chuddur*, (or sheet). 1832 *Court Mag.* VI. 65/2 Sometimes black glazed jackets formed part of their attire; but generally it consisted of nothing more than a blue chequered doture, or waistcloth. 1882 Dr Windt *Equator* 81 The deceased is then brought up attired in his waistcloth and ornaments.

**Waistcoat** (wĕ'st(ĭ)kŏut ; *colloq.* or *vulgar* we'skət). For forms see Waist and Coat *sb.* also 6 **wascoat,** 7 **waiscoe, waescoat, -cote, waascoate, -cot, -cote, -cott.**

In representations of vulgar pronunciation written *weskit, wesbit*, etc.

A garment covering the upper part of the body down to the waist.

**1.** A garment forming part of ordinary male attire, worn under an outer garment (a doublet, later a coat, jacket, or the like), and intended to be partly exposed to view when in wear.

The earliest waistcoats, intended to show through the slashings and other openings of the doublet, were often extremely elaborate and costly. They were sometimes provided with sleeves, and appear to have reached to or below the hips. The waistcoat has now armholes, but not sleeves; it may be made of the same material as the coat, or of different materials, and is sometimes embroidered or otherwise ornamented. The back is now of inferior or thinner material.

1519 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 334 For making of a waste cotte. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Hee has a rich wrought waast-coat to entertaine his visitants in. 1604 *K. Chas. Sp. Scrafton* 7 The King..being in his Waistcoat, put his Cloak on again. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 30 June, I have of late taken too much cold by washing my feet and going in a thin silke waistcoate, without any other vest over it, and open-breasted. 1726 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 28 Nov., Domville saw Savage in Italy, and says he is a coxcomb, and half mad; he goes in red, and with yellow waistcoats. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1781, 2 Apr., Sir Philip Jennings Clerk..wore..an embroidered waistcoat, and very rich laced ruffles. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* X. He was habited in a coarse-striped waistcoat, with black calico sleeves, and blue glass buttons. 1865 'Lewis Carroll' *Phantasmagoria* 71 He would keep his right-hand hurled (Like Napoleon) in his waistcoat.

† **b.** Applied to a plainer and less costly garment, usually of knitted wool, worn chiefly for additional warmth. *Obs.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 163/2 *Indusium*,..a waste coate, or wollen petticoate. 1598 Florio *and Frenche* s. *T*, Giue me my waistecote. *R*. Which will you haue, that of flannel ? *T*. No, giue me that which is knit. 1617 Morveson *Itin.* I. 68, I having for the most part at Dantzke, in the beginning of September, put on a wollen waiscoat, was forced now at the entring of Italy, for the great heat in the end of October, to put off the same. 1698 *Ozell's Rycl., Itin.* 4 Doncaster...Enlyes a good Trade for Stockings and Knit Waistcoats, &c. 1721 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 5 Oct., It grows bloody cold, and I have no waistcoat here.

**c.** phr. + *In one's waistcoat or cap*, as the typical undress of exercise implying the casting aside of an upper garment (cf. mod. *in one's shirt-sleeves*). 'obs.) *Under one's waistcoat* : in one's breast.

1607 H. Barnes *Divils Charter* iv. v. I 2 b, Enter Astor and Philippo in their waist-cotes with rackets. 1836 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv, With all our vanity and absurdity, we Irish have good warm hearts under our waistcoats.

**d.** Applied to a child's first garment. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Crepundia*..the fyrst apparyle of chyldren, as swathels, waistcotes, and such lyke.

**e.** *transf.* Applied to the plumage of birds, or the coat of animals, about the breast or stomach, *esp.* where this is strikingly different in colour or marking from that of the rest of the body.

1808 J. D. Rees in *19th Cent.* June 1004 A woodpecker with black wings, a white waistcoat, and a crimson crest.

**†2.** A short outer coat or jacket ; a ' jersey '. *Obs.*

a 1628 F. Greville *Life Sidney* (1652) 24 His waist-coat..not unlike the best sort of those woollen knit ones, which our ordinary watermen row us in. 1765 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec. App.* II. 134 Flasks made of cork in the form of seamen's waistcoats..to prevent drowning.

**3.** A short (woollen) garment worn next the skin.

1626 Holland *Sueton.* 75 In winter time clad he went against the colde with foure coates, together with a good thick gowne, and his Waistcoate or Petticoate bodie of woollen. 1769 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 347 A flannel waistcoat worn next the skin has often a very good effect in the dysentery. 1806-7 J. Hemmond *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. § 32 Putting on a cold shirt, for the first time after throwing off the under flannel waistcoat.

**4.** As an article of feminine attire.

† **a.** A short garment, often elaborate and costly, worn by women about the upper part of the body (usually beneath an outer gown, but so as to be seen). *Obs.*

In the 16th and early 17th c. the waistcoat was one of the normal garments of women, having superseded the *placcard* and *stomacher*. Later in the 17th c. (when going out of fashion), *esp.* if worn without an upper gown, it appears to have been considered a mark of a low-class woman of ill-repute (see Waistcoateer 2).

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cxxxviii. (1557) 51, I cause a man to lye in his doublet, and a woman in her waste cote. 1563 Dekker *Batch. Banq.* iii. C 2 b, Then comes downe mistresse Nurse, as fine as a farthing fiddle, in her petticoate and kertle, hauing on a white waistcoate, with a flaunting cambricke ruffe about her neck. 1588 Holme *Armoury* iii. 95/1 Waistcoat or Waistcoat ..is an Habit or Garment generally worn by the middle and lower sort of Women. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ A Parcel of precious Stones, an Hat buttoned with a Diamond, a Brocade Waistcoat or Petticoat, are standing Topicks.

† **b.** Applied to garments of foreign women that resembled the contemporary feminine waistcoat.

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 369 The [Indian] women weare of the sayd Turqueses at their nostrils and eares, and very good wast-coats and other garments. 1698 Grew *Mus. Ind. Sin.* 56 Their Waistcoats made like bodies, with skirts, laced likewise with gold or silver. 1853 Greaves *Seraglio* 130 They [the women] likewise sleep as the men do, in their linnen breeches, and quilted waist-coats. 1901 Sunnell *Dampier's Voy.* ix. 254 [The Malayan women] wear a Linnen Waste-coat, which reaches no lower than the lower part of their breasts.

† **c.** A short (sleeveless) undergarment worn about the upper part of the body ; a camisole. *Obs.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne Chemise de drap*, or *chemisette*, a waa-cleat. 1747 Lady M. W. Montagu *Turon Letters to Mrs. Scott's Coffee-house* 75 Her nightcloaths tumbled with resistless grace, And her bright hair play'd careless round her face; Reaching the kettle, made her gown unpin, She wave on waistcoat, and her shift was lin. 1765 Miss Fielding *Ophelia* I. vii, I [a woman] had never worn any thing round my waist but thin waistcoats.

**d.** A garment or a bodice-front designed in imitation of the masculine waistcoat.

1711 Terrell *Spectator* No. 104 P 3. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xvii, Trolloping things our mothers must have looked [in riding dress of the 18th c.], with long square-cut skirts, and quilted waistcoats, scarcely reaching the length of pocket, which [etc.]. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 The bodice had a sweet little waistcoat, over which the edges of the embroidered fichu were crossed. 1913 *Pall Mall Mag.* No. 234 p. ii/1 Waistcoats [for ladies] are growing more and more in popularity, and the waistcoat blouse is one of the latest novelties.

**5.** *Attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *waistcoat button*, *piece*, *-pocket* (hence *-pocketful*), *-string*.

1767 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec. App.* II. 178 Of a new method of making Coat and Waistcoat Buttons. 1859 *Trollope's Gd. Society* iii. 42 Elaborate studs, waistcoat-buttons, and wrist-links, are all abominable. 1832 H.T. Martineau *Hill & Valley* I. (ed. 4) 12 There is not a shop within twenty miles that would furnish me with such a waistcoat-piece as I should choose to wear. 1860 Johnson *Idler* No. 95 P 12 He now openly declares his Resolution to become a Gentleman ;..carries Silver, for Readiness, in his Waistcoat-pocket. 1880 *Punch's Pocket-bk.* 113 The portrese receiving a sort of dirty flattened sixpence..and returning me a waistcoat-pocketful of the loveliest cleanstarch coppers. 1882 *Nineteenth Cent.* No. 62. 1/2 Miss Tottie ii, Watkins falling bump on his knees, and breaking two brace-buttons and a waistcoat-string in the act.

Hence **Wai'stcoatful** *nonce-wd.*, as much (of anything) as would fill a waistcoat-pocket.

**Wai'stcoating,** a textile fabric made esp. for men's waistcoats. **Wai'stcoatless,** *a.*, wearing no waistcoat.

1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Cav. Puntomichino & Mr. Tuberemagh* Wks. 1853 I. 377/2 The people..would have attributed my conduct to his [a waistcoatless] state. 1890 Mar. Edgeworth *Tales Fash. Life* II. *Dun* 315 Mrs. Carver bespoke from him two pieces of 'waistcoating. 1892 *Cathl. Interview. Brit.* II. No. 4/1, Fancy waistcoatings and skirtings. a 1896 M. Collins *Pen Sk.* (1899) I. 19, I sat in his courtyard, coatless and "waistcoatless.

**Waistcoated** (wĕ'st(ĭ)kŏutĕd), *a.* [f. Waistcoat + -ed 2.] Provided with a waistcoat.

1807 Dorothy Smith *Very Distrest* I. 27 He..was pantalooned and waistcoated after the very newest fashion. 1897 Marie Corelli *Ziska* i, His paunch..a kind of waistcoated air bellows.

**b.** with defining word prefixed.

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ii, As I purpose to show in the sequel whether the white-waistcoated gentleman was right or not. 1896 E. B. Mansfield *Chêpe* 224 Magpies..the black-coated and white-waistcoated gentry.

**Wai'stcoatee'r.** Also **? waistcoasteer, -coater, waistcoateer, -coatier, westeecoateer, 8 waistcateer, 9 waistcoattier.** [f. Waistcoat + -eer.]

† **1.** A low-class prostitute. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1676 Hales *Def. Pr. Writ without Money* iv. iv, *Lucc.* Doe you thinke you are here sir amongst your waistcoateers, your base Wenches that scratch at such occasions ? 1679 *Char. Town-Gallant* 3 Every thing with him is an Incentive to Lust, and every Woman Devil enough to tempt him, Covent-Garden, Silk-gowns, and Wapping Waistcoatiers, are equally his Game. 1820 Scott *Nigel* xvii, 'I know the face of yonder waistcoateer', continued the guide.

**2.** *nonce-use.* A person wearing a waistcoat of a specified fashion.

1825 T. L. Beddoes *Let.* 11 Jan. (1894) 49 Here followed a long Brutus & Cassius discourse between a shilling-buttoned waist-coateer of a porter and myself.

**Waisted** (wē'stĕd), *a.* [f. Waist + -ed 2.] Having a waist (usu. of specified size or form). (For paranynthetic formations, as *deep-, fair-, long-, short-waisted*, see the first element.)

1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* etc. (Arb.) 141 Shee limps in the going. And as a cow wasted, plods on, with an head like a buttesse. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XI. 124 Beautiful as youth : Waisted like Hebe ; and with Diana's step. 1913 A. T. Lebus in *Harvard Anglo-Amer. Settlements* vii. 122 A peculiar waisted basket with rounded base often terminating in an excrescent knob.

**Waister** (wē'stəɹ). *Naut.* [f. Waist + -er 1.] (See quots.)

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waisters*, a name given, to the men stationed in the waist in working the ship. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict., Waisters*, 'green hands, or broken-down seamen', placed in the waist of a ship of war, to do duty not requiring a knowledge of seamanship. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. iii. 12 Then, there are the Waisters, always stationed on the gun-deck. These haul aft the fore and main-sheets, besides being subject to ignoble duties; attending to the drainage [etc.]. 1854 J. Hannay *Night & Morn* I. Mr. Crabb relieved his feelings by pegging into an idle ' waister ' with his boot.

**Waistless** (wē'stlĭs), *a.* [f. Waist + -less.] Having no waist ; having the appearance of being without a waist.

1900-10 Dehmel *Poems* xxvi. 97 Still many a waistless wallydrag With vomits overwhelm'd, did forth wag, In wreiche that did impress. 1906 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 185 To conform to fashion's sway, flat-eye is become waistless. 1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* I. 'These little, headless, waistless, hipless figures. 1910 Sutton *Eng. Ch. Bruisers* 128 It is a life size figure, habited in a long flowing gown, waistless and without ornament of any kind.

**Waist-rail.**

1. *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.)

1804 Duncan *Mariner's Chron.* Pref. p. xix, Drift-rails, fife-rails, sheer-rails, waist-rails, &c. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *h. nett-rail*, the channel-rail or moulding of the ship's side.

2. *Carriage-building.* (See quot.)

1884 Feeney *Carbuilder's Dict.* (Cent.), *Waist-rail*, a horizontal piece in the framing of the side of a passenger-carriage.

**Wait-rose.** *Naut.* (See quot. 1846.)

1485 *Nav. Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 50 Wast trees..ij. 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Grammar* iii. 13 The Waist-boords are up in the Ships waist, betwixt the Gunn-roome and the waist trees. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. *Waist-Trees*, are those Timbers of a Ship which lie in the Waste. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.*, *Waist-trees*, or *Wast-trees*, a square spar placed along the side of a ship's waist where there happens to be no bulwark, in order to protect persons from falling overboard.

**Wait** (wēt), *sb.* Forms : 3-7 **wayte, waite,** (5 **wayet, whayte**), 4-7 **wayt,** 4, 7 **weyte,** (6 **weytte, wette**), 5-6 **wate,** (5 **watte**), 6 **waytte** (**waitte, wayght, weyght, wyethe, whet**), 7 **waight,** (**weight**), 4-**wait.** [Partly a. ONF. **wait, wet* masc. (= OF. *guait, gait, guet*, mod. F. *guet*, Pr. *gach, gait*), vbl. noun f. *waitier* (see Wait *v.*) and ONF. *waite* fem. (OF. *guaite, gaite*, mod.F. *guette, goite*, Pr. *gacha, gaita*) ; it is uncertain whether the fem. *sb.* is f. the *vb.*, or a direct adoption from Teut. (cf. OHG. *wahta*, Goth. *wahtuwō*) : see Wait *v.* The word adopted from Fr. has coalesced with an Eng. formation on Wait *v.* Cf. Await *sb.*

Many apparent examples of this word in texts of 14-16th c. really belong to the synonymous Await *sb.*, which, like other words beginning with a prefix, was often written as two words. It is possible that the *a* was in the 16th c. sometimes apprehended by writers and readers as the indefinite article, but distinct evidence of this is wanting.]

**I.** The action of Wait *v.*]

**1.** In various phrases with the general sense : To take up a concealed position in order to make an unforeseen attack, or to be in readiness to intercept one's enemy or intended prey in passing ; to lurk in ambush.

† **a.** *To sit in wait's. Obs. rare.* (cf. Await *sb.*)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ix. 29 He sites in waites [Vulg. *in insidiis*] with riche of land In derne, to sla þe vnderand. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 810 Why sitt'st thou thy Creator in waite Here watching at the head of these that sleep ?

**b.** *To lie* (or † *lay*) *in wait.* † Also, *to lie at* (*the*) *wait, to lie on wait.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 157 For moldywarpes caites is to kepe To ligge in wayte in erbe vnder a tree. 1500 Pecock *Repr.* I. xix. 113 As if peraventure in con of thilk weies a man liggith in wait for to sle my seid seruaunt. 1530-1532 *Myrr. our Ladye* 146 Sayinge that the crede chaseth away fendes whiche lye on wayte to hynder men. 1563-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 36 Preamb., Stanhop..lay in wayte vppon the said sir William and hym grevously wounded. 1590 Palmer *Serm.* 605, I ley in wayte of one to do him a displeasure. a 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 31 Or eir he could persave the chancellars folkis lyand in the wait for him he set upon them and cleuerit maist about with thame. 1611 Bible *Ps.* x. 9 He lieth in waite secretly as a lyon in his denne, he lieth in wait to catch the poore. 1682 H. Rolls *Abridgm., Action iur Case* 50 Si home dit dun auter, que il lay in wait at shooters hill et rob him, action sur le case gist. a 1692 Wood *Life* Sept. (O.H.S.) I. 123 Some of their parrie were upon London road where Thame to ley in wait for provision or wine that came from London towards Aylesbury. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 34 P 5 The five Fields where the Robbers lie in wait. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxviii, His friend advised that

they should lie in wait for the enemy. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 95/2 Full of rage, he lay in wait for Rosen, and as the latter left the Senate, he rushed upon him sword in hand. 1904 Lady M. Verney *Verney Mem.* II. 341 Lying in wait for dowagers' coaches in tortuous lanes.

*fig.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi. 34 May no man lang in wraith indure, For wo is him that evir lyis at the wait. 1553 Gresham in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 118 To the intent to prevent the marchaunts, bothe strangers and Englishe, who allwayes lay in wayte to prevent my devisses. a 1823 Overbury *Characters, Meere Fellow* Wks. (1856) 129 His religion lies in wait for the inclination of his patron. 1709 Swift *T. Tub* ii. A ring of disciples, who lie in wait to catch up their droppings. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 553 Ten thousand dangers lie in wait to thwart The process. 1786 T. Baldov *Hist.* 47 He is constantly lying at wait to correct them. 1791 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* III. 118 He...had indeed no other design than to lay in wait for traces of that involved mystery. 1869 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. I. The habit...had given him a suspicious manner, or a manner that would be better described as one of lying in wait.

**† o.** *To lie wait. Obs. rare.*

1448 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Ambicion...which evir lyeth waite at chambir dorys. 1460 Capgrave (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 55 Their followit na thing bot slaughter... ilk ane lyand wait for wther as they had ben settand tinchellis for the martheur of beistes.

**d.** *To lay wait, † lay one's wait.*

1377 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* x. viii. 206 But God being the friend...of Constantius brought to light the wayte layde for him in secret. 1580 Holinshed *Chron. Ann. Scot.* 237/1 in *Holinshed*, But, hauing wait laid for him by an ambush of his enimies, he was in his lonnein towards his castell intercepted. 1597 Bacon *Max. & Uses Com. Law* (1630) 333 Wherefore they layed wait for him as hee came one day from hunting, and murdered him. 1623 J. Mayer *Expos. Pr.* xxxi. 4 When wait was layd for him to kill him in his house. 1665 Manley *Cotton Lond. Wars* 169 Although they could escape all the wait laid for them by Pirates. 1841 James *Brigand* iii. They were known to lay wait in all the principal passes, both of Piedmont and Savoy.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1538 Coverdale *Acts* xx. 19, I haue...serued ye Lorde...with many teares and tentacions, which happened vnto me by ye lyinge of wayte of the Iewes. 1599 T. Storer *Life & D. Wolsey* G 2 b, Those vnbaptised sacrilegious hands, That onely for Gods vestrie laide their waite. 1611 Bible *Jer.* ix. 8 One speaketh peaceably to his neighbour with his mouth, but in heart he layeth his waite. 1758 *Monitor* I. 27 Can a free constitution be out of danger, where one part of it lays wait to destroy the energy of another? 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Family Bing.* II. 42 By laying wait for a favourable moment, she might ultimately obtain the enjoyment of her criminal passion. 1891 *Nat. Rev.* 14 Nov. 356/2 Their...following had lain perpetual wait to work.

**† e.** *To take under wait:* to capture or surprise by an ambush. *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 180 Pal war na less astonist pan had bene tane vnder wait [*haud secus quam si in insidias incidissent*].

**† f.** The sb. used without the phrasal context: Ambush. *Obs. rare.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 149 Als sone as hermyneus herde the noyis of Valerius cumpany, he lichit with his buschement haistely fra pe wate [*concurrit ex insidiis*]. 1788 Burns *Written in Friars-Carse Hermitage* 90 Check thy climbing step, slute, Evils lurk in fetes wait. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. 375 He was...always in wait to converse with her when she was seated.

**2.** The action of watching.

**† a.** In phrases. *To lie (take) wait*, on the watch. *To do, make wait*, to keep watch. *To have in wait*, to have under observation. Also, *to lie in great wait, lay good wait* (cf. 1), to be carefully on the watch. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partenope* 6745 (B. M. MS.) Hit ffrendes had nym no lp waite...That his purpose myght not be Alle Hiers parfourmed. c 1460 in *Archæologia* XXIX. 339 pe Fissche drewe nere vnto pe bayte; Nede hade no lawe, pe Egle berto euer layde goode wayte. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 379 A sutell knycht thairat had gret despyt, Followyt it wait. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlii. 21 And in thir terms can thai say, Do wait, and lat him nocht away. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. Clare Gloucestre* (1876) 293 Her outer temperaunce...wherin she lay in as grete wayte of herself as ony persone myght. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xiv. 83 Quhen as ane Arrou, by hym maist fait Onto nyscheuos deid prendestinate, Circulis at the wayt, c 1580 *Everyman* (facs.) B j, I haue a great enemy that haith me in wayte Whiche intendeth me for to hynder. 1593 Henry Smith *Serm.* I. 22 The most parte of the state of the prince...was well knowen with the kynges there about...for they layed great wayte to knowe it. 1595 Hen. VIII in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* 1733 I. App. liv. 141 That they...do make it cause to be made diligent search, wait & espyal, whether the said Bps. & Clergy do...execute...their charge.

**† b.** Watchfulness. *Obs.*

1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 18 It was a sporo very pleazaunt ..to see...the nimblness and wayt of the dog too take hiz auauntage.

**3. a.** (*Day's*) *wait*: the duty of keeping guard by day performed by the warders of the Tower.

1669 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. 608 The Yeoman Warders of the Tower are 40 in number...Ten of them are usually upon the Day-wait. 1718–37 in Peggo *Curialia* III. (1791) 109 When the Man waiting for another hath performed such Wait, he shall not be permitted to wait again, so as to continue his Wait for divers Men one after another.

**b.** The period of attendance at court of a lord- or lady-in-waiting.

1884 *World* 20 Aug. 10/2 The Queen always likes the yearly rota of waits to be arranged so that her favourite ladies shall be with her at Balmoral. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 July 1/2 He will have no duties...as his appointed 'wait' is from October 3 to 17, when the Queen will be at Balmoral, where the attendance of a Lord-in-Waiting is always dispensed with.

**4.** The state or condition of waiting or remaining expectant. *At wait*: in an expectant attitude. *In wait*: waiting, remaining in a place in expectation of some one coming. *rare.*

1873 Longf. *Wayside Inn* III. *Mother's Ghost* xviii, When she came to the castle gate, The door stood her eldest daughter in wait. 1878 Swinburne *Est. & Sind.* 344 Next to this we find a sudden sunny bank in the dim depth of a wood, with a well at watch and a rabbit at wait.

**5.** A period of waiting; spec. *Theatr.*, the time of an audience's waiting between the acts, or of an actor's waiting between his appearances in the piece.

1825–6 Dickens in Forster *Life* (1874) III. v. 107 The waits between the acts being very much longer than the acts themselves. 1863 Le Fanu *House by Churchyard* III. ix. 93 This was said after a wait of nearly ten minutes. 1876 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 5/6 What a long, tedious wait it was up there on the edge of the wood while we listened...for some sign of Grif Keller's approach. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Oct. 5/4 The audience...passed a long wait pleasantly in singing a number of political songs. 1888 C. E. Pascoe *London Today* iii. (ed. 3) 50 The Criterion has a chorus of glee singers to wile away waits through the courses.

**II.** A person who watches or waits.

**† 6.** A watchman; a scout, spy. *Obs.*

a. A military watchman, sentinel, or look-out; also a scout, spy; esp. a watchman in a camp, castle, or fortified place who was furnished with a horn or trumpet to sound an alarm or to make a signal.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12541 He [Herod] sett his waites bi pe stret, for to aught wit pan kinge mett, He commandid son pai suld be slan. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4312 Two knyghtis heore body dubbeth; The waytes blewe, the belle ryngeo. c 1325 *Cur. de L.* 9281 The ways of that host that did espie, And ful loude began to crie: We are betrayd and y-come! 1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Pet is be wayte of pe castele pet neure ne slepp. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 393 pe holy prophete Ezechiel seip: I ha3e ysete or pe 3atchemun se enemys cum [etc.]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 191 A knyghte pat lighte3 Strabo stode in a weytes place. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxi. (1495) 123 Wayte is a man or a woman, pat kynde settyth hym in the highest place of the body. c 1400 *Lond Prov. Bk.* 7222 Every man to his In owe, The wayte to kepe nyght & day. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. 1065 Waytes on the walle gan blowe, Knyghtis assembled on a rowe. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wayte, *speculator* (v. r. *exploratior*). 1480–81 tr. *Secreta Secret.* lxi. 57 Loke thou haue good wayte3 stablysshed in thy oste. 1500–20 Skelton *Arthur* viii. xxxi. 263 At the last by fortune he came to a Castel and there he herd the waytes vpon the wallys. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 60 Tyrrenus, that by his gate Wes his garret seyi-, And, with his trumpet, thame a takin maid.

*transf.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxx. (1495) 721 A wyfyssheth is ofte vysyted and ouersemeth of the eeth tythers and kepers of vynes and a wayte is there set in an hyghe place.

b. A watchman attached to the royal household who sounded the watch, etc., by the blowing of a pipe, trumpet, or other wind-instrument.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7769 When theo table was y-drawe, Theo wayte gan a pipe blawe. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iv. xlvii. (1869) 198 He iaid that thou hast herd pleye with instrumentis and herde an hoot that is the wayte hath sowned the king alle times that he slepeth bi hire blowinge. a 1440 *Sir Ysenbrun.* 1097 Grete lordys were at the assent; Waytys blewe, to mete they went. 1483 *Liber Niger Scac. Exchequer, Ord.* (1790) 48 A Wayte, that nyghtly, from Michelmasse till Shere-Thursday, pipeth the watche within this courte fower tymes,...and the same hathe bon gayts, and [*read* and] severy chambre door and office, as well for fyre as for other pikers or perelles...And under this yoman, a groome wayte. 1820 Mrs. Hemans *Vespers, Florence* viii. (1826) I. 189 And thus it kept, until the wayte piped his second watch in all the courts.

c. A municipal watchman.

1418 *Liber* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 11, no. 3, [Ordered, by consent] ballivorum et magnatum ville, in defectu minis-trorum alias dictorum waytes, quod quedam campana custodis vocitata Sanctesbell' alias campana ecclesie Sancti Petri congruis horis nocta pulsentur, viz., in mane Daybell, et in vespere Curfewe. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 646 Quod quelibet Porta custodiatur per diem per duos homines bene et sufficiens de nocte autem per Servientem eam inhabi-tantem; [et quod quilibet Serviens habeat unum Wayte, sumptibus suis proprijs.

**† 7.** *Collect.* A body of guards. *Obs.*

1704 in Pegge *Curialia* III. (1791) 81 Which Twelve Men [of the Guard] are to be chosen by the Six Waits then out of Waiting. 1797 *Ibid.* 104 Upon Forfeiture of his or their share of Wages to every among the rest of the Wait then and there in waiting.

**8. † a.** *pl.* A small body of wind instrumentalists maintained by a city or town at the public charge. Also *sing.*, a member of this body. *Obs.*

They also for the city's diversion of the councillors, on ceremonial and festive occasions, and as a town or city band they entertained the citizens, perambulating the streets, often by night or in the early morning.

1492 [see *Waitmeat*]. 1498 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* 189 Hyt is ordeyned that they [*sic*] Trumpet schall haue the rule off the whaytes, and off hem be Cheffe. 1569 *Ibid.* 332 Also pat pe Wayte of pe Cite...shall not goo out of pe Cite, but a-bowte & prioures within a miles of pis Cite. 1599 in W. Kelly *Notices Illustr. Drama* (1865) 189 Thomas Wylkyns Wayte. 1591 *Ibid.* 191 Item paed to Thomas Goldsmyth for mendyng of the Towne Waytes Collars iijs. iiijd. 1598 *Ibid.* 193 Item gy'n to Mr. Gyllott for the Waytes gownes xxxvs. vjd. 1883 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 147 The new Lord Mayor went toward Westmynster [attended by the] crafftes of London...with trumpets blobyng and the whayts playing. 1592 in Pic-ton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 118 Lewis Lockwood, Bag-piper was admitted Wayte of this town. 1597 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 289/2 The waits of the citie were placed with lowd musicke, who cheerefullie & melodiouslie welcomed hir maiestie into the citie, & song being soung by the best voices in the same. 1789 [I. Nares] *Advice to Purrat* 2 Who hearing the waites play vnder his window very early, inuited...that [etc.]. a 1796 *Sir T. More* (Malone Soc.) 594 Where are the waytes? goo, bid them play, to spend the time awhile. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* i. 1, *Tre.* A Trumpet should fright him terribly, or the Haut-boyes? *Cle.* Out of his senses. The Waights of the citie haue a pension of him, not to come neere that ward. 1627 Monyson *Itin.* iv. iv. L (1903) 301 In like sorte many Cittyes mantayne at publike charge Musitians, vsing Sagbutts, Hoboyes, and such loude Instruments, which wee call the waytes of Cyttyes, and these play at the publicke house of the Citty each day at Noone, when the Senatours come to dinner, and at all publicke Feasts. a 1629 Fletcher *Captain* ii. ii, *Jac.* Hark, are the waits abroad? I will hear, or sleep, I care not whether. 1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1891/1 The Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of this Town, after a Sermon Preached to them, went to the Market-Cross in their Formalities, the Waytes play-ing before them. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. 1042 The Waights of the Town who played upon Cornets and Haut-bois. 1689 Wood *Life* 3 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 230 When he came to Quarternvie he was entertained with the wind musick or waits belonging to the city and Universitie. 1732 Fielding *Letter Writers* ii. ii, You are a couple of wretched Scrapers, and play ten Degrees worse than the Waits. 1738 Gay *F.* Drake *Eboracum* v. vi. 197 [The sheriffs] are preceded by the city's waites, or musicians, in their scarlet livories and silver badges playing all the way through the streets. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* (Globe) 524/1 Upon a stranger's arrival at Bath he is welcomed by...the voice and music of the city waits. 1784 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 202 Ordered that John Bolton and John Langhorn be appointed two publick Waites of this town.

**b.** *pl.* A band of musicians and singers who perambulate the streets by night at the approach of Christmas and the New Year playing and singing carols and other seasonable music for gratuities.

1773 *Archæologia* II. 276 Waits, a set of musicians, or wits, or the music on the nights of the Christmas holydays. 1810 Hussey *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Waygheles*, Those persons who annu-ally, at the approach of the Christmas holydays, play nocto-turnal concerts, were, and are to this day, called Waygheles. 1820 Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 57 The sound of the Waits,...breaks upon the mid-watches of a winter night. 1876 Grove's *Dict. Mus.* IV. 715 *Waits, The.* A name given, from time immemorial, to the little bands of rustic Musicians who sing and play Carols, by night, in country places, at Christmas-time.

**† c.** *gen.* A player on the flute, hautboy, trumpet, etc. *Obs.*

1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Div, *Tibicen*, a wayte. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 501/1 *Spondiales vel spondiauli*,...such as plaied vpon long pipes at dialne service, they may be called the waytes. 1600 Holland *Livy* xvii. Brev. 390 That...as he returned home to his owne house, the waits should sound the hautboies all the way (*tibicine canente*). 1848 *Gentl. Mag. Ind.* 22 Whom travel-ling, Indian Waites and Trumpets should accompany.

**† 9.** One who waits in service, an attendant. *Obs.*

1562 Heskowes *Thesph.* xi. xxx, Still to have toting Waits vnseel thine Eyes, In Bed, at Board, when they will then rise: Such, Card'nal-like, their Paris prize 'bove Paradise.

**† III. 10.** [Originally a transferred use of 8 c.] *pl.* Wind instruments, either hautboys, shawms, or flutes. Also *sing.* (rare). *Obs.*

[Cf. Sp., Pg. *gaita*, a kind of flute; the word seems to have been adopted from Or., through the examples of the sense have been found in French of any period.]

1530 Palsgr. 286/1 Wayte an instrument, *hautboys*. 1596 Withals *Dict.* (1599) 68 b/2 The trumpet or waytes, *tuba*. 1598 *Doctor Faustus* in Thoms *Lives Fam. Poets* (1858) 111. 178 Lutes, viols, citterns waits, and all manner of other instruments. 1600 Shelton and Pt. *Quixote* xxvi. 273 For amongst Moores you haue no other Musicke, then what ise like our Waytes. 1623 Mottexux, like our Waits or Hautboys.] 1658 C. Butler *Princ. Mus.* II. i. 93 (Wind-instruments, as) Waits or Hoboys. 1687 Tryon *Way to Health* 654 Waits are under the dominion of Jupiter, in the Sign Libra; the Sounds and harmonious Consorts of this Instrument are great, noble and pleasing to Nature.

**IV. 11.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *wait-pipe, player, -song*; † **wait captain**, the chief of the municipal waits; † **wait fee** (see quot. 1706); † **wait-layer**, one who lies in wait; † **waitmeat**, food supplied to the municipal waits.

1569 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 35 Mr. Mayor called James Athelye to be a Wayte...Agreed, 13 pens in Spelmes Gloss. s.v., Per redditum 14*s.* pro *Wayte* in Kent and Castle garde. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wayte-fee*, (old Law-word) Ward-penny, or a Fee ancienly paid for keeping Watch and Ward. 1707 Curios. in *Husb.* & *Gard.* 109 He...will...have the world believe that I play the part not onely of a secret and cunning *wait-laier, but of an open theefe. 1630–1 *Cyrupædia* in Wks. (1908) 1. viii, Whither had need be a waitlayer, a deepe dissembler. 1898 *Yorks. Inquisit.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1902) III. 84, 12. for *Waite-monie and Schirefesilver. 1. 1. 1

*guitar*, It. *guatare*, to watch, lie in wait for: a. OHG. *wahtin* (mod.G. *wachten*) to watch, guard, f. *wahta* fem. (mod.G. *wacht*) watch, f. OTeut. **wak-*: see WAKE v.]

I. The simple verb.

†1. *trans.* To watch with hostile intent; to spy upon; to lie in wait for. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 103 Dat liđ ßo wereweode gostes ße waitiđ ßo sonles hier haten on ße wiđsaca. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 43 For ure gult god man bicom and ure eldre waiteden him to deađe. *Ibid.* ßy þanne ferde þe fule gost, and seuene ofre gostes mid him forcuđere þen him self were, and lokeđe þat child, and waiteden hit on eche wise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23731 Euer he wates vs þat fade, es nathing certain þan dede. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 532 He was [me] waiten for to slo. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. C.* 1286 His despisers he waytes ay, Als shadow to tak to his pray. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Quintyn*) 21 In Jerusalem he was bote, Wayt, waite, and bundyn ofte. *c* 1400 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3062 (MS. Cott.) Ane erl of his companny Wayttit Trarn sa hesely þat wiba a bustewnere he has [slayn] Trarn. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 74 Sir ngravayne at home is he, nyght & day he wayte ve two. 1530 PALSGR. 770/3, I wayte, I lye awayte for one to hurte hym, or to spye what he dothe. *Ye gruttis.* I wayte hym here vyll I come vewe but I wyll have him. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 92 He thairfor appoynted certain cuthroits to wayt thame na fit is the leist thay sall eschaip. 1597 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 421 They steir upe and incitats four debosbit young limmers, and wattes.. James Smithe, as he was coming ham at night from the cost syde.

†b. *intr.* To keep hostile watch; to lie in wait.

*c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Þe wiđerneose heo aspieđen [*MS. C.* in þe wiđerne weiteđen] as þeoues þe ßeoh. *c* 1300 *Havelok* in. 30 He waites [Vulg. *insidiatur*] in bidel als lioun in den. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 899 Þou sal waite womman for to sing. And ßou sal ying and ibring. 1388 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 149 To kepen him.. From wastors þat wayten winners to schende. 1440–8 *Wyt & Wille* 30 in *26 Pol. Poems* 53 Echon wayte oþer þat he may ouercome. 1523 COVERDALE *Ghost.* f. 14 Nether shalt thou stonde waytinge enymore at y^e corners of the stretes, to murthur soch as are fled. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 125 Lay peaze vpon stacke,..And coner it straight, from doues that waight.

†2. *trans.* To be on the watch to inflict (injury) : = AWAIT *v.* 2. *Obs.*

The sense is app. due to the confusion of this v'b. with WAIT *v.*?

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13012 Noght warre of the weghes, but waited his harme, [He] past furth thurgh the pase with his proude knightes.

†3. To watch, keep one's eye upon, observe constantly; to look out for, watch for. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13285 At ese sant John and Iaun he fand, Quils þai hair lines were maand. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1752 And had him.. Haueiok wel yemen..And wel dowaytenal þenitih. 23 . . *S. E. Allit. P.* B. 99 Fechez mo gestez, Wayte gorstez & grauez, if ani gomez comez, Fechez hem bidez. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'t* 7. 191 He wayted many a constellacion Er he had doon this operacion. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2883 Wemen waited hym with wondur of hym ore, Whate of shap for to shew was shene to beholde. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 863 And when so we yern ony thing þat may fall vnto heuch likyng, Þinke we and waite we weterly. *c* 1450–1530 *Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1698 Whethir þou wayted our hyght wayes? *Ibid.* 3761 A monk to wayte þis taken stode.

†b. To watch mentally, observe, consider attentively. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Phil.* iii. 17 Britheron,..wayte 3e [Vulg. *observate*] hem that walken so as 3e han oure fuorme. 1393 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 45 Ther ne3e no gouernour on þe grounde ne shulde 3yue him þe better..3if he walke well be wordis, and so werche þerafter. *c* 1430 *Gest's Complaint* 17 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 165 Waite what y dide to marie maudelevne, And what y seide to thomas of yode.

†c. To watch over, take charge of, care for (a person's interests). *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 5316 (Cott.) Þas coude ihoseph, i said 3ou, waite his laured þe kinges prou. 1388 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 37, I haue ben his felawe þis fiftene wynter., With-Inne and without-I-wayte his profyt, I warne 30w *Mordre* ȝ*ut.* 164 If thou my wyrchipe wayte . Thou salle haue gersoms fulle greit. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1471 Peir awn winyng þai sal not wayt, þat oþer wiþ þai sal counayt.

†d. To search for. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 808 Hee wendes too a wildernes & waites him erben. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 494 þe Pardoncre, þat drewe apart, & weyted hym a leese for to hyde hym self.

†4. *intr.* To keep watch; to look intently. Also with adv. or phrase, *to wait about, about one, on every side*, etc. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 120 Hir frendes fulle fast waited aboute & wroke, & Maid at þe last kyng Steuen scho kene. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chap.* 285 Þenn he wayted hym aboute. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1293 He wayttes onwyde, his wenches he byholdes. 1586 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 128 And þow bore wordes I awok and waitede [*MS. V.* waitide] aboute, And sauh [etc.]. 1377 *Ibid.* B. xiii. 343 I wayted wioloker, and thanne was it tolled With lykyng of leclwyye, as by lokyng of his eyen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (1876) 876 He waites vmbe hym wightly, & was ware sone Of þe oriible oxin. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* & *Gaw.* 1815 Sho..waited about fer and ner. *a* 1400–50 *Alex. & Dind.* 1 Þe kyng is in a wra, þan was he ware sone Of þe maister of þat meneyhe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xvi. 209 Ther with he wayted aboue hym and vnder hym, and ouer his hede he sawe a newe serpente. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 130 On euerilk syde full warlie cointh he wait. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 206 Wherfore about I waited busily On every syde, if I her might see.

†b. To act as a watchman. *Obs.*

1436 *Siege of Calais* in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) II. 153 The porters kept the gatis full manly,..To wate they wer not ifr. *c* 1450 HARDING *Chron.* CXXXVIII. xii, To castell Pilgrym ..there was no waye but one full straite, On a cauwey.. Strongly walled, with towres on to wayte. 1581 SAVILE tr. *Hist. Wks.* I. iii. 3, I am come to surucy the Tower this day: ..Where be these Warders, that they wait not here? 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Antiq.* v. (1628) 327 We can tell him that waiteth at the Towre one of the ward, or a warder.

†c. To observe carefully. *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 128 3it awoke ßresshe ßloodis beth..for her digneese endaunti of dulliashe nollise, And, if þou well waite, of no wight elles.

†d. With indirect question: To watch, observe carefully *what, where, how*, etc. *Obs.*

*c* 1275 LAY. 15007 Þis ilcnesþ Iuuetus þat he wole come þus and lokeþ and waiteþ wane he come to londe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 568 Euere he waytede, 3if ore louerd ani grace him wolde sende. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Kolbl) 1495 He sente knyghtes & squiers To waite who made on hym pres. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2827, I wol..waite 3if any weiȝ comen wendinge alone. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 8 25 Now yif so be þat the semith to long a tarienge.., thanne whnite whan the sonne is in any other degree of the sodiak. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 306 Quhat he knew, ych manile him to wer, Ay wayttand fast gyff he can get a sper. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence* (1607) *Andria* I. i. *Obserues illum diem, qua ...quærat omittit.* Watch him what hee doth, wait what he intendeth.

†e. To take precautions, be watchful or cautious. Usage 1. Take care, see to it that.

23 . . *S. E. Allit. P.* B. 999, I wolde wayte to be war her wrenches of þe wyf. 1388 CHAUCER *Prol.* 571 Ful wise he wayted so in his achat That he was ay biforn and in good stat. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 436 in *Babees Bk.* Kepe of a lytle wyne þyne hede, þou be sure. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. ii. 37 But wayte ye make not many questions with her nor her men, but saye ye are diseased, and bede her vp to bedde. 1591 *Ferdt & Child* (Isaac) A iv, Wayte well that thou suffre no shame.

5. *trans.* To look forward (esp. with desire or apprehension) to (some future event or contingency) ; to continue in expectation of. Now somewhat *rare* : usually superseded by AWAIT *v.* 3.

*a* 1300 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 527/10 Sȝif þou wlnes þore he wol skorne þe—Wayte of him nuiere oȝer bounte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3322, I wot, sir, witterly, will I or noght, Yone child to be my knight, while I mon ofter. 1535 COVERDALE *Pss.* CXIX. 166, I Waiting nid, with ernest eying. 1597 MASHINGER *Very Woma.* IV. i, *Tad.* I thank ye, And soon I'll wait your leisure. 1672–1 SIR CT. LITTLETON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 75 Wee waite much wht ye Spaniards will returne to y^e King of France message. 1796 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvii. 31 Submitted as the humblest client, Where Men of Money break their Jest, He waits the Nod, with Awe profound, And Caution, ere it reach the Ground. The Mail from Mr. H. Martyn *to Archdeacon* II. 57 If Harry really loves me.., bid him wait futurity with composure. 1830 TENNYSON *Adeline* iv, What aileth thee? whom waitest thou? 1831 TROLLOPE *Belvoir* IV. iv. 63, I. Or they that in the Bicêtre Hospital, 'eight to a bed', lie waiting their manumission. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, She took up her cushion-frame, and began to work, and awaited the result of the advertisement. 1885 J. H. DELL *Dawning Grey, Higher Creed* 6 We wait the harps of sounder string, I han [etc.].

b. *intr.* (Chiefly to *wait for* = sense 5).

1577 FENNER *Sick. Mans Treas.* (1601) 57 When the woman perceaued her selfe to be daungerously sicke, and wayted for no other then present death. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 101 Sum to their vsage will leue euerie place to haue. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Serm., Noah's Drunk.* (1609) G 4 b, The grand..wayted for nothing now, but a paynefull labourer to digge his graue. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Expos. Ecclus.* xi. 5, 29 And hee that waiteth for olde mens liuings, may happily goe bare foote in the meane time. 1642 MILTON *Reform.* II. Theſe importunate Wolves, that wait and thinke long till they deuoure thy tender Flocke. 1711 *Guardian* XIV. 374 We wait with anxiety but not with impatience for the succeeding numbers. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair* iii, Wait patiently I could descry The stern black-bearded Kings.., Waiting to see me die.

c. To remain for a time without something expected or promised.

1590 GREENE *Orlando Furioso* Prologue 935 If thou bea mans attorney, ..Let him not waite and spende money, If his dispatch do lie in the. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* x, That was the only condition under which he would consent to wait for his money.

8. *trunt.* To continue stationary or quiescent, in expectation of (a person or thing, an event) ; to defer departure or action until the arrival or occurrence of. Now *rare*: superseded by *wait for* (see 7) and AWAIT *v.*

1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 36 Tharfor thair cummyng wait he, And mak thame at thair revving. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 273 Mary hys moder went be weye To caluery: þer he suld deye, And wayted þer here chylde. 1578 in Swallowfield *Wills.* (1908) 297 To wayte for his money. Chamberlaines comyng thither. *a* 1604 HAMMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 89 From thence he went to a place called Lothra, where he found another Monastery, and would wait for his money, ving the generall resurrection. 1660 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 2 That where there were any other evidences, that the Prophet spake by Divine Revelation, there was no reason to wait the fulfilling of every particular Prophecy before he was believed as a Prophet. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Ind. Emperor* I. 1, This Tide will bring them from Gravesend. You had best let your man go, as from me, And wait them at the Stairs in Durham-yard. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 253 We had before agreed to wait the return of the chancellor's messenger at St. Omers. 1797 HY. LEE *Canterb. T., Freeschm. T.* (1799) I. 103 Without waiting his answer, he would have led her down stairs. 1820 *Noble Wanderers* II. 128 One of the slaves, whom he had commanded to wait his return. 1828 PICK *Sources Hist.* in App. 29 We were requested to halt and wait the arrival of the chief, who was half a mile from us. 1828 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, Lady Emily's servant was waiting orders in the kitchen. 1829 — *Leg. Montrose* xxiii, She now waits you at the altar. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Philoct.* 123 Then when remain, and wait his coming here, Whilst I go hence. 1890 QUILLER-COUCH *Ship of Stars* xxvi, The Vicar clambered out to wait it [the coffin].

b. *transf.* Of things: To remain in readiness for, to await; to be in store for, to be reserved for. Cf. AWAIT *v.* 8 a.

1745 *Sc. Transct. & Paragphr.* lx. i, But better mansions wait the just, prepar'd above the sky. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 512 Public Contempt shall wait the Public Fool. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. II. xviii (1853) 223 The same ..calculations wait us when we bend our eyes on that which is to come. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xi. (1901) II. 36 'Tea and coffee wait your pleasure in the drawing-room', observed the stiff-necked footman.

7. *intr.* or *absol.* Often *to wait for* = sense 6.

a. To remain in a place, defer one's departure until something happens.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Anel. & T.* 71 And certes lord, to abyden youre presence Heere in the temple of the goddesse clemence We han been waityinge al this fourtenyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* x. 6 Now whan she came to the porte of the cite, she founde Ozias and the elders of the cite waitinge there. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 642 But he was espyed by diuerse watermen..which wayted for his foorthcomyng on the Thamys. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iii. 17, I must lee and when I haue cau-e, and smile at no mans iests, eat when I haue stomacke, and wait for no mans leisure. 1688 FOXE *Bowyer's Hist.* III. i. 8 Some Gentlemen and Merchantsin waite, who know not how To get admittance. 1721 STRYPE *Spect.* No. 132 P 1, I dressed immediately, that I might make no one wait. 1729 *Mirror* No. 57 Allowing ladies to go unattended to a public place, to wait there for hours in expectation of the gentlemen with whom they were to dance. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The old adage, 'time and tide wait for no man.' 1848 RUSKIN *King of Golden River* i. (ed. 2) 12 What did you keep us waiti g in the rain for? 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 152 At the summit of these rocks I again waited for him. 1868 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* xxii, Sir James Ovington's carriage was waiting without. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport's* xi. 104, I must drive back to Genazano. I told the vetturino to wait there for me.

b. colloq. *To wait about*: to linger expectantly, 'hang about' where something is likely to happen. Also (chiefly *U.S.*) *to wait around.*

1879 MISS BRADDON *Clovan Foot* xxii. 11. 268 'What has become of your brother?' I asked, when he and Cris waited about, side by side, watching the assembly of the field. 1880 HERBERT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxx. The street was, however, well enough lighted for friends to see a figure waiting about on the pavement. 1895 M. HALSTEAD *Murdered Bear Star.* 57 It grew sort of monotonous waiting around. 1899 J. L. WILLIAMS *Soldier Story* 175, I suppose they're waiting around till it stops raining.

c. To defer action until some event has taken place; also with *in*, to delay to do something.

*a* 1833 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 25 Hee pulls with a long rope, that waights for mothers death. 1860 *Met. Tram. Mag.* III. 260 To wait 'no longer than ten or fifteen minutes for the efforts of nature', is a position which cannot be too strongly reprobated. 1876 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. xiii. 320 If we will all the world are worshippers, we must wait till the world is new made. 1883 CAMPLIN *Pract & Pr.* III. xv. A. 1 Many solicitors wait in this way. 1889 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. viii, Beatrix.. wished even to bur-t out a-crying until she got to the door. 1894 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii, § 6. 519 He had shown he knew how to wait, and when waiting how to act. 1895 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 434 A man should wait, and not take his own life until God summons him. 1897 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Philoct.* 123 Then when, now is the time. Why should we wait to do this deed?

d. *To wait on* : (*a*) *Sc.* to linger about a place; (*b*) *Sc.* also, to linger in expectation of death; (*c*) *Hawking* (see quot. 1891).

(*a*) 1808 *Scott Poet. Mscl.* viii, It's a sair thing to hae to do wi' courts of law, unless it be to improve one's knowledge ..by waiting on as a hearer.

(*b*) 1896 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* II. 377, I did hear tell that his father was waitin on, but I hope he's no that far gane yet.

(*c*) 1773 *Sc. Gentleman's Mod. Fowlcrnry* 318 If your hawk wait well on at her being first entered. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* (1828) 17 He [the hawk] may thus be made to follow the Shooter wherever he pleases; and is called Waiting-on. 1891 HARVEY *Bibl. Accipitr.* 231 A hawk is said to 'wait on' when she rises in circles over the head of the falconer, waiting for the game to be flushed.

8. *trans.* To *wait* one's ease to allow oneself to be distanced by other competitors in order to 'romp in' when their energies are exhausted. Cf. WAITING *vbl. sb.*1 2 c.

1856 ? DRUID ? *Post & Paddock* vi. 91 He patiently waited off, while Sancho forced the running.

9. *To wait up* : to defer going to bed in expectation of the arrival of some one.

1852 TROLLOPE *Warden* xviii, Dr. Grantly .. and Mrs. Grantly..are waiting up for you. 1892 *Temple Bar* Oct. 169 Don't wait up for me.

g. *To wait and see* (with indirect question or ellipsis of this) : to await the course of events, Recently often used with allusion to Mr. H. H. Asquith's repeated reply of 'Wait and see' to a succession of questions in parliament.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 267 However, we had no Remedy, but to wait and see what the Issue of Things might present. 1852 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scotland-Yard*, The tailor..bid them wait and see what happened. 1858 — *Dombey* xxxv, Mr. Towlinson..says wait and see. 1887 Miss M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Dreamland* viii, When we have had dinner, we will do something better than have stories. Wait and see.

*astrol.* 1925 F. S. OLIVER *Ordeal by Battle* v. vii. 82 History ..shows us at every other crisis of this sort always the

sance triangle of forces—a War party, a Peace party, and a Wait-and-See party.

**h.** *transf.* Of a thing: To remain in readiness for some purpose. Also, to remain for a while neglected.

1598 Lytton *Alice* i. iii, 'So you are come for your daily lesson?' 'Yes; but Tasso can wait if [etc.].' 1876 J. Parker *Paraclete* i. ii. 14 John's gospel is waiting until the Church becomes mature enough to understand it. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* iv. xviii, There was a letter waiting for Philip at home. *Mod.* This letter must be answered at once; the others can wait.

**i.** *quasi-trans.* To postpone (a meal) in expectation of the arrival of some one. *colloq.*

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ii, 'It's a trying thing waiting supper for lovers,' said Mr. Grinwig, waking up. 1860 Trollope *Orley F.* xxi, Who asked you to wait tea till near eleven o'clock?

**8.** Phrases. *To wait one's* (or *the, this, how, opportunity*, etc. †**a.** (sense 3) To watch, look out for an opportunity (*obs.*). **b.** (sense 6) To defer action until a fitting season or opportunity shall present itself.

a. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 19715 Pair reides þar-for can þai run, ..Night and dai to wait be time Quen þai moght cum to murther him. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 895 Weyte þy tyme, and be not þe last To come whan holy watyr ys cast. 1338 - *Chron.* (1725) 94 To time was he sette, forti waite be chance. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 523 He hame till his house is gane, And vntil opportune Wes to fulfill his mawte. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 708 Ful wel she soughte hym, ne spedde hym nat he kan To wayten a tyme of his conclusion. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. xiii. 1220 (MS. Cott.) Twa wes þe kende in prewse þat þis opportunyte Ane ethel þat barn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 Waytynge theyr vauntage whan they may smyte the ℞ slee þe.

b. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Andrew*) 1099 Pe bischope had gret will his feilone lust to fulfill, waitand bot haaine quhen he mycht purchess oportunite. 1606 B. Jonson *Volpone of N.* ii. ii, Well, Sir, I'll wait a better season. 1701 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome, Marcus* iv. 59 Cassius was obliged to wait his opportunity. 1709 Dundas in Owen *Wellesley Desp.* (1877) 644 We cannot with any material advantage to his government, but must wait favourable opportunities. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxix, She comes not—He will wait the hour, When her lamp lightens in the tower.

**9.** To be in readiness to receive orders; hence, to be in attendance as a servant; to attend as a servant does to the requirements of a superior. Chiefly const. *on*: see *wait on*, 14 j.

1526 Tindale *1 Cor.* ix. 13 They which wayte att the aulter are partakers with the aultre. 1567 Moryson *Itin.* ii. 49 Yea, his Lordships very hounds, likewise wring a sweet note at his stirrop, was shot through the body. *c* 1665 Milton *Samp.*, *Wher I consider* 14 They also serve who only stand and waite. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Lothian* xviii, He...dropped a little behind the lady, at whose bridle-rein he had hitherto waited with such devotion.

**b.** To serve as an attendant at table; to hand food and drink to persons at a meal. Phr. *to wait at table* (cf. 14 j), *† to wait at a trencher*.

1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* 36 b, [*Jacke shewes his qualities*] Yee and ich can, if needs be than, waight at the table well. *Ibid.*, When ich did waight at euerye baine. 1590 in *Sir T. Hawtrey's Nugæ Antiq.* (1804) I. 106 Item, That no man waite at the table, without a trencher in his hand. 1609 Breton *I pray you* (1879) B 2 To spend my time onely for...weighting at a trencher, looking on a falre house. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* iv. ii. (1903) 90 These gentlemen servants waite with their hatts on, and sett at their masters table, both at home and abroad where their masters are invited. 1792 Fielding *J. Andrews* i. ii, Joey was now preferred from the stable to attend on his lady, to...wait at her tea-table [etc.]. 1798-9 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xlvii, She had not prudence enough to hold her tongue before the servants, while they waited at table. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iv, The young woman with the flannel bandage waited, and dropped everything on the table wherever it happened to go. 1902 E. T. Thurston *Flytrap* v. iv, 'Is she a musician then [at the restaurant]?' asked Mr. Puckle. 'No—she waited.'

†**c.** *To wait up*: to be in attendance at the head of the table. *Obs.*

*a* 1632 Chapman *Alphonsus* iv. i, As for the Chambermaid and my self, we will take our places at the neither end, the Jester is to wait up, and live by the crums that fall from the Emperours trencher.

**d.** quasi-trans. *To wait* (*the*) *table* = to wait at, table. *Sc.*

1819 Stevenson *Trav. Cevennes* 152 She waited the table with a heavy placable nonchalance. *a* 1894 — *St. Ives* xi. (1898) 81 We had a good many constant passages as she waited table or warmed my bed for me.

†**e.** quasi-trans. *To wait attendance*: to remain in attendance. *Obs.*

1592 [see Attendance 5]. 1607 Shake. *Timon* i. i. 161.

†**10.** *trans.* To attend or escort, to accompany for the purpose of rendering service or showing respect. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1269 This Troyan, that...can so well doon alle his obeisaunces, And wayten hire at festis & at daunces. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* v. i. I must to Eldenbourg, vnto the King, There to take charge and waight him in his warres. 1623 Massinger *Guard.* ii. i, *Jol.* Waite me, *Caliph*. As your shadow. *Exeunt Jol. Caliph.* 1667 Davenant *Hind & P.* i. 557 She made a mannerly accuse to stay, Proffering the Hind to wait her half the way. 1697 — *Æneis* viii. 734 Steeds are prepar'd to mount the Trojan Band; Who wait their Leader to the Tyrrhene Land. *Ibid.* xi. 92 He...chose a thousand Horse...to wait the Funeral. 1759 Pope *Odyss.* iv. 61 Refresh'd, they wait them to the bow'r of state. 1798 — *Dunc.* i. 265 She bids him wait her to her sacred Dome: Well pleas'd he enter'd. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* i. 249 His shield Borne by the squire that waits him to the field.

†**b.** *absol. Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* ii. iii, One, that hath newly entertain'd the beggar to follow him, but cannot get him to wait more enough.

†**11.** To attend as a concomitant or consequence. 1672 TrahERNE *Chr. Ethics* 330 Prudence consists most in considering the business, for it will go on, and is ever waited with success when undertaken. *a* 1718 Prior *First Hymn Callimachus* 64 Swift Growth and word'rous Grace, O hasty Jove, Waited Thy blooming Years.

**II.** Special constructions with preps.

†**12. Wait after—.** **a.** To expect, look forward to; to be ambitious or desirous of, seek for. *Obs.*

1393 Gower *Conf.* III. 323 This Leonin...waiteth after gret lordschipe. But al thogh he faile. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* ix. 124 Hewen he balyeþ after nete wayten. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5440 He is descendid of an high lenage, And...waytith after right grete heritage. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. 132 That we wolde not after to be inoolid with the sacrament of the auter. *Ibid.* v. ii. 489 Certis he may not waite after that the conclusioun of this argument be proued or be trewe. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 483 It is not for vs to wayte after pyte of hym, for he is ouer cruell a kyng vpon vs. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Comm. Creede* 92 b, They do wayte after a kynge plentuously supported with ryches, with armies or hostes of men, and with other worldly ydles.

†**b.** To look out for; to watch, keep in observation. *Obs.*

*c* 1460 *Towneley* 1389 Derynne clepid a Marymere, & had hym ‘say on loft’, And weyte after our four Shippis, þat I after vs doith dryve. 1492-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. xx. 54 He sawe a fonde that...wayted busely after all letters, and syllables, and wordes, that were spoken, that they myght make accusynge of them. 1526 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 553 Thenne they set theymselfe doun vpon the fayr grasse, wayteynge after theyr seruente play.

**Wait for—:** see 5 b, 7.

**13. Wait of—.**

†**a.** To execute the commands of. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* i. xi. (1912) 69 He would estel the deeds of his enemies, but was waited of by none of him therin. *Ibid.* v. (1598) 465 A Counseller, who hath...the reasonable excuse of a seruant, that did but wait of his mistresse.

†**b.** To escort, accompany on the way, as a mark of honour: = *wait on*, 14 k. *Obs.*

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 860/1 This deponent...receyued the kynges maiesties Visions at Chichester, and conducted and waited of them into the diocez of Wynton. 1606 Chapman *Court. Usher* iii. ii. 77 Waite of Master Usher to the doore. 1709 W. Blundell *Diary* (1895) 78 I Waited of ye Duke and Duchess of Norfolk downe out of Wigan street of their way towards Preston. 1724 *Britton* No. 25. 210 Footmen...return when the Play is done to wait of them home. 1734 Anon. (London) in *Gent. Mag. MS. Coxeter. Add.* 31, 33 At 9 o'cloake I sent my pinnace to wayte of General Lacy.

†**c.** To pay a respectful visit to: = *wait on*, 14 m. *Obs.*

1552 Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 211 Tuesday shortely to wayte of yor Lordshippe. *c* 1673 W. Mountagu in *Brecknock MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I, 320 My Lord and his sons have been soe much out of my chamber, but I find the misfortune to be abroad 1 and upon that score...I will, wait of them again. 1677 *Ibid.* 324, I...shall acquaint his Lordship myself with it on Saturday, before which I cannot wait of him. 1678 N. Blundell *Diary* (1895) 55, I went to Bold to wate of Mr. Molineux[ but he was gon a hunting.

**d.** = *wait for*: see 7 a. Now *dial.*

1711 Vanbrugh (1893) 3 Stayed alday at Dick Jackson's waiting of Mr. Blackborne, who came not till after nine att night. 1808 *Trial Wm. Dean at York Assizes* 8, I was up waiting of my master until two o'clock.

**14. With** (*up*) **on.**

†**a.** To observe, watch; to fix one's eyes upon, gaze at. *Obs.*

*c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 342 For though your love laste a season, Yaste upon the conclusyon. *c* 1390 *Pl. Crede* 361 Þei leuyd þer-on, & lyȝe were wel mon Þei wayten, & to waite on þat worthy went þai belyue. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Kœh.) 6344 Anoon Jewel to his ship sent To warn his men to be redy, And to wayte on waite and spie. 1598 Florio *Dict., Inspecto*, to behold attentiuely, to wayte on.

†**b.** To lie in wait for. *Obs.*

1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 340 Of his men a gret partie He made in buskement aloofe, To waite on him in such a side That he ne mihte here hond ascape. 1595 *Locrine* iv. i. 189 Millions of diuels wayt vpon thy soule! 1608 Hosker *Tanquil.* vi. (1629) 28 As they sayled along the shore, Pharnax waited on them till they were out of the streight, intending to set vpon them in the open Sea.

†**c.** To secure, protect (oneself). *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2272 Pan he counseld Clenesra,...To be war of þat wegh, & wait on his-seluyn.

†**d.** To attend to (a business, a duty). *Obs.*

1598 Tindale *Rem.* xii. 7 Let hym that hath an office, wayte on his office. [Similarly in later versions.]

†**e.** With clause as obj.: To take care *that*. *Obs.*

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 255 He waytyed weill onne, be all meines possibile, that nathyng derogatyve of þair honour sulde ensew.

†**f.** To await, expect with desire or anxiety. *Obs.*

*c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* vii. 734 I wot the in witte to waite on myn end. 1628 *Verhs. Trag.* viii. 23 Was this the answear I long waited of the King? 1667 Milton *Ag. Smect.* 37, I perceave how hopeless it will be to reach the height of their prayses at the accomplishment of that expectation that weighes upon their noble deeds.

†**g.** To await the action of; to look to (a person) *for* something. *Obs.*

1882 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 233 That the Prince that lay in the Leaguer without the Wall, waited upon them [the townsfolk] for an answer.

**h.** In Bible phrase, to place one's hope in (God). Very common in the Bible of 1611; rendering several Heb. verbs of identical meaning.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxiii. 1 My soule wayteth only vpon God, for of him commeth my helpe. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxv. 3 Let none that wait on the be ashamed.

†**i.** To remain in one place in expectation of = *wait for* (7 a). *Obs.*

1691 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 7 We were forced to wait on him above half an hour, before he came from underneath the Ice.

**j.** To attend as or in the manner of a servant to the personal requirements of; to minister to the comfort of. + Also in phrases, *to wait on the cup, the trencher, the table* (cf. 9 b).

*To wait on* (a person) *hand and foot*: see Hand sb. 36.

1299-10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 2 No servyng manne waytyng vpon his maister...were eny garded Hose. *c* 1500 Chester *Nativ.* iv. 11 Then let yt devel him go, and to angells cum vnto him and waited on him. 1552 Huloet, Wayte on the cup, *ad cyathus stare*. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 66 Wee should have beene fayne to wayte on the table, and to bee contented with their leavings after supper. 1600 *Ayre's Sp. Trag.* iii. v. (Addit.), His Maiestie the other day did grace him, by waiting at his table on S. Sandys' *Trav.* 80 When they grow old, they most grow contemptible, being put to do the drudgeries of the house, and many times to waite on their children. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. xv, It is not every Gentleman of the Drawer's to wait upon the Chambers. If you come to that, answered the Maid, it is not my business to wait upon Gentlemen. 1847 Marryat *Children. Newf.* xxvi, You can have no servants to wait upon you. 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *Mildred Arkell* xi, When I was only six years old I had to wait on Mamma and Charlotte. 1901 Allbutt *Sherbo* xii. 124 He is waited upon hand and foot.

**k.** To accompany on one's way (as a mark of respect or to render service or assistance); to escort. Now *rare* (? exc. *U.S.*).

1490 W. Lauder in *Pantin. Lett.* I. 124 With other shippis waytyng on hym. 1491 *Cov. Leet Bk.* (1908) 586 There shuld be xl sowdyers mo waged for a quarter of be town wages to make vp a C. men to wayte vpon be Mayr in his viage etc. *c* 1550 Tindale *Jonas Prol.* A vj b, Ande one yt cast out deuels in Christes name they forbade because he wayted not on them. 1589 Hoste *Spiritual Voyage* 15 *Prouerbe*...a bridesmaid, or she that trimmeth and waiteth ready the bride, and waiteth vpon her homeward to her husbands house. 1595 Shake. *John* v. vii. 98 Let us rest, and you my noble Prince,...Shall waite vpon your Fathers Funerall. 1601 Lo. Mountjoy *Let.* 13 Nov. in *Moryson's Itin.* II. (1617) 155 We entertained them so well, that we waited on them to the walls of the Towne. 1611 Bible *Acts* 20 Sopater of Berea sonne of their dead bodies behind them. 1628 T. Ball *Life Preston* (1885) 175 His friends at Cambridge, who did highly honour him, and desired nothing more then to have waited on his dust to his long home. 1654 Evelyn *Diary* 4 July, On a letter from my wife's uncle, Mr. Pretyman, I waited back on her to London. 1713 Wheeler *Diary* (1851) 107 Then went to wate on Judge Dorn' out off the toun. *Ibid.* 125 He waited on her home. 1807-8 W. Irving *Salmag.* iii. (1860) 51 On landing we were set upon by our lodgings ..by a vast and respectable escort. 1880 P. Ludlow *Heir Hardy at College* vi. (1882) 79 Nick complied, and was waited on into the drawing-room.

*transf.* 1591 Tate *Petty's Pol. Anat.* Ded. to Dk. Ormond, Be pleas'd to permit this useful Treatise to wait on you to the Camp.

**l.** Hence (?) in Hunting, *to wait close upon*: to keep close to (the horse immediately in front).

1861 White-Melville *Market Harb.* xxv, Crasher...and Sawyer take their leaps abreast, the latter riding very quietly and carefully...Lindsay is standing close upon them.

**m.** To pay a respectful visit to; to call upon with the intention of showing respect, asking a favour, or the like.

1502 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 161 Also I shall wate one you at Nottingham one sunday next, except ye comand me contrary. 1592 O. B. *Quarrel Church Censures* 4 God willing he shall one day waight vpon you to better his knowledges. 1598 in *Verney Mem.* (1892) I. 279, I have A greate ambition yt you would please to waite vpon your Howse to delluer this inclosed letter to you. 1723 Addison *Guardian* No. 107 p 3 She will wait upon any Lady at her own Lodging, and talk by the Clock after the Rate of Three Guineas an Hour. 1765 R. Gan in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 367 The Baron D'Olbach and I intend ourselves the pleasure of waiting on you to dinner to-morrow. 1776 Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations*, A person of distinction...sent his respects to the gentleman that was with us, and begged to know when he should think proper to be waited upon. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvi, I took the liberty of waiting to enquire if she could charge me with any little commission. 1850 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 474 The Primate and the few Spiritual Peers who happened to be then in London paid orders to wait upon the King. 1889 *Manch. Exam.* 6 July 4/3 A deputation had waited upon Lords Salisbury, Kedesdale, and Roxbinghe.

†*transf.* 1760 Wilkes *Let.* 31 Sept. (1769) I. 15 Sunday's post brought me your lordship's [letter] of the 17th, and by the return of it this waits on your lordship.

**n.** Of things: To accompany; to be associated with; to attend as a concomitant or consequence.

1579-80 North *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 39 For no man is so...simple witted, as to bring into so povre and meane houses, bedsteades with silver feete, imbroidered couserlets, nor such other like costly furniture and ficenesse, as those things require to waite vpon them. 1592 Shake. *Mach.* i. vii. 14 Letting I dare not, wait vpon I would, Like the poore Cat i' th' Addage. 1612 — *Wint. T.* v. i. 149 Infirmitie

(Which waits vpon worne times). 1600 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sawrin, Tower Bottles* A 7. For 'tis a Maxim held in euery Nation, Great men are waxted on by Adulation. 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 33 To them shee gave the first and fairest Beame That waited on her Birth. 1697 Heylin *Eccles. Vind.* iii. iii. § 8. 146 Prayer..being an action meerly moral, was notwithstanding to be waited on with such rites and gestures. 1892 Pasco *Dict. Sailt. Wor.* vi. Justice and Freedom on his Conquests wait. 1798 Heavey *Medit.* (1818) 60 Her form was symmetry itself; every elegance breathed in her air; and all the graces waited on her motions. 1862 Louis *Handy Andy* i. Disappointment waited on all affairs in which he bore a part. 1879 Mill *Liberty* i. (1864) 2/2 Elective and responsible government became subject to the observations and criticisms which upon a great existing fact. 1878 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 299 Retribution is the suffering which waits upon injustice.

†c. To support the opinion of. *Obs.*

1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. v. (1640) 175 The Master of the Sentences (waited on herein with other learned men) is of opinion, That [etc.].

†15. **Wait over—.** To watch over. *Obs.*

Cf. Overwait v. (= supervise, Percock).

1589 Hamilton *Paraphr. Ps.* lxxvii. 32 His..providence..continually waited over them, and provided supplies for all their wants.

†16. **Wait to—.** To keep watch upon, attend carefully to. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 253 Sirs, waites to per wightis pat no vill be wroght. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Wayte, or take hede to, or be besy aboute, or be besy to do a thynge. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 410 Wayte, or take hede to, or be besy to do a thynge. 1530 Palsgr. 286/1 I wayte to, I am besy to do a thynge. 1552 Huloet, Wayte to, or take hede to, *Attendo*. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 177/30 To wayte to, *Attendere*. 1611 Cotgr., *Attendre*, to wait, or attend vpon; to wait for, or expect; to wait, or stay vpon; to wait, or tarry for; to wait, or watch vnto; to wait, or lie in ambush for; to wait, or lie in garrison for; to wait, or lie in siege for; to wait, or lie in ward for; to wait, or lie in watch for; to wait, or lie in waite for; to wait, or lie in wayte for; to wait, or lie in watch-worke for; to wait, or lie in watch-worke for; to wait, or lie in watch-worke

**IV.** A contrivance to supply the place of a waiter or facilitate waiting.

**† 9.** = Dumb-waiter 2.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1474 In lofty lines, we have often thought that it might be desirable to have an ascending and descending platform, on the principle of the ascending and descending cupboards or waiters. 1861 *Our Engl. Home* 184 Lorist invented, for the salons of Choisy, tables called waiters, which, on touching a spring, sank through the floor, to reappear laden for a repast.

**10.** A salver, small tray (cf. *waiting-board, -salver*).

1738 *Will of Frances, Lady Colchester*, I give unto my said niece ..my dumb waiter and the rest of my waiters. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. 205 Just then the servant brought Lady Louisa a note upon a waiter. 1800 Mrs. Sherwood *Susan Gray* 90 She placed a waiter in my hand, and ordered me to carry the tea to the Captain. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nickleby* xvii, A heterogeneous litter of pastrycook's trays, lamps, waiters full of glasses, and piles of iron seats. 1886 G. Allen *Hostess's Sake* xxxviii, Hetty took the...missive...from the old massive silver waiter.

**† 11.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1779 Ingenhousz *Effects of Electricity in Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 662, I began first by making use of one of those glass stands, which they call a waiter, and which has a glass support fixed at right angles to its center.

**Hence** (*nonce-wds.*). **Wai·terage**, the performance of a waiter's duties. **Wai·terdom**, waiters considered as a class. **Wai·terhood**, the state or condition of a waiter. **Wai·tering**, the occupation of a waiter.

1849 Carlyle *Remin. Irish Journ.* (1882) 36 All was done for me then that human waiterage in the circumstances could do. 1880 *All Year Round* IV. 79 Enter the dusty travellers;...round whom dance expectant gnats and midges in the shape of fluttering waiterdom. 1882 Dickens *Somebody's Luggage* 1, What is the inference to be drawn respecting true Waitering? You must be bred to it. 1885 — *Mut. Fr.* iv. iv, An innocent young waiter...as yet unversed in the wiles of waiterhood. 1887 *Lond. Rev.* 7 Apr. 388/1 Waitering admits of variation, and can be accommodated to circumstances.

**Waitership** (wē·təʃip). [f. Waiter + -ship.]

**† 1.** The office of warder, or watchman. *Obs. rare.*

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 364/2 The Office of Portershipp of the Castle of Knaresboro, with the Waytershipp of the same.

**2.** A position as a waiter in an inn, etc.

1889 *Catholic Hrnald*, 4 May 9 Workhouses and waiterships are the prizes in life for those who distinguish themselves.

**† Waith**, *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: [? 1 wæ̆θ], 3–5 waith, wayth, 3–6 waithe, 4 waath, 5 wathe, 8 veth. [n. ON. *veiðr* fem., hunting, fishing, catch of game or fish = OE. *wāð* fem., hunting (also weapon); OHG. *weida* (MHG. mod. G. *weide*) hunting, fishing, food, pasture (also wandering, roaming):—OTeut. ***waiþō, *waiþi-z, f.* root ***wai-* perh. cogn. with L. *vēnārī* to hunt. It is possible that the OE. form *wāð* may have coalesced with the Scandinavian word.]

**1.** The action or practice of hunting or fishing; chiefly, unlawful taking of game; also, the right to hunt in the game.

[n.1200 *Boeth. Metr.* xxvii. 13 Deað..ecsiþ hunta, a hiȝ on waðe.] *c* 1400 *Awntyrs Arth.* xxxiv, We arene here in the wode, walkande one our waithe. *c* 1468 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. 253 For fa his waith wes fayr þat Thre hundyr fowys gwyk he gat. *Ibid.* 533 Qwhar þat he trawalit mony day In waithe [*v. r.* wayth] and in herbage. 25 .. *Morning Maiden* 93 in *Maitl. Misc.* (S.T.S.) I. 362 Your deir may walk quhair euir þai will, I win my meit with na sic waithe. 1707 [see Vert *sb.*[1] 2].

**2.** Game for or obtained by hunting; spoil of the chase; also *gen.* spoil, booty.

*c* 1290 *Cursor M.* 5722, 3334 Esau went for till hunt,..Bot þat dai wayth [*Fairf.* waiþe, *Gött., Trin.* gamen] þan gait he noght, For baf man neuer sa gode graith It to noght ilk dai, did o waith. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1381 Here was wele fayrest Pat I sez bis seuen yere in season of wynter. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3233 That I ne wiste no waye whedire that I schulde, fore wolues, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestes I walkede in that wyldirnesse, waithes to seche. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3350 Till myddday and more nyght we not spede, for to wyn aa for waithe in þat wode brode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 286 *Nor.* I will cast out also Dowlys oone or two: Go youre way, go, God send you som waithe! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 388 Waith suld de dele, in all place, with fre hart. *c* 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 3 Hir is viher wynnis Uponland.., Quhylis in the corne, and vther mennis skaith, As outlawis dois and leuis on thair waith.

**† Waith**, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* (chiefly *Orkney* and *Shetland*). *Obs.* [? Altered form of Wayf *sb.*] = Waif *sb.*

1498 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 28 Perras dominicum de Orkney et Zetland..unacum *le Wrak, Wattell, Waithe* et *Hastewaith*, et cum consimilibus proficuis [etc.]. 1615 *Acts Sheriffs Orkney* § 15 In *Zelin. Admir. Reg.* [1840] 8 No person..shall hyde nor conseall any kynd of fish,..injuries, robaries, nor oppressioun in wraik or waith. [1897 D. J. Robertson in *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 332 Through the heaped mysteries of wraith and wrack, When the long wave from the long beach draws back.]

**b.** *attrib.* or *adj.* (Cf. Wait *a.*)

1670 *Shetland Documents* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 194 To...secure all wrack and waith goods.

*fig.* 1813 Douglas *Æneis* VI. Prol. 68 Virgilis tawis.. aucht nocht be laid vngabound nor waith.

**† Waith**, *sb.*[3] *Sc. Obs.* Also 8 weath. [? n. ON. *veð* = OE. *wæd* Wred *sb.*[2]] ? Cloth, clothes: chiefly in phrase *claith and waith* (see quot. 1815).

1603 *Philotus* xi. (Bannatyne Club), Philotus is .. Ane ground-riche man and full of graith: He wantis na lewels claith nor waith. 1708 Ross *Helenore* I. 48 Bannocks and keitbocks knit knit a claith She had laid by, an' rowd up in her waith. *Ibid.* II. 74 The worth o't twice, In claith or weath ye's get. *Ibid.* II. 75 Your claith an' waith will never tell wi' me. 1825 Jamieson *s.v. Claith now-maith* seems to have been a Prov. expression; perhaps q. 'neither cloth in the house, nor cloth made into garments'.

**† Waith**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 ? waithe, 7 weath. Of a horse: See quot. 1710.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. 1035 Sa waiche [*v.r.ed* waithe] and wold þan ar þa hors bat [etc.]. 1662 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 613 The Devill will be with hir and wa all lyk a weath-horse eftir meatis. 1710 Reddiman *Glost. to Donglas's Virg.* s.v., *Scot.* they say, a weath horse, i.e. a horse that wanders in pursuit of mares. *a* 1808 *Blanchetoun & Jelly-Horice* xviii. in P. Buchan *Ballads* (1828) I. 128 Yell take out you wild waith steed, And bring him to the green.

**Waithe**, obs. form of Weight.

**† Waithe**, *sb.* Sc. *Obs.* [f. ON. *veiða* to hunt, catch fish (related to *veið-r* Waith *sb.*[1])+-ing[1].] Fishing; a catch of fish.

*c* 1450 *Holy Rood* 587 He bad his child, 'Gyff thaim of our waithyng'. 1592 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1610, 1175 My 3 merkland..with..gers, wair, fischingis, waithing.

**† Waithman**. *Sc. Obs.* [n. ON. *veiðimaðr-veiðimann-r, veiði-, veið-r* Waith *sb.*[1]] A hunter; esp. applied to forest outlaws.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. 1446 Pis Menbrot [*i.e.* Nimrod] stalwart was of pythe And waythe man he was þar wyth. *Ibid.* 1. 3508 Litil Johan and Robyne Hude Waythmen war commendyt gud. 1538 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 334 The waithman, Robert Hode.

*Attrib.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 8 Me thocht a Turk and ane waithman Come lyk twa lumbardy, flull lang in waithman weid. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 144 Quhill force did fail, and than I saw thame fane To cry 'Peccant with the waithman nain'. 1578 *Lyndesay (Pitscottie) Hist. Scotl. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) I. 362 In waithman weyd Sen I saw find In þis wod walkand your sonne.

**Waiting** (wē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [-ing 1.]

**1.** The action of Wait *v.*[1] in various senses.

**†a.** Lying in wait, ambush. Also *waiting for*. Also *fig. Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Shrudeð eow mid godes wapne, and werieð eow wið deles waitinge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Zuo heb by kynde euerne seruaunt of vaytinge. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Waytyng to don harme, *insidie*. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xix. 11 The lorde hath..delyvered me..from all the waytynge fore of the people of the Iewes.

**†b.** Watching, observation. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* II. 89 Lecherye..Asin werkes and in wordes and waitynges with eies. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4566 But he perceiued hir noo thing From the toure of his waytyng. 1548 Hall *Chron.* Edw. IV 4 The kyngdom of God commeth not with waytingeforce.

**c.** Expectation; remaining stationary or quiescent in expectation of something. *In waiting* (predicatively): in a state of expectancy, remaining in one place or condition so as to be ready for some expected event: = *waiting* pres. pple.

1543 T. Jones in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 402 After 24 hours' waiting, the troops were obliged to retire. 1596–7 H. Buc *Hist. of Richard III* (1619) III. 142 When the coach was in waiting, and they all stood on the hill. 1818 Lyndon *Lect. to Murray* 17 July, I am still in waiting for Hemon's clerk, but hardly not at Geneva. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxvi, I thought...I would ask Richard to be in waiting for me at the conch-office, that we might have a little talk together. 1885 Payn *Talk of Town* II. 147 A closed carriage, in waiting, was at the door to take them to church, and they took their seats. 1889 Bridges *Growth Love* xxiii, I abide and abide, as if more stout and tall My spirit would grow by waiting for you.

**d.** Attendance upon a superior.

*c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvi. 61 Thay wald haif waiting on alway, But gwerdoun, gersell, or regaird. 1772 J. Bryce *Updat. Lex. Canillus* had the charge of Hermes from the similarity of his office, which was waiting upon the gods.

**e.** Official attendance at court; one's period or term of such attendance. *In waiting*: on duty, in attendance (said e.g. of a maid of honour, a lord- or lady-in-waiting, a court official).

For *groom-in-waiting, lady-in-waiting, lord-in-waiting*, see the first element.

1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 24 When the Princess asked him, who taught him so? he said, Lewis; then, said her Highness, Lewis shall be turned out of waiting. 1705 Lady *Bergavenny* (1857) V. 60 The duchesse of St. Albans being made one of the ladies of the bedchamber to the queen..begun her first waiting on Monday. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. iii, His Majesty sent for three great scholars, who were then in waiting, to peruse my treatise. 1739 — *Polite Conversation* III. 163 This is the last letter of interest during Lady Lyttelton's first waiting.

**2.** *attrib.* **a.** Consisting of, or characterized by, waiting (in various senses of the verb Wait). Sometimes hyphened to the sb. qualified.

1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 25 [They] distribute their waiting days after this order. 1720 tr. *De Monfaucon's Fort. Country Maid* (1741) II. 366, I had hired a Waiting Jobb, by the month. 1903 *Times* 6 May 14/3 Consumers..contend..that a waiting policy may bring some relaxation in values. 1910 *Ibid.* 19 Oct. 5/5 Rumania will..order the mobilization of these Army Corps, abandoning her waiting attitude.

**b.** Intended to be used or occupied while waiting, as *waiting-chamber, -lobby*; also Waiting-room.

*c* 1586 C. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 102 The first †waytyng chamber was hanged with fyne arras. 1912 Hoblyn *Card. Manning* 19 For Newman the Oriel Common-room was a home. For Manning the Merton Common-room was an unfamiliar waiting-chamber on the road to a profession. 1937 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Trust.* I. 7/1 By suspending them in the †waiting-lobbies, the impatient moments of parties might be close occupied.

**c.** Special comb.: **† waiting board, salver**, a tray intended to be carried by one waiting at table; **waiting game**, used to describe the tactics of a player who abstains from attempting to secure advantages in the earlier part of the game, with a view to more effective action at a later stage; also *fig.*; **waiting race**, a race in which the superiority of the winner is designedly not displayed till near the end of the course; also *fig.*; **† waiting Sunday**, ? a Sunday on which the town-council publicly attended the mayor to church.

1576 Lady Mary Cke *Trial. Cov.* 29 June (1892) III. 247, I bought ten, fans, Japan †waiting board, waliing sticks, &c. 1890 *Times* 27 Dec. 9/1 The best policy seems to dictate a 'waiting game. 1914 *Engr.* 6 Nov. 490/2 Apr. and the precarious health of Elizabeth ..made it desirable to play a waiting game in the east and to shower blows on Bohemia and Moravia. 1883 Mrs. R. Kerr *Cook's Guide* 21, Mrs. Forrester will ride a †waiting race throughout. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vi, You can do no good,—as they didn't find her within the first week or two, it's just a waiting race. 1886 East, Sheriff & Bakers, *Rudim. Min.* (Hadm. Libr.) 224 The style in which Buckle..particularly shone was in riding a waiting race...' None of your lying off and winding in the last stride for me,' would the owner of Euclid exclaim. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5286/4 Two †waiting Salvers. 1767 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 107 The future dress..for the Mayor's Sunday will then wait only on the †Waiting Sundays and other public state days.

**† Wai·ting**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Prob. a. ON. *veiting* (not recorded in this sense, but cf. mod. Icel. *veitingar* pl., entertainment, *veitinga-hús* restaurant), f. *veita* to give a feast (a special use of *veita* Wait *v.*[1])] Entertainment, feasting.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3344 He was ikan to pas Abrahams's seruant, *Gen.* xxiv. 33] sunkin thing, And batuel made fair waiting [*Gött.* gestning]. *Ibid.* 14544 Ai quen lewp was wont at wedd, Ilkan waiting wit sum frend, His supa war ai wit hin bun.

**Waiting** (wē·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [Wait *v.*[1] + -ing 2.]

**1.** That waits upon, or attends to, another; that acts as an attendant, or waiter. Often hyphened to the qualified sb, as in *waiting-gentlewoman, -lady*, Waiting-maid, -man, -woman, etc.

1538 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees) 159 To every one of my wayting servaunts vj s. viij d. the pece. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. i. 121 When your Carters, or your waiting Vassalls Haue done a drunken Slaughter. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. ii. 14, I thinke I told your Lordship..how much I am in the fauour of Margaret, the waiting gentlewoman to Hero. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. ii, If one should sewe For Lesbias loue, hauing two dames to wooe, And should impropriate those twaine The fauour of her waiting-wench to gaine, Were he not mad? 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* II. vi. 1. 47 This Gentleman..one especiall day..with his wife Constantia, and waiting hounds [It. merely *con suoi cani*], wandred vp into the Iland. 1713 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 76 Her little waiting Dogg was got vnder her Cloathes. 1719 D'Urfey *Tom Tones* v. ix, Certain pecuniary civilities, which are by custom due to the waiting-gentlewoman in all loves-affairs. 1859 Scott *Anne of G. in Poems*, That daughter of my mother is the only part of a waiting-lady's life that I have the least fancy for. 1861 Meredith *Poems, Patriot Engin.*, 33 Why, there's the ale-house bench :..And there's my waiting-wench. It's lasome as a hound. 1884 Burrow *Jest Addr.* 1. v. 28 It would, after all, have perhaps been more difficult to find waiting-boys who could speak English.

**2.** That waits for some person or thing: expectant; remaining stationary, or deferring action, expectantly.

1654 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 12 The present effect is startling to all nations round about, all in a waiting frame where his power will light. 1709 Rowe *Ambitious Step-Mother* I. i, Thy waiting Bride ev'n chides thee for delaying. 1720 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 24 As little barins free winnocks high Drap down a single belle to viewing by. 1897 *Daily N.* 2 Apr. 6/1/2 All noise and movement gradually ceased, and a waiting stillness followed which was solemn and impressive.

Hence **Wai·tingly** *adv.*

1880 C. E. Turner in *Macmr. Mag.* Apr. 478/1 [She] lived waitingly and hopefully 'on the eve' of an active career. 1895 Crockett *Lilac Sunbonnet* 26 The Mayor waiting..looked waitingly at the young man.

**Wai·ting-maid.** [Waiting *ppl. a.*] A superior female servant in personal attendance on a lady.

1598 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. iii. § 7. 20 b, Will dothe accompanie it [sc. Grace] and not leade it, as a waytinge maide after it. 1602 [Shakespeare] *Merry Wives of Windsor* II. ii, A Ribbon or a Glove. *Cla.* Nay those are tokens for a waiting-maid To trim the Butler with. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 92 Here is Mr. Jones, with such and such an Estate, has married his Mother's Waiting-maid. 1873 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* 56 ' Milady is very generous, said the waiting-maid.

**† Wai·ting-man.** *Obs.* [Waiting *ppl. a.*] A male servant who waits or attends upon his employer or on an official.

**Waiting-room.** [WAITING *vbl. sb.*] A room set apart for those who are obliged to wait (usually in a public building, now *esp.* in a railway-station; also at a doctor's or dentist's).

1883 J. Reid *Scott Gen'l'ner* (1907) 3 There are ten steps up to the first story (which is half-a-dining-room, withdrawing-room, bed-chamber, and waiting-room). 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* iii, I had called to pay my respects at the Admiralty, previous to joining, and was kicking my heels in the waiting-room. 1839 *Bradshaw's Railway Companion*. Sufficient time being allowed at the Birmingham Station, where refreshments are provided, and waiting rooms, with female attendants. 1869 Trollope *He Knew* etc. lx. (1878) 82 A club waiting-room is always a gloomy, unpromising place for a confidential conversation. 1888 *Manch. Guardian* 175 A rich-toned musical box is continually playing in the [dentist's] waiting-room.

*attrib.* 1883 Miss Yonge *Langley Advent.* 257 They offered to make her a waiting-room woman as soon as there was a vacancy.

**Waiting-woman.** Now *arch.* [WAITING *ppl. a.*] A female servant, or personal attendant.

1565 in Burgon *Gresham* (1839) II. 391 Desiring only one waiting woman to attende upon her. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 91 By all Dianas waiting women yond: And by her selfe, I will not tell you whose. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. v, Being now left alone with her maid, she told her trusty waiting-woman, That she never was more easy than at present. 1832 Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd., Neither the Highland cicerone Malise, nor the demure waiting-woman, were drawn from imagination.

**Waitress** (wē'tres). Also 6 **waitresse.** [f. Waiter + -ess.]

†**1.** A waiting-maid, handmaid. *Obs. rare*—1.

c1566 Cyrus Pembroke *Ps.* cxxvi. i, Be thou, lift I my earthly seeing... As the look of waitresse fixed on a lady lieth.

**2.** A woman who waits upon the guests at a hotel, restaurant, etc. Also one hired for a similar purpose on special occasions to supplement the staff of a private household. (Cf. Waiter 8.)

1851 *Dunbrek's Aeronaut Wonders* I. 80 A waitress who lived at Alconbury hill. 1856 Hood *Let.* Mem. (1860) I. 234, I boarded at the ghateau, and only slept and breakfasted at the inn. I had the prettiest girl in the place for my waitress. 1864 De Quincey *Autob. Sketches* Wks. II. 188 *note*, Waiter:—Since this was first written, social changes in London have introduced a corresponding new word—viz., *waitress*; which word, twenty-five years back, would have been simply ludicrous. 1871 M. Collins *Mary. & Merch.* III. I. 27 A bikom waitress from the inn.

**Waivable** (wē'vabl), *a. Law.* [f. Waive *v.*1 + -able.] That may be waived.

1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 238 Her estate was originally waivable.

†**Waive,** *sb. Law. Obs.* [a. AF. *waive, weyve*; prob. to be read as *weyvé* (= *weyvee*), pa. pple. of *weyver* Waive *v.*1] See quots.

1572 *Littleton's Tenures* xl. 43 A woman that is outlawed is called a wayve. Si Sicome home que est vifage est dit vifage et feme que est vifage est dit wayue.] 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 187 Waiue is a woman that is outlawed, and she is called waiue as left out or forsaken of the law, and not an viwe as a man is.

**Waive** (wēv), *v.*1 Forms: 3–4 **weive,** 4–6 **weyve,** (5 **weyfe,** 6 *pa. pple.* **waifed, weft**), 4–7 **wayve,** (4 **weyyve**), 5–9 **wave,** 5– **waive.** [ME. *weyven*, a. AF. *weyve-r* (whence Law-Latin *waiviare, waviare*), dial. var. of OF. *gaiver, gueiver* (early mod. F. in Cotgr. *guyver, guevver, gruever*) to allow to become a 'waif', to abandon, f. AF. *weyf* (fem. *weyve*), OF. *gaif* (fem. *gaive, gueive*, etc.) *adj.* and *sb.*: see Waif *sb.*1

Johnson 1755 spells this verb as *waive*, and places it as a sense of Waive *v.*2, though (following Skinner) he assigns to it a separate derivation from *gaverer*.]

**1.** *trans. Law.* To deprive (a person) of the benefit and protection of the law as a punishment; to outlaw. Chiefly in *passive.*

In AF. *weyver* had the sense 'to abandon, disclaim ownership of (a waif)'; see Britton i. xxii. § 8.

†**a.** *gen.* = Outlaw *v. Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10893 He let al so use is loue deliuert of prison Sir hubert de boru & opere put in prison were ide & bom þat iwelued were is put he þef al so.

**b.** In restricted application: To outlaw (a woman). ? *Obs.*

[The expression 'to be outlawed' (AF. *estre utlagé*) was held to be in strictness not applicable to a woman, for the reason given in the following quot.:

c1290 Britton i. xiii. § 3 Femme nequedent ne peut estre utlagé proprement, par ceo qe cle ne est mie ordeynd a disoyne, se a la ley, mes weyvé, qe vaut utlagerie.]

1487 *Com. Lect Bk.* 303 Pur no shirriff ne his Clerc frohensfurth take of eny person...beyng outlawed or weyved, for fyne to be assed for a hole yer but xl d. 1543 tr. *Act 3 Hen. IV*, c. 23 Where as many of the kinges liege people be outlawed, and many wayved by erronyous processe. 1628 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 442 When a woman is outlawed, shee is said to be wayued and not outlawed, because shee is neuer sworne to the Law. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* i. vi. 216 The Process continued till the Uncles were outlawed, and the Niece waived. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 183 Persons outlawed, or waived in personal actions, may allow by fine.

**2.** *Law.* To abandon (stolen goods). *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1532 tr. *St. Germain's Dial. Doctor & Stud.* II. iii. 8 b, Goodes stolen, and seased for the kynge or wayued be forfeite oneclesse appele or enditement be sued. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 186 b, The queenes officer or the Keeue or Bailife to the Lord of the mannor... may seyze the goodes so wayued to their lordes vse. *Ibid.* 187 If a man be pursued...as a felon, and hee flyeth, and leaueth his owne goodes &c. these shalbe taken as goods wayued, & forfait to the Lord that had his stolne. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 51 Vpon notice giuen to the sick B. that such like cloth was wayued within his Manor of Fulham, and left in a ditch there, and no owner knowen, here ..appointed the same to be watched. 1630 *Nuisance to Pyrpole Hostess* 18 If any goods be wayued in any manner, and if any man take them, then it shall lee lawfull for mee to destraine. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 286 Waifs, *bona waviata*, are goods stolen, and waived or thrown away by the thief in his flight, for fear of being apprehended.

†**3.** *gen.* To abandon, leave, desert, forsake (a person, place, thing). *Obs.*

c1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 10185 Al be contre gan bey weye & fledde a-wey vn to Murreyue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 313 The lond was thanne sone weyved. c1400–50 *Ware of Ser.* 992 Pus will he wel spare wif, & wayfe wil spare wer. *Ibid.* 1469 Bot bowis first fra tyr þour largis & blythly þaim wayfe (*MS. Dublin* woyder). c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3093 Pe hors wayuand sone, he left, And lokyd how he myght fle eft.

†**b.** To cast aside, relinquish, forsake (the truth, one's faith or God, a state or condition, etc.). *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6597 Forsake lew at alle þy wyfe, But þou will be wel sadde þere wyfe, & wayfe neuer. *Ibid.* 9469 Bot bowis first fra tyr þour largis & blythly þaim wayfe (*MS. Dublin* woyder). c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3093 Pe hors wayuand sone, he left, And lokyd how he myght fle eft.

†**c.** To cast aside, relinquish, forsake (the truth, one's faith or God, a state or condition, etc.). *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6597 Forsake lew at alle þy wyfe, But þou will be wel sadde þere wyfe, & wayfe neuer, And cryestendom receyue. c1386 Chaucer *Pars. Prol.* 33 For Paul þat writeth vn-to Thymothee Repreueth hem that weyuen fro the Fey. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 180 So þat baptesme thei receiven And alle here false goddes weyven. c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 685 Falshed of freres hap...maid hem to ...weyue Oure Bileue. a1667 R. Lovedan *Lett.* (1663) 235 They waw'd the King, party, and adher'd to this.

†**d.** To abandon, give up (a task); to resign (an office). Also with inf. as obj. *Obs.*

c1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2256, I seye that though ...ye weyue to performe thilke same emprise by liuste cause men shulde seyn that ye han ydel hir, or ellis by cause of ...drede. *Ibid.* P 2406 Leat that the charge oppresse thee so soore that thee bihoueth to weyue thyng that thou hast biganne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 This innocent, which was deceived, His Papacie anon hath weyed, Renounced and resigned eke. *Ibid.* I. 363 Fro ferst that holi cherche hath weyved To preche, and hath the aweyd received. a1661 Fuller *Worthies, Lincoln* (1662) 231 Walter Haddon was...chosen Vice-Chancellour of Cambridge 1550. Soon after he was made President of Magdalen-College in Oxford, which place he weaved in the reign of Queen Mary.

†**e.** To abandon or withdraw formally (legal proceedings, a motion); also, to defeat (a proposal) on a vote. *Obs.*

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 104 Though there might be some reason for their [the bishops'] absence when the trial was, according to law, before and by its peers only, yet when that judgment was waived, and a bill of attainder brought up against him, their votes in that bill were as...essential as of any other of the Lords. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 11, I was before for bounding, but that was not relished. It is not for our honour to recede to what we have waved. a1664 Hevlin *Hist. Reb.* (1671) 292 Others conceived, that they had very well performed their duty...by waving all Proceedings against them. 1692–3 Wood *Life* 24 Jan. (O.H.S.) III. 414 It was then moved, and proposed that Dr. William Lloyd's book..be burnt also: but waved only by eleven votes. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* 24 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 208 The Prolocutor of y^e Lower House of Convocation..had a great mind to waive y^e proposal Vt..y^e publick thanks should be return'd to Mr. Wall ..but this seeming a little unprecidented, 'twas wav'd. 1739 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 441/2 For this Reason, he hoped, the Hon. Gentleman would...waive the Motion he had made.

**f.** To abandon, relinquish, give up (an intention). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 228 He no more blynde, but weynyth [*read* weyuyth] youre wille. 1700 in *Pepys' Diary* (1879) VI. 360 He designed to have mounted on horseback at some distance from the town...but seeing the crowd and dust he had to encounter with, very prudently waved it. 1787 *Hibernia* I. 80 Has ever entertained a desire of taking a tour to Scythia, but waved it. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. 1. 7 He waved his intention of landing on that island, and steered for Ternate.

†**4.** *intr. To waive from* = 3 *b. Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 235 Pouye he to-day fro þys god weyue, To-morwe hys god wyl hym receyue. c1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 229 But þat ye been so ful of sapience That yow nis likkede for your heighe prudence To weyven fro the word of Salomon. c1386 — *Squire's T.* Prol. 6 From a sooth eaten wol they (*sc.* women) weyve.

†**5.** *trans. & Law.* To relinquish (a right, claim, or contention) either by express declaration or by doing some intentional act which by law is equivalent to this; to decline to avail oneself of (an advantage); to refuse to accept (some provision made in one's favour).

AF. *weyver* with this sense is very frequent in law-books from Britton (*c*1290) onwards.

*To waive the tort*, said in common-law pleading of a plaintiff who, having the choice of framing his action in contract or tort, elected to sue in contract.

c1489 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 103 Pe title of Johury is by his owne Counsell wayued and taken for nought. c1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 70 But that ech partie would have his reason, to prove their intente... And weyven would no point for them might fail. 1666 H. Jackson in *Earb. St. Pet. friends* III. (1912) 718 They...altogether waved that for which at first they pretended to commit mee. 1689 Real *Rep.* I. 223 *Note, per Curiam*, after special Issue joyned, the parties cannot waive it, and plead general Issue without motion in Court. 1776 G. Wilson *Cobb's Rep.* III. II, 26 If lands be given to husband and wife in tail or in fee, and the husband dies, there the wife cannot devest the freehold out of her by any verbal waiver...As if before any entry made by her, she saith that she utterly waives and disagrees to the said estate,...yet the freehold remains in her. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 177 In cases of this kind the wife cannot waive the provision thereby made for her, and claim dower at common law. 1828 Bell *Comm. Lease Next.* (ed. 3) I. 404 The parties may, by anticipation, waive the rules of negociation (of bills). *Ibid.* II. 96 Lien may be waived by agreement before the possession begins. 1839 J. J. Andrews *Tr. Circniteers in Law Quart. Rev.* (1885) I. 232 Thoughts much too deep for tears subdue the Court When I *waumpish* bring, and good-like waive a story. 1876 *Bigelow Proc.* N. Y. *Pr.* (1876) 381 If however the lessor, after knowledge of the happening of the event, continues in any way to treat the lessee as his tenant, he is said to waive the forfeiture, and can no longer take advantage of it.

**b.** To refrain from insisting upon, give up (a privilege, right, claim, etc.); to forbear to claim or demand.

1625 Donne *Su Serm.* (1640) iii. 22 He takes the name of the Son of ...woman, and waives the glorious name of the Son of God. 1633 T. Gerard *Descr. Somerset* (1900) 185 A thing even usuall in those times for a man to wave his own armes and take his mothers. 1660 *Journ. House of Lords* In the Parliament...did endue the Queen with such plentifull power, as to make her supreme Governor (the title of Head was waved) in all causes. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xv. 143 The Jurisdiction of this Lord Chief Justice is very great...the Lords sometimes waving their own Power, have directed him to send for Persons to seize Persons suspected of Capital Crimes. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 24 ¶ 13 Congreve waved his title to dramatic reputation and desired to be considered only as a gentleman. 1787 Gen. Ch. *Bill Mortality* 12 This will be a Tribute Death requires. And never waves his claim. 1805 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 108 Perhaps Lieutenant Hewson would waive his rank to be in a Ship. 1820 W. Scott *Monast.* I. xiii, *Ibid.* I. 128 He lays aside his distance and reserve, and is glad to wave the distinctions of rank. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xviii. But you just now asserted that you would waive your rank. 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 679 Marlborough consented to waive part of his rights, and to allow precedence to the Duke on the alternate days. 1886 G. *Allen Dan. Dervinle* vi. 81 The younger [naturalist]...waived his own claim...in favour of the elder. 1912 *Throne* 7 Aug. 240/1 The long outstanding appeal to the Union Government to waive a portion of the 60 per cent. tax was likely to be successful.

**c.** To forbear persistence in (an action or course of action); to refrain from pressing (an objection, a scruple, an argument).

1681 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 58 And of y^e regard to y^e present and future good of y^e posterity who are to succeed us all objections of y^e nature. 1706 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 284 He was willing to waive all resentm^ts. 1795 Burke *Lindt. Nat. Soc.* 76, I submit to the Condition, and, though I have a notorious Advantage before me, I wave the Pursuit. 1774 J. Walker *Gen. Idea Pronoune. Dict.* 2 If, therefore, every argument for the improvement of language were waived, but what arises from the superior harmony and beauty of an uniform and well-polished tongue, we might with reason conclude, that [etc.]. 1818 Scott *Fr. Laumm.* xxiii, A contract cannot be supposed to be given up, where the party waives insisting upon it. 1842 Bishopp *Wroxton Manuf.* II. 29 We trust that the example of so many of those engaged in the same trade, will induce the manufacturers of Leeds and Bedwick to wave their opposition to this measure. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 54 Yet the king is willing to waive his objection. 1881 Besant & Rice *Ready-Money M.* xxxiii, And had eaten nothing for two days, he was induced to waive this scruple, and presently made a hearty meal.

**d.** To dispense with (formality, ceremony, etiquette).

1781 Cowper *Lett.* 7 July, Lady Austen, waving all forms, has paid us the first visit. 1820 S. Green *Reformist* 1. 20 You, it is true, are my servant; but wave all ceremony, all difference. 1821 Lamb *Elia* 1. *Grace before Meat*, The supplementary or tea-grace was waived alt gether. 1833 Lytton *Godolphin* I. xxii. 206 'A few persons come to me to-morrow evening,' said she; 'do waive ceremony, and join us.' 1853 Dixon *W. Penn* xxviii. (1872) 259 Penn was with the Quakers, who agreed to waive the ceremony of the hat.

†**e.** To forgo, deny to oneself (some advantage). *Obs.*

1662 Boyle *Coral. Nov. Exp. Phys.* xxxvii. (1682) 129 To make the Trial more accurate, I wav'd the use of other Bellows. a1688 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 130 Therefore you wisely scorn your Side to humble, Or for the Senate's Sake to wave the Rumble. 1778 Macklaine *Man Herald* II. vi. (1803) 473 He had prevailed on himself to wave that pleasure. 1796 *Epitaph. to Cath. Clive in Publ. Hall Gaz.* 12 Oct. (1887) 11/2 Content with Fame, ev'n the ambitious she wav'd.

**f.** *refl.* To put aside one's own interests. *rare*—1.

1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* xiii, She could not claim the pleasure of having waived herself to please him.

†**6.** To shun, avoid; to elude, escape; to dodge (a blow). *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 250 Okerers men oght to weyue, þese hem noght, ne of hem receyue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 58 So that he hath the wordes weyved And thogh his Ere is noght deceived. 1446 Lydg. *Two Nightingale Poems* I. 306 The fende..Goth fast a-boute..Leying hys lynes and..Wyngge his hokes, on theym you to receyue, The which thus lystnly a have ony eschewe & weyve. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iv. 36 Ne of thy late life memory is left, Ne can thy irrecuocable destiny be waived. a 1656 Usher *Ann.* (1658) 491 In the fight Jonathan reached forth his arme to strick Bacchides, but he warily waved the blow.

**b.** To decline (combat). ? *Obs.*

1604 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 578 Both thought it was their wisest course To waive the Fight, and mount to Horse. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 95 Refuse me not this one, this only Pray'r, To waive the Combat, and pursue the War. 1728 Pope *Iliad* XVIII. 689 Yet but (my Friend!) be still the wiser way To waive Contention with superior Sway.

**c.** To evade (doing something). † Also with *inf.* as obj.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 866 Folis with hond to touche a corner weyueth. 1868 N. Wisseman *Hygace, Unmarked sor* Furthermore in the Government of Plimouth, to one great griefe, not onely the Pastor of a Congregation waveth the administration of baptisme to Infants, but divers of his Congregation are fallen with him. 1893 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispatch't* 548 They..confess themselves to seek in those points, as we have been lately, and therefore waive their grants by waving to patronize it. 1685 Boyle *Occas. Reff.* Introd. Pref. a b, That I may have the greater Opportunity to hear other men Opinions, and less Temptation to waive the complying with those that shall seem Reasonable. 1768 Boswell *Corsica* II. (ed. 2) 82 The judge could wave the pursuit of justice by saying, 'Non procedatur'. 1793 Mme. D'Arblay *Lett.* 22 I have waived and waived accepting acquaintance from the moment of Madame de Stael's arrival. 1823 Scott *Peveril* iv, He calmly waved receiving the paper which Sir Jasper offered to him. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bk.* (1871) I. 334 There appears to be no concealment on the part of the officers in thus waiving the exercise of their duty.

**d.** To put aside, avoid (a subject, a discussion).

1546 Heywd *Medit.* (1818) 71 [My mind] has studiously waved the fearful subject, and seems unwilling to pursue it even now. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxx. 180 To my surprise, he waved everything that would have led to the subject. 1776 Miss Burney *Evelina* I. xxvi. 149, I would fain have waved this subject. 1816 *Quar. Rev.* XIV. 1831, Which..they considered as the most effectual mode of solving all difficulties and waiving all discussions. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. iii, I uncred..waived the subject.

**†7.** To refuse, reject (something offered).

1596 Hooker *Medit.* 2398 Thou shalt chese the beste and wayue all others thynges. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 376 [Constantius proclaimed] Up-pine of dath that nomen weyve That he bapteme ne receive. 14.. Hocclève *Minor Poems* xxi. 105 Many a man this day, but they gold wey, of men noght wole it take ne receyve, And yf I hem bydde, anoon they wyll it waive. c 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* 510 If it [*sc.* a proposed statue] myght kepe my flesh in swiche degree It shulde not rote, I wolde it neuere weyue.

**b.** To put aside, avoid (acceptance of (an offer, something offered); to decline (an honour), deprecate (praise). ? *Obs.*

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xviii. 218 The neighbour gentry court him for his acquaintance, which he either modestly waveth, or thankfully accepteth. c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. II. iv. 73 They offer'd the Crown to the Duke of Saxony, and he waving it, they sent Ambassadors to the Palsgrave. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* III. viii. 449 He for some time desired leave to wave the honour they offered him. 1783 Richardson *Grandison* III. xii. (1781) 90 The Doctor very modestly received the compliment, and, to wave our praises, gave us [etc.].

**†8.** To treat with neglect, ignore, disregard, overlook; to let pass (an opportunity). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17320 The lyng answered..For ye wot wele..That I loue dame consayl here, & nil my lyff I wayved hit neuere. 1586 in Motley *Netherl.* (1860) II. 143 [Lord Burgh] in a most vehement passion, waived the countermand [and his inferior subordination was very generally imitated]. 1646 M. Hopkins *Let.* in Gaule *Cases Consc.* To Mdr., I would certainely know afore whether your Town ..[is] willing to give..to my Dominion..; else I shall waive your Shire. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 169 It is no hard matter in like manner to wave the Autoritie of those of later time, that oppose our Dominion. 1657 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 228 This perswasion of that unfortunate lord occasion'd his majesty to wave the advice of Lilly and others, &c. 1680 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 62 But there are strange reasons and junctures at Court in all businesses, which must be catched or waived. 1872 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. 77 The Courts of the Archbishop of Canterbury, where any Contempt of Suites between any persons may (waving all inferior Courts) be decided. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* xix. (1883) 129 The Soldan..being wholly in the power of the soldiers, it is convenient that he also waive the people and insinuate with the army. a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. xxiii. 864 God,..respecteth not only the good of this or that person, but often for some degree waving that, or taking care for it in a less remarkable way) hath a provident regard to the more extensive good of a whole people. 1723 Cyrus Wingfield *Atlas. Penses* 263 Receive it then, I expel these mortal Cares, Nor wave a Med'cine, which thy God prepares.

**b.** To put aside, refuse to defer to (another's scruples). *rare.*

1583 Hy. Matthewau *Fr. Wimes & Pol.* iv. 53 Being under promise, however, to purchase such and such quantities of wine, he must waive their polite scruples.

**9.** To refrain from applying or enforcing (a rule, law), to make an exception to.

a 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* II. (1670) 32 And (doubtless) it was the very intention, of the Law-makers themselves, that their Law, calculated for the regulating ordinary cases only, in such cases as these (I mean extraordinarie-) should be waved. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 127 So with reason wave the Rule, as occasion requireth. 1849 Miss Muloch *Ogilvies* xix, But in the present case we will waive the aforesaid excellent rule.

**10.** To abstain from entering upon (an action, inquiry, a discussion, subject of consideration). Often with some notion of reserving for a future opportunity: To allow to stand over, put aside for the present, defer.

In the 17th c. very often with whl. sb. as obj.

1892 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* xxiii. (1653) 152 Upon which a Query might be raised...But this, as being not properly appertaining to our Designe, we shall wave it for the present. 1694 P. Browne *Diet. Parables* III. 100, I shall wave the enquiry how far religion is conducive to these things. 1698 Whiston *Theory Earth* II. 154 Now verbal Descriptions, tho' of small advantage..I shall wave more words about it. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 267 P 1 For this Reason I shall wave the Discussion of that Point. a 1726 Blackall *Wks.* (1729) I. 110 A Reason why he wav'd concerning himself to decide this Difference, might be, because the Man came to him..as to a Person invested with secular Power. 1729 Dilworth *Pope* 76 For our part we shall wave entering into a disquisition about the English translation of the *Iliad*. 1774 Mitford *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 207, I shall wave all further remarks. 1797 Hy. Lee *Canterb. T., Pard's T.* (1799) 81 Let us wave further conversation. 1809 Ruskin *Lect. Art* I. 29, I wave discussion of this to-day. 1873 Brandon *Rod Cust. Nt.-Cap* 1529 Well now, waive nonsense, and tell me what you mean.

**†b.** To refrain from dealing with (a statement) or narrative; to omit, leave out. *Obs.*

1631 Davenant *Gondibert* I. xxiii, In pity thus, her beauty's just renown I wave for publique Fence. 1695 Burnet *Th. Earth* (1697) 130 John tells us this Wall is 600 hundred forty four Cubits, (and waves the manner of the measure of Ezekiel). 1884 J. Morrison tr. *Strype's Eccl. Mem.* I. 478 Some suffering by the others leaving out (omitting circumstances) might have very well excused from observing. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 19 But wave whate'er to Cadmus true hath been, And fix..The horror of thy song: At Oedipus. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxv. 334 Then followeth his Answer...Which being very long I was in some suspense about inserting it, inclining to shrinate or wave it wholly. 1748 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. ii, To wave therefore a circumstance, which..is not greatly material.

**¶** 11. [Confused with Waver.] To put (a person or thing) *aside, away, off* with or as with a wave of the hand.

1892 J. K. Mathineau *Ellis of Garr.* vi. So You should have seen him waive us off with his cane. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* ii. 50 Both of whom [St. Peter and St. Paul], having given their testimony to Christ, are now, contemptuously waived aside as idle dreamers. 1877 — *Marth. Serm.* xxii. 210 And pure Faith..will here take you by the hand and waive off Satan's baser temptation. 1897 Hy. S. Cressh *Life in Light Lett.* (1904) II. vii. 298, I cannot waive away all the teaching of history.

† **Waive,** *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms : 4–5 **wayfe, weyve, wave,** (4 **weive**), 4–6 **waywe,** 4 *north.*, 5–6 *Sc.* **waif,** 5 **waive, (wafe)**; *pa. t.* 4–5 **wayved, weyved,** (4 *Sc.* **waivit**), 4 **wafe,** 5 **waived.** [n. ON. *veifa* (Norw. *veiva*) to wave, swing (trans. with obj. in dat.; also rarely refl.), corresponding to MDu. *weiven* to wave, swing, also (= mod.Du. *wuiven*) to beckon, signal (? whence Weave *v.*4 *Naut.*), and OHG. *-weiben* (in *ziweiben* to destroy, disperse, *umgeweibet* unbroken) :—OTeut. **waiþjan*. A parallel formation, OTeut. **waiþōjan*, is represented by OHG. *weibōn*, MHG. *weiben*, to move hither and thither, wander, waver; these senses (cf. Icel. *veifa* to wave, thought not recorded, have belonged to the ON. word. The root, OTeut. **waiþ-* :—Indo-Eur. **weip-*, is a variant of OTeut. **waip-* :—Indo-Eur. **weiH-* as in *L. vibrāre* (see Vibrate *v.*). Both these roots are represented, with the general sense to wave or swing, to shake, both in Teut. and other groups. Of these and of them has a variant with prefixed *s* : see Sweep *v.*, Swift *a.* (The Indo-Eur. **weip-*, **weiH-*, to wind, represented, e.g. by OE. *wōfian*, Goth. *waurbjan* to wrap, bathe, are probably unconnected.)

Cf. ME. *weive-n*, Weve *v.*, which is of cognate if not identical origin, and has most of the senses below. In some contexts it is difficult to distinguish between *waive v.*1 and *v.*2, and probably some shades of meaning may have originated from confusion between the two. See also Wave *v.*, the relations of which to this verb are to some extent uncertain.

**I.** *trans.* **1.** To move to and fro or from side to side (the beard, hand, or something held in the hand); : to wave, wag.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 244 Pur pencels þei weyued. 13.. *Cant. Myst.* (Kut. MS.) 1824 Wayued his berde for to wayte quo-so wolde ryn. c 1440 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2567 Cuthbert wayued his hand on þaim. 1530 Lyndsay *Monip.* 204/15 To Wayue, wag, *agitare*.

**2.** *To cause (a)* to throw open (a window, a wicket, etc.). Cf. *to cause to fly*, Weve *v.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 453 Penne wafte he [Noah] vpon [? *read* vp] his wyndowe, & wyyed per-oute. c 1378 *Sir. Leg. Saints xxv.* (*Pullan*) 315 With þat he curtyng vpe he wafte. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 611 Biddeth amende-pow makes him til his maistre ones, To wayne [*read* wayue] vp pe wiket pat he wonman shette. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 945 (Dubl. MS.) Than pauayd forth pe prouaile whenne into a preuay chaumer, Wayfyn vp a wyndow & wastes þer-owt. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 676 Medea..Waynet [*read* wayuet] up a window, the welkyn beheld. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 408 (Douce MS.) He wayned [*read* wayued] vp his viser fro his ventaile.

**3.** To remove, put away, banish. (Cf. Waive *v.*1 1a, of which some of the quots. here may be fig. examples.)

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 167 And elde hant good hope and hastilich he shifte hym, And wayued awey wanhope and with hym wyf, þe fyfthe, c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T.* 210 Thou knyttest thee, ther thou art nat receyved a Thee thrust awey, lest thennes artow weyued. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9783 Hit is wit soche wilnes wayne [? *read* wayue] out of mynd. 14.. Hocclève *Minor Poems* I. 190 [The Wynjin sayn] O John,..an heuy sone Haue I of thee; deeth hath nym othir weyued! *Ibid.* vii. 79 Thy might, I woot wel, is my gilt to weyue. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3321 Thy jilly wyttys thow hast lost. Ther myght, ther force, ar fro the weyved. c 1440 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 247 A-way let yo wnde all sich langage. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl., Christ's Entry Ferras.* 52 Though I be wretched and vnworthy, wayve me not from thy woone! *Ibid., Magi's Obl.* 111 By Myrre, that waves Corruption.

**4.** a. To cast off (a garment : cf. Weve *v.*). **b.** To cast *away* (money).

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15388 Fro his necke his mantel he wayued. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 318 þis money..þat Judas in a wrath þus wayued away.

**5.** To send or dispatch.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1175 Hiis monesis as a maister him..all pe trouage bare to him tittly to wayne [*read* wayue] *Alex. Dubl. wayfyn*. *Ibid.* 1716 (Dubl. MS.) Suche presaudex owt of perse he to pe prince wayfus. *Ibid.* 1728 For it is wayued to vs to wete pat wickidly pou haues,.. Prayuyl pe pleuuys wele pou wayfus. *Ibid.* 1916 And alike a word he þaim wayues be writ fro him-self. *Ibid.* 2695 Sire, we haue wayued to 30w writtis.

**6.** To cause to pass; to divert. *To waive (one's) wit* : to change one's mind.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 318 Me whom he was deceived Of love, and from his pourpot weyved. a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 322 in *Babees Bk.*, Be stabulle of chere and sumwhat lyst, Ne sese pou neuer pe wyne pat pou wayues wyth-inne. 1509 Oft he waivet hir wit & hir wille changeth. And mervyt hir mynd, as maydons done yet. 1516 in *20 Pol. Poems* xvi. 100 Pat freek may wel be holden a fool, Pat wayueb wit, and worcheb by wille.

**II.** *intr.*

**7.** To wave, move to and fro in the wind; to be tossed about; to totter.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13122 Wend yee þar he rede to find þat holdes waifand wit þe wind! a 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 159 R. was perceyued, þei were rengeel radie, & how þer pencels weyued. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 402 Wheder-warde so þe water walte, lat [the ark] redyssche. c 1400 *Gawayne* 880 The Justice and the scherreve bothe honged hye, To weyven with the ropes and with the winde drye. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14062 Til pat Gregeis hem al considerde With brode baneres a-boute wayvande. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9513 For the smorther, & the smoke of pe smert logbys, Pat waivet in the welkyn..All the skale myght in the sercle aboute. c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 246 And the knyght he there assente Schulde wayue wyth the wynde. c 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* iv. 1377 Looke on your goddis how pei toumble and wave Right whan men wrape hem—so itill is her myght! c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4702 pe schip weyued hidir and þidir. c 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 440 Worthy to be Hingit haigh on ane tre...To wag with the wynd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. v. 174 The south wind Nothus thre dayis me draif Throwout the see, with violent wraith wraf. *Ibid.* x. ii. 108 Lyke as first, on ane hicht pat hang ouer, The swouch is hard wythin the woddis waif. *Ibid.* XI. xv. 66 Bot for the tother part, suyth to say, He leit do waif with the wynd rycht sua. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* 3973 To hunt cattell ye war ay speidie, Thairfoir ye sall wanue [*Bann. MS.* waif] in a widdy.

**8.** To wander, stray.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2386 Many a bold burn after þat best prikes,..þat nojber burde ne burn bi-lath at be quarrer, but went after be werwolf & wayned [? *read* wayued] from pe heren. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 338 Here leges wolde hem noght receive, So that pei hem sowe wille let tham wake. *Ibid.* lond in other place. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 960 Weryd worthe the wyghte ay, that the try wyrt refeyie, That mase the to wayfe here in thise wast holtes. c 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* iii. 593 Ye wolde be with hym euere and neuere fro hym wane. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 430 The kyng will that thay be sale...& thare sawe will let tham walk. *Ibid.* xxi. 103 If he abowte waue Any langere, his warkys may we ban.

**b.** *fig.* To stray, wander in purpose.

c 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 380 in *Macro Plays* 88 Whom to falwe, weyn I ne may!..as wynde in waiyr I wave. c 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* iii. 199, I wyl the telle pleynly, I wil not wane, I wil not weyue. *Ibid.* v. 390 Fro this decree shal I neuere-more wane.

**9.** To go by, pass.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 318 And whan the presse of poeple is weived, He takth his hoom, and slepth wel. [etc.]. c 1500 *Rule St. Benet* 444 And sone when þat scho mai persaue Pair syn, fat noght þe tym ouer wayue, Bot chastese þam & tery noght.

**Waive** obs. form of Waif *sb.*

**Waived** (wāvd), *ppl. a.* [f. Waive *v.*1 + -ed1.]

In senses of the vb. : see quots.

1892 Grange *Golden Apharal.* C ij b, I..persuaded my selfe it was some waived [*printed* wayued] Ducke, whicke of late had strayed from the lodge of my Poole. 1889 Cooper *Advison.* 33 And so is it for waived goods, as was this cloth. c 1646 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 435 Wayved goods, Estrayes, Treasure trove. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Waived Goods*, are such as a Thief, leaves behind him in his Flight; which are forfeited to the Lord of the Manour, unless [etc.]

**Waiver** (wē·vəɹ). Also 8 **waiver,** 9 **waver.** [n. AF. *weyver* (Britton, 13th c.), subst. use of the inf. *weyver* Waive *v.*1 : see -er 4.]

1. *Law.* The action or an act of waiving; dispensing with a requirement, an express or implicit declining to avail oneself of a known right or to assert a claim.

1628 Coke *On Litt.* § 660. 348 b. It appeareth, that the right of the Estate taile discending to him either within age, or of full age, shall worke a Remitter in him, for that the waiuer of the state should haue bin to his losse and preiudice. 1673 Shepard *Grand Abridgem.* iv. 292 This word Waiver is sometimes applyed to an Estate, or something that is made or conveyed to a man, and so it signifieth nothing else but the Refusal to accept of the thing so made and conveyed. And sometimes it is applyed to a plea, and then signifieth a Refusal to stand to a former Plea pleaded, and the pleading a new. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* vi. 126 But the Court held, that the Parol ought not to demur, for that the Infant is out of Court, and by the Waiver the Original is determined against her. 1828 Brougham *Sp. Orders in Council* Wks. 1873 X. 50 That a conduct like this would, throw a single obstacle in the way of exerting on the morrow the very same rights, of which next Saturday's Gazette should contain the waiver. 1837 Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 5) II. 877 Where rent is usually paid at a banker's, if the banker, without any special authority, receives rent accruing after expiration of notice to quit, it will not operate as a waiver. 1888 *Law Report* (ed. 2) III. 41 The taking such subsequent estate was his own folly, and shall be looked upon as a waiver of his prior right. 1898 W. Ball *Dict. Law Supp.* 849 That in this instance the express consent of the tenant amounted to a waiver of the statutory warning. 1846 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* cxiii. IV. *1st note,* Hallam is of opinion that the first two Georges, by their frequent visits to Hanover, made a bad return for the waiver of the condition on which they were invited to the throne. *a* 1850 J. C. Calhoun *Wks.* (1874) IV. 480 It is well understood that a constitution is not only established, but simply a waiver of the right or power. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 9. 685 It was necessary to bribe the two rival claimants to a waiver of their claims. 1908 *Times* 27 Aug. 11/5 As to the point as to waiver, it had long been decided that every trifling breach of a covenant was not to be taken as a waiver.

**b.** Comb.: **waiver clause,** a clause in the prospectus of a joint-stock company, by which the subscribers are made to contract themselves out of the provision of the Companies Act requiring that the prospectus shall contain certain particulars respecting the contracts made with the promoters.

1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Dec. 3/3. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 10/2 It is becoming quite refreshing to find a prospectus without the objectionable waiver clause.

**c.** The alleged use of the word as synonymous with Waivery appears to be unauthenticated.

1869 Oglvie, whence in Webster, 1890.

**2.** In non-technical use: An act of waiving or dismissing from consideration. *rare.*

1883 E. C. Stedman in *Century Mag.* XXVI. 940 There is something exasperating to serious minds in his playful waiver of things grievous and distasteful.

**Waiver** : see Waver *sb.*

**Wai'very.** *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. AF. *weiverie* (14th c. in *Liber Albus*, p. 190), f. *weive* (fem. of *weif* adj. : see Waif *sb.*1): see Waive *sb.*, Waver *sb.*1, and -ery. (In Law Latin *waiveria*.)] (See quot.)

1902 *Cal. Land. Let.-Bk. E.* p. xxiv, Proceedings of outlawry, or 'waivery' (the technical term in the case of women), had been taken against Agnes Westhalle.

**Waiving** (we·vĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Waive *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of Waive *v.*1

1526 Bacon *Use* Comm. (1636) 76 A Thiefe hauing stolne goods, being pursued flyeth away and leaueth the goods. This leauing is called Wayuing. 1654 Bramhall *Just. Vind.* iv. (1661) 61 Waiving is consent, but a plain waiving of his sentences from Rome and a yielding of the question. 1826 Bell *Comm. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) I. 422 If the drawer say to the holder before the bill falls due, . . that he will call and see what the bill has been paid by the acceptor, it is a waiving of notice. 1914 B. H. Streeter *Restatem. & Reunion* iv. 191 In the minds of a minority, any waiving of the Rubric seems to involve a point of principle.

**Waiving,** var. Waveling *a. Sc.*

**Waivode, waiwode** : see Watwode.

†**Wak,** *a.* and *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 6–7 **wack,** 6 **wak.** [a. ON. **vakr*- (Icel. *vøk-r*) moist, damp = (M)Du. *wak* :—OTeut. **wakwos*, cogn. w. Gr. *ὑγρός*, L. *lividus* (= **vigvidus*) moist.]

**A.** *adj.* Moist, damp.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. ix. 2 Quhen Aurora the wak nycht did arest, And chais fra hevin with hir dym skyis clork. 1568 Lyndsay *Dreme* 588 Fyre, to the Mone, . . Quene of the see, . . Off nature wak and cauld, and no thyng clere. 1582 Bellenden *Livy* v. xxii. (S.T.S.) II. 294 *Pal* ar myrkit with wak humouris and Caldnes. 1591 Sasine *Perse Reform.* xxxiii. † 2e vapure wak, and watteris in the air!

*c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 215 And till eschew nocturnall vapor vak. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Chalon. Archæol.* 153 b. They make the ayre wak and dankie. 1666 *Despauterii Gram. Instit., Lib. VII.* E 7 b (Jam.), *Madeo,* to be wack or drunk. *Perrunadeo,* to be very wack. 1776 *Hertf's Coll. Sc. Songs* II. 208 *Wak,* moist, wet.

Hence **Wa'kness,** moisture.

*c* 1520 Nisbet *N. T. Scots* Luke vii. 6 Ane vthir fell on mirknes and it sprang vp and dryit, for it had nocht moistour (or wacknes). 1568 Lyndsay *Dreme* 460 Than past we vp quhare Jupiter the kyng Sats in his speir, . . Complexionate with wakness and with heit. 1585 Knox *Reasoning betw. Abot Crossraguell & Kn.* (1812) Prol. ij b, The earth bringeth forth the tree, it groweth by moistour, and natural wackness. 1808 Duncan *Agr. Etymol. Mador, humor,* wakness. 1808 Jamieson, *Wakness,* humidity.

**B.** *sb.* Moisture.

1486 Sir G. Hayt *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 76 Quhen it [the moon] is full, all thingis, . . that ar governyt be wak or moystnes, ar mare forssy and vigorous na quhen it is wane.

**Wak, Wakande** : see Weak *a.*, Vagand.

**Wake** (wēk), *sb.*1 Forms: 4 **wak, woke,** *Sc.* **walk,** 6 **waake,** also *pl.* (sense 4) **waakes, wakesees, waks,** 2–**wake.** [In form the word corresponds to OE. **wacu* str. fem., occurring once in *niht-wace* night-watch. Compare also the wk. fem. forms, MDu. *wake* (Du. *waak*), MLG. *wake*, OHG. *wacha* (MHG., modG. *wache*), wakefulness, watching, watch, ON. *vaka* (MSw., Sw. *vaka*, Norw. *vake*), watch, vigil, eve of a feast; related to Wake *v.* In the sense 'state of wakefulness', the sb. is prob. in part a new formation in ME. on the stem of Wake *v.*, on the analogy of *sleep* vb. and sb. In sense 4 adoption from ON. is possible; the sense 'merry-making' is found in ON. and Norw.; cf. ON. *Jónsvaka*, Norw. *Jóns(vo)ka* St. John's Eve, Midsummer festivities.]

1. The state of wakefulness *esp.* during normal hours of sleep. *Obs.* exc. in *sleep and (or) wake, wake and dream.*

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1590 Al for hire louerdes sake Hauede thaies kare and nigtes wake. 1596 Shake. *1 Hen. IV*, iii. 1. 219 Making such difference betwixt Wake and Sleepe, As is the difference betwixt Day and Night. 1709 [see Wake *v.*] *Dict. Turf* s. v., At Bristol one eye is ever upon the wake while the other nappeth. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama Exile* v. Repeat the vow—declare its cause and kind Which, not to break, in sleep or wake, thou bearest on thy mind. 1898 J. B. Crozier *My Inner Life* i. iv. 33 In that half-conscious state between sleep and wake. 1913 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 191 Their beauty is the beauty of a kind of mirage that haunts the borders between wake and dream.

†**b.** A state or period of wakefulness. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Melancholy* (1800) 91 What think you of a pleasing dreame to last till morning? *Gal.* I shall chose my Lord a pleasing wake before it. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* ii. v, That youth, and shape, which in my dreames and wakes, Now so oft courted haires.

†**c.** The act of awaking. *Obs.*

1678 Dryden *All for Love* v. i, Who followd me, but as the Sun does Summer, Watching the youngest ones in my kindly Beams, Singing the first Voice to my morning wake.

†**2.** Abstinence from sleep, watching, practised as a religious observance: often coupled with *fasting.* Also, an instance of this; a night spent in devout watching (on the eve of a festival, of the reception of knighthood, etc.); a watch, vigil.

*a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 121 Hi dial þeos wake and wac. 1230 *Cursor M.* 10302 O manag bir birdes duelland pare, In praier, wak, and weping sare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xl. (Viuian)* 59 & hyme abondonit yhaistly in prayere, fastyng, & in wakis. 1390 Gower-selfe servand to god in wakis in Stryps *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. xvi. 48 Moreover, the Common Watchings, or Wakes, of Men and Women at the Martyrs Tombs, were afterwards abrogated and rejected. 1591 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* xxv. 105 b, They haue also 3 Vigils, or Wakes in their great Lent, which they call Wakeseeues. 1603 Holland *Camden's Brit.* i. 175 As many as the place would receive watched and praied in the said Temple, But the Prince of Wales, held his wake . . within the Church of Westminster. *a* 1641 Br. Mountague *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 434 After this Supper ended follows [among the Essenes] a sacred wake, or vigill, kept in this manner.

**3.** The watching (*esp.* by night) of relatives and friends beside the body of a dead person from death to burial, or during a part of that time; the drinking, feasting, and other observances incidental to this. Now chiefly *Anglo-Irish* or with reference to Irish custom. Also applied to similar funeral customs in other times or among pagan peoples.

1512–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 3061 What shulde I now any lenger dwelle Fer to telle . . of pleies called funeral, Nor be prouokyng hir was at pe wake? *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 437 The gose and the gander, The ducke and the drake, Shall watche at this wake. 1570 *Inv. Ketchauge Parochin* (Bannatyne Club) 108 Item, ane Kow pertenyng to Pol. *& Arc.* iii. 998 The warlike Wakes continu'd all the Night, And Funeral Games were played at new-returning Light. 1791 Swift *Acc. Irish Wonder's Exam.* Misc. (1735) V. 317 When he was cut down, the Body was carried through the whole City to gather Contributions for his Wake. 1796–31 Wardrop *Joanna Baillie's Metr. Legends* (1861) 3 Where, in days of yore, the several of his acquaintance come to sit up with him, which they call the Wake. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 210 The series of ceremonies used on the night, . . that the corpse remains unburied, is what they call a wake. 1824 W. S. Mason *Statist. Acc. Irel.* I. 396 The Presbyterian wake is conducted with profound silence and great decorum. . . The wakes of the members of the established church differ little from those in other parts of Ireland. 1897 Lyttonstone *Trav.* xxiii. 468 A poor man and his wife were accused of having bewitched the man, whose wake was now held in the village. 1904 C. E. Norton *Lett.* (1913) II. 49 Summer is dead. We have had a great wake over him, and the echoes of it have scarcely yet died away. 1894 Gladstone *Odes Hor.* ii. xviii. 18 New contracts for new marbles thou dost make, But thou art near thy wake.

**4.** The vigil of a festival (and senses thence derived).

In this use *wake* is a translation of Eccl. L. *vigilia*, primarily referring to the rule of the early church that certain feast-days should be preceded by services lasting through the night. When this rule had ceased to exist, the vigil continued to be a pretext for nocturnal festivity, and the use of the word *wake* was extended to denote not only the eve but also the feast-day itself, and the whole period during which festivities continued.

**a.** The vigil or eve of a festival, and the observances belonging to this. Also, a festival. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

14.. *Pearl of a Register* (1593) 64 Their Saints dayes and their prescript service. Their wakes, and idolatrous banketts. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. clxiii. 207 Great solempnytes were made in all churches, and great fyers and wakes, throughout all Englande. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* iv. xliii. 976, I knowe well that the common sort doe verily thinke and auerre, that this seede cannot be gathered but on the night of the wakes of S. Iohn in summer. *a* 1619 Hume *T. Brune* xxix. (1841) 89 Their Wakes and Vigils, in all riot and excesse of eating and drinking. *a* 1660 H. K. White *Poems* (1837) 136 Such is the fearful wake of Whitsuntide. 1896 *Mid-Yorks. Glass., Wake,* usually employed in Mid-Yorks. and the north, for vigils, or the superstitious rites performed on the eves of St. Agnes and St. Mark.

**b.** The local annual festival of an English (now chiefly rural) parish, observed (originally on the feast of the patron saint of the church, but now usually on some particular Sunday and the two or three days following) as an occasion for making holiday, entertainment of friends, and often for village sports, dancing, and other amusements.

In modern rustic use chiefly *Sc.* in sing. sense and often with sing. construction (cf. the double pl. *twakeses*, in 16th c. *towbeeses*). The word is now current only in certain districts, mainly northern and west midland; elsewhere the equivalent term is *feast* or *revels*.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Heo hefde leaned one wummone to one wake ou of hore weneden. *c* 1300 *S. Eng. Leg.* 437/381 Formest he gan haunti wakes: and ek ches, pouere: he wax a syutor of tauernes. *a* 1320 *Cursor M.* 28326 At wrestelyng, at wake, rengd baf i and folud wit lust all luchery. 1362 *Child-Marriage* (1897) 110 Sche hath ben crosse to a younge woman calld Anne Barker, to go to a weddinge or a wake. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* i. M 6, The maner of keeping of Wakesouers, and in Allgra. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 104 He haunts Wakes, Faires, and Beare-baitings. 1681 Burton *Anat. Mel.* iii. iii. iv. i. (1624) 474 The very rusticks, . . Iitted of . . Ales, Turnaments, &c. they haue their Wakes, Whitsun-Ales, Church-Ales. 1633 Chas. I *Decl. Lawful Sports* 16 We finde . . there hath been a generall forbidding . . of the Feasts of the Dedication of the Churches, commonly called Church-Ales, or Church Wakes. *Ord. Inl.* xi. 81 § 10 Vulgar Notions suit vulgar Discourses, and loath . . serve pretty well the Market and the Wake. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* ii. 619 Many Inhabitants of Church Encmnia or Wakes, was no question on good and laudable designs. 1721 Buddle *Spect.* No. 161 † 9 Had you stayed there a few Days longer you would have seen the Country Wake, which you know in most Parts of England is the Eve-Feast of the Dedication of our Churches. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Stretton,* Here used to be a wake on the Sunday after All-Saints. 1780 *Gentl. Mag. Libr. Sports & Past.* ii. ii. 75 Wrestling . . at present is seldom seen except at wakes and fairs. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* ii. (1869) 97 Every town had its fair, every village its wake. 1893 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine* 9 Neither could she consort with gentry who seemed to her little better than the boors of a country wake. 1882 *Manch. Examr.* 4 Jan. 5/2 The week in more than one place in the district had closed the workshops. 1893 H. Vizetelly *Glances Back* I. x. 190 It chanced to be the annual wake or holiday at Castleton.

†**c.** *Anglo-Irish.* Applied to similar periodic festivals or revels of other countries or periods. Also occas. in *pl.*, nocturnal revels. *Obs.*

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Ewseb.* viii. xxiii. 173 About the thirde Nones of March, when the citizens of Cesarea celebrated their wakes, vpon the day of reuells, Adrianus was throwen at the feete of a fierce lion. 1598 Fraunce *Lawiers Logike* i. xix. 66 b, Those men, saith Plato in Protagoras, forbidde the authorities of Princes instead of argumente, of their owne, are like to seely soules of the country, when they keepe their wakes. 1634 Milton *Comus* 122 By dimpled Brooke, and fountain brim, The Wood-Nymphs. Their merry wakes and pastimes keep. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 89 And most honourable commemoration hath been ever vsed in all our innocent disorderly wakes [*en toutes nos innocentes débauches*].

**¶ 5.** Used by Hogg for : A serenade. nocturnal song. (App. associated with Wait *sb.* 7 b.)

1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* Introd. (1814) 5 Those wakes now played by minstrels poor, Which, at the sweet, chillest hour, Those humble wakes, now scorned by all, Were first begun in courtly hall. *Ibid.* ii. 339 The lake-fowl's wake was heard no more; The wolf was howling on the shore. *Ibid.* 356 So low has the characters of the minstrels descended, that the performers of the Christmas wakes are wholly unknown to the most part of those in and about London.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (senses 3 and 4), as *wake-feast, -game, -light, +-meat, +-play, Sunday, -week*; also with plural, *wakes time, week.*

1686 W. J. Tucker *Ir. Interpr* 207 The wine bottles were replenished, and the company gathered round to partake in the ingenuus of the last 'wake-cake, a goodly number of which would follow the decease of the thus honoured and lamented individual. 1922 K. Tynan *Years Kath.* ii. 28 It was enough to bring Tom Duncan out of his grave, . . to see the class of people who played 'wake-games in his dining-room, and drank his whisky. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* ii. (1814) 147 Her sail was web of the gossamer fine, Her glow-worm her 'wakelight. 1899 Whittier *Kathleen* 57 Got up, old man! the wake-lights shine! *a* 1900 *Glos. Dict. in Ref. Aut.* I. 6 *Obsonium,* a 'wakemeate. *c* 1588 Chaucer *Nun's T.* 1. 6 *Obsonium,* a 'wakemeate. *c* 1588 Chaucer *Nun's T.* 210 Nor how that liche-wake was yholde Al thilke night, be how the Grekes pleye. The 'wake pleyes, ne kepe I not to saye. 1862 *St. Swithin's Coll.* 3 Jan. 6/1 The farmers . . also keep an annual holiday which they call 'Wake Sunday . . on the first Sunday in August. 1883 Baskerly *Waverdene, Trevor Hall* I. 17 They were the Waverlow church bells that were ringing, for it was "wakes time". 1899 'Ouida'

*Puck* I. vi. 105 It was 'wake-week' at a little town some twelve miles away. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v. *Wake*, It is customary for friends from a distance to visit each other during 'wakes week'.

**7.** Special comb.: **† wake-day**, the day on which a wake (senses 2, 4) was held; **† wake-fire**, n (? ceremonial) fire by which a night-watch was kept; **wake-house**, + (*a*) ? a house of vigil, or prayer; (*b*) *Anglo-Irish* see quot. 1814; **† wake-word** = WATCH-WORD.

**1538** ELYOT *Dict., Excubiæ Furis*, 'wake dayes. **1573-80** TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 181 To morow thy father his wake day will keepe. Then cuerie wanton may daunce at his will **1598** BP. HALL *Sat.* v. ii. 107 Except the twelue-dales, or the wakeday-feast. **1681** W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 596 Amongst Christians, the consecration, or wake-days of our churches. *c* **1690** *Wife's Relief* 182 Another 50 of cleane wad and no bones, and ye callyd a 'wakefyre, for non sytyth and wakyth by hyt. **1575-6** *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 235 Beinge the swake night, the said Purcivall mit Margaret the wyfe went to the wake fyre. **1677** in *Hearne's Mem.* (1907) II. 308 This Church or 'Wake House stands upon Ground given to't by Church. **1814** W. S. MASON *Statist. Acc. Irel.* I. 118 Whenever a person of any respectability dies, two wake houses are laid out, in one of which is placed the deceased, in the other are assembled all the young people, who entertain themselves with every species of frolic and amusement. **1856** P. KENNEDY *Banks Boro xiv. Daughters.* **1910** STRATHMORE *Teesdale* (W. de W.) Dijl. *Symbolum*, a 'wake wordo.

**Wake** (wēk), *sb.*[2] Also 6 ? **walk**, ? **wack**. [Not found before the 16th c., but possibly much older; either directly or mediately a. ON. (**vaki*) *vpk* str. fem., *vaka* wk. fem., hole or opening in ice.

The ON. word was probably applied to the path made for itself by a vessel through ice, and from this use the sense 'trace or track of a vessel in the water' may have been developed by Scandinavian navigators in British seas. Sense 5, 'line of hay', if it really belongs to the same word, may be a transferred use of the nautical sense.

The word is represented in all the Scandinavian dialects, and has been adopted in Du., Fris., and Ger. The sense 'track of a vessel' is found, outside Eng., only in Norw. dial. *vaak*, NFris. (Sylt) *waak*; the older sense, 'hole or channel in ice' (sometimes, 'a piece of water kept unfrozen by wind or current'), belongs to MSw. *vaak*, mod. Sw. *vak* (cf. Sw. *vaka* to cut a hole in ice), Norw. *vak*, Da. *vange*, Whis. *wek*, *wejk*(*de*), Du. *wak* neut., M.LG., I.G. (whence mod.G) *wake* fem.

The word is commonly supposed to be connected with ON. *vpk-ir*, Da. *vaad*, moist, damp: see WAK *a.* This view involves some difficulty, as the ON. adj. has the stem *vpk-*, while the sb. has genit. *vakar*, pl. *vakar*, *-ir*. Connexion with WAKE *a.* and *v.* seems not impossible: the freezing of the water from ice may have been regarded as a waking of it.

**I. 1.** The track left on the water's surface by a ship (in the sea often marked by a smooth appearance).

(*a* **1547**: see *a.* 1 **1627** CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grammar* ix. 49 The wake of a ship is the smooth water a sterne shewing the way shee hath gone in the sea. **1703** DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 97 In the Wake of the Ship (as 'tis call'd) or the Smoothness which the Ship's paſsing has made on the Sea. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lit. Mar.* (1894) I. 412 The wake of a ship, (by which, I take, the sailors understand the stream drawn after the stern by its motion,) follows the ship throughout her voyage. **1820** SOUTHEY *Nelson. Chronicle* II. 240 An 'eddy' having somewhat the resemblance of the 'wake' or track of a ship. **1852** CLOUGH *Poems*, *'Where lies the land'* 8 Or, o'er the stern reclining, watch the foaming wake far widening as we go. **1881** DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* liv, Both steamers were drifting away from us, and we were rising and falling in a troubled wake of water. **1884** W. H. WHITE *Manual Naval Archit.* (ed. 2) 553 The actual wake of a ship combines the stream line motions with those due to the frictional drag of the skin upon the water. **1903** *Engl. Rev.* Nov. 506 Her wake was without foam and ebbed sluggishly behind her.

*attrib.* **1865** MACGREGOR *'Rob Roy' Baltic* 229 A canoe was pulled at a rapid pace in the two wake waves astern of this great smack. **1902** BRIDGES *Farrapher, Virg. Æn.* I. 342 What God...Plucket you away and drown'd I' the swift wake-water abandon'd!

**† b.** Phrases. *To fetch (get, get into, have) the wake of* (a pursued vessel): to get so close to her as to be able to see, and steer by, her wake. *To stay a weather of a wake*: see quot. 1706.

**1644** MAINWARING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 In chaseing they say, we have got her wake, that is, we are got as far into the wind as she, and so goe right after her as she goes. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 The Chase is about, come fetch her wake, and we will be about after her. We sail far better than she; we have her Wack. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., A Ship is said *To stay a Weather of a Wake*, when in her Staying she does it so speedily, that she doth fall to the Leeward, but that when she is tacked, her Wake is to the Leeward; which is sure Sign that she feels her Helm well, and is nimble of Steerage. ...When a Ship being in Chace of another, has got as far into the Wind as she, and sails directly after her, the usual Saying is, *She has got into her Wake.* **1748** *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 377 About noon the Commodore was little more than a league from the galeon, and could fetch her wake, so that she could not now escape.

**2.** *transf.* Anything compared to the wake of a vessel. **a.** The disturbance caused by a body swimming, or moved, in water.

**1732** FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1840 V. 338 There were numbers of visible animalcules; but I was sure there were likewise some which I could not see; for the wake they made in swimming to and fro was very visible. **1828** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 361 He [sc. the whale] swims with an astonishing swiftness, leaving a track in the sea, like a great ship; and this is called his wake. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 19 The tracks of the penguins were marked by a fiery wake. **1891** A. LANG *Angling Sk.* 68 The dry fly is difficult to use on a loch, as there is no stream to move it; and however gently you draw it, it makes a 'wake'—a trail behind it.

**b.** The air-currents behind a body in flight.

**1851** ROBERT ET *Sister Helen* viii, Outside it's misty in the wind's wake,—In the shaken trees the chill stars shake. **1870** N. F. HELE *Aldebaran* vii. 71 The only chance of safety for the male appeared to be his getting directly in the 'wake' of the falcon, and by this means the bird escaped for a long time. **1891** *Spectator* 28 Feb., The probable object of the wedge-formation when advancing against the wind is, that each bird avoids the 'wake' of its neighbour.

**c.** A trail of light behind a luminous object (in motion), or its broken reflection in water. Also *fig.*

**1711** KEN *Prymer.* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 74 Fly up, my Soul, along the Wake, Which down from Fontal Love they make, No Lover fed by Love's sweet Rny'Ere but he Way. **1819** MONTGOMERY *Greenland* I. 14 The pageant glides through loneliness and night, And leaves behind a rippling wake of light. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* III. 1 Morn in the white wake of the morning star Came furrowing all the orient into gold. **1869** SWAN *In South Seas* II. xxiii. 151 The harbour lantern and two of the greater planets drew vari-coloured wakes on the lagoon. **1906** E. A. ABBOTT *Flatland* iv. 21 Mere vanishing, or momentary wake of light. It disappears. Then we have to wait for a new correspondence.

**d.** A track or trail on land. *rare.*

**1851** HAWTHORNE *Lit. Sev. Gables* xi, Twice or thrice...a water-cart went along by the Pyncheon-house, leaving a broad wake of moistened earth. **1888** STEVENSON *Black Arrow* iv, Thus they had left a wide, discoloured wake upon the snow.

**3.** A course, or general line of direction, that a ship has taken, or is to take.

*c* **1595** CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 21 Wee...altered that course and bare for the coste of Florida ...to lie in the wake of the fleet of the West Indies bounde for Spaine. **1721** DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 190 They were...quite out of the wakes of the Bermudas. **1871** B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. v. 279 And from the shore to swifter wakes, The willing sea the vessels takes.

**4.** In the wake of.

*a.* *Naut.* or quasi-nautical. *In the wake of* (*a vessel*); *in her (its) wake*, etc.: immediately behind, and (properly) in the actual track made by, a vessel; immediately backward and along the track made. Also used of any person or persons aboard, as *in his, our*, etc. *wake*; behind his, our, etc., vessel.

*a* **1547** *Mem. Hart.* 309 f. 4 No ship to ride in another's wake. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., A ship is said to be in the wake of another, when she follows her on the same track. **1830** tr. *Lamartine's Trav.* 221 The frigate, which has us in tow, hollows out ahead of us a level and murmuring path, along which we glide in her wake. **1847** PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 303 [They] fell on his little troop whenever he attempted to land, and followed in his wake for more than a hundred leagues. **1898** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 193 The *Mysticetus*' best point of view is right behind, or 'in his wake', as we say.

*b.* *Naut.* in transferred uses: (*a*) In the direct line from (any object on board ship, or any specified part of it). Usually *in wake of.* (*b*) In the line of sight of (an observed object). (*c*) In the line of recoil of (a gun).

(*a*) **1711** W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 44 The Timbers to be equally scarfed, the Middle of one Timber being in the Wake of the Middle of the Timbers. **1792** T. TROUGHTON *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 158 We found our own Main-top-mast sprung in the Wake of the Cap. **1869** E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* 4 The bow is strengthened by doubling the whole of the inner plates up to the turn of the bilge for 50 feet in wake of the engines. **1897** W. H. WHITE *Ship-Build.* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 256 These longitudinal tie-plates form excellent strengthenings to the deck in wake of the principal hatchways. **1898** *Daily News* 4 Nov. 2/4 The deck, which was also found to be started in the wake of the mast.

(*b*) **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., The most distant objects observed at sea are called in the wake of each other, when the view of the furthest is intercepted by the nearest.

(*c*) **1815** *Naval Chronicle* XXXIII. 81 The most efficient support to the beams in the wake of the guns. **1874** THEARLE *Naval Archit.* xviii. § 288, 303 In the wake of the explosion of the heavy guns, as at the embrasures, etc., the whole of the framework is of the lighter class.

*c.* *transf.* and *fig.* (*a*) With nautical metaphor (often jocular): Following close behind (a person compared to a ship). (*b*) In wider use (cf. 2): In the train or track of, behind (a moving person or object); in imitation of; following as a result or consequence.

(*a*) **1845** SUTHERLAND *Mem.* 114 A great man in office is like a great whale in the ocean; there will be a sword-fish and a thrasher, a Junius and a John Wilkes, ever in his wake and coming to attack him. **1851** W. HOWITT *Boys' Rom. Hist.* I. 1 He was swept off in the vortex that followed in the wake of this lady. **1859** MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* II, She found herself following in the wake of her stately parents. **1902** MASTERMAN *Reading of Life* 1 Each claims worship undivided In her wake would have us wallow.

(*b*) **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xliv, Night, when carts came rumbling by, filled with rude coffins...; when orphans cried, and distracted women shrieked and followed in their wake. **1866** MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* v, Such love does not belong peace in its wake. **1873** MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxix. (1877) 683 Wealth followed in the wake of traffic. **1877** BLACK *Green Pastures* xxxii. 256 Brown does that came rolling in the wake of our carriage. **1894** H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 214 (A man), when he talks of the hum of machinery or the boom of the cannon,...is following in the wake of the inventors of Language. **1911** G. MACDONALD *Roman Wall Stud.* v. 332 A proof that Eastern traders had found their way as far north as the Caledonian frontier in the wake of the Roman army.

**II. 5.** A line of hay prepared for carting. *dial.*

**1847** HALLIWELL, *Wake*, hay placed in large rolls for the convenience of being carried. *West. Ibid., Wakes*, rows of green damp grass. **1872-4** JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 259 The waggon safely jolted over the furrows, and on between the wakes of light-brown hay. **1879** — *Wild Life in S. Co.* vii. 143 Watching that the 'wallows' may be turned over properly, and the 'wakes' made at a just distance from each other.

**III. 6.** An open hole, or unfrozen place in the ice. *dial.* (East Anglia.)

**1895** P. H. EMERSON *Birds etc. Norf. Broadland* II. xiii. 379, I passed a 'wake'—an open space in the ice—where the swans were swimming like sentries on duty.

**† Wake**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*[—1]. [Possibly a. some native African word, but evidently regarded by Jobson as onomatopœic.] A North African bird.

**1623** Jobson *Golden Trade* 152 The next (bird) in greatnesse is called a Wake, in regard of the great noyse hee makes when hee flyeth, which resembleth what he is called by:...[it] is a bird of great stature, hauing the vpper part of his head carrying a beautifull tuft, with a pleasant tuft on his Crowne, which I haue seene worne by great personages here at home.

**Wake**, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? Aphetic var. of AWAKE.] Not sleeping, awake. (Only *predicative.*)

**1418** Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 16 Er ryghtwysnesse be fully wake. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 89 Well vnith he...tell vs merry tales, to keepe vs wake. **1725** W. THOMSON *Sickness* III. 240 (1885) 88 With a pleasing Light on'd Alone am wake, Ev'n tho' my eyes are seal'd, am wake alone?

**Wake** (wēk), *v.* Forms: In. 1 present tense 3 sing. *a.* (1 **wæcnan**: see WAKEN *v.*) *β.* 1–2 **wæcian**, 1 **wæciæn**, **waciæn**, **wæcian**, 1–2 **wacyan**, 2 **wacyæn**, 2–3 **wakian**, **wakion**, **wakyen**, 3 **wakenn** (*Orm.*), 3–5 **waken**, 4 **waki**, **waky**, 4–5 **wakke**, **waake**, 3– **wake**. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 **wack**, **vak** (*pr. pple.* **vakand**, **waoand**, **quakand**), 4–5 **wak**, 4–6 **waik**, **walk**, 4–8 **walk**, 5 **waulk**, 6 **valk**(*e*, **walke**, 8 **wauk**, **wawk**. Pa. t. *a.* 1 **wōc**, 3–4 **woc**, 3–5 **wok**; 4–6 **wook**(*e*, 7 **wake**, 9 **woke**, 3– **woke**; *β.* 3 **wakenn** (*Orm.*), 4–5 **wokenn**, 5– **waken**. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 **wook**, 4–6 **wouk**(*e*, **wolk**(*e*. *β.* 1 **wæcde**, **wacede**, *pl.* **wacedon**, **-odon**, 2–4 **wakede**, 4–5 **wakid**, **walkid**(*e*, etc., 4–6 *Sc.* **walkyt**, **-it**, 6 **wakit**(*e*, 6–7 **wak't**, 7 **8 wak'd**, 4– **waked**. Pa. pple. *a.* 4, 6 **waken**, 5 **wakyn** (?), 7, 9– **woken**, 8– **woke**. *β.* 4 **i-waked**, *Sc.* **walkit**, 4–6 **wakid**, **-yd**, 6 *dial.* **wayket**, *Sc.* **walked**, 6–7 **wakt**, 7 **wak't**, 7–8 **wak'd**, 3– **waked**. [Two distinct but synonymous verbs from the same root coalesced in early ME.:

(i) The strong verb OE. (? *wæcnan*), *wōc*, *wōcon*, **wacen*. (The present-stem is wanting, unless it be presented by *wæcnan*: see WAKEN *v.*) The strong pa. t. is found only in English; the strong pa. pple., not recorded in OE., but found in later periods, occurs in ON. *vakenn*, and as adj. ('awake') in MSw. *vakin*, Sw., Norw. *vaken*, Da. *vaagen*; NFris. *waaken* is prob. from Scandinavian.

(ii) The weak verb OE. *wacian*, corresponding to OFris. *wakia*, *wekia*, OSax. *wākian*, *wekkian*, NFris. *waake*), OHG. *wahhēn*, *wachēn*, *-in* (MHG., mod.G. *wachen*), ON. *vaka*, pa. t. *vaka* (Norw., MSw., Sw. *vaka*, Da. *vaage*), Goth. *wakan* :—OTeut. **wakējan* (whence also the OE. doublet *wacian* WATCH *v.*), or to OS., OLow Frankish *wakon* (MDu., Du., MLG., LG. *waken*), OHG. *wachōn* :—GTeut. **wakōjan*.

The Teut. root **wak-* is found in Goth. *wōkains* wakefulness, and, with different sense, in Goth. *wōkrs*, OE. *wēcer*, ON. *okr* growth, increase, usury: see OCKER *sb.*) represents a pre-Teut. **wog-*: **weg-* cf. L. *vegēre* to rouse, excite, also intr. to be lively or active, *vegēt-us* to be vigorous, *vegēt* beneficial, Skr. *vājas* neut. vigour: perh. to be referred to the Indo-Eur. root **aveĝ-*, represented by L. *augēre*, Goth. *aukan* to increase, OE. *ēacan* to grow (see EKE *v.*), and with *-s* extension by Gr. *αὐξάνειν* to increase, OTeut. **waxs-* to grow (see WAX *v.*).

In OE. the strong verb had probably the sense 'to become awake', though this is evidenced only in the compound *on-wacenan*, the simple verb being found only in the sense 'to come into being', which may either be a figurative use of the sense 'to awake', or represent a different application of the original wider sense of the root. The weak verb had the static sense 'to be or remain awake'. In ME. the strong and weak forms came to be used indiscriminately in both senses. Out of the sense 'to become awake' there was developed a causative sense, 'to rouse from sleep', in which the word superseded WECKEN (OE. *wæcnan* :—OTeut. **wakjan*). The sense 'to remain awake, watch' gave rise to a transitive use = 'to watch

(over)'; but in the modern Eng. period the static sense, both intr. and trans., has become almost obsolete, the usual meanings of the word being 'to become or cause to become awake'.

The mod. pa.t. *woke* (*wōk*) does not regularly represent the OE. *wōc*, which would have rhymed *woke* (*wuk*). Apparently the mod. *woke* is a new formation or modification on the analogy of *broke*, *spoke* (for the irregularity in the vowel cf. *stone* pa.t. of STAVE v.). When this came in is uncertain; for in ME. and prob. in early mod.E. the spelling *woke* represents the regular phonetic descendant of the OE. *wōc*. The pa. pple *woken* has always been rare, and now survives only in dialects in adjectival use. From the 17th c. onwards the form *woke*, *woken* (after *broke*, *broken*, *spoke*, *spoken*, etc.) have been more or less current for the pa. pple.; *woken* seems obsolescent, but *woke* is at least as frequent as *waked*. The strong forms either of pa. t. or pa. pple. are found in Shake., the Bible of 1611, or Milton's verse.]

**I.** To remain awake.

1. *intr.* To be or remain awake; to keep one-self, or be kept, awake. Also, to be still up and about (at night). Now *rare* exc. in *waking* (pr. pple. and ppl. a.).

*a.* c 1290 *Beket* 687 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 On of is seriaunz nas a-nizt, pe wyle pei woke, in his chaumbre ac cauntorbury. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20127 Scho wok wil mar pan scho sleep. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Theodora*) 448 To pat worde quod tent he tok, & pus tyl makyd onslo. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 303 Whanne Cinna his treasoun was i-knowe Cesar wook al pat nyzt (*MS. B* wakid, *y* wakede). *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 223 Pay madyn her bed and dydyn her berym,..and waken pat nyzt as pay wan mydnyzte; pen all fellyn on sleipe saue pe apostols. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlix. 34 Langour.. That neve sleipit bot evir wouke. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 558 So pat pe gouernour in the tyme he tuik, But meit or sleip rycht lang fastit and woik. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Whether he woke or slept his friends did not very much trouble themselves.

*b.* c 900 *Bede's Hist.* II. xii. (1890) 128 Da fræzn he hine, hwæt þæt to him lumpe, hwæðer he wacode þe slepe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 6 Þonne sceal se mon wacian oþþe he sceal slapan þe ðone drenc drincan wille. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Þet teches al hu mesche..eten, drinckes, wereð, liggen, slepen, wakien [*Titus* C. 7 *prividel wilnien*]. *c* 1380 CHAUCER *Pard. Tender* 480, I wol ben his whethir I wake or wynke. *c* 1400 *Rom.* 26 *Pet. Pierres* xv. 88 To slepe, quod pe oyse, we may not wynne, Pe wrecched wombe so drih ye wake. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 91 Pe seke man in his bed lange waked before. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 7 He..knew nat yf it was day-light or nyght, ne yf he slept or wakked. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 213 Thus walkand he was, and wichtis wirris about. 1821 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. vi, I cannot force myselfe to wake. (*Globe*). 1840 H. *Ferriere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 41 The extream desire he had to see her, made him to wake when others tooke their rest. 17.. *Auld Man's best Argt. in Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1760) 134 O Wha's that at my chamber door? 'Fair maid are ye wauking?' 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 32, I..threw myself dressed upon the bed, and—waked all night. 1796 BURNS *Ay wauken O*, When I sleep I dream, When I wauk I'm eerie. 1850 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxx, They cannot..be waking at this late hour. 1858 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 217 In all places, at all hours, whether he waked or slept. 1900 T. VINCENT JAMES *Shrop Stealer* 31 Waking and sleeping she had pictured his arrest.

*fig.* 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* iii, Reason,..the twinkling Lamp Of wand'ring Life, that winks and wakes by turns.

**b.** with advb. obj. *the night*, *a night* (poet.). Also, *to wake it*.

*a.* c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresseid* 471 Weping, scho wok the uicht fra end to end.

*b.* a 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 221 To wake the day and wake the night continually in paine. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 32 There have nothing to do but to sleep it, to wake it. 1787 BURNS '*My heart is stir*' I. I could wake a winter night For the sake o' somebody. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xli, So many hours must he had wak'd and anguished A dreary night of love and misery.

**c.** quasi-*trans.* with complement.

In the first quot. the omission of some such word as Theobald's 'blind' seems certain.

1618 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 104 He wake mine eye-balles (blind) first. 1766 C. BEATTY *Tour* (1768) 37 Sleeped and waked the night away as well as we could.

†**d.** With unfavourable implication: To sit up late for pleasure or revelry; to turn night into day. *Obs.*

*a.* 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1085 For-by wonderly hay woke, & pe wyn dronken.

*b.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Pet uolk pet late louieþ to soupi and to waki be nizte. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 54 Suche there ben..that til nidnight and more wol playe and wake, but in the church at matines ben they belyndes. 1509 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 382 Thou maste..wake all nyghte, and slepe tyll it be none. 1600 SHAKS. *Hamt.* I. iv. 8 The King doth wake to night, and takes his rouse.

**2.** To stay awake for the purpose of watching or tending; to keep watch while others sleep, be on guard at night. Const. *on*, *upon*, *over*, *for*, *against*; also *to* (do something). Also with cognate obj., *to wake watch*. Now only *dial.*, to sit up at night *with* a person, esp. one who is sick.

In 16th c. Sc. use *wake* and *ward* (see WARD *sb.*) as 'to keep watch and ward,' as a duty incumbent on the freeman of a burgh.

*a.* c 1200 ORMIN 3758 Hirdess wokenn a þatt nahht þatt Crist wann borenn onne. *c* 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 1287 Grete lordes riste toke, & nyghte wache full worthily wooke. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. vii. (1554) 79 b, And lyke a mother to bryng thes asleepe, I woke full oft. 1470 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 284 By this gardyn is vnderstonde the wyfe. By the serpent wekyng, the subtyll gaaft commyted to kepe hit that allway wook at the paas.



*b.* *Barnwell* 660 Waca wið wrahum. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXXVI. 1 *In vanum vigilant qui custodiunt eam*, in idelnisse wæciað þe healdað hie. *a* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Þe heruiȝe þe nehhen ouse here oreȝ. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (Vit.) 50 And seker men he sett to wake, So þat þai suld no harmes take. *c* 1405 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 62 Alle the weyez about the said town off Bury.. were kept with grat multitude of pepls of the cuntre, wakyng day and nyghte. 1521 in Morwick *Extn. Guilds* (1909) 65 The communitie of the wobstaris walkis Mardie, existentis, and beris all other communis chargis within this toune. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. ix. (S.T.S.) I. 282 Na thing was done in pe nycht following Except onelie pe pepill walkit in all partis of pe citie. 1564 J. HALL *Crt. Virtue* 30 Watchmen, whiche wake al ye nyght. 1580 in *Rec. Convent. Burgha Scot.* (1870) I. 99 All..to cum duell..within the burgh cubaly they ar frie, hald stob and staik within the samyn, scatt, lotht, watchie, walk and waird with the inhabitantis thairof. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 368 Let Eve..Hear..How sleep below while thou to forenight wak'st. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 195 Only let one wake with me, to read to me. 1754 SHERIDAN *Matrimony* (1766) I. 22 She determined to wake by his bed-side all night. 1811 WILLAN *West Riding Words* in *Archæologia* XVII. 162 *Waite*, and *Wake*, v. to sit up with a person all night, or to wait by a corpse. 1847–9 CRABBE *Parish Reg.* II. 201 You pounded in water with me the night before my wedding. 1865 *N. & Q.* Ser. III. VII. 84/1 "They have waked with him for several nights"; is a common observation in Yorkshire. 1883 *Antwerpsche Chron., Kronijk* 30 to watch with a sick person; to work by candlelight.

†**b.** *fig.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 42 Wacigaþ (*p.tr.* Wacia), Wæclpás] witodlice, forþam þe ge nyton on hwylcyre tide eower Hlaford cuman wyle. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Þus ægen alle godæ þeodes to wakenn gostliche. *c* 1202 ORMIN 1792 To þeowwenn Godd & wakenn & fasstenenn laȝe gastess. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 130 Pe welder of wyt ..pat ay wakes & wayten. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 242 Þo þingis þat þe schrewe wakip & purposip to worche. *c* 1580 HENRYSON *Anotallow & other Birds* 304 Exhortand folk to walk and ay be wair Fra nettis of oure wickit enemie. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* (S. T. S.) I. 6 Pe Prophets wake & watch of God..to wake attemile and continuale vpon your flok?

†**c.** said of the eyes, the brain. *Obs.*

1602 SIR J. OGLE in Sir F. Vere *Comm.* 159 He had his head and his eyes broken, but his brain not vnder, and his wiked then..for our safeties. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster*, *Envie* 4 This is it, That our sunke eyes haue wak'd for, all this night. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. *Cutting Adrian*. *Ernsty* 120 The power of heaven, whose eies are ever waking on miserable creatures. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 44 Heav'n wakes with all his eyes, Whom to behold but thee, Nature cheer.

**3.** To stay awake or pass the night in prayer; to stay up during the night as an exercise of devotion; to keep vigil (in church, by a corpse, etc.). Const. *in*, *on*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*a.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8043 Pe tober nyzt þat he schyfte, Pe wyle he myzte be here wake, & wyssche & wepe & preye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Þanne þe uolk pet leue be bodi in a stone, And woke þer al þat nyzt With many torches & candeles. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 191 Pe Pascha, al þat nyzt in his prayers. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 87/3 He woke in prayers and made hys body lene.

*b.* c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxi. 290 Hi sliun wæccdon mann wæs beswicen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Ofer an dead lic. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Bihold, holie men þet weren somewhuiles, hwa heo weoren, & hwu heo wakeden. *c* 1250 *St. Scholastica* 8 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 380 Þe ilke, teoðe nyht þeruore heo wakede, to faste and to wake. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XX. 368 Tyl convicious hadde clene forgeten to crye & to wepe And wake her his wicked werkes as he was wont to done. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 182 Men and woymen..wakyd in be cherch al be nyht yn hor deuocions. 1500 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Hypocrite* (1900) 333 Soon as he is dead, you are to come with your folk to wake beside the body.

†**4.** To stay awake for any work or active occupation; to pass the night in work, study, etc. Const. *in*, *for*, *on*-or *upon*, *to*. *Obs.*

*a.* 1071 RIELEY *Comp. Alch.* 1, in *Ashm.* (1652) 131 For thyn hyndir I wakid a nyzte or I hym wyst. 1482 CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxix. 264 They woke al the nyzth as wel they as theyr people, in such wyse that theyr engyns were alle ioyned and redy for to assayle the day. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. *Argt. Scot. V.* 157 Item, to the franche taibannis and menstralis that woik and playit all that nycht, in ale, viijs.

*b.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Þet uolk pet late louieþ to soupi and to waki be nizte, oððe to synnum wacedon. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2093 Pat ilke of you..Seye a pater-noster stille For him pat hauth pis werk to done, And ber-fore ilke man schulle. 1382 MINOT *Poems* i. 51 Many nightes ale haue þai waked To dere all Ingland with þaire dede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 168 Alnodayes I rubbe and scrape, And pryvely manye a pound I wynne. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 17 They waked & studyed many nyghtes and many dayes. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Massacre at Paris* 105 (Hoolock) For this, I wake, when others think I sleepe. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. V.* IV. iv. 1 Watch thou, and wake when others be asleepe, To prie into the secrets of the State.

†**b.** *fig.* To be active, alert, stirring, vigilant. *Const.* as above; also, to be diligent, exert one-self *to* (do something). *To wake over*, to occupy one's mind with. *Obs.*

*a.* 1325 MINOT *Poems* ix. 33 Wale haue þai waked, For sir David of Brune was in þat tyme taken. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* of Ireld. (*Maclean*) 146, & fra þat tyde he charge tuk, Pe trawalyt beayly & wok till his discipulis for to preche, & als he puple beayly teche.

*b.* *Eng. Metrical Gregory's Past.* C. lxiv. 460 Se kok, þerfe up his fiðru, & wecð hine selfne, þat he wacie on ðere zeorde þresse godra weorca. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 242 Myche more in state of synne schulde men wake in Gods servise. *c* 1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1911) Oct. 749 Pretatis & seculer lordis shulden wake diligentli (*diligenter vigilarent*) to ordeyne alle prelatis & curatis. *c* 1450 HOLY *Wallace* v. 655 On other thing he maid his witt to walk. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xviii, All thir on Venus seruice vakkis. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 77 He incessantly waked over the schemes of contending kings and nations. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* v, I have other things to wake over than making love to you.

†**c.** With clause: To take care *that* (something be done). *Obs.*

*a.* 1485 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 38 Perfore wake þe þat þe putte nozt youre hand to þis but in giffyng clisteres.

†**d.** quasi-*trans.* To give diligent heed to, be active in (a matter). *Obs.* (Cf. SLEEP *v.* 7.)

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. cxiii [cix]. 326 The emperour..slept nat his busynes, but waked the matter, as ye shall here.

**5.** Phr. *To † hold or keep waking*; earlier, †*to hold woken*: To prevent from sleeping; to keep watchful or on the alert. †Formerly: To keep (a person, esp. an enemy) occupied, 'give (him) plenty to do', allow (him) no rest; to trouble, harass; also *refl.* to be on the alert.

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (Rolls) 9196 When þe Breitons pe hil had taken, Wyþ sege pe Paynes held hem waken. *Ibid.* 9014 No scaþe þai pe toun had taken, For þey wyþynne held hem wel waken. 1352 MINOT *Poems* ix. 90 He wakked be were þat held him self waken. *c* 1440 *Lanterne of Light* 52 þei..holden waken her ywarde ize. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxvi. (S. T. S.) I. 238 [He] cauit horsmen with ane vache and ane scheip vpon all nychtis, quhilk þe tyrranthis, to hald haue Inemyis waikand to be moiow. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvi[i]. 4 Thou holdest myne eyes wakynge. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 6 Sone nobill fame hald the gait aunye of enemeis vakand on ther tothir syde, throucht the gait assaults ande encunnuschis that he maid contrar them. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 568 Yet the Duke of Yorke held the Frenche men waken, but not immediately to fight with them, and to harry them and keepe them waking. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1136 Whiles pale cold fear doth keep them waking pale. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. v. 30 Pray heauen he be not weary of this fashion to wake you waking. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. iii 67 Have I not kept thee waking like a hawk? And watch'd thee with delights to satisfy thee..now nobly faire held the gait aunye of Enemeis vakand on ther tothir syde, throucht the gait assaults ande encunnuschis that he maid contrar them. 1868 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 568 Yet the Duke of Yorke held the Frenche men waken, but not immediately to fight with them, and to harry them and keepe them waking. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1136 Whiles pale cold fear doth keep them waking pale. *c* 1440 *Lanterne of Light* 52 þei..holden waken her ywarde ize. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxvi. (S. T. S.) I. 238 [He] cauit horsmen with ane vache and ane scheip vpon all nychtis, to hald þe tyrranthis, to hald haue Inemyis waikand to be moiow. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvi[i]. 4 Thou holdest myne eyes wakynge. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 6 Sone nobill fame hald the gait aunye of enemeis vakand on ther tothir syde, throucht the gait assaults ande excunnuschis that he maid contrar them. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 568 Yet the Duke of Yorke held the Frenche men waken, but not immediately to fight with them, and to harry them and keepe them waking. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1136 Whiles pale cold fear doth keep them waking pale. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. v. 30 Pray heauen he be not weary of this fashion to wake you waking. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. iii 67 Have I not kept thee waking like a hawk? And watch'd thee with delights to satisfy thee..now nobly faire held the gait aunye of Enemeis vakand on ther tothir syde, throucht the gait assaults ande excunnuschis that he maid contrar them. 1868

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 2093 Aboute he middel of he nith Wok Ubbe, and saw a mikel lith. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 411 He.. wook of his sleep, and leet brynge list. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 280 Ye, seyd Torrent, ore he be wakyn, schall the tell soche a tokyn. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* 97 Till at the last he noble lyoun woke [*v.r.* wouk]. 1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ.* (1822) I. cccxxii. 501 The watchmen were halfe asleepe, and herde the noyse and woke. 1603 Harsnet *Popish Impost.* 156 This exam[inant] confesseth, that diuers of them were such toyes, as euen then they heard being woken. 1669 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 214 About two or three o'clock in y^e morning hee wake. 1833 J. H. Newman *Lett.* I. 23 Jan. (1891) I. 334, I.. have almost ever since woke at that hour and fancied it morning. 1889 Thirlwall *Rem.* (1878) III. 400 He woke, we trust, from that ghastly nightmare to find himself in the light of a Father's countenance. 1902 Rider Haggard *Lysbeth* xxxv. 284 He had woken in the night and seen it standing at his bed-side.

*B. c* 1275 Lay. 28052 Þo gan ich to wakie (*c* 1205 iwakien). *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 444 Rymenhild.. Wiþ kedde of hire swoning. 1368 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 3 Penne wakede I of my wink. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 54 This gud hound rais, and of his sleip did walk. 1589 Stanyhurst *Descr. Ireland* in *Holinshed* 1. 58 When I waked, as it were out of a greate slumber. 1611 Chapman *May-day* v. 76 Imagining when shee wak't shee had something to say to me. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 200, I wak'd with this Thought. 1787 Burns *Epistle rejoicing Nature'* iii, A dream of ane that never wauks. 1820 Elioy in Cross *Life* (1883) II. 232, I waked to find the six horses tearing through the night to remove the difference. 1919 J. D. Beresford *Jervaise Comedy* xv. 268. I came down from my clouds with..a sense of waking from perfect dreams to the realitation of a hard, inimical world.

**b.** with *up*.

*a.* 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, 'Oh, you've woke up at last, have you?' said Sam. 1844 Disr. *Y. Duke* I. 1 Sybil.. woke up from a long and happy dream to find Hubalor busy packing up his baggage.

*B.* 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 68 Thair sal mony vaik vp of thayme quhilk sall neuer ga to sleip. 1535 Coverdale *Ezod* i. 5 Wake vp ye dronckardes & wepe. 1850 Susan Warner *Wide World* xxii, Ellen busily waked up to feel herself lifted from the ground. 1859 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 11 had been asleep and had waked up. 1901 F. Harrison *Autob. Mem.* (1911) II. 203 Ah! when the dream is over— and I wake up to find myself an average magazine writer.

**c.** *transf.* and *fig.*, esp. of inanimate things.

Of persons (usually with *up*): To become animated, alert, or lively, to throw off lethargy.

It may be noted here that the only recorded sense of OE. *wacnan* is 'to come into being, be born'.

*a.* 1824 *Constancy* 1. 18 Ah! *Brit. Theat.* III. 204 The sleeping zephyrs woke to fan her bosom. 1844 S. Wilberforce *Hist. Prot. Ejac. Ch. Amer.* (1846) 46 Whenever this [ec conclence] awoke, a struggle followed between him in whom it woke, and those who sought to keep it sleeping. 1899 FitzGerald *Omar* viii, A thousand Blowsoms with the Day Wake. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 2/1 Even little Tasmania has woken up.

*B.* 1593 Bernes *Prouis.* (1872) I. cxcxlviii. 556 Johan Lyon was well aduertysed of his enemisteres: thus he began a lyttell to wake. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lx. 9 Wake vp, wake vp, & be stronge; O thou nrme of the Lorde. 1646 Crashaw *Steps to Temple* 43 Newly they Peep'd from their buds, shew'd like the Gardens eyes broke wak't. 1849 M. Arnold *Lo ntirumque paratus* ii, O waking on a world which thus-wise springs! Whether it needs thee roont Betwixt thy waking and the birth of things the ages or hours. O waking on Life's stream! 1905 R. Hagon *Passport* xvii. 153 The landscape ..waking up to a new day.

*d.* *To wake to*: to become conscious or aware of; to become 'alive' to. Cf. Awake *v.* 3.

*a.* 1836 Lytton *Athens* (1837) II. 129 When the Greeks first woke to the certainty, that the vast preparations of Xerxes menaced Greece as the earliest victim. 1866 J. F. Stephen *Ess. Barrister* 108 The great standing controversies which have exercised the intellect of mankind ever since it first woke to consciousness of its powers. 1893 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 321 The Church..had woke up to the sense of her true position.

*B.* 1859 W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett. E. A. Freeman* I. 120 Men's minds, however, had not waked to the fact that Greece and Rome did not exhaust the world's stock of wisdom and greatness.

*e. fig.* Of things, conditions, etc.: To be stirred up or aroused; to be put in motion or action. Also with *up*.

*a.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. i. 9 The voce thus wise throw out the cietc woik. 1863 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 325 The troubles in his diocese which woke up under the subsequent development of ritualistic fervour. 1882 *Ibid.* 363 The loud clamour woke up that he was treacherously [etc.].

*B.* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 1542 Lest for lo penaunce sake We & wrathe by-twene hem wake. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 94 Gentle Aires due at thir hour To fan the Earth now wak'd. 1697 Woodhw. *Oct. Intim. Immortality* 159 Truths that woke, I perish never. 1818 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxvii, Porphyro..listen'd to her breathing, if it chanced To wake into a slumberous tenderness. 1885 Mrs. Alexander *At Bay* viii, You are looking better, as if some life was waking up with you.

**III.** Causative uses.

**8.** *trans.* To rouse from sleep or unconsciousness. Also with *up*. Cf. Awake *v.* 5.

*a. c* 1400 *Love Bonaventure. Mirr.* xl. (1908) 221 After this prayer oute lorde Jesu tornede ayeyn to his disciples, and woke ham. 1593 Bernes *Prouis.* (1872) I. cccl.x. 608 When the englyshmen parceyued howe they of Nantes woke them so often, than they tooke counseyle to kepe better watche. 1763 [H. Kelly] *Dudley* (1765) I. 126 My woman woke me in the morning with the following letter. 1778 Susan Burney in *Fr. Burney's Early Diary* (1889) II. 238 This morning..I was woke by a noise in the next room. 1822 Mulman *Belshazzar* 83 Sleep that shall be sweetly broken When the God his bride hath woken. 1882 'Ouida' *In Maremma* I. ii. 40 She was woke by neighbours' voices. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* May 608/1, I was woken up to take a message.

*b. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7990 Þou slepes daoid, now I be wak. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Bk. Duchesse* 294, I was waked With smale foules a grete hepe That had affrayed me out of my sleepe. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 52 De disciplis comen and wakiden him. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Festival* 900 Pan wakud God Adam, and sette pe womman before hym. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* viii. 24 Then wente they vnto him, and waked him vp. 1596 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 227 Sche rais beand walked be Margaret. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 361 She hath often dreamt of vnhappiness, and waked her selfe with laughing. 1715 Watts *Div. Songs, Sluggard* 2 You have wak'd me too soon, I must slumber again. 1759 Golding. *Bee* No. 1. 15 Every morning waked him to a renewal of famine or toil. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. viii, It's enough to startle any one to be waked up with such a noise. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xvi. 109, I had not the heart to wake him.

*b. transf.* and *fig.*, in obvious sense. Also, to disturb (silence), make (a place) re-echo with noise.

*a.* 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* v, Shrill cries..woke up his plea-ant reverie. 1855 M. Patrison in *Oxford Ess.* 308 The system that woke us to life. 1864 Kingsley *Roman & Teut.* 120 What woke him from his dream? The cry of his starving people. 1919 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Nov. 622/1 Far from falling asleep over her pages..we feel that we have been completely roused up and set guessing.

*B.* 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 132 To wake our peace, which in our Countries cradle Draws the sweet infant breath of gentle sleep. 1740 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 139 The sprightly lark's shrill Mattin wakes the Morn. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. xxvi, No murmur waked the solemn still. 1883 Harper's *Mag.* LXVI. 918/1 Ere..the bee-hum wake our sleep; we wake it up, we air it, we walk it about. 1894 Patmore *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 246 No wind waked the wood. 1912 Macalister *Hist. Celtic Literature* iii. 51 Those great civilizations of Crete and the Aegean, that have slumbered forgotten till waked to life again in our own days.

*c. To wake snakes* (U.S. slang): 'To cause trouble or disturbance, to "raise Cain"' (Farmer).

1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* I. ii. 104 An' ef it worn't fer wakin snakes, I'd home agin short meter. 1872 *Punch* 20 Jan. 25/2 The archbishops of the Roman obedience appear to be taking measures to wake snakes.

**9.** To rouse to action, activity, alertness, or liveliness. Const. *to, into*. Also with *up*.

*a.* 1851 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* 66 Clearly as the trumpet that woke the Greeks to battle.

*B.* 1598 Erevina *Barth. De P. R.* II. xix. (1495) 46 The fende taketh a body of the ayre, that the lyf of men be haunted and wakid to beuyrnesse by his doynge. 1630-40 Drummond *Irel. Troub.* (1754) 97 Cyrus than, father to Lion, His aduersaries gan mortally to wake. 1535 Coverdale *Joel* iii. 9 Proclame warre, wake vp the giaintes, let them all come. 1588 Shaks. *Lucrece* 1. 1. 21 Thither Macduffe is gone, to pray the Holy King, vpon his ayd To wake Northumberland, and warlike Seyward. 1750 Gray *Long Story* 8 Wake all the dead, what can they do? Night and Sleep, Or wak'd to extasy the living lyre. 1889 H. Cholmondeley-Pennell *From Grave to Gay* 65 As when waked to sudden speed The horn from the throng the flying steed. 1902 K. Garnett *Ess.* II. 72 The higher critics are..unoriginal in this, that it must be waked into activity by another mind. 1907 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Left her Mother to Kit's*, xviii. 111 We are so terribly dull, and anything will serve to wake us up a bit.

*b. To wake (up) to*: to arouse to the consciousness or enjoyment of. Cf. 7 *d*.

1600 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. ii. 24 Many a He felt as one who, waked up suddenly To life's delight, knows not of grief or care.

**10.** To bring into being, raise, stir up (war, strife, woe, etc.); to arouse, excite (an activity, feeling, emotion); to evoke (a sound, echo, etc.). Also with *up*.

*a.* 1793 *Minstrel* III. 136 A voice whose well known tunings thrilled through my soul, and woke every dormant passion. 1798 Southey *Joan* (1856) I. 59 Your presence did but long absence in the recollections and almost the feelings of old friendship. 1862 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 295 The controversy, which the publication of 'Essays and Reviews' had waked. 1879 George Eliot *Theophrastus* I. viii. 34 This woke rivalry and dissension among the other nobles. 1903 W. A. Ellis *Glastenapfe's Life Wagner* III. 67 [It] has woken an echo.

*B. c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 360 Du haues ße sorges sig8he waked. *c* 1330 R. Baunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8294 [The Britons] haf waked mani batayl. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxi. 2 The Medes arvi. 29 He is a fool, bat werre wole wake, þat may not maynten it wib mede. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 30 To wake and assay your preparation. 1655 Fuller *Church Hist. Francaise* 10 This wake did the Greates carrie to descend. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 739 Meanwhile the hour of Noon drew on, and wak'd An eager appetite, rais'd by the smell So savorie of that Fruit. 1818 Gray *Agrippina* 103 And is still, Like mine, mighty serve bellke to wake pretensions Drowsier than theirs. 1828 Scott *Marmion* VI. vi, But far more needful was his care, When storm or war his wakening skill required. 1874 *Lives of Friarz* iii. 164 In every melody that wakes the echoes. 1876 *McClure's Mag.* VI. 423/1 Never a crank did I wake out of that staircase till I was almost at the first landing.

Hence **Wa'ked** *ppl. a.*

1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 165 They keepe the watche, they stand with waked sprites. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 363 Thou hast in bane better bank his horse a Dog Then answer my wak'd wrath. 16.. ? Chapman *Revenge for Honour* III. i. (1659) 34 And on this vicious Prince like a fierce Sea-breach my just wak'd rage shall riot. 1642 Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. v. 40 The disorder of things to come, in sleepe above the prescience of our waked senses.

**Wake,** variant of Wacke *Geol.*

**Wake**: see Vake *n.*, Walk *n.*[2], Weak *a.*

**Wa'keal** (wā·kĭl). *Anglo-Ind.* Also **wakil**. [See Vakeel. (Properly the spelling with *v* should represent the Persian and Indian forms, and that with *w* the Arabic; but this is not observed in our examples).] = Vakeel 1, 2.

1803 Sir J. Malcolm in *Kaye Life* (1856) I. 240 The Wakeels of Scindiah had yesterday a long audience. 1824 *Badoo* I. xvii. 206 (Stanf.) Even those who plead my cause; my wakeels, my agents. 1903 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6 Those among the students [Cairo] who have pursued the lucrat side of their studies become 'Wakils' (lawyers) or 'Kaids' (public or private actionaries and writers).

**Wakeful** (wē·kfŭl), *a.* [f. Wake *v.* + -ful.]

**1.** Keeping awake, esp. while others sleep, not yielding to sleep.

1509 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Col.* iv. 9·4 Continue in prayer, not as dull & heuy people by reason of any surfeyng, but as sober & wakefull. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 30. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 730 As wakefull Students, in the Winter's night Against the steel, Strike sudden sparks into their Tinder-box. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 38 The wakeful Bird Sings darkling, and in shadiest Covert hid Tunes her nocturnal Note. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 201 P 10 One of the most wakeful of the Soporifick Assembly. 1798 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 43 Still bids the wakeful Eye of Sorrow flow. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* III. ii. 389 Saint Mark's great bell at dawn shall find me wakeful!

**2.** Habitually keeping awake; *fig.* Keeping on the alert, vigilant, watchful.

1595 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. (Arb.) 232 When Fortune lowres for his people is wakefull and vnsafe. 1611 Bible *Hist. Ct. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 959 These dangers..did worthily stirre vp wakefull Princes euen ouer smaller accidents. 1843 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* v. v. *Wake*, The horse considers no man awake or wakeful, who is not alive to his own interests. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* vi, He..had in all things shown himself a daring and wakeful captain.

**b.** of dispositions or actions.

1581 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* I. iii. 193 The brother, that shoulde be the brothers aide, And haue a wakefull care for his defence, Gapes for his death. *a* 1639 W. Whatelev *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 91 God.. hath disposed of things as by his wakefull providence. 1742-8 Gray *Agrippina* 102 We could not have beguil'd With more exlusive speed the dazzled sight Of wakeful jealousy. 1849 H. K. White *Sons. Dermody*, The pale pilot,..as he plies His wakeful task. 1857 Chalmers *Astron. Disc.* v. (1852) 136 Bending a wakeful regard over the rest of his world. 1866 *Reader* 6 Oct. 418/2 *Mem. Patmore* v. 57 His unresting, wakeful vigilance.

**c.** *transf.* Of inanimate agencies: Continually active, never ceasing or resting.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV. 289 A hundred Altars fed with wakeful Fire.

**3.** Unable to sleep, restless.

1673 Dryden *Aurenge.* II. (1676) 23, I shrink far off—Dissembling sleep, but wakeful with the fright. The day takes off the pleasure of the night. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat. Udolpho* xxix, Her spirits were wakeful and agitated; and finding it impos-ible to sleep, she determined [etc.]. 1853 M. Arnold *Sohrab & Rustum* 1. 1. 1 The night-fire lit him wakeful, tossing on his bed. 1860 *Hackney Lovel* vi. (1861) 120 Tick—tock! Moment after moment I heard on the clock the clinking footsteps of wakeful Time.

**4.** Marked by absence or want of sleep.

1628 Pemble *Wo thy Rec. Lord's Supper* 48 Sometimes a wakefull bed calls upon us to examine our hearts. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 210 The Night is the wakefull Night in Feasts and Play. 1870 R. S. Hawker *Footpr. For Corww.* 208 That night an inspiration visited me in my wakeful bed.

**5.** Said of dreams, or what is normally characteristic of sleep: Waking.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancientz* 22 Among our idle hopes and wakefull dreames, these Images do follow us so close. 1641 Denham *Sophy* I. ii, All thy feares, Thy wakefull terrors, and affrighting dreames, Leave now Their full reuends. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvii, In sort of wakeful swoon, perplex'd she lay. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* II. iv. V, In a wakeful doze I sorrow For the friend who is no more. For the meeting of the morrow. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 316 Following the wayward turn of wakeful fancies.

**†6.** Rousing (one) from sleep, awaking him. *Obs.*

1609 Milton *Church Gov.* II. vi. Wks. 1851 III. 170 Nor ychain'd in sleep, The wakefull trump of doom must thunder through the deep.

Hence **Wa'kefully** *adv.*, **Wa'kefulness.**

*a.* 1548 Surrey *Arcadia* III. iv. (1912) 374 Making the cowardly Clinias to have care of the watch, which he knew his own feare would make him very wakefully performe. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 922 The Wakefulnesse of Dogges, are fit to be vsed in Burning Agues,..and too much Wakefulnesse. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 30 P 11 So, perhaps, to each individual of the human species, nature has ordained the same quantity of wakefulness and rest. 1798 Jonnson in *Boswell* (1904) I. 554 He should have a lamp constantly burning..and if wakefully disturbed, take a book, and read. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.*, May 11 He had relaxed the stern wakefulness of his reason for a single moment. 1847 Evanson & Maunsell *Manxgem.* & *Dis. Childr.* (ed. 5) 352 Wakefulness is a very prominent characteristic of nervous irritation in the child, and should always arrest attention. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 13 Nov. 6/8 England stands firmly and wakefully on guard behind the line up to which the Russians have seen fit to advance.

**†Wake-goose.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? Corrupt form of Watzoodse.] = Watzoodse.

1758 *Brit. Chron.* 27 Sept. 267 The Season comes, in black to dress the year, But with it brings the Wake-Goose, and good Cheer.

**Wakeless** (wē·klĕs), *a.* [f. Wake *n.* + -less.] Without awakening, unbroken, undisturbed.

1892 Moir in *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 979 There is no prospect, save a wakeless sleep. 1895 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 364 Though sights and sounds like these circled my bed, Wakeless and heavy would my slumbers be.

**Wa'keman.** *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 5 **wak-**, **wayk-**, **wakman.** [f. Wake *sb.*[1] + Man. Cf. ON. *vakmaðr* (*-mannr*).]

**1.** A watchman.

*c* 1300 Orfin 382 All all swa summ þe wakemenn.. offdrede

warrenti..off batt ennglesc sihhpe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 Pe fif wittes, þer witeð þe heorte ake wakemen hwarse heo beoð treowe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. v. (1495) 32 Angels ben called walkmen and wardeyns for they warne men of perylles that maye falle. *c* 1440 *Sevyn Sag.* (P.) 1443 As thay spoken lowde togyder, The wakmen herde and come thydyre. 1461 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 The gayliere and the wakman of the salde citie ..shal have the mesuring of salte and corne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 A Wayknan, *nactivagus, pervigil, pervigilator, vigil* (*sic*). 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 59 Churchewardens.. wakmene and inhabitantes of the same parishe [Beverley, St Nicholas]. 1595 W. Warner *Ballad Somervsnatus* Poems I. 193 King's tower and queen's bower, And the wakeman on the wall.

**2.** In the borough of Ripon: **a.** In the 15–16th c. the designation of a class of municipal officers, whose duties included attendance on the shrine of St. Wilfrid. (Cf. quot. 1542 in 1, relating to one of the parishes of Beverley.) **b.** The title of the chief magistrate of the borough until 1604, when it was exchanged for the title of mayor.

Lists of the 'wakemen' of the borough from 1400 to 1604 are extant, giving as a rule one name for each year, and ending with Hugh Ripplaye (see quot. c 1603). It is commonly assumed that the 'wakeman' who was chief magistrate was the head of the body of 'wakemen' referred to in quots. 1478 and 1511, but there is evidence of the existence of a wakeman at Ripon as early as 1400. See also *Memo. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 259 Et in denariis sol(ut)is. ministris ville Ripon vocatis Wakemen, dr.servientibus foreties in festo Ascensionis Domini ex more(i)i dine precedentes, cap. per diem 4*d*., 16*d*. 1512 *Ibid.* 277 De 36*s*. 8*d*. similiter per ipsum receptis de diversis personis electis in officium lez Wakeman. *c* 1603 *Anc. Inv. Wrap* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 313, 1604. Heughe Rippleye. The laste wakeman and first maior [of Ripon]. 1733 Gent *Hist. Ripon* 139 A List of the Wakemen of Ripon, from the year 1400 (the rest of the Corporation were then called Feres) 'till King James alter'd their Government, Anno Dom. 1604. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 583 The jurisdiction was exercised [at Ripon] by the bailiffs, and the elective wakemen.

**Waken** (wē·k'n), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wakened**. Forms: 1 **wecnan, weocnan**, 3 **weken-en, -in**, *Orm.* **wkoon-enn**, 3–4 *S.* **wakne**, 3–5 **wakin, wakken, waoken**, 4 **wakan, wakkin**, *Sc.* **vakyn**, 4–5 **wakyn, -on, weakyn, -on**, *Sc.* **valkyn**, 4–6 *Sc.* **walkyn**, 5 **waykyn, wokyn**, 5–6 *Sc.* **walkin**, 6 **walkne, walkin**, 6–7 *Sc.* **walken, waikin**, 8–9 *Sc.* **wauken**, *dial.* **woken, wakken**, 3– **waken**. [OE. *wecnan* (also *-wæcnian*, ? once *wacnian*) = ON. *vakna* (Norw., Sw. *vakna*, Da. *vaagne*), Goth. *ga-waknan* (found only in pr. pple.), f. root **wak-* (see Wake *v.*) + *-n-* suffix of inchoative verbs of state.

The suffix in Teut. verbs of this class was originally confined to the present stem; cf. Goth. *fraihnan, finh, fráhnun*, also *keinan*, pa. pple. *kijnans*. The original conjugation in OE. may have been *wecnan, wcehe, wcecen, *wæcen*, but the conjugation of *wecnan* as a regular weak verb goes back to the earliest known period of the language; in ON. *vakna* is weak, the strong pa. t. being wanting.]

**I.** Intransitive senses.

**1.** To cease to sleep; to become awake. Const. † *of* (obs.), *from*, *out of* (sleep, etc.), *to* (a state of things, etc.). Also with *up*. Cf. Wake *v.* 7.

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 2164 So þat he bigan to wakne, And wit here knif sore to blakne. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 210 He walknyt, and rais all deidly. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 231 Whan Charle wakenede of his dreme. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. 1167 þan þe Romanys suddandy wayknyt qwhar þai sleppyde by. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvii. 103 Quhilk throw I walknit of my trance. 1581 Rich *Favorn.* (Shaks. Soc.) 166 He bidde her goe ouzine, and shake her till she did waken. 1616 S. S. *Pastor Fido* IV. G 3, While luscious wakendst with the chimes, Because thou wentst to bed betimes. *c* 1618 Fletcher *Mad Lover* v. iv, Looke with the eyes of heaven that night she waken, To view the wonders of my glorious Maker. 1760 *Independ. Debtor* IV. vi. 211 At that very instant Don Vulpez wakened from his trance. 1787 Burns *'Again rejoicing Nature'* vi, When the lark, true blithe and glad, Wakes the morn and gilds the day's side. 1825 Scott *Antiq.* xxi, An he sleeps in this damp hole, he'll may-be waaken nae mair. 1826 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. 9, Ethelfred's dream was over. She had wakened on the inside of a Great Western carriage. *a* 1864 R. Buchanan *Dead Mother* 5, I waken'd up in the dead of night.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*, of inanimate things, etc. † Of a condition, state of things: To come into existence, become manifest or active, be stirred up or aroused; also with *up*. Of wind: To begin to blow or rage. Cf. Wake *v.* 7 c, e.

*Beowulf* 85 Ne wæs hit lenge þa zen þæt se ecghete ..æfter wæninde wæcnan scolde. *c* 1200 Ormin 12223 All þe flambe-ete leat Wakenedd þurrh þiss gliterrnesse. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 Þa aat walle of wraindom, and euch wunne wakenede ant waxede of þe. *a* 1300 *Fol. Songs* (Camden) 152 Thee wakeneth in the world wondred ant wes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 132 Pay [*sc.* winds] wakened wel þe wrapeloker for wropely he cleped. *a* 1350 Minot *Poems* vi. 10 When all yowre were es went yowre wo wakkins ful wide. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2046 Now wackyns vp werre as ye shall note after. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1803 Than bygan to wakken wo. 1597 Hearn *Thester God's Judgem.* (1631) 245 And so though vengeance slept a while, yet at length it wakened. 1634 Herbert *Trnus.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 It was then a great calm, about an hour, and afterwards the wind wakened. 1839 T. Stoddart *Songs & P.* 21 O waken, winds, waken! 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. vii, We forget nothing. The memory sleeps, but wakens again. 1898 A. Austin *Lamia's Winter Quarters* p. viii, When . . the big-tree crosses have flamed to green, And windflower wakened, and tulip blown.

**c.** Of a person: To become lively, animated, or stirring; usually with *up*. Also, to become 'alive' to (a situation, etc.). Cf. Wake *v.* 7 c.

1825 Jamieson, *Waukrn.*, *v.* To become animated.. ? as, 'He waukn'd on his sermon'. 1891 R. Boldrewood *Sydney-side Sket.* xii, The rider going pretty patient like myself, but beginning to waken up. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Dec. 2/2 Mr. Collins is wakening to the necessity of a more refined type of Christmas entertainment.

†**2.** To remain awake, refrain from sleeping, keep watch or vigil; to remain alive. *Obs. rare.*

1588 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 130 And dost thou know why I..do still suffer Diabolonians to dwell in thy walls, O Mansoul? it is to keep thee wakening, to try thy love, to make thee watchful.

**II.** Transitive senses.

**3.** To rouse (a person or animal) from sleep or unconsciousness. Also with *up*. Const. † *of* (obs.), *from*, *out of* (sleep). Cf. Wake *v.* 8.

*c* 1200 Ormin 3842, I3 þ & o þe þridde dæȝ itt (the lion's whelp) lis Wacchedd off sleep & reȝsedd, Þurrh þatt te fader gaþ inntte & sitteþ itt & wacchepþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14301 Pat i till him went, it is time For to waken him of his swime. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* V. 104 Than his twa men in hy send he To warne & walkyn his menȝe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 681 [She] Wakynt vp a wydow, þat hir with dwelte. *c* 1510 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. 47 The Sone is wont with ane feilloun fray. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* B iij b, At length, well wakened from that pleasing slumber. 1612 Bible *Zech.* IV. 1 & the angel that talked with me came and waked me, as a man is waked out of his sleepe. 1693 Garrett *Ruth* xxii, Her dream..was one of undefined terror ..so great that it wakened her up. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1034 O Sun, that wakenest all to bliss or pain.

**b.** *fig.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 167 Lord, where slepis þi godе lawe, and when schal hit be wakened? 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 124 Your sleepie thoughts, Which here we waken to our country's good. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 1 Sir Humfrey Gilbert waked the Westerne Ocean. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xi, A loud high-pressure blast ; enough, one would think, to waken up the host of infernal spirits. Dull in a great measure yonder.

**4.** To rouse to activity, alertness, or liveliness; to stir up, excite. Const. *to*, † *into*; *to* (do something). Also with *up*. Cf. Wake *v.* 9.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3610 Perfore wackon þi wille into wight dedis. *c* 1400 *Rom. St. Benet* (Prose) xxii. 20 Man sal waken him in þat dede. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 166 The men that I led with me to wakyn þaim to do me resoun. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 92 God almychty vakinit vithe his grit hie burin of ȝar pvndeconsvms. 1577 *St. Augustine's Man.* Pref., That then we bee shrunke away, we may bee wakened to run backe againe to our true God. 1604 *Jas. I Counterbl. To Subj.* (Arb.) 97 It is the Kings part ..to waken them vp againe, to be more diligent in their Offices. 1739 Johnson *Idler* No. 43 P 3 It was therefore necessary that this universal reluctance should be counteracted, and the drowsiness of hesitation wakened into resolve. 1851 G. Brimley *Ess., Wordsw.* (1858) 110 Where the vanity of social distinction..wakens the harp of the poet. 1877 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* (1878) 9 I. Drift & It has been the one purpose of all..divine revelation..to waken us up out of this perpetually recurring tendency to fall back into ourselves.

**5.** To summon into existence, raise, stir up (war, woe, wind, etc.); to kindle (fire, flame); to incense, excite (an activity, emotion); to evoke (music, sound). Also with *up*. Cf. Wake *v.* 10.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8558 Now hauy take oure mone fo þat hap vs waked many wo! 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1443 For I wakned wyn vp a water to wasch alle þe worlde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2274 Vff we wakkin vp were with weghes so fele. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* (1888) 226 Schir Edward Dacres..was found against agane be the raiser of a newe bleiss, and wakne vp a new flame. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Little Fr. Lawyer* v. ii. 26 Speake to that Lion Lord, waken his anger. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 1000 Up rose the victorious Son this sacred Song, and waken raptures high. 1788 Burns *Holy Fair* xix, It kindles Wit, it waukens Lear. 1848 Dickens *D. Powlt* lii, What a crowd of emotions were wakened up by the sight! 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. Proem 16 The sunlight and shadows bring their old beauty and waken the old heart-strains at morning, noon and eventide.

**6.** *Scots Law.* To revive (a process) which, after calling a summons, has been allowed to 'sleep' for a year and a day.

1580 *Mutl. Mutic.* III. 234 The cause..suscitate and newlie walkyned. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* I. 682 The matter being walkyned of new, and all the parties compeirand personallie. 1699 Skene *Reg. Maj. Quoniam Attach.* c. 55 And then the principall pley (betwix the persewer and the defender) sall be walkned. 1711 J. Sinclair-Rose *Forms of Process* (1728) 20 In case Protestation has not been sought within Year and Day, ..no Protestation can be granted, till the Advocation which on that Account, is said to be sleeping, be wakened. 1790 *Collect. Styles* III. 195. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Wakening.*

**7.** To watch, watch over, keep an eye upon. *Sc.* 1552 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 12 This ilk August in Quhitterne than tuke girth, Quhair he wes walknit all tyme round about, That be no way that tyme he myght wyn out. 1865 Taylor *Poems* 156 (E.D.D.) On summer nichts, wauken the claes Wi' maidens fair.

Hence **Wa·kened**, **Wa·kening** *ppl. adjs.*

*c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxvii. 12 But shoote not at me in your wakened hate. 1638 D. Dickson *Heben.* xii. 24. 304 The wakened Conscience, lying in fears of the offended Iudge. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. 93 He therefore with a wak'n'd spirit, set himself to the work of his Fortune dilating his mind. 1823 Scott *Kenelw* II. i, And the rich dale, that eastward lay, Waited the wakening touch of day. 1827 Moore *Lalla Rookh*, *Veiled Prophet*, 1, 166 Ere Peace can visit them, or Truth let in Her wakening day-light on a world of sin! 1892 Meredith *Poems, Odo Comic Spirit* 71 Thou, soul of wakened heads, art armed to warn.

**Waken**, obs. form of Waker.

**Wakener** (wē·k'nə), *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* **walk(e)nar**, **wakenar**. [f. Waken *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** A person or thing that wakens or arouses. Also with *up*.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 109 Quhay ar wirkaris of this weir, quha walkynarkis of war. 1597 Jas. VI *Daemonol.* III. iii. 67 The procurer & wakener vp of these two natural qualities. *a* 1653 Z. Boyd in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 52 A verse, which . . served for a wakener for to rouse me from . . sleep. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* xix. 689 These are the genuine wakeners or exciters of the Ferment of the Stomach. 1878 C. Stanford *Synth. Christ* iii. 332 The soul's wakener is always Christ. 1887 Smiles *Life & Labour* 269 Tea is another wakener-up. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* I. xvi. 185 Delivering a wakener [*i.e.* a rousing blow] in unexpected quarters.

†**b.** *spec.* An alarm attached to a clock.

1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 308 Ane lytill knok, with ane walknar ourgylt.

**2.** One who wakes. *rare.*

1857 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Bronte* vi. (1860) 78 She remembered the times when watchers or wakeners in the night heard the distant word of command.

†**Wa·kenness.** *Obs.* [f. Waken *v.* + -ness.] The state of being awake; (one's) waking hour.

1585–92 Lyly *Gallathea* III. i, 48 (Bond) My sleepes broken and full of dreames, my wakenesse sad and full of sighes.

**Wakening** (wē·k'nin), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Waken; a rousing or being roused from sleep, torpor, etc.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8. Þe wakynyng. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1660 A morowfull walweyng had sche thore. 1677 *Rec. Privy Council Scotl.* Ser. III. V. 763 Threatenings..to give the petitioner and his familie a sad wakening. 1796 Burns *' Ye'hey's ta'en the parting kiss'* iii, Sweetly blithe his waukening be! 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Morning* vi, New ev'ry morning is the love Our wakening and uprising prove. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. xxv, Her first wakening to the knowledge that Margaret was gone. 1923 J. H. Morrison *On Trail of Travellers* 121 The wakening of China was quickened by a generation.

**b.** *Scots Law.* (See Waken *v.* 6.)

1584 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Ct.* (1904) Introd. 44 This day being assigne be the wakning to proceid..Interloquitor in the said caus. 1608 *Minor. Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 69 Lawrence Scott..producit ane precept of wakning agonis the haill parsonis, fewaris, etc.]. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. i. 8 Decerniture by default may be extracted, after the year is elapsed; without the necessity of a wakening. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict. c.* 100 § 95 It shall be competent for either of the parties..to lodge a minute craving a wakening of the cause.

**Waker** (wē·kə), *sb.*[1] [f. Waken *v.* + -er 1.]

†**1.** One who 'wakes' or abstains from sleep.

*c* 1250 *St. Michael* 691 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 319 Hardi and ligt and stalewarde and wakare ek gnod. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxx. (1887) 213 The spare feeder or great waker, needeth not any such kinde of physick.

**2.** One who awakes (any etc.).

1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tubs* v, i, Late Watches are no early Wakers, Madam. 1852 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 159 Men who will not fear The baptism of the holy morning dew (And many of them will not now are hardly worth it). 1893 A. Mackenzie in *Independent* (N. Y.) 19 Oct, The early waker.

†**3.** One who watches; a watcher, watchman. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Dan.* iv. 10 [13] And loo! the waker, and holy cane down from heuen. 1388 — *Wisd.* vi. 16 Wakeris, that ik pen the cites, founden me. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xvi. (1495) 464 Cranes ordeyne watches and the waker stondyth vpon one foote. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* (Ashm. MS.) 31 He wake & wept watet wib his ien, & vigilaute he wakere warned him þo. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 187 Sche ros vpp ly, in sygne of alle hem wakers pat ȝyng went out at pe chirche-dore. 1808 Jamieson, *Waiker*, a watchman, one who watches clothes during night.

**b.** *dial.* One who sits up with a sick person. 1798 W. Hutton *Life* 18 He left her as usual with the waker and my daughter, and had slept two hours.

**4.** One who rouses another from sleep; *fig.* one who excites or stirs up (some feeling, etc.).

1590 Gower *Conf.* II. 127 That is for þe litle noght, Which is the wakere of mi thoght. 1598 Southwell *Marie Magd. Funerall Teares* Ded. (1594) 4 3 b, Sorrowe is the sister of mercie, and a waker of compassion. 1720 in W. Andrews *Curios. Ch. Customs* (1890) 118 Paid to Alsggard waker, 0 10 0. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 15 Dec. 5/2 In the districts where London working men live..sixpence a week from each client is the usual 'waker's' wage. 1923 *Punch's Parish Clerk* (ed. 2) 264 One Sunday the 'waker' sighted his prey.

**5.** One who wakes (a corpse).

1808 Moore *Corrupt.* 172 Nay, when the Constitution has expir'd, I'll have such men, like Irish wakers, hir'd To chant old ' Habeas Corpus ' by its side.

†**Wa·ker,** *a. Obs.* Also 1 **wacor, wacer**, 4–5 **wakir(e, wakyr** (5 *Sc.* **walkyr**), (6 **wakare**). [OE. *wacor* = WFris. *wakker* wakeful (also as adv. very), MDu., (M)LG. *wacker* (Du. *wakker*), OHG. *wachar, wahhar* (MHG. *wacker, wacher*, mod.G. *wacker* valiant), ON. *vakr* wakeful, alert (Da. *vaagker*, MSw. *vakar* watchful, Sw. *vaakker* handsome); —OTeut. **wakro-* f. **wak-* : see Wake *v.* Unsleeping, watchful, vigilant. Also *fig.*

*c* 1300 *Lawa Cunt* l. xxvi, Ponne moton þe hyrdas beon swyðe wacore. *c* 1400 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Þe fridde [wende] of brihtnesse] is þat man be waker and liht and snel and sell and eriche rede. *a* 1425 *Ancr. R.* 164 Ant Seint Peter .. bit us te beon wakere & lisie ine hali beoden. *a* 1272 *Lowe Kou* 150 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Wyþ þeoues,...þu most beo waker and snel. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Hart. Fowles* 358 The wakyr goos, the cokkow most unkynde. *c* 1440 *Lanterne of Light* 25 Wel auȝt suche a man to be waker & wise þat hab þe greet God Lord of Israel dwelling in hise soule. 1456 Sir G. Hay *Lawe Armys* (S.T.S.) 301 Thei war beter, ware wakir, and bable to the werra...throu hardnes of lyfing. *c* 1530 *Prov. in Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 60 Waker howndes been profitable. 1560 tr. *Ain. Sylvius' Lucres & Pocridus* F viii b, The waker dragon dyd neuer keepe so well the golden fleece.

**Waker,** obs. Sc. form of Walker 2.

**†Wakerell.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **wakerrell,** 6 **wag(e)rell, wak(e)rell(e, (wakeryng),** 7 **waakerell.** [App. †Waker *a.* + -rel.] The name given in Kent to a church bell (? the sanctus bell).

Also *wakerell bell, rope.*

1485 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* in *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 292 Item for a rope for the wakerrell, iij d. 1545 *Ibid.* XVII. 107 Item paied for ye wakerell rope, vd. 1547 *Ibid.* VIII. 115 Item iij bells in the Steple & a waggerell bell. 1600 *Church-w. Presentm. in N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VIII. 493/2 We want one bell and a wackerell, which were sold away [etc.].

**Wakerife** (wē·krəif, *a.* Sc. and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 **wacryff, walkrife (walkryfe, walcryff),** 5–7 **walkryf(e, 6–7 wakryff, 8 wakryfe, 9 -rife, 8, 9 waukrife, 6– wakerife.** [f. Wake *sb.* + Rife *a.*: cf. Cauldrife.] Indisposed to sleep, wakeful, vigilant. Also *fig.*

*c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 103 Oure walkryfe wait he, vs for to warne and tell, Quhen that Aurora,...Put vp hir heid beinix the nicht and day. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. vi. 79 Walkrife e ene Phœbus ardit, 1564 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 315 Acknawlaging thairin the speciall benefeit of God's providence in stanting up the spreits of his servants in be wacryff, carefull and curagius. 1686 Hannay *Nightingale*, etc. 25 When pleasing Progne longing love For Philomelas sight Grew wake-rife. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Cordial* v, When thou waukrife art or dry. 1786 Burns *Epistle to Major Logan* 4, The wirlebrug, cursd, delicious blinkers Hae ..gart me weet my waukrife winkers Wi' gimin spite. 1875 W. Alexander *St. Ain Folk* 162 Eh, ye waukrife nicht, anna ye sleepin' yet? 1896 Crockett *Grey Man* ii. 24 Being an old man, he was somewhat wakerife in the morning.

Hence **Wakerifely** *adv.*, **Wakerifeness.**

1600 tr. *Holloch's Chron.* 126 (Jam.) So long as the diuell is in the world, so long there is necessity required of wakryfeness. 1633 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I. 99 Thereby I was God mynding me from impænlience to repentance...from securite unto wakraifnes. 1825 Jamieson, *Walkrifely, waukrifely, adv.*, wakefully. S. 1892 H. Johnston *Kirkcudbright* 11 In living this period of wakerifeness he had longed for action of some sort, but could not well get up in the dark.

**†Wakerly,** *a. Obs.* [f. Waker *a.* + -ly 1.] Wakeful, watchful.

*c* 1400 Love *Benedictine Mirr.* xl. (1908) 224 Sothely he, as a good herde, was ful wakerly and besy vppon the kepynge of that litell flok, his byloued disciples. *Ibid.* lxii. 285, I wole that þou be wakerly and diligent in thy soule. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* O iv, If the wiste...how his crosiers staffe admonished him of the wakery [? *read* wakerly] charg he shoulde take ouer his flocke.

**†Wakerly,** *adv.* Obs. In 4 **wokyrly.** [f. Waker *a.* + -ly 2.] Nimbly.

[? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2104 Qwarelles qwayntly swappes/ thorowe knyghtez With lryne so wekyrly, that wynche they never.

**Wake-ro·bin.** [App. f. Wake *v.* + Robin.]

1. The plant *Arum maculatum*, also commonly called cuckoo-pint, lords-and-ladies, etc.

1530 Palsgr. 286/1 Wakerobyn an herbe. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, Aaron, *Aron*, an herbe callyd wake Robyn. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii. 1004, There be diuers sorts of wake Robin or Cockow pint. 1601 Lyly *Love's Metam.* i. ii, They haue eaten so much wake-Robin, that they cannot sleepe for loue. 1725 Bradley *Family Dict., Wake-robin* or *Cabbage-pint*, in Latin *Arum*...The Root of this plant is purgative and penetrating; they prepare a powder of it that is used in Asthma's, Dropsy, and Hypocondriac Melancholy. 1837 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* II. 255 The root of the *arum maculatum*, or wake-robin.

b. *dial.* The purple orchis, *Orchis maculata.*

c. The red campion, *Lychnis diurna.*

1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

**2.** In *U.S.* applied (*a*) to certain araceous plants, esp. *Peltandra undulata* (or *virginica*, formerly called *Arum virginicum*), arrow-arum, Tuckahoe; (*b*) to liliaceous plants of the genus *Trillium* (*esp.* the white-flowered species).

*c* 1722 Petiver *Gazophyl.* t. i, In South Carolina...it Flowers in June and July, and is called by them Wake Robin. *Ibid.* vi. lx, A whitish flowred Arum or Wake Robin, with cordated narrow pointed Leaves. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. America* I. 125 The Virginian Wake robin, or Arum Virginicum, grows in wet places. 1871 Burroughs *Wake-Robin* Pref. (1884) p. vi, Wake-Robin—the common name of the white Trillium. 1884 W. Miller *Plant-n.* 243 Wake-Robin, American, *Arum dracontium*, *Trillium grandiflorum*, and *T. cernuum*. 1915 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *My Old Indiana* ii. 32 So long as I could find a scrap of arbutus, a violet or a wake-robin from the woods.

**3.** In the West Indies and tropical America, applied to certain araceous plants of either of the genera *Anthurium* (tail-flower) and *Philodendron.*

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Wake-robin, *Anthurium* and *Philodendron.*

**Wakesses,** obs. pl. of Wake *sb.*1

**†Wake-wort.** *Obs. rare*—1. Some plant.

1440 Palsgr. 286/1 Wakeworte an herbe.

**Wakien,** obs. form of Weaken *v.*

**Waking** (wē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Wake.

1. The action of remaining awake or of sitting up at night.

1340 *Ayenb.* 50 Efterward ine þuyre wakinges me deþ manye kinderlec pleyes ate chere ryþer ate tables. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's Prol.* 22 The tyme...steleth from vs, what prively slepynge And what thurgh necligence in oure wakynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. *Secrets Search.* 247 Myche wakynge maketh the body lene. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 Of thought cometh the wakyngis and inwentis. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxvii. 2 It is in vayne for you to make your rysinge early, and to syt late, and eate the bred of sorowfulnesse: for he wyll geue his beloued slepe. 1636 Ford *Fancies* iii. iii, I am not So weary of th'authority I hold Over mine owne contents in sleepes and waking. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iii. xxxii. 196 To say he hath seen a Vision...is to say, that he dreamed between sleeping and waking. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xxxi, I days of danger, nights of waking. 1850 Lyte *Poems, Old & New* (1868) 18 Waking in the Church was left off because of some Abuses.

**2.** The action of watching, or keeping watch and ward; *dial.* a keeping watch or holding a 'wake' over a corpse.

1340 *Ayenb. Parv.* 314 Wakynge, or wetche, *vigilia.* *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxviii. 257 Oure wakyng, with-outen wene Is worthest to nogt. 1539 *Reg. Priory Sent. Swith.* 19 Kenewyng of the wache at wakking, wasshing & dryeng of stent within the burgh of Edinburgh or outwith. 1572 *Inv. Kelthanger* (Somerset Ho.), For keepinge of her and wackinge of her iijli. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* (Bodl.) Sept. 1. Sang Te Deum, The wacking of the feasts. 1825 J. Fos. Inc. *Dict. Turf* s.v. *Wake*, In England the body is sometimes placed in a coffin; in Ireland, seldom so, the waking being usually called for the purpose of preventing ons. 1900 Swinburne *In South Seas* iv. v. (1900) 321 Of home life we had but the one view: the waking of a corpse.

**†b.** One of the 'watches' or divisions of the night (= *vigilia*). *Obs.*

1390 Vices *Mirr.* xiv. 25 In the fourthe wakyng of the nyȝt (Vnglc *quarta vigilia, nocte*). *c* 1400 Love *Bonaventure Mirr.* xxvii. (1908) 143 At the fyrthe wakynge of the nyȝt.

**3.** The action of becoming awake or conscious, of ceasing to sleep. Also with *up.*

1377 Langl. *P. pl. B.* xv. 1 Ac after my waking it was wonder longe Ar I couth kyndely knowe what was dowel. 1590 Lyly *Sapho & Phao* iv. iii, after sleepe, your waking. 1633 Bishop *Serm. Reprint.* (1574) G ij, In this his syn, though a great while he lay a sleepe (as many do nowe adayes, God graunt their waking) yet he slept not long. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 116 (3rd Qo.) He ate and I Will watch thy waking. 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 97 Their slumbers are sound, and their waking innocent. 1860 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 63 My own wakings up some twenty or thirty times every night. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *M. Dering* II. 219 But, if Daring rested well, his waking was not so enviable.

**4.** The action of rousing (a person or animal) from sleep; **†** a night-attack. Also *fig.*

1525 Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. xlix. 168 To close in theyr feldes, to lodge therin more at theyr ease, without waking or allarme. 1570 *Levins Manip. Vocab.* 12 *b*, (1867) 1. II. 6 Wakyng of a sleepyng dog. 1654 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 238, I look this as a warning and waking alarum from the Lord to me.

**5.** *Comb.*: **† waking-silver,** ? a payment in lieu of keeping watch and ward.

1390-91 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 597 Item Will'o Paionson pro Argent. albi dato, et socias suas pro Waking silver, vj*s.* viij*d.* 1572 *Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 172 In the Kynges Majesties le waykyng syiver payd..to Pontefret Castell.

**Waking** (wē·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Wake *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. That remains awake; that keeps watch; *fig.* that continues on the alert, vigilant, watchful.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Drihten bi-hat þon wakiende ane crune. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 649 Bes wakond and warly. *a* 1513 *Flodden Field* (Percy Soc.) 1 Your counsell be quick and ay waking. 1577 tr. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 154 The Mastie that keepeth the house...must...be...very waking. 1601 tr. Foley *Rec. Engl. Prov.* v. 7 (1882) VI. 235 He was thought negligent, and therefore they sent a wakinger spirit. 1620 T. May *Heir* ii. (1622) C 3, Were there a thousand wakinge Dragons To keepe that golden fruit. 1850 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. ii. § 11 The Soul in a waking Man is never without thought, because it is the condition of being awake. 1860 Disraeli *Vit. Grey* v. xv, The screech of the waking owl.

**2.** That ceases to sleep, that becomes awake.

1704 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* vii, The breeze that ..swells the melody of waking birds.

**3.** ? Rousing from sleep; exciting into motion or action ?.

1828–32 Webster ; and in later Dicts.

**4.** *transf.* Belonging to, characteristic of, one who wakes or is awake.

1567 Turbery. *Epit.*, etc. 66 *b*, And if in dawning chaunce some drouping sleepe to light Vpon the carefull Corse that thus hath spent the waking night. 1604 Donne *Devot.* Med. xv. (ed. 2) 330 Hee may bee ashamed of his waking dreames. 1634 Milton *Comus* 263 Such sober certainty of waking bliss I never heard till now. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 900 Thus haunting Ghosts appear to waking Sight. 1786–87 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 161 Realizing to his eyes the scenes of many a waking vision. 1833 I. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 198 Our waking existence is made up almost entirely of anticipations and regrets. 1858 Dickens *Dombey* xxxix, Captain Cuttle could hardly believe it...though he saw it done with his waking eyes. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. V. 94 The subject.. was never, during two waking hours together, out of his thoughts.

Hence **Wakingly** *adv.*

1388 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xiii. 17 And thou schalt wake, [*Glosz*] And in this thou schalt haue thee wakingli and diligently. *c* 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 Hys father had apperyd hi. nyghtis to gedyr to hys moder wakyngly as sche was yn her prayers at home yn her chambyr. 1552 Huloet, Wakyngly, *vigilanter.*

**Waking take,** rare var. Wapentake.

**Wakiup,** var. Wikiup, an Indian hut.

**Wakke,** obs. form of Wake *v.*

**†Wakman** (wē·kmăn). [Dakota *wakay* 'a spirit, something consecrated'; *taku wakay* and *wakay tanka*, the Great Spirit'; subst. use of *wakay* adj., 'spiritual, sacred, consecrated' (Riggs *Gram. & Dict. Dakota Lang.*). J. F. Cooper (*Prairie* xxvii) has the form *wahcondah.*] Among some American Indians, a spiritual being that is the object of religious reverence; also, a fetish: = Manitou.

1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. America* xiii. 381 The Chippeways call this being Manitou or Kitchi-Manitou; the Nadowesies, Wakon or Tongo-Wakon, that is, the Great Spirit. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 209 They believe...in the spirits, gods, or manitous, which they denominate wakons. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* II. liv. 166 On the surface of the rocks [are seen] their sculptured hieroglyphics—their wakons, totems, and medicines.

*b. Comb.*: **Wakon-bird,** a fabulous bird erected by the Indians.

1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* xiii. 381 The Chippeways call this bird Manitou or Kitchi-Manitou; the Nadowesies, Wakon or Tongo-Wakon, that is, the Great Spirit. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 209 They believe...in the spirits, gods, or manitous, which they denominate wakons. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* II. liv. 166 On the surface of the rocks [are seen] their sculptured hieroglyphics—their wakons, totems, and medicines.

**Wakmestere,** variant of Wakerell.

**Wakrife, -ryfe,** variant ff. of Wakerife.

**†Wakrong,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [? f. Wake *sb.*1 + *rong*, Kank *a.*] Wakeful.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 537 Pat þou...mihtest...maken to sclepe Vrieþrnes þe helle-hound þat holden is kene Hoþe wakrong & wikke & wardain of poine.

**Waks,** obs. form of Wax.

**†Waky,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wake *v.*1 or *sb.*1 + -y.] Wakeful.

*a* 1542 Wyatt *Poems*, '*Myne olde Busines*' 38 And eke, the waky nyghtes the hanyshed sleape may no wyse recouer. 1597 Middleton *Wisd. Sol.* xviij. 17 Keeping their waky and their sleapy places.

**†Wal.** *poet. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wæl,** 3 **wel(e, wal(e, wel.** [OE. *wæl* neut. = OS. *wal-* in *waldâd* murderous deed, OHG. *wal-* neut., *wale* masc. (MHG. *wal* neut., masc., *wale* ? masc., ON. *val-r* masc. (whence *valkyrja* Valkyrie): —OTeut. **walo-* (? **walw-*), perh. cogn. w. L. *volnus*, *vulnus* wound.] Death, slaughter. (In OE. also *collect.* the slain; *rarely* a slain person.)

*c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xv. (1890) 306 Miki grimme wæle & herteze. *c* 1205 Lay. 404 Þar aros wæle & win. *Ibid.* 4111 Þat wal was þo more.

*b. Comb.*: **wal-kemp,** a warrior; **wal-slaught,** deadly battle; **wal-spear,** a battle-spear.

*c* 1205 Lay. 563 Antigonus...mid his *wal-kempen sweiden toward Bruttun. 1300 *Cursor M.* (Fairfax MS.) 22 Þar Her wes micel *walslihtt on Iaudenne, and on Cwantawic, and on Hrofescestre. *c* 1205 Lay. 1369 Þa Grickes hit þa wenden mid heore *wal-speren. (Cotton MS. has Spr (Gr.) Oft he gar forlet, *wælspere winalan on þu wicingas. *c* 1400 Lay. 28577 Arður [wes] forwunded mid wal-spers brade.

**Wal :** see Wale, Wall, Waw, Well.

**Wala,** obs. Sc. form of Valley.

**Walach, Wallach** (wɑ·lak). Also 8 **Wolock,** 9 **Walack.** [See Vlach.]

**1.** A member of a Romanic-speaking race widely disseminated in south-eastern Europe, principally in Rumania: = Vlach.

1766 tr. *Y. R. Forster's Hist. Voy. North* 101 *note*, The Walachs, or Wolocks. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 730/1 The Wallacks [are] scattered over the whole province [of Transylvania]. 1855 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 146 A few Wallachs, Armenians, and Franks. 1886 W. J. Tucker *Europe* 170 It was he (being a Wallach, just as Janio is) who instigated the Wallach serfs on estates when they robbed and devastated the country in the Rebellion.

*b. attrib.*

1884 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 513 A petty Walach chief of Transylvania. 1889 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 16 A Wallach shepherd was tending his flock of goats. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 8/2 Full liberty is granted for the use of the Wallach language in schools and churches.

**2.** The language of the Walachs. *rare*—0.

1893 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

**Walachian, Wallachian** (wɒlē·kiăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **Valachian**, 9 **Valakhian**. [f. *Walachia* (in med.L. the country of the Walachs or Vlachs; in mod. use with narrower application, one of the two principalities which united to form the kingdom of Rumania) + -AN.]

**A.** *sb.*

1. = WALACH 1. Also, a native of Walachia.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1610) 204 Bairact thus at once invaded.. Europe,..consorting his forces against the Valachians. 1709 CONNEY *Pres. State Russia* 246 To leave his Allies the Walachians and Moldavians to the Resentment of the Turks for their intended Revolt to the Tzar. 1876 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. (1872) I. 357 *note*, The Walachians still preserve many traces of the Latin language. 1878 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIV. 714/1 The neighbouring mountains are inhabited by Servians and Vallakhians. 1888 EMILY GERARD *Landbeyond Forest* II. 30 This Wallachian was a still greater sorcerer in weather-making than the Wermeach peasant.

**b.** A Wallachian sheep.

1837 YOUATT *Sheep* v. 138 The Wallachians are about the size of the Dorset sheep, but not so tall.

**2.** The language spoken by the Walachians.

1864 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. II. iv. 182 Their language still lives in the modern Wallachian. 1877 *Quaritch's Catal.* Suppl. 227 Rouman or Wallachian.

**B.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Walachia or the Walachians.

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 712/1 There are four languages spoken..the German, Sclavonian, Wallachian, and Latin. 1804 E. JONES *Lyric Airs* Introd. 2 Matrikl, or, The Wallachian Dance. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 34 According to Thunman, one half of all the Wallachian words are Latin. a 1901 W. BRIGHT *Age of Fathers* (1903) I. xxv. 503 The Gothic king, had fled with his family into the waters of a Wallachian stream for refusing to taste idol-meats.

**Waladay,** obs. form of WELLADAY.

**Walageous,** variant of VOLAGEOUS.

**Walap,** obs. form of WALLOP *v.*

**Walaway,** obs. form of WELLAWAY.

**Walcar,** Sc. variant of WAKER (faller).

**Walcheren** (wɑ·lxēren). [The name of a Dutch island at the mouth of the Schelde.] Used in comb., as *Walcheren ague, fever.*

1810 DAWSON (*title*) The Walcheren Fever. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXVII, The hottest suns of India never heated his temper; and the Walcheren fever never shook it. 1889 *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6) 473 *Walcheren Fever*...An endemic remittent fever.

**Walchovite** (wɑ·lkōvəit). *Min.* [Named by Haidinger 1845 from *Walchow* in Moravia where it was found: see -ITE.] A honey-yellow resin similar to amber.

1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 320. 1854 H. J. BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 609.

**Walcryll,** obs. form of WALKERIFE.

**†Wald,** *conj. Obs. rare.* [OE. *weald*, perh. derived from a use of *wealdan* imper. of *wealdan* to govern (see WIELD *v.*).

A transitional use is seen in *weald hi ... ic a hi!* 'however' (*Andreas* 1355): see LOOK *v.* 4 b.]

Followed by or with ellipsis of *if*: In case that. (In OE. chiefly with *þēah* or indef. pronoun.)

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 316 Namon þa to ræde, þæt him wærlicor wære, þæt hi sunnan dæl heora landes wurðen unberfdon, weald (*Twelfhind*) hine getimodon. *Ibid.* II. 340 Nyte ge ða micclan deopnysse Godes gerynu? weald þeah him beo niyfed gyt behreowsung. c 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 930–1 Ta sehi; se hym wanne he seneged heþ Wel syker ping hyt were, Wald yet he zodzymyche deiþ And wald be hyt forze.

**Wald,** obs. f. WEALD, WELD, WIELD *v.*, WOLD.

**Wald,** obs. form of *would*: see WILL *v.*

**Wa'ldemar.** *? U.S.* A variety of velveteen, or cotton velvet, apparently a superior quality of fustian? (*Cent. Dict.*, 1891).

**†Waldend.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **waldend, weald-end,** 2 **weldende,** 2–3 **wealdende,** 3 **waldende**(de), **wealdent, weldent.** [OE. *waldend, wealdend,* subst. form of pres. pple. of *waldan, wealdan,* to control (see WIELD *v.*).] A ruler, governor (rare except in periphrases for God).

*Beowulf* 17 Him þæt ilcan wealdende, wealdend-monna ordfruma. 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. 2 Þa sint sowere hlafordas & sowere waldendas, nese se heora. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Scuppende and wealende of heouene and of o'e and of alle iscafte. c 1205 LAY. 5 Nu þu eart londes weldent. *Ibid.* 25569 Lauerd drihten crist, domes waldende, middelarde mund...walden aengles, let þu mi sweuen to seiþen liurnen. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1233 Ah þe witi weldent ant te rihtwise bireadde hit swa swiðe wel, þ he þ ouercom mon, were aknat þuh mon. *Ibid.* 2063 Hwerto wultu wreastlin wiþ þe weldes wealdent?

**†Waldenele.** *Obs. rare*—1. [app. an alteration of *wald-eye*, WALL-EYE, influenced by **waldes* repr. OE. *gewealdan* small. Cf. WOLDEN-EYED *a.*] An alleged name of the hare.

13.. *Names of Hare in MS. Digby* 86, fol. 168 b, þe purblinde...þe waldenele, þe blinde.

**Walde'nse.** *rare.* [Singular f. next, taken as Eng. plural.] A Waldensian. *rare.*

1888 J. KAY *Lect. Hist. Preaching* vii. 126 *note*, Tauler.. was strongly influenced by Nicolas von Basel, a Waldense.

**Waldenses** (wɒlde·nsēz), *sb. pl. Eccl. Hist.* Also (6 **Waldenneses**), 7–9 **Valdenses.** [a. med.L. *Waldenses* (*Valdenses*), app. f. *Waldensis*, a variant form of the cognomen of Peter Waldo: see below. Cf. the Fr. form VAUDOIS.] The adherents of a religious sect which originated in the south of France about 1170 through the preaching of Peter Waldo, a rich merchant of Lyons. They were excommunicated in 1184, and eventually became a separately organized church, which associated itself with the Protestant Reformation of the 16th c., and still exists, chiefly in Northern Italy and the adjacent regions.

(c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 501 Also the sect of Waldensis.) 1537 *Orig. & Springe of Sortes* Contents, Waldenses secte. *Ibid.* 48 The order of Waldenses or Picardes. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 504 He adioyneth Anno Do. 1180. the Waldenses, whom he calleth begyns of Lyons. 1579 — *Heskins's Parl.* 99 Valdo..caused Bookes of scripture to be translated, and so beganne the sect of Valdenses, or Pauperes de Lugduno. 1640 MILTON *Eikon.* xvii. 139 If we may believe what the Papists themselves have writt'n of these Churches, which they call Waldenses. 1774 FLETCHER *Hist. Piet.* Wks. 1795 IV. 13 The true Quakers...made as firm a stand against the Antinomians, as the Valdenses did against the Papists. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 323/1 he Waldenses, under their more modern name of the Vaudois, have survived to the present day in the valleys of Piedmont.

**Waldensian** (wɒlde·nsiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–9 **Valdensian.** [f. WALDENS-ES + -IAN.]

**A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Waldenses.

c 1645 POWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 23 There are divers sorts of these Valdensian Sermons, upon occasion of the Reformation ...and som the Helvetian Confession. 1827 (*title*) Authentic Details of the Valdenses...with...The Ancient Valdensian Catechism. 1832 W. S. GILLY (*title*) Waldensian Researches ...With an Introductory Inquiry into the Antiquity and Purity of the Waldensian Church. 1888 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 430/3 Of the Waldensian declaration in favour of clerical marriage did the ascetic life cease to be a part of the Waldensian doctrine.

**B.** *sb.* A member of the sect of the WALDENSES.

1825 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 177/2 The contents of this part are ...the Adæsi and the Waldensians, (etc.). 1888 *Ibid.* 7 Apr. 429/3 The Waldensians were far more likely to adopt an existing Catholic translation than to originate one for themselves.

**Walder** (wɒ·ldəɹ). *dial.* ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; perh. some error.] Some weed found abundantly in cornfields.

1765 *Museum Rust.* I. 296 One particular piece of the sandy ground...vastly subject to what we call walder, and huddle, bodle, or gould, as some call it. 1765 *Ibid.* IV. 144, I had great plenty of straw, and it was clear from walder and huddle.

**Waldfute** (wɒ·ldfūt). Also in Ger. form. [ad. G. *waldfüte*, lit. forest flute.] (See quots.)

1858 SIEBEL *Organ* 110 Wald flute...is an open flue-register. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Waldflöte, Waldflute, Waldpfeife* (Ger.)...An organ stop of 4 ft. pitch. 1878 J. HILES *Catech. Organ* (ed. 2) 62 *Waldflöte*, Forest-flute. In Germany this is a 4 feet stop, formerly also of 8 and 2 feet...In English *Waldflute* is always of open wood 4 feet pipes...full toned and powerful.

**Waldgrave** (wɒ·ldgrēv). *Hist.* [ad. G. *waldgraf*, f. *wald* forest (see WEALD, WOLD) + *graf* count: see GRAF, GRAVE *sb.*1] In mediæval Germany, an officer having jurisdiction over a royal forest. (On the lower Rhine, the title was hereditary in certain families of the higher nobility.) Hence **Waldgravine,** the wife of a waldgrave.

In recent Dicts.

‖ **Waldhorn** (wa·ldhɒrn). [G. *waldhorn*, forest or hunting horn, French horn.] (See quot.)

1852 SIEBEL *Diction* 110 Wald horn. 1889 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 472/1 *Waldhorn* (that is, Forest Horn), *Cornu di caccia.* The old 'French horn,' without valves, for which Beethoven wrote. The valve horn...is fast superseding it.

**†Wa'ldin,** *a. Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **waldin,** (5 **waldyn,** waddin). [Pa. pple. of *wald*, WIELD *v.*?] used in the sense 'easily controlled'. (In OE. the ppl. adj. *gewealden* had the senses 'subject, under control', 'moderate in amount or size'.) Easy to manage. Chiefly of the body or limbs: Pliant, supple; freq. in phr. *waldin and wicht.* Also *fig.*, yielding or tractable in bearing or disposition.

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 23 The quhilk na waldin was in echt That hardy in hys hand, and thycht He evinkkyt wit. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* (S.T.S.) 121 And thus sall ilk thy body be mare waldin, and eay to dispone the till all thyne gudis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis Aga & Youth* 29 This young (man) lap aponе he land ful lychtly...' waldyne [v.r. waldin, waddin] I am,' quod he 'at wondir wycht.' 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 15 For twentis yeir and fourre he was of age; Waldin and wicht. *Ibid.* 499 Waldin thai war, and wicht as ony hork. *Ibid.* II. 105 Ait feree & waldin than as ane elfi. *Ibid.* II. 165 He maid thame all as waldin as ane wand, For to obeyand bydeat his command. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot., Descr. Alb. scrvi.* (1821) I. p. lvi, Thair hors war maid of sa full hyre or wall, and yeid swyir abone thair kne, to make thaim the mair waldin and sowpyll.

**Walding,** Sc. form of WELDING, WELDING.

**Waldism** (wɒ·ldiz'm). *rare.* [f. *Waldo* (see WALDENSES) + -ISM.] The doctrine or tenets of the Waldenses. Cf. VAUDISM.

1888 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 429/2.

**Wale** (wēl), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **walu,** 5–6 *Sc.* **waill,** 6–7 **walle,** 7 **wayle,** (**waale, weel, weale**), 6 *Sc.*, 8–9 **wail,** (6 *Sc.* **vale**), 8–9 **whale**; 5 **walle,** 6–8 **wall**; 4– **wale.** [OE. *walu* str. fem. (also wk. pl. *walan*), mark of a lash, weal; also, in charters, used as a topographical term, perh. ridge, bank (of stone or earth). A sense 'stripe' appears to be implied by the derivative *waled* (tr. L. *striatus*, app. mistaken for *striatus* striped).

Cf. LG. *wale* (*wale, wāl*, Doornkaat-Koolman), Du. dial. *waal*, mark of a lash, weal (= sense 2). The other senses below are peculiar to Eng. The identity of the word in its various senses is not quite certain, but the assumption of 'raised line or strip' as the primary sense plausibly accounts for all the recorded applications. The relation of the word to O'Teut. **walu-z* rod, wand (Goth. *walu-s*, ON *vqlr*, MSw. *val*, OFris. *walu*, NFris. *woale*) is uncertain.]

**†1.** A ridge (of earth or stone). Only OE.

971 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 31 Of ðam hrycge sup on ða ealdan wale, swa on corf gates westan ofan ceatan of ðam colan stuþ be wale on ðære dice hyrnan. 1045 *Ibid.* IV. 98 Ofer ðone hadfield in stanwale; andlang ðære wale on done portweg. *Ibid.* V. 334 On ða eastlanga dic wale.

**2.** The mark or ridge raised on the flesh by the blow of a rod, lash, or the like. = WEAL *sb.*

The form *weal*, now more usual, is due to confusion with WHEAL a pustule, swelling, which is often misused for *wale*.

a 1000 *Ælfh. Glosses in Napier Voc. Cl.* 3456 *Ulcera*, *i. serbora*, *walan*. *Ibid.* 4487 *Ulcera*, *wale*. *Ibid.* 4759 *Ulcera*, *wale*. *Ibid.* 5305 *Aspera inæqualia*, stiþra wala. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxxxiv. (1869) 101 Þe wyndes þat he haue no peyne and þat ther be no wales in the hondes. c 1440 *Hrdr's Festial* 153 Saynt Bernard yn Cistays person.. seyth þus:..I haue my body for þis cause bolnyd wiþ walwis. 1541 WHITSTON *Genesis*. (1553) Ciij, *Vlcus*, a wale of a rodde. 1550 PALSGR. 286/1 Wale of a strype, *enfleure*. 1598 Ile Hall *Sat.* IV. I. Shall the base rout finde matter to quarrell? Cheekbide Laugh at the purple wales of others side? 1609 BIBLE (*Douay*) *Isa.* liii. 5 With the wale of his stripe (*Vulg. livore eius*) we are healed. c 1620 CRANHAM *Health* (1651) 18 Ile stroake, his backe and shoulders so, That bloody wales rose. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 101 Yet shall have him as proud of the Wales on his Back, as a Maid Lord Pilgrim is of a Jerusalem Print. 1797 UNDERWOOD *Dict. Childhood* I. 106 The...lower limbs...are found covered with large wales, resembling those arising from the sting of nettles. 1807 PUNBY *Horses Infirmities* VI. (1808) 89 The traces of the Crown of thorns,..the wales of the scourges. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 384 His back was striped with the wales of such frequent scourging.

*fig.* 1693 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 558 The wales, marks, scarres and cicatrices of sinne and vice remaine to be seene.

**†b.** Misused for WHEAL. *Obs. rare*—1.

1589 [R. HARVEY] *Pl. Perc.* 1 What, what latine in the mouth of a plaine fellow? Nay I wot neere, but it hath left behind it a wale in my throate like a strange bodylouse in an vnknowne pasture. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wale*, (q.) A tumour or large swelling. *Kent.* 1887 in *Kentish Gloss.*

**3.** *Textile-manuf.* A ridge or raised line (consisting of a thread or threads) in a textile fabric; also *collect.* with epithet, as indicating the texture of a particular fabric. Cf. WALED *a.* and *waling glass* s.v. WALE *v.*1

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 24 To lay down the woolt so close, as you can hardly see any wale. 1604 W. TEBIO *Friar Bacon's Prophesie* xxxiv. C 2 b, How with a good wale and a thicke list. 1607 MIDDLETON *Mad. Crew* ii. Sh. By my troth exceeding good cloath, a good wale't'as. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 190 It does not at all concern the tenure, Tenor or range of the Threads and *Wales* (as they call them) which is easily imitated. 1688 T. ROOKE *Let. of Scrip. in Mem.* (Suttees Soc.) 16 My wife desires to fix you either to a fatandine or a mohaire with a small weale (for a gown). 1695 *Lett. &c. E. I. Co. to Persia & Bengal* (MS.), Their Masters You now Sent Us appeare to be all Taffety Wale. 1884 *Patent Office* No. 241 Lines or creases resembling the Wale of Corduroy. 1896 F. J. *Merch. Warehs. laid op.* n 13 A sort of Callico-Dimetty... Wove with a Wale like a plain Dimetty. 1755 JOHNSON, *Wale*, a rising part in the surface of cloth. 1848 J. WEBSTER, *Wale*, in cloth, a ridge or streak rising above the rest. We say, cloth is wove with a wale. 1888 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Wale*, a ridge on the surface of cloth.

*fig.* 1587 GOSCOYNE *Hero & Leander* (1590) 329 The feeble thred which Lachesis hath sponne, To drawe my dayes in short abode with thee, Hath wrought a webbe which now (welneare) is donne, The wales in warpe are knit. Harleian *Ex. Four Plays* (1847) 221 Thou art rougher far, and of a coarser wale, fuller of pride.

**b.** *transf.* A stripe (of colour).

1891 HARDY *Tess* xlvi, The wide acreage of blank agricultural brownness..was beginning to be striped in wales of darker brown, gradually broadening to thands.

**4.** *Naut.* a. A piece of timber extending horizontally round the top of the sides of a boat; the GUNWALE.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12062 Cordes, kyuiles, stacched þe wale. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 746 Wyghtly one the wale thay wye vp thaire ankers. c 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* 642 As with-inne þis wale Of þe ship he stood. 1483 CATH. *Angl.* 415/1 Wale, of a schyppe, *sutis*. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 334 Her on the wall ner by the I sall stand. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 77 With so strang towthis apon athir wall, The mychty kervell schud-derit at euery straik. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wale of a shyppe. 1598 FLORIO *Worlde of Wordes* (ed. 2) 341 Vn Scoglio, a Rocke was ten fute thik in the wall. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4510/7 The Hoy Burthen 9 or 10 Tun,..with a clean Tail, a sounding Wale. 1726 D. CRUSOE *Voy. Round World* (1887) II. 232 That...upon the Wall of each [Whale-]Boat five pieces of strong Leather be fastened on each side. 1907 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XVII. 405/1 Describe the curve I NIS to represent the sheer or extreme height of the side [of a long boat], which in a ship would be called the...upper edge of the wale. 1897 [COLQUHOUN] *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 28 The narrow piece of wood running round the sax-board outside, but now generally disused, is called a wale.

**b.** *pl.* The horizontal planks or timbers, broader

and thicker than the rest, which extend along a ship's sides, at different heights, from stem to stern; also called *bends* (see BEND *sb.*4 6); also *sing.*, each of such timbers.

For *chain, channel, main, sheer wales*, see CHAIN-WALE, CHANNEL *sb.*2 2, MAIN *a.* 23, SHEER *sb.*2 2.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 3/8 m. 8 Empcto meremii.. Et v. d. in ij Wales emptis de Anselmo Carpentario. 1336-7 *Ibid.* 19/21 m. 5 Et in ij. lignis emptis ad eandem pro Wales et bindes inde faciendis.. vj. s. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 292 Tymbre for hemys wals & other Necessaries in the seid Ship. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 233 For vails to cover alsone the hoit, viij d. 1556 In R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* I. (1894) 58 The sterne of the same cock bote was faste under on of the wales of the said cathe. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Sea Grammar*, ii. 6 From bend to bend, or wale to wale, which are the outmost timbers on the ship sides. 1664 E. BUSHNELL *Shipwright* 7 The next Wale parallel to the lower Wale. 1823 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. lii. 409 Bends and Walls (Fr. *ramhades*) of his Carricks.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 138 They found her wales and outside planks extremely defective. 1824 J. F. COOPER *Pilot* xxiv. II. 303 Such a bolt-striker would have torn off a streak of our wales. 1882 HARDY *Trumpet Major* xxvi, Boats built of wood which was greenly growing.. three days before it was bent as wales and bilge-pieces. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* II. Q. What are bends? A. The thicker and strongest planks on the outward part of a ship's side,.. They are more properly called wales.

**5.** Each of the horizontal timbers connecting and bracing the piles of a dam, etc.

1754 T. GARDNER *Hist. Acc. Dunwich* 170 Except Plank upon the Head of the Key, and under the upper Wale, and Plank to join the piles. 1791 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Journ.* I. 331 The wales are to be in two thicknesses, of half-timbers, .. bolted to the gauge piles. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 80 These are called guide piles, and to these horizontal timbers are attached, called wales.

**6.** *Basket-making.* Each of the horizontal bands round the body of a basket composed of rods intertwined as a finishing-off course.

1900 T. OKEY in *Techn. Arts* 11 Jan. 190/2 A wale is three or more rods woven one after and over the other to form a binding or string course. *Ibid.*, I was interested to find in an old Egyptian basket[ the same strokes—the fitch, the pair, the border, slath, and wale—I had been using yesterday.

**7.** A ridge on a horse's collar: see quot. 1794.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 139 The Neck Collar is a padded collar made to fit and sit easy round the horse's neck—it has 2 wales or risings on the outside, called the fore and hind wales. 1895 *Daily Telegraph, Glouc.* 1908 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. X. 146/2, I was told by one of the workmen that the rolls or ridges of a horse-collar between which the hames lie are called respectively the forewale and the afterwale.

**8.** Comb.: **wale-piece,** †*(a)* a piece of timber to serve as the gunwale of a boat; *(b)* a horizontal timber connecting and binding the piles or posts of a bridge, dam, etc.; †**wale-reard** *a.* = WALL-*sided*; †**wale-stock,** -**tree,** ? a piece of timber to serve as a gunwale; **wale-streak,** the gunwale of a boat.

1350 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 25/32 (P.R.O.) En xxxvij piec' de mesrima achat' pour 'wale pieces, wale stockes et futwales. 1738 LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 20 The Plates, Whale-Pieces, Ties and Braces that shall been contrived to keep them steady. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 432/1 Allowing a space of not less than 12 inches wide between the wale pieces. *c* 1835 CAPT. N. HOTHLER *Diml. Sea Services* (1685), 'Wale reared. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 *Wale-reared*, that is, when a ship is built right upright, she comes to her bearing. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780). *Wale-reared*, an obsolete phrase, implying *built sided*. 1830 'Wale stock' see *wale piece* above]. See also 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. viii. iii. 474/1 Here he [the coxswain] must sit cross-legged, with a hand on each gunwale or 'wale-streak. 1883 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 72 'Wale trees..ij. Hausers..ij. 1888 *Acc. & Inv.* 72 (P.R.O.) Waletrees.

**Wale** (wēl), *sb.*2 *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 3 **wal,** 4 **wall,** 5–6 **wall,** 6 **waylle,** 8–9 **wile,** 9 **waile,** 3– **wale.** [? *obl.* case, or *vbl.* noun, corresponding to (M)HG. *wal*, (M)LG. *wal*, mod.G. *wahl* str. fem., f. Teut. root **wal-*, **wel-*: see WILL *v.*]

**1.** The action or an act of choosing; choice. Also, scope for choice, plurality of things to choose from.

Before the 17th c. recorded only *poet.*, chiefly in certain set phrases: *At, to wale*, at one's choice, in abundance; *seem of wale*, men of high merit; *worthy in or to wale*, of approved valour. (By some writers of the 15–16th c. *to wale* in the last phrase seems to have been taken as the inf. of WALE *v.*?)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4353 If.. þat þou mi iefe wald be: O werldes welth to wale and wan Sal þou haf mare þan mai be man. *Ibid.* 5353 Þis ilk ȝong was a thusand man to wal, He made him ledder and marscal. *a* 1350 MINOT *Poems* v. 77 Sir Edward, oure gude King wurthi in wall, *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1589 When he had tolde this tale, He hade wordes at wale To thanke him. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11952 He rushit vp full radly, raght to his clothes, Soche as hapit hym to hent, hade he no wale. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 55 Alle ye I haue bonnyn with to wale. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 447 With lordis of Scotland, lerit, and the laif As worthy, wyaest to wale, in worschipe allowit. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 911 Wynis went within thair wame, maist wourthy to vaill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 37 Thar wes na streith of valeant men to waill. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* (1664) 189, I will have no other tutor, suppose I could have waile & choise of ten thousand beside. 1808 JAMIESON *s.v.*, *He gaif me tha wale*, he allowed me to choose. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Notes on London* Wks. 1859 IX. 297 Our Arab friend, however, is no connoisseur in counts of law; small wale of counts in the desert. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* (1867) 267 There's nae waile o' wigs on Monrimmon Moor. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxiii, She's a wonderfu' woman, the mistress: no the like o' her in the three counties. She micht hae had the wale o' the men.

**b.** Coupled with *will.*

*c* 1400 *Antors of Arth.* xxvij, With alle welthis to wille, and wynnus to wale. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armes* (S.T.S.) 147 [He]myclit in the time that he feit him have had oberis at will and wale. 1792 R. FORBES *Ajax* (1793) 11 Let him than now tak will at will. 1893 J. AYRE-SCE *Pool. Wds* II (E. D. D.), I've sheets and blankets, will and wale, I'm nae deaf nit.

**2.** That which is chosen or selected as the best; the choicest individual, kind, specimen, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 188 The King Latyne, but faill, Gart cheis of all his steidis furth the waill. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 299 Ane great hirme..for the number of fyve hundreth waill of all England. 1717 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* xi, She was the wale of a' her kin. 1786 BURNS *Ordination* vi, For lapfu's large o' gospel knowe, Fill the crib wi' plenty, Till runts o' grace the pick an' wale. 1819 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, The Bertrams were aye the wale o' the country side! 1824 J. AYTON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 360 The best way to get one, and the wale of them, is to intercept one of the packs which are driven from the northern markets. 1887 STEVENSON *Merry Men* i. 1 Wha, to be sure, was the pride of the eye, and it's the lust o' life, an' it's the wale o' pleasures.

†**Wale,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* [? var. of WEEL *sb.*: — OE. *wæl.*] ? A wave, current.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. 16 And Doris with hir daughters fair, Sate by, which all the while the wales [1587 wals: *rhyme* whales] With splaied armes. 1636 JAMES *Iter Lanc.* 323 (1845) 11 Threescore miles from wale Of sea at Conyngton was found, and from a fish-pond.

†**Wale,** *a. Obs.* Also 3 **wal,** 4 **walle.** [f. WALE *sb.*2] Used as a general laudatory expression: Chosen; choice, select; excellent, noble, goodly.

**a.** of a person, his attributes, actions, etc.

*c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 888 Sodomes king in kinge dale, Mette abram wiþ his wale men. 1340 *Cursor M.* 11141 Bot set I wot þat Wawen & þe wale burde Such comfort of her companyye casten to-geder. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 292 Þan was þere a wale wawe, & layned þere-on. 1567 *Trip* 1309 The Troians..blody beronyn, Wyde woundes & wete of hor wale dyntes. *a* 1590 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* etc. (E. E. T. S.) 149 A wale wife, a wise wife, and a wyly hill wale knychtis. 1535 *Scottish Field* 385 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), It is a losse to the lande,.. For his witte and his wisedome, And his wale deedes. 1790 J. FISHER *Poems* 102 An dinnerna, Bauld an' wale an' trig,..Doun the rig A laid cam' to the Fliman-brig.

*absol. a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 38 A wayle whyt as whalles bone.

**b.** of a thing.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3635 Bokes he wrot of lore wal, Þa cis folc hem rist leden sal. 1393 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1716 Bobere þe burnest has hom brozt, & lyztyld þerinne [sc. the holy vessels] Wale wyne to by wenches. ? *a* 1460 *Morte Arth.* 742 By wyst of the watyre-mens of the wale ythe,..Brakes one the fortefullest of their coiste. *c* 1500–20 *Destr. Troy* 1370 Þe wale wardan ware oute in þe wale stremys Of all be naue & be note. *c* 1500 *Destr. Troy* 604 She went from þat worthy wale chambur. *Ibid.* 1043 He..wound vp full wightly all his wale Ancree.

**Wale** (wēl), *v.*1 *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 **walo,** 4–5 **wayle,** 5–8 **waill,** 5–9 **wail,** 6 **vale, valle, weale,** 7 **wayl, weil, weil, weal(l,** 6–9 **wyle,** 8–9 **wile,** 9 **wyell,** 4– **wale.** [f. WALE *sb.*2] = OE. *wælan* v. (? from *wæhl* was prob. due to G. *wählen*, ? *wachlen.*)]

**1.** *trans.* To choose, select, pick out, sort. Also with *out, through.*

*a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 13 Mouȝ ryden by Rybbedale, Wilde wymmen forte wale, ant weleȝe wich ich wolde. 1393 *E. E. Allit. P.* 300 Inspet þay be fyrst tyze brem *Felix.* I on þe fyrst basse con wale. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 105 That worthy hade a wyfe walt hym-seluon. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5 Þerfore I wrote þese verciouns þat wyl ȝe reuerence, *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 895 In gret ire he apon thaim sadly socht, Wailland a pipce quhar he myclt bargane mak. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 319 Item..giffin to Johne Mudy in Chidsdaik, to the wouddis, to wale tymmyr for the artailyeri, ix s. 1508 DUNBAR *Two Married Women* 530 Of ther thre wantoun wiffis, that I hail wittin haue walit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vi. 10 Quhil we walit out weill, and pak the samin. 1685 A. GIL *Sacr. Philos.* xii. 192 The Poet gives you an example of a Gardiner, wehling his seeds being mingled together. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* (1664) 30 But more I can neither wish, nor pray, nor desire for to your La: then Christ singled and wailed out from all created good things. 1674 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* (1907) Jan. 152 Buy me a good handsom Cauldbeck hatt, I pray sie that it be good and weall wyled. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* ii. 35 (1750) ? A lass that has many wooers aft wales the warst. 1818 JOHN *Cottar's Saturday Nt.* xii, Those strains that once did sweet in Zion glide, He wales a portion with judicious care. 1821 CARLYLE *Let.* 17 Nov., *Early Life* (1886) II. 19 To be put away from among the brown pair of spectacles which I have *waled* for you. 1832 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* lei. xii, Come away, chap—come away, gentle sheep—time will be for picking and wiling your colleys. 1873 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xi, I said I would wait a man for you myself. 1886 D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 30 A bodie canna aye wyle his words. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., Wale me an orange.. To wale one's way.

**b.** *To wale by,* to choose and put by.

1789 ROSS *Helenore* I. (ed. 3) 53 Bannocks and kebbocks knit up in a cloith, She had wiled by, and row'd up in her waith.

**c.** *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1881.)

1862 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss., Waling*, cleaning the coals. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Wale*, Newc. To clean coal by picking out the refuse by hand.

**2.** *intr.* To make choice.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1276 'Lwysse, worþy,' quoth þe wyse, 'ȝe haf waled wel better'. 1786 BURNS *Halloween* iv, They steek their een, an' grain for wale For mucklie anes, an' straught anes. 1826–30 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* III. cxvi, Through and through the bowl they wyell—For raisins, bow they stitch and strive!

†**3.** *trans.* ? To seek. *Obs. rare*—1.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 398 Where schulde I wale þe, quod Gauan, where is þy place?

Hence **Wa'ling** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.* **waling glass** (see quot. 1880).

1694 A. GIL *Sacr. Philos.* i. 12 Every seed encreaseth by the earth and moisture thereof, which cannot be but with a welling out, or choice of things that are homogeneous, or of parts like thereto. 1834 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* 29 Apr., It should be of your waling and not of his. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Waling glass*, a weaver's counting glass, which magnifies a small portion of the surface of linen, and thus enables the set or count to be ascertained.

**Wale** (wēl), *v.*2 Also **whale.** [f. WALE *sb.*1] **1.** *trans.* To mark (the flesh) with wales or weals.

14.. in *Pol. Rel. & Love Poems* (1903) 245 A wycked wound hath me walled (*rimes* called, halt, salt), And trawevld me from toppe to too. 1834 JR. *Hall Contempt. N. T., Christ left Plate* 363 O my blessed Saviour, was it not enough that thy sacred body was stripped of thy garments, and waled with bloody stripes? 1881 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxiv (ed. 8) 375 Would the Horse..suffer his lazy Rider to bestride his patient back, with his hands and whip to wale his flesh?

**2.** To fasten, secure, or protect with a wale or wales: see WALING 1 (Webster 1913).

1909 *Jr. Essex Advertiser* Aug., Suppl. 4/3 The wharf.. is..built with piles and strongly whaled.

**3.** *a. Mil.* To weave or wattle (a gabion, hurdle). **b.** *Basket-making.* To intertwine (rods) in making a wale (see **Wale** *sb.*1 6); also to furnish (a basket) with a wale or wales (Webster 1913).

1842 BURN *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict., Clayonne*, to wattle, wale. 1892 FOX IRWIN *Notes Fortif.* (ed. 2) 60 To make a Wickerwork Gabion.. Wale the web by passing each rod in succession over the other two,..till the walling is 2-ft. 6-in. high. 1907 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 11 Jan. 190/2 The foot rods are waled and then laid down as in a border.

Hence **Waled** *ppl. a.*, marked with weals. **Waling** *sbl. Mil.*, the process of making a gabion or hurdle; also, the basket-work thus made; also *attrib.* as *waling rod.*

1842 BURN *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict., Clayon*, a...wallingrod. *Clayonnage*, wattling;..waling. 1885 *Cold Hall Gaz.* 21 Mar. 5/1 A hurdle whose web of waled basketwork would come before my eyes and the swish of that terrible whip would sound in my ears. 1892 G. PHILIPS *Text-bk. Fortif.* II. iii. (ed. 2) 88 In brushwood gabions the basket work is called the web, and the process of making it is termed walling. 1892 [see 3 above].

†**Wale,** *int. Obs.* [repr. OE. *wá lā*: see Wo, LO, and WELLAWAY *interj.*] Alas! woe is me!

*c* 1205 LAY. 19052 Ah wale þat hi nuste þa summe Cuðinliches cuðnes. *Ibid.* 28859 Wale (*c* 1275 wola) þat ich wes iboren.

**Wale:** see VALE *sb.*1, VEIL *sb.*1, WAIL *v.*, WALL *sb.*1, WELL *sb.*, WHALE.

†**Waled,** *a. Obs.* [f. WALE *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Striped. *Open-waled*, having an open texture.

*c* 1290 *Vox & Wr.* (Wright-Wülcker 1884) 560 Leuder-stood as = *striatarum* (1 Kings vii. 29), waledra. 1600 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 95 One waled mattresse vj s. viij d. 1661 COTGR., *Linomphe*, a fine, thinne, or open waled linnen, much vsed in Picardie..for womens kerchers. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 6 Fine waled Silk, or Taffety.

**Waled** (wēld), *ppl. a.*1 *Sc.* and *north.* [f. WALE *v.*1 + -ED 1.] Chosen, selected, picked. Cf. HAND-WALED.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 386 Walid wyne for to wete wantid þai none. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1219 Fyfty ladys was in hyr cumpany, Weliyt off wit. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 84 Their wallit wordis sweit no deartrie, I can not gif perfite affirmatue. ? *c* 1640 R. SEMPILL *Piper Kilbarchan* 43 He counted was a weil'd Wight-man. 1699 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* 2 Aug., Get your heart say, it is an ill waled question. 1826 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* II. iii. (1726) 376 What choice and walled instruments such were, who were thus called forth. 1828 SCOTT *Fort. Nigel* xxvii, Some of the walled Christians they were too. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Wealed*, picked, chosen.

**Waled,** *ppl. a.*2 : see WALE *v.*2

**Walee, Wale-knot** : see WALL, WALL-KNOT.

**Walentyne,** obs. Sc. form of VALENTINE.

**Walenut,** obs. form of WALNUT.

**Waler**[1] (wē·lər). [f. WALE *v.*1 + -ER1.]

**1.** *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1825 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 91 Wailers are boys employed to pick out slate, pyrites, and other foul admixtures from the coal. 1880 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) [Newcastle Terms], *Waler*, boys who pick the refuse from the good coals.

†**2.** ? A handloom silk-weaving term: a man employed to determine the number of "picks" in a piece and to see that uniformity is maintained' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). *Obs.*

**Waler**[2] (wə·lə). *Anglo-Indian.* [f. *Wale-s* (for New South Wales) + -ER 1.] A horse imported from Australia, esp. from New South Wales.

1849 *New South Wales* vii. 65 The colonial-bred horses

or Wales, as they are called in India. 1888 Kipling *Plain T., Rout of White Hussars* (ed. 3) 215 The Drum-Horse . is nearly always a big piebald Waler.

*attrib.* 1853 *Maitland Hindi* vi June (Yule), For sale, a brown Waler gelding. 1888 Kipling *Plain T., Rout of White Hussars* (ed. 3) 217 Vale had a big, old, white Waler trap-horse.

† **Wa'lesman.** *Obs.* [f. *Wales* + Man *sb.*] = Welshman.

1591 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* Ser. i. (1890) 363 Hugh Evens of Lambeth, Walesman.

**Walet(t, Walew,** obs. ff. Wallet, Vallue.

**Walewey,** var. Wellaway *int.*

**Walewe,** obs. ff. Value *sb.*, Wallow *v.*

**Waleys,** obs. : see Welsh.

**Walfair,** obs. form of Wallflower.

**Walhalla,** var. Valhalla.

**Walhwe,** obs. form of Wallow *a.*

‖ **Wali** (wā·li). Also **wilee, waly.** [Arab. وَالِي *wāli* (classical Arab. وَالٍ *wālin*), subst. use of pres. pple. of *wala* to be foremost ] The governor of a province : = Vali.

1812 tr. *Niebuhr's Trav. Arab.* lxxiv, in J. Pinkerton *Coll. Voy.* X. 107 Every petty district . has its governor. If not a prince, or one of the higher nobility, this governor is called Wali and Dola. 1839 E. W. Lane *Arab. Nt.* (1859) I. v 350 The Wâlee inflicted upon him a hundred lashes, and banished him from the city. 1897 K. J. Saunders *Rivers 4 Lakes of Script.* 29 And how comes it to pass that a Mohammedan Wali disfigures the scene? 1883 Schaff-Herzog *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1164 (Stanf.) Jerusalem is the seat of a *mutasarrif* under the *wāly* of Syria.

**Waildrag,** variant of Wallydrag *Sc.*

**Walie,** var. Wally *a.*? *Sc.*, Waly *int. Sc.*

**Waling** (wē·lin). Also *erron.* **whaling.** [f. Wale *sb.*1 + -ing1.]

1. The wales or horizontal timbers with which piles are braced ; also, one of such timbers, a wale. (Cf. Wale *sb.*1 5 ; also Foot-*waling.*)

1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl* I. 174 To these piles will be fixed three tiers of waling of whole timbers. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 592 After the timbers are fixed, they are bonced by what are called 'walings'.

*Comb.* 1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 202 Oaken piles driven down close to the embankments, with their upper ends crossed by strong boards ' of oak. 1906 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Jan. 68/2 He worked his way along...till he reached the edge of the wharf and found footing on the waling [*sic*] strips against which the ship's hull rested.

2. *Naut.* The timbers forming the wale of a boat ; in comb. *waling-piece, ? = wale-piece* (2).

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 7/4 Some of the survivors saved themselves by seizing the collier's waling-piece.

**Walise, Walisoh,** etc., forms of Welsh.

**Walise,** Sc. form of Valise.

**Walk** (wŏk), *sb.*1 Also 4-7 **walke,** 6 **walck, whalke.** [f. Walk *v.*1]

I. Action or manner of walking.

1. An act or spell of walking or going on foot from place to place ; *esp.* a short journey on foot taken for exercise or pleasure. Phrase, *to take (†fetch,* rarely *make) a walk,* also (somewhat *arch.*) *to take one's walk(s.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 461 And in hir walk this bridde man them mette. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 410 You haue your fine walkes, in places of pleasure, and therewithall communication vseful: with the learned or learning. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II 23 When as 3^e green eyed Goddesse thus had heard dame Iunoes talk, To finde the wilie Vlysses straight downe she tooke her walke to 3^e sea shore. 1592 Kyd *Spanish Tragedie* (1615) 48 See here the decree of a country Phylosopher, and Matter of Medutation for one of your walkes at Hasy. 1666 P. Brooke tr. *La Blanot's Trav.* 79 The unfortunate Lady Agurtin took a walk by a little Riveret and. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 130 His most usual walks being upon Gliuka side 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxi. Some kind Wave will throw it up, and it will be found some King's Daughter, going to fetch a Walk in the fresco on the Evening, will find it. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Sept. 1653, In my walkes I stept into a goodwesters work-house. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 205, I am not absurd enough, even to hint the usual rural Recreations, of fetching a Walk. 1753 [see Walk *v.* 5]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. *Pref.* p. iii, If...a man should, in his walks, meet with an animal, the name of which he desires to know 1825 T. Hood *Sayings Ser.* II. *Festivo & Prunc.* xiv 111. 338 She delighted in little dances, and *walks know* after them, and what are called walks out in the morning, to be met somewhere and joined by her beloved. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* I. x. vii. 61 My mistress, Sir, so please you, takes her walk Along the garden terrace, and desires [etc.]. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, At dinner they met again, after a five-and-twenty mile walk. 1876 E. Dubrey *Walk Lamb's Knol* I. 39, I shouldered my knapsack again and made an evening walk to Kingston. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* I, We have only ten minutes left for our walk back. 1902 A. Lang in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 735/1 A man, in fun, called to a goat to escort his wife on a walk.

† **b.** In wider sense : Travel, wandering. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 494 The warliest wane..That euer I vist in my walk, in all this warld wyde. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 773 For not the Gods, nor angry Jove will bear Thy lawless wand'ring walks in upper Air.

† **c.** Line of, march or movement (in quots., of an army, a chess-man). *Obs.*

a 1500-30 *Were Alex.* 3709 Pai droge furth be dissert & drinkles pal spill, Wa nouthire waldis in bar walke ne walk to fynde. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 158 And so returned home by land,..burnyng and destroyling euery pile, fortresse and village that was in their walke. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 395 He shall know what it is for a scaddle pawne, to crosse a Bishop in his owne walke.

**d.** *fig.* in various uses : † Expatiation, extended discourse (*obs. rare*) ; an act or a practice of walking, in any metaphorical sense of the verb.

1533 T. Wilson *Rhet* 168, Now in speakyng of honestie, I may by occasion of the cotises make a large walke. 1598 Barton *Pisgr. Parad.* (Grosart) 19/1 From care, and cost, fancy, and wisedomes folly, He tooke his walke vnto a waie more holly. 1771-2 Cowper *Olney Hymns* I. iii. 1 Oh ! for a closer walk with God. 1810 Worosw. *Sonn. Liberty* v, Iv, And the talk Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk Of the mind's business. 1842 Lane *Elon* Ser. II. *Barbara S——.* Perhaps from the pure infelicity which accompanies some people in their walk through life. 1862 Mrs Browning *Little Mattie* 2 Short and narrow her life's walk.

**2.** *a.* A procession, ceremonial perambulation.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation-wk* iv. 248 b, Yet haue we occasion secondarylye geuen vs in our walkes on these dayes, to consider the olde auncient bounder & limites belonging to our owne Towneship a 1620 Br. Hall *Epist.* VI. v. 45 You may as well challenge the Trumpets of Rammes hornes, and seauen dayes walke euery seedge. 1888 Harrie *Auld Licht Idylls* (1889) 23 It is nearly twenty years since the gardeners had their last 'walk' in Thrums

**b.** An official perambulation. Cf. sense 10.

1846 Trench *Mediæval Church* (Grosart) 5/1 The Governors now be almost their walkes, and 3 of 4 seakers sometimes cozen the Keepers

† **3.** *pl.* Ability to walk. *Obs. rare*—1.

1593 R. Greene *Mirrour* 103 That God which giueth eyes to the blind, and walkes to the lame.

**4.** An act of walking as distinguished from other more rapid modes of locomotion on foot (see Walk *v.*1 7) ; the slowest gait of a land animal ; a rate of progression which belongs to this gait, a walking pace.

**a.** Of a horse or other quadruped (opposed to *trot, amble, gallop,* etc.).

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 250/1 Walk, is the slowest pace a Horse doth go ; it is used to cool a Horse after hard Riding 1708 Mrs. Hughes *Henry 4 Isabella* I. 50 If the road was in the most dangerous condition, the horses were never suffered to go off a walk. 1832 *Prov. Reg. Instr. Cavalry* II. 15 The rate of walk not to exceed four miles an hour. 1869 A. Lindsay *Horses* 18 If the distance is above a mile, they will suffer, unless it is walk all the way. 1898 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, He rode near Mr. Dombey's house ; and falling into a walk, approached it, looked up at the windows. 1902 Violet Jacob *Sheep-Stealers* xiv, He did not once let his horse go out of a sober walk.

**b.** Of a human being (opposed to *run*).

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. i. 118 Thy verie walke should be a ligge. 1836 Dickens *O. Twist* xiii, Exchanging her faltering walk for a good, swift, steady run. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxiii. 234 A fast walk is the nearest corner into Red Lion Street at something between a walk and a run

**c.** Applied *spec.* to a firm and regular gait. *nonce-use.*

1764 Cowper *Task* IV. 639 He stands erect ; his slouch becomes a walk ; He steps right onward, martial in his air.

**d.** A walking race ; a pedestrian contest in which running is not allowed.

1887 *Sporting Life* 5 July 3/3 Clarke should win the Walk, with Langham a good second.

**5.** A manner of walking ; *esp.* the distinctive manner of walking of an individual, as recognizable by visible appearance.

a 1656 R. Cox *Actæon & Diana* 35 Who's this. ? the clothes and walk of my dear husband 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 561 In length of Limb, surpassed her sweeping Gown, And by her graceful Walk, the Queen of Love is known. 1705 tr. *Cassedy's Planets* Wks. 1721 III. 282 The Mandrake only imitates a Man's Walk on two legs ; erect is seen a stalk 1774 *Pennsylv Gaz.* 28 Sept. Suppl 1/3 Run away, an Irish servant man, slender made, long visage, small legs, walks quick. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1763 (1831) I. 93 Dr. Goldsmith could not help observing, that Johnson's walk was not graceful. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 428 Who has a walk that can be named with that of Juno ?

† **b.** *To diminish one's walks* : ? to walk mincingly. *Obs.*

1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* iv. 17 That true humorous Gallant that deures to powre himselfe into all fashions . And therefore will euery where diminish his walks, as to bee various in his sallets, curious in his Tobacco, [etc.].

**6.** *fig.* a. In religious language (cf. Walk *v.*1 6 a) : Manner of behaviour, conduct of life.

a 1580 Cyrus Pembroke *Ps.* cxiii. 11, Whom in walk Gods way directeth not, them no sinnfull liues infectesh Or deed or word. 1760 T. Hutchinson *Hist Mass. Bay* iv. (1765) 401 The irregular walk or demeanor of any one church. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, In this supposal there was much that pleased old David,...the lassie would be under Mrs. Saddletree's eye, who had an upright walk. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling Corr. Lit.* (1870) III. 186 Farrar...a man of antique Christian walk. 1849-61 Trench *Hulsean Lect* Ser II. vii. 263 What do they require of us but a walk corresponding? 1870 Morley *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 239 The most important question that we can ask of any great teacher, as of the walk and conversation of any commonest person, remains this, how far has he [etc ].

† **b.** A course of conduct. *Obs.*

1770 Burke *Lett. 17* Nov. *Corr.* (1844) I. 378 None of our friends are to blame for this rejection of that idea...It was impossible at that time to take a separate walk from them. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 20 Dec., I was ashamed to appear the leader in a walk so new as that of leaving the Lodge in an evening.

† **7.** *Theat.* ? The course of action assigned to one person of a drama. *Obs.*

Davenant speaks of 'the underwalks (or lesser intrigues) of persons'.

1663 Davenant *Gondibert, Pref.*, To these Meanders of the English Stage I have cut out the Walks of my Poems. 1673 Br. S Parker *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 10 You summ up your Charge in Six Heads, which you sometimes entitle Playes, sometimes Hypotheses, sometimes Aphorisms ; and why not Plots, and Scenes, and Walks, and under-walks, &c. ?

II. Place or path for walking.

† **8.** The usual place of walking, the haunt or resort (of a person or animal). *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt's. T.* 211 The gardyn ..Ther as this fresshe Emelye . Was in hire walk, and romed vp and doun c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2505 Thus shalt thou, geste enchesoun t2 goon ayein Vnto thy walk, or to thy place, Where thou biheld her fleshly face [*Fr. afater Detachiez encore en la rue* etc] a 1450 *Mirk's Festiyl* 55 But þus hue [*sc.* the hunter] wole slyȝe wher þis [*sc.* the unicorn s] walk is, and þer he setyþe a woman þat is clene mayden 1588-89 *Plimpton Corr.* (Camden) 59 Sir, I would advise your mastership cause William Scargell to take good regard to himself& not to use his old walkes ; for if he doe, he will be taken 1530 Palsgr. 436/2 Beware, come not in his walke lest he arrest the *garses toy de te trouuer la ou il hante* 1593 Marlow *Edw. II* (Wrooke) 1804 Edmund he says.. Proud Mortimer pries neare into thy walkes. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 300 If any male or other some Horse come within their walke, then preuenteth he them for euer at him 1634 Peachan *Compl. Gentl.* x. (1906) 88 For with the smells there are delicate flowers in those walkes of Venus [Ovid *Amores,* etc.] 1702 Rowe *Ambit. Step-Mother* I. With heedless steps they unawares tread on the Lyons walk

† **b.** *transf.* The region within which something moves. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1545 Aschan *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 73 Meanynge thereby, that no man came in their [*sc.* the archers'] walke, that escaped without death 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. 16 Those coulorable and subtile crimes that seldome are taken within the walke of humaine iustice. 1656 Cowley *Pindar Odes Theatre Pindar* iv, Lo, how th' obsequious Wind, and well ling Ayr Th' Theban Swan does upwards bear Into the walks of Clouds, where he does play. 1692 Ray *Dis.* ii. (1732) 102 The middle region of the Air where the Walk of the Clouds is 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* i 102 Far as the solar walk or milky way.

**9.** A place prepared or set apart for walking.

**a.** In a church or other public building. An ambulatory ; a place where people can walk, a cloister, aisle, portico, or the like ; *esp.* in the Royal Exchange, each of the portions of the ambulatory formerly allotted to different classes of merchants ; designated by special names, as *East India, Virginia, Jamaica, Spanish* etc. *walk* (see *Entick London* ed. 1766, IV. 102).

1330 Palsgr. 286/2 Walke to walke up and downe in, *parvis.* 1598 Willmes *Inst. Dict.* 48 Ambulatio, galerie, or porche to walke in. *portiques* 1579 Hanr *Newes out of Powles* (1872) I 13, Here, in this Church a walck there is where Papistes doe frequent To talke their newes among themselues. 1593 Norden *Spec Brit* 1 *Middx* 25 Royall exchange The form of the building is quadrate, with walks round the maine building supported with pillers of marble. 1595 Stow *Surv.* (1603) 91 They resort all to the said Temple Church, in the round walke whereof [etc.]. 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 42 (1810) 68 In one of the walkes of the church there is a tomb. 1631 Sanders *Lastland Co.* (Camden) Introd 75 Our deputies will meet them at London upon the Exchange Monday and Tuesday come sennit at noone in the Lower Walke. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4708/4 Inquire at the.. Royal Exchange East Country-Walk in Exchange Time 1725 *Ibid.* No 6341/4 The Spanish Walk in the Royal Exchange. 1811 Thorne *Fr. & It. Note Bks* (1871) II. 101 The great cloister ..has a walk of intersecting arches, round its four sides 1884 *19th Cent* Jan 104 The cloister arcade was said to have four walks.

**b.** An avenue bordered by trees

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 25 And all without were walkes and alleyes dight With diuers trees, enraung'd in euen rankes 1600 [J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* 1] 93 Without the wall of an incredible bigness. Their vines dispersing themselues vpon the boughes of trees doe make most pleasant bowres and walkes 1823 J. Todd *Cyclop. Pract. Surg.* II. 1. 1. Sect C 2 b, There hath he made Walkes, hedges, and Arbours, of all manner of most delicate fruit Trees 1660 *Jobs* (Kent) *Private Acc* (MS.) fol 98 Gardner for the dressing and end of the wake in the new orchard 1693 Motteux *St Olon's Morocco* 8 A fiery Horse, that ran away with him .. as he heard about Sunder-land, in the Bishoprick 1711 Addison *Spect* No 110 P 1 There is a long Walk of aged Elms 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xvii, The old lime tree walk was like green cloisters.

**c.** A broad path in garden or pleasure-ground. Also, a way set apart for foot-passengers at the side of a street or road ; a footwalk, sidewalk.

1533 *MS. Rawl* 776 ff. 171 b, For that Chylderne shall not cast Rubbysh into the Watyrs whyche 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 19 Get 3e all three into the box tree. Malvolio's comming, downe this walke 1667 *Primit City & C Builder* 153 It is decent to have fine grassie Walks in the Garden. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 178/2 Allies, or Walks of Gravelled. 1693 Evelyn *Sylva Gard. Compl. Gard* I. 44 A Walk must be broad enough for two Persons to walk a-breast at least,..without which it would no longer be a real Walk, but a large Path 1708 *Curios* 121 We entered the wilderness, whose well roll'd walks, gave ample space To narrow bounds. 1848 Thackeray *Van Jean* xxxix, The library looked out on the front walk and park. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xli. (1901) II. 38 That is one of the few pulls we magistrates have—I keep my avenue in repair and my walks weeded by the vagrants. 1913 Mrs Stratton-Porter *Laddie* xviii. (1917) 366 *Mr. Pryor lay* all twisted on the walk.

*collect* 1874 *Englishman's Guide Bk. U. S.* 23 There are in it [the Central Park, New York] about 9 miles of carriage drive, 4 of bridle road, and about 25 miles of walk.

**d.** A public promenade in or near a town.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xliv, In the public walks and lounges of a town, people go to see and to be seen. 1852 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Pilgr. Auvergne* II. iii. 43 This public walk is prettily arranged on the site of a Roman amphitheatre.

**e.** The circular pavement on which the mill-horse walks in driving the mill.

1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 403 Their Muscles and Tendons..are unequally strain'd, as the Duty is hardest on one Side, even tho' their Walk is large. 1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 556 Those plain and simple Instruments used at the Coal-pits, call'd Barrel-Gins, where an Horse going round in a sufficiently large Walk draws round an *Axis in Peritrochio*. 1845-8 HARTLEY in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 91/2 The diameter of a walk for a horse mill ought to be at least 25 to 30 feet.

**f.** = ROPE-WALK.

1796 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 54 *A Capstern*..is fixed in the ground at the lower-end of the walk. *Ibid.* 56 *Rope-house-ground*, or *Walk*, should be four-hundred yards long. 1839 *Dict. Arts* 1070 (*Rope-making*) As soon as he has reached the termination of the walk, a second spinner takes the yarn off the whirl, and gives it to another person to put upon a reel.

**10.** A tract of forest land comprised in the circuit regularly perambulated by a superintending officer (cf. 3); a division of a forest placed in the charge of a forester, ranger, or keeper.

1592 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 290 To poor house-holders and other honest people within my walkes within the forest of Wydesore. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. iv. 24 My Parkes, my Walkes, my Mannors that I had, Euen now forsake me. 1642 *Decay. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 330 The Office of Keeper of the Lodge called the Queene's Parke of Windsor. *Ibid.* 338 The Offices of the foure Bayliwicks or eight walkes, and of Ranger and Launderer of the Forrest of Whichwood. 1670-88 *Rutland Papers Nicer. Cham. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 125 To Sr Eliab Harvey, Lieut. of Waltham forest..for the repayres of Low-Layton Lodge, wherein he lives, being surfer-keeper of that walke 8 1790 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Oct. 1686, Went with the Countesse of Sunderland to Cranbourn, a lodge and walke of my Lord Godolphin's in Windsor Parke. 1778 *Encl. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *New Forest*, There are 9 walks in it, and to every one a keeper, under a lord-warden, besides 2 rangers, and a bow-bearer. 1820 J. EVANS & BRITTON *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XI. Northampt. 31 The Forest of Whittlewood..The whole is divided into five walks, viz. Hazleborough, Shollbrook, Wakefield, Hanger, and Shrobb. 1829 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, If the Normans drive us from these walks, Rowena, from forests of her own, where her gallant deliverers may range at full freedom.

†**b.** *Agric.* A tract of land used for corn-growing.

1797 in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 A walk that is laid down with plenty of seeds for two years, never grows so much corn as when first broke up again.

**c.** *West Indies.* A plantation.

1793 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 210 The usual method of forming a new piemento plantation (in Jamaica it is called a walk) is nothing more than to appropriate a piece of woodland, [etc.] 1901 *Trans. Gen.* 13 June 2/1 Many sugar estates in the West Indies have of late years been converted into banana walks.

**11. a.** An enclosure in which poultry or other birts are allowed to run freely; a fowl-run. Also (cf. sense 13), a place to which fowls are sent in order that they may have more space to run about than can be allowed them where they are bred: in phrase *at walk*.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vivarium*, a place, where wylde beastes, byrdes, or fyshes be kepte. It may be callyd as welle a ponde, as a parke, a coppyce, a walke for a flocke of sheepe. SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xvi. 107 Likewise you must not let them [geese] lay out of their walke or fold. 1880 JESSOP *Arcad.* I. (1887) 10 He eats the best breasts and legs of chickens for dinner, goes in for fancy breeds [of fowl], and runs up an ornamental 'walk' for them.

¶ **b.** *A walk of snipes* (†*snipes*). In the early lists of 'proper terms' (the meaning is uncertain; later writers interpret it as a 'company term' (*cf.* 'congregation of plovers' in the same lists).

*c* 1450 *MS. Egerton* 1995 fol. 19 A Walke of Snyte. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* I. ii. 33. 1859 FOLKARD *Wild Fowler* i. 6 A walk of snipes.

**c.** The place in which a game-cock is kept. *Cock of the walk* (fig.): a person whose supremacy in his own circle is undisputed (see COCK *sb.*1 7).

1613 T. SAVILE in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Wrks.* (1872) 350, I have..borowed my father's cocks..I go..to get walkes for them. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 The Cocks Walk is the place where he is bred, which usually is a place that no other Cock comes to. *c* 1770 T. FAIRFAX *Cowell. Sportsm.* 4 Let the cocks go each with their hens, till they begin to fight one with another; but then separate them into several walks, and that walk is the best, that is freest from the resort of others. 1824 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. Egan) Cock, or Chief Cock of the Walk. The leading man in any Society or body; the best boxer in a village or district. 1893 'JUN BEE' *Dict. Turf, Walk* (in cocking) —the ground for keeping them. 1897 [HOLLOWAY *Bancketter-T. xvii.* heading, Who shall be cock of the walk? 1873 WHYTE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* i, Mr. Gale, to use his own phraseology, was accustomed to consider himself Cock of the Walk in every society he frequented.

**12.** Land, or a tract of land, used for the pasture of animals, esp. sheep. *Obs.* exc. in SHEEPWALK.

1549 LATIMER 1st *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 He had walkes for a hundred sheepe, and my mother mylked xxtv. kyne. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 62 The housing of cattel while winter doth hold..spareth the pasture for walke of thy sheepe. *a* 1647 HAMMOND *Serm. Wores.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 254 A large walke for savage beastes, but nowe more commodiously changed to the civill habitations of many gentlemen. 1808 JAMIESON, *Gang*,..a pasture or walk for cattle.

**13.** A farm or cottage to which a young hound is sent in order to get accustomed to a variety of surroundings. Phrases, *at walk*, *to put to walk*.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* iv. Argt., Of the litter of whelps.. of setting them out to their several walks. 1781 P. BECKFORD *Thoughts Hunting* v. 80 The distemper makes dreadful havock wherever it gets into their walks. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* IV. v. § 3. 474 Hounds are usually named at the time they are sent out to their walks. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* II. 386 There is a difference of opinion whether the [greyhound] whelp should be kept in the kennel and subjected to its regular discipline, or placed at walk in some farmhouse. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. i. 4 The hounds were still kept at walks during the summer. 1858 STONEHENGE *Brit. Sports* II. iv. § 340 The Walks for the Young Hounds should be chosen in such situations as that they shall be accustomed to all sorts of company from children to horses. 1881 E. D. BRICKWOOD *Hound in Encycl. Brit.* XII. 915/2 When about ten or twelve weeks old (foxhound) puppies are sent out to walk.

**14.** The 'beat', round, or circuit of an itinerating official, workman, tradesman, beggar, etc.; the district within which a person is accustomed to practise his occupation without interference from a rival. *? Obs.*

1772 *Gaz.* No. 3910/4 Making use of the Company's Pavior of that Walk to Dig the same. 1705 tr. *Rosman's Guinea* 98 The last and most contemptible Office is that of Under Fiddle, commonly called by us, Scuffler, (which is in his Walks, Informer, as he really is no better. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* lett. xii, The old man [the blind fiddler] struck the earth with his staff..' The whoreson fisher rabble! They have brought another violer upon my walk!' 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 571 Milk people of less profitable walks. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 97 Neat, a watchman's walk. 1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* I. 235/2 'My father has a milk-walk', he said. *Ibid.* (1861) II. 8/2 He had thoughts at one time of trying to establish himself in a cats'-meat walk.

**15.** A (specified) length of way to be walked; esp. such a distance as defined by a specified length of time spent in walking. (Often in phrases used *advb.*)

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 79 Dwellyng a good walke from hir at the townes ende. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Sept. 1658, The ordinary walk from Paris to Orleans, within a little of a quarter mile from Bagshot towne. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 59 I agreed to go every morning to his house, which, being at the extremity of Princes Street, New Town, was a walk of two miles. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* I, A cheerful musical horn in a select private family, residing within ten minutes' walk of—everywhere. 1859 *All Year Round* III. 4 Within a quarter of an hour's walk of it. 1875 RUSKIN *Mornt. Florence* I. 5 A few hundred yards west of you, within ten minutes' walk, is the Baptistery of Florence. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* 113 Beginning with a 4 *m.* walk out of the town, it is an almost continual ascent for 9 *m. Ibid.* There is a mile run down to Stow, followed by a mile walk up into Stow.

**b.** *U.S.* (See quot.)

1901 P. FOUNTAIN *Deserts N. Amer.* vii. 118 The Indians had a singular custom in parting with their land. Theyesold it by the 'walk.' The unit of measure of a walk was always a day in time, no matter what the distance.

**16.** A course or circuit, in the country or in a town, which may be chosen for walking.

1617 MOryson *Itin.* 2. 31 In the valley under this Mountaine of Oselets, towards the City, is a pleasant walk, of the sweetnes called the Phylosophicall way. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 28 Though the Countrey about Constantinople be not delightful, nor so well peopled, as in France; yet it is not without pleasant Walks. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Metam. xiii. Acis* etc. 51 A Promontory..over-looks the Sea: On either Hand, lies a pleasant Walk: This airy walk the Giant Lover chose. 1757 MRS. P. L. POWYS *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 21, I..thought myself most happy when I got into the woods, one of the sweetest walks of Matlock. 1786 COWPER *Let. to T. Hill* 9 Dec., Weston is one of the prettiest villages in England, and the walks about it at all seasons of the year delightful. 1890 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (Unmounted Edn.) I. 329 We often find walks that will vie with the Thiergarten even in this desolate country. 1980 TYNDALE *Glac.* I. xv. 100 This walk was full of instruction and delight.

**III.** Department of action.

**17.** A department of action; a particular branch or variety of some specified activity, e.g. trade, literature, science, etc.; a special line of work.

1759 FRANKLIN *Ess. Wks.* 1840 III. 145 Two thirds were to be in the greater number of walks of business, and one third in the lower. 1786 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. Pref. p. vii, It would be difficult..to assign a physical reason, why a man in one walk should be Shakespeare, should use its glory in another walk of genius to Holbein and Vandyck. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Dissert. 167/1 However superior Voltaire may be in the other walks of poetry, certain it is, no originality, no strength of colouring, shines in the Henriade. 1806 HERBERT *Miseries Hum. Life* vi. Introd., As you appear to have a peculiar kindness for Inns, I will treat you with a choice sample of satisfactions in that walk of enjoyment. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. P 9 He had..taken upon himself to eclipse the best writers each in their own favourite walk. 1819 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 147 Three sisters..displayed much talent in pursuing this walk of literature. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. Educ.* I. (1860) 12 He seeks to revive that elevated walk of study at the opportunities. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Hum* (1839) I. ii. 137 Each affection has its peculiar walk of enjoyment. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xiii. II. 193 A similar impulse was felt in the other walks of science. 1856 *Masson Ess. lv.* 210 Butler had shewn the more original vein of talent in one particular walk. 1859 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. vi, 'Does Mr. Henry Gowan paint—ha—Portraits?' inquired Mr. Dorrit. Mr. Sparkler opined that he painted anything, if he could get the job. 'He has no particular walk?'..'No specialty?' said Mr. Dorrit. 1860 CRUMP *Banking* 41, 48 It is one of the most singular peculiarities in connection with man who have had much experience in other walks of trade, as merchants, &c. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* xcviii. III. 370 When he [a lawyer] has attained real eminence he may confine himself entirely to the higher walks.

**18.** *Walk of life* (more rarely *walk in life*): **a.** A social grade, station of life, rank. Also *walk of society*. **b.** A trade, profession, or occupation.

**a.** 1752 FIELDING *Covent-Garden Jrnl.* No. 56 ¶ 3 Both of these [cc. characters of humour] will be almost infinitely diversified according to the different..natural dispositions of each individual; and according to their different walks in life. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Young Women* (1767) II. xiii. 249 Those who are placed in the higher walks of life. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Pref., The term 'genteel comedy' was then unknown amongst us, and little more was desired by an audience than nature and humour, in whatever walks of life they were most conspicuous. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 97/2 The walk of life from which writers are usually modelled be duly weighed as they are in future, perhaps, to become directors, and probably legislators of India. 1832 *J. Egan's Bk. Sports* No. 5. 66/2 Nature, enriched by art, had rendered the late Mr. Kinsey a man not often to be met with in the walks of society. 1859 *Ch. Times* 13 Oct. 415/2 But according to the fashion of dress of to-day, it is not easy to tell from what walk in life women come.

**b.** 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 3 In what is termed the 'walks of life'. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 307 They found every walk of life towards which the Muses of their taste could look for a subsistence closed against them with malignant care. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp. India* 19 Mar. *Sp.* (1868) I. 119 Of course there are men of genius in very objectionable walks of life. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* xcviii. III. 378 The lawyers outnumber the persons belonging to other walks of life. 1901 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 631/1 Emotions are rarer than what was possible for them in any other walk of life.

**19.** (= *walk of life*, 18 a and b). **a.** Social grade or station; **b.** trade or profession. *rare.*

**a.** 1847 MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xiii. 251, I met a funeral, the first I had seen in England, and was surprised that of a person in the middle walks. 1854 — *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 246 To those who move in the upper walks, the superiority in status of the village schoolmaster over the journeyman mason may not be very perceptible.

**b.** 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, First of May*, Certain dark insinuations..to the effect that children in the lower ranks of life were beginning to choose chimney-sweeping as their particular walk.

**IV. 20.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 1) as *walk-companion*; (sense 9 *c*), as *walk-making*, *-tide*; (sense 14) as *walk-rotation*; (sense 12) as *walk-land*; also **walk-alder**, a sickly alder; the name usually it is to collect payment of cheques in a particular district; **walkeman**, an officer charged with the care of a certain length of the banks of a river or canal; **walkway** *U.S.* = sense 9 *c*.

1850 H. PRICE *Lond. Bankers* 35 *note*, The following misfortune that befell a 'walk-alder' 1 Will. IV. cap. 64. 1 *Walkeman*, May, I am about to lose my old and only 'walk-companion, whose mirthful spirits were the 'youth of our house'. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 208 Ten loads..an acre upon good land, a middling crop; but upon 'walk-land (poor sheep-walks ploughed up) less. 1849 J. FORBES *Physic. Holiday* I. (1850) I They..indulge in farming, gardening, treebelling, 'walk-making, or fish-ponds. 1893 STRATTON *Coiffeuse* iii, A pleasant gabled house set by the 'walkside among some brave young woods. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 8 June 7, 7 The alleged attempts of the Post Office[ employés] to reduce the value of Christmas boxes by the introduction of a system of 'walk-rotation'. 1794 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 311 For the care of the banks [of the New River] a 'walksman is appointed to every two miles. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 May. 9/5 A 'walksman' in the service of the New River Company. 1911 H. S. HARRISON *Queed* xvi, He went down the broad steps of the Capitol, and out the winding white 'walkway through the park.

†**Walk**, *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* [repr. OE. *wolc*, var. of *wulcn*, *wolcen*: see WELKIN.] A cloud or clouds.

1501 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 158 The mone wes vnder walk, and gaif na lycht. *c* 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 73 Sa as thir twa togidder was all tark, The Mone wox dark, and hid was vnder walk.

**Walk** (wǫlk), *v.*1 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **walked** (wǫlkt). Forms: *Inf.* and *pres. stem*: **1 wealcan**, **wealcian**, **2, 3 walki-en**, **4 wale**, **2–7 walke**, **6 walok(e**, *Sc.* **vak**, **8–9** *Sc.* **wauk**, **4– walk**. *Pa. t. a. strong* **1 wēolc**, **3–5 walk(e**, **5 walke**, **wilke**; *B. weak* **1 wealcede**, **4 walkide**, **walkit**, **5 walkude**, **walkyd**, **6 walokt(e**, (**6** *Sc.* **walkit**), **4– walked**. *Pa. pple. a. strong* **3 i-walken**, **walke**; *B. weak* **5 walkude**, **3– walked**. [OE. had two forms: (1) *wealcan* reduplic. str. vb. (pa. t. *wēolc*, pa. pple. *gewealcen*), to roll, toss (trans. and intr.); (2) *wealcian* weak vb., occurring only twice, in the senses 'to muffle up' (gl. *obvolvere*), to curl (hair: gl. *calamistrare*). One or both of these vbs. may have had also the sense 'to full (cloth)': see WALK *v.*2 The corresponding forms in the other Teut. langs. are: OHG. *walchan* str. vb., recorded only in pa. pple. *giwalchen*, *firwalchen*, felted, matted (said of hair: gl. *cumeratus*); MHG. *walken* (pa. t. *wielc*, pa. pple. *walken*; later conjugated weak), to kneed, to roll (paste) into balls in the palms of the hands; *rarely*, to move about (trans. and intr.), to turn into something; *usually*, to full (cloth), whence to cudgel, drub; mod.G. *walken* wk. vb., to full, to cudgel;

(M)LG., (M)Du. *walken* wk. vb., to full, to work (felt), to cudgel; *ON. valka* (Icel. *válka*, mod. *velka*) wk. vb., to drag about, to torment, refl. to wallow; MSw. *valka* wk. vb., to roll (a morsel) about in the mouth, Norw. *valka* wk. vb. to crumple in the hand, MDa. *valke* wk. vb. to torment; the mod.Sw. *valka*, Da. *valke* (wk.), to full, prob. take their sense from LG.

The strong pa. t. survived into the 15th c.; the weak conjugation, recorded from the 13th c. onwards, may perh. not be a survival of the rare OE. *wealcian* but an instance of the frequent change of inflexion from strong to weak. The corresponding weak vb. in continental Teut. is prob. to be explained in this way.

It is remarkable that to the end of the OE. period the sense of the str. vb. was 'to roll', and that from the beginning of the ME. period it was 'to move about, travel'. The explanation of this apparently sudden change may be that the ME. sense had arisen in OE. as a colloquial (perhaps jocular) use, and that when the literary tradition was interrupted after the Conquest, and people wrote as they spoke, the original meaning of the word was no longer current.

The OTout. root ***walð-** has no certain affinities in any other branch of the Indogermanic family; phonologically the Skr. *vardh* to leap, dance, and the L. *vulgus* bow-legged, might be related, but there is no clear similarity of meaning.)

†**I.** **1.** *intr.* a. In OE. (str. vb.). Of the waves: To roll, toss. b. In early ME. of persons: To toss about restlessly. *Obs.*

In OE. also *transz.* (str. vb.) to turn over, roll; also *fig.* to turn over in one's mind, consider; (wk. verb) to curl (hair); to press together (cf. WALK *v.*¹). For examples see Hosworth-Toller.

*a* 1100 *Alth. Glosses* in Napier *OE. Gl.* l. 2474 *Feruentis oceani*, wealcendre sæ. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 Ho (sc. souls in hell) swehes swate þer nis nan walked wed ouer blod, nan se water deð mid winde. *Ibid.* *a* 1200 *Body & Soul* (Phillips). He walkeþ & wendeþ & wone)...þes, he sæiþ on his bedde, wome þat ic libbe, þat æffre (etc.). 1398 W. PARIS *Cristine* (Horstm.) 394 Fyve daies...þe vehicle beiþ [an oven] to & froo. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 309 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 131 Alias, I walke in a lake Of dedly synne that doth me tene.

**II.** *intr.* To journey, move about, esp. on foot.

†**2.** To go from place to place; to journey, wander. Also with cogn. obj. and (one's way).

In quot. *a* 1000 the sense appears to be 'to pass over'; if so, the gloss is the only example within the OE. period of any anticipation of the ME. development of the meaning of the word; but it may be significant that the reference is to motion on the sea.

*a* 1000 *Prudentius Glosses* in *Germania* XI. 490 *Emensus*, gewalcen [*Emensus et nunquam fessi!* Prud. *Peristeph.* v. 473] *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þat israelisshe folc was walkende toward ierusalem on swinche and on drede and on wanunde. *c* 1205 LAY. 11,000 Noes he duc and his drihtfolke wlden walkien. *c* 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* xlix, Muchel ic habbe iwalken bi water ant bi londe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6339 Quederes-ouer he walk her or þare, þis wandes euer he wit him bare. *Ibid.* 21685 Quen he nedders..þe folk stanged of israel, Quen þai walk in þe wildernes. 23... *Ibid.* 22063 (Gött.) Þe angel...in þe pit (be deuil) sped fast..for to be laised at þe last, quen pat thousand zere war past, to walk his wai [*Edinb. MS.* to walc his waiis forthe] fra þat quile. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 498 Vr is liflod and lef in londe to walke, here wex vch of water in be welle springus. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* VIII. 74 Pei ben men on pis molde þat moste wyde walken. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 189 Þai þat sal walk bi way, or ride, may not cum to þair holy kirk,...Þeir seruyse sal þai not for-gete. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. x. 99 And for ilk mensze A capitane walkis rewland all his rowt.

**3.** Of things.

†**a.** Of time: To pass, elapse. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 568 An hundred winter..welken or it was ended wel.

†**b.** Of reports, fame, also of letters, money: To circulate, pass from one to another; also with *about*. Also said of the person whose fame is spread abroad. *Obs.*

*a*1. *Cant. & Gr. Knt.* 1521 Your wordes & your worchip walken ay quere. *c* 1340 *Minor Poems* vii. 29 Pe word of him walkes ful wide. 1387 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vii. (Sk.) 95 Loke now what people hast thou served; whiche of them al in tyme of thyne astate ever the lenghed, by the value of the laste coyned plate that walked in mony? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 252 The worde of him walkit baith for and ner. 1533 MORE *Let. to Cromwell* Wks. 1420/1 An vnknowen heretike which hath sent ouer a works that walketh in ouer many mens handes named the Souper of the lord. 1560 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 121 Ther was hornes walking, money makynges, makynge of hauoder. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & P.* (Arb.) Siv, And I vp and downe, Go seeking to learne what Newes here are walking. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 13 If any man that hath freendes and mony..chance to haue committed neuer so...flagicious a deed,..then letters walke, freendes beatir them, and commonly they get away. 1602 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. v. 77 For he shall weepe, and walke with euery tongue Throughout the citie, infamously song. *a* 1626 BACON *Wks.* (1638) 459 A wonderfull erroneous obseruation that walketh about. 1640 tr. *Verduc's Rom. of Rom.* II. 120 This Prince..never left praying and importuning; every day she had a Page, letters were continually walking [*Fr. les lettres nerecherchoient d'heure en heure*]. 1672 MILTON *Samson* 1080, I...now am come to see of whom such noise Hath walk'd about. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Dissenter* 10 There may be Money Walking on the One Side as well as on the Other.

†**c.** Of crime, vice, or virtue: To be rife, spread abroad. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* VII. 79 In hym pat taketh is be treccherye, if any treson wawe [read walkeþ *taketh y MSS.*]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 169 Pese men...beep ywoned to haue the victorie...in euerich fiȝt wher no treson is walkynge [*L. ubi fraus absfuerit*]. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 140 Ther whas so moch treson walkyng that men wold not wetyn to do. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 101 Their violence and wrang walkis full wyde. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 53 Then iuste knew no way to the pallace of Cæsars, then abstinence walked in the market place, then all kynde of vertues walked in the streates. 1626 BERTON *Pasquils Madcap* (Grosart) 8/2 Wealth is a witch that hath a wicked charme, That in the mindes of wicked men doth walke.

†**d.** Of drink, etc.: To be handed round, pass, circulate. *Obs.*

1588 R. SMITH in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1254/1 My Lorde maiore being set with the bishop and one of the shriues, wine was walking on euery side, standing before them as an outcast. 1597 HANMAR *Consent* (Shaks. Soc.) 32 How the potter walke about! their talking tounges talke at large. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* 1858 Now When 1500 L. not Frolicke, my Lord[s]; let all the standerds walke: Fly it till euery man haith tane his load. 1596 RALEGH *Guiana* 83 Wee found them all at drunke as beggers, and the pottes walking from one to another without rest. 1602 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 216 The pott continually walking, infused desperate and foolish hardinesse in many. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 131 This Book...was also Author...of other little trivial matters meerly to get bread, and make the pot walk.

†**e.** Of various material things, e. g. a pen, a weapon, an instrument, a heavenly body: To move, be in motion. Of leaves: To come out. *Obs.*

*a* 1400–50 *Alexander* (*MS. L*) 1007 *Angelica* XVIII. 223 At euery knot þi lewys owt walke. *a* 1550 J. HEYWOOD *Weither* (1903) 686 Whan the wynde doth blow the vttermost Our wyndwyng sheete in our coue cost. 1549 *Compl. Scotland Ploughers* (Arb.) 25 And then both the ploughes not walkyng, nothyng shoulde be in the common weale but honger. 1550 *Serm. Stanz.* (1566) 103, I beardz a pere of Sheares walkynge in the chimney behynde the cloth. They hadde appoynted one there to wrye al myne aunsweres. 1564 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 190 Thy Great Beare...Whych with his arcti Beare euermore Doth wake the pole about. 1578 GASCOIGNE *Making of Verse* ¶ 2, I would...finde some supernaturall cause wherevnto my penne might walke in the superlative degree. 1598 FLORIO *Worlde Wordes Dic.* 11 b/2 Of the Feuer which commeth of rawe digestion...The Horse will blowe at the nose..you shall see his flankes walke and his sides beate. 1599 SHAKESPEARE *K. J.* v. vii. 45 Remember'd that coast that heauen walks about, Haue thither come the noble Martiall crew. 1602 DRAYTON *Pol.-sh.* XXII. 665 Now English Mars and terrour of vile dastards, That with thy sun and downe the field in gastly sort doth stalke. 1686 tr. *Charelin's Trav. Persia* 125 They did not like working, so that the Edged-wheel did not walk now and then to shake's their Laziness. 1828 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, [They] got me down, and kneevelled me sair aneuch, or I could gar my whip walk about them.

†**f.** Of a vehicle: To make regular journeys. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 671, ij. cartis the which they had every day walkyng to bushyng in his wode of Shottore.

†**g.** Of the tongue, the jaws: To move briskly. *Obs.*

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 908 No man shall haue a tyme to speake, so faste theyr tonges shal walke. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 5 And, ever as she went, her tong did walke In foule reproch and terrour of vile disgrace. 1600 SHAKESPEARE *Cobl Horns-bk.* v. 24 It will adde much to your fame to let your tongue walke faster then your teeth. 1609 — *Lauth. & Cressid* II. iii. 267 Their tongues will talke you downe asthappes begin to wake as if he were chewing downe a Horse-cake. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 231 He could make but little defence with his hands; but his tongue walked, he stormed, cursed, and threatened.

**h.** *Naut.* Of a ship: To make progress.

1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 159 Seeing is walking about with us to keep backs in line with the land. 1891 W. C. RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* III. 11...I'll see in my power to keep this here Spitfire [the ship's name] awalking.

†**1.** *fig.* (*a*) ? To be successful. (*b*) To be a substitute, 'pass', 'go' *for*. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Ac ine þis [the world] me walkeþ ase þe wilde asse þet ne kneu nouȝt þe dyepe seas he schal walke. Ine þoli schal walke for al [L. *unus pro multis dabitur caput*]. 1387 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 299 That now, writtes walke for words.

†**4.** To go about in public, live, move (in a place or region). Also of animals: To range, be found (in a place). *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17800 In mi cite of aramathi þar ar bai [tr. the risen dead] walkand witerli. 23... *Propr. Nanct.* Virtus Holy Rood *Trin. Coll. Hom. Spr.* 1. xxxi. 300/320 Per is a flesch..Pat in pe see is walkynge; Euere he shimbrep and eke stepep. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2732 Pys feste duȝ...Were offrid...þre þousand hyndes, Wylde walkande by wode lyndes. *a* 1350 *S. Lucy* 121 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 48 While he walk in pis werld here, He shal be his apposteth in-fere. — *S. Thomas* 2 (ibid. 56) Saint Thomas, be apostil tree, Pat walk in werld here with Jhesu. 1496 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 244 Men suld nocht lichtly traist in na sauf conditis, and namely in the warld quhair thai walk. 1530 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 129 He saw full fell beistis abide, Of wylde and tayme walkand habound-andlye. 1583 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 40/1 Robbers and theues walke, and liberti inuocated. 1599 B. SCOTT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. x. 39 Upon the which Place St. Augustine wryteth thus, Christe tooke Fleshe of the blessed Virgin in his Mother, and walked in this world. [1836 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. v, And yet—he bandies teats with Knox, And walks a pious man !]

†**b.** To be, live *in* a certain condition. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7515 Adam pede walkand in þat welth þat halden was in mical elth. 1393 *Will E. Bonde* (Somerset Ho.), I Edward Bonde in hole mynde walking & some what syke.

†**c.** To busy oneself, be active *about* something. *Obs.* (Cf. WAKE *v.* 4 b.)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7530 Dauid...toke bot a staf and a sling Pat he was wont to bere in hand Abute his flocke o scep walcand. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 84 And þilkke folke þat han bene pysy erly and late to walke aboute worldely good, now schuld be pysy, alsoo, to vysyt pore sek folke.

**d.** With complementary adj. or phrase: = Go *v.* 6. Now *rare* or *obs.*

1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 100 Why doe we not as well imitate them [the Indians] in walking naked as they doe? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Custom Country* II. (1647) 8/2 How long might I have walkt without a cloake, Before I should have met with such a fortune?

**5.** To travel or move about on foot. Also with advs. *about*, *on*, etc.

*To walk with* (a stick) : to use it as a partial support in walking. *To walk on crutches*: to support oneself by crutches in walking.

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* 933 Ich habbe walke [*other texts* walked] wide Bi pe se side; Nis he nowar ifunde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+197 Pese pre maries cone þiderward, for drede þai stynted oft For ferd of þe Iewes, and aiþen walk ful soft. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 550, I laugh a man, þat walke al solitarie. *a* 1535 *Percy & Boy* (Ritson) 63 An olde man came hym tyll, Walkynge by the weys. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Dial. Pr.* III. xlii. (1568) 71 Thow walkest by the thornes: and wylt not that thy gown lee torne. 1697 COLLIER *Ess.* II. (1709) 99 To walk always upon crutches, is the way to lose the use of our limbs. 1823 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Miss Evans & Eagle*, They all walked on together, talking and laughing. 1838 *Ibid. Nich. Nickleby* xx, We walked about, and met with a disappointment at every turn. 1900 S. VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* viii, He carried a stick, but he did not use it to walk by. 1901 E. CRADDOCK *Windsfall* iv. 75 Why, I'll feel so odd whenst I'm twenty that I reckon I'll bev ter walk with a stick by then.

†**b.** with *refl. pron.* *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 65, vi. I will now me walke from sege to sege, And pray to helpe me now euery saynt. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (1845) 119 As I went walkyng my selfe to and fro, There sodaynly Venus brought me such wo.

†**6.** conjugated with *to be*. Also *pa. pple.* in intr. sense.

1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* VI. v. II. 202 Mrs. Stapleton Inquired after Lady Clayton; Miss Clayton said she was walked out. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, I shall never forget how frightened I was when I took him for the picture of old Sir Mahue walked out of the canvass.

**d.** with cognate obj.; also, with advb. accusative of distance. Phrase, *to walk a turn*, to walk once up and once down.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 267 With lucas and with cleophas he walke a day lurnes. 1598 [see 8]. 1620 SHAKES. *Temp.* I. 168 A turne or two I'll walke To still my beating minde. 1693 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 6 They prayed the King to walk some turns with Arsaces in their presence, to be witnesses of what passed. 1733 JAMES *Med. Dict. Art Torment.* II. iv. 177 Strange disorders in her head, for which she is advised to walk long walks. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiv, They walked a turn through the hall. 1833 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, I've walked all the way from Stamford-hill this morning. 1836 *Ibid., Criminal Courts*, They walked a few paces, and paused. 1899 J. WINSOR *Mississ. Basin* 230 A scandalous act of Thomas Brown years back (1737) who had asserted inordinate claims by virtue of what was known as the 'Walking Purchase'. The extent of the concession was dependent on the distance a man could walk in a day and a half by an honest tramp.

*Proverb.* 1609 EBSWORTH *Ev. Card.* M 6 b, After Dinner sit a while: After Supper walke a mile.

**e.** In express or implied contrast with *ride*. Also collog. *to walk it.*

1668 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Sept., Walking it to the Temple; and in my way observe that the Stockes are now pulled quite down. 1778 STEELE *Spectator* No. 1 ¶ 1 I am resolved to walk it out of Cheapside. 1786 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* II, I therefore walked back by the horse-way. 1804 T. HOLCROFT *Negro Prentice* III. 185, I was obliged to walk the journey. 1823 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, We alighted and walked up all the hills. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 84 A dangerous descent, best walked down. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 2/2 A long stiff ascent...which most tourists will walk up. 1918 *Blackw. Mag. Apr.* 466 He had ridden and I had walked before him.

**f.** More explicitly, *To walk on foot*, also (now rarely) *afoot*. †Also *transf.* of a stream: To flow slowly (*obs.*).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 1 (MS. H.) Now riden þis folk & walken on fote to seche þat seint in seleoure londis. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 18548 (Fairf.) Pat water þai ne mai noght ga, Ne walk on fote þar-in to swa. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 159 Þe see wiþ-outen wete dry to walke a-pon bis fete [*Cott.* and *Gött.* Gangeand als upon a strete]. 1598 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Gosp. Mk.* 12–16 Where as before he was wonte to walke his iourneyes on foote. 1765 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 114 The said...bishop Chadd was wonte alwaies to...doo the worke of the ghospell more on foote then on horsebacke, for he went, than on horsebacke. 1822 H. KING *Serm.* 37 But Kings haue walkt afoote whilest the Pope rode rode. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 252 When it [the blood] walks a Foot, in an even, regular Peace, every Faculty coincides. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. vi, How comes it...that such a great Gentleman walks about the Country afoot? *c* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 221 The King walked on foot among the infantry. 1800 S. GREEN *Reformist* II. 37 When he quitted Ellingford, he resolved always to walk on foot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 561 The prisoner...walked on foot, barebacked, up the whole length of that stately street which ..leads from Holyrood House to the Castle.

**g.** With advs. *in*, *up*, †*forth*, and const. *into*, the use of this vb. instead of the indefinite *come* or *go* sometimes implies an additional notion of absence of pausing or hesitation. So, †*in the* ceremonious language of invitation ' (J.), *Walk in* = 'come in' (now chiefly in rustic use). Similarly in the showman's 'Walk up! walk up!' when the show is on a raised platform.

In general, the tendency to substitute 'come' or 'go' for

this verb has become much more prevalent since the 16–17th c.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19737 Paulus þan walk forth her and þar, And spelled fast wit-vten spar. 1450 *Merlin Loth.* I. 111 Than we welk forthe, and desyryd an answer of hem. 1598 Shake. *Merry W. v.* i. 201, I pray you Sir walke in. 1814 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* II. 2, Pra thee, walke in, what you bargaine for, Ile discharge. 1856 Vanbrugh *Relapse* iv. v, If your Lordship please to walk in, we'll help you to some Brown Sugar-Candy. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxx, Mrs. Jennings..opened the door and walked in with a look of real concern. 1804 J. Tobin *Honey Moon* i. i. (1805) 12 Or as tried a courage As ever walk'd up to the roaring throats Of a deep-rang'd artillery. 1834 Mary Howitt *Spider & Fly* 2 'Will you walk into my parlour?' said the Spider to the Fly. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, 'Won't you walk in, sir?' said the servant. 1838 — *Nickleby* iii. The voice replied that the gentleman was to walk up. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Close here, sir, if you please to walk this way. 1841 Hor. Smith *Meriwether* iii. C. vii. 149 Men walk up composedly to the most perilous enterprises. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* Pref. p. vi, Every American's house cannot be walked into, like the President's; but [etc.]. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* ix. 101 Rather foolishly, I at once scrambled down from the tree and walked up towards him [the lion]. 1909 in I. G. Sieveking *Francis W. Newman* vi. 126 The door opened and the Professor walked in.

**b.** To move about or go from place to place on foot for the sake of exercise, pleasure, or pastime; to take a walk or walks. Also with adverb.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4778 Jacob yode walcand be þe nile. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* ix. 54 And as I wente bi a wode walkyng myn one, Iliisse of þe Bridges made me to Abyde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. Prol.* 463 Forth walk I tho out-stretched, to solace. *c* 1400 *Pierce Mikl.* i in *26 Pol. Poems* 143 By a forest sydde, walkyng as I went, Disporte to take. 1569 Spenser *Vis. Petrarch* 83 The herbs and flowres she walked pensively. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 42 Saue sawe dust, and brick dust, and ashes as fine, for alley to walke in, with neighbour of thine. 1625 Bacon *Ess.*, *Gardens* (Arb.) 481 When you arise in the morning..remember to powre foorth your prayers vnto God..Then walke ye gently. *a* 1626 Bacon *Med. Rem.* Bacontiana 1 (1650) 16 Stir up the Patient when you drink, and walk again to him. 1640 tr. *Verdier's Rom. of Rom.* II. 120 Carinda said he, being gone out to walk in the garden. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 190 And so touching walking a mornings, or Anchients have been large. 1685 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 253 [At Spa] There is a pleasant garden of the Capucines, where drinkers of the waters generallie walk. 1728 Earl of Mar in *Hist. Lett. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar, She desired me to walk in her garden. 1745 Eliza Haywood *Female Spect.* xii. (1748) II. 309 That morning I walked in the Mall one hour, was infinitely charmed with the beauty of a young lady who happened to be there. 1830 *Portugal; or, Vng. Travellers* 239 As he spoke, Mr. Grey rose from table and invited them to walk. 1869 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxi, 'Stay, Salome! Where are you going?' 'To walk.'

†**1.** *trans.* To take air and exercise (or conch-back). *Obs.*

1541 Wyatt *Def.* in H. Walpole *Misc. Antiq.* ii. (1772) 49 There be maynis men in the towne and most of them gentlemen, wch walke upon there horses, and here and there tawlke with those ladies.

**j.** *To walk (out) with, to walk together*: in rustic use said of a young man and young woman 'keeping company' with a view to marriage.

1876 Miss Yonge *Womankind* xxiii. 195 There is a semi-engaged state of 'walking' with a man on trial. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xx, 'Tis no longer said of young men and women that they 'walked together' but that they were 'engaged'. 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxv, Rose Harland on first Sundays out Walked with the better man. *Ibid.*, When Rose and I walk out together. 1901 W. W. Jacobs *Lady of Barge* (1908) 8 A certain young woman I'm walking out with. 1905 Jennie Hall *Buds & Blues*, 'You are not engaged, I 'ope?' 'Walking out, ma'am, do you mean?' says Emma. 1906 *Times* 26 Nov. 3/6 Her sister knew him in the way of business, but had never walked out with him.

†**k.** Followed by *a* (= *on*) and vbl. sb.: = Go v. 32 c. *Obs.*

1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1076/2 Like as if a ryght great man walde wantonly walke a mumming, and disguise hymself.

**l.** In various phrases. † *To walk at rovers*: to have no settled abode (cf. Rover 1 2). *To walk Spanish*: see Spanish C. *To walk upon air*: to be in an exultant state of mind. † *To walk will of one's way* (Sc.): to go astray, lose oneself.

*c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 73 Or ony vther gude fallow that I beir Rand Walkand wil of way. *Ibid.* 106 In wickitt wedderis and weit walkand full will. 1598 More *Dial. Heresyes* iii. Wks. 228/1 The order is rebuked by priestes begging and lewde liuing, the other is fayne to walke in rouars and liue upon trentalles or worse or els [etc.]. 1887 Stevenson *Mem. & Portr. iv.* 72, I went home that morning walking upon air.

**m.** *Racing*. Of a jockey: To weigh (so much) when going on foot.

1856 'Druid' *Post & Paddock* v. 83 He was about 5 st. 5 in. in height, walked about 9 st. 5 lbs. in the winter months, and could ride, if required for a race, 7 st. 12 lbs. to the last.

**n.** *quasi-trans.* with complementary adj., adv., or phrase. *To walk off*, to get rid of (the effects of liquor, an ailment) by walking exercise. Also in nonce-uses: *To walk down*, to counteract (poison) by walking; to exhaust (a companion) by walking; *to walk out a sermon*, to continue walking till it has ended.

1663 Pepys *Diary* 8 May, Thence with them to White Hall, and there walked out the sermon with one or other. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* iii, I have walked my clothes dry, or nearly so. 1880 Sala *Baddington Peerage* I. vii. 132 Perhaps he wished to walk off the fumes of the punch and tobacco. 1897 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xix, He would have liked..to have..walked himself dead with fatigue. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 309/2 A walker who gives promise of great things if he doesn't walk his short legs off within the next two or three years. 1884 Tennyson *Cup* ii. 260, I pray you lift me And make me walk a while. I have heard three poisons May be walk'd down. 1894 Frances P. Cobbe *Life* I. 341, I do believe I could walk down anybody and perhaps talk down anybody too!

**o.** *Naut.* To turn (the capstan) by walking round it; to haul by walking round the capstan or by walking away with a rope.

1836 Marryat *Pirate* viii, The men..walked the anchor up to the bows. 1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 218 Walk the yard up to the derrick head with the hawser. *Ibid.* 203 Walk the anchor up the bow. *Ibid.* 172 Walk back the capstan.

**6.** *fig.* a. Chiefly in religious use, after Bible examples: To conduct oneself, behave (ill or well, wisely or unwisely). Sometimes with reference to a metaphorical 'path' or 'way'. *To walk with God* (Gen. v. 22), interpreted to mean 'to lead a godly life' (so rendered by Coverdale, after Luther; later versions retain the Heb. phrase), or to have intimate communion with God.

Cf. Isa. xxx. 21 *þys ys þe weye, walcyth ye þerin*. *ambulare*.

1388 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 213 O man (sayth scripture) walke in ye wayes of thy herte as moche as thou wylte, but (etc.). 1526 Tindale 1 *Peter.* iii. 6 Whe requyre you.. that ye wilbe wyes youres from every brother that walketh inordinatly [Vulg. *ambulante inordinate*]. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpe* 516 And then, lyke a good Christian, Thou shalt walke in thy callynge. 1581 J. Hamilton *Cath. Traict.* Epist. 8 b, To..trauell to reduce yame to ye trew way quhairin all yair forbearis walkit yir mony hundreth zeris bygane. 1611 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xi. xiii. [xiv.] 13 Be more aduisde, walke as a puritan, And I shall thinke you chaste, do what you can. *a* 1629 Hieron *Jf. Jehum* (1630) 1. 1 It was the desire and delight of the holy soule to walke with God. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 62 If all..had but the knowledge of how they should know, they might present this loss and damage, and walk safely. 1682 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xxiv. 335 When a man walks suitably to his place and calling in the world, we say he acts like himself. 1823 Maurice *Prophl. & Kings* (ed. 2) 1. 108 God's way he would establish a sure house. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 11 Those do best who walk most warily.

b. To direct one's conduct *by, after* a rule, etc.

1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. ii. (1588) 113 Many other wayes there bee, after which the Iustice of Peace may walke in taking of this kind of Recognisance. 1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Dissected* 39 He is the great Examplar they walk by. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 25 ¶ 4 Give me more certain Rules to walk by than those I have already observed. 1881 *Scots Notebk.* xxv, I give these away, good imp, and still walk by the moment. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 46 We judge a stranger by our home-bred ways, Who, may be, walks by other rule of right.

†**c.** = Act v. 8 c. Associated, act harmoniously *with*. Also *to walk together*. *Obs.*

1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* Ep. A 3 b, And though it be written in a merry stile, yet I dare presume that mirth and truth walke together in it. 1630 H. Ellis *Travels Christus* 7 After this, he walked sometime in fellowship with that Congregation. 1657 *Docum. S. Paul's* (Camden) 155 The congregation of which we are Mr John Symson. *a* 1709 Ld. Clarendon *Hist.* (1849) 50 My wife and myself, were admitted into the church at Kipping, with which we walked satisfyingly many years. *Ibid.* 51 Some of his hearers left him (the preacher), and others walked with him in the times of dissatisfaction broke out. *Ibid.*, After he was gone, the church at Kipping was again united, and walked sweetly together, for we got a pastor.

†**d.** *To walk wide in words*: to argue at cross purposes. *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xviii. 93 Wythout whych we were lyke to walke wyde in wordys.

†**e.** To proceed, 'go' *upon* (grounds). *Obs.*

1628 *Life Pleasure Jamaica* 256 What grounds of probability have we to walk upon that the present negroes..would act otherwise.

**7.** To go on foot at a walk: see Walk *sb.*1 5.

**a.** Of human beings or other bipeds: To progress by alternate movements of the legs, so that one of the feet is always on the ground: contrasted with *run*, *hop*, etc. *To walk through* (a dance) = **7 c**; similarly of an actor, *to walk through his part* (cf. quot. 1824).

1762 Foote *Orator* i. Wks. 1799 I. 293 Soft and fair; we must walk before we can run. 1824 Stewart in *Sharp's Cen. Zool.* IX. i. 65 The progressive motion of this bird is not by walking but hopping. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, That caprice which so often tempts painters and musicians and great actors, like those of the latter, to *walk through* their part, instead of exerting themselves with the energy which acquired their fame. 1890 *Habits of Gt. Society* v. 206 'Steps,' as the *chasseur* of the quadrille is called, belong to a past age, and even ladies are now content to walk through a quadrille. 1886 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* v, It must have been a fine run; but slow..It's labour and sorrow, walking after hounds, to my mind. 1888 J. Burroughs *Wake-robin* viii. (1884) 295 Among the land-birds, the grouse, pigeon, quails, larks, and various blackbirds, walk. 1894 *Daily News* 10 Aug. 5/3 A blue-jacket never walks, when an order is given, but does everything at the double.

**b.** Of a horse, dog, or other quadruped: To advance by a gait in which there are always two feet on the ground, and during a part of the step three or (in slow walking) four feet: opposed to *amble*, *trot*, *gallop*, etc. Also said of a rider.

1882 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 16304 Lost..a bright Bay Gelding 14 hands high,..Walks, Trots, and Gallops, something dull in going, but will leap very well. 1898 Scott *Pr. Lauren. xxxiii.* Ravenswood walked on with equal deliberation until he reached the head of the avenue..When he had passed the upper gate, he turned his horse. 1899 C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* vii. 152 It was only the dogs walking among the dead leaves.

**c.** *To walk over* (*the course*): of a horse, *literally*, to go over the course at a walking pace, so as to be accounted the winner of a race in which there is no opposition; *transf.* and *fig.* to win a race or other contest with little or no effort. *To walk away from*, to outdistance easily in a race (in quot. *fig.*). Also (U.S. colloq.) *to walk round* (an opponent): to beat easily.

1779 Warner in Jesse *Selborne & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 245 A little on this side the park is Sir John Bond's, who, you see by the papers, is walking over the course for the county. 1823 Jon Bee *Dict. Turf* s.v., 'To walk over' another, is ..to set him at naught, as a racer which is so vastly superior to other cattle that none dare start, and he walks over the course. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 117/2 At Knutsford..he won the Gold Cup..; and walked over for the Pengwern Stakes at Holywell. 1854 *Corn. Mag.* V. 26, I was promptly assured that..I should be elected without opposition..: in short I should walk over the course. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* iv. iii, 'Beaten by a boy!' says she tragically; 'if it had not been for the banjo I should have *walked* away from her.' 1890 *Rules of Racing* § 142 in *Encycl. Sport* (1898) II. 297 When one horse is left in a race and the other need not walk over. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 9/3 To use a colloquial expression, they 'walked round' Gamble and Davies.

¶**d.** *transf.* Of a vehicle, a ship, a stream: To go very slowly. *nonce-uses.*

1827 Pollok *Course T.* i. 346 Round his sacred hill, a streamlet walked, Warbling the holy melodies of heaven. 1832 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 200 Our steamer was or rather walked—for she could make no running—plump upon a rock off Bradley's Head. 1865 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims* (1875) 82 Let us take the train *walked* all the way.

**e.** *trans.* To go through (a dance, esp. a minuet) at a walk.

1810 [see Minuet 2]. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* xl, They just walk a quadrille or spin a waltz,..hang dancing, tis so vulgar. 1859 *Habits of Good Society* 203 It is not attempt to deny that the quadrille, as now walked, is ridiculous. 1893 Cowden Clarke *Shakt. Char.* xiv. 362 He walked his minuet in life, and he danced it with a capon.

**8.** To go away. a. *simply* or † with *away*, *forth*. Formerly often in imperative = 'begone', with a vocative of some term of opprobrium (sometimes retained in indirect narration). Now only *colloq.*, to go away perforce, be turned out; also *slang*, to die.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 206 Leif brother, let vs be walkand. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 b, Yf than the porter wold come forth sodeynly & all to beet vs, & bydde vs walke forth vnthryfties with sorowe. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 60 Schr pruld yow walke, our Goddes halfe! 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xiv. 18 b, He had hym walk hardely. And made hym be sett openly in ye stokkys. 1532 Fulbeck, *trans.* Walke, pyke you hence: *Ite quam celerrime*. 1600 Shakt. *Prelatet* G v b, The Cardinall bad him walke a vilayne. 1646 J. Haywood *Prov.* II. iv. (1867) 52 Walke drab walke. Way (quoth she) walke knaue with a wanion. 1711 *Will Fooles* t. B 4 b, I like his learning well, make him your heire, And let your other walke. 1607 Middleton *Mich. Term* ii. iii. 165 It stands upon the credit on's worship that he walk without money. 1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Dec., Lord Bolingbroke told me I must walk away to-day after dinner, because lord treasurer and he and another were to enter upon business. 1898 Skelton *Table Talk* iv. 57 If the governor were to walk, I think Porlock would content himself with the thirty thousand a-year. 1900 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* xxvii, If I want to discharge a man, he walks without any question.

†**b.** *trans.* Of animals: To be stolen. Of a thing: To be got rid of; to be carried off. *To let* (something) *walk*: to dismiss from attention. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 Cragham *Life St. Ursula* 673 Late wegmenn walk, þei ar not to our be-houe. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 241 There house being tide on a balke, is readie with theefe for to walke. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 639/2 When he comes foorth, he will make theyr cowes and garrons to walke, yf he doe noe other mischeif to theyr persons. 1612 Chapman *May-Day* i. ii, Nay, they [*sc.* houses] shall walke, thats certaine, He turne them off.

**c.** With *off*: To depart suddenly or abruptly. *To walk off with*: to carry away as a prize or plunder.

1604 Marston *Malcontent* iii. v. E 4 b, I am beaute, walke of, I shall take in my sleeue, walke of. *Eastward Pagez.* 1705 Vanbrugh *Mistake* iv. i, *Jacin.* Where's the hare he don't rally, and beat you yet tho'; pray walk off. 1836 Hawkes *Diary* (1893) II. 107 A groom who..walked off with my portmanteau. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Apr., I gave Master Baron that day a precious good beating, and walked off with no less than fifteen shillings of his money. 1848 *Punch's Children's Pet.* And then I..said no more, and walked off. 1880 *Arab. Nts.* (Kidg.) 147 Why dost thou not depart with the rest? Walk off. 1888 J. S. Winter *Regt's Children* 82 And then I..walked off with it and walked off to the drawing-room again. 1889 Conan Doyle *Sign of Four* iv, Wait a bit, my friend,..You have important information, and you must not walk off. We shall keep you, whether you like or not, until our friend returns.

**9.** Of a ghost, spectre, fiend: To be seen walking, to appear. Of a dead person: To 'come back' as a ghost. Also † *to walk out*.

*For the ghost walks* (Theat. Slang), see Ghost *sb.* 8 b.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20621 Quen sal scloc [= cloke] þe be-

unmuss open, pas warlaus ail sal walk pan vte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 408 (Add. MS.) All the chambres were take vp, safe oon, in the which was a sperite walkyng. *a* 1513 *Roy Rede Chron.* clxxix. (1533) 105 He also for that the monkes of wyachester sayd that his father Aluredе walkyd, caused hym to be remoued vnto the new abbay. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 111 b, Sore subiecte to the terrours of buggines, and spyrytes, or goblyns, that walken by night and in places solitarie. 1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* 101 We reade in Lucian how that the soules of Silla and Marius .. were alwayes walking and appearing vnto men before they were purged by sacrifice. 1600 Shaks. *Hen.* v. v. 30, I am thy Father's Spirit Doom'd for a certaine terme to walke the night. 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* iv. iii. There's a talke, thou know'st, that the Ghoast of olde Montferars walkes. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noun. Lieut.* iii. v. I make your Grace my Executor, and I beseech ye See my poor Will fulfill'd : sure I shall walk else. 1707 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* 2. 201 Such a courage..would.. lay all the devils that ever walked. 1802 Scott *Glenfinlas* xiv, Alone, I dare not venture there, Where wailes, they say, the shrieking ghost. 1882 A. Jessopp in *19th Cent.* Nov. 737 Everybody knows that it's an awful thing for a dead man to walk. 1888 Stevenson & *Osbourn Prof. in Wonder* Would ye rob the man before his body? Nay, he would walk !

**10.** ‘ To act in sleep ’ (J.) ; to walk about or perform other actions as a somnambulist. *rare* exc. in the full phrase *to walk in one's sleep*.

1606 Shaks. *Macb.* v. i. 7. When we is alone [Lady Macbeth] last walk'd ? *Ibid.* 66 Yet I haue knowne those which haue walkt in their sleep, who haue dyed holily in their beds. 1697 Dryden & Soame *Lucretius* iv. 1114 My mistris makes her husband believe that shee walkes in her sleepe. 1728 *Chambers' Cycl., Somnambuli*, an Appellation given to People, who walk in their Sleep. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxii. 280 Some uneasy ideas that he must be walking in his sleep, or that he had been troubled with phantoms, . . beset the Captain at first.

**11.** To go on foot in procession ; also, to go in a regular circuit or to and fro over a prescribed track in the course of official duty. Also with cognate accus., as in *to walk one's rounds*(*s*, *the round, a round*, said esp. of a sentinel.

1504–1600 *Mim. Archidiaconry Colchester* (MS.) 99 b, 19 Mar. 1506. Our presentacion was well walked through the defaite of our vicar. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 672/1 The sheriff of the shire, whose peculiar office it is to walke continually vp and downe his bayliwick, .. to snatch up all those runnagates [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The sheriff may doe therin what he can, and yet the marshall may walke his course besides. 1639 Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 100 Octavius Caesar accompanied with his friend Leobell to walke his accustomed round. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Sept. 1641, I was permitted to walk the round and view the workes. 1832 Tennyson *Poems* I. 118 Our lights have agreed, Agelastes, it is probable, walks his round, to prevent intrusion. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxii, He..was to walk in procession as high constable.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1629 Massinger *Picture*s. i, Dreames and phantasticke visions walke the round About my widdowed bed. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xxiv. (1857) 351 He continued to walk the round of his duties.

†**b.** *Oxford University.* (*a*) Of a proctor or proctor : To perambulate the streets at night, in the exercise of his function. (*b*) Of the proctors : To march to and fro in the Convocation House, as part of the ceremony of conferring degrees.

1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 77 It was proved that the iij Proctors servaunts walkyd w^t other persons as pleasyd them, and theyr masters walkyd not nor noe other for them. 1697 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 384, I [a Proctor] walk by the authoritie of the vice-chancellour. *Ibid.* 391 Dr. Nicholas, .verie active in walking and hauling lavents. 1708 J. Wilkins *Ingress Comm.* 8 Within living memory it was necessary for each ‘grace’ to be taken separately, and the Proctors walked ‘ for each candidate. *Ibid.*, 9 It is currently believed that the Proctors walk in order to give any Oxford tradesman the opportunity of ‘ plucking ’ their gown and protesting against the degree of a defaulting candidate.

**12.** Walk into—. (*Colloquial or slang.*) **a.** In phrase *to walk into* (a person's) *affections*, to win the love of (a person) at once and without effort. Sometimes used jocularly for b or c.

1898 in K. Young *Delbi 1857*, App. 328 Major Erskine was fearful that the jolly soldiers would walked into the affections of the Madrassees, and then all would have gone a regular smash.

**b.** To make a vigorous attack upon.

1794 Ld. Hood 15 July in Nicolas *Disp. & Lett. Nelson* (1845) I. 438 *note*, From your rapid firing last night I flattered myself it was intended to walk into the Moselle as this night. 1854 C. B. Mansfield *Paraguay* etc. (1856) 80 Some small supermacuti whales, which came in for a lark (luckily for them, after the American and French vessels had left, who would assuredly have walked into them). 1853 ‘C. Bede’ *Verdant Green* I. ii, His chest had been repeatedly tapped, his bread-basket walked into, his day-lights darkened.

*transf.* 1840 Cockton *Val. Vox* xiii, The carver walked into his pie and bounteously helped each man, woman, and child, to a share. 1846 Dr Quincey *Syst. Heavens* (1860) III. 185 A call was heard for Lord Rosse ! and immediately his telescope walked into Orion ; destroyed the supposed nature of Mars ; but, in return, raised immeasurable worlds.

**c.** To assail with invective or reproof.

1839 Lord *Wand. India* 399 His Excellency ‘ walked into ’ the President, and recommended him to study some catechism of the Law of Courts Martial. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, He walks into us all as if it were our faults.

**d.** To eat or drink heartily of, to ‘ mnke a hole in ’.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, I wish you could ha' seen the shepherd walkin' into the ham and muffins. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* xxvi. 160 Look at that little fellow —how he is walking into the raised pie, and how ill he will be to-morrow ! 1850 Sheridan *F. Fairleigh* xiv, I must walk into old Coleman's champagne before I make a fresh start. 1851 M. Collins *Mary, & Merock.* III. iii. 78 He..with most voracious swallow Walks into my mutton chops.

**e.** To make large inroads on (one's stock of money).

1899 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xv, ‘ And you've got her money ?’ ‘Yes,’ he said ; ‘but I've been walking into it.’

III. *trans.* To perambulate, traverse : = *walk over, upon*, etc.

†**13.** To travel over (a country, etc.). Cf. 2. *Obs.*

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 519 Sire, per sall sorne be a barne of þi blithe lady, þat desyyn after þi day has drastaned to regne, be quilke all walkes all be werd & wyn it him selfe.

**14.** Of fame, etc. : To pervade (a country). Cf. 3 *b*. *Obs.* exc. as transferred use of 17.

*c* 1350 *St. John* 43 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 38 Þe word of him walk al þe land. 1608 Wodroue *Char. Happy Warrior* 77 Whether praise of him must walk the earth For ever, and to noble deeds give birth, Or he must fall, to sleep without fame.

**15.** To go over or traverse on foot.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3155 He walk þat fell ner dais thre To seke he sted quar he wald be. 1576 Gascoigne *Renelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 I. 80 Hereare 1 saw liue whites we walke these woods, . Some harmfull hart entrap your harmelesse moodes. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 38 The needy traveller, serene, the wild heath, .. Shall cheer him. *Dr Darlington Memorials* (1849) 057 They [Indians] were notoriously..cheated out of their land in your province [Penn.], by a man's walking a tract of ground in one day, that was to be granted of them. 1891 Simpson *Recit.* 9 Hundreds of diggers daily then were walking Melbourne town with their pockets filled with gold. 1898 Browning *King & Bk.* 2. 360 Wyan man walkt the garden of this world For his own solace.

**b.** in contrast with *ride*.

1884 *Good Words* 516/2 Devonshire, to be properly seen, should be walked.

**c.** Of a stallion : To travel over (a tract of country) serving mares.

1898 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 4/4 The judging yesterday began with stallions that are to walk the Eastern and Midland counties.

**16.** To walk on or along (a road). *To walk the streets*(*s* : see Street *sb.* 2 *f*.

1530 Palsgr. 770/2 In dede you walke the stretes. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* xxx. P j, They onely walke the streates, to see and to be seene. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 10 All..take delight With many rather for to go astray.. Then walk a bout the ways for feare to stray.

**b.** in contrast with *ride*.

1883 C. Howard *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 3 The very steep ascent of Chatham Hill, which most riders will walk. 1894 *Daily News* 5 Aug. 6/1 hill leading down into Rickmansworth, which is best walked.

**17.** To walk about upon (a surface, the ground, the sea, etc.). So *Naut.*, of an officer, *to walk the deck, the quarter-deck*.

*To walk the plank*: see Plank *sb.* 6.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 213 Through the dear might of him, that walk'd the waues. 1667 — *P. L.* v. 200 Yee that in Waters glide, and yee that walk The Earth, and stately tread, or lowly creep. *Ibid.* vii. 503 Aire, Water, Earth, By Fowl, Fish, Beast, was flown, was swum, was walkt. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 7 It must be a great Hand, or Iron Constitution, when he designs to walk the Quarter-Deck. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* iv. xvi, Edward, who walk'd the deck apart. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* vi. He was..walking the weather side of the quarter-deck. 1847 *E—ne v*, The good Lord Douglas walk'd the deck. 1872 M. Collins *Two Plunges for Pearl* III. 72 He walked the mountain-deck, with his native pride. 1885 L. R. & F. Stevenson *Dynamitiste* xiii. 197 He continued to walk the pavements.

*transf.* 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. iii. She [the ship] walks the waves like a thing of life. *a* 1861 T. Whitwood *Life in Open Air* (1863) 3 At five P.M. we found ourselves..on board the Isaac Newton, a great, ugly, three-tiered box that walks the North River.

**18.** To walk along (a line) ; to perambulate (a boundary). Cf. 11.

*To walk the chalk* (slang) : to walk along a chalked line (as a proof of being sober). *To walk one's chalks* (slang) : see Chalk *sb.* 1 *b*.

1800–3 *Mim. Archdeaconry Colchester* (MS.) 104, 1604. They did not walke the bounds of ther parishe. 1823 ‘ Jon Bee ’ *Dict. Turf* 74 To walk the chalk, a military manœuvre to discover which is drunkest. 1841 *Punch* II. 20 Ere death her charms should fix, Gladly I'd walk my chalks or cut my throat. 1851 Farrar *Parch. Scrov.* xxiii. 226 You cannot walk the dim borderland between vice and virtue without knowing it.

†**19.** To attend, frequent (the exchange, a market). *Obs.*

1592 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* i. (1906) 15 In Venice likewise, every Mechanique is a *Magnifico*, though his magnificence walketh the Market but with a *Cheynie*. 1649 W. Holcroft *Virtus Rediv.* Let him be admire of the Merchant-pallast straights and Spanish Merchants, walking the Exchange. 1730 Johnson *Rambler* No. 182 P 6 To walk the exchange with a face of importance.

**b.** *To walk the hospitals* or *a hospital* : to receive regular clinical instruction and assist in surgical work.

1788 G. White *Let. to S. Barber* 96 Nov., I have not yet heard—whether he will walk the hospitals in town. 1807 *Pictures of Lond.* (ed. 8) 235 The combined method of walking the hospitals and attending lectures. 1823 *Ibid.* (ed. 22) 211 A number of young men, who *walk the hospitals*, as it is termed. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 333 He became..a ..medical student, came up to London to walk the hospitals.

**20.** *Shooting.* To start (game-birds) by beating up the ground with pointers or setters. Usually *to walk up*.

1873 G. S. Baden-Powell *New Homes* 255 A good dog for putting them [sc. quail] up would be very valuable, but (etc.).—Walking up quail, even with the help of a chain, is equally unsatisfactory. 1900 G. C. Bromhick *Mem. & Impressions* 8 Year in and year out they lived at home, ..walking up their own game with the aid of pointers. 1903 *Times* 12 Sept. 12/6 Now voices are raised in favour of a return.. to the use of pointers and setters, in conjunction with the system of walking-up the birds. *Ibid.*, Walked or driven, moreover, the partridge gives more enjoyment to many keen shots than all the pheasants in a beat.

IV. Causative uses.

**21.** To lead, drive, or ride (a horse) at a walk ; to exercise (a horse, a dog) by causing it to walk. Also with *out*.

1570–85 Malory *Arthur* v. ix. 176 A man armed walkyage his horn easyly by a wodes syde. 1586 *Child-Marriages* (1897) 80 This deponent scarsle rested walkinge the horses at the doore, half or quarter of an howre, when one callid hym in to his Mistris. 1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errors* vi. (Rossb.) 68 Sirha Rooke, take my Nagge, and see you walk him faire and soft to Colchester. 1665 G. Markham *Country Contentm.* i. viii. 103 Touching ayring or walking of greyhounds,..it must dewlie be done euerie morning before sunne-rise. [etc.]. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 206 Let's walk them a little ; for they have run Pcates, and must be rubb'd down well. 1832 J. Hogg *Queen's Wake* v. vii, As he was driven his cob [he was riding] back from the fields. 1839 H. Hall *Newcastle Dict. Sports* s.v. *Training*, Taking care that he [the horse] is walked for some hours afterwards, that he may become rather cool before he returns to the stable. 1866 Kingsley *Herew.* xvii, You may walk your bloodhound over his grave to-morrow, and he'll never follow it more. 1881 Black *Adv. Phaeton* vi, We had walked the horses nearly to the end of the pleasant stretch of beechwood. 1901 A. E. T. Watson *Hunting in Arct. Regions* xxix. 365/2 The kennel huntsman is generally called the ‘feeder.’ It is his business to look after the pack which is not hunting, to walk them out, to prepare the food for the hounds, etc.

*transf.* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* S j, If you be chafed you shal be walked, if you be hot you may be cooled.

**22.** To cause or induce (a person to walk) ; to conduct on a walk. Also with advs., *off, out*, etc. † *Walk your body* (Sc.) = take yourself off, begone (*obs.*).

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater of Kent* Wks. I. 144 Now Gentlemen, as I haue walked you amongst the Trees, and throwne the Wood, I pray me thinkes it were time to take one or two more of this Banquet. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 24 July, Then I carried them to see my coxen Peyps's house..! and then I walked them to the wood hard by. 1757 Berkeley in *Fraser Life* (1871) 151 He walked me about the house. 1730 Ramsay *To Æolus* 21 Pray wauk your body, if you please, Gae gowl and tooly on the seas. 1818 T. Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 448 He walked me backwards and forwards before the President's door for half an hour. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvii, She slaved, toiled..for old Sedley, walked him out sedulously into Kensington Gardens. 1887 Miss Yonge *Armourer's Prent.* ii, Stephen and Ambrose found themselves walked out of the cloister of St. Grimbald, and the gates shut behind them. 1900 J. S. Fletcher *Lyonesse* 7 Aug. 224/2 He soon drew me out of the office to walk me off in the direction of Gray's Inn Road.

**b.** To force to walk (by holding the arms or pushing before one). Also, to help to walk.

*To walk* (a person) *Spanish* : see Spanish C.

1809 R. K. Porter *Russ. & Swed.* (1813) II. 21 The poor wretch, attended by the police, had been walked through the streets in order to shew him to the populace. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xii, Mr. Feeder himself held a glass of water to his (the boy's) lips, and the butler walked him up and down several times between the chair and the sideboard. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xxii, Thirdly, Mr. Bucket has to take Jo by the arm a little above the elbow, and walk him on before him. 1918 F. Hall *Recoll.* 230 Good bewildered people who never knew they were deemed blameworthy until they were walked out to the guillotine.

**23.** a. To take charge of (a puppy) ‘ at walk ’ (see Walk *sb.* 13). b. To keep (a game-cock) in a ‘ walk ’.

**a.** 1845 Youatt *Dog* iii. 75 Whelps *walked*, or taken care of, at butchers' houses..are apt to be heavy-shouldered and throaty. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 259/1 The practice of walking puppies is not quite so general as it used to be. 1907 *Times* 3 Oct. 4/1 Defendant said he had walked puppies for the Southwold Hunt for 25 years.

**b.** 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 81 Formerly when cock-fighting was more practised, every farm-yard walked a game cock or two. 1889 *Archæol. Æliana* N.S. XIII. 314 ‘Walking a cock’ was the feeding and tending of a game cock.

**24.** With a thing as obj.

†**a.** To send round (drink). Cf. 3 *d*. *Obs.*

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* i. 24 A seemely sight it was to see the seaven ages their teeth, Wherewith the Cups apace they walke.

**b.** *Cribbage.* (See quots.)

1803 *Sporting Mag.* X.XI. 326 Walking the pegs—at cribbage, means shifting your adversary putting his own pegs forward, or those of your's back. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Walking the pegs*, a method of cheating at the game of cribbage by a species of legerdemain, the sharper either moving his own pegs forward, or those of his antagonist backward, according to the state of the game.

**c.** *Bell-ringing.* (See quot.)

1671 [Stedman] *Tintinalogia* 53 All changes are to be Rang either by *walking* them (as the term is) or else Wholepulls, or Half-pulls. By *walking* them, is meant, that the bells go round, four, six, eight times or more, in one change, which is commonly used by young Practisers.

**V. 25.** The verb-stem in combination : **walk-around** (*a*) *Colonial*, a kind of rotary mill turned by

oxen; (*b*) *U.S.*, among negroes, a dance in which the performers go round in a large circle; a song or piece of music to accompany such a dance; **walk-away**, a race in which the winner 'walks away' from his competitors, i.e. leaves them far behind; **walk-on** *Theat.*, a part in which the performer merely comes on and goes off the stage with little or no speaking; **walk-out**, a strike of workmen; † **walk-street**, one who walks the streets. Also WALK-OVER.

1886 *Official Catal. Colonial & Ind. Exhib.* (ed. 2) 462 Their sugar plots are confined to one or two small green pieces in Toriola, worked by a "walk-around" or cattle-mill. 1888 B. MATTHEWS *Pen & Ink* 153 'Dixie' was composed in 1859, by Mr. Dan D. Emmett, as a 'walk-around' for Bryant's minstrels. 1888 *Daily News* 16 July 3/6 The final beat was of course a "walk away for Thames, who won by three lengths. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 3/3 The actress, too, frequently is glad to accept 12s. a week for a "walk-on with half a dozen words. 1907, H. WYNDHAM *Diseases of Footlights* v, The part just now is a walk-on, with an understudy of one of the principals. 1919 *New Solidarity* (Chicago) 18 Jan. 1/1 The date...contemplated the day for a general strike, or "walk-out. 1621 COTGR., *Buteur du pavez*, an idle or continuall "walke-street...a lasciuious, or vnthrifty, night-walker.

**Walk** (wǭk), *v.*[2] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **walked**. Now only *dial.* and *Hist.* Also 5 **walke**, 6 **woke**, 7 **wak**, **waok**, 8 **wawk**, 9 **wauk** (*dial.* **wauk**, **wack**, **wake**: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Orig. identical with WALK *v.*[1]; here separated from that vb. because the sense 'to full (cloth)' is not recorded in Eng. before the 14th c. (see WALKMILL), though prominent in other Teut. langs.

OE. had the agent-n. WEALCERE 'a fuller' in Corp. Wger. formation), but it is possible that the corresponding sense of the Teut. vb. had not survived into OE., and that the late ME. *walke* is either a. Middle Flemish *walken* the agent-n. or an adoption from M.LG. or MDu. *walken*.

The Teut. vb. in the sense 'to full' is the source of It. *gualcare* and OF. **gaucher* (inferred from med.L. *gaucharium* fulling-mill).

1. *trans.* To subject (woollen cloth) to the operation of beating or pressing (together with other processes, as moistening and heating), in order to cause felting of the fibres and consequent shrinkage and thickening: = FULL *v.* 1.

14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* 371 (MS. C) We walked [*other MSS.* Vtouked]. 1437 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 187 That euery walker with-in this Cite fro this tyme forwarde walke no Cloth & were it wyth, but yeff ytecle. 1482 *Ord. Worsted Gilds* (1870) 30 Dye, carde, or spynne, wevе, or cloth-walke, withyn the seid cyte. 1511–12 *Ac.* 3 *Hen. VIII, c.* 6 § 1 The Walker and Fuller shall truely walke fulle, scoure and werke every webbe of woollen yerne. 1588 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 41 It is well walkit, caridit, and calkit. 1596 *Shuttleworth Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 107 For wokinge and ditchinge [i.e. dighing or dressing] of the said cloth 13*s.* 1669 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 150 The Magistratis ordaines the thesaurer to by thrie scoir skines of plaiding and caus wack and lit the samen reid to be coittis or quoyis. 1773 HOWELL *Tour Hebrides* 11 Sept. (1785) 205 Last night Lady Rasay shewed him the operation of *wawking* cloth, that is, thickening it in the same manner as is done at Leith. Here it is performed by women, who kneel upon the ground, and rub it with both their hands. 1797 W. JOHNSTON tr. *Buchmann's Interest.* III. 266 The fuller tried the cloth as it came from the loom, in order that it might be scoured, walked, and smoothed. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 24 Aug. in *Lockhart*, In a cottage...we heard the women singing as they *waukled* the cloth by rubbing it with their hands and feet.

*absol.* 1608 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. XI. 202/1 That none of the inhabitants...doe washe anie clothes or walk at the well.

**b.** To mat together, felt. Also *Sc.*, to render hard and callous, as the skin of the hand by hard work[1] (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1641 BEST *Farming Bk.* (Surtees) 20 When woll is well risen from the skinne, the fleece is as it weare walked together on the topp.

†**2.** *transf.* To beat, drub (a person). Also, *to walk* (a person's) *coat. Obs.* [So G. *walken.*]

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Johan & Th.* (Brandl) 40 Than I thynke he wyll say by and by, Walke her cote, Johan Johan, and bete her hardely. *Ibid.* 41 I thank a god I haue walked them well And dryuen them hens. 1556 J. OLDE tr. *Walther's Antichrist* 151 b, The rebellious stubburne fleshe must nedes be walked with a good cudgell. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 217 Thou wilt foole by walket with a waster. *c* 1565 *Jack Juggler* (farc.) C iv b, Thou.. drunken sote Yt were an almesdyde to walke thy cote, &c. 17.., In R. Chambers *Scots Songs* (1829) II. 279 We'll wauk their hides, and fyle their fuds.

*3. Comb.*: **walk-apron** *Hat-making* (see quot. 1886); **walk-pin** *Hat-making* (see quot. 1831–3); † **walk-stock** [cf. *G. walkstock*] = FULLING-*stock*. Also WALK-MILL.

1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, **Walk apron*, batting term, the apron used by workmen to keep them dry while working at the kettles. 1831–3 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 761/2 The felt is worked and squeezed by means of a rolling pin, called a "walk pin. 1434–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 232 In carriacione de le *walkstoke. 1460–1 *Ibid.* 242 Pro factura unius walkestocke pro molendino ibidem [fulling-mill at Rilly] vjd.

**Walk**, obs. form of WAKE.

**Walkable** (wǭ·kăb'l), *a.* [f. WALK *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] **a.** Of a road, country, etc.: Suitable or fit for walking on. **b.** Of a distance: That may be walked. **c.** Of a person (*nonce-use*): Capable of walking.

a. 1736 SHERIDAN *Lett. to Swift* 12 May, Our country is now in high beauty, and every inch of it walkable. 1736 *Swift Lett. to Sheridan* 13 May, We were much disappointed that...your new walkable roads had not rotted your spirits. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 707 The square of St. Mark's, is the only walkable spot in Venice. 1867 *Trib-n-in* 58 The deck was not walkable, being wet and slushy.

b. 1799 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 81 Eleven miles is a very walkable distance.

c. 1887 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* xx, Mrs. Stubbard came quite alone, for her walkable children—as she called them—were all up in the battery.

**Walked** (wǭkt), *ppl. a.* Now *dial.* and *Hist.* [f. WALK *v.*[2] + -ED[1].] **a.** Of cloth, etc.: Fulled. **b.** Felted, matted. Also *Sc.* thickened, rendered callous by hard work.

1652 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club) I. 289 Walter Hay, marchand, ordeins to ane of ellnes of wirsit walked cloath. 1682 in *New Mills Cloth Manuf.* (S.H.S.) Introd. 86, 33 ells raw will yeeld of waked or drest cloath 23 or 23½ ells. *c* 1750 in Smiles *Lives Engin.* II. 97 Cloth made of washed plaiding. 1786 BURNS *Epistle* i. 31, I ...heav'd on high my waukit loof, To swear by a' yon starry roof. *Comb.* 1829 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* I. ii. 45 A waukit-wood'd windebter.

**Walken**, obs. Sc. form of WAKEN *v.*

**Walker** (wǭ·kəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. WALK *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

I. One who walks.

1. With the construction of the verb in various senses, e. g. One who walks *in* (a place), *on* (a surface), one who walks *about*.

† *Walker on ropes*, a rope-walker, funambulist.

1368 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 102 And Riht so walkers bat walken A-bouten From Religion to Religion Recheles ben bei. 1376 *Pol. Poems & Lett.* (Rolls) II. 82 Hit is a wikked sayde..Weppyng ȝ warne ȝow of walkers aboute. *c* 1530 *Hickescorner* 373 Walkers by nyght. 1545 ELYOT *Dict. Nutrobatæ*, walkers on cordes or ropes. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay's Trin.* 533 Calling him the euerlasting Father, the Walker vpon the Heauen of Heauens. *c* 1628 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. v. iii. (1903) 476 Not to speake of frequent spectacles in London exhibited, as the people by Prentices, by walkers on Ropes, and like men of actiuity. 1648 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 1 2 So said one of the vsuall blacke walkers in Westminster Hall. Another of the Parliament-pressing Ministers..told me plainely, That my conscience was not so good as in the beginning of the Parliament. 1866 R. S. CHEVALIER *Lord. Yubs* viii. 80 He was no privileged walker amid earth's dark scenes of misery and sin.

**b.** in transitive senses of the vb.: const. *of*.

1621 BIBLE *Spenser F. Q.* IV. x. 25 And shadie seates, and sowres delightfull bownes To shade the walkers. 1634 JONSON *Sk. Bon, Boarding-ho.* i, A poetical walker of the hospitals.

†**2.** A traveller. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xiv. (1869) 9 Ther of i ereyen haue gret speede alle pilgrimes and alle walkers that passen bi this seetbe.

**3.** A person (or animal) that journeys or goes about on foot; one who takes walking exercise. Often with an epithet, as *good*, *quick*, *slow* etc. *walker*.

1598 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 300 Hee..conducted them vnto the place where the collation was prepared for the walkers. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 And shadie seates, and sowres delightfull bownes To shade the walkers. 1844 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-hs.* i, A postical walker of the hospitals.

†**2.** A traveller. In quot. *fig. Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xiv. (1869) 9 Ther of i ereyen haue gret speede alle pilgrimes and alle walkers that passen bi this seetbe.

**3.** A person (or animal) that journeys or goes about on foot; one who takes walking exercise. Often with an epithet, as *good*, *quick*, *slow* etc. *walker*.

1598 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 300 Hee..conducted them vnto the place where the collation was prepared for the walkers. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 And shadie seates, and sowres delightfull bownes To shade the walkers. 1844 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-hs.* i, A postical walker of the hospitals. 1853 RAMSEY *Astrol. Restored* 253 If the walker go to visit any ones,..he shall meet the party. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 62 ¶ 2 He gives Plates for the best Horses or Walkers..for then that tests best,..for the best Walker, (etc.). 1786 REYNOLDS *Disc. R. Acad.* xiii. Wks. 1797 I. 287 The forms and turnings of the streets..are protected by custom, without any regulation or design: but they are not always the less pleasant to the walker or spectator, on that account. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, The cool breeze comes refreshing, now on this cheek, now on that, of the walker. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Maiden Sisters* xxiii. 210, I am the worst walker of the three, and I am not the least tired. 1880 MRS BRADDON *Asphodel* xviii, She was an excellent walker.

**b.** One who takes part in walking-matches or walks for a wager.

1778 *Ann. Reg.* 210 Mr. Powell, the noted walker, started from Lee-Bridge, to run two miles in ten minutes. 1866 *Athletic Lit.* 76 The circumstance being of too serious a character for the ambition of the amateur walkers of the present day.

**c.** A colporteur or tract-distributor.

1846 JAMES *Step-mother* xi. II. 122 'A walker of the Tract Society,' said the boy, with a sneer, and walked on.

**d.** *dial.* An itinerant beggar or vagrant.

1850 DENHAM *Pop. Rhymes* etc. *I. of Man* Tracts (1892) I. 193 It is customary for these walkers, as they are called, to enter a house without knocking, and take a seat by the fire..Some still retain the good old custom of keeping up a bed for the walker.

**4.** One who acts in a particular manner or pursues a certain line of conduct: with adj. correspondingly to the adj. qualification of the verb (see WALK *v.*[1] 6 a). Now *rare or Obs.*

1680 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 56 (1725) 300 But a close walker, that waits upon God in an humble and constant Obedience, shall have sufficient encouragement even in this Life. 1689 H. COWPER *Life Sanctlin* (1766) 60 There is another sort of disorderly Walkers who still keep amongst us. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 8 They would be cast out of the Communion of the Faithful as disorderly Walkers.

†**5.** A keeper or ranger who had a specified 'walk' in the forest, a gamekeeper. *Obs.*

1482–90 *Henwood Househ. Bhc.* (Roxb.) 225 Item, to the parker of Neyland xx.d. Item, to the walkers, vij.d. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII, c.* 7 § 1 Any of the said foresters rulers walkers or fermers. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Revenue* 42 Walker about the pales of the Chace: Fee 6 *l.* 8. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

†**6.** An officer of the New River Company, having the charge of a 'walk' or section of the bank. *Obs.* (Cf. *walksman*, WALK *sb.*[2] 20.)

1623 MIDDLETON *Hanner Entert.* (Opening of New River) 1 Vint. here's the Quer-some..(then various questions) The Labourers next, Keeper of Amwell-head, The Walkers last.

**7.** *Sport.* One who 'walks up' partridges.

1923 *Times* 12 Sept. 12/6 The walkers then will soon be manœuvring to keep their coveys in hand.

**8.** † *a.* (See quot. 1658.) *Obs.* **b.** A bird, insect, etc. characterized by walking, as distinguished from other modes of progression. Also a stick-insect (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Insects* 1035 Now we proceed to walkers about. We call those walkers, who have no certain houses or food: wherefore they do something super-ritiously wander like pilgrims,..wherefore the English call them Palmer-worms, namely for their wandring life, for they dwell no where. 1837 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. II. 277 The next order of walkers amongst apodous larvæ are those that [etc.]. 1870 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 44 It is among the Curlews, or walkers, and especially wading birds, that the crus is most naked. 1892 R. B. SHARPE *Birds Gt. Brit. I.* 4 Nearly all the Crows are 'Ambulatores' or 'Walkers', that is to say, they do not hop.

†**9.** a. *pl.* (*A person's*) legs or feet. b. *slang.* The feet. *Obs.*

*c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XX. 36 And with them halted downe ..lame Mulciber; his walkers quite misgrowne, But made him stead exceeding sure. 1892 *P. Egan's Bk. Daisies* 130/2 *note*, But her owner,..the Colonel, from his 'upper crust' down to his 'walker', is a match for all England against any thing.

Hence † **Wa·lkership**, the office of a walker of the forest.

1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 47 Com. Leicester. Keeper of the Walke, *alias* Walkership: Fee, 8 *o. o.* 1792 STEVNS *Recd. Mem.* (1802) II. 1. 481 The King..grants to John Gates the keepership and walkership of two good walks in Waltham forest.

**Walker** (wǭ·kəɹ), *sb.*[2] ? *Obs.* Also 4 **walkere**, 5 **-ar**, 5–6 **walkar(e**, *Sc.* **waloar**, 7–8 *Sc.* **waker**, **-or**, **wau(l)ker**. [OE. *wealcere* (once, gl. *fullo*) = (M)LG., (M)Du. *walker*, OHG. *walkari* (MHG., mod.G. *walker*), agent-n. f. OTeut. **walkan* WALK *v.*[2] The Teut. word is the source of It. *gualchiere* fuller.] One who fulls cloth, a fuller.

*c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 407/29 *Fullones*, *wealceres*. 1290 *Rolls* 119 To Lincoln for the Walkers there in the same his in he nom there. 1307 *Pol. Lay Subsidies* 1 *Walkere* [*Lay Subsidies*] *Yorksh. Yrnl.* V. 25 Johannes Louot' & Walcus vxr ejus, Walkere, xijd. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 409 Ivey smyte out his brayn wip a wodene pyn pe [L. *per fericem fullonis*]. 1435 (*Twenty Last Bk.* 172 No walker off the Cite of Couentre..Shall Rakke no Clothe on the Teyn,|tur that schall be saide for wette-clothe Compte. 1511–12 *Act 3 Hen. VIII, c.* 6 § 1 The Walker and Fuller shall truely walke fulle thikke and werke every webbe of wollen yerne. 1560 *Mattl. Club Misc.* III. 225 William Cowpare ane walkar dwellandi in Edinburgh. 16.. *Bay & Mantle* 33 She curst the weaver and the walker, That clothe that had wrought. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 249 They..accost'd their dirt Brethren as a washer does worsted blankets. 1867 J. H. THOMSON in *Cloud of Witnesses* 366 *note*, John Parker was a waulker in East Kilbride. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.*

b. *attrib.* and later, in passive compounds), in names of implements, materials, etc. used in fulling cloth. *Walker('s earth, clay* (now *dial.*) = FULLER'S *earth*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 21144 (Göt.) A wicked iuu..Smate him wid a walker stang. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 215 Pane ane, a walkere perk, hynt fra the samyn manis sic a dynte pat he pe harne-pane tyrk in tw'yn. 1409 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20 Unum strykk de walkerherth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21144 (Trin.) Pat..Sam smate him wid a walker staue. *c* 1430 *Mirk's Festial* 140 Perwyth a curset man of hom wyth a walkerys staf smot hym ou þe hed. 1497 in *N. Riding Rec.* N. S. (1894) I. 188 A payer Sheres, called Walker Sheres. 1581 J. MELVILL *Diary* (1842) 353 Then take a quantity of walkers clayе, called Fullars earth. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farme* II. lvii. 393 Walkers earth, or other scouring earth. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* (1813) 353 Walker's earth for scowring the cloth. 1847 *Archæol. Jrnl.* IV. 147 A species of fuller's earth called 'walker's clay'.

**Walker** (wǭ·kəɹ), *int.* More fully **Hookey Walker**. [Always so written with initial capital; prob. a use of the surname *Walker*.

It is not unlikely that *Hookey Walker* may originally have referred to some hook-nosed person named Walker; but the various stories told to account for the origin of the expression have probably no foundation.

An exclamation expressive of incredulity. Also occas. as sb. (= 'humbug'), as in 'That is all Walker'.

1822 *Lex. Balatronicum*, *Hookey Walker*, an expression signifying that the story is not true, or that the thing will not occur. 1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Walker*, an ironical expression synonymous with *bender* and used in the same manner. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 297 Professor Aytoun suddenly interrupted the proceedings by exclaiming, with great excitement of manner, 'Walker!' 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Old Woman in Gray*, For mere unmeaning talk her Parched lips babbled now—such as 'Hookey!'—and 'Walker!' 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Oct. 1/1 To which assurance you may best reply 'Walker'.

**Walkerite** (wǭ·kəɹəit). [f. the proper name *Walker* (see below) + -ITE.] A member of an extreme Calvinistic sect founded in Ireland by John Walker (1768–1833). Also *attrib.*

1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* (1917) 88 The Walkerite creed, or doctrines of the New Church, as it is called, appears to be a miscellany of Calvinism and Quakerism.

**Walkerite**² (wɔ̄kərəit). *Min.* [Named by Heddle 1880, after Prof. John *Walker* (1732–1803) who discovered it + -ITE.] = PROTOLITE.

1880 HEDDLE in *Min. Mag.* IV. 182.

**Walkin,** obs. Sc. form of WAKEN *v.*

**Walking** (wɔ̄kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [-ING¹.]

**1.** The action or an act of the vb. WALK¹.

**a.** The action of moving on the feet at any pace short of breaking into a run or trot; the action of taking pedestrian exercise. Phrase, *to go a-walking.* Also the manner or style in which a person walks.

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lxiv. 42 If I aulde make my herdis to labur to mikill in walkyng, bat aal alle die on one day. *c* 1430 *Dietarium* 18 in *Babees Bk.* Cheese and walking maketh good digestioun. 1589 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 288/2 *Hypatiara ambulatio*...a walking in an open gallerie. 1603 SHAKS. *Tw. N.* I. ii. 31 I have in mine eyes, or walking in the streetes. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii. Sang xxi, He's comely in his walking. 1743 STUKELEY *Abury* II. 57 The ancients conceiv'd it [*sc.* the motion of a serpent] to be like the walking of the gods. 1827 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. II. 306 The mode of their walking depends upon the number and kind of their legs. 1881 CLARK *Village Hearth.* I. 105 As thou goest a walking. 1893 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xliv, They must have devoted the greater part of their long and arduous lives to pedestrian exercises, and the walking of matches. 1889 G. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 2) 115 The surface is very rough and scarcely rideable and much walking will be necessary.

**b.** With advs. as *walking about, -out, -up,* nouns of action corresponding to verbal phrases.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Walkynge abowte, or goynge, *deambulacio, spaciatus.* 1893 A. J. STUART-WORTLEY *Partridge* 130 Walking up and shooting partridges over dogs, is.. the finest training of all for a young shooter.

*attrib.* 1905 WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. § 5 It is considered..as savouring of the 'walking-out' habits of the servant girls.

**c.** *fig.* Manner of conducting or behaving oneself. Also † with *a* and *pl.*

*c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3094 For this skylle in my walkyng, As she that hath most maistry, I here thys bowe of stedfastnesse. 1552 HULOET, Walkyng, or a walke, as partridges ouer dogs, is.. the finest training of all for a young shooter.

*attrib.* 1905 WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. § 5 It is considered..as savouring of the 'walking-out' habits of the servant girls.

**c.** *fig.* Manner of conducting or behaving oneself. Also † with *a* and *pl.*

*c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3094 For this skylle in my walkyng, As she that hath most maistry, I here thys bowe of stedfastnesse. 1552 HULOET, Walkyng, or a walke, as partridges ouer dogs, is.. the finest training of all for a young shooter. 1613 DAY *Festiv.* IX. (1613) 257 The Apostle to the Philippians makes speciall mention of both these Walkings. 1675 J. OWEN *Salvvellius Sive* xv. (1732) 121 The Observation of the Ways and Walkings of others. 1844 H. NICHOLS *Arc.* (1859) II. 14 That wary walking which all his early life required.

†**d.** Passing (of money) from hand to hand. Cf. WALK v.¹ 3 *b. Obs.*

1540 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 143 Ther was walkynge of angelles betwene them.

**e.** The action of a somnambulist.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. i. 23 In this slumbry agitation, besides her walking, and other actuall performances, what (at any time) haue you heard her say? 1611 DRAYTON & WEBSTER *Northm. Hoe* III. E2, I will finde a remedy for this walking [*sc.* in sleep] if all the Doctors in towne can sell it.

**f.** The action of appearing as a ghost.

1729 DE FOE *Hist. Apparitions* 290 Spirits have visit people, as well by night as by day, this we call walking and appartion.

†**g.** A going in procession. *Obs.*

1508 W. *Dyghe's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. xviii. 268 They shall banish also out of their Churches all sorts of Musick:.. all Walkings, Noises and Clamours.

**2.** A walk or journey on foot, the distance covered at or in a certain time.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 Ythou stretch yᵉ walkynges that thou vsest at home, & laye theim on length by the space of fiue or sixe dayes together, yᵗ shalt easyly reach to Olympia. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 39 The circuit of the City is three houres walking. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 217 We were about four hours' hard walking on foot from the wagons. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Nov. 5/2 His walkings exceed nine times the globe's circumference.

**3.** The condition of a path or road for walking on.

1691 ARCHDEAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 127 Lest the walkings should be all over dirtie. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Walk,* From this there may be a communication with the side walks, whereby there may be dry walking all round the garden. 1818 CRUIKSHANK *Skrophk. Lad* iii. Empty heads and tongues a-talking Make the rough road easy walking.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *walking + alley, + camp, distance, exercise, ground, match* (hence *walking-matching* vbl. sb.), *pace, pasture* pl., *race, tour*; also with sense ' adapted for or used in walking ', as *walking boot, cane, dress* etc., *weather.*

1552 HULOET, ¶Walkinge aley, or place of pleasure in a gardayne with quycke settes, *xystus, ambulatio.* 1885 D. WARNER *Angler & Loop-lad* 14 The walking sticks..a size or two larger than ordinary walking-boots. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 784 The measure and distance of their ambulatorie, and walking campe. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* Suppl. ix. 198 Rattans and ¶Walking-Canes. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. v, Did I not give the last guines I had about me for a walking-cane yesterday? 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 30 The chateau ..was but at a ¶walking distance. 1880 *Repos. Arts etc.* 1 Nov. 297 ¶Walking Dress. 1835 H. HASEWOOD *Dict. Sports* s.v. ¶*Training,* A horse..requires a great deal of ¶walking exercise and careful feeding. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, I wandered..to the College-yards, or ¶walking ground. 1808 SUSAN *Winter in Lond.* II. 83 For ¶walking-hats, and hunting-hats, there was not a superior shop in London. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 133/2 In a ¶walking match..he went four miles in thirty-two minutes and half a second. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, Ever since I took to bird-catching and ¶walking-matching. 1827 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. II. 309 Insects vary much in their ¶walking paces. 1830 JAMES *Darnley* xxxviii. III. 253 Thus marched on the procession and ¶walking pace. 1892 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. ix. 100 We..carried nothing except..a ¶walking-pole. 1866 *Athlete* 8 ¶Walking Race, Seven Miles. *c* 1730 *Hist. of Limm* xxii. in Child *Ballads* V. 127/1 Wi' ¶walking rod intill his hand, He walked the castle roun. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* i. vi, It is a young lady's ¶walking-shoe. 1884 Miss A. B. EDWARDS *Barbara's Hist.* xx, Mrs. Churchill and Hilda made an elaborate ¶walking-toilette. *a* 1881 BARRATT *Phys. Metemptrix* (1883) Prof. p. xix, They..frequently went abroad and on ¶walking-tours together. *c* 1825 LYTTON *Let. to B. W. Proctor,* We will expect finer ¶walking weather.

**b.** Special comb. : as **walking-beam** = BEAM *sb.*¹ 11 ; **walking-day,** a day on which schoolchildren walk in procession ; **walking-go** *colloq.* a walking-match ; † **walking hymn,** a processional hymn ; † **walking-mate,** one's companion in walking ; **walking-orders,** -**papers** *pl., U.S. slang,* a notice of dismissal ; **walking party,** a party formed for an excursion on foot ; † **walking-path** = FOOT-WAY ; † **walking-place,** a place for walking in, a walk, an ambulatory ; **walking-possession,** a nominal form of distraint in which the person in possession may go away but with right of re-entry ; **walking-rapier, -sword** (now *Hist.*) a rapier or sword such as was worn by gentlemen in full dress ; **walking-stick** *Sc. and north. dial.* = *walking-orders* (above). Also WALKING-STAFF, -STICK.

a 1866 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.* etc. (1865) 27 The crank giving motion to a ¶walking-beam, at the end of which boring tools or pump rods are attached. 1829 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 783 The practice of Burday in this month [June], which is known all over the world of charity-schools by the name of 'walking day'. 1906 *Church Family Newsp.* 29 June 458/2 Walking day festivities for old-time festival known as 'Walking Day'. All the principal streets of the town.. will be given over entirely to the children attending the Sunday-schools. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 199 Your provincial news must take in all the bye races, cock matches, wrestling-goes, and every thing that's worth knowing. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 279 Their ¶walking hymn at solemne Matins and Vespers. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* L. 6, Not the poorest ¶walking-mate, or thred-bare cut-purse in a country, that can well be without them. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 1/2 Now let Fairs and Markets when they fall. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* v. 70 Rashnesse is his continuall walking mate. 1832 *Cal. County Mag.* II. 1 Our ¶walking party. 1818 JAMES *Hist. Navy* II. 1 Mr. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 337 After our repast the ladies made ¶walking parties to different places in the forest. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 77 The one whereon with the ¶walking paths of Westminster Bridge were laid. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 ¶Walkynge place, *deambulatorium.* 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelphi* IV. iii, Come backe againe to the walking place. I told you I had *decium virum vedi.* 1680 WHELER *Journ. Greece* v. 367 The chief Walking-place in the whole Town! whither they went not only to walk in the Afternoon, but to converse and Learning, to hear the News [etc.]. 1703 T. N. *City and C. Purchaser* 12 A long kind of Galleries, or Walking-places. 1890 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 3/3 The Defendant's man in what was called 'walking possession' of the furniture. 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire of Spy-Knaues* (1872) 8 Bid him trim up my ¶walking Rapier neat. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvi, Soldiers..get out of fashion in peace time, and satin sleeves and walking rapiers bear the bell. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1158/4 A small Coddean ¶walking Sword. 1902 *Daily Mail* 8 Oct. 4/4 The walking-sword, fit for a gentleman's side, was..the small-sword of Versailles pattern. 1833 *Cri. Crockett's Tour* 182 (Thornton) He received his ¶walking ticket. 1818 CRUIKSHANK *Tom & Jerry* xxvi, Coaches, hackneys and walking-sticks are no longer required.

**Walking** (wɔ̄kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*² [-ING¹.] The action of WALK *v.*², falling.

1580 HANLUFT *Voy.* (1599) II. 169 The faults in Walking, Rowing, and Buriing,..are to be knowen to the merchant. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 301/1 The Walking-pin is a four square Iron,..with pointed ends; upon this the Workman rests his Hat often times, and makes use of it as a rowling-pin, to lay his stuff close together in the working of the Hat. 1839 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 218 Like the thud o' a waukin mill beetle.

**Walking** (wɔ̄kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WALK *v.*¹ + -ING².] That walks, in senses of the verb.

1. Moving about from place to place, travelling, itinerant. Now only with implication of sense 3.

*a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 17478 (Trin.) In pat tyme out of lude Of walkyng men were comen pre To pat folke tolde pei al bi-fore Pat pei had wib her eyen sene. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Man.* hode i. vi. (1869) 4 For it is thing wel sittinge to eche walkinge pilgrime. 1587 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 67 A Walking Mort. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. xv. (1614) 432 Townes they [the Tartars] plant none nor standing villages, but haue walking houses built vpon wheeles, like a Shepheards Cottage. 1863 WALTON *Angler* vii. 149, I call that [bait] a ledger which is fix'd, or made to rest in one certaine place..and..I call that a walking bait, which you take with you, and have ever in motion. 1901 C. SHARPE *Early Wedding* III. i, I am what they call a Walking-Merchant, one that gets my Living by the Sweat of my Brows.

†**b.** Leading a wandering life, vagrant, strolling. *Obs.*

1649 *Anc. Deed A.* 7494 (P.R.O.) The said Robert ordered ther J. bedd for poor walkyng pepull to be harborowed ther. In. 1596 *Gondhurst Parish Reg.* (MS.), Buried a poore old walking man. 1600 CAREW *Cornwall* 11. 231 b, Widenlades sonne led a walking life with his harpe, to Gentlemens houses. 1608 *Lydd Parish Reg.* (MS.), John, the sonne of a walking woman, christened. 1641 BIOME *Youthful Crow* 11. (1652) G 1, See in their rags, liers, dauncing for your sports, Our Clapper Dugeons and their walking Morts.

**c.** Having a roving commission, going about from place to place. *Walking delegate,* a tradesunion official who visits sick members, interviews employers, etc.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 59 The King told him he would have no walking Master Workman. 1892 HOWELLS *Mercy* 131 She decided that he must be a walking-delegate, and that he had probably come on mischief from some of the work people in her father's employ. 1897 *Encycl. Soc. Reform* 1381 *Walking delegate.* 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* iii, I think Mr. & D. is rather full up just now...I'm walkin'-boss there.

†**2.** Of a disease : Migratory. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 79 A walkynge vlcus [marg. *vlcus ambulatiuum*] is pat walkip bidirward & pidirward, & nebeles ha profundite nouzt depe into be ground.

**3.** That travels or goes about on foot by moving the legs alternately without running.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 852 Or from the Rocks a dreadful Prospect [I] see Of the huge Cyclops like a walking Tree. 1830 BENTLEY *Hist. Mod. Astron.* 142 Walking stars at Antium. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vi, It was a simple walking funeral. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 42 A walking Englishman was, no doubt, a curiosity.

†**b.** Fumambulatory. *Obs.*

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 321 The walking Elephants on Ropes.

**c.** *Walking sickness,* an illness in which the person is still able to get about and is not confined to bed.

1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* II. 571 In other chronic diseases, slow inflammations of internal organs, reduced dislocations, rheumatisms, ulcerations, the patient can attend partially to his business : he is in possession of half his faculties.. This is walking sickness.

**4.** Theat. *Walking gentleman* : an actor playing a part requiring gentlemanlike appearance, but with little or nothing to say. Similarly *walking lady.*

1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet C.* iii, A sort of serious comedy walking gentleman. 1833 *Sunday Times* 1 Dec. *Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 360 The respectably-dressed and well-looking young fellows in comedies are called walking gentlemen, and this is the peculiarization of line of business usually assigned to young actors. 1865 W. DONALDSON *Recoll. Actor* 176 Miss Smithson..was neither more nor less than the 'walking lady'. 1888 JEROME *On the Stage* 132 R——, our Walking Gent., got his eye cut out.

*fig.* 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvi, A d—d cake-house, the resort of walking gentlemen of all descriptions — poets, players, painters, musicians, who could not afford to join picturesque land of ours. 1827 BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* I. iv. 62 Nothing..could induce me to remain a walking gentleman: and so, every occupation that I could think of having its peculiar disqualification, I remained [etc.]. 1867 GOLDW. SMITH *Three Eng. Statesmen* (1868) 130 George III. tried unconstitutional monarchy, first by Lord Bute, a walking-gentleman, and failed.

**5.** That goes about in the semblance of a human being. Often in figurative or similative expressions ; e.g. *walking corpse,* applied to a person hardly distinguishable from a corpse save by the power of movement ; *walking dictionary, encyclopædia, library,* etc., said of a person who has great stores of information at command.

Cf. Eunapius *Vitæ Soph.,* Λογίνος βιβλιοθήκη τις ἐν ἀνθρώποις καὶ περιπατῶν μουσεῖον.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. v. 24 Life's but a walking Shadow, a poore Player, That struts and frets his houre vpon the Stage, And then is heard no more. 1622 BRAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* III. i, Alas! I am nothing but a multitude of walking griefes. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Captain* II. ii, [His body is] a Trunk-seller, to send wines down in, Or a long walking-bottle. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 337 Matthew Slade..was a stiff Enemy to the Scholastick, as a walking Library. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. Q. & N. Test.* I. 401 Wherever these walking Corpses, (these Carkases) were to be seen. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* v. vii, Upon my word, a thing as you pretend to talk of beauty! A walking rouleau! a body which seems to owe all its consequence to the dropsy! 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ii, Looking like a moving and walking corpse, while yet an inhabitant of this world. 1833 LYTTON *Godol.* v, Heaven deliver me from the proximity of a walking dictionary of technical terms!

**6.** Of a species : That ' walks ' or appears.

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. E 1, What there euer any walking spirit, like to my wife? 1709 PENN in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 354, I have my old order of 1688 ; ratified and confirmed, which lain had those walking ghosts.

**7.** Of a bird : That walks, as distinguished from one that hops. *Walking tyrant* : a South American tyrant-flycatcher, *Machetornis rixosa.*

1837 W. SWAINSON *Nat. Hist. & Classif. Birds* II. 225 *Chrysolophus*... Sw. Walking Pheasants.

**8.** *Walking Fern* : (*a*) a club-moss (see quot. 1829) ; (*b*) a small tufted evergreen fern, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus,* native of eastern North America (*Cent. Dict.* 1891) : = WALKING-LEAF 1 b. *Walking Orchid* : see quot.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 892 Lycopodium alopecuroides. Walking Fern. 1910 *Friar Park, Henley, Guide* (ed. 3) 244 *Orchis maculata.* The Walking Orchid. This Orchid, like several other species, seeks new pastures every year.

**Walking-fish** (wɔ̄ kiŋ,fiʃ) [WALKING *ppl. a.*]
1 A name given to various fishes (see quots.)
1863 J G Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III 289 Walking fish *Antennarius hispidus* 1883 F Day *Fish. India* 36 A walking fish (*Ophiocephalus*). 1884 E Balfour *Cyc. India* (ed 3) III 1041 Walking Fishes of India are species of Ophiocephalidæ. The hassar, or walking fish of S America, is a species of Callichthys.
2 = Silver Fish 2 (Cent. Dict. 1891)

**Walking-leaf.** [Walking *ppl. a.*]
1 † a Some unidentified plant b An American evergreen fern, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*.
1856 Lovell *Herbal* 525 Walking leaves, *Arbor foliis ambulatibus*, it seemeth to creep on the ground, and being touched it will presently move it selfe 1856 A Gray *Man Bot* (1860) 593 *Camptosorus*, Link Walking Leaf
2 A phasmid insect belonging to the genus *Phyllium* or some related genus Also *walking-leaf-insect*
1826 Samouelle *Direct. Collect Insects & Crust* 39 This order [*Orthoptera*] contains the Grasshopper, Locust, Mantis, Walking leaf, and the Cricket 1878 *Bull Mall. Gaz* 10 Feb 6/1 A large specimen of the walking leaf insect

**Walking-staff.** Now *rare*. [Walking *vbl sb* 1] A staff or long stick which one carries in the hand for support or aid in walking. Also *fig*
1546 J Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 91 Now I well under stand The wrikyng staffe hath caught warmth in your hand 1593 Shakes. *Rich II*, III iii 151 Ile guse My Scepter, for a Palmers walking Staffe 1699 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) III 363 A person was taken up at Hounslow [with] 2 pistolls laden in his pocket, his walking staffe being a gunn 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II i, The farmer took a piece of a small straw, about the size of a walking staff 1788 Blake *Poet Sk.*, *Song Old Aleph*, Virtue is our walking staff 1846 Knightley *Notes Vog* Flora 383 It (*Perula communis*) is common in Apulia, where the shepherds make walking staffs of it 1876 Rock *Textile Fabrics* 9 Returning they brought with them a number of eggs [of silkworms] hidden in their walking staves.

**Walking-stick.** [Walking *vbl sb* 1]
1. A stick or short staff carried in the hand when walking
1580 Holyband *Treas. fr. Tong Baguette*, a white rodde, a walking sticke 1620 Peacham *Legges a Bush* v 1, You may take me as with a walking stick, Even when you please, and hold me with a pack thread 1788 Barker *Growths of Prest in Hil Trans* I XXVIII 415 No 21 was about as thick as a walking stick in 1730 1850 Dickens *Sk Boz, Shops & Tenants* A tobacconist's, who also dealt in walking sticks and Sunday newspapers 1925 W P Ivins *Straws Many Vessels* 116 Every man was dressed in a hat, a loin cloth and a walking stick
b The name of a plant (see quot)
1910 *Fraser Park, Henley, Guide* (ed 3) 184 Walking stick or Ash burn (*Quantia arborescens*), the woody stems are made into walking sticks.
2 Any insect of the family *Phasmidæ* (see quots).
Also *walking stick insect*
1760 G Edwards *Glean Nat Hist* II 268 Fig 4 represents the Walking stick. It is so much like a dry stick, that it is supposed to deceive birds and other animals, that prey upon it insects. 1872 Darwin *Orig Species* (ed 6) vii 182 As in the case of the walking stick insect (Cercoidea lacteratus) 1885 C F Holder *Marvels Anim Life* 146 The walking sticks resembling the twig upon which they rest.
3. *attrib* and *Comb*, chiefly with the sense 'made to resemble a walking-stick', as *walking stick gun, stand, stool*. Also **walking stick** palm, an Australian palm, *Bacularia monostachya*, the stem of which is used for making walking sticks.
1884 Miller *Plant n, Kentiad Areca) monostachya*, Whip-stick, or Walking, stick, Palm 1893 Greener *Breech Loader* 43 Such weapons as walking stick guns. 1892 *Photogr Ann* II 387 Walking Stick Stand. 1907 *Gentl Mag* July 38 Young gentlemen lashed at their ease on patent collapsible walking stick stools

**Walking-wheel.** [Walking *vbl sb* 1 and *ppl a.*] a = Pedometer. † b. (See quot. 1744.)
1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Perambulator*, a walking wheel, a rolling Wheel made of Iron, with a Movement, a Face divided like a Clock and Indexes, to shew how many Yards, Poles, Furlongs and Miles one goes in driving it before him 1744 Desaguliers *Course Exper Philos* II 417 Then the Wheel being also a walking Wheel, the same Men get into it, in which case they have Power sufficient to raise the 2nd Gob 5 or 6 times faster than the heavest. 1875 Knight *Pract. Mech., Walking wheel*, a pedometer

**Walkist** (wɔ̄ kist). *Sporting slang.* [f. Walk *sb* 1 or *v* 1 + -ist 194 b] An athlete who takes part in walking-matches, a pedestrian.
1879 H C Powell *Amateur Athlete Ann* 17 The re appearance on the path of J Gomersall, at one time the champion walkist of the 'north countree 1880 L J Jennings *Rambles a long Hills* 172 A professional walkist' who goes along setting a killing pace

**Wa·lk-mill**1. Now *rare* [f. Walk *v* 2 + Mill *sb.* Cf G *walkmühle*] A fulling mill
1350 *Mem Ripon* (Surtees) I 282 Juxta 3 quam quæ currit usque le Walkemilne. 1473 in *Rent at Bk Craper Angnes* (1899) I 188 The tendis of the corn mil und wilkmyl remeinand fre to the abbay " a 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 312 [The flood] buir away the walkmylnes 1601 Holland *Livy* xxxv. xi II 550 Simus took pleasure in painting a yong man lying asleepe in a wvulk mill or fulleys worke house 1710 in *Nurrs Peerage & Brit* (1874) 353 With multures wilkmilln and pertinents thereof 1894 N S Ferguson *Hist. Westmorld* 165 The' steads or sites of many dissued 'walk mills or fulling mills upon the Kent
b *Comb.*
1344 *Mem Ripon* (Surtees) I 141 Jacens in le Walkmylnbanke c 1460 *Towneley Myst* xxii 324 Ha luddokkys thai lowke like walk mylne cloggys.
Hence **Wa·lk-miller.**
1792 in *Stats Mag* (1793) July 338/1 Angus Macdonald walk miller in Anchofragan.

**Wa·lk-mill**2. [Walk *v* 1 or *sb.*] A mechanical contrivance or machine, the driving power of which is furnished by the walking of a horse, etc.
1773 W Emerson *Pract. Mech.* (ed. 3) 286 List of Machines &c Walk mill 1892 *Daily News* 15 Nov 3/1 If there is no wind to supply the necessary power, the leader hopes that twelve men will be able to furnish it by means of a walk mill, arranged on deck

**Walkne,** obs form of Waken *v*, Welkin.

**Walk-over.** [f vbl phrase *walk over* see Walk *v.* 1 7 c] A race in which through absence of competitors the winner has merely to 'walk over'; also in extended sense, a contest in which through the inferiority of his competitors the winner has practically no opposition.
1898 *Times* 30 June 8/3 (Election at Cashel] I think it not unlikely that Mr Richard Moore may have a walk over 1861 *Sporting Rev* Oct 249 Kettledrum's walk over was quite a little bit bit for the Yorkshireman 1889 *Century Mag* July 403/1 That s the boy stallion there and he's never been beaten. It is his walk-over

**Walkrife.** -ryf(e, obs. forms of Wankrife.

**† Wa·lkripe,** *a. Obs. rare*— [f. Walk *v.* 1 + Ripe *a.*] Of an ulcer see quot
1589 Nashe *Pasquils Apologie* 122 b Wks (1633) 273 Of the filthie and putrified Vlcer If the malice of this ulcer, grow walkeripe, that is, fall a creeping, it turneth to *Sphacelus*, and so the whole body is infected

**† Wa·lkster.** *Sc. Obs* [f. Walk *v* 2 + -ster] A walker or fuller
1509 in Cramond *Rec Elgin* (1908) II 72 Johne Stewart, walkster, accusit for playing at the bowallis on the calsaye On tyme of the progres 1710 in J F S Gordon *Chron Keith* (1880) 97 David Clerk, walkster at Keith

**Walkyn,** obs. Sc. spelling of Waken.

**Walkyne,** obs. form of Welkin.

**Walkyrie** (wɔ̄·lkiri). [repr. OE. *walcyrie*, -*cyrge* wh. fem., lit. 'choosst of the slain', f. *wæl* Wale *sb.*1 + *cyr-* ablaut-root of *ceosan* Choose *v.* Cf Valkyrie]
1. *OE Mythol* The designation of a class of goddesses or female dæmons supposed to hover in or ride through the air over battle-fields and decide who should be slain corresponding to the Scandinavian Valkyrie.
The OE word (apart from the transferred sense 2) is found only in the glossarial use of L *Bellona*, the goddess of war, or of names of the Furies and Gorgons of classical mythology Possibly the conception may have been less definite in Old English than in the Scandinavian belief of later times, according to which these 'war maidens' were twelve in number (The *Gee Walkiria*, widely known from Wagner's drama, is from ON, not from OE.)
c 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) E 351 *Eurynis*, walcyrge *Ibid* H 87 *Hermis*, walcyrge *Ibid* T 150 *Tisifone*, wæl cyrge c 1000 in Cockayne *Narrationcula* (1861) 34 Ic deor Valdskalda and walkyrian eaglan [L. *aculei Gorgonum*] c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr-Wülcker 360/3 *Bellona*, walcyrge. *Ibid.* 533/26 *Allecto*, walcyrge
*attrib* 1713 *Guardian* No 132 Oct 379 It (Napoleon s overrunning Europe] was a romance, almost Walkyrie dash
† 2. Used for: A witch, sorceress. *Obs*
a 1225 Wulfstan *Hom* (1883) 298/18 Wyccan and wæl cyrgan 13 *E. E. Allit. P* B 1577 Wychez & walkyries wonnen to pat aisle.
Hence **Walky rie** *a* [-ɪŋ], of or pertaining to the Walkyries
1913 Harrison in *Engl Rev* Aug 110 Thompson s odes read like Walkyrie word battles

**Walkye,** obs. pl of Welke

**Wall** (wɔl), *sb* 1 Forms: 1 weall, weal, wall, 3 7 wal, walle, 4–7 wale, 4–6 *Sc.* vall, 6 *Sc.* val(e, (5 whalle,) 6 walde, (wawle), 8–9 *Sc.* wa', 3– wall. [OE *wall* (WS *weall*), corresp. to OFris. *wal*, OS. *wall*(*t*, (M)LG, (M)Du *wal*, MHG *wal* (mod.G *wall*), a Saxon and Anglo-Frisian adoption of L. *vallum*. The Sw. *vall*, Da *val*, are from LG]
I. 1. A rampart of earth, stone, or other material constructed for defensive purposes [= 1 *vallum*]
In OE frequently used with the meaning 'a natural ram part, hill, cliff' (see Bosw-Toller.
c 900 *Beda's Hist* I 12 (xii) (1890) 46 Þæt hi xemanelice fæsten zeworhtan him to zescyldnesse, stænene weal hrútre stizze fram eastse oð westse c 1000 *Ælfric Exod* xiv 22 And þæs wæteres stod on ælcre healfe þæra strana swilce twegen hege wealla a 1122 *O F Chron* (Laud MS) an 189 Þa xe wrohte he weall mid turfum & bred weall þær on ufon fram þæ se Temese hyll, þy xlil ceastre, xe stynt ymb hyre stæd, as hit wer a wall 1581 J Hamilton *Catk Tract* 34 Moyses caused the valter stand vp als ferme as ane vall quhil the Israelites past throu 1601 R Johnson *Kingd & Commw* (1603) 26 Their carriages were so many, that therewith they intrenched their campe, like a wal 1643 R Baker *Chron.* 2 The Emperor Adrian, who made a great wall of earth betwen England and Scotland 1659 Temple *Hist Engl.* (ed. 2) 38 Agricola began a Wall or Vallum, upon that narrow space of Land that lies between the two Fryths. 1708 Post *Dunc* III 76 His, whose long wall the wand ring Tartar bounds. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an 1778 (1904) II 209 He expressed a particular enthusiasm with respect to visiting the wall of China. 1850 *Smith's Class. Dict* v v. *Serica*, The Great Wall of China is mentioned by Ammianus Marcellinus under the name of Aggeres Seminæ 1897 *Sussex Hen* V, 1 II 141 Boy of those Marches ; Shall be a Wall sufficient to defend Our us-land from the pilfering Borderers
b An embankment to hold back the water of a river or the sea. Cf. Sea-wall
1330 *Arth & Merl* 8 Þe fosse & de garder les Walles contre l'ewe de Tamys. a 1348 Hall *Chron, Hen VIII*, 209 b, At whiche season was suche a sprynge tide, that it brake the walles of Hollande and Zelande 1593 Norden *Spec Brit, Mddx* 11 The Inhabitants of Blackwall I he place taketh name of the blackenes or darkenes of the water bankes, or wall at that place 1697 Dr Fox *Eas Projects* 122 In our Marshes and Fens where great Quantities of Land being recovered out of the Seas and Rivers, and maintain'd with Banks (which they call Walls) 1713 *Lond Gaz* No 5123/11 I've Proces of Thames Wall, within Chelsea and Foreland thereto belonging, are to be Sold 1886 *Fenn Duck o' the Fens* iv 49 *foot-note*, ' Wall, in fen lands, the artificial bank or ridge of clay raised to keep back river, dram, or sea. 1898 P R Emerson *Marsh Leaves* liv 179 He stopped, and looked along the rosy dike, uttered a hasty exclamation, and ran down the wall
2 A defensive structure enclosing a city, castle, etc. Chiefly *pl*, fortifications. [= L. *mœnia*]
c 885 *Vesp Psalter* xvii 30 In zode nimum ic ofergan wall *c 1000 Ags Ps* (Th) lx 8 Hwylc zelæcð me leofran on ceastre, weallas þæs ðe ic wille? 1 1000 *Sax Leechd* II *Hom* I 183 Þes riche Men wunað bon ealer þurh walle & þurh diche 1297 R Glouc. (Rolls) 12433 Ayen alle halwe churche he wende þuch his some & þuch his manie wal *a 1300 X. Horn* (Hall) 1094 In strong halle, Bi inne castel walle 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 326 The engyns with oute, to kast were þei sette, Walles & kirnels stoute, þe botnes doun bette 1378 Barbour *Bruce* iv 445 That ilkmyl the gettis hastely, And in hy to the vallis ran 1393 Langl. *P Pl C* xxi 292 Bryanston boulaunt brennyng out casteb bit Al bot [on] here baundes þat þe walles kepeb 1470 Henry *Wallace* v 1136 Ire wark thai brynt Wallis brak doun that stalwart war off stanys. 1490 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 377 For the keyryng of y' Kyngs Castell leys of this calle 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* To then Selpso comes, that Carthage waules did race. 1592 Shakes *1 Hen. VI*, IV ii 2 Go to the Gates of Bullen 1603 Jumpeter, Surnmon them Generall vnto the Wall *Ibid* v iii. 129 At your Fathers Castle walles, Wee I cause a parley 1667 Milton *P L* xi 637 Others from the Wall defend With Dart and Jav lin, stifning the assailants Fire 1697 Dryden *Æneis* II 436 To rush undaunted to defend the Walls 1791 Mas Radcliffe *Rom Forest* I, Madame de la Motte gave a last look to the walls of Turin 1819 Lamb *Elia II Poor Relations*, He was among the first who perished before the walls of St Sebastian 1837 *Penny Cycl* IX 468/1 Towards the east the external wall [of Ephesus] crosses a hill, called Lepre Other internal walls extend further south 1847 *Grote Greece* (1869) II xix 470 Babylon was surrounded by walls three hundred feet in height
*fig* 1592 *Arden of Feversham* I 1 47 Sweete words are fittest engines to race the flint walles of a womans breast
b. *Within the walls* within the ancient boundaries (of a city) as distinguished from the suburbs; hence *fig* within the limits (of the Church, † Europe, † Christendom, etc)
1599 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Hum* IV iii (1600) L 4 b, I think him the tallest man living within the walls of Europe 1625 J Lane (Water P) *Nets of Amend Sclopis* 3, In a place which I could name within the Walles of Christen dome. 1667 *Observ Burning Lond.* 15 The City of London within the Walls was seated upon about 600 Acres of Ground 1720 De Foe *Plague* 18 The Practice of Infection of the City, one died within the Walls, in the Parish of St Mary Wool Church 1880 Warner *Sea-board* II 468 The devout on earth will ever be found within the Church s walls.
c *Her* A representation of an embattled wall used as a bearing.
1688 Holme *Armoury* III 400/1 He beareth Argent a Wall corroued, with two Towres vpon it 1889 Elvin *Dict Her* 131 Wall embattled in bend sinister
3 *fig* a. Applied to a person or thing that serves as a defence
1456–90 Lydg. *Troye bk* IV 1058 For he of Troye s þe mygtii wal And defensour, now Hector is [a Boon 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv 73 Imperiall wall, place palestrall, . Aue Maria, gratia plena ; 1585 Allen *Defence Engy* xviii 281 One common enemy hopes for the sure shaking of the weake walles of the samples faithe. 1981 A Hall *Iliad* III 52 It is Aiax the strong, Who is best hope, defence and wall, that to the Greekes is sent 1590 Spenser *F Q* I 68 The Heauens hold firme The walls of thy deere Honour 1838 Lytton *Leila* I 1, We will leave our homes unguarded —our home shall be their wall
b. Applied to the sea, the navy or shipping (as Britain's external defence), also to an army (as the safeguard of a country)
*Wooden walls* (applied to ships) see Wooden *a*
1598 *Mirr Mag Speech in Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 305 Kepte [*for* kept] then the sea wel, brought in possible, the Kingdom of England in the rounde walle, as thoughe England were fykened to a cite 1624 *Declar Lords & Comm* 12–13 July 3 The ships which are the walls of the Kingdome 1643 R Baker *Chron* 2 At which time [of Julius Cæsar] the Island was yet but in manner of a Village, being without Walls, as having no shipping, (which are indeed the true Walls of an Island) 1657 Trapp *Comm Exod* iv 9 'To give us a wall'—Protection and safeguard, as the Walles of Sparta was their Militia, and the Walles of England, is our Navy 1697 Sir M Beckman in *Sydney Papers* I 171 The Army by Land, and the Fleet, was accounted the Walls of England
4 An enclosing structure composed of bricks, stones, or similar materials laid in courses.

*Hollow wall*, a wall built with an interior cavity or composed of hollow bricks. For *blind, boulder, cob, dead, hot, lint, rubble wall*, etc., see those words: also BRICK WALL *sb.*¹, MUD WALL, PARTY-WALL, STONE WALL.

**a.** Each of the sides and vertical divisions of a building.

*To stand to the wall* (Sc.): of a door, to be wide open. *Waits haue ears* (Prov.): see EAR *sb.*¹ 3.

c 900 *Bede's Hist.* iv. xi [xiv] (1890) 328 Æcbon hec seo heannis þæs wealles [*sc.* of a church] zefylled mere & zeondad. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19353 We find ur prisuns all a-wai, þe dors spard, þe walles hole. 1577 Lanql. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 61 þe wal wagged and clef and al þe worlde quaued. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 344 Sone hard he within a whalle The zyngyng of a lady smalle, Sche wepte, as sche were wod. 1562 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Of the whiche buyldynge..the fourme is like the foure cardinall vertues. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, i. iv. 49 In Iron Walls they deem'd me not secure. 1596 — *Merch. V.* ii. ii. 19 Which..like the Martlet Builds in the weather on the outward wall. 1638 Junius *Painted. Ancients* Ep. Ded., To make use of that, which in your service, and for the walls of your own house, I had produced. 1649 Lovelace *To Althea fr. Prison* iv, Stone Walls do not a Prison make. 1728 Ramsay *Fables, Monk & Miller's Wife* 256 Wauk forth, the door stands to the wa'. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 188 Like some lone Chartreux stands the good old Hall, Silence without, and Fasts within the wall. 1808 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* vii, Look at the burnt wa's of our kinsman's house. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 307 Walls of stone may be made one-fifth thinner than those of brick. 1883 Pycroft *Cricket.* xi, Mr. Pickwick found himself, for the first time in his life, within the walls of a debtor's prison. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 447/2 The inclined roof of a building, spanning from wall to wall, tends to thrust out the walls.

*In figurative context* (after Acts xxiii. 3). 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 173 If Percase I happen to touch some painted walles, goodly hypocrites.

**b.** An enclosing structure built round a garden, field, yard, or other property; also, each of the portions between the angles of such an enclosure.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8233 A wall a-bote dide for to rais, And planted trees bat war to prais. 1589 Marshall *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1596) 265 It were good to make the walles or hedges of your sties of foure foote hie. 1598 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 3 His ran this way and leapt this Orchard wall. 1598 Fayer *Acc. S. Indies & P.*, A most stately Grove of Cocoes and Oranges..surrounded by a Wall. 1706 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 865 On dry banks, trunks of trees, and walls. 1833 Tait's *Mag.* III. 21 *Wall of Babylon*, ii. Four gray walls, and four gray towers, Overlook a space of flowers.

†**c.** *Wall of timber*: a wooden partition, a fence. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 20, I will yt my newe hous ..be deseverid..with a walle of tymbyr fro the hefd place.

**d.** As a place or means of torture. *Obs.*

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 149 And when they cryes furiously bold the torture vnto the wall and if they will not revoke burne them. 1590 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1908) V. 179 Another warrant..to commytte them..unto such torture upon the rawhe as longe vsuall.

**e.** The inner side of a sidewalk or pavement; the side next the wall. (Cf. the phrases *to give, take the wall* in 16.)

1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 70 Snuffes vp the Nose, and swaggers for the wall. 1611 I. C. *True Mercy Mist. maist.* II. F 3, But I will giue no man place at Wall or Kennell. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 250 ? 1 All such as have been defrauded of their Right to the Wall. 1732 Pope *Ep. Cobham* 234 Behold a Reverend Sire..Shov'd from the wall perhaps, or rudely press'd By his own son.

**f.** (*a*) In the phrase *at the wall*, designating a species of football peculiar to Eton played against a wall, as distinguished from that played 'in the field'. (*b*) Applied to each of the players who form the 'wall' or scrimmage against the wall.

1864 [B. Haswell] *Eton School Days* xviii. 251, But give me, for real enjoyment..a good game of football at Eton, either at the wall or in the open field. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 696/1 Football 'at the Wall' takes its name from having played against the brick wall which divides the Slough Road from the Lower Playing Fields. *Ibid.*, Three of the players on either side, known as 'walls', form a line against the rough bricks. 1887 Sherman *Athletics & Football* (Badm.) 280 The game is begun by a 'bully' in the centre of the wall. The 'wall' whose turn it is to 'go in', forms down with his shoulder against the wall, the two other 'walls' back him up..The ball is placed against the wall between the feet of the two first opposing 'walls', and the game begins.

**5.** *fig.* Something which is a barrier or impediment to intellectual, moral, spiritual, or social union or intercourse; also more definitely *wall of partition*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 262 And þet, ze habbeð þet like blod, & tet ilke blisfule bodi. 1 Eli bi on. Nis ber buten a wal betweonen. a 1240 *Ureisun in O.E. Hom.* I. 187 Mine sunnen beoþ wal bi-tweone me & þe. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl., Fall Lucifer* 153 Alas! that pride is the wall of heven. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatis* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 97/4 To attempt sic groude misordour sall..big vp ane wal betuix vs and zou in religioun. 1576, 1872 Wall of partition [see Partition *sb.* 2]. 1843 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 17 A wall of tradition, which may not be broken through. 1900 St. Basbe *Mod. Spain* 16 He..barricades himself behind an unassailable wall of self-sufficiency.

**6.** A wall considered with regard to its surface.

**a.** The interior wall of an apartment.

*The writing on the wall* (after Dan. v.): see WRITING *vbl. sb.*

*Beowulf* 326 Setton sæmenþe sidе scyldas, rondas regnheardа, wið þam recedes weard. c 1290 *St. Dunstan* 142 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 83 þe harpe song al bi hire-self as heo heng bi þe walle. c 1430 in *Babees Bk.* 27 Ayen þe post lete not þi bak abide, neiper make þi myrrour also of þe wal. c 1535 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 949 To sile a wale, *lambrisser*. 1580 A. Buckde *Romeus & Jul.* 1410 She thinkes to speake to Iuliet, but speaketh to the reuiet. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* i. ii. 172 All the inrolled penalties Which haue (like vn-scowr'd Armor) hung by th' wall So long. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iii. 12. a 1629 Hieron *Jr. Brown* xxvi. (1634) 82 They..who have sought for Christ and his Apostles, not in the holy Booke of God, but in painted wales and windows. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part of Spunges Feare* Wks. III. (1872) 43 In the mean time, the Preacher speaks to the bare walls. 1725 Pope *Prol. Sat.* 90 Is there, who, lock'd from ink and paper, scrawls With desp'rate charcoal round his darken'd walls? 1781 Cowper *Charity* 552 Guns, halberts, swords, and pistols, great and small, In starry forms dispos'd upon the wall. 1786 — *Hope* 346 From stucco'd walls amaz'd arguments rebound. 1859 Lever *Dan. Dunan* xix, The walls were decorated with coloured prints and drawings. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 79/1 This almanack has been familiar for many years on the walls of barristers, solicitors, and public offices.

**b.** A garden- or house-wall upon which fruit-trees and flowering trees are trained.

1699- Fruit wall [see Fruit *sb.* 9]. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 237 Having occasion to find fault with the common sort of Walls for Fruits, it gives me an opportunity of recommending..sloping Walls. 1736 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 146 And grapes, long ling'ring on my only wall. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 671 Nor wall'd in vain, hapes upon a southern wall. 1784 — *Task* III. 408 Proud of his well-spread walls, he views his trees. 1864 Tennyson *Sir. Arden* 336 Yet be sent ..garden-herbs and fruit, The late and early roses from his wall.

*in fig. context.* 1827 Trollope *Barchester T.* I. xix. 287 They habitually looked on the sunny side of the wall. 1858 — *Sr. Thorne* I. vi. 141 Women grow on the sunny side of the wall.

†**7.** Walling. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 70 This lymestone.. is puts [*sic*] to good vse of wall.

**II.** Transferred uses.

**8.** Something that resembles a wall in appearance; a perpendicular surface forming an enclosure or barrier.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 567 Huge Oxen stand inclos'd in Nature's Walls Of bones compact. 1701 *Grand Stations* II. 24 The theatre's green height and woody wall. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 20 Nailed to this wall of eagle-baffling mountain. 1842 Tennyson *Dora Dream* 65 A wall of green Close-matted, but not brake and briar. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xlvi, The black wall of forest beyond. *Ibid.* xlviii, A wall of water, booming high above her main-yard, came down and booming along. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xx. 143 Midway down the spur I lighted upon a transverse wall of rock. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 2 The ice-rolling wall of the fog.

†**b.** Mil. *In wall*: of battalions, extended in one continuous line like a wall. *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 741/1 The enemy's army ..is in two lines, the first of which is formed in wall..; the second is drawn up in column.

**9.** Something that confines or encloses like the wall of a house, prison, etc.; chiefly *pl.*, the containing sides of a vessel, the vertical sides of a tent, and the like.

1596 *Sidney* D 2 You thinke it strange..To see me low lais off within the walles of a prison, and to rise in an Iron wall. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. iii. 20 Within this wall of flesh There is a soule counts thee her Creditor. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (1883) II. 157 The walls or netts of this king ceased to be made to fish was borne downe in the night with the force of the tide. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* xx. (1653) 327 The walls..of the breasts [of infants], are..depraved by Nurses, while they..do overstrictly bind them. 1790 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Midd.* II. 445 Wall; the stem of a rick is called the wall. 1876 Huxley *Physiogr.* vi. 80 The walls of a closed vessel containing air are pressed outwards by the elastic force of the confined air. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 857/1 The drift-net..forms a long wall or barrier of netting kept upright by a few fathoms perpendicularly in the water. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 375/1 [A tent] which has walls at least three feet high, should answer.

**10.** *Mining.* **a.** The coating or crust of a lode or vein; also, the side of a mine next to this.

*For foot-wall, hanging wall* see Foot *sb.* 35, Hanging *ppl. a.*

1728 *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 404 Sometimes,..the Mine is lined with a Stratum intermediate between the Load and it self. This is (properly speaking) the Wall of the Load: Though, in the Common Acceptation of that Term, it signifies either such intermediate Substance, or the Side of the Mine, wherein the Load immediately unites it self to it. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 39/1 The capels or walls of the lode. 1828 W. Phillips *Geol.* 210 A..crust occasionally covers one or both sides of the vein, technically called the walls of the load. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Wall.* 1. The side of a level or drift. 2. The country-rock bounding a vein laterally.

**b.** *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

1849 *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 124 Carrying Coals from the Coal Walls where they are dug to the bottom of the Pit or Shaft. 1859 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 970 The first set [of workmen] carves or pools the coal along the whole line of walls. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 600/2 *Wall*, 1. The face of a long-wall working or stall, commonly called the coal-wall. 2. (North of Eng.) A rib of solid coal between two boards. *Ibid., Walls* (Scot.) Short working faces or stalls (also headings 6 ft. in width) from 22 to 20 yards wide.

**9.** *To the wall*: see quot.

1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wall* ('To the Wall') (North of Eng.). A term signifying breadth, in reference to the size of pillars in the system of working known as Pillar and Stall.

**11.** *Engraving.* (See quots.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 749/2 (*Etching*), A border of soft wax..must be fastened round the plate about an inch high, in the form of a little wall or rampart, to contain the aquafortis. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 767 The plate is surrounded with a border or wall, about an inch high, composed of lees' wax. 1839 Carpue & Jackson *Wood Engraving* 715 The plate is surrounded with a wall, as it is technically termed, and aquafortis being poured upon it, all the unprotected parts are corroded, and the drawing left in relief.

**12.** *Anat.* and *Zool.* The membranous investment or lining tissue (of any organ or cavity of the body, of a vesicle, tumour, and the like). Also *Bot.*, the cellulose membrane (of a cell).

1677 Grew *Anat. Fruits* iv. § 3 Seen by Refraction, Objects of all Sizes are represented on the Walls of the Eye. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 85 These [adipose] vesicles are so thin that it is impossible to distinguish their walls. 1836 Bostock *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1838) 889 The walls of ovarian tumours consist mainly of connective tissue. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 469 He then cut diagonally across, and actually lifted the wall of the chest, and groped about among the vitals for the bullet.

**b.** The outer horny covering of the foot of a horse.

1832 J. Hinds *Osmer's Treat. Horse* (ed. 3) ? *note*, This is the earliest mention we can find of the crust or hoof proper, being denominated the wall of the foot, a term which has now become general among us. 1890 Image referred to (Osmer, ? 1756) reads 'like a wall'). 1832 Youatt *Horse* xv. 280 The crust or wall of the hoof..is that portion which is seen when the foot is placed on the ground.

**III.** Phrases.

**13.** *To go to the wall* (or †*walls*): **a.** to give way, succumb in a conflict or struggle

1589 *Paquil's Ret.* A iiij, They neuer went to the wall, till they grewe to be factious. 1601 J. Wheeler *Treat. Comm.* 111 We should go to the wales, by our owne exacted vpon euery where. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxix, Sam and Mayford are both desperately in love with her, and one must go to the wall. 1861 Cunningham *Brit. Const.* xx. 385 It is easy to see which power will go to the wall if a conflict occurs. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* xliii, In all these struggles Crosbie had had the best of it, and Butterwell had gone to the wall.

*Proverb.* (1535: see Waw). 1549 Chekke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 53 When brethren agree not in a house, goeth not the weakest to the walls? 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 53 The weakest must still to the wall. 1598 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 18. 1641 Culpeyper *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* (1658) 80 You know the old proverb, The weakest goes to the Walls.

**b.** Of a business, matter, etc.: To give way or give precedence (to something else).

1858 Gladstone *Homer* III. 519 Here is another case of mere against history, and it is the case in which history ought (as is said) to the wall. 1892 M'Carthy *Four Georges* II. 45 Where political interests interfered family arrangements went to the wall.

**c.** To fail in business.

1848 Thackeray *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* vi. Wks. 1886 XXIV. 37 It was better for all parties that poor Shortlegs should go to the wall. 1892 Surtees *Handley Cr.* Irish. (1901) II. 253 He had been the progeny of some Jew-and Bowker, who, in classical language, had 'gone to the wall'. 1899 Spencer *Data of Ethics* xv. § 103. 166 Others of his (a merchant's) debtors, pressed by him, will be led into like difficulties. 1892 *19th Cent.* Dec. 861 In Berlin a newspaper would very soon go to the wall if it did not present its subscribers with high-class entertainment.

**14.** *To* † *set*, † *thrust*, or *send to the wall*: to thrust aside into a position of neglect.

1583 Babington *Commandm.* 334 God knowes..how often they are wrecked and wronged and set to the wal by cruell ..and hard hearted men. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 10 Women being the weaker Vessels, are euer thrust to the wall. 1902 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 421/2 During the later fifties he was sent to the wall by the superior talents of the late Robert Prowse.

**16.** *To drive* (or *push*) *to the wall*: to drive to the last extremity.

*With or hanging one's back to the wall*: see Back *sb.*¹ 25.

1548 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 58 That decide without woords shall drive him to the wall. And further than the wall he can not go. 1594 Peyne & Walker *Piernot's Trial* 34 The Colonell knew not what to doe, he was worsted on every hand, vsed two pleas more for his last reserve. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxii, I see what you are driving me to the wa'. *Antiquary* xxiii, I'll no be driven. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* II. i. 356 The commissaries pushed to the wall by the delay, offered an exorbitant remuneration. 1880 L. Harcourt *Diaries* G. *Fox* II. 30 Being..driven to the wall by..Addington.

**16.** *To give a person the wall*: to allow a person the right or privilege of walking next the wall as the cleaner and safer side of a pavement, sidewalk, etc. Similarly, *to have, take the wall* (of a person), to have, take the inside position.

† 1537 *Thersytes* 150 Yes, yes, god wote they geve me the wall. Or elles with my staffe I could haue it. 1592 Shaks. *Arden of Feversham* v. i, I haue made some go vppon wodden legges for taking the wall on me. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Widow* 112 The Persians had a law enioyning all men..to giue him [an elder] the wall when they met him in the streetes. 1703 *Rules Civility* 21 Giving.. the Right-hand or Wall in the Street. 1773 Johnson in Boswell *Tour Hebrides* 20 Sept., In the last age, there were two sets of people, those who gave the wall, and those who took it; the peaceable and the quarrelsome. Now, it is fixed that every man keeps to the right; or, if one is taking the wall, another yields it, and it is never a dispute.

1881 Pettie *Guano's Cit. Conv.* ii, (1586) 76 b, It might it little, that my equall, hauing the wall of me, should goe from it to giue me place. 1605 Heywood *If you know not Me* E 2 b, *Enter the Englishman, and Spaniard. Spa.* The wall, the wall. *Eng.* Shlood Spaniard you get no wall

here, but since you will needs Haue the wall, He take the paynes to thrust You into the kennell. 1825 Kingsley *Westw Ho I* xxv, The Spaniards had no room, in that narrow path, to use their pikes. The English had the wall of them, and to have the wall there, was to have the foe's life at their mercy

1587 Greene *Penelopes Web* Wks (Grosart) V 201 The wife of a poore Smith meeting the Empresse Faustina, tooke the wall of her in the streetes 1617 Moryson *Itin* III 98 Nothing was more common with them, then to fight about taking the right or left hand or the wall 1757 Foote *Author* I Wks. 1799 I 135 He wou'd take the wall of a Prince of the Blood 1821 Scott *Kenilw*. IV, To quarrel in her cause with any flat-copp'd thread maker that would take the wall of her 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxii 1, The parlour window is so much lower than the foot way that the passenger who takes the wall brushes the dim glass with his coat sleeve

b. *fig.* (In early use sometimes without article, *to give, take wall*.)

1591 Nashe *Wonderf Prognost* Wks (Grosart) II 157 The Bakers Basket shall giue wall vnto the Brewers Barrell 1608 *Br* Hall *Serm Phariseeism* Wks (1625) 413 Some Traditions must haue place in every Church, but, Their place they may not take wall of Scripture. 1652 *Jaues Worlde* III § 1 If a supposed and self respective good be suffered to take the wall of the best and absolute good 1679 R W *Cromwell's Ghost* 2 Though old in Artful Wicked-ness I be, Yet Rome, I now Resign the Wall to thee 1758 J Ellis *Sketches* (ed 3) 5 According to nice Herald like Ceremony, the Son, as the better Gentleman, ought to take the Wall of the Father

✝ 17. *To lie by the wall* (or *walls*), to lie on one side, remain idle or unused, of a ship, to lie up (in dock or harbour); also *to lay by the walls Obs*

1579 Fenton *Certn Secret Wonr* 58 And the law in the meane time must lye by the walles [*Ir demeures l.*]. 1626 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I 82, I am glad the mariners are so sensible of the laying of the 4 rights ships that lie by the walls 1658-9 *Ibid* III 462 Our ships lie by the walls, and theirs rule 1672 Wallis in Rigaud *Corr Sci Men* (1841) II. 529 To put forth what France is not willing to venture upon provided that it be not likely to prejudge those of our own nation, which lie by the wall for want of publishing 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* I (1840) 66 He walked towards that part of the Creek, where most of their largest ships lay ['by the walls' 1787 Grose *Provinc Gloss* s.v. *Wall*, He lies by the wall Spoken of a person dead but not buried Norf and Suf

18. (To be able) *to see*, etc *through* or *into a* (*brick, mud, stone*) *wall* to be endowed with great keenness of perception or understanding.

1598 Marston *Pygmal*, *Sat* II, Thou know'st I am sure, for thou canst cast through nine mud walls, or else old Poets lie 1885 *Illustr Lond News* 7 Feb 136/1 Lord Sherbrooke can see as far as most people into a stone wall

19 *To turn one's face to the wall*· said of a person on his deathbed conscious of the approach of the end (? after 2 Kings xx 2, Isa. xxxviii 2).

1579 in *Narratives hystorie* (Camden) 35 He turned his face to the walle in the sayd bellfry, and so after his prayers sleapte sweetly in the Lorde 26 *Barbara Allen's Cruelty* in R Child *Ballads* II 107 He turnd his face unto the wall, And death came creeping to him 1856 Knight *Pop Hist Eng* I xxi 304 He [Henry II] turned his face to the wall, and exclaimed, 'Let every thing go as it will' 1871 Gerald Cambrens (R Ilh) VIII 305 *iterum se lecto re is nunc faciem jue suam ad parietem vertens*] 1876 ' Mark Twain ' *Tom Sawyer Ab*, They would turn his face to the wall, and die with that word unsaid

IV. 20 Short for a *wall tree*, b Wallflower, c *wall butterfly*.

a. 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 292 Your Trees being grafted the next thing to be consider'd, is which are to be for Dwarfs, Walls and Standards

b. 1825 R P Ward *Tremaine* I xvi 100 There was a regular return of the same flowers such as walls, and pro-vence roses, convolvolus, and sweet william

c 1830 ] Rennie *Butterfl* & *Moths* 12 The Wall (*Hipparchia Megæra*, Leach) The Brown Wall (*H Phædra*, Stephens)

V *attrib.* and *Comb.*

21 a simple attrib., as *wall arch, -coping, mosaic, -nook, -side, -tiling, -top*, with the meaning ' set or fixed against a wall ', as *wall candlestick, -case, clock, map, -plug, -press, -stone*, with the meaning ' growing upon or against a wall ', as *wall-berry, -plant, -plum*

1886 C E Parson *Land To day* xxx. (ed 3) 268 On the wall of Westminster Hall there are plainly visible the traces of *wall arches erected by Richard II 1908 [Miss E Fowler] *Retro Treat & Anecdotes* 313 Perhaps it had earlier been busy upon the *wall berries. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 381/2 *Wall or Hanging Candlesticks 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III 181 *Wall cases were provided, and the collections were removed from the Old Museum 1891 *Century Dict*. *'*Wall clock 1887 ] G Andrew *Mem W Graham* VI 153 Above the *wall coping appeared an end less row of peering sorrow stricken faces 1907 J C Hudleston *Geogr Knowl Discov Amer* 20 I he *wall map of the world, painted in his banquet hall at the Lateran 1923 Eden *Ancient Glass* 26 Glass *wall spaces for internal decoration 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* III, I he ground ivy mantling old *wall nooks. 1880 *Archæol Cant* XIII 26 The angular thickness of the *wall-plates causes the central body of the crypt to be narrower 1873 Mary Somerville *Recoll* xviii 372 The Trachelium corniculum, a pretty *wall plant. 1926 Haydock *Electr -Light Fitting* 122 *Wall Plugs. 1868 Smallwell *Vertuosa* IV 79, I have observ'd upon a *Wall-plum at first beginning to turn blue [etc] 1844 H Stephens *Bk Farm* II. 285 A *wall-press is necessary in a corn barn. c 1400 *Destr Troy* 862 She went vp wightly by a *walle syde To the toppe of a toure. 1887 F M Neale *Blauearte* 176 Many alterations on the roof and wall sides would have to be made. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal* 83/2 Decorative *wall-tiling 1849 *Proc Berw Nat Club* II 372 It is found under lichens on *wall-tops.

b. objective, and objective genitive, as *wall-builder, -building, -dweller*; *wall-like, -loving* adjs. ; instrumental, as *wall-bound, -fed, -girt* adjs.

1898 Isaac Smith (*Carthage* 372 Hannibal taking his place among the *wall builders and wonder workers of Eastern history and legend 1823 Corbett *Rur Rides* (1885) I 221 Paving and *wall-building 1881 W. Barnes *Dorset Dial* II 78 There, in the gardeen a *wall bound square 1858 *Athenæum* 25 July 237/3 The clinging *wall fed ivy 1883 *Harper's Mag* Nov 856/2 Gray *wall girt still ness 1898 Huxley *Physiogr* 168 *Wall like masses are partially detached from the cliffs. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 190 Walls of loose, dry stones, affording in the crevices a cool retreat for many *wall loving plants 1718 Strelly *Specl* No. 431 P 3 These craving Damsels, whether Coal Scranchers, *Wall peelers, or Gravel diggers

22 Special comb : **wall-arcade** *Arch*, an arcade (see Arcade II 3) used as a decoration of a wall, hence **wall-arcading**, the stonework composing a wall-arcade ; **wall-bearing** (see quot.), **wall-border**, a garden border at the foot of a wall, **wall-box** (*a*) an aperture made in or through a wall to accommodate a wall-bearing, (*b*) a postal collecting box affixed to a wall as distinguished from a pillar-box, ✝**wall-break** *a*, that breaks down walls; **wall-casing**, the lining or superficial exterior covering of a wall; **wall-chalker** (see quot 1823) ; **wall clamp**, -**cool** (see quots) ; **wall-crook** *dial*, ?a wooden hook for driving into cob walls; **wall-cutting**, dook (see quots), **wall-dormer** *Arch*, a dormer whose front is part of the main wall of the building carried up to the required height, **wall-earth** (see quot), **wall-engine**, a small vertical steam engine bolted to a wall; **wall-face** (*a*) the working face in a coal-mine ; (*b*) the surface of a wall, ✝**wall-fern** a fern which grows on walls, **wall-field**, a siege **wall-fruit**, the fruit of trees grown against a wall ; also a fruit tree so grown , also *attrib*, as *wall-fruit tree*; **wall-game**, the Eton game of football played 'at the wall' (see 4 f), **wall-grenade**, a bombshell thrown from the walls by hand or by means of a small mortar called a hand-mortar (*Cent Dict*. 1891); **wall-gun**, a large hand-gun supported on a tripod or crutch, for firing over a rampart, **wall-hangings**, tapestry hangings for walls; **wall-head** (*a*) = **wall-top**, esp. of a house-wall; also the space on the top of a wall between the roof-beams, used as a receptacle or shelf; also *attrib.*; **wall-hold**, the end (of a beam, etc) which is inserted in a wall as a bearing, **wall-hook**, ✝(*a*) a grappling-hook (*obs*) ; (*b*) a hook-shaped holdfast for-fastening wire, piping, etc to a wall, ✝**wall lecture** *Oxford Univ*, a lecture delivered, according to statute, by a regent-master (to empty benches) ; **wall-lining**, a covering for the interior surface of a wall; **wall-nail**, a kind of nail made for driving into walls; **wall-net**, a vertical fishing-net forming the wall of an inclosed space (*Cent. Dict.*), ✝**wall-observer**, one who is addicted to reading placards; **wall-post** *Arch*. = **Pendant** *sb*. 6 a, ✝**wall-rase** *Sc* [cf Rasen, Raising-price, *-plate*] = **Wall plate** ; ✝**wall-reared** *a* = *wall sided* ; **wall-reave**, an official charged with keeping embankments repair ; **wall-rock** *Arch*. (see quots 1835–50), also *attrib.* ; **wall-rock** *Mining*, the rock forming the walls of a vein ; **wall saltpetre** (see quot.) ; **wall shaft** *Arch*, in *engaged wall-shaft*, a shaft or column partly let into the wall (cf. Engaged *column*) ; **wall-sided** *a.*, having perpendicular sides like a wall; **wall-strap** (see quot.); **wall-string**, the string-board of a staircase which is next the wall, **wall-tent**, a tent with perpendicular sides ; **wall-tile**, each of the pieces of iron, slate, or other material used to bind together the two parts of a hollow wall; **wall-tile** (*a*) a tile used for lining a wall; ✝(*b*) *north.*, a brick as distinguished from a roofing tile ; ✝**wall-tooth**, a cheek-tooth, grinder , **wall-tower**, a tower forming part of a fortified wall (*Cent. Dict*.), ✝**wall-town** *Sc*, a walled or fortified town; **wall-tree**, a fruit-tree planted against and trained upon a wall; also *attrib.*; **wall-wash**, liquid distemper applied to the surface of a wall; **wall-water**, that which runs off a wall; **wall-work**, ✝(*a*) work done in building a wall (*obs.*); (*b*) a defensive work consisting of walls. Also Wall-paper, Wall-piece, Wall-plat, Wall-plate, Wall-stone.

1860 G E. Street in *Archæol. Cant.* III 133 The ✝wall-arcades in the two churches. 1865 Sir G. Scott *Glean Westm. Abb* (ed 1) 23 The spandrels over the ✝wall-arcading are exquisitely beautiful *a* 1876—*Lect. Archit.* I. 97 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech*. *'Wall-bearing*, a bearing for receiving a shaft when entering or passing through a wall 1907 Mortimer *Husb* 461 They are ✝transplanted into some ✝Wall border towards the South and East 1882 in *Beck's Florist* 128 A shrubbery or wall-border some four or five feet broad 1875 Knight *Dict Mech*., ✝Wall box 1887 in A *Lowdon Machine Draw* (1892) 34 A neat appearance is given to the opening by building into the wall a wall box 1598 Stevenitze *Du Bartas* II iv 111 *Schisme* 797 Fell, 'wall break (all break) Famine Howls hideously 1898 Haw Thorne *Fr & It Note-bks* (1871) I 98 ✝Wall casings of rich, polished marble. 1823 [Joe Bee] *Dict Turf*, ✝*Wall chalkers*—fellows who scrawl balderdash upon garden walls Others chalk up their trades—as 'try Warren's blacking,' [etc.]. 1894 T Hood *Book to Borrow* 135 The Bill Sticker's Assistant and Wall-Chalker's Vade-Mecum 1875 Knight *Dict Mech*., *Wall clamp*, a brace or tie to hold a wall together, or the two parts of a double-wall, to prevent spreading 1886 ] Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 170 *Wall coal*, breast coal ; the middle division of three in a seam, the other two being termed top coal and ground coal 1889 Blackmore *Lorna D* xxxviii, I worked, in the spare of young ash, making spars to keep for thatching, ✝wall-crooks to drive into the cob, (etc.) 1886 ] Barrowman *Sc Mining Terms* 70 ✝*Wall cuttings*, a name applied to the solid coal in opening out working places, trimming the sides of a sinking pit 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 925 The ✝wall docks (plugs of wood) are not to be more than 16 inches apart 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III 551 The roof dormers very soon became ✝wall dormers, rising in a line with the main walls of the buildings. 1703 *Land Trans* XXXII. 200 The lower half of the Layers of Fullers-Earth, they call the ✝Wall Earth 1830 Ure *Dict Arts*, etc 580 The instant each cove arrives, from the ✝wall face, it is lifted from the tram by a crane 1 1847 Sir G Scott *Archit* (1879) II 141 In some of the Byzantine remains they have architecturalised by mouldings and enrichments only just so much of the arch-stones as was visible for beauty, and left the rest to go as mere wall face 1593 *Rates & Men Durham* (Surtees) 53 She. laid those two without the doore that before was within the ✝wall face 1850 Grote *Greece* II lxiii (1869) V. 457 Alkibiadês warned the assembled seamen that they must prepare for a sea fight, at hand fight, and a ✝wall fight 1665 Sir Thos Herbert *Cypt Agree* (1681) 266 Nail and trim ✝Wall fruits. 1690 *Lond Gaz* No 2550/4 Good Gardens and Orchards planted with all sorts of choice Wall fruit *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Mar. 1688, The wall fruit most excellent, especially and tram d 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort* 582 The wall fruits of Britain include all those which in the central districts of England require the aid of a wall : the best sorts per fection 1883 *Sat Rev* 7 Dec 695/2 The ✝Wall Game [at Eton] 1812 Col Hawker *Diary* (1893) I 63 We then fired with slugs (Colonel Douglas's Spanish ✝wall-gun), and I with a huge ✝wall gun) 1819 Scott *Ivg Montrose* x, They found themselves exposed to a fire both of musketry and wall guns 1865 Carlyle *Fredk* XIII xi 8 ✝Wall guns brought from Cöstrin 1896 Lina Eckenstein *Women under Monasticism* 533 The great work of her life was the manufacture of ✝wall-hangings. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 83 [They] had ✝wall hooks with pykes 1884 *Macmillan's Mag* XLIX 206 Here, Rob, rax me that bit rope that s lying in the wall head yonder 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 919 The inside timbers are to be fixed to the ends of bond (or ✝wall hold) on each end 1844 H Stephens *Bk Farm* I 370 The steps should be droved 3 feet 6 inches clear of the ✝wall hold 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *New World Phrased Lex* (1693) 739 A ✝wall hook or drag, *Lupus, harpago* 1823 P Nicholson *Pract Build* 408 Fastening the pipes to the wall by means of wall hooks of iron 1882 Chaney *Yeasts* 194 A strip of lath should be nailed to one edge to the wall with wall hooks. 1662 Wood *I* 58 *pp* Dec (O H S) I 464 Wheras they were left of after the king was restored and ✝wall lectures read in the schools, the clamations were now settled and wall lectures too 1692 — *Ath Oxon* (1721) II 756 He did also sometimes repair to the Ordinaries (commonly called Wall Lectures from the paucity of Auditors) 1767 ] Fenn *By Way of Prevention* To Clergy p 1; Dry Morals and musty Doctrines have turned Sermons into Wall Lectures 1850 G. Brodrick in *Archæol Cant* III 132 A great deal of chalk is used for ✝wall lining 1892 *Dict Archit* (Archit. Publ Soc.), *Wall-lining*, a thin internal wall of brick for keeping dry the in terior surface of a house as opposed to the outer wall *Acc K R* 492 24 (MS.), In M' de ✝Walnal empt vjd ob 1864 Atkinson *Stonton Grange* 214 Next stood a box of shrubs and wall-nails 1893 H. Lucas *Gt Lond* I 178 The avenue readers, the ✝wall observers, and those that are acquainted with stall-learning 1893 T. Morris *Brit Cavalry* 85 The situation of the ✝wall-reave was to co-ordinate a purpose of concentrating the weight. 1903 *Acc Lit High Treas Scot*, V 220 Item, for 13 ✝wall rasis put undre the cuppill fot, Item, for 2 corbals of stane for bering to the tun wall reasis. 1887 Cary Smith *Gloss* 33 We say a Ship is ✝wall reared when she is right built vp, after shee comes to her bearing 1326 *Placitorum Abbrev.* (1811) 332 In decem' de ffirm de Curia una de Stephen-hethe ordinavit duos homines qui vocantur ✝Walreves ad superviendum wallas fossata sewerag & gutteras prædicta 1835 R Willis *Archit Hist Camb* II 87 If the compartment be bounded by a wall as in the case of the clerestory, the rib which is placed at the intersection of the vault with the wall is called the ✝Wall rib 1880 Ingelegh *Ingoldy Archit Fragm* 309 The union of the wall rib shaft . with the spring of the window arch way 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 349 On it a shaft has been sunk 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1021 A well defined ✝wall-rock 1911 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 94/2 ✝Wall-saltpetre or lime saltpetre, calcium nitrate, Ca (NO$_3$)$_2$ is found as an efflorescence on old walls 1875 Knight *Dict Mech*., ✝*Wall shaft*, a shaft or column manufactured in large quantities. 1865 G E Street *Gothic Archit. Spain* II 191 There are three-quarter engaged ✝wall-shafts between the windows. 1911 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist* 165 ✝Wall sided. 1769 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1780) 1890 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 180 A deep wall-sided valley. 1860 R. H Dana *Bef Mast* xxiii, She was a good, substantial ship, wall sided and bottle-bottomed. 1868 Huxley *Prehist. Rem Caithn.* 88 The transverse contour of the skull inclines to be pentagonal and wall-sided. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 902 The ✝wall-strings are some

pieces of quartering on which to nail the lathe] are to be 1 inch and a quarter thick. 1849 *Wall string* [see STRINGER 26]. 1862 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* (1870) 19 Two *wall*-tents being placed end to end, for office and bedroom. 1884 *Uniting* XXIV. 86/1 We had a single wall-tent, ten by twelve. 1885 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 81/2 Section of Hollow Brick Wall, showing our patent cast and wrought "wall-ties. 1598 *York Mercers* etc. (Surtees) 13 Pro ix malis de 'Walsegrill, vj *li.* 1626 in *Paston Lett.* II. 224 A thousand walsyde that his fadir had fre ye seide William wyfes place. 1790 Gent. *Pomine. Glost.* Supp., *Walk-lite*, bricks opposed to tiles, called Thack-tiles. North. 1882 CHRISTY *Joints* 68 Wall tiles are sometimes bedded in fine plaster. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 748/3 *Hec muralitare*, a 'walthothe. (f Hence) 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wall-tooth*, a large double-tooth. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 699 This was the best off all, To kepe our styrnth of Carrell and off Wall toun. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Death & Man* 7 Wal-townis, castellis, towiris, nauir so wicht, may nocht resist quhill it be at his hert. 1657 HUNTER *Fruit Trees* 1. 66 As concerning the distances of *Wal*-trees. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 42 For wall-tree cherries, plums, pears, etc. allot a portion of the smallest, varieties for south walls. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 693 Another [nest] was completed in an adjoining wall-tree. 1848 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 521 We discovered arsenic in large quantity in the green unstrawed wall-wash of her own sitting-room. 1598 S. FERMOR *tr. id.* 68 Fals, in Dutch call *Pro Croydon* (1783) App. 155 We have made up that angle.. wall-wyse with stone and morter. *c* 2000 *Ælfric Hom.* (Thorpe) II. 166 Pa gelæddon hie Sam to *wall*-wege. 1581 J. HELL *Haddon's Answ. Oour.* A vj b, Our dutie hadd bene to direct the buildyng of our Religion by this lyne and leuell, and to ramme fast the stones hierof with lyme, cemente and morter. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 468/1 Other internal walls..communicate with wall-works running east and west.

**b.** In the names of animals frequenting or living in walls, as wall-bee (see quot.); wall-bird, a dial. name of the Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa grisola*; wall-brown, a common British butterfly, *Satyrus megæra* = *brown wall* (see 19 c); wall-butterfly (see quot. ); wall-carpet, a variety of the carpet-moth (see CARPET *sb.* 5); wall-creeper (see quot. 1888); wall-fly (see quot.); wall-gecko (see quot.) wall-lizard, a lizard of the species *Lacerta muralis*; wall-louse, † (*a*) the bed-bug, *Cimex lectularius*; (*b*) *dial.* the woodlouse; †wall-newt, ? = *wall-lizard*; wall-usher, a variety of moth (see quot.); wall-wasp (see quot.).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 94 The 'Wall Bees are so called, because they make their nests in walls. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2186 The spotted flycatcher is the 'wall-bird. 1846 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 171 Not a single specimen has been observed of the..'Wall Brown, or the Dark Green Argus. 1860 W. S. COLEMAN *Brit. Butterfl.* 98 The 'Wall Butterfly (*Lasiommata Megæra*). *Ibid.* 99 It is called the Wall Butterfly from its frequent habit of choosing a roadside wall for a perch. 1851 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 122 The 'Wall Carpet (*Alcis muraria* Curtis). 1869 C. NEWCOMB *Trans* 172 *Picus muralis*, the Creeper, or 'Wall-Creeper. 1678 [see SWAMMERDAM]. 1764 G. EDWARDS *Gleanv. Nat. Hist.* III. 282. The Wall-creeper of Surinam. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 534/2 Allied to the Tree-Creeper (*Certhia*)..is the genus *Tichodroma*, the single member of which is the 'Wall-Creeper (*T. muraria*) of the Alps and some other mountainous parts of Europe and Asia. 1853 WALTON *Angler* ii. 93 Nay, sometimes a worm, or any kind of fly; as the Ant-fly, or 'Wall-fly, or 'Wall-fly (ed. 3 (1661) 63, the black Bee that breeds in clay walls). 1886 *Cassell's Dict. s. v. Platytacstylus, P. fasciicharis et muralis* is the 'Wall Gecko. 1886 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 274 The lively little 'Wall Lizard, *Lacerta muralis*. 1540 *Septem Ling. Dict.* D vj, Cimices..'wallyes. 1598–1657 Wall louse [see PUNAISE]. 1893 [see LOUSE *sb.*1]. 1853 S. DAE *Pharmacol.* 531 Cimex..The Wall-Louse or Bugg. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss., s. v. Kirk louse, Wall louse, Slater*, woodlouse, millipede, *Oniscidæ*. 1805 SHARP *Lect. Ir.* iv. 135 Poore Tom, that eates..the Toad-pois, lies in the wall-Neut, and the water. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 88. 2/2 Like the Body of a Red 'Wall-Spider. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 102 The 'Wall Usher (*Anisopteryx Æscularia*, Stephens) appears on palings and trunks of trees the middle of March. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 372 The 'Wall Wasp (*Odynerus parietum*)..may be almost constantly seen haunting sunny walls during the months of June and July.

**c.** In the names of plants growing on or by walls and in dry or stony places, as wall barley, the wild barley, *Hordeum murinum*; also rye-grass, *Lolium perenne*; wall bugloss, a plant of the genus *Lycopsis*† wall cabbage (see quot.); wall-cress, the genus *Arabis*; also (see quot. 1796); wall fern, the common evergreen fern, *Polypodium vulgare*; wall gillyflower, the WALLFLOWER; wall grass, the stonecrop, *Sedum acre*; wall hawkweed, *Hieracium murorum*; wall moss, (*a*) the yellow lichen, *Parmelia parietaria* (Cent. Dict.); (*b*) *Sedum acre*; (*c*) see quot. 1855; wall mustard = *wall-rocket*; wall pellitory = PELLITORY 2; † wall penny grass, wall pennywort = PENNYWORT 1; wall pepper, *Sedum acre*; wall pie = *wall rue*; wall-rocket, *Diplotaxis tenuifolia*; wall spleen, small fern, *Asplenium Ruta-muraria*; wall sage, † (*a*) a species of *Sideritis*; cf. GLIDEWORT, IRONWORT; (*b*) = PELLITORY 2 (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); wall speedwell, *Veronica arvensis*; wall spleenwort = *wall rue*; wall weed, ? mother-of-thousands, *Linaria Cymbalaria*. Also WALLFLOWER, WALLWORT.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 43 Phenices or Hordeum murinum of Plinie, is the †wal Barley, whiche groweth on mud walles. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. ii. 71 Red Darnell is called..in Latin *Lolium rubrum* and *sabinum Murinum*: in English Wall Barley. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 333 The Wall barley, or way bennet, as some people improperly term it. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 997/1 We all remember how in our youth we put inverted spikes of the Wall Barley up our sleeves and found them travel to our shoulders. 1640 [W. HOWE] *Polyhist. Brit.* 56 Echium alterum, *Dod.* Lycopsis Anglica, *Lob.* in agris siccioribus & muris. 'Wall Bugloss. 1820 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Wall-Bugloss. Common name for the *Lycopsis*. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 503 [Brassica muralis] Sisymbrium *murale*. Linn. 'Wall Cabbage. Old walls and rubbish. *Ibid.* 689 *Turritis hirsuta*.. 'Wall Cress. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 83/2 Wall-cress, the English name [of *Arabis*] has similar reference to the usual place of growth. 1596 *Grete Herbal* cccxlix. (1529) T v, De polypyrco. * Wallarne. 1659 O. WOOD *Adds. Bks. Secrets* 20 Wall-Mistletoe. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 80 Viola alba..There are diuerse sortes.. One is called in english Cheiry, Herten ease or 'wal Gelofloure, it growth vpon hie walles, and .. wall flowres. 1706 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 94 The butter-flower of the meadow, and the wall gilly-flower. 1818 H. FRENCH *Dronnock. Planting*..'Wall Grass, *Sedum acre*, L. 1826 J. LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 674 'Wall hawkweed. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 324 Wall-moss [Ulcranum muriale]. 1882 BENTLEY & TRIMEN *Medic. Plants*..'Wall Pellitory. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 80 Viola alba..There are diuerse sortes.. One is called in english Cheiry, Herten ease or 'wal Gelofloure, it growth vpon hie walles, and .. wall flowres. 1706 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 94 The butter-flower of the meadow, and the wall gilly-flower. 1818 H. FRENCH *Dronnock. Planting*..'Wall Grass, *Sedum acre*, L. 1826 J. LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 674 'Wall hawkweed. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 324 Wall-moss [Ulcranum muriale]. 1882 BENTLEY & TRIMEN *Medic. Plants*..'Wall Pellitory. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 80 Viola alba..There are diuerse sortes.. One is called in english Cheiry, Herten ease or 'wal Gelofloure, it growth vpon hie walles, and .. wall flowres. 1706 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 94 The butter-flower of the meadow, and the wall gilly-flower. 1818 H. FRENCH *Dronnock. Planting*..'Wall Grass, *Sedum acre*, L. 1826 J. LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 674 'Wall hawkweed. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 324 Wall-moss [Ulcranum muriale]. 1882 BENTLEY & TRIMEN *Medic. Plants*..'Wall Pellitory. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 80 Viola alba..There are diuerse sortes.. One is called in english Cheiry, Herten ease or 'wal Gelofloure, it growth vpon hie walles, and .. wall flowres. 1706 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 94 The butter-flower of the meadow, and the wall gilly-flower. 1818 H. FRENCH *Dronnock. Planting*..'Wall Grass, *Sedum acre*, L. 1826 J. LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 674 'Wall hawkweed. 1855 ANNE PRATT *Flowering Pl.* II. 324 Wall-moss [Ulcranum muriale]. 1882 BENTLEY & TRIMEN *Medic. Plants*..'Wall Pellitory.

**wall**, *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 wall, wal. [var. spelling (with silent *ll*) of WAW *sb.*] A wave (of the sea).

*c* 1480 *Wyntoun's Cron.* i. vii. 599 (MS. F.) Of walis gret, and wyndis felle. 1580 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 180 The watter is the warld, ay welterand With mony wall of trubulationn. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1316 Thi schip, thou gouh seuyn dayis wall. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. prol. vii. 60 Within the kavin gouth loune, but wind or wall. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 39 The suelland vallis of the lirym seye. 1590 *Sc. Lyon's Hymnus* vii. 85 The waltering wals, and raging windie blast.

† **Wall**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* Also 7 whall. [Back-formation from WALL-EYE.] *Eyes of wall* (nonce-phrase) = ‘wall eyes’: see WALL EYE. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*, as in *wall speck*; *wall-coloured* adj.

1621 CRAIG *Rhet.* (1877) 21 Ane Arrye, a whall, or ouer-white eye. 1653 K. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 97 The apple [of the eye] is half blew, and all about wall-coloured. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 324 His wall eye was sturdy large and tall, Which Mouth of Meal and Eyes of Wall. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4285/8 Stolen.., a white Horse, with..a wall Speck in one of his Eyes.

**Wall** (wɔl), *sb.*4 *Naut.* Short for WALL-KNOT.

1834 MARRYAT *F. Simple* vi, ‘How is this to be finished off sir?’ inquired a sailor of the boatswain. ‘Why,..it must be with a double wall.’ *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 30 Make a wall-knot. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 756 A deck stopper-knot is made..close up to the wall. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wall and Crown*. This knot should be polished with a crown.

**Wall** (wɔl), *sb.*5 = LABLAB.

1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultiv. Plants* 346 Lablab, or Wall.. *Dolichos Lablab*, Linnæus. This species is much cultivated in India and in tropical Africa. 1889 *Kirkwood Forestry W. Afr.* 320 ‘Wall’ of Indin (*Dolichos Lablab*, L.) A climbing perennial largely cultivated in the Tropics for its unpalatable seeds.

**Wall**, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 weallan, 2–5 walle-n, 7– wall. *Pa. t.* 1 weól(l, 3 weol, wul, 4 weel; *weak* 4 walleđe, 7– walled. [OE. *weallan* redupl. str. vb. (pa. t. *weóll*, pa. pple. *gewealle*n) corresp. to OFris. *walla* to well up (WFris. *walle* to boil), MFlem. *wallen* (Kilian) to well up (mod.Flem. to boil), OS. *wallan* str. vb., to boil up, gush forth (MLG. *wallen*), OHG. *wallan* str. vb., to boil, gush forth (MHG. *wallen*, mod.G. *wk.*, to boil, be agitated, swarm, etc.).

The transitive uses do not occur in OE., and as they are found only with the weak conjugation, it is possible that they descend not from OE. *weallan*, but from *wallan* var. of *wiellan*, *wellan* WELL *v.*; cf. mod. Sc. *wall* (WELL *sb.*) repr. OE. *wælla* var. of *wiella*. The transitive senses below are closely paralleled by those of WELL *v.* and its equivalents in other Teut. langs.

The Teut. **wallanan* (= **walla-*) redupl. vb. with the sense ‘to boil, bubble up’ is confined to W.Ger.; but a cogn. and synonymous **wellan* str. vb. exists in ON. *vella* (*Sw. välla*), MSw. *vælla* str. vb. (Sw. *välla*, Da. *vælde* wk. vb., and a causative type **wallijan* wk. vb. in ON. *vella* (*Sw. valla*) to boil (trans.), to weld = MHG. *wellen*, OE. *wiellan*: see WELL, WELD vbs. For other Teut. derivatives of the root in the same specific sense see WALM, WELL *sb.*; cf. also Goth. *wulan* to be fervent. It is probable that the sense ‘to boil, bubble, well up’ is developed from the sense ‘to roll’, which belongs to the root **wel-* in Teut. and Indogermanic (see WALLOW *v.*1) for the form **welle-cf.* OHG. *wella* roller, axle (MHG., mod.G. *welle*), *wellen* str. vb. trans. to roll.

† **1.** *intr.* Of a liquid: To boil. Also of a person: To be in boiling liquid. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 358 Do oferr fyr, swyl þonne hit wealle, sing iii. gatur-notelas. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 249 (Trin. MS.) Þar is þich þat afre walleđ [*MS. Egerton* wealđ]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 20507 To bærnenn & to wallenn Wiþþ deofless dun in hellegrund. *c* 1250 *Sag. Passion* 45 in *O. & N. Misc.* 198 Wallen in helle deop nere noman ne may alle.

† **b.** *fig.* To ‘boil’ with passion. (Cf. WALLING *ppl. a.*) *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 2123 Hrefler inne weoll, Þonne he wintrum frod worn gemunde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1696 Þe king weol al inwiþ of wreðde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 Þeo hwule þet te leorie walleđ wiðinnen of wreðde, nis þer no riht dom.

† **2.** Of liquids: To bubble up; to well up, flow abundantly. Of the sea, waves: To boil up, rage.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* IV. iii. Mid þam ȝeteah wealleđ blod of eorþan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 At eche wunde wul ut atter. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 660 As be water deþ vp walle. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* iii. 48 Sykyng þei myȝte be of þat lond þar melke and hony walleđ. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 1087 Þe blod out of his wounde wel. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 71 Venim or vernissh in wombe walleđ Wiþinne in my wombe or waxeþ, ich wene. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9 Out of be whech tombe manna and oyle walleđ out ȝefre. *Sg.* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iii. 432 Þes..crueltie, out of whiche walleđ the seid ȝuelis.

† **b.** To swarm (with vermin). *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* iv. 212 On blindum cweartene þær mæniu lic lizge, þe wæron full of wyrmum, þe weoldon call maðon. *c* 1250 *Vac.* in Wr.-Wülcker 531/22 *Scatens*, wealleđe [gl. Aldh. *Laud. Virg.* (poet.) lxxxix, *scatens vermibus*]. 1580 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 235 He walleđe ful of wormes [L. *vermibus scatuerat*].

**3.** *trans.* To boil. Cf. WELL *v.*

*See pot-walling*, quot. 1456 s. v. POT-WALLOPING.

*c* 1320 *S. Margaret* 287 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 232 Takeþ and walleþ oyle and lete opon hir renne.

**b.** *absol.* To boil brine in salt-making.

1600 [implied in WALLER 2]. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1067 They seldom Wall, that is, make Salt, in above 6 Houres at a time.

**4.** *intr.* To weld, become welded; *fig.* to blend. Cf. WELL, WELD *vbs.*

1589 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 1692 Pleasure in Him and Healthe pleasure fall So foull at strife, they can, nor mixe, nor wall.

**Wall** (wɔl), *v.*2 Pa. t. and pa. pple. walled (wɔld). [OE. **wiallan* (only in pa. pple. *gewiallod*), *t. wiall* WALL *sb.*1] = WALLED 1, *wallen*.]

**1.** *trans.* To furnish with a wall.

**a.** To enclose, surround, or divide with a wall or walls; to provide (a town, etc.) with fortified walls.

[*c* 1000 *Ælfric Num.* xiii. 29 Micele burga þær sind and mærlice ȝewealloden.] *c* 1290 *Lyn. & Ex.* 435 He chea a stede toward eden, And hit walled a bur, þe no ti tatine. 1420 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 138, I saugh a Gardin .., Enclos it was, and walled wel, With ye walles enbatailled. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 3 Þe toun was ywalled, þat was not ful i-walled. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 271 Laomedon the kynge of Troye was besy to walle and mure his cyte with mures and towres. 1589 BICCERS *Commonw. Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 39 The Spaniards haue beginned with a wall of stone. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 14 Close by the battell, ditch'd, & wall'd with Turph. 1611 — *Lear* *Chron.* 13 King Athelstan..new walled and beautified the City of Exceter. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 201 The expence of walling two thirty-two acre fields amounted to 111. 293 Some lands near the river were formerly in value, being now trenched and walled. 1881 *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* (N.S.) III. 31 The town of Shonga..is walled and ditched.

**b.** With *about*, *round*, *round about*, *round*, or, *into*, to enclose with a wall. *To wall off*, *out*, to shut off or out with a wall.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2169 Þe vif tounes of þe vif pors he let walli aboute. 1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 200 Till Perth þam went thai..Thai fand it walit all round. *c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 1303 (Cott.) He gert wal in al þat stede Qwhar Cristis nis passion tholit of dede. 1482 CAXTON *Caym. mart's* (1828) 10 They..wente in to a valey and walled round a boute. 1532 TINDALE *Jonas* Prol. B vij, Enuironed it and walled it about on euery syde with yͤ feare of god. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. iv. 834 Those houses have lesse summer fruit. 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* II. (Globe) 564 It was a low marshy Ground, wall'd round with a Stone-wall. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 58 A gravel-walk that was walled in on the left hand. 1799 WELLINGTON *Lett. Lieut. Col. Close* 21 Dec., in Gurwood *Disp.* (1844) I. 47 What I should propose would be to wall off that part occupied by him. 1842 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, Traffic was walled out. 1880 TENDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 19 A space for cooking walled off from the sleeping-room. 1885 W. G. PALGRAVE

*Journ. Central S. E. Arabia* II. 301 The town is walled in, but not strongly, on the land side.

**c.** To furnish (a building) with side and partition walls; to build the wall or walls of. Also with *up*.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 323 And here with grace bigan to make a good foundement, And watteled it and walled it with his peyne & his passioun. *c* 1390 *P. Pl. Crede* 164 And all was walled hat wone. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cclx. 1021 b 2 Therein was a square tour thick walled. 1691 Dryden *A. Arthur* II. 19 That Castle, were it wall'd with Adamant, Can hide thy Head, but till to Morrow's Dawn. 1766 Lond. *Alberti's Archit.* I. 78 The Towers..ought not to be open on the inside, but walled up quite round. 1799 A. Young *View Agric. Lincoln.* 34 The old buildings are of timber, walled with clay. 1821 G. M. Arcan in *Roman Wall Scot.* xii. 401 Perhaps it was now that Castlecary was walled with stone.

**d.** To line (a well, cistern) with a wall. Also with *round*.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 229 A Cistern of Clay walled within with Bricks. 1833 Jas. Davidson *Brit. & Rom. Rem. Axminster* 84 A hole in the natural soil..walled round in a circular form with flint-stones.

**2.** *transf.* and *fig.* To enclose, defend, bound, or divide as with a wall, or as a wall does.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's T.* 219 My sone, god..walled a tonge with teeth and lippes for to shutte his janyve ther-with what he speeke. 1558 A. Jenningson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 331 We feared nothing being walled with the said river. 1591 Sharp. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 24 On either hand thee, there are squadrons pitch'd, To wall thee from the liberty of Flight. 1595 *Polinanteia* in Hrydges *Brit. Bibl.* I. 278 Yet both of you [Oxford and Cambridge] so deare to me, so walled with priuiledges, so crowned with learning & honor. 1603 Sharp. *Hamlet*, IV. v. 127 (QQ 1, 2) There's such diuinitie doth wall [*Fol.* hedge] a king, That treason dares not looke on. *c* 1600 Fletcher *Faithf. Shepherdess* III. iv. They feed, Like to the palm-tree walling fruitful Nile, Shall grow up straighter. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 165 Either side is walled with an amazing hill. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xv. 179 They..onely spoiled poore villages, which counted themselves walled with the truce as yet in force. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 721 Each [side] had his place appointed, As neare course. The rest in circuit walles this Universe. 1818 L. Hunt *Hero & Leander* II. 7 The struggling flare Seem'd out to walled with a heart of stone. 1863 Lo. Houghton *Mem. Tour Greece* 23 The tall white rock, Walled the far waste of silent sea. 1879 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6/2 The encounters were walled with Union Jacks. 1883 Browne *Prometheus* 14 Where the path Is walled with corn I am found. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 59 On the right hand, walling the street, [is] the great monastery to the Passion of Christ.

**b.** with *about, across, along, in, round*.

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xx. (1869) 15 This closure that closeth you and walleth you in, disseuerynge you from the world. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 408 A Lawne, walled about with Diamonds. 1593 — *Rich. II*, III. iii. 167 As if this Flesh, which walls about our Life, Were Brasse impregnable. *a* 1626 Bacon *Wks.* (1638) 1/2 Sea Fights..The Spaniards by casting themselues continually into Roundels, (their strongest Ships walling in the rest). 1642 Denham *Sophy* 1. 2 'Tis his single virtue And terror of his name, that walls him in From danger. 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 38 A weekly sabbath walls in our wild natures. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 475 At length I heard of Orleans, by her foe Wall'd in from human succour. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 207 The high precipices which had hitherto walled in the channel of the river. 1845 J. Cooper *Adv. in Pacific* xi. 132 The..upper part of the clearing, which was walled along for several hundred yards by solid rock. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* Prol. 3 World—how it walled about Life with disgrace. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 39 A canyon..was here walled across by a dump of rolling stones. 1890 R. Buchanan *Coll. Reformer* xvi. The..bridal bay, with..a grand sea-bed stone bluff guarding and walling-in the farther point like a grim jealous giant.

**c.** To form the sides of (a room) like walls; to line the walls of (an apartment).

1830 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. iii. 20 The rest of the room was walled from the floor to the roof with books. 1846 G. R. Gleig *Subaltern* xxiv. 190 It did not take long to..such employment to make the room seem walled with retributive flames. 1916 G. W. E. Russell *25 Chapters Autob.* (1924) vii. 149 The great gallery, walled with the canvases of Rubens.

**3.** To shut up (a person or thing) within walls, to build up or entomb in a wall, to immure. Chiefly with *up*.

1530 Palsgr. 770/2, I wall, I shyt up, or close up, within walles. *Ye inure*...it is a harde relygyon to be an anchre, for they be shyte up within walles and can go no further. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 243 They were walled vp within their monasteries. 1611 Fletcher *Mad Lover* v. 1 In three [battles] he beat the Thunder-bolt his Brother, Forc'd him to wall himself up. 1620 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 133 After she had seene one dead, the other wall'd to certaine death, ..what could they say? 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1892) II. xii. 285 The feather beds that were walled up are much eaten with Rats. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) VI. 87 But if ne'er so close you wall him, ..Blind Love..Will find out the way. 1737 W. Cowper in F. Peck *Mem. O. Cromwell* etc. II. (1740) 88, I am apt to think the person found in the vault was betrayed and walled up alive by them he trusted. 1843 Poe *Black Cat* (end), I had walled the monster up within the tomb!

*transf.* 1867 G. Macdonald *Poems* 87, I will be a knight Walled up in armour black.

¶ **b.** An alleged synonym of Gate *v.*[1]

1860 C. Hendon *Mr. Bedlow, Remin. Amer. Coll. Life in Macon, Mag.* II. 292/1 To 'gate' or 'wall' a refractory student would be simply impossible, for want of the material masonry. 1891 Hoppe s. v. *Gate* gives the prec. quot.; hence the sense appears (as 'Oxford university slang') in Barrère & Leland *Slang*, in Farmer, and in recent Dicts.

**4.** To close (a gate or other aperture) with or as with a wall. Chiefly with *up*.

1503 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees 1897) 30 John Mäteley & his heires frome now forthe shall wall up..the utter west syde of his sawmyne. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* v. 47 They that were in the cite, walde not let them go thorow, but walled vp the portes with stones. 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 168 A wall, one day wallinges uppe the dower...iiij^d. 1695 *Observ. Revenue Land.* 23 [They] were talking of walling the Gates to prevent the coming in of the Tartarians. 1707-32 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 192 Wall up the sides with Brick. 1848 H. Greville *Lenwell v. Drury* 1 July (1883) 280 The door was boldly walled to prevent surprise. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* viii, Some of the windows had been walled up. 1885 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 129 Bishop Alcock..walled up the arches and inserted in each of them a window.

**5.** To build (stone) into a wall. Also of stone, to make (a specified length) of walling.

1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 251 P'd for soe many stones as walled nyne y'des, ij^s iij^d. 1797 Sheaton *Edystone L.* (1793) I 209 When it [Bath Free Stone] is walled with this kind of mortar,..the joints are more permanent. 1848-9 *Lpool. Archit. Soc.* (1850) II. 190 It [the rubble] may be walled with or without mortar.

**6.** *absol.* or *intr.* To construct a wall or walls; to build walling.

1586 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 251 P'd for soe many stones as walled nyne y'des, ij^s iij^d. 1598 *Ibid.* 112 Towe workemen, for wallynge and chalbynge in the bru howse..xvj^d. 1926 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 March 1. 47 We may be said rather to wall than only to fill up.

**7.** *trans.* To chalk up (a score) on the wall. *slang.*

1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 129 *Wall it*, chalking a reckoning up at a public-house.

†**Wall**, *v.*[3] *Obs.* [OE. *weallian* = OHG., (M)LG., MDu. *wallen*, ONorse *vallia* (MHG., mod.G. *wallen*):—WGer. **wallōjan*.

By some scholars referred to the root of Wall *v.*[2]; others regard it as a construction of **wahljan* (cf. OHG. *wadalōn* to roam about).]

*intr.* To go on pilgrimage.

*a* 1200 *Cursor Mundi*, 17 *Pruffetes* § 10 in Thorpe *Anc. Laws & Inst.* I. 60 Ne sholde ded bot hat lewede man his wapna alegge & wealliçe her-fot wide. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1648 With me xall ye wall to have more eloquens & goo veste be stedyssh by xuel ly.

**Wall** (wɔl), *v.*[4] Now only *U.S.* Also 5–9 *Sc.* waul(e, wawl(e, 5–6 *Sc.* (*t'rron.*) waill. [MS.: *wavle*:—**wajle*, related to *wajl*- in Wall-eyed *a.*] *trans.* To roll (the eyes). Also *absol.*, and *intr.* of the eyes. Hence Walling *ppl. a.* (Sc. *waulen*).

*c* 1580 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 469 The Cok..Vnwarlie winkand, waulit and dantit and drank. 1590 in *Maidrament* (N. S. F. S.) iv. 27 Cuttis for þi cot þai kest..out throw þi haunt þe pykis of thame apill, wawland [*MS. Asmolei* wallond] eyne. 1595 Douglas *Æneis* XII. viii. 154 In the breist of the goddes graif thi Gorgones heid,..With enc wauland [L. *tortuntem luminal*]. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Oct. 298/2 He..follows his lover's waulen' eyes. She lay in the deadthraws. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxx, But presently recovering himself, he wawls on me with his gray een, like a wild-cat. 1827 Lockhart *Gord Gord* xxxvii. 2 *Poetic Mirror* (1817) 96 Quhill ilkeon bosome bynnit with lufe, And waullit ilkeen eye. 1876 * Mark Twain * *Tom Sawyer* v, The ladies would lift up their hands,..and 'wall' their eyes, and say..'Only to think of it!' 1883 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Ass.* *Wall the eyes*, that is, to roll the eyes so as to show the white. I can remember this as a very common way among the little negroes in South Carolina of showing displeasure.

**Wall** (wɔl), *v.*[5] *Naut.* [f. Wall *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To make a wall-knot on (a rope).

1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 112 The end [of the rope-lanyard] is finished off by cowning and walling the end close to the crossing turns.

**Wall** : see Wale *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], Waw, Well.

**Walla**, variant form of Wallah.

**Wallaba** (wɒ·lăbă). [? a. native name.] A large South American timber-tree (*Eperua falcata*).

Also *attrib.*, as *wallaba oil, tree*.

1849 *Hooker's Journ. Bot.* I. 11 (1909) 17 Here the.. wallaba, purple-heart,..and mora, are met with in vast abundance. 1849 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* (1846) 550 Eperua falcata is the wallaba-tree of Guiana. 1852 *Ill. Lond. Neus* 6 *Jul. fr. It. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 122 Wallaba Oil. *Ibid.* 137 Wallaba..Used for house-building, shingles, staves, palings, and posts. Yields an oil and gum resin having medicinal properties. 1872 Kingsley *At Last* vii, I passed the great Australian Blue-Gum which overhangs the road, and the Wallaba-tree.

**Wallaby** (wɒ·lăbi). Also -bi(e, -bee, walloby, whallabee. Pl. **wallabies**, † **-bys**. [Native Australian : spelt *wal-li-bah* by D. Collins *Acc. Eng. Colony N.S. Wales* 614, 1798. Morris suggests derivation from *walla* to leap.]

**1.** A kangaroo belonging to any of the small species of the genus *Macropus*, formerly grouped as the sub-genus *Halmaturus*, or of the genera *Onychogale* (Pinl-tailed Wallaby), *Petrogale* ('Rock Wallaby'), *Lagorchestes* ('Hare Wallaby') and *Lagostrophus* ('Banded Wallaby'). All the species are confined to Australia and the neighbouring islands.

The sing. form is used in sporting language as collective plural.

1828 F. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) I. 269 The wallabee and paddymalla grow to about sixty pounds each. 1830 R. Dawson *Pres. State Australia* iii. (1831) 111 A species of small kangaroo,..which the natives call the 'Wallaby'. 1832 Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* II. 28 The wallabee is not very common. 1843 J. E. Gray *List Specim. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 89 The Whallabee. *Halmaturus Unilabiatus* [etc.]. 1844 J. O. Balfour *Mt. N. S. Wales* I. 84 The wallaby, or rock kangaroo, is of a dark-grey colour (etc.). *Ibid.*, The wallabys are to be seen only on the hottest days. 1846 J. L. Stokes *Discov. in Australia* II. ix. 267 The Wallaby are numerous on this part of the island [Tasmania]. 1860 G. Bennett *Gather. Naturalist* xiv. 286 A species of Wallaby Kangaroo was found about the rocky ranges at the Nepean. 1867 W. Richardson *Tasmanian Towns* 18 Go to the country a week to shoot wallaby. 1884 * R. Boldrewood * *Melbourne Mem.* iii. 24 Violet was so fast that she could catch the brush kangaroo (the wallaby) within sight. 1893 Mrs. C. Praed *Outlaw & Lawmaker* II. 35 The scared rock wallabies darted out of their holes.

**2.** *On his wallaby track*, hence shortened *on the wallaby* : on tramp; wandering about on foot, whether in search of work or aimlessly as a vagrant.

1869 Marcus Clarke *Peripatetic Philosopher* 41 (Morris) An old bush ditty, which I have heard sung when I was on the 'Wallaby'. 1890 * R. Boldrewood * *Colonial Reformer* 21, What is the meaning of 'out on the wallaby'?..It's bush slang, sir, for men just as you or I might be now, looking for work or something to eat. *Ibid.* xxvii, He was found a summer on the wallaby track to open his mind. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Last Legion* ii, And some of us hunt on the Oil Coast, And some on the Wallaby trade.

**3.** *attrib.*, as in *wallaby shin, tail*; **wallaby -(proof) fence**, a fence intended to keep out wallabies; **wallaby-grass**, an Australian grass, *Danthonia penicillata*.

1852 Mundy *Antipodes* II. 43, I found myself..swallowing with relish, a plate of wallaby-tail soup. 1881 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 56 A portion of this station was fenced with wallaby-proof fence—a high, close paling, reminding one of an Anglish park. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 13 June 6/9 A wallaby-skin rug. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 260 Down the wallaby fence..the emus turned at a hurricane gait.

**Wallace**, variant of Wallis.

**Wallach, Wallachian** : see Walach, -ian.

**Walladay**, obs. form of Weraday.

**Wallah** (wɒ·lă), *Anglo-Indian*. Also wal(l)a, wollah. [a. Hindī *wālā* suffix, forming adjs. with the scene 'pertaining to or connected with' what is denoted by the *sb.*; hence forming *sbs.*, as in *nāo-wālā* boatman, *Dilli-wālā* inhabitant of Delhi. The suffix in this function may be compared to -ER[3]; Europeans have commonly apprehended it as a *sb.* equivalent to 'man', 'fellow'.]

**a.** In certain Hindī or Hindustānī words adopted in Anglo-Indian use or cited in popular Anglo-Indian spelling, as *agra-wallah*, native of Agra, *banghy-wallah*, a porter who carries loads with a *banghy* or shoulder-yoke, *howdah-wallah*, an elephant accustomed to carry a howdah, *jungle-wallah*, man of the jungle. See also Lootie-wallah, Punkah-*wallah*, Topi-wallah.

Mrs. Sherwood's *Portrait-walla* (see Punjab 3), applied to a woman, is a misuse.

1776 *Trial Nundcomar* 29/1 They were both Agra Walla's ..by Agra, I mean the place he came from. 1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade-M.* I. 325 The bangy-wallah is the bearer who carries the bangy. 1826 (*Asiat. Last of Lascars* xvi. 246 The unconscious old decoit and his Junglewallah of a servant. 1845 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* v. (1864) 133 At vaults constructed sixteen hearers, and four bangihy-wallahs. *Ibid.* vi. 176 Strange stories these old howdah-wallahs could tell us, if they had the gift of speech!

**b.** Used as *sb.* with Eng. word prefixed attrib., in imitation of native derivatives with the suffix, as in *box-wallah* (Box *sb.*[8] 24), *competition wallah* (Competition 3).

1788 in Seton-Karr *Sel. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 93 A band of good Patriot-wallahs. 1834 [A. Prinsep] *Indoo* II. 155 (Stark) These chits of 50, 100, and 500 rupees to low-castes from Mrs. Title. 1853 W. D. Arnold *Oakfield* I. 66 'Were you ever in the Lakes?' 'No, I'm a Suffolk walla.' 1854 Mrs. Dyer *Mem's Keeping* (1857) 191 The bungalow-wallahs ..came in to superintend his toilet, accompanied by a ready-made clothes wallah and a barber. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 404/1 Now, those fellows, these big-ship wallahs ..they're only just beginning to take Us seriously.

**c.** Short for *competition-wallah*.

1869 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* i. (1864) 5 Stories against the Competition Wallahs, are told, for instance, in *Story showing the Pride of Wallahs*.—A Wallah being invited to dinner by a Member of Council, went out before the whole company. 1891 * Allen Cheese * (*Yorkshire*) *Lays of Ind* (1892) 142 Each unemployed wallah so surely applies To be kindly allowed in that Station to stay, Doing his nothing, and drawing his pay. 1911 Sir W. P. Butler *Autob.* iii. 45 M. sleep. Enter the wallahs and servants.

†**Wa'lland**, *a. dial. Obs.* [Of obscure origin. The E. Anglian glossary is prob. correct in reading *walland* as one word, not *wall and* as printed in Bloomfield's poem. Cf. the Yorkshire *wallband, wallyh*, 'a whip of plaited leather thongs' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).]

(See quot. 1895.)

1806 Bloomfield *Bur. Tales, Richard & Kate* 29 She straight slipped off the Wall and Band, 1892 *E. Anglf. Gloss.* (citing Rev. E. S. Taylor), *Walland band*, the leather used in spinning.

**Wallaroo** (wɒ·lărū). Also 9 **wallooroo, wolloroo** (see Morris *Austral Engl.*), **wallaru.** [Native Australian *wolarū* : cf. Wallaby.] A large species of kangaroo, *Macropus robustus* ; in Queensland and New South Wales applied chiefly to the black variety. Also *wallaroo kangaroo*.

1847 P. Cunningham *Two Years N.S.W.* I. xvii. 393 The wallaroo, of a blackish colour, with coarse shaggy fur, inhabiting the hills. 1848 J. O. Halfour *Sk. N.S. Wales* 25 The wallaroo kangaroo is of a darkish red colour, and weighs about 60 lbs. 1867 Leichhardt *Tral.* xlii. 456 He had been guided by a beaten track of Wallurus. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* v. The southern forest where ..the forester kangaroo and the wallaroo alone run.

**Wallat,** obs. variant of Wallet.

**Wallaway,** obs. form of Welladay.

**[Wall-can:** perh. a misprint for **wall-can* :** cf. *walk-pin*, Walk *v.*]* 3.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 386/1 An Hatters Wall-Can,.. a Can by which the Felt-maker bears his Liquor from the Furnace to the Bench.]

**Walle :** see Wale *sb.*[1], *a.*, *v.*[1], Well.

**Walle,** obs. Sc. variant of Valley.

*c* 1400 Wyntoun *Cron.* I. 73 In be feild of Damask faire.. Or in a walle of Bréon.

**† Walled,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *sb.*[3] + -ed[2]. Cf. Wall *v.*[4]] Of a horse's cye : Affected with 'wall-eye'.

1678-8 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 306 One grey trotting curtell mare, crapped on the further yeare, and the neare is wallid. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2734 A dapple gray Gelding, about 15 hands high, both eies wallied. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4182/4 A brown bay Mare,..one walled Eye, the other about half walled.

**Walled** (wɔ̄ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Wall *sb.*[2] + -ed[1].]

1. Furnished with or as with a wall, enclosed with a wall. Of a town, etc. : Surrounded or protected with fortifications. Of a well, cistern, pond, the sides of a cavity, etc. : Lined or faced with masonry.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) lxxx. 27 [22] On ceastre xewealledre (Vulg. *in civitate munita*). 13.. *K. Alis.* 6008 They hiden walled citie townes. In Italie, and eke in dowmas. 1449-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 72 Cytyes and Castelles and walled townes. 1592 Shakes. *1 Hen. VI*, III. iv. 7 Twelve Cities, and seuen walled Townes of strength. 1605 — *Lear* v. iii. 18 And wee'l weare out In a wall'd prison, packs and sects of great ones. 1691 Milton *P. R.* II. 92 Each Town or City wall'd On this side the broad lake Genezaret. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 191 On one side of this cathedral is a walled terrass. 1789 *Fr. Act* 29 *Geo. III*, c. 33 § 25 Walled deer-parks and pleasure avenues excepted. 1849 W. S. Rose *Lett. M. Italy* II. 82 *note*, Oblong pieces of walled ground, planted with fruit-trees. 1850 Urr *Dict. Arts*, etc. 820 [These] have led to the contrivance of surrounding the area on which the roasting takes place with three little walls or with four...This is what is called a walled area. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 376 A walled Bulgarian village. 1880 C. M. Yonge *Pillars Earth* 130 A succession of terraced gardens...Their walled sides are thickly clothed with Calceolarias, Cytisus [etc.]. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 237/2 Neptune's Grotto is an enchanting, walled fish-pond.

*fig.* 1907 Ralegh *Shakespeare* 207 Overweening or crime breaking in upon the walled serenity of daily life.

b. with qualifying word prefixed.

*c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 24 Pe whilk es a strang citee and a wele walled. 1872 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 267 A great double-walled style. 1901 C. Hodgson *Mousmé* 18 Our little fragile-walled house on the hillside at Nagasaki.

2. With advs. **a.** *Walled-up*, closed or blocked up with masonry.

1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 118 A ..large walled-in garden. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* I. 219 The third chamber has another old walled-up window. 1903 F. W. II. Myers *Human Personality* 193 Like wine found in a walled up cellar. 1906 C. Hole *Wayside Sk. Eccl. Hist.* I. 12 In front of the church was a walled-in court.

b. *Wall-in*, -*up*, -*round* in a wall.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. ii, Crowds..gaze on the skeletons found walled-up. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 11 Feb. 3/6 The remains of a walled-in nun were discovered.

3. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Enclosed in a 'wall' or investing structure : chiefly in parasynthetic formations. Also *walled-off*, separated by a 'wall'.

1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 202 The atrium : thin-walled, rounded, lies on the dorsal aspect of the truncus and ventricle. 1890 *Encyclopæd. Brit.* XXI. 562 It was a smooth walled cavity,..about the size of a small marble. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 70 A small walled-off pocket of pus.

4. Of the nature of a wall, made of stone-work.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 115 Where stones can be easily procured,..walled fences may be preferable.

**Waller**[1] (wɔ̄·lə(r)). [f. Wall *v.*[4] + -er[1].] One who builds walls (see quot. 1908).

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Wallare, *murator*, *machio*. Wallare, pat werkyibe wythe stone and morter, *cementiarius*. 1583 Douglas *Æneis* I. 11. 72 Vn quhawis,..Come..the wallaris of greit Rome. *c* 1586 in 14th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 30 Four masonres and viij wallaris : viij quarriouris. 1610 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 253 Oswald Collyson waller or rough mason. 1682 *Chesthire Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 341 To the wallers for work and plastering, 11. 2s. 1890 *Lincoln Gas.* 30 Aug. 4/1 Choppers, Wallers, and Masons for Ancaster Quarries wanted. 1908 *Rewtis, Stonemason* 89 He himself was what is called a 'waller'—that is, he did not dress stones, but set them on the walls when dressed, or else built walls of rough, unhewn stones.

**Waller**[2] (wɔ̄·lə(r)). [f. Wall *v.*[1] + -er[1].] In the Cheshire salt-works, a brine-boiler, a worker who attends to the salt-pans. Also *lead-waller* (cf. *lead-walling*, Lead *sb.*[1] 12).

1600 Camden *Brit.* (ed. 3) 543 Et mulierculæ (Walleræ vocant) rastellis ligneis è fundo salem educunt. 1886 *Cheshire Glass., Lead-wallers*, commonly abbreviated to *Wallers*. *Waller*, a salt-maker or boiler. At present the men call *boilers* those who make *stewed* and *butter-salt*, and the others *wallers*. 1890 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Waller*, a local term, applied to salt boilers, i.e., those who look after the boiling of the salt. It is applied to the man who look after the making of any white salt, whether the pan is required to boil or not.

**Waller**[3] (wɔ̄·lə(r)). [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. A wall-tree.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 87/1 Wall-Trees, called Wallers, are such as are planted at Wall sides, and are pinned up to the Wall.

**† 2.** A 'keeper of the walls'. Hence **Wallership.** *Obs.*

1578 in *Howsek. Ord.* (1790) 264 Keeper of the Walles, alias wallership ; fee 2. 5. 4.

3. (See quots.)

1904 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 8/2 'Wallers'..are men who find casual employment as law-writers, and have been facetiously christened 'wallers', because they are generally to be found lounging against a wall in Cursitor-street waiting on an engagement. 1908 *Daily Tel.* 31 July 6/7 Waller, a term applied to a man who does law writing...They were called 'wallers', as a term of contempt, by the regular writers.

**Wallerian** (wɒlɛ·rĭăn), *a. Phys.* [f. the name of A. V. *Waller* (1816-70) + -ian.] Of or pertaining to Waller, or to the kind of degeneration of tissue discovered by him.

1877 M. Foster *Physiol.* III. i. (1878) 302 This method of diagnosis is often spoken of as the Wallerian method, after A. Waller. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 865 The part of the nerve-fibre between the capture and the muscle now undergoes Wallerian degeneration. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 492 The more active or Wallerian degeneration ensues. *Ibid.* 495 To compare the rate of Wallerian degeneration.

**Wallet** (wɒ·lĕt). Also 4-6 **walet,** 5 **wallett(e,** 6 **walett, wallyt,** 6, 7, 9 *dial.* **wallat.** [Of obscure origin ; the stress *wa·let* (beside *wa·let*) in Chaucer is unfavourable to the current theory that the word is a metathesis of *watel* Wattle *sb.*

Possibly a. O. Fr. or A.F. **walet*, which might be derived from Low G. **wallen* to go on pilgrimage (Wall *v.*[2]) or **wallen* to roll up (see under Wall *v.*[1])

1. A bag for holding provisions, clothing, books, etc., esp. on a journey either on foot or on horseback ; a pilgrim's scrip, a knapsack, a pedlar's pack, or the like.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* 681 But hood, for iolitee, wered he noon, For it was trussed up in his walet (*rhyme* let). *Ibid.* 686 His walet [lay] biforn hym in his lappe, Bret ful of pardon comen from Rome al hoot. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) 106 Yet have I ensample to gadere the smale crommes, and fulle my walet of tho that fallen from the bordeanenge the riche men. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Walette, scrip, or poke, *sistarcia*. 1506-7 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 372 Item, for ane wallat to John of Bute xij d. 1524 A. Barclay *Eclogues* iv. 9 Within his walet were roasted pod and bag. 1593-34 Fletcher *Husb.* I. 41 Take hede . what maner of people resorte and comme to thy house ..and specially if they bringe with them...bottelles, bagges, wallettes, or bushell-pokes. *a* 1599 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 461 Another brought two goslynges..She brought them in a wallet. 1535 Coverdale *Judith* xiii. 10 She..delyuered hym the bread that she had brought with her, and the wyne that she had powred out, and the rosted flesh that was in her wallet [Gr. εἰς τὴν πήραν τὴν βραστὸν αὐτῷ, Vulg. *in peram suam*]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 b, Husbandry necessaries, the smaller sort be these.. Sacks, Wallets, Bottels, [etc.]. 1589 Drinker *Cult Herne-bk.* I. 7 Neither..the Switzers blasted Cod-peece, nor the Danish sleeue, swagging downe like a Dutch wallet. 1603 *Churchm.* Acc. (Surtees) 290 For makinge of a wallet to put the challenc and a bottle in, 1 d. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xxvii. 62 Their Childe they carry in a Wallet about their backs, quarterly vnder one of their armes it may sucke when it will. *c* 1670 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 30 A wallet to cari bookes. 1721 *Spectator* No. 289 ¶ 8 He had a great blue Coat for some time, he [a Servitor] enter'd into a long Gallery, where he laid down his Wallet, and spread his Carpet, in order to repose himself upon it. 1791 in *Four Coast Farmers* 4 A russic wallet on his shoulders 13 d. 1760-8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* lxii, With her scanty wardrobe packed up in a wallet, she set out on her journey on foot. 1792 A. Wilson *Foresters* (1806) 11. 30 My pond'rous Pack apo' the ground I carelessly had flung ; A wallet green, wi straps fast bound. 1840 Dickens *Old C.* xxxi, The old man had forgotten his wallet which contained the light burden he had to carry. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxii, I have heard he came up to London himself as a young man with only his tragedy in his wallet. 1904 Bridges *Demeter* 592 Approach him with a gift : this little wallet. (Giving a little bag of seeds.) 1914 *Mist. Ret. U. F. Ch.* Jan. 2/2 The Highlands, where there is no more welcome visitor than the colporteur with his wallet of healthy and inspiring literature.

Proverb, *To brew in a bottle and bake in a wallet* : ? to attempt enterprises beyond one's means.

*c* 1540 Boorde *Brev. for Lerne* B iv, These men the whiche also brewe in a bottell and bake in a wallet.

b. *spec.* A bag having the opening in the middle and a receptacle at each end.

Some of the instances above may belong to this specific sense. Cf. also the verb : two pouches in a belt originally slung across the horse, or over the shoulder of the pedestrian.

1598 *Stat.* [1901 c.] 1695 *Jackson's Recount.* A 4 b Being thus surly us, I timely met with a long Purse lying neglected in the Street, whose entrance was on the middle like a Wallet. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wallet*, a kind of Bag with two Pouches to it. 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estates* 141 The wallet is almost unknown even in farmsteads now : it is a kind of long bag closed at each end, but with a slit in the centre for the insertion of things. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Wallet* or *Wally*,..As a hatting term it is a workbag with the entrance in the centre and made up at each end.

c. *fig.*

The fable here alluded to (Phædrus IV. 2) says that Jupiter gave to every man two bags, one of which, containing his own faults, hangs at his back, and the other, containing those of his fellows, hangs at his breast.

1528 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 233/1 If we wold once tourne oure walette..and the legge with other folkes faultes cast at oure backe, and caste the bagge that hereth our own faultes ..before vs at our brest. 1570 B. Googe *Popish Kingd.* IV. 60 But sure the wallet them beguiles, that hanges behinde their backe. And better others faultes they see, than what themselues doe lacke. 1589 Cooper *Admonit.* (Arb.) 18 They looke not into their owne doings : they cast that end of the wallet behinde them, wherein their owne faultes are wrapped. 1658 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 118 Neither of both,..were willing enough to look into the other end of the wallet, and to examine throughly their own estates.

d. A beggar's bag. **† Phrases,** *to bear the wallet*, to be a beggar. [= Fr. *porter la besace.*]

1546 *Sniptic. Poore Comment* (E. E. T. S.) 19 Bringing them vp other to bear wallettes, other els, if thei be sturdy, to stuffe prisons. 1561 B. Googe tr. *Pelagonius' Zoetica* v. N vj, And se thy goodes they not decrease but may augmented be, Least in thy age the wallet come. 1608 Dekker *Belmont Lond. Wks.* (Grosart) III. 8/1 You are likewise to Glue way to any of vs that haue borne all the Offices of the Wallet before thee. 1622 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 6 (1659) 405 Needs must he beare a wallet, and die a beggar. 1660 Bacon *To King Wks.* 1778 I. 86 Poor as Job, or as Lazarus, as I that have borne a bag be not now in my age forced in effect to bear a wallet. 1664 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 30 Without House or Land, or so much as Wallet to carry a begging with. 1665 *Surv. Affaires of Netherlands* 33 They coyned Meddals with the Kings Picture, on the one hand a Wallet, and a Dish on the other, with this Inscription, Faithfull to God and the King, ever to bear the Wallet. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* XVII. 237 So saying, his tatter'd wallet o'er his back he cast. 1832 H. Martineau *Hill & Valley* iii. 135 Without a cent in my wallet, as beggars usually have. 1836 [Hogton] *Bibbers Thurland* I. vi. 124 Their appetites were generally recovered, and the contributions of their collected wallets were found insufficient for the whole. 1879 Maclear *Celts* viii. 125 Itinerant beggars, who went about with wallets, were not regarded with favour. 1880 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 145 Time hath (my lorde) a wallet at his backe Wherein he puts almes for oblivion.

e. A lawyer's bag. *Obs.*

1649 Milton *Colast.* 17 A sheet and arrant petti-fogger, who lately was so hardy, as to lay aside his bukram wallet, and make himself a fool in print.

*f. Her.* (See quot.)

*c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Wallet*, a scrip, or pilgrim's pouch.

**† 2.** *transf.* Something (in an animal's body) protuberant and swagging. Cf. Wattle *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

1610 Shake. *Temp.* III. iii. 46 Who would believe that there were Mountayneers, Dew-lapt, like Bulls, whose throats had hanging at 'em Wallets of flesh? 1658 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 137 Since the great Bulk or Wallet of these Inte-tines must incline and swag towards the Diaphragm.

3. A flat bag, usually of leather, closed by a flap fastened with a button or clasp, or secured by a band. Orig. *U. S.*

**a.** A pocket-book for holding paper money without folding, or documents.

1844 N. P. Willis *Dashes at Life* II. 245 Our several borrowings were thrust into a wallet which was sometimes in his pocket, and sometimes in mine, as each took the turn to be paymaster. 1854 Whyte-Melville *Kate Coven.* Pocket-book or place for her ping money about one's person. 1884 *Advt.*, Thin Pocket Diary, for Wallet. 1888 Cassell [as 'American']. 1913 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 7/7 The plaintiff, a diamond merchant, carried a wallet containing £ 370 in bank-notes, brilliants value £ 320, two necklaces,.. a diamond pendant cluster, [etc.]. 1914 *Ibid.* 29 Jan. 2 The pair his hand in his pocket and pulled out a leather dollar wallet and examined its contents.

**b.** A cyclist's tool-bag.

1897 Visct. Bury & Hillier *Cycling* 432 The wallet, or tool-bag, is generally supplied with the machine.

c. 'A small kit carried by anglers,' containing 'thread and needles, awl, waxed ends, .. a pair of small pliers, a file, etc.' (*Cent. Dict.*). **? 4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *wallet-bearer, book*; **† wallet-ways** *adv.*; **wallet envelope,** an envelope with a broad flap like that of a wallet.

1611 Cotgr., *Besacier*, he that carries, or wallet-bearer of a begging, or beggarly companie. 1659 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. i. 69 You may perchance thinke it improper to behold me upon the case hanging Wallet-wayes. 1893 Gillies *Aristotle's Rhet.* III. xi. 372 In this way Iphicrates insulted Callias, by calling him the wallet-bearer of the goddess, instead of her torch-bearer. 1895 J. C. Bucke (*title*), The Walletbook of the Roman Wall.

**Walleteer** (wɒlĕtī·ə). *rare*—[f. Wallet + -eer.] One who carries a wallet.

1778 Toilet in *Shaks. Wks.* V. 428 At his girdle hangs a wallet for the reception of provisions, the only revenue of the mendicant orders of religious; who were named Walleteers or budget-bearers.

**Wallett,** obs. Sc. form of Valet.

**Wall eye, wall-eye** (wɒ·l,ai, wɔ̄·l,ai). Also 6 **walowe eye,** what *sb.*, 7 **whall,** walled *eye.* [Back-formation from Wall-eyed *a.*

In sense 1 pronounced with level stress, the first element being apprehended as an adj.]

1. An eye the iris of which is whitish, streaked, particoloured, or different in hue from the other eye, or which has a divergent squint. (See Wall-eyed *a.* 1.) **a.** in human beings.

1526 *Hundred Merry Tales* (1866) 91, I haue a wall eye in

my lied, for I neuer loke ouer my sholder this wyse but I lyghtly espye a knaue. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, Two Wall-eyes, in a face forced. 1604 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3963/4 He had..one Eye bigger than the other, and divers in colour, being a Hazel or Wall Eye. 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xxxv, Whose gaunt visage and wall-eyes assumed a most hostile aspect. 1826 — *Woodst.* i, Duckborough was a stout hull-necked man, of middle size, with..bushy eyebrows, and wall-eyes. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Wall-eeh*, white or grey eyes. 1830 R. G. Cumine *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 230 A jolly-looking old warrior with a wall eye. 1853 Seldon *Trav. S. E. Africa* 61 He was deeply pitted with smallpox, and had, too, a wall eye. 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* I. vii. 120 She was an ill-favoured person, with a wall-eye.

**b.** in horses, etc.

1593 *Will of Burton* (Somerset Ho.) A blak mare with one wallowe yee. 1597 R. Gorges *Herschaucht's Feach*, III. 113 A wall eye is very good, such as they say Alexanders Bucephalus had. 1616 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 147, no. 6 A hewse [=hue and] cry sent out from Colchester [for] two randed geldinge one of them with a waled eye. 1807 Markham *Cavel.* i. 16 They are for the most part pied, with white legges, and wall eyes. 1709 *Post Man* 8-8 Jan. 2/2 Stolen out of a Stable,..a black Gelding,..a white face, Wall Eyes, and 4 white Feet. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 207/4 Lost.. a Yorkshire Buck-hound, having black spots upon his back, red ears and a wall-eye. 1837 J. Cannon *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 93 A bald face, wall eyes, and white legs (if your horse is not a grey one) is to be preferr'd. 1842–9 Good *Study Med.* IV. 202 In horses, we may sometimes meet with what is called a wall-eye. 1849 J. Kyle *Con Cregan* xx, 'I know your mark.' 'My roan, with the wall-eye. You don't mind a wall-eye?'

¶ **c.** App. misused for 'blind eye'.

1866 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Aug. 229/2 Honour..never goes about apparently without one wall-eye, and it is a chance and an accident on which side of the top of the eye-maye be fixed.

**2.** The condition of being wall-eyed.

1589 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 428/1 *Glaucoma*,..a disease in the eye,..some think it to be a wal eie.

**3.** An animal that is wall-eyed. In the U.S. a name for various fishes: see WALL-EYED 3.

[1833 : see Waldenseh.] 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 17 The Wall-eye does not often exceed ten pounds in weight.

**Wall-eyed** (wɔ̄l,aid), *a.* Forms : α. 5 **wawil-, waugle-**, 6 **whaule-**, 7 **whale-**, 6– **wall-eyed** ; β. 5 **wald-eyed**. [The surviving form descends from ME. *wæwil-eyed*, a., ON. *vagl-eygr-r*, occurring only once, and explained in the context as 'one having speckled eyes'. The second element, *-eygr*, is regularly *f. augn* Eye 3b. The first element, *vagl*, is of obscure origin ; it coincides in form with *vagl* beam of wood, roost, perch (Da., Norw. *vagl*, Sw. *vagel*) which is used in the Icel. New Testament of 1540 for the 'beam' in the eye spoken of in Matt. vii. 3–4 ; it is, however, prob. a distinct word, not recorded separately in ON., but surviving in mod. Icel. *vagl* film over the eye, Sw. *vagel* sty in the eye.

Beside *wawil-eyed* ME. had a synonymous *wald-eyed*. This is commonly believed to be a. ON. *vald-eygr-r* ; but that word is only a conjectural reading for *valdeygðr*, occurring in a series of adjs. designating certain defects which in men may have ; the context does not show whether a physical blemish or a fault of temper is referred to, and if *-ygðr* be correct it must app. mean 'eyeing', a participial point in favour of the correction to *valdeygðr* is the coincidence with the ME. form ; but the meaning of *vald-* remains obscure. Cf. mod. Slovnig dial. *valodast* having a squinting look in the eye (quoted by Molbech from Outzen's MS. collections), which Outzen would derive from *vælde* dial. var. of Da. *valle* wavy.

The rare ME. Wolverhampton terms are synonymous with *wawil-eyed*, *wald-eyed*, and if so is prob. an alteration of the latter form due to the influence of ME. *walden*, OE. *gewealden* small (preserved, with different sense, in Sc. Waldin *a.*). See also Wald *a.* Cf. Waldneir, prob. a similar variant of Wall-eyed.]

**1.** Having one or both eyes of an excessively light colour, so that the iris is hardly distinguishable from the white. In ME. and in modern dialects (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), in other senses : Having eyes of differing colour ; having eyes or an eye streaked or particoloured. Also, having a divergent squint, which exposes an excessive proportion of the white of the eye.

In many examples the sense cannot be determined.

**a.** of human beings.

[13.. see Waldneir-eyed.] *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 608 And he [Alexander] wald-eyed was, as pe writ schewys, 3it.. [Lines 606–7 say that one eye was black and the other yellow] *Ibid.* 1706 A wawil-eged [*Dubl.* waugle-eghed] shrewe. 1552 Huloet, Whaule eyed, *glaucietas*. 1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* v. i. 44 Say wall-ey'd slaue, whether would'st thou conuay This growing Image of thy fiend-like face? 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xxvii. 1. 334 Augustus..had certeies like to some horses : and indeed wall sied he was, for the white thereof was much bigger than in other men. 1806–7 J. Beaumont *Miseries of Human Life* 2 55 Wall-eyed portraits in mildewed crayons. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* iii, Captain Desdeye was a staid, stiff-rumped, wall-eyed ..veteran. 1866 Lever-Lyons *Last Trials*, (1873) I. i. 25 A wall-eyed ill-looking fellow.

**b.** of horses. (See quot. 1831.)

1590 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 184 To..my brother-in-law, one bale stagge, wall-eyed. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* ii. 6 The Horse that is white-eyed, or white eyed, is for the most part shrewd, craftie, full of toyes, and dim sighted. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3825/4 A small black Gelding,..Wall or Silver Ey'd. 1712 Wall-eyed Sorrel *Clergy* ii. 281/2 He had called those Wall ey'd Horses that would not come to the Rails to receive the Communion. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 56 The moon's beams..are very apt to make him wall-eyed and to give him grievous coughs. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* x, I objected that walking would be twenty times more genteel than such a paltry conveyance, as Blackberry was wall-eyed, and the colt wanted a tail. 1831 Youatt *Horse* vi. 93 Horses perfectly white, or cream-coloured, have the iris white, and the pupil red. When horses of other colours..have a white iris and a black pupil, they are said to be wall-eyed. Vulgar opinion has decided that a wall-eyed horse is never subject to blindness, but this we believe to be erroneous. 1838 Lillingston *Checkers*, Ser. i. xvii, He shewed the whites of his eyes like a wall-eyed horse. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* vi. vi, Mounted on a white mule, wall-eyed and of hideous form. 1891 M. Collins *Marg. & Merch.* III. iv. 107 He was a wall-eyed horse.

**c.** *transf.*

1850 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, A little, pale, wall-eyed, wise-begone, thin. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, The counting-house was a wall-eyed ground-floor by a dark gateway. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* ii, Diplow Hall..which had for a couple of years turned its white window-shutters in a painfully wall-eyed manner on its fine elms and beeches,..was being prepared for a tenant.

¶ **d.** Used for : Dim-sighted, purblind.

1873 *Punch* 3 May 189/1 Wall-eyed people who stick their noses to such pictures as though they wished to smell it.

**e.** *slang.* (See quot.)

1849 Halliwell s. v., Any work irregularly or ill done, is called a wall-eyed job. It is applied also to any very irregular action.

**+2.** ? Having glaring eyes (indicative of rage or jealousy).

Quot. 1613 may be an ache of Spenser *F. Q.* i. iv. 24, '[His] wall-eyes (the signe of gelosie)'.

1595 Shake. *John* iv. iii. 49 The veliest stroke That euer wall-ey'd wrath, or staring rage Presented to the teares of soft remorse. 1613 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.*, Wall eyed, mued mee vp like Cretan Dedalus, And with wall-ey'd Ielousie kept me from hope Of any waxen wings to flye to pleasure.

**3.** *U.S.* Of fishes : Having large prominent eyes.

*Wall-eyed pike* : see quots.

1888 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 330 The wall-eyed pike, (*Lucio-perca*). 1893 Goode *Fish. Industr. U. S.* (Fish. Exh. Publ.) 9 Many millions of eggs of the wall-eyed fish, lake-trout, and wall-eyed pike are obtained in the waters of Lake Erie. 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 13 The largest and most important fami is *Squatinidæ virtrosa*, generally referred to by recent writers upon fishes as the Wall-eyed Pike.

**+Wall-fair.** *Obs.*[—1]. In 5 **wallfair.** [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + Fair *a.*] = Wallflower.

*c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 191 Violacia habet florem aureum, anglice wallfaire.

**Wallflower** (wɔ̄l,flauə). [f. Wall *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *mauerblume*.]

**1.** A plant of the genus *Cheiranthus* (N.O. *Cruciferæ*), esp. *C. Cheiri*, growing wild on old walls, on rocks, in quarries, etc., and cultivated in gardens for its fragrant flowers (normally yellow or orange, though other colours are produced by cultivation). Also called Gilliflower.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. iii. 130 In English Yellow Gilloflers, Wall floures..in French Violes iaunes,..in high Douche Geel veiel. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxiii. 370 The stalkes of the Wall flower are full of greene branches. 1615 W. Lawson *New Orchard* (1623) 1 For a wall of earth..whereon at Michill-tide it will be good to sow Wall-flowers. 1658 T. Davly *Herba Parietis* Ded. 1 The Wall-flower hath been called (in a more Ingenious Nation) by the Herbalists, Dames-Violets, Damasen or Matron-Violets, or Queenes Gilly-flowers. 1697 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Insects* 1. xv. 93 Double Wall-flowers. 1706 in Martinus *Hearth. Money* 1 If 245 Wall Flowers are of several sorts, as the common Ones, the great single Ones, the great double Ones, the single White, the double White, the double Red, and the pale Yellow. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 532 The yellow wall-flower, stain'd with iron brown. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* ii. ii, The vulgar wallflower, and smart gillyflower. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* II. iii, The wall-flower waves not on the ruin'd hold. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. cxli, Cypress and ivy, weed and wall-flower grown Matted and mass'd together. 1858 Dickens *Mickleham* in *Life* I. 8 A double-wallflower at No. 8, in the court, is there? 1876 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 158 *Wall-flower*..The single varieties, which are the most odoriferous, are raised from seed. There are also double, bronze, and purple Double Wallflowers, propagated by cuttings. 1898 Gleeny *Everyday Bk.* 266/1 Wallflowers and Sweetwilliams may be planted out in September. 'Quida' *World* ii. 8 There were lavender and a few homely stocks and wallflowers growing in the poor soil about the fences of the houses.

**b.** *German wallflower.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. 735/1 Double German Wallflowers.. are now useful pot plants.

**c.** Applied to plants of other genera. *Native wallflower*, the Tasmanian plant *Pultenæa tuberculosa* (N.O. *Leguminosæ*) ; also, in Australia, one of the Poison-bushes, *Gastrolobium grandiflorum* (Morris *Austral Engl.*, 1898). *Western wallflower*, a name for certain American species of *Erysimum* (Treas. Bot., 1866 ; *Cent. Dict.*, 1891).

**2.** *slang.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*

1804 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 220 A coat suspended on a peg in Monmouth-street is called a wall flower. 1848 *Sinks of London* 109 *Wall flowers*, old clothes exposed for sale.

**3.** *colleg.* A lady who keeps her seat at the side of a room during dancing, whether because she cannot find a partner or by her own choice.

1820 Praed *County Ball* 148 The maiden wall-flowers of the room. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 340 He..dances double quadrilles with every wall-flower in the room. 1882 H. James *Portr. Lady* xiii, 'Are you not dancing?' 'Are you see, I'm a wall-flower.' 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* II. ix, She has not your capability at playing wallflower.

**4.** *attrib.* in designations of colour, as *wallflower brown*, *red* ; also separately as a colour-name. Also Comb. *wallflower-leaved* adj.

1786 Ashecombe *Gard. Assist.* Arrangem. 19 Hardy Annuals..Stock gillyflower, ..White wallflower leaved. 1885 *Daily News* 17 May 6/1 Lined with silk..in some decided colour, such as old gold, wallflower red, French grey, or pale blue. *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 3/3 A wide blue band of wallflower velvet. 1913 *Daily Graphic* 10 Mar. 1/1 The most notable colours in the crowd included the following:..Wallflower and café au lait browns.

**+Wall-hook.** *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *sb.*[1] + Hot *a.*] Boiling hot. Also *fig.* fervent. Cf. Walm-hot.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 256 Acele ðu wealhat isen ðonne hit furðum sie of fyre atogen on wine oþþe on ecede. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (1838) 296 Wiþ wallhat herenes [L. *ad ferrum candens*]. 1255 *Fallowes* (Hodl. MS.) 31 Eleusius..bed billiue bringen forð brune wallinde bres, & healden hit se wal hat hehe up on hire heaued, þat [etc.].

**+Wall-hook,** variant of Wyllecoat *Sc. Obs.*

**Wallidrag,** var. Wallydrag *Sc.*

**Wallie,** var. Wally.

**Walling,** *vbl. sb.*[1] Now *dial.* [f. Wall *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of boiling brine in salt-making. (See also quot. 1674.) Also *attrib.*, as *walling-house*, *shed* ; **walling-lead**, a salt-pan.

1598 *B.N.C.* (Oxon.) *Munim.*, No. 47 (MS.) Houses, cottages, saltehouses, wallinghouses, places where any saltehouse or wichehouse hath heretofore been [Middlewich]. 1662 *Inventory in Cheth. Local Gleanings* (E. D. D.), ii Walling Leads. 1669 Dr. W. Jackson *Nat. Trade* 106 The bank..[is] accidentally raised by rubbish of long making Salt, or Walling, as they call it. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words, Making of Salt* 149 A Leaden Pan is called in Cheshire by four hours boiling for one house..They have four sworn Officers chosen yearly, which they call Occupiers of Walling, whose duty it is to see all dealing between Lord and Tenant, and all persons concerned. 1894 Baring-Gould *Queen of Love* II. 13 The white cloud filled the walling (boiling) house. *Ibid.* 16 The coils of steam turned and rolled and clung in the walling shed.

**Walling,** *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Wall *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

**1.** The action of the verb ; the making of walls, furnishing or fortifying with a wall.

1280 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 463 Yf part of eny vode wall or 3ate sodenly fall, hit of reason schal not be made and to be preferred a-fore oþer wallyng. 1531 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* fol. 108 b, iiº rodds wallynge mariscl vocati pontmerschs. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 104 He gaue fiue hundred pounds to the walling of that towne. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 66 The same method for walling of Towns will not serve in all places. 1805 Michelson *Oper. Mech.* 547 In walling..when the work is required to be firm, the best mortar must be used. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 20 Sept. 1/3 When a suitable building plot had been prepared the walling of a structure was a very simple process.

**b.** with advs. *in*, *out*, *up*.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 299/1 The somme of xx li., which we have graunte yerely vnto the walyng and vpholdyng of oure forseide Towne. 1732 Sir W. Fownes in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 269 The walling-in of the piece of ground..may go on as the fund will bear. 1923 M. Bennett *Secret Monasteries* iv. 203 They manage to convert it into an inhuman walling-up alive of the wretched monk.

**2.** *concr.* Wall-work ; also, walls collectively ; also, the materials of which a wall is made.

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxxvi. 4 Therfore thus seith the Lord God..to desert wallingus [Vulg. *parietibus*], and to forsaken cities. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* viii. 234 So shalt pow come to a cours as cleer as be sonnye, ..wiþ-oute any walling. 1518 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 664 He & his assignes schall kepe the seid yate-house clene, & with floryng & wallyng. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 343/1 The Plumb Rule sheweth him whether his Walling doth both range and stand upright. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* (1793) § 212, I found the mortar joints of the brick walling very compleat. 1849 *Tenn. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. ii. 350 This plaster and brick-work well chopped up amongst it..makes a hard and cheap walling for light buildings. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 119 A length of walling, not fixed thick, was discovered. 1888 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Walling*, the built sides of a shaft.

*trans.* 1882 Geo. Eliot in *Cross Life* (1885) III. 416 Not to the exclusion of old things, which we must carry and stow, especially wallings of books.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *walling material*, *stone*.

1796 W. Pitt. Marshall *Yorksh.* I. 130 Burning lime burnt into Lime, it is used as a walling material. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 2/1 The remaining fronts are to be faced with neat hammer dressed walling stones. 1856 *Trans. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. i. 87 The soil is discovered to consists of..some very thin-skinned, hungry gravel, and sand, on a dry, thirsty, walling-stone.

**+Walling,** *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Wall *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

**1.** Boiling : said of liquids, molten metal, etc. In OE. often *fig.*, fervent. Also in phr. *wallinde hot*, boiling hot, *walling wood*, raging mad.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *On N. T.* (Gr.) 16 Se þeniyman þone halgan apostol and on wallendum ele he het hine sealdan. 1x.. *Moral Ode* (Egerton MS.) 1121 Þis wes wallende leo wamllende pich his beal burnende gleda. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Þu hauest forschadded, he seið, þe drake hauued mid wallinde wateres, þet is, mid hote teares. *c* 1250 *Fallowes* (Royal MS.) 30 Elewsius..bed..wallinde bres..healden on hire heauet hat hit urne endelong hire leoflicke bodi. *Ibid.* 70 Hit (the boiling pitch) toleded aznan..and loop wallinde hat up azein þeo ilke þat hit hefden iaiuen. *c* 1275 in *Pains of Hell* 73 in *O. E. Misc.* 140 Fvrþur þer is a water wallinde hot. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1062 (W.) With hot water and wallyng metal They defendid heore wal. 13.. *Cons. & Sev. Ark.* 1702 Wyst wallinde loye warmed his hert. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 945 Aseyn o drauȝt þei drinke oxer-muche þei schul han þre or two Of hot led and walled [*v.r.* and walleռd] brus. *c* 1450

*Mark's Festival* 1477 *b* 21 Per was 8 tonne of brass, full of walying eyis. 26 *Eger & Grime* 1057 in *Percy Fol. MS* I 387 Gray Steele went walling woode

**2** Of the sea, waves: Boiling up, raging. Of water: Welling up, flowing abundantly.

*Bermond* 156 (Gr.) Or best un. flod todraf wode swallende, wedera cealdost 13 *E E Allit P* A 363 My herte was all with mysse remedes, As wallande water gos out of welle

b Abundant.

*a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13120 Of all his walloud wele walt he no gode

**Wa'lling,** *ppl. a*[2] [f WAIL *v.*[2]+-ING[2]] That forms a wail

1883 M ARNOLD *Balder Dead* II 89 In the strait passage, Where the road sunnes between walling rocks

**Walling,** *ppl. a.*[1] see WALL *v.*[4]

**Wallink,** variant of WELLINK.

**Wallis** (wɒ·lis) Now *dial* Also wallace [Of obscure origin cf WARRIDGE.] The withers of a horse.

1686 *Lond Gaz* No 2181/4 The 6th Instant a proper Gentleman rode away with a black brown Gelding, lame of flesh, hath had a hurt on the Wallis 1787 W H MARSHALL *Norf* (1795) II 391 *Wallace*, the withers of a horse. *a* 1825 PEGGE *Voc E Anglia*, *Wallis*, the withers of a horse

**Wallise,** Sc. form of VALISE.

**Wallish-bill,** variant of WELSH-BILL *Obs.*

**Wall-knot** (wɔ·l,nɒt), **wale-knot** (wē·l,nɒt). Also 8 (*? error*) **walled knot.** [The first element is of obscure origin The word is found in mod. Scandinavian langs Sw, Norw *valknut*, Da *valknude*, double knot, secure knot (not confined to nautical use); in Norw also the gammadion or swastika. Cf. Ger. *waldknoten* (as if 'wood-knot', prob a popular etymology), in hunting language, a double knot.] A secure knot made on the end of a rope by unlaying and intertwining the strands

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grammar* x 27 The Wall knot is a round knot, so made with the strouds [*read* strands] or lyues of a rope, it cannot slip 1644 J. MAYNARD *Sea-mans Dict* 70 *Nippers* are small ropes with a little Truck at one end (or some have only a wale knot) 1769 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780), *Wale knot, or Wall knot*, a particular sort of large knot raised upon the end of a rope, by untwisting the strands 1773 PEMBERTON *Trinc Mech* (ed. 3) 266 A wale knot is made with the three strands of a rope, so that it cannot slip 1788 CLARKSON *Impolicy of Slave Trade* 46 A rope with nine twists at one end of it, and a double walled knot of nearly eight inches in circumference at the other 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk., Double Wall knot*, with or without a crown, or a double crown, is made by interweaving the unlaid end of a rope in a peculiar manner. 1883 *Man Seamanship* (1886) 221 A single wall knot. \ A double wall A double wall, double crowned

**Wall-less** (wɔ·l,lĕs), *a.* [f. WALL *sb.*[1] + LESS] Having no wall

1849 LYTTON *K Arthur* VIII 111 And wall less town secure, Rise from the donjon sites of antique days 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz* 5 Nov 10 Wall-less towns, which, though not actually in ruins, are fast crumbling away 1918 MACALISTER *Hist Excav Palestine* VII 97 The walled cities are being deserted, and people are settling instead in wall less villages

**Wallaby,** var. WALLABY

**Walloon** (wɒlū·n), *sb* and *a.* Also 6 Wallon, 8 Waloon, 6– Wallon. [a F. *Wallon* (fem *Wallonne*), and *a* —med L. *Wallon-ensis*, f. 1 cut. **walah, walh*, foreigner (OE *wealh*) see WELSH *a.* The name represents the appellation given by the Teut Flemings and Franks to their Romanic-speaking neighbours] **A.** *sb.*

1 A man or woman of the race, of Gaulish origin and speaking a French dialect, which forms the chief portion of the population of the south-eastern provinces of Belgium.

1567 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) II 208 I saw never men so desperate willing to fight and speculate the Wallons 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron* III 1146/1 A rumor that the Lanzgraue Casimire should be aduanc by some Wallons 1591 SHAKS 1 *Hen VI*, I i 137 A base Wallon Thrust I allot with a Spurre into the Back 1665 MAR LEY *Genuine Law C Wars* 31 The Regent, beside the German Souldiers, commanded another Regiment of Walloons to be forthwith raised, for by that name, the people in that part of the Netherlands, which borders upon France, are called, and are distinguished from the others, by the use of the French Tongue, and beside, are more valiant, and not so dull-witted as the rest 1850 STAPYLTON *Struela I 1 on C Wars* IX 54 Some companies of Wallons were also ordered to bring scaling ladders 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 209 Fifty companies of Spaniards, and one hundred and fifty of Walloons, and other natives of the Netherlands, 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 339/2 The Wallons are thus Romanized Gauls 1906 *19th Century* Oct 717 In the defence of their national territory Flemings and Walloons have alway been so closely united that it would be impossible to distinguish them.

**2** The language or dialect of the Walloons.

1642 HOWELL *Instr For Trav* x (Arb) 48 The French have three dialects, the Wallon (vulgarly called among themselves Romand), the Provensall, and the speech of Languedoc. 1815 R B BRENNAN *Tour France* etc 192 In lower orders in this city speak a jargon called Walloon, which is completely unintelligible to the higher classes 1924 E GOSSE in *Edin. Rev.* Oct 321 The less known new school of authors, composing ardently in Flemish and even to some extent in Walloon.

*Comb* 1908 *19th Century* Nov 833 A few Walloon speaking villages along the German frontier

**B.** *adj.* Pertaining to the Walloons.

1530 PALSGR 251 The kynde of speche nowe called Vallon or Romant *Ibid.*, Walloon tonge, *Romant* *a* 1600 *Hist Fryer Bacon* in Thoms *E E Pr Rom* (1858) I 226 His hyred a Wallon soulder 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 33 P 2 Monsieur Bosange, Minister of the Walloon Church at Rotterdam 1842 BOSWORTH *Bible in Spain* XIII 97 One of my countrymen of the Walloon Guard 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 339/2 The Walloon domain comprises the four provinces of Hainault, Namur, Liége, and Luxemburg 1921 C. V. GEORGE *Heart Own Home* I 256 Where the Walloon miners and factory workers of the south confront the Catholic Flemings of the North.

**Wallooroo,** variant of WALLAROO

**Wallop** (wɒ·lap), *sb.* Also 5 **valop, walop,** 6 **wallope,** 9 **wallup,** 9– **wallop.** [a. ONF. *walop* (found in 13th c. in pl. *walos*) = F. *galop*, related to *galoper* to gallop: see WALLOP *v.* There is nothing to show whether the verb or the sb is the earlier formation in OF Both were introduced together into ME. in sense 1, appearing first in the 14th c, but in later use in all senses the sb. is more often to be regarded as newly formed from the verb in its later applications, and with its onomatopoeic and humorous connotation. The form *wallup* appears first in the 16th c. and re places *walloppe* sb. in the original and more elevated sense, in which, however, WALLOP *v.* continues to be evidenced]

†**1** A horse's gallop Only advb. phr. (tr or imitations of French) (*to ride, go*, etc) †*a wallop*, at the gallop, †*a* (*or the*) *great wallop*, in full gallop. *Obs*

*c* 1330 *Wild Falcone* 1370 Pey went a was a wallop as pey wod amende *c* 1450 *Merlin* VIII 127 And than he rode a wlop after Vlfyn, grippyge his spere 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I XXII 69 So he rode a grete wallop till he cam to the fontayne 1484 CAXTON *Aesopes* IV *Appendix* 139 Iouliques of morillon cam afore all the other, well horsed the grete wallop agenste Reynawde

*a* 1500 *Gy Warwick* (Pynson) 1 *b*, *c* 1 (*Joculus*)

1896 E. CRAWFORD *Joy of Auchendoraas* 201 Famous place this for your morning wallop

†**2.** The series of noisy bubbling motions made by water, etc rapidly boiling, or approaching boiling point, usually in phr †*to boil* (*seethe*) *a wallop*, †*a full wallop*, to boil with a rapid noisy bubbling, to 'gallop'. *Obs.* Cf WALL *sb.*[1] 3

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met* VII (1593) 160 The medicine seething all the while a wallop in a pan Of brasse, to spurt and bounce out, Then either boyle together longer 1576 LANEHAM *Venerie* IXXIII 230 Put a pynte full of white wine to them, and let them boyle therein, a whalme or a wallop in a pewter pot 1591 A. W *Ish Cookery* 17 When it seetheth a full wallop, put in your Shrimps fine washed

†**b.** One such bubbling motion (as a vague measure, in cooking, of the time anything is allowed to boil). Only in phr *to boil* (or *seethe*, trans. or intr.), *to have, so many wallops*. *Obs.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III 132b Seethe them [herbs] together three or foure wallops, and geue it him bludwarme. 1622 COTGR., *s'en Oude, bouillir vne oude* to boyle a while, or but for one Aloblie or wallop 1686 HARTMAN *Vene Preservor Health* 11 Let it only boil five or six wallops. 1743 *Lond & Country Brewer* IV (ed 2) 267 Put as much Salt, and Nothing else, as will lie on a Crown Piece into a Copper and as it beats and the Scum rises, take it off before it boils in, then, when it has had a Wallop or two, take two Pailfuls. 1750 ELLIS *Mod Husb* III i 128 (E D S) Boil the cream a wallop or two to pre serve it

**3.** *dial.* (esp *Sc.*) and *colloq* A violent, heavy, clumsy, noisy movement of the body, a plunging, floundering, lurching, etc.

1820 *Scots Mag.* 80/2 Some caprioles of the hobby horse, and some wallops of the dragon 1834 M SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xviii, He made the most laugh ible wallop imagin able, intended for a bow, but more like the gambol of a porpoise. 1842 J WILSON *Lect Chr North* (1857) I. 4 The yellow trout favours his fastness beneath the bog wood, and with a lazy wallop, and then a sudden plunge [etc.] 1892 D DAVIDSON *Long Ago* 12 Then I had a bath in the centre of his head, when he [the shark] gave a tremendous wallop and sank

b In onomatopoeically and quasi-adverbially with verbs of motion to represent the noise of such movements. *To go* (*down*) *wallop* to fall noisily

1560 PALSGR *Acolastus* III 1 N iv b, Nowe hath this greedy gutte meat inough to swalow down, by his wide throte, with a wallop 1885 Trans *Philol Soc* 1882–4 Pheuis 182 (E D D) Sotuple Tam Gaed wallop ower the stile 1896 *Warwick Word bk.*, *He went wallop* as he fell down all of a heap 1899 *Scot at Home* 9 *Ay* 1 July 5/1 The boy went wallop, gallop, wallop, wallop, wallop Though I fall at the high jump, an' onlookers quiver, McGregor, the jockey, will ride on for ever

**4.** *colloq.* and *humorous.* A heavy resounding blow; a whack. Also (in boxing slang) the capacity to deliver such a blow.

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Wallop*, a random hit, any where 1887 HARDMAN *Battle Waterloo* 20 Be ready), when the 10th retire, to give the French a wallop 1898 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thirlmead* II VIII 146, I took up a walking stick, and says to her, 'Here, Kitty! lay hold of this, and fetch me a great wallop on this ooth head of mine 1898 *Bent Ley's Mess.* III, 439 I so each blow of the brass weapon, bam returned a wallop of a pewter vessel 1904 D GRANT *Lays N Lee North* (1908) 103 Thus Dave cud the Clipe guide, Wi' many a wallop on his hide 1924 *Variety* 24 Feb 15/2 (Boxing) His opponent has a prodigious 'wallop', but no great amount of skill.

**b.** *dial.* (*Sc*) A (violent) beat of the heart or of the pulse.

1787 BURNS *Addr. Unco Guid* IV, Think, when your castigated pulse Gies now and then a wallop, What ragings must his veins convulse, That still eternal gallop 1824 MACTAG GART *Gallov Encycl.* 484, I thought it (my heart) wad hae jumped clean out o my breast, lord it what wallops it gaed

**5.** A flapping or fluttering rag *Sc.*

1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ho* XXXIV, Beggars they come in gelore, Wi' wallops flapping in great store 1866 GEDDES *Banffsh Gloss., Wallop*, a rag hanging loose and fluttering

**Wallop** (wɒ·lap), *v* Inflected walloped (wɒ·lapt), walloping Forms 4–5 **walop**(e, 5 **wallope**, 5–6 **walap, wallope**, 5–7 **walop**(e, 9 **wallup, whallup, wollup**, 6– **wallop** [a. ONF. **walop-er* = F *galoper* (see GALLOP *v.*)] The existence of this form is evidenced in addition to the English forms by OF. *walot* sb. pl and the adopted form Flem. *walop[e]n*, MHG. *walop, alp* sb MHG. *walopieren* vb, and probably by mod Walloon (Sigart) *waloper* to rinse linen in water Cf. Norw (Aasen) *val(h)oppa* vb, app an etymolo gizing alteration, after Norw. *hoppa* to leap, dance A satisfactory origin for the word in French has not been suggested It is probably purely echoic, or an echoic imi tation of some Teut element or elements. The Provençal form *galaupar* has suggested Lett *?a klaupsu* (O *pekliapsau*, f pr V prefix + *klaupsu* to Lean), but the evidence for original *w* precludes the comparison of the initial element

In English the onomatopoeic suggestion of the word has lent itself to varied extension of meaning in Sc and Ir (usually colloq and humorous) application to violent noisy movements, more especially since the form GALLOP existed from the more elevated meaning in the course of the 16th c.]

I The sense 'to boil rapidly' is probably derived directly by transference from sense 1 (cf GALLOP *v.* 3 to boil) in spite of the close resemblance of the word to LEAP, both in form (see *sb*) and in *sprudlen*) The relation of POTWALLOPER to POTWALKER indicates that some such association was active

The sense 'to beat' may be ultimately due to the causative (see sense 2, and cf F *galoper* a cheval), or may be entirely due to onomatopoeic extension]

†**1** *intr.* To gallop *Obs*

**a** Of horses

*a* 1400 [see WALLOPING *ppl. a.*] *c* 1430 *Syr Gener* (Roxb) 3642 At this folk of myght price in feire armes, and helmes shene, withe feire stedes wlopand *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 514/2 Walopyn, as horse, *vadipo* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI x 23, (1710), He [the courser] sprentis Amyd the prassie as walloppis he, His streklund mane to hede with mony ane tre 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 169/34 To gallop, *fundire gradum* to Wallop, *idem, succitare*

**b.** Of a rider

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II 440 To this word thai assentyt all And fra thum walopyt owyr mur *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron* IV 934 (Cott.) Pe cursoure he strak wythe pe spurrys, And walapande our flowis and furis fedyr he out he rade *c* 1440 (*encrydys* 3325 He founde inon The kyng of kynggez vppe and down rideag, And he anon to hym com walopeng *c* 1500 *Melusine* XII 130 And thenne the Knight brochedhis horse and waloped towrd hys felawes 1509 [WINDHAM *Lydg Compl* 179 And nam, to schaw the courtlie corus, Wald stand it leish, and nym it the horsys, And quhile walloppe vnder the sandis 1721 RAMSAY *Up'on Air* 1, And witches walloping over to France, Up in the air On my bony grey mare

**2** *trans* To let gallop, put to the gallop. *Obs* *rare* (Cf. GALLOP *v.* 1 *b*.)

*c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* 21 42 Blanchardyn with 1 glad chere waloped his courser as brynantly as he coude 1490 — *Eneydos* lxi 161 A knyghte came ayenste hym as faste as he myghte spore and waloppe his horse

**II** 3 *intr* To boil violently and with a noisy bubbling Also *fig*

1579 LOWSON *Comm Scrm Jam* 192/2 Oure affections boyle within vs, & swelling, boyle as a seething pocte 1609 J MOORE *Mappe Mans Mortalitie* 111 25 This corruption sendeth out the filthy scum of all vncleannesse, which (no time ally lengtheth and walloppeth in our nature 1670 J. COOKE *Dr Charnock's Funeral* (1668) 50 There is little to choose between a boyling pot unscummed and the pot that, for want of haste, hath no scumme raised that wallops as the Sea about Leviathan) and this, paves it with stone 1716 M DAVIES *Athen Brit* III 24 We do not measure Milk when it Wallops and Seeths, but when it is Cold 1787 JOH BARLOW *Hasty Pudding* 1 And thus, pave it with stone to a paste, Then puffs and wallops, rises to the brim, Drinks the dry knobs that on the surface swim (1845 see WALLOPING *ppl a* 1) 1863 *Dict Odd Names* I 211 We beheld an immense pot over the fire, surging and wallop ing with some kind of a savory stew

**III 4. a.** To make violent, heavy movements (accompanied by noise), to move clumsily or convulsively to flounder, plunge. *colloq* and *dial*

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II 2, The lasses bald'd about the reel, Gar'd a their hurdies wallop 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* XIV, The dragon walloped and hissed, and the bobby horse neighed 1823 J. GALT *Sir. L. Lindsay, Wallop*, (1) To move as fast as possable, but not without much effort and agitation The gallop of a cow or a cart horse is a good specimen of walloping 1840 [MACKENAY *Bachelor's Blar.* Trumpeter gone clean from under me, and walloping and floundering in the dutch underneath 1846 LANDOR *Pentam* III. Wks 1853 II 334/2 They should not waddle and wallop in every hollow lane, nor loll out their watery tongues at every weak pool in the parish *c* 1854 FARRIER *Let* in E. S Haldane *Life* (1890) 82, I take it that I have caught you in my net, and that wallop about as you will I shall land you at last 1885 W C RUSSELL *Marooned* XXXII, All was now bustle; the negroes walloped about, tumbling into the boat, bawling out like school boys at play. 1897 *Outing* XXIX 544/1 In

a moment he [a pup] caught sight of his mother and wallopped over to her. 1906 Helen Mathers *Tally Ho!* I. i, Sir George Breeling came wallopping up on his big iron-grey horse. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov 650/1 The puppy wallops clumsily round trying to get a bit out of every one else's share

**b.** Of the heart, the blood: To pulsate (violently). *Sc.* Cf. Wallop *sb.* 4 b.

1766 A. Nicol *Poems* 21 (E.D.D.) My heart will ..wallop 1807 Tannahill *Soldier's Return* ii, Odasfit! my heart did never wallop sidger, Than when the Laird took Harry for a sodger. 1819 Picken *Poems* I. 97 (E.D.D.) What the tide o' youthful blude I fire's yer heartstring wallops

**5.** To dangle, flap, 'flop about', wobble. *colloq.* and *dial.* (esp. *Sc.*).

1822 Hogg *Sheph. Rev.* xxii. Tales & Sk. VI. 238 Saluting the fir lom of his nose with an energy that made all his accoutrements wallop. 1843 *Commissioners on Ch. Emolum.* Eng 218 His fat sides shook and wallopped 1887 P. Menzies *Blairmore* 15 We Dookie Dogrun, the ingenuity of whose parents it altogether surpasses to know how to keep his nether garments from walloping behind him 1890 'H. Haliburton' *In Scottish Pitch* 39 Her West of England frock coat so rent that the loose hair walloped in the dust or mud all the way behind him.

**b.** Hence *To wallop in a tore* (or *tether*): to be hanged. *Sc.*

1785 Burns *To W. Simpson* xvii, Now let us lay our heads thegither, In love fraternal: May Envy wallop in a tether, Black fiend infernal. 1790 — *Weary Pund o' Tow* iv, And for I wad nather bid nor bode Wi' ony blellum, 1834 W. Robertson in W. Walker *Bards of Bon Accord* (1887) 607 I'd rather wallop in a tether Than lightly thee

**IV. 6.** *trans. colloq.* To beat soundly, belabour, thrash; also occas. used as humorously for Beat v. in fig. senses, e.g. to get the better of, witness.

1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* To *Wallop*, to beat 1837 Lover *Rory O'More* I. ii. 46 Then what does he (the priest) want the he wy stick for?' 'For wallopin' his flock, to be sure, said Rory 1885 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* xxiv, Walloping men is poor work, if you come to compare it with walloping Nature. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxv, He's always up to some devil if you wallop him likely in not, next night, he'll take and spoil your best trick out of revenge 1916 E. Phillpotts *Faith Freedom* xiii, If I've got to go about walloping the face of God with every fool who offered for Faith, I shall be busier than I want to be.

**Walloper** (wǫ·lǝpaɹ). *colloq.* or *vernacular.* [f. Wallop *v.* + -er¹.]

**1 a.** One who thrashes. **b.** Anything with which one administers a thrashing; a stick.

1830 Herrington *Personal Life* III xviii 256 Armed with his 'walloper' let the boy called their cudgels

**2** *dial.* Anything strikingly large or big; a 'thumper', 'whopper'; e. g. an astounding lie. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

**3.** As second element in compounds. *Cod-walloper*, a cod-fishing vessel (Cent. Dict.); *dock-walloper*, see Dock *sb.*¹ 7. Also Potwalloper.

**Walloping** (wǫ·lǝpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Wallop (in various senses).

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Walopynge, of horse, *talopitacio.* 1686 G. Stuart *Jocu ser. Dia.* 48 Oh ! Wae betide this walloping ! I've got my fill of walloping ! 1837 Lover *Rory O'More* I. ii. 47 And what is all this walloping for? 'Why, sir, when we have a bit of a fight, for fun, like, between those sometimes hears of it, and comes av course.' 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xvii. (1859) 204 The water in the immediate neighbourhood seemed quite alive, from the rushing and walloping of numberless fishes. 1872 C. Gibbon *Lad. of Gold* ii, Your father gives me a good walloping for telling a lie.

**Walloping** (wǫ·lǝpiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing².]

**1.** That wallops. Now chiefly (*colloq* or *dial.*), that moves with a clumsy irregular gait.

*1a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2147 Sweltand knyghter Cyces wyde opyne welterande one walopande stedes. 1837 Hy. Mackintosh *Sac. Amer* (1839) 120 Those black & comely ploughing in the field, with their wallopping gait and vacant countenance. 1842 S. Judd *Margaret* II. ii, She graduates the wallowing style when it is likely to overflow

**2.** *dial.* Strikingly large, powerful, etc.; 'thumping', 'whopping'. Often reinforced with *big, great.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1847 Halliwell, *Walloping*, great. *var. dial.*

**Wallow** (wǫ·lo), *sb.* In 6 **walow.** [f. Wallow *v.*]

**1.** The act of wallowing or rolling in mud or filth; also *fig.* Also *concr.*, the filth in which swine wallow.

*a* 1591 H. Smith *Serm., Jacob's Ladder* (1601) 545 Let the dog turne to the vomit, and the swine to the walow. 1856 G. S. Outram *Sea of St. Fulda* II. 40 Those we called me from the filthy byre of swine, The wallow of indulgence and gross deeds. 1898 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Mar. 284/1 Poor wretches who are converted ten times in a winter only to return to their wallow and cups 1913 Sir H. Cumpson in *Blackw. Mag.* Oct 479/2 After a heart-breaking attempt to cleanse the vessel of travel by a wallow in a mud hole.

**b. A mud-hole** or hole formed by the wallowing of a buffalo, elephant, or rhinoceros.

1845 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxi. I. 249 'A bull in his wallow'. has a very significant meaning with those who have ever seen a buffalo bull , endeavouring to cool his heated sides, by tumbling about in a mud puddle. 1882 *Century Rev.* Aug. 499 The wallows are saucer-like depressions in the ground, made by the buffaloes rubbing them selves. 1900 Pollock & Thow *Sports Burmah* v. 167 One rhinoceros may have two or three wallows, or mud-holes, which he visits in turn

**2.** †**a.** A rolling walk or gait. *Obs.*

1676 Dryden *Ethereidge's Man of Mode* Epil. 22 His various Modes from various Fathers follow : One taught the Toss, and one the new French Wallow.

**b.** The roll or swell of the sea. *poet.*

1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. Prol. 32 And much ado had we To rode unspilt the wallow of the sea.

**3.** *dial.* The line into which hay is raked before being carted or cocked

1874 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1892) 119 I weng women turning a 'wallow', or shaking up the green swathes left by the mowers.

**Wallow** (wǫ·lo), *a.* Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Forms: **1 wealg, 3 walwe, walow, 6 walowe, 9 wallow.** See also Waugh *a.* [OE. *wealg* (**walg*) = MG. *walk*, insipid (cf. MDu. *walghe* 'nauseus, fastidium'), Norw. *valg* tasteless. — O Teut. **walwo-* -pre-Teut. **wolgwo-*.

The dissyllabic *walowe* represents the inflected form **walg-i* in the uninflected form the final (y) became (ɔ), yielding the mod. northern Waugh.]

Tasteless, insipid; sickly.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lviii. 447 Se wenrma wellð on godum cræftum, ðylas he se wealg for wlisenesse, & forðæm worðe utagyrum *c* 1230 *Ancr. Riwle* 35 þi muð is latter, & walh al þat tu etewest. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words, Wallow*, insipid. 1886 S. *W. Line. Gloss.* v. *Oh*, Another, however, like here here bread is wallow. Yours, I'd gotten no salt to put in it; it makes it a bit wallowish

*b. Comb.* **†wallow-sweet** *a.*, ? cloyingly sweet.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Wallow swete [*H. inch.* wallow-swet], *nauseosus*, lyytyl swete. 1530 Palsgr. *Introit. Verbe Pref* F 111 b, The olde holsome wyne [doth] offend theyr drunken taste, by cause yt is not so walow swete but dryuketh more of a sharpe taste 1534 — *Joyf. Perform* Wks 1906/1 But the walowe sweete pleasure of that fruite, soone tourned to displeasure and payne.

**Wallow** (wǫ·lo), *v.*¹ Forms: **1 wealwian, weal(o,wian, 3 wealowe, 3–5 walewe, walwe, 4–5 walwy, 4–6 walow, 5 walo-, 6 walowe(n, 9 walo-, 5, 7 wallo-, 5–7 wallowe, 6- wallow.** Also 3–4 welu-, 5 welwyn, welowyn. [OE. *wealwian* —OTeut. **walwōjan*; a parallel OTeut. **walwjan* occurs in Goth. (*af-, at-, faur-*) *walwjan*, Ok. *wælwa*, to roll (trans.); cf. Goth. *walwasēn* to roll (intr.).

The Teut. **welw-*, **walw-* represents Pre-Teut. **wolw-*, **wolu-*, whence Gr. *ἑλυφάω* rolled, wrapped, *ἕλυτρον* wrapper, case, L. *volvĕre* to roll.]

**I.** Intransitive senses.

**†1.** Of a round object (a stone, a wheel): To roll (along the ground); to move by revolving or rotating. Only OE. Hence *fig.* of a thought: To revolve or be turned over in the mind. *Obs.*

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth* vi. Donne þær micel stan wealwende of þam heahan munte ontinnan fealð. *Hatt* xxxix. 87 Þa felgan beoh bongalt on þæm spacum, þeah hi ealunga ymbgewiten on þære eorðan 1398 Trevisa *Higd.* (Rolls) VI. 301 Þat I pryue þat it greve gow nouȝt þeyȝ I telle gow openliche what hab ȝoge tyme i halowed [*v.r.* walwed, ywalwed] in myn herte 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxxiii. 15 *volutarii.*

**2.** Of a person or animal: To roll about, toss or tumble from side to side, while lying down or stretched out. Now *rare* exc. as in 3.

*c* 900 *Ælfred's Boeth* vi. Donne þær micel stan wealwende of þam heahan munte onninnan fealð. *Hatt* xxxix. 87 Þa felgan beoh bongalt on þæm spacum, þeah hi ealunga ymbgewiten on þære eorðan 1387 Trevisa *Higd.* (Rolls) VI. 301 I pryue þat it greve gow nouȝt þeyȝ I telle gow openliche what hab ȝoge tyme i halowed [*v.r.* walwed, ywalwed] in myn herte 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxvii (1495) 836 When sekenesse hath ben sykes they walowe in femy and in puddels. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 206 Lobe had be fyn forto haue seen wormes and grubbes walowe yn þat blessyd full wombe. 1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 149 A marriage is to be preferred before a dry ground, that they [swine] may .. wallowe in the myre, and toomble in the puddels of water 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, i. ii. 298 Or Willow naked in December snow 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xxv. 11 Moab shall wallowe in blood in the midst of the high way. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 411 Part huge of bulk Wallowing unwieldie, enormous in the Gate Leviathan the Okean 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. iii. v. 98 'Tis reported the Commanders do keep Bathing-troughs full of Water to lye and wallow in. 1793 Cowper *Odyss.* x. 191 Heuse—seek the stye Where they are wont to wallow and to breath. 1819 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen Zool* XI i 139 They [Galinaceæ] are fond of wallowing in the dust 1858 Dickens *Dr. Thorne* viii, Little knots of children, whose manners and women were positively wallowing in filth. 1878 H. S. Wilson *Alpine Ascents* ii. 53 We wallow in soft rotten snow above our knees.

**4.** Of a ship: To roll from side to side; to sail with a rolling motion; to roll helplessly in the trough of the waves. †Of a floating object : To be tossed about.

*c* 1300 *St. Gregory* 321 in *Archiv. Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 63 Hi[ seun a bot come wa wes þe wind & þe wawe walwe. 1340 *Hampole Prose Treat.* 118 (MS. Raw.) Þar neȝtes walu ep þat saolde hem fede. *c* 1500 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 163 Which caused our ship to rowle and wallow. 1633 Jones *Sea Voy.* (Arb.) 16 We made her swag and wallow in her Locke. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* vi. 247 It were an endless work to relate how they [the Danish ships] wallow'd up and down to every particular place. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* ix. (1840) 232 She wallowed so in the sea, that we thought she would at last wallow herself bottom up. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 23/2 The *Beaconsh* was not a good boat, and she pitched and rolled and wallowed all through the Bay.

**5.** Of the sea, waves: To roll, surge, heave, toss Of wind To whirl, blow gustily. Of a liquid To spout, gush ; to spring or well *up*. Of flame, smoke, vapour: To surge *up*.

1561 Lange *P. Pl. A.* v. 71 Venum or veinisch or vinegre, I trouwe, Walleb [*v.r.* walewib, walweb] in my wombe. *Ibid.* ix. 36 Þe goodes in þis world ben lyk þis grete wawes, Riht as wyndes and waters walweb aboute. *c* 1564 Langue *Beath.* ii. pr vi (1880) 40 They [the sea] are the images and destructiouns as doth the flaumbe of the mountaigne ethna when the flawmbe walweth vp *c* 1580 — *Miller's T* 430 Hym thynketh verraily that the sey sore gynneth comen walwynge [*v. r.* walkyng] as the see 1589 More *Dyalogue* i. xv. 17 lo se that great water cum walowynge vp against the wynde *c* 1593 Hy. Smith *Serm.* Wks. I. 260 Some bursting out, but from the yawning gash In stead of red blood wallowed venemous gore. 1622 Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit* (1614) 1056/1 As the ebbe and full of the sea, so is the wallowing up amains. 1648 Lowell *Sir Launfal* ii Prol. 43 Through the deep gulf of the chimney wood Wallows the Yule-log's roaring tide 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Nov. 514 The smoke-funnel tottered, then fell thundering upon the deck... Enormous clouds of steam wallowed up from below.

**6.** *fig.* (cf. sense 3). **a.** To remain plunged in the mire of sensuality, degraded habits, or the like; †to live in any state of filth or gross vice ' (J.); to take delight in gross pleasures or a demoralising way of life. Usu. with *in*.

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 23 Þa ilke sari wreches, þat i þat ilke fule wurðinge, unweddede, walewið 1340 *Ayenb.* 126 We walewiþ ase zuyn hyze benebe ine puc wose of pise worelde *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 23 To walwe in vnclennesse & drunkennesse as ȝwyn in þe fen *a* 1523 Fabian *Chron.* vi. cxcviii. (1811) 204 He walowed in lechery. 1577 Wolton *Conf. Christmas H.* 3, Some of them .. do walowe in filthie & drounkennesse as ȝwyn in þe fen *a* 1593

Hedgehog doeth with apples upon his prickles. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 742 Lgelricke found such a mighty masse of money buried within the ground ... that, wallowing now in wealth, he gave over his Bishoprick. 1679 Shadwell *True Widow* III 37 My Lady wallows in money, she knows not what to do with it. 1765 Wesley *Wks* (1872) III 238 A man that wallows in gold and silver.

**d.** *jocular.* To give oneself up unrestrainedly to enjoyment, to revel.

1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* xxiii, I mean to wallow in strawberries and cream for the rest of the evening. 1905 Vachell *The Hill* v 121, I used to buy the *Police News* when I was a kid, and amply wallow in it.

**II** Transitive senses (chiefly causative).

**†7.** To cause (a rounded object) to roll on the ground; to trundle. Also with adv., as *away, to.* Also, to carry *forth*, transport. *Obs.*

a 1380 *St Augustine* 1331 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1878) 84 His messengers gret nithes ynam Senut Austines bodi forte hwuen, And forð wiþ hom þei gonne it wiwlen, þi þei come to þe toun of Janwe. 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xxvii 60 He walowid to a grete stoon at the doo of the buriel. — *Mark* xv 4 And thei biholdinge seyen the stoon walewid awei. c 1440 *Promp Parv* 521/2 Welwyn', or rollyn' al thyngys þat may not be borne, *volvo*. 1686 *Chandler Pan & Syr.* 168 In clearly stated, that Reason is wallowed up and down, among thick darknesses.

**†8** To cause (a person or animal) to roll or toss about; to cause to lie prostrate or immersed (in some liquid or sticky substance). Chiefly *refl* and *pass*. Also *fig*. *Obs*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii (*Fergicanæ*) 467 Ay walowand me in þat ayre, is now a medyng & nathing. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* ix 19 (20) An I he cast doun in to the erthe, was walwid frothingis. [Vulg. *et elisus in terram volutabatur spumans*]. a 1400 Chaucer *Fo Rosemounde* 17–18 Nas neuer pik walwed in galauntyne As I in loue am walwed and ywounde. 1553 Wilson *Rhet* 116, I was mery & here upon this buncke with an other pere, and wallowynge me downe upon the grasse, I said these wordes. 1577 B. Goode *Heresbach's Husb* III 122 A horse that is weary with long travell, or wallowed, he may well do him selfe eyther in the stal le, or other dry place. 1611 Bible *Jer* vi. 26 Gird thee with sackcloth, and wallow thy selfe in ashes. 1618 Bolton *Florus* IV ii (1636) 58 The Kings body was found as it lay wallowed under mud. 1673 *Lady's Call* Pref 3 How can a soul that remembers its celestial extraction, wallow it self in the mire.

**†9.** To cause (the sea) to roll or toss. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* i met vii (1886) 19 Yif the trowble wynde þat hyht Auster, turnyng and walwynge the see medleth the bote.

**†10** With complement ? To make (dirty) by wallowing *Obs*

1573–80 Turber *Hunt* (1878) 191 All dirt and mire some wallow bed, as spanniels we to ofso

Hence **Wa'llowing** *vbl. sb* and *ppl. a.* **Wallowingly** *adv*

a 1225 *Ancr R* 294 þet, of þe wiwlewing & side & wombe ore al o grure blode. 1297 R Glouc. (Rolls) 517 þe wrestlinge [*v r* walewinge, wallowynge] bitwene him wes samlet togt. 1382 Wyclif *1 Pet* iv 3 Wiln wandrun in the walewinge of cley [Vulg. *in voluttebris luti*]. a 1400–50 *Ware Mss* 4064 Wele seidom is þe see with him selfe tul bild flot with þe wlowinge wrulle. c 1440 *Promp Parv* 521 2 Welwynge, *volutacio*. 1552 Huloet, Wallowyngely, *obstatim*. 1553 Form *Iren Acro Ind* (Arb) 16 Their love in gouing is somewhat slowe & walowinge. 1555 Wyman *Fardle of Facions* Pref 18 To calm through the wallowyng seas. 1598 Nashe *Strange Newes* C 3, Master Stamp hauing trod a foule limbrang boystrous wallowing measures [*sic*] in his translation of Virgil. 1606 Chapman *Hons D Olive* II 1 D 1 b, There saw I our great Gallasses tost Vpon the wallowing waues. 1642 Milton *Apol Smect* Wks. 1851 III 317 We are not to reconcile and compound against those who in scale have demolish't the dens and caues of her vncleane wallowings. 1680 R. L. Distance *Tol Geology, Reason* 8 The wallowing of the great Ship ever turn'd it. 1684 *Lond Gaz* No. 1906/4 She [a mare] hath a wallowing pace. 1687 Morris *Odyss* xii 219 Drive thrô thy ship aloof through the rock and the wallowing sea. 1688 Harper *Amers. Countess* II 1 Sure I'm in quiers of both parties return to their wallowing in the mire. [Echoing 2 *Pet* ii. 22.] 1903 H. Crippen *Trees I can* x 81 She rose and plunged and rolled wallowingly.

**Wallow** (wǫ'lǫu), *v.*[1] *Obs* exc. *dial.* Forms 1 **wealwian, wealowian, -uwian, -owiæan,** 3 4 **wealewe(n, welyhe,** *pa. pple* **welud, walud,** 3–5 **welewe'n, welwe(n,** 4–5 **welowe, walow(e, welwye, wolwe,** 5 **wallow, walwyn,** *pa. pple* **walluid, waleyt,** 5– **wallow.** [OE. *wealwian*, f. Teut root **walkw-*, **walk**-, whence *weallan* Wallow *v.* a. The ME. *we,o(we*, etc. may represent a different ablaut grade Cf. Welke *v*, which may be remotely connected.] *intr* To wither, fade, to waste away. *Int.* and *fig.* Often conjugated with *be.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxi, On lencten hit growõ, & on harefest hit wealwaõ. a 1300 *Cursor M* 13256 Q i e steppes vnthoght he þan þat shal wel war & on man a grim in Wright *Lyric P* xv 50 Such serewe hath myn vndes thrist-sohi, þat al y weolewe a way to noht. 1382 Wyclif *Isa* xix. 8 The reed and the rusche shal welewen. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 477 Þis land wiþ his kyng welwes away c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron* I Prol 123 To þis my wit is wallowit dry, But fleure or froyte. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 216 The fayrenesse of the worlde was welowed wyth brennyng of thre fyres. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII Prol 64 Herbis, flouris, and gersis wallowit away. 1538 Stewart *Cron. Scot* I 20 Now it ha wallowis and wak as ony wand. 1570 *Satir Poems Reform* xv 24 In earth, ze sweit flouris, tak na rute, But wallow altogidder! a 1656 Kirkton *Hist Ch Scot* VII. (1817) 269 Indeed after that day his flower began to wallow. a 1700 *Cocrdie* in in Child *Ballads* IV. 127/1 When first she looked the letter on, She was baith red and rosy; But she had na read a word but twa, Till she wallowit like a lily.

Hence **Wa'llowed** *ppl. a.*, withered, faded, discoloured. **Wa'llowing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid* 35 Al is, wið a welewunge [*v r* weolewunge], þe white cuer wrõpen. a 1300 *Cursor M* 11213 He þat þe walud wand mogte se, In a night laif and fruit ber. a 1432 Jas I *Good Counsel* 21 Of grene gresis some cumis wallowit hay. c 1450 *Mirk's Festival* 126 Roses and flowres wythout welewyng. 1683 *Cath Angl* 413/2 Wellowynge, *flactor, flactencia, Marcori; Marcescibilis, Marcibilis*. 1813 Douglas *Æneis* VII 11 With wallowit wyngis [*Lucis aist*]. c 1580 A Scott *Poems* xiv. 16 How fair be cosy gowlis Passis the wallowit weidis in þe wall. 1725 *Hearsh Lauds* 1 297 in Pinkerton *Sel Sc Ballads* (1783) I 13 In bituus of clethe, wi wallow'd cheik, The blinding corps of wirmous lay. 1843 *Histl. Inkle Ser* v 119 Our dochters Can thow the ky i'ts first ling About out wallow't low't hurts.

**Wallow,** obs. 5*c.* form of Vault *v.*

**Wallowae, -way,** obs. 5*c.* ff Wellaway.

**Wallower** (wǫ'lǫuəɹ). [f Wallow *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

**1.** A person or animal that wallows.

1611 Florio *Montanino* s.v. *wallower*, a wallower, or tumbler in the mire. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII 61 What nury wallowers the generality of men of our class are in themselves. 1767 J. Neville *Juvt Temporis* 111 154 Asses & Worms who love and die. Eternal Wallowers in Clowns. 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xxii, Ye porkers of Iegge! ye wal lowers in the mud of the Mass! 1876 Morris *Sig Sit* II (1877) 11, I knew that the Worm was Fafnir, the Wallower on the Gold. 1898 Meredith *Odes to Fire* 15 He knew what turned His wallower in old slime to noblest bet, bet.

**2.** *Mech.* A trundle, lantern wheel. Also *wallower-wheel.*

1548 in *Rep MSS Lit Middlet'm* (1911) 493 Paid to Smaley for a new wallower, iiij*d* 1734] *Inl Trans* XXXVIII 104 By enlarging or diminishing the fix'd Wallower, you obtain a change of any required Height. 1797 W. Reid *Trans Mech* (ed 3) 284 *A wo lower*, a trundle upon a horizontal axis. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat Mech* 102 The vertical shaft P, was that to which the wallower wheels B and F. 1866 C. W. Hatfield *Hist Notices Doncaster* I 205 The usual face wheel gears into a main pinion or 'wallower.'

**Wallowish** (wǫ'lǫuiʃ), *a.* Now *dial* Also 6 **walowyshe,** (e)ish, 7 **wallouish** See also Walsh *a.* [f Wallow *a.*[1] + -ish[1].] Insipid, tasteless, flat; also, ill-tasting, nauseous, esp. through being over-sweet.

1548 Udall *Erasm Par* Pref to King 2 v], Honye is walowyshe and corrupteth the stomake. a 1586 Sidney *Ar adia* II xvi (Sommer) 172 b, I like the sicke man, to whom the Phisitian sweetes, the ill tasting willowish medicine he prescribes, is of a good taste. 1598 Florio, *Disapito*, vnsauorie, tasting of nothing, wallowish. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiv 1. II 176 Salt giueth a good relish to any meat that is ouersweet and wallowish. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 80 This fruit [the water melon] is watersh, and wallowish. 1686 W. Harris *Transp'd Countess Lepn* (ed 3) 337 The wallowish sweetness of Musts. 1691 Ray *N C Words* 78 In the South we say *illoush*, meaning some what nauseous. 1886 [see Wallow *a.*]

b. *transf.* and *fig*

1549 Coverdale, etc *Erasm Par Jos* IV 7–17 Therfore who so euer backbiteth his neighbour, he either condemneth him to be ouer bashfull in his workes, or els to haue his thynge mangled, and wallowish, the office whereof the backbytour taketh vpon hym. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I xlii 142 He is a foole, his taste is wallowish and distracted. *Ibid* III xiii 1086 Wallowish and mutinous, rather than wholesome. 1609 G. Benson *Serm* 7 May 13 Though those base petitions deliuered by our heretikes in Parliament (by reason of the nature of our vanity) bee full of water, weake, wallowish

**c.** *Comb* **+ wallowish sweet** *a*, so sweet as to cloy, sickly.

1598 Florio *Venereo* lxvii 289 Few hounds will eate of a Foxes fleshe, but a Bulldogge is wallowish sweet & rammish. 1577 Lupe *Hist Trav W. & L. Indies* 328 b, Their milk is wallowish sweet.

Hence **Wa'llowishly** *adv*, **Wa'llowishness.**

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II xii 349 The distasted impute wallowishnesse vnto Wine. *Ibid* III xii. 632 There are some luxurious, pleasing sweetes and yet wallowishly tasteless. 1611 Cotgr., *Affadissement*, wallowishnesse, vnsauorinesse, tastelessnesse

**Wall-paper.** Paper, usually printed in ornamental designs, used for covering the interior walls of buildings; paper-hangings

1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade, Wall paper* See *Paper hangings*. 1880 *Catal Internat Exhib, Brit* II xxx 13 Block printed chintz furniture and wall paper [Elsewhere usually called 'paper hangings.'] 1899 Blake *Macleod of Dare* xli, That was the guide she turned to—the woman was the dubbler in paint boxes, the critic of carpets and wall papers. 1883 *Harper's Mag* Mar 576/1 Should the new wall paper be plain or gilded? 1904 Louise Creighton *Life & Lett M Creighton* I 83 He is spoken of as wishing to introduce the inhabitants of Eden mouth to Morris's wall papers. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II viii 83 Revel came last, pointedly admiring in a flute like cultivated voice the mellow wall-paper of the staircase.

So **Wall-papering** *vbl. sb.*, wall-papers collectively.

1805 Dickens *Mut Fr* II ix, A young lady who was better worth staring at, it occurred to Sloppy, than the best of wall-papering.

**Wall-piece.**

1. *Mil.* (See quot. 1876.)

1755 R Rogers *Trials* (1769) 5, I embarked with a party of thirty men, in four battoes, mounted with two wall pieces each. 1774 *Ann Reg* 244 We ... at proper intervals kept firing our wall pieces, as signals to the cutter. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 29 Sept 1/4 The vessel mounting twelve eighteen pounders, twelve long wall pieces, and four swivels. 1804 *Nav Chron* XII 382 On the larboard were two large wall pieces, loaded with musket balls. 1806 Scott *Woodst* xvii, The malignants shooting their wall pieces at us, but so much the worse for them. 1826 J. Hewitt *Anc Arm our* III 148 The various fire arms in use at the close of this (16th) century are enumerated by St Remy. There were wall pieces (*couuersnets de remparts*), both match and flint lock: the match lock musquet [etc.]. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Mil Dict* (ed 3), *Wall piece*, an enlarged hacbuck or fire arm mounted on a swivel, and placed on the walls of a fort or other fortified place. It may be said to be obsolete, though sometimes issued in India to an expedition proceeding on service. 1884 *Mil Engin* I ii 115 Machine guns and wall pieces (the latter being of great advantage when the besieger has to resort to sapping) should also form part of the armament.

2. *Arch* A pendant or pendant-post.

1860 R & J. A Brandon *Open Timber Roofs* 26 The wall piece is tenoned into the underside of the principal rafter. 1880 *Architect Contr* XIII 435 The nine corbels which support the wall pieces.

**Wa'll-plat,** *dial.* Also -plot, plit [f Wall *sb*[1] + Plat *sb*[2] 3, app an alteration of Wall slate.]

1. — Wall-slate 1.

1440 *Northern Incidents* in *Surtees Misc* (1890) 17 That William Selby hade a stedum the same walle, sayes to ryst his wilesplat upon. 1617 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 205 The roofe to stand on wall plats of oake. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh Wd-lore* 82 Wall-plat, the top course of timber which is placed on the top of a wall for the purpose of fastening to it rafters to.- the wall plats

b. A shelf laid in a wall.

1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiq* 608

2 The spotted fly-catcher → Rafter *sb.*[1] 2, Rafter *bird.*

1841 Hartshorne *Sal gna Antiq* 608 *Wall plat* : The Hypaithra. *Ibid* Wall-plat bird.

**Wa'll-plate.** Also 4 6 wal-, 5 walle-, 6 wall, wayl- [f. Wall *sb*[1] + Plate *sb.* 7.]

1 *Building.* A timber placed horizontally on or in a wall, to form a support for joists or rafters

1304 *Acc Manor of the Savoy* in *Archæology* XXIV 307 Et in stipendio vj tarrationum vocatum *wall plates* pro sulpitres et beames, et planncheiorde et plegge. 1506–6 *Dun Inv Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 103 Imposicionum unius wall plate. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* iv xxiv 45 If the Plate of the Ceiling of the Wall is interrupted and made irregular by Beams, Wall plate, Cornishes, [etc.] 1782 *Phil Trans* LXXII 368 Just below it with the abovementioned hole at the end of the angles of the wall, is a wall plate which lies upon the eastern wall of the east flank. 1833 *London Magaz Archit* I 380 The wooden cases of sash lines, or seem to give, more room for fixing for the wall plate or architrave. 1890 R. Hurdwood *Kolbery under Ames*, He cut every post and wallplate and rafter himself.

2 *Mining* (See quots)

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss*, *Wall plates*, Curb. The two side pieces of timber frame in a shaft, parallel to the strike of the lode when the lode is in place. 1883 *Law Times Rep* XLIX 368 Just below it with the abovementioned hole at the end of the angles of the wall is a wall plate which lies upon the eastern wall of the east flank. 1883 *London Magaz Archit* I 380 The wooden cases of sash lines, or seem to give, more room for fixing for the wall plate or architrave. 1890 R. Hurdwood *Kolbery under Ames*, He cut every post and wallplate and rafter himself.

2 *Mining* (See quots)

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss*, *Wall plates*, Curb. The two side pieces of timber frame in a shaft, parallel to the strike of the lode when the lode is in place. 1886 *Rep Mineral Statistics* 1885 The other two pieces are the end pieces. 1886 J. Barrow *Sun & Mining Terms* 70 *Wall plate*, vertical strips of wood supporting the ends of the bars in a wood shaft.

Hence **Wall-plating,** wall plates collectively

1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1804 The wall plating and bond to be dovetailed and halved at their angles

**Wallsend** (wǫ'lzend, wǫ'l-lzend). The name of a town in Northumberland, so called from its situation at the end of the Roman wall. Used *attrib* (and *elliptically* as *sb.*), originally as the designation of coal obtained from a local seam now exhausted; subsequently as the trade name for coal of a certain quality, and in pieces too large to pass through a sieve with meshes ¾ inch in diameter

1827 How *Encyclopædia* II 24 Wallsends are rising in price. 1833 Dickens *Pic Sc, Mr Watkins Letter* 1, Three tons of the best Wall-end. 1897 Ainger in Edith Sichel *Life & Lett* (1906) 269, I have a pound or two of best Wallsend and wandering about in the cellar.

**Wallsman,** obs form of Wellsman

**Wall-stone.** A stone for building; a stone forming part of a wall Also, in generalized sense, masonry, stone suitable for building; *spec.* sec quot 1870 Also *fig*

a 1000 *Crist* 2 (Gr) Eu eart se wealistan, þe ða wyrhtan in wiðwurpon to weorce and to geweorce. 1000 *Rituale* (Gr) Wrætlic is þes weal stan. 1610 R Vaughan *Water H orkes* Kalb, Hauing Wall stone, Tyle, Lime, and Bricke, as necessary as any man hauing. 1630 *Lough Rec Corpus* (1896) I 403 That it licence granted to Sir Robert Dowglas to gett one hundrethe kaertis of wall stones out of the townes quarrell. 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xvii, For a' the folk I see here are as hard as the wall stones. 1877 *Encycl Metrop & Arch Trvl* I 72 1 Below the rag is the block stone, [used] for common walls, and usually called wall stone. 1890 Greenwell in *Trans Archæol Soc* (N S) II 221 This [bank of] mound is called by the present flint workers the 'wall stone,' from its being used for building purposes

*attrib* 1877 *Encycl Engin & Arch. Trvl* I 72/1 The block, or wall stone seam, is in this quarry about 10 or 11 feet thick. *Ibid*, In Yorkshire the workmen calculate all wall stone work by the rod of 7 yards.

**† Wall-tiding,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wall *v.*[1] + Tide *sb.* + -ing[2].] Welling up with the tide said of the reputed 'ebbing and flowing well' at Tideswell.

1836 R. JAMES *Hev Lancastr.* (ChethamSoc.) 237 [Wonders of the Peak] The leadmens grooues…The loftie Winyates, and wall-tading springe.

**Wallup,** variant of WALLOP.

† **Wallure.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WALL *sb.*1 + -URE.] Walls collectively.

*c* 1475 *Partenay* 1150 Wel was A-cheued this castel beutesous, Al A-boute reiued wonder by wallure. *Ibid.* 5504 Thys chambre well depeynted was fro foote of wallure the oui-e vnto.

**Walluru,** variant of WALLAROO.

**Wallwort** (wɔ̄·lwɔ̄t). Forms: 1 **walh-, weal-, wal-, wælwyrt, vealyrt,** 3, 6 **walwurt,** 4-7 **walwort** (5 **-wourte**), 6 **wallwote, -woort, (wolwort, wallworth),** 5 **wellsenort, wallewort,** 6 **wallwort.** [OE. *wealhwyrt*, f. *wealh*, a (Celtic or Roman) foreigner, a 'Welshman' (see WELSH *a.*) + *wyrt* herb, plant, WORT *sb.*1

It is very unlikely that *wealh* in this word has the same import as in *wealh-hnutu* WALNUT, where it is equivalent to 'exotic'; no reason can be shown why the Dwarf Elder should have been called 'the foreign herb'. More probably the name, like its later synonyms DANEWORT, DANES'-BLOOD, DANEWEED, expresses the popular belief that this plant was a product of soil fertilized by the carnage of battle. When the 'Welshman' was succeeded by the Dane as the foe on English soil, the plant supposed to be a native of battlefields received a new name. It is possible, though not certain, that the occasional OE. form *wælwyrt* is not a variant of *wealhwyrt*, but a separate word, *'wæl*-slaughter, the slain in battle (see WAL). Cf. LIGHTWORT (literally 'corpse-plant'), which in the earliest known example (*c* 1450) denotes the Dwarf Elder, though it was soon afterwards misapplied (through misinterpretation of its synonym *wallwort*: cf. 2 below) to the Pellitory of the Wall. It is very remarkable that in Swedish the Dwarf Elder is locally called *Danskablod* (Danes' blood), *wanaskatt* (enemy's blood), *wanaört* (ört = WORT *sb.*1) and *valört*; in the last name the first element may correspond either to OE. *wealh* 'Welshman' or to OE. *wæl* slaughter; the latter is the more probable supposition, as the early battles of the Swedes were not fought against Celts or Romans. Kilian's alleged obsolete Flemish *walewurte* is suspicious, because Kilian cites the Englisch *wort*.

1. The caprifoliaceous plant *Sambucus Ebulus*, also called Dwarf Elder, Ground Elder, Danewort, Danes' Blood, and Daneweed. It has a nauseous taste and an offensive odour, and was formerly valued as a styptic.

*c* 725 *Corpus Glass.* (Hessels) E 31 *Ebulum* wallwyrt. *Ibid.* l. 18 *Intula*, unallwyrt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 30 Wið deore, ealfter, wælwyrt, wæduweaxe [etc.]. *Ibid.* 302 *Ebule vel eobulum*, Veal vyrt *vel* ellenvyrt. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/10 *Ebulum*, *i.* eble, *i.* walwurt. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 185 Lesse walwourt (*ebullus minor*). *Ibid.* 1 304 *in Anglia* XVIII. 302 Take..jws of walwort & of nuttels. *Ibid.* 321, 323 Take walwort-roys, stylf & stavke. *c* 1425 *tr. Ardern's Treat. Fistula* etc. (1910) 21 Per is a naturel vertu in walwort þat moste welle restreynep blode of wounde. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 5/2 *Ebulus* uel *Ebula*, gall. eble, angl. wellesour. *a* 1491 J. KAY *Rites Reg. Angl.* (1726) 104 Videre etiam possumus..in villagiis juxta Warwicum, ubi circa manerin populi erant truculaci (by the Danes in 1016), qui sanguine hominum ibi interfectorum herbam ebuli, id est, Walwort, habundanter crescere, quæ ex cbullitione sanguinis humani naturaliter originem trahit. 1941 *Bk. Prophecies of C.* vii, Ebulus minor. This is the Jew Wolworte. It is somewhat like to Walworte. 1656 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 35 Ebulus Chamaecta, sive Sambucus humilis, in pagetis & cemeteriis. Wallwort, Dwarfe Elder, or Daneweed. *c* 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 3 July, *Sambucus ebulus*, dwarf elder, walwort, or daneweed.

¶ 2. *Erroneous uses.* Through misunderstanding of the first element (as if WALL *sb.*1) the name has been applied in Herbals, Dictionaries, etc. to the Pellitory of the Wall, and other plants growing on walls. As the word PELLITORY has a double origin, partly repr. L. *paritāria* (f. *paries* wall) and partly repr. L. *pyrethrum*, the mistaken identification of *wallwort* with the Pellitory of the wall led to the further error of applying the name to the Pellitory of Spain (*Anacyclus Pyrethrum*). The application of the name to the Comfrey (*Symphyton*) in quot. 1567 is due to confusion with G. *wallwurz* (said to be from *wallen* to heal wounds), whence Du. *waalwortel*, Sw. *vallört*, *vallgras*.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 43 Let hym take the roote of Pierrum, that is Wallwort in hys mouth, and chawe it. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 63 Walwort the Greekes cal Symphyton…It helpeth and quitteth away blood spitting. 1657 ANNE PRATT *Flowers Fl. V.* 33 Common Pellitory..The herb was formerly called Wall-wort.

† **Wa·lly,** *a.*1 *Sc. Obs.* In 6 wallie. [f. WALL *sb.*1 + -Y.] Of the sea: Tempestuous.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. XXXV, Throw countreis seir, hottis and rochis hie, Quir wallie, plaitis, woddis, wallie sey. 1581 RAMBAY *Pott's Wyth* iii, Wha to the Indian plain Succeidis' ploughs the wally sea.

**Wally, wawly** (wɔ̄·li), *a.*2, *adv.*, and *sb. Sc.* Also **wal(l)idrag, -draggle, -dragle, -tragle, waverdragged, -draggle,** etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Cf. DRAG, DRAGGLE *vbs.*]

1. 'A feeble, ill-grown person or animal; a worthless, slovenly person, esp. a woman' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1508 KENNEDY *Flyting to. Dunbar* 43 Wilk wallidrag, and wirdy wallidrag. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Flyting* xxvii. Full mony a waistless wallydrag, With wamis vnweildable, did furth wag. In ersische that did incress. *a* 1568 — *Tua Mariit Wemen* 180 Ane vane wallidrag, ane vorme, ane auld wobat carle. 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiv, That canna be said o' king's waiklers, if they let themselves be beaten wi' wheen auld carles that are past fighting,…and wives wi' their rocks and distaffs, the very wally-draigles o' the countryside. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, We think mair about the warst wally-draigle in our ain byre, than about the bleezing whilch the queen gied the country for the Parliament. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 142 Yon bit pernickety wallydraggle! He'll dee some service, or than no.

2. (See quots.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Wallidrag*,…It appears primarily to signify the youngest of a family, who is often the feeblest. It is sometimes used to denote the youngest bird in a nest. 1825 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxxvii, My bird like a cuckoo dabbling a wallydraigle out o' the nest.

**Wally-dye,** Sc. form of WELLADAY.

**Wallyt,** obs. form of WALLET.

**Wally-wa,** Sc. form of WELLAWAY.

† **Wa·lm,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wælm,** 2- **walm,** 6 (? **vualme**), **wawlme, wawme, whalme,** 6-7 **walme, waulm(e, waume,** 8 **waum.** *β.* 1 **welm,** (wi(e)lm, wylm), 4 **welm(e.** [OE. *wælm* (*wielm*, etc.; also in *æ-wielm* spring), str. masc. a gushing, swirling of (boiling) liquids; boiling; heat, etc. = mod. WFris. *wilm*(*e* smoke, vapour, mod.Flem. (dial.) *wolm*, *wolm*, wave bubble, a gushing, etc., Du. *walm*, LG. *walm* smoke, OHG., MHG. *walm* (G. *qualm*). Teut. root *wal-*, *wel-*.]

In the sequence of senses here adopted it is assumed that the notion of boiling or motion was the original, from which, through the idea of boiling, was developed the idea of heat. In this case **wel-* is perh. related to Pre-Teut. **wed-* to roll, see WAD *sb.*1 It is possible that two originally distinct radical elements became confused in Teut. See WALL *v.*1, to which this word serves as a noun of action.]

1. *a.* (In OE. only.) Surging or heaving movement (of waves). Chiefly in phrases like *wæteres, ýða wielm*, often used poet. for 'sea' or 'waves'. Hence *b.* A wave, billow.

*c* 900 *Bede's Hist.* III. xv. (1890) 200 Festilde seo sæ from hám ongéan. *c* 1000 *Andreas* 452 He ýðum stilde, wæteres wælm. *c* 1325 *Songs on Leaving Rivers* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Mi le wo is he þat belles in þe walmes. 1552 PHAER *Æneid* VIII. (1562) Aa ij, Ye liuelong night did Tiber flood his streames down couch & calme..yt nether mouing made the waues. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Heroicles* (Rolls) I. 195 b, I smoothed haue the wrastling waues, and lyde downe euery winde. 1598 WRAYE *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 24 The swannes Dolphin dallieth on ech walme.

2. A gushing forth, or upwelling of water; a spring, fountain, water-source; the water of such.

*Beowulf* 2546 Was Sære burnan walm heaðofyrum hat. *a* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* (1871) 373 He drincd of þæm welme his agnes pytces. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 141 Pe wan to-dan and fouwer walmes of watere sprungen ut per of. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3502 Al to-hewe was his helme, þe blod ran out als a welme. 1587 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 429 In þe welmes ofter þan ones is y-founde reed spiekked stones; In token of þe] blood reed. Pat þe mayde Wynefrede Schadde at þat putte.

3. *a.* The bubbling and heaving of water, etc. in process of boiling (melting, etc.). Also, one such motion; a 'wallop', a bubble.

*a* 1000 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 583 In ðæs leaden wylm scufan. *c* 1440 *Sir Gawayne* (*P.*) 1363 Thys seuenes walmes wyghtyle Seven dewalm in thy Companyes. That ben thy seuen clerkys. *a* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 397 That water that Cold was before, Anon brennyng hot he became. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. lix. 333 Euen as fire causeth water to swell and to send forth great waumes. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 28 Let it heat on a little walm of heat after it. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 82/2 Walm, a little seething or boiling up of Liquor in a Pot.

**b.** In advb. phrase, (*to be, set*) *a walm*: in a boiling condition. Also used *fig.*

1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heav.* (Grosart) 46/2 He was a walme, he could not stay inpeaching, Who smoakt with heat; and choke all with the smother. *c* 1620 — *Wits Pilgr.* (Grosart) 28 The Seas vnfit to saile on, if not clame: As it is when it is too turbulent: Then, the meane motion sets it so a walme As doth the Sailors Eare, and Eye content.

**c.** A spell of boiling: = WALLOP *sb.* 2 b.

1598 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 63 b, Let them boile at eche time but onelye one wawme. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxix. 230 Let them boyle twyce or thrise whalmes vpon the fire. *Ibid.*, Let them boyle therein, a whalme or a wallop in a pewter pot. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 25 Put in good store of Sugre, & let it boile a walme. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 471 Let it seeth on the fyer one qualme or two. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. ii. 11. 157 Ihese togither in a kettle to boile, and let them have ten walms over the fire. 1633 T. BRUGIS tr. *Wecker Mecum* (ed. 2) 170 Boyle them a walm or two. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 145 Stir them together, and give them a walm. 1691 HOLME *Medicin. Lex.* 311, (1693) 62 Stop the flottle, and keep it in boiling Water, till the Water has made three or four walms. *a* 1700 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens.* v. (1734) 243 Boil…in the Pipes of Water Whey made of Cows Milk, and after two or three brisk Waums, remove..from the fire. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 88 Put them in the kettle of the water boil, and let them have four or five walms.

**4.** *Salt-making.* 'A certain measure of salt aft'r boiling' (Leigh *Chesh. Gloss.*, 1877); in quots. a vessel of some kind holding this quantity.

The identity of the word, and the correctness of Leigh's interpretation, are somewhat doubtful.

1634 BEBERTON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 16 The salt made is that disposed into sacks, walms, or any other measure, but lieth in huge great heaps. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* VIII. 488 Salt made..in the County Palatine of Chester when taken from the Pans is put into Walms Basketres or Vessells.

**5.** Comb.: *walm-fire* adj. blazing-hot, boiling-hot. (*Cf. walming hot.*)

*a* 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 2584 Him brezo engla wylmbatne lig to wrasce sende. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 68 He het fecchen a veat and wið pich fullen, and wælm-fire under.

† **Walm,** *sb.*2 Var. of QUALM *sb.*1, killing, execution.

*c* 1205 LAY. 22124 And wulc men swa wurs dude þenne þe king halde iboden he wolde lime ifusen to one hate walme, and þil his weore la S men to-drowe in þere walme.

† **Walm,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4-7 **walm(e,** 6 ? **qualm,** 7 **waulm.** *β.* 4 **welm-,** 7 **welm, whelm.** [f. WALM *sb.*1, possibly rep r. an unrecorded OE. derivative **wælman* (**wielman*, etc.). Cf. mod. Flem. (dial.) *walmen* to boil, bubble, Du. *walmen* to smoke, G. (dial.) *walmen* to boil, *welmen* to undulate, well up, flame up.

This verb appears to have become confused (*esp.* in the *β* forms) with WHELM *v.* (*q.v.*). The relationship of WARBLE *v.* is obscure but may depend upon a transposition of the *l*. Cf. *wamble*, *wabanwat*, *wabanwel* etc. s.v. WHELM *v.*

1. *intr. a.* Of water: To well up, gush or spout forth. Usually const. advs. *forth, out, up*, etc.

*a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Hausknecht) 719 [Pe wal] He welmep up so he were red And ofsaunge3 þam water in to blod. 1 a 1366 CHAUCER *K.on. Kon.* 1362 The water is there frosen & newe, That welmeth up with wawis bright. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) b v, As a thynge y^t boylyth by strength welmyth & spryngyth out, & sodeynly vanyssheth all awhoote. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. i. 130 Other waters spryng and walme out of the inner parts of the earth, as well water and pit water. 1606 HOLLAND *Suetonius* 75 He lay with his bed chamber dores open, and oftentimes within a cloisture supported with pillers, hauing water walming out of a spring, or running from a spout in a conduit. 1810 — *Camden's Brit.* II. (1637) 505 A place..out of which there walme Springs in great plenty. *c* 1630 RIDDON *Surv. Devon* (1714) II. 83 Here it is [Water] maintained by Springs, which continually welm and boil up. 1641 — 340 But of certain Pits, in the Moors of this Parish, brackish Water welmeth forth. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* x. (1689) 100 On the very top of Cadlee Moor, and still in Brecknockshire, there walmeth forth a spring of water.

*b. fig.* To abound; be plentiful.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 184 þe wikkid werchinge þat walmed in her dedes, And sik will sercheþ.

**c.** Of smoke, vapour, etc.: To swirl, billow; to issue forth in such a manner. *rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xlii. I. 82 A smokie fume walmeth up with many turnings like waves. 1611 COTGR., *Tourmenter*, XVIII. I. 80 They saw afarre off a mightie deale of smoke waulming up into the aire.

**2.** To swell, bubble, as in boiling; to boil.

(1598 see QUALM *sb.*1) 1600 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 235 The waters boile, and walme to our desire.

Hence **Wa·lming** *vbl. sb.*1 **Wa·lming** *ppl. a.*, glowing, seething; also in phr. *walming hot.*

*c* 1350 *Jestic. Urines* II. ii. 12 By reason of rollyng and walmyng of the blode about in the veynes of yᵗ body. 1360

Holland *Pliny* II chl I. 46 At the very foot of Ætna...for an hundred miles, the wasiming round bals and flakes of fire cast out sand and ashes 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 582 The Staples did send away a wasiming hote wyne.

†**Wa'liming,** *vbl. sb.*² *Obs.* [Perh. merely a variant of *wamlyng* (see WAMBLE *v.*), which also occurs in the Promp. Parv. Cf. QUALM *sb.*²] Turning (of the stomach), nausea.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 514/2 Walmynge, of the stomake nausea.

**Walnut** ¹ (wɔ̄ lnut) Forms: 1 **walhhnutu,** 4-6 **walnotte,** 5 **wallnotl,** 5, 6 **walnutt(e,** 6-8 **wall-nuts,** 7 **walenotte,** 7-8 **wallnut,** 6- **walnut.** See also WALSH-NUT. [OE. *walhhnutu* str. fem. = WFris. *walnôti* (WFris. *walnoddl* from Da.), MDu. *walnote* (Kilian *walnoot*), Du. *walnoot*, MLG. *walnot*, *-nut*, LG. (Bremisch. Worterb *wallnutt*) *walnut*, G. *wallnuss* (earlier *wallnuss*), ON. *walhnot* str. fem. (Norw. *valnot*, Sw *valnot*, Da. *valnød*). The first element is O Teut. **walxo-s* (OE. *wealh*, OHG. *walah*) 'Welshman', i. e. Celtic or Roman foreigner; see WELSH *a.*

The solitary OE. example (in a glossary *c* 1050) is the earliest known appearance of the word in any language. The word must, however, have come to England from the Continent, but there is no evidence to show whether it belonged to the primitive OE vocabulary, or was introduced at a relatively late date It seems to be belonged originally to the LG speaking district, etymologically it meant the nut of the Roman lands (Gaul and Italy) as distinguished from the native hazel It is noteworthy that in the languages of these countries the word de-cending from L. *nux*, when used without qualification, denotes the walnut In HG the word appears first in the 16th c (in the form LG); but MHG. had the equivalent *welhisch nuz* (mod G. dial *welsche nüss, welschnuss*) see WALSH-NUT

1 ONF *noiz gauge, nowge*, walnut (which survives in mod Picard and Norman dialects) *app* represents a popular L. **nux gallica*, a translation of the Teut word ]

1. The nut of the common walnut tree, *Juglans regia*, consisting of a two-lobed seed (the edible kernel) enclosed in a spheroidal shell covered with a green fleshy husk.

The seed of the mature fruit is eaten like any other nut, and the soft unripe fruit is used entire for pickling

*French walnut* the nut (much larger than the ordinary kind) of a variety of the common walnut tree, *Juglans regia ma'ima.*

*c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 459/31 *Nux*, hnutbeam oððe walhhnutu 1258-9 *Durham Acct. Rolls* (Surtees) 124 Et M. de walnottes, prec. millene 15*d.* 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl* B xi 251 As on a walnot with oute is a bitter barke, And after þat bitter barke is a kirnelle of confortie kynde to restore *c* 1430 *Two Cookery bks* 109 (Ashm. MS.) Take curnylles of walnotys. 1580 BUNDEVILE *Curing Horses Dis.* xcix 46 He thinkes that the quantitie of a Walnut is not too little for so much wine. 1598 SHAKS *Merry W.* IV ii 171 Let them say of me, as lealous as Ford, that search'd a hollow Wall-nut for his wife's leman 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Cook* 276 Make it up into pils somewhit bigger than a French Walnut 1662 J CHILDREY *Brit Baconica* 6 Their quantity is from a Pease to a Wall nut. 1726 STEELE *Spect.* No. 498 P 3, I was diverting my self with a pennyworth of Walnuts 1769 MAS RAFFALD *Engl Housekpr.* (1778) 223 To preserve Walnuts white Take the large French walnuts full grown, but not shelled, pare them, pull your fine white apparel, [etc ] 1870 YEATS *Nat, Hist. Comm* 187 Walnuts will not bear a long voyage without being kiln-dried.

b. Often referred to as eaten with wine after dinner.

1824 PYNE (*title*), Wine and Walnuts. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Daw* 32 In after dinner talk Across the walnuts and the wine.

c Used for *walnut-juice.*

1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 501 Black Soot, or yellow Walnut shall disgrace This little Red and White of Emma's Face.

d. *Oil of walnuts* the essential oil expressed from the kernels of walnuts.

1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xiii. (1906) 130 Then use the oyle of Walnuts. 1820 tr *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 227 Olive-oil, oil of walnuts, oil of cobs are all used in the arts for making soap.

¶ e. Applied to the cow-nut.

1553 EDEN *Newe India, 1st Three Bks on Amer.* (Arb) 29 This tree . beareth k kynde of walnuttes (L. *iuglandes*) most delicate to be eaten.

2. The nut-bearing tree *Juglans regia* (N O. *Juglandaceæ*). Also applied to other species of *Juglans* and related genera: see 2 b. In the U S. the word often denotes the Hickory (*Carya*).

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* III. lxxvi. The broad-leau'd Sicamore, The bastarde Plantane, and the Wall-nut sound. 1620 J FOSS tr. *Lot's Africa* IV 228 Vpon this mountaine are many springs, and woods abounding with walnuts *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Oct 1677, Innumerable are the plantations of trees, especially walnuts. 1869 J OSER *Highl Turkey* I. 266 There are but few trees, only a few poplars, and a walnut or two.

b. With defining adj. Common Walnut (in British use), *Juglans regia*, called in the *U.S.* **English** Walnut. **Black** Walnut, the American species, *Juglans nigra*; **Grey** or **White** Walnut, the Butternut of the U.S., *Juglans cinerea.*

1754 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* etc. I 67 The Black Walnut. Most parts of the Northern Continent of America, abound with these Trees, particularly Virginia and Maryland. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Walnut, Jamaica. *Juva.* 1763 MARTYN *Lett. Bot* xxviii. (1794) 439 Common Walnut is distinguished by having the component leaves oval, smooth, sometimes a little toothed, and almost equal. 1857 A GRAY *First Less Bot.* (1866) 153 Heart-wood is generally of a different color, brown in Black-Walnut, black in Ebony, etc 1884 GRIFFRAGN *Horse W Ind Isl* 788 Walnut, Jamaica. *Pterocaulon Juglans* Walnut, Orabette, *Alexurites tri lobu* 1888 *Garden* 7 Jan 1/2 Besides these there are already fruiting English Walnuts, Persian Walnuts (Kaghan), Almonds, American Black Walnuts, &c. *Ibid.* 16 Sept 252/1 The Grey Walnut or Butternut is smaller in growth and more spreading in habit [than the Black Walnut].

3 The wood of the walnut-tree.

*a* 1585 in *Eng Hist Rev* (1914) XXIX 517 The comodities thences ar Boordes of chestnuttes and walnuttes. 1624 CAPT. J SMITH *Virginia* II 25 The wood that is most common is Oke and Walnut 1683 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xviii How pleasant then, to be bound to no particular chairs and tables, but to fit from rosewood to mahogany, and from mahogany to walnut, as the humour took one. 1868 *Rep. U S Commissioner Agric* (1869) 13 The museum has been partly filled with absolutely dust proof cases of solid walnut shaped in the best style of the art 1892 *Joseph Gardner & Sons' Monthly Circular* (Oct, Walnut—American—Imported 1914 Logs into Liverpool *Ibid.*, Walnut—Circassian —No Imports

†b. As material for gun-stocks. Hence colloq. *To shoulder walnut* to enlist as a soldier *Obs.*

1638 D. JONES *Military Discipline* (1650) 15 I tell you Cuttles, it's no use To shoulder walnut first ' ' Walnut ! 'Ay, so for a soldier '

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. obvious combinations, as (sense 1) *walnut-kernel, -ketchup, -oil, -peel, -trade, -wine*; *walnut-stained* adj, (sense 2) *walnut avenue, garden, leaf, -wood*, (sense 3, quasi-adj 'made of walnut') *walnut bed, sideboard*; *walnut-framed* adj b. special comb.: **walnut-brown,** the brown colour produced by the application of walnut-juice to the skin; **walnut-juice,** the juice expressed from the green husk of the walnut; used by gipsies as a brown stain for the skin; ¶ **walnut-water** (see quot.).

1898 MISS YONGE *Kobbs Parishes* lii 44 There were two walnut avenues planted about this time. 1840 HACKERAY *Catherine* xi, His amiable pair were lying in a large walnut bed. 1884 *Manch. Examiner* 12 Nov., If Mr. Gladstone's grooms got hold of you, Torfield, it would not be a little walnut brown which would hide you 1908 S E WHITE *Adventure* xxvi 282 The walnut framed pamphlet 1873 KINGSBURY *Comm Song of Sol*, *Speaker's Comm* IV 671/2 She relates to the Chorus how in early spring she had first seen [Me] 1888 E POWLES *Bertie Prytet & Anchoress* 4 Bring of walnut kernels. 1769 MRS RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 32 One meat spoonful of walnut catchup 1895 DR LARDNER *Kitchen Gard* (1861) 166 Walnut ketchup, is obtained from the shell, outer husk, and pulp 1798 CRABBE *Lett* x *Ulcer*, A Decoction of ¶ Walnut Leaves in Water, with a little Sugar 1824 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 629 Slugs and snails are destroyed by a decoction of walnut leaves. 1649 W BULLOK *Virginia* 12 Potashes, Rape, and ¶ Walnut Oyle, and other Staples 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* I 545 Walnut peel is preserved as for wool, form a cheap and durable brown for silk 1833 *Veget Subs Materials of Manuf.* xxiii 404 Fawn colour: Sumach, Walnut peel, Kermes. 1882 *Garden* XXII. 228/2 *Achlys*, *Bird's Eye* II No. 5731, A ¶walnut sideboard, Renaissance style 1906 T WATTS-DUNTON *Thoreau's Walden* Introd p xi, One of those masquerading 'children of the Lent' who will be fine to play the Man of the Woods, in order that they may write books with ¶walnut stained fingers. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 509 P 3, I must repeat the Advertisement of a ¶Walnut Tree in carry'd Work, for the Women within the Walks. 1767 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xx 258 To do still ¶Walnut water. Take a Peck of fine green Walnuts, bruise them well , put two Quarts of good French Brandy to them, [etc ] 1769 MRS RAFFALD *Engl Housekpr.* (1778) 193 To make ¶Walnut Wine 1869 DICKENS *Mut. Fr* I vii, An old corner cupboard of ¶walnut wood.

**Walnut**² *Naut.* Corrupt form of WALL-KNOT, associated with WALNUT ¹ 1. Also *walnut-knot*

1769 FALCONER *Dict Marine* (1780) s v. *Knot*, There are several sorts of knots . the principal of these are the diamond knot, the wall knot or walnut. 1792 *Rigging & Seamanship* I 223 A double-walnut knot, called a button and loop

**Wa'lnut-shell.**

1. The hard shell enclosing the seed of the walnut, also, either of the boat-shaped halves of this

[*c* 1384 see WALSH-NUT] 1823-34 FITCHER. *Husb* I 93 There will ryse pymples as moche as halfe a walnutshell 1836 BLAKE *Hum Life* II 66 Heare is the cup your Worship did bespeake. Why 'tis a cockle or a walnut shell 1847 STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 30 Spiders...at this day are worne in bagges or walnut shells against a tertian ague. 1849 DICKENS *Lett., Notes* II. In the gale of last night the lifeboat had been crushed by one blow of the sea like a walnutshell. 1885 SIR W HARCOURT in S Gwynn *Life Hithe* (1917) II 183, I therefore spoke last in a walnut shell.

†b. Applied to the outer husk of the walnut. 1588 HOLOET, Walnut shels, *gulmea.* 1769 *Ann Reg* 128 They were a gang of gypsies rubbing or dyeing a fine young girl, about seventeen, with walnut-shell

c. In phrases implying extreme calmness of the sea. (Cf. 2.)

1792 SHERATON *Edyatone L* 56 The sea breaks upon them (*sc.* the Edystone rocks) in a frightful manner, when, figuratively speaking, you might go to sea in a Walnut-shell.

2. *transf.* Applied to a boat, as a hyperbolical expression for extreme lightness and fragility. († In the 17th c. app. used as the actual name of some fragile kind of boat.)

1614 GENTLEMAN *Eng Way to Wealth* 17 The Fleet of Hollanders that go in the Sword-pinks, Walnut sheis, and great small Vessels, 100. and soo. sail at one time together. 1638 E HOWARD *R. Reafer* xxxiv, Our little walnut-shell got on the top of one [wave]. 1903 E. CHILDERS *Riddle of Sands* xii. 125 Davies nursed our walnut shell tenderly over their crests.

3 *slang* A very light carriage

1820 *Sporting Mag* XXXVI. 232 Drawing a walnut-shell over a level road.

4. *attrib.*

1480-70 *Bk Quinte Essence* 90 Of þis watir seue to be pacient, morowe and euen, a walnot schelle ful at oonys 1793-4 [ANNE & MAR BARBAULD] *Evens. at Home* (1853) II 36 The pond where I used to sail my walnut shell boats.

**Wa'lnut-tree.**

1 The tree that bears walnuts.

*a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 657 *Trewnaker nuger et grosiar*, Aspe walnotetree and thenbourne. 1483 *Cath Angl.* 407/1 Walnott tree, *auellanus* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph Cal.* Dec. 34 How haue I wearied with many a stroke, The stately Walnut tree, the while the vine vnder the tree fell all for nought at strife 1697 DAMPIER *Voy* I 211 302 The Wild Nutmegtree is as big as a Walnut tree; but it does not spread so much 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* (1776) I 280 Under it is found a soft ooty earth made up of vegetables; and at twenty six feet depth, large trees entire, such as walnut-trees 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci Gossip* 112 At the last meeting of the Enniskillen Society, Mr W H Dehant exhibited a branch of a walnut tree on which was a mass of eggs laid by a butterfly belonging to the Lycænidæ.

*Proverb* 1550 COVERDALE *Sir* xx A walnut tree yᵉ more it is beaten, the better it is, & not the worse. Euen so man thoow many stripes and much aduersity turneth from il and waxeth good

b. *attrib*

1536 *MS Kewt D* 780 If xxx.ij^li loodes of walnotry and hasslen tymbre *Ibid* If 69 b, Walnottry lymbre hasslen tymbre and elym timbre 1577 *Compl Gard* No 1097/4 10 Dozen of Walnut-Tree Planks 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl* ¹ v *Ulcer*, This is no more than a decoction of walnut-tree-leaves in water, with a little sugar. 1820 *Scientific Amer Rep* 74 *note*, The *Salix amy*, or *Salemoeh* tree, affords a most beautiful wood; it resembles walnut in tree wood in colour. 1822 C B. PARLOR *Fruit Jr to day* (ed 3) 16 The pleasant walnut tree walks of his [Addison's] time

†2 The wood of this tree. = WALNUT ¹ 3 *Obs*

1587 *B N C* (Oxf) *Docum , Inventory* A¹ 31 A bedsteed of wallnuttrye, in Ladies chamber 1625 *Bacon Ess* I 162 The seates of the Chauncell are of Walnut tree curiously carued 1756 MRS P L. POWYS *Passages fr Diaries* (1899) 8 The chin mey-pieces, tables, & one of green marble from Sweden, all the doors solid walnut tree, & the cielings 1826 SCOTT *Old Mort* xi, A grey doublet and cloak which Mrs Wilson produced from a chest of walnut tree

†b. *attrib* or *adj.* Made of walnut

1687 *Lond Gaz* No 2231/4 A drawing Walnut Tree Box, with two Drawers in it, to put Mathematical Instruments in 1708 *Ibid* No 4608/4 A large Parcel of French Walnut Tree Veneers will be exposed to Sale on Thursday 1728 *Ibid* No 5408/4 A Fowling Piece with a Walnut-tree Stock 1769 *Bradley's Family Dict* s v *Candle*, Roll them upon a Walnut-tree Table 1808 *Mem Revd Hungerford*, Sitting in a walnut tree arm chair 1907 *Verney Mem* I 21 Chairs with walnut tree frames

**Walnyed,** *a. Obs* = *Wol*DENEYED, WALLEKELL Of a horse: ? Light grey.

The meaning is obscure, as the colours are not enumerated in the same order in the original and the translation A note in the MSS of the translation has *glaucus*, which does not occur here in Palsdius.

*c* 1440 *Palliad. on Husb* IV 887 The walnyed is good, also the blake is fyn colour, the falow and hestbrued

**Walop** : see WALLOP *v.*

**Walour(e,** obs. Sc. forms of VALOUR.

**Walow,** obs form of VALUE, WALLOW.

**Waloway** : see WELLAWAY

**Walowe yee,** obs. f. WALL EYE

**Walrus** (wɒ̄ lrŭs). Also 8 **walrous, wallross,** *pl.* **walrosses,** 9 **-russes** [probably ¹ Du. *walrus* (*walros*) Compare (1) LG. *walrosz*, G *walross* (earlier also *walrusz*, *wallrusch*), Sw *walross*, *valrosz* (*walrus*), Da. *hvalros* (earlier also *hvalrusk*), walrus; (1) Ob. *hors xhwæl*, early mod G. *rosswal*, *russwal*, Norw. *russhval*, walrus, ? OFr. *rohal*, *ohart*, *rochal* (whence med.L. *rohanlus*, *-allus*) walrus-ivory; see RUEL.

The forms under (1) appear to be later than those under (2) from which they perh seem to be derived. Attempts on some analogy such as that of Du *walvisch* 'whale

'The interpretation of formation (1) as 'horse-whale' (zoologically impossible) appears to be only one of the various popular etymologies that the forms of the word have undergone. Ultimately a confusion, either within or outside the Scandinavian languages, has perhaps taken place between (ON. *hrosshvalr* a kind of whale, and *rosmhvalr* walrus. The latter is related obscurely to ON *rosmall*, Norw *rosmaal*, *rosmaar*, Da. *rosmar*, *er*, *ar* walrus, whence the scientific specific name *rosmarus* See ROSMARINE ² Some scholars have connected *rosm-* with ON, Icel *rostungr* walrus, and assumed relationship of both with ON *raudr* Rus. (Cf ROSOLAS and OHG *rot(a)lwa* redness.) this is zoologically possible, but it seems more likely that *rosm-* is a corruption of some non-Teut word cf MOSES.]

1. The sea-horse, or morse (*Trichechus rosmarus*), a carnivorous pinniped marine mammal allied to the *Phocidæ* (seals), and *Otariidæ* (sea-lions), and chiefly distinguished by two tusks (exserted upper canine teeth). It inhabits the Arctic seas. A variety found in the N. Pacific has sometimes received the distinct specific name *obesus*.

(*c* 893 ÆLFRED *Orw* I. I. § 15 For þam horschwalum, for

buscht hie habbuś swibe sełxle ban on hiora tobum. 1698 O. Worm *Mus. iii. xv.* 289 Animal..quod Anglis & Russis Walrus, aliis Mors, Danis & Islandis Rosmarus vocatur. 1893 Ray *Syn. Anim. Quadr.* etc. 191 Anglis Mors & Russis imitato nomine. Belgis Walrus..The Morse or Sea-Horse. 1708 J. Woodward *Catal. Fossils* II. *Foreign* n. 22 A Tusk of the Morse, or Walrous, call'd by some the Sea-Horse. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 555 The Phoca, with the canine teeth exerted. The Walrus. 1776 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 13 The seals, walruses, &c. and cod, caught in the Russian seas, are likewise very important articles. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1840) 109 The bones of the morse or walrus..are remarkably complete, if we consider the peculiar appearance of the feet in the living animal. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xiii. 140 The last remnant of walrus did not leave us until ..the temperature had sunk below zero. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 337/2 The tusks are formidable weapons of defence, but their principal use seems to be digging..for the molluscs and crustaceans on which the walrus feeds.

† **2.** *Indian walrus*: the Dhoong. *Obs.*

1771 Pennant *Syn. Quadr.* 338 Indian Walrus.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *walrus-beef, -boat, calf, -fishing, -hide, -ivory.*

1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxviii. 366 Laden with..as much walrus-meat as would pay for their board. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Aug. 6/1 Each "walrus-boat carried six men. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 356/2 Old Ickwa put his hand on me, at the same time pointing to the "walrus calf, and said 'pee-yuk'!' 1880 W. Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 5 "Walrus-fishing in succeeding years in high northern latitudes. 1880 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4038, Patent "walrus-hide leathering. 1875 Maskell *Ivories* 1 In quality and beauty of appearance "walrus ivory scarcely yields to that of the elephant.

**Walsh, Walshe,** *Naut.* Obs. ff. Welsh.

**Walse,** var. Waltz *sb.* and *v.*

**Walsh,** *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 **welsche,** 7, 9 **welsh.** [? contracted f. Wallowish *a.* Cf. Wash *a.*, Weash *a.*] Insipid, tasteless, ill-tasting; having a sickly taste, nauseous.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. vii. 79 To pas: By goustv placis, welsche smvrit, mist, and myrknes. *c* 1687 in C. K. Sharpe *Witchcraft in Scot.* viii. (1884), It was not bloud, but red as bloud..it had a welsh taste. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* 78 *Welsh*, insipid, fresh, waterish. 1824 Hogg *Perils of Man* (1872) 1. *Welsh*, insipid...Broth and water, and pottage without salt, are *wallow* or *welsh*. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Walsh*, tasteless. 'As walsh as the white of an egg.'

Hence **Walshness,** insipidity.

1808 Jamieson. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, Walshness, want of flavour; insipidity.

**Walsh(e,** obs. forms of Welsh.

**† Walsh-nut.** *Obs.* In 4 walsh-note, walsh(e)-note, welshnote, 6 walsche nutte, 7 walsh-nut. [Corresponds to MHG. *walhisch nuz* (mod.G. dial. *welsche nuss, welschnuss*), early mod. Flemish (Kilian 16th c.) *walsche not*, ' Welsh ' (i.e. Italian or Gaulish) nut: see Walnut. The word was prob. adopted in ME. from MDu. or MLG., though documentary evidence of its existence in those dialects is wanting.] = Walnut 1 *a.*

1268-9 *Durham Acc.* (Surtees) 374, 2000 de Wals note in precio 2*s.* *d.* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1281 (Fairf. MS.) Y saugh him carien a wyndmille Vnder a walsh note (*MS. Bodley* welshnote) shale. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons swibli swete and notes newe. 1520 Arnolde *Chron.* 165 Vf thou wylt plante an almaunde tree or a walsh note tree or a chery tree. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* vi. 761 The fruite is called in Englishe, Walnuttes, Walshe Nuttes, and of some Frenche Nuttes. 1580 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 232 The dry Walnuts, or Walsh nuts, are hot and dry in the second degree. 1633 Hart *Diet of Diseases* 1. xvii. 68 Amongst all these [Nuts], the Wall-nut, or Walsh-nut, beareth away the bell.

**Walsman,** obs. form of Welshman.

**Walsse, Walsshe,** obs. forms of Welsh.

**† Walt,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* [? Celtic.] A beaten clay. 1488 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 2 Item, to Jok Ingli. for makyn of walt and claying of the flur, iij days, iis. iiid.

**† Walt,** *a. Naut. Obs.* Also 6–7 **walte.** [OE. **wealt*, found only in *unwealt* steady; related to Walt *v.*] Of a ship: Unsteady, crank.

1532 *Rolls Ch. Exam.* 4 Sept. The said boate was very walte & very evyll made. 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xi. 53 We say a Ship is walt when shee is not stiffe, and hath not Ballast enough in her to keepe her stiffe. 1696 Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* ii. (1856) 291 For covetousnes sake [they] did so over lade her,..as she was walte, and could not bear sayle. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 818, The our hunne Vessels might not heeld, or be walt, but well trimm'd and stiff. 1789 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wealt*, an obsolete or spurious term signifying *crank*.

**Walt** (wɔlt), *v. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 3–5 **walte,** 6–8 **wolt,** 9 *dial.* **waut.** Contracted pa. t. and pple. 4–5 **walt.** [early ME. *walten* = OHG. *waltan*, MHG. *walzen* (strong) to roll, revolve (intr. and trans.); the OTeut. root **walt-* appears to be an extension of **wal-* (**wel-*) to roll: see Wallow *v.* Cf. Welt *v.*]

**1.** *trans.* (with obj. clause). To revolve in the mind, consider. [So OHG. *waltan.*]

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Witte wel hwat þu hauest walte hwat þe tide.

**2.** To throw, cast, toss *out, over, up,* etc.; to fling to the ground; to overturn, upset.

Cf. Root-walt *v.* (1552– ).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1734 [Tekel] To teche þe of techal, þat terme þus maneȝ, þy wale rengne is walt in wyȝtes to heng, & is funde ful fewe of hit fayth dedes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1336 Þay..grayþely departed þe wesaunt fro þe wynt-hole, & walt out þe gutter. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4633 The stormne..walt vp the wilde se vppon wan billes. *Ibid.* 5888 [Thai] wounde hom wikkedly, walt hom to ground. *c* 1440 *Sege Jerusa.* 351 Or y to þe walles schal wende & walten alle ouere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. vii. 13 Ane part hastyis to beild the wallis wicht, And ayme to..wolt wp hurdis to the werk on hie. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 51 *To Walt,*..to overthrow. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray*, To *Welt*, or *Wolt*, overturn Cart or Wain. 1875 *Lancs. Gloss., Waut*, to upset; to turn completely over. 1885 *Almondbury Gloss. Walt*, to turn over...' Nay, lad; it sud wait ma table ower.

**3.** *intr.* To be thrown down, fall over, be upset or overturned; to totter; to lean to one side.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 909 As þe welkyn shold walt, & wonder-full noyse Skremyt vp to the skrow. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 69 Quer wilde wawes he wende, as alle waite schulde. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl. Adorc. Sheph.* 208 Were lest thou walt here by the wall. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 51 *To Walt*, to totter, or lean one way. 1875 *Lancs. Gloss., Waut*,..to fall on one side. 1885 *Almondbury Gloss., Walt*, to totter, to fall.

b. With *open*: To be opened; to gape wide.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 501 Pen went þay to þe wykket, hit wall vpon soone. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1143 So depe wondes I ȝat day dalt, bat many on wyde opyn walt, bat wikkidly wondede wat.

**c.** *fig.* To fall, *into* (anger, madness).

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1936 Nestor anone noyst bere with, And walt in his wordes, & wrobe yre. *Ibid.* 8685 Sum walt into wodenes, & of wit past.

**3.** To *gush out*, pour, flow.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 364 Waltes out veh walle-heued, in fall wode stremes. *Ibid.* 1237 Per waltes of þat water in waxlokes grete, þe spumande aspaltoun þat spyseres sellen.

**Walt(e,** obs. forms of Welt.

**Walte,** var. Vult *Sc. Obs.*

1504 *Rec. Inverness* I. 82 *Papers Hon. VIII*, IV. 157 [His] Grace maist noble jocund walte,..manlye and ferme contenance.

**† Walter,** *sb. Obs.* Also *Sc.* 6 **wolter, woltir,** 6–7 **wolter.** [f. Walter *v.*1 Cf. Welter *sb.*]

**1.** The rolling of the sea in a storm.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3699 So þe hete and þe brethe burbeit þe gedes, & þe spiñ it vp spitiously fyue speire lenght With walter and wawes.

**2.** The act of wallowing (in mire); in quot. *concr.*, a wallowing-place.

1577 Northbrooke *Confut.* (1579) To Rede. "'s The Lord'.. to vengeth the shameful contempt and neglect of his truth: by sending numbers to their stie or walter against.

**3.** An upset, upheaval, overthrow. *lit. and fig.*

1563 Winzet (S. T. S.) I. 49, I beseik zow..thinkis it nocht to merwel at as haisty and sa subtaine a wolter of this warlde in sa mony greite materis. 1563 Randolph *Let. to Cecil* 10 Apr. in *Scott. Papers* II. 5 Yf the cours..suld stand without the thyrs resolme, that ever that man cume agayne into credyt. 1596 Dalrymple *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 221 He spak meikle of the Woltir of the religioune [L. *de religione apud me nonnulla*]. 1658 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 379 (Scott. Prov.) If I can get his cart at a wolter [1670, p. 282 at a whelming], I shall lend it a put.

**Walter** (wɔ·ltəɹ), *v.*1 *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 4–6 **walt,** 4–7, 9 *dial.* **walter,** 5 **waltyr,** 6 **waulter, -tre,** *Sc.* **woltre,** walter, 6 *Sc.*, 8–9 *dial.* **wolter.** [Freq. of Walt *v.* : see -er 5. Cf. Welter *v.*]

**I.** Intransitive senses.

**1.** To roll to and fro, move from side to side; to tumble or toss about; to lie sprawling on the ground, in mire, etc.

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6744 (Ashm. MS. VII. 202) He feled a þing þat was myȝti and þicke walter and turne atwixe hym and his wif. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerusa.* 735 Litel he slepip, Bot walwyp & wyndip & waltrep a-boute. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 236 [She] lyes gaspand, wyde the lyere. 1589 [see Toltre *v.*]. 1838 Falscr. 771/1, I walter, I tumble. *Je me voyatre.* Hye you, your horse is walteryng yonder, he wyll breake his saddell but more harme. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* III. xiii, Sick to the last greit terrour in his mynd he tuke, That all that nycht he wolterit and he wolt. 1868 Wythals *Dict.* to *b/a Volutio*, to turne or walter as a hogge dothe in the myre. 1881 Blackmore *Lorna Doone* xix. 241 b, The horse will forsake his meate, and liedowne and wallow, and walter vpon the ground. 1693 Holland *Plutarch's Alor.* 1276 Sardanapalus..tumbling and lying a-bousing, among a sort of concubines. 1692 Ray *Dict. tr. ii.* (1693) 87 The Globe cannot walter or reel towards any side. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Walter, wolter*, to roll and twist about on the ground: as corn laid down and rain; or as one who is rolled in the mire. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, s.v., 'The potatoes lie down and walter on the ground'; *i.e.* they remain lying.

**b.** Of a ship: To roll or be tossed on the waves.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 415 Hit waltered on þe wylde flod, went as hit lyste. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sagis* 78 Vpon the wyr thay nuthir preit perrell,..Waltereand with wind out throw þe mudy wawis.

**c.** Of the stomach: To be upset or disturbed, 1540 J. Heywood *Four PP.* 600 It..maketh your stomake sore to walter.

**2.** *fig.* To wallow or revel *in* (prosperity, pleasure, sin).

*c* 1325 *Cursor M.* 4503 (Fairf.) Man þat walteres [*Cott.* weltres] in his welis. 1548 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 62 They are ..lyke to hogges, asses and swyne, Walteryge in ayntfull wretchednes. 1553 Bradford *Serm. Repent.* (1574) H j b, Trow you that such a one, wyl willingly walter & wallow in his wylful lusts, pleasures, and fantasies? *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 76 If a man..walter in filthines like a Swyne. *a* 1598 Rollock *Serm.* xi. (1616) 208 The naturall man waltering and wallowing in sinne.

**3.** To swing or float to and fro. Also *fig.*

*c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 947 þou waltres al in a weih & wel y vnderstande whider þe belaunce bremliest bouwes al-gate. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1663 in *Macro Plays* 156 Nedys, my loue must on hym lende, With Cousyytyse to walter & wave. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1036 And some I make in a rope to totter and walter. *c* 1555 [? Cavendish *Carrying Christ's Cross* iii, 29 The sunguis gatherynge togather ȝe wicked wretches (which now walter and waluwe as the worlde and wynde bloweth) to be tyed in bondels, and cast into the fier. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sagis* 44 He signifyis a mannis persoun, That walteris betuix wynde and waw Into this warld ay vp and doun.

**4.** To move or go unsteadily; to totter, stumble. Also, to go with a rolling gait, to waddle.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* I. 189 So lyued leues were leyde all aboute,..þat where so þey walkid, þey walkid dounewardis. 1480 Caxton *Ovyd's Met.* xi. ii, He [Silenus] was..sat that tyme, in Frygye, walkeryng and swarvyng what of wyn and of age. 1577 Der *Relat. Spir.* 1. (1659) 186 [An adder and her young] She..sufereth them to hang upon her back, and so walcreth to her hole. 1579 Tomkyns *Let. to Kay, Walter*, as welter ? to goe aside, or heavily, as Women with Child, or Fat People' (Ray 1691).

**5.** Of waves: To surge or roll high. Of water, etc.: To flow, gush. Of a humour: To wander or come about the body.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 198 Pe wawes ful rode waltered so hige. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 684 Wel much was þe wayne water þat wattered of ygan. 1555 Fraze *Amcid* II. (1558) E ij, The foamy flood..walking down the valleis. 1658 Hollybush *How. Apoth.* 23 The unnaturall or evell sauce is it that..waltereth only about the harte. *Ibid.* 36 Somtyme grove apostemes in the lower parts of the body by walteryng and straying in the body. 1877 J. Bishop *Beautiful, Blossoms* xvii. 84 Streames of teares waltering downe his cheekes.

**II.** Transitive senses.

**6.** To roll about, toss to and fro. Also *fig.* Also *refl.*, to sprawl or wallow (on the ground, in the mire, etc.).

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21113 Quik þai haue his bodi flaine & waltered him in barli chaf. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 204 And he [sc. the demoniac], cast doun in þe er] o, was waltrid and frobid [Vulg. Mark ix. 19 *volutatus est*]. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, þei smyteth be grounde with the foote and walters hem as an horse. *c* 1460 *Cov. Myst.* 340 The fete..wyl I waltryn in blood. 1508 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* Wks. (1876) 304 Kuen as an hors the softer myre or cloye he waltreth hymselfe in the more assely he lyeth. *Ibid.* 358 He waltereth hymself in the myerie puddle. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 93 Quhill the cuntrie was walterit to and fra in this maner. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iii. (Arb.) 92 In seas far waltred, he groyleth.

**7.** To overturn, overthrow.

1572 Sir J. Maitland in *Satir. Poems. Reform.* xxvii. 71 Bewar I we may be walterit [v.r. wolterit] or we witt, And lykwyis Loss our land and libertie.

**8.** *dial. uses* (see quots.).

*a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Walter, Walter*, to cause extreme fatigue:..'I am right-a-one sort, by my day's work'. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Walthered*, mixed or stuck in a boggy road, or swampy place. 'Whiles in the mornin' I find the brushes of the cows all walthered and smashed', broken down into the mire.

Hence **Wa·ltering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 247 A wylde walterande whal..bl jat bot flotte. 1500 Douglas *Hon. sem.* 1. 13 Innumerabill folk I saw flotterand in feir, Quhilk pereist in the walterand wallis weir. 1548 Lyndesay *Dreme* 128 Quhare I myght se ? the woltryng (e.p. walterynge) of the wallis vp and doun. *a* 1549 Surrey *Æneid* iv. 167 Whoes waltring tonge did lick their hissing mouthes. 1552 Huloet, Walteryng or full of wallowynge, *volutabundus*. *c* 1555 Abp. Parker *Pr. Axiyll.* 99 So pride hath pull by the waltering wealth. 1578 H. Wotton *Conrtlis Controv.* 44 As a man dizzie with the waltering of a vessel, tossed by the hollowe waues of ragiug seas. 1588 T. Hill *Misfort. Arthur* iii. Chor. 42 The windes, that sweepe the waltering waues.

**† Wa·lter,** *v.*2 *Sc. Obs. rare*—1. *trans.* To be without, lack.

1563 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 92 The said Johne (tail remane) at Den hous of his said spouse, and vere dayelie at thai walter nocht na behuifull thing to thame that he nocht to find, and gif at thai walter acht in his default, sa that thairthrow the myle be wil (etc.).

**Walter,** obs. form of Walter.

**† Wa·lterer.** *Obs.* In 6 *Sc.* -er. [f. Walter *v.*1 + -er.] One who overthrows.

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 230 Behald now how ȝe do the matter gryde, To cans my Sisters France and Ingland seasone ane Warre of Contrik ȝe hat subome ȝow. 1581 in *R. Baunatyne's Jrnl.* etc. (1806) 300 Sindrie ..that war the kingis enemeis, walteraris of his kingdome, and enemeis of religioun.

**Walteret, Waltith** : see Waltrot, Wealth.

**† Waltham.** *Obs.* [The name of *Waltham* Chase, Hants.] Used *attrib.* in allusion to the disguise adopted by the poachers called 'Waltham Blacks': see Black *sb.* 6 b.

1726 Richardson *Clarissa* (1812) V. 301 Such mean devices, such artful, such worse than Waltham disguises put on, to obtrude himself into my company.

**Waltir,** obs. Sc. form of Water.

**Waltonian** (wɒltōʷnĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name of Izaak *Walton*, author of *The Compleat Angler* (1653) : see -ian.]

**A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Izaak Walton. **B.** *sb.* A disciple of Walton, an angler.

1892 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 314/2 The Waltonians, the Cottonians, and the Saltonians (for Walton, Cotton, and Salter, are their best-books). 1897 Lockhart *Scott's Life.* (1845) 239/2 This little group of Waltonians, bound for Lord Somerville's preserve. 1898 J. Coulter *Ado. Pacifist* ii. 22 Exhibiting a stead fish that any Waltonian might well stare at. 1906 (*title*) Rules of the true Waltonian angler.

at the Crown Tavern, Pentonville Hill. Established 1830. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 10/1 He...is an ardent devotee of the Waltonian art.

So **Waltonising** *vbl. sb.*, angling.

1841 J. T. J. Hewlett *Peter Priggins* I. i. 25 A landing-net, minnow-can, casting-net, and half a hundred more requisites for Waltonising. 1880 H. S. Leigh *Strains fr. Strand* 2 No sign was there of pebbly brook... Where patient swains with rod and hook In Waltonising dabble.

[**Waltron**, a misreading in Johnson's Dict. for *waltron*: see quot. 1728 s.v. Waltnoe 1.]

†**Waltsel**, **waltsell**. *Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure origin.] *A tale of waltsel, an idle tale,* a piece of absurdity.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 143 'Pat pow sellest' quod treuth 'is but a tale of waltrot' [C. xxi. 146 waltesot, *v.rr.* walter, waltesel].

**Waltsom(e**, error. forms of Wlatsome *a. Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. x. (1495) f v, There is... waltsomnes w^t colerik, spewynge, dyuenes of tongue. *c* 1492 *Chester's Nest's Priest's T.* 333 (Pynson), Murdre is so waltsom [Thynne 1532, Stowe 1561 waltsome] and abhomynable. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xxx, O waltsome murther, that attaynyeth no fame.

**Waltz**, ? obs. Sc. form of Vault *v.*2

1721 in E. D. Dunbar *Soc. Life* (1865) 43. I am also rejoyced to hear that you are cleer and can voltige and waltz a little as to your former way.

**Waltz** (wɔ:ltsi), *a. Naut.* [f. Walt *a.* + -y.] = Walt *a.*

Prob. *Obs.*, the knowledge of the word being derived, through Longfellow, from quot. 1700.

1702 C. Mather *Magnal.* I. vi. 25 A New Ship, built at Rhode-Island, of about 150 Tuns; but so waltzy, that the Master...often said she would prove their Grave. [1850 Longf. *Birds of Passage, Phantom Ship* iv, This ship is so crank and waltzy, I fear our grave she will be!] 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Merchantmen* iv, By sport of bitter weather, We're waltzy, wanton, and scarred. 1904 F. T. Bullen *Creat. Sea* xxiv. 362 In spite of the waltzy state of the almost worn-out vessel.

**Waltz** (wɔ:lts, wɔ:ls), *sb.* Also 8 **walse**, **waltse**, 9 *pl.* **waltzes**, 8–9 **waltz**, **walse**. See also Valse. [ad. G. *walzer*, I. *walzen* to roll, revolve, dance the waltz.]

1. A dance performed to music in triple time by couples who, almost embracing each other, swing round and round in the same direction with smooth and even steps, moving on as they gyrate.

1782 Twining in *Scrict. Papers T. Family* (1887) 74, I found on inquiry that this is a favourite German dance called a waltz. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793–4. II. i. 6 All these fair Flammandes gain force, In the Waltz, as they spin in their whirligig course. 1798 Helme M. Williams *Tour Switzerland* I. 34 The waltz, which is now never forgotten at a Paris ball. 1812 Byron (*title*) The Waltz. 1825 W. Hamilton *Hand-bk. Terpsich. etc., Waltz*, in Music, the name of a riotous and indecent German dance. 1872 E. Braddon *Life in India* iv. 145 She will be able to reward the virtuous youth who is fast and smooth in the *waltz*. 1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* I. 1 The very memory of those waltzes makes my arms ache.

*fig.* 1802 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 403 The ghosts of his departed guineas dance the waltz round my ideas.

*attrib.* 1826 [Sheikh] *Notes & Refl. Ramble in Germany* 37 My steps were arrested...by the sound of soft waltz music.

2. A piece of music to accompany this dance, in the same time and rhythm.

1816 Jane Austen *Emma* xxvi, Mrs. Weston...was seated, and beginning an irresistible waltz. 1837 Marryat *Dog-Fiend* iv, The band...played a waltz.

†3. A party or soirée for waltzing. *Obs.*

1820 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 192 If men and women of fashion will come forward, and...give balls, waltzes, and suppers.

**Waltz** (wɔ:lts, wɔ:ls), *v.* Also 9 **waltz**, **walse**. [f. Waltz *sb.* or directly ad. G. *walz-en.*]

*intr.* To dance a waltz. Also, to be addicted to, or practised in, the waltz; to dance the waltz in a specified manner.

*c* 1795 *Search after Perfect.* III. I. in *New Brit. Theatre* (1814) III. 56 The sight of a lady waltzing. 1812 Byron *Waltz* To Publ.' Lord! Mr. Horner, Can't you see they're waltzing? I forget what it's called. 1816 Southey *Lett.* (1889) I. iv. 93, I waltzed one waltz. 1870 Furnivall *Borde's Introd. Knowl.* Forewords 210 Oh fair-haired Alice, how well you waltz! —

*b. transf.* To move lightly, trippingly, or nimbly. Chiefly *slang.*

1861 Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* xiv. vii. (1873) V. 237 Big warclouds waltzing hither and thither, occasionally clashing into bloody conflict. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* xxvi. All you have to do is to put a good 'front on', and waltz in with the crowd. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 600/1 With a fair wind she waltzed beautifully round the coast.

c. quasi-*trans.* (with ndvb. extension): To move (a person, oneself) as in a waltz.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, We are always...revolving about the Lord Chancellor and all his satellites, and equitably waltzing ourselves off to dusty death, about Coats. 1881 Mary C. Hay *Missing* II. 237 How Edgar laughed as he waltzed me through the hall! 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 600/2 He seized me and waltzed me around the little dining-room.

Hence **Waltzing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*Waltzing mouse* = Waltzer b.

1818 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 20 Her waltzing is the prettiest thing that can be seen. 1821 Ld. Glenbervie *Jrnls.* (1910) 143 Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone, whose splendid dinners and waltzing balls we partook of at Brighton. 1829 *Metropolis* I. 203, I suppose she is disappointed of her waltzing partner. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, The Lord George Gaunt was desired to return from Vienna, where he was engaged in waltzing and diplomacy. 1882 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. iv. 75 They commenced sliding round the ring with a peculiar waltzing step. 1896 *Fancy Mics* (ed. 4) 45 Waltzing Mice. 1904 *Biometrika* Jan. 4 Japanese waltzing mice.

**Waltzer** (wɔ:ltsə). [f. Waltz *v.* + -er 1.] One who dances the waltz.

1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 220 The music at first is slow, but, as the Waltzers get animated, it rises to a jig. 1841 [J. Glenbervie *Jrnls.* (1910) 239 Both great waltzers, and insufferable coxcombs. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, My Lord George Gaunt...was one of the finest waltzers in Europe. 1912 *Times* 28 Sept. 11/5 Special prizes are given this season for the best waltzers.

b. A name for a breed of domesticated mice which have the habit of spinning round rapidly; = *waltzing mouse.*

1904 *Biometrika* Jan. 6 All the waltzers used were of pure strain. *Ibid.*, The offspring produced by crossing a Japanese waltzer with an albino.

**Waltze**, obs. form of Value.

**Waltz**, obs. Sc. form of Wax *sb.*1

**Waly** (wē·li), *int. Sc.* and *north.* Also **wally**, **walie**. [Of obscure formation; ? cognate with Woe, Wellaway.] An exclamation of sorrow.

*a* 1724 *O wally, wally*' in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1773) I. 166 O wally up the Braes, and wally, wally down the brae. 1823 *Gateshead Obs.* (E.D.D.), Wally! Wally! it's a queer noo! 1894 J. W. M'Laren *Tibbie & Tam* 41 (E.D.D.) But walie! the sight gar'd even puir Baudrons...jump nearly four feet wi' fricht.

Hence **Waly-waling**, lamentation.

1822 Galt *Ann. Parish* xvii. 161 Such a wally wallying as the news of this caused at every door.

**Waly**, **waly** *int.* = Waly *int. a.*2

**Walycoat**, var. Wylikcoat *Sc.*

**Walysshe**, **Walywe**, obs. ff. Welsh, Value.

**Wals**, **-er**, **-ing**: see Waltz, etc.

†**Wam**, *Sc. Obs.* In 6 wam(me, vam. [App. repr. OE. *wam(m, womm(m*, masc. and neut., spot, blemish (chiefly *fig.*) = OFris., OS., OHG. *wamm*, ON. *vamm*, Goth. *wamm*. But cf. Wan *sb.*1] A scar. Cf. Wem *sb.*

*Beowulf* 3073 Wommum gewitnad. *a* 1000 *Kentish Gl.* in Wr.-Wülcker 64 *Macularii*, wam.

*a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting* 70, *Montgomeris* 570 (Tullideran MS.) I speid pollat the lowsome flokis of flocin dois overflow With vamis [*MS. Harl.* wames] ed. 1630 wams] and wondis. 1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E.D.S.), *Cadrix*, a wammes.

**Wamb**, obs. form of Wemb, Womb.

**Wamara** (wămā·rā). [Native name.] The brown ebony of British Guiana.

1840 Schomburgk *Descr. Brit. Guiana* 33 Wamara...is hard and cross-grained, consequently not apt to split. 1860 *Illt. Cyclopædia Br. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in *Voyage to El Dorado* (1866) App. 136 Wamara, or Brown Ebony. Used for ship-building and furniture. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

**Wamb**, obs. form of Wame, Womb.

**Wambais**, obs. exc. *Hist.* Also **wambas**, **-us**. [a. OF. *wambais*: see Gambeson. Cf. Wamus.] = Gambeson.

[1281 *Assize of Arms* in Bened. Peterb. *Chron.* (Rolls) I. 278 Omnes burgenses...habeant wambasia et capellet ferri et lanceas. 1296–7 *Hist. Exp. Scot.* 256 All hoegeres were to have...a wambais; that is, a coat quilted with wool, tow, or such-like materials. 1792 H. H. Brackenridge *Mod. Chivalry* (1846) 189 It will be best to present him just as he is in his leggins and wambas. 1821 Meyrick & H. Smith *Costume Orig. Inhab.* 58 The [Danish] king is habited in a corslet of leather (wambais) passing over his rock or tunic. The dress was of painted elk or stag-skin, and was a kind of half armour. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1897) I. xiii. 533 The Assize of Arms in 1181...directed that...all burghers, knights possessing a wambais, head-piece, and lance.

**Wambe**, obs. form of Wame, Womb.

**Wambestowe**, obs. form of Wame-tow.

**Wamble** (wɒ·mb'l), *sb.* Also 8– **womble**. Now only *collog.* or *dial.* [f. Wamble *v.*]

1. A rolling or uneasiness in the stomach; a feeling of nausea; spec. sea quot. 1899.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* iv. 701 Our meat going downe into the stomacke merily and with pleasure, dissolveth incontinently all wambles. 1865 J. Sleigh *Derbysh. Glass.* (E.D.D.), *Wamble*, faintness. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Wamble*, a popular term for Milk fever. 1902 C. W. & A. M. Williamson *Lightning Conductor* 48 There's another thing which gives me the 'wambles'.

†2. An act of seething or bubbling up when brought to boiling-point. *Obs.* Cf. Wam *sb.*

1620 Venner *Via Recta* iv. 44 If you also boyle in it a quantity of ginger, three or foure wambles about,...it will be much the better. 1621 *Sober Disc. betw. Stafford & the Lords* 1 b [*Vindex*], as a ghost from Hell [*sic.*] Here is a parcel of cold Comfort, but I fear me not enough to mitigate one wamble of the great Lake. 1730 W. Burdon *Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 16 Set it on [the fire] again, and give it two or three Wambles.

3. An unsteady movement (of a person or thing); a roll of the body; a rolling or staggering gait. *On or upon the wamble*, staggering, wobbling.

1829 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 7 When Knight's *Quarterly Magazine* took a pain in its head, and gied a wamle owr the counter in the dead-thraws. 1881 Blackmore *Christowell* II, The jump of the horse gave a jerk to the shaft, and this...gave a lollop to the near wheel, already on the wamble. 1887 [see Shail *sb.*1].

**Wamble**, *v.* Comb.: **wamble-cropped** (now *U.S.*), †**-stomached** *adjs.*, affected with nausea, sick (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1552 Huloet, *Wamble cropped, stomachichus.* *a* 1610 Healey *Theophrastus* (1616) 14 And yesterday, late sayth, I was wamble-crept, and (hauing your presence) parbrak't. 1708 *Massachusetts Spy* 3 Sept. 2/2, I feel a good deal womblecropped about dropping her acquaintance. 1856 Halliburton *Clockm.* I. xxiii, I makes me ha kindur wamble-cropt, when I think on it, that I'm afeared to venture on matrimony at all. 1884 'Jon. Slick' *High Life N. York* I. 24, I got back to the sloop and turned in awfully wamble-cropped. 1888 Hulbert, *Wamble stomaked to be, nauseo.*

**Wamble** (wɒ·mb'l), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5 **wamel**, **wamle**, (4 **wemel**, 5 **wam(m)il**, **wamylle**), 6 **wambel**, 5, 9 **womble**, 8 **waumle**, 9 **wam(m)le**, **wammel**, **wamell**, **wemble**, **wommle**, 4– **wamble**. [Prob. two or more verbs have coalesced. In sense 1 of the transitive verb compare that of a metathetic form of Walm *v.*; on the other hand in some uses *walm* may be a metathesis of *wamble.*]

I. 1. *intr.* To be qualmish, feel nausea.

13... *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 300 For þat mote in his mawe Jonah in the whales bellyȝ mad hym, I trowe, Þat hit ȝyfel were, by wym wylle to wonye þer-inne. 1483 *Catth. Angl.* 409/2 To Wombyll, *nauseo.* 1530 Palsgr. 515/1 Wamelon, or wombelon, *I wamble.* 1552 Huloet, *Wamble, or wambel, Nauseo.* 1562 Sir G. Hay *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 119 He that has a wayke calde stomak...oft tymis wamlis, wambillis, with hevy saullyn eyne. *c* 1580 Henrysoun *Cock & Fox* iii, His hart wammillis wyps argument to heir. 1583 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 To Wombyll, *nauseare.* 1590 *Ortus Vocab.* (W. de W.) Bliv, *Nauseo*...to wamble.

b. Of the stomach or its contents: To be felt to roll about (in nausea).

*c* 1518 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1617 A, howe my stomake wambleth! I am all in a swete. 1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus* B. v. xii. 43 Theyr fore fathers murmured in desert againyst Moyses for manna, and sayed that theyr stomake wambled agaynst that lyght meate. 1534 — *Prol. Lesiine* 18 (1559) 1274/1 Scant was the first meate downe both theyr throtes, when it so began to wamble in their stomakes. 1611 Cotgr., *Allecter*, to wamble, as a queasie stomacke doth. *c* 1618 Fletcher *Mad Lover* I. i, When...your cold sullens without salt or vinegar Be wambling in your stomachs. 1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* III. i, I was never good at swallowing Physick: and my Stomach wambles at the very thought of it. 1738 Swift *Love Poem fr. Phys.* 12 My Bowels wambling make me spew. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 148 This word...completely turned the stomach that had already begun to wamble at the sight. 1834 Lander *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 266/2 No wonder, Master Ephraim, thy entrails are mad and wamble.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. 5.)

1591 Lyly *Endymion.* iv. ii, He is resolued to weep some three or foure payle-fuls, to auoyde the rume of loue that wambleth in his stomacke. 1604 Marston *Malcontent* III. iii, [My soul] can digest a Monster, without crudities, A Sin as weighty as an Elephant, And neuer wamble for't. 1667 Dryden, etc. *Sir M. Mavrell* v. i, Such a sick Rout!...Shall I speak, dear Warre? I let 'em mix; it does so wamble within me, just like a Clyster. 1688 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. ii. 244 Vast Fires Subterranean...work and wamble in the Bowels of the Earth. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 748 Small [xxvi.] 350, I still saw the unleavened pride of womankind wambling within her. 1898 J. M. Conan *Angel of Cwt.* xv. 168 The pains o' love I'll work and wommle in the inside of ye like a knot o' addlers!

II. 2. To turn and twist the body about, roll or wriggle about, roll over and over. Also with *about, over, through.* Also *fig.*

*c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 3213 Whyl pat litull chylde was kyde & dolone ly3e tone & tother. He wombleck & tombleck on bak & wombe. 1755 R. Forbes *Aphor.* 2, I lend him six a dird, As laid him aneliins on his back, To wamble o' the yird. 1819 [see Wame *sb.* 3]. 1825 J. Wilson *Lect. in* Mem. viii. (1850) 305 The cod-fish...laid their heads over each other's shoulders, and wambled about like a set of puppy dogs. 1861 *Pouter's Mag.* Dec. 736, I made no more to unclog and found I could not get my chin six inches above the water level without wembling over. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xliii, He have left off talking now for two days only to moan and to wamble.

3. To roll about in walking; to go with an unsteady gait. Also *fig.*

1622 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sea. Folly* (Grosart) 43/1 'Needs makes the olde wife trot': Nay she but wambles. 1676 ? Marvell *Corr.* Wks. 1875 II. 500, I can not but wonder that ...you should so soon begin to wamble, which is enough to discourage or turne giddy one of so weak a brain and experience. Surely, Brother, it is the best to steere steddy. 1822 Galt *Provost* xxxii, The abominable and irreverent creature was so drunk, that he wambled to and fro over the drum, as if there had not been a bane in his body. 1862 G. H. Kingsley *Sk. & Trav.* (1900) 362 A long row of unfortunates are drawn up on each side of the quarter-deck, wambling and shambling and staggering. 1893 W. S. Passmore *Stories Devon & Corn.* (1900) 38 As us was gwain down sewer Rodmin 'till I zimmed tha 'ow begin to womble 'bout a bet. 1894 *Northumbld. Glass.* s.v. *v.*, He wammelt up the stairs wi' the sock o' floor on 'iv his back, onyhoo.

b. Of things To totter, waver; to move unsteadily, stagger, reel.

1589 Rider *Bibl. Scholast.* 1 261 *Titubo*, to wamble, or wag to and fro, as a crooked arrow wil doe, being shot out of a bowe, *titubo arcuo & obtuo* Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 90 Like to a tower wambling on the sea. 1708 Picken *Poems* 161 How the warl', Rings'a waumin'an a teither I'the air 1805 J. *Lyon* Nings *Observ. Dial W. Eng.*, To *Wawmawl*, to *Wamble*, to move to and fro in an irregular and awkward manner; to move out of a regular course or motion Applied chiefly to mechanical operations 1856 Crockett *Grey Mare* 3 His feet warchling one over the other like those of a mammet bear

4 *trans.* To twist or turn (something) over and over; to turn (a thing) round or upside down

1561 Hollyman *Hem Goth* 13 Let him hold it awaye a little in the mouth, and wambel it round about in the mouth

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 23 Take a farthing worth of flower to white him with, and wamble him in 1808 [W Carr] *Craven Glass*, *Wamble*, to roll the meat in the mouth, when too large to swallow 1847 Halliwell, *Wemble*, to turn a cup upside down if the evening had enough to [*sic*] *North.* 1894 *Northumbrld Gloss* s v, He wammelt his shillin

III. + 5. *intr.* Of water, the blood: To seethe, boil. = Walm *v.* 2, Wall *v.*[1] 2.

1636 Davenant *Wits* II 1, Now does my blood wamble You, bucket eater! (*Offers to follow her*) 1677 Coles *Dict Eng. Lat.*, To Wamble [as a pot] *bullio* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Wamble*, to rise up as seething Water does.

+ 6 To swarm (with vermin) = Wall *v.*[1] 2 b. *Obs rare.*

1585 *Treven's Higden* (Rolls) V 235 (Caxton) He wambled (*scatebat fertis* wallede, welledde) ful of wormes [L *vermibus scatens*].

Hence **Wa·mbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Wa·mblingly** *adv.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth de P. R.* xx (1495) 907 To moche meete encreasyth humours and postumes and mykuh wam lynges and spunges 1456 Sir G. Hay *Gen Prouces* Wks (S. T. S.) II 124 Gif ye haquis to any bett wamblyng, gyff ye tak a vomyt of water and vinaigre c 1528 Skelton *Magnyf* 1620 Ofte tymes sushe a wamblynge doth ouer my harte, Yet I am not harte sicke 1564-78 Bullein *Dial. agst Fever* (1888) 43 Nosgoms and lothesomenesse of stomacke, wamblyng of the harte, pulse not equall 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat* I x Avb, Confections sweete or tarte I boy lle minge wames to flee 1613 Shelton *Quixote* III 38 If wee should make good their resemblances, how then should we please the stomacke of God? who hath indeede brooked and borne vs 'long time, I doubt but wamblingly 1849 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wand Wonders West* 18 Many one be queasie, or doe feele a wambling in the Guzzard. 1680 Baynton *Revenge* V 18, Yes faith have I [been in love], and have felt your flames and fires, and inclinations, and Wamblings. 1686 Goad *Celest Bodys.* II IX 283 Warmth cast into a boyling Pot, allayes the wambling of the Liquor 1748 Baker *Don Quix* I I 16 I perceive by the many and powerful wamblings of my Brains, that I shall soon fall a sleep. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV 124, I am ungaged at the repetition of this wambling nonsense 1756 Mrs Calderwood in *Collnress Collect* (Maitland Club) 128 We were obliged to cast anchor which was no sooner done than every one fell a vomiting as the ship did. 1892 D. Kingsley *G Hamlyn* xlvii, I feel the queerest wambling in my innards, as we used to say in Devon, at the sight of so many old faces. 1893 T. Q. [Quiller Couch] *Delect Dock* 217 Her reckoned you'd veel a wamblin' in the stommick 1908 Hardy *Dynasts* III III III, The retreating way. Along which wambling waggons since the noon Have crept in closening file

**Wambly** (wɒ·mbli), *a. dial* Also **wambley, wombly.** [f. Wamble *sb.* or *v* + -y[1].]

1. Affected with nausea.

1850 *Huxley's Yorksh. Ditties* Ser I 104 He wor takken vasty wamby for want o' wo'k to a bittun on 1892 Mrs S Bayson *Dark* I iv 73 If they went without their meal they would be 'wombly all the morning

2. Causing nausea.

1892 [Zack 'Ou *Teal* *Nutsh* 220 He lies that heavy on the gorge o' me I'd a deal liefer spue the wambly gawkin out and be done wi' un

3. Shaky, tottering, unsteady.

1852 E Waugh *Lancash Life* xli 82 Eh! he used to be as limber as a treawt when he're young, but neaw he's as wambley an slamp as a barrow full o' warp sinn' 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xii, I was still so wambly on my legs that I cowped upon the top of him.

Hence **Wa·mblyness.**

1900 E. Phillpotts *Sons of Morning* I ix 90 It do bring him a wamblyness of the innards to do or say ought as may draw the public eye upon un

**Wambrace, -braise, -bras** see Vambrace

1416 in Meyrick *Ant Armour* (1824) II 209, 1 par de wambras.

**Wambtoue, -tow(e,** obs ff Wame-tow.

**Wambus,** variant of Wamrain.

**Wamclowte,** variant of Womclout *Obs.*

**Wame** (wē·m). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 5–6 **weyme, 6 weame, 6–7 weame, 6 waymb wamb(e, 7 weamb, 7–8 wem, weamb, 8 weme, weem, wyme, 9 waim, 7– weam, 4– wame** For mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict* [Northern form of Womb.]

1. The belly, abdomen: = Womb in obsolete senses, Cf. Belly *sb.* 1–3

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* III 15 Pan Ayot tit out smertly His suerde And put it in his weyme sa fast Qwhil hilt and plumat bath in put 14 *Nom in Wr.-Wülcker* 677/14 *Hic venter, Hic abnuus*, a wame. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi 92 The fowll monstar Gluttony, Off wame vnassiable and gredy 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII Prol. 138 Sum wald haue weith at thair will, and sum thare waste few. *Ibid.* XI xv 101 His taill, that on hys rygg befor tymes lay, Vnder hys waymb [he] lattis fall abastly 15 *Sir Andrew Barton* xvi in Child *Ballads* IV 309/2 Then Hunley with a broode headed arrowe, Stroke then Girdon throughe the weame 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II xiv (S. T. S.) I 284 Pare hail vplict vnder was threkit in at quhar tyke, bot alanerlie for the plesure of be wame. 1566 *Burgh Acc Edin* (1875) III 206 The saidis fleschcouris pullis the haill [sheep] skyn fra the hals doun to the taill throw al the wambe thairof 1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* v, Food fills the wame, an' keeps us livin' 1819 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi, It would be a daft like thing to see me wi' my fat wame in a short Hieland coat 1829 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 63 At Diston's feet he lichtet fast, Wey me uppermost, and wamblit there a 1894 Stevenson *St. Ives* xxxvi. (1898) 310 He's in bed this hour past with a spoonful of peppermint in his little wame *phrase* 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xi, But when he tauld his story, he got but the worst word in his wame—thief, beggar, and what not 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxiii, The sattest terne.

b. The womb, uterus; = Belly *sb* 7 + *Great wame* pred phr. = great (with child).

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* V 2576 Gret wayme wyfe barne he ladyd was 1498 Sir G. Hay *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 360 [He] has na mariage wame quhen he is weddit 1508 Dunbar *I ma marrit wemen* 131 Quhen that carybald carll wald clym on my wambe 1567 W Lavton *Sc. Poems* 35 (R. D D) Wes he not gret with twinkil wames frae Minnie's wyme.

c. (See quot.)

1847 Stoddart *Angler's Comp* 161 Salmon roe as a bait for angling with is either cured entire, that is, as it is taken from the fish in the form of what is provincially termed the matrix, or reduced to a paste

+ 2 In the 17th c. the dial. word seems to have been adopted (in the forms *wem, wemb, weamb*) in southern use as a jocular substitute for 'belly'.

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* I 3 Ph. I will home, and drinke some Aquauita To sweeten breath, and keepe my wemb warme 1658 H More *Antheu Tri* (1660) 1, Agrippa in Curs sure leonnels on thy weamb, Thy yelpes so and thirstest so for Gore. 1691 *Long Vacation* 6 I'm not their Purse, their Wems they fill 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem., I and 37* Stuffing their Wombs at Dinner-time with wholesome *Holy Exonerare* No 4 2 It He clapped his hand to his sword, and told him, were he a man he would have run him through the wemb 1730 Gibber *Perolla & Izad.* V 295 For two and thirty Days they satisfy'd the Decree of the Oracle, without being oblig'd to expose any human Creature to the Monster's Wem 1730 Savage *Wanderer* V 1735 Your Wem, Sir, is not the Wem 1784 T Bayddes *Homer Travest* (1797) II 417 And in his weem he felt a motion Asif he'd tn en a purging potion

3. *transf* The cavity, or the protuberant part of a thing. = Belly *sb.* II, 12.

a 1765 *No thunderland i strayed by Douglas* xxi in Child *Ballads* III 412/2 Shee let him see thorrow the weme of her rung 1774 *Essex* MS, Wame, the under-side of the back o' a dyke, in a wreath o' snow, or in the wame o' a wave, what signifies how the auld galleriunze dies?

+ 4. The belly-piece of a fur skin. *Obs rare.* Cf. Womb 4

1372 *Exch Rolls Scot* II 466 In empcione de xliij wamys de menyv ure

5. Comb. **wame-ill** + (*a*) an epidemic disease affecting the stomach, (*b*) = Stomach-ache

c 1560 *Auchinleck Chron* (1819) 4 Pe wame ill was so violent, pat pe last pat pei pan mair pat dest ouder cuir pat dest ouder in pestilens a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 318 I be weam ill, the wild fire, the vomit and the veins. 1802 Brockett *N C Gloss*, *Wam. ill*, an ache or pain in the intestines

**Wamed** (wɒ·md), *a Sc.* [f. Wame + -ed[2] see Wombed.] Having a belly (of a specified kind), in combn. *great wamed, yellow-wamed*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* V xiii[xiv] 190 Ane wamyt with child pis lady wes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II iv 68 The fatale monstour Grek wamit, and stuffit full of armyt wes. 1768 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* IV 70 Gi'e me a weamet wife to see 1786 Burns *Dcil* (*Hamilton* 12 This may do wi' them wha Maun please the Great folk for a wamefou. 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* x, A weamet wife is a weame ful 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxiii, or the bran 1864 Latto *Tam Bodkin* xvii 176 He hid gotten his wamefu o guid whey whullions.

**Wamel(l, Wament** see Wamble, Watmeat

**Wame-tow.** *north.* Forms: 4 **wambtoue, 5 -tow, wamb(e)towe, wambto, wambtow, wamtoue, wayme-, 5– wamstow.** [f. Wame + Tow *sb.*[1]] A girth or belly-band for a horse.

c 1320 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 511 Empt 8 Wambtoues et Rigtoues. 1337–38 *Ibid* 34 In emendacione.. Wambtowes vidz. 2 weibe pro cingulis 1411 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p clvii, 13 wametowes 1663 *Depos Cast York* (Surtees) 200 Another did thereupon cutt the wametow and tooke off the pack cloathes 1840 Brockett *N C Glost Gl* (1846), *Wame-tow* 1894 *Northumbrld Gloss*, *Wamstow*, a belly-band or girth

*attrib* 1305 *Cartul Abb de Whitby* (Surtees) 614 Pro iij pece de Wamto webb, xx d Item pro j douzn wamtow schafts, ij s 1536–37 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 697 Pro x dd wametowshaftes ad sella, ix.

**Wamfle,** *v. Sc.* [? Phonetically symbolic: cf. Wamffish *v.* and Wamble *v.* 3 b.] *intr.* To go about with flapping garments. Of garments, etc., to flap, flutter (in the wind).

1808 Jamieson, To *wamffle*, to move like a tatterdemallion; conveying the idea of one moving about, so as to make his rags flap 1824 Mrs. Hogg *Tales Ettrick* II 12 It also used of a vessel at sea. 'Her sails were wamflin i' the wind'. 1860 *Abrd Latto Tam Bodkin* iv 87 Had she gotten a glak o' my solitary swallow-tail, wamflin' in the wind. 1880 Swinton *Notandums* iv 20 The labses o' his sark were wamflin in the wun'

**Wamfler** (wɒ·mflər). *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 6 **wamfeler, -ar.** [? f prec. + -er[1].] ? A beau, gallant.

1578 R Semple in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunterian Club) 352 Calistos [= Cotytto's] clerkis quhen ony resaueit ane fremit, Quhen ye war wanfleris of hir wantoun band 1582 Hay *Demandes in Cath Tract* (S. T. S.) 62 Quhether it becomes ecclesiasticall men to have ane certain apparell quharthe thai may be knawin be the laicall people, or to be clad as wanflars 1583 *Philotus* xvi (Bannatyne Club), With him maw treistment on ane day, And get maw making off 30 mvy. Nor with ane Wamfler, nath to say. Quhen wemtie ieuis ar spent 1896 J. Struthers *Deckmont* iv 418 We Joy to see Thee from such wicked wamflers free

**Wamle,** var Wamble

**Wam-lock.** *dial.* Also 5 **wamloke, 6 wem-locke, 9 womlock, wemlock.** [f Wame + Lock *sb.*[1]] A twisted or tangled lock of wool from under the belly of a sheep.

1483 *Cath Angl* 407/2 Wamloke, *succida*. 1580 Hollyband *Treas Fr. Tong, Vne touffe de cheueux retors les vns autres les autres*, a wem locke or locke of hair. 1847 Halliwell, *Wamlokes*, unwashed wool 1876 *Whitby Gloss*, *Wemlocks*, the loose locks of wool under the sheep's belly

**Wammel,** obs. form of Wamble.

**Wammera,** var Woomera.

**Wammil, -mle,** obs. forms of Wamble.

**Wammus,** var. Wamus.

**Wampam, Wampe,** obs. ff. Wampum, Vamp

**Wampee** (wɒmpē). Also **whampee.** [a. Chinese *hwang-pi* (*hwang* yellow, *pi* skin).]

1. The fruit of an Asiatic tree *Clausena Wampa*, also the tree itself.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst Bot* 124 The Wampee, a fruit highly esteemed in China and the Indian archipelago, is the produce of Cookia punctata 1837 *Standard* 16 Sept 5/3 To how many of the wampee families?

2. In the southern U.S. = Pickerel-weed 2. [? A different word.]

1891 *Century Dict* s.v. *Pontederia*.

**Wampish,** *v. Sc.* [Cf Wample *v.*] **a.** *intr.* To wave to and fro **b.** *trans.* To wave or toss (one's arms) about. **c.** *intr.* To make waving movements (with the arms).

a 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xlix, Put by the sailer, and dunna keep the notes wampishing in your hand that gate

b 1826 Scott *Audry* xxxix It is fearsome hasth to see and hear her when she wampishes about her arms, and gets to her English, and speaks as if she were a prent book

c 1899 Maclaren *Life Carmes* 214 'Oor John', said his anxious mother, 'will aye be wampishin' wi' his arms.

+ **Wampiate.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. Wame + Plate *sb.*] ? An ornamental plate on harness to be put below the belly of a horse

1508 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* IV 129 Item, for pur phaling for wamphiatis, taggis for harnes, j Burge spounge, ij handis to temprs [*etc.*]

**Wampum** (wɒ·mpŭm) Also 7 **wompam, 7–8 wampam, wampom, 8 wompom.** [Sc. Wampumpeag. Cf F. *wampoum* (Littré Suppl.).]

1. Cylindrical beads made from the ends of shells rubbed down, polished, and threaded on strings, which were often combined to form bracelets, belts, collars, etc. See Pfag, Roanoke, Seawan.

a Serving as currency for the N. Amer Indians both among themselves and in dealings with Europeans, also, in early colonial times, between Europeans for the payment of small amounts See quot. 1643, and further quots under Wampumpag.

1636 Winthrop *New Eng* (1825) I 193 The trade of beaver and wampom was in a manner lost, the Indians refusing to receive it at any reasonable rate 1643 R Williams *Key Lang Amer* xxiv 244 I have gone [money] is of two sorts one white, which they make of the stem or stocke of the Periwinke, and (if this sort six of their small Beads are currant with the English for a peny The second is black, inclining to blew, which is made of the shell of the fish, which some English call Hens, Poquunshock, and of this sort three make an English peny *Ibid* 247 Their white [money] they call Wampam, which signifies white, their black sawtaock (*sucki* signifying black) 1648 J. Standish *Glean Sins shine of Gaap* 7 They would take away your Wampum from you 1733 B Hoskins *First Mem Conantenonah Indians* (1911) 18 *note*, A Wompom is a small cylinder of about one-third of an inch long, A number of these, strung upon small threads and knit together in the form of a belt, are called a Belt of Wompum 1788 *Phil Trans* LXXVIII 234 It is incumbent on the survivor to replace him, by presenting to his family either a scalp, a prisoner, or a belt consisting of some thousands of wampum 1841–8 Emerson *Ess I, Poet* Wks (Bohn) I 161 Life, which can dwarf any and every circumstance, and to which the belt of wampum, and the commerce of America, are alike 1899 Hancock *Hist U S* I xxvii 183 The Indians and natives of Massachusetts nourished its college with coin and strings of wampum, and in every village built the free school.

b Worn as ornamental garments or jewellery.

1726 B. Church *Philip's War* (1829) 141 He pulled out Philip's belt, curiously wrought with wompom, being nine inches broad, wrought with black and white wompom, in various figures, and flowers and pictures of many birds and beasts. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl* 13 July (1815) 234 Her arms and legs were adorned with bracelets of wampum 1778 J Carver *Trav N Amer* xl. 360 These belts are made of

shells found on the coasts of New England and Virginia, which are sawed out into beads of an oblong form... Being strung on leather strings, and several of them sewed neatly together, ..with fine slawey threads, they then compose the same, what is termed a Belt of Wampum. 1832 Longf. *Hiawa.* ix. 188 The shafts of Hiawatha Harmless hit the shirt of wampum.

c. Serving (as a substitute for writing) a mnemonic or symbolic purpose according to the arrangement of the beads, and so used in inter-tribal messages, treaty-records, etc. among the N. Amer. Indians.

1750 C. Gist *Jrnl.* (1893) 43 The Speaker with four Strings of Wampum in his Hand stood up. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 480 This declaration they confirmed with belts of wampum. 1772 Jefferson *N. Amer. Indians in Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 145 This chief of a whole nation has the custody of the belts of wampum, &c. which are as records of public transactions. 1823 [G. Bancroft] *Lucius M. J. Sumlin* 354 Tecumthé...holding in his hands a belt of wampum or beads, which by their colours and arrangement, form the Indian record for past events. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 557 The art of picture-writing...was supplemented among the North American Indians by the 'wampum'.

†2. *Conch.* Used as the name of a particular kind of shell. *Obs.*

1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wampum, *Venus mercenaria.*

3. *transf.* (jocular). a. (After † a.) Money. b. (after † b) *Wampum and wampaint*, evening dress.

a. 1850 *Outing* XXX. 360/1 I laid some of their own miscellaneous, smelly, garlicky, paper-wampum upon their official.. desk, saying, as I did this: 'You can keep the change'.

b. 1850 ‖ R. Boldrewood *Col. Reformer* xv, He arrayed himself in the wampum and waistcoat proper for such engagements as manufactured by Mr. Poole, of Saville Row.

4. Short for *wampum-snake* (see 5). *Striped wampum*, the N. American snake *Abastor erythrogrammus* (Cent. Dict.).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* *wampum-beads, belt, collar, record*; also **wampum-snake,** a name applied to certain colubrids of the southern U.S. ; †(*a*) a blue-and-white snake (*obs.*); (*b*) the red-bellied snake, *Farancia abacura* (Cent. Dict.); **wampum-wise** *adv.*, (threaded) after the manner of wampum.

1766 C. Beatty *Tour* (1768) 88 A string of "wampum beads. 1910 A. J. Chamberlain in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 470/1 European-made wampum-beads affected native art in the 17th century. 1709 Penn *Lett.* i. Wks. 1709 I. 286 He shall present you with the "wampum belt, and a scalping knife. 1832 Carlyle *Sartor Resartus* I. v, Sheepskin cloaks and wampum belts. 1865 Parkman *Champlain* (1875) 178 Copper bracelets and "wampum collars, tyre-skins. 1895 Hoffman *Begin. Writing* 24 "Wampum records are purely mnemonic. 1738 Mortimer *Nat. Hist. Carolina* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 298 The Indians so called from the Resemblance it hath in its Colours to the Wampum, or Indian Money, made of Pieces of Shells blue and white, strung together. 1810 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. 463 "Wampum Snake. Coluber Fasciatus. 1790 *Proc. African Assoc.* 36 The beads are worked "wampum-wise.

**Wampumpeag** (wɒ'mpĕmpēg). Now *rare*. Forms: a. 7 **wampaupag, -peage, -peague, -peak(e), wampaun pieg, wampumpeage, -peak, wampompeag(e, -peke, wampumpeage, -peak, wauompeg, wompampeag, wompompeag.** 7–8 **wampumpeak,** 8 **wampomeag, wampompag, wampumpeg,** 9 **wampumpeag.** *β.* 7 **wampompeal.** [Adopted (in 16–17th c.) from the northerly dials. of the Algonkin language. At the time of the earliest colonization these were spoken in the East of the continent from Nova Scotia to Virginia. The ultimate forms indicated are ***wampanpiak, *wampampial,** signifying 'string of (white) beads'. Cf. Rasles, *Abnaki Dict.* (1691), *wambambi*, pl. *-ak*, 'grain blan de porcelaine', *wambanbiar* 'chapelet'; Delaware (Zeisberger) *wapapi* white wampum (*waopaschapiali* white beads).

The word is in form a compound of two elements meaning respectively 'white' and (probably) 'bead' with the ordinary Algonkin plural endings *-ak* (*-aq*), or *-al* (*-ar*) added. For the first element cf. Natick *wompi*, Delaware *wapi*, Abnaki *waanbi*, etc. white. An ending *-wampi* occurs in Rasles' *Abnaki Dict.* in a large number of descriptive adjectives of strings, etc. See Rasles s.v. *chatter, collier, corde, tresse.*

The variations between -*k*, -*g*, and between *wompe, wompi*, are probably due to native dialectical differences, but the remaining variations are due to fluctuating orthography and pronunciation after the word had been adopted into English.

The division into Wampum and Peag appears to be a false analysis due to Europeans.

The specific words for 'black bead-money' were never adopted into English, and perh. the tendency to generalize the name of the commoner white variety was already present in the native languages.]

= **Wampum.**

1632 Whitbourne *New-Eng.* (1805) I. 61 Mr. Shurd...sent home James Sagamore's wife, who...writ that the Indiands demanded [blank] fathom of wampampeague...for her ransom. 1633 *Relat. Maryland* v. 36 The Indian money of those parts...is of two sorts, Wompompeag and Roanoke.. Wompompeag is of the greater sort, and Roanoke of the lesser, and the Wompompeag is three times the value of Roanoake; and these serue as Gold and Siluer doe heere. 1643 in *Gen. Laws Massachusetts* (1672) 154 Wampampeag shall pass current in the payment of Debts, to the payment of forty shillings, the white at eight a penny, the black at four, so as they be entire without breaches or deforming spots. 1683 Penn *Pres. Propt. Tobago* 22 The Cuneck is a Shell Fish...; whose Shell has the tincture of Pearl colour, flame colour, and white, some part thereof being taken out, the Indians make of it their Wampam Pieg; which Shell is the Indians Money. 1694 Locke *Further Consid. Value Money* 27 Among the Indians, when it [sc. Corn] will sell for more yards of Wampompeal, which is their Money. 1705 T. M. *Bacon's Rebellion* (1835) 14 The Queen of Pamunkey ..having round her head a plat of black and white wampum peage three inches broad in imitation of a crown. 1708 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Col. Mass. Bay* v. (ed. 2) 472 Good store of wompompeag to purchase some peculiar favors or privileges. 1874 Jevons *Money* iv. 24 The wampumpeag of the North American Indians is a case in point, as it certainly served as jewellery.

**Wamtow, Wamtye,** obs. ff.. Wamp-pow, Wanty.

**Wanus** (wē·nəs). *U.S.* Also **waunus, wannus.** [n. Du. *wannest*, contracted *t wambist, t wombist, wambist, -est* : see Wambaim, Gambeson. Cf. G. *wanst, wamst*, woollen jacket (MHG. *wambes, -eis*, jacket worn under the armour).] In southern and western U.S., a warm knitted jacket resembling a cardigan.

1809 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* 934, I got up, and found that it was very wet, and bloody. 1814 H. H. Riley *Puddlefoord* 14 (Thornton) He was attired with a red flannel 'wanus'. 1827 *Philadelphia Telegraph* 6 July 6/6 His attire was characteristic—long linsey 'wamus'. 1828 [E. Kelby Bryan *Grayson* xxviii. 309 This [wagon-spoke] he put into the baggy part of his 'wamus', or hunting-jacket.

**Wamyll,** obs. form of Wamble.

**† Wan,** *sb.*1 *Sc. Obs.* 6 *pl.* **wannis, wannys.** [Perh. a subst. use of Wan *a.*1 But cf. Wen.] A dark or livid mark produced by a blow ; a bruise.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 167 He..had done grete vassalage hadit for þo honoure & defence of þe ciete, as weil appeirit be þe wannis & markis in his face and vther partis of his body. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 59 The knicht...fand his sone withouttin wan or wound. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ballatis* (S.T.S.) 32 He þe, quhilk gevis wan and wound, And suddanlie he will mak haill and sound.

**† Wan,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* Also 7 wanne, 8–9 *erron.* **wand.** [? a. Du. *wanne* (now *wan*) : see Van *sb.*1]

1. A winnowing fan : = Van *sb.*1

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 167 Why dost thou with that wanne (Gr. ἀθηρόκλυστον, winnowing fan) vpon thy necke?

2. The sail of a windmill : = Van *sb.*1 5.

Commonly spelt *wand*, the word being wrongly supposed to be a modern form of Wand *sb.*

1766 *Ann. Reg.* 77 The sails or wands of the mill...struck her so violently on the head, as to fracture her skull. 1825 Brockett *N. Country Wds.*, *n.*corruption of Van, Wan, or wand. "A *mill-wan.*" 1846 M. A. Richardson *Borderer's Table-bk.* V. 97 The wands of the...wind mill...were forced round with such velocity, that by the friction of the machinery, the mill was set on fire. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wands* pl., long flexible rods. The sail frames of a windmill.

**Wan** (wɒn), *a.* Forms: 1 **wan(n, won(n,** 3– **wan,** 3–4 **won,** 4–5 **wann,** 4–6 **wanne,** 5 **woon.** [OE. *wann (wonn)*, dark, gloomy, black. Not found in any of the other Teut. languages. Its original sense appears to have been 'dark in hue', with especially frequent application to things of gloomy unpleasant associations.

Relationships to Wen *a.* (OIcel. **veinnr* to strive, toil, suffer, etc.) and to Wood *a.*, *sb.*, or Wode, possess difficulties of sense-development or form. Relationship to Wane etc. is possible (cf. Celtic **manno*-, Olr. *fann*, Welsh *gwan* faint, weak, feeble), but the isolation of the word in later (ME. and ModE.) periods is more probable than ultimate connexion.

In addition to this association the application to heavenly bodies, when obscured, or when compared to others more bright, possibly aided the general application to pale things. The original application to human face, etc., when of unwholesome or unusual colour (through various emotions, disease, or death), also provided a possible occasion of sense-change. The senses 'dull' 'sallow', and 'pale, sickly' are often indistinguishable.]

†1. Lacking light, or lustre ; dark-hued, dusky, gloomy, dark. *Obs.* Chiefly *poet.*

*Beowulf* 702 Com on wanre niht scriðan sceadugenga. *Cædmon's Hymn* xi. 6 Wolcn..scrifeð wonne under monigfealdes. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 Ant tah is betere a briht iacinct þen a charchiche won. *a* 1300 *Sign. bef. Judgm.* 43 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 8 An hil schal þo be wan & wete as tan. 1393 Gower *Conf.* III. 59 Wrage was he ware as tan. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xi. 29 As pale and wan as ashes was his looke. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxviii. ix. II. 332 Drusus sometimes a Tribune of the Commons in Rome, (as it is reported) Goats bloud, to make himselfe look pale and wan in the face. 1679 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 333 He was grown pale, wan from and long-visaged. 1738 Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, Blank (pale and wan), *pallens, pallidus.* 1822 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* i. 675 Yea, many a visage wan and pale, Will hang at midnight o'er my sale. 1857 Miss Braddon *Rupert Godwin* i, Clara Westford's noble face is pale and wan this sunny morning.

c. *A wan smile*, a faint or forced smile (as of one sick or unhappy).

1897 Mrs. Fossbrtke *Mignon* I. 227 With a wan smile as she sees her friend's grieved face. 1898 Conan Doyle *Exploits Gerard* v. (1903) 190 'Put,' he added, with a wan smile, 'my Lenten fare is always somewhat meagre'.

d. Applied to the (light of) heavenly bodies,

etc.: Faint, sickly, apparently colourless. Also, of white objects, etc.: Dull, lustreless.

1621 Holland *Pliny* II. xxx. I. 17 In the warres of Antonie, the Sunne continued almost a yeere long with a pale and wan colour. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xi. 13 The Moon growes waane, and starres flie all away, Whom Lucifer locks up in wonted folds. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 422 The blasted Starrs looke wan. 1777 Heaton *Mystic* v. xxv, Ye mildews wan. 1798 Wordsw. *Night-piece* 3 The sky is overcast... Heavy and wan, all whitened by the Moon. 1861 J. Thomson *Ladies of Death* xxii, Noiseless nights when stars are few and wan. 1873 W. Black *Pr. Thule* xxv. There were wan glimmerings of sunshine across the sea. 1880 Bridges *Nonn.* lvii, In autumn moonlight, when the white air wan Is fragrant in the wake of summer.

†**e.** Of colour: ? Pale, light. *Obs.*

1587 Marlet *Gr. Forest* 3 b, Whose interchanged greene col sur resembleth almost the wan and yelow colour of Golde.

5. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) Wan hue, wanness. *poet.*

1801 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* iv, She saw a faint glow tinge the sickly wan. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 9 Melissa, tinged with wan from lack of sleep.

6. *Comb.* : chiefly participial, as †*wan-coloured*, *-faced*, *-visaged*; also complementary and advb., with ppples., as *wan-looking*, *-silvering*, *-worn*; rarely qualifying other adjs. descriptive of colour, as *wan-tallow*, † *-white*.

1820 Wodarch *Introd. Conchol.* 12 Which...seldom exhibits any other appearances than that of a livid or wan-coloured surface. 1882 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* v, It is a sorrowful, 'wan-faced girl. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 281/1 Wan-faced men and tousel-haired women. 1882 'Ouida' *Marenmma* I. 58 Wasted and †wan-looking Italians. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 443 A man of mien †wan-sallow as the plant that feels itself' Root-bitten by white lichen. 1829 Lytton *K. Arthur* v. i, 'Wan-silvered, brought by the hush, the crescent shone O'er the arch seer. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 101 'Wan wisaged widdefow, out of thy wit gane wyld. *c* 1530 *Jyndic. Urbani* III. xix. 61 And Auctours saye that 'wanwhyte colour In vryn...sheweth begynnyng of digestyon. 1603 W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 141 To binde her painting wiped from her riueld browes and †wan-worn cheeks.

**Wan** (wɒn), *v.* Inflected **wanned, wanning.** Also 3 **wonne.** [OE. *wannian*, f. Wan *a.*]

**+1.** *intr.* To become dark, discoloured, or livid.

*c* 1200 *Vercelli MS.* 23 b/3 Þonne wannað he & dosaþ ofre hwile he lifð þisse. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 21 Þeos lutle þing þinne schulen doskin & under þon wonnen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4142 Þe son wadis, þe werd wannes at a wap & wedire gloumes. 1567 Gude & Godly Ballet 3 [gold] waloues & wannes all oure theatres, Set ere we toghld to & fra be turnyng of eldris.

**2.** To grow pale. *poet.*

1581 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 118 Al her visage waning with murder aproching [*l. pallida morte futura*]. 1599 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. (1602) E 4, I haue a good head of haire, a cheeke Not as yet wan'd. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. 380 (Q 1600) Is it not monstrous that this player heere... Could force his soule so to his owne conceit That from her working all the visage wand? Tunes warm'd). 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 143 Psyche flush'd and wann'd and shook. 1855 — *Maud* I. 1. iii, And ever he mutter'd and madden'd, and ever wann'd with despair. 1886 Covington *Æneid* IV. p. 128 The queen, ... wanning with death foresees. 1902 Henley *Hawthorn & Lavender* xlvi. 62 And by and by The wide-winged sunset wanned and waned. 1906 F. Thompson *To English Martyrs* 18 The troubled heavens do wan with care.

Hence **Wanned** *ppl. a.*, **Wa'nning** *vbl. sb.*

*a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 681 Whoom deth soo stern with his wanny d hewe Hath now pursuyd. 1626 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. i. 21 All the charmes of Loue, Salt Cleopatra soften thy wand lip. [1828: see Wanned *ppl. a.*] 1886 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 392 Many [scientists] assert that the 'wanning' of the visage is a common...accompaniment of imagined terror.

**Wan** : see One, Wand *sb.*, When, Whenne, Whom, Win *v.*, Wone *sb.*

**Wan-** (wɒn), a prefix expressing privation or negation (approximately equivalent to Un-[1] or Mis-); repr. OE. *wan-*, *won-*, corresponding to OFris. *wan-*, *won-*, OS. *wan-* (only in *wandâdi* misfortune = OE. *wanuscaft*), MLG., MDu. *wan-* (mod.Du. in many new formations, esp. in the sense 'wrong', 'mis-'), as in *wanbestuur* misgovernment, *wanlnid* discordant sound), OHG. *wan-*, *wana* (only in *wanwâfan* unarmed, *wanaheil* unhealthy, infirm, *wanawisi* lacking wit, insane), MHG. *wan-* (only in *wanwitze* inherited from OHG.), mod.G. *wahn-* (in *wahnwitz*, *wahnsinn* insanity, commonly apprehended as compounds of *wahn* sb., delusion; also in some dialect words, chiefly adopted from LG.); ON., Sw., Da. *van-* (in many old formations, to which mod.Sw. and Da. have added many more, chiefly adopted from LG.). The prefix is in origin identical with Wane *a.*

In OE. the number of words formed with the prefix is considerable, but none of them has survived into modern English, and only one (*wansceld*, ill-success) into ME. Of the many new formations that arose in ME., only *wanleyen*, undisciplined, Wanton, still survives in use (with no consciousness of its etymological meaning); *wanhope* and *wanstreat* may have been suggested by the equivalent MDu. forms. It was in the north that the prefix was most prolific, and it probably continued to be productive far into the modern period. The following words, peculiar to the Scottish and northern dialects, are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, mostly with examples for references to glossaries etc.) from the 18th c., but few if any of them are now in current use:—*wancanny* adj., Wanchancy *a.*, *wancheer grief*, sadness, *wancraith* adj., = uncouth, *wandelely* adj., mischievous, Wandought *a.* and *sb.*, *wanearthly* adj., Wanease, Wanfortune, *wanfortunate*, adj., Wanhap, Wanlieum, *wanlit* adj., *wanluck*, *wanowen's* adj. = unowned, *wanreck* 'mischance, ruin', Wanrest, Wantwhyne *sb.*, *wanwax* mildew, waste, Wanwird, Wanworth adj. and *sb.*

**Wan,** obs. form of Iguana.

**Wanacoe,** obs. var. Guanaco.

1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xvi. 12 Another monkey...which is in Surinam called the *wanacoe*.

**+Wanal,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 **wainal.** [f. Wane *sb.* + -al.] Of the moon: Waning.

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 24 Blockheads, who cannot speak three words of their own Trade, without intermixing the Full and Wainal-Moon.

**+Wanbeleve.** *Obs.* [f. Wan- + *beleve*, Belief.] Unbelief. Also **Wanbeleveness.** So **Wanbeliever,** an unbeliever; **Wanbelieving** *sb.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Wanbeleve, or wanbeleuemese (*v.r.* wanbeleuyng, wanbeleef), *perfidia, diffidencia*. *Ibid.*, Wanbeleuare, *perfidus, perfida*. *a* 1470 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) x. xl. 60/2 Make hym soo nefered that he shulde lese his wyttes & falle in wanbyleue.

**+Wanbode.** *Obs.*[−?] [f. Wan- + OE. *boda* agent-n. to *bódan* to Bid (recorded only in sense 'messenger', etc.: see Bode *sb.*[2]).] (See quot.)

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Wanbode (*v.r.* wanbode), he þat tydyth vyylle for a thynge [*v.r.* he þat bedyth nowt to be wrothe, þat bydyt nowt to wurth or valw], *invalidus licitator*.

**+Wanbody.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Wan- + ? Body *sb.* (But the rhyme suggests that the word may be a scribal error for prec., in some obscure use).] ? A (bad) wanton.

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5787 Ne wanbody ne wanton, Ne dronkelewe.

**Wanchancy,** *a.* (wɒn,tʃænsi). *a. Sc.* (now *literary*). Also -ie. [f. prec. + -y. Cf. Unchancy *a.*] Unlucky, dangerous; also, eerie, uncanny.

1768 Ross *Helenore* etc. *Rock & wee pichtis Tow* 60 A mutchkin of linsed I'd in the yard fling, For a' the wan chancie [*Glossary* unchancy] beginning o't. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Mutual Compl.* 34 My travellers are fley'd to deid Wi' sreels wanchancy, heap'd wi' bread, Frae whilk hing down uncanny shapes, That gar ane's hair staun on end. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr Hornbook* 38 Wae worth that man wha first did shape That vile, wanchancie thing—a rape! 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxiv, Some wanchancy person...feed a sliest at him. 1822 *Two Drovers* ii, (A dirk) is a wanchancy weapon in a Highlandman's hand. 1823 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, The tither [boat] lay whaur it was and watched the wanchancy thing on the brae-side.

**Wanchancy,** *a.* early ME. pl. of Wenchel.

**+Wancraunt,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Perh. to be read *wancraunt*, a. AF. *wakerant*, *walkerant*: see Vagrant.] Given to wandering.

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secr.* xlix. 212 Precious and dere as an oliphaunt, lyuth worth and dull as an asse, Prophitable as a fox, wanchaunt, and dyspoleus as a goose.

**Wand** (wɒnd), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 wond, 4–5 wonde, wende, 5 won, 4 waande, 4–6 wande 4 vande, 6 vand), 8–9 *dial.* wan, 9 *Sc.* whand, 3– wand. [a. ON. (**vandu-r*) *vpnd-r* (MSw. *vand-er*, Sw. *vand*, Da. *vaand*, Norw. *vons*) = Goth. *wandu-s*:—OTeut. **wandu-z* (not found in WGer.), prob. f. the root **wend-*: **wand-* (to turn, bend (see Wend *v.*)) is the etymological connotation is that of suppleness or flexibility).] **1.** A stick or rod. The word has little colloquial currency exc. in Sc. and northern dialects, in which it suggests the notion of suppleness; as a literary word it is usually apprehended (by southern readers) as denoting something rigid. In the Bible of 1611 it occurs only once (Ecclus. xxxiii. 24); the Revised Version (1894) substitutes *stick*.

**a.** A straight slender stick. Now Sc. and *dial.* In Scottish use, chiefly a slender pliant stick cut from a stem or branch of a shrub or young tree.

The early examples occur chiefly in biblical references, where mod. usage follows the Bible of 1611 in substituting *rod*; applied, e.g., to the 'rod' carried by Moses, to Aaron's rod 'that budded', etc.

*c* 1200 Ormin 16178 Patt he swa swipe mikell folke Dræf all ut off þe tempple, All att his wille wipp an wand. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1993 Ich wot wel þat for wonden dun, fro water Rivle crep a dregun. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi. 43 In þat ark ware Moyses tables,...and Aaron wand, and þe yerde of Moyses. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. viii. 20 *Moyses...* My Wand he had, in thi present, I shuld lay downe, and the avyne how it shuld turne to ane serpent. 1587 Harrison *England* I. xviii. 41 b, Of Hasell, if it be accompted good soile, on which a man may laie a wand ouer night, and on the morrow find it...ouergrowen with greene sprigs. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiv. 11. 499 [He] made no more adoe, but with a wand or rod that he had in his hand, drew a circle about the king, and compelled him perforce to giue him his answere before he stirred his foot without that compasse. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 48/1* Reddendo unum virgam agrifolii (ane greine holene wand) nomine albe firme. 1608 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 35 He that desires to breake a bunch of wandes, Must not take all at once into his handes. 1609 Gataker *Transubst.* 49 Moses holding a wand in his hand, did cast it from him, and it became a serpent. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* IV. 157 Sigebert...they...carried by force out of the Monastery into the Camp; where acting the Monk rather then the Captain, with a single wand in his hand, he was slain with Egric. *c* 1690 Holland *Heraclitus* 132 How seker trone of Salamon, Thow worthy wand of Aaron.

**b.** As a type of slenderness or straightness.

1598 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 63 Ane hundreth ladyes...With.. wyallis small as wandis. 1821 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 93 Now sir, this staffe is my sister: for, looke you, she is as white as a lilly, and as small as a wand. [1608: see *wand-like* in 2.]

**†c.** A light walking-stick, cane. *Obs.*

1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 6–9 For he geueth them leaue to vse eche one a wande, and a paye of sandals. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 200 Bringing him into the corne field, and smyting off, with a wand that I helde in my hande, the eares of wheate. 1607 *Pede's Jests* (*c* 1620) 4, I thank you sir, quoth the barber, or as goes George with him in his green jerkin, a wand in his hand very pretty. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 304 His spear, to equal which the tallest Pine Hewn on Norwegian hills, to be the Mast Of some great Ammiral, were but a wand. He walkt with. 1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xiii, From hence our conductor led us through several dark walks..., talking to himself, and flourishing a wand which he held in his hand.

**d.** A stick used as a pointer.

1589 (see Want *sb.*[2] 5 b). 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxvii, Mrs. Jarley..formally invested Nell with a willow wand, long used by herself for pointing out the characters.

**2.** A young shoot, a slender stem of a shrub or tree, a sapling; a slender branch or twig. *Obs. exc. poet.* (*rare*) and *dial.* + *Under the wand*: in the greenwood.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1418 Þe pipina war don vnder his [Adam's] tung, þar ras o þam thre wandes yong. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1161 At veire wende vnder wande wapped a flone. *c* 1400 *Metgens* 1213 Þe Messangere bare a wande Of ane Olefe in his hande. *c* 1450–70 *Prof. Interp.* 60 Þe axe þe body beren þay [*sc.* man's legge], As a tre yat bereþ wandes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xii. 78 Vpponne þat wande sall springe a floure. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1300 Of þe lithe fig[1] to sette other a wande Is boldon best right in Aprille ende. 1597 Hanoving *Chron. in Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 746 Men chastyse ofte grete trees wythe smalle wandes And wythe the wande while it is younge and grene. *c* 1680 Henryson *Town & C. Mouse* iii, Scho tuik in mynde hir sister yonland, And langit to se hir wandis, as scho had vnder the wand. 1599 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1565 390/1 Rungis and wandis of hasill and swach. 1792 Greene *Disput.* 96 They...bent the tree low as it was a wand. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 17 Into a bird it chaung'd, and from him past, Flying from tree to tree, from wand to wand. 1596 *Edw. III*, v. 143 A hasle wand amidst a wood of pynes. 1850 Allingham *Poems, Maidenhood* v, Like a hazel wand in new As the green wand fresh budded on a fir. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 645/1 The stem bends like a hazel wand.

**b.** as a type of suppleness.

1300 in *Lond. Chron. Trey* II. 2472 And with hym brouȝt ...His slepy ȝerde as plyaunt as a wande. *c* 1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 13 His ayne wes hol, his woce wes huce hostwand, & wantoun wand, wink at euery wenche. 1513 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 382 Leicht as ane leif, and waldin as ane wand.

**3.** A young shoot of willow cut to be used in basket-making, wattled buildings, or the like. Also *collect.* Now Sc. and *dial.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1672 First bind it wele wit balk and band, And wind it siben wel wit wand. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6900 A litill chapell of wandes and mudde. *Ancr. Nottingham Rec.* II. 365 Feild to a man for bondyll wandus jd. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 375 Cowpe waynes of wandes. 1613 Markham *Country Content.* II. i. 17 Which seats would bee either boorded, or walled with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold vp the earth from falling. 1714 Ramsay *Tea-T. Mis.* (1733) I. 99 Ane auld kist made of wands. 1778 *S. Coutts' Diary* 22 The Dutch make...within the cradle[1] with decent neatness stands, The jetting sides compos'd of slender wands. 1796 W. Marshall *Planting* I. 187 In Yorkshire, the 'wands' are the bondles that in Gloucestershire, where Osier grounds abound, ... the grounds are let...to basket makers. *c* 1803 *Lord William* in. in Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* III. 267 Ye shall be my wary goud, Whar now it's but the wand. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia. Wan*, a long rod to wave into a wattled hedge.

**†4.** A rod, stick, or switch for chastisement; also *fig.* (in religious use). Also *dial.* a ' rod ' or bundle of twigs for flogging.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5888 Ȝerd ne vond heo preste non þat child uorto bete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2612 Abram said ...Þou chastil hir sco [*rennt* þou] has þe wand. 1340 Ayenbite *Inw. Conac.* 3878 Þe wande, he seiþ, is chastyinge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* VI. 1. 120 Þat he ne hadde myseith unto the Lord whil the wand was above my head, the Lord would haue spared. 1808 *Craven Glass., Wand*, a rod, a collection of twigs, used for correction.

**†5.** *Under the wand*: liable to corporal correction. Hence (with influence of sense 6), subject to (the) rule (*of* a person) : = med.L. *sub virga*. Cf. Yard *sb.* 4*c*. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* ii. 6 Wide summe sal te faire speke, and summe gete wid chastisment & haue þam under wand. 1496 Sir G. Hayw *Lowe Arms* (S. T. S.) 106 The Emperour has mony sundry kynds of payle within his land, 1575 in *Maitl. Cl. Misc.* I. 235 Their is sum brether quhilk ar nocht under the wand of the prouest and bailyeis of the burgh. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* xx, Se lang as her husband was liuand, she was vnder his wand and power.

**8.** A stick or switch for urging on a horse. *Obs. exc. dial.*

*c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 120 Pai hase owper in paire hand a whippe or a wand. 1529 Lyndesay *Compl.* 280 [They] nother spariit spurris nor wandis. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, of Horses* (1595) 189 If your horse chance to tyre on the way, if spurre, and wande will not profit, ye shall put three or foure rounde peble stones into one of his eares. 1607 *Puritan* III. v. 81 He has been an Hackney-mans wand allsuerd ore a purpose for you. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 25 Fodder, and wande [so 1621; Coverdale 1535, Geneva 1560 whippe; 1894 R. V. stick; Gr. *μάστιξ*. Vulg. *virga*], and burden for an asse.

**† 6.** A sceptre. *Obs.*

*a* 1320 [see King *Ed.* 14]. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 909 Roland he sat[ he wand And had him alit him til. *c* 1450 *Alphabet of Tales* lxxx. 62 He had in his hand a golden wand of 3 e kynges. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 1851 For he [God] forsuth hath [tynt hynne the wond: To lustify and Knyll in pees his hond.

**7.** A rod or staff borne as a sign of office; esp. a tall slender rod of white wood, sometimes of ebony or silver, carried erect by an officer of the royal household or of a court of justice, by a verger or beadle, or by an official whose duty it is to walk before a judge or other high dignitary on occasions of ceremony.

*c* 1440 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1327 That day in stede of a white wonde a staf he bare thoo in his honde. *c* 1470 *B. N. C.* (Ouv.) *Munim., Coldenorton* Bdl. G. 28 A wen of the bullard of the place. *a*.. *Sir Degrevant* (Nilson) Degrevre me his wande, For Guy, his fader, was my marchal, And so sey Beuy's, hys son, shal ' 1573 in Feuilleraz *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 200 Polos and Wandes for Sackbuttes. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, i. ii. 28 Me thought this staffe mine Office-badge in Court Was broke in twaine And on the peeces of the broken Wand Were plac'd [etc.]. 1598 Drayton *Heroical Ep.* xiii. (*Elinor Cobham to Dk. Humfrey*) 63 Do shamefull penaunce, ..Rong with a beli, a Taper in my hand, Bare-foot to trudge, before a Beadles wand. 1610 in J. Davidson *Inverurie* vi. 1710 Compeirit Patrick Leslie, Johne Johnston,.. bailzies, and freely dischargit thame of their offices of bailzies, and jurisdiction thereof, be deliverance of the wand in the hands of the clerk and officers. 1618 Raleigh *Prerog. Parl.* 19 What say you to the Parliaments of the White Wands in the three and thirtieth yeere of the King? 1723 Swift *Legge* Wks. 1755 IV. ii. 8 Newcastle, with no unmean sort Appear with siluerne wands at court. 1728 Young *Love Fame* i. 207 Some lords it bids admire their wands so white, Which bloom, like Aaron's, to their ravish'd sight. 1776 *Pennsylvania Exec. Exec. Jrn.* 1781 Apr. 178/2 His Excellency General Washington, the other General Officers and their suites, ..met in the Council Chamber, from whence, preceded by the Sheriff with his White Wand, repaired to the Old Brick Meeting House. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* I. xiv. 259 A ribband, a title, or a white wand, have been as eagerly pursued .. as knowledge, virtue, and everlasting happiness. 1805 Southey *Madoc* I. xiii. 97 On either hand Three Monks uphold above, on silver wands, The purple pall. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Beli. Dinners*, Up to the present time, in march fourteen stewards, each with a long wand in his hand, like the evil genius in a pantomime. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xix, There is only one Judge in town.. If the country folks of those assize towns on his circuit could see him now! No full-bottomed wig, no red petticoats, no fur, no javelin-men, no white wands. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 5 And in their hands Long carven silver-handed ebony wands.

*fig.* a 1894 Stevenson *In South Seas* I. vi. (1900) 46 Our chief..was always called..Tuipiknikino; and yet that was not his name, but only the name of his office or false position.

**b.** Applied to the *caduceus* of Hermes or Mercury.

*c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1736 He [Mercury] holde a yerde in his ryght honde, That to merveyle a wonde was neuer sen. 1643 Sweet *Rel. Antiq.* (1858) II 3 b, Brought to your service by his golden dart, As rough Alcides by the golden wand Of Hermes, to the Lydian Maid's command. 1667 Dryden *Assyn* v. 355 But first he [Hermes] ascends, within his awful Hand The mark of Sov'reign Pow'r, his Magick Wand. 1730 Cowper *Odyss.* x. 337 A God Met me, the bearer of the golden wand.

**7.** A staff or baton serving as a symbol in certain legal transactions.

*c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xii. 3663 Pis Iohun pan tuk vp a qwyt wande, And gaf vp in pis Edwardis hande Of pat Tyrnik al pe richt pat he had. 1598 Manwayne *Hist. Lant.* ix. 254 The wand which the claimant held in his hand is stated by Gaius to have represented a spear.

**† b.** Scots Law. *Wand of Peace*: a silver-tipped baton delivered to an outlaw in token of his restoration to the king's peace; also carried by a king's messenger as the symbol of his office, and broken by him (by way of protest) if he was resisted in the execution of his duty.

1522 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 355/2 With power to the scheriefis..to relesch him fra the horne and deliver him the wand of peax, etc. 1584-5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 311 Restoir him to oure Soverane Ladie peace, and gif to him the wand thairof. 1672 *Rec. Justiciary Court Edinb.* (S.H.S.) II. 76 He and other persons lybelled, beat and wounded the Messenger after he had laid hold upon the said Harry and touched him with his wand of peace several times. 1698 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxxix. § iii. (1699) 130 The Wand of Peace is that whereby they touch a Rebel, and declares him to be their Prisoner, and when they are debarred, they break the wand of Peace. 1815 Scott *Antiq.* xlii. 1825 — *Guy M.* xlvi.

**† 8.** A measuring rod. (Cf. Metewand, Yard-wand, Ell-wand.) Also *Mining*, a measure of 8 feet. *Obs.*

*a* 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* xlii. (1640) 103 Guided by experience, whose strake wand Doth meet, whose lyne doth sound the depth of things. 1670 Petyt *Fodina Reg.* 86 And a Meer shall contain in length 10 wands and 7 feet, that is to say 87 feet. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Mallman* ii. (1877) II. 204 Maltmen come for siller, And gaugers with wands o'er soon. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* iii, Your ..sentiment.. rather belong to the sword than the measuring wand.

**† b.** A measure of land; ? a Virgate. *Obs.*

1296 *Yorksh. Deeds* (Yorksh. Arch. Soc., Rec. Ser.) II. 191 [Two] wandes [of meadow] in the Northe Ingea. 1684 *Kirklees Bk. Claypotts* (1910) 67 Meadow in Easting 5 Wands, Arable 18 Ac.

**† 9.** *Anat.* The smaller bone of the forearm, the radius; = Ell-wand 2. *Obs.*

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Wks.* VI. xxvi. (1678) 147 The cubit is composed of two bones, the one of which we call the Radius, or Wand.

**10.** A magic rod; the staff used in enchantments by a fairy or a magician. Now the most prominent sense. Cf. *F. baguette*. Also *fig.*

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 57 On hijt in his a hand baldis a wand And kenely be coniurisons callis to him spritis. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cresseid* 311 This dulefule sentence Sa-turne tuik on hand,..And on his heid he laid ane fruitie wand. 1620 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* II. lviii, A Silver wande the sorceresse did sway. 1634 Milton *Comus* 659 *Comus.* Nay Lady sit; if I but wave this wand, Your nerves are all chain'd in Alabaster. 1667 Denham *Ind. Emp.* ii. 1, *High-Priest*..Once, twice, and thrice, I wave my Sacred Wand, Ascend, ascend, ascend at my command. [*An earthly Spirit rises.* 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 2174 Sleep's dewy wand Has strok'd my drooping lids, and promises My long arrear of rest. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* iv. Those trees near yonder oak she will weave her fairy wand. 1798 Wordsw. *P. Bell Prol.* 146 A potent wand doth Sorrow wield. 1849 W. Irving *Goldsmith* xiv. (1850) 231 He [Goldsmith] had no power in his hands. 1853 Jerdan *Nat. Hist. Nat.* II. xxxvi, If a good fairy had built the house for me with a wave of her wand, I could not have been more considered in it. 1914 *19th Cent. Feb.* 260 Such a view, attributing as it does magical powers to the wand of the legislator, is in absolute contradiction with facts.

**b.** transf. *Electric wand*: see quot.

1898 Sloane *Electr. Dict.* (ed. 7) 697 *Torch, Electric Gas Lighting*, ..an instrument for producing a spark for gas lighting. ..*Synonyms*—Electric Wand.

**11.** A fishing-rod. Now chiefly *Sc.*

1565 Sir W. Cecil in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* II. II. 296. I dare not trust them [Scots] with the fort, for now will use a long angling wand to catch some kneledg. 1839 T. T. Stoddart *Songs & P.* 13 To all wights of the wand Welcome are ye! 1853 Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 102 And under the shade of the beechen boughs, I deftly ply my wand. 1913 N. Munro *New Road* xx, He made a fire, and cut a wand, and dropped a maggot in a pool and caught two little fishes.

**12.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wandlike* adj. and adv.; with the sense 'made of wicker-work' (*Sc.*) as in *wand-basket*, *-bed*, *-cage*, *-chair*; in sense 10, as *wand-smitten*, *-stricken*. Also **wand-bearer**, one who carries a wand in a procession or otherwise as a sign of office; esp. the title of certain honorary lay officials of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; **† wand-bone** (*wan beyn*) *Sc.* = sense 9; **† wand-church** (*-kirk*), *cf.* Wanded *a.* 1 b; **† wandolot** *dial.* (meaning obscure); **† wand-hand** *Sc.*, the hand that holds the wand or whip; **wand-weaver** *dial.*, a basket-maker.

1894 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 165 For 2 "wand baskits, 1 for coall and 1 for meall. 1894 *Law Times* 97/2 "wand-bearers started off immediately for the men who were close where engaged in the museum. 1870 H. P. Liddon in J. O. Johnston *Life* (1904) viii. 168 Two "wand-bearers ..Mr. Foster, John and Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode, as wand-bearers, were present. We all got into church at 9.30. 1879 Jowett *Thucyd.* (ed. 2) I. 61 He has been a mere sophist and not a mere routineer or wand-bearer. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 297 The young laird lying sore sek also..was transportit in ane "wandbed..fra the tolbuith to the castell. 1630 Jenny *Wedderburn* 21 On the "wan bayn with gret ire can him ta, Clesyfyt the cost rycht cruelly in twa. 1898 Mod. *Maunie Wawk* I. 10 A blackbird ..sang Frae his wand in a "wand-cage at my father's making. 1680 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 40 To m[r ung]s to buy a barres "wand-chair, 2 18 *s.* 1685 G. Sinclair *Satan. Invis. World* (1871) 98 The Maid did start up out of a Wand-Chair, where she sat. 1898 N. Munro *John Splendid* xv, 'It's your welcome, Argile,' said I, patting a "wand-chair. 1894 *Law Times* 97/2 "wand-clerk. 1894 *Scotsman* 6 Sept. (Cuttle for Nets). 1894 Sir J. Foulis *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 40 To m[r ung]s to buy a barres "wand-chair, 2 18 *s.* 1685 G. Sinclair *Satan. Invis. World* (1871) 98 The Maid did start up out of a Wand-Chair, where she sat. 1898 N. Munro *John Splendid* xv, 'It's your welcome, Argile,' said I, patting a "wand-chair. 1894 *Law Times* 97/2 "wand-clerk. 1894 *Scotsman* 6 Sept. (Cuttle for Nets).

*wǽlfr* to wander, MDu. *wandelen* to change, to wander about (Du. *wandelen* to walk), OS. *wandlon* to change (MLG. *wandelen* to change, LG. *wandeln* to change), OHG. *wantalôn*, *wantilôn* to change, *intr.* (MHG. *wantelen*, *wandeln*, G. *wandeln*). The form occurs (once) in OE. in *wandlunge* sb. change. Both forms are further related to OTeut. **wend-* turn, see WEND v. Compare also OE. *wandlian* WONDR v., to deviate, flinch, hesitate etc.]

I. Intransitive senses. Formerly often conjugated with *to be*.

1. Of persons or animals: To move hither and thither without fixed course or certain aim; to be (in motion) without control or direction; to roam, ramble, go idly or restlessly about: to have no fixed abode or station.

*Fight at Finnesburg* (Gr.) 36 Hrefen wandrode sweard and sealobrun. *c* 1000 *Ags. Laws, Instit. Polity* xiv. (Thorpe) II. 392 [Hi] macian̄ eall be luste.. worlsð & wandriað, & saine deg fleariað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Vte fo þat is þe deuel wunndreð abuten us. *c* 1275 LAY. 7941 And Cesar wende in Flandres lond, wandrenge bi nes strond. *c* 1290 *Beket* in *S. Eng. Leg.* 108 In Mealis atsteden heo hadde I-wandret. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 207 Rote wandren as wolues and wasten þi þei mouwen. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 330 Wth thame was thousandis and ma, of fremmyt men War wanderand all the nicht ouir. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 28 b, Having knowledge that diuerse pirates wer wanderyng on the cost of Englande. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. vi. 43 With Caine go wander through the shades of night. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 20 On th' Aleian Field I fall Erroneous there to wander and forlorne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 599 Oft the Flocks, with Pain and Length of Way;.. Whole Months they wander, grazing as they go. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 P 3 If one did believe that the departed Souls of Men and Women wandered up and down these lower Regions. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 11 The mopeing owl does to the moon complain Of such, as wand'ring near her secret bow'r, Molest her ancient solitary reign. 1776 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 556 Hitherto he seems to have wandered from place to place with no other object than that of collecting troops. 1818 SHELLEY *Hymn to Intell. Beauty* 163 Frederick the Third, chased from his capital by the Hungarians, is wandering from convent to convent, an imperial beggar. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 25 The ladies were wandering in the garden.

**b.** *fig.* and in fig. context.

*a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 243 þa þri fiðnes agen eleen fleaflu man alse longe se we ideve westen of þesser worulд wandrið. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (1857) 1 Pe ix chirche has pe statys be proceese of tyme. Fyrst be wandrys here in erthe, and sethen be sleppn in purgatory. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 709 in *10 Pol. Poems* 130 And eft hym wanteth goddys lore, .. And thus he wandreth in a were, As a man blynde, and may nat se. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 99 The people of the Ilande ..wandered in the ignorance and blyndenes of humane nature. 1643 J. TAYLOR (water P.) *Cert. Trav. Unstrut. Journey* 8 Some few do travell in the wayes Divine, Some wander wildly with the Muses nine. 1733 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 340 That not in Fancy's maze he wander'd long, But stooping to Truth, and moralis'd his song. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 245 [He] can have his talk out, and wander at will from one subject to another.

**c.** with adv., as *about*, *up and down*.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IX. 326 Tho wolde wastour nat worche bote wandrede aboute. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Wandryn̄ as beste, *vagor*, *giravagor*. 1530 PALSGR. 731/1 How sayest thou, is this a good lyfe to wander up and downe on this maner. 1580 DALTON *Sheldane's Comm.* 326 b, The pore wretch wandred vp and downe with .vi. children. 1598 *Recorderus* IV. ii. 88 Ever since she hath lost her self within these woods, And wandring too and fro she seekes the well, Which yet she cannot finde. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 33 P 11 Multitudes wandering about they know not whither, in quest they knew not of what. 1886 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii. (1878) 245, I used not to wander about in the fields and woods. 1892 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 430, I wander up and down, and being in perplexity am always changing my opinion.

**d.** quasi-*trans.* with cognate object. *poet.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17232 Folland þat þann̄ hat es mi fa, Mi wall i wander lis-lik wa. 1788 BURNS *Auld lang syne* iii, We've wander'd many a weary fit. 1819 SCOTT *Noble Moringer* xxv, I've wander'd many a weary step, my strength is well-nigh done.

**e.** To go or take one's way casually or without predetermined route; to go *to* a place by a devious and leisurely course; to stroll, saunter. Also with *forth*, *out*.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 69 Let me imbrace with old Vincentio, And wander we to see thy honest sonne, Who will of thy arriuall be full ioyous. 1692 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Aug., I heard a sermon at the Rolls; and in the afternoone wander'd to divers churches. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 501 And when Night Darkens the Streets, then wander forth the Sons of Belial. 1715 DE FOE *Rem. Instruct. Introd.* (1841) I. 5 The father, walking in a field behind his garden, finds one of his children wandering out. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXVI, And now there remained but to take leave of the poor schoolmaster and wander forth once more. *a* 1872 R. TURNBULL *Ballad of Perseyhaus* xxxiv. Poet. Wks. 1874 I. 56 Till, sweet with greenness, moonlight-kiss'd, she wanders home again. 1888 F. HUME *Mond. Midas* I. iii, Then and there could be seen the cattle wandering idly homeward.

¶ **f.** The earlier Wyclifite version of the Bible, and Wyclif himself in his sermons, frequently use *wander* to render the *ambulare* of the Vulgate both in lit. and fig. use; in the later version this is rare, *walke* or *go* being used instead.

*c* 1382 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 302 And so seiþ Mathew þat Crist wandride [1388 walkiþ] bi þe water of Galile. *Ibid.* II. 348 Þus Poul biddiþ men, Wandre (*so* 1388; 1388 walke ȝe] in spirit, and do not fulle desires of þe fleisshe. 1382 — *John* v. 8 Jhesus seiþ to him, Ryse vp, take thi bed, and wandre (1388 go). And a non the man is maad hool, and took vp his bed, and wandride [1388 wente forth].

**2.** Of an inanimate thing: To travel, move, or be carried about in an uncertain course; to stray. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *spec.* in *Path.* and *Phys.* (cf. WANDERING *ppl. a.*).

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 3 Se [sc. Saturnes steorra] wandreþ oðer oðrum steorrum oðer þonne sealc oðer tungol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24857 [Ai] lete it wandir vp and doun, þair scip at reil for to drun. 1658 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 58 Sir, your letter hath runne great hazarde before it arrived here; It wandred about seven months together. 1764 WHYTT *Observ. Nervous Disorders* (1765) 151 In some, the gout wandres through the whole body. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 301 It seems that, in this Committee, which continued to sit many days, the debate wandered over a vast space. 1888 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xix. 480 Thomas Newton's monument wandered to another Church. 1890 *Athenæum's Sport. Mod.* VIII. 38 W. C. Beers of Penang has described (with others) a very peculiar phase in which the œdema beginning in the feet or hands 'wandered' up the limb. 1891 *Brain Med. Trnl.* 20 Sep. 597 The great number of cells which are found wandering far and wide in the submucosa. 1899 J. W. JEMMISON *Experim. Embryol.* iv. 185 In the next stage the clear vegetative cells described (presumably) from the mikrocyten wander in to form the primary mesenchyme.

*Inherited passive.* 1852 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 19 Which wandered round by dreams.

**b.** Of persons, with reference to movement of part of the body only.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 374 He seiz'd him with a strict embrace, With thousand kisses wander'd o'er his face. 1831 *Jane Eyre*, I. xii. 241, The hand which held the letter before his eyes dropped to his side; and with the fingers of the other he wandered thoughtfully over his brow.

**c.** Of the eyes: To move rapidly in quick glances, etc. ? To be in circulation (on uncertain evidence or authority). Also † *to wander it*.

*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 95 The fame wherof so wandred it at point. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 241 b, And this wandring mischiefe, was not onely vsed through out the hoste of all men. 1831 W. L. BOWLES *Thomas Ken* II. Introd. 7, I am informed by.. the Bishop of Hereford,.. that there wandered about the cathedral, on the occasion of this story. 1899 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

**d.** Of the mind. To turn this way and that; to rove. Hence, of the vision: To pass (idly or restlessly) from one point to another; to traverse a field of view (erratically or vaguely).

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 344 After the manner of a drunkard, that wenteth for the best wine: so doth wandring mind seeke and wander to finde out some olde Sepulture. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 His eyes must wander about every workmans hands. 1704 J. PITTS *Relig. & Manners. Mahometans* 47 *n.*, Their minds wander [*sic*] about during the time they are performing their Devotions. 1789 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

**d.** Of the mind. To turn this way and that; to rove. Hence, of the vision: To pass (idly or restlessly) from one point to another; to traverse a field of view (erratically or vaguely).

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 344 After the manner of a drunkard, that wenteth for the best wine: so doth wandring mind seeke and wander to finde out some olde Sepulture. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 His eyes must wander about every workmans hands. 1704 J. PITTS *Relig. & Manners. Mahometans* 47 *n.*, Their minds wander [*sic*] about during the time they are performing their Devotions. 1899 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

1. Of persons, with reference to movement of part of the body only.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIV. 374 He seiz'd him with a strict embrace, With thousand kisses wander'd o'er his face. 1831 *Jane Eyre*, I. xii. 241, The hand which held the letter before his eyes dropped to his side; and with the fingers of the other he wandered thoughtfully over his brow.

**c.** Of the eyes: To move rapidly in quick glances, etc. ? To be in circulation (on uncertain evidence or authority). Also † *to wander it*.

*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 95 The fame wherof so wandred it at point. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 241 b, And this wandring mischiefe, was not onely vsed through out the hoste of all men. 1831 W. L. BOWLES *Thomas Ken* II. Introd. 7, I am informed by.. the Bishop of Hereford,.. that there wandered about the cathedral, on the occasion of this story. 1899 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

**d.** Of the mind. To turn this way and that; to rove. Hence, of the vision: To pass (idly or restlessly) from one point to another; to traverse a field of view (erratically or vaguely).

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 344 After the manner of a drunkard, that wenteth for the best wine: so doth wandring mind seeke and wander to finde out some olde Sepulture. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 His eyes must wander about every workmans hands. 1704 J. PITTS *Relig. & Manners. Mahometans* 47 *n.*, Their minds wander [*sic*] about during the time they are performing their Devotions. 1789 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. II. 515 There was no evidence which could be laid before a jury or a court martial: but strange whispers wandered about the camp.

**e.** To go or take one's way casually or without predetermined route; to go *to* a place by a devious and leisurely course; to stroll, saunter. Also with *forth*, *out*.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 69 Let me imbrace with old Vincentio, And wander we to see thy honest sonne, Who will of thy arriuall be full ioyous. 1692 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Aug., I heard a sermon at the Rolls; and in the afternoone wander'd to divers churches. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 501 And when Night Darkens the Streets, then wander forth the Sons of Belial. 1715 DE FOE *Rem. Instruct. Introd.* (1841) I. 5 The father, walking in a field behind his garden, finds one of his children wandering out. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXVI, And now there remained but to take leave of the poor schoolmaster and wander forth once more. *a* 1872 R. TURNBULL *Ballad of Perseyhaus* xxxiv. Poet. Wks. 1874 I. 56 Till, sweet with greenness, moonlight-kiss'd, she wanders home again. 1888 F. HUME *Mond. Midas* I. iii, Then and there could be seen the cattle wandering idly homeward.

¶ **f.** The earlier Wyclifite version of the Bible, and Wyclif himself in his sermons, frequently use *wander* to render the *ambulare* of the Vulgate both in lit. and fig. use; in the later version this is rare, *walke* or *go* being used instead.

*c* 1382 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 302 And so seiþ Mathew þat Crist wandride [1388 walkiþ] bi þe water of Galile. *Ibid.* II. 348 Þus Poul biddiþ men, Wandre (*so* 1388; 1388 walke ȝe] in spirit, and do not fulle desires of þe fleisshe. 1382 — *John* v. 8 Jhesus seiþ to him, Ryse vp, take thi bed, and wandre (1388 go). And a non the man is maad hool, and took vp his bed, and wandride [1388 wente forth].

**2.** Of an inanimate thing: To travel, move, or be carried about in an uncertain course; to stray. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *spec.* in *Path.* and *Phys.* (cf. WANDERING *ppl. a.*).

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 3 Se [sc. Saturnes steorra] wandreþ oðer oðrum steorrum oðer þonne sealc oðer tungol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24857 [Ai] lete it wandir vp and doun, þair scip at reil for to drun. 1658 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 58 Sir, your letter hath runne great hazarde before it arrived here; It wandred about seven months together. 1764 WHYTT *Observ. Nervous Disorders* (1765) 151 In some, the gout wandres through the whole body. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 301 It seems that, in this Committee, which continued to sit many days, the debate wandered over a vast space. 1888 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xix. 480 Thomas Newton's monument wandered to another Church. 1890 *Athenæum's Sport. Mod.* VIII. 38 W. C. Beers of Penang has described (with others) a very peculiar phase in which the œdema beginning in the feet or hands 'wandered' up the limb. 1891 *Brain Med. Trnl.* 20 Sep. 597 The great number of cells which are found wandering far and wide in the submucosa. 1899 J. W. JEMMISON *Experim. Embryol.* iv. 185 In the next stage the clear vegetative cells described (presumably) from the mikrocyten wander in to form the primary mesenchyme.

*Inherited passive.* 1852 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 19 Which wandered round by dreams.

**b.**

tectrice and tutele..To wery wandred tent and pavilioun. 1510 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.*(1828) III. 32 It greuseth me sore for to leve you here in this place as desolate, wandred and habandoned of your blode. *Ibid.* 122 Almighti God..wolde that they should be wandred of theyr way. 1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* v. 50 Wrench ope his mouth, While I infuse these Sovereign Drops. Perhaps Prow's Will soon recal his wander'd sense—He stirs! 1819 Keats *Fall of Hyperion* I. 43 A cool vessel of transparent juice Sipp'd by the wander'd bee. 1893 J. Watson *Conf. Thatcher* 56 Wandered birds in outlying copses in the evening are apt to roost there.

**Wanderer** (wɒ·ndərə1). Also 5 *wandrare*, 6 *Sc.* **wandirer**, 6 **wandreer**, 6–7 **wandrer**, **wand'rer**. [f. Wander *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One person or thing that is wandering, or that has long wandered (in various senses of the verb); one that is of roving habit or nature. Also *fig.* or in fig. context.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wanderare, *vagus, vagabundus, profugus.* 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iii. ill. P ij, Seynge that me [*sc.* Time] but a wanderer, that I myght passe from place to place lyke a vacabunde. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iii. ii. 44 The wrathfull Skies Gallow the very wanderers of the darke, And make them keepe their Caues. 1620 Fletcher *Sea Voy.* iv, Am I for this forsaken? a new love chosen, And my affections, like my fortunes, wanderers? 1728 Addison *Spect.* No. 495 ? 8 Besides, the whole Species is now a Race of such Merchants as are Wanderers by Profession. 1794 Coleridge *The Sigh* 20 In distant climes to roam, A wanderer from my native home. 1797 Wordsworth *Lines Tintern Abbey* 56 O sylvan Wye! thou wanderer thro' the woods. 1841 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. viii. 216 Gipsies and other wanderers pitch their tents around it in the nutting season. 1853 J. Hannay *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. iii. 114 The Catholic Church was in the first instance a wanderer on the earth, and had nothing to attach her to its soil. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 509 He had dealt as he had lived, an exile and a wanderer. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* i. xxx, She don't know what she means. She's an idiot, a wanderer in her mind. 1901 Norwood Gale *Forest Man* (1915) 3 Such characteristic wanderers over the plains as horses, cattle, antelopes, deer and lions.

**2.** as tr. L. *planēta* or Gr. πλανήτης : A wandering star, planet.

1614 Tomkis *Albumazar* ii. i, Your patron Mercury in his mysterious character, Holds all the markes of th' other wanderers. 1816 Sylvester *Little Pearls* 21 The Sun—Him, last betwixt Six Wanderers hast thou plac't, Which prance about Him with unequall haste. *a* 1841 Br. Mountague *Acts & Mon.* (1849) 117 Even Planets or Wanderers keep course, and station. 1848 Walker *Eccles.* 191 The worlds they call wanderers rolling on high, That enlighten the earth and enliven the sky. 1879 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 536 And God made the sun and moon and five other wanderers, as they are called.

†**b.** *Hist.* (See quot. 1903.) *Obs.*

1794 A. Sherlok *Life Kennedy* 65 in *Bdgr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 30 Patten [1605], a horse, and dragoons, habitually flashed in Blood, being poured into all Parts of the Country, where the Wanderers were most numerous. 1797 P. Walker *Life Peden* 181 A Foot and Horse of the Enemy being searching for Wanderers, as they were then called. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vi, The Wanderer (to give Burley a title which was often conferred on the sect) began to make his horse ready. 1903 Harbottle *Dict. Hist. Allusions* 275 *Wanderers*, the Covenanters who left their homes to follow their deposed ministers and to attend the conventicles.

**2.** *Zool.* Used as translation of various mod. L. terms of classification; a bird of the group *Vagatores* in Macgillivray's system; one of the wandering spiders (*Vacabundæ*).

1837 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* I. 482 That very important tribe of birds to which the name of Vagatores or Wanderers may be applied.

**Wandering** (wɒ·ndərin), *vbl. sb.* Also **wandring**, **wandrynge**, etc. [f. Wander *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

**1.** Travelling from place to place or from country to country without settled route or destination; roaming. Often in plural, sometimes denoting a protracted period of devious journeying.

1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 7, I was weori of wandringe and wente me to reste Vnder a brod banke bi a Bourne syde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/1 Wandrynge, *vagacio.* 1513 Hulcot, Wandryng, *discursus.* 1664 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* I. ii. 31 The labors of pilgrimages, superstitious and useless wanderings from place to place. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 1061 The fatal Issue of so long a War, Your Flight, your Wand'rings, and your Woes declare. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 22 The Night here will answer to the prayer Life, a state of Wandring and Weakness. 1797 Hy. Lee, *Canterb. T., Port's T.* I. 219 [The letter] had followed him in his wanderings, and reached him at last by mere accident. 1876 Miss Brandon *J. Haggard's Daughter* I. i. 8 Joshua..settled down after his wanderings in his native town.

**b.** Of inanimate things: Devious movement from place to place.

1580 Lytton *Faithfund* v. 61 The air of heaven [is] not purer in its wanderings. 1867 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 666 Their wise men Were strong in that old magic which can trace The wanderings of the stars. 1913 J. Lindsay *Cordwainers Green-dragon* I. 11 Amongst experiments of single cells are comprised: ..the wanderings of the germ-cells in early stages.

**c.** Of the eyes: Irregular turning this way and that.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, The idle indicated their inattention by the wandering of their eyes. 1899 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 251 You should not show that you think so.. by the tose of your head or the wandering of your eyes. 1899 Tanner *Clin. Med.* (ed. 2) 12 Condition of Nervous System...Wandering of eyes, state of pupils, squinting.

**d.** Of the mind, thoughts, desires, etc.: Aimless passing from object to object.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27793 Vnnait talckhing, vnstedfastnes, o will wandring. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. xvi. 43 Beholdynge therwyth what pareyl he stondeth in yf he contynewe recheleasly in suche wandrynge of mynde vato his deth. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 161 To call in our myndes from vagacyon or wandrynge & to apply vs to our duty reuerently. 1621 Burk *Anat.* vi. 9 Better is the sight of the eyes, than the wandering of the desire. 1728 Budgell *Spect.* No. 425 ? 2 A Poem of Milton's, which he entitles *Il Penseroso*, the Ideas of which are exactly suited to my present Wanderings of Thought. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. i. 90 *note*, It might well seem, that this Inconsistency, this wandering of Spirit, might be the peculiar Folly of the Rich.

**2.** Deviation from the right or intended path or direction, straying, aberration.

1512 J. Greenwood *Reg. Cruin.* 80 Beside denotes erring, or Wandring (as he shoots beside the mark'). 1818 Byron *Juan* I. 7 The regularity of my design Forbids all wandering as the worst of sinning. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* 3, The next morning, all had vanished, or my wandering missed the place.

**3.** Disordered action of the mind due to illness or nervous exhaustion; rambling, delirium; in plural, delirious fancies, esp. as expressed in speech; frenzied ramblings.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, The theatre and the public-house were the chief themes of the wretched man's wanderings. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 190 Where there was a very violent delirium, a variety of symptoms...illusions of the senses of hearing, a fiery eye, and incessant mental wandering. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 104 Every third day ..his dejection, his fits of wandering seemed to indicate the approach of dissolution. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 368 Such are many degrees of transient mental failure, to which such terms as 'dreaming' and 'rambling' are applied.

**4.** Gerundially in *to go*, or *to be*, *a-wandering*. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1500 Locke *Hum. Und.* ii. xxxiii. § 6 (ed. 4) 222 Though his unattentive Thoughts be elsewhere a wandering. 1898 Barnet Lloyd in axiii, His wits were gone a-wandering.

**Wandering** (wɒ·ndərin), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.]

**1.** Of persons or animals: That moves from place to place or from country to country without readily apparent purpose; travelling to a vague (or distant) destination, or by uncertain and devious routes; roving; vagrant; having no fixed abode or station.

*c* 1000 *Prudentius Glosses* in *Germania* N. S. XI. 388/37 *Uagantes demonas* wandrigende þucan. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. 15, The blackenesse of deths whiche the envyous enemye hath wrote to hrynge in to wandrynge sowles. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Vinctiuagus*, wandring in rivers or waters. *Ibid., Vagus*, wandryuge and abydynge in noo place. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* A 4, The high-spirited people, committing his wandering sheepe to the custodie of his wappe. 1690 *Extracts Assem. Reg.* (1848) II. 203 To sie that thair be no wandering persones efter the hour of ten. 1692 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Henry Walker* A 2, At least 300. Vagrants, were all suddainely Metamorphis'd and Transform'd into Wandring Book-sellers. 1715 *Pub. Hand* II. 353 Thick as Insects play, The wandring Nation of a Summer's Day. 1845 A. Polson *Law Nations in Encycl. Metrop.* V. 1 In an age of defective police, wandering labourers and 'valiant beggars' were objects of terror. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 95 The wandering adventurer [Haldane of Gleneagles] is first demanded nothing less than an earldom. 1878 J. Davidson *Inverurie* vii. 214 It is of the kind made at that period for the use of wandering priests.

**b.** Of primitive peoples, or animals: Nomadic, roving, migratory. Frequently tr. scientific L. *errans*, *vagus*, etc.

*c* 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 10 Alle kynde of beestis & wandringe [L. *omnes bestiae et pecora*], blesse ye to þe lord ! 1544 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) II. ii. 19 From Mauritania or Barbary toward the South is Getulia, a rough and savage region, whose inhabitants are wilde and wandering people. 1768 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* I. 508 Alba Gesneri. Wandering. *Dicrudeen Exulans.* 1801 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. 66 Wandering Mouse. *Mus Vagus*...This is frequent throughout the whole Empire of Russia, and is of a migrating nature. 1822 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1823) III. 362 The Wandering Spider. This Spider...does not lie in wait for its prey, like several others; it is very active, and runs with great swiftness. 1850 Cabl *Cat. Anim. Mus.* 75 Head of the...Wandering Albatross.—*Diomedea exulans. Linn.* 1864 Kinglake *Eothen* xii. I was riding..in company with a party of wandering Bedouins. 1870 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1823) III. 362 The Wandering Spider. This Spider...does not lie in wait for its prey, like several others; it is very active, and runs with great swiftness. 1898 Cambl. *Gloss.* Introd. 20 *Lysimachia nummularia*. Wandering Jenny. 1881 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XIII. 96 Wandering Sailors. *Lysimachia nummularia*. *Friend Dev. Plant-n.*, Wandering Sailor...(2) *Lysimachia Nummularia*. 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 53/1 The creeping Saxifrage, or our old friend Wandering Jew. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Wandering Jew, *Linaria Cymbalaria*, Mill. *Natx.* 1889 *Hardwicke's Science-Gossip* XXV. 47 The creeping plant known as Wandering Jew in Eastern Province name of a creeping plant—a kind of periwinkle.

**f.** *Wandering fire* or *light* : Will-o'-the-wisp. (Now often *fig.* after Tennyson's use.)

1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 634 A wandring Fire Compact of unctuous vapor, which the Night Condenses. 1795 *Gl.* Blank *Songs Innoc., Little Boy Found* i, The little boy lost in the lonely fen, Led by the wand'ring light. 1869 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 419 How often, O my knights, This chance of noble deeds will come and go Unchallenged, while ye follow wandering fires Lost in the quagmire!

**g.** *Phys.* and *Path.* Of diseases, pains, etc.: Moving from one part of the body to another (without clearly ascertained cause). Also (in recent use), *Wandering cells* : amœboid cells.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 422/1 *Morbus palabundus*, ..a wandring disease, or a sickenesse spread here and there. 1893 tr. *Rinecard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Arthritis vaga*, or *Planetica*, a Wandring Gout, is a Disease in the Joynts that creates pain, sometimes in one Limb, sometimes in another. 1906 Bayard *Cold Baths* 11, 200 Aches and wandering Pains. 1793 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 149 As the Scene of all acute continual Fevers is acted in the Blood, so those erratic, wandering Fevers .. are deriv'd from the same Original.



a-walkin' about like the wanderin' Jew—a sporting character you have perhaps heerd on, Mary, my dear, as wos always doin' a match agin time, and never vent to sleep.

**2.** Of things: Travelling (or carried) along in no uncertain, or frequently changing direction; moved, or moving, (idly) to and fro.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ix. 7 It is not yron bandes, nor hundred eyes, Nor brasen walls, nor many wakefull spyes, That can withhold her willfull wandring feet. 1614 *Lord Thomas & Fair Ann* xiii, A scene so rude, so wild as this..Ne're did my wandering footsteps press, Where'er I happ'd to roam. 1892 Tennyson *To a Mem.* xxiv, The wary source and fount of Day is dash'd with wandering isles of night. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iv, The old housekeeper looks at him, and those wandering hands of hers are quite enough for Mrs. Bagnet's confirmation. [Cf. below.] Only her wandering hands give utterance to her emotions.] 1893 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 719 He had..had in his hands proofs of much that Fenwick had only gathered from wandering rumours.

**b.** Of the mind, thoughts, affections, etc.: Moving vaguely (towards, or about, their object); not directed by reason or fixed purpose; random; restless; wanton.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. xvi. 42 So the frayle & wretched soulle..can not sturre vp yt selfe from wandryng and vagant thoughtes. 1550 Pauluc. 698/1 The mans mind is so wandringe that he can satisfi hym vpon no byngs. 1581 Petyt *Gentle's Chr. Conv.* 1, Wee..are..so cleane altogether my minde, haue now driuen awaie the mistes which dimmed it & made it so wandering & running. 1648 Milton *Psalm* lxxxv. 11 Mercy & truth..Meete in their will And to their wandring mind. 1688 Prior *On Exod. iii.* 14 vii, Levelling at God his wand'ring Guess,..Laws to his Maker he learn'd Wretches to give. 1697 Dampier's *Voy. Guinea* Pref., I had some wandring Reflections upon the Reasons alledged in my first Letter. 1706 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 33 Then shall the wandering Amour to controul. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvii, A deep sigh from Vivaldi recalled his wandering imagination. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, My father had often checked me for this wandering mood of mind.

*Comb.* 1552 Hulcet, Wandryng-wytted, *vacillans.*

**c.** Of the eyes: Roving, restless, turning this way and that.

1598 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 278 Wherevnto he answered with a wandering eye [*Fr. d'en ait inconstant*], Ha Mistresse, if I etc.]. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 256 Pageant Shows, that fill the wandering Eye. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 217 The teacher may observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings.

**d.** Of the moon or stars: *rare.* tr. L. *planēta*, or Gr. πλανήτης : Not fixed, having a separate individual motion.

1526 Tindale *Jude* 13 They are wandrynge starres to whom is reserued the myst of darckines for ever. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 561/1 *Stella errans*, a wandring starre. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 103 We the Globe can compasse soone, Swifter then the wandring Moone. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 67 To hear the Lark begin his flight, And singing startle the dull night, From his watch-towre in the skies, Till the dappled dawn doth rise; Then to come in spite of sorrow, And at my window bid good morrow, Through the Sweet-Brier, or the Vine, Or the twisted Eglantine; While the Cock with lively din, Scatters the rear of darknesse thin, And to the stack or the barne-dore, Stoutly struts his Dames before: Oft list'ning how the Hounds and horn Cheerly rouse the slumbring Morn, From the side of some Hoar Hill, Through the high wood echoing shrill: Sometime walking not unseen By Hedge-rowes, or by Hillocks green, Right against the Eastern gate, Where the great Sun begins his state, Robed in flames, and Amber light, The clouds in thousand Liveries dight. While the Plowman neer at hand, Whistles ore the furrow'd land, And the Milkmaid singeth blithe, And the Mower whets his sithe, And every Shepherd tells his tale Under the Hawthorn in the dale. Straight mine eye hath caught new pleasures Whilst the landskip round it measures, Russet Lawns, and Fallowes grey, Where the nibling flocks do stray, Mountains on whose barren brest The labouring Clouds do often rest, Meadows trim with Daisies pide, Shallow Brooks, and Rivers wide. Towers and Battlements it sees Bosom'd high in tufted Trees, Where perhaps some beauty lies, The Cynosure of neighbouring eyes. Hard by, a Cottage chimney smokes From betwixt two aged Oakes, Where Corydon and Thyrsis met Are at their savory dinner set Of Hearbs, and other Country Messes, Which the neat-handed Phillis dresses; And then in haste her Bowre she leaves, With Thestylis to bind the Sheaves; Or if the earlier season lead To the tann'd Haycock in the Mead. Sometimes with secure delight The upland Hamlets will invite, When the merry Bells ring round, And the jocund Rebecks sound To many a youth, and many a maid Dancing in the Chequer'd shade, And young and old come forth to play On a Sunshine Holyday, Till the live-long Daylight fail: Then to the Spicy Nut-brown Ale, With stories told of many a feat, How Faery Mab the junkets eat. She was pinch't and pull'd, she said, And he by Friars Lanthorn led Tells how the drudging Goblin sweat To earn his Cream-bowle duly set, When in one night, ere glimpse of morn, His shadowy Flail hath thresh'd the Corn That ten day-labourers could not end; Then lies him down the Lubber Fiend, And stretch'd out all the Chimney's length, Basks at the fire his hairy strength, And Crop-full out of doores he flings, Ere the first Cock his Matin rings. Thus don the Tales, to bed they creep, By whispering Winds soon lull'd asleep. Towred Cities please us then, And the busie humming Cries Of Cities, and the busie humming Cries Of many People, and the busie humming Cries Of many People, and the busie humming Cries Of many People

**1896** *Allbutt's Syst Med.* I. 91 Here in the immediate neighbourhood of the wandering cells, the short, curved bacillary forms could be seen to have undergone the transformation **1897** *Ibid* IV 440 Uric acid in excess and oxalic acid in the urine are often attended by wandering pains in the back, thigh, calf of leg, and sole of foot **1899** *Ibid* VII 81 Fürster also held that wandering leucocytes might become transformed into glia cells **1899** *Syd Soc Lex, Wandering abscess*, an abscess that tracks along so as to point at a distance from its original seat *Wandering cells*, a synonym for *Amœboid cells*

**h** Of roads, rivers, etc. Lying in an irregularly bending line, winding, meandering, also *fig* Also *transf.* (*Phys*) as the distinctive epithet of a particular pair of nerves (after mod L. *par vagum nervus vagi*)

**1667** MILTON *P L* II 561 Others apace sat on a Hill retir'd, In thoughts more elevate. And found no end, in wandring mazes lost **1728** J CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig Philos* (1730) I iii § 8 The Parœquum or Wandering Nerve **1784** GOLDSMITH *Trav* 2 Or by the lazy Scheld or wandering Po. **1872** HOWELLS *Weddd Journ* (1892) 259 The wandering corndusk **1888** STEVENSON *A Family Affair* v, A wandering, country by track **1899** *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 814 The term 'accessory' was applied by this anatomist [Willis] to the special nerve which is necessary for the 'agitation of wandering gait'.

†**1.** *Wandering name*, a term that may be applied indifferently to various objects. *Obs.*

*a* **1555** RIDLEY *Treat agst. Transubst* (1556) 52 If in the wordes This is my body, the woorde (this) be as Donne calleth it a wanderynge name to appointe and shewe forthe anye one thinge whereof the nume or nature it doeth not tell so muste it bee by sewyte [etc] **1659** SOWDEN *Dr T., Wo to swerue*, Apostate, Nectar, a wandring name given unto many sever ll bestes

**j** Having no fixed arrangement, scattered irregularly

**1785** MARTYN *Lett Bot* xiii (1794) 372 The flowers are irregularly disposed, or wandering, as I imagine calls them

**3** †**a** Of persons, etc Deviating from the proper or determined course, *fig* erring, disloyal. *Obs*

**1608** BP W BARLOW *Serm* at Sept Hu, To healc the unfeeled, to spiint the squeezed, to comfort the wandring **1618** FELTHAM *Resolves* II xxiv 90 Weedwive not doe those things that are lawfull, lest the wandring World ma construe them **1654** MILTON *Contrg* 58 From the horrible horror of whose shady brows Three fits the fiel en and wandring Passages **1667** — *P L* II 404 Who shall tempt with wandring feet The dark unbottom'd infinite Abyss **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* VI 819 Long hast thou known nor need I to record The wanton assaults of my wand'ring Lord

**b.** Of inanimate things Straying from the right path.

**1600** SHAKS *Sonn* CXVI, O no it is an ever fixed marke That looles on tempests and is never shaken, It is the star to every wandring barke **1697** DRYDEN *Virg Ecl* VIII 8 Impressd Jove turns it the footsteps of Love, And shall I wear d'ring Weapon in the d or **1823** J WILSON *Isle of Palms* III 8 Some wandering Ship who hath lost her way **1899** *Syd Soc Lex, Wandering bullet*, the nonsensical name for a wandering bullet plunged through the roof of the wooden cottage.

†**c** Of places Out of the way, inaccessible, remote. *Obs rare.*

**1600** SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I xvii 110 Swans haunt and loue to resort to some particular places onely, as watrie, wandring and solitarie places [*orig item aquatiques, esgares & solitaires*]

**d** Path. *Wandering spleen, kidney, lever* see quots.

**1897** *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 584 The so-called 'wandering spleen' in which the viscus is found in the lower abdomen *Ibid* IV 418 A case of wandering spleen **1899** *Syd Soc Lex, Wandering kidney*, a synonym for floating kidney *Wandering lever*

**e** *Mining* (see quot) Cf. STRAY *a.*

**1886** J HARROWMAN *Sc Mining Terms* 70 *Wandering coal*, a coal seam that exists only over a small area, an irregular seam of coal

**4** Characterized by wandering.

**1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* III (Arb) 88 To soyl of Cyclops with wandring iourney we roamed **1603** DANIEL *Def Ryme* H 6 b, There is no right in these things that are continally in a wandring motion, even as with the wandring of our vncertaine likings **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* III 943 Thus to the lasting Queen, the Royal Guest His wand'ring Course and all his Toils declares **1719** DE F *Crusoe* (Globe) 112 Thus little wandering Journey, without settled Place of Abode, had been so unpleasant to me, that my own Home was a perfect Elysium to me **1782** GIBBON *Decl & F* xxxi (1787) III 227 He experienced the adventures of an obscure and wandering life **1824** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III 16, A landless prince, in wandering life he but one scene of bold and sterile **1872** HOWELLS *Wedd Journ* (1892) 315 Her river white wandering loveliness the road follows. **1883** MRS ALEXANDER *Wife's Sis* II, Paris is not a bad place to anchor in after a wandering life

Hence **Wanderingly** *adv* **Wanderingness.**

**1550** HULOET, Wandryngiye, *palatim*, passim **1565** GOLDING *Ovid's Met* I 81 b, And Pilgrims such as wandringly they tyme in trauell waste **1608** SHAKS *Per* III iii 7 Your shakes of fortune, though they hant [1609 haunt] you mortally Yet glaunce full wondringly on vs **1653** J4 TAYLOR *Serm for Lent* I iii 32 Were thy prayers made in feare and holinesse, with passion and desire? Were they not made unwillingly, weakly, and wanderingly **1687** MIEGE *Gt Fr Dict* II, *Wanderingness, distraction, agitement, d'esprit* **1829** *Blackw Mag.* XVIII 437 His eyes Gleam'd wanderingly with brene unbidden. **1867** TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 118 For when was Lancelot wanderingly lewd?

†**Wanderment.** *Obs. rare.* [f WANDER *v* + MENT] The action or state of wandering

**1597** BP HALL *Sat* II iii 20 Genius and Species long since bared sole went, Vpon their ten-toes in wilde wanderment **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II iii IV *Columnes* 614 Rupture to remove, Which would be caused, through their wanderment, In th' Heau'ns inclos'd within the Firmament.

**Wanderoo** (wɒ̃ndiru·). Also 7 9 **wanderu**, 9 **wandaru**. [a. Sinhalese *wanderu*, monkey, cognate with Hindī *bandar*, repr Skr *vānara* monkey, believed to mean literally 'forest-dweller', f *vanar-* (*vanas, vana*) forest. The Fr. form *ouanderou* (Buffon) is a re-spelling of the word as given by Knox] A name properly belonging to the langur monkeys (genus *Semnopithecus*), inhabiting Ceylon, but until recently almost always misapplied, after Buffon's example, to the Lion-tailed Macaque (*Macacus silenus*) of Malabar.

**1681** R KNOX *Hist Rel Ceylon* I *Ind* 1 vi 26 Monkeys Some so large as our English Spaniel Dogs, of a darkish grey colour and black faces, with great white beards. There is another sort just of the same bigness, but milk white, both in body and face This sort they call in their Language, *Wanderaw* **1774** GOLDSM *Nat Hist* IV 111 215 The Wanderoo is a baboon rather less than the former [= the Mandrill] What particularly distinguishes it is a long white head of hair, together with a most strong white beard It is chiefly seen in the woods of Ceylon and Malabar **1788** W SHERIDAN tr *Buffon's Nat Hist* (1792) VIII 133 The Ouanderou and the Lowando [*Footnote*, Ouanderou, wou-lerou, the names of this animal in Ceylon] **1800** MRS MARIA *Jrnl Resid Indies* (1818) 187 I saw one of the large baboons called here Wanderows, on the top of a cocoa nut tree **1874** RICHARD in *Life* xii. (1885) II 80 The Wanderoo Another in the Museum This monkey comes from Malabar **1907** *Times* 21 Aug 2 A lion tailed macaque (*Macacus silenus*) often mis-called the wanderoo, which, of right belongs to the purple faced langur (*Semnopithecus cephalopterus*) of Ceylon

*attrib* **1883** HORNADAY *Two Yrs in Jungle* xxiii 374 We started a lot of wanderoo monkeys. **1894** *Outing* XXIV 292 Descriptions of the Fauna of Ceylon, notably of the wanderu monkeys

**Wander-year.** [f. WANDER *v.*, after G *wanderjahr*, the year, or one of the years, spent in travel by young artisans for perfecting their skill and knowledge between the completion of apprentice-ship and settling down to the practice of a trade] A year of wandering or travel (usually with more or less direct reference to German usage).

**1895** *Outing* XXVI 331/1 Traveling about like any poor student of German who is serving his wander-years **1900** *Daily Chron* 26 Oct 3/3 Off to Philadelph I went I plead, when his wander years were over, and the necessity of choosing a profession and making a living faced him **1901** L. IRBY *Verrab Et Ind* VII (1902) 109 I had had a good deal during his wander years, and he had never before secured such an audience **1914** H M VAUGHAN *Oxford Characters* 1 Wander Year

†**Wandis,** *v. Sc Obs* In 4–5 wyndis, wan dys [? OI *wandiss-*, long thematic stem of *wandr, gandr*, ? Germanic root **wand* see WEND *v* and -ISH²] *intr* To recoil, retreat, give way Cf. WOND *v.*

**1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* XII 109 The Yngis men that wer fechtand, Quhen that the Douglas saw at hand, That sayndis [MS *f* wandys] a litill thai gan wyn **1420** *Wall* XIII 219 Than wyndis [MS *f* wandys] a litill and wyn **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII vi 69 Nor wandis [MS *f* wandys] a fute to fle.

**Wandle** (wɒ·ndl), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also **wannel, wankle.** [App related to WAND *sb*] Of a thing Flexible, supple. Of a person: Lithe, agile, nimble

**1803** Hogg *Donald MacDonald* vi, The Stuart is sturdy and small **1816** SCOTT *Antiq* XXIV, The Lairds wife was a wee bit wankle and the lightlies lad grew up to be a fine wankle fellow **1829** JOCKEFIT *N C Tales* (ed 2) *Wantle*, supple, pliant—when spoken of a person agile, nimble **1873** *Dumfries Gloss, Wannel*, lithe, agile, flexible

**Wandle** (wɒ·ndl), *v. dial.* Also **wannel** [Perh. f. *wan*, WANE *a.*] *intr.* 'To walk unsteadily or wearily; to move with a slow, trembling step' (*Eng Dial Dict*).

**1686** G STUART *Yoco serious Diss* 48 Her Stilts [*note*, crutches] was not able to bandle, But it was as weak as she cou d wandle **1894** *Northumbrld Gloss, Wantle, wannel*, to walk with weariness or painful effort. As cattle hardies, weanel horses

**Wandlesour,** VAR. WANLISOUR *Obs.*

**Wandness,** obs. form of WANNESS.

**Wandoand,** var. *wyndowand*, obs. Sc. press pple of WINNOW *v.*

‖**Wandoo** (wɒndū·). [Native Australian] The White Gum tree (*Eucalyptus redunca*) of Western Australia, from which is obtained a hard durable wood.

**1884** J VON MUELLER *Eucalyptogr, Eucalyptus redunca*, The 'Wandoo' or principal 'White Gum tree' of West Australia. **1901** *Daily Chron.* 3 Sept 7/4 Wandoo piles used in bridge construction

**Wandought** (wɒ·ndɔyt), *sb.* and *a. Sc.* Also **wandouht, -dout, -dough.** [f WAN- + DOUGHT *sb.* and *a. Cf.* UNDOUGHT *sb.*, UNDOUGHTY *a.*]

*A sb* A feeble or puny person.

*a* **1728** W STARRAT *Epistle* 53 in *Ramsay's Poems* (1728) II 109 And when thou bida the puughty Czar stand yon, The Wandought seems beneath thee on his Throne **1768** Ross *Helenore* 1 9 Lindy is Nae bursen bailch, nae wandought [1790, 1812, wandough] or mugrown, But plump an' swack an' like an apple round **1890** J STRATHERN *Poet, Wks* I My Life to Mrs Baillie out of pure compassion for the *wandought*, had him frequently brought in to her

*B adj.* Feeble, ineffective, worthless.

**1768** PICKEN *Poems* 160 My wandought, rustic Muse, Gane haffans dare t an dotter, Begins to glunch **1819** A BALFOUR *Campbell* I xviii 334 That wandought no'er-do-weel o a domine. **1836** MARG MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Daw* 60 She was nane o your wandought nameless folk.

†**Wandrel.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. WANDER *v.*: see -LE] A vagabond

*c* **1557** ABP PARKER *Ps* CIX 10 As wandrels make his children stray to beg & seeke their bread

†**Wandreme.** *Obs rare*—1. [Of uncertain etymology

Perh f WAN + DREAM *sb*¹, though this supposition offers some difficulties The word may be an alteration, for the sake of rhyme, of WINDRUM, with which it seems to be synonymous An ther possibility is that it represents OE *wōdendream*, used to render *furor animi*, but surviving with reflexion of meanings in the WYCLIFFITE-BIBLE (*varr wode dreami, wodderm*, etc) confusion, bewilderment, for the phonology cf *Wansdyke* (repr OE *Wōdnesdīc*.)

DRAYTON, *Giles* (1748) 18 Wandreme.

*c* **1450** *Pride Lowliness* 989 The rabot was the ladyes eme, For hur he was in grete wandreme, And moche mornyng he mase

†**Wandreth.** *Obs.* Forms a. 3 wandreche, wondrede, 3 wandrede, wondrade, -reathe, red(e), -rethe, wontreathe, -rede, -rethe, 3–4 wandret, 3–7 wandreth, 4 wandred, wandreth, wandreth, wanderet, wandrethe, 4–5 wandrethe, 6 *Sc.* wandrecht *β.* 2–3 wanred(e, 4 wonryde *γ.* 6 *Sc.* wander. [a. ON. *wandræði* neut, difficulty, trouble, f. *vand-r*, difficult + *ræði* management, related to *rāð* neut = OE *rīed* counsel, HARE *sb.* With this use of *rāð* cf the cognate OF *reuden, rieden*, REED, though the ON. word did not lose its meaning and become a mere suffix.

The *β* forms seem to be merely phonetic variants due to the dropping of *d* between *n* and *r*, that *wanrede* is an etymologizing perversion (as if WAN + REDE) is less probable The 16th c. *Sc wander* is a similarly phonetic origin, though confusion with WANDER *sb* may have assisted the development]

Misery, distress, hardship, adversity, poverty.

Often alliteratively coupled with *wee* or contrasted with *weal*

*a* **c1175** *Lamb Hom* 137 Ic hæte Men seddden hate tetes hwanne ho iseoh hire emcristene wandrede hulte eðer in sele eaue bifalle *c* **1200** ORMIN 4846 He shall Þe gifenn eche blisse, Onnge all Þatt wanndrap & wa *c* **1205** LAY 15251 We beo3 Þeos wrecches ifarene wandrede & mid fare *a* **1225** *Ancr* A 156 Godes þreatunge is wondre o & weane ine liſsome & ine sawle, world a buten ende! *c* **1230** *Hali Meid* 9 Worldliche wunne þat to wenden to buyten & hauest ſtunden wenne þrin & wondrade þe wontre ei nue *a* **1240** *L Jesus* in *O & Hom* I 223 I-ueied ich wulle luuien be more þurh Þis wrecche wandrede *a* **1300** *Cursor M* 5787 Þat in wandret and in wa *c* **1325** *Metr Hom* 23 For it Þat kirk hard and power men haues Wele, Of wer and wandreth at the schathe. *Ibid* 73 Pore wordes wandreth and pouerte Þole & ſuffre many mans hete *c* **1357** *Lay Le des Catech* (T) 453 Fuenly to ſofte the weie and the wa, Welthe or wandreth, whether so it tides *c* **1420** *Alphabet of Tales* 418 Sone he was in the were, hys wandrethe begynnys *c* **1450** *Destr Troy* 11524 For bettur is a buerne by hym sum pea, þan in wandreth & woo to wepe all his lyue *c* **1480** *Henryson Myst Inn* 47 Greatt god ne he well my, That sh pe both nyght and day, from wandreth he vs weie, And shume **1500–20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi 53 Gott wer and wandreth hes ane ennang, Sin thy departing **1570** *Satir Reform* xxii 41 Bludie tirranie, Wandreth, warreit ferfull ambitioun **1680** in *Pyne Soc Antiq* Scot XII 214 That pestilent piety which in hardly get leave to live on earth for a pack of ministers and professers, suckle wo and wandreth com on them

*β c* **1200** *Trin Coll Hom* 43 Woreldes richeise wecheð orgel on mannes heorte wunrede wecheð on mannes heorte ortruwe *Ib* **1400** *Maist Arth* 707 Thy wonrydez and thy vprysyng woundes myne hertz persyng

*γ* **1535** STEWART *Chron Scot* (Roll) III 374 And all hir cair scho hes mad to him kend; How scho wes put to sic wander and wa. Hir kind wes kane, hir self sempil alsa **1535** LINDESAY *Satyre* 2068 (*Thannatyne MS*) Ilk man hes me now at dispyte, That reidis the New Testiment Wander to me shame for I wes bute hairit **1567** *Satir Poems Reform* XXV 41 God Floyndet and guyded Hir to ane vncouth land, Whair wander & sclander With eneuess none sho fand

**Wands,** *sb. pl.* [? f. WAND.] Also **gwaynds, 6 wanes, wannes, wandes** [Of obscure origin, the conjecture in some Dicts. that the word is a Da. *vand* (—ON. *vatn*) is inadmissible.

In view of the alternative designations quoted below, it seems not impossible that the word may represent OE **wang-rand*, regarded in from neighbouring *land*]

Only in *Orkneyl wands*, the roadstead off Harwich harbour, now known as the Rolling Grounds and Pitching Grounds' (R. G. Marsden in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XXI. 96).

**14** , *Sailing Directions* (Hakl Soc) 72 Fro Orfordsnesse to Orwell waynes the course is southwest **1564** *Stade Papers Hen VIII*, I 272 Where we lay in Orwell wanes. *a* **1594** SIR H WILLOUGHBY in Hakluyt *Voy* (1589) 268 The 15 day being at Harwell we stayed our ankers and went foorth into the wands about two miles from the towne.

**Wandschott,** obs. north. ? WAINSCOT.

**Wandsman** (wɒ·ndzmăn). [f. gemit. of WAND *sb.* + MAN *sb.*¹] An official who carries a wand or rod; ? a verger (VERGER ¹ 2) of a cathedral. Cf. WAND-*bearer*.

**1886** W G PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. ix. 109 After passing between files of wandsmen and swordsmen, Arabs and negroes, we entered on a small court **1906** *Times* 10 May 3/6 The wandsmen of St. Paul's Cathedral. **1912** JEROME *John*

*Ingerfield* v 210 Setting the robe of a passing wandsman, he inquired if the Bishop had yet left the Cathedral

**† Wandsomely,** *adv. Obs. rare*—1. In a wandsomdly. [f. *wand,* WONDER *v.* + SOME + -LY.²] Reluctantly, falteringly.

1 1400 *Morte Arth* 4022 The waye unto Wynchestre bay wente at the gayneste, Wery and wandsomdly, with wondride knyghtes.

**Wandy** (wɒ·ndi), *a.* [f. WAND *sb.* + -Y.]

**† 1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1622 COTGR., *Baguettieux*, wandie, full of rods, wands, or switches.

**2.** Resembling a wand, long and flexible. *rare.*

1885 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Wandy*, long and flexible; likea wand 1880 I ANIER *Poems, On a Palmette* 3 To where expands His wandy circlet with his bladed bands Dividing every wind

**3** *dial.* (See quots.) [Possibly a different word, directly f *wand-* to turn: see WEND *v.*]

1824 CARR *Craven Dial.* 9 He wor a mortal nice wively wandy beast 1896 *Mrs Worth's Class* I. v., 'A wandy body is a person one would consider stout, but who is well-built and active.

**Wane** (wēn), *sb.*¹ Forms: **1 wana (wona,** also **won),** 2– **wane,** 2–5 (7 6) **wone,** 3–8 **wain,** 3 **wan,** 5 **woon,** 5– **wane.** [Obs. *wana* (*wæna*) wk. masc. (also *wan* str. neut.) want, lack, deficiency, referred to the adj. *wana* (*wan*, etc.), see WANE *a.* Compare Du. *wane* lackage, also the slack or unfilled part of a sack, Goth. *wan* str. neut. lack.

The development of meaning in branch II is due to the influence of the related verb WANE, with which the existing noun became associated to a certain extent. In some applications actions must new formation from the stem of the verb may have taken place]

**† 1.** Want, lack, shortage, absence *of* Obs.

c888 *K. ELFRED Boeth.* lxxiv § 9 Hit nan mon ne mæg eall habban þæt him to sie sumes þinges wone. c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II 400 Ane Singc. Ne is wana [Mark x 21 cf. *Ags. Gosp.* an ting þe is wonn (*where* wana *is a fy*)]. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 *Defectio omnis mali. Habundancia omnis boni* wone alle uuele wolt and alle gode. c1205 *Lay.* A. 68 Þe treowe is mislicnesse, þa wikele ore falsen en, and wone of wihtnesse. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vii 30 Wepinge liveth myn wonges wet, I-wiked werk ant wone of wit! 13.. *Sir Beues* (A) 3343 Þe wan, þe wone, þe wrake. *Arth. & Merl.* 3121 Of feaunce, pertes & of crane per was plente & no wane. a 1400 *Sir Ione Degre* 322 The Cocke, the Corlewe, and the Crane, With fesauntes fayre, there were no wane. c 1445 *Cursor M* 5387 (Trin.) haute of breed þat itha tale was ouer al pe world so wide But in no londe so mychel wan As in egipte & canaan

**† b.** Lack, fault, defect *Obs rare.*

a 1000 *Age Glass* in Wr Wulcker 223/1 *Dispendium*, wonung, won, wana *uel* henþa c 1320 *Cast Love* 229 God ne wrouhte neuer þet þing þat out les þorw his wonyng flor me ne wone on hun I long c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix (*Paul*) 867 Blowm and bewte but wane or smyt of sawle and body togedir kept Gower *Conf* II 309 Thilke saete, Whos beaute was without wane, This faire Maiden Adriane.

**† c.** Omission, shortening. *Obs.* (Cf. SCANT *a.*)

c 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* i 254 Pe wordes scholle be lasd Wiþ oute wane and eche

**† 2.** Need, want, poverty. *Obs*

a 1200 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* i 3565 *Inopiam*, wonan *o* lass *Oxcr R* 109 God hit wot, mi wunne oðer wot lutel of þese eese suh beoð ful ofte idernad mid wone, & mid scheome, & mid teone c 1230 *Halt Meid* 29 And tah þu wone hefdest, oðer derfdest an dæi þeos deorewurðe hunie. a 1250 *Wohunge Of Ure L.* 7 Þu þe wolt þe sunnen wel þe wone

**3** The amount by which a plunk (*esp* one sawn from an unsquared trunk), or a roughly squared log, falls short of a correctly squared shape. Hence, the bevelled edge left on a plank (by reason of one face being narrower than the other), or the imperfect angles of a rough hewn log (the section of which is thus octagonal, and, according to the size and depth of the 'wanes', approaches, more or less, nearly, a regular octagon)

1682 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 When they do hew any timber they allow nothing for the wanes. *Ibid* Here seldome hew higher to square in this Countrey, then that the four wanes are as broad as the four flats, all which are equal to a square piece of the breadth of one of those wanes, although those wanes be less in some pieces then in other, yet will they be of no service so deep as the deepest wane goes. 1721 W SUTHERLAND *Shipwright Assist* 9, I shall describe the General Rules in measuring Timber, which is to see that the 4 Wanes be but equal to two squares 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit* § 814 The whole of the materials to be provided and sawed out square free from wane of the several scantlings and thicknesses herein specified 1875 LAMBERT *Timber* 121 75 All the thick stuff and plank to be cut straight, or nearly so, and of a really thickness, and to be measured for breadth at the middle, or half the length, taking in half the wanes *Ibid* 1111 The trees are hewn into a square form, and have a small amount of wane left upon each angle

**† b.** *Comb.*

1682 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 133 Hath not he that buyeth wane timber, that the wanes run not straight, as much need, and as much reason to have allowance for the wanes. 1710 HILMAN *Timber Reduc Apr* (1734) 44 The Seller of the Timber loses all the Cant of the Wane edges; which Cant in short is a Chest, altho' a very customary one.

**II.** Action of waning

**† 4. Decrease** in size. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 1430 Euer stod þai [le þre wandis] still in air, Wit outen wan, wit-outen wast (*Gött*, *Fairfax*, WANE, *Trin* wonde). 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 104 Not thilke See which hath no wane Is cleped the gret Occeane

**5** The waning, or fractional decrease of the visible illuminated area on the moon. Now *rare* exc. in phrases, *on, upon* the *wane, in (the, her, its) wane.*

1548 *Elyot's Dict* s. v. *Senex, luna senescens*, the moone when it is in the wane 1561 EDEN *Art of Nauigc* ii. 29 b, The decreasyng or wane of the Moone 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grenuile* (Arb.) 50 The siluer Moone, That with the floods fills vp her horned head And by her wanne the wayning elbs doth keepe 1608 [LOPTE] *Aristotle's Nat* iii (1618) 38 They easily might espy How she [the moon] grew in the full, how in the waine 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II E 4 When the Moone, by which the Seas are gouern'd, Retir'd his waters by her powerfull wane 1720 WATTS *Pr. Wisd. Prosp. Beauty* 72 Each Night, a Bit drops off her Face, When Mortals say she's in her Wane 1726 POPE *Odyss* XIX 332 When the pale Paniers of yon starry train In the next month renews her faded wane 1838 WORSWICK *Soum't Tide Hist* 8 Von Moon Dobly depressed, setting, and in her wane 1840 KEATS *Lamia* I, 236 She, like a moon in wane, Faded before him 1865 DASENT *Gisli Soursson* vii. Post Obit 112 I like the old moon began to sink (Long, like her, upon the wane).

**b** *transf.* and *fig.*

1633 P FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* vi lxxi Can One onely blot so great a light empaire, That never could he hope his waning to repair? Ah I never could he hope on earth to see great a wane, should not that new born Sun Adopt him [etc.] 1639 DU VERGER *Somm' Admon Parents* 11 Now the Moone II 8 rard in the third quarter of the wayne of her liberty 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr* ii. 119 I like the Moon That's part the full, into the wane goes 1899 FITZGERALD *Omar* lxxiv, Ah, Moon of my delight who know'st no wane

**c.** The period characterized by the waning of the moon, *esp* regarded as a favourable, or unfavourable, time for various (usually agricultural) operations. Usually in phr *in (at,* etc.) *the wane of the moon,* rarely unqualified, *in the wane*

1563 FOXE *Acts & Mon.* (1596) 1000 And therefore will, that the rost be digged vp in the wane of the Moone: she then being vnder the earth 1573–80 LYLY *Euph* (1868) 88 Some reason, that the sap in the wane of the Moone 1577 B GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* iv. 66 b, Yet those are that I take counsel that yet you sowe them in the wane they will be the smaller 1632 WITHERS *Mist Philar* 53 In part before & after the Full, and in the wane, and the wane of the Moone 1651 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Du* (1668) 4 Seed sown at the wane of the Moon grows either not at all, or to no purpose 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 21 To cut Hay in the Wane, causeth baldness 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 449 As for Garden flowrs, they are usually set between November and February, but in the wane of the Moon 1883 WEYMAN *Il eatherecats* 42 In Suffolk it is considered unlucky to kill a pig in the wane of the moon

**6.** Gradual decrease or decline in splendour, power, importance, intensity, or the like, esp. in following on the culmination of a period of gradual increase; the declining period (of a person's life, an institution, etc.), the latter part (of a period of time) Phrases as in 5.

Quot c1375 perh belongs rather to b

c 1375 *Cursor M* 3584 (Fairf) Quen alle wittes was him gane I pe wit of wisdam, pe wan of wone Hi wonder [Trin 18807] 67 Who seeth nought herein his wit is in the wane 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 284 Thou which art queen in the wane of thy life, in an hot house what profite [etc.] 1593 SHAKES *1 & 2 Hen* VI, Ep. 8 In the wane and declination of Christian piette 1601 F GODWIN *Bps of Eng* 431 The Church by them attained to the highest pitch of the ones and intermission, 1612 W. LITHGOW *Trav* iii *xoth Rich Hist Mod's Comm* App 1 61 His credit is on the wayne 1647 LILLY *Chr-Astrol* cxxxv 821 Doubtfulness it will be a yeer of some wonder and admiration, be one mis hiefe ariseth in the wane of another 1657 HOWELL *Instr. Inst* I 13 The Authority of the Church was then in the wane 1660 R CARE *Trav's Vanity* 58 Christianity it self is in like very wayne here amongst us 1680 MORDEN *Geog Rect., Scot* (1685) 31 Towards the wane of the Roman Empire 1682 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit* I. 84 Nor Shimei's beard in the wane, he demanded the money of his lordships heir 1693 MRS HERBERT *Art one has by I still* v. (1704) 84, I should have lost my eye sight, and have been blind on the wane of her charms 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII xii 106 Signora Mencia was still in fashion, though a little on the wane 1833 J. FULLERTON *Hist* (1839) IV 321 Alva, and the wane of mind consequent on 1832 JAMES *Hist Augustus* XXV, In the wane of September, when days are hot and evenings are chilly 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, I had my wane in the city when its wane, and still she slept on a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xxiii V 321 A sign that the influence of Portland was on the wane and that the influence of Oxford was in the ascendant 1883 *Law Times* 6 Apr 4/1 It is quite possible that his power may be on the wane 1899 *Athenæum* 5 Aug 161/1 The Revival of Learning is on the wane

**7.** Phrases, *to be on the wane* = 5 above; *to be on the wane* = 6 above. **wanwys.** See also WONE *sb.*² [Early ME. *wōne*, also *wōne* (with open *o*), whence the synonymous WONE *sb.*² The word belongs to the Teut root **wan-* · **wonn-*, which expresses the twofold notion 'custom' and 'dwelling', the precise source is uncertain.

The form **wane** of the root is otherwise known only in the sense 'custom' (ON **vani** wk masc., custom, Ob. **wynnan** WEAN *v.*, **—wanjan**), while the weak grade **wonn-** has both senses (OE. **gewunna** wk masc., custom, WONE *sb.*¹ ON **unn**, OE **wunian** to dwell, WONE *v.*) There may have been an OE **wanna** (or -*e*) with the sense 'dwelling', or the word may be a ON **vane** in an unrecorded sense, or with change of sense due to the influence of WONE *v.*, which meant both 'to be accustomed' (cf. WONT) and 'to dwell'.

# WANE.

After the 14th c. the form **wane** is exclusively Sc and northern. WONE *sb.*², which in the north was rare, was common in midland and southern use, and survived as a poetic archaism until the 19th c.]

A dwelling place, residence, house (freq. of religious communities, etc.). Often *pl* with reference to one building, or group of buildings.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Ant ne schal nan unwiht wunien ihe wanes þer ich murzhnien o þeostre hirne Inne a 1250 *Cursor M* 8667 In wanes war we stad sin wide, And had we bare we war rade c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14554 Pe Saxons ledde þa Anfuskan, & destruyed be Cristen wane [*v.r.* wayes] c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi (*Joannes*) 727 & nahwayt me þe welful stede quilum he þe fare palace has mad & set on a hill 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. A* VII 118 & sal ennad prestes stunys wele, Na Scottis þi-in nouȝ þinne thar suld bid 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX iii 91 His forest, to fugityve Troianis Thyr best beildwart wod and fruityve wanys 1568 *Inuna Gow Vy* (Hunt. Cl. Lond.) 63 Ane wyld wyndlestrae, in ane echo went, Most besy by to beild [1820 *Mavisaden of Clyde* xxii in *Edin. Mag* VI 443 A dowie sicken frae his austrous een Gar'd wanes to the dowy dwine]

**b** In the obscure allitterative phrase *worthy (wynsheful, wise)* in *wone* Cf. WONE *sb.*¹

The sense may have originally been 'in the dwellings of men, among men'. Cf similar uses of TOWN

a 1400 *Sir Degrev* 431 Sir Degrevant sayd that wis in with wone, 'Ihe have well god mene ȝowre 1400 *Antrs of Arth* 2 In Wirkyngton, Wyse, Wayndour I schow sayȝe, Pou worthy in with wonel 1400 *Morte Arth* (Vernon) 1479 Spike makes haue I knawen and sene, Pat had myne grace of prophecy I an euer lodur to had I, And ȝit be while boyȝ was sette, Pe wyse, wynsheful wone to gete 1450 *Merl* 4 (1110 72) In *Pe Land Ah* I 377 It is a kind most worthyest in wone, Pele Gates is his name

**† Wane,** *sb.*³ *Obs.* Forms **2 wone, 2–3 wane, weane, 3 wone wone, 4 wan, woon.** [perh an extension (starting from the inflected forms) of OE. **wōn** sb. masc. meaning 'lack' in **wōn-hād** *adv* and *sbst.* ill, WOE, or of OL. **wōtwa** wk masc. misery, may have influenced the forms, but cf. *fone*, etc. extended forms of FEW *a* which are [homologically very similar.] Misery, woe

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 151 in *O. E. Hom.* I 169 Eure he walde her inne wawe and wone and wrenche and wanȝ þet he mihte telle pe liðes [*v.r.* Cleop. Lay 2198 Hro uteuelen hiort wepmin wone wes on fi ke *Ibid* 2201 & him self mid wone [*v.r.* wonȝinge] ferde to þa water. c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2655 Ieo cuðhes weoren unwemmet, þa he wane ihoo wes ȝemeðe c1205 *Lay.* A. 114 Al þet fles hi þer cnhoȝ sur oðer bitter, þet es, tine & wone & tene, & alle meseȝe c 1230 *Halt Meid* 9 Wi ridliche is meidhad to leoden mid unimete sinfulnesse & mid unimete wone þrin, & wnimete rune c 1330 *Assig of Lazy* 66 Þeyu, Let me knowe what dyȝese A tirraunt for to take For Mi3e3 love Alysaundre 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I 419 Kyng Ferrygern sat on pe wiue side, and was wel ful of woon [*L Vertiger sedet ad uxor*]

*b. Comb* † **wan-, † wen-nis,** misery, † **wanslaht,** slaughter.

1205 *Lay* 5499 Þa Crucches neoren noht warre of heore wen nisse þe ȝeȝȝ mu hele harmel. *Ibid* 10 8 Al þa stalt worþen to wanen, & wonien in wanslahte c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 *Ibid* 9520 Þuen wit swulten to sonne, & mid fehten hit to-dælen, maken wen slahtes

**† Wane,** *a. Obs.* Forms **1 wana, wona** (also **wan,** won), 2–3, **5 wone,** 3–4 **won,** 4, 5 **woon,** 2–7 **wane,** 5 **wane,** 4–6 (9 *dial.*) **wan.** [OL. **wana, wona,** usually indeclinable, rarely weak (also **wan, won** str adj) OS., MLG., MDu., Flemish **wan,** ON. **vanr** r (cf **Wan** *sb.* and **Wan** *v.*, Goth. **wans** 5 —OI tut **vanus**-, pooh, f. Indoger manic root ***wā** as in *L vanus*-, VAIN *a.*]

**1.** Lacking, absent, deficient.

c 825 [*Vesp A* i 81 xxxii] *Ic wana wes mid þæm wordum þæt* [*Vulg. inutilis est*] 971 *Lichf Hom* 131 Aerþon he þe (*sc.* Dubten) on hofenas, astige, þonon he nacre wan wes þirih his godcundnesse mihte c 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xxv 8 Sellað us of eowre ele, hwæt is me ȝyt wana? c 1178 *Lamb H* m 75 Þe Mon þet hauet þa ilke fif ping, mid hun he is leflal Mon, and if hun is ten þer of wana, he is unwitti 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Consc* 6098 Gyf þai wanted ani of þir fyue wittes þai ware wone [*v.r* wane] þer ase breos þreo beoð, mihte & wisdom & lure ineted to gederes c 1350 *Gen & Ex* 3353 Tullike hem was wone þer water. c 1390 *Cursor M* 20096 Gyf þai þerfi hers or redis hit Of ur leuedi and sant iohn þai benecun þan bes not wan [*Gött*, *Trin* won] *Ibid* 20846 For al weth sal þam be wan [*Gött*, *Fairf* wane *Trin* wone] c 1395 *Mandeville* 299 In Horsim *Altengl Leg* (1878) 299 When it no milk gete mip, ȝe fader 1403 *Pallad. on Husb* v wane] c 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8319 Let now no god wille be wane, Bot help to venge my fader bane! 13.. *Gaw & Grene Knt* 493 For he zerned zelping to here, Pay hym wordes were wane, when I ay to sete wenten 1389 in *Engl Gilds* (1870) 30 And qwo-so be wane, schal paye a pound of wax. c 1400 *26 Pol Poems* II 61 Mo thenkep pere wit is wane Ito straiȝe the hony c1440 *Promp Parv* 515/1 Wane, or wantynge, *absens, decrescens* c 1475 *Vanklind* 432 in *Macro Plays* 16 He [Mercy] hath taught Mankynde, wyll I [Myschefe] have

be vane, To fyght manly a-geyn hys fon. *c* 1500 Skelton *Why not to Courte?* 917 Ye must weare bukram, Or canuas of Cane, For sylkes are wane.

2. Destitute of.

*a* 800 *Christ* 970 Þæt we tires wone a butan ende scolon ermþu dreogan. *c* 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 He hiß wana þæs eacan leohtes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 He nis noht fullliche erlsenne mon þet is awiit wone of hisse þreo þing. *c* 1430 *Christ's cross Complaint* 427 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 217 Alle bestes ...in kindeli worchynge ben durable Saaf oonly I, of witits wan.

3. With numerals, etc.: Short of. Used to express numbers (one or two) less than a complete decade.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxiv. (Schipper) 312 Oþ þæt hyrm daga rim xefylled wæs, þæt is anes xsares wana (*tvv.* won(a) þe) xytisra wintra. *a* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 972 He wæs þa ana wana xehr. wintra. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 67 A meiden awiðe þung of þreas tuu wone of twenti. 13.. *Virgy. Wicod.* 439 in *Archiv. Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 329 Alle wane of fourty strakes with yherd he sall be anyten. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 72 Þe gude herde, þat lefte in þe munte ane wane of a hundreþ sep and yede to seke þis ane þat was wont. *a* 1500 in *Bernardus de Cura* etc. 32 Be the yheris of cryst comyn and gone, Fully nynty and nyne, nocht one wone.

4. Incomplete; not fully formed, or properly shaped. Of the moon: Not full.

1598 Sir G. Hayr *Lawe Armz* (S.T.S.) 76 Quhen it [the moon] is full, all thingis..ar mare forsy...na quhen it is wane. 1598 Dowman *Pilgrim* 58 Wan wraiglane wasp. 1883 Jamieson, *A wane tree* is a tree that has not 'grown in a circular form', or that is not filled up on one side. . . Berwicks.

5. Insufficient, (too) small. *rare.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3046 Hit rose for þe nonest was nobly shappyn,..Nawther to wyde ne to wan, but as hom well a-myt. 1624 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1878) III. 164 [They] hayve thair staiple guids quhen the samin does come to the staiple port at ane wane entertait.

**Wane** (wēn), *v.* Inflected waned, waning. Forms: *a.* 1 **wanian**, 2–3 **wanie-n**, 3–4 **wanye**, 5 **wan3e**, 4–7 **wayne**, 5 **wan**, 6–7 **waine**, 6–9 **wain**, 7 **wean**, 3– **wane**. *β.* 1 **wonian**, 3–4 **wone**. Also with prefix, 1– **a-**, 2–4 **i-**. [OE. *wanian* (*wpnian*) wk. vb. to lessen (*trans.* and *intr.*) = OHG. *wanôn*, MDu. *wenteⁿ*, *wanen*, OS. *wanon*, OHG. *wandn*, *wanên* (*wanen*), intr., ON. *vana* trans., *vana-it* to grow less (Norw. *vana* to spoil, waste), Goth. **wanan* (cf. *wanains* less, ἔνδεια, Rom. xi. 12) :—OTeut. **wanôjan*, **wanēⁿian*, f. **wano-* lacking, Wane *a.*]

1 *intr.* To grow less, decrease. (Opposed to *wax.*).

1. To decrease in size or extent; to dwindle. Now *rare.* † Also with pleonastic complement, *to wane less, too little.*

*Beowulf* 1697 Þa þæt sweord ongan æfter heaþowate hildeiscelum, wigbil wanian. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 349 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 229 Ich wondri hou his taperes bernez þus: and ne wanie nouȝt. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4771 Þis was a wonder to þe full werk...þat þai [two trees] suld wax soo & wane within a wale time. 14.. *20 Pol. Poems* xix. 44 Þy vices waxen mon, And þy vertues wanen lesse. 1584–7 Cheyne *Gord of Fracie* (1903) O 4 b, The tree forthwith waineth and withereth. 1647 Fuller *Gd. Th. Worst T.* iii. ix. 141 [A disease] Wherein the Head waeneth too great, whil'st the Legges and lower parts waine too little. 1657 Howell *Hist. Indian Sci.* (1857) I. 228 Fruits and animals wax and wane. 1675 Jowett *Plotin* (ed. 2) I. 444 That which grows is said to wax, and that which decays to wane. 1698 *Black Horse* 4 Jan. 8/2 When the width of an Empire may wax and enlarge Or shrivel and wane with the fate of a charge.

† b. To grow less in number. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 98 Þat bi hom saolde vnder stonde & lene hom wimmen þat hii mixte hor ospring eche so. Vor þing þat wonie & nobing wexþ sone it wolþ ido. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1645 Now haue I lost lyng Mordake. And othre lynges manye ..Now my folkes dop þus wanye, y-lost ys myn honour.

† c. To grow less in quantity or volume. Of the sea, water: To subside, ebb. *Obs.*

*c* 1290 *St. Laurence* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 342 Þis tresour ..ne schal neuere wanie, ake euere wexe faste. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 496 How þat watteres were woned & þe worlde dryed. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. de P. de Propr.* xviii. (Tollemache MS.) Physicions telleþ þat blood waneþ by age ([L. *sanguinem minui per etatem*). *Ibid.* xiii. xxiii, When þe mone is in þe lower corse water begynneþ to wanye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 204 It (ac. the flood] is wanand, þis wate I wele. 1456 Sir G. Hayr *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 76 The mannis harnis is full in the full mone and als full see, and wanis as the see. *c* 1570 Celia Fiknes *Diary* (1888) 260 This great water seemes to flow and wane with ye wind. but it does not Ebb and flow Like the sea with the tyde. 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xl, The snow, which had been for some time waning, had given way entirely under the fresh gale of the preceding night. The more distant hills, indeed, retained their snowy mantles, but all the open country was cleared.

2. Of the moon: To undergo the periodical decrease in the extent of its visible illuminated portion, characteristic of the second half of the lunation.

1571 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 Þonne se mona wanað, þonne tacnað he unc þeȝhwilcnesse. *a* 1000 *Riddles* 16 Þe mine wæstm wexeð & woneð, & nis neaxr studeniest. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2077 And vnderneathe her feet she hadde a moone, Wexyng it was, and sholde wanye soone. *c* 1440 *Alphon. Coll.* (1825. Ashm. 391), Whyn it is an hoole which shew⁹ by similitude how þe moone wexeþ and waneþ [*read* waneþ: *see* Wane v. 2]. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 4 But oh, methinkes, how slow This old Moon wanes. 1601 *Sonp of Mary* in Fair *S. P. Elis.* (1845) II. 428 Her sunne doth neuer cliper nor cloude; Her moone doth neuer wax nor wane. 1782 J. Kennedy *Compl. Syst. Astron. Chron.* 728 The validity of the sacred writings never can be denied, while the moon shall encrease and wane. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 232 From New Moon the illuminated portion of our satellite waxes, or increases in size, till Full Moon, and then wanes, or diminishes, to the next New Moon.

3. Of light, colour, luminous or coloured objects: To decrease in brilliance or splendour; to become faint or dim. Also (*nonce-uses*) with pleonastic complement, *to wane faint, grey.*

*c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* xix, Æfter þissum tidum sona cymð se æfensang. & þæs dæges leoht þonne eac wanoð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1107 Manege sædon þæt hi on þam monan, midtlice tacna þeawxon, & ongxan cymde his leoman wexende & waniende. 1832 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* iv, The pale yellow woods were waning. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. i. vi. 31 It has waxed faint and again waxed bright. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* x, The light waned without, it grew dusk, became quite dark. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* xxxiii, The candles waned grey, and the great light streamed in through every crack and cranny. 1888 Meredith *Reading of Earth* etc. 118 Remote they [ac. the stars] waned.

*fig.* 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. i, The royal tournaments which were however waning from their ancient lustre. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 6. 415 The old splendour of her Court waned and disappeared.

4. Of a person, nation, institution: To decline in power, importance, prosperity, or renown.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iii. 30 Hit gehyrap þæt he weaxe, and þæt he wanige. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 16991 Þat heorte wes gon waxen and Brutten gunnen wenden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 924 Iurselem was struid an [ban] ban pair kingrik for to wan. 1513 Sir T. Hawkins *Honours* (1614) 1255 Pay wil waxe & we schal wanye. *a* 1608 Lo. Brooke (F. Greyil) *Hum. Learn.* lxviii, And as by artlesse Guides, States euer waine: So doe they where these vaclesse dreamers reigne. *a* 1637 T. Taylor (*Water-Poet*) *Works* I. xxvi. (1630) 51 That was the first shake that ever this kingdome received..whereby it began to waine and decline. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* III. 31 *Ven.* I'm waning in his favour, I love him. 1690 Locke *Educ. Thoughts* Pref. (R 2) b, The inseparable affinity that is.. at all times between Land and Trade, which are Twins, and have alway and ever will wax and wane together. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* x. ii. (1874) 51 When Popery was waning in France, in the days of Louis XIV. 1880 Hawthorne *Transformation* I. 'People are waning to decay and ruin. 1888 Peard *Water-farm.* I. 7 Pisciculture began to wane. 1895 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 Plato..had seen the Athenian empire wax and wane. 1898 Fiske *Amer. Conq.* V. xxiii. 489 The ban took effect, because the institution was already waning.

b. To decline in vigour, to age. *rare.*

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 1 Even Miss Sabrina Hookie, ..though now waned from her meridian,..set herself to learn and to teach tambouring. 1899 J. Milne *Romance of Two-cents* xix. 208 Sir George Grey, as he waned under the growing load, realised that he and Greater Britain would be no more together.

8. Of qualities, conditions, activities, feelings, power, etc.: To become gradually less in degree, to decline in intensity, abate.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8488 Þat wiþinne was sorwe inou hor poer wanede noute. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol., All gladnes & delite of erth wanys & at þe last wyces to noght 1377 Langl. *Piers Pl. B.* xv. 3 And so my wittes wex and waneyed til I a fole were. *c* 1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 46 Thy wittis fyve sall waxe, thocht thow nocht wald. 1599 Hayward *Life Hen. IV* 140 Whilest the sonne of Kings power was waining, and the other not yet fully wexen. 1640 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* to Nor waynes my grief, but still encreases more. 1693 Congreve *Love for Love* iii, Your love will encrease more, when mine wanes. 1718 Freke *Gen. Rome* (1813) I. 3 A universal love and obedience, which in time waned into a total extinction among the tribes of ferocious and untamed wanderers. 1876 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* I. I. 161 The influences which for good private character..according as it had been rapidly waning. 1903 Mary L. Bruce *Anna Swanwick* v. 184 The precious hours passed, and the still more precious physical strength waned. 1904 R. H. Hutton *Bp. Chas. Wordsw.* lxxiv. II. 278 Gradually his enthusiasm for the Protestant cause waned.

6. Of a period of time: To draw to its close. Usually with association of sense 4.

1590 in Segar *Honor Milit. & Civ.* (1602) 198 But spurnd in vaine, youth waineth lyy encreasing. 1766 Golden. *Vicar W.* xxii, As I walked but slowly, the night waned space. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 186 But soon the night waned to the end, and the loud trumpets' blare from broken sleep Roused them. 1851 Mantell, *Petrifactions* iv. § 5. 405 A solitary genius of a race..whose term of existence seems but waning to its close. 1893 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, The day waned into a gloomy evening, overcast and sad. 1895 Miss Baldwin *Sir Jasper's Tenant* iii, The summer waned slowly, very slowly for that quiet dweller in Scarsdale Hermitage. 1903 'S. G. Tallentyre' *Voltaire vii.* (1906) 80 The year waned in such studies.

**II.** *trans.* To cause to decrease.

† 7. To lessen, diminish, abridge (a privilege, right, etc.). *Obs.*

*a* 885 *Charter of Ælfred* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 452 Ond swa hwylc mon swa hio wonie & breoce, ȝeswonie him god þinahlig his worldcundes and eahtȝ twa his sawle are. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxiii(i). 33 Oft ic wirum dol wife abelge, wonle hyre willan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe oreguil and þe wræðe of kinges and of heremen, wurrð uppe churches oðer wanieð hire rihtes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1208, I aught as prynce him to prise for his prouese, That wanyt noght my wourschip, as he that al was. *a* 1628 Lo. Brooke (F. Greyil) *Hum. Learn.* cxviii, And of these Arts it may be said againe, That since their Theoricks is infinite; Of infinite there can no Arts remaine...Their Theoricke then must not waine their vse.

† 8. To empty, render vacant. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Dos word sæde þe angel for þat man sholde fulullen engliene sete þe was er iwaned þo þe lucifer and his ferroden fellen ut þarof.

† 9. To come short of, lack. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1291 Quen hert has þat it will wias þe bodi mai haue nanar bliss, Ne nanar wa þan will to wan. *Ibid.* 14098 Bot þai are .. Als a clim or brasin bell, Þat nojper can vnderstand ne tell Wat takens þair ann sune, Þat witt bath wanis and reune.

10. *To wane away*: to cause to wane away, to diminish gradually. Also *refl.* of the moon (*nonce-use*), to wane away.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiv. xv. II. 198 Special remedie for ruptures, convulsions, and pluresies: it waneth away the overgrowne spleene. 1797 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 4 Proud once and princely was this mansion, now a succession of spendthrifts waned away its splendour. 1887 Jean Ingelow *Tired tv.* And let that moon of April wane itself away.

b. *nonce-use.* To cause (the moon) to wane.

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 46 The hidden hand which wanes the moon and ebbs the tide.

**Wane**, obs. f. Vain *a.*, Wan *a.*, Wain *sb.*1, Wean *v.* and *sb.*, When; north. f. Wone *sb. Obs.*; obs. pa. t. of Win *v.*

**Waneand**, var. Wanand *Obs.*

† **Waneasse**, *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also **wanels**(e. [f. Wan- + Ease *sb.* Cf. Unease.] Uneasiness, vexation. Hence **Waneise** *v. refl.*, to put oneself to trouble (Jam. 1808).

*c* 1585 *Dumb Wyff* 116 in Laing *Sel. Rem. Pop. Poetry Scot.* (1822). We dewillis can na wayis lait hir : Ellis think ȝe tynk your self to waneis. 1778 *Herd's Scott. Songs* II. 214 O wally fa' ta' the cat ! For she has bred muckle waneasse.

**Wane-cloud.** *Meteorol.* [f. Wane *sb.*] or *v.* The name meant to be assigned by the compound was perh. 'a cloud in process of waning or becoming smaller.']

A cirro-stratus cloud.

1883 T. Forster *Res. Atmosph. Phenomena* I. § 6 (ed. 3) 78 Of the Cirro-stratus or Wane-cloud.

**Waned** (wēnd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wane *v.* + -ed 1.] That has waned; diminished, decreased.

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. vi. 4 Once more I shall enterchange My waned state, for Henries Regall Crowne. 1640 J. Gower *Orders Fraters* II. 35 Ten times the Moon her waned light did gather. 1820 Scott *Lady of Lake* II. xxiii, Not so prond Was I of all that marshall'd crowd, Though the waned crescent own'd as my device, As proud Lord Lovaine. *Lay* I. xxii, Like an aged mourner..who is watching the waned moon and sorroweth not. 1826 Keats *Endym.* II. 482 When our love-sick queen laid by her timbrel and waned corse.

**Wanehope**, var. Wanhope *Obs.*

**Wanelasour**, var. Wanlasour *Obs.*

† **Waneless**, *a. Obs.* [f. Wane *sb.*1 or *v.* + -less.] Not liable to waning.

1591 Sylvester *Little Bartas* 216 She (the Moon), Waxless, Wane-less, doth both wane and wax.

**Wanen**, -ene, var. Whenne, *Obs.*, whence.

**Waneso(h)ot**, -**skot**(e, obs. ff. Wainscot.

**Wanesse**, var. Wanze *v. Obs.*

**Wanest, Wanet**, obs. Sc. ff. Vanished, Vaunt.

**Wanetreuht**: see Wantrouth.

**Wanewerd**, -**writ** : see Wanweird, Wanwit.

**Waney** (wē·ni), *a.* Also 7, 9 **wany**, 7 **wainny**, **wayney**, 9 **wainy**. [f. Wane *sb.*1 + -y.] Of unsquared or imperfectly squared timber : Having wanes (see Wane *sb.*1 3) or natural bevels at the angles. Hence, of an angle or edge : consisting of wane.

1626 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 When they do hew any timber, they leave it so wany,that..they leave it nearer round then square. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 120 Joyners or Carpenters, prove commonly somewhat Wainny upon their upper sides. 1880 *Builder* 21 Jan. 46/2, I have found a difference..of from five to seven per cent., according as timber was squared or wany. 1896 *Act* 39 & 40 *Vict.* c. 80 § 24 Any square, round, waney, or other timber. 1898 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 773/1 The pine prepared for exportation is made into squared timber..; or into waney timber (as it is called when only partially squared or flatted). 1888 Hust *Stand. Timber Meas.* 237 The chord of the defective angle, or waney edge.

*In fig. context.* 1837 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. v. 34 As hard at the heart as a log of elm ; howsomever, said a third, I hope it wont be long afore he has the waney edge scored off of him, any how.

Hence **Waneyness**.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 140 The Joysts, ..strengthen their Bearing by so much as they project over the Roundness or Wayninness of the upper side of the Girder.

**Wanfar**, -**er**, var. f. Wamfler. *Sc.*

† **Wanfortune**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. Wan- + Fortune *sb.*] Misfortune.

*a* 1550 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 343 Seldyna ..bosy diligence Folowis with wanfortonys violence : Hot seldinar wanfourtonne þu deseuryr Sale fra swernes. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 2020, I trow wan-fortune brocht me hidir. 1721 [De Foe] *Sir. for D——se of Aruittonn* 10 Geen I have had the Wanfortune to believe also, That the Protender is the Q——'s Brother. *Ibid.* 14 Is it the wanfortune of a Prince to be legitimate.

**Wang** 1 (wŋg). Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wange**, **wenge**, **wenge**, **wonge**, 3–5 **wonge**(, 4–6 **wang**(e, (4 **woong**, 5 **wangge**, **wayngge**, **vange**, 7 **wongge**, 9 *dial.* **whang**), 7– *dial.* **wang**. [OE. *wang*, str. masc., *wange*, wk. neut., corresp. to OS. *wango* fem., MDu. *wange* (mod.Du. *waag* fem.), MLG. *wange* neut., fem., OHG. *wanga* neut. (MHG. *wange* neut., mod.G. *wange* fem.),

ON. *vange* wk. masc. (Norw. *vange*; Da. *vanger* pl. 'cheeks' of a press), Goth. **wagjō*, f fem. or neut. (whence *waggaresis* pillow = OE. *wangere*) :—OTeut. type **wangon-, -ōn-*. The further etymology is obscure; some regard the word as cogn. w. OE. *wang* field, WONG.

† **1.** The cheek. *Obs.*

*c* 1275 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 *Siſ* hwa þec slas on *Sint* swiþran wonge *uel* oeke þin. *c* 1200 *ÆLfric Saints' Lives* xxii. n. 356 þonna astrehte ic me sylfe on eorðan and þe wangas mid teðrum ofrugon. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 20 Smyre mid þy þæt wenge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1808 Adam fell don for-wit his fete And spak til him, wit wonges wete. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Nihtes when y wende and wake, for-thi myn wonges waxeth won. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 732 þe king bibeld þat old, How his wonges were wete. *c* 1325 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. ix. 3668 Quhill wepyt, quhill sichit wongys wete. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 273 Thy wordis makis me my wangges to wete.

**2.** A molar tooth : = WANG-TOOTH.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 121 Sire, werke wy the wangeres In his heed. 1901 P. E. TAYLOR *Bath Sp. S. Lanc.* (E.D.D.), *Wang*, a tooth ; *gen.* a back tooth.

**Wang**², **weng**, *s.w. dial.* [Of uncertain origin; possibly a var. of WING *sb.*, which in some dialects denotes a part of a ploughshare.]

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 117 The [plough-]beam... is seven feet long, furnished at the head with an horizontal and vertical graduated wang of rack-work. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Wang*, or *Weng*, A strong iron fixed to the front end of the beam [of a plough], having notches by which the end of the foot-chain...is adjusted,...as may be needful, according to the width of furrow desired...a. Of a cart—the iron loop or staple upon each shaft, to which is hooked on the chain of the vore-horse.

**Wang**, var. WONG *dial.*, field.

**Wangala**, variant of VANGLO.

1862 in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 124 *Wangala* (*Semnum orientale*, Linn.), seeds of. Yield a fine bland oil. Used in soups.

**Wangan**, variant of WANGUN.

† **Wangel**, aphetic f. of EVANGEL. *Sc.* and *north.*

*c* 1378 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 1401 þe buk of þe wangele. 1389 in Sir W. Fraser *Wemyss of W.* (1888) II. 24 in *Jr. & Q.* 9th Ser. IV. 438/2 Bath the partys forneumyt, the haly wangelis twechyt, the gret ath has wrorn. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6800 þe text of wangels fell in þe water. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 128 Ile law of nature and of the wangel. *a* 1568 in *Iternatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 118 So said Sanct Johine in his wangell. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 6 John Knox...Past like a lion round the land, And wi' the wangele in his hand.

**Wangelist(e, -yat**: see EVANGELIST.

† **Wanger.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wongere, wangere,** 4 **wonger(e, wanger**(e. [OE. *wangere* = OHG. *wangāri* (MHG. *wanger*), Goth. *wagnereis* :—OTeut. type **wangārjo-s*, f. **wangō-* cheek, WANG 1.] A pillow.

Speght (1600) explains the word (in Chaucer) as 'a male, or bouget, and this explanation appears in Kersey 1708 and later Dicts. and glossaries.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xiv. [xi.] (1890) 296 To þon þætte man slæpe þæs heafdes mid wongere bewerian. *Ibid.* Wongere bewerian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 174 *Cervical*, wangere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 201 His helpes hatten wisly wonger, wangere, wangere.].

**Wanghee** : see WRANGHEE.

**Wangle** (wæ'ngl), *v.*¹ *dial.* [Perh. an altered form of WAGGLE *v.*, due to the influence of the dial. *wankle* to totter (app. rare) or of its source WANKLE *a.* (OE. *wancol*) unsteady, tottering. Cf. Norw. *wangla* to roam about, (of weather) to be unsteady.] *intr.* Of a thing : To move loosely or shakily on its base or in its place of attachment. Of a person : To go unsteadily.

1820 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss., Wangle*, to totter or vibrate. See Junius in voce, wanckle. 1842 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant. Gloss., Wangle*, to be unsteady, totter. 1866 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, *Wangle*, the stem has come to its fall by a wall, building, &c. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Wangle*, to totter, to walk feebly. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Wangle*, to rock, or shake, noisily. 1878 C. P. MASON *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* Gloss., *Wangle*, to shake, to totter, to waver; to be in a sensitive state...EE.—Thoomun put it varry wangling (in setting a trap).

Hence **Wangling** *ppl. a.* (in quot. app. 'rambling'). Also **Wa'ngler.**

1869 G. J. CHESTER *Transatl. Sk.* 325 The old gentleman in the pulpit meanwhile drawling out a long, wangling, extempore prayer. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wangler*, an unstable person.

**Wangle** (wæ'ngl), *v.*² *slang* and *colloq.* [Of uncertain origin.

First recorded, as printers' slang, in 1888 ; current among soldiers in the war of 1914–18, and hence in general colloquial use. " There is no evidence of any connexion with the northerly dialect word WANGLE *v.*¹ Probably, like many other slang words, it was formed involuntarily, under the influence of an obscure sense of phonetic symbolism ; the suggestion may have come from WAGGLE *v.*]

*trans.* To accomplish (something) in an irregular way by scheming or contrivance ; to bring about or obtain by indirect or insidious means (something not obtainable openly) ; to manipulate, 'fake' (on account, report, prices). Hence **Wa'ngler,** one who 'wangles'. **Wa'ngling** *vbl. sb.*

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Wangle*, a slang term used by printers to express arranging or 'faking' matters to one's own satisfaction or convenience. 1922 *Standard* 10 July He denied that he had ever been asked by a driver to 'fake' a meter although he had heard banter in the garage about the 'wangling' of meters. 1927 *Edin. Rev.* July 45 No market is ever 'free' : probe it deep enough, and...monopolies will...be found, in many cases deliberately 'wangling' prices and limiting production to sustain them. 1927 *Bulletin* 28 Dec. 3/2 He had come in from the North Atlantic Cruiser Patrol, and when in home waters had 'wangled' a few days' leave. 1928 'B. CABLE' *Air Men o' War* xi. 143 He had been...planning...how to supply and keep a gat quickly through his training, and ways of wangling it to get to this Squadron. 1930 *Blackw. Mag.* June 799/1 We took it in turns to stay in the garden against the return of the motor wanglers.

† **Wangrace**¹, *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + GRACE *sb.*] Lack of grace, want of propriety.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis, Ex.lam. aqui. Detractouris* 13 Sum beyn sa frawart in malice and wangrace, Quhat is weill said that thai love nocht worth ane ace.

**Wangrace**², *Sc.* and *Anglo-Irish.* Also **-grease.** A kind of gruel. '

*a* 1733 in C. K. Sharpe *Ballad Bk.* (1823) 153, I gave him wangrace in his bed, And row'd the blankets round him. 1880 *Sc. Ferrone remark. Health & Longev.* 293 The sweat which he took...was what they call a wangrease in that country. It is made of oatmeal, flummery made very thin, sweetened with honey, and a lump of fresh butter. 1899 *Century Mag.* Oct. 959/1 'Ayes, an' a bowl f' wan-grease,' said Rosie, the maid, said—'that's what'll put the shiners th intil yer bones again.'

**Wang-tooth.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [WANG 1.] A cheek-tooth, molar.

*a* 1000 *Laws Ælfred* xliv. r Gif hit sie wongtoð, xxselle iiii scill. to bote. *c* 1000 *ÆLfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 157 *Molares, uel genuini*, wangteð. *c* 1425 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* (MS. Arundel 91) in Wright *Lect. & Essays* I. 178 *Genuini*, wange-teð [read -teþ ? *MS. Cantab.* wangeteth]. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xv. 19 And so the Lord opnede a woong tooth [1388 wang tooth ; 1611 augmentation] in the cheek bone of the asse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 54 And of this asses cheke, that was dreye, Out of a wang tooth sprang anon a welle. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 188 Hit is...betre ute my wang-teþ, þan I telle *Lady Angel.* 406/1 A Wayngie tothe [*v.r.* Wange tothe], *genuinus, maxillaris.* 1398 TREVISA *Higden* I. 167 Take them and cut away þe wang-teþ. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* 1. (1617) 79 His two tushes of his nether chappe, and the two wongue teeth of the same neat to the same. 1869 SOMERS. *Dict.* s.v. *Wang*, That old rime : And in witness that this is sooth, I bite the wax with my wang tooth. 1874 RAY *N. C. Words* s.v., The *Wang-tooth* ; the jaw-tooth.

**Wangun** (wæ'ngŭn). *U.S.* Also **wangan, wanigun, wammikin.** [Shortened from Montagnais Indian *atawangan*, I. *atawan* to buy or sell. Cf. Cree and Odjibwa *atawâgan*, 'ce dont on se sert pour acheter ou pour vendre' (Lacombe).] A receptacle for small supplies or a reserve stock ; esp., a boat or a chest containing outfit supplies for a lumber camp.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Wangun.* (Indian.) In Maine, a boat for carrying provisions. 1854 *Americana et Homo* (ed. Halibarton) III. 254 The boats appropriated for the removal of the whole company, apparatus, and provisions [of diversions], when loaded, are called 'wangans,' an Indian word....Among the dangers to be incurred...is that of 'running the wangun'...which...means the act of taking these loaded boats down river from station to station. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* XX. 451 Behind each regiment of logs follows the wangan—a small boat or barge with a canvass awning stretched over it, and the cook and supplies. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 150 The drive is accompanied by what is called a wammikin, consisting of a raft of square timber or long logs on which is built a comfortable shanty. 1912 S. F. WHITE *Arrow of Gold* I. xiii. [Lumbering.] Ordinarily on drive we have a wanigan...A wanigan's a big scow. It carries the camp and supplies to follow the drive.

b. *Transferred uses.*

1907 *Scribner's Mag.* Jan. 2/1 Now load up with the bundles and boxes, the tent,...the provisions—all that stuff that is known as 'duffel' in New York, and 'outfits' in French Canada and 'wangans' in Maine.

c. *attrib.*

1907 *Black Cat* June 19 An ancient Wangan-chest, relic of his father's river-days. 1908 S. E. WHITE *River Man* xv. 131 The provisions in the wangan-chest had to last a week. 1910 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 251/1

homewarde' *c* 1440 *Sir Amad* vii 45 We l Whythir now in wilde wyneand *Ibid* xxxiii 485 burth in þe wylde wanyand be wirkand *c* 1480 *Ipomedon Prol* 28 Wepe furth, in the wynyande ! 1509 More *Dyaloge London* 16 b, He wold of his high al bynde them to carles and bete them, and make them wed in the wanyand 1540 Parsh *Acolastus* II 1 I b, Go hens in to yl crowe 1 wilde or pycke the hens in the galowes name or in the wenisnd, or in the xx deuyll wyse 1570 Levins *Manip vocab* 150 Wenyant, *in malam crucem* b *With a wanyand* cf Wanion

1583-90 Pers *A & M* II 1311/2 The Pope sent into Fraunce Hildebrand, bys Cardin ul Chapleine , and made him with a wanyand to come agayne *eorum nobis*

**Wanigan,** var. Wangun.

**Waning** (wē·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wane *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb

1. *gen* Decrease or diminution in magnitude, importance, brilliancy, intensity, etc.

As OE *wanian* (Wanck.) had the trans. sense 'to make less' as well as the intr. sense 'to become less', the vbl sb had the two correspondent senses (as often occurs with nouns of action) the two are often practically coincident, and cannot be distinguished with certainty

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's H E* II iii (Sweet) 140 Nidres but in mielne wonunge hie weorðas (1) *non sine magno exercitus studiorum*] *c* 1375 *Sc Leg S Iohns xxxvi (John Baptist)* 9 Put tyme of be is ner hand, quhen he sal be tan takin, lanthynge & lohne, quhen bis tak wynnyng *c* 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A viii xl (Tollemache MS), This lyȝte with oute wanynge of it selfe schewep and schedep by a lustyge 1593 Shake *3 Hen VI*, v 6, 4 Suckes tend to waxe great by others wanning [*to Rowe ed*, *Folio* warning] 1633 P Fletcher *Purple Isl* xi lxx, Can (One onely blot so great a light obscure, that never could he lose his wanning to repaire) 1884 *Harper's Mag* July 260/2 The Cunnings' beauty was at the waning

*† Absol* 1583 Babington *Commandm* (1590) 439 Will not the dread of dolefull day strike such a filthy fault into the wanning, and by little and little cut quite the throte of it, and make it bleede to death in vs?

†b. Damage inflicted by a person *Obs*

*c* 1175 *Lamb Nostr* 278 in *Lamb Hom* 71 Kep us from his wanning, þat lape gast

†c. Default, shortcoming *Obs*

*c* 1320 *Cast Love* 298 in *Minor Poems fr Vernon MS*, 361 God ne wrouhte neuer þat þing þat out les þorw his wonyng, ffor nis no wone on him I long

2 Of the moon Periodical decrease in apparent size (see Wane *v.* 2), the half of the lunar month in which this takes place

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* III. 268/13 Æfre hi [*sc* seo sæ & se mona] heoh æfteran on wæstme & on wanunge 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* R xiii (1495) 396 b, he nature en creasyth all humours, and in her wonynge the humoure of the body ben made les & 14 *Lat-Eng Voc* in Wr-Wülcker 693/48 *Hec vacuo* [*sic*] wanynge of monyths *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* 1 820 In graffe and sowe in growynge of the mone, And kitte or mowe in wanynge, is to done 1657 J Watts *Scrole, Pharaxe* etc 87 Their light was as the light of the Moon, troubled with some spots subject to wanings, decreases and eclipses 1683 *Digby Choym Secr* II 198 The he t time to gather the Misletoe of the Oak is in the Waning of the Moon 1822 Imison *Sci & Art* I 437 The waning or decreasing of the moon takes place in the same manner, but in a contrary order

*Fig* 1824 Fuller *Worthies Devon* II xxi 138 He with many others helped to the waning of their half Moon, which sought to [] warn all the motion of our Sea

†b. with the epithet *wild* cf. Wanland.

*c* 1440 in Kingsford *Chron London* (1905) 75 In the croke off the mone went they thedirward, and in the wilde wanynge koun they homward

†3. Decline (of life) ; concluding part (of a day, or period of time) *Obs*

1561 J. Norton *Calvin Inst* III 269 Them, whom the tendre kindnes of the Lord hath rewarded at the waining of the daye, and at the ending of their life 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 159 In the waning of the world, whence so many false Christs are come 1592 Greene *Disput Coney-catchers* Wks. (Grosart) X 238 Being gotten in the wayning of my yeeres age, they doted on me almost to the rest [of their children] 1594 Nashe *Unfort Trav* (Ch) Let mee quietly descend to the wyning of my youthfull daies, and tell a little of the sweating sickenes

4 Comb. *waning time*

*c* 1630 Wotton *Life & D Buckingham* (1642) 3 There is nothing more jealous then a favorite, especially towards the wayning time and suspect of society 1680 C. Nesse *Chem & Hist* 134 The man is the emblesme of the church . as having her filling and weaning times

**Wa ning,** *ppl. a* [f. Wane *v.* + -ing 2.] That wanes or is on the wane.

1. Decreasing or declining in importance, power, influence, etc (See the senses of the vb)

1596 Shake *Tam Shr* III ii 63 Then beat ɔ I adie farre more Beautifull Then any woman in this waining age

1602 Fletcher *Sea-Voy* IV (1647) 14/2 Am I because I am in bonds and miserable My love like my wayning selfe, for this despis'd? 1832 Lamb *Elia Ser* II *Distinctions*, The last retreat, and recess, of his every day waning grandeur 1858 Froude *Hist Eng* (1858) II xi 90 The clergy sunk under the influence of a waning religion 1882 Gilbert *Textbk Geol* III 1 § 2 209 The dormant or waning condition of a volcano 1896 Cowan *Dover Explants Gerard* 12, I hurried wildly onward through the waning darkness

¶ b *In the wild waning world* · perversion of *in the wild wanuand* : see Wanland, Wanion, and cf. quot *c* 1435 in Waning *vbl sb* 2 b.

*c* 1585 *Digby Myst* (1882) III. 140 In þe wyld wanyng word, pes all at anys !

c Ageing, growing old. *rare.*

1895 *Season* Mar , Suppl 45/1, I do not, as a rule, approve of black for waning people but in this case, as the wearer was rather florid, the garment was a success.

2 Of the moon

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* I 390 þas wyrte þu scealt niman on wanigendum monan 1703 Addison *Italy, Portaro* 115 Waning Moons their settled Periods keep To swell the Billows 1752 H Martin *Mag Arts & Sci* 193 When God appoints, the horned Moon renews Her waining I ight 1797 Coleridge *Ballad Khan* 15 But still the waning moon 1814 Byron *Lara* II xxiv, When Cynthia's light almost [above] a moon And nearly veil'd in mist her waning horn 1837 Wherwell *Hist Inductt Sci* (1857) I 100 The waning, and the re-appearing moon

3 Of light, or a luminary Declining in lustre, tending towards extinction

1700 Blackmore *Song of Moses* (Exod xv) 45 Let him . left on high his Adamantine Shield, Whose brighter Lustre drowns the waning Sun 1802 Maria Edgeworth *Moral Tales, Forester* xiv, His waning candle sunk in the socket 1820 Byron *Old C Mosp* xxxii, At last the day turned her waning candle pale and she fell asleep 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc*, *Fine Clothes*, Around where late the waning sun Sank in his evening cloud 1873 P L Hall *In His Name* iv 37 The waning embers of the fire

b Of the day Drawing to a close.

1767 Jago *Edge-hill* iv 136 But of the waining Day Mindful, and many a theme as yet unsung, To future Birds she le ves upon options Plaine

4 Becoming scanty, running short. Now *rare*

1632 Lithgow *Trav* viii 375 Our victuals and wine done, we were forced to retire vpon Tobacco, and drinke our wone waining store 1810 Miss Mitford in L Estrange *Life* (1870) I iv 112 It is well for you that my waning paper brings this tiresome letter to an end 1900 Conan Doyle *Green Flag* etc, 77 Behind him stood the watchful six men, for ever filling up his waning glass.

**Wanion, wannion** (wɑ·nyən) *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms 6 wanian, wenyon, 6–7 wennion, 7 wannian, wenian, -on, 6- wanion, wannion. An altered form of Wanland used in certain formulas of asseveration or imprecation a. *In a wanion, later with a wanion*, with a plague, with a vengeance. Also *with a wild wannion*

1549 Latimer *2nd Serm bef. Edw VI* (Arb) 63 Was not this a good prelate ? he should have bene at home a preaching, & not lye there at a wanian 1553 Stubbes *Anat Abus.* (1583) We must have these goodly pageants played upon the sabaoth day (in a wanion) be it spoken, and no man to say in a week 1577 R Crowley tr *Lithgow's World* II *and t.* xxxix 311 He cryed aloud, Come downe in a wennian 1587 Harman *Caveat* 62 Hee went with a wannion to his mother-chamber. *a* 1598 *Jacob & Esau* I A 3, Up with it while you may, for long wilt thou lie? 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 4 b, Take it, with a wannion, all together, if you will leave it 1607 Shake. *Per* II i 17 Come away, or he fetch thee with a wannion 1663 Gower *Cuckow* (1878) 18 Boys must not have their meanings, Colonel Let him mean what I mean with a Wennion 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* III Com not with a vengeance, come out with a wan ion 1826 Scott *Woodst* II, He would have buttered the presbyterian spirit out of him with a wannion. 1880 Blackie *Cloister & H* xxxvii, Let him go with a wanion

b. *A (wild) wannion on, with a wannion to, may* a curse or plague light on (a person, etc.) !

*1e 1580 Puggletars* iv iv 11 Now a wild wannion on it 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 80 b, Now a wild wannion on the Cornish tongue 1826 Scott *Woodst* II, He would have pattered the presbyterian spirit out of him with a wannion. 1880 Blackie *Cloister & H* xxxvii, Let him go with a wanion

b. *A (wild) wannion on, with a wannion to, may* a curse or plague light on (a person, etc.) !

*1e 1580 Puggletars* iv iv 11 Now a wild wannion on it 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 80 b, Now a wild wannion on the Cornish tongue 1826 Scott *Woodst* II, He would have pattered the presbyterian spirit out of him with a wannion. 1880 Blackie *Cloister & H* xxxvii, Let him go with a wanion

**Wanish,** obs f Vanish *v*, Wannish *a*

**Wanite,** obs 5c f Vanity

**Wankapin, -kopin** (wŋ qkăpin, ŏpin) *U S* Also yoncopin (*Cent Dict*). [prob. N.Amer. Indian.] The water chinkapin, *Nelumbo lutea*

1814 Bigelow *Florula Bostoniensis* (1860) 199 This fine garden of wankopins and snake cuddies

**Wankle** (wɛ·nk'l), *a Obs* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 wancol, 3 wankel, 4 -kyll, 4–5 kill(e, 7 ? wancle, wankle [OL. *wancol* = OS. *wankol*, MDu., Du *wankel*, OHG. *wanchal*, MHG, G. (obs.) *wankel*, cf OHG *wankôn* (MHG, mod G. *wanken*), to waver, totter.] Unsteady, insecure ; changeable, tottering, precarious, inconstant, wavering Also, weak in health, delicate, sickly

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth* viii § 2 Nu ðu hrefst onziten ða wan clan trumes þæs blindan lustes. *Ibid*, xx, Hio bi þeczyð self mid hire hwurfulnesse þæt hio hi[ ] wæcles wancol *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 566 in *O & Nic* 18 Da wander wundi in wankel stede, ðer ðe water sinkeð 13 *Gosp Nicod.* 340 (Addit MS) (I my kyngdome Within þis wankill worlde nowe were ) *Ywain & Gawain* 2 *Bretelmont* 504 (Addit MS) þe worlde is wondur wankill 1674 Ray *N C Words, Wankle*, limber, flaccid, ticklish, fickle, wavering 1683 *Yorksh. Dial* 3 Hens's wancle weather for gettings of our Hay. 1686 G Stuart *Jesse our Discourse* 50 Your Wankle Leggs cannot support your 170 Grose *Provinc Glossa* (ed 3), *Wankle*, weak, unstable, not to be depended on ; as a wankle week ; wankle weather N *a* 1825 Forby *Voc E Anglia*, *Wankle, wanky*, weak, phant 1869 J P Muirhead *Parmetes Glass* 107 That barne's feeble wankle on its legs 1888 Ewing *Doctor's Little Pat* 281 He don't wear as I should like to see un He's wankle

†**Wanlace.** *Obs* Also 5 wanlas(e, wenlace, 5–6 wanles(e , and see Windlass *sb.*1 [a. AF. *wanelace, wenelas* (12–13th c.), recorded in the sig sense ' deception, fraudulent device '. As the word does not occur in continental Fr., it is not unlikely that it may be a Norman mispronunciation of some native English word. In the 16th c. *wanlace* was superseded by Windlass *sb.*1, but it is not clear whether this was a survival of the native form or an etymologizing alteration of the AF. word. Latinized forms of the word, in the original hunting sense, are *wenelacia* and *wanlassium* (in Da Cange erroneously *wantlatrius*). The phrase *figure wanlassium* was used for 'to draw back the game'.]

1. *Hunting* A circuit made by a portion of a hunting party for the purpose of intercepting and heading back the game Hence, an appointed station in hunting, = Trist *sb*.2, Tristre, med.L *stabulum*

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) xvii, Nexte these lesse per beth summe pat falleth to be bowelettes, and also to bringe wele and faste a wanlas aboute *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron* III iii 500 (MS W) Quhen he wes xv yere of cass He slew his fader at þe wanlese *Ibid* viii iv 446 (MS Cott) A knycht hym [se Wilyam Rufus] slew þar at wanles.

2. *transf* An intercepting movement ; an ambush.

Phrase, *at the wanlace.*

*c* 1330 R Brunne (*Harn Wace* (Rolls) 1286) Bytwyxt hem [*sc.* the opposing armies] were many chaces, fele turnynges & fele wanlaces 1498 Sir G Hawe *Law Armis* (S T S) 164 Men may haraie thair inymyes and se quhen thay ar in disarray, and haue at thame at thair wanlace 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S) II 192 Quhen we war gathert, we waytet thame at the wanles

3 *fig* A crafty device, a plot

1393 R. Brunne *Hist of Synne* 4371 Where þat he [a þe Fatherer] myght make a wanlace And any lyng to be kyng purchace, He ne leste for no fals othe *Ibid* 12008 Pat he [a Iodi wolde haue ben kyng, he wyen to þat gynne he hadde ywent with ly wanlace *c* 1400 *Brut* 1874 By þat time I have I made al my wanlace 1481 Botoner *Tulle of Old Age* (Caxton) And all such corrupt wanlace werkis whiche ben meuir meued nor undurtakyn but by the insolence and wantonnesse and wenlasys of besshely delectacyon

†**Wanlasour.** *Obs* In 5 wanelasour, wandlessour. [Prob AF. ; f. *wanelace* (see prec) + *-our* -or.] Cf Windlass *sb* 2] A hunting servant whose duty is to intercept and turn back the game, a driver.

14 *Lat Eng Voc* in Wr Wülcker 562/31 *Alator*, a wanelasour *c* 1440 *Ipomidon* 389 The wandlessours went þowe he forest And to be lady brought many a best

**Wanle,** var. Wandle

**†Wanless, waneless,** *a Obs.* [f *wan*(e, Wone, hope + -less.] Hopeless

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 23098 Bot quen i sagh þan juns smell Rise ogain mi sun sun fell, ful wanles [*Fairfax* waneles] wex i þan

**†Wanlich,** *a Obs rare*–1. [? *wan* Wane *sb*.2 + *-lich*, -ly 1.] Blissful, fraught with evil.

*c* 1205 Lay 25930 Wanliche weoren þa sonden

**†Wanlie sum,** *a. Obs.* [? Wan + Lee some. *a* 1] Lovely, winsome.

1818 G Beattie *Y hie'd Arabia* (1826) 36 A waesum, wild, wanlie sum sight

**Wanluck.** *Sc* Now *rare* [f Wan- + Luck Cf Mdw. *vanlykka*, MDu. *vanlyhke*, Now *vanlukka*.] Unhappy fate Cf. Unluck.

1551 tin ] Maitland *Adam of Gordon* 30 Wanlukis quhair by thow may be lost 1730 Ramsay *Horse's Counsel* 7 Up frae my bed I ran rud to draw the sled, Or cart, as hans to my wanluck

**Wanly** (wɑ·nli), *adv* [f Wan *a.* + -ly 2.] With a wan look or appearance ; palely, pallidly, *fig.* with a dejected air, sorrowfully

*c* 1205 Lay 25828 þa ahrde he wepen wunder ane swiðen wepen and weinen and wynlic he ahreon *Ibid* 30088 Nu we magen wepen and weinen wanliche 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* v 1 1028 An extream Fever wanly did displace The R se mast l illes in her lonely face 1809 Lytton *Pelham* I xxxi have where the thin clouds wanly, slowly roll Or the mute darkness of the forest mountain 1897 Blandau *Harvard Episodes* 177 McGaw, looking ill at ease, but smiling wanly

**†Wannol,** *a Obs.* [f Wan + Moal, speech, language.] Destitute of eloquence.

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2817 Louerd, is am wannol, un-reken Of wurdes, and may ic luel speken

**Wanne,** obs. f. Win, Whence, Whennе, Whom.

**Wanne,** obs pa t Win *v.*

**Wannel,** var Wandle.

**Wannen, Wannes** see Whennе, Whence

**Wanness** (wɑ·n,nes). Also 7 wand-. [f. Wan *a.* + -ness.] The state or condition of being wan ; + livdity (*obs.*), a pale, dead, or sickly colour (of the face), pallidness.

1586 Webbe *Gov* 83, I slowe a man into my wound, and a litle waxen man into my mannesse [Vulg. *in interiorem meum*] 1598 Trevisa *Barth De P* R viii (1495) 268 Wyth to grete holdynge of emerodes comyth . palennesse of face and wannesse and heuynesse of lymmes 1630 Parker 286/9 Wanness of colour, *sideror.* 1821 Cotgr , *Blasmeur* paleness, wanness, bleakenesse , a dead, or whitish colour. *That , Lamideté* lividness, leanness, wanness, unfreshnesse ; the colour appearing vpon a stroake, blacke and blew 1625 Crooke *Body of Man* 40 The heat of the heart being drawne inward, there appeareth a pale wannesse in the face 1643 A Tuckney *Balm of Gilead* 11 The wanneese of his dead look upon the Crosse 1653 R Sanders *Physiogn* 180 A pale wanlenes in the face, as in the Hegmatiques. 1771 Miss Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 103 My wanness was the effect of ill health. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvii, In the pale moonlight, which lent a wanness of its own to the delicate face 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III iii. 108

There was a faded look about her complexion, too,..a wanness, a yellowness.

**Wannion** : see WANION.

**Wannish** (wɑ'nish), *a.* Also 5–6 **wannyssh(e**, 6 **-yshe, wanishe,** 7 **-ish.** [f. WAN *a.* + **-ISH.**] Somewhat wan; somewhat pale, dull, instreless, or livid.

1a 1412 LYDG. *Two Merchants* 396 His vryne...was ful thynne and wannyssh for to see. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 102 The which semeshe..the eye sight to wase wannyshe or tawnye. *a* 1547 SURREY *Poems, 'The scorne'* 13 And eke the wannishe moone whiche sheenes by night also. 1585 HIGINS *Iunius Nomencl.* 438/2 With blackie wannish spots. 1594 R. C[arew] *Tasso* (1881) 73 He that graund foe was sie to human kind, His wannish eyes (*i livish wcch*) doth on the Christians cast. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. xxi. II. 108 The day Lillie Hemerocalles, hath leaves of a pale and wannish greene colour. 1630 MILTON *Passion* 33 The leaves should all be black whereon I write, And letters where my tears have washt a wannish white. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 309 Paler some, And of a wannish gray. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 57 Upon her crest she wore a wannish fire. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. vi. 3, No sun, but a wannish glare In fold upon fold of hueless cloud.

**Wannock**, anglicized form of GUANACO.

1724 *Postmaster* 2 Oct. 4 On Tuesday Night a Wannock was carried from on board the said Ship...He hath a Body like that of a Deer.

† **Wannowe**, *int. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? f. *wa* WOE *int.* + Now.] Alas.

*c* 1250 *Northern Passion* (MS. Addit.) 147/59 Wannow sayde kaynes her ex Enyy My smoke gose down & thyne gose hye.

† **Wanny**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 **wannye, wannie.** [f. WAN *a.* + **-Y**1.] Wan, pallid.

1598 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 321 With flatte visages, pale and wannye colours. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. of Venice* IV. (1581) 136 b, In fayntyng Face, with pale and wanny whyght The sanguyne heeve cayyed thence is fled. 1994 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xvi. (1880) 48 Your wannie cheeks, your shaggie lockes. 1602 MUNDAY *Palmerin* I. xvii. (1639) F 3 b, A pale and wanny face.

† **Wanpa**, Sc. var. VAMPEY. *Obs.*

1541 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 176 Item, solis exemplis over ledderis exemplyt, with a wanpa for a buyrt.

**Wanred(e** : see WANDRETH *Obs.* (*B*).

† **Wanrest**. *Sc. Obs.* [f. WAN- + REST *sb.*]

1. A state of inquietude or trouble: = UNREST.

*c* 1550 ROLLAND *Cr. Ft.* II. 436 For my wanrest I wald thow saw remeid. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXII. 44 This birdis counsall confoundit hes yis land,...That mouit hes..Wanrieth, wanrest, forfalt and povertie. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 205 Sall nocht this sillie ease be turned in sorrowfull wanrest? 1603 *Presbk. of T. Rymour* (Bannatyne Cl.) 22 The Ratchers stoikes with wanrest. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* I. 33 Quo'she, I wiss I could your wanrest ken. 1874 R. BUCHANAN *Poet. Wks.* I. 196 And Effie..Turn'd from the happy shining of the sun, In wanrest and in tears.

**2.** The pendulum of a clock.

1794 [W. ANDERSON] *Piper of Perbles* 13 (Jam.) The house from top to bottom shook, An' as a wanrest wagg'd the crook. 1808 JAMIESON s. v. The warnest of a clock goes as far the tae gate, as it gede the tither; ' S. Prov. signifying, that an unstable person generally goes from one extreme to another.

Hence **Wanre'stful** *a. Sc.*, restless.

1783 BURNS *Death Poor Mailie* 36 An' may they never learn the gacts Of ither vile, wanrestfu' Pets! 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* iii. iii. 255 Wanrestfu' and troubled, she couldna sit still.

† **Wanrufe**. *Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WAN- + *rufe* var. RO *sb.*] Disquiet, unrest.

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Makyne* 28 Bot I haif merveill incertane Quhat makis thy wanrufe at ane.

**Wanruly**, *a. Sc.* [f. WAN- + RULY *a.*²] Unruly.

*a* 1776 FERGUSSON *Hallow-Fair* xii, Frae their wanruly fellies pow Mair cause ye hae to bless your death that day. 1865 G. W. DONALD *Poems* (1879) 36 When...Big bare o' airn, wanrully an' strang, Are broken in flinders.

**Wanshon**, var. WANZE *v. Obs.*

**Wanscoate**, -**scot**(e, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

**Wanse**, var. WANZE *v.*, to wane.

† **Wanshapen**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **wanshape.** [f. WAN- + SHAPEN. Cf. (M)Du., (M)LG. *wanschapen*, whence G. *wahnschaffen*.] Mis-shapen deformed.

13.. *Celestin* 361 in *Anglia* I. 82 A wanshape best for', bef broughte, wib weuges, forto fleon on lofte. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 482 Thy wanshapin woubet.

**Wanshon**, var. WANZE *v. Obs.*

**Wanskot(t**, -**skoth**, obs. forms of WAINSCOT.

† **Wansome**, *a. Obs.* Also 3–4 **wansum.** [f. *wan*, WANE *sb.*³ + -SOME 1.] Miserable, unhappy.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1090 Loth was wansum, and sugte long wp to fo tunes he weie hade strong. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24853 Ful wansum war hal pan o rede, for direrili pai dred be ded. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1065 His wo es wansome to wreke, His hart es bowne for to breke.

**Wansonsy**, *a. Sc.* [f. WAN- + SONSY *a.* Cf. UNSONSY.] Mischievous.

1819 HOGG *Jacobite Relics* I. 70 We'll learn ye to be douce, Ye auld wansonsy b——h.

† **Wansyed**. *Obs.* [OE. *wansyfed* : see WANand SYED *ppl.*] Ill-success; adversity, poverty.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* III. vii. § 6 On þæm gefeohte wæs mrest anfunden Scilþia wanspæda [L. *inopia Scythicci*]. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 206 Wæ feohtende atorigendis þurh wanspæda [L. *per inopiam*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23708 Yee cristen men, yee vnbilok..O yur lijf þat yee her lede Yee turn it noght into wan-spade! *Ibid.* 28175 O strif oft haue I seuun þe sede To bring my brother to wan-spede.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9327 What whyleness, or wanspede, wryales our mynd?

† **Wanspeedy**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *wanspédig* : see prec. and -Y.] Unfortunate, unprosperous.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Lev.* xxvi. 25 Ic sille þin wanspedige mæg leo mid þe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Danne hauen wanspedie men on heorte wowe.

**Wanspeyate**, rare obs. form of WAINSCOT.

**Wanston**, var. FONT-STONE *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5898 Ver þat child fuled In is hond þat water & þe vantaton [MS. a wanston].

**Wansum**, var. WANTSUM *a. Obs.*

**Want** (wɒnt), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: **1 wand, wond**; 4–6 **wonte, 7 wounte, 5– wont**; 6 **wante, (wan),** 6– **want**; *3 dial.* **wannt, wunt, wount,** (*Irish*) **wan(n)t**, etc. (see *Engl. Dial. Dict.*). [OE. *wand, wond* = Sw. dial. *vand* (cited by Aasen), Norw. *vand, vaand, vond, vønd*, mole, also shrew (also in comb. *moldvond* 'earth-mole' in contradistinction to *vatsvond* water-rat, and in *vandskjer* shrew, synonymous with *mussbjer*, where the first element is *mus* mouse). The word is possibly a shortened form of the synonymous compound OE. *wandeworpe*, MLG. *wantworp, windeworp, wanneworpe*, mod. LG. *wintworp*, Du. *woelrat* Kilian, in which the second element (f. Tent. **werp-* to throw) corresponds to that of MOULDWARP. The root seems clearly to be the Teut. **wend-* : **wand-* to turn (see WIND, WEND *vbs.*); prob. the word has reference to the winding passages made by the animal.

The word is found in the 8th *c.* glossaries, but does not again appear till near the end of the 14th *c.* All the ME. and mod. Eng. forms agree in the unexplained substitution of *t* for the final *d* of the OE. form. The word is unknown to the dialects of the northern and north-east midland counties, but is elsewhere in common use.]

A mole.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 16 *Talpa, wond* [*Epinal* wand, *Erfurt* wund, *Leyden* woond]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 339 Pere [*sc.* in Ireland] lakkeþ...wontes, and opere venemous bestes [L. *talpis et cæteris venenosis*]. 14.. *Mayst. Alph.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565/9 *Talpa, talpe*, wont. 1523 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* 206 b, A slouthfull creature lyke as a molle, or vnat mete and drynke And for to profyte within a garden grene. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Wont beest a molle, *taupe*. 1567 *Gude & Godly Ball.* 15 For the Heades of everie Moldwarpe or Wante one halfpeny. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 113 b, Ily his Argument you may playnely perceaue what you will be: a blind Beast, a Mole. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 498, I do vtterly dissent from all them that holde opinion that the Mole or Want is of the kinde of Myces. 1620 R. YOOMEN *Hunter-Huswife* K 2 b, As Wountes or Moles, hunt after wormes. 1660 *Cuillim's Displ. Heraldry* III. xvii. (ed. 4) 207 He beareth, Argent, a Cheuron between three Moles or Wants, Sable. 1688 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 196 Part of a stone...that prettily represented a Mole or Want. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Want*, a mole. Here-fordshire; and that it is pronounced *Wannt*. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 146 The mole, want, mould-warper, or mould-turner (talpa Europæa) is common with us. 1884 *Blackm. Mag.* Dec. 785/2 Not much bigger than a mouse or small want.

b. *Comb.*, as *want-catcher, -killer, -taker*; **want-hill**, a molehill.

1598 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* (1880) 21 Walking the fields a Want-catcher I espide. 1598 *Aldermen* 16 Sept., If I can..remember..sitting in the chimney corner of the house at Luccombe of..the parish want-catcher. 14.. *Lat.-Engl. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 615/10 *Talpificium*, a want-killyng. 1588 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl.* 380/1 *Gruunzi*,..an hop hil, mole-hill, or want hill. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-li ve ker* 83, Were it not for my braining-trench and my Smoker, I should have no Want-hills at my Worke. 1633 in *Lett. & Papers Henry VIII*, VI. No. 914, 392 [Deposition] of John Shubrooke, of Northover, 'wanttaker.'

**Want** (wɒnt), *vb.*¹ Also *2–3* **wandi**, *4–5* **wont**, *4–6* **wante**, † **wannte.** [? ON. *vant* neut. of *van-r* adj. lacking, missing (see WANE *a.*), also quasi-sb. in such expressions as *var þeim veligis vant*, they were in want of nothing; *var vant kýr*, a cow was missing. Mod. N.Frís. *waant* lack, fault (Sylt), need, lack, necessity, starvation (Amrum), is perhaps derived from the vb. of identical form (see WANT *v.*), and ultimately of Scandinavian origin. In English also, from want and the *sb.* we have a direct derivative from the vb. (*q. v.*). Cf. also QUART *a.* and *sb.*³, SCANT *a.* etc.]

† **1.** *predicatively*, or quasi-*adj.* (Something that is) wanting, missing. In Ormin const. with dative. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1200 ORMIN 14398 Acc hemm wass wannt gastlic innsihhtb. 1230–50 HALI *Meid.* 21 Ne beo he nowiht wontful. 1300 RUTEBEUF *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1914 Troye neuz ye Trenouant, Two wordes in on, & non ys wont. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xxvii. 22 þe gude herde, þat lefle in þe munte ane wane of a hundrez scp, and yede at seke þan ane þat was want.

**2.** Deficiency, shortage, lack (*of* something desirable or necessary, *esp.* a quality or attribute).

*No want (of)*: no lack, abundance (of). † *Without want*: without deficiency in any point (*obs.*).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10406 Pai bat stad er in pair bila, Wit-vten want has alle pair wis. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 131 Now wyl I of her seruise say yow no more, For vch wyze may wel wit no wont pat per were. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Want of beauty, *laideur*. 1589 MASCALL *Bk. Cattle, Hogs* (1596) 261 The forrests and commons are more conuenient for them to feede on...where there is want of such trees ye must haue them to other feeding ground. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* xix. 19 There is both straw and prouender for our asses, and there is bread and wine also for me and for thy handmaid...: there is no want of any thing. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 34 'Tis the want of Discretion that makes the difference. 1684 ROSCOMMON *Ess. Transl. Verse* 124 Immodest words admit of no defence, For want of Decency is want of Sense. 1775 FRANKLIN *Let. to M. Dumas* 9 Dec., Their total want of English is at present an obstruction to their getting any employment among us. 1893 SCOTT *Tullibm.* 2, He retained also a general sense of respect for his own reputation, which sometimes supplies the want of the better principles by which reputation is to be maintained. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 97 The want of cattle for the conveyance of stores and baggage was one of the most serious obstacles of the march of the army. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *C. Heathcote* XXXIV. A miserable faction...have assumed the reins of government, and, in spite of three votes of want of confidence, persist in retaining the seals of office. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Sept. 10/1 Owing to the confusion in the present arrangement, or want of arrangement, the duties proper to each institution are inefficiently discharged. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/2 note, The deceased was also guilty of negligence or of want of reasonable care contributing to the accident.

† **b.** *pl.* Instances of shortage. *Obs.*

1660 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 127 And so proportionable for greater or less wants of weight in the said pieces [coins]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 June 1689, An extraordinary drowth, to the threatening of great wants as to the fruits of the earth. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Difficulties occasioned by..frequent Wants of Stone, which was kept from us by long easterly Winds.

**c.** *Joc* (occas. *by, from, in, through*) want of: for lack of; because of the absence or deficiency of.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12085 Antenor, denyet hym onon, pat noqwere he knew pat comnly le keppet, ne in cloese haldyn. Pen wrathid þo worth [Agamemnon] for wont of pe burde. 1596 *Rec. Inverness* (1911) I. 248 Item, for want of day...assingit to James Paterson...to preif quhat skayth he had sustenit in want of his boys quhilkis Necoll Kar intromettit with. 1597–8 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1587) III. 1360/1 want of seede, land yeeldeth weede. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 172 For often haue you writ to her: and she in modesty, Or else for want of idle time, could not againe reply. 1608 *Pennyless Parl. Threadbare Poets in Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 180 Many, for Want of Wit, shall sell their Freehold to Fleshmongers and red Petticoats. 1633 *Lett. & Papers Irish Privy Coun.* (1840) 499 For want of a mantle the shee is lost, for want of a shoe the horse is lost, for want of a horse the rider is lost. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 746 'Twas then that Buffalo's, till lately, were worn: To these the Invention of Jove's Imperial Queen For want of Oxen. 1742 KAMES *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730–52* (1799) 55 When a man is pinched for want of money, he will submit to any thing rather than be forced to come at it. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led Career* I. 136 They could not pursue them for want of cavalry. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlv. I have deferred it from want of opportunity. 1870 BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1884) I. 778 Umbilical Hernia...is common in children from want of closure of the umbilicus. 1889 J. S. WISE *Nav. Bds.* (1891) 125 He...had no notion of loving anything for the want of asking for it. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 125/1 An agreement in writing which they cannot produce in the County Court for want of a stamp.

† **d.** *In* (rarely *in the*) *want of*: failing; in the absence of (something needed or desired). *Obs.*

1655 CULPEPPER etc. *Riverius* x. vi. 298 In want of Milk, you may give Almond Milk, or Barley-Cream, or Rice Milk. 1719 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 116 There is just the same reason for quiet resignation in the want of every thing equally unattainable.

**3.** The state of lacking the necessaries of life; penury; destitution. Also, the condition of lacking food; famine; starvation. *To come to want*: to be reduced to penury.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 857 For-þi bi-houes þou, habel, hard to hilde & wo drie in þis word for wante & for nede. 1 *Ibid.* 869 Swich hunger as ge han in þis wone is polic, & is þou lef oþer lob libben in wante. 1597 *Extracts Munic. Acc. Newcastle* (1848) 44 Paide for the charges of buiinge 9 poore folkes who dieit for want of the same. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xiv. 23 In all labour there is profit: but the talke of the lips tendeth only to want. 1616 SHAKS. *Timp.* IV. i. 116 Scarcitie and want shall shun you, Ceres' blessing so is on you. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xix. And with him [Pompeius] Wastefulnesse, that all expended, And Want, that still in theft and prison ended. 1633 RAMSEY *Astrol. Restored* 141 The People generally shall be in great want. 1718 PRICE *Knowledge* 622 Whilst We struggle in this Vale beneath, With Want and Sorrow. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* 13 Here to the houseless child of want My door is open still. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. x, Who could have thought of his living so among the great folks, and then coming to want! 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, 'I brought it a same place,' said his mother was worse off from want and misfortune quite happy. 1866 MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* IX. (1878) 162 Many was the time that want had come in at her door. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. xcviii. 3 Those who will perceive that by far the greater number lead very laborious lives, and are...liable to fall into want. 1900 R. S. BARBOUR *Naughty* (1900) 46 Want is a blighting levelling *Power*. 1736 BAILEY (fol.) s.v. *Waste*, Wilful Waste makes woful Want.

† **b.** *pl.* Straits; circumstances (or times) of want, hardship, suffering, etc. *Obs.*

1598 PERRY (*title*) A view of some part of such publike wants and disorders as are in the service of God, within... Wales. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* III. x. § 13. 1714 HEARNE in *Collect.* (1906) A view of some parts of weather and wants, had kept the companie in firme unitie. 1633 HOLCROFT *Precepts, Vandal Wars* II. 47 In the mean time Jabdas leaving a sufficient guard for the Castle was gone up to the top of Aurasium, fearing to be blockt up in the Castle, and reduced to wants. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 1009 Rough Salticulus, fmn'd to Wants. 1731 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 380 Ere long I shall be reduced to great wants.

† **4.** The fact that a person (*rarely* a thing) is not present; absence. *Obs.*

*c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 8 Now seis ic wowne, this is a wofull werde, Sen want of wyse men makis falla to sit on binkis. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 1. 4 Sith I needes muste yeelde hir vp,..(Ah) take hir then..hir want I rather cease, Than that this people here, should not their health and safety haue. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 12 As when..An heard of Bulles..Do for the milkie mothers want complaine. 1591 *2nd Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 73 The King entreats your soonest speed To visit him, who on your present want, Did ban and curse his birth, himselfe and me. 1610 B. Jonson *Sp. Pr. Henry's Barriers* 114 For being depreat a while, Want makes vs know the price of whist we suffer. 1611 Tourneur *4th. Trag.* v. ii, The price of things is best known in their want. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Women Pleas'd* iii. iii. (1647) 34/1 *Lord*. . .No roome in all the Court but we search'd through it Her women found her want first and they cry'd to us. 1633 Shirley *Witty Fair One* i. 1 I leave her to your trust, And in my absence doubt not you will be Both Uncle and Father. *Wor.* Willingly. . I know she is your study, In your want I will put on your jealousie. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* ii, The want of his gauntlets and brassards showed his arms covered with a quilted jacket of crimson silk.

5. A condition marked by the lack of some necessary thing, or requiring some extraneous aid or addition; need; also, an instance of this, and so freq. *pl.* (passing into the quasi-*concr.* sense 'requirement', 5 b). Phrase, *a (long-)felt want* (also in sense 5 b). *To supply* (*anticipate, consult, provide for*, etc.) *one's wants*: to satisfy (provide for, etc.) one's needs.

1598 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 251 The Grecian Prince . . caried a bagge full of wheate to supply his want at all times. 1598 Shake. *Merch. V.* i. iii. 141, I would . . Supplie your present wants. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xiv. 30 Let the poore feed vpon me; only lodge not in the street. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 62 The Citizens lay up corne brought out of Poland, and according to the want of Europe, carry it into many kingdomes. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 137 The Fryers . upon a sudden want or occasion take out from thence as much fish as will give the whole Cloyster a dinner. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 88 Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided for by this wisdom. Among these wants is to be reckoned the want, out of civil society, of a sufficient restraint upon their passions. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* ii. ii. 12 The eldest son of a rich nobleman . . has wide wants, and narrow powers. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xi, I lay after day, and night after night, found her still by the pillow of the unconscious sufferer, still anticipating his every want. 1878 Morley *Voltz. Serv.* 7 Spiritual superfluities become real wants. 1890 Carlyle *Latter-day Pamph.* i. (1872) 37 Your want of wants, I say, is that you be commanded in this world. 1892 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 5 The remedies are just as well known; among them are certainly not the establishment of a Child's Hospital. This may be a want. 1894 *Bookseller* 2 Apr. 341 Advts., Wants and Vacancies. A Medium for the Selection of Servants and Situations. Price One Penny [bi-monthly]. 1898 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* (ed. 5) 408 Vividness in colour probably becomes an actual want to southerners. 1900 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 121 You will gain the alliance of a great naval power, and a navy is your chief want.

c. *In want of*: in need of; not having, or having in insufficient measure. *In no want of*: having abundantly.

1594 Starkhove *Epictetus* etc. 1 18 Inanimate Creatures.. are oftentimes in great want of some Quality or other; Heat, or Cold, or Drought, or Moisture. 1712 Steele *Tatler* No. 5 ¶ 5 Their Troops were in want of all Manner of Necessaries. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. ii. 31 A man in extreme want of food or clothing. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 269 You are more in want of some than I am; keep them. 1892 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xii, She is in no want of words to shower upon Rosa.

d. Proverbial phrase, *Then Want must be your master*, etc., used in refusing a demand expressed by 'I want —'.

1721-8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* i. 59, I want that Diamond-Ring of yours. *Why*, then, Want's like to be your Master. 1828 [J. P. Collier] *Prose by Poet to Punch*. Come up stairs: I want you. *Punch*. Then want must be your master. I'm busy.

6. ? A sense of need. *rare*.

1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* ii. 21 Like a doe in the noontide with love's sweet want. 1894 'O. Eckeron' *Dicords* 179 The band..strike up..a weird witching thing with a want in it.

6. †a. A defect, failing, fault; a shortcoming; *rarely* a natural blemish. *Obs.*, and apparently almost confined to the 17th c.

1598 Barrington *Notes Genesis* ix. 38 Greater men then wee haue had theyr wants. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 18 So perfit loue in mortals is not found Some little want or waste in all we spie. 1603 Breton *Post Pocket Mad Lett.* (Grosart) 14/1 Touching my husband, though his wants were grieuous, yet to want him is my greatest sorrow. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* i. (1650) 6 Were shee . . So perfect, that no one of her owne sex Could finde a want. 1635 *Maiden* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 80 No. 2 b, For repairinge and amendinge of the wants and present decayes of the bridges. 1677 Sedley *Ant. & Cl.* Wks. 1722 I. 129 A Scepire may for pers'nal wants attone. 1728 Young *Love Fame* ii. (1757) 95 Wants of all kinds are made to fame a plea; Our learns to lisp; another, not to see.

b. Sc. *To have a want*, to be mentally deficient.

1825 Jamieson, Suppl. s. v., *To He a want*, to be under mental imbecility. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* vii. 67 The whutch maid her lear me ea if I had a want, and been daft likewyze. 1879 'S. Tytler' in *Good Wds.* 349 He has a 'want', you know, and is not fit for much.

7. Lack, neglect, hollow. *Obs.* exc. *dial. rare*.

1663 Butler *Hud. Life* I. v. (1664) 81 The wants in the wheels of your watch are as useful to the motion as the nucks or solid parts. 1703 *Brumley's Family Diet.* s.v. *Saddle*, The Saddle should be placed exactly on the middle of the Back, the Fore-bow just at the Want of the Shoulders. 1808 Carr *Craven Glean., Want*, a deficiency or hollow place in a piece of timber, or the edge of a board.

8. *Coal-mining.* — Nip *sb.*[1]

1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 26 [See Nip *sb.*[1]].

9. *Comb.* as *want-begotten*, *-creating* ppl. adjs.; *column* (sense 5; cf. also ellipt. use of *wanted* pa. pple. in advertisements); see Want *v.* 4.

1589 Tenovson *In Henr. VIII.* xcvii. 12, I envy not at any moods . . The heart that never plighted troth But stagnates in the weeds of sloth; Nor any want-begotten rest. 1590 W. R. H. Thewonesse to Lesse *Mother to Bile.* iv. 14 Lady Beatrices found her [her cook] in the 'Want column of the *Standard*. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 631 The manifold, 'want-creating culture of modern European civilisation and education.

**Want** (wɒnt), *v.* Also 2–3 (*Ormin*) wannte, 3 wonti(e, 3–5 wont(e, 3–7 wante, 4–5 wantē(e, *Sc.* 4–6 want, 5 whante, 6 waunt. [prob. a. ON. *vanta* wk. vb. impers. = MSwed. *vanta*, also *vantas* refl., Swed. dial. *vanta* to be wanting, Norw. (Aasen) *vanta* to be lacking, absent, also trans. to lack, Da. (Falland dial.) *vante*. Hence from Scandinavian also as prob. mod. NFris. *waant* to need, fail, lack, do without (*pers.* and *impers.*). ON. *vanta* perh. represents an earlier **wanatōn* with a derivative *-t* suffix not connected with the neut. adj. ending seen in the sb.]

I. *intr.* To be lacking or missing; not to exist; not to be forthcoming; to be deficient in quantity or degree. In early use const. with dative or *to*. *rare* since the 17th c., and now *arch.* (*To be wanting* is current: Wanting *ppl. a.*).

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 194 Hwonne ou ne wonieð nowiht, beonne ueine8 he mid ou. *Ibid.* 406 Ne ponche hire neuer wonder þeah hire wontie þe Holi Gostes froure. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 2155 Eue, þat wontede him in ofter mod, Þo ymig i was under his hond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3053 Þam wanted brede, þeir water es gan, Hope of lijf ne had þai nan. 13.. *Northern Passion* (Harl. 4196) 61 Þe wyn wantes. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ii. 320 Þam wanted water bare. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 593 Bot proud man of his tan na hede For hym wantes skille, þot hym suld lede. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xx. 124 And it is ye perelous thing Þat castell till assegit be, Quhar that ane vantis of this thre, Vittale, or men with thair armyng. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 449 To give the good where it wanteth, trewly, That were vertue and a curtys mene. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. ix, They whiche ben on lyue haue some whiche drede them but they*r* drede wantith and fayleth when they ben dede. 1526 Pilgr. *Perc. Pr.* (1531) 89 Þe Holy Ghost wanteth not. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxxiv. 10 They that feare the Lorde, can wante nothinge. 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 3 To a claiter for the poyntin of al the place of Stirling, and for sclaytis that wantit and lyme, xij li. 1596 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. S.) 111 Where obedyence wanteth (sayth synynt Austyn) there is no goodnes. 1596 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 42 Diners can not be long, where deinties want. 1597 Shak. *Lucrece* 1128 Thou pitiest me, what wants me here, to worke delight? *a* 1598 Greene *Jas. IV*, iv. iv, O wearie life, where wanteth no distresse. 1598 Greene *Orl. Furioso*, *A.* xxiii. (1629) 90 Their ships want to be supplied with a new munster. Be voluntarie men now wanted: or if there were any; they were not of so vertuous and modest a carriage. 1630 Earl Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (1888) I. 273 If your help be in this business, as I know it shall not want, it is no matter though your hand wanted to the certificate. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1649) 11 Nor was it long before the Nauie wanted discontented Persons, who would ioyn with his Forces. 1887 Hallam *Const. Hist.* I. viii. 465 There wanted not reasons in the court of France for placing the navy at this time on a respectable footing. 1890 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 245 There wants a collection of dying speeches of nefarious governments.

† b. To fall short of; a certain amount. *Obs.*

1479–? *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 56/2 All such sommes of money, as shall want or lak of the forseid sommes.

† c. To be lacking to complete a certain total or achieve a result. Const. *of* or negative clause. Also impers., in absolute uses of 2 d: *how wanteth*, they are not fully qualified; *there wants*, something is lacking (const. *to* with inf.); *it wants of six* (o'clock), it is not quite six. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14667 Littel wantid þat þam [? *trad* þal ne *with Gôd*,] wo wode, 15.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1060 & of þat ilke wynne þer wonted bot fewe. *c. E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1 'And fyue wont of fyfty,' quod god, 'I schal forgete alle þi wyth-halde my honde for hortyng on lede. *c* 1580 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 334 Þei leyson þese þat þei hel ben vikeris of Crist; for likliche hem wantiþ to be be leste membre þat Crist hab ordeyned to be of his Chirche. 1628 J. Wilkinson *Treat., Of a Gospel Levit* 70 b, The steward may impanell any stranger, if there want to make all. 1778 Ivy. 1639 De Veder tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 164 He..abusing him with injurious words, & threats, (& as he was surly & apt to strike) little wanted of blows. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xii. 937 Then, shall I see Laurentum in a flame, Which only wanted to compleat my shame. 1709 Mar. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 136 The Prince was true to his Letter. It wanted of Six, when in my Man's Apparel I got to the Croix, but found Endymion in possession of it. 1728 Wilkes *Hist. Eng.* I. Introd. 13 The fine had been long laid, and there only wanted such a spark to force a blaze.

† d. To fail (const. with dative or *to*); to give out; to be insufficient *for* (a purpose, etc.). *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5330 But word and wit, with chere ful pale, Shul wante for to telle thy tale. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5480 Or als þai tilldit þaim to þe tresse as þe boke telles, And gert þaim lake with baim so lange till þaim þe life wantis. 1583 Cogan *Pyvat. Nowne Inch.* Ded. (Arb.) 6 One whome good will hath not wanted to gratifie your grace with a better thing if mine abilitie were greater. 1598 Hanlutt *Voy.* I. 58 But they of the cide fought manfully against them, with engines, dartes, and arrowes, and when stones wanted they threw siluer, and especially melted siluer.

† e. To fail *to do* something; to be wanting (*in* one's endeavours). *Obs.*

In quot. 1526 pach. 'to lack the wherewithal', to be too poor.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16733 For thow, lady, fayllest neuere, nor thow wantest nat to succour and helpe to alle that deuoutly besechyn and prayen vn-to the. 1576 *Common Conditions* 216 (Brooke) Like beggers wee liue and want to pay rent. 1643 Burroughes *Expos. Hos.* 7 *A. Hosea* xvii. 5 So far as you want in your endeavours after this, so far thers is an evil.

† f. To be a defaulter; to be absent, missing. *Obs.*

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* ii. iv. 76 Salnum me fac deus, quoniam defecit sanctus, lyrd, bou wil, bou wil saue me sayffe, for þe sayntis wantys.' *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 169 In þe kurk of Palermes was þer a certan dean þat sent a servand of his to seke a pallefrai of his þat wantid. 1473 *Rauf Coilzear* 300 Ane man that office suld bair be tyme at this tyde, He will be found in his fault, that wantis forouttin weir. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wedder* 140 For thousand hail he [the wether] counterfait the Dog; For all the nicht he studie and tuke na sleip, Swa that wolf lang thair wantit nor kep. 1600 E. Kellet *Willobie's Avisa* (1880) 123 For there wanted aboue sixe thousand souldiers of them which had been leuied.

2. *trans.* Not to have; to be without, to lack; to have too little of; to be destitute of, or deficient in; to fail to have or get. Now *rare*, exc. with object a desirable quality or attribute.

*c* 1200 Ormin 13380 Al þatt wannte[þ] Cristess hald All alnnkeþ inntill hiele. *a* 1325 Minot *Poems* vii. 103 Sir Philip wanted all his will, Þat was wele on his semblaund scene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (Andrew) 1. 1 Wantande nane thing of bewte, Pat in a woman suld fundyn be. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 401 Full wofull is the householde That wantys a mastar. *c* 1490 Henry *Wallace* v. 340 Ane thousand wald off likly men in wer, And fell on fute quhilk wantyt hors and geir. *c* 1580 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 2 Thocht bruitall beistis be Irrationall That is no sign thay wantis reasone. 1633 Fifth *Disput. Purgat.* Wks. (1673) 20 We haue all sinned and want the glory whicke before God is allowed. 1580 *Peeples Bourgh Rec.* (1872) 269 The commissioner and the vycis nist the wall. 1577 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 395 Everye one that shall waste his gowne shall lose his fees. 1595 Bunder *Pers. Tilled* 87 It is a thousand pitties they should want blowes who will doe nothing without them. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* 1. 16 If you want Peaches, you may use Juice of soure Apples. 1700 Dryden *Fourth Satire Juvenal* 1 Thou *Maiden Lady* a Bitter is that Maid All that Heav'n wants of this Celestial Maid. 1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 80 He has sent 3 Lectures to be printed at Oxford they wanting Letter for the Greek. 1748 T. Sheridan tr. *Persius* iii. (1739) 48 It is very natural that Sciences should be ridiculed by those who want them. 1793 Mrs. *Hellenore Grace a Dream* 11 Some have the mean, And some wad eat that want it. 1826 [J. Grant] *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xvi. 402 His matter wants vigour and depth, and his manner is dry and stiff. 1829 Mrs. Dunlay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 300 Mulgrave, though he wanted experience, wanted neither pars nor courage. 1892 R. A. Willmott *Hens. Lit.* (ed. 2) vi. 57 The Library of Petrarch wanted the *Divine Comedy*, which he only discovered with gold. 1896 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 170 A purely optimistic creed always wants any real stamina.

† b. To be free from (something undesirable). *Obs.*

1632 May tr. *Barclay's Mirror. Mindes* 206 The English which want somewhat of the pompous shew of the French humanity, doe want much more of their barbarous cruelty. 1787 [Beattie] *Scotland* 220 Nor was the Highland air in Scotland, when they had it in England. *a* 1792 Geddes *Olio* (1792) 110 (Scotsman *log.*) I am much better indeed; I have wanted the fever these two days.

† c. To spare (labour). *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 10, I haue no labour wanted to prune this tree thus planted, whose fruite to noue is scanted, in house or yet in feeld.

d. To come short by (so much) of completing a certain total or attaining a certain result. Now chiefly *impers.* in telling the time of day: *it wants* (*so many minutes*) *of* (now more commonly *to*) such an hour. †Formerly often *to want little, nothing*, etc. used personally and impers., const. *of* with vbl. sb., *to* with *inf.*, or negative clause, to indicate a close approach to the attainment of a certain result.

In referring to the time of day this form of expression is now becoming less usual: the ordinary phrase is *it is* (*so many minutes*) *to* (such an hour).

*c* 1440 *Antwerp Arith.* 382 (Bodley MS.) He wanted nogte to be slayne be brede of one hare. 1530 Palsgr. 272/1 It wanted but a lyttell that I was not taken. 1697 Morden *Geog.* 111 Wy had now some two miles to Jerusalem, yet in the very Heaven, we wanted little of perishing. 1658 tr. *Bacon's Hist. Life & Death* 135 Eight Men, whose Age computed together, made up eight hundred years: In so much, that what some of them wanted of an hundred, others exceeded as much. 1663 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 6 Letters came from the Generalls that they wanted a dayes sayle from the Dutch fleete, but were in great hopes to overtake them.

1689 Hooke *Microgr.*, 201 If it chanced to want anything of being perfectly opposite. 1699 Bentley *Phalaris's* Addenda 341 They wanted two years of Man's Age. 1707 Swift *Let. to Sheridan* 29 Aug., I now want only three months of sixty. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. I. 7 His squadron wanted three hundred seamen of their complement. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi. v, Of my fortune not one farthing could be touched till I was of age, of which I wanted now more than two years. 1784 Henley *Note on Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 226 It wanted little but that the genii had pressed on him in crowds. 1830 James *Step-mother* lxxix. III. 326 You vagabond, you said it was ten o'clock, and it wants twenty minutes. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 82. 5 It still wanted a considerable time to school. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lv, 'How goes the time? My watch is unwound.' 'Wants a few minutes of five o'clock, sir.' 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* vi. 59 It only wants five minutes to dinner. 1891 W. C. Russell *Marriage at Sea* xi, It wanted but twenty minutes to eight. 1902 R. Hagon *Passport* iii. 29 Although it wanted yet twenty minutes to midnight the church was nearly full.

†e. To be deprived of, to lose. *Obs.*

c1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wether* 325 I (sc. the wether) sall not spair To fallow thee quhair thow wolt, bot tak thy dyt, your Dolg, Swa that, I warrand, ze sall not want ane hoig. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 42 He cowth gif cure for barayne, To gar a wicht horss want his hyre. 1532 Coverdale *Isa.* xxxvii. 10, I thought I shulde haue gone to the gates of hell in my best age, and haue wanted the residue of my yeares. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 89 He maid many lawis for the libertie of the pure, that thair dang ane preist suld want his hand. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 223 Lat him want his sword, and thair efter sayyed his cumpanie. 1658 Phillips *New Cent. World. Saddl.* (1696) 4 The Pot-hooks and Hanger were carried out of the Chimney, and being wanted four days, they found them at last in a Cock-loft. 1721 *Kennett's Transl. Erasm.* (1733) I. 24, I neither wanted ew nor lamb While his flock near me lay.

†f. To feel the loss of, to miss. *Obs.*

1603 Webster *Duchess Malfi* III. ii, You shall want him, For know an honest states-man to a Prince, Is like a Cedar, planted by a Spring. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* I. vi, I must needes say, I loue a Gentleman of him, a good Scholler, And I shall want him; but all peace be with him. 1749 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 14 Nov., You should be *alerte, enfroit, vif*; be wanted, and not importunately expected, and unwillingly parted with in company.

†g. To fail to recollect. *Obs. rare.*

c1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 287 And manye a mayde of whiche the name I wante, 1590 *Pioneer & Quary* 130 Diamondes fyne and rubies rede, And many another stoon, of which I want The names now.

¶ h. (Confused use.) *Who cannot want the thought?* who can help thinking?

1605 Shake. *Mach.* III. vi. 8 Who cannot want the thought, how monstrous It was for Malcolme, and for Donalbane To kill their gracious Father?

I. *Wanting* (pres. pple.), not having, deprived of, without; (in definitions of a smaller quantity by its difference from a larger) lacking, less, minus. *Obs.* exc. *Sr.*

1536 in [Ledwich] *Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 129 A cross, with Abraham offering up Isaac, and a lamb behind him, with an Angel wanting one wing. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* I. def. ii. 2 A lyne is, length wanting breadth and thicknes. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 10 What a wearie way From Kaunsegh to Colnbrook will I bond, In Knose and Welloughby, wanting your companie. 1689 Hoskes *Thucydides* II. 89, 10000 Talents wanting 300. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Feb. 1645, Three ships had the real Cruse; one of the nailes, wanting a point. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. i, I measured the Tail of the dead Rat, and found it to be two Inches and wanting an Inch. 1773 Abigail Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 268 'Tis four months wanting three days since we parted. 1809 Bawdwen *Domesday Bk. York* etc. 256 Sr Scireburne (Sherborne) in the Berewicks, the archbishop has 100 carucates of land, wanting four. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xviii, I would not go wanting sword and gun, and with a long fishing-rod. *Ibid.* xx, I have come with a water-bottle.

j. To go or do without. Usually in negative expressions, *esp.* with *cannot*, etc. Obs. exc. *dial.*

1582 Bullein *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* (1579) 97 The fysher and Angler must haue his Rod, his Line, his Hooke, &c. no Archer can want his Bowstring. *a* 1587 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 287, I can not weall want him, or some preachar. I can not put away nic ane man. 1598 Yed *Sch. & Pers.* v. l. 37 And sweete Pleasde, I will stay with you, From Brusor my beloued; and lle want him Thl he bring backe Erasius vnto you. 1606 Chapman *Homer, d'Ollys* II. 1, 'Tabacco, that excellent plant, the vse whereof (as of fit Element) the world cannot want. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to L.d. Craighall* 10 Aug., Ye have a fair occasion to gratifie Christ, if ye will .. want the night's sleep with your suffering Saviour one hour. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 48 Such books are, .. usefull drugs .. wherewith to temper and compose effective and strong med'cins, which mans life cannot want. 1667 — *P. L.* v. 365 By descending from the Thrones above, those happie places thou hast deign'd a while to want, and honour them. 1708 Stamper *Paraphr.* III. 568 Servants, in those Countries where long and loose Garments are worn, could not, without great inconvenience, want a part of Cloathing so necessary for Expedition. 1772 Cowper *Let. to T. Hill* 27 June, I had rather want many things, any thing, indeed, that this world could afford me, than abuse the affection of a friend. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* I. vii. 119 To want a horse and cart in the country seemed impossible. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxix, A worthless old play-fellow of mine, whose company I would rather want than have. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s. v., We can't want the pony the day.

†k. *To want* (gerundial inf.) : to seek, not forthcoming. *Obs. rare*—1.

1583 *Homilies* II. *Repetition Wks.* II. 243 b, Remember I say once against your dastie of thankes, let them be neuer to want.

Vol. X.

3. *intr.* (partly *absol.* of sense 2). †a. *simply.* To be in want of something implied by the context, or of the necessaries of life. *Obs.*

13.. *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. iv. 312 He wrot so fiaste till pat he want, For his parchemyn skin was so scant. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* (1599) IV. 296 We present the Dull Ringe to want raylinge. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* II. ii, *Madam.* Indeed Madam, to say de truth, he wanted leetel good breeding. *Lady Fan.* Good breeding! He wants to be cane'd, Madamoiselle. 1739 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 160 My goats wanted to be milked. 1784 R. Fiddes *Morality* Pref., p. cxix, A train of accusations which, severally, want to be proved themselves. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* II. viii. 359 The merit of this speech is too well known, to want to be enlarged upon here. 1792 R. M. Beverley *Rod. Tramess Newsp.* 13 The Banks of the [Lock] Chamber was ordered to be laid down properly, and some Trees cut down. 1865 'L. Carroll' *Alice in Wonderland* vii. (1866) 96 'Your hair wants cutting', said the Hatter. 1868 E. Beckit Denison *Life Sp. Lonsdale* 209 Those who wanted a church consecrating, or a meeting to be held. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xiv. 146 'That loose-shouldered chap Roden is a scoundrel,' he said bluntly... 'and wants thumping.'

†b. To desire, wish for. Often with *inf.* as object. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden Wor. Dis.* (1708) 7 All such as want to ride in Post-haste from one World to the other. 1747 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. v. 58 If either want to be separated during the term limited, there must be a Commutation of Money for the separation of Stock to the other, according as they can agree. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) 127 Cheats mingle the Flower of Sand among the Sugar, when they want more to defraud. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxiii, If every one of your clients is to force us to keep a clerk, whether we want to or not, you had better say so at once. 1851 Shirley in Liddon *Pusey* (1897) IV. 221 What you mention about persons actually not *wanting* an hereafter is a horrible feature of the day. 1885 'J. Alexander' *Wild Life* iv, Now *I* have got over *my* first foolish fear of him, he is so gentle and polite, and seems to want to be friends with my father. 1899 *Law Times Rep.* LXXXI. 88 Even text-book-writers had wanted to know they could have asked at once. 1902 J. F. Rubling *European Days & Ways* 209 Blücher wanted to hang or shoot Napoleon as an outlaw and murderer. 1902 R. Hagot *Donna Diavola* v. 116 She came repeatedly to the Castelnuovo gardens, generally accompanied by Pina von Reben, but occasionally, when the latter was wanted to drive with her cousins, by Princess San Kocco's maid.

b. To desire (a person) *to* (do something). Also, *U.S.*, with clause as object.

1849 S. Judd *Margaret* I. 59 I want you to be a good boy. 1852 H. C. Kimball in *Brigham Young's Trial, Discoveries* (1859) VI. 256 If this is your determination, I want you should manifest it by saying your right hand. 1903 T. Burnham *Jewett* iii, Mr. Evans, I want you should saddle his horse and bring her round. 1918 *Oxford Mag.* 27 June 343/1 Most of them do not make it quite plain what they want the teacher [of the classics] to do.

c. To wish to see, or speak to (a person); to desire the presence or assistance of one (for a specified purpose). Frequently *passive.*

*Wanted* sometimes used ellipt. (for 'you are wanted'). Cf. *Shad!*

c1560 Challoner in E. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xciv. 28 We will spend our evenings, as much as possible, at our own lodging, so that we may be found by those who shall want us for the sick. 1798 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, 'Retire!' said Barnardine sternly; 'you are not wanted here'; and as Emily said nothing, he turned. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prine.* vi, When from a side and smaller door a female enquired 'whom he pleased to want'. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, 'Winkle—Winkle!' shouted Mr. Tupman, calling to him from the inner room, 'You're wanted—some one at the door.' 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 2 Leave me here, and when you want me, sound upon the bugle horn. 1866 Trollope *Clergymen* v, 'She is not likely to press herself where she is not wanted'.

d. *Wanted* (pa. pple.) : *colloq.* or humorous ellipsis for *wanted by the police*, said of persons whose apprehension is required for arrest or defence.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dic.* s. *Wanted*, when any of the traps or runners have a private information against a family person [sc. a thief] and are using means to apprehend the party, they say, such a one is wanted. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlii, 'Yes, he was wanted.' 'Very particular!' inquired Mr. Bolter. 'No,' replied the Jew, 'not very. He was charged with uttering a bad note, that's all.' 1870 *Times* 5 Sept. 5/5 The prisoner..said he wished to give himself up, having heard that he was 'wanted'.

e. *What does he want with?* (or with a person or thing?) = 'What is his object in dealing with (the person)?' or 'Why should he care to possess (the thing)'. Also (*? dial.*) const. *of.*

1826 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 309 (tr.) Death, what can you want of Fanny? With your ripless teeth and sockets, How should you contrive to kiss her? 1832 Scott *Cr. Robt.* vii, Once more, what dost thou want with me? and why hast thou the boldness to watch me? 1852 Mrs. H. Wood *Channings* xxiv, It is an incredible mystery. What should he want with the money? The tale told, about his having debts, has no foundation. 1888 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1021 Yet, for the last time, what do you want with me? 1897 McCarthy *Own Times* V. xxi. 489 What does the Irishman want with tobacco, or wine, or spirits? it might perhaps fairly be asked. But then comes the other question, What does the Englishman want of wine, or spirits, or cigars?'

f. With ellipsis of a verb of motion, *to want out* (*in*, etc.): to wish to go out (in, etc.). Chiefly *Sc., north. Ir.*, and *U.S. colloq.*

1894 W. Jamie *Muse of Mearns* 86 (E.D.D.) A sturdy chap.. Cam to the door and wanted in. 1896 J. Nicholson *Idylls o' Hame* 10 Jenny, are ye wantin' out 'Mang the knowes to frisk about? 1899 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 5 Sept., The turnkey

says if the prisoner had informed him he wanted out, he would have been released. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 6 Dec 7/8 Just then he heard a knock at the door, and told me that some one wanted in. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 19 Sept. An old gentleman who was drawn to serve on the grand jury.. wanted out, but the court asked for excuses he said [etc.]. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* xxiii. 236 It was cold and he wanted back to the inn fire-side.

6. *Comb.*: + **want-grace**, one who lacks grace, a reprobate: cf. *lack-grace*, *scapegrace*. See also Want-wit.

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 57 2 And rather then they should not die by force, Or want a Want-grace to performe the Deede, Their Vncle and Protector must performe Their Crowne from Head, and Head from Life diuorce. 1611 Shakspere *Cymb.* III. iv. 31 Thus may adulterous want-graces looke into Tereus fall.

**Want**, obs. pa. t. of Wean *v.*

**Wa'n't** (want). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* A contracted form of *wots not* (cf. *wast'i*). Now only used, in literature, in representations of dialectal or vulgar speech. Cf. *ain't*, *don't*, etc.

1790 Vanbrugh *False Friend* v. i, Who did you let in then? it wan't your Master, sure? 1797 Foote *Author* Epilogue Wks. 1799 I. 129 Says Lady Bell..There wan't a creature there.

**Wantag**, obs. Sc. form of Vantage *sb.*

**Wa'ntage**[1]. In 7 **Wantige**. The name of a town in Berkshire (OE. *Wandtinga*), the birthplace of King Alfred. Used *attrib.* in + *Wantage cap.*

1689 Rowlev *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 31 Monmouth caps, Wantige caps, round caps, etc.

**Wantage**[2] (wo·ntéj). *T.N. Comm.* [f. Want *v.* + -age.] Deficiency, shortage.

1828–32 Webster, *Wantage*, deficiency; that which is wanting. 1888-9 *New York Produce Exchange Report* 256 (Cent.) Inspectors and Gaugers shall make a detailed return ..of each lot inspected, showing..the gauge, wantage, proof, and number of puncheons.

**Wantage**, obs. Sc. form of Vantage.

**Wante, wanteau**, obs. forms of Wanty.

**Wanted** (wo·ntéd), *ppl. a.* [f. Want *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. In the senses of the verb: a. Lacking, missing; desired, needed.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 346 Make me but happy in his safe Return, Whose wanted Presence I can only mourn. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xiii. 338 To whom the Cretan: Enter, and receive The wanted weapons. 1820 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 267 They will not pay him for executing a wanted work.

b. *dial.* Dispensed with.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 84 And locks would be a wanted thing, To keep out thieves at night.

c. Of a person: Sought for by the police.

1903 G. R. Sims *Living London* III. 18/2 Down the long lines of beds the uniformed figures go,..till they reach the bedside of the two 'wanted' men, who have to find themselves in the grip of the law. 1912 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 338/2 A periodical called *The Detective*, in which portraits of wanted persons are given.

2. *absol.* as *sb.* Chiefly in *plural*. Persons or things that are 'wanted' (i.e. advertised for, sought by the police, etc.). Chiefly *colloq.*

1793 W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 21 ¶ 5 I design to publish a list of Wanteds, wholly for the use of your Paper. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 23 Mar. 3/4 A policeman answering a 'wanted' in a common lodging-house. 1907 *Skrewsbury Chron.* 27 Dec., *Heading of Advt.*, *columns*, Wanteds. 1910 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Jan. 98/2 Two 'wanteds' figured conspicuously in a crowd .in Shoreditch.

+ **Wanted**. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: perh. some error.] A bundle, burden, pack.

1590 Mirrefield, *Gavrard* to winde a cord as carriers do to packe their wantels with [Cf. Percyvall (1591), *Garole*, Fustis quo funem torquent ir ligandis sarcinis.]

**Wanter**[1] (wo·ntəɹ). [f. Want *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who is deficient in something. ? *Obs.*

1611 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* (Grosart) 21/2 What should I thinke of courage? if it wants, The wanters are despis'd of God and men. 1886 *Spectator* 13 Feb. 209/2 The wanters were many and the wealthy few.

2. One who is in need or desirous of something.

1597 Shirley *Let. to Mrs. Howard* 9 July, But you know too well already how very injudicious the general tribe of wanters are. 1598 Rider *Caterva* VIII. 1. 1. Suppose *B*, in such great want of this treasure, as to be unable to live without it. And suppose *A*, the Miser, has such an opinion of *B*, the Wanter, that he would rather lend it to him, than to any mortal living. 1867 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 21 Dec. 801 An exchange..in which the wanters and the wanted may meet.

b. One who seeks a husband or wife. *dial.*

1793 Ramsay *Fair Assembly* viii. Then, ilka wanter wale a wife, Ere sild and humdrums seize ye. 1804 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 8 There's lads but few in our town, And lasses wanters plenty. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, And dinna sneeze at Jos, if he should be for drawing up wi' you, he's a handy boy, and a wanter. 1870 C. Gibson *Lack of Gold* xxii, He did not belong to the set of lively 'wanters' —as the bachelors were designated.

**Wanter**[2] (wo·ntəɹ), *dial.* [f. Want *sb.*[2] + -er 1.] A mole-catcher.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 8 July 3/5 John Perry, the old 'wanter', or mole-catcher of Luccombe.

**Wanty, -teye**, obs. forms of Wanty.

**Wantful** (wo·ntful), *a.* [f. Want *sb.*[2] + -ful.] Full of wants, exacting.

1859 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 180/1 My Caesar's whims, which, day and night, More wantful, do but grow wish surfeiting.

**Wantgard**, obs. Sc. form of Vanguard.

**Wanthrift** (wo·nþrift). *Sc.* [f. Wan- + Thrift *sb.*[1]] 1. Lack of thrift or economy; prodigality. b. A thriftless person; also *collect.*

a. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 79 Quhat wickidnesa, quhat wanthrift now in warld walkis! 1563 W. Crevstal *Kingdom of Agipes* 100 Never to wanthrift may any deil drive ye Ia the wish o' wee Wattie the bard o' Buckhyvie.

b. a 1565 Montgomerie *Flyting* 438 Let no vice in this warld in this wanthrift be wanted. *a* 1580 R. Maitland in *Maitland MS.* (S. T. S.) I. 59 Off our wanthrift sum wyfis playis.

Hence **Wa·nthrifty** *a. Sc.*, unthrifty.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 261 Vyle venemous viper, wanthrifdest [*Dalkeard*, wanthreitiest] of things.

**Wan-thriven**, *a. Sc.* [f. Wan- + Thriven *a.* Cf. Da. *vantreven.*] Ill-developed, stunted in growth.

1508 Kennedy *Flyting w. Dunbar* 493 Evill schrywin, wanthrivin, not clene na curius. *a* 1568 Montgomerie *Flyting* 527 Threed-bare bee their thrift as thou art wanthreivin [*v.r.* vantirewin, wanthriven]! 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xx, And what am I but a poor wanted, wan-thriven tree? 1825 Jamieson Suppl., *Lingel*, thin, lean, wanthriven.

**Wantie, Wantige**, obs. ff. Wanty, Wantage[1].

**Wanting** (wo·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Want *v.* + -ing 1.] The condition of being without, or lacking, something; the absence or deficiency of something.

*c* 1300 *Cure S.* 11676 We o water has nu wanting, Ve water purueance es gan. *c* 1380 Wyclif *De Apostasia Clerc* i. Sel. Wks. III. 431 Bodyliche aloyte, or wantyng perof, makip pe chirche not holy. 1548 Hall *Chron.* 1 b, Without wanting of any thyng. 1599 Hulton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) i. lxxvi, What is synne but a wanting or a forberyng of good. 1643 Jas. I *Kinges* (?), Ixxxvi, Nunn diliedi wonderfullie, for wanting of thare maiis. *c* 1900 *Melusine* xxiv. 179 Woo were to me yf for wantyng of a pren & valyaunt man it shuld retourne in to the paynemes handes. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. vii. 126 And take vpon command, what helpe we haue That to your wanting may be ministred. 1637 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 92 If we would not deceive our selves sometimes to fashion wantings and other hardnesses and austerities. 1680 *W. Allen's Pernas. Peace & Unity* Pref. p. lxxvi, The Printers wanting of Copy to fill up this sheet, is the only occasion of this Postscript. 1688 Otway *Venice Preserv'd* iv. 1, Why was such happiness not given me pure? Why dash'd with cruel wrongs, and bitter wantings? 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles* 1 Wanting They take me, and for one whom some all I have—My having and my wanting, both are theirs.

**Wanting** (wo·ntiŋ), *pres. ppls.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Want *v.* + -ing 2.]

A. As pres. ppls. (only predicatively).

1. That is absent or lacking; not forthcoming, not supplied or provided.

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1505 So þat, if oght wantand be, In whom defaut es, my men se. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 54 So þai lukid about þaire, & one of þaim sayd þat he chamberlayn was wantand. 1577 B. Googe *Herrebach's Husb.* I. 36 If dowue be wanting to mende the ground withall. 1667 Milton *P. R.* II. 430 And what in me seems wanting, but that I May also in his peace; as soon Accomplish what they did? 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 168 When the Saltseller was wanting, the Table was loob'd on as Barren. 1711 Dickens *Fiduc.* ii, Mr. Weeks diligently watched his opportunity; it was not long wanting. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 29 Oct. 5/2 There are not wanting indications that a calm is more apparent than real. 1888 C. Scholl *Paracel. Dict.* II. 830 Nothing will be wanting on my part to render your stay in our city as agreeable as possible.

b. Const. *to* (? formerly also simple dative)

23.. *Cursor M.* 6499 Quen manna sal vs wantand be, He sal send vs wid plente. 1591 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, i. 1. 82 Were our Teares wanting to this Funerall. 1640 tr. *Ferdeck's Examen* 5 Wanting to this rule I say not for my part, but to say without vanity, that Crowns are unjustly wanting to their worth. [*Fr. que les couronnes manquent iniustement à leur merite.*] 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 1 Among the gift of nature or of fortune seemed to be wanting to her. 1861 Paley *Aeschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 817 *note*, Hy this slight and happy change..an imperative, hitherto wanting to the sentence, is obtained.

c. fig. *To be wanting to*: to fail to help or satisfy (a person or need); to prove unequal to, fall below (a claim, expectation, duty, opportunity). *To be wanting to oneself*: to fail to do justice to oneself; to fall below the standard imposed by one's character and abilities (now *rare* or *arch.*).

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rem. of Rom. t.* xliii. 176 When they had all promised rather to dye then be wanting to the duty of a good Knight [*Fr. plustost que manquer au deuoir d'vn bon Cheualier.*] 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 12 Some alledge God will not be wanting to any who are not wanting to themselves. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 971 Nor shall I to the work thou enterprisest be wanting, but of thee this equal aid. 1721 W. Wotton *Hist. Rome* 343 He was mightily wanting also to himself in the choice of his Officers. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. I. 17 Cordy was not wanting to his good fortune. 1765 Cowper *Let. to Unwin* 31 Dec., You observe therefore that I am not wanting to myself; be that is so, has no just claim on the assistance of others. 1794 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 89 The Venddans were not wanting to themselves in so terrible a crisis. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. vii. 440 The Earl was not a man to be wanting to his country at such a moment. 1872 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* II. Ded. p. vi, You have never been wanting to me..when I had occasion in any difficulty to seek your judgment.

+ 2. Needful, requisite, necessary. *Obs.*

1756 Washington *Writ.* (1889) I. 261 To carry on all these works, a number of tools..will be absolutely wanting. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 98 Mrs. Buchanan's first plan was to take such a number of servants with her as would be wanting to attend on her husband. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Prussian Vase* Wks. 1816 I. 248 She added, that the count had written all that was wanting for her.

3. That lacks, or is without, something. Usu. with a defining prepositional phrase: see b, c, d.

1611 Bible *Dan.* v. 27 Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. II. 453 His rectitude and piety, tried by strong temptations and never found wanting.

+ b. const. *of*. *Obs.*

1598 Stace. *Rom. & Yul.* II. ii. 78 My life were better ended by their hate, Then death proroged wanting of thy Loue. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 286, I give those Kingdoms to you and your Heirs for ever, and wanting of Heirs, to revert unto my Successors again. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 2 Her Limbs enervated and supine, wanting of that Energy that should bear her [etc.]. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 23 It is wanting of Leaves.

c. const. *in*.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* Ded. to Ld. Clifford, Though England is not wanting in Learned Nobility. 1704 Pope *Let.* 1 Aug. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 353 And hope..he will not be found wanting in the knowledge of his profession. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Archæ* II. 237 No one..would suspect them of being wanting in fun. 1896 *Law Times* C. 393 1 The Doctor's reply to Junius was not wanting in inclusiveness.

d. const. *for, rare*.

1894 Dabent *Half a Life* I. 115 As I was wanting for a nickname,..I was called 'the Companion of the Bath'.

+ 4. That is short of (a certain age). *Obs.*

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) I. 289, I was then wanting of Fourteen.

+ 5. With inf. Slow or backward *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1691 *T. Smithson's Francis Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 286 The Monk was extraordinarily applauded for this his curious Thought, and he was not wanting to make good use of it. 1738 *Wesley's Hymns, Thanksg. for Birth* iii, Let angels be wanting to rejoice Thro' Deadness or Delays: The Stones themselves would find a Voice To celebrate his Praise. 1758 Mackie *Insurances* II. 1 as all those that are wanting to do their Duty in this Respect, shall be obliged to make Satisfaction.

6. Mentally defective, weak-minded. *dial.*

1897 *Holderness Gloss.*, You meant tak noonin o' what he said; he's a bit wantin. 1898 *Yks. Dial. Soc.* 12 July 1/3 Making him seem to be what village-people call 'wanting'.

II. As *ppl. a.* (in attrib. use).

1. Absent, lacking, missing.

1597 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VII. 206/2 To Jenkyns Freman for a wanton [*sic*] Box that barker loste, xiid. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxv. P 50 He Sets out ..a Quire..to make good the wanting Sheets. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Sept. 1685, Then the wanting Boy who was pretended to have a wanting leg restor'd him. 1891 Sylvester in *Lond. etc. Phil. Mag.* Sept. 209 It is difficult to see how the wanting factor escapes detection. 1894 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* 302 Many a wanting feature had to be supplied. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 232/1 By no searching in his girdle..could he produce the wanting money.

2. Deficient, lacking (in something expressed or implied by the context); esp. lacking in money or necessaries of life, needy, necessitous. Also *absol.*

Now *rare* or *Obs.*

*a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit without Money* II. iv, I have not seen a Gentleman so buck-ward, a wanting Gentleman, 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 338 Bees though..they have sufficiently stored and replenished their hives.. yet will they not give over working; may some say, they leave robbing and that from the weaker and wanting hives. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 10 He thrusts the Wood from the bunching-out side, into the wanting side. 1689 Sir W. Petty *Will* in *Trans. R. Ir. Acad.* XXIV. ii. 114, I give twenty pounds to the most wanting of the parish between Lady. 1709 Swift *Lett. to Hon. Henr. and* 9 July, Thus wanting people are like drowning people, who lay hold of every reed or bulrush to save them. 1727 *Will* in J. O. Payne *Rec. Engl. Catholics* (1889) 93 £50 to the two bishops..to give to the most pious and wanting of their clergy to pray for me.

Hence **Wa·ntingly** *adv.*, **Wa·ntingness**.

1613 Heale *Answ. Fervor* 13 The maine ends, are..supply of wantingnesse, alloy of wilfulnesse. 1866 [J. Grove *Nec. Ideals* ii. 1876) 24 The wantingness which is the call to action. 1894 [Ena] *Naturalist on Prowl* 54 Gaunt greyhounds of covs and calves with..lustrous eyes staring wantingly.

**Wantless** (wo·ntlés), *a. rare.* [f. Want *sb.*[2] + -less.] Having no want or lack. Hence **Wa·ntlessness**.

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* III. xiv. (1589) 56 The want-lesse Countie Essex, Kent, Surrey, and wealthie Sleyde in Hertfordshire. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 393 All Winter-long, Thou [the Lambourn stream] never shown't a drop, Nor send'st a doit of need-less Subsidie, To Cramm the Kennel's Want-lesse Treasurie, Before her Store be spent, and springs be staid. 1592 C. Monkhouse *Corn & Poppies* B1 No faith in giving To wantless dead the crumbs that feed the living. 1598 Dallington *Rem. Aper.* 48 A German thinker has denounced the 'accursed wantlessenass of the masses as the great inner obstacle of social progress.

+ **Want-louse**. *Obs. rare.* [a. Du. *wantluis* or LG. *wantlûs* (cf. MLG., OEG., MHG. *wantlûs*), a 'wall-louse', bug.] A bed-bug, bug (*Cimex lectularius*).

1658 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 83 The Smell of a Wanlouse may kill a Child in the Mother's Womb. 1796 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Want-Louse*, a sort of Insect. Hence in later Dicts.

**Wantoe**, obs. north. f. Want.

**Wanton** (wo·ntən), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4

**wantowen, 4–5 +towne, 5 wantowe, wantion, 4–6 wantoun, (6 wantount), 4 *Sc.* vanton, 4–5 wantun, 5–6 wantoun, 4– wanton.** [ME. *wantowen, f.* WAN- + *towen* :—OE. *togen* pa. pple. of *tēon* TEE *v.*[1] to discipline, train. The word thus literally means 'undisciplined'; cf. UNTOWEN *a.*, and the equivalent *G. ungezogen*; also ME. *wel-towen* well-brought-up.]

**A.** *adj.*

†**1.** Of persons: Undisciplined, ungoverned; not amenable to control, unmanageable, rebellious. Of children: Naughty, unruly. *Obs.*

*Wanton of word*: violent or insolent in speech.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11918 Vor sun pat wantun [*Cott.* wan-toun] and pat wild, Wit his banning has elan vr child. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 57 For whome Blod is Bremore pen Bruyn pen is Inwit Doounde, And eke wantoun and wylde withouten eny Reoun. *a.* 1400–50 *Alex.* 2881 Ich hadle, pe wanton child wole kenne, Chastyse wib yerde, and bete hit sore. c 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1230 'A' seyde Reason, 'then I know well that felawe. Wylde he ys & wanton, of me stant hym noon awe.' c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wantowe, *insolens, insolutus.* c 1450 HENRY *Wallace* I. 211 A baly schrew, wantoun in his entent. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 100 The Carll was wantoun of word, and wox wonder wraith. c 1490 *Chast. Goddes Childr.* 15 If the childi wexe wanton the moder beteth hym by tyme with a litil rodde and the stronger he wexeth the grettier rodde she taketh. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* CXXVII. (1533) 66 Dagobert . . associated vnto hym prynces persones and lordes of his mayster. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 283 He with Piers of Gaueston and other wanton and wilde persons, had broken the Parke of the seyde bishop. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Titus* I. 7 (1619) 127 Thus he shal make such wanton who should rather be kept vnder, by speaking peace to whom it belongeth not. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 72 The Dutchess of Monmouth came with several ladies of fashion to the Duke [a little boy] at Windsor, when unfortunately he was a little wanton, suffering some improper expressions to escape him.

†**b.** Of an animal: Skittish, refractory. Of a hawk: Out of hand, unmanageable. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* iv. 16 For Israel is gone backe, like a wanton cowe. c 1575 *Treat. Bk. Keeping Sparehawks* (1886) 28 Sugar-candy after will make her lusty, moyste, and proude, and being ofte used will make her wanton and to noie away. 1706–9 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quat* (1809) II. 215 The cow kicked up her heels, and proved wanton and refractory.

†**c.** Of actions: Lawless, violent; in weaker sense, rude, ill-mannered. *Obs.* Cf. 5 *b.*

c 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2 Wan [counsels to lestyn] of wir-schip I-wis alike as pam wyse lattis, And wam of wanton werkis pa pat ere wild-heild. c 1430 *Bk. Curtesie* 20 in *Babees Bk.*, And take good heed to wisdom & reason pat bi no wantowne lauynge pou do noon offence.

**d.** Said of boys, with mixture of sense 4: often (after Shakspere's use) with reference to childish cruelty.

1606 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. i. 38 As Flies to wanton Boyes are we to th' Gods, They kill vs for their sport. 1691 E. WALKER *tr. Epictetus' Mor.* xxxiv, Else you'll deuse, and jade like wanton Boys. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 189 Had her wanton son Lent her his wings, we could not have be guil'd With more elusive speed the dazzled sight Of wake-ful jealousy. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xlvii, You make me feel like the poor bird, around whose wing some wanton boy has fixed a line, to pull the struggling wretch to earth at his pleasure.

**2.** Luscious, unchaste, lewd. +Also, in milder sense, given to amorous dalliance.

**a.** of persons (in early use only of women).

1383 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IX. 243 That alle wommen wantowen shulleb be war by pe one, And biterliche banne pe. *Ibid.* VIII. 300 Ich haue ywedded a wyf, quab he, wel a wantowen [B. IV. wantoun, wanton] of maners. c 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. vi. 464 A woman occupyit pat stede Fwa yeris as paip... Bot scho wes wantoun of hire ware. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplandyshm.* (1703) 38 Her name was wanton Besse, Who leest wath her delt he theryed not the lesse! 1528 *Corbe Lorell's B.* 14 And many whyte nonnes with whyte vayles, That was the fashion of theyr tayles. 1589 UNDERDOWN *Ovid's Invect. Hist* D 3 b, Tyrrheus . . gaue sentence of fuitiues sayle, and concluded that women were the wantoner. Wherefore I haue no mouse to anger put vnto vs eyes. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 19 Thou art a most pernitious Vsurer, Luxurious, wanton, more then well be-seemes a man of thy Calling, and Degree. 1592 *Ib.* 3 *Hen. VI* I. v. 5 My wife Did flue imprisond in my wanton flesh. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks* (1662) 190 Henry [I] . . was very wanton, as appeareth by his numerous natural issue. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. i, As for the Wanton Reflexions, I would gladly know who are those Wanton Wives he speaks of? 1726 FOSDYCK *Serm. Dog. Woman* (1765) I. 126 A daughter . . turns out unruly, foolish, wanton.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 129 When we haue laught to see the sailes conceaue, And grow big bellied with the wanton winde. 1626 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 220 Vond Towers, whose wanton tops do buisse the clouds, Must kisse their owne feet. 1679 *The Confinement: a Poem* 55 Curst be those Mountains, wanton with the Sun, From whose fast bot embraces, Tagus run.

**c.** of dispositions, thoughts, speech, action, or appearance.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 600 And after that he sang ful loude and cleere, And kaste his yen, and made wantowne cheere. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10824 Oft in wantown werkes wex foil with childa. c 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 378 But whoso all other she [Venus] had a wanton ey. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 760 She thought him secretly familiar with the king in wanton company. 1577 *Bk. Nurture in Babees Bk.* 64 But especyally keepe them from reading of fayned fables, vayne fantesyes, and wanton stories. 1631 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 176 But consider this Commandment in the full extent of it, as forbidding all wanton lookes. *a* 1632 WOOD *Life* &c. (O.H.S.) I. 366 A wanton (in plaine terme, a bawdy) expression. 1782 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 10 June, I should have cared little about a wanton expression. 1789–96 MOORE *Amer. Geog.* II. 346 By the continuation of wanton attitudes, they acquire a frantic lasciviousness. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. ii, And dancing round him, with wanton looks and bare arms. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc., Giddiness*, Those evil powers, rude gaze and wanton word.

**d.** of writers.

1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 144 They are always abusing 'wanton poets'.

**3.** Sportive, unrestrained in merriment.

†**a.** Of persons: Jovial, given to broad jesting, waggish. Also, free from care. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 208 A frere ther was, a wantowne and a merye, A lymytour, a ful solempne man . c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1878) 3 Bot thow nocht wantoun, hail, and in gud howp. Bathing in bliss, and set in bie curaige! *Hist.* xxvii. 7 Wantone in weill but wo, Glaid without grief also.

**b.** Of young animals; Frisky, frolicsome. (Often playful.)

1569 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Lascivus*, Wantoner than a yonge kidde. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* VI. 82 The easily wanton Lambs, That 'mongst the Hillocks wont to skip and play. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 74 Let the wanton Lambs, and Calues Make Iigges, and Goates Capriols. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 29 Who for thy table feeds the wanton fawn 1746 SMOLLETT *Trav. Scot.*, Let. xi. (1766) 1. 210 Are tenish'd on the rocks, Where once they fed their wanton flocks.

**c.** Said *poet.* of moving objects, viewed as if endowed with life: Sportive, impelled by caprice or fancy, free, unrestrained.

1601 SHYVER *Serv. Mart.* B iij b, Tide for the ship, and ship was for the tide. For Neptune men, and Neptune them to guide, Thames wanton currant stealing on behind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 517 So varied he, and of his tor tuous treine Curbed both the fierce neck and high head of Loue. 1746 COLLINS *Or. Lel.* I. 15 When wanton gales along the valleys play 1793 FRANCIS *tr. Hor., Odes* v. xv 9 While Pthalin locks flow wanton in the wind. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Poems, Seven Fountains* 3 A wanton bark was floating o'er the main.

†**4.** Of colour, music: Gay, lively. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abuses* L M v, Then cuerie one of these his men, he [the Lord of Misrule] musesteth with his luseries, of green, yellow or some other light wanton colour. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 290 Though he be neuer so priest, he would rather choose to accord in that wanton and pleasing musick then in that which [etc.]. 1743 COLLINS *Apol. to Hanmer* 40 With graceful ease the wanton lyre he strings.

†**4.** Spoiled; petulant (of children); hence, self-indulgent, effeminate, luxurious. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Mollio*, . . to make wanton or tender. *Ibid., Nouriticus*, wanton or delycate. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 63 Weare and tedious[s], And with our surfeiting, and wanton howres, Haue brought our selues into a burning Feuer. 1601 R. *World or Kingd. & Comment.* 169 The inhabitants [of China] partly by their effeminate and wanton kinde of life, partly by their frame of gouernment, haue little valour or manhood left them. 1728 SPENCE *Anecd.* 76, 43 Mr. Gay was a favourite in Wanton, and Incapable of the least Pain. 1746 FRANCIS *tr. Hor., Epist.* II. i. 128 When Greece beheld her Wars in triumph cease, She soon grew wanton in the Arms of Peace. 1832 LIBERALIS *Gre. of L* 19 Hence Asia's sons, and the valley of Platæa, who regained ov'er the Pelasgians in the vales of the Hermus, and grew wanton from the exuberant increase of the land.

†**b.** Delicious or dainty in appetite. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 298/1 Wanton of condycions, *friant; friande.* 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 14 If he be hungry more than wanton, bread alone will down. 1707 ARBUTHNOT etc. *John Bull* IV. Powder. How John pamper'd Equin bouth with Tit-bits, till he grew wanton.

†**c.** Of clothing, diet: Luxurious. *Obs.*

1589 CATON *Ingates of A.* I. iv. B iij b, The sundrie noble men that were present, with these Princes and Frenchmen, I wish the kynges & princes courts for to lerne pryde, lechery nor to were wanton clothing. 1598 R. HARVEY *Ruthe* 6 It commeth by excesse, and wantonnesse of diet. 1605 TIMME *Quersit. natural.* the entertainment of spirits, sweetmeats, etc., giue to them in a house at the birth of a child, leuitoid[alis] is elsewhere called Child-wort.

†**d.** Said of money or wealth, as tempting to extravagance or luxury. *Obs.*

1599 MORE *Dyalogue* (1531) 76 b, And hauyng a lyttell wanton money, which by no thought brenned out the bottom of his purs. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. 1 Their wanton and Plentiefull. 1608 CRAFTON *Chron.* II. 78 The hope of gaye apparell, ease, pleasure, and other wanton wealth was alide soon to entice a soft tender mind. 1625 JEREMIAH *Serm. Wanton.* I. Wotton . most tempting for a great person and a wanton purse to reader it conspicuous. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vil.* 60 The thoughtless masquerade, With all the franks of wanton wealth arrayed.

†**5.** Of persons: Insolent in triumph or prosperity; reckless of justice and humanity; merciless. *Obs.*

1573 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xiv. 149 O, quod the maid, thou fals Figurlane, Our wantoun In thy proud mynd, all in vane [*L. frustrauque animus elate superbit*]. 1605 CAPT J. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 129 They now began to shrinke, and giue vs leaue to inioy our owne aduantages. 1623 BURROUGHS *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* vi. 266 When men get abundance, they soon grow wanton. a 1689 SIDNEY *Dis. Govt.* II. xv (1704) 114 When that proud City [Rome] found no more resistance, it grew wanton. 1728 STEELE *Conscr. Lovers* III. i, You took no Delight, when you immediately grew wanton in your Conquest. 1784 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 383 When I behold . Each wanton judge new penal statutes draw.

**b.** Of cruelty, injury, insult, or neglect: Unprovoked and reckless of justice or compassion; arbitrary, gratuitous.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath* II. xliv 342 Which is not arguing from Scripture, but a wanton insulting over Princes. 1789 BURT *on Xerxes*. Wks 1874 II. 29 Profane swearing implies wanton disregard and irreverence towards an infinite Being. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 75 P 12 Some of them revenged the neglect . by wanton and superfluous insults. 1769 BURKE *Late St Nat* Wks. 1842 I. 199 He sees the wanton and indiscriminate seizure of papers, even in cases where the safety of the State was not pretended in justification of so harsh a proceeding. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxvi, You see the destruction that has been wanton here 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng.* II. I. 161 The feeling which has induced the legislature to interfere for the purpose of protecting beasts against the wanton cruelty of men. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref Ch. Eng.* I. 322 *note*, It is impossible to pass by the wanton manner in which this is perverted by Mr. Froude. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xxxv. 133 Tyranny consists in the wanton and improper use of strength by the stronger.

†**c.** In weaker sense: Reckless of decorum. *Obs.*

1665 GERBIER *Counsel* 20 Some wanton persons, who affect low leaning, to make use either to sit on, and break the glasse-windowes, or to shew themselves in Quipo to passengers.

†**d.** Of natural occurrences: Abnormal, extraordinary. *Obs. rare.*

a 1754 FIELDING *Ess. Conv* Wks. 1784 IX 364 These men are no less monsters than the most wanton abortions, or extravagant births.

†**6.** Capricious, frivolous, giddy. *Obs.*

1598 STARKEY *England* (1878) 117 They were no thyng mete to kendyl . Chrystian heryes to deuotyon but rather to ster wanton myndys to vayn plesure. 1599 A. SCOTT *Poems* xx. 40 Thy wantoun, foltch mynd! 1602 CHURCHYARD *Wond. Art* in Farr *S. P. Eliz* (1845) II. 404 The belaterckes and the tyckes of wanton heeles, As but vaine pleasures that we like To please a wanton mynd.

†**b.** Of a material substance: Changeable. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1681 GREW *Museum* III. § II. i, 323 Gold hath the least variety of regular figure, in the Ore, of any Metal. Because, more solid, and therefore, less wanton, than the rest.

**7.** Profuse in growth, luxuriant, rank. *poet.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 99 In the quaint Mazes in the wanton green For lack of tread are vndistinguishable. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 214 She hids you, On the wanton Rushes lay you downe. 1604 POPE *Spring* 35 Where wanton Ivy twines. 1676 DRAKE *Sonnets Petrarch* 227 Wanton weeds my garden cumbered.

†**b.** Robust, overflowing with health. *Obs.*

1604 R. GOODRICH *Inf. & Ad. Pharaoh* 78, I have examined the bloods of two hundred lusty people, two hundred wanton people.

†**8.** Unrestrained. **a.** Of speech or imagination: Extravagant. **b.** Of physical movement: Headlong, impetuous. *Obs.*

**a.** 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. 1, I have heard him wanton in his Praise Speak things of him might chime the ears of Envy 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, How does your Tongue grow wanton in her Praise! 1759 HUME *Hist. Eng., Hen. VII* III. 180 Sir Robert Sidney described . as the most perfect model of an accomplished gentleman which was ever formed even by the wanton imagination of poetry or fiction.

**b.** 1733 HOGARTH *Anat. Beauty* xvii 92, A fine Arabian war-horse, unbacked, and at liberty, and in a wanton trot.

**9.** Comb. *wanton-eyed, -winged* adjs.; †**wanton mad, stok** *adjs.*, mad with the insolence of prosperity.

1603 BARTON *Mad It ould* (Grosart) 8/1 A. sharpe-witted, wanton-eyed, and faire handed gentlewoman. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 July 1681, In a word, we were "wanton madd, and surfeiting with much plenty. 1708 *Action's Rev.* II. iii, That griefe is "wanton sick Whose stomacke can digest and brooke the dyet Of stale ill relish'd counsell. 1828 AKWIN *New Forest* (1876) 18 A world wanton sick, as one surfeiting on sense. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* 128 Each insect, and each "wanton winged bird.

**B.** *sb.*

†**1.** A person, esp a child, spoiled by over-indulgence and excessive luxury; a spoilt child, a pampered pet. *Obs.* (*Cf.* 2 *b.*)

1508 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 41 b, Our lorde knoweth well that we be wantons and farre from the holy lyfe of perfection. 1530 PALSGR. 286/2 Wanton[e] (lockenes), *nugat, nugatrix.* Wanton of condycions, *friant.* 1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref ¶ 3, A Queene if she would become fortunes wanton, she might without counsaylle reacte vnmete in the behoofe of all suche prouydence. 1580 TILNEY *Euphues* (Arb) 36, I am enforced to thinke, that thy parents made thee a wanton with too much cockering. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 70 Shall a beardeless boy, A cockred-silken wanton braue our fields. 1623 ROWLANDSON *Gen 2 Hist.* 8 So mothers deale with their little wantons, by taking the bread from them, which they most affect. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 103 A Father may love a child too fondly and make him a Wanton.

†**2.** A person, esp. a child, of playful, roguish, or sportive conduct. (Sometimes used as a term of endearment.) *Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb) 27 Sephestus Song to her Childe. Wepe not my wanton I smile vpon my knee! 1616 B. JONSON *Masque Owls* 97 *Silenus* (to the Satyrs) Peace my wantons.

†**b.** A sportive or roguish animal, bird, etc. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 126 As the Cockney did to the Eeles, when she put 'em i' th' Paste alue, she knapt 'em o' th' coxcombs with a stickle, and cryed downe wantons, downe. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 678 Their Sister Silvia cherish'd with her Care The little Wanton [a young stag]. 1792 *Lackington Harpby* iv. in Child *Ballads* IV. 27 And tak a halter. And whip it out the Wanton's nose, And tie her to the gray mare's tail. 1805 WORDSW. *Ill sequence* iii. 118 You screech-owl, I know that Wanton's nasty station. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purgat.* v. 83 The lamb, That, fickle wanton, leaves its mother's milk, To dally with itself in idle play.

3. A lascivious or lewd person. (The current use.)
† *His wanton* = his mistress. *Obs. rare.*
1590 Pilkin. *Accolastus* III. L. N iv b, His..playeth his parte stoutely or lyke a man, whyle the swete man..l the pleasantly disposed wanton leadeth wenches. 1599 Shake. *Much Ado* IV. I. 45 *Leonato.* What doo you meanne, my Lord? *Claw.* Not to be married, Not to knit my soule to an approued wanton. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 72 Oh, 'tis the wyght of hell, ..To lip a wanton in a secure Couch And to suppose her chast. 1611 Bible *Prov.* vii. Argt. 22 Solomon ..sheweth the cunning of an whore, And the desperate simplicitie of a yong wanton. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) 281 She confessed her self too worthless to be his wife, yet pleaded too worthy to be his wanton. *a* 1693 South *Serm.* (1697) II. 293 An old Wanton will be doating upon Women, when he can scarce see without Spectacles. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 171 P 1 Nothing wouldmore powerfully..guard inexperience from seduction, than a just description of the condition into which the wanton plunges herself. 1858 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 176 The hot blood of the wanton smoked on the pavement of his gardens. 1889 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* xxvii, You are a wanton by nature; but you have reckoned without your host, you fair, false devil. You shall not live to dishonour me.

4. Phrase. *To play the wanton* (or †*the wantons*), to dally, trifle; also, † to behave lewdly or lasciviously (*obs.*). Similarly, *to play the wanton's part.*
1509 Moss *Suppl. Souls* 16 b, Yf the wench be wyse and play the wanton and make the mater straunge, the more he bete her to bed to. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 164 Or shall we play the Wantons with our Woes, And make some pretty Match, with shedding Teares? 1597 T. Morley *Serm. Ps. cxix.* (1598) 290 The word of God was appointed ..to increase our reuerence of God: Not that we may play the wantons with Promises, and feed our Eares with them. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 266 P 4 [Asking] Whether she was well educated, could forbear playing the Wanton with Serviants and idle Fellows. 1720 Gildon *Thorpe & Simons* 140 Did e'er my Tongue speak my unguarded Heart The least inclin'd to play the Wanton's Part? 1850 D. G. Mitchell *Dream Life* 100 It may seem very likely occurred to you, my reader, that I am playing the wanton in these sketches.

† 5. *The wantons*: wanton fits, lascivious desires, wantonness. *Obs. rare.*
1707 [E. Dorrington] *Philip Quarrel* 53 'Tis to be hop'd you won't be troubled with the Wantons, and play the Trick your sister Juno did.

6. Comb., as *wanton-like* adj.
1617 T. Campion *3rd Bk. Ayres* xxii. Wkn. (1909) 157 Though she be wilde and wanton-like in shew, Those little staines in youth I will not see.

**Wanton** (wɒ·ntən), *v.* [f. Wanton *a.* and *sb.*]
1. *intr.* To sport amorously, to play lasciviously or lewdly. Also, *to wanton it.*
1598 Shake. *Tit. A.* II. i. 18 Will be bright and shine in Pearle and Gold, To waite vpon this new made Empresse. To waite said I? To wanton with this Queene. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 44 Many in a countrey petticoate had thought to wanton it with her lowly Adonis. 1665 R. Heathwait *Comm. 2 Tales* 54 He who even now, so lasciviously wantoned.. see how he is scarified! 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* v. Wks. 1851 V. 231 On the very day of his Coronation, he abruptly withdrew himself from the Company of his Peers,..to sit wantoning in the Chamber with the Algiva. 1708 Young *Love Fame* vi. 384 Who marry to be free, to range the more, And wed one man, to wanton with a score.

b. To play sportively, heedlessly, or idly, to frolic unrestrainedly, to gambol. Also *to wanton it.* (Said esp. of a child or young animal.)
1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 106 Yf a..Prittye lad Æneas in my count wantoned [L. *ludere*] ere thow Took'st this filthye fleing. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* 7 Where all Wit's loam Present our services to a fine new Prince One of these dayes, and then you'll wanton with vs, If we would haue you. 1827 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 53 A boy appear'd in the grove. Naked he was, alone he was; he play'd and wantoned it about. 1795 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 554 Thy infant son her fragrant bosom prest, Hung at her breast, wantond on her knee. 1702 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 332 In curling wreathes, they (porpoises] wanton on the tide, Now sport aloft, now downward swirling glide. 1818 Byron *Ch. Harold* IV. clxxxiv, And I have loved thee, Ocean! ..from a boy I wanton'd with thy breakers. 1820 Lamb *Elia, Christ's Hosp.*, How merrily we would sally forth..and strip under the first warm day, the sun's gay beams wanton like young dace in the streams. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., All Saints' Day*, As bloodhounds bush their haying wild To wanton with some fearless child.

c. To go idly or heedlessly *up and down, over, through* (a place); also, to spend one's time carelessly.
1682 Kinchevall tr. *Nepos, Elysander* 46 They left their ships to the mercy of the winds and waves and carelessly wanton'd up and down the fields (L. *dispalati in agrodi.*). 1706 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 130 The horses, camels, and guards wantoned over their tulips and other flowers, and made a terrible havoc. J. Barlow *Columb.* VIII. 490 Steeds, herds and flocks o'er northern regions rove, Embrown the hill and wanton thro the grove. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 91 O tell her, Swallow, that thy brood is flown: Say to her, I do but wanton in the South, But in the North long since my nest is made. 1916 L. P. Jacks *From Human Level* 3 Like guests in a hospitable mansion where we may eat and drink, work and wanton, as we please.

d. *transf.* of inanimate things.
1596 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 54 Cisheras all in sedges hid, Which seems to move and wanton with her breath. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* ii. 174 When, like some childish wench, she [*sc.* the river Stour] loosely wantoning, With tricks and giddy turns seems to in-dale the shore. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 900 And dancing Leaves, that wanton'd in the Wind. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 39 The wavy ringlets of her shining hair,..wantoning in and about a neck that is beautiful beyond description. 1799 Jamieson *Rauseliana* 82, A rivulet, that wantoned along the side of a winding path.
1786 Burns *Lines' Belleschapin* 3 The zephyr wanton'd round the bean, And bore its fragrant sweets along. 1798 Southey *Joan of Arc* VI. 194 When afar they ..mark the distant towers Of Orleans, and..many a streamer wantoning in air. 1858 Lytton *Alice* V. i. The sea-breeze wantoned amongst the quivering leaves of the chestnut-tree that overhung their seat.

e. To trifle (*with* something). Also quasi-*trans.* with *out*.
1589 T. Rearne in *Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 90 Whose warbling tunes might wanton out my woes. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Georgs II* (1847) II. viii. 249 He found it was no longer a season for wantoning with the resentment of his successor.

2. To run into excesses or extravagances of conduct or living; to revel (*in* a course of action). Also with *it*.
1633 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 5 Soe that both the awe of their parents may not too sensibly decrease in them, and they not wantonize through a suddaine, and unexpected encrease of liberty. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 148 P 2 The power [parental authority] which we are taught to honour from the first moments of reason; and which therefore may wanton in cruelty without control. 1752 *Ibid.* No. 190 P 10 His house was soon crowded with poets, sculptors, painters, and designers, who wantoned in unexperienced plenty. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* iv, Because he would not sit and starve ..while those who fattened on the sweat of his brow..were wantoning in champagne and champagne.

b. To indulge in extravagances of language or thought.
1640 Fuller *Joseph's Coat* 50 The witty extravagance, and Rhetoricall phrases of these Writers, were afterwards interpreted to be their distilled doctrinall positions: a dangerous it is for any to wanton it with their wits in mysteries of Religion. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 2 P 2 The pleasure of wantoning in common topicks is so tempting to a writer, that he cannot easily resign it. 1789 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1813 XV. 86 We are not persons of an age, ..of a disposition, to wanton with these counsel cuffs: that is to invent fables concerning Indian antiquity. 1838 Macaulay *Ess., Temple* (near end), For once he [Bentley] ran his wanton to no purpose.

c. *transf.* Of a garden, plant: To flourish profusely or extravagantly; to grow or ramble at will.
1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 296/1 On the latter [garden] no decoration of art has been spared; the former wantoned in the luxuriance of nature. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* xviii, As though some great ivy-plant of stone had curled and wantoned over the walls. 1907 E. Glanville *Fossicking Boy* 113 [A] wilderness, which those furze-bushes and untrimmed brambles wantoned into the likeness of trees.

d. *fig.* or of things (esp. Nature) personified.
1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 295 A Wilderness of sweets; for Nature here Wantoned as in her prime, and plaid at will Her Virgin Fancies. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 409 Hom this root has sprung a bastard slip, known by the name of the game law, now arrived to and wantoning in it's highest vigour. 1823 Chalmers *Const. Man* II. x. 114 All nature smiles in beauty, or wantons in bounteousness for our enjoyment. 1866 R. Taylor *Poems, Mondamin*, Where nature wantoned wild.

3. To deal carelessly or wastefully (*with* property, resources). Also *trans.* with *away*, to spend carelessly or wastefully, to squander (life, time, resources).
1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* iv. 39 [Of Preaching] Humane learning being a good Hand-maide and an ill companion to divinity, who, though she carry away the Jewels and Ornaments of the Ægyptians she desires to use them and not wanton with them. *a* 1656 Br. Hall *Serm. Ps. Lxviii.* 30 Wks. 1837 II. 81 Some have wasted away his life foolishly, that, when it is well, will take physic to make him sick. 1669 Penys *Diary* 28 Apr., With this money the King shall wanton away his time[s] as he pleases. 1775 Johnson *Lett.* to *Taylor* 1 It is urged that the Americans have not the same security, and that a British Legislature may wanton with their property. 1811 J. Pratt in *Br. Cecil's Pol.* (1827) I. 321 A minister has no right to wanton away the support of his family.

† 4. *trans.* To make wanton; to lead into extravagances of conduct, living, etc. *Obs.*
*c* 1600 Chalkhill *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 88 For he reign'd More like a Beast, than Man, wantoning his Power.
wantoning his people, without Law Or Exercise to keep their minds in awe. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxvi. 83 If ever Heaven wanton'd the Devil comes in dreames, and wantonneth the ill-inclining soule.

Hence **Wantoning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1596 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxiii. (1612) 304 Full fortie Hoasts of Hares, besides wantoning, do flie, That to their Pope for wantoning no small Reuenew giue. 1597 Br. Hall *Sat.* I. iii. 34 But since, I saw it painted on Fames wings, The Muses to wanton wantonings. 1611 Florio *Montaigne* II. i. 5 Her embracings and wantonnings. 1701 W. Nichols *Consid. Parents* 40 The innocent Wantonings of a beloved Child. 1711 E. Greene *17th Cent. Stud.* (1938) 1. 24 Silence betokens that wee[k] here mere wantonings of the air upon a wind-harp. 1901 T. R. Glover *Life & Lett. Fourth Cent.* viii. 284 The story of the wantoning Dido.

**Wanton** (wɒ·ntən), *sb.*[1] (*B.*)
**Wantoner** (wɒ·ntənəɹ). *rare.* Also 9 -onner. [f. Wanton *v.* + -er 1.] A person who acts wantonly or is given to wanton behaviour.
1818 *Examiner* 28 Dec. 821/2 Was this the action of a penitent wantonner in libel? 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 372 Falsely, alas! I wantonner 1885 *Swanwick Æschylus, Agamem.* 742 In human ill Wild wantoner for aye. 1902 R. Dehan' *Betw. Two Thieves* xxiv. 192 There is a hell for chamberers and wantoners!

† **Wantonhede.** *Obs.* Also 5 wantow(n)hede, wantoned. [f. Wanton *a.* + -hede, -head.] Wantonness.
*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5911 Women are wount in Wantonhede yee, With a lilkyng full light in loue for to falle. 1535 Misyr *Fire of Love* 4 Wharefor je loy of clerenes jat sall not rote, jai change to wantoned of lesue jat sal not last. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wantowhedi [*v. rr.* wantown-, wanton-] or wantownesse, *insolencia, dissolucio.*

**Wantonize** (wɒ·ntənaiz), *v. arch.* Also 6–7 wantonnize. [f. Wanton *a.* and *sb.* + -ize.]
1. *intr.* To play the wanton; to dally, sport, frolic; to indulge in lasciviousness.
1590 Daniel *Rosamond* K 3 b, Sweetly it fits the fair to wantonize. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxix. 98 It is women communicate their parts as much as a man list to wantonize with them. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. (1616) 59 When the prettie Rill a place espies, Where with the Pibbles she would wantonize. 1661–98 South *Serm.* III. 309 The mind of Man..would, if let alone, lash out, and Wantonize in a boundless enjoyment and Gratification of all its Appetites, and Inclinations. 1826 Lamb *Elia, Sanity of True Genius*, The judgment might with some pleas be pardoned if it ran riot, and a little wantonized.
† b. with *it*.
1621 Cotgr., *Reger*, lasciuiously to toy, dallie, or wantonnize it. 1652 Earl Monm. tr. *Boutrouë's Hist. Relat.* 55 The Spring for many moneths together doth wantonnize it there.
† c. quasi-*trans.* with *away*.
1673 Hickeringill *Gregory, Father-Greph* 43 Wantonizing away their time and opportunities to do good.

2. *trans.* To make wanton. *rare.*
1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 236 Their Wealth so growes, that, wantonniz'd without, Their envious Shepheards broach it civill Brawl. 1692 Berlowen *Theophil.* xx. xxxi. 197 Prosperitie's an ill Hir wantonisd breeds worms within. 1908 *Sweet's Ant Jnns* 49 Pure are your lips and eyes; Must years ompressing Teach you to wantonize Them in caressing?

Hence **Wantonizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* To Rdrs. A 4 b, Wherin I follow the trace of the famousest schollers of all ages, whom a wantonizing humour once in their life hath constrained to play with strawes. 1612 W. Parkes *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 29 The coyest wantonizing City-dame. 1633 Earl Manch. *Al Mondo* (1636) 153 Pride..must be counted State,..Wantonising, a tricke of youth. 1712 J. Ker *Verulam's Ghost of Rom.* II. xxxix. 148 A thousand amorous wantonizing[s].

**Wantonly** (wɒ·ntənli), *adv.* [-ly 2.] In a wanton manner. a. Lewdly, lasciviously; voluptuously, luxuriously. Also, † *wantonly* it.
*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saintis* vi. (Thomas) 466 Pe fleschc þat we fed here maste vntonly in dayntiis sere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 281 And wantownely agayn with hym she pleyde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf* (Ashm.) 14 Wexil. (1869) Wantounliche thou wilt hose him, and take him noble robes. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchedyn* xxii. 72 The smylynges and fayre shewes of their eyen, which were to me faste full often vpon that yonge knyght. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Dellentus*, delycate, wantonlye broughte vppe. 1588 Grafton *Chron.* II. 521 The bishop saw..that he lyued wantonly consumed, nor vainely spent. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 89 Some of our young men..would talk wantonly with them [the women]. 1732 Steele *Spect.* No. 466 P 3 The flippant insipidly Gay and wantonly Forward, whom you behold among Dancers.

b. Frolicsomely, sportively, playfully, lightheartedly.
1526 Lyte. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11249 She held a gloue vantounly, And tourndy yt full fiftyaly Aboute hyr flyngres vp & doun. 1599 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 37, I beheld the pretty fachs wantonnly sterland vithi them in the meid. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* viii. 448 She..oft in-lales the shore, as wantonly she flowes. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* v. iv. 2 How wantonly The wind blows through the leaves, the corn, and playes with 'em! 1663 Cowley *Country Mouse* 9 A Mouse of high degree, which till his way, Wantonly walking forth to take the Air. 1777 Sir W. Jones *Poems Fountains* 37 Soone wantonly were skipping in a ring.

c. Recklessly, unadvisedly; without proper excuse or motive; without regard for right or consequences; in a way that betrays delight in wrongdoing or mischief, wilfully.
1590 Greene *Conj.* II. 14 Let me be hot hors withoute lawe The carte let aboute drawe Wher as hem liketh wantonly. *c* 1600 *Destr. Troy* 3406 Why wrought ye so wantonly in your wilde yre? 1596 Spenser *Rel. Introitio* 4 Wherefore is he so slenderly Christ wantonly. 1623 Dekker *Agreeng.* IV. (1876) 58 But do not wantonly my passion move. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* II. vi, To pardon great criminals wantonly, without any reason whatever. 1781 J. Gibbon *Lett.* III. 229 The Goth..expressed..his lively sense of the insult so wantonly offered to his person. 1801 Helen M. Williams *St. Maura. Fr. Republic* II. 40 Such is the conduct which condemned a boy to death for wantonly plucking out the eyes of a bird. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 407/2 Preventing a litigant without a case from wantonly harassing his opponent. 1888 A. H. Smith *Catal. Engr. Gems Brit. Mus.* 208 The [Portland] vase was wantonly broken on February 7, 1845, by a mad gentleman, named William Lloyd.

**Wantonness** (wɒ·ntənnés). Forms: see Wanton *a.* [f. Wanton *a.* + -ness.]
1. The quality of being wanton, in various senses.
a. Lasciviousness, lewdness.
*c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 4, I rane [be] the wantonnes of fleschc and I fand noghte [bere]. 1586 Lamb. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 120 Wyues and widewes wantonnesse hootcheb. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's Prol.* 31 It wol nat conne sayyn,..Namoore than wole Malkyves maydenhede, Whan she hath lost it in her wantownesse. *c* 1430 *Christ's Compl.* 238 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 175, I haue myspendid my 3onge age In ryotte, & wantownesse also. 1577 More *Hist. Trl.* Wks. 36/1 How (Edw. IV] was of youthe greately geuen to fleshlye wantonnesse. 1586 Tindale *Jude* 4 They are vngodly and turne the grace of oure lorde God vnto wantonnesse. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* A 2, The riotous wantonnesse of Pasiphae. 1874 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* x. (1906) 88 Concerning his [Ovid's] bookes, *Amorum* and *de arte amandi*, the wit.. will beare out the wantonnesse. 1900 Strand *Twelve No.* 49 P 8 That Scene of Wantonness, Messalina's Bad-chamber!
1933

Thirlwall *Greece* xl. (1839) II. 50 To protect the state from the..pollution of wantonness and profaneness.

† **b.** Effeminacy, foppish affectation. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Pers. tale* 264 Somwhat be lipped for his wantowenesse To make his englissh swete vp on his tonge.

† **c.** Excessive appetite. *Obs.*

a 1400 In Hearne *Rob. of Glouc. Addenda* note, His fleashe wolde have charged him with fatnesse, but that the wantonesse of his wombe with trausaile and fastyng he adauntath.

† **d.** Unbridled luxury, extravagance in expenditure. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxvi. 84 The honour ..of this maner of people oweth not to ben accounted..of clothynge of sylues harneys ne wantonesse of his owne persone. 1500-20 Dunbar *Fastnes zarlis*, 5 All wellfair, welth and wantonnes Ar changit in to wretchidnes. a 1521 Cavendish *Hist. Irel.* vi. (1633) 18 Linnen shirts the rich doe weare for wantonnes and bravery. 1602 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 200 In India and Cambaia they vse to bat the buried of great Lords, in bathes and in other wantonnes. 1723 Steele *Guardian* No. 6 P 3 The servants below them seem to live in Plenty, but not in Wantonness.

**e.** Arrogance, insolence of triumph or prosperity. Now *rare*.

c 1380 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 549 Sa eleuait I was in wantones, And clam vpon the fickill quheill sa hie. c 1528 Skelton *Magnyfycence* 1304 With sad discrecyon correcte my Wantonnesse. a 1665 Goodwin *Rifled w. the Spirit* (1697) 33 Others [of the devils]..may be employed to stir up and cherish a spirit of pride and wantonness. 1779 J. Moore *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xliv. 372 Nothing can be a greater check to the wantonness of power. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. 83 He has therefore turned top from mere wantonness of pride and of talents. 1814 Jane Austen *Emma* I. v. 73 Weston may grow cross from the wantonness of comfort. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Organ.* v. 148 Some check on knowledge is highly necessary, to prevent it from running riot in the wantonness of its own wealth.

† *Journal.* 1911 Steele *Spect.* No. 426 P 7 The Heir..could not forbear, in the Wantonnesses of his Heart, to measure the Length and Breadth of his beloved Father.

† **f.** Unruliness, naughtiness (of a child); restiveness (of a horse). *Obs.*

1533 More *Apol.* xlvii. Wks. 902/2 As doeth the tender mother which when she hath beaten her chylde for hys wantonesse, wypeth his yien and kisseth hym. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. x. § 48 William..was through the wantonnesse of his horse cast to the ground.

† **g.** Caprice, whim. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 16 Yet I remember, when I was in France, Young Gentlemen would be sent ad nuptias only for wantonnesse. a 1632 Donne *Serm., Ps.* vi. 2 (1640) 516 David..comes not to take physick upon wantonnesse: but because the disease is violent. 1738 Butler *Anal.* II. i. Wks. 1874 I. 158 It is mere idle wantonness, to insist upon knowing the reasons. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xvii. 310 Man alone eats from pure wantonness; that he may gratify his taste, not satisfy his hunger.

**h.** Lawless extravagance, unrestrained license.

1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 315 P 12 His Flight..with the particular Description of the Sun, are set forth in all the Wantonness of a luxuriant Imagination. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. 129 Many in the wantonness of their fancy have yielded to the most idle surmises. 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. 28 Charles cannot be reproached for exacting monies.. from any wantonness of prodigality.

**i.** Reckless and unprovoked ill-doing.

1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 153 When an Indian sheds human blood, it does not proceed from wantonness, or the view of doing evil, but solely [etc.]. 1789-96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 358 The whole [of the subalterns] have since, by the wantonness of visitors, been broke down. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Sonn. Sydney*, I have been hurt by the wantonness (I wish I could treat it by a gentler name) with which W. H, takes every occasion of insulting the memory of Sir Philip Sydney. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* II. He would be as loath, in wantonness, to kill a spider, as if he were a lieutenant to King Robert. 1845 Miss Mitford *Recollections of a Literary Life* (1870) III. xi. 201 We have had here four incendiary fires! I don't know for what—mere wantonness. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* lviii, A Zouave, in wantonness bring his weapon before he threw it away, sent a random shot which struck Theodore. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 433 A man may..commit some of these crimes..in a fit of childish wantonness. 1914 Kipling *For all we have not*, Our world has passed away In wantonness o'erthrown.

**2.** An instance of wantonness; a caprice, whim; a reckless and unjustifiable act. ? *Obs.*

1650 Bp. Hall *Occas. Meditt.* (1659) 174 It is a wantonness to complaine of choyse; No Law bindes us to read all. 1664 Dryden *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, I wish we might at length leave to borrow Words from other Nations, which is now a Wantonness in us, not a Necessity. 1766 Johnson *Let. to F. A. Barnard* 28 May, Things..which are priced at a high rate by a wantonness rather than by use. 1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* v. 506 It were a wantonness, and would demand Severe reproof, if we were men whose hearts Could hold vain dalliance with the misery Even of the dead.

† **3.** As the name of an allegorical personage in a morality play. *Obs.*

1508-? *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 369 Item, that nycht, to Wantonnes that sang to the King, xiij*s*.

† **b.** *Iransf.*

1596 *Edw. III*, III. iii. 156 For whats this Edward but a belly god, A tender and lasciuious wantonnes, That thother dale was almost dead for loue? *Ibid.* III. v. 101 Now, Iohn of Fraunce, I hope, Thou knowest King Edward for no wantonnesse, No loue sicke cockney.

**Wantoun,** obs. form of Wanton, Wanty.

**Wantowe(n, -towne,** obs. forms of Wanton.

† **Wantrokie,** *v. Obs.* [ME. (*Kentish*) f. Wan- : the second element is obscure, as Troke v. yields no good sense.] *intr.* To despair ; in quot. *imperr.*, with dative of person and *of*. Hence † **Wantroking** *vbl. sb.* despair ; false or mistaken expectation.

c 1325 Shoreham 1. 910 Ac þat ne schalt þou neuere do, Bote þe wantrokyne of lyues. *Ibid.* vi. 729 Loke that thou ne go nauȝt onder Thorȝ wantrokynge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Per ne is non hope of guode, non wantrokinge of kueade.

† **Wantroth, -truth.** *Obs. rare.* Forms : 3 (*Orm.*) **wanntrowbȝ,** 4 **vantrauth, wantrouthe.** [ME. f. Wan- + Troth *sb.*, Truth *sb.* Cf. next.] Unbelief.

c 1200 Orm 3148 Forr þatt wass þurrh wanntrowwbess slæp, Patt he wass off hiss mucche All orrsæ whatt he nihhte don, Of batt he wass wiþþ childe. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 120 Pride sal I bete Wit mirakel, þat I sal schaw, And mikel fole fra vantrauth draw. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 674 To put into fere land, & preche godis word alquhare to pame at in wane-trouth are.

† **Wantrowing,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—1. [ME. f. Wan- + Trowing *vbl. sb.*] Mistrust, faint belief.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 83 In grete wanne-trowing haue ȝe bene, And wonnde harde of harris ar ȝe.

† **Wantrust.** *Obs.* Also 4 -trost, -trest, 4–5 -truste, 5 -triste. [ME. f. Wan- + Trust *sb.* Cf. M.Du. *wantroost.*] Mistrust, lack of confidence.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 794 But ones nyltow for þi coward bene,..For wantrust tellen of þi sorwes smerte. 1387 Trev. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. viii. 89, I wyte þat þese þinges for no wantrust þat I have in supposinge of thes otherwyse than I shulde. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 81 For now victuris is redy to our hondis, And þis Troiens haue of wantrust & of foreyn drede. c 1450 — *Life Our Lady* xii. (1484) f. vj, For wantriste of her felow salome. c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* 225 Many a man With his wantruste hymsylf hathe slayn.

**Wantruth :** see Wantroth.

† **Wantsum,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 **wansum.** [ME. f. Want *sb.* + *-sum*-some.] Indigent, poor; devoid of.

c 1200 Orm 14824 To geȝȝenn att te nede Whannse þu sest tatt tatt wærrkenn iss wiþþ wannsum hiȝrungenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24853 Ful wansum [*Edinb.* wantsum] was þai þan o rede.

**Want-wit.** [f. Want *v.* + Wit *sb.* Cf. *lack-wit* (Lack *v.*1 7).] One who lacks wit or sense.

1448–9 Metham *Amorvus & Cl.* 1459 But alle to late now, as wantewyttys we make ovre mone. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Anabapt.* (1920) 21 Shall we thinke, that he would be such a want witte as to take all kynde of coine..and neuer examine it? 1596 Shaks. *Merch. T.* I. i. 6 And such a Wantwit sadnesse makes of me, That I haue much ado to know my selfe. 1600 *Chester's Triumph* (Chetham Soc.) C 3, Because I hate to heare a want-wit preach Beyond wits bounds. 1686 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 206 They saw one Fool, and one Want-wit, washing of an Ethiopian with intention to make him white.] 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1905) 42 She trembled now to think that they had turned a want-wit, into the heart of the pathless and boggriddled heath.

**Want-wite,** *v. adj.* Witless, senseless.

1894 G. Egerton *Keynotes* 44, I laugh at myself for my want-wit situation. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1905) 47 To pick a quarrel with the want-wit fellow.

**Wanty** (wɒ'nti). Forms: a. (4 **waynte**), 5 **wanteye,** 6–8 **wantey** (6 **wantie, wante, ? wantyghe, waunty**), 7–9 **wantye,** (8 **wantye**), 6– **wanty** ; β. *Sc.* and *north.* 6 **wantow, 6–7 wanton** (4 **wantoun, wantown**), 6 **wanteon** (9 **wanteon**). For mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Apparently two synonymous words (ultimately identical in etymology) have been confused. The β forms represent the later phonetic development of Wanton-row. The a forms seem to presuppose an original **wantetie*, in which Tow *sb.*2 (n. ON. *taug*) has been replaced by the etymologically equivalent Tie *sb.* (:—OE. *tēag*). But since in some dialects the unstressed *-tow* would regularly become *-y*, the two words cannot be distinguished with certainty.]

† **1.** A rope or band used to fasten the pack on a pack-saddle or a load on the back of a horse. *Obs.*

a. 1300 *Eurl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 48 Pro ij girthes ij waynte et ij hokes pro les panniers pro mulis, ij *s.* ij *d.* ob. 1434 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 201 No. 2 Per 1 equum nigrum cum pakadel et wanteye. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 36 A panel and wantey, packsaddle and pad. 1587 Harrison *Gerd. Cattle, Horses* (1596) 19 Harnaises..and all things belonging thereunto: as halters,.. wantles, packsaddles, backwantles and belly wanties. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 58 They carry also great burthens of lead and wood, to their backes with ropes and wantyghes [*read* wantyghes]. 1618–29 *Maldon* (Essex) *Deeds* Bundle 477 (MS.), At severall tymes hath gone ouer Fulbridge with his horse and wantey and refused to paye the duty for his wantey. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5140/4 Lost..a Gelding, with Hair-cloth and Wanty. 1793 *Tyrtl. Hs. Comm.* 28 Mar. 19/1 For wantey Horses, filled with a Wanty or Wantye, xd. that shall pass through Stratford Langthorn. 1823 *A. Young Agric. Essex* I. 108, 3 belly wanties at 3*s.* 6*d.* 1825 *W. Somerset Worksh., Wantye*, the belt or strap of raw hide which used to pass over the pack-saddle and round the belly of the horse.

β. 1509 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 404 Item, for ane collair to him and ane wantoun for the wecht, xiij*d.* 1526–8 *Ibid.* VIII. 441 Item, for ane briddill with the bit,..ane collar with bellis, and ane wantoun. 1549 *Inv. Brizes* (Somerset Ho.), Hachney saddilli, stirropes, & garthes and other wantowes. 1577 *Inv. Airsie* (Somerset Ho.), Wanton saidle and girth. 1808 [Carr] *Craven Gloss.* s. v., A wanteon was generally made of hemp, to which was attached an iron hoop, to fasten sacks on pack-saddles. 1837 Thornber *Blackpool* 310 Grain..was conveyed to Preston on the back of pack-horses, the load being tied on a wooden saddle, with a girth named a 'wantah'.

**2.** The belly-band of a shaft-horse. *dial.*

1894 Miss A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Wanty*,..the name is still preserved in the hempen cord or leather strap which passes under the horse, and is secured to both shafts, to prevent the cart rising up when heavily laden.

**3.** *attrib.*, as † *wanty bottom*, † *rope*, † *shaft*.

1583 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Fyve *wanty*-bone boddomes, xij*d.* 1612 *Ibid.* 209 Wanton bathomes, x*d.* 1589 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 155 Item I geue to my brother ..my best pack sadell with a newe wante and *wantyrop* with the best girt. 1624 *Yoke* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 66, 2 wanty rops. 1632–42 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 199 Fowre *wanton* halters and a paire of tresses, xviij*d.* 1817 *Ibid.* 226, 4 wantoe shaftes, xij*d.*

† **Wanweird.** *Sc. Obs.* In 6 **wan-, wane-weird.** [f. Wan- + Weird *sb.*] Hard lot, ill fate, misfortune. (In quot. 1631 personified.)

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. v. 24, I tuik comfort heirof, thinkand lat baid That hard wanweird suld follow fortun gladd. 1582 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 467 Ane gratius (God) that ses all thing in ord At his tyme will be dividing to weill or ȝit wan weird. *Ta* 1590 ? *Donn by auc sever* 170 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 109 Sen for no wisdome, nor zit strenth, For nane riches In this erd, That ony man his lyf may lenth, Nayther for freyndschip agane wanweird. a 1580 *Morning Maiden* 19 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* 360 Wanweirdis echo sayis quhat haue I wrocht That on sic lythit bes all I sayit? 1631 A. Craige *Pilgr. & Heremite* 9 Perchance before that thou her againe see, By vote of the Wan-weirds, that buried shee bee. 1802 Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* I. 1 Nor wit nor pow't put aff the hour, For his wanweird decreed.

† **Wanwit.** *Obs.* (Chiefly *Sc.*) Also 4 **wanwite,** 4–5 **wane-wit, -wyt.** [ME. f. Wan- + Wit *sb.* Cf. G. *wahnwitz*, Sw. *vanvett*, Da. *vanvid*, Norw. *vanvit.*] Lack of wit, foolishness.

a 1300 *Synk, Vanyte & Sle* 72 in *Anglia* VIII. 160 Schild me from þein of helle pit þat i haue descreuid þorow wan-wite. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. Prol. 48 Gift it war wilfully forbiet, It wâld be wrate wikyt wanwyt, or for nycete. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 300 Prodigalitee.. cummys of grete foly and wan witt. a 1500 *Rattis Raving*, etc. 565 It is better a pur wyf to barne in an awld fule hingy, vthiddir nor wane-wyt may preys a teulme. a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 1. 200 That moderis þan desyris marriage Quhilk is wanwyt and fuly in þor age.

Hence † **Wanwitty** *a.* Obs. foolish.

a 1500 *Rattis Raving*, etc. 454 Fulys and wanwitty men.

**Wanwordy,** *a. Sc.* Obs. [f. Wan- + wordy, Worthy *a.*] Worthless.

a 1574 Fergusson *To Trow-kirk Bell* 1 Wanwordy, cruel, dinsome thing, As ever was frae Pandora's box to Tyrol. *Tripak Eclogue* 308 Wanwordy gowk I did I sae aften shine [etc.].

**Wanworth,** *a.* and *sb. Sc.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [f. Wan- + Worth *a.* and *sb.*] *a. adj.* Worthless. *b. sb.* 'An undervalue' (Jam.).

17.. Ramsay *Dunbar's Flyting* in *Evergreen* II. 57 Worlin wanworth [*Ms original has* Forworlin wirlig]. c 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1789) II. 88 The Council winna lack see meikle guace As lat our heritage at wanworth gang.

**Wany,** variant of Wanty *a.*

**Wanyand, -ende,** var. ff. Waniand. *Obs.*

**Wanys(o,** obs. forms of Vanish *v.*

**Wanyte,** obs. Sc. form of Vanity.

† **Wanze,** *v. Obs.* Forms : 1 **wansian,** 3 *Ormin* **wannsenn,** 4 **wanese,** 5 **wanyse, whanse,** 4–5 **wanse,** (5 *inf.* **wanzyn, wanshon, wanschon,** 6–7, 9 *dial.* **wanse.** [OE. *wansian* (also *ȝwansian*); trans., to diminish, f. *wan*, Wank *a.* Cf. Orm. *wanse* wk. masc. (Mid.Sw., Norw. *vanse*; want, defect.]

1. *trans.* To diminish, waste; in later use, to render lean.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Swa hwa swa ure ȝife oðer ure ȝodene manne ȝyfe wanniað wannie him seo heofenlice leawerd on heofenrice. 1200 Orm 1964 Crist ras upp off dæpless slaȝ, Forr dæpless nahht to wannsenn. *Ibid.* 7157 To wannsenn himm hiss riche. *Ibid.* 12238. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* vi. 215 Their bodies..look as if their faces, so wanne and wither their countenances, that [etc.]. 1697 — *Job* xvi. 8. 152 That with fasting and paines taking he had so wanzed and macerated himself, that at past thirty, he was looked upon as one towards death.

2. *intr.* To decrease, grow less (*lit.* and *fig.*); of the moon, to wane.

c 1200 Orm 1901 Marrchenn nahhtess wannsenn ȝatt, & Marrchenn dahhess waxenn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 204 Ne ssel..hatt he nu forfwarred waxe, & ec his nedl..ȝatt I nu forfwarrd wanze. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wrks.* II. 82 It wil wax and V mut wanze. a 1400–50 *Alex. & Dindim.* (1903) 963 Worldes catel passed nouȝt, þat knowe & wonnat it wele mone. c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6187 They be hat lyche the hornyd moon That kan encrese and wanne ageyn. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wanschon' (*Harl. MS.* wanschonyd, *ident.*)*med* wanson'. *Ibid.*, Wanson', *evanes*, Cath., *evanesco*. Wanson', or wanyn', as þe mone, *decresco*. c 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* i. 489 Perpetuelly & wrayyng & grauyng in entayle it wyll wanyse [*MS. Arund.* wanse] & wast, roten & be brent. 1647 Hookham *Sermons, 11,000 Virgins* 207 Thys was here fear þat..Riche days should growne & encrese Thy-wyn relygyoun..And payn pouerty wansyn & dincrese. 14.. *MS. Ashm.* 191, fol. 199 b, Wyþ ynne it is an hole, ye whiche schewiþ bi symylitude howe þe moone wexiþ & wanniþ.

**b.** To wither, fade, waste away ; to become emaciated.

1587 Golding *Ovid's Met.* iii. 618 And all the things that lyked him did vanish from his sight in hast. *Ibid.* vi. 38 A ruddy-

nease lesprent Hir cheakes which wanzed away ngaine. 1393 Nashe *Christ's T.* 1 b. Lecke our nelusn how we will…wee cannot equalize one of the Lillies of the fielde; as they wither, so shall we wanze and decay. 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-Deceit.* ii. 30 Doth Timothie weaken his constitution by abstinence? The Pharisee will never giue ouer till his complexion be wholly withered and wanzed. 1623 Cockeram 1, *Wanze, to perish, to decay.* 1633 D. R[ogers] *Treatt. Sacrament.* ii. 46 Recouer thy losse, quicken that hath wanzed, strengthen the feeble knees or hands. 1642 — *Naaman* 118 In a short time how are they wanzed themselues to be time-servers, and wanzed away to nothing. *Ibid.* 111, 153. a 1685 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wanze*, to waste, pine, wither. 1917 Hardy *Moments of Vision* 171 Not as one wanzing weak From life's roar and reek, this rest still to seek.

Hence **Wa·nzing** *ppl. a.*, evanescent; **Wa·nzingness.**

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* iii. 8 b, So did he not rashly thrust oute wanzing woordes [L. *vanes enunciata*] into the aire as vnbeleuers are wont to do. 1633 D. R[ogers] *Treat. Sacrum.* ii. 22 The life of faith…is very scarce and wanting in us. *Ibid.* 48 Each wanzing motion and Pang after faith. 1642 — *Naaman* 143 That pleasingnesse of it…doth bewitch them so, that they neuerminde hope of it. *Ibid.* 208 Obserues them the vanity and wanzingnesse of their own principle.

**Wap,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 4–5 **wappe.** [Belongs to Wap *v.*[1]]

1. A blow, knock, thump.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6403 Ector for Iat od dynt, ourryt in hert, Wode for the wap, & wild Iyon. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9338 On amytes his felawe thurow the pap, And he betuss him a sori wap. 1513 *Christ's Kirk* xii, in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 25 Thair hat it hit, on the wame a wap; It buft lyk ony bleddir. 1820 *Splendid Follies* II. 238, I had such a plumper off the old mare the first time I went out I What a wap of the head I had surely. 1846 Scott *Br. Lammo.* xxv, A wap wi' a corner-stane o' Wolf's Crag wad defy the doctor! 1893 J. Hke *Dict. Turf, Hwf*, a species of slap, resounding, as if imparted by a wet dishclout. 1914 C. C. Murray in *Aberd. Univ. Rev.* Nov. 45 An' fat was a wap wi' a spainyie or tag To handa that were hard an a steen.

b. *At a wap* : at one blow, suddenly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 499 Pou…trauayledes neuer to tent hit þe tyme of an howre, bot at a wap hit here wax & away at an vber. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 1 Alexander wilde first on paim all he settis And slithire ward at a wapp wistly inlo3nes. *Ibid.* 414a, 538b. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 515 (E. E. T. S.) & wel wenen at þe wap þe wo3d quelle. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 314 As I wold at a wap wyn all at ones.

2. *Sc.* A sudden storm (of snow).

1818 Scott *Jrnl.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. vi. 204 You will find it [a plaid] a good bosom friend…when your country avocations lead you to face a dry wap of snow.

3. A shake, flap; a sweeping or tossing movement.

*a* 1665 D. Dickson *Serm.* Pract. Writ. (1845) I. 59 Preaching is like the wap of a fan, to tell the one that they are chaff [etc.]. *c* 1800 [*Lezame Brand*] viii, in Child *Ballads* I. 182 Ye do you to my father's hall, & there steeds do stand baith wight and able,…Strike ane o them upo the back. The swiftest will gie his head a wap. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xvii, Pomp and pleasure pass away as speedily as the wap of a falcon's wing.

4. A pugilistic fight. Also, a quarrel. *Sc.*

1887 P. M'Neill *Flowerete* 24 It not unfrequently happened, if a well matched pair met and had had not had their 'wap' out, both pits would be thrown idle on the Monday that all who wished might see the affair wound up. 1887 Yeaxlee *Life Dav. Wood* 11 It happened on day that a new comer and Bessie had a terrible wap.

†**Wap,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* In 5 wapp, 6 wappe. [f. Wap *v.*[3]] A kind of mongrel formerly used as a house-dog.

Owing to a mistake of his translator Fleming (1576), Caius has commonly been said to have identified the 'wappe' with the 'turnspit', and to have given *wauffe* as an actual variant form. His Latin for *Wappe in Aldrouandus* (reading 'Warner' by mistake for *Turnespete* he gives *Vertagus*).

1464 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 14 Sir Henry Vavasor was gone hence or I wist, so that I might not speik to him for the wapp. 1570 Caius *De Canibus Brit.* 12 b, Ad pastrenum, degeneres, Wappe and Turnespete nominari dicebamus: hunc à verbo nostrali wappe…Vppete, i illud à nativo latinis canis voce Wau, quhm in latratu adit admonendo. Vnde, originaliter Wauppe dicendum fuit. Sed euphonia bonaque consonantiæ gratia, vocale in consonantem mutata, Wappe à nostris vocitatur. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* B 4, The sillie Sheepheards committing his wandering sheepe to the custodie of his wappes.

†**Wap,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [? f. Wap *v.*[2]]

1. A turn of a string wrapped round something.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* ii. (Arb.) 111 You must looke that yours bowe be well nocked for fere the sharpnesse of the horne shere a sunder the wappes. And that chaunceth ofte when in bending, the string hath but one wap to strengthe it wyth all. *Ibid.* 111 *below*, 119.

2. *Naut.* A shroud-stopper. [Perh. another word; cf. Wap *sb.*]

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. *Wapp*, is that Rope in a Ship, wherewith the Shrouds are set taught with Wedges: one end is made fast to the Shrouds, and to the other are brought the Ratlards. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Wapp, or Whap.

3. (See quot.) *dial.*

1808 [Cass] *Craven Gloss.*, *Wap*, a bundle of straw, called also a loggin.

**Wap** (wɒp), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 5 quappe, 9 *Sc.* wap. [Of obscure origin; cf. Swap *v.* and *whap*, Whop *v.*]

1. *trans.* To throw quickly or with violence. Often with adv. or phrase, *down, to the ground*, etc. + *To wap off*: to pull off roughly; + *to wap yindry* (see Sundry *adv.*), to scatter, disperse; *to wap wide*, to throw wide open.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7997 Mony doughty þat day deghit in the fild, Mony [were] wofully woundit, & wappit to ground! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 343 Do wappe of his wedis þat are worne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 127 The yettis wappit war wyde. *c* 1480 Henryson *Paddock & Mouse* 171 (Bann.) Now on þe quirell, now wappit [*Harl.* wrappit] to þe ground. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. iv. 150 Wyth branchis rent of treis, and quarrell stanis Of huge wecht doun wappand all at anis. 1586 Wyntoun *Cron.*, Pref. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 94 Quhy bef þe wappit doun al the affrit tabellis of the Lord? 1585 — tr. *Vincent Lirin.* v. II. 20 Than wes…monasteriis destroyit, clerkis wappit yindry [L. *clerici disturbati*], the ministeris of the Kirkis striken [etc.] *Ibid.* vi. II. 23 That be them he wald ralas vp his Kirkis afoir wappit doun. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 30 Be war with the wand syne he wapis in the fyre. 1598 Holyband tr. *Lecile's Hort. Sent.* (S. T. S.) I. 25 Gif thay sie ony fyshe mair diligeat…the pray quhilke…thay brocht far aff, with speid they wap out of thair mouth. *Ibid.* II. 29 At last, the Pughuman wappit fra his horse, the Scot winnis the Victorie. *c* 1730 Ramsay *O Mither dear* i v, Get Johny's hand in haly band, Syne wap ye's wealth to-gether. 1818 [Cass] *Craven Gloss.*, *Whap*, to shut or close with violence, as, 'I wind wops door tuil'. 1912 A. McConachie *Words fr. Wild-Wood* vi. 82, I had…mechanically 'wapped' my long nose or twice in the glassy pool sheep.

† b. In figurative expressions like *wapped in woe*, there is some doubt whether *wapped* belongs to this verb with the sense 'thrown', or to Wap *v.*[2] with the sense 'wrapped'. Cf. the similar use of Warp *v.* The word may have been variously apprehended by those who used the proverbial expression: *obs.*

1398 [*Lay of Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 239 Ve sal be wappyt in til yre, percace in erde in brynnand fyre [L. *incurrentus furorem exuruentem in terra*]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 12 In wrath þou wappis me, in wanhe, in wanhapp of ire. *c* 1440 *Ibid.* xlvi. 7 In wnylyng and wepyng, in woo am I wappid. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 748 For wo, wappit in wa, to þe wod he wynnis. To þis son mak thi mone. 1513 Henryson *Paddock & Mouse* 166 Now in fredome, now wappit in distres. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* Prol. 107 Syne wes I Signes…of that consuetudoun, That we sould ay wapt to diuers variatioun. *Ibid.* ii. 619, I se this werld wappit with variance. *Ibid.* 641 To lik man geuis in warld his fatall meritt[], Quhidder it be to weill wappit, or wo. *c* 1580 *Sc. Scene Comm.* 1. 1. Oppressit haist, indure…Wappit without reuize In wo remidiless.

†2. To shake. *Obs.*—

1570 Levins *Manip.* 27/24 To wappe, *vortare, agitare.*

3. *Intr.* To turn violently; to strike *through*.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 882 þe 3onge men…Wapped vpon be wyket & wonnen hem tylle. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2226 Vthers þat were Alisaundre leders Quirys out quarrels, quappid [*Dubl. Mus.* wappyd] thurgh maylys. 1889 Ingelow *Gunhilda* 99 Yer cannon balls, well they wud just wap through them [spirits] and no do them wan bit o' harim.

† 4. *Intr.* To flap, flop. To slow in guns. *Obs.* (cf. Lat.).

To flap in the wind. Of wings: To flap, beat. *Obs.*

13.. *Gow. & Gr. Knt.* 2004 Pe werbelande wynde wapped fra þe hyȝe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9513 The smorther, & the smoke of fire, þat wappis in the welkyn, wrappid full hote. *c* 1400 *Lumbrens* 632 A rede clothe therinne he seghe Owte-wappande with the wynde. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* 1. 1706 Ane Ingyne fra Edinburgh gaine monstrous wight With hundred wings wapping was blown.

5. Used to express the intermittent sound of shallow water over stones: cf. Plap, Plop *vbs.*

1912 J. Masefield *Ballads & P., Fragments* 22 Simois bubbled over stone And wapped and gurgled to the sky.

Hence **Wapping** *vbl. sb.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxi. (1495) 142 Grete wappynge and leppynge in any of the ryvbes betokeneth woo and sorowe other rauynge. 1619 Dalkeith *Body Medic.* 296 The wapping of a Towell will urge a Beare.

+**Wap,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 *inf.* whappyn, 4–6 wappe. [Of obscure origin; possibly an altered form of Warp *v.*; cf. Wrap *v.* and *whappe* Lap *v.*?] *trans.* To wrap, envelop; also, to wrap (a covering) *about* something.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Magdalen*) 324 Pal lad bat body, pat ded was,..wappyt in a furrit mantele. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* calv. 1969 A manitill wappit him about. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Add. MS.) xxxv. 112 In þe morne he let in bedde browth bope, wappyd wel in worthy wede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 287/1 Lappyn, or whappyn in clothys, *involvo*. *Ibid.* 508/1 Wappyd, or lappyd in clothys or oþer lyke, *rego, contego*. *Ibid.*, Wappyn', or wyndyn a-bowte yn clothys, *involvo*. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvi. 274 It Hilary þat wappid me first to wappe bat worthy with-inne. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 211 Pat woman…had a litille chylde sytand on hur kne wappid in a clothe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 293 Pi wyrke youre strenghe, And wap you wightly in youre wede. 1521 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 40 The vmbrate sruis that Tytan about wappit. 1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas., Scot.* VIII. 132 Item, for ix stane meirling curd deliverit to George Halyburtoun to wap and mak the lowpes of the somes and thetis, vii. viij s.

Hence + **Wapping** *vbl. sb.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wappynge, bappynge or hylynge [*cop.* lappynge, lappinga], *coopertura, coopericio (involucio)*.

+**Wap,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* Also 7 whap. [Echoic.] *intr.* To bark. Hence + **Wapping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 515/2 Wappyn', or baffyn' as howndys, *nicio*, Cath. *Ibid.*, Wappon or berkyn', *latro canes* berkyn, *supra. Ibid.* 516/1 Wappynge, of howndys, whan þey follow here pray or þat þey wolde harme to, *micticio, micclo. Ibid.*, Wappynge (of howndys, MS. A.) or berkynge, *latracinatus, latratus*. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. iii. 366 As the harmlesse wapping of a cure'd curre may stir up a fierce mastiffe to the worrying of sheep. 1650 — *Pisgah* III. i. 409 Solomon was an absolute Prince,…in his peaceable Country, where no dog durst bark against him (save two or three whapping curs toward the end of his reign).

**Wap,** occas. spelling of Whop *v.*

‖ **Wapacut** (wɒ·păkŭt). Also 8–9 **wapacuthu.** [American Indian; Watkins *Cree Dict.* 1865 has the form *wapkhunse*; the Montagnais form is given as *waspikhtu.*] + A large white spotted owl, believed to be the common snowy owl, *Nyctea scandiaca*' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1785 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 252 Red, Mottled, and Wapacuthu Owl. *Ibid.* 232 Called by the Indians, Wapacuthu, or the Spotted Owl. 1828–32, Webster *Wapacut*, the spotted owl of Hudson's Bay.

**Wapato(o** : see Wappatoo.

**Wape,** var. Whape *v.*, to amaze, bewilder.

**Wapen(e,** obs. forms of Weapon.

**Wapena(o)haw,** variant of Wappens(c)haw.

**Wapentake** (wɒp·ĕntāk). Forms: 1 **wǽpen-tæcu** (*dat.* -tæcum), **wǽpentake, wapentac,** 2 **-tak, 4 wapne-, wapentake, 5 wapyntak, 5–7 wapentanke** (5 **-tage, 7 weapontack, -tage**), 6–7 **wapentack,** (8 **-tac**), 6–8 **wappentake,** (6 **wapintake, 8 waking take**), 4– **wapentake**; (5 **weapyntale, -tailla**). [a. ON. *vápntak*, f. *vápna* gen. pl. of *vápn* Weapon + *tak* act of taking (related to *taka* to Take).

*vápngentake* shows assimilation of form to native words. The recorded senses of the word in ON. are: (1) a vote of consent expressed by waving or brandishing weapons; (2) a vote or resolution of a deliberative assembly; (3) in Iceland, the breaking up of the meeting of the Althing, when the members resumed their weapons that had been laid aside during the sittings. In English there is no trace of these senses, and the development of its actual usage can only be explained conjecturally. It is noteworthy that 'wapentakes', like 'hundreds', often received their names from some natural or artificial object, e. g. a barrow or a tree, which afforded a suitable rallying-place for open-air meetings. Assuming that in England *wapentake* originally meant the act of signifying assent at a public assembly, it seems not improbable that the men of the district whose place of meeting was (e.g.) at Osgod's Cross might be said to belong to 'the wapentake of Osgodcross'. In Lincolnshire the use of the word to denote a territorial division would thus be sufficiently accounted for.]

A subdivision of certain English shires, corresponding to the 'hundred' (Hundred 5) of other counties.

The shires which have divisions so termed are Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Notts, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and Leicestershire; in all which the Danish element in the population was large. In Derbyshire there is now only one wapentake (that of Wirksworth), the other divisions of the shire being termed 'hundreds'. In Lincolnshire most of the county divisions are 'wapentakes', but a few are called 'hundreds' and 'sokes'. There are traces of the existence of the term in popular use in other counties, as Cheshire and Cumberland.

*c* 1000 *Laws of Edgar* IV. c. vi. (Liebermann), & mlc mon mid heora ȝewitnysse bigge & sylle mic þara ceapa, þe he lǽge ǽrðon þǽm scire sylle aber oððe binnan wapentace. *c* 1000 *Laws of Ethelred* III. c. i. § 2 (Liebermann) On wapentace. 1086 *Domesday Bk.* (1783) I. 298 Derbyscire…Scarvedele Wapentac…Hamestanes Wapentac. *Ibid.* 299 Derbyhamscire…Brocolvestov Wapent. Bernesedelav Wapt. *Ibid.* 315 Evrvicscire…Straches Wapentac. *a* 1292 *MS. Kawl.* B. 252 lol. 46 On þusse manere þe seuenes ȝelden fram wapsetake to wapnet[ake]. 1296 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 70/2 Et qe nule Baillie, ne Hundred, ne Wapentake, ne soit lesse a plus haut ferme qe les auncienes fermes. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 145 Pe bishop of Durham þouht Saberg, with þe wapentake. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 97 Wepentake and an hondred is al oon, for pe contrary of an hondred townes ȝeldeþ to þe kynges ferme, and wepentake in þe compaye of þe lord. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 235 Kyng Edward [*cc.* Edw. II] …by his letres ordeyned, þat euery hundred & wepentak of Englelond [*cc.* Edw. II] *Add. MS.* 210/5 That no Shirref lete..to ferme..his Counte, ne noon of his Bailliwykes, Hundreth' ne Wapentakes. 1398 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 341

said Robbers, and give notice thereof to the Wapentack of Aslacroe in the County of Lincoln...they shall have 30 *l.* reward. 1809 Bawdwen *Domesday Bk., Yorks* etc. 473 This belonged to St. Benedict of Ramsey, according to the testimony of the jurors of the wapentake [*L. testimoniium hominum de Wapentac*]. 1858 H. Kirkby *Lakeland Wds.* s. v., 'If he doesn't pay up All he'll get's open-tack on tull him.' This officer is reported to have exisged in the town of Kendal till as late as 1836.

*c. attrib.* : *wapentake court, fine.*

1543 *Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 407 Paid to the exchetor ...for Wapin take fyne callyd castle worke, iij*li.* iiij*s.* 1698 Hubberthorn *Sufferings for Tythes* 23 William Jackson for tythes of ten shillings value, had sixteen shillings taken by a judgment in the Weapontage-Court. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* v. § 46 This court, the hundred-gemot or wapentake court, was held every month.

**Wapher,** obs. form of Wafer.

**Wapin,** obs. form of Weapon.

**Wapins(o)haw** : see Wappens(o)haw.

**Wapiti** (wɒ·pɪtɪ). Also *† errow.* **wipiti.** [a. Cree *wapitih* (Shawnee *wahpatee*) lit. 'white deer'.] The North American stag or elk, *Cervus canadensis*, allied to but larger than the European Red Deer. Also attrib., *wapiti deer, stag.*

1827 *Thomson's Ann. Philos.* IX. 393 At the same meeting [of the Linnean Society] was read a description, by Dr. Leach, of the Wapiti deer, a species of animal from the banks of the Missouri. 1829 Sir J. Richardson *Fauna Bor. Americ.* I. 251 *Cervus strongyloceros.* (Schreber.) The Wapiti. *Ibid.* 252 The trivial name of 'wapiti' has been only recently adopted in scientific works. 1832 T. W. Harris *White Pescock* II. 200 If a wapiti stag were placed in a line with a fine German, and a Scotch red-deer, there would be an immense difference in size. 1901 P. Fountain *Deserts N. Amer. in.* 170 The wapiti deer (which the American trappers and people always call the elk). 1904 — *Gt. North-West* v. 49 The wipiti is 'the elk' of Americans. *Ibid.* xi. 219 The wipiti. *Coach.* 1880 *19th Cent.* Oct. 593 (*title*), Wapiti-running on the plains.

**b.** The flesh of this animal.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 May 3/2 Second course : Californian salmon, roast wapiti.

**Wapito,** variant of Wappato(o.

**† Wap-John.** *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 278 *note*, A gentleman's coachman, or what we call 'a Wap-John'.

**† Wapman.** *Obs.* Forms: 1–3 **wǽpman, wǽpmann, wǽpen, wǽpenman,** 3 **wapmann,** (*Ormin* **weppmann**), **weopmonne, wepmon(ne, wapmon, -man.** [OE. *wǽpnman, f. wǽpn* Weapon ( = *membrum virile*) + *man* Man *sb.* Cf. OE. *wǽpned* adj., male.] A man as distinguished from a woman, a male human being.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke ii. 23 Eghwuilc he *wæ* weopenmon to-untynes hrif [Vulg. *omne masculinum adaperiens vulvam*]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxii. 5 Ne scrida nan wif hig mid wæpmannes reafe, ne wæpman mid wifmannes reafe. 1205 *Lay.* Caron. (Lud. MS.), Fortiern eall mæst se iserh of Lincolne & micel ungerime folces wæpmen & wimmen forburnon. *c* 1200 Ormin 7008 þine comenn forrþ to lofenn himm An wepmann & an widdwe. *c* 1225 *Lay.* 1119 Leode nere þar nane ne wæpmen [*c* 1275 wepmen] ne wifmen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Forði mi sanne is more þen of one weopmonne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1379 Luue...Riweone wepmon & wimmane [*Jesus MS.* þe man & þe wymmane]. *a* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2002 And of is hird euerile wapman wurð circuncis. *c* 1275 *Vis Pallus of Helt* 145 in *O. E. Misc.* 151 Uvriper her beoþ wimmen and wepmen.

**b.** Comb. **† wapman-kin,** persons of the male sex.

*c* 1200 Ormin 4092 Ali batt weppmannkinn þatt was inn hise walde. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 498 Al þæt wapmon-cun [*c* 1275 monkin] þa mihten beren wapen.

**Wapnetake,** obs. form of Wapentake.

**Wapnis,** obs. pl. form of Weapon.

**Waponshewing,** var. Wappens(o)hawing.

**Wapour,** obs. form of Vapour.

**Wappato**(o (wɒ·pǽto, -ā). *U.S.* Also **whapto, wapto, wapsto(o, wpata.** [a. Cree *wapatoow* white mushroom.] The tubers of the plant *Sagittaria variabilis*, used for food by Indians.

1805 *P. Cass Trnl.* 160 We got some dogs and roots from the natives. The roots...are called whapto; resemble a potatoe when cooked, and are about as big as a hen egg. *Ibid.* 170 We...procured a few roots, called Wapto. 1814 *Lewis & Clark's Exped.* (1893) 603 Here he treated us with a root, which they call wappatoo. 1838 Parker *Exploring Tour beyond Rocky Mts* 322 The wappatoo is the *sagittaria*, or arrow-head...The root is bulbous, and becomes soft by roasting, forming a nourishing and agreeable food. 1842 *Comm. H. Amer. Inst.* (1844) II. xiviii. 123 The wapto, a bulbous root much like a turnip. 1893 E. Coues in *Lewis & Clark's Exped.* 814 *note*, The wappatoo is the root of *Sagittaria variabilis*, ..the common arrowhead.

**Wappen,** obs. form of Weapon.

**† Wappened,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. Of obscure origin and meaning, perh. corrupt. Cf. Wappered) *a.*, which Singer proposed as a conjectural reading.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* iv. iii. 38 This is it That makes the wappen'd Widdow wed again.

**Wappens(o)haw** (wa·pn(ə)ʃɔ). *Sc.* Forms: *a.* 6–7, 9 **wap(p)ins(o)haw, † wapponsshaw,** 9 **wap(p)ens(o)haw** ; *B. semi-modernised* **weapons(o)haw.** [*L wapin* Weapon + *schaw* Show *sb.* Prob. orig. a shortening of the older Wappenschawing.

Both words are used *Hist.* by Scott ; the official edition of the Statutes of Scotland (1814) has only *waphinschaw* in the index, though the actual text of the Acts has *wapinschawing* exc. in 1503 (see below).

Cf. *O. waffenschaw*, given by Adelung as an obsolete HG. word, but prob. a mere 18th c. adaptation of Du. *wapperschouwing* = next.]

1. *Hist.* = next(o)hawing.

*a* 1503 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 245/2 Item þ^t all scotland...mak yerely þair wapinschawis upon thurisday in wisondsay wolk. *Ibid.* 251/2 þ^t all scotland mak þair wappinschawis [etc.]. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Will. c.* xxiii. ¶ 6 It is statute, that wapinschaw sall be keiped & haldin...in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1892) I. 56 To the effect they may be the better prepared against the xxiij of this instant qlk is the principall wapponschaw day. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* ii, [The Calvinists] discouraged, as far as lay in their power, even the ancient wappen-schaws, as these were called, when the feudal array of the country was called out, and each crown-vassal was required to appear with such muster of men and armour as he was bound to make by his fief. 1905 G. Wilson *Ann. Glover Incorporat. Perth* 13 Other and more rational forms of amusements became popular with our Craft...such as wappenschaws, football, quoits, golf, archery, etc.

2. *1776 Herd's Sc. Songs* II. 122 When we went to the field of war, And to the Weaponshaw, Willie. 1809 Scott *Last Minstr.* iv. xxviii, Already on dark Ruberslaw The Douglas-wolf the weapon-schaw. 1839 — *Donnerdale* xxxvi. i, Godden, good yeoman. Come you from the Weaponshaw? 1839 — *Demonol.* I. 14 The majority...had considered his tale—or the supposition of a supernatural weapon-schaw for the purpose of a sign and warning of civil wars to come.

2. A volunteer rifle-meeting.

1868 *Morning Star* 9 Jan., At Edinburgh, on New Year's Day, the Weapon-schaw was held. 1870 *Ibid.* 10 Jan. In this, we believe, was a gathering at which the country side shot, with homely smooth-bore pieces, for hams and cheeses, but until revived last year the custom had long fallen into disuse. In that year the Wapinschaw was inaugurated by the local volunteers. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 July 6 The Aberdeen Volunteer weapinschaw was held yesterday. The chief prize ...was won by Private Rubislaw.

*b. South Africa.* Used to render Du. *wappenschouwing* (see next), applied by the Boers to a rifle-shooting competition.

1899 *Daily News* 23 June 3/4 The Boers never drill, and it is thought that the wapinschaw witnessed was probably an ordinary season's wapenshaw. *Ibid.* 13 Oct. 5/5 The local Dutch have decided to postpone their wappenschaw (rifle meeting) at the request of the magistrates.

**Wappens(o)hawing** (wa·pn(ə)ʃɔ(i)ŋ). *Sc. Hist.* Forms: *a.* 5 **wapinschawin, wapynschawing,** 5–6 **wap(p)inschawing, -schewing,** 6 **wapping-, vapin-, wapo(u)nschawing, vaupynschauyng,** 9 **wappenschawing** ; *B. semi-modernised* 6 **weapon-showing,** 9 **weapon-shawing.** [*f. wapen* Weapon + *schawing* Showing *vbl. sb.* ; = Du. *wapenschouwing.* Cf. prec.] A periodical muster or review of the men under arms within a particular lordship or district.

1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 8/2 It is ordanyt þan in ilk schereddome of þe realme bere be maid wapynschawing four tymis in þe 3er. 1512 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* V. 366/2 The Kingis Grace...has ordanit in ane of the maneris þe said wapinschewingis of all his folkis. 1542 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 66 The Wapinschawing off Annerum...is appointit to be maid the xxvij day of Junij. 1579 *Compl. Scot.* xi. (1872) 96 Kyng eduard ..onland thre vaupynschauingis to be maid al on ane day in scotland be scottis men, and þe first wapynschawingis, at þe vaupynis maid armour of scotland to be delyuerit to the inglismen. 1580 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 3 That frome henceforuth they be not required to tak on counsell, the maill be severe moneth ensisfeid of their wages, so that two Scotish lords, chosin by the counsell, may present it at weapon-showing and musters of the said men of warre. *a* 1586 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron.* (S.T.S.) II. 321 That ane vapinschawing throch all Scotland. 1633 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1634, 43/2 At all generall musteris and wapounschawingis within the said boundis. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid. Lothian* iii, The best wrestler,...the king of the weapon-shawing—the breaker of mad horses. 1830 — *Doom of Devorgoil* i. 1, Hark ! they have begun the weapon-shawing. 1905 G. Wilson *Ann. Glover Incorporat. Perth* 13 On one of these occasions of wappenschawing a serious riot took place.

**Wappentake,** obs. form of Wapentake.

**† Wapper,** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [*f. wapper* v.] ? A (leaden) ball attached to a strap used as a striking weapon. So **† Wapper** *v.*† *trans.*, to strike (a person) with this weapon.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 16 That one had an laden malle and that other a grete leden wapper therwyth they wapped all at hym that they hym.

**Wapper** (wɒ·pəɹ), *a.* Now *dial.* [Back-formation from *wapper-eyed, -jawed* : see Wapper *v.*²] + *a.* Of the eyes : Blinking, unsteady. *Obs.* **b.** Of a jaw (see quots.). *dial.* and *U.S.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 280 What if he will geve no credits to your opinions ? no nor yet to your wapper eyes that are bleared and dimme with rancour and malice ? 1600 Ashby *Nest Ninus.* (1840) 6 But such was his, who thus busied, was tooke napping by the wrate publike, who smiles upon him with a wapper eye, a jealous countenance, and bids him all haile. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wapper-jawed*, a very mouth. *a* wapped jaw. 1892 *Century Dict., Wapper-jawed*, a. A projecting under-jaw. [Colloq., U.S.]

**Wapper** (wɒ·pəɹ), *v.*³ *Obs. exc. dial.* [Perh. cogn. w. Wave *v.* ; cf. Du. *wapperen* to swing, oscillate, waver.]

1. *intr.* To blink the eyes. Also, 'to move tremulously' (Halliwell 1847, as a Somerset word).

1575 *Mirr. Mag.* 1, *Neuantes* 75 b, But still he stode his face to set awrye, And wappering turnid vp his white of eye. 1620 Markh. tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 40 She was toothlesse, chap-falne, hollow-eyed, and wappering withall.

2. *passive.* To be tired *out.*

1898 J. A. Gibbs *Cotswold Village* xii. 238 [Period 1592] Thou'll not see Stratford to-night, sir, thy horse is wappered out. *Foot-note.* Wappered = tired. A Cotswold word.

3. Comb. : **wapper-eyed** *a. dial.* blinking, bleareyed (see quots.) ; **wapper-jawed** *a. U.S.*

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* D 2 b, I...changed my shape into a little wapper-eid Constable, to winke and blinke at small faults. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canl. Crew, Wapper-eyed*, that has Sore or running Eyes. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) Gloss., *Wapper-eyed*, goggle-eyed, having full rolling Eyes ; or looking like one scared ; or squinting like a Person overtaken with Liquor. 1848 Lowell *Fable for Critics* Prelim. note, Fancy an heir that a father had seen born well featured and fair, turning suddenly...squint-eyed, hair-lipped, wapper-jawed. 1849 N. Hoga *Yank. Land.* (1850) Glossa, *Wapper-ky'd*, sleepy, groggy. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Wapper-eyed*, having quick-moving restless eyes—constantly rolling from side to side, as is seen in very nervous persons.

**Wapper,** variant of Whopper.

**Wappered,** *a.* Now *dial.* Also **woppered.** [*f.* Wapper *v.* + -ed.] Fatigued, wearied.

1822 implied in Unwappered. 1868 R. W. Huntley *Cotswold Dial. Wopp'ered, Tired, Exhausted. Gloss., Woppered*, tealless, fatigued. (Hund. of Berk.)

**Wappet** : see Whappet *Obs.*, kind of dog.

**Wappin,** obs. Sc. form of Weapon.

**† Wappineer.** *Obs.* [f. the place-name *Wapping*, a part of London close to the Docks + -eer.] An inhabitant of Wapping. Also *attrib.* Cf. Wappinger.

1690 D'Urfey *Collin's Walk* II. 72 In kennel sowe'd o're Head and Ears Amongst the crowding Wappineers. 1710 Shadwell *Fair Quaker of Deal* Dram. Pers., *Wilk.* The Commadore, a most illiterate Wappin Commander. 1712 Haymaker in *Olla Podrida* (1820) I. 135 Whilst a Wappineer, a Mile-ender, and a Boroughman, are terms proverbially used, about the Exchange ...to express an inferior order of beings.

**Wappin(g** : see Whopping *ppl. a.*

**Wappinger** (wɒ·pɪŋəɹ). [*f. Wapping* + -er 1.] An inhabitant of Wapping. Cf. Wappineer.

*a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. viii. (1740) 585 Roue...was a thorough paced Traitor, and looked upon by the Wappinger of the Mob ; a Wappinger, and good at mustering Seamen. 1898 Besant *Orange Girl* I. vi, The girls...stared with more rudeness than one would show to a Wappinger.

**Waps,** obs. or dial. form of Wasp.

**Wapto,** variant of Wappato(o.

**Wapure, Wapyn(e,** obs. ff. Vapour, Weapon.

**Wapynschawing** : see Wappens(o)hawing.

**Wapyntak,** obs. form of Wapentake.

**War** (wɔɹ), *sb.*¹ Forms: 2 **uuerre, were, wyrre,** 3 **weorre, worre,** 3–5 **werre,** (4 *pl.* **werren**), 4–6 **werr,** 5 **guerre, gwerre,** 4, 5–6 *Sc.* **wer,** 4–5, 6–7 *Sc.* **were,** 4 **werre,** 4, 7 *Sc.* **weer,** 4–6 *Sc.* **weyr,** 5 *Sc.* **veir,** 5–6 *Sc.* **weire,** 6 **weyr(e,** 4–9 *Sc.* **weir,** 6 *Sc.* **wair, wiar, weare, veare,** 7 *Sc.* **ware,** 8 *Sc.* **wear,** 5 **waar,** 5–7 **warr,** 6– **war.** [Late OE. (*c* 1050) *wyrre, werre*, a. North-eastern OF. *werre* = Central OF. and mod.F. *guerre*, Pr. *guerra, gerra*, Sp., Pg., It. *guerra* (med.l. *werra, guerra*) a. OHG. *werra* (MHG. *werre*) confusion, discord, strife, related to the OHG., OS. *werran* str. vb., to bring into confusion or discord (whence med.G. *wirren* wk. vb. to confuse, perplex). The earlier vb. survives in *verworren* ppl. a., confused), f. Teut. root **wers-*, **wes-*, whence also Worse *a.*

It is a curious fact that no Germanic nation in early historic times had in living use any word properly meaning 'war', though several words with that meaning survived in poetry, in proverbial phrases, and in compound personal names. The Romanic-speaking peoples, who were obliged to avoid the L. *bellum* on account of its homonymy with *bellus* beautiful, found no nearer equivalent in Teut. than *werra*. In OE. the usual translation of *bellum* was *gewin*, struggle, strife. The continental Teut. langs. late developed *negen* as words for 'war' : G. *krieg* Du. *oorlog* Da. *krig*. Du. *oorlog* ; Icelandic uses *ófriðr* 'un-peace'.]

1. Hostile contention by means of armed forces, carried on between nations, states, or rulers, or between parties in the same nation or state. The employment of armed forces against a foreign power, or against an opposing party in the state.

For *civil, intestine*, etc. *war*, see the adjs. For *war to the knife* (after Sp. *guerra al cuchillo*), see Knife *sb.* 1 b ; *war to the death*, see Death *sb.*

1154 *O. S. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Per efter wæs suythe micel uuerre betuyex þe king & Randolf eorl of Cestre. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 20 Ah se wilde him wexe weorre on euch halue [1. *bellis undique concurrentibus*]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 736 in *S. Eng. Leg.* II. 11 Sethþe þare cam an Aumperour þat hiet constantin ; in weorre and batayllе he was so muche þat wes-of wide was to. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7 Pe king pis to preisi nost þat in time of worre as a lomb is bolde mek & milde, & in time of pes as leon bolye crsel & wilde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Ninian*) 180 Pis Inspirit, prince wes & als ledare of bat towne, bath in pese & vere. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 226 Wote no wighte what werre is bote þat pees reguelh. 1491 Lydg. *Horst. Coun., Stedf* 235 In *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 110, 33 Thou Causist werre and seist thou lowest pees. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. x. 537 Whanne theruppon langith cessing of greet werre and making of greet pees. 1460 in *Rec. Elgin Kirk.* (1914) Oct. 720 The said Eric shal haue the iij^de of all wynnyngs of were won or gotten by the said Cristofre. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 196 Ane horn he blew...Quhilk all this warld with weir has maid to

wag. 1513 More *Rich.* III Wks. 36/2 Richarde Duke of Yorke.. beganne not by warre, but by lawe, to challenge the crown. 1573 *Rig. Priory Council Scot.* II. 218 Except sic change and furtoun of weare as salbe commoun and alike to baythe. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 181 These Gates must not be shut, But in the Night, or in the time of Warre. 1613 J. Sorie *Voy. Tripoli* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 The prince of Tidora, who had beene out in warr, and was returned with 100 Tcmatans heades. 1648 Milton *Nouns. to Salmasius* To What can Warr, but endless warr still breed, Till Truth and Right from Violence be freed. 1690 Locke *Govt.* ii. iii. § 16 The State of War is a State of Enmity and Destruction. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 810 Mighty Cæsar, thundring from afar, Seeks on Euphrates' Banks the Spoils of War. 1708 Ramsay *Lochaber* i, The dangers attending on wear. 1759 B. Porteus *Death* 239 War its thousands and its Peace its ten thousands. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. vii. 250 In order to make war completely effectual, it is necessary with us in England that it be publicly declared and duly proclaimed by the king's authority. 1846 *Congressional Globe* 14 May 808/1 It puts it in the power of any military squad..to put this nation in a state of war. The killing of people is not war. In order to constitute war between nations, the military must be sanctioned by the war-making power. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. viii. 551 Formerly religion had been the cause of war, and had also been the pretext under which it was conducted. 1. Mozley *Uniw. Serm.* v. (1876) 101 War is one of these rights, because under the division of mankind into distinct nations it becomes a necessity.

*Personified.* 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lvi, Lastly stoode Warre in glitterynge armes yclad, With visage stryne. *c* 1564 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* 4 Bloody warre, the mistres of debait. 1809 Wordsw. *Addr. Kilchurn Castle* 1 Child of land-thwarting War!

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* Applied *poet.* or rhetorically to any kind of active hostility or contention between living beings, or of conflict between opposing forces or principles.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 175 Þa he ledden here lif in werre and in winne. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 37 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 Ne leaue þou neuere þi warre. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9666 Pes mai nourquar abide Par hate wonn, or werr, or pride. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10350 Pare fore þat tyme was myche warre, Pat many a man was slayn. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 234 Who kan conforten how youre herte werre? *c* 1386 — *Franklt. T.* 70 Ne wolde neuere God bitwixe yow tweyne, As in my gilt, were outher werre or stryf. 1456 Sir G. Hayc *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 3 Amang the quhilkis is grete discorde discensioun and were. 1604 Quarles *Job Militant* xviii. 30 Now'st thou not how Satan, Snow, or Haile, which are My fierce Artill'ry, in my time of warre? 1725 Pope *Odyss.* II. 96 O insolence of youth! whose tongue affords Such rash intemperate warr of words. 1776 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 306 Whatever be the motives that thus arrest a flock of birds in their flight, whether they be of gallantry or of war, it is certain that [etc.]. 1817 Byron *Manfred* II. ii. 135 I have affronted death—but in the battle Of elements the waters shrunk from me. 1912 L. Tracy *Mirabel's Ist.* II. (1913) 32 His keen hearing was of no avail in that war of wind and wave.

**c.** The *plural* (esp. with def. art.) was formerly often used in the same sense as the sing.

*To have been in the wars* (colloq.), to show marks of injury or traces of rough usage.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 220 When Theseus with werres longe and grete The aspre folke of Cithe had ouercome. *a* 1400 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1. 2 Wel fale þe pes þer after þo werres aslakede. 1448–9 Methan *Amerpax & Cl.* 218 And for yowre labour in werris that wh vs ye have be, We þanke yow. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. xv. 298 For knyghtes that ben..lecherous shal not be..fortunate vnto the werrys. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 47 So dothe the multytude of popul..none, by warrys and iniury of enmenys, wyth-out strenghth, lose hys welth. 1599 Chesne *Hart Stadii* (1859) H iij, After warres it is commonly seene, that a great number of those that went out honest, returne home againe like roisters. 1981 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 72 The miserable estait of your maiesties cuntrie oppressit be famine and intestine wearis. 1593 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 31 In Signior Mountanto returned from the warres, or no? 1601 — *All's Well* II. iii. 308 Warres is no strife To the darke house, and the detected wife. 1626 G. W[oodcocke] *Justina* iv. 23 Hereupon, the warres by Sea was againe renewed. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxvii. § 7. 247 When he was a little boy, there being warres in the country. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 37 His fame shall last: shall his sang of weirs. 1850 Scrbesby *Chesney's Whalem. Adv.* v. (1858) 133 Sundry other marks upon his body, that showed him to have been in the wars.

**d.** *Open war*: avowed active hostility.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 16 3if þei..conseilen men more to taken vengeaunce bi open werre of here brebren þan to suffren paciently wrongus. 1490 *Paston Lett.* I. 500 To leve, rise, and make open warr ayenst you. 1587 *Celtic Papers* (Camden) 165 Hyit yeopen warres betwyxte Gaunte & the Kynge of Romanys. 1600 Dekker *Work for Armourers* C ij, That open warre should presently be proclaimed against that arrogant, haughty, ambitious Tyrant Money. 1623 Cockeram, ii, *Open Warre*, Hostilitie. 1669 Milton *P. L.* II. 41 By What best way, Whether of open Warr or covert guile, We now debate.

**†e.** *Abstinence, prorogation of war*: suspension of hostilities. *Obs.*

1399 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1839) XII. 38/1 The foresaid prorogacioun of were past concludit and approbate as said is. 1521 *Ibid.* 39/1 Þat . We may have abstinence of Weire for ane tyme quhill an Ambassat may be maid Reddy. 1598 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 245 b, That an especial abstinence of warre should be kept..betwixte the Realmes of England and Scotland.

**2.** In various phrases. (For *declare, levy, wage war*, see the vbs.)

**a.** (*To be*) *at war*, † *at wars*, † *in war*, † *in wars*: engaged in war. *lit.* and *fig.* So *at open war*, † *wars*.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 222 Bukmenesse and boste aren euer-more at werre, And ayther hateth other In alle manere wo kes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 58 When two rewmes er at were and owþer party ensegez cites, toune or castell. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sour.* 1936 For to sette hem at accord, whan þei ben at were. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 3 Men kennyis almanit na realme in cristyndom bot it is in were. 1586 Stanihurst in *Hol.'s Hist. Ch. Eng.* 29 The Britannes being free from all forraine warres, fell at warres with in them selues and to all other myscheifes. 1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 26 All Christin men tak tent and leir, How sault and lody ar at weir. 1573 L. Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* 12 When Turnus and Aeneas were in wars for the marriage of Lauinia. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 235 The Iesuits doe mightily disagree, and are often at open warres. 1614 R. Wilkinson *Pairs of Serm.* etc. 30 So wee are, indeede, at warres with God, and at warres with one another. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 213 King Gustavus Adolphus..hath taken Elbing..from the Polander, with whom he is still in warres. 1633 J. Battiear in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 489 This Kingdom being now in Warr on all sides, doth not afford any great Design for the advancement of Learning. 1677 *Gent. Calling* 91 Nine times have they been at War with Spain, and only once at Peace. *c* 1692 When England was at Wars with Portugal. 1780 *Mirror* No. 89 It have been two years at war with France. 1790 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 387 Sentiments of liberality in which we not at war with order, virtue, religion, and good government. 1816 Byron *Stanzas to Augusta* II. ii, And when winds are at war with the ocean. 1880 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 11 Man, in his powerlessness, at war with Omnipotence! 1882 Mas. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* II. xiv, In that moment..Cyril Hallib was at war with everybody and everything. 1908 *Nation* 23 Aug. 786/2 Teetotallers and moderate drinkers will probably be at war on this point..as long as the world lasts.

**b.** *To go to war* or † *wars*: to enter on hostilities. *To go to the war's* (arch.): to go abroad as a soldier.

*c* 1450 Cargrave *St. Aug.* xxxix. 50 Pat he schuld neuer cuncell man to go to were. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV* iii. ii. 196 Some say we shall go to the Warres in a Gowne. 1608 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 66 Would we had all such wives that the men might go to Warres with the women. 1807 Moore *Melody Boy* 3 The Minstrel Boy to the war is gone. 1871 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* (1876) 151 The aim of the volunteer in going to war is exactly the same as that of the individual in entering a court; it wants its rights, or what it alleges to be its rights.

† **c.** *To have war*: to be at war (*with, to*). *To hold, keep war or wars*: to be continuously at war.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1116, Se cyng Henri fylste þisum þæt land..þe he wyrre hæfde to geanes his hlaforde þam cynge of Francan. 1473 Lay. 2147 Þo holde werre I ayen þe kaiden cnyȝt and eke fiht. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1340) 28 Agaynes kynge pharoo he helde werre. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) 1 Þe Iland þat is next vnto Inde, þat men clepen Taprobane. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 167 Thai..nouthir had ware to him, na he to thame. *c* 1540 tr. *Cal. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden Soc. 1950) 32 [They] begane to keepe warre against their neighbours. 1593 Edew *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 37 They keepe warre against their borderers. 1596 J. Dalrymple *Scots. Chron.* (1813) I. 3 England is often times at warre, and kepte warre with Scotland. 1598 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 342 These Ilandes were wont to haue warre the one with the other.

**d.** *To make war*: to carry on hostilities. *lit.* and *fig.* Const. *on, upon, with*; also *against*, and † *to, unto*, or *before*.

*c* 1205 Lay. 17976 Wearre makede Turnus. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6995 Nis folc male euere imaste werre þat after is þulke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 174 Þe Deuel..ne may make werre vpon þe zaule contynuelly..made werre unto the seide Johin. 1515 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 302 In cause the duke or any other lordes subjectes..shall make warre..upon the..Scottes. 1549 Bernes *Huon* lvii. 193 When yuorym herd this he made me warre & was here before my cete with all his puusance. 1598 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 20 b, Owen..made warre vpon Shropshire and Cheshire men to the entent to make warre on the foresaid Lordes. 1580 A. Scott *Poems* i. 126 As werrie wrangis gaid Godlie men to make. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron., John* (1807) II. 370 That if the king would not..make warre by sea, they would not cease to make him warre, till he should have their requests in that behalfe. *a* 1588 Sidney *Ps.* xxxvii. xiii, Bad folkes shall fall..Who make warre with God presumed. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 86 *Dro.* In her forehead, arm'd and reuerted, making warre against her heire. 1600 J. Dent tr. *Lod's Arcadia* 19 Vpon the most opulent armie, and made warre against Barbarossa. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustina* xxvi. 04 He made warre to his Subiects. 1613 G. Sandys *Trav.* 73 His valour and conduct untried, having made no warre but by disputation. 1806 Cockeram ii, s.v. *War*, To make warre, Belligerate. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 331 As the fox makes war upon all animals so all others seem to make war upon him. 1794 Paley *Evid.* (1825) II. 255 Aristotle maintained the general right of making war upon barbarians. 1884 *Scribner's Monthly* XXX. 396/2 The..colonists were accustomed..to make war on the creatures of the forest. 1928 *Nation* (N.Y.) 7 Feb. 149/2 To go much more beef the Government is making war on the cattle tick.

**†e.** (*To win*, etc.) *of, on, with war*: by warfare.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 134 The thinges fellen as they don of werre, Tyrwhit werre of Troye and Grekes ofte. 1a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 22 How they whanne wyth were wyrchippis many. *Ibid.* 33 And Walleso of were he wanne at hys wille. *c* 1450, 1530 *Merlin* 510. *c* 1440 *Promp. Arth.* xxii, Thus hase he wonnen Kirk on werre. *c* 1565 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. 356 So Pas wibe hir ost schoo coyme of weyre. *Ibid.* v. 1458 (Royal MS.) A tyrwand, Odonater, Held all that land tyll hym off were [*var.* of weyre, of were, awere] Agayne the wycht of the empyre.

**3.** In particularized sense: A contest between armed forces carried on in a campaign or series of campaigns.

Often with identifying word or phrase, as in *the Trojan war*, *the Punic Wars*, *the Wars of the Roses*, *the Thirty Years' War*. *Holy war*: a war waged in a religious cause: applied, e.g. to the Crusades, and to the Jihād among Mohammedans. *Sacred War* (= Gr. ἱερὸς πόλεμος) in *Gr. Hist.*, the designation of two wars (B.C. 595 and 357–346) waged by the Amphictyonic Council against Phocis in punishment of alleged sacrilege. For *Servile, Social war*, see the adjs.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6991 Pare had a were ben in pat land, Pat had lasted sundell lang. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 29 Pe were lasted so long Til morgan saked pes purch pine. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 437 Pat were.. lasted two & twenty 3er. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 61 A grett were, þat was wonderli hard in pe next londe. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 502 Was nocht all troy with tresoune tane, Quhen x 3eris of the were was gane? 1377 *Piers Plowm. (Crede)* II. *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 217 This gode comunes . That with heore catel and with heore goode Mayntened the werre both furst and last. 1382 *Cal. Patent Rolls* (1914) 46 (The war called) le Barons' werre. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiii. (1495) 804 Elephauntys drede not the sharpnesse of were and dredyth and flyeth not the leest sowne or swyne. *a* 1400 *Octovian* 1621 The bigan greet were awake, Scheltes cleuede and speres brake. *Ya* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 237 Now wakkenyne vbe were by twene Arthure and Lucyne. 1400 Vonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 185 The cronycles makyth no mencion of no chyualry ne were done by the kynge al the tyme that he in Irland was. 1409 Deving *Wks.* (Surtees) 169 Their Heads from aiming Blows they bear a far, With dashing Gauntlets then provoke the War. *Ibid.* vii. 742 First, Hinton falls..Fierce with an Iron Mace the Combat War. 1750 *Gray Long Story* 76 Where, safe and laughing in his sleeve, He heard the distant din of war. 1809 Scott *Last Minstr.* iv. 233, The bow he ripp'd to look on war. 1897 *Public Courts* V. vi. 479 War swayed to and fro.

† **b.** A hostile attack, invasion, assault. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 429 Thou mayst..make a were so sharpe on this Cite. *a* 1400 *Morte Arthure* (Laud) MS. 285 þe were of þe Danes pat assailled first þe plumbertond and þannte Lyndesee. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1590 We have no nede to doon no mo melencolie. 1560 Knolles *Turks* (1621) 589 Now the Turkes began to make faire warres, their terrible batteries began to grow calme.

**5.** The kind of operations by which the contention of armed forces is carried on; fighting as a department of activity, a profession, or as an art. Cf. Man-of-war, Ship-of-war.

*c* 1300 *Will. Palerne* 2505 But god for his grete grace gof I hadde now here hores & alle harneys þat be-houes to were. 1382 Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 490 Thai war ordanyt to the were, Sum to sperfy, And eschewit richt hardely. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1038 Nestor, A noble man naitest in were. *Ibid.* 10037 The Mirmydons were.. Wise men in were. 1523 Mask *Rich. III* Wks. 37/2, None euill capteins was he in the warre, as to whiche his dispucion was more meetely then for peace. 1579 Tossoon *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 908/2 Saint Paules meaning is to shew vs Timothie was then from time, he were throughly trained, and made to warre, (as we say). 1799 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* I. ii. 111 War was the sole profession of the nobility. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xii *Beneath the Mountain's* 24 They hang the trumpet in the hall, and study war no more. 1862 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vii, I'm young in war, but not so young as to stand on an open beach to be shot down like an owl by daylight.

† **b.** In titles of office, *captain of the war*, *treasurer of the king's wars*, *treasurer at wars*. *Obs.*

*c* 1460 *Brut* 450 Pe Lord Wyllogbby was made Capten of hys werris. 1474 Caxton *Chess* II. v. (1883) 68 Iowh the sone of Saryre that was captayn of the warre of the kynge Daudi

(*Cf. Veg.* 2 Sam. viii. 16 *ἐπὶ τῶν ἀπογραφῶν*). 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 130 Sir Reignold Bray Knyght late Treasorer of Our Soueraigne Lorde the Kynges wernes. 1567 Maurice *Hbn.* ii. 53 The Treasurer at Warres *per diem* thirtie five shillings.

c. In phrasal combinations designating things pertaining to warfare, as *munitions*, † *vessels of war*, † *Castle*, *house*, *place*, *towne of war* (obs.), a fortified building or place. † *Line of war* Naut., the flotation-line of a ship when fully armed, ammunitioned, and victualled for three months.

*For articles, contraband, council, honours of war*, see those words.

1378 Barbour *Bruce* xiii. 405 Bothwell . That than at Yngils mennys fay Wes, and haldin ay place of wer. *Ibid.* xvii. 243 Till mak separit For till defend and till assale Castell of wer or than elis. c 1385 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 165 Wyth alkyne Instrument of were, as gyne, slonge, darte & spere. 1441 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. liv, The Archebshop' offices by his commandement kept the said towne of Ripon like a towne of warr. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 549 That wy walit. I vis, all wadis of weir That nedit kyth to note. 1483 *Acts. Jas. III* (1568) *Treas. Sect.* I. 50 Passande to Sanctandrox with letres vnder the signete for carrie of were. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 182 To furneis and deteine the [house] as ane hous of weir. 1625 Camden *Rem.* 2 Prouided with all complete prouisions of Warre. 1692 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Inuent.* 125 The line of War..is to be discouered by computing the weight ..of the Ordnance..and..the weight of Men with three months Victuals.

† d. Manner of fighting. *Obs.*

1. *Sir Perec.* 843 (1839) (Pynson) For no catel Wolde I let als Arundel, For he is gode in euery were. 1486 Sir G. Hawe *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 84 Usage makis him..expert, be oft hanting of the were that he is wont till.

6. *concr.* Used *pred.* for: a. Instruments of war, munitions. ? *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 712 Go then thou Mightiest..Ascend my Chariot, ..bring forth all my Warr, My Bow and Thun-der, my Almightie Armes And Spare not for cost. 1672 Marvell *Rehearsal Transp.* I. 572 Inferior Ministers, for Mars repair His broken Axeltrees, and blunted War. *Ibid.* xx. 901 Shields, Arms, and Spears, flesh horrible from first. And by the Fields of Mars a great Wain of Wer. 1723 Addison *Cato* i. iv, Th' embattled elephant, Loaden with war.

b. Soldiers in fighting array. ? *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 214 On their imbattelled ranks the Waves return, And overwhelm thir War. 1677 Oldham *David's Lament. Saul & Jon.* v, Sench..Where he, himself an Host, o'ercame a War alone. 1700 Dryden *Pref. to Ann.* iii. 102 In this Army the Flower of all the Troops Through Athens pass'd with Military Pride. 1706 Pope *Odyss.* xxiv. 598 The opening gates at once their war display. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* v. xxx, The Knight of Ulster saw, ..And wind-ensigns high they rear, And ..Rear down on England's wearied war. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* i. 141 It seems as if the harnessed war were near. 1818 W. Tennant *Thanaa of Fife* i. 1, On the plain Of Fife debark'd his proud invasive war.

† 7. *Course, jousts, tournament of war* : a tournament, joust. Similarly, *To joust of war. Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xix. 787 And thai, that worthy war and wicht, At that metyng lauchtin of wer. 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 812 Kyng askuardyn in his gere Rydes owte a course of were. c 1440 *Anom. Arth.* xxiv, Take thi schild and thi spere And ride to him in a course of were. 1470 *Harding* *Chron.* cxcix. 379 To the castelle he rad.. And axed yef ther any were, That wold hyme delyuere him ther Off thre corses of wer, Hym and xij. knyghtes. *Ibid.* 379 He sayd [quod he] were, And prays the of answere. c 1450 *Brut* 366 Pe Kele of Mayre..come ynto Engelond for to chalange Sex Edmunde, be Kele of Kent, at contek of worschip of armes and werre. 1908 H. Macneill *Links o' Forth* xxii, Or break the lance, and couch the spear At tilts and tournaments o' weir.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

8. In simple attributive use, with the senses 'of or belonging to war', 'used or occurring in war', 'suited or adapted for war', etc. e.g. *war-code*, *War Department*, † *war-feat*, *footing*, *-law*, † *point*, *-service*, *zone*, etc.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 97 Thee coompanye youthful Surcease from warfeats. a 1586 Sidney *Pr. Arcad.* Lb, He sea warre poinis did not vnderstand. 1599 Shaks. *Much ado* v. i. 303 But now I am return'd, and that warre-thoughts Haue left their places vacant: in their roomes Come throng-ing soft and delicate desires. 1601 Holland *Pliny* viii. xl. I. 220 The Scythians chuse rather to use their mares in warre-service than their stone-horses. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* iii. D 3, Will neuer pleasing passions be able To suffer Loues gentle warr-siege. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* ii. xxxviii. (1674) 190 They had very exactly considered his War-stratagems. 1706 *Mungiphis Sp. agst. Suspending & Dispensing Prerog. in Parl. Hist.* (1813) XVI. 261 As that would have been using the war power of embargoes indirectly for another end than a war purpose, such an evasion of the law was not judged wise or fit. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 380 Each gets a small bag of parched corn-flour, for his war-stores. 1797 *Rep. Committee Ho. of Comms.* XII. 301 The Office of Secretary of State for the War Department was first established on the 11th July 1794. 1819 D. B. Warden *Acc. U.S.* III. 395 Chapter xliv. Of the War Department. *Ibid.* 405 The original proceedings of all courts-martial, ordered by the war department, are transmitted to that department by the judge advocate of the court. 1843 Geote *Greece* II. lxxvii. XI. 286 To inquire whether Thebes had exceeded the measure of rigour warranted by the war-code of the time. 1852 Milman *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. iv. I. 197 Towards them [ec. Christian priests] the [Mohammedan] war-law speaks in a sterner tone. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Feb. 118/3 The army has been placed on a war footing. 1918 *Nation* (N. Y.) 7 Feb. p. 161/1 The Government..compel all ships plying to ports in the war zone to insure their men.

b. With words that denote arms, accoutrement, implements, etc.; as *war-axe*, *-bell*, *-club*, *saddle*, †*sword*; *war-balloon*, *-cart*, *-tower*; *war-boat*, *-canoe*, *-steamer*.

*Æneis* viii. vii. 144 Ane vther sort full byssely to Mart The tryumand Mauortis feyght, and weir cars. 1688 *Holme Armoury* iii. 345/2 The Great Saddle or War Saddle, which is accounted the chief of Saddles. 1695 J. S. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 201 Great commanders, fought in open chariots or war-coaches. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* 269 He gives a violent blow with his war-club against a post that is fixed in the ground. 1798 Landon *Gebir* vii. 28 Whirling headlong in his war-belts fold. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 215 The war-mallet is a club with a large head of wood or stone. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* ii, His rider occupied his demipique, or war-saddle, with an air that showed it was his familiar seat. 1825 — *Talisman* ii, Take my war-axe, and dash the stone into twenty shivers. 1845 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 16 A command for Eagle to put on his war-dress. 1846 J. Howitt (*title*) An Essay on the War-galleys of the Ancients. 1858 Meryon *Gilb. Pasto.* xxv. The flatmah war-boat are very splendid craft, pulling from eighty to one hundred oars. 1858 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 328/1 Improvements in War Rockets. 1859 Carlyle *Frederick* viii. 238 Or we was the smith idle, hammering out wartools? 1892 Longw. *Warden of Cinque Ports* iii, To see the French war-steamers speeding over. 1898 De Windt *Signaller* iv. Two canes in night of a fleet of seven French war-canoes. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Feb. 5/1 An ordinary war-balloon..may either contain an officer in charge or be dispatched unattended. 1899 G. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & the Thousand* xii. 213 A high hill, on the spur of which Talamone and its old war-tower projected into the sea.

c. With words that denote a commander, officer, army, etc.; as *war-captain*, *-chief*, *-leader*; *war-army*, *-company*, *-force*.

1600 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 77 The Generall of all the warre-forces throughout Britaine. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. ii. iv, In the War-like way of living nation is raised to the greatest height,..the war-captain prepares the feast, which consists of dogs flesh. 1820 Colp. Hodge *Piscelonimi* i. iii. 28 We had not seen the War-Chief, the Commander, the Leader. 1822 *Lett. to Scotsman* 76 The Duke of Scotland's war-army With Edward Bruce to westward lay. 1906 C. Squire *Reynard, Anc. Brit.* v. 48 The traditions which attach to the Arthurian war-leader in Celtic countries. 1913 J. A. Cramb *Germany & England* i. (1914) 35, I seem to hear again the thunder of the footsteps of a great host..It is the war-lands of Alaric!

d. With words denoting cries, songs, musical instruments, etc., as *war-chant*, *-horn*, *-march*, *-music*, *-pipe*, *-shout*, *-tramp*, *-trumpet*, *-whistle*, *-yell*.

1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 388 Taking from him his drum, war-whistle, and rattles. 1797 Scott *Minstrelsy* II. 376 Sound I sound ! my loud war-trumpets, 1808 Scott *Marmion* v. v, And varying notes the war-pipes bray'd, To every wary-ring clan. 1814 — *Lord of Isles* v. xxx, The knell, the war-shout of ten thousand voices. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* xxvii. 228 As they went they sang the Ingomo, the war-chant of the Zulus.

e. With words that refer to finance, as *war-budget*, *-fund*, *-insurance*, *-loan*, *-tax*.

1813 in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 16 To direct that the salaries established as war salaries, by the said Order in Council, should be the permanent salaries of both in war and peace of the several persons. 1817 Coleridge *Lay Sern.* 'Blessed are ye' 32 The Revenue was diminished by the abandonment of the war-taxes. 1851 Lewis *Credib.* II. lxxxviii. XI. 493 It is true that the Athenians might have laid up that surplus annually in the acropolis, to form an accumulating war-fund. 1864 *Tract Mag.* I. 299/1 Gentlemen farmers formed another exception during the era of war-prices and yeomanry cavalry. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 107 War-taxes impress the poor and keep trade at work. 1887 J. C. Morison *Serv. Man* p. xv, The removal of all fear of war would be even a greater gain than the suppression of the budget. 1894 *Times* 7 Sept. 5/1 Public Record II. lxxxviii. XI. 493 It is true that the Athenians might have laid up that surplus annually in the acropolis, to form an accumulating war-fund. 1894

‖ **War,** *sb.* *Obs.*—[Thevenot's rendering of a dial var of Hindi *baḍ* ] The Banyan-tree.

1687 A Iourn. in *Thev. Acts Trav.* III 25 Trees of several kinds, as Mangoes, Palms, Mirabolans, Wars, Mutta trees *Ibid.* We saw the War-tree in its full extent It is likewise called the Tree of Banians

**War, waur** (wär, wŏr), *a.* and *adv.* *Sc* and *north* Forms 3 5 werre, 4 *Sc* ver, 4–6 wer, 4–5 were, werr, worre, 6 wor, *Sc* woir, 4–5 ware, 5–6 warre, 5–8 warr, 6 *Sc.* war, (uar), 4–9 war, 8– *Sc.* waur See also WERRAR *a.* [a ON *verre* adj., *verr* adv.: see WORSE *a.* and *adv.* The spelling *waur*, which first appears in the 18th c, was adopted by Burns and Scott, and is now general in Scottish use ]

**A** *adj* = WORSE *a* in all senses

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3 3281 Es maiden I ond weote he [*sc* Faliam] his side And weote he nabbe no werre thogt *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 454 Qua herd euer a warr (*Cott. Mf.* werr) auntour *c* 1375 *Ibid* 13241 (*Fairf.*) Pe lode wine suilde þou first dispende & seppen dede þe worse [*seuiere texts* werr] it beside 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 269 I hard lome is well wer than ded *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 15 Are pei not werr, and abhommabler þan cruel sodomits? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 30 Who seid þat he was a good man, he wist neuer question þou owther off be tother was. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 37 Thai schel tosche diminusitie and grouis les, and of ane var ysobtie *a* 1578 LINDSAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I 178 Then came ane warr freindis nor they mett 1578 MONRO *Wem* (Hannatyne Club) 15 They ran togidther, the said Willie was stricken to the ground and dead, the vther threw the thues and left war 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept 108 I they sayne the world is much war then it wont 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 187 Sybill is nyuar veryfeus and war nor Pasticrati 1594 ? LODGE *Logick* 77 World so called of War old, because the older it is, the War or worse it is. 1596 BURNE *Hist. Britain* III, There is many waur been o the race, And sibbins are better far than you that dip 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, Vanity and waur!" said the Dominie; "it is trafficking with the Evil One" 1824 C. HOGG *Shilley* xx, We're no war nor some o's also as us, are we? 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Nov 72 Loth me! it's just waur than uncle-ta the day whiniver

† **b** *Father waur*, worse than one's father, degenerate *Obs.* Cf. OF *fillol pis iangr* sb.

1538 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I 206 And lit we nocht be cawit fader war, I hocht we be nocht rycht fra thanne so far.

**c** *absol* (quasi *sb* ) as in *to get the war, to* get the worst of it

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7379 Fle þat wyniues to haue be war, For ar i fle i sal cum nere i3 *Gaw & Gr. Kn.* 1588 Lest felle hym be worse. *Ibid.* 1591 pe worre hade þat oþer. *c* 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 101 Bot thar bowmen the war drew And gaf thaim the war. *a* 1568 *Wyf Ane vnmarkit sr* in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunter Club) 345 For ane wo fecht I ill gettis the war 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let 1 Will ye expect to be running among the queans o' lasses, ye will come by the waur

**B.** *adv* = WORSE *adv.* in all senses.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 4858 And swa þu tellesst werre off þe, Swa tellepþ Drihhtin hetter *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19304 þai drund him [*sc* Herod] in pike and tern, And seid him war þan he furs wer, werr þan he fard euer ar *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xl* (*Ursinus*) 1324 Pu sal wys I lame of myght ver þane þu wes be-fore to dyelit *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 94 Per was a man vsed to swere dede þat euere he dide, þat greued hym ware *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 73 Other þai3t er hongry wald i3 & pryk me war þan þai did *c* 1450 *Merlin Malory's wks.* (1889) 903 All ys out of harre, And out of trace, Ay warre and warre in every place *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 280 Iley fand ane mon-stour on the se-mure, War fald nor ane eat 1719 *South sea Song* 7 in *Ramsay's Tea Table Miscellany* (1725) I. 34 The law will fare the war in truth for our long biding here 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid.* xvi, A the warld kens that they mann either marry or do waur 1828 (CARR) *Craven Glean., War and waur*, worse and worse

**War** (wɑ̄r), *v* 1 Inflected warred (wɑ̄rd), **warring** (wɑ̄r ing). Forms 2 uuerrien, 3 warre, weorre, weorri, 3–4 worri, worry, 3–5 worre, werri, werry, 3–6 werre, werr, 4–5 were, were, 4–7 warre, 6 warr. *Cf.* OF. *werir(e,* 4, 6– war. [f WAR *sb.*1 Cf. the equivalent OF *guerrer, *werrer* , also *werreier* WARRAY *v* ]

†**1** *trans* To make war upon. *Obs*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS) an 1135. Dauid king of S. ealand toc to uuerrien him 1297 R. GLOU. (Rolls) 4636 Pe kun he men of þis land excepted were þere [*sc.* in Wales] Euere wanne of straunge men y worred hi were *Ibid* 4987 Ac penda be helpene duc adde euere god wille To worry him (Gibbs) & don him scame *a* 1583 in *Pap. Priv. Counc.* (1911) Oct 744 þough it be leful in cases to werre & sleen euele cristene men whanne rightfulnesse shulde i-reschen elles 1390 GOWER *C. M.* I 363 To passe over the grete sea to werre and vle the Sarazin *a* 1400 *Pyrrner* (1841) 49 *þe wyes exspngnaerunt* Oft they werreden me fro my southe sey now israel *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron* CXXVI vi (1812) 344 hyng Henry warred Robert Duke of Normandy *Ibid. Lapses Hen. VI* (1832) II 186 The treason, rebellion, extorsion, and wilfull ware of your forsaid Erles, the one varring, burnaug, and destroying the other. 1895 ANGLO *Civ. Wars* II xxx, To warre the Scot, and Borders to defend.

*fig. a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Knatel, þet is custnehe god mon þet is seoued weorreð. *c* 1393 PIERS *Ploughs of the Lord* 256 in *O. & Misc.* 89 Al hire weorrep þat wunep ine londe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 57 pe tauerne is pe deyolues castel uor to werri god an his halpen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *A. & C.* 116 He not to werre us awich a wonder wroughte [*Fr. ne cuit pas que fust pour guerre*], But for to save us that he nethen boughte 1440 Lydgate *Secreta Secret* 156 Al the day of oure lyfe in grete Peril we lyuth, for thre enemys we warryth 1689 DANIEL *Civ Wars* VIII lxxv. 222 Loue and Ambition tyrannize on bis diuided hart, Warring each other with a powerfull part.

†**b.** To ravage (a city, land, etc) by warlike operations; to harry. *Obs*

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 43 Engeland hab be inome & y-werred ilome [*v.r.* y-worred, werred]. *Ibid* 7648 Hii worreden al in vphomberlond, & tuyfe euere an hii come 1303 BRUNNE *Hendl.* 1 cxci. 93 Thus in euery parte was the reaime of Fraunce warreide in the tyteil of the kynge of Nauer

†**c.** To harass, persecute *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Deð god, þæt se muwen, to þeo þet ou weorreð. *c* 1290 *Holy Rood* 324 in *S. Jnec Leg.* to Sethebe bare cam An Angoumoisyn þat hiet Adrian, hebenes he was and swyþe lubur and werreide [*r.* worreded] þe cristine man 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 2587 Vaspasyan after nero com, þat betere man wes þan he & no worrede noȝ cristendom. 1352 ROBERT *Fraus* 1 (1561) 235 b, When the gaintoyse awaye them selfe thus mocked and warred by the gentlemen of Flaunders [etc ]

**2** *intr.* To make or carry on war; to fight Now only *literary.*

**a.** with const *against, on, † toward, upon, with.*

*c* 1205 LAY 20191 Arður is lant Colgrim þe weorredе ayeinn him *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 5 Babilones folc, þe deoueles here of helle weorre ȝ & warpeð eauer toward tis tur for to schenchen alle cristene men ? R. GLOUC (Rolls) 1755 He bigan to worri anon ȝpe king hassan 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4070 He lete þe fals Phylystyens, be folk of Israel to werre vpon *Gloss. Cleopatra D.* 1493 (Gott.) Your kingen werrid (*Cott MS* werraud *Ofor* werraid)) apon fif *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5786 He (Cassibolan) swor he schuld neuer be wiȝ oure enemy þat were ; & he schuld be, he schilde hym neuer. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III 298 þis prude worldly prest priuely meyntenep oure enemyes to werre wiþ hem wiþ oure temporal goold *c* 1450 LONELICH *Merlin* 12153 so whanne þis Galachim gan to vnderstonde how his fadir kyng Newtrist with Arthour gan werre, to his Mody3e he went, [etc ] 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat armour* A vb, And the noblest pepis of Sem werrid ayenst them *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* an 1263 (1533) 56 They drew to them great power, and warred vpon the landes and castelles of y. Kyng 1530 PALSGR. 734/2 The Frenche men hath warred with Christendome all my dayes 1565 PENNI *Iternerar* C], Helena For whom the Grecians warred ten yeares 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxvi. 1000 *Thanet* I 49 The Athenians had done vniustly, and ought speedily to be warred on *c* 1623 LD. HERBERT *Autobog* (1824) 200 Monsieur de Luynes continuated the (French) King's favourite, advised him to war against his subjects of the reformed religion in France. 1678 WANLEY *Wonders* II 582 477 Solyman will send vpon the Venetians and invaded the Island of Corfu and Malta 1798 *Sketches I. by some Hibern. Gentl.* Pref. p xx, Capt. George Shelvocke may make use of this Imperial Commission in warring against the Spaniards 1860 CAMPBELL *Lives Chief Justices* I. 268 Fergus, after having warred unsuccessfully with his sovereign, retired in the habit of a monk to the abbey of Holyrood house 1897 POLLOCK *Contract* 1. 11 (1902) 18 Whether a subject can lawfully warred against his sovereign

1879 GREEN *Reading's Engl. Hist* I 3 Tribe warred with tribe

*transf* 23 *Gaw. & Gr. Kn* 720 Sumwhyle with wormes he werres, & with wolues þe wrabbes he wrekes 1867 HOLLAND *Futarch's Mor* 934 In this wise doe eagles warre with dragons 1874 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. xxiv, What make ye here, Warring upon the mountain-deer, When Scotland wants her King?

**b.** *simply.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7887 & vor roberd wes eldore & eir, gret folc he sende al so fram normandie to worry & to werre 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxix. 7 Mine *Prayer* is þat I warred had my hert grete care When I dward foundcd first to were 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 237 Oon Cyclonaurus þe kyndeliche to warre in Ireland and in Hesdayne *c* 1400 MAUNDV. (1839) xxiii 251 And when thei werran, thei werren fulle wisely 1400 *Brut* II 320 In whiche tyme reyned and werred þe noble orgil knyȝt 1408 *Pilgr. Sowle* 1072 CAXTON *Reynard* (Sommer) 64 5 And they were enduced to werre and to fyȝht. 1593 SHAKE *Rich. II*, I. 252 Wars hath not wasted it, for warr'd he hath not, but hoorded it 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har* III xxxv, Here, where the sword united nations drew, Our countrymen were warring on that day! 1889 *Scribner's Magazine Alexander's Empire* xxvi. 680 213 The murder of the young king Seleucus Soter (III), who was warring in Asia Minor

**c** Of peoples, sovereigns, etc.: To carry on war against each other, to be (mutually) at war

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 5968 Hii nadde ywerred lote a lute þat hii acorded were. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 95 When Alfred & Gunter had werred long in vile, Porgh le grace of God, Gunter turned his wille. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21872 (*Fairf.*) Folk þus salle gaune oþer yese to wese [*earlier texts* werra] samin in mani wise. 1607 ROWLANDS *Famous Hist* 34 Of a long warre betweene them, let us War no more, But fight gainst such as will not God adore 1851 R. & J. LANDER *Exped Niger* I 88 We were told that the natives of Cape La Hoo and Jack-a Jack had been warring for three years previously

**d.** To serve as a soldier

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Tim.* ii 4 No man that warreth (*Gr serpartiwoueis*) tangleth him selfe with wordly busynesses (*Similarly* 1881) 1894 *Science* 669 He follow Mars, and warre another while, And die my shield in dolorous vermeil 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. xxxvii. 248 A righteous man may rightly warre at his commaund 1851 JAMES *Bergond* xv, I he young gentleman we speak of has been long warring with the armies in Italy.

**3.** *fig.* Of persons To contend, fight with immaterial weapons; to carry on a metaphorical warfare. Of things, forces, principles. To be in strong opposition.

**a.** With const. as in 2 b.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.*, 177 Pe wraððe of kinges þe warreð uppe churches, oðer vanieð here rihtes. *Ibid* 195 Swelc [he haddiþ] warreð wiþ god alse he deaðd him to segede *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 348 Vleischche lustes, þet weorreð azeines þe soule [= 1 Pet. ii 11] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I 366 Homicide Which werreth ayein charite. 1484 CAXTON *Chevalry* 77 Chevalrye and strenghe we ought to fighten agey nste lecherye and surmounte hit. 1522 COLET *Serm. Convoc.* B vij, Lette the lawes be vnbarsed that warreth agaynst the spotte of Sy monie 1580 BARET (Rheame) *I Pet* ii 11, I beseche you to refraine your selues from carnal desires which warre against the soule (Similarly 1621) 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I civ, But was by tempests winded, and seas debard, As if they likewise had against him warr'd. 1622 BIBLE *Rom* vii 23, I see another Lawe in my members, warring against the Lawe of my minde 1769 *Maseres Hist* IV. 643 This writer is so determined to war with common opinion that, in the eighth paragraph, he tells us, that [etc.] 1780 MADAN *Thelyph* I 249 How this learned man's prejudices warred against his judgment [etc ] 1792 ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I 324 When on the westhind sea warred the winter wind 1831 JAMES *Phil Augustus* xxiii Such were the thoughts that warred against each other in his breast 1892 NEWMAN *Par. Sermons* VI 16 It is our duty to war against the flesh as they warred against my minde 1766 W. ALLEN *Solut Nat & Man* ii 419 Whose follows these directions, however wicked men may be, he is desolutely safe 1872 FREEMAN *Norm Conq* (1876) IV. xvii 28 William, at this stage of his reign, warred rather against the memory of the dead than against the lives or fortunes of the living.

**b.** *simply.*

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1090 Litil vnlaith wonder That fortune ever werrith, & alle hap & chaunce Is lik to the lusti Somer 1711 Your concupiscences which warre in your members (Similarly 1821) 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 271 But vainly thou warrest.

**c.** To be in mutual opposition. Cf. WARRING *ppl a.*

1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* x, Antagonist principles are ever warring within us

**4** *trans.* with cognate object To carry on, wage (a warfare, etc ). *rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf* II 62 For this a man may finde write, Whan that knyhthode schal be werred, Love mai noght thanne be preferred *c* 1405 *Sng Conq Creation* 110 to Robert sette the bowmen for to werr *His Remi's* were] the fight of the kernels 1530 TINDALE *Exp Prol Po* Circumcision was vnto them a comen bagge ayenlinege that they were all sodans off God & warre his warre 1580 BARET (Rheame) *I Pet* i 18 That thou warre in them a good warfare (Similarly 1621)

**War** (wär, wŏr), *v.*2 *Sc.* Also 5 werre, ware, 8 ward, 8–9 waur. [f WAR, WAUR *a* ] *trans.* To worst, defeat in a contest or competition; to surpass, excel.

1483 *Cath. Angl* 408/1 To Warre, *deprauere, deterere,... deteriorare, peiorare* (A) ? *a* 1500 in *Hardyng's Chron.* cxiii *note*, He which [= feat of strength] He performed that neuer man he werre 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xii 100 And now hes Pristis the fordaill, and wone, in hy, The beg Centaur hir warres, and shippis by [I *nunc vastant praterit regenal* 1599 *Satir Poems Reform.* xxxiii 111 Sensyne that wir yame and wyn the ryches yair, And gif sc de, in dead se mend na mair *a* 1598 LINDSAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S.T.S.) II 359 I hay delaitit Marcellus and Hannibal thairis wangard *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w Montgomerie* 170 Grant, guess, bat my inuentioun wastis the than, with out he quhilk neuer mocht haue bein maid 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S.T.S.) I 23 Wigtoune warris the vthis a baith in cuirenis and riches *a* 1614 ? MELVILL *Autob & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 154 And, on the vther part, Mr. Andro Melvill warred the credit with the contrey wrot unto the Kirke at Ianithe 1721 ? KELLY *Sc Prov.* 304 The Water will never want the Waddie [= He that's born to be hang'd will never be drown'd] 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr Hornbook* xiii, And mony a scheme in vain's been laid, To stap or scaur me, till ane Hornbook's taen up the trade, And faith he'll waur me 1816 SCOTT *Antiq* ii, It was a paper of great importance to the plea, and we were to be waured for want o't

†**War,** *v.*3 *Obs* : *var-* [Of obscure origin. Possibly a misprint for *vuer.* ] (See quot.) Hence *Comb.* war-bark, a trough used in salting herrings. Cf. WARE *sb.*4

1688 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 106 The manner of Salting. The Nets are haled on Board, and the Herrings are taken out of them, and put into the Warbacks, which stand on the side of the Vessel and receive the Herrings. *Ibid* 107 It is common to allow 2 barrels of Salt to a Last, of 14 barrels to War wathall, that is to rowle the Herrings in the Salt before they are Packt

**War:** see BE *v.*, WARE, WARER, WEAR *v.*, WHERE, WHETHER.

**Waran,** obs. form of WARRANT *sb.*1

**Waranci** : see WARRANCY.

**Warand,** obs form of WARRANT.

**Warandare,** obs form of WARRENER.

**Warande,** obs. form of WARRANT, WARREN.

**Warandare,** obs form of WARRENER.

**Warandice, -dise,** obs. forms of WARRANTISE.

**Waranti(e, -is,** obs forms of WARRANT, -ty.

**Warantise, -ize,** obs. forms of WARRANTISE.

**Warantte,** obs. form of WARRANT

‖ **Warasdin.** *Hist.* [ad. G. *Warasdiner*, f. *Warasdin* (Magyar *Varasd*) the name of a town and county in Croatia.]

1810 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Warasdins*, a kind of Sclavonian soldiers, clothed like the Turks, with a sugar loaf bonnet instead of a hat Their arms are a fuzee and pistols. 1884 (see TOY PATEK).

**Waratah** (wŏ'rătă). Also war-ra-taw, warratah, warratah [Native Australian name.]

1. A name for Australian shrubs of the genus *Telopea* (N.O. *Protaceæ*), esp *T. speciosissima* and *T. oreades*, which bear crimson or scarlet flowers in terminal clusters; also, the flower.

1793 J. L. Smith *Bot New Holland* 19 (Morris) The most magnificent plant which the prolific soil of New Holland affords is, by common consent both of Europeans and natives, the Waratáh 1810 P. G. King *Let Sir J. Banks* 25 Aug. in *Hist Rec N S W.* (1896) IV 314, I have also sent a box of waratahs 1820 D. Collins *Acc N S Wales* II 66 Ben-nil-long assisted at the ceremony, placing the head of the corpse, by which he stuck a beautiful WARATA-TAW. 1830 *Hobart Town Almanack* 66 That magnificent shrub called Warrataw or tulip tree and its beautiful scarlet flowers. 1885 ‘Wanderer’ *Bunkonee Terrorist* etc. 60 And the waratahs in state, With their flamy blood-red crowns.

2 A variety of the camellia In full *waratah camellia*

1844 Loudon *Encycl. Gard* § 6613 Camellia double white waratah 1866 *Trans. Bot.* II 207/2 The anemone flowered or Waratah Camellia

**Waraunt(e, -tyse :** see WARRANT, -TISE.

**Warawnt,** obs. form of WARRANT.

**Warback** see WAR *sb.* *Obs.*

**Warble** (wǭ·b'l), *sb*.[1] Forms. 4 warbele, -bul, 5 -bell, warble, 4-6 -bole, -bul, 5 warbelle, 6 *Sc* warbille, -ill, 6– warble. [From OF. *werble* : see WARBLE *v*.[1]] In early use, a tune or melody (perh of some special kind) performed on an instrument or sung. Subsequently (influenced by WARBLE *v*.[1]), the action or an act of warbling; gentle and melodious singing, esp. of birds.

13 *Gaw & Gr. Knt* 119 Wyle we nakyn noyes with be noble pipes, Wylde werbles & wyzt wrenisshe of fele 13[..] Chaucer *Troylus* II 1033 Pough be beste harpour upon Iyus Wolde Touche a-yr-e streng or ay-e werbul [*rime* warbul, -bele, -tle, werble, -bull] harpe 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 355 In be whiche instruments bey makeb wel mery armonye and melody wib wel bicke tunes, warioles, and notes. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Chorle & Birde, Poems* (Percy Soc.) 182 [Harl MS 116] The soote sugred armonye Of uncouthe varbiys and tunys drawen on longe. *c* 1407—*Reson & Sens* 1249 So as be Swan bygynnib to forn his fatal day Wib werbles ful of melodye 1561 Douglas *Pal Hon* I xlv, Na mair I will thir verbillis sweit define *c* 1590 ] Stewart *Poems* (S T S) II 76 Quhair birds outharsit doulcest verbis rair 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II xxxv 61 Dammel Sathan ! that with Orphean ayres, and dextrous warbles, lead'st us to the Plaines of Hell 1742 Gray *Ode to Spring* 1, I give you lithsome for your warbles with you could sing you could not 1757 Dyer *Fleece* I 614 With ev'ry murmur of the sliding wave, And ev'ry warble of the feather'd choir 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xli, There was solemn and affecting sustained as it was by the pathetic warble of a voice which it had naturally been a fine one 1838 Worsw *Fam Tolour* V 1 The linnet's warble, trilling towards a close, Hush'd the thrush to time for their repose. 1866 Louise M Alcott *Little Women* II, Hagar puts back the cup which holds the pain meant for Rachel, and Hugo, getting thirsty after a long warble, drinks it, loses his wits, [etc.]

*transf* 1892 Tennyson *Lost Tourn* 231 Quiet as any water sobbing by Stars down the wandering warble of a brook

**b.** Manner of warbling.

*a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc* (Arb.) 7 There shalt thou here and se all kindes of birdes yrwought, Well tune their voice with warble small, as nature hath them taught 1791 Burney *Hist Mus* I 1 A sound so much the more agreeable, as it is not monotonous, which is the case in the warble of most other birds 1876–83 Jefferson in *Reg. mil. Hist. Indust* I 307 Birds have a warble that is peculiar to them *a* 1900 Dr Argyll *Autob & Mem* (1906) I 20 The song of the willow wren is too low a warble to attract general attention.

**c.** *collect.* The united sound of bird-songs.

1776 Pennant *Brit Zool* (ed 4) I 314 Its notes are part of that tune drowned in the general warble of the season 1794 Rees *Encycl Synon* I 200 Whose instructive temper and disposition help to disturb the peace of the forest and the warble of the grove.

**Warble** (wǭ·b'l), *sb*.[2] Also 9 wabble, wurble. [Of uncertain origin ; cf. Msw. *varbulde* boil, f. *var* pus (see WARE *sb*.[2]) + *bulde* tumour ; also WARBOR, WARIBREED, and the dial. names for the warble-maggot, *warback* (Orkney), *warbeelie* (Norf.), *warbe* (Sc.), *warblet* (Suff ); and *worbuttess* (Suff ), pierced by the larvæ of beetles (said of growing timber) ]

1. A small hard tumour, caused by the pressure of the saddle on a horse's back. Usually *pl*

1697 Markham *Cerual* III (1617) 78 You shall bathe his back where the Saddle should, which will keepe him from warbles 1705 *Lond Gaz.* No 4178/4 A Gelding near 14 hands high, a Warble newly broke on the off side of his Back. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Improv* (1757) II 161 The first [Horse] will fret, gall, and be full of Warbles, with even the least Journey. 1851 Youatt *Horse* IX 269 The little tumours resulting from the pressure of the saddle are called *warbles*, and when they ulcerate they frequently become *sitfasts*

2. A small tumour or swelling on the back of cattle, deer, etc. produced by the larva of a gad-fly (see 3).

*a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 324 Be mais, be migrain, ..the warbillis, be wood-wormes. 1808 Jamieson, *Warble*, . a swelling on the back of a cow or ox, A. Bor. [i.e North of England]. 1834 Youatt *Cattle* 322 A great many of the cattle in the same pasture will have only a few warbles on their backs, while others will, in a manner, be covered with them. 1880 *Times* 27 Sept. 12/6 Then, graziers are appealed to in order to prevent the hides of the living animals being injured by ‘warbles’, produced by parasitic insects

3. The gadfly or its larva which produces ‘warbles’. Cf. *warble-fly* in 4.

1808 Jamieson, *Warble*, a sort of worm that breeds between the outer and inner skin of beasts, S 1820 *Encycl. Brit* (ed. 4) VIII 495/1 The larvæ of the *Oestrus bovis* are commonly known to the country people by the names of *wormils*, or *warmils*, or *warbles* 1824 *Illustr. North Antiq* 404 The hole (which has probably been made by a warble) in the skin of a beast that has been ell shot 1866 *Daily News* 5 May 3/5 The warble, or bot fly strikes the cattle in the summer months, depositing its eggs upon the skin, or hair. 1889 *Rep. U.S. Dept. Agric* I 215 (Cent.) A very large percentage[of fifty chipmunks] were infested with wabbles.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warble-hole, lump, -maggot, -tumour* ; *warble-fly* (see 3).

1877 J. Wood *Nat. Teaching, Usef Arts* VII 396 The *warble-fly of the ox, scientifically known as *Œstrus bovis* 1881–6 Tomlinson *Arts & Manuf* II 30/1 Those (hides) which contain many warble or wurmal holes. 1886 *Daily News* 5 May 3/5 The two familiar *warble lumps which may be felt on the back and loins of the beasts affected *Ibid*, The results of the presence of the *warble-maggots as a general derangement of health 1889 R W Dickson *Pract Agric* II 1188 *Warble tumours arising upon the backs or sides of horses

†**Warble,** *sb*.[3] *Obs* In 7 werble. [var. **wherwel* WHORL *sb*.] The part of the spindle that receives the thread : = WHORL *sb*.

1561 [Implied in Warbled *ppl a*.[1]] 1621 Cotgr. s.v. *Fuseé, toute arte ses pesanteurs en Astragale*, because commonly the weight on a wherwell is many spokes and werbles threaded, or ioynted together.

**Warble** (wǭ·b'l), *v*.[1] Forms: 7 **werbel,** 7–8 **-ll,** 6 **warbell,** 6– **warble.** [a. north-eastern OF. *werbler, werbloier* (Central Ob. *guerbler, gourbloier* ; also in corrupt forms *werbler, verboier, verbier*), f. *werble* WARBLE *sb*.[1], a OHG. *werbel*, recorded only as glossing L. *plectrum* and *sistrum*, but prob. used in many other applications of the general sense ‘something that revolves’ (MHG. *werbel, wirbel*, mod.G. *wirbel*, whirlpool, whirlwind, spinning-top, vertex of the head, etc.) ; cogn. w. (M)Du. *wervel* harp, ON. *hvirfill* circle, ring, crown of the head, f. *hverfa* turn, root **hwerb-* to revolve : see WHERL and cf. WHARVE.

The Fr. vb seems to have primarily referred to the manipulation of the strings of a musical instrument (cf 5 a below), but was also used for the production of delicate trilling effects in singing. The OF. *werbler* has only an example in Godefr, where it may mean ‘modulation or ‘melody’. It is not possible to determine with certainty in which of its senses the Gaer vb was adopted in OF ; perh in that of ‘plectrum’ perh. in that of ‘turning peg’ (so MHG. *wirbel*). Mod.G. has a verb *werbeln* to warble.

In the 16th century existence of the vb. *werble* is doubtful (see the remark under 1 below), though there are several examples of the ab in the 14th.)

1. **a** *intr.* = To resound. **b.** *trans.* ? To proclaim by flourish of trumpets; ? to sound (a trumpet) *Obs.*

The identity of the word in quot 13 is uncertain ; the sense may be whirling ; in quot *a* 1400–50 the reading and construction are doubtful.

13 *Cursor M.* Aref. 2004 Pe werbelande wynde swipped fro pe hyze, & drof vche dale ful of dryfles ful skete. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2222 Now ere his wegin all set & be saun[g]es, Were wrokens bestrene, werbild in cumpe [*Dubl MS* Were walked be twene, werbilt trompes?]

2. *intr.* To modulate the voice in singing ; to sing with trills and quavers. In later use (influenced by sense 4), to sing softly and sweetly, in a birdlike manner, often merely a jocose substitute for *sing*.

1330 Palsgr 771 *a*, I warbell with the voyce, as conyngers do, *Je treuble*. It is a worde to here hym synge, what he is disposed to warbell 1594 Larum *Strarke's Ladie* viii, (1596) 114 Children who have a good voice, and warble in the throat, are most vntoward for all sciences. 1600 Shaks *A. Y. L.* II iv 38 Come, warble, come 1621 Quarles *Feuchtwanger* 1, Shrouds, where wanton birds warble, and sing. 1811 Busby *Dict Mus* (ed 3) I 211, To warble is to sing in a mode, or manner, imitative of birds : those soprano performers, whose voices are a clear, fluted, and shrill tone, and who run divisions with a close and liquid sweetness, are said to warble 1884 Mrs. Prard *Zero* XIV, Pain was made to warble.

quasi-*trans* with complement (jocular).

1850 ? Hackaray *Pendennis* xlvii, She'd sit down and sing to you, and gaze at you, until she warbled your soul out of your body.

**b.** Of music : To sound in quavering, flexible melody ; to be produced with free, smooth, and rapid modulations of pitch ? *Obs.*

1714 *Gay Sheph. Wk* Wed 3 Such Strains ne'er warble in the Lanret's Throat *a* 1732 Donnhoe *Hymns, ? Lord of the Lambskin* 8 No Grace to mingle with the Song, Which warble from immortal Tongues. 1823 *Sketches of Character* (ed. 2) I. At the same instant, Emily's sweetest notes warbled as usual.

**c.** *poet.* Of a small stream To make melody as it flows. Also of the wind.

1579 [see Warbling *ppl. a*.[1]]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 31 Like flowrie Brooks beneath That wash thy hallowd feet, and warbling flow. 1708 Phillips (ed Kersey), To *Warble* . to gargle or purl, as a Brook or Stream. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 399 High to their fount, ..amid the hills And woodlands warbling round, trace up the brooks. 1783 Crabbe *Village* II 201 As old Themes Sees his young streams run warbling at his side. 1814 Southey *Roderick* XVIII 207 The quiet voice Of waters warbling near

**d.** *US.* To yodel (In recent American Dicts.)

1860 [see Warbling *vbl sb*.[1] *c*.]

3. *trans.* **a.** To sing with quavering trills and runs, to utter melodiously, to carol. Also to *warble forth, out, ovet*.

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (1815) 89 And many a note, she warbled wonder wel 1593 Marlowe *Dido* I. *Elegies* I 33 Pigmon Muse, that sittest at amorous beds 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* 207 The lookers on incessantly warble out soft tunes[during Mass]as 1663 Dryden *Tyrannick* III 98 Softly she Warbles over all the heavn 1734 Gray *Pleasure* 13 The Sky lark warbles high His trembling thrilling ecstacy 1848 Thackeray *Van Jaun* xxv Jimmy began to warble that stanza from the favourite song of ‘Wapping Old Stairs.’ 1854 *Poultry Chron* II 118/1 Again, we have that pretty songster warbling forth its melodious song the Canary 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xii, Neddy, getting sentimental, warbled a serenade

**b** To express or celebrate in song or verse. Also with *forth, + out*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I 1 18 O Father, grant I sweetly warble forth Unto our seed the World's renowned Birth 1623 Milton *Ps* CXXXVI 8*g* Let us therfore warble forth His mighty Majesty and worth 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* 7 The River Lethe so warbled out by Poets. 1725 Pope *Odyss* I 346 Warbling it in Greek as wont with harp and voice 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No 109 P 5 You warble out your groans with unconcern in the midst of company 1868 M Alcott *Little Women* II, Having warbled his thanks Hugo departed 1875 Tennyson *Q Mary* III vi, Or would you have me turn a sonneteer, And warble those brief sighted eyes of hers?

4. *intr* **a.** To twitter, as a young bird ; to make uncertain attempts at singing. Also *fig* 1605 Br Andrewes *Serm* (1629) 60 Except it be through forth a Benedictus, and a Magnificat, from the true se d of Abraham, If it do not the like from us, certainely it but flies in our lavnes, we but warble. 1611 Cotgr., *Gazouiller*, to warble, as a young bird when it first begins or learnes, to sing

**b** Of birds. To sing clearly and sweetly.

1666 Warbler *Hth & sq* xiv. Lxxii. (1612) 343 No birds were heard to warble 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII 5 Sad Philomel shall cease to warble on the branches wailing 1732 Pope *Ess Man* I 216 The life which warbles thro' the vernal wood 1750 Gray *Elegy* (Penbroke MS) 119 He Red breast loves to build, & warble there 1859 Calvin *Ballads & Songs* 138 When thrushes warble in the elm trees crown

5 †**a.** *trans.* To manipulate (the strings of a musical instrument) in playing. *Obs.*

1576 H Wotton *Conceitie Controv* 285 Then hee tooke his Lute, and warbling the strings with tenne thousand delicate diuisions, but I cannot tell whether 1598 Barckley *Felic. Ament.* 291 The left (hand) did with diuided fingers warble the strings

†**b.** *intr* Of a stringed instrument To give forth melodious sounds. *Obs.*

1620 J. Gaunge *Urr Jack* 66 The Harpe warbleth 1704 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* IV, The while we admire our ditties sweet To whose soft shell that warbles near

†**c** To play *upon* as upon strings *Obs*

*c* 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I 321 Upon which strings I have sikendy warbled in the all harmony of the six last lords lives *a* 1697 Barrow *Serm* Wks. 1686 II 107 New objects with a gentle and gratefull touch warble upon the corporeal organs, or excite the spirits into a pleasant kind of motion

**d.** *Sc* ? To play the quicker measures of a piece of bagpipe music, in which there are a large number of grace notes' (*Lng. Dial. Dict.*)

**Warble** (wǫ·b'l) *v*.[2] *Yakonny* Also 6 **warb(b)el(l,** warbul, 6 warbile [Of obscure origin ; perh. a Du *werwelen* to turn round (= G. *schnurren*, whence Mod.G. *Wirbelflug* the humming of the conjoined movements of the *hubble* cubs. and dial. var. Norfe ] *trans.* To cross (the wings) together over the back after ‘rousing’ and ‘mantling’. Also *absol.* Hence Warbling *vbl sb*

1486 *Bk St Albans, Hawking* A vj b, When she hath mantilled hir and bryngith i-outh her wynges to gedur ouer hir backe ye shall say pryvely these wordes to hir wynges. *Ibid* C viii b, She warl beyth when she drawith booth her wynges ouer the myddys of her backe. 1575 Turberv *Falc. more* 154 Stricke on the ground (saith the Sparrow-hawke) may mantile and warble *c* 1575 *Prof Bk Belynge Sp to hawke* (1886) 10 Y good, let her stire, rouse, mantile, or warble a while 1632 Sherwood in *Cath Angl* XIV (ed 2) 2/2 Which action you shall terme, the warbling of her wings 1852 R F Burton *Falconry Valley Indus* vi 65 *foot it* 3. Rousing themselves, mantling and warbling (crossing the wings over the back, after stretching the legs) as it ough they had escaped a prison

†**Warble,** *v*.[3] *Obs.* [Perh. a Du *wervelen* see prec. Cf. Wobble *v*.] = *Wervelen* 1, 1.

1. *trans.* To shake or cause to vibrate, to unsteady.

1510 Stanbridge *Accidalia* (W de W) D iv, *I shoe*, to warble 1548 Thomas *Ital Dict* (1560–) *I shoe*, to shake or warble, as to shake a sword against the enemy

†**2.** *intr* To vibrate, quiver ; to wobble. *Obs*

1549. 1573, 1632 [see Warbling *ppl a*.[1]]. ? *a* 1566 *Pack Pedlar* 231 She quauereth and warbleth [*Rend* warbeith], like one in a gallard ? *a* 1570 *Iohn the Iuggler* in *Hal Soules and Querie* part 1 1884 T. Wright *Passions* I § 22 The beartes of men without their last end and eternall quietnesse, are ever ranging warbling, and never come at rest 1688 Holme *Armoury* II 17 1 Stars seem to have resplendent Rays waving or warbling forth *Ibid* IV tc. (Rouk) 408/1 The English shippe have ouer the sterne, a Red square ensigne as large as the ship will giue liberty to Warble about without touching of the mizen mast

**† Warble,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Of obscure origin.] *tindr.* ? To quarrel, wrangle. ? Hence **Warbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1600 Holland *Livy* x. xl. 382 There arose some warbling [*altercatio*] amongst the chicken-masters touching the auspices, of that day. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* i. 7 [He] can crowd and chawe from his warbling waspishnes, this stinging censure of absurd virtuech. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xvi. 5 (1650) 130 These couples that was ever warbling, can neither be at peace within themselves, .. nor pray as they should do to God, ..which if they did often .. they could not disagree.

**† Warbled,** *a*[1] *Obs.* [f. Warble *sb.*[3] + -ed[2].] Of a spindle: Fitted with a whorl.

1 1587 ? Cavendish in *Life Wolsey*, etc. (1893) II. 92 That the warbled spendell no more abought sholde ronne.

**Warbled** (wō·rb'ld), *a.*[2] [f. Warble *sb.*[2]] Of birds: Injured by warbles.

1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 52 The cattle producer ..receives ..almost the same amount for the warbled hide of the animal as he would obtain if it were uninjured by the bot fly. 1886 *Daily News* 8 May 3/5 No less than 7,006 [hides] were 'warbled'—that is to say more or less riddled or scarred from warble attacks.

**Warbled** (wō·rb'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Warble *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] In senses of the verb.

1. Melodiously sung or sounded. Also, celebrated in song.

1634 Milton *Comus* 851 If she be right invok't in warbled Song. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* v. 420 Hush'd in attention to the warbled song. 1746 Cleg *Knightleyite* 21 By old Cephisus deep, Who spreads his wavy sweep In warbl'd wanderings round thy cool retreat. 1794 Coleridge *Sonn., To a Fayette*, As when the warbled strains are heard.

† **2.** Of a musical string (see Warble *v.*[1] 5 a).

*a* 1649 Milton *Arcades* 87 As I..touch the warbled string.

**Warbler** (wō·rblə). [f. Warble *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. One who, or something which, warbles or sings; a singer, songster.

1610 Cotgr., *Gazouillieur*, a warbler, chirper. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* iv. ii, And you Warbler, Keep your Windpipe moist, that you may not spit and hem, When you should make division. 1813 Southey *Nor. Drollery* 19 At her call, Come Blackbird, Linli, Alph, Thrush, Nightingal, Melodious warblers. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Elegy* xiv. 20 Nor for the worthless bird of brighter plumes Would change the unnamed warbler of my grove. 1818 Bysse *Jenks* Diel. iii, Your wish To supersede all warblers here below. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Wom.* 5 Dan Chaucer, the first warbler. 1890 Symonds *Renaissance Italy* ii. 23 The sun had not yet risen, and all, save the warblers of the woods, was still.

b. *slang.*

1891 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, Warblers*, singers who go about to 'free and easy' meetings, to chaunt for pay, for grog, or for the purpose of putting off benefit-tickets.

**2.** In the Old World: Any one of the numerous small plain-colored singing-birds of the family *Sylviinæ*, including the blackcap, whitethroat, and others having names in which *warbler* is the second element, as *garden-w.*, *grasshopper-w.*, Reed-warbler, *sedge-w.*, *willow-w.*, *wood-w.*

1773 Pennant *Genera of Birds* 35 Warblers. 1776 — *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 382 The Wood Warbler. 1820 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 383 Of the warblers in general. 1835 Jenyns *Man. Brit. Vertebr.* 104 *Sylvia Sueciea*, Lath. (Black-breasted Warbler). *Ibid.* 105 *Sylvia atricapilla*, Lath. (Black-cap Warbler). 1890 C. Dixon *Ann. Bird Life* 41 Of the five species of Warbler that stray here in the spring, three of them, the Aquatic Warbler, the Great Reed-Warbler, and the Icterine Warbler, are regular visitors to France.

b. In America: One of the small, usually bright-coloured, birds, with little power of song, of the family *Mniotiltidæ*.

1789 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. ii. 482 Spotted Yellow Warbler, *Le Figuier brun de Canada.* 1808–14 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 162 *Sylvia autumnalis*, Wilson. —Autumnal Warbler. 1831 Humboldt *Pers. Narr.* (Bohn) viii. (1853) 27 Audubon figures and describes over forty different warblers. *Ibid.*, The cerulean warbler, said to be abundant about Niagara in the morning and evening warbles which I have found breeding about the head-waters of the Delaware. 1870 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 93 *Helminthera vermivorus*. Worm-eating Warbler.

c. In Australia and New Zealand: A bird of the genera *Gerygone*, *Malurus*, and others.

1790 *J. White's Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* App. 256 Superb Warblers. 1889 Parker *Catal. N. Z. Exhib.* 119 (Morris) Grey Warbler (*Gerygone flaviventris*) also belongs to the Australian genus. 1896 Aplalo *Nat. Hist. Australia* 136 The Wrens and Warblers—chiefly *Malurî*, with the allied *Amytis* and *Stipiturus*—are purely Australian.

**3.** *Sc.* A group of grace-notes on the bagpipe.

1805 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 235/2 The players introduce among the simple notes of the tune a kind of appoggiatura, consisting of a great number of rapid notes of peculiar embellishment, which they term warblers. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxv. 1894 J. A. Stuart *In Day of Battle* viii, He owned I was no hand at the warblers.

**4.** *Little Warbler*: applied to the title of a song-book. 'The Little Warbler. Scotch Songs' is the title of a chapbook of about 1820. There may have been other books with the same title; the British Museum has three collections of songs called 'The Warbler', 1760 (?), 1770, and 1840 (?).

1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Sept., A vast number of things..such as a ball of string, a piece of candle, a comb, a whip-lash, a little warbler. 1898 *Yeo. Fair* v, He..bought him ..presents of knives,..toffee, Little Warblers, and romantic books.

*b. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warbler tribe*; *warbler-like* adj.; † **warbler thrush,** a North American olive-brown thrush.

1827 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. 197 Warbler Thrush (Turdus motacilla). 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Hand-bk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 102 The mottled Warbler-like eggs which are often found. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 10/2 With..all the lesser warbler tribe to bear them company.

**Warbling** (wō·rblĭng), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Warble *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of the verb in various senses, *spec.* soft and melodious singing.

1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 68 With shrillish notes I would ne may nor sient of warbuling. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 231 Running catches and curious warbling. 1797 *Cowper. Hush. A Lizard.* 24 The Air..resounds with the Warbling of Birds. 1825 Scott *Jrnl.* 21 Nov.(1890) I. 6 'Tom Moore's is the most exquisite warbling I ever heard.

*pl.* 1795 Gray *Bard* iv. iii. And distant warblings lessen on my ear. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 569 The warblings of the blackbird, clear and strong. 1830 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 339 The groves are echoing with the warblings of thousands upon thousands of birds.

b. *Sc.* Playing grace-notes on the bagpipe.

1896 N. Munro *Lost Pibroch*, etc. 251, I heard him fill the night-fall with the 'warbling' of Morar, with the brag of a whole clan in his warbling.

c. *U.S.* = Yodeling *vbl. sb.*

1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxviii. 257 We recognised, also, that it was that sort of quaint commingling of baritone and falsetto which at home we call 'Tyrolese warbling'.

† **Warbling,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Warble *v.*[3] + -ing[1].] A vibration or quivering.

1621 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 3, 293 The..spirit of life is feeble, and is little quickened with the warbling of melodious ayres. 1688 Holme *Armoury* 1. 21/2 It hath a resemblance to the Rayes of the Sun, which shooteth out like the warbling of a Flame of Fire.

**Warbling** (wō·rblĭng), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Warble *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

1. That warbles; *esp.* singing or making tuneful melody with sweet quavering notes.

1590–96 Sir P. Sidney & H. *Pr.* Cicevil. 5 Then let my fingers quite forget, The warbling harpe to guide. 1576 Pettie *Petite Pallace* 24 b, The bird..heares his felowes sing, and the warbling vitte one warbling note out of his mournefull voice. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 4 The gentle warbling wynde. 1620 Tofte *Honours Acad.* iii. 119 Hauing a warbling Lute in her hand. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 511 The warbling Nightingale in Woods complains. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. 32 Alternate songs shall sooth your care, and warbling music break from ev'ry spray. 1765 J. Bicheno *Serm. Dr. Price* 22 The least chearful birds to sing forth thy honour in their warbling notes? 1883 J. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 115 The soaring soprano and the high warbling tenor.

† b. Of discourse: ? Inelfectual. (Cf. Warble *v.*[1] 4 *fig.*). *Obs.*

1621 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 12, 334 He..may iustly retract the Reader from other warbling, erroneous, imperfect discourses and treatises of men.

**2.** In names of birds, as the Warbling Flycatcher or Vireo, *Vireo gilvus*.

1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. i. 157 Warbling Grosbeak. 1808–14 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 76 *Vireo gilvus*,..Warbling Flycatcher. 1888 Sclater & Hudson *Argentine Ornith.* I. 51 Ringed Warbling Finch.

**Warbling,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Warble *v.*[3] + -ing[2].] That continues motion, quivering.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasmus Par. Jas.* i. 3 yet He..that letteth his tongue runne at large, which is a warblyng membre and a slippery. 1573 Baret *Alv. V.* 300 *Tremulus*, warbling, quauering, quiuering. 1580 Lyly *Euphues*, &c. 1868 I. Wright *Passions* v. § 2. 170 When wee cast a stone into a calme water, we may perceiue diuers warbling naturall circles. 1598 Shakespeare *Merry Wives* v. v. 236 Whilst I cast, and crush their [*sc.* the serpents'] warbling wombe.

† **Warbot.** *Obs.* [? Alteration of Warble *sb.*[2], after Scarbot.] = Warble *sb.*[2] 3.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warbote, wyrme, *emigrum(e)us*. 1530 Palsgr. 266/2 Warbote, worme, *escarbot*.

**Warbrace** : see Warbebrace *Obs.*

**Warch(e** : see Warish *v.*, Ware, Wretch.

**Warck,** dial. form of Work.

† **Warcodling,** *Obs.* [See Codling 1; the first element is uncertain.] Some kind of sea-fish.

1595 *J. Melton's Astrol. Conc.* 3 *Iacobi Quindi* (Bannatyne Club) 9, iij girdis,..v warcodlingis.

**Warcraft** (wō·rkruft). [f. Ward *sb.*[1] + Craft *sb.*]

1. Cunning and skill in warfare; the art of conducting a war.

*a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Lancs.* (1662) 124 Duke Hamblethon..had Odger who did Ken the War-craft, as well as any of our Age. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* XIX. 177 The leading secret of Napoleon's war-craft, consisted in an inversion of the current rules of warfare. 1883 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) V. ii. 37 Sir De Lacy Evans, a veteran well skilled in that part of the war-craft which belongs to the hour of combat. 1892 E. Convbeare *Hist. Cambridgesh.* 98 The king plainly felt the master one of the two in warcraft, needing his own presence, with all his warcraft and statecraft, to deal with it.

**2.** War-vessels collectively.

1898 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 5/6 Claiming the right to lock the Bosphorus gates of the Dardanelles against the fleets of the other Powers after passing our superfluous warcraft outwards.

**War-cry.** [Cf. *F. cri de guerre.*] A cry (whether a shout or a significant name or phrase) uttered by a body of fighters to encourage each other in charging the enemy or in rallying to the fray.

1798 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. 30 Orellana placed his hands hollow to his mouth, and hollowed out the war-cry used by those savages. 1797 [Burke] *Regic. Sentiment. Amer.* I. iv. 187 Setting up a most tremendous shout, which they call the war cry, they pour a storm of musquet bullets upon the enemy. 1842 Jamieson, *Slogan*, the war-cry, or gathering word, of a clan. 1843 Blackwood's *Mag. Canada* II. v. 216 Proclaiming the Selaut (or war-cry of the Musulmans). 1856 Thirlwall *Greece* III. xxiii. 290 The army followed with an appalling war-cry.

b. *fig.*

1848 Sir J. Graham in C. S. Parker *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 69 A further reform of the representation will be the stalking-horse of the ambitious, and the war-cry of their dupes. 1880 (*title*) The War-Cry and Official Gazette of the Salvation Army. 1901 L. Stephen *Stud. Biog.* IV. ii. 72 He was content with any general principle which would serve for a war-cry.

† **Ward,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **weard**, 4–5 **warde**, 5– **ward**. [OE. *weard* masc. = OS. *ward*, OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *wart*, ON. *vǫrðr-r*, Goth. *daura-ward-s* doorkeeper :—*Teut. *wardu-s*, *wardō-z*; synonymous words differing in declension are OE. *weardu*, OHG. *warta* (MHG. *warte*) :—OTeut. **wardōn-*, and Goth. *wardja* :—OTeut. **wardjōn-*; f. Teut. **ward-*, an extended form of **war-* to watch, guard : see Ware *sb.*[2] and *a.*] A watchman, guard, keeper, warden.

Common in OE. (often applied to God, as in *vedera weard*, keeper of the skies). Later, chiefly as the second element in compounds, as *burg-, gate-, mill-, wood-ward*.

*Beowulf* 229 Weard Scildinga, se þe holmclifu healdan scolde. *a* 825 Cruden *Hymn* 1 Nu scylun hergan hefenrices uard. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 121 Saloomones rædas wæs mid weardum ymbeteod. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 320 For any wye or warde wide opene the ȝatis. 1483 Caxton *Reynyld* (Sommer) 213 Whan he hadi slayn the wardes of the serpentes and the portyers of the lions [Fr. (1510) *les tuerres des serpens & les portiers des lyons*] that kepte this courte inhabitable.

**Ward** (wōrd), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 **weard**, 3–7 **warde**, 4 *Sc.* **vard**, 5 **ward**, *north.* **wayrd**, 5–8 *Sc.* **ward**, 6–7 (*rare*) **word**(e, 7 *Sc.* **weird**, 4– **ward**. [OE. *weard* str. fem. = MLG. *warde*, OHG. *warta* (MHG. *warte*, *wart*, guard, watch, observation, mod.G. *warte* watch-tower) :—OTeut. **wardō*, f. **ward-* (see prec.), whence also ON. *varða* wk. masc., *varða* wk. fem., cairn, heap of stones. The Teut. word was adopted in Rom. : OF. *warde* (north-eastern), *guarde*, *garde* (whence Guard *sb.*), mod.F. *garde*, Pr., Sp. *guarda*.

Some of the senses below are derived from the Law French *warde* (whence *Al. warda*), which appears to be in part an adoption of the Eng. word, in part the north-eastern OF. form. In Law French, from the 13th c. onward, the word has regularly the form *garde*.]

I. Action of watching or guarding.

1. The action or function of a watchman, sentinel, or the like; observation for the purpose of discovering the approach of danger; watch, watch, guard; also, surveillance. Phrases, *to hold, keep ward*. Also in the alliterative formula *watch and ward* (orig. a law phrase): see Watch *sb.* Now *arch.*

*Beowulf* 303 Ic to ær wille wið wræd weorod wearde healdan. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2002 But ward was þer set wide wher aboute of bold barnes of armes þe beste. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* vi. 186 Let no kynne consail ne counetye be bow departe, That on wit and on wil alle soure wardes kepe. 1500 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) 1 Ye shall therfore watche they upon theyr warde. 1546 *Jetp. Pebrey Council Acct.* I. 52 Rise with the said Earle and pay ward and watch with him during the tyme of the said Parliament. *Onomastic Platon.* 45 Those, whiche shalbe appointed to make the ward, let them go before the Campe,..and make fyres after suche sorte, that they may see them one the other. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicolay's Voy.* i. xx. 26 [We] gaue to vnderstand too him that had the warde, that the Ambassadour was there. 1849 C. Wap *Sophocles, Electra* 50 Ye have now I light in the house to keep A faithful ward. 1897 Tennyson *Æneis* vi. 750 And dire Tisiphone there keeps the Ward. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ix. 345 Ward, guard, or *custodia*, is chiefly intended of the city or town, which is properly applicable to the night only. 1778 Br. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* xxi. 8, 51 O my Lord, I keep my station all the day long: And am my ward have I continued every night. 1823 Scott *Trierm.* III. x, Sounds were heard, as when a guard, Of some proud castle, holding ward, Pace forth their nightly round. 1829 Hemans *Forest Sanctuary* i, I saw thy gallant father to and fro Pace, keeping ward at one of those huge gates.

**2.** *a. gen.* Guardianship, keeping, control. Now *rare*. † *Out of ward*: beyond control, out of hand (*obs.*).

*c* 1205 Lay. 19402 He bitahten him þa warde of alle þisum rærde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 430 Almihti God, he wile ou bi his warde. *c* 1290 *St. Francis* 66 In *S. Resp. Leg.* 35 Seint Fraunceys nam þat treasor..and in ore louerdes warde it tok. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10340 Ioseph..of egypti was bei wiward, And al þat land had in his ward. *c* 1375 *St. Swithin* 26 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 44 Wel him wiste þis holi man and god wardes to him nom. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* 1 Be thy lord hath take to me vnder warde al that he hath in this world. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3709 The two brether were abidyng bothe in a shippe, þat was stirid with the storme seraphi fro þat warde. *c* 1400 *Wyrcestre Itin.* 134 Set be [Joseph] refoysit pat curtasey. For be worschep of his lardy, þat al his gud put in his warde. 1488 *Paston Lett.* I. 495 That fyrst an inventorie be made holys of hys goodes and catell.. and thayr they be leyd yn sure ward. 1585 Carton *Paris & V.* (1868) 57 That he kepe you in hys holy warde. 1592 Tyndale *Lond. wills* I. 6 And ye shall kepe him [*sc.* the paschal lamb] in warde vntyll the .xiiij. dayes of the same moneth. 1708 C. Lucas *Rel. Waters* III. 144 The infant from his birth is overlaid, till he is put into his own ward. 1897 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* xiv, Such events as occurred during the

ward of Ellen Wade (A person left in charge of the camp and children) 1892 J. G Holland *A. Bonnicastle* xi 173 Under the conduct and ward of a Shepherd who would lead me only through green pastures

b *spec.* Guardianship of a child, a minor, or other person legally incapable of conducting his affairs. Also, the condition of being subject to a guardian

c 1290 *Robert* 267 In *Eg. Fug* 114 So muche he caste to him pat in his warde he let do his eldeste sone sire henri 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 6426 King edmond bequeb la kinedom & al at lond king knout biuore is deb, & he warde of is tueye sones vor te kinedom of elde were 1390 Gower *Conf* I 345 He tok this child into his warde 1444 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber A* 32 b If the children be with in anni ijere age, the moder shall have the warde of hem tyl thei come to the seide age 1538 Starkey *England* 186 The saute of bryngyng vp of the nobylyte, wych, for the most parte are nurysshed with base curs, bothe of their parentys being alyfe, and much wers of them in whose ward commynly they dow fal attur their deth 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 49 P 4 The Law certainly gives these Persons [*sc.* idiots] into the Ward and Care of the Crown 1849 James *Woodman* xxxvi, You are in ward to me, and not Lord Calverly 1900 W. Stubbs *Age of Reform* (1906) I 265 Ecclesiastics were to abstain from visiting widows and heiresses under ward

c *Feudal Law* The control and use of the lands of a deceased tenant by knight-service, and the guardianship of the heir of such land, which belonged to the superior until the heir attained his majority

1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 214 Of wardes & releefs pat barons of him held, per he was ore of chefe tille him no bing suld seld 1377 Harlot *Brunc* xii. 320 Of ony dels in this lattrill His ile but ward relefe or taill, On the first day his land sall weld 1422 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 176 1 All maner Wardes, Maryages Fermes, and other casualtees 1461 *Stat* V 473/2 Any Wardship made of the Wards of Lond and of the body, with the mariage of John Kenne. 1507 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 205/2 Pertenyn to the king be resone of ward fee Fatchkis deces 1542 Fabyan *Chron.* vii (1533) 30 A parlyament was holden where the lordes and baronye of the lande graunted vnto the kynge and to his heyres kynges, the ward and mariage of theyr heyres 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II 3, I must attend his maiesties commund, to whom I am now in Ward 1626 R. Rathborne *Surveyor* 294 The Lord shall have the Ward in the custodie and keeping of those lands so holden of him, to his owne use and behoofe, without account, until the heire come to the full age of one and twentie yeares 1648 Sir T. Hope *Minor Practicks* iv (1734) 180 The Donatar during the time of the Ward is in Place of the Master 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I viii 293 [The Lord] may have Ward 1771 *Jrnl Practicks* iv (1734) 180 The Donatar during the time of the Ward is in Place of the Master 1795 Blackstone *Comm* I viii 293 [The Lord] may have Ward 1841 *Jrnl Practicks* iv (1734) 180 The Donatar during the time of the Ward is in Place of the Master 1795 Blackstone *Comm* I viii 293 [The Lord] may have Ward 1846 Sir T. Hope *Minor

[Orig. a use of the second element in the compounds *steward* (*ward* + *weard*, *weard*) and *sergeward* (*sergeward*) adopted from Ofr. In these compounds the OF. *warde* meant 'guard', and so was applicable only to the bodies placed in the front and rear. In English on the analogy of *steward* (also *first ward*, *forward*) and *rearward* (also *hinder ward*), the term *middle ward*, Middleward, came to be used for the 'main battle', and thus *ward* acquired the sense above defined.]

1 *K. Alis* 1093 [Land Ms.], Sendeb ymagu wyt youre standard and Archilaus in pe first ward. 1418–20 Lyd. *Chron. Troy* i. 4046, 4050 Nestor pe duke schal in pe histe ward Metyn with liyon pe pridde warde Pelleus with lede. *Ibid.* iii. 3502 Per com with hem pe kyng Malcadon, And alderlaste pe grete Agamenoun, With alle her warde & fel in sodeynly Vp-on Troyens. c 1430 *Syr Generides* (Roxb.) 3771 Now wendeth pan pe ten wardes ten Fol wel arused with noble men. c 1450 *Merlin* xviii 286 Than com Galleres with his warde of iij^M goode men. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 119 And pe pyn nexte vnde 3 degarded in thre orders, as in thre wardes. [*Cf. ante* As an hoste in batayle 3 departed in thre, pat is to sayn pe forwarde, pe myddel warde, and pe rere warde.] 1535 Douglas *Æneis* xii. ix. 113 Apon this wys the ostis and wardis hail On athir part returnyt in battail. 1563 Bremner *Proces* I. xxxix (Roxb.) 171 Thus they went forthe in thre great battyls, the ane schaikes and the Almayns ane battyll, the Lynge of Frue lande in the myddle warde, & the duke of Brabant in the rereward. *Ibid.* xlv 253, In the morneyng they sproched in thre wardes. 1564 *Brit. to Hen. VIII* 5 And pe thirde pat *Fol Mem* (1721) I. ii. 21 four & twenty great peaces of Artillarie (daily) foloing us in the hinder ward. 1585 P. Whitehorne *Comodre Platon* 126 b, And after the first warde, cause the seconde, to succeede, and the thyrde next the same, and the fourth, and the sifte also, if so many shall nede. c 1600 *Rare Ent.* 116 See all our men be martialed for the night. Dispose the Wardes as lately we deuised. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III 980/2 The fore ward foreuent, the battell in the middest, the rere ward hinder most, each ward hauing his troupe of horsemen and gard of ordinance. 1658 Harrein *ton Oceana* Wks (1700) 171 But as to the peculiar Policy, of twelve Manipuls or Wards, divided into three Cohorts, each Cohort containing four Wards.

**V.** Place for guarding.

**14.** In a fortress **+a.** The portion of the defences entrusted to a particular officer or division of the garrison. *Obs.* **b.** A guarded entrance. *Obs.* **c.** The (*inner* or *outer*) circuit of the walls of a castle; the ground between two encircling walls. *Obs. exc. arch.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8301 A maister bat was wibinne sende to be erl beumond To ȝelde vp is warde to ben hol & sound. At his felawes were bise twar he ȝeld him vp pere pe toures of pe cite bat in is warde were. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5089 Bot he wardes of pe cete of heven, Er more craftz and strang ban any kyn nede. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 149 Till thar wardis bai went in ȝe. Thar war stuffit rycht wele wardly With stanys, with it and other thing. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3191 He lady of pe high warde [*Fr. la dame de la haute garde*] Which from her tour lokede thider-ward. *Percy* 238 The knyst [pat] with his meyne went to se pe wall, And pe wardes of pe town, as to knyst be fall. c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 332 He entred to pe maister tour. The firste warde thus they wonne 1483 *Rolls of Parl.* IV 199 ɪ [He] made assaute to the said Castell, and wan the said warde. c 1494 (*title*) *Castell of Loue* MS.] Here begynneth pe castel pre Wyll fare wardes (*Cott. & Cott.* walles) semely to se. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 222 As pou hast v wayȝtȝatys in pe 3 wardes ouerward in pe gat of pi body. Ryȝt so pou hast v wayȝtȝatys in pe ynderе warde of pi soule. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI 384/1 The Offices of Keping of the Kyng's Pallays of pure Castell of Wyndesoure. c 1500 *Melusine* xix 62 Soone was the Portres made up not only with one warde but two strong warde. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvi. (Percy Soc.) 216 And therwith all he ledde me to his warde Me to presente in pleasaunce full swetely. 1513 Palsgr. 234 b Inderwarde of a castell, *cengle de chastel*. 1581 250/2 Outterwarde of a castell, *courtbarse*. 1584 Sir R. Sackville *Sr Pyghes* (1809) III 171 The strength of this house, having two wards, the gentleman porter ever at the one with 4 or 5 in his company, and divers soldyers at the other. 1649 G. Daniel *Trenarch* lo Rdr 999 Every land of accident d-th w^th a Picker stand To scale the wards of Life. 1808 Scott *Marmion* I. iv. Then to the Castle a lower ward they forty yeomen well array'd. 1822 — *Kenilw.* III. xxvii. Then, vain were battlement and ward. 1843 Ainsworth *Windsor Castle* iii. iii, Just as they entered the lower ward *Ibid.* The party directed their course towards the middle ward *transf.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. vii. 7 In the first circle or the viir ward, toung babbes sauls wepyng wer that hard *Ibid.* viii. 4 And sone thai war war in tounes to the plane And latter wardis, quharin dois remane Valiȝeand folkis in feild and cheveley.

**+15.** An appointed station, post (for a body of soldiers). *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 349 Quhen that thai saw that menge rayngne thame swa on raw, Till thar wardis that went in by. *Ibid.* 697 Engrynys alsua for till cast That ordanit and mast redy fast, And set ilk syne till hur ward. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 463 They wente to their warde to defende the towne.

**+16** Within one's ward within the region in which one is safe in quot *fig.* Also, *within* (another's) *ward*: in the region controlled by (another). *Obs.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvii. 66 The syne louer thri alwayes kepeth hym selfe wythin his warde, and fyndeth non thynge a-no sure but that he putteth it in adoubte, can not be lyghtely deceyued. 1596 Peter *Hazard* iv (1938) K 3, What meanes be I why remaines he thus within his ennuies ward?

**17.** + **a.** A prison (cf. sense 3). *Obs.* **b.** Each of the divisions or separate departments of a prison.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 278 Opon pe toþer day I dward þeder cam, þe prisons Were brouht him before, þre erles pre barons, & mo pe sise score kynghtes & lordes of toums, pise were in his wardes, & anbt & tuenti mo. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxiv. 22 These shalbe coupled together as prisoners be, and shalbe shut in one warde and punished innumerable dayes. 1577 Harmer *Anc. Exod. Hist.*, *Exodus* ii. xii. 15 I hus Iohn, because of Herods suspecion, was sent bounde to Machaerous the warde, and there beheaded. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. vii. 910 I hus Fire, desirous to break forth against Jehoiakim's slouthy Ward, cannot itself refrain. 1606 Shaks. *Ham.* ii. ii. 252 A goodly [prison], in which there are many Confines, Wards, and Dungeons. 1624 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* I. (1staff) b, He came with him, and turne him out o th Ward. *Ibid.*, *Hold* If you haue no monie, You'd best remoue into some cheaper Ward. *Spend* What Ward sh uld I remoue in? *Hold* Why to the Two pennie Ward. 1675 Butler *Hud.* Canto Pos. 68 Nor is Hell a Sheriff's Ward, in which the Debtor is Imprisoned till he pay his Debt. 1680 J. Howard *State of Prisons* App. 125 The new goal has separate wards and cells. *Ibid.* Debtors' Ward. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvii, 'What the devil's noise is this in the ward?' he said—'What! man and woman together in the same cell!' 1824 — *St. Ronan's* ii, He gave me with him, and turne him out o th Ward. *Ibid.*, *Hold* If you haue no monie, You'd best remoue into some cheaper Ward. *Spend* What Ward sh uld I remoue in? *Hold* Why to the Two pennie Ward. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Friend* Pet. 68 Nor is Hell a Sheriff's Ward, in which the Debtor is Imprisoned till he pay his Debt. 1780

men. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 169/2 The blackmailing *ward-boss.* 1922 J. WARD *Roman Era Brit.* 237 Many of these keys have 'island' 'ward-holes.' 1892 J. M. GULLY *Regendale's Formul.* (ed. 2) 197 Each *ward-keeper of hospitals should be provided with a bottle of chlorine water 1886 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 3/2 Family prayers are conducted by the *ward-matron, sister, or nurse. 1823 JEFFERSON *Virg.* (1850) IV. 229 A general call of *ward-meetings by their wardens on the same day through the State. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 411 The other: [i e. patients] were easily controlled by the *ward nurses. 1883 PITT-RIVERS *Primitive Locks & Keys* 24 A modern English latch-key . . furnished with a *ward-plate. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* v. iv, Two of the Rigbytes met in the market-place. 'Well, how goes it?' said one. 'I have been the rounds. The bluntz going like the *ward-pump.' 1865 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 469/1 These roadways the *ward statesman regards with tender solicitude as furnishing a large field of operations in the line of contracts. 1897 J. T. SMITH *Parish* II (ed. 2) 61 It is the adoption of Townships, or the adaptation of the *Ward system, that is really needed in such cases. 1886 HOS. MONTEM *Hospital Life* 2 *Ward work commences at seven with sweeping, dusting, making beds.

**b.** Special comb.: **†ward-book**, ?a register of admissions to a hospital; **ward-dyke**, a wall enclosing or bounding a ward (sense 2i b); also, a defensive dyke against cattle; **ward-holding** *Orkney and Shetland*, a beacon-fire [ON. *varða* cairn: cf. WARD-HILL]; **† ward-guard** *Sc.*, a protective covering or receptacle for clothes; **ward-heeler** *U.S.* (see quot. 1890; cf. HEELER 5); **ward-land** *Sc.*, land held 'in ward' (see WARD-HOLDING); **ward-like** *adv.*, after the manner of a ward; **ward(e)maid**, a maidservant who performs the menial offices of a hospital ward; **† ward-marriage** (see MARRIAGE 1). In Scots feudal law, the right in wardholding arising to the ward superior on the marriage of the vassal's heir or on his becoming marriageable; **wardmaster** (*a*) *Dutch Hist.* (rendering Du. *wijkmeester*), an alderman or administrator of a city ward; (*b*) the master or superintendent of a hospital ward; **† ward-silver**, a payment to the lord in commutation of military service; **† ward-staff** (see quot. 1610); **ward-vassal**, in Scots feudal law, a vassal holding land 'in ward' (see WARD-HOLDING); **† ward-ware**, ?'wardrobe stuff', articles of clothing; **ward-woman** *arch.*, a tirewoman, a woman in charge of her mistress's wardrobe; **† ward-word**, a 'word' of defence; a reply to an attack or 'watch-word' of an opponent. Also WARD-COMB, WARD-FEE, WARD-HILL, etc.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* 6 That no Child be receved by them, before the name of the same childe be entred into the *Ward-booke. 1561 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1565, 295/2 Ita the said croft north . . to the Hillgrene, ane uther to the *ward dyk of the Brig fuldin now pertening to Alex. Pain. 1600 *Ibid.* 1716/1 Ane merchetane infeft in the ward-dyke standand betuix the said Wardet and the Burne. 1893 *Trans. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. 1 19 Crews, cradges, and ward-dykes constructed to hold off fan-waters from mined grounds. 1899 D. BALFOUR *Oppress. Feu-duty Act.* Introd. 31 Nothing short of actual invasion entitled the Jarl to call them to arms by the *Ward fire. 1552 *Acc. Ld. High Treas Scot* X. 29 Item, for ane "wedgeard" to him . . xx s. 1552 *Ibid.* 70 Item, vj elnis bukcrame to be wardegardis to hir and to hir kepar *Estfame* . . xxiiij s. 1890 *Q. Rev* July 265 The lowest grade [of politician] is the *ward-heeler', or hanger on of the political head of the city ward which he resides. 1907 *Times* 23 Jan 6/5 [Sir Francisco] Bar-room politicians, rough-, ward-heelers, bullies. 1902 *Exp. Penny Send Scot.* I 115/1 The profits of the *ward-lands . . shall be the *arrear* seeing thairof. 1581 *Sc. Acts Jas VI* (1814) III 250/2 Anent the taxatioun of wardlandis. a 1699 BP. BURNET *Serm.* (1874) I 1 1 Wherein the expenses but one branch of Ward-land, makes all his Estate lyable to the King. 1684 SIR O. MACKENZIE *Instit. Lawes Scot* II v 1859) 76 If the *Vassal sells or dispones the Ward-lands to any . . except his appearand Heir. 1689 R. HOWARD *Carolomadis* 197 O're which [army], as Captain, General! we finde, His Power to Crownwell *wardlike was denigrat. 1888 HOS. MONTEM *Hospital Life* 68 The *ward maid was out. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 1 May 1/3 Hartley Wintney Union. Wanted a wardmaid. 1909 *Sanitary Rec.* 240 In the smaller infirmaries, there are often wardmaids, with no training, who are expected to do nurses' work. 1573 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 29 a *With the Lordes and Commenties and other Profites, and Mariage, or *Ward mariage of the same heire or heires 1747 *Act 20 Geo. II*, c. 50 § 1 That the Tenure of Lands . . in Scotland by Ward Holding and the Casualties consequent upon the same by Ward Marriage and Recognition, be taken away. 1895 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. vii. I. 560 John Van Immerseel, Margrave of Antwerp, was then holding communication with the senate, and awaiting the arrival of the *ward-masters. 1823 *Pertin. Rev.* July 126 The wardmasters, nurses, and attendants in the hospitals. 1304-25 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 318/1 Ceux qe retiendrount aucune Terre Reial debtis, qui vocantur Hydag' et *Wardselfur'. 1448 in *Exeter Rec.* (1904) XIII. 133 [Paying yearly 18s. 8d.] *wardsilver [in lieu of rents] . . and assuming to watch the said *Ward-stafe* 1540 Lambourn Manour, which is held by service of the Wardstaffe, ye. to carrie a load of strawe in a Carte with xxx horses, and to repaire & mayntayne to watch the said *Ward-stafe when it is brought to the towne of Aldrigg, &c. 1881 STAIR *Instit.* I. 422 Recognition was found not excluded or burdened by Inhibition against the *Ward-vassal. a 1708 [see WARD-FEE]. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanus* I. II. C 2 Taild and retaild'd, till to the pedlers packe, The fourth-hand *ward-ware serving, stuck, slacke. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* I. iv, How long she had passed that critical period, was a secret to all but the trusted *ward-women of the purple chamber. 1899 N. D. (R. Parsons) *(title)*, A Temperate *Ward-Word, to the Turbulent and Seditious Wach-word of Sir Francis Hastinges knight. 1603 HARSNET *Popish Impost.* 53 I hee printes hed their ward-word ready. 1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 51 And disperse once more from another Babel of one another's Catchpoling Watch-words without any precautionary Ward-words.

**† Ward**, *sb.*3 Also 7 *Sc.* **waird**. Aphetic form of AWARD.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 3568 They made Syrophanes, plegg[e] fynd To byde pe ward & Iugement of pat he had mys-do. 1484 in *10th Rep. Hist MSS Comm.* App v 339 All thes wardes and ordinances forsaide. 1497 *Skenar Papers* (Camden) II 27, I have done my dewte in every ponte according to your warde. 1532 *Aberd. Protocols Lyon Clerk (Glasgow* (1897) IV. 50 An arbitrament be ane ward of pe toune. 1534 *Ibid.* 66 After ane ward and dome of court gevin in the tolbuith of Glasgw. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* XXXVI. § 3 Ilk wapiutak sould be examined in thrs courts, qr he can make recorde of the court [of ane precey deduced in court] or report ane sufficient warde (interlocquitour) or dome, anent wapins, or exceptions asked in the court. 1612 *Table* 101 Ihey [the suitors] sould trye, advise, and pronunce the wardes (interlocquitors) of court.

**Ward**, *sb.*4 *dial.* [? var. of WART *sb*, or of WARBLE OF. *warre* callosity]. Cf. WARDED *a.*2] (See quot.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Ward*, callosity of the skin: on the hands, from hard labour, and on the feet from much walking.

**Ward** (wɔːd), *v.*1 Forms: 1 **weardian**, -igan, 2 **werdien**, 3 **wardie**, 3–4 **wardi**, **wardy(e**, 6 *Sc.* **ward(e**, **vayrd**, 6–7 *Sc.* **waird**, 3–7 **warde**, 4– **ward**. Also 7 pa. t. **ward** (*rare*). [Ob. *wardian* = OFris. *wardia*, OS. *wardon* (MDu. *weerden*, MLG. *warden*), OHG. *wartên* (MHG, mod. G. *warten*), ON. *varða* = OTeut. ***wardôjan**, **wardêjan*: see WARD *sb.*1 In ME. Eng. verb may in some of its uses have been influenced by Ob. *warder* (north-eastern) = Central OF *garder* (mod F. *garder*), Pr. *gardar*, Sp., Pg. *guardar*, It. *guardare*, a Com. Rom. adoption of the Teut. word.]

**1** *trans.* To guard, stand guard over; to keep in safety, take care of; to defend, protect. (For *to watch and ward*, see WATCH *v.*) *Obsolescent or arch.*

In OE. sometimes *const*, genitive.

?a 1225 *Cuthert's Secular Laws* lxxvi (Liebermann) Ac þære cirican he sceal weardian. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron* (Laud) an 1087, þa læg þeos mere þa wæron þære se. 13 *K. Alis.* 7324 (Laud MS.), [I hes] ben so warded al aboute þat hem no stondeþ none doute. 13 *Leg. Gregory* (Schulz) 980 To help and ward þat london. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 36 Þei ȝoynge forth kepten, [*Gr.* *etêroun*] or warded, the sepulcre. 1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb.) 27 For golde, conquerithe not ennemies, nother in the feelde wardithe þeple to be in rest. 1500 KYD *Sp Trag.* II. iv. 40 *Her.* But first my lookes shall combat against thine. *Bel.* Then ward thy selfe I dare thus beginne. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iv. 102 Clarence, thy turne is ours, For this day not a holy-day shall passe But I will ward him with a dozen faires. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 346 (Collins) The Pyren mounts I hat ward the welthie Castile in with walles. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, The machinery not warded off or guarded in any way. Among its work in the midst of the crowd of idlers who throng the lower deck.

**2.** To parry, repel, fend off, turn aside (a stroke or thrust, blow, attack, weapon, missile). Now almost always with *off*.

1578 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps* lv 13 24 Ioo put backe a stroke by striking it inward, according as wee say in English I had warded his blow, or I warded him off. 1590 *Prayer* 2 Their God himselfe Shot many a dart at me with fiers intent, But I them warded all with wary gouernment. *c* 1663 LD HERBERT *Autob* (1824) 25 All I could do was to close two which remained, way to ward their thrusts. 1892 URQUHART *Tacitus* 137 He for twenty several bouts, did but ward their blows, and parry with the short end of his arm. 1897 DAVIES *Annals* v. 564 Entellus with his warping Body wards the Wound 1732 LADLARD *Sethos* II lii. 277 He employ'd one part to ward the flights of Arrows. 1830 PRARD *Poems* (1864) I 332 And now he wards a Roundhead's pike, and now he hums a stave 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt of Page* 11, Once in the tent, and twice in the fight, (thou) Didst ward me the balls and blows. 1878 *Young Voy. Nat.* II (1879) 25 Seeii g a great powerful man afraid even to ward off a blow, directed as he thought, at his face 1891 MARION RESD *Lady of Fort* I. 1 Ward off the blow could ward it off, the thrust was given, and the weapon appeared to pass through his body

*fig.* 1658 ROWLAND *tr. H Lynde's Cure for Scurf* Ep Ded A 6, Your Lordship in your last unanswerable master piece, held up your buckler over the Knight then living, and ward off the brunt of his fury. 1712 *Hosp Life Ld Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 224 He met sometimes with a Reprimand, which he would wittily ward off.

**b** *absol.* or *intr.* (for pass.) (parry blows); to stand on the defensive in a combat, etc.

1393 LANGL. *P Pl C* XXII. 218 And wepne to fight [*v.r.* warde] with þat wol neure faille. 1567 MAPLET *Gr Forest* 111 101 [The tortoise] is so hard, that neither the Dart, nor the Iauelin at the Elephant has beflye. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. 8 § 23 As soone as he spied Palladius, he drew his sword, and let fie at him But Palladius sought rather to ward, and warde. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* VI. xvi. 40 A good fensers vse to ward and strike at once. 1592 LILY *Alexius* IV II A Nation so valiant, that are redier to strike than ward. 1607 HIERON *Wks* (1620) I. 107 *Iacob* . . *wrestled* 3 Solomon commanded the rest to stand still, warding with their shields, against the enemies Iauelins 1897 DARWIN *Arthur* V. 375 Yet equal in strength and courage to strike and ward. 1820 PRARD *Poems* (1864) II. 25 Life is won by ready sword, by strength to strike and skill to ward

**†** *trans.* To avert, keep off (harm, danger, etc.).

**a.** *simply.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I Eclogue (1598) 85 While they did ward sun-beames with shadie bay. 1603 *Lady's Call* I. vii § 18 It concerns them therefore to ward those beginnings whose end may be so fatal 1720 PRIDEN *Pastorals* II. 125 Fold Thy flock with mine, to ward th injurious Cold. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* xi 23 He little knew to ward the secret wound. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* v. xx, I, only I, can ward their fate 1830 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 240 I herin it is to ward fulfilment of all evil-omened nights. 1882 LD ACTON *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* 81 Mar. (1904) 130 Images would probably impress him as a danger to be warded, rather, I think, than Transubstantiation.

**b.** with *off*. Also (rarely) *intr.*

**+3.** To man *with* a garrison; to protect or shield *with* some work or contrivance; to fortify (a castle). *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alexander* 263 Grim thei were, To warden þair walles with wrere ynow. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. viii. (1495) 114 The lyddes ben warded and kept with cowes of beer. *c* 1400 *Pearc michi* 194 in *Ab Pol Poems* 148 Castelles and toures, Without a y-warded with strongè dykes. 1544 BETHAN *Precepts Wore* v. lxiij b, Cyties warded with all ky ndes of defences. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. ix. 321 The Castle of Leain ith neere Crooke haven which the rebels warded, was recovered from them

**† b.** said of the defending work. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Ags. Ps* (Th.) cxli 3 Heofoh . . þone weardiaʒ ufan wreiʒ Bylde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), þe ȝeten defendeþ and warde(þ alle) fo þeper parties of þe body 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 177 I owarde the west on the Northe syde, great Cuba wardeth owre Ilesbys [*r* Hayti] on the backe halfe. 1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal.* July 42 S. Michels Mount who does not know, That warder the Westerne coste? 1596 — *F. Q* IV. x. 7 And for defence thereof, on th' other end There stretcht out a castle faire and strong, I hat warded all which in or out did wend.

**† 4.** To keep in close custody or confinement; to put in ward, imprison. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf* I. 355 A Maiden, which was warded streyte Within the chambre and kept so clos, That [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Morte Arth* 1624 That they be wisely watched and warded in warde holdene, Wardeis of vnmurner with wychipfulle knyghttez. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 166 (Bannatyne MS.) Now in fredome, now wardit in distress 1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 243 Decreit . . ordanis ane quyn thair personis to be wardit thairfor. 1581 N. BURN in *Coll. Inventaries* (S. T. S.) 116, I. . was vayrdit in the Tolbuith of Edinburgh. 1599 in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* 119 The kirk dengyra the baillels to waird him quhill the nixt Sonday, his fude to be bread and watter allanerlie *a* 1650 SHALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 220 He was shortly warded for those words.

**† b.** *fig.* To keep in close check or control. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf* I. 53 Thus þe forto kepe and warde, So þat it pade noght his wynne to lese. 1596 If his wanty cowthest warde and kepe Thin lybe and Ere. 1595 HOOKER in Coverdale *Lett Martyrs* (1564) 158 True confession is warded on euery side, with many dangers.

**5.** With *in*, *off*, *up*: to enclose, bem in, exclude, shut off (esp. for safety or protection). *rare*

a 1586 *Satir Poems Reform* XXXVII 37 Walde ȝe ward ȝow ȝpe betwne tua wayis, ȝit so ȝe sall not frome ȝour ennymis save ȝou. 1597 *Ibid.* I. 1590 I. 346 (Collins) The Pyren mounts I hat ward the welthie Castile in with walles. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, The machinery not warded off or guarded in any way. Among its work in the midst of the crowd of idlers who throng the lower deck

**6.** To parry, repel, fend off, turn aside (a stroke or thrust, blow, attack, weapon, missile). Now almost always with *off*

1578 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps* lv 13 24 Ioo put backe a stroke by striking it inward, according as wee say in English I had warded his blow, or I warded him off. 1590 *Prayer* 2 Their God himselfe Shot many a dart at me with fiers intent, But I them warded all with wary gouernment. *c* 1663 LD HERBERT *Autob* (1824) 25 All I could do was to close two which remained, way to ward their thrusts. 1892 URQUHART *Tacitus* 137 He for twenty several bouts, did but ward their blows, and parry with the short end of his arm. 1897 DAVIES *Annals* v. 564 Entellus with his warping Body wards the Wound 1732 LADLARD *Sethos* II lii. 277 He employ'd one part to ward the flights of Arrows. 1830 PRARD *Poems* (1864) I 332 And now he wards a Roundhead's pike, and now he hums a stave 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt of Page* 11, Once in the tent, and twice in the fight, (thou) Didst ward me the balls and blows. 1878 *Young Voy. Nat.* II (1879) 25 Seeii g a great powerful man afraid even to ward off a blow, directed as he thought, at his face 1891 MARION RESD *Lady of Fort* I. 1 Ward off the blow could ward it off, the thrust was given, and the weapon appeared to pass through his body

*fig.* 1658 ROWLAND *tr. H Lynde's Cure for Scurf* Ep Ded A 6, Your Lordship in your last unanswerable master piece, held up your buckler over the Knight then living, and ward off the brunt of his fury. 1712 *Hosp Life Ld Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 224 He met sometimes with a Reprimand, which he would wittily ward off.

**b** *absol.* or *intr.* (for pass.) (parry blows); to stand on the defensive in a combat, etc.

1393 LANGL. *P Pl C* XXII. 218 And wepne to fight [*v.r.* warde] with þat wol neure faille. 1567 MAPLET *Gr Forest* 111 101 [The tortoise] is so hard, that neither the Dart, nor the Iauelin at the Elephant has beflye. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. 8 § 23 As soone as he spied Palladius, he drew his sword, and let fie at him But Palladius sought rather to ward, and warde. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* VI. xvi. 40 A good fensers vse to ward and strike at once. 1592 LILY *Alexius* IV II A Nation so valiant, that are redier to strike than ward. 1607 HIERON *Wks* (1620) I. 107 *Iacob* . . *wrestled* 3 Solomon commanded the rest to stand still, warding with their shields, against the enemies Iauelins 1897 DARWIN *Arthur* V. 375 Yet equal in strength and courage to strike and ward. 1820 PRARD *Poems* (1864) II. 25 Life is won by ready sword, by strength to strike and skill to ward

**†** *trans.* To avert, keep off (harm, danger, etc.).

**a.** *simply.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I Eclogue (1598) 85 While they did ward sun-beames with shadie bay. 1603 *Lady's Call* I. vii § 18 It concerns them therefore to ward those beginnings whose end may be so fatal 1720 PRIDEN *Pastorals* II. 125 Fold Thy flock with mine, to ward th injurious Cold. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* xi 23 He little knew to ward the secret wound. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* v. xx, I, only I, can ward their fate 1830 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 240 I herin it is to ward fulfilment of all evil-omened nights. 1882 LD ACTON *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* 81 Mar. (1904) 130 Images would probably impress him as a danger to be warded, rather, I think, than Transubstantiation.

**b.** with *off*. Also (rarely) *intr.*

1799 Goldsm *Rev No* 3 If, then, 'on would ward off the gripe of poverty, pretend to be a stranger to her. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V 332 Covering their heads at the same time to ward off any danger of the falling of pebbles or stones from above. 1798 Jefferson *Writ* (1859) IV 241 If we can ward off actual war till the crisis in England is over 1803 *Edinb* II xiv 214 To ward avoide the threatened tempest 1854 Sleeper *Handley Cr* lviii (1901) II 199 Rising hills ward off the wintry winds 1863 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I vi, I to keep out weather, to ward off cold, or what not 1881 W. H Day *Dis Childr.* 593 Which may obviate the tendency to congestion, and so ward off the paroxysms

**† 8.** *intr.* To take up a position of defence, take precautions *against*. Also, to be careful *that* (something be done). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R* 182 Sicnesse þet God sent wachede þeo sunnen þet weren er iwrouhte warden to þan þeo þet weren towarddes. c 1475 *Partenay* 805 Warde that ye be a monday in thys place 1709 Pilon *Paulo Purganti* 100 Our Don who knew this Title I ittle Dul, sure as Trumpet, call to Battel. Thought it necessary to ward a proper, to war be against the coming Blow. 17 Tswift *Sir Wm* (1841) II 850/2 In England, the pusillanimity is more to be warned against than in most other countries 1796 Lewis *Alberici Archet.* I. 99 Regard must be had in cold Countries to ward against the bleak Northwind 1755 *Mem Capt. P Drake* Ibid. Then it behoves us to be on our guard against the Imputation of Flattery, when I dedicate to Your Lordship?

**9.** *trans.* To place (a patient) in a particular ward in a hospital; to lodge (a vagrant) in a 'casual ward'. (A new formation on the sb.)

1809 *St George's Hosp Rep.* IV 70 He landed at 2 P M next day with the same symptoms 1889 Sir D Duckworth in *Lancet* 5 Jan , She appeared there [at the Hospital] and being very ill was warded 1890 *Westm Gaz* 23 Feb 12/2 The question as it seemed to these Town Councillors was how to get the vagrants warded, not how to keep them out of the Casual Ward.

**10.** Of a dog: To line or cover (a bitch).

1781 P Beckford *Th Hunting* v 19 When you breed from a very favourite sort, an t can have another bitch warded the same time, it will be of great service, as you may then save all the puppies. 1846 J Cook *Horsemanship* II It is therefore not very probable that one Stallion hound can ward many bitches besides those of the owner

**+ Ward,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Aphetic f. Award v. Hence **Warding** *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*

1442 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 63/2 If Processe theropon be warded. 1475 *Ibid.* VI 141 t That the Juges of the said Bench , have auctorite to ward that the said Jurors have ayen hir said Goodes, and thereupon to ward Writtes of execution in that behalve 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 160 A sarpler poynyd be the leftenaunte to be takeu owte to warde the sortt be a xx lode ordennyde ys now made that the leftenaunte schall poynt the waddyng sarplers of every mans wull. 1558 in Strype *Eccl Mem* App No. 47 (1721) III 143 Which all the premisse proved, y' a commission might be warded to that purpose.

**Ward,** Sc contr f. *were* if

c 1580 Montgomery *Wair P* xl 8 Weill ward thou weep, O quier audacious ee!

**Ward,** obs. pa. t. of Warp *v.*[2], Worth *v.*

**-ward,** *suffix*, OE. *-weard*, primarily forming adjs , with the sense 'having a specified direction', corresponds to OFris *-ward*, OS. *-ward*, *-werd*, OHG , MHG. *wart* (as in *hemwart* adj., homeward):—O Teut **-wardo-*, f. * *wad-* abl -vat. of **werþ-* :—pre-Teut. * *wert-* to turn (= L *vertere*); in the suffix the primary sense of the root is preserved, though the existing verb **werþan* has only the derived sense 'to become' (see Worth *v.*) cf. the L. *-versus* (a ppl. formation from the same root), which in sense coincides with O Teut. **-wardo-*. Two other suffixes precisely identical in function with * *wardo-*, but representing different grades of the root, are : OTeut. **-werþo-*, in Goth. *-wairþs*, ON. *-verðr*, OHG. *-wert* (MHG. and mod G. only in the adverbial *-warts*: cf Wards), OFris. *-wirth* ; and OTeut. **-wurðo-*, ON. *-urðr*, OHG. *-wrt*; neither of these types is found in OE.

The pronunciation of the suffix when attached to a monosyllable is (wəd); for the occasional colloquial shortening see W (the letter) Following one or more unstressed syllables it is usually sounded (wəd) or (wəd).

Down to the 16th c. the suffix occasionally appears with irregular spellings, as *-ouard*, *-uerd*, *-uard*, *-uhard*, the form *-want* in Sc and northern dialects represents a pronunciation still heard

**1.** The suffix was originally appended only to local advs., and in OE. was still confined to this use. The adjs. in *-ward* usually denoted direction of movement, but many of them could also be used to designate aspect or relative position , in this function they often occur in partitive concord : e.g. *forewearde* must often be translated 'front or first part of'. (With regard to the adjs originating in mod.E. from advs. in *-ward*, see 5 below.)

**2.** The OE. adjs. in *-weard*, like the corresponding words in the other Teut. langs., admitted of being used adverbially in the accus. (OE. *-weard*) or in the genitive (OE. *-wardes*) of the neut. sing. (For the history of the genitival advs. see -wards.) The advs in *-weard* found in OE. are all (exc. *hámweard* homeward) advb. forms of adjs. actually recorded in the language, and the first element is always a local adv. (*hámweard* being not really an exception). On the analogy of the older advs. with this suffix, there were formed in ME. several compounds in which *-weard* was added to advs., esp. to compound advs. of phrasal origin, as in *abakweard*, *adounweard*, *awayweard*, *aboutweard*, *ageinweard*, *aforeweard*; the first three of these were soon displaced by the aphetic forms *backward*, *downward*, *awayward*.

**3.** In OE. the adv. *tóweard* was used also as a prep., with the sense 'in the direction leading to'. In early ME. + *frowward* acquired a similar prepositional use, and later there are isolated examples of this development of function in some other advs in *-ward* (e.g. *inward*, *onward*) of which the first element is an adverb-preposition expressing movement.

**4.** The type of expression represented by the (now obsolete or archaic) forms to heavenward(s)', 'to the city ward(s)', 'to ne-ward', and the (wholly obsolete) forms 'from . . ward(s)', is commonly spoken of as a 'tmesis' of the preps. *toward(s)*, *+ fromward(s)*. This is convenient as a description of its function, but is not historically correct.

In reality, the practice of attaching the suffix to such theretofore unsuffixed words as the nouns of a separate adv.) to a phrase consisting of a sb. or pronoun governed by a prep. must be older than the development of the advs. *towards* and *fromwards* into preps. In OE., though no prep. **weard* is known to have existed (cf. *wiðerweard* adj., adverse), there are many examples in which *wiþ weard* is virtually a prep. governing the interposed word in the genitive (this being the case governed by *wiþ*) Although in OE. *tó* and *wið* are the only preps. that are recorded in this use, it is significant that in ME. and in early mod. Ger., while no compound prepa. with *-ward*, *-wärts* existed, the suffixes were added to phrases consisting of a sb. or pronoun governed by a prep. (chiefly *as*, *nach*, *gegen*) also by a prep corresponding to ME. *from* or *from . . ward*). In this use, however, they were commonly treated not as suffixes but as advs., and written as separate words. In English the tendency to this construction is now arrested is sometimes apprehended as a separate adv., and so written. But it is usually felt as forming a compound with the governed sb. When the sb. is qualified by a definite article, as in 'to the heavenward', there is a tendency to interpret the compound as a sb. or an adj used absol , because of the apparent analogy of expressions like 'to the eastward'. Where the definite article was absent, the compound came to be regarded as an adv., the prefixed *to* therefore became otiose, and therefore went out of use.

**5.** On the analogy of the advb compounds originating from the omission of *to* (e.g. *heavenward* adv. from *to heaven ward*), the suffix has in the mod. Eng. period been added freely to sbs. (including proper names) to form adjs. expressing direction, aspect, or tendency. From the 16th c. onwards there has been a growing disposition to use the advs. in *-ward* as adjs ; in the 19th c. or the last years of the 18th c. several new adjs. of this formation appear for the first time : e.g. *earthward*, *heavenward*, *Godward*, *manward*, *skyward*, these, however, have been confined to literary use.

**6** Examples of *to . . ward*, *till . . ward* (north dial.), *into . . ward*, *unto . . ward*

**a.** with proper name, or sb. without determining word For other instances see Bedward, Churchward, Harpenward, Mantward, Godward, Heavenward, Hellward, Manward.

c 1200 *Æfrpic Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 336 He hine bær to mynstreward a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Sæwerdon beoda fram Northanhumbra, & eac swa to Walenne weard. a 1300 *K Horn* 1280 Hond horn clubi stande To schupeward in londe. 13 *Coer de L.* 3455 King Richard Came sailing to Acre-ward. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B xiv. 208 Is tempeste ȝe sorge to trouthe ward. 1487 Test Vet. *Hayden* (Rolls) V. 175 Julianus wente into Perseward 1448 Sinit Unwood *Test.* (Camden) 37 V mette with my lorde atte high table eting comyng to meteward 1582 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 91 And the xj day I wrot to the Reygewarde a 1500 *Nuthrowne Maide* xix, in *Ritson's Ancient Songs* I lxxxvi 108 Diuers lordes and knyghtes of France were goyng into Spayne warde, 1526 Tindale *2 Cor.* i. 16 to haue leaue ledde forth to Iury ward of you. 1549 Coverdale etc *Erasm Par. Rom* vii 13-18 The one is wholly gyuen to synne, the other laboureth to honestiewarde. 1567 Golding *Calvin on P.* lxv. 2 To ask to Dauid ward, the solution is easye. 1601 W. Parry *Trav Sir A. Sherley* 30 The Emperor of Russias country to Persia ward. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Ch. Authors in Comm Ep* 619 The dispensation of the grace of God is given us to others-ward. 1889 *N. W. Line Glass* (ed 2) *Powarit.* The word is often divided thus He lives to Grimsby ward noo. She's gain to Lunnon ward.

**b** with sb. determined by article or otherwise.

P In quot. 1523, *on* is used instead of *to* or *into* (after a verb of motion).

c 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxxi. 78 [He] het þæt he biheolde to his drihtne ward a 1220 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS) an. 1048, Ða . . wendon him þa up to þere burge ward. c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 1507 Til our contre-warde. c 1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 562 Scho with camelle and cart held on to be merkat wart. c 1386 Chaucer *Millie's T.* 386 Unto the gardynward. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 161 þe herte . hangiþ tum-what to the lifsidewarde. 1420-60 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* 1. 4045 When he cometh to-our-schippis-ward. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* exlix. I 2 b, When the tydynge come to the pope, tho was he to the kyngward ful wroth. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxxiv. 66 Assone as the skirmysh was begon, he toke his horse with the spurres & came on the skirmysshers warde. 1526 Tindale *Rebelac* xiv. 8 She cam afore hondes to anoynt my boddy to his buryinge warde. a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 303 Thus aded through our town The subtil tree, to Pallas temple ward. 1609 Dowland *Varieth. Musicke* 4 A Quauer is a figure like a Crochet, having a dash to the right hand ward. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 71 If her sterne lie towards the sea, we say her sterne lies to the oft ward, and her head to the shore-ward. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav* v. 195 This Pilot desiring to avoid certain sands that were to the Prow-ward of him, put forth to sea. 1882 W. Black *Yolande* xxxi, Casting his eyes to the sleward.

**c.** with pronoun, *mi*, *thee*, etc. Now only *arch.*

c 1050 *Owl & Night.* 373 Sal hundes unrøþ to him ward c 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 2708 Ich wende ward zwiche he ȝe. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 170 Bi tyme tume to me ward, for I wille speke with þe. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv 1666, I shal so doon . That ay honour to me ward shal rebounde. 1387 Trevisa (Higden Rolls) VI. 413 þ Ilueda regnede in al Mercia, outake Londoun and Oxenforde, þe whiche þe kynge hyld to hymself ward. 1441 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 3 He, with officers of the said forest, rode to themward in all that they might prieke. 1448 *Paston Lett.* (suppl. (1901) 19 His master was at Causton to yow ward on Sonday last past. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. 254 He tourned his face to her warde 1740 Pallice *Architectus* III. 0 13, She seketh out the way to us warde 1871 Gotthe *Cats to the Rat* 6 God with thee be the same to thewward, that he shewed himself to be towards his servant David 1876 Fleming *Panegyl. Epist.* 16 Of whi he your bountie to him warde I am a witnesse. 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 71 Col., brought the Queene of Scots with a wheele, and so turned it to himself ward, that [etc.] 1822 Blair's *Corr.* xiii 3 Since ye seeke a proofe of Christ speaking in me, which is to you not weake but mighty in you ward. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 14 The subtile Lady Admirall (who was long before aware of the Prince's love to her-ward). 1683 M. Trapp *Double Deliv.* 180 I hope I think he will have set before us such a Hope, when meaghen Leviathan, that that of Holy Job would be but a kind of Spectation to it ward. 1738 Wesley *Hymns & Sacred Poems* (1739) *I heard that Heard receives* 'us, I hine Eyes to me-ward ever turn. 1830 Coleridge *Let to Mrs Gillman* Lett (1895) II. 154 An amusing friend and acquaintance of mine, a neighbour of Dr Ell, *Bigtow P.* in. Let. 4 Nov 1827, When rumor pointed to him ward. 1901 Hardy *Poems, I to an Unborn Pauper Child*, No hint of mine may here to thee ward fly.

**† 7.** Examples of *from . ward*, *fro . . ward*. *Obs.*

See also Froward C b 1 c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 7281 þe ded Sathe ay þan he ware fra þe ward. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 307 Ful many a draughte of wyn had he ydrawe Fro lurdeinward whil that the chaj man sleepe c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 285 He mett his wife fro þe kirkward 1495 *Act 11 Hen VII* c. 9 Whereby the said Abbot and Convent now stande suerte shalle haulde, [shall] stand from thensforth ward yoide and of noon effecte. 1607 T. Rob *Sp Artistes* xxxvii (1623) 216 No man must come to appropriate any thing to himselfe, eyther yet to make any priuate vse to himselfe from the rest ward. a 1628 Dee *Relat Spir.* i. (1659) 56 His face is (now) from forward Lady Wealth Wrath *Uranias* 108 Amphisianthus . was then looking from herward, carelesse of her. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. 379 With the nail of his Right Hand I turn the Quoin from his Thumbward, he draws or slides forward the upper sheet.

**8.** Examples of nonce-wds. (chiefly) f. sb. or proper name (rarely pron.) + *-ward*.

1623 L. Andrewes *Serm* x. 201 (1629) 154 In Man, there was a toward [= ouward] or a forward agreement of all the rest Gother God and him into one, and so you have all 1728 Swift *Lett. to Pope* 26 July p 3 You are the most temperate man Godward, and the most intemperate Manward of most I have known 1752 H Walpole *Lit to Mann* 27 July, Our beauties are travelling Paris ward. 1793 Cowper *Let to Lady Hesketh* 29 Aug., I will therefore, until the time of your journey Weston ward entirely to your own election. a 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks 1864 III. 499 The whole tendency of the age is Mammonward. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, In the afternoon we went on the Thames Putney ward together. 1865 E Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 244 The wall breezes convey but a little way seaward the breath of thyme that they take up from these rough hills and valleys. 1893 *Athen* 4 Nov. 742 Its eyes turned eastward and past-ward 1899 G. F Monkshood's *Kipling* 60 Mr. Kipling thoughtfully pointed to the sun, then to the Post Simla-ward in paper ships upon a stream of ink.

**Wardable** (wɔ·rdăb'l), *a. Hist* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + -able.] Liable to pay castle-guard or castle-ward.

c 1660 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1907) XLIX. 164 The wood consisteth of 1000 akers of the Mannor land, called the Wren Wish, is Wardable as the Mannor is 1888 *Archæol. Rev.* Nov. 58 In Inverness Reps much of the land called Castle was wardable, i.e , paid Castle-guard, or Castle-ward.

**+ Wardage**[1]. *Obs.*[=0] [ad. AL. *wardāgium*, f. *warda* see Ward *sb.*[2] and -age.] = Wardpenny.

1296 in *Cal. Chancer Rolls* (1906) II. 137 Lastage, stallage, hidlage, wardage, (etc.)] 1691 *Cowell's Interpret.* (ed Manley), *Wardage* seems to be the same with the wardpeny. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) 1727– in Bailey. 1864– in Webster. In recent Dicts.

**Wardage**[2] (wɔ·rdēdʒ). *rare.* [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + -age.] The function of a sentinel or guardian.

1678 Susan Phillips *On Sandwich* 170 The old square tower in the church-yard kept A solemn wardage.

**Wardain**(e, obs. forms of Warden 1.

**Wardan** see Warden[2].

**War-dance.** A dance performed by savage tribes before a warlike excursion or in celebration of a victory. Also, a mimetic dance representing warfare. Also *transf.*

1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* I. ii. iv. 183 The captain . strikes his club against the stakes of his cottage, and begins the war dance. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* 269 The War Dance, which they use both before they set out on their war parties, and on their return from them. 1889 G. C.

DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* iv. (1884) 33 The boiling liquid...is rapidly covered with sawdust, which is trodden down by a war-dance on the part of the men. 1886 J. G. WOOD *Man & Handiwork* v. 65 In their terrific war-dances, the Maoris put out their tongues to a wonderful extent.

**† Wardatar(e, &c.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **-etair, -atour.** [f. med.L. type **wardatārius*, f. med.L. *warda*: see WARD *sb.*[2] Cf. *feudatary.*] In Scots feudal law, the person who has the wardship of lands while the heir is a minor.

1535 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 344/2 Gif þe wardatouris of ale landis Refusis to find souirtie. 1579-80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 263 George Dowglas, wardatars of Cartheraill. 1580 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XXI. 247 John Leslie of Buchquhane, schireff wardatour of Abirdene. 1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 705 Williame Douglas of Lochlevin, principall schireff, wardatar and chalmerlane. 1706-8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. ix. § 62 The former part of the statute [of 1491] had enacted, that both wardatars and liferenters should give security to uphold, in good condition, the subject of the ward or liferent.

**Wardsy.** *dial.* Also in many corrupt forms, **ware-, wartday, warder, warter, wharter,** etc.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. *hvardag*, Da. *hverdag*, lit. 'every day' (ON. *hver-r* every, *dag-r* day).] A week-day, as opposed to Sunday: = EVERYDAYS *adv.* Also *attrib.*

1598 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 214 To Anne Atkinson my wardsy gowne. 1788 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Yorks.* II. 383 *Wards-day* (prov. WARDSY): week-day; in contradistinction to Sunday: "Sunday and war-day." [For later examples see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

**† Wardcorn.** *Feudal Law. Obs.* [f. WARD *sb.*[2] + CORN *sb.*[1]] A periodical payment in corn to the superior in commutation of military service. Cf. WARDPENNY.

1415 *Foundation Charter, Shene, Surrey* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1830) VI. I. 33/1 Et quod omnia bona...hominum...praeticorum quorumcunque, sint...quieta de omninodo pavagio, passagio, &c. et de scotto et gelda, ...et wardcorn, et wardpeny, wardceorne, averpeny, hundredpeny, et hothalfpeny, (etc.). 1441 *Court Rolls* (P. R. O.) 1/3 Decennarius...presentat...i quarterium dragetī vocati Wardeceorne.

¶ Du Cange wrongly identified *wardcorn* with *cornagium*, to which he gave an erroneous explanation: see CORNAGE ¶. His error has been adopted in many Eng. Dicts.

1901 *Court's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Wardcorn*, the Duty of keeping Watch and Ward with a HORN to blow, upon any occasion of surprize. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1721-1800 in BAILEY. In recent DICTS.

**Wardrope,** obs. form of WARDROBE.

**† Wardebrace.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **warbrace.** [a. OF. (north-eastern) **wardebras*, dial. var. of *gardebras.*] = GARDE-BRAS.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warbrace, or bracere, *brachiale.* 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 588/38 *Brachiale*, a wardebrace.

**† Wardecorps.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **wardecors, -corps,** 5 **ward(e) corce, wardcors(e, (wardecorse, wardcorpse).** [a. AF. *wardecors* (recorded in sense 2; also latinized *wardecotia, wardecorsum*, etc.) = OF. *gardecorps*; f. OF. *warde*, f. *warde-r* = *garder* to guard (see GUARD, WARD *vbs.*) + *corps* body.]

**1.** A body-guard; an armed personal attendant. Cf. GARDE-DU-CORPS.

*a*1330 *Otuel* 1109 His wardecors a non he fond, & tok a spere out of his hond. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 359 Though that prey Argus with his hundred eyen To be my wardecors. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 389 Perdiccas whan Philip sat in þe feste of ryalle without wardecorses [L. *sine custodibus*: 1485 *Caxton* wardcorpses] Pausanie, a noble yong man, slowe him þere. *c*1450 *Merlin* 257 King Darius made a questyon to þre of hys wardcorsis.

**2.** An over-garment for out-door use.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warde corce, clothe (*n.rr.* wardecors, ward corsloth, wardcorce), *tunica*, *tunicella*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 Wardecorse, *vnus*.

**Warded** (wɔ̱dĕd), *a.*[1] [f. WARD *sb.*[2] + -ED 2.] Of a key, lock: Constructed with wards. (Usually with defining word prefixed.)

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 94 b, This Crosse ought to be figured as a double warded key. 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. 91 He...can picke a lock if it be not too crosse warded. 1648 PEMBLAR *Reubus* II. xxxiii. 29 Attendants are like to ...lockes...If they be such as a stranger may picke...it is very fit to change them instantly. But if they be well warded, they are then good guards of our fame. 1850 COLLINS *Lo-ks & Keys* 8 There was also another lock constructed on the warded principle, but with the addition of a single tumbler. 1893 HOBBS & TOMLINSON *Locks* v. 58 Examples warded locks.

**Warded,** *a.*[2] *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. WARD *sb.*[4] + -ED 2.] ? Affected with callosity.

1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 16 XIX. 650 Acts of mercy and forgiveness are with so much difficulty drawn...from those that are Saints, even like milk out of a warded breast. *a*1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v. *Ward* v., The hands of hard working people are said to be warded.

**Warded** (wɔ̱·rdĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [WARD *v.*[1] + -ED][1.]

**† 1.** Detained 'in ward', imprisoned. *Sc. Obs.*

*c*1610 J. FORBES *Certain Rec.* (Wodrow Soc.) II. viii. 455 The guard came...with a warrand to receive the warded ministers, and convoy them to the Councell.

**2.** Furnished with a protective padding; guarded.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* I, Running their goat-hair and horse-hair warded heads against walls of words.

**Warded** (wɔ̱·rdĕd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. WARD *v.*[2], aphetic form of † *award* + -ED[1].] (See quot.)

1894 *Northumbld. Glass.*, 768 *Warded*, assigned, set out, awarded by commissioners appointed to carry out the division of common lands. *Warded roads*, the roads thus set out.

**Wardein(e,** obs. forms of WARDEN.

**Wardel,** obs. Sc. form of WORLD.

**Wardene** (wɔ̱·rdĕn), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–6 **wardein,** 6 **wardaine,** 4–6 **wardeyn(e,** 4–5 **wardain(e, -ayn(e,** 4 *Sc.* **wardane,** 4–6 *north.* and *Sc.* **war-dan(e,** 5 **werdein, werdeyn,** *Sc.* **wardand,** 5–6 **wardyn,** 6 *Sc.* **warden, -an, vordan, wairdan(e,** 4– **warden.** [a. OF. *wardein*, north-eastern var. of *guarden, -ene*: see GUARDIAN.

The word is current as a traditional designation of office; in other uses it is *hard, or arch.* In the legal uses the AF. form is *gardein*, and in many of them *guardian* is the preferred form in Eng. In Anglo-Latin rendered by *custos.*]

**† 1.** One who guards, protects, or defends; occas. a guardian angel: = GUARDIAN 1. *Obs.*

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Wat Crist ure euerichon to no gentil wardein bereð to lutel menske. *c*1290 *John* 31 in *S. E. Leg.* 403 Pere in seint Iohannes warde is meste moder he tok...litre wardein he was aftur also pat he to heouene i-wende. *a*1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxiii. 7 þat he be wardayn of þaim þat drede him. 1340 *Hyde Chron.* (Camden) I. vii. (1895) 6 There is none so caitif pilgrym that he nath assigned him a wardeyn to wayte of his hythe. *c*1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1441 Silence of iuge is wardein of his fame. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xv. 43 O brycht Apollo.. Of haly mont Soractis the wardane.

**† b.** *Astr.* = GUARD *sb.*[2] 12. Cf. GUARDIAN 5.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 218 Fixe starres which are cauled the wardens of the north starre. *Ibid.* 270.

**2.** One who has the care of something specified; a keeper. *Obs. exc. poet.*

*a*1290 *S. Eustace* 230 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 216 Pe lauerd nom and bleu his horn, For he was wardein of pat corn. *c*1300 *Cursor M.* 4691 [Joseph] Garners and granges fild wit reede, In ilk sted a sere wardain. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 53 Per Rihtfolcius Reuson schulde riden ouer alle, And kuynde wit be wardeyn oure weolpe to kepe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 393 One of be wardeynes þat kepte be bolle [of Argus] bycam vp in þat manhode. 1390 GOWER be wardeyn [L. *custos*] of pe asse folowede after. *Ibid.* IV. 33 Demetrius þat was wardeyn of his bookes. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Jonathas* 41 Yet nel men leen of it [a ring] wardeyn i flor as my lyf, keepe it wole y certeyn. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Eden Bower* xxii, Of all this wealth I have made these warden.

**† b.** Keeper of the Exchequer. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9003 Pe king hem[ ] is out a þre delde þere...him sulf in þe oþer was...& þanne is tuele sones were wardeins of þe priide.

**c.** *Warden of the Peace* = 'Guardian of the Peace'; see GUARDIAN 1 b.

1543 tr. *Act 4 Edw. III* c. 2 The Iustices assigned...shall haue power to deliuer the same iayles of those that shalbe medled before the wardeins of the peace [*orig. les gardeins de la peex*]. 1854 J. T. SMITH *Parish* II. 38 The Sheriffs and other Wardens of the peace...are required [etc.].

**d.** A gatekeeper, porter, sentinel. Now *rare.*

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 He sette one vuuntuin uorto beon yeteward, þet is, folke wardein. *c*1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1277 The wardeyn of þe yates gan to calle The folk, which þat with-oute the yates were, And had hym dryuen In here bestes kote. 1820 SOUTHEY *Vindiciæ Ecclesiæ* xii. 224 The wardein of the rocky door...Fit warden of the sorcery-gate, A rebel Afreet liv. 1825 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Warden of the Stanneries, Warden of the Cinque-ports*, generally old lieutenants in the royal navy, appointed...to see that no person whatever be admitted without an order from the commissioners. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Ode*, 8 In vain The man was apprehended by the warden of the frontier of Jaen. *a*1859 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 376 I've won from the warden the time. The Sentinel had the watch in his garden For me.—for me. 1892 STEVENSON *In South Seas* IV. iii, Female wardens made a fit outpost for this palace of many women.

**† 3.** The person invested with the control of the person and lands of an orphan heir during his minority; also, in wider sense, one who has the charge and oversight of young persons: = GUARDIAN 2. *Obs.*

*c*1290 *Beket* 269 in *S. E. Leg.* 114 In his warde he let do his eldeste sone aire henri...Pat he were is wardein and al is contreie. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9001 He bed ha be court segge sob...wan edmond made is eir of is lond wiboute strine, & wan of is ponge sones wardein ek ydo. *c*1305 *St. Andrew* 118 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 50 Pis king bed ha maister hadde: pat his wardeyn was. *c*1350 *Will. Palerne* 1104 Pemperour, made him knit on the morwe & mo for his sake of prouide prinses pat dought him seruen, & maidwilun here wardeyn as he wel mist, to gye & to gouerne þe gay yong knistes. *c*1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 753 Thus here wardeynys lyuede thanne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 81 Ecbatus made hym wardeyn of his heyres. 1543 tr. *Act 3 Edw. I*, c. 21 The wardeyns shall kepe and susteyne the landes without makynge dystruccion of any thynge. 1579 *Lodge, Verres Lemvy* 87 b, Wardeine most properly is he that hath the wardship or keeping of an heire, & of lande holden by knightes seruice, or of one of them to his owne vse during yᵉ nonage of the heire, [etc.]. 1590 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 811 The Warden, or Guardian of the Land of such Heir, who shall be under Age.

**4.** An regent or viceroy appointed to rule a country in the king's absence or minority. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

*a*1300 *Cursor M.* 4651 Al pat barunage,...To þis loseph an ath pai saure, Til him als warden for to tent. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 32 The tane the steward writer was, The tothir lames of dowglas, Vardanis in [his] absens maid he. *c*1400 *Morte Arthur* 650, I make the kepare..of iyngrysies manye, Wardayne wyrchipfulle, to weldis al my landes. *c*1490 WYNTOUN *Cron.* CXXIII. 2173 Throu Schir Andro Murrayis renovne, Quhen he wes wardane of Scotland. *c*1570 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 768 That cheid Wallace Scotlis wardand to be. 1599 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 962/2 Ony proclamatioun...made generally be the king or his wardanis seanet the intercommonyn and sitting apoun the Inglismanis assueranss. 1640 YORKE *Union Arm.* 37 Edward...the eldest sonne to King Edward [II] in the...absence of his Father..was made Lord Warden of England, by a common decree. 1652 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. 134 Vicegerents...Sometimes they are called Lord Warden, or Lord Keeper of the Kingdome, and have therewith the generall power of a King. 1898 J. DAVIDSON *Interwrite* II. 69 Randolph, Earl of Moray, who was Warden of Scotland in the minority of David, having died in 1331. 1912 E. RUSSELL *Maitland of Lethington* I. 33 The *Annexe* with which Maitland contrived to get the necessary co-operation of Bothwell, the Scottish Warden.

**† b.** The governor of a town, province or district; the commander of a fortress. *Obs. exc. Hist.* in the title *Warden of the Marches.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9078 Pritti bousend knistes hor wardein hii sette & alde zeuung hom al be lond. 1398 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 72 To Dunbar com kyng Williams...His barons with him nam, knyghtes þat wer bold. Wardeyns of tour & toun. *a*1352 MINOT *Poems* viii. 83 He was wardaine of þe toune. *c*1400 *Brut* CCVIII. 237 King Edward..sent maistre Walter of Stapleton, his Tresorer, forto bene warden and keper of be citee of London wip be Tour. *c*1450 *Merl.* CCXI. 346 þe King..made hym warden and gouernour of þe cite. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. viii. 44 And sire Brastias was made warden to wayte vpon the fro Trent vnto forewardes. 1577 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 123 The vardan of the Myddil Marche. 1657 NORTH *Guevara's Dial. Pr.* (1568) 2 Pretor of the Medalian Legion, and Warden in other frontiers. 1763 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 631 Schir Johne Marwell of Terraglie Knycht Wardane of the West Merchis of Scotland. *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* 1580 The notable feature of these proceedings [Nov. 1248] is that in them there is no mention of a Warden of the Marches. *Ibid.* 493 The little Duke of York..Warden-general of the Marches.

**5.** In certain guilds, esp. in the Livery Companies of the City of London: A member of the governing body under the authority of the Master or the Prime Warden (the title varies in different companies).

1466 in *Liber Custum.* (Rolls) 79 Les Wardeyns [of the Lorimers] le mounstrent au Meire qe donqe serra[ ]. 1589 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 Pe forsaide brethereede wil þat þer be wardeins þereof. 1494 CAL. *Letter-Bk. H* (1907) 285 The wardyns of the Trinite Yelde. 1547 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 134 The Maisters Wardeyns Governours Rulers and Governours of all and singuler the Companies and Fraternyties and Houses for poor People. 1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 The Mayster Wardens and Assistauntes of the Trinytie House of Deptford Strond. 1662 *Statutes Parlt. Lond* iv. iii, Next year we will have him warden of our society. 1697 *Decree Star Chamb.* § 13 in Milton *Arrop.* (Arb.) 15 He...shall first appeare to the said Masters and Wardens of the Company of Stationers. 1818 DICKENS *Dombey* lvii, The inscription about what the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company did in one thousand six hundred and ninety-four. 1886 C. S. PARKER *London's Glory* vii. (ed. 3) 84 Interest with the Prime Warden, Master, or Clerk of a Company might possibly procure an invitation to one of these [banquets].

**† 6.** The person having the direction or oversight of some work or enterprise. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Earth. De P. R.* XII. v. (Bodl. MS), Þif hem lykkeþ bunye to sette bunne þe wardeyn schalle bere þe bees] with figes and opur swete mete leste þey schulde deye. *c*1400 *Gamelyn* 979 Tho that wardeynes were of that wrastlyng Come and brought hym the ram and eke the ring. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 255/1 The serche of the wardens of Brauderie. 1543 tr. *Act 28 Hen. VI*, c. 16 A warden of the assinge of cloth. 1547 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1715) *Edw. VI* (1914) 132 Robert Trunkewell Joyner being theye warden and setting owte vj^te^ wourkes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. vii. II. 167 Pythagoras, a great maister and warden of these exercises.

**b.** *Freemasonry.* Either of two officers (called *Senior* and *Junior Warden*) in a symbolic lodge whose duty it is to assist the Worshipful Master.

*a*1723 WREN *Parentalia* (1750) 307/2 A Freemason's Lodge, of which very lately Man was called a Warden, and overlooked each nine. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 622/1 The high [Hen. VIII] provided as grand-master; and having appointed John Islip, abbot of Westminster, and Sir Reginald Bray, knight of the garter, his wardens for the occasion, proceeded in great state to..Westminster Abbey. *Ibid.* 623/1 On the 27th of December 1561, a general assembly was held, where Henry Jennyn earl of St. Alban's was elected grandmaster; who appointed Sir John Denham his deputy, and Mr. Christopher Wren...and Mr. Hawksmoor, his wardens.

**7.** The superintendent of a harbour, market, or the like.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Limenarcha*, the wardeyn of the portes. 1543 tr. *Act 5 Edw. VI Statut.* (1572) 1. 'That the Wardens of Cinque Ayalbe at Douer,...And that the wardeyns of suche tables shall make suche exchaunges by the testymony of controllers whiche we shall put to them. 1563 tr. *Act. 3 Eliz. II*, c. 2 Any serchours or wardeyns of the fysshe and passages through the sayd realme. 1646 *Lords Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 243 To the burgh bailyf of Skipton and this warden of the market there. 1893 *Agric. Mun. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1043 [Officers of Sandwich corporation] Wardens of the Flesh Market 2, Wardens of the Fish Market 2.

**b.** Forming the second element in the designation of certain officials, as *barrack warden, Fire-warden*, U.S.: see FIRE *sb.* 5. *Fish-warden*, U.S., an official in charge of fisheries. *Game-warden*, an officer having the superintendence of the game of a particular locality.

1825 *Mag. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* IV. 2705 [Officers of Ipswich corporation] Two Fish-wardens. Ale Conner. 1883 G. B. GOODE *Fish. Industr. U.S.A.* (Fisheries Exhib.) 66 To enforce these laws would, however, render necessary a large force of fish-wardens. 1894 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 6/4

The duties hitherto carried out by barrack-masters are in future to be performed by penalored non-commissioned officers of the army, who, on appointment, will be termed 'barrack wardens'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 3/1 The State 'garden warden'. 1901 *Nature* 26 Dec. 168/1 Major J. Stevenson-Hamilton, Game Warden of the Transvaal.

†**8.** A custodian of a building, esp. a temple or church. *Obs.*

*c* 1290 *Beuvlon* 626 in *S. E. Leg.* 237 In þe Abbeye of seint patrick, Monek ich was, I-wis And of is churche a wardein. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1966 Of þe benche be wardeynys alle were waked oute of here sleþe. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 265/1 A wardeyn of the hows of god. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxii. 142 The good Herald..is a Warden of the temple of Honour.

+ **b.** The dean of a cathedral or collegiate church, or of a royal chapel. *Obs.*

1409 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346 John Arundell, Dean or Wardein of the Chapelle Roiall of Seint Georges,..Windsor. *Ibid.* The saide Wardein is named and wreyns Deane; also ..Wardein therof hee usually be called Deane. 1538 Fitzherb. *Just. Peas* 121 b, Al..wardens of cathedrall and collegiate Churches.

**9.** = Churchwarden I. There are regularly two, the *rector's* (or *vicar's*) *warden* and the *parish* (or *people's*) *warden*.

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 114 The wardeyns of Seynt Austeyns chirch. 1466 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 413/1 Late Wardeyns of the goodes of the said Church. 1548 Edw. VI *Injunct.* § 13 b/1, The Wardeynes of euery paryshe churche or Chapel. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc. Dad.* p. iv, I will present you at the law day for a tyrant, though I be neither sidis man for this Meridian, nor Warden. 1853 Marshall *Early Puritans* 109 The minister and wardens undertook to go from house to house to take the names of the communicants. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 352 Rival candidates for the office of the people's warden.

**b.** *transf.* Applied to an official with similar functions of a Jewish synagogue.

1879 F. Hitchman *Public Life Earl of Beaconsfield* I. i. 15 The quarrel with the Wardens of the Synagogue was a more serious matter. 1910 Montefiory *Life R. Disraeli* I. iii. 22 In 1813 he was chosen one of the two elected Parnass or Warden of the Congregation of Hevra Marki.

**10.** In the titles of officers holding positions of trust under the Crown.

† **a.** *Warden of the Forest*: see quot. 1706. *Obs.*

1598 Manwood *Lawes of Forest* viii. 43 Hereupon the Lord chiefe Iustice of the Forrest..will cause a writ of *Ad quod damnum* to be directed to the chiefe warden of the Forrest. *c* 1600 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 326/1 Wardens of Forrests shall be commanded to keep their Officers from extorting. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Keeper of the Forest*, otherwise called Chief Warden of the Forest, is the principal Government of all things belonging to the Forest, and the Check of all the other Officers. 1797 H. Rooke *Decis. Cr. Cas. Indep Forest* 5 The Warden is under the Government of the following Officers:—A Warden, or Master Forester,.. Lieut. or Deputy Warden [etc.].

**b.** (*Lord*) *Warden of the Cinque Ports*: see Cinque Port.

1435 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 489/2 Constable of the Castell of Dovore, and Wardeyn of fyve Ports. 1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) XV. 53 The Lorde Warden of the Fyve Ports. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 138 Which the first Norman Conquerour..instituted a Warden of the five Ports, Hastings, Dover, Hith, Rumney and Sandwiche. 1643 *Proc. late Treaty of Peace* 56 Such a Noble Person as your Majesty shall appoint to be Warden of the Cinque-Ports. 1824 *Querie's Regul. Army* 46 The Lord-Warden of the Cinque Ports is to be saluted by the Forts within his jurisdiction with the number of guns specified.

*fig.* (*allusively.*) 1626 T. Scot *Philosythie* B 3, Supposing thus their trunsie warden, had beene closing The lands strong Ports. *Ibid.* B 3 b, Let not your will warden of your Cinque Ports [*i.e.* the five senses].

**c.** *Warden of the Mint*: until 1823 the title of the chief officer of the Mint.

1563 *Irish Act* 3 *Edw. VI* c. 32 We..have Ordeyned and made..Germyn Lynche..Warden and Maister worker of oure moneis and coignes. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 220 The generall, wardane, countare wardane, sinkare and sawyare,..of his Majesteis moneyehous. 1670 Petty *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 The Warden [of the mint]..is by his Office to receive the Silver from the Goldsmiths. 1888 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2568/4 Owen Wynne Earle Warden of the Mint.

**d.** (*Lord*) *Warden of the Stannaries*: an officer appointed by the Duke of Cornwall to preside over the mining parliaments of Cornwall.

1585 [see Stannary 1]. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 10 He served the kings in the different offices of lord warden of the Stannaries, lord admiral of Ireland, and lieutenant of the county of *Cavan*. in *Examiner* 38 Sept. 623/1 The new Lord Warden [of the Stannaries] has not been idle. 1814 Moore *Hor. Ode* II. 21. 19 Then, why, my Lord Warden! oh! why should you fidget Your mind about matters you don't understand? 1896 *Law Times* CI. 534/2 By the Judicature Acts the jurisdiction of the Lord Warden was transferred to the Court of Appeal.

†**e.** In the titles of various offices of the royal household or the courts of law. (Mainly as the rendering of *A.F. gardein.*) *Obs.*

1543 *St. Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, Stat. Excheq., The wardeyne of the kynges wardrobe. 1543 tr. *Act* 1 *Edw. IV*, c. 1 Warden of the rolles of his chauncerie. *Ibid.*, The..warden of his armour in the towre of London. *Ibid.*, In thoffice of his prive seale, clerke or warden of his hamper of his sayde chauncery. *Ibid.*, The..warden of the kynges wyvtes..of his common benche. 1561 Tate *Honseh. Ord. Edw. II* (1790) 9 The clarke which shalbe warden or keper of the privy seale. *Ibid.* 18 The kinge shal have a squier survieour and warden of the viandes for his mouth. *Ibid.* 30 And a serjant herberjour, warden of the kinges palfreis. 1580 Stevenson *In South Seas* IV. iii. (1908) 294 These were keybearers, treasurers, wardens of the armoury, the napery and the stowe.)

**1.** *Warden of the Standards*: an officer of the Board of Trade having the custody of the standards of weight and measure.

1878 *Act* 41 & 42 *Vict.* c. 49 § 1.

**11.** The title given to the head or presiding officer of certain colleges and schools, hospitals, etc.

Usually = L. *custos*.

1275-6 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 6 § 1 No Provoste Warden or other Hed Officer of the saide Colledges of Winchester or Eaton. 1587 Lady *F. Cousins in Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 193 Warden of Ledy Burse. 1652 Marmion *Hollands Leaguer* i. ii. B 4 b, 'Tis..talke as superciliously, and walke As stately,as the Warden of a colledge. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 612 Dr. Golding, Warden of Winchester College. 1782 Pennant *Journ. Chester to Lond.* 305 St Thomas's hospital (Northampton)..Originally it maintained twelve poor people.. It is governed by a warden, who is one of the aldermen. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XII. 588 An hospital or alms-house ..founded by Mr. Cowan for maintaining a warden, six chaplains, and thirteen poor husbandmen of Buchan. 1855 A. Trollope *Warden* i, John Hiram..also appointed that an almshouse should be built for their abode, with a fitting residence for a warden. 1908 *Act* 8 *Edw. VII*, c. 20 Sched. § 2 From the time at which..a chancellor shall be appointed, the office of warden of the University [of Durham] shall cease.

†**b.** The superior of a Franciscan convent. Cf. Guardian 4. *Obs.*

1440 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47 þe wardeyn and be Couente. 1455 *Linc. Diocese Docum.* (1914) 76 The Wardeyn and the Convent of the grey freyres of Oxford. 1598 *Early Statutes Oxford Scot.* XII. 307 To Freir Charles Home, sumtym warden of the cordeleris of Dumfreis.

**12.** An officer to whose custody prisoners are committed: the governor of a prison, esp. in the old title *Warden of the Fleet* (Prison).

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3708 þo Ascopard wiþ outen dwelling In to þat castel gan hire bring,..And hall 3 yer a was his warden. 1598 Stow *Surv.* (1603) 450 Brusne *Chron. Vitæ Edwardi* 3 pe kyng dide his prisons loke Wiþ wardeyns þat hem vnderloke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13847 Thus he keppit him full close, & in care kest, þat no wyte ne hym reson knewe full sure. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346/2 The Keper and Wardeyn of the same Prisone. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 3086 Tho wiliddue warditaris tuke my geir. 1543 tr. *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 12 From henceforth no wardeyn of the Fleet shall suffre any prysoner there..to goo out of prysone by mayntprye, bayne, [&c.]. 1754 Smollett *Per. Pickle* xcviii. (1779) IV. 321 He extracted the warden's promise to allow him a lodging. 1827 *Statutes of Connecticut* (1854) 726 The warden shall have the entire control and management of said prison. 1848 Scott *R. M. Perth* xxiii, My kind High Constable..Since I am to lie in ward, I could not have desired a kinder or more courteous warden. 1857 Dickens *Nickleby* xlii, Any man whose duty it is to keep a gaol or lock up, is the warden's room. 1889 *Century Mag.* Feb. 506/1 As we entered the main corridor [of a prison] the officer of the day spoke a few words to the door, saluted the warden and left.

**13.** A member of a committee (of two or more persons) appointed to take charge of the repair and make regulations for the use of a bridge, a highway, etc. Cf. Waywarden.

1586 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 13 To haue & to hold to the wardens of the Bridge house [*i.e.* London Bridge]. 1875-6 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 1 To make an Election of Two persons of the same Comminalitie to be the Wardens of the saide Kendall Bridge. 1876 *Encycl. Britannica* (ed. 9) V. xxv. 550 A later reform has entrusted the care of the highways..to Boards of Wardens.

†**14.** = Coventry, the title of two officers, chosen annually, charged with the collection of municipal rents. *Obs.*

1448-1907 *Cov. Leet. Bk.* 22, 58, etc.

**15.** *U.S.* (and earlier in colonial use). **a.** The officer who presides at ward-meetings or elections.

1763 J. Adams *Diary* Feb., Wks. 1850 II. 144 Boston..The Council chose..a certain number..These they choose a moderator..and selectmen, assessors, collectors, wardens, fire-wards, and representatives, are regularly chosen before they are dismissed by the town. 1796 Mount. Laurel Rec. 678 Charleston was..divided into 13 wards, which choose as many wardens, from among whom the citizens elect an Intendant and 12 of the Council. 1821 *Charter of Cincinnati* 8 It shall be the duty of such warden to preside at all meetings of the citizens of such ward.

**b.** In Connecticut boroughs, the chief executive officer of the municipal government; in a few Rhode Island towns, a police officer. In colonial times the name was sometimes used instead of *fire-warden* or *fire-ward*' (*Century Dict.*).

1842 *Statutes of Connecticut* (1854) 67 All persons who shall be engineers or wardens of any fire department.

1851 *Canada*. The head of a county council.

1873 *Rev. Statutes Ontario* (1877) II. 1506 The Council of every County shall consist of the Reeves and Deputy Reeves of the Townships and Villages within the County and one of the Reeves or Deputy Reeves shall be the Warden. 1886 Bourinot *Local Govt. Canada* 73 [In the province of Quebec] The county council is composed of the mayors of the several local municipalities of the county.. The warden is chosen by the county council.

**17.** *Australia*. The government official, with magisterial powers, in charge of a goldfield.

1861 Mrs. Meredith *Over the Straits* iv. 141 The chief official in a digging settlement..is entitled the Warden.

**18.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warden-angel* (rare); also † of or pertaining to the warden-courts', as † *warden-book*, † *-clerk*, † *-fee*; **warden-raid**, *nonce-use*, a raid commanded by the Warden of the Marches in person. Also **Warden-court.**

1839 Bailey *Festus* xx. (1848) 248 The sweet offices Of warden-angel. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 382 He findand..iourities scitit in the wardeis buikis to be answerable for all attemptaitis. 1584 *Ibid.* 706 Robert Mentaith, sumtyme his wardane clerk. 1832 *Acc. Lat. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 47 Item, to the lord Huyss, wardane off the stait marchis, for his wardane fee, de anno, etc. xxxiijl. jvli. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 278 That the said Lord Home, wardane foirsaid, have payment of his wardane fee. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* iv. iv, 'And by my faith,' the gate-ward said, 'I think I will prove a warden-raid.'

**Warden** (wɔ̃d(ə)n), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5 wardan, -one, -oun, -ane, 5–6 wardyn (6 -in), 5–7 wardon, 6 wardayne, -eine, -oyne, 5– warden. [Of obscure origin.

Perh. a. AF. **wardon* (*i. wardeer* = F. *garder* to keep. Palsgrave 1530 renders *wardon* by *poire de garde* (= keeping pear). As the arms of Warden or Warden Abbey (Beds) were 'Argent, three warden pears or', it has been conjectured that the pear derived its name from the abbey. There can be little doubt, however, that the arms were devised with punning intention.]

An old variety of baking pear. Also *pear warden* (see Pear *sb.* 5).

*a* 1400 *Pistill of Swsan* 99 With wardons wrinlich and walshe nottes newe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 The fruits wiche more comen be, Damysynes, *Wardon*, and *etiam* wardons. 1518-20 *Household Henrath. Bks.* (Roxb.) 464 My Lord paid to a woman that browght wardones xij d. 1593-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 137 After saynt Valentynes daye..it is tyme to graffe wardes and peares. 1598 Barckham *Dyetary* xxvii. (1870) 891 Vse to eate stued or baken wardens, yf they can be goten. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Cupid's Rev.* II, *Dori*. Faith I would have had him some wardons brawn in brown paper, and no more talk on't. 1633 W. J. *True Gentlem. Delight* 84 To make a Tart of Wardens. You must first Bake your Wardens in a pot, then [etc.]. 1687 Shirley *Bellamira* III. i. 24 She looks like a Warden Roasted in the Embers. 1706 *Museum Rust.* II. 56 Pears ..Parkinson Wardens. 1800 *Farmer's Every-Day Book* 72 Spanish Red Warden. 1880 Hogg *Fruit Man.* 170 Black Worcester (Parkinson's Warden; Pound Pear).

**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warden-pear*, *-pie*, *-tree*. 1538 *Acc. Dead A. 1501-38* (Surtees Soc.) 195 Item, to Margaret Markham *Eng. Husbandm.* I. iii. I. 120 Your stone-Peare, Warden-Peare, and Choake-Peare [are] those which endure longest. 1599 in *Narrative Poems* (Camden Soc.) 89 Where his stomache was gonne from all meate excepte it wer a ***warden pye. 1611 Shake. *Wint.* 7. iv. iii. 48, I must haue Saffron to colour the Warden pies. 1841 Barnard *Ingol. Leg., Nelly Cook* 88 And a Warden-pie's a dainty dish to mortify withal. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 599/1 *Wardenire, *salamus*. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 137 The sappe commeth sooner in a peare-tree than in a warden tree, thanne into the apple tree. 1630 Dekker *and Fl. Honest Wh.* I 3 b, The 4th man I hold my life, is grafting your Warden tree.

**Warden,** *v. rare*[1]. [f. Warden *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To watch over or guard as a warden.

1906 T. Hardy *Dynasts* II. i. vi, To warden the waves was his further bent.

**Warden-court.** *Hist.* [Warden *sb.*[1] + Court *sb.*[1]] A court held by the Warden of the Marches.

1434 *Proc. Privy Council* (1835) IV. 271 Alle be bookes of be wardein courtes and of be marches. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. (1872) 103 The warden of the west marchis of England cam to hald ane vardan court on the west marchis of scotland. 1556 Ld. Wharton in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 229, I have called a warden Court which shall begynne, at..Alnewyk, the iiij^e of this instant. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 622 A persoun fylit bakbitland and reavand a warden court to be sait upon his persall. 1893 Sarah S. Jones *Northumbrid.* 162 The Wardens of Trews, or Warden Courts, had to be held frequently, and not by deputies, but by the Lords Wardens themselves.

**Wardenry** (wɔ̃dənri). [f. Warden *sb.*[1] + -ry.] The position of warden; also the sphere or district in which a warden exercises his functions.

1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XII. 588 In 1412, Bishop Greenlaw erected the wardancy [*sic*] here into a prebend. 1867 W. McDowall *Hist. Burgh Dumfries* 222 Douglas, accordingly called a meeting of the whole lords, freeholders (etc.), within his wardenry. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Apr. 496/2 Their reasons to go with the Warden of the Cinque Ports.

**Wardenry** (wɔ̃dənri). [f. Warden *sb.*[1] + -ry.]

**1.** The office or position of warden.

1378 Babbour *Bruce* viii. 362 He gaf vp thar his vardanry. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xxx. 5036 Mony diedis wrotht, Bat he did in his wardanry. 1513 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 13/2 Commissions to be maade to jerle of Sarum of bothe wardeneryes. 1596 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 58 The office of wranglarrie of the West Marches..was gevin to..the sone of Hob. *Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 279 The first had been lately dispatched from his office of Wardeny in the West Marches. 1808 Scott *Tales Grandfather* Ser. 2. II. 272 He..during his absence, committed the wardenry of the Scottish frontiers to a brave French knight.

**2.** The jurisdiction of, or district under the care of, a Warden of the Marches.

1560-9 *Scripps. Iren* (Surtees) App. p. cccxlvii, Every place within our wardenry. 1569 Hudleston in E. Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) II. 52 She must sende a good companie, more than either her Wardenries or the garrison of this towne will yelde. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 459/1 Quhilkis iustices..salbe reasaulit..be be wardanis within be wardanries. 1590 Hudleston *Let. to Hearshal of Berwick* in *Archæologia* XXX. 172 Least they, hearing of it, being within the wardonrie [*printed* wardourie] should fly upon it. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* iv. xxiv, They may not tamely see, All through the Western Wardenry, Your lawless containing kinsmen ride.

**3.** The official relation of a warden. *rare.*
1899 [J. Payn] *Foster Brothers* vi. 75 The Wardenry was a fine stone building occupying the entire side of a huge square court.

**4.** Guardianship. *nonce-uses.*
1903 Hardy *Dynasts* I. vi. viii, He wills the wardenry of his affairs To his old friend. 1906 *Ibid.* II. i. iii, Still professing our safe wardenry, To fatten other kingdoms at our cost.

**Wardenship.** [f. Warden *sb.*1 + -ship.]
**1.** Guardianship, safe-keeping. *rare.*
c 1300 *Cursor M.* 4253 Po wardein-scipp of al his aght Has patiar loseph bi-taght. *Ibid.* 4643 I will him do at vnder-tak be wardanscip of al mi land. 1890 H. Frederic *Lawton Girl* 63 All the nameless feminine yearnings for wardenship and shelter from life's battle took voice and pleaded in her heart.

**2.** The office or position of a warden, in various uses of that word.
1484 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 320/2 Any Graunte...made..to Maister William Say..of the custodie or Wardenship of the Hous or Hospitall of Saint Antony in oure Cite of London. 1581 in *Bagf. Gildis* (1870) 332 If any of the Jornaymen refuse to take the office of Wardynschippe. 1598 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Every..hospitall, wardenshippe, provostshippe, or other spirituall promocion. 1608 Earl March. in *Winchcomb MSS.* (Hist. Comm.) 3 Sir Edward Wardenship when I found undispatched I would not let longer to stick. 1692 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. 236 The power and place of the Wardenship of the Kingdome doth utterly vanish by the personall accesse of the King. 1692 A. Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 398 In the Wardenship of Mert. coll. succeeded Nath. Brent. 1791 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* 153/1 There is no longer wardenships, or corporations of professions, arts, and crafts. 1804 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 191 *note*, The Wardenship of the Cinque Ports. 1882 *Daily News* 22 Nov., The Wardenship of St. Peter's College, Radley, has been filled by the selection of [etc.].

**3.** *nonce-use.* The funds in the hands of or set apart for a warden or wardens.
1446 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 83 To be paid..to the com oute of the wardenship and thei owen to haue hit agayn.

**Warder** (wō·rdəɹ), *sb.*1 Also 7 wardour, *Sc.* wairdour. [a. AF. *wardere*, *wardour*, agent-n. f. *warder*, north-eastern dial. var. of OF. *garder* to Guard.] I. One who wards or guards.
**1.** A soldier or other person set to guard an entrance; also, a watch-tower.
c 1200 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4690 Comyn to the castell,..the Grekes lugred, gripped the warders, And all the fonnet folke fell to the dethe. 1580 Hadr. Iunius *Stelidaeus's Comm.* 90 Were the warders [L. *stationes*] removed from the gates the same daye. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. (1592) 338 When the temple was builded, there were porters and warders of the temple appointed among the Levites. 1605 Shakes. *Mach.* IV. i. 56 Though Castles topple on their Warders heads. 1693 Veresthegan *Dec. Intell.* x. (1628) 327 We call him that watcheth at the Towne gate of the ward or a warder. 1697–86 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 93 Wages due to their respective husbands as late wardours in the Tower of London. 1697 Davenant *Annus* II. 453 The Warders of the Gate but scarce maintain Th'unequal Combat. 1802 Mrs. Radcliffe *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. (1826) III. 4 Amongst these, were the wardours of a postern, near the north walls. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. xiii, Upon the watch-tower's airy round No warder stood his horn to sound. 1832 Wordsw. *Yarrow Revisited* 6 Once more, by Newark's Castle-gate Long left without a warder, I stood. 1861 Dickens *Hleak Ho.* xxxii, The gates [of Lincoln's Inn] are shut; and the night-porter, a solemn warder with a mighty power of sleep, keeps guard in his lodge.
b. *transf.* and *fig.*
1605 Shakes. *Mach.* I. vii. 65 Memorie, the Warder of the Braine, Shall be a Fume, and the Receit of Reason A Lymbeck onely. 1828 Scott *Fr. Lanarm.* xxvi. There mounted guard on the other side of the mirror two stout warders of Scottish lineage; a jug,..and a quegh, or bicker. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* vi. 57 Hill after hill the lands grew wary warders rose. 1880 W. Watson *Prim's Quest* III, A fair-built seaport, warder of the land And watcher of the wave.
†**2.** The title of an English official in Ireland.
1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 97 Wardens in Leinster per annum one thousand three hundred ten li nineteene s. two pence.
**3.** An official in charge of prisoners in a jail.
1865 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 22 The prisoner's confinement was not strict. He was permitted to go into the country under the care of a warder. 1865 P. Harry *Dockyard Econ.* 152 The convicts and warders in Millbank Prison. 1902 A. Griffiths *Gp Vic. Publ. Service* xvii. 241 The Chief Warder..had been promoted to his office from Dartmoor.
**4.** *altrib.* and *Comb.*
1833 James *Phil. Augustus* xix, De Coucy hastened to demand of the squire wherefore he had sounded the great warder horn, which hung in the watch-tower. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1213 Where the dawn Cheers first those warder gods that face the sun. 1900 A. Griffiths *Gp Vic. Publ. Service* xii. 163 The warder officers arraigned before him all those whom they desired to report for offences.
†**II. 5.** *Sc.* A person in ward, a prisoner. *Obs. rare.*
1584 *Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 352/1 The gard and keping of prisonneris and wardours. 1829 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* Ser. II. III. 19 Who under pretext and colour of fetcheing unto the wairdours sould crave accesse unto them...Who.. sould stryke the jaylour and so give way to the wairdours and escape.

**Warder** (wō·rdəɹ), *sb.*2 Also 9 (? erron.) **wardour.** [See Wardener.] In early use: A staff or wand. Later, the baton or truncheon carried as a symbol of office, command, or authority; esp. as used to give the signal for the commencement or cessation of hostilities in a battle or tournament.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warder, staffe...*bacillus*...*pertinctus*. 1520 *Malden* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 59, No. 3 b, Super quo dictus constabularius eum percussit cum predicto warder. *c* 1532 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 49 b, Before whom there went..xxv Thomas of Herpingham..with a warder in his hand, and when he cast up his warder al the army shouted. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 396 The king cast downe his warder and commaunded them to stay. 1643 R. Baker *Chron., Rich. I* (1653) 88 (At the coronation) William de Patricke, Earl of Salisbury, bare the Warder or Rod, having on the top thereof a Dove. 1765 H. Walpole *Castle of Otranto* iii, So saying, the herald cast down his warder. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* II. xx, When the strife grows warm,..thy king commands, Thou drop the warder from thy hands. 1824 Mennica *Aut. Armourer* II. 32 At this King Edward threw down his wardour, the marshal cried 'Ho!' and the combat ceased. 1898 S. J. Weyman *Shrewsbury* xxxii. (1907) 253 The portrait of a man in armour, with a warder in his mailed hand, frowned down on me.

†**Warder,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* [Corruption of Norw. *varde* (cf. ON. *varða*, *varð-r* of the same meaning).] A bencon or sea-mark. *Obt.*
1584 R. Norman tr. *Safeguard of Sailers* 50 b, When you are a little within, there [Norway coast] stands a little Warder which is a bencon or marke before the entrie. *Ibid.* 53 b, Then as far from that lies another little rocke in sight about water, and there stands a warder or marke vpon it. 1588 Anglerius *Mariners Mirr.* 31 Plot VI, The Warder the North side standes two warders [Du. *twee warderen*] vpon a high hill.

**Warder** (wō·rdəɹ), *sb.*4 *rare.* [f. Ward *v.*1 + -er 1.] †**a.** *Fencing.* One who parries. **b.** One who wards off (something). Also *warder-off.*
1909 G. Silver *Paradoxes of Def.* Wks. (1898) 7 It is a great question, and especially amongst the Rapier-men, who hold that Warders are the brushers of Thrusts. 1901 *Daily News* 1 [He] hath the advantage, whether he be striker, thruster or warder. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxviii. 63 Mallius e'en such help brought me, a warder of harm. 1873 Symonds *Italy* II. 230 Those [fortresses..received in consequence the title of *καλοφυλακαι*, or warder-off of winds.

**Warder** (wō·rdəɹ), *v.* [f. Warder *sb.*1] *trans.* To provide with a warder or sentinel.
1849 Ruskin *Pilg. of the Add Road* (1903) I. 218 *Samuel Prout*, his countless churches wardered by saintly groups of solemn statuary. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 90 Heaven's Queen Wardens the universe. 1901 J. H. Shorthouse *I were King* vi, The Lord of Montcorbier was, indeed, wardered..by very different stars from the fellow of the Fircone.

**Warder:** see Wardar.

**Warderer.** *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also ward(o)rere. [Identification of Warder *sb.*2 + -er.] If the longer form be the original, it may have been a jocular use of Wardrobe *inf.*] A warder or truncheon.
a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 838 þan Alexander at his knyat angus vnfaire, Wyanes him vp a wardere [*v.r.* wardrerd] he wald in his handis. So hard him hittis on be helme, his hernes out welrid. *c* 1440 *Prose Life Alex.* (1913) 110 Alexander smate Iobas on be heued wit a warderere for na tresone. 1447 *Cast. Love*, in Wright *Chas. Orl.* 267/2 *Hastilua*, a warderere. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 656 þe Kyng..caste downe a warderer whiche he then helde in his handes. 1523 Skelton *Proules.* I. ccclii. 299 Iohan in helde in his hande a whyte wardeiere. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* iv. vii, By the laws, the combat may go on at thine asking—I retract my warderer.

**Wardership.** *Obt. Obs. rare.* [a. AF. **wardere* *derers* (*ware* = mod.F. *garé*, look out; *derere* = mod.F. *derrière* behind).] ? Look out behind!
*c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 181 Thise selv clerkes renneth vp and doun With keepe, keepe, stand, stand, Iossa, warderere; warderere, ware ware derere].

**Warderob(e, -rop(p(e,** obs. ff. Wardrobe.

**Wardership** (wō·rdəʃip). [f. Warder *sb.*1]
**1.** The office or position of warder.
1289 De Ros *Memor. Tower Lond.* 301 The Duke (of Wirtemberg) left with me the charge of Wardenships of Wardens.
**2.** The carrying out of the duties of a warder.
1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 16 To an active and energetic soldier the wardership of these [Trans-Indus] marches offered a temptation which he could not long disregard. 1907 J. Oxenham *Cartte of Snrk* xxv. 238 There was no sound, nor sign of wardership.

**Wardyn(e,** obs. forms of Warden.

**Ward-fee.** [f. Ward *sb.*2 + Fee *sb.*1]
†**1.** In feudal law, a sum of money paid by a vassal to a superior lord in lieu of military service.
1200 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 259 Sint liberi et quieti ..de hundredfieh, wardfieh, et fulsh, et de operatione castelorum. 1276–7 in *Rec. Templars in Eng.* (1885) 4 Ward vassals found it their interest to charge the ward fee with a determinate sum, to be paid yearly to the superior.
**2.** A fee charged in a hospital ward.
1789 J. Howard *Lazarettos* 136 Here are *no* ward-fees taken.

**Ward-hill.** *Orkney and Shetland.* Also **wart-hill, wardill.** [f. Ward *sb.*2 (after ON. *varða*, *varð-r* beacon) + Hill *sb.*] A beacon hill.
? *a* 1680 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Coll.* (S.H.S.) III. 302 Fra Fairdes..from the top of which when there was any imminent danger, they made a sign by fire one to another. The like they did from Pronsoreiden or Ward Hills. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 499/2 The alarm was given by the beacons lighted on the tops of the rocks and highest mountains. These beacons, known by the name of ward-hills, are still to be seen in every island. 1820 J. Laing *Voy. Shetlanders* 20 Along the shores are a great many ancient towers, originally known by the name of Burrows or Duns; but by the inhabitants they are now called Wart or Wardhills.

**Ward-holding.** *Sc. Hist.* [f. Ward *sb.*2 + Holding.] In feudal law, a tenure of lands in ward (see Ward *sb.*2 9), i. e. by military service.
1681 Stair *Institt.* I. xiii. § 31. 252 The main importance of a Ward-holding was indefinite service to be performed by the Vassal to his Superiour, and especially in War. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. iv. (1694) 241 Ward-holding, which is the properest holding, is called *servitium militare*; and all Lands are therefore presumed to hold Ward, except another holding be expressed. *a* 1728 in W. Macfarlane *Geneal. Coll.* (S.H.S.) II. 154 He got his Ward Holding changed into Taxt Ward. 1747 *Act 20 Geo. II*, c. 50 (title) An Act for taking away the Tenure of Ward Holding in Scotland. 1897 J. C. Lees *Hist. Inverness* xii. 201 The right of ward-holding, by which landlords commanded the military services of their tenants, was also done away with. *attrib.* 1758 J. Dalrymple *Ess. Feudal Property* (ed. 2) 246 The ward-holding act and the jurisdiction act were the ideas of..lord Bacon.

†**Wardhouse.** *Obs.* Also 7 *Sc.* waird-. [f. Ward *sb.*2 + House *sb.*]
**1.** (*The*) *Wardhouse*: used to render Norw. *Vardehuus*, the name of a fortress situated on the island of Vardö, off the NE. coast of Norway.
1555 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 293 Articles..determined for the Commission of the Merchants of this company resident in Russia, and at the Wardhouse, for the second voiage. 1557 A. Jenkinson ibid. 334 Being at this North Cape the 1. day of July, we had Lodemen..that came to Wardhouse. 1625 J. R. *Trades Increase* 4 Whereas the Hollander..bestowe the Winter-season vnder the East ward, at Tippenis, Kilo-Nenos, and at Saint Nicholas in Russia, had aboue thirty fine ships of their whippes the last yeare.
**2.** A guard-house for prisoners. *Sc.*
1590 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 538 Ane sufficient wardhous for prisounaris. 1851 *Diurg & Nairn Sheriffs* (1887) I. 127 The letters..concerning prisonnes and wairdhouses. 1628 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 357 Thomas Watsoune, maister measone to the bigging of the wardhous.
**3.** ? A post or station of a military guard.
1633 Sir J. Burnouluis *Stw. Brit. Seas* (1651) 83 The King of Denmarke at his Wardhouse in the Sound, hath for a Licence a Doller.

**Wardian** (wō·rdiăn), *a.* [f. the name of the inventor, N. B. *Ward* + -ian.] In *Wardian case*, a close-fitting case with glass sides and top for growing small ferns and other moisture-loving plants.
1842 D. Moore *Ext. N. B. Ward* 1 Feb., in Ward *Growth of Plants in Gl. Cases* App. 40 Some of the species of ferns ..to grow well either in glazed Wardian cases, under bandlights, or in close frames. 1843 *Florist's Yrnl.* (1846) VI. 230 Many of the Alpines may also be successfully grown in Wardian cases. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 643/2 The writer has kept the *Cenobita Diogenes* from the Bahamas, tenanting an *Achatina* shell, in a Wardian case for three months.

**Wardill,** obs. Sc. form of Ward-hill, World.

‖**Wardin.** *Obs. rare.* Also vardin. [Du. *waardint*, fem. of *waard* (= G. *wirt*) landlord.] A landlady, hostess.
1493 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 5 Paid to our vardin of Bery 4s. that scho lentis vs. *Ibid.*, Paid for a gon [= gown] that I causet our wardin frist to se.

**Wardin,** obs. form of Warden.

**Warding** (wō·rdiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Ward *v.*1 + -ing 1.]
**1.** The action of guarding (a place) or furnishing it with a guard.
*c* 1425 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 122 b/2 More necligent of here wardynge of here walles. 1595 *Locrine* III. ii. 54 What strange accidents Makes you to leaue the warding of the passe.
b. The action or duty of keeping guard. Chiefly in *watching and warding*: see Watching *vbl. sb.*
1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xi. xxxi, And while his weary kingdome softly sleeps, All restfull be the watch and warding keepes. 1794 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 202, 1 day's work with his oxen..and 1 day's warding for a soldier which did work at the mean rate.
†**2.** *concr.* = Ward *sb.*1 A defensive force or work. **b.** The body of watchmen. *Obs.*
a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7114 (Laud MS.), Per he dude his meignee alle Abouten þe diches maken walle And holde hem wiþinne wiþ grete wardinge. 1388 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxi. 22 And shalt ordeyne ayens it a biseginge: and thou shalt bilde wardingis [1388 strengthis; Vulg. *munitiones*].
b. 1599 Warton *Life Sir T. Chrom.* (Camden) II. 5 And this day the wardinge of the gates be ganne their watch in harnis.
**3.** Imprisonment. *Sc.*
1497 *Acts Jas. Counc.* II. 48 Andro.. was chargit to compere under the pane of wardyng of his person. 1894 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Club) 9 All the kirkis of thar dyocies wer interdyted induring their (*sc.* the two bishops') wardinge. 1583–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 600 The said Alexander is be his Hienes fred of his said wardinge. 1601 P. Ogilby in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 33 What satisfaction can my wardinge be to England. 1689 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1825) XII. 73/2 Executione be poynding and wardeing against the deficients in payment of the town revenue. 1824 Scott *Tatlism.* xvi. He was put under wardeing for a time. 1846 G. J. Bell *Comm. Lunat Scot.* (ed. 5) II. 538 The warrant for imprisonment for debt in Scotland, analogous to that under the English statute-merchant, is called an Act of Wardeing. 1910 E. Rymill *Macleod of Lethington* vii. 237 By wholesale warding of all who were thought dangerous..she..kept them from joining Moray.
**4.** Guardianship, keeping.
1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xi. 6–9 That thei maie vnder the tuicion and wardyng of their heauenly father, bee safely defended against Satans ingiens. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, They began to crack about the likes and which o' them twa was to get the warding o't.
**5.** The fashioning of the wards of keys, in *warding file* (see quota.).

1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 824 Sometimes, as in the warding files for locksmiths, the two broad surfaces are left uncut or safe. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1296 678 If a key will not exactly fit a little filing of the nicks with a thin flat file called a 'warding file' may have the desired effect.

**6.** Comb. : **† warding-place**, (*a*) a place where guard is kept; (*b*) *Sc.*, a place of confinement for prisoners.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 15 Like as one warding-place maketh soudlyers felowschie in a camp. 1573 *Rec. Privy Council Scot.* II. 291 That they intendit to have bigit... a warding place and a place of pressoun for keping of malefactouris. 1758 J. Louthian *Form of Process* 78 All Persons in whose Custody the said C. D. is detained, forthwith to set him at Liberty, out of their Tolbooths, and others their warding Places.

**† Warding,** *vbl. sb.*[1] [Aphetic form of *awarding.*] Judicial award.

1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 271/1 The said Actes of Atteindre and Forfeiture, Disableing, Inditements, Warding of Exegent, (etc.).

**Warding** (wō·ding), *ppl. a.* [f. Ward *v.*[1] + -ing[2].] That wards or guards; protecting.

1690 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 1 Short crooked Swords in closer Fight they wear, And on their warding Arm light Bucklers bear. 1816 A. G. Mitchell *War Songs* 13 Thy guiding, warding Arm we own.

**Wardle,** obs. Sc. form of World.

**Wardless** (wō·rdlės), *a.* [f. Ward *v.* + -less.] That cannot be parried.

1593 S. Harvey *Immortal's Sat.* ix. (1597) 236 He gives like Destiny a wardless Blow.

**Wardly, Wardlily,** obs. Sc. ff. Worldly.

**† Wardman,** *Obs.* [f. Ward *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1] Cf. Wardsman[2].]

1. In certain boroughs, a member of a select body of burgesses, representing the several wards, and empowered to choose municipal officers.

1444 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber A* ff. 32 b. The xviij wardemen that they shall chese the newe ma[y]ors and other officers of the towne worthi men. 1485 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 43 no. 6*. All the wardemen ben acorded that John Parll the elder is put out of 3e ward.

2. In certain boroughs, the designation of an officer employed by the corporation.

1798 Hoyt *Coll. Hist. Sandwich* 403 When the mayor goes in form to the court-hall,...he is preceded by the common wardman (*L. communis warrenarius*) with the ensigns of mace. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1043 [Officers of the corporation of Sandwich]. Town Clerk. Common Wardman. Serjeants at Mace. *Ibid.* iv. 2537 The other Officers of the corporation [of Stamford] are a Gaoler...Collector of Stallage. Beadle and Wardman.

**Wardmote** (wō·rdmōt). Also **4–7 wardemote,** (7 **vordimote, wardmoot**); (*b in combinations corruptly* **warmoll, warnmall, wardmall**). [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + *mote*, Moot *sb.*[1]] A meeting of the citizens of a ward; esp. in the City of London, a meeting of the liverymen of a ward under the presidency of the alderman.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 94 Somme seruen þe kyng and his siluer tellen, In cheker and in chauncerye chalengen his dettes Of wardes and wardemotes [*v.r.* wardemotes] weyues and streyues. a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1811) 340 That euery alderman in his warde, shulde vpon the morowe folowynge, assemble his wardemote, and that all those wardemootys shulde assemble in one place. 1603 Stow *Surv. Lond.* 268 The said crosse hauing beene presented by diuers furies for a nuisance to the streete, and in his way to the Inn of carriages (as they alledged). 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1730 3 Sir Thomas Bludworth Alderman for the Ward of Aldergate, being lately dead, the Wardmoot met this day in order to the supplying the Vacancy. 1738 *Gent. Mag.* *Reyne's Antiquarian Chron.* 21–28 Oct. 737/1 Yesterday Mr. Alderman Alsop held a Wardmote at Armourer's-hall, for the election of Common Councilman for Coleman-street Ward. 1861 *Daily Tel.* 24 Oct., Yesterday a wardmote was held at the King's Arms Hotel, Newgate St., before Mr. Alderman Phillips, for the election of a representative in the Common Council. 1877 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 4 The various wards into which the City is divided assembled yesterday in wardmote.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wardmote court, man*; **wardmote horn,** a horn formerly blown before the houses of the members of a wardmote court to call them to a meeting; **wardmote inquest,** quest, (*a*) a judicial inquiry made by a wardmote; (*b*) the body of men composing a wardmote; also *attrib.*, as *wardmote inquest man.*

1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s. v., Wardmote, is a court kept in euery ward in London, ordinarily called among them, the *Wardmote Court.* 1890 C. Hudson *Life Alg. Benson* II. 1. 5 He then drove to the Guildhall [at Canterbury] where he was greeted with loud blasts upon the *Wardmote horn.* 1599 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 9 Your grace may se whate a worke there is in London, howe the blashoppe rageth for endyting of certayn curates of extorcion and incontinency the last yere in the *warmoll quest.* 1590 *Act 32 Hen. VIII* c. 17 § 3 To enquire bothe in their Quarter sessions, and all wardemote enquestis to be kept within the Citie of London. 1598 Barnfield *Lament.* 91 There is a custome in the Cytie, ones a yeare to haue a quest called the warnmall queste, to redresse vices. 1603 Stow *Surv. Lond.* 213 Candlewicke street warde...hath now...Wardmote inquest men 12. 1606 Dekker *Sev. Sinnes* 33 In whose Ship (of Fools) whilest they all are sayling, let vs obserue what other shoues the wordmoten Inquest doe present on the lande, albeit they bee neuer reformed, till a second Chaos is to bee refined. 1632 B. Jonson *Magnetic Lady*, II. For of the Wardmote Quest, he better can. The mysteries, then the Leviticke Law. 1663 Stow *Surv. Lond.* 159 This ward [Tower street] hath...Wardmote men thirteene. *Ibid.* 152 Aldgate warde ...hath...Wardmote men for inquest eighteene.

**† Wardnape, -napp.** *Obs.*[1] [a. OF. **wardenappe*, dial. var. of *gardenappe*.] = Gardnap.

1425 in *Cath. Angl.* 408/1 A Wardnapp (1483 a Wardnape). *Ilinat. limnt.*

**War-dog.** A dog trained for use in war (formerly, to attack the foe; now, for carrying messages, sentry-work, etc.). Also *fig.*, a fierce warrior (cf. *sea-dog*); *U.S.* one whose voice is for war, a 'war-hawk'.

1813 *Columbian Centinel* 23 Oct. 2/1 In A. Matthews Uncle Sam (1908) 28 War-dogs. 1846 *Congressional Globe* 28 Apr. 687/1 The gentleman regarded 54° 40' men as 'war-hawks' and 'war-dogs'. 1850 Thackeray *Esmond* II. iv. In the hour of battle...the Prince ...shrieked curses and encouragement, yelling and barking his bloody watchdogs on, and himself always at the first of the hunt. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 30 But they know where their war-dogs lie. Cromwell, Blake, Marlborough, Chatham, Nelson, and Wellington are not to be trifled with. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 325/2 Corinth was said to have been saved by 30 war dogs, which attacked the enemy that had landed while the garrison slept. 1899 *Daily News* 1 June 6/7 A type-writing cyclist, who sends de-spatches back from the front by a war-dog. 1900 *United Service Mag.* Jan. 425 The umpires decided that the carrying of despatches by dogs and pigeons was the best qualifications for a 'war-dog'. 1900 E. H. Richardson (*title*) British War Dogs.

**† Wardon.** *Sc. Obs.* Also wardoune. [a. OF. **wardon*, dial. var. *guerredon*.] = Guerdon *sb.* c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1358 Quhill god...of richtwisnes þi full fair crowne þe giff in hewine to þi wer. Dunbar *Flyting* xliii. 70 (*Jellon*) 161 Of smaritdome þe fare croun to bruk in hewine as 3oure wardone.

**Wardon(e,** obs. forms of Warden[2].

**Wardor, -our(e** : see Verdour[1], Warden.

**Wardour-street** (wō·rdəɹ,stritt). The name of a street in London, mainly occupied by dealers in antique and imitation-antique furniture. Used *attrib.* to denote something so applied to the pseudo-archaic diction affected by some modern writers, esp. of historical novels.

1888 A. Ballantyne in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 585 (*title*) Wardour-Street English. *Ibid.* 589 This is not literary English but what this is Wardour-Street Early English a perfectly modern article with a sham appearance of the real antique about it. 1918 *Spectator* 20 Apr. 422/1 What we are driving at is the Wardour-Street Early English of bad, Wardour-Street English. *Ibid.* 422 2 There are obvious reminiscences of...*Ivanhoe* in this piece of most unblushing but rather vivid Wardour Street.

**Wardpenny.** See *Ward.* Also war-. [f. Ward *sb.*[2] + Penny.] In feudal law : A rent paid to the superior in commutation of military service.

† 1289 *Charter* in G. F. Warner & Ellis *Facsimiles* (1903) ii, Cum Omnibus Reliis & Regalibus Consuetudinibus sibi pertinentibus videlicet Scutagio...Wardpenny. 1291 [see Ward-corn]. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 665 Quyte...of summage and carriage, of warde peny, and aver-peny, [etc.].

**Wardrapper, -rape;** see Warderobber, -robe.

**Wardress.** (wō·rdrės). Also **warderess.** [f. Warder *sb.* + -ess.] A female warder in a prison.

1878 E. C. Grenville-Murray *Russians To-day* 87 A servant girl, who is committed for trial on a charge of thieving, often gets a smart flagellation at the hands of a stout armed wardress. 1885 *Manchester* 28 Aug. 6/3 A Wardress of Millbank proved two previous convictions.

**Wardrobe** (wō·drōub). Forms : 4–7 **ward-rop, -robe,** 5–6 **-roppe,** (4–5 **wadrop,** 5 **wardrope,** 6 **wardroppe**), 4–5 **wardrobe,** 4–6 **wardrobbe,** 5 **wardrope,** 6 **wardrobb,** *Sc.* **wardroippe, -rape, wairdrope,** 7 **waredrop**); 4– **wardrobe.** [a. OF. *warderobe*, north-eastern var. of *garderobe* : see Garderobe.]

† **1.** A room in which wearing apparel (sometimes armour) was kept; esp. a room adjoining the 'chamber' or sleeping apartment; hence, a dressing-room. *Obs.*

In the 15–16th c. often applied (after the contemporary F. *garderobe*) to a room for keeping costly objects generally, not merely articles of clothing.

1289–90 T. Use *Test. Leven.* ix. (Skeat) I. 140 Jupiter hath in his wardeyne hothe garmentes of joye and of sorowe. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 901 Afyre cuisange, sir Arthure hyme sellene Wente to hys wardrope, and warpe of hys wedez, A mekene hym in a scotone fre. ? *Ibid.* 1622 A knafe of his chambyre Has wroghte in his wardrope wynters and yeres, One his longe armour. *Ibid.* 4217 He braydes owte a brandre ...That...In the wardrop of Walygrefrike was wonte to be kepede. a 1400–50 *Rk. Curtasye* 429 in *Babees Bk.*, The marshalle shalle he ber alle men in fere, That ben of court of any mesteres; Saue he þurdy chamber, he wadrop to, Þe vsaher of chambur schalle tent þo two. c 1460 J. Russell, *Bk. Nurture* 939 In þe wardeorbe ye must macha entendo besily þe robes to kepe well & also to brusche þem clenly. 1519 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) II. 174 The chawmer alsua þe wardrape with Item ane standing bed of silk wiþoute lofting. 1574 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 300 To young John Dawson for xvij days work sewing in the wardrope, vs. viijd. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 39 The third bed of their wardrobe custodie, In which were not rich tyres, nor garments gay,... But clothes meet to keepe keene could away. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* 11 He had in his wardroppe hollow statues of golde. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. Chorus 9 Now...silken Dalliance in the Wardrobe lyes: Now thrive the Armorers. 1632 May tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* 1. 190 His Lord laughing heartily, commanded a furrd gowne to bee brought out of his wardrope, and put vpon him. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 4 Above the sklaing-house stone story may be bedchambers,...and above these you may have garrets for wardrope. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Jan. 1685. In the wardrobe above these they shew'd us fine wrought plate, porcelan, [etc.]. 1717 Pope *Dove* xxv, Her Keys He takes; her Doors unlocks: Thro' Wardrobe, and thro' Closet bounces. 1728–9 *Kepler's Trans.* (1876) 18 In the royal wardrobe at Paris, they shew you the whole suit of armour which Francis wore on that memorable day. 1831 Scott *Kenilw.* vi, With this enviable sleeping apartment...corresponded two wardrobes, or dressing-rooms as they are now termed. 1847 Halliwell, *Wardrope*, a dressing-room. *Yorksh.* 1899 Rose Pidding-ton *Last of Cavaliers* I. xvii. 230 The general scene of their conversations...was Lady Flora's dressing-room, or wardrobe as it was then called. This apartment was divided on the inside from her sleeping-chamber by three or four steps.

**b.** A room in which theatrical costumes and properties are kept.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 44 ¶ 3 It is indeed very odd...to observe in the Wardrobe of the Play-house several Dapperts, Pollards, Wheels, Bowls for Poison. 1887 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 390/1 There are also numerous rooms required in connection with the stage...—such as...the wardrobe, in which the costumes are kept; furniture stores, scene stores.

**c.** A movable closed cupboard, fitted with hooks for pegs, or with shelves or movable trays and drawers, in which wearing apparel is kept; esp. as a piece of bedroom furniture.

1704 A. Hepplewhite *Cabinet-Maker* (ed. 3) *title-p.*, Displaying a great variety of patterns for Chairs,...Basin Stands, Wardrobes, [etc.]. 1841 Penny *Cycl.* XVI. 240/1 Wardrobes are as essential in a bed-room, as a dresser is in a cottager's kitchen. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* iii, Our bedroom...but one intimate with, however, in the shape of a wardrobe of painted wood. 1864 Miss Braddon *Dodo's Wife* I. x. 256 A lumbering old wardrobe—or press, as it was called—of painted wood. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xl. (1885) 82 A great old-fashioned wardrobe of black oak.

**d.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* III. ii. 17 Now death...crams his store house to the top with blood; Might I now and Andrea in one fight Make up thy wardrobe, sicker by a blow. 1694 Dunn *Parnt.* vi. (ed. 9) 136 Whether it bee thy pleasure, to dispose of this body, this garment so, as to put it to a further wearing in this world, or to lay it up in the common wardrope, the graue, for the next. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 543 In this Countrie that false Prophet [Mahomet] first opened his superstitious Wardrobe. 1711 Addison *Amer. Odes, To Mr. Hobs* v, I little thought...That all the Wardrobe of rich Eloquence, Could have afforded half enuff, Of bright, of new, and lasting stuff, To clothe all the Limbs of thy Gigantique Sense. 1764 *Connoisseur* No. 16 ¶ 7 Frauds appears to be the wardrobe of the world. 1821 Lamb *Elia* i. *Imperf. Sympathies*, Their intellectual wardrobe is the costliest fairly; has few whole pieces in it. 1866 C. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxi. (1878) 537 The dead bodies were laid inside in the ancient wardrobe of the tomb.

**2.** The office or department of a royal or noble household charged with the care of the wearing apparel. Also, the building in which the officers of this department conduct their business.

*Removing wardrobe*, that which moves with the Court, as distinguished from *Standing wardrobe*, one that is permanently attached to a royal residence.

1433 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 439/1 He which Warnnes yf I shuld pay3 hem, youre Household, Chambre, and Warderope, and the oure Werkes, shuld be unserued. 1442 Inquisit. Nonar. Lond. V. 193 2 Oure servaunt Richard Wadnyng, Grome of oure Warderobe of Beddis. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lii. 10 Sour Hienes cannocht gett ane mes, To keip youre wardrope, nor vincreter, To rule youre robbis, and dres the sam. 1584 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 446 2 Ane Lettre to James Dog...maisand him seman of the Kingis wardrop. 1593 *Rec. S. Hilary at Hull* (1903) 55 Item paied vnto the musicions which were Receued of Arthur Stowton at ye Qvenes wardroppe at westminster. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 45 The Lady of the Strachy, married the yeoman of the wardrobe. 1642 *Decl. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1832) 334 Clement Kinnersley yeoman of his Majesties removinge wardrobe of Beddes. 1654 Standinge Wardrobe [see Standing *ppl. a.*]. 1668 Pepys *Autumn Rec.* 197 The Queen [has] the Tayle, to make Whale-bones for her Royal Vestments, Dresses, and other uses in the Wardrobe. 1688 R. H. *Arms* II. 230 Sept., Sir Thomas Robinson is to return to the Great Wardrobe, with an additional pension on Ireland of 200*l.* a year. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 781/2 The household, privy chamber, and presence chamber, the wardrobe, the housekeeper's room,...are in the lord chamberlain's department. 1909 *Whitaker's Almanac* 102 His Majesty's Household. Superintendent of the Wardrobe.

**3.** A person's stock of wearing apparel.

a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 565 in *Babees Bk.*, The chaunceler answeres for hor clothyng, For somers, faukeners, and for lowryng. For his wardrop and his gere. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1570) I. 181 Often hapneth i that a foule and deformed carkasse hath a faire and rich wardrope. 1670 Maxwell *Rich. Transp.* i. 111 This only troubles me, how his majesty would look in all... the Pontifical Wardrobe. a 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* v. (1728) 339 Officers who took care of the Perfume, the Veil, and the Wardrobe of the Priests. 1756–9 Goldsm. *Cit. World* lxii, With her scanty wardrobe packed up in a wallet, she set out on her journey on foot. 1834 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett. to Mrs. Carlyle, Sec.* ii. Novels, Lett. & Mem. 1883 I. 10 The weather is grown horribly cold, and I am chiefly intent, at present, on getting my winter wardrobe into order. 1870 Miss Bridoman *R. Lynne* II. iii. 35 He insisted on his wife re-marking the whole of the infantile wardrobe.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1592 Breton *Pilgr. Parad.* (Grosart) 8/1 Came Flora forth...Laying abroad the wardrope of her wealth, Her fairest flowers. 1613 Jackson *Creed* v. 78 Vnailly the Grecian Poets haue borrowed their best Stagarites from the glorious wardrope of Israel. 1632 Mabbon *Fine Companion* iii. iii, A soule..Wherein is lockt the wardrope of all vertues. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 47 As killing as..Frost to Flowers, that their gay wardrop wear. When first the White thorn blows. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 109 New and gigantic thoughts which cannot dress themselves out of any old wardrobe of the past.

†4. A private chamber; esp. a sleeping apartment. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1686 [In the Ark] A hous ala in to drink and eise And wardropp pat pou noght for-get. *c* 1450 *Mirk. de la Tour* vi. 8 As soon as she had herde a litell masse.. she come into the warderobe to ste browesse or sum other mete. *c* 1456 *Merlin* xxvii. 507 Gyonar..a-bode sighynge with Morgan..In a wardrope vnder the paleys, whera she wrought with silke and golde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 207 b, Kyng Lewes..withdrew himself into hys wardrobe, and sending for the Englishe Herault sayd to hym [etc.]. 1570 Buchanan *Admonit.* Wks. (S.T.S.) 32 This is nowther dreamit in ane wardrob nor hard throw ane boir bot neu trew narratiue. 1670 Cotton *Scoffer* ii. vi. 254 The King without any motion was carried up in a Cloak, and laid upon the Bed in his Wardrobe.

†5. A privy. *Obs.* [So F. *garderobe.*]

1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* x. 27 Thei distroyeden the hous of Baal, and thei maaden for it wardropis [1388 priuyes, Vulg. *latrinas*] vnto this day. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Priores' T.* 230, I seye that in a wardrobe they hym threwe Where as thilke lewes purgen hire entrailles. *c* 1450 *Nominale* (Harl. MS. 2002) ff. 143 *Cloaca*, a pryvaye or wardrope. 1847 Halliwell, *Wardrope*, a house of office.

†6. The excrement of the badger. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Of hares and of conynges he shall nay pei croteth, and of be fox wagynge, of be grey he wardrobeth. 1847 Halliwell, *Wardrobe* [sic], the dung of the badger.

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wardrobe account, -keeper, -maid, -man, -woman*; also **wardrobe bedstead**, a bedstead adapted to fold up into a wardrobe; **wardrobe book**, a book in which the accounts of a wardrobe were kept; **wardrobe dealer**, a dealer in second-hand clothes; **wardrobe master, mistress**, one who has charge of the professional wardrobe of an actor or actress, or of a theatrical company; **wardrobe-room**, the room, at a theatre, in which the stage-costumes are stored; † **wardrobe-stuff**, household necessaries and supplies.

1770 *Archæologia* I. 361 Observation on the 'Wardrobe Account for the Year 1483. 1830 N. H. Nicolas (*title*), Privy Purse Expenses of Elizabeth of York: Wardrobe Accounts of Edward the Fourth. 1884-7 Hereford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. xxviii. (ed. 3) II. 249 Starting out with your sleep on a "wardrobe bedstead, at the sudden desertion of the temporary posts at the bottom. 1587 *Order of the Hospitalls* (Vrij), You shall also keepe the "Wardrobe-booke, wherein shalbe written..the remainder of all things at eurry Michaelmas [etc.]. 1826 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 3/6 "Wardrobe dealer. 1763 *Cr. & Coll. Westminster* 81 "Wardrobe-keeper and Keeper of the Royall Apartments at Somerset House. Mrs. Brietzcke, 1001. 1788 D. E. Hamer *Roger. Dram.* I. 25/2 This gentleman..had been wardrobe-keeper to the Theatres Black-Friars. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, The wardrobe keeper, ..shall have orders to supply the suit which you have cast away in our service. 1883 *Athenæum* 5 *Sept. Mod.* VIII. 295 The patient..became "wardrobe maid at the Salpêtrière. 1763 *Leg. Bk. St. Andrews* 1002 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, The Hitchop..Sent to the "wardrop man fre hand. 1667 *Penn Diary* 4 Sept., He swore..that the King his father would have hanged his Wardrobeman, should he have been served so. 1833 Hy. Martineau *Three Ages* ii. 30 His wardrobeman has announced that the King had no handkerchiefs. 1877 Emily Soldene *Theatr. & Mus. Recoll.* xxix. 249, I..made over the whole of my wardrobe, both personal and professional, to my "wardrobe master. *Ibid.* xvi. 137 Mrs. Quinton, my "wardrobe mistress, whose husband was super-master. 1888 Jerome *On the Stage* iv, 31 A little before the curtain rises. There was not much in it though. Dresses are borrowed as they are wanted, now, from the costumiers. 1537 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Com.) I. 18 Item paid by my Lord Barret for his dyner, when he helpe to cary my Lorde's "wardrope stuffe to Grynwyche, *ibid.* 1853 Dickens, etc. *Household Words* Christm. No. 2/2 Jane was a sort of "wardrobe-woman to our fellow [as Scott], and took care of the boxes. 1892 W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy* 213 She obtained a little employment as dresser and wardrobe-woman at a provincial theatre. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 July 6/3 Mrs. M'Donald..had been for forty years in the Queen's service, thirty-one of which as wardrobewoman.

**Wardrober** (wō·drōbəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 **ward(e)ropere**, 5– **wardroper**, 5–7 **wardroper**, (6 **werdroper**), 6 *Sc.* **wardraipper**, **-raipair**, 5 **warderober**, 5– **wardrober**. [ad. OF. *wardereiber*, dial. var. of *garderobier*, *-rober*, f. *warde-*, *garderobe* : see prec.]

**1.** An officer of a royal household who had charge of the robes, wearing apparel, etc.

*a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 481 in *Babees Bk.*, Po vshere schalle bydde po wardropere take redy for alle nyȝt be-fore be fere. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xviii. 7267 Prewyly his wardropere He gert to his Robert ber. *Ibid.* 7677 De siluir to be wardroper He gaf. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* iv. xxxiv. (1554) 214 By processe he was made wardropere. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 276 The King buskit him sone, with scant of Seruitry. Wachis and Wardroparis all war away. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* li, Of James Dog, lugar of the Quenis wardrop...The Wardraipper of Wemis boure, To gif a doubtert he is alls doure, As is wer off ane fute syd frog. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. viii. 273 One who had well licked his fingers under Queen Margaret (whose Wardroper he was). 1670 J. Gairdner *Rich. III*, iv. 129 An indenture dated the 9th of June in the first year of Richard III, in which Peter Curteys, the king's wardrober, undertakes to furnish...the articles specified for the coronation.

†**2.** The tailor attached to a religious house. *Obs.*

1526 *Visit. Dioc. Norwich* (Camden) 200 Item scissoris videlicet the wardroper's wiff.

**Ward-room.** [Ward *sb.*?]

**1.** The mess-cabin of naval commissioned officers above the rank of sub-lieutenant; hence, the commissioned officers as a body.

1801 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. cexxx, The Wardroom will praise, I believe, none of us can doubt. 1825 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Ward-room*, in ships of war, a room over the gun-room, where the lieutenants, and other principal officers, sleep and mess. 1830 H. Mebvillb *White Jacket* I. vii. 31 In a [U.S.] frigate it comprises the after-part of the berth-deck. Sometimes it goes by the name of the Gun-room, but oftener is called the Ward-room. 1882 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 103 The engineer is received into the ward-room on his own merits.

**2.** A military Guard-room.

1823 James *Agnes Sorel* II. iv. 53 A page ran into the ward-room at full gallop-career. 1901 *Cornh. Mag.* VIII. 444/2 Closing the ward-room door behind him he then shut the gate, thrusting the bolts into their places.

**3.** A room or hall used for the meetings of a city ward. *U.S. rare.*

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1911 Webster.

**4.** *attrib.*, as *ward-room mess, officer, rank.*

1889 Gunter *Mr. Barnes* xix. 138 Danella was soon *en rapport* with the ward-room messes of half the British squadron. 1892 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. vi. 26 Besides the First Lieutenant, the "Ward-room officers fin lude the junior lieutenants, in a [U.S.] frigate six or seven in number, the Sailing-master [etc.]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Ward-room officers*, those who mess in the ward-room, namely: the commander, lieutenants, master, chaplain, surgeon, paymaster, marines officer, and assistant-surgeons. 1890 Huxley in L. Huxley *Life* (1900) I. iv. 46 He is a great advocate for the claims of assistant surgeons to "ward-room rank.

† **Wardrope.** *Obs.* In 4 **warderape**. [F. Ward *sb.*1 + Rope *sb.* But cf. Warrope.] A rope for some mechanical purpose.

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 376 Item ij warderapes quarum utraque dicit[ur] fulcones.

**Wardrope, -roper** : see Wardrobe, -rober.

**War-drum.** A drum beaten as a summons to war or an accompaniment to the fray. Also *fig.*

1593 Peele *Edw. I*, A 3 b, Welcome, manly followers, That ...on your war-drums will proclaim us kings. 1809 Campbell *Gertr. Wyom.* III. xx, But hark! what nearer war-drum shakes the glade? 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 1-7 Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furl'd. 1880–83 Ingelow *Times' Van.* III. 245 He beat the war-drum this time with tremendous energy.

**-wards**, *suffix*, OE. *-wearde*, corresponds to OS., MLG. *-wardes*, Du. *-waarts*, OHG., MHG. *-wartes*, early mod.G. *-warts*, the ending of the neut. genit. sing. (used substantially) of adjs. in OTeut. **-wardo-** : see -ward. A parallel formation of identical function, the adverbial neut. genit. sing. of adjs. in OTeut. **-wurpo-** (ablaut var. of **-wardo-**), is represented by Goth. *-wairþis*, OHG. *-wertes*, early mod.G. *-werts*, now written *-wärts*. The adverbial genitives of adjs. in **-wardo-**, **-wurpo-** appear to have in early Teut. differed little if at all in sense from the adverb. accusatives.

**1.** In English the history of *-wards* as an adv. suffix is identical with that of *-ward* (see -ward 3 and 4); beside every adv. in *-ward* there has always existed (at least potentially) a parallel formation in *-wards*, and vice versa. The two forms are so nearly synonymous (the general sense of the advs. being 'in the direction indicated by the first element of the compound') that the choice between them is mostly determined by some notion of euphony in the particular context; some persons, apparently, have a fixed preference for the one or the other form. Sometimes, however, the difference in the form of the suffix corresponds to a difference in the shade of meaning conveyed, though it would not be possible to give any general rule that would be universally accepted. Where the meaning to be expressed includes the notion of manner as well as direction of movement, *-wards* is required, as in 'to walk backwards', 'to write backwards'. In other instances the distinction seems to be that *-wards* is used when the adv. is meant to express a definite direction in contrast with other directions: thus we say 'it is moving *forwards* if it is moving at all', but 'to come forward', not 'forwards'; (see further the note on Forward *adv.*); so 'to travel eastward' expresses generally the notion of travelling in the direction of an eastern goal, 'to travel eastwards' implies that the direction is thought of as contrasted with other possible directions. Hence *-wards* seems to have an air of precision which has caused it to be avoided in poetical use.

There appears to be no appreciable difference in meaning between the prepositions Toward and Towards; the latter is now, at least in British use, more common colloquially. The now obsolete prepositions Fromward and Fromwards appear to have been perfectly synonymous.

**2.** In OE. the suffix *-wearde*, like *-weard*, was added to phrases containing the preps. *tō* and *wiþ* (see -ward 5). In the locutions *tō..weard(s)*, *from..weard(s* (the so-called tmesis of the prep.), the two forms of the suffix were formerly equally common, but *-wards* now survives only in dialects.

**3.** Examples of *tō..wards*.

**a.** with proper name or sb. without article or other defining word.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* i. 50 Yt is wel wist how pat Grekes stronge In armes with a þousand shippes went To Troyewardes. *c* 1430 *Contin. Brut* 430 And tha the Kyng disposid hym to Godwardis. 1560, *c* 1645 [see Godwards]. 1620 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xiii. 53 Our other Shippes ..having kept their direct courses, were Northwards and Sea-wards, could not heare the report. 1650 W. Brough *Sacer. Princ.* (1659) To Rdr. A 3, Using them (tc. Books)..as..Guides and Helps to Heavenwards. 1892 M. C. F. Morris *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 260 The addition of 'wards' to nouns as a suffix denoting direction is frequent in our folk-talk—as 'tì Newton wards' = to Newton-ward.

**b.** with sb. determined by definite article or otherwise.

1415 Earl Cambridge in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 589 My wyttys arne not to ȝe world wardys so redy as yey werne. 1585 Stabke in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 532 He marched to the townewards.

**c.** with pers. pron.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* i. 8, (Skeat) I. 121 If that Margarite deuyneth now nat to suffre her vertues shyne to thewardes with spredinge bemes. *Ibid.* iii. viii. (Skeat) I. 148 Aungels blame that to-him-wardes was coming. 1399 Lancl. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 76 Pe more pitous pinges, þenchiþ her beckis and bent to-hin-wardis. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxviii. 128 And, when þe Cristen men nawe þam com to þom wardes, þei wax rith ferde. 1442 *Rolls of Parliament* (Rolls) II. 216 The continuancis of true obeissaunce into ts wards of our subgetis. 1472 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 58 Also I praye yow forty Lordes to wryte a supplycacion to me wards. 1574 W. Bourne *Regiment for Sea* xiv. (1577) 42 If you remoue the transitory but a quarter the length of the transitory by course. 1579 Gosson *Catron on Deut.* cxx. 738 When God gathereth vs to him ly death, wee cease not to flue still to himwardes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. v. § 3 Eve concluding eche thing he did with his face to me-wards. 1632 J. Hayward in *Blondit's Banisht'd Virg.* 20 Behaving my selfe unmanerly to-yuwards. *Ibid.* 169 The courteous inclination to me-wards, which to my good hap I discouer in you. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Love me little* 55 You say, to me-wards, your affection's strong: Pray love me little, so you love me long.

**4.** Examples of *from..wards*.

1548 Vicary *Anat.* viii. (1888) 63 Two Latitudinales comming from the backe-wardes to the wombe. 1574, 1669 [see Sunwards †]. 1622 R. Ch. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 76 The degree of a Quadrant are the distance from the Centre towards your right hand, hauing the Sines vpmost, & holding the Centre from you wards. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxx. (1658) 322 The objects coming into the glasse by a superficies not parallell..but sloaping, from the objectwards. 1665 [see Tailwards]. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 64 Not letting the Plain [= plane] come to, or from you-wards.

**5.** Examples of nonce-words (advs. f. sb. or proper name + *-wards*.

1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 174 Yet the best of their hearts will still be God-wards, Christ-wards, Heaven-wards, and Holiness-wards. 1845 Mary *Howitt-Boudicr's Prof.* i, The nobles come peoplewards as the people..rise and mingle with the nobles. 1845 Fabyn *Lett.* (1890) 229 Seventeen persons strikingly converted...many daily being led in extraordinary ways, and perfectionwards. 1850 Thackeray *Contrib. Punch* Wks. 1858 VI. 583 A third darling, with..eyes of hazel, lifts them up ceiling-wards. 1866 Trollope *Clergymen* iii, Mr. Burton was not..an ambitious man. He had never soared Parliamentwards. 1868 *Rep. Hamilt. War* 60 The chief feature of the invention...consists in the contrivance adopted for preventing the escape of gas breech-wards. 1878 Huxley in *Fortn. Rev.* XXIII. 170 The theory of the motion of the blood returned once more to the stout road which leads right on to Harvey. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 July 4/1 Russiawards the new line may be fire-fringed and fatal. Afghanwards it is no such thing. 1893 R. Grahame *Pagan Rev.* 145 Aunt Eliza's fowls—already strolling roostwards. 1893 D. C. Murray *Time's Revenges* I. vii. 129 He was growing downwards, brutewards.

**Wardship** (wō·ɹdʃip). [f. Ward *sb.*2 + -ship.]

**1.** The office or position of guardian.

**a.** The guardianship of a minor; *spec.* in *Feudal law*, the guardianship and custody of the person and lands of a minor with all profits accruing during his minority.

1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 306 Sir, forsmych as the Kyng hathe graunted be hese lettres patent the wardship with be juisdities of the londes of T. Fastolf dury be hese nun age of 3 yer and T. H. [etc.]. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII*, *c.* 46 Personnes, to whom the kinges highnes shall graunt the custodye and wardeship of any of his graces wardes. 1543 *Act 34 Hen. VIII*, *c.* 42 And yf an other wardeyne than the clerke lorde do it, he shall lese the wardshyp of all togyther. 1588 T. Randolph in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 121 The Master of Glames and the Secretarye have gotten of the King the wardshippe and marriage of the Erle Mongomeris sonne, being but two yeares of age. 1841 Earl Monm. tr. *Blondel's Rob. Arey* v. 119 He gave him two rich wardships. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. v. 67 The lord was intitled to the wardship of the heir; and was called the guardian in chivalry. This wardship consisted in having the custody of the body and lands of such heir, without any account of the profits, till

the age of twenty one in males, and sixteen in females. 1870 Pearman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. iv. 210 King Lewis may have already begun to entertain some dim notion that wardship over the fief of a minor vassal was a right which of necessity belonged to the Lord. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 307/1 Sect. 35...assigns to the Chancery Division the wardship of infants.

b. *gen.* Guardianship, protection, custody. Chiefly *fig.*

1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 456 [He] freed this kingdome from the wardship of the Pearles. 1655 Quarles *Esdras.* II. iii. 5 Thou grand Impostor, how hast thou obtain'd The wardship of the world? 1692 Milton *Reformation.* II. 43 This is the master-piece of a modern politician...how the puny Law may be brought under the wardship and control of lust and will. 1697 Clarendon *Controversy, Tr.* Tracts (1727) 385 Truth itself is so much in the wardship of Almighty God,...that if all other means fail, he will by his own immediate power vindicate it. 1705 Blackmore *Creation* I. iv. 335 This officer is of equal antiquity with the sheriff; and was ordained together with him to keep the peace, when the earls gave up the wardship of the county. 1825 Scott *Retrothed* xxix, I pray you let me have the grace to take first possession of the Garde Dolourouse, and the wardship or fe'iture of the ending lady. 1884 Lp. Rosebery in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Dec. 7/2 Great Britain could have no wish for selfish annexation. She was already committed to wardship and protection in more quarters of the world than never yet seen. 1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* xxxvii, I try in these my last days to put my memory under wardship.

2. The state or condition of being a ward; *spec.* in *Feudal law*, the condition of being under guardianship as a minor.

1569 Covenanta, etc. *Scotl. Exam. Par. Gal. liv.* 4-5 Assone as we came out of wardeship, and wer growen vp to a ryper age. 1593 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 66 In lamenting the miserye of wardeshippes, I might saie it is not for naughte or commonely said, I will handle you like a warde. a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw.* (1609) 111 The man is not out of Wardship by our Lawe till one and twentie yeere olde, from whence hee is reckoned of full age, as well as in the Romaine Lawes at fiue and twenty. 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Demosthenes* (1612) 846 When he came out of his wardship, he began then to put his guardians in suite. 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* II. i, Proof. Let it suffice My wardship is over. If your designe concernes vs As a man, and not a boy, with our allowance You may deliuer it. 1641 Baker *Chron. Rich. II*, 10 He was somewhat more then one and twenty: Wall, then said he] I am out of Wardship. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xvi. § 44. 268 *note*, Infancy, whether natural, or not, have been placed in a state of perpetual wardship. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 140 Three English earls who were in royal wardship were wedded by the King to foreigners.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 7 Lewes the xi. ...was wont to glorie and say, he had brought the crowne of Fraunce, *hors de page*, as one would say, out of wardship. 1648 Fairfax, etc. *Remonstr.* 46 To deliver His Crown once for all, from Wardship (as he counts it) to Parliamentary power. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* i. iii. 112, I must perforce Leave him in wardship to his innocence. 1876 Lawrence *Hist. U.S.* II. xxvi. 186 We have written the whole of our country; we are now to pursue the history of its wardship.

†**Wardsman** 1. *Obs.* [f. *ward's* genit. of Ward *sb.*² (= Award) + Man *sb.*] An arbitrator. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 107 The wardysman hath sen yowre lyve lodd and entyd hit in her bokes. 1622 3 (28 Feb.) *Essex Archidiaconric, Depositions bk.* (MS.) If. 87 b, Mr. Sweno and Mr. Knit should be wardes men to end all matters and controversies betwene them.

**Wardsman** 2 (wō·dzmĕn). [f. *ward's* genitive of Ward *sb.*⁹ + Man *sb.* Cf. Wardman.]

1. In certain boroughs: A member of the governing body, consisting of representatives elected by the several wards.

1718 Sir R. Atkyns *Glouc.* 347 Cirencester...hath two High-Constables and fourteen Wardsmen over seven distinct Wards, appointed yearly at the Court-Leet.

2. An inmate appointed to supervise his ward in a prison or workhouse.

1769 J. Howard *Lazarettos* 125 To every ward here [Newgate], and at both the Compters, there is an orderly prisoner called a *wardsman*, who should wash, sweep and keep his ward fresh and clean. 1850 Smith Wks. 1859 I. 339/1 Wardsmen, selected in each yard among the best of the prisoners, are very serviceable. 1858 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, I the wardsmen are all prisoners, selected for good conduct. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 5/5 'That man I employ as wardsman,' observed the master [of the workhouse].

3. A watchman who is responsible for prisoners.

1683 T. Ellwood *Life* (1885) 126 [The watchman]...went out to seek the constable...He was a young man,...somewhat better mannered than his wardsman.

So **Wardswoman.**

1856 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, In every ward on the female side, a wardswoman is appointed to preserve order. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 7/3 An aged inmate, wearing the workhouse clothes, said she was night wardswoman of the infirm ward.

**Wardun, Wardiur:** see Warden², Verdict³.

†**Wardwite.** *Obs.* [Oe. *weardwite*: see Ward *sb.*⁹ and Wite *sb.*] A fine paid to the lord by a tenant who has failed to provide a man to perform castle-guard.

1066 *Charter Edw. Conf.* in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 411 Nomina consuetudinum...murdrychyn, burhbryce, mixenninge...wardwite, hangewite, hamsocne [etc.]. 1297 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 6 [Grant to the church of St. Mary, Coventry, and the prior and monks thereof of all their lands and holdings with soc and sac,...fichi-wite, ward-wite, and maud-briche]. c 1250 *Glou. Laws Terms in Kel. Ant.* I. 33 Wardwite...Quite de wardein truver. c 1290 *Mirr. Justices* (1646) 63 Wardwyte quietantian misericordiam in casu quo non invenerit hominem ad wardam faciendam in castro, vel alibi. 1381 *Cal. Patent Rolls* 1381-5 (1897) 34 Granting them exemption from burghbote, brugbote, wardwyte, herugeld, and scot. c 1440 John Brompton in Twysden *Hist. Angl. Script. X.* (1652) 957 Wardewithe est sursise de garde. 1579 *Fulpot. Terms Law* 185 b, Warwite (or wardwite as some copies haue it) that is to bee quite of giuing of money for keeping of watches.

**Wardyn,** obs. form of Warden¹ and ².

**Ware** (wēr), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 **wár** (**waar, uaar, usr**), 6 **wayr, ware,** 6–7 **wair,** 7 **war, waar, weir,** 8 **wear,** 8–9 **waur**(6, 8– **ware**; see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and Orc. [Oe. *wār*, corresp. to NFris. *wier* neut. sea-weed, pond-weed, whence prob. Du. *wier* neut. (first found in Kilian, referred to the 'Holland' dialect), repr. OTeut. ***wairo-m,* f. ***wai-*: *wi-* to bind: see Wire *sb.*] Seaweed; esp. large drift seaweed used as manure. In *Scott Lore*, the right of gathering seaweed on the shore. Also Seaware.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 434 *Alga*, waar. 1494 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 430 Insulam et ruppet de Inchgarde...cum mettagiis, uncorum, et *wrak* et *ware*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. 104 Skelleis and fony cragis thai assay, Routand and rarand, and may nocht empayr, Bot geif thai shed fra his sydis the wayr. 1548 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc. Vl.* 374 With the sea grass and reprees to the wayr and fra the wayr. 1549 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1545, 7-7/1 Cum privilegio hurundi *lie weir* marium pro terra arenosa. 1574 R. Scot *Hop Gardens* (1576) 21 Some shall feed it [sc. land] with dissolued with water) to be very clammy or cleauing like Ware to your fyngers in kneading it, the same to be profitable inside. 1643 *Orkney Tristis* in *Brand Orkney-Sheetl. Scott. Hist.* (1883) 496–7 Ye sall...be fain to eat grass vnder the stanes and wair vnder the bankis. 1699 Sommer *Dict., Waar*, Alga marina,...called ...of the Sweeds *Tang*, Wars or Worms. 1701 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) I. 45 The sea being tossed with an East and North Wind, yeelds a great quantity of salt water weed...which they call Ware. 1703 Maundrell *Journey* (1732) 44 Their ground and makes it yeild plentifully. 1707 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 206 Wear, a Sea-weed growing chiefly on such Rocks as are cover'd only at High-water, and dispersing may be laid on Tillage for one Crop, the drying and burning of which makes Kilp, used in making Glass. 1822 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 284 The ware, however, in that part of the frith, is of a weaker sort.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ware-barley*, *-bear* (Bear *sb.*²), *-goose*, *-hack*, *-strand*.

1860 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* IV. 352 Distillers prefer the 'waure-bear' on account of its better colour and thinner husk. 1793 *Stat. Acc. Scot.* VI. 17 *note*, When bear or big is manured with sea ware, the crop is very abundant, but the grain is light, and is known by the name of 'Ware-bear. 1858 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* IV. 609 *Bernicla Brenta*. The Black-faced Bernicle-goose, ..'Ware Goose. 1868 *Anderson Wilds* (Surtees) II. 131, 131 pyots for 6s. ...iij "ware hacketts. 1909 J. Gunn *Orkney Bk.* 230 Each "ware-strand, or beach where drift-weed comes to land, is set apart for a certain number of tenants on the estate to which it belongs.

†**Ware,** *sb.*² *Obs.* [Oe. *waru* fem. ~ OFris. *ware*, OS., OHG. *warā* (MHG. *ware*, *war*):—OTeut. ***warō*, f. ***war-** to guard, watch:—pre-Teut. ***wer-**: cf. Gr. *ἔρρ* in *θυραωρός* (***θυρᾰ-Fορί*) doorkeeper, f. Watchful care; hence: safe-keeping, defence, protection. Phr. *on ware*, on one's guard, cautious.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* v. iv. (1883) 224 For þon Antiochus ziemde hwæt he hæfde monna zerimes, & ne nom nane ware hulles hiredes. a 900 *Cædmon's Hymn* 8 Sibbe gesceop ælda bearnum to gode ware. 1297 R. Glouc. 2483 Vor wanne ich am dukes sone, it become to me Vor to abbe some gret cite oþer stadel ner þe see, þer-inne to holde ware. 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Hyre leveþis be on-war. To late cometh þe ȝeyn char, when love ou hath y-bounde. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7380 Honerable Ector, þat ware was ay, Euer waker and vnwar [= on ware], wigtiist in erþe.

**Ware** (wēr), *sb.*³ Forms: 1 **waru,** 4–6 **war,** (4 **quare, whare**), 5–6 **ware,** 5 **wear**; 5–6 *Sc.* and *north.* **wayr**(e, 6 **wayere,** 6–7 **wair**(e; 3– **ware.** [Oe. *waru* fem. ~ OFris. *were*, OS., OHG. *waruwa* (MHG. *were*), ON. *vara* (Sw. *vara*, Da. *vare*). MHG. *ware*, *war*, G. *ware* (earlier *waare*) are from MLG. or MDu.

Prob. the same word as Ware *sb.*² used in the concrete sense 'object of care'.]

1. A collective term for: Articles of merchandize or manufacture; the things which a merchant, tradesman, or pellar, has to sell; goods, commodities. a. *collect. sing.*

c 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 246 Hi ða wurpon heora waru ofer-bord. a 1200 *Vox.* in Wr.-Wülcker 312/33 *Merx*, waru. c 1205 Lay. 11393 Chapmen buuhten heore ware. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4180 Wit camels bat gret birbin bar, O spice and of oþer ware. c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 522 Greet prees at market maketh deere ware. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Ysope* I, The merchaunt of Baldak came in to egypte for to chepe & bye somme ware or marchaundyse. 1544-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 § 2 Putting the same naughtie ware to sale secretly. 1614 Overbury *Wife* etc. (1638) 216 In this new Ware miss-laid in a Pedlers pack; a ha 's it but knowes not where it is. 1639 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 61 The windowes of painted glasse (no common ware). 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* iv. 47 No Keel shall cut the Waves for foreign Ware. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* viii, He certainly intended to make free with the pedlar's ware. c 1800 [see Pennant]. 1822 Scott *Peveril* xiii, I am always provided with ware which a gentleman may risk his life on. 1869 Kingslake *Eothen* xviii, The owners raised various objections to the display of their ware [*sc.* white slave-girls].

b. *pl.*

c 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 120 Du þelamp hit ut sumum sele...þest Engliscc ypmann brohton heora ware to Romanaburis...Þa gesaah he betwux þam warum cype-cnihtas gesette. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 581 There were stalles by i estreite stond-ynge for peopull, Werkmen into woo, and balle ware shewe. 1587 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 165 He wyysyth you to bestowe yowre mony in grosse warys nov beyinge. 1587 Harman *Caveat* 61 Consideringe with hym selfe that warys wouldde bee welcome where money wanted. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 188 With whom ventured also three small Shippes of London-Merchants, fraught with some grosse and slenight Wares, fit for Commerce with barbarous people. a 1656 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* v. i, Give 'em as little light As Drapers doe their wares. 1658 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 117 Lasther...wrought into Shoes, Boots, or other Wares. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* iv. ii. II. 52 A capricious man of fashion might sometimes prefer foreign wares, merely because they were foreign, to cheaper and better goods of the same kind that were made at home. 1834 James *P. Marston Hall* I. xii. 159, I perceived...a man in the dress of a pedlar, with his box of wares laid down by his side. 1913 G. Edmundson *Ch. Rome 1st C.* v. 123 A fire broke out...amidst shops containing inflammable wares.

c. An article of merchandise, a saleable commodity. *rare.*

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 600 They treated him [*i.e.* the labourer] as a ware, buying him in the cheapest market. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* iv, Breath's a ware that will not keep.

2. With defining word, as *dye-*, *dyeing-*, † *fell-*, *grocery-*, † *haberdash(er-*, *mercery-*, *pelitry-ware*: see quots. and s.v. the first element. Also Hardware, Hollow-ware, Ironware, † Lestherwares, Small-ware(s, Tablewares, and others mentioned in 3.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlv. (Tollemache MS.), It is pe maner to tempre yren ware [L. *ferramenta*] with oyle, leste pey be to mochel ybrent. 1440 Inventories of Goods 1408 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) 105 La dusseyn de soulliers appelez Courseware...vij d. 1515-18 *Early Chanc. Proc.* 309/65 (*List* p. 3) Ryngs and other Jewelles and Mercery Wares. 1518 *Junius' Nomencl.* 490/2 An habberdasher, or seller of smal wares. 1618 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 309 Glasses called looking glasses and dyeing ware like groces, viz., penny wair the groce, iiij li. 1617 Monyson *Itin.* III. 80 Nurnberg wares (so they call small wares). 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 48 In exchange for Tynne and Lead, they received Leather, Woollen Cloth and Brazen Ware of the Phœnicians. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 267 Spa is famous for a peculiar manufactory of wooden toys, somewhat like the Tunbridge ware. 1862 *Regist. Brit. Plastic Art* 1 Tunbridge ware...includes work tables, boxes, toys, &c., made of hard woods...and inlaid with mosaic.

3. In *spec.* uses. a. Vessels made of baked clay. Chiefly with defining word, as *brown*, *china-* (China 1 a), *Delf-*, *glass-*, *Japan*, *porcelain*, *pottery*, *Queen's*, *Staffordshire*, *Wedgewood ware*: see these words, and Earthenware, Stoneware.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 101 Constant at every sale, the curious fair, Who longs for Dresden, and old China ware. 1789 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* v. (1842) 149 If [the pestle is] in two pieces,...the handle being of wood and the bottom only of ware, the cement by which they are fastened occasionally falls out. 1888 'Oudia' *In Maremma* I. 127 Vases and jars in black ware. 1911 G. Macdonald *Roman Wall in Scot.* xi. 270 Both classes of vessel are of the same coarse ware.

b. Textile fabrics. Hence Codware², a pillow-case, for which *ware* simply is found.

1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 60/2 Persones that maken untrewe ware of all maner Worstedes. 1552-2 *Acts Edw. VI & Privy Counc.* II. 49 Item, for yeny cuttes, yeny four ells of Canvas claith to be wairs to the samyn. 1557 North *Gwenara's Dialt Pr.* Prol. (1568) *ij, For cuen as by the yard the marchante measureth al his ware: so by the Dyall the Astronomer all the whole common weale. 1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1814) VII. 61/1 Item, eighteen cods with their waires worth three mark the peice. 1723 Aberdeen *Council Reg.* Taylors were [to Garden *sb.* 6]. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* viii. 57 He had two large butts to receive the filled sacks—assorted into ware and chuta. 1900 *Discovery* (Pinafore) 14 In the North and in Scotland another riddle is used between the ware and the chats, and by this means 'seed' is obtained.

†d. Live-stock (cattle, sheep, poultry). *Obs.*

1628 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 43 Item he presented ye pynfold at the comen pynfold by the comien serlante, but chapmansys ware. 1665 Plough-ware [see Plough *sb.*¹ 8]. 1832–6 Poultry-ware [see Poultry 4]. 1896–9 Sheep-ware [see Sheep 11]. If I have wants enough behynde, benethe the spauen-place,...than he is noo chapmannes ware, if he be wylde. 1535 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1882) 133 The bochers...shall vend...the wyll noe more ware. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* iv. (facs.) C ij b, By a Sodan plage, all their firstgotten ware, This slewest in one nyght. c 1550 Chess *Medl. xxii.* 4 Mi bawes and mi fed ware he killed. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 264 b, And first an allusion is made of such as sley wares and prepare a feast. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ezek. xxxix.* 18 Of luck-goates, and bullocks, and of fed wares [Vulg. *altilium*]. 1699 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 143 The like may be also in all gelded Ware, (and consequently in Mutton). a 1720 Gay *Fables* (1738) II. 6 Dame Dobbins with her poultry-ware.

e. The spat of oysters in its third year.

1877 *Q. Rev.* CXLIV. 487 A bushel-measure of brood or ware, that is, oysters of the size of a threepenny-piece. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 154/1 Spat in the second year is denominated 'brood'...In the following year 'brood' becomes 'ware'.

**4.** *transf.* and *fig.*

Formerly often in distinction from *money*, like 'goods'. Sometimes with depreciatory implication, like 'stuff'.

*c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 68 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 222 Pis is þet wunderlukeste ware þet ani man funde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16436 Here i yeld yow your moos, þat me a-gain mi ware. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Christ Disputing* (Shaks. Soc.) 107 Wote ye not wele that I musste bene Amonge hem that is my faderes ware, His goshly counsel for to conveyen? 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Tas.* I. 207 Ceremonielen..are pernicious ware, yf a man thinke that he is made religious by meanes of them. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir S. Gideonite* III. iv. 53 If you haue no money, you shal haue ware: as many sound dire blows as your skin can carrie. 1634 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 547 The obedience of hypocrites is dead ware. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. 8 þe Two They resolved to shew all their ware and to produce the whole evidence. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westmerld.* (1662) 235 This Country..is fruitful by some few exceptions, bearing some indeed of each, though such ware be too fine, to have much measure thereof. 1793 Mas. PIOZZI 7 Feb. in *Italian. Lett.* (1951) 80 A mythological play of the dark days. The second and ladies, and *that* old ware. 1865 J. G. HOLLAND *Plain Talk* ix. 314 There is nothing immodest or otherwise improper in the advertisment of a man's literary wares. 1918 *Oxford Mag.* 21 June 343/1 None of them [sc. the essayists] cries his own wares to the exclusion of those of others.

**b.** Applied jocularly to women. (Cf. 'piece of goods'.)

Sometimes with explicit ref. to sense 3*a*; cf. also 3*d*.

1558 W. FORREST *Cryselide Secunde* (Roxb.) 55 Hee had in hym a lytle sensuall luste Whiche withe younge ware hee neadys accomplishde muste. 1604 DAVENPORT *City Nightcap* IV. (1661) 37, I keep no common company (of women I warrant ye; we vent no breath'd ware here. 1687 J. PHILLIPS *Quix.* I. i. 3 A young fresh-colour'd smerking Country Wench that went for a Maid in her turn, was a choice piece of Ware. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* x, I may get a peep of fair Rosamond, and see whether she was that choice and incomparable piece of ware which the world has been told of.

†**c.** The privy parts of either sex. Also *lady ware*. *Obs.*

1561 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingendius' Zodiac* v. M j b, So hurtes the Bees their honye sweete, so makes the Beuer yeil His boynting ware, 1579 G. GOSSON *Ephemerides of Phialo* 'Affaires of Angelo's Brechive Rom. Ch. (1580) 209 For the auoiding of such a chance, the holy Romishe Churche did ordaine two chaires too bee hanged in euery Church, the one for men to seate from vnder, whereby the newe chosen Pope was furnished of all his ware. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* IV. ii. 49 The Ladies of Rhodes, hearing this, vow you haue lost a capitall part of your Lady ware. 1608 [TOFTE] *Ariosto's Sat.* IV. (1611) 61 The silie Venetian lockt his Ladies ware, Yet through her wit Ariosto laught to scorne. 1685–18 *Bk. Dykes'stone* 1672–76 *Archdeaconry of Colchester* (MS.) If. 72 The said William Land once so druncke at Sturbridge fayer that he did shewe his ware openly in the fayer. 1696 MENDES & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 127 Let all men open hare, So farre, that a man may almost see Unto your Lady-ware. 1893 DAVNEW *Juvenal* VI. 491 Seen from afar, and famous for his Ware, He struts into the Play among the Fair. 1901 E. WARD *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 29 Here [at the Lock-hospital] all are welcome to repair Their aching Limbs or damag'd Ware.

†**d.** *Wormes ware*, food for worms. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Pety Job* 7 in *26 Pol. Poems* 121 Yet shall my fayre-nesse fade and fle, And I shalle wormes ware. *c* 1450–*Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 90 Yet am I but wormys ware.

**e.** *The hale ware* (Sc.), also anglicised *the whole ware*: the whole number, quantity, or amount; the sum-total.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 73 Nocht that the canoun allane may nocht be sufficient to the hail wair. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Cron.* (S.T.S.) I. 134 Sa his hail wair, being compttt, was threttie thowsand pund sterling. 1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. L 6, He saith in the wholware of these things. The life of the soule standeth. *a* 1682 J. CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 18 (Jam.) Then this will follow, I suppose, She drags the whole-ware by the nose. 1728 R. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1755) 11 Sir, gae'd the hale-ware o' us now. That he was gane clean wod. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 307 The haleware o't seemed to be gran plowable lan. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* x, The verra last shoot that was fired...carried awa' the haleer[whole] o' their starnin' gear.

†**f.** In peripharistic use (cf. e). *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 21 He fegh our fetheres of windes ware [Vulg. *super pennas ventorum*]. *Ibid.* 16 And schewed welles of ware [Vulg. *et adparuerunt fontes aquarum*]. *Ibid.* lxxii. 13 And betwix vnderand ware [Vulg. *inter innocentes*] Mine handes wascbe i bare.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ware almery* (Sc.), *ware-barge*, *chamber*, *-room*, *trash*; (sense 3 *b*) *ware-barre*; (sense 3 *b*) *ware-man*; also + *ware-cloth* [? cf. ON. *vǫruklæði* common cloth] (sense uncertain).

1489 *Acts Dom. Conc.* (1839) 131/2 A mast almery,...a †wayr almery. 1898 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 26 These Boats are as large as one of our Ware-Barges,...and carry a great Burthen with little trouble. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 92 In not very nice experiments, instead of a platinum crucible a small †ware basin may be used. 1853 *Hone Diocese Decum.* (1914) 163, I bequeyth to herry my sone all the ware in my †ware chamber. 1499 *Will of John Bispshope in Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 379 Item, I bequeith unto John Bushop of Lyma a peesen of †ware-clothes. 1699 W. SHEPPARD *Corporations* 16 The Wardens ..and Fellowship of Drapers, Taylors, Mercers, and †Ware-Men, and Coopers in D. 1811 PINKERTON *Petrol.* II. 96 The first quantity that was exposed in Edinburgh, was in the year 1700, in a †ware-room on the south bridge. 1842 LYTTON *Night & Morn.* I. viii, Mr. Roger Morton and his family sat in that snug and comfortable retreat which generally backs the ware-rooms of an English tradesman. 1656 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* v. 71 Provision may be made, that a sufficiency of such †Ware-trash may still be preserved.

†**Ware,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare.* [Seems to represent OE. *wár* pledge; the form may have been assimilated to *warant* WARRANT *sb.*] In the phrase *to ware* (tr. L. *ad warantiam, ad warantisandum*); as a surety.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Rep.* 166 Anoþer tyme þabbot icallid þere-of to ware Richard of Iponns And Emme his wife, Raph the Soone of Ranulph of Asrop and William his wife [etc.], the which nowe come by summonrenyng and axe to be schewed to þem by what tityng þey bee holde to ware [*warantisandum*]. *Ibid.*, be which...Bynedeth hym-selfe and his heyres to ware, to be same Nycoll and to his heyres and to his assynes, þe same tenementes.

**Ware** (wēə1), *sb.*[5] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **waire, wayr(e,** 8 **wair,** 9 **wear,** 3– **ware.** See also VOAR. [a. ON. *vár* (Icel. *vor*, Sw. *vår*, Norw., Da. *vaar*).

By some regarded as cogn. w. L. *vēr*, Gr. *ἔαρ* (= **wesr*), but the phonology has not been satisfactorily explained.]

The season of spring.

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 18 Somer and ware, þou schope þa. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 983 It happyt a tym in the wayr, Wyrnyng of Wyntyr was fer, Bot nocht-with-in the fyrst moneth off wayre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 408/2 *Wayr, quaddam tempus, ver.* 1684–92 A. SYMSON in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.S.) II. 110 Hence their common prowerb, speaking of the stormes in February : Winter never comes till Ware comes. 1814 W. NICHOLSON *Tales in Verse* 70 Ere the winds o'ware were blawn. 1898 J. MACMASTER *Bond of Sand* 116 It fell to him the 8th quarter day of Ware, the warmest day in Harwust, an' work the skin off his bones.

**b.** *attrib.*, as *ware day, evening, -time*; **ware-corn,** corn sown in spring; *spec.* barley and oats as distinguished from wheat and rye (so Da. *vaarsæd*).

1426 *Inv. Jurrow & Monk-Wearm.* (Surtees) 196 In frumento et †ware corn emptis. 1593 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 232 All the arrable landes,...as well landes corne landes as ware corne landes. 1810 J. BAILEY *Agric. Durham* 411 *Ware-corn*, barley or oats. 1861 QUEEN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 29 Ae winter, and ae ware day. 1876 GROSART *Lismore* 87 Ware day sang. 1721 J. KELLY *Scott. Prov.* 334 The †Ware Evening is long and tough, the Harvest Evening runs soon o'er the Hough. 1894 HOOD *Bridal of Tweed* vii. Tales & Sk. 1877 II. 35. I...fleechyt Eleesabett noore [= never] to let us torfell in the †wareyme of owir raik. 1894 MACTAGGART *Galloid. Encycl.* 37 Perhaps till the next wauntime.

**Ware,** *sb.*[6] *Dev.* Forms: 3 **warr,** 4–5 **ware,** 5 **wore.** [a. ON. **var* (cf. *vara* SCRUM) = MSw., Norw. *var*, OHG. *warah*:—OTeut. **warχo-z* in the same sense. Cf. WARIBERED.] Pus, matter.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 4789, I war & wirrsenn toc anan Ut off hiss lic to Bowenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21833 Quer-al wrang vre formaide tenemens, Al stant ai open bare, So. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 441 Plus ben he braunches, bob war, þou bryngeth a man to wanbope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 38 He was war, as he caste his eye aside, Where that ther kneled in the hye werk a compaignye of ladyes. 1450–81 MALORY *Arthur* II. xvi. 94 And at the last he came in to a fayr forest in a valey and was ware of a Toure. *Ibid.* IV. xvi. 140 And thane was ware syr Gawayne ware how ther bange a whyte shelde on that tree. 1530 PALSGR. *Lesw.* 371/1 Ether when a man toucheth any vicelene thinge..and is not warre of it, he is also vnclene and hath offended. *Ibid.* 18 And the preast shall make an attonement for him for the ignorance which he dyd and was not ware. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 16 b, Our most cruyll blood thirstye enemies are not ware of this glory of our persecution. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 131 Towardes him I made, but he was ware of me And stole into the couert of the wood. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 58 Thou speak'st wiser than thou art ware of. 1620 K. TWYSDEN *Liturgy* 7 Wee shall finde much more in it, then they that make the lightest account of it, are ware of. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* VIII. 139, I was not ware that I was wafted into upper heaven. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xiii. 187 Ere I was ware, the ignorance of Saadi dwells. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 122, I was ware of a ship in the offing.

**2.** Prepared, on one's guard, watchful, vigilant, cautious, alert. Cf. AWARE 1. Now *arch.*

*c* 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 40 And be ze ware forþam þe mannes sunu cymð þare tide þe ze ne wenað. *a* 1225 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlii. (1883) 195 Us is micel þearf, þæt we ware beon þæs rædelican timan, þe us toward is. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 38 Make me war & wite me wið his creft crekes þat ha me ne crechen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 170 Ne speddestu nouht mid þin vuwenche Fur ich am war and ich bidenche. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8084 Yn a prouerbe, telle men þys 'He wyys ys, þat ware ys'. *c* 1325 *Poem Evil Times Edw. II* 345 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 339 Ther-fore bigge þe in þin hond, but if þou be þe ware. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 526 Bot how that euir it fell, perde, I trow he sall the warar be. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 10 And þerfore comaundiþ crist þat we be war and fle fro þe ypocrisie of pharisees. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516 War, or a-war (*v.r.* aware), *cautus*, Cath. *precavens*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 5 Than this holy man counseiled him that he shold be ware and kepe hem fro euell dedes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & other Birds* 193 His pray full sendill tymis will he mis, Bot gif we birdis all the warrer be. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa. Prophet* iv. 54 But when he warneth vs of the daunger, he doeth it to this entente to make vs the warer. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slose* 635, I wisch them to be war, And nashlie not to ryn ouir far, Without sik gyuils as ye. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xv, But evil news the letters bare,—The Clifford's force was strong and near. 1862 TENNYSON *Serm. Westm. Abbey* xxvii. 353 When the world speaks thee fair, and thy very enemies are at peace with thee,—then be thou ware. *a* 1897 H. NEWBOLT *Drake's Drum* 24 They shall find him ware an' waking, as they found him long ago!

†**3.** Careful or guarded in action. Const. *of, in, with* and *inf. Obs.*

*a* 1250 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 253 Reade hwet us beo to doone at we habben ure lare beoð þe mare ware and mare on ouch half under godes wengen. *a* 1300 HAMPOLE *Pr. conc.* 9 Kepe me as be appel of be eghe; þat is, perfitly and tendirly, for a man has no tym þat he is warers with, þan with his eghe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* III. xi. 141 (1495) By the vertue estimatiue we ben ware to voyde euyll and folowe that is good. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xviii. 48 The goodman drowe sharpe from hym, and was more ware and hys howsehelde waker in goddes seruyce alway after. 1538 STARKEY *Engl.* II. i. 170 Thys..schold make the onder officyerys to be ware and dylygent to dow thyng wyth owt long delay. 1581 *Satir. on Dent.* xxxiii. 195 Neuertheles he warneth us therewithal to bee more ware in abstayning from all wicked othes.

**4.** Careful or cautious in avoiding.

†**a.** Const. *with*. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xiii. 230 And sē moddi-mann wæron ware wið heora fynd. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Dat tu...lieune fastliche ða sekyndes of sennes, hwannen and hwanne hie cumen, þat tu ðerof beo ware. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* x. 17 *Cursor M.* 23827 Pe soth þai spar us noght to tell, for to do us be war wit hell. 1387 *Lay Folks' Catech.* T. 425 Prudencie—That wisses us to be with wrang ware. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xiii. 109 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 19 Pis gospel biddiþ men to be ware wiþ false prophetis þat comen in cloþing of sheep.

†**b.** with *inf.* Cf. BEWARE v. 1 c. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theod.*) 87 Pe mild gud wemen ware be to rowne with paim in priuete. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 284 And þerfore men schulden be war to take of bes foure wais. 1382 — *Ecclus.* xxxii. 23 Be þe enmenies of youre rioiaume..wol doubt and be ware to take any entreprise ayenst your noble magestie. 1580 DALE tr. *Steinhael's Comm.* 90 But he marueleth at it, & beleeues that they can not be ware by so many examples to blemishe them selues, and other Universities for euer.

**c.** with *of*. Cf. BEWARE v. 1 b. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xvi. 6 Seeth and be ware of þe sourdowy of Pharisees and Saduceus. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 231 For who these olde bokes rede Of suche ensamples as were ar, Him oghte be the more war Of alle tho that feigne chere. *a* 1440 *Disend Virg.* etc. (1863) 9 Be ware of temptacion. Pynt I of Slouthe be ware'. 1477 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 193/1 In exemple to others to haue been ware of suche attempting hereafter. 1548 HALL *Chron.* Edw. IV 213 Be ware of flatterers as wee se before our eyes, we lee well ware of. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 101 *marg.m.*, They be war of hindschedding. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xvi. 6 Take heede and beware of the leauen of the Pharisees and Sadducees. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 231 For who these olde bokes rede Of suche ensamples as were ar, Him oghte be the more war Of alle tho that feigne chere. *a* 1440 *Disend Virg.* etc. (1863) 9 Be ware of temptacion. Pynt I of Slouthe be ware'. 1477 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 193/1 In exemple to others to haue been ware of suche attempting hereafter. 1548 HALL *Chron.* Edw. IV 213 Be ware of flatterers as wee se before our eyes, we lee well ware of. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 101 *marg.m.*, They be war of hindschedding. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 98 You would swear now you have used me faithfully : Shall I not make you sweare? I am ware of you. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 228, I...bade him be ware how he ye waure o' judgin' the Almichty. 1885–94 BROWNE *Ires & Psyche* June x, But Psyche when that wistful speech she heard Was ware of all her spouse had warn'd her of.

†**d.** with negative or interrogative clause. Cf. BEWARE v. 1 d. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxiv. 6 Beo war ret þam, þet bu næfre minne sunu þyder ne lædde. *a* 1200 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lexicogr.* 58 Preostas rynt to mynggienne ꝥ hi beon ware ꝥ hi ne warbon bewicchede fram þan þinge þat þeawas unrihtlyc nyme. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 645 Nowe be þou were, þou pronde goune, þat þou ne be in pryde noune. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 1397 Pey ar ware ꝥ pai ne sal gang. Bot how be ware we ga nogth warid wrange. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XVIII. 39 'A I wyf' he may quebe [of 'Tubal'] 'wat hees here-ynne! Lord leyue, quab he [of 'Jubal'], ꝥ I be nogth ywar here!' 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 74 It es gude to him þat schall wake þis hawke þat he wele ware þat he slepe not. 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 2. 38 Be wyl war þat þey ley nogt bowne. 1475 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 135 Never the less I shall be the warer how I shall dele here after. 1531 tr. *St. Germain's Doctor & Stud.* II. viii. (1638) 74, I would advise every man to be well ware how hee disrauneth in such cases. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 143 Others vse the roote of Mandracke, being well ware that they suffer them not to tast it. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I.

100 They ar war with al possible dilugens that they sched nocht thar blude

**8.** Prudent, sagacious, cunning, skilled; ?also, rarely, staid. Frequently coupled with *wise*. *Obs* *exc. arch.*

*c888* *Ælfred Bwth* xxvii § 2 Wisdom zedoð þis hufendas wise & wor'le{ hi} *Ymbrue* were] & gemetfeste & gelyblidge & rihtwise *c897* *tr. Gregory's Past C.* xxxiv. 236 Þio ze ænne ware wæn nædi.. & ze bihatte swe ziftfun *c1000* *Ormin* 18313 ze wennenn wrang Off me, þeh warre & wise, Namm I in mitt Shaft, ace icc amm mann *c1205* *Lay.* 2108 Þe wes he wisestе be wes he warrestе [*c* 1275 he was wis and war] *Ibid.* 2967 Cornoille was swiðe wis{ *c* 1275 war} ewa bezh wiðmen wel shwer & seule ane leuinge *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8696 Þe king, þat was an sli a clerc, Rath warr and wis and all his were *Ta* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1258 She was not nyce, no outrageous, But wys and war, and vertuous *c* 1400 *Melusine* & *Gamm.* 12 Of al knightes he bare the prys, In werld wyd non so war ne wise *1423* Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxiv, And they were ware that lange tyme in lawe, So tolter quhilum did sche It to wyve *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 137 (*Pricke to Cunnyhead*) Ze, but be wise wardis and warre *1526* *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 132 We shuld be also be wele ware or wyse, as a ȝe serpent *1549* Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (*Arb.*) 76 Sathan is wyse enough, he is wyly, and circumspect for stirring vp any sedicion *1565* *Myrr. Mag.* in *Collingbourne* xxi, A poet must be No flatterer, no bolterer of vyce, But sound and wise, in all I saye, Both wise and wyse *1915* K. Brooke *1914 & other Poems* 29 And, ats there nothing ware and wise Behind the curtains of her eyes

†**b.** with *in*, *of* (something specified), *to* (do something) *Obs.*

*1307* *Liber Death I Am* 1, ti, Trewest mon of alle thinge, And in were ware ant wys 13 *Seuen Sag.* 410 He thought al night, How that he might be wis and war To overcome the emperice *1388* Wyclif *Dan* i 4 [Men] lernd in al wisdom, war in science [Vulg. *cautos scientia*] and taust in discipyne *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1833 Þi wyfe were wyes{ þou ex wyre to wyttens hir renke And wisely I þe wolde voydes his note *c* 1445 *Wks. Digby* 23 If a ȝe ȝe ha be a warrur on lee we be not of eblynge & of flowng tyme be be a wise and warr

†**II. 6.** Used attributively. Prudent, cautious, cunning *Obs*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wys, That was also a ful gret *Ibid.* 402 Pure gan he greatly haun grame in al ydel lettres, All þe worlyn at he þaim werpid of þaire ware kynge 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 124 Ye saye that she ȝs prud me and a ware spender and vayn ser of ȝ sles *Ibid.* 134 When crysten pe ple ȝ woke in lusty prayer and in wire keppyng of thi meselfe that they mighte be redy to suffer martyrdom 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 386 They are ware people in their handlynge, and wyl not lose one sparke of golde of any value *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* ii (Arb.) 149 And as for Pindare, except the scholemaster be ware to make wyse and weare scholer, your sch ler were better to play *a* 1614 J. Melvil *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 105 Being a slight and wire man, and perceaving the end of the Artic declyning [&c.]

**Ware** (wēə), *v.*[1] Forms 1 warian, 1 ware-n, 3–6, 8–9 *dial.* war, 3–4 warr(e, 5 waar, 7–9 ware, 4– ware [OE *warian* = Ofris. *warja*, OS *waron*, OHG *be warôn* = Bewarn *v.* (MHG *waren*), ON *vara* (Sw *vara*, Da *vare*) —OTeut **warôjan*, f. **warô* Ware *sb.*[2] In Me. the native word coalesced with *ware* a. Ob. (north-eastern) *ware v.* (= Central Ob. mod. F. *garer*), of the same meaning, adopted from Teut. The interjectional imperative *ware!* used in hunting is prob. to be regarded as of Fr origin.

In OE the verb had, in addition to the senses illustrated below certain other meanings (‘to guard, defend, to inhabit’) which did not survive into ME.]

†**1.** *intr.* To give heed; take care, be on one's guard. Const. *of*, *with*; to oneself, *to* and inf. *To do to ware* to inform, notify (const. *of* or clause). *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 2134 Þe vii fulwum zeres faren, Iosep cuðe him bi foren waren. *a* 1338 Mirk *Festes* 6 War sit with be Skottes for þru ne fyl gile *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1908 War now of me, ich be duffie 3826 Wyclif *Ecclus* xii 16 War to thee (Vulg. *cave tibi*), and tac heed lasit to thin hoerlyng 1390 Gower *Conf.* I 121 Bot war whan þou togedre duellen 1415 Hoccleve *To Sir T. Oldcastle* 88 War of the sword of god for it is keene. 1594 Carew *Tasso's Godfr. Bulloigne* (1881) 1 And thus will fall out a plain matter when you are done to ware, that in this region, the sunne yeeldeth a feruent heat *Ibid.* xv 267 Of all these points were the ears and the eares naturally done to ware *1598* Q. Eliz. *Holinshed* iii 423 That better shal [= they] may ware the warand to correct

**b.** *impers*, as a warning cry, a call to animals, and in hunting. *Obs* (*? exc. dial.*)

*c* 1000 *Glass in Germania* (1858) XI 323 *Cave ware* *Te* 1200 William Cantuar. *Vita S Thomæ* in *Mat. Hist Thos Becket* (Rolls) I 128 Patria voce exclamavit Huge de Moreville, ware, ware ware, ithulf heth his sword adrage 13 . *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1158 Þe hinder were halden in, will hay & war *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS Dighy 182) xxxiv, War, war, he, ha, war *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii 25 Io forth, greys-horne! and war oute, grym! *Ibid.* 29 War! let me se how down will draw *c* 1500 *Hychescorner* 456 *Imagy* Ware make rome he shall haue a stirpe I trowe 1523 Douglas *Æneis* vi Prol. 168 War at Pluto, I will be in hunt of it! *1600* Dekker *Satiromm* B 4, *Flash* Ware there, roome for Sir Adam Prickeshaft *1760* Mrs. Pilkington *Dyderio* xxxiv, Ware, Hector! ware, Jupiter! *1825* J. Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Kng., Ware*, beware! take care! *1829* Brockett *N. C. Words, Ware*, beware. ‘*War below*

**6.** with clause, introduced by *that*, *lest*, or a relative Also without *that*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

*a* 1000 *Canons of Ælgar* xxxviii in *Thorpe* II 252 Warge þæt hit na forealdige *a* 1300 Iernida *Earth De P. R.* viii xiii (1495) 232 But ware the pacyent that he put hym not voluntely to grete heete. *a* 1400–50 *Alex. Carnisape* 240 in *Babees Bk.*, Þou that stondys so sure on asse, Ware lest þy hede falle to ȝy fete *a* 1460 *Play Sacrament* 596 Here master master ware wure how ye tugg 1530 Palsgr. 501/2 Ware you whede nat youre potage upon the table cloth 1559 Morwyng *Fromymna* Pref A ij, I his sacred to God Pluto (theuus) ware that ye touch not 1618 B. Jonson *Devil an Asse* I. iv. 14 Ware wit, I tell you do, M' Ambler 1900 G. I. Farm. *Lion's Whelps* 8 Let the hunters ware who fi ut him When he calls his whelps about him.

+**2.** *refl.* To guard oneself; be careful, take care. Const. with clause, *fra*, *from*, *for* (= from), *of Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cr dmon's Gen* 326 Scolmata þonne anne beam, warnað me wi þ bone wæstm *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17210 War þe þou naimar thinald be 23 *Cog Hawm* 1867 Hennes ȝe wend war ȝe to me, þi dedlethe fo ligh me bi name *Ibid.* 1 *Allit* 1 Il 165 Bot war þe wel, if þou wylt, by wedes ben cleine *1586* Langl. *P. Pl. A* v 223 War be for wonhope, bat he be traye *1597* *Ibid. B.* xviii 273 Ac war hym of þe perles *1390* Gower *Conf.* I 321 Bot war thee wel that ih it ne herie Al that thou best tofore thin yhe *c* 1400 *Maist Alph.* in *Anecd. Oxon. Pt. V* 10 Hey Mane mat þou be ygist f nth man vn wrist, and ware þe for him

**3** *trans* To beware of, guard against, to avoid, shun, keep clear of. Chiefly in imper = look out for! (cf. *b*). *arch.*

*a* 900 *Lacnunga* in *Cockayne's Leechdoms* I. 380 *Lauel* [*pot cannot lagen*] *Þeos* wyrt is ȝelic wermode, ware þe *Ibid.* 382 *Ic þ Poems* (Rolls) I 275 Ware ȝe the prophecye. *1400* in *Ibid. Poems* I 71 War wordes of idwiſe entendement *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1 War vnrygnance in talkyng thyng on hande *Ic* 1500 Skelton *Col Cloute* 341 A man may ofte say in mocke Ware the wethercocke Of the steple of Paules 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 182 Ware pencils, ho! *Ibid. Merch. of Venice* I. ii. 82 Ware hawke at once! 1600 *Ibid. Much Ado* II. iii. 28 Ware horne! 1606 *Ibid. Ant. & Cl.* II. vii 1 The bull has the game ware hornes ho! *1606* B. Jonson's *Sejanus* v. vi. 13, See ! the whole Court's in blaze! Ware, ware the Hawkes I l u te so hen flye *1673* *S'too him Bayes* 31 But now wore hawk ! *1697* N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* 2 Ind to The first Ceremony to be observed by Hunters men come in to the Death of a Deer, is to cry Ware Hauch, that the Hounds may not break into the Deer *1708* Vanbrugh *Confederacy* I. i 62 Jire. For your goodness Madam, ware — *The Ass le to Moneyed* 1 Wat Horse, No fine Speeches, you ll spoil all *1793* J. Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Fair of Odes to the Poet* 35 Ware Lark ! the Sportsman to his Hunter cries, Ware, ware him for Partridge—*Modern Game* 184 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV 193 Ware chase ! where such daring unpardonable crime has been committed *1828* *Hist* W S. Gilb. I. 1 Never heard an hungry upon the ware wheat given in a more get tlemanlike way *1829* Mc Gn *Suffolk Words* 470 *It ware*, an abbreviation probably of be ware—*It ware*, a caution to a friend in danger of being trodden on. ‘War, sheep’—warns him from an evasion *1854* E. Mayhew *Illustr Horse Managem* 357 However, walk down the gangway of the two year old stalls in any stable, and you will hear, ‘Ware heels,’ or ‘Ware,’ frequently shouted out. *1908* R. Bacot *A Cuthliri* v 48 We live four or five miles to do s et—and a nice bit of open grass country between ! Ware hole !

†**4.** To be apprehensive or careful for. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii v 894 Gif þe Broys þe kynge suldе be Off Scotlande, war youre ryalte, youre marchis, and youre wallit townys

†**5** To teach (a person) to beware *Obs.*

1634 Heywood & Brome *I am a.sh. Witches* iv H 4, Let me be honckt up for a shoe Ile ware them to mel or ma with a woman that [etc.].

**Ware** (wēə), *v.*[2] Now *Sc* and *dial* Forms 5 warre, werre (?), *Sc.* var(e, 5–6 *Sc* war, wayr, (6 *pa. t. Sc* ward), 8–9 wear, 9 waur, 5– *Sc* wair, 4– ware. [a ON. *verja*, pa. t. *varði*, pa. pple. *varðr*, ‘to invest (money), lay out’; a trans ferred use of the primary sense ‘to clothe’ of the corresponding OE. *werian* to clothe, to wear *see* **Wear** *v.*[1] *trans* To spend, lay out (money, goods) Const. *in*, *on*, *upon*, †*of*

*a* 1427 *York Memo Bk* (Surtees) I 222 Ayther of them shall ware xxvjd in fysh or thay passe the market *c* 1440 *Bone Flor* 405 Now schall y neuer my golde spare, but faste upon thys warre hyt ware *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* xxx 232 Had I bot a penny on the wold I warte [*r* ware it]. 28 *Chebbs Sons* 75 in *Annastyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 1093 And verely as I hard þem say the money he ward *1821* *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc. V) 203 The resadew off the money I will it be wared in the reparacious of a new kolfe *1895* Ablam *Joseph* II (Arb.) 120 ‘I hey shall fynde it bothe



lerne charge and more pleasure to ware at any tyme a couple of shyllynges of a new booe *1620* Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV* iii 4, I have ward all my money in cow-hides at Coleshill Market *1634* *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 199 Item, wairit on the betting and mending of the brig and lang calsey, 220 0 0 *1725* Ramsay *Gentl. Sheph.* iv. ii, Ne'er grudge ilk year to ware some shares of siller, To gain these silent friends that ever please *1729* P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 57 So I signed a bill to Alice blaiter for the 4 3 gs. 6d. I had wared *1785* Burns *Ep. Davie*, Wha could on nought less thousands rant, And ken na how to ware? *1826* Galt *Last of Lairds* xxvii 246 He gaed to Widow M'Plucky's public, and ward the sixpence on gille *1882* Inverness *Northern Cobbler* v, I grubb'd the munny she maiide, and I ward it a' liquor, I did *1893* Sutherlan *Catriona* i, I would hae wared my siller better gates than that.

**b** *fig.* (e.g. one's time, wit, life, love).

*13 Cant. & Gr Knt* 400, I schal ware alle my wyt to wynne me beder *Ibid.* 2325 I schal ware my whyle wel, wyȝ i el i-fere. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lord & Tyrand* 313 Weill war that man ouer all vther, that mocht All his lyfe dayis in perfite studie wirk to get science *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S. T. S.) I 205 Ready to ware thair lyffe in his defence *1609* Skene *Reg. Maj.* (1774) 20 (*Arb.*) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I 342 We wil not so mutch as to ware our thoughts upon it *1728* Ramsay *Gent Sheph* iv ii, Since we're little time, To ware 't on ony wad breed a crime *1794* Burns *On ill-thie Chalmers* ii, And fauth ye'll no be lost a whit, Tho' wared on Willie Chalmers *1818* Scott *Br. Lammermoor* xxvii, There would be little ware on the matter *1826* — *Tyrol* 8 June, The struggle is worth warring a headache upon *1894* Crockett *Raiders* xxxix 279 A good honest heart that hasna been wared on ither lasses.

**c** with *out* (*lit* and *fig*)

*1508* Dunbar *Two Married Women* 39 They watchitit at the wicht wyme, and ware out wourdis *1574* *Petition* in A. M'Kay *Hist Aberdeen* (1893) 80 To ware out and expend the haill necessary dispursements.

**d.** Phr. *To be well*, or *ill*, *ware'd*

*Ta* 1428 *Ipol Poems* (Rolls) II 244 The wages ben ful yvel ward With sin be a comune, and ful yvel ward also *Acts of Table* 94 Ane of paim vplie syed hym & said his yong wife was ill ward on hym *1535* Stewart *Cron Scot* I 445 Your riches thus in vyces ware ill ward *1585* Montgomerie *Flyting* 265 The cuff is weill wared that twa hame brings *Ibid* 607 Na mair ill though ill won ill warnd bee *1681* J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 68, I haiff been redy to ly off my lyff whar it was nocht haiff sa well ward at the pleasour of my God *1688* G. Stuart *Succour Pract* 33 If aw the rest were right reparil, I trow our Tribut were well ward *1807* J. Kinnaird *Soldier's Ret* II iii, A glass, to croun a wish, was never better ward

**Ware**, obs. f. War *sb.*[1] and *a*, var. Wary *v. Obs* , obs. f. Wear *v* (and obs. pa. t.), obs and dial. f. Weir, var. Vair *a. Obs.*, Were *Obs.*; obs. f. *taste* (see Be *v.*), obs. f. Where.

**Wareant**, Sc. var. Variant *a.* (sense 3 b)

*1549* *Burgh Rec Stirling* (1887) 57 Ane gown of wareant chaumpit worsit, prise four li. xx s.

†**Ware-band.** *Obs* — [? f. Ware *v.*[1] (taken in the sense ‘guard, secure’) + *Band sb.*[1]] A millrind.

*1677* Coles *Dict Eng-Lat.*, The Wareband of a mill stone, *anulus*

**Warecorn:** see Ware *sb.*[2] b.

**Wared**, *ppl a Sc.* [f. Ware *sb.*[1] + -ed.] Manured with seaweed

*1795* *Statist Ac Scot* XVI 253 In the spring season, after the oats are sown, the farmer gives the wared land one ploughing

**Wared**, var. Waried *ppl. a. Obs.*

**Wareday** see Wardai *dial.*

**Waredrop**, obs. form of Wardrobe.

†**Wareful**, *a. Obs.* [f. Ware *sb.*[2], *v.* or *v.*[1] + -ful.] Watchful, cautious

*1598* Thomas *Ital Dict* (1550), *Scalterita*, or *Scaltrita*, he or she that is warefull or discerning *1587* *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 256 Well furnisht brest to bide ech he chances changing chear In woe hath chearfull hope, in weal hath wareful fear *1593* P. Whitehorne *Arte Warre Machiavel Platon* 69 Iwerby thou shalt make thy souldiers mot fearefull, but wareful

Hence †**Warefulness.**

*1598* Thomas *Ital Dict* (1550), *Sagacità*, wisdome or warefulnesse *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 261 Fel (1912) 348 His eyes are curious search, but vaside with wrefulnesse

**Warehouse** (we *sbioüs*), *sb.* [f. Ware *sb.*[2] + House *sb.* Cf. Du *waershuus*, G *warenhaus*.]

1 A building or part of a building used for the storage of merchandise; the building in which a wholesale dealer keeps his stock of goods for sale; a building in which furniture or other property is housed, a charge being made for the accommodation, a government building (more fully Bonded *warehouse*) in which dutiable imported goods are kept in bond until it is convenient to the importer to pay the duty

*1309* *Will of W Ked* in *Rent Register of Lynn* (MS.) fol 89, I zeldam cum dubbus warehus *1423* Manc Paston in *P. Lett* I 256, I kowd not gette no grawnt of hym to have the warehows *1520* Nobe *De quat Nouns* Wks (1557) 39 Let them here what Cicero saith of himself in the ryche couetous gatherer, yᵗ thoughte to make his barnes and his warehouses larger to laye in the more. *1530* Palsgr. *286/2* Warehouse to shewe marchandyse in, *une monstre a marchandise* *1535* Coverdale *Ier.* xl 10 I therfore gather you wyne, corne and oyle, and kepe them in youre ware houses. *1539* T. Paynell *Ellis Orig. Lett* Ser II. I. 140, I so beinge in my ware howse besey, ther yentrede in a pryate *1609* Dekker *Gull's Hornbk* I. 6 The first suit of apparell that euer mortall man put on, came neither from the Mercers shop, nor the Marchants ware-house *1632* Massinger *City*

*Madame* 1. iii. Their prayers will...keep your ware-houses From fire, or quench 'em with their tears. 1662 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. x. 373 My Mr. was all the while in the Warehouse with him wt^h brought 3^{ds} Silke. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 III. 95 Some who had bin call'd from shops and warehouses...fell to huckster the Commonwealth. 1708–79 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 416 It is the retailer and petty shop-keeper...that must supply the demands of the public; importation is not their business, but to resort to the warehouses, and retail out the goods as received from thence. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 4 Every Box, Basket, Packet, Parcel (etc.)...brought to any Inn, Warehouse, or other Place, by any Public Stage Coach. 1820 *Act* 3 & 4 *Vict.* c. 17 § 2 Spirits...in Warehouse under Her Majesty's Locks. 1844 G. Dond *Textile Manuf.* i. 11 We have around us the wholesale 'warehouses' and offices wherein is transacted all the business between the dealers, the manufacturers, the spinners, the bleachers, the calico-printers. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, A packer's warehouse, and a bottle-maker's warehouse. 1848 *Act* 8 & 9 *Geo. V*, c. 15 § 7 Tobacco exported from Great Britain...or deposited in a bonded or King's warehouse.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1620 Healey *St. Chrys. Citie of God* vi. vii. 246 As Budæus calleth the workes in his Mercuries seller, or Minerua's warehouse [*i.e.* ιλλαδιον Ταμειον]. 1822 Rowlands *Knave of Spades* E 2 b, His richest wardrobe is a pensais pocket, And two pence in Tobacco still doth stocke it. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, The kidney-pie man has just walked away with his warehouse on his arm.

†**c.** A mason's or carpenter's workshop. *Obs.*—9

1530 Palsgr. 286/2 Warehouse for masons or carpentars, *astillier* [= *atelier*].

†**d.** A tradesman's inner or back shop. *Obs.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Magasin, ou autre boutique*, a warehouse, an inner shop. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* ii. i, *Thos.* Where's the boy? *Fiso.* Within sir, in the warehouse. 1602 Times *Quersit.* ii. vii. 139 Neither did they care for the great confusion of commodities and mixtures which fill a whole ware-house and shoppe.

†**e.** Used as a more dignified synonym for 'shop'. *Obs.*

With defining word, as in *baby-linen warehouse*, *Italian warehouse*, the word is still met with on the signboards of London shops.

c 1730 Hurt *Lett. N. Scot.* (1818) I. 65 Here and there you may now see an ordinary shop dubbed with the important title of a Warehouse. 1796–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* (1813) III. v. 92 She does not know which are the best ware-houses. 1798 — *Northanger Abb.* iv, Mrs. Hughes saw all the clothes after they came from the warehouse. c 1832–7 *Katey's Pey.* 13, 'I know him,' said one of the men. 'He lives at Douglas, just off the quay.' 'I know him too. I've bought goods at his warehouse,' observed a lady.

**f.** In a printing office (see quot.).

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Warehouse*, the department responsible for printed work and 'white paper'...*Warehouse-knife*, a large knife used for cutting up by hand small quantities of paper.

**2.** *attrib.*, as *warehouse-door*, *-keeper*, *-rent*; **warehouse-knife** (see 1 f); **warehouse-room**, storage in a warehouse.

1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxvi, A salesman, ...who was smoking a pipe at his "warehouse-door," 1683 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 73 They have been forced to give Mr. Ellis, ware-house keeper, each of them, a Bribe. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxv. P 2 The Warehouse-keeper takes the Heap out of the Press-room into the Warehouse. 1709 *Act* 8 *Anne* c. 21 § 5 The Ware-house-Keeper of the said Company of Stationers. 1822 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (ed. 2) 190 I delivered the above, in November 1819, A. B. Ware-house-keeper. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 6 *many*, Parcels...to be delivered...on Payment of Carriage and Ware-house-Rent. 1815 E. S. *Swinburne's Dict. in Arbor Juris-Gentes* III. 640 For "Warehouse-room there, till the bearings be sold, allow, at most £2 0s. od. 1799 *Local Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 58 § 6 The additional Sum of Two Pence for the Warehouse-Room [&c. of the Parcel]. 1832 Sir H. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1849) I. 159 Does the value of this probability pay for the expense of warehouse-room?

**Hence Warehousable** *adj.*

1839 Mill *Liberty* iii. 121 A man cannot get a coat or a pair of boots to fit him, unless they are either made to his measure or he has a whole warehouseful to choose from.

**Warehouse** (wēə·rhausˌ), *v.* [f. Warehouse *sb.*] *trans.* To deposit or secure (goods) in a warehouse; to deposit (furniture) for safe keeping, a charge being made for storage; to place (imported goods) in a bonded warehouse pending the payment of the import duty. Hence **Warehoused** *ppl. a.*

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 9 Nov. 4/2, 16 bales of sugar which have been landed and warehoused. 1819 *Act* 39 *Geo. III*, c. 32 Table A—Inwards, Warehoused Goods. For a List of those Goods which may be warehoused, or otherwise secured on Importation into Great Britain without Payment of Duty in the First Instance, See Table F. 1874 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 6/5 A building...in which will be found complete accommodation for warehousing the valuables of noblemen and gentlemen in their absence from town. 1886 Schole *Phraseol. Dict.* II. 832 Any cotton you may consign to us will be warehoused pending your further instructions.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1804 Landor *Imag. Conv., Washington & Franklin* Wks. 1846 I. 124 Their stores of intellect are not squandered in the regions of fancy, but warehoused and kept sound at home. 1838 *Edin. Rev.* LXI. 457 Our coal mines may be regarded as vast magazines of hoarded, or warehoused power. 1855 Shirreff *Occult Sciences* 140 Its wondrous fount, from the days of Herodotus to our own, has been warehoused by small poets as part of their stock in trade of sparkling illustrations.

**c.** *slang.* To put in prison.

1881 *Punch* 12 Feb. 72 D'you want to get us both 'ware-housed'?



**Warehousage.** ? *U.S.* [f. Warehouse *sb.* or *v.* + -age.] The cost of warehousing.

1925 W. H. Page *Note to Sir E. Grey* 5 Nov. § 31 Costs and expenses...such as pilotage,...harbour dues, warehousages,...etc., be paid by the claimants.

**Warehouseman** (wēə·rhausmăn, wēə·rəsmĕn). [f. Warehouse *sb.* + Man *sb.*]

**1.** A man employed in or having the charge of a warehouse.

1893 in *Times Lit. Suppl.* (1918) 5 Sept. 416/2 Hes was one that was at the unloyling thereof, for twas his place beeing warehousman alwayes to doo that businesse. 1798 *Boy's Rep.* (1800) I. 45 The custom is for a shop-keeper to send home goods in the care of a trusty servant or warehouse man. 1850 J. H. Newman *Serm. Var. Occ.* xii. (1881) 233 He began...with the poor; then he went among shopmen, warehousemen, clerks in banks. 1870 *Daily News* 2 July, A cricket match at the Kennington Oval in which all the players are warehousemen. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 648/1 Plowright was...employed as a warehouseman by a firm of general merchants in Manchester.

**b.** (See quot. and Warehouse *sb.* 1 f.)

1875 Southward *Dict. Typogr., Warehouseman*, the person who has charge of the warehouse.

**2.** A wholesale merchant (esp. a trader in textile materials) who has a warehouse for the storing of merchandise.

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1208/4 Robert Harper Apprentice to John Brisat at the Golden Cross in Cateston-street, London, Warehouseman,...Run away from his Said Master on the 13 day of June. 1798 *Ibid.* No. 4427/16 Whereas a Commission of Bankrupt is awarded against Thomas Carey, late of London, Warehouse-man. 1748 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* xxiii. (1841) I. 178 The wholesale tradesman is frequently called a warehouse-man, or factor. 1887 *Brit. Textile Warehousemen* 15 Sept. 465 Mr. Campbell is not merely a warehouseman, but a manufacturer of the goods displayed. 1903 *Times* 12 Mar. 11/3 Berlin Textiles...Warehousemen report a pause in the demand.

**b.** *Italian warehouseman*: see Italian *a.*

**Warehousing** (wēə·rhauzĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Warehouse + -ing1.] The depositing of goods, etc., in a warehouse whether under bond or otherwise. Also *concr.*, money paid for the accommodation of a warehouse.

1795 J. Phillips *Inland Navig.* Add. 235 Profits arising from the warehousing and wharfage of goods. 1823 *Act* 16 & 17 *Vict.* c. 107 § 10 To provide Warehouses for the warehousing of Tobacco at the Ports. 1878 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* (1883) I. 335 The system of warehousing, or admitting at a low rate of duty goods, free of duty, to await exportation.

**b.** *Comb.*

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 21/1 An act passed in the last session, commonly called the 'warehousing act'. 1817 *Evans's Pard. Dict.* I. 1327 Mr. W. Pole said, the warehousing system was not thought of at the time the hon. baronet mentioned (1808). 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 505 The Ministers would have been pledged to support the sale and warehousing system of the Company.

**Wareide,** variant of Wareid.

**Wareine,** obs. form of Warren.

**Wareland,** var. of Warland *obs.*

**Wareless,** *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. Ware *sb.*1 + -less.] Very frequent in Spenser and Daniel.

**1.** Unwary, incautious, imprudent.

1586 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 220 How surely are the wareless wrapt by that lye in wayte? 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. ii. 1 Of wretched wayes, and perils wareless. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. 1. 1. 1

1456 5th G Have I *saw Armes* (S T S) 124 Out of his lordis land suld pas nouthir hors na men till other cuntree in armes na warefare 1 2534 Barclay *Eclog* iii (1570) B vb, For nought is in warfar saue care and misery 1611 Bible 1 *Sam* xxviii 1 The Philistines gathered their armies together for warfare 1656 Hobbes *Leviath* ii xxviii 186 The most common Souldier, may demand the due wages of his warefare, as a debt 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vii, He was as yet unpractised in the ruthless expedients of savage warfare 1900 *Longman's Mag* Aug 340 Having acquired a brevet colonelcy in Indian frontier warfare.

†**b.** Phr. *To go (forth) a warfare*, to go to the war; also *to go* (etc.) *on warfare, to pass (forth) on warfare* (Sc); *to send a warfare*. Also *a warfare*, in the field (= 1 *militiae*). *Obs.*

In these phrases *a* is *A prep*[1], but is often mistaken for the indef article.

1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 144 Richard Awrey 3ede forthe a warfare in a schypp of hys owne. 1548 Hall's *Chron*. Ix 7 Who goeth a warfare [*see* STIPENDYAL] eny tyme att his awne cost? 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) I. 94 Ire young men war ord unit to be redely to pas in to weirefare against pure Inemyis. a 1535 Brayton *Golden Bk M. Aurel.* (1546) K iv, Forquate her husband was in Asie a warre fare 1540 Udall *Erasm. Apoph* 201 b, Alexander hauing taken a vyage on warrefare into Asie. 1553 Wilson *Rhet* 24 He whiche had maried a wyfe, the same yeare shoulde not be forced to go on warrefaire. 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 270 b, Not only at home, but in the same also, and a warfare 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xliv 1 170 Rather ye we should go a warfare under the crosse 1579 Heylins *Lacedæm's Pyant Lib.* (1593) 88 What mistes doth the Prince to the Capytaine that sendes him a warrefare, if he makes him sure to haue the victoria?

*c. transf* and *fig.*

1599 E. Aston *Peele's Par Rev* vii 9-12 So long as they remaine in the warefare of this transitorye lyfe. 1657 *Penit Conf* 348 Nor can there in this spiritual warfare be better weapons than prayers and tears. 1733 Pope *Ep. to Arbuthnot* 178 When, with hereditary rights, from her birth Finds all her life one warfare upon earth 1807-8 W Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 291 All the various artillery of fashionable warfare 1893 Jowett *Plato* (ed 3) I. 194 They are most skilful in legal warfare

†**Warfare,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb] *intr.* To wage war; to take part in war; to serve in the field. Also *fig.*

1565 Stapleton tr *Bede's Hist* iii xviii 94 Wherein having, with much devotion, warfared a longe time to God 1567 Painter's *Pal. Pleasure* Concl., Poetry sort and sexe that warfare in the fields of humayne life 1589 Sampson tr. *Agrippa's Van Artes* xxiii 40 Yet with these shippes we make them muche more dangerous, robbing and warrefaring in them, no otherwise then we do in the meane battle 1598 Florio, *Militare*, to warrefaire, to follow the warres 1624 Gaule *Magastrom* 369 A certaine Germane warfaring in Italy

Hence †**Warfa·rer,** a warrior. †**Warfa·ring** *vbl. sb.*

1591 ] Elyot tr *B de Loque's Dict. Warre* 31 Thus much for the rules of warfarers 1598 R Bernard tr. *Perkins, Hexast* Argt, Historicall warfaring, forced his sonne Christ . to goe a warrefaring 1656 Earl Monm tr *Bocalinus' Ist te fe Parnas* i xxxv (1674) 43 His indiscreet way of warfaring in Asia 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* ii (68-81) 232 During these wild warfarers, and stirring things 1870 Morris *Sigurd* iii (1877) 196 The Burg of the Niblung people and the heart of their warfaring

**Warfaring,** *ppl. a.* [f. Warfare *v.* + -ing²] That wages war, that serves, or takes part, in war; militant Also *fig.*

1549 E. Allen *Jn's Par Rev.* xxii 1-4 This militant & warrefarynge churche 1644 Milton *Treat* (Arb) 45 lie is the true warfaring Christian 1862 Carlyle *Hero as Hero* ii (1858) 272 He is the warfaring and battling Priest 1882 Stevenson *New Arab Nts, Sire de Malétroit*, Lads were early formed in that young, warring town.

Hence †**Warfaringly** *adv*

1618 Cotgr, *Belliquentement*, martially, warlikely; warfaringly.

**Warff,** obs. form of Wharf.

**Warfore,** obs. forms of Wherefore.

†**Warful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. War *sb*.[1] + -ful.] Bellicose.

1530 Palsgr 328/2 Warfull, *batailleux* 1755 H. Walpole *Let to Chute* 20 Oct, Lord Robert Bertie, with a company of the Guards, has thrown himself into Dover Castle; don't they sound very war full?

**War-god, War-goddess.** A god or goddess who presides over war. Also *fig.*

*c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* v. 30 The War god Who raged so on the Ilian side. 1839 Carlyle *Chart.* Kev Lv iii (*heading*), Broghie the War-God 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl* vi v, Maggie glared at him like a wounded war goddess. 1906 W. H. Craigie *Relig Ice. Iceland* 115 Odin is a war god, who assigns victory or defeat to men.

**War-horse.** A powerful horse ridden in war by a knight or trooper; a charger

1683 Kamboy *Introd Science* 124 In buying of Arm., War-horses, or Instruments of War 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 150/2 War Horses, such as are trained and brought up not to run back at the rattling of Drums, [etc.] 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 61 P 6 A War Horse belonging to one of the Colonels of the Artillery, to be Let or Sold 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* I. xv, So chafes the war-horse in his might, I hat fieldward bears some valiant knight 1842 D Jerrold *St Giles* xx, The old war-horse pricks his ears at the murderous music of the trumpet. 1883 J Parker *Apost. Life* II 274 The war-horse will pass when he can no longer stand.

**b.** *fig.* A veteran soldier or politician; a person full of warlike memories.

1884 *American* VIII 291 Which reminds us of the well-known admission of the party 'war horse' that he would vote for the enemy of mankind if he got the 'regular' nomination 1900 *Daily Chron* 26 Apr 3/1 That old political war-horse .Sir George Dibbs

**Warl, var.** Warp *v. Obs.*, to curse.

†**Warlable,** *a. Obs* [f. Warp *v.* + -able.] Deserving of cursing; execrable.

1382 Wyclif *Prov* xxvii. 1 Alle time warlable (Vulg *exprobabilis*) he shal be. — *Accius* xxvii. 33 Wrathe and wodnesse, either ben warlable (Vulg. *execrabilia*).

**warling, -ance, -and.** *see* Variable, Variance, Varting.

†**Warlangle.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 ? wearglnosl, 4-5 **varlangel, were-, weryangle, wayryngle,** 4, 7-8 **waryngle,** 6-9 **warlangle,** 6 **warringle, warwinckle, wierangle, -angel, wirrangle.** [? Ob. *wearglnosel* shrike (Sweet: authority not known). Cf. OHG. (MHG.) *warchengel, wargengel, wargengel*, etc. 'cruricula'), etc. (Steinmeyer-Sievers, Diefenbach). Cf. *wargengel, warkengel* (with very many local variants due to different etymologizing alterations; as *wurzengel, quast* 'destroying angel'). Cf. also M.L.G. *worgel*, OHG (MHG) *wargel, wargel, wergil, worgel* (Bavarian dial. *worgl* shrike, Salzburg *worgel* green-finch). All these forms appear to be diminutives of OTeut. **warzo-* murderer *see* Wary *sb.*

The OE word, if genuine, perh preserves most nearly the original form. The suffix compares with *-angel, -ingel, -inel, -lowinel*, etc. (all without umlaut) Cf OHG. *-inkilin* It remains, however, very remarkable that in O or in later E there is no trace of *i* (some of the single exception of *warrwuckle* in quot 1618. As there is no evidence of the word later until Chaucer, the ME. and later forms are perhaps, in part due to, or influenced by, some continental form This prevalent form of the ending, *angle-, -ingle*, is perh partly due to association with Hang *v* (owing to the habits of the shrike) In early times the first element would seem to be the etymology of Ob. *wearg-lnosa*, Wayting gallows Such an association was apparently present in early t cf such forms as *wurgelhalch, wurgelhâhe, wurgelhenke*, Ancren. Riwle.

1. A name formerly given to the shrike or Butcher-bird, either the (Great or European) Grey Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) or the smaller red-backed Shrike (*L. collurio*). See Shrike *sb* 2

Apart from the doubtful OE form and two obscure passages in Wyclif, the earliest instance of the existence of the word is almost solely drawn from dictionaries, glossaries, and dialect collections of doubtful value, some of which perh. merely echo quot 1598.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T* 210 This Sonnonour, that was as ful of Iangles, As ful of venym been thise waryangles. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* (1495) 20 b/1 Thei [Ravens] be ful besy vpon a thynge vpon a dede, & teare them in pieces and deuoure them. And also the common opynyon is, that the thu ne whereupon they thus fasten them and eate them, is alwaye wyrd poy-sonome In Staffordshire and Shropshire the name is . nun 1611 Cotgr, *Averolle*, a Shrike, Murmunde, Wirrangle 1618 Latham *2nd Ish Falconrie* 144 The Wirwinckle which is a pyed bird, and vses most in pastur ground, or other champyne places whereas growes great store of Mushrumes 1674 Ray *Collect. Eng. Words* 83 The great Butcher bird called in the Peak of Derbyshire Wirrugle, *Lanius cinereus major* 1678 — *Willughby's Ornith* 91 The Great Grey Shrike, called in the North of England is called a Weriangle, a name, it seems, common to us with the Germans, who (as Gesner witnesseth) about Strasburgh, Frankfurt and elsewhere, call it Wergangel, or Warkangel 1686 Plot *Staffordsh* 429 The Butcher bird or Wierangel, here called the Shrike or French Pye 1885 Swainson *New Names Birds* 47 *Red-back'd shrike*, Butcher bird, Murdering bird, Nimble-tiller, Weirangle or Warrangle (Staffordshire)

2. Used as a term of contemptuous abuse. *rare*[—1].

*a* 1400-50 *Alexius* 1. 1256 A wrulyng, a wayryngle [*Dubl. MS.* warlow], a weuil-eyed shrewe

**Warlans,** obs 8c form of Variance.

†**Warlbreed.** *Obs* Forms : 1 wears(e)-, **wearhbréde,** 6 **warrybrede,** 8 **warelbreed.** [Ob. *wearhbréde* wk. fem., f. **wearh-* = Ware *sb*[2], pus, matter + *-bréde* cogn. w. *bréd* flesh] In 6, some kind of ulcer or eruption, in 16–18th c. = Wirble *sb*.[2] 2.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Voc* in Wr.-Wülcker 158/23 *Impetigo*, eczan wenn, *uel* wearhbrædc. *c* 1050 *Voc*, *ibid.* 457/6 *Nenum*, weargebraede. *c* 1000 *Sax Leechd.* I. 86 Sif hwylcum wearghbræde [*v. r.* wearhs- L. *ulcus*] weaxe on þam nosum 1686 or þam hleore 1823-34 Fitzherb *Husb.* § 63 I here be beasties that wyll haue warrybredes in dyuers partes of they body and legges. 1893 *Bradley's Peasant Dict* s v. *Warnel-worum*, Thy Disease in some Cattle runs into divers Parts of their Bodies, called by some the *Warr breed*.

**Warlche,** variant of Warish *v.* Obs.

†**Warlde,** variant of Warp *v.* Obs. to curse.

†**Warled,** *ppl. a.* Obs. [f. Warl *v.* + -ed 1.] Cursed, accursed.

*c* 975 *Rushw Gosp* Matt xiii 19 Cymþ se wergad [Vulg. *venit malus*] & forsæ þ þæ sawen was *a* 1175 *Cott Hom.* 230 Þe wergede gastes. *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 542 Mid-winen hem gunnen seðes sunes. . And mengten whi warned kin. *a* 1300 *Curser M.* 2037 He me fra, þou wared thing. *Ibid.* 10087 Quar-shere þe warlaw wrild wight, For-cummen es 23 . *E E Allit P* B 1716 Wale wiues to þy wenches in waryed stoundes. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* 1 1 This is a werld cursnade 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 6186 Yhe wered wyghtes wende fra myn hand. *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints xxvii (Margaret)* 526 þis waryt lug, in stnl ede, gart margaret son befor hym fet *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1377 In waryt tyn that Heslrig was born! *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* (Tullibardine MS.) 607 Sua knauishe, cankerd[d], execrabill, And vareit ane wicht

Hence †**Warledhed** [-head], cursedness.

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* v 13 In oure warledhed [Vulg. *malignitate*] fonothe wee ben waxtil *Ibid.* v. 24.

†**Warler.** *Obs.* Also 4 -ere, 5 -ar, **waryare,** 6 **weriour.** [f. Warp *v* + -er.] One who curses.

1382 Wyclif *Ps* xxi. 17 The counsell of warleris [Vulg *concilium malignantium*] lapyden me 1 — 1 *Cor.* v. 11 A cursere [*gloss*] or warere [Vulg. *maledicus*] *c* 1430 *Lantern of Light* 131 Warl[a]ars, curaris, achidars, sclaundrars & blasfemars. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 518/2 Waryare, or launare, *improcator, vituperator, maledicus*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis*, etc (1874) IV. 226 That, you to pleye, I set all schame behind, Offeryng me to my weriours wis fally

†**Warify,** *v Obs.* (*nonce-wd.*) [? f. Wary *a.* + Fy.] *trans.* To render wary or timorous.

1614 Sylvester *Panaretus* 801 *Paræl. Vertues Rey* 34 Thou (Andrea se Fortitude) art lockt vp in Fiercos Cabinets; Among the Coreletes, which, now warified I through loue of Peace, they haue new lay'd aside.

**Warily** (wē·rĭlĭ), *adv.* [f. Wary *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wary manner, cautiously, †watchfully.

1552 Huloet, Warily, *solerter, vigilanter* 1599 Shake. *Hen* I, III vii. 61 I hey that. ride not warily, fall into foule Bogges 1609 B Jonson *Volpone* I, v, Shee a kept as warily, as is your gold Neuer sleepes the master, but hee's one eyre, But at a windore 1646 Sir I. Browne *Pseud. Ep* i vii 33 More warily are we to receaue the relations of Phisitions, who in Greeke Authors haue incurred the reproofes of Aristotle 1658 Rowland tr *Moufet's Theat. Ins* 914 It [as hones] is a heauenly gift, and very profitable for men, if they vse it well and warily. 1757 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 37 Take ripe Puff balls. Break them warily 1899 Macaulay *Hist. Eng* vii. II 163 Surrounded by snares in which an ordinary South Sea islander would be perplexed, William learned to tread at once warily and firmly. 1893 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV 396 I heir adversaries defend themselves warily from an invisible world

†**Warinent.** *Obs.* = Warnent. [f. Wary *a.* + -ment.] Precaution

1596 Spenser *F Q* iv iii 17 Full many strokes The white were enterchanged . Yet they were all with so good warriment Or warded, or auoyded That

**Warinar,** obs. form of Warrener.

†**Warine.** *Obs.* [A rendering of Buffon's *ouarine*, a misreading for **ouarive*, adj. Sp. *guariba* (*b* = *v*).] = Guariba.

1774 Goldsm *Nat. Hist* IV. 235 The first of the sapajous is the Warine, or the Beaked Ape 1776 Reynolds *Disc R Acad* vi (1778) 81 Her flesh is forming herself, must look with great caution and wariness on those peculiarities or prominent parts, which at first force themselves upon view. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Ser.* 1 *Poor Relations*, Their simplicity beyond the somewhat unfeminine wariness of their competitors, I felt a kindliness for those five thought less virgins. 1871 Darwin *Desc Man* I ii 50 Our domestic dogs are descended from wolves and though they may not have gained in cunning, and may have lost in wariness and suspicion, yet [etc.]. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 126 They are marvellously shy and wary, this wariness being fully confirmed by Messrs. Danford and Buxton

**Waring,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* exc. *dial* Also 4 varinge, 5 warryn(e, varin, 6 warring. [f. Ware *v.*[2] + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb; spending, investing (of money). † *At the waring of* at the cost of (one's life).

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints v (Johannes)* 125 [God] hat wald hat men mad ek varinge Ar he ordand vn to þair liuinge. 1494 Hallybuston *Ledger* 37 Som of this warynge of this syd, 1591 l. 208 7s 1494 *Ibid* 63 Som of my varin is, 59 li. 13s 8s 1495 *Ibid.* 59 Item for my warynge in and warryn sen my last cont, 10li *a* 1572 Knox *Hist Ref.* Wks 1846 I 273 We shall defend thame, the hail congregatioun of Christ at our hail powers and waring of our lyves, against Sathan. 1586-7 *Bond's Rec. Rolls* (1886) IV 487 Cevis power..to Jhonn Robertsoun to tak the aythis of the merchants vpoun the quantities of thair wairingis and guidis schipit, 40 pas *Scotland's Welcome* (1786) 65 And sure I am, that never a man had loss by such a wareing.

†**2.** Payment of a price. *Obs.*

*c* 1315 *S. Leg. Psalter* xlix. (xlv) 13 þou salde þi folk with out waring Vaig. *sine pretio*]

†**Waring,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. Ware *v.*[1] + -ing 2.] Aware, cognisant *of*

1571 in Strype *Eccl. Mem* (1721) III. App. lix. 200 He.. was not wytting nor waring of the same.

**War-inne,** obs. form of Wherein.

**Warinstour,** variant of Warnestowe *sb. Obs.*

†**Warish,** *sb. Obs.*[—0] [Connected with Ob. *wearr*, callosity, wart; see Warre.] A callosity.

1670 Lyeve *Manip.* 144/21 A warish, *callus*.

†**Warish,** *v. Obs.* Forms : 3-6 **warie,** 4-5 **waris(e)obe, -ys(e)obe, -as(e)obe, -isshe, -yse, -iobe, -yobe, -isse, -ys(e, warsobe, ware(o)he,**

**warshe** (*pa. t.* warset), 4–6 **waryssho**, 4-9 **warish**. [f. OF. *warisz-*, pres. stem of *warir, g(u)arir*: see GUARISH *v.*]

1. *trans.* To heal, cure (a person, etc.) *of, (out of)*, a sickness or trouble.

*c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Also reþe he was i-warised of his maladie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21600 Quen þe stanged man mogth se þe nedder on be tre þat hang þal war all warist o pair stang. *c* 1330 *St. Peter* 31 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 49 Many þal war seke and sore, prayd him forto be pare bolde And warisch þam out of þaire wo. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 1104 I was warshed of al my sores. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xli. 573 The kynge Alain . that lith in sekenesse, and shall neuer be warished till [etc.]. 1623 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Warish*, ease, deliuer.

b. To heal, cure (a sickness, ill).

*c* 1325 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Thomas*) 388 For-þi þi crafte þu keth one me, & waryse myn Infyrmyte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melibeus*. P 320 And therfore o vengeaunce is nat warished by another vengeaunce ne o wrong by another wrong. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS. in Archæologia* XXX. 383 Fastande to vse sponfull thre Till his sekenesse warched be. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. ii. I. 154 Those be some theirs who warish and cure the stinging of serpents with their spittle.

c. *intr.* To recover from sickness or trouble.

13.. *Sowdone Sag.* 1097 The child warisedt fair and wel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincent*) 316 Sche fostered hyme wele, til he begyne to waryse. *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 16 Youre doghter with the grace of god shal warisshe and escape. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Warysche, or wexyn of sekenesse, *convalesco*. 1530 PALSGR. 771/2 I warysshe, I recover my helth after a sycknesse or daunger (1.ydgat). 1808 W. CAR *Craven Gloss.* II. 239 *Warrish*, to recover from sickness. *Ibid.* 286 Hean nieve warish'd o't' surfeit he gat last Keramas. *a* 1864 R. B. PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.* s. v., ' He'll never warish on it' = He will not get over it.

2. *trans.* To guard, secure, protect, preserve; to save, rescue.

*c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2622 For burwes & bold tounes al for-brent were, but 3it were þei wiþ walles warchet a-boute. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 921 Now walle þe a wonnyng þat þe warisch myȝt. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose St. Dedet* 1746 How a blinde man A felsh schepe warest & wane. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 233 Beir Christis croce.. That is to say, .. Help vthir to beir that ourlaid ley Sa sall this warld be warisit accordinle. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXII. xxi. 822 The mediterranean parts within the continent, were so secure and warisshed from the barbarous forrain, that [etc.]. 1601 — *Pliny* XVII. x. I. 521 But ever after it [*sc.* the tree] is warished and safe enough. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words, Warisht*, that hath conquered any disease or difficulty, and is secure against the future; also, well stored, or furnished.

Hence †**Warishing** *vbl. sb.*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 49 As to the warishynge of youre doghter. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waryschynge, of sekenesse, *convalescencia*.

†**Warish**, *v.*2 *Obs.*—[f. WARISH *sb.*] *intr.* To become harl or callous.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 244/41 To warish, *occallescere*.

**Warish**, variant of WERISH *a.*

†**Warisome**, *a. Obs. rare*. [f. WARY *a.* + -SOME.] Cautious or careful (*that*—). Hence †**Warisomeness**.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts, Of Swine* 682 When the beasts do eat the white [Hellebore], they forbeare the blacke with all wearisomenesse [*sic*]. 1608 WILKINS *Brit. Remonstr.* iv. 2217 That they might..Amend their courses; and be warisome That they displease not God, in times to come.

†**Warison**. *Obs.* Forms: 4, 6 **wary-**, **wari-**, **wars-**, (4 **warei-**, **vari-**, 5 **wory-**, **worry-**), **-soun(e**, **-son(e**, 4 **-sun**, **-sowne**, **-sonne**, **summe**; 5 **warrison**. [n. OF. *warison*, northeastern form of *g(u)arison* : see GARRISON *sb.*]

1. Wealth, possessions. *To bring* (a person) *in* or *to (his) warison*: to enrich.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2461 Hengist bat hor maister was he [Vortigern] hef him bitraied & Kente in warison & reuest tounes grete & beye Ware boru him & is men in vair warison he brogte. *Ibid.* 8878 Mahble is dogter was ete of al is londe Ys kinge vor ire vrakþe hym gaf wel vnderstonde & brohte robard is sone aheat in is warison here Peou spoulynges of pis mayde. 13.. *Sir Beues* (MS. A.) 2143 Wide whar ichaue iwent And me warisoun ispent. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 64 Bot yet his herte..Among the lodes most devoute Goth to the worldes cause aboute, How that he myhte his warisoun Encrese. *Ibid.* I. 135 Mi fader hier hath bot a lite Of warison. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1328 Bot i saide he myhte his warisoune. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 919 For thy my warysoun is full glade at hame quhair I duell.

b. (*To give, have*) *to warison* : in full possession. Also, *To give* (a woman) *in warison* : to give in marriage; similarly *to have, in warison, wed to warison*.

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1284 My monie fo & my feloun Sichal haue my doughter to warisoun. 1338 — *Chron.* (1725) 91 Kilfride þorgh heritage toke him þe coroune, & gaf Alfride his broþer Surray to warisoune. *Ibid.* 69 He duke wrote to be kyng.. Bisoul him.. but he wild hold his oth, & ȝeld him þe corown of Inglond..Or Marie to warisoun wed hir, & ioy it wele. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2399, I sal hir ȝif to warisowne Ane of the foulest quisteroun That ever yit ete any breide. *c* 1420 *Pilgr. Lyfe* (ROXB.) 1060 Be lordeship of a grete town He yafe him to his warison. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 111 And for this qeyte-clayme the forsaid Symond yaf to her ij. shillings of sliuer into warison. *c* 1460 *Osmey Reg.* 164 And for this ȝeyyng and of this present charter confermyng and warantiȝyng aquite & defendyng, be forsaide Nycol ȝafe to me Cl li. of goode & lawfull moneye by-fore handes in weryson.

c. *fig.* Applied to an immaterial 'treasure'; esp. a maiden's honour.

*a* 1300 *Prov. Hendyng* 21 Wyt & wysdom is god warysoun. *c* 1300 *Marina* 109 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 172 Þou ne dudest nouȝt ase heende To bynymen þat mayde hire warisoun. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2190 Syf þou rauyashe a mayden powre,..Þou hast stole here warysoun.

2. A gift bestowed by a superior; a reward.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5250 (Laud MS.) Per nas knaue ne quystroun Pat ne had his warisoun. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 295 Pre hundreth marke he hette vnto his warisoun, þat with him xx. meiny, or bring his hede to toun. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 170 His wark nal haf warysoune & of his master benysoune. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warysoune, *donatrum, donacio*. *c* 1460 *Jacob's Well* 254 We arn alle felawys in goddys hous, þat ȝyue þay ȝyfton as his knyȝtes, and alle we abyde on waryssoun. *c* 1460 *Battle of Otterbourne* xlii. in Child *Ballads* III. 297/2 Myynstrells, pluge vp for your warysoun And well quyt it schall bee. 1470–83 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xxii. 372 And now haue I my warysoun. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *King-Hart* II. 33 My warisoun,.. Lord, pay to me, and gif me half ȝe ryde. 1580 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 66 My ladds of Leith, be wice—ȝe ken ȝour warisoun.

b. In bad sense: 'Reward', due punishment.

*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1337 He [*sc.* Narcissus] lost his wite.. And dieden withynne a lytel space, And thus his warisoun [*F. guerredon*] he took For the lady that he forsook. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVI. 89 For thy presumpcyoune þou haste þi warisoune. 1528 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 362 Robert the Grmhams,..for his waresoun, Vpoun ane flaik wes trailliit throw the toun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 74 The conteine with his companie Within schort tyme gat thair warison, On lather brig wer hanged schamefullie. [1881 J. SARGISSON *Jon Scorp* 31 E.D.D.] Thoo's gitten thy warrison, me lad ; ilg thee thear till see like thine ah sent thy mother.

¶ 3. tr. med.L. *garnisa*, ad. ME. GERSUM.

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 156 And for this ȝifte..the forsaid mynchons of Godestowe yaf to hym ix. marke of siluer into warysoun. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 146 They presented mynchons ȝaf to hym xj. marke, ij. shillings, vij. d. in warysoun.

4. †Preservation, defence.

*c* 1460 RUSSE *Secreta secretor.* 2537 With greet rewardys doo them avance..Which aldayes beay and waking be In thy nedys; for in them stant the waryssoun Of thy worshepe, thy lyf or thy destruccion.

† 5. Amused by Scott for : A note of assault.

The source of the mistake is prob. the line 'Mynstrells, playe vp for your waryson', in *The Battle of Otterbourne*, which Scott had doubtless read in Percy's *Reliques*.

1805 SCOTT *Minstrel* iv. xxiv, Either receive within thy towers Two hundred of my master's powers, Or straight they sound their warison, And storm and spoil thy garrison. 1814 — *Waverley* (*Tauch.*) I. 69 My friend Scott is fond of a sound my warison. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 342 He thinks of sounding his warrison against what he strikingly calls the 'prim Whigs of Holland'.

**Warisse**, **-issbe**, var. ff. WARISH *v.* Obs.

**Waritreo** : see WARETREE *Obs.*, gallows.

**Warius**, obs. form of VERJUICE.

*c* 1425 *Pec.* in Wr.-Wülcker 660/13 *Hoc ius wiride*, warius *i. viridum succus*.

**Wark** (wȧk), **warch** (wȧtʃ), *sb.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **werc**, 3 **warche**, 5 **werk(e**, 5–6 **warke**, 7 **warck**, 7– **warch**, 9 **wark**. [OE. *werc* masc. = ON. *verk-r* (Sw. *värk* pain, Da. *værk* gout, rheumatism) :–OTeut. **warki-z*, from the same root as **werko-m* WORK *sb.*

With the dial. variation between the types *wark* and *warch* cf. the dial. variation in ME. between *like* and *lich*.

The form *wark* may be partly due to ON. *verkr*.]

A pain, an ache.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 390 Seo readnis & seo hyrne þara twiliȝra heafdes. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 278 Wiþ maxan wærce wyl pic on cu meolce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 326 Þet he ne mei..speken ase he schulde, bute gronen ner his deaðes wærke. [*c.* 1300 *Havelok* 2178 *Wærk* and *wele* Sti as waryske I my warke (*MS. Dubl.* werk) þat I am in wounden. 14.. *Medical Receipts in Rel. Ant.* I. 51 For wery wark in bladder : take ache, percel [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 Furth-with a grete warke went burgh his hand. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 32/1 Warke, ache, *dolor*. 1674 JOHN BEVIS *Discov. Witches* 3 Ye Woman hereby seem'd sore pained with a warch in his bowels. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Wark*, a pain or ache. 'The belly wark.' 1880 (C. C. ROBINSON) *Pital. Leeds* s. v., Gotten t' back-wark, shooder-wark, leg-wark, or t' heead-wark, comes up i' my like.

†**Wark**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* Also 8 **werk**. [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Pref. B 2 b, I know not but that the several Species of new Ferns..may be discover'd upon some of the Mosses or Slates called Wark, which lie in plenty in the Strata over the Cole-pits in many Places of England. 1739 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* I. 68 In several of the Coal Pits of Somersetshire, Somerset, the Veins are covered with a Shell of hard, and stony Substance called Wark, which splits like Slate, but is much more brittle.

**Wark** (wȧk), **warch** (wȧrtʃ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **wercan**, 3 **warche**, 5 **werk**, 5 **warke**, 7 **warck**, 3, 9 **warch**, 5– **wark**. [OE. *wercan* = ON. *verkja, virkja*:–OTeut. **werkjan*, f. **werki-z* : see WARK *sb.*1] *intr.* To ache, suffer pain; to throb painfully. (In OE. impers. with accus., like *l. dolet*.)

*a* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 272 Sif hine innan warce genim nites eaȝa ambor fulne [etc.]. *Ibid.* 328 *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Leste hor heasned aeke [*MS. T.* werche]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Werkyn', and skyn' as a sore lymme, *dolco, indoleo*. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 100 Yit it was a grete mervayle, for fer all þis, nowther warkid hur heued, nor also lafte not þe labur of hur handis. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* lii. 269 My bonys ar so stark, No wonder if thay wark, for I am full old. *c* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1581, I wolde bawke whylest my hede dyd warke. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 77 For laik of quhilks my heid dois wark and swak. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words, Warch*, or *Wark*, to ake, to work. 1828 CRAV *Craven Gloss.*, 1842 HAMPSHIRE *Salop. Ant. Gloss.* 2 v., My corns warchen. 1881 SARGISSON *Jon Scorp's Turneh* 50 (Cumbld. Gloss.) Me heid warkt as it had nivver warkt afoour.

Hence **Wa'rking** *obl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr.* xxxvii. 8 [in arues ere festid in me : þat is, þi vengaunce, as werkynge of body and soule. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1238 The souerayn..the kyng with the cauge caste to be ground, With a warcland wounde thurgh his wedis all. *Ibid.* 10035. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Werkynge, or heede ake, *cephalia*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 8, I haue maide me, in this stere, sore boyys & warkand feete. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 732 Thai.. Wrocht the Sotheroun mony werkand wound. *Ibid.* 898. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 157 Nocht lang efter, throuch the warking woundes that in the battel he receiuet, he dies. *Ibid.* II. x. 297.

**Wark**, obs. and dial. form of WORK *sb.* and *v.*

**Warkefull**, obs. form of WORKFUL.

**War-kettle**. Among North American Indians, a kettle which was set on the fire as a part of the ceremony of inaugurating a war; also *fig.*

1754 *World* No. 102 P 7 At a meeting of the Sachems it was determined to take up the hatchet, and make the war-kettle boil. 1797 [BURKE] *Regic. Peace* IV. Wks. VIII. 121 The principal captain summons the youth of the town to which he belongs; the war kettle is set on the fire;..the hatchet is sent to all the villages of the same nation, and to all its allies. 1764 MOSS *Fr. Captive Ind. in Miss. Valley* 8 Feb., The Duke had made a dinner in honor of the wedding, for the Dukes of D. G. P. B. Lord R. and other chiefs of the war-kettle. 1778 MICHAUX *Travels* (1904) 146 They put in the war-kettle to make his death-feast : which consisted of dog, tyger-cat, and bear's grease, [etc.]. of which he was compelled to eat. 1862 TURGEON in *Mitchell. Feb., The Pulpit* No. 383. 28 They shall empty their war-kettle, and they shall bury their swords.

**Warkmanly**, obs. form of WORKMANLY.

**Warlag(h** : see WARLOCK.

**Warland**, *obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3 **warlond**, 4 **warelond**, 5 **warlant**, **-londe**, 5, 9 *Hist.* **warland**, 7, 9 **wareland**. [f. OE. *waru* defence (see WARE *sb.*2) + LAND *sb.*: in A.L. *terra de warra.*] Agricultural land held by a villein.

See Vinogradoff *Eng. Soc. in Eleventh Cent.* (1908).

*c* 1258 *Ostney Latin Register* (Cb. Univ. MS.) fol. 17 Unam hidam terre cum quatuor virgatis tenibus de warland. 1290 *Feod. Prest Mon. Cl. Edw. I* File 56 (18) (P.R.O.) Le warlond ejusdem manerii [*sc.* Norcliffe co. Chester] tenetur pacere servientes domine regine de Kikkefeld de messagio in mensem quolibet mense per unum diem. 1331 [see THIGGING]. 1456–7 *MS. Bursar's Bk. of Fountains* 58 In xliij ac. et ij Rod. de Warland – iis x. vij d. *Ibid.* 'Arrag' Reg.' 30 Pere also j. hide of londe with lij. men of Warlande [ut. quot. *c* 1258 above]. . . ] In Weston iij. yerdes of londe of Warlant. *Ibid.* 31, j. yerde of londe of Warlande and another of Warlonde. 1811 *Extract Court Rolls Great Oakley, Essex*, [Francis Fisher a tenant of the Manor is described as holding 5 acres of] Wareland.

†**Warlessly** explained.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 137, 2 Wareland, is as much Land as containeth three Lands. [See LAND 26. 7, LODE.] 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Warland*, The same with *Warrentum*.

**Warlare** : see WRAWLER.

**Warlau, warlaw(e** : see WARLOCK.

**Warld, Warldlie, etc.** : see WORLD, -LY, etc.

**Warless** (wō·rles), *a.* In 5 **werreles**. [f. WAR *sb.*1 + -LESS.] Free or exempt from war; not engaging in war.

1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 201 And thus shulde everi land lende one with another, .life togedere werreles in unité. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 256 The pale, pure crescent in the warless heavens. 1866 NEALE *Sequences* 6 So him they lend to warless rest. 1886 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall After* 165 Earth at last a warless world, a single race, a single tongue. *Ibid.* 170 Universal ocean softly washing all her warless lands. *Ibid.* 171 What then fancy warless men?

**Warlessly** *adv.*, in a warless manner.

1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 267 Little flags would mark battles all over the map of the warlessly and tradelessly peaceable Couper despised as so hopelessly, warlessly insignificant.

**Warli(e, -liche** : see WARELY *a.* and *adv.* Obs.

**Warlike** (wō·rlaik), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* **wir-**, **weirelyk**, **werlik**, 5–6 *Sc.* **weirlyk(e**, 6 *Sc.* **were-**, **weirlike**, **-lio**; 6 **warlycke**, **warrelike**, 6–7 **warlicke**, **warreelyke**, 6–8 **warlick**, (7 **warlique**), 6– **warlike**. [f. WAR *sb.*1 + -LIKE.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of a person, nation, etc.: Naturally disposed to warfare or fighting; skilled in war, martial; courageous in war, valiant; fond of war, bellicose.

†*The warlike god*, the god of war, Mars.

*c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 323 Thir werlik Scottis, all with one assent, North at Stanehouth out fra land thai went. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 75 Thinhabitantes [of Jamaica] are..warelyke men. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 118 Warlike and Martiall Talbot, Burgonie Inshrines thee in his heart. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Faer. Pilgr.* 147 Euen thus (quoth she) the warlike god embrac't me. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 719 Joane wife vnto that most warlicke [1637 warlique] Knight Edw. Prince of Wales. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. 557 As when a wrathful Dragons dismal light Strikes suddenly some warlike Eagles sight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 992 The warlike Angel mov'd, Disdainfully half smiling thus repli'd. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.*

vi. Wks. 1851. V. 584 The warlike tribes in North America. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 200 Some trifling assistance from government, to protect them from the predatory and warlike tribes. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II. Mr. Winkle restraced his steps.. with the gloomy and dreadful resolve of accepting the challenge of the warlike Doctor Slammer.

b. Of actions, attributes, etc.: Martial, valiant.

1509 KYD *Cornelia* IV. 188 And so let his warlike browes Still be deckt with Laurel boughes. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xiii. II. 190 These exercises do not create and are not sufficient to keep alive the warlike spirit of a nation.

c. Of things: Martial in character.

*c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1021 3eit that within on lowd defyit Wallace, And trumpatlis blew with mony werlik soun. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. 1. 60 In his dear grave against mortality, we tread In warlike march, these greenes before your Towne. 1600 — *Hen. V*, II. 360 What warlike noyse is this? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 531 At the warlike sound Of Trumpets loud and Clarions. 1815 SCOTT *Roderick* lvi, Then peals the warlike thunder of the drum.

d. Favouring or threatening war.

1815 *Nation* (N. Y.) 29/1 (*Farmer*) After his own outgivings he [Mr. Bryan] had the effrontery to blame the press for making people think the note would be warlike.

†e. *fig.* Of writings: = POLEMICAL. *nonce-use.*

*a* 1803 T. CARTWRIGHT in *Presbyt. Rev.* (1888) Jan. 121 Ambrose and especially Austin in their warlike writings as they are termed.

†2. Equipped for fighting or for war. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. xvi. 1704 Schir Henry, qwhat maks 3ow to be Sa wirlyk as now heyr we sow se? 1563 in Mymer *Fœdera* (1729) XV. 631 With one Shippe.. Marchant-like and not Warlike. 1592 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 141 Yet that.. No deadly fight of warlick fleete doth fear. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vi. 15 Ere we were two dayes old at Sea, a Pyrate of very Warlicke appointment gaue vs Chace. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 537 Monasteries, ancient and warlike, so built for feare of theeves and pyrats. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 179 To the Warlike Steed thy Studies bend. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 124 They are.. destitute of warlick ships and other vessells.

3. Of or pertaining to war.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 78 b, The assemblie of the Empire.. was in this warlyke preparation. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXIX. 93 For ordinance they dung at day and nycht By werlik wolys. 1594 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. XXI. 26 b, [They] surrendred the same [castle]..without any warlike reason. 1592 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 16 They were two knights of peerlesse prowesse, And famous far abroad for warlike gest. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 44 Since first I follow'd Armes, Nere heard I of a warlike enterprise More glorious. 1611 in Hist. MSS. Comm. *Camden's Brit.* I. 282 Who being brought up in warlike feats..most manfully defended this Castle against King Stephen. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 363 A warlike-field is the seed-plot of great and heroic actions. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. XXI. 39 He was upon his return from a Warlike expedition. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 234 Him they serv'd in war, And him in turn, for sake of warlike deeds Rev'renc'd no less. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* III. i. 141 Mortals ..who.. die ere middle age, Without the violence of warlike death. 1846 GREENER *Gun* Preface 7 All our arrangements in warlike preparations, at present, involve [etc.]. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Raabe's Hist. Servia* 349 Their former glorious warlike exploits..led them to entertain very different expectations.

b. of formation, order, etc.

1509 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* vii. 201 Poems (S.T.S.) 57 Euen nik..Sall armed be thair bodyis in steyne and scheild, Baith horsse and fute in warlike maner dreid. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 980 The Cherubim..stood arm'd To their night watches in warlike Parade. 1868 SCOTT *Waverley* I. xx. 206 Every thing warlike wise to ride. A better guard I would not lack. 1870 EMPART *Iliad* IX. 102 With each A hundred youths in warlike order marched.

c. Of arms, munitions, etc.: For use in war.

1582 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* xliii. 383 We shall learne also how to fight against Antichrist, and howe he muste be ouercomen not with warlicke, but spirituall weapons. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 183/1 *Armamentarium*,..an armourie, or place wherein warlike furniture is kept. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* Prol. 23 To Troylus they come, And the deepe-drawing Barke[s] do there disgorge Their warlike fraut-age. 1852 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Cro. Wars Spain* V. XXX. 312 They were to be furnished complete Foot were to be furnished complete With warlike munitions, carriages, and other warlike utensils. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* 24 Ample provisions, ammunition, and warlike stores were deposited in the hunting-carts.

d. Of exercises, training, etc.: Of a military character, martial. ? Now *rare*.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, [They are] exercised..in warlike sort, as all other warlike exercises. 1626 GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* 8 7 Were Artillery Gardens, and Military Fields for Martiall discipline and warlike trainings. Observe.. throw-out this hand.

4. Of or belonging to a warrior or soldier.

1551 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 59 Item for our Master of 3^e^ Ordinaunce a ffayre apparell warlyk. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 31 I leaue my warlike weapes. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovide's Met.* VII. (1626) 150 For when he wore his fairely plumed cask; She thought him lonely in that warlick maske. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 137 He.. In scorn of thir proud arms and warlike tools, Spurn'd them to death by Troops. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. xvii, Behind him were in triumph borne The warlike arms he late had worn. 1819 SHELLEY *Homer's Hymn to Mercury* 5 From his awful head Whom Jove brought forth, in warlike armour dressed.

†B. *adv.* As is usual in war. *Obs. rare.*

1583 A. MELVILL in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 161 The quhilk merciless men..ar gorgiuslie arrayit, and accompanied warlyke with a sort of lismaers and godles soudiaries. 1630 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 343 Some warlike maim'd, some lame.

Hence †**Wa·rlikely** *adv.*, in a warlike condition or manner. †**Wa·rlikeness**, warlike disposition.

1598 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 2 When his army by the sea, was thus warlykely set forward. *Ibid.* 37 b, So he hym selfe with his nobilitie warlikely accompanied, passed ouer betwene Douer and Calays. 1609 Warlikeneasse [see WARLIKENESS]. 1626 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxiii. 345 We shall the warlikelinesse compared of those fame-wronged Men. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 52 Many tall ships.. warlikely appointed. 1626 *Sir W. Raneleigh's Ghost* 3 The Council.. began to repeate many relations..touching the generall warlikenesse of the British Nation.

**Warlike**, obs. variant of WARLOCK.

†**Warlikeness.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. WARLY *a.*[1] + -NESS.] Warlike disposition, valiantness.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 209 And all to keepe the Father from jealousie of his owne sonne, whose braueneese of mind and warlikenesse [*the pirated ed. of* 1605 *reads* warlikeasse] is still suspected.

†**Warling.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 werlyng, 7 worling, worldling, 7– warling. [app. formed arbitrarily to rhyme with *darling*. The resemblance to the Sc. WIRLING seems to be accidental.] One who is despised or disliked. Only in the proverb (see quots.) and allusively.

In the proverb *twarling* is sometimes substituted for *twerling*: the form *worldling* is an obvious perversion.

1578 J. HOOKER *Pvnn. Ir. vii.* (1867) 65 It is better to be An old warling, than a tynder mans sonne dying. 1604 [T CHETTLE] *Wit of Woman* F 4, A young mans worldling. 1612 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* II. i, A young mans warling. 1671 T. H. *Art Achieved* 2 A young mans Worling. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* (1864) III. iii. 162 Folly does King Henry appear self-vindicated from the stigma of having sacrificed his son to his private feelings, as justifying her schemes for aggrandizing her darling at the expence of her warling.

**Warlock** (wǫ·rlɔk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 *wǽrloga*, *wǽrloga*, 3 *werloghe*, *worlaw*, 3–4 *warlou*, 3–5 *warlaghe*, *warlowe* (9, 4–5 *warlog*, *warlaȝ*(e, *warloghe*, *werlaughe*, 4–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) *warlow*(e, 4–6 (7–9 *Sc.* *warlo*, 5 *warlach*, *warloo*, *warlow3*, *werlowe*, 6 *Sc.* *warlochs*, *warlok*, *wairlochs*, *warlo*, 7 *warlowocke*, *warlike*, *warluck*, 8 (*Sc.*), 9 **warlock**. [OE. *wǽr-loga* wk. masc. traitor, enemy, devil, etc. = OS. *wǽr-loga* wk. masc. ?deceiver (once, *Hlliand* 3817), in pl. *wǽrlogun* applied to the Christ; OHG. *wǽr-lougo*, *-logo* wk. masc. is probably OE. *wǽr* in fem. covenant = OHG. *wâra* truth, ON. *várar* sb. fem. pl. solemn promise, vow (cf. *Vǽringi* confederate, Varangian); cf. OSlav. *věra* faith. This is a derivative formation by adj. represented by OE. *wǽr* true (once, *Genesis* 681; ?a. OS.) = OS., OHG. *wâr* true: –OTeut. **wǽro-*:—Pre-Teut. **wēro-* = L. *vērus*. The second element (an agent-n. related to OE. *lōgan* to LIE, *belie*, *betray*) occurs also in the similar compds. *dǽ-loga*, *treów-loga* (OS. *trewilogo*), *weed-loga* (ME. *wedlowe*), an oath-breaker, etc.

This seems to have been the original sense of the present word, but the special application to the Devil (either as a rebel, or as a deceiver) is also early in OE. in the laudatory sense. The applications to sorcerers, with especial reference to the power of assuming inhuman shapes, and to monsters (esp. werewolves), are chiefly modern developments, partly due to Scriptural language, of the sense 'devil'.

The modern forms with first *-o*(*a* are of obscure origin, for they appear first in Sc. of 16th c., and yet the word is absent to Sc. words, and we cannot represent, as has been assumed, a Southern sound-substitution of (k) for the *-ch* (*x*) of some of the rarer North. and Sc. forms. From the first they have been used decisively in the sense 'wizard'. Some other word, lost or not discovered, has perh. influenced both form and sense. ON. *varðlokkur* wk. fem. pl. (cf. also *varðlokkðhrot* witch-troop, magical assembly in Johnsen, is too rare (? occurring once), with regard to the late appearance of the *-ð* forms, to be considered.]

†1. A false-breaker, traitor. *Obs.*

*Widsiđ* 9 (Gr) Hreðcynnigas ham.. Kormanrices, wraðes wrǽcan. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 266 He sceal weddiȝan and werlogan hatan and hynan. *Ps* 1400 *Metre Auth.* 131 Sal nowthir be wedlaw ne werlogh, ne wayte bym vele To wrenke bym on werlaughe [Modred], that this werre moude.

†b. A wicked person; a scoundrel, reprobate; a general term of reproach or abuse. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Judith* 71 (Gr.) Wæron wundrade.. Sona werlogan (Holofernus), hafne leodhatan leddon to beddæ. *c* 1275 *Sermlog Christ* 37 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Bi-leuuþ oure weorre worlawes wocle, Þeȝ world is bi-heled myd lofsume-bocle. 1340 *Ayenb. Prol.* 3 Wenest þou þer wold so fele zwiches werlawes worlden, Ne were worldlyche wela and her welfare. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4485 Þus fra þe rote of rightwines ranyst our kynde, And to be way of wickidnes be warlages gildid. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 141 Sir, what warlowe yow wakens With wordis full wilde, þat boy for his brawlyng were better in-bondyn. *Ibid.* xliv. 178 Undo youre dores, and haues no doute, For to sone warlowes [the Jews] will we wende. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* 4544 Pan all he hoste with Elfrida þai withdrowe, þai turne þai tyde, Where þe warlowes ware. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 60 Catyvis, wrechis and okkeraris, Hud-pykis, hurdaris and gadderaris, All with that wrink of conscience[s] went.

†2. A damned soul in hell. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1362 Donne manscealca fore meotude forht deorc on þam dome standeð..bið se warloga fyres afyllel feores unwyrðe exaan zeþread and-weard gode won & wliteleas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23150 Þe aghland pine it es ful grise, to se þan warlaus in þat wise.

†2. The Devil; Satan. *Obs.*

Freq. in *Cursor Mundi*, where *warlaw* occurs as a genitive (= OE. *wǽrloges*).

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 36 (Gr.) [God] sceop ſam werlogan wræclicne hean. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22935 (Antichrist] þe warlau sun child. *Ibid.* 23747 Vr fleas, his werld, and þe warlaw, We ar bunden vnder þair au. *Ibid.* 27060 For qua witsandes warlaw will, he has na might to do him ill. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (Christine) 256 [Christ] þat wes ȝit þe warlo wane. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 640 That warloo to aheynd this nyght is he borne. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 78 Betuix we, warlo, and thy werla Ait Chrystis passioun we put compleit.

†b. A devil, demon, spirit of hell. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Guthlac* 269 Wid is þes westen, wreccstra fela, sardas ræhmle earme gastra; sindon warlogan, þe þa wic luzað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22611 Pan sal þai þat in helle es cropen Quen sal scine þe heuenes open, þan warlaus all sal walk þan vte. *c* 1440 *De mirac. B. Maria* 105 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 304 Pe foulle warlawes of helle Vndir þe wallys skryklked achille.

†3. A savage or monstrous creature (hostile to men). The word is applied to giants, cannibals, mythic beasts, etc. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1266 (Gr.) Frea wolde on warlogan wite sætan & on deað slean deadum scyldige gixantmæcgas, gode unlecke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7478 Alle [giants] war þai Rind a man þat þar þe fight, for mi sake, Again ȝon warlau [Goliath] vndertake. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 238 Þe hyge kynges kyng, þurȝ his bonde my3t, Warpped þis wrech man [Jonah] in warlowes gutter. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 303 So dang he þat dog [sc. Cerberus] with dynt of his wappon, þat he warlag was weire of his wan ettere. *Ibid.* 7763 Þe warlagh [the Centaur] with a wemed wrowe vnmesfull hym behynde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3705 Pai went be waldis & be wastis..And armed bud þam all bese for angwischis o bestis, As cokwers & for colorie & cropin in þe clyffis of hillis, Þe wild þat in þe wod duelled. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting* v. *Montgomerie* 634 Ane vnirloche [*v. rr.* warloch(e], ane weirwolf, ane vowlsat of hair.

4. One in league with the Devil and so possessing occult and evil powers; a sorcerer, wizard (sometimes partly imagined as inhuman or demonic, and so approaching sense 2 or 3); the male equivalent of *witch*. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Frequently used by Scots writers after it had obtained some general literary currency. On the form *warlock*, specialized for this use, see the etymology.

*a* 1375 *E. Allit. P.* II. 1260 Segges..þat wer wyse of wyche-crafte & warlagez ofte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 232 *Pharao*..Say, whence is yond warlow [Moyses] with his wand that thou wold wyle oure folk away? *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 75 Ane Warlock, ane Witch, [*sc.* Fortune]..Turnis ay the best men tittest on thair bakis. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satan's Invis. World* 45 An eminent Warlock whose name was Robert Grieve. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni apud Scotos* 65 No Thief or Warlike will willingly compear before a Judge to be judged. 1732 *Burt Lett. fr. Scotl.* (1818) II. 181 Such a one [as the warlock, or wizard, which they know by his taking the witch's part. 1795 BURNS *Song*, *'Last May a brave wooer'* v, I gaed to the tryste o' Dalgarnock, And wha but my fause fickle lover was there? I glower'd as I'd seen a warlock. *a* 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* v, 'But you forget that they say he is a warlock,' said Nancy Ilderton. 'And, if his magic diabolical should fail him,' rejoined her sister, 'I would have him trust to his magic natural'. 1822 S. HIBBERT *Shetl. Isl.* iv. 576 The warlocks and witches of Thule used, by the same means, to raise tempests. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., St. Aloys*, The gipsy..always sneaks out at night with the bats and the owls,—So do Witches and Warlocks, Ghosts, Goblins, and Ghouls. 1844 *Blackw. Mag. Noctes Amb.* I. *King Olaf* v. 2, In their real forms appeared The warlocks weird, Awful as the Witch of Endor. 1865 HARING-GOULD *Werewolves* 99 In the time when King Harold sent a warlock to Iceland in the form of a whale. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. ii. 51, I am prepared to believe in witches—warlocks.

b. *Sc.* In weaker sense, a magician, conjurer.

1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 75 But gin ye be nae warlock, how d'ye ken? 1808 SCOTT *Aunt Marg. Mirror*. ii, 'That rascally quack would make any fool believe he is stay in Edinburgh,' said the graduate,..'I suppose I must not ask your indyship anything about this Italian warlock's proceedings?' 1897 A. J. ROSS *Memor. Police Reading* xiv. 297 'The Bishop..never came to my private room.. without leaving me the impression that he was—' an auditor, interrupting, said, 'A warlock.' 'Yes,' he rejoined the speaker, 'that was just it, he was a wizard..'. 1806 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii, I'm nae warlock, to find a fortune for you in the bottom of a parritch bowl.

†5. By Dryden taken to mean: A warrior magically immune from wounds inflicted by certain metals. *Obs.*

Dryden's spelling *perh.* indicates that he imagined the word to be I. *War* sb.+ LUCK.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 1040 (I) 4 b, It seems he [Æneas] was no War-luck, as the Scots commonly call such Men, who, they say, are Iron-free, or Lead-free.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Appositive or adj. + Malignant, wicked (*obs.*); in later use, That is a warlock or wizard.

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 7489 (Fairf.) Agayne sone warlagh hethen þing [*Cotton MS.* wrecche halþen þing] for-sob I crede me mot ȝe telle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3 Wyl þe warlagh wrake in ȝl wode hongur.. This tydin not to taste of ȝis tirat meite! 1586 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 132 This reid Reifar & this rank weird witche. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Next. Philos.* 143 The Devil answered..I and my Father will come and fetch you to hell, with Warlock-theeves. 1685 — *Satan's Invis. World* 223 Saying, You Warlok Cairle, what have you to do here? 1794 RAMSAY *Ever Green* (1761) I. 51 A Bytand Ballat on warlo Wives, That gar thair Men live pinging Lives. 1796 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 71 Our warlock Rhymer instantly descry'd the Sprites that owre the Brigs of Ayr presides. (That Bards are second-sighted is nae Joke, And ken the lingo of the sp'ritual folk.) 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Rhyme Three Seafarers, A Strathcona* man shot blind and large, and a warlock Finn was he.

b. Pertaining to a warlock or warlocks, as in

*warlock claw, fight, knoll*, etc. ; **warlock brief**, a charter conveying magical powers; **warlock feoket** *Sc.* (see quot. 1810).

1726 BURNS *To J. Smith* 3 Ye surely hae some warlock-breef Owre human hearts! For ne'er a bosom yet was prief Against your arts. 1793 — *Song. Nanse tells all* Chorus, Meet me on the warlock-knowe, Daintie Davie, daintie Davie. 1809 H. K. WHITE *Lines...spoken by a Lover* Rem. 1807 II. 49 No wicked elves upon the Warlock-knoll Dare now assemble at their mystic revels. 1807 TANNAHILL *Soldier's Ret.* II. 1, A great red dragon, wi' a warlock claw, Has come, and wi' your dochter flown awa! 1810 CRAMOND *Revenue Whitsdale Song* 281 Jackets, woven of water snake skins, at a certain time of a March moon, were much in vogue among the crusading servants of Satan; and are yet remembered by the name of warlock feckets. 1819 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* viii, Yet...If thy heart be pure and thy spirit right, Thou shalt win the warlock fight! 1905 *Aberdeen* 27 Oct. 1103/1 A warlock voice from the slumber of ages stirred.

† **Warlock,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* In quots. **warloo, warlok.** [Perh. repr. an OE. **warloc*, *i.* OE. *warn* WARE *sb.*1 **guard**, **safe-keeping** + *loc* LOCK *sb.*2 It is, however, possibly an alteration of WARROK *sb.* caused by some such etymological association as that indicated. Cf. the senses in mod. dial. of WARLOCK *v.*1 and WARROK *v.*]

1. ? A shackle, fetter.

1340 *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 80 Fyyce me in a pryysoun, put me in nokkes, Wrybe me in a warlok, wrast out myn yzen.

2. A fetterlock.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 A fetyr lok...*vera pedicalis, vel compedicalis.*

**Warlock,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*) *rare.* Also 5 **warlok,** (? **warkecok**), **warlok.** [Of obscure origin. The early forms *warich, warkecok* are perh. nearer to the original than *warlo(c)k*, which may be due to association with CHARLOCK.] Apparently applied like CHARLOCK (q. v.) to various field-weeds of the N.O. *Cruciferæ*, esp. to species of the genus *Sinapis*, Mustard.

*c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 645/39 *Hoc sinapium*, warkecok. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 240/1 Mustarde, or warlok, or sec(n)yne, herbe...*sinapis*. *Ibid.* 517/1 Warlok, herbe, *eruca*. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 33/1 *Cenapium*, gall, cenesus, angl. warich, mustard. 1794 *Sullivan View Natural Hist.* V. 251 (E. D. S.) Warlock, *Raphanus Raphanistrum* (?) Suff[olk]. *a* 1850 W. A. BROUSSELLS *Flora Nottinghamensis* 14 Sinapis nigra, L. Common or Black Mustard. *Vect. Warlock.*

† **Warlock,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* [app. a real or supposed Norw. word : cf. Norw. *varde* (dial. *vale*) cairn.] A cairn, pile of stones (in Scandinavian regions).

1585 R. NORMAN in *Sc. Rev.* XI. 351 Item, if it were so that you would saile into Calfe sound, then you shall hale in by a high land which is called Winge, and there standis five Warlocks or Homes vpon it. *Ibid.*, The fine Warlocks or Beacons. *Ibid.* 352 In 1616 GATONDE in *Churchill's Voy.* (1732) VI. 250 We rowed about the cape and came to an island whereon was a warlock. 1614 *Sir Voyage in Purchas Pilgrimes* (1625) III. 729 Here upon the mountaine wee set vp a Warlocke, and then came downe againe.

**Warlock,** *v.*1 *Obs.* (exc. *dial.*) *rare.* Also **warloke.** [f. WARLOCK *sb.*3] *trans.* † a. ? To secure (a horse) as with a fetterlock. *Obs. rare*—1. b. *dial.* (See quot.) Cf. WARROK *v.*

*a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 769* (Dubl. MS.) So carez he in þe castell-garde & commes on a day By a wyndow als his wild horse lyual warloked in bandes. 1888 *Cheshire Gloss.*, s.v. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Warlock*, to tighten the rope or chain which binds the load upon a waggon.

**Warlock,** *v.*2 [f. WARLOCK *sb.*1 + LOCK *v.* (? suggested by WARLOCK *sb.*1)] *trans.* ? To bar against hostile invasion.

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 40 The western fort, That.. war-locks luminent the mouth of Ouse.

**Warlockry,** ? *Obs.* [f. WARLOCK *sb.*1 + -RY.] The practice of magic (by men, or male beings) ; wizardry.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 527 Hence prosaed...the warlockry and fortune-telling abilities of the shrewd sagacious gypsies. 1820 *Hogg Siege of Roxburgh* i, Shi' the Rhymer's deary, the spirit o' true warlockry is gane, shi'! J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 21 The shadows o'n the eatables and drinkables that his wild warlockry could have conjured up. 1834 HOGG in *Fraser's Mag.* X. 404 Yes, witchcraft! Wicked warlockrye!

**Warlogh(e, warloo,** obs. ff. WARLOCK *sb.*1

**Warlonde,** obs. form of WARLAND *Hist.*

**War-lord.** A military commander or commander-in-chief. Used to render *Kriegsherr* as a title of the German Emperor ; also *attrib.*

1896 ERNESSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 77 Piracy and war gave place to trade, politics, and letters ; the war-lord to the law-lord. 1895 MOMMSEN *Römische Kaiser* 14, war-lord was. 1898 *Boston* (Mass.) *Transcript* 7 July 4/4 The very bristling and 'war-lord' talk of the young Emperor William. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 534 The officers of the [German] army, with all their traditional loyalty to their 'war-lord'.

Hence **War-lordship,** the status of a war-lord.

1913 C. TOWER *Germany To-day* II. 56 The Kaisership is the old Presidency of the bued plus the warlordship.

† **Warlott,** *local. Obs.* [f. *war-* as in WARLAND + LOT *sb.*] Some kind of waste or common lands.

*c* 1292 *Register Malton Priory* (MS. Cott. Claudius D.xii) 208 Cum prato que dicitur Warlotta. 1824 *Terrier of Manley of Winterton*, Warlotes, the long ; the short. 1794 *Act Inclos. South Kelsey* 3 Commissioners for dividing...and inclosing the said Open and Common Fields,...Warlotts, or Wholsoletts, Furre Leas, and Waste Grounds, within the Manor or Lordship of South Kelsey.

**Warlou, -low(e, -luck** : see WARLOCK.

† **Warly,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms : 5 **werly,** *Sc.* **werely,** 5–7 **war(re)ly,** 6 **warely, warlye,** *Sc.* **wereille, wereillie, -lye, weyrly,** 6–7 **warlie.** [f. WAR *sb.*1 + -LY.1 and -LY 2.]

A. *adj.*

1. Skilled in war, martial ; fond of war, bellicose ; valiant. = WARLIKE *a.* 1.

1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* civ, The werely porpaspyne. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3562 The peyntim thans bare A warly men fre;..Assantes tha[y] gafe dyuers And sondry. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 77 b/1 Yᵉ arche bisshop of yorke ..with great nombre of lordis and fewe warly or discrete cheuetaynes, yode agayne yᵉ Scottes. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. (1557) 37/1 Richard the thirde sonne...was..hard fauoured of visage, and suche as is in states called warlye [L. *quale bellicosum in purpuratis, ac Martium appellari*]. In other menne otherwise. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 585 If a young prince..be warlie, he will hazard his subiects, his treasure, and his person, to make triall of his valure. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 86 They war a people baith cluik and weirlie. 1609 VER-STEGAN *Dec. Intell.* v. (1628) 122 The lucke of Warrely courage in the Britaines.

b. Of actions, things : Martial. = WARLIKE *a.* 1 b, c.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis Scot., Prologue* Comogr. 160 Of fairis kithli, the weirlie deidis sprang In Troy and Greece, quhill he in vertew rung. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* vii. 57 Poems (S. T. S.) 54 Mak shouting shalms and persing pilphes!...Mak mightily thy warlye noits leirde.

2. Equipped or munitioned for war. Of a horse : Equipped and trained for war. = WARLIKE *a.* 2.

*c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 493 Yone is the warliest wane, said the king, That euer I wald in my walk. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 213/1 The sayde worshipfull capitayne vnto a castell..& wan it by strength, & after vytayled & manned it in moste warly wyse. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XXXIII. 60 Rogero, on his warlie horse, Is gone to the wood. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 204 Could the Warlie Horse speake, as he can runne and fight, he would tell Wonders of his Knightes.

3. Of or pertaining to war. = WAR-LIKE *a.* 3.

1857 in R. R. Sharpe *Lond. & Kingd.* (1895) III. 382 Ships ..in their most defensible and warrely araye. 1c 1597 C. HOLLAND *Livy* I. i. (S. T. S.) I. 13 King Iarvy of laurence assemblit ye auld Inhabitantis of his realme..in bare maist werelie ordinance. *Ibid.* I. iv. I. 32. 1544 BETHAM *Precepte War* v. 51 Now I say, They being prepared in warly knowledge can discerne what is profytable. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 45 b, Kyng Henry..determined..to set forward in performyng his intended purpose and warrely enterprise. 1590 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1000/2 The Bernates..renounced the league made before with the French king, refusing..his warly stipend, whereby they were bounde to serue for fede hys warres. *a* 1656 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. iv. (1677) 161 The Manufactures, during those Warly times, held its course in France, the Netherlands, and the Hans Towns.

4. Belonging to a warrior. = WARLIKE *a.* 4.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 277 The king of Pechtis, in his weirlie weid, With his power come and met corbrech. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 107 His weirlie ar thy weirlie weid (*v.r.* weerely weed), His pennis ar thy strang defence. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* iii. 3 And he ..girded his warlie armour in battels.

B. *adv.* In a warlike manner.

*c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 813 Kyng askuardyn in his gere Rydis owte a coures of ewe, Full werly and with ill will. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1760 Then thes lordeys, led by thaim-self, tho, So fal werrely wrought, can noght be sald, Io[ ]. 1598 WYRLEY *Armorie, Capitall de Iues* xxiv, And goodly armd and beside him stands the Duke of Orleance warly dight.

**Warly, -lyohe** : see WARELY *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

**Warm** (wɔ̄m), *sb.*1 [f. WARM *v.*] An act of warming or state of becoming warm. Phr. *to give, get, have, take a warm.* Somewhat *colloq.*

In the first quot. *warmes* is a mistake for *walmes* : see WALM *sb.*1

[1665 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 2) x. 239 Boil it [*sc.* the malt] in the kettle (one or two warmes is enough).] 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 70 This morning's raw, gies ye's a' ae night been cauld; Ye may wad thole a warm, a mak na dount. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 6 The dark and dreary night, the dreadful storm,...drive me unwillingly to get a warm. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* I. The surgeon had been sitting with his face turned towards the fire, giving the palms of his hands a warm and a rub alternately. 1843 — *Chr. Carol* III, Sir, said Bob, before the fire, my dear, and have a warm. 1861 — *Gt. Expect.* ii, When I...was taking a final warm in the chimney-corner before being sent up to bed. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 55 If, after washing a patient, you must put the same night-dress on him again, always give it a warm first, at the fire. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift in Tropics* 120, I made a fire, and...had a good warm.

**Warm** (wɔ̄m), *a.* (and *sb.*2) Forms : 1 **wearm,** 2 **werm,** 3 *Orm.* **warrm,** 3–7 **warme,** 3– **warm.** [Com. Teut. : OE. *wearm* = OFris. *warm* (mod. WFris. *waerm*, NFris. *wārm*), MDu., Du. *warm*, OS. *warm* (MLG. *war(e)m*, LG. *warm*), OHG. *war(a)m* (MHG., G. *warm*), ON. *varmr* (Norw., Sw., Da. *varm*), Goth. *warma-* in *warmjan* to warm, cherish :—OTeut. **warmo-*, also **wurmo-* (in ON. *verme* wk. masc. WARMTH, OHG. *wirma*, MHG. *wirm(e)* fem. warmth).

The further relationship of this word is somewhat doubtful. In spite of certain difficulties it is probably to be identified with Indogermanic **gʷhormo-*, or **gʷharmo-* found in Skr. *gharmá* heat, Zend *gaṷ-baw-* hot, Gk. θερμός heat, L. *formus* warm, O Prussian *gorme* heat, Albanian *zjarm* heat, Armenian *jerm* warm, derivatives of **gʷher-* with a radical sense of heat. For another possible example of initial *w* in Teut. from **gʷh* or **gʰw* see WILD *a.* Compare also the similar phonetic phenomena in Latin whereby *volker* **gʷher-* gives before *l* and consonants, *v* before other vowels (e.g. *gurgs, gurdus*).

Some scholars have referred the word to a root **wer-* found in Lith. *virti* to cook (trans.), OSl. *variti* to boil, cook (intr.), *variti* to cook (trans), *vrěti* to boil. The primary sense of this root, however, seems to be rather 'to well up, bubble' than 'to be hot'; cf. Lith. *versmė* a spring. The root is confined to the Balto-Slav. languages, and in them has no derivative corresponding in sense and suffix to the Teut. adj., which on the other view represents a widespread Indogermanic formation.]

A. *adj.*

1. Having a fairly high temperature ; affording or giving out a considerable degree of heat (less than that indicated by *hot*).

a. of natural agencies and things, as the weather, air, climate, soil.

*Out of God's (Christ's) blessing into the warm sun* : see *God sb.* 5*c*.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Sie lyft...is mǽgher ðe ceald ðe wæt ȝe wearm. *a* 1000 *Riddle Metr.* ix. 3 Sumor ælðeor cymeð, wearm ȝewideru. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 622 Þar inne ic habbe god hiold A winter warm a sumere cold. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 131 To water wexeth pan after watery cloudes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 229 In sprynginge of the mone is best to sowe, In dayis warm. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. b. If thy beppe out of the halle, into the kytchyn, or out of Chrystis blessynge in to a warme sonne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 58 [Rain falls] sum tyme in soft & varme schouris. 1577 B. GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 34 Pease ..must be sowen in warme grounds. 1599 T. M. *Gentlewoman's Duty of Steward* 75 On a warm soil well sheltred with Trees and Hills. 1656 GRAY *Elegy* 87 The warm precincts of the cheerful day. 1776 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 39 The first summers of congelation...waiting the approach of a warmer sun, to restore them at once to life and liberty. 1833 ARNOTT *Physics* (1833) 35 England is much warmer in winter than central Germany, which lies south of England. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 249 We...stand much in need of warm weather, and especially warm nights for the young poultry. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* Apr. 467 A warm south wind was melting the fall [of snow].

b. of other things, typically with reference to artificial heating.

*c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 914 His sword sche tok a-wyth-e That warm was of blis louys blod & hot. 1577 B. GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 129 b, In winter, your stable should rather be warme, then hot. 1608 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 6 Whil'st yet with Parthian blood thy Sword is warme. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 393 They rake the yet warm Ashes, from below. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* II Mar. 1651, They..carried him before a warme fire to bring him to himself. 1741 M. GRIMDAL (*title*) Warm Beer, a Treatise proving...that beer so quasify'd, is far more wholesome than that which is drank Cold...With a full Confutation of all the Objections against Drink being used Warm. 1764 WHYTT *Observ. Nervous Disorders* (1767) 434 The warm bath affects the nerves with an agreeable sensation, increases the motion of the vessels, etc. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Promise me to take a little something warm before you go to bed. 1849 JAMES *Woodstock* vii, Our houses are more comfortable than those of that day. 1871 A. MEADOWS *Midwifery* (ed. 2) 239 Warm poultices should also be kept over the abdomen.

c. *fig. To keep a seat or place warm* : to occupy it temporarily for another who is not yet qualified to hold it. (Cf. WARMING-PAN 3 c.)

1645 JEANES *St. Giles* VI. (1651) 55 Of course, the borough will be kept warm for the young gentleman...He may count upon my vote. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxi, Before the Cranworths had determined who should keep the seat warm till the eldest son came of age.

2. Of the body, the blood, etc. : Having the degree of heat natural to the living organism.

*a* 1000 *Riddles* v. 9 Wearm ðin gelundene heax̄ bestræd hwilum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10136 Forrþi þatt he wass swa warrm nemm þe lich & haldeþ warrm þe mare. 1398 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 36 þe blode was bolne warme & fresh, þat of þe hauis lets. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 1. 1109 I him wyve a-nyght and make hym warm. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 148 Thou art wyse inough if thou be warme. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 9 A furr'd gowne to keepe him warme. 1613 DRYDEN *Persius* vi. 13 For me, my warmer Constitution wants More cold, than our Ligurian Winter grants. 1697 — *Æneis* II. 867 Go you, whose Blood runs warm in early Youth. 1725 GAY *Shepherd's Poesy* 40 O'er her warm cheek, and rising bosom. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 398 Newmilk, warm from the cow. 1878 Hiowwing *La Saisiaz* 21 At the least warm touch of hand. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 644, I found the carcase of a barrebeastie still warm.

**Warm** (wɔ̄m), *a.* (and *sb.*2) Forms : 1 **wearm,** 2 **werm,** 3 *Orm.* **warrm,** 3–7 **warme,** 3– **warm.** [Com. Teut. : OE. *wearm* = OFris. *warm* (mod. WFris. *waerm*, NFris. *wārm*), MDu., Du. *warm*, OS. *warm* (MLG. *war(e)m*, LG. *warm*), OHG. *war(a)m* (MHG., G. *warm*), ON. *varmr* (Norw., Sw., Da. *varm*), Goth. *warma-* in *warmjan* to warm, cherish :—OTeut. **warmo-*, also **wurmo-* (in ON. *verme* wk. masc. WARMTH, OHG. *wirma*, MHG. *wirm(e)* fem. warmth).

b. Of persons : Glowing with exertion or exercise, with eating and drinking, etc. ; often with mixture of one of the senses 10–12. Of exercise : Strenuous enough to raise one's temperature.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 18, I am not warme yet, let vs fight againe. 1666 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* III. i, And Fighting gains us but to dye more warm. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 322 A lawless Croud, with Wine and Feasting warm. 1793 JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. ii. 61 For although it is noble sport to have a girl of sense to work upon, yet 'tis warm exercise. 1869 *Ann. Reg.* 25 There is nothing that an army will not attempt or endure for a general who keeps the soldiers warm in continual action. 1890 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xc. 9 'Twas well, indeed, when warm with wine, To pledge them with a kindly tear. 1900 *Pall*

*Mall Jl* 9 May 43 I was warm from my company and was propelled by an abundant flow of vitality

c. Applied to fears

1597 I Lang. *P. Pl* II xi. 187 And with warme water at his eyghen washen hem after. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 196/1 Thone she prayed god wyth warme teeres to helpe hyr. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 20 In Winter with warme teares lle melt the snow 1648 in *Hale Sel. Th.* leave out But if we shall suffer our selves to be drawn away into some heinous wickednesse, it must cost warm water to recover us.

d. Of a kiss, embrace (combining the literal idea of bodily warmth with that of affection).

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 153 Oh take this warme kisse on thy pale cold lips 1764 R. Lloyd *Whim* 45 Give me the man Who Can meet him with a warm embrace 1822 M. A. Kelly *Osmond* I. 59 Impressing on it an other fond warm kiss 1866 Trollope *Clarendons* vi. With the kiss of the dear, modest, affectionate girl still warm upon his lips

e. = Warm-hearted. *rare.*

1739 I. Brooks *Calabus* etc. 242 The ordinary temperature of the blood of warm animals

3. Of clothing, or the natural integument of animals: Made of material which retains heat in the body.

1535 *Acts* R 418 Pet heo [= e your clothes] beon unorne & warme & well ywouhe 1300 *Cursor M* 23090 (Edinb.) Of nakidhed quen I drow harme, Yg gaf me clething bat was warme. 1450 *Myrc's Festial* 136 He was almes feris pene 3eondre poer man warmer clopes pen he hapе 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxxvii 17 And how thy clothes are warme, when the londe is still thorow the south wynde? 1683 in *Jermy Mem.* (1904) I 547 Here is now some cold snowie weather approaching, which incites me to putt on warmer cloths 1774 Goldsm. *Hist.* (1776) V 39 These are generally cloathed with a warmer coat of feathers 1849 James *Woodman* xi, Would that I had brought warmer garments. 1917 H. Gibson *Diplom. Diary* 259 Mrs Whatlock is busy getting warm clothing for the poor

4 Of a drug or edible Producing a sensation of heat in the body

1737 J. Stevenson in *Med. Ess* IV 387 Common Practice bids us give warm, generous Medicines, Alexipharmicks, and all that I the last heat stimulates and forces sweat 1822–7 *Good Study Med* (1829) I 251 A pretty free dose of turpentine, or some of the warmer balsams 1842 Loudon *Amboyna Hist* 689 Its seed-pods make a warm aromatic pickle.

5 Of a scent or trail: Fresh, strong.

1723 *Gay Rural Sports* II 68 The scent grows warm! he stops, he springs the prey *Pleasures of Sports* 1736 I 23 As the scent grew warmer, the certainty of finding was confirmed

6 Of the person chosen to seek or guess, in children's games Being near the object sought; being on the verge of finding or guessing. Also *fig.*

1860 *All Year Round* 4 Feb 339/2 Here I get 'warm', as children say 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III vi, He's warm Hes gretest was warm He is close 1893 *Nation* (N Y) 24 Aug 139/3 Showing how little was to be 'warm', and passed without seeing it very near to the object of his search.

†7 Comfortable, comfortably settled (*in* a seat, throne, office); securely established (*in* possession of). Also with converse construction, *to feel the crown warm upon one's head. Obs.*

c1325 Chaucer *Troylus* 1160 Be thou to rakel bough ipon sutte warme c 1430 *How the Goode Man taught Son* 118 in *Babees Bk* 31 If bou be weal at ese And warme amonge pi neyboris wite 1601 *Inq. Court Sr. Prerogat.* (1615) 55 Her Highnesse had scarcely felt the Crowne warm upon her head, but it was challenged from her 1610 B Jonson *Alchymist* II. vi A Gentleman, newly warme in his land 1714 Rastell *Stat. Hereford* II xvii § 4 481 The Philistens hearing that David was now anointed king thought to try him in the beginning, before hee were fully warme in his seat 1647 N Bacon *Disc. Gomt Eng.* I xlvii (1739) 83 Consequently King was scarce warm in his Throne, whenas the Pope demanded Fealty of him for the Crown of England a 1670 Wood *Life* (O H S) I 129 W seemed very sweet in this news, because he was well and warme where he was 1725 M. Davies *Athen Brit* I 47 Before he was quite warm in Winchester, he fell into the Anne's displeasure 1802 Southey *Wat Tyler* III. 838 Scarcely had the worthy Mynheer Beekman got warm in the seat of authority on the South River than enemies began to spring up all around him

8 Comfortably off, well to do, rich, affluent. Now chiefly *colloq.*

1572 Campion *Hist. Irel* II xi. (1633) 124 But you are well and warme and so hold you 1577–8 Norden *Invit.* (1878) 8 But I must place the farmer, who yet not what the warmer. a 1624 Br M Sutton *Serm.* (1632) 218 All things seeme to fall out alike, to the one and to the other: nay, the wicked seeme to be the warmer, and to haue a greater portion in this life. 1626 Middleton *Game at Chesse Quart Left* 1, You are warm, and blest with a fair wife 1699 Farquhar *Love a Bottle* I a Your warm fellows are so fat above the sense of any misery, that they can't pity us 1758 Sylvester *Speed No* 450 § 2 For whiddoes not know or imagine the Comforts of being warm or living at Ease? 1764 Fielding *J. Andrews* II xiv, I though I am but a curate, says Trulliber, I believe I am as warm as the vicar himself 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* II xvi, They who had warm fortunes were always sure of getting good husbands 1767 A. Young *Farmer's Lett* 74 These farmers, and their warm, comfortable families, are of great consequence to the well being of agriculture itself 1834 Macaulay in *Life & Lett* (1880) I 382 A warm man, a fellow who will eat up well. 1888 Rider Haggard *Col Quaritch* xxviii, He is about the warmest man in our part of the country. 1908 J. S. Fletcher *Mothers in Israel* 304 With the serene consciousness of his value as a warm man 1920 *Guardian* 5 Nov 1034/8 In 1876 he was presented to the very snug vicarage of Cheddar, and a year later he took to himself the still warmer benefice of Wells-combe.

9. Of fighting, conflict, an onset Vigorously conducted; pressing hard on or harassing the foe; also *fig.* Of a combatant: Dangerous to tackle. Of a locality. Dangerous to live in, inhabited by turbulent spirits. Phr *warm work*, hot fighting. *To make it* (or *things*) *warm for* (a person) · to attack or ' go for ' him, to involve in hostilities or broils.

1667 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armada* C2, The Sweat, a vessell of warme imployment or hot service 1667 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 53 You may easily imagine this does give us a warme alarum 1703 Boxhan *Hedg Ho* 22 (1905) 23 I they had from the Camp of Shaddai such frequent, warm, and terrifying alarms 1726 Shelvocke *I set round it and it* 163, I saw the Mercury standing out of the bay, by which I judged the ship was too warm for her 1759 R. Rogers *Journ.* (1765) 119 The Canadians and Indians were soon stopped by a warm fire from the Rangers and Mohocks 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 182 If you have been discovered, they might have made warm Work of it. 1793 Washington *Lett* Writ 1891 XII. 380 If he should be detected in any such pranks I will make the country too warm for him to remain in. 1813 Southey *Nelson* II. ix 255 Nelson then smiled, and said, 'This is too warm work, Hardy, to last long' 1819 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. 529 The action was close, warm, and general 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, This being warmer work than they had calculated upon, speedily cooled the courage of the belligerents 1844 Kelly *One Unit Church* 11 In this Second Epistle to Timothy there are many traces of a warm persecution 1879 'Max Adeler' *Out of Hearts* xxiv, Riding a horse that will jump clearly enough, but that goes presents to the other children, and not to the late Simpson's, the bride would make things warm for him 1884 *Good Words* June 390/1 He 'knifed' the first man who came incautiously together in one particularly warm little street Outsiders do not care to venture into this warm spot

*b. A warm reception* : a vigorous onslaught or resistance, a demonstration of hostile feeling.

The phrase prob. belonged originally to sense 12 c, in which it is still current

1702 [see Reception 5a]. 1737 [S Berington] *Mem. G. Ad Int* 11 (1738) 37 Which, though by no means a warm reception, they would have given us over. 1841 James *Brigand* xxvi, We must give him [the rival] a warm reception

10. Of persons, party-feeling, controversy, etc. Keen, active, keen; eager, excited, heated. Const. *for, upon.*

Very common in the 17th and 18th c : now somewhat *rare.*

1399 Gower *Conf* III 230 Yong counsell, which is to warm For men lus to the hote harm 1483 Caxton *Cato* B iv, Be not to warm vpon the chaunge 1531 Tindale *Answere* Wks. 1731 II 99 Which I could not have known, if the Marquis were not a very warm Talker, and sometimes farther than he intended. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 144 There was warm men, and true men of Zeal for God: God, cut them off 1687 Aitenbury *Answ Council Spirit Father* 20 Yet the Pamphlet is very warm with I other for imposing or securing the Religious of ancleanness. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* 24 Aug (O H S) I 34 He is now very warm for them. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xiii, (1840) 233 So warm were the men upon it, that they gave chaces. 1737 Waterland *Indictment* 123 *Smaleius*, a warm Man, and who seldom knew any Bounds 1742 E Montagu in *Mrs Montagu's Corr.* (1906) I 130 The Alphabet is very warm, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was terribly roasted 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 59/2 The Counsel for the Prisoner speaking in a warm and improper manner to the Jury 1792 Burke *Th. Fr. Affairs* Wks. 1842 V 307 of all men, the most dangerous is a warm, hot-headed, zealous advocate. 1847 Dickens in Forster *Life* (1872) I. ii. 69, I never can forget how warm you were for my being sent back. 1850 Grote *Greece* II xiii (1869) V. 161 A warm and even angry debate arose upon his present speech. 1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Poems* II 134 Is there no warm plea for my being sent back. 1880 Contemp. Rev. 1 Feb 278 Some persons with a preference As warm Lasettes did 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* xix (1885) 163 They found the young man there in a state of warm indignation at the libellous paragraph.

b. Of the passions or disposition in general: Prone to excitement, ardent, impulsive; apt to disregard the voice of cool reason.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xii xiii, As Jones had the vices of a warm disposition, he was entirely free from those of a cold one. 1768 Sterne *Sent* (1770) 161 So I hope am I entering into the World with lively Spirits and warm Passions to mislead them

11 Hot-tempered, angry.

1547 Q Catherine Parr in S. Haynes *St Papers* (1740) 61 My Lord your Brother hathe this Afternone a lyttell made me warme Yt was fortunate we war so muche vs'stant, for I suppose els it would have bynne hym. 1598 Hall *Sat. Iliad* IX 168 This warme and bitter wrath it grew of strife. 1712 Addison *Spect* No 440 ¶ 4 This Insensibly grew into some warmth Words were bandied to and fro 1731 A warm Man, and does not care to be made Mouths at 1749 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 505, I began to be a little warm with him 1820 Galt *Provost* xxxvii, A fine bold running lad, warm in the temper 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vi. II. 123 He was mortified and irritated by the tidings He held warm and menacing language. 1855 D. Costello *Stories of Norway* 151 The expression of mine when I'm angry ' You're warm,' says he.

12 Of the heart, feelings, etc.: Full of love, gratitude, approbation, etc.; very cordial or tender.

1598 W de W *Wonders Nat.* 2 Sore and ful of swellyng your fedderes fair and gent, My hart is warme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf* (W de W 1531) 230 The soule meketh when it waxeth warme in deuocyon 1549 *New Heal Jonnaton* 11. 86 He had a warm side to the Royal Party, and encouraged the loyal Sufferers. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. iii, He was not yet free from doubt of misconstruing compassion, or at best esteem, into a warmer regard. 1822 M. A. Kelly *Osmond* I 73 Her heart was warm in the cause of her young friend 1826 Macaulay *Ess. Hallam* P 43 The conduct of Hampden in the affair of the ship-money met with the warm approbation of every respectable Royalist in England. 1830 Dickens *Sk Boz, Boarding ho.* ii, A very warm friendship soon sprung up between them 1884 D. G. Mitchell *Seven Stories* 57, I was beginning to feel a warm interest in the people over the way. 1904 *Verney Mem.* II. 230 Her warm heart ..made her welcome in every household.

b. with agent-noun or equivalent adj., as *a warm friend, supporter.* Also of persons: Full of tenderness or affection.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV 324 A certain noble lord, a warm friend to every improvement in husbandry. 1847 Lytton *Pelham* II, Yet to those he loved, no one could be more open and warm 1858 — *Alice* III. vii, We should have thought that Lord Vargrave was her warmest admirer 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ix, I have frequently heard this admitted, even by those who are its warmest advocates. 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho* II. II. vii (1879) 205 Others as chaste and warm there are. 1892 E. Pracock *N. Brendon* II. 379 They were now warm friends

c. of utterances or manifestations.

1728 in *York Reg. Inst. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 277, I beg you would present my warmest thanks to my Lord Carteret 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* IV. xxii, As you once had my warmest vows of constancy, you shall now have them repeated 1780 Cowper *Let. to S. Hill* Nov, I received a note from old Mr Small, which was more than civil—it was warm and friendly. 1814 Byron *Lara* I. vii, Warm was his welcome to the haunts of men. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng* III. 206 He concluded by acknowledging in warm terms his obligations to the King of France. 1885 Mrs. Alexander *At Bay* ix, She dispatched a warm invitation.

13. Characterized by, of the nature of, prone to, sexual desire; amorous.

1590 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 601 The warme effects which she in him finds missing, She seekes to kindle with continuall kissing 1630 Milton *On May Morning* 6 Hail bounteous May that dost inspire Mirth, and youth, and warm desire 1897 F. Lor. Marryat *Blood Vampire* iv, She's rather a warm customer, and if she takes a fancy to a man, he won't well know ow to get out of it

14. With reference to fancy and imagination, ideas, expectations, and the like: Ardent, lively, glowing.

1668 Earl of Dorset's *Edna Perf. Paint.* 49 Our Painters Idea was not, it seems, so warm 1690 T. Allibond *Ep. Archangel* 52 Notwithstanding, it froze extream hard at this time, yet we had warm hopes of getting to Sea 1700 *Post Man* 2–5 May 2/2 Yesterday the Queen was informed that Her Majesty's Ship the Lenox had attacked a Fleet of French Merchant Ships. 1796 Hewlett *Medit* (1818) 33 May we learn to renounce our own will, and be ready to make a sacrifice of our warmest wishes. 1818 Jane Austen *Pers.* (1846) II 404 Their imaginations were warm with the beauty and novelty of the scenes which met their eyes in the New World 1849 Rebecca Ann Dalrymple *Lett. to Ed.* x, He avoided those warm descriptions which had given such offence to the Countess Brenbilda 1846 *Hints on Husband-catching* 18 The most immoral doctrines, the warmest scenes.

15. Of colour Suggestive of warmth; said esp. of red or yellow, and tints mingled with these.

1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 137 The canvas glow'd, beyond e'en Nature warm 1819 J. Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvi, Full on this casement shone the wintry moon, And threw warm gules on Madeline's fair breast 1858 Kingsley *At ic* (1860) I. iv 198 The delicate yellow green fly, with its warm grey wings 1880 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* II. xi. 340 If the tones of the picture are kept low, and the reflected lights warm. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. iv, Prints can be made either of warm or cold tones 1897 Barnes *Grand Beth Bk.* xxxvii, The walls were painted a pale warm pink.

b. qualifying an adjective of colour.

1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 255 The warm-blue breathings of a hidden hearth.

16. Of a bill: Exorbitant in its charges. *colloq.*

1892 *Daily News* 20 July 5/4 He had expressed the opinion that a certain bill for stoves was 'a warm one' 'Excuse my ignorance, interrupted the Lord Chief Justice, 'but what does "warm" mean?'

17. Comb. and spec. collocations: a. parasynthetic, as *warm-backed, -coloured, -complexioned, -constituioned, -tempered* adjs.; b. warm bath, a bath of warm water (often as a medical treatment); also warm bathing; †warm head, a warm-headed person; warm-headed *a.*, having a heated fancy or excitable temperament; warm-hearted *a.* kind of hot-house; warm with *colloq.*, (spirits) mixed with hot water and sugar (cf. *cold without*).

1897 R. S Surtees *Handbook Gr. in*, An atmosphere warranting the 'warm backed waistcoat 1731 R Porter in *Hearne Rel.* (1737) III. 321, I should therefore to try what might be the Advantages of a 'warm Bath, by relaxing the Intestines, and opening the Passage 1898 J. H. Walsh *Dom. Dog* 120 Action on skin by means of the warm bath or the vapour bath 1744 J. Stevenson in *Med. Ess* V. ii. 267 'Warm Bathing, by relaxing and enlarging the Capacities of the Vessels, makes a Derivation of the Fluids into the Parts bathed. 1813 J. Hodson *Inflammation* 173 Hot fomentations and warm-bathing. 1818 Scott *Br. Lammt* xxvi, It was comfortably hung with a sort of 'warm-coloured worsted. 1768 A. Murphy *All in Wrong* II 18 A smooth-faced, fiery eyed, 'warm-complexioned, taper young fellow. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind* 190 The 'warm-constitutioned young widows. 1884 *Daf. Recol. Cons of Comsc. comm. Symbolizing with Ch.*

*Rome* 32 By what figure do you call one Scott-up *Warm* Head a new Generation? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. iv. § 1 The advantage will be on the *warm*-headed Man's side, as having the most Ideas, and the more lively. 1756 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 93 Our rambling, warm-headed, itinerant preachers. 1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) IV. 175 They may then be placed in the *warm*-house. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 10/2 The tubers were first planted in a warm-house. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 437 *Warm*-temp'red show'rs it sendeth in the Spring. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. 244 The Ensign [was] more warm-tempered and wrong-headed. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxii. I knew Lady Ashton as a warm-tempered and prejudiced woman. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 573 A second tumbler of brandy and water, "warm with,' stood exhaling its fragrance at my elbow. 1840 T. H. Lister *Summer in Brittany* I. 213 I hey have some other object and enjoyment in life besides the consumption of 'warm with ' or 'cold without'.

**B.** *absol.* and *sb* 2

1. That which is warm ; a state, or sensation, of being warm ; warmth. *rare.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1491 Hi mod bouhful & wel arms And sechep yorne to þen warme. *c* 1390 *St. Christina* 251 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 93 Of al þe fire scho felid no warme. Þan come scho forth with-outen harm. 1599 *Shaks. Cath MS.* 19. No, I, fol. 9b, the more nere the sonne ys to ye warme more hete or warme. 1813 Douglas *Æneis* vi. xii. 26 A hait fyry power, warme, and dere. *c* 1840 Sterry *The sonne hath twins* 7 The winters hurt recouers with the warm. 1839 A Pixie *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 819 A pleasant warm is it upon the sea.

**b.** *In the warm* : (of a solution, etc.) in a warm state.

1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl* 21 Mar 654 The union of toxin and antitoxin occurs in fixed ratios, more rapidly in concentrated solution and in the warm.

2. *British* (*Service*) *warm*, a warm short overcoat worn especially by officers of the army.

1902 *Ind. Yeom., Rep. D.A.G.* 35 May (1902) 123 The coat or jacket known as 'British Service Warm,' which is practically an overcoat made to wear over uniform, thick and warm. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* June 803/2 In a 'British Warm' and patched breeches.

**Warm** (wɔːm), *adv.* Now only quasi-adv., in predicate-extensions. [OE. *wearme*, f. the adj.] Warmly ; so as to be warm.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 116 Ilewrcoh 8e wearme. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 400 Wel had she clad hir alf and warme. *c* 1430 *Lantern of Light* 46 Whanne þe sunne schyneþ warme 1596 *Dido* III. iv. v. 9 With thy sword, yet reaching warme With blood of those that fought to be thy hane. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 356 When the South or West Winds blow, or the Sun shines warm 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist* (1776) V. 336 They should be put next and all into a little basket, which should be covered up warm 1810 Keats *Lamia* I. 8 Harmes empty left His golden throne, bent warm on amorous theft. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvi. The women straightway carried her off to bed; and, having covered her up warm, [etc.]

**b.** *Comb.*, qualifying an adj. or pple., as ! *warm-hot* ; *warm-breathed*, *-contested*, *-sheltered* ; *-kept*, *-lying*, *-seeking*, *-working*.

*c* 1430 *Two Cookery bks* 8 Setit on þe fyre tyl it be warme hot. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii 335 For Maides well summer'd, and warm kept, are like flyes at Bartholomew-tyde. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* I. ii. 4 The North-east and South winds bringing in the warme-working waters of the Sea, loosneth the pores. 1790 Sir J. Hall *Hobbinol* II 245 The panting Rivals. In Contest Already grasp the warm-contested Prize. 1797 Dyer *Fleece* II. 162 The high heath, by Winter chilled, may disown the rage of storms. 1773 Sheridan *Rivals* II. 1 Her quivering, warm breathed sighs impregnate the very air. 1786 Burns *To a Haggis* iii, O what a glorious sight, Warm-reekin, rich! 1788 Anne Steele *Gerard. Anstis.* 294 Plunge plants in pots—in some dry warm-lying ground.

**Warm** (wɔːm), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **warmed** (wɔːmd). Forms : 1 **werman**, **werm**an, **wirman**, **wyrman** ; **wearman** : 2–3 *Orm.* **warrmenn**, 3 **wærme**, **wormle**, 3– **warm**. [Two formations : (i) OE. (**wierman*), *wyrman*, *wirman* trans. = OS. *warmian* (MLG., (M)Du. *warmen*), OHG. *warmen*, *wermen* (MHG. *wermen*, mod.G. *wärmen*), ON. *verma* (Sw. *värma*, Da. *varme*), Goth. *warmjan* :—OTeut. **warmijan* ; (ii) OE. *wearmian* intr. = OHG. *war(a)men* (MHG , enrly mod G. *warmen*) :—OTeut. type **warmōjan* ; both f. OTeut. **warmo-* Warm a.]

**I.** *trans.* To make warm.

1. To make (one's body, limbs, etc.) warm by approach to a fire, exposure to the sun's rays, exercise, clothing, etc. ; to impart warmth to (a person or animal suffering from cold).

*c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* iii xiv. (1890) 196 Se cyning þonne, forðon he of hunte8 cwom gestod æt þam fyre & hine wyrmde. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 24 Þa þegnas stodon æt þam gledon, & wyrmdon hig. *c* 1200 Ormin 9721 To wasshenn hemm, to warrmenn hemm, To beddenn hemm & frefrenn *c* 1205 Lay. 16201 Þa scal he warmen [? rep. wormie] her. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 230 in *O. E. Misc.* 43 Peter stod , and warmode hym at the gledе. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27090 O naked-hed quen i drogh arme, Yee gar me clethe ing ma to warme. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 330 For no cold þat we comeþ in oure kinde age, We ne faren to no fir our hingrus to warme. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 431 Þan he coppyng þe dure & said vnto hym : And þou be a man, þou hase myster to bake þe dure opyad, and to hafe meatt and warm þe. 1491 Caxton *Ruyall* (Sommer) 269 Prayng hym that he wold beyngе her in to some hous where she wyghte warme and chaufe her with her chyld for he was nyghe ded for cold. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 238b, All the Ladyes entered the tentes and there warmed them a space

1604 E. G. tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ix. 201, I felt no great cold, as I was forced to go into the sunne to warme me. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiii. 121 His hands must be their own fire, and warm themselves with working 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. Tr. Young Lady's T.* II. 74 A group of fishermen sat warming themselves in the sun. 1832 Scott *C.t. Robt.* xxvi, I think not I will once more warm in my bosom the household snake which had so nearly stung me to death 1850 Thackeray *Esmond* I. xiv, You little serpent, warmed by my fire. 1861 Lyndall *Glaciers* I. xi 31 We have renewed the fire and warmed ourselves. 1900 R Bagot *Donna Diana* I. 4 Shall we go to Aragno's on our way home and have some coffee to warm us?

*absol* 1621 Burle *Jus.* xlviii. 24 I here shall not be a coale to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.

**b.** Said of a fire, the sun, etc. Also *absol.*

*a* 1556 Lord Berners *Froiss.* I. cxli. 188 Whiche might as much pleased the citizens, as a fier paynted on the wall, warmed the olde woman. 1583 Babington *Commandm* 413 When they are colde, they goe to the fire, and not to the water to warme them : and can they not tell which doeth warme and which doeth coole? 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I 271 All are but parts of one stupendous whole, That Warms in the sun, refreshes in the breeze.

**c.** To increase the animal heat of. In quot. *absol.*

1620 Markham *Masterp* II. cxxiii 483 It looseth and scattereth humors, warmeth and moisteneth.

**d.** To dry by heat.

1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, He was as honest a soul, added Trim, (pulling out his handkerchief) as ever blood warmed. 1776 Scott *Lady of Lake* v. xiv, For I have sworn this braid to stain In the best blood that warms thy vein. 1896 Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxxi, The blood that warms an English yeoman.

2. In various figurative uses.

**a.** To inspire with affection or kindly feelings ; to cause to 'glow' with pleasure.

1596 *Spenser Prot.* (W. de W. 1532) 266 It calefyeth & warmeth the hert of man or woman with the flame of loue. 1665 Hoyle *Gent. Acad.* (1691) Introd. 8 It is a Virtue that cannot be warmed by Recommendations. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 125 ¶ 2 Reflections are making, they are proper to instruct the Mind, and Warm the Affections. 1772 Mrs. Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) I. 98 The affections of the heart warmed with the sentiment of affection 1858 J. Grant *Random Recoll. He. Lords.* xvi. 301 That eloquence which approves itself to the judgment, though it never warms the heart by appeals to the passions. 1863 Du Chaillu *Ash. Lan.* 103, it will warm my heart to witness the happiness of those friends who are dearest to me. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xi, The charm of adventure quickened my pulse : the glow of hope warmed me. 1869 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 554 Once indeed, Warm'd with his wines, or taking pride in her, she took d no sweet, he knew her tender eyes. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 5 Oct. 5/1 Mr. Gladstone has the example of a true man or woman warms the heart and fires the will.

*absol.* 1888 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. viii. 21 Those lightsome words that warm like summer days.

**b.** To render eager or zealous ; to rouse from indifference. Also *absol.* Now *rare*

*c* 1580 Hooker *Sir P. Carew* (1857) 42 Sir Peter Carew was then present, and one unto whom, as they thought, the speeches were specially directed...and indeed, he being somewhat warmed therein, deviseth how to compass the matter. 1638 Dalton *Countrey Concordances* 11 When Boniface warmes him, and his blood is young. 1706 *Epistle after Battle Ramillies* 106 Prior's Wks. 1907 II 372 The rescu'd chief, by the past danger warm'd, Our welkend houshold with new fury storm'd 1711 Addison *Spect* No 521 ¶ 2 I had formerly a particular Skill in warming a Man so far in his Narration, as to make him throw in a little of the Marvelous 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Hist.* I. ii. 3 But when they were warmed by that great success, he made an assault upon the garrison that was in the city. 1784 Goldsm *Trav.* 380 Calm in my soul, not to rise in arms, Except when fast approaching danger warms. 1764 Churchill *Gotham* III 323 The bowl, with great and manly feelings warm'd, Panting for Knowledge, rests not until inform'd. 1789 Burke *Corr* (1844) I. 59, I am not inclined to defend my conduct ; I have been warmed to it by the imputation you throw on me. 1857 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 308 Anne, who is so difficult to warm up to into satisfaction.

**†c.** To exhort to valour. (Often in Dryden and Pope.) *Obs.*

1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 637 The Gods invok'd, the Rutuli prepare Their Arms, and warn each other to the War. 1711 *Spect* No. 127 ¶ 2 Warm him with Discourse of Honour, and fainting Souldiers warms. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 653 First to the fight his native Troops he warms.

**d.** Of drink : To excite, stimulate.

1823 Howison *Vita.* I. 3 When the common people are once warmed with drinke, they are apt to doe them injury. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor. Epodes* xi. 12 When the gay Liquor warm'd my opening Soul.

**†e.** To provoke, excite (temper). *Obs*

1752 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 26 Sept., Keep your own temper, and artfully warm other people's.

**3.** To make (a material object or substance) warm ; to heat moderately ; to take the chill off.

*a* 1000 *Riddles* xliii[i] 10 Ic wæs wæta dæl, wearmode on wætre, wyrmeð hwilum fægre to fyre. *c* 1000 in Assmann *Agt. Hom.* xi 84 For by he cwm.ð be ham colan watere, ðæt nan man ne ðorfte binn hondan. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xliv. 16 I am warme, I have seene the fire. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1109 I he lauter crowned Phebus with his hete Gan.. To warmen of be Est Sea be wawes wete. *a* 1425 *tr. Secreta Secretorum* (1528) 40 þe luyse of caldone ȝ-medled wiþ vinegre and warmed at be fire quenchiþ wele þe wickid hete. 1530 Palsgr. 731/1 You must warme your medecyne or your drinke it. *a* 1585 R. Willis in Hakluyt *Voy.* 621 Before the Sunne hath warmed the ayre and dissolued the yce, ..there can be no sailing. 1667 S. H. *Perserv. Health* (1684) 45 In the Winter time, warm well your garments at the fire, and warm the linings of the same. 27 . Watts *Hymns & Spir. Songs* II. cxlvi. (1751) 250 E'er there was Rain to bless the Earth, Or Sun to warm the Ground. 1797–98 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xv. 269 Skim it, warm it blood warm, and drink it. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 268 In summer, they [sc. fish] are seen in great numbers in the shallows near the shore, where the sun has power to warm the water to the bottom. 1830 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xix, I he tea's cold; put it on the embers and warm it a bit. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib Troub.* I. i, You can get my slippers warmed, Jane. 1900 *Prof. Ass Dyers* XVI. 12 Powerful jets with water warmed by steam. 1907 J. A Hobson *Econ. Principl.* (ed. 6) 159 The negative should be slightly warmed

**†b.** Said jocularly for : To occupy (one's bed). 1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, I thinke we shall not warme our beds to day

*c. To wax to* (U.S. *to warm over*) : to make warm again (cooked food that has become cold). Also (*rarely*) without adv.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* lix, She requests to have that little bit of sweetbread that was left, warmed up for her supper 1853 Soyer *Pantroph.* 180 Another custom...was that of warming the remains of a preceding banquet for other guests. 1863 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* II 63 We lived for three days on a most recommendable stew, which appeared, warmed up fresh, at every meal. 1884 Mrs. Alexander *Valerie's Fate* iv, Valerie went to the kitchen to warm up an appetizing little dish prepared by the femme de ménage.

*fig.* 1876 Ld. Hartington in Ld E. Fitzmaurice *Earl Granville* (1905) II. 167 All the old anti-Turk abuse was warmed up again 1879 G. W. Dasent *Mostyn* xxi 160 [He reply] took up the old exceptions, warmed them over into grievances

**d.** To impart warmth of colour to.

1833 Kane *Arctic Exped.* I. xxxv. (1856) 321 A peculiar purple, slightly warmed or bronzed at its margins 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* iii, Not one glimmer of gold or auburn warmed the dull fuzzen of her hair.

**4.** To heat (a building, a room) to a moderate temperature.

1838 Lardner *Hand-bk Nat. Phil.* 278 Warming buildings by hot water 1874 Buckle-Thrasher *Modern Par. Churches* 203 A perfect system of warming a church has yet to be invented 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 345/1 The room was warmed by a brazier

**†5.** To invigorate (a new house) by a feast or entertainment *Obs.* Cf. HOUSE-WARMING *b.*

1627 in *Cr. & Times Jas I* (1848) II 50 On Monday, to warm it [the renovated house], he made a great feast. 1661 Heylin *Lect. Restaure* (1674) 237 Sir Thomas Trevilian took possession of his house, which having been burned, he was taken from it by the stroke of death 1800 *Gentl. Mag* LXX II 786/2 The Prince, it is said, will be present at the first dinner that is given in this mansion.

**†6.** *To be well warmed* : to be settled *in* (a residence, position of dignity or profit). *Obs.* Cf. WARM *a.* 7

1585 Allen *Defence Purg.* (1886) 16 Ere they be well warmed in their benefices 1711 *Country-Man's Lett. Curat* 79 I ven before she was well warmed in her Benefice

**†7.** *Mil.* To throw (an enemy) into commotion by a cannonade. *To warm the field* to carry on a furious cannonade. *Obs.*

Cf *Ir. chaufer un poste*, 'le canonner vivement' (Littré) 1705 *Addtr. Blenheim* in *Lond. Gaz* No. 4080/1 The English warm'd the Field to that degree, that Thirty Squadrons were forc'd to fly 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* 81 (1840) 187 Resolving to give him a broad-side that should warm him.

**b.** Sporting. *To warm up* : to give (one's competitor) reason to fear defeat.

1888 *Field* 4 July 14/3 First Trinity rowed over for the trial heat, and in the final heat on the second day 'warmed up' University to some tune

**8.** *dial* To beat, flog.

1824 Cash *Crotchets Glost., Worm* to beat 'I'll warm thy jerkin for the.' 1893 Baumbach *N. C. Words, Warm*, to beat. 'I'wil warm yur hide.' 1898 Scott *Dr. Il Verth* xxix, Old Dorothy, whose hands has warmed my habits before now 1893 T. Hobbs *Cleveland Cases* I. 3, I have cut your str ip and warm him! 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs Halleth Trouh* I xxi, Won't Charlotte warm his back for him! 1892 M C. F. Morand *Sea Spray* 168 Every Yorkshireman knows what warming a child means ; perhaps not a few by later experience 1925 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) in *Blackw Mag* Jan 102/2 To warm a child in Polperr signifies to beat him with a strap.

**II** *intr.* To become warm.

**9.** Of a living body, a material thing or substance. To be raised in temperature.

*a* 1000 *Phænix* 213 Wyrta wearmiaþ. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram* xxvi (Z) 154 *Calco, Ic wearme*. *c* 1440 *Destr. Troy* 4035 Wyndis wastid away, warmyt the ayre. *c* 1648 *Sp* Bradyatt *Bornadocs Jrnl* III. (1818) 93 I hence to Cambridge where the Muses Hearth of Vow-buds Lodgings up a chimney warming. 1849 Faraday *Chem Manip* iv. (1842) 141 A large thermometer may from the lapse of time necessary to allow of its proper change, occasion an alteration of temperature, by allowing the body tried to cool or warm. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* I, Beth put a pair of slippers down to warm. 1870 O W. Holmes *Poet* I (1885) 19 A cold day warming up to 32° 1880 R. Boldrewood *Robbery under Arms* xi, Here's some damper and mutton ..while tea warms 1902 S. S White *Forest xiv*, When the water had warmed, the sun shone.

**b.** Of colour : To become 'warmer' or more ruddy.

1832 James *Phil Augustus* xv, On a bright morning of July, when the grey of the sky was just beginning to warm with the rising day. 1906 *Westm Gaz.* 8 June 8/1 His head and underparts are of a pearly grey that warms to a pinkish hue on the breast.

**10.** Of a person, his heart, feelings, etc. To become affectionate, kindly, or genial (*to*, *towards* a person).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3376 And I in longing am Laght & Lappit full sore, With bete of þi hegh loue, þat my hert warmys. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* Feb., Mr. Thrale was .. at first, cold and quiet, but soon..warmed into sociality. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxv, I judged that..your Grace's heart was ward to the tartan. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wanderings by Loire* 46 Every heart seemed..to warm towards the little devotee. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xx, Mr. Dombey, in his friendlessness, inclined to the Major. It cannot be said that he warmed towards him, but he thawed a little. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 141 Carlyle cannot, indeed, but warm to Scott at the end. 1883 C. Murray *Hearts* I. His heart warmed over Linnell as they walked along together.

**11.** To become eager, animated, or enthusiastic. Also, with *up*. *To warm (up) to*: to become interested in, acquire zest for, to 'put one's back into' (one's work, a contest, etc.).

1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* xi. xiv. (1782) IV. 209, I expected every moment to see them warm, and to go to loggerheads, the usual end of their dissertations. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, 'I'll tell you,' replied Mr. Gabriel Parsons, warming with the subject, and the brandy-and-water,—'I know a lady [etc.].' 1846 Disraeli in Moneypenny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. 11, I have not yet addressed much to my shop; live MSS. of the German Princes of Isenwald, but am beginning to warm up. 1858 Thackeray *Virginn.* xxxvii, Papa's first nervousness is over: his noble voice clears, warms to his sermon. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 5 Congress will be that time we warm, and be warming to their work. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. iv. 72 When he found that his competitor was formidable, he warmed to the race. 1878 McCarthy *Own Times* II. xxiv. 364 He warmed up as he went along. 1885 Mary E. Wilkins in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 594/1 She warmed up on the subject.

**Warmable** (wǭ·rmăb'l), *a. nonce wd.* [f. Warm *v.* + -able.] Capable of being warmed.

1887 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 180 We have had a hard frost for nearly a fortnight..; and our stable-meeting-room is not very warmable under such conditions.

**War-man.**

**1.** A fighting-man, warrior, soldier. In early use chiefly *Sc.*; now *rare*.

In Minot's *Poems* x. 9 Ritson and Hall print 'weremen' as an emendation of the MS. reading 'werkmen'.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Lawes of Armys* (S. T. S.) 162 And gif innocent folk takis scathe, than, in sik opyn weris, the prince na the wer men may nocht..set remede. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 256 Wallace commandis that suld na wermen saiff. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiv. 151 Syne on that weyrman ruschit he in teyn. 1549 J. Harrison *Exhort. Scottes* a iij b, How the countrey hath beain ouer runne, and ouer awne warremen. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 566 The sweet War-man is dead and rotten. 1591 *2nd Pt. Tromb. Ralgne & Joha* (1611) 50 Backe warremen, backe. 1792 T. Dibdin *Siege of Little Island, A*, Every great war-man, called Billy the Norman. 1832 *Scott Cast. Dang.* ix, You will command at least twenty war-men, with bow and spear. 1864 R. P. Buchan *Dubrow* I. 48, I detected several warmen privily borrowing from their neighbours. 1911 G. K. Chesterton *Ballad of White Horse* 104 Meeting may be of war-men Where the best war-man is slain.

**b.** *U.S.* One whose voice is for war. Cf. War-dog, *war-hawk*.

1814 *Columbian Sentinel* 12 June 2/4 in A. Matthews *Uncle Sam* (1908) 28.

†**2.** A man-of-war, warship. *Sc. Obs.*

1546 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 123 The pryses taken be the Cristopher..to the nummer of sex weirman.

**Warm-blooded,** *a.* Having warm blood; *spec.* of mammals and birds, which have a uniform high temperature.

1793 T. Brodrick *Let. Darwin* 68 At a temperature considerably below that of warm-blooded animals. 1839 T. Beale *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 41 All the cetacea, as is well known, are warm-blooded animals. 1884 G. Allen *Falling in Love*, etc. So Even among warm-blooded animals like the bears and dormice, hibernation occurs.

**b.** *fig.* Ardent, fervent, passionate.

1832 *Scott Cast. Dang.* v, Their disaffection,..since the death of that great monarch, had been considerably neglected by the young and warm-blooded valour of England.

**Warmed** (wǭmd), *ppl. a.* [f. Warm *v.* + -ed 1.] Made warm. **a.** *lit.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Gwillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/1 With a warmed table napkinne, rubbe the invyde of the arme. 1679 Trapham *Disc. Health Jamaica* 146 Dissolution in Wine or Broth or other warmed Liquids. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxvi, She..Loosens her warmed jewels one by one. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* v, He grasped his canteen and took a long swallow of the warmed water.

**b.** *fig.*

1630 Locke *Hum. Und.* iv. xix. § 7 This I take to be properly Enthusiasm..rising from the Conceits of a warm'd or over-weening Brain. 1854 Pathos *Angel in Ho., Be. Prophet* 141 And all thanks to their warmed wits. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* i. vi, The sense of physical emptiness, that..no warmed passions redeem.

**Warmen,** var. Warment 1 *dial.*

**Warmer** (wǭ·rmə(r)), [f. Warm *v.* + -er 3.]

**1.** A person who warms. *poet.*

*a* 1595 Southwell *St. Peter's Compl.* 11 Coales were kindled to the warmers cost. 1638 Cokaine *Poems* 249 Tis Loves best musick, all ears charmer, All hearts enthraller, and bloods warmer. 1903 Bridges *Ep. Socialist* 123 Unashamed to have outliv'd Your breeders, feeders, warmers and toiling attendants.

**2.** A contrivance for warming.

Chiefly with defining word prefixed, as *foot-, plate-, vegetable-warmer*.

1822-83 see Foot *sb.* 35. 1857-75 see Plate *sb.* 19 b. 1864 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 845 The well-known Japanned plate warmer for the parlour is small families. *Ibid.*, A lower kind sold in the shops under the name of vegetable warmers, for keeping those dishes of vegetables warm that are not put on the table. 1870 *Daily News* 13 Jan., Covered up till we were nearly suffocated, and with a warmer for our feet. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 7/3 The whey is dipped out into large warmers and these placed in the boiler.

**Warme store,** variant of Warnestore *Obs.*

†**Warmful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ful.] Full of warmth.

*c* 1561 Chapman *Iliad* x. 121 A mandilion..Of purple, large, and full of folds; curld with a warmefull nap. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 314/1 Who kindled first his warm-ful vital ray?

**Warm-hearted,** *a.* Having a warm heart; of a generous and affectionate disposition. Also, proceeding from, or indicating, such a disposition; hearty, cordial.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxv. 32 Be warme hairtit and nocht ane hoir. 1828 Ham. Nisbet *Calvin's Inst.* II. Pref. It is naturally an open, warm-hearted man. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 80 The kind and warm-hearted treatment which I had experienced from the Dryads tribe. 1850 Eliot *Adam Bede* I, He's of a rash, warm-hearted nature, like Esau.

Hence **Warm-hearted·ly** *adv.*, **Warm-hearted·ness.**

1828 Ham. Morr *Calebs* xi. I, 142 Her extreme naïveté and warm-heartedness. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlii, That's the way I've gone through life. Experience has never put a chill upon my warm-heartedness. 1911 *Concise Oxf. Dict., Warm-heartedly* adv.

**Warming** (wǭ·rmiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Warm *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of making warm; the state of becoming warm.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warmynge, *calefactio*. 1597 Shakes. *1st Hen. IV*, iv. iii. 111 The second propertie of your excellent Sherris, is, the warming of the blood. *c* 1680 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* II. iv. (1726) 302 As it is sure our bodies are influenced with the warmings of the sun. 1832 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Parish* vi, Such a nursing and warming of little legs and feet before the fire. 1882 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. xiii, Whether he will have time for a good warming and breakfasting before setting off.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

*c* 1620 in *Arch Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 205 The means hereof is to make peace amongst them in the Infanta her country of Brabant, euen to the warminge of her courte at Bruxells. 1681 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* III. ii. (1726) 339 To which those amongst us, who are averse to the more warmings of that ancient love that was wont to be amongst them. 1743 J. Glas *Lord's Supper* v. v. Wks. 1761 IV. 143 Any warmings and seemingly good motions and wishes, that may carry us out..to do any good work.

†**c.** *Warming of the house* = House-warming 2. 1653 Greaves *Seraglio* 184 The warming of the house, as we call it in England.

**2.** A thrashing, trouncing. Also *fig.*

1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 664/1, I'le give your hide a warming. 1880 S. Butler *Let.*, 20 May in H. F. Jones *Mem.* (1919) I. 332 My new book..will..give old Darwin the best warming that I can manage to give him.

**3.** *attrib.*, as *warming chamber, -house, -stone* (see quots.).

1791 Bentham *Panopt.* I. 201 The *warming chamber, or set of warming-chambers..consists of earthen retorts, open at both ends, and inclosed in iron ones. 1796 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 258 The warming chamber..is common to both portions of the building. 1897 J. W. Clark *Observ. Arundel Tomb* (1911), The *Warming Closet (*calefactorium*). 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 143 *Lapis Schistus*..the *Warming stone. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 253 Where the Ovens or Cists made with ordinary stone prove so advantagious, what would one of them do, if the Joists and Laths at least were made of the Cornish warming-stone, that will hold heat well eight or ten hours. 1692 R. *Creation* 1. (1692) 83 To these useful Stones I might add the Warming-stone, digged in Cornwal, which being once well heated at the fire retains its warmth a great while, and hath been found to ease and give relief in several Pains and Diseases, particularly that of the internal Hæmorrhoids.

**Warming** (wǭ·rmiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That makes warm, or becomes warm; *lit.* and *fig.* Also with *up*.

1498 *Kirk's Festival* 160 Lyght fyre, schapon lyke tonges, brennyng and not amerryng, warmyng not harmyng. 1662 Feltham *Resolves* iii. (ed. 8) 203 The gentle..rayes of the warming Sun. *c* 1680 R. Fleming *Fulfilling Script.* II. v. (1726) 309 It is rare to find a warming heart with a large profession, such as can make it convincing to others. 1765 J. Brown *Char. Tyrol., Winter Day* 289 With what amazing power do the warming beams of the Sun of righteousness dart into my soul! 1829 *Scott Ivanhoe* xxxvii, A warming and spicy smelling balsam. 1851 Meredith *Poems, Pict. Rhine* iii, And now the saffron clothes the warming atmosphere. 1886 Hardy *Woodlanders* I2, Do you think a Christmas party..is a warming-up thing, and likely to be useful in hastening on the matter?

**Warming-pan.**

**1.** A long-handled covered pan of metal (usually of brass) to contain live coals, etc., formerly in common use for warming beds.

1573 Baret *Alv.* W 64 A warmyng pan, *thermoclisium*. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* 1745 A fellow..with..a Dagger with a silk like a warming-pan. 1689 *Parm Diary* 1 Jan., Presented from Captain Beckford with a noble silver warming-pan, which I am doubtful whether to take or no. 1702 Ham. Tuaner *Reditio. Mary* (1714) 60 The tinkling after them with a Warming-Pan, Frying-Pan, or Kettle, is of good Use to let the Neighbours know you have a Swarm [of Bees] in the Air. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xiv, A nosegay resembling in shape and dimensions a full-sized warming-pan with the handle cut short off.

*Ag.* 1646 Bertom *Fantasticks* (Grosart) 9/2, I thus concludes, I hold it [Aingues] the worlds welfare, and the warms Warming-pan. 1760 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXII. 137/2 For wedlock is the warming-pan, That best can warm the bed.

**2.** *Hist.* With allusion to the story that James II's son, afterwards called the Old Pretender, was a supposititious child introduced into the Queen's bed in a warming-pan. Also *attrib.*

1689 *Full Answ. Depos. Birth Pr. Wales* 13 Do you think it [the child] was conveyed there in a Warming-pan, or otherwise? 1689 *Misces. Aurea, Popery* 142 A Warming-pan Plot, worse than Colliers Meal-Tub. 1716 *Collect. State Songs, Poems*, etc. 64 Let those Rebels, if they can, Make us forget the Warming Pan, Which first convey'd that pretty Man into the Chamber Royal. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* ix, Our immortal deliverer from papists and pretenders, and wooden shoes and warming pans.

**3.** *slang.* a. A large old-fashioned watch. Cf. Turnip *sb.* 3 b. b. A female bed-fellow. *Scotch warming-pan*: a chambermaid who lay in the bed a while to warm it for the intending occupant.

1668 Davenant *Man's the Master* II. 95 None but a cold Bed-fellow would have two Warming-Pans. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 83 A Scotch warming-pan, *i. e.* a wench. The story is well known of the Gentleman travelling in Scotland, who desiring to have his bed warmed, the maid-servant left her clothes and lays her self down in it for a while. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Warming-pan*, an old fashion'd large Watch. *A Scotch Warming-pan*, a She-bed-fellow.

**c.** A person who keeps a place or employment until the intended occupant is ready to take it.

1846 *Eclectic Rev.* June 660 A *locum tenens* (ecclesiastick, a warming-pan) was wanted for a Yorkshire living. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. i, Hungerford is not a warming-pan; ..he never was originally; and if he had been, he has been member for the county too long to be so considered now. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* I. xxiv, Why should I serve the place of what in Parliament is called a warming-pan.

*attrib.* 1875 *Daily News* 2 June 2/2 The Act..was simply employed for conserving the living for the use of the children of the patron, and was popularly known as the 'warming-pan' Act.

**Warmint,** var. Varment 1 *dial.*

**Warmish** (wǭ·rmiʃ), *a.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat warm.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 31/3 A southwest wind, with warmishe showres of rayne. 1647 Trapp *Comm., 1 Thess.* v. 3 As Philosophers say, that before a snow the weather will be warmish. 1822 *Scott Nigel.* (ed. 3) 61 The patient is to be kept in a warmish, but well-ventilated apartment. 1895 Meredith *Amos. Marriage* xxxi. II. 345 Odd movements and curiously brushed him when the cynic was not mounting guard.

†**Warmly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warm *a.* or *v.* + -ly 1.] Full of warmth.

*c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cix. viii, As they [the Danes] vnto their* Shyppes agayn warde flew, He drove them there vnto a warmely stowe. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Lady Kilconquhair* 8 Aug., The sweet presence, the long lasting goodwill of our God, the warmely & lovely comforts of our Lord Jesus be with you.

**Warmly** (wǭ·rmli), *adv.* [f. Warm *a.* + -ly 2.] In a warm manner.

**1.** So as to be warm (in temperature); so as to impart warmth. † Also Comb. *warmly-wet*.

1552 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 836 Our meely grain.. Kept to revive: and, warmly wet, to birth His seed be neath, his bud above the Earth. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 6 b, Coustounesse is Embroidered with Extortion, and warmely lined and furred with oppression. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 645 Where the morning Sun first warmly smote The open field. 1705 Pope *Odyss.* xxiv. 262 His habit coarse, but warmly wrapt around. 1900 Cowper *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 59 Thy nightly visits to my chamber made, That thou might'st know me safe and warmly laid. 1820 Tyndall *Glac.* xxxii. 260 The Aiguille ..half of its granite cone was warmly illuminated, and half in shadow. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 176/2 The sun shone warmly upon him.

**2.** With warmth of feeling.

**a.** Fervently, earnestly.

1529 More *Suppl. Soules* Wks. 336/2 Yet heare we sometime one wiues pray for vs more warmely. 1698 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1883) IV. 131 Pray for me more warmly and more fervently for him. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xxxii, My son's bride warmly insisted that Lady Thornhill (that was to be) should take the land. 1856 Trelawny *Greece* xx. 111, 150 Corinth warmly entered into the views of her colony. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 145 On a matter I have warmly at heart.

**b.** With warm affection, gratitude, kindness, admiration, etc.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 133 He spoke this very affectionately and warmly. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* I, And interested him more warmly in her favour. 1819 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvi, They..barely thanked him in very cold terms for his courtesy while at his Court, and something more warmly, for having permitted them to retire. 1826 Disraeli *Vis. Grey* v. xv, All applauded him very warmly. 1876 Harry *Estheliane* I. 164 Perhaps her fingers more warmly than she thought she had given him warrant for. 1904 *Verney Mem.* I. 146 Sir Edmund Verney was warmly attached to both husband and wife.

**c.** With controversial ardour, eagerly.

1685 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* vi. iv. (1848) 352 There are not many [controversies that have been more curiously and warmly disputed, than the Question, Whether (sic.)' 1739 Hardwicke *Let. to G. Harris Life* (1847) I. 494, Points, on which our friends may be likely warmly to differ. 1892 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. vi. 90 The King and he often warmly disputed on the principles of a good Government.

d With warmth of temper.

1776 *Trial of Y Penshe* iv 28/1 The Governor reproached me warmly for taking up a business in which he was so immediately concerned. 1799 Hy Lee *Lantern. T. Prenchm T* (ed 2) I soo ' Let us not talk of him, interrupted Dorain, warmly 1838 Lytton *Leila* I ii, The young king spoke warmly and bitterly 1873 W Black *Pr Table* xvi 254 'And if he has, whose fault is it?' the girl said, warmly.

3. With reference to attack or defence Fiercely, vigorously.

1684 *Scanderbeg Redivo.* vi 149 They came briskly on, and Charged very desperately, but being as warmly received, the Infidels were put to flight *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Mar 1672, They so warmly plied our divided fleets, that [etc.] 1708 *Lond Gaz* No 4493/2 The Germans receiv'd him so warmly, that few of his Men escaped with their Lives 1725 R Rogers *Fruits* (1726) 7 We warmly pursued the enemy, and obliged them to disperse 1797 in Nicolas *Disp Milton* (1845) III 188 No person has a right to know that the Collection was not as warmly engaged as any Ship in the Squadron

**Warmness** (wō·rmines). Now *rare*. [f. Warm *a* + -ness.] The condition of being warm, warmth.

1. Moderate heat.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Scamit' Lives* xi 157 He wolde hine bi·þan on þam wicum wætere ac he gewat sona swa he fæt wæter þrepode, and wearð seo wearmnys him awend to denke *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib* ¶ 2375 It may not be seyd he (Seneca) that where greet fyr hath longe tyme endured, that ther ne dwelleth som vapour of warmnesse *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 473 He fand a serpent slayn with hurdwarmnesse, & bon vnto a wolek, and he fonnid hur because sho was wonn-what on lyfe, & layd hur per sho mot fele warmnes of be son 1526 Tindale *Ps* xi 16 If one of y·m seyo vnto them Departe in peace, God sende you warmnes and fode. 1607 Markham *Cavel* iii (1617) 11 Make your horse run the traine with good courage and lustinesse, and so in his warmnesse trot him downe. 1696 J. F. *Merch's Warehe* 29 Which [*sc* cotton goods] if my person made trial of, he would scarcely make use of any other by reason of their duration and warmness 1784 J. Reid *Lect.* Wks (1846) 65/2 A comf rtable warmness in the air.

*fig.* 1589 *Pappe w Hatchet* D ij b, The heate of some men's braines, and the warmnes of other mens bloud 1688 D. Abraham in *Jrnl Friends' Hist Soc* (1910) July 141 Love the course and motion whereof is in no wise to be stopped, Neither the warmness of its stream refrigerated

†2. The state of being well to do. *Obs.*

1399 Langl. *Rich Redeles* iii 288 Pis warmnesse in welth with vy vppon ertbe Myste not longe dure as doctours us tellith 1421–2 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 3039 Al þi busynesse Is for þi lustes, and þi worldes warmnesse

†3 Lukewarmness. *Obs rare.*

1582 Daus r *Bullinger on Apoc* xx 127 The lothsomnesses whiche God conceaueth of this newe title or warmnes [L *ex tepiditate*]

4 Warmth of affection or devotion

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W. 1531) 150 The soule meleth whan it waxeth warme in deuocyon, whiche warmenesse, is made ye swete and pleasaunt loue of our Lorde Iesu. 1597 *Fog Prior & Our Lady* 477 Make the sturdy for to bend, To the cold kind warmenes send 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph* iii iii, I lov'd your company; And ever had a warmness in my breast, That me is ye dearer to m than the rest.

†5 Heat of anger. *Obs.*

1583 Br. Sandys in Strype *Ann. Ref* (1709) I 362 He saith, he is sory for those letters he wrote to me in his Warmeness

**Warmoll**, obs. form of Wardmote.

**Warmonger** (wō·rmmp gəz) [f. War *sb.*1 + Monger *sb.*] One who traffics in war. Contemptuously applied to: † a. a mercenary soldier (*Obs. rare*—1); b one who seeks to bring about war. So **Wa rmongering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in recent newspaper use)

1590 Spenser *F Q* iii *x* 29 As much disdeigning to be so mastered, Or a war monger to be basely nempt 1817 Hallam *Effects War's Taxes Wks.* 1902 II 249 Has it a singular ally of the pen in so noisy and triumphant a warmonger as the Poet Laureate 1862 J Baight *Let in Trevelyan Life* (1913) 316 The war-mongers here are baffled for the time 1878 E Jenkins *Haverholme* 76 His bitter scoffs at the Chauvinists and war-mongers.

**Warmot**, obs. form of Wormwood.

**Warmouth** (wō·rmauþ). A name given to a fresh-water sunfish belonging to the genus *Chænobryttus* found in the eastern U.S

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 67 The Warmouth, *Chænobryttus gulosus*, is well-known throughout the South The black Warmouth, *Chænobryttus nigricans*, a species also called 'Warmouth', 'Big-mouth' [etc.] abounds in the tributaries of the Upper Mississippi

**Warmsters**, variant of Wainesters *Obs.*

**Warmth** (wō·rmþ). In 3 **wermpe**. [OE. **wiermþu*, **wermpu* – MLG. *wermede*, Du. *warmte*, MHG. *wermede*, *wasmeide*, *warmte* (early mod.G. *wärmte*) –OTeut. type **warmiþō*, f. **warmo-* see Warm *a* and -th.]

1 A moderately hot or pleasantly heated state of the atmosphere, esp. as an essential of physical comfort and well-being; a temperate heat radiating from the sun, a fire, etc.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 37 Do þine eimesse of þon þet þu maht lifo'sien . Wrecche men sceoc and claðas and wermþe and herburge. 1581 Cartor *Regnard* vii (Arb.) 12 Reynart laye within the gate as he ofte was wonte to doo for the warmth of the sonne. 1598 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par. Luke* xxiv. 58–9, 188 b, Peter, who abiured y· Lorde whyle being throughly taken wt colde, he taketh warmth & heate by the coles of y· wicked Iewes 1577 B Googe Heresbach's *Husb* i. 38 Yet desireth it [Lupines] the warmth of Autume, that it may be well rooted before Winter come. 1666 R Venables *Exper. Angler* ix. 91 In March, beginning of April, later end of September, and all winter fish bite best in the warmth of the day 1691 Milton *P. R* iv 74 When scarce a Shed Could be obtain'd to shelter him or me [Mary] From the bleak air; A Stable was our warmth, A Manger his. 1690 Locke *Hum Und* ii viii § 16, 37 The same Fire, that at one distance produces in us the Sensation of Warmth, does at a nearer approach, produce in us that far different Sensation of Pain 1708 J. Wesley *Epworth* iv 310 How the frost, Raging abroad, and the rough wind, endear The silence and the warmth enjoy'd within! 1829 Shelley *Prometh* ii 1 187 If there be a sun, it seems As she shall not dare to look upon its beams, Nor feel its warmth 1838 Dickens *Sk Boz, Doctors' Commons*, He had gathered up his robe behind, in order that he might feel the full warmth of the fire 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F* 185 The girl Nursing a child, and turning to the warmth The tender pink five bended baby soles 1908 J. E. Wharton *Reverman* ix, A fine sun, tempered with a prophetic warmth of late spring, animated the scene

*b. fig.*

1653 J. Taylor *Serm. for Year* i xii 267 Many persons, from vicious, and dead, and cold, have passed into life and an excellent grace, and a spiritual warmth 1788 Cowper *Let.* 17 Virtue quickens, with a warmth all its own, The pow'rs that sin has brought to a decline 1884 Tennyson *Q. Mary* iv 38 But when the dawn of no child-bride, and the new warmth of life ascending sun Was felt by either, they [etc.]

2 The natural heat of a living body; vital heat

1598 Shake *Rom* & *Jul* iv i 98 His pulse Shall keep his native progress . No warmth, no breath shall testify thou liuest 1606 — *Ant & Cl* v ii 304 Come then, and take the last warmth of my Lippes 1667 Milton *P. L* x 298 Before the vital warmth Her breathing wings the Spirit of God outspread, And vital virtue infus'd, and vital warmth throughout the fluid Mass 1712 Addison *Spect* No 122 ¶ 14 When she has laid her Eggs what Care does she take in warming them [ostrich]; that all Parts may partake of the vital Warmth? 1820 Shelley *Prometh Unb* ii i 104 The warmth Of the life blood, for loss of which I faint, Quivers within my wasted limbs

†b. Of herbs Aphroditiac quality *Obs*

1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 199 When now the Nuptial time Approaches, feed him with Herbs, whatever thou canst find, Of generous Warmth

3 A moderate degree of heat inherent or produced in a substance or liquid.

1748 Gray *Alliance* 3 A nigger's Farth, Whose flinty Bosom glows with human Birth, Or genial Warmth, nor genial Juice returns 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 122 The extreme coldness of the soil had overcome the warmth of the natives, and the *Lark* iii 491 Lets the warmth, Slow gathering in the midst [of a hot bed], through the square mass Diffus'd, attain the surface.

b. Pungency (of seasoning)

1816 Lucken *Pharm. Extped* iv *Zaare* iv (1818) 238 The stews were so highly peppered that our gentlemen, not accustomed to such warmth of seasoning, could scarcely swallow them.

4 A manifested or fervent state of the feelings, strength or glow of feeling, fervent or vehement character (of an expression, welcome, salute, etc.), ardour, enthusiasm, cordiality, heartiness

1596 Shake. *Merch V* i ii 36 But what warmth is there in your affection towards any of these Princely suitors that are already come? 1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* i 44 His majesty sent for them and with much warmth and pass on dissuaded them from appearing further in it 1677 Yarranton *Engl Improv* (1698) 1 Let the same warmth of Heart disposes Men to both, though one be commonly esteemed an Honour, and the other a Reproach 1708 J. Wesley *Epworth* I. 1 I know not in what words to thank my Fellow Soldiers for their Warmth and Zeal in my behalf 1709 Pope *Ess Crit* 678 An ardent Judge, who zealous in his trust, With warmth gives sentence, yet is always just 1776 *Herror* No 6 The singular opinions which have influenced his conduct, I have often heard him attempt, with great warmth, to defend 1823 Hr Martineau *Alan h Strob* vi 81 All with different degrees of warmth declared their readiness to sacrifice or to be sacrificed in Freedom's cause 1841 Disraeli *Amen* ii 1 Disdained shook me by the hand with a warmth which made me more ashamed of my conduct towards him. 1856 *N Brit Rev.* XXV 104 The warmth of the gratitude to Wordsworth, may be taken as the measure of his fears. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 496 In the warmth of your professions will he not attempt, with great warmth, to defend 1882 Harriet Martineau *Alan h Strob* vi 81 All with different degrees of warmth declared their readiness to sacrifice or to be sacrificed in Freedom's cause 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz* 20 Disdained shook me by the hand with a warmth which made me more ashamed of my conduct towards him. 1896

þam of our luuerds wrake. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 390 Milce and merci he haþ for-loren, He was warned þer-of bi-foren. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2658 For in myne dremys it is nowe me How that myn Neuew shal myn bane be. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 193 For he hadde i-warnede hym of mony myshappes þat schulde falle hem for his cruelnes...Also he hadde i-warnede him þat he schulde regne but fourtene yere. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 273 Thaveniurous knyste by thyn request is warnyd of his perellys. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 637 All your wedis will away, I haue i warn yow. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 47, I warne yow al, your enemyes are passyng strong for yow. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* ii. 22 Notwithstondynge after he was warned in hys slepe, he tourned asyde into the parties of galile. 1599 Alex. Hume *Hymns* v. 96 Poems (S.T.S.) 44 The godly Hezekiah king, was sick in great distres, And be the Prophete warned, that he soulde neuir conuales. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 6 O...that now, While time was, our first Parents had bin warnd The coming of thir secret foe, and scap'd...his mortal snare. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* vii, They may it often comes to warn people of their death. 1850 Tennyson *Elaine* 274 He learnt and warn'd me of their fierce design Against my house. 1880 — *Ode Duncan* 128 And then I fear'd Lest the gray navy there should splinter on it, And fearing waved my arm to warn them off.

*Proverbs.* *c* 1530 R. Hilles *Commonp. Bk.* (1858) 240 He that is warnyd heff re ye wyll not be warnyd. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 63 Halfe warnd halfe armde. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xiii. xlvii, The Proverb saith, one that is warn'd is arm'd. 1700 Dryden *Fables, Cock & Fox* 799 Once warn'd is well bewar'd.

b. *Sasl. Lauchl.* III. 196 Swefna binnon þrim dagum bec'ȝ unwrixlera healan to wearnlenge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Sicnesse...warnèð [MS. C. wearneð] to ȝein þeo [sinne] þet weren toward-ere. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxxiii. 124 b/2 (Holl. MS.), [þe] superfluite of þe wexelinge [of wyne] and warnep þ[at] wexel[inge] þat [i. *prevention ejus profit*].

3. To put (a person) on his guard, to caution *against* some person or thing as dangerous.

† Formerly const. of *from*.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Al þet he holl Gost letts writen one hoc nor ne warnie wummen of hore fol sien. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 77 [They] blamed be maister, þat knewe not þe kynde cours þat to þe crafte longid, And warned him wisely of þe wedlaikis. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 195 He was all venym: And yef I had not warnyte the therof at the firste tuching she had sheent the. 1537 Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 69 Warnde of my foe, I am the more my foe to shunne. Shake. *Rich. III*, i. iii. 218 What dost thou scorne me For my gentle counsell? And scorn the dlueli that I warne thee from. 1773 *Coach Let Pop.* i. iv. in *Ann. Reg.* 1. 48 Dr. Solander himself was the first who found the inclination, against which he had warned others, irresistible. 1809 *Med. Trnl.* XXI. 404 This will for ever prevent me as friendly beacon to warn ...anatomists and surgeons, against a hasty or superficial dissection of a dead body. 1860 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 63 Ah love, there surely lives in man and beast Something divine to warn them of the wind.

4. To give (a person) cautionary notice or advice with regard to actions or conduct; to caution against neglect of duty or against wrong or mistaken action or belief.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvii. 72 Forðan hntan ic eow warnigc and þone wol eow for-beodan þ[æt] ȝe ne ascyllan þeswead þam soðfæstan demau. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Ȝif þu wernast þane unrihtwise mon and he nele icherran from his sunnan þurh þe. *c* 1200 *Ancr. R. Vertues* 11 Dar ie ȝe can understonden mid ða licke wordes þe ðu ofte hafst ȝeherd for ðe te warnien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Ine swuche manere temptacuns nis non so wis ne so war, þ[æt] ȝif God hom warne, þet nis bigeted oðer hwulen. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 425 He was afterward i warned by feblines of his body, and þo he was i-cristenede. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xlviii, 53 Þæt sal be warnid ane þrie, and a-noðer time. Yef she wil noht a-mende, Man sal take sulik amendis of hir. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xi. 31 Often tymes when other were mouche sory in prayer, he went out and wandryd alwaye, whan his abbot had often warned hym, and he amenlyd not. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ii. 10 Be wyse now therfore (o ye kynges) be learned, ye that ne iudge the earth. 1581 Campion *Cri. Lett Nec.* (1905) I. ii. 206 Wherof we have thought good to amerse them at 5 ℔, for that they have byne often tymes warned and no redresse. 1600 Heywood *Wyse Woman* iii. 831 Sheep, Oxen, Horses fall i and...lye, 'Till warn'd by frequent ills, the way they found, To lodge their loathsom Carrion under Ground. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 33 Divine authority within his breast...Was him or prompts, approves him or restrains. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ix, [He] marshalled the village boys,...domineering over them with a fine Imperious spirit, that made his father laugh when he beheld it, and his mother fondly warn him.

*absol.* *c* 1440 *Ye abbs it'll* 200 Ȝif þou seest theffe be do,... & wyll nopt telle, warne, & þeffe schall þou nopt leyn it. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 441 The priestly brotherhood...Prompt to persuade, expostulate, and warn. 1804 Wordsw. *Vale Grasmere* 38 A prophetess! A Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command.

b. Const. *against*; also with inf. or subordinate clause, or † double object.

*c* 1200 *Relfic Saints' Lives* xvii. 68 Selome ic eow warnode and...cuðlice manode þæt ge ne andleanan wiðunge þe unrihte men healdas mid ealle forlæstan. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1078 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 137 Þo it was to-warfd] ine tuei seriaunz bare come, Sore weopinde, and warnede him þat in sum red him nome. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 229, I speke it for no manner blame, Hot forto warne thee the same. *Ibid.* II. 49 And warneth alle for mi sake, Of love that hiel ben noght ydel. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 26 Hot warne þe lech be pacient that he dispose hym so þat he remoue not þe medcyne. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 199 And þogh hit [St. Margaret's Day] be a lyȝt holyday...I warne you, þat ȝe wol fast hur cvyn. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xiii. 37 They warne the riche to knowe themself and not to be prowde. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. F 1b, My father wyll neuer geue me this money, but he wyll first warne me...that I shall not waste it prodigallye. 1596 Kyd *Cornelia* v. 93 Caesar...euery Regiment warn'd with a worde Bravely to fight for honor of the day. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 183 The rest shall hear me call, and oft be warnd Thir sinful state, and to appease betimes Th' incenssed Deitie while offerd grace Invites. 1689 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 39. I warn also those that come to Aleppo that they fall not to see the Birds of Grandouillos. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* I. Wks. 1721 I. 446 I must only warn you, that we do not charge your Coins with more uses than they can bear. 1718 Prior *Solomon* II. 936 The Father, whilst he warn'd his erring Son, The sad Examples which He ought to shun, Describ'd, and only nam'd not, Solomon. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 355 The screaming nations ...seem to warn him never to repeat His bold intrusion on their dark retreat. 1848 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xvii. 295 His page delivered a letter...It warned him not to attend in his place in parliament. 1852 W. Collins *Basil* III. i. 6 You...may be tempted to tear up my letter and throw it from you unread. I warn you not to do so; I warn you to read what I have written. *Ibid.* III. i. 74 Be warned, therefore, against seeking a false hope in the belief that my faculties are shaken. 1858 Faoude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 266 The ambassador warned him on peril of his life to deal no further with such things. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1890) I. 4. Ye fellows, that I warn you not to shoot: Ere we have left the troublous wood behind.

† *absol.* *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 92 And be warnyd þat on tyme, for þou schalt not ȝit ȝe warnyd a-nother. 1526 Tindale *Gal.* ii. 10 Then lames, Cephas and John...agreed with vs, that we shuld preache amonge the Hethen, and they amonge the Iewes: warnynge only that we shulde remember the poore.

† **c.** Const. *of. Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6905 And y warne þow alle of o þyng, For þerkeþ nat of youre almes-ȝyuyng. 1390 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 214 His wyf warnede him þo of wikkednesse and of sinne. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 72 Þe kirk maklip hwis; and is huld wern inen þer of, þat þei offendid not þer in. *a* 1450 *Knowledge of Synne* 1 Yf ony wrecche him þo of wickednesse and of sinne. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 72 Þe kirk maklip hwis; and is huld wern inen þer of, þat þei offendid not þer in. *a* 1450 *Knowledge of Synne* 1 Yf ony wrecche him þo of wickednesse and of sinne. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 47, I warne you of it. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ii. 10 Be wyse now therfore (o ye kynges) be learned, ye that ne iudge the earth. 1581 Campion *Cri. Lett Nec.* (1905) I. ii. 206 Wherof we have thought good to amerse them at 5 ℔, for that they have byne often tymes warned and no redresse. 1600 Heywood *Wyse Woman* iii. 831 Sheep, Oxen, Horses fall i and...lye, 'Till warn'd by frequent ills, the way they found, To lodge their loathsom Carrion under Ground. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 33 Divine authority within his breast...Was him or prompts, approves him or restrains. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ix, [He] marshalled the village boys,...domineering over them with a fine Imperious spirit, that made his father laugh when he beheld it, and his mother fondly warn him.

*absol.* *c* 1440 *Ye abbs it'll* 200 Ȝif þou seest theffe be do,... & wyll nopt telle, warne, & þeffe schall þou nopt leyn it. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 441 The priestly brotherhood...Prompt to persuade, expostulate, and warn. 1804 Wordsw. *Vale Grasmere* 38 A prophetess! A Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command.

b. Const. *against*; also with inf, or subordinate clause, or † double object.

*c* 1200 *Relfic Saints' Lives* xvii. 68 Selome ic eow warnode and...cuðlice manode þæt ge ne andleanan wiðunge þe unrihte men healdas mid ealle forlæstan. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1078 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 137 Þo it was to-warfd] ine tuei seriaunz bare come, Sore weopinde, and warnede him þat in sum red him nome. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 229, I speke it for no manner blame, Hot forto warne thee the same. *Ibid.* II. 49 And warneth alle for mi sake, Of love that hiel ben noght ydel. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 26 Hot warne þe lech be pacient that he dispose hym so þat he remoue not þe medcyne. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 199 And þogh hit [St. Margaret's Day] be a lyȝt holyday...I warne you, þat ȝe wol fast hur cvyn. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xiii. 37 They warne the riche to knowe themself and not to be prowde. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. F 1b, My father wyll neuer geue me this money, but he wyll first warne me...that I shall not waste it prodigallye. 1596 Kyd *Cornelia* v. 93 Caesar...euery Regiment warn'd with a worde Bravely to fight for honor of the

at hyr awn dwelling place within Glasgow, to rasaef ane hundreiht merk ...upon Wytsunday euyn. 1593 *Rendal Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 71 Our said place at all tymes ane ...reddy to wr...ale oft as it sallhappyn wa...to dome thairto ..we warnand thame thairto xxiiij houris warnyng of befor. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xli, The mourning being ready, and Sir Pitt Crawley warned of their arrival, Colonel Crawley and his wife took a couple of places in the...Highflyer coach. 1886 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxi. (1878) 533 But I warn you I will call again very soon.

**6.** *absol.* or *intr.* Of a clock: To make the clicking or whirring noise which indicates that it is about to strike; to 'give warning'. [So G. *warnen.*] *dial.*

1846 M. A. Richardson *Local Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Dis.* I. 116 And just as the clock warned for twal' the hin'most game was concluded. 1885 W. Towers *Poems* 189 (E.D.D.) Hark! the clock is warning ten. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* iii. xviii, Every time the clock warned to strike, she felt one hour nearer her doom.

**6.** To notify of something commanded; to order under penalties.

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1808 We hup y-sent to þe, Ralan...to warnye þe hyderon, þe maydes þou schuldest him sende ayein ..& elles þow gest a torn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 153 He was i-warned by an angel þat he schulde translate Clement his body. *c* 1400 *Lanc. Deeds* 1. 1. 1.

be desires to make atonement Bet weene the Duke of Glouster, and your Brothers,..And sent to warne them to his Royall presence. 1595 — *John* II. i. 201 Who is it that hath warn'd vs to the walles? 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* v. i. 319 Sirha goe warne them hether presently before me. 1608 Dr. HALL *Char. Vertues & Vices* II. 122 When he is warned on a Turke, hee had rather pay the mulct, than appeare. 1610 T. LORKIN in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 221 Which entertaine him till twelve of the clock, when the bell warne him to dinner. 1663 (*by Aug.*) in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 165 And other officers belonging to His Majestye's yards and Navy, are many times warned to attend His Majestye's service at Anies and Swalfeen, [etc.]. 1676 *Office Clerk of Assizes* (a viii), The names of such as the Bailiffs shall warn for the great Inquest. 1820 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Warned*, admonished of some duty to be performed at a given time or place. Thus officers and soldiers are warned for guard, &c. 1829 KENDALL *Trad.* I. v. 29 The constables are required to summon or as it is said to warn all the freemen to meet together yerely. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Holmby House* II. xix. 288 [He] commanded that the guard..should be relieved every four hours, and that the same men should not be warned twice for the duty until after the execution.

*absol.* a 1568 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 103 My lord's officers caused the truppetts [sic] to blowe to warne to supper. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* V. xxix, Brother, for little space, farewell! To other duties warns the bell.

**† b.** To call, give notice of (a meeting). *Obs.*

1465 MAGD. COLL. Statutes in *P. Lett.* II. 239 On Saterday last was, Jenney did warne a court, & Salcotte to be holde ther by hys mane. 1617 *Eastland Co.* (Camden) 12 If any Courte be warned and for waunt of Assistants the same bee not full. 1790 N. CHIPMAN *Rep. Laws Vermont* 17 The Clerk has not inserted (in the record) that the proprietor's meeting was regularly warned.

**† 8.** To give (a person) notice to leave his employment or tenancy. Also to *warn out*. *Obs.* (but see WARNING *vbl. sb.* 6).

1. in *Bothes Bk.* (1868) 339 And they that wylle not here that ye say, effectually be thay ywarnyd, and ye shalle provide other servantis. 1708 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* V. 208 The duke of Somerset..has (by his own order) turned out 40 grooms of the stables, and warned out others who had lodgings and stables at the Meuse. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Warn*, .. to bid one provide for himself elsewhere. 1713 W. HAWKINS *Life Pb. Nice* 8 The Prince..threatned to turn him from the Service [*sc.* chaplaincy to Prcss of Orange]; which the Doctor resenting, .. went himself from the Service, and would not return to the Court. 1850 *Rent-ley's Misc.* XXVIII. 284 We're teetotally ruined...Warned out by the landlady..: Where are we to move into, and obtain a lodging!

Hence **Warned** *ppl. a.*

1639 J. CLAMKE *Parænn.* 21 Warn'd folkes may live.

**† Warn,** *v.*[9] *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 **wiernan,** **wirnan, wyrnan, 3 wearne, 3–4 wirne,** 3–5 **wern,** (3 **worne,** 5 **warnne**), **weorne,** 2–6 **warne;** β. 1 **warnian,** 3 **warien,** 3–5 **warny,** 3–4 *Sc.* **warn,** 4–6 **warne.** [Two formations: (1) OE. *wiernan* = OFris. *werna*, ON. *verna* (Da. *værne*):—O Teut. **warnjan*; (2) OE. *warnian* (also *warnian, warenian*, by confusion with WARY *v.*[1]) = OFris. *warnia*, OS. (Hildebr.) *warnen*, ON. *varna* (Sw. *varna*):—OTeut. **warnōjan*. The two OTeut. types are f. **warnō* fem. (OE. *wearn*) obstacle, refusal, etc., f. the root **wer-* : **war-* to obstruct, defend.

It is possible that the ME. and later form *warnie* may descend partly from the OE. *wiernian* ; influence from ON. *varna* is also possible. But the form would be normal as a dial. variant of *weornie* = OE. *wiernan* ; on the other hand the ME. *worne* may partly represent OE. *wearnian*. The α and β types therefore probably do not accurately correspond to the two original formations.

1. *trans.* To refuse or deny (a thing *to* a person); to refuse to grant (a boon, request, etc.).

In OE. and early ME. const. *dat.* of person and *genit.* of thing; later, the genitive is sometimes represented by the construction with *of*, but more usually by the accusative.

α. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 380 Se þe ne wiernð [*MS. Hatton* wirnð] ðæs wines his lare ða mod mid to oferdrencanne þe hiene gelærde willað. a 1000 *Riddles* xxi. 12 (Gr.) Cyning mec ȝyrwéð sincre & seolfre & mec oft sele weorþað: ne wyrneð word-lofes. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048 Þa wolde he þæt mann ferð ðider. c 1205 LAY. 30310 For ne kecl ne nauere..kine-helme broken and sif he hit wule suon ich hit wulle warnien. c 1250 *Sorge & Vlite* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* He wyl noun wrenc be þe bone. 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Vor þet he him wernde his elmesse, god him wernde ane drope of weter her be wes ine uere of helle. c 1384 CHAUCER *Wife of Bathes Prol.* 159 They..seyde, Grantmercy, of thy grace a bone. And some of hem bethought hem sone And assumed she werned wel and faire, and sone she graunted the contraire Of her axyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 8 þe Romayns nolde nat her refuge and Sicelmus wernied it and wolde noun paye. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iv. 47 Yet al thing desyreth ye werne no man of helpe. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1849 But his hert is hit applied To graunte, and nat pe needy werne his grace, 1474 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 29/2 To graunte whiche of thoo that you lusten, & to werne the remanent. c 1530 *Devils' Part.* 206 Quod helle 'not wit þy [Satan's] powere I myste not werne him [Christ] oon of tho! He took out alle pat were him lefe'. c 1566 *Partenay* (Roxb. 70) Hys commaundement wern shal I no-thing. *Ibid.* 86 Take here vnto you which you best do plese, No man shall ther-of you werne ne withsay.

β. a 1000 *Guthlac* 1183 [1136] in *Exeter Bk.* 176 Ic me warnade hyre onsynne calle þrage in woruld-life. c 1205 LAY. 4719 & Belin him warȝnede [c 1275 wornede] al þat he wurnde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4930, I recaid þam and warnd ham noght Of alle thing þat me be-soght. *Ibid.* 28889 Be man neuer sua wik of mode men agh noght warn him his liues fode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xviii. 532 And tald thame quhat kyn vnkyndnyng Dowglass thaim meid.. And varnyt thame the plays herbery. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 101 Nabugodonosor byseged Ierusalem for tribute þat was i-warned hym. c 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1467–8 For me had leuer..quod þe lede, 'te bethirely forworen...Þan anye haue greuyd þat gome, or warned him his erand'! Þat euer I warned him his will, wa is me þat stonde! c 1450 CARGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xxxvii. 47 Swech mete and drynk as he had in vse was not warned to no man þat wold ask it. 1496 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S. T. S.) 348 Se auid nocht warne þe leiss. 1529–85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. 61 599 And yf thou warne her loue she shalle goo dye anone yf thou haue no pyte on her, that sygnefyeth the grete byrd, the whiche shalle make be to warne her.

b. Of a thing: To prevent (a person) from having (something).

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Mine sunnen beoþ wal bi-tweoxe me and þe. Mine sunnen wernep me al þis wununesse. To 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2001, I may wary the wyse, thatt this werre mouede, That warnes me wyschippe of my wedde lorde.

c. With dat. of person only: To refuse the request of; to deny something to.

a 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 42 Þam þe wylle æt þe borgian, ne wyrn þu hym. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Mon sulle his þrowunge þolien he ben xxiiij swiche sweuenes he ne for-scome wernen ne mei. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 [She] hala-ð ure Louerd so & he ne mei nor reoube wernen hire. a 1250 *Lerne Cen* 9 in *O. E. Misc.* 93 A Mayde cristes me bi-seche, Þat ich warche a lutle þeu... Ich hire nelle newiht werne. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Lidl) 1404 Fikenhild gan wende Rymenhild to schende. To wone he gan hure grene, Pe kyng ne dorste hit werne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 122 For þre thynges he taketh his lyf forto sane, That is, mete, whan hien hym werneth and he no moneys weldeth, [etc.]. a 1400 *Leg. Rood. Hom.* vi. (Dobson MS.), Whan she ..asked herbergh in diuerse plac-es..alle they werned [*cibbr MS.* werne, *W. de H.* refused] hem and lete hem go. c 1420 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* (Ashm.) viii. 3366 He hade any gold to take, He wernut no man. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 31 Her husbonde must nedis ordeine her that she desirithe, .. for thei wol holde so mani resones that thei wille not be wernet. c 1475 *Partenay* (Roxb.) 6 Ches thru on [*c.* one] your pleasire do and take,..Reson is ne right that you werne shold y.

**8.** c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2604 And who-so wikith folily, He must be wery wel-nygh. c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 202 Iacob warnyt hym vtmaly.

d. To refuse (*to* do something).

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 248 þeo ancre þet wernde an oðer a swuch uuel. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4811 Þe kyng..Wernes him wenis for to lern, To lere him wel we be noght wern. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3167 Se sigge ich wern mi nem to wiue, For y schuld be soné kinge.

β. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. xx. [xxii.] (1890) 474 Ond he bliscade in þon, þæt..he neenah þa his gebeoden þone Kastorbiscop wiðcwæde ne þone wordboden ne þone lareowdom [L. *quem semper autem vitabant*]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3040 Hir bidding do sal noo þat warn. *Ibid.* 3261 For quas luue he wild not warn Ioseph to sacrifise his auen barn. 1387 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. Introd. (Tollemache MS.), Iat man may be a schamid..to warne to serue fader and moder, while he knowep þat brides and soules serueþ..euerichone opre.

e. To resist, refuse, refusal.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7553 Of þe heyemen of þe lond ..He made owlage strong inou & hi ne ssolde nogt warne, Ac take hin ostage good. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 130 The wylde lust I wot, Hath mad him that he can not werne. Hot fell al hol to litle asent. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 430 For estant reel can nat al day werne.

β. 1496 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S. T. S.) 30 Thai ar.. nocht large of gift, and redily wil tak and wele can warne.

2. To refuse to allow (some action or course of action) *to* a person; to forbid (a person) *to* do something.

a. c 893 ALFRED *Oros.* I. vii. § 2 Hi ær Moyse & hys fobe þes utleredles wyrndon. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 330 Gyrme is to warnienne beorneacum mje lust hio aht wæfles ete oððe swetes. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2906 Elf he comen to pharaon, þreate him he fole utgunn. 1390 B. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1021 Holy chyrche wyl pe werne pe halyday to go to pe tauerne,..wham goddys seruyse owyp to be don. c 1400 CHAUCER *Wife of Bath. Prol.* 331 He is a lord ful fressh and lusty, But wel wolde he lat me have Ful ofte in pacience his deyntee cheke. 1590–1 CYRIL TOURNEUR *Rev. of Cornbus* 1 in *Shaksp. Allusion-books*, I. From them [the heavens] comes good, from them comes also il, That which they made, who can them warne to spill.

b. Of a thing: To forbid, not to allow of (some action or procedure). Also *absol.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 255 Sif hæto oþþe meht ne wyrne læs him blod. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 19 Yf so benyyne And loughly he the vyne it nat to werne.

3. To refuse, forbid, deny (entry, the gate, door, way, one's house). Constr. *dat.* of person or *from*.

a. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 442 From hir the gate ay [*Fresn* shal] werned be Of paradys. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5840 But what he prayde hir, pere was he, Therfore she wernede him the entree. 1481–*Sh. Archive* 18 (Cott. MS.) Of all pormen of ylk a gate, there was none þat wernet þe yate. c 1420 *Anom. Arth.* ix. Quo-so wernes me the waye, Hym to dethe dyue!

β. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 233 þe portir with his pikis þo put him vttere, And warned him þe wickest while he wrooche durst. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2251 All þat warnys hym þe way he warpet to ground. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7302 The hous quod he, such as ye see, Shal nat be warned you for me. c 1440 CARGRAVE *St. Kath.* I. 737 Pere was no gate warnyd to no-manes wyte, But..pei were kept open both day & nyth. 1468 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S. T. S.) 61 Quhen Julius Cesar was cummyn to Rome, thai durst no-bot warne him the portis. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vii. cexxvii. (1811) 257 The Kynge..warned hym yͤ entre of his lande. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D 2, *Mist. Open.* Get you from my shop. *Mist.* I come to buy. *Mist. Open.* He sell ye nothing, I warne yee my house and shop.

b. To forbid, exclude (a person *from* a place or position, Death *from* a person). Cf. WARN *v.*[1] 6 c.

a. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 636 Fro thilke assemblee, if I may, Shal no man werne me to-day. 1536 *Pilgrim Sulish., Eng. & Lat.* 145 Of sapiens thou art eterne From the and thy father who can the werne.

b. 1390 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 56 But if that carelesse heauens (quoth she) despise The doome of iust reuenge,..Yet can they not warne death from wretched wight.

c. To stop the way of.

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. T.) Hund wile in at open dure, þer man him ne werneð. c 1300 *K. Horn* 705 (Laud MS.) To boure he gan yerne Durst hym noman werne.

**8.** 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 137 The Douglas then his way has tane Ryght to the hors, as he him bad: Bot he, that him in themself had, Thair warnyt hym dispitously.

4. To prevent, hinder, restrain (a person or thing) from action. Const. with *clause or inf.*

a. a 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* I. § 4 Þa ne mihte hine [*sc.* wyrmb] þæt we ylfet don. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 408 Sif eni luuede þe aritat, he mubte holden þe, & wearnen þe to sunden. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3249 Who-so wold do, non durste hym werne. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiii. 6 In our chosun berelis biryn thi dead, and no man shal mow werne [L. 8 *Vulg. prohibere*] thee. a 1400 *St. Alexius* 316 (Laud MS. 463) So sone so alle to him come, vpon pe liche she fel y-lome...On pe liche she lay, & nolde not wond, Nighte noman hire werne. c 1500 *Joseph Arim.* 164 To delyuer goddes seruice he seyd he wolde: I knowe no maner man that shall me werne.

c. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2926 And quat thing es,' he said, 'may warn þat gold me nan haue will of dat I wil?' 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 122 For þre thynges he taketh his lyf forto sane, That is, mete, whan hien hym werneth and he no moneys weldeth, [etc.]. a 1400 *Leg. Rood. Hom.* vi. (Dobson MS.), Whan she ..asked herbergh in diuerse plac-es..alle they werned [*cibbr MS.* werne, *W. de H.* refused] hem and lete hem go. c 1420 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* (Ashm.) viii. 3366 He hade any gold to take, He wernut no man. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 31 Her husbonde must nedis ordeine her that she desirithe, .. for thei wol holde so mani resones that thei wille not be wernet. c 1475 *Partenay* (Roxb.) 6 Ches thru on [*c.* one] your pleasire do and take,..Reson is ne right that you werne shold y.

**8.** c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2604 And who-so wikith folily, He must be wery wel-nygh. c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 202 Iacob warnyt hym vtmaly.

d. To refuse (*to* do something).

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 248 þeo ancre þet wernde an oðer a swuch uuel. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5840 But what he prayde hir, pere was he, Therfore she wernede him the entree. 1481–*Sh. Archive* 18 (Cott. MS.) Of all pormen of ylk a gate, there was none þat wernet þe yate. c 1420 *Anom. Arth.* ix. Quo-so wernes me the waye, Hym to dethe dyue!

**8.** 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 233 þe portir with his pikis þo put him vttere, And warned him þe wickest while he wrooche durst. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2251 All þat warnys hym þe way he warpet to ground. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7302 The hous quod he, such as ye see, Shal nat be warned you for me. c 1440 CARGRAVE *St. Kath.* I. 737 Pere was no gate warnyd to no-manes wyte, But..pei were kept open both day & nyth. 1468 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S. T. S.) 61 Quhen Julius Cesar was cummyn to Rome, thai durst no-bot warne him the portis. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vii. cexxvii. (1811) 257 The Kynge..warned hym yͤ entre of his lande. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D 2, *Mist. Open.* Get you from my shop. *Mist.* I come to buy. *Mist. Open.* He sell ye nothing, I warne yee my house and shop.

b. To forbid, exclude (a person *from* a place or position, Death *from* a person). Cf. WARN *v.*[1] 6 c.

a. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 636 Fro thilke assemblee, if I may, Shal no man werne me to-day. 1536 *Pilgrim Sulish., Eng. & Lat.* 145 Of sapiens thou art eterne From the and thy father who can the werne.

**8.** 1390 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 56 But if that carelesse heauens (quoth she) despise The doome of iust reuenge,..Yet can they not warne death from wretched wight.

c. To stop the way of.

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. T.) Hund wile in at open dure, þer man him ne werneð. c 1300 *K. Horn* 705 (Laud MS.) To boure he gan yerne Durst hym noman werne.

**8.** 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 137 The Douglas then his way has tane Ryght to the hors, as he him bad: Bot he, that him in them

wald selp c1400 Maundev (Roxb) xix 64 Warne þe answe ware þare schuld in man passe ower be yer. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb) 51 And warne godde yaf to mesure the freendful angelic keping Thare schuld neure man eschape the feends crowell temptyng

**Warnel** (wǭ nĕl) Now *dial.* Forms 1 **wernegel**, 7 **warnell**, wornel, 8- **wornil** (9 *corruptly* wemmal, wurmal). 8- **warnel.** [Obs. *wernegel*, perh. f. **warn** *adj.* + *negel* Nail *sb.*]

1. A hard tumour on the back of cattle produced by the larva of a gadfly = Warble *sb.*1 2.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* II 298 þ, herde hi sum sudesic man, þæt hwa manne manne wernegel of sumes oxan hrigge [etc.]. 1684 H. Stubbes *Bk. Farm* III 838 *Warbles or wornmalls*, that is, small swelled protuberances at any the chine, caused by the larve of the *Oestrus bovis* or cattle bot. 1852 J. W. Harris *Insects Injur. Veget.* 300 Large open boils, some times called wornils or wurmals that are worm holes. 1864 S. Wood *Homes with us* II xxvi. (1868) 252 The swellings caused by the Breese fly are called Warbles or Wornils.

b The maggot producing tumours of this kind = Warble *sb.*2 3

1674 tr. *Schefferi Lapland* xxviii 132 About March worms or wnels do begin to breed in their backs. 1713 Derham *Phys. Theol* viii vi. (1727) 388/1 The Backs of Cows there are Maggots generated, which in Sweex we call Wornils; who have first only a small Knot in the Skin.

c *Comb.*

1708 Kersey, *Warnel worms* certain Worms that stick within the Skin of Cattel on their Backs. Whence in later Diction.

†2. = Agnail 1. *Obs*

1611 Cotg., *Prouelle*, An agnell, panne, or warnell in the toe

†**Warnement.** *Obs rare*—1 [? Or. *warnement, garnement.* see Garment.] Equipment, armour clothing

13.. *K. Alis* 7443 (Laud) He wore bindes, he gune rentes, Stedes, tresores, warnementes, [*Otinel* wareinne it.]

**Warner** 1 (wǭ·nəɹ). [f. Warn *v.*1 + -er 1.]

1. One who warns or gives warning to others

1586 Cooper *Thesaurus, Monitor*, a warner. 1772 Hutchins (ed. Higins), Warner or admoniſher, *monitor, admonitor.* 1837 Rethergan *Let to Ld Craighill* 8 July If ye advise with that warner within you that will not fail to speak against you in God's time. 1849 Southey *Nelson* II xxvi. Again the omnipotent warner cried, Woe! woe! the Cycle of the Years is full! 1880 T. Erskine *Remarks Internal Evid* iii (Edinburgh Warner) 24 This star would act as a warner of sunrise at some time of the year

c As the second element in *vent, storm warner.*

1885 *Manch. Exam* 5 May 6 An article by Herr Imerag on German bees and storm warners. 1907 *Times* 2 Oct 12 5 The owner of the cattle is bailiff and rent warner on several properties near Ennis

†2. One who summons people to attend a gathering *Obs*

1572 in W. H. Turner *Select Rec Oxyf rd* (1880) 341, 4 bedell- or warners. 1813 Shipway *Impanelogia* 1 title p. By William Shipway, Late Warner to the Society of Cumberland Youths.

†3. *local.* A man who gives notice of arrival of ships at a port *Obs*

1768 *Ann Reg* 169 The young man who gives the intelligence of the arrival of ships at the port [Bristol], commonly calle l the warner. 1887 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk, Warner*, a sentinel formerly posted on the heights near sea ports to give notice of the approach of vessels

†4. A mongrel used as a house dog. *Obs*

1576 Fleming in *Caius' Ingt Dogges* (1880) 34 Curres of the mungrell and ruscall sort and first of the Dogge called in Latine *Admonitor* and of vsen Englishe Wappe or Warner

†5. *Anc. Cookery.* A table decoration or device, probably similar to the Subtelty (sense 5) but preceding it *Obs*

1505 *Inhrouentation Abp Warham* in Leland *Collect* (1 168 VI App n 21 The first course at my Lordes table in the great Hall Item, Warner conveyed upon a rounde Coorde, of the pines with vii Towres enhattelled and made with flowres, standyng on every towre a Bedil in his habite, with his staffe *Ibid* Item, A Warner with three Stages, with vanes and towres enhatelled

†**Warner** 2. *Sc. Obs* In 6 **warnour.** [? f. Warn *v.*2 + -er 1.] ? A miser

1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol 96 Sum warnour for this warldis wrak wendis by his wyt.

**Warner's,** obs. forms of Warrener

†**Warnership.** *Obs.* [f. Warner 1 + -ship.] ? The district of an official 'warner'.

It is very doubtful whether these quots do not belong to Warrenership

1636 in G. Roberts *Soc Hist* (1856) 190 [Precautions against infection of the plague] Thomas Stowell of the warnership of Pymperne Innkeeper, hath divers times entertained carriers, travellers, and others that came from London *Ibid*, The constables or other officers of the warnership of Pymperne

†**Warnestore, var.** ff. Warrenress *Obs.*

†**Warnestore,** *sb Obs.* Forms 2-4 warnestor(e)ur(e, (5 **warusture**?), 3-4 warnistor(u)re, (4 **warinstour**), 5 **warn(e)stor(e, warny stour.** *B.* 3 **wermestore,** 4-5 **warmstore,** 5, 7 **warme store.** [a. Of. *warnesture*, northeastern var of *garnesture*, *l warnir*, *garnir*. see Garnish *sb.* Cf Garnisture.]

1. Provisions kept in store, provender.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1698 Pou sal alsua mak e boune For to hald in þi wermestore *Ibid* 4688 Ma þan a thusand selers Fild he wat wines, neu and fress, And warnistore o salt flesse *c* 1375 *Hist Jud* 24388 (Fairf) He cursed warnestoure on mans wit *c* 1400 tr *Secreta Secret, Gest Josephi* 65 Whanne men browyn wynter þat it is cold men ordeyn hem large and clothing, and warmistores of cole and woode, and of many oþer ynges. 14 *26 Pol Poems* xiii 122 Stuffe soune castelis in eche coost Warnestor and folk þeder sende *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix 1200, I will remayn quhill this warnistor be gane 1483 *Cath. Angel* 400/1 Warnistore, *annona entica, wernestura*

2. ? A magazine for provisions, ? a fortified place 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3035 In eche stude hii sette þer strong warnestore & god. 1338 R. Baddew *Chron.* (1810) 180 þe Saracins kept it þat tyme for þer chefe warnistour

3. *In warnestore* = in safe keeping, in reserve

*c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* 298 They were not ydeley put warnestore [for the siege]. They had goode in warme store, But mete was them full nede 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 182 Let Bacchus be the tiny one of these, A statute in warme store of that he please

†**Warnestore,** *v. Obs* Forms *a* 4 **warnestur,** 4-5 **warn(e)sto(o)re, warnestor.** *B* 4-5 **warmstore** [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To furnish with supplies Also, to fortify, secure

*c* 1300 *Il Ed Carnarvon* 1121 Wel þen were warnestured of vitayles inow *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* 1 pr iii (1886) 7 We þat ben warnestored and enclosed in swich a paiis whider þat wynd or storm or rayn þat blowe or come we ben sikir *c* 1386 — *Melib* 2 2487 Y schulde doon youre diligence to kepen youre persone and to warnestoore youre hous *Ibid* P 2523 Oþer I schal warnestoore myn hous with toures and Armure And kepen it manly 1400 tr *Secreta Secret, Gest Josephi* 57 Ii yatis ȝelde i tilk man þat his ȝis, for so er citeez warmistoryd and rentis ȝeuen.

Hence †**Warnestored** *ppl. a. Obs rare*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib* P 2525 Warnestooryng of heighe toures and of ricche edifices.

†**Warnett.** *Obs rare* [Of obscure origin] Alleged name of a variety of building-slate.

1688 *Holme Armoury* III 265/2 Names of Slates second ing to their several Lengths. Chutts Warnetts. Shorts.

**Warnice,** variant of Warnish *v.*2

**Warning** (wǭ·nĭŋ), *vbl sb* 1 [OL *war(e)nunc, wearnung*, Icm., f. *war(e)nian, wearnian*, Warn *v.*1 2: -ing 1. Cf. OHG *warnunga* (MHG *warnunge*, mod G. *warnung*)] The action of Warn *v.*1

†1. Taking heed, precaution. *Obs.*

Spenser's use suggests that the antithesis of 'warning' and 'want' (fate) may have survived proverbially.

1000 *God's Sat* 2547 Full oft fe freede menn fym zehyrde Secgan þæt her ware twegra strengra wyrd de warning

1590 Spenser *F Q* iii iv 27 But ah, who can deceive his destiny, Or weene by warning to avoid his fate?

2 Previous intimation or threat of impending evil or danger. Phrase, *to give a warning (to)*, to warn Also *Se to make warning*

†*Scarlet out a warning* see Scarborough 2

*a* 800 Cynewulf *Crist* 902 Þæt mæg witan to wearnunge þam þe hiniað to zeþohtæ *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8093 O þis warning he þam tald, And þai þain dred both sons, and old 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 8762 To opene my mouþ to warning Nouȝt to be a yhoused lyyng I trede But were warning or tokene of dede 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v 502 Þat mend him mony tyme warning, Quhen that thai hir tynsale myght be 1450 *Merlin* (Roxb) 227 Of treason first I ȝif him warning, Therfor I haue lost my hiring 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw IV* 213 The erle of Worwyk he wrote to the mayre of London, geuyng him warnyng, what aduertesyng him in what perill their wiues, offsprynges stode in 1590 Spenser *F Q* i xi 24 As two broad fyres Send forth their flames And warning give the enemies to scorne, With fyre and sword the region to inuade *c* 1600 *Timon* i ii (1842) 6 Looke to thy selfe I giue thee fayre warning 1698 [? Bernard] *Life Abp Usher* 91 So great a Prophet might have at some speciall times more then ordinary motions and impulses in doing the Watch mans part, of giving warning of Judgements approaching 1881 Fairfax *Lett* (Lambeth) 9 They talk nothing now but of wageing war with ye King However they thought fit first to give his Majesty some warneing 1718 Prior *Feeder Parg* 160, I give you warning You'll die before to morrow morning 1729 Hume *Hist Eng. Hen VIII, i* 84 He gave his master warning of the danger [*later ed.*] He made warning of the danger to his master] 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* xxvi, 'In murderous strife' Said Bruce, 'his warning saved my life' 1846 Mrs A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II xvi 276 [Tresham] insisted vehemently that warning should be given to the Lord Mounteagle, his kinsman 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xviii IV 229 The banished oppressors had at least given Englishmen fair warning.

b A sign or portent of coming evil.

*c* 1325 *Yesterday* 55 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 676 Na non so fresch on fote to fare..No non so bold, Beores to byside þat he nah warnynges [*read* warnynges] to bee ware 1601 Shaks *Jul C* ii ii So And these dous she apply, for warnings and portents, And evils imminent. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Dec. 1689, I beg [e comets] may be warnings from God, as they commonly are forerunners of his anmadversions 1794 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* vi, But I have heard it these many years, and outlived the warning 1859 *Alibutt's Syst Med.* VII 767 This is called the 'warning' of the attack, or in medical terminology, the 'aura'.

3 Advice to beware of a person or thing as being dangerous

*a* 1325 *Ancr R* 60 Al Holi Writ is ful of warningge of ese Dauid seide, 'Averte oculos meos ne videant vanitatem'. 1842 Dickens *Amer Notes* xvi, There we all stood, watching this revolving light upon the rock at Holyhead, and praising it for its brightness and its friendly warning 1880 Tyndall *Glac* i xi 83 Urged by the warnings of our guide we began the descent 1892 A. R. Wallace *Control Theory Nat Select* (1892) 118 Some perceived signal was therefore necessary to serve as a warning to birds never to touch these unsaitable kinds [of caterpillars]. 1888 J. Hunt *Pirate Modes* I. 1, 'Tis the result of this blind confidence justified the warnings of her friends

4 Deterrent counsel, cautionary advice against imprudent or vicious action, or neglect of duty.

*c* 1200 *Ælfric On Old T.* (Gr.) 7 [The Book of Proverbs is] wisdomes biggestl and warnung wið dung *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 378 He had many grete warnyngis of lyydoumes & perille of his synne 1392 Gower *Conf* I 351 He kyng [ie Saul] at ered, For bar hym and his beste beste Otherwise than god wolde by warnyng of the prophete 1526 *Pilgr* 126 b, gode man warnede him ofte-tymes but folie to leste, but his warnyng availede litel for he lous bitueene him was so moche *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 8 Þou awtyst gretly to desyre, to herȝn his warnyng & his techyng 1472 Lanton *Rescript* (Seiman) 138 Thai war plane warnit 1548 The Iroyans beleuȝ not this warnyng and Amonyction 1535 Coverdale *Prov* x 8 A wyse man wil receaue warnynge, but a foole wil sooner be smytten in the mouth 1552 Huloet *Acol vitus* I i Dull, Surely he were a gyse of suet of warnynge, yf his aduyse were ought worthe 1624 J. Mayor (Water P.) *Life Walker* 8 In these days nothing could not make M. Walker give over writing, lying and libelling. 1713 Rowe *Jane Shore* iv 47 Oh! should at them wrong her Just Heav'n not punish, but in mercy upon thee, And make 'em know no End—Remember this As the last Warning of a dying Man 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xix IV 304 'My Lord, said the King, 'you will live to repent the part which you are taking in this matter' The warning was disregarded 1868 Froude *Hist Eng* II ix 398 History is never weary of repeating its warnings against narrow policy and ruinous measures. 1907 *Times* 31 Jan 8 Reasoning from a single word of reproach for the past or of warning for the future

b. An experience, sight, etc. that serves as a caution; a deterrent example.

1613 J. Sands *Ivy Tapsen* (Hakl Soc) 41 They laye a good while aboard of her, and charged them to take this for a wardning (sic), and giue ouer there scoffing of them, or the next time they would shute their Cannons at them in deede. Bun *Ivan I iter* II (1900) 219 Let Christian's ships before he cameIther and the Battles that he met with in this place, be a warning to those that came after 1794 *Jane Eyre Autl* No lawn 331 *note*, It deserves to be recorded for the curiosity of the fact, and should be given to the public as a warning to every honest member of society 1897 Maurice *Prof Sel Yoke* xi 170 Such a man is a spectacle and a warning to us all.

c *To take warning*: to alter one's course of action when warned of its danger. Const. *by* (another's ill-fortune, etc.).

1590 Crowley *Epigr* 784 An example thou shalt be, That all stoutburne priestes may take warnyng by the 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III i 28 He would embrace no counsell, take no warning by my comming 1681 Burnet *Plgr* II (1900) 168, I think it is well that they hang so near the High way that others may see and take warning 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 1020 Said, for I see ye take no warning by me, Lancelot

5. Previous notice of an event whether good or bad. † *In warning*: by way of warning. Also, time allowed for preparation, interval between the notice and the event (e g. in *long, short warning, a day's warning*, etc).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 21879 He sends us bis all in warning, For to be war of his coming 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 4968 Hazl *Anc Fl* 286 The aungelle gaf hym in warynges Of the tyme of hys levynge 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 217 A pyce smith was delyuered to him for warnyng which as your maystership knoweth well was right shorte warnyng 1586 F. Allen in *Lodge Illustr. Brit Hist.* (1791) I 345 The Queene Mother hathe sworne that the dayes and time shall be prescribed her by herself, so as the very time will be so shorte and soleyne that men are like to have small warninge of the matter *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* 500 Those are the secrets of the most high-est quer or wherefore we the dwell shall fetch thee 1596 Shaks. *I am Shr* IV iv 60 The worst is this,—that at so slender warning, You are like to have a thin and slender pittance. 1607 *Statutes in Hist Wakefield Gram Sch* (1892) 59 I saw full warninge of the days of the election 1627 Monyson *Hen II*. 44 The truce was then prolonged till the Calends of May, except either of them should give fourteene dayes warning of their purpose to breake the same 1632 Fletcher & Shirley *Night Walker* IV. i, But this will be strong d in a short warning. *a* 1700 Maidwell *Young Clerk* (1730) 104 Where an Angel gave the Blessed Virgin three days warning of her Death 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng* iv. I. 479 At a moment's warning the Sheriff adjourned the poll to Newport Pagnell

b. In some clocks, the rattling or whirring noise which precedes the striking

1778 J. Berridge *Wks.* (1865) 388 This like the warning of a clock, prepares for the striking *a* 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII. 109/1 From that time till the hand comes to 60 the clock is on the warning 1850 Denison *Clock & Watch m* 119 The noise made by this is called giving warning. 1875 Jennings *Dict. Mech & Warning-fusee*, The warning piece, by starting the fly, causes a rustling noise, which is the precursor of the striking, and is called the warning.

c. *U.S. local.* (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1807 Janson *Stranger in Amer* 402 On such occasions [at burial of the dead] what they call 'warnings' is the day before, or early in the morning, given of the funeral.

**6.** Notice of the termination of a business relation, given by one of the parties to the other; esp. by a landlord to a tenant, a master to a servant, an employer to an employee, or vice versa. *1432 Paston Lett.* I. 23 The said Erle desireth that..he may, by warnyng to my Lordes, for ever stande freely discharged of the saide occupation ..about the Kinges pen-sione. *1562-3 Act 5 Eliz.* c. 4 § 4 That no suche M^r M^rs or Dame shall put awaye any suche Servantes..without one quarter warning given before thende of his sayd terme. *1577-8 Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 125 It salbe leful to ayther of the saidis partis to use warningis for removing fra landis and herestall possessoun. *1597 J. Day Diary* (Camden) 3, June 26th, Elen Lyne gave me a quarter's warning. *a 1646* T. Hoke *Minor Pract.* xiii. (1734) 363 The Objections against the Lawfulness of the Warning are, That the Parties are not lawfully warned personally, or at their Dwelling-places, or upon the Ground of the Lands,..or, That the Warning is not stamped, &c. *1666 Pepys Diary* 20 Mar., Up and away goes Alce, our cook-maid; and would go away of her own accord, after having given her mistress warning fickly for a quarter of a year together. *1676 Office of Clerk of Assize* 122 If any Master hath put away his Servant before the end of his term, without a quarter warning, he shall forfeit forty shillings. *1697* Vanbrugh *Relapse* II. (*Pal.*) You should never take a Lease of a House you can hire for a Quarter's Warning. *1725* Addison *Drummer* I. i, *Coach-man.* I'll give Madam warning, that's flat—I've always liv'd in sober families. *1748* Richardson *Pamela* III. 1 I had talk'd to Mrs. Jewks to induce the Girl (to whom, in hopes of frightening her, I had given Warning .) to desire to stay. *1790 R. Burns Lett. Reprs. of Death Sel.* II. 380 There is first a precept of warning given by the landlord; it is in this form..I..lawfully premonish, warn, and charge C. D. tenant and possessor of the land of [blank], to flit and remove himself, etc.] *1832* Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, I'll pay her [the landlady] what I owe her,..and give her warning to morrow morning. *1872 Punch* 6 Apr. 141/2 Mary Dishley gave her mistress warning:—no fault to find with her place, but wanted a change. *1884 Hist.* 22 Nov 246 Cook, I give you a Month's Warning from to-day. *1886 J. Ramsoman Sc. Sch. Manag.* 1. 1. 1 Warning, notice, given or received, of a workman leaving his employment.

*Sc.* *1808* Scott *Aunt Margy Mirror* Introd., Unlile group of trees, that still remain unfelled, have been received warning to quit, expressed by a daub of white paint.

†**7.** Previous notice of being called upon to perform some duty. *Obs.*

*1450 Rolls of Parli.* V. 369 a He had ..a commaundement fro youre Highnes, to be redy with his said felly[s] of ship, upon a day warning. *1477 Hist. Vl.* 194/2 To be redy in harnays within an Houre warning. *1549* Thomas *Hist. Italye* 74 b, For there [at Venice] they have yerely two hundred galleys in suche an ordre, that vpon a verie small warnyng they maie be furnished out vnto the sea. *1554-6* in Feuillet Strickl. *Mary* (1902) 130 He is redines to serve vpon further warnyng. *1556* Lo Wharton in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 220, I called the gentlimen, freholders, and ruiers of men, and declared unto them the Quenes Maiti's commaundement for their servyce, and redylynes upon an howrs warnyng. *1759* Robertson *Hist Scot* I 111 256 For this purpose she summoned him to appear before her on a short warning.

†**8.** Intimation, notification of a fact or a present occurrence. *To give warning of*: to call attention to. *Obs.*

*a 1386 Chaucer Can. Yeom. Prol.* 40 Sires, now in the morwe tyde, Out of youre hostelrie I wough you ryde And warned heer my lord, ..Which to ryden with yow is ful fayn ..Freend, for thy warnyng god yeue thee chance. *1398* Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xi. 12 (1495) 27 By warnyng of angels men knowe goddis wyl & warnyng in a manere of offyce & not of kynde. *1449* Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi 89 If of this consideracioun no mensioun and warnyng were bi me or bi sum other in writing bifore mad. *c 1480 Rede Dentyl* 789 in Hall. *E. E. P.* I. 250 And whan thy sy nnes be cleane forgeuen the, Ily an Aungel god wyll sende the warnynge. *1621* Bible *Transl. Pref.* B 17 Many other things we might giue him warning of (gentle Reader) if wee had not exceeded the measure of a Preface alreade.

†**9.** *By warning*: a private hint or prompting to do something. *Obs.*

*1548* Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 25 When ,his familiar companyons gaue hym a by warnynge to auenge suche a naughtie touche..with his teene comaundementes: gayly asked [etc.]

†**10.** A notice or signal that a certain hour has come, or that it is time to do something. *Obs.*

*1389 in Fasc. Gilds* (1870) 7 Alle be breberen schulle be redy at here warnynge. *c 1396* J. Audav tr. *Bonyfuunce's Theol. World* 5, A Dial, the which ..gaue warning with a stroke unto him that did weare it of eveine houre. *1573* J. Sandford *Hours Recr.* (1576) 67 The swallowe againe giveth thearme warning to go away. *1597* Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 127 The sharris..Illuminateth the Face, which (as a Beacon) giues warning to all the rest of this little Kingdom (Man) to Armes. *1633* B. Jonson *Tale Tub* v. vi, He sat up at Plow, and watch'd the Cock, Till his first warning chid him off to rest. *1687* A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 162 These Timbrels..serve not only to clear up the Cornets..but also to give warning to those that stay behind. *1822* Jos. Bailie *Metr. Lay., Malcolm's Herr* liv, And aye, when the midnight warning sounds, He hastens his beads to tell.

†**11.** A summons, order, or attendance. *Obs.*

*a 1425 Cursor M.* 16022 (Trin.) Mony sedreed of pe toun bi certeyn warnynge [*otherwise in earlier texts*], *1461 Paston Lett.* II. 3 If this Lords above wayte alwy more pepil in this countre, be lyklyhess it will not be easy to get with owt a newe comlonsion and warnyng. *c 1495* Hen. VII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 21 We praye you herein ye wol make suche diligences as be requisite for the said noble nombre to come unto us uppon any our soolein warnyng. *1496 Dec. Lett. Bk.* 373 The Craft shall mete on seynt Anne day..and what persones pat be absent pat day vppon warnyng shall pay all d. *1509 Reg. Priory Seal Scot.* I. 271/2 He ..durst nocht cam to the said burgh to hald the said court without warnyng, support and ayd of his tenentis. *1564 Child-Marriages* 173 That the said Patrick shalbe ready to appeare within xii^ howres before the said maior, vppon warninge geuen at any of the houses of the said Roberte Bennett & Randle Ince. *1603* Colchester tr. A Warning to appeare to a court. Citation. *1704 Acts & Laws Connecticut* 270 A Copy of this Paragraph of this Act,..published on the Sign-Post in said Town ..at least three Days before said second Monday of March next, shall be a legal Warning of the Freemen of said City to attend said first meeting. *1790 N. Carolina Reg.* (1791) 10 It does not appear that the warning for the proprietor's meeting was published according to law.

†**10.** The action of advertising (lost property). *c 1620* in *Herrod's Hexm.* App. vii. (1822) 218 To the goldsmith's officer for warning of her Majestie's diamond, which was lost at Salisburie, 6s. 8d.

†**11.** *Law* = Garnishment. *Obs.*

*1579 Fleetw. Tertes Lawyd* 8, Warninge is when an actyon of detinue of charters is brought against one, & the defendant saieth, y^t the charters were deliuered to him by the plaintife, and by an other vpon certein conditions: and praieth y^t the other may be warned to pleade with the plaintife whether the condicions be performed or noe; and thereveppon is writte of *Scire facias* shall go forthe against him.

**12.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, *as warning-giver*; †**warning arrow** (*cf. warning gun*); **warning-bell,** (*a*) a bell for giving alarm of fire or invasion; (*b*) a bell announcing the imminent departure of a vessel; **warning-gun,** a gun sounded as an alarm or announcement; **warning-lever** *Horology*, the lever that sets in motion the warning-wheel; **warning-pipe,** an overflow pipe serving to show when a cistern is quite full; **warning-wheel** *Horology*, the wheel that produces the 'warning' (see 5 D). Also Warning-piece.

*1628* Feltham *Resolves* II. xii. 30 The sight of vice in others, is like a 'warning Arrow, shot, for vs to take heed. *1511 Statutes Realm Acc.* (Sum Rec.) 1 Item for the 'warnyng bell and iuj polyse, iij^s. viij^d. *1591* Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 19 Harke, harke, the Dolphins drumme, a warning bell, sings heauy Mourning vnto the walles. *a 1592* Lodge & Greene *Looking Gl.* (1598) D 4, Forsooth in time, the warning bell doth towle. *1606* Day *Ile of Gulls* I. v. B 1, I heare the warning bell, some strangers are arriued. *1613* Kneyvet *Pilgr.* xxi, Having disposed his merchants (the) took his station on the top of his tower, close by the warning-bell. *1864* G. A. Lawrence *Maurice Dering* II. 193 The Tigris was the point of getting under way, and the first warning-bell had rung. *1877* B. Goodr *Herschbach's Hush.* iv. 166 The best watchmen, and also the best 'warning dog upon the premises. *1879 Cassell's Techn. Educator* III. 251 The 'warning gun was fired from the castle of Guisnes, giving notice that the King of England was ready to set sail. *1881 Raymond Mining & Scientific Gloss.*, The rock pulls over the hour 'warning lever. *1833* Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1808 To put a half inch 'warning-pipe from the cistern to a convenient place near the pump. *1656* W. Urquhart *Jewel*, *Locksm.* 8 The next is the Third, or Fourth-Wheel, (according as it is distant from the First-Wheel) called also the 'Warning-Wheel. *1884 J. Britten Watch & Clock Maker* 284 The last wheel of the striking train, called the warning wheel.

†**Warning,** *vbl. sb*^2 *Obs.* [OE. **wiersinng, wernung*, f. *wiernan* Warn *v.*^2 Sc -ing ^1.] Refusal, denial.

*c 1000 Ags. Ps. (Thorpe) Athelstan* II. lii. (Lieberm.) 152 Be rihtes wernunge. Se halsford se rihtes wyrne ond for his yfelan mon lige. *a 1225 Ancr R.* 330 He ne met nor reouhe wernen him, ne wernunge. Ne mouthe ne wernunge. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 5520 (Kölb.) pat bou graunt ous now a bing, pat er of no make werning. *13 Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2253 Bot wi3tnel be vpon on strok, & I schal stonde stylle, & warp i ne no werning, to worch be by my wylle, & pou no quarel to me take. *1542* Boorde *Brev. Health* ccxlv, For all this purpos was for to make great displesure, Without warning or defence. *1575* Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 263 That thai suld haf warning mair, Ik, To-day, the Warning tour *Gran* iii. 977 Par suide be made hym na warnynge Off quhat thynge he made sakynge. *1549* Pecock *Repr.* iii. 141 Alle the bokis and other clerkis mowen wel make oute weenyng of Holi Scripture ..be endewid with temporal and vnmaculate godis. *Ibid.* v. v. 506 Summe comaundeden that God ban negligence, that is to seie, werningis or forbodis.

**Warning** (wō·rnin), *ppl. a.* [f. Warn *v.*^1 + -ing ^2.] That warns, in senses of the verb.

*1552* Huloet, Warnynge, or geuynge warnynge, *monicio, admonicio.* *1579* Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 74 Like the warning Spirit hear, To-morrow thou mayst mourn in vain. *1810 — Lady of Lake* III. i, The warning voice *1840* Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxvii, The warning lights and fires, upon the river were powerless beneath this pall of fog. *1857* Livingstone *Trav.* xxiv. 476 *note*, A deluging shower, which began without the customary drops. *1891 Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Dec. 1/1, She raised her hand with a warning gesture.

*b. spec.* in *Biol.* of coloration or other distinctive marks found in caterpillars, etc.

*1869* J. J. Weir in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* I. 22 The birds were deceived by tasting them [*sc.* the larvæ] because the characteristic warning hairs were undeveloped. *1879* A. R. Wallace in *Macm. Mag.* XXXVI. 396 Theory of Protective Colours.—Terms of Warning Colours.—These differ greatly from the last class, inasmuch as they prevent us with a variety of brilliant hues, [etc.] *1887* Poulton in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 194 Instances of very distasteful species which have no warning colours, but, on the other hand, are well disguised by protective tints and markings.

**Warningly,** *adv.* [f. Warning *ppl. a.* + -ly ^2] In a warning manner, by way of warning.

*1829* G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* II. iii. 289 Then she speaks warningly and therefore specifically. *1882 Harper's Mag. Mar.* 608/2, 'I play a wretched game,' said the..lady, warningly.

**Warning-piece** (wō·rnin,pīs). [f. Warning *vbl. sb.*^1 and *ppl. a.* + Piece ^2.]

1. A signal-gun discharged to give notification of arrival, danger, time, etc.

*c 1592* Marlowe *Jew of Malta* v. 2322 A warning-peece shall be shot off from the Tower, To give thee knowledge when to cut the cord, And fire the house. *1596* Marshall in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 608 There it pleased the Lords to call a select Councell, which was alwayes done by hanging out of a flagge of the armes of England, and shooting off of a great warning peece. *1607* Chapman *Bussy d'Ambois* I. i. 25 As great Seamen..(coming neere their Hauen) Are glad to giue a warning peece. *1634* Jos. J. Hesham *Trav.* 21 We gaue them a sterne, two Gunnes as warning peeces of great danger. *1687* Smith *Sailor's Word-bk., Evening-gun*, the warning-piece, after the ringing of which the sentries challenge.

b. *Transf.* and *fig.*

In 17th c. often used in titles of books.

*1618* J. H. (*title*) Iha Worlds Folly, or a Warning-Peece Discharged vpon the Wickednesse thereof. *1630* Hubbert *Full Formality's* Thes glorious Apostle ..writes unto Timothy ..a warning peece to future ages. *1660* Bonde *S.vt. Rep.* 379 Oh therefore let our distracted England be a warning-piece to all Nations, that they never attempt to Try and Judge their King, for what cause soever. *1721* Steele *Spect.* No. 344 P 5, I shall make this Paper rather a Warning-piece to give notice where the Danger is. *1733* Dr Fox *Curate* 2. (Globe) 140, I am a warning piece..to all rash pilots. *1832* Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., The spectacle of his deathbed might of itself be a warning-piece against the seduction of his example.

2. *Clock-making.* The piece that 'warns' that the clock is about to strike.

*1875* Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1284 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clock* 284 The last wheel carries a pin which butts on the warning piece during the interval between warning and striking.

**Warnis,** obs. Sc. form of Varnish *v.*

†**Warnish,** *sb. Obs. rare*^–1. [f. Warnish *v.*^1] The state of being guarded.

*1387–8* T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vii. 78 And thus warnished mot he be, and of warnische the hour drede.

†**Warnish,** *vb. Obs.* Forms: 4 warnische, 5 wach, -lash, -yash, warenyn, warnise, -yse, 4, 5 warnish. Also *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4–5 war-, varnist, -yst, 4 varnys(t)t. [a. AF. *warniss-, warnir* dial. var. of OF. *garnir* : see Garnish *v.*]

1. *trans.* To provide or furnish with an ample supply of something; *esp.* to supply (a place) with men and stores.

*13. K. Alis.* 6059 (Laud MS.) Hii hadden warnyssched Cites & townes. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 6605 Castles, tours, bete & lowe, He dede wastine wip store pan. *c 1340* Hampole *Psalter* lvii. 7 Pai sall warenys hali kirke with lare and vertus. *1375* Barbour *Bruce* xx. 102 For pat he sauh saw the castell, And wist that it was varnist well. *c 1400 Sec. Troyan H* 21 *a* 43 Pai wodels warnist were Ino-to hauenes ore of wyke sere. *c 1470* Henry *Wallace* iv. 214 On Cargowne was I ygart a small peil, That warnyst was with men and wittaill well.

2. *refl.* To equip oneself.

13 *Cursor M* 24388 (Gött.) He dred him sare pat were suld rise, And warnist him on mani wise. *c 1400 Sc. Troyan War* II. 7.6 One bare best wyse Inne par armour they thame warnyse.

2 To provide with guards.

*1387* [see Warnish *sb.*]

Hence **Warnished** *ppl. a.*; **Warnishing** *vbl. sb.* (esp. in *scire* ' that with which one is provided ').

*c 1340* Hampole *Psalter* xvi. 10 Vndire pe shadow of pe veingis pat is, in pe defence of pi chaste and of pe mercy. *Ibid* xxx 27 He selkouthed his mercy til me in cyte warnyst (*L. in munitate munita*). *1375* Barbour *Bruce* vi. 50 It [*sc.* valour] has pe gret vertu Of warnyssching of vit, That it all perils well can se. *1382* Wyclif 2 *Kings* xix. 32 He schal not commen in to this cyte, and warnysch-ynge (Vulg. *munitio*) schal not be maad to it.

**Warnish,** *v.*^2 *Obs. exc. Sc.* Forms: 4 **warnis, wernis,** 9 **Sc. warnice, -ise.** [a. AF. *warnist-, warnir*, of Teut. origin: related to Warn *v.*^1] *trans.* To warn or inform beforehand.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 13611 For-pi godmen, i warnes yow to thine al of his care. *Ibid* 19897 Saint peire pa wis was warnist, Pann gastli might i pe cuist. *Ibid.* 21674 Par-of was wernist moyses. 23.. *Ibid.* 21884 (Edin.) Bot at be na takins [at we vr al] be warnis ere it come. *1375* Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 85 They wauknest me up frae a maist enchantin reverie, an' warnicet me to prepare belyve to tak a last fond look o' the slae black een. *1873* [P. Neaman] *Leg. North* 44 Weel was I warnised ere I cam' frae hame.

Hence †**Warnishing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Warnishment,** *Sc.* warning.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 21927 Thoru warnissing of pees wrake, Vnnes [well] will pai sample take. *1894* Law Times *Rep.* (new ed.) x. 104 Gin I had gotten due warnesment fent a flee wad I hae cared.

†**Warnisson.** *Obs.* Also 4 *Sc.* **varnysoun,** 6 *Sc.* **vernysoun.** [a. AF. *warnissun*, OF. *warnisson*, dial. var. of *garnison* : see Garnison *sb.*] Provision of men, stores, etc. Also = garrison.

*1338 R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 243 Pe pes pei did be crie, & pursuid warnisoun. *1375* Barbour *Bruce* x. 355 Quhen thai of his varnysoun Saw the sege set thar stithly, Thai mycht nouth hym of ententy. *Ibid.* xvi. 89 *note*, Thai drede full sar for the tir warn vernysoun.

**Warnisto(u)re,** var. ff. Warnestore *Obs.*

**Warnmail,** obs. form of Wardmote.

**War-note.** A musical summons to war (*poet.*). Also *fig.*

*1805* Scott *Last Minstrel* iii. xxvi, The Warder..blew his war-note loud and long. *1816* Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxvi, Wild and high the 'Cameron's gathering' rose, The war-note of Lochiel. *1897 Edin. Rev.* Oct. 399 The old war-

note of strife for strife's sake has lost something of its relentless and brutal barbarities.

**Warnstor(e**, var. fl. WARNESTORE *Obs.*

**Warn't**, dial. and vulgar f. *was not, were not.*

**Warny stool, -stor**, var ff. WARNESTORE *Obs.*

**War of**, obs. form of WHEREOF.

**War Office.** s. The department of the British government, presided over by the Secretary of State for War, which is charged with the entire administration of the Army, the building in which the business of this department is carried on. b. *U.S* The War Department.

1711 *Contest in L. & Parliaments of Eng.* 1084 (F. & C.) A petition being from Whitehall Court to the War Office and from thence to Scotland Yard 1747 *Comt. & City Reg.* 145 War office Secretary at War, Right Hon Henry Fox, Esq[.] Then follow names of subordinate officials 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I. It should cost Sir George but the asking a pair of colours for one of them at the War office, since we have always supported government 1884 in *Nineteenth Century Rev.* (1894) 76 An entry in the books of the war office 1895 ANGUS *Handbk. Eng. Lit* 613 The father of M G Lewis was deputy secretary of the war office 1890 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 17 § 1 This Act may be cited for all purposes as 'The War Office Act, 1870' 1899 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 5/1 Lord Roberts spent an hour and a half at the War Office, and then returned to Dover street with a small War Office staff

**War on**, obs form of WHEREON.

**Warow, var.** WARE *v. Obs.*

**Warp** (wɔ̄p), sb.[1] also † **weorp, (4 worpe, worpe),** 4–7 **warpe.** [Oh. *warp* warp in weaving (also used to glose L. *vimen* osier-twig), corresponds to OLG *warp* (MLG. *warp, warpe*), OHG. *warf, warph, waraf* (MHG., early mod G. *warf*) warp in weaving, Ofl. *varp* neut., cast of a net, a laying of eggs (Sw. *warp* neut., cast of a net, draught of fish, hauling-rope, masc. warp in weaving, Da. *varp* neut. hauling-rope).—OTeut. ***warpo-z,** f. root ***warp-** ***wrap-** to throw: see WARP *v.* Bruch IV is prob a later formation on the verb.

Sense 6 may possibly represent an unrecorded sense of ON. *varp* cf. *vimrá* in Eng place names in Scandinavian districts.

**I. 1.** *Weaving* The threads which are extended lengthwise in the loom, usually twisted harder than the weft or woof, with which these threads are crossed to form the web or piece.

c725 *Corpus Gl.* 21 (Hessels) S 563 *Stamin* warp **a** 1000 *Riddles* (Gr.) xxxvii. A Wundene me ne beoð wiðe, ne ic weorp hafa. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xi. (1495) A spinner stretcheth the warpe with wonder craft fro the nether syde to the ouer and drawyth and buyngyth out ayen his thredes thu ete ouer fro poynt to poynt 1480 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 1111 3 39 Pat þar suldе bull leiff bebynde Off warpe or weft to mak hir clayth 1513 [MAY *Dict. Clothe* 96 *A common thing it is for the weaver to cover a course warpe with a fine woofe the warpe beeing spon hard and small, and the woofe soft and round to couer the warpe from sight* 1681 SARAH OSBORNE *Lett.* 31 (1856) 108 I doe not know, but once their warps, consisting of fine thred, lyd to their beame. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Antiq.* 189 The Weavers shall not be obliged to mount the Warps of their Looms with a sufficient Number of Threads 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 219 The warp is now composed of threads of an equal length 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Silk* I. 81 Wire loom (1) the beam or wooden roller, which is turned with a succession of deep grooves, into which the warp is wound, each groove receiving a greater or less number of wires, according to the fineness of the fabric 1867 MORRIS *Troy Book* III. 520 For she herself within her fair hung'ry in Had set the warp and watched the fine weft glide Up from the roller 1893 J. TAYLOR *Cotton Hses* 205 In hosiery, tissue, or fully or in part the shuttle enters the shed, the warp is spread and a good cover put on the cloth.

b. *fig* and in fig. context.

1578 GUALTER DES *Postes, Compl. Gr. Ant.* 28 O weauer, weauer, work no more, thy warp hath done me wrong. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* E o b, Neather had I this clue of care to worke my warpe without the woofe of reason. 1613 BY the whole Discure Warp of this History here related, we may see how rash a thing it is to judge of the Actions of a great Prince 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xxi. (1808) 348 Sorrow is the woof which is woven into the warp of life 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 86 He weaves together the frame of his discourse loosely and which is the warp and which is the woof cannot always be determined 1896 W. WATSON in *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 2/3 Still, on Life's loom, the infernal warp and weft Woven each hour! 1901 E. C. STEDMAN *Victorian P.* 25 Throughout his narrative there is the underlying warp of the Old Testament

**2.** *Naut* (See quot.)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 170 *a A* or more properly *Warp* is the twine woven across the lintlies in pointing. *Hed., Warp & Shrouds*, the first given length, taken from the bolster at the mast head to the foremost dead eye

**3.** *Naut.* A rope or light hawser attached at one end to some fixed object, used in hauling or in moving a ship from one place to another in a harbour, road, or river, a warping hawser. † Also (at Ilfracombe), a certain apparatus for hauling in vessels of *warp-house* (in 10).

1296 [see *warp* 2 *b* in sense 9] 1342 *Cust Acc.* 176/3 (MS.) cord pro warp 1400 in *Tyer Acc. 5 Hen. IV Rls* (MS.) 9 hauuers de filo Burdegalie pro trapelines et Warpe inde facendis ponderis cij quart lx. lb 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. I. II* (1896) 36 Smalle Warpes 1 1/2 Cables, hawsers, warpes, pitche, tarre 1586 BULLEYN *Bulwarke, Bk Simples* (1579) 27 No Shippe can sayle without Hempe, the sayle clothes, yeardes lines, warpes & Cables can not be made without it 1625 in W. Foster *Lett. rec'd & Ind. Co* (1899) III. 201 We have been much troubled about the getting up of the ship pinnace for lack of men and warpe 1630 *Lex Londinensis* (1680) 112 Likewise to have a Warpe of forty fathom to sheer off and give way if any Ship shall chance to drive upon them 1708 SHERLOCK *Serp. rewand World* 29 I laid warps to haul into about water 1731 *Act 4 Geo II c.* 19 There shall be paid by the Master or Commander of every Vessel, belonging to the Port of Hond Combe, who shall make use of the Warp, the Sum of Six Shillings and eight Pence. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxvi 129 [We] took the warp ashore, manned the capstan [etc.] 1842 B. HALL *Patchwork* II. 3 An entering ship is drawn along by a rope, or warp, as it is called 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea Imp* 254 Our discharging was soon over, the warps cast off

*Ib. imf.* 1851 *Harper's Mag.* III. 518 Loads are eased down hillsides by the use of a strong warp taking a bight round a tree and bringing the ends even.

**b.** *Trawl fishing.* A rope attached to a net

1835 J. COUCH in *3rd Rep. R. Cornw. Polytechn. Soc.* 74 When every thing is favourable, a warp from the end of the ship is set in towards the land 1854 *Baltimore Mercantile Mag.* Apr. 362/2 The fisherm a beach the boat at the other side of the bay, carry the warp at that end to the further shore, and haul the net to land 1885 *Rep. Inland Fisheries* 11 Some use stoppers, which extend from the top line downwards to the wings but these are not to be advocated, as, they tend to hustle the net together

**c.** *Whaling* (See quot.)

1897 P. I. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 226 The second mate had three fish fast two on short warps, or pieces of whale line some eight or ten fathoms long fastened to harpoons, with the other ends running on the main line by means of bowlines round it

**†4.** *A* strand of a fishing-line. *Obs*

1496 *Archæologia* xlix *Angler's Treatise* 19 Then take two euery warpe one way and slyke muscle and fasten them in three slyes slyke strengthe.

**III. 5.** A tale of foul (occas. three or a couple), esp. used of fish and oysters

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 411 1 (1 146 Item in uno warpe de salt-fysch 1509 *Market Hawb. Rec* (1890) 240 In salt Fysshe xvj warpe and half 1533 in *Archæologia* XXV. 293 For iij warpe of Eles & iij warpe of Codd 1585 R. MARTYN *Plain Perc.* (1590) 14 In euery trade and occupation, there is a better and a worse, as there is in euery warpe of fish, a great and a lesse 1629 *Alehouse MS.* in Simpkinson *Washington* (1862) p. lii, Mem That euery two hundred of linge, haberdine, & greenfish in one warpe 1674 JEAKE *Arith. Sport* (1696) 68 Yet at Yarmouth they sell 33 Warps to the Hundred 1798 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 13 Two hundred [of oysters], as sold by the fishers, contains 33 warp equal to six score and twelve Four oysters make a warp 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xiii, His honour Monkbarns should have a wet sark warp of oysters in the season 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii, Every man ate his warp of herring

**† b** *nonce-use A warp of treats*, four weeks.

1599 THOMAS *Italian & English* 1 Those vnclinched shelues where cods & dogfishe awomme (not a warp of weeks forenoaning).

**IV. 6.** Alluvial sediment deposited by water; silt. Sometimes artificially introduced over low-lying land, and sometimes occurring as a stratum in soil.

1698 DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 184 In digging of the well they found three yard sand, one foot fine warp *Hist* 1714 in *Archæologia* V. 1 Don and Ouse have brought much silt and warp that they made a great deal of high land on both sides of their streams. 1798 *Trans. Soc Arts* XVI. 170 Greatly improved by a sediment or mud (commonly called warp) from the river Don 1800 R. WOOD *Dissert. Perret Agric* I. 435 The tide is let in at high water to deposit the warp or enriching substance 1839 STONEHOUSE *Acct. of Parish of Hatfield* 1. 1. 1.

(*worp*, *wurpen*, *cwurpen*), OS. *werpan* (*warp*, *wurpun*, *worpan*), Du. *werpen* (*warp*, *worpen*), OHG. *werfan* (*warf*, *wurfen*, *worfen*), MHG., mod.G. *werfen* (*warf*, *wurfen*, *geworfen*), ON. *verpa* (*varp*, *urpu*, *orpenn*), Sw. *verpa*, Da. *werpe*, Goth. *wairpan* (*warp*, *waurpum*, *waurpans*); f. OTeut. root **werp-* (*warp-*, *worp-*) :—pre-Teut. **werb-*; the root is not found outside Teut.

The strong conjugation did not survive in Eng. later than the 15th c.)

**I.** To cast, throw.

**†1.** *trans.* To project through space; to cast, throw, fling. *Obs.*

*c 888 Ælfred Boeth.* vii. § 3 Da hine mon on þæt fyr swæp þa slyede ic hine mid heofonlicon rene. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt.* vii. 6 Ne na wurpen eowre meregrotu toforan eowrum swinum. *c 1000* Ormin 10488 & werrpenn all þe chaff annan, lintill þe te barnenn. *c 1205* Lay. 17430 Al swa feor swa a mon wiþerenn zenne stan. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 404 Mon worpeð Crickincha fur upon his fonsen. *c 1250 Owl & N.* 768 Mid slake ne mai3 þu nenne felle & werpe [*v.r.* worpe] of horse knyhtes anelle. *c 1300 Havelok* 1061 He warp þe ston Ouer þe laddes cuerillon. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 344 Sanct paulis hede þis chiftayne In a depe vawe warpit was. *c 1425* Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. 4743 Þe wardane gert his wrichtis syne Set vp richt stoutly ane ingyne, And warpit till be toure a nalt. Douglas *Æneis* i. Prol. 18 And bot my bulk be fundin worth sic thre, Quhen it is red, do warp it in the se.

**†b.** with adv., as *down*, *up*, *out*, *away*. *Obs.*

*c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 27 Gang to þære sæ, and wurp þinne angel ut [Vulg. *mitte hamum*]. *c 1200* Ormin 16040 þurrh þatt he warrp ut þe flor þe swillferr & te bordess. *c 1205* Lay. 15468 Awel he warp his gode breond. *c 1230* R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15675 His staf ful sleyly vp he warp. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 642 He had bene tane but dout, Na war it that he warpyt out All that he had, hym lychtr to mar. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 1342 He warpit ouer-burdis Mikill riches & relikes reft fro the tounne.

**†c.** To cast (lots). *Obs.*

*c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 35 Hig todældon hyra reaf, and wurpon hlot þæron-ofer [Vulg. *sortem mittentes*]. *c 1205* Lay. 15468 Þe king., bad heom leoten werpen.

**†2.** To sprinkle, scatter (something) *on* (a surface). Also with *out*: To cause to spirt; to emit, shoot forth. *Obs.*

*c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* II. 240 Dweorge dwostlan weorp on wealleande wæter. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 41 Seoddan he hiin sceaude an ouen oo berninde fure he warp ut of him seofe lasces. *Ibid.* 109 þurh þatt he warp þe wæter ut þet wælle weter of þan herde flinte. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe and wurpen god and þæronne. *c 1225* Lay. 4918 Me warp on þa burnes bolde welle wætres. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 246 Ase ofte ase he ueond assaileð ower castel . worpeð ut uppon him schaldinde teares.

**†3.** With *up*, *open*, *wide*, *on brede*: To open (a gate) violently or suddenly, fling open. With *to*: To shut, slam. *Obs.*

*c 1000* Ælfric *Saints' Lives* iii. 347 Þa com farlice mycel wynd and wearp upp þa dura. *a 1400–50 Wars Alex.* 1526 Þus atired he þe toune & titely þar-eftir On ilkes way wid open warped he þe yatis. *Ibid.* 2148 Þa werpis þam [the gates] vp..& wide open settis. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 10460 Pai wan in wightly, warpit to þe yates, Herrit hoin full ligely with boltes of yrone. *Ibid.* 11104 When the burnes of the burgh were broght vpon slepe, He warpit vp a wicket. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. I. 2 On breid, or this, was warp and mayd patent The heavynly hall of God omnipotent. *Ibid.* xii. x. 80 Sum bad.. Warp vp the portis, and wide the settis cast To the Troianis.

**†b.** *intr.* Of a door: To open (*wide*, etc.). *Obs.*

*a 1325 Joseph Arim.* 257 He had him liffe vp and þe lide warpes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. i. 218 Bot thow do, thir gret durris..sall nevir warp on breid. *Ibid.* vi. ii. 2 The hundreth gret durris..At thair avis wallis wavir wyde, warp.

**†4.** *trans.* To put (a garment) *on* or *off* hastily. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2025 Whyle þe wlonkest wedes he warp on hym-seluen. *?a 1400 Morte Arth.* 901 Sir Arthure ..Wente to hys warcroge, And warpe hys wedes. *a 1400 Pistill of Susan* 124 Þe wyf werp of hir wedes vm-werde.

**†5.** To throw down, overthrow. Usually with adv., as *down*, *under*, *to ground*. *Obs.*

*c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 7 Pu warpest þeone side forst. *c 1200* Ormin 2575 Forr Crist was strong wiþh hannd þatt he warrpenn dun þe deofell. *c 1205* Lay. 29889 Þeos bures dure he warp adun þat heo to-korst a uluen. *Ibid.* 28729 Mine wiðerwinnen, worepeð þine wrenden. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2630 De child it warp dun to de [*read* 8e] grund. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 1297 The Troiens..Wondid of be wightist, warpid hem vnder. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 518 Werpe, or throwe down, *Prostilo*. *a 1500 Pistill of Susan* 124 Þe wyf werp of hir wedes vm-werde.

**†6.** To throw down, overthrow. Usually with adv., as *down*, *under*, *to ground*. *Obs.*

*c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 7 Pu warpest þeone side forst. *c 1200* Ormin 2575 Forr Crist was strong wiþh hannd þatt he warrpenn dun þe deofell. *c 1205* Lay. 29889 Þeos bures dure he warp adun þat heo to-korst a uluen. *Ibid.* 28729 Mine wiðerwinnen, worepeð þine wrenden. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2630 De child it warp dun to de [*read* 8e] grund. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 1297 The Troiens..Wondid of be wightist, warpid hem vnder. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 518 Werpe, or throwe down, *Prostilo*. *a 1400 Pistill of Susan* 124 Þe wyf werp of hir wedes vm-werde.

**†7.** *intr.* To go hastily, fling *away*. Of wind: To rise *up*. *Obs.*

*?a 1400 Morte Arth.* 2726, I rede 3e..warpes wyilly away. *a 1400–50 Wars Alex.* 3557 Wild wedire vp werpe & þe wynd rysse.

**b.** *Sc.* Of bees: To swarm. Cf. Cast *v.* 22.

*a 1824* in Macta3gart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 94 The hive which warped *were* the fell.

**†8.** *trans.* With inversion of const.: To strike, hit, assail *with* (a missile). Also, to besprinkle (with a liquid). *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 2791 He hine eft ongon weteres weorpan. *c 888 Ælfred Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Þa forceaw he his tungan & warp hine mid þam wætere on þæt neðe forn. *c 1205* Lay. 29260 Heo..worpen hine mid banen. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 1201 Jif þu art iworpe oþer ischote.

**†9.** *intr.* and *fig.* In various uses: To thrust (one's hand) *forth* or *to* lay (hands) *on*; to cast (one's head) *down*; to strike (a stroke). *Obs.*

*a 1225 St. Marher.* 3 As þeos cnihtes walden werpen honden on hire ha bigon to cleopien ant callen þus to criste. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 88 Ne schal þe deouel adun ber heued. *Ibid.* 90 Þeo ne sinnet wurðeð so wod..þet he worpe his hond forð toward þe þuri clað. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. 267 Þat þai suld take þat mayden scham.., and sklaikis fel til hyre fet warpe.

**10.** *t.* & *fig.* Of animals: (of horns). *Obs.*

*c 1200 Bestiary* 325 in *O. E. Misc.* 21 He werpeð er hise hornes in wude er in sornes.

**†b.** To lose (the natural hue). *Obs.*

*c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 183 Among þat þe sowle witeð, þe licame werpeð hewe.

**†11.** To utter, pronounce (a word, speech); to utter (a cry), heave (a sigh). Also with *out*. Also *absol.*, to talk, speak (*of*). *Obs.*

*a 1225 Ancr. R.* 306 Mid hiise schulen be uorlorene worpen in wowle þeose þet hreonene & sorðe muwen beoðe grisliche agrisen. *a 1225 Leg. Kath.* 1395 þet we ne cunnen .. warpen na word aȝein. *a 1225 Juliana* 21 He..worp a sic as a wiht þat seoc were. *c 1300 Beket.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* 1. 1 A note ful nwe I herde hem warpe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2253, I schal stonde stylle, & warpe þo no werrynge; to þe knyȝte þou schalt no worde wyȝe. *c 1400* Wyntoun *Cron.* lxxiv. 1707 (Wemyss) Quhen þis wif had warpit þus Off this abbot Eugenyus. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* ii. xi. 23 Scarslie the auld bird wist quhat he warpit out. *Ibid.* v. viii. 116 And he abufe hym wyrpis sic swisi.

**†b.** To cast (one's eyes) *on* or *upon* (an object). *c 1200* Ormin 17758 Crist warrp eȝhe upponn Symon. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 250 Þeos [Gossib] leid to Eue þeo þen werp hire eien þerone, A I wend te awei i þu worpest eien o þi deað.

**12.** *dial.* & To lay (eggs). Also *absol.* [So ON. *verpa*.]

*a 1340* Hampole *Psalter* xc. 13 þe snake werpis and þe tade tramysis þe egg, and þarof is broght forth þe basilyske. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 409/1 To Warpen as byrdis dose, *incubare*, *pomere ova*. 1530 Levins *Manip.* 33/6 To warp an egge, *ovum pomere*. *a 1600* Sir *Gilbt.*, *Warp*, to lay eggs. A hen warps or warys. N. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words* s.v., A hen is said to warp when she lays.

**b.** To bring forth (young) naturally. *rare.* (In quot. *absol.*)

1738 G. Smith *Cur. Relat.* II. 433 They [beavers] don't warp in their Houses, but in Hollows dug under Ground.

**c.** Of a ewe, cow, etc. : To bring forth (young), prematurely ; to cast, slip, drop. Also *absol.*

*a 1440 Sir Beues* (1757) 283 A cow, that.., warps her calf three months before her time. *Ibid.* 310 If ewes be warped, they turned them out to the rams again. 1813 Rudge *Agric. Glouc.* 209 Cows are liable to slip or warp their calves. 1902 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 397 3 Never had so many ewes been known to warp.

**II.** To bend, twist aside.

**13.** To bend, curve, or twist (an object) out of shape ; *spec.* to curve (timber) by the application of steam, heat, etc., to distort, contort (the body or a limb, the features).

*a 1400–50 Wars Alex.* 798 Al to-wraiste þai þar wode & werpis in-sondire. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpyn', or make wrongge, *contorqueo*. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T. P.* b, Age will..warpe one backe. 1648 Herrick *Hesp.*, *Panegy. Sir Peterborow* 9 Laden spits, warp't with large Ribbs of Beefe. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 419 As in some places the Violence of Heat is so great, as on the contrary of Cold, hath often warped Nature, and made it become deformed. 1740 Jarvis *2nd Pt. Quixote* III. x. II. 219 If perchance the rod of Goodness be warped a little. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 288 The method was introduced of warping planks to the timbers by the means of steam. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 141 Having his left arm lame, he showed it warped and contracted by a former attack of rheumatism. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xx, A singularly marked expression of disgust, horror, hatred, warped his countenance almost to distortion. 1852 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* xxii, Trying to bend it straight, as he would a tree which wrong culture had warped aside. 1856 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. 5, A book with its back still warm and warped from having been held over the fire. 1856 Conan Doyle *Rodney Stone* xxi, Age had warped and cracked the boards.

**fig.** 1662 Petty *Taxes & Contrib.* 9, I descend no lower, wishing onely that there might be an universal Reformation of what length of time hath warped arwry.

**14.** *intr.* To become bent, twisted, or uneven, by shrinkage or contraction. Said esp. of timber. (Cf. Cast *v.* 53.)

*c 1440 Promp. Parv.*, 517/1 Warpyn', or wex wronge or awelonge, as vesselle, *oblongo*. 1530 Palsgr. 724/1, I warpe, as bordes do, when they croke for want of good seasonnyng. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 106 The Elme..is meete for the cheekes and postes of Gates, . for it wyll not bowe, nor warpe. 1697 Tracy *Comm. Esther* ii. 2 Green wood is ever shrinking and warping. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 159 If the pieces . are thicker.. on one side than another, . they will warp to that side. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 57 Cast iron, when annealed, is less liable to warp by a subsequent partial exposure to moderate degrees of heat. 1826 Scott *Woodstock* ii, Old wood seldom warps in the wetting. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 46. 23 Black Ebony . will not warp readily.

**b.** *fig.*, or in fig. context. (Cf. 19.)

1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1570) I. 58 To set such people, And will not warpe, or leane to either part. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 90 This fellow will but ioyne you together, as they ioyne Wainscot, then one of you will proue a shrunke pannell, and like greene timber, warpe, warpe. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 44 It would make them warp and bend under such temptations. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* i. iii. § 20 It being all one, to have no such word to use that will warp any way. 1736 Lediard *Life Marlborough* I. 58 To set that Law straight again, which he had made to warp to his Prince's Humour. 1892 *Nonconf. Irish Legal Hist.* (1913) II. 33, I, too, warp and crack in this dry, clear atmosphere.

**15.** *trans.* To contract, cause to shrink or shrivel, corrugate. *rare.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* ii. vii. 187 Freize, freize, thou bitter skie, . Though thou the waters warpe, . Thy sting is not so sharpe, as friend remembred not. 1872 R. Taylor *Faust* I. ii. 46 Then from the East they come, to dry and warp Your lungs.

**b.** *intr.* To shrink or shrivel, become contracted or wrinkled. Also *fig. rare.*

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 61 You must keepe your sweete faces from scorching in the sun, chapping in the winde, and warping with the weather. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 363 Me thinkes My fancie begins to warpe. 1616 Chapman *Tr. Iliad* xviii. 370 Meminker My hearte to burne to ashes, and my braine to warpe, Nor the frail Texture of the Female Kind Betray'd my Vertue. 1710 Addison *Whig-Exam.* No. 4 P 4, I have no private consideration to warp me in this controversy. 1728 Dr. Bickerse *Let. to Pope* Wks. 1751 II. 2 Subscribing their judgments to be a little warped if I may use that expression; by the heat of their eager inclinations. 1795 Watts *Logic* II. iv. Watch against every thing that is unpleasant that might imbe your Judgment, or warp it aside from Truth. 1852 Smedley *L. Arundel* xxvii. 205 These two men, each warped and hardened differently, by the same powerful influence. 1879 M. Arnold *Fr. Crit. Milton*, *Mixed Ess.* 252 Johnson's mind..was at many points bounded, at many points warped. 1884 A. R. Penrose *Nature* 30 Oct. 628/2 Shelf might often allows his prejudice against Wetell to warp his judgment. 1919 C. Goring *Eng. Convict* I. 31 The science of criminology..has been..warped by the subjection to all sorts of superstitious and conventional dogmas.

**b.** Const. *from*, *out of*; *to*, *into*.

1660 B. *Discollimininium* 17 He that is warpt'd in his Divinity, will never be at rest till he hath wrap'd [*read* warp'd] his Policy to it. 1859 Darwin *Theol. Evolut.* 1922 Not Faction,.. Not Foreign or Domestick Treachery, Could Warp thy Soul to their Unjust Decree. *a 1921* Kerr *Poet. Wks.* (1808) 72 My treacherous heart I fear, Warp'd to the world. 1778–85 Goldsm. *Ess.*, *Taste* (Globe) 315/2 By the present mode of education we are forcibly warped from the bias of nature. 1788–96 Reid *Wks.* (1895) II. 608 There is such perpetual danger from all quarters of having the moral sense warped to a false direction. 1796 Br. Watson *Apol. Bible* 379 Some men have been warped to infidelity by viciousness of life. 1841 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 80 Cursed be the social lies that warp us from the living truth! 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxv, Jarndyce and Jarndyce has warped the vitality out of many people. 1857 Buckle *Civilization* I. 1. 1 Whatever has warped the intellect. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. § 97 The bribe of wealth and honour warps him from his honest labour into efforts to imitate it. 1858 Hawthorne *Jrnl. in Maremma* viii, This narrowness of the peasant mind which ..demagogues..warp to their own selfish purposes and profits.

**17.** To distort, wrest, misinterpret, give a false colouring to (a fact, occurrence, etc.). Const. *from*, *to*, *into*.

1727 Bentley *Serm. bef. K. Geo.* 19 Those that *interpret* all actions of their Governors; that warp the most innocent Occurrences to Censure and Calumny. 1742 Watts *Improv. Mind* i. viii. In matters of duty, take heed of warping the sense of the..writer to your own opinion. 1775 De Lolme *Const. Eng.* i. x. (1784) 102 Writs, being warped from their actual meaning. 1780 Cowper *Conjectures Newton.* 137 The worst is—Scripture warp'd from its intent. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxvii, While..you, Mr Pounddext, were warping the Scriptures into Presbyterian. 1850 Planché *Chron. of Hist.* III. x. 218 Probably..both [accounts] are warped by the opposite feelings of the writers. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* § 8 We have warped the word 'Economy' in our English language into a meaning which it has no business whatever to bear. *a 1872* Maurice *Friendship Bks.* xiii. (1874) 381 A..spirit which would not suffer us to pervert or warp any documents to suit a purpose of ours.

**b.** *intr.* Of a statement: To become distorted. 1914 *Blackm. Mag.* July 48/2 Whether all this be true I cannot tell, but as I guess it is an old report that has warped in wandering.

**18.** *trans* To turn aside or divert (a moving body) from its path or orbit. Also, to deflect, change the direction of (one's journey). *rare*
1725 POPE *Odyss* IV 203 Then [I] warp my voyage on the southern gales. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paiad* I 130 As from a cloud the fire is seen to fall, From its original impulse warp'd, to earth. 1837 EMERSON *Amer Scholar* Wks (Bohn) II 178, I had better never see a book, than to be warped by its attraction clean out of my own orbit

**b.** *intr.* To turn or incline in a (specified) direction *rare*
1674 N FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv* 67 There being no more reason why it [an arrow] should warp to the right hand than to the left why they may rather than the one it must needs stir to any 1684 tr *Plutarch's Mor* (1718) III 16 But as she [the Moon] warps back again to meet her Illustrious Mate, the nearer she makes her approach, the more she is eclipsed until no longer seen

†**19** *fig* (Cf 14 b, 16) To receive a 'twist' or bias, which influences one's judgement or sentiments; to turn from the straight path, to deviate, swerve, go astray Const *from Obs*
1603 SHAKS *Meas for M* I i 15 There is our Commission, from which, we would have you warp not 1640 *Reasons Reformation* 350 If we feele that our hearts warpe from God's commands 1644 MILTON *Apol Smect* 31 He falls off against warping and warning till he came to run out himselfe in diameter 1681 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit Mist Pref* p ii, I turned men when they warp'd and err 1738 NEAL *Hist Purit* IV 221 Any single officer that should forsake warp from his duty 1798 HARTLEY *Obs on Man* I iii § 3 384 A pleasurable or painful State of the Stomach [from Joy or Grief, will make all the Thoughts warp their own way, little or much 1798 BURKE *Th Irish Aff* Wks 1842 I 574 Amongst them there are no leaders possessed of an influence for any other purpose but that of insinuating the present state of things The moment they are seen to warp, they are reduced to nothing *a* 1817 T DWIGHT *Trav* (1822) IV 314 He [Edwards] never warped from the path of common sense

† **b** To be biassed, incline, lean be drawn or attracted (*to, towar ls*) Also, to bend, submit, yield (*to*), to submit *to do* something *Obs.*
*a* 1592 GREENE *Ful Iff*, 1 654, I can no more, my patience will not warpe To see these flatterers how they sooone and Cringe 1626 GEE *Foot out of Snare* 21 A Gentlewoman that was well inclining and warping toward the Popish pale. 1643 *I Am a Englishm* 17 How miserably will you find the Clergie warping [*read* whispering] to the prevailing party *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Lon* I (1662) 222 Others more truly tax him [Chaucer] for warping to the Will of King Henry the eighth, not so much to please his own death as Expectations, serve his Covent from destruction *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm Wks* 1716 II 27 Men generally do rate their opinions of their inclinations; warping to that side where their interest doth lie 1778 HARTLEY *Obs on Man* I iii § 3 384 Church-men for warping to Christianity strongly influences St James's undefiled religion

**III** To weave, twine
**20** *trans* † **a** To weave (a web) *Obs* **b** To arrange (threads, yarn) so as to form a warp, to wind on a warp-beam *Obs*
*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 467 in *O E Misc* 15 De spinnere . werpeð ðas hire web, and weueð on hire wise *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 536 *Homme qui ourre* Man] may a webbe warpe *c* 1430 *Pilgr Sowle* (Trin Cam) 121 It is forred with Ox skynnes in lengthe and in brede, al be it with oute wouen mand and worpen of the wulle of white sheep *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 517/1 Warpyn, as webbystaumsse, *licio* 1483 *Cath Angl* 409/1 To Warpe A web, *protexire* 1540 HYRDE tr *Vives Instr Chr Woma* (1541) 3 b, To spynne the yarne, and after weeue it in case for to throw wofe of 1556 PHAER *Eneid* IV (1558) K j, Her self the web had wrought, & warpid fine with wreath of gold 1598 FLORIO *Worlde* 19 Those are lay weauers do their webbes before it be wouen 1666 *Burgh Rec Stirling* (1887) 240 The saids provest, baillies and counsell discharges them from lutting any plaid yarn and from worping and working any that shall not be of the lenth and breadth above written 1788 BURNS' *My heart is a-mus* ii, My mither sent me to the town, To warp a plaiden wab 1804 *Edgeworth Manuf* i. 22 The yarn is dressed beamed, and warped by steam power 1879 ASHPITEL *Warwick* 30 The yarn may be warped direct from the cop or bobbin upon the beam as it has been spun

† **c.** *fig.* To weave, contrive, devise. Also with *up*, and *absol*
1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V 365 He answerde þat he wolde warpe suche a webbe to the emperise [*tal m te talam Anglorum confecturum*], þat he shulde neuere bynde it of to here lyues ende *c* 1430 *Pilgr I pf Manhode* IV viii (1869) 170 And alwey he werpeth temptacious and bredeth þem and weueth hem 1589-90 SIR THEOBALD & HOUGHTON *Ir In* 2 Why doth thy mynde yet still deuise, such wicked wiles to warpe? 1677 HEYLIGER *Gneomon's Chron* 391 I have warpt such a web and thus neither knowes to vnframe, or mayst cut off when it is finished 1694 P HARE in Farr S *Pr Jas I* (1847) 256 All these are but the loome That warpeth up my death WEST WOOD *Hist Ct Jrst* IX xxiv, § 22 Like a wise man, that meant to warpe no more then he could well weave. 1698 S S *Himist Lawyer* III i 4, We'll trie what mischeefes he can warpe 1832 UNGE *Hart Yewel* Wks (1834) 198 Before the contexture of another universal language [than mine] can be warped 1785 BURNS *And Ye P Lapraik* viii, Ne'er mind how Fortune waft an warp

**21** a *Rope-making.* To stretch (yarn) into lengths to be tarred.
1815 *Falconer's Dict Marine* (ed Burney), To Warp Yarn, in rope making, is to stretch the yarns, previous to their being tarred, all to one given length 1856 G DODD *Brit. Manuf* Ser VI 197 The reels of yarn are first 'warped' into a 'hank', that is, the yarns are unwound from the reel, stretched out straight and parallel, and assembled together.

**b** To weave, twine (a willow-basket *dial.*
1896 J GRAHAME *Birds Scot* I 67 He warps the deep with willow rind

**c** To lace together (the ends of a seine) *dial.*
1895 J COGHILL in *Trans Brit Assoc Publicity Soc* 74 While the larger boats are engaged in warping the ends together.

†**22** To twist, entwine, insert (something *into* something else) Also *fig*, also, to unite or combine *with Obs*
1603 W TAYLOR in *Ann Reg* I 256 The public papers and fragments of oratory warped into its text, are selected with taste 1814 SCOTT *Wav* xvi, A scathed tree, which in the days of its vanity took into its fissures of the rock 1821 *Examin* XXII, I dare not for all those strings of pearl, which Sir Hugh may be warping into my tresses 1822 A RAMSAY *Hist Trans* IX 11 With this proposal was warped the condition that the regent, who entertained strong prejudices against the Jesuits should become their friend and protector

**23.** *Angling.* To fasten (the materials of an artificial fly to the hook With adv, as *on, in, down*, etc
1676 COTTON *Angler* II v 40 Warp them so down, as to stand and slope towards the bend of the hook, and having warpt up to the shoulder of the shank [etc] *Ibid* II viii 73 When you warp on your dubbing *Ibid* II viii 78 Some red wrpt in for the Gluge of his tail 1836 ROWLAND *Fly Fisher* 25 Warp the remaining red round the shank 1867 F FRANCIS *Fish Angling* xiii (1880) 267 The silk must be warped up from the tail to required spot. *Ibid* 266 When the body is being warped on.

†**24.** To surround, involve, infold *in, with Obs.*
But perhaps a metathetic form of WRAP
*a* 1548 *Mr Scot* in *Anglia* XIX 79 Sir on his wife in such a wise hath pot of, or cilys he be wrippyd wetel in his lewys & his brauncys, no thonder nor lesure schall hym fro hym 1553 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III iii 43 Takes as ane wall with sand wirpit with out *Ibid* V xiii 24 His awnt heid wyld with a sond cloir

**IV.** To tow, to move gradually forward.
**25.** *Naut.* To move (a ship) along by hauling on a rope or warp'. Also with adv., as *out, off, in, round*
1513 JSEE *Warping vll it al* 48 1587 T SANDERS *Voy Frob* (Hak) II 380 I then went me to warpe out the Ship. 1602 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII xxv 844 Those [ships] they drew up and warped into the deepe, with ropes fastened to their pouppes 1626 CAPT J SMITH *Accidence* iv 108 Seeing them warp Helmes-to-ward, we likewise warped about 1691 *Lond Gazette* No 2698/4 Ordered that the Lyon be warped into her proper berth 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit Humboldt* xvii 237 When the current runs strong, they warp by means of ropes fastened to the shore 1841 MORRIS *Earthly Par* II 290 About the cap stan did the shipmen run, Warping the great ship to the bent our mouth 1881 *Harp Mag Norway* 3 We were warped out of dock about eight o clock

**b** *absol.* Also *intr* of a ship To move by warping
*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* IV 703 Out of the rode sone shall the vessell wynde 1615 SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy* (1809) IV 470 At 3 in the afternoone we did warpe from one piece of ice to an other 1617 MORYSON *Itin* II 158 The Fleete with much difficulty warped in, and recovered the Harbour 1768 *Ann Reg* I 271 As there was but little wind, they were obliged to warp out of the harbour 1773 HANWAY *Trav* (1762) II xxi 94 They warp thirty miles a day in the dead calms 1841 DICKENS *Barn Rud* I xv, Its width is so contracted at one point, indeed, that they [the steamboats] are obliged to warp round by means of a rope 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 731 *Yo! Yo!* VI 139 Two large transporting buoys for vessels to moor to or warp from 1898 *Times* 30 Nov 4/3 The current gets too strong for sailing ships, which could only warp up 1912 *World* 25 Feb 279/1 As she warped slowly from the quay

*c To warp one's way*
1836 *Uncle Philip's Conjurs* II *hale Fishery* 192 Warping their way with great danger from lane to lane of open water 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp* (1856) II 36 We commenced to warp our way through the impacted ice

**26** To progress slowly or with effort by using the hands as well as the feet. Also *refl*, to haul oneself along
1596 *Fitzherb Extans* IV 52 Having fastened another rope round his body for security, he warped along the first over the chasm 1849 KINGSLEY *Misc* (1859) II 292, I recollect our carefully warping ourselves down to the bank, holding on by rocks and posts 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp. Hunters* VII 58 He was warped himself through the gap crowd 1859 SIR J HEITER SCR & *Schon* (1857) 88 My rough garments frayed, at times by warping to the tops of great trees, and by feats as a cragsman 1859 H KINGSLEY *G Hamlyn* xlviii, The first mate, coming forward, warping himself from one bellying pin to another

**27** *intr* To float or whirl through the air. Chiefly *poet.*
1565 in Picton *Lpool Munic Rec* (1883) I 108 The snow driving and warping to and fro 1667 MILTON *P L* I 341 A pitchy cloud Of locusts, warping on the Eastern Wind 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 130 Oft, engender'd by the hazy north Myriads on myriads, insect armies warp Keen in the powerful breeze 1848 *Blackw Mag* XXIII 109 What clouds of ephemeral children are for ever warping away on the wind of death! 1856 HAYART *Hymn of Sea* 10 A hundred realms Watch his broad shadow warping on the wind.

**V.** + **28** *trans* To run (a ship) aground, fix on a shoal or sand-bank. *Obs.*
1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* II 634 As that the flude come rynnand by the land Among this schippis warpit in the sand *a* 1692 'sand warpit' [see SAND *sb* 20.]

**29** To choke *up* (a channel) with alluvial deposit. Also *intr.*, to become choked *up*.
1745 *Beverley Beck Act* 11 The said beck being now in very great danger of being choaked and warped up 1799 A YOUNG *Agric Lincoln* 284 In cases the drains should warp up at any time, provision of sluices is made to let water out of the canal into either, to scour them out clean *Ibid* 287 In the rivers warping upon any occasions to a great height, with a muddy sand or silt, which the tides deposite 1856 *Whitby Glass, Sand warped*, silted up, or choked with sand 1878 MILLER & SKERTCHLY *Fenland* VII 193 A new sluice was erected for the purpose of warping up the old channel

**b.** To heap *up* (sand) by gradual deposit from a current, ? *Obs.* Also, to cause (sand) to be heaped up.
1674 HARVEY *Corr* Wks 1877-5 II 422 Our House desiring you to sound once again whether the Sand do continue as when the Captains last surveyed, or it be warped up higher 1841 *Civil Engin & Archit Jrnl* IV 393 He has lately been occupied in forming a defence, by warping silt, with whin or furze kids, land reclamation.

**30** To cover (land), by natural or artificial flooding, with a deposit of alluvial soil. Cf. WARP *sb* 6
1799 A YOUNG *Agric Lincoln* 278 They are attempting to warp 400 acres in one piece. 1805 R W DICKSON *Pract. Agricc* I 436 The most usual method is to cut small drains on each side of it 1829 STONEHOUSE *Acholme* 37 Drains to flood and warp the land 1867 *Good Words* 306 I the mud caught it it soon' warps the space within into firm and rich clay
*absol* 1799 A YOUNG *Agric Lincoln* 284 If a landlord warps it should be deep at once if a tenant, shallow and repeat it 1808 *Trial Sp Hale Dyon* 52 He was warping with his son from four o'clock.

**Warpage** (wō̆ pedʒ). [f. WARP *sb.* + -AGE] App. a charge for 'warping' or hauling ships entering certain harbours
1863-7 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* Suppl, *Warpage*, a charge per ton made on shipping in some harbours.

**War-paint.**
1. Among North American Indians: Paint applied to the face and body before going into battle.
1826 J F COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xxiii, The young Huron was in his war paint 1837 R M BIRD *Nick of the Woods* II 44 His countenance, gaim with war paint 1857 *Chambers's Edinburgh Mag* May 454/2 He [the Indian] has put on his war paint, and is prepared for death
2. *colloq.* One's best clothes and finery, esp ceremonial military or official costume. ? *full fig*
1829 H KINGSLEY *G Hamlyn* xiv, Old Lady E— in her war paint and feathers 1879 H M STANLEY *Dark Cont* II 409 MONTHLY *Packet Challenger* 497 The officers of the ship donned, as in duty bound full war paint' to receive him 1883 J PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cruise Uncertain* 380 A staff bower took all the khan off our war paint ere the meet was reached

**War-party.**
1. A political party that favours war.
1798 T JEFFERSON *Let to J Madison* 26 Apr, WRI 1854 IV 317 Parker has completely gone over to the war party 1832 T MITCHELL *Acharn of Aristoph* 310 *note*, Why Lamachus is thus selected as the representative of the war-party in Athens is pretty evident 1849 C BRONTË *Shirley* iii, Moore was a bitter Whig—a Whig, at least, as far as opposition to the war party was concerned
2 A body of Indian 'braves' engaged together for war
1826 J F COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiii, The brothers and family of the M'Lucan formed our war party 1837 R M BIRD *Nick of the Woods* I 58 There is a war party of fourteen painted Wyandotts sleeping on the Council square 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* IV xv 491 The backwoodsmen, who were hunters like the Indians, were forming war-parties along the frontier

**War-path.** Among North American Indians The path or route taken by a warlike expedition
*To be or go on the war path* to go to war, seek the foe, be out for scalps
1775 ADAIR *Hist Amer Indians* 151 I often have rode that war path alone 1841 J F COOPER *Deerslayer* xv, The great Serpent of the Mohicans must be worthy to go on the warpath with Hawkeye *Ibid* xvii, She knew he as lame, and a poor hunter, and he has never been on a warpath 1850 MARLY *Prairie Trav* vii, 185 Their war-path has reached the shores of the Pacific 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U S* IV xv 422 With chosen companions, he went out upon the war path, and added scalp to scalp.

*b. transf.* and *fig*
1888 *Pall Mall G* 20 Aug 8/2 The Omagh Controversy Mr William O Brien on the War Path 1891 MISS RIDDELL *Mad Tour* 266 A tremendous rapping at my door announced that Bobby was again on the war path. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Jan 8/1 It is a safe prophecy that the Centaur will again be on the warpath

**Warped** (wɑpt), *ppl a.* [f. WARP *v* + -ED 1.]
1. Bent, contorted, or twisted out of shape.
*c* 1460 *Promp Parv* (Winch.) 517/1 Warpyd, or auylonge *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II 200 The good timber they had had brought In warped beames [*L. curvis carinis*]. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w Hatchet* B iij, He make his braines so hot, that they shall warp in his wrinckled skull, like a drye bladder 1604 MARSTON *Malcontend* V iii H 2 b, Hauing a red beard and a paire of warpt legges 1706 E WARD *Wonders World Disc* (1708) 72 A warp'd Piece of Plank. 1708 COLESIDUS *Ane Mour*, VII, iv, The planks look warp'd 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II xiv, Now to the oak's warped roots he clings 1856 MISS HOUGHTON *Poems* 8 xxiv, Under the warped door comes the fond blast 1888 Jacobi *Persistency Vocab*, *Warped cut*, woodcuts twisted through dampness, generally caused by improper cleansing or storing.
*fig.* 1600 DEKKER *Satiromas* I 4, Were thy warpt soule put

in a new molde, Ide weare thee as a lewell set in golde, 1772 Smollett *Humphry Cl*, *To Dr Lewis* 2 June, A good sort of a man, though most ridiculously warped in his political principles 1830 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, III. iv. 48 The warped suggestions of the writer are perpetually supplying the absence of all real knowledge. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 245 He has resorted to dishonesty and falsehood, and become warped and distorted.

**b.** *Mining.* (See quot.)

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Warped*, irregularly bedded, or pinched.

**2.** That has cast its young prematurely.

a 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 283 The warped cows.

**3.** Enriched with alluvial warp.

1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 284 At Reasholme warped land has sold for £100 an acre 1842 C. W. Johnson *Farmer's Encycl.* 1299 Warped lands are found capable of growing most kinds of crops in great plenty 1878 Ramsay *Phys. Geog* xxxii 377 The broad warped meadows

**Warpen(g, -penye**: see Wardpenny *Obs.*

**Warper** (wō·pəɹ). [f. Warp *v.* + -er 1]

**†1** One who throws, a thrower. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxviii 7 (Gr) Nu ic eom bindere & swingere, eom weorpere [a 1225 Knife *-marper*]

**2.** One who winds yarn in preparation for weaving, one who lays the warp for the weaver.

1818 Cotgr., *Ourdisseur*, a warper: a putter of a web of cloth into the loome. 1822 [see Combine *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 52 See that the hanged backs of your weavers no longer flourish and flatter. 1881 J. Bright in *Daily News* 17 Nov. 2/5 The warpers in those days, so far as my recollection serves me were all women. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Weavers*, those in cotton mills who 'beam the yarn,' i. e. take the bobbins from the winders, placing them in a machine, and wind up some four or five hundred of the threads which are to be used, upon what is called a warper's beam. *Warpers*, women employed in reeling warp yarns from bobbins on to reels, before they are taken to the dressing machines.

**3.** A warping-machine 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

**4.** A local name for the eel. Cf Wriggler.

1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 On a certain river where the eel is known as the warper, anglers get their baits to catch him with rod and line; the name 'eel' is seldom or never heard, but instead he is significantly known as a 'warper'

**†Warpfat.** *Obs.* [f. Warp *sb* + Fat *sb* 1] *= warping-fat, -trough* (Warping *vbl. sb.* 10 c).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Warpynge, or webstarys werk yngc, *staminatio*. c 1840 J. Smith *Lives Berb. Iept* (1888) I 167 The charges in the whole manufactory see particularly in . . spoolinge warpinge, quillinge and the like . . 1788 Burns' *My Heart's not Here* Anc. II, My mither sent me . . to warp a plaiden wab; But the weary, weary warpin' o't Has gart me sigh and say, Ohon! Ohon! 68 Warping, therefore, consists in arranging the threads according to number and colour, or in any special manner that may be necessary, and to keep them in their relative places after they have been so laid.

**b.** *comb.* = Warp *sb.* 1. Also in pl., the threads of a warp. ? *Obs.*

1682 R. Wallar *Nat. Fcyher.* 97 From the sides of these shoots out other small Threads, like loose thin fine feathers, or Palm branches; these are as it were the first warping, and they proceed shooting and increasing till the Woofe closes all with a total fencing of the Water. 1689 Henry *Conf. Fanatic* Tales & St. (1831) V 178 My feet had slipped down through the double warpings of a web.

**†3.** *fig.* The action of fabricating or devising, a fabrication Also gerundial in *a warping* (predicatively). *Obs.*

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* L j, But the Deuill loues all colliers and thou seldike resons of thine owne warping 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 497 Lampsace acquainted the Greeks under-hand with this treason, which was a warping against them. 1624 Capt *Danie, Parad.* ix 50 One Lords lit, and bears his head aloft, for whom The web is now a-warping

**4.** The action of moving a ship from one place to another by means of warps.

1523 J. Howard in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 164, I trust assyne night with this W.N.W wynd will ly, and then we will forth with warpyng. 1840 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Grammar*, viii 38 His Maiesty is to haue the command of the long boat, for...weighing an anchor, warping, towing, or mooring. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) R 4, Warping is generally used when the seas are unbent, or when they cannot be successfully employed. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 320 During five days we persevered in the most laborious exertion of towing, warping and mud dolling. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 196 Q. What is warping? A. Transporting a ship from one part of a harbour to another by means of hawsers.

**5.** The process of flooding low-lying land near a tidal river so that the muddy alluvium may be deposited when the water is withdrawn Also *warping up*, the process of filling up hollows by deposit of alluvium.

1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 284 It is not by the canal that this warping is done, but by a soakage drain on each side of it 1830 Lieli *Princ. Geol* I. 307 By repeating this operation, which is called 'warping,' for two or three years, considerable tracts have been raised, in the estuary of the Humber, to the height of about six feet 1839 *Camb. Encyc. & Arch. Trnl* II 450/1 It was found necessary to encourage the warping up of the old floor pits, by introducing fascine jetty work, which greatly accelerated the deposit of the sea warp 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ* II 171/2 Warping gives an entirely new surface to soil It may be best explained as a process by which the sediment mud which the sea contains rivers is allowed to deposit itself upon a prescribed area of land.

**b.** *concr.* The silt or alluvial matter deposited by the sea or a tidal river.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Warpynge, of the see or oþer water, *alluvium*.

**6.** The action of twisting or bending, or the fact of becoming twisted or bent; an instance of this.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Warpynge of vessel þat wax wr-nge or arrongo *obliquitas*. 1698 *Artif. Handsman.* 60 Who fears to set straight or hide the unhandsom warpings of bow legs? 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 90 Latter Boards are clamped to keep them from Warping 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 445 Ihis may be no more than the natural warping of dry wood. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 82 Setting or Warping, is the bringing of the surfaces of a piece of wood from their original position. 1873 B. Harte *Yiddletown* 16 The multitudinous small noises and crackings, and warpings of the vacant house 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 178/1 See that the hanged backs of your frames are clamped, and then defy warping.

**b.** *fig.* The action of distorting or perverting from the right course or direction, or the fact of deviating or going astray; an instance of this.

1668 Dryden *Wild Gallant Prol.* Poor wench 1678 For the same causes it will appeare that the warping of sinfull courses will turn to their hurt that imagine them 1696 *Artif. Handsman* 60 Which is the upright, by many such warpings. 1682 Manton *Serm. Luke* 80 (1725) 413 The old Man is not so put off, but there will be many warpings and deceitful workings still. 1709 G. Stanhope *Paraphrase* IV. 277 If these Acts and Warpings of the Will had destroy'd all freedom in us. 1780 *Burke Corr* (1844) II 460 These old warpings of the human heart and understanding 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. 7 *Hist. Rev.* Wks (1880) I. 3 In these warpings, this warping of the best literary works from the adamant of nature, is especially observable in philosophy 1873 Spencer *Sociol.* I. 368 The warping of opinion which the bias of patriotism causes. 1884 *Contemp Rev* XLV 28 The mischief done by asceticism was the warping of the moral nature of man

**7.** *Carpentry.* A strengthening brace.

1833 London *Encycl Archit.* § 1070 The trevises to have angle warpings (braces) 4 inches by 1 inch and a half *Ibid* 1212 The trevises to have angle spurs or warpings (diagonal ties) on each side.

**8** *Rope-making.* (See quots.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III 113/1 Warping, is the laying of so many Threds or Rope Yarns together, as will make a Rope. 1794 *Sullivan & Sedgwick's* I 58 *Il warping* is running the yarn off the winches into hauls to be tarred

**9.** *Angling.* The wound thread which attaches the artificial fly to the hook.

1676 Cotton *Angler* II v 40 Where the warping ends, pinch or wind it with your thumb nail against your finger, and strip away the remainder of your dubbing from the silk 1836 Ronalds *Fly-fisher's Entom.* 31 A little of the dubbing may be left on the warping, or picked out of the body with a needle, after the winding or warping, to serve for legs instead of the hackle feather.

**10.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In collocations concerned with the 'warping' of land, as *warping bank, clough, cut, district, drain, gutter, hatch, operations, sluice, works* **b.** In names of machines and implements used in the preliminary process of weaving, as *warping-bar, -frame, -jack -machine, -mill, wheel, -woof*; also *warping-room*

1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Warping Tanks* 1823 Vancouver *Agric Devon* 395 A stripe thrit measures 31 inches should be laid on the warping bars till 24 yards and a half of good threads. 1885 C. F. Caddock *Prophet Of Smoky Mts* I. 20 The great frame of the warping-bars on one side of the room 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Warping Mill*, *Warping Mill*, *Warping Units, Drums, or Gutters* 1895 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I 146 The business being discontinued in the year 1865, the Ouzels Gaining Brish water Drainage 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 280 The aforesaid warping drains to be 18 feet wide at bott m 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xxi (R. xi) 251/1 He beareth Sable a Warping Reel, Argent 1823 [see *Hilos Manuf* 112 Apparatus for winding the cott on on the large le bbins used for the warping-frame 1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 1, *Warping-jack* 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Warping mill* 1824 Warping, in most improved warping machines. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper Mech.* 399 The silk is now taken to the 'warping-mill. 1882 Mosley *Remin* II 218 The true 'warping' operations; that is, the reclamation of marshy land irregularly flooded by the Trent 1871 *Daily News* 27 Jan., The carding, winding, and 'warping rooms at the west end were preserved. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 279 We shall recommend a warping sluice to be built. 1788 Burns' *My Heart was anue* iv, I see how they 'warpin' wheel. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Warping woof* (or *barn*) 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln* 278 The first 'warping works which I viewed were at Morton Ferry.

**c.** Special comb. **warping-block**, a block used by rope-makers in warping off yarn; **warping-buoy**, a buoy used in warping a vessel; **† warping-fat** [cf. Warpfat] ? = *warping-trough*; **warping-hook**, an iron hook for hanging the yarn on when warping into hauls for tarring; **warping-post**, a strong post used in warping rope-yarn; **† warping-stock**, **†-tree**, ? = prec.; **† warping-trough** (see quot.).

1794 *Rigging* | *Seamanship* I 137 *Warping block* 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk* v. (ed. 2) 139 All *warping* buoys are coloured white 14 *Lnd.-Lang. Voc* in Wr.-Wülcker 577/11 *Cuphirarium*, a *warpyngfat*. 1566 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (Maitl. Club) 69 Ane warpens fat, price 23s. 1823 *Falconer's Dict. Marine.* (ed. Burney), *Warping-Hook.* 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVI. 480/1 The other block is fixed to a firm post, called the 'warping post 1406 *Nottingham Rec* II 22, 1 *warpyng pystok* et *warpyngtree*. 1588 in *Aston's Manch. Guide* (1804) 24 A warpinge stocke with rynges and yarne in yt, 00 or 06 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 348/1 He beareth Sable, a Wharping Trough, Or. The Weaver's trough is that in which he puts his Cloves of Yarn, when he runs them off for Warping.

**Warping** (wō·pɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ *nance-wd.* [As if f. **warp* vb., evolved from Moldwarp.] The mole's action of throwing up earth into mole-hills.

1829 J. I. Knatt *Jrnl. Nat.* 143, I am not aware of any benefit occasioned by the mole's presence, that warping does certainly give our pastures in the spring a very unsightly appearance

**Warping** (wō·pɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That warps or is warped, in senses of the verb.

1598 Chapman *Gent's Jnl.* 2 *Ind.* 2 Now he has given a slavish Parasite, In warping per-fit or a traiterous sleight, Hoopes round his rotten bodie with deuotes 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III viii, The warping condition of this greene and fluxing season. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais Mot* III 35 How exact were it, For you to set this warping Kingdome straight? 1663 R. Sanders *Physiogn* 101 A crooked warping line from the angle, above the ball of Jupiter 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* VIII *Acis* etc 85 More warping than the Willow *Ignitur et salicis virgul* a 1722 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 210 Warping hedges and barren heifers are begun to be fatted with hay from Christmas. 1806 J. Graham *Birds of Scot* II. 143 The swallow Skims long the brook, Where sluggish mudgy crowds in warping mass Confused 1850 Mansion *Early Purit* (1853) 221 The warping influence of faction 1873 Tennyson *Q Mary* I. v, You see thro' warping glasses

**† Warping**, *v.* *Obs.* [? *Obs.* *warpiss-*, lengthened stem of *weorpan*, *gwerpan* to quit, abandon (now only in comp. *dégwerpir*), f Germanic root *werp-*: see Ware *v.*] *trans.* To cast or throw off, to put aside.

c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Machor*) 473 But for þu suthed has warpyt be in pacyll, man in erd, þi will I teche 1444 *Pr. Parvis. Alfred Reg* (1824) I 11 God forbad that ȝe suld, for a litil mones that thu Inglismen has promisset thou, warpias your gude name

**Warple** (wō·pl), *sb.* [f. Warp *v.* + -le.] *Sc.*

**1.** *collect.* = Warpellen, warples, 7- whapple, 9 wapple, waffel, warple, worple, wopple. [Of obscure origin; perh. repr an OE **wyrpel* or **wyrpel* f the root of Warp *v.* Cf. the place-name *Warplesdon* (Surrey).] A green lane, a bridle road. Chiefly in comb. *warple road*, *-way*, **warple gate**, a gate on a bridle road (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1566 *Extr. Crt. Rolls of Manor of Wimbledon* (1866) 128 Ordinatio pro Warpelles Cum ad ultimum Curiam Gene ralem hic tentam ordinatum fuit de exponendis, anglice Warples, in Communibus campis. 1858 in *Sussex Archæol Coll* (1872) XXIII 253 One whaple or bridle way nett 7oth the ugh the premises leading from Newbridge Mill. 1864 Ray *N. & E. Words* 70 A Whapple w-y is where a cart and horses cannot pass, but horses only. 1704 R. Stapeli *Diary in Sussex Archæol Colls* II 226 The great oake by Warplesdon 3 yards, going by whapple way to Sedgwick from Hickstead, as cut down 1860 J. W. Warter *Sea and e Dem* II 34 You ought to have kept to the wapple road 1868 *Lost Names Words* in Hunt *Hereford. Coll., Hospitium* 7, A public bridle path, which went through fields, woods and farms 1886 *Jour Arch.* 31 Chanc Div 680 There was an old way or track, formerly known as the warple way leading from the Uxbridge Road It was about ten feet wide and was not installed 1893 *Times* 21 Mar 13/3 A plot of land bounded on the north by a bridle road called 'Warple' or 'Wapple' *Ibid* 13 4 An old 'warple way or easement (i. e. a rough, unmade cart track used for agricultural purposes, as the removal of crops or conveyance of manure)

**Warple** (wō·pl), *v.* *Sc.* and *n.-Engl.* [? *Obs.*] Of obscure origin; connexion with Warp *v.* or with Wrap *v.* is possible.]

**1.** *trans.* To entangle, intertwine. Also *fig.*

1768 Ross *Helenore* 80 Nory's heart began to coal right fast, han she saw things had taken sick a cast, An see their warpl'd (1789, p. 86 wrapl'd) were, that she Began to dread etweesh them, what meith be 1824 Jamieson Suppl. *s. v.* That yarn's nae warpit, that I canna get redd *Ibid Warpl'd*, used in a moral sense to denote the confusion of any business

**2.** *intr* To move with sinuous movement, also to walk unsteadily)

1768 [See Warpling *v.* 1 *b*]. 1887 Spencer *Dr Dugard* III iii 254 Her auld guidman can warplin in fankin owre the muirs by himsel

**3.** To twist or wind *round*. Also *fig.*

a 1870 D. Thomson *Musings among Heather* (1881) 227 Warla greefs an cares are unco rife, An warple round a body's life 1890 A. J. Armstrong *Ingleside Musings* 141 They [a. tawse] warpled roun his lanky shanks Like snakes aroon' Laocoon.

Hence **Warpled**, *ppl. a.*, **Warpling** *vbl sb.*, *a.*

the action of the verb; † *warpling o' the green*, a rustic game.

1768 Ross *Helenore* i. 10 Whan she among the neiper lairns was seen, At greedy-glad or warpling o' the green, She clipt them 'a. 1897 'I. KYTH' *Hoose Lady* vii. 71 An old quarrel's like warplit wool that cannot be redd in a minute.

**War-proof**, *sb.* and *a.* = *sb.* Valour tried in war. *b. adj.* Able to resist a hostile attack.

a. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, iii. 1. 18 On, on, you Noblish English, Whose blood is fet from Fathers of Warre-proofe. b. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Suppliants* 81 A surer refuge Than tow'r or shield warr-proof an altar gives. 1819 KEATS *Otho* iii. ii. 34 Your knights, found war-proof in the bloody field, Speed to the game.

**Warr**, obs. form of WAR *sb.*1, *v.*, WARE *a.*, *v.*1

**Warra**, variant of WARRAY *v.*

† **Warrable**, *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. WAR *v.* + -ABLE.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Guerrayable*, warrable; fit to be warred on.

‖ **Warracour'i.** [Native name.] (See quots.)

1856 SINGLETON *Dict. Trade, Warracouri*, a native name for the wood of the white cedar, obtained in Demerara from the *Icica altissima*. It is light, easily worked, and very aromatic, and is used for oars and paddles, and for boards for the inside work of houses. 1870 *List Contrib. Br. Guiana to Lond. Exhib.* in Venes *El Dorado* (1866) App. 139 Warracouri, or White Cedar...Used for frame and inside work of houses, ...paddles and oars. 1878 in *Treas. Bot.*

**Warragal**, variant of WARRIGAL.

**Warrai**, var. WARRAY *v. Obs.*; obs. f. VERY.

**Warraine**, **-er**, obs. ff. WARREN, -ER.

**Warral**, variant of WORRAL.

**Warran(d**, obs. forms of WARRANT.

**Warrander**, obs. form of WARRENER.

**Warrandice** (wɒ·rándis). Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5 **warandis**, **-eise**, **warandis**, **warrandise**, 5–6 **warandise**, **-ize**, **warrandise**, 7 **warrandise**. See also WARRANTICE. [a. AF. *warandice*, var. of *warantise* (OF. also *garantise*), f. *warantir* (*garantir*) : see WARRANT *v.*]

1. a. *gen.* A guarantee, an undertaking to secure another against risk. Chiefly in *Scots Law*; now only as a literary archaism.

1398 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 4/2 For þe warrandis[se] of him of þe said tenyndis and frotis. 1495 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 33 Giffin to Derik Jacopsone of Horne for the forbetryn off a stelis of woyll that had his letter of warandis, 2s. 1531 *Abstr. Protocol. Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 37 [He] oblisis his place in the Gallowgast Port,...in warrandice of the pasement of the wyk anwell. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* I. 173 It specifiis nocht...nor yit quhome the said I. ressault the gudis,...takand thairthrow away my defence, baith for warrandice and relief. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Auctor*...he that selleth on warrandise. *A made authore aliquid emere*, to bie of him, that can make no sufficient warrandice. *Ibid.* s. v. *Caueo, Ab esse caueat quemadmodum vendit.* Clc. Let him take heed as good suretee and warrandise for him selfe as he will. 1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 547/2 Oblisand him in maist strait forme for warrandice of the said pensioun. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Clarentehen*, in the Law of Claremethen concernis the warrandice of stollen cattell, or gudes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 116 They lent two millions of money, and for warrandice whereof, they haue this Towne and Province in pawne, to them. 1704 *Gen. Exped. in Hart. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 14/2 If the Safety of the Government could be Sufficiently provided for, and Warrandice given for the Queen's Dowry. Fealty 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxvi, Never fear, I'se be caution for them —I'se give you my personal warrandice. 1824— *Redgauntlet* ch. xi, My warrandice goes no farther. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii, I have Rankeillour's word for it...and I count that a warrandice against all deadly.

*b. spec.* In *Scots Law*. The obligation to indemnify the grantee or purchaser of land if an evictive or paramount claim should be established against the lands through defect of title.

*Personal warrandice* is that by which the grantor and his heirs are bound personally. *Real warrandice* is where the grantor or vendor conveys other lands of equal value to be held by the grantee in security of the lands originally granted.

1466 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 4/2 þe actioun...tuiching þe Warrandice of twa merkis worth of land. 1481 *Ibid.* 97/1 þe said Adam allegit to haue a tak of þe said land, & warrandice of be samyn. 1566 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1896) III. 23 Mwre renuncelt all warrandice quhilk he had of Allexander Cwnynghame ...of the xxvj a. viij d. lande of Westir-blak-law. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 439/1 Incaise ony of þe saidis pretlattis...salbe heirefter callit and persewit at þe instance of q[uhat]suir personis for warrandice of ony of þe saidis kirklandis set in few or be bame. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* I. xiii. 264 But oftimes when Warrandice is not expresst, it is implyed as Rights are to be warranted, which are granted for an Equivalent Cause onerous. 1822 *Trans. Perthsh. Peerage Case* (1874) 27 This clause of warrandice wherin the Marquess has bound himselfe. a 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Dec.* Supll. (1826) III. 81, warrandice is only incurred by legal deeds, and not by such a natural fact of unclean heartsomeness. a 1726 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. vii. § 3 All voluntary transmissions in which absolute warrandice is either expressed or implied. 1893 R. BELL *Treat. Conveyance* 30 The warrandice of the sale of land is absolute warrandice; and, accordingly, where no warrandice was expressed, the Court found that absolute warrandice was the natural warrandice of the transaction. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict. c.* 101 § 8 The clause... shall be held to imply absolute warrandice as regards the lands and writs and evidents.

*Comb.* a 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. iii. § 28 Where some lands...which get the name of *warrandice-lands*, are disponed only eventually in security of the principal lands.

† 2. Security from danger, safety. *Obs.*

1510 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 84 My mother ...is fled for warrandise into a castell of hers. 1583–63 BICON *Reliquiæ of Rome* 930 b, Al thise that any manner of goods with violence or malice beare out of holy Churche,...or house of Religion, whiche that therein is layde or done for warrandise or succoure or for to be kepte. 1626 SCOTT *Trvl.* 12 May, Good apartments...and absolute warrandice against my dreaded enemies, bugs.

**Warrane**, obs. f. WARRANT, WARREN.

**Warrant** (wɒ·rănt), *sb.*1 Forms: 3–6 **warant**, 5 **warante**, **warentt**, 3–5 **waraunt**, (5 **waraunte**), 6 **warauntie**, 6 **waranta**, 6–7 **warrauntie**, 6 **warrauntee**, (7 *Sc.* **quarrentie**), 4– **warrant**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–7 **warand**, 4–5 **waraunde**, 5 **waronde**, (6 **woran**, 5 **warrane**, 6–8 **warran**, **waran**, **wran**), 4 **warrande**, **varrand**, 5 **werrand**, 4– **warrand**. [a. OF. *warant*, *warand*, dial. var. of *guarant*, *garant* (mod.F. *garant*) = Pr. *garen-i*, *guiren-s*, Sp., Pg. *garante*, It. *guarento*, Frankish L. *warent*, *warentm*, *warantisa*, *-um*; the Teut. source is represented by MLG. *warend*, *warent*, warranty, subst. use of pres. pple. of *waren* to warrant (= OFris. *ware*, early mod.Du. *waren*; early mod.G. *wahren* in legal formulas, from LG.), cogn. and synonymous with OHG. *werên* (MHG. *wern*, mod.G. *währen*, *gewähren*); cf. MHG. *wari*, *ware*, MDu. *ware* fem., warranty, and the synonymous MHG. *were* (mod.G. *wahre*) fem.

The affinities of the root **war-* : **wer-*, these words are disputed: see K. Bähder in the *Deutsches Wörterbuch* (Grimm) s.vv. *Wahre*, *Währen*, *Wahren*.]

I. One who or something which protects or authorizes.

† 1. a. protector, defender. *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Þu art iweddedes weole ant widewene warant. a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Beo mi scheld and mi warant on euche halfe mine þes feondes fon. *Ormulum* 10,000 Godd iss hemm fæstt inn...For þou wile ȝ youre warant be. c 1330 *King of Tars* 455 Bi Mahoun, and bi Termagaunt, No mon schal be heore warant. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 502 In commownys may nane affy, Bot he that may thar warand be. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2583 For his warand hym trowes he fynde Fra thilke fight with thre. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Warant, *protector, defensor*. c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliv. 453 On Goddis Enemyes now let vs gon In Iesus Name. Oure warawunt and Oure Governaunt, that vs wele Save In Every stour. c 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 8 The kyng craftely perswaded the saied lyenhop to make no answere, for he would be his warrant. 1596–98 TOURNEUR *Trans. Lucrece* (1620) 38 My warrant alway, The Lord eke doth thee cover. 1597 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 111 Had not the Lord bene our warrand, ...Thay had us all on line doutit. a 1600 *Capt. Car* xv, in *Trans. Neo Shaks. Soc.* (1880–6) App. 547 'Lap him in a shete', he sayth, 'And let him downe to me, And I shall take him for my warrant till he wyll I be.' 1626 *Melsng. in North* vii. in Child *Ballads* III. 405/1 But goe to the court yet, good my lord. Take men enowe with thee; If any man will seeke you wronge, Your warrant they may be. a 1828 *Scottie Wharyton* iv. in Buchan *Ballads*, I. 86 Jamie M'Robbie, likewise Wattie Nairn, All gaʼed wi' Charlie for to be his warrant. 1869 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xi, I swear to thee by the Cross of my hilt and by the Cross of my good sword, I will be thy warrand for a year and a day.

† 2. A safeguard, protection, defence. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owne Kow* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 94 Nis non so riche ne non so bald, ne non so wrech, ne non so wy3 Nis non hit neuer his warauntbeo. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 183 Himself as a Geant þe cheynes in two hew, þe targe was wel þikke and strong, þe hilt þerof...c 1440 *Alphabet Tales* (Cricial) xii. 301 From deth thi warraunt this [*sc.* the Cross] schal be, And from alle presonements. c 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 408 Whom that he trusted full strong was he harde smyten that noo armure was his warante fro deth.

† 3. Security or safety from one's enemies; also a place of refuge, shelter. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 5749 Whom that he ouyr-raught that was þere, Ne hadde he þe warand, by my wytte! 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 422 Thai that saw an suddandly That folk sa egirly cum prikand Betuix thame and their warrand. *Ibid.* 1881 Thai myght help thaim-self as thing it fell to-fore, fled to varrand quhan that mocht. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xlvii. 130 But elcour, that was rygth swylte & lyght, fled toward the castell for his warant. 1535 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. xvii. 9 The chiftanis...Socht to warrand on horsbak. 1566 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 219 Was prouydes, þat nane of Inglund entrit into Scotland,...without þai kingis leiue for his defence and warran.

† b. *To draw to warrant* (cf. 5) : to resort for protection *to* (a person). *To hold in or to warrant*; to keep (subjects) in safety, to protect. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1479 Coryneus, þat was a Geant, Vyl pey þey were stalworth & strong, warraunt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 710 God grant that thai, that cummyne ar Of his ofspring, maynteyne the land, And hald the folk well in warrand. *Ibid.* XX. 604 The gude erll gouernit the land, And held the pure weill to warand.

† 4. A guarantor, surety, bail. *Sc. Obs.*

1576 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 6 ʒ Gilfe be said ser Johne has ony vyer to warrand him, he sall haue priuilege to call þat warand. c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 320 Ane band callit and persewit for the sleight and doubil ewall of his mariage, may leasumlie call ony persoun for his warrand, quha is bund and oblist to warrand him thairanent. 1600 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 111. xii. 31 Quhen ane challenges fra the buyer ane thing, as chiftaoudie stollen : the buyer sould defend him anent the thift alledged against him : or else to alledge and call ane warand there anent.

† b. Assurance given, pledge, guaranty. *To take warrant on oneself* (? quasi-*arch.*), to pledge oneself, make oneself responsible. *Obs.*

1480 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 581/2 Prejudicialli to any...Ratification Confirmation or Warrant. 1581 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 202 His worth is warrant for his welcome hether. 1593 — *Rich. II*, IV. 235 There should'st thou finde one heynous Article, Containing the deposing of a King, And cracking the strong Warrant of an Oath. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 20, I give thee warrant of thy place. 1621 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 63 This Gentleman, at that time vouching (and vpon warrant of bloody affirmation) his to be more Faire, Vertuous, ...then any, the rarest of our Ladies in France. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxi, I can take warrant upon myself for the innocence of my household and followers.

5. One who is answerable for a fact or statement; an authoritative witness. † *To drew, take to warrant*: to appeal to as evidence.

For *to vouch to warrant*, see VOUCH v. 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1465/ He þat es fader of heuen king.. Him drau i me to mi warand. 13.. *Gaw Wawrn.* 547 Pei ich hir loue, blame me noman; To warant ichil drawe atte frome Pat loue dob me bider come. c 1330 *Sir Tristr.* 1530 To his warant he drouȝ His schipe and his men. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5209 þe Brut per of is mi warannt. 1 3.. 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 8 This imy I drawe to warrante (F. *Jeere a garant*) As of that, that hight Macrobee. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. Prol. 116 For few wrytis I redyr fand That I couth draw to my warrand. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 2148 Wend quhen ye will, I dar be warrand now That ye sall be ourtane with this day. 1523 STEWART *Anal. Alex.* II. 48 A manifest deceite before the Lordis, and one dayes shall be answered for, I dar be their warrants. 1823 BOOKWING *Cath. Compend.* (1734) 1. 1. Sufficient faith have done thus much,...More would move mountains, you are warrant.

b. A conclusive proof.

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1142 Thys lettere there-of [*sc.* of Lancelot's innocence] warannte wolle be. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Transf.* III. ii. 21 Though but a single word, and the first that he had spoken, its tone was a warrant of the sad and tender depth from which it came.

† 6. One whose command justifies an action. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14968 Gais fotte hir me, if animan Lais apon yow hand To leite yow, or sai yee þat he lauted to your warand. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 238/2 You are not here in your own proper names, men shall not be your warrants, it is God that must gouerne & minister al. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, Janet, alarm the house !—Foster, break open the door—I am detained here by a traitor !—Ha! axe and lever. Master Foster, I will be your warrant !

7. Command or permission of a superior which frees the doer of an act from blame or legal responsibility; authorization, sanction; an act of authorization.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18406 And if þe yeats-ward be witstand, Sa him þou has ful leue and warrand. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 135 He bygan rabbiliche to passe his warraunt [*L. fines crudelisse sibi potestatis pcrlustrier exsedere*] in absence of þe kyng. 1440 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 5 He [*sc.* the abbot] sith na kyng at cumande bot þat he may haue warant at god. c 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 67 For haue we his wille and his warande þan may we wende with-outen drede. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 268/2 It is ordeyned, ...þat no man...be made hereafter, but by Warrant of bill, enselid by the Tresorer of Englond. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fortune* III. 173 Now wrang bes warrand to my wrechitnes. 1535–8 *Ordre Cammun.* 8 Where as he hath no warrant of God's worde for þeasame. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 249 This present ordinance saithe nothing of warrande. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 15, I...have by warrant of the same commission brought with me my Brother Phylomusus. 1609 in Nichols *St. Bartlemi* (1880) 229 He minister...could not gett sik quarrentie to punishe the prophaners of the Sabbothe in tyme of drahe. 1632 D. DICKSON *Hebr.* x. 2 p. 109 Hee that is purged by Vertue of the sacrifice of Christ, hath a warrant, to haue a quyet and peaceable Conscience. 1637 *Star Chamb. Decree* 8 4 in Arber *Milton's Areop.* 23 Euery person and persons, which...shall be supected or authorized to Licence Bookes, or giue Warrant for imprinting thereof. 1642 HOMES *Lesiath.* iii. xxxix, That Assembly, which is without warrant from the Civil Soveraign, is unlawfull. 1663 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 84 That it was Convenient Warriant should be sent from this board. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. v. (1857) 89 The Spaniard needs no other warrant for his conscience, by obtaining, if possible, a warrant for his proceedings from the Church itself.

b. A token or evidence of authorization. (Cf. branch II.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 201 Thei..have him thilke letre red, Which he hem sende for warant. 1586 Q. ELIZ. in Rymer *Foedera* (1705) XVI. 282 And thes our Letters shall be your sufficient Warrannt and Discharge in that behalf. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & no K.* IV. ii, *Bac.* It was your own command, to barr none from him, Besides, the Princess sent her ring for a warrant. 1667 *Milton's Paradise Lost* (1705) XVI. 767 To the end sufficient Warrant may remayne here in our Exchequer for the Payment of the said Annuity, our Pleasure is...that you cause a Duplicate of the said Annuity to be sealed with our said Great Seal, and the same...to be sent to our said Exchequer. 1695 D. DICKSON *Hebr.* xi. 8, 955 Fayth is willing to ascone as it seeth a Warrannd. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 176 The presidents of the old rusty sword and cried, 'See, my lords, here is my warrant.'

**c. Scots Law.** *Judge and warrant*, 'the authority given by the Dean of Guild to repair a ruinous tenement' (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*).

1754 *Morrison's Dict. Decis.* (1826) XXXIII. 14381 Deacon Brownhill ..obtained Judge and warrant from the Dean of Guild, for taking down and rebuilding a ruinous house. 1826 G. J. BELL *Comm. Law Scot.* (1826) I. 750 The judicial process of Judge and Warrant creates a real burden on a burgage tenement, which will be effectual against creditors and purchasers.

8. Justifying reason or ground for an action, belief, or feeling.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxxv, Sith his promise is our plaine warrant, that in his name what we shall receyue. 1609 Alex. Hume *Admon.* 368 Wks. (S. T. S.) 176 Ye wer eschamed..to be called Lordis..whiche wes a takin ye had no guid warrand in your conscience for it. 1620 Fletcher *Loves Cure* iv. iv, *Gen.* Nay you are rudest pray you forbear, you offer now by more than the breeding of a Gentleman Can give you warrant for. *a* 1626 Preston *New Cord.* (1634) 429 I have applyed these promises, but upon what warrant, upon what ground have I done it? 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 786 But for a Lady no ways Errant To free a Knight, we have no warrant In any Authentical Romance. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* i. 2 Searching..not to offer anything but what hath due warrant from Observations. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.*, John xviii. 11 Good intentions are no warrant for irregular actions. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 183 Canst thou..Trade in the blood of innocence, and plead Expediency as a warrant for the deed? 1818 Scott *P. M. Perth* vii, We relate it as it is given by an ancient and uniform tradition, which carries in it great indications of truth, and is warrant enough, perhaps, for its insertion in graver histories than the present. 1832 Hr. Martineau *Demerara* II. 93 But what they will die out the slave history of Europe is our warrant. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xxi. (1862) 333 Still there is no warrant for ascribing to them such treachery. 1849 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, Florence took her seat..with an uneasiness amounting to dread. She had no other warrant for it than the occasion, the expression of her father's face [etc.]. 1880 Stephen *First Prine.* II. iv. § 53 (1875) 174 This last fact naturally raises the question, whether we have any higher warrant for this fundamental belief than the warrant of conscious induction. 1893 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 3/7 Another painter who repeats himself this year, but with more warrant, is Mr. Herbert Marshall.

†**b.** Phrases. *Of (good) warrant*: ? held in esteem, important. *Out of warrant*: unlawful. *Obs.*

In quot. *c* 1330 the sense may be ? well-defended: cf. 2.

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4210 Til pai com to Norhant, A fair cite of gode warrant. 1576 *Charter at Thirtleby Park* (MS.), Prouyded also that neither the said Henry Procter..shall fell or cutt doune any tree esbe tree crabtree or other wood of warrant. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. i. 38 Marry Sir, there's my drift, And I beleue it is a fetch of warrant. 1604 — *Oth.* I. ii. 79, I therefore..do attach thee, For..a practiser Of Arts inhibited, and out of warrant.

**II.** A document conveying authority or security.

**9.** A writing issued by the sovereign, an officer of state, or an administrative body, authorizing those to whom it is addressed to perform some act.

*Premier's warrant* (Cape Colony), an order given by the Premier on his own responsibility, authorizing expenditure for the public service in some sudden emergency.

*a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1811) 306 Then this abbot gate a warrant of the kynge, and at London callyd dyuerse officers before hym, for to yelde to hym theyr accompte. 1581 in Feuilleat *Revels Eliz.* (1908) 56 A warrannt from the kynge Edward ffor ffurnyshyng of A tryeumfe. *a* 1588 Ascham *Scholem.* ii. (Arb.) 154 Antonius Triumuir,..when Varros name..was brought in a schedule vnto him, to be noted to death, he tooke his penne and wrote his warrant of saueguard with thess most goodlie wordes, *Vivat Varro vir doctissimus*. 1680 Evelyn *Numismata*, *Hist. Observes* (Bantyne Club) 73 He had coined a quantity of copper beyond the 300 stone contained in his Majesties warrands. 1711 Swift *Let. to Abp. King* 4 Jan., Mr. secretary St. John told me from Mr. Harley that I need not to be in pain about the first-fruits, for the warrant was drawn in order toward a patent; but must..take up some time, for the queen designs to make a greater interpatent. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ii. 121 As soon as the parliament is summoned, the lord chancellor..sends his warrant to the clerk of the crown in chancery to whom precedent issues out writs to the sheriff of every county, for the election of all the members to serve for that county, and for every city and borough therein. 1870 Morton Burwood *Diary* (1874) I. 150 You will easily perceive the difference in the warrant and in the other papers from those usually given for a General Court Martial. 1892 Dicey *Law of Const.* iii. The soldier cannot blind..from the adjoining state of Connecticut, or from the states of Maine, Vermont, or New Hampshire, are admitted by a warrant from the state to which they respectively belong. 1893 Stubbs *Mediæv. Europe* xxiii. *Warrant*,..also a document under the sign manual, to authorize the assembling of a general court-martial, &c. 1680 Move in *1966 Cent. Rep.* 3 The general provisions of the warrant were, that military rank, rising according to length of service, with commensurate pay and pension, should be given to all who served.

*Proverb.* 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* I. (1871) 12 'A warrant sealed with butter!' as we say.

†**b.** A licence to go abroad. *Obs.*

1484 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. iii. § 1, I have got a Warrant from the Lords of the Councell to travell for three years any where, Rome and S. Omer excepted.

†**c.** **Warrant-dormant**: see Dormant *a.* 2 *b.*

1492 *Pryc. Privy Counc.* (1834) III. 85 That it like to your grace to grante letters of warrant dormaunt..to the seyd Tresorer commaundyng hym to pay to the seyd Thomas the seyd somme fro tyme to tyme. 1551, 1614 [see Dormant *a.* 2 *b*].

*fig.* 1638 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 208 A man may haue for money a warrant dormant, or dispensation to commit sinnes.

**10.** A writ or order issued by some executive authority, empowering a ministerial officer to make an arrest, a seizure, or a search, to execute a judicial sentence, or to do other acts incident to the administration of justice. In early use, ? *letter of warrant*.

See also Bench-*warrant*, Death-warrant, Press-warrant, Search-*warrant*.

*a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 53 He bode to hom þat haden þe lawe of lewes to kepe, and gete hym lettyrs of warrant, forto take and bryng all crysten men and wymmen, bonden ynto Ierusalem, forto take hor deth her. 1484 *Mann. & Househ.*

*Exp.* (Roxb.) 185 John Boteler of Herwesche is on of the iij. that was arested at the same towen be Pertones warente. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 200 My gude lorde, if that ye wold..send to me a hunderyd cornes for the deliyverans of a hunderyd ffreeres that [etc.]. *Ibid.* If ye wold be so gode to sende to me iij. or iiij warantes with a space for ther namys, I wer bowde to pow. 1598 Shaks. *John* iv. ii. 70 This is the man should do the bloody deed: He shew'd his warrant to a friend of mine. 1600 Rowlands *Nt. Raven* 33 A Warrant to a Constable was sent, Of especiall charge, disorder to preuent. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgr.* III. vi, The Justice keeps such a stir yonder with his Charges, And such a coil with warrants. 1623 Cockeram, Warrant to commit one, *Mittimus*. *a* 1634 Coke *Inst.* iv. (1648) 176 One or more Iustice or Iustices of Peace cannot make a warrant upon a bare surmise to break any mans house to search for a Felon, or for stoln goods. 1635 *Life Long Mag of Westminster* xv. (1810) 24 Come in, master Constable,..let me see your warrant, what suspected persons you seeke for in my house. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* iv. i, Wherefore a Warrant for his Death is sign'd. 1704 W. Hawkins *Pleas Crowne* II. (ed. 2) 117 The *Vrbani Corpus* Act, seems to be the most proper Warrant for a Person intended to Prison, are there detained by Virtue of some Warrant in Writing. 1726-31 Tindal *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) II. xxvii. 89 Which made her in 1321 a Warrant to send the Duke of Norfolk to the Tower. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, This is my warrant of distress, mum. 1836 *Ibid., Visit to Newgate* i, Before the prisoner for whom a commission arrives, he is removed to the cells, [etc.]. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* v. ii, There's a warrant from the Secretary of State for your apprehension. 1848 W. Howitt *Rural Life* 397 He is very usual, in order to strengthen a bond-creditor's security, for the debtor to execute a warrant of attorney to any one empowering him to confess a judgment..in an action of debt to be brought by the creditor in the specific sum due. 1857 Dickens *Pickw.* xx, And if he gives us a warrant of attorney, as he must in the end, I know his employers will see it paid. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 28 Schedule, [Stamp Duties] Warrant of Attorney to confess and enter up a judgment given as security for the payment or repayment of money, or for the transfer or re-transfer of stock. See Mortgage, &c., Warrant of Attorney of any other kind, 0 10 0.

**III.** ? Concrete uses of sense 2.

**16.** *north.* 'A mill-dam in a stream' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Now written *warren*.

1406-7 *Priory of Finchale Surtees Soc.*) p. cxxxvii, In expensis pro le warand pro defensione molendini et fleme. 1457-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 637 Et sol. eisdem operantibus apud le Warrants Molendini Aldeathie. 1531-2 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 82 Ad molendinum de Sheyler, ..super le warrant ibidem. 1901 *Dur. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) III. Gloss., *Warrannte*. Millers in Durham and North Yorkshire say that the "Warrant" is the mill-dam (but it is pronounced War'n'... So Halliwell, *? Warren-head*, a dam across a river in the more northern parts of Northumberland'.

†**17.** *Archery*. (See quot.). *Obs.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 127/1 The Warrants, are Knots in a Bow, which are left strong there for the securing of it.

**IV. 18.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 9) *warrant-book*; (sense 13) *warrant-market*, *stock*; (sense 14) *warrant machinist*, *mechanician*, *rank*; **warrant holder**, a tradesman who has written authority to supply goods to the household of the king or a member of the royal family; † **warrant-man** (see quot. 1746); † **warrant-parol**, a judicial sentence given by word of mouth.

1873 *Nature Peerage Evid.* (1874) 14 Do you produce from the General Record Office a 'Warrant Book for Scotland, containing entries of the date of January 1681? 1893 *Daily News* 12 June 5/8 The Association of her Majesty's and the Prince and Princess of Wales's 'Warrant Holders. 1908 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 93 Admiral Melville, in his report dealing with the 'warrant machinists' of the U.S. Navy, says [etc.]. 1746 *Rep. Committee Ho. of Comm.* II. 100 But the real Charge being greater, as there are a Number of fictitious Names allowed upon the Muster Roll, called 'Warrant-men. 1866 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 3/3 The Cleveland 'warrant market has been stronger, and 40*s.* sol. is asked by sellers. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 2 Apr. 6/7 [A sticker] eligible for advancement to the rank of 'warrant mechanician. 1869 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 363 And by this 'warrantparol (L. *ore tenus*) was adjourned to the next day. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Nov. 3/2 Boys passing through training ships..can ultimately reach 'warrant rank.

†Hence † **Wa'rrantship** = Guarantyship.

1702 *Judges in Herbert* 730 Whether they were by warrantship to warrant this Peace; and that is, we must enter into a League of Warrantship with the Emperor, the Empire, the Dutch, and all other Nations.

**Warrant** (wo'rănt), *sb.*2 *Mining*. Also **warran**. [Of obscure origin; perh. a use of prec.] Under-clay.

1847-89 Halliwell, *Warrant*, the bottom of a coal-pit. 1872 A. H. Green *Coal* (Manch. Sci. Lect., Ser. II) 5, I think in Lancashire that you know it [the under-clay] by the name of 'warrant', or 'seat earth'. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining*, Warrant; Warren or Warren Earth.

†**Wa'rrant**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Warr *v.*+-ant.] Warring, conflicting.

1608 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xv. c. 396 How many seuerall Lawes at once had Britaine long agoe! The Britons theirs, the Romanes theirs, the Picts and Scots also.. But that I know he lawes in force for Sabbaths, Feasts of Saints, For Feasts, for Vagrants,..I should haue thought those too prophane and warrant lawes had bin, So common and so vncontrould is sufference of such sin.

**Warrant** (wo'rănt), *v.* Pa.t. and pa. pple. **warranted**. Forms: 3 **warantye**, **warauntí**, 4 **warant**, 4–5 **warante**, 5–6 **warent**, 4–5 **waraunte**, 4–7 **warauntˌ**, 4–6 **warauntˌ**, 5–6 **warrauntˌ**, (6 -e), 5 **warawnt**, 6–7 **warrante**, 8– **warrant**; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 **warand(e**, 5 **worrand**,

6 **warrande**, (? *pa. pple.* **warand**), 8 **warran**, 5– **warrand** (*occas.* **written wand** etc.). [early ME. *warant, warantí, warand*, a. OF. *warantir, warandir*, dial. variants of *g(u)arantir, g(u)arandir* (mod.F. *garantir*) = Pr. *garentir, guirentir*, Sp., Pg. *garantir*, It. *guarantire, guarentire*; a Com. Rom. formation on the sb.: see WARRANT *sb.*1]

†**1.** *trans.* To keep safe from danger, to protect. Const. *from*. *Obs.*

*c* 1275 *Five Joys of the Virg.* 9 in *O. E. Misc.* 89 Bidde we vre louerd crist þat hire warantye. *c* 1290 *Magdalen* 40 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 463 Iesu crist of heouene of heoun habbe merci And for is nauns seouune fram helle heoun warrantí! 23.. *K. Alis.* 2131 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder..had hem he hardy & nobing drede He wolde hem warant in euery nede. 1375 *Guy Warw.* 4415 Sche[e þou no mist nouȝt warrant me, Mar-to schuld ȝ arisi þis. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Quair* ii. 504 For he Thaim fra thar fais myeht nocht warrand, Thai turnyt to the totbir hand. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* Prol. 110 Oure lige lordes seel on my patente That shewe I first my body to warente. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii. If he hath a deere þat be his felawe, he leueth hym to be hounded in entente, þat he may warrant hymselfe. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 3468 What good Man was he that from the deth warawnted he? *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 29 Yef ȝe will leve me, ȝe shal warant youre owen lyves. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 978 Wictaill as man was nayne left in the land, Bot in houssis quhar it myeht be warrand. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 19 I shal..kepe and warrante thee..from evyl. 1489 — *Feyttes of A.* I. x. 28 Iulius cesar yf he for to warrant his owne lyf saud dide swimme in yᵉ see. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 14 This commoun weill tyrhait wicht sal now warrand, Sen he is gone, that Gourcrui vs behoir. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 8 We shall speake so long of the diuell in iest, that he shall come amongst vs in good earnest: God warrant vs they crossed them selves on saying this. 1600 SHAKS. *A. V. L.* iii. iii. 5 *Cle[ww].* Doth my simple feature content you? *Aud.* Your features, Lord warrant vs: what features?

† b. Of armour: to protect physically. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 162 He..smote a knyght so sore that ther was noon armoure myght hym warante. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2237 A paynym to armes went he forth Alson hym was warented harnes ne helme Aboute. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxl. 136 For bys harneys coude neuer warant hym.

**2.** With inverted construction: To keep off (enemies) *from* a country. *Obs.*

1586 Earl LEICESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 431 For who can warrant these villaines from her [Q. Eliz.], if that person [Mary Q. Scots] liue, or shall liue, anie time?

**3.** *Law.* a. To guarantee the security of (land, possessions *to* a person).

1606 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1877 IV. 2, I oblis me my ayris to kep and warrand and defende the said landis to the said Jon. 1640 in *Cartul. S. Nicholas Aberd.* (New Spalding Club) I. 11 And I..all ye forsaid landes..against all dedelik sal warand acquit and defend for evyr. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 82 The forseyd Dame Margery..warentyd the fore-seyd 3 acris of londe..to the for-seyd Sir Robert all peysabil pesabil 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 47 ¶ 1 You..be not bounden to warant the seid Manoris..by reason of any warantye comprised in the same letteres patentes. 1881 *Scottish Rel. Cl. Copyr Augus* (1880) II. 71 We..sall warrand, acquiet, and defend this our present noeulatioun,..to the saidis persons. 1564 *Abbyr. Protocols Penycuik Charters* (1908) III. 30 Robert sall warrande the saidis reversiounde..fre of all tyrrwnyn annuellis. 1870 JEKEL *View Seditious Bull* Wks. 1848 VII. 296 Who can trust the crown now the very right to the heirs of this realm? did not her father warrant it to her by will, as his daughter? 1608 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 58 He to warrand the grain yeild and ground thereof to be uncassin up or rivin or sawy carried. 1642 *Perth Presb. Rk.* II. ii 176, 78 If this acte bee warranted unto them, this warranty is good.

† b. To be surety for. *Obs.*

1478 [see WARRANT *sb.*1 4]. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 15 Gif anie thing thifeoustlie stollen, is challenged be anie man, and he quha is challenged, alledges ane Priest for his warrant; and the Priest will willinglie warrant the same.

**c.** To give warranty of (title); to give warranty of title to (a person). Also with the land as obj. Cf. *to vouch to warrant*: VOUCH *v.* 1.

1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 150 Yowre masterschip muste warant it, and make it sure. 1580 *Act Dom. Conc.* (1839) 51/2 Pe said vmfra sall warrand pe said macolme pe said landis of W. 1588 *Acta Dom. Audit.* (1839) 123/2 He had delyuerit be said matter to him and perfore askit him to Werrand him perintill. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 34 He ought to warrante his tenaunt whan he is impleaded of his landes holden of him. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 53 b, Where..the tenaunt in hys answere and plee, voucheth or calleth for anie manne to warrant his title. 1845 WILLIAMS *Real Property* (1877) 45 The tenant then alleged that this third person had warranted the title.

**8.** With obj. and complement or inf.: To guarantee (goods, an article sold or made) to be of the quality, quantity, etc. specified.

1387 *Charters etc. Edin.* (1871) 36 The vwilke werke the forsaide masounys sal warande watir thicht. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonse* iii, This Ryche man theme sold his oylle to the marchants and warranted hym to be pure al fyn. 1538 PALSGR. 771/2, I warant, as a marchaunt, or seller dothe his ware that it is good. *Ye shewin.* 1600 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 4 If a mans seruant sell to one certaine cloth, and warrant it to bee of a certaine length the Action will lye against the Maister onely. 1608 *Pennyless Parl. Threadbare Poets* ¶ 23 Bow bell for Cheapside, if it break not, shall be warranted by Letters Patents to ring well. 1798 FIELDING *Y. Andrews* I. xvi, Perhaps you may sell them by advertising the manuscript sermons of a clergyman lately deceased, all warranted originals, and never printed. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 331 ‘Will you warrant them siddow [= tender]?’ is the ordinary question asked on buying peas for boiling. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, ‘Not the slightest fear, sir,’ interposed the hostler. ‘Warrant him quiet, sir.’ 1848 — *Dombey* xxix, One French roll rasped, one egg new laid (or warranted to be). 1886 C. SCHOLL *Pharmacol. Dict.* II. 833 Warranted free from adulteration. *Ibid.*, The colors of all stuffs warranted fast.

*fig.* 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 131, I could almost venture to warrant our parliament's publications monthlies. 1869 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 176, I would not warrant the numerical precision of this statement.

**b.** To promise under guarantees.

1849 FREEMAN *Comm. Class-bk.* 63 Ship warranted to sail on or before 10th August next. 1886 C. SCHOLL *Pharmacol. Dict.* II. 839 We warrant the vessel will be loaded by the time specified.

**4.** To guarantee as true, make oneself answerable for (a statement).

**a.** with clause as obj. Chiefly in phrase *I warrant, I will (I'll) warrant*, often used *colloq.* as a mere expression of strong belief = ‘I'll be bound’.

23.. *Coer de L.* 3593 King Richard schal warrant, There is no Iuwes in Messanye,..Ac the lond of a Sarezine. 23.. *Northern Passion* 245/39 Pe knightes said: ‘we will warrand Pat ioseph es in his awnd land.’ *c* 1400 *Yowaine & Gaw.* 1049 Madame, sir, þou sall, I dar warand A gentiler lord es nom lifand. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 384 He wounes or swelles, I swarand. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 484 Haue here the knyght. And I dar warand he is not wete. a 1533 LINDESAY *Monarche* ii. 272 Or it be halfe a yere past I warrant thou shalt haue a horse. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 76, I warrant he hath a thousand of these Letters, writ with blanks. *Ibid.* III. iii. 73 *Northern Lasse

**9.** To give (a person) warrant or authority, authorize (*to* do something); to authorise, sanction (a course of action).

1579 Lyly *Euphues* i. (Arb.) 179 Doth his prehesminence in the court, warrant him to oppresse the poore by might, and acquit him of punishment? 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* i. ix. (1602) 36 The forme of their commission was enlarged, so as they...were...warranted also to arrest Felons that were indicted. 1589 *Exec. for Treason* (1636) 14 All [are] warranted to disobey her and her Lawes. 1622 Bacon *Apophth.* § 243 (1625) 264 Marius did Denison them all, for Citizens of Rome, though there was no Law to warrant it. 1640 D. Rogers *Naaman* 436 The Lord warrants us to suspect the inconstant. 1649 [Langbaine] *Anim. Unm. Osf.* 16 But onely such just Power as they are by Law...warranted unto. 1658 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* i. I. § iii. (1699) 5 Nor can the Council, by their Acts, warrand any to do what would be otherwise a Crime. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2053/4 But even in the Business of the Excise and Militia...I am warranted to go the greatest lengths for your ease and conveniency that the nature of these things can bear. 1859 Keble *In* J. Q. Johnston *Liddon* (1904) 47 What most perplexes me is some names in the list of those who have warranted this step.

†**b.** *To warrant out*: to claim licence for (one's action). *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. I. 21 Though Mercurie can warrant out His vnder takings, and make all things good, Out of the powers of his diuinitie.

†**c.** To license for publishing. *Obs.*

1668 Lord *Diary* 12 June, Wks. 1853 III. 207, I was complained of by the House of Commons for warranting Doctor Manwaring's sermons to the press.

**d.** To authorize (a payment).

1662 Petty *Taxes* 34 Why might not another take much more than 10 li. at London for warranting the like sum to be paid at Carlisle on a certain day. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 219 The donee of the power may make any lease or grant, provided it does not exceed the utmost extent of interest that the power warrants.

**10.** To direct (a person) authoritatively; to command. *Obs. rare.*

1632 Massinger *Emperor East* Prol. at Blackfriars, But that imperious custome warrants it, Our Author with much willingnes would omit This Preface to his new worke.

**11.** Of things: To furnish good and sufficient grounds for (a course of action); to render allowable, justify.

1634 Ironhall *Just Vind.* i. (1661) 3 Henry the Eighth...pursued but...a way warranted by the practice of the most Christian Emperors of old. 1641 Bp. Hall *Shock. Hick.* ii. I. 28 They...will know that I have enough to abase me before God and man: But will that warrant a course of lying and backbiting in others? 1676 South *Serm.* (1744) VI. 208 All which considerations of danger so...great, are certainly very sufficient to warrant the utmost caution and fearfulness in this case. 1774 tr. *Chesterf. Let. to Son* xv. I. 47 The Rape of the Sabines was, on an extraordinary occasion than a just measure; yet the utility of it should not warrant its injustice. 1823 Lamb *Reynolds & Leonardo da Vinci* Wks. 1908 I. 191 The hand was by the Italian license twice as big as the truth of drawing warranted. 1880 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 244 It is impossible to say whether this accusation was warranted by facts. 1883 Stevenson *Travels by Lady's Window* one has a higher opinion of himself than his station warrants. 1893 Brown *Villette* xiv, It was not my intention to approach or address him in the garden, our terms of acquaintance not warranting such a step. 1898 Gladstone *Glean.* (1899) IX. 238 Our general information...is not sufficient to warrant our giving an immediate opinion on the question. 1903 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Oct. 4/6 Any advance of wages at present is not warranted by the condition of trade.

**b.** To justify (a person *in* or *to* a course of action).

1671 [R. MacWard] *True Nonconf.* Contents, Positive grounds from Scripture warranding Subjects to defend Religion by armes. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. i. 2 And in this I am warranted by the example of ancient Rome. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat. Imp.* xxiii. 288 The unwearying of this magnetic influence, we ought, in some degree, be warranted in conjecturing, that [etc.]. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 210 I said that I did not think a surgeon warranted in tying the external iliac artery. 1843 Mill *Logic* i. iii. § 7 We are not warranted in referring our sensations to a cause. 1845 T. W. Cuff *Pantagruel* 28 These were ample...to well warrant the Dr. in his conclusion. 1883 *League Journal* 20 Oct. 657/3 If we could have more earthly enjoyment by shortening life this would not warrant us to shorten it.

**c.** Of a person: To countenance by one's action or example. ? *Obs.*

1632 Shirley *Love's Cruelty* i. ii (1640) B 4 b, Warrant not so much ill by your example To those that live beneath you.

†**d.** To justify by appeal to authority or evidence, to find warrant for. *Obs.*

1612 T. Taylor *Comm Titus* i. 6 It is no lesse then our dutie to warrant out of this place the marriage of Ministers. 1632 D. Dickson *Hebr.* vii 13-25. 127 It is not warranted from Scripture: therefore I am not bound to believe it. 1662 Hobbes *Consid.* 33 But seeing there is no such word in the Scripture, how will you warrant it from natural reason?

**12.** To appoint (an officer) by a warrant.

1708 W. Thompson *R. N. Arch.* (1757) 32 All Officers were warranted from the Admiralty Board.

**Warrant,** obs. variant of Warren.

**Warrantable** (wɒ·rǎntăb'l), *a.* [f. Warrant *v.* + -able.] For which warrant may be given.

**1.** Of actions, sentiments, motives, etc.: That may be authorized, sanctioned, or permitted; justifiable.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 5 Tutors, without whose authoritie there was no act which they did, warrantable. 1627 Morison *Itin.* II. 104 Pardon this my digression, not warrantable in a journall. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 49 Tis therefore very Warrantable to pass a Severe Judgment upon a Man, when 'tis plain and out of question that he deserves it. 1774 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* vi. (1778) 217 It is a necessary and warrantable pride to disdain to walk servilely behind any individual, however elevated his rank. 1824 Marryat *P. Simple* viii, Any other expenses which you may consider warrantable or justifiable. 1846 J. Kenrick *Rec. Primæval Hist.* Pref. p. xvii, Since ...we can neither deny the fact of a contrariety, nor remove it by any warrantable means. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 180 Only in desperate cases is such heroic use of the remedy warrantable.

**b.** Const. *by, from, to.*

1639 Maurice *Unnat. Combat* i. i. B 4, Exette minute to me will be a tedious age till our embraces are warrantable to the world. 1698 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 254 They have done nothing but what was warrantable by former precedents. 1659 Milton *Of Civil Power* 5 Having no other divine rule or autoritie from without us warrantable to one another as a common ground but the holy scripture. 1723 Charleton *Hist.* (1757) II. 57 It is Warrantable from Scripture, that Gospel Ministers be honourably supported and maintained.

†**2.** That may be guaranteed as good, true, genuine, or the like; of good warrant; praiseworthy, acceptable. *Obs.*

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 477 b, Lett us peruse the Argumentes wherewith this gentle and obedient childe of the Popes good pleasure doth make his warres withstanded. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* B 4 b, But this is most warrantable, the Alpha of all the Yarmouthnit was, and not the Omega of correspondency. 1618 E. Bolton *Hypercritica* in Haslewood's Ancient Crit. Ess. II. 226 The Hooks...out of which we gather the most warrantable English are not many to no remembrance. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* iii. ii, She says you vent ware that is not warrantable, braided ware. 1709 [W. Stephens] *Vind. Masaniello Nyst.* Introd. 11 A Man of the highest Political Accomplishments, as well as True and Warrantable Prudence. 1797 tr. *Cato at Utica* 2 Let us think that we have said, it evidently appears, that the works in general of Hippocrates are not warrantable. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Imperfect Sympathies* (1833) I thought I could not do better than follow the example of such grave and warrantable persons as...

**3.** That can be legally guaranteed.

1696 Blackstone *Cryptic* iii, Not a pound should be deducted from his warrantable value, simply because he now did what any other young horse in the world would have felt to be right.

**4.** *Venery.* Applied to a stag which is of an age to be hunted.

1677 Phillips *Oxfordsh.* 190 The Deer themselves were well enough grown, and warrantable. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* iv, Any gentleman...may obtain a ticket...to kill and to be good venison. 1856 Stonehenge *First Spots* 89/1 At six (years) a Warrantable Stag. 1884 Jefferies *Red Deer* vi. 104 It must be a runnable stag, or warrantable, a term in the strict meaning indicating a stag five years.

**Warrantableness.** [-nes.] The quality of being warrantable.

1598 Florio *It. Dict.* Autorità, m. xx. § 3 (1912) 979 That...you may see the nobleness of my desire to you, & the warrantableness of your favour to me. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* iii. 302 The warrantableness of which Inference was confirm'd to me not long since by a skilful Physitian. 1732 E. Erskine *Serm* Wks. 1871 I. 33 We see here the warrantableness of believing in Christ. 1898 J. Adamson *Mind & Man of Christ* 322 The warrantableness of this interpretation is fully borne out

**Warrantably** (wɒ·rǎntăbli), *adv.* [-ly 2.] In a warrantable manner; with good warrant.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Numeri.* Pref. 691 It shall be seene, That I have warrantably called beene. 1657 Heylin *Examen. Hist. Vind.* Gen. Pref. 21, A Church so rightly constituted, so warrantably reformed. 1703 J. Gale *Serious Enquiry* 23 Jacob might warrantably enough have returned Leah back again into her deceitful Father. 1738 E. Erskine *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 641 None can warrantably lay a stone in this building, but who is regularly called. 1850 Mrs. Hall *Second Aun. Leigh* viii. 227 And though the thing displease us, ay, perhaps Displease us warrantably. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* Jan. 61/1 Carlyle's later works, chapter and verse for the whole doctrine of force could warrantably be quoted.

†**Warrantage.** *Obs.*—[f. Warrant *v.* + -age, after Of. *garant-, garentiage.*] Warranty.

1611 Cotgr., *Carrauge*, warrantie, warrantize, warrantage.

**Warranted** (wɒ·rǎntĕd), *ppl. a.* [-ed 2.]

**1.** Allowed by law or authority; approved, justified, sanctioned.

1600 Shaks. *All's Well* ii. 3 You haue it from his owne deliuerance. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. iv. 187 Thou...hast done Most warranted. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. iii. 151 The very streame of his life, and the businesse he hath helmed, must vppon a warranted mede, giue him a worthy proclamation. 1669 — *Macb.* ii. iii. 136 Now weel together, and the chance of goodnesse Be like our warranted Quarrell! 1693 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 123 Some...generous spirits have...reconcil their understandings to this long-settled, and by no means warranted usurpation. 1724 Steele *Lover* No. 32 (1723) 183 The...Delight, which virtuous Minds feel in the Enjoyment of their lawful and warranted Passions. 1852 Surtees *Cast. Dang.* xvii, I cannot presume to understand what you call prophecies, with or under warranted authority of old published books [etc.].

**2.** Furnished with a legal or official warrant.

**a.** Of an officer: Holding a rank by warrant

1708 W. Thompson *R. N. Arch.* (1757) 47 These warranted Gentlemen in Office might be more circumspect. 1798 Nelson *In* Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 22 An old and faithful Servant of the Crown, and who has been near thirty years a warranted Carpenter.

**b.** *U.S.* Granted by a warrant: see Land-*warrant.*

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 24 Dec., Suppl. 2/3 To be sold One tract of patented land...Four tracts of warranted land.

**3.** For which a warranty is given; guaranteed.

*Mod.* Our goods are all of warranted quality.

**Warrantee** (wɒrǎntī'). [f. Warrant *v.* + -ee 1.] Cf. Warrantor.] One who warrants.

**1.** One who assures, authorizes, or guarantees (something).

1598 Gentile *Calvin on Deut.* i 5 That our faithe resteth not upon men but that the liuing God is the author and will also be the warranter thereof. 1628 Sr. *Mathew's Powerfull Favorite* 19 Piso...assuring himselfe that his warrantee should be his Iudge, counsted rather to depend on the authoritie of one alone, then on the pavsion of many. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* 7 to *Idea* 7/1, I would be so understood, as a Representer of the Wisdome of the Ancients rather then a warrantee of the same. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolomini* i. xii. 182 If I stand warrantee of the event, Placing my honour and my life in pledge, I'll be the *Warrantee* i. ii. 113 I was little probable, that Don Ordonio, Should prove the patron of this infidel! The warranter *Teacher* add. guarantee] of a Mussulman's faith!

†**2.** One who assures (another) of safety; a protector. *Obs. rare.*

1611 Cotgr., *Garent*, a Warrantor, Protector. Defendor; [etc.]. 1800 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3418/1 Come down and speak to me; I'll keep thee in a feather bed. And thy warrantee I will be.

**3.** *Law.* = Warrantor 1.

1706 [see Warrantie 1]. 1868 Wharton *Law Lex.* s.v. *Warrant*, A warrantee may, however, exercise that the compromise does not hold the land of which he seeks the warranty.

**Warranting** (wɒ·rǎntĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12404 Hyt were foly, to remunde a þyng þat is nat syne no warantyng. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 240 The forsaid Richard Robert and Thedulf called the forsaid John to the warranting. 1565 Golding *Cæsar* iii. 27 Many things happened in the time of this demise as the warranting of the runagate [etc.]

**Warranting,** *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That warrants.

1561 Dean *In Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 155 Least any man should doubt any whit of these celestiall mieuries. Here is added the warranting word, Amen. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xx. 302 The obligation of the heir...was only on condition that he had assets sufficient lands by descent from the warranting ancestor.

**Warrantise** (wɒ·rǎntōiz), *sb. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: 4-5 **warantise**, 4-6 **-ise**, 5 **warontice**, **warantyce**, **-ice**, 5-6 **-yse**, **warauntyse**, **-ise**, 6 **warrantise**, **warrantyse**, 6-7 **-ize**, **-ice**, 7 **-ize**, 6-7, 9 **-ize**. [a. OF. *warantise, garantise, warrantise, garantie* = Sp. *guarantia*: see C. Warrandise.]

**1.** *Law.* = Warranty 1 a. Phr. *clause of warrantise* (also used *fig.*); *piece of warrantise.*

*a* 1325 *MS. Rawl.* B. 520, lf. 57 þif he hallde þe kinges charetre wass born þe king be i holde to warantise. *Ibid.* 64 If þe alouuance were i mad þorw fals bode, þanne a sullen bobe ben i cleped to warantise þer of. 1386-7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1909) XXII. 301 For a buschel of qwete he wolde selle þe lybbet of bestow þe charitie of clause of warantise. 14 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 24 And yf thou may in any wyse Make thy charitie on warantyse So thyne heyres & assignes alway Shall a yeare be chalenge day. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 961 Wherof a pile of warantize was Itake betwene them in the same courte. 1495 *Act in Dn. Writ.* c. 42 With a clause of warantise accordyng to þe said dede. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 131 Yet enuant in the tayle in this case release to the dysseasour & to hymth him and his heyres to warrantyse, &c. 1559 *Bale Prisdantes* 40 b, A release made by dede indented before purchased with a clause of warrantise. 1607 J. Carter *Plain Exp.* 93 A clause of warrantize against all danger.

**2.** *gen.* The action of warranting, guaranteeing, or giving assurance; the state or fact of being guaranteed. Phr. *to hold, clepe, bind, call to warrantise; on, with, by warrantise.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516 Warantyse, *warantizacio.* 1536 Monk *Cong. appl. Irish.* iii. xxii. (1553) Q 13 b, Without anye bodie warrantize. 1560 Daus *Sleidan's Comm.* In one strength, 1568 Udall *etc. Exam. Par. Luke* in 21, 22 A doue...had...brought a branche of an olue tree. for ...a caucion or pledge of warrantize of the floude was at an ende. 1581 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 171 In so doyng they neuer followe the credence of prysast men, but the assureaunce or warrauntise of the hole citye. 1585 Cooper *Thesaurus, Andpheroplon*, a double freight or dutie, that is payed, when the shippeman vndertaketh on warantyse to conducte a man safe foorth, and bryngs him safe home ageyne. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* iii.

for the Butcher. that bye for slaughter, and such as by warysines, we no worde of warrantise. 1583 Fulke *Def. Sr. Saright* 1. 42 They be the better proue, that for which I called him to warrantie. c1600 Shak. *Sonn.* cl. 7 In the very refuse of thy deeds, There is such strength and warrantie of skill, That in my minde thy worst all best exceeds? 1620 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii. iii. II. 462 All buyings and sellings at this day which passe with warrantie [*L. in his emptionibus, quæ mancipi sunt*]. 1628 Dod & Cleaver *Expos Ten. Comm.* 5 The glaring warrantie for their safety. 1822 Sir H. Taylor *St. Clement's Eve* III. v. 109 We humbly crave Some warrantise that what we're bid to speak, Spoken, shall bring no jeopardy of life Or liberty or goods.

**b.** *To make* (also *give*) *warrantise*: to guarantee, give assurance. Const. *of* or clause

1334 More *Coroner's Court Irish* III. xvii. (1553) Q vj, I can make no warrantise of my selfe, seyng I'm a Feyer so suddenly fainted at a womans word. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 296 I like that .iii. maketh ioyfy royall warrantise of thynges in worde, but without any effectuose coueyng to passe of deedes. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron* III. 58 b But whether it were so or not, I am not able to make warrantize. 1601 Munday & Chettle *Death Earl Huntingdon* [iv. ii.] I 3, Againe, the place doth giue thee warrantise.

**c.** Said predicatively of a thing or person that serves as a guarantee or surety.

c1300 *Cursor M.* 25604 Put we mai tak but ilk ðexs Wit bodi and bert cleue: And he be vr warantis, On donnesdai quen þou sal rise, Al þis werld to deme. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 13 Breake vp the Gates, Ile be your warrantize. 1596 Edw. Allen in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* ser. III. IV. 134 His assent shalbe my warrantize.

**d.** Phr. *Of, on, in warrantise*: of a surety, for certain, without fail, I warrant you

c1430 *Lydg. Mem. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 137 Of warrantise he shal neuer die. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Her shall no man do yow harme o warantise. a1500 *E. E. Misc.* (1855) 91 Thanne sour cry moons beth ymade in warantyse withowte faylle. a1500 *Ascan. Coronat.* 1908 I pray you, tel it me in secret wyse; And I shal kepe it close, on warantyse. c1550 Lloyd *Treas Health* C 4 Put into thyne eye a very litle, it is safe and without danger in warrantise and often approved. 1598 Wyrley *Armorie* 99 No mortall man will Gods gaine fauor might Of warrantice to see next morning light. 1639 O. Wood *Alph. Bk. Merit* 29 Then anoynt the Griefe with a feather, and it will be whole on warrantice.

**3.** Defence, protection.

1 a1300 *Merit Adam.* 14 That they be weisely wachede and in warde holden, Wardeds of warantises with wyrchipfulle knyghtez. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xvii. 45 Alle the people of the contre made to hym feaulte for to haue his ayde and warantise in the ways of the sayd pylgremages. 1489 *Lyfe of A.* ii. xxxv 149 No manere of warantyse can not kepe theym that wayfyle yf they be hyre with all, but that they shal be taken doune as the thonder felle vpon hem

**4.** Authorization, permission, sanction.

1580 Grindal *Let. to Ld. Burleigh* Wks. (1843) 366 Dr Hoveland added further, that if error were committed in that, it was no sufficient warrantise for the Archbishop's ward. to be attempted. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxii. vi. II 128 Yet we are so unhappie, as to commit our selves to other mens iudion, and live under their warrantise and assurance [L. *ut nimis aliena fiducia*]. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 250 Her Obsequies haue but as farre inlarg'd, As we haue warrantis. 1608 Willet *Synopsis Papismi, Antith.* 6 Christ 66 A Bishop ought to doe nothing in the Church, without he be certaine and sure of the warrantise thereof by Gods Word. a1625 M. Smith *Sermon* (1630) 234 Lest the yonger sort take example, nay warrantize from vs to slacke their paines.

**5.** Assurance, confident statement.

1581 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* 1. (1625) 78 Too much impertinent were it for me to haue you on with arguments who onely goe about to persuade you with warrantise. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxviii. vi. II 320 Thus they prescribe with great warrantize, to take all the naile parings of toes and fingers of man, [etc.]

† **Warrantise,** *v. Obs.* For forms see the sb. [f. the sb. ; in Law-L. *warrantizare*.]

**1.** trans. *Law.* To guarantee the possession of (real property) *to* a person.

c1250 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. 7) 57 They warantized to the forsaid Richard and to his heires the forsaid tenement with the pertynentia ayenst all maner of men for ever. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 305 And I verify and say yes all be forsaide thynges to be forsaide church and Chanons for euer shall warantise agaynste all men and women.

**2.** *gen.* To guarantee ; to be a guarantee or security for ; to secure the possession of (something) to a person , to secure (a person or thing) *from*.

c1330 *De Wra fattest Pleynte*, 1 Ne may no wif warantise hire. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Q 4, Certaine meanes hee hath assigned vs, which he hath promised to blesse, but without meanes no blessing shall be warrantised. 1598 Yong *Diana* 235 Who shall, this old age from sorrowes warrantise? 1598 Harleut *Voy.* I. 144 In regard whereof you will undertake to warrantize, and make good vnto vs those penalties and forfaitures which shal vnto vs appertaine, for all woods [etc.]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* 1. 275 A moste lawfull act, . For which you will warrantize him heaven and happie day. 1628 Wither *Brit. Remembr.* iii. 461 To warrantize thy health.

**b.** To warrant, sanction, authorize ; to confirm, corroborate.

1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* D 2, A sillie fancie, Autumne, hast thou told, Which no Philosophie doth warrantize. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 861 There is nothing else but necessitie alone, doeth warrantize the killing of a man. 1643 S. Marshall *Copy of Let.* 8 Like enough some Court-Chaplaine might warrantize the kings conscience. 1664 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 125 The Customs of the Romans, highly warrantize Mr. Jones his Discovery of our Antiquity.

**3.** To protect, defend.

c1450 *Merlin* xvi. 269 But yef I may haue bailly ouer his body, he shall so be defouled that ther ne shall nothinge in the worlde hym warantise. c1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxiv. 88 But what occyalon or defence may he made wyght not warauntye hym. c1500 *Melusine* xxix. 200 I benne anthony amute a knyght by such verture that the large nor his cote of stele might not warrantyse hym.

Hence † **Warrantising** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 226 & that hys gft, graunt, & warantisinge shulde be stronge & sure, be put to hys wyse seele. 1628 Vennek *Baths of Bath* (1650) 360 Their spaniel-like fawning carriage, and warrantizing promises.

**Warrantless,** *a. rare.* [f. Warrant *sb.*1 + -less.] Without justification, unwarrantable.

1863 Mrs. Whitney *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* v, The stinging and warrantless accusation.

† **Warrantment.** *Obs.* [f. Warrant *v.* + -ment.] = Warrant *sb.*1 9.

1599 in F. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* 2. i. (1633) 16 Any warrantment signed by the said Lord President . shall be a sufficient discharge.

**Warrant officer.**

**1.** An officer of the navy or army who holds office by a warrant, as distinguished from a commissioned officer. (In the army, the warrant officers are now intermediate in rank between the commissioned officers and the non-commissioned officers.)

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2848/4 Two or more Commission or Warrant-Officers of their Majesties ships. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Officer, Warrant*, or *Staff-Officers*, those who have not the honour of a Commission, but are appointed by the Colonels and Captains ; as the Quarter Masters, Sergeants, Corporals, and in the same number are included Chaplains and Surgeons. 1725 *De Foe's Voy. round World* (1840) 103, I called all the Warrant officers together. 1825 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Warrant-Officers*, are persons employed in the royal navy, by warrant from the Commissioners of the navy, to take charge of the stores issued to them from his Majesty's dock-yards. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* x, The boatswain talked over the matter with the other warrant officers. 1850 Mrs. Nicholas *H. Hall. Tact.* I 1. vi. 36 Next in order come the Warrant or Forward officers, consisting of the Boatswain, Gunner, Carpenter, and Sailmaker. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl. Warrant-officer*, In the royal navy it was an officer holding a warrant from the navy board, as the master, surgeon, purser, boatswain, gunner, carpenter, &c. In the year 1831, when the commissioners of the navy, or navy board, were abolished, all these powers reverted to the admiralty. 1912 *King's Regul. Army* 1 § 3 The positions of warrant officers is inferior to that of all commissioned officers, but superior to that of all N.C.Os.

**2.** An officer whose duty it is to serve warrants.

1869 *Daily Telegraph* 18 Oct. 2/6 The Lord Mayor's warrant officer. The remainder of the staff, consisting of the jailer, the under-jailer, the warrant-sergeant, and various warrant officers, are all policemen, selected for their duties by the police authorities.

**Warrantor** (wɒ·rănte·i). [f. Warrant *v.* + -or. Cf. Guarantor.]

**1.** *Law.* One who gives warranty.

1605 *Lex Termes de la Ley* 419 v. *Garranty*, It behoves that every Warranty, whereby the Heir shall be barred, discend by course of the Common Law to him who is Heir to the Warrantor. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* 1. vi. 133 If Lands descend to a younger Brother by Borough-English or Gavelkind, he is without Remedy against the Warrantor. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 470 Each donor is a warrantor for the payment of the bill. 1869 A. J. Sowerby *Law of Sale* 231 *Obs. 1*, Par. 52 The liability of a warrantor when the purchaser of land has erected a building on the land warranted. 1875 K. E. Digby *Real Prop.* II (1876) 78 *note*, Upon the acceptance of the warrantor the suit as to the title to the chattel proceeded between the claimant and the warrantor. 1911 *Times* 16 Feb. 4/5 The right to appear of ordinary warrantors in cases in which action was taken did not apply.

**2.** *gen.* = Warranter 1 *rare.*

1850 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) VI. ix. 371 As the warrantor of what an Englishman means when he says he insists on 'fair play'.

**Warranty** (wɒ·rănti). Forms: 4–5 warantie, 5–6 -ye, 5–7 warrantie, 6 -tye, (6 warranty), 6– warranty. [a. AF. (OF.) *warantie*, dial. var. of *guarantie* (whence Guarantee *sb.*), *garantie*: (med.F. *garantie*) : *L. warant (garant)* Warrant *sb.*]

**1.** *Law.* An act of warranting ; in certain specific applications

*To vouch to* (rarely *for*) *warranty*: see Vouch *v.* 1.

**a.** A covenant , either expressed by a *clause of warranty* or implied) annexed to a conveyance of real estate, by which the vendor warrants the security of the title conveyed. (In modern English practice the term has little or no application. In the U.S. the *covenant of warranty* corresponds to the English 'covenant for quiet enjoyment'.)

The early examples below relate to feudal law, under which the 'warranty' given by the grantor of a freehold estate obliged him to yield to the grantee other lands of equal value if the latter should be evicted. For *collateral, lineal warranty* see those adjs.

1338 R. Bruning *Chron.* (1810) 261 If he had ..gyuen pam per wynnyng ilk a dele, pat pei mot ryyme & gyue, Holdand in warantie [Fr. *Lerre et tenement a tenir par garrauntie*], of hym & of his heyres. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 10/2 And therof have do made astate to you and to youre heires ..with clause of Warantie. 1472–3 *Ibid* VI. 64/2 To have and to hold to the forseid William, John and Robert, and their heires, with warantie of the seid Philip 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 47 § 1 You . be not bounden to warant the seid Manoris . by reason of any warantye comprised in the same lettres patentes. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 147 b, It is commonly sayd that there be three maner of warranties that is to saye, warrantye lyneall, warrenty collateral, and warranty that beareneth by discessyn. 1556 Bacon *Elem. Com. Law* II. (1630) 31 If a man . do make a warranty of Land binding him and his heyres to warrantize. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 192 Lessor is bound to warranty to the Lessee. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xx. 300 Next may follow the clause of *warranty*; whereby the grantor doth, for himself and his heirs, warrant and secure to the grantee the estate so granted. 1898 Lb. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* v. 84 If one sell another's estate, without covenant or warranty for the enjoyment, it is at the peril of the purchaser. 1891 Markby *Elem. Law* § 256 A warranty, properly speaking, is an undertaking that a certain event will happen, or will not happen ; have happened, or have not happened ; but it is in reality a promise to make compensation for the loss occasioned by their happening or not happening.

*attrib.* 1853 Emerson *Misc.* I. 26 This is the best part of these men's farms, yet to this they warranty-deeds give no title. 1892 G. Ott *Pembroke Peerage* 8 The warranty clause . arose out of the old feudal doctrine that the land could not be alienated without the consent of the heir.

**b.** An undertaking, express or implied, given by one of the parties to a contract to the other, that he will be answerable for the truth of some statement incidental to the contract ; esp. an assurance, express or implied, given by the seller of goods, that he will be answerable for their possession of some quality attributed to them.

1543 tr. *Act 28 Edw. III*, c. 13 The warranty of packyng of wollen fo 43 yers mischiefe, which the commens haue therof perceiued, shall holly be out. 1592 Hudson in Rymer sell wyth warrantie. 1628 Cook *On Litt.* II. vii. 102 by the Civill Law euery man is bound to warrant the thing that he selleth or conueyeth, . but by the Common Law, vnlesse he doe not, vnlesse there be a warrantie. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. ix. 165 But if the vendor knew the goods to be unsound, and had fraud any art to disguise them, this artifice shall be equivalent to an express warranty, . A general warranty will not extend to guard against defects that are plainly and obviously the object of the senses. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 235 An action upon the warranty of a horse. 1846 *J. Isaacs's Lib. Pract. Agree* (ed. 4) I. 467 If the house should be afterwards discovered to have been unsound at the time of warranty, the buyer may return it.

**c.** In a contract for insurance, an engagement by the insured that certain statements are true or that certain conditions shall be fulfilled : the breach of this engagement involving the invalidation of the policy.

1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 977 If there be not any warranty or condition on the part of the insured, the insurer is subject to all risks. 1835 *Tomlin's Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Insurance*, I. § 3 Warranties in a policy of [marine] assurance are either express or implied. Of these cases of warranty, on which most questions have arisen, are, as to the time of sailing, convoy, and neutrality of property. 1866 *Arnould's Marine Insur.* I. II. 2. 1 A warranty not implied by law must always be in writing and in every case is inserted on the face of the policy. 1886 C. Scholl *Personal. Dict.* II. 832 A warranty is a condition written on the face of the policy. 1913 *Times* 15 Sept. 18/3 The ordinary tramp steamer, tied down by strict warranties, would not have been covered . In that regard the Oldenburg is .

**2.** *transf.* A guarantee, an assurance. Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1555 Eden *Decades* I. viii (Arb) 92 That he had betrayed his geste whom he tooke into his house with warranties. 1691 Locke *Money Wks* 1751 I. 59 The Stamp (says Mr. Ogle) was a Warranty of the publick, that under such a denomination they should receive a piece of such a weight, and such a fineness. 1893 Scott Gatty *Mary Ann* v, Think you that I am like to recommend to you any thing unworthy ?'..'I cannot doubt your warranty, fair uncle,' said the youth.

**3.** Formal or official sanction (for a course of action, etc.) ; authorization. = Warrant *sb.*1 7. Now *rare*.

1591 Sir H. *Sidney Ll. Hubberd* 186 We shall runne Into great daunger..Thus wildly to wander in the worlds eye, Without passport or good warranty. 1596 Shakes. *Merch. V.* I. i. 132 And from your love I haue a warranty To vnpeople Belmont with my pleas and purposes. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v vi, Nor farther notice (Arete) we craue ! then thine approuds sourceigne warrants. 1604 Shakes. *Oth.* v. ii. 60 I...neuer lou'd Cassio, But with such generall warranties of heauen, As I might loue. 1618 Ld. Sheffield in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 59, I desire your Lordship that under such warrantie I may bee protected, otherwise I shall not adventure to doe his Majestie service in those places. 1669 Jer. Taylor *Dissuas. Popery* I. II. 122 If these things come from God, let them show their warranty, and then I will submit and inquire.

**4.** Justifying reason, ground (*for* an action or belief).

1856 Hor. Smith *Tin Trumpet* II. 108 If (the doctrine of Purgatory) may not have its foundation in Scripture, but [etc.] 1869 Rogers *A. Smith's W. N.* Prof. 9, I am not acquainted with any part of his writings which will give any warranty for such a conclusion. 1876 J. Owen *Evening Prot.* xxix. The smallest civility was sufficient warranty for the opening of an acquaintanceship. 1918 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 230 The Pope was claiming powers, Döllinger urged, for which there was no warranty in the letter of the Bible.

**5.** Substantiating evidence or witness.

1561 Brende *Q. Curtius* vi. (ed. 2) 117 b, The matter was fyrst shewed me by a light felowe, who coulde not bringe any witnes or warrantie [1553 warraunt] of hys talke. 1656 J. Owen *Worship of God* 81 There is sufficient evidence and warranty of this institution. 1886 Dickens *Mystery Fancet.* I, An Barbow Brothers (so to call the traveller on the warranty of his luggage) took his seat [etc.]. 1889 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Trachin.* 744 My son, how say you ? By what warranty ? A deed so hateful say you I have wrought?

†**6.** One who warrants or gives a warrant. *Obs.* 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 304 The prince...Is the formal warrantis [Fr. *garend formel*] unto all his subjects, of that fidelity which is amongst themselves.

**Warratah, -taw**: see WARATAH.

**Warraunt(e**: see WARRANT, WARREN.

**Warraunty**, obs. form of WARRANTY.

†**Warray**, *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 **werrai, werri(e, (werhal, werrei, weirai),** 4–5 **werray(e, werrey(e,** 5 **verray, (verrie, werryo),** 4–6 **wery**; *β.* 4 **warrai, wary**, *Sc.* **varray, vara, warra,** 4–5 **warry**, 4–6 **warrey**, 4–6, 8–9 *arch.* **warray.** [ME. *werreyen*, a. OF. *werreier*, dial. var. of *guerreier* (mod.F. *guerroyer*) = Pr. *guerreiar*, Sp., Pg. *guerrear*, It. *guerreggiare*; a Com. Rom. formation on **werra* *War sb.*!]

**1.** *trans.* To make war upon, ravage by war. = WAR *v.* 1.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7338 Men werrai[ed pam on ilka side. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 161 *Impugnauerunt me...*, *werrayd* [Vulg. *expugnat*, that is ouercum, thaim that fightis agaynes me in ded. 1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 646, I trow he sall nocht mony a day Haue will to werray our cuntre. — 1386 CHAUCER *Serv.'s T.* 1 At Sarray In the land of Tartarye Ther dwelte a kyng that werreyed Russye. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. I. 7 Nynus...Tok vp armys to warray [*v.r.* verray] Seyr landis hat about hym lay. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 320 Whi wyl the gladlyer ...to turneyen a-gein these saraeins that this londe do werryen. 1458 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 140 Gif a lady...le warraid with a hautane knycht of Gaskoyne. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 458 Iohn duke of Normandy ...berynge that his father was thus warreyed wt the Kynge of Englonde, brake vp his voyage and came...vnto his father. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 48 And them long time before, grent Ninrod was, That first the world with sword and fire warryed. *Ibid.* II. x. 30 Ne yet...1594 *Sidney* B.'s b. But after Ninus, warlike Belus sonne; The earth with vnknowne armour did warray. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. vi, Sixe yeeres were ronne since first in martiall guise The Christian Lords warreid the ancient land.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25732 Pe flexs...pe werld...Pe warlau..., pis werrais vs on ilk sides. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints of Ireland* 54 Saule, saule, quhy warrais pou me? *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 401 Impacience is he that wol not been ytaught ne vnderstonde of his vice and by self werreieth [*v.r.* warreth] himself. *Ibid.* II. xx. 1062 *Rom. Rose* 3017 Swiche as Ecclesiaste and in abbey Chastite is werreyed over-al. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 665 Ielous-ye...That hath no longe,.. Werreyed Trouthe with his iniquyte. 1458 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 17 Sanct Augustyne, sanct Jerome,.. with mony othir quhilkis warryed the inymyes of the faith. 1598 SPENSER *Amoretti* xlix, This continuall cruell civill warre, The which my selfe against my selfe doe make: Whilest my weak powres of passions warreid arre. 1768 DOWMAN *Level of Mutes* xlix, With this she oft hath Villainy warray'd.

**2.** *intr.* To make war. Const. *on, upon, against*; also *to warray forth.* = WAR *v.* 2.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2493 Four kinges werraid a pon fiue. *Ibid.* 11879 Falk pai sal gain operise To warri samen mani wise. *Ibid.* 24766 A king was hight willam bastard, Pat warraid in ingland ful hard. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 23 What sholde it hau wrought Hir quha sa varayis vncunnandly, Iay no profyt ther was no rychesse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 140 [He] That was than in the haly land, On saracenys warrayand. *Ibid.* xiii. 387 Hot quha sa varayis vncunnandly, Thai fayngd god all too greatumly. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 143 Pou schall fynd na thing with vs wharfore pou schuld warray vpon vs. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. I. (1558) 218/2 First agaynste Pashur he cast him to werrey. ? 1456 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 167 Oure meny wode Wyth grete poure passed ouere the floode, And verrie forth into the dukes londe. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* (1812) Pref. 2 At sextene yere, to werray and to wage, To juste and ryde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 21 Ebranck...warreyd on Brunchild In Henault. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xvii. 321 In case he had fought the Carthaginian were first (for if he had liued he ment to haue warried there) and then passed ouer into Italie.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 31 Pe charite ai werrais wreth. *Ibid.* 727 Bath pai werhaid on adam, For to bring him in to blam. *Ibid.* 7326 Goddes euer on rightwis side, werraisand again warangris pride. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlix. 13 The wikkid toke my saule to werrey with the kyngdome of wickidnes. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Life our Lady* lxiv.(1484) I vij b, It yaue hem myght to make resistence Agayn synne and Sathanas to warreye. 1458 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Armis* (S.T.S.) 110 Thairfor suld na subiect obey till his soverane to werrey agaynis his God. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 48 Thus warreid he long time against his will.

Hence **Warraying** *vbl. sb.*, warring; persecution. **Warraying** *ppl. a.* (also *absol.*, a persecutor = WARRIOR 1).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19600 Lat we nu pe prechurs stand, For to speik of a warraiand ; Saules soght aiquar and threst All pe cristen he wit mett. *Ibid.* 27250 Enentes knightes, & mistakyng and namli wrangwis warening [*v.r.* warraing]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 650 But pe wat nocht quhat-kyn fortun pe mon dre In our warraying. *Ibid.* V. 140. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. I. 91 Vrth wo than one maneere of werrayng. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. x. 33, I sal distroy.. the town, Quhilk is the caus of all our werrying. 1892 *Prince's Mag.* XLV. 649/2 Those world-warraying heroes that left in every land of Europe the memory of their incredible valour.

**Warray, obs. Sc.** form of VERY.

†**Warrayable**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. In § **warrayable, warryable.** [a. OF. *warriable*, dial. var. of *guerroyable*, f. *warrei-er (guerroyer)* : see WARRAY *v.* and -ABLE.] Fit for warfare.

*a.* *Siege of Rouen* in *Archæologia* XXI. 51 The wallys were fulle warryable And the dykys depe and defensabylle.

**Warrayn, -ayne**, obs. form of WARREN.

†**Warre**. *Obs.* Also **5 werre, 6 war.** [repr. OE. *wearr* str. masc., recorded only in the sense ' callosity '; bat cf. *wearriht* full of callosities, also of a tree, knotty (see WARRIED *a.*). Cf. Flem. *warre* fem., *weer* masc., callosity, knot in wood.] A knot in a tree or in timber.

[*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 161 *Callo* weorras *uel* ill. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 356 Do. waxrras and ða awylas ðe beoð on mannes handum oððe on oðrum limum.] *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5408 The tother [bow]...Ful of knottys and of warre. The tymbre is so ful of warrys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/2 Warre, or knobbe of a tre, *vertex*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A Warre *Ll addit. MS.* Warre) of a tree, *vertex*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 210 But footmanis sa is in the war the grip That by na maner fors...Furth of the stok the schaft vp pull he mycht. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Warre or knobbe of a tree, *nerre*.

Hence † **Warred** *a.* having knots. (Cf. WARRIED *a.*)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lvii. (1495) I iij b/1 The ouer endes of the bones...ben warryd with grete knottes. *Ibid.* xvii. 22. O[ly]s Bose growyth in bote places and stony and is therfore harde and sadly warrid [*Tollemache MS.* warred].

**Warre**, obs. f. WAR and WARE (*sb., a., and v.*).

**Warree, warree** (wo'ri). Also **7 warrie,** 9 **warrie.** [Of uncertain origin.

The word most probably belongs to one of the langs. of the Isthmus of Panama, but it may possibly be a corruption of the Sp. *guarida* (from *guardar* to protect, defend, 598), or seems to be a mispronunciation of Sp. *jabalí* wild boar.]

The white-lipped peccary, *Dicotyles labiatus*, native in Central and South America. Cf. TAGNI, CAYASSU.

1684 B. SHARP *Voy.* (1729) 48 Our Supper.Entertainment was a very good sort of a Wild Beast, called a Warre, which is much like unto our English Hog. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. i. 9 When hunger begins to bite, he [the Moskito Indian] presently kills a Deer, Warree, Guan, Tortoise or Wild Hogs, or Deer. 1699 L. WAFER *Voy.* 105 [Isthmus of Darien] The Warree is another kind of Wild-Hog they have. 1765 *Sc. Robert Duncan* 25 Besides the Hogs, there are two species which are peculiar to those parts of America...the Picary and Warree. 1842 T. YOUNG *Resid. Mosquito Shore* 101 It was desirable neither for hunting, the woods near us being full of warrie. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 449 The white-lipped peccary or warree...is...about an inch in length, of a blackish colour, with the lips and lower jaw white.

**Warree**, variant of WHARE *Austral.*

**Warren** (wo'rĕn), *sb.* Forms: *a* **wareine, 4–5 wareyne, 5 warenne, warreyne,** 5–6 **-ayn, wareyn, war(e)ane,** 6 **warryn,** 6–7 **waren, warraine, ? warrin,** 5– **warren**; *β.* 4–5 **warrayne,** 5 **warrain(e, -ain,** 5–6 **warraunte,** 6, 8 **warrant.** [a. AF. *warenne*, Norman-French OF. *warenne, waresne* (whence AL. *warenna*), corresp. to Central OF., mod.F. *garenne*, game-park, also (now chiefly) rabbit-warren, Pr. *garena* ; of Teut. origin, f. root **war-* to protect, guard : cf. OF. *warir* WARE *v.* The suffix is obscure, and it is uncertain whether the word is of Teut. or Rom. formation. The OF. type **waranda (garande, -ende)*, whence the (M)Du. *waranda* park, may be a mere variant of *warena*, or represent a Teut. pp. OF. had also a form *varenne* (perh. due to the med.L. *varenna* of charters) which survives in mod.F. *varenne* moor inhabited by game.

The *β* forms below may possibly in part represent the OF. **warrande*, but cf. the English addition of *t* in tyrant. CASTOR is also adopted from the French (original).]

**1.** A piece of land enclosed and preserved for breeding game. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

*a.* 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 163 Vncouaple bei wenden bobe in wareine & in waste where hem leue lyketh. 1490 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 431/1 Vnlawefull hunters of Forestes, Parkes or Warennes, or any other oppyn Mysdoers. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 420 He made my lordes hairreyns, My woode and my warreyne. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 20 *Wilderne* alsi. 99 Thanne they come out of the wareyne [where they had chased a hare]. 1558 in *Phillipps Wills* (1830) 127 All that part of Warren of Alboures which lieth within the precincts of Southwood Walke. 1563 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1719) XV. 699 Keeper of Parks Houses Warenes or other Games of Venerie. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xix. 200/1 in *Holinshed*, In parks and warrens we haue nothing else than...the keepers and warreners lodge. 1592 *Exped. Cyprus* (Camd. Soc.) 96 Warren is a place priuiledged by prescription or graunt of the Queene, for the preseruation of hares, conies, partriges and feasantes or anie of them. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 222, I found him there as melancholy as Lodge in a warren. *c* 1620 BRAUN. & FL. *Nice Valy* v. 1, He make you take a tree, whore,...and then issue you cast, and hang vp ith warren. *a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* IV. (1648) 296 He that hath a Warren within a free Chase may build upon his own inheritance within his Warren a conuenient lodge for preseruation of his game. 1683 *Trials per Pais* 17 The Parents, Pasture, Warren, and Woods stored with wild Beasts only for Recreation and Food. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 9 A sort of wild Apple, or Crab tree, that grow as thicke as Broom in a Heath or Warren. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July, I went to Marden, which was originally a barren warren bought by Sir Robert Clayton. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xiii. 175 Being the owner, or keeper, of a forest, park, chase, or warren.

*β.* 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xvii. (Arb.) 42 It stondeth in a woode named hulsterlo vpon a warande in the wyldernesse. 1599 *Sortes Hibn.* (1890) 32 That no man hawke nor hunte vpon my Lord's warrauntes. 1589 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. E 3, You shall haue some that...will not sticke to pull downe whole townes...and...make them parkes, chases, warrants and I cannot tell what of the same. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1051 Therefore when Orders are given to hunt the Elephants, they pitch upon a convenient place for a Warrant or Park.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 Hee goeth hand in hand with Nature, not inclosed within the narrow warrant of her guilfulness, but freely ranging onely within the Zodiack of his owne wit. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. iv, He hid him beat abroad, and not poach up the Game in his Warren. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 135/2 In Java the people may keep whether as a warren or preserve for its own use, a place to make money in.

†**c.** (*Free*) *warren*, a right of keeping or hunting beasts and fowls of warren (see d). *Obs.*

1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 374/2 The Office of Keping of Woode, in the Lordshipp of Kyrtlyppton, and Keping of Warren of Hares there. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 2 The Bailiffwike of Toppesam with free Chase, Warrenage and Chase and the Waren of Conies within the same. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 20 b, The kynge graunted to yᵉ sayd cytesyns free lybertye of huntynge certayne tyme cyrcuyte about London. 1598 BACON *Elem. Com. Law* I. (1630) 13 If I haue free warren in my owne ground, and let my land for life not mentioning the warren, yet the leasee by implication shall haue the warren discharged and extract during his lease. 1683 *Trials per Pais* (1852) 368 Whosoever hath libertie of free warren, maye haue his speciall action of Trespasse at the comon lawe, against anye that shall hunte or chase therein. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iii. 38 Free-warren is a similar franchise, erected for preservation or custody (which the word signifies) of beasts and fowls of warren. 1796 PENNY *Heraldry* iv. (1777) 69 Sir John de Chetwynd...had a warren for hares in that through all his demesne. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 26 Whether the rights of free warren and free chace were conferred. 1873 BLACKMORE *Alice Lorraine* I. 1 I am to have my own free warren of all Sir Reginald's vast estates. 1913 H. W. C. DAVIS *Regesta Reg. Anglo-Norm.* Introd. 31 Grants of free hunting are few in number; even the right of free warren is rarely granted.

†**d.** *Beasts, fowls of warren* : see quots. 1598 and 1628.

*a* 1530 *Act 31 Hen. VIII*, c. 3 A chase...for nourishyng generacion and feeding of beastes of warren. 1598 MARWOOD *Laws of Forest* iv. 22 b, The beasts and foules of Warren are these, the Hare, the Connie, the Pheasant, and the Partridge. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 233 There bee both Beasts and Foules of the Warren, Beasts, as Hares, Conies, and Roes...Foules...as Partridge, Quaile, Raile,.. Pheasant, Woodcocke,...Hernes, Herons.

**2.** *spec.* A piece of land appropriated to the breeding of rabbits (formerly also of hares). More fully *rabbit-warren* (see RABBIT *sb.*¹ 3 a), CONY-WARREN, HARE-WARREN.

Now usually a piece of uncultivated ground on which rabbits breed wild in burrows.

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, Whan hares be ygete with the kynde of a conynge, as somme ben in the warayntes [*Dool. MS.* warenes], the houndes lust not smelth hem nought so wele. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* viii. (1539) 50 These children...entred the warrayn of a lord of Fraunce...and there chased and shote at Conyes for their disport. 1530 *Scyphi...* in *Arb. Garner* (E. E. T. S.) 48 Warrenne swarminge full of conyes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Lagotrophia*, a warren or parke of hares. 1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 13 § 5 In any Parke Warren or Grounde inclosed for the preseruance of any game of Conyes. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 442 We found the whole countrey to bee a warren of a strange kinde of Conies. 1609 J. DAVIES *Holy Roode* 114 Whether hath he any Warren of Conies, or Hares. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* II. i, Like a young Puppy in a Warren, they have a Flirt at all, and catch none. 1773 GOLDSM. *She Stoops to Conq.* II. When company comes you are not to pop out and stare, and then run in again, like frighted rabbits in a warren. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 813 He poach'd the wood, and kept a warren too. 1892 TENNYSON' *Dyc-lanes & Downs* iv. 57 After passing...over a warren crenelled like a cullender, and divers stubble fields, 1893 W. MCILWRAITH *Quail Shooting* 2 Quail are found along the coast [of the Bay of Luce] is a vast warren of rabbits.

**b.** *transf.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. lvi. I. 267 Fulvius Hirpinus was the first inventor of warrens as it were for Winkles (*L. cochlearum vivaria*). 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1860) 388 The bottom...enter the ground in a warren, so that when walking over these lizard-warrens, the soil is constantly giving way.

†**c.** *slang.* [Misapprehension of *warren* var. of WARRANT *sb.*] (See quots.)

1610 DEKKER *Lantk. & Candle-light* iv. Wks. (Grosart) III. 231 He vpon whose credit these Rabbet-suckers runne, is called the Warren. *Ibid.* 236 Whilst this faire weather lasteth,..These Rabbet suckers, Warrens or Warrants the writers they fatted. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Warren*, he that is Security for Goods taken up, on Credit, by Extravagant young Gentlemen.

**3.** The inhabitants of a warren ; *transf.* any collection or assemblage of small animals.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 271 In which, three or foure couple of Hares do quickly multiply into a great warren. 1642 FERTHER *Woman Wonne* I. iv, I'le to Sanctuary. That a tame warren of flyes frisk round about him. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables Æsop*, etc. CCCXXXIII. 291 The Cony.. Consented to a Wise Warren of Rats, by Slory and Advice upon a Reveuge. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiv. 393 It was marvellous...what a perfect warren [of rats] we soon had on board.

**4.** A building or settlement likened to a rabbit-warren ; †a brothel ; a building or cluster of dwellings (esp. if partly underground) densely populated by poor tenants.

*a* 1649 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Cupt.* III. 1, And Now yeares gifties from wodded virgins and their shee Provincialls

whose warren must here licence'd from our Office.' *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Warren*, ...also a Boarding-school and a Lewd-house. 1884 *Standard* 5 June, The Conservative party has recognised it in the case of the rookeries with which London still swarms. Will it not do something also for the warrens? 1886 Tennyson *Locksley Hall Sixty Yrs. after* 224 And the crowded couch of incest in the warrens of the poor. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 124/1 The margi...is covered with a warren of holes scattered haphazard, 1919 *Ibid.* Nov. 691 A large passenger steamer...is, in every one who has travelled by water knows, an amazing warren of passages.

**†5.** An old name for the site of Woolwich Arsenal. Hence used *gen.* (see quot. 1769). *Obs.*

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Fr. Terres, Arsenal de marine*, a royal dock-yard, together with its warren or gun-wharf. *Ibid.*, *Commissaire*, He keeps a register of all the artillery within the warren where he resides. 1774 *Annu Register* 223 Woolwich ..In the warren or park, where they make trial of great guns and mortars, there are several thousand pieces of ordnance for ships and batteries [etc.]. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* (Otridge's ed.) 490 The ordnance board have signified to general Lloyd who commands the Artillery at Woolwich, that the name of that place is to be from this time denominated the 'Royal Arsenal'.

**†6.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—

[A spurious sense; the article is translated from the article *Garenne* in Chomel's *Dict. Œconom.* (1709), but *garenne* is *Rabbit-warren*.]

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict., Warren*, a Term in Fishery, being an easy and cheap way, of preserving and storing Fish, in the midst of a River, by making, as it were a Warren, for the Fish to retreat to.

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *warren-hill*, *-rabbit*, *-wall*; *warren-like* adj.

1700 Chauncy *Hertfordsh.* 381 Upon the Warren Hill is an Beech, which will repeat on to Trespassers twelve times together. *a* 1748 in *Ann. Reg.* 1770, ii. 52, I have lived three years in a poor cottage under your warren-wall. 1876 Tyndall *Fr. Hours Mutter Alp* (1878) 118 In the same way hares run throughout, though of varying degrees of intensity. ..In rabbit it was less fine than in hare, and in a tame rabbit less fine than in a warren rabbit. 1889 *Fishing Gaz.* 318 A warren-like scuttle of alarmed...Radicals across the floor of the House of Commons. 1890 Lyell *Golden South* 168 We found 'New Old Pipeclay' [digging] more warren-like than the one we had seen.

**†Warren, -yn,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [? f. Warre + -en.] *Warren free*, a hard oak. Cf. Warried, Warry *adjs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. iii. 83 The mekill sylls of the warryn [*ed.* 1710 warren] tre Wyth wedgis and with proppis bene stevyt.

**Warren,** obs. form of Warrant, Warn *v.*1

**†Warrenage.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Warren *sb.* + -age.] ? A payment for the right of free warren.

1610 [see Commonage 1].

**Warrender,** variant of Warrener.

**Warrener** (wo·rənəɹ). Forms: *a.* 3 warener, 4–5 waryner'e, warinar, 5 warennur, 6 warronnar, warryner, -eyner, -atner, 6–7 war-(r)iner, 7 warrenor, 7–8 warrenner, 6– **warrener**; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 warander, -dare, 6 warrandar, varrandar, 9 (*hist.* and *dial.*) **warrender**; *b.* 4–6 warrene, 5–ere. [a. North-eastern OF. *warrenier* (Central OF., mod.F. *garrenier*), f. *warenne* (*garenne*) Warren *sb.*]

**1. a.** An officer employed to watch over the game in a park or preserve. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* **b.** A servant who has the charge of a rabbit-warren.

In the earlier quots. the two applications of the word cannot be distinguished with certainty.

*a.* 1297 *Hertfordsh Coroners Rec.* 25 b (1897) 161 Thomam le Warener de Fakenham. 1368 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 159 See-se be scoters wyl sat on be Benche, Watte be wariner [1377 warner, 1393 warayner] and his wyf bobe. 1483–8 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 609/2 Th' office of Warenar-r, or keping of the Warren. 1493 *Rental Bk Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 188 Tha sall gife twa akrys of land till our warenar of our kinnysyare. *c* 1500 tr. *Charter Lond.* in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) 6/2 Wythin whic he wareyn nether waryne ne forester nor Justice of our forest of Essex ne wodes ne huntynge ne of repynge of her comens entermet hem any thinge. 1551–2 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot* X. 66 Item...to ane warrander send to Artane to ane clappattis for cunnyngis, xviii s. 1573–80 Tusser *Hush.* (1878) 72 Get warrenner lo-ndes to vermin thy ground. 1584 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* (Surtees) 17 Item given to the warrander for killinge of twoe foxes, xiiſ. 1598 Shak. *Merry W.* i. iv. 11 Mr. Markham *Eng. Husbandman* ii. ii. iv. (1635) 59 We see Warriners and Poulters sell Rabbets, a fat, and a leane ever coupled together. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* ii. 19 May a Forrester, Warriner, or Keeper of a Parke, lawfully lease and kill another in defence of his...game? 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1564/4 William Hooker, Warriner and Servant to George Vernon of Sudbury. 1770 G. White *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 17 Apr., Warreners observe...that if eir rabbits are never in such good case as in a gentle frost. 1800 *Holt Advertiser* 6 Dec. 1 2 The warren contains an ample breeding stock of rabbits...The warrener upon the premises will shew the same. 1829 T. Brown *Biogr. Sk. Dogs* 529 Warreners...make use of a *ver* resembling a polecat, which is not unfrequently concealed in a piece of raw meat, to entice fourmarts and weasels to eat it. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* iii. 1724 [Among officers of Scarborough corporation] Warrener and Gamekeeper. 1877 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* s.v., My father was warrenner at Thorganby when I was born.

*attrib.* 1591 Greene *Not. Discov. Cozenage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 32 A cony-catcher...what is he a warriner fellow?

*b.* 1377 [see *sb.*] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512/1 Warrere, *warrinarius*. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 378/2 he Offices of Bailliff of the Manour and Lordship foren of Myche Marlowe...and Warner, Wodward, [etc.]. *a* 1500 *Tale K. Edw. & Sheph.* in Hartshorne *Anc. Metr. T.* (1829) 45 The warner is hardy and fell. 1903–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, *c.* 10 § 7 The Office of Warner or Warnershipp of oure Waren of Methwolde.

**2.** One who owns or rents a warren.

1846 *Youatt's Lond. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 2) I. 338 Warreners are sometimes liable to great losses from an epidemical disorder among rabbits. 1858 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* i. vii. § 10 The sport of shooting rabbits is never carried on in the warrens, because the warrener does not wish his property wasted, and prefers trapping them. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., Numerous parcels of ground let out formerly to warreners have been ploughed up.

**3.** A warren rabbit.

1864 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VII. 325 The warrener burrows underground, and has the most valuable fur.

**†Warrenership.** *Obs.* [-ship.] The office of warrener.

For some quots. that possibly belong to this word see Warrenship.

1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 352/2 The Baillishipp and Warrenership of Brayles. *Ibid.* 371/1 The Offices of Warrenship of Methwold within oure Countie of Norff'. 1503–4 *Ibid.* 541/2 [see Warrener 1].

**Warrer** (wo·rəɹ). Forms: 3 weorreur, 3–5 werrour(e, 3–4 werreur, wereur, verreur, 5 werrur, verreur, 5– warrer. [Early ME. *werreur*, *werrour*, etc., a. AF. *werrour*, agent-n. f. *werrer* to war, f. *werre* War *sb.*; coalescing with the later English formation on War *v.* + -er1.]

**†1.** One who engages in warfare, a soldier, warrior. Also, an antagonist, a persecutor. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Ancr. R.* 98 Ye weorreur of helle mel longe aasilen ou. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8306 Wereur art pou ful wight. *Ibid.* 20931 To Iusin he [Paul] first was verreur [*Gött.* werrour] And wit-vten dred ful dangerour. 13.. *Ibid.* 18014 (Gött.) Sir nathan pan till hell answerd...Receiue iesu...vr werreur bath mi and pine. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1840) 398 How he hadde euer ben strong warrour, For pat kesu loue. *c* 1400 *Land Tryp Bk.* 3771 Theire Cite is bothe styff, stalworthe, and strong; ..And full of men and gode vertoures. *?a* 1436 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 199 The mervelloune werrour and victorious prince, Kyng Henri the vi^th. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. xx (Harl. MS.) Dare lord, be dosty werrour, lieue criste. 1480 Warw. *Chron.* 2 The best warrer of all that time.

**2.** One who wars or contends (*against* something).

1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* II. xi. 168 On the occasions of all the great religious festivals in Cairo, ..these female warrers, against modesty [*i. e.* unveiled girls], are sure to be seen.

**Warry,** variant of Warray *v.* *Obs.*

**Warreyne, -er:** see Warren *sb.*, Warrener.

**Warreyour,** obs. form of Warrior.

**Warriangle,** variant of Wariangle *Obs.*

**Warrick,** variant of Warrok *dial.*

**Warridge, warrage.** *north.* Also **war-(r)ish.** See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Of obscure origin; cf. Wales of the same meaning.] The width (of a horse).

1790 Ghost *Provinc Glass.* (ed. 2), *Warridge*, the withers of a horse. North. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 9 June 2/2 A dark-brown galloway, hrs...a harish place upon her warridge. 1869 Crowley *Idiom, Warridge*, the withers of a horse. 'A grand-like colt, but a wee bit thick i' t' warrage.'

**Warrie,** obs. f. Warry *a.*; var. Wary *v.* *Obs.*

**†Warried,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Warre; cf. Oe. *warrad*, knotty, of which this word may be an altered variant.] Of a tree: Full of knots. Cf. Warren, Warry *adjs.*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* xiii. 940 More hard than warryed Oke or twyne [*Durior annoso quercu*].

**Warrigal** (wo·rigăl), *sb.* (and *a.*) *Austral.* Also 9 **warragal.** [An aboriginal word, spelt *warrigal*, *warra-gal*, *warri-gal*, *wurrihal*, *warri-bul* etc. by various writers on the Australian language; said to have the senses 'dog' and 'savage' (*sb.* and *adj.*). In the former sense it is freq. quoted as a native word from 1793 onwards; the sense 'savage' is given by Bunce *Lang. Aborigines Victoria*, 1859.]

**A.** *sb.*

**1.** The wild dog of Australia, the Dingo.

1793 G. Tench *Sydney* 8 R. Brunswick) *Gazetter's Dream* xix. 240 A warrigal will be picking some of your bones before this day six months. 1827 Kipling *Seven Seas*, *Song of Dead* 4 Where the warrigal whimpers and buys through the dusk of the sun-river-courses.

**2.** A wild Australian aboriginal.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, I swore to shoot the old warrigal at sight. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Aug 4/2 A 'warrigal' originally meant a wild blackfellow.

*transf.* 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Aug. 4/2 By an easy and natural transition, 'warrigal' has now come to signify a hot-blooded youth who goes the pace and makes things hum when he gets out of his teens.

**3.** A wild or untamed Australian horse.

1881 *Australasian* 21 May 647/4 (Morris) How we ran in 'The Black Warragal'. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 14 June 4/8 Mike, he'd fret himself to death in a stable and maybe kill the groom. Mike's a warrigal, is he.

**B.** *adj.* Wild.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* viii. A real good whole some cabbage—warrigal cabbage, the shepherds call it. *Squatter's Dream* xx. 249 He's a good shot and these warrigal devils know it.

**Warrin, -er:** see Warren *sb.*, Warrener.

**Warring** (wŏ·rin), *vbl. sb.* [f. War *v.*1 + -ing1.] The action of the verb.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6095 Ac, for they weore in the fen Kyng Alisaundre leu-eth many men, Ac, allegate, the kynges Louen ten ageynes on in werynges. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 147 Pei techen cristen men to sufre...moche wakynge & displesynge & betynge for to gete worldly honour & a litel drit ie fals werynge out of charite. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2975 Arthur loued noght but warynge. *c* 1480 Lovelich *Merlin* 12 070 To Socouren lodegan the kyng that in his contre hath gret werynge. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* II. v, *Lew.* When was the Prince with her? answer me directly. *Guy.* Not since he went a warring.

**b.** *fig.*

1511 Colet *Serm. Convoc.* A viij b, The warrynge of them is not carnall but spirituall. For our warrynge is to pray, to rede and study scriptures [etc.]. 1884 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 15/2 A sense of effort in reading a poem, arises from a wearing between the rhythm of nature and the rhythm peculiar to the metrical structure adopted.

**Warring** (wŏ·rin), *ppl. a.* [f. War *v.*1 + -ing2.]

**1.** That makes or carries on war; that contends in warfare. (Now chiefly with plural subject and the implication 'mutually'.)

1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* II. i, Half the warring World upon thy Side. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* xxiii, Hence...Herbert's and Churchill's Warring Progeny. 1818 Hyron *Ch. Harv.* iv. lxiii, Such is the absorbing hate when warring nations meet! 1849 James *Woodman* i, The human vulture, which follows on the track of warring armies to batten upon the spoils of the dead. 1874 *Green Short Hist.* vi. § 3. 393 The two warring lines were united by his [Henry VII] marriage with Elizabeth. 1907 *Times* 22 May 9/4 Our sword...stands between peace and the chaos of warring nations.

**2.** *fig.* Engaged in strife, contending; *esp.* with plural subject, mutually contending, discordant.

**a.** of the elements.

1608 Shaks. *Lear* iv. vii. 38 (Quos.) Was this a face To be exposed against the warring [*Folio* 1 barring] winds. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 432 Oft have I seen a sudden Storm arise, From all the warring Winds that sweep the Skies. 1697 — *Æneis* i. 753 When Winds, and ev'ry warring Element, Disturb'd our Course. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* vi. 206 Twice ten tempestuous nights I roll'd, resign'd To roaring billows, and the warring wind. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* (1879) 117 How delightful was that still night, after having been so long involved in the din of the warring elements! 1911 L. Tracy *Mistaker's Int.* i. (1913) 20 Ages of warring tides had thrust a deep-water passage...through the opposing barrier.

**b.** of passions, etc.

1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* II. i, The warring Passions, and tumultuous Thoughts. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* vii, Betwixt Despair, and Rage, and Hope, and Pain, Something within his warring Bosom roll'd. 1791 Burns *'Ae fond kiss'* 4 Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee!

**c.** of persons, parties, etc.

1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oedipus King* 634 What means this senseless din of warring tongues? 1898 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Sept. 290/1 It...would inevitably have reflected one or other of the warring schools into which their flocks are divided.

**Warrior** (wo·riəɹ). Forms: 3–4 werreour, worreour, 4 weorriour, werraiur, werrayure, werreyoure, 4 5 werrayour, werriour, worreor, 5 werryour, werryor, weryor, verriour, 6 *Sc.* weirreour, 5 warreyour, waryour, varioure, 6 warreoure, waryer, warryar, 6–7 warrier, 6–9 warriour, 6– warrior. [Early ME., a. north-eastern OF. *werreieor*, *werrieur*, etc. (= Central OF. *guerreieor*, *guerrieur*, *guerreyour*, etc., mod.F. *guerroyeur*), agent-n. f. *werreier* (*guerrier*): see Warray *v.*]

The synonymous F. *guerrier* (= Pr. *guerrier*, Sp. *guerrero*, Pg. *guerreiro*, It. *guerriero*, *-ero*) is a different formation. For the ME. *weorreur*, *werreur*, *werour*, *-eur*, *vereur*, see Warrer.]

**†1.** One who makes war upon; a persecutor. (Cf. Warray *v.* 1 b.) *Obs.*—1

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20933 (Edinb.) To paim be [Paul] firste was werreyour, efter ward luuerour.

**II. 2.** One whose occupation is warfare; a fighting man, whether soldier, sailor, or (latterly) airman; in eulogistic sense, a valiant or an experienced man of war. Now chiefly *poet.* and *rhetorical*, exc. as applied to the fighting men of the ages celebrated in epic and romance and of uncivilized peoples, for whom the designation *soldier* would be inappropriate.

The word found a memorable application in the designation of 'The Unknown Warrior', who on 11 Nov. 1920 was honoured with a stately funeral in Westminster Abbey as the representative of all who had given their lives for England in the great war. To which of the services he belonged was kept a secret, so that the comprehensive word 'warrior' was both necessary and felicitous.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2164 Knistes & oþer worreours, þat to þis londe wende. *Ibid.* 9548 Sende we yute after mi sonne, octo, & elyue, bat quointe werreiour. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xx. 416 Than, as gud warriours, and wis, With thame stoutly assemblit he. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 412 Petir was not heed of pe Chirche, but a conpeyn of pe Chirche. And certis werriouris wolen scorne pis resoun, pat if a man be captayn, he is heed. 1388 — *Ecclus.* xxvi. 28 A man a werriour [Vulg. *vir bellator*] failynge bi nedyenes. 1410 *Pol. Poems* IV. 138 Cause be not to coueite, be bat rystwys werryours be, But loke where rist quarel lys. 1420 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 155 Iulyus Cesar the fome werriour. 1448 *Q. Mathan Wks.* (1916) 11 O Mars ! chiualrys

off nobyl weryouns. 1496 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 5 Men that wont was to be werryouns to defend the kirk *rycht*. a 1513 Lyndsay *Chronicles* 111 The duke of Lancastre landed at Calcys with a stronge company of archers and other warryours. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot* (Rolls) I 384 Thir werreours into thair weirlie weid, He gart thame enter in the thickest thrang. c 1538 Starkey *England* I ii 49 To the handys are resemblyd bothe crafty men and wartyars wych defend the rest of the body from injury of enmyys ward. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 48 King Henry ordred his men for I is most aduantage like an expert capitaine and a courageous warrier [*read* warrer]. 1581 T. Wilson *Logic* H vij b, 365 He should al captaines, and men of warre, be tender ouer there poore warriours and base souldiours. 1590 Drant *Sevyn Lvjb*, It should behoue me to tell a long tal of whyte warriers and fire brandes of warre these Popes of Rome haue bene. 1593 Shake 3 *Hen VI*, I iv 13 And when the hardyest Warriors dul resyve, Richard cryde, Charge, and giue no foot of ground. 1641 Parl. Monum tr. *Ireland's Civil Wars* iv 28 Hee was rightly ranked in the number of the chiefe warriors of this age. 1738 Edmund Orchard II 365 He held a prodigal hand gain'd the reputation of a warrior. 1788 J. White *Fatal Vey N S Wales* (1790) 118 Many of their warriors, or distinguished men, are observed to be painted in stripes, across the breast and back. 1806 Worsnop *Happy Warrior* 8 Who is the happy Warrior? Who is he that every man in arms should wish to be? 1814 Scott *Waverley* II xii 205 Warriors I—and where are warriors found, If not on mutual Britain's ground? 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xv, A swarthy band of the native chiefs with the warriors of their several tribes. 1837 *Penny Cyclop.* VII, He sprung like an ardent warrior from his tent. 1901 *Times* 15 Apr 10/6 On April 6 a band of 40 to 50 native warriors made a dash for the camp

*fig.* 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 1045 Whosoeuer will playe the warrier vnder Christ

b. occas. applied to a woman, *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1400 Maundv. (Roxb.) xvii 78 [Sir w]mmen er nol le werry yrs nes and wyys. 1595 Spenser *Amoretti* xi 3 Dayly when I do seeke and sew for peace, The cruell warriour, doth her selfe addreste To battell. *Ibid.* lxi 1 Long I the warriour when shall I haue peace with you? 1604 Shaks. *Oth* II i 184 *Oth* O, my faire Warriour! *Des* My deere Othello. 1762 Goldsm *Lett.* xxxiii, Female Warriors.

c. *transf.* Applied to an animal.

1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 340 The stooping Warriours, aiming Head to Head, Engage their clashing Horns. 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* V 300 The small red-breasted bird. However contemptible these little warriors are to larger creatures, they are often but too formidable to each other. 1887 W. S. Symonds *Old Hill-Towns in England* 202 vii 135 ' Look out for it at old c wagaun,' I k, shouts Jim, 'and I think that bullock a bit of a warrior. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath of Veld* (1899) 161, I had a nice easy shot at the old warri r [a wild pig]

d. *Warrior's belt* see quot.

1899 W. Rossiter *Bet See Iterne, Warrior's belt*, three bright stars Alnitak, Alnilam, and Mintaka, in the constellation Orion.

3. (*Bloody*) *warrior* a local name for the wallflower, *Cheiranthus Cheiri*.

1895 Jennings *Observ Dial W Eng., Bloody warrior*, the wall flower 1898 Bleicher *Mry Forst Book* 25 Fine grant warriors with bloodred blossoms 1875 W Cobb *Field & F ull* (1897) 181 All wallflow rs (which our people call 'bloody warriors') shed their blossoms 1883 Miss Buchanon *Bethesda* I vi, The little garden path, where the bloody warriors grow in the sandy border.

4. South American humming-bird of the genus *Oxypogon*.

1881 Gould *Monogr Trochilidæ* III Pl 181 *Oxypogon Guerinii* Guerin's Helmet crest *Warrior*, of the dealers in specimens of natural history *Ibid* Pl 183 *Oxypogon Lindeni Black Warrior*, of the dealers.

5. *Black warrior*: an American bird of prey see quot

1844 Cours *Key N Amer Birds* ed 2) 343 *Buteo harlani* Harlan's Buzzard. 1844 Black Warrior.

6. *attrib.* a. quasi-adj, belonging to or characteristic of a warrior, martial [? after F. *guerrier* adj.], as *warrior-blood, helt, hymn, laurel, lay, melee, plume, sound, spirit, threat, trumpet, wrath, youth.* b appositive, that is a warrior, as *warrior-angel, ant, bird, chief, dame, god, guest, hero, king, lone, maid, man, priest, prophet, saint, son, steel, woman*, consisting of warrior, as *warrior caste, class, file, host, nation, train, tribe.* c. similative, as *warrior like* adj. and adv, *warrior wise* adv

1697 Milton *P L* IV 946 To whom the Warrour Angel soon repli'd 1834 *Penny Cycl* VI 65/1 There are whole communities of warrior ants 1897 *Outing* XXX 248/2 It was the adva nce guard of the warrior ants and each leaf was carried by an ant! 1830 Mrs Hemans *Wood-Fall* 11 A Warrior bird! what seek'st thou here? 1888 — *Birds of Passage* 70 Proud rivers, whose tide hath roll'd All dark with the warrior blood of old 1842 W C Taylor *Anc Hist* II § 6 (ed 3) 92 In the reign of Psammetichus, the entire Warrior caste of the Egyptians migrated to Ethiopia 1715 Pope *Iliad* IV 408 Then lives thy Warrior Chief a Warrior's Date. 1837 *Penny Cycl Prime* II xvi 81 (1867) 372 The warrior class attains a perfect separation from classes devoted to the cultivation of the soil 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII 1093 A Warriour Dame 1819 Scott *Harold* VI, xiv, What rage is thine To quit the worship of thy line, To leave thy Warrior God? 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xiii, That night the Baron dreamt of many a woe, And all his warrior-guests Were long he nigt tmar d. 1721 J. Hughes *Praises Henry Purl* 10 How glorious is to see The warrior hero fight for liberty 1824 New Brunswick *Rom Page* v, While in Palestine The warrior knight drave. 1725 Pope *Odyss* VI 196 By the Deluan coast I voyag d, leader of a warrior band 1887 Meredith *Ballads & P.* 58 Fear of silence made them strive Loud in warrior hymns. 1725 Pope *Odyss* XI 662 With haughty stalk he sought the distant glades Of warrior Kings 1851 Tennyson *To Queen* 4 The warrior kings of old 1903 Prior *Ode to Mem Col G & Hallows* 87 Phœbus the Warrior Lawrel o'er his Brow 1815 Scott *Troubadours* iii And still was heard his warrior harp 1852 Hutton, Warriour lyke, *Ilicosta* 2176 Warrioure *Louth Hist* (1728) I 128 Thus, Warrior-like, did'st scour the dang rous field 1590 Shake *Mids N* II i 72 Why art thou here But that forsooth Your bus kind Mistresse and your Warrior I us Lo Theseus must be Wedded 1725 Pope *Odyss* XI 25 The warrior Maid Glides thro the valves, and hovers round her head 1821 Byron *Cain Her* I iii, He heard the busy hum of warrior men 1830 Thackeray *Naughty Cousin* iii, Sir Ulric rode first in the warrior *mêlée* 1872 Macleod *Gaelic Journal* I xxvi 378 The speed and treasure of warrior minis 1823 Mrs. Hemans *Vespers of Palermo* v iii, The joyous winds Are to sing warrior plumes. 1921 W W Bowler in *Poetical Rev* XVII 1904/2 The Sun or dawning warrior priests of Mus 1817 Jody Mongan *Jean a* (1818) II 37 To whom Moses gave the most fearful command ever issued by the warrior prophet to his obedient host 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII 1093 Then with a grateful Mean, I gifts from her lofty Steed, the Warrior Queen 1780 Cowper *Iliad* xxii 1 When the British warrior queen, bleeding from her wounded breast [etc] 1845 Sarah Austin *Fantasmien Hist Heine* II xi 147 The warrior saints, St George and St Martin 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII 140 Hercules, the warrior Host to feed 1920 *Discovery* May 133/1 A series of striking multi ny successes gained by Mchemet [Ali] and his warriors 1803 Scott *Lochinvar Castle* iii Like the true Knight's Warrior-maid 1842 Mayne *Lamia* 38 Lo! I see The wind the warrior spirit of the Indies, sanctioned rather than rebuked by prophetic communion 1890 *Engl Illust Mag* 1 To the almost total absence of this warrior spirit from the poetry of the Parl iat 1685 Dryden *Thren Augt* 474 No neighing of the Warriour Steeds 1814 Scott *Waverley* II xii 204 The warrior trust the in fant's plum, were heard in vain 18 Cowley *Web* I 124 (Jod.) The warrior Iron Though it st were sorely wrought 1920 *Discovery* May 133/1 A series of striking multi ny successes gained by Mchemet [Ali] and his warriors 1803 Scott *Lochinvar Castle* iii Like the true Knight's Warrior-maid 1842 Mayne *Lamia* 38 Lo! I see The wind the warrior spirit of the Indies, sanctioned rather than rebuked by prophetic communion 1890 *Engl Illust Mag* 1 To the almost total absence of this warrior spirit from the poetry of the Parl iat 1685 Dryden *Thren Augt* 474 No neighing of the Warriour Steeds 1814 Scott *Waverley* II xii 204 The warrior trust the in fant's plum, were heard in vain 18 Cowley *Web* I 124 (Jod.) The warrior Iron Though it st were sorely wrought 1920 *Discovery* May 133/1 A series of striking multi ny successes gained by Mchemet [Ali] and his warriors 1803 Scott *Lochinvar Castle* iii Like the true Knight's Warrior-maid 1842 Mayne *Lamia* 38 Lo! I see The wind the warrior spirit of the Indies, sanctioned rather than rebuked by prophetic communion 1890 *Engl Illust Mag* 1 To the almost total absence of this warrior spirit from the poetry of the Parl iat 1685 Dryden *Thren Augt* 474 No neighing of the Warriour Steeds 1814 Scott *Waverley* II xii 204 The warrior trust the in fant's plum, were heard in vain 18 Cowley *Web* I 124 (Jod.) The warrior Iron Though it st were sorely wrought

Hence **Warriorhood**, **Warriorism**, **Warriorship**.

1837 *Tait's Mag* IV 726 The stirring and barbarous ages of universal warriorship. 1889 *Onan Arts of War* 20 What wonder that the warriorship system glorified him into the normal type of warrior blood 1892 *Nation* (N Y) 24 Mar 22/2 The secret of warriorism.

**Warrioress** (wo riores) [f Warrior + -ess] A female warrior

1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 50 Now to the combat had this warrioresse Plighted her selfe 1596 Spenser *F Q* V viii 27 Besoones that warrioresse with haughty creet Did forth vouse, and him defyde to fight 1654 Jas Howell *Lexicon* (1688) 126 Mathilda, that famous Warrioress, who carried so great a stir ke in the state of Italy 1755 T. H Croker *Virg Pastorals* 104 Penthesilea, He quickly turn'd, a Valorous Maid, viewed Sight of his warm ress belov'd to gain 1885 *Athenæum* 17 Mar *Lit* (1889) II 58 The virgin warrioress assails the castle

*Ag* 1598 Dickenson *Greene in Conc* (1878) 137 With her tongue she was as tall a warrioresse as any of hir sexe

**†Warrious**, *a. Obs* *rare*—1. [f. Warr *sb* 1 + -ious (the form suggested by Warrior)] Warlike

1581 Rich *Farewell* (1846) 21 A Valorous Lord, a most warrious knight, and one that will not easily put vp a iniurie which is the meane to make a noble and a warrious captaine

**†Warrish**, *a Obs.* [f. Warr *sb* 1 + -ish] Warlike

1747 E Poston *Prattler* I 43 Doubtless a warrish Spirit received all Slight and Power from Weakness, and fixe Nations 1788 Wolcot (P Pindar) *Komish Priest* 8 He was in the Prince of Darkness such hard blows That Satan sons of Belial, flesh would not, but this great warrish I 27 — *Ep to the P* 80, I keow the French have a sin in petto, To r b the holy lady of Loretto, Attack her temple with their guns so warrish

**Warrish**, variant of Warridge.

**Warrison**: see Warison

**Warrit**, obs Sc vte. of Varied *ppl a.*

1570 *Inv* in W Hunter *Baggar & Flemine* xxvi (1862) 113 Ane cloik of blak dalmes w t ane collar warrit w t weln it [*read* weluet]

**Wa rrok**, *sb* *Obs* [Origin unknown] = Wark *sb*]

†1 A girth *Obs*

1390 3 *Vol Derby's Exped* (Camden) 238 Pro h rcombes, warrokes, & ingrenne empties bladen pro equis domini, xxiiid 14 *Ve* in Wr Wilkker 61 a/23 *Statutes un.*, a warrok

2 *dial* A peculiar tackle used in shipyards, etc on Tyneside (*Eng Dial Dict* 1905)

**Wa rrok**, *v.* Also 4 warroke, 9 warrick [a. ON *varoquer, gas ocher*, perh. of Teut. origin.]

1340 *Ayenb* 10 girth (a horse); to bind (a person) *Obs.*

1386 Langl. *P Pl A* II 19 Sette my Sadel vppon Soffrettil I seo-my tyme, And loke þou warroke [*v r* warrok] him wel wip swipe feole gurbies 1440 *York Myst* xxv 525 Sir knyghte, þat hast warroke & warrate, And lokes þat he brymly be braste

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

1894 *Northumbld Glass*, *Warrick*, to cramp or fasten with ropes or chains. .Ropes are warricked by passing one end of a lever through a loop and heaving it tight. The end of the lever is then tied down

**3** Comb **warrick-screw**, **-scam** (see quots)

1894 *A vocabulary Glass*, *Warrick screw*, the screw used for warricking or tightening the chains [ s d round a waggon load of round timber 1902 *Eng Dial Dict*, *Warrick screw*, a chain for grinding timber on a wood wagon

**Warrope**. *Obs.* Also -roape, -ropp [Of obscure origin; possibly a misapprehension of (wa rop), northern pronunciation of *warp* cf. Warp *sb* 3 and *warp rope* (Warp *sb.* 9). But cf. also Warbrop and Wartrape] ? = Warp *sb.* 3.

1615 J. *Norton Ordnance* A b F orthly, the particulars of her Hemes, Nets [etc] Warrope, Sea-pad other R ves Cor le and hoos. *Ibid* B 3 b, All the said 50 Nets being finished must be hanged at wroe upon a strong large rope called a Warrope So 1626 Nel Sailes (1636) 3 Fathom of Warrope 1645 *Ordnances for Army Solemn League & Cov* (S. H.) II 425 I b Ket H ge a war rop sould a ft 3d

**†Warray**, *a Obs rare* [f Warre + -ay] Ob. had *wearing* callous] Of a tree Full of knots Cf. Warred, Warren *a 1*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met* VIII 930 There stood in it a wrie Oke (*annosa robore insigne*).

**Warry**, -ble, -ry, variant of Warv *v* Obs

**Warry**, -able, var. f Warray *v*, -able *Obs*

**Warryar**, obs form of Warrior.

**Warrybrede**, variant of Wrybreded *Obs.*

**Warryn** see Warren *sb* and *a*

**Wars**, Sc. and north form of Worse.

**Warsaw** (wō·zɔ) *U S.* [An attempt to pronounce the Sp name Guana (gwāsa)] (Sic quot)

1888 *Century Amer Fishes* 14 The black Grouper at Pensacola known by the name 'Warsaw'

**Warsch(e** see Warish *a*, and Wersh *a*

**Warse**, Sc and north form of Worse *a.*

**Warse**, variant of Wrase *Obs*, bundle.

**†Wary**, *v.* Sc. [a. ON *varasta*, watch, security, f. *varda* to watch: see Ward *v.*] Only in phr *ward and warsel* see Ward *sb.*2 10.

**Warsel**, variant of Warble.

**Warsen**, north form of Worsen *v.*

**Warset**, **warseth**. Corrupt form of *barcelet*: see Perfect Wyntoun's *Cron* VI. 1610 (Royal MS.) has the form *wessilete*

c 1200 *Trin Coll Homilies* 221 *In Aels Parit Scot* I. 689 Cum custode canem habentes qui warseth appellatur. 14 (Translation) *ibid* A hund þe qui dik is callit warset

**Warsh(e**, see Warish *a*.1 and Wersh *a.*

**†Warsheet**, **wa resheet**. *Naut Obs* [*1. uncert.* of obscure meaning (cf Whitaker) + Sheet *sb* 2] Some kind of rope used on ship

1420 in *For Acc 3 Hen V* 15/2 In iij sinners de coden filo pro Warsheetes et handercpes. *Ibid* I, De 3 haunser p o Cuteropes 3 Cabull[s] pro Warsheetes ponderis m[ille] punt vij lib 1435 / *Ecb Acc* 135/5 12 2d, pr corda voc wyshetes

**†Warship!**. *Obs.* Forms i warscype, -scype, wærscipe, 2 warshipe, 3 warscipe, -aipe, -schipe. [Of *warscipe* str masc., f Wer Ware *a.* see -ship] Caution, prudence, astuteness, sagacity.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxvii § 2 Wisdom is se hehsta cræft, and se hal[ð on him feower oðre cræftas, þæt is an wærscipe, oþer temetung 1129 *O* Chron (Laud MS) an 1086, Sif he [William of Norn ndy] moste þe gyt twa zear libbe on hadde Yrlande mid his wærscipe zewunnen c 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 193 Fedde[ð us to gode þat he us þurh his wærschipe, and warshipe us wel to wunnen 1205 Lay 3580 Beliun wes swi[e wis & wirsci[e [s 1275 wusipe] him folweden [= folwede] c 1220 *Bestiary* 461 in *O E Misc* 14 Twelf for bisne in ðis der to fremmen, mugon finden her, warsipe and wisedom wil deuel and wil suel man a 1225 *Ancr R* 252 Dumbe beastes hali[ð be[ s warschipe, þet hw n heo beoð awaited of wilue heo þrepeð alle to gederes a 1225 *Juls Bleod* 57 (Titus MS) As nihtwisse & warschipe asaines unel ewes

**Warship**², **war-ship** (wō·ʃip). [f War *sb*.1 + Ship *sb*.] A ship armed and manned for war.

1533 *Act Ld High Treas Scot* VI 134 To desfat fra all making, forth of wear schippis in coi trai the inglismen for weill of peace 1796 Minutes of Evidence 1 262 Brave Cochi e war-ship 1848 Tytler *A Arthur* II xciv, Send seven tall war ships to the Cymnan Lands 1864 Bushnan *Serpent Idol* I iii 114 They stored some attempts of the English war ships, and at a southern harbour 1895 *Ar ion & Fall* Now 383/2 Russian warships were to be built owned to anchor in Port Arthur

*fig.* 1643 Rutherford *Lett* I *Pet Faith* xxxi 321 Satans works of sin and Hell was a prison house, and a castle of strength, and a strong war ship

**Warsle** (wa rsl), *sb* Sc and *north* [f. Warsle *v.*] A struggle, tussle; a wrestling bout.

1819 [Rennie] *St Patrick* I xi 166 Though I had got a full count about the hafit, I was up as s warsle 1828 Scott *Y M Perth* xix, They quarrelled, as you saw, on the St Valentine's Even; and had a warsle 1844 *Laird Tam Bodkin* xix 191 At length wi a sair wirsel he did get into the bed 1869 A. Macdonald *Fore Last* V *The I* m 46 He had thrown him down in a warsle.

*b fig*

1792 Burns *My Wife, a tinsome wee Thing* 6, The world's wrack we share o't; The warsle and the care o't. 1852 in *Hamish Archæol Soc Trans.* (1868) 40 The minister had a weary warsle wi a wersh discource 1888 D. Grant *Sc Stories* II, I cannna say I m sorry that the weary warsle is like to be nearly owre

**Warsle** (wa rsl), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms:

4–5 **werstil**, (5 **werstle**, **-sule**, **wyrstylle**), 6 **werstl**, (**virsle**, **worstill**), 5 **warstel**, 6 **warstill**, 4–5, 8– **warstle**, 8– **warsel**, 6– **warsle**. [Metathetic var. of WARSTLE v.]

1. *intr.* To wrestle (*together*, *with* an antagonist), to struggle (*against* an adversary).

*a.* *Curser H.* 3933 (Gött.) In hand he [Jacob] lahut an angal brist, pat in handle werpstil [*Cott.* **wrastid**, *Fairf.* wrestled, *Trin.* wrestleled] bai. *c* 1400 *Brut* 319 Oppon pe sond of the Scottysh see..here were sene .j. Egles, .& cruelly & strongly bey foughten togider & warstled togider. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 224 Wythe hym wyrstyllyde the Angelle. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 2306 And thus they warsteled and stryvid sore. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 741 Som lappe, som wrestild. 1513 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 493 To worsill or cast the stane, In all ingland that tyme maik had he nane. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 268 To fecht with God, and to overcum him, as Jacob did in warsling with his Angell. *a* 1823 *Twa Brothers* ii. in Sharpe *Ballad Bk.* (1823) 57 They warsled up, they warsled down, Till Sir John fell to the ground.

*b.* *transf.* and *fig.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiv. 16 Quha with this warld dois warsill and swryk, And dois his dayis in dolour dryfe. 1787 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 40 The passion's a he wi' Time bad warstl'd lang. 1900 JOANNA E. WOOD *Farden Ha'* xiii. 242 Ii sma for us tae come tae grups wi' the facts o' oor lives! we must jist tak' them and wrastle wi' them.

*c.* *trans.* To wrestle with (an adversary). In quots. chiefly *fig.*

1790 BURNS *Scots Prol.* 44 Ye'll soon hae poets o' the Scottish nation, Will...warsle Time, and lay him on his back. 1824 TANNAHILL *Poems* 211 The pastor's patron rogges, It warsels care, it feghts life's fauchts. 1820 HOGG *Winter Evon. Tales* I. 289 I'm sair cheatit gin some o' your warsters dinna wrastle you out o' your chair, this verra hour. *a* 1823 *Twa Brothers* ii. in Child *Ballads* I. 439 † But gin ye come to yonder wood I'll warsle you a fa'.

2. *intr.* To struggle, to move with struggle or effort (*against*, *through*, *over*, *out of*, *up*); also with advs., as *by*, *on*, *out*, *over*, *round*.

*c* 1300 *Lancelot* 3381 The ded hors lyth virdyng with the men. 1553 *Douglas's Æneis* XIII. iv. 82 Or like as that, on the hous syde the snaik...the lang tyme gan do werstle, [*older text* wrassill], and to wrele Throuland fast with thare feit, vnto the wale. 1783 BURNS *Death Poor Mailie* 4 As Mailie...Was do'ing bubbling on the tether, Upon her cloot she coost a hitch, An' owre she warsl'd in the ditch. *c* 1790 A. WILSON *Lass o' the Pack*, For aye the mair I warsled round and roun', I fand myself aye stick the deeper down. 1892 M. MUIR, DUMB *Girl in Korea* 231 Holes over my depth, but none but what I might have warsled out of. 1895 'IAN MACLAREN' *Dr. of the Old School* i. 34 Neither can you 'warstle' through the boat-hoos and snow drifts for forty winters without a touch of rheumatism.

*b.* *transf.* of an inanimate thing.

1788 PICKEN *Poems Scot. Dial.* 109 An' let him kiss the tear awa', That warsles down the cheelin face. 1820 GALT *Provost* xxiv, The poor barks, that were warsling against the strong arms of the elements.

*fig.*

*a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* xlii. 9 War-ill, as it war against sour will, Appeiring angrie, thoght to haif no yre. 1821 W. SUTHERLAND *Poems & Songs* 32 Yet happy still, blest wi' content, They warsle through 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1864) 116 A mickle share o' love we've had The warld as we've warsled through. *a* 1877 W. CHISHOLM *Poems* (1879) 61 Auld Time warsles by wi' slow an' lagsin' wing. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xii, It was a drouth employ, and praise the Lord that I have warstled through with it! 1895 ANNA M. SWANWICK *J. S. His. Mod.* I. 333 He was sent to a tutorial class for a month or two, after which he was allowed to wrastle through. 1901 (S. DOUGLAS *House with Gr. Shutters* xxii, Lots of young chaps, when they war-stle through their Arts, teach the sons of swells.

*d.* quasi-*trans.* To get (something *out*, *up*, *on*) with a struggle.

*c* 1790 A. WILSON *Lass o' the Pack*, Ay I that were deyn indeed, that gard me hug, Ahint the dyke, this time, to warsle up a shop. 1887 *Service Dr. Dugnid* I. xx, I...warsled on my claes. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 72 That was a question that cost me but little serious reflection an' prospection; but I warsled it oot in my ain mind.

Hence **Wa'rsling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Wa'rsler**, a wrestler.

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 340 Corynee..Of Cornewell first, had gret fame Of wa'rsling: he was a man. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiii. 99 Off turnamentis or of justyngis, Menstrallys or gret werssyngis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* I. 22 He hes art warslingis baire ane hunder. *a* 1568 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 30 All kynd of games..as..lepping, ryding and warsling. 1820 Warsler [see WARSLE v. 1 c.]

**War-song.** A song inciting to war, or celebrating martial deeds.

1775 [Burke] *Essay. Settl.m. Amer.* I. ii. iv. 182 The war songs are heard in all parts. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 159 The leader...singing the war-song, and beating the drum. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, Despair sung A war-song of defiance 'gainst all hell. 1840 C. *O. Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* xiii. § 3. 168 His war-songs express a stirring martial spirit. 1887 HENTY *On Irrawaddy* 174 The Burmans..continued chanting a war-song, swaying themselves to the cadence.

**Warsse, Warst**, north. ff. WORSE, WORST.

**Warsshe**, var. WARISH *v.*† *Obs.*

**War-steed.** *poet.* = WAR-HORSE.

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* x. 453 Here the proud war-steed glories in his force. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* x. xxxi, No rude sound shall reach thine ear, Armour's clang, or war-steed champing. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxxii, Don your harness,—mount your war-steed,—cry, Rend for Provence! 1870 BAYARD *Hist. U. S.* 2 Mortal men, Tamers of war-steeds. *fig.* 1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* VIII. xxx, Beron, the bold son of Sweyn, the Gothland king, Whose ocean war-steeds on the Baltic deeps Range their blue pasture.

**Warstel, -stle**, obs. var. ff. WARSLE *v.*

**Wart** (wɑ̈t), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wearte**, 2, 4–6 **werte**, 4–5 **worte**, 3–7 **wert**, 5–6 **warte**, 7–8 **whart**, 4– **wart**; 4 **wrot**, 4–5 **wret(e**, **wrett(e**, 6 **wratte**, 7–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **wrat**, 9 *dial.* **wret**, **writ**. [OE. *wearte* wk. fem. = OFris. *warte*, *worte* (WFris. *wart*), OS. *warte* (MLG. *warte*, *wratte*, LG. *wralte*, *wratt*), Du. *wrat* (dial. *warte*), OHG. *warza* (MHG., mod.G. *warze*), ON. *varta* (Sw. *vårta*, Norw. *vorta*, Da. *vorte*):—OTeut. **warttōn-*.

The OHG. *werza* (MHG. *werze*, mod.G. dial. *wetze*) appear to point to a derivative formation (OTeut. type **wartjōn-*); but the supposed coincident MLG. form *wertte*, *wettle*, etc. are regular dialectal representatives of OE. *wearle*. The existence both in Eng. and continental Teut. of metathetic forms with *wr-* in some what noteworthy.]

1. A small, roundish, conical excrescence on the skin; especially common on the hands of young persons.

*c* 720 *Corpus Gloss.* U 77 *Verruca*, wearte. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 100 Wið swyras & wið weartan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19388 Bot wald pai same to mans sight, In pair licam bath fair and slight, Wit-uten any wert or were. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 555 Yp on the cope right of his nose he hadde A werte, and thereon stood a tuft of heres. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 511/2 Wrette, or werte yn a mannys skynne, *verruca*. *a* 1500 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 1043 Her visage to augment, Dame Nature hath her lent A warte vpon her cheke. 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* 49 The juce thereof will..make smothe the skinne from warttes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxvii. x. II. 448 The liver of the fish Glanus, causeth warts to fall off, if they be rubbed withall. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. xxxi. 25 The Wart, Warble, Pin, or Wobble, which are euils growne in and vpon the Eye (as I haue). 1692 *L'Estr. Jos. Lastell* 1951 In which a case his warts and his wrinkles must be wrought with the pincell, that the image may bee like unto himselfe. *c* 1695 HOWELL *Lett.* (1890) I. 1. xliii. 76 Our mountains in Wales ..are Mole-hills in comparison of these [*sc.* the Alps], they are..but blisters compar'd to Impostumes, or Pimples to Warts. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 286 Two more were ..found about the Wound Blisters and Warts, which were caused by the hot dressings. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 112 May say, the Juice will wear out Warts. 1839 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* viii, An unhealthy-looking boy, with warts all over his hands. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 343 Warts are not unfrequently met with about the eyelids.

b. Cf. also *Venereal wart*, *syphilitic wart*.

1552 HULOET, Wartes in the priuye partes, *mirmecia*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxxiv. 767 The leaues of Smith..do also cause women to lose the desire of company vnto their other secrete places of man. 1803 *Med. Trnl.* X. 322 Syphilitic warts. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 621 Syphilitic mucous tubercles (so-called wart.) in the external auditory canal.

c. A normal callosity on the legs of a horse, ass, etc.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 118 If a horse wante wartes behynde, benethe the spauen-place. 1824 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Journ.* I. 241 Asses and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

d. Applied to other small excrescences on animate creatures.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

2. Applied to other small excrescences on animate creatures.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAIN in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

3. Applied to other small excrescences on inanimate objects.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxxiv. 767 The leaues of Smith..do also cause women to lose the desire of company vnto their other secrete places of man. 1803 *Med. Trnl.* X. 322 Syphilitic warts. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 621 Syphilitic mucous tubercles (so-called wart.) in the external auditory canal.

4. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

5. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

6. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

7. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

8. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

9. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

10. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

11. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

12. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

13. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

14. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

15. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

16. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

17. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

18. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

19. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

20. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

21. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

22. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

23. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

24. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

25. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

26. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

27. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

28. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

29. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

30. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

31. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

32. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

33. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

34. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

35. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

36. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

37. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

38. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

39. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

40. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

41. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

42. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

43. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

44. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

45. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

46. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

47. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

48. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

49. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

50. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

51. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

52. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

53. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

54. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

55. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

56. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

57. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

58. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

59. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

60. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

61. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

62. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

63. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

64. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

65. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

66. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

67. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

68. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried deep in the skin..and the spaces between them are full of small warts, resembling pearls. 1861 J. E. GRAY in *Zool. Proc.* 1861 Anus and Zebras..have warts only on the arms and none on the hind legs:..the true Horses.. are furnished with warts on their arms and legs.

69. = WARBLE *sb.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 109 These [*sc.* frogs'] eggs are buried

**War-hill**, variant of WARD-HILL.

**War time.** The time when war is being waged.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VIII. 283 The woodes in Wales ... hat were grete socour to men of be contray to hyde hem self in worre tyme. 1445 in *Archæologia in Anglia* XXVIII. 271 Whom than thou maiyst not riche Whan werre tyme is and whan peas is, bou list not hem to knowe. 1548 ANCHAM *Toxoph.* I. Wks (1904) 59 When he shulbe ...compelled in war tyme...to faule to his bowe. 1709 MORTIMER *Husb.* 33 The Seed coming from France, this War-time hath prevented its being so much propagated as otherways it would have been. 1832 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* i, Above all, it was war-time, and of necessity all circumstances of mere convenience were obliged to give way to a paramount sense of danger. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* II. These war times were hard, and everything was dear. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, There was too much excitement and drunkenness went on in the old war times, not to leave a taint behind it, for many a generation.

*attrib.* 1915 H. H. HEWSON (*title*), War-time Sermons. 1915 LADY JEJNSON (*title*), A War-time Journal.

**† Warting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* rare—1. [f. WART *sb.* + -ING 1.] A growth of warts.

1578 *Phyt. Frauncs.* XLIX. 23 During which disorders the warting came off, and has left appeared white and smooth.

**† Wartle.** *Obs.* [Diminutive of WART: see -LE. Cf. OHG. *warzala*, Ger. dial *warsel*, a wart.] a. A 'kernel' in the neck or groin. b. A small wart. c. A hard lump in molten metal.

1598 FLORIO, *Ghiandole*, warties or kernels that come in the throte, the glanders in horses. *Ibid.*, *Pallottole*, the kernels or warties that breede betweene the flesh and the skin, about the neck or groine. 1611 COTGR., *Gaugnées*, Kernells, or warties in the throat. 1659 TORRIANO, *Verrolo formicante*, a wartie black like an ant, and therefore called an ant-wart. *Verruca gentile*, a long and hanging wartie. 1678 *Phillips's Family Dict.*, s. v. *Antonomy*, They put it to be melted in pots and strain it through a scummer ...that so you may take away the Kernels or warties thereof.

**Wartless**, *a.* [-LESS.] That is without a wart or warts; free from warts.

1846 WORCESTER. 1898 BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.* etc. *N. Riding* 139 In a fortnight's time he was wartless. 1904 *Daily News* 10 June 4 It [Carlyle's *Cromwell*] transformed an negro into a saint, almost a wartless saint.

**Wartlet.** [-LET.] A small wart.

Proposed as a name for certain sea-anemones.

1856 W. L. LINDSAY *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 43 In the form of granules or very minute wartlets. 1880 GOSSE *Actinologia brit* 206 The Marigold Wartlet. *Tealia digitata. Ibid.* 209 The Dahlia Wartlet. *Tealia crassicornis.*

**Wartwale.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* In 4–5 wort(e)-wale, 6 warte-, wart-wale, -wayle, -waye, **water whele**; for mod. dial. forms see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Warty-weil.* [App. repr. OE. *wyrtwalu* wk. masc., *-walu* str. fem., root, corresp. to OHG. *wurzala* (:—**wurzwala*) mod.G. *wursel* fem., MDu. *wortele*, mod.Du. *wortel.*

In the sense of 'root' the word did not survive into ME., being superseded by the shorter Scandinavian synonym (see ROOT *sb.*). The sense 'agnail' is not recorded in OE., but is paralleled by the Ger. dial. *neidwurzel*, a synonym of *nedrage* (*nagel*).

A growth or loose piece of skin at the base of the finger-nail; an agnail.

In the 3rd quot. app. used for: The root of a cock's spur.

*c* 1395 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 172 Conspet des crouns des ongles ies eiei *Ydiosticum* des ongles (nailes!) *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) *Deisn cueles et galeyns* Fyngres wortwales and postpons. 14 . *Songes & Carols* (Harleian Club) 31, I hve a gentil cronyey me dai, Wib spores arn of syluer qwyt into the wortewale 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) A v b, *Pterygium*, wartew ale [1530 tr. a water whele]. 1536 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 27 A wertwale, *Pterigium.* 1598 LEVINS *Manip.* 199/21 A wartwayle, *pterigium.*

**Wartwort** (wɑ̄t,wœt). [f. WART *sb.* + WORT 1.] A name for *Euphorbia Helioscopia*, *E. Peplus*, and *E. Peplis* (Sea Wartwort). Also applied to other plants, as *Chelidonium majus* and *Senebiera Coronopus*. (Cf. *wart-weed*, *Wart sb.* 6.)

*a* 1400 *MS. Arund* 42 f. 67 Pe same erbe [*Helioscopia*] is called *werrucaria*, wrotwort, by cause bat it destruyth & fordob warbys. *c* 1440 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 9 *Anabulla*, wartwort bat is *Titimallus*, wertewort. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 60 Peplis ...is very like vnto wartwort but that it is shorter, thicker and spred vpon the grounde. It may be called in englih sea wartwort. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 154 b, This kinde is called...Wartwurtz it maye also be called son spourge. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxxii. 361 Peplos ...Wartwurt, ...also Petty Spurge. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed 2) 464 Sea wart-wort, see Sea spurge. 1793 *Bradley's Family Dict., Petty-Spurge*, otherwise called *Wart-wort.* 1820 G. V. SAUNDERS *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* App. 21 Sun-spurge, or wartwort ; the juice is white, caustic, and is applied successfully to take off warts. 1842 *Penny Cycl. Arch. Trad* V. 179/2 The spurge or wartwort yields a milky juice applicable for the purpose [of tempera painting]

**Warty** (wɑ̄·ti), *a.* Also 5 **varty**, 6–7 **wartie**, 8 **wharty**, 9 *Sc.* **wartie.** [f. WART *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Afflicted with warts on the skin.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 Varty, *verrucosus.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 111/44 *Varitie, verrucosus.* 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Names, Dorcas* 78 Freckled, wartie, and wodden-faced wenches. 1655 [J. POHLIUS] *Vet. agri. Hyperc.* 5 Oh how he's wonder'd at by many an asse That see him shake so fast his warty fist. *c* 1685 HERDSON *Poems, A Ruffian*, Brown and warty hands. 1898 BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.* etc. *N. Riding* 138 The charmer..Told the warty one to go home.

2. Chiefly *Zool.*, *Bot.*, etc. Having wart-like excrescences or protuberances.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 86 The Leachavene pears are pretty often bunch'd and warty. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. Tab. 97 White Warty Gowry. 1768 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 8 Oct , A large black warty lizard. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 246 Capsules are hairy, warty, or smooth. 1803 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 168 The Warty Toad of Fernando Po (*Bufo tuberosus*). 1804 DE MAUDUIT *Trifby* II. 208 Tall, warty, black-boled trees. 1904 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* LX. 1 65 The head [of the tadpole] is somewhat warty and wrinkled.

3. Of the nature of, or resembling, a wart.

1760 *Gent. Mag.* XXXII. 82/1 The whole eruption put on a very wharty and pale appearance. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 49 A warty excrescence on the tip of Hymaneus's little finger. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 228 Seeds with many warty angles. 1897 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 59 Glucose crystallizes with difficulty in warty concretions. 1861 HULME tr. *Mogquin-Tandon* II. 289 The warty tubercles on the lens. 1897 *Garden* 9 Jan. 20 3 Excavation of sop occurs, giving rise to ..warty growths.

4. *fig* Rocky, rough.

1848 BRERETON *Heap., Beau-bourne, a rude River in Devon*, Then bounds, warty, I never look to see Beauty at this way [*sonie copses* wattry] incivility. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 163 'An Ode, rather warty', came to Nap Buonapatte. 1865 *Comh.*

*c* 1791 PETIVER *Gazophyl* IV Tab 85 Warty-rib'd Cape Limpet 1836 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I 786 a Covered with little warty-looking enlargements. 1857 AMBY PRATT *Flowers, Pl. Ill. Arrangement* 180 *Achæranthus* (Warty-fruited Beckstraw). *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 74 The Warty-faced Honeyeater (*Meliphagia phrygyra*)

**Warve**, obs. variant of WHARVE *sb.*

**Warwayn**, obs. form of VERVAIN.

**War-whoop** (wɔ̄r,hūp). The cry or yell of American Indians and other savage peoples on rushing into battle.

1761 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 286 Permit him, Madam, just to give you a short specimen of their warhoop. 1769 W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Discov. Florida* 6 Horrible bellowings and clamours, not unlike the war hoop of the Indians of the Six Nations. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind* 250 Their mortal crime consisted in not singing the war whoop, and [etc.]. *Ibid* 394 He put up the shrill war whoop, as his last salute 1791 *J. Low's Ind. Indian Interp.* 21 The Savages setting up the war whoop, fell upon the enemy. 1820 W. M. HOBY *Birds of the Woods* I. 91 'A fight!' replied Captain Stockpole, uttering a war-whoop. 1850 J. H. CUTTER BROOK *Pt. Philip in Iraq* 59 When the fearful opportunity for attack has arrived, the war whoop resounds through hill and dale. 1865 PARKMAN *Pioneers of France* vi. (1876) 76 The war-whoop rose, and a tempest of stone-headed arrows clattered against the breastplates of the French. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* in *United States* XVI. 147 The children lay awake afterwards, listening for the Indian war-whoop

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solit* 89 Secure from actual warfare, we have loved To swell the war-whoop, passionate for war! 1809 HALL *Life of Miss Pigott* 1. Aug., My name immediately would resound in the mouth of the infernal war-whoop. 1827 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris*, Letter xi. 116 But hark !—that war-whoop on the deck. 1828 D ISRAELI *Chas I*, II. 92 In the early speeches the name of the unhappy favourite no longer served as the war whoop of a party. 1851 CARLYLE *Life* (1858) II. 212 If they are not forthcoming, I shall raise such a war-whoop that it will frighten him. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xxvi, 'Then they'll set up a war-whoop of applause, and said it was 'splendid!'

**Warwickite** (wo rikəit). *Min.* [Named from Warwick, New York, where it was found see -ITE.] A borotitanate of magnesium and iron in dark-brown acicular crystals.

1838 C. U. SHEPARD *Min. Treat.* 301 *Sci* XXXIV. 314 A new species, which I designate Warwickite, from its original locality. 1850 ARNTED *Elem. Geol., Min* etc § 482 Warwickite, The Warwick of Titanium and iron

**Warwinokle,** variant of WARIANGLE *Obs.*

**War-wolf.**

1. *Hist.* A kind of siege engine.

A translation of *ingins bellt*, occurring in the *Flores Historiarum* (Rolls Series, Westminster) in the account of Edw I's siege of Stirling in 1304, where it is said that the battering-ram (*aries*) proved almost useless, but that the less costly 'war-wolf' was much more effective. In an AF. document relating to the siege (*Cal. Docum. Scot* II. 1296), the same machine is mentioned as 'le lup de guerre. The mod L. *lupus* is found elsewhere as the name of a military engine, but nothing seems to be known of its nature. The conjecture that *war-wolf* is a perversion of WERWOLF is unfounded.

1810 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 400 Of these Mangonells, Patraries, Trabucks, Bricols, Espringolds, and of that which our ancestors termed the Warwolfe, by which they discharged volies of mighty huge stones. 1814 CAMDEN *Rem., Artill.* (ed. 2) 230 Some kind of Bricol it seemed which the English & Scots called an Espringold, the shot whereof K. Edward the first escaped faire at the siege of Strueling when he with another Engine named the *Warwolfe* perilled with one stone, two xnantimores. 1796 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 134 The war wolfs there Hurld their huge missive. 1822 JANE PORTER *Sc. Chiefs* II. 110 The war-wolves sent forth showers of red-hot stones into the midst of the Scottish battalions. 1830 PRAED *Leg. Drachenfels* xxi. The mightiest engines that ever the wards Of human homicide hath made, Warwolf, balist, and catapult.

2 Used by Scott for: A fierce warrior.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* VI. xx, Lightly we'll tame the war wolf then. 1813 — *Trierm.* III. xvi, He that would win the war-wolf's skin, May rue him of his boast.

**Warwolf,** obs. form of WERWOLF.

**War-worn,** *a.* Wasted, ravaged, or battered by war; worn by the toils or privations of war.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. Chor. 26 Their gesture sad, Investing lanke-leane Cheekes, and Warre-worne Coats. 1727 W. WILMER *Epigoniad* III. 130 But with a mind unmov'd, I'll meet my doom, Nor stain this war-worn visage with a tear. 1792 R. CUMBERLAND *Calvary* (1803) II. 220 War-worn Sinful. 1885 *Scott Betrothed.* xvi, His war-worn shamois doublet 1886 HON SMITH *For Hell* (1888) I 33 Through this war-worn region did Sir Giles Hungerford and his party of horsemen press eagerly forward 1889 W. IRVING *Alchemist & Sagesses* (1890) II xvi. 149 Khaled entered with his hundred war-worn veterans. 1898 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 10 The workmen fortress ..had added another volume to the history.

**† Wary,** *sb. Obs.* In 3 **wari, weri.** [OE. *weary, wearh* = OS. *warag*, OHG. *warc, warch* criminal, felon (whence Frankish Law Latin *wargus* outlaw), MHG. *warc* monster, ON. *varg* outlaw, hence wolf (Sw., Norw. *varg*, wolf, mod.Icel. *vargur* fox), Goth. **wargs* (attested by the compound *laus-warags* unthankful, wicked) and the derivatives *ga-wargan* to condemn, *wargiha* condemnation):—OTeut. **wargo-z.*

Probable cognates outside Teut are Lith. *vargas* misery, *vargti* to be wretched, OPrussian *wargs* suffering (*ab*) evil, bad (*ab*), Lettish *wahrgs* ill, USL *wargu* (RUSSIAN ВРАГЪ) enemy.]

A felon, outlaw, villain.

*a* 1000 *Dream of th. Rood* 31 Strange fiendes beton me hrora werhan hebban *a* 1000 *Guthl. Vit. Wulfcer* 245/40 *Pereffere*, wearh. *a* 1200 *Ormin* 1. 1. 1.

honestie *c* 1600 SHAKS *Sonn* xciii 9 O therefore loue be of thy selfe so wary, As I not for my selfe, but for thee will. 1686 in *Yeomy Mem* (1909) II 494 You Hydd Hott Bon very wary of all yt words and Actions 1745 *De Foe's Eng Tradesman* xi (1841) I 37 A tradesman ought to be very wary of taking too much credit 1820 SCOTT *Peveril* xxvii, You have already seen enough of the evils of civil war to be wary of again awakening its terrors in a peaceful and happy country 1880 BARHAM *Ingol Leg Romances Dog* II ever you travel, like Anthony Blogg. Be wary of strangers I—don't take too much grog

**o** const. *in* In early examples the sense of *wary as* is that now expressed by *wary of* 'to be wary in (doing something)' = 'to be wary of', 'to beware of'.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II 55 Adiaons, his Lordship to be wary in crediting intelligences which were commonly false 1640 in *Yeomy Mem* (1907) I 108 I am most wary in giving my father the least distast 1652 RAMSAY *Ansel Ket* Bot 290 Ever remember, ya be wary in pronuncing judg, ment touching weather cid the alteration of the 1572 SIR J BROOKE *Ref Jerome* 188 A remarkable coincidence which the Astrology hath taken wittie paines to salve 321 hath it been very wary in making prediction of it 1674 CLARKE 200 *Sorry Let-wth* (1676) 149 Nor was he more wary in any thing, then that the people might not ingiue that he pretended any other title to the Government it then by the Confessor 1686 BUCKRIDGE *S Jerom* (1717) 53 It cannot but highly concern us all to be very wary in the choice of our words 1754 EARL OF CORKE in J Duncombe *Lett* (1773) III 26, I want instructive comprisions, and in them I shall be very wary

**d.** With indirect question. Now *rare* or *Obs*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Glass Glet* Wks 1910 II 33 I or surely as it [time] is the greatest treasure which God hath given unto man so ought he to be verie curious and verie how he bestoweth the same 1824 W S *Annuals of Fine Arts* IX 94 I therefore have need be verie what I am doe 1628 GATAKER *Spirit Helvidi* (ed 2) 83 [They] are wont to bee more wary and chary how they carry themselues in their affaires 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Itin* 5 They should I be wary, where, and when they wish themselues. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies Lond* (1662) 208 Thus in a manner he bewary what they say nie the on Tombs. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I 18 Ye ought to be wary how what tales you send out of a family 1818 CARY *Dante, Parad* xx 125 O mortal men ! be wary how ye judge

**e** With clause or inf or participle ? *Obs*

1668 BARLOW in *Ferrar's Iden Perf Jount* 56 A Painter is here to be wary that he neither run out his Figur's Men or any Buildings in the Landskip a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist Lexath* (1676) 27 Without being in any degree wary to avoid palpable contradictions

**3.** Of action, behaviour, observation, etc Proceeding from or characterized by caution

1557 LD SHREWSBURY in Lodge *Illustr Brit Hist* (1791) I 283 The I Warden who is instructed by good experience, & wares doing to shewe I think to the enymye in snooping hym & defending of the contrey 1559 FLECK *Notes 1st of Jocus* (1874) Introduc 1 mmon Innes they [se bawds] watch with ware eye If that they may espye The country maides that come for sale 1580 A DAY *Engl Secretorie* 1 (1625) 63 If it bee deemed once fit for you to marry again and that upon the warie and inquisitive choice thereof depend in a manner of necessity 1600 — *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 6 With so tender & warie touch as yf with her hoofs going in the might no wayes hurte the babe 1595 DANIEL *Civil Wars* III xxxiv 5 Her, milde Blunt warnes a warier image in the thing, 1599 MARSTON *Antonios Revc* IV 1 When will the Duke Keepe warie observation in large pay I do give 5 fools nott 1622 BACON *Ess Empire* (1632) 270 Yet a wary care must be had that he be used with respect by the Master 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* I viii 33 If any man shall carry a wary eye upon the Ps his Quotes in and any other, I think his circum-spection is laudable 1653 GATAKER *Vin Anonn Jer* 55 N Delphik Oracle could ever have given a warier answer 1660 POOLE *Dissert Exp Pasy Vocab* xxii 161 The wary letting in the Article the 11 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* III v § 9 When they speak upon a more wary survey of nothing else but an Article of the Understanding 1711 STEELE *Spect* No 91 P 2 Certain professes a wary Observation of the Turns of his Mistress Mind. a 1732 ATTERBURY *2nd Serm* vi *Pref* 21 (1734) I 377 To read that Sacred Name with a Wise Fealing and a Wary Distrust of our own selves 1794 MRS RADCLIFFE *Myst Udolpho* xiv, I shall keep a wary eye upon all that passes in the chateau 1821 LAMB *Elia Old Benchers*, L who had a wary foresight of his probable hallucinations. 1837 W IRVING *Capt Bonneville* III 111 It was necessary, also, to keep a wary eye upon the wind, for they were continually in reach of any ambush that might be lurking on shore

**† 4.** Careful in expenditure, thrifty, provident

1605 *Lond Prodigall* II 1598, I knewe your father, he was a wary husband 1650 *Mem Hist* 244 Wolsey he had been both stout, warie, and provide in the turbulent times that him he lived, he could hardlie have maintained what his Father had gotten 1708 WM CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* I 1 I knew thy father, he was a hearty wary man, and I cannot consent that his son should spend it so easily what he saved to no purpose 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 91 P 1 I have, by leading a very wary life, laid up a little Money 1822 H & J SMITH *Rej Addr, Theatre* 68 Jews from St Mary Axe, for jobs so wary, That for old cloaths they'd even axe St. Mary

**† Wa'ry,** *v. Obs* Forms 1 wiersan, wirgan, wersan, wyr(i)san, wirisan, wirian, *north.* worsa, *Mercian* wersan, 2 weregian, 3–4 werie, 4–5 wery, 4 weryo, werry, *Sc* wery, 6 weray, 3–7 warie, 4–5 wari, warrie, 4 *Sc* vary, 4–6 warye, (5 warow), 4–5, 8 warry, 5–6 warre, 6 warray, 4–7 wary. [Ob. *wiersan, wersan*, =OTent. **warsjan*, f. **warso-s*, OE. *wearg* felon, WARY *adj.* Cf. Goth. *gawargjan* to condemn (= OE. *gewirgan* to curse), OS. *giwaragean*, OHG. *far wergen* to curse (cf. FOR-WARY *v.*)]

1. *trans.* To invoke a curse upon; to declare accursed; to pour maledictions upon

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss* D 25 *Denotaturus*, werzende. *c* 890 *Ælfred Gregory's Past C* xliii 376 Se ðe his bweste hyre hiene wierð ðæt folc *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt v 11 Badige synd ge þonne hig wyrnað eow and ehiað eow *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gloss in Wr-Wülcker* 131 3 *Detestor* wyrsie *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 183 Iuele wurmes mote þe kenne i rotie mote þu to time þus wærð þe sowle þe lit me, for þat hit haued þer after sinned 1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 319 Pe Inglis men were wonc to wery I ng tryme 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conse* 7482 Pai valle wery þe tyme it þat war we gilt *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Tr & Cres* II 1619 And foles þinke I 3 goo cursed to wrysen An hanged I may þ on wers þe my broþer *Hist* 1378 My loyre in wo I kan seye yow nought elles Pat I wered is, for which my lif I warie *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* (Thynne 1483) 6 Ryght so I wyll be enuyous and warie Of hem that wyll me blame *c* 1440 *Rel Lucy & Pr Thornton MS* xxv 195 II in thy wepede and wayede I sure werke and þure wyll *c* 1440 *Palladius on H* / 1 530 It is an adversaie to every serd now swere birdde hem wirie ! *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 516/2 Waryen, *c* cursyn, *imprecor, adicio, exsecror* *c* 1450 HOLLAND *H wlate* 914 He wryst it the tyde That he was wroght in this warl i wolall i3 were *c* 1460 *Play Sacram* 479 in *Mr Coyle Hist Ludus* 1 Now wille be deuylly set hell by-on wars. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV xiii 11 Quhen men hait thair of all Englande stounde Warre I his gate fr r cursed his visage) to Wales euery 3ere a 1520 *Knts Anting* 1094 For that I haue ben so aduersaie to euery serd now swere birdde hem wirie ! 1529 BARLOW *Ship Fools* (1874) I 70 Consyder this prouerbe of antiquyte And your vnkyndnes werys I and curse 1533 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV xiii 188 I I us fr the pepil but vnsuer gais to thir wayis, And warns the out of subyll all thi dais 1578 *Satir Poems Reformation* xxxiii 58 Quhen he wes wrocht wrangwyis, Quha I le murtheris ȝit ȝit waris bettir nor 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Misc I* xxii 25 Of wayst be the whyle Thi euer we wer acquentit — 1900 SWEET *Oldest Engl Texts* 178/1 Warie but my wicked we and I wil warie but my wicked we 1607 WALKINGTON *Optick Glasse* 1 Lane, Fan fiuerie e, quoth he Maledicere *c* 1746 J COLLIER (Tim Robbins) *Se of Jane Dull* (1770) 36 Here is warrying banning, on ban ning Ivie ing *Evening Walk* 1–2 Ye lofty beeches, that from time to time Have heard the wood-man warie and revile

**b** To pronounce a formal curse against. (Said of God, the Church, etc.)

*a* 1352 *Minot Poems* App n 214 Wered with Godden mowth mun he wrað and *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saintes* (*Lamial* xii) 1 Pe holy Chirche be wrað, þat hire þrelyeð and hire wiðsaieð 31 *Sc iustecias m as pl sphanauens mi* If thou wery my righteousness *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saintes* iv (*Tanner*) 206 Hot þu wary be name of Godde þerof, þat sal be vnhelpt *a* 1500 *Knts Anting* 3411 Wary n ght god for this mischans

**3** To afflict with evils or calamities = CURSE *v* 5 Chiefly as pa. pple, also in phr. *warred worth* (it, them, etc.) = may it, they, be afflicted

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 181 Ich for þat þe eie þat ich þe-forn þolede wrðe i warðe þe for-ðe, on þine werke. *c* 1300 *Cursor M* 9202 þe werld es werid wit þe and *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chr* in *Wr* 116 (Rolls) 203 Whi i God took wreche I N Ireland, þe ȝere he was ded in hire londe *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lx 4 Pe wicked þat noyes til his neghbur ere es þaat ill þe ware better worthi to be werid *c* 1400 *Test Love* III (1561) 301 Wery I with þe þat the thy wyfe selfe. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy book* 6373 Wried with hem as neghe I-nogh *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 2 13232 Ich rigth hete þe þat þou ert kuig, hende mayt ydon And wary all o ire vikes to the worldes end *c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron* I ix 15 Adam wyrkit to wyn his fud Off þe erd þat warne was. 1597 *Gawayne & Gamond* III, Cursed might he be and accurst

**4.** *absol or* with *to* utter a curse or curses.

*c* 1225 *Ancr A* o ȝe ne schulen uor none ginge ne warien, ne swerien *Iðid* 186 Ne wrekie ȝe nout oð suluen, ne ne wrðe nout þe-mide *c* 1300 *E E Misc* 58 Wery I with þat wrouȝt þan blessed þat And with þat hert þat wrouȝt *a* 1393 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 1088 And 3e wryȝe wery þyn lyuyl trees *c* 1580 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 274 Pai gruechen ingen & cursen & warien nyst & dy 1582 — *Matt xxvi* 74 Pan he began to warye and swere, þat he knewe not the man *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 92 Whanne þou wer wyȝ chyldryl, betyst & fayst as a wood man 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal Hon* III 816 Thus I remanit Cursand the feulis with all the fair colouris, Thi I awalk oft warand þe fruit with the flouris 1598 SHERLOCK *Misogyn* 238 What beggar art thou, thi thus doth banne and wary 1535 *Goodly Primer, Passion* IV, Then began he to banne, to wary, & to forswear himself stiffly a 1558 I MERBECKE (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 30 The peopill began to warie and curs that evir it chancet theme to leiwe in sick wicked and dangerous times 1597 J COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Dial* (1770) 20 Pe Woose þu be mad wussange, ne mid warringe, ne mid wæpne wræche *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 200 Pe Unicorne of Wrestlse, haued sie hweolpes. Pe veorðe is Warunge. *a* 1300 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lx. 29 *Cuius maledicenus os plenum est*,

Whas mouth is ful of wennynge & bitternes & treson. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 516/2 Waryynge, *maledicencia, imprecacio* *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionne* (Roxb) 30 Ihai Balaam thoȝht to hynder gods folk be weryng 1552 ABP HAMILTON *Catech* (1884) 32 It war to lange to reherse here all the malesonis waryingis or curssingis

**attrib.** *a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (Ir Archæol Soc) I 286 It is verie strange how those abortiue statists, makes noe s ruple of the fearfull sworde of waringe excommunication, soo often unabached against them

**Wary,** obs Sc † VARY; var. WARRAY *v. Obs.*

**Waryaoyon,** obs. form of VARIATION.

*c* 1485 *Digby Myst* III 1815 To worchep Iesu hey ar behold nor neyer a 3eme hym to make waryeyon

**Waryance, -aunce,** obs Sc ff. VARIANCE.

**Waryangle,** variant of WARIANGLE *Obs*

**Waryohe,** variant of WARISH *v.*1 *Obs*

**† Wa ryeld.** *Sc Obs.*—1 [Of uncertain origin: possibly a survival of OI *wergield* WERGILD, with altered sense ] A requital, recompense

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxiii (*Quintyne*) 204 For þi gyf hir þi warȝeld noo, or mykil mare schalt hount 304

**Waryer,** obs. form of WARRIOR.

**† Waryish,** *a Obs rare.* [? var. of WERISH *a* ] Unwholesome looking

1585 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii 208 Hir teeth were furde with filth and drosse, his gums were waryish blew 1867 *Ibid* VII 446 He lifting up his olde Pale waryish armes.

**Waryner(e,** obs. forms of WARRENER.

**Warys(e, -ysh, -ys(e)she** see WARISH *v.*1

**† Wa'rytre.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 waritroe, 3 waurtreo, weortreo, warh treo, 5 warytre. [OE. *wearg-trēow*] *lit.* 'accursed tree' A gallows, gibbet Often applied to the Cross

1 *Lamb Charter of Æthelbre* A D 706 in Kemble *Cod Dipl* III 375 Norð ðic leornestune ȝlðe ðe wower I rumbred ealle to ðe waritroe *c* 1200 *Ormin* 14202 Annd sannd Iaan wass inntrrrrd [1275 and dob vp a wai itreo] per on heu scullen wi den *a* 1225 *Ancr A* 122 Me leddeð him amorwen uoute hom,ȝen o waritreo ðe Iuwen þa hefst þines ines ures mides *Hist* 190 Penne duune w rides men god bi grem: we touward te writreo & to deaðe of helle *a* 1240 *Ib Ancr* III *Wom* I 283 A nu rinne þut up þe rode beim up þe warh treo *c* 1290 *Leg Rood* 169 Hes bi ridden f r to nime þat hoh rode and with wilde hors to drawe And setthþe hangen it on a waritreo. *c* 1425 *Engl Conq Ireland* xiv 34 Thay ne hadden no wone of wrytrec

**Was** (wɒz), *sb* [The pa t sing. of BE] What was, something past.

1340 *Ayenb* 104 Panne is he propreliche scheped þet art Wel he is bolsche wyþ ane ende, wyþ out be ende, wyþ oute wes wyþ out wel by 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 357 The tl ing is turned into was, That which was whilom grene Is wa le welked hey at time now 1588 SHAKES *Lear I* 1 4 (Arb) 17 Where the Historian in his base *Was*, hath many times that which was call fortune, to our rule the best wisedome 1876 Miss BROUGHTON *Joan* I xxxi, But if the Was is bird to face, how much harder the might have been 1884 W S GILBERT *Princess Ida* II I once was Some one—and the Was Will Be

**Was** (wɒz, wəz, w'z), 1st and 3rd pers sing pa. t of BE.

**Was,** obs form of WASH *pron*

**Was,** obs. form of WOSE *pron*

**Waschael,** obs form of VESSEL

**Wascoat(e, -cot(e, -cott,** obs. ff. WAISTCOAT.

**Wase** (weiz). *Obs. exc dial* Also 6 wayse, 6–7, 9 waze, 9 weise, weise, weese, wais, waese, etc. (see *Eng Dial Dict.*). [Found in various Teut. langs : MSw. *wasa* wk masc , Sw , Da , Norw. *vase* bundle of straw, fascine, etc , MLG (whence mod G dial. and technically) *wase* faggot, fascine, pad worn on the head for carrying burdens, MDu *waese* torch, NFris *waas*, pad inside a horse-collar It is doubtful whether the Eng. word is adopted from Scandinavian, or represents an OI. **wasa* See WASH, which appears to be a variant ]

**1** A wisp or bundle of straw or reeds; in early examples with reference to its use as a torch.

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 8858 (Fairf) Out of hat tree brast a blase hat I rinde hem alle a-non was I-wase *Other texts differently* ) *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2551 He gouth i out pe wilis with a brennyng wase *c* 1400 *Lan d Troy bk* 18147 Thei had thanne of stre gete hom a wase And mythe on the wales ther of a blase **39** *Mirr Vo* in W Wulcker 627/23 Wase, *stupa* 1565 HARDING *Confut Apol* iv xv 306 b, He geueth him ie hat ' rnen of straw ) a wase of strawe in his handis 1600 CAREW *Cornwall* 28 b One standeth watching while another maketh a light with a wase of reed 1888 *Berksh Glos, Wase* a wisp of straw for rubbing down a horse

**2.** A pad of straw, cloth, etc., worn on the head to relieve the pressure of a burden carried on it' (*Eng Dial Dict*).

1598 *Lloyd's Dict, Armulum*, a roll that women do weare on their heades, to beare water or milk easily, a waase 1836 WITHERS *Dict Rust* (1869) 43 b/2 A waase or wase to be layed vnder the vessell, that is borne vpon the head, as women vse, *cestiellus vel arculus* 1870 LEVEN *Manip* 36/41 A *Wase, cercus, Ihid* 203/13 A Wayse, *cercus, i, cestiellus, l* 1884 CARR *Craven Glossary, Wase, Wease*, a wreath of straw or cloth on the head, to relieve the pressure of burthens 1885 BROCKETT *N C Glass , Weese* 1888 CHATTO *Rambles Northumbld* 106 *note*, A weese is a circular pad, commonly made of an old stocking, but sometimes merely a wreath of straw or grass, to save the head from the pressure of the pail. 1892 *Cumberld Glass , Wase.*

**3.** 'A washer or "packing ring" for making pipe-joints watertight' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1891 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms Northumb & Durh* 26 Before the bolts are put in, wedges, made of rope or spun-yarn, or of lead, are put between the flanches (flanges of the pump).

**Wase,** obs. form of Ooze *sb.*3

1483 *Cath. Angel* 409/2 A Wase (*v.r.* Wyse), *alga.*

**Wase,** obs. form of *vase* (see Ba 9.) Wilsono.

**Waseoost, -oote,** obs. forms of Waistcoat.

**+Wa·sel,** *v. Obs* [f. Ob *wōte* mud, Ooze *sb.*2 : see -el. Cf mod. dial. *wassle, wozzle,* to beat down, trample.] *intr.* To trample in mud.

*c* 1395 *P. Pl. Crede* 430 Pis wight waseleide in pe fen almoost to pe necke.

**Wash** (wɒʃ), *sb.* Forms : 5 **wesche, weasshe,** 5–6 **wase**(**a**)**he,** 6 **waesch, waasshe, weasch,** *Sc* **woasche,** 7–9 *dial.* **wesh,** 7– **wash.** [f. Wash *v.* in many unconnected applications. OE had *wæsc* (sense 2) and *gewæsc* 'alluvio' (sense 6). Cf OHG. *waʒga* fem. (MHG., early mod.G. *wasche* , *wesga, wesha* fem. (MHG. *wesche,* mod G *wasche*), also MHG., mod.G. *wasch* masc., mod.G. *wasch* neut ]

**I.** Act of washing.

**1.** *trans.* An act or process of washing or cleansing with water. Also *fig*

1663 Lube *Add Five Hours* 1 2 The Blemish once received, no Wash ing nor Scour ing of Honor but th' Offe iders blood. 1666 Sanchez *Last Actions* 48 A Baptism in Reserve, a Wash for all our Sins *Mod.* This table needs a wash I am going to give the dog a wash

**b.** An act of washing oneself, esp. of washing one's hands and face.

1842 E. Hooke *Voyage Sir* II *Doubts & F* II, While sleepy lackeys are crawling down the second staircase to breakfast, before the wash 1858 Dickens *N. Nickl* xii, Mind you take every thing in, and get first wash 1892 H. Mansfield *Farquhar* (1896) 89 Next morning, after a wash in a neighbouring rivulet, we started again 1892 *Gentl. Mag* June 730/2 We met him and it was wash breakfast 1900 Brit. Ass. *Papacy* iii 138 The Patriarch of Antioch appeared on the scene, and without waiting for a wash and change of raiment, proceeded to hold a Council of his own 1901 R. Andom *On Tour with Troddles* ix 62 What we really did want was a wash and a brush up, with a good substantial meal to follow

**2.** An act, spell, or batch of washing clothes or other textile articles; the process of washing undergone by clothes or the like. (*To be lost, damaged,* etc.) *in the wash,* in course of being washed. (*To be*) *at the wash,* of clothes, etc, sent away to be washed.

[*c* 1050 *Glosses on De Consuetudine Monachorum in Anglia* XIII. 441 *extimentio uel athleta,* i. reri wæsc.] 1704 *Lond. Ga* No 3981/4 Stolen Wearing Linen from the Wash 1813 Wellington in Gurw *Desp* (1838) X 56 the packet arrived at so late an hour that my shirts being at the wash in mind, we did not leave Lisbon till the 20th *a* 1824 *Fam. Politics* iv 1, in *New Brit Theatre* II 230 I was going to pull it (a gown) to pieces for the wash 1832 Man stat *W. Leveller* iii, It returned from the wash 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* viii, Ah, you're a staring at the pocket-handkerchiefs. We've just looked 'em out, ready for the wash 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xlix, Without objection, and a great many others, founded on certain articles of dress being at the wash, were overcome by Kit 1848 Thackeray *Bar Fair* xi, Mrs Bute, who knew how to wring dry the sirloin of beef toasted at the Hall, how much linen was got ready at the great wash [etc.] 1848 Mrs Gaskell *Mary Barton* ii, I though she may be short o' hands just then, what with not [etc.] 1876 L. Jenkins *Blue Quoits Hart* 6 You mark their linen 'Empress's Crown Hotel ,and our linen 'Queen's Inn' What if they get mixed in the wash?

**b** *concr.* The quantity of clothes or other textile articles washed (or act apart to be washed) on one occasion.

1789 *New Lond Mag* Apr 224/2 The apprehension of [several people] for stealing a whole wash of wet linen. 1897 Ingram *Dorcas* 1 xxii, In this yard a wash of sheets and tablecloths tried to get itself dried in a line or two 1899 M. L. Cameron *Lost Life* I 1 7 The family wash flutters gracefully in the breeze 1898 Hamilton *Gen Manager's Story* xvii 268 The native women having a custom of taking in the wash brf re dark 1914 Mary E. Rinehart *At Half* (1915) 35 Where her coat was hanging out the week's wash of white linen.

¶ **c.** *pl* App. used (after G *waasche*) for: Washable articles of apparel, body-linen.

1827 Carlyle *Germ Rom* II 230 She took special heed to pack up her clothes and shoes with her own hands

**3.** A washing with some liquid for the purpose of producing a particular effect, a liquid preparation used or intended to be used in this manner.

**a.** A medicinal lotion. (The word suggests the use of liquid in somewhat larger quantity than is implied by *lotion*.)

*Black yellow wash* various liquid preparations of mercury for application to ulcers or to the skin in eruptive diseases. *White wash* dilute liquor of subacetate of lead

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 757 (1635) whether Children may not brue some Wash, or some thing to make their Teeth Better, and Stronger? 1879 Wyche-ley *Love in Idleness* II, My eyes are none of the best since I have used the last new wash of mercury water. 1697 Iwon *Way to Health* xvii, (ed. 3) 409 I here are many various things prescribed by Physicians as Washes, etc., to preserve the Teeth and Gums 1732 Fielding *Mock Doctor* iv, The doctor, with a sort of wash, wash'd her tongue 'till he set it agoing. 1898 *Med. Pract.* XIX 372, I tried a variety of ointments and washes, but without deriving any material benefit from their use.

1828 *Lancet* 16 Feb 717/2 The employment of yellow wash (a solution of oxymuriate of mercury in lime water) was recommended *Ibid* 732/2 The calomel and lime water, known by the name of the black wash 1849 Pereira *Elem Mat Med* (ed 3) I 838 *Lotio nigra* Black Wash *Ibid* 839 *Lotio flava* Yellow or Phagedenic Wash 1850 *Reece's Med. Guide* (ed 29) 557 Milk, so frequently employed by nurses as a wash in these cases, by turning sour on the part, often excites fresh irritation 1891 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed 3) 137 Sometimes when freely diluted, liquor potassæ may be employed as a wash in some chronic skin disorders.

**b** A liquid cosmetic for the complexion

Very common in the 17–18th c , now chiefly *Hist*

1659 Manning *Vocal Combat* 11 These are perfum d too, Of the Roman wash 1669 Lovelace *Lucasta* 146 No Calmers with curious Washes, Bladders and perfumed Phials [see *Bowl*] 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* iii 4 All manner of Washes, Almond water, and Mercury water for the Complexion 1693 Dryden *Juv sat* vi 6 Her Cheeks as an ass with a Silk Ass polish'd with a Wash of Asses Milk 1706 Farquhar *Recruit Officer* i, I need no Harts horn for my Head, nor Wash for my Complexion. 1735 Pope *Ep. Dodsley* 82 Nature's nature, tolerably mild, To make a wash, would hardly stew a child 1766 Goldsm *Vicar* ii, vi They were making a wash for the face Washes of all kinds I had a natural antipathy to, for I knew that instead of mending the complexion they spoiled it 1800 Mathias *Pursuits* x 2 (Rtldg) 361, I know how to make washes and creams for the ladies faces. 1839 Thackeray *Pendennis* i vi The box contained—not pigments to heighten the complexion,—but my lady's wigs, washes, and rouge pots 1860 *All Year Round* No 49 331 Pure soft water is the truest beauty wash

*fig* a 1639 Fletcher *Nice Valour* iii iii, There is no hand someness, But his a wash of Pride and Luxury a 1680 Butler *Rem* (1759) I 224 Artificial Wash of Eloquence Is daub'd in upon the clearest Sense 1689 Cotton *Fr. Prete* 56 Conceit, when it is Carried teid with a mixture of Gravity, is an admirable Wash and will make one look as White, and Good, as you would wish

**c.** A liquid applied to the hair to alter its colour, to impart smoothness, or to promote growth Now chiefly *Hist*, exc. in *hair-wash.*

a 1668 Lassels *Italy* (1698) I 60 I buy dry their hair in the sun with Washes I have washed it in a certain wash a 1700 I vetyn *Dairy* June 1645, They weare very long crisp'd haire, of seven till sixteen and colours, which they make so, with the Ashes of Beans 1755 *Lond. Mag* 138 I sences, powders, pastes, washes for the hair, washes for the skin, recal the days of one's grandmothers.

**d.** †a. Mural painting in water colour. *Obs* —b.

1798 Fuseli *Aphorisms,* Wash or water colour 1811 *Hist., Aphrico* n Painters worke called wash or water colours

**b** *Water colour Painting* A broad thin layer of colour laid on by a continuous movement of the brush.

1788 Chambers *Cycl Suppl Washing,* These washes are usually given in equal Tenuity or Degrees, throughout; which are afterwards brought down and soften'd over the Lights with Fair Water 1881 Haverfield *Graphic Arts* 84 Two sorts of water-colours are employed together in the varied *Hist* 86 At Florence there are some drawings by Cambiaso in pen and wash 1884 *Interiors* VIII 59 The picture of the Clean Bowl with 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II xii 316 To reproduce dark clouds and rain with twelve or twenty successive washes

**c** *transf* (= Wash *v.* 10 b)

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* i lxvii 92 In the middle of the leaues there riseth vp a yellow wash, shadowed all ouer with a wash of thin blew 1877 Black *Green Past* xliv, Heavens, what a wash of rich, warm, luxurious, lingering colour and washes of yellow, and russet, an I olive green 1879 Stevenson *Inl. Donkey* (1886) 30 The unlevening field of hills had filled together into one broad wash of shadow 1883 Gunsmen & Harness *Bar Harris Dyke* xiii 157 The summer sunshine fell like a wash of gold up n the shores of Mount Desert 1892 G. I. Smeeton *Coastal Trade first Voy* xxiv 426 A dozen ships, and under tail coverts white, with a very faint pink wash

**d** A thin coat of water colour or distemper spread over a wall or similar surface, a process or action used for this purpose. Cf White wash *sb.*

1658 Rolle in *Add. Collect. Nat. Eng.* (1878) I 2 Pillars & top to bottom being overlaid with a Golden Wash 1826 Sinclair *Nuts & Soft Kamble Germ ny* 127 The white and yell w washes of the walls look fresh 1834 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* I iii 348 The floors of the dining rooms were coloured brown with a wash made of soot and small beer 1850 Jerrold *Heiress* iii 43 I liked fresh 1854 *Ruskin Stones Venice* II vi 148 The floors of the dining rooms were coloured brown with a wash made of soot and small beer 1859 Jerrold *Hoffmann* 1 xi 1 liked fresh 1894 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* I iii 348 The floors of the dining rooms were coloured brown with a wash made of soot and small beer 1859 Jerrold *Hoffmann* 1 xi 1 liked fresh 1894 *Macon Mag* Oct 446 1 Syra is almost entirely a white town relieved now and again by a dash of yello w wash 1895 *Harper's Mag* May 846/2 Pompeiian red is only water wash

**5.** A solution applied to metals for producing a counterfeit appearance of gold or silver.

1697 Collier *Ess Moral subj* II 98 Imagination stamps Value and Signification up on his Pieces, and tells the Pe ple he is Rich as much, who oftentimes, being deceived by the wash, never examin the Metal, but like him upon Content 1881 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict c* 99 § 3 Whosoever shall gild or silver any shall, with any Wash or Materials capable of producing the Colour or Appearance of Gold or of Silver, wash, case over, or colour any Coin whatsoever.

**II** Washing movement of water.

**6.** The washing of the waves upon the shore; surging movement of the sea or other water.

*Neptune's salt wash* (quot 1602) a bombastic periphrasis for 'the sea'.

[c 1050 *Soupht. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 170 35 *Aqua-rium altaneis,* wætera ʒewæsc *Ibid* 1087/8 *Alluvium,* waterʒewæsc.] 1579 Gosson *Apol Sch Abuse* (Arb) 65 Truth is harde and cannot be broke with wishe 1602 Shaks *Ham* iii iv 206 Full thirty times hath Phœbus Cart gon round Neptunus salt Wash, and Tellus Orbed ground 1898 Raven *Acc. E. India & P.* 57 At the Entry into the Harbour only a Rock withstands the Washes. 1725 De Foe *Voy round World* (1840) 327 Their carpenters caused their sides as they could to keep off the wash of the sea 1733 W Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm,* 59 The wash and brush of the Rains, and the violence of the Winter Winds, which is a all fatal to this Ground 1778 *Lond Gazetteer* (ed. 2) xv *Watchet,* Great quantities of Lib ster, which fall down the cliffs here, by the wash of the sea, are also sent to that city 1852 Lewesdon *Journ* 104 Some walks By the long wash of Australia sun seas Par off 1865 Cozzens *Land & Sea* (1873) 5 Here we were, lying the easterly breeze, and pitching and rolling in the wash of the sea 1872 Dana *Corals* ii 137 An important protection is the r f against the wash of the waves 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* iv xviii, The wash of the waves touched his feet

*transf* 1855 Browning *Fra in Campagna* v, Silence and passion, joy and pea e, An everlasting wash of air—Rome's ghost since her decease

**b.** A surge raised in the sea or other piece of water by the passage of a vessel.

1883 *Harper's Mag* Feb 393/1 We were steaming along at splendidly now, sending up a fine wash and we sh sking the banks 1886 *Hist* Del 144/2 The steam launch sends a 'wash' along the shore 1890 R. C. Leslie *Harry Hotspur* 221 They were swinging on the tide close to the water, and our boat raised a wish and wetted their feet

**c** The sound of the surge of water

1845 Coulter *Adv Inagin* ii 200 I listened to the wash of the briny ocean 1851 Longf. *Hyperion* I *Life* (1891) III 177 The low wa h of the sea very calling 1873 Black *Pr Thule* iii 39 The wash ripples along the rocks 1878 Bunce *Don Quixote* I 168 The wash of the swell on rocks met my ear

**d.** Wear or attrition due to the action of waves

1793 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* § 58 In process of the work of the joints, that a very considerable wash might subject it to. 1872 Lowell *Dante* Writ 1892 IV 204 Thus the rec arched bridge, still firm against the wash and wear of ages

**7.** A sandbank or tract of land alternately covered and exposed by the tide; a portion of an estuary admitting of being forded or crossed on foot at low tide † *The Washes,* applied *spec* to the fordable portion of the estuary between Lincolnshire and Norfolk; hence used as a name for the estuary itself, now called *The Wash.*

c 1440 *Promp Parv* 532/2 Wasche, watur or forde (*v.r.* forth, *vadum* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 A Wasche, *vadum.* 1535 Coverdale *Josh* iii 8 Ye shall stonde still in the wash of Iordane 1595 Shaks. *John* v vi 41 Hilbe my power this night, passe the Washes 1610 Holland *Camden* 1 xxvi 71 As for the coast of Illyricum, it is so fred with more then a thousand Islands such is the nature of the sea, full of shelves and sands, with many small creeks running betweene 1611 Cotgr *s.v. Passade,* The swift course of the flowing, and ebbing of the sea on the Sands, or Washes 1647 Milton *Comus* 1 Ill in the Bay which Pictures names, *Asturiam Mauris,* vulgarly called, the Washes, lie th the large Towne of Lynne. a 1652 Donne *Serm* luv (1640) 653 A washing beam in Baptisme. Not such a washing, as the Washes have, which are the sounds that are overflowed with the Sea at every Tide nd then forsaken, but not [etc.] 1841 Hone *Every Day Book* II 49 Here depasted out of Chester The friends acquainted them over the washes which are dangerous 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch, Arch II,* celin, Mowbray who had gone all the way at night from these Washes to Pomfret, Having thought a Quicksand sprung, Might swallow him 1681 W Robertson *Phraseol Gen* (1693) 1295 The waters, as in Lincolnshire Washes, *Æstuaria* 1744 *Phil Trans* XLII 689 An Easterly Breeze, with the Boisterous Tides on the Coast, must needs make the Wash call Tide weather, and may be occasioned by the Vapours arising from the Tides, which then cover vast Wash of Sands in that Neighbourhood 1851 *Trial Archbp Sutton* II 28 The Bishop lay at work with friends the sole receipt for the drainage waters, is so shallow

†**b** The portion of the shore washed by the waves *Obs*

1624 Raleigh *Hist World* II iii § 7 50 Fuen at the very brinckes and wash of the Sea 1628 — *Apol* 15 The lowne being seated up in the very Wash of the Sea 1698 *Phil Trans* XX 280 Some Vessels are Safe on the Shore, that they have Neck from Twenty to Thirty Yards dry from the Wash of the Shore

**c** A low lying tract of ground, often flooded, and intersected with shallow pools and marshes

1683 *Cath Angl* 409 2 A Wesche, *lagunum, in plurali lagua.* 1801 Holland *Improv* I 1 52 Within the washes and downs of Lincolnshire is the town Nebrisan. 1794 Vancouver *Agric Cambridge* 174 The crops on the interior commons and washes suffered extremely by these [wet] seasons, etc] at first 1866 Kingsley *Herew* xxvii, Beyond Parish we were now in the great washes of the Bedford Level 1905 *Athenæum* 30 Dec. 902/1 The dry bed or portion of the bed of a winter torrent.

1894 *Amer Anthr Research* Nov 508/2 The center of it [Pushong Valley] is occupied with the broad sandy wash characteristic of Southern California streams 1897 *Outing* XXIX 483/1 Semi-arid Wash is a mile wide and composed of sand and prickly pear cactus 1904 *19th Cent* Mar 432 The bed of the wash, or dry valley bed, up which we were driving was planted with cotton

**8.** A tract of shallow water, a lagoon. Also, a shallow pool or runnel formed by the overflow of a river, a backwater, a stream running across a road

1530 Palsgr 287/1 Washe of water, *mare.* 1545–6 Leland *Itin* (1745) I (*New*) *Ir's Coff* 9 xxii, There is almost nother Cape, nor Bay, Haven, Creeke, or Peere, River or Confluence of Rivers, Breches, Washis, Lakes, Meres, Fenny Waters, Montaynes, Vallels, Mores, (etc.) 1590 Greene

*Def Conny-catching* Wks (Grosart) XI 65 Jack away he rides singing towrides Endfield [from Edmonton] as he rode, he metts it the washes with the Miller 1607 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxi IV II 410 The rause that fell caused all the washes among from the river Nilus which watered the grounds, to be better 1609 — *Amm Marcell* 248 Conveying themselves over the washes and marishes in flotes and troughes of hollowed trees 1620 FOLKINGHAM *Feudgier* 1 11 3 The other sort is digged up in Countreines, Rivers Washes, Salt Meeres, &c. 1698 EARL MORTON in *Miscellan. Aulic. & Parnass* 1 xxxiv 52 The glorious Venetian Liberty was planted in those Washes 1858 — in *Farmer's Mag. Copyhold* 194 The Washes, or Moorish grounds, where on the City of Venice is placed 1673 *Pl as Treat Bitches* 53 With whom he travelled till at last they came to a great wash, where the man proffered the Monk to carry him over on his back 1694 THORESBY *Diary* (1830) I 295 We had some showers, which raised the washes upon the road to that height that passe gers from London that were upon the road were 1780 COKE in *Nichols* II 458 All he came unto the Wash Of Edmonton so gay 1847 L. HUNT *Men Women, & Bks* I 11 41 The gutters were suddenly a torrent: the pavements a wash 1848 W. HOWITT *Visit to Field Sports* U.S. II 28 The wide extent of salt marshes and meadows, interspersed with shallow land locked washes and lagoons 1857 HAWTHORNE *Dolp. A. Bks* (1879) II 204 Along the base of the castle [Skipton] flows a stream, but only a 'wash', whatever that may be 1878 H. MILLER & SKEPTICISM *Testimony* 258 Ill-drained wastes enclosing a space called a Wash for the waters to bed in in time of flood 1884 *Ink* Oct. 356, I came to a wash a few feet wide and a foot or so deep

**XII. 9.** Waste water discharged after use in washing; liquid refuse. Also *fig* Now *rare*

c1440 *Pallad on Husb* I 1105 And all the weshe out of the baths [I *balnearum eluvies*] The garden thorgh to go, therto no activite 1707 HEARNE *Reliq Bodl* (1869) I 8 If his Maje ty had kept aloof from that wash and offs ouring of every thing that is low and barbarous in the world 1833 HT MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* 39 He advised that the sweepings from the cottage floors and the wash and b ailings of all sorts, should be thrown into it [the pit]

**10** *Sc* and *north* State urine used as a detergent and as a mordant.

Perhaps so called from its use in washing

c1480 HENRYSON *Sum Practisis of Med* 48 Tha vntinent is rycht ganand for your anis vss With reid nettill seid in strang wesche to steip 1538 *Ld Treasurer Accts* I 360 Item for cuntil quene Of strang wesche scho will have tuelue crounis, And setting in the gyle fat 1546 — *Deith Bulon* etc F 6, Thou false heretickis (Wishart) saydest that holy water is not so good as wasshe & wesche 1703 THOMSON *Tr of Le Nay, Itch* or *wash* Urine 1737 RAMSAY *Prov* (1750) 65 Learn your goodname to kirn wash 1743 in R. Maxwell *Sel Transc Agric* 368 Put into your Copper a little stale Wash, which will make your Wild spent Lead raise your Colour 1882 CROOKS *Dyeing* 59 Stale urine known in Lancashire as 'Lant' and in Yorkshire as 'wesh or 'weshing, owes its action to the carbonate of ammonia formed by the decomposition of urea

**11.** Kitchen swill or brewery refuse as food for swine = HOGWASH, PIG-WASH (So G. dial. *wodich*)

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 915 *Porcus collumanus*, an hogge fed with wesh and draffe 1590 BARTON *Pilgr. Parn* (Grosart) 229 The sweetest wine, is but as swinish wash, If to the water, of the Well 1592 WEST *Symbol A* IV 11 9 The wretched, bloody and vsurping Boare, Swilles your warm blood like wash, and makes his trough in your embowel'd bosome 1595 SHAKS *Merch* V (Pope ed) II 28 As different as the silence of an Archimedes in the study of a Problem and the stillness of a Sow at her wash 1732 *Arc. Herefordensis* 29 I hey have a pig or two brought in, to eat upon their wash, and dregs 1851-61 MAYHEW *Lond Labour* II 132/1 The hogs' food obtained by these street folk, or, as I most frequently heard it called, the 'wash' 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D* xxxi She pointed to the great back of wash, and riddlings, and brown hulkage 1896 HARING GOULD *Dartmoor Idylls* v 129 When she carried the sow her pail of wash

*fig* 1665 FULLER *Ch Hist* 1 16 Clean Submicks will be better satisfied with one drop of the Milk of Truth then foul Feeders with a Trough of Wash, mingled with the water of Fabulous Inventions.

**b.** Liquid food for other animals.

1849 W. C. L. MARTIN *Or* 96/2 The mangers extend along the whole length of each row of cattle, these are for the wash, or fluid food The wash is very nutritious, as it contains the finer particles of the ground malt

**IV. 12** Matter washed away by running water, solid particles carried away by a stream and deposited as sediment; alluvial deposit.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 86 The Wash of Pastures, Fields, Commons, Roads [etc.] where Rain water hath a long time settled ... [is] of very great advantage to all sorts of Land 1797 [BURKE] *Europ Settlem Amer* II 11 60 In these plains the soil augmented by the wash of the mountains for so many ages is prodigiously fertile 1860 MORTIMER *Herbert* (1868) I 8 A territory, the mere wash of three great rivers 1865 DICKENS *Mut Friend* III xiii, 'Tastes like the wash of the river' 'Are you familiar with the flavour of the wash of the river?' 1883 *Harper's Mag* LXVII 682 The land has been built up out of the wash of ancient rivers and the sands of vanished seas 1888 I. D WHITNEY *Names & Places* 125 [Much of the land which stretches along the lower slopes of the ranges in the Cordillera Region are locally known as washes 1895 HARING GOULD *Nobsts* II, The course taken by the flood is easily recognisable by this fact—that it has left its wash on the tops of the plateau, where to the present day lies a film of cobalt

**b.** *Mining* 'A formation of gravel, etc over an abraded coal seam'. (Eng Dial Dict)

1888 W. B. NICHOLSON *Glossary Coal Trade Northumb* (E.D.D.), The Team Wash, which extends from Dunston on the river Tyne and, following the line of the river Team, to Tursdale,. and washes out several seams of coal in its course.

**V. 13. a.** (See quot. 1728.) ? *Obs.*

1619 DONNE *Serm* 18 Apr (1661) III 270 Of this Gold (this virtue of Repentance) there is no Mine in the Earth (in the books of Philosophers, no doctrine of Repentance) this Gold is for the most part in the washes 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl*, II *ashings*, or II *ashes*, among Goldsmiths, Coiners, &c. are the Lotions whereby they recover the Particles of Gold and Silver out of the Ashes, Earths, Sweepings, &c

**b.** Soil from which gold (or diamonds) can be extracted by washing

a 1875 FULLOM in *Offic Handbk N Zealand* 171 Gold was also met with in places along the sides of the valley, and in the river bed, the wash every where resting on waterworn bars and ledges of greenstone, [etc] 1879 ARCHERLEY *Jrnl Auckland* 143 We had extracted about a hundredweight of wash 1880 FISON & HOWITT *Australasia* 292 The great reef washes of Ballarat are to be referred to the period of depression 1886 *N Z Herald* 28 May I do not think, after driving about 80 feet they struck payable wash The wash is about two feet thick, lying on a slate bottom 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 7 A coo pany has been formed to work the Deep Lead floor which shows gold and tin in 30 feet of wash 1897 *Daily News* 30 Nov 9/5 Inverell Diamond Fields.— ... not a trace of diamonds from five loads washed Wash unprofitable as development progresses

**VI** Watery infusion or mixture

**14** Originally, the partially fermented wort remaining after ale or beer has been brewed from it; this wort is subjected to further fermentation in order that ardent spirit may be distilled from it. In later use, malt or other fermentable substance or mixture of substances steeped in water to undergo fermentation preparatory to distillation.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict Cant Crew*, *Wash*, After wort 1701 J. LITTLE *Brief Act* (1837) V 55 That 10*s* per gallon be laid on all low wines or spirits drawn from the brewers wash 1709 *Pat* 9 *Anne* 2 An Act to Explain the Proportion of Wash and Wash drawn from Malted Corn 1753 *Chambers Cycl Suppl*, *Wash*, the distillers name for the fermented liquor, made by dissolving the grain prepared for fermentation and distillation in common water 1815 *Ann Reg*, *Chron* 43 Besides the still, a considerable quantity of wash, some low wines, were found 1852 *Gentl Mag* XCV 1 215 The molasses are conveyed by channels into a large vat in the still house, to which a certain quantity of water is added, and in this state the liquor is called 'wash' 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict* c 24 § 5 (1) No person may, without being in the d (*b*) Brew or make wort or wash 1903 *Times* 22 Aug 8/6, 200 gallons of wash — liquor produced from the mash tun 1908 *Westm Gaz* 23 Mar 2 1 The liquid from which spirit is distilled is termed 'wash', and may be made from almost anything. If the distiller is in the coffee, not from malt, or in the case of Irish whisky, malt and unmalted grain.

**15** Washy or vapid liquor. Also *fig*, vapid discourse or writing

1548 UDALL etc *Erasm Par Luke* III, 15-18 My doctrine is but vayne, except it be comprised vnto his doctrine [Lat sim *Ma doctrina inlusta est, si ad illius doctrinam conferatur*] 1819 W. S. ROSE *Lett N Italy* I 108 A remedy is thought to have been found in coffee, not like vile and vapid wash which is usually made in England, but [etc] 1830 RANSOM *Poems* (1858) 49 Nae man wessle yer money on ony wash 1844 *Blackw Mag* LVI 208 *Schneider* 166 (*Wolf*) I've known the good ole wash we drink noo That pure, feckless, skiddle cad tea 1911 R. BROOKS *Lect in Memoir* (1918) 191 Interposing between the still and the refrigerating apparatus a "wash warmer", or vessel filled with the liquid ready for distillation. *c* 1625 in W Robinson *Hackney* (1842) I 111 [Inventory of Goods] In the Wash house. In the Wash house & *&c Bookes* 1 a 1 Item—One great toaster of wash

† **Wash**, *a Obs.* [*f.* WASH *v.*, perh. in part a corruption of WALSH *a.*] Washy, weak, tender.

1548 UDALL *Erasm Par Luke* xii 23 It is no washe doctrine, me worldely Person *non est dilute, nec humana et crassa*], that I have brought down from heauen, 1607 MANSION *If hat you Will* I 1, But how long doth this perfume of sweete Madam last? Faith to but a wash sent, *a* 1616 BEAUM & FL. *Beggars Bush* III 1 Their handkerchief so vile and wash a temper, a rough-pated bed will shake em all to pieces 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II 1, To a wash knave, he will not know his Master 1692 L. ROBERTS *Compl Horsem* II iii (1656) 104 They are naturally slow, dull, heavy, and nesh or wash of their flesh

**Wash** (wɒ̆ʃ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. washed (wɒ̆ʃt). Forms. *Inf.* and *present stem* 1 wæscan, wascan, 2 waskin, waxan, waxsan, 2-6 wasche, wasse, 2-7 wasch(e, 3 wash(e)oo, wesache, 3, 4 was(e, waass, 3-5, 6 *Sc.* wass, 3-5 wassche, 3-6 wasch, 4 whasche, 4-5 wash(e, wasch(e)ohe, wassh, 5 vasshe, whas, 7 *Sc.* wash, 3-7 washe, 3- wash ; 4 wayssh(e, waisse, wayss, 4-5 wais(e)she, wais(e)he, waysch(e, waisse, 4-6 waysshe, waysse, weisshe, weysshe, weysch, 6 weish, (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 5-6 wesche, 3-5 wesse(e, 4-5 wassh(e, 4-6 wessh(e, wessh(e, 4-7 wesch, 5 whesse, 5-7 weshe, 9 *dial* wesh ; also 4 wisshe, whesshe, 5 woschе, wosshe, 6 *Sc.* wouch, 6-7 wysch(e. *Pa. t.* 1 wósc, 2-4 wosch, 4 woisse, 4-5 woasch(e, wosh(e, wossh(e, 4-5, 6 *Sc.* woschе, 5 wosohsse, *Sc.* wouschе, 6 *Sc.* woushe, 7 *Sc.* wosh. *B.* 1 wéox, 2 weoxe, 2-3 wexs, 3-4 wess(e, 2-5 wesch, wessh, 3 wesoeh(s, wes, 3-4 wex(e, weise(s, 3-5, 6 *Sc.* weschе, 4 we(e)chs, weschе, weyschе, 4-5 wexsch(e, wesh(e, 4-6 weschе, 5 weschе, (*pl.* wheschen), 6 *Sc.* weish(e, 9 *Sc.* weash, weshe ; 3-4 wæsh, wax, 4-5 waschе, wassh(e, 2-5

**wrasch, 3 wrache, (*pl.* wraschen), 3–5 wrasch, 4 wraesch, 6 *Sc.* wras(c)he, 9 *Sc.* wrash; 3–4 wris, 4 wrysch, 4–5 *Sc.* wrisch(e, 4–5 wrissch(e, wrish(e, wrys(s)che, wrysh, wrysh(e, 5 wrishe, whrisse, (*pl.* wrissen), 7 *Sc.* wryshe. *Pa. pple.* 1 -wrssecn, -wahsen, -waxen, 2 (1)wasse, 2–3 (1)wæschen, 2–5 waschen, 3 wæschen, 3–4 waasen, 3–5 (1)wasche, 4 waeshin, (1)washe, waschc, wakshne, 4–5 waschen(n, -yn, (y)waesshe, waashun, whashen, 4–6 washen, 5 was(o)hyn, wasch, wasch, whassche, 6 was(e)hen, *Sc.* wasshin, 7 *Sc.* washine, 3–9 (now *arch.* and *dial.*) washen; 2 (1)wessecn, 2–5, 6 *Sc.* weschen, 3–4 wessen, 4 wesche, (y)wesse, 5 wessch, (y)wesh, weashe, (y)wheas, weshen, 5, 6 *Sc.* wesshin, -yn, 6 *Sc.* wesshin(e; 4 wyasen, 4–5 waesche(n, -an, -yn, wayschen, waisnshe(n, waisshe(n, wayshun, weischen, weyschc, 5 waishe, waisch; 8 *Sc.* wush. *Weak pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 3–4 wassed, 4–5 wasoht, 4–6 waschod, washed, weashed, wesshed, etc.; 5 weshit, *Sc.* wecht; 4–5 washid, 6 washte, 7 washd, 6–8 washt, 7–9 wash'd, 5– washed. [A Com. Teut. wb. (not recorded in Gothic), originally strong: OE. *wæscan*, *waxan*, also by metathesis *waxan*, pa. t. pl. *wǒxon*, *wócxon*, pa. pple. *-wæscen*, corresponds to OFris. *waskc* (E. and N.Fris. *waskje*, W.Frls. *waatje*), OS., OLow Frankish *wascan* (Du. *wasschen*, pa. t. *wiesch*, pa. pple. *gewaschen*), OHG. *wascan*, pa. t. *wuosc*, pa. pple. *giwascan* (MHG. *waschen*, *weschen*, mod.G. *waschen*, pa. t. *wusch*, pa. pple. *gewaschen*), ON. (rare) *vaska*, conjugated weak (Sw. *vaska*, Da. *vaske*) :—OTcut. ***waskan* :—***waiskan* f. root ***wat-** as in WATER 56.

It is uncertain whether the original conjugation was of the reduplicating type (OE. pa. t. *wśxe* = Du. *wiesch*) or of the ablaut type (OE. *wśxe* = OHG. *wuosc*). In English the weak conjugation appears occasionally in the 14th c., but the strong forms prevailed till the end of the 16th c., after which they seldom occur exc. in dialects.]

**I.** To cleanse by means of water. Also with compl. adj., *to wash white*, *clean*.

**1.** *trans.* To cleanse, remove the dirt from (something) by affusion of or immersion in water.

In OE. the verb was almost confined to the specific use 2 below. For the washing of vessels, and for the washing of the human body, the word used was *þwfan*.

900 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 145 Hi scolan waxan sceap. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Levit.* i. 9 And waxan þæt innewerde and þa fet [of the burnt offering]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke v. 2 Da fiscras sodon, & woxon hrora net. *c* 1205 LAY. 10182 Heo . . waxen þa waxes [*c* 1275 wavsen þe wowes]. 13.. *St. Alexius* 312 (Laud MS. 108) As he wessch here diseches. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 325 Diogenes wasshe *pl.-yr*, wrsche, wysch] wortes in a tyme. *Ibid* VI. 403 Sche wolde take þe schoon of here nurses priveliche by uyste and wasche [*pl.-yr*, wasse, wayssche] hem and smere hem. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy*. II. 752 It [*sc.* the cardiak water] made a ful purgacioun Of al ordure & fylthe in be toun, Waschyng be streetis as pei seid a rowe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Þyke hem clene, & skrape hem, & wasshen clene. *Ibid.* 114 Nym ye ris, wheet hem clene. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* ii. xiv. 230 A good huswijf..now sche sethith, now sche rostith, now sche weischith diseehis. 1530 PALSGR. *Introductio* XXV. 237 For wayshyng of the flocke at Fryngc iij s. iiij d. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 84 Water ,for washing of glasses. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 317 In Kent they wash their sheep in the following manner. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 175 Take cockles at a full moon and wash 'em. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Gardeners* 193 When you give her casting of flannel or cotton, take care to have them washed as clean as they can be. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii. The second-floor front was scrubbed, and washed, and flannelled. 1849 JAMES *Corn Crgger* xxiii. Carriages, too, were washed, and high-bred horses standing out to be groomed. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 61 In the sick room, the doctor should always be washed, and when he chooses to do so he washed. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxvii. 295 We could talk afterwards—while Emana is washing the dishes.

**†b.** PROV. *To wash a wall of loam, a brick or tile* (= *L. laterem lavare*), to labour in vain. Cf. 3 d.

1586 HOOKER *Serm.* ii. § 19 But we wash a wall of loame, we labor in vaine. 1612 *Two Noble K.* III. v. 41 We have, As learned Authours utter, washd a Tile. 1779 WARNER in *Lewes Corresp. & Conteuip.* (1843) IV. 283, I wish I could make him feel as he ought, but one may as well wash a brick.

**c.** Naut. *To wash a ship*: see quot. Also *absol.* ? *Obs.*

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 113 *To Wash a Ship*, That is used at sea, when we cannot come aground, or carecne-her: we make her heeled-over with her Ordnance and men, upon the yard-arms to a side, and so wash that side and scrape it (so much as is out of the water, which is commonly some 3, or 6 strakes). 1666, 1720 [see TALLOW *v.* 1b]. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1445/1 They will Wash and Tallow, and then take their course to the Westward.

**†d.** Fishing. *To wash soft*: to wash (the net) after a day's work. Also *absol. Obs.*

1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 73 Upon Saturday San set, to wash off his Net, hale up and go home. *Ibid.* 77 That no Trawler do fish, upon the Saturday after Sunrising, but to wash off, hale up, and go home.

**e.** *To wash out*: to cleanse the interior of (a vessel).

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ii. (1842) 54 It is requisite that it [the bottle] be washed out after every experiment, the last two or three rinsings being made with distilled water. 1859 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 737 A tube of convenient size open at the top or sides so that it can be properly washed-out.

**f.** *To wash up*: to wash (table utensils) after a meal. Also *absol.*

1752 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* ii. xiii. 241 When he had done nipping his Tea, he used to wash up the Cups with the most orderly Exactness. 1837 J. MORRIS *Abel Allnutt* xx. 116 That Betsy might be allowed to come in and help to 'wash up'. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, Sitting in ashes to see the room cleared, the hearth swept, and the dinner-service washed up and polished in the back yard. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxiii. 233 His supper over, and Emana having retired into the kitchen to wash up.

**g.** *To wash down*: to wash from top to bottom or from end to end.

1877 STABLES *Pract. Kennel Guide* 129 A portion of carbolic acid should be used with the water you wash down the yard with. 1898 *Trnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 300 The waters of the bay are so foul that..ships which visit Rio.. do not wash down their decks..during their stay in port. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Hcuse with Green Shutters* 14 Gilmour.. was washing down the legs of a horse.

**2.** To cleanse (soiled clothes, wool, etc.) by rubbing in water, with soap or some equivalent. Also *to wash clothes*, *wollen*, etc.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xxvii. (1890) 84 He þa arrest belseað, [æt heo heora hrægl woosce & clænsode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Sume hereð sole cloð to þe wattere forto wasshen it clene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Wile a weoh bean, et one therre, mid one watere wel ibleched, oðer a sol cloð hwit iwaschen? 1320 *Sqeuh.* 236 Sse lesinie kertel erban hi by buyte uelezipe him hebbeð iwasche & ibleched. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* prol. 215 pi best cote..Hath many moles and spottes, it mizte nen ywashe. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 84 Take fair water in a faire vessel, and then is clene wool, & wasshe it. 1497 HALSWORTON *Ledger* (1867) 149 Item for iiij men to weysch it [the wool] and dry it,..3 s. 1522 *Bnsgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 17 That na persone nor persons wouche ony thing of clait in the toune bouten, outhir the gaite of.. brekin of the weschal that tha wous with. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Radiendo*, an herbe, the iuyce whereof is good to wesshe heedes. 1611 COTGR., *Buée*, a Buck-basket. He fumbls the fowll wheresto doun the gait, Thocht to haif weehst [*Ramsay* wusht] thame on ane stane. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Iredt. Gt.* (1897) II. 562, washmen of Velletri, what a quantity of Vin dirty linen the King has went me to wash!" 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* ii, How nice my handkerchiefs look, don't they? I washed and ironed them for me.

**b.** *To be (a) washing*: to be getting washed.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* v. 72 Except his Shirt's a washing. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Lett. to Gentl. Wks.* 1730 IV. 182 Their Commodes and Smocks were *washing* below by the Landlady of the House.

**c.** *To wash one's dirty linen at home, in public*: said *fig.* with reference to domestic quarrels or grievances, the discussion of which is best confined to the family circle.

Cf. *Pr. Fr. to have one linge tale en famille.*

1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* xliv, I do not like to trouble you with my private affairs;—there is nothing, I think, so bad as washing one's dirty linen in public. 1893 *Lnne Times* XCI. 23/2 It is ridiculous that grave disputes.. should be kept waiting while the dirty linen of high society is..washed in public. 1895 [see LINEN *sb.*].

**d.** *To wash* (one's) *hands* to begin with vigorous rubbing. *To wash out*, to rinse so as to remove soap or other substance from the web of the stuff.

1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 214 Give it a boil or two at most, and then wash it up while the gross body of the lime is in the substance of the cloth. 1820 *Quarto Rec.* IV. 688/2 They [dyed calicoes] are treated with a hot solution of soap; they are then washed out, squeezed, and again soaped.

**3.** To wash oneself, to wash one's hands, face, etc.

1598 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 323 Item, she can wash and scours. 1623 COCKERAM II, She that Washeth. Lauatrix. 1891 HY. JENNINGS *Coll. Anec.* What we will insist on to the Germans, who wash scarce twice in a year? 1725 *View Lond. & Westminster* 9 They were extraordinary Oeconomists, brew'd their own Beer, washt at home. 1848 *Lights & Shades* I. 29 Much wont I had to persuade him again and again, ere I thought she washed last week. 1857 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiii, Betsy Martin, widow,..Goes out charing and washing by the day. 1892 *Strand Mag.* Feb. 170/2 Lucy Sandey would mangle, wash, and clear-starch.

**f.** *trans.* To wash clothes for (a customer or lodger). *obsl.*

1795 WORDSWORTH *Aprils. Essex* 81 They cook, wash, lodge, and find them [the workmen] in small beer for 2s. per week. 1886 *S.W. Line. Gloss.* s. v., She has washed him ever sin he came. 1895 ROSEMARY ('*Under Chilterns*' ii. 81 That'd be high enough for me to wish to eat nor need 'em.

**g.** *absol.* To have one's clothes washed; to pay the laundress's charges. *jocular nonce-use.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, It was by very many degrees the best professional job he had ever had, and one on which he boarded, lodged, and washed for six months afterwards.

**h.** *trans.* Of water or other agent: To have the property of cleansing (clothes) easily and well. Also *absol.*

1697 DAMPIER *Voy to Heath* vi. (ed. 3) 301 It [rain-water] Brews and Washes to greater advantage than others.

**i.** *intr.* Of a fabric, a dye: To bear cleansing with soap and water without damage to colour or texture.

1768 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. III. 402 Mrs. Stevenson bids me tell Sally, that the striped gown I sent her will wash. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* iii, It is very pretty, madam,..but I do not think it will wash well: I am afraid it will fray. 1840 H. BROWNRIGG in K. Meadows *Hands of People* I. 93 'You told me, sir, the print would wash!' she exclaimed, shewing to the unmoved shopman the colourless purchase. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 971/1 Only eighteen-pence a yard, ma'am, and warranted to wash.

**j.** *fig.* (*colloq.*) To bear trial or investigation, stand the test, find acceptance, prove to be genuine, reliable. Chiefly in phr. (*it*) *won't wash*.

1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xviii, 'That will n't wash, Miss. 1852 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* II. How got black horses in him. That's the only thing after all that'll wash, ain't it? 1867 TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* xvi, The men—and the women too—who are so..comfortable, so kind,..—it so often turns out that they won't wash. 1881 LD. ACTON *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* (1904) 99 The defect of the argument is that it will neither wear nor wash. 1911 *Spectator* 21 Oct. 643/1 He was not to be taken in by plausibilities that 'wouldn't wash'.

**k.** *Pass.* or *intr.* with *out*. Of a fabric: To lose colour in the wash. Hence *fig.* to lose all vigour or freshness.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, The lady..was a long, lean figure, wearing such a faded air that she seemed not to have been made in what linen-drapers call 'fast colours' originally, and to have, by little and little, washed out. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* I. 282 That claptrap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

**3.** To cleanse (the body or part of it) with water. Also to wash *clean*, *white*.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..wrosc[e 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys handa beforan þam folce, & *tw.* 1289 *Form. Eccl. Hist. Scotl.* (1885) I. 382 Thai clapirap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

**3.** To cleanse (the body or part of it) with water. Also to wash *clean*, *white*.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..wrosc[e 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys handa beforan þam folce, & *tw.* 1289 *Form. Eccl. Hist. Scotl.* (1885) I. 382 Thai clapirap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..wrosc[e 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys handa beforan þam folce, & *tw.* 1289 *Form. Eccl. Hist. Scotl.* (1885) I. 382 Thai clapirap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..wrosc[e 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys handa beforan þam folce, & *tw.* 1289 *Form. Eccl. Hist. Scotl.* (1885) I. 382 Thai clapirap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 24 Pilatus..wrosc[e 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* þwoh] hys handa beforan þam folce, & *tw.* 1289 *Form. Eccl. Hist. Scotl.* (1885) I. 382 Thai clapirap won't wash any longer,..it is quite washed out. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maiwne's Sake* xvii, A reaction has set in, and I'm quite washed out and unfit for anything.

1630 *R Johnson's Kingd & Commw.* 324 Who of all men living wash their hands most in carelessnesse, being never disturbed with worldly cares or incumbrances.

g. *To wash one's hands* to rub the hands alternately one over the other, in imitation of the action of washing them (Cf Shaks. *Mach.* v. i. 33).

1563–87 Foxe *A & M* 1493/2 Rogers was burned unto ashes, washing his handes in the flame as he was in burning. 1840 Hood *Miss Kilmansegg* 151 (*Christening*) He Seem'd washing his hands with invisible soap, In imper ceptible water

h. Of a cat, etc.: To cleanse (itself, its face) by licking and rubbing with its paw.

1661 M Stevenson *Twelve Monethes* 27 The Hare in a Furrow sits washing her face 1790 Burns *Sic a Wife, as Willie had* 26 Auld Buckum by the ingle sits, An' wi' her loof her face a washes 1819 W Dickens *Picture Fables* 89 Why do you wash yourself, Pussy?

I. *refl* To cleanse one's body, or (often) merely one's face and hands, with water.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 73 Wasched o3 and wonnede clene *a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 56 Ase heo þeos hire *c* 1250 *Kent Serm* in *O E Misc* 99, vi Ydres of stone þet were i clepede baineres wer þo guos hem wesse for clenesse 1340 *Ayenb* 202 Ysaye he profete het þe wymmen, þet wes mycel þet he him wesse me be flo3 Jordan zenezibe 1390 *Gower Conf* II 254 Into his bath he wesse wom And wyssh him clene as eny lim *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 488/2 Wesche, or make schulde take mete, but þat he schon I sfore wisschid him 1596 in *Stat Inq Club Vict* I 86 I for thee hed ma washin thum selfis and dryit vp. 1862 Tennyson *Enoch* 142 They wash themselves in a *Lauolevo* 1643 Featly *Chrom., Gen* xxxv 2 We wash us every day but, when to mine with grest ones, we wash us with bulls and put on our best 1721 Addison *Spect* No 404 P 8 He threw off his Clothes with a Design to wash himself 1887 Bowen *Virg Æn* II 719 Until I wash me again Clean in the running fountain

J *intr.* for *refl* (= to wash oneself), one's hands, etc.).

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 159 Þos fure kun ues teres bo3 þe fuwer wateres þa þe heard in ues on to weschen *c* 1300 *Sir Ferumbr* 541 He kyng no wyst hi3 no more, þere wesche a ni3t to mete *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 2497 When þei somne hade souped & wo3pe whasche after 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xiii. 26 þei weshen (*v.r.* wasscheden) and wypeden and wenten to be dyner. 1450–83 Malory *Arthur* I 49 Anon as they had washen & rysen *a* 1562 G Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 174, I wold not presume to wasshe with yow & therfore I pray you hold me excused. 1600 I was my lord Cardynall e ansstrayned to washe alone, and my Lord of Norfolke alone also 1598 Shaks *Love Labour's* v. i. 557 Come Kate an I wash, and welcome heartily 1605 Camden *Remains* I 183, 210 No Fal to wash for the Duke without the Dukes Permission 1718 Lady M W Montagu *Let to C. test* [*Mar*] 20 Mar., Those served her coffee, kneeling, brought water when she washed [etc.]. 1770 G White *Selborne, 1 to Pennyngton* 8 Oct., As far as I can discover, ma ny birds that shun themselves never wash. 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xi, And now wash speedily and follow me. 1854 *Poultry Chron* I. 49 Here the birds can wash.

K. To cleanse, rinse, drench (the mouth, etc) with a douche or medicinal application. Also with *out*.

1538 Elyot *Dict., Gargarizo*, to gargarysshe or washe the mouthe and throte of a man *c* 1550 H Lloyd *Treat Headach* vi Cvj, Hauing eyther eaten it, it holdeth the longer in his mouth & chew it betweit hys teeth, & after wash e his mouth with wirme wyne and Honey 1825 J Hodgson *Newspr Ser II Soitherl* (Collins) 43 The Colonel began to wash out his mouth 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med*, VII. 583 Antral and attic cysnises washed out with strong antiseptic solution *Ibid* VIII 300 It is a good thing to keep washing out the vagina by a nitseptic douches

L Said with reference to baptism.

P Used by Cheke to translate *Baptizo* to baptize.

a 1300 *Cursor M* 23686 Watirs þat were þin crimes flees, and in batism his santes wass 1393 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 9508 Adams synne was so grefe, Þat þyt was to God none so lefe, Þyt he nold hem wasche in ȝonne Bal he were ywasche ȝe ȝonne stone *c* 1580 Wyclif *Sel Wks* I 72 Joon hadde office of God to crist, and washe him 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* 123 All that ar washed in the floode of baptym 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg* 188/3 He baptyzed our lord and wyssche hym where he had neuer fyl the *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt* xx 22 Can ye ..be washed with ȝᵉ washing wᵗ I shal be washed withal 1611 Coleridge II, 119 Wash Belaue, Baptize 1653 R Carpenter (*title*) The Anabaptist washt and washt, and shrunk in the washing.

M. *fig.* To cleanse from the stain of sin. Const *from*, ȝ *of*.

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 157 Swiche teres weddle M Magdalene þa heo wosch ure drihtenes fet and heo werð hire self waschen of hire sule sunnen *a* 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv 70 Of blod ant water the seoluen he, Us to wlosshe from oure fon thre 1340 *Ayenb* 112 þe herte þet is yclensed and ywesse he zobe wiflic 1382 Wyclif *Acts* i. 5 The which washeth[e *v.r.* washyn fro] ȝe synnes in his blood 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* viii xiii (1558) 8 As man most sinful I come vnto the well For to be washen of mine iniquity *a* 1572 Knox *Hist Ref* Wks 1846 I. 24 Christ washeth with his blood *c* 1650 Binning *Serm* Wks (1735 566 We are washen from the Guilt of our Sins 1707 Watts *Hymns* I *Not the Righteous* 11, But we are wash'd in Jesus blood We're par don'd thro' his name 1819 *Sunday's Sacred Songs* (1858) 45 Washed in the blood of the Lamb

†n. To clear, free from blame or aspersion.

1650 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 405 Major general Kelsey laboured to wash him

4. To flush or drench (a substance) with water or other liquid, in order to remove impurities or to dissolve out some component.

*a* 1652 J. Norgate *Mimiatura* (1919) 17 Then take the remayning grounds and wash them as before. 1682 French *Distill.* iii 71 This Oil must be washed in good store of water 1823 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 407 By washing the resaduum, a portion of it dissolves in the water 1849 D Campbell *Inorgc. Chem.* 303 This crust, washed with anhydrous alcohol, breaks up into small crystals. 1853 S Hughes *Gas works* 42 The process of washing the gas is adopted for the purpose of separating ammonia, and consists of passing the gas through a simple sheet of water 6 or 8 inches in depth 1897 Miller *Elem Chem., Org.* 58 By washing the distilled liquid with water, the acetone may, therefore, be removed 1874 F Clowes *Pract Chem* 44 A precipitate which has been filtered from the liquid in which it was suspended has often to be washed until perfectly free from the liquid adhering to it

b Of running water, rain, etc. To pass over (a surface) so as to carry off adherent matter, to wash, abrade, or erode in its flow. Also with *out*

1393 *Piers Plow Hadl* 8 16 All the rayne that commeth shal wasshe the lande, and dryue away the donge and the good moulde 1801 *Farmer's Mag* Apr 103 In cases where the stream is not rapid, and where there is little risk of the banks being washed or hurt during high winds 1805 R W Dickson *Pract Agric* I 509 Taking the water off without washing the land 1817 Byron *Manfred* i. 124 A gallowy, which had frequent bath wash d away with 1820 Pendale *Geol* II viii 263 The glacier is flanked by mountains which are washed by rain 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxiii. 253 Early April, clear weather by the rains 1897 J I Allen *Chair Invisible* v 65 This stream flows unseen beneath the streets of the city now with scarce current enough to wash out its grimy channel

II. To subject to the action of water or other liquid.

5. To bathe, lave (the body, limbs, wounds, etc.) with water or other liquid

Where the reference is to wounds, there is sometimes the additional idea of cleansing, from 11 sod, put out of sense.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 489 He wesse his fete & mid wine 1597 Irvine *Hist Leon* VIII 35 þin he wesche [*v.r.* wessch], wunesh] he woundes of þe ymage of the crucifixe *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 288 Þanne weische I þine wiþ a decoccion of malowis & violet & roun of bonalue in water *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii 787 The wery ost Wysche wondis þat þai had tane, and that was wounit 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xiii (Arb) 116 Wyse Maistres and Surgyens, bonde them, and weesshe hem (*sc* the wounds) 1622 Mabbe *Alemán's Guzman* I 133 I washed my face with my rubbing and being washt with salt and Vinegar 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 598 The Wound must be at first Washed cleane, with White Wine 1688–7 in *Spalding Club Misc* V 237 He saw Alex Chalmers hurt and bleeding, after it was washen, being hurt 1809 *Med Jrnl* XXI 37 A solution of the muriat of mercury in alcohol, to wash the affected parts with twice a day

b To bathe (the eyes). Also, *to wash clean, clear.* †Also *transf.* (jocularly), to clear or sharpen the sight of (the eyes) with strong drink (cf next).

*c* 1200 *Ancr* ♁ *Wrenne* 129 Wassce and wype wel clene ße eiene, for þan seoh ha þat ha Se vuigen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 13571 Ga wasse þin een þar *c* 1480 *Chron Vilod* 2826 þis bysone mon is þat water he ladde And wosshe þere wt his yzen two 1611 Cotgr s.v. Laine, Il n'a qu'l'eaue dont il se lauue les yeux Drink a cup to wash our eyes Leave the alehouse and sleeping 1806 Scott *Wodst* xxxviii, His eyes washed with only a morning draught of watery 1831 — *Cast Dang* i Hugh shall have no cause to complain that thine eyes have been damaged by a Scottish mist, while we can find an English coin to pay for the good liquor which should wash them clear

c To moisten (the throat) with wine. †Hence *to wash one's brain, head, etc.*, as jocular expressions for wine-drinking.

1390 Gower *Conf* II 176 For Bachus was a glotoun eke, Him for þerfore hem leke That he it wolde wasshen oute With swote drinkes and with sofie 1540 Palsgr *Acolastus* ii 1 H ȝb, My teth be al to forred with bleke & wasshen with swete drynkynge I se what I am with any merye go downe) 1589 Nashe *Anti Harvd* D 4, He that washeth his braines with d uers kin ds of wines, is the next man to a beast 1590 Locke *Rosalynde* (1592) B 3 Washing their heades well with wine 1598 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Hum* v iv, I'le wash my temples with some on t presently 1606 Shaks *Ant & Cl* II. vii 105 1618 Fletcher *Loyal Subj* IV v. Ant., Believe it Lisides fellow leave will be lusty drinking Many a wastle pint in wine I war rant thee

†d *intr.* for *refl* To use cosmetic washes. *Obs.*

1676 Etherege *Man of Mode* II. 22 Young Ladies, Who notoriously wash, and paint, though they Have naturally good Complexions. 1693 Southerne *Maid's Last Prayer* II. 1 I may be up early, Fetch, and grease my self

6 To plunge, bathe (a person) in a river or lake.

1388 Irvine *Barth De P* A xiii xii (1495) 446 In Ethiopia is a lake and yf a body be wasah therin he shuyth as though he were ouergyled with oyle 1660 T Brooks *Ut Pendam, Irav* 129 Having washed him in a lake they cloath him in a white gown

†b *refl.* Used for: To bathe. *Obs.* (? In later use *jocular.*)

1388 [see 6 c.] 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg* 414 b/1 The emperour frederyk vysyted the holy londe and wysshe hym in a ryuer 1521 *Lyfe of the Prince* (Camden) 41 There we weshe us, and leyned vs all naked in the water of Iordan. 1560 Shaks *A & C* IV. xiv 103 He went but forth to wash him in the Hellespont, and being taken with the cramps, was drownd 1721 Hearne *Collect* (O. H. S.) III. 105 One Mr Reynalds was drowned by Ferry Hunksey, he being washing himself, but not able to swim 1775 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II 38 My brother is washing himself at Brighthelmstone

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To bathe. *Obs.* exc. of animals.

1388 Wyclif 2 *Kings* v 14 He wente doun, and washede [1388 wasschide hym] in Jurdane seuen sithis. 1611 J. Taylor (Water R.) *Motto* I. 4, Old Chaucer, Sidney, Spencer, Daniel, Nash, I dipt my finger where they ev'd to wash. 1908 [Miss E Fowler] *Bayw Trent & Ancholme* 22 I he 'Wre Pond', where the horses came to wash

†d. *transf.* To dip, plunge, immerse (a thing) *in* water. *Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* iv met vi. (1886) 111 Ne the same sterre ynis nis neuer mo wasshen in the depe westrene see [I *newyonne occidue lota se fundit*]. *c* 1386 — *Pard.* 1. 25 If it is this boon be washe in any welle

e *To wash ona's spears* (sc. in blood) : a phrase attributed to South African chiefs as expressing their motive for going to war.

1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* 3 With every moon a fresh impi started to wash its spears, and came back few and thin 1903 Bryce *Stud C mtemp Biogr* 2 1 In one thing the young men [Sir Stafford Northcote's followers], who, like Zulu warriors, washed to wash their spears, were right and he was wrong

7. To wet or moisten thoroughly, to inundate or saturate with water (esp rain) or other liquid; to sprinkle or pour water upon.

*c* 1205 Lay 17188 Heo wasshe[*c* 1278 wasshþ] þene stan, & þer mide bidiȝ heore ban *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1097 Now es þe erth washer þan it was þan, I hors þe water bot it sua wex, þe for betacnes þe flesse þat was 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T* 766 Reyn shal thee washe, and sonne shal thee drye 1390 Gower *Conf* I 138 Ful þat the water of the bevine He was wasshen him to mete seven *c* 1440 *Promp Parv.* 489/2 Wesse, brewe to golestes al hir flesch, And with hir blod the tombe wesch 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxxiv. 7 Their londe shalbe washed [*Matt* soaked] with bloude 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Madefacio*, to make wete or washed 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr., Trifles* 13 A pow'ring shower that will the leyg did washe 1590 Shaks *Mids N* II. i. 104 Therefore the Moone (the gouernesse of floods) washes all the ayre 1596 — *Taim Shr* IV. i. 174 She looks as cleere As morning Roses newly washt with dew 1596 — *Tam Shr* III. ii. 73 He thinks I am to flesh him as a Schoole-boy will his top 1611 Cotgr. s.v. He thinks I am to be washed and put in a readiness, for his negligence, Be thoughly washed, when he suspects it not 1668 J Davies *Mercurius Chirurgicus* 58 Beer and Ale and Salt water washed by the Waves. 1794 Ramsay *Tiston* xxviii, Flori New washen with a shower of May 1783 Cowper *Rose* 2 The rose had been wash'd just wash'd in a shower of May 1810 *Sporting Mag* IV. 1, The rose is sweetest wash'd with morning dew.

b To wet copiously (with tears).

Chiefly in religious use, after Ps vi 6 Vulgate, *lavabo lectum meum*, and with reference to Luke vii. 38.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 65 Swo sch wie biwepe mine synnes þat me li ðat iwasshen mid mine teares *Ibid* 151 He wesscð his neb mid teares 1340 *Ayenb* 131/1 Þe [1862] 110 His fet heo wosch wiþ hire teres 1340 *Ayenb* 172 He wel giat zorȝe habbe and ofte mid his teares his bed wesse *c* 1400 *Love Ihesu* 28 Lord, I wasshe þi fet with of þe abundaunce of teres whe woosshuse moche betere hys heuede 1450 *Paston Lett.* I 124, I have soo wesshe this litel bille with sorwfulle teyes, that [etc.]. 1603 Shaks *Meas for M* III. i. 230 She, a mariide to her teares, is washed with them, but relents not.

c With predicative extension To form *sn* (holes) by the action of dropping or running water. Similarly, to form a hole or depression in (a surface) by erosion.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s v *Walk*, The dropping of the water from their branches in hard rains, is apt to wash the gravel in holes, and render the walks very unsightly 1922 *Concise Oxford Dict* s v, Wheel-track washed a channel.

†8. To sweat (gold or silver coin) by the application of acids *Obs.*

Distinct from the 'washing' of coin forbidden in recent statutes. see 9 c.

1421–8 Hoccleve *Min P.* xxi 106 How may it [gold coin] boide his pese when it is washe so that it lacke the some what in thikenes? 1543 tr *Act 3 Hen V*, c 6 They that so do clyp, washe, and lyke by many of the leuis, shalbe iudged traytours to the kynge and to the realme *a* 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Heden* (1875) App 88 Of them that counterfeites, clyps, washes, or fyles the Kynges coyne 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol* v. lxxiii. § 3 To wash or clip that coyne which hath on it the marke of God 1643 *Decl. Lett Talent at Oxf* (1837) 45 Pardon for counterfeiting forging clipping washing or falsifying of Money of Gold or Silver

9 To cover or smear (a surface) with a liquid substance lightly applied. Also with *over*.

1735 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 91 When these are dry'd, wash all over with the white Varnish before these the 1854 Maria Charlesworth *Children* 60 [She] washed over the tops of the loaves with a feather dipped in beer

b. To cover (a wall, etc.) with pigment mixed with water or watery liquid, to whitewash or colour-wash.

1604 *Shuttleyoaths' Act* (Chetham Soc) 157 A plasterer, v days plasteringe and washinge in the chambers on the south syed, 3l 5s 1626 *Ibid.* 172 A plasterer, v days washinge the halle and lyninge chamber, 3l 5s 1728 *Land Tax Rec* 6103/3 The Walls of the Houses were washed with Water in which Lime had been slaked 1826 Cobbett *Rural Rides* (1885) II 196 The windmills are all painted or washed white

c. To cover with a film of metal deposited from a solution.

1790 *Gentl Mag* LXII 1, 191/1 A chain and medal in silver washed over with gold 1893 Hudleston *Corn Coll. Man* xxvi 381 The ten centime piece of Napoleon being of copper washed with silver 1895 *Act* 54 & 55 *Vict* c. 99 § 1 Any of the current Coin which shall have been gilt, silvered, washed, coloured, or cased over so as to resemble any of the Queen's current Coin of a higher Denomination.

10. *Water colour Painting.* To cover with a broad layer of colour by a continuous movement

of the brush; to depict (a coloured surface) by this means; to lay (colour) in washes. *To wash in*: to depict (a portion of a subject) with a wash of colour. Also with *over*.

1880 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xii. 210 Beginne first to wash over some plaine printes. 1690 E. Norgate *Miniatura* (1919) 30 In your dead colourings, you must wash over and colour your ground and complexion, with this red. *Ibid.* 32 Washing the colour with a bold hand. *Ibid.* 50 When you have..sleightly washt in your skie. 1686 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 53 Arable for corn you may wash with pale straw-colour made of yellow-ocre and white-lead. 1675 A. Browne *Appendix Art. Paint.* 24, 25 That manner I do approve of better, for Washing or Drawing any Design with Indian Ink, and indeed ought not be called Limning but Washing. 1758 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 9 Sometimes the Design is washed, that is, the Shadows are done with a Pencil in Indian Ink, or some other Liquor. 1807 J. Landseer *Lect. Engraving* iii. 230 A drawing washed with bistre or Indian ink. 1843 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 3 Gaspar.. washes his sky half blue and half yellow. 1880 Sheiler *Self Help* v. 116 His [Turner] was glad to hire himself out at half-a-crown a night to wash in skies in Indian ink upon other people's drawings. 1880 J. D. Hooker *Flora Tasmaniæ* II. 327 The specimens should be covered over with a pale brown, leaving hardly a trace of green. 1897 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 1897, 406 The bushes.. may be washed in with Indian yellow. 1900 *Pearson's Portfolio* I. xii. 396 Copley Fielding taught me to wash colour smoothly in successive tints.

*fig.* 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 249 Such a man as I have sketched, or washed faintly in, as the painters say.

b. *transf.* in *passive*. Said in Natural History of surfaces that appear to have a superficial layer of colour spread over them.

1824 Blyth in *Trans. Linnæan Soc. Bengal* XIII. 1. 166 The legs and feet..are pale; the hands are washed with blackish. 1888 P. L. Sclater *Argentine Ornith.* I. 25 Tail-feathers black, washed with blue. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Ct. Brit.* I. 93 The Goosander's form..differs from them in the typical bird in having the head and throat washed with purple.

**II.** *Mining.* To agitate in water, or to pass a stream of water through (metalliferous earth) in order to separate the metallic particles.

1543 *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) I. 403 For washinge the leade ure at Grenchow mort. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 Then they washe all the earthe.. And if herein they fynde any golde, they folowe it. 1619 S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 1 The bukille where the same earth must be resolved and washed. 1853 C. R. Read *Austral. Gold Fields* 34 In many cases men used to pay other £20 a-week to be allowed to wash their tailings. 1865 A. Heywood *Trans. Cumberland Antiquities* 58 The Chinese ..have been known to wash over again the deserted washings of the Europeans, and to find gold in paying quantities.

b. *absol.*

1604 G. Bowes in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 107. I bestowed my workemen to washe for golde in Whites meadowe. 18.. C. A. Goodrich *Child's Hist. U.S.* (1889) 122 Men..were found gathered there.. washing for gold.

**III.** Of flowing water: To flow past or over land.

**12.** Of a sea or river: To flow over or past (the sand, shore, coast); to beat upon (walls, cliffs, etc.); to touch, adjoin (a town, country, etc.). Also of a river: To pass through, *water* (a country).

*c* 1205 Lay. 1233, I here þe ȝare þe sæe aloond þer þe sæa wascoð þat sond. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Subluere*, to vnderwashe, as water, whyches runneth lowe vnder a banke or hylle, and washeth the foote thereof. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xii. 47 The two sides are washed by the sea. 1596 Spenser *Vis. Bellay* 158 The golden grayle That bright Pactolus with his streames..washes. 1599 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 90 In Times to come My Waves shall wash the Walls of mighty Rome. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 309 They seldom stretch into Rivers at length, but stagnate in the Low Grounds, which they wash. 1700 Chauncy *Hertfordsh.* 3 The Bulborne..washing the North East side of Barkhamsted. 1814 *Cary Dante, Purgat.* viii. 69 The crown, Which gave to many sovereignty o'er the lands Danube wash'd. 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. xlix. 168 The waves washed the foot of the cliffs. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxiv, A small village, washed by the brook Huxley *Physiogr.* 45 The British Isles, washed by warm water on their western shores, are peculiarly subject to fogs.

*transf.* 1900 Kipling *Five Nations* (1903) 64 The granite of the ancient North—Great spaces washed with sun.

b. *intr.* Of waves: To sweep *over* a surface; to break or surge *against* (the shore, etc.); to break *in*.

1578 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist., Hist. Earth* xvii. (1824) I. 122 The tides,..constantly washing over them, have always left some part of their substance behind. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxxi, Nothing was to be heard but the rippling of the waters of the Seine, then at high tide, washing against the very foundations of the tower. 1873 Black *Fr. Thule* viii. 129 The tiny waves that washed in on the white shore. 1885 Froude *Oceana* xvii. 243 The lightest ripple washed over the gunwale.

*transf.* 1900 *In the Mountains* 139 It is a very good practice..to lean out of one's window..before going to bed and let the cool darkness wash over one.

c. Used by onomatopœia to suggest the sound of moving water, or of objects moving in water.

1840 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 70, I heard the ripple washing in the reeds. 18.. Jean Ingelow *Days without Allegvil.* (Funk), Then I hear the water washing, never golden waves were brighter. 1891 *Century Dict., Wash*, to make a swish, swash, or swirl of the water: as, the shad are washing.

**IV.** To remove, or carry away, by the action of water or other liquid.

**13.** *trans.* To remove (dirt, a stain, colouring, etc.) by the application of water or other liquid. Chiefly with adv., as *away, out, off*.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 661 Yet, or he cam in company, he wiste a-wey the blood. *c* 1450 *Merk's Festival* 90 Then was þys woman agryssed of þe blod, and wold hove wesschyd hit away. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. (last line), All blude and slauchtyr away was weschyn clene. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 32 Bay berries..weish out freckles. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 66 After he had belched the stroke, and washte away the blood. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. ii. 60 Will all great Neptunes Ocean wash this blood Cleane from my Hand? 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxv. (1687) 437 Would you not have us pull off the Mask or wash off the paint, that we may shew things in their proper colours? 1681 tr. *Sidon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 45 The Volatil Salt..is to be washed off with the said Water. 1758 *Art of Drawing in Perspective* 9 Wash off the Tripoli with a soft Sponge and Water. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 629 Agitate it [the gas] with water to wash out the sulphurous acid. 1843 James *Vill. Augustus* xxxiv, Though the blood of his nephew was scarce washed from his hands. 1859 *Jolliffe's Syst. Med.* VIII. 868 Washing discharge away with sublimate solution.

b. *fig.*

Very common in reference to sin, etc. regarded as a stain or defilement. In early use often without adv.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Ruleich god word, & eurelch god were he wascheð sinfule þeawes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5504 God..thogh a nen wesshen a-wai alle folkes follue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5505 God..thogh a nen wesshen a-wai alle folkes follue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9544 When Iheus was baptyzed þer-ynne [*sc.* in Jordan] For to wasshe awey þat synne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 *A. L. Prose* Þe blod..þet wascheð awai alle wunden. May wach in vs all surfetis reprouable. 1526 Tyndale *Pentateuch* 1. 1. 6 Ye shall wash away the filthynesse of your hertes. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* li. 1, O clense, O wash my foule iniquitie. 1548 Hall *Chron.*, Edw. IV 210 b, Yet this subjects, have with their ancient loyalty washed out the staines of the late Rebellion. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 313 Nor Tears, that wash out Sin, can wash out Shame. 1788 *Gent. Mag. Lib. Theol. & Pol. Lit.* I. 238 The pernicious lashes, which they had formerly received, were washed away in the blood of the guilty, or obnoxious, families. 1853 Macaulay *Engl.* III. 132 This heroic blood was not sufficient to wash out even the stain of his Saxon extraction. 1880 Lo. Acton *Lett. to Mary Gladstone* (1904) 38 The Republican cause had a good deal of blood to wash away.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* To blot out, obliterate, cancel.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 389 Sif chartris of men ben contrarie to goddis lawe, þes chartres schulde be wayschen and grubbid. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 Whose synnes..he washeth away with the bloude of his owne harte. 1703 The brotherly loue betwene them washed away and diminished all suspicion. 1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Spain, Sybba* 79 To cause or Cancell, or to wash out writinges. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches*, v. ii. (1886) 74 Bodin washeth away all our arguments with one word. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 236 Now of these three causes I have defined, the first doth not wash away the other. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 563 *Lutum into purgare*. To wash out incke with incke. 1763 Sykes *Plato's Repub.* iv. 151 Such wool as is not managed in the manner you know what sort it proves; whether one is dying other colours, or this one, without the due preparation beforehand. I know, said he, that it cannot easily be washed out. 1840 Shirley *Pr. Teach* xxvi, This Wilford is a noted duellist, and no doubt thirsts to wash out the insult he has received in blood. 1859 FitzGerald *Omar* li, Nor [shall] all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.

d. *intr.* with *out*. Of colouring matter: To disappear from a fabric when washed.

1755 in *8th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 128 A certain Liquid Composition..which..will neither Wash Out, Fade, or Tarnish.

**14.** trans. *To wash down*: to swallow liquor along with or after (solid food), in order to assist deglutition or digestion. Also with *fig.* object. Also rarely *to wash over*.

1600 *Lust's Dominion* v. viii. 41 In this one draught I wash my sorrow downe. 1609 Lovelace *Being treated, To Ellinda* 4 Flutes of Canary That well did wash downe pasties-marg. 1744 M. Bishop *Life & Adv.* 193, I had three plentiful Meals a-day, and wash'd down my Food with Ale. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxviii, This profound reflection Mr. Toodle washed down with a pint mug of tea. 1850 Sydney Smith *Wks.* (1859) I. 13 They wash out all sorrow in the middle of a well-browned saddle of mutton, wash it over with a few glasses of iced champagne. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* I. 151 This we washed down with a..bowl of mulled Bordeaux.

**15.** Of waves, running water, rain, etc.: To remove, dislodge, carry away; to carry or transport in a specified direction. With advs. *away, down, off, out, up*, etc., or const. *from, into, out of, over*.

1576 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 163 Til Fourti dawes ben folfild þat þe flod haus I-wasche Clene awey þe cursede blod þat Caym hab I-make. *a* 1300 *Bernardus*, etc. III. 82 He wolde bat A wynd[e] schuld wasche it away. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 222 The water washeth the earth..owte of the trais. 1590 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 71 What will thou wash him from his grave with teares? 1593 — *3 Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 3 Rivers arise; either the sand doth wim, or drink. 1615 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 44 Waters and burns flowed over bank and brae, corn mills and mill-houses washen down, [etc.]. 1674 *Jackson's Recant.* A 8, A Clod of Earth, which..the least shower of Rheums [can] wash away to nothing. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* xiv. 84 Violent Currents of Water wash off the outer Coat of the Earth, and leave the Vein naked. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 180 That the Rain-water may spread equally, and not wash down the Ground. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 130 Several pieces of beef..had been washed out of the ship. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xi, The river has washed away its banks. 1858 Trelawny *Recoll. Shelley* etc. 120 The other body was washed on shore three miles distant from Shelley's. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 18 Oct. 4/7 The bodies of five seamen have been washed ashore.

b. To separate (metallic particles) by treating the containing earth with water. Also *to wash out*.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 These mynes..ought euer to lee soughte nere to ain ryuer..to theende that the golde may be washed. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 117 A peculiar way of washing out very small Dust-gold. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 50 The washing the gold..from the sand and dirt, with which it is always mixed. 1900 *Conquest* May 324/1 Potassium and sodium cyanides are employed..for the purpose of washing out the gold from the quartz.

c. Of a hard surface: To beat *off* waves and flotsam as they are borne against it.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 819 His solid sides Wash off the Sea-weeds, and the sounding Tides.

d. *intr.* To be carried away or detached by moving water. Chiefly of soil, etc.: To be eroded or abraded, wear away by inundation. Chiefly with *adv.*, as *away, down*.

*c* 1300 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* I. ii. 231 Who..Thinke me to be a senseless lumpe of clay That will with euery water wash to dirt. 1653 Walton *Angler* viii. 171 You must work or pound it [*sc.* your paste] so long in the Mortar, as to make it no tough as to keep it from washing away or washing from it. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* viii. 47 Whose Soil, by great Rains and Floods, washeth down into the Valleys. 1785 W. Jessop in *Rep. Bogin. Thames-Isis Navig.* (1790) 23 If the Stones are set in moss and wrecked full of Gravel to prevent the Earth from Washing from behind thro' the Joints. 1820 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 13 It [the soil] has great tenacity; does not wash away like sand or light loam.

**16.** To be tossed about, to be carried or driven along, by waves or stream. Also with *up, ashore*, etc. Also *fig.*

1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* A 5, These sands so shall'ow In which thou seest our ship thus wash and wallow. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 92 Four or five dead Bodies at a time were washing about the Decks. *Ibid.* 154 Our Bedding was..left washing in the Break of the Sea. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 83 The vessel struck on the ground..and afterwards was washed up against the rocks on the west side. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. 15, Wary-Minister Narbonne is washed away by the Time-flood; poor Chevalier de Graves, chosen by the Court, is fast washing away. 1880 *Times* 17 Dec. 5/6 The Adolph..is reported.. to be total wreck. Cargo washing ashore. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 26 Sept. 6/5, I was glad to lay hold of a spar that washed by me.

**17.** *Rowing.* a. *trans.* To steer so as to impede (a competitor) by the 'wash' of one's own boat.

1885 *Field* 26 Aug. 252/2 His next step, when half a length ahead, was to edge in as near the bank as he dare in front of Kelley, notwithstanding the admonition of the umpire, for the purpose of washing him. 1892 *Field Q. Mag.* III. 107/1 [Cambridge] passed under the bridlewes and left Burnes Bridge ..a length and a half ahead of the Oxonians, who, to escape being washed, elected to pass under the centre span.

b. *intr.* in phrase *to wash out*, to fail to lift out the blade of the oar squarely at the finish of the stroke.

1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Mar. 6/2 Stroke and No. 4 were washing out and rowing light in the finish of the stroke.

**V. 18.** *Mech.* (trans.) *To wash off*, to cut to a slope or bevel. *To wash down* (see quot. 1.).

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Agriculture* I. 137 The sole for the (window-) frame..to be washed off (sloped) on the outside to carry off the rain. 1911 Webster, *To wash down*, to cut to a thin edge or featheredge.

**VI. 19.** *slang.* a. *Printing.* To punish or 'rg' (a fellow-workman for telling falsehoods) by hammering on his desk. Cf. Washing *vbl. sb.* 5.

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* 810.

b. *Stockbroking.* To subject (stock) to a 'wash': see Wash *sb.* 20.

1895 [Perh. orig. with allusion to the phrase 'one hand washes the other' (see 3 d).]

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1903 S. S. Pratt *Work of Wall St.* 146 The syndicate may be washing sales by matched orders through such brokers as the market watered stock.

**VII. 20.** The verb-stem in combination.

a. Combinations of *wash-* + object, ('some one or something) that washes', as **Wash-dish** 1, **Wash-hand** *a.*, **Washmouth**.

b. Attributive combinations of *wash-* (often synonymous with parallel combs. of **Washing** *vbl. sb.*), denoting things or places used for washing, or persons employed in washing clothes, as *wash-boy, -cloth, -place, -rag, -solution, -tray, -water*; **wash-beetle**, a wooden mallet for beating clothes as part of the process of washing; **wash-boiler** (see quot. 1875); **wash-bottle** *Chem.* (*a*) a bottle containing liquid through which gases may be passed for purification; (*b*) a bottle with a mouthpiece and issue tube, for directing a stream of liquid on a substance or utensil to be washed; **wash-brush**, a large brush for 'washing' or laying on washes of colour; **wash-dirks** *dial.* = **Wash-pool**; **wash-gourd**, the loofah (Webster Suppl. 1902), also called *washing-, towel-gourd*; **wash-kitchen** [= G. *waschküche*], a kitchen used for washing clothes; **wash-pen** *Austral.*, the pen into which sheep are driven to await their turn to be washed; **wash-pitcher** *U.S.*, a ewer for the toilet; **wash-room** *U.S.*, a lavatory; **wash-table**, a table for

holding a wash-hand basin and ewer. Also in combs. denoting machinery used for washing in various industrial processes, as *wash-drill*, *-stocks*, *-wheel*.

c1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Henry VIII* (Camden) 276 One in Kent..all to beat her yokemate with a "washbeetle or battledore. 1678 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 276* *Wash boiler*, a domestic boiler for clothes. 1723 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Ladies* vii. (1927) 121 While Sarah Hood cooked other things, and made a wash-boiler of coffee. 1849 *D. Campbell Inorg. Chem.* 40 This gas..is partially purified by passing through a "wash-bottle containing caustic potash or soda. 1918 *Nature* 19 Dec. 432/2 The experiment succeeds about equally well even when distilled water from a wash-bottle is substituted for powerful reagents. 1900 *Wide World Mag.* Oct. 25/2 He walked of one of the Celtic tials (our own "wash-boy for the past seven years) permission to take a photograph of the queer scene. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 1. 6/2 To the large surfaces, a large camel-hair brush is used, termed a "Wash-brush. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 470/1 She produced from her pocket my wash-brush. 'What in the world is a brush of that size used for?' she went on. 1915 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *M. O'Halloran* I. 20 The pieces he sawed for "washcloths. 1907 *Cassell's Econ. Cycl. Carp., Builder's Cyclo.* 64/2 (Cent.) The borings through the alluvium were made by the "wash drill' or 'water jet'. 1726 *Local Act, Road Barton—Rise-ham, Lincs.* 9 Sheep-gate..from thence..to the "Wash-dyke. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Tree Tilda* xx, One for Tilda in the "wash-kitchen itself, the other for Arthur Miles in a small outhouse adjoining. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xii, Beard of four days' growth, "wash-linen, machinery and wo lished. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* i. I.11.1 had upset the "wa h pitcher. 1889 Welch *Tea-bk. Naval Archit.* xi. 150 The lift and force pumps draw from the evacuations of the various g-inch Downton's, to supply the baths, "wash places, galleys, etc. 1890 E. L. Hyman *Regent's Dau.* iv, She entered the interval while the gentlemen were at their tin boxes in plying the "wash-rag and comb. 1899 H. C. Hart *Textile. Object.* v. ii. 67 Scrubbing the genital region must be thoroughly with soap, hot water, and a soft bristle brush or a wash-rag. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* v, He ejaculates nervously: 'I'll just wash my hands,' and he with you in a moment, and moves hurriedly back to the gentlemen's "wash-room at the rear of the car. 1908 S. E. White *Rowermen* xi, That evening..Orde returned to the hotel..freshening up in the marbled and handsome wash-room, he hunted up Newmark. 1800 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 18 The solution to wash the gas..The small tube passes down into the "wash solution. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 813/2 (*Bleaching*) The "wash-stocks..consists of a trough or box for holding the goods to be washed, through which a constant stream of water is passing. 1906 *Daily Rep.* 28 Aug. 8/2 A kitchen late in the Empire period the square variety of "wash-table was sometimes used, it is clear that [etc.]. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xx, Two long "wash-trays stood for soaking and steeping. 1841 S. Clegg *Treat. Coal-Gas* 210 After condensation 'dry lime' is used for purifying, the gas must pass through a "washvessel. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1/1 (*Spring*) The hydraulic relations refer to the "wash-wheels and other similar apparatus. 1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 331 Fig 91 shows a view of the lime-vats,..while in the background is shown the "wash-wheel'.

c. In certain mining terms, denoting material from which metal is to be obtained by washing: *wash-gravel*, *-stuff* = Wash-dirt; †**wash-ore** *Lead mining*, ore ready for washing.

1693 Manlove *Lead-M. Laws* 27 (E. D. S.) Stringes of oar, Wash-ore, and Pumps. 1891 *Century Dict.*, Wash-gravel. Wash-stuff.

d. In recent use (originally *U.S.*), the verbsteen is often prefixed to names of garments and fabrics, with the sense 'washable': e.g. in *washchamois*, *-foulard*, *-glacé kid*, *-glove*, *-gown*, *-ribbon*, *-silk*, *-waist*.

In these combinations *wash* is often written as if a separate adj. Cf. Washing *ppl. a.*

1888 *Lancet* 10 Mar. 504 Mrs. Ellis of 23 June 6/3 Rural retreats where she can sleep ten hours out of the twenty-four, wear washgowns, and live out of doors all day long. 1901 Ellis Banks *Watchfire Girl* 168 His newer neckties of wash-silk—which, though it cost more per yard than the ordinary ribbon, I found the most inexpensive in the end—without a bath of disinfection. 1914 Elsie Rives' *World's End* xii, A soft gown of white wash-silk fell in straight folds to her feet.

**Washabi·lity.** *nonce-wd.* [f. Washable: see -ity.] The quality of being washable.

1898 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* ii, Else they [sc. drapers] could never have the faith they show in the..washability..of the goods they sell you.

**Washable** (wɒ·ʃăb'l), *a.* [f. Wash *v.* + -able.]

†**1.** That can be used for washing, with which one can wash. *Obs. rare*-1.

1683 Wadsworth *Shared Hours of Soldier* 247 *On dit.., qu'eau est naturelle, bonnable & lauable*,..Men say.. that Water is both naugable, drinkable & washable.

**2.** That can be washed without damage to texture or colour.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 562 Pocket-handkerchiefs were quite abandoned,..yea, most things washable. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Like washable beaver hats that improve with rain, his nerves were rendered stouter and more vigorous by showers of tears. 1839 *Civil Encin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 141/2 Washable paper hangings. 1887 *Encl. Illustr. Med.* May 296 Everything was planned so as to be readily washable and brushable.

**3.** Exposed to the washing of the waves.

1878 Smiles *Rabt. Dick* v. 44 The sea dashes in through the washable rocks, and drives up in clouds of vapour far inland.

**Was-hael, washall(e, -hayl :** see Wassail.

**Washamouth :** see Wash-mouth.

**Wa·shaway.** *Colonial.* [f. verbal phr. *to wash away*: see Wash *v.* 15.] The removal by flood of a portion of a hillside; the destruction of a portion of railway or road track by flood; a hole or breach produced by the washing away of soil.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar. 8/3 The new railway also suffered severely, and traffic has been interfered with owing to several washaways. 1896 *Daily News* 18 July 8, 5 In several parts of the mountain where the washaways appear, the lode can be seen right down to the present surface. 1902 *Times* 16 Dec. 5/2 A number of washaways have taken place, and a mail-train was derailed.

**Washayl**, obs. form of Wassail.

**Wash-ball.** Now *rare*. [f. Wash *v.*] A ball of soap (sometimes perfumed or medicated) used for washing the hands and face, and for shaving.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiv. vii. II. 184 This Mesticb..is used in soape, and wash-balls. 1692 Newton in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5102 Let some Water, in which a quantity truly of Soap or wash-ball is dissolv'd, be agitated into Froth. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3891/4 James Nourick..sells..the true and large Bologna Wash-balls. 1710 Evelyn *Diary* (1879) May 1645, We furnish'd ourselves with wash-balls, the best being made here [Bologna]. 1714 [Hance] *Beaux Merchant* I. ii. 8 Considering Mr. Jay my kidnaping Lady Barrier, and your best Scented Wash-balls? 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 40 P 4, I remember a wash-ball that had a quality truly wonderful. 1777 Westley *Hunter's Pocket-bk.* 129 Grate marbled, and look like wash-balls ready made. 1806-7 J. Berkenhout *Minories Hum. Life* xx. xiii, Dropping a washball out of the lady's fingers. 1811 Pinkerton *Petralogy* xiii, The..forthwith produced two scented wash-balls which he offered for sale.

**Wash-basin.** Now chiefly *U.S.* [f. Wash *v.*] A wash-hand basin.

1812 *Farmer's Mus.* 739/2 The wash-bason [was] almost filled. 1855 J. Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 431 The..negro princes obta n English wash-basins. 1866 O. W. Holmes *Autocrat* ix, A new nursery,..with Lake Superior, and Huron..for wash-basins! 1904 S. E. White *Forest* ii, Dishes, pails, wash-basins, and other receptacles.

**Wash-bear.** *U.S.* Also **Wash** or. In Cr. *waschbär*, transl. of the zoological name *Ursus lotor* (Linn.); cf. Washer 4 *b*, *washing bear*, Washing *ppl. a.* 3.] The racoon.

1891 *Century Dict.*

**Washboard.** [f. Wash *sb.*; cf. G. *waschbrett*.]

**1.** *Naut.* A board on the side of a boat to prevent the sea breaking over; also, a board on the sill of a lower-deck port, for the same purpose.

1742 Woodrooffe in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. ii. xvii. 78 The largest boat was towed a-stern, being raised with washboards. 1790 *Impartial Narr. of Hood's Engagement, Passion & Prince.* III. 309 She shipped a heavy sea, which washed away all the starboard bulwarks and washboards. 1882 T. T. Wilkinson *Newfoundland* 134 The structural points of interest in this [ancient] boat are the 'washboards' and the wooden pegs.

**2.** A board round the walls of a room with its edge resting on the floor; a skirting-board. *dial.*

1828-32 Webster, *Wash-board*, a. a board in a room, next to the floor. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* II. iii, To sit nd looking out of the study window at the rain, and kicking his feet against the washboard in solitude. 1882 [C. G. Robinson] *Dialect of Leeds*, Closa, *Washboard* (pron. *wesshboard*, the w ain-cot.

**3.** †a. A flat piece of wood fixed on an axis within the barrel of a washing-machine, and made to revolve so as to agitate the clothes in the water. *Obs.* b. *U.S.* A hardwood board, with a fluted surface or covered with corrugated zinc, on which washerwomen rub clothes in washing.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 29 June 2/2 Washing machines which move with a pendulum or upright wash-board in the middle. 1804 Hunter in *Lonsdale's Worthies* 56 Whenever the piano-forte penetrates, lovely woman lifts her fingers from the needle, the broom-handle, and the washboard. 1900 *Daily Mail* 19 Dec. 5/2 *Wonder Girl* 158 Clothes washed by her own hands on an American washboard in a big wooden tub.

**Wash bough.** *dial.* [? Wash *a.* Cf. Watheough.] (See quot. 1823.)

1611 Cotgr. *Comm. Titus* i. 16. 301 Their care is but to cut off the wash boughs of sin, but they leaue the bole, and stumpe standing. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words*, *Washbough*, the lower straggling branches of trees.

**Wash-bowl.** [f. Wash *v.*]

†**1.** A wash-tub. *Obs.*

a 1549 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 155 Our Grekye ye walow in the washbol *Argoliorum*. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 231/1 *Labrum*,..a washing tub or washbooll. 1600 Gataker *Christ. Letter* 19 It is no shame for thee, though thou beest wealthy, to seeke her [a wife] at the wash-boule. 1673 Rev. S. Parker *Reproof Rek. Transp.* 21 So that methinks according to your notion, there is nothing so paltry mathematical of Sovereign Princes, as Dufoy in his Tub, or a Pig under a wash-bole. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* v. § 3. 222 So that if he was resolv'd to have shown her thus unwash'd, he should have made her keep Sheep, or brought her up at the Wash-Bowl.

**2.** A wash-hand basin.

1883 C. D. Warner *Roundabout Journ.* 183 The guest is allowed a wash-bowl, but no pitcher. 1888 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 132 Emerson alone took no part in this 'storm in a wash-bowl'. 1900 E. Neshit *Phœnix & Carpet* viii. 157 Jane fetched the wash-bowl from the sink.

**Wa·shbrew.** *dial.* [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.*] Oatmeal boiled to a stiff jelly.

1600 Markham *Farew. Husb.* 2v, 134 Of Oatemeale is made that meate which is called in the West, Washbrew. 1693 — *Eng. Housew.* vi. 222 You shall not heare of any that euer did surfeite of this Wash-brew or Flammerie. 1837 J. F. Palmer *Mrs. Palmer's Dial. Devon. Dialect* Gloss. 93 *Wash-brew*, flummery; oatmeal boiled in water till it acquires a gelatinous consistence.

**Wash-coloured,** *a.* [f. Wash *sb.*] Having the appearance of a 'wash' or transparent layer of colour. 1699 E. P. Wright *Animal Life* 193 The fur [of chinchilla] is long, thick, close, woolly, somewhat crisped,..greyish wash-coloured above and paler beneath.

**Wash-dirt.** *Mining.* [*Wash sb.* or *v.*] Auriferous soil or gravel to be submitted to washing.

1864 Elie. Murray *Ellis Norman* III. 58 Under the washdirt or stuff..there is always pipe-lay. 1884 J. Rockes *New Bush* ix. 30 A bucket-full of wash-dirt tried—the best—is of its value a sufficient test. 1887 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 63 Large piles of wash-dirt are accumulated to be washed in the winter. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 28 Good tin can be obtained, mixed with a fair percentage of gold in the dish of washdirt.

**Wash-dish.** [f. Wash *v.*]

**1.** *dial.* = Dish-washer 3. [Cf. F. *lavandière* (Cotgr.).]

1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., Wash-dish*, the bird called wagtail. 1829 John *Brit. Birds* 693 Wash-dish and Washerwoman, the Pied Wagtail. 1887 Rock *Fire an' Neil* cxxv, 'Twas a wash-dish.

**2.** A wash-hand basin. ? *U.S.*

1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* iv. 56 After the 'wash dish' had been used in turn, and various handkerchiefs had performed..the part of towels.

**Wash-drawing.** [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.*] The method of water-colour drawing in which washes of colour are extensively used; a picture produced by this method.

1889 J. Pennell *Pen Drawing* 305, I have heard from them more expressions of pleasure in a pen drawing..than I have ever heard given to a pencil or a wash drawing. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* III. p. xciii, The examples from Nesbitt, Wash Drawings, Paintings, &c. 1894 C. G. Harper *Handbk. Drawing* 121 Wash drawings for reproduction by halftone process should be mounted on thin but very pure grained cardboards. 1905 *Athenæum* 9 Dec. 806/3 In this..Ludlow Castle..the real science of wash-drawing is shown.

**Washe,** obs. form of Watch.

**Washeall,** rare obs. f. Wassail.

**Washed** (wɒ·ʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. Wash *v.* + -ed 1.]

**1.** Cleansed by rubbing in water or other liquid; also, moistened or drenched with water.

1597 North *Guevara's Dial Pr.* iv. vii. (1568) 195 b, A pairt of washed or perfume gloues. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* 136 With washed hands, the gyftes receiue. 1603 Shake. *Lear* i. i. 271 The Iewels of our Father, with wash'd eies Cordelia leaues you. 1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xiii. 90 Take a pint of washed milke, and here a word or two of washt corne, or the washing of corne. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4184/4, 300 Bags of Cloth wash'd and unwash'd Spanish Felt Wool. 1824 Procter *Ch. of Antony*, Then thy spanish citizen, wash'd artisan, And smug apprentice gulp their weekly air. 1864 T. S. Williams & Simmonds *Engr. Commerc. Corresp.* 239, 12s. 6d. pr. lb. for washed Merino free from burr.

**b.** Treated with water or other liquid so as to remove impurities or soluble matter, to separate heavier from lighter parts, etc.

c 1375 *Perf. Bk. Keping Sparhawkes* (1880) 9 This..will make more synues then all the sperings or washed meates that are used. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* v. xxi. 721 Washed bread is a meate very profitable for the health.. because the washing of it doth take away the euill humidnes and clammines belonging vnto the earthie parts thereof. 1709 Woodward *Fossils* I. i. 169 This last the People who gather it here, call Wash'd-Amber. † 1785 Iamieson *Sc. Arts* (1796) II. 68 Adding about one part of washed whiting to three parts of carmine. 1820 J. Bailey *Agric. Durham* 40 *note*, This is not clean or washed ore; but ore mixed with other substances that could not be separated in washing. 1849 Pereira *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 344 When thus purified, it is called washed sulphur (*sulphur lotum vel deparatum*). 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 201 Washed or double-washed Emery.

†**c.** Of coin: Sweated. *Obs.*

1721 J. Toson *Waller's Poems* A 3 Clipt and washt money goes about, when the standard weights are discarded up.

**d.** Covered with a coating of precious metal.

1772 *Lond. Chron.* 21–24 Mar. 288/2 It appeared there was but four shillings out of the guinea and half [of silver] good, the rest being only a washed metal. 1777 *Newspr. Avon. Post* 25 May 264/2 An olive coloured short fustian coat, with..silver washed buttons.

**e.** Of a water-colour or monochrome drawing: Having the tints produced by colour laid on in 'washes'.

1770 *Exhib. R. Acad.* 19 The Resurrection,..a washed drawing. 1784 J. Barry *Lect. Art* iii. (1848) 133 Raphael's washed drawing of the Calumny of Apelles. 1894 Linton *Wood-Engraving* 90 A 'washed drawing' is one in which shadows, broad tints,..(indeed all masses of colour,) are washed in broadly with a brush in sepia or India ink.

**f.** Of stock, or sale of stock: see quot. and Wash *v.* 19 b.

1888-9 *New York Produce Exch. Rep.* 265 (Cent.) Washed or fictitious sales are positively forbidden.

†**g.** *fig.* Of language: ? Refined, elegant. (? after L. *lautus*.) *Obs.*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. xx. 67, I know, God hath chosen by weake things, to confound the wise; yet I see not but in all times, a washed Language hath much prevailed.

†**h.** *Washed leather* = Wash-leather. *Obs.*

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxxii, Wash'd-Leather Boots (*botines de cordouan*).

**2.** Washed out. Of a fabric, dye, etc.: That has faded, or lost freshness, in the wash.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* III. 9 Pantaloons, of washed out nankeen. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 3 Her washed out gown. 1887 Rock *Fire an' Neil* cxxv, 'Twas a wash-dish, with..washed buttons.

1837 J. Morier *Abel Allnutt* xx. 117 The threadbare carpets, the washed-out curtains. 1852 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 342/1 Habited in a washed-out blue French blouse of pinafore. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 51 The shabby washed-out look of any colour which has not been dyed in this way.

b. *fig.* Lacking in colour, animation, etc.

1850 Shedley *F. Fairigh* I, A complexion and general appearance only to be described by the term 'washed out'. 1882 Froude *Oceana* xii, There was...none of that lanky, washed-out appearance which sorrow and trouble so often give to females. 1895 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 166 They are a washed-out lot; but they laugh. 1895 Hunley in *Life* (1900) II. vi. 95, I am better...but curiously weak and washed out.

**+ Wa'shel.** *Obs.* In 4 wase(o)hele. [*f.* Wash *v.*: see -el.] A bath. A vessel for washing.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11033 Pere baȝyle, yn a pab Was a washyng, at an hote bab; Termes' men calle bat watyr washele, For many one had berat liere hele. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 118 Penne comen vnto Angeles...Oper Tweyne afur hem with cruetes sone, and wascheles wip haly water with hem þei brouȝten.

**Washen** (wo·ʃn), *ppl. a. arch.* and *dial.* [*ir.* pa. pple. of Wash *v.*] Washed. Also with adv. prefixed, as *clean-, ill-, new-, well-washen.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/1 Weschyn, *lotus.* 1525-36 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 122 Laye a clene washen sheete vppon the stole. 1594 A. Hume *Poems* etc. (S. T. S.) 101 Tif eit meat with wesching or vnwesching hands. 1617 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 359 With goode bedding, weele washine and weele smeilit naprie. 1637 Rutherwood *Let. to Ld. Creighall* 10 Aug. Some ill-washen and foul distinctions. 1868 H. Law *Beacons of Bible* (1869) 89 The washen swine returning to the mire. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. 363 With washen hands They took the salted sacred cakes. 1871 Morris *Odyssey* VI. 64, 94 These are always eager for new-washen garments wherein to go to the dances.

**† b.** *washen leather* = Wash-leather. *Obs.*

Cf. *washed leather*, Washed 2 b.

*c* 1545 *York Mem. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 65 For a dossan weshyn leddyr.

**Washer** (wo·ʃəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **? waschere,** 5 **-e washher** (5 **washcher,** 6 **waysher**), 6 *Sc.* **weschear, veschiar,** 7 *Sc.* **wascher,** 6- **washer.** [*f.* Wash *v.* + -er[1].

An OE. *wascere* is given by Sweet *A. S. Dict.*, but no example has been found, though the existence of the word is probable: cf. Washerette.]

1. One who washes.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 306 Mediatrix, Menesse of men, and wassher of synnes. 1532 Hulloet (ed. Higins), Washer, *lotor.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Sir J. Floyer) *Hot & Cold Baths.* ii. 263 No Men live so long and healthful, as the Washers and Dablers in Cold Water. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1800) IV. 21 The lowliness of a washer of feet. 1770 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Oct., Common house-sparrows...are great washers. 1886 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 5/5 Good Laundrymaid Wanted in a private house. Must be a good washer and ironer. 1891 *Chron.* 24 Mar. 4/6 In these days when washing is made either a fad or a religion, according to the temperament of the washer.

**+ 2.** One who swents coin. See Wash *v.* 8. *Obs.*

[1424 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 355/2 Les lavours, tonsours, & contrefaiteurs del monie de le Terre...*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 3e Kynge ne denounce aȝenst alle makeres of fals monye, & clypperes, and wasschers. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 6 There to cause all suche counterfaitors, washers, clyppers of money...to be indyted. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 256/1 Clippers and washers of coin.

3. One whose occupation or profession is the cleansing of materials, vessels, etc.

1515 *Acts. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 20 Ane fynour, weschear, and meltar of gold. [*a* 1589–1 see Dish-washer 1.] 1621 Elsing *Lords' Deb.* (Camden) 34 Shewes the washing by them [the silk-throwsters], who washed away the gum. Then the dyer was founde to add that to the weight what the washers had taken away, which the washer could not doe. 1809 E. S. Warne *Your Sisters* 21 A Moorduskin Is washer of dead bodies. 1844 M. T. Ansaa *Incon. Babyl. Press* II. 176 'Wherefore,' said the washer of skins, 'thou seest, a marvellous change was wrought in me'.

**† b.** A person employed to wash and 'get up' household linen, a launderer or laundress. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Washer of gownes, *relaueur.* 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* G ij, Yow shall geue diligent heede that the said Washers and Nurses of this House be alwaies well occupied. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. ii. 8, I doe like Mistris Quickly; which is in the manner of his Nurse; or his Laundry; his Washer, and his Ringer. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* II. ii, Two of my wife's foul smocks going to the washers. 1642 *St. Mary le Bow* (Durham) *Par. Reg.*, Margarett the washer bur. 15 May. 1732 Fielding *Covent Gard. Trag.* i. ii, Thus from the fire, the washer-woman lifts The red-hot iron to make smooth her shifts. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxii. (1783) III. 34 A girl in Hodge-lane, who owed some three pound to her washer.

c. One who washes sheep before shearing.

1520 in *Archæologia* XXV. 437 Item p^t^ to Barnaby Bryse ..for castyng inne y^e^ sheepe to y^e^ way-hers viij*d.* 1612 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 100 To the washers of the sheepes, vj*d.* 1642 Bent *Exam. Bks.* (Surtees) 18 One good washer will...wash sixe score or sixe score and tenne [sheep] in a day. 1897 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 788 The rude grasp of the relentless washer.

d. One who washes (ore, alluvial soil, etc.) as a mining operation.

1532–9 (see Buddle 2*b*[2]). 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 312 Those wanshers [at the gold mines] for the moste parte, are the Indian women. 1869 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 143 Washers with the sniff. *Ibid.*, Dressaris and wascheris with the buddill, wascheris with the canves. 1949 Hodgson *Miner's Dict.* N 3 b, And the washer always keeps a lay of this over the Bottom of the Seive.

1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xxii, Others rarely rise above the rank of mere 'washers'—men employed to sift the...deposits of the rivers in which the chief product is gold-dust. 1870 J. G. Tucker *Mets* 40 A thousand washers in their rude array Bend to a toil and none superior knew.

c. One who is employed in a stable-yard, cab or omnibus depôt, etc., to wash down the vehicles after use.

1868 *Daily News* 8 Sept., Besides the yard money...we must give the horsekeeper at least 3*d.*, the washer 2*d.* 1884 *Bath Tyrol.* 26 July 7/3 On returning to the yard at night he has to stump the hip..of three pence to the washer.

f. with advs.

1859 K. Cornwallis *Panorama New World* I. 323 Wanted, a Washer-up.—Victoria Dining-rooms. 1881 M. Reynolds *Engine Driving Life* 132 Another gang of men known as *washers-out*, set to and clean the boiler out. 1906 A. B. Todd *Poet. Wks.* etc., Remin. vii. 61 My duties were to be what is called a 'washer-off' to a tile-maker.

4. a. A popular name of the Wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris.* Cf. Wash-dish 1, Dish-washer 3, and Washerwoman 2.

*c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 La vanele e le pouinot (*glossed* a wype and washere [? read washere]). 1552 Huloet *Dict.* (1572) 5/1 A wagtaile, washer...*motacilla.* (1575–: see Dish-washer 3.) 1668 Charleton *Onomast. Zoi.* Motacilla is derived from its habit of plunging its dry food into water before eating it.] 1891 *Century Dict.*; and in other recent Dicts.

b. An apparatus for washing; a washing-machine used in various industries.

1808 I. C. Curwen *Econ. Feeding Stock* 33 The washer being removed by the crane, to the place where the dirty potatoes are laid. 1860 R. Hunt *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) I. 506 The...material resulting from the washing is delivered into a common pit placed under the washers. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 816/2 (Bleaching) The continuous washer consists of two steps, a beetling or noiseless and a simple and efficient washing-machine. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 389 The cement silver is washed in a washer invented by Professor Pearce.

c. A machine in which the rags used in paper-making are worked to wash and open their fibres.

1823 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 366 The paper-mill consists of a water-wheel,...connected with...wheels, so arranged as to cause...motion in the rags contained in the beating engine,...to make from 220 to 150 revolutions per minute. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 926 There is another [engine], called the washer, in which the rags are first worked coarsely with a stream of water.

c. An apparatus for cleansing coal-gas.

1853 S. Hughes *Gas-works* 134 Of the washer and condenser he has no practical or economical knowledge. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 267 The resulting gas is led off to a washer, and thence to a gasholder.

d. A machine for washing domestic linen.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 216/2 Seven of Greenall's Steam Washers, different sizes, for domestic use. Clothes are washed by steam. 1894 Kelz. Banks *Camp. Curiosity* 150 She accurately measured the amount of soda that was put into the washers. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 Feb. 9/6 Washer (40-shirt hand) by Whitaker.

e. An appliance for washing photographic plates or negatives.

1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 97 The prints on being taken out of the washer are well sponged...before drying.

**+ 6.** An instrument or tool used for sprinkling or cleansing. *Obs.* A smith's tool: see quots. b. ? A sponge for cleansing the bore of a gun. *Obs.*

a. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* i. 20 With your Washer dipt in Water damp the outside of the Fire to keep the Heat in. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 321/1 Smiths Tools...The Washer, is a Bundle of Rushes, with an Iron Staff 10 ft; with this Water is sprinkled out of the Trough into the Fire to make it burn the hotter.

b. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 82 §].

**7. a.** A cock or outlet valve of a water-supplying pipe. b. The outlet valve of a basin, cistern, etc. to which the waste-pipe is attached.

1596 Harington *Anat. Metam. Ajax* Biij b, To which pipe you must haue a Cocke or a washer to yeeld water with some pretie strength, when you would let it in. 1728 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 109 If it be a Four-inch Pipe, you should give it a Washer and Opening of six Inches at the Bottom of the Reservoir. 1825 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 211 To empty the Bason entirely..., which is done by means of a Washer, and a Waste-Pipe at the Bottom of it. 1876 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 24918/3 Brass Cocks, Washers, &c. for all Sizes. 1889 Gwilt *Archit.* (ed. 4) Add. to Gloss., *Washer*,...the perforated metal plate of a sink or drain, which can be removed for letting off the waste water. 1895 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v., *Washer* 3. b. A street-washer or pavement-plug, where a hose may be attached to water the street, pavement, or urban garden.

**+ 8.** Some kind of cloth. *Obs.*

1613 J. May *Decl. Estate Clothing* v. 32 There haue some merchants caused counterfeit Deuonshire kersies to bee made in Yorkshire out of washers or halfethicks. 1697 *Treasurer's Almanacke* (ed. 2) B 8 b, [List of Woollen cloths.] Washers of Lancashire.

**9.** *Comb.*, as (sense 3 b) *washer-girl, -maiden*; (sense 5) *washer-cloth*; also Washerman, Washerwoman.

1856 Hemlet *Life & Death* xxx, *Bk. Verses* (1888) 10 The pretty washer-maiden, She washes on always! 1887 *Manch. Exhib. Catal.* 63 Cotton Manufacturers' Roller, Cleaner, Washer, and Sizing Cloth. *Ibid.*, Washer Cloth for Mill Furnishing. 1907 Jean Webster *Jerry Junior* ii. 22 The washer-girls were dresses in the gayest of peasant clothes.

**Washer** (wo·ʃəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 4 **washer,** 6 **wascher, 8 washer.** [Of doubtful origin; usually assumed to be a use of prec., but the development of meaning has not been accounted for.] A perforated annular disc or flattened ring of metal, leather, or other material placed between two surfaces subject to rotative friction, to relieve friction and prevent lateral motion and unsteadiness.

1346 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 470/17 m. 2 De..v Cheynes pro barn[is] continentibus L. Linches, v. paribus tenellarum, ij. Washiers [etc.]. 1544 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XIX. 1. 128 Spare wheles for small carriages...and spare pynnes, washers, [etc.]. 1612 Florio, *Cerchio di ferro*, an iron hoope, amongst gunners called a washer, which serues to keepe the iron pin at the end of the axeltree from wearing the naue. 1682 [see Linch-pin]. 1704–06 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Cart*, The *Washers*, being the Rings on the ends of the Axle-tree. 1795 tr. *Gwilt's Gentl. Dict.* II. 414 Nave, It has likewise in each end of the hole, through which the end of the Axletree goes, a ring of iron called the washer, which saves the hole of the nave from wearing too long. 1795 Hrschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 371 It is keyed fast at C; with proper washers between the joints to allow of a very smooth motion. 1805 E. W. Brayley in *Nicholson Pract. Build.* xii, Every tooth screws through a double frame separated by iron washers for greater steadiness. 1847 Beasnon *Anal. Gothi. Archit.* 102 The closing ring or latch, [consists of] the flat plate or washer, fixed to the outer surface of the door: the handle or ring: and the spindle. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet* i. 8 A washer...makes a loose screw tight. 1876 Beaconsfield *Crispin* xxvi, The vast diversity of wheels, as well as their many caprices of wagging, according to the state of their washers.

b. An annular disc of leather, rubber, or other material placed between the flanges of abutting water-pipes, beneath the plunger of a screw-down water-tap, etc. to prevent leakage.

1850 Ochiltree s.v., Washers of leather or pasteboard are also used to render screw and other junctions air-tight or water-tight. 1908 *Cassell's Handyman's Enquire Within* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) 492/2 In the case of ordinary household water taps, they should be taken to pieces and new leather washers...fitted and fixed to the pumpers.

c. A bearing-plate of iron placed under the nut of a bolt or tie-rod.

1822 R. Stevenson in *Edin. Philos. Trnl.* V. 246 The under ends of these perpendicular rods...are attached...with screw-nuts, resting upon corresponding washers, or plates of iron. 1839 [see *tie-rod*, Tie 3]. 1859 Gwilt *Archit.* (ed. 4) Add. to Gloss., *Washer*, a piece of iron with a hole bored or pierced with a hole for the passage of a screw, between whose nut and the timber it is placed. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wall-washer*, a large plate at the end of a tie-rod to extend the external bearing.

d. *Comb.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* etc. 1027 Its other face...receives the flat ring...in four notches corresponding to the four projections of the washer-ring. 1849 J. Glynn *Constr. Power* 208 The strong cast-iron cross...lays hold of the masonry by means of the holding-down bolts and washer-plates.

Hence **Wa'sherless** *a.*, without a washer.

1908 *Cassell's Handyman's Enquire Within* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) 493/1 Washerless Water-tap (Lord Kelvin's).

**Washer,** *v.* [f. Washer *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To furnish with a washer. See Wa'shered *ppl. a.*

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lxx, I had worked myself up...growing hot like an ill washered wheel revolving, though I start with a cool axle. 1873 Belz. Pierce *Pretty's Wedding Tour* 225, I must have the bag re-hasped, and *Sci. Amer.* 11 Sept. 160/3 He washered the knobs of the doors that had a rattling play whenever handled.

**Wa'sheress.** *rare*[—0]. [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + -ess.] A female washer.

1648 Herman tr. *Een Waerschersse wyt de looger*, a Washeresse out of the lees.

**Wa'sherman.** [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*] A man whose occupation is the washing of clothes.

Chiefly de-signating a boatman or waterman of the U.S. and the Asiatic native washer of clothes.

1725 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 77 His Beauty and Wealth made the Washerman somewhat jealous. 1727 Bradley *Family Dict.* s.v. Washerwoman, Washermen must be great. 1743 Berkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 126 William Callicutt, Washerman. 1810 T. Whittaker *E. Ind. Trade Mecum* I. 244 The Washermen, or washers, there must be a domestic washing for only one family. 1874 L. J. Trotter *Hist. India* Introd. 20 Each village kept its own...schoolmaster, washerman, goldsmith, [etc.]. 1879 Cooke *Amer. Commons.* III. iv. 143 In Ohio, by law, boys, however, the Chinese are permitted to follow, and have now almost monopolized, that of washerman.

**Washer-wife.** *Sc.* [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Wife. Cf. G. *wascherweib.*] A washerwoman.

1800 *Monthly Mag.* Apr. 238/2 In Scotland, the word linens is often used for linen. For example, 'carry my linens to the washer-wife'. 1910 W. Watson *Fourteen Songs* 21, The word itself [*sc.* gossip] is noble in its origin, for all its washer-wife associations.

**Wa'sherwoman.** [f. Washer *sb.*[1] + Woman. Cf. G. *waschefrau.*]

1. A woman whose occupation is the washing of dirty linen; one who takes in washing.

1632 Sherwood, A washer woman, *lauandriere, lauandiere.* 1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physick* 151 A Poor Washerwoman. 1757 Foote *Author* i. Wks. 1799 I. 153 Mrs. Suds, your washer-woman. 1799 Southey *Love Elegies* I. 23 No washerwoman's filthy hand shall e'er, Sweet pocket-handkerchief! thy worth profane. 1821 *Blgwd. & Orders Army* 263 Servants...and Washer-women for each Troop. 1827 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiv, Mrs. Bardell...looked out his linen

for the washerwoman when it went abroad. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvii, The pertinacity with which the washerwoman…brought…her bills week after week. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* iv. iii, *First Thane.* Down with William! *Third Thane.* The washerwoman's brat!

**b.** *Washerwoman's fingers, hand,* a condition of the hands, characteristic of cholera, resembling the wrinkling of the skin produced in the hands of washerwomen by the action of soap and soda. *Washerwoman's itch, scall,* a form of eczema incident to the hands of washerwomen.

1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, Washerwoman's Scall, *Psoriasis lotorum.* 1869 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med.*, *Washerwoman's Hand*: See Cholera-hand. *Washerwoman's Itch or Scall.* 1898 B. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ii. 60 As in cholera, the serous drain may lead to…pinched features, washerwoman's fingers.

**2.** = WASHER *sb.*[1] **4** a.

1817 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. ii. 546 The Washer-wagtail, or as it is called in many parts Dish-washer, or Washerwoman. 1832 [see DISH-WASHER]. 1862 JONES *Brit. Birds Haunts* 171 The popular name Washerwoman belongs to the whole family [of wagtails].

**Washery** (wɒ·ʃəri). [f. WASH *v.* + -ERY.] A place at which the washing of coal, ore, wool, etc. is carried on.

1856 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 6 May 7/6 A most disastrous fire broke out…at the Coke Washery. The destruction of the washery and machinery was complete. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 2/3 Quantities of fish are caught, and sent to the gold washeries. 1907 *Colchester Woollen & Worsted Jrnl.* vii. 246 Some washing of both combing and carding wools is done in separate 'washeries'.

† **Wa·shester.** *Obs.* [f. WASH *v.* + -STER.] A female washer (of linen), a washerwoman: in OE. also applied to a man.

c 900 WERFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* iii. viii. 191 Iobinus, se wæs min wæsce-tre [L. *fullo*]. *Ibid.* iv. xii. 276 Se mæssepreost…wæs lufigende his wæscestran [L. *presbyterum*] swa swa his agne swustor. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 *Quod melius potest exemplar lotrium*, and þis us dod to understonden þe forbiane of þe wasshestren.

† **Wash ground.** *Obs.* [WASH *sb.* or *v.*] ? A drying-ground.

1719 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5772/8 One Acre and a half of Wash ground in Crucifix-lane in Southwark. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6247/2 An Estate, consisting of Garden-Grounds, Wash-Grounds, …and Houses.

**Wa·sh-hand,** *a.* In **8 wash-hands.** [f. WASH *v.* Cf. F. †*lavemain*(*s* sb., wash-hand stand, wash-hand basin.] Intended for use in washing the hands. Only in certain combinations (sometimes hyphened or written continuously as single words).

**a.** *Wash-hand basin,* a basin for washing the hands. *b. Wash-hand stand,* a piece of furniture for holding the wash-hand basin, ewer, soap-dish, etc. *c. Wash-hand table,* a table serving the purpose of a wash-hand stand.

**a.** 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 884 There was a small stand with a wash-hands basin on it. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, He…ordered lights and a wash-hand basin and towel. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 221 Reach The washhand-basin for admirers!

**b.** 1827 A. MEADOWS *Mem. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 89 A large wash-hand basin full of his bedfellow in mess.

**b.** 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Brokers' Shops,* Rosewood chiffoniers and mahogany wash-hand-stands. 1839 W. CRANSTONE *Tour Holland* 43/1 Wash-hand stand. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxvii. (1901) I. 204 Having deposited a can of hot water on the washhandstand, 1894 R. ANDOM' *We Three & Freddles* xx. 115 He bounced over to the wash-hand-stand.

*attrib.* 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* ii. 291 We return to the shop and the wash-hand-stand-basin. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xii. (1901) I. 92 Tother end was ruining perfect wash-handstandbasins full. 1881 OLIVE SCHREINER *Story of an African Farm* II. iii, I left them in the wash-hand-stand drawer.

**c.** 1883 GLADSTONE *Gleds.* (1892) I. 204 Again, take such a jug as he would construct for the washhand-table of a garret.

**Wash-house** (wɒ·shous). Also 6–7 **washouse,** 9 *vulgar* **washtus, wash'us.** [f. WASH *v.* + HOUSE *sb.* Cf. Du. *waschhuis*, G. *waschhaus*.]

† **1.** A bath-house. *Obs. rare.*

c 1000 *O.E. Glossen in Ztschr. f. deutsches Altertum* XXXI. 13 *Colimbum*, waschus. 1704 PITTS *Acc. Moham.* 47 They have many *Hammams*, or Wash-houses to bath themselves in.

**2.** An outbuilding or apartment used for washing clothes.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 13 There is also a thirde stie, not farre from the wash-house, for the fatting of my Porkes. 1580 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 358 To set up the gat at the washouse. 1672 T. LACY in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* IV. (1911) 395 I…saw a little sheild or washouse all on fire. 1753 Mrs. COLLIER *Art Torturel.* i. 1. (1812) 36 In the wash-house or the scullery. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mistaken Milliner,* Four beautiful rooms, and a delightful little washhouse at the end of the passage. 1837 — *Pickw.* xxv, We keep a boy to do the dirty work, and a gal besides, but they dine in the washus. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, The Rev. Mr. Veal had…a theatre (in the wash-house). 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 191/1 A large shed—that had at one time been used as a wash house—still contained some broken washtubs.

**b.** A building in which goods are washed in the process of bleaching, or calico printing.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3760/4 A House, and Ground fit for a Whitster, or Callico-Printer, is to be Let, with several Sheds and Wash-houses.

**c.** *U.S.* An establishment at which clothes are washed; a laundry.

1873 B. HARTE *Middletown* 28 The next day he entered the wash-house of Chy Fook as an assistant.

**d.** A building, provided with suitable accommodation, at which the public may wash clothes.

1846 *Act 9 & 10 Vict. c.* 74 § 1 To encourage the Establishment therein of public Baths and Wash-houses. 1859 JEPHSON *Heilfunny* v. 49 Public washhouses have been established in many places. 1912 *Times* 7 Aug. 20/6/2 A local borough councillor…who points with pride to the new borough washhouses.

**3.** *attrib.*

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v, I felt as lonesome as a kitten in a wash-house copper with the lid on. 1838 — *O. Twist* i, Charley and I made our lucky up the wash'us chimney. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 Dec. 9/2 Engineer and Washhouse-man required [in a steam laundry]. 1909 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xx, Run, Hepsy, and fill the wash-house boiler.

† **Washical.** *Obs. rare*[—1]. App. a corruption of *what shall I call (it)* or *what do you call it.*

See other forms under WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

1575 *Gaunner Gurton* v. ii. 116 Geue my Gammer again her washing Mallet the way in thy lap.

**Washiness** (wɒ·ʃinės). [f. WASHY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being washy.

**1.** Diluted condition, wateriness, weakness (of a liquid); *fig.* feebleness, lack of solidity (of thoughts, etc.).

1832 R. BURDEN *Doctr. Sabb.* 72, I proceed to examine your solution, as you call it; the phlegmaticall washiness whereof hath over-spread many pages. a 1866 J. BARNS *Lect. Art* (1881) I. 58 Art…is sometimes met with the other extreme of too little solidity, too much flickering and washiness. 1814 *Q. Rev.* XI. 96 The washiness of the following line is only surpassed by that of the two which succeed it.

**2.** Chronic looseness of the bowels (in animals).

1844 [see WASHY *a.* 3].

**Washing** (wɒ·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING **1.**

Not found in the compound *weaschewg* 'washing-way', 'a road leading to a sheep-wash'.]

**I.** The action of WASH *v.*

**1.** The action or an act of cleansing by water, or of laving or bathing with water or other liquid. Also *fig.* with reference to spiritual or moral purification.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Þe wassunke ine fuluhte wiðuten liðucned þe wasschunge of be soule wiðinnen. c 1300 *Land Cokaygne* 48 Watir seuiþ þer to no þing But to aiȝ and to washinge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Ase þet line cloþ þet is y-buyried be ofte wessinge. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 53 Wasche wele þat legge…with hote watre…And so after þe wasschyng þat it lye by a naiuel day. ? 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 92 For wossbyng of yowyr sherttys and M. Wyllyams. 1508 FISHER *Fensit. Ps.* ii. 1. (1509) ii v, If a castle be ouer-flowen by…fyre, we rede that whan it is ressed we wasshe it, and faste after the washynge we wype and make it clene. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 51 Beware, that thou put not to many sheepe in a penne at one tyme, tyther at the washyng, nor at the sherynge. 1567 J. FERNE *Song of Songes* vi. 3 Thy teeth are like a flocke of sheepe which comme vp from washing. 1603 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 158/2 Washing of my chiles, xii d. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 53 Stains of a deep dye will not out of the cloth, with such ordinary washings, as will fetch out lighter spots. 1796 H. BUNBURY *Narr. Walk* (1715) 567 The Blood and Water might be joined, the Justifying Saviour, and the sanctifying Spirit; for both these are in this Crimson Fountain. 1798 *Monthly Mirror* VI. 180 Both these gentlemen depend on the clean washing of the seed, and the trials of both met with the wished-for success. 1849 J. L. W. SHAW *Pract. Med.* (1849) It taints the fingers, which have touched it with its peculiar odour, so that one washing does not remove it. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 77 The tubers are first freed from adhering earth by a thorough washing. 1875 *Encyclop. Metrop.* (*Chem.*) 505 The white things will require two washings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 611 Every other evening a washing with naphthalised sulphur soap may be given in a bath.

† **b.** *To give one's head* (or *beard*) *for the washing*: to submit tamely to indignities (see HEAD *sb.* 58). *Obs.*

c 1583 [see HEAD *sb.* 58]. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* L 4, But this time I will not give their heads for the washing. 1613 BRAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Revenge* v. i, And so am I (tr. resolved), and forty more good fellows, That will not give their heads for the washing, take it. a 1616 — *Bonduca* II. iii, *Caer.* And to morrow night say to him, His Head is mine. *Ind.* I can assure ye Captain, He will not give it for this washing. 1663 [see HEAD *sb.* 58].

**c.** In *reflexive use.*

1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* vii, It was his custom to go through a whole series of washings and changings after even the shortest journey. 1911 A. PLUMMER *Ch. Brit. bef. A.D. 1000* I. 121 A limitation from washing was a common form of asceticism.

**d.** A ceremonial ablution. (By Sir John Cheke used for: Baptism.)

c 1537 CHEKE *Matth.* iii. 11 *Ich Bê.* (MS. B.) 263 Tit after washing þe preste wil loute þo auter. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ix. 468 That the bodili washing with water schulde clense the soule fro moral vnclennesse. 1548 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 These ceremonyes that this doctour calleth but small thynges, I suppose they be be as stacyons, inclynacyons, gestures, turnynges, weshynge…& suche other. c 1590 CHEKE *Matth.* xxi. 25 Ioannes washing from whens was it, from heaven, or from men. 1606 *Arraignmt. & Exec. Traytors* D 1 b, Their pilgrimages to Idols, their washings and their washings. 1654 MILTON *Pl. Discip.* Wks. 1851 IV. 308 We are not to use Circumcision, Sacrifice, and those bodily Washings prescrib'd to the Jews. 1898–9 ENGLISH *Lit.* in Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 147 Addressing themselves to their Devotions, with the most solemn and critical Washings. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 300 Washing…accompanied many of the Jewish rites. 1846 S. SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* ix. 303 In their dislike of pork, in their washings, and in other Eastern customs, they [the Jews] were like the Egyptians.

**e.** *spec.* = 'washing of clothes', esp. as one of the regular requirements of a person or household.

'Meat, drink, washing, and lodging': a proverbial summary expression for the necessaries of life; in rustic use often *fig.* = 'all that one needs'.

1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 459 As to þat þat is seid þat the people of þis Citie hurten þe fraske in Swanneswell pole be þeire weyshyng there be people vndersanden þat be power of the seid weyshyng ys be power of be hospitall of sent John Baptiste. 1543 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 274 To the seyd ij prest (*sic*) for brede wyne and washyng for the yere v s. 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 187 A quarters washinge, to Roger Isherwood, vj*d*. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 8 A Dollor for chamber and washing. 1637 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 88 It costs mee two and twenty shillings a week for my diet, lodging and washing. 1643 *Select. Rec. Regality Melrose* (S.H.S.) I. 100 (He is to maintain him] in meait, drink, bed and washing and shoe and washing. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* i ii, We'll end our washing while the morning's cool. 1745 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 295 He is to have livery, and frock every year, and six pounds wages the first year, the second seven. He is to put out his washing. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 357 They usually give ten shillings by the week, with meat, drink, washing, and lodgings in the house. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxxvi, She…was not without hopes of finding out, before they parted, how much her washing cost per week. c 1800 *Whole Duty of Woman* 6 Of the Care of his Washing and morals. 1846 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Oct. 5/1 Only to think, too, of a hundred and fifty dollars, £30 a month—and board, lodging and washing, all free.

† **f.** *At (the) washing* = 'at the wash' (see WASH *sb.* 2). *Obs.*

1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* ii. ii. 136 *Clay*…I never saw you avore. *Hil.* You did not? where were your eyes then? out at washing? 1638 Bp. MOUNTAGUE *Acts & Mon. Nonwich* A 4, Have you two faire large Surplices for your Minister to officiate Divine Service in, that the one may be for change, when the other is at washing? 1725 BRADLEY *Lydia* (1727) II. 270 The stock of shirts being large, almost every man having one at the washing, and the other on.

**g.** In chemical and mining operations (see WASH *v.* 4, 11).

1660 HARTLIB *Vey.* III. 66 Upon this Iland was found good store of the Ore, which in the washing belde gold to our thinking plainly to be seene. a 1692 E. NORGATE *Miniaturum* (1919) 19 And use your scrapers with small quantity of soe many washings cleane and faire. 1758 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 144 These washings…tended to change sirup of violets to a pale green. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* Gloss. s. v. *Vigging, Vigging*, is a method of dressing the smaller Copper and Lead Ores by a peculiar motion of a wire sieve in a kieve or vat of water,…In the Lead Mines…they also term this operation, 'Washing'. 1798 *Encyclop.* (ed. 3) *Chem.* 506 The most simple and economical washings are those that certain iron ores…are subjected to. 1823 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* 135 It is also thought…that too much washing has the effect of diminishing the illuminating power of the gas. 1895 *Ore's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 252 In Siberia there are but few localities where the gold washings are profitably carried on. 1896 *Daily News* 17 July 5/8 Special illustrations of diamond washing, cutting, and polishing were given.

**h.** With advs. *away, off, out, up* (often hyphened): see quots. and senses of WASH *v.*

1618 SIR D. CARLETON in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 58/ For y^e washing away of w^ch aspersion the Duke maketh profession [etc.]. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 106 Owing to the want of water for washing, their funds were low. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 425 Washing off (Washing up, *Am. & Aust.*), the periodical final cleansing out of all the gutters and appliances used in mineral and rock gold mining. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab., Washing off*, the operation of washing up rollers or ink slabs. 1890 *R. Holdernesse's Memoirs* 48 Such washings up were frequent and flourishing. 1890 SIR W. STOKES in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 May 999/2 Washing-out or irrigation of the stomach is a desirable antiseptic precaution. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 330 Water should be used in large quantities, and thus exercise a washing-out effect. 1899 W. DE MORGAN in Mackail *W. Morris* II. 17 A story which kept us all quiet and well behaved till washing-up time.

**2.** *Painting.* The action of laying on a thin coat of colour. Also *washing in.* Also *attrib*, in *washing colour, manner.*

a 1690 NORGATE *Miniaturum* (1919) 59 To worke in the apparrell and foldings in a washing manner without a ground. 1758 [DOSSIE] *Handmaid to Arts* 170 Gamboge, Indian ink, sap-green, [etc.]…as they readily dissolve and become transparent in water are term'd washing colours. 1781 *Visit to Interior* 292 Technical terms in painting…washing-in. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 111 Employed in the first washings by house painters, and by them termed a first coat. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. iii. 47 I emerged from buried shadow, through all the stages of distinctness of an India-ink washing. 1879 S. REDGRAVE *Descr. Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 17 The paper…were not sufficiently sized to bear the repeated washings of the artist.

**3.** Sweating of coin by means of acids.

14.. HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxi. 116 If it be golde and bole that men hym profre…take it yf him lyst…for washinge or clyppynge hold hym content. a 1513 FABYAN *Cron.* vii. (1533) 177 b, The coyes of golde at those dayes was greatly mynyshed with clyppyng & washyng. 1543 tr. *Act 3 Hen. V, Stat.* II. c. 6 Great doubte…hath ben whether that clyppynge, washynge, and fylynge of the money of the land ought to be iudged treason or not.

**4** Surging, overflowing (of waves); the action of moving water in carrying off loose matter.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 270 Hercules and exione were all watte of the washing and springyng of the wawes 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* I i 61 Would thou mightst lye drowning the washing of ten Tides *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerusa* (1707) 125 Upon any violent Rain, the whole City [of Damas cus] becomes, by the washing of the Houses, as it were a Quagmire ✝ 1719 De Foe *Crus* ii (Globe) 248 The Washing of the Sea having spoil'd all their Powder 1726 Leon *Alberti's Arebit* I 41 Mount Morello is quite wild and naked; occasioned, as I suppose, by the washing of the Rains 1778 T Hutchins *Descr Virginia* etc 37 Fort Chartres was abandoned in the year 1772, as it was rendered untenable by the constant washings of the River Mississippi in high floods 1867 Morris *Jason* i 398 And in their dreamless rest the wind in vain Howled round about with washing of the rain 1868 — *Earthly Par.* I 257 Hearken ing the washing of the watery way 1888 Goode *Amer Fishes* 402 The rapid, vigorous, spasmodic movements which accompany this operation produce a splashing in the water which can be plainly heard from the shore, and which the fishermen characterize as 'washing'.

**b.** with *adv*

1873 Trestrail *Mesh* vii 124 Unsound ground rendered more treacherous than usual by the washing in of the burrows of the mole rat. 1886 J. A Brown in *Q. Jrnl Geol Soc* May 200 They [the furrow gravels] could not have been formed by the washing in of gravel by running springs.

**5** *Printers' slang* (See quots and Wash *v* 19 a.)

1825 Hansard *Typogr* 308 Washing is had recourse to upon two occasions:—when, through a sense of shame in a fellow workman who has not been idling when he might have been at work; or to congratulate an apprentice upon the hour having arrived that brings his emancipation from the shackles of his subordinate station. 1888 Jacob *Printers' Vocab.*, *Washing*, an old fashioned term for 'jerrying', or making a noise on an apprentice coming out of his time

**II.** Concrete senses.

**6.** *fl.* (formerly also *sing.*) The liquid that has been used to wash something, matter removed when something is washed. Also *washing-out*

c 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 8816 Po pat were seke Wasche þe stones, and hit ni hapes! Wasched bem of þe seke washinges, & warpched wel of al þer pyne. *c* 1375 *Sc Leg saints xxiv (Alexis)* 293 Of þe weschel þe weschyng ful oft ore his bed wald fling *c* 1460 Henrison *Test Mute* 219 My dische washingis is worth your h ull ex pence 1577 Harrison *England* iii 1 96/2 in *Holinshed*, [Meade] is nothing else but the washing of the combes, when the honey is wrong out. 1598 *Epulario* 111 b, Wash the flesh well with good white wine mingled with as much water and straine the washing and seeth the flesh therin 1637 J Taylor (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome A* 4, Small Beere in England, such as is made of the second washings of the Brewers legges and aprons 1775 A Burnaby *Trav N Amer* 34 I wo curious hot springs, one tasting like alum, the other like the washings of a gun. [So Th Pennant *Wernerus* 12 Swine stone, when rubbed against a hard body, has a fetid odour like Harrowgate water or rotten eggs, or the washing out of a gun.] 1796 Hull *Fam Receipts* 1 The leech gave him a draught of medicated wine mixed with water. He rejected it, under the dishonourable epithet of 'kennel washings' ✝ 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1,274 The mast is after wards again washed, and about one bogs head of what is terme'd washings is obtained from the same quantity that had previously afforded about three hogsheads of cider 1851 Mayhew *Labour* II 146 It [the wash] is composed of the washings of cooking utensils. 1890 *Retrospect Med* CII 397 The peculiar reddish, watery discharge, 'like the washings of raw meat,' as a German writer has described it

**b.** Matter carried away by rain or running water, alluvial soil deposited by a stream.

1707 Mortimer *Husb* 225 [Breeding ponds] A fat Soil with a white fat Water, as the washings of Hills Commons, Streets, Sinks, &c, is the best to fatten all sorts of Fish 1739 Abelie *Wilton, Bridge* 5 A Shoal made up of Sand and of the Washing or Silting of the Earth from the Hills *Trad* 182 This limestone constitutes at least one half in the washings which are carried to the Missouri 1894 *Brit Howl* I 276 Some farmers, indeed, think these washings from the farmyards, though of a brown colour, are yet, in most instances, so diluted with rain, as not to be worth the expense of carriage 1894 *Chatterton Tallants* I, These rivers are black with coal washings

**c.** Metal obtained by washing ore or soil.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D Acosta's Hist Indies* iv xii 244 There skippes away also some small portion of silver and quicke silver with the earth and drosse, which they call washings 1846 McCulloch *Acc Brit Empire* (1854) I 614 The produce of the mines may be taken, inclusive of the washings, at about 400,000 *l* a-year

**d.** Places containing soil from which gold or diamonds are obtained by washing

1805 Livingstone *Zanthier* ii 52 In former times, when traders went with hundreds of slaves to the washings 1899 *Edin Rev*, Apr 317 In Griqui-land West diamonds occur in 'washings', as well as in mines.

**†7.** A medical 'wash' or lotion. *Obs.*

1541 Copland *Laxpton's Terne* vj b, The chaufynges of the gummes are appropried wt this washing made of [etc.] 1583 T. Gale *Antidot* ii 23 The patyente must vse good lotions, or washyngnes for his mouth vntyll it be hole.

**8.** Clothes newly washed or set apart to be washed

1894 Surtees *Handley Cr* xxxvii (1901) II 8 Family washings were whisked away [by the wind], or torn to tatters on the drying lines. 1899 Barrie *Window in Thrums* xxi, She got her death one day of sudden rain, when she had run out to bring in her washing 1901 *C. T. C. Gaz.* Oct 390 Perambulators used by poor people to carry home washing in the evening 1905 J. Mackenzie *Mischief Bruce* iii 31 The box was returned regularly with his washing, so that during the season a constant supply from home was furnished.

**III 9** In combinations (often synonymous with parallel formations in Wash-), as *washing basin*, *-blue*, *-board*, *+-bit* (Kit 56 1), *-room*, *-soda*, *+-towel*, *-trough*, *-tub*, **†** washing ball = Wash-ball, **†** washing-beetle, a wooden bat used to beat or pound clothes in the process of washing; **washing bill**, a statement of laundry charges, **washing-block**, **-board**, a wooden block or board on which clothes are beaten while being washed, **washing book**, a book in which a person's laundry charges are entered, **washing-bottle** = Wash-*bottle* a, b, **washing-bowl**, *+(a)* a washhand basin, *(b)* a pan or tub for washing clothes, etc. (*obs exc local*); cf Wash-bowl, **washing-crystals**, crystallized soda used for washing clothes, etc., **washing-day**, the day on which the dirty clothes of a household are washed; **washing-engine**, a machine for washing rags, etc., esp. in paper making, **washing-green**, a piece of common grass-land on which clothes are spread or hung out to dry after washing, **washing-house** = Wash-house, **washing leather** = Wash-leather; **washing machine**, a machine for washing clothes, cloth, etc.; **washing mill**, *+(a)* a machine used for recovering particles of gold or silver from refuse matter; *(b)* a machine for washing cloth in the process of bleaching, **washing pan**, *(a)* a place where washing is done; a lavatory, a laundry, *(b)* a place where gold is washed out from sand or earth, **washing-rod**, a rod used to wash out a gun, **washing-stand** = Washstand 1, **†** washing stock (see quot 1879), **washing-stone**, *†(a)* a kitchen sink, *(b)* a stone on which clothes are beaten while being washed, **washing-stuff**, a miners' name for auriferous earth, **†** washing temple, used to tr. L. *delubrum* temple, shrine, as if *deluere* to wash thoroughly, **†** washing-water, used fig.; **washing-wax**, a wax for washing the hands, a chemical substance, etc. (cf Wash-water), **washing-week**, a week devoted to washing the dirty clothes of a household; also *fig.*, **†** washing-well, *fig.* a fount of spiritual cleansing; **washing-woman** = Washer-woman.

1538 Lyde *Dict* s v *Magmata*, Pomnunders and 'wash ing billes 1597 Beaumont & Fletcher *Scornful Lady* v ii 121 I hen shall thou scoure thy pitchy fingers in a bason of hot water with an ordinary washing Ball 1622 *Sc Bk Rates in Shakspeare's Ledger* (1869) 88 Ib ills called washing ballis the dozen, viz. 1838 Lloyd Addit *Ladbroke* 2 a Washing brush 1558 *Burgh Wills* (Camden) 150 One washing beome of pewter 1878 Britann. Rec *Skelly* etc I 161, I went to make my Ables, the sea my washing Bason—I ere me 't washing bottle *a* 1440 *Promp Parv* 517 a *Wash*ynge bell, or bason *Brit mus* *c* 1386 *Mercs. Tales of Sir Thom* 81 S. Wis. Lady, quod Sir Thopas, seyd to the myn, Beeme 't washing bottle *a* 1625 Fletcher *Humr Pr* ii 1, Have I bo'd thus long to be knokt o'th head With baffle & washing beetle? 1798 Lady Clayton *Northang Aff* xxii She held a washing bill in her hand 1905 H G Wells *Kipps* ii v § 3 After that the washing bill of Kipps quad rupled 1590 *Archaeologia* XI 333 In the Washing house a washing block 1678 Dudley *Acad Archit* i (1677) 7 Like a Laylor washing bore a Washing block 1820 *Sporting Mag* XXIV 112 He looked like a frog on a washing block 1881 A. Wilson *Beauties Creation* I (1904) 2 Mineral wash search forms the "washing blue of the laundress 1810 T William son *Y. Ind Trade Museum* I 247 The washing board, its prop. and the washing block 1902 *Daily Chron* 6 Oct 5/4 He produced a washing book and two pencils 1857 Miller *Elem Chem., Org* 169 The vapours which are evolved should be received through a washing tube, a tubulating water *c* 1885 J Weller in *Circ Sc* I 406/1 With the precipitate by means of the washing bottle 14 *Aulcs & Const Manu* 53 m lvi 11 Mortier 1/2 (1840) 30/1 Wash ing bowl 1530 Palsgr 251/2 Washyng bowle, *lasle* 1620 Markh *Fr Aleun in Lincolnshire* 54 Like a basket of Buck of clothes, when they are taken from the washing bowle 1568 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* v ii, The day after washing day once a week I vse to home 1754 in J Cox *Narr Thief-takers* (1756) 103 It being Washing day at the Father's, she attended there 1854 Dickens *Bleak Hs* xiv, His scrubbing home from week's end to week's end, is like one great washing day—only nothing's washed I 1895 J Nichol son *Uper Mech* 366 This stream of water is kept running through the room in the "washing engine 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf* ii 49 This enormous piece passes into a washing engine, to cleanse it from the "dressing" or mucilage which the weaver had introduced into his web 1856 Prichard *Phys Hist Mankind* (ed 3) I 40 He was about 13 make a "washing green in the immediate neighbourhood 1882 Daily Chron 10 Nov 5/1 Some of the posts in the washing green 14 *Aules & Const Manu* 510 m Aungier *Syon* (1840) 296 Also silence is to be kepte in the "washing house in tyme of washynge 1577 Goode *Heresbach's Husb* 1 12 b, My maides chamber neere the Kitchin, and the washing house 1705 *Lond Gaz* No 4101/3 A Brew house, Dairy, Washing house. 1822 Galt *Provost* xxxviii, The washing had her big summer washing at the public washing house on the Green 1868 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec Mauchline Sock* (1878) 148 Money debursit vpoun the dressing of the cors. For ane weschyng tub and ane "weschyng kitt, xviijs 1799 Underwood *Det Childhood* (ed 4) II 103 The heels only may be covered by a piece of "washing-leather 1739 *Hull Advertiser* 15 June 2/4 A "washing machine 1875 *Lucyel Brit* III 816/2 (*Fleach ing*) From the washing machine the chain of cloth is passed through a pair of squeezers 1798 Chambers *Cycl s v Washings*, To get out the finer Parts, gone off with the Lixivia, they use Quicksilver, and a "Washing Mill 1756 E Howe *Letter Bleaching* 92 Were this to happen on the surface of the cloth, the oil would remain and not the washing mill afterwards be able to carry it off 1875 *Lucyel Brit* III 820/2 (*Bleaching*) Washed at washing mill or tubs 1558 London in *Lett Suppress Monasteries* (Camden) 223 Their towne hall standith upon the ryver, wher ys the common "washing place of the most parte of the towne, and in the cessid dayes ther ys such beting with battlders that a man can not here another 1899 Baxter *Key for Catholics* I xxxv 259 The rest they no more regard then "meeting of women in a wet house or a washing place 1728 *Anson's Voy* I v 50 Negroes who have accidentally fallen upon rich washing places. 1891 J. C. *Tomlinson's Cyc Useful Arts* (1867) I 3/2 The washing place [in an alcove] is fitted up with an open for boiling water 1899 R Gordon Cumming's *Africa* I xvi 265 I accordingly stewed some ammunition and a "washing rod in my old gun [sig 1885 Daily News 28 Mar 7/1 Mr. Bayly was accordingly conducted to a little "washing room, where Bella romped his fine 1885 *Pall Mall Budget* 8 Jan 30 "Wash ing soda is a Freezing Mixture 1806-7 J Hassard *Mysteries Hum Life* 8 ca, Rising in a bitter frost and going up to the "washing stand 1889 Grueton *Memory's Watch* 185 If you had a clean set of drawers the top of it was turned to account as the washing stand 1892 *Act Obedientiars Abingdon Abby* (Camden) 88 Pt in vno "washing tob de in no facto 13 iiijd 1700-8 R Gough *Hist My Mills* (1875) 32 The next in order is a Fulling Mill dead in Oatley Parke, havenge beene knocked on the head with the fo te of a washing stocke which stood at Ellesmere meare 1899 Miss Jackson *Shropshire Word-bk* s v, "Washing *stock* a bench on which clothes were laid and beaten with a kind of bat 1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl* 191/1 *Irrarium*, the sinke or "washi gstone in a kitchen where the Scullin makes cleane the dishes 1893 J Foster *Alumni Oxon* 1715 288, I ol served a group of these m nphs standing up to their knees in a foul run at a washing stone 1853 J Sneyd *Gold Limber Australia* 127 The gold had been washed in a pipe clay, call d by the diggers "wa hing stuff', which is from two inches to four feet thick 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* lxv 4 In "washing, temi les of mawmetrie [1382 in *confectione horum*]. — *Jer* xiii 12 In the washing, temples of the Godus of Egipt 1406 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 398, 3 "weschyng towell 1460 *Inv Arch Soc Y East Riding* 68 Wyt 375 Item, ij Weschyng Towellys of warke, eche of x yerds 1557 in Pettus *Fodina Reg* (1670) 95 Everie man that hath a "Washing Trough of his own by the custom of the Mine 1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 1,274 Mosley, washing trough, and sink 1560 *Burgh Acc Stirling* (1887) 12 Ane "weschyng tub 1677 Hubbard *Gl Late Lond* ii iii (1704) 67 He that makes a curious wash ball doth not disdain the use of a washing tub 1841 Dickens *Amer Notes* xv, A hooplest wash ing tub 1388 Wyclif *1 Kings* xii 23 Also he made a lauor see [*labrum*] that is a "washing vessel 1382 — *Wisd* 32 Therein oth of the washing vessel [1382 wattir ve sel, Vulg. *ex lutento*] *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 527/2 Washynge vessel *Inter* 1887 Parnell *Hist Navy* I 182 With a precipitate in a fit and close in consistency it is often of use to fix in the "washing, water on it, so as to penetrate and remove the soluble matter 1876 Tindall *Land Matter Act* (1881) 7 A portion of this washing, water after washing the infusion was cle rly the origin of the life observed *a* 1632 Donne *Serm* lxxxiii (1649) II 64 Doe not thinke to put off all to the "washing vessels, and by all this repent ance, to Pauter and the Sacrament then 1825 J Nicol *Sojourn Scot* II *Tassos & Fiune* iv, Next week is our washing week 1743 *Lett Lerrox* 116 In the Washing week 170 Whanne men cruelli metyn/ & wyl not see Mercy schal be his "was hyr ge well 1782 R Cumberland *Anecd Lame Painters* II 171 Crowds of "washing women and rows of linen 1820 *Good Study Med* (1829) V 3 5 The rough n is peculiarly common to the wrists of washing women

**Wa shing,** *ppl a.* [f. Wash *v* + -ing 2.]

**1.** That washes, in various senses of the verb

**a** Surging, overflowing, streaming with water, dipping in the waves

1560 Goode tr *Faitngeuuis' Z duc* ii (1561) B iij, The washyng winter now is flexible & the hoary snowes be gon 1593 J Lane a (Water) P (*Cent Pet*) 1 Three and thirty dirty Acres in miles, With a washing dashing wavy and rain wel sound 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix 80 The washing Tyde secures from all approach this weaker side 1867 Morris *Jason* ii 53 For he heard the sound of the washing stream 1882 *Daily Tel* 12 Sept 2 2 The washing heights of Sam which swell up as high as the roof of the bulwarks. 1903 Masefield *Ballads & Lyrics of Sea* 4 Where the wash ing sapping crash the tree goes down, Its washing branches founder and are gone.

**b** Of a garment, a textile fabric That will "wash"; or admit of being washed without injury to colour or texture, washable.

a 1733 Lp Binning in Maidment *Scn Bk Old Ballads* (1844) 62, I fain wad wear a camblet skirt But camblet s an unmanly thing, And it w uld wear out soon If I should make a washing thing, It soon would flimsy be 1750 E Coventry *Pompey the Little* ii 20, A white washing Gown 1869 Lever *Con Cregan* xiv, The satin sunner was par d enable, where the washing dresses were precisely suit ble, bigwons are being made with double cape collars of washing chiffon.

**†2.** Of a blow: = Swashing *ppl a* 1 *Obs*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met* v 252 Astyages Did with a long sharpe arming sworde a washing blow him giue. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl Perc* (1590) 22 You see my quarter staffe. A washing blow of this is good as a Laundresse, it will wash for the nones sake it can wipe a fellow ouer the thumbs. 1592 Shake. *Rom & Jul* i 1 70 (Qo. 1599) Gregorie, remember thy washing blow [and so Fo. 1] 1602 Fletcher *Wild-Goose Chase* v. iv, In a lustie wench now could I spend my

forty pence to have but one fling at her, To give her but a washing blow. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* v. 1 doe confesse a washing blow.

**3.** *Washing bear, racoon* = Wash-bear.

1891 *Century Dict., Washing-bear*, the wash-bear or racoon, *Procyon lotor*. 1895 tr. *Rees Cycl.* 516 The Washing Racoon (*Procyon*).

**Wa'sh-leather.** [f. Wash *v.* Cf. *G. wasch-leder* (perh. from Eng.)

According to one writer the material is so calle l 'from the fact that it may be easily washed' (*Encycl. Brit.* ed. 9 XIV. 390). But the obsolete synonyme *washen, washed leather* suggest that the original reference may have been to the 'washing' which is an important part of the process of manufacture.]

A soft kind of leather, usually of split sheepskin, dressed to imitate chamois leather.

1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 23 (1689) 43 Making the body of yellow wash-leather. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 349 Two or three circles of wash-leather dipt in oil. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxiii, Miss Tox...polished him up with a piece of wash-leather. 1897 Reade *Course of True Love* 8 All one colour, like wash-leather, or an actor by daylight.

*b. attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*) Made of wash-leather. Also *Path.* of eruptions: Resembling wash-leather in appearance.

*c* 1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 [For the cold in winter he wants] wash-leather gloves to write in. *a* 1692 Wood *Life & D.* (O. H. S.) II. 51 A wash-leather glove. 1772 Foote *Nabob* ii. (1778) 37 Ton Ramskin...had a fifty-pound note for a pair of wash-leather breeches. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* vii, He wore...wash-leather gloves. 1894 Sumners *Handley Cr.* xii. (1901) II. 36 Wellington boots with wash-leather kneecaps. 1899 *Abbott's Syst. Med.* VIII. 945 In frosty weather the wearing of wash-leather socks both by night and day is an advantage. 1900 J. Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* XI. 4 Large patches of xanthelasma palpebrarum of the ordinary wash-leather type. 1902 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Metallurgy* (ed. 6) 23 The lens being placed in a wash-leather bag.

†**Wa'sh-lock.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.* + Lock *sb.*1 (sense 2). Cf. *G. waschlocke.*] A tuft of wool detached in the process of sheep-washing.

1624 *Prov. Iaw. Winding Woods* (1910) 129 Lambes woolt, ..washlocks, cummer, and many other deceiueable things.

†**Wa'shmaid.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *v.*] A maid-servant employed in washing clothes.

1616 Lady Cavendish *Worse a-trip. Ag.* (1808) III. 413 Not pestering my Things with my Women, nor theirs with Chambermaids, nor theirs with Washmaids. 1673 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1905) V. 550 Turn Lady's washmayd, 't'ginny. 1682 Shadwell *Lanc. Witches* ii. 1. 17 My Woman-Chambermaid, Wash-maid, Co.k-Maid, &c.

**Washman** (wɒ·ʃmǽn). [f. Wash *v.*]

**1.** A man whose occupation is washing clothes; = Washerman.

1868 *Proc. Austr. Phil. Soc.* X. 552 Employing washmen instead of washwomen. 1890 Stevenson *Tallima Lett.* xvi. (1895) 130 Steward's assistant and washman Arrick, a New Hebridian black boy.

**2.** A workman employed in applying the wash or coating of tin in the manufacture of tinplate.

1881-4 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 748 2 The washman prepares the iron pot...called the wash-pot. 1882 *Nettr. Census Circ.* (1883) 9 Tin Goods Manufacturer. ..Washman.

†**Wa'shmeat.** *Obs.* [f. Wash *sb.* (? and *a.*)] **a.** Unsubstantial food. b. 'Wash' for swine.

1662 R. Burton *Anat. Melancholy* (1676) 122 Having once eat 60 pound weight of Cherries, he said they were but washmeat. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 181/2 A Trough, or Stone Trough, a hollow place cut in Wood or Stone, in which the Swine have their Wash-meat given them.

**Wa'sh-mill.** [f. Wash *v.*]

**1.** ? A mill-race in which sheep are washed. *Obs. a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 317 Being...to wash our sheep on the morrow, I asked my husband, what time in the morning he would drive them to the wash-mills.

**2.** *Brick-making*, etc. A machine for washing clay or materials for cement.

1856 *Builder* 16 Aug. 443/3 The principal machines which have been worked for this purpose [brick-making] are three ...viz. The pug-mill. and. The wash-mill. 3rd. The rolling-mill. 1879 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* Suppl. i. 332 These [sc. lime-stone and clay] are mixed in a pan known as wash mill.

**3.** *Leather Manuf.* A machine for washing skins after unhairing by the application of lime.

1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 377 From the unhairing room the skins pass to the 'wash-mill', where they receive a thorough washing, removing all adhering lime.

**Wa'sh-mouth.** *s. vr. dial.* Also **washmouth.** [f. Wash *v.* Cf. *G. waschmaul* of the same meaning.] One who hints at everything; a babbler.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 138 Hold thy Popping, ya gurt Washamouth. 1895 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Noughts & Cr.* iii. 30 Parson Worth wanted to know if he couldn't let his cottage to an invalid lady and her sister without consulting every wash-mouth in the parish.

**Wash-off,** *a. Calico-printing.* [f. verbal phr. *to wash off*: see Wash *v.* 13.] Of colours: Capable of being washed off; not permanent. 1864 Webster.

**Wash-out.** [f. verbal phr. *to wash out*: see Wash *v.* 13.]

**1.** An act of washing out a cistern, etc.; a pipe or other appliance for doing this. Also *attrib.*

1877 Hellyer *Plumber* ix. 86 This 'water-battery' water-closet is similar in principle and shape to the 'wash-out' closet-basin. 1903 *Architect* 10 Apr. Suppl. 29/2 Valves are provided *en route* to divide the delivery main into sections and control the supply. Wash-outs and air-valves are provided, also hydrants in the villages for fire protection. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 94/1 Shanks' Patent 'Tubal' Washout Closets with Patent 'Reliable' Syphon Cisterns. 1902 *Builder's Mag.* IV. 490/1 There was a 6-in. washout pipe which was connected to the 12 in. main.

**2.** *Mining.* A place where a portion of a coal or ironstone seam has been carried away by a stream, a deposit of sandstone being left in its place.

1876 Greenwell *Dunstan Hereford* 56, 1911 *Ibid.* 1 + 2 *Geo. V*, c. 30 § 20 The position, direction, and extent of every known fault of every seam with its vertical throw, and ...every known washout and intrusive dyke.

**3.** The removal by flood of a portion of a hillside; a hole or breach in a railway or road track caused by flood or erosion. Orig. *U.S.*

1883 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 2/1 The well built Mexican Railway...has had difficulty enough to prevent 'washouts'. 1883 *Standard* 25 Dec. 5/4 A train...ran into a wash-out. 1885 Roosevelt *Hunting Trips* 153 (Cent.) The rains and torrents combine to wash out the land into channels, which at first are merely wash-outs, and at last grow into deep canyons. 1910 *Times* 5 Mar. 5/6 On the Peking and Hankau Railway ...washouts may extend, not for one or two miles, but for fifty or a hundred miles.

**4.** *slang.* A disappointing failure, a 'sell'.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Nov. 2/1 As Harker remarked, 'Half a guinea for an essay is no wash-out'. 1902 F. Maxsell *Amateur Army* 57 What the dickens did you take this here [pill] for?...It's a blooming wash-out. *Fouta.* 'Wash-out' is a term used by the men when their firing is so wide of the mark that it fails to hit any spot on the card. The men apply it indiscriminately to anything in the nature of a failure.

**Wash-pool.** [f. Wash *v.*] A pool for washing sheep.

1887 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 56 He drives the bleating sheep from fallow fold To wash-pools. 1873 Trollope *Australia* I. 471 Establishing wool growers will take pains to his washpool. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, The wash-pool and at the equally primitive washpool.

**Wash-pot.** [f. Wash *v.*]

†**1.** A vessel employed to wash pots; *spec.* the designation of a servant employed at the Inns of Court. *Obs.*

1570 in *Black Bks. Linc. Inn* (1897) I. 373, xos. to Ralph Richardson, the washpot in the buttery, for 3 months' wages. 1587 in *Ibid.* 389 Agreed that no one...the Laundress &c. [etc.]. 1678 Ravenscroft *Engl. Lawyer* ii. i. 15, I was an under-Butler, or Wash-pot in the Inns of Court. 1816 *Trotter's Memoirs of Wesleyan Methods*, Thomas Lock Washpot of the honble Society of the Inner Temple.

**2.** A vessel for washing one's hands. *Obs.* exc. *fig.* in allusion to Ps. lx. 8, .

1532 Coverdale *Ps.* lx. 8 Moab is my washpotte, ouer Edom will I caste my shoo. 1635-56 Cowley *Davideis* ii. 341 Seven comely blooming Youths...in their hands seven silver washpots bear. 1810 Scott *Lett. in Lockhart* (1837) I. 289 Supper in no room but every Londoner makes Lochlomond his wash-pot, and throws his shoe over Ben-Nevis. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* viii. 166 He had to fly, with the whole nation, to his washpot. 1884 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/1 French philosophers were using it [China] as a washpot for their satires on institutions nearer home.

**3.** A vessel containing melted tin, into which iron plates are plunged to be converted into tin-plate.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1153 s. v. *Tin-plate.*

**4.** A vessel used in separating silver from lead.

1879 Gladstone *Mining, Silver* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 220 The liquid is then ladled into small pots, called tempers or wash-pots, placed between every second crystallising pot.

**Wash road.** = Wash-way 2.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 247 That wash roads (however applauded) are rarely without notorious exceptions.

**Wa'shstand.** [f. Wash *v.*]

**1.** A wash-hand stand.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1149 Such soap is exceedingly pleasant for the wash-stand. 1841 T. Webster *Encycl. Domest. Econ.* 276 A wash stand, to be complete, should have, besides the basin and ewer, a carafe for spring water, vessel for hot water, soap tray, several glasses, [etc.]. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxvi, She hauled me to the washstand, inflicted a merciless, but happily brief, scrub on my face and hands with soap, water, and a coarse towel. 1896 G. H. Snow *Fleet's Arrest & Return* 3 The washstand...consists of an enamelled iron basin with a pail beneath it in a painted metal frame, and a single towel on the rail at the side.

*attrib.* 1897 Mrs. Francis Hanger *Thames Camp* 196, I have made four fascinating washstand mats.

**2.** *U.S.* (See quot.)

1911 Webster, *Wash stand*, in stables, a place in the floor prepared with cartridges may be washed there and the water run off. *Cant.*

†**Wa'shstart.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 4 **wasshestarte.** [App. a confused form between Washdish and Washcart.] The Water Wagtail.

*c* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 786 Gryue et croulecowe Feldefare and wasshestarte.

**Wash-strake.** *Naut.* Also **-streak.** [f. Wash *sb.*] = Washboard 1.

1897 *Naval Encyc.* XXI. 290 Exclusive of a moveable wash strake. 1834 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* iii, A large Eixe canoe,...the bottom hollowed out of one single tree, but there was a washstreak of some kind of hardwood plank, so as to raise the gunwale about a foot above the ledge of the original vessel.

**Wash-trough.** [f. Wash *v.*]

**1.** *Mining.* A trough in which ore is washed.

1557 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 95 Also that no Purchasors shall let or stop any Miners from any Wash-trough at any time. 1758-9 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 146 The first sort is reserved for use; the second, or middling sort, is again put into the stamping-mill, and afterwards into the wash-trough, where the parts that contain no clunabar float in the water.

**2.** A trough used for washing the hands and face. 1900 O. Wister *Virginian* ii. 16 It was not much of a toilet that I made in the first wash-trough of my experience, but it had to suffice.

**Wa'sh-tub.** [f. Wash *v.* Cf. Du. *waschtobbe.*] A tub in which clothes are washed: = Washing-*tub.*

1800 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 111 Fowre boordes, cover of the vate, and ij washtubby stife. 1733 *Scots Mag.* Sept. 469/1 Indicted for drowning in a wash-tub...her son. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Glancing distractedly at a couple of old women at the wash-tub.

**Wash-up.** [f. vbl. phr. *to wash up*: see Wash *v.* 1. I.]

**1.** An act of washing table utensils after a meal. In quots. *attrib.*

1881 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 93/2 Butler's Pantry and Wash-up Sinks. 1900 'H. Lawson' *On Track* 128 Grease inches deep in great black patches about the fireplace ends of the huts, where wash-up and 'boiling' water is thrown.

**2.** *Tribal.* A washing-up place, scullery.

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xl, He made even mother laugh ...and Betty Muxworthy roared in the wash-up.

**2.** *Mining.* The washing of a collected quantity of ore; the quantity of gold that has been obtained by washing.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xxiii, As soon as we had finished the next wash-up, I was to go back to Yatala. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 June 4/3 The gold consisted of about a quarter of a million dollars in dust and three-quarters of a million in slabs. The estimate of the wash-up varies from twelve millions to thirty millions.

**3.** A dead body washed up by the waves.

a 1909 'Mermaid' *Last Voyage* 11 Mermaids thinks it's [*sc.* the grave is] over there by the yew-tree—but he's wrong. That there one was a wash-up found by old William the lighthouse keeper one morning early.

**Wa'sh-water.** [f. Wash *v.*] Water that has been used for washing.

1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* I. 25 Those who pour out their dirty wash-water of an evening. 1898 G. Gore *Pract. Chem. in Every Circ. Sci.* 73 The wash-water should not be thrown away without first being tested for gold. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 401 The evaporation of the excess of liquid derived from the wash-water. 1892 *Daily News* 11. 69 No trace of bromide could be found in the wash water. 1900 *Trnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 12 When, however, wash waters accumulate.

**Wa'sh-way.** *dial.* [f. Wash *v.* + Way *sb.*]

**1.** A portion of a road crossed by a shallow stream. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* civ. (1649) II. 105 He that hath not been noughtonced to a sin, but exercised in resisting it, will finde many tentations, but as a wash-way that is not thorough, and goe forward religiously in his Calling for all them. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 66 Yesterday morning...the North road cart, going through Tottenham Wash-way, was taken water. 1804 *Aston's Manch. Guide* 17 The cart road through Hanging-ditch was through a wash-way, so narrow, that only one cart could pass at once.

†**b.** *To make wash-way of, with*: to make light of, make short work of. Cf. Wash-work 1.

1649 D. Rogers *Naaman* 32 But man heares like the Adder with a deafe eare: she makes wash-way with patience, word & conscience and all. *Ibid.* 296 Custome and use makes wash way of his service: lookes at his Master for his owne ends. *Ibid.* 618 Made wash-way of all sorts of performances, and made them common things.

**2.** A road deeper in the middle than at the sides. 1790 W. H. Marshall *Midl. Co.* I. 44 A 'wash-way road'. 1808 T. Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 388 The form of the roads is generally convex, and the few concave or wash-ways that may be observed, seem [etc.]

**Wa'shwoman.** Now *U.S.* [f. Wash *v.*] = Washerwoman.

1390 *Dewsbury Parish Ch. Reg.* 28 Sept., Masseley a maid of Mr. Rowland Owens a washwoman buried. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) I. xiv. 59 You would much sooner be taken for her wash-woman. 1816 W. Tayi on in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXI. 231 Among the female occupations, are enumerated ..Nausicaa, or the Wash-women (Πλυνερίδες). 1852 C. W. Day *Five Yrs' Resid. W. Indies* II. 297 The Spanish flounces of the washwomen. 1898 Olivia *Slave States* 72 'In you come from Colonel Gillin's, massa?' asked the wash-woman.

**Wash-work.** [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.*]

†**1.** *To make wash-work with*: nap. 'to make short work of'. Cf. the phrase To make Wash-way 1 b, of which this appears to be an altered form.

1633 J. Williams *Holy Table* 150 And if this Leader should chance to be overcome,...we shall make wash-work with the rest of his followers.

**2.** Used for Wash-drawing.

1900 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Nov. 1/3 Mr. Frank Craig...is scarcely behind Mr. Hatherell in his excellent wash-work.

**Washy** (wɒ·ʃi), *a.* [f. Wash *sb.* or *v.* + -y 1.]

**1.** Having too much moisture, water-logged. Of wind or weather: Bringing moisture or rain.

In quot. 1566 the word corresponds to Horace's *plumbeus*, lit. 'leaden', used app. for 'depressing'.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. 8, Not lewde ambition vexethe heare: nor washye southerne wyndes. 1611 Cotgr., Pluuieux, washy, rainie. 1791 Pepys *Diary* 24 Sept., We.. found a most sad alteration in the roads by reason of last night's rains; they being now all dirty and washy. 1867 Milton *P. L.* vii. 305 They ..on the washie Ooze deep Channels wore. *a* 1720 Leslie *Husb.* (1757) 216 In washy weather all the hay one can give to cattle will not make them thrive. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Architt.* I. 40/a Of places ..some are ..damp and washy, as are those which lie near Seas or Lakes.

**2.** Of food, drink, etc. : Too much diluted, weak, sloppy, thin, watery.

1825 J. Adams *England's Sickn.* ii. 72 Mentes of a washy and fluid nature. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 327 New oats are a washy food, owing to a crude humidity that abounds in them. 1829 E. Hewlett *Cottage Comforts* viii. 99 Common corn and washy potatoes. 1856-6 De Quincey *Cæsars* Wks. 1860 IX. 133 *note*, By comparison with the washy tea breakfasts of most Englishmen. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 165/2 Serving pots of washy ale over the counter.

*Comb.* 1796 W. Thompson *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 44 The Flesh of such washy fed Sows is . . flabby.

**b.** *fig.* Of literary style, productions, utterances, etc. : Wanting in force or vigour, feeble, sloppy, thin.

1806-7 J. Bressord *Miseries Hum. Life* vii. xl. Being compelled by a deaf person, it repeat some very washy remark three or four times over. 1809 [see Sprwy *a.* 2 b]. 1832 Carlyle *Ess., Schiller* (1840) III. 21 *note*. Our English translation, one of the washiest, was executed . . in Edinburgh by a 'Lord of Session'. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* v. 113 This mixture of other persons' washy opinions. 1897 Mrs. Oliphant *W. Hanbury* I. 100 The publication altogether was a weak and washy production.

**3.** Of the stomach : Having an accumulation of liquid and undigested food, relaxed.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 47 But for such weakie Tripes as mine then were, I held it no good meate. 1827 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 491 The physician who neglects the factor of dilatation because the stomach is not as blown out and weak to force itself on his notice, has an imperfect comprehension of his case.

**4.** Of colour, painting, etc. : Having too much 'wash', lacking body, weak, pale.

a 1839 Wotton *Surv. Educ.* Epilog. (1652) 325 A pallish Cleanness, evenly and smoothly spread, not overthin and washie, but of a pretty solid consistence. 1847 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxv. 4 Christ putteth not upon his a washy colour of profession . . but he clotheth them in grain, with true grace and holiness. 1918 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 288 Four rows of Scales of a washy purple. 1785 H. Walpole *Let. to H. S. Conway* 8 Oct. (Cobbin) 1. 281 Julio's washy Virtues make the Nativity a dark spot from the darkness of the Shepherds. 1822 *Self-Instructor* 522 A middling full pencil, not too washy. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* ii, With a washy, but clean stencilled pattern on the walls. 1884 *19th Cent* Feb. 355 The colours are washy and unimpressive. 1886 G. Allen *Malcolm's Sake* xix, Blue eyes like hers . . look so mild and gentle and washy.

**5.** Of a horse or cow : Poor in quality or condition ; cap. liable to sweat or scour after slight exertion.

1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* i. iv. (1656) 40 The Horse . . is generally weake, and washy of flesh. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 300 Your thin necked and bodied cows, that are washy and fine. 1730 W. Bushon *Genl. Pocket-Farrier* 61 Some Horses . . part with their Food before 'tis well digested, and scour all the Way; which makes 'em so thin and lank, that they are ready to slip through their Girts; they are called . . a Washy Horse. *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 138 It was a washy ill constitutioned horse. 1828-32 Webster, *Washy*, liable to sweat profusely with labor; as, a washy horse. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 163 (This) gives to a beast what is called a washy appearance, and is always attended with a liability to looseness in the bowels. This washiness is generally attended with an inordinate breadth of hind quarter, i.e. hips. 1864 J. Mayhew *Illustr. Horse Managem.* 483 A leggy, a washy, a soft species of creature, which gentlemen find it cheaper to hire than to buy.

**6.** Of a person : Lacking strength or stamina ; weak, feeble, insipid ; poor, mean, worthless. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

*a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xlv. (1640) 443 All the good of man, considered supernaturally, is grace ; but that will not grow in a washy soile, in a liquid, in a watery, and dissolute, and scattered man. 1637 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 81 Like as some, who used water instead of wine .. were called by the Christians Aquarii, or *Aquarii*, watry and washy Heretickes, as Augustine witnesseth. 1682 Davden *Epil. to King & Q.* 37 Alas, our Women are but washy Toys. 1693 Lby Falkland *Cowgerew's Old Bach.* Prol., If the Slave, After his bragging, prove a washy Knave: May he be banish'd to some lonely Den. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 333 What washy Sots are here, as these the Sons of Beef, and English Beer? *a* 1721 Prior *Daphne & Apollo* 10 One mile has put the fellow out of breath ; Washie he is, poor-spirited.

**Waskeine,** variant of Vasquine *Obs.*

†**Waskite.** *Obs. rare*[1]. [Of obscure origin ; prob. an erroneous form.

Not for Wasp-kite, as that word (if genuine) denotes a bird of the Old World.

Given by Izaak Walton as the name of a long-winged hawk, native of Virginia.

1496 Walton *Angler* I. (1661) 23 [List of long-winged hawks.] The Waskite from Virginia.

**Waskyne,** variant of Vasquine *Obs.*

**Waslage,** obs. Sc. form of Vassalage.

**Wasn't,** colloq. contraction of *was not.*

**Wasp** (wɒsp), *sb.* Forms : *a.* 1 **wæfs**, **wæps**, 2 **wæpe**, 5 *dial.* 8–9 **waps**, 7, 9 *dial.* **wapse**, 9 *dial.* **wops**(e. *b.* 1 **wæsp**, 4–7 **waspe** (7 **whaspe**, 8 **whasp**), 6– **wasp**. *Pl.* *a.* 5 **wappys**. [OE. *wæfs*, *wæps*, *wæsp* masc. corresponds (with differences of declension) to OS. *wuospia*, fem. (MLG. *wepse*, *wespe*, *wispe*), MDu. *wespe* fem. (mod.Du. *wesp*), OHG. *wafsa*, *wefsa* fem. (MHG. *wefse*, *webse*, mod.G. *wespe*, dial. *webse*) :—OTeut. ***wæpiz-a**, **-iz**, ***wæpi-** :—pre-Teut. ***wobher-**, ***wobi-** : cf. Lith. *vapsà* gadfly, OSl. *vosa* (Russ. *osà*) wasp ; L. *vespa* has another ablaut-grade. The root is believed to be ***webh-** to weave, the name having reference to the nests which the insect constructs.

The word is not found in Gothic, and in the Scandinavian langs. it exists only as an adoption from Low German : Da. *hvaps*, Norw. *kvæps*, *qvæps*, *vops*, etc., mod. Icel. *vespa*. The OF. *guespe*, mod. F. *guêpe*, represents the L. *vespa*, but the initial *gu-* (= *w-*) for *v-* seems to be due to the influence of the Teut. word.]

**1.** In popular language, any insect of the genus *Vespa* ; chiefly applied to *V. vulgaris*, the Common Wasp, and such other species as are not readily distinguishable from this ; sometimes taken to include the Hornet, *V. crabro*, which resembles the Common Wasp, but is larger and has a quieter disposition and temper. The obvious characteristics of the genus are the alternate rings of black and yellow on the abdomen, the narrow stalk or petiole by which the abdomen is attached to the thorax, the fully developed wings, and the formidable sting (which, however, is peculiar to the females and the workers or imperfect females). In scientific language applied generally to two divisions of hymenopterous insects, the Diplopters or true wasps, and the Fossores or digger wasps.

The true wasps (*Diplopters*) are divided into three families : (1) *Vespidæ*, to which the common wasp belongs ; (2) *Eumenidæ* ; and (3) *Masaridæ*.

See also Dictionary of Arts, 4, Paper 26, 12, Queen 18, 53, Sand 28.[2] 10 b, Social *a.* 6 b, Solitary *B.* 4.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 502 *Crabro* : waefs *vel* burnita. *Ibid.* V 136 *Vespa*, waefs. *c* 875 *Epinal Gloss.* 355 *Cfrabro* : waeps. *a* 1100 *Aga. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 318/36 *Vespa*, waeps. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 420 Pe waspis put in his hewid vase, at his nese-thrillis pai wrocht. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 648 Per is no wasp in his werkis but will wilfulliche asyngen, For stappyng on a too of a syncande frere ! 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3011 Full many fleen may fellen, & fewe wapys. *c* 1440 *Mirk's Festial* 141 Out of hys nase'nurles dropped wormys out lyke wasppes. 1496 *Com. Lect Bk.* 577 Where as they light, The keen will byte, And also sting. The Fosseores or digger wasps. 1530–36 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 192 And beware, that no waspes come in-to the hyue, for they wyll kyl the bees, and eate the honny. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 87 Wasps are angry flies, and by and by, Angry as a wasp, though in both no cause why. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 148, I cannot marvell enough, how the nimble Bee should be ingendred of the sluggish Waspe, or the lively wasp of the dead Horse. *a* 1598 H. Smith *Serm.* (1637) 239 God is not like a Waspe, which when she hath stung cannot sting again. 1653 Walton *Angler* xii. 156 The Wasp is a choleric fly, and does bait in the young brood of Wasps or Bees, baked or hardned in their husks in an Oven. 1724 Dehham in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 137 The Male Wasps are lesser than the Queen, but as much longer and larger than the Common Wasps, as the Queen is longer and larger than these. 1730 Young *Paul. Ep.* II. 33 Ah ! what deceptions whasps proclaim The fairest fruit. 1820 Buckley *Anim. Biog.* (1823) III. 263 The nest of the Common Wasp is always formed under the surface of the earth. 1848 Alm. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xiii. 191 ' Just as if we hadn't enough wappes, exclaimed the old lady...' No, my good Grittles—that's a hornet,—not a "wasp" as you wrongly call it.' 1862 Calverley *Verses & Translations* 65 As fiercely vanish at the wild Cry Wasps, horns and of wopses. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II. iii. § 3 'These old Roman chaps —' he said ; and then the wasps arrived. [See also the plan above.

**2.** *fig.* a. Applied to persons characterized by irascibility and persistent petty malignity, esp. to a multitude of contemptible but irritating assailants.

1598 Dunbar *Flyting* 195 Wan wraigliane wasp. 1560 Rolland *Court Venus* Prol. 20 No, no, my Muse, thir wappis late loisis, crepis oute a swarm of romish waspes, wynging to death all who wold not worshyp theyr gods, nor beleue theyr doctrine. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* II. ii. 210 Come, come you waspish, i'faith you are too angrie. 1621 Burton & Fl. *King & no K.* iv. iii, I will not hear you, wasp. *a* 1666 *Conting. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 169 The Frenche Agent . . endeavoured to joine with the Generall for a publicke redresse from those pertulious whaspes. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil. No.* 5. 23, I had no sooner undertaken this task, but I raised a nest of hornets, and a swarm of wasps about my ears. 1778 H. Walpole *Let. to H. Cole* 25 Apr. The reviewers and such litterati have called me a learned and ingenious gentleman ; I suppose they would be very angry at the just contempt Mr. Gray had for them. 1791 D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* I. 97 Sallo, after having published only his third Journal, fell the irritated wasps of literature throughout no think about him, that he very gladly abdicated the throne of Criticism. 1844 W. Cribb *Disruption* xxxiii. 362 Mr. Bacon, to ken, is in a pretty pickle wi' this wasp o' a body M'Crie's nest. 1861 Herbert *Cashel Byron* 127 Glover was an ill-conditioned wasp, and his story refutes itself.

b. Something that irritates or offends one.

†*The wasp got him by the nose* (Prov.) : he was infuriated. 1588 *Martpret. Epist.* (Arb.) 20 At the hearing of this speeche, the waspe got my brother by the nose, which mad him in his rage to affirme, that [etc.]. 1603 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 55. 1618 Cowper *Tenth* 160 Of temper as envenom'd as an asp ! Censorious, and her ev'ry word a wasp. 1848 J. Sewell *St. Giles* iv. (1851) 34 That little head of his is full of wasps as July.

**3.** An artificial fly for salmon-fishing (made to imitate the appearance of a wasp). Cf. *wasp-fly* in 5 b.

1867 F. Francis *Angling* x. (1880) 350 Some of the Tay flies, particularly the Wasps, dressed small, will kill well in the Tweed.

**4.** *Conchol.* A variety of cowry (see quot.).

1819 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wasp, *Cypræa Asellus.*

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wasp-comb.* *-egg.* *-grub*, *-honey*, *-larva*, *-maggot*, *-pupa*, *-sting*, *-worm* ; *wasp-barbed*, *-like* adjs.

1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 346 One of the worst, 'wasp-barbed, most tingling pangs of my memory is yet of a sunny afternoon at Pisa, when first I... 1877 Woods *Nature's Teachings* 168 There is...one curious point of difference between the 'Wasp-comb and human architecture. 1900 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. VII. 327 It is...also a great deal smaller than the 'wasp egg. 1760 Hawkins *Walton's Angler* xi. 197 *note*, There are no better Baits for this fish than ...a Gentle, a young 'Wasp-grub boiled, or a green Worm. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 July 2/3 Some 'wasp-honey. 1870 'Wasp-larva (see *wasp-pupa*). 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 125 'Wasp-like Fly Maggot. 1865 G. Macdonald *Rooks Old Fravest* II. 209 Picturesque and coquettish as ever their [mills] wasp-like waists were. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* iv. v. 72 *marg.* 'Wasp-Maggots or Grubs. 1858 Jesse *Angler's Rambles* 197 The club may be taken with ...gentles, wasp-maggots, and black-snails. 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 324 Doubtless also their fellow inhabitants, described ..as injured 'wasp-pupæ, were in reality the partially devoured wasp-larvæ. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, Four 'Wasp Stings, like Joyners Tacks. 1822 Scott *Halidon Hill* i. 239 A cobweb gossamer were guard as good Against a wasp-sting. 1894–6 *Wasp-worm [see Waspnood].

**b.** Special comb. : **wasp-bee**, a bee of the genus *Nomada*, a cuckoo-bee ; **wasp-beetle**, a beetle of the genus *Clytus*, esp. *C. arietis* ; **wasp-coke** *dial.*, the cuckoo ; **wasp's nest** ; **wasp-flower**, a flower frequented by honey-gathering wasps ; **wasp-fly**, a syrphid fly somewhat resembling a hornet ; also an artificial fly for fishing ; **wasp-paper**, the paper-like material, produced by mastication, of which wasps' nests are made ; †**wasp-spade**, a spade for digging out wasps' nests ; †**wasp-stung** *a.*, irritable (as if stung by a wasp) ; **wasp-waist**, a very slender waist, *esp.* the characteristic waist of a woman who laces tightly ; **wasp-waisted** *adj.*

1844 F. Smith in *Zoologist* II. 587 Descriptions of the British *Wasp-Bees. 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* III. Tab. xxvii, The Maryland *Wasp Beetle. 1883 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 476 The common *wasp-beetle (*Clytus arietis*). 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 10/1 Experienced anglers cannot recall a season in which 'wasp-cake is so difficult to obtain. 1882 *Cornhill Mag.* Nov. 572 The flowers are wasp-like enough for having a helmet-shaped tube, exactly fitted to a wasp's head, with abundant honey filling the bottom of the bell. 1676 Cotton *Angler* II. 183 The Wasp is a blue likewise about Month [July] a *Wasp-fie, made, of a dark brown dubbing.. ribb'd about with yellow silk. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. 1. viii. § 26 The Wasp-Fly. *Tanni species ultera.* 1854 Mary Howitt *Pict. Cab. Animat* 201 The burr of a wasp-fly, when resting apparently motionless on the window. 1662 F. Francis *Angling* xii. (1880) 456 The Wasp Fly.— Three mauve Hackle fibres, ribbed [etc.]. 1832 Sharp *Insects* II. 83 These little habitations consist of masses of cells, wrapped in *wasp-paper, in which there are one or more entrances for ingress and egress. 1680 Grew *Nem. Mon.* (1634) 126 With a *Wasp-spade, search for the nest. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, i. iii. 236 (1598 Qq.) Why what a *wasp-stung [later Qq. wasp-tongu'd, wasp-tongued] and impatient foole Art thou? 1870 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Sept. 330 The fearful irritation of the vital organs which must be excited in passing the wasp-waist. 1908 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 344/3 The cylinder...about a person tightly cinctured, and with a wasp-waist, resembling the men on Mycenæan monuments. 1887 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. III. 491 Touchwood, or as it is sometimes called, 'wasp-wood, because wasps use it to make their nests.

**Wasp** (wɒsp), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Wasp *sb.*] *trans.* To sting as a wasp does.

1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., King Alcinus & Tying-Tr* Wks. II. 137/2 That blow upon the cheek-bone ! those rotten eggs ! ..surely they have wasped these !

**Wasp,** obs. Sc. var. Wisp, quantity of fish.

**Wasper,** variant of Vasquine *Sc.*

**Waspherd** (wɒ·spɦɪd). [Wasp *sb.* + -hood.] The condition of a wasp.

1804–6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* xvii. (1850) 244 When the wasp-worm is hatched, it finds a store of provisions ready made ; and...the quantity allotted to it is exactly sufficient to support it, till it attains the period of waspherd.

**Waspish** (wɒ·spɪʃ), *a.* [f. Wasp *sb.* + -ish.]

**1.** Pertaining to or resembling a wasp or some characteristic of it.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 211 If I be waspish, best beware my sting. 1681 Colony *Whig's Supplic.* (1751) 39 They waspish tongue will never fail To prat, to scold, revile and rail. 1822 Scott *Halidon Hill* i. ii. 334 Let a body of your waspish drones Make execution on the bees. 1885 Trollope *Belton Est.* iv. 40 Her waist showed none of those waspish proportions. 1915 B. Digby in *Travel* July 52/1 In such dells, pay a pair of waspish, dun steamers.

**2.** *esp.* Quick to resent any trifling injury or affront ; irascible, petulantly spiteful.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* ii. v. b, Satyre of writhled waspyshe Saturne may be namde. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 33 In anger, more testie, and waspish. 1693 Lby Ingell *Gregory F. Greybeard* 222 The leven of whome religion makes them waspish, peevish, touchy, clamorous. 1753 Johnson *Rambler* No. 177 P1 Their conversation was therefore, fretful and waspish, their behaviour brutal. 1808 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 122 It is lamentable that that good heart of his should be coupled with so bad a judgement and so waspish a temper. 1838 Disraeli in *Corr. w. Sister* 23 Jan. (1886) 90 Sharp and waspish, he would have made a good petulant Opposition speech. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, Such a set of waspish, dogmatical, over-bearing fellows. *a* 1901 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* (1903) II. 372 He had been charged by waspish enemies with ascribing a heavenly origin to the holy body of Christ.

*Comb.* 1610 Shakes. *Temp.* iv. i. 90 Her waspish headed sonne [*sc.* Cupid], has broke his arrowes, Swears he will shoote no more, but play with Sparrows.

**b.** Marked or characterized by virulence or petulance, spiteful.

1879 *Exam. Standard* 9 Sept. 2 This waspish article created great indignation. 1880 *Scribner's Monthly* May 118 'The Literati'...are a prose Dunciad, waspish and unfair, but[etc.].

quasi-*adv.* 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* ix. We may excuse Raleigh's answering somewhat waspish to some quotation of Spenser's from the three letters of 'Immerito and G. H.'

Hence **Wa·spishly** *adv.*; **Wa·spishness.**

1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 116 That they be not cast out of the church by the weakness, waspishnes (frowardnes) or rashnes of the bishop. 1653 W. Ramesby *Astrol. Restored* 334 Where he is pleased now and then...to vent his waspishness. 1684-94 tr. *Plutarch's Morals* (1718) III. 94 To preserve her from being waspishly proud, out of a Conceit of her Fidelity and Virtue. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* v. 85 A state of continual waspishness. 1847 De Quincey *Murder* Wks. 1862 IV. 24 Berkeley, feeling himself nettled by the waspishness of the old Frenchman, squared at him. 1885 Miss Broughton *Belinda* IV. 39, 'Well, may I go?' 'Why do you ask?' retorts he waspishly.

**Wasp-kite,** *rare*—. [A translation of the G. name *wespenhussard* or *wespenfalke*: the bird preys on wasps' nests.] The Honey-buzzard, *Pernis apivorus*.

1891 *Century Dict.*

**Wa·spling** (wǫ·splin). [f. Wasp *sb.* + -ling 1.] A young wasp.

1905 Peckham *Wasps Social & Solitary* 90 Startle it ever so slightly and the wasplings retreats by way of its web.

**Wasp's nest, wasp-nest.** The nest of a wasp. Also *fig.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 107 Sathanas That hath in lues herte his waspes nest. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Waspis nest, *vespiarium*. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 128 Which...bring fourth a swarme (as it were) of bees, or rather a waspes neast in us. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 814 He has a Sonne, who shall beat him zeale on the head of a Waspes Nest. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 363 Two Sorts of curious Wasps Nests made with Clay. 1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 474 If like a wasp's nest I could scoop the eye out Of the detested Cyclops. 1834 Lytton *Pelham* III. xxiv, Every policy of half-measures,...which flaps no exasperated waspnest with a silk pocket-handkerchief, instead of blowing it up with a match and train. 1858 Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* x. ii. (1873) III. 223 Cannot we get away from this scurvy wasp's-nest of a Paris? 1870 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. VI. 328 The Rustic *Rhiphiphorus* lays her eggs before leaving the wasps' nest. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* II. 89 It would be impossible...to give a satisfactory account of all the forms of wasp-nests. *Ibid.* 86 A wasp's nest.

Hence **Wasp-nesting** *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1], the action of searching for wasp's nests.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 1873, 263/1 Fancy going about wasp-nesting with some one at your heels to take care of you.

**Wasp-waisted,** *a.* Having the waist very slender, esp. as the result of tight-lacing.

1775 Miss. Delany *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 260, I hope Miss Sparrow will not fall into the wasp-waisted fashion of y^e wasp-waisted ladies. 1839 Duncan in *Conger. Globe* Jan. App. 104/2 A thousand of the wasp-waisted gentry to quell the Democracy of Pennsylvania—monstrous! 1847 *Pract. Rec. Penny* 7 Sept. 6/4 These young women...are not wasp-waisted.

*transf.* 1867 G. Musgrave *Nooks & Corners Old Francs* II. 147, I saw several wasp-waisted windmills.

**Wa·spy,** *sb.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Now *dial.* **wapsy.** [f. Wasp *sb.* + -y 6.] A wasp.

*a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 330 Angry as a waspy! *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wapsy*, *waspy*, a wasp.

**Wa·spy** (wē·spi), *a.* [f. Wasp *sb.* + -y 1.]

**1.** Resembling a wasp in form, wasp-like.

1658 Rowland tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 921 Whereupon that Greek Comick Poet calls those Maids, ... for their slenderneesse in the waste σφηκώδεις [*sic*], waspy or like Wasps. 1885 T. W. Wood in *Student* II. 87 The hornet clearwing...so waspy in appearance. 1889 *Daily News* 19 July 6 A brown horse with a light waspy middle. 1889 *Sportsman* 29 July 1/1 So long as a waspy waist is considered 'a thing of beauty'.

**2.** Abounding in wasps.

1681 *Rector's Sh. Claywortk* (1910) 53 It was also a very waspy year. 1880 in Mozley & Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 13 Very hot and waspy it was at dinner.

**Wass,** obs. f. *was* (see Be v. 3 and Wash v.).

**Wassail** (wǫ·s'l, wæ·s'l, -eil), *sb.* Now only *arch.* and *Hist.* Forms: **3** wæs hæil, wæshail, washayl, washail, wessejl, 3–4 ? wassayl, 3, 6–7, 9 *arch.* wassaile, 4 wassayle, wassayle, (whatsaile, -sail), 4–5 waissail, -ayle, 4–6 wassail, 7–8 wassal, (7 vassaile, *Hist.* was-haile, washeall, wass heal, 9 waisall, waissel, *arch.* was-hael), 5–9 wassel(l, 3– wassail. [ME. *wes hæil* etc., a. ON. *ves* (= later *ver*) *heill*, corresp. to OE. *wes hál* lit. 'be in good health' or 'be fortunate': see Be v. A. 3 and Whole *a.*

As an ordinary salutation (= 'hail' or 'farewell') the phrase, or an approximation to it, occurs both in OE. (*hál wes þú*, and in pl. *wutad hálle*: see Be v. A. 3) and in ON. (pl. *verið heilir*). But neither in OE. nor in ON. nor indeed in any Teut. lang. has any trace been found of the use as drinking formulas, of the phrases represented by *wassail* and *drinkhail*. It seems probable that this use arose among the Danish-speaking inhabitants of England, and became more or less common among the native population in the 12th c. It was regarded by the Normans as markedly characteristic of Englishmen. The earliest known occurrence of the phrases is in Geoffrey of Monmouth VI. xii. (*c* 1140), in the well-known story of Rowena (*wes hæil...drinc hæil*) v. *wes hæil*, printed edd. corruptly *wacht hail*). Geoffrey's attribution of the phrases to the 5th century is an anachronism; the original story as told by Nennius contains nothing corresponding to them. In Wace's *Brut* (*c* 1180), which is a metrical version of Geoffrey, various MSS. have *werhet*, *waissell*, *gasel*; *drinhet*, *drincehetil*, *drechehet*. That Wace's acquaintance with the English phrases was not wholly derived from the passage in Geoffrey is shown by his reference to them in the *Roman de Rou*, where it is said that the night before the battle of Hastings was spent by the English in revelry, with cries of *weissel* (v.r. *wesse heil*, *wessell*, *wessil*) and *drinchehail* (v. r. *drincesail*, *dringuehail*, *drinheil*). In the *Speculum Stultorum* of Nigellus Wireker (*c* 1190) the English students at the university of Paris are praised for generosity and other virtues, but are said to be too much addicted to *wassail* and *drinkgail*. The earliest example of the phrases in an English context is in Layamon's translation of Wace.

In *drinkhail* the second element is, as in *wassail*, the ON. adj. *heill* used as complement. Although the phrase *verið heill* in not recorded in ON., it has an exact syntactical parallel in *sit heill*, 'sit in health'. Whether the form of the first element in *drinkhail* is due to OE. influence or is archaic Scandinavian is doubtful; the phrase *drinkhæl* in one MS. of Wace is noteworthy from its resemblance to the ON. of the literary period.]

**1.** A drinking used when presenting a cup of wine to a guest, or drinking the health of a person, the reply being Drink-hail.

*c* 1205 Lay. 14396 Reowen..bar an hir honde ane guldene bolle Iuuelled mid wine..& þus gerest saiden in Ænglene londe Leofdi wæs hail & þu hlæfdi [*c* 1275 wes hail & þu hlauerd] 14398 [see Drink-hail]. *Ibid.* 14970 Heo falde hir scalc of wine..& þus hailede him on..Laferd king wæshail [*c* 1275 wassail]. 15..(?) *Cursor M.* 14908 Wesseyng wyl I þee, wessey wyl þou me cryge. *c* 1400 *Brut* 59 Roneweminne..come wip a coupe of goldé..and kneleþ biforé þe kyng, and saiþ to him 'Wassaile!'..& þat was þe first tyme þat 'Wassaile' and 'Drynkehaile' come vp into þis lande; and fram hat tyme into this tyme it Hab ben wel vsede. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 126, I trust this wassail shall make all England glad. And with that he drank a great draught, the lords pledging him. 1830 Motherwell *Poems, Battle-King of Sigurd* i, Then lift the can to bearded lip,..Wassaile! to every dark-ribbed ship, To every hardy lord! 1843 *Lytton Last Barn.* v. Pledging success Sybill, your dainty lips will not, I trow, refuse me the wassail. [*Another ed. reads* waissel.] 1880 Longf. *Wayside Inn, Golden Leg* xii. still, The Berserks drank 'Was-hael' to the Lord!'

†**b.** As a mere salutation. quasi-*arch.*

*a* 1643 Cartwright *Ordinary* iv. ii. *Ila.* What I who goes there? *Tri.* Wassail! *Ila.* Drinkhaile! thou goest not.

¶ **c.** *ironically.* A 'salute', smart attack. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 9200 Odemoun..Toke Meneleus In þat swyng, and him bare ouer his hors tayl: He 3af him þere sone wassayl, That he was glad to be ycolde ones.

**2.** The liquor in which healths were drunk; esp. the spiced ale used in Twelfth-night and Christmas-eve celebrations.

*Wine and wassail* (now *arch.*, echoing Shaks.): *vaguely*, strong drink in abundance (cf. sense 4).

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 1246 Wyn and ale deden he fete, And made[n] hem glade and blipe, Wessey! leiden he fele sipe. 1494 *Fabyan* vii. 340 (1502) 221 Whan the steward cometh in at the hall doore with the wassail, he must crie three tymes, Wassell, wassell, wassell. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 9 Then was the wassail or bancket brought in, and soe broke vp Christmas. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxv. xi. II. 224 And even at this day (in Spain) in their great feasts, they have a certaine Wassaile or bragat, which goeth round about the table, made of honied wine or sweet must, with...hearbes in it. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. vii. 64 His two Chamberlaines Will I with Wine, and Wassell, so convince, That Memorie...shall be a Fume. 1828 B. Jonson *Forest* iii, The jolly wassail walkes the often round, And in their cups, their cares are drown'd. 1846 — *Masque of Christmas* 2 Enter...Wassail, like a mumming Host, and Mistletoe and Page bearing a browne bowle, drest with Ribbands. 1661 *New Carolls for Christmas, For Twelfth-day* iii. The Wassell well spiced, About with Rosemary is tied. 1678 O. Cromwell *Archimage* xiii, Wks. (1803) 39 Bove all things else he Wassel prid at and ale. 1808 Scott *Marmion* VI. Introd. 64 On Christmas eve the wassail round, in good brown bowls Garnish'd with ribbons, blithely trows. 1846 *Old Mort.* ix, Women, wine, and wassail, all to be had for little but the asking. 1864 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 7 The wine and the wassail were in high request. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* Success Success already a little jaded by the chase. 1876 Dickens *Pickw.* xxviii, They sat down...to a substantial supper, and a mighty bowl of wassail, which the hot cheeks of the girls steeping and bubbling. 1880 Tennyson *In Mem.* cv. v, And strangely falls our Christmas-eve. ..But let no footstep beat the floor, Nor bowl of wassail mantle warm. 1891 Longf. *Mask of Pandora* i. *Court-yard of Castle* 17 No song, no laugh, no jovial din Of drinking wassail to the pin. 1897 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Ask.* iv, Two hundred gownsmen, wild with wrath and wassail, came leaping to the rescue. 1898 J. B. Crozier *My Inner Life* v. 43 He was much addicted to wine and wassail too, as his blood-red face sufficiently attested.

†**3.** A custom formerly observed on Twelfth-night and New-Year's eve of drinking healths from the wassail-bowl. +Also, ? the person invited to drink from the wassail-bowl. *Obs.*

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 95 A wassaile on twelfe night. 1618 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 153, I see a custome in some parts among us, I meane the yeare of Iubile haile in the country on the vigil of the New-yeare. *a* 1654 *Table Talk* (1689) 42 The Pope in sending Rellicks to Princes, does as Women do by their Wassels at New-years-tide, they present you with a Cup, and you must drink of a slabby stuff; but the meaning is, you must give them Moneys. 1658 Phillips, *Wassail*,...an ancient Ceremonious custome, still used upon twelf day at night, of going about with a great bowl of Ale, drinking of healths. 1661 *New Carolls for Christmas, For Twelfth-day* ii. For a King of our Wassell this night we must chuse.

**4.** A carousal; riotous festivity, revelling.

1600 Shaks. *Hamt.* I. iv. 9 The King doth wake to night, and takes his rouse, Keepes wassels. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 56 Anthony, Leaue thy lasciuious Vassailes. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* G 3, I sweare,...Dy Creaus name and by his castle, Wherd winter nights he keepeth wassell. 1809 Scott *Last Minstrel* v. viii, The blithesome signs of sweet gay Decay'd not with the dying day. 1820 Byron *Juan* iii. lxi, Meantime the lady and her lover sate At wassail in their beauty and their pride. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 248, I at length arrived in merry Eastcheap, that ancient region of wit and wassail. 1848 Lytton *Harold* iv. ii, A board was spread and a wassail was blithe around me. 1878 H. Phillips Jr. *Poems Fr. Sp. & German* 72 Two kings held wassail in Orkadal. 1893 R. S. Hawker *Footpr. For Cornwall* 28 Now there was signal made of banquet in the halls of Stowe, of wassail and dance.

†**5.** A carol or song sung by wassailers; a wassailing or health-drinking song. *Obs.*

In quot. 1697 *ironical or jocular.*

1607 Heaun. & Fl. *Woman-Hater* III. i, Have you done your wassayl? 'tis a handsome drowsie ditzie 'll assure ye, now I had as leave hear a Dirge. 1697 *Dryden Virgil's Georgics*, *Carrol for Wassel-Bowl* 7 Good Dame here at your Door Our Wassel we begin.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Combs.*, as (sense 3), *wassail-candle*, *-day*, *-singer*, *-singing*; (sense 4), *wassail-bout*, *-revelry*, *-roar*, *-rout*, *-season*, *-song*; also **wassail-cup** = Wassail-bowl.

A spurious compound *wassail-bread*, given in many Dicts., is due to a misinterpretation of *wastelbread*: see Wastel. For a similar figment, *wassail-cake*, see quot. 1688–9 v. Wassail *v.* 2.

1840 Longf. *Skeleton in Armour* iii, Many a 'wassail-bout Wore the long Winter out. 1893 Sharp *Sonn. Eur. VI.*, L. ix. 79 *Iu.* What ? you are as a candle, the better part burnt out. *Kal.* A 'wassell candle, my Lord; all Tallow. 1634 Brewer *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Such as they met gave them money..to buy a 'wassail-cup, a carouse. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvi. xiii. 593 The same wassaile cup [L. *poculum istud*] that first will be presented to me, shall go round to you all. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xxv, Let us have a Christmas wassail-cup and toast Old England here, on the hearth. 1854 Dickinson *Schoolmistress* 40, O 'weaned days ! O customs meet and well ! 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* vi. xix, But now, from England's host, the cry Thou hear'st of 'wassail revelry. 1808 — *Marmion* v. xxx, This was the time, and this the eve; ! hush'd the wassail roar. *Ibid.* iii. Introd. 187 Of foragers, who,...home returning, fill'd the hall With revel, 'wassel-rout, and brawl. 1767 Mickle *Concub.* i. xxix, Now flow the 'wassel-bowl, and mingle with glee the song! 1790 *Poem Voc. E. Anglia*, 'Wassail-singers. 1895 Q' '[Quiller-Couch] *Wond. Heath* 162 December and January, with...carols and 'wassail-singing. 1899 Scott *Poems* 9 To the wassail-cup of a 'wassel-song, which some reveller was trolling over in his sleep. 1854 Grace Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 88 A hall of the old castle, where hung the trophies of the chase, armour, and the wassail songs of Erin's princes and knights.

**Wassail** (wǫ·s'l, wæ·s'l, -eil), *v.* Forms: **4** wosseyle, wesseyle, **7** wassaile, -ayle, **6** wassail, **8** wessel, 8– wassail. [f. Wassail *sb.*]

**1.** *intr.* To 'keep wassail'; to sit carousing and health-drinking.

*c* 1330 *Havelok* 1737 Hwan he..fele sipe haueden wossseyled, And with gode drinkes seten longe. *Ibid.* 2008 Hwat may þis be? Better is i go misself, and se: Hweper he sitten nou, and wesseylien. 1686 *Piers Ploughm.* A. v. 60 Lyue in the ancient vesel in which the Danes use to Wassayle, or drink healths. 1889 F. M. Crawford *Greifenstein* III. xxv, 136 He feasted and wassailed with his wonted energy.

**2.** *trans.* To drink to (fruit-trees, cattle) in wassail, in order to ensure their thriving. *local.*

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Christmasse-Eve*, Wassaile the Trees, that they may beare You many a Plum, and many a Peare. 1688–9 Aubrey *Lives Wiltshire* 4 (1879) Mdm. at Twelve-tyde at night they use in the Countrey to wassaile their Oxen and to have Wassaile-Cakes made. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* ser. II. 361 Sometimes called *lamb's-wool*, and with it the trees were wassailed. 1878 *Folk-Lore Rec.* I. 13 It is the custom, in the cider districts of Sussex, to wassail the trees on Christmas Eve. 1893 F. T. Elworthy *Evil Eye* iii. 105 The old Christmas custom of wassailing the apple-trees.

**Wassail-bowl.** A large bowl or cup in which wassail (sense 2) was made and from which healths were drunk; a loving-cup; also the liquor contained in the bowl.

1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. i. D 3 b, Hee is a most excellent Turner, and will turne you wassel-bowles, and posset Cupps. 1628–9 *Churchwardens' Acct.* (1858) 102 Given to the maides which came with the wassell-boule, xij^d. 1810 Fletcher *Faithf. Shepherdess* v. i, Some neere towne, Hath drawne them thether, most some lusty sport; Or spiced wassail Boule. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Country Life* 56 Thy Wassaile bowle, That's tost up after Fox i' th' Hole..; thy Christmas revellings. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 26 Dec. We went into an alehouse and there..a washall-bowle woman and girle came to us and sung to us. 1686–7 Aubrey *Rem. Gentilism & Judaism* (1881) 40 They goe into the Orchouse to the oaken, with the wassail-bowle, and drink to the ox. 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* xvii. 195 Young Women went about with a Wassail-bowl, that is, a Bowl of spiced Ale on New Year's Eve. 1808 Scott *Marmion* v. xvi, A mighty wassail-bowl he took, And crown'd it high in wine. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 58 A huge silver vessel of rare and curious workmanship...the Wassail Bowl, so renowned in Christmas festivity. *Ibid.* 288 *note*, The Wassail Bowl was sometimes composed of ale instead of wine; with nutmeg, sugar, toast, ginger, and roasted crabs. 1820 G. P. Morris *Poems* (ed. 15) 178 Some love to stroll where the wassail-bowl And the wine-cups circle free.

**Wassailer** (wǫ·s'lər, wæ·s'lər). [f. Wassail *v.* + -er 1.] One who takes part in riotous festivities; a reveller.

1634 Milton *Comus* 179, I should be loath To meet the rudeasse, and swill'd insolence Of such late Wassailers. 1704 Colerige *Relig. Musings* 284 O pale-eyed form, The victim of seduction, ..Who in loathed orgies with lewd wassailers Must gaily laugh, while [etc.]. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.*

it, I. Sav. And you will join us at the banquet? *Sal.* Sire, Dispense with me—I am no wassailer. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* v. ii, A rather boisterous party of wassailers who had been celebrating at Buckhurst's rooms the triumph of 'Eton Statesmen'. 1888 *Standard* 18 Feb. 5/2 Christopher North pictures the wassailer of the 'Noctes Ambrosianæ' as revelling in a plenitude of Pandores.

†**b.** One who takes part in Twelfth-night or Christmas-tide 'wassailing'. *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wassellers*...such as in the Country go about from House to House, during the Festival of Christmas, and sing Catches for Drink or other small Boon. 1827 N. Drake *Shakt. & Times* I. vi. 130 The persons thus accompanying the Wassail bowl, especially those who danced and played, were called Wassailers. 1912 J. H. Pastrides in *Folk-lore* XXIII. 455 Wassailers still go round at Randwick, Woodchester, (etc.)., and probably many other villages [in Gloucestershire].

**Wa'ssailing,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Wassail *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of the verb Wassail; carousing, riotous festivity.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1598) 390 Spending all the day, and good part of the night, in dancing, carolling and wassailing. 1641 Milton *Ch. Discipl.* II. 61 That men should bee...push't forward to gaming, jigging, wassailing, and mixt dancing in a Church. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1849) 237 Its feudal hospitalities, and lordly wassailings, have passed away. 1913 J. G. Frazer *Golden Bough* (ed. 3) *Balder* I. 58 Before the wassailing begins, the various fathers perform a curious operation on the arms of their sons.

†**2.** The action (practised in English country districts by the poorer classes, esp. by the children) of going from house to house at Christmas-time, singing a song expressive of good wishes for Christmas and the coming year, usually with the addition of carols or other songs.

1742 *Agreeable Compan.* in Halliwell *Shaks.* (1856) VI. 232 'Twas an ancient custom among poor people to go a wassailing at Christmas...Such poor people were about to get money to drink your health, and for which they carried a box, to put their money in. 1788 K. Hunt *Horchesis* (ed. 2) Gloss. Sussex Wds., *Wassailing*, a name given to the singing of Christmas carols at the doors of houses, a practice ...which is dying out.

**3.** *attrib.*, as *wassailing bowl, song, watch.*

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 294 The maner is, out of one of these Skulles, as out of a wassailing boule, to giue all those the which haue taken an enemie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 321 Meaning to observe a wassailing watch all that night. 1924 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 134 The wailing songs and wassailing songs of darker days.

**Wassailous** (wɒ'seilŏs), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Wassail *sb.* or *v.* + -ous.] Given to revelry.

1893 F. Thompson *Poems* 43 The wassailous heart of the Year is thine.

**Wassailry** (wɒ'seilri). *rare.* [f. Wassail *sb.* + -ry.] Carousing, revelry.

1814 Southey *Roderick* XXIII. 102 No season this for old solemnities, For wassailry and sport. 1860 Sir T. Martin *Horace, Odes* II. xiv. 25 A worthier heir...with a lordlier wine, Than at the feasts divine Of pontiffs flows, your floor in wassailry shall stain.

**Wassal.** *local.* Also wassel. [Of obscure origin.] The stems of seaweed used as a manure.

1797 J. Bailey & Culley *Agric. Northumbld.* 218 The *fucus digitatus* (wassels) is the great favourite. 1890 J. C. Hudgson in *Hist. Berwickshi. Naturalists' Club* XIV. 125 *note*, The stems...become detached from their rocks about October, and are locally named 'bells' or 'wassal'.

**Wassel(l, -ale : see** Wassal, Wassail.

**Wassal(l)age, -edge,** obs. Sc. ff. Vassalage.

**Wassayl(e,** -lle, obs. forms of Wassail.

**Wasse,** obs. f. *was* (see Be *v.*) and Wash *v.*

**Wassel,** obs. f. Wassail; var. Wassal.

**Wassell** : see Vassell, Wassail, Wastel.

†**Wa'sser.** *Obs. rare.* ?Shortened form of next.

1600 *New Metamorphosis* (Wright *Dict.* 1857 s.v.), The horrible huge whales did there appeare: The wasser that make mariners to feare.

†**Wa'sserman.** *Obs.* [a. G. *wassermann* lit. 'water-man'.] A fabled sea-monster partly in the form of a man, supposed to destroy ships.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 24 The grisely Wasserman, that makes his game The flying ships with swiftnesse to pursew. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* II. 2 b, [The devil] entred and inhabited the Sea-monsters, such as the Whale, the Grampoys, the Wasserman, whom they haue suborned and inspyred to lye in wayte for Shipwrecks. 1598—*Lenten Stuffe* 50 The greater giants of Russia & Island, as the whale, the sea horse, the Norse, the wasserman, the Dolphin, the Grampoys.

**Wassh(e,** obs. ff. Wash.

**Wassilaige, wassolage,** obs. Sc. ff. Vassalage.

**Wast** (wɒst, wʌst), and pers. sing. pa. t. of Be *v.*

**Wast,** obs. form of Waist, Waste, West.

**Wastable** (wē·stăb'l), *a.* [f. Waste *v.* + -able.]

**1.** Liable to be wasted; subject to wastage. Also, in *Law*, said of lettings in respect of which a tenant may be chargeable with waste.

1436 *Libel Engl. Policy* 360 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 173 For moche of thys chaffare that is wastable Mighte be forborne for dere and dyssevable. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 179 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 129 For ale pat is newe is wastable with-owten dowt. 1811 Cobb. *Adustible*,... burneable, wasteable. 1824 Hosack *Reports* (1650) 234 A Lessee...must neither take Timber or other things wastable. 1825 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized Indications* Poinct. (1830) 4 After hearing, (from 4 to 6 years are) wastable in reference to a Master.

Vol. X.

†**2.** Of a country: Desolate, waste. *Obs.*

*a* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlviii. 306 Upon a day as they forth wente, In a wastable Contre veramente, where that was scars of vyaunde.

**Wastage** (wē·stéj). [f. Waste *v.* + -age.]

**1. a.** Loss or diminution by waste, leakage, or the like.

1798 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 23 His goods must be shipped on board of some drover, where they seldom fail paying the usual tributes of pilferage and wastage. 1796 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 436 The allowance from a pound to a pound and half for wastage. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 1031 The allowance for the wastage in the drying is rendered perfectly arbitrary. 1852 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 325 The loss and wastage upon hides, from hair, flesh, &c., may be estimated at from 12 to 15 per cent. 1881 Smiles *Engineers* II. 196 The lightermen claimed as their right the perquisites of 'wastage' and 'leakage'. 1904 *Times* 14 Aug. 6/1 The scheme for reinforcement is prepared for a far heavier wastage than has as yet taken place.

**b.** The action of spending uselessly or using wastefully; loss incurred by wastefulness.

1885 H. McCook *Tenants of Old Farm* 118 A noble German lady found...there was a vast wastage in her household. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 178/2 There is a subtlety which becomes often look for in blind wastage of their lives. Not knowing where to seek it, 1906 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 6/6 It is doubtful if anywhere in the world there is a greater wastage of coal than in Bombay.

**c.** The action of laying (land) waste.

1911 Webster.

**2.** The product of wear or decay, waste.

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 538/1 One of eight principal glaciers that find their way like icy wastage of Mount Kazbek.

**3.** *Sc.* A ruined or deserted place; also, a waste piece of ground.

1823 *Galt Gilhaize* xx, Carsewell's family has gone all to drift, and his house become a wastage. 1830—*Lawrie T. wh. it*, The house...was allowed to stand unlaired to be soon a wastage; for the houses received no repair, [etc.]. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 694 Their grand theatre became a wastage. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* CXXX. 82 The houses on either side,—the houses not quite attached to each other, but having a wastage between.

**Wastagine,** var. Warstine *Obs.*, wilderness

**Wastcoat,** obs. form of Waistcoat.

**Waste** (wēst), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 wast, 4–5 waast, 6, 8 waist, 6 wayste, 4–6 *Sc.* wast(e, 3– waste. [a. OF. *waste(e*, dial. variant of *guast(e, gast(e*, partly repr. L. *vāstum*, neut. of *vāstus* Waste *a.* (q.v. for the phonology), partly a verbal noun f. *waster* (*guaster, gaster*) Waste *v.* Cf. Pr. *gast* ravage, waste, Sp., Pg. *gasto* expense, It. *guasto* ravage, damage, injury.

In early ME. the word adopted from OF. took the place of the cognate native Weste of the same meaning. In mod. Eng. the sb. in some senses may be f. Waste *v.*]

**1.** Uninhabited (or sparsely inhabited) and uncultivated country; a wild and desolate region, a desert, wilderness. Somewhat *rhetorical*.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Ac seoben his leoren wenden, nihal pat land unerued, and bicam waste, and nes forped oneral ane boo bicam wilderneasse. *a* 1340 *Hampole Pr.* 3072 Pe kern sco [*sc.* Hagar] dide drine o pat wel, to pat wast pan can hir duell. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xviii. Marthra* 1 In to pe wast of lovers pat mor is callit Terrascone. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3487 Pare many daies be dissert he dryfes with his ost...Be wast & be wildirnes & be waries bourne. *c* 1400 *Sir Torrent* 431 Then these ladyes went into a waste. 1704 Pope *Windsor For.* 80 But see, the man who spacious regions gave A waste for beasts, himself deny'd a grass. 1728 Thomson *Solomon* I. 270 North they travel, Tartary's extended Waste. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* v. 1264 Among the wastes of Kylstone Fell. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxiii, The hundred and twenty-six wastes of Zembla. 1855 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiii. 221 Napoleon was now, in an uncultivated country of almost boundless wastes. 1862 Tennyson *Aylmer's Fi.* 742 Is there no prophet but the voice that calls Doom upon kings, or in the waste ('Repent')? 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* I. 46 Wandering about in a boggy waste. 1883 *Athenæum* 23 May 669/1 A sandy waste, which is scantily clad with heather.

**b.** *transf.* Applied, e.g., to the ocean or other vast expanse of water (often *waste of waters, watery waste*), to land covered with snow, and to empty space or untenanted regions of the air.

1552 in Pendleton *Records Ribbl. Pl.* (1905) 89 A place caulled *vastum vacuum*...the great waste namoche to saie as a place voyde or empitie without the worlde where is neither fier wat[er] nor earthe. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* 61 Lords of the Worlds great Waste, the Ocean, wee Whole Forrests send to Raigne upon the Sea. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 204 Satan...in the emptier waste, resembling Air, Weighs his spread wings. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 310 From that dire Deluge, through the wat'ry Waste,...at last escap'd, to Latium we repair. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 309 P 2 In Satan's Voyage through the Chaos there are several Inanimate glittery Persons described, as residing in that immense Waste of Matter. 1794 Ramsay *Vision* xviii, Millions of myles throch the vyld waste. 1797 De Foe *Syst. Magick* I. vi. 160 The utmost extent of the waste, or expanse of space. 1798 Fore *Donne* III. 88 Where Meotis sleeps, and hardly flows The freezing Tanais thro' a waste of snows. 1797 Gray *Conplat about Birds* 2 The song-thrush there Scatters his loose notes in the waste of air. 1804 Monnt *Th. Richmond Dowager Donegall* 32 Those pure isles...Which bards of old, with kindly fancy, plac'd For happy spirits in th'Atlantic waste! 1808 W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* 308 Whose volcanic fires A thousand nations view, hung like the moon High in the middle waste of heaven. 1818 Scorr *Hrt. Mid. lI.* As these broad black raindrops mingle with the waste of waters. 1864 D. G. Mitchell *Sm. Stor.* 257 A raft is floating upon an ocean waste. 1872 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) III. 82 Showing their bare faces of precipitous rock across the dreary wastes of snow. 1890 M. Conghton *Mist. Ice.* in. (1900) 166 The waste of waters which spread on the east...was not sea-water. 1892 Lady V. Verney *Verney Mem.* I. 198 The 'great level' round the isle of Ely...was...a waste of water in winter.

**c.** *fig.*

1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* III. xvii, His soul a rock, his heart a waste. 1829 T. Hook *Sayings' Ser.* II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 86 If she could at any time...have claimed the smallest spot in the 'waste' of George's memory. 1836 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* III. xiv. 221 The open Inhospitable waste of this world. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxvi, Miss Brass...opening the safe, brought from it a dreary waste of cold potatoes, looking as eatable as Stonehenge. 1901 *Scotsman* 15 May. 7/4 There still stood between the House and its most urgent business a dreary waste of more than a hundred and twenty questions.

**2.** A piece of land not cultivated or used for any purpose, and producing little or no herbage or wood. In legal use applied to land of such kind not in any man's occupation, but lying common.

In some dialects the ordinary word otherwise rare in colloquial use.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 163 Vncoupled pei weenden Bope in wareine & in waste where hem leye lykeih. 14.. *Customs of Malton in Rngl. Misc.* (Shirley) 58 It was granted to the Burgesses of Malton to wast all the Land of the town. 1493 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 466 The Priorres wast in Hasilwod. 1580 in *Lancs. & Ches. Wills* (1884) I. 72 With th' appurtenns of and in the said singular messuages...moores, mosses, wasts [etc.]. 1582 *Durham Wills* (Surtees 1860) II. 54 My house I dwell in,...and the waist adjoyninge upon the same. 1600 *Kwarsch. Wills* (Surtees) I. 229 One waist with two cottages thereupon builded. 1662 in Horsfield *Hist. Lewes* (1824) I. 179 Times for the putting the tenants cattle into the common pastures, wastes, and commons of the manor. 1719 *Case Poor Knight of Steward* 59 That they do not encroach upon the Lord's Waste, by digging Stone, Sand, &c. 1786 J. Roberts *Life* 60 He was permitted to take stone from the waste upon his land and the high road belonging also to him. 1866 Treneow *North. Farmer, Old Style* vii, An' I a' stubb'd Thurnaby waäste. *Ibid.* 3 Thou mun goä to the waäste an' cheer warn't not feeld for a cow; Nowt at all but bracken an' fuzz. 1869 — *Enoch Arden* 709 Behind, With one small gate that open'd on the waste, his childless narrow garden.

†**3.** A devastated region. *Obs.*

1622 Bible *Isa.* lxi. 4 They shall build the olde wastes, they shall raise vp the former desolations. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 572 All the leafie Nation sinks at last; And Vulcan rides in Triumph o're the Waste.

**4.** *Coal-mining.* A disused working; a part of a mine from which the coal has been extracted.

1805 *Parl. Reg. St. Andrew's, New Winzeat* in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 501 *note*, [T]wo men] were drowned in a coal-pit...by the breaking in of water from an old waste. 1808 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 19 Here is this and that Invention found out to drain all great Old Works, or Drowned Collieries. 1873 *Ann. Reg.* 152 The foul air in an old waste of a colliery...took fire, and breaking down the barrier...between the waste and the working, was made the most terrible explosions. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 900 In collieries which...have goaves, creeps, or crushed wastes, the disengagement of the fire-damp from these recesses is much influenced by the state of atmospheric pressure. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 64/2 The space from which the entire quantity of coal has been removed is known as the 'goaf', 'gob', or 'waste'. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 50 § 20 Props shall not be withdrawn from the waste or goaf...otherwise than from a safety road or working.

*transf.* 1812 John Wilson *Agric. Renfrew.* 26 The extent of excavation or waste, in these mines [the alum mines of Hurlet, Renfrew,] is about a mile in length, and the greatest breadth about ⅔ of a mile.

**II.** Action or process of wasting.

**5.** Useless expenditure or consumption, squandering (of money, goods, time, effort, etc.).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7725 Pallor bestes he wolde holde so nobliche Wip so gret pride & wast & so richeliche pat [etc.]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2552 (Gött.) And till þaim speke i allermast pat leids þair loue in mikil wast. 1363 Langl. *Handl. Synne* 7361 Pere sopes yn pryyte, Wyth glotonye, echone leye be; And lyyt ys moche waste nouzt, And gadryng of oother synne. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 15 Pouz pei hem self han ineuere so muche wast of neete and drynk. *Ibid.* 60 For ayenst cristis villyl pourri þei techen in dede worldly coueitise & moche wast in worldly goodis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 813 Men oughten eschue foul largesse that men clepen waste. 1421–30 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 521 Nowould god be wasted of cloth & pryde Y-put were in exyl perpetuel. *c* 1450 Caxton *Life St. Winifride* 2 Ye shall not be to me but in his house of soth metes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 174 b, They consumeth superfluously & spendeth in waste, in one daye, the goodes that were gyuen hym for his necessite many dayes. *c* 1532 *Jud Wks. Introd. Fr. in Palgr.* 903 Waste, *prodigalité*. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 160 Your Meanes is very slender, and your waste great. 1604—*Twel. N.* III. i. 141 *Clocke strikes*. The clocke vpbraides me with the waste of time. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 98 They may not bury the corps in silke or needle-worke ...for this were waste, and a worke of the Gentiles. *c* 1645 Milton *Sonn.* xii. 14 For all this wast of wealth and loss of blood. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 1235 Why these insulting Words, this waste of Breath, and unavailing wind, and secure of Death? 1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr.* iv. vi, Your debts mount high—your plunge in deep grass. 1852 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, Everywhere waste! Waste of manure,

waste of land, waste of muscle, waste of brain, waste of population—and we call ourselves the workshop of the world! 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lvii, All this was done with the greatest despatch, and without the waste of a moment. 1879 Huxley *Sensation* Sci. & Cult. (1882) 246 The maxim that metaphysical inquiries are barren of result, and that the serious occupation of the mind with them is a mere waste of time and labour.

*Proverb.* 1546 [see Hawk 26 6]. a 1592 H. Smith *Serm., Reb. Jonah* (1600) E 8, It is good that men looke before they leape, and take heede what they doe, least they make waste & sorrie before it be long. 1641 Sanderson *Serm. ad Aulam* xiii. (1689) 350 But haste make th waste, we say. 1736 [see Want *sb.*] *Pref.* 1877 Raymond *Sanitat. Mines & Mining* 347 Since there has been less haste there has been less waste.

**b.** Phrases, *to make, † to waste*, to be wasteful.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 299 I bidde neghebour and neighebore, But hold largesse in his mesure, & take *Ist. Cælidr. Lgl. Bk.* 56 in *Sedeen Bk.* 20 Loke þat doo non waste. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xxvii. 144 But thy made grete waast & more than neded, & so hy their outrage & folyes they lefte lord in short tyme. 1854 Paynter *Anc & In. Brooklad* 138 Long lease of his low mind befall the man, his in his willful gust, Makes waste for one, to others all Discourteous, frigid, and unjust!

† **c.** (*Words of*) *waste*: useless talk. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5457 Why falter ye so to ser troulete At þat wiþy of waste, & hi-ne-forþ! 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 187 This exile per cyvyyage that he made spoken wordes of waste [*se superfluum dixisse*]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 134 Thu a fangyl waste.

† **d.** Wasted labour. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2908 Thei armed hem with muchel haste: But it welnyh it was but waste, For thei of Troye were mo than thai[e,] And wel bet yuele when thei were ydo. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6672 Yelow mo ferthir, for it is waste.

† **e.** *In waste*, in vain, to no purpose. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alisaunder* 5905 But all his werk was in waste. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xliv. (Lucy)* 180 Ilat al ves in wast bal wrocht. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 82 He spilleth manye a word in waste That selde is such a speche taste. c 1400 *Beryn* 1232 Beryn...avid after lobbis; but it was al in wast. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. iv. 21 He presupposeth the governaunce, seruyse, and loue of God to be vnknowe of the same men, and ellis in waast he shulde so speke to the men of hem not bifore knowen. c 1470 Harding *Wallace* vi. 916 Than Wallace said: 'Ye, this is but in waist.' 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. viii. 24 Ther hardy Kempis all in wast I let draw, Abbit at vthir, mony vnwist gret. a 1553 Udall *Respitor D.* iv. v, Whether it be in waste, or to some purpose. Horv tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Transl. Epist. A ij, Whatsoever I shoulde write thearin, were but labaur in waste. 1588 Gratton *Chron.* Pref. A iij, I thought to spende no longer time in waste. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. x. 14 [She] Laught at his foolish labour spent in waste. [1725 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 3 So foolish and hurtful a thing it is often to use some words in mere waste, and have no ideas for them]

**f.** A profusion, lavish abundance *of* something.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* vi. 356 And there the garden yields a waste of flow'rs. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Venice* II. ii. Coaling the fair grant breeze which breathed from the flowers and shrubs, that were so disposed as to send a waste of sweets around. 1864 Tennyson *Brook* 50 Poor Philip, of all his lavish waste of words Remains the lean I'v. W. in his teeth.

**g.** An instance or example *of* wasting.

1618 Bacon *Ess., Of Dispatch* (Arb.) 246 Prefaces, and passages, and excusations, and other spee-bred reference to the person, are great wastes of time. c 1650 Howard *Brit.* (1659) 6 Our Parliaments betimes before a wast be made, for Seneca tells you, *Sera est in fundo Parsimonia. Ibid.* 9 Riches may be well compared unto Cisternes or Pooles, which a small stream will easily fill, if there be no leaks or wastes, but small wasts and expences continuing, and not prevented, have decayed many a great mankinde many times. *Whole Duty of Man* viii. § 12. 287 This is a waste of that which is much more precious, our time. 1780 *Mirror* No. 79 P 1 But to win them by the arts of kindness, or attach them by real services, they consider as a fruitless waste of time. 1869 Sir C. Dilke in *Life* (1917) I. vii. 76 You think it a waste of money for me to live at Chelsea. 1909 *Daily Chron.*, 4 Mar. 7/5 The economical woman...keeps a close watch for the small wastes that eat up more principal than the big purchases. 1910 *Encycl. Brit. Index of Disputes* 54 He is somewhat anticlerical: which seems a waste of talent in a country where there is no clericalism.

**G.** Destruction or devastation caused by war, floods, conflagrations, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1562 Dalt tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 433 b, He would doubtlesse haue made an horrible destruction and waste through oute all Germany. 1570 *Levins Manip.* 111, t. ii. 139 Like a cloake, doth hide From weather & waste. 1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal. Februarie* 108. 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, iii. iii. 78 What is it then to me, if impious Warre, Arm'd in the hands of Cruell Butchers, Eate the Child and Mother both at once. 1611 Bible *Num.* xxxiii. 1, 145 Then came the Amorites, and Ægyptians wastes and not the Romanes that gave the wast to Æthyopia. [1] *Ne tamen arma Romana ibi solitudinem fecerunt.* 1652 Austen *Fruit Trees* Ep. Ded., Others having been so great a waste and destruction of Wood. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 304 Were charity...to be the prevailing humour in the world, it would...turn industry into its proper channel, where it would not overflow to make waste and do mischief, nor be lost among the barren sands of wilmay. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 293 In three years they had committed such waste on their native land as thirty years of English intelligence and industry would scarcely repair. 1864 Tennyson *Asylum's F.* 640 When since had flood, fire, earthquake, thunder, wrought Such waste and havock as the idolatries Which [etc.].

† **b.** *pl.* Ravages. *Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* iv. 242 This City doth welnigh loyne to the skirts of Rome...The sieeted flames have heretofore committed horrible waste. 1736 J. H. Browne *Pipe of Tobacco* i. 20 While Wastes of War deform the teeming Coast. 1738 Wesley *Psalms* civ. vii, Plead'st with the Work of thy own Hands, Thou dost the Wastes of Time repair.

† **c.** *concr.* Something wasted or destroyed. *Obs.*

c 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* xii. 10 Then of thy beauty do I question make That thou among the wastes of time must goe. 1600 Suckling *Discont. Col.* iii. (1641) E 4, Shal...This pretious Lovelinesse, Passe with other common things Among the wastes of time?

**7.** *Law.* † Any unauthorized act of a tenant for a freehold estate not of inheritance, or for any lesser interest, which tends to the destruction of the tenement, or otherwise to the injury of the inheritance' (Pollock, *Law of Torts*, 1887, p. 285). *Writ of waste* (= AF. *bref de wast*), a writ commanding the sheriff to inhibit a tenant from an act of waste.

† *Year, day, and waste*: see Year 7 b. *Impeachment of waste*: see Impeachment 4 b.

For examples of AF. *wast* in this use see *Rolls of Parlt.* I. (1278), II. 40/1 (1330), II. 170/2 (1347).

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 60 a Moreover, to enserch what wast was made in the Kynges Maners, fro the tyme of Kynz John...into that day. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 317 His shalt not be lawfull to the same sir william, to cast downe nor trees, nother to make wast, sellyng or distroying, wilfully in the terme aboueseid, but for husebote. c 1475–80 in *Oxf. Stud. Soc. & Legal Hist.* (1914) IV. 225 In an action of waste sayd...before the kinges Justices...for brennyng of a water Mill. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII* c. 31 Preamble, The said Dame Cicile shuld not be therof impeched of Wast. 1544 tr. *Littleton* (1567) xvii. 15 In such cases if the tenant make wast, y^e lessour shal haue against him a writ of Wast. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* i. 53 There be two kinds of Wastes, viz. Voluntarie or actuall, and perniscious. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Gov't. Eng.* ii. i. 13 The King...leaves the noble Crown of England in the base condition of a Farme, subject to strip and waste by mean men; and crosses the Irish Seas with an Army. 1652 tr. *Alb. Bras's Jurisd.* (1653) 331 If a house be uncovered by suddaine tempest, it is not waste, but if the Lessee suffer that to be uncovered, that the Timber rot, it is waste. 1670 *Com. Jrn.* 9 Mar. 732 It is ordered a bill be brought in to make waste, y^e lessour shal have against him a writ of Wast. 1688 Coke *On Litt.* i. 53 There be two kinds of Wastes, viz. Voluntarie or actuall, and perniscious. 1851 N. Bacon *Disc. Gov't. Eng.* ii. i. 13 The King...leaves the noble Crown of England in the base condition of a Farme, subject to strip and waste by mean men; and crosses the Irish Seas with an Army. 1652 tr. *Alb. Bras's Jurisd.* (1653) 331 If a house be uncovered by suddaine tempest, it is not waste, but if the Lessee suffer that to be uncovered, that the Timber rot, it is waste. 1670 *Com. Jrn.* 9 Mar. 732 It is ordered a bill be brought in to make waste, y^e lessour shal have against him a writ of Wast. 1688 Coke *On Litt.* i. 53 There be two kinds of Wastes, viz. (1) the right of the tenant to commit what is called *waste*. 1803 H. Cox *Inst.* ii. viii. 5 § 2 Such injunctions include those against committing waste. 1844 *Penny Cycl.* V. 1 Limited interest in an estate in his occupation, threatens to wastefully cut down timber, or otherwise injure the freehold.

*fig.* 1844 *Penny Cycl.* V. 731 Limited interest in an estate in his occupation, threatens to wastefully cut down timber, or otherwise injure the freehold.

**8.** The consumption or using up of material, resources, time, etc. Also, as distinct from 5.

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 751 He had long maintayned the siege to no small wast and consumyng of his brothers treasure and people. 1577 Harrison *Descr. Engl.* iv. (1877) I. 211 Kill ministers of good things are as torches, a light to others, a waste to none but themselues only. 1609 Shakes. *Lear* ii. i. 102 Yet I may haste put him on the old mans death, To haue th' expence and wast of his Reuenues.

† **b.** The consumption (of candles, etc.) at a funeral or obit. *Obs.*

1477–9 *Rec. Corp. Coventry at Hilll* (1903) 78 For the wast of iij tapres at Cauntons obite, iiij*d*. 1508 in Glascock *Rec. St. Mich. Bacch., Ist. Shortford* (1882) 31 Rec. of Thomas Wheypil for the wast of candell at his wife's burneng, iiij*d*. 1552 *Churchw. Acc. St. Helen's, Abingdon* (Nichols 1797) 141 For wast of the pas-kall and for holye yoyle, 5^s 10*d*. 1556–7 in *Surtees Soc.* CXXIII. 175 Paide to the chandler for waste of 3^li waxe, viij^s.

**9.** Gradual loss or diminution from use, wear and tear, decay or natural process. Now somewhat *rare*.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 300 Deliverances emplyomentes pervyngis lose & wast of the Stuff table Store & other the premisses. 1514–15 *Act 6 Hen. VIII* c. 9 The Castle and Superyore to delyuer again to the same Chelsee ferme of the same Wolle by the same...true...weight the wast thereof excepted. 1547 in Sir J. Williams *Accompte* (Abbotsf. Club 1856) 7 Allowaunce...for the waste of souche plate as was delyuered to the Busshoppes of Bathe & Chichester to be dayly vsed. c 1600 Shakes. *Sonn.* lx. 11 But beauties waste hath in the world an end. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 252 Thinne Ayre is better for Conseruation, then Close: because of the Sound better from Wast. 1676 W. H. *Touch-st. Gold & Silver Wares* 3 Silver is a Mineral...that will endure nelting for a long time without sensible diminution, or any little wast. a 1767 M. Bruce *Life & Wks.* (1914) 289 Each would fondly raise Some lasting monument, to save his name Safe from the waste of Time. 1776 Adam Smith *Wealth of N.* I. v. 41 Workmen...look upon the stone so coated, as not to be in a state of waste or decay. 1820 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 422 In old times the waste of the Sovereign's domains defrayed the waste of time, and the rude hand of reformers. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 272 The odour of all bodies that contain it is weakened and cannot be given out without a waste of their substance. 1830 Lyell *Princ.* I. 135 Rounded pebbles derived from the waste of...the older Apennine rocks. 1840 in Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 339 The regulations now required are not mere ordinary repairs, but ...rebuilding rendered necessary by the waste of time. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 168 Abundant evidence of marine waste may be seen on any visit to the seaside.

**b.** with reference to animal tissues and structures.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xliv. (1495) 257 Yf albomynyacion comyth of fastynge and of waste of the body, then shall ye gyue hym fleshly vyaylle & sweete wyne and Electuaryes. 1693 Ray *Creation* II. (1768) 39 Which was most prouidently design'd to repair the wast that is daily made of them by the frequent Attrition & Mastication. 1695 *New Light of Chirurg. put out* 15 Sudden Waste made upon Fat Persons by violent Fevers. 1702 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 45 Thus far we have consider'd, how our Bodies require the Reparations for those Wastes, that are daily expended in carrying on the Laws of the Animal Oeconomy. 1706 Mrs. D'Arnaay *Camilla* V. 297 To repair the wastes of strength some time yet was necessary. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 247 It was that oblivion of thought which best repairs the waste of nature, and gives elasticity to the weary faculties. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* vi, Reclining in an easy-chair before the fire, pale and weak from waste of blood, was Edward Chester. 1878 B. Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* § 39 Just as no single action of the body takes place without the waste of some muscular tissue, so it is believed, no thought takes place without some waste of the brain.

**c.** A wasting of the body by disease; a consumption or decline. Now only *dial.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 203/35 Wayst of body, *tabes.* 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 171 Clarie...is found by experience verie good for the back, and restoration in a want. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxiv. I. 540 In a word, consumption, or fever hectick. c 1616 Meb. Sherwood *Stories Ch. Catech.* xix. 169 His disease was what the country people in England call a waste. 1878 Mrs. H. Wood *Pomeroy Abb.* I. 49 Her mother went off in a waste. 1893 'L. Allen' *Lisbeth* vii, Your father's family going off one after the other in a waste, and nobody but me to see to them.

**d.** *Phys. Geog.* Material derived by mechanical and chemical erosion from the land, carried by streams to the sea. (W. Suppl. 1902.)

**10.** Phrases. **a.** *To run to waste* (rarely *† to flow at waste*): primarily of liquor, to flow away so as to be wasted; *fig.* of wealth, powers, etc., to be expended uselessly. **b.** *To go to waste*: to be wasted. **c.** † *To grow to waste*: Of a period of time, to approach its end. **d.** *To cut to waste*: lit. to cut (cloth) in a wasteful manner; *fig.* (*? slang*) to apportion (time) wastefully.

**a.** 1521 *Copy of de's Filger.* (Camden) 22 Moche water runneth nowe to waste. 1624 Massinger *Parl. Love* iii, Shall this nectar Run useless, then, to waste? 1641 Milton *Reas. Ch. Govt.* ii. 41 Like that which at first runs from the pen of some vulgar Amoret. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* i. iii, This will secure the workings of your soul from running to waste, and even from standing still, to no purpose or happy account. 1803 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* 30 Mar., You, like me, ..reckon the lapse of time from the waste thereof, as boys let a tap run to waste for the sake of the liquor. 1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 111 Like those fam'd Hours That...kept up their state In sombre palaces; drear allegories O'er willful tyrants; scorning time, unspent Still their repose would through long ages be, And like a sluice, part of the mid-day flow Rippling a warm light, into that secret place Where this old king took pleasure in his grief, Would through that minute drop. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 412 In an age of Scotists and Thomists even this intellect might have run to waste. [1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xxxvii, Upon a table, on which shined the remnant of a candle guttering to waste in the socket.] 1856 Sir H. Brodie *Psychol. & Phil.* I. v. 166 The faculties of the mind...run to waste if neglected. 1863 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. ii. 437 The sewage...ran to waste on the sea-shore. 1900 *Trnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 2 The water...is run to waste.

**b.** a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sidrache* (1510) *G* iij b, There goyth of it [*sc.* of the sea] to wast somdele As ouery man may vyf wel. 1796 H. Jones *Brit. Cicero's Stud. Nat.* II. 144 There is not a particle of vapour in the Universe that goes to waste. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 42 We are importing ship-load after load of guano...while hundreds of tons of poultry manure, which is ascertained to be equal in value, is suffered to go to waste in the United States. 1866 T. L. Stedman *Aphorisms* (ed. 4) 5 Five-sixths at the least of salmon ova go directly to waste.

**c.** 1604 Shakes. *Oth.* iv. ii. 250 The night growes to wast. 1803 Herald *Brit. Chron. Catch Verse Bk.*, And the Firm did not care to send its staff to ladies not in the business; I might cut it to waste. 1863 *Daily's Mag.* Apr. 153 An hour and a half had been 'cut to waste', as the sporting reporters would say, and no tidings ..had been received.

**III.** Waste matter, refuse.

**11.** Refuse matter; unserviceable material remaining over from any process of manufacture; the useless by-products of any industrial process; material or manufactured articles so damaged as to be useless or unsaleable.

c 1430 *Lydgate Dict.* (Cott.) 1471 For gore, and fen, and fill wast, That was out yhast. 1704 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 233 The Refuse or Waste used in the making of Allom, called Allom Slam. 1822 J. Smith *Pract. Customs* (1821) 323 The above Duty on Cotton Wool, or Waste of Cotton Wool,...is to be charged [etc.]. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* 146 It is only in the case of the preceding directions is to enable the economical experimenter to cut up into useful forms, old glass, which would otherwise be thrown away as waste. 1832 J. Smith *Pract. Customs* (1821) 323 The above Duty on Cotton Wool, or Waste of Cotton Wool,...is to be charged [etc.]. 1847 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* 146 It is only in the case of the preceding directions is to enable the economical experimenter to cut up into useful forms, old glass, which would otherwise be thrown away as waste. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 9, I may instance another thing in which the worth of what in many places is valueless refuse is exemplified, in the matter of 'waste', as the dealers in rags called in the trade. 1865 *Technologist* III. 358 All the fibre and gluten wastes of the maize plant which are precipitated during the process of extracting the fibres, are used for manufacturing paper. 1884 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 16 Three children...play'd Among the waste and lumber of the shore, Hard coils of cordage, swarthy fishing-nets, [etc.] 1900 Gibbs E. Wood *Civil War* II. viii, The surrounding country (the aspect of which was scarred by pits, and disturbed by black heaps of 'waste').

† **b.** *fig.* Offscourings, dregs, worthless people.

1598 Nashe *T. Pestilens* F 3 There is a certaine waste of the people for whome there is no vse, but warre.

**c.** = Cotton-*waste*.

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 70 *Waste*, cotton refuse for cleaning machinery. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 315/2 The old order of Engineer Officer...was swaddled in 'waste' rather than sail-cloth, and smelt not of pitch but of warm oil.

**d.** *Printing*, etc. The surplus sheets of a work. See also quot. 1888.

1789 W. Tooke in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 430 What is called in typographical language the waste of works printed at the Academy, is seldom or never preserved. 1841 *Savage Dict. Printing* Bio. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Waste*, surplus sheets of a book beyond the plus copies. Also spoils sheets used for running up colour on a machine, etc.

**e.** *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-mining* 278 *Waste.* 2. (North) very small coal or slack.

**12.** † **a.** An overflow of surplus water. *Obs.* **b.** A pipe, conduit, or other contrivance for carrying off waste matter or surplus water, steam, etc. Cf. *waste-pipe.*

1387 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1312/1 Means is made, by a standard with one socke at Holborne bridge to conueie the wast. *Ibid.* 1348/2 Vp vnto the northwest corner of Leeden hall, where the waste of the first maine pipe ran first this yeare. 1660 P. Boone tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 262 He went and washed his hands at the waste [*Fr. ruisseau*] of the well. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 294 If his made very sloaping on each side 'tis the better, leaving a waste to carry off your waste Water in times of Floods or Rains. 1877 S. S. Hellyer *Plumber* v. 47 If more than one basin is fixed upon the same waste, the size should be proportionately increased. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 48 Have the sink deep, as it can, by plugging the waste with a cock through which the grease may be utilised for washing purposes.

**IV.** Combinations.

**13.** Obvious combinations, as (sense 1) *waste-dwelling* adj.; (sense 5) *waste-preventing* adj., *-preventor* ; (sense 11) *waste-collector*, *-dealer*, *-heap*, *-pit*, *-trip* (Tip *sb.*[5] 4 b).

1892–4 Matthew *Lond. Labour* II. 9. 'I don't know how it is,' said one 'waste collector,' 'but paper gets scarcer or else I am out of luck.' 1876 Mas. G. L. Banks *Manch. Man* xviii. (1900) 79 Nodin . followed up the clue to a 'waste-dealer's who bought at high prices of the workpeople's 'waste' (*i. e.* warp, weft, silk, &c. remaining after work was completed). 1888 W. Westall *Tales & Trad. Switzerland* 289 'A doctor!' What for? interrupted the retired waste-dealer. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* I. iv. 70 The elder gods may have been degraded to 'waste-dwelling demons' 1873 H. Stewart *Conserv. Engineering* v. 153 Unfortunately difficult heat forms what we may call the great 'waste-heap of the universe. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 702/1 Rose Eight is a mighty waste-heap. 1908 R. A. S. Hadfield *Addr. Sheffield* 135 That it was a temple of some sort was indicated . by a 'waste-pit full of sheep-bones, apparently those of sacrificial victims. 1884 McLaren *Sanitation* 173 With 'waste-preventing machines much more progress has been made. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 94/1 New English Wash-out and noiseless 'Waste-preventor Cistern. 1906 *Victoria County Hist. Cornw.* I. 520/2 The rock is . useless to the 'waste tip, and the good to the deposit floors.

**14.** Special combinations : **waste-basket** (now chiefly *U.S.*) = Waste-paper *basket*; hence **waste-basket** *v.*, to put in the waste-paper basket; **waste-bin**, a dustbin ; **waste-book** *Acting* (see quot.) ; **waste-cock**, a cock to regulate the discharge of waste water ; **waste-drain**, a drain for carrying off waste water ; **waste-gate**, -**hatch**, a gate or hatch for regulating the outflow of waste water ; **waste-hole**, a hole for the discharge of superfluous water : **waste-inspector**, a water-company's or municipality's official employed to report cases of waste of water ; **waste-man** *Mining*, a man whose duty is to inspect the waste (sense 4), and to secure the proper ventilation of the mine ; **waste-pallet** *Organ-building*, see Pallet *sb.*[3] 6 ; **waste-pipe**, a pipe to carry off waste water or steam ; **waste-sluice**, a sluice for regulating the outflow of waste water ; **waste-spout**, a spout for the issue of waste-water ; **waste-way** *U.S.*, a channel for the passage of waste water ; **waste-weir** (see quots.) ; **waste-yard** ? *Obs.*, ? a yard for the reception of odds and ends of little value.

1850 Lytton *My Novel* II. vi. Public men have such odd out-of-the-way letters that their 'waste-baskets are never empty. 1908 'Holme Lee' *B. Godfrey* ix, Basil tore the paper . and threw it into the waste-basket. 1913 *Webster Daddy-Long-Legs* 35 If my letters bore you you can always toss them into the waste-basket. 1900 Mark Twain' *Man that corrupted Hadleyburg* 1 Indefinite testimonies might properly be 'waste-basketed, since there is evidently no lack of definite ones procurable. 1915 *Daily Tel.* 14 Aug. 10/7 If all the scraps . be carefully kept instead of . put into the 'waste-bin or burned. 1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Glass.* (ed. 2) 66 (Newcastle) 'Waste-boxes, boxes in which the waste water of the pumping-pit is conveyed from the rings. 1884 *Sc. Secretary Bk.* 1. iv. 11. 217 He is able . so to adjust the cock that the requisite supply shall go to the boiler, without entirely shutting the 'waste-cock. 1853 *London Inspect. Archit.* 34 A large cock in the bottom of the receiving tank, communicating with the 'waste drain. 1707 R. Mylne *and Rep. Thames* 11 The 'Waste and Buck Gates are also repaired. 1795 *Act* 4 *&* 5 *Geo. c.* 8 (21) § 5 One Scuttle or small Hatch of a Foot Square in the 'Waste Hatch or Water course in the direct Stream wherein no Water is to be Stanch'd. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 436/1 The same adjustment may be made by stopping the pump, and letting out the water from the 'waste-holes. 1898 *Daily News* 17 June 3/3 A turncock and 'waste inspector, in the service of the Vauxhall Waterworks Company. 1822 J. Hodgson in J. Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 96 The 'waste-men or ventilators of the mine. 1885 E. Mackenzie *Wines Northumbrld.* (ed. 2) I. 90 *Wastemen*, persons that daily examine the state of the workings, and see that they are properly ventilated. 1851 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Wastemen*, Engineering old men who are employed in building pillars for the support of the roof in the waste, *i.e.* old workings and airways; and in keeping the airways open and in good order. 1881 C. A. Edmunds *Organs* 44 The 'waste-pallet is an arrangement corresponding to the safety-valve in the steamboiler. c 1518 *Archæologia* L VIII. 301 Bobe þe suspirel and þe 'waste pipe swoyde ther water in a gotir of breke. 1589 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 262/1 *Aqua cadueca*,...water that runneth ouer, or at the waste pipes or spouts of conduit heads. 1712 J. James tr. *La Blond's Gardening* 211 To empty the Bason entirely ... which is done by means of . a Waste-Pipe at the Bottom of it. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 39 The steam which issues from the waste-pipe being cooled down by contact with the cold air. 1907 A. Hodges *Iron. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 35 To connect the waste pipe with nearest drain or gutter. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 327 As a 'waste-sluice, the most convenient and simple, in a mill of this kind, is the trap-sluice. 1667 Flavel *Saint Indeed* (1754) 19 Few words run then at the 'waste spout. 1881 Thayer *Log-cabin to White Ho. xii.* 140 There was a 'waste-way just ahead. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 621/2 Above the . is a waste-way . over which the surplus water can pour. 1793 R. Mylne *Rep. Thames* 23 There was Seven Inches of Water running over at the 'Waste Weir at Boulter's Old Lock. 1840 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail Roads U. S.* 264 *Waste weir*, a water gauge ; a cut at the side of a canal by which the surplus water of canal is discharged. 1868 *Lond. Encycl. Sc.* 516/1 There is also the waste-weir, for the purpose of preventing a reservoir embankment being overtopped by floods. c 1620 Middleton *Lov. in v.* i. (1903) 460 Theire houses, (which haue no such 'wastyardes about them as euery Farmer house hath vn). 1826 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 280 And rick-yard, farm-yard, waste-yard, horse-paddock, and all round about, seemed to be swarming with fowls, ducks, and turkeys. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xi, In the waste-yard out-side [the mill], the steam from the escape pipe, the blows from a hammer, and old iron, the slipping of cords, the ashes everywhere, were shrouded in a veil of mist and rain.

**Waste** (wēst), *a.* Also **4–7 wast**, **4–5 waast**, *Sc.* **wast**(**e**, **5–7** (chiefly *Sc.*) **waist**, **6 waiste**, *Sc.* **waest**. [ME., a. OF. *wast*, dial. var. of *guast*, *gast* = Pr. *gast*, Pg. *gasto*, It. *guasto* :—Rom. **wastus*, repr. (with influence from the cogn. and synonymous OHG. *wuosti*) L. *vāstus* waste, desert, unoccupied (distinct from *vāstus* Vast *a.*).

The adopted OF. word took the place of the early ME. Weste *a.* (also **westful*). In modern use it seems to have coalesced with the contracted pa. pple. of Waste *v.*, and with the attributive use of Waste *sb.*]

**1.** Of land : Uncultivated and uninhabited or sparsely inhabited. Sometimes with stronger implication : Incapable of habitation or cultivation ; producing little or no vegetation ; barren, desert.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 205 (160) Ala-boute in a waste loude. c 1387 Trevisa (Rolls) I. 281 Egipte...hath more wyldernes and waste londe, for grete breinnynge and het of pe sonne, þan Europa. c 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. ix. 787 He wende pe þaire wane of his men Þat ware, þat was nocht yit ben Inhabyt, bot was waast. 1470–85 Harding *Chron. Cvrsor.* 188 My Spreit I leif to Dione,. To walk with hir in waist Affrik and Willie. c 1500 *Melusine* l. 18 He began within her land, that was waast & desolate for to byld. Fyue tounes & strong Castels. 1535 Coverdale *Ierem.* xii. 2 They ..pitched their tentes in ye waast deserte. 1598 Barckley *Felic. I.* 109 Westward directly Eastward, hauing a waste on the South side of vs, and a waste desert on the North. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* xii. 22. 20 Vagabonds, wandring abroad in a waste Wilderness. c 1650 Sc. W. Mons. *Annals* (1819) I. 4 Yea, at the dreadfull voyce of God, Wast Kadesh durst quakes. 1653 Holyoke *Preceptia, Prov. Wast* 1, xii. 29 Thirsty men neglected & perished for want of Refreshment, being without water and wast. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 7, I... now sing.. Recover'd Paradise to all mankind,...And Eden raised in the waste Wilderness. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xi, He therefore plodded patiently on through a waste and savage wilderness. 1843 De Quincey *Cæsura* Wks. 1890 VII. 436 Ceylon lies, in respect of waste ground, in the worst of being irreclaimable—for of waste ground in the sense of being unoccupied she has an infinity.

**b.** *fig.* Desolate, barren. Cf. 4.

1667 W. M. Pryn *Poems, Farewell* iv, And still the shadow hope was rife That once in this waste weary life My path might cross with thine. 1830 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* V. xii. 215 The world, in which our duties lie, is as waste as the wilderness. 1841 *Sir. Perceptions* 314 Heresy and waste was the condition of the Church. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* III. vi, Our conversation was waste and logical, I forget what. 1870 Lowell *Study Windows* (1886) 260 Is not waste, parlor and shop ? herring til God was mast. 1382 Wyclif *Gen. xxii.* 14 For he hath maad my couenant wast [Vulg. *irritum fecit*] 1388 In the wildirnesse of Sin. 1600 *2nd Pt. Fayens* iv. 229 Alle pe lordes ben but wast Wipoute contemplacion. c 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 211 My wast expens y wole with resoun restreyne. Now, cosyn, I wot wel, pei ben but herying til God was mast. 1382 Wyclif *Gen. xxii.* 14 For he hath maad my couenant wast [Vulg. *irritum fecit*] 1388 In the wildirnesse of Sin. 1600 *2nd Pt. Fayens* iv. 229 Alle pe lordes ben but wast Wipoute contemplacion. c 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 211 My wast expens y wole with resoun restreyne. Now, cosyn, I wot wel, pei ben but wast, parlor þan ȝ

lif, in wast seruaunte, in grete fatte hors & nedles. 1382 — *Ecclt.* ii. 26 To the seruaunt forsothe he yaf trauelyng and wast bisynesse [Vulg. *curam superfluam*]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lolf.* 75 Sum suppryse wip serail chargia our religion, pat our Lord Jhu Crist wold to be fre, in no wast halowing of sacramentis, so pat he condicioun of Jewis is more sufficable. 1618 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 34 The waste boughs closely and skilfully taken away, would giue vs store of fences and fewell.

†7. Of time, leaves in a book: Spare, unoccupied, unused. Of buildings & rooms: Unoccupied, empty. *Obs.*

1374 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 140 Se se out throw this land How many waist Kirkes thai dois stand But outher Prayers or Preiching. 1586 Greene *Orphorion* (1599) 4. I would beatow a little waist time while my Sheepe graze so hard, to holde thee chat. 1615 *Life Death* etc. *Lady Jane Gray* C 2, Offering to close vp the book she found in the end thereof some few leaues of clayne paper vnwritten: . . shee took penne and inke and in those waist leaues wrote a most Godly and learned exhortation. 1717 Berkeley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1901 IV. 253 A large waste inn (i.e. little inhabited for the size) and therefore the quantity packt of some nobleman). 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 217 It is frequently to be met with in large waste houses. 1729 Law *Serious C.* xii. (1732) 200 All the hours that are not devoted either to repose, or nourishment, are look'd upon by Success as waste and empty time. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 156, I was locked up, and confined in a waste room. *Ibid.* III. 64, I took up my lodging in a waste hut. *Ibid.* 69 We took shelter in a waste barn.

†8. Of a person: ? Worthless. *Obs.*

1618 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xlvi, Is this the Sir, who, some wast wife to winne A knight-hood bought, to goe a wooing in?

**9.** Of materials, incidental products, etc.: Eliminated or thrown aside as worthless after the completion of a process; refuse.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* Pref. A 3, How waste and useless would many of the Productions of this and other Countries be, were it not for Industry? 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 89 Temporary manures, such as soot, horse-dust, . . waste yeast . . and liquid manures, . . are most advantageously applied on the surface of the ground. 1865 Dickens *Perrit's* ix, The waste droppings of the pump. 1868 Johnson *Metals* 38 One striking feature of the practical science of the day is the attempts which it has made to utilise the waste products of our manufactures. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. of Dyers* XVI. 4 It is obtained from the waste liquors. 1907 J. A. Hobson *Elem. Philogr.* (ed. 6) 33 To carry off the waste developed and washing water.

**b.** Said of the excreta of animal bodies.

1826 A. Combe *Digest.* (1830) 254 Besides the bowels, there are several other channels by which the waste materials of the body pass out. 1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 16 The duty of the kidneys is to filter waste matters from the blood as it circulates through them.

**c.** *Waste water*, superfluous water, or water that has served its purpose, allowed to run away; also *attrib.* as *waste-water pail, pipe. Waste steam*, the superfluous steam discharged from a cylinder of a steam-engine; also *attrib.* in *waste-steam pipe.*

*c* 1450 in *Archæologia* III. 301 The gates of brake for pe waste watre. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Gendre's Gardening* 217 This Waste-Water is carried away in Drains. 1791 R. Muller in *Repr. Inform. Manual. Navig.* 33 A gauged long wer should be run across the River, where the water by hawk-locks and another, upon the Stone tumbling key. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 122 The waste steam pipe is nominally of cast iron or copper, terminating at its upper end in a bell mouth. *Ibid.* 148 The oil, &c, put into the cylinders is rapidly carried away through the waste water pipe into the sea. 1842 [J. Nicholson] *Oper. Artif. Dict.* 323 When the steam in the boiler exceeds its proper pressure it raises the valve and escapes by a pipe called the waste-steam-pipe. 1854 Rowatt & Richardson *Chem. Trades* (ed. 2) I. 100 A current of hot air produced by a fan driven by the waste steam from the apparatus. 1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6130, Foot bath, hot-water jug, and waste-water pail. 1886 J. Barrowman &c. *Mining Terms to Waste-water*, water from old workings.

**d.** Of manufactured articles: Rejected as defective. Also, (e.g. of sheets of a printed book) produced in excess of what can be used.

1843 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 205/1, 2 per cent. of waste-castings are made. 1888 [Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Waste words*, defective or rejected cards, usually sold at a cheaper rate than perfect ones. 1894 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. xvii, Intended for the purpose of using up waste negatives by mounting.

**10.** As complement in certain phrases. † *To fly waste*, of a missile, to be discharged uselessly (*obs.*). *To run waste* (? rare) = to run to waste (see Waste *sb.* 10).

1797 Bevnon *Hunter Treas.* II. 230 But this good broomstaff is'er flies waste. 1884 *Q. Rev.* CLVII. 21 Savages which suffer the productions of the earth, as well as their own moral and intellectual faculties, to run waste. 1891 M. Muirhead *Dowie Gird in Russia* xx. 274 The talent that was running waste among the village people.

**Waste** (wēst), *v.* Forms: 3–7 **wast**, 4 **wost**(*e*, *Sc.* **vast**, 4–5 **waast**(*e*, 5 **vaast**, 5–6 **wayst**(*e*, 5–6, 8 **waist**, 6 *Sc.* **vaist**, 3– **waste**. Also 4–5 *pa. t.* and *pple.* **wast**(*e*. [a. AF., north-eastern OF. *waste-r*, dial. var. of OF. *guaster*, *gaster* (mod.F. *gâter* to spoil) = Pr. *guastar*, *gastar* to devastate, spoil, Sp. *gastar*, Pg. *guastar*, to spend, devastate, It. *guastare* to devastate, damage:—Com. Rom. **wastare*, repr. (with influence from the cognate Teut. synonym **wōstjan*: see Waste *v.*) L. *vāstāre*, f. *vast-us* adj. desert, desolate, whence Com. Rom. **waste*: see Waste *a.* The verb first appears in English in the 13th c., superseding the native synonym Weste *v.*, which is etymologically cognate.]

**I.** Transitive uses.

**1.** To lay waste, devastate, ravage, ruin (a land or town, its inhabitants, property, etc.).

*c* 1205 Lay. 29275 [They] scullen bi lond wasten and pine leoden asien. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2880 He land pat was so riche [they] wasted al to nojte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19479 Fast pai rav...Gain hali kirc, it for to wast. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1178 He wast wyth were pe wones of borges. 1463 *Stat. Realm Rich. III*, 3 *Edw. IV* c. 1 § 185 Bringing destroying and wasteyng al the said Ormond is lordships. 1538 Coverdale *2 Chron.* xxiv. 7 Athalia & hir sonnes haue wasted the house of God. 1591 Spenser *Daron. Church. Sonp of Moses & Israelites* v, Euen as the fire doth the stubble waste. 1596 *Edw. III*, iii. iii. 21 Some of their strongest cities we have wonne,..And others wasted. 1631 Gouge *God's Judgm.* I. 279 Fast pai rav...Gain hali kirc, it for to wast. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1178 He wast wyth were pe wones of borges. 1663

1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 147 He that of custome hath had haboundance of moneye and goth and dispendith hit follily and wasteth hit away. *c* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xvii. § 5 When Mary to testifie the largeness of her affection, seamed to waste 'away a gift upon him. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 532 P 2, I have a Sot of a Husband...that wastes away his Body and Fortune in Debaucheries. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 340 Those who had wasted away their Substance.

c. *absol.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 339, I bidde noght that thou do wast, But hold largesce in his mesure. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 147 Yet she doth harme and domage to hym that so wasteth. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. lix, Now he exacted of all, wasts in delight, Riots in pleasure. *a* 1641 Mun *England's Treas.* (1664) 218 Let Princes oppress,...Usurers bite, Prodigals wast. 1855 Bohn *Handbk. Prov.* 551 Waste not, want not.

d. *To waste words, breath,* †*wind*: to speak to no purpose; † also *refl.* in the same sense. Similarly *to waste paper, space* (i. e. in writing).

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troye* 988 Butall baire wordis bai wast, & baire wynd alse. *c* 1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* (Bann.) Of his mater I do but waistis wind. 1589 Melbancke *Philotimus* K iv b, Meaning no more at this time to build Castles in the aire, nor waste my wordes to a fruitlesse end. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*, *for M.* II. ii. 72 You but waste your words. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worces.* I. 91 That I may not hereafter wast my scaile in tedious repetitions. 1680 Bohun *Ind. Evang.* iii. ii, In vain are complaints you vainly waste your Breath. 1709 Berkeley *Ex. Vision* § 137 As for the idea of motion in abstract, I shall not waste paper about it. 1812 Shelley *Adonais* Prose Wks. 1888 I. 226 O that many words were wasted, and a great deal of blood shed. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 214 Without wasting any more time and space, I will proceed to describe the drawings. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* xxxv. 405 We need not waste words in coming to our point.

e. To spend, pass, occupy (time, one's life, etc.) idly or unprofitably. Const. *in, on,* † *to,* and *inf.* Also with *away*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 250 To wast þair lif in trofel and truandis. 1498 *Act* 31 *Hen. VII* C. 28 § 4 Divers artificers ..waste moch part of the day and deserve not their wagis. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* I. 19 The way, Wherin they wasted had so many yeres. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* I. i. 51 But wherefore waste I time to counsaile thee. 1606 *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 4 He dukes, dreames, and wastes The Lampes of night in reuell. 1694 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 103 Not to wast pretious time...in dealing with their filth. 1696 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Extasie* I, I have no time in Complements to wast. 1705 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. Oh indolent! to waste thy hours away! 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. vi. 418 When Clodius rose afterwards to speak, he endeavoured to wast the time so, as to hinder the coming to any resolution that day. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xv, But I waste your time, sir,...I know its value, sir. I will not detain you. 1881 *Temple Bar* LXI. 402, I am afraid mademoiselle allowed you to waste a great deal of time in novel-reading. 1884 *Munch. Exam.* 21 May 5/1 The sole aim of the mover.. was to waste the time of the House. 1896 Horsman *Shropshire Lad* xi, Lads that waste the light in sighing.

f. To employ, put forth (energy, effort, qualities, talents) uselessly or without adequate return. Also *refl.* Const. *on, upon, over.*

1390–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 238 He wiste no wisdam wolde to lere. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 349 And kep that thou thi witt ne waste Upon thi thoght in aventure. 1708 Young *Love of Fame* iii. 72 Not all on books their criticism waste. 1864 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* III *& Cent.* 90 It seems to us that in general too many lamentations are wasted over lost books. 1898 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 258 The temporary character of the subjects on which he wasted himself. 1868 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* I. 56 We..waste our labour on things that vanish. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* I. 10 Good canvas lost, and noble effort wasted. 1878 Jevons *Primer Polit. Econ.* 30 No one is so foolish as to spend his labour in a place where it would be wasted altogether. 1886 ' Maxw. Gray' *Silence Dean Maitl.* I. ii. 18 He did not, however, waste much thought on this trivial incident. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* I. vi, To...retire to Spain with the memories of talents wasted, for the most part, over things vain and vile.

g. To bestow *on* unappreciative recipients.

1750 Gray *Elegy* 56 Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, And waste its sweetness on the desert air. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xviii, Why, Nature, waste thy wonders on such men?

h. In *passive* (without distinct reference to an agent). Of something appealing to intelligence or sensibility: To fail to be appreciated; to make no impression *on* a person. Of a person, his qualities or abilities: To have no opportunity for distinction or usefulness.

1898 A. M. Binstead *Pitch 'Un & Pelican* 1 Our kindly host...gave us his unsolicited opinion that two such amusing liars as we were utterly wasted on after-dinner oratory. 1901 'G. Thorne' *Last Cruise* v. 39 'I've thought it would have been on the music hall stage, vicar,' Mrs. Stiffe said, 'you're wasted in Hornham.' *Mod. A.* I had not read the book, the allusion was wasted on me. He is a profound scholar, but quite wasted as a village schoolmaster.

†i. To fail to take advantage of, 'throw away' (an opportunity).

1856 Thrlwall *Greece* xxvi. 411 The secret correspondence...which induced him to waste the irresistible opportunity of a safe retreat. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 111 It was not likely that they would waste an opportunity thrust upon them by Providence.

j. To cause or allow (a substance, physical energy) to be used unprofitably or lost.

1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 3 Every particle of matter may be used, and none wasted. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 466 If these bridges of communication be small, much power will be wasted. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* II. viii. 265 A considerable portion of the heat...is wasted by radiation. 1900 *Congress* June 400/2 The invaluable by-products are all wasted and escape into the air in the form of smoke.

10. To reduce (paper, books) to 'waste': see Waste *sb.* 11 d.

1883 *Perth. Rev.* Apr. 409 Many unsaleable books...are 'wasted', that is, are sent out to the mill, ground up, pulped down, and made again into paper.

II. Intransitive uses.

11. a. Of a person or living thing: To lose strength, health, or vitality; to lose flesh or substance, pine, decay; to become gradually weak or enfeebled.

*c* 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 336 In unlust for to kep, wasti, & wake. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (1495) 762 The adder abideyneth and wastyth many dayes: that his skynne may so the eaderer be departyd fro the flesh. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1057 A tre without more, That may not bowe, ne bere fruyt, but rost & euer wast. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 474 *in Macro Plays* 30 Wan beyr hase wastyde ley feyntnes, Than febyll ber wyttis. 1622 Wither *Fair-e Verina* K 4 b, Shall I wasting in Dispaire, Dye because a Woman faire? 1632 Br. Hall *Occas. Meditt.* lxii. (1633) 144 I had rather waste with worke, then batten with ease. 1658 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 210 His grief wasted him, and his lower whilst his spirits bravely wasted. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* III. v, Yes, gurmandize, and thrive, while we are wasting in mortification. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 424 Her appetite declines, her strength and flesh gradually waste. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxiv, In these slow tortures of his dread disease, the unfortunate Richard lay wasting and consuming inch by inch. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xx, Life wastes fast in such wigwam. Cradle line had of late but too often kept. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 925 The patient is wasting. *Ibid.* VII. 216 Almost simultaneously...the deltoid begins to waste.

b. with *away*.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 371 Pe bridde age is elde ..and wasteb alle away. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4035 Wyndir wastid away, warmyt the ayre. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 1. 25 In cas be lycoure wast a-way, caste more of be same wyne be-to. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 23 If dryve wether come, it is good to gyll drye & hunte vpon that grounde, and waste away. 1611 Bible *Job* xiv. 10 But man dyeth, and wasteth away. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 289 P 2 Were we not daily wasting in intelligent Superstition, are we should sometimes be over-charged with Multitudes, and at others waste away into a Desert. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 96 *note*, Such a degree of Scurvy consumes the Flesh to waste away. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 19 From this time Independence perceptibly wasted away. 1841 J. H. Newman *Corr.* (1891) I. 165 For centuries she [sc. the Church] has been wasting away, because persons have made the best of things and palliated serious faults. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlviii, I know I'm wasting away...Burgess and Co. have altered my measure. I'm but a shadow of myself.

c. *Sport.* To reduce one's weight by training. Also *refl.* (with *down*).

1763 Colman *Jealous Wife* v. 82, I have waisted three Stone at least. 1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 186/1 Fitzpatrick (a jockey) caught cold in wasting, and died in the prime of life. 1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 398 Being occasionally called upon to waste, he [a jockey] feels the inconvenience of his disorder. 1856 H. *Ainsworth & Paddock* ii. 28 He mounted the sweaters, and wasted himself down to a ghastly 7 st. 3 lb. shadow. 1880 W. Pay *Racehorse in Training* xvii. 169 When my father trained, he often wasted by walking on the Downs.

12. Of material things: To be used up or worn away; to lose substance or volume by gradual loss or wear or decay. † Of the moon: To wane (*obs.*).

*c* 1325 E. Eng. Allit. *Poems* (*Cotharinus*) 1161 Pyllyng of hir stole & stane mone nedlinge rot, & wast, & wane. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2165 Considereth eek how that the laste stowe, Which was biknowe with resons and witt, Yit waxeth it as it lyth by the weye. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) 39 And þanne þei schewen the lussch þat brenned & wasted nought. 1546 Bale *Image, Irel. & Pope* F 232 b, Many synge mourninges of goble, whiche turned into snowe and wasted to water. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Euphues had rather shrinke in the wetting then wast in the wearing. 1600 Sylvester *Conant. Pantom.* 1 Ere Small-moone and cut downe his corne with sythe, the moone wasting. 1618 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* vi. (1623) 12 Dry wall of earth, and dry Ditches, are the worst fences that can be, for they doe waste the soonest. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* B 5, The whilst a Candle in the Kitchin wasts. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 513 Cassene and in Perfume, by sending too fast, Company, after Company: But rather hearken how they waste, and send Supplies proportionably. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 287 A pint of spirituous liquor would waste a quart. 1873 Gosse *On Viol & Flute* 53 Plashing with slow feet The warm and tidal pools that wasted there. 1877 J. W. Forster in *Mem.* (1919) 191 'The more the marble wasted,' said...Michael Angelo, 'the more the statue grows'.

b. Of riches, non-material things: To be consumed or spent; to dwindle or disappear by gradual loss or diminution.

*a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 3254 (Dubl. MS.) All be welth of bis werld wayles be last To carayon & curupcion. *c* 1410 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* bkiii. (MS. Ashm. 39) 85 Of pat-is riches bat is transytorie Wastib but litil & litil, Bot is abide. *c* 1460 Capgrave *Chron. Eng.* (Rolls) 104 In his tyme that empire wasted and went to nowt. 1530 Palsgr. 729/1 All worldly wealth but the grace of God wasteth. 1598 Shakesp. *Merch. of Venice* III. iii. 35 Joy graueth in sence, like snow in water wastes. 1696 Cowley *Mistress, Bathing in River* iii, And with swift current to those joys they haste, That do as swiftly waste. 1697 Austen *Fruit Trees* II. 30 As grace growes, Corruption wasteth or is kept under. 1715 Watts *Div. Songs, Vanegrand* 19 His money still wastes, till he starves or he begs. 1887 Rebee *Chr. Y., 2 Sund. Lent*, If the treasures of thy wrath could waste. 1834 Hy. Martineau *Eastern* I. 60 Her traffic declined, her wealth wasted, and she knew, at length, the curse of paupertism.

†13. To lose quality, deteriorate, spoil. (Cf. 6.)

1669 Stubbs *Mariner's Mag., v.* xii. 66 How to make Powder [so that] it shall not wast with time.

14. Of time: To pass away, be spent. (Often conjugated with *be.*) ? *Obs.*

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2678 The night is wastid, and he lyth a-slepe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9200 Comyn was hy comen bat be cold wyntur Was wastid & went with his wete shoures. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 99 The lif of man upon erthe dothe dayles wast and drawith to thair ende. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. Ecl. (1598) 430 The day was so wasted that onely this riming Seatine..could obtaine favour to be heard. 1634 Foun *Perk. Warbeck* I. iii, The night doth waste. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 596 So long they flew with inconsiderate haste, That now their afternoon began to waste. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 39/1 The season wasted apace. 1767 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IX. viii, I will not argue the matter: Time wastes too fast. 1834 I. Noon *Exam. Shakr.* Wks. 1846 II. 266 We are losing the day; it wastes toward noon and nothing done. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxv, The month of courtship had wasted.

**Waste**, obs. form of Waist.

**Waste-book**. *Book-keeping.* [Waste *a.*] A rough account-book (now little used in ordinary business) in which entries are made of all transactions (purchases, sales, receipts, payments, etc.) at the time of their occurrence, to be 'posted' afterwards into the more formal books of the set.

In the simpler forms of book-keeping the Day-book and the Journal were not distinguished from the Waste-book. 1 J. Sabee *Every Man's Math. Sec.* 115 As appeareth in the wast booke. 1615 R. Cocke *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 45 Broad cloth; memord, as appeareth per particulers in the wast booke. 1673 T. Bisco *Merch. Accompts* 1 Wast-Book, consisting of a memorial (vulgarly called a 'Waste book') and a 'Cash book'. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2480/4 With a Waste-Book, Journal and Ledger. 1707 Hatton *Merch. Mag.* 8, v. *Fast an Account*, To transcribe, or enter what is written in a Merchant's Waste-Book into the Journal. 1808 Scott *Rob Roy* ii, This is a kind of Waste-book, in which all the rear actions of the day, emptions, draughts, commissions, and advices, are entered miscellaneously. 1832 *Sutherland Farm Rep. Sel. Agric. Comm.* 111 The Waste-books...are carried on from week to week throughout the year. 1849 Freese *Comm. Chinese-bk.* 56 The Waste-Book, called also sometimes the Day-book or Diary.

**Wasted** (wēi'stĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Waste *v.* + -ed.]

1. Laid waste, devastated, ravaged, ruined.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/2 Wastyd, *vastatus.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 29 No mony wastit wanis. 1587 *Mirr. Border Pirates* (1845) 19 This wasted and ransacked estate. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 23 As I earnestly did fixe mine eye Upon the wasted building. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 102 If passing Asian or European shore Of conquered Land, Punic rage. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 689 Perfidious Mars..o'er the wasted World in Triumph rides. 1823 Scott *Pirate* III. 54 Of wasted fields and plundered flocks the Borderers doubtless may complain. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* XV. IV. 514 The sufferings of the thrice wasted Palatinate. 1871 Farrar *St. Paul. Cong.* (1876) IV. xviii. 197 Destroyed or wasted houses.

2. Diminished or reduced in substance, bulk, strength, health, etc.; worn, decayed.

1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen & Wedo* A waistit wolroun. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. 51 Neither may we pretend this excuse that we want power, and like wasted debters be not able to pay. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* v. i. 382 Now the wasted brands do glow. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iv. 36 *Lucil. Learn.* 74 No more then it follows that a wasted man must get a child unlusti, because he himself is consumptive. 1700 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmorland Antidot.* vii. 43 Laid to Fallow, that it may...recover its wasted Strength. 1785 Cowper *Task* I. 128 Youth repairs His wasted spirits quickly. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xx, Regardless her pale face and wasted figure as much out of sight as she could. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 373 And the thin, wasted, shining summer rills Grew joyful with the coming of the rain. 1883 *Harper Mercury Hearts* xv, 'You are better, Moore?' Tom asked. ..'No,' said the farmer in a wasted voice. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 166/2 Ribs and bones showed through their wasted bodies.

†b. Morally marred or defiled. *Obs.*

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 188/b2 Thou comest..whyche are sore and clenes to be baptysed and washen of me that am foule and wasted.

3. Spent, put forth, bestowed, used, unprofitably; squandered; misused; 'thrown away'.

1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. xx. § 12 But let them take great care lest they intrench upon more necessary employments, and so fall under the charge and censure of wasted time. 1781 Cowper *Conversation* 353 Our wasted oil unprofitably burns. 1785 — *Task* IV. 225 A world, much pleased when idle most; Whose only happy are their wasted hours. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oedipus King* 165 Say what thou wilt 'twill be but wasted breath. 1894 Lowell *Among My Books* II. 334 His blighted hopes and wasted opportunities.

4. Of time: Gone by, elapsed.

*c* 1800 Shakes. *Sonn.* cxvi, When in the Chronicle of wasted time, I see discriptions of the fairest wights. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 13 The remnant of his wasted span.

**Wasteful** (wēi'stfŭl), *a.* Forms: see the sb. and -ful. [f. Waste *sb.* + -ful.]

1. That causes devastation, desolation, or ruin; that destroys or lays waste.

*a* 1300–1400 *Curs. M.* 18250 (Gött.) Pu prince of insel and pu duke Of wastiful werk, sir belzebuk. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 32 What man, with more vehemency of voyce giveth warning eyther of a wastefull beaste, or of a spoyling theefe than this [dog]? 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 2 When Winters wastfull spight was almost spent. 1598 Shakes. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 23 Wasteful vengeance. 1615

G. Sandys *Trav.* iv. 158 England...defended by the Sea from wastfull incursions. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 620 Yonder World, which I so fair and good created, and had still Kept in that state, had not the folly of Man Let in these wastful Furies. 1783 Burke *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 282 The several irruptions of Arabs, Tartars, and Persians into India were, for the greater part, ferocious, bloody, and wasteful in the extreme. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xvii. He collected his scattered forces from the wasteful occupation in which they had been engaged.

quasi-*adv.* 1726-46 Thomson *Spring* 122 Insect armies.. wasteful eat Through buds and bark into the blackened core Their eager way.

**b.** of a thing, its action. Now *rare*.

c 1390 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* III. 289 First will we race the City walls our selues, ..And..Open an entrance for the wastfull sea. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VIII. lxxii, Mou'st them Alecto stonged wastefull fire. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 418 [Storms] being oft times noxious where they light On man, beast, plant, wastful and turbulent. 1712 Blackmore *Creation* I. 742 But not impel them o'er their bounds of sand, Nor force the wasteful deluge o'er the land. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 266 The wasteful action [of water] is very conspicuous at Edinburgh. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* II. 28 These wasteful fires were a terrible ruin-sance.

**2.** Useless, worthless; unused.

† **a.** Of desires, words, etc.: Empty, vain, profitless. Of time: Unemployed. Also *pa.* pple. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 303 Powt þou be poore, þou mayst haue þis graued of wast in þin herte in wastfull & feruent desyris, wyllys, & delytes. *Ibid.* 304 Pe secunde cote depthe is wast of þi mowth, þat is, of wordys, whanne þou spekyst all of þi good, of þi cyches, [etc.]. a 1547 Surrey *Paraphr. Eccl.* ii. 32 But when I made my compte with howre great care of time, that I had sought, se wastfull fruit to fynde Then was I sarreen straytte. 1573 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 426, I was the ladder to take mine occasion thus *egestate et wastæ* & *dampno*, to spending my wastfull time within mine own walls. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 1. iii. 216 That I haue alleaged already is sufficient to reproue that vaine and wastefull inuitation, that you vse in so many wastefull wordes against vs.

**b.** Refuse, waste. *rare*.

1868 Lynch *Rivulet* (ed. 3) cii. 1, For He, the Sower, must return The wheat to garner, and to burn Of tares the wasteful heap.

**3.** Of a place: Desolate; unused, unfrequented, uninhabited, void. *Obs. exc. arch.* and *poet.*

1572-3 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 419, I would remove some part of an old, decayed, wasteful, unwholesome, and desolate house at Ford, to enlarge the little house I have at Beckesbourne. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* June 59 Thy vynes and roundelayes, Which thou were wont on wastfull hylls to singe. *Ibid.* Dec 23, I went the wastefull woodes and forest wyde. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* To Rdr., Thus sing I...To wastefull woods, to empty groves. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 961 When strait behold the Throne Of Chaos, and his dark Pavilion spread Wide on the wastefull Deep. 1728 Blackmore *Creation* II. 119 A wastful, cold, untrodden wilderness. 1827 Pollok *Course of Time* III. 261 At the midnight hour...to wastful hall,...Thou mightst have seen him bending o'er his harps, And holding sinless communion with his guild. 1883 Dobbins *Prometheus* 43 When he had taken the throne and chained His foes in wasteful Tartarus. 1890 R. H. Barham *Wayfaring in France* 313 The Druids of old, who sought these wasteful places as the fittest for the worship of that Mystery.

**24** *complement.* 1618 Ainsworth *Ps.* cxxxvii, Daughter of Babel, wasteful layd.

**4.** Of a person, his disposition, etc.: Addicted to waste; given to useless or excessive expenditure; regardless of economy in the management or use of resources; prodigal, extravagant, thriftless.

1548 Elyot *Dict.*, *Perdigus*, prodigall, wastefull, or outragious expender. 1549 Latimer *Sermons* (Parker Soc.) 81 If the gospell rehearseth the lyfe of the prodigal son..i. of the wastfull spending stykle he hath a knowen parable. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 186/32 Wastyfull, *nebulosus*. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 4 As in the Gospell that wastfull young man which returned home to his Fathers house was with ioy both admitted and honoured. 1609 Rowlands *Looke to it* 40 You carelesse wretches of the wastfull vaine, That for your Families will not pounde. 1669 Herbert *Iorly Divinity* 1. 186 They that lose time are the greatest losers and wastfull-est prodigals. a 1768 Seeker *Serm.* (1770) III. vii. 170 For it is hardly to be hoped, but that our Negligence about their Conduct will tempt them, either to be dishonest, or idle, or wastful, in our Service.

**b.** Of expenditure, style of living, etc.: Characterized by waste or extravagance.

1451 Capgrave *St. Gilbert* 59 In his riling had he no cost-ful bore, no wastful array, not many hors, ne many seruantis. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* v. iv. Z iij, Ily prodygalitie or wastfull spendyng. 1593 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 16 Or with Taper-light To seeke the beauteous eye of heauen to garnish, Is wastefull, and ridiculous excesse. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 285 By plundering the public creditor, it was possible to...support...the wastefull expenditure of the court. 1885 Tennyson *Anc. Sage* 5 One...richly garb'd, but worn From wasteful living. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 May 5/2 No society...is more free from the drawback of wasteful expense in management.

† **c.** Beneficently extravagant, lavish. *Obs. rare.*

1701 Addison *Let. fr. Italy to Ld. Halifax* 106 How has kind Heaven adorned the happy land, And scattered blessings with a wasteful hand!

**5.** Of a person, an action, process, etc.: That wastes, consumes or expends unprofitably (something specified or implied); not economical. Const. *of*.

1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Of Oxen* (1596) 72 Some do vse to feede them on the ground without a racke, but that is thought to be...more wastfull of hay. 1805 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 171 A wasteful condensation of the newly introduced steam must take place. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 265 Rival parties of trappers soon exhaust the streams, especially when competition renders them heedless and wasteful of the beaver. 1874 H. H. Cole *Catal. Inf. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 234 The material...is in itself of such beautiful nature that it seems wasteful of good things to cover it with embroidery. 1890 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 203 It seems to me rather wasteful to spend a lot of extra money on half-plate slides, and then only use them for quarters. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/2 He knows what he can do, and, avoiding any wasteful dissipation of his powers, does that efficiently.

† **b.** of a thing. *Obs.*

1607 Shaks. *Timon* II. ii. 171 When every roome Hath blaz'd with lights,..I haue rein'd me to a wastefull cocke, And set mine eyes at flow. 1618 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* xi. (1623) 33 The greater Trees...haue filled and ouer-loaden themselues with a number of wastfull boughs and suckers.

**6.** That causes bodily waste or decay. Now *rare*.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 54 The one sleepes easily because he cannot study, ..lacking the burthen of leane and wasteful Learnings. 1624 Mrs Perkins *Iohan*, xcvi, Using every moment to rouse her from this wasteful excess of grief. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* ix. 241 Self-inflicted penances, wasteful abstinences, ..and all such like spontaneities.

**Wastefully** (we·stfŭli), *adv.* [f. Wasteful *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wasteful manner.

1611 Cotgr., Gaspilleusement, wastefully. 1641 Best *Farming* (Camden) 58 Such of all sorts [of stone ware] as are not perfect are called wastieings, and are sold very cheap to hawkers.

In a wasteful manner; without regard to economy; prodigally, extravagantly, thriftlessly.

1513 Wolsey in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 167 That ye wol not out of the havons, but lye ther speadyng wastefully the King's vitaill and money. 1624 Donne *Serm.* ii. (1640) 9 Wee may, God knows, wastefully use these and these temporall things, and I have scattered them wastfully, surely he will give me no more. 1675 Dryden *Aureng.* III. (1676) 31 For I am a Prince new-made Favourite, Mistress, and lavish hand is wastefully profuse. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 332 Formerly the workings were carried on with less system and more wastefully than now. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Oct. 5/6 The tin clippings are wastefully thrown into the river.

† **2.** Destructively, ruinously. *Obs. rare.*

c 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* cii. 26 Ah God my God to waste-fully Cut not my dayes by halfe away Where thy yeares last eternally. 1797 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* July, Scarce any musician can so wastefully desolate the very soul of my existence as a banishment..from those I love.

**Wastefulness.** [-ness.]

**1.** The quality of being wasteful; prodigality in expenditure; want of economy.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ.* 181 Liberalitie is a vertue. Therfore liberalitie maie not be called wastefulnes. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 212 Even so be these wretches more addicted unto their miserable parsimonie ..then vnto thriefe, than those who by their riot and wastfulnesse be hurtfull to a common-weale. a 1768 Seeker *Serm.* (1770) III. 251 Wastefulness also, and even mere Negligence, appeareth to like purpose. 1839 Dickens *Nicholby* xxxvi, I really cannot afford to encourage him in all his wastefulness. 1844 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 781/2 A lamentable wastefulness of the public money.

† **2.** The state of being waste or void. *Obs. rare.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 195 Having taken away altogether that boundless wastfulness beyond the world, we are no where without the light of a Sun. 1744 *Harris's Lex. Techn.* I. 1/1 Wastefulness also, and even mere Negligence, appeareth to like purpose. 1839 Dickens *Nicholby* xxxvi, I really cannot afford to encourage him in all his wastefulness. 1844 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 781/2 A lamentable wastefulness of the public money.

**Wastel** (we·st'l). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 4–7 **wastell**, (7 wastfull), 5 **wastelle**, (**wastle**, **wastyl**, **le**, **wastil**), 9 *Sc.* **wastell**, 4– **wastel**; also, by confusion with *wastail*, 6, 9 **wassail**. [n. OF. *wastel*, north-eastern var. of *gnastel*, *gastel* (mod.F. *gâteau*). In Anglo-L. records the word often occurs latinized as *guastellum*, *wastellum*: see examples under Simnel and Theat *sb.*² 2.]

**1.** Bread made of the finest flour; a cake or loaf of this bread. See note a. 1)

[1294 in Palgrave *Doc. & Rec. Scot.* (1837) I. Illustr. p. xviii, Habere soleiant..singulis diebus..duodecim de dominicis guastellis nostris et totidem de simnellis nostre dominicis guastellis assecutis. 1297 *Rec. Norwich* 295 Pe bermen þe he elle ligge, And þar be mote to be castel, And gat him bere a ferthing wastel. *Ibid.* 779 (see Simnel 1). 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3 Pow hast no good gyoundre to gete pe with a wastel. c 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 52 Storve inyed wastel with colde ale ben. 1521 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 593 Pat no baker..bake no wastell, but euery Baxster..bake wastell iiij wastells for a penny. c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Pen take ..Roysonys y-hole, or hard Wastel y-dicyd. c 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 23 Than ordanit he his fyre in his great fossun, With outin wanting in wail, wastell or wyne. 1530 Tindale *Lev.* xxiv. 5 And thou shalt take fine floure and bake xii. wastels therof. c 1530 *Joyner & Wrastler* (Wyer) A iij b, A farthynge Wastell. 1557 R. Edenworth *Serm.* I. 61b, Like as a Molle if a man would feede her with wine and wastel, she will none therof. c 1638 *Order Prin. Comm.*, in Peterkethan *Artachthon* II. 3, That no Baker..shall make or bake to be sold any other..sorts of bread (except Simnell, Wastell, and Horse-bread, allowed by the Lawes..of this Realm).

*fig.* c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. iii. (1869) 117, I blowe with chilke beleye the herth to thilke, that of bis soule wole make a wastel to the maister devel.

**b.** *attrib.* as *wastel bread*, *cake*.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 147 Of smale houndes hadde she pat alle fedde With rosted flesh or Milk and wastel breed.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. P.* (Percy Soc.) 184 Thouse I were fedde with mylke and wastelbreede. 1589 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. X. 97/1 Two acres of land called wassell-land, out of which there hath been paid two bushels of wheat yearly, to be made in wassell-bread and given to the poor. 1592 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. ii. § 8, 285 The Abbot..had Vastellum, that is, not common bread, but wastell bread, or simnels for his diet. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxvii, A cake as white as her father's finest bolted flour, out of which was made the Abbot's own wastel-bread. *Ibid.* xvi, I will send up in secret, not only household stuff, but wine and wassail-bread. 1843 F. E. Paget *Warden of Berkinghold* 66 Time was, when the wastel-bread, and the mortrel pottage,..were bestowed as a pittance to stay of the importunate persons in the neighbourhood. 1880 Scott *Monast.* xxvi, Mysie made no answer, but began to knead dough for wastel-cake. 1912 Sir H. Maxwell *Early Chron. Scot.* 104 From the moment he entered England, the King of Scots [K. Wm.] was to be supplied with twelve royal wastel cakes and twelve royal simnel loaves.

**2.** *Her.* = Torteau I.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-armr.* b iv b, Torteltis be calde in armys wastell. 1562 [see Torteau]. c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss.

**Wa·steland.** [f. Waste *sb.* + Land *sb.*; cf. *waste land* under Waste *a.*] Land in its natural, uncultivated state. Also *attrib.*

1867 Morris *Odyss.* XI. 293 The wasteland heatherds. 1926 *Nature* 12 Oct. 559/1 The most accessible of the wastelands would be selected and the order of planting laid down. 1929 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 182 A flock of from thirty to forty meadow-pipits feeding on waste-land.

**Wastelass** (we·stlăs). [f. Waste *sb.* + -less.] Without diminution, unwasting.

1589 Greene *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 196 Thou doest wring water out of the flint, fier forth of y^e dry sandes, & ioyne that wastelesse perswasion to my teares, that I may say to my fate, [etc.]. 1620 May *Heir* IV. (1633) G 1 b, Those powers above..That from their wastlesse treasures heape rewards. 1659 in *Rec. Bath. Hall.* (1881) IV. 4 He was become a wastelesse land's good, An endless Mine, a wasteless Flood. 1868 A. C. Glyn II. *Osanam's Hist. Civilia.* I. 95 The sun pouring forth a wastless light. 1888 W. F. Wilkinson in *Hom. Rev.* Jan. 30 He started those wasteless fires and forces of the sun.

**Wa·steling.** *Obs. rare.* In 8 **wasteing.** [f. Waste *a.* + -ling.] = Waster *sb.*1 6 *a.*

1750 R. Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) I. 80 Such of all sorts [of stone ware] as are not perfect are call'd wasteings, and are sold very cheap to hawkers.

**Wastelli**[e : see Wastel.

**† Wa·stely,** *adv. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Waste *a.* + -ly 2.] Unprofitably.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx. 7 Egipt forsothe wastili, and in veyn [Vulg. *frustra et vane*, 1388 in veyn, and idilli] shal helpen.

**Wa·steness,** *sb. pl., rare.* [f. Waste *a.* + -ness, after *fragrance*.] Waste places.

1843 *Peter Parley's Ann.* IV. 95 To carry a few scraps and wastements from the kitchen.

**Wastene,** variant of Wastine *Obs.*

**Wasteness** (we·stnes). [-ness.]

**1.** The state of being waste.

† **a.** Desolation, destruction, ruin. *lit.* and *fig.* (Chiefly *Biblical.*) *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xlvii. 11 Ther shal feerli falle vp on thee wastnesse [Vulg. *calamitas*]. — *Hos.* ix. 6 Thei ben gon fro wastnesse [Vulg. *a vastitate*]. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxiv. 12 Desolacion shal remayne in the cities, and the gates shalbe smyten with wastnesse. 1581 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xii. 74 b, We do now see the same beginninges of a horrible wastenesse in the Church. 1598 Spenser *Ver.* (1882) I. 538 Out of the ashes of disolacon and wastnes of this ruyn'd world Realme of Ireland. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xlv. 5 A day of wastenesse and desolation. a 1672 Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 144 A dark, horrid, and bottomless pit, where all wastenes, woe, disorder, deformity, dwell together. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Gen.* iv. Introd., It repeats in the moral wasteness.

**b.** The state of lying waste, being wild or uncultivated or barren.

1608 in *Bancroft MSS. Whitehall* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 76 The present wastenes of the country proveth both the facility and the necessity of the plantation. 1799 S. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 245 Wastenes appears to be a vegrant. Some land in a state of nature may be worth ten or even fifteen shillings an acre of yearly rent; while other land is not worth so many farthings. 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxviii, Under her rays, the ground over which we passed assumed a more interesting appearance than during the broad daylight, which discovered the extent of its wasteness. 1859 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Isa.* I. x. The wasteness of the land ..has begun to be adorned with the living forms of a new vegetation.

**2.** An uninhabited or unfrequented region or place. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (1510) U iv, He should fynde wastenes ful great There nethere were thynke no mete But wylde beastes many one. 1598 Buchanan *Detect. Mary Q. Scots* (1727) 68 Was not that desolate Waistnes [orig. *Ille desertis vastitiæ*], that unhantit Place, abill of itself to put simpill Men in Feir? 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 3 She of nought affrayd, Through wastnes and wyld wandring daily sought. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IV. iii, The drearie trumpet blew a dreadfull blast,..Through wastnes wide it roared, and hollowes vast. 1607 Cresset *Examen Apol.* Which is able to convert Paradice it selfe into a savage wastenesse. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Glossy.*, *Wastenes*, a waste place.

**† Wa·stening,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*—1. [f. *wasten* v. (f. Waste *a.* + -en 5) + -ing.1] = Wasting *vbl. sb.*

1604 Asp. York in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) III. 252 As one that honoreth and loveth his most exact Maiesty all my heart, I wish lesse wastening of the treasor of the realm.

†**Wa·stening**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. In 7 **wastning**. [Formed as prec. + -ING 2.] That is undergoing waste or decay.

1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Infinity of Worlds* lxxiii, Besides that fiery flame that was so inure The Planets self, which greedily did eat The wasning mold.

**Waste-paper.**

1. Paper cast aside as spoiled, superfluous, or useless for its original purpose.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 6/2 *Sagetria*,... waste paper, or other stuffe, wherein occupiers wrap their seuerall wares. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* B ij, [They] pretending forsooth to anatomize abuses,... when as their waste paper bearing wel wieued, seemes brought with nought else saue dogge daies effets th. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.*, To Wm. Cowell A 2, This Poem...so long keeping the corner of my studie, wherein I vse to put waste paper. 1680 Irvine *Medal* Ep. Whites A 4 b, That so much skill in Hebrew Derivations, may not lie for Wast-paper in the Shop. 1730 Swift *Dropier's Hill* 37 His famous Letters [are] made waste paper. 1772 *Hartford Mercr.* Suppl. to No 407 A draft...being laid in the office, as waste-paper, the prisoner Rogers...altered the date, and...carried it to Sir Robert's as a new draft. 1840 *N. Amer. Rev.* I. 317 It was then...he [Dutta] said to an apothecary, at the price of waste paper, the last six hundred copies of his 'History of the American War'. 1853 Mas. Gaskell *Ruth* xxviii, Will you be so kind as to send you over my *Times*? I have generally done with it before twelve o'clock, and after that it is really waste-paper in my house. 1893 R. Bagot *Passport* iii. Seeing a letter on which Monsignor Lalli had...proved to be little better than waste paper.

**b.** *attrib.*, as *waste-paper price, trade*; **waste-paper basket**, †**box**, a basket (or box) into which waste paper is thrown.

1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xlviii, There was the 'waste-paper basket full of scraps. 1880 Miss Broughton *Second Thoughts* II. x, The almanack...was...angrily torn to shreds, and consigned to the waste-paper basket. 1836 F. Mahony *Rel. Father Prout, Songs of Ireland* Wks. (1881) 449 In its October number, just received, and now lying in our waste-paper box. 1859 *D'Israeli's Cur. Lit.* I. 11 *note*, His noble library was scattered at the waste-paper prices. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. i, Half the lump will be waste-paper...Can you get it at waste-paper price? That's the question. 1869 W. C. Bamford tr. *Ohlmer's Travels*, Iliog. Intro. 2 A large portion of the two first editions was eventually disposed of to the waste-paper trade.

†**2.** Blank or unused paper. *Obs.*

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1766/4, I...lost...an Affidavit with the Copy thereof, and several Accompts and Memorandums writ in the Wast-Paper thereof.

**Waster** (wē·stəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: **4 wastere, wastor, (waaster), 4–5 wastoure, -owre, wastur, 4–6 wastour, 5 wastere, 5–6 waister, Sc. -our, 6 Sc. wester, wyster, 4– waster.** [Orig. a. AF. *wastere, -our*, agential f. *waster* Waste *v.* This coalesced with the later formation on Waste *v.* + -er[1].] In sense 6 the word may be f. Waste *a.* or *sb.* + -er[1].]

**I.** One who or something which wastes.

1. One who lives in idleness and extravagance; one who wastefully dissipates or consumes his resources, an extravagant spender, a squanderer, spendthrift. Now chiefly *dial.*, with some notion of sense 6, a worthless person, 'no'-e-do-well'.

1338 *Wyntner & Wynkyn* 191 'See wynnere', quod wastoure, 'th' wordes are vayne: With oute festes and oure fare we feden the pore.' *Ibid.* 360 Who so wele schal wyn, a wastour muste be fonde, For if it be nede, one aunter it gladlie schal spende. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 22 Somme...In Eringe and in Suwynge swouken ful harde, þat monie of þeos wastours in Vnlonge disaseth. *Ibid. B.* xiii. 183 He þat wastour3 go worche what þei beat coupe, And wynne þat þei wasteden with sum maner craft. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 þe Kyng was a ranerour in gaderynge, a waster in vnprofitable spendynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 169 Bachus...A wastour was, and al his rente In wyn and bordel lavende. 1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 137 Which...shuld cause...your frendis to thynke...that ye shuld be a wastour and wold waste your lyvelod. 1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) C ij b, He is a waster. *Proysmus est pecunie.* 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 177 The said Wester...to stryk his wyff, nather yit ony haid fuild with hir,...althocht scho wes ane westour. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 94 Prodigall ding-thrifts and wasters. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin.* G 7, A Rich Husband...He is the sole happinesse of a good wife, and the torment of a Waster. 1641 D. Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* No. 511 (1785) 30 It is well with the Wasters wordy, &c. 1650 Ayscue *Vices, Hobbes* (1828) I. 347 His lord, who was a waster, sent him up and downe to borrow money. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 369 This would...instruct him...to avoid being a Squanderer or Waster. 1775 Ainsie *Aurif. ind.* 407 He who will not work, must...leave the town, as they will not sweet themselves for an healthy idle waster. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, Ye will think I am turned waster, for I wear clean hose and shoon every day. 1877 *N. W. Line. Gloss., Waster*, a wasteful person. 1887 J. W. Matthews *Incwadi* I. 111 The class of wasters, which public grumbling bred and fostered. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* i. A mining population of whites and blacks and 'wasters', 'Wasters?' oh, it's a South African word, and most expressive: applies to the spacious loafer who is so common in this country. 1904 J. Sweeney *At Scotland Yard* viii, 209 Here was a wretched inveterate fellow, an absolute 'waster'.

quasi-*adj.* 1596 in *Middl. Club Misc.* (1840) I. 81 The presbiterie findis Johne Graye to have callit sir Bartilmo Simsone, ane wastourfullo, commoun theve, [etc.]. 1728 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* xiv, But waster wives, the warst of a'.

**b.** One who wastefully dissipates or consumes (something specified); in early use money, resources). Const. *of*.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 200, & 3if men...wolden fayre pais, & trauaile busily þerfore in treuþe, & ben not wastouris of here litil good. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 291 Men moste enquere...Whar she be wyf...or wastour of thy good. 1420 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 131 He is a wastour of his goodes, and destrueth his realme whate he may. 1549 Chekke *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) H iij b, But what is a loyterer? A sucker of Honie, a spoyler of come, a destroyer of fruite, naye a waster of money [etc.]. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 73 A man of an vyll lyfe and an inordinate waster of the goodes of the Church. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* I. i. B 3, Diuers Roman Knights (The profuse wasters of their patrimonies). 1701 J'enn in *Venusyn. Hist. Sac. Mem.* IX. 72 Learn who have been the wasters of timber. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 81 This waster of ink, this defiler of paper, 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) II. 18 No waster was he of his hours, or her smiles. 1883 *American* VII. 6 But the good sense of the majority soon suppressed these wasters of time.

**c.** An action or habit that causes waste.

*a* 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 11 Building and marrying of Children are great wasters. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 75 Gaming, that great waster of time as well as fortune, is not his vice.

2. One who lays waste, despoils or plunders; a devastator, ravager, plunderer.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxiv. 1 Beholde, he thou the lurkyng place of hem fro the face of the wastere [*Vulg. a facie vastitoris*]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5310 þe wereour of all be werd & wastoure of all þe werld. *a* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Wastowre of a place, *dilapidator*. 1544 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 49 Truly no lytle wasters, spoylers, and robbers: and that of the Churche. 1575 *Gascoigne's Lullabie* (Arb.) 58 Of a persecuter and waster of the Church, he was made an Apostle. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* viii. (159) 321 It can not bee, that our hearties should bee right in affections towarde our Countrey, and vse spoylers and wasters, or any way harmers of the commodities which they inioy. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* cxxxvii. 8, The Lord shall all thy Foes destroy, The Waster's Waster shall destroy. 1819 Scott *Bride of Lam.* xxxiv, (Cotton Gabal) Pis licheri es,...waster of man-skin. 1846 Hawthorne *Of Conscience* § 67, 35 That only sin continued in for any length of time, is the greatest waster to Conscience. *Prov.* 1670 W. Walker *Paræm.* 27 Waste is a waster. *Aqua dentes habet.*

**3.** The designation of a class of thieves mentioned along with 'Oxberdesmen' and 'Drawlatches' in the statute of Edw. III. *Obs. exc. arch.*

1331–2 Stat. 5 Edw. III, 1353 *Ibid.* 25 Edw. III, c. 14 Byeause there hath ben dyuers manslaughters, felonies, and roberies done in tymes past, by people that be called Roberdesmen, wasters [sic], and Drawlatches. 1766 Pultney (cd. Kerr), *Wasters*, a kind of Thieves, or Robbers anciently known by that Name. 1890 Conan Doyle *White Company* xv, Now I am a broken man. I am Bailiff of Southampton, that any waster, rover, draw latch or murtherer came scathless away from me and my posse.

¶ Misused to render AF. *westour* in a statute of Edw. VI. *Obs.*

The AF. word represents Welsh *gwestwr* (f. *gwest* lodging, hospitality + *-wr* man), a vagrant who went about exacting free board and lodging.

1535 tr. *Acts Parl. Scot.* IV, c. 27 Mischieues, whiche hath happened before this tyme in y^e land at wales, by many wasters, rymours, mynstrels, and other vacabondes [viz. *Westours, Kymours, Minstrells & autres vacabondes*].

**4.** An animal that is wasting away or losing flesh, or that will not fatten. Also *attrib.* as †*waster ox.*

*a* 1400 in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 51 Pe felde or costilthe ne muche and more þen he beate ox for yeff he be a waster he may not leue þe more wastel. 1614 Markham *Cheap & Good Husb.* II. (ed.) i. 45 Which (healthfulnesse of an ox) you shall know by a good lusk and a good iaw'el for if the lusk be thin, and the iaw-bone lee it is a signe of a waster [*edging* for the butcher]. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* 4ii. § 3 (1700) 308 A lean...slender Pike, though he seem to advance in length; yet is commonly a waster, and in a decaying condition, for he'll live and be hungry and greedy as ever. 1805 *R. Angl. Gloss., Waster*, a rabbit or other animal that looks like a dier, wasting away. 1907 *Daily Chron.*, 13 Sept. 6/7 In an adjoining shed there was a 'waster' (i.e. a cow affected with tuberculosis), which was so ill that it could not stand up.

**5.** = Wastrel 2; one of a jockey who has difficulty in 'wasting' (see Waste *v.* 11 c).

1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 399 He is a bad waster, and is much punished to bring himself to the three-year-old weights. 1840 *Bentley's Misc.* XVI. 581 Some men are bad wasters, when riding but very severe exercise, aided by medicine,...suffices to get off the last twenty-four ounces.

**6.** Something which causes or allows waste or loss of material.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 192/1 [Sluices] also act as wasters, to allow the surplus water of a reservoir to escape. 1880 Spurgeon *Ploughm. Pict.* 135 A leaking tap is a great waster.

**b.** A foreign body in the wick of a candle which causes it to gutter and waste. *dial.*

1788 G. Wilson *Coll. Masonic Songs* 72 (Jam.) Oft on the wick there hangs a waster, Which makes the candle burn the faster. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Weather*, a thief in the candle. 1886 *W. Somerset Gloss.*, Waster.

**c.** *Path.* = Combo.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 752 It is also known as grub, worm, black-head, or 'waster'.

**II. 6.** Something rejected as waste.

**a.** An article of faulty or inferior manufacture.

a 1800 Peggy *Suppl. Grose*, *Wasters*, damaged or misshapen goods. North. 1808 [Carr] *Craven Gloss., Waster*, any thing among ores that is damaged or of inferior workmanship. 1829 J. Hunter *Hallamsh. Gloss., Wasters*, articles of cutlery laid aside on account of any imperfection. 1832 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 360 The former (*i.e.* needles with broken eyes)...are thrown aside as wasters. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 135 A great number of barrels do bared 'wasters', such as...having holes in the sides, or some other fault sufficient to condemn them in the eyes of a ...barrelmaker. 1869 F. Kohn *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 106 If cast in a freshly mould, the connection was still irregular, and 10 per cent. of all pipe castings were 'wasters'. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Edu.* II. 177 Such lenses, together with those that possess other defects, are technically called 'wasters'. 1880 F. W. Fitch *Hist. Trade in Tin* xiii 173 Some of the sheets thus thrown out are called menders..., others are called wasters, which from there is always a market at a reduction in price. 1890 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 577/2 A pottery, worked at however distant a period, leaves traces of *seccy* and 'wasters'. 1892 *Bath Herald* 13 Sept., Galvanised Corrugated Iron, for Roofing, best quality only, no wasters.

**b.** An animal, bird, etc, which is not good enough to be kept for breeding purposes.

a 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 405 A young sow,...having as many as nine pigs, it would not be expected by any of them would be so properly fat for wasters, as if she had brought but four or five. 1904 *Nature* 25 Aug. 418, 2 But now let him breed from his' wasters' and he will find that the extracted blacks are pure and give blacks only.

†**Waster**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **wayster.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. A wooden sword or a tool used in sword-exercise and fencing.

1455 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) II. 144 Furst viij swerds and a long blade of a swerde made in wafters [*read* wasters]...i r to leme the king to play in his tendre age. 1541 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 293 For Byrnyng...of billets for the crosse wasters for my Lorde Roose, iiij d. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* 1. (1577) F 1 b, If going about to cast a dart, or holding in his hande a sworde or any other weapon, or wasters. 1600 Heywood *Sir Ior.* vi. 1063 Foule worke they made with their wodden wasters and handlesse pikes. 1622 Br. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 11 Even as with woodden wasters we learne to play at the sharp. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 111 The fencer's staffe or waster...was call'd *rudis* (so some think) because with such wodgels they practis'd the rudiments of fencing, before they came in publick to fight at sharp.

2. A cudgel, staff, club.

1533 Heywood *John, Tyb & Sir John* A j b, Nought abulde prouyde me, nother staffe nor waster, But a wyfe she wolde be my master. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* App. 327 Let there bee giuen vnto hym by the common seruyture of the Citie a whyppe and a wayster. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* ed. 2) I. 92, 1 Yeomans and Marcelliuians...were beat with wasters or trunshons, after that [they] were hanged...vpon the gibbet. 1598 Stow *Surv.* (1603) 96 The youthes of this Citie also haue vsed on holy dayes after Euening prayer, at their Maisters doores, to exercise their Wasters and Bucklers. 1611 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sco. Kalfe* (Grosart) 8 Some with a cudgell and grunting wife neuer failes their master': Yes, if the master haue not life to ply them with the waster. 1615 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (1640) 140 A Boy with a Top and a Scourge wanting power and skill well to wielde a waster or staffe that is somewhat too heauy for it, wearieth it selfe and faineth.

3. Fencing with a 'waster'; single-stick, cudgel-play. Also *pl.* esp. in *to play at wasters.*

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 281 Let vs play at wasters. Let vs play at waster in feyre game. This waster (*rudis*) is not lusfull. 1594 *Solimus* 1512 in *Fairfax's Tasso* (Grosart) XIV. 264, I thought my selfe as yeoman to haue play'd at wasters with all your village. 1596 Nashe *Saffron-Walden* T 1, To wee a Gillion draggell tayle...play at wasters with a quil for the buttons. 1630 Dekker & Ford *Sunset Il. A.* I b, Of the husbands their wiues will needes be Masters, We men will haue a hiw to win't at wasters. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* iii. § 21, 206 Such kind of recreations as...playing at wasters and foiines. 1638 *Aytoun & Lauriston's Archiv.* (1900) II. 211 And what can Richard doe, play a little at wasters, and make the blood run about his yellowes cutes at a Wake. 1678 *Intrigues Jovial Sp.* 1 Let's go to the Wrestling or Wasters. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 100/2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1710 *Spectator* No. 192 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1711 *Ibid.* No. 251 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1712 *Ibid.* No. 428 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1713 *Ibid.* No. 502 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1714 *Ibid.* No. 577 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1715 *Ibid.* No. 626 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels? 1716 *Ibid.* No. 675 ¶ 2 Is it lawful to play at wasters? Is it right to play at Cudgels?

every thing at such a rate that, long before the end of the year, the year's stipend was all spent 1893 — *Pastoral Ill* xix 184 Since that time he's been neither to bind nor to hauld wasting his income in the most thoughtless way

**Wasterful** (wɒ̄stfuul), *a Sc* [f WASTER *v* + -FUL] Wasteful

1822 GALT *Ayrshire Legatees* I 5 There's no need for all the greatness of one's gang, that we should be wasterful

1879 MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* I 120 He's a gey easing chiel. An he's sae terr'ble wasterful, an' lat it a drift! Wasterfu' livetock!

1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* V 48 'It is mighty wasterfu', my laddie! Wrist for sare ye weesna 3 in best class, I wull like to ken!'

Hence **Wasterfully** *adv*, **Wasterfulness**.

1885 *Spectator* (J Tod) *More Bricks* 2 6 She did not quite like some of Bell's remarks about wasterful news and 'thowless news' 1891 H J IBISTON *Actualities* I x 178 The shepherd frees sumptuously and spends wasterfully

**Wasterlift**, var. WASTHRIFT

**† Wa stering**, *vbl sb* Sc Obs Also 6 **wastorring** [f WASTER *sb* 1 + ING 1] The action or process of taking fish with a 'waster', loistering

1580 *Acts Mary* Sc *Parl* cap 5 Quhair ommi nis i pacations salmonum inter di t bondis, save i tuilis et modo appel Into wastering 1654 *Dee Corr* (Camden) 2 Cum certain pascationis et monum reticulis aut modo vocato wastering

**† Wastern.** *Obs* In 4 **westerne**, **urne**, **ye wastrone**, **-ine** [Altered form (after WASTE *sb*) of Northumb. *wāstern*, var of *wo tem*: see WESTERN] A wilderness

13 *I P Allit I* B 1674 In wisturne walk S with I le wylle dowelle 1375 *Sc Troy Bk* xxiii (*Leyceaune*) 885 In bis wastrone firs be hill I dwelt euer contynuely *Ibidem* 1425, & I se I nume you set I se ne throw be wastrone I sit alle days, but he come firs frat abbay 1440 *Alexis Addit* 1233 Ouer luer, and wholde wysnne, and wyklyde bestes Alleide in that wisternone

**† Wastership.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. WASTER *sb* 2 + -SHIP] Feeding exercise

1575 *Aldebras & Ree in M & Q* 12th Ser VII 207/1 For 3 dyuners of gentlemen that came for wastershippe in

**Wastery** SEE WASTRY

**Wa stethrift.** Now *rare* [f WASTE *v* + THRIFT *sb* 1] A spendthrift

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch Old One* I iii B 2, Here's my tert, a most thrift a brothell master 1612 BEAUM & FL *Knt Burn I* iii 21 Some thrift a brothell master 1868 H BRANDRETH (*Lidd*) Wa tesbrifts and Workmen Of the mode of producing them and their influence upon the community 1880 *Pall Mall Gaz* 5 Feb, 9/1 Let him, as a wholly useless and absolutely dangerous criminal wastethrift, be deprived altogether either of freedom or life

**† Waste-time.** *Obs* [f WASTE *v* + TIME *sb*, after PASTIME] A means of wasting time, an occupation in which time is passed unprofitably.

1609 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* I *ii* 24 Call it either a Pastime, or Wast time, as plea seth you. a 1660 ROLLE *Northies, Lines* 11 (1866) 153 Some think that the Men should be taken as well as the Bull, who can take delight in so dangerous a Waste Time 1863 J C JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Daughter* I 166 Busily employed with painting or planning or would write, or some other equally useful or feminine waste time

**Wasteyn/e**, var forms of WASTINE *Obs*

**† Wa stie.** *Obs* [If not an error, prob f. WAIST *sb* + -IE = -Y] Capacity (of a ship)

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxi xxvi 907 The kings fleet consisted of 37 and those of greater burden and waste [L. *majoris formæ*] *Hist* xxx 961 The enemies navie consisted of fourescore and nine all ships of the greate t waste and making [L. *maximæ formæ*]

**Wastil**, obs form of WASTREL.

**† Wastine.** *Obs* Forms 2–4 **wastine**, 3 **-ene**, -in, 4 **-ayne**, **eyn e**, **-yne**, -en [A OB. *wastinne*, *gnastinne gastune* f root of *weste* WASTE *a*] A wild, uncultivated tract of country, a desert region, wilderness

a 1250 *Lamb Hom* 141 Sunnedei smat Moyses bene stin me be wastine 1300 *Iren Coll Hom* 180 His worldes bawst is cleped to wastene, for bat be bat is ferren aiteen holie bulle 1340 *Hampole Psalter* 106 [3] In wildern land and wastin I wil pam bring (Four MSS 13 A *Alis* 3017 Unicornes thei, fond in that wastein (*I and MS* wastayne) 1375 *Barbour Bruce* V 500 Sa that the wood, for ouer a doune bra wastene se ferfra pe toune 1338—*Chron* (1810) 75 Alle mad he [William] swa teen pasture, medow & korn 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* iii (*Paul*) 838 [He] fled allane owt of pe towne wil and in-to wastine and doune

**Wasting** (wɒ̄stiŋ), *vbl sb* [f WASTE *v* + -ING 1]

1. The action of laying waste, devastation

a 1300 *Cursor M* 23850 (Cott Vitellius C xiii) man-laghter and stark, wasting and werre 1343 4 *Ed* 35 *How I Wil* 12 The same Scottes make burnynges murders wastinges and depopulations in this reaime 1596 DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* III 83 Bayard [Lee] tuke ane quhair he had beene in Robrie, Spoylzeis and Wasting of the lurkes 1856 EARL NORM tr *Beccalini's Advts to Tacitus* I iii (1674) 4 The miserable wasting of their Country in Civil Wars 1736 BISHOP BUTLER *Anal* I *v* 30 The Horses that attend the Wasting of King Isms, and sacking of Cities. 1884 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 164 For wasting of the boar That mars with tooth and tusk and fiery feet Green pasturage [etc] I praise her not

2. The action of using or spending lavishly or to no profit + Also *conc*, that which is thus wasted

a 1300 *Cursor M* 23850 As to spell and noght to speke, wasting it es o goddis wele 1377 *Langl P Pl* B v 23 He bat wastoure go worbe what he best couthe, And wynnen bis wasting with somme manere crafte 1643 in *Ace Exam Images* (1864) 19 His friends tak him and put him in fermance for eschewin of ony further wasting of his saidis landis and guidis 1867 PUSEY *Eleven Addr.* iii (1908) 24 He foresaw Adam's wasting of His grace.

3. Gradual diminution or decrease, gradual wear or loss

a 1425 in *Archæol's Treat Fistula*, etc 73 Boile pum togidre to be wasting of be suyser 1509 in Glasscock *Rec St Michael's, Bp's Stortford* (1882) 31 Item resseved ffor wasting of torche when that jens my wyfe was beryed and at her monthe mynde, *vjd* 1633 P FLETCHER *Purple Isl* viii xxxv, His clothes all pitcht with more then honest theft, And all used soon were naild for fear of wasting 1666 tr *Chardin's Trav Persia* 416 I was str ng dama to prevent the water from wasting 1770 GOLDSM *Des Vill* 87 To husband out life's store to the close And keep the flame from wasting by repose 1883 J C MURRAY *Electric* xvii, When he remembered how friendly everybody was in his new world, he forgot the rapid wasting of his little fortune.

4. Gradual decay of life or organic tissue, gradual loss of strength and vitality, consumption, atrophy

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* v lvii (1495) 174 The bones sometyme ben greuyd of wastynge of humours of the mowe 1538 T VOT *Dict*, *Tabe*, consumption wastynge, or pairs faction of thinges 1587 MALLET *Cr I wrest Bee*, So that if he shrieth him not off bemes by suche wasting of blood as he will make, thereby he is quickly enfeebled 1658 A I IGHTON *Whole Duty Man* 143 The grounds of the brute and senceless creatures are against us under murrenigs and wastings 1671 MILTON *P R* iv 240 Though his gier still ravine, think With all his wasting 1708 J KIDDER *Demonstration* 1808 JAMIESON *Hermes*, consumption, a decline 1860 MAYNE *Expos Lex Anal* 22 a consumption, wasting or atrophy 1893 *Daily News* 19 Jan 5/4 A boy who is rapidly de vering from wasting fever; general melady among the little ones of the poor 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 229 Wasting of the palate and of the vocal cord muscles can not actually be seen

b *Sport.* Reduction of weight by 'training down'.

1846 H H DIXON *Post & Paddock* xii 209 With moderate and vigorous wasting, they can come to their weight again in three weeks 1923 GRETTON *Mod Hist Eng People* I viii 231 His suicide was attributed to depression of spirits caused by the incessant wasting to keep down his weight

5 *Mining* (See quots)

1831 J HOLLAND *Manuf Metal* I 39 The first operation to which the iron ore is subjected, is wasting that is ex posing the stones to the weather, which by causing any extraneous mixture of the ores 1886 J BARROWMAN *Sc Mining Terms* 73 *Wasting*, s wkings

**Wa sting**, *ppl. a* [f WASTE *v* + ING 2]

1. a That has a waste, devastates, or destroys

c 1230 *Hali Meidh* 13 And te ofre ' bus ' gode hire, wibuten eu h heste of be hali gast, bat bearne's be hiire, wibute wastinde brune in alle hiere corene 1535 COVERDALE *Prov* xiii 23 Many are destroyed wt wastinge abhumcian 1592 SHAKS *1 Hen VI* iii iii 46 And see the Cities and the Townes defac'd, By wasting Rume of the cruell Foe *a* 1646 BER NOUGHS *Horace Works* (1652) 190 Sun is of a wasting nature Sun hy Pyeth wt Countreyes and places that proue liue in 1707 ROWE *Jane Sh II M's Arms* 14 In dreadful Numbers to the wasting War 1798 WORDSW *Hymn to Pan Thee, O Pan, our God and Lord* 19, Where'er human ebbs and flows A wasting time prevails 1822 BURNEY *Hist* II ii There they temple was, And its, deeds of war and wasting fire 1877 *Fortnightly Review* II 2 Its wasting sea breeze keen Had worn the pillar a curving quaint 1887 J H BRAY *Lat Lyons Impl* II i I 66 St Helen departed to Stolcow, in order to proceed on his wasting way into the lands of Helias

b That undermines strength and vitality. Of a disease Causing atrophy or gradual decay.

a 1600 *Pop Medicine* xxxvi 21 The wasting Hec tique and the Quartain Feuer a 1721 PRIOR *Songs* iii 4 Lingering fever's wasting pain 1828 SCOTT *Misfort* xi A haggard paleness, which seemed the effect of care or of developed disease, of both these wasting causes combined 1836 DICKENS *Sk Pic Shops & Tenants* A slow, wasting consumption prevented the eldest girl from continuing her exertions 1871 SCOTT *Lord's Day* iii xxi 318 Like the state of his own health too inform to encounter with safety, the wasting hectics of an African summer 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 564 Wasting diseases, such as cancer, diabetes and phthisis

2 That is being gradually consumed or destroyed, decaying, waning, passing away

1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 980 In bis wastinge word we ne sholde wonie 1 Sam xxvi 10 As be liue of bi wastinde frende 1596 DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie* 1 Hes Eyes, like Lampes whose wasting Oyle is spent, Waxe dimme 1665 HOOKE *Microgr* Pref 2 3 The other Mandril I keep in even neck instead of a taper cord runs in a Cylar, that by the help of a Screw and a joynt made like M in the Figure it can be still adjusted to the wasting of the Candle 1709 DRYDEN *Æneis* III 488 Now the bitter Wrath of wasting Night, And setting Stars, to kindly Rest invite 1738 WESLEY *Hymn*, 'Thee we adore Eternal Name' Our wasting Lives grow shorter still As Months and Days increase 1818 KEATS *Endym* I 1 Like the wasting of the old Archangel's shield 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI. 269 For the wasting muscles massage and electrical treatment should be employed

b *Sport.* (See WASTE *v* 11 c)

1890 W DAY *Anchoris in Training* xvii 166 It was once no uncommon sight at Newmarket to see, daily, ten or a dozen wasting jockeys returning from an eight mile walk, thoroughly exhausted

Hence **Wa stingly** *adv*

1552 HULOET, Wastingly'e, or wastfullye, *prodige* a 1830 B JONSON *Discov* (1640) 123 Not to cause the trouble of making Breviates by writing too riotous, and wastingly 1834 TAYLOR *Artevelde* I iii v 164 No poison works so wastingly amongst them As a low diet you, it brings them down *a* 1853 WORDSWORTH *Lect Jas* (1859) 241 Thus consuming, and wastingly, and wantonly, and wickedly, abusing the divine bounty

**† Wa stity.** *Obs.* In 4 **wa(s)stete**, **wastyte** [f. WASTE *a* + -(I)TY Cf. OF. *gastelé* (gl. L. *vastitas*)] Desolation. (Only in Wyclif's rendering of *vastitas* in the Vulgate.)

1382 WYCLIF *Dan* xxviii 53 Thow shalt ete the fruyt of thi woombe in angwsch and wastete [Vulg *vastitate*, 1388 distryyng], with the which thin enemye shal oppresse thee *Ibid Jer* vi 7 Wickednesse and wastyte

**† Wa stive,** *a Obs rare*—1. [f WASTE *v.* + -IVE] Liable to waste

1756 TORBERN *Hist Orphans* II 23 Here, no excess decays our vig'rous health, A blessing greater for than wastive wealth

**Wastland**, obs Sc. variant of WESTLAND.

**Wastle**, obs. form of WASTEL.

**Wastme**, var. WASTUM *Obs*

**Wastor**, **-our(e**, **-owre**, obs. ff. WASTER *sb* 1

**Wastrel** (wɒ̄strĕl), *sb.* and *a* Also 9 **wastorel** [f WASTE *v* + -REL] *A. sb*

1. In Cornwall. A tract of waste land. *Obs.* exc in narrower sense, a strip of road-side waste.

1589–90 *Anc Deed A* 13002 (P R O), [I and m the] townes and fields scituate in the parishe of Tregorrick within the parish of St Austell 1826 CAREW *Cornwall* 23 Then [tin] workes lie either in seuerall, or in wastrell, that is, in enclosed grounds, or in commons. *Ibid* 13, The Wistrel workes are reckoned amongst chattels, and may passe by word or Will 1899 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Ship of Stars* xl 91 The Chapel stood on a turfed wastrel where two high ronds met and crossed 1901 C *F C Gas Nov* 466/1 [Launceston] The heaps were not on the metal portion of the road, and the width of the wastrel where the heaps were was about four feet

2. = WASTER *sb* 5.

a. An article of bad or imperfect workmanship, rejected as unserviceable or not saleable at the full price

1790 MARSHALL *Midl Co* II. 445 *Wastrels* pantaloons, an Wastrel bricks &c 1847 HALLIW., *Wastrels*, Imperfect bricks, china, & 1898 *Westminster Dict Trade*, *Wastrels*, waste substances 1899 *Cheshire Sheaf* May 6 The new word *wastrel* or *wastrel*, in the district of Hallamshire, signifies a knife that is made to sell, for show and not for use

b An unhealthy, wasted-looking animal.

1819 REES *Cycl*, *Wastrels*, *Wastrils*, the young lambs, pigs, and calves, sold to the butchers, which are in proper fit keeping as stock, are sometimes also called by this name. 1899 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Ship of Stars* vi 78 I wouldn't risk a lard of mine to break the Sabbath for a wastrel like that.

3 A good-for nothing, idle, worthless, dissipate table person.

1847 HALLIW., *Wastrel*, a profligate *West* 1857 WALCH *Jane Eyre* 170 There's a Jammy, he's as big a wastrel as ever stuck up a lone 1881 *Times* 4 Jan 3/4 In Glasgow last night a 'Hogmanay supper was given by some good Samaritans to a company of 2000 outcasts and wastrels 1885 D C MURRAY *Rainbow Gold* I ii, I'm not a runaway I'm not a wastrel I think if I set myself to do it that I can make a living somehow

b A neglected child of the streets, a city arab.

1877 HUXLEY *Techn Educ* Sci & Cult (1881) 77 The educational method, the intelligence and good temper on the teacher's part, which are the life and the disposal of the veriest waifs and wastrels of society 1880 BARNARDO *Token out of Shelter* 2 The juvenile 'wastrels' of London streets are, alas! not to be reckoned by their thousands.

4. A wasteful person, a spendthrift

1887 BARING-GOULD *Red Spider* vi, Young Hillary, who, brought up in his father's improvident ways, was sure to turn out a like wastrel

*transf* 1889 *Q Rev* Apr 390 London is the most conspicuous wastrel of both men and means

*B. adj*

1 Of manufactured articles Waste, rejected as imperfect. Of workmanship Good for nothing

1790 MARSHALL *Midl Co* II 445 Wastrel bricks. 1852 J ALLEN *Rest etc Antig Wore* (ed 2) 106 The piles of encaustic tiles which were found which were built up in columns with cement, probably were wastrel tiles, which were so used 1898 H SUTCLIFF *Rockroft* IX 122 Wenches all ..full o wastrel work soon as ye let 'em go an lash beyond wi'out stoppin

2 *Gardening Illustr* 7 Aug, 078 At this time the inferior and imperfect or wastrel fruit should be killed 1895 CROCKETT *Bog myrtle* V vii 412 A wastrel whalp could has clung us owre with its tail We war tha surprised like, stunned

3. Running to waste, spendthrift.

1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas*, *Pk'chadnezzar's Hymn* 47 Blot out the wastrel hours of mine in an when I abode. 1896 *Ibid*, *Last Rhyme of True Thomas* 23 Where, blown before the wastrel wind, The thistle-down she floated by

**Wastrife** (wɒ̄strĭf), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* Also **wasterif.** [f. WASTE *a.*: cf. *cauldrife*, *weakrife*.] *a. adj.* Wasteful, extravagant. *b. sb.* Wastefulness, extravagance.

a. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* v, Do not shit the quill up too high, it is a wastrife course 1893 *Cauldeugh's Young Gentl Mag*, May 36/2 The old housekeeper, who always declared Master Jacob was so *wastrefu'* with his goods, that he would certainly come to beggary some day

b. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xxvii, She confessed afterwards, that, 'besides the wastrife, it was long or she could walk as comfortably with the shoes as without them'.

**Wastrine**, -one : see WASTERN, *Obs.*

**Wastry**, **wastery** (wɒ̄stri), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also 8–9 **wastrie.** [f. WASTE *v.* + -(E)RY.]

Reckless extravagance, esp. in living; wastefulness; also, an act or case of wastefulness.

1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xix. 184 The same very fault and sin of wastry, that is inherent in the broken bankrupt. 1661 R. Baillie in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) I. 96 Through his wastery, hes left...in debt. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 64 Yet ev'n the ha' folk fill their pantan Wi' sauce, ragouts, an' sic like trashtrie, That's little short o' downright wastrie. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 340 How is a nation to be converted from extravagance to frugality, when the intent and purpose of all men's minds and endeavours is to foster this wonderful wastery. 1863 'Holme Lee' *A. Wortleigh* III. 247 He was a gentleman born, but he'd ruined himself wi' gambling an' wastry. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxviii, My disposition has always been opposed to wastery.

**b.** Waste *of* (what is specified).

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* iii. xiv, I thought with myself, what a wastrie of time was caused by the inconsiderate talk of uninformed men. 1900 B. Kirkby *Granite Chips* 42 (E. D. D.) It was fair wastery o' ink an' time.

**Wa·stry**, *a. Sc.* ? *Obs.* [? f. Waster *sb.*1 or *v.* + -y. Cf. Wastrife *a.*] Wasteful, extravagant.

1792 J. Learmont *Poems* 364 (E. D. D.) To live wi' sic a wast'ry, brainsnt jade. 1825 Jamieson, *Wastrie*, prodigal; a *wastrie* person, one who is extravagant.

† **Wa·stum.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **westum**, -**em**, -**im**, **westm**, **westom**, **westm**, **weastm**, 3 *Orm.* **wasstme**, **vestme**, **westum**. [OE. *westm* masc. = OS. *wastum* :— OTeut. type **wastimo-z*, f. root of Wax *v.*]

1. Fruit, crop, produce; abundance of produce.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. 13 Be þæs cyninges þeodre beoð corðs ælcne weg. *Lex. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 17 Ælc god treow byrþ gode wastmas. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iliche þan þe is bereð lef and blosman, and nane westmas ne bereð. *c* 1200 Ormin 9384 Illc an treo butt...Ne bereþþ nohht god wasstme Shall...beon hæwenn upp. *c* 1205 Lay. 32108 Penne scullen i Bruttene blisnen wurðen riue, wæstmes and weolkes eke after i-welle.

2. *transf.* Fruit (of the body, womb), offspring. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 5 Forþon se wæstm þines innoþes is zelifetsad. *c* 1200 Ormin 1937 Þurr þrohhte3 þo þatt wasstme forþ Off all unnwemmedd wambe.

o. *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 249 Andreas, for hwan gæst þu swa buton wæstme þinnes ʒewinnes. *c* 1200 Ormin 15911, & westmm itt [thy heart] þerinn. Swa þatt itt bere þess te bett God wasstme i gode dedese.

3. Growth of body, stature, form. Also (*nonce-use*), greatness.

*Beowulf* 1352 (Gr.) Oðer earmcsæpen on weres wæstmum wræclastas treed. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xix. 3 Zacheus...was lytel on wæstmum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Þe fader is on þe sune on þrie wisen, and on þrie wæstmen, for þrie he is mucheel and mihti ouer alle þing. *Ibid.* 129 Alse wat se he was þogen on wisten and on wæstme...þo nam he zeme of mannes ibiholde. *c* 1205 Lay. 15698 Þa iwarð ich on westme wunder ane fæie. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 60 A meiden...faier & froolich o wlite & o westum.

Hence † **Wa·stumless** *a.*, without fruit.

*c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 27 *Wine fruncte* westemleas. *c* 1200 Ormin 13858 All isx itt [the heart] nas bifroemm swa þurreh hatte & nip & irre, patt all itt lip uas wasstmeless Off alle godde dedess.

**Wastur,** obs. form of Waster *sb.*1

† **Wa·sty,** *a.*1 and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 **wasti**, 4 **wasty**, 6 **waistie**, **waisty**, **wastie.** [Altered form (after Waste *a.*) of ME. Westy *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Desolate, desert.

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 43 (Titus MS.) And hwat sif ha beoð se wone, and tu...schalt greni godles inwið waste wahes [*Bodley MS.* westi wahes]. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Blasius*) 37, & þare in-to [a] wasty stede heremyin lyf wel lang he ledde. 15.. Alex. Hume *Sp. G. Mancrieff* Poems (S. T. S.) 82 Of barrain Syrit, and waiste Scythia.

b. Phr. *Wasty woanes, wones*, a desolate place of habitation; also, a spacious place.

*c* 1200 *Sc. Trojan War* ii. 2444 It was a fair rowme wasty wones. 1300–20 Dunbar *Poems* xi. 18 Fitt of all in dance was Pryd, with bair wyld bak and bonet on syd, Lyk to mak vaistie wanis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. viii. 6 Alhaill the barrauge ilkkin fruthis stanis, Left voyd the town and streuth with waisty wanis.

2. Extravagant in upkeep.

*c* 1580 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 199 Pei han many grete houses, costlewe & wasty.

**B.** *sb.* A desert place.

*c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 148 An errmit...That woned in wasti bi hinn an.

**Wasty** (wē·stti), *a.*2 [f. Waste *sb.* + -y.]

1. Liable to waste from deterioration.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/2 Pineapples from the Azores are 'wasty', and sell from 6d. to 3s. 6d. each, but they are not of good quality. 1905 *Ibid.* 6 July 1/1 The rain has ruined 50 per cent of the strawberries on the plants...Tons of soft wasty berries have been marketed and sold at any price obtainable.

2. *U.S.* 'Resembling cotton-waste' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1886 *U.S. Consular Reports* No. lxii. 479 (Cent.) The wool becomes unpoverished on account of the heat and dust, and is very tender, with a dry, wasty top. 1888 *Ibid.* 589 The wools are...dry and wasty.

**Wastyl(le,** obs. forms of Wastel.

**Wastyne,** variant of Wastinn *Obs.*

**Wa·swa,** obs. form of Whoso.

**Waswil,** obs. Sc. form of Weasel.

† **Wat** 1. *Obs.* Also 4–5 **watt.** [Of obscure origin: not connected with Wight *sb.*] A person; esp. *a great wat.*

Vol. X.

1300 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 49 We beth..y-sent fro þe shrin to shewe what hem greueth...And to graunte of her goild to þe grei wattis Þy no maners wronge way. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prin.* 2816 If so be þat son of þe grete wattes A dede do, which þat a-geyn þe lawe is, No thyng at al he punyssh[d for þat is. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 294 Ye xal fynde hym a strawnge wat. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 10 Ye wote not wel, I weyn, what wat is comnen to the towne. *c* 1500 Melusine *Nature* (Brandt) 821 What man ye þat[ ] fore-whyle, þat ye sono greet wat. »

**Wat** 2 (wɒt). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5–6 **watte**, 6–7 **watt**, 5–7, 9 *dial.* **wat.** [Prob. a use of *Wat*, short for *Walter* († *Water*).] A hare.

*a* 1500 *Alouyn. Hare* 26 in *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 44 Lo! he sayth, where sytyst an hare! Aryse upe, Watte, and go forthe blyve! *Ibid.* 60 As doth the sylly Wat. *c* 1500 in *Bokes lib.* (1808) 404, I wold my master were a watt & my boke a wyld Catt, & a brase of grehownds in hit toppe. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 The watte, *le lievrart*. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xxiv. 95 Neuer was there yet, any harke or wat, before hawke or dog, that darde or squat. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 677 Poore wat farre off vpon a hill, Stands on his hinder-legs with listning eare. 1820 Dekkyon *Pedestr.* xviii. 331 The man whose vacant mind prepares him to the sport, The Finder sendeth out to seek the nimble Wat. 1892 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccclxxxvii. 360 Had he not better have born Wat's Nibling of his Plants and Roots now, then the Huntsman's...Dogs of his Garden Wast.

† **Wat** 3, *Obs.* Also watte. [a. F. *watte*, a. Du. *watte* = F. *ouate*: see Wad *sb.*1] = Wad *sb.*1 3.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* ii. 99 He presented him with a noble coverlet of Watte [*Fr.* 1659 *ouatte*]. 1691 tr. *Polafox's Cong. China* xxxii. 566 Over this Shirt they wear a Vest, lined with Wat, or Cotton. *Ibid. foot-n.*, Wat is the Down which covers the seeds of the *Apocynum Syriacum*, called in English Silk-grass.

‖ **Wat** 4 (wat). Also watt. [Siamese, said to be a. Skr. *vihāra* enclosure, grove.] A Siamese Buddhist temple.

1870 *Rep. Japan & Meeol of Law* 264 We stop for the night at a Wat, or Buddhist monastery. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 853/2 (*Siam*) The temples (*wats*) hold very little landed or house property. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Aug. 4/2 Almost every 'wat' or temple, in that city [Siam] has in the grounds attached to it a large flat slab of whitewashed masonry. 1897 *Outing* Mar. 580/1 The occasional spire of a 'Wat'...temple, showing that the canal is one of the streets of the city [the capital of Siam].

**Wat,** obs. f. Quoth, What; Sc. and north. f. Wet *a.* and *sb.*, Wot *v.*; pa. t. of Wet, Wite *vbs.*; var. Wate *sb.* Obs.

**Wat,** Obs. Sc. form of Wait *sb.*

*a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 253 The erle of Mortoun also beand in leith halding wat on him.

**Watap, wattap** (wɒ·tăp). Also **watape, watapp.** [Natragansett Indian *wattap* 'a root of tree': Roger Williams *Key Lang. Amer.*, 1643).] (See quot. 1789.)

1789 A. Mackenzie *Voy. fr. Montreal* iii. (1801) 37 The vessels in which they cook their victuals, are in the shape of a round...and of watape, fashioned in a manner as to hold water. *Ibid. foot-n.* Watape in the name given to the divided roots of the spruce-fir, which the natives weave into a degree of compactness that renders it capable of containing water. 1804 *Edinburgh Encycl.* IX. 728 The roots are sewed together with this kind of filament. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 14 The small roots of the tree afford the wattap, with which the bark is sewed.

**Watch** (wɒtʃ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wæcce**, **wæce**, -**e**, **wecce**, 2 **wæcche**, 3–5 **wecche**, 5 **weoch**, 3–6 **weche**, 5 **welche**, 3–5 **waoche**, 4 **wachoche**, 4–6 **wache**, 5–6 **woch**, (6 **wash**(**e**), 4–6 *Sc.* **vach**, 6 *Sc.* **vatche**, **wyche**, 5 **walche**, **walche**, **waycche**, 5–7 **watche**, (6 **wash**(**e**, **watch**), 7 **wauch**, 6– **watch.** [OE. *wæcce* wk. fem., f. stem of Wacian: see Cf. Wake *sb.*1]

I. Wakefulness, vigil.

†1. The state of being awake; voluntary or involuntary going without sleep; wakefulness. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 350 To slæpe, gate horn under heafod zeliexð weccan [*e.r.* wæccan] he on slæpe þeczyreþ. *Ibid.* I. 352 Wið wæccan, sio micel wæcce þe þonne þeah zeglæd on ele smire [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Rem. Rose* 4132 Long waeche on nightis, and no slepinge. *c* 1440 Cathgrave *Sc. Knth.* 125 My lady wachis, and my lord wow nocht for to weche [*e.r.* wecch] ne in dreem. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 48 Semblably immoderate watch driueth to moch the body. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 148 He...Fell into a dead sleep; and I had neuer Vp to this night A wink of rest. 1611 — *Cymb.* iii. iv. 43 False to his Bed? What is it to be false? To lye in watch there, and to think on him? 1632 Sherwood in *Nat. Philos.* 52 There be certaine appointed courses for watch and sleepe, lest creatures languish with overmuch motion.

¶ b. *Watch of nightingales* : in the early lists of 'proper terms', app. intended to designate wakefulness as the distinctive quality of the bird; by late writers misapprehended as the proper term for a flock or company of nightingales. Cf. Watching *vbl. sb.*

*c* 1450 *Egerton MS.* 1995 (Hodgkin) Wayeche of Nyghtyngales. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vi, A wache of Nyghtingales. 1561 Strutt *Sports & Past.* i. ii. 33. [1847 Halliwell, *Wache*, a flock of birds.]

† 2. Watching as a devotional exercise or religious observance; an act or instance of this. *Obs.* except in *watch-night* (see 3).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 37 Mid fæstenne, & mid halzum weccum, & mid ælmesum. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 89 Lieue saule, ic ße bidde and warni ßat tu none hope ne haue upe ßine fasten, Ne upe ßine wæcche, ne upe non oðre golde. *c* 1200 Ormin 1451 Wiþþ fasstinng, & wiþþ bedesang, Wiþþ cnelinng, & wiþþ weoche. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Vesten, weccheu & oðre swuche ase ich nemde nu ieoð mine sacrefices. *c* 1275 *Orison* 21 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 239 Wunderliche þurh weoche and fast þi sweete þychome þu teonedest. 1291–1320 *Vol. Poems* xviii. 123 Keye þurst wache and servyce deme, And rule of halyke cleneþ seme. *c* 1450 Cargrave *Life St. Aug.* 27 So for to make hem mor lith in her wecch, þis same bischop ded ordeyn swete songis and delectable. 1506 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 With the merytes & werkes of harde penaunce, abstynence, watche, prayer, turmentes and martyrdome.

† b. A wake or revel held on St. John the Baptist's (Midsummer) Eve (23 June), sometimes renewed on St. Peter's Eve (28 June). *Obs.*

1445 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 220 Pur le Ridyng on Corpus Christi day and for Watche on Midsomer even. 1521 in *Songs, Carols* etc. (E.E.T.S.) App. 156 Of Mydsomer nyght be Kyng can preyvely to the Kyngis Hed in Chepe,...& so departid agayn after be wasshe. 1528 On seynt Peters nyght the Kyng & be Quene cam ryding to Chepe, and had royalty; & after be wasshe, departid to be Towr. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *an. Hen. VIII* (1550) 177 By reason of this plague the watches which were wont to be kept yerely in London on saint Thons euen at Mydsomber & saint Peters euen were ,,commaunded to be left for that yere. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 90, vj bukkes hornes for mydsomer nyght be Kyng cam preyvely to the Kyngis Hed in Chepe,...& so departid agayn after be washe. 1558 On seynt Peters nyght the Kyng & be Quene cam ryding to Chepe, and had royalty; & after be washe, departid to be Towr. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *an Hen. VIII* (1550) 177 By reason of this plague the watches which were wont to be kept yerely in London on saint Thons euen at Mydsomber & saint Peters euen were ,,commaunded to be left for that yere. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 90, vj bukkes hornes for mydsomer watch. 1592 Stow *Ann.* 1004, 1548. The watch...of long time laid downe, was now againe vsed, both on the eauen of S. John, and of S. Peter, in euery seuerall ward as hath beene accustomed, which watch was greatly beautified by the number of more than 300. demilances and light horsmen [etc.].

o. A 'wake' over a dead person.

1450 *Gen. & Ex.* 1467 Þrinache nolc, don for þe deele chirche-gong elnesse-gifte, and messe-song, And þat is on þe weches stede. 1908 *Ch. Times* 13 Mar. 347/2 A watch was held all night, the Men's Guild making themselves responsible.

3. The action or a continued act of watching; a keeping awake and vigilant for the purpose of attending, guarding, observing, or the like.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxi. § 1 Hu micele weccan & hu micle unrotnesse se hæfð þe ðæs wilnað þæt he hæfð ane hlisse worulde. 1300 Gower *Conf.* II. 96 So mot I nedes fro hire wende And of my wachche make an ende. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 180 He com to be gate of be castell of Mount Wenefryd, and was ber ya his prayers al a nyght. But on be morow, what for wach, what for wery, he fylle on slepe. 1542 Paynell *Compdyc. Castel.* I. ii. He was ones in great wache & warre: he could suffer and endure labour, wache, colde, thyrste, and hunger, far beyond that any man wolde beleue. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrodite* Ep. Ded. A ij b, Dudderidge Stoke...thorow his continuall wach and vnwearied trauaile, being lidnde of long time. 1592 Shaks. *Ram. & Jul.* ii. iii. 35 Care keepes his watch in euery old mans eye, And where Care lodges, sleepe will neuer lye. 1600 E. Pierce in *Archæologia* 317 They were so wearied with the watches of the last night. 1607 Dryden *Æneas* ix. 320 The Foe securely drench'd in Sleep and Wine, Neglect their Watch. 1704 Addison tr. *Ovid, Phaëton's Sisters* 31 All the long night their mournful watch they keep, And all the day stand round the tomb and weep. 1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 17 Dec., These night watches, and this close attendance, disagree with them all. 1827 Tennyson *Princess* vi. 129 Wan was her cheek With hollow watch. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* 213 Sometimes we would think of poor Mary Hawker, at her lonely watch up at the forest station. 1890 Stevenson *In South Seas* II. vi. (1900) 150 Mr. Osbourne had begun the watch; and as the sun was setting, he found himself by the grave alone.

4. [tr. L. *vigilia*, Gr. φυλακή, Heb. **אשמורת** *ashmōreth.*] Each of the (three, four, or five) periods into which the night was anciently divided. Now often in collective plural, *the watches of the night*, used rhetorically for 'the night-time'.

The Hebrews divided the night into three watches, the Greeks usually into four (sometimes five), the Romans (followed by the Jews in New Testament times) into four.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Homil.* II. 318 Hwilum cum Iesus to leorningcnihtum...on ðære feorðan wæccan. An wæcce hæfð þreo tida: feower wæccan ʒetyllað twelf tida; swa fela tida hæfð seo niht. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 25 On ðam ceorlan ðone ðriddan wæccan...on ðære þriddan. [So Tindale and all later versions: Wyclif has *wakynge*.] 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 143 b, In be nyght is dyuyded into iiii parter: whiche they calle iiii watches. The fyrst was from be begynnyng of be nyght vnto ix of be clocke. The second from ix to xii. The thyrde from xii to iii and the fourth from iii to vj of the clocke. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xiv. 24 Whan the mornynge watch came, the Lorde loked vpon the armies of the Egipcians. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. v. 28 As lese whose Rest was long: Why so with hands then bound Snores out the Watch of Night. 1604 — *Oth.* i. i. 124 At this odde Euen and dull watch o'th' night. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 119 The day was not diuided of the first Hebrewes, into houres, but was distinguished by *Vigiliæ*, or Watches, of which they had foure. 1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* iv. i. 51 *Fun.* Well, my dear, it begins to grow late, and it's time I should leave you. *Mrs. Fun.* It do's indeed, Husband, I believe the first watch is expir'd. 1742 Fielding *Joseph Andrews* i. xvi, When the company had retired the Evening before, the Thief was detained in a Room where the Constable, and one of the young Fellows who took him, were planted as his Guard. About the second Watch a general Complaint of Drowth was made. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 21 Jan., The watches of the night pass wearily when disturbed by fruitless regrets. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xci. 13 Come: not in watches of the night, But where the sunbeam broodeth warm. 1883 Miss Braddon *Reinola* i. viii, How can she hurry the pace? she asks herself desperately, in the watches of the night.

† 5. A vicious turning of night into day, 'chambering'. *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1366 For nabbe ich nawt þeos niht i worldliche weccheu, ah habbe in heouenliche iwaket. *c* 1430

Lydg *Min Poems* (Percy Soc) 90 Hateful of herte he was to sobrenesse, Chersashyng surfaytes waeche and gloteny.

**II.** Action of watching or observing.

**6.** The action or act of watching or observing with continuous attention, a continual look-out, as of a sentinel or guard. Chiefly in phrases, *to make watch, to keep (a, the) watch, to set a watch.*

1325 Rabbow *Bruce* IX 318 He has the castell tan Throu fait of vach, with full pain 1377 Langl *P Pl* B IX 17 Ac be constable of but castel bit kepeth al be waehe, I-a wys I wole with al, sare Inwitte be hatte *c* 1440 *Pr. Parv* 390 Wetche for enmees, *excubia* *c* 1450 *Merlin* 76 Therfore a ray youre oste and your barons, and commande hem to make gode waeche to diffende hem self *Ibid* 218 And thei[l] drinke and ete ech day and trouble so there bray nes that thei sette litill wac he in there hoste 1486 Cyrab Oxford in *Paston Lett* III 38 I sterely chaarge you that ye endevorn your self that suche wetche or other meanes be used and hulde in the poorts, and creks, and other places to the letting of it we seid purpose 1488 Elyot *Dict. Excubie*, a watche, as well by daye as by nyghte 1549 *Chron Grey Friars* (Camden) 60 That day begone 1850 the waehe at every gait in London of the comeres in harnes with weapon 1560 Daiez *Godly Serm* 120 They kepe so good waehe that nothing can escape them 1568 Grafton *Chr* II. 65 The Magistrates and governours caused great watches to be kept, and good order to be obseiued 1582 N Lichefield tr *Castanheda's Conq E Ind* I vii 18 The Generall determined to ettri with the Harbour of Mozambique vpon setting also hande shoulde be great watch, fo prest nition of the Moores 1594 Shaks *Rich III*, v iii 54 *Rich* Good Norfolke, hy e thee to thy charge, Use carefull Watch, chuse trusty Centinels 1625 Bacon *Ess. Fame* (Arb) 445 I me en t finde entrance, not only into an open Heart, but also into a Heart well fortified if watch be n t well kept 1670 Ray *Prov* 28 Good wat h prevents misfortune 1790 Pepys *Diary* III 1625 I well remember the stri t watches and examinations upon the ways at we prisard 1708 Sophia Lee *Canterb I, Young Lady's P* II 228 Mr Wad n strict watch kep t on the wander ngs of the mel ncholy Lenox 1827 Keble *Chr. Yr., Advent Sunday* iv I ven so, heart searching Lord Thou keepest silent watch from year to year 1833 Marryat *Pirate* I 235 James *Capsy* n, 'keep a good watch, my boys,' he said, 'I here is danger stirring abroad' 1844 Dickens *Amer Notes* xvi, Many an eager eye glanced into to where the Look out on the mast kept watch Holyhead 1867 Swinburne *Ess & Stud* (1875) 159 The look in it as of bright bewildered eyes with tears not theirs and when wonder in the watch of them 1886 C Scholl *Phrenol Diet* II 854, I kept a watch on that man all the time he was on the premises 1901 *Munsey's Mag* XXIV 515/2 He kept watch of you even after the money was stolen

*trans.* 1804 Campbell *Soldier's Dream* 2 The night cl oud had lowered, And the sentinel stars set their watch in the sky

**b.** The duty, post or office of watchman or sentinel. *Obs.* exc. in Bible phrase *to stand upon one's watch.*

1535 Coverdale *Neh.* VII 3 Whyle they are yet standinge in the watch, the d res shall be shut and barred And there were certayne citezeins of Jerusalem appoynted to be watchmen, euery one in his watch 1550 *Crowley Crt Lust Rec* (1905) I 115 Wherfore sit ys commaunde I that every man shuld kepe his wat hes for the welfare and Sauegard of the towne as fer[ ] 1581 A Hull *Hunt* VII 132 They to their supper do depaste, some to the watch do haye, And in mei tar tyred himmes to reste or soundlye slumbered lye 1600 Shaks *Oth* II iii 12 Welcome Iago we mu t to the Watch *Ibid* v ii 356 Besides, in Roderigo a Letter, How he vpbraides Iago that he made him Brue me vpon the Watch 1605 — *Lear* III vi 7 I did stand my watch vpon the Hill I look d toward Byrn me, and no s me thought The Wood began to move 1611 Bible *Hab* II 1, I will stand vpon my watch, and set me vpon the towre, and will watch to see what he will say vnto me.

**c.** Surveillance *over* a person, either for his protection or with hostile intent.

1611 Bible *Job* VII 12 Am I a sea or a whale that thou settest a watch over me? 1778 *Trial of Mirabeau-anne* 250, I do not put a watch over him, how can I tell wh ) has seen him 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III viii, We shall be able to keep a better watch over Mortimer Hyde 1820 Scott *Monast* v, Imprisment of the watch which was placed over her 1885 Bible (R. V.) *1 Sam* XXVII 1, Wherefore then hast thou not kept watch over thy lord the king?

**d.** *On, upon (the) watch* : on the look out, exercising vigilance Const *for, to* with *inf.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I (Globe) 203, I resolv d to put my self upon the Watch to see them when they came to Shore. 1773 J. Burgoyne *Lord of the Manor* 28 *not.* The bald eagle, which is generally upon the watch, instantly pursues [the fishing hawk] 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib* XXVI, Wherever they went she was evidently always on the watch 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXVI, The door opened when she knocked—I r Rob wis on the watch 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 182 He must be alw ys on the watch for the indications of a coming re olution 1875 Jowett *Thucyd* I 331 237 We should not have been on the watch to keep one another from doing wrong

**†e.** Watchfulness, vigilance. *Obs*

14.. Lydg. *Fyde thyn Enderne* 28 in *Fol Rel & Lowe Poems* (1901) 48 [Hunt game] with bowe and arow in honde Mawgre the weche of foures and parkerns 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* 111 241 Thoughe she ordeyned with all watche & dylygence her thoughten wordes & dedes to the wor-hyp of god yet she [etc] 1485 *Paston Lett* II 214 Maketh gode waehe be tyme

*Jerusalem*, *c* 1492 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 76 Agayn my lustes, Wach profynd his seruise, And I admitted hym in heuy wyse.

**7.** *Watch and ward* the action of watching and warding (see Watch v 6 b, 10, Watching 2 & *b* 1 *c* ); the performance of the duty of a watchman or sentinel, esp. as a feudal obligation. Now only (as often in earlier times) a rhetorical and more emphatic synonym of *watch* in sense 6, also *fig.*

It has often been supposed that in this phrase *watch* refers to service by night and *ward* to service by day, but this seems to be merely an unsupported inference from the etymology

1390 Gower *Conf* II 202 That maken thanne warde and waeche, Wher thei the profit mihten ceeche *c* 1485 in *Black Bk Admir* (Rolls) I 284 That every man be obeissant to his capitene to kepe his waeche and warde 1492 Caxton *Perceyall* (Wynkyn de W.) 1 e doth yow to vnderstande ye how yow wyth good waeche and warde 1523 Berners *Froiss* I ccclxxxiii 308 I hus they stode styll kepynge waeche and warde redy at their defence 1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb) 87 But I which spend, the darke and dreadful nights, In wi tch and ward when thove birds take their rest, Dorpine my selfe 1596 Spenser *F Q* I. xi. 9 Still, when she slept, he kept both watch and ward 1630 *R Johnson's Kingd. & Commw* 137 As for their Watch and Ward, it goes by course, as in the City of London, and divers other in your towns, 1687 *Dunbar Dubb* I Dee in *Lond Gaz No.* 2222/3 We do hereby further Require that the Laws of this Realm concerning the keeping of Watch and Ward, and for ringing the Bur and Cry be duly observed 1781 Hibbert *Sk Brist* I 60 But let government comprehend the whole in its justice and restrain the suspicious by its vigilance, let it keep watch and ward and then it will be safe to leave God and nature unmarked it should do 1817 Coleridge *Biog Lit* I xii 128 At least let us not be lulled into such a notion of our entire security, as not to keep watch and ward over our best feelings 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xi, Mrs. Pipchin had kept watch and ward over little Paul and his sister for nearly twelve months 1866 — *Our Mutual Fr* I. xiii, Mr. Boffin appointed Mr. Wegg sergeant My chief regard his pleasure that they should retire under watch and ward, and retired himself. 1868 *Local Act* 31 & 32 *Vict* c lix Freemen, Wherever the Court of Watch and Ward within the University and City of Oxford is hereafter been customarily exercised during the Night by the Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford, and during the Day by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Oxford 1873 Black *Pr Thule* xvii 267 The necessity of keeping some watch and w ard over his tongue 1906 J. P. Mahaffy *Empire of Ptolemies* 4 The ruling of the southern line of the Russian frontiers it was necessary to keep military watch and ward against the predatory incursions of Turkish tribes

**†b.** In *plural. Obs. rare*

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* IX xxv. (1495) 362 By waiches and wardes of knyghtes the nighte is departed in fowre. 1549 *Chron Grey Friars* (Camden) 65 The Lord *Fordes Vilger* (Camden) 70 Arragonne is the strongest towne of walles, towres, bulwerkes, watches, and w rdes that euer I saw in all my lyfe.

**†c.** = 8 b. *Obs.*

1566 *S Saxapton Crt Lect Rec* (1905) I 141 Item that non put eny catell Into the comyn who is not a howsholder and kyp a watche and warde vpon payne to forfet for every tyme so offendinge 2/-.

**†8.** The action of keeping guard and maintaining order in the streets, esp. during the night, performed by a picked body of the community. Phrase, *to keep a watch Obs.*

1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Wache or kepe (1843) I. 8 And ony watchemen that stepis in the nyght, or remayn is fr the watche quhile the v rrise, sal pay vnto the seruandes 1538 *Crt Leet* I. 68 770 [A Scotch] watch within the Citie & suburbes thereof shall be diss harged, fre thenshords of the seuen watches in this Citie & also of all payments & charges of the same 1543-48 W. Turner *Scholic. Rec Oxford* 168 In the night watch to be kept by the Universitie fremen should be vexed by the watch 1549 *Chron Grey Friars* (Camden) 65 That nyght was the comyners of London was dyscharged of ther watching at the walle from of I and at Algate, and to walke no more but the comyne watche as a nyttes in every warde as it hath bene accustomyd before 1598 J Davison *Pet rarch* 138 A watch to be kept by various persons every night, and two sentinels in every steeple by day.

**†b.** A payment or tax for the upkeep of watchmen. *Obs*

1430 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App v 204 No Maire shal grante ne fo rgyve ne sare ne t of Rede rele, waeche and affraye 1467 in *Pryc. Gilds* (1870) 390 That then he pay taske tallage, knyghtenespeice, waeches, and other charges that be ryse for the Kyng and the Lord and the said cite by 1506 *Ord Cryston Men* (W de W) iv ix 192 To pay e taxes watches subsydes, or passages agayn e their wyll.

**†9.** A lying in wait, an ambush ; hence an insidious design or plot Phrases, *to lay watch, to place an ambush, to lie at, in, watch (for).* *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 5585 But the freikes were ferd of hor fre shippes, for to care by the caste, & knew not the waches. 1438–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 195 Helle fleenge the waeches and ambusshes *Ibid. fugiens insidias numer. calcis.* 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg* 430 a Kepyng hym self right curyously fro the prychyng sawtes and waeche of the world 1533 Bellenden *Livy* (S T S) II 209 Ihai began to drede sum hid waeche and trevoun [L. *insidias veriti*]. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc* XI 68 And beholde, the hoostes of the Heithen met them in the felde & layed waich for them in the mountaynes 1548 in Leadam *Court Requests* (selden Soc.) 183 Defendauntes a leyd at diuers tymes watch to take the corne off the said complaynaunt 1548 Cranmer *Catech* 190 b, For if we should not much forbeare and forgyue one another, we shoulde neuer haue me asure nor ende of chiding wo dlynge, lying in waeche one of another [etc.] 1549 *Compl* vi 108 Ihai lay at the waich [*Scottish Text.* vaicht], lyk the ald sulsti doggis 1555 *Instit Gentil* E vij, Manius was abhorred of hys own soldiers, euen so muche as they tooke hym in a waeche, and set hym vpon an Asse backe hys fete bounde vnder the bely of the Asse [etc.]. 1653 Walton *Angler* iii 91 He [the trout] gets him into swifter and swifter streams, and there lies at the watch for any flie or Minow that comes near to him

**10.** One who watches, a look-out man ; + a spy.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI 44 But he, that had his waehe av On ilk vyde, of thar cummyng, Lang or thai com, had vittering. *Ibid* XIX 448 But the lord dowglas, that ay quhar Set out waehis heir and thar [Gaf] wit of thair ontbuschement. *c* 1405 *Roull Coil Lair* 176 The King bankit him soon with scant of 'squyry Wachis and Wardiroparis all war awai 1483 Caxton *G de la Tour* cxxii iv, Ily the false waeches & lad, ters whiche ben neuer cessyng to talke of our ayelle rather than of somme good thinge 1820 Lewis *Sketch Bk* I ii 26 Suddenly the watch gave the alarm of 'a sail ahead!'

**b.** *Cricket* A fieldsman, also, a fielding position or station. (*Winchester College.*)

1856 *Bow Sporting Mag* Oct 360 The fielding of the 'Wykehamist waeches was very different from years gone by 1843 [F Gale] *Tract Hints Cricket* Frontisp, The 'waeches are placed more behind the wicket, since the introduction of Round bowling, than they were formerly 1877 F Gale *Echoes fr Old Cricket Fields* 27 What I call an all-round player is a m n who will go to any watch he is told, long or short, except wicket keeper

**11.** One who watches, or those who watch, for purposes of guarding and protecting life and property, and the like, *esp.* before the introduction of the new Police, a watchman or body of watchmen, who patrolled and guarded the streets of a town, proclaimed the hour, etc.

1539 *Cov Leet Bk* 738 That fromehens forthe the seruantes that shall wayte the comen waeche of this Citie shall fore begyn to waeine the said seuer at seynt Margettes Chappell. 1571 *Rec Burgh Lanark* (1893) 63 The cunsell ordains the four last bellis to ding the toun on four oreleis time of thame nychtly reaave the waeche, and put nychtly sufficent wyches to the port 1596 Shaks 2 *Hen IV*, II iv 536 *Hostesse* The Sheriffe and all the Watch are at the doore: they are come to search the House, shall I let them in? 1599 — *Much Ado* III v 49 *Dog* One w rd sir, our watch sir have indeede comprehended two aspitious persons. 1607 T. D & G. Wilkins *Travels Three Bros* A young man being sheirt by a watch in the day time, for an idle fellow, was by a Constable brought before one of the sheriffes of London, [etc.] 1650–2 Hamilton *Cromwell* (Camden) II 326 On Munday morning at two a clock, some persons reported to be of gre t quality, sett upon the watch and killed a poore constable. 1681 Dryden *Absalom & Achit* I 1 *Ibid.* *Last stable and Watch, Const* I and my Watch going my morning Rounds, and finding your door open, made bold to enter: for there were no danger 1703 *Lond Gaz* No. 3901/4 A Watch which was posted near that Place came to his Assistance. 1752 F. Coventry *Jeoppy the Little* xiii 114 Gentlemen, answered the Watch, we are no Rascals, but Servants of Hin Majesty King George 1777 *Haughty Delamy's Feast* 12 Hullo! what's all this noise about? The 'o the watch house you must g o, an Phelim struck the watch across the nose, And cried out Murder, you sir 1848 *Mayhew Mis* III 51 From such neighbours the Cheap could not escape The watch was generally manly and always able, and in the depth of winter it was often exposed to frosty nights, 1876 [see] 1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* xvi, Then there was the watch with staff and lanthorn, crying the hour, and the kind of weather 1845 Disraeli *Coningsby* I. iii, The woman, with a piercing shriek, called the watch, but the watch answered not

**12.** A sentinel ; also, the body of soldiers constituting the guard of a camp, town, gate of a town, etc *? Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

13 *L E Allit Pr* B 1205 Bot er bay at wappe ne mogt be wich wyth oute, Hige skelt was be nakky bo skewes an vnder. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX 375 Thai herd no waehis spek no cry. *Ibid* XVIII 481 Thai set gud wachis thar wall. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 2185 Pan was ha non of al be waeche I at ys herte ne by gan to cracche *c* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 5215 Sone be waehis on be walles ban wistly ne cryes, Quo bat ware & quy[l]k bou art bou ne sall vndertake 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* IX iv 1177 (Wemyss) And that bir Burnyus wonnyng had Had no bir the gatis nic craking mad That walkyt the waehe nichtandy *c* 1440 *Gesta Romanorum* 123 The ladies and gentilwomen were not wele assured when they herd the belle of the waeche, for the comyng of the Turke 1500–20 Dunbar *Flyting* 31 I gaif be waeche vpoun the wall, That nevir slept bot evir wouke 1539 Bible (Cranmer) *Matt* XXVII 65 Pylate sayde vnto them, Ye haue the watch (Ye haue yowre wacheman), go your ways, make it as sure as ye can 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* II 101 It is also his [the Sergeant's] office to set & remoue the waeches 1822 Bible *Matt* XXVII 11 Behold, some of the watch came into the citie, and shewed vnto the high priests all the things that were done *c* 1670 Stalling *Ironi Chas I* (Bannatyne Club) II 322 Sir Johne Hurry gote throw the marques of Huntlyes lyving, he addressing his squire, 'let the watch be posted, and do thou remain within the tent 1844 Lefroud *Athen. Captive* III iii, The watch presently will be removed.

**13** In the early 18th c. the designation of certain companies of irregular troops in the Highlands. *Black Watch*, a name given (from the dark-coloured tartan worn by them) to some of these companies raised *c* 1729–30, and afterwards, 1739–40, embodied as the 42nd Regiment, which still retains the name

1739 Lovat in W Fraser *Chiefs of Grant* (1883) II 380 My Lord Prank is now in this time in the way to call the Black Watch I think it is a right name to us, for we are represented very black to our Generall. 1880 D Stewart *Sk. Highlanders* I 293 This corps, which has been so well known for nearly eighty years under the appellation of the 42nd Highland Regiment was originally known by the name of the *Reuendan Dis*, or black Watch. This was an appellation given to the Independent Companies of which the regiment was formed It arose from the colour of their dress 1900 Lo Roberts *Dispatches in Daily News* 10 May 5/1 The Black Watch distinguished themselves, and were very skilfully led 1913 N. Munro *New Road* 116 (1914) 35 The Highland Watches were considered in some quarters dubious servants of the King.

**14.** A hill serving as a look-out station. *Sc.* (*? Obs.* exc. in local names.)

27.. Pennecuik *Wks.* (1815) 30 (E. D. D.) Hills are variously named, according to their magnitude; as.. Tor, Watch, Rig.. 1820 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* III. 122 There are like in the same parish, called watches, where persons sat in order to give notice on the first approach of an enemy.

**†15.** Something to catch the eye, a bait to catch the attention of a hawk. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 293 And thou wolt take a goshawke, let his watch be a colvoure; and yf he faille not there to, put a rabbet.

**†16.** A signal. *Obs.*

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 247 The Englishe lordes hauing giuen the princesse Virginia a watch to linger behinde and step aside (orig. *pour un signal fait escarter de la compagnie la Princesse V.*).

**III.** Nautical uses.

**17.** [Developed from sense 4.] That period of time for which each of the divisions of a ship's company (called ' watches ': see 18) alternately remains on deck; usually four hours, with the exception of the dog-watches (see Dog-watch). (One's) *watch below, off*, the time one is off duty. *To be off the watch*: to be off duty.

1589 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. ii. a We about the first watch sayled straight towards the port of Cerry.. at 4 of the clock in the morning wee had 12 leagues, and at 8 of the clock we had run 30. leagues we had 40. fadom, then 70. then 100. After 2. or 3. watches more we were in 24. fadoms. 1634 Bedarton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 At the master of the ship conceived we ran seven leagues in a watch, in four hours. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3317/4 In a Watch and a half .. they gained so much of us, that we saw no probability of coming up with them. 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 434 He that on the mainmast head While morning kindles with a windy red, Begins a long look-out for distant land, Nor quits, till ev'ning watch, his giddy stand. 1848 W. A. Ross *Yacht Voy. Norway*, etc. II. 256 The sailors who were below and off the watch, rose as we entered. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. xxi. 128 At eight o'clock in the morning your watch-below comes round, and you are not liable to duty until noon. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Watch*,..the word is also applied to the clock having which the watch remains on deck, usually four hours, with the exception of the dog-watches. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* 1. 4 I counted seven spells in one watch, ranging from eight knots to seventeen. 1914 *Glasgow Herald* 26 Aug. 8 The master was having his watch off, and was lying down amidships.

**b.** A sailor's turn or period of duty.

1793 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 18 They were a part of the men whose watch it was. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* I. iii. 26 He stood as fair a chance as a brighter man.. of maintaining his six hours' watch to the satisfaction of his officer.

*transf.* 1908 *Daily Chron.* 10 Apr. 1/5 This afternoon a batch of telegraphists due on duty refused to attend. The batch then on duty declared that they would go out on strike when their watch ended.

**18.** That part, usually one half, of the officers and crew, who together attend to the working of a vessel during a ' watch ' (see 17). The usual two divisions, *port* (*† larboard*) and *starboard watches*, are sometimes again divided into two, making four in all.

1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 790 The Corporall is to see to the setting and relieuing the watch. 1794 — *Sea Grammar*. xiii. 61 We vse the vigilant to keepe your first watch to windward. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 14 It was all that both the watches could do together to tacke about the sailes. 1699 J. Atkins *Voy. Archangel* 103 We set our Sprit-Sail too, but all the Watch, which were ten Men, were two hours in getting it loose. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* I. 1 My Officer of the Watch (who' I was Gunner of the Ship, I had the Charge of a Watch during the whole Voyage). 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., *To set the Watch*, is to appoint one division of the crew to enter upon the duty of the watch; as at eight o'clock in the evening. Hence it is equivalent to *mounting the guard* in the army. 1836 Sconesby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 351 Each watch consists of two boats' crews. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, The watch was called as soon as the sails were trimmed. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xiii Instead of having a watch on deck and a watch below, as at sea, all hands are at work together. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of Sea* vii. 181 ' Any man would scorn to be Tyrrell's sister's son,' said the starboard watch. *Ibid.*, ' The grub's horrid,' said both watches.

**b.** *Watch and watch*, the arrangement by which the two halves of a ship's crew take duty alternately every four hours.

1782 *Mirror* No. 91 ' Business,' cried the Captain, ' is not oratory business? and why cannot they set to it watch and watch, as we do at sea?' 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. 22 He was stationed in the foretop at watch and watch. 1849 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xii, They were either mast-headed, or put watch and watch. 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* I. xxi. 128 In a man-of-war at sea, the sailors have watch and watch; that is, through every twenty-four hours they are on and off duty every four hours. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Watch and Watch*, the arrangement of the crew in two watches.

*transf.* 1889 ' Mark Twain ' *Yankee at Crt. Arthur* xi, Well, he stood watch-and-watch with me, right straight through, for three days and nights, till the child was out of danger.

**IV.** A timepiece.

**†19.** An alarm-clock, or an alarum attached to a clock. *Obs.*

The sense in the first example is doubtful, as the Latin rendering is omitted; but on etymological grounds it seems likely that the sense ' alarum ' is the oldest of the senses of this branch. With the form *wecche* in quot. 1440 cf. *wecche*, Watch *v.* (trans.) to awaken.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wecche, of a clokke. 1542 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* XVIII. 149 Item oone Clocke.. Item oone Lanyon Watch of iron, the case being likewise iron gilt with two plumettes of led.

**20.** † a. A dial or clock-face; the circle of figures on a dial. *Obs.*

1588 Greene *Perimedes* G 2 b, Readeste the clocke that chimes hir fast a sleepe. Diuisit thoughts the minits of her watch. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, v. v. 52 For now hath Time made me his numbring clocke; My Thoughts, are minutes: and with Sighes they iarre, Their watches on vnto mine eyes, the outward Watch, Whereto my finger, like a Dials point, Is pointing still, in cleansing them from teares. 1672 in *Leatherhead Rec.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) *Var. Collect.* 1901 I. 315 For mending the clock there, and for making a watch or dyall uppon the tower of the said Borough.

**b.** The going-part of a clock. † *Obs.*

1676 W. Derham *Artif. Clock-m.* i. 3 The parts of a Movement, which I shall consider, are the Watch, and Clock. The Watch-part of a Movement is that which serveth to the measuring of the hours. In which the first thing I shall consider is the Ballance. 1816 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 376 The profile of the watch or going part of a clock is shewn by fig. 4, pl. VI.

**21.** A small time-piece with a spring-driven movement, and of a size to be carried in the pocket.

The occasional occurrence of the term *pocket-watch* (see quot. 1705 below) suggests that the word was sometimes applied to spring-driven clocks of larger size, from the beginning of the 15th c. ' watches ' (from the context clearly pocket watches) are often spoken of as striking.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. i. 364 A Watch that is like a Garmane Cloake, Still a repairing: euer out of frame, And neuer going a right, being a Watch: But being watcht, that it may well goe right. 1590 Harvey *Pierces Supererog.* 24 Surrender vp your watch though it were gold. 1598 Greene *Conny Catching* III. E 2 b, He reported his freend had lost a watch of golde: shewing how closely his freende wore it in his bosome. 1608 Middleton *Trick to Catch Old One* Wks. (1886) I. 308 Here's winding up the watch of his wit, fly and by it will strike. 1695 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* I. i, (*He throwes forth his watches, and other tricks.*) 't strikes I. One, two, Three, foure, five, six. Inough, inough, deare watch. *c* 1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 147 The gold watch sett with Turkies. 1705 *Hist. Vitæ Dyrotheæ* 13 (1876) 21 While he told the sands of his hour-glass, or the throbs and little beatings of his Watch. 1852 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 308 A verie pretie watche of an agate, with one case of silver. *c* 1657 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 135 A plain sillvor woch.. I have it merely to know how the time goes most by. 1658 J. Nevile tr. *Disarius' Voy. Ambuss.* 270 A gilt brass Candlestick, that thirty hanches high, having a striking Watch within the Body of it. 1662 S. P. *Acc. Latitude-mem* 16 There are also imperfect Clocks called Watches which do not strike. 1676 W. Derham *Artif. Clock-m.* i. 3 A hand turning round. 1688 R. Stapley *Diary* in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* II. 123 July 12th, bought..a silver-case-ed watch, price one Jne. That Watch shewes 24 hour of ye day, y^e day of y^e month, y^e months of y^e year, y^e age of y^e moon, and y^e ebbing and flowing of y^e waters; and will goe 30 houres each time winding up. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* iv. (1721) 210 Pocket your Watch, and Watch your Pockets. 1709 W. Derham in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 240 Whether the vacuum affected the going of a pocket-watch. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Watch*, a Pocket-clock for the measuring of Time. 1751 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* v. iv. 57 Lady Tempest, looking at her Watch, declared it was time to be going. 1784 Johnson *Let. to Sastres* 21 Aug., Dictionaries are like watches, the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true. 1837 Hubert *Englis. & Mech. Devices* I. 683 The essential difference between clocks and watches consists in the nature of the regulator employed; which in clocks is the pendulum, and in watches the balance wheel. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvi, The doctor..drew out his watch, and felt her pulse. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. § 814 A Clock is properly an instrument which, by means of a train of wheels, records the number of vibrations executed by a pendulum; a Chronometer or Watch performs the same office for the oscillations of a flat spiral spring.

**b.** Applied to a pocket time-piece regulated otherwise than by a balance-wheel and hair-spring.

1666 in Birch *Hist. Royal Soc.* (1756) II. 83 April 18. Mr. Hooke produced a new kind of watch, the motion of which was regulated by a pendulum, the balance of it being a bar of steel. 1667 Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 247 Several new kinds of Pendulum Watches for the Pocket, wherein the motion is regulated, by Springs, or Weights, or Ballances, or Fires. 1676 W. Derham *Artif. Clock-m.* viii. 98 Of the Invention of those Pocket-Watches, commonly called Pendulum Watches.

**c.** In chronometer as used on board ship.

1778 R. Waddington *Sea Officer's Comp.* 7 Suppose the alt. of the sun taken at 8h. 22' A.M. by the watch. 1794 J. H. Moore *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 216 Suppose a ship at sea in lat. 50° 30' N. by account, at 9h. 53m. 30s. by watch. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 51 Our chronometers gave the longitude of the north end of Prince's Island 8° 26' 45" E. The watch makes the N.W. point of St. Thomas in 6° 21', [etc.].

**d.** *nonce-use.* A mechanism with rotating hands or pointers which move at any fixed ratio of speed.

1882 Nineteenth *Cent. Astron.* 55 *A B* and *AC* may then be simply two hands of a ' Watch ' whose mechanism is at *A*, such that the angle turned through by the hand *AC* is always three times the angle turned through by the hand.

**22.** A trial piece of glass, pottery, copper, etc. put in a furnace and taken out again, to enable the workman to judge of the degree of heating and the condition of the material operated on.

[App. a mistranslation of F. *montre*, in this application used in the sense of show-piece (from *montrer* to show), but commonly meaning a watch (timepiece).]

1606 Peacham *Art of Drawing* 69 Lay with every bed of your wrought and drawn glass one of the said pieces, which are called watches. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 320 A small proof of copper, of the form of a watch-case, and therefore called *montre*, is taken out from time to time. *Ibid.* 1016 Pyrometric balls of red clay..are employed in the English potteries to ascertain the temperature of the glass kilns. The glazer provides himself at each round with a stock of these ball watches.

**23.** *U.S.* (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict., Watch* 9 pl. A name of the trumpet-leaf, *Sarracenia flava*, probably alluding to the resemblance of the flowers to watches.

**† V. 24.** Cant. *His, her, my watch* : = Himself, herself, myself. *Obs.*

*c* 1530 Copland *Hye Way Spytted Hous* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 69 The patryng coue in the darkman cace Docked the dell for a coper meke, His watch shall feng a prounces nolchate. 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 61 Thys harlot.. had an vpright man or two alwayes attendinge on her watche (why,che is on her parson). *Ibid.* 86 That is benesshyp to our watche. 1611 Dekker *O per se* O O 3 b, I met a Dell, I viewde her well, she was benship to my watch.

**VI. 25.** *dial.* = Ware *sb.*[2] 6.

1892 *Pictorial World* 23 Apr. 733/2 They are feeding in one of the little pieces of open water—'watches' they are called—where the springs are strong, and the fowl keep the water moving.

**VII.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

**26.** simple attrib. (sense 21), as *watch-back*, *-barrel* (Barrel 5 b), *bow* (sb.[1] 11 a), *cock* (sb.[1] 16), *-dial* (sb.[1] 4), *-face*, *-holder*, *-key* (also *attrib.*), *-movement* (3 b), *pendant* (sb. 11), *pendulum-wire*, *pillar* (sb. 8).

1894 A. H. Church 7. *Wedgwood* x. 76 **Watch-backs*,.. for which Wedgwood was employed with success his beautiful jasper paste. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Watch-barrel*. 1882 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 284 **Watch bow*, the round ring of a watch case to which the guard is attached. 1859 — *Old Clocks & Watches* 346 **Watch Cocks*. The first of the cocks or brackets used to support one end of the balance staff were probably quite plain. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v., *Watch-dials are usually made of thin sheet copper [etc.]. 1899 F. J. Britten *Old Clocks & Watches* 120 Decoration in enamel is sometimes to be found on watch dials..produced during the early part of the eighteenth century. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 725/1 He felt for his watches and struck one to look at his *watch-face. 1915 Kipling *Thrasyllus* 38 Then he drew his Voss-watch also [is] in the coralline *watch-holder. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Supld. 2/2 David Evans.. Silver and brass *watch keys. 1894 Hood *Up Rhine* 110 A watch-key is the shape of a pistol. 1783 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6189/4 *Watch Key-maker. 1795 J. Aikin *Manchester* 321 They make *watch-movements. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 284 **Watch Movement*, the plates with the wheels and pinions composing the train. 1815 **Watch Pendant*, the little neck of metal connecting the bow to the hand of a watch case. 1849 Nolan *Electricity* 65 The *watch-pillars, of steel, sold at the watchmakers' tool shops, under the name of *watch pendulum-wire. 1899 F. J. Britten *Old Clocks & Watches* 548 *Watch Pillars..are now universally made of a plain cylindrical form.

**27.** Special comb.: **watch-alarm** (see quot.); **watch-ball**, a ball of clay used to test the temperature of a glaze kiln (see sense 22 above); † **watch-birth** *nonce-use*, ? a lunar crescent brought to birth by watching; **watch-boat**, a boat on patrol duty; **watch bracelet**, a bracelet fitted with a small watch; **watch-candle**, a candle used for night-watching, a watching candle; **watch cap** (see quot.); **watch-care** *U.S.*, watchful care; **watch-chain**, a metal chain used as a watch-guard; **watch-cloak**, **-coat**, a thick, heavy cloak or coat worn by seamen, soldiers, or watchmen when on duty in bad weather; † **watch-cobbler**, ? a mender of watches; **watch committee**, the committee of a borough council which deals with all matters pertaining to the policing and public lighting of the borough; **watch-fire**, a fire maintained during the night as a signal, or for the use of a sentinel, party or person on watch; **watch-free** *a.*, free from the duty of watching or keeping guard; † **watch George**, ? a George (George 3) in the form of a watch; **watch-guard**, a chain, string, ribbon, or the like used to secure a watch when it is worn on the person; **watch-gun**, † (*a*) a spring gun used as a guard against trespassers; (*b*) *Naut.* (see quot. 1815); **watch hand**, each of the hands of a watch; also *attrib.* in *watch-hand rotation*, rotation from left to right like that of the hands of a watch; **watch-header** *U.S.*, the officer in charge of a watch; **watch hill** (see quot. 1895); **watch-hook**, a hook for fastening a watch to the dress; † **watch hour**, the hour for sounding the watch; **watch jeweller**, a workman who fits the jewels in the pivot-holes of watches; **watch-jobber**, a mender of watches, esp. as a watchmaker's employé; **watch-keeper**, one who keeps watch or serves as a member of a watch on board ship; an officer in charge of a watch; † **watch-knoll** (*-know*) *Sc.* = sense 14; cf. *watch-hill*; **watch lamp**, an apparatus for illuminating the face of a watch at night; **watch-lining** = *watch-paper*; † **watch-mail**, -meal *Sc.*, ' a duty imposed for maintaining a garrison ' (Jam.); **watch mark** *Naut.*, a mark worn on the sleeve, indicating the watch to which the wearer belongs; † **watch-master** (see quot.); **watch-mastiff**, a mastiff kept

as a watch dog; **watch mate,** a fellow-member of a ship's watch; † **watch-meal** (see *watch mail*), † **watch money,** a sum of money paid for watching, **watch-nick** (see quot.), **watch-night,** originally a religious service extending over midnight held monthly by Wesleyan Methodists; in later use a service held (by Methodists and others) on New Year's eve, lasting until midnight, also, the night upon which the service is held, **watch-officer,** an officer who takes his turn as the officer in charge of the watch, **watch-oil,** a highly refined lubricating oil used for watches and clocks, **watch-paper,** a disc of paper, silk, or other material, inscribed or painted with an ornamental design, a picture, rhyme, or other device, inserted as a lining or pad in the outer case of an old-fashioned watch; **watch-part** = *watch train*, **watch-peal,** a warning peal (of a bell), **watch peel** (see *Peal sb*[3] 4), **watch-pocket,** a small pocket in a garment for carrying a watch, also, a pocket or pouch at the head of a bed, to hold a person's watch at night, **watch point,** a watching station, **watch pole,** a watchman's pole or staff, **watch post** *Mil.*, a position at which a body of soldiers, a sentinel or watchman, is stationed on watch, also, a body of guards, **watch rate,** a rate levied by a municipal borough to defray the expenses of watching, **watch-riband,** a watch guard in the form of a riband, **watch round** = ROUND *sb*[1] 14, **watch-seal** = SEAL *sb.*[2] 3 †; **watch-setting** *Mil.*, the posting of the watch, **watch-spring,** the mainspring of a watch, also (without article) as a material, also *attrib*, **watch-stand,** † (*a*) a look out position for a sentinel or watchman, (*b*) a small case or stand in or upon which a watch may be placed so that its face may be seen, † **watch stage** = GUARD *sb.* 12, **watch-string,** a watch guard of cord, **watch-tackle** *Naut.*, a TACKLE (*sb* 3) by means of which the watch can perform various operations without the help of additional men; **watch train,** the set of wheels and pinions which drive the hands of a clock as distinguished from the striking train; **watch-wheel,** the balance wheel of the 'watch-work' of a clock, also *Comb*; **watch-woman,** (*a*) a woman who 'watches' in a sick room or attends a sick person; (*b*) a woman who performs the duties of a night watchman, (*c*) a woman who keeps up (*nonce use*), † **watch-wright,** a watchmaker. Also WATCH BELL, WATCH BILL, WATCH BOX, WATCH CASE, WATCH-CLOCK, WATCH DOG, WATCH-GLASS, etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, † *Watch alarm*, an instrument with going works to sound an alarm at a specified period 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* II 1 The 'watch bells' of these first rounds have generally not so deep a colour as if they were tried in a furnace three or four months old 1868 SILVERTOP *Du Boresse* II iv 87 The 'watch' the eternal 'Watch herbs of thy [*sc.* Solomon's] sacred Writ [= his three books *Ps. De tem. domini cuprit les vesties etes meilles*] 1786 J. ANSLEY *Comp. Anquet* I 303 We were invited with an night of the enemy, and there 'watch boats are continually rowing about. 1892 C. R. B. BARRETT *Voice* III 90 The *Henrietta* (pinnace) was at that time [c 1664] acting as watch boat, and there are many references to it as saving boats that had used trawls 1910 *Times* 13 Oct 14 3 He was hailed by an localistic watchboat The watchboat interrupted their fishing and finally steamed alongside 1898 *Lodge's Peerage* Apr 449/1 The 'watch bracelet, with its setting of substantial leather, is a convenient adjunct to the cry for 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII xxviii 145 Leeches with the pith whereof maketh wicke for 'watch candles and funerall lights 1805 BACON *Adv. Learn* I iv § 6 For were it not better for a man in a haze to use a 'watch-light great in bulk, than to goe about with a small wax candle into every corner? a 1721 KEN *Anecdotes* Poet Wks 1721 III 421 As in the Night I reside in, I the Watch Candle keep in Use 1921 WEBSTER, *Watch cap*, a knitted close fitting jersey blue cap worn by enlisted men in the United States navy in cold or storm 1898 *Lantern Mag* (U S) VI 253/1 The years of 'watch civic which she has given to the child have left no charge 1908 D. S. MACKAY *Relig. of Threshold* v 27 The faith [this man has] hold of God's watch-care in these two extremes of the day 1730 *Act* 12 *Geo. II* c. 6 § 13 For assaying . . Gold Hooks for 'Watch Chains to Pence apiece 1776 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I 249 Sir Sedley smiled and played with his watch chain 1837 DICKENS *N. Nick. Introd.* 5*, The immensely long waistcoat, and silver watch chain dangling below it. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 18 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) III vi 207 Daff and I sat upon deck, like two great bears, wrapt in 'watch cloaks 1842 *Brit. Shed* XIV 80 Shelved spring himself in his long *kappe* or military watch cloak, he [the Norman soldier] withdrew 1770-4 in Alice M. Peile *Trent Lent Customs Introd.* (1923) 37 A White Lenten cloth 'Watch-coat. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 135 There were also several thick Watch Coats of the Seamens, but they were too hot for me 1827 I. MACKENZIE *Keelcastle* II 226 Each watchman is provided with a warm watch coat, a lanthorn a rattle 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, The Captain laid her down, and covered her with a great watch coat 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I 177 'I'll warrant ye said a shrewd lawyer, though not Foxes) this Rosebuck left his colours for no good. 'Good! but cried a great greasy 'watch cobler, 'tis my belief that he was reduced for cowardice. 1839 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will IV*, c. 76 § 76 The Council shall appoint a sufficient Number of their own Body, who, together with the Mayor shall be and be called the 'Watch Committee for such Borough 1884 *Encycl. Brit* XVII 28/1 The mayor is *ex officio* a magistrate for the borough and a member of the watch committee 1821 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xxxiv, And by the 'watch fire's glimmering light was seen An huntress maid 1824 IRVING *Conquest* I ii, Such were the notes that from the Pirate's isle Around the kindling watch fire rang the while 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii 215 Watch fires were lit round the encampment 1581 STYWARD *Martiall Discipl* 30 The Watch ought in great extremitie shall be 'watch free 1614 in *Archælogia* XLII. 350 Item a 'watche George 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, Miss Emily Brunton was making a 'watch guard 1839 — *Nich. Nick.* II, the dark complexioned men who wear large rings and heavy watch guards. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 106 A maid servant at Paddington was accidentally shot by a 'watch gun which was usually set by the family as a defence against rogues. 1779 *Regul. H. M. Service at Sea* 9 Cap tains are forbid to fire the Watch Gun in any Port unless there be at least Five of H. M. Ships in Company 1798 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) III 132 The Marquis fired a shot from his morning gun into the Town I fire no 'watch guns 1815 *Admiral's Del.* 21 Let the Marquis of *Wat h Gun* the gun which is fired on b ard ships of war at the setting of the watch in the evening and relieving it in the morning 1773 *Pennsylv Gaz* 29 June, Supra 2 Added Cash and 'watch bands 1888 MINCHIN *Unpl Anim* 36 Anolis never seen every point in the body rotated about him in a sense opposite to that of watch hand rotation *Ibid* 201 Uroplatus *fimbriatus* of *Q.* V. 1229 Colour Pattern The divisions of the crew are known as the starboard and larboard watches, commanded respectively by the first and second mates of the second and third rate; these are known as 'watch headers 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick upon Tweed* (1888) 448 Any man that cometh to the 'watch hill and is by the captain of the 'watch hill commanded to stay . . *Watch Hill*, the hill from which the outlook was kept against border freebooters, hence now frequent as Border place names 1698 *Fox Acts* & *Mon.* (1576) V 1 Sentinel 'Watch Hook . . was lost the 17th instant 1790 MRSWALL *Nature* (Brandt) 43 Who taught the cok hys 'watche hours to observe 1884 J. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clock* 100 'Watch-jewels are quite a glass with double lenses 1 in. or much in diameter 1895 *Daily Chr* 28 Aug 8/4 'Watch Jol ber (Really good) wanted 1900 F. T. BULLEN *11 th Christ at Sea* xi 220 The second mate . . was in the habit of visiting various offices of bosun, sailmaker, and 'watchkeeper 1900 *Times Lit Suppl* 13 May 298 4 He exchanged his duties as watch-keeping officer for those of 'watch-less leisure 1645 in J. Wilson *Annals of Ilkley* (1850) 63 [A burgess charged with not being present at the rating of the comm n] confessed his fault . . and submitted . . [he] being chosen him of the penalty and fine 1823 J. BADCOCK *Print Anims* 10 203 Contrivance for a 'Watch Lamp which will show the Hour of the Night, without trouble to a person lying in bed 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I xxiv, An old silk purse, having worked with beads! 1710 POLWHEILE *Diary* (1761) II 559 Others more prol ably conjecture from its name given to it by Skeen, a 'watch-place for the watchmen of Kilbride, that it was for the system once of the garrison of Dunbarton *Ibid.*, When this 'watch mail was constitute 1880 STEARN *Adventures Watch* (1882) 11 It is now several years since I brought out the navy to have 'watch marks in the sleeve of the frock 1585 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl* 479 *Excubiæ*, the watchmaster, or the sergeant that goeth the rounde or watchword to the soulders 1778 W. PEARCE *Haunts of Shakespeare* 13 Or drowsy 'watch mansiff that buys the sharp wind 1832 L. FOX *H. Wood* I (1635) 174 That no man shall make any 'watch-shot, either at his House or to his 'Watch-mate. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef Mast* xvi, About midnight we were waked up by cur two 'watch mates. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec 1/1 The 'watch of 'watchers and my watchmates were waiting to be taken on board again 1628 *Tithe* (Kent) *Estate Acc* (MS) fol 125 'Watch money 6 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* 1736 *Notes* & *Vb* 1886 *Lett* 76 There is paid in black mail or watch money, openly, or privately, £500 1897 P. WARING *Tales Old Regime* 122 Hunt opened the watch-nick—a tiny new field of time interpreted steed of 'wat h spring 1794 WALKER *Trial* 9 Apr, We had the first 'watch-night in London We commonly choose for this solemn service the Friday night nearest the full moon 1884 *Encycl. Brit* XVI 720/2 A modern 'watch-night goes to their chapel on New Years eve—or the 'Watch Night, as they call it 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz* 10 July 10/2 Mr. Gladstone charged with conspiring against the Army at a 'watch night' service. 1898 KIPLING *Ff et in Barrack* 29 On a third class cruiser he [the sub] is a 'watch officer 1900 *Daily Chr* 17 Oct 5/3 Mr. Gladstone's watch should be employed 1777 in *Ann. Reg.* LXVII 335 A watch paper on which there are some very fine hair strokes of a graver 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* vii (1870) 170 Nor did he cut out letters as we cut out watch papers 1898 O. W. HOLMES *Autocrat* ix (1903) 208 He opened the watch and handed me the loose outside case without a word . . I had written a watch paper with two little hearts, a flower (etc) 1908 [MISS P. POWER] *Letts Trent & Archolme* xi He wrote minutely the Creed and the Lord's Prayer on each paper 1898 W. [HARWOOD] *Stiff Clock* xv 13 The 'Watch part of a Movement is that which serveth to the measuring the hours. 1656 HEVLIN *Surv Britance* 12 The Pr ebendary, of this Bell [tract, &c. the invocation of the hunt] use it was warning or 'watch peal to avoid that street the sigh which they hear it coming 1880 A. GRIMM *Gerl Sk* 2 Watch peels, rattles, and towers 1837 DICKENS *Hard Times* Constantly in suspense the timepiece which she kept at the bottom of a deep 'watch pocket, and was raised to the surface by means of a black string 1845 D. JERROLD *St Giles* I ii, Before he attempted to place it in the watch pocket at the head of the bed 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Preacher* 163 When a constable, then a second, and a third, were all seen standing upon me from 'watch points, where they had been in hiding 1728 SHERIFF *Speech* N 358 P 2 A Gentleman that has several Wounds in the Head by 'Watch Poles. 1892 GROTE *Greece* II lxii 298 The occupation of Aboïla by the Lacedæmonian general was a sort of 'watch post 1887 BOWEN *Aeneid* III 238 Signal Misenus gives from his watch post set on the steep 1888 E. GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II xxxviii 144 On the extreme frontier of Transylvania, however, he left behind him a portion of his army, to serve as watch post 1839 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will IV* c. 76 § 92 Provided that in every Case in which before the passing this Act any Rate might be levied in any Borough for the Purpose of watching it shall be lawful for the Council of such Borough to levy a 'Watch Rate 1862 SMILES *Self Help* 214 Blenman was on one occasion selected by the ratepayers to collect the watch-rate for the parish of St. Anne 1836 MARRYAT *P. Simple* II, The captain gave a youngster five dozen the other day for wearing a scarlet 'watch riband, 1828–43 LYTTON *Pilgrims Scot* (1864) I 233 Spalding determined, on the night when it was his turn to take his part in the 'watch round, to await the enemy in an escalade 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterbury Tales* I 151 The 'watch seals of the Marquis 1840 CARLYLE *Hero-w* (1841) 193 He does not 'engrave *Truth* on his watch seal 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 201 After which no Trumpet is to sound, or Drum to beat, in the Garrison except at 'Watch setting and Labour. 1824 *Ibid* 259 The Trumpets are to sound for Watch setting, and the Tattoo at 10 beat at Eight o'clock 1920 *Daily Tel.* 21 Mar 10/7 The ceremony of playing the Retreat on watch-setting is observed all over the Empire wherever an infantry battalion is quartered 1960 in *Phil Trans* LI 829 I cut off several slips from different leaves, each of which I placed between two bits of 'watch paper 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 375 I hin plates rolled up in the manner of a watch spring 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* liv, The fat boy returned, slumber ing peacefully in his chekey, over the stones, as if it had been a down bed on watch springs 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I 280 Watch springs are hammered out of round steel wire of the diameter until they fill the gage for width 1897 *Daily News* 22 June 7/4 The watch spring steel is manufactured at Sheffield 1820 HYALEN *Sk Ang Critic of Cat* iii 121 In time of warre, or suspition the watchmen shall have bells in their small stacks, vpon their high 'watch stands [L. *in editis specubus*]. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade, Watch stand*, a mantel piece or toilet rest or support 1908 *Watch Setting and Time Keeping* 1 Watch setting and Labour. 1824 *Ibid* 259 The Trumpets are to sound for Watch setting, and the Tattoo at 10 beat at Eight o'clock 1920 *Daily Tel.* 21 Mar 10/7 The ceremony of playing Retreat on watch-setting is observed all over the Empire wherever an infantry battalion is quartered 1960 in *Phil Trans* LI 829 I cut off several slips from different leaves, each of which I placed between two bits of 'watch paper 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 375 Thin plates rolled up in the manner of a watch spring 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* liv, The fat boy returned, slumber ing peacefully in his chekey, over the stones, as if it had been a down bed on watch springs 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I 280 Watch springs are hammered out of round steel wire of the diameter until they fill the gage for width 1897 *Daily News* 22 June 7/4 The watch spring steel is manufactured at Sheffield 1820 HYALEN *Sk Ang Critic of Cat* iii 121 In time of warre, or suspition the watchmen shall have bells in their small stacks, vpon their high 'watch stands [L. *in editis specubus*]. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade, Watch stand*, a mantel piece or toilet rest or support 1908 *Watch Setting and Time Keeping* 1 Watch setting and Labour. 1824 *Ibid* 259 The Trumpets are to sound for '

watching up many a long winter night to keep the wolf from his door.

**c.** To remain awake *with* a sick person or at his bedside, for the purpose of rendering help or comfort.

1691 Tillson in *Baxter's Certainty Worlds Spirits* 148 Between One and Two-a-Clock in the Morning she fell into a Trance One Widow Turner, who watched with her that Night, says, that [etc.] 1700 Rawlyn *Diary* 5 Mar. 1679. I watched late with him [a brother on his deathbed] this night. 1843 Mrs. Browning *Lo Pleish* vii. His dog watched beside a bed Where no sunbeam broke the gloom Round the sick and dreary.

**2.** To remain awake for purposes of devotion; to keep vigil

972 *Bright Hom* 137 Heo wæs wæccende dæzes ond nihtes. *c* 1450 Cargrave *St. Gilbert* (1901) 221 Alsy3 sche had wecched in deuoute prayeres al a nyte sche went hom hol fro holi vores. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 23 He was tempted moost autiefly, he watched, he fasted, he prayed moost bevgly. 1570–1 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 54 Item, for candill to wyche in the kirk, 18*d*. 1722 P. Metcalfe *Life S. Wynefride* (1913) 48 She watch'd whole Nights in the Church, either kneeling or prostrate before the Altar or [etc.] 1758–9 A. Rutter *Lewis Saints, S. Peter Damian*, Peter watched long before the signal for matins, and after with the rest. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* iii. 1. 90 I am sir, Give me this hour to watch with and say prayers. 1913 W. K. L. Clarke *Basil* vi. 89 To fast or watch more than the rest is self-will and vain glory.

**b.** quasi-*trans.* with complement. *To watch in*: to keep vigil to greet (the New Year).

1828 Adam Clarke in *Life* (1840) 454 Mother was not strong enough to watch in the New Year.

**3.** To be on the alert; to be vigilant; to be on one's guard against danger or surprise.

*a* 1225 *St Marher.* 15 Ah þeo þet stedewurþe þeo3 ant starke to 3ein me [*sc.* Satan], wa þet heo ham wið me ant nime wreches wiþoute wiþerwinne, wiþ unuel me punchieð þrof þet [etc.]. 1595 Shaks. *John* iv. 1. 5 He heedfull hence and watch 1658 J. Owen *Temptation* iv. 30 To watch in a manner as to be on our guard, to take heed, to consider all wiles, and meanes whereby an enemy may approach to us. 1675 — *Indwelling Sin* viii. (1732) 81 It [*sc.* sin] adds no its workings, Deceit unto Power; the efficacy of that must needs be great, and is carefully to be watched against. 1692 Coldbam. *Des Vill* 166 But in his duty prompt at every call, He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi. I had duty to keep the back o' mine to gree wi' Rob; for, watch as they like, and do what they like, they are sair apt to be harmed when the lang nights come on.

**†b.** To attend diligently to a duty. Const. *upon*. Cf. Watt *v.*1 14 *d*. *Obs.*

1608 Willet *Hex. in Exod.* 653 With all their heart and endeauour they should watch vpon their office.

**4.** To be on the look out; to keep a person or thing in sight, so as to be aware of any movement or change.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi. 87 His twa men bad he Ga to thair feris to rest and ly; For he vald wach that com to se. 1597 *Bk. Marchmont* 83 They haue a lye eyes neuer open to watch as the cat for the mous. 1660 Dalrymple *Maidanes Comm* 458, The Hyshoppe, whiche as the mister of a shippe vseth watching at the Helme, *quy tanquam gubernator nunis in specula seileat intentus*] 1667 Chapman *Iuuiny & Ambass* v. iii, Sit vp to night, and watch 1705 Hoops *Commissary* ii. 41 Watch, Simon, that nobody comes up while he is here. 1830 *N. Sporting Mag.* I. 67 Quickly lead, Where the roving trout Watches round an eddy, With his eager snout Pointed up and ready. 1849 Browning *Last Leader* xxi. Lord of the world as God was of Milton was for us, Burns, Shelley, were with us,—they watch from their graves! 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxii, Did you ever see a dun, my dear? a bailiff and his man? Watch of the abominable wretches watched all last week at the greengrocer's opposite 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* ii. xi. 290, I was to watch, and call out the direction in which he was to run

**b.** With indirect question.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi. 62, I will ga vach all priuely, Gif I may oucht of thar cummyng 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 163 I hat made him forto waite and wacche He alle weies how it ferde. *c* 1533 Bewyke *Hugh Tryamour* 1. 62 We haue our busshement in a lytell wood a n legges fro this cyte, to watch whan my brother Huon shold passe by that way. 1588 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* 234 The Crocodile, by whom th' Aegyptians watche, Howe faire that yeare shall mightie Nilus flowe, For there shee likes to lae her egges and hatche 1598 Lennyard *Ovid's Elegies* i. But they could not touch us again, for they fear'd that we still could sting, So they watch'd what the end would be. 1886 *Glasgow Weekly Mail* 6 Aug. 5/2 It will behove the people to watch how the Government may endeavour to pave the way for this change

**c.** To be on the watch for opportunities *to do* something

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xxii. 930 Bot dede, that vachis ay to mar With all hyr mycht is nocht worthy, Had at his wor-schip gret myry 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 327 The Inhabytaunte and terr; bitte of the habitems and ffeldwelle, that allway wacche and wayte to do euyll and desplay se to alle the world 1867 Davison *Lyra, George II* 776 The Groom strip for Wrestling, smears his Limbs with Oyl, And watches with a Trip his Foe to foil.

**d.** To be on the watch *for* (something expected).

1831 Scott *Cast Dang* v. The wonderful turns of fate which have attended this fortress, are sufficient to warrant any one to watch for what seem the peculiar indications of the will of Heaven 1884 Ibrollor *Small Ho. Allington* xxvii, But I can see you when you watch for the postman

**e.** *To watch after* (a person): to follow with one's looks, watch the movements of. *rare.*

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lix, You should have seen Fanny Bolton's eyes watching after the dove-coloured young lady! 1852 — *Esmond* iii. 2, Then he had seen her but for two days, and fled. Now he beheld her day after day, and when she was at Court watched after her.

**f.** Cricket. *To watch out*: = Field *v.* 5.

1868 G. White Kyle *Life & Lett.* (1900) II. 160 I am late, his grand-mother bowls, and his great grand-mother watches out! 1875 *Bailey's Mag.* Apr. 403 So narrow is the ground, that long-leg and cover point respectively are quite out of sight, watching out on the hill-side. 1901 *Watch Lord Notions, Watch out*, to field at nets for cricket.

**g** *To watch out* (U.S. *colloq.*): to look out, to be on one's guard.

*a* 1888 J. W. Kyle *Little Orphant Annie* iv, You better mind yer parents, Fer the gobble-uns 'll git you Ef you Don't Watch Out! 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* ix, You watch out, Henry, an' take good care of yourself in this here fighting business 1918 in *Amer. Lit.* 1938 II. July 2/2 The new chantey on Monday morning's route march was a thing to watch out for.

**5. Watch over —.** To exercise protecting care over; to keep in constant view or in order to preserve from harm or error.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 24*b*, As heerdmen euer watchynge ouer the flocke of our lorde Jesu 1655 Jer. Taylor *Golden Grove, Sunday* 65 Watch over they self, counsel they self, and judge thy self impartially. 1728 Addison *Spr. Mem.* No. 289 P 2 That Providence which watches over all the Works 1781 Hume *Hist. of Eng.* III. ii. 83 But there is a Providence (such at least was the opinion of the historian Procopius) that watches over innocence and folly 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* ii. ii. 216 from heaven for human good at night The watch o'er mortals wisely they sleep. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 404 The eye of the rulers is required always to watch over the young 1879 Lubbock *Orig. Civ.* 166 We cannot put Stonehenge or the Wandyke into a museum—all the more reason why we should watch over them where they are. 1899 Mabr. Ben *New & Goodly Temple of Mut* i. 11 A flock of goats, watched over by an Arab girl

**6.** To fulfil the duty of a watchman, sentinel, or guard.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 372 Ye to the wall I sall bow bring, Gif god will grant me wynning. [Of Dame in the castle on the wall *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 407 Him behouit neidlingis to wait be on the wall 1578 Lyndsay *Dest., Answis*, to watche, vs thay be nocht in the watche, or in the garde of ane myrrhie personne d o 1840 Hone *Hist. Suppress Monasteries* (Camden) 284 Besydes that hit did cost me money to persons for a long time to ly gluly to weche and to take hede for any tryyng whych myght happen 1598 Shakspere *Lear* iv. vi. 196 *Lett Rec.* (1900) I. i. 131 That every householder should watche in proper person or at the least provide a good honest and able man for the more ease of the rest, in the gates of the towne 1623 in Rymer *Fadera* (1707) XVII. 529 The Lord Mayor shall cause certain Persons to watch at the Gates, and Posts, and Bridges in the Suburbs where Fresh may be brought, to view and search and to intercept the same 1662 J. Davies of Hereford *Wp Antiqs* 84 Great Lords and rich Prelates have a Company of Souldiers who watch all night. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Aug. 1642, I watched on a horne work neere our quarters 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii. Peter was ordered to watch at the door.

**†c.** *Watch* with complement. *source sea.*

1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 192 The army men are almost watched off theire legs.

**†b.** *To watch and ward* to keep watch and ward. Also *fig.* (For the transitive use see 10.)

1585 Bastwick *Countenance* v. (1600) 44 No more enquiry, then you the fie by withdrawing y^e hood, than assuredly you stay the courses of wicked conceits, when y u watch and ward with y^e sensuall 1590 Shakes. *Com. Err.* iv. iv. 30 If they for vs fight, I'll watch and warde, And their bright Sauoiards round about vs plant 1601 W. Parry *Trav. Sir J. Shirley* 8 Either party lived watching and warding, and *in statu belli* (Chamberlain MS.) 1624 To a man, watchinge and wardinge at laundrye faire, inst. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1296 To watch and ward, *excubias agere*. 1706 Stanhope *Paraphrase* II. Pref. Every one did watch and ward, and not one was exempted from carrying the Basket

**c.** Of a sailor. To be on duty during a watch.

1799 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1844) I. 85 I was placed in the Seahorse of 20 guns with Captain Farmer, and watched in the foretop 1820 Scoresby *Acc Arctic Reg* II. 235 Each watch relieves four hours, and rests eight.

**†7.** *Hunting.* Of an otter: To retreat into its lair *Obs.* Cf. 17.

1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat* i (ed. 2) 10 An Otter Watcheth 1686 Blount *Gentl. Recreat* ii. 70 A Fox kennelleth, a Badger Eartheth, an Otter Watcheth, a Hare Loundeth

**8.** *Naut.* †**a.** Of the timbers of a ship: To work loose. *Obs.* **b.** Of a buoy: To float on the surface of the water.

1633–6 *Admir. Ct. Exam.* 50, 32 fan (MS.), Whilest she was at sea, thinkes shee did worke too and fro, and 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 328 The Pilots swept for and weighed (as no buoys watched) the four anchors. 1855 Gosse *Land & Sea* 84 All the buoys had not yet 'watched' but there was a tremendous sea running.

**II.** Transitive uses.

**†9.** To keep under surveillance (a prisoner, a besieged army) in order to prevent escape or rescue; to act an armed watch upon (a place, road, passage). *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5086 He dide sette in wardes seens Knyghte to wachen [*v.r.* waite], & squiers. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 10893 (Ilarl.) And for þat skyelle lette wacche hym [*sc.* Jesus in the tomb] Ihre dus we 3ou pray. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degree* 7 I han he watched your Chambre bryght, With men of armes hardy and wyght, For to take thi quyquer! *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1613 That they he wessly was bande and in wardes wakkide. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vii. 70 In schaw That lugyt thaim. To wache the way als besyly as thai myght. *Ibid.* v. 939 Schyr Thone Butler, to wache the furdis rycht, Out fra his men of Wilkat had a wicht. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 718 They be kept, and with such vigilant persons continually watched. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) D ij b, Thus Nummus nowe is straightly watched, and hardly kept with men of each degree

**b.** (*pass.*) To guard (a dead body, goods).

1450 Lonnon *Lett.* 5 May in *Paston Lett.* I. 129 And the shreue of Kent doth watche the body 1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 60 And for vj men hired to watch the plate at Ware and Peterborowe, ij nights, vj*s.* viij*d.* 1697 Dunton *Athenæ* xx. 43 Bodies watch'd the Corps. 1841 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf & v. Wake*, He, also, 'died one day,' so they say, and his ever faithful groom watched the body during the night 1884 Mark Twain *Huck Finn* xxvii, I peeped through a crack of the dining room door, and saw the men that was watching the corpse all sound asleep on their chairs 1886 C. Scott *Thousand Die* II. 834 The goods were watched all night by a watchman.

**†10.** To guard against attack; to provide with a body of guards or armed watchmen, to serve as a guard to Also *to watch and ward* (cf. 6 b).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv. 128 But for the town he left nouicht Wachis till set to the castell. He tuych it he gert men wach it wele *Ist 1400 Morte Arth.* 547 He wylle werrave i wysse, he ware sir the lykes, Wage many wyghtenene and wache thy mirthes. *Ibid.* 613 Thane 3e knowe the more of our Aryande with his Romayns. Sexty geaunttes he fe re With weches and wardaus to wachene his tentys *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 176 I han thi lordship ordeyned and alle thi pavilouns and hem rested, and lete the h sit be watched 1451 *Paston Lett* I. 139 Gonnor was watched at Folkyngge dalle with al persones of the Duchie of Lancastr 1549–52 Stephnold & H. *Psalms* i. Like as in warre men vndertake, Cities and holdes to watch and ward 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 107 The King of Indians was watched with foure and twenty Elephants. 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Britaine* 3, Wilt thou receiue this weighty trust when I am ouer the sea? To watch and ward my castle strong, and to protect my land

**†b.** *refl.* To guard oneself. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 320 For thar is nothir duk ne baron, That euer may vnnath hym with tresoune I

**11.** To keep (a person or thing) in view in order to observe any actions, movements, or changes that may occur.

**a.** with obj. a person (or animal). Sometimes implying the intent to attack or capture.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 177 Hauing once this iuyce He watch Titania, when she is asleepe, And drop the liquor of it in her eyes 1650 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 23 Sence I came hether I have bine so narowly wached by the severe Christians that I could not answer your letter before now 1675 *Chas. Inundations* (1874) 32 He watches Wenches just as Tumblers do Rabbits 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, Here has been my hang dog kinsman watching you as close as ever cat watched mouse 1848 James *Att Augustus* v, He became aware that he was watched by a party of men, whose appearance had nothing in it very consolatory to the passenger of those days 1849 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ix, She would take her station here, at dusk, and watch the people as they passed up and down the street 1892 Lyall *Wilful Way* xxxiii, I watch three from the quiet shore; I by spirit up to meet each new 1902 Bindloss *Watcher by Threshold* ii, I had not gone twenty yards ere I knew I was watched 1907 *Long Trail Rus* Oct. 495 To divide them [the Mexicans] from the Navajos and the Pueblos, setting each to watch the other

**b.** with obj. a thing.

1518 *Cake Lowth. Rec.* 120 One Lepte y^e compas, and watched y^e our glasse 1645 Stapylton tr. *Juvenal's Sa.* On her high turret Hero watch'd the flame, And as stiffe gales from any quarter came, Still screen'd it with the sacred robe she wore. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 78 Within the shadow of the ship I watched their rich attire, blaze, glossy green, and velvet black, they cooled and swam 1854 Baxter's *Libr. Pract. Amusem.* 1. 1. 3 Should you think it at all an out of the way affair then? asked Mr Sejti mus Hicks who had watched the countenance of Tibbs in mute astonishment 1888 Rider Haggard *Pearl-maiden* i. But before everything, at this time came my pleasure in merely watching the sea 1900 G. C. Broderick *Mem & Imag* 203 There we lay, surrounded by twenty or thirty boats all assembled on the same errand, watching the heavens 1908 [Miss E. Bowles] *Birds, Trent & Amboine* 361 We have watched the red and blue Hirundinidæ.

**c.** with obj. a process, etc.

1593 Shaks. *Rich II*, iii. 71 Thus long haue we stood To watch the fearefull bending of thy knee. 1655 Walton *Angler* x. (1661) 173 Their going forth of their holes and returning 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* (1842) 500 By this arrangement the operations are more conveniently watched 1831 James *Hist Augustus* iii, While the hermit held the arm from which the blood began slowly to flow, she anxiously watched the returning animation 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* I. 622 It was remarked by those who watched their countenance that they had come back from the carriage of Taunton in a fierce and excited state

**d.** with adv. or phrase as complement.

1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 237 (He) was there discouered by Colonel Kirkham and others, who watched him home to his hotel 1848 — *Destiny* xvi, Then he would turn his head, and watch the ship away; and stay [etc.] 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxxii, He watched her down the wished her an farewell about the door he knew she was safe. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Daniel* ix xvii, He looked out for a perfectly solitary spot where he could watch out the light of sunset.

**e.** with accus. and inf. (without *to*) or pres. ppl.

1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxvi, Mary watched the boatman leave the house. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* xvii, Lady Maria severely lifted up her head from her embroidery, to watch the aunt retreating 1899 Fitzgerald

*Omar* xxxvi, For in the Market, there was but Clay 1860 TYNDALL *Glac* I. xxv 183 I ying upon my back, I watched the clouds forming 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lxii, Ahey put arsenic in his meat And stared aghast to watch him eat 1908 [MISS L. FOWLER] *Brow Point & Anchotine* 41 We used to watch the small bees going in and out of a hole in the wall

**12** To keep in mental view; to keep oneself informed about (a course of events, etc.).

1607 DEKKER *Ravenge* III (1630) 36 N.'s hour of pleasure should pass empty? y. youth should watch joys, and shoot 'em as they flie 1677 FARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* I (Camden) II 117 Hee parted here with great profession of friendship yet however I would be glad you did a little watch his proceedings 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I vi 47 We must watch their minutest actions 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xliv V 355 We cannot believe that he would willingly have forgo ne the opportunity of watching the proceedings of his colleagues 1843 R. J. GRAHAM *Syst. Clin. Med.* ii 99 The cerebral symptoms should be always watched with the most unremitting and anxious attention 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v I 535 How war which was then raging in Hungary was watched by all Europe with interest almost as great as that which the Crusades had excited five hundred years earlier 1868 F. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I v 78 The natural jealousy of the Spaniards watched every civil enterprise of Englishmen 1871 DALE *Commandments* viii 204 Merchants watch the rise and fall of the markets in remote countries 1886 RUSKIN *Fors Clavigera* II v 25 [My father] watched with some anxiety the way I should make of this first command of money 1897 J. I. ALLEN *Choir Invisible* xxiii 347 She had never ceased to watch her career as part of her very life

**b.** To be on the alert to avail oneself of (opportunities, advantages); to be vigilant to choose (one's time for action); † to look out for, wait expectantly for (some coming event)

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 97 Pontife graue & golden fee'ste into his olde attorney, who watching her time, employed all her wicked inuentions which she had by long vse collected 1590 MARLOW & NASHE *Dido* III. ii. 824 O DIS God wot, I cannot watch my time, Nor quit good turnes with d uide fee done to God. 1592 LYLY *Sapho & P.* I. iii. 30, I, watch you vnaunted. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I 228 But it is the custome, that he that hath once payed the tith in my any time after enter into Church without paying any thing, if he can watch the opportunity of other Christians en ering the same 1639 J. CLARKE *Paroem.* 237 He that meanes to m ke a good market of his ware, must watch an opportunity to open his shop 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fl. Walker A* 2 b, Walker stood watching the Kings coming by 1763 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* iii 54 Did not She watch he? Opportunity? Was You just at hand? went out? 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, It was thus that he met not Wayland, who was impatiently watching for a rival 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlii, Sam Weller eagerly watched his opportunity it was not long wanting 1886 C. SCRIBE *Thirsteel Dr. I.* III 83 You must watch your opportunity to tell the gouls Watch the best opportunity for telling

**c.** Of a barrister: To attend the trial of (a case) in order to note any point that may arise to affect the interests of a client who is not a party in the litigation, and to raise objections to any questions or evidence that may be inadmissible as compromising the client.

1890 M. WILLIAMS *Leaves* I 87 Sergeant Bullantine's clerk came up and asked me whether, as his chief was absent, I would watch a case that was about to be argued

**13.** To exercise protecting vigilance over; to tend (a flock).

1598 DYOBLA *Lukes* ii 8 There were sherherds watching their flocke by night 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV 136 Man he made and, O indignation! subjected to his service Angel wrogs, And flaming Mi nisters to watch and tend Their earthly Charge 1700 LATE *Wippt in Newb Vers I.* 8 While shepherds watch'd their Flocks by Night 1848 Lower *Recognitions* I There is no flock, however watched and tended, but one dead lamb is there

**b.** To sit up beside (a sick person) in order to render help; to keep watch beside a dead body).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 208, I am the soule of hym that thou watchedst the last nyght 1590 *Alcilia* 1 *Rac* in *N* 4 *Q* 12th Ser VII 504 1 Plain] to D ittrants wyfe for watchinge of l ither profet nie a 1598 *Greenes Vision* Wks (Turnbull) XII 2 3 Dominus saw hee was in his bed, watht ht by his mother and his wife

**†14** To do (a person a good or bad turn); to contrive (mischief). *Obs.*

App a substitute for WAIT *v.*[2], suggested by the synonymity of *Eng.* v I and *watch* 1 a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps* xxii 11m, Yet their high hartes looke so low As how to watch our overthrow 1588 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poets* (Arb) 156 Which many, though he meanes to doo me in myrth, yet I hope he will make me some sufficient recompence, or els I shall goe neere to watch hym the like or a worse turne 1609 J. CLARKE *Paroem* 173 Harme watch harme catch. *Ibid* 209 He watch you a good turne 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest cr.* 16 But I ask to t, Harm watch, harm catch. If you will needs hate and devour one another, take heed th it we be not consumed one of another.

**15.** To provide (a town) with watchmen. In *passive*, to be policed by a specified body of men.

1806 J. CARR *Stranger in Ir land* 52 At night the city is admirably watched and patrolled M st of the watchmen are armed with muskets, others with a pike [etc.] 1834 *Picture of Liverpool* 47 The Commissioners for Watching and Lighting the town 1909 *Rep. H. M. Inspectors of Constabulary* 45 The municipal borough of Maidenhead and Newbury are watched by the county constabulary

**16.** *Falconry.* To prevent (a hawk) from sleeping, in order to tame it.

a 1575 *Perf. Bk Keeping Sparhawkes* (1886) 16 Note, neuer watche sorehawke for then you take her stomake awaye, the eye cometh on so fast, & ai bust her 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i 198 Another way I have to man my Haggard, To make her come, and know her Keepers call That he, to watch her, as we watch these Kites. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii 23 My Lord shall never rest, He will watch him tame, and take him out of patience 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii 43 What are you gone againe, you must be watcht ere you be made tame, must you? 1689 *Selden's Table-Talk* 51 Lecturers preach the People tame (as a man watches a Hawk) and then they do what they list with them

**17** *Hunting.* To track (an otter) into his earth

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 We watch and vent an Otter 1688 BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* II 76 Terms for Lodging and Dislodging of Beasts. Watch and Vent the Otter [see VENT *v.* 17 b].

**Wakhside** (wɒ·tʃsəi·d), *a.* [f. WATCH *v.* + -SIDE.] That may be watched.

1611 COTGR., *Guettable*, watchable, subiect vnto watching, and warning

**Watch-bell.** *Obs* exc *arch* [WATCH *sb.*]

**1.** A bell upon which the half hourly periods in each watch are struck on board ship.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen VII* (1896) 287 Wache Belles 4 1815 *Falconer's Dict Marine* (ed Burney), *Watch-Bell*, in ships of war, a large bell hung to the beam of the fore-castle, by which the half-hour glass is rung out, to make known the time or division of the watch 1888 F. M CRANFORD *With the Immortals* xiv II 212 Come, weary mariners! with the watch waking when the watch bell tolls— Here is the land you seek!

**2** A bell rung at the setting and relief of a military watch or to sound an alarm on the approach of an enemy.

1560 in J. Scott *Berwick upon Tweed* (1888) 448 If there be any person that maketh any affr ue at any of the gates of the said towne or at the watch hill at such t me as the watch bell is ringing at watch or setting of watch, that night until the w tch bell be discharged in the morning 1674 MILTON *Hist Moscovia* in Wks 1851 VIII 486 The Land of Mugalla hath many Castles with Towers . and on them Gates, Alarum Bells or Watch-Bells

**b** *transf.* and *fig.*

1760 J. HOWE (*title*) A Silver Watch Bell The Sound whereof is able to winne the most profane worldling to become a Constant Christian 1678 J. *Mem. a Call.* 118 I then shit thou heir the last trumpet Oh how loth will the sinner be, to rise at the ringing of this watch bell!

**3.** A bell used by military or naval watchman, also a bell rung to summon the watch.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 78 In the meane time the watches bell they rang Then said the Knicht Heir se not now how the watch bell rinnis 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II 74 Some [of the garrison] sleepe about the prison with lanterns and watch bels answering one another five times euery night 1660 in *Sev. R. Sadler's Sel. Papers* (1809) II 61 In the Kings Bench [Walk] is a place where one watch bell

**†Watch-bill**[1]. *Obs.* [f. WATCH *sb.* + BILL *sb.*[1]] A watchman's bill or halberd.

1605 *Depos. Cast* 1 *wh* (Surtees) 228 He had shane a monster with one watch bill or broome hooke. 1688 *Hist* 24 Ohe Janes Turpin, who was one of the watch, endeavoured to putt out the fire with his watchbill. 1820 A. WILSON in *Anon Irish Sing Tunes* (1870) 36 There's broken in pikes and watch bills

**Watch-bill**[2]. *Naut.* [f. WATCH *sb.* + BILL *sb.*[2]] (See quot. 1815.)

1813 *Nelles Weekly Reg* 30 July 304/1 The Shannon had a crew of 376 [men] men by the watch bill 1815 *Falconer's Dict Marine* (ed Burney), *Watch-Bill*, a list of the petty officers, seamen, and marines, of a ship of war, which points out the station of each man, and what watch he belongs to 1867 HUNTINGTON *Sailor's Pocket Bk* 11 (ed. 2) 18 This abbreviated t ible is sufficiently compact to allow of its being copied into the watch bill

**Watch-box.** [f. WATCH *sb.*]

**1.** A small structure to shelter a person on watch.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy* II ii 24 About three or four Leagues Westward of Selsun is another Watch Box on a High Tree 1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan 3/1 Escapes are being placed in positions as fast as they can be turned out Wit 50 watchboxes at 80/ a piece, these escapes will cost 4,000/

**b.** A small wooden shelter resembling a sentry-box but furnished with a seat and half door, used by a municipal watchman. *Obs.* exc. *Colonial*

1821 *Ann. Reg.* 6 A female, about three years and a half old was left in a watch box near her home 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiv, The floor of a watch box. 1845 D. JERROLD *Mr Caudle* xxiii, He drew up at a watch box, and overheard herself to the man within 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* III, It was lucky Mr Jedwood had not consented like a Jarrondilla in a watch box, or he must certainly would have continued the use of that highly compressed apartment

**c.** A policeman's shelter.

1905 *Daily News* 31 July 5 4 On the south side of Parliament Hill Fields is a little square chalet, which is used by the County Council police The watch box, as it is called, is heated

**†2.** ? — WATCH-CASE 2. *Obs*

1696 in Atkins & Overall *Acc Company of Clockm* (1881) 232 It is ordered that there be noe more of that Mettle wrought in the fashion of Watch Boxes or Cases 1739 *Act* 12 *Geo II, C.* 26 § 13 For assaying, trying and marking Gold Watch Cases or Gold Watch Boxes, ten Pence apiece.

**Watch-case.**

**†1.** A place in which one must keep watch.

1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen IV*, III. i. 17 O thou dull God [*ac.* Sleep], why lyest thou with the vilde, In loathsome Beds, and hauest the Kingly Couch, A Watch-case, or a common Larum-Bell?

**2** A hinged case or cover of an old-fashioned watch, enclosing the watch proper; now, the metal cover enclosing the works of a watch.

1681 GREW *Museum* IV § iii 369 Made of fine Silver-studded Work, as in Watch Cases 1697-8 *Foreign Post* 3-7 Jan. 2/2 A Gold Engrav'd Watch Case lined with Scarlet Satten. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ France, etc* I 78 Every . compartment chased, like our old-fashioned watch-cases. 1892 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxix, She took the watch-case in her hand 1899 F. J. BRITTEN *Old Clocks & Watches* 193 A very finely enamelled watch case, illustrating the early life of Christ

**b.** *attrib* and *Comb.*

1697 *Lond Gaz* No 3384/4 If any one can give notice of him to his Master a Watch-case maker. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz* 16 June, suppl 2/2 [Advt.] Watch-case stakes and hammers.

**3.** A small case or bag at the head of a bed for holding a watch at night, a watch-pocket.

1891 *Century Dict*

**† Watch-clock.** *Obs.*

**1.** a. ? A time piece actuated by a spring. b. ? A clock with a dial indicating minutes and seconds Also *watch pendulum clock.*

1598 DEE *Compend. Rehearsall in Chetham Misc* (1851) I 29 An excellent watch clock, that goeth a whole tyme might sensibly be measured in the seconds of an houre. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy* Q b, A Watch clocke, of nine inches Diameter and another lesse Watch 1689 I. BELL *Comm.* I 106 xxxv 32 A certain artificer set a watch-clock upon a ring that Charls the Fifth wore upon his finger 1692 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr Sci Men* (1841) II 218, I spoke and wrote to my kinsman about a watch clock. *Ibid* 221, I wrote by my cor Wilson about procuring me a watch pendulum clock

**2.** An alarum clock. Cf WATCH *sb* 19

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II i iv. *Handie Crafts* 94 Pourfull Need (Arts ancient Dame and keeper, The early watch clock [Fr *versetile-matin*] of the slothfull sleeper).

**Watch-cry.** [WATCH *sb.*] The periodical cry of a watchman. *fig.* a motto, phrase, or word that is constantly reiterated by a party or the advocate of a cause, to call attention to some principle deemed of supreme importance. Cf. WATCHWORD.

1828 FARRAR *Early Chr* II 87 Every day shows us how easy it is, first to turn any expression into a watchcry, then to empty it of all significance [etc.] 1893 *Athen.* 4 Mar. 320 Their watch-cry will be order, propriety and economy 1899 STEVENSON *In South Seas* II ii (1908) 153 From shore the cheerful watch cry of cocks rang out at intervals.

**Watch-dog.** A dog kept to guard a house, property, etc, and give warning of the approach of intruders.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp* I ii 383 Harke, harke, bowgh wawgh: the watch Dogges barke, bowgh wawgh. 1779 GOLDSM. *Des Vill* 121 The watch dog's voice that bayed the whispering wind 1828 BYRON *Juan* I cxxii, 'Tis sweet to hear the watch dog's honest bark bay deep mouth'd welcome as we draw near home 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U.S.* III. xxv. 235 The baying of a watch dog alarmed the village 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* I. 120 The old man is as fierce as a watch dog.

*b. fig.* and in fig. context.

1845 MAURICE *Moral Philos* in *Encycl Metrop* II 595/1 Now we feel the necessity for a set of guardians or watchdogs of the state 1885 LOWELL *Democracy* (1887) 24 Formerly the duty of a librarian was considered too much that of a watch dog, to keep people as much as possible away from the books 1901 R. KIPLING *Kim* iii. 339 The Chancellor acted as his watch-dog in front of the Treasury

*c* quasi *adj.* Characteristic of a watch-dog.

1882 HELPS *Organis. Daily Life* 32 He was not a very skilful person in deciding upon difficult questions; but he had a sort of watch dog carefulness

**Watched** (wɒ·tʃd), *ppl. a.* [f. WATCH *v.* + -ED[1].] Kept under close observation. † Also, of a hawk, that is kept awake (see WATCH *v.* 16).

1566 T. NUCK *Studleys Agamemnon* Upon the same 4 Hys request was suche How that, to paynfull laboured stuffe my mynd I wolde annex: And do but as his watched wordes, which he doth beare conceiue Deserues 1897 E. F. *Hist Titus II* (1680) 84 [The Scots] in a watch'd opportunity set upon the tail of his Army 1898 *Descoliniensium* 34 Most that are out of the Army will not be so gentle as any watch'd Hawke 1901 *Wide World Mag* VI 421/2 H w to get Dear out of the watched room was a very awkw ard problem indeed

*absol* 1901 J. H. MCCARTHY *If I were King* IV, Suddenly, when the tension of watcher and watched was keenest, there came a mighty crashing at the door.

*b. prob.*

1898 MRS GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxi, What's the use of watching? A watched pot never boils.

**Watched,** variant of WATCHET.

**Watcher** (wɒ·tʃəɹ). [f. WATCH *v.* + -ER[1].] One who watches or keeps watch.

*a. gen.* Often const. *of*, also *over*

1579 HULOET (ed Higins), Watcher, *insidiator, insidiosus* 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III ii, I hat will Antonius make his care When a new planet swims into his ken 1828 DICKENS *Boarding-h.* The smooth, sleek watcher of his slightest look and tone. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 356 Sir Valence Whose kinsman left him watcher o'er his wife And two fair babes. 1885 *Manch Exam* 29 May 5/3 Nothing is at present divulged to the public; but the eyes of interested watchers cannot be altogether closed

*b.* said of the eye. *poet.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent* II. iv 135 Love hath chas'd sleepe from my enthralled eyes, And made them watchers of mine owne hearts sorrow 1824 HOOD *Two Swans* 108 On his doubtful face Gleam his unwearied eyes, red watchers of the place 1827 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 306 To an eye like mine A lidless watcher of the public weal, Last night, their mask was patent.

c. One who keeps awake at night. Also *night watcher*.

1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 296 Of nyght watchers and beters of the streetes playnge by nyght on instrumentes and vayinge lyke Folyes whan tyme is to rest. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. ii. 71 Get on your Night-Gowne, least occasion call vs, And shew vs to be Watchers. 1662 Fase & Lytton *Tornbuilder* 78 She kneel'd, A faded watcher through the weary night,...In deep, perpetual prayer for him she loved. 1667 Lady Herbert *Cradle I.* iv. 117 There two figures are kneeling, motionless and absorbed in prayer...Still the two watchers kneel on.

d. One who watches by a sick bed, or by the dead.

*c* 1555 *Life Bp. Fisher* (E. E. T. S.) 127 Whervpon two of the watchers toke it [the dead body] vpon a fullers bed betwene them. 1764 *Low Life* 9 Women, called Watchers, in Hospitals, taking the Advantage of their Patients being asleep, to pick their Pockets. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 59 And at her head a follower of the camp...Sat watching like a watcher by the dead. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxv. Then the watcher approaches the patient's pillow. 1885 *Lancet* 4 Apr. 630/1 Since there are the 'watchers' who belong to the Jewish community, and combine the office of a nurse with certain religious functions.

e. One who is occupied in watching; a watchman, guard, sentry, or the like. Also with defining word, as *river-watcher*, Night-watcher.

1525 Berners *Froiss.* II. xlix. 61 b, On y^e mountaynes & hylles costyng the see...were set watche men & watchers in dyuers manere. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz.* II. 272 An inspection was immediately carried on with an earnestness worthy of two watchers at a night-stall during a time of war. 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* xxii, The heavy foot fall of the official watcher of the night. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Oct. 5/1 A river watcher...and two boys...lost their lives by the capsizing of a boat. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* xvii, There are detectives at the station—watchers—and things. 1897 Crockett *Lads' Love* xix. 203 The gamekeepers and water-bailiffs—the 'watchers' as they were called. 1904 *Times* 31 Mar. 9/4 Davies had first been an office-boy and was now a watcher.

f. as the title of a class of angels or of angelic generally; tr. Aramaic עִיר *ʿîr*, one who is wakeful.

1535 Coverdale *Dan.* iv. 13 And beholde, a watcher (eueri an holy angel) came downe from heauen. 1576 A. Gilby] *Test. to Patrarchs* (1581) 1 a For by such meanes were y^e Watchers deceiued before the floud. *a* 1721 Ken *Psyche* Post. Wks. 1721 IV. 312 They Watchers are, and with obsequious Wing Leave Heav'n for Earth, God's Messages to bring. 1801 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 20 (tr. *Bk. Enoch*) All were afraid, even the watchers of the host. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc.* (ed. 2) 26 And by those features,...Heaven's keen-eyed Watchers haply mete What mortals holy deem. *a* 1908 C. Bigg *Orig. Christianity* viii. 83 Six angels build the Tower: they are the Archangels, the First Created, the Watchers of Enoch.

†g. *Astr.* (*pl.*) = Guard *sb.* 12, Warden *sb.*1 1 b.

1528 Ashley *Wagenar's Mariners Mirr.* B 2 b, When those Gardes or watchers of the *vrsa minor* being mounted higher. *Ibid.*, The Guards or watchers are to be placed in this Instrument exactly opposite to their due place.

**Watchet** (wɒ·tʃĕt), *sb.* and *a. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: [? a **waschet**] 4 **waget**(**t**, **vachet**, 4–7 **wachet**(**t**, 5 **waycoett**, 6 **watchott**, **watchit**, **-ath**, **watchhidde**, **-hatte**, **-hedde**, **-hett**, 6–7 **watched**, **watchett**, 7 **watcht**, **wetched**, **-ed**, 6– **watchet**. [App. a. OF. (north-eastern) *wachet*, occurring A. D. 1420 (*une heuke . . forez de wachet*, a cloak lined with 'watchet'; it is not clear whether this means a particular fabric or a colour); an earlier instance, spelt *waschet*, occurs in quot. 1198 below; the use of the OF. word in an Anglo-Latin context at that date does not prove that it had already been adopted into English. It is possible that *watchet*, *wachet* may be a dim. of the word which is found once (spelt *wasce*) in a Douay document of 1262; Godefr. explains this as 'sorte d'étoffe', but the interpretation is not certain from the context. The Central OF. *gascke*, recorded once (1448), for some kind of appendage or ornament of a shoe, would correspond formally, but if Godefr. is right in rendering it 'buckle' the connexion is out of the question.

It is tempting to compare Walloon *swiret* royal blue (which Diez would connect with OF. *sweste* Wood) 2 a dim. formation on a word of this meaning might have been used to denote a lighter shade of colour. But the phonological possibility of such a derivation of *wachet* is very doubtful.]

**A.** *sb.* 1. A light blue colour; cloth or garments of this colour.

[1198 *Curia Regis Rolls* II 8 B m. 2 (P.R.O.) Et absoluit .I. scapelarium de Waschet.] *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 135 Yclad he was ful smal and properly Al in a kirtel of a lyght waget (*v.r.* wagett, wachet, wachett). 1409 *Will A. Eynsom* (Somerset Ho.) Togam meam de Wachett. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Scutulatus*, is a coloure, I suppose a wachet [1548 watchet]. 1552–9 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI* c. 6 § 23 Clothe or Clothes..of anye other coloure or colores then..blacke[t redd crymson..nether wachett [etc.]. 1588 Lambard *Eiren.* App. Yy v, Ties vinas panni lanei, coloris veneti (vocati Anglice Watchet). 1592 Lyly *Endimion* v. ii, Whose teeth shal be so pure a watchet, that they shall staine the truest Turkis. 1601 Holland *Pliny* IX. xxxvi. 1. 258 So sullen and melancholie a colour, enclining to a blew or watchet [*L. color austerus in glauco*]. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 133 The Saxons there in watchet clad, we see [tr. Sidonius Apollinaris: *tetie Saxona cæruleum videmus*]. 1626 W. Browne *Brit. Pastorals* II. iii. 392 Here see we watchet deep'ned with a blewe. 1632 Townshend *Albians Triumph* 17 A garment of watchet. 1686 T. Taylor *Ballads & Songs Brittany* 13 What gown ...were't best to wear,—My gown of grain, or of watchet fair?

¶ App. misunderstood. *Jaune garance* = madder yellow.)

1530 Palsgr. 287/1 Watchet colour, *jaune garance*.

2. A fly used by anglers; an artificial fly made to imitate this. Also *watchet fly*.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 302 Pale or sky-blue watchet. It is a small fly, and appears on the water on a cold day. *Ibid.* 303 Yellow-watchet. Body, water-rat's fur, [etc.]. 1808 Carr *Compan. Gloss., Watchet*, the name of a fly among Cr ven anglers, because it is of a watchet colour, or pale blue. 1809 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 Yellow watchet fly.

**B.** *adj.* Light blue, sky-blue.

1496 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 196 A yarde of waycott cassiey. 1503 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 96, x payre of watchet hosyn. 1538 Lyte *Dodoens* II. iv. 216 The flowres ...are of a watchett or pale blewe colour. 1589 Hanmer *Voy.* 282 The mariners being all apparelled in Watchet or skie coloured clothe. 1598 *Inventory* in Greg *Henslowe's Papers* (1907) 122 Item, j watcholes taffete dublet for a boye. 1604 Marston & Webster *Malcontent* III. i. (and Q.) Ee a b, Sea-water greene suites, sad-color cloakes, wetchet stockings. 1849 R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scotl.* 150 Who wonders at the Germans watchet eyes? [L. *Cæruleis quis stupuit Germani luminal*]. 1857 R. Kidd *Barbadoes* (1673) 12 She wore buskins of wash'd Buff, deck'd with Silver lace. 1740 *Collin the Monster* 68 Or him whom Seine's blue nymphs deplore In watchet weeds on Gallia's shore. 1887 Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstr.* (1892) 186 Watchet eyes As sweet as early violets. 1893 Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* 37 Wood-violets of watchet hue.

b. prefixed to *blue* as a qualifying term.

1538 *Stories & Proph. Scripture* P v, Betweene euery bell a pomegranate of purpure, vnset, made, of watchside blew and of vermillion. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 49 And the rest of the line of a Watchet blew. 1872 N. Cot Lins *Mrg. & Morals* iv. 127 Her hair was a light soft brown, her eyes a watchet blue.

†c. sometimes app. used to denote a green or greenish colour.

This meaning is uncertain exc. in quot. 1658.

*c* 1612 B. Jonson *Sheer. Angling* II. xxiii. C 6 b, Marke what a line he hath,..Of Bucephall, or Bayards strongest hayre Twisted with greene or watchet silke among. 1638 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 143 A Jay is a fond and a blew, Linnets are sometime[s] of a watchet or greenish colour. *a* 1658 Clevelland *Poems* (1659) 161 Tethys in a Gown Of sea-green watchet.

d. *Comb.*, as *watchet-coloured*, *-hued* adjs.

1609 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 183 Four yards of watchet coloured ribin. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* v, Habited in a watchet-coloured chamber. 1820 Keats *Ecstatic. xxx*, A watchet-coloured silken mantle. 1895 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 25 Convolvuluses..Pallid or watchet-hued.

**Watchful** (wɒ·tʃfŭl), *a.* [f. Watch *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Wakeful, sleepless; accustomed to keeping awake. Of time: Passed in wakefulness. *arch.*

1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xiv. 22–28 Of men oblitious he shal make you of good remembrance,...of sleapishe shades vigilant and wakefull. 1577 Hanmer *Ecclesiast. Flowers Epist.* 41 Of the Peacok...Then Juno took his (*sc.* Argus') watchfull eyes, and brauely by and by, She plast them in the Peacocks Traine. 1590 Spenser *Virg. Gnat.* 337 In the lone; where...one fading moments mirth [is bought] With twenty watchfull, weary, tedious nights. 1594 *Rich. III* v. iii. 1 Is this a time to commend my watchfull soule, Ere I let fall the windowes of mine eyes. 1602 — *Jul. C.* II. ii. 98 What watchfull Cares doe interpose themselues Betwixt your Eyes, and Night? 1620 T. Gower *Orat. Vestito.* 1 14 The cock by night, The Nights black Quire; they watchfull are, because his watchfull bill doth wake the day. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 595 Till the watchfull Cock awakes the Day, She sings to chear the watchfull Swains. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 274 To alleviate the fever and watchful nights, effervescing draughts ... were administered. 1878 J. P. Hughes *Liverp. Life* I. 38 Nearly all the nurses...have had to spend watchful nights and laborious days.

2. Of persons or animals, their dispositions or faculties: Engaged in or accustomed to watching or close observation; vigilant.

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commun.* (1603) 81 No more watchfull in their seruice, then if they were safely intrenched in an ile house. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* v. viii. 67 Our eie'd Friends. That fled the Snares of watchfull Tyranny. 1631 P. Fl. *Christ's Bl. Sweat* xxvii. 3 Their watchfull sight no difference could descrie. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 212 A little yealping Dog that were watchfull & angry were needfull for the house. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 753 His Hand, and watchful Eye keep even pace. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 118 P 1 If it had not been for that watchful Animal her Conscience. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* I. They had remained watchful and still for a considerable time. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* iv. xii, The galley ploughs no more the sea. Last, rounding wild Cantyre, they meet The southern Queen's watchful fleet. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y.*, *St. Barnabas* iii, 'Twixt Prayer and watchful Love his heart dividing. 1882 Mrs. A. Edwardes *Ballroom Repent.* I. 76 With a watchful mamma about.

b. Const. *about*, *against*, *for*, *of*, *over*; also with inf. of purpose.

Cf. the constructions of Watch *v.*; *watchful of* corresponds to the transitive constructions.

1601 Quarles *Hadassa* v. F 3, But she was watchfull of her lips and wise, Disclosing not her kindred, or alyes. 1666 *Extr. St. P. rel. Friends* III. (1912) 259 They are very careful and watchfull to finde out and prevent all disturbances of that kinde. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 60. 24 They grew watchful over their New Dominion. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. 244 We are to live on at this rate (are we ?) vexed by you, and continually watchful about you. 1769 Washington *Lett. to G. Mason* 5 Apr., Writ. 1834 II. 352 Selfish, designing men, ..watchful of every turn, that can assist their lucrative views. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* II, No one could be...more watchful to gratify others. 1890 'G. G.' *Winkles* I. 16 Watchful for such casualties, Posh caught hold of them in an instant.

3. Of actions, care, etc.: Characterized by vigilance.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 69 Thee Greeks with custodye watchfull, Warded thee towngate. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. xv. 213 This beast...with most watchfull care looketh about him to see the coasts cleere and all at rest, and [etc.]. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 3, God...of his boundlesse bounty, immense power, and eternall eye of watchfull prouidence releeues, guards, and conserues him. 1706 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. 309, I should...have claimed the continuance of...your watchful counsel. 1842 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) II. 90 A hound, crouching down with head erect, as if keeping watchful guard while the master of the mansion was away. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. vi. 219 My really watchful delimitation...had a quite unusual power of directing the attention of the general crowd to points of beauty...to which [etc.].

4. Of places, duties, employments: In which one must be on the watch. *? Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 41 The souldier may not moue from watchfull sted. 1596 *Edw. III*, iii. 1. 63 I haue discride, my Lord, As I was viewing in my watchfull sphere, The proud Armado of king Edwards ships. 1703 Rowe *Ivde Penit.* I. 1, That Country which he long had serv'd In watchful Councils, and in Warlike Camps. 1837 Scott *Cast. Dang.* viii, Twelve months' service, of a nature the most watchful and unpleasant.

Hence **Watchfully** *adv.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Vigilanter*, watchefully, dylygently. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 269/2 He that preacheth must...indeuour to draw the whole flocke, to the obedience of God, to haue them walke in feare and humblenesse, and watchfully. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* xvii. 116 If this Experiment were very watchfully tryd. 1752 Warburton *Serm.* xi. Wks. 1788 V. 178 *Among* the various Societies of Christians, there are some, in which the holy Ordinances are more regularly administred...and Christian Liberty more watchfully protected. *a* 1822 Shelley *On Future M.* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 181 Let us...watchfully establish a discrimination between words and thoughts. 1897 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* 10 Keeping your embroidery watchfully from the moth. 1870 Du Chaillu *Ivalde* xxvii, The ivalde has made his remark in a watchfully advancing, and yet furtive and shy manner. 1920 *Conquest Apr.* 263/2 One of the fishermen rows the craft, the other hangs watchfully over the side.

**Watchfulness** (wɒ·tʃfŭlnĕs). [f. Watchful *a.* + -ness.]

1. Wakefulness, inability to sleep. *Obs. exc. Path.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. vii. 31 Yet all night wore out in watchfulnesse, Ne suffred slouthfull sleepe her eyelids to oppresse. 1615 Markham *Eng. Housw.* II. i. 10 If any of the family be troubled with too much watchfulnesse, so that they cannot by any means take their rest, [etc.]. 1658 tr. *Etkerius* I. xl. 40 If after bleeding there comes watchfulnesse, the Humors will be again inflamed. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 683 Pains...attended with...watchfulness, and great watchfulness. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xl. 121 Early and decided determination to the brain, producing delirium, watchfulness, coma. 1875 Ziemssen *Cycl. Pract. Med. Dis.* III. x. (ed. 3) 537 The tumour...spread in all directions, causing great pain and watchfulness.

2. The quality or state of being watchful or attentively observant; vigilance.

1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* IV. vii. Chorus M 1, And call their diligence, deceipt:..Their watchfulnesse, but lying in waite. 1644 Digby *Nat. Sout* iv. § 6. 300 The watchfulnesse and recalling of our faculties to their employed worke, when they breake loose and runne astray. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* L. 22 By care and watchfulness the violence of the symptoms were kept under. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xviii, He...has, at different times, made eulogiums upon the watchfulness and ferocity of his dogs. 1822 Lamb *Elia, Imperf. Sympathies*, A Quaker's wife...has his faculties as weighed—and how far a consciousness of this particular watchfulness...has a tendency to produce indirect answers, ...might be illustrated [etc.]. 1847 Jane *Convict* ix, With a quiet, eat-like watchfulness, he was always supplying which passed between Eda Brandon and Charles Dudley. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 285/1 This plan, however, requires constant care and watchfulness, which it is difficult at all times to ensure.

b. Const. *of*, *over*; also with inf. of purpose.

1604 Donne *Serm.* Medt. xiv. (ed. 2) 319 How basie, and perplexed a Colowrist, is the Impotence, and the Idle-ness, that must bee made vp with a Watchfulnesse, to lay hold vpon Occasion. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. iii. § 3 (1736) 99 The Cure of these Prejudices is attain'd by a constant Jealousy of ourselves, and Watchfulness over our Passions. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiv, His watchfulness of my guardian was incessant. He rarely removed his eyes from his face. 1886 Ruskin *Unto this Last* I. § 9 In protective watchfulness of his master's interest and credit, or in joyful readiness to serve on occasion...occasions of help. 1898 A. Dyer *Pen Nobility* 7 As the causes of it [irresolution] came to be detected, there was inward watchfulness over their operation.

**Watch-glass.** [Watch *sb.*]

†1. A sand-glass or hour-glass used to measure the time of keeping watch, esp. on board ship. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

1637 Rutherford *Lett.* cclxxvi. (1891) 534 Time and tide carry us upon another life, and there is daily less and less oil in our lamps, and less and less sand in our watch-glass. 1702 Tuttell & Mason *Math. Instr.* 12 Watch-glass...used at Sea, to shift or change their Watches. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Watch-glasses*, a name given to the glasses employed to measure the period of the watch or divide it into any number of equal parts...so that the several stations therein may be regularly kept and relieved.

2. A thin piece of glass, usually concavo-convex in form, fitted into the case of a watch over the dial-plate.

1773 *Jennyns Can* 16 June Suppl 2 2 [Advt] Watch glasses 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* I 4 A concave speculum is one which is hollow like the inside of a watch glass. 1894 P J HARTLEY *Former Life & Watches* 64 Watch glasses seem to have been introduced about 1600

*attrib* 1859 J R GREENE *Pr Isozon* VII 66 In Ophryocelena flavicans a remarkable body termed the 'watch glass' like organ has been recently observed by Lieberkuhn

**b** as a receptacle for small objects or portions of material to be subjected to scientific observation

1759 *Phil Trans* L. 266 Pieces of the same should be cut off while they are in the ox-water, and placed in watch glasses full of the same 1818 ACCUM *Chem Tests* 97 A small evaporating brass, or watch glass 1886 L. S. BEALE *How to work with the microscope* (ed 5) 54 Watch-glasses of various sizes should be kept by every observer 1888 RUTLEY *Accessioning Min* 24 A watch glass standing in a pail box lid

Hence **Wa·tch-glassful.**

1830 Sir J HERSCHEL *Dis Study Nat Philos* II VI § 182 (1851) 172 We almost forget that these great masses are made up of watch glassfuls

**Wa·tch-house.** [WATCH *sb*.]

**1** A house in which a watch or guard is stationed

1482 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 111 [You] woll have powre woll how-so-ev in powre woll howsse be the-est wache howsse

1530 PALSGR 287/1 Watche howse, *lieu de guayt* 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy* II 1 118 Inside the wall is a country night cottage with fifteene men in watch houses for every watch a nine fiue men 1689 *Aldeburgh Rec* in *N & Q* (1 IX 1911) 456/2 Do John Cooke in ye watch house 1 s. he is now set up at the beacon 0 0 00 00 1730 LABELYE *Short Disc Westm Bridge* 30 Useful Buildings, such as Watch houses, &c 1775 ROMANS *Nat Hist Florida* App 72 You will see a watch house (nick named a Fort) on St Rose Island 1872 L STEPHEN *Hours in a Library* (1894) II 72 I sat of these (summer) stood like watch houses on the edge of the cliff 1880 A MCKAY *Hist Kelso* 200 One of these is to be beheld reposing [in Dean Castle] had been peel-ups used as a watch house in times of emergency 1882 B. IDE *Scotch Oyster Industry* 249 *Watch-houses*, a shanty built on the shore, or near the planted oyster beds, from which they may be guarded (Massachusetts)

**2.** A house used as a station for municipal night-watchmen, in which the chief constable of the night sits to receive and detain in custody till the morning any disorderly persons brought in by the watchmen (Now only *U S* and *Colonial*.)

1716 GAY *Trivia* II 491 Where sit stiles breath'd the works of Phidias' hands: A wooden pump or lowly watch house stands 1732 *Norwich Mercury* 18 Mar 1 2 Several of the Footmen and Charmen were carried to St James's Watch house, and Yesterday Morning were examined before Justice Lambert 1772 *Ann Reg* 123 The mob pulled down the watch house, and rescued the prisoners 1835 *Acts & Ord Will IV*, c 76 § 78 To deliver any Person so apprehended into the Custody of any Constable at the nearest Watch house 1842 DICKENS *Amer Notes* VI Here are The Tombs once more The city watch house is a part of the building 1845 D JERROLD *St Giles* I The watchmen bore the mother to the watch house 1876 EMERSON *Cult & Succ Ess* 140 This unwritten play in fifty acts is composed by the dullest snorer in the floor of the watch house 1919 *Melbourne Argus* 1 Sept 6 Detectives arrested Gregg Whitney and locked him up at the City Watchhouse

*attrib* 1932 *Town & Cas.* No 4890 3 The Lincoln cover again, the Watch House Door 1859 K. CORNWALLIS *Peacock at Home & at Work* VIII 8 By Inside there were several detectives and two watchhouse keepers at the books.

**Watching** (wɒ·tʃiŋ), *vbl sb*. [-ING1.]

1 The action of the verb WATCH in various senses *lit.* and *fig.*

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xiii (*Mark*) 131 The bischapis gret wechyne mad bewys, to tak sancte marke, Fremyt 1479 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1905) 99 Item, payd to the Clerke and puns for mate and drynk for we hoppe of the we pulcre [etc.] xxiiij*d* *a* 1549 SKELTON *Image of Court* 352 His lede was heuy for watchyng nor ouer his ache 1552 *Extracts Hurd Rec* (1844) I 258 Ordered the watching and keeping of this gude towne brutht be nicht and day 1593 SHAKS. *Rich II*, II. i. 78 For sleepe England long time haue I watcht, Watching breeds leane 1678 PHILLIPS, *Watching*, a keeping from sleep 1679 STILLINGFL. *Chron Hist* (Hannah)ine Club) I 120 The marquess wonde ing at the watching of his bodeing *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Feb 1685, I tired without rest to the 10th grasse and was watching 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip to Scarb* V i, Of all modes of suspense, the watching for a loitering mistress is the worst 1830 *Mech Mag* IX. 209/2 To make provision for the lighting and watching of the several Parishes in England and Wales 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* IV I 444 The king had been exhausted by long wat hing and by inc ty violent emotions. He now resired to rest. 1903 MRS DE LA PASTURE *Cornish Ix* xvi 183 She is very for I'm strong and requires a deal of watching, over 1922 WACE *Fr Fleet Year & Che* 11 178 The task I find lies ples and ourselves to live in a constant state of watching for the complete and final revelation of that ki gdom

**b** the duty or business of this

*c* 1400 *Sc Troyan War* (Horstm) II 614 Gregeois, yharnande with mayne & mude the wacl migis [*r* vachings] for to execude Of pare fraudfull gyle he tedelay 1526 *Liber Regr* (W de W 1531) 93 b, It is anour that the chyrchen people rendreth to theyr l ede in compared to a custody or watchynge 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* xxii (S T S) II 225 The romanis in pe capitol war nowpat & our ane with owr al tinuall stationes & watchingis 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* II i 383 *Leonato* My Lord I am for you, though it cost me ten nights watchings 1611 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errant* I iii, Hard watchings and rough Guards Pill and make up the field. 1669 STILLINGFL. *Serm* II (1673) 267 Their frequent watchings, fastings, hunger and thirst. 1704 NELSON *Fest & Fasts* II v (1739) 501 It was celebrated with solemn Watchings 1793 MARTYN *Lang Bot* I v *Vigiliæ*, These Vigiliæ or Watchings are performed at determined hours of the day, when plants open, expand and shut their flowers daily. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Cantcrd Fr, Young Lady* I II 134 Hours were past by the tender, agitated Emily, in anxious watchings. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 80 They had to wait for the successive 'watching' of each buoy, as its first appearance on the surface is technically termed 1890 STEVENSON *In South Seas* II vi (1900) 196 It is the dead man's kindred and next friends who thus depreciate his duty with nocturnal watchings

**c** So *Watching and warding*: see WATCH *v* 6 *b* and 10

1529 *Acts Privy Council Scot* III 217 Subject to all laufull thoiis watcheing warding, and vthers impositions liand vpon the said burgh 1600 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 378/1 Qua vi causes in dicto burgo manentes assistis ferrent cum burgensibus ad le watching, warding [etc.] 1721 J WARD *Wolgus Brit* VIII 95 For Watching Warding and Iiain bandits 1. The Cust me of an ancient standing 1765-8 BLACKSTONE *Hist Laws Scot* II v § 88 This service of watching and warding is due by the burgesses within the territory of the borough 1803 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl* I 206 The citizens [of Edinburgh] performed a species of personal service for defence of the town, called watching and warding 1838 W. HOWITT *Hist Lit Scot* 237 The *saddendo* (more usually called) of watching and warding

**2** The state or condition of being awake, wakefulness, often, wakefulness from disinclination or incapacity for sleep, an instance of this

*c* 1550 H LLOYD *Treas Health* VIII C VIII Against so much watchynges The Sygnes That he can not slepe after his accustomed fa hyon 1608 DANIEL *Sacrifice to Ven* And after a man hath recovered his health, yet is he never thelesse disquieted by much watching for a long time after 1669 SIR W. PENN *Spir Govt* 28 The Life of Man spends its whole course in these two different states, Sleep and Watching the one appointed for Rest and Ease, the other for Acti vi ties 1716 LADY MARY WORTLEY *Lett Poems* II 118 The Bullet not having been drawn out, occasioned great pain with Inflammation great heat and watchings 1799 *Dorsetshire Nat. Guildhood* (ed 3) 61 Watching, or want of sleep, is frequently a symptom of the foregoing complaints. 1860 MAYNE *Expos Lex, Leroyalisme*, term for disinclination to sleep, watching

†**3** = WATCH *sb* 1 b. *Obs*—1

1588 HOLME *Armory* II. 221 1 A Watching of Nag tin gales.

**4.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *watching hole*, *-place*, **watching thief**, a brief instructing counsel to watch, in case, also *fig*; †**watching-candle**, a candle used in the † watching' of a shrine or of a corpse, also *transf*, †**watching-chamber**, *a*) a guard room adjoining a royal apartment; (*b*) a room adjoining a shrine, to be occupied by a watcher, †**watching lamp**, *cf watching candle*, **watching rate** = *watch rate*

1886 *Daily Acts* 17 July 2/1 'Watching' streets are hi ly by the Police, and watching rates are high 1892 *Law Times Rep* LXVI 806/2 Charles Dilke 1905 H G WELLS *A Spet* III 8 4 And I eld a watching thief for herself 1926 *Wells Fr Sten* in *Introduction* 1 X iii 16 Watching thief, Watching servant, sultan's watching candle burning from vi of the clocke 13th it be past seven 1590 *Cornet Lesion* D 4 The Mother and the daughter sette vppe a watching Candle, and sate vppon the watch by it, and the King was then 1611 COTGR. wake 1634 SIR K *Noble Soldier* IV ii, Peauty was turn'd into a watching Candle that went out stinking 1633 in W H ST. JOHN *Hope Cassiobury* I 233 [A] Gallary betweene the Kyg gest halle and hys watching chamber *Hist* 1 255 The Queenes watching chambre 1856 *Builder* 14 June 2/3 The West 14 Chamber on the north side of the Sanctuary Chapel [St Albans], wherein a monk was posted as a guard of honour to the shrine 1862 R J KER *Letters in Church of England* 1 The watching thumbscrew, which we see elsewhere, adjusted the shrine for the protection of the gold and jewels which it enriched it 1892 R G CUMMINS *Hunters Life S Africa* (1902) I vi 1, I once rashly ordered the usual watching fire to be constructed 1897 *Ir Ecc Act for Lunacy* 1 1 77 If they have lived by a watching lamps, Praying each man sit of a flyngge Torre 1848 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II xxii, Vamps saw the little girl jump up from her wat hing place in the window 1852 DICKENS *Sk Ion, Parish* iv, 'Watching rates, lighting rates, and pavement rates.

**Watching** (wɒ·tʃiŋ), *ppl a*. [-ING2.] That watches, observant, vigilant, unsleeping.

*Be wuif* 1483 See 2e Heorote fand watchen the wer wiges bad in *c* 1000 *Ælf Lives* in thorpe *Hom Lazar* (1840) II 400 Ic am a watching wrecca, ic am a sorhfulne 1598 SHAKS *Mer Wiv* IV iv, Wilt thou lie still and bring us naught to watching pawes. *c* 1680 *Rob Rising Ruffling Script* in *Sc* (1726) 313 A watching vengeance 1798 WORDSW *Lyrical Ballads* II. 208 But watching sighs their sound, to guard dear Widefrom all sk ith 1848 DICKENS *Domtey* xlvii, He kept his watching eyes that way 1902 *Daily Chron* 24 July 5/1 Here the interesting spectacle of a clam rivalry has not been prevented to a watching n tion

Hence **Wa·tchingly** *adv rare*—0,

1552 HULOT, Watchyngely, *vigilanter*

**Wa·tchit,** obs form of WATCHET

**Wa·tchless,** *a* [f WATCH *sb* + -LESS.] **1** a keeping no watch **b** Unwatched, unguarded

1620 GATAKER *Spirituall Watch* (ed 2) 124 There is great difference betweene the watchfull and the watchelesse Christian 1791 CUMBERLAND *Perfect* I 1, How can'st thou first to set Thy watchless Eyes upon this fatal Wretch 1842 *Proc Berwick Nat Club* II 8 The hills are covered with flocks of sheep and lambs, bleating in their watchless sleep

**2.** Of a night Not broken into watches, having no watch set

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I 27 To their hearts' content They live, and through the watchless night prolong Sound slumbers.

**Wa·tchlessness.** [f WATCHLESS *a.* + -NESS.] Lack of watchfulness.

1682 J [BARROUGH] *Hearts ease* (ed 2) 33 Another common Cause, is our own Watchlessness and Carelessness 1894 *Trade Mag* XXI 564/1 to say nothing of the watchlessness of our Admiral in the Black Sea.

**Wa·tch-light.** [WATCH *sb*.]

**1** = NIGHT-LIGHT 2 b, esp. in the form of a slow-burning candle with a rush wick.

1608 *Digby Treatise Mem* (1827) 67 After she was in bed she read it by the help of the watch light which stood burning by her 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L* III xiii Nurse, let me have a Watch Taper 1723 ADDISON *Drummer* II 1 Item, a dozen Round 1 Watch Lights for the Use of the Servants *a* 1732 GAY *Sat IV of Apparition* 88 Swift rets d the mind The watch lights burn, tuckt warm in bed was laid The hardy stranger 1775-6 WHITE SELBORNE, *To Barrington* 1 Nov These nights give a good clear light Watch lights (rated with tallow, it is true shed a dismal one 'darkness visible.' 1827 J. BATCHELOR *Innocent Amusement* 204 Luminous Bottle, or Watch light *c* 1865 LETHERBY in J Wylde *Circ Sci* I 604/2 The rushes are peeled on three sides for the best light and on two only for watch lights

**2** A light emitted by a watchman

1825 BROWNING *Andrea del Sarto* 209 See, it is settled dusk now, there's a star, Morello's gone, the watch lights show the wall

**Watchmaker.**

**1.** One whose trade it is to make watches

1630 CAIT J SMITH *True Fast* 35 Gold smiths and Watch makers *a* 1670 WILKINS *Disc New Planet* II (1684) 152 We know every Watch-maker is much wiser, as not to put any Motion in his Instrument which is superfluous 1910 BERESFORD *Prince Hum Amorel* I § 62 Those Actions of the Watchmaker whereby he makes the Movements and rightly adjusts them 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No 26 ¶ 8 My first mistress was wife of a working watch maker 1832 G DOWNES *Lett Cont countries* I 261 Geneva We have been a full fortnight in this paradise of watchmakers

**b.** attrib uses of possessive, as *watch maker's file*, *glass*, *lens*, etc., **watchmaker's cramp**, a neurosis affecting watchmakers.

1683 MOXON *Mech Exerc Printing* III 181 Small and Fine Files (commonly called Watch makers Files) 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2734 *Watchmaker's Glass*, a double convex lens set in a tubular socket, adapted to be held to the eye by the contraction of the brow 1888 RICHARDSON *Nat Forming Man* 3 A watch maker's lens held in the eye 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*: Watchmaker's cramp

**2** *slang* (See quot.)

1859 *Bartlett's Slang Dict*, *Watchmaker*, a pickpocket, or stealer of watches

**Wa·tchmaking,** *vbl sb* The making of watches

1709 MANDEVILLE *Fab Bees* (1733) II 356 Watch making is come to a higher degree of perfection than it would, if [etc.] 1879 *Ency Brit* X 148/2 Watchmaking was already carried to a high degree of perfection, under the influence of Charles Cusin who had settled in the town (Geneva) in 1587

*attrib* 1892 CARLYLE in *Mrs Carlyle's Letters* II 219 An innocent, old lad, who has himself been a watchmaking business.

**Wa·tchman** (wɒ·tʃmăn), *pl* **watchmen** [f. WATCH *sb* + MAN *sb*]

**1.** A member of a military guard, a sentinel or sentry, a look-out posted to give warning of the approach of danger, etc *Obs* in technical use.

Now *rare* exc in reminiscences from the Bible

*a* 1000-50 *Wars Alex* 5164 He he pasyfion a prochid it past with in euen, And sone he wuche nen with out quen he him bare sawe; Ful tike him 1400 *Destr Troy* 11136 All the burgh is full large, ouer the brode walles, Watchemen for to wale, with knyghtes ynogh 1470 HARDING *Chron* IV 293 The watchman was hewy fallen on sleepe, The king was doun 1526 TINDALE *Matt* xxvii 66 They went and made the sepulchre sure with watchmen, and sealed the stone 1535 COVERDALE *Isa* xxi 12 One of ther cried vnto me: 'watchman what hast thou espied by night?' [1611 Watch man, what of the night?] *Ps* cxxvii 1 Except the Lorde kepe the cite the watcl man waketh but in vayne 1644 *Ac Ld High Treas Scot* VIII 301 Item the xxj day of July, deliverit to the watchmen of the Tolbuith of Edinburgh xxiij*s* 1660 SHAKS *Ant & Cl* IV iii 38 *Enter a Company of Souldiers* 1 & 2 Wilke, let's see if other Watchmen Do heare what we do? 1685 K LONG *tr Barclay's Argenis* II xx 114 He goes to the Gate with the Guard in the King's name to the Watchmen, through all the watch towers, that they should not breake up the watch 1680 DRYDEN *Span Friar* I i, Our Watch is set, and all the Guards in the King's name to the Watchmen, through all the watch towers, that they should not breake up the watch 1680 DRYDEN *Span Friar* I i, Our Watch is set, and all the Guards in the King's Eyes Expect his swift Arrival 1864 SWEAT *tr Uhland's Poems* 203 So listen, ye youthful heroes, Mute excellent watchmen three, Here tender young girls as my enter 1913 J H MORRISON *On Trail of Pioneers* xvii 82 Every day the watchman climbed the tower, and gazed down the Cawnpore road for some sign of the relieving force

**b** *transf* and *fig*

*a* 1300 *bernard de cura rei fam* etc II 130 Pe wouff salbe wachmane and kep in ny ways 1611 SIR J DENHAM *in Anth Hist* IV 555 *Comm Parl* I 579 Yt is fitt for us that stande as Watchemen to give warning one unto another upon all weeming dangers 1655 WATTON *Anglers* (1661) 175 And in the morning visit the water side (but not too near) for they have a Watch man 1798 WORDSW *Lyrical Ballads* II. 208 Rest in Him, securely rest, Thy Watchman never sleeps 1880 PUSEY *Min Prophs* 346 Noth ng now hinders the visitation, which the watchmen, or prophets, had so long foreseen and forewarned of

*attrib* 1859 H KINGSLEY *G Hamlyn* xxvi Sending the watchman cockatoo screaming aloft to alarm the flock

†**to** *pl* Body-guard. *Obs*

*a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 38 Yeomen of the Crowne These were called the King's Wachemen

†**2** A scout, spy *Obs*

*a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* clxv 632 Whyles they were thus deuyrynge together, the wache men came aboughte, whome the kyng had sent thether to spye and knowe if Peter dyd sende to those prisoners any comforte or ayde.

†3. One who keeps vigil, a watcher; one who watches over or guards a person or thing, a guardian (*of* something). *Obs.*

14.. Lyds. *Lyke thym Audience* 53 (Camb. MS.) in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 51 With wachemen wake, with sloggy folkes slepe. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Agnes* 295 More-ouyr goddys sone..To me is..A wecheman eek neuer sleepyng. 1598 Shake. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 66 Vnckles of Glaster, and of Worchester, The special Watch-men of our English Weale. 1596 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 360 The Watchmen and faithfull Pastours of the Kirk of Scotland. 1628 A. Leighton *Appeal to Parlt.* 124 Removing the Dogges that should keepe and the watchmen that should watch the Flockes: so that they are left a prey to the Wolves and Foxes.

†b. Applied to angels. *Cf.* Watcher *f. Obs.*

1558 Latimer *Serm.* 93 Dec. (1584) 370 b, We are not bound to call vppon the aungels when wee heare that they serue vs, but rather to geue God thankes in them that he hath vouchsafed to set such watchmen about vs. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Dan.* iv. 13 Beholde, a watcheman and an holy one came downe from heauen. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. vii. 31 And the Watchmen (so he [Scaliger] calleth the Angels out of *Dan.* 4) lusted and went astray after them.

4. One of a body of men formerly appointed to keep watch and ward in towns from sunset to sunrise; hence, in a considerable town, one who, before the Police Act of 1839, patrolled the streets by night to safeguard life and property. *Obs.* exc. *U.S.* and *Colonial.*

14.. *Legat Quatuor Burgorum* c. 81, in *Sc. Acts* I. 349 Of like house..in be quhilk per wonnys ony bat in be tym of wakyng aw of reesoun to cum furth, bar asl ane wachman be haldyn to cum furth quhen bat pe wakstaff gnis fra dure to dure quha sal..gang til his wachie [etc.]. *c*1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxv. 93 (MS. Harl. 7333) Rebelius..ordeynid for a lawe, bat wachemen shulde eche nyght go about be cete, & visite eche house, bat bere was no misgouernayle bere in. *Ibid.* 95 In tyme of be nyght, when wachemen come blowyng her hornes. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iii. 42 Why you speake like an ancient and most quiet watchman, for I cannot see how sleeping should offend. 1628 J. Taylor (Water Poet) *Penniless Pilgr.* B 4 b, A Watchmans bill, or a Welch-hooke falles not halfe so heauy vpon a man. 1682 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1683) 61 *Watchmen at the Door.* Almost 4 in Clock and a dark cloudy morning. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. ii, Now thieves and ruffians are awake, and honest watchmen fast asleep. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess.* v. P 4 The watchman had gone twelve; and all was still and silent save the voice of a watchman and some passengers, conveyed them to the watchhouse. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 251 When Monmouth arrived in London at midnight, the watchmen were ordered by the magistrates to proclaim the joyful event through the streets of the city. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. v. A face..that had just as much play of expression as a watchman's rattle.

*attrib.* 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xi, The policeman considers him [sc. the bandit] an imbecile civilian, a remnant of the barbarous watchmen-time.

5. A man employed to guard private property, a building, etc. while the owner, tenant, or workpeople are away, esp. during the night.

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 136 These shops are garded in the night season by certaine hired and armed watchmen. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, Watchman's Time-detector. 1876 'Mark Twain' *Tom Sawyer* xv, He.. walked boldly on board the tent, for he knew she was tenantless, except that there was a watchman, who always turned in and slept like a graven image.

6. The dor-beetle, *Geotrupes stercorarius*.

1788–9 J. G. Wood *Manners without Art* viii. (1868) 155 The common Dor Beetle (*Geotrupes vulgaris*) sometimes called the Watchman or Clock. 1883 — in *Good Words* Dec. 763/1 The Dor or Watchman Beetle.

7. *Typog.* (See quot.)

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Watchman*, a little flag of paper placed *pro tem.* in matter as composed, which serves to indicate the position of a footnote.

Hence **Watchmanly** *a. nonce-wd.*, belonging to or characteristic of a watchman. †**Watchmanship**, the office or function of a watchman.

*a* 1663 J. Reynolds *Obadiah* III. (1613) 35 Not content to see watchmen in Jerusalem, but they must have a watchmanship in Canaan too. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 116 Have they..taken away from yet that childish and yet watchmanly toy, the rattle?

†**Watchment**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Watch *v.* + -ment.] A task of watching.

1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 203 However said she, all is well now; because my *Watchments* are now over, by my Master's Direction..Why, Mrs. Jewkes, said I, is all this fishing about for something?..If there be an end of your *Watchments*, as you call them!

**Watch-out.** [f. vbl. phr. *watch out*: see Watch *v.* 4 g.] The action of watching or looking out for something.

1889 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* lv, I never tried to do anything, but just poked along low-spirited and on the watch-out.

**Watchshide**, obs. form of Watchet.

**Watchit**, variant of Watchful *adj. a.*

**Watch-tower.** [Watch *sb.*]

1. A tower or station from which observation is kept of the approach of danger; a look-out station.

1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1713) XV. 52 Huberdyn was Slaine with a halfe Hauche out of the Wache Tour, as he and his Mon went to cote the same. 1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 82 The wache toure vpon Traliltrow,..mon be mendit of the kirkis diffaceing the Englische army maid of it.

Vol. X.

1626 Chapman tr. *Musæus* C 4, A Tower, that Sestian Hero once did make Her Watch-Tower. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 13 West from Rio de la Garica, there is a Look-out or Watch-tower, called Selam. 1792 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xiii, To the left..was seen a ruined watch-tower, standing on a point of rock near the sea. 1818 Scott *Trierm.* i. xiii, Upon the watch-tower's airy round Sir warder stood his horn to sound. 1829 W. Irving *Granada* (1850) 92 Every peak had its atalaya or watch-tower, ready to make its fire by night or to send up its column of smoke by day, a signal of invasion. 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxxvii. X. 197 The besieged, detecting from their watch-towers the negligence of the guards, chose a favorable opportunity and made a vigorous sally. 1889 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 361 This place..was the watch-tower that commanded the passes of the Scardus.

b. *fig.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxii. (1634) 458 We must needs come to that lesser people, which Paul in another place said to have been foreknowne to God; not in such sort as those men imagine, to foreknow out of an idle watch-tower the things that hee workesth not: but [etc.]. 1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lix. 10 David mounted up into the watch tower of Faith, from whence he lokes forward into the remote places of his Kingdome. 1709 Roger *Hone. Unin.* Ix. (1710) 122 Then stand on thy watch-tower and hear what he teacheth thee. 1708–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 19 The true philosopher..considers himself as placed upon some watch tower, there to sit a careful spectator of the earth. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xiv, Morning sought Her eastern watch-tower. 1910 E. Rendall *Diamond of Kingston* 72 Jack once clung to St. Giles; he could have no better watch-tower.

c. *transf.* (See quot.)

1884–5 J. G. Wood *Homes without H.* vi. (1868) 113 To enable the spider to see objects in its front a sort of little turret rises from the cephalothorax and on its summit are placed the eyes. 'Naturalists familiarly call this projection the "watch-tower".'

†2. A phrase or subphrase. *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxvi. xii. II. 578 The use of this watch-tower, is to shew light as a lanthorne, and give direction to the night season to shipmen, or to any that know, and where they shall avoid barrs and shelves. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 324 For the commodity of Saylers the..King builded a watchhouse of white Marble. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais Epigonial* VI. 186 As when a watch tower's light, Seen thro' the gloom of some tempestuous night, Glads the wet mariner.

†3. *Watch tower Spec. Disease.* Strangers, whose bark Has foundered nigh, where the red watch-tower glares Through darkness.

**Watchword** (wɒ·tʃwəːd). [Watch *sb.*]

1. *Mil.* A word or short phrase used as a password. *Obs.* in technical use.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6056 Bisd was the bueme..The ost out of angur & auntur to were, Waccche wordes to wale, bat weghis might know. *a* 1513 Fabian *Chron.* v. lxxxix. (1811) 68 Hengistus hym selfe..to execute his former purposed treason, shewyd his watche worde, by reason whereof anon the Brytons were slayne as sheepe amonge wolues. 1536 Bp. Fisher *Serm.* (1876) 11 Our watch worde or private token geuen to souldiours. 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 Any man that cometh to the watch hill and is by the Officers to watch the same warde, the watchword geven him. *c* 1590 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 513 Et les dite comons aiouent entre eux vne wacheworde en Englishe with whome haldes hym to the Scottes, that is to say Richarde and the true comons. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Addit. Lives* 43 (Tamberlain) Every evening the watch word was distributed, and each man was to repaire to his Quarters.

†b. = Password 1, 2. *Obs.*

1760 *Cautions & Advs. to Officers of Army* 139 At the Delivery of the Report you are to return the Parole, or Watch-Word, to the Commanding Officer by whispering it in his Ear.

†c. The call of a sentinel on his rounds. *Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 13 Since when, a watch-word euery minute of the night goeth about the walls, to testifie their vigilancie. 1625 J. Rogers *Tenth* (1630) 8 We were so near the enemy as to hear their centry's watch-word. 1797 Mas. Radcliffe *Italian* xxvi, I have heard only the watch-word of the sentinels.

†2. A preconcerted signal to begin an attack.

1550 Lynne *Carion's Cron.* 256 b, And then about midnight the watche words was geuen that euery man shoulde be ready with his weapons. 1552 Rowe *Decades* (1577) 318 The kynge..came foorth..with a great bande of armed men cryinge in maner of a larome..Guazzauara, Guazzauara, which..is as it weare a watch worde to giue thonset. 1596 Dalr. tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1830) 11 Ane watch or watche wordis, be quhilk that the Frenchemen were vp in harnesse. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lewe* C. iv. 57 b, The Enemie discharged three Cannon shottes for Watch word, that the Romanes might come together. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 85 Democles seeing his time,..gaue the watchword, and the ambush leapt out. 1630 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 400 The common watchword was the tolling of the Bels to Even-song. 1634 James *I. Martin Hallix*, The name acted as a watchword, and the manner in it was pronounced, a well-directed volley of stones was let fly.

†b. *transf.*

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 370 Which giues the watch word to his hand full soone, To driue the cloud that hides the shine Of Moon. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 90 Take heed..of a false backe to the..furnace, hauing a loose bricke..that may betaken awaie in an other Roome by a false Sinon that attendeth onely the Alchimistes henome, or some other suchlike watch-worde. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* Pref. 25 The Witnesses are to continue in the late Reformation. But no watch-word may be taken to any Tumults from any such Indication of Time. 1793 [Johnson] *Consid. Coal in Scot.* 24 Colliers..in the west country..have some watch-word, by sending round of which they can lay the whole collieries in the country idle.

3. A password used among members of the same sect, society, etc. ? *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1170/1 After-their holy watchewordes spoken on both the sydes, after the maner vsed in that place, the one toke the other by the tip of the finger..thorow the grate. 1646 Whiston *Theory of Earth* II. (1722) 214 A certain Watchword out of 500 pitch'd upon among certain Conspirators. 1809 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1850) I. 168/2 Classical quotations are the watchwords of scholars, by which they distinguish each other from the ignorant and the illiterate. 1851 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* II. They meet in the most secret places, and have their watchwords.

b. A word or phrase used as embodying the guiding principle or rule of action of a party or individual.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 502/2 Now I cannot help being of Opinion, that all the former Watch-words, were better chosen than theirs. 1780 Cowper *Table-T.* 322 When the rude rabble's watch-word was destroy, And blazing London seem'd a second Troy. 1832 Tennyson *Love has thy Land* 28 Nor deal in watch-words overmuch. 1844 Macaulay *Ess., Chatham* (1897) 360 The watchwords of the new government were prerogative and purity. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. x. 307 Again in A.D. 1227 his name was made the watchword of a renewed struggle. 1876 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 9 Our stately Milton said in a passage which is one of the watchwords of the English race, 'as good almost kill a man as kill a good book.'

†4. A cautionary word or speech; also, a premonitory sign, a warning event. *Obs.*

*c* 1435 *Hampton Corr.* (Camden) 18 I took that for a watche word for medling betwixt lords. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 124 b, Geuyng a preatie watchie woord that best were vttirly to abstein from maatrimonie. 1573 T. Hill *Arte Garden.* (1608) 19 He gaue me this watchword in his own Chamber that it might be that ment to make me weri of the House. 1584 [A. Munday] *Vellitie*, Sig. A, Watchwords..Englande To beware of traytours and tretcherous practises [etc.]. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* IV. (1655) 197 The Ambassadours had a watch-word given them, not to see or salute him. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiii. 436 To welcome the Duke..he was entertain'd with prodigies..; as if Nature..made her hand to sweerve, that she might shoot a warning-piece to those countries, and give them a watchword of the future calamities they were to expect. *a* 1761 [S. Haliburton & Hebburn] *Mem. Magnifico* v. (ed. 2) 19 An arch wench..had smelled a rat about Magnifico, and had given her lady a watch-word.

†b. *To set a watchword upon*: to utter a caveat against. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (1595) I, S. Paule himselfe, who yet for the credite of Poets) alledgeth twise two Poets, & one of them by the name of a Prophet, setteth a watchword vpon Philosophy, indeede vpon the abuse.

**Watchwork** (wɒ·tʃwəːk). [Watch *sb.*] That part of the movement of a timepiece which is concerned with the measuring of the hours, as distinguished from the 'clockwork' or striking part; also, the 'works' or parts composing the movement of a watch.

1867 Smart *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 247 Three new wayes of Pendulums for Clocks, and several others for regulating the motion of the Watch-work to them. 1674 Hooke *Animadv. Hevelius* 68 To effect which motion of the Table and Instrument, a Watch-work is fixed in the Axis, so as to make it move round in the same time, with a diurnal revolution of the Earth. 1675 J. S. *Horol. Dial.* I. vii. 28 To shew you commodiously to which sort of Watch-work, move thus brisk and lively. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 June, Suppl. 2/2 [Advt.] Silver watches..cast watch-work, [etc.]. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* Clock-work, properly so called, in contradistinction to that part of the movement of a clock or watch..which is termed *watch-work*. 1848 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries Lond.* 271 Facio, a native of Geneva,..is said to have first invented the application of jewels to watchwork.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 181 A shew-woman—like Madam Catharina, with watchwork under her hoop! 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 530 The whole machinery and watchwork of puppetism. 1845 Clough *Poems, New Sinai* v, Heaven's Ambassador! And heart and mind of human kind A watch-work as the rest!

**Wate**, obs. f. Wait *sb.*; obs. or dial. f. Wait *v.*[1]

**Wate**, obs. form of Weet.

**Wate**, var. Wheat, Wheate *sbs. Obs.*, fortune.

**Wate**, Sc. form of *wot*: see Wit *v.*

**Wate**, obs. pa. t. of Wite *v.*, to blame.

**Watel**, obs. form of Wattle *sb.* and *v.*

**Water** (wɔ·tə), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **wæter**, 2–5 **weter**, 3 *Orm.* **waterr**, (*pl.* **waitress**), 3–5 **watre**, 4 *Sc.* **valtir, vattir, vatyr**, (*pl.* **wateres**), 4–5 **watere, watire, watur, ·yr**, 4–6 **watir**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **vattir**, 4–7 chiefly *Sc.* **watter**, ·ir, 4–7 *Sc.* **wetter**, 5 **vatur, wature, ·yre, wadyr**, 5–6 **wattyr**, 5–6 *Sc.* **waltir, valter, vatter**, *Sc.* **wattar, valter**, 8–9 *Anglo-Ir.* **wather**, 9 *dial.* **waater, walter, wetter**, 2– **water**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wæter* neut. corresponds to OFris. *watar, watir, weter*, etc., OS. *watar* (MLG., LG., Du. *water*), OHG. *wazzar, wazar* (MHG. *wazzer*, mod.G. *wasser*) :—OTeut. **watar-*; a parallel formation with *n* instead of *r* occurs in Goth. *watō* neut. (genit. *watins*), ON. *vatn* neut. (Norw. *vatn*, Sw. *vatten*, Da. *vand*). The Indogermanic root **wed-* (Teut. **wod-*) occurs in OSl., Russ. *voda* water; the ablaut-variant **wēd-* (Teut. **wēd-*) is represented in Wet *a.*; the ablaut-variant **ud-* (Teut. **ut-*) is found more widely: cf. Skr. *údan*, Gr. ὕδωρ (genit. ὕδατος :— **udṛtos*), Lith. *uñdù* (also *vanà*), OPrussian *unds, undo*, Umbrian *utur*, water, L. *unda* wave; also the derivatives with the sense 'water-animal' (see Otter.)]

**I.** The liquid of which seas, lakes, and rivers are composed, and which falls as rain and issues from springs. When pure, it is transparent, colourless (except as seen in large quantity, when it has a blue tint), tasteless, and inodorous

Popular language recognises many kinds of 'water' that have not all these negative properties, but (even apart from any scientific knowledge) it is usually seen more or less clearly understood that these are really mixtures of water with other substances

1. *gen.*

c897 *Ælfred Oros.* I. ii. C. 309 Oneen I. Ladrones, þætte he xewite his xtjnenan finger on wittre *c* 1050 *Voc. Ælfric* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 377/30, 31 *Aqua* water *Liquor* a fluitie water *c* 1200 Ormin 14068 Crist I-did tatt tezz ut fflemm ȝho & fflemm þezzre fellesw Wiþ water 1551 J. Watson *Scot. K. to Wks.* (1888) 1 Water is mair wicht, here we see that it chuseth to water (contrary to her nature) to be warme, and therof is it called chunneable 1685 N. Cassentus *Gr. for Dict.* 1 (1634) 9 Water being no softer than a thin and fluid body,—must needs require a hard and solid body, whereon to support it selfe 1752 Hume *Polit. Disc.* (ed. 2) 29 All water, wherever it communicates, remains always at a level 1794 Sullivan *View of Nat.* I. 88 Salt Water, when simple, is insipid, in a high degree, unctuous, and smooth 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* II. 121 Water, water, every where, Nor any drop to drink 1813 H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 16 Water is raised from the ocean diffused through the air and poured down upon the soil 1818 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 144 Water passes through the pores of gold rather than suffer compression, and appears to be nearly incompressible 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lvii, As drop by drop the water falls In caulds and catacombs

b With various qualifying words, denoting kinds of water distinguished by their properties or origin: see Ice-water, Rain-water, River-water, Salt water, Sea-water, Snow-water, Spring-water, Sweet water, Cold water, Hot water, Warm water, also Fresh *a.* 5, Hard *a.* 14 a, Soft *a.* 23 a

c Considered as antagonistic to fire

1390 Gower *Conf* I. 201 For as the water of a welle Of fyr alweteth the malt, Ryht so [etc.] 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 10 Boile water with fire, will queane, it hot fyre 1583 Stanyhurst *Æn.* II. iii. 56 He thinketh drung Richard and my selfe shuld meet With no lesse terror then the Elements Of fyre and Water, when their thundring smoake At meeting teares the cloudes and cherkes of Heauen 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 235/2 In coping with fires, water is the great agent employed

*fig.* 1688 Bunyan *Grace abn. Sinn.* (1692) 3 This kind of Language tends to cast Water upon weak and beginning Desires

d. As supplied for domestic needs, esp. as conveyed by a channel or conduit from the source, and distributed through pipes to the houses of a district. Phrases, *to cut off, turn on the water.*

1555 Coverdale & Argent *Treat. Baptism* (1848) 40 Gale and water conduyte whereby he conueyed water in to the cite. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* II. 72 b, At Salisburie, whose water is deerest of any towne I know 1853 *Sanit. Diary* (Pr. unit.) 108 Lyell's water could be fund but the pepill of Edinburgh were f'rit to bring thair watir fra ne far 1855 Dickens *Sk. Boz Parish* i. The turn-cock having turned on the water 1881 *Pall Mall Gazette*, At last the company's man came to cut off the water

e As used for motive power

1598 Florio *Ariduna* (1717) To Ride p. xxv, Like a Mill which stands still for want of Water

f In various similative and figurative phrases, many of which are of biblical origin: see, e. g., Gen. xlix 4; Jos. vii. 5, 2 Sam xiv 14, Ps lxxix 3, *To write on or in water* [= L. *in aqua scribere*, Gr γράφειν εἰς ὕδωρ] to fail to leave abiding record of (something) (To spend money) *like water* profusely, recklessly. *To put water in* (a person's) *mouth* to make things unpleasant for him. *Water in one's shoes* something disagreeable. *To hold out water, to bear water* = to hold water' *fig.*) see Hold *v.* 32. *Where the water sticks* [after L. *hæret aqua*] where discussion comes to a standstill

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 207 Manega untrega hie þe onbringað swa beatte hin blod ðrowh ðæt eáge swa swa water. 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 852 The blood out of the wounde as brode sterte As water, whan the conduit broken is 1544 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 128 I found my good bowe as weake as water 1596 Shakes. *Merch. V.* II. (1867) 10 Hee is to geue him as much amies as hee can water in tenn. 1579 Gosson *Spho. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 64 They haue threatned highly, to put vnder all my worries, where euer they catche me. 1604 Shakes. *Oth.* V. ii. 134 She was false as water 1608 Dekker *Lanth & Caudle light* viii G 5, Yet they haue a trucke (like water out with a sword) to come together instantly and easily as one 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* v. iii, All your better deeds Shall be in water writ, but thy sins in Marble 1612 *Sir Gyles Goosecappe* (1877) 38 No, this deuice too much resembles greene, And will not hold out water to the last 1613 Shakes. *Hen. VIII*, iii. 2. 46 Mens euill manners liue in Brasse, their Vertues We write in Water 1653 Humphrey *Drift Trade Liberty* 20 This is the very question where the water sticks between us for between Hobbes and Brandhall 1697 Lucas *Way to Health* vi. 98 Though it be a vulgar Proverb *As cold as Water* 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr Parnass* I. 59 But I must beg leave to tell you this Excuse will not hear Water 1708 W. Smith *Divt. College* 185 And upon that Fear and Conviction that his Cause could not bear Water 1732 R. North *Life Ld. Kpr Guilford* (1890) 111 This never did his Lordship very much as a new Comer: he talked about a Time to dine with him, all which (as they say) was Water on his Shoes 1844 *Coupl. Hext Murder Mr Weare* 231 The organ of destructiveness was not at all prominent or developed This was a water in the shoes of the phrenologists 1852 S. Warren *Diary Late Physic* xvii (1854) II. 247 He [a cabin boy] was frequently flogged, till the blood ran down his back like water 1859 Dickens *etc. Hamlet Hic & nunc* 3 The sweat poured off my face like water 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xx (end), And the hearts of all the French were turned to water, and their backs to edge-tools for many days 1871 — *Lect. etc.* (1877) II. 368 All else is a paralogism and runs if them like water off a duck's back 1898 S. J. Weyman *Shrewsbury* I. 116 Enough at one time my heart was water when I thought of betraying him, it another it glowed with rage and loathing

2. As a drink, as satisfying thirst, or as necessary aliment for animals and plants.

(In biblical uses) applied to what satisfies spiritual needs or desires, cf. Water of life

*bread and water* (also in Shakes. *fetter and water*), the type of extreme hard fare, as of a prisoner or a penitent

*c* 950 *Lind. Gosp. Luke* iv. 29 Drucc seðe ðurstas. (Tof Sum stæðe þæt he sceal him on dyrstes) in scinese *a* 1000 *Cott. Jul. Hymn.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 168 Hwæt drincst þu? þ ic, xifu, hrabe; oþþe water xif ic me hrabe to þe *a* 1200 *Ancr.* 1. 210 Leaten him [*Lazarus*] wes, & bidden him to drunken þ[e] he ȝe he wunes *c* 1200 Ormin 3212 He dridnnch wass wiþþrenn a ȝatt 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (1858) II. 172 Thay fand na thing to drink bot water 1552 Huloet, Water drinker, and bredes meat 1573–80 Tusser *Hus.* (1878) 81 Howse e'le, and go sockle it euene in a day and after in whole, eate bread and bee, drinke water and pray 1611 Cotgr., Whose daily custome it was to meditate vpon a Prayer he'ere, called The Confession of Faith with the water thereof his soule might not be fed and 1881 Rivers *Orch. & Fruit Gard.* (ed. 3) 28 Water well but sparingly at first; Weeks with little and more water 1603 — *Ideas for Ho.* 11 In 1593, I am fame to drink and sup with water and bread 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. 236 & Sundry *Voyages* (1878) 67 Why then should we (like to many Non Quixotes) change our mutt and drink for water? 1732 Mitchell *Acct Late Insurrection*, During the Winter season they live on Rice boiled in Water 1736 Shorter *Bee Gd Mist* I. xii, To regale myself still with my bread and water and the slight of a silver tumbler 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Fam. Piece* 1. 1. 4 Water is the best drink 1842 Loudon *Suburb. Horticult* 386 When plants are ripening their fruit a diminished supply of water more than the fluid requisite to keep the leaves in a healthy condition will require to fill it situse fields is an abundant supply of water for stock to drink 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Gayworthys* xxxvi, She fell sick, a rubbing, against her choice Mr Brinley brought his wife water 1871 Blackmore *Lorna D.* I. Mrs. *Melbury* xiv 122 After that they put him in a dark room and kept him on bread and water for a day

b Contrasted with wine, as inferior in strength or pleasantness

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21095 Pe sule o matheu, water it wis, And win pe letter o lucas. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 182 Wo woman is the lesser man, and all thy passions, matched with mine, Are as moonlight unto sunlight, and as water unto wine.

c *Water bewitched* (colloq.), used derisively for excessively diluted liquor, now chiefly, very weak tea

1818 Kay *Lyon* (ed. 2) 84 Water bewitch't is very thin drink 1819 Scott *Bride of Lam.* xxxiii, Brown *Potatoes call a Pottage* Add 2 pt the Broth was nothing in the world but Water bewitched [*L. mera aqua*], if it deserved no more 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* viii, Have a little more, my love 1839 — *Nich. Nick.* xxxvi, I have a fancy that your Ladyship is very sparing of your tea. If per test, the last I tho't was no more than Water bewitch'd 1883 Fenn *Cath. Crest of Ages* xxxvi, Cook, coffee which could not be called *fit* 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* Introd. II. 25 Another Book of Noble's is of much more stupid character, nearly meaningless and of the same water bewitched

3 Used for dilution of liquors

1388 Wyclif *Isa.* i. 22 Thi syluer is turned in to dros, thi wyn is meynd with water 1732 *Swift Conversat. in Ire.* Wks. (1755) II. 1. 16 I am told, that there was no strong water for John Ay M'dam, strong of the Water 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, Mr Benjamin Allen produced a black bottle half full of brandy 'You don't take water, of course?' said Bob Sawyer

*fig.* 1860 J. Alton in Gasquet *Acton & Circle* (1906) 149, I am afraid you will think I have poured a good deal of water into my wine in 'Tyrol and Italy'

b In phrasal combinations denoting liquors diluted with water, as *brandy and water, gin and-water, rum and water, whisky and-water, wine-and water*: see the first words, also Milk-and-water. Hence jocularly in nonce combinations

1882 Mrs. Oliphant *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 168 The weak dilution of water and Lamb 1887 *Bunyer* 149 *Daily News* 13 Mar 7/2 He once heard a University sermon described as of the Bible and water order

c *fig.* (*Stock Exchange*) Fictitious capital created by the watering or 'diluting' of the stock of a trading company: see Watered *ppl. a.*

1883 *Nation* (N. Y.) 8 Nov 384/2 The Committee does not produce any evidence to show that it is the dread of 'water' which is now keeping the foreign investor out of Wall Street 1894 *Daily News* 12 July 5/5 The stock of the Company has been watered three times over, and the Company has not only been able to pay the regular dividends on the water and all, but fet [

4 As used for washing, steeping, boiling, etc

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. xxvii. 94 Ða Jeseah pilatus þæt hyt nihte ne fremode, þa xeam he water & þwoh hys hænda *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20022 Scho wesah her sunes bodi in water *c* 1375 *Sc. Legends* xviii (*Egeptiane*) 1424, & with his tern wesche þam sone as quilk with vattir suld þam dicht *c* 1400 *Avow. Arth.* (1910) lxi. 35 Pebbenne sal ȝiue pe gestis water til þaire hendis. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks* p. 132 Take Vele, Kyde, or Henne, an boyle hem in fayre Water or elles in freyshe brothe. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 151, Lupines being sodden and layd in water feedeth Oxen in Winter very well. 1695 Shaks. *Much* II. iii. 46 Goe get some Water, And wash this filthie Witnesse from your Hand 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 15 So incredibly extravagant is he sometimes, as to wash his Cabin with fresh Water, when the Ship's Company want it to allay the burning Heat of their salt Victuals 1868 Scott *P. Sc. Perth, Chron. Canongate* Ser. II. Introd., These are the stains, neither water nor any thing else will ever remove them from that spot

b Each of the quantities of water used successively in a gradual process of washing.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 Wule a weob beon et one cherre, mid o e watere wel shlichad. 1884 J. S. *Prefat. Hist. United* 149 Feeding him [your hawk] upon the flesh of Rooks, washed in two waters *a* 1777 in *Penn. Friends' Misc.* (1904) Oct. 167 Take half a pound of sagoe and wash it well in 3 or 4 h waters. 1896 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. ix 94 Butter my own invention, melted from salt beef and washed in many waters 1875 F. J. Bird *Dyer's Hand bk* 33 Wash in two waters and dry

c. in references to baptism.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt iii. 11 Ic eow fulige on wætere to dædbote. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19076 Qua mai for bede water at baptim 1389 [see Cold water b.] 1587 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 74 Quhen Goddis word with water ioint be, Throw faith, to gif vs lyfe Eternalie 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. 81 Why were we taught that with water God doth purifie and cleanse his Church?

5. Water of a mineral spring or a collection of mineral springs used medicinally for bathing or for drinking, or both. Often plural (cf. L. *aquæ*) preceded by *the* or the name of a place. *To go to the waters* (? obs.) to visit a 'watering place' for remedial treatment

1542 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 Diuers honest persones whome it hath pleased god to endue with knowledge of the nature kinde and operacion of certeyne herbes rotes and waters 1586 Grenham in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 129 Sir John a Leys ys not yett come from the water of Spawe. 1593 Duke *Medicus* 1. 6 Of whose bathes & some waters that are generated and flowe out of vaynes of hyrnstone, are verye hotte, and some very whott These waters being also dryuing by nature are wholesome for many infyrmities. 1641 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 207 Waters have twice dim her good and Sir Aw water is better than the best waters in England 1652 J. Gaule *Mag-astro-mancer* 89, I approve not of taking the waters too fast 1676 Lady Cha worth in *12th Rep Hist. MSS. Comm* App v. 29 Lady Portsmouth continues as she was, only she says the Frenich Bath, others the Bath waters 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 284 P 4 I found I have drunk the Waters, and am told I ought not to use my Eyes so much. I cannot but say to you 1720 Wellcock in Bible *Oxf. Lett. Ser.* II. V. 328 Since the kings return from the waters, which agreed very well with him, we have had [etc.] 1725 Sheridan *Mr Lutterell's Diary* 1. 3 She went in a coach & 6 mining foreign waters' for Seltzer, Pyrmont, Islington, or Chalybeate, she never had her equal 1788 Jefferson *Writ* (1859) II. 453 He is on his return home to the waters 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, Most welcome to Bath, sir If it's long—very long, Mr Pickwick, since you drank the waters 1854 Soutney *Doctor* II. (1862) 97 In 1756 it was well known then waters were immeasurably inferior to what *they* enjoyed, not only in sulphuretted hydrogen, but also in sodine and iodine 1879 *St. Jas' Gaz.* IX. 509 She was under ed simply a wine glass of Orezza water after breakfast every morning

6 Water regarded as collected in seas, lakes, ponds, etc., or as flowing in rivers or streams.

Often with definite article, denoting a particular portion of water referred to. Also, the ominous place of the earth's surface as a region inhabited by its own characteristic forms of life, in contradistinction to the land and the air.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* vii. 18 Hie ferdon ofer wætere. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Ða sulure is turned in to dros, ðe wyn is mend with water 1732 *Swift Pol Conversat.* II. 1. 16 I am told, there was no strong water for John Ay M'dam, strong of the Water 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, Mr Benjamin Allen produced a black bottle half full of brandy 'You don't take water, of course?' said Bob Sawyer

*fig.* 1860 J. Alton in Gasquet *Acton & Circle* (1906) 149, I am afraid you will think I have poured a good deal of water into my wine in 'Tyrol and Italy'

b In phrasal combinations denoting liquors diluted with water, as *brandy and water, gin and-water, rum and water, whisky and-water, wine-and water*: see the first words, also Milk-and-water. Hence jocularly in nonce combinations

1882 Mrs. Oliphant *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 168 The weak dilution of water and Lamb 1887 *Bunyer* 149 *Daily News* 13 Mar 7/2 He once heard a University sermon described as of the Bible and water order

c *fig.* (*Stock Exchange*) Fictitious capital created by the watering or 'diluting' of the stock of a trading company: see Watered *ppl. a.*

1883 *Nation* (N. Y.) 8 Nov 384/2 The Committee does not produce any evidence to show that it is the dread of 'water' which is now keeping the foreign investor out of Wall Street 1894 *Daily News* 12 July 5/5 The stock of the Company has been watered three times over, and the Company has not only been able to pay the regular dividends on the water and all, but fet [

4 As used for washing, steeping, boiling, etc

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. xxvii. 94 Ða Jeseah pilatus þæt hyt nihte ne fremode, þa xeam he water & þwoh hys hænda *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20022 Scho wesah her sunes bodi in water *c* 1375 *Sc. Legends* xviii (*Egeptiane*) 1424, & with his tern wesche þam sone as quilk with vattir suld þam dicht *c* 1400 *Avow. Arth.* (1910) lxi. 35 Pebbenne sal ȝiue pe gestis water til þaire hendis. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks* p. 132 Take Vele, Kyde, or Henne, an boyle hem in fayre Water or elles in freyshe brothe. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 151, Lupines being sodden and layd in water feedeth Oxen in Winter very well. 1695 Shaks. *Much* II. iii. 46 Goe get some Water, And wash this filthie Witnesse from your Hand 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Di

*Hist Greece* II 174 Water not so remarkable for the breadth of its channel, as for the beauty of its waters. 1798 Coleridge *Anc Mar* v 344 Like waters shot from some high crag, The lightning fell with never a jag, A river steep and wide. 1802–6 Wordsw *Ode, Intim Immort* 171 And see the Children sport upon the shore, And hear the mighty waters rolling evermore. 1820 Bowdler *Reflex* 50 xxiv. Waters sounded, nightingales sang. 1862 Longf *Wayside Inn* 1. Prel 260 The cataract hurled Its headlong waters from the height. 1891 Lamb *Charles's Dream* 213 They had been baptised in the waters of their native river.

**c** In figurative context. (See also Troubled *a.* 1, Fish *v.*[1] 1 c, Oil *sb.*[1] 3 c.)

*Dog waters* (after *Dy* 1611, 1711), grave distresses and anxieties, also, difficult or dirty affairs.

1535 Coverdale *Pr* lxxiii [lxx] 2. I am come in to depe waters [so also 1611]. *Hist* 14 1608 Jas I *Apostate to Turk* 19 Therefore she I meets to fish in troubled Waters. 1826 Stillingfl. *Orig Sacræ* I iii § 8 Joseph Scaliger who hath troubled the waters so much concerning the particular circumstances of this translation, yet fully agrees that it was done in the time of Ptolomeus Philadelphus. *c* 1720 De Foe *Mem Cavalier* (1840) 20 The Cardinal was not on very good terms with the queen, willing to keep enough water there. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* iii, These are deep waters.

Be cautious and think twice. 1908 W Adamson *Life Joseph Parker* 204 An unwanted interest was created by Mr Parker's visit. The usually quiet ecclesiastical waters were stirred.

**d** *pl* The maritime tract belonging to a particular nation, the seas and oceans in a particular quarter of the globe.

1650 in *Rec Convent Burghs Scot* (1878) III 487 Who . went aboard of two Dutch wesselles lying near Inchkeyth, being within our waters. 1920 *Round Table* Dec 89 The Alliance freed us from the necessity of keeping more than a skeleton force in eastern waters in order to defend the Dominions and India.

**e** *Hunting, Woolpheckaings,* etc. Streams or ditches which a horse is required to leap.

1860 Lo W Lennox *Pict Sporting Life* 308 You will find him [a horse] a splendid fencer, I never saw the like of him as timber or water is no guide or brook will stop him. 1869 White Melville *Songs & Verses* 87 Hunters so limbed at water and timber Now on the causeway are fain to be led. 1879 *Punch* 13 Dec 267 I've never tried this horse at water

**f** slang. *To make a shoot in the water* (to commit suicide by drowning.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xlvi, Why I don't go and make a hole in the water I don't know. 1885 — *Mut Fr* i iii Then in the drunken old dodger's hat I had offered to make a hole in the water for a quartern of rum stood aforehand, and kept to his word for the first and last time in his life.

**† g** *pl.* Pictorial representations of tracts of water *Obs*

1747 Franklin in *Horace, Int P* 208 It is chiefly in this View, that Russel the Waters and Claude Lorrain's Skies are so admirable.

**7.** In phrases relating to navigation.

**a.** *By water*: by ship or boat on the sea or a lake or river or canal. (In OL = 7 b.)

*c* 1200 *O E Chron* (MS. D) an 1016, Þi zewende se here to Lundenne, & his huruh utan ymbeseaton & hyre sæ-iscire unfuhtt. 1578–80 Lambarde *Peramb Kent* (1826) 180 Wilcii *Wks* (1880) 23 Per trauelen myst & day, by water & lond, in cold & in hete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 400 If hir hir faught, and hvnde the hye water be sente hir to. 1450 in Coventry Leet Book 578 W Paston, Jr in *I Ed IV* (1897) III 237 And if it lyke yow that I may come with Alwaye be water . 1540 Palsgr *Acolastus* A iv b/1 *Acrel's Inv Writ* (1914) 29 The Cardinall by water to and from greenwyche] 1608 *Assignms Jas I natives* (1819) 36 They went from the tower by water, and came to Westminster. 1681 *Pr Rupert in 11th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App V 81 He hath got by Ratisi on, soe by land to Wurtzbourg and so in thence by water the rest of the journey. 1777 Smollett *Humph Cl*, 4 July (1815) 219 It is going down the river by water. It was by mistake put on board of another vessel under sail. 1809 Irving *Knickerb* iii xi (1840) 137 The hostile ships prepared for an assault by water. 1884 J Whitaker Simmonds *Lond Commerc Cornsp* 116 You will please to receive the said goods, and forward them to us by water. 1886 *Sc School Manual* IV 81 Conveyance is, in this case, cheaper by water than by rail.

**b.** *On or upon (the) water* (ML. *† a water*): on the sea, in naval employments or enterprises. Also, *To be on the water*, to be in course of transport by sea.

*c* 1440 Lay 560, I seih his bro'her ferden hu heo inarn weren a watere & a londe 1418–20 Lydg *Troy Bk* iv. 1597 So hit victorie, worship, and honour, To be reported on water & on lond, Reserved ben booly to youre hond. 1758 J. Blake *Mar Stat* 28 Great numbers of men are employed in the coasting trade, or otherwise upon the water. 1914 *Daily News* 29 Aug 2 There is a very large quantity [of tea] on the water on its way from the East. 1914 *Scotsman* 25 Aug 4/2 Germany has to day another enemy in the field and on the water.

**c.** In expressions like *across, over, on this side the water, to cross the water*, the reference is most commonly to the sea.

The Jacobite toast, 'the king over the water', meaning the Pretender, was expressed by pouring the glass of wine over the water decanter when drinking the health of 'the king'.

1668 Chas II in Cartwright *Madame* (Henrietta of Orleans) (1893) 198 People on this side the water love there profit as well as they do every where else. 1680 Alsop *Mischief of Impos* v 31 We may be Schismaticks here in England, when, if we cross the water, we shall be none. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII iv, From these maids she retired about five minutes after the other servants, having only stay'd to drink the King over the water. 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 254 As our work is in such high repute on this side of the water, It is a matter of great surprise to me, that you should not have many correspondents amongst such of our Irish gentlemen as are improving their estate. † 1840 Dickens *Amer Notes* xviii Those partial readers of my former books, across the Water, who met me with an open hand. 1902 *Law Weekly News* 25 Mar 3/1 An Chelmsford the mare would fetch £4 because it was young across the water to be made into meat extract. 1905 H G Wells *Kipps* II i § 1 Coote remarked that the sea was good for crossing, and asked Kipps if he had been over the water much. 1914 *Q Occ Apr* 318 The world, as we on our side of the water mainly know it.

**d.** In London the above phrases are often used with reference to the Thames. Similarly (*to go*) *on the water*.

1600 *Essex Rel Exam* (MS) in *Shaks Cent Prayer* (1879) 338 They went all together to the Globe over the water wher the L Chamberleins men vse to play. 1732–8 Swift *Pol Conversat* i 46 I promise to go this Evening to Hyde Park on the Water, but I protest, I'm half afraid. 1733 Jane Collier *Art Tormenting* I i (1811) 15 To go upon the water with you. 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz., Vh pt & Lemnite* It is on the Surrey side of the water—a little distance beyond the Marylebone Theatre. — *Bleak Ho* xxi The theatre over, Mr George comes across the water again, and makes his way to that curious region lying about the Haymarket and Leicester Square. 1887 J A Inglese *What I remember* I 118, I used to be a good deal upon the water either alone or accompanied by a single friend with a pair of sculls.

**8.** *To take (the) water*.

**a.** Of a animal or waterfowl, also of a person. To enter the sea, a lake or river, and begin to swim. To embark, take ship, in 17–18th *c.* chiefly, † to take a boat on the Thames (*obs.*).

*c* *U S.* 'To abandon one's position' (Thornton)

**d** Of a ship. To be launched

1580 H Smith in Hakluyt *Voy* (1598) 468 How they there would appoint a day when they would take the water and leave the water of his owne accord. 1607 Topsell *Four Beasts* 149 The sence of smelling is so quicke in these [slush hounds], that they can follow the footsteps of theeues, and if the theefe take the water, they will in the deepest also. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim Orig Man* II vi (1677) 202 As to the Water Fowls, the difficulty is less, for they can and do supply their Kind as long as they will by take. 1. Water Charlotte Smith *Conversat* etc I 27 If I was on horse back on my filly Jruffle and the dogs were to take water, why I should certainly plunge in directly after them. 1798 *Sentimer's Mthly* XV 765 I heard a splash and saw a deer take the water 300 yards or so above me. 1891 *New Forest Rag.* 167 In 1733 a deer is seen to take the water, as the evident intention was to cross to the mainland.

**b** 1548 Patten *Exped Scot* D iij b, Thus thus appointed, my Lorde Protector made haste to take the water. 1580 Tragr *Comm Nemn* xxxii 23 Taking water, with purpose to sail into Flanders. 1689 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) I 524 A gentleman in taking water this morning, when he came into London bridge, pull'd a written paper out of his pocket. 1708 *Constit Westminst & Co* 81 None plying the Long Ferry shall ply one about to take Water with in others, under . 1710 *Brit Apollo Feng* IV 30 Suddenly agreeing to go with him, they took water but were se'ed in the way to Gravesend. 1793 *Angrs Hannibal* 191 He took to water with ample means. 1807 Downman *Poems* 74 Or see, the Queen's barge has at the stairs, as if her Majesty were about to take water. 1889 Mrs Oliphant *Sec Gift* I vii. 93 The boat was getting ready to take water.

**c** 1858 J G Baldwin *Flush Times* 275 'If it please your honor, I believe I will take water (a common expression, signifying that the person using it wishes a nomad). 1859 Bartlett *Dict Amer* (ed 2) 470 To Take Water. To run away, make off. A Western expression, doubtless borrowed from sportsmen. 1890 G Rowfield *A Drift Across the Sea* 6 The fellow was really a coward, though he only took it as big as myself took water at once.

**d** 1901 *Scotsman* 7 Mar 5 6 I launch of the cruiser Kent. The vessel took the water without a hitch.

**9** Quantity or depth of water, as sufficient or insufficient for navigation. *To draw* (so much) *water*: see Draw *v.* 13.

1546 J Heywood *Prov* II xi 81 (1867) 73 There was no water to bring their ship out. 1577 Holinshed *Chron* IV (1586) 469 There was not water for the boate between the Vauots and the other side, finding no more water, there was no other way but to goe backe the same. 1584 R Norman in *Voy of Sanders &c* 3 Being from the north Bore to the Nese, keepe the north line with Mamelicke as far as you can see, till you bring those two pieces of towers into one: there you shall have water enough. 1748 *Lond Gaz* No 5416/1 There not being Water enough, she was not launched. 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L* § 86 A clear passage to the harbour, with a sufficiency of water for the craft at low water. 1791 R Milne *2nd Rep Thames* 10 Good Water from thence to Moulsford. 1793 — *Rep Thames* 35 There is a pretty good water all the way to Datchet Ferdge And from Datchet Bridge, there is a fine navigable water all the way to New Lock shoal.

**b.** With prefixed adj.; a particular state of the tide or † high water, Low water. † *Full water* = full tide.

*c* 1400 Tyne *Assembly of Gods* 110 Where as I shall have fyllyd dykes depe At a full water I might not thedyr crepe Before my season come to restore 1593 Nashe *Christ Teares* 40 Cum paterei me collige dic hic water et veni fra the full vey to the low water.

**10.** Water received into a boat or ship through a leak, or by the breaking of the waves over the side. *To make water* [= *Fr faire eau*, It *far acqua*, G *wasser machen*] (of a ship or boat) to leak, or to admit or 'ship' water over the side, through a port, etc. Also, *to take (in) water* in the same sense. † *To make foul water* (obs.). see Foul *a.* 4.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars T* 163 The same harm doeth a man tyme the smale droppes of wter, that entren thurgh a litel crevasse in to the thurrok, and in the botme of the ship. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D* iii 11 16 It liked him as well, to tell you no lies, As water in his shippe, or salt cast in the fire. 1555 Lorn *Decades* (Arb) 77 The victuals corrupted by taking water at the rifres myll clowed. *Hist* 260 One of they shyppes leaked and toke water very sore. 1708 *Anson's Voy* 111 24 The ship made so much water, that with four pumps and baling he could n t free her. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 23 July 1/4 St Anna, lately made 20 inches of water in an hour. 1845 *Axe Monthly Mag* XV 74 We found I y the well that she [se a ship] made 10 inches of water. 1884 *Law Times* 10 May 56/2 She was then found to be making five inches of water per hour. 1890 W F Rae *Mayerne* I iv 61 The carpenter sounded the well and found that she was making water fast. 1892 *Law Times Rep* 290 The bottom . of her stoke prevented the boat from taking much water

**† b** *To take (in) waters* (fig.) *t* to have a flaw or weak place. *Obs*

1590 Nashe *Pasquil Apol* D b The rest of his reasons I am taken water, and are rotten before they come to shore. 1640 Br Hall *Epist* II xx 01 All the rest are easily freed, St Jerome and St Ambrose in the opinion of some seem to take in water.

**11.** As an enveloping or covering medium. In various phrases.

**a.** *Under water* below the surface of water; (of land) flooded, submerged. Hence *fig.* unsuccessful in life, also (*sc.*) in debt. Also Sc. † *unthen water*, in the same sense

1599 *Regstr Aberdeen* (1844) II 306 To sustene mend and uphald be ing forsaid ds well within watt r as thid 1598 Florio, *Sott acqua*, vnder water secretlie, out of sight, in hugge mugger. 1660 Trapp *Nat Expos Sprng of Air* 363 Cornelius Drebell is affirmed to have contriv d for the late Learned king James, a Vessel to go under Water. 1708 *Lond Gaz* No 4432/4 The Governor has put all the Country between Brugs and Newport under Water. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No 49 ¶ 8 The country was under water. 1816 Scott *Old Mort* xlii And then he got Fowsie, and Lord Evandale's head was under water. 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* xxiv (1842) 628 Close the tube by the finger, then open its aperture by removing the finger under water. 1839 Jockeiana *Stray Notes Fifty Years* 211 Mr James [Atlantic] was many thousands under water at the mush 1914 D Christie *Johnny Mokeham* iv 50 He sells the whole concern, a large part of the suburb s of Mukden was under water

**b** *above water* above the surface of the water. Also *fig*, esp in *to keep one's head above water*, to avoid ruin by a continued struggle.

1662 J Davies *Hereford* 14 Who can but praise the save all but our Carpenter, who was I bet for want of having, fasted on somewhat that might have kept him above water. 1705 Collier *Pr Stage Mor Subj* 1 Others . that can reconcile himself to Suffering and keep his Spirits above Water, 'tis in vain to pretend to Principles. 1742 Fielding *Joseph Andrews* III xiii, There are many who, if Lucy, I believe that my pockets are lined with both. This last I assure you, you are all my taken. If I can hold my head above water it will I can. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I iv 79 Poverty me discreetly through the world and keep my head above water. 1864 Trollope *Small Ho Allington* xxv, Modern I thanies—men who were holding their heads well above water, although it was known that they had not always held so, and it might that other one to death's door. 1885 *Jrl* 8 Oct 50 /2 A number of struggling, men [agricultur ists], who have managed to keep above water during the bad seasons, must now go under

**† c** *To lay water, to lay a water* : to make of no effect or value, to dissipate *Obs.*

*c* 1394 *P Pl Crede* 1782 But in wyf bruttlers han bad thikke rydles And for the falsse of eure lesse ley I here in wate. 1401 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 43 But I-ak, thou thi spit runs wonen to thee wose so, ful litily a lewid man maye leye a lion a wate. 1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 32 Either Apollon must hue phyc'd the Bonetesther er euery scoppition leched he water. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut* xxv 579 If I lende him money vpon vsurie, I lay a water all his substance. Those whole 3 cares occupying that. 1592 Lyly *Midas* iv, All his expeditions for warres are laid in water

**† d** *(To swim) between two waters* [= *It, (nat.er) entre due acque*] : to make a motion between the surface and the bottom, *fig* keeping an impartial or a temporizing attitude between two parties *Obs.*

1579 Fowler *Cilenus Semi Ten* 791 How many are there that will swim betwixt two waters, and play the indifferent men, who I know will be on neither hand. 1603 D Carleton in *Cott Lett Lond* II (1868) I 28 The king held himself upright betwixt two waters. 1660 B Discourse *Tr Jealousy Jew* 3 Sliding the Anchor on one side betwixt two waters

**12.** A body of water on the surface of the earth.

**a** *gen.* A body or collection of standing or flowing water, irrespective of size; a sea, lake, river, etc.

*c* 1200 in Kemble *C D Dipl* IV 204 Mit wateren and mit mon 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 19 Wateres hi[e Engelond] hiþek in us ac at more alle oþre þre. Out of þe londe in to þe waue. 1340 Hampole *Pr Conscience* 1 Þe firmament is bot bridde . *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5918 All be waters on bis land Wex son in to hilid red. *c* 1400 Maundev xix (1839) 206 And he schal so passe the Water, that ys clepede the Water of seynt Georges. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* 254 Of the nature of my capitall and cheffe medsaunces is a little Merlet, [etc] with th waters fleshinges moores [etc] . to Rauffe Let Lowe 1604 B. Isaacson) *Disc Witches Dist Indies* II 84 This region is wonderfully seered I and dried and so by consequence hath neither water nor pastures. *a* 1633 G Herbert *Outlandish Proverbs* 432 Who hath his wife & ne to every feast and his horse drinke at every water shall neither have good wife nor good horse. 1656 Locke *Ethics* § 7 Horace . supposes it to be won out of the Winter Season to bathe himself in cold Water. But perhaps Italy will be thought much warmer than England, and the coldness of

fleet Waters (of 30 mile breadth) in Winter 1757 [Burke] *Europ Settlem Ame* VII xii 235 Though the winters are sharp yet they are seldom severe enough to freeze any considerable water 1828 Davis *Trav Morocco* I. 158 This whirlpool (Charybdis) is an agitated water from seventy to ninety fathoms in depth caused by its quick ebb tide 1836 Hugh Murray *etc China* (Edinb Cab Libr) I 19 Along the lower course of both these magnificent rivers [the Hoang-ho and Yang-tse-kiang] 1843 *Jrnlp Cycl* XXVII 786/2 *Kansas Agricult*, Lawrence Wild Rice, a common aquatic of the waters of North America from Canada to Florida 1850 R G. Gunn, *Hunters Life S. Afr* (ed 2) I 279, I inquired of the guides if they could lead me to waters in that direction They all shouted that that was the desert, and that no man ever found water there. 1850 Jenyns *In Mars Invq*, Intr p place of rest I put bro d water of the west 1885 *Pr Amer Acad Nat Hist* (1888) II 251 They frequent the streams very variety of water, from the briny lakes of Utah and Colorado to the clearest mountain streams of our northern territories 1898 *Daily Chron* Jan 19/2 Hundreds of the sawflow family may sometimes be seen together, hawking for flies over the London waters on a fine April morning

b A sheet of water, a lake, pool Cf the proper names Derwentwater, Windermere, Ullswater, Hawes Water, etc in pt v England,

c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 749 Now sat a water of lodlic ble, Men cellid it be dede se a 1300 *Cursor M* 13760 A water par es wit in four thede Pat es cald paradise in Eur lede 1380 Wyclif *Serm* Sel Wks III 481 Lord we dede li pe water of lodale c 1386 Chaucer *Pars T* (Harl) 841 Seint Johan saith pat pe waters schulle be in helle in wat *[Ellesmere* in a stunk, *b Antwg*, I. *Addit* pe stynkyng of fuyr and of brimston 1641 J Jackson *Orac Lead F* III 209 The other is two pots floating upon a pond or surface of a water with this word If we leap, we shall be sunk to, other 1855 Walton *Angler* xiii (1661) 197 The river Dee springs in Merionnithshire, and as it runs toward Chester it runs through Pemble Mere, which is a large water 1798 *Mthly Mag* (1799) I 209 A water cut at top of a hill, which stood at the other end of the lake. 1799 A Young *Agric Essex Intr* 27 A large lawn a water a mile long a very handsome bridge over it 1824 Jennison *Alarm d Seth* 12 On one side lay the Ocean, and on one Lay a great water and the moon was full 1846 Jennison *Songsters Land* xii, And like a skylit water shined In the azured vault behind

e A stream, river In early use often *the water of* (prefixed to the name of a river) Now chiefly *Sc* and *north* ; often in the names of small rivers, as Water of Isk, Water of Leith, Allan Water, Moffat Water

a In MHG and in early and dial mod G *wasser* is used for river , often in app sition with the proper name The frequent use in Cove dales Hille (where 1611 has 'river') to prob due to the influence of Luther a version

c 1290 *S Eng Leg*, I 80 (Laud MS) Tou and Je water of Jordan 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 7654 Per lai gonne aside Bi tuenne be water of trente & of ouse al so *Hist* 8850 Betuene tuey e water he rende vuolle & vuel Bi-side Abbey) 1303 R Brunne *Hand li Synne* 10258 Pys bataylle was, burgh fore pe bote swynt, Besyde a wasyl, men calle Trent 13.. *Le Morte A* 1 7 Kynge Arthure by schore pat scherez 1375 Barbour *Bruce* viii 5 The kyng held doun toward a valle Quhar throw the vall a sattir ran 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI 249 A monke fil doun of a briggge into a water, and was i stulled 1390 Gower *Conf* II 1 2 A stalle water Which hihte of Lethes the rivere 1393 *Cov Lect* 18 46 From the water of Schirburn, pat renneth to Wilsdon 1403 in *Acc Mayor Norwich* (1431) 20/2 Our fisching of the water of Anand in al places and be the sea and 1450 *Brut* II. 497 The Erle of Armynacke with the d phyn come mette with the duke of Clarence and his meyne by this water of Leyre 1538 Chamber *Let to Hen VIII in Hist Illustr* (Parker Soc) II 393 Passaw Lyntz, and other places adjoyning to the waters of Enns and Danubius 1535 Coverdale *Ps* cxxxvii[i] 1 By the waters (1611 rivers) of Babilon we sat downe and wepte — 4 How shulde we synge the Lordes songe by the water of Tigris [Luther *ley denn Ill asser Tygris*] 1560 Daus tr *Sleidanes Comment* 427 The king went up the water of Some 1583-87 Hoke *Ad Aff* (1596) 180/1 He answered that I was gone ouers a water 1598 *Reg Privy Sig Scot* 355/1 As the said burne runnis north in the water callit Dewquhilleugh 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* II 49 Near to this Town, runs a Water that comes under a Bridge of five Arches 1721 in W Macfarlane *Geogr Coll* I (S H S) 11 44 Thorow this Parish runs the River Esque 1727 Inhabitants there call it the Water of Strichen 1728 Chambers *Cycl* s.v *River*, We must not omit here a water in Germany, which is ordinarily supposed to chg its name into copper 1761 Mrs P Sharpe *Jrnl Sidney Bx to Ship* III 184 He was drowned in crossing a deep water on horse back 1793 Heron *Observ Journ Western Scot* I 13 Within a little [we] found ourselves crossing the water of Leith 1865 *Chamb Journ* 4 *Cast Scot* I 18 Streams intermediate in size between brooks and rivers, are known in Scotland as 'waters'

† *Sc.* and *north* The banks of a river; the inhabitants of the district bordering on a river. (*Eng Dial Dict*)

a 1800 *Jamie Telfer* xxv in Child *Ballads* V 250/2 Gar warn the water (*cf* xxiv, water side), braid and wide, And warn the Lairds o the skaw 1889 *Dodd Jrnl* 7 Feb 3/6/3 I 313 The Coquet Water The Northumbrians use the above expression in a peculiar sense; signifying thereby the district of the country immediately adjoining the river bearing that name.

13 † a. *sing* A flood *Obs.* b. *pl* Floods esp. in phrase *the waters are out*

c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 159 Do was ilc flesh on werldlik shapen, Bi quatum de wateres hem wi3 drapen 1450-85 Malory *Arthur* xiii 52 Ther blewe a grete wynde & blewe doun her castels and her townes, and after that came a water and bare hit all away 1523 Surrey in *Sr T Pagets Hen. VIII's Inv* 44 By reason of the great waters that was risen with this rain that fell thes 3 dayes past, 1558 *Leland Itin* IV 11 101 n, I leaving Ottemor on the right Hand, that if the Waters had not beene up had been the neat waye 1617 Moryson *Itin* II 74 She were drowned passing the waters then very high 1624 Walter *Diary* (Camden) 77 The great army of Spinola before Breda, was removed by God him self, who sent a great water and drowned his trenches, by means whereof he was enforced to remove 1742 Mrs. I Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I 141 We were met by a Messenger to tell us the waters were out at Burroughbridge, and that we could not pass them *Ibid* 149, I agreed to go on to the place he mentioned, and then send a messenger to see if the waters had fallen 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* II The waters are out in Lincolnshire The adjacent low lying ground, for half a mile in breadth, is a stagnant river

† 14. *Astr* The portion of the constellation Aquarius which is figured as a stream of water. [= L. *Aqua*, Gr *Ὕδωρ*] *Obs.*

1552 Recorde *Cast Knowl* (1556) 267 Besyde these 22 starres, there are other 19, whiche (for they lyens and croked position do) make a forme of a Ryuer, and are called the Water whiche Aquarius sheddeth.

II. 15. The substance of which the liquid 'water' is one form among several; now known to be a chemical compound of two volumes of hydrogen and one of oxygen (formula $H_2O$), in ancient speculation regarded as one of the four, and in pre-scientific chemistry as one of the five elements of all material substances.

971 *Lib Alf H* 32 Ure luchoma was zescepaen of fower zesceaftum, of eorþan, & of fyre, & of watere, & of lyfte 1390 [see Pareth *pl* 1a] 1390 Gower *Conf* II 90 Above therthe, and the water eke, Which is the seconde Of elementz 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xx 13 Fyre, erd, air, and water cleir 1549 *Compl Scot* v 73 This material vaild that is maid of the four elementis, the erd, the watir, the ayr, and the fyr 1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chymica* 258 The like happens in all Vegetables, for Water is the material Principle of them 1727 Bradley *Fam Dict* s.v *Tea*, *Water*, which the Chymists call *Phlegm*, is the 4th of the 5 Chimical Principles and one of the Passive ones 1738 A Newman in *Phil Trans* XXXVII 330 I shall use word (Spirits) in an unhapy Choice (to designate the nervous Fluid) And the simple Qualities of a pure and perfectly defecated elementary Water, will better suit all that our Senses can discover in that Fluid 1830 Herapath *Ann Philos* I 81 On the different quantities of heat united to the substance which we call water, depends its existence in the state of a solid, a liquid, or an elastic fluid 1881 Roy Soc *Proceedings* in *Nature* 8 Sept 45 /2 Water, being oxidised hydrogen, must take place in the same category as the earths

III A liquid resembling (and usually containing) water.

16 An aqueous decoction, infusion, or tincture, used medicinally or as a cosmetic or a perfume

13.. *S Eng Leg* (MS Bodl 779) in *Archiv Stud neu Spr* LXXXII 321 I ochs also of flourus waters maiky I hote to þe lyers waters, & other medcyns, þat wol te mende hym [*sc* a blind sheep] 1533 Barnes *Golden Bk M Aurel* (1546) I ij b, He wold washe his handes with very swete waters 1599 Thomas & Nicholls *Progr Q J* 23 (1823) III 458 By Mr William Goodres, two glasses of prettyous water 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* iii lxxi 600 A water used amongst the Ladies of the Court to keepe a faire white and cleare face. Take a white pottle, adde a pinte of gumm mallo [etc] 1617 J Taylor (Water P) *I have We chosen* D 3 b, Viols, Gallipots, Glasses, Pokey wherein is Vinegar, Vrine, Vrina, Vrinall, Vrinary 1654 Whitlock *Zoo anna* 57 Can cure all Diseases, from Aries, head and face, to Pieces, the feet, with a Water and a Powder 1662 J Davies tr *Olearius' Ambassy* 298 They also take Tobacco, and drink of a certain black water, which they call Cahwa [= coffee] 1884 Miss L M Hawkins *Annaline* I 155 When the moon was violet they spread linen dipped in aromatic water over her throbbing temples. 1891 Gerard *Mod Med* (ed 3) 4 The waters of pharmacy consist of water of volatile principles, and very small quantities of oils or other volatile principles.

b. With defining word, applied to liquid preparations of various kinds.

For illustration of the diversity of application, see Cologne-water, Epsom-water, Florida-water (under Water *pl*), Hungary-water, Lime-water, Rose-water, Soda-water, etc.

c 1400 Lydg *Reson & Sens* 5737 Of tast also and of flauour It was swetter than water rose A man in helthe to dysporse 1425 tr *Ardernes Treat Fistulas* etc. 82 Pys is called water of Arsenyk And it waxeth mundefyng & holsumli, but water of vulphur mundifieth in hetyng or chaufand 1440 *Pr Parvul* 1393 With Watir of evermore clere, they wesche vppon the place. 1450 Merlin *Ord of Chyualrye* (1632) 77 As Water of Iitharge 1598 *Prov Purse Ho Yks York* (1830) 8 A present of water of rooses. 1829 J. G. Children tr *Gmelin's Chem* 426 The water of borax is obtained by solution of silicated potasses, the silica and baryta fall down in combination 1836 *Ai Beande Chem* (ed 3) 75 He observed the sensibility with which barryte water absorbs carbonic acid from the air 1844 Horlick *Diet Med* (ed 3), *Mentha Water* A remedy employed by the Albanian physicians in infantile diarrhœa, it is simply water which has been boiled along with mint

† c. A distilled alcoholic liquor, = Strong water 2, † Hot water 2. Also *burning water* (= med L. *aqua ardens*, F. *eau ardente*), alcohol.

1560-70 *Bk Quinte Essence* 6 Haue bunde 30z a unse[ll] filled ful of the beste I rennynge water but ye may fynde 1591 Ripley *Compl Alch* v xxiv in *Ashm* (1652) 234 What Salts, what Powders, what Oyles, and waters fort. 1604 Carr *J Smith Perfumery* 174 Some hauing some good and comfortable waters, fetched them and dranke one to another. 1789 *Mem Morse Amer Geog* II 116 Rum, brandy, and other distilled waters

† d. Contextually for Strong water 1 = Aqua-fortis. Also *corrosive water*, any strong acid.

1609 J Davies (Heref) *Holy Rood* (Grosart) 4 Vpon the Crosse (as on a Touch) we may Trie our Soules value whether great, or small If there it (touch'd with Water-Strong) doth stay, We may be sure its most Angelicall 1691 Ray *Creation* I (1704) 31 Aquafortis or the like corrosive Waters 1736 J Atkinson *Compl Painter & Engraver* 23 But the general Way [of Etching] is to work the Oil-up tenderly, letting the Water (called 'aqua fortis' above) bite but a little, and then [etc]

17 Used to denote various watery liquids found in the human or animal body, either normally or in disease. † *To run on a water*, to discharge a watery liquid

1533 Elyot *Cast Helthe* (1541) 83 b, When they [children] waxe older, than be they greved with wormes of the body, waters, swellynges under the chyn [etc] 1580 Baldwine *Curing Horses Dis* xxii 61 b, Of the Crowne scab. The crounets will be alwaies in itching, and run on a water 1643 J. Spvar tr *Ley's Chyrurgy* 181 Pimples doe arise, in the which is contained cleare and white water 1801 *Monthly Mag* Feb 90 2 The immediate cause of her death was found to be an accumulation of water on the chest 1860 Maine *Expos Lex Contagious, Water of Colonensis*, a peculiar fluid found within the membrane lining the vestibule and semi circular canals of the internal ear

b. *Water on* (or † *in*) *the brain, in the head*: hydrocephalus. Cf. G. *wasser im hirn, im kopf* (*haben*).

c 1790 in *Jrnl Friends Hist Soc* (1918) 79 The Death Mark was taken of by a short illness of, the doctor thought Water on its Brain 1812 *Sporting Mag* XXXIX 132 Water in the brain was not, I believe the immediate cause of death 1832 J Savory *Domt Med* (ed 4) 267 Water in the head is almost peculiar to infants under the age of two years, rickets or rickety habit 1861 White Mekritts *Good for Ni* iii, Some people thought he had gout in the stomach, others vowed it was water on the brain

c. The fluid contained in the amniotic cavity (*liquor amnii*), now usually *plural*. The effusion of this fluid from the womb, which precedes the exclusion of the foetus, is popularly denoted by the expression 'the waters have broken'.

1588 *Depos Birth Pr. Wales* 20 Whilst her Majesty was sitting trembling, her Water brake 1615 *Crooke Mixt Bodies* 71 425 When the membranes broke, a large quantity of waters were discharged 1880 J. E. Burton *Midwifery* 97 The waters are a watery, muddy looking liquid, the quantity of which greatly varies

d Tears. (So often in the Bible: see the concordances)

1586 Lenot *P Pl A* v 44 And made William to weope water with his eyen 1590 Gower *Conf* I 115 Her was no wiht, if he hem syhe, Pro water mihte kepe his pe c 1600 *Distr Lady* 71/1 Care hade the kyng for Lassellon his son, Till tendirly with teris many water 1636 *Collegiate Gouv* 1231 The water wet his cheks. 1960 Haywood *Jew* v *Virgin* (1869) 217 His eyes ran a water 1583-85 Howe *Add to Stow Chron* 1115/1 With that word the Maior beskes eyes, why weepest thou quoth the Gentleman? 1620 in *Foster Eng Factories Ind* (1906) II 52 [It] made the water runne downe my cheekes to looke vpon them 1850 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, A dexterous rap on the nose with the key, which brought the water into his eyes.

e Saliva, now only, flow of saliva provoked by appetite. † *To eat* (a person's) *teeth on water* = make his mouth water ('see Mouth *sb.* 2 c, Water 7, 12)

1598 Florio, *Putto in sapore*, loung earnestly, euen till ones teeth run a water 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii 21 11 Like I hair rich plate set before crestures to eate, doth make their teeth to water 1630 Taylor (Water P) *Here Ye Here* 2 He delighted it seemed, to eate that which was good, and rare before us, purposely to set our teeth on water 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 96 The water comming from the mouth of a horse is snowy and salt, rubbed on the head, &c helpeth 1685 H Moll *Illustr Daniel* 334 Those fair and fair Objects that make them mouths run a water so 1830 Galt *Lawrie Todd* I. vi, vi 334 He has seen them flopping their jaws, the water running out of their mouths, and has seen them go through all the motions of devouring with their teeth *Bad' Ballads, Fitzpeetle* 26 For the thought of Peter a oysters brought the water to his mouth.

† f. *All on a water* covered with sweat. *Obs*

1530 Palsgr 362/1 He hath gentelled my horse in the stabyll till he hath made hym all on a water *[tant gualt la nuyt tout en eaue]*

g The liquid of oysters

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks* 15 Take grete Oysteys, † an take pe water of pe Oysteys, & ale, an breede y strayned

18 *esp.* Urine *To make water* [= *F. faire du l'eau*], to urinate. *To pass water* (Pass v. 50) to void urine (usually with reference to obstruction or the absence of it). *To hold (one's) water* : to retain urine

1378 Barbour *Bruce* xiii 603 He let thame noucht nor thir laser As anys watte for to ma 1432-50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) I 339 Mony men of that cuntre vse to make water and to send for the sheen 1570 Levins *Manip* 133/28 Continuall *Rings* ix 8 And I wyl rote out from Achab, euen him that maketh water against the wall 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr* 46 The drinke his bladder burdned must be, Before his water goe 1580 Hester tr *Fioravanti's Disc Chirurg.* 19 To helpe those that can not hold their water 1584 R. H tr *Heresbachius* v. 97 b, Hys syght shoulde enfeoncee hee receiued agayne, if in case hee washed hys eyes in the water of a woman, why [etc.] 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iv iv 42, 1607 Topsell *Four Beasts* 354 The nature of the wolfe doth in making his water, as also in voyding his excrements is like vnto a Dogg. 1608 Bacon *Sylva* § 908 The Wound must be at first Washed cleane, with White Wine, or the Parties owne Water. 1709 D Urfey *Pills* III. 31 Come ye broken Maids that . can never hold your Water. 1726 in J Howard *Lazarettos* (1789) 193 No prisoner shall make water against any part of the building, under the

penalty of forfeiting for each offence...four-pence. 1801 *Med. Jrnl* V. 409 Has been in this state three months; makes only three-quarters of a pint of water in 24 hours. 1880 Fcap. Nightingale's *Notes on Nursing* 109 She will know the shiver which betrays the formation of matter—that which shows the unconscious patient's desire to pass water—that which precedes fever. 1881 Thompson's *Diseases of Bladder* 33 Case 34...Last four years much difficulty and pain in passing water i.. Now passes water about every hour, day and night. 1882 Bible (R. V.) *Kings* xviii. 27 to eat and to drink their own water with you. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 982 The quantity of water voided by a healthy adult in 24 hours is from 40 to 50 ounces.

**b.** In references (formerly much more common than now) to the inspection of a patient's urine as a means of diagnosis. (Cf. Water-doctor.) Phrases, *to cast* (Dict. v. 40), *† look, † look in* (a person's) *water*.

1397 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. 22 Thanne loured leches and letten pel sene, Pei he bihote wrong with hem wolden he loke. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 41 A leche feld his powce & lukid his watir, lood he cuthe fynde no sekenes in hym. *c* 1530 *Beauty & Gd. Prop. Women* (Ascs.) C j I haue sheuid yhy water to phesycyons. 1538 Jove *Apol. Thadei* (Arb.) 22 But I wyll not be his Phisicion and decerne his water at this tyme. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 23 By my faith you come to looke in my water. And for my comfort ...Ye would, by my purs, geue me a purgacion. 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 826 And shewe by what right thou musit take Two pence for the sight of water, which thou knowest not therbi to make The sick man one farthinge better. 1586 *Child-Marr.* (1597) 75 Sir Roberte sawe this respondentes water; & told hym he must be smalle Sulpes, & gave hym a drinke. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, i. ii. 2 *Fal.*..What saies the Doct. to my water? *Pag.* He said sir, the water it selfe was a good healthy water: but for the party that ow'd it, he might haue more diseases then he knew for. 1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* vi, Heele looke vnto your water well enough. 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. 290 But what if some forreiner should of set purpose send a dead-mans water to trie this grand-Phisitions skill. 1625 Hart *Anat. Ur.* i. ii. 28 They haue beene with them who haue told them wonders by the water. 1640 Fuller *Holy St.* iii. ii. 153 The good Physician...trusteth not the single witness of the water if better testimony may be had. *c* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog.* (1890) 43 The day after that I sent my water to Dr. Lower, who sent me word he could make no judgment of my case. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 505 ? 7, I can inter pret their Dreams by seeing their Water. 1789 *Mem. Chron.* 81 Apr. 1/3 Adve. Miss Mollitor...flatters herself that by seeing the water of the patient to tell if there be a cure or not.

**† c.** In fig. phrases, *to attend, watch* (a person's) *waters* [= G. *einem das wasser besehen*], to scrutinize his conduct rigorously. Obs.

1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* iii. Wks. 1720 III. 36, I...judged he had been whipping it in with the Gentlewomen before mentioned, tho' 'twas not convenient to tell him so, lest his Wife should watch his Waters more narrowly than she had done. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 9 What can we expect less in the succeeding Year, than that his great Proxy, the first Lieutenant, attend his Waters purely to prevent an Interregnum? 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secr. Mem.* 151 Her Brother..was gone abroad..when this Rogue...courted her, or else he had never got his Will of her; he would have watch'd his Waters for Him to some purpose.

**19.** Applied to vegetable juices.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 142/2 *Lychryma*,...the water, moysture, or droppyng of a tree that turneth to gumme. 1586 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. viii. 8 b, Another frute..melteth in ones mouth, giuing a water as it were sugred. 1589 Hughes *Ornament Speech* 47 *Ysop*, *Yop*, or *Yssop*. And within this white of the [cochon] nut lyeth a water, which is whitish and very cleere, to the quantitie of halfe a pint or thereabouts. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* 180 This Nut [*sc.* coco-nut] is growing, all the inside is full of this Water, without any Kernel. 1840 Anne Pratt *Pict. Catech. Bot.* v. 79 [In the pitcher plant] the liquid is a clear water, very pleasant and refreshing to the palate.

**IV.** Appearances resembling water.

**20.** The transparency and lustre characteristic of a diamond or a pearl. The three highest grades of quality in diamonds were formerly known as the *first*, *second*, and *third water*; the phrase *of the first water* survives in popular use as a designation of the finest quality, often applied to jewels generally.

[The equivalent use is found in several mod. Rom. and Teut. langs.; it may have come from Arabic, where this sense of *ma'*, water, is a particular application of the sense 'lustre, splendour' [e. g. of a sword].]

1567 Shaks. *Timon* i. 1. 28 *Jew.* I have a lewel heere.. *Mer.* 'Tis a good forme. *Jewel.* And rich: heere is a Water lookes yo. 1598 — *Per.* iii. 1. 20. 1611 Cotgr., s. v. *Eau*, *Perle de belle eau*, of a faire luster, or water. *Ibid.* s. v. *Excisé*, *Diamond de bon esclat*,...a diamond of a good luster, or water. 1820 Malvine *Ann. Arrow March*, 75 The best waters are whitish, inclining to the blue, which makes both the best illustration and play, as some call it. 1867 *Phil. Trans.* II. 429 If it [the Diamond] have no good water, or have a little or Flaw, the Carat will not be worth but from 10 to 30 Crowns. 1675 R. Vaughan *Coin & Coinage* 241 Value of Pearls. East India Carat, 1 Carrat 00 07/8 6 d. *Ibid.* 242 A later Valuation...of Silver wrought. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1053/4 Lost...one single Rose Diamond set in a Ring close shank, and enamelled with blew, a fair spread Stone clean and good water. 1698 *Ibid.* No. 1330/4 A Table stone, cut in India, perfect square, of the Second water, weighing 5 grains full. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & Persia* 215 The Diamond that is Sandy, or hath any Foulness in it, or is of a Blew, Brown, or Yellow Water, is not worth half the Price of a perfect Stone of a White Water. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 10 Mar., A vast..of purple cloth, straight to her shape, and thick set, on each side..with pearls of the best water. 1790 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Indies* II. xlv. 348 They have small Diamonds, but their Waters being inclined to be yellow, are not so much In Esteem as those of Golcondah. 1792 Fielding *Miser* v. iii, I defy any jeweller in town to shew you their equals: they are, I think, the finest water I ever saw. 1793 *Chambers's Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Diamond*, The first water in Diamonds means the greatest purity and perfection of their complexion, which ought to be that of the clearest drop of water. When Diamonds fall short of this perfection, they are said to be of the second or third water, &c. till the stone may be properly called a coloured one. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 200 Some artists have even given to this [*sc.* paste in imitation of the diamond] a very considerable play of light, or, as it is technically termed, water. 1838 Dickens *Nic. Nick.* xxxvi, He..wore a brilliant of the first water on the fourth finger of his left hand. 1910 Lo. Rosebery *Chatham* i. 4 When Rondet, the royal jeweller, came from Paris to receive it [*sc.* a diamond], he criticised the water of the stone.

**b.** fig. *Of the first* (occas. *purest*, *rarest*, *finest*) *water*: originally (with implied comparison to a jewel), of the highest excellence or purity; now only following a personal designation (often of reproach) with the sense 'out-and-out', 'thoroughpaced'. [Similarly in Fr.]

1824 Byron *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1898) 587 Ascham is a thorough-bred philologist, and of the purest water. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings Sc.* ii. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 95 He was certain her family were the Montmorencies of the first water. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 6 Dec., He was a..swindler of the first water. 1836-7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* (1870) II. xxix. 201 Gassendi himself, who, though mainly scientific by bent, was thoroughly rationalist of the purest water. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* xvi. (1858) 360 Cousin William..had a heart of the finest water. 1862 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 329/3 All this may seem like paradoxes of the first water. 1885 T. Watts *Encycl. Brit.* Xvi. 422 His wit, though not abundant and not of 'the rarest water' was quite unique. 1905 W. B. Boulton *Gainsborough* 114 He..assumed the airs of a beau and ladykiller of the first water.

**21.** (See quot.) Cf. Watered *ppl. a.* 5. [So G. *wasser*, *f. cau.*]

1752 Bailey, *Lister* (among Dyers), a certain Lustre imitating Waves, set on Silks, Mohairs, &c.

**V. 22. a.** = Water-colour. **b.** *pl.* Water-colour paintings. *colloq.* (Cf. Oil. *ib.* I. 4, 4 b.)

1789 *Exhib. R. Acad.* 17 Portraits of the Princess Royal, and Frederick, in Waters, by Mr. Ozias Humphry. *sec* 142 The best work for portable and looking-glass frames is done in water. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 4 June 5 5, I want you to paint as many pictures as you can, oils or waters, just as you like.

**VI. 23.** The lap of one shingle in roofing.

1703 R. Neve *City & C. Purchaser* 242 They commonly make a Row of Tiles in the first Course, that is commonly hang 3 shingles in height, in the length of one; so that if the Shingles are 12 Inches long, they are laid at 4 Inches Gage.

**VII.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

**24.** Simple attributive uses. **a.** Designating vessels in which water is held or kept, as *water-bail*, *-bucket*, *-cruet*, *† -fetles*, *-gourd*, *-jar*, *† -say*, *-scoop*, *† -skeet*, *-skin*, *† -steau*, *-trough*, *-tub*, *† -tun*, *-vat*, *-vessel*. See also Water-bottle, -glass, etc.

*c* 1000 *Aelf. Gosp.* John ii. 6 Dar wæron sodlice næt syx stænene wæterfatu. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 14411 Pe ane wæterfetles, Patt stoddenn wipp batt watter þær. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 682 And in the water vessel he it wesh. 1552 Huloet, Water vessel, Vas in quo aqua servatur [*sc.* in hydria aquatica]. 1391 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 74 Pro portagio de waterstonevas vsque manerium Episcopi. 1440 *Prov. Parv.* 527 Water skeete, *Situla*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* Water-scoupes. 1459-60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 152 Cum opere carpentr. fact. circa molendinum de Shyncliff et tct Waterstrowe. 1477-9 *Test. de St. Mary at Hill* (1895) 8 Item a watir payle, iij d. 1487-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 651 Pro i fatt et i waterspay. 1533 *MS. Rawlinson D.* 776 fol. 136 b, Il flatt hooppis..for the water Tubbe. 1552 *Inv. Cath. Church* (Surtees) 56, ij water bokettes of latyne. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 47 b/2 A water tankerd, *cadus aquarius*. 1598 Nashe *P. Penilesse* E 3 b, The watertankard that hangs in the buttry hatch vnder the shoulders. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* i. ii. (1616) 31 And for the Maid that had perform'd each thing, She in the Water-paile had leaue a Ring. 1615 S. *Brieboer Hors* B, Two waterskeits, to wet the sailes. 1667 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 35 One new large Water-wheel with Water-troughs. 1773 *Ezhib. R. Acad.* 30 A horse tied to a water-trough, in a Farm-yard. *Mod. Naturalist's Compl.* viii. 1. 98 Every fair lieutenant to work getting in the ballast and water-tanks. 1840 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, The water-jug is plunging and leaping like a lively dolphin. 1853 J. D. H. Dale *Centr. Roman Rite* 91 The Subdeacon elevates a little the watercruet towards the Bishop. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* 5, 8 Pharisees were water-carriers with their water-skins. 1881 Browning *Ring & Bk.* IX. 65 Clouted shoon, staff, scrip and water-gourd. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. iii. 106, I went head foremost into the large water-tub kept for the garden.

**b.** Pertaining to the storage or distribution of water in considerable quantities: as *water-ditch*, *-lock*, *† -place*, *-room*, *-stank*, *-station*; *water-meter*, *† -purveyance*, *-service*, *-storage*, *-supply*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11677 Ye water purueance es gan, And in his werkes ilkan. 1673 *Westcot Vind. Sabbath-Dayes* (1879) I. 189 Water-stanks..of sic depnes that ged eyls and fyssis..ma be..kept. 1670 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Waterlock*, a watering place fenced with walls, rails, or bars, &c. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 88 The Governor very kindly sent an Officer to clear the Water-passage for my Men. 1738 in *Trans. Cumberld. & Westm. Antiq. Soc.* (N. S.) XX. 171 Taking water for the use of their families out of the water ditch in the said meadow. 1890 Kendall *Trans.* II. xivl. 138 The water is led by troughs into a range of vats or rooms, distinguished by the name of water-rooms. 1815 *Pocklington Canal Act* 4 Pens for water, water-stanke, dams. 1820 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail Roads U. S.* 263 *Water-stations*, places where locomotives obtain their supplies of water. 1848 W. W. Lloyd in *Numism. Chron.* XI. 114 The local water-service. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Water-meter*, an instrument for registering the supply of water. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 3 July 500/2 A terrible year of water-famine. 1882 *Weekly Notes* 26 Mar. 67/2 The house had become uninhabitable through failure of the waterupply. 1890 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* 23 The absence of rivers or water-storage. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 391 Where the water-rights of villages and small towns are...threatened.

**c.** Used for the carriage or transport of water, as *water barge*, *boat*, *ship*; *water-animal*, *-mule*.

1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 346 He built some Water Boats...and, by these Boats furnished the Cerlon with good Water. 1805 Collingwood in 8 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 127 *note*, I shall be glad to see the Water-Ships as many of the Fleet are getting low. 1898 *Daily News* 3 May 8 3 The luggage and water animals. 1900 *Ibid.* 17 Mar. 7/4 Indians, with their pucky and clever little water-mules, were ordered right up into the firing line. 1918 *Qua Iboe Mission Quarterly* Feb. 121/2 Water-barges to replenish tanks were soon alongside.

**d.** Designating a channel in which water runs, or any contrivance for facilitating or regulating its flow, as *water-channel*, *-cock*, *† -conduict*, *-conduit*, *-cut*, *-dam*, *-gutter*, *-main*, *-port*, *-sewer*, *-squirt*, *-tap*, *† -trunk*, *† -vssing*. See also Watercourse, -furrow, etc.

*c* 1290 *Cursor M.* 13940 Pe water wassing can he dit Pat water to be lak broght. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 44 A place to make an hede of her water conduit. 1535 Coverdale *Nehemia* ii. 6 The water portes [of the gates of the rivers] Luther *alle There der Wasser* [shal be opened and the kinges palace shall fall. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1186/1 Not forgetting to make a water-conduit for the ease of washing. 1598 Dallington tr. *Estate of Grecia* 11 Their Cisternes lay in the furdes and waterdamages. 1598 R. Hernard tr. *Teresius, Phornius* iv. iv. (1607) 432 A snake fel from the tyles through the water gutter. 1600 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3600/1 402 So soon as the said water-conduct was derived into the Towne, he caused it to be divided. 1662 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 91 The water-squirt is made to throw a whole hugs-head of water to the top of a house at once. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 234 To bestow a watering on my fields, by means of water-trunks, immediately after my first crop of hay is got off. 1811 J. Thomas *Hist. Commissioners Thames* 72 At this place there is a water-main which crosses over to the Middlesex shore. 1833 London *Encycl. Architect.* § 16 A water-cock and washing-basin. 1845 *Norris Almanack* (1870) 91 The common water-plug offers a capital medium for illustrating the leading principles in hydrostatics and hydraulics. 1880 J. Inman *Penal Appendix* 47 Connect the other end of the pipe to the nearest water-tap. 1883 W. C. Russell *Sailors' Lang.*, *Water-ports*, openings in a ship's bulwarks to let the water run off the decks. 1887 *Naturalist Thames* 9 Down every ditch, runnel, and watercut, the turbid waters were hurrying. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 786/1 Fields of young wheat and barley intersected by water-channels.

**e.** Designating a machine which is worked or driven by water, a part of a machine in which water is heated, a contrivance for drawing or circulating water, and the like; as *water-back*, *-barrel*, *-bellows*, *-blast*, *-box*, *-chamber*, *† -corn-mill*, *-drum*, *-gin*, *† -grist mill*, *† -motion*, *-motor*, *-trap*, *-trompe*, *-turbine*, *-syphon*.

1580 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 32 All my interest in the water corne myline and farmeholt in Kirklawe. 1660 R. Dacres *Hium. Waterdrawing* Pref., The innumerable Engines, and various forms and kinds of Mills. 1662 [J. Powell] *Hum. Industry* 35 De Aquaticis Machinis, Of Water Motions. 1725 in *Lancs. & Cheshire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 178 A water-corn Mill, and Accessories. 1827 Hind in Similes *Engineers* (1867) I. 359 *note*, At the mouth of the tavern is erected a water-blower. 1786 T. Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 12 A water-grist mill for the accommodation of the neighborhood. 1819 Kerr *Cycl. Water-Bellows*, a machine used to blow air into a furnace, by the action of a column of water falling through a vertical tube. 1844 K. Styan *Hist. Steam Engine* 47 The pipe which connects the chamber, A, with the inner water-chamber, a. 1853 T. Sopwith *Mining Distr. Alston Moor* 131 The water blast...consists of a wooden pipe placed in a shaft, and down which a column of water is kept running, while a quantity of fresh air is carried with it. 1859 De La Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 572 Water-wheels...are seldom seen in Cornwall. 1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 220 Sent down by means of a fan blower, steam jet, turbine, or a water-trompe. 1875 Knight *Pict. Mech. Dict.* III. 2/1 Water-motors supply all the lack of a stove or range, to utilize the heat of the fire in keeping a supply of hot water. *Ibid.*, *Water-barrel* (Mining), a large wrought-iron barrel with a self-acting valve in the bottom, used in drawing water as the pumps raise it. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/1 In this machine there are two water-boxes *Ibid.* 468/1 It is from the drying up of the fluid in water-traps that unhealthy influences are so prone to effusive. 1877 Wood *Nature's Teach.* 463 The Water Turbine. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 520/1 Water motors may be divided into water-pressure engines, water-wheels, and turbines. 1884 *Lock Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 388/1 The draught is sometimes kept up by...a water-drum, an apparatus which sucks in air by means of the friction of a jet of water.

**f.** Designating implements or contrivances used in or on the water, as *water-cord*, *-dress*, *staff*, *-stang*.

*c* 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 263 The said William Sander..dyd...amite at this deponent with a water staff, suche as fisherman haue their nett upon. 1866 in Bompas *Life Buckland* viii. (1886) 163 My water-dress put on, the nets and cans, &c. packed, we started in a gurnge. 1876 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Watter stang*, a pole fixed across a stream in lieu of a bridge or ford. 1904 Gallichan *Fishing Spain* 72 A fifty-yard length of water-cord that I had in the bag.

**g.** Designating (*a*) a water-tight contrivance, as *water-joint*, *-packer*; (*b*) a body of water which makes a vessel air-tight or gas-tight, as *water-lute*, *-luting*, *-seal*.

1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl* I. 121/1 Both surfaces..fit into each other, and form a perfectly secure water-joint. 1841 S. CLEGG *Treatise Combust.* 111 This arch-pipe is made of thin plate-iron, sealed at each end by a water-joint. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 206 The shallow water-luting, formed by the marginal groove. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Water-packer*, a water-tight packing of leather between the pipe and the walls of a bore hole. 1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 239/2 The trap depends for its efficiency on the permanence of its water-seal. 1902 *Church. Jrnl.* Dec. 831/2 A water-seal renders the joint air-tight.

**h.** Designating substances which harden under water and so become impervious to it, as *water-cement*, *-lime*, *-mortar*. Cf. HYDRAULIC a. 3.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 198 The hardening of water-mortar. *Ibid.* § 212 A proper Water-Cement. *Ibid.*, A very competent Water-Lime 1849 G. A. SHEATON *Builder's Man.* 31 The Roman is the most valuable of all water cements. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 377 The making of hydraulic cements, (water-limes,) mastics, &c.

**i.** Prepared with water, as *water-size*, *-starch*. Of articles of diet: Prepared with water (instead e.g. of milk); mixed or diluted with water; as *water biscuit*, *-bread* (*Yorksh. Dial.*), *-broth*, *-cake*, *-fritters*, *-kail* (Sc.), *+-meat*, *-pap*, *-pottage*, *-sapt* (Sc.; see SOP *sb.*1), *-tansey*. Also WATER-DIGESTED, -ICE.

13 *S. E. Leg* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. n.u. Spr.* LXXXII. 335 A tyid water-potage leeste. c1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 190 To fill my belly with water cakis and sowll. 1578 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 202 Glaid to get Peis bried and watter Caill. c1620 *Women Saints* 26 But to her self being sicke, she was still rigorous, humble admiring a little wine, with her water-meates. 1630 DEKKER *Pen. Honest Wh.* D b, As meate a whore as ever stuffed tiffany petticoates in water-broth. 1648 [DIGBY] *Loves Cheated* (1669) 120 Doctor Harvey's pleasant Water-cyder, wherewof he used to drink much. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard.* (1909) 172 Leaving the drog behind (the which may go among the pressing, for water-cyder) 1791 *Hist. Europe* (Ann. Reg.) 1/2 Mr. WATT Fritters. *Ibid* 104 A Water Jansey 1796 BURNS *To Y. Sooth sayn*, I'll sit down o'er my watery meal, Be't water-brose, or muslin-kail, Wi' cheerfu' face. 1789 W. MARSHALL *Dom. Mod.* (1790) 17 It will then be proper to give it a little of some food that is easy of digestion, as water pap, mild pottage. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 730/2 A water-gruel ..prepared by boiling cuttings of parchment or white leather in water. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, We got some watery-brose and bannocks. 1816 *Jrl. R. Inst. Downe* 71, All clear away, with the water-saps and panada, returned the unabashed convalescent. 1854 SLEIGH *Handley Cr.* xxxix. (1901) II. 30 Mr. Jerrocks..had looked in vain for a water-biscuit.

**j.** Pertaining to, or as a beverage, as not a (teetotal) article of diet, as *+water-dog*, *-diet*, *-doctrine*, *+-drink*; relating to the use of water in medical treatment, as *water-dressing*, *-patient*, *strapping*; also WATER-CURE.

c1000 *Vercelli MS.* 112 b, in Napier *O. E. Lit. Stud.* 67 & 2 sade sec þæt man mid water-diecnes sylene mihte þon mycele almessan gedon. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 Alle þat þu drunkke water drinnk drinnk Ut off fe firste fatles. 14.. in Ancrene *Wisse* (1853) 303 On water dayes sche schal ordeyne for honnes or nonnes, water fenkel, alberys, &c. 1842 R. T. CLARIDGE *Hydropathy* 281 Directly he commenced this water diet, all his complaints disappeared one by one. 1848 LOTTON *Cure Consumption* 17 The regular life which water-patients lead. *Ibid.* 68 Water-dressings are found the best poultice to an inflamed member. 1856 THACKERAY *Locke's Pict. Gall.* 1900 III. 488 George IV. first taken to the water-doctrine, as all the world knows. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Water-dressing*, the treatment of wounds and ulcers by the application of water. It generally consists in dipping folds of lint in water, and placing them on the part. *Water strapping* or *wet strapping* means the treatment of sikers, &c., with strips of linen or cotton saturated with water.

**k.** Pertaining to water as a physiographical feature or factor, as *water-action*, *+-brim*, *-depths*, *-drainage*, *-edge*, *-flow*, *+-ground*, *+-rim*, *-scene*, *-shore*, *-strand*, *-view*.

In many of these combinations the first element is equivalent to the genitive *water's*, in earlier and dial. examples the sense may often be 'pertaining to the specified "water"' (i.e. lake, river, etc.; see senses 12 a, b, c).

c1000 *Boethius* 36 Alla he ofer cumen mid, and beren him of flat water grund up to fe land al heil and sund. c1300 *Cursor M.* 4779 Jacob yode walcand be nie; He segh a-pon be watir cumand Ettand adun-ward [with] be strem. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 289 Þis hermyt sat by a water brimme. 1390 JOHN DE *Conq.* II. 61 With in the lirke wynter nyht Bedirked hath the water brinkes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. 15 Watershores and banks bestrid and beaten with the flouds. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* (1794) I. 17 The watersceene from the town itself..is delicious. 1795 ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 454 Chains of lakes, finely woodled down to the water-edge. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 19 It could not be possible to get the boats to the water edge before the forenoon. 1826 CORBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 247 To those who like water-scenes, it is the prettiest spot, in all England. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 135 The water drainage of the country. 1854 [GRACE GREENWOOD] *Haps & Mishaps* 20 Seaforth Hall, an elegant seaside residence..Here I saw a pleasant water-view. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xv. 258 A striated face, whose scratches still indicated the line of water-flow. *Ibid.* App. II. 309 The coast-ice had been completely destroyed by thaw and water-action. 1865 *Lond. Rev.* 30 Dec. 686/2 As the father saw the buried city in the waterdepths. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Mar. 10/2 The streams, being small, with a rapid descent from very high land, are subject to much fluctuation of waterflow.

**l.** Consisting of, holding or containing, formed or caused by, water; as *+water-breath*, *-breeze*, *-brook*, *-chasm*, *-column*, *+-draught*, *-fence*, *-flow*, *-foam*, *-fount*, *-passage*, *+plash*, *-race*, *-ring*, *-rut*, *-slide*, *-spread*, *+-sprinkle*, *-stripe* (Sc.), *+-swim*, *-wash*, *-weed*, *-world*.

c1300 *Cursor M.* 5620 In his kist he hann seo did. Quen it spird was we be lid,..Sco laid it on be water fame. c1390 *St. Michael* 629 Alle hay [sc. rain, snow, mist, etc.] comes of water-breth þat þe sonne draugth up. 1509 *Conventual Lease, Yorks.* 2150 (P. R. O.) Asnoch grounde..as to make a sufficient damme vpon to gedre water and the water drangthen to the said dame. 1532 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 370 The waterwewth bytwen Sanson Pasture and Trent. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlvii. 3 Like as the hart desyreth the water brokes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 401/2 *Torrens*, a water plash. 1596 SPENSER *Ir. Q.* IV. 10 From the same the herie sparkles flasht, And as water-sparnckles gainst a rocke are dasht. 1601 *Rec. Kingc. Sess.* 418/2 And when the strippe quhilk rynnis at the north syde of the said mure. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 532 A furier towne than man would looke to finde among such slabbie and water plashes. 1612 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVI. 241 As a man that finds a water vaine. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 61 The channel or water-passage leading from Amsterdam to Utrecht. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 102 Their Gardens lie all open, where Prospects may be had, and Water-fences can be little. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 752 Three did the water-wreath ascend, And gave a doleful groan thro' Yarrow. 1798 COLERIDGE *Ancz. Mar.* 155 As if it dodged a water-sprite, It plunged and tacked and veered. 1818 [J. DEANE] *Serpent Pay* xv, He banned the water-goblins' ante. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxv, A water-fiend hath possessed the fair Savon. 1825 — *Betrothed* xxxi, The status of a watered gentleman over his urn. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxiii, Waterdrinkers, and such lowly things without souls. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 172 Myriads of water-plants, some of whom Nereus is the chief. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* xv. II. 191 In Australia, special water-demons infest pools and watering-places

†**2.** Oceans, used to designate freshwater, as opposed to saltwater, objects; as *water-fish*, *-land*, *-sand*. (Cf. sense 12 c.)

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 267 Sum graucl or sum watir land kest vnder it. *Aligard etam i-ceo dulce vel aquosa subjacentium est.* *Ibid.* 458 Of water-fisshe & of see fisshe & eel [L. *anguillas sane piscigne fluviales*]. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard.* (1907) 41 If you are forced to use sea or water sand.

**25.** Objective: **a.** with vbl. sbs. and pres. pples., as *water-blowing*, *+-commanding*, *-drawing*, *+-fetching*, *+-flinging*, *-loving*, *-nursing*, *+-receiving*, *-selling*, *-yielding*.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Synke, for water receyvynge, *excipiorium*. 1530 PALSGR. 251/2 *Water drawynge*, the pryce of Ships water drawing, diuersly, in the Sea and in fresh water, haue pleasant consideration. 1660 [R. DACRES] *Title*) The Elements of Water-drawing, or a Compendious abstract of all sorts and kinds of Water-works. 1664 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 10 Water-drawing Engines. 1694 *Water-drawing Trompe*, or water-blowing engine. 1841 P. CUNNINGHAM *Hints Amateur. Ironmasts* title-p, Explanatory Description of the Water-blowing Machine called a Trompe. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXX. 264/1 A marble step with a worn by water-drawer's feet. 1884 *Bookseller* 5 Mar. 262/2 Householders, who have grievances against their local water suppliers. 1907 D. H. R. CAMERON *Shepherd Stars* 70 A water-seller ringing his brass bell.

**o.** In names of machines, implements, or natural agencies, as *+water-chafer*, *-conductor*, *-cooler*, *-feeder*, *+-forcer*, *-heater*, *-holder*, *-regulator*.

1457 *Will of Poole* (Somerset House) Item, Wyllyam Schafer, 16[s] Item to *Camden's Relicf.* I. 435 The Citizens converighed water out of the river through pipes by an artificiall instrument or water-forcer. 1885 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Block*, 134 The water-conductor is conducted to the cistern, which another of less area and capacity is inverted. 1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 972 No water-feeder of any magnitude should prevent itself till the shaft had been sunk one fathom. 1842 *Zoologist* I. 14 A leaden water-conductor at the top of our house. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xix. (1856) 142 A rugged little water-feeder, formed by the melting snows, sent down a stream of foam. 1880 H. C. ST. JOHN *Wild Coast Nigeria* 224 The great tanks are more like small natural lakes than artificially constructed water-holders. 1859 JESSE *L. Wks.* LEIGH *Stolen Story*, etc. 34 He..stepped up to the watercooler and filled a glass.

**26.** Instrumental: **a.** with pa. pples., as *water-beaten*, *+-bollen*, *-cooled*, *-eaten*, *-filled*, *-girt*, *+-gyven*, *-imowen*, *+-loaden*, *-locked*, *+-mingled*, *+-mixed*, *-rolled*, *-rounded*, *-sodden*, *-tempered*, *-walled*, *-whipped*. Also WATER-BOUND, -LOGGED, -SOAKED, -WASHED, -WORN, etc.

c1440 *Watermynde* [see UNEVENLY *adv.* 3]. 1555 WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 203 Every body knyue him downe drunkarde-like to reste his water bolne bealy. 1593 NASHE

*Christs T.* P 1, The nectarized *Aqua cœlestis* of water-mingled blood, sluced from Christs side. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 57 England held'd in with the maine, That Water-walled Bulwarke. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-Crafts* 776 A sable, water-loaden Sky. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* II. 106 b, While thus they can not liue nor dye, Nor water-giev'd, escape away. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. III. III. *Lawe* 589 The pure and plenteous Flood Of his most precious Water-misted Blood. 1632 Dr. Wild *Let.* 6 Wellcome as the Dove to the Water-beaten Ark. 1789 J. Williams *Mon. Kinged.* II. 203 The balls and globes always appear water-rounded. 1800 Hurdis *Fam. Village* 81 Forlorn and water-lock'd stands the lone mill. 1841 H. Miller *O. R. Sandst.* v. 120 A huge water-rolled boulder of granitic gneiss. 1843 Thackeray *Irish Sk.-bk.* xv, A great, wide,...water-whipped square lies before the...window. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* II. i. (1866) 132 The blood of a worthy wife traffic was daily coursing through the thousand arteries of that water-interwoven territory. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 253 Quiet as any water-sodden log. 1883 W. M. Peard *Contrast* xvi, The old water-eaten and green stones of beautiful palaces. 1886 *Standard* 4 Jan. 6/3 The Kelso...is waterfilled, in all holds. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 9/2 A 12-h.p. water-cooled Lanchester car. 1905 J. H. Burn *St. Patrick* vii. 134 The water-girt promontory which is washed on the west by Lake Killglas. 1911 Mrs. H. Ward *Case Richard Meynell* x. vi. 170 The narrow strip of land between the pond and the new channel made a little waterlocked kingdom of its own for the cottage.

**b.** with pres. pples., as † *water-flowing*, † *-standing*; with vbl. sbs, as *water-planing, -rolling, -seasoning, -spinning, -steeping, -wasting.*

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 43 My mercie [hath] dry'd their water-flowing teares. *Ibid.* v. vi. 40 Many an old mans sighe, and many a Widowes, And many an Orphans water-standing-eye. 1595 *Lawrie* IV. iii. 28 And from the Lee with water-flowing pipes The moisture is deriu'd into this arch. 1752 Bankton *Inst. Laws Scot.* I. 681 If, by the water-wasting, the ground be worn away, where the land was formerly. 1754 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* II. s. v. *Japanning*, Rub the work over with a wet rag till it is rendered as smooth as possible; this we call water-planing. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Walk*, In order to make them more firm, it will be necessary to give them three or four water-rollings, that is, they should be laid when it rains very fast; this will cause the gravel to bind. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 265 Amongst wheelwrights, the water-seasoning of timber is of special regard. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 386 Water-spinning differs both from the mule and jenny spinning. *Ibid.* 401 The...process of dewretting or water-steeping.

**27.** Locative, with agent-nouns and vbl. sbs., as *water-diver, -farer,* † *-skirmisher; water-building, -dwelling, -faring, -hunting.* Also *water-growing* ppl. adj.

1570 Drant *Serm.* F vb, The Italians be most wittie, the Spanyardes best water skimmigers. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrimus* II. 1484 s.v., Cunning Water-diuers. 1674 Petty *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 117 Water-Divers who the lower they go, do find their stock of Air more and more to shrink. 1736–7 tr. *Scapula's Dict.* (1760) I. 86 Three leagues from Munich lies...Starenberg, where the court sometimes takes the particular diversion of water-hunting. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone* I. § 185 *note*, Mortar for water building. 1864 J. C. Atkinson *Standish Grange* 160 The rushes are always among water-growing weeds of some sort. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 122 The curious habit of water-dwelling. 1889 Doughty *Arrian. Hadrut Heroes* 277 The western part of this much-frequented river. 1913 E. H. Barker *Wayfaring in France*, *Intourgne to Bay of Biscay* 254, I decided on a little water-faring up the stream.

**28.** Similative, as *water-grey, -green, -white* adjs. (and sbs.); † *water-weak* adj.

1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Sacrifl.* (Grosart) 10/1 If lu-tle now, forth with (I) am water-weake. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 11 Illuminating-oil...of water white and odorless qualities. 1893 *Daily News* 16 June 6/1 A coat of water-green satin. 1893 Saltus *Sapphira* xii. 146 A sky of dead rose and water-green. 1900 Mary E. Coleridge *Non Sequitur* 3 The mournful water-gray eyes.

**29.** Special comb.: **water authority,** a municipal body administering a system of water supply; **water-ballast,** cisterns filled with water, placed in the hold of a vessel to serve as ballast; **water-baptism,** baptism with water, in contradistinction to baptism with the Holy Spirit; **water-bar,** (*a*) in *Road-making*, a ridge on a road, intended to prevent the accumulation of surface water; (*b*) a tubular bar of a fire-grate, to contain water, communicating with a system of hot-water pipes for warming a building; in quot. *attrib.*; **water-barometer,** a barometer in which the pressure of the atmosphere is measured by the height of a column of water, not of mercury as in the usual form of the instrument; † **water-bedrip,** a Bedrip at which the reapers were supplied with no other drink than water at meals; **water-bow** *pool.* (*a*) a rainbow; (*b*) a jet of water issuing so as to form an arch; **water-boy,** (*a*) a boy employed at the riverside; † (*b*) the constellation Aquarius; (*c*) *pl.* rain-clouds (*vulgar*); † **water-breach,** (*a*) app. used for *water-bank* (? some error); (*b*) an irruption of water; **water-breaker** [1] (see quot. 1823); **water-breaker** [2], a keg or cask for holding water (see Breaker [2]); **water-breather,** any animal capable of breathing in water (by means of gills); so **water-breathing** ppl. *a.*; **water-bridge,** a fire-bridge which also forms part of the water-space of a boiler, = Water-table 4 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); † **water-camlet** (see Camlet *sb.* b); **water-candlestick** (? *obs.*), a vertical tube filled with water, to hold a floating piece of wax candle; **water-cell,** (*a*) each of the cells in the walls of the stomach of the camel, in which water is stored; (*b*) an interstice in ice, in which water is occluded; **water-chute** = Water-shoot 4; † **water-claw** = Dew-claw 1; † **water-cloth,** ? a dish-cloth; **water-company,** a commercial association for the purpose of supplying water (conducted through pipes) to the inhabitants of a town or district; † **water-corn** *Sc.*, 'the grain paid by farmers for upholding the dams and races of mills' (Jam.); † **water-court** = *court of the watercourse* (see Watercourse 1 c); **water-deck** *Mil.*, a piece of painted canvas to cover the saddle, bridle, and girths of a cavalry horse; † **water-dial,** a clepsydra; **water-diviner** = Water-finder; † **water-dook** = Wet-dock; **water-dust,** water in the form of extremely fine particles, as in clouds and spray [? suggested by G. *wasserdunst*]; † **water-egg,** an infecund egg (cf. *wind-egg*); **water-engineering,** the construction of reservoirs, embankments, aqueducts, and the like; **water-eyed** *dial.* [Anne *sb.*], see quot. 1884; † **water-fare,** a ferry; **water-farm,** a place where pisciculture is carried on; so **water-farming,** (*a*) pisciculture; (*b*) cultivation of plants growing in water; **water-flint** *dial.* (see quot. 1868); **water-foot** *Sc.*, the mouth of a stream; 'used also as the name of a village or town at the mouth of a river' (Jam.); **water-frame,** Arkwright's spinning-machine, which was worked by water-power; † **water-free** *a.*, secure from damage by water; **water-funk** *colloq.*, a person who is afraid to go in the water; **water-gap** (see Gap *sb.*[1] 5b); **water-garden,** (*a*) a garden of aquatic plants, an aquarium; (*b*) see quot. 1902; † **water-gavel** (see quot. 1706); **water-gilder,** one who practises water-gilding; **water-gilding,** the process of gilding metal surfaces by applying liquid amalgam, the mercury being afterwards removed by evaporation; similarly **water-gilt** *a.*; **water-globe** = Water-ball 1; † **water-glue,** a name for isinglass, ? as being waterproof; **water-gold,** the liquid amalgam used in water-gilding; also (*poet. nonce-use*) applied to the 'liquid' golden radiance of morning sunshine; **water-guard,** (*a*) a body of men employed by the Custom House to watch ships in order to prevent smuggling; (*b*) *U.S.* (see quot. 1868); † **water-gun,** a gun in which the projectile is propelled by pressure of water; **water-haul** *U.S.*, 'a haul of the net which catches no fish; *fig.* fruitless effort' (Webster 1911); **water-hock, -hedge** *dial.*, the barred frame hung across a stream at a shallow part to prevent the passage of cattle along the shallow; **water-ickle** *dial.*, a stalactite; **water-inch** (see quot.); **water-jack,** (*a*) *Sc.* a roasting-jack turned by a current of water; (*b*) *dial.* a waterman; **water-jacket,** a casing containing water, placed about something to prevent its becoming unduly heated or chilled; also *attrib.*; hence **water-jacketed** *ppl. a.*, **water-jacketing**; **water-jet,** a stream of water discharged from a small orifice; a fountain; also *attrib.* **water-jet propeller** (see quot. 1843); **water-jump,** a place where a horse is required to leap a stream or ditch; † **water-keeping** *Sc.*, the guarding of a tract of water against poachers; † **water-kin, -kind,** the nature of water; **water-laid** *a.*, (*a*) *Naut.* of a rope (see quot. 1857); (*b*) *Geol.* of strata, deposited by water; † **water-language,** the rough language of watermen (cf. *water-rail*); † **water-leasow,** a water-meadow; **water-leave,** permission to navigate a watercourse belonging to another (cf. Way-leave); † **water-lot** *U.S.*, a lot of ground covered with water, but capable of being filled in and converted into building land; **water-lungs** *pl.*, the branches of the cloaca of holothurians, by some supposed to have respiratory functions; † **water-manikin,** some kind of sailing-boat; **water-mead** = Water-meadow; **water-monarch** *nonce-wd.*, a designation applied (*a*) to Neptune; (*b*) to a great fish; **water-monger,** † (*a*) a contemptuous designation for a water-caster; (*b*) a vendor of water; † **water-nail,** ? a nail that will bear exposure to water without rusting; **water-organ,** the hydraulicon or hydraulic organ (Hydraulic A. 2); **water-oven,** an oven surrounded by a chamber filled with hot water or steam; **water-party,** a pleasure-party making an excursion on the water; † **water-piaco,** ? a piece of leather damaged by water in the process of manufacture; **water-pillow** (cf. *water-bed*); **water-pistol,** a weapon constructed to discharge a sudden jet of water or corrosive liquid; **water-plate,** a receptacle for hot water to be placed under a dinner-plate in order to keep the food warm; **water-pocket,** (*a*) a compartment in a steam-boiler containing a portion of the water; (*b*) a natural cavity in which water falls or collects; † **water-post,** the title adopted by the writer John Taylor, who was a waterman on the Thames; hence *gen.* a writer of doggerel verse; † **water-poise,** a hydrometer; **water-pore** *Bot.* and *Zool.*, a pore through which water is discharged; † **water-pourer,** the constellation Aquarius; **water-power,** the power of moving or falling water employed to drive machinery; *concr.* a fall or flow of water which can be thus utilized; **water-press,** a hydrostatic press; **water-pressure,** hydraulic pressure, so **water-pressure engine** (see quot. 1829); † **water-privilege** *U.S.* (*a*) 'the right to use water, esp. the right to use running water to turn machinery'; (*b*) 'a stream or body of water capable of being utilized in driving machinery' (*Cent. Dict.*); † **water-rack** (see quot. 1679); **water-ram** = Ram *sb.*[1] 5 a; **water-rate,** a rate or tax levied by a municipality or a water-company for the supply of water; **water-rent** = prec.; † **water-rimer,** the waterpoet 'Taylor'; † **water-room,** space to move about in the water; **water-sail,** a small sail sometimes set under a lower studding-sail and reaching nearly to the water; **water-sapphire,** a variety of iolite; **water-screw,** a water-elevator on the principle of the Archimedean screw; also *attrib.* in *water-screw-pump*; **water-shaft,** (*a*) *Coal Mining*, etc., a shaft sunk to receive the water from an adjoining (coal-)shaft; (*b*) *Salt-making* (see quot.); † **water-shake,** a seismic disturbance of the water; **water-shaken** *a.*, (of land) saturated with water; † **water shard,** a deepened channel made by banking up the sides of a stream; **water-shear, -shier** *Sc.*, a water-parting; † **water-shedder** *Astr.* = sense 14; **water-sill** (see quot.); **water-sink,** (*a*) = Sink *sb.*[1] 1 c; (*b*) a swallow-hole or pot-hole; **water-sky** (see quot. 1823); **water-slang,** the slang of rowing-men; **water-smoke** = *water-eyed*; **water-sneak** *slang* (see quot. 1813); **water-space,** that part of a steam-boiler which lies below the steam-space, and holds the water to be evaporated; † **water-spelling,** hydromancy; **water-spinel,** a colourless variety of spinel; **water-splash,** a shallow stream or ford crossing a road; † **water-sponge** *Sc.*, an ordinary sponge for washing; **water-stead** *dial.*, the bed or course of a stream; a convenient spot on the bank of a stream where cattle can go to drink (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **water-stock,** share in a water-company; **water-stoma** (pl. *-stomata*) = *water-pore* (Bot.); † **water-stop** = Stop *sb.*[2] 8 a; **water-streak** = Water-line 2; **water-system,** (*a*) an assemblage of connected rivers and streams; a main stream and its tributaries, considered as a unity; (*b*) = *water-vascular system*; † **water-tabby** = Tabby *sb.* 1; **water-tathe** *v.* (see Tathe *v.* 1); **water-telescope,** an instrument for observing objects under water; **water-thermometer,** thermometer filled with water instead of mercury, devised by Dalton for ascertaining the precise degree of temperature at which water attains its maximum density; **water-thief** *poet.*, a pirate; **water-tower,** (*a*) a tower serving as a reservoir to deliver water at a required head; (*b*) a long iron tube, carried vertically on a wheeled frame, for discharging water to extinguish fires in the upper stories of buildings; **water-treader,** † (*a*) *poet.* a ship; (*b*) one who treads water (Tread *v.* 7); **water-tube,** one of a set of tubular organs which open upon the exterior of certain invertebrates and are supposed to have an excretory function; **water-tube boiler,** a form of marine boiler in which the water circulates through tubes exposed to the gases of combustion; † **water-twig** = Water-shoot 1; **water-twist,** cotton yarn spun on a water-frame; **water-vapour,** the invisible aqueous vapour present in the atmosphere; **water-vascular** *a. Zool.*, pertaining to water-vessels (see next); **water-vessel** *Zool.*, one of a system of vessels in which water circulates, in certain Invertebrata; **water-wag,** a kind of small boat used at Dublin; **water-wagon,** (*a*) *U.S.* = Water-cart (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.); also *slang* (see quot. 1904); (*b*) a kind of cumulus (see quots.); † **water-wan** [Wane *sb.*[1]], lack of water; † **water-want** *a. stones-wd.*, that can endure privation of water; **water-watcher,** a water-bailiff; **water-west,** moisture of herbage due to saturation by rain; **water-wit,** the rough wit of watermen; **water-**

**woman**, a woman who acts as a waterman; **water-wood**, timber which grows near water; **water-worship**, religious adoration paid to rivers or other bodies of water; so **water-worshipper**; **†water-sack** left by a destructive flood.

1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* 277 **Water Ballast*, water carried in tanks or betakers as ballast. 1884 J. Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 238 Bitterly repented having come out with nothing but his water-ballast. 1901 *Scotsman* 24 Mar. 6/8 The boat . . has a water ballast tank. 1673 Hunwan (title) Differences in Judgment about *Water-Baptism, No flar to Communion. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 270 That thus, and no otherwise the Apostles . did admit into the Christian Church all that were receiv'd thereinto, i. e. by the Water-Baptism, is evident. *a* 1879 E. Backhouse *Ch. Hist.* xi. (1884) 122 There were other sects who rejected both water-baptism and the Eucharist. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 360 On such pond provide low *water bars across the road at intervals of thirty to forty feet. *Ibid.* 362 Water Bars. The purpose of the bar is to cast the surface water from the road to the side or sides before it has accumulated in such amount as to cut the ruts into gullies. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 124/2 Weeks's Tubular *Waterlar Open Pit Privies. 1723 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 243 AF a *water barometer. 1866 A. Steinheil *Weatherwarits* 243 The water barometer at the Royal Society's rooms gave more than 34 inches (13·380) rise and fall for every inch of the mercurial column. *c* 1360 in *Mélanges Charles Bémont* (1913) 83 Nullum potum habebit sed de nine aquam, et dicent quod est *Water-Knight. 1591 Darley *Sybrin* 26 With their varied colours blending Hues to shame the *water-bow. 1858 Browning *Clean* 952 They praise a fountain in my garden here Wherein a Naiad smirks the water-bow. Thou fleet in turn! 1640 J. Gower *Orcid Festiv.* t. 19 Sol leaving Capricorn, His race-horse to the *Water-boy doth turn. 1720 *Applebee's Weekly Jrnl.* 22 Sept. 2471/1 Mr. Lear landed at King's-Arms Stairs, and put on the Water Boy's Cap, the better to disguise himself. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 1/2 There were some waterboys out, an' we wanted to get them, but there were any quantity to fall. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxvi. (1495) 686 And the places wherin suche Papiro Russhes grow is as marreys and moores ful of *water brestles [*L. aquarum rigia*]. 1669 Holder *Elem. Speech* 9 Bells serve to proclaim a scare-fire, and (in some places) Water-breaches. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 200 *Water-breakers, . . being the extremities of the piers which meet and divide the water in its course. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Dec. 5/2 The commander . . had life-belts sent adrift for every man, and six out of the seven were successfully caught, but the seventh man secured himself to a water-breaker. 1891 Woodward *Mollusca* t. (1880) 25 Stale water is so inimical to the *water-breathers, that [etc.]. 1678 Ray *Corr.* (1848) 91 All crustacea are water breathers. 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 223 The . . Water-breathing Prosobranchs. 1. Water-bug. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. *Geff. Chawcer*, A Sleeueleese Iacket large and wide. . Of *water Chamlet did he weare. 1823 J. Baddock *Dom. Amusem.* 203 The pillar . . made hollow, for the purpose of receiving a *water candlestick of an inch diameter. 1892 *Todd's Cycl. Anat. V.* 507/1 The beautiful provision of *water-cells in the walls of the paunch or first cavity of the stomach [of a camel]. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim.* & *Min.* 18 Conduced . to a mere skeleton of ice, with water-cells between its walls. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 7/2 The lake has been enlarged, and a switchback railway and a *water chute promise rounds of delight. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/7 A waterchute is rapidly rising into form in the river Kelvin. 1611 Cotgr., *Contregile*, the *water-chaw, or *water-cleaver of dogs. 1441 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 85, I '*water-cloth'. 1813 *Examiner* 24 May 325/2 The street being broken up by a *Water Company. 1897 *Lancet* 1 *Physiogr.* 28 An independent source of water was supplied by the great water-companies. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 354/2 Duas nonas partes molendini . . cum multuris, sequelis, *ita kunfischipis*, *ita *watter cottraes*, &c. 1882 *Act of Parliament* 3 Jam. I. Boll of water-corn, being small corn, yearly, for each of the said three ploughs, for manufacturing and upholding the dams and water-gangs. . . 6 Bolls of great *water-corn panics

admirable mill-site and water-privilege. 1899 F. R. Stockton *Rudder Grange* i, I then went to a well belonging to a cottage near by where we had arranged for water-privileges, and filled two buckets with delicious water. 1677 J. Goddard *Penit. Pard.* i. iv. (1713) 114 We count the 'Water-rack a very severe torture, to have that element forced down a man's throat, till all the vessels of the body are stretched and tympanized. 1806 Ir. *Mongolfier* in *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* XIV. 109 The following is the description of a 'water-ram. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Hydrostatics* (U. K. S.) 90 The Water Ram or *Bélier Hydraulique*, as it was called by its inventor, M. Montgolfier, of Paris. 1877 Wood *Nature's Teach., Usef. Arts* x. 235 The water-ram with its globular valve. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxvii, 'What d'ye think it (the money) was all for?'. 'For the shepherd's 'water-mate, Sammy.' 1839 — *Nicholby* xiv, Having an uncle who collected a water-rate. 1804 R. W. Banks *Inst. N. Counties* II. 285 Only 1201. is received from the 'water-rents of the houses to which the element is conducted. a 1637 B. Jonson *Discov.* (1640) 97 Now, if it were put to the question of the 'Water-rimers workes, against Spencers; I doubt not, but they would find more Suffrages. 1653 Walton *Angler* viii. 164 The Carp, If he have 'water room and good feed, will grow to very great bigness and length. 1675 H. Teonge *Diary* (1825) 36 We have made a sayle for the starne of the ship, called a 'water sayle. 1704 *Hoppus & Seamanship* I. 229 *Sheer's Water-Sails*. It is occasionally spread under the boom of the main-sail in fair winds. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 38 A watersail was under the spanker-boom end. — *Shepherd's Phys. Geog.* 171 The blue variety of rock crystal, called '*water sapphire*. 1850 Amsted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 409 It [Iolite] is also called Cordierite and Water sapphire, the latter name being given by jewellers to a variety from Ceylon, which presents different colours in two directions. 1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 55 A double 'Water-scrue, the innermost to mount the water, and the outward for it to descend. 1677 W. Emerson *Prine. Mech.* (ed. 3) 228 Archimedes's water scrue. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 409 The Water Screw Pump. 1708 J. W. *Collier* (1845) 21 Those Rocks which rise at the Coal-Shaft, may run into this 'Water or half Shaft, to be drawn there by Horses or Water Wheels. 1869 R. B. Smyth *Gold Fields Vict.* 625 If *Water-shaft*, or the drainage-shaft, usually the deepest shaft in a mine. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Water-shaft*, salt-making term. A shaft sunk to collect the fresh water for the main shaft. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1030/2 On the Saterday after, ..[1382], earely in the morning, chanced an other earthquake, or as some write, a 'watershake, beeyng vehemently shaken, that made the Shippes in the hauens to beate one against an other, (etc.). 1581 Andreson *Serm. at Paules Crosse* 201 That vniuersall Earthquake, and like water-shake, whiche draue vs into present feare. 1884 R. W. Dickson *Amer. Agric.* I. 537 On a red greet, and 'water-shaken soil. 1810 J. Bailey *Agric. Durham* 9 A moist soft loam, known by the epithet of 'water soil. 1854 *Sir. Rolls Fed. in

bull 1825 Scott *Let to Morrett* 20 Dec., The persecution of the solitary shepherds who approach its [a lake's] banks, is, that it is tenanted by a very large amphibious animal called by them a water bull 1901 Rider *Celtic Folklore* I iv 284 The water bull or *tarv-a-ushtey* as he is called in Manx is described as a sort of bull destroying himself about the pools and swamps 1868 Charlton *Onomasticon* 39 *Perin* the Drug in Fly, or Adders Heads, and *Water* Butterflies. 1868 Grew *Museum* I 8 viii 1 159 Water Butterfly because they most frequent Rivers and wery places 1885 *Rivers & Nat Hist* (1888) V 82 The gigantic *Water Civy* or Capybara 1837 Swainson *Nat Hist Birds* II 5 The *water* chats (*Sturnus olivus*) which seem to connect the tyrant shrikes to the Bycthring Family 1852 D M Moir *Life & Wks* II 155 On the Ickelet Hill the *water* coot Oard forth with her sable young 1887 Scott *Jrnl* 25 Nov., A set of his labourers believing that the fabulous *Water* Cow inhabited a small lake near his house resolved to drag the monster into dry land 1895 *Antiquary* July 1 A water cow is said to still visit St Mary's Loch near Yarrow 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith* II viii 249 The Water Ousel or *Water* Crake 1884 *Manchester Examiner* 14 Aug., The Water Ousel or Water Provincial, Water Crake. 1812 Col Hawker *Diary* (1893) I 75, I knocked down 18 snipes and 1 *water* crake 1827 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 15 The Stone Fly is a beral from an insect, found under large stones in the river, called the water cricket, or creeper *c1512* Peyton *Compl Ghipkl* viii 1 b, 70 *Water* Cricket This is a slow creeping Insect found in the bottom of Ponds amongst the Weeds 1825 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1858) 207 The most interesting of all the tribes of the Naiads are the little water cricket 1598 Lyeus *Verth De P* 1 xi (1495) 156 Some fowles haue gilles priuely hydde in theyr gutte as colurous or douues and *water* crowes and swallowes 1544 Linacre *Progn* B 3, M specimens of cornicem ucacut aquaticum (*sunge* a water crow) 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim & Min* 146 The Water Crow the skinne of which is used in furrure upon the stomach or warming connection 1804 Bewick *Brit Birds* II 16 Water Ouzel Water Crow, Dipper, or Water Pyot 1882 *Proc Berwick Nat Club* IX 504 Of the Thrush family, the Dipper or Water-ouzel is frequently met with 1877-82 Cassell's *Encyclop* III 63 The Chinese *Water* Deer *Hydropotes inermis* 1890 G G Cumming *Hunter's Life S Africa* (1891) I 219 A troop of Water-buck 1891 *Cornh Mag* July 81 *Water's-egle*, the fish hawk or osprey (Rare) 1895 Rider Haggard *Heart of Rose* (1899) 340 Here and there a human corpse carried by the water or eagles began to gather 1497 Bowes *Fowl mus Scotschron* xiv xxxi (1579) II 376 As skirt for to hald xx's *water* soil 1598 G Whyte *Adventur, Tyrant* 97 July, The water eft has not, that I can discern, the least appearance of any gills *a 1400 Nominale* (Skeat) 793 *Frete et fgurcrude* Nytcrowe and *watrifynche* 1585 tr 1st *Spanish Moniard* 74/1 *A Pul* or aquatick, a *Water* fitch 1758 J Hill *Hist Anim* 59 The smooth short horned Dytiscus is called by some Pulex aquaticus, the water flea. 1866 E L Rae *Highl* I 66 The (1) most commonly known as 'water fleas' 'whirligigs', or whirligigs 1902 *Cheshire Gang & Rules* (Napier) 96 *Waterstrogen* hwlon in ma zeuhd of waters, & vesh heeth to fulfium merseehtrum 1561 Daus tr *Bullinger on Ap* c (1573) 225 b, They play the waterfrigs singyng grokie cr ake 1595 Watson *Amyntas* (1585) 14 b, I should allows *Water* frogs to be good meat if they be fat 1731 Catesby *Nat Hist Carolina* II 70 The *Water* Frog 1877 Wood *Natures Lea h, Usef Arts* xiii 467 The common *Water*-gnat (German), which may be seen in any pool or piece of fresh water 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* III 191 The Cyphars resembles an hog of about two yea old some naturalists have called it the *Water* Hog 1600 Lyster *Surfl Pract Ma* x 291 He had loaded his stomach with *water* hog 1797 Parkes *Battle Frogs & Mice* 1 110 I o'f from the deep to *Water* Hydrus rose 1768 Pult (ed Kerner) 1 *Hydrus aquatica* certain *water* Insects not much unlike small Beetles, 1774 Goldsm. *Nat Hist* VI 166 Whether it be that they [eels] and silver fish feed on the *water* insects for a minute for our observation r [etc] 1882 Macgillivray *Brit Birds* IV 352 *Actitis Hypoleucos* the Whitebreasted Sand wer Common Sandpiper Willywicket *Water* Junket Fiddler 1796 *Sporting Mag* VII 90 A 'water lawyer, or, in plainer terms a shark was caught last month near Workington 1898 *Wyclif Prose wks* 15 *Water* lechis two ben doctris, wondis, bring on hrug c. 1480 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 874 His shon or slyppers [to be] as browne as je be waturleche 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 212 Of the Water or *Water* Lizard 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* iii 170 Such an humidity is observed in Newts, or water Lizards 1884 *As Lesite Nat Hist* (1888) III 429 The family of water lizards, Hydrosauridæ 1796 Glandville in W Ellis *Mod Husb* IV ii 71 Of *Water* lice—I have often seen these, in stagnate Waters 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* VII 246 The woodlouse the water louse or sea louse is quite wrong 1750 Glandville in W Ellis *Mod Husb* III ii 72 Of *Water* maggots, or Grubs —I have seen va out kinds of these in stagnate Waters 1774 Kirby & Sp *Intr to Ent* xxiii (1818) II 363, I the little *water* mites (*Hydrachnæ*) may be seen in every pool working their little legs with great rapidity 1868 Charlton *Onomast* 58 *Limax aquaticus*, the *Water* Moth 1856 A Adams, etc *Man Nat Hist* 226 The Water Moths and their larvæ are well known to the angler as bait, under the names of Caddis Flies and Caddice Worms *Ibid* 213 Water Moths (Phryganeidæ) 1668 Charleton *Onomast* 76 *Larita lacustris aquatica*, the *Water* Newt or Lyst 1788 G White *Nat Hist Selborne* I 8 June, The *salamandra aquatica* of Ray (the water newt or eft) will frequently bite at the angler's bait 1898 Wood *Common Objects Country* iv (1860) 48 Two species of these creatures are found in this country, the common Water Newt and the Smooth Newt 1846 Waterhouse *Mammalia* I 333 The Yapock or Water Opossum 1883 W C Baldwin *Life Hunting* viii 326, I shall selected night of my best *water* oxen 1884 *Athenæum* 19 Apr CLXI No 2977 88 Water oxen turned up their noses at us 1777 *Phil Trans* LXII 249 The *water* parrot is represented as hermaphrodite 1784 T Jefferson *Notes Virginia* (1787) 178 (List of birds) *Water* pheasant 1815 *Sporting Mag* XLV 256 A water pheasant, a bird not very common, was shot near Lewes 1900 Pollok & Thom *Sports Burma* I. 34 The water fowl are very numerous, but none of them are worth mentioning excepting the waterpheasant 1881 Dresser *List European Birds* 13 *Anhinga spinicollis*, 'Water Pipit. 1896 A. G. Butler *Nat Birds* I 205 The *Water* Pipit *Anthus spipoletta*, Linn 1890 Bartlett *Dict Amer* (ed 2), *Water Dogs*, sometimes called 'Water puppies and Ground puppies 1878 *Forest & Stream* 20 July VI 385/3 The water puppy (*Menobranchus lateralis*) inhabits the lake [Erie] 1804 Webster, *Water* rabbit 1870 Bp Cummins *Prairie Bird* IV 317 The 'Water' rattle abounds in and floats in the Gulf States and Mexico 1736 Mortimer in *Phil Trans* XXXIX 254 This Sort is commonly called in Carolina, the 'Water' Rattle Snake not that it hath a Rattle, but from the likeness of its Colour, and the Time being at most 1602 Holland *Pliny* xi xxxvi I 352 Some reasonlesse creatures are by nature hald as certaine *Water* Elements [L. *certi aquatici*] 1805 Scott *Betrothed* xxiii, Watching for such small fish as *water* reptiles as might chance to be objects for elysation 1681 Ray *Memorials* 3 viii 1 176 The Water Scorpion may be easily known by its pointed Tail 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s.v. *Scorpion* Water Scorpion, *scorpio palustris*, is a very small insect, but little inferior to the Sea kind in slow motion 1846 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xxxvii 55 The water scorpion tribe 1861 Hulme tr *Mogquin Tandon* II iv 1 (ed) The Water Scorpion (Nepa Cinerea) 1 mm 1 cm 1885 Scott *Betrothed* xxiii, Watching for such small fish as *water* reptiles as might chance to be objects for elysation 1681 Ray *Memorials* 3 viii 1 176 The Water Scorpion may be easily known by its pointed Tail 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s.v. *Scorpion* Water Scorpion, *scorpio palustris*, is a very small insect, but little inferior to the Sea kind in slow motion 1846 Kirby & Sp *Entomol* IV xxxvii 55 The water scorpion tribe 1861 Hulme tr *Mogquin Tandon* II iv 1 (ed) The Water Scorpion (Nepa Cinerea) 1 mm 1 cm 1885 Water-spotted Water Snake or Water Spider 1769 G White *Selborne*, I *Journal* 8 Dec., De Buffon I know has described the water shrew mouse but not the water spider which I have discovered and named 1872 Pennant *Brit Zool III* iii 83 Water Shrew mouse 1771 *Ann Reg Chronicle* 308 Water Shrew 1880 *Gosse Nat Hist* 315 Amphibious: the tunnel of all quadrupeds, the water shrew 1750 Glandville in W Ellis *Mod Husb* IV ii 72 Of the 'Water shrimp —I have seen a Sort of Insect in standing Waters, which are not to be told from Mots in almost in Shape like a Sea shrimp very transparent 1883 G C Davies *Barf & Bait* iii 21 The water shrimp is the Crustacean known as Gammarus pulex 1796 Glandville in W Ellis *Mod Husb* IV ii 69 I have seen a 'Water toad to ride a Curp till he had starved it to Death 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* VII 60 Of this animal there are several varieties, such as the Water and the Land Toad The water toad is not so large as the other 1776 Monro in *Phil Trans* LXVI 129 The 'Water' Viper 1861 Pult (ed Kerner) 1 *Vipera Aquatica* The 'Water Viper 1621 Coren s v *Belet* 1, An Otter or 'water Weesill 1674 tr *Jeffer's Conquest Canada* There are found other weesels white, chiefly in the Woods near the Sea 1834 Mudie *Angler in Wales* II 162 No animal is so hard biting as an otter

None but a very *earnivid dog* will face one of these water weasels 1 xxv 1 1 1

*formis* 1866 *Trans. Bot Soc Edin* 8/1 *Typha Stenaltes* Its common West Indian name, ¹Water Lettuce 1883 *Century Mag* July 383/1 The saw-grass, water lettuce bonnets, or other aquatic plants which border the fresh water streams and lakes of Florida 1887 *W Bampton Gossyp Dwarf Louisiana* 354 *Gleditsia monosperma*. ¹Water locust 1820 ] PENT *Lett Amer* 131 Dr Drake has stated the usual time of the flowering of the ¹water maple at a month later 1880 ] Wood *Free Vir Reid Illinois* 93 Beech, the prevailing timber, except on the banks of the river, these mostly sycamores, water maple, and willows 1766 ] *Tr Antrobus hot* App 319 ¹Moss, Water, *Fontinalis* 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist*, *Earth* xvii 1 287 The vast increase of waterrooms, which flourishes upon marshy grounds 1849 BAT *roun Man Bot* § 1139 *Hydrodictyon utriculatum*, ¹Watermet, has the appearance of a green net 1904 *Nature* 25 Aug 396/2 This is likely to be interpreted Charon's account of the now well known water-net (*Hydrodictyon utriculatum* Roth) 1827 MORTON *Syn* III 83 When the cloth is taken away, they have set before them ¹watermuls (which I did once wisely in Saxony) and a loafe of bread cut into shives 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed 2) 464 Water mil, see Vulgar 1819 D B. WARDEN *Acct United States* II 338 ¹Water oats or wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*) grows in the soft marshes of the eastern parts [of Louisiana]. 1889 P H EMERSON *Bregil Idyls* 160 the water soldier (Stratiotes aloides), called ¹water-pollitrich in parts of England 1882 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* xxiii (1899) 312 We breached our boat behind the shelter of some dwarf ¹waterpalms these furlongs below the village 1708 J BRYDONE *Acct Lord* II. 344 The bittern builds its nest with the leaves of ¹water plants on some dry clump among the reeds 1820 VINCENT *Sacks Bot* 603 ¹Water-sassafras, on the changes which take place in the air contained in the cavities of water plants, applies in general also to that of land plants 1808 JAMIESON, ¹Water purple 1828 *Florist's Journ* xviii, Cress or water-purpee, and a bit aut cake, cun serve the Master for breakfast as well as Caleb 1827 — *Chron Canongate* v, Iproose you to have a room and a bed prepared for the reception of my ironmongery wares, garlanding the rusty memorials of ancient times, with cresses, cabbages, leeks, and water purpy 1753 *Chambers's Cycl* Suppl *App*, ¹Water-pyramidalis, by which by several species of Nasymbrium are sometimes called. 1760 *Phil Trans* 51 955/2 Water Radish *Austurtium amphibium* 1887 H MACILWAIN *Sailor Prince* vii (1890) 134 The common ¹water ranunculus, whose white flowers cover the surface of many of our quiet rivulets in June 1885 SCOTT *Tiderun* xiii, ¹By my crown of roses, and my sceptre of a specially good ¹water reed,' said Neaera blandly, 'Mopsus is mistaken' 1872 ROSSETTI *P Lane, Staff y Scrip* viii, Like water reeds the poise Of her soft body, dainty thin 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 56 *Nymphæa* is called in english ¹water Roses, & some with the Potecaries call it nenufar 1861 HOLLAND *Plinp* xxvi x. II 256 Of Waterrose, otherwise called Nenuphar 1826 LINDLEY *Introduction*, III. xxiii. 94 The eggs are inserted in the stem of a ¹water rush (*Scirpus*) or other aquatic plant 1842 *Penny Cycl* XX 339/2 *Scirpus*, ¹Water rush, or Bulrush 1846 ] Also a British species 1846 LINDLEY *Veg Kingd* 412 *Calomitacem*, ¹Watershields 1849 BALFOUR *Man Bot* § 749 *Caloniacem* of the Waterlily tribe 1598 FLORIO *Second Fr Dict* 1. xxxi (Hall MS.) Reede s.o.b. to many maner vse & amonge ¹water shrubbes reede is beste 1784 J WANLEY *Diary* 117 Water-rock, Water hemlock, or ¹Water skelton, a western drinkful poison to Herse 1874 A. GRAY *Man Bot* (ed 5) 416 *Polygonum acre* (¹Water smartweed) 1777 JACQUIN *Calect Plants* 120 *Veronica scutellata*, Narrow leaved Water Speedwell, or Brooklime 1806 GALPINE *Brit Bot* § 9 Veronica anagallis, Water Speedwell 1858 A IRVINE *Hand b Brit Plants* 49 The earliest Water speedwell 1866 *Treas Bot* 1 1128/2 Common Brooklime (*Beccabunga*) 1828 I NUTTALL *Genera N Amer Pl* I 3 *Callitriche*, ¹Water star 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xi (1886) 178 A lily, yellow or white, and sometimes a water target or two 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iv lii 513 *Typha palustris* ¹Water Torche 1707 WORTHINGTON *Husb* 144 In Hampshire they sell ¹Water Trefoil as Hops, and yet say that it doth upon all accounts well 1789 W BUCHAN *Dom Med* (1790) 391 The water trefoil is likewise of great use in this complaint [rheumatism] 1548 TURNER *Herbal* II. 62 b/2 ¹Water Violet hath long and great rugged leaues, verie finely cut or rent like Yarrowe, but smaller 1728 BRADLEY *Dict Bot* s.v. *Violet*, Water, or Lattly, viola aquatica 1785 MARTYN *Lett Bot* xvi (1794) 177 Water Violet has a salver shaped c.a. ii not fringed 1866 *Tr as Bot* 1218/2 Water Violet, *Hottonia palustris*. *Ibid* 1220 1 ¹Waterwythe 1855 H G DALTON *Hist Brit Guiana* II 206 Water vine, or ¹water withy 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* ii. ccliixxvi 678 Water Melothrie, or Water Yarrow

**32** *Add.* Designating species of insects, eruptions, etc., as † *water-blacket*, *-blaster*, † *-fiscus*, *-gargel*, *-murrain*, † *pang*, **water-blebs**, pemphigus, **water-brash**, pyrosis, **water-canker**, a form of stomatitis; **water-pox**, chicken-pox, **water-stroke** (see quots); † **water-wheal**, a watery blister

1587 MASCALL *Bk Cattell* iii (1596) 243 Some sheepe will haue a ¹water bladder vnder their chin, shepheards haue no other common remedy but to lance it aside, and then to let it 1818-20 E THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol Meth* (ed 3) 318 Pompholyx 1 ¹Water Blebs 1820-7 GOOD *Study Med*, (1829) V 617 Water blebs 1895 KIPLING *and Jungle Bk*, *Rud Dog* 201 Here would be a heaving mound, like a ¹water-blister in a whirlpool 1900 J HUTCHINSON *Archives Surg* XI 259 Vesications (¹water blisters was the patient s term) broke out 1820 REECE *Med Guide* (1850) 531 ¹Water brash is very prevalent in Scotland and Ireland 1828 *Good Study Med* (1829) I 265 In the colloquial tongue of England, it is called *Black waters* in that of Scotland, *water-brash*, and *water-pirosis* in Scotland and Ireland 1541 RAYNALD xxxiii. (1634) 200 Those Pustules and Ulcers which often times possesse the upper part of the mouth and gums, are named by the Greekes *Aphtæ* . . in vulgar the ¹Water Canker 1677 F. T ROBERTS *Handbk Med* (ed 3) I 291 Water Canker is a very rare, but dangerous form of stomatitis. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s v Dropsy*, The *Ascites*, or ¹Watery-Dropsy of the Abdomen, is what we particularly call the Dropsy 1706 PHILIPPS (ed Kersey), *Farcin* or ¹*Water-Farcin*, a Swelling under a Horse's Belly and Chaps, caus'd by his Feeding in Low Watery Grounds. 1868 *Rep. U S Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 41 A disease called ¹'water garget' has been slightly prevalent in Merrimack County. 1708 KENNET, *Water-Hurrain*, a Disease in black Cattel. 1833 FORD *Tin Pl* iii. 111, Am I at these queries ignorant, wh it the meaning s of Quames, and ¹Waterpangs be? 1828-7 GOOD *Study Med* (1829) III 62 ¹Water-pox *Ibid* II. 409 In the language of Dr Cullen *watercrushing*, or ¹water-stroke, from its violence. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Water stroke*, a term for *Meningitis*, whether primary or secondary, when the effusion of fluid forms very rapidly 1530 PALSGR 287/1 ¹Water whele in ones hande, *bubette*

† **33** Prefixed to certain designations of measures of capacity, to denote the larger measures used for goods landed on board ship (see WATER-MEASURE), as *water bushel*, *firlot*, *peck*, also *water mea* WATER-MEASURE A related use seems to exist in *water-fother* (quot 1300), but the sense is obscure

1300 *Memoranda K R* 27 & 28 *Edw I* m 32 b, Recognouerunt se teneres Waltero de Langetone in lxx carratis plumbi calcitet Waterfother 15 *Burgh Rec Lubin* (1899) I 94 The next meit of Leyth sett to Jhone Dow for 19 merks 1546 *Reg Priy Council Scot* I 30 that na ry be vsuld deaner nor XXV s the boll with the firlote for X li.s the boll writer mete 1551 *Burgh Rec Edin* II 155 The prouest bullies and counsale ordanis that Jhone Dalmahoy Hute warrand and deliuer of the prt and heavine of Leyth in all tymes cuming keep the measures callit the watter metis of salt, rye, quheitt and beir and sicklyke 1555 *Ac Acts Mary* (1814) 482 Peyper Water met to remane according to the vse of the cuntrie 1615 E S *Britain's Buss in Arber Eng Garner* III 632 A Water Bushel (thirt.s. five inches) of Spanish salt, will make a last of herrings 1630 *Aberdeen Rec* (*M's*) 47 12th ber VIII 1497/8 Paid for Iron worke for 4 water bussbells 00 16 00 1655 in *Rec Convent Burghs Scot* (1878) III 402 The water firlot for be and aitmeall 1661 *Acts Parlt Scot* VII 251/1 Ordains fram 18 ad to 18 ad per water peck, which is a measure of about fourteen Scots pints

**Water** (wā·tər), *sb.*¹ Inflected **watered**, **watering**. In forms **waterian**, **watrian**, **wetrisan**, **2 wetthrien**, **watrien**, **3 wattren** (*Orm* -enn), **wattre**, (**wattur**), 3–5, **7** *Sc.* **water**, **4 waterr**, **weteri**, **watrin**, **waire**, **4–5 watery**, **wateren**, **5 watron**, **watir**, **4– water**. *Pa pple.* **4 y watered**, **i watred**, **y-watred** [OE *watersian* (also *ge-*), f. *water* WATER *sb.* Cf MHG *wetzzen*, mod G. *wässern* (*wässern*), MLG. *watteren*, *wetteren*, mod. Du. *wateren*, *wederen*, Du. *wateren*.]

**I.** Transitive uses

**1.** To give a drink of water to (an animal, esp a horse on a journey), also, to take (cattle) to the water to drink.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen* xxiv 7 Hig awylton þone stan of þam pytte and hyra wætan wrixen to wetherum 1175 *Lamb Hom* 9 Al hwa a [=et mit þet hors wetrien [*read* wettrien] þe him self nule drunken? *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2745 Dor hec me i wetrid 1297 *R Gloucester* (1724) 1 Water hemlokes, or ¹Water skelton, a western drinkful poison to Herse 1874 A. GRAY *Man Bot* (ed 5) 416 *Polygonum acre* (¹Water smartweed) 1777 JACQUIN *Calect Plants* 120 *Veronica scutellata*, Narrow leaved Water Speedwell, or Brooklime 1806 GALPINE *Brit Bot* § 9 Veronica anagallis, Water Speedwell 1858 A IRVINE *Hand b Brit Plants* 49 The earliest Water speedwell 1866 *Treas Bot* 1 1128/2 Common Brooklime (*Beccabunga*) 1828 I NUTTALL *Genera N Amer Pl* I 3 *Callitriche*, ¹Water star 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xi (1886) 178 A lily, yellow or white, and sometimes a water target or two 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iv lii 513 *Typha palustris* ¹Water Torche 1707 WORTHINGTON *Husb* 144 In Hampshire they sell ¹Water Trefoil as Hops, and yet say that it doth upon all accounts well 1789 W BUCHAN *Dom Med* (1790) 391 The water trefoil is likewise of great use in this complaint [rheumatism] 1548 TURNER *Herbal* II. 62 b/2 ¹Water Violet hath long and great rugged leaues, verie finely cut or rent like Yarrowe, but smaller 1728 BRADLEY *Dict Bot* s.v. *Violet*, Water, or Lattly, viola aquatica 1785 MARTYN *Lett Bot* xvi (1794) 177 Water Violet has a salver shaped c.a. ii not fringed 1866 *Tr as Bot* 1218/2 Water Violet, *Hottonia palustris*. *Ibid* 1220 1 ¹Waterwythe 1855 H G DALTON *Hist Brit Guiana* II 206 Water vine, or ¹water withy 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccliixxvi 678 Water Melothrie, or Water Yarrow

**32** *Add.* Designating species of insects, eruptions, etc., as † *water-blacket*, *-blaster*, † *-fiscus*, *-gargel*, *-murrain*, † *pang*, **water-blebs**, pemphigus, **water-brash**, pyrosis, **water-canker**, a form of stomatitis; **water-pox**, chicken-pox, **water-stroke** (see quots); † **water-wheal**, a watery blister

1587 MASCALL *Bk Cattell* iii (1596) 243 Some sheepe will haue a ¹water bladder vnder their chin, shepheards haue no other common remedy but to lance it aside, and then to let it 1818-20 E THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol Meth* (ed 3) 318 Pompholyx 1 ¹Water Blebs 1820-7 GOOD *Study Med*, (1829) V 617 Water blebs 1895 KIPLING *and Jungle Bk*, *Rud Dog* 201 Here would be a heaving mound, like a ¹water-blister in a whirlpool 1900 J HUTCHINSON *Archives Surg* XI 259 Vesications (¹water blisters was the patient s term) broke out 1820 REECE *Med Guide* (1850) 531 ¹Water brash is very prevalent in Scotland and Ireland 1828 *Good Study Med* (1829) I 265 In the colloquial tongue of England, it is called *Black waters* in that of Scotland, *water-brash*, and *water-pirosis* in Scotland and Ireland 1541 RAYNALD xxxiii. (1634) 200 Those Pustules and Ulcers which often times possesse the upper part of the mouth and gums, are named by the Greekes *Aphtæ* . . in vulgar the ¹Water Canker 1677 F. T ROBERTS *Handbk Med* (ed 3) I 291 Water Canker is a very rare, but dangerous form of stomatitis. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s v Dropsy*, The *Ascites*, or ¹Watery-Dropsy of the Abdomen, is what we particularly call the Dropsy 1706 PHILIPPS (ed Kersey), *Farcin* or ¹*Water-Farcin*, a Swelling under a Horse's Belly and Chaps, caus'd by his Feeding in Low Watery Grounds. 1868 *Rep. U S Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 41 A disease called ¹'water garget' has been slightly prevalent in Merrimack County. 1708 KENNET, *Water-Hurrain*, a Disease in black Cattel. 1833 FORD *Tin Pl* iii. 111, Am I at these queries ignorant, wh it the meaning s of Quames, and ¹Waterpangs be? 1828-7 GOOD *Study Med* (1829) III 62 ¹Water-pox *Ibid* II. 409 In the language of Dr Cullen *watercrushing*, or ¹water-stroke, from its violence. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Water stroke*, a term for *Meningitis*, whether primary or secondary, when the effusion of fluid forms very rapidly 1530 PALSGR 287/1 ¹Water whele in ones hande, *bubette*

† **33** Prefixed to certain designations of measures of capacity, to denote the larger measures used for goods landed on board ship (see WATER-MEASURE), as *water bushel*, *firlot*, *peck*, also *water mea* WATER-MEASURE A related use seems to exist in *water-fother* (quot 1300), but the sense is obscure

1300 *Memoranda K R* 27 & 28 *Edw I* m 32 b, Recognouerunt se teneres Waltero de Langetone in lxx carratis plumbi calcitet Waterfother 15 *Burgh Rec Lubin* (1899) I 94 The next meit of Leyth sett to Jhone Dow for 19 merks 1546 *Reg Priy Council Scot* I 30 that na ry be vsuld deaner nor XXV s the boll with the firlote for X li.s the boll writer mete 1551 *Burgh Rec Edin* II 155 The prouest bullies and counsale ordanis that Jhone Dalmahoy Hute warrand and deliuer of the prt and heavine of Leyth in all tymes cuming keep the measures callit the watter metis of salt, rye, quheitt and beir and sicklyke 1555 *Ac Acts Mary* (1814) 482 Peyper Water met to remane according to the vse of the cuntrie 1615 E S *Britain's Buss in Arber Eng Garner* III 632 A Water Bushel (thirt.s. five inches) of Spanish salt, will make a last of herrings 1630 *Aberdeen Rec* (*M's*) 47 12th ber VIII 1497/8 Paid for Iron worke for 4 water bussbells 00 16 00 1655 in *Rec Convent Burghs Scot* (1878) III 402 The water firlot for be and aitmeall 1661 *Acts Parlt Scot* VII 251/1 Ordains fram 18 ad to 18 ad per water peck, which is a measure of about fourteen Scots pints

**Water** (wā·tər), *sb.*¹ Inflected **watered**, **watering**. In forms **waterian**, **watrian**, **wetrisan**, **2 wetthrien**, **watrien**, **3 wattren** (*Orm* -enn), **wattre**, (**wattur**), 3–5, **7** *Sc.* **water**, **4 waterr**, **weteri**, **watrin**, **waire**, **4–5 watery**, **wateren**, **5 watron**, **watir**, **4– water**. *Pa pple.* **4 y watered**, **i watred**, **y-watred** [OE *watersian* (also *ge-*), f. *water* WATER *sb.* Cf MHG *wetzzen*, mod G. *wässern* (*wässern*), MLG. *watteren*, *wetteren*, mod. Du. *wateren*, *wederen*, Du. *wateren*.]

**I.** Transitive uses

**1.** To give a drink of water to (an animal, esp a horse on a journey), also, to take (cattle) to the water to drink.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen* xxiv 7 Hig awylton þone stan of þam pytte and hyra wætan wrixen to wetherum 1175 *Lamb Hom* 9 Al hwa a [=et mit þet hors wetrien [*read* wettrien] þe him self nule drunken? *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2745 Dor hec me i wetrid 1297 *R Gloucester* (1724) 1 Water hemlokes, or ¹Water skelton, a western drinkful poison to Herse 1874 A. GRAY *Man Bot* (ed 5) 416 *Polygonum acre* (¹Water smartweed) 1777 JACQUIN *Calect Plants* 120 *Veronica scutellata*, Narrow leaved Water Speedwell, or Brooklime 1806 GALPINE *Brit Bot* § 9 Veronica anagallis, Water Speedwell 1858 A IRVINE *Hand b Brit Plants* 49 The earliest Water speedwell 1866 *Treas Bot* 1 1128/2 Common Brooklime (*Beccabunga*) 1828 I NUTTALL *Genera N Amer Pl* I 3 *Callitriche*, ¹Water star 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xi (1886) 178 A lily, yellow or white, and sometimes a water target or two 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iv lii 513 *Typha palustris* ¹Water Torche 1707 WORTHINGTON *Husb* 144 In Hampshire they sell ¹Water Trefoil as Hops, and yet say that it doth upon all accounts well 1789 W BUCHAN *Dom Med* (1790) 391 The water trefoil is likewise of great use in this complaint [rheumatism] 1548 TURNER *Herbal* II. 62 b/2 ¹Water Violet hath long and great rugged leaues, verie finely cut or rent like Yarrowe, but smaller 1728 BRADLEY *Dict Bot* s.v. *Violet*, Water, or Lattly, viola aquatica 1785 MARTYN *Lett Bot* xvi (1794) 177 Water Violet has a salver shaped c.a. ii not fringed 1866 *Tr as Bot* 1218/2 Water Violet, *Hottonia palustris*. *Ibid* 1220 1 ¹Waterwythe 1855 H G DALTON *Hist Brit Guiana* II 206 Water vine, or ¹water withy 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccliixxvi 678 Water Melothrie, or Water Yarrow

**32** *Add.* Designating species of insects, eruptions, etc., as † *water-blacket*, *-blaster*, † *-fiscus*, *-gargel*, *-murrain*, † *pang*, **water-blebs**, pemphigus, **water-brash**, pyrosis, **water-canker**, a form of stomatitis; **water-pox**, chicken-pox, **water-stroke** (see quots); † **water-wheal**, a watery blister

1587 MASCALL *Bk Cattell* iii (1596) 243 Some sheepe will haue a ¹water bladder vnder their chin, shepheards haue no other common remedy but to lance it aside, and then to let it 1818-20 E THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol Meth* (ed 3) 318 Pompholyx 1 ¹Water Blebs 1820-7 GOOD *Study Med*, (1829) V 617 Water blebs 1895 KIPLING *and Jungle Bk*, *Rud Dog* 201 Here would be a heaving mound, like a ¹water-blister in a whirlpool 1900 J HUTCHINSON *Archives Surg* XI 259 Vesications (¹water blisters was the patient s term) broke out 1820 REECE *Med Guide* (1850) 531 ¹Water brash is very prevalent in Scotland and Ireland 1828 *Good Study Med* (1829) I 265 In the colloquial tongue of England, it is called *Black waters* in that of Scotland, *water-brash*, and *water-pirosis* in Scotland and Ireland 1541 RAYNALD xxxiii. (1634) 200 Those Pustules and Ulcers which often times possesse the upper part of the mouth and gums, are named by the Greekes *Aphtæ* . . in vulgar the ¹Water Canker 1677 F. T ROBERTS *Handbk Med* (ed 3) I 291 Water Canker is a very rare, but dangerous form of stomatitis. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl s v Dropsy*, The *Ascites*, or ¹Watery-Dropsy of the Abdomen, is what we particularly call the Dropsy 1706 PHILIPPS (ed Kersey), *Farcin* or ¹*Water-Farcin*, a Swelling under a Horse's Belly and Chaps, caus'd

throughout the land of Egypt is continually watered by the water which is turned into the countries round about 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* i. 25 This Province is mainely watered through the middle with stately Po 1735 Johnson *Lobb's Abyssinia, Descr.* x. 102 It [the Nile] then waters the king dom of Amhara, Olaca, [etc.] 1758-9 tr *Kæmpfer's Hist.* (1960) IV. 145 The road lies through a delightful valley, which is watered by the lake or Itch 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 930 Stillest streams Oft water fairest meadows 1800 *Scots Magazine* Jan. 31 In the plentiful district of Surry, England which is watered by the river Don 1853 Neiman *Hist. Me.* (1873) II. x. 63 Sog Iowa is watered by a number of great rivers 1901 *Nation* 31 Jan. 88/2 The arid and rocky plateau could be converted into an almost im mensely fertile It is splendidly watered

*fig.* 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 237 Socrates from whose mouth issu'd forth Mellifluous streams that watered all the schools Of Academics old and new 1708 Cowper *Aegeon Complt.* 19 So,He must fan it, tears must water, Sweat of on it must dress the soil

† **b** Of water, a river, etc. To surround or bound (a city, fort) Chiefly *pass* also with *about* c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 319 Hit was pe soueraynne Cite of the Royle euer, Well walle & wone it watte abute 1572 T. Twine tr *Dionysius' Surp. World* I. xiii. On the one side runneth Corus an other Choaspes, rising out of the River Indus, and watering the whole 1585 *Ive Fort.* 25 Neither, if the Port do stand well watered, need the face of the Curtin to be raised higher then three or fiure foote above the water 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Comm.* 96 As for the Cantons he hath the King of Spain's absolute lord of all that a coast which watereth Florida, Nova Hispania, Iucatan [etc.] 1632 Webster *Ac. Powers of Man* 197, I saw the remnans of a Mount exactly watered about with severall streames 1753 Hanway *Trav.* III. xxxiii (1762) I. 457 It [the city] is watered by the Ilme

**5** *To water* (combining) *drink out of tears* to make wet or moist with copious and continued weeping, to shed tears upon or over Chiefly *hyperbolical or fig. Obs or arch*

a 1000 *Leas of Lorders* 147 He [the prophete] eek Ichseal wat ten mun bedd mit mine teares 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* vi. 7 With my teres my bedd I shall water 1535 Coverdale *Luke* vii. 38 She began in to wet his feete with teares 1636 Heywood *Wisdom vouchsafed* II. Hab I a heart I can let life water with a teare 1663 Milton *P. L.* x. 1090 Which better can we do, then to confess Humbly our faults and pardon beg with teares Watering the ground 1675 J. Owen *To his Being* xxv. viii. (1721) II. 141 Who can water a free Pardon with Tears in its Divine 1760 tr. H. Brooke *Book of Qual.* 1809) III. 113 [He] plentifully watered the ground with his tears he proved *Ps.* xli. 3 Often have we watered the spot [at Rome] in company with our tears 1797 Mirror No. 44 P. 8 Lu. Ro he threw his arms round his neck and watered it with his tears 1832 Tennyson *Enone* 230 Hath he not worn his cheek to a thousand times Seal'd it with kisses? water'd it with tears?

† **b.** Said of the tears *Obs*

1606 Shake *Ant. & Cl.* III. iii. 177 Ant I indeed the teares lose in an Onion, that should water this sorrow 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. viii. 'No, hate me not,' said Mrs Delvile kissing from her cheeks the tears that watered them

† **c** Phrases. *To water one's eyes*, also jocularly *to water one's plants* to shed tears, to weep. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8339 Brayst With myche weping & waile watered he eure c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 331 For sorow I water both mine eyes 1588 R. Cawdrey *Wolfes* (1843) 123 Whether we do cursed my Lord of Wyls shire to water his eyes 1589 Lurbery *Trag. Tales* 123, b, Wh eh when symoris had beheld, She watered straight her eyes

1590 Udall *Erasm Apoph.* 166 When he read the chronicle of Alexander the great, he could not forbeare to water his plantes [L. *non temuit lacrymas effundere*] 1590 Lodge *Rosalynde* (1592) O 2, Water in thy plants I beobe, for I do pity thy paines, not seek not to be eased by [*sic*] my teares. 1600 Holland *Liv.* xxxv. 1. 1. 1. Whereas whiles he heard these words, began to water his plants [*lacrymæ ob rigant*]. 1704 Swift *Ac. of Old & New Sts.* (1733) V. 314 *Bolus in Ovid* till her husband Sisiphus died: Till make him water his Plants 1828 Carr *Stamboul Gleanings* (ed. 3) 251 *Plants*, 'To water one's plants' to be in tears

† **d** To soak in or with water, to steep in a liquor, also to soften by soaking meicerate. *Obs.*

1598 Barckley *Birth Dr.* II. xxiii. 210 (1625) 641 One way to thaw it is to water it with water, and then it will be as soft as Wax 1600 Holland *Pliny* II. 505 Hemlocke watered in vinegar 1705 Hearne *Collect.* (1906) I. 71 Take Pellitory of the Wall, and water it in Vinegar, and then it will be as soft as Wax 1661 J. Lane *Sir Dan. Archit* Sc Now it is dry 1678 *Phillips* (ed. 5) *Water* To water the reed, is 1685 Walton *Angler* I. xvi. (1661) 166 Which is so much of the strength of the Ale, as is fit for want of first watering it, and then re twisting it 1695 Hannah Woolley *Gentlem. Comp.* 123 Lay them [collars of brawn] a soaking in fair water be sure that they be watered two days before you bind them up

† **b.** *To water out* to free from salt by soaking in water. *Obs*

1683 Petvin *Pleta Min* v. viii. 338 When the Salt is to be put over the Ashes, it must be well watered out [*sic*] *Ge mists observe*] that the red bottom may not be very salty

† **c** To wash down (solid food) with liquor.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Great Eater of Kent* Wks. I. 244/2 Indeed he is no dry-diet for one Tunne of Beere or Ale is enough to wash downe a Hog, or water a Sheepe with him

**d** To sprinkle or drench (a road, pavement, etc.) with water, in order to lay the dust.

1668 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambassa.* 60 Their Inhabitants had water'd the streets, which being not pav'd, the dust had otherwise annoy'd us 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Streets—Morning*, The apprentice, who pauses every other minute from his task of sweeping out the shop and watering the pavement in front of it 1881 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* III. xxii. Ally, filling her capacious dress, for the streets had just been watered, minced off. 1892 Scribe in *Verb. Amer. assistant* 359 As Americ an railroads are built, in sandy regions, to be envelop'd in immense clouds of dust, trick, sprinklers are frequently employed to water them 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 July 1/1 Mr. was di rected by the Justices to water certain streets

e *Mil.* To pour shell fire upon Said also of shell-fire. [So fr. *arroser, G. bewassern.*]

1918 J. Buchan *Nelson's Hist. War* III. xxi. 89 There upon Hindenburg attempted to prepare a passage by a great bombardment—high angle shell fire which should water the enemy's position *Ibid.* VII. iii. 106 The Germans were closing in on both sides and watering the whole hinterland with their fire

**f** To sprinkle or drench (a material) with water in order to moisten it or with a solution to impregnate it Also with *down*.

1674 *Country Let. Life* 397 Nother that he water nother change no linnen cant get a sleve high in the wers for the better 1786 in J. Ley *Old Cheshire Words & Phrases* (1956) 35 To take Water running from the said veins of Coal for the purpose of watering that Coake and Cinky ash to *consume* the same 1828 J. Smith *Panorama of Science & Art* II. 362 The cloth is exposed for a few days to the open air in the field, and frequently watered, to remove every trace of the seeds 1848 *Penny Cycl.* I. 448/2 [Trade.] The clay and ashes thus mixed together are watered down, by water being thrown over them with a wooden scoop 1859 [see WATERED *ppl. a.* 5]. 1870 Yeats *Textile Fabrics* 118 In a help upon a stone pavement, watering each layer in succession with a solution called sauce 1888 *Rep. Comm. on Housing of Poor* (H. of L.) 442 In but to either the [milk] can is covered with a textile or upper which is watered with a fine sprinkler before the train starts

**g** To saturate the clothing, or the clothing of (a person) with moisture.

1752 tr. *Duhamel du Trou Jent* No. 91 P. 3 Produ ng a vapour he began to let fly at me in such a Manner that I was soon pretty well watered from Head to Foot 1844 Knickerbocker XXIII. 4 Sentences were uttered through my skirts and watered my clothes through and through

**h** To put water into (See quots.)

1805 Smith *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To water the hole* A saying used when the cook is up and down, to encourage the men to heave heartily, and raise the shank of the anchor past that the water may get down to the shank, and relieve the anchor of the superincumbent weight 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To Water a vessel* or the stocks (Ship b.) *To Scuttle a ship to let her Upon Her a sufficient Ballast*

**i** To treat hydropathically. *Pronounce*

1854 Keyser in *Ill. London News* 22 Jan. 72/2 He is being watered at Malvern, I hope successfully

**j** Phrase. *To water one's clay*, to take liquid refreshment. (Cf phrases in Clay *sb.* 4b)

1769 Goldsm. *Ess.* v. Old women should water their clay a little more than they do, and now to your story

**7.** To add water to as a diluent or solvent, thereby increasing the bulk and reducing the strength.

**a** To dilute (wine, strong liquor, milk, tea) with water.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI. 265 H wolde drynke a hul wyne i watered 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxv. (1495) 723 Reddie wyn that is full red is blood is moost strange and lasteth therefore to be ryghte wel watered 1562 Turner *Herbal* I. C iv. M 1 Make your mixture, I do bid you, of water, and not water of wine. 1850 H. Melville *Redburn* xx. 111 And the Bishop pronounces his gospel vilely watered 1865 Wise *Mormons* W. II. Chapman *Prairie & Ft. Land* v. (1866) 73 We went off to him a very small quantity [of rum] well watered 1865 Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xxii. They sold milk And if any customer complained of water in the article, Mrs Leslie's answer would have been [etc.] 1897 Lady Storer *Dietetics* xxii. (1901) 91 It was like tea after the teapot had been washed 1900 Rudyard Kipling *Kim* xii. Tea twice watered with a good deal of sugar in it

**b** *fig.*

1871 Ruskin *Fors Cl.* III. xv. 15 The knowledge made up of truth so watered and distorted 1880 *Harper's Pict. Eng. Dictionary* (1892) 91/1 But it is not true that the work is expanded, if by that we are to understand that Chapin is watered by thought to make it full up 1906 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Nov. 391/1 The book is full of quotations Indeed much of it is just these writers watered.

**c** Water down. (*a*) *lit.* To reduce the strength of (liquor) by dilution. (*b*) To weaken the force or strength of (language) by addition or alteration. (*c*) To reduce in efficacy or potency.

(*a*) 1830 *Penny Mag.* 1 Oct. 385/1 Much watered down

(*b*) 1850 *Penny Cyc.* July 179 One or two of the recent translations, while adhering closely to the same end, in some degree to the letter of the original may yet be fairly accused of watering down Aeschylus 1898 J. W. Warter in *Lett. South.* Pref. 8 As to Southey's opinions my business was in the selection of these letters, was, clearly, not to water them down but rather to leave them pungent as I had in their undisguised reality 1880 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 1454 The Bishop would have done better not to water down his manly protest against the overstrained moralists 1899 J. Doyle in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 597 They watered down their political sentiments to the standard which they supposed would suit their hearers

(*c*) 1879 Froude *Cæsar* iii. 55 Still less had the Roman citizens an inclination to share their privileges with Samnites and Etruscans, and see the value of their votes watered down 1919 W. Crooke in *Man* XIX. 23 In some cases the ordeal has been so watered down that the risk to life or limb is merely nominal

**d** (*?. slang.* To pack (a jury) *Obs*

1790 J. Belknap *Hist. New-Hampshire* III. 250 In the administration of justice, frequent complaints were made of partiality. The practice of watering the jury was familiarly known to those persons who had business in the Law

**e** *Comm.* To increase in nominal amount (the stock or capital of a trading company) by the creation of fictitious stock. Also with *up*.

1820 *Jerkinite* (N. Y.) 12 Dec. in Scheiber *Am. Americanisms* (1892) 259 In two years the capitals of twenty eight Northern railroads have been watered to the extent of nearly two hundred millions 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 July 5 The new capital was raised at heavy premiums, and therefore does not 'water the original shares strictly speaking 1883 *Manch. Examiner* 15 Oct. 5/3 The decision gives unlimited encouragement to the entire various practice of watering stock 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 3/1 Considering the vast extent to which capital has been watered up in transfer to joint stock companies

† **8** = Wash *v.* 9c Also *to water over lit.* and *fig. Obs* rare

1637 Rutherford *Let to J. Gordon* Lett. (1664) 248 Yet all these are but like gold in sink and colour and watered Irass and I se metall 1637 — *Let to Lady Kenmure* 23 June, Since I must have all sins He would put golden chains on me, watered over with mi ny consolations.

**9.** To produce a moire or watery lustrous finish on (silk or other textile fabrics) by sprinkling them with water and passing them through a calender Cf Watered *ppl. a.* 5

c 1450 *Mankl Dak Mise* 111 199 One cloath of bukram watterd with letters of gold 1695 Kennett *Hist. Incbes* (1724) 1056 Five pieces of silk, five of tabby, five of silke watered 1684 *Patent Office* No 241 A new way of Beautifying severall Sorts of Cloath and thereby Watering, Damasking and Flowering the same 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 80 4/1 No two pieces were ever watered alike 1745 R. Pococke *Descr. East* II. i. 170 These things [silks and cottons] are watered, which very much adds to their beauty 1791 W. Hamilton *Bertollet's Dyeing* I. 111. x. 295 The calender, under which stuffs are passed to water them 1832 Hood *Drinking Song* II. We water roads, horses, silks, ribands, lastly people

† **b** To represent (a material) as watered in painting. *Obs rare*—1.

1733 *School of Alum-stone* 29 When you would water a Stuff of any sort, you must have it with lighter and darker Colours, according as what you are upon is Light or Shade

† **c** *transf.* To give a specious appearance to (defective or inferior goods) Also in fig context.

1646 W. Jenkin *Reformation's Remora* 28 Rotten stuffs will not be vendible without watering, neither rotten causes without excuses 1665 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 68 The pretty Allegories and Allusions of which Discourse (but the watering of weak and worthless things with much wit) is not unhandsomly in an Oration, but are too airy and thin for a Sermon

**10** *Combs. trade* To put (logs) into the water for transport.

1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 24 May, There have been 257,000,000 feet of logs w tered on the various branches of the Muskegon

**II** Intransitive uses

**11.** Of the eyes To fill and run with moisture; to shed water, to flow with tears

13 *Cov. Myst.* (A) 5093 Her eyen watered for glad nes 1586 Lance *P. Pl. A.* VII. 162 Hongur wrong him wyt I se wombe but I-pke, Wolde neuere watreden eyen 579 He had such a pose, That both his eyen waterid *c* 1460 *Testamentis* 19 in Laing *Early Scot. Poetry* (1822) I. 60 He made the sun and moon to water 1568 Bunning *Pan Marriet H* enon 439 With that wheres my nose, and welleres doune eies 1573 J. Lloyd *Liger Pirates* 26 We reade that the sun did water to see him, the eyes allured to leare him 1590 Shake *Mids. N. Dr.* III. ii. 218 Your eyes are lode-starres; and your tongue's sweete Melodie Is like the Mermaids monarchs, heauenly, when it waters 1600 — *Hen. V* IV. iii. 52 And if thine eyes can water for his death, I give thee leave to die i'the Crutches withall 1607 *Credits come, Credit go* 4 *Homer* in his Eyes water and shed some drops of Tears 1708 Motte *Amer. Geog.* II. 72 When the Indians in their sessete weather the cold makes the eyes water 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvi. The Major sat gurgling in the throat and watering at the eyes

**12** Of the mouth: To secrete abundant saliva in the anticipation of appetizing food or delicacies Similarly of the teeth (*obs. exc.* Sc ?); also rarely of the chops, the lips (See also Mouth *sb.* 2 c. Tooth *sb.* 8 g.)

1530 Palsgr. 772/2 My tethe waters to se yonder fayre apple 1535 Coverdale (Arb.) 282 These craftie foxes the cannibals began to swallow their spettle as their mouthes watered for greedines of their pray. 1590 Lyly *Callathea* v. i. My teeth still watered with hunger. 1611 Cotgr. *Gouldiere* 298, I observed pawing fayre Citrena, which made my mouth water 1616 Heywood *Epist* xiii. (1618) I 3b, If one names a Lax, your lipe doe water 1628 *Mad Prankes Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 29 A great posset was brou,ht forth at that Robin Goodfellows teeth did water 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 39 He sees no green cheese but his mouth waters after it. 1697 H. Crowch *Welsh Traveller* 6 The apples did so lovely looke, No

delaies now could her brook, her shops did so much water. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 237 The sight of company sitting down before a plentiful meal will preventy make the mouth water to be doing the like. 1771 Fielding *Intrig. Chambermaid* i. v. Wks. II. 319 *Let.* He is this day to give a grand entertainment. . . *Rad.* My chops begin to water. 1850 C. Bronte *Wuthering Heights* i. The canine mother . . was sneaking wolfishly to the back of my legs...her white teeth watering for a snatch. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* h. (1901) II. 80 All the delicacies of the season in short, that make one's mouth water to write. 1876 Ruskin *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 42 My mouth's watering so for that Tiwaite Currant Jelly, you can't think. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 57/2 The dog's mouth waters only at the sight of food, but the gourmand's mouth will also water at the thought of it. 1899 G. Gissing *Lapse o' Rochon* ii. 39 Here she pointed to the apples, while Jockie's eyes sparkled and his teeth watered.

**b.** *fig.*

a 1575 in *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 303 There teethe watering at other men's goodes. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 303 His teeth . . watred after this treasure. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. ii. 108 There was a Spaniards mouth watred, and he went to bed to her verie description. 1650 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. ii. 256 Whose teeth water'd at the Papacy. 1720 De Foe *Hist. D. Campbell* iv. 68 [She would] bathe him...to write down the Name of a Young Scotch Peer ...that her Mouth watered after. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thous.* I. viii, Huckaback, smiling . and chinking some money in his trowsers pocket. Titmouse heard it, and (as the phrase is) his teeth watered. 1883 E. Peacock *Eccentric Character Lincolnsh.* 424 Every mouth watering at the sight of the sweet country.

**13.** Of a ship, ship's company, etc. : To take on board a store of fresh water.

1557 W. Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 Wee tolde them that we had not watered. 1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Narr. Voyages* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 But, for refreshing of our men we waited, watering and taking in of wood. 1866 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 9713 The Armada is certainly come into Calis, some say to water. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 45 The French...usually wooded and watered at Bon Port. *Ibid.* I. iv. 91 A commodious place for ships to wood and water at. 1767 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 13 We . gained permission to water, and procure such refreshments as the island [Teneriffe] afforded. 1839 Marryat *Phant. Ship* xii, The Utrecht...watered, and proceeded on her voyage. 1898 P. Watson *Trop. Hyg.* xvi. 166 The existence of epidemics of dysentery in the crews of ships which have watered at polluted sources.

**14.** To drink water ; to obtain water to drink.

1697 Dampier & Wafer in *Pinkerton's Voy.* II. C. By Hipocrene I sweare, (which was a certain Well where all the Muses watered). 1846 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. iv. 13 When some young Thessalians on horseback were beheld a farre off, while their horses watered, they were conceived ...to be but one animall. 1859 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* (ed. 2) III. ii. 54 In the background of the picture cattle were watering at a lake. 1892 R. Blackmore's *Cod. Keffel-water* xix, In the event of a dry season...the cattle habitually watering there would...betake themselves to the 'frontage'.

**15.** To undergo therapeutic treatment. (Cf. Watering 5, Watering *abl. ib.* 12.)

1868 A. Dawson *Rambling Recoll.* 42 He annually watered at Pitcaithly to ward off rheumatism.

**†16.** To urinate. *Obs. rare.*

1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. ii, What shal's doe with our selues, while the women water? and the Fidlers eat? 1727 Pardon *Adams* II. 500 Pleas'd with her Punch, the Gallant Soul First drank, then water'd in the Bowl.

**17.** Of a retriever: To take to the water.

1885 *Bazaar Exch & M.* 30 Mar 126/1 Handsome retriever bitch,...will water and retrieve well.

**Waterage** (wɔ·tərēdʒ). Also 8 **-idge.** [f. Water *sb.* + -age.] Conveyance or transport by water ; the charge made or the money paid for this. Also *attrib.*

1688 in Gutch *Collect. Cur.* II. 378 To Mr. Ince for Coachhire, Wateraige, Passage, and other petty Expences. 1703 in *Trad. Dorfold., Irish Soc.* (1881) 45, £45 Lloyd for Carriage, Wateridge & Porter to be brought into ye vessell with the Marble. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 280 Pays for ...waterage abroad. 1825 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Waterage*, money paid for conveyance of goods and merchandize, &c. by water. 1829 *Examiner* 282/1 The carriage and waterage was paid at the coach-office, and, on the vessel arriving on board, a separate compensation was charged again. 1861 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 231 'Waterage' costs the [coal] whipper an average of *6d.* a-week. '...Waterage' means the conveyance from the vessel's side to shore. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wateridge*, the charge for using shore-boats.

## Water-bag.

**1.** A bag of skin or leather used for holding or carrying water, esp. one used in Eastern countries for transporting and distributing water.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trans.* ii. (ed. 2) 242 Having soak't their bussines or water bagge, the wine bottles are then emptied. 1699–60 *Amherst. Wills* (Surtees) II. 245, 1 pair of water bags. 1779 *South Carolina Gaz.* (1818) 67 Ord. to John Jeffery for him to get a pair of new Water Bags...for 20 *6d.* 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 67/1 This skin...is used by the natives for making water-bags, in which they convey supplies of water from the nearest viey or fountain to the village. 1893 Anne C. Wilson *y Vrt. Indies* 182 The water-cask, with his water-bag of goatskin slung over his left shoulder.

**†2.** *Her.* In pl. form = Water-bouget 2. *Obs.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 296/2 He beareth Or, a Water Bowget, Sable. This is the form of the Bowget in ancient times, and was called a Water Budget, or Water Baggs.

**3.** (See quot. 1850.)

1850 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 189/1 The free communication which subsists between the water-bag and rumen in the camel tribe. 1899 T. S. Cobbold *Ruminantia* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 536/2 The second stomachal viscus otherwise called the reticulum, bonnet, or water-bag...is of much smaller dimensions than the paunch, and forms a sort of cul de-sac between it and the third cavity.

**4.** ? An india-rubber bag for holding hot water for local application ? (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1899).

1899 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

**Water-bailage.** Also 8–9 **-bail(l)iage.** A duty or tax levied on all goods brought into or carried out of the Port of London.

1665 Pepys *Diary* 20 Jan., Heard at the Council-board the City...debate upon the business of water-bayliage—a tax demanded upon all goods, by the City, imported and exported 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1490/3 His Majesty having been graciously pleased to referre a Judgment obtained upon a *Quo Warranto*, against the City of London, concerning the Duty of Water-Bailage (which is a considerable Revenue to the City). 1753 [see Bailage]. 1854 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIX. 504 The groundage of corn is a duty of *6d.* on every vessel with corn on board entering the port ; and the water-bailiage is a duty of one farthing per quarter on all corn so imported.

**† Water-bailie.** *Obs.*

**1.** = Water-bailiff 1.

1434 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1835) IV. 297 Officium de Waterbaily de Plymmuth. 1534 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII.* XIX. n. 175 Personages to remain here at Boulloyn. Edw. Brown, water-bailly, [and others]. 1587 *Rec. Mag. Stg. Nott.* 430/2 Ballyus marinus (water bailie) Edinburgi aut Leithe. 1600 *Holinshed's Chron. Scotland* Bundle 166, fol. 4, xliiii s. by them rereyved of William Gylman, water baylie, for tolls, yssues, and profitts.

**2.** = Water-bailiff 2.

1398 *Yarly Chanc. Proc.* 3/30 in *Sel. Cases Chancery* (Selden Soc.) 14 Par quel trespas le dit Andrew se Compleynt del Waterbaille de Quenehithe et come le leye et vesge de mesme la Citee. 1466 *Dudgeon's Memorandum* Lynne Cluib 359 [They] sall . . set owre pare nettis, quhare pai lykis ay quhill pe kingis water bailye mak revis in pe watire. 1600 *Holinshed's Scotl. Hall* 193 Item, spent at the setting of pe clarkes wages at pe waterbayly is, 1d. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 154 To the waterbaily a garnesh of iiij brode yardes and an halff vt. 1603 *Stow Surv.* 539 The Swerde bearer, Common hunt, Water Bayly, common Crier, &c. 1667 Hale *De Jure Maris* v. 41 Margaret, Queen of France (1297) by the officer of a water-bailie or scrutator is a pure ministerial officer, which the king doth or may appoint in those rivers or places that are in his franchise...And his business was, to look to the king's rights, as his wrecks, his flotsam, jetsam, water-strays, royal fishes. 1691 T. [Hale] *Acc. Nyn. Invent.* p. xcvi, The Lord Mayor as Water-bayly and Conservator of the River Thames. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4451/4 Mayor's deputy Water-bayly or Sub-Conservators. 1731 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 245 Ye Lord Major...attended by all his officers, the water bayliff and water Bayly very well dress'd.

**b.** = Water-bailiff 2 b. Now *Sc.*

So **† Water-bailery** *Sc.*, the jurisdiction of a water-bailie.

1593 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs S.-ot.* (1870) I. 410 The water bailliery of that hevin and port of Pettycure.

**Water-bailiff.**

**† 1.** An officer in various port towns, charged with the enforcement of shipping regulations, the searching of vessels, and the collection of customs. *Obs.*

14 . *Contin Brut* 583 [Song on Siege of Calais] Remembres eke on Goby, the water-bailiffes dog, How he scarmys shed with you to and fro, Thy the day, And among you, ye bestes mute many a fray. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 200/1 Divers Waterbailifs, Sercheours, Countrollers of the serche 1489–91 *Stat. Realm* II. 7 & 8 *Edw. IV*, c. 15 We offre a reparalle le Water baillief de dalkey. 1585 *Rolls of Parl* VI. 372/2 The Office of Water Bailiff of oure Towne of Edenbrughe, 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1091/1 William Rolleston esquier, waterbaille of the towne of Newhauen. 1635 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 80, fol. 1 Receaved of Francis Tuckridge, water bay liffe of the said burrough, for the said Towne, scowage, passage, and profits of measurage, poundage, and bulkage. 1700 *Pennsyl. Archs.* I. 140 Coll. Qui sends home a Coppy of the Comm'on to the Water-bailiff. 1731 *Gent. Mag.* I. 37/2 Whereas it is necessary for the better and more orderly Government of the said Port [Hull-combe], that a Water Bailiff should be appointed, with Power to require Masters of Ships to bring to Anchor, and moor in a proper Manner, and regular Places, and that no Ballast be thrown into the said Harbour [etc.] 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 8 When the Ship hardly begins to move, the Water-bailiff, by water-bailiff of the City [Bristol] to rise very suddenly to almost high-water mark. 1872 Kingsley *At Last* vi, He is now coast-guardman, water-bailiff, and indeed practical viceroy of the island.

**† b.** An inferior officer of the custom-house, employed to search vessels. *Obs.*

1772 R. Cumberland *West Indian* I. v, The whole tribe of custom-house extortioners, boat-men, tide-waiters and waterbailiffs.

**2.** An official responsible for the enforcement of bye-laws relating to fishing-waters.

In the City of London, the office was said to be vested in the Lord Mayor, the titular 'water-bailiff' being regarded as his deputy. For the use in the Isle of Man, see quots. 1875 and 1883.

1667 Hale *De Jure Maris* v. in Hargrave *Coll. Tracts* (1787) I. 54 Those Conservations, that have been granted in common rivers, commonly called commissions of conservancy or water-bailiffs. 1677 *Lond Gaz.* No. 1232/4 His Majesty having been pleased...to Grant unto Roger Killigrew Esq. the place of Water Bayliff, to have the oversight of the River of Thames, between Staines and Cyrem ester. 1697 *Ibid.* No. 3311 The City Banner born by the Water-Bayliff. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xxvii. 381/1 The Water Bailiff is the Lord Maior's Deputy, or Sub-conservator...and every fisherman...every Year upon St Paul's Day, must appear before the said Water Bailiff at the Chappel of Guild-Hall, to enter their Names into his Register Book. 1739 *Universal Chron.* 17–24 Mar. 91/1 Wednesday night last Thomas Hayward, 1 sq., Water-Bailiff, with his assistants, seized three drag-nets in the Medway. 1823 J. Lawin *Digest of Cessus 1677* 203 The Council [of the Isle of Man] consists of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, the attorney-general, the clerk of the rolls, the two deemsters, the receiver-general, the water-bailiff or admiralty judge, the archdeacon, and the vicar-general. 1883 *Amgel. Brit. XV.* 452 [Isle of Man.] The herring fishery, and the boats employed in it, are placed under the charge of the water-bailiff, who holds courts to redress grievances and enforce the regulations of the fishery. A river-police man employed to prevent poaching and arrest offenders against the bye-laws.

1886 G. H. K[INGSLEY] in F. Galton *Tac. Tour.* 161 Without water-bailiffs, who must be paid, how many salmon would there be left for anybody? 1888 *Isaac Walton's Angler.* ix. 99 On the Severn in the water-bailiffs are furnished with a summary of the law they have to enforce. 1897 Cholmeley *Lady's Fr. wife*, Nor did the gamekeepers and water-bailiffs —the 'watchers'—as they were called—trouble their heads much about sleepy Rab.

**† 3.** An officer of the Warden of the Marches : see quot. *Obs.*

1598 in *Archæologia* XXII. 168 There is belonging to either warden a Water-bayliffe ...There office is to keepe the entrance of all men without lycense out of either March.

## Water-balance.

**† 1.** An appliance, consisting of a scale-beam caused to oscillate by the fall of a stream of water, forming part of a machine for raising water for irrigation purposes. *Obs.*

There is some doubt whether the appliance described by Darwin was ever in practical use.

1800 E. Darwin *Phytologia* II. Pl VI, After a time the water balance *g r c* closes the cocks now open, and opens their antagonists.

**2.** A machine for raising loads to a height, consisting of two cages with water-vessels attached, connected by a chain passing over a pulley, so that the empty car is made to descend by the weight of water in its vessel, thus hoisting up the loaded car.

1875 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 84 The Water-Balance. —In many of the open works on the northern side of the great coal basin of South Wales, water-balance machines are largely used for winding purposes. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water-balance*, an arrangement by which a descending tank of water raises material in a shaft by a rope passed over a pulley. 1901 *Weston. Gaz.* 16 Feb 6/2 Hastings Town Council has resolved to construct a water-balance lift to host visitors to the breezy heights of East Hill.

**3.** *Aeronautics.* (See quots.)

1903 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 4 2 The other chief new point in the construction is the water balance, which will maintain the balloon in a horizontal position, as the airship swings round into the wind.

## Water-ball.

**1.** A globe of glass filled with water, used to collect and throw the rays of light upon an object.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 53. *Ibid* 181 The Eggs of Silkworms...afford a pretty Object for a Microscope ; especially if the light of a window be cast or collected on it by a deep Convex-glass, or Water-ball

**2.** *Horn water-ball* (after *horn-glass*), a contrivance for measuring time by the rising and sinking of a ball in water.

1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Inv* Index, An Hour Waterball.

**3.** (See quots.)

1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreat.* 50 A Fire that will burn in the Water, or Water Ball. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 43 Water-balls, or globes, made of wood, which swim and burn upon the water.

**† Water-bank.** *Obs.* A bank of a river ; also, the sea-shore.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvii. 39 Thei bihelden sum hauene hauyng a water banke, into which thei thouten for to caste the schippe. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4003 For many a Troyen sen thei stonde Armed wel vpon the londe, To put him fro the water bankes. 1425 *St. Christina* viii in *Anglia* VIII. 128 De peste. . come and stood vpon pe water-banke. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv vi 124 Throne were they ware of the hette that lay on a grete water banke, and a broched by ngen on his throne. 1546 J. Heywood *Spider & Flie* (Surtees) 56 The yerely reparations of the water banke. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Sc.* (S.T.S.) I. 76 Witheris...war cruelle slaine upon the water-bankis. 1596 Nashe *Terrors* fol. Kenelworth Newes, The running or hollownesse of Water-banks.

*fig.* 1533 tr. *Vitam Beff. Cranmum Cereal* Uij b, Swearing is very comon and rife to shine, and it is no good trusting to this dangerous waterbanke.

**† Waterbarge.** *Obs.* In 7 **-borge.** [f. Water *sb.* + *barge*, *barge*, of obscure origin, but appr. identical with the first element of Barge-board, -coupe, -course. f. dial. ? *Barge*, *barrge*, the outer edge of a gable' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).] A slab placed along the edge of a roof to afford protection from rain. Hence † **Waterbarge** *v.*, (*sc. -barged*), to furnish with 'waterbarges'.

1558 *Abstr. Protocolls Town Clerks Glasgow* (1876) II 68 The said Cuthbert to riguell and waterbarge the sails Johne C. and to build him a waterfast. 1663 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 70 This stone is Exalie hewed and searveth in buildinge, to make windowes, Cornestones, waterbarges, and wyndoes or any other hewen worke.

## Water-bath.

**1.** *Chem.* A vessel containing boiling water or water heated to a given temperature in or over which preparations are placed in suitable vessels to be digested, evaporated or dried.

1804 *Chem. Ess* vol. 220 *Bath (Water)* A vessel of boiling water, in which other vessels containing water are to be

placed 1895 Gardon & Baxter *Mat Med* 70 The liquid is decanted from the precipitated oxide the latter is then washed with distilled water, and dried in a water bath
1888 Rutley *Rock Forming Min* 6 It has the great advantage of not crystallizing out when cooling after concentration upon the water bath

2 = Bath Mump

1833 London *Encycl Ar hit* § 593 [In] A Design for a Cottage Kitchen Grate Fig 526 shows the top of the water bath, with holes in one end for inserting saucepans 1891 *Century Dict*

3. A bath composed of water as distinguished from a vapour bath.

1891 *Century Dict* 1909 *Westm Ga* 4 Feb 7/2 Equipment for the treatment of nervous diseases, in the shape of water baths, electrical appliances, [etc]

**Water-bear** [Icvar *sb*1]

†1 = Sea bear 3 *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *Water Bears*, a sort of Bears in Spitsbergen, or No th East Greenland, that live by what they catch in the Sea

2 A cloth animalcule

1852 A Pritchard *Infusorial Animal* (new ed) 685 They are very sluggish in their movements, and are commonly known under the name of little water Bears 1861 H J Slack *Micros Journ* 63 Last in the list we have the *Tardigrada* Slow steppers, or Water Bears, queer little creatures, something like new born puppies, with a double tail wan e of imperfect feet 1889 [see Sloth *sb*1 5]

**Water-bear** rer.

1 One who carries water, *spec* one whose employment is to carry water from a spring, well, or river for domestic use *Obs* exc. in descriptions of Eastern countries

1382 Wyclif *Neh* 11 26 Cl oburne water bereris forsothe dwellen in Ofel ayen the 3ate of watris at the est 1466 *Mann & Househ Exp* (Roxb) 137 Item, wagis to the waterbereere fyr bere 50 of water, xjd 1544 S Ascu *Mary at Hull* (1904) 328 Received at the Marrage of chappell, the waterberer vjd 1598 Florio *Worne Pitoghers* (Arb) 28 Yf there be neuer a wyne man, make a water bearer a tinker, a page comptroller of the mynte 1598 H Jowes *Jr Worn to Hymen* 110 *Mat* Lye in a waterbearers house a gentleman of his note? well tle tell him my mind 1598 Hyrr *Acc Exeter* 87 9 Their Head geer is Cowled vpon like our Water bearers 1877 F Burnaby *Thro tyth Asia Minor* I xx 229 The Kurds [of wind] were a source of inconvenience to the water bearer i their hands being occupied with the pot

2 *Astr.* = Aquarius

1594 Lundevil *Excrc, Comm* (ed 7) xxiv (1597) 158 The eleuenth signe call d Aquarius that is to say, the water bearer containing two and fifteen starres 1868 Lockyer *Gr Heavens* 1 xi 323 Near the bright star in the Water bearer's urn are perceived the constellations of the Waterbearer and the Goat

**Wa ter-bea ring** *vbl sb*, the action of carrying water as a water bearer (sense 1)

1481-90 *Mem ard Househ Bks* (Roxb) 155 Item, the same day, for Waterbearyng xij d

**Wa ter-bea ring,** *a.* Of a country Producing water, not arid b. *Geol* Of a stratum, bed Through which water percolates

1859 H Kingsley *Ill multy* xlii The little sienite perch, the last symptom of a water bearing country has disappeared behind us 1860 *Rep Directors Int Railway Co* The large well 1 feet in diameter completed, a water bearing stratum having been reached 1877 Hunter *Yorks gr* 33 The liquid with which the wate -bearing bed is charged 1890 *Hardwicke's Science Gossip* XVI 249 The wind stones and pebble beds are noted for their water bearing characteristics

**Wa ter-bed.**

1 A bed on board ship as distinguished from one ashore *nonce use.*

1618 Sandys *Travay* 27 To his house I repaired, with hope of some refresh ment after my wearisome voyage but he then from home, I was forced to returne to my water bed

2 A stratum through which water percolates

1791 Smeaton *Ed stone I* § 308 When sunk into, deep enough to pierce the water bed 1886 A Winchell *Walks Geol Field* 32 There are districts where waterbeds may be traced for one or two miles

3 A water-tight mattress partly filled with water, designed to serve as a bed for an invalid.

1853 Mrs Gaskell *Ruth* iii Water beds coming by the name and character from the Waterbeds in Rome, drawn from 1862 Sala *Ar ound Sofa* III i 5 Who so hale and hearty, but he may find the water bed a luxury? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 720 The severest cases require a water bed

4 *Anat* The cavity between the trochoidden and pia mater containing cerebrospinal fluid, upon which the brain rests

1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 435 In the earlie of Will's, where the arteries lie on a yielding water bed, the subarachnoid space *Ibid* VII 157 An excessive secretion of watery fluid into the ventricles is kept up in order to maintain the water bed on which the brain rests

**Wa ter-board.**

†1 A board to throw off water, a gutter, louver-board, or the like *Obs*

1417 *For Acc* 8 *Hen* V f 9 2 In duer is pecias Mremmi Jardin vocatis Waynescotborda Waterbordis Shipbordis Pentis labor is (etc) 1473 *Rec St Mary at Hill* (1904) 85 To Carpynter for his labour a principall post & xx stur bordes, xxd 1585 Higins *Junius's Nomencl* 21 2 *Pluteus*, a water boord, or weather bordes gutters wherewnto the house eaues doe drop

b (See quot)

1815 *Falc Nav Pract Maxime* (ed Boteler) *Water Boards* or Weather Boards of a boat, are large boards used to keep out the waves or spray of the sea

†2 A sideboard upon which the water to be served at a meal was placed *Obs*

1474 in *Housek Ord* (1790) 422 If any man come to late to mattyns he shall syt at the water boorde, and have nothinge unto his dynner but bredde and water

3 (Written *Water Board*) An administrative body having control of the supply of water to a town or district

1901 *Daily Chron* 18 Jan 6/1 The full title of Mr Long a Bill is a measure to "A Bill for establishing a Water Board to manage the supply of water within London and certain adjoining districts

**Waterbok** (wɔ·təlbɒk). Also 9 -boc, -book; and see Water-buck. [a Du *waterbok*, *t. water* Water, + *bok* (see Buck *sb*.1 12).] = Water buck.

1850 *Nat Lucycl* I 823 The other, a waterboc, was found in Kyraene 1863 Sirke *Dis on Nile* iii 36 The bags we made contained two bundled gnu, four water boc, one hundred sheep of all lengths 1887 Lucas & Frenzel in *Sitzungsberichte d Ges Naturf Freunde* (1888) 160 These antelopes [i.e. ned to the Waterbuck (*Antilope ellipsiprymnus*) The list of the mammals of Waterbuck is extremely long and soft 1885 *Knowsley Ant, Hist* (1888) V 337 The Waterbuck of South Africa (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) which extends through Central Africa up to Abyssinia where it is known as the Mcheddeh

**Wa ter-boot** [1 = Boots 2

1665 ? Ray *Flora* 131 The double Marsh marigold is no other than the Water boot of the Water Dock 1846 [Anne Pratt] *Flowers Field Year* 27 The marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) is well known in villages as the waterbloh and water boot

**Wa ter-boot** 2 [Boot *sb* 1] A kind of jackboot designed for the use of those who have to stand or walk in water

1813 Col Hawker *Diary* (1893) I 88 I tramped in water boots to the town of Christchurch 1883 *Fisheries Exhibition Catal* 60 Water Boots of all lengths 1887 Baring Gould *Uriconium* 1 Last time I went up clattering in my waterboots I am to go in pumps, that is what she means

**Wa ter-borne,** *a* [Borne *ppl a*.] 1 Of a boat Supported by the water so as to be clear of the ground or bottom upon which it has rested, afloat

1608 *Relat Trin Ile Bush* Esb, Into which River he passed with his wheeles, vntill he was water borne 1642 Manwaring *Sea-mens Dict* 124 When a ship is even [out of the ground that she floates, then she is water borne 1790 Beatson *Naval & Mil Mem* II 4 Launches were employed to carry the troops to drag the ships through the mud, as soon as they should be water borne 1856 *Stuart Voy* AII 332/2 The available width for launching is limited, and when a mile, must be pulled up as soon as they are water borne or completely afloat

b *transf* Said of a living body or an inanimate object

1886 R C Lyon in *Pioneer Lyfe* I 13 Keelhauling produced, and other wade vessels can move in fast of water just wherein to shallow pool than they can run 1886 *Manch Courier* 14 De 8/5 He thought most of the [ships saved lifeboats were water borne 1897 Kipling *Capt Courageous* 73 In a day the weight of a cod in water borne till the last minute

2 Of goods a Carried or transported by water; conveyed by ship or boat. Hence of traffic, commerce

1708 Luttrell *Brief Rel* V 158 It is to day they [the commons] past the bill for measuring waterborn fruit 1711 *Lond Gaz* No 4818 1 Duties upon Coals to be Waterborn and exported Coal wise 1790 *Act 30 Geo III* c 55 § 17 Butter to be water borne, from the said Markets shall be viewed 1800 Colquhoun *Comm Thames* xi 331 Fruit and Roots, entitles water borne on the Thames 1871 *Daily News* 17 May Scarcely one third of the fish brought to Billingsgate is water borne 1926 *Blackw Mag* July 3 If the enemy were to swoop all carts with the enemy as long as he made it impossible to interrupt our water borne traffic 1926 *Ann Reg* July 180 Sailing directions are as old as water borne commerce

b Put into water for shipment.

1558-9 Gresham in Burgon *Life* (1839) I 298 To under stand if ffeerly at the e stomers hands at the same day whether the cloths and serges be entryed and shipped and water borne And by once all water borne to make a stay of all the Rotte 1660 *Act 12 Chas II* c 17 § 7 Any Fish refuger shall pub off or suffer to be Water borne and exported 1796 *Hull Advertiser* 3 Sept 3/3 The dusky stream is not to pick his steps among the rocks, Or let his water breeds be chronicled 1855 Jamieson *Brook* 12 And here and there a foamy fleck Upon me as I travel With many a silvery waterbreak Above the golden gravel 1899 Stout & Brooke in J P Jacks *Life & Letter* (1917) II xxv 502 The gay stream, which runs from one foaming water break to another.

3 A breakwater *Inonce-use*

1875 tr *Comte de Paris Hist Civ War America* I 448 This island stretches in front of the entrance of Pensacola Bay, and at the extremity of this natural waterbreak stands Fort Pickens

**Wa ter-buck.** [Anglicized form of Du Waterbok see *Bok sb*.1 1 e.] A species of antelope, *Cobus ellipsiprymnus*, found in watered districts in central South Africa, an animal of this species which is marked with a characteristic white ring round the buttocks. Sometimes applied to other species, as the Sing-sing (*C. defassa*).

1850 R G Cumming *Hunter's Life S Afr* (1902) 120/2 I rode up to the banks of the river with my dogs to seek for water buck 1896 T F Buchanan in *Proc Zool Soc*, 584 Cobus ellipsiprymnus (The Waterbuck.) A common species, extending from the Zulu country through the east of Equatorial Africa into Abyssinia. It seems never to be found far

b A kind of flask used by soldiers and travellers.

1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* vi By an afterthought, we filled our water bottles 1898 *Daily News* 8 Mar, 3/2 [The soldiers] will have to carry nothing but their rifles — not even their water bottles.

3 *nonce use.* A bottle filled with water

1766 Smollett *Trav* xii 224 He places them [the cut carnations] in water bottles, and they will continue fresh and unfaded, the best part of a month

†**Water-bouge.** *Obs* [Cf the earlier Waterbuige] = Water-bouget.

c 1440 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 293 The Water Bowge and the Wyne Botelle, With the Waterlockes cheyne bene fast 1550 in *Rep HMSS Ld Middleton* (1911) 480 Two stampes of the water bougge for vessell A bronde of the water bougge to worke withall 1570 [see Bouge *sb*.1 2 b]

**Water bouget.** *Obs* exc. *Her.*

†1 A skin or leather bag formerly used to carry water, usually carried in pairs either slung across a stick over the shoulder or across the back of a horse.

a 1586 F Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F 3 b, These are no bone, but water bougets. Good for none, but suche as haue no buttockes 1632 [see 2].

2 *Her* = Bouget

1632 Guillim *Heraldry* iv xviii (ed 2) 254 The Water bougets which in ancient times were vsed to carry and conserue in the Campe that vsefull element of Water 1688, 1859 [see Bouget] 1864 Boutell *Her Hist & Pop* xii 115 The hiring to scenes of water bougets and leathern 1894 *Parker's Glossr Her*, *Water bouget* a yoke with two large skins appended to it, formerly used for the convey ince of water to an army

**Wa ter-bough.** *Obs* exc *dial* (Sec quots 1618, 1699 and cf. Water-shoots)

1587 Trevisa *Higden* V 263 As water bowes beep i kutte and thewe of treen 1598 — *Batth De P R* xvii 11 (1495) 604 Water bowes and sprayes ben softe and bowable tree bereth the beter and the more fruyte 1523 34 Fitzherb *Husb* § 129 Cut away all the water bowes, and the small bowes, that the prynce may haue the more sap 1591 Greene *Farew Folly* Wks (Grosart) IX 259 As the fairest Cedar hath his water boughes, and the sweetest rose his prickle so in the same is hidden far more care than 1618 W Lawson *New Orchard & Garden* xi (1623) 38 Water boughe, or vndergrowth, are such boughes as grow low vnder others and are by them ouergrowne, ouer ah clowed dropped or vp & pride for want of lande of sap 1699 Mortimer *New Art Gard* 46 Take the Water bough i wis, which are to be on the Standards that are shaded, and drops vpon remaining smooth and naked without buds 1872 Kingsley *At Last* iii The stem rises, without a fork, for sixty feet or more and it is out at the top into a head many like that of an elm trunn ed up, and like an elm too in its lateral water boughs

**Water bound,** *a* [Bound *ppl a*.]

†1 *Allusive nonce use* Unable to shed tears

Peth merely aimed to match the corresponding use of *sun lit* and in the contrast But it is possible that sense 2 was in the Pulleys mind.

1646 Fuller *Holy & Profane State* (1647) 62 And though thou beest water bound be not wind bound also, sigh, where thou canst not vow

2 Confined or detained by floods. Cf. Wind-bound) *a*

1868 *New York Tribune* 30 Aug 1/3 While water bound, at [a foraging party] was attacked by guerrillas

3 Of clay Impervious to water. ? *Obs*

1720 Bradley *Husb Improv* 4th Oct. (1724) 136 Yet in some Years it (the clay) in very apt to be Water bound and Steely

4 Of macadam roads Solidified by rolling and watering

1909 *Westm Ga* 30 Aug 2/1 Where water is scarce for the re cutting of a water bound road 1919 *Clayton Hist* 24 June 4 Mr Drummond has no hesitation in calling for the abolition of the long established water bound macadam

**Wa ter-break.**

†1. An irruption of water = *water breach* (Water *sb*. 20) *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Eneis* xi 15 Quhen the burne on spait hurlis down the land, Quhir throw a water brek, or spait of fluide

2 Broken water a piece of broken water.

1806 Wordsw *Misc Sonn* ii xxxi 5 Brook! whom the calm we Poesie doth pursue Intent, as doth the duck and stream to pick his steps among the rocks, Or let his water breeks be chronicled 1855 Jamieson *Brook* 12 And here and there a foamy fleck Upon me as I travel With many a silvery waterbreak Above the golden gravel 1899 Stout & Brooke in J P Jacks *Life & Letter* (1917) II xxv 502 The gay stream, which runs from one foaming water break to another.

3 A breakwater *Inonce-use*

1875 tr *Comte de Paris Hist Civ War America* I 448 This island stretches in front of the entrance of Pensacola Bay, and at the extremity of this natural waterbreak stands Fort Pickens

**Wa ter-buck.** [Anglicized form of Du Waterbok see *Bok sb*.1 1 e.] A species of antelope, *Cobus ellipsiprymnus*, found in watered districts in central South Africa, an animal of this species which is marked with a characteristic white ring round the buttocks. Sometimes applied to other species, as the Sing-sing (*C. defassa*).

1850 R G Cumming *Hunter's Life S Afr* (1902) 120/2 I rode up to the banks of the river with my dogs to seek for water buck 1896 T F Buchanan in *Proc Zool Soc*, 584 Cobus ellipsiprymnus (The Waterbuck.) A common species, extending from the Zulu country through the east of Equatorial Africa into Abyssinia. It seems never to be found far

from water, through which it does not hesitate to wade when alarmed. 1910 Roosevelt *Afr. Game Trails* ix. 215 Kermit killed a waterbuck of a kind new to us—the sing-sing. *Ibid.* x. 227, I spent a couple of days trying for sing-sing waterbuck on the edge of the papyrus.

*attrib.* 1889 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* iii. 87, I had two good chances at buffaloes, coms at a waterbuck rau. *Ibid.* v. 125 A waterbuck skin. 1910 Roosevelt *Afr. Game Trails* x. 208, I killed a fine waterbuck cow at a hundred yards.

**Water-budge.** Also 7 -bugge. †a. = Water-bouget. *Obs.* b. *dial.* A cask on wheels, to serve as a water-cart.

1541 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 310 For iij halters for the water budgis, ij d. for shoyng of the water budges horse, vj d. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 349 Stephen Bugge Gent. his Armes be three water bugges, 1419. 1897 Mrs. Comyns Carr *Cottage Folk* 3 The stubble-field where her comrades [cf. Reapers in Sussex] were laughing and chattering around the water-budge that had been drawn up in its midst.

**Water budget.** = Water bouget. †a. *gen. Obs.* b. *Her. rare.*

a. 1591 Percival *Sp. Dict.*, *Odre*, a water budget, a bottle. 1706 J. Stevens *Span. Eng. Dict.*, *Zaque*½, a Water-budget to carry Water in. 1838 *Beckford's Vathek* 12 Is it not enough to have transformed a prince... into a water budget? [*F. une outre*] 1786 *reads* one of those leather barrels, which etc.] Perceived that not, that I may perish by drinking to excess?

b. 1562 Leigh *Armory* 176b, He beareth Sanguine, a Gorge, Argent. Though this seme unlikely to be a water budget, yet hath it long time been so taken, and so blazed. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 704/1 The term water budget or bucket is an early charge identified with the names of Ros and Rose.

†**Water bulge.** *Obs. rare*—1. = Water bouge.

1495 [see Bulge 1].

**Water-butt.** A large open-headed cask set up on end to receive the rain-water from a roof.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 448 Water-butt and stand. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Early Coaches*, The water is 'coming in' in every area, the water-butts are overflowing and running over. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxxii, A woman as round and big as our largest water-butt. 1877 Miss Thackeray *Hitherto* (1891) I. 70 George lays out the water-butts to run the water-butt, to see what was the matter.

b. A contemptuous epithet for a teetotaller.

1898 *Daily News* 4 May 6/6 Scoffing comrades couldn't call *him* a waterbutt or a milksop.

**Water-can.**

1. A portable vessel (in mod. use, of tin-plate or other metal) for holding or conveying water.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurence*) 361 With bat he broght a watir-cane, & his owen hymne hapeld Jame. *Nominale* (Skeat) 285 Lauour lauinr vel water cane And watercanne. 1687 Shadwell *Tutoresl, Sat.* x. 100 Mechanicks soon from that no Worship'd face Forge little Platters, and small water Cans [L. *urceolos*]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Water-can*, a tin vessel for holding water for a dressing-room.

b. *Astr.*

1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* xii. 287 The two streams from the Water-can of Aquarius.

2. The yellow water-lily, *Nuphar lutea*, so called from the shape of the seed-vessels. Also the white water-lily, *Nymphæa alba*.

1624 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xx. 115 With Water-cans againe, some [Nymphs] wantonly them dight, Whose larger leafe and flower, giues wonderfull delight. 1820 – *Muses Elizium* (1840) 18 Water-cans and Water-suck. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 489 *Nymphæa lutea*... Yellow Water Lilly, or Watercan. *Ibid.*, *N. alba*... Water-lily, Watercan.

**Water-carriage.**

1. Conveyance or transportation of people, goods, etc. by water.

1536 *MS. Rental, D.* 780 fol. 74 For the water carringe of xj loodes iiij fote of the sayd tymbre. 1598 *Barckley Felicitie Reteels Ladies VI* (1914) 39 For the water carryage of hauy yngas from the blake fryers to the courte at westminster. *a* 1687 Petty *Polit. Arith.* I. (1690) 10 Conveniencies for Shipping and Water-Carriage. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 4 b, The easy bringing in ..of Necessaries, both by Land Carriage and Water Carriage. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xiv, The blaze,...traversing the city in various directions, offered to every quarter the commercial facilities of water-carriage. *c* 1875 Flor. Nightingale in *Contemp. Rev.* (1914) Apr. 514 In not water-carriage generally the cheapest, the working expenses being so exceedingly small?

b. Carrying away (of sewage) by water.

1873 B. Latham *Sanitary Engin.* 39 When a complete system of sewerage is intended to be carried out, and water-carriage is to be used for the removal of all the refuse and faecal matter usually transported by sewers. 1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 9 June 598/1 Mr. Richard Monson asked...if he considered it a better plan to store sewage at every dwelling than to remove it directly by means of water-carriage. *Ibid.*, It was unknowable at the present moment to say whether the old prevailing system in this country was better or worse than the water-carriage system.

2. Means or facilities for transporting by water.

1797 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 208 Ptolomy Philadelphus...open'd the water-carriage from Alexandria to the Indies, by establishing Staples on the Canals of the Nile. 1798 Hermelin *Siris* § 23 The timber, by its remoteness from water-carriage, is of small value. 1827 Littledtone *Trans.* xxix. 504 The great object of my journey being to secure water carriage. 1893 D. J. Rankin *Zambesi Basin* xii. 205 There is naturally nothing which tends so rapidly and effectually to develop commerce and civilisation as that offered by good water-carriage.

†b. *collectively.* Vessels, boats. *Obs.*

1797 Arbuthnot *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 215 The most bristle Water-carriage was used among the Egyptians, who, as Strabo saith, would sail sometimes in Boats made of Earthen-ware.

3. *dial.* A channel for carrying off water.

1794 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 37 The manager of the mead ..begins cleaning out the main drain, then the main carriage, and then proceeds to ..make good all the water carriages that the cattle have trodden down. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, Vl. R 3, s. v. *Canal*, A cut or water-carriage may be taken out of the summit's level, and carried on along the side of the hill with a proper fall. 1898 Miss Yonge *Kate's Carbonel* vi. 72 He ..took his revenge by a flying leap over a broad 'water carriage,' leaving them to follow as they could.

**Water-carrier.**

1. One who transports goods, etc. by water, not by land or railway. In quot. 1764, a barge-master.

1764 [J. Burton] *Pres. St. Navig. Thames* 14 These Watercarriers ..look upon themselves as Masters and Lords of the River: ..refusing Carriage of Goods, but on their own Terms, [etc.]. 1881 *Chicago Times* 19 June, The railroads, in their anxiety to secure employment for their idle rolling-stock, will bid against the water-carriers. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 3/4 These [sc. the railway company's] carrying traffic in wool...had suffered...through the competition of a combination of water carriers.

2. A man (or animal) that carries water; *esp.* in oriental countries, the native who supplies an establishment or a number of troops with water.

1787 tr. *Volney's Trav. Syria & Egypt* (1788) I. 256 *note*, At Cairo, it is observed, that the water-carriers, continually wet with the fresh water they carry in skins on their backs, are never subject to the plague. 1824 Morier *Hajji Baba* ix, The muleteer...recommended me strongly to be one a *sakka*, or water-carrier. 1857 *Chambers' Journ.* 274 These bees are water-carriers. 1882 F. M. Crawford *Mr. Isaacs* xi. 231, I told him to send a *bhisti*, a water-carrier, with his leather bucket. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 760/1 Some of the burros were water carriers, with great earthen jars swung in pairs against their panting sides.

3. Something that carries water.

a. A tank or other vessel for carrying water. (See also quot. 1875.)

1894 *Build Improv. Act* 36 A sufficient number of...watercarriers, trucks, water-carts. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Water-carrier*, a form of water-elevator in which the bucket lifted from the well or cistern is transported on wires to the house at a considerable distance.

b. *dial.* An open channel for water, esp. in an irrigated meadow.

1879 Jefferies *Wild Life* 371 The wild duck ..swim in the water-carriers in the great irrigated meadows.

c. *dial.* A rain-cloud.

*a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 16 The watercarriers, attracted by the south and west winds, drilling the long rows of rain like seeds into the earth.

**Water-cart.** A cart, usually a barrel or tank on wheels, carrying water; chiefly, an apparatus of this kind intended for watering the streets, the receptacle being fitted with an arrangement by which the water escapes through a number of small holes as the vehicle goes along.

1707–81 Mortimer *Husb.* (J.) A gentleman...watered St. foin ..with a water-cart. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 49 A barrel cart, or what is commonly called a water-cart. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 251 Some superior managers even supply them [sc. sheep] regularly with water, in long narrow troughs, led by means of a water-cart, while in the fold on dry hay. 1818 *Scots Mag.* LXXXIII. 1, Performing the part of three water-carts for the benefit of their dusty roads. 1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* V. 56 During the filling of the water-cart, through its feathern pipe, I had time to look at the picture in the pavement-gutter. 1892 *Daily News* 20 Aug. 6 A half battalion...marched up, hoisted their machine guns and watercart aboard, [etc.].

b. *Comb.*, esp. in jocular allusions to weeping.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 1000, Come, come,...blow this eye water-cart bis'ness. *Ibid.*, xlv, I'm very much mistaken if that 'ere jingle won't a-doin' somethin' in the water-cart way! *c* 1850 *Hood Our St. Swithin* 59 Why let yourself be by libation in vain, As if there were no Water-Cart contractors.

**Water-cask.** A cask to contain water; † in 17th c. *collectively.* On board ship, the common receptacle of drinking-water.

1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 31 The Coopers provided themselues of vessels for water casks, which makes excellen hoopes. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 123, I received an order from Captain — to put all my Cargo into her: as also all my Water-Casks. 1725 [De Foe] *Voy. round World* (1840) 86 We had filled our water-casks and taken in what fresh provisions we could get. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xi, I ..ran to the water-cask. 1862 G. T. Lloyd *30 Yrs. Tasmania* 8 We ..arrived at Bona Vista..in order to replenish our odoriferous water-casks and exhausted hen-coops.

†**Water-caster.** *Obs.*

1. One who practises inspection of patients' urine as a means of diagnosis: in early use sometimes depreciatively applied to the medical profession generally; latterly, used as equivalent to 'quack'. Cf. Cast 40.

1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yr.* D 3, Hipocrates, Auicen, Paracelsus,...with all their succeeding rabble of Doctors and Water-casters. 1605 – *Raven Alm.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 140 Let some skilfull-water-caster toot vpon your vrinell. 1607 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* A 5, The fare of Quacksalvers, Mountebankes, Ratcatching Watercasters. 1679 E. Wilson *Wonderwrne Dominus* 63 Dispillation or Distillation, a noted hard word amongst our Water-casters, those pelantick pretenders to Science. 1804 *Med. Trnl.* XII. 213 The country people have long been deceived by water-casters, as they are denominated. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* *Aq.*, 1828 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 3 (1713) I. 23, I am just running to a State Water-caster, to resolve me a Horary Question.

2. ? A workman employed to sprinkle water.

1810 *Aitonian. Wages in Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 524 A water Caster, v⁴. A caster of stone Clay or marle, v⁴.

**Water-cat.**

†1. ? A kind of firework. Also *attrib*, *Obs.*

1709 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 22 Taking two measures for each lay of water-cat-charge, and a little corn powder between each. *Ibid.* 24 Charges for water-cats.

2. A book-name of a variety of otter (see quot.).

1889 *Century Dict.*, *Water-cat*, the nair, or Oriental otter *Lutra nair*, translating a Mahratta name.

†**Water-chain.** *Obs.* A chain formerly inserted between the bit and the leather rein of a bridle, to prevent the leather from being rotted by the water when the horse drinks.

1598 Florio, *Siciliana*, the water-cheine of a bit. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xiv. § 15, 372 The remembrance of which field is retained, vnto this day, by certaine small Hilles there remaining, which nee haue been digged the bones of men, Armour, and the water-chaines of horse-bridles.

**Water-clock** ¹. [Clock *sb.*¹] An instrument actuated by water for the measurement of time. Applied, e.g. to the Clepsydra of the ancients, and to inventions of Sir Isaac Newton and others.

1601 Holland *Pliny* VII. lx. I. 191 This manner of Horologe or water-clocke, bee deuiseted in the end within house. 1634 J. Bate] *Myst. Nat. & Art.* 49 A Water-Clock, or a Glasse shewing the houre of the day. 1793 E. Stone tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* VIII. vii. (1758) 253 Of the Construction of a Water-Clock. This Clock is composed of a Cylindrine well soldered Cylinder,...wherein is a certain Quantity of prepared water, and several little Cells, which communicate with each other by Holes made in the Circumference. 1797 Sturkeley in Turnor *Grantham* (1806) 177 Sir Isaac's water clock ..resembled pretty much our common clocks... There was a dial plate on the top with figures of the hours. The index was turned by a piece of wood, which either fell or rose by water dropping. 1845 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antiq.* 147 *Water-clock*, A new kind was invented by Ctesibius in the middle of the seventeenth century. A cylinder, divided into several small cells, was suspended...in a frame, in which the hours' distances, found by trial, were marked out. As the water flowed from one cell to another, it changed very slowly the centre of gravity of the cylinder, and put it in motion. 1855 J. H. Newman *Callista* vi. (1856) 47 Here the rushing of the water-clock which measured the hours, and which Agnes ever ceased, signifying thereby that the night was getting on. 1894 Isaac *Register Easter Coll.* (O.H.S.) p. lxxxix, [16th c.] Lodge lectures were gyven 6 wer gyven by the morning,.. The time was reckoned by a water-lock.

†**Water-clock** ². *Obs.* [Clock *sb.*³] An aquatic beetle.

1634 Moufet *Theat. Ins.* I. xxiii. 164 Scarabei aquatici.. quos...Germani *Water Beeles*, Angli, Water-locks appellant. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. 11. The Great English Waterclock. *Hydrocantharus major Anglicus.*

**Water-closet.** A receptacle or small room fitted up to serve as a privy, and furnished with water-supply to flush the pan and discharge its contents into a waste-pipe below. Often abbreviated W.C.

Sometimes applied to the pan and the connected apparatus for flushing and discharge; also, loosely, to any kind of privy.

1735 *Connoisseur* No. 100 It was always my office...to attend him in the water-closet when he took a cathartic. 1760 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 9 Oct., A little afore, sewn, he went into the water-closet. 1818 Scott in *Lockhart* IV. 248, I am happy to learn it has that useful English comfort, a water-closet. 1842 J. Richardson *Provinc. Dictionary* 496 The different parts of water-closets are made in a similar way, and sold to the plumber. 1845 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antiq.* 748 Water-closet. That of the palace of the Cæsars is adorned with marble, jasper, and mosaicks. 1877 H. Robinson & Meeliss *Purif. Water carried Sewage* 1 Water-closets do not add very much to the volume of sewage.

*attrib.* 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 728 Fine water-closet latch, with stabbing-bolt. 1873 B. Latham *Sanitary Engin.* 39 A district in which the water-closet system is intended only to be partially adopted.

Hence **Water-clo·seted**, *a.* [-ED ²], fitted or provided with water-closets.

1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 9 June 725/2 A town...well watercloseted and containing no manufactories.

**Water-co·lour.**

†1. The colour of water, blue, greyish-blue. *Obs.*

*c* 1425 *MS. Digby* 233 fol. 224/1 Loke þat..be mennes clothing be coloured with venet colour but it water colour. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Couleur d'eaue, d'azure*, or water colour, skie colour.

2. A pigment for which water and not oil is used as a solvent. Usually in *plural*. Also *fig.*

1596 Shake. *1 Hen. IV*, v. i. 80 And never yet did Insurrection want Such water-colours, to impaint his cause. 1634 J. [Bate] *Myst. Nat.* 120 Painting may be performed either with water colours or with oyle colours. 1637 Suckling *Aglaura* iii. 1, The loud talking ones will Will have but water colours Laid on for a time. 1674 Grew *Anat. Plants, Anat. Trunks* (1682) 238 Smaller Pictures in Water-Colours. 1740 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 2 Oct., It is all one to me, whether in enamel or in water-colours, provided it is but very like you. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 187 It would be a cheap and useful water-colour. 1807 Mrs. Grant *Lett. fr. Mountains* I. (ed. 2) Pref. p. viii, It is for such minds as these to distinguish the durable pencil of truth from the watercolours of fiction. 1817 J. Evans *Lacus. Windsor* etc. 208 A most beautiful drawing in water colours. 1819 Dickens *A Tale Cities* II. vi, Lucie's...work-table and box of watercolours. 1903 M. A. Stein *Sand-buried Ruins of Khotan* xviii. (1904) 230 The thin layer of water-colour with which they are painted has suffered much.

3. A picture painted with water-colours.

1854 Rossetti in *Atlantic Monthly* (1896) May 589/2, I shall make him a small water-colour in exchange. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxvii. (1898) 183 It was a pleasant sunny room,...nor...was it hung with immense pictures of game and fruit, but with light and bright water-colours. 1895 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* 309 There was Landhaven itself, glittering in

the morning light, a water-colour in white and red, as the wet tiles took the sun, and the warmth beneath melted the thin snow.

4. The art or method of painting with water-colours.

1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. i. vii. § 19 The mere specific study of mountains seems to have coincided with the more dexterous practice of water-colour. 1903 C. J. Holmes *Picture-making* 170 In water-colour proper the washes of colour are laid directly on the paper, usually over a faint pencil outline.

5. *Attrib.*, as *water-colour cake, drawing, exhibition, painting.*

1698 T. Froger *Voy.* 117 A great many fine Water-colour Paintings, that are brought hither from Rome. 1839 Hood *Literary Life* 52 Merchant dealt in water-colour cakes. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. iii, A very pretty drawing, which had been in the water-colour exhibition. 1866 W. Sawyer *S. Acad.* I. 103 The founder of the English school of water-colour painting. 1876 S. Redgrave *Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 15 When water-colour drawing...emerged from mere Indian ink or other monochrome tint. 1882 Mod. Brahmin *Text as I am* vii, Water-colour drawings on the wall.

**Wa·ter-coloured,** *a.*

1. Painted or executed in water-colours.

1772 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 584 A very large and curiously drawn water-coloured chart. 1859 G. Stephens *Nether. Cab. Countries* I. 165 His cabinet is hung with twenty water-coloured or opaque drawings. 1865 Miss Bradon *Aurora Floyd* iii, The walls ordinarily covered with French prints and water-coloured sporting-sketches.

2. Of the colour of water. *rare.*

1705 Beverley *Virginia* II. iv. (1722) 112 The other [sort of cherry]...is Water-colour'd, and very transparent. *Sportsman's Dict.* Vol. XII. 138 When polished, the fragments [of granite] appear as if set or inlaid in a fine pellucid or water-coloured matter.

**Wa·ter-co·lourist.** [f. Water-colour + -ist.] One who paints in water-colours.

1850 in Ogilvie. 1870 *Daily News* 2 Dec., The old water-colourists dwell in a medium of perpetual beswing. 1876 R. Tiswaitt *Sketch. Club* 20 If you have any very patient, keen and skilful water-colourist among you.

**Wa·ter·course.**

1. A stream of water, a river or brook; also an artificial channel for the conveyance of water.

1510 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp's Stortford* (1882) 31 Item of Rychard wood for a watercorse, *pd.* 1550 W. Hunnis *Pt.* vi. (1578) 3 Nor in the deepe, and water course, That passeth vnder ground. 1611 Bible *Isa.* xix. 4 They shall spring vp...as willowes by the watercourses. 1704 *Act 11 Geo. I*, c. 11 § 7 To cleanse any Ditch or Water-course adjoyning to the said Roads. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 229 My own ditches or watercourses are four feet wide. 1849 Lavard *Nineveh & Bab.* I. vii. 175 Water-courses, once carrying fertility to many gardens, were now empty and dry. 1865 Geikie *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* i. 7 Water-courses, from the tiniest runnel up to the ample river.

*attrib.* 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* iv. 60 In its form, one of the shields is an elongated and convex oblong, somewhat resembling a hollowed water-course.

*fig.* 1570 T. Norton tr. *Nowell's Catech.* 68 b, From the spring lied of his diuine liberalitie as it were by certaine guiding of water courses, God conueyeth his benefites to vs by the handes of men.

b. in legal use (see quot. 1848).

1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 385 The dyche is reamed to be a watercorse...hath been stopped. 1626 Whitlock, J. in Bulstrode *Rep.* III. (1659) 340 A Water course doth not begin by prescription, nor yet by assent, but the same doth begine *e jure naturæ*, having taken this course naturally, and cannot be altered. 1681 Stair *Inst. Law of Scot.* I. xviii. § 12. 345 Without such a Servitude, Water may not be altered or diverted from its course, as was found, where the Water-course was by March betwixt two Heritages. 1785 *Mod. R.-A.* (1796) II. 274 For suppose a man hath a water-course running through his ground, and his neighbour diverts it, this is no treason. 1839 *2 & 3 Vict. Lect. Acts Scot.* I. xvii. § 12. 345 Without such a Servitude, Water may not be altered or diverted from its course, as was found, where the Water-course was by March betwixt two Heritages. 1885

**4.** A small dark floating cloud supposed to indicate rain. (Cf Dog *sb.* 10 c.)

a1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 340 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 340/1 Other English names for various perceptible forms of vapour in the sky are 'water dogs', 'rain galls' [etc.].

† **5** *Anghing.* A device for disentangling a hook.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III 103/2 A Water Dog, It a round piece of Lead like a Ring. It is to unloose the Hookes if they be fastned at the bottom.

† **Waterdome.** *Obs* =o [*dome* = Doom *sb.*] An alleged archaic term for ordeal by water.

1681 Rogvet *Glossogr* (ed 5), *Waterdome*, the antient trial by Water.

**Water-drinker.**

**1** A drinker of water, one who drinks water in preference to wine or other liquors; now usually *spec.* a total abstainer.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 Water drynkere, *aquatilus.* 1548 J. Hevwood *Prov.* II v (1867) 59 A falser water drinker there liueth not. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II v 1 What I the veil dieted Amorphus become a water drinker? 1638 Whitaker *School of Grace* (1640) 18 When as water or small beere drinkers look like Ap's rather then men. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII v, A water drinker, provided he is a professed one and does it without fraud or covin, is practicely in the same predicament. 1815 Worsw *Poems* Prof. to Jin, Though myself a water drinker, I cannot resist the pleasure of transcribing what follows. 1881 M. Conwood *Mr. Isaacs* 7 A water drinker in India is always a phenomenon.

† **b.** In the early Christian Church, an epithet applied to those who in the celebration of the Sacrament used water instead of wine. *Obs.*

1562 [T. Cooper] *Answ. Def. Truth* VIII 59 Cyprian wrote against those that were called Aquarij waterdrinkers.

**2** One who drinks the 'waters' at a spa.

1797 Jos. Bancroft (*title*) An Account of the Wonderful Cures Performed by the Cold Baths With Advice to the Water Drinkers at Tunbridge, Hampstead and all the other Chalibeate Spaws. 1823 Dibdin *Bibliom.* xxxvi, A golden inscription (in the pump room) to which all the water drinkers should attend. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Pictures* 188 It was great fun to see the troop of water drinkers in the early morning hurrying up and down each with a tumpty wine glass in hand which from time to time they got replenished, according to the dose of mineral water prescribed for them.

**Water-drinking,** *vbl. sb.*

**1** The action or an act of drinking water.

1698 Fryer *Asthma* (1712) 191 Much Water drinking is injurious to the Old. 1774 Foote *Coxeners Pict.*, I am no fish, save me from water drinking! 1806 *Aikin's Lyric Med.* I 410 Water drinking is certainly beneficial between meals.

**2.** Drinking mineral waters at a spa.

1697 Floyer *Pay Baths* Pref c4 b, I by Water drinking, and Bathing at Buxton, I have procured to my self better Health. 1789 Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I 230 In many cases much advantage has been gained by the administration of medicines in conjunction with the course of water drinking.

*attrib.* 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) I 206 Sometimes people of a certain style make acquaintance at water drinking places.

**Water-drinking,** *a* That drinks water and abstains from strong liquors.

1658 *tr.* G. Daniel *Fr. Ital.* 38, I let me rather pine Wales and water drinking, then love wine. 1736 Berkeley *Disc. concer. Wks* III 415 Supply the water drinking savage with strong liquor, and he shall be drunk for several days. 1791 Boote *Maid of B.* I Wks. 1799 II 109 That water drinking, mirth marring, amorous old hunks. 1805 Worsw *Waggoner* I 60 A simple water drinking Band. 1854 Surtees *Hawley Cr.* IV, The hungry water drinking guests.

**Water-drop.**

**1.** A drop or globule of water. Usually *pl*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV 1 262 Oh, that I were a Mockerie, King of Snow, Standing before the Sunne of Bullingbrooke To melt my selfe away in Water-drops. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III ii 193 When water drops haue worne the Stones of Troy. 1821 Byron *Cain* II 1 17 There will come An hour, when tears upon some water drops, A man shall say for many, 'Believe in me, And walk the waters'. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xx, The devil a water drop he gets here. We will teach the light-footed old infidel to be a good Christian, and drink wine of Cyprus. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann Q. Neighb.* III, The water wheel, mossy and green with ancient waterdrops. *Comh.* 1879 *tr. R. von Jhering's Evolu. Drago* 41 (ed 4) 211 The small shiny water drop like bodies.

**2** A tear, tear drop

1605 Shaks. *Lear* II iv 280 Let not womens weapons, water drops, Staine my manes cheekes. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV cxvi Egeria! The mosses of thy fountain still are sprinkled With thine Elysian water drops. 1825 Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II 149 The large water drop stood upon his lashes.

**3.** *Sc.* = Easterdrip, Stillicide 2

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxvii, This is about a servitude of water drop. *Ibid*, We are obliged to receive the natural water drop of the superior tenement.

**Watere,** obs form of Water *v*

† **Watered,** *a. Obs* [f. Water *sb.* + -ed 2] In parasynthetic derivatives, said of a jewel: Characterized by 'water' (a specified quality).

a1637 B. Jonson *Exeter Volum.*, etc (1640) G 2 b, A stocke, To grish the greene Emrald on. Or any better water'd Stone. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No 3990/4 The Brilliant very clean and white watered

**Watered** (wǫ·tərəd), *ppl. a* [f. Water *v* + -ed 1]

† **1.** Of the eyes: Filled or running with watery matter or with tears. *Obs.*

a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS* 1 80 in *Anglia* XVIII 297 For watirid eyne & to greiy. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie*

*Contrey*, 67 Bending her watered eyes and woful hart with toyned hands vnto the heauens, she prayed [etc.]. 1593 Delonev *Garland Good Will* F 1 b, I or not offence be found in thin, To give my Lord a parting kiss With watered eyes.

**2.** Soaked or steeped in water.

c1450 *Two Cookery-bks* 26 Take Soundys of watteryd Stokkefyssche, an caste per to. 1681 Colvil *Whigs supplic.* II (1748) 114 Our throats cut, Down which we watered Meal of Oats put.

† **b** Of the cheeks: Wet with tears *Obs*

1572 Dr. Norfolk in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS Comm* App. iv 574 Prayinge with an overwhelminge harte and watered cheekes. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v xlii § 2 [They] could not but with bleeding harts and with watered cheekes behold a person of so great place and worth constrayned to indure so foule indignities.

**c** Of a road: Soaked or sprinkled with water to lay the dust, etc

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* XIX, A shop with a sun blind, and a watered pavement is a sanctuary. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet Ly Ledgwet* Ser II 48 The odour stale Of watered streets

**3.** Of a garden, land: Kept moist by pouring or sprinkling water.

1535 Coverdale *Jer* XXXI 12 Their conscience shalbe as a well watered garden. [1822 Bible *Ibid*, Their souls shall be as a watered garden.] 1552 Huloet, Watered, or a field, or gardein, *irrigatus.* Watered with dew *rosidus.* 1654 C. Wase *Camp. Gynæc.* A 3 b But the poore Island in his water'd yard Plants grounds of hemp. 1826 Sherer *Notes & Recll. Kaffir Campaign* 180 The plain is wooded as though it were a forest, and you know it to be a watered garden.

**b** Of a country, locality Furnished or supplied with rivers or streams of water. Often with adv., as *well-, best-watered* Of a road Having streams of water near-by, convenient for travellers

1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy Spring* 38 Where noble Grafton's seats adorn the dome, And lordly London's waters'd vale, and sloping plains. a1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii V 95 That it will watered garden of olives and mulberry trees which spreads many miles on every side of the gorgeous white temple. Milton. 1878 H. Kingsley *C. Hamlyn* xxv, I should say it was the best watered piece of country you discovered in Holland. 1879 Stables *Tour S. & Africa* 14, I took the best watered of the roads leading to the Marico river. 1895 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 3/1 [An Indian Advt.] Good and watered roads pass through the properties.

**c** Of meadow land Subject to periodical flooding (cf. Water-meadow)

1733 Tull *Horse Hoeing Husb.* xii. 111 Water, when it runs off very soon, is beneficial, as is seen in watered Meadows. 1774 *Annapolis Ga.* 10 Aug., Supplies of Above 30 acres of watered meadow. 1789 Wm. Hutchinson *Imp. Weald. Soil* (1790) 6 The farmer who occupies fifty acres of this watered land. 1806 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (18 0) 98 Here are watered meadows nearest to the river; both sides; then the gardens, the houses, and the cornfields. 1842 J. Aitov *Domest. Econ* (1857) 181 Watered meadow, even in the driest of the year, is a perfect treasure at the manse. 1884 *West Morn. News* 30 Aug. 1/6 Twenty four acres of watered meadow.

**4.** Of wine or strong liquor, milk, etc. Diluted with water.

1552 Huloet, Watered or whereunto water is put, *aquatus.* 1642 Howell *Lett. Lond.* (Arb.) 32 Go to their Diet, the one drinkes Watered Wine, the other Wine watered. 1673 Ray *Journey Netherlds.* (1738) 20 Their ordinary Drink is Beer, or Wine watered. 1707 Dexters in watered milk. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* I II § 2 A supper of bread and cheese and watered beer. a. watered Milkmaids.

**b.** *fig* Weakened in character or force by alteration or addition. Also *watered-down*

1807 F. Harrison in *Daily News* 2 Jan 3/5 A watered orthodoxy and a timid ecclesiasticism. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 1 The dogmas and the profane alike are anxious to know if the revised Decalogue is to be only a watered-down version of the Mosaic Tables. 1901 G. C. Field *Moral Theory* 153 It is only in a watered down form that it [Altruism] can be extended to the whole of humanity.

**c.** Of the capital of a trading company: Diluted, increased in nominal amount by the issue of stock or shares for which no consideration has been received. = Watered *v* 7 c.

1890 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Mar 1/1 Deduct from that £1,250 000 of watered capital 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan 72 The Liverpool Bank is principally on watered capital.

† **5** Of silk or other textile: Having a wavy lustrous damask-like pattern or finish (Cf. Watered 9) ? 1598 *Q. Eliz. & Leonard Co.* (1904) 89 Watered and unwatered Chambletts. 1646 *Mem. Robert* (Surtees) 9 For watered tabba when my lady was at Yorke 6l 9s. 9d. 1649 *Aubrey Lives* (1898) I 220 My watered pigeon Lowne. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 8 Of watered Silks, or Stuffs. 1712 *Jr. Bk. Rates* 35 Camlets watered and not watered. 1893 Suttie *Sheffield* 23 The hangings of crimson cloth and watered moreen are handsome. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thous.* I xiii, Over his waistcoat he wore a broad black watered ribband, to which was attached by eyelets. 1860 Cyc. *Pract. Medicine* I 811 That watered silk she had on cost a pretty penny. 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* I v 5 She commonly wore a watered silk dress.

**b** Similarly of steel = Damascened b

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts, etc.* 384 The watered design of the true Damascus steel. 1880 W. Egerton *Handbk Ind. Arms Indian Museum* 98 Dagger: 'Kra', watered blade. 1882 F. Pollock in *Pvne Rep Instit* X 386 The damasked or 'watered' appearance of the blades which are most highly esteemed in the East.

† **6.** *Her.* Having water of a specified tincture *Obs.*

1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II Alph Arms, *Powell* [Oxford shire] three wells ar. watered az

**Water-engine.**

† **1.** An engine for pumping water to extinguish fire, a fire-engine *Obs*

1677 Sir C. Wyche in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II 128 The water Engines which are used here when fires happen 1721 in *Lall Mall Gaz* (1887) 19 Sept 1/1 John Oates is directed by his Lordship to assist with Two Water Engines on the first Notice that shall be given him when any Fire breaks out. 1820 Acerbi *Trav.* I 212 The town has three water engines.

**2.** An engine to raise water, a water pumping engine.

1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV 1254 A Letter subscribed W Tenon, concerning Dr Lapus's new Water Engine. 1691 Woon *Ath. Oxon* II 340 Edward Lord made the great water Engine for the serving the Inhabitants of the Strand. 1712 J. James *tr. Le Blond's Gardening* You must have Recourse to Water Engines, which raise it from the Bottom of Wells, and receiving Cisterns. 1811 J. I. in *Random's Sure Draw.* Introd. 20 Mines which have some of the most powerful water engines. 1886 J. Harrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water engine*, an engine used exclusively for pumping water.

**3** An engine driven by water power or by which water power is applied.

1858 Lardner *Handbk Nat. Phil.* 146 Water engine Hydraulic wheels are by far the most common expedients by which water power is applied.

So † **Water-engineer,** an official charged with the management of municipal fire engines

1711 in *Lall Mall Gaz* (1887) 19 Sept 14/1 The Lord Mayor, to prevent the Calamities that may happen by Fire, has Ordered Full-luck Nozles to be Layed, by the Clerks, Water Engineer to the Honourable City of Dublin [etc.]

**Waterer** (wǫ·tərəɹ) [f. Water *v* + -er 1]

**1** One who waters plants, crops, etc *lit* and *fig*

In 17th c. religious literature somewhat common in allusions to 1 Cor. III 7, 8

1549 Coverdale etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* III 67 If the husband man nether let thys dysapointed, nothyng in a maner prouayleth, the gardiner watereth the trees, but the waterer *(Vulg. irrigator)* is all weed. maugre the warmers and waterers, hath he her Maiesties grace's health beene euer watched vp. 1659 [H. Hammond] *Disc. Anabaptists* 11 v, The Mgistri we must be a remouer or reuiver of the Corn in most controuersed a weeder or a waterer of them. 1661 R. Johnson *Hl. of Ireland* 23 These tithes shall be the Holy Ghost doth giue them [ie gospellers] in Scripture

Waterers, Lulders Stewards, [etc.] 1703 J. Freake *Fast in C. Marshal Sarum Dioc.* (1704) 10 b, He was both a Planter, as well as a Waterer in the Lord's Vineyard. 1842 Loudon *Shrubs in Hort* 387 Watering plants in pots requires much more consideration on the part of the waterer than watering in free soil.

**b** One who practises irrigation *Obs rare.*

1789 T. Wright *Hath Watering Meadows* (1796) 24 The method is taught by a systematical waterer in Stratford shire.

† **2.** = Aquarius *Obs rare*—1

1546 *Gassar's Ir guest* b, In y^e signe Aquari or waterer

**3** One who is sent ashore to obtain a supply of fresh water for a ship's company.

1773 Hawkesworth *Voy* III 438 Having sent the least two ships, he set out to join the watering party. 1777 G. Forster *Voy round World* I 227 Sail makers, coopers waterers and wood cutters. 1781 *Cecil Mem.* II 278 The Indians still continuing troublesome, and attacking the waterers with stones at the well.

**4** One who supplies animals with drinking water. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxxi He was a mere waterer of horses. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I 97 The shift of waterers was sent out to seek a cattle pool some miles lower in the valley.

† **5.** A visitor at a spa or watering place. *Obs*

1776 S. J. Pratt *Pupils of Pleas.* (1777) I 53 My wife says he understands to a nicety, what sort of the waterers [at Buxton bath] call the etiquette of dress.

**6.** A watering vessel 1891 in *Century Dict.*

**Waterfall** (wǫ·tərfǫl) [f. Water *sb* + Fall *sb.*, OE. had *winter-efall* Cf. G. *wasserfall*, *-gefalle*, ON. *vatnsfall*.]

**1** A more or less perpendicular descent of water from a height over a ledge of rock or precipice, a cascade, cataract

998 *Crt. of Edgar Charters* (1931) 81 After leafdon to pam waterefeal after streame. 1378 in *Shropsh. Arch. Soc. Trans.* ser. III V 25 Johannes de Waterfal] 14.. *Nominale Cantbal* (Somner) in Neued Dictionarie addit antur fall n et Ioland vsque ad Waterfal et a Waterfal per Slade. 1421 *Inquisit. in* Hutchinson *Durham* (1787) II 388 Vallis de Langley. Et in valle predicta ibidem est quidam Waterfall. 1577 Harr. hath foure great water falls. 1585 D. Fog *Ivy's round of sol.* (1840) 343 A noise of a mighty cataract or waterfall. 1598 Hvton *Lexic.* 11 The silver tinkling of waterfalls chimed melodiously within the gardens. 1860 Tindall *Glac.* I xii 50 The ice cascade appeared like the foam of a waterfall.

*transf.* 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* IV 202 When I was last beesmired in a gasping heir with hands pre sently exchanged for a surprising waterfall of rain.

**2** Such an inclination of the ground as will facilitate the fall or drainage of water.

1542 in *Fitch Hollis Stat* XV 601 Terras Thome Hathby ex parte occidentali et in longitudine caude ascendendo prope caput montis et le waterfow earundem. 1590 *Rec. Mag. Stat. Scots* In the lands lands of Schorthop streikand south as the hill or watter fall thairof gais to the landis of Dalgleis. 1603 *Hist.* 306/2 Passing as the water

fall upon the brashed gangis [to] the merchis of Brumehous. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Flax*, But in some parts of the country, a sufficiency of water and water-fall is not to be met with. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr. in Trans. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 73 Caused by want of waterfall, its only efficient remedy would be [etc.].

† 3. A swift stream tumbling in a rocky bed, a rapid. *Obs.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 366 To fire the Brambles, snare the Birds, and steep In wholsom Water-falls the muddy Sheep. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 129/1 You may level a Torrent or Water-fall by laying a barrier across the Stream. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 278 The complicated beauties which accurred in this extraordinary water-fall.

4. *Coal-mining.* A special 'head' of water to be turned down a pit-shaft when needed.

1797 J. Curr *Coal Viewer* 33 A stream of water with a waterfall of about half the depth of the pit is necessary, if any business of consequence must be done. 1860 *Tate's Nat. Arts* (ed. 3) III. 157 This distribution was often fraught with such danger, that a torrent of water had to be kept in readiness, under the name of a water-fall, to be let down to extinguish the fire in a moment. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 209 The waterfall, formed by turning a special stream into the downcast shaft, or by allowing the pumpbuckets to run over, is a useful auxiliary, especially for driving in air after an accident.

5. A neckcloth, scarf, or tie with long pendant ends. ? *Obs.*

1823 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxvi, Benjamin, the Jew money-lender, ..dressed in a gaudy figured satin waistcoat and waterfall.

6. A chignon; also, a wave of hair falling down the neck below the chignon or net. (Orig. *U.S.*)

1866 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* iii, The brown silk net..had given way all at once into a great hole under the waterfall, and the soft hair would fret itself through. 1875 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 31 July 2/2 The young lady that affects waterfalls, the Grecian bend, or the kangaroo hop. 1890 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 5/3 Human hair..goes through long processes of purification before it is made up into the wigs, chignons, waterfalls, &c.

**Wa·ter-fast**, *a. Sc.* = Watertight.

1830 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1894) I. 19 To keep the bwyth watter fast with bale tymmyr, lofting, and flure. *a* 1868 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 16 To pomp als oft as he may haill, Sensyll nevir hald hir watter-fast. 1874 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 30 For helping to repair the said kirk and haldyng of it wattirfast. 1898 Lo. E. Hamilton *Mawdin of Hum* xviii. 254 The shieling's well biggit and as waterfast as a sween-tub.

**Wa·ter-fast**, *adv.* [Cf. *G. wasserfinder.*] One who finds subterranean springs or supplies of water by means of a divining-rod; a dowser.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 He has added the..profession of water-finder. 1902 *Nature* 30 Jan. 304/2 The employment of a dowser or 'water-finder' is suggested.

So **Wa·ter-finding** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2, I spent many hours amusing myself with the water-finding fork in my hands. 1899 A. Lang in *Daily News* 10 July 3/1 Hegel believed in the water-finding faculty. 1906 *Times* 17 Sept. 13 7 A number of letters on water-finding were published in *The Times* during the winter of 1904-5.

**Wa·ter-flag.** The yellow flag or flower-de-luce, *Iris Pseudacorus.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. 190 The wille yellow Irris nowe called ..in Englishe ..Waterflagges, Waterdaggers, and Lauers. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 2 Yallow water flower-de-luce, water flaggys, Segge. 1808 Scott *Marmion* iv. xxxvii, And shepherd boys wash their dogs To weik the water-flag and rush. 1842 Tennyson *Mariana in Arith.* 63 The many-knotted waterflags, That whistled stiff and dry about the marge. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxvi, A group of reeds and water-flags.

**Wa·ter-flood.** [O.E. *waterfloð*: see Water *sb.* and Flood *sb.* Cf. Mhg. *wazzervluot* (mod.G. *wasserflut*), M.L.G. *watarvlôt*, ON. *vatnsflóð*.]

1. A moving flood or overflowing of water, a tempestuous sea.

*c* 897 *Rimed Oros.* i. vi. 36 On þæs Amfictiones tide wurdon swa mycele waterfloed geond ealle weald. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxix. 10 The Lorde stilleth [1539 *Bible* stiereth abuse] the water flouds. 1591 Sylvester *Camden Pr.* Isle. 20 Yet They see the ungodly rush uppon them without staye, and to rage like a waterflud. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* ii. x. 14 Why schist thou...to the vast deepe sea fresh water floods? 1602 *Warner Albion. England* xi. 273 Not like the abrupt and sweeping waterflood, but rather like the silent dew as it distills imperceptibly on blade and flower. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Apr. 1/1 Her hair was all about him like a water-flood; her kisses on his brow.

† 2. *collectively.* Water as opposed to land. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 Ormin 17567 O liff, o land, o waterflod, Wiþ feln kinne shaffe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 92 For alle at weines ben of blod In man, rist so the water flod Therthe of his cours maketh fal of veines.

3. A body or mass of water in flood.

*c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1872 A Grype ·A way·, hare her yong son Ouer a water flood, Ouer in to a wyldernes There seynt Antony remet was. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1380 O that I now, I too were By deep wells and water-floods. 1917 O. Wildridge *Captains & Co.* ix. 105 And now, as the tug drew near, there trailed across the intervening strip of water flood a snatch of..Long Syne'.

**Wa·ter-flower.** A flower growing in water; the representation of such a flower in metal, in embroidery, etc.

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 115 Old spanges and water flowres of silver. 1509 *Will in Archæologia* LXVI. 313 Item ij. nalter clothes Crymson velwett upon velwet sett wt water flowres. *Ibid.* 340 Item a vestyment of blue velvett thorfreis of crymyon cloth of gold enbroderid wt water flowres. 1599 Bretun *Will of Will* (Grosart) 37/2, I must learne to make a waterflower, in an old ragge, good enough for a sampler for mee. *c* 1850 Mrs. Hemans *Streams* 4 Ye [streams] that are born of the valleys deep, With the waterflowers on your breast asleep.

**Wa·ter-fly.** [Fly *sb.*1] A fly that frequents water and the water-side.

1608 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 60 Rather on Nylus mudde Lay me starke-naked, and let the water-Flies Blow me into abhorring. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xii. 109 Water-rails..feed upon water-snails and water-flies. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 309 The Common Water-Flie is by some called the Notonecta. 1818 Keats *Endym.* ii. 135 Quick waterflies and gnats were sporting still. 1868 Day *Sailmaker* 93 Even in December and January there are a few small gnats or water flies on the water. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The matching of the fly with the insect on the water is a matter of much nicety, for the water-flies are of many shades and colours.

*fig.* 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 84 Dost know this waterflie? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 38 Ah how the poore world is pestred with such water-flies, diminutives of Nature.

**Waterfowl** (wō·tərfaul). [f. Water *sb.* + Fowl *sb.*; cf. OHG. *wazzarvogel* (mod.G. *wasser-*), Du. *watervogel*.] Any bird that frequents the water, or inhabits the margin of lakes, rivers, seas, etc.; in mod. use chiefly applied to the larger kinds of swimming birds, esp. those which are regarded as game. Often *collect. sing.* for *pl.*

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 398 Þe filþe dai..On water fuxol and fisc he wroght. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 347 But watir foule sate lower in the dale. *Ibid.* 554 The watir foules. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De R.* v. xxiii. (1495) 140 Water foules haue bytwene theyr tos and clawes as it were a skynne. 1433 Lydg. *S. Edmund* ii. 162 At water foul and foul upon the land. 1538 *Elyot Dict.*, Aquaticula, a waterfowle called a teale. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iv. v. 1382 Where thou shalt see ..White Swannes, and many lovely water fowles. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 499 Great store of young water-fowle. 1798 Coleridge *Fears. Oneself.* 29 You know that water-fowl that cries, Quack! Quack! ? 1843 Marryat *Mr. Violet* xxiv, The water-fowl are plentiful, such as swans, geese, ducks. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* iv. 564 As when waterfowl of many tribes—Geese, cranes and long-necked swans ..disport themselves.

*attrib.* 1849 *Blackw. Sportsman's Libr. IV.* (title) *The Water-Fowl Family.*

**Water-front.** Orig. *U.S.*

1. Land or buildings abutting on a river, a lake, the sea, etc.; the frontage of a town on the waterside.

1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits* iii. 47 A people so skilful and sufficient in economizing water-front by docks, warehouses, and lighters. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 813/1 The water-front in Hong-Kong. 1898 Howells *Impressions & Exp.* 256 The slightness ..that of all city water-fronts. 1897 Kinglake *Capt. Court*, x. 230 Boat-builders, and coopers, and all the usual people of a water-front.

*attrib.* 1918 *Punch* 17 Mar. 206/1 In many a sailors' drinking-place and water-front saloon.

2. A water-heater set in the front of a stove'. (Webster 1911).

**Wa·ter-furrow**, *sb.* [Cf. *G. wasserfurche.*] A deep furrow made for conducting water from the ground and keeping it dry.

854 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 78 On þa water furh innan smalan broc. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Grype, or a grypyll, where water emyghthe away in a londe, *aquatile fouwe, aratimunella. Ibid.* 518/1 Waterfouwe [*r.rr.*-foure, -fore], in londe, *elicia, sulcus.* 1482 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 310 Strete, lanes, and watir-forowis where soon the wyn is a diche & a heye vpe to the wair of Shirburn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 400/2 A Watir fure, *elice.* *a* 1677 T. Manton *Serm. Ps.* cxix. (1681) 1/2 Husbandmen when their ground is overflowed by waters, make Ditches and Water-drawns to carry it away. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 Standing water must be[ drain'd off with Water-Furrows. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Agric. Statist. Scot.* I. 49 That the water collected from the different 'buts' or 'ridges', can easily get away, it will be to no purpose to facilitate its passage from these ..by water-furrows, or small cuts made by the plough or spade. 1842 Spoor in *Agric.* (ed. 2) 70 These open furrows serve, likewise, for drains to carry off the surface water, and being cleared out after the seed is sown, they are termed water-furrows.

*attrib.* 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Agric. Statist. Scot.* I. 146 The 20 ridges will require turning of the sower and harrows, and 41 turnings of the water-for plough.

**Wa·ter-furrow**, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make water-furrows in (land). Hence **Wa·ter-furrowing** *vbl. sb.*

1583-36 Fitzherbe. *Husb.* § 13 If a dry season come before Candelmasse ..it [&c. the ridged fallow] wolde be caste downe and waterforowed betwyxe the landes. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xxii. (1878) 223 The seede being sowne, waterforow thy ground. 1580 Pilkington *Aggeus* G iv b, Let hym ..water, hedge, and waterforow, or what other thyng so euer he can deuise to make the ground fruitfull. 1662 Atwell *Faithful Surveyor* 91 It follows now to speak of those that must be done either chiefly by the spade, or onely the spade. Chiefly by the spade, called water-furrowing. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* Kal, October ..Well *Water-furrow*, and Drain new sown Corn Land. 1743 in R. Maxwell *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 41 Plow up the Land and water-fur it. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Agric. Statist. Scot.* I. 207 In preparing land for a crop, water-furrowing is a very important operation. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 140 The furrows [should be] struck out with a plough,..and the field left gripped and waterfurrowed. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 Feb. 7/3 The cost of producing wheat..is per acre about as follows:—Twelve carts of manure at 5s. per cart, £3 1.. water-furrowing, 12.

**Wa·ter-gall.** Also 3 *dial.* **-gull.** [f. Water *sb.* + Gall *sb.*2; — *G. wassergalle* in various senses, also MLG. *watergalle* in sense 2.]

† 1. A boggy tract in a field. *Obs.*

1285 *Yorks. Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc.) II. 198 *note*, Cum toto prato suo falcabili, ut in capitibus, herbagiis, ranis, et watergallis. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xviii. 58 The Alder is of all other the most faithful lover of watery and boggy places, and those most despis'd weeping parts, or water-galls of Forests.

2. A secondary or imperfectly-formed rainbow; also applied to various other phenomena in the clouds that are believed to portend rain. Now *dial.*: cf. Weathergall.

1594 Shakes. *Lucr.* 1388 And round about her teare-distained eye Blew circles streamd, like Rainbow in the skie. These watergalls in her dim Element, Foretell new storme. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 16 As the Water-gall is the Image, Shadow, or weak Representation of the Rainbow. 1794 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 29 June, False good news are always produced by true good, like the watergall by the rainbow. 1796 Falconer *Dict. Marine* ii. (1780), *Vel de boue*, water-gall, or weather-gall.

† 3. A watery bubble in the liver of swine. [So *G. wassergalle* 1587.] *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 685 Sometimes there appeare [in swine] certaine blathers in the liuer of water, which are called water-galls.

4. ? A flaw in a material or a manufactured article caused by the settling of water in a particular spot. (Implied in Watergalled *a.*) [Cf. *G. wassergalle*, flaw in marble.]

Hence **Wa·ter-galled** *a.*, having water-galls (see 4).

1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 932 The greatest difficulty formerly experienced in the paper manufacture upon the continuous system of Fourdrinier, was to remove the moisture from the pulp, and condense it with sufficient rapidity, so as to prevent its becoming what is called water-galled.

**† Wa·ter-gang.** *Obs.* Also 3 **-gong.** [f. Water *sb.* + Gang *sb.*] Cf. ON. *vatn(s)gang-r* flood, (M)Du. *watergang* watercourse, *G. wassergang* flow of water, watercourse.]

1. A flood.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 662 Nembrot gat hise feres red, for bat he hadde of water dred, To maken a tur, wel heȝ & strong, Of tigel and ter, for water-gong.

2. A watercourse, esp. an artificial watercourse, a mill-race or the like.

? *a* 1200 in Dugdale *Monast.* (1661) II. 920/2 Omnibus baillivis de Basintone..Robertus de Oreci saluteṁ: mando vobis, quatinus justicietis meos homines de Snargate, ut faciant wallas & watergangas ..sicut mos fuit. 1309 ['The word watergangs occurs..in an inedited charter of La Capelle' *Archæologia* 1893, Ser. II. III. 295 note]. 1322 in *Monumenta Hungl. Coll.* (1882) 145. 1423 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 22/2 Þat þe breif vndirwritin haf cours quhil þe next parliament ahanerly of wattir gangis þat is to say of milne leikis & of nane vthir thingis. 1509 *Reg. Magn. Sigr. Scot.* 70/3 Le Watirgang, quae alias vocatur de Grenelaw. *Ibid.* 703/1 Le Wattirgang dict. molendini. 1601 *Ibid.* 391/2 Passand south up the said rin or watergang of the Lochmylne. 1754 *Edinburgh Hist. Chronicle* 48 In the year 1740 the men of Dunwich were digging a Trench near their Old Port, cross the Beach, to make a Watergang to drain their Marshes.

3. *Sc. Law.* (See quot.)

1681 Stair *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvii. § 17. 145 A Watergang is a Servitude, of conveying Water throw the servient Ground for the use of the Dominant.

**Wa·ter-gas.**

1. A gas made by forcing steam over incandescent carbon; used as fuel, and when carburetted as an illuminator.

1851 *Mechanic's Mag.* LIV. 129 (*Heading of article.*) Water gas. *Ibid.* LIV. 24 The production of water gas from carbonic acid is a problem of great importance. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 560 So serious have been the consequences of the inhalation of 'water gas' that some English public bodies have been obliged to do away with it.

2. Water in the form of vapour.

1881 John *Volcanoes* 22 The whole mass presses at once into the condition of steam or water-gas. 1882 C. P. Smith in *Nature* 5 Oct. 551/2 If a meteorological spectroscope can ..show the..fact of watery vapour being in the atmosphere, it may also..be able to quantify..the proportions of such aerial supply of water at different times.

**Wa·ter-gate**1. [Gate *sb.*1]

† 1. A sluice or floodgate. *Obs.*

1402 in *Reg. Hist. Rec.* (1899) XIV. 517 Les spowtes lignen douentin aquam a dicto Watergate usque dictum rotam. 1458-9 *Memorials of Beverley* (Surtees) III. 58 Pro factura le Watergattes per Th. bute in fontans fell. ijs. 1577 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 748/2 The syd of the puill forranent the watter yet of the Hauch of Dalkeith. 1589 Hume *Jurornal Nomenel.* 391/1 *Emissarium*,..a flood gate : a watergate : a sluce : a waire. 1755 Johnson, *Sluice*,..a watergate ; a floodgate.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 302 After that withinne a throwe He reyneth and the watergates Undoth. *Ibid.* I. 312 Fro hevene out of the watergates The regni Storm fell down algates. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 217 pe v. watyr-gatys of youre eyrt ben 3oure v. bodyly wyttes, as crisostom seyth...Þise ben þe v. watyr-gatys, þe fyve entrees wherby watyr of curse & wose of synne entirs ayen in-to þi gyrt of bustyd, but þei be wyggyd. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 1241 If, with ten-fold chain, Thy hand hath lockt the Water-gates of Rain. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 25 To open well her Watergate, and best supply her Mill.

2. A gate (of a town, a castle, etc.) giving access to the water-side.

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4651 Pan was þar a geant ful of pryde, And openede þe water-gate wyde, Ys name was enfachoun. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 918 In at a watur-gate, Ther men vytayled by bate That castel with cornes. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1235/2 The curteine betwixt the watergate and the

soldiers prison on the wall. 1644 Middleton *Game at Chess* iii. i. 50 Pack up my plate and goods, and steal away By night at water-gate. 1679 Prance *Narr. Popish Plot* 9 The Watergate (as they call it, that is the furthermost Gate or Passage going down out of the Strand to the Waterside) of Somerset-House. 1720 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1890) 225 Two ..regiments ..kept possession of the water-gate, of the town. 1867 Morris *Jason* vii. 223 She came down to a gilded water-gate, Which with a golden key she opened straight. 1911 C. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & Making of Italy* vii. 165 On the same evening the last of the Bourbons and his queen were leaving the Palace of Naples by the water-gate and taking ship for Gaeta.

**b.** A gate through which supplies of water are brought.

1535 Coverdale *Neh.* viii. 3 In the strete that is before the Watergate.

**3.** A place through which water-traffic passes.

1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 90 It is strange ..to find that a short passage up a series of rapids has brought you..among a people almost as different from the people..of Egypt.. This water-gate is an absolute division, ethnologically as well as geologically. 1907 A. J. Phillips (*title*) Gravesend: the Water-gate of London.

**Water-gate².** [Gate *sb.*²] *north.* and *Sc.*

**1.** A channel for water, a watercourse.

1368–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 575 In exp. factis pro uno Watergat po minera de Raynton, *&c. 172. ad.* 1408 *Durham Acc. Roll in Rec. Hall. Rev.*, XIV. 179 Solutis laboratis, operantibus et facientibus unum Watergate existendentem de Heriburnne usque dictum forgeum. 1417 *Regist. Aluic.* (Surtees) 3 Item clerugi de Aluic habent unum watergate overhwarte at the ende of the same newe house. 1447 *Script. tres* (Surtees) App. p. cccxiii, Alva the said John [etc.] sall..labour and wyn a watergate for wynnyng of sole in the same colegit. 1668 *Yorks. Archæol.* (Yorks. Arch. Soc. Rec. Ser.) II. 115 To carry a sufficient sough and water-gate through the demised ground. *a* 1800 *Jamie Telfer* xii. in Child *Ballads* V. 250/1 Now Jamie is up the water-gate, Een as fast as he can drie.

**2.** *Sc.* ‘An act of voiding urine’ (Jam.). Hence in fig. phrase (cf. Water *sb.* 18 c).

1792 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 108 I'll wet it with your Watergate. That is, I'll watch for an Advantage over you.

**Water-gauge, -gage.** (See quots.)

1705 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-gage* ..an Instrument to gage or measure the Quantity or Depth of Water. 1824 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 316 When the boiler is observed to have got a sufficient supply—which is indicated by a float water-gauge—the steam-cock on the pump is turned off. 1885 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 71 *Water-gauge*, a U-shaped glass tube for measuring the difference of pressure between the interior and return air; an indicator showing the quantity of water in a steam boiler; a notched board for measuring flow of water.

*attrib.* 1883 W. C. Russell *Sailors' Lang., Water-gauge cocks*, small cocks placed in front of a marine boiler, by opening which the height of the water in the boiler is ascertained.

**[Water-gauge, -gage,** explained in many Dicts. to mean ‘a sea-wall or bank to restrain the current and overflowing of the water’, is a spurious word, evolved from the false reading *watergangis, -gis, -garum* for *wattergavia*, etc. (= Wattergang 2) in the 1397 edition of a Romney charter of 1252.

The explanation was given in Spelman's *Glossarium* (1664), whence it was copied in the *Dictionarium Rusticum* (1703), followed by Phillips (ed. Kersey, 1706) and later Dicts.]

**Water-glass.**

**1.** A water-clock or clepsydra.

1661 [T. Powell] *Hum. Industry* 4 The Nasican Scipio was the first that brought the use of Water-glasses amongst them, and distinguished the hours of day and night. 1662 Thwaker *Light to Longitude* To Rdr., The measuring of Distances betwixt any two Meridians by Pendulums, Sandglasses, Water-glasses, &c. 1728 *Miscell. Acad. Reg. Scient. Chron.* 147/1 Machinery of this kind was previously unknown in Siam, time being generally measured by water-glasses. 1860 Grote *Greece* II. lxxi. 74 With full notice to defendants and full time of defence measured by the water-glass [*cf.* 1850 clock].

†**2.** A surface of water serving as a mirror. *nonce-use.*

1619 J. Davies (Heref.) *Paneger.* in *R. Vaughan's Water-Workes* B 2 b, Such is this Water-glasse, wherein these Times Do see how to adorne their Meades in Greene.

†**3.** A glass finger-bowl. *Obs.*

1676 Shoolkett *Treats.* I. v. 66 I know of no custom more beastly than that of using water-glasses, in which polite company spit, and spirt, and spue the filthy scourings of their gums, under the eyes of each other. 1706 Twins *Tour Ireland* 37 The filthy custom of using water-glasses after meals is as common as in England..no well-bred persons touch their victuals with their fingers, and consequently such ablutions ought to be unnecessary. 1784 Cowper *Let. W. Unwin* 5 Apr., Your mother..bega you will buy for her eight blue, deep blue, water glasses.

**4.** A glass vessel to contain water; esp. such a vessel intended for keeping plants in water.

1822 *Sc. Bk. Ratics in Hallyburton's Ledger* (1867) 309 Water glasses the dozen, xls. 1824 Loudon *Green-house Compl.* v. 120 Wherever a few plants in pots, or bulbs in water-glasses, are kept in a room, the same objection may be raised. 1849 *Florist* 46 A Hyacinth removed from the water-glass should have its roots nicely arranged in good sandy soil. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. v, ‘I'is the Queen dead?’ cries out Bolingbroke, seizing on a water-glass.

**5.** An instrument for making observations beneath the surface of water, consisting of a bucket with a glass bottom; a water-telescope.

1848 Johns *Week at Lizard* 75 The fishermen say, that they can..descry, with the help of their water-glasses, pieces of cannon lying at the bottom. 1881 E. Ingersoll *Oyster Industry* 249 *Water-glass*, a bucket with a partial glass bottom, through which the position of sponges is sought. (Florida reefs.) 1902 A. Alcock *Naturalist in Ind. Seas* 49 A water-glass..is a wooden funnel, with a window of good plate-glass in the broad end and a pair of handles about half-way up.

**6.** An aqueous solution of silicate of soda or potash (or of both), which solidifies when exposed to the air. It is used for many purposes, e.g. as a vehicle for fresco-painting, as a paint for rendering material incombustible, for pickling eggs, etc.

1859 *Ecclesiologist* XX. 283 Water-glass seems likely to offer a substitute for enamel. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci. etc., Water-glass*..is a soluble alkaline silicate, a liquified flint, made by boiling silica in an alkali. 1880 *Times* 25 Dec. 5, 6 What is designated ‘Herr Windsperger's fire-extinguishing solution’, which is an aqueous solution of silicate of soda, the substance commonly known under the name of ‘water-glass’. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 2/2, I have just bought eleven score of new-laid eggs..and put them down in water-glass to use all through the time when eggs are dear.

**b.** *attrib.*

1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5916 The three pictures..are painted—that in the centre panel, in oil, the two in the side panels in fresco, in the water-glass or stereochromic method. 1882 *Lond. Society* 238 The new picture is commonly designated a fresco. It is really a water-glass painting. 1885 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 295/1 The water-glass..is liable to be washed away when exposed to rain. 1905 W. Holman Hunt *Pre-Raph. Bro.* II. 332 Silica or water-glass painting was substituted for Maclise's Waterloo. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 2/2 water-glass pudding.

**Water-grass.** A name applied to various grasses and grass-like plants growing in the water; also *dial.* (Warw.) to various species of *Equisetum*¹ (Britten & Holland).

The application to the pond-weed (*Potamogeton*) in quot. 1535 is doubtful or erron.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 234/1 *Potamogeton, fontinalis*..pondweede or watergrasse. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 1. x. *Potamogeton vulgare*..Water grasse, as we may terme it, Water burre grasse. *Ibid.* xi. 13 The place and time in it which they grow, differeth not from the other Water grasses. 1765 *Museum Rust.* V. 41 Our flote fescue is a water-grass, and cannot be made hay of, at least without being dipped from out of the water. 1846 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 185 Panicum speciabile..Scotch Grass. Water Grass. 1856 Emerson *Lyrics, Voutts* 69 Blond, silent pools, around the edges of which remained a skirt of ice, held there by bushes and long, broken water-grasses. 1875 Mellish *St. Helena* 141 Juncus, Carex, Thistle. Spreading Water Grass, or Rush. 1895 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, Blades of last year's water-grass, trembling in the quiet places.

**†b.** Anglo-Irish perversion of Water-cress.

1726 Thelwall *Speght. Stirp. Hibern., Nasturtium aquaticum supinum*,..Water-cresses..It is called about the Street by the abusive Name of Water-grass. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*

**†Water-grave.** *Obs.* [See Grave *sb.*³ and *sb.*⁴] A water-bailiff. In quot. 1617 ? repr. G. *wasserzraf.*

1479 *Hexham Priory, Black Bk.* (Surtees) II. 73 Et allegraves, water-graves, et iiij juratos. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 280 Water-Bayliffes (over-seeing Lakes and Rivers for Swannes, fishing and other like things) are offices given at the Princes pleasure and not proper to any Familie.

**Water-grevel.**

**1.** Thin gruel made with water instead of milk.

14.. *Rules & Const. Nunn Syon* lvi. in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 503 On water dayes sche schal ordeyne for bonnes or newe brede, water grewel. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* Bed., Like a wheily water had infected his mouth with lapping up that water Grewell. 1667 Woon *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 100, 5*l.* for currans and raisons, oatmell, sugar, and prunes, to make water grewell for Mr. Ware. 1708 *Modern Spelling Bk.* 230 Save I seen..A sick Man sipping Water-Gruel. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* IX. iv, Breakfast on water-gruel. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, She was glad to recognise, and even to go to bed, and drink water-gruel. 1852 J. Savory *Dom. Med.* (ed. 4) 310 Water Gruel. Put a large spoonful of oatmeal, or fine Indian meal, by degrees into a pint of water, and when smooth, boil it.

*attrib.* 1871 A. Meadows *Midwifery* (ed. 2) 170 The old-fashioned tea and water-gruel system has, it is to be hoped, long since ceased to exist.

†**2.** *fig.* as the type of what is insipid. Chiefly *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*), namby-pamby, characterless.

*c* 1623 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* II. iii, Though he be vowed to have thousands, I shall serve him but in water-gruel spirit,..he shall ne'r speed. 1703 Motteux *Pract. to Farquhar's Inconstant* 14 Your scenes of love, so flowing, soft, and chaste, Are water-gruel, without salt or taste. 1753 Foote *Englishman in Paris* i. 1, Their water-gruel jaws suck in a thicker of curls, appear for all the world like a lark in a soup-dish! 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 430 Had I continued it [hoeing] till this time, I believe my chapters would have dissolved into a water-gruel style. 1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* II. 129 A pretty, sweet, smiling, flexible, insipid, water-gruel girl. 1811 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Vest & Gerkin.* I. 76 His wife, a mere water-gruel character.

Hence †**Water-gruelish** *a.*

1822 Sarah Lady Lyttelton *Let.* 98 Apr. *Corr.* v. (1912) 139, I was of the greatest use in putting in a *water-gruellish* sort of observation every now and then, just to fill up the pauses.

**Water-ha-mmer.**

**1.** An instrument used to illustrate the fact that in a vacuum liquids and solids fall at the same rate. It consists of a hermetically sealed tube exhausted of air and partly filled with water. When the tube is quickly reversed, the water falls on the end with a noise like that of a hammer.

1805 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (80) XI. 213 The water-hammer. This instrument, which is made and sold by the glass-blowers and barometer-makers, consists of [etc.]. 1870 Tyndall *Heat* iv. § 131. (ed. 4) 112 One effect of the withdrawal of the elastic buffer [i. e. the air] is, that the water falls with the sound of a solid body, and hence this instrument is called the water hammer.

*attrib.* 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter of Air* iii. 147 A number of hermetically-sealed tubes charged with the same infusion..have maintained for more than a year..their water-hammer sound.

**2.** *Hydraulics.* The concussion or sound of concussion of water in a pipe when its flow is suddenly stopped, or when live steam is admitted.

1891 *Century Dict.* 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 69/1 [Hydraulics.] If in a pipe through which water is flowing a sluice is suddenly closed so as to arrest the forward movement of the water, there is a rise of pressure..This action is termed water hammer or water rain. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 183/2 There came a bubbling roar from the vent..and then the clang of a heavy ‘water-hammer’ in the pipe as the tank filled.

**b.** Path. *Water-hammer pulse*, a jerky pulse with a full expansion, followed by a sudden collapse.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 588 The well-known ‘water-hammer pulse’ or ‘pulse of unfilled arteries’ of aortic regurgitation.

**3.** *Surg.* A metal hammer heated in boiling water, used to produce a blister by gently striking the skin. 1891 *Century Dict.* 1912 Webster.

**Water-head.**

**1.** The head or source of a stream; the land adjoining the source of a stream.

1589 in *6th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 649/2 Ane new gift.. of all and haill the four merk land and the half of the watterheid. 1900 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 3/2 We descended the hill, and, passing by the water-head built father so loved in the old days of his cartage tours, we drove to the church. 1901 *Scotsman* 16 Sept. 10/5 The men o' the watterheads surround Thilgoar in grim array.

**2.** = Head *sb.* 17.

1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 7 The celery trenches are arranged in concentric circles, the water-head being in the center. 1914 *Lond. Q. Rev.* Oct. 297 Only about one-fifteenth of the total length of the drain, or about one foot, will be exposed to the maximum water-head of 85 feet.

**Water-hen.**

**1.** Any of the various ralline birds, esp. the Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*.

*a* 1555 Skelton *P. Sparrow* 453 The dyvendop to slepe; The water-hen to wepe. 1544 Turner *Avivm Præcp.* I 6, Τρύγων, tryngo, Anglice a water hen, or a mot hen. 1561 [see Dendle *sb.*]. 1631 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* 192/2 A man in figure of a Water hen, She sat upon the Raft and to him spake. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* iii. tr. ii. 312 Section I. Cloven-footed Birds that swim in the Water.. Chap. I. Of Water-hens or More-hens in general. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* viii. xxxiv, Thou must..carefully abstain..from peacocks, crows, coots, didappers and waterhens. 1894 Hoon *Feathered Game* 144 Frequenting in the reedy pond, Beside the water-hen. 1897 Morris *Jason* xv. 130 So still she stood, that the quick water-hen Noted her not. 1895 Lady Dilke *Fowles* 118 The specimens included..rails, water-hens, [etc.].

**b.** *Water-hen hackle*, an artificial fly made of the hackle feathers of the water-hen.

1837 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 31 The Water-hen Hackle..is an excellent trout-fly.

†**2.** *Purple water-hen*: = Porphyrio. *Obs.*

1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* iii. tr. ii. 318 Of the Porphyrio, or purple Water-hen. 1743 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 87 The Purple Water-Hen.

**3.** The American coot, *Fulica americana*. *Local U.S.* (Mass.) 1891 *Century Dict.*

**4.** *East Indian.* (See quot.)

1873 K. Bayloon *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) V. x.v. *Water-hen.* The Indian water hen, *Porzana fusca*, is met with in the north of India, running over the leaves of the lotus.

**Water-hole.**

**1.** A hole or depression in which water collects, a pond or pool; a reservoir. *Obs. exc. dial. and Colonial.*

1699 in Picton *Liverpool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 315 Were other that..two dangerous water holes close by the foote waye neere Richard Jones house in the heath, bee filled upp. 1773 K. Frost *Sow. Mod. Husbandry* 1. 1. 3 Small watering-hole, which our poor houses soon emptied. 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xxi, We encamped by the side of a small water-hole, formed by a hollow in the prairie. 1873 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 30 June 9/3 A bottomless waterhole, about 300 feet wide, exists at Maryvale homestead, Gipps Land. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 57 Tracked me by the camps I'd quitted—used the water-holes I'd hollowed.

**b.** A cavity in the bed of a river, esp., in Colonial use, one that retains water when the river itself is dry.

1792 Osbaldiston *Brit. Sportsman* 369 Grope to, or tickle, among fishers, signifies putting one's hand into water-holes where fish lie. 1848 Westgarth *Australia Felix* 19 The courses of all the rivers, with scarcely any exception, exhibit a series of ponds or water-holes. 1867 J. P. Ramsay in *Ibis* III. 423 The Musk-Duck frequents alike the lakes, lagoons, rivers, and even the creek- and water-holes. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 28 The dry weather has reduced Boggy Creek to a mere string of water-holes.

†**2.** *Naut.* A hole to allow the escape of water (see quot.). *Obs. rare.*

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 117 A water-hole, from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, is made in the second cloth from each leech [in Spritsail Course].

Hence **Water-holing,** the operation of trenching between the plants in the cultivation of coffee.

1880 *Sp. Ex. Excel. Industr. Arts* etc. II 648 A third operation is called 'trenching,' or waterboiling. The trenches are made across the slope and may be either open or closed.

**Water-horse.**

†1. The hippopotamus. *Obs.*

1598, 1599 1600 [see HIPPOPOTAMUS]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. viii. 128 'Now the [water beasts] have a skin over them, and the same huge as the Seales and Water horses [*Ippopotami*].' a1648 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* II. (1704) 502 In the Lake of Zambre there are Water Horses, and Water Oxen.

2. A fabled water spirit appearing in the form of a horse. Cf. KELPIE.

1800 J. PEDEN *Two Highlands* (1831) 13 The people of the vill had been regarded much by the appearance of that unaccountable being the water-horse (*Loch Lurgy*). 1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard, Bless Thy Infancy* 18 In some places of the Highlands, Scotland, the inhabitants are still in continual terror of an unchanging being called The Water Horse. 1893 S. O. ANDY *Hall of Walkhoof* 85 A fabulous water-goblin more frightening in the shape of a grey water-horse. 1903 *Irish Fairy Lore* July 323 A water-horse or sprite that demands at least one life annually.

3. (See quot.)

1790 G. CRUICKSHANK *Treat. Inlet-stop* III. p. x *Water-horse* neatly washed on the back which are laid up in each other to drain before they are pitched to dry.

**Water-house.**

†1. A building in which water is raised from a river or well into a 'conduit-head' or reservoir to be conveyed by means of conduits or pipes for domestic use. *Obs.*

1681 J. DINSLEY *Tour Irel. in Trans. Kilkenny Arch. Soc.* II. (1859) 303 A delightful Water house adjoining to the Bowling Green which with its Engine of Curious Artifice, by the help of one horse furnisheth all the offices of the Castle with that necessary Element. This Water-house hath 3 pipes and a Summer Dineting room. 1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæol.* XII. 187 At Kyle Stuart there is a water-house but what is forced from a deep well into a water-house, whence they are furnished by pipes at pleasure. 1697 DE FOE *Rev. Pro.* (1724) 4 The Water-house at the Conduit of the Cross Pond with Water. 1726 LEAK *Alleviates Archit.* II. 123 Water-houses or Conduit-heads for the Reception of the publick water. 1730-6 *Archæologia* (1814) 10 To make, erect, construct rig, and maintain all such Water-houses, Reservoirs, Water-Wheels for raising, forcing, and conveying a sufficient Quantity of Water from the said River Wen into the said City [of Norwich].

2. ? A fanciful name for a boat or canoe. *rare*.

c1610 BRAUN & FR. *Secund. Lodge* 1. The thing by her commanded, is to see the Water-Musical chaffe passing in a prise Water house. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 98 There be more Canowes in this towne than in all the whole Plate in every household having a water house or two. 1678 STEPHENSON *Island Log.* 178 The canoe coming to us last lock, began to discharge its water houses on the One.

**Water-ice.**

1 A confection of water and sugar, flavoured and frozen.

1848 *Edin. Rev.* XXX. 15 Its granular spongy texture [is the appearance of congealed syrup or what the confectioners call *water-ice*. 1864 I. MANNERS (*title*), The Ice House, with the most approved receipts for making superior water ices and ice creams.

2 'Massive ice, formed by the direct freezing of water, and not by the compacting of snow' (W. 1911).

1880 GREELY *Arctic Ex.* II. 11 The Water-ice is formed, not by the freezing of the surface of water by the freezing of the lays of water lying on the bottom.

**†Water-tead,** *ppl. a. Obs. nonce wd.* [f. WATER *a.* + -ED.] Made watery.

1560 Written [see UNDONE *a.*] 1570 H. SWARLE *Armorick Land* I. 8 Towers duely watered, and with their proper colour.

**Waterily** (wǭ'tərĭlĭ), *adv.* [f. WATERY *a.* + -LY.] In a watery manner.

1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* 21 I smiled waterily. 1901 OXEN-HAM *Giant Circumstance* xviii, His black eyes smouldered waterily.

**Wateriness** (wǭ'tərĭnĕs). [f. WATERY *a.* + -NESS.]

†1. *concr.* Watery constituent or element; aqueous matter contained in or diffused through a liquid or solid. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxiv. (1495) 723 Whyte wyne is more moyst in his kynde because of clerenesse and watry nesse that hath maystry therin. *Ibid.* XIX. lxv. 901 Mylke is the better and more holsome of the moost deale of watryne nesse ouercomynge and ouerlyd. c1440 *Anderson's Treat. Fistula etc.* 31 Take pe Iuse of pe herbes medled wip hony and boile hem wip smal vnto pat pe watrynes of pe Iuse be so newhat Ibrent. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis's Secrets* (1580) I. vi. 99 The moysture or waterinesse of the saied quicke siluer dissolueth out in a vapoure. 1678 R. KIRKMAN tr. *Gebers* II. vi. 92 It is expedient to remove from things to be sublimed the Wateriness only with a very small Fire.

†b. Watery secretion. *Obs.*

1425 tr. *Anderson's Treat. Fistula* etc. 39 And superfluse waterenes swette out fro pe place pat was wonte for to file many lynnen clopes putte alwise. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. 1. 48 b, Let yͤ heade be cyuilyned in the place wher the aqua suite or waterines is. 1663 TWINE *Querist* I. xvii. 94 It dryeth up the tears and wateriness of the eyes.

2 The state of being watery, watery quality or nature.

1604 GATAKER *Transubst.* 186 Mere jugglers and impostors, that seeke to make with great wordes the naked watrinesse of their Baptisme. 1904 *Elizabeth in Rügen* iv. 93 [Bathers] meeting upon this as common ground of wateriness.

3 Superfluity of water as a constituent, connoting poorness, thinness, insipidity. a. of the blood.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) H vij, If suche fluxe happen of the waterines of blud, giue her to drink hony of roses [etc.]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 11 Mere wateriness of blood does not cause an increased flow of bile.

b. of an article of food.

1899 R. E. HORTON *Centr. Afr. in Trial Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 741 They attempt to remedy the wateriness of the fish by exposing it spitted to a slow fire. 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 37 But what hero can stand the burning of his soup or the wateriness of his potatoes?

c. *fig.* of literary style, composition, etc.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 587 The general hanness and wateriness of all his disquisitions. 1872 ROBSON *Rom. Law Adv.* 30 But as to the simplicity—or, shall we say wateriness, —of the style, I can answer you more confidently.

4 The state of being saturated with water.

1820 J. HUNT *Indicator* No. 11 (1822) I. 164 The sudden missing, of one's dry senses—the deep plunge and bubbling, and wrapping up in heavy wateriness. 1832—*Poems, Hero & Leander* I. 120 Then rising with a sudden ceasing sound Of wateriness he sank on his firm ground. 1861—*Sour* (1864) 25 [The fly in a tea cup] then stops, and sinks down, saturated and overborne with wateriness.

5 Lachrymal moistness.

1850 SALA *Gaslight & Daylight* II. 17 A wateriness in the eye, and a hoarseness in the throat.

**Watering** (wǭ'tərĭng), *vbl. sb.* [f. WATER *v.* + -ING.]

†1 The action of the verb WATER.

†1 The action of carrying water. *Obs.*

c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 304 Syððan hi (sc. ða wyrtu) gewunde be ðæm æcewyrhtum ] ære wæteringe. c1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* 10 Fro pe Conduyt of Cornhulle to pe pistle wham yt is wele y tryed, pe ofte watering of hym teeth. c1440 *Alphab. of Med.* 140 And seue hem [the plants] in pe fyrste watering. 1573-80 LYLLY *Euph.* (1636) 102 Now set doo make watering, with pot or with dish. 1706 ARBUTHNOT *Gen. Assist.* 63 Light waterings when the earth is dry. 1711 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 130 ¶ 2 Every Plant in Indus, without watering would run half the plants. *fig.* a1633 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 581 Folly growes without watering.

2 (See quot. as an act) of soaking or steeping in water or of impregnating with a liquor.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* A. XVII. xcv. (1495) 669 Some leguimina ben made swete and swoun wyth good watryng. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. (1600) ? 198 An ouerwhelming to forces that neither the 3 pine be burnt in tarring, nor the hempe rotted in the watering. 1699 J. ALLISON *Lay Archangel* 30 I viewed the Ship Lay overboard for watering to be hauled in. *Ibid.* 43 The night past we lost 13 pieces of Beef, as they hung a watering. 1827 STUART *Planter's Guide* (1828) 499 The liquid is to be drawn off in tablespuls and poured down over the heap. A second or third watering, as it may be necessary, but not one acre done.

5. The application of water to a road, etc. in order to lay the dust.

1573 *Hum. wrt. Lond.* 120 All the Watring scarce being able to lay the Dust the Horses and Coaches raise. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 89/1 The defendants employed inspectors to superintend the watering of their streets.

6 The action of giving drinking water to cattle, horses, etc., also, the action of (an animal) of going to the water to drink.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 ‡ Watrynge, or peyynge drynke to beestys, *adequacio*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 120 It is good also to observe due times for his feeding his watering, and his trauayle. 1612 BRETON *Excell.* 16 Doeth not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his oxe or his asse from the stall and leade him away to watering? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 747 Thus he satisfies Cerberus' rage with a watering in the well known Flood, To quench his Thirst. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xx, The horses were being led out to watering. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 110 Mounted bands are accustomed to go several days without watering.

†b *transf.* (A person's) act of drinking. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKE. *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 37 When you breath in your watering, then they [ie. sir drawers] cry hem, and bid you play it off.

†c A light refreshment between meals. *Obs.*

c1625 FLETCHER *Elder Bro.* I. ii, He dines with Tully, takes his watering with the Muses, sups with Livy.

7. *Scots Law* (See quot.)

1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvii. § 11. 345 Watering is a Servitude of taking water, proper to one Ground for the use of another, whether it be for the Cattel of the dominant Ground, which is most ordinary, or for other uses thereof.

8. The action of procuring fresh water for a ship.

1683 J. SAND *Voy. Tripoli* (Hakl. Soc.) 68 The 29th we made an ende of watring, hauing taken in 30 tunes, and good store of Wood. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 9 Building a Tent, to shelter the People who were to be employ'd in Watering. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 493/1 On Friday 11th, his watering completed, Herbert was out again and cruising along the north coast of Jamaica.

9. The action or process of giving a 'watered' appearance to the surface of a material. Cf. 20.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 9 The surfaces of those threads that run the long way, are by the Mechanical process of watering, cream'd or angled in another kind of posture then they were by the weaving. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 140 Moire Watering, by other Methods. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1280 Watering of stuffs (Moirage, Fr.) is a process to which silk and other textile fabrics are subjected. 1841 H. WILKINSON *Engines of War* 200 The *Scorcher*, or watering, of the genuine Damascus blades, I conceive to have been originally introduced by two principal causes, first, [etc.]. 1859 *Abridg. Specif. Patents Paper* etc. II. 23 Fabrics for ornamenting walls. An effect called 'watering' may be produced by pressing and 'ironing' two thicknesses together between heated rollers. 1887 F. POLLOCK in *Engraf. Brit.* XXII. 801/2 The 'damascening' or 'watering' of choice Persian and Indian arms.

10. Dilution with water.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 July 12/1 Indian and Ceylon teas are stronger and stand more watering. 1892 J. M. WALSH *Teas* 133 In the milk business the more elaborate sophistications are watering and skimming. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Sherlock Holmes* v, Six drops to the half pint seems a artful watering of grog. *fig.* 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 848 But is not a great deal of that broadening [of their faith] a watering down of the authority of Christianity to pure humanism?

11. Division of the capital of a trading company.

1885 *Christian Union* 15 Jan. 39/3 Nor has the management ever been charged with any watering of stock. 1893 *Nats.* (N. Y.) 27 Apr. 307/3 While doubling the partnership value is legitimate, doubling the shares of a corporation without payment for them is watering.

12. The action of 'taking the waters'.

1765 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 402, I shall have completed my watering [at Brighthelmstone] by the Sunday following.

13 Running (of the eyes), ? filling with tears.

c1500 *Destr. Troy* 2167 Thus carpes the kyng to his clene childur With wepinge and wo, wateryng of ene, Sobbyng and sikyng. 1585 HIGGINS *Nomenclator* 46 *Delachrymatio*, the watering of the eyes. 1608 TOURNEUR *Atheists Tragedy* 274 A droppe or two thereof dropped into the eyes, cureth the dropping or watering of them. 1889 J. S. *Light's Pilots Guide* I. 2 If your Cutter are troubled with a Fevour or Ague, you shall discover it by the watering of their eyes. 1899 *St. Luke's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 49 There was some watering of and photophobia in the left [eye].

14. Salivation of the teeth, mouth, or 'chops', induced by the thought or anticipation of appetizing food.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. i. 1. 157 He brought over with him dre Figs and Reasons the first fruits that ever it were of Chio and Wine for a taast, to set their teeth a watering. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xiii. 33 A Certain Fox spy'd out a Raven upon a Tree with a Piece of Cheese in his mouth, that set his Chops a watering. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 26. 3/1 Which will keep your hungry Chops from Watring. 1897 *All Sorts Horse Med.* III. 283 Form of ointment, Take of, Camphor, 1 drachm. An exaggeration resembles 'the watering of the chops of a healthy appetite, as 'water brash'.

15. 1590 DAVENPORT *Amphitryon* II. 1, You keep such a lilling and colling here, to set ones Mouth a watering. 1691 LOCKE *Money Wks.* 1727 II. 37 I hose who contend for four *per Cent* have found out a way to set Mens Mouths a watering for Money at that rate.

**II** Concrete senses.

†15. A place where horses and cattle are taken to drink. Chiefly as in b. *Obs.*

1598 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Control.* 305 Saying he would neither eate nor drinke, but with the Gentlemen: the Horse, who scarcely had cleared his horse so far as to the watering.

†b. *St Thomas (a, of) Watering(s*: the name of a place two miles from London on the pilgrims' road to Canterbury, near to a brook at which horses were watered. Until the 17th c. it was the place of public executions for Surrey, hence often in allusive use (cf. TYBURN). *Obs.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 826 And forth we ryden, a litel moore than paas Vnto the watering of Seint Thomas. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 480 And so be King and his prysoners passyd forth by ham, til he come vnto Seint Thomas watering. 1577 HOLINSHED *Descr. Irel.* (Vele) D v b, You thinke they come home by it burne, or S. Thomas of Watrings, and so they do in deede. 1581 *New Inuent of Heretiques*, A Bonefire at Seynct Thomas watrings (quoth he, I can not tell). 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1603) 162 Heate at Thomas Watrings may goe vaining. 1598 J. SYLVESTER *Newe Ann.* 111, To which, if he apply him, He may come to read a lecture Vpon Anatomies at S. Thomas a Waterings. And so goe forth at Laurrat in hempe cordes.

†c Supply of water for cattle. *Obs. rare.*

1573 *Boston Gaz.* 5 Apr. 4/2 Said Farm contains near Ninety Acres of Land which abounds with excellent Water ing, Pasturing, Mowing, &c.

†16. A well, spring, or other place where water is obtained for domestic use. *Obs.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. lxxxix, Cedron, Bethsaida, and each watring els Emposon'd be, both fountains, springs and well. 1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* iii. xiv. 252 Their washing is with great scrupulosity, in a common watering or in private cisternes, or fountaines.

†17. A place where vessels obtain a supply of fresh water. *Obs.*

1586 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. & Ind.* I. 18 The Captaine Generall came to the Watering of Saynt Blaze, which is three score leagues beyonde the Cape. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1758/1 The best Water, and the most commodious Watering of any place upon this Coast.

†18. Water for irrigation. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. liv. 380 But that such watering may be consighed in best sort for their growth, it must be prouided and brought by some lowe conduct. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 51 The Rain or other Waterings dissolve the Salts of the Earth.

**19.** A ditch for draining a marsh; ? the tract drained by such a ditch.

1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 128 *note*, A manuscript map [of Romney Marsh]...where the names and boundaries of the waterings...are very distinctly expressed. 1877 L. J. JENNINGS *Field Paths* I. 4 It is necessary to keep much to the right...for the 'waterings' are wide and numerous, and it is very easy to lose...time...on these marshes [of Winchelsea and Rye].

**20.** The wavy, variegated appearance given to silk, metal, etc. = MOIRÉ 2. Cf. 9.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 77 When others [Cardinals] had their Caps of Red, they had theirs of water'd Chamlets, and when others wore their Purple, theirs was without watering. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 727 Metallic Watering, or for Blanc Moiré. 1880 *Ure's Dict. Arts* etc. (ed. 5) III. 195 The bold waterings...depend not only on the quality of the silk, but greatly on the way in which they are folded when subjected to the enormous pressure in watering.

**III. 21.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *watering-bucket, -hole, -party, -pit, -pond, -pool, -tank, -time, -trough, tub, -vessel.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Watering-bucket.* In the United States service the regulation bucket is made of solid leather. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 68 Appoint a place for washing clothes clear of the *watering hole. 1890 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 98/2 When the natives had constructed a number of water-bags...a 'watering party was despatched with these. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Abrevadero*, a poole, a *watering pit. 1870 N. F. HELM *Edinburgh* VII. 56 From the *watering pond I observed a hawk of this species. 1539 *MSS. Dn. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 304 The *watering powles in the parke. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 853 (*note*) A proper construction of a watering-pool is sadly misunderstood in this country. 1697 DAVDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 14 Your lowing Heyfars, of their own accord, At *watring time will seek the neighb'ring Ford. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxx. 38 In the gutters in the *watering troughes where the flocks came to drinke. 1908 *Animal Management* (War Office) 199 Watering troughs should be of sufficient height to prevent restless animals pawing over the rim. 1790 *Act* 31 *Geo. III* c. 17 § 20 Provided always, That previous to any Vote or Votes...for Watering, Soiling, or other Provision, being taken down,...Notice...shall be given. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15189 A man par yow sal mete, A *watriu vessel in his hand.

**22.** Special comb.: **watering-bridle**, a bridle with a snaffle-bit, used chiefly when taking a horse to be watered; also *attrib.*; **watering-call** *Mil.* (see quot.); **watering-can** = WATERING-POT 1; † **watering cap**, a cavalryman's fatigue cap; **watering-cart** = WATER-CART; † **watering-house**, an inn or public house where stage coachmen and hackney coachmen may obtain water for their horses and refreshment for themselves; **watering man** = WATERMAN 4; **watering order** *Mil.*, the order in which cavalry are drawn up when going to water their horses; **watering-pan** = WATERING-POT; † **watering saddle**, a saddle used by cavalry when riding their horses to water; **watering slip**, a causeway sloping down into a river, for watering cattle, etc.; **watering snaffle**, cf. *watering-bridle*; **watering stone**, ? a water-trough or a fountain; † **watering-table** = WATER-TABLE 1.

1900 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 347 Item, for ane small *watering bridillis in Jedworth, ijs. 1680 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1583/4 A watering bridle and snaffle. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 983/1 Watering bridle-bit or snaffles. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.*, *Watering-Call*, a trumpet sounding, on which the cavalry assemble to water their horses. 1692 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (1871) 147 For a whyt iron *watering kan to ye yard, 2 0 0. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 1143 Introducing...the strong lye of crude soda, through the rose spout of a watering-can. 1851 *Dhaus & Mell. Gardeners' Mag.* May 70 As the plants now cover the tops of the pots,...there will be a greatly increased demand for the watering-can. 1898 SOUTHEY *Cowper's Wks.* VII. 265 He was returning...from an evening drill of the regiment of volunteer cavalry,...being dressed accordingly in a flannel jacket, with a *watering cap. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 73 A *watering-cart, not unlike that with which the roads near London are watered. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Apr. 7 Watering carts, conducted by Indian soldiers, are also spraying the roads. 1842 *Brit. Cyclopædia Husbandry* I. 240 The numerous *watering-houses upon the Kentish road, where postillions and stage coachmen generally refresh their horses. 1850 DICKENS *Mr. Boz, Sketches—Night Watermen*...who have been...rushing about for the last two hours, retire to their watering-houses. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 185 The Inspectors are to see that all the *watering men wear their badges or numbers. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 3/5 The regiment...quitted the Spital Barracks early in the morning in *watering order. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *30 Yrs. Public Service* x. 130 The hours for *watering order', feeding, cleaning, exercising, and cleaning down. 1827 STUART *Planter's Guide* 316 Gardeners usually recommend, that all *watering should be performed with the *Watering-pan, as more accurately imitating the genial rains. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1606/4 There was also taken away, a *watering Saddle. 1796 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 3 Coach, Coach-man and two Horses...were swept down to the *Watering-slip. 1804 in *Athenæum* (1908) 16 May 605/1 For 2 *watering snaffles, iis. 1888 1838-42 *J. H. Wilson's Tales Borders* (1851) VII. 254 In my wanderings, I had entered King's Park by the eastern stile, at the *watering-stone. 1809 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 132, 28 stone lights with there *watering tables.

**Watering** (wɔ̄·tərin), *ppl. a.* [f. WATER *v.* + -ING 2.] That waters.

**1. a.** Of eyes: Discharging watery fluid; running.

*a* 1400–50 *Sleckh. Med. MS.* 127 For wattringye eyne. *c* 1440 *Jf. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 67 Take a rede cowle leaf, ...and ley hit in to be watrynge eyen. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. A v b, Wormwode...heleth the watering sores in the corner of the eyes. 1809 LYTTON *K. Arthur* II. BEKKI, 'And now checkmate !' the wrathful sire exclaims, With watering eyes.

**b.** Of the teeth, mouth: Secreting saliva profusely in anticipation of appetizing food. Also *fig.*

1590 J. LANE *Contn. Squire's T.* x. 542 But now to tell theire Daintie, roial, fare,...Of march pane stuff, which watering teeth soone boordes [etc.]. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Ode* 1. ii, Ye sharp State-mousers, with your watering jaws. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlviii, Diogenes...had been eyeing his intended breakfast with a watering mouth. 1869 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* xi, Those who knew about James Falcon gave their watering mouths a wry twist.

**2.** In transitive sense: Irrigating.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 553, I feel a music which comes straight from Heaven, As tender as a watering dew.

Hence **Wa·teringly** *adv.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 564 No more alide are wee to giue birth to so high desires, then to looke on the Sunne, without hauing...our eyes cast wateringly for presumptuous gazing.

**Watering-place.** [WATERING *vbl. sb.*]

**1.** A place in a river or lake where animals are brought to obtain water: also a pool or trough prepared for the use of cattle and horses.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Watryngge place, where beestys lyyn watre, *cadaparium*. 1478 BUONDE *Itin.* (1778) 208 Ultra le Weere et le watering place. 1558 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 119 For mayskyng of wattryng places in the Cowpasture. 1709 *Inclosure Act, etc. Worcester* 3 The said Commissioners may set out for any common watering place or places. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxix, The by-path...brought him...to the bottom of the Clyde, at a spot marked with the feet of horses, who were conducted to it as a watering-place. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* VI. *s. v. Canal*, Watering places for cattle are sometimes erected to be made, especially where the fields have been deprived of their old ones by the cutting of their canal. 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* xx, One of those watering-places...on the run.

**2.** A place where a ship's company goes to fill the ship's casks with fresh water.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 3 The 16th we anchored at the watering place called Tinga Jasus, being 12 leagues from Bantam. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xii. (1840) 209 We sent the...boats...to the watering-place. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Watering-Place*, a situation where boats can land with fresh water for the use of ships. 1819 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 283 St. Helena...the chief remaining watering-place on the direct route between the Comoros and hone waters.

*b. gen.* A place where a supply of water can be obtained.

1620 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 288 Wee had all sortes of refreshments untill certayne Portingalls...forbid and debarred the watering place. 1898 STANLEY *Short* & *Pat.* vii. (1858) 287 It [the Jordan] is still the 'Sheriat-el-Khebir' the 'great watering-place' of the Bedouin tribes. 1908 *Parish Councils Act* 75 At Gayden (Worcestershire) the parish council was given a good supply of water...The parish council of Humshaugh...has bought the freehold of a small piece of land,...so as to secure for ever a public watering place.

**3.** A resort of fashionable or holiday visitants, either for drinking or bathing in the waters of a mineral spring, or for sea-bathing.

1787 FOOTE *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 137 Tunbridge, Bristol, and the other watering places. 1826 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xiv. § 33 A Watering Place does not want the help of the sea to make it execrable; the inland Spa is not a jot behind the Fribing-town in the article of tortures. 1842 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 80, I shall...go to a watering-place on the continent. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. III. 83 Tunbridge Wells, now a gay watering-place, consisting of twelve hundred houses. 1891 HARDY *Tess* lvi, In a quarter of an hour the news...spread through every street and villa of the popular watering-place. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment by gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**4.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**5.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**6.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**7.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**8.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**9.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**10.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**11.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**12.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**13.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**14.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**15.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**16.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**17.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**18.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**19.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**20.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**21.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**22.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**23.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**24.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**25.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**26.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**27.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**28.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**29.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**30.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**31.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**32.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**33.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**34.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**35.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**36.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**37.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**38.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**39.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**40.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**41.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**42.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**43.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**44.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**45.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**46.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**47.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**48.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**49.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**50.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fortunately for himself, had knocked up a watering-place match. 1854 SOUTHEY *Handley Cr.* II. (1902) I. 15 A watering-place public, over which the Treasurer presided. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 304 The treatment for gout—including in one case a visit to Aix-les-Bains and other European 'watering places'.

**51.** *Sc.*

1837 HR. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 93 Such watering-place manners as I saw at Rockaway are considered and called vulgar on the spot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The Honourable Mrs. Neville Norwich, fort

**9** Of light or of luminous bodies: Dimmed by watery vapour

1607 Middleton *Michaelmas Term* iii. 45 Like a hung ing moon a little waterish while 1669 *Phil Trans* I IX 384 The disturbance on the Sun's limb [was] so undulatory pointed ill defined waterish 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) II 430 A very narrow waterish penumbra appeared round Venus 1845 Lieutenant *Lee Rambles* I 198 The second walk agreably perplexed by the waterish moonlight

**†10** Of ground Damp, wet. *Obs*

1582 Lupton *Herbal* 15 Gentian growethe in shadowe and waterishe places 1664-6 *Phil Trans* I 328 Rice prospers most in waterish grounds

**†11** Juicy, succulent *Obs*

1591 A. W *Ebb Cookspe* 12 b Lake or ory well-witshe Apples, pare them fetch them home and bake by a vellent fruits, so watersh that they even melt like snow in the mouth

Hence **We·terishly** *adv*., **We·terishness**

1532 Herbert *Ans pb II touch* 45 He also muste tume vp so downe and stvrre the grounde, that the sorenes an I the rawe watrishenesse of his may be warmed and well dryed vp 1591 Greene *Carde of Fancie* Iiiiv 238 More chilly and watrishly do others expound it 1603 F Cartwright *Confut Rhem N T* (1618) 244 The weakness and watrishes of your argument 1650 H Bridge *Lowest Seat* iii 91 Overmuch Coolness, or Waterishness in the Head 1872 Miss Braddon *Rob Annesley* II, You and my late master's nephew are like as—if I not say two drops of water, for there is little waterishness in your composition

**We·ter-knot.** [Knot *sb.*1] A kind of knot used in joining together the several portions of a fishing line (see quot 1847).

a 1450 *Pynkyn cr n Anyle* (1883) 12 13 Thenne must ye knyte theym y gydre with a water knotte And by cause that ye sholde knowe dyuerse the water knotte & also the duchys knotte I o them here is figure exacte and truely be newe of the draughte 1686 H Prince *Cyder Anderose*, 51 With a Water-knot (in which you must make both the links to fasten) tye it in so that [etc.] 1795 Hutton *Math Dict* v. *Knot A Fisher's knot or Waterknot* 1847 St Hart *Angler's Comp* 44 The Water knot Single and Double is completed simply by laying the ends of the two threads links, or strands required to be joined, alongside of each other the double the one round the forefinger of the right hand and passing one of the links and its correspondent end through the loop thus formed, draw all tight 1885 H Cholmondeley-Pennell *Fishing* (Badm.) 38 What is known as the single fisherman's knot (sometimes called 'water knot')

**† We·terlade** *Obs* [f. Water *sb.*+Lade *sb.*1] A channel for water, an aqueduct

[c 1050 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 399/4 *Aquaeductum* [= aquæ pl] watterzeladu] *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 11936 Lakes seuen he made o dis, And til likn a fur he mi[de Pat wold be ful wit water lade, Pat was nu fra and till Vse of ic flum al atte wil *Ib f* 23019 1481 *Caxton Eneydos* 28 Put euery doctor of this Citie that hath a waterlad ouer the ca[n]n Ryver schall pay for euery waterlade xiid 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Dial* i 147 The chanells were not skoured but the water lades stopped up either through negligence, or deliberation

**† We·terlag.** *Obs.* [? Short for next] An epithet of abuse

a 1580 Skelton *Sp Parr* 188 Mors she myne owne shelfe, the sternonger say[s] I cure the better, ye lryah waterlag

**† Water-lagger.** *Obs* [f. Lag *v.*1 + -er1] = Water-leader

1519 Horman *Vulg* 222 b There is ryen a fray amonge the water laggers [L. *amphoras*] *a* 1530 A Barclay in *Sallust's Jugurth* xxviii. 36 He commanded that the pages, waterlaggers and workmen should not come nere the ryuer nor folowe the same [*ne ii vero qui aquarentur exercitum*]

**We·terlander.** [f. *Waterland*, a district in North Holland + -er1] (See quots.)

1862 *Chamb Encycl* x 119 This name divide I the body, as early a 1554, into the Mild and the Strict Mennonites. The first are known by the title of Waterlanders 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 12 2 The Waterlanders in North Holland, who held the least strict doctrine of excommunication

So **We·terlandian** [ian]

1765 A Maclaine *Mosheim's Eccl Hist* (1768) V 49 The more made are Anabaptists as composed of certain inhabitants of Waterland Flanders, Friesland, and Germany, who commonly pass under the denomination of Water Landians 1839 *Penny Cycl* XXV 180 2 The followers of Menno very soon split into two sects the Flemings and the Waterlandians so called from the countries in which they are e

*attrib* 1765 A Maclaine *Mosheim's Eccl Hist* (1768) V 50 One of these Waterlandian sects was divided, in the year 1664 into two factions

**We·terlandish,** *a nonce-wd* [ish1] Characteristic of the theologian Daniel Waterland (1683–1740).

1762 Sterne *Tr Shandy* VI xii, This sermon upon the jewish dispensation—I don't like it at all—though I am there in a world of *waterlandish* knowledge in it,—but 'tis all critical, and most critically put together

**We·ter-lane.**

1 *dial.* A green lane with a stream running along it

1872 *Daily News* 24 Oct., Anything analogous to the leaping Chine of the Isle of Wight, the Guernsey Waterlye, or those noisy streamlets which abound in the hilly districts of Ireland. *a* 1876 M Collins *Pen Sk* (1879) I 173 The cool water lanes of Guernsey 1895 [D Jerdan & Max J A Owen] *Ann Fishing Village* xi. 104 It was a water lane—a public way for any cart horse or cow that the owners might think fit to take there—as wide as an ordinary road.

2 A narrow passage of open water, e g between masses of reeds or between lines of shipping

1883 G C Davies *Norf Broads* ii 18 We cross the Broad and the river, and enter a narrow water lane between the reeds. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* 2 A convoy was coming up a wet river between two lines of shipping, just behind us

**† Water-lapper.** *Obs* One who 'lappeth of the water with his tongue' (*Judges* vii. 5).

1562 Udall *Apophthegmes* (1877) 278 No less miraculous acts were expected and promised then those of Gideon with his water lappers 1676 W Row *Contn Blair's Autob* x (1848) 163 Captain Ellis company were all water lappers, Judges vii 5-7, and bible bearers

**We·ter-lead** (led) [Lead *sb.*1] **a** A mill-lead **b** An open channel through an ice field

1641 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 371/2 Lue water leads &c 1800 G W Napier *Walsh Scott Londonderry* 341 But the ice turn, the [swimmers] fey are killed in great numbers in passing through the water leads by the mill wheels of the black grains 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVIII (1856) 130 But to seaward open water leads gladden us in every direction

**† Water-leader.** *Obs*

1 One who carts water for sale.

[c 1250 *Cal Ancient Doc* iii 7310, Grant by Adgarus of Stel chee to John le Waterleadere of Essenesfeld of 12 land between land of Richard son of Geoffrey le Water ladere (etc.)] 1397 *Black A A Fleet Doc* 3 50 If 6 barrans & Cowdelle & Waterleedere 1350 in Riley *Memoranda* (1868) 54 [the carters, called] waterleders [shall take for the cart from Douues gate to Chepe, 18d] 14 *Nom in* Wr Wülcker 599/35 *Hic aquaductor* a waterleder 15 in *Lond Mysts* (1883) Introd 53 Many Waterleders [join with the Cokes in presenting a play] 1503 in R Davies *Extr Munc Rec* 308 (1842) 237 note, The cookes shall yerely geddre [sic] a silver of the waterleders and sendeleders t ward the supportacion and charge of bringyng forth of the pageaunt of the same Lee 1600 *Chest r Plays* Banes 75 the gardiner, the water leader [and drawers of dee], see that your A ke in all poynts I e prepared

2 In Irish iron-works (see quot)

1845 Sir J Guest *Ireland's Mat Hist* xxii 334 Water leaders or Water canals keepers to steer the Water courses, and to look to them constantly

**We·ter-leaf.**

1 Any plant of the genus *Hydrophyllum*.

1760 J Lee *Introd Bot* App 332 Water leaf, *Hydrophyllum*

2 *Arch* An ornament used in sculptured capitals, supposed to be a conventionalized representation of the leaf of some aquatic plant.

1852 Robbin *Stones Lon* I xxvii § 93 Where the Byzantine is prevalent in the capitals [and] will be seen the Corinthian water leaf *a* 1878 Sir G Scott *Lect Archit* (1879) I 110 M st of the capitals are of the simple water leaf form as prevalent in the early Pointed in England 1912 F Bond *Cathedrals* 50 The voluted water leaf of the capitals [in the Galilee at Durham]

3 (See quots.)

1796 J Hill *Exposit Obj Art Manuf f Lapidaries* 25 When dry, it is a complete paper, but of the kind called waterleaf, which will absorb ink into its freely, and there it cannot be written on 1855 Ure *Dict Arts Manuf & Mines* (ed 5) II 1 Paper whose whole texture is uniform, and in the condition in which the paper appears after being pressed between the felts—this is the first stage 1865 *Technologist* III 293 The trivial name of water leaf is unsized paper, into which ink runs at once if not used soon after purchase, it is one of the chemical tests of the best new papers

**We·ter-leaves** (wō tatlev), *a* [Ob. *waterlest* = Du. *waterlaes*, OHG. *watarlist* (mod G. *wasserlilie*), see Water *sb.* and -less] Destitute of water, containing no water, unsupplied with water

c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Luke xi 24 *Per locu inaquosa* Beeh stowa waterleasa c 1000 *Ælfric Gen* xxxvii 24 [He] sende hine on done waterleasan seaþ *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 4156 In pis wast i wat a pite, Dri and waterles es it *a* 1300 *E Pealter* cvi 35 He set in out gang of waines lund waterleas 1340 *Ayenbite* 238 Chalcas *Prol* 180 A water-leaf, wham he is rec helpes is liknet til a fissh pat is waterleaf, c 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* (E E T S) 44 Pos 3e waterles wede, 3e schyne nogt a droppe *c* 1400 *Maundev* (Cotton MS Dighy 180) 120 And ben ye houndes vnclene holde and vnclene kept, or longe waterles hath communlych pe manewe 1526 Tindale *Luke* xi 24 When the vncleane spirite is gone out of a man he walketh through waterlesse places seekynge rest 1577 Kendall *Flowers Epigr* 42 b, Can seas be waterless and drie? can hilles be dales without? 1643 Trapp *Gen* I 20 Is ye same waterless place that could not satisfie me in the waterless pit 1828 Duppa *Trav Italy*, etc 376 Here and there a little waterless fount un completes the design 1834 Southey *Doctor* iv 31 [When] houses vncleane holde and vncleane kept, or longe waterless

heights above the keel, and collectively determine the exterior form of the vessel.

1730 Blanckley *New. Expositor, Water Line*, is that which goes round the Ship at the Surface of the Water, and shews the true Shape of her Body. 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 395/1 In ships that draw more water abaft than afore, the water lines will not be parallel to the keel. 1830 Hedgkiss *Mar. Archit.* 186 Having the diagonals drawn on the body-plan, next draw in the water-lines. The water-lines and tramoms are commonly drawn first on the sheer-plan, and transferred to the body-plan. 1851-4 *C. Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 306 The principal lines employed in constructing a draught... Water lines, which in the sheer plan are straight lines drawn parallel to the surface of the water, and in the half-breadth plan they show the form of the ship by the successive breadths marked at heights corresponding with the water lines in the sheer plan... The upper water line in the half-breadth plan is the line of flotation. 1878 D. Kemp *Man. Yacht Sailing* 377 *Water Line*, a horizontal plane passing through a vessel longitudinally. A line shown in the half-breadth plan of a ship drawing.

**b.** *attrib.*, as in *water-line pattern, plan, model.*

1867 Emerson *May-day* 205 What god is this imperial Head?.. Doth it bear hidden in its heart Water-line patterns of all art, All figures, organs, bees, and graces? 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Water-line model.* The same as *keel-model.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Water-line Model*, a model formed by boned shaped according to the draught-lines on the paper, and laid upon each other to form a solid model.

**4.** The weather-mark or stain on a wall showing where a roof formerly terminated against the wall.

1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 148 A new roof was constructed, the pitch of which was regulated by the water-line on the eastern face of the tower.

**5.** = Water-level 3. (See quot. 1897.)

1849 Denipsey *Drainage Districts & Lands* 90 Districts lying below the level of the adjacent river, or so little above it that drains of adequate capacity must have their beds below the water-line, necessarily require artificial means of discharging the drainage waters. 1869 R. B. Smyth *Gold Fields Victoria* 6-15 Whether the water is at the water-line, or whether it is struck in the various shafts. 1890 *Nature* 27 Nov. 94/2 The absence of water passing into the ground for a long period naturally leads to a lowering of the water-table or water-line. 1897 Rideal *Water & Purif.* 84 The 'line of saturation', or water-line, is the level at which the water stands, and to which it will rise in wells, in any water-bearing stratum.

**6.** The outline of a coast.

1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 159 The water-line of the island appears to more advantage. Among many smaller indentations of the coast, the bays of Totland, and Newtown, are considerable. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xivi. (1856) 123 The water-line was toothed with fangs of broken ice, which scraped against the beach as the tides rose and fell.

**7.** A linear watermark in paper.

1849 De Morgan *Arithm. Bks.* Introd. p. xiii, It is supposed ...that the waterlines are perpendicular in folio, octavo, and decimo-octavo books, and horizontal in quarto and decimo. 1868 *Sotheby's Principia Typogr.* III. 32 In the identification of the manufacture of paper, two very important points must be observed: first, the distance between the divisional water-lines caused by the thicker upright wires of the sieve; and secondly, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 80 Remarkably thick and spongy paper, having been much sized; the upright water-lines scarcely visible.

Hence **Waterlined** *a.*, of paper, marked with water-lines. **Waterliner**, a sheet that hits a vessel on the water-line.

1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* ii. 21 Oh, good shot! That was a water-liner... That was the Marines' three-pounder.

**Waterlog** (wɔ̄·təlɒg), *v.* [app. f. Water *sb.* + Log *v.*]

Cf. Log *v.*[1] 3 a, where the only example cited is:—1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* lxxvi, Several feet of under-water logging in her hold. In this passage (qu. editions have altered *logging* into *lodging*) this is doubtless wrong, but the sense of 'logging' is somewhat obscure. The likeliest view seems to be that it has absolute sense of active sense, 'to reduce (a ship) to the condition of a log': cf. quot. 1622 under Log *sb.*[1] 2, 'Having lost all her masties, and being no other than a logge in the sea.'

The finite verb is not recognized in previous Eng. dictionaries, which give only *waterlogged* ppl. adj.]

**1.** *trans.* To render (a ship, etc.) unmanageable by flooding with water: see Waterlogged *ppl. a.*

1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 101 The Borneo carried so much sail, just before she foundered; and took in a sea forward, which water-logged her. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 57 A sudden leak...water-logged her. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 17 The fearful wave had waterlogged the Friendship from bow to stern. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 345/1 A tremendous sea broke on board, ...opened her hatches, and waterlogged her.

**2.** To saturate with water so as to render inert.

1870 R. W. P. Hatch *Disposal Town Sewage* 6 This last-mentioned method of applying sewage to land, waterlogs the earth. 1878 Ramsay *Phys. Geog. & Geol.* (ed. 5) 137 Beds of coal are not the result of woody matter drifted into, and waterlogged in, lake hollows, by rivers.

**3.** *fig.*

1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* ii. 29 This alteration added to the assembly about 100 members—and waterlogged Congregation at one stroke. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 24 Mar. 4/5 No schemes of purchase ...can ever waterlog the Post Office. State telephone department with a large amount of unproductive capital.

Hence **Water-logging** *vbl. sb.* Also **Water-logger.** (For the sense cf. Waterlogged 3 b.)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 321 Pulmonary oedema in renal diseases is not always a mere accompaniment of general water-logging. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 2/2 Whereas a few years ago only two [butter-making] companies were engaged in water-logging, there were now over 100. *Ibid.* 2/3 It was his business to cater for the honest trading classes and not for fraudulent water-loggers [in butter-making]. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* June 60 There are four main divisions under which adulteration might be classed: —(1) milk-blending, (2) water-logging, (etc.).

**Waterlogged** (wɔ̄·təlɒgd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].

(The form *water-lodged* in Lescallier *Vocab. des Termes de Marine Anglois et François*, Paris 1777, and in *Encycl. Brit.* 1797, is an ill-advised attempt at correction of *water-logged* in Falconer's Dict.)]

**1.** Of a ship, boat: Flooded with water by leakage or overflow so as to become impaired in buoyancy, heavy, and unmanageable.

1769-78 Falconer *Dict. Marine, Water-logged*, the state of a ship when, by receiving a great quantity of water into her hold, by leaking, &c. she has become heavy and inactive upon the sea, so as to yield without resistance to the efforts of every wave rushing over her decks. 1797 S. James *Navy. Voyage* 135 The vessel being nearly water-logged, every high sea washed over her. 1817 Oxley *Journ. Two Exped. N.S. Wales* (1820) 145 Our little bark was however completely water logged. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 478 The Virgin visibly conveyed the water-logged ship over the breakers safely to the shore. 1841 H. Miller *Herd Inspr. King.* ii. (1857) 18 As if becalmed in its voyage, a water-logged hulk, that failed to press on towards its port of destination. 1865 Parkman *Pioneers of Fr.* ii. (1892) 40 The gale subsided; and...the crazy, water-logged vessel again bore slowly toward France. 1918 G. A. Birmingham *Inviolable Sanctuary* v, He climbed over the dredger...and dropped from her into a small waterlogged punt.

**b.** *transf.*

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 61 You will be glad to hear that we have recovered ourselves from that waterlogged country called Holland. 1848 Thoreau *Maine Woods* (1894) 7 That other [house] with a waterlogged look, as if it were still airing and drying its garments.

**c.** *fig.* and in fig. context.

1775 Burke *Regic. Peace* iv. Sel. Wks. (1892) 250 Tumbling from the Gallick coast, the victorious tenth wave shall...poop the shattered, weather-beaten, leaky, water-logged vessel [of the Government]. 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* (1858) i. 9 A poor water-logged Logician can pronounce nothing. 1867 Lowell *Pictorial Pr.* Wks. 1890 II. 142 His mind drifts, too waterlogged to attempt to steer.

**2.** Of floating bodies: Saturated with water so as to be deprived of buoyancy.

1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 241 When timber is drifted down by a river, it is often arrested by lakes, and becoming water-logged sinks to the bottom. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* § 2. 370 After death...the body was thus suspended with the belly uppermost, till it became water-logged, and buried in the silt. 1881 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. 313 Water-logged tree trunks clung among the roots projecting into the sluggish stream.

**3.** Suffering from, deteriorated or rendered unserviceable by, excessive saturation with water.

1809 Malkin *Gen. Account Country of Cumon.* 8 A gravelly soil may embrace...the waterlogged yellow clay. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 969 In the course of years, however, many water-logged fissures come to be cured by the workings. 1858 Gurney *Gardener's Everyday Bk.* 208/1 All the plants throughout the house should be often examined to see that none are pot-bound, or water-logged. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 150/1 Cyclists cannot extract enjoyment from a water-logged day. 1895 *Daily News* 24 June 8/5 They have completed arrangements for borrowing £20,000 to be spent in draining waterlogged allotments. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 613 The arterial pressure falls at last...and in spite of free perspiration the tissues become water-logged. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. African Stud.* 587 For fear that the rotten water-logged earth we were on might give way.

**b.** Of butter: Containing an excess of water.

1906 *Macm. Mag.* June 608 A large quantity of water-logged, and adulterated butter was being manufactured for the purpose of being sold fraudulently.

Hence **Waterloggedness.**

1854 Thoreau *Walden* iv. Writ. 1918 II. 198.

**Waterloo** (wɔ̄·təlū·). The name given to the battle fought outside the village of Waterloo, near Brussels, on June 18, 1815, in which Napoleon was decisively and finally defeated. Hence (with *a, his*): Something which is a 'settler'; a decisive and final contest; chiefly in the phrase *to meet one's Waterloo.*

1816 Byron *To Moore* 3 Dec., It [Armenian] is...a Waterloo of an Alphabet. 1842 [Anton *Donnet. Recoll.* (1850) 98 If there must be a Waterloo, let it be a conflict for all the minister's rights, so that he may never require to go to law in his lifetime again. 1889 *Times* (weekly ed.) 24 June 9 3 He will have fought and lost his Waterloo.

**b.** The name of a bright blue tint (see quots.).

1823 Moore *Country Dance & Quadrille* 84 Eyes of blue (Eyes of that bright, victorious tint, Which English maids call 'Waterloo'). 1851 Mrs. Bury Palliser *Hist. Lace* (1869) 68 If there must be a Waterloo, let it be a conflict for all the minister's rights, so that he may never require to go to law in his lifetime again. 1889 *Times* (weekly ed.) 24 June 9 3 He will have fought and lost his Waterloo.

**b.** The name of a bright blue tint (see quots.).

1823 Moore *Country Dance & Quadrille* 84 Eyes of blue (Eyes of that bright, victorious tint, Which English maids call 'Waterloo'). 1851 Mrs. Bury Palliser *Hist. Lace* (1869) 68 The frock...was of that dark bright blue colour called Waterloo, after the somewhat recent battle of Waterloo.

**c.** *attrib.*: **† Waterloo bang-up,** = *Waterloo cracker*; **Waterloo blue** (cf. b. above); **† Waterloo cracker,** a kind of firework (cf. Cracker 6); **† Waterloo fig,** an artificial fly with blue wings; **† Waterloo hornet** (see quot.).

1826 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1310 His companion cracks a 'Waterloo bang-up in their faces. 1858 Miss Sewell *Ursula* vii, There she was...dressed out in a bright blue silk dress,—what is called a 'Waterloo blue. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 430/1, I took 150...for 'waterloo crackers and ball crackers (the common trade names), 'waterloo' being the 'pulling crackers'. 1858 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 72 The child was letting off Waterloo crackers all over the floor. 1857 Kirkbride *Northern Angler* 61 The 'Waterloo Fly. 1887 *Pall Mall Budget* 27 Jan. 16/1 The uniform of the old Life Guards includes a 'Waterloo helmet, with crest and plume at the side.

**† Waterlyngke.** Obs. [f. Water *sb.* + *lyngke* = Linger. Cf. Broonlime and Wellinke.]

a 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 186 Waterlyngke: *fabris minor.*

**† Water-mail** 1. *Sc. Obs.* [Mail *sb.*[2]] A rent charged upon a piece of water.

1488 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 181/2 Þe þoþschippe of Abernethy with þe water mailys of Inuerne-s. 1488 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 381/1 Dicto duci hereditarie pertinentem de magnis custumis et aquarum firmis nuncupatis le Water Mailes burgi de Aberdene. 1500 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* II. 266 *note*, The yerlie pensioun gewin to hir of the custumes and water mails of oure said burrowis. c 1550 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) II. 312 (Index) a.s. de custumis Aberdonensibus videlicet de ly vatir mails.

**† Water-mail** 2. *Sc. Obs.* [The second element is obscure; possibly the word may be an incorrect Sc. reading of Water-mole.] Some kind of fur. Also *attrib.*

1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 136 Item, for watermaillis to lyne the saim gowne. 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 215 Item, put in ane stomok of the Quenis of blak satin, xex wattermaill skynnis. 1529 *Cathwell Tutors Pap.* (Maitl. Club) I. 57 Ane goun of tanny, lynit with wattermulis.

**Waterman** (wɔ̄·təmăn). [Cf. G. *wassermann* (in various senses), WFris. *wetterman*, Sw. dial. *vattenmann* (= sense 5).]

**† 1.** A seaman, mariner. *Obs.*

1 c 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2414 Wyghalyn one the wale thay wyn vp thaire ankers, ly wyt of the watyre-mone of the wale yther. 1549 *Maldon* (Essex) *Lilar B.* 136 b, John Boyes of Maldon did lye of Jn the Master in the Bridewell, Waterman, con hunderlih & xpar Scheelle oth oysters. 1550 Crowley *Spir. Perle* xxii. 165 Lyke as a waterman wyll neuer let out hys scyfle no fore, but that he may some pull it in again. 1598 G. Plattes *Discov. Subt. Inq. Trav.* (1639) 44 All Fishers and watermen can tell, for that they finde the water deepest in the lowest earth, and oldest where it is most compacted and firme: for the mountaines and hilles, and are depths and shallowes at Sea. a 1651 Sir J. Skeffington *Hero & Leander* (1652) 70 Cæsar...when he was fain to encourage his faint-hearted watermen in a tempest by saying, Be not afraid, for so thou wrongst the fortunes of Cæsar. 1680 Wheler *Journ. Greece* 301 Our Greek refused absolutely to go further with us unless by water. For he was a kind of Water-man, and was not of their faith, that had rather trust God Almighty by Land than by Sea.

**2.** A man working on a boat or among boats, *esp.* a boatman (as the licensed wherry-man of London) who plies for hire on a river, etc.

1458 *Forman's Mounuit. Christ's Hosp., Abingdon* 41 Ther loved hem a ladie was a water man longe: He helpe stop the steene til the werke were a fore. a 1533 Fabian *Chron.* vii. (1811) 628 Thus many of all sortes do take that auncient...custome, and was rowed thyther by water: for yᵉ which yᵉ watermen made of hym a roundell or songe to his great prayse. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Fayer le fort*, ...to pay the waterman his fare. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* P j b, And so imitate the waterman which lacketh one wage, and useth another. a 1619 Bacon *To Ld. Essex* Wks. 1730 IV. 48 And to her Majesty no other reason, but the reason of a waterman; I am his first man of those who serve in counsel of her. 1620 Hon. Com. *Camden's Brit.* v. (1637) 384 The inhabitants who dwell (of Henley on Thames) be for the most part Watermen, who make their chiefest gaine by carrying downe in their Barges wood and Corne to London. 1634 *Canterb. Depos.* (1907) II. 304 Seamen and Watermen are daily impressed,...to supply the shipps. 1697 Vanbrugh *Aesop* i. ii, Come, pay the Waterman, and take the Portmantua. 1772 E. Ives *Journ. St. Mus. Germany* (1775) II. 21 The boat moved so very slow, there being only one waterman, that it frequently seemed to stand still. 1824 *Mrs. Arbuthnot's Journ.* I. 261 Rates of Watermen. From London Bridge. 1834 *Y. Inn Hall* 27 July 238/3 The contest among the watermen of Putney for a purse of sovereigns...took place on Wednesday. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Steam Excursion*, Groups of watermen are assembled at the different stairs. 1860 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* I. v. 95 The watermen on the [college] barge shove them off by pushing against the stroke oars of the outside. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 368 One of the bullets struck a waterman in the Queen's barge.

**b.** *Waterman's knot* = Water-knot.

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 297 The Waterman's Knot...may be used. 1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

**c.** *colloq.* One having a (good) knowledge of boating, etc.

1921 'Guy Thorne' *Ct. Acceptance* i. 13 It is not to be understood that he was in any way a milk-sop. He was a good waterman upon the river, and at a time when young men of position did not indulge in cricket, football, [etc.]...he was put a faceless, skilful rider.

**d.** *slang.* (See quot.)

1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Waterman*, a light blue silk handkerchief. 1871 *Public Schools Cambridge Instr.* 1 was always wear these—light blue: for Cambridge, and a darker shade for Oxford.

**† 3.** = Aquarius. *Obs.* Cf. Waterbearer 2.

1565 B. Goocge tr. *Pagan. Proper Zodiac* xi. Q3, But very rare are these three, in Scorpio, the Waterman, the Twinnes. 1590 T. Hood *Use Celestial Globe* 35 b, The 11. [constellation] is *Aquarius*, the Waterman, which hath 42. starres.

**4.** A man employed in the irrigation or distribution of water; *e.g.* a water-carrier, a turncock or fireman, a man engaged in the irrigation of water-meadows, or in pumping.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4140 4 They [*sc.* the Fire-Insurance Co.] only Employ...their own Watermen. 1796 G. Semple *Building in Water* 46 At low Water I set all the Drudge and Watermen to that Corner. 1789 T. Wright *Hesth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 21 Two of our most skilful watermen were sent for to lay out a meadow of seven acres. 1794

T. David *Agric. Wills* 33 The water is thrown over as much of the meadow as it will cover well at a time, which the watermen call a 'Pitch of work'. 1853 Bremner *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed 2) 250 Each half company providing a woodmen, 2 watermen. 1877 L. Palma di Cesnola *Cyprus* 141 A sort of wicker yoke, which is put on the back of a donkey ridden by the water-man. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metallif. Min.* 495 *Water Hoy*, men employed in the extraction of water, especially with the rag and chain pump. 1912 Max Pemberton *Iron & Women* iii. I. 174 Kensington, Paddington, and Hampstead were frozen out... Weary water-men plugged the mains.

**b.** *esp.* An attendant at cab- or coach-stands, whose primary function was to water the horses.

1784 *Law Life* 69 Hackney-Coachmen... are sleeping in Night-Cellars, while the Watermen (as they are termed) are watering their Hrses. 1832 *Ann. Reg.* 321 Thomas Taverner, waterman to the coach stand. 1835 *Hackneys* 36. *Ibid. Hackney-coach Stands*, The waterman darts from the pump, seizes the horses by their respective bridles, and drags them, and the coach too, round to the box, ... leaving all the time for the coachman at the very top...of his voice. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* ii, It ended in a regular set-to between two watermen attached to the adjoining coach-stand. 1908 E. V. Lucas *Over Bemerton's* iv. (1921) 37 The waterman tends the cab rank and incidentally runs errands for the neighbourhood. *London* is rich in such watermen.

**5.** An imaginary being living in or under water, a water-demon, a merman.

1833 Knightley *Fairy Mythol.* II. 72, I am a Christian woman as well as you; and I was carried off by a waterman, who changed me... 1849 W. S. Gilbert *More Pooh-Ballads, Capt. & Mermaids* 43.

† **6.** In certain nonce-uses. **a.** One who uses water instead of wine in the Eucharist. **b.** A baptist. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) v-79 These seely women, that is to saie, that vse water onely, in celebrating the Lords supper, are iustly condemned. 1637 J. Watts *Scribe etc.* 1-19 If you...haue been newly dipt by some of the watermen, and haue been re-baptized Iohn.

**7.** *colloq.* A water-colour artist.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2/1 Oct. 11/2 The collection of water colours...including among its contributors many of the best living 'water-men'.

**8.** *Comb.* as *waterman-like* adj.

1623 Bp. Hall *c.t. Iosephus* Wks. (1625) 504 The Will (in both respects) shamefully makes forward, and reason backward. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Mar. 3/1 It was a moot point whether the Oxford or the Cambridge crew went through it...with the more watermanlike ease.

Hence **Waterman-like** *adv.*, as a waterman; skill in rowing or managing boats, etc.

1882 *Daily News* 18 Jan. 2 2 His weight...combined with good watermanship, fairly points to the conclusion that he will eventually prove to be one of the best oarsmen in this year's crew. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Aug. 3/1 A 'Varsity crew, carefully coached and with a fine knowledge of watermanship. 1894 R. C. Lehmann *Waterlog.* Pref., What may be called the seamanship of large racing craft, and the watermanship of smaller ones, is usually left to their skipper and crew. 1906 Buchan *Half-Hearted* 126 A canvas skiff which it took good watermanship to sit.

*attrib.* 1900 G. Swift *Somerley* 106 This .. is a very obvious bit of watermanship information.

**Water-mark, watermark,** *sb.* [Mark *sb.*] Cf. G. *wassermarke* (various senses.)

† **1.** *Sc.* A boundary mark indicating the line of separation between the waters of different rivers (belonging to different proprietors). *Obs.*

1632 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 652/2 Cum signis fluvialibus lie water markis intra aquas de Done et Loquhell. 1637 *Ibid.* 966/2 Cum molendino, multuris [&c.], signis fluvialibus lie water-markis inter aquas de Done et Loquhell.

**2.** The line (whether actually marked or not) forming the limit to which the tide, or the water of a river, well, flood, etc., has risen or usually rises. Cf. High-water mark, Low-water mark.

1678 Dryden *All for Love* i. i, Men and Beasts were born above the tops of Trees, that grew On th' utmost Margin of the Water-mark. 1752 *Act 24 Geo. II*, c. 8 § 16 Till the Water is sunk below the Watermark. c 1820 S. Rogers *Italy, Gondola* 70 Those hundred Isles...That rise abruptly from the water-mark. 1889 *Harsnet Ins's Sci. Gossip* XXV. 225 Thinking through the sand we h spe to find something in the water-mark.

*fig.* 1896 E. Augusta King *Frol. Highways to* The water-mark above which it is undesirable that any woman's knowledge shall rise.

**3.** A mark left by a flood.

1822 J. Flint *Lett. fr. Amer.* 191 A watermark on the beach showed that the Ohio had risen to the height of fourteen or fifteen feet. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ii. 14 Bright green reeds eight feet high, with a yellow watermark on their lower stems.

**4.** The line showing the draught of a ship.

1764 [J. Burton] *Pract. St. Navig. Thames* 36 The Gauger should first affix on the Side the Water-mark of 3 Feet Draught. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Water-mark*, the float-line or sinking depth of a ship. 1883 W. C. Russell *Sailors' Lang., Watermarks*, the figures on a ship's stern showing the depth of water she draws.

**5.** A distinguishing mark or device impressed in the substance of a sheet of paper during manufacture, usually barely noticeable except when the sheet is held against strong light.

So G. *wassermarke* (1781); the more common word is now *wasserzeichen* (*zeichen* sign). The name was prob. given because the water-mark, being less opaque than the rest of the paper, had the appearance of having been produced by the action of water.

1708 Hearne *Collect.* 11 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 98 Has sent specimens of old paper (for water-marks &c.). 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 374/2 He [Mathison] had discovered a method of counterfeiting the water-mark of the bank paper. 1789 Fenn *Orig. Lett.* I. Pref. p. xxi. *note*, The paper-marks are those figures formed by wires, on the sieve at the bottom of the mould on which the paper is made, and are impressed on it in its pulpy state...They are often called the water-marks. 1870 E. Peacock *Kalf Shirl.* II. 237 It showed a water-mark of a lion standing upright. 1913 F. W. Cornish *Jane Austen* x. 226 As the writing appears in the original manuscript are 1803 and 1804 it could not have been written before that time.

**b.** The metal design from which the impression is made.

1854 C. Tomlinson *Obj. Art-Manuf., Papers* The singular names of the older kinds of paper appear to have some connection with the devices formed in them by the water-marks. Water-marks are ornamental figures in wire or thin brass, sewn upon the wires of the mould, and like those wires, they leave an impression, by rendering the paper where it lies on them, thinner and more translucent.

**Water-mark,** *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

**1.** *trans.* To mark or stamp with a watermark.

1855 : see Water-marked *ppl. a.* 1889 W. Lockhart in *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 346/1 The Chinese ..for a long time past have had the art of water-marking paper. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 2 2 A number of forged Bank of France notes were submitted, watermarked 1,000 francs.

**2.** To modify as a watermark.

1889 *Century Mag.* Nov. 91/2 The volumes...are without the final refinement of the recurring title water-marked in the lower margins of the page.

Hence **Water-marked** *ppl. a.*; **Water-marking** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. 644 Wired and water-marked paper is hardly seen at present-days]. 1896 *Daily News* 4 June 7/3 The method of watermarking must not be forgotten. 1897 *Ibid.* 10 July 8/1 All the dies and water-marking plates are here designed, and made for the Bank Notes, Postal Orders, and other papers requiring a water-mark. 1913 C. Roy. Appt. was the first to have been tried, and, with the exception of the water-marking, wholly given up.

**Water-meadow.** A meadow periodically overflowed by a stream. Also *attrib.*

1731 [H. Fiennes] *Trip to Moscow* 201 This Thrash'd Hay ... has been found more nourishing to Horses, than coarse Water-Meadow Hay. a 1789 Wimpey in T. Wright *Hist. Watering Meadows* (1790) 25 A water-meadow is laid out in order to fertilize the ground at a small expence. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 254 Water-meadows also, should never be ploughed. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 530 The advantages arising from water-meadows are too well known to require elucidation. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlviii, On the river where the water-meadows are fresh and green. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par., June here to the King* 1511 Fair with golden sheaves, ...Gay with the water-meadows green. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 19/2 As a preparatory step in the formation of water-meadows, it is often considered advisable to underdrain the field.

**Water-measure.** A kind of measurement formerly used for coal, salt, fruit, etc., sold on board vessels in port or in the river.

The bushel of water-measure seems to have been originally the ordinary bushel, changed in the statute of 1493 mentioned that it should contain five pecks of striked measure, thus exceeding the ordinary bushel by one-fourth. A 'water-measure' is sometimes the standard measure in a large proportion seems to have been used for coal shipped from northern ports: see quot. 1708, and cf. quot. 1851 under Chaldron.

1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 93, I may selle here by vjs. viijd. a quarter clene fixed after Royston measure, which is lesse thanne the water measure of London. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 4 Provided alwey that this Acte shall not extend to any persone selling or byeng by watermeaure... And...that the seid Watermesore within the Shippes borde shall stryke the pekkis after the rate of the Kynges bushell and streken. 1499 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-rolls* Bundle 58. No. 6 Emerunt sail ad portum per men-umm vocat. le water measure et extra mensuram unde per le hall ibm ccxxxv li. per judicium legorum domini Regis. 1562 Quibbet eorum in misericordia X.d. 1581 *Shrumpton Cet. Lect Rec.* (1915) 13 It is ordered none should buye other salt, onions, apples or such lyke vppon the wate' but by water measure & like wise to sell beeinge once landed & selleral or housed but by land measure. 1690 *Child's Chas. I*, c. 19 § 6 Such measure is commonly called Water-measure. 1708 *Act 7 Anne* (*Ir.*) Townes or other places shall be still used and continued as formerly the same hath beene. [Recited and repealed *Act 22 Geo. II*, c. 8 § 3.] a 1761 Fuller *Worthies, Devon* (1662) 247 William Afford .. of Bedford carried on his back for a Wager, four Bushels, Salt-water-measure *heaped* four Bushels Salt, water-measure. 1792 *Act 32 Geo. III*, c. 1 § 1 Whereas Apples and Pears are frequently Sold by Measure, commonly called Water Measure, in the Counties of Kent, Sussex, Surrey, and Hants... Be it therefore Enacted...That the Measure, commonly called Water Measure, shall be Round, and in Diameter Eighteen Inches and an half within the Hoop, and Eight Inches Deep, and no more, and so in Proportion for any greater or lesser Measure: And that every Measure, commonly called Water Measure, by which Apples and Pears are Sold, shall be heaped as aforesaid. 1798 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1843) 17 Water, or New-Castle or Sunderland Measure, ..is generally reckoned double the Measure of a London Chaldron, or more. 1798 *Comrtt. Watermen's Co.* xiii, It is agreed and order'd, that all Lighterme selling Coals, shall sell Pock measure, commonly call'd Water-measure; That is to say, One and Twenty Chaldron to the Score. 1825 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Water-Measure*. Salt, sea-coal, &c. while on board vessels in the pool or river, are measured with the corn bushel heaped up; or else five striked pecks are allowed to the bushel. This is called water-measure, and it exceeds Winchester measure by about three gallons in the bushel.

**Water-measure.** [transl. of *Hydrometra*, f. Gr. ὕδωρ, *Ohop* water + μέτρον measure.] A book-name for insects of the family *Hydrometridæ* (typical genus *Hydrometra*).

1834 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 243 Water-measurers (Hydrometridæ). Head generally as broad as thorax, [etc.]. 1837 Staveley *Brit. Insects* 339 The...Hydrometridæ, or the water-measurers, may be known at once by their very slender figure, and their habit of skimming upon the surface of the water. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 289 Great water-measurers (*Gerris lacustris*) were running about in a jerky manner, on the surface of the water.

**Water-melon.** [So called from the abundance of watery juice. Cf. *F. melon d eau.*] A kind of gourd, *Citrullus vulgaris* (formerly *Cucumis Citrullus*). (Applied both to the plant and its fruit.)

1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 47 A present of 10 water millons. *Ibid.*, 10 water millans. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isl.* 66 There grows in these Countries another kind of Melons...call'd Water-Melons, because they are full of a sugar'd water, intermingled with their meat. 1760 Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 153, I design to try liquorice-roots, barley, Cape-Beans wheat, cotton, indigo-seed, wood for dying, and the water melon. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 250 Two Water-melons used for buoying lines. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 360 Water Melon...Commonly cultivated in all warm countries of the world for its fleshy fruit. *Ibid. attrib.* 1892 S. A. Ferrall *Ramble Amer.* 298 Here I—slipped out at the side door into the water-melon patch.

**Water-mill.**

**1.** A corn-mill whose machinery is driven by water. Also *attrib.*

c 1245 *St. Christina* vii. in *Anglia* VIII. 122 She wente streight vpriȝte on be water-mylne whele. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 529/2 A water Mille...with the ponde of the same Mille. 1484 *Paston Lett.* III. 321 Tweyn water melles, wher off iche was letyn flor a marke be yere. 1585 *Aldeburgh Acct. in N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VI. 481/2 Item, for xxx lodes Lodes cariedge of watermill grauell into the marshe xiii<sup>s</sup> viiid. 1589 Higins *Junius' Nomen.* 216/1 *Tympanum*, ..the water mill wheele that taketh and driueth water in Egypt. 1593 Ep. J. Williams *Articles Enq. Line.* C 3, Whether have you in your parish any water-mills, ..which have been suffered to grinde for 40 vpon the sabbath-day in your time? 1726 Swift *Gulliver* ii. 1, The sound of his voice pierced my ears like that of a water-mill. 1842 Bp. Hobart *Woollen Manuf.* II. 167 The moth of Germany is deficient both in wind and water mills. 1873 B. Stewart *Conserv. Energy* ii. 26 Let us compare together a watermill driven by a head of water, and a windmill driven by the wind.

**2.** A water-wheel or a machine driven by a water-wheel.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Martinet*, a water mill causing to rise the great hammer in the forge. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 9 The lower of these is much esteemed through all Misen, whereof they sell such quantity abroad, as ten water-mills besides wind-mills, scarcely serve the towne for this purpose. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 90 Large water-mills are erected for spinning silk, wool, and thread.

So **Water-miller,** the owner or manager of a water-mill. † *Obs.*

a 1530 J. Heywood *Weather* (Brandl) 443 Here entreth the water myller. *Ibid.*, 446 We may perhaps be in regarde. 1664 *Instr. Surv. St. n Spalding* 93 Flood-gates.. in a more peculiar manner, belong to the Water-Miller.

**Water-mint.** Any plant of the large subgenus *Mentha*; chiefly the largeleaf mint (*Mentha aquatica*) or the Brook-mint (*M. hirsuta*).

In the 17th c. *water-mint* and *water-cress* were sometimes treated as synonyms; it is not clear which of these names was used incorrectly.

1548 Elyot *Dict., Sisymbrium*, .. water mynte. 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* 74 Sisymbrium hortense is called in englishe, hauue Mynte, or water Mynte. 1552 Huloet *Nomencl.* 136/1 *Sisymbrium, aphe. balsamitis*, .. water mints. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii. ccxvii. 535 Of Horse Mint or water Mint. 1 *Mentha aquatica*. Water mint. 2 *Nasturtium Aquaticum*. Water Cresses. *Ibid.*, Water Mint is a kinde of wilde Mint. 1607 Torkell *Four-f. Beasts* 540 The hearbe called water-minte, or water Cresses, ..anoynted vpon the .. wounde which is done with venomous teeth of a Shrew, will very effectually cure the paine thereof. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 518 As we see that Water-Mint turneth into Field-Mint. 1664 Evelyn *Kalendarium* 30 Sallet water-mint and cresses-dim. 1789 Bewick *New Fables, Idle Flowers* 11 With Comfrey, Watermint, Loose-strife and Meadowsweet.

**Water-mole.** [Mole *sb.*9]

† **1.** The water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius*. Obs.

1572 Pennant *Zool.* IV. 84, I imagine it [the water shrew-mouse] is the same which the inhabitants of Sutherland name the water mole.

**2.** *Austral.* The ornithorhynchus or duck-bill.

1823 in Oxley *Trvls. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 367 The very curious animal called the water mole (ornithorhynchus paradoxus) is seen in great numbers. 1889 *Rivers. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 11 The Water-mole or Duck-mole of the Australian colonists.

**Water-mouse.**

**1.** The water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius*.

c 1475 *Piet. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 760/11 *Hic garrex* [read *garrex* = *sorex*], a watermows. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xiii. I. 45 In Stymphalis of Arcadia, there breed...little watermyce [= *aquatiles muscuti*], or small Limpins. 1653 Walton *Angler* v. 197 If the night be dark...he [the trout] lies boldly near the top of the water, watching the motion of any Frog or Water-mouse, or Rat betwixt him and the skie. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 297 Butterfly, Hermetical, Water-Rats, Water-Mice, Otters, &c. are very great Enemies to Fish. 1829 *Edin. Mag.* June 505 *Arvicola aquatica*. Water Campagnol ...F. Water Rat. S. Water Mouse, or Ratten.

**2.** *Austral.* A rodent of the genus *Hydromys* or the family *Hydromyidæ*.

c 1880 Sooty water-mouse [see Sooty *a.* 2 c].

**Water-mouth.** *Sc.* The mouth of a river.

1588 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 526/1 Inter le water-mouth aquæ de I. et locum de Halgrene. a 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I*

(Bannatyne Club) I. 49 Thir haill four ships brake louse.. and were driven out at the watter mouth.. throw the violence and speat of the water. 1580 *Inform. Dk. Gordon v. Kerr's Murray & Fife* 3 The Marquis and his successors fished with their tugnet in the Haven, and water mouth. *Ibid.* 5 What is the boundary..that circumscribes the water-mouth, or *ostium fluminis*, and separates it from the river? 1808 JAMIESON. 1824-7 MOIR *Manuia Wauch* xviii. (1828) 259 In case the French should land at the water-mouth.

**Water-nymph.**

**1.** A nymph inhabiting or presiding over water; a naiad.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 167 And ek sche, as thei understonde, The water Nimphes hath in honde To leden at hire ogbne heste. 1667 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* vi. 129, I ask him whether that the Altar wee did see Belonged to the Waternymphes, or Faunes, or other God Peculiar to the place. 1879 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 143 The water Nymphs..Now balefull boughes of Cypres doen adiaunce. 1680 OTWAY *Ovid's Epist. Phædra to Hippolytus* 174 So may the Water-Nymphs in Nest of Day, Though thou their Sex despise, thy Thirst allay. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 351 ¶ 5 The changing of the Trojan Fleet into Water-Nymphs, which is the most violent Machine in the whole Æneid. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvi, The Nereids and Water-nymphs..displayed, as usual, a little more taste and ornament than was to be seen amongst their male attendants. 1900 *Cathol. Sulpt. Parthen. Brit. Mus.* 37 This gap may have been filled by a crouching Water Nymph, associated with the River-god.

**b.** *Transf.* and *fig.*

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 306 It is a Pseudo-prophetick Polity that has spred through the whole Territories of the Empire, a Water-Nymph whose skirts are so large, that she has sat floting upon the whole Imperial Ocean for these many Ages. 1732 F. COMBER *Pomfret the Little* I. xi. 96 This delicate Fisherwoman..carried him (a dog) one Evening to a certain Coffee-house..where the Lady behind the Bar.. prevailed on the gentle Water-Nymph to surrender him for a Dram of Brandy.

**2.** A water-lily of the genus *Nymphæa*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Water-nymph, *Nymphæa*.

**Water-oak.** The hard, close-grained oak, *Quercus aquatica* or *nigra*, of the southern U.S. Also, the pin-oak, *Q. palustris*. Also applied to certain Australian trees of the genera *Casuarina* and *Callistemon*.

1737 *Vetiveriana* III. 207 Water Oak, Is an Evergreen, growing in Swamps, Fresh or Ponds, and by River Sides. 1768 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 165 The water-oak, and the willow-leafed oak, rise to no great height. 1859 D. B. WARDEN *Amer. Antiq. Voyager* 18 Water oak, *Quercus aquatica*. 1887 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* II. iii *Century Mag.* Mar. 662/1 Sweet-gums, water-oaks, magnolias. 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Miner's Right* xvii. 166 Strange shadows gliding..amid the dark-leaved water-oaks.

**Water of Ayr.** The name of the river (now more commonly known simply as Ayr) at the mouth of which the town of Ayr stands. Used *attrib.* in *Water of Ayr stone*, a kind of stone found on the banks of the Ayr, used for whetstones and also for polishing.

1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 467 Upon the banks of the water of Air, a species of whitie stone is found, which is well known over all Scotland by the name of the water of Air stone. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 135 Among hones of less importance in general use may be noted..Water of Ayr stone, Scotch stone, or pumice, used for tools and for polishing marble and copperplates. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clocks*. 86 Finish by laying an even and straight grain across the brass with blue or water of Ayr stone.

**Water of life.**

**1.** *fig.* A drink which gives life or immortality to the drinker.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxii. 17 And he that wole, take freely the watir of lif. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 47/1 Water of Life, or a Discourse shewing the Richness and Glory of the Grace and Spirit of the Gospel. 1857 KINGSLEY *Water of Life* I. 4 The Knight..was haunted by dreams of a Water of Life, a Fount of Perpetual Youth and Immortality.

**2.** A name for brandy or whisky; rendering med. L. *aqua vitæ* (see AQUA-VITÆ), F. *eau-de-vie* (see EAU), Gael., Ir. *uisge-beatha* (see USQUEBAUGH, WHISKY). *rare* (only as transl.).

1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner Jewell Health* 11 b, The infusions..are done eyther in simple water,..or in water of lyfe. 1820 J. WILSON *Lights & Shadows of Sc. Life* 372 The shepherds..were collected together (not without a quach of the mountain-dew, or water of life) in a large shed.

**†Water-logger.** *Obs. rare.* [See WATER *sb.* 18 b and -LOGER.] A contemptuous term for one who diagnoses a disease by inspection of the patient's urine. So † **Watero'logy**, the art of doing this.

1644 WHITLOCK *Zootom.* 47 That Wateroloqer in Dr. Harts Anatomy of Urines, that sent his Patient word that he was sick of a blinde Ague. *Ibid.* 66, I shall insist some what on the Cheat of Waterologie (a word though new, yet easily to be understood, thanks to another Cheat that nameth to it) and therefore I shall use it still, to signifie this divining by Urines. 1678 *Quacks Academy* 6 You must either pretend to be Waterloggers, or Star-gazers, or Pin-prophets, or Starr-Wizards. 1706 R. HEATHCOTE *Sylva* (1788) 239 A waterologer, poring mysteriously over an Urinal.

**Water-ordeal.** (See quot. 1701.)

[1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Ordeal*, There were of this, four sorts...The third, was hot water-Ordeal, by putting his arms up to the elbows in seething water, &c. The fourth was cold water-Ordeal, like the late used trial of Witches.] 1702 W. KENNETT *Cowel's Interpr.* s. v., This (purgation) was commonly by Fire-Ordeal, or by Water-Ordeal, and this latter was either by hot water, or by cold water. The purgation by hot water was for the Party accus'd to thrust his hands or feet into scalding water, on presumption that his Innocence would receive no harm. That by cold water, was for the Defendant to be cast into a Pond or River (as they now pretend to try Witches) whether he would sink or swim. 1756 *Stow's Surv. Lond.* (ed. Strype) V. xxx. 111. 550/1 They still continue also to try Witches by Water-Ordeal, and believe..that a Witch cannot sink in the Water. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxvii. 337. 1888 H. C. LEA *Hist. Inquisition* I. 69 Several of them purged themselves by the water-ordeal.

**Water-parsley.**

**1.** A name for *Sium latifolium* (water-parsnip), *Apium graveolens* (wild celery), or other aquatic umbelliferæ.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 32 Syon is..so lyke Selino or Apio..that som haue taken it for Elioselino, and haue named it waterpersely. Whiche name were good to be receyued..that the herbe myght yet better bee by be knowen, then bi ye name of belragges. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xlviii. 610 Of water Parsly..There is founde in this Countrie two kyndes of this herbe, one great, the other smal. *Ibid.* 611 (headings of figures) *Lauer Cratewn*, Great water Parsely. *Lauer minus*, Small water Parsely. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccclxvi. 862 Smallage..is called..in English Marsh Marish Parsley, and *Apium aquatile*, or water Parsley: but *Hydroselinum*, or *Sium maius*, is the true water Parsley. 1601 CORYAT *Crudities* 184 The great water Parsnip, or water Parsely: called also, Helders, and Bell-rase. 1881 [D. JORDAN & MRS. J. A. OWEN] *Ana. Fishing Village* xi. 105 Watercress and a thick growing plant they called water-parsley.

**2.** The tropical American herb *Ranalisma scabra* (white ipecacuanha, Mexican clover).

1891 *Century Dict.*

**Water-parsnip.** Name for the aquatic umbelliferous plants of the genus *Sium*, esp. *S. latifolium*; also applied to *Helosciadium nodiflorum* (sometimes classed as *Sium nodiflorum*).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxvii. 199 Great water Parsnepe.. is described to haue leaues of a pleasant sauour. *Ibid.* 200 [figure] *Sium maius*, Great water Parsnep. 1691 SALMON *Syn. Mat. Med.* 1/2 Sium, Water-parsnip. 1770 *Lond. Mag.* 118/1 Three children of a poor cottager in Ireland having eaten of the herb Daho or Water-par-nep, two of them died. 1785 WITHERING *Lett. Bot.* xviii. (1794) 229 The Creeping Water Parsnep, *Sium nodiflorum* Lin. 1860 H. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 234 The sisums, or waterparsnips, are..not uncommon.

**Water-parting.** = WATERSHED 1. (See quot. 1877.)

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Trnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 206 A similar expanse of stony ridges and uplands forming the great western waterparting. 1877 *Encycl. Britannica* I. 18 To avoid this double use of the word 'watershed' the term 'water-parting' has been introduced as the English equivalent of the German *Wasserscheide*. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 16 The waterparting between the systems of Lake Chad, the Niger, and the Congo.

**Water-pepper.** [*Cf. G. wasserpfeffer* (from 16th c.).]

**1.** The acrid plant *Polygonum Hydropiper* or smartweed. In Lyte also *water-peppewort*.

1538 TURNER *Libellus, Eupatorium*, water pepper. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxvii. 632 This herbe is called in English, Water pepper, or Water-peppewort, and of some Curagie. 1656 SHERWOOD in *Gerard's Herbal* vi. IV. (1633) 953 Arsmart, or water Pepper, groweth almost in every waterish plash. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 913/2.

**2.** A book-name for the N.O. *Elatinaceæ*.

1830 LINDLEY *Introd. Nat. Syst. Bot.* 159 Elatineæ. The Water-Pepper Tribe. 1846 — *Veg. Kingd.* 480 Elatinaceæ. —Water-Peppers.

**Water-pipe.**

**1.** A pipe through which water is conducted.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 666/32 *Hec idranitis*, waterpype. 1483 *Naturale* Ibid. 738/12 *Hic idranicus*, a wadypype. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenel.* 390/1 *Hydrip*, water pipes of smaller size so made, as that a water therein mounteth aloft. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3006/3 The Inhabitants of Paris..are to pay 50 Crowns for every Water-Pipe. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 363 The Wood for Pipes, Pumps, Hoppoles, Water-pipes. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Tale Drury Lane* 163 Still o'er his head,..His whizzing waterpipes descend. 1856 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Fourth Series, Tuggses.* The fountain that had sparkled so showily by lamp-light, presented very much the appearance of a water-pipe that had burst. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* (1885) 308 The workmen were laying down water-pipes in the hall as we entered.

**2.** *transf.* †**a.** (See remarks under WATERSPOUT *sb.* 3). *Obs.* **b.** An underground spring or flow of water, *poet.*

1599 SHAKS. *Jul. Cæs.* xii. 8 One depe calleth another because of ye voyce of the water pipes. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* iii, Single I grew, like some green plant, whose root Creeps to the garden water-pipes beneath, Feeding the flower.

**†c.** A name for a kind of stalactite. *Obs.*

1681 [see STALACTITES].

**3.** A hookah, narghile, or kalian.

1824 MALCOLM *Hist. Persia* viii, All Kutir..had just lighted his water pipe. 1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 330 We saw the white-robed elders (smoking their water-pipes) seated on either side the entry.

**Water-pit.** [See PIT *sb.*1 2.] †**a.** A well or hole sunk in the ground to procure water. *Obs.* **b.** A pit in which water is stored.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* vii. 24 Ealle þa Egiptiscan dulfon waterpyttas neah þam flode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 401 þey come in fere unto a deep water pitte [L. *ad puteum aquarum aquosum puteum et profundum*]. 1820 *Hull Advertiser* 16 Aug. 1/2 The tan-yard comprises 2 large water pits.

**Water-pitcher.**

**1.** A pitcher for holding water.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vrceolus*, a lytell water pitchar. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* I. x. 6 Such as Amimone through the dris fields strayed When on her head a water pitcher laied. 1826 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvii, The child set down her water pitcher. 1848 *Union Mag.* I. 628 Carpet-brooms and water-pitchers. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 96 Out from the village come a half-dozen women with the earthen water-pitchers balanced sidewise on their heads.

**2.** A book-name for pitcher-plants of the N.O. *Sarraceniaceæ*.

1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 155 Order X. Sarraceniaceæ.—Water Pitchers. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci., Sarraceniaceæ*, the Water Pitcher or Side-saddle family.

**Water-plane.**

**1.** A canal constructed on a level, without locks. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* v. vi. I. 386 We find him [*sc* Brindley] contriving a water-plane for the Duke's collieries.

**2.** *Ship-building.* A plane passing through a vessel when afloat, on a level with the surface of the water.

1883 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval An. Art.* i. 8 The line in which the surface of the water cuts the surface of the ship..is called the *water line*..; the area enclosed by that line being the *water plane area*.

**3.** An aeroplane constructed so as to be capable of rising from, alighting upon, and travelling on the water.

1913 *Daily Mail* 3 Apr., A waterplane is a sea-going aeroplane. 1913 *Times* 14 May 5/6 Mr. Howard Wright..was attempting to rise from the water in a waterplane at Cowes yesterday afternoon when the machine capsized.

**Water-plantain.**

**1.** The plant *Alisma Plantago*, with leaves somewhat like those of the plantain, growing in ditches and by the river-side. Also as a name for the genus.

1538 ELYOT *Dict. Add.*, *Alisma*, water plantan. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxvi. 96 Water Plantayne is a fayre herbe, with large greene leaues. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xviii. (1794) 254 The Water Plantain, &c. Great Water Plantain, *Alisma Plantago*. 1858 A. IRVIN *Brit. Plants* 291 *Alisma*, Linn. Water-Plantain...*A. Plantago*. Greater Water-Plantain. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 122 Water-plantain, rosy vagrant, Flings his gay head on the wave.

**2.** Applied to other aquatic plants: see quots.

1884 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-plantain, *Echinodorus cordifolius*. 1891 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Plantain*, Water Plantain of Jamaica, *Pontederia azurea*.

**Water-pool.** A pool of water (large or small).

1393 ... *St. Cristoffore* 859 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 464 Nie hase thoghte þis Kni3t sole Als I hauf seyne in a water polle. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* ix. 33 Ionathas and Symon his brother..pitched their tentes by the water pole of Asphar. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelph.* IV. ii. (1607) 304 At the very waterpoole (*apud ipsum cuniculum*) there is a hand-mill. 1849 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) II. 72 Eternal Silence of the mountains and their melancholy water-pools. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. iv. 113 Her little hand trembled as it touched Angus Hamleigh's, when he led her across a craggy bit of path, or over a tiny water-pool. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 592/1 We stopped to ask the latest news of tribes and water-pools.

**Water-pot.**

**1.** A vessel, usually of earthenware, for holding water.

1382 WYCLIF *John* iv. 28 Therfore the womman lefte the watir pott [Vulg. *hydriam*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 234 And she set doun hir water pot anon Biside the threshfold. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 349 Ther sate ek ther besyde a pot Ant al the water on his hed Sche pourede oute. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 86 Item, a water pot of sluer. 1528 TINDALE *John* ii. 6 Ther were sette ther sixe waterpotte for a table, *aquarice*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 160 They founde here also sundry kyndes of waterpottes made of earthe of diuers colours. 1620 in *Joth. Ayr. Hist. Archæol. Comm. Rep.* I. 399, 6 greate silver and wax-potts. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Nov. 1643, A morsel of one of the water-pots in which our Saviour did his first miracle. 1702 *Post Man* 6-8 Jan. 2 1 Stolen..out of the House of his Grace the Duke of Schomberg, a Silver Oval Shaving-dish, a Silver Water Pot, and a Silver Box for a Wash-ball. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1079, I have seen an English roadster of great strength to make 25 waterpots a day. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 302 Striking down the choicest warriors of England with the staves on which they bore their waterpots.

**b.** *Astr.* The portion of the zodiacal constellation Aquarius which is figured as a vase or urn.

1546 *Gaster's Prognost.* b iij, Wherin at night Mercuri also shall sette after the Sunne wil bright *Aldebaran* a water pott. *Ibid.* b iv b, The sunne setting wt *Aldebaran*, & bright water pott. 1590 T. HOOD *Use Celestial Globe* 23 The Waterpot, v. *Urna*. 1841 EMERSON *Lex. Sev.* v. 1. (1848) 8 As crabs, goats, scorpions, the balance, and the waterpot rose their meanness when hung as signs in the zodiac, so [etc.].

**c.** *Her.* (See quots.)

1688 [see FONTELL *Bk.* 3]. 1828-40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Water-Pot*, a fontal, called, also, a *scatebra*, out of which naiads and river-gods are represented as pouring the waters or rivers over which they are fabled to preside.

**2.** = WATERING-POT 2.

1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water potte for a gardyne, *arrouseur*. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 200 Why, this would make a man, a man of Salt To vse his eyes for Garden water-pots. 1849 EM. TAYLOR *Gt. Exhibit.* 14 The Model of the Crystal Palace near at hand, Gardeners make use of Water-Pots. 1858-32 WEBSTER, *Water-pot*, a vessel..for sprinkling water on cloth in bleaching, or on plants, etc. *c* 1890 STEVENSON *In South Seas* I. x. (1900) 83 He..was to be seen all day, with spade and water-pot, in his childlike eagerness, actually running between the borders.

**fig.** 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* L iij, Here is a drie Tale (quoth Parmenio)..and well deserues a water pote.

**3.** A chamber-pot. *? Ir.* 1890, 1893 OGILVIE.

**4.** *Zool.* = WATERING-POT 2.
1823 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Water Pot, *Serpulin Penis.*

**Waterproof** (wǭ·təiprŏf), *a.* and *sb.* [See PROOF *a.* I b.] **A.** *adj.* Impervious to water; capable of resisting the deleterious action of water.
1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 732/1 The everlasting Mountains would be Water-Proof. 1802 W. FERGUSON *Minutes Comm. Survey Iron Roads*, 3 Oct., Quarries of Limestone at Marsham, apparently superior in Quality for Water-Proof Lime to either that of Guildford or Dorking. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 823 To render Boots and Shoes waterproof. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 191 Joseph Egg's Water Proof Gun. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 337 These hats were nearly waterproof, and extremely durable. 1871 MRS. BROMLEY *Inferno* II. 30 The Miss Shaws, in their waterproof travelling suits. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 29 Not a drop of water can reach it as long as the waterproof roof remains sound. 1900 *Longman's* May 321/2 Nowadays the cry is for waterproof roads.

*b. transf.* and *fig.*
1831 THOMASINE *Adv. Younger Son* III. 330 It...didn't make a man's inside water-proof, which good Nantz would. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxvii, But tears were not the things to find their way to Mr. Rumble's soul; his heart was waterproof. 1854 SCHEFER *Memoirs* C. B. (1901) II. 92 The Dribblefrod Brook comes in the way for those whose ambition is waterproof.

**B.** *sb.* A fabric or garment rendered impervious to water by treatment with india-rubber or the like.
1799 *Hull Advertiser* 31 Jan. 2/3 Parish's patent waterproof, best superfine. 1823 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii. (ed. 2) 245 Officers...carry clasp-knife,...waterproof, haversack. 1827 MRS. M. GRANT *Sketch-Book*, They were clad in grey waterproof. 1880 HOWELLS *Undiscov. Country* x. 139 The teacher took off her waterproof, the hood of which she had drawn over her head.

**Waterproof,** *v.* [f. prec. adj.] *trans.* To make waterproof or impervious to water.
1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 147/2 This...is the varnish now generally employed in waterproofing the garments well known by the name of Macintoshes. 1843 *Civil Engin.* XXXIX. 479 Sylvester's Mode of Waterproofing Walls. 1862 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 330/2 The oil sheet manufacturers have for more than a century waterproofed linen by layers of oil. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xxxv, The Chancel roof which had only been patched up temporarily and waterproofed with thick tarpaulins. 1905 D. WALLACE *Love Labrador Wild* iii. 53 The tent was...made of balloon silk and waterproofed.

*b. transf.* and *fig.*
1841 LAVER *O'Malley* lxix. 343 If one did'nt expect to be waterproofed [meaning killed in battle] before morning they really would'nt go out in such weather. 1891 SIR H. MAXWELL in *Blackw. Mag.* June 1/2 Salmon...was wonderfully waterproofed against despondency by the intense realism of his fancy.

**Waterproofed,** *ppl. a.* [f. WATERPROOF *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.] Rendered waterproof; provided with, or wearing, a waterproof garment or garments.
1872 SIR S. NORTHCOTE in A. Lang *Life* (1890) II. 25 We started well waterproofed, and got to Suitland about twelve. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. 251 A party of eager Americans, spectacled, waterproofed. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 378/1 A light...click reel holding thirty yards of waterproofed and polished fly-line of braided silk.

**Waterproofer.** [f. WATERPROOF *v.* + -ER 1.] One who makes materials, etc. waterproof.
1858 *Kelly's Directory Lancs.* 1725/2 Waterproofers. 1864 *Leeds Mercury* 20 Sept., India-rubber manufacturer and waterproofer. 1885 *Lloyd's Weekly Pr. Rec.* Ser. iv. 25/1 This recipe is used by woollen-cloth waterproofers. 1890 *Lancet* 22 Feb. 420/8 Waterproofers and lampblack makers.

**Waterproofing,** *vbl. sb.* [f. WATERPROOF *v.* and *sb.* + -ING 1.]
1. The action or process of making materials, etc. waterproof. Also *attrib.*
1845 O. DODD *Brit. Manuf. Ser.* v. 164 The cap is taken to the 'water-proofing'...is most perfectly effected by means of caoutchouc,...but these are not waterproofing. 1852 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 309 Gutta percha...Is also largely used as a waterproofing material. 1909 *Nation. Guz.* 30 Aug. 1/2 The waterproofing of our roads is a pressing requisite.

**2.** a. The result of this process; the quality of being waterproof. b. Material with which a substance is made waterproof.
1881 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XIV. 390/1 These materials...go to give the necessary substance, weight, and waterproofing to the leather. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Mar. 3/6 By this time the flames had got well hold of the roof, which appeared to contain some highly inflammable waterproofing.

**Water-pump.** A pump for raising water.
1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water pompe, *aquatingue.* 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 115 The air-pump barrel is attached to this vessel by the pipe *s*, the piston is similar to those usually employed in water-pumps. 1844 H. SPENCER *Bk. Farm* II. 316 Under this last method, the water-pump is understood to be in constant action. 1878 ARNOT *Thirteen* (1881) 207 The mixed solutions should be filtered, but in this operation great difficulty is often found. The most ready method of effecting it is by the aid of a Bunsen water-pump.

b. jocularly, with ref. to swearing.
1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, "Thank you, Dobbin, he said, rubbing his eyes with his knuckles...The water-pumps were at work again.

So **Water-pumper, Water-pu mping.**
1723 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 26) II. [588] Tower of London...Water-Pumper, Per Diem, 0 0 7. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 5/2 They have also fitted a water-pumping engine in the Turkish Houses of Parliament.

**Water-quake.** [f. WATER *sb.* + QUAKE *sb.*, after EARTHQUAKE.] A seismic disturbance in the sea.
1677 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1030/2 *marg.*, On the Saterday after...chanced an other earthquake, or as some write, a waterslake [*marg.*] waterquake. 1810 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 500 Withiensmere doth sometimes in...faire weather sodainely rise tempestuously, as it were into violent waterquakes. 1753 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 25 Nov., There have been lately such earthquakes and waterquakes. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXII. 291/2 A water-quake was felt at Bergen in Norway. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Humboldt* 419 Earthquakes and waterquakes are also the attendants of these fractures.

**Water-rail.** [RAIL *sb.*[3]] A bird, *Rallus aquaticus*, having a general resemblance to the Landrail: native in the temperate portion of the eastern hemisphere.
1693 MOUFFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xii. 109 Waterrails are preferred in Italy before Thrushes or Quails. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 385 The water rail is a bird of a long slender body, short concave wings. 1890 *Swallow's Mag. Nat. Hist.* I. 289 The water rail has grey wings, spotted with brown; flanks spotted with white; bill, orange underneath. 1895 *Fisherman's Sch. Cuttal.* (ed. 4) 111 One Case with small Pike and Water Rail.

**Water-rat.** [Cf. G. *wasserratte, -ratze*, MDu. *waterrot* (mod.Du. *-rat*), I.G. *waterrotte.*]
1. An aquatic rodent of the family *Muridæ*; in British use, the water-vole, *Arvicola amphibius*; inhabiting the banks of rivers. In the U.S. applied to the MUSK-RAT, and in Australia to the genus *Hydromys*.
1552 HULOET, Water rat, *sorex*. *a* 1667 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. i. 45 He...sticks to small drink like a water-rat. 1690 *Dryden Cleomenes* (1692) C 3, There is also no other danger in Banking, procured by a small contemptible Vermine, they be Water-rats, which make their holes in the bank close to the water, [etc.]. 1693 FOOD *Broken El.* II. 1, Island? prison? ...whom will we have there? Seagulls, and Porpoises, and water-rats? 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 518 The water Rat. ...This is considerably larger than the common rat, and of a different colour: it is also larger, and shorter in the extremity. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 101 The water-rat never frequents houses. *a* 1800 WYNTER *Curios. Civilis.* 133 The water-rat is a true amphibious animal, and shuns the sight of man in any way. 1876 F. G. WATERHOUSE in Harcus *S. Austral.* 282 The curious water-rats or beaver-rats must be mentioned as being found only in Australia. 1890 D. DAUGHTON *Minn. Long Life* iv. 65 Herds of cattle swim these flooded rivers like water-rats.

*2. fig.* A water-thief, pirate. Also applied contemptuously to a sailor, boatman, or the like.
1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iii. 23 There be land rats, and water rats, water thieves, and land thieves. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* (1872) 38 To this societie maie be coupled alsoe those Water-rats, that haue their habitations in Holborne, that will be readie and very diligent for anie man, vntil they can get them to their boates, but when [etc.]. 1608 J. DAY *Law Tricks* I. Epil., No more a that; peace; y'are a wag, *Em.* Well said, old Water Rat. *a* 1656 R. CARY *Alchemist* 9 *Dinna* 36 *Cut.* Where is he, Parnell? *Parn.* Why gone aleehouse to fetch a gang of Saylors, wha he vows shal hang the Rat in the main Yard...*Cut.* And those same water-rats are Divellish things. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, 'A man may speak.' 'And vermin may be silent,' said Eugene. 'Hold your tongue, you water-rat!' 1903 HARRY *Quinton* I. vi. 1, These water-rats [the English] may paddle in their salt slush.

**Water-rat,** *v.* Also corruptly **-rot**: see ROT *v.* 4 *c*. *trans.* To ret (flax or hemp) by steeping in water: opposed to DEW-ROT *v.*
1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 404/2 Such hemp as is designed for seed is seldom water-retted. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 41 A circle of about six miles round Ilmetham, the greater part [of the hemp] is never put into the water at all but is dew-retted...The hemp at market is not worse so much...as that which hath been water-retted. 1838 URE *Dict. Arts* 489 The diminished value of flax which is much water-retted.
Hence **Water-retting** *vbl. sb.* (corruptly *-rotting*; see ROTTING *vbl. sb.* 2).
1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 218 The practice of water-rotting is generally prefer'd to that of dew-rotting. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v. *Retting-pit*, In the fens they have no notion of retting; dew-retting...and water-retting, which is laying it in a pond or ditch, covered with turf. 1859 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) IX. 204/2.

**Water-ro cket**[1]. ? *Obs.* [ROCKET *sb.*[1]] A name applied to certain aquatic species of *Nasturtium*.
1693 *Gerarde's Herbal* 748 *Brucea aquatica* Water Rocket. *c* 1710, 1753, 1796 [see ROCKET *sb.*[1]]. 1861 MRS. LANCASTER *Wild Flowers* 33 There are several other species of nasturtium native in England...the Water-rocket (N. terrestre).

**Water-ro cket**[2]. [ROCKET *sb.*[2]]
1. *Pyrotechny.* A rocket constructed to be discharged in the water.
1845 STUART & *C.-L.* s. v. *Rocket*, Method of making a Water-Rocket. 1709 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 17 May, Then from boats on every side were discharged water-rockets and fires of that kind. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Ledbury* I. Like the water-rockets at the Surrey Zoological Gardens.
2. (See quot. 1907.)
1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* II. 162 The upper fall, which in its ever-changing vapour-streams and water-rockets is wonderfully beautiful. 1907 V. CORNISH in *Geogr. Journ.* Jan. 28 The break-up of a high waterfall into conical masses was described by Livingstone, who compares them to 'small comets.' They have also been called 'water-rockets.'

† **Water-rug.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [See RUG *sb.*[2] 4.] ? A shaggy breed of water-dog.
1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. i. 93 Showghes, Water-Rugs, and Demy-Wolues.

**Water-scape**[1]. *nonce-wd.* [SCAPE *sb.*[1]] An escape from drowning.
1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 41 But this and other our Water scapes made that saying of Bias come to mind, *Navigantes nec inter vivos nec inter mortuos esse numerandos.*

**Water-scape**[2]. *rare.* [f. WATER *sb.*, after *landscape.*] A piece of scenery consisting of water.
1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Water-scape*, a term sometimes used to denote sea-views, in contradistinction to *landscapes*. 1860 HOLME *Tour to Ireland* xiii. (1892) 144 The landscape (or waterscape?) was so calm and still. 1901 *Punch* 21 Sept. 224/1 Peeps of such landscapes and waterscapes as what the appetite for the entire panorama.

**Water-serpent.** ? *Obs.*
1. = WATER-SNAKE. Also = SEA-SERPENT.
1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Water serpent, *couleuvre deaue.* 1536 ELYOT *Dict., Echidna*, a water serpent. 1756 *Phil. Transact. Trans.* (1760) I. 40 Professor Frank, of Frankenau, speaks of a still larger species of water-serpents. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 8 Hercules killed a water-serpent.
2. The constellation Hydra.
1599 T. HIELL *Sch. Skill* 23 The image named the Water Serpent, hath 25. stars. 1869 STUBBS *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 128 The Water-Serpent hath 15 Stars.
† 3. A plant of the genus *Moringa*. *Obs.*
[1649–52 HERNANDEZ *Nova Plant. etc. Mex.* IV. xev. 229 De Coatli, seu Aquoso serpente (description follows)]. 1655 LOWELL *Herbal* 51 Water-serpent, *Pentadactylus, Aqueus serpens.*

**Watershed** [wǭ·təʃĕd]. [f. WATER *sb.* + SHED *sb.*[1]
The equivalent G. *wasserscheide* has been in use from the 14th c. As a scientific term, it became common about 1800. The Eng. word, which first appears in the Scottish dialect, was perh. formed in imitation of the Ger. synonym.)
1. The line separating the waters flowing into different rivers or river basins; a narrow elevated tract of ground between two drainage areas: = WATER-PARTING.
1803 *Prize Ess. Highl. Soc. Scot.* II. xo Strathchuony...is a very high inland tract, being the water-shed of the country between the two seas. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 175 The College, a small stream which forms the boundary-line from the eastern water-shed of the Cheviot-Hills. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1852) 442 The line of water-shed which divides the inland waters of Chile from those of Peru, has a height of 3000 feet. 1850 *Times* 16 Nov. 5/2 In order to satisfy themselves as to the amount of supply furnished by the sources in question, the Highland Water-shed Inquiries Mr. Rammell to survey the various lines of watershed. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, He was crossing the highest watershed in the county by an open, low-sided valley. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xv. 297 We should also expect that the crests or watersheds of the Alps and Jura are about eighty miles apart. 1880 GILBIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 257 The watershed of a country or continent is a line which divides the flow of the brooks and rivers on two opposite slopes.
*fig.* 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* viii. 130 *note*, Hence, too, the superficial observation that the Afghans...are Jews because they have the typical Jewish look. The reason is that they are derived from the same ethnic centre, a great watershed of race. 1886 SYDNEY HERBERT *Lord Palmerston* (1888) VII. 208 A water-shed of time between the Renaissance and the Counter-Reformation. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Aug. 87/1 That resolution marks the water-shed of our Revolutionary politics.
2. *loosely.* a. The slope down which the water flows from a water-parting.
1830 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxvii. 512 To the southwest of Kington the lower beds of the Old Red Sandstone...have been the sub-aqueous water-shed, down which the coarse detritus has been swept. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 18 To avoid all ambiguity it is perhaps best to restrict the original meaning of 'watershed', and employ the term to denote the slope along which the water flows, while the expression 'water-parting' is employed for the summit of this slope.
b. The whole gathering ground of a river system.
1874 E. COUES *Birds N. W.* Introd. p. vii, The Missouri Region, in its broadest sense, as embracing the whole watershed of that great river and its tributaries. 1880 WEBSTER Suppl., *Water-shed.* 2. The country or basin drained by any stream of water and its tributaries. 1913 WARTS *Catskill Water Supply of N. Y.* 17 The Croton watershed would in a few years be drawn on to its full capacity.

† **Watershed** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. WATER *sb.* + SHED *v.*[1]] A structure for throwing off water.
1581 R. G. *White Eng. Without & Within* xiv. 319 The great wheel caught my umbrella, which was twisted out of my hand in a twinkling...I picked up my wounded watershed, and returned with it to Burlington Arcade. 1882 *Trans. R. Inst. Brit. Archit.* II. 79 Nothing indicates the nature of the water-shed. It may have been some description of thatch; but more probably I think of wood shingle. 1898 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 503/1 A water-shed to throw the water away from the forecastle hatch was built.

**Water-shed**[2]. *rare.* [SHED *sb.*[2]] A shed used as a wash-house.
1859 JESSOP & REEVE *Brittany* 168 In a water-shed at the end are two women washing.

**Watershoot.** [f. WATER *sb.* + SHOOT *sb.*]
† 1. [= Flem. *waterscheute*, *-schote* (Kilian, De Bo).] A sucker growing from the root of a tree. Cf. WATER-BOUGH. *Obs.*
1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 240/1 *Stolones*,...watershootes: young shoots or sciences that growe out of the rootes or sides of the stocke, and proue not. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xx. I. 525 Those superfluous water-shoots that spring out either from the root or the sides of the tree. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Water shoots, or suckers, are twigs that grow from the roots of trees. 1729 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 136 And if any strong wood or water-shoots push from the apricot or peach tree, except they serve to fill up a vacancy, they ought to be taken off.
2. † a. Outflow of drainage water from land;

water carried off by drainage. *Obs.* b. A gutter or channel for the overflow of water.

a. 1625 G. Markham *Inrichment Weald Kent* 11 It is good also to draw a crosse or quarter Furrow, and opening the ends of all your land Furrowes into it, to lease the other ends of your Furrowes stopped, that the water-shoot runne not all the length of the field. 1639 Hoar & Rob. *Gate Lang. Unl.* vii, Fens (hoge, marishes are raising springs or quits, that run not (have no water-shoot). 1707-22 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 207 The Drips of the Houses, the Water of the declining Walks, and the Water-shoots of other adjacent Lands, which may be reserved in Cisterns or Ponds so as to be of use.

b. 1829 Nicholson *Dict. Archit.* 809 *Water Sheet*, a wooden trough for discharging rain water from a building. 1829 *Beverley Lighting Act* ii. 22 A gutter or water-shoot. 1834 Bickford *Itady* II. 182 A transparent, gurgling rill, which is conducted through a rustic water-shoot. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* 2, The bark from the wood-ricks [being] washed down the gutters, and even our water-shoot going brown.

† 3. A waterfall, cascade. *Obs.*

1738 [G. Smith] *Curr. Relat* II. 273 Near the City Hoeicheu flows the River Singan, which has at least 360 Water-shoots falling into it between Ruffel and Mountain.

4. An artificial cascade contrived for the amusement or exercise of 'shooting the rapids' in a boat or by swimming. Also *water-chute*: see Water *sb.* 29.

1900 Elinor Glyn *Visits Elis.* 26 In the evening Uncle Geoffrey took us to the Water-shoot. I had never known the Water-Shoot. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Oct. 2/1 A water-shoot, a swimming mistress in attendance—yet, all last winter I had the whole thing practically to myself.

† **Water-shoot,** *sb.* *Obs.* [f. Water *sb.* + Shoot *sb.*] A sudden flood.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* xv. 904 Deepe valleyes haue by watershoote beene made of lauill ground. 1577 — *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 6. 37 I haue seene hundreds of waters-shoot impetuyth ax much as if he had sayd hee had bin ouerwhelmed with violent rage, as if it were with a flud. 1678 in Aubrey *Nat. Hist.* (1696) 19 Within 3 days [and 3 days after his Father's] decease, such Charges and Water-scots [1721 Water-schots] came upon this Marsh-land, by the influence of the Sea, that it was never sown nor tilled to me.

**Water-shot,** *a.* *rare.* [f. Water *sb.* + *shot* pa. pple. of Shoot *v.*] ? Interspersed with streams.

1901 Kipling *Kim* xiv. 369 Dry upland, hidden salt-lake, age-old timber, and fruitful water-shot valley.

† **Water-shot,** *adv.* *Obs.* *rare*—[1]. [f. Water *sb.* + *shot* pa. pple. of Shoot *v.*] (Moored) so as to lie at an acute angle with the stream.

1697 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ix. 45 Water shot is to more quarter-ing betwixt both, nether crosse, nor alongst the tide. 1841 Manwayring *Sea-manship* 1. 11 Water-shot is when a kind of mooring, that is to lay the Anchors not crosse the tide, nor right up and downe the tide, but (as you would say) betwixt both, that is quartering. 1658-9 *Admir. Cry Records* 72, 10 Jan., The small number of moorings shipp in the river of Thames at any place above Woollidge is to lye the anchors crosse the tyde and not athwart or right up and downe the river.

† **Water-shut.** *Obs.* [? Cf. Shut *sb.* 2 (But perh. corrupt form of Watershoot.)] ? A pond with walled sides. (? Or = Watershoot 2 b.)

1613-26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 634 A large well squared stone, which he would cut To scrue his stile or for some water-shut.

† **Water-sick,** *a.* *Obs.* *rare.* [Cf. OHG. *wagersioh*, (MHG. *waggersiech*), MDu. *watersiec.*] Dropsical.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 2 Da was þar sum water-seoc man [L. *homo quidam hydropicus*] beforan him. 1555 W. Turner *Spir. Physik* 49 The other kynde of common tokens that the water is to haue, is an exceadyng greate thyrst.

**Water-side.**

1. The side or brink of water; the bank or margin of the sea, or of a river, stream, or lake.

In dialects or periods in which *a water* means spec. either 'a river' (Water *sb.* 12c), or 'a lake' &c., (Water *sb.* 12 b), the same remains in the combination. In early use *water-side* was often simply equivalent to *water's side*: cf. quot. *c* 1375, where the rel. pron. refers to *water* as a separate word.

*Tr.* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's Prol.* & *T.* 3 The mylle stant faste by a water-syde. *c* 1440 *Partonope of Troy* 13466 Off went pat wegh to the water syde, The Sea for to serche. *c* 1480 *Contin. Brut* 388 Sei. Philippe Leiche . . was logged betwene be myst of Seyne and le aibey. . And þe Baron of Carew was logged on be watir syde. 1490 *Paston Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 249 For weying of the same . . & careyng of hit to the water-side in Hampton vli]d. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* i. 3 Such a man is like a tree planted by the water syde. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 127 At this tyme, the water of the Thames sprang so high that it drowned many houses about the water syde. 1697 Dryden & Somervile *Virg. Geor.* III. iii, At some Fauerne neare the water-side. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5353/10 A Large Dye-house at the Waterside. . , to be Sold. 1792 Mme. D'Arblay *Cecilia* (1882) I. [They] came down to a superb new equipage to the water-side. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* iv. iv, For o'er the reach'd upon the tide The first house by the water-side, Singing in her song she died. 1842 *Build. Hall Dock Comm.* 256 Whose premises were between the High-street and the water-side. 1855 Hare *Cases Chancery* X. 298 The offices of deputy day oyster meters, had, . been the subject of sale and purchase, . on payment of a fine to the oyster meters in chief, or yeomen of the water-side. 1889 *L'pool Daily Post*, Feb. 5 Hundreds . . assemble at the dock gates in the hope of obtaining employment at the water-side.

b. *pl.* (*rare.*)

1697 Tuckell *Fenny. Beasts* 668 When the heat of Summer is about the rising of the Dog-star, we must keep them [*sc.* swine] altogether by water sides.

c. *attrib.*

1663 in *Geogr. Jrnl.* (1900) XV. 634 Having made fast the blubber to the shore, we have a Waterside-man who stands in a pair of boots, to the middle leg in water, and flaweth such flesh as is not clean cut from the blubber. 1766 W. Stork *Acc. E.-Florida* 56 The variety of swamps, rivulets, and water-side lands. 1832 J. Mache *Letter* The Jolly Angler : or Waterside Companion. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* I. Thronged by the roughest and poorest of waterside people. 1843 — *Mark. Ne.* 3, The wasteful pollutions of a great (and dirty) city. 1889 *Longman's Mag.* July 308 Waterside flies do not seem to care for yellow, and most waterside flowers are therefore pinkish, purplish or white.

2. The side towards the water.

1868 Kinglake *Crimea* III. xii. 280 *marg.*, Along its whole front on the water side the place (Sebastopol) was protected without needing troops to defend it.

**Waterspout.** [*c. waters'* gen. pl. of Water *sb.* + Mere *sb.*; app. first as a place-name (near Dunmoor).] II. Williams *Devonshire* II. 27 Below is a part of the river, the general boundary of excursions from Lynmouth, called Waters Meet, a small stream joining the East 1 Lyn, on its left bank . . Waters-Meet is access-ible by ponies, from Combbury. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* xxxiv, The lane that leads to the watersmeet. 1893 Lang, Leaf & Myers *Iliad* 78 As when the torrents of winter flow down the mountains to a watersmeet [Gr. *ες μισγάγειαν*].

**Water-snake.**

1. Any snake that inhabits or frequents the water. Variously used *spec.* to snakes of the tropical family *Hydrophidæ*, to certain Indian and American serpents, and, in England, sometimes to the common ringed snake, *Tropidonotus natrix*.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiii. iv. II. 358 The goodliest and fairest snakes to see too, are those which live in the water, and are called Hydri. *A water-snake.* 1631 Chapman *Cæsar & Pompey* I. i. 19 Looke how against great raines, a standing Poole (Of Paddockes, Todes, and water-Snakes put vp Their speckled backes about the venemous Lake. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 48 Yet so good is Providence, as to warn us here, . by Water-Snakes, of our too near approach to the Land. 1712 *White Selborne, To Pennant* 18 June, Country people talk much of a water-snake, but, I am pretty sure, without any reason for the common snake [*coluber natrix*] delights much to sport in the water. 1778 J. Carver *Travels Amer.* xviii. 286 The Water Snake is much like the Rattle Snake in shape and size, but is not endowed with the same venemous powers, being quite harmless. 1798 Coleridge *Ancient Mar.* 273 Beyond the shadow of the ship, I watched the water-snakes. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xvi. I. 265 Aquatic plants on the broad leaves of which numbers of water snakes . were basking. 1883 Moloney *W. Afr. Fisheries* 43 In West Africa man has competitors as fish destroyers, such as the crocodile, shark, . water snake, turtle, . etc.

† 2. Jocularly applied to a boatman. *Obs.*

1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 31 That dividing of your Fare will make the poore watersnake be ready to put you in pieces to enioy your custome.

3. *Astr.* = Southern constellation Hydrus.

1756 J. Ferguson *Astron. Expl.* xx. (1757) 234. 1866 Proctor *Handbk. Stars* 70.

**Water-soak,** *v. trans.* To soak or fill the interstices [of] with water' (Webster 1828). Chiefly in *passive*. Hence **Water-soaked** *ppl. a.*; **Water-soaking** *vbl. sb.* **Water-soak** *sb. rare*, the state of being water-soaked.

1797 Shipyard in Rowell *Johnson* 211. 1784, The conductors to the wheels, suns, stays, &c. were so thoroughly water-soaked, that it was impossible any part of the exhibition should be made. 1841 J. Timbs *Arcana of Science* 7 Suppose a log of water-soaked timber . balanced on one end it would not be found any more flout-some in consequence of its position. 1847 Tennyson *Walk to Land's End* 114, The park proper . was as sour, water-soaked and humpy as any portion of Richmond Park. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 491 We come to the question of permanent water soak as part of our normal environment. 1909 Ketz, Banks *Myst. Frances Farrington* 148 A black velvet hat . giving evidence of much water-soaking. 1916, The Burial Attorney turned to another parcel. . Its contents were soiled, water-soaked underwear.

**Water-soa ken,** *ppl. a.* = Water-soaked.

1783 *Trans. Highland Soc. Scotland* I. 372/2 Land, frequently becomes so Water-soaken, as to arce ever to dry again. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 172, I laid them in a damp place upon a water soaken brick. 1803 Maltman *Hydrol.* 18, (1806) 31 A piece of water-soaken wood. 1820 *Trans. Institution Tracts* II. No. 47. 2 ' Surely,' said the farmer, as they looked over their . water-soaken grounds, ' we shall have a fine August.'

† **Water-soggen,** *ppl. a.* Obs. [*soggen*, pa. pple. of Soo *v.*] = Water-soaked.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Water soggon, *aquosus.*

**Water-so ldier.** An aquatic plant, *Stratiotes aloides* (N.O. *Hydrocharideæ*), found in the E. of England; it has long sword-like leaves, and flowers resembling plumes of white feathers. Also Freshwater *soldier*.

1763 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (1759), Stratiotes Aloides, Water Soldier. 1889 Geddes & Thomson *Evol. Sex* 49 The water-soldier . bears only female flowers north of 52° lat., and from 52° southwards only male ones.

† **Water-sop.** *Obs.* [Sop *sb.*1]

1. Bread soaked in water. [Cf. *G. wassersuppe.*]

1[illegible] . *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 749/6 *Hic ipa*, a watysrope.

2. Some kind of fruit, prob. = Anchovy-pear. [Cf. Sop *sb.*1 5.]

1716 *Petiveriana* 1 . 205 Water sop or River-Apple.

**Water-souchy** (*wɑ·təˌsʌ̃ʃi, -səˌ-*). Forms: α. **-scotje, -suche, -souchee, -scochey, 9 -scotie, -suchée, -soutchee**; β. **8 -sokey**; γ. **8 -socohy, -sutchy, -sousee, 9 -souchee, souchet, 8–9 -suohy, -souchy.** [a. Du. *waterwoetje*, f. *water* Water *sb.* + *zoetje, soodje* boiling (of fish), dim. of *zode* boiling, related by ablaut to *sieden* Seethe *v.* A solitary example of MF. *soucié* (a. Du. *soetje*) is given by Godefroy.

The form *sokey* is prob. due to association with Soak *v.*; the form *souchet* seems to be pseudo-Fr.]

Fish (properly perch) boiled and served in its own liquor.

1732 Fielding *Grub St. Opera* xi. An Irishman loves potatoes ; a Dutchman, watertsuche. 1738 Bailey *Hermet. Diet.* s.v. *Sochy*, A Water Souchy, a Dish of Perch dressed after the Holland fashion. 1757 [G. Smith] *Curs. Relat.* I. 214, I then order'd a couple of Cocks hens to be roasted, and a Water Zoutje (boild Perch) to be made. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 90 Water-Sokey. 1750 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 155 A gentleman . desired him to show him the way of dressing a water-suchy. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* II. 34 His water souchy was borrowed from Marshal d'Auvergne's table, where he was first in Holland. 1783 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIII. 221/2 Genuy from London, who came to fetch our water souce [at Dorking] 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 118 The Dutch are particularly fond of it [the perch] when made into a dish called Water Soa-by. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekp* (1778) 37 To dress Perch in Water Sokey. 1775 J. Bridge *Bucksman* I. vi. 22 Song *Mynheer*]. Water Zoui ben a Dish In the Low Countries. 1778 Adam Pub. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemps.* (1844) IV. 209 Pray tell me how you choose to have the perch dressed, in a water-souchey, or plain boiled. 1784 Encyclopædia Of Asbpalh *Mem* II. 282 The Dutch are phlegmatic, from their fondness for water-zouches 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Sir Rupert*, How she Apologized for her plain water-souchy. 1846 Soyer *Cookery* 135 Flounders, Water Souchet. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* II. xv. A fish dinner! luxuries of turtle, pool of water soushee. 1849 W. F. Campbell *Life in Dunmandy* (1863) II. 2 A very rich variety of water zoutchee. 1858 Thackeray *Bk Snobs* xx, Go and reclaim your rights over bowls of water-souchy with Lord W. Lennox *Recreat. Sporting.* II. 208 Eels also are boiled, and spitchcocked, " perch water zuchée," said the waiter, as the tureens and dishes were uncovered. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xvi, A day on the river, and a dish of fish wildly to the Crown and Sceptre, to cool their overheated systems with water soochy and still hock.

*Cornh.* 1868 Gifford *B. Tonacott* I. xi. 111. 300 Our days have witnessed an attempt to revive the Colleyhoes—but this was a water-suchy club, merely ridiculous.

b. Of a Walpole jocularly used for : A sodden mass (said of a ruined hay or corn crop).

1769 H. Walpole *Lett. to Cole* 16 June, My hay is an absolute water soochy. 1784 — *Let. to H. S. Conway* 30 June, 'Tis very dear to make nothing but a water-suchy of it [the hay-crop]. 1784 — *Let. to Cole* 16 Sept., It was cruel to behold such expanse of corn every where, and yet see it all turned to a water-soochy. 1789 — *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 30 June.

Hence (back-formation) **Water-soutch** *v. trans.* To stew (flounders, etc.) in just enough water to cover them. *rare*—[1].

1846 Swart *Dict* Suppl., To Zoutch v., Hence Water zouched, a. 1861 J. Hogg *Jr. Wine & Love* II. 7 Dinners at Lovegrove's with flounders water-souched, and iced claret

**Water-spa niel.** A variety of spaniel, much used for retrieving water-fowl. Also *attrib.*

1566 Earl of Bedford in *Hist. Mem. Brit. Irish* (1824) II. 326 One Hendrick . having a water spangell that was verie good. 1570 Caius *De Canibus Brit.* 12 Post hunc, subsequitur aquaticus, hoc est Waterspaniel. 1676 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1891) 16 Of the Water Spaniell, or water Spaniell, or finder, in Latine *Aquaticus seu inquisitor*. 1588 Kyd *Hieronch. Phil. Wks.* (1901) 267 Good servants obey them. not as a water-spaniell, that is whistled and tyed to obey the mind. 1591 Sharp. *Two Cent.* III. 91 These hath more qualities then a Water-Spaniell, which is much in a bare Christian Purse. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 18 Such throue Leander . to play the didopper and ducking water spaniel to swim to her. 1676 Dryden *Epil. to Man of Mode* 30 Another's diving Bitch and Water-Spaniel. With a shog, casts all the hair before; Till he with full Decorum brings it back, And rises with a Water-Spaniel drake. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2381/4 Lost . a large Water-Spaniel Dog. 1769 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 4 Jan., If half a dozen gentlemen, furnished with a good strength of water-spaniels, were to beat them (the fens) over for a week, they would certainly find more species. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xxi. 7 he pour barn swam out like a water-spaniel. 1845 Youatt *Dog* iii. 46 The water-spaniel, although a stouter, is a more docile animal than the land one.

*fig.* 1616 J. Lane *Contin. Speed's T. X.* 107 Beinge but Viderines water spanielles.

**Water-spider.** An aquatic spider of either of the genera *Argyroneta* or *Dolomedes*. In early use applied loosely to insects that move swiftly on the surface of water.

1552 *Huloet's Dict., Tipula*, . a water spider. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 606 The Water-Spider that hath six Legs. 1710 Ray *Hist. Insect.* 71 De Tipula. The Water-Spider. 1711 Phil. Trans *Gaugkpick.* I. Tab. 9 It's much slenderer and less than the common Water-Spider. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist* VII. 203 The Water-spider . resembles the common spider in its appearance, except that its head is made rather more in the shape of a nine-pin than a ball. 1854 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 272 The diving-bell of the Water Spider (*Argyroneta aquatica*). 1897 *Encyc. Rev.* July 174 The water-spider, if but a day old, dives into the water.

† **Water-spike.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-spyke, 6–7 -speake.** [Spike *sb.*1 : transl. of F. *épi d'eau.*] A plant of the genus *Potamogeton*; pondweed.

1578 [see Pondweed]. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 134/1 *Potamogeton, fontinalis*, . water speeke, pondweede, or water grasse. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxvi. viii. II. 150

Water peeke or P ndwerd, called in Creek Potamogeton 1655 Anne Pratt *Flower Lit* V 370 *Potamogeton natans* An old name for this plant was Water spike

**Water-spout, wa terspout,** *sb.*

1 A spout, pipe, or nozzle, through which water is discharged; also, † a squirt, syringe.

1390 Gower *Conf* III 1 5 This signe [of Aquarius] is verily resembled Lich to t t in which Iali assembled In eyther hand t water spouts Wherof the streames renneth out 1565 Higins *Jonimi's Invocat* 393/2 *Sypho*, a waterspowt, or a water squirt 1658 *Cal Ann Acc Dublin* (1894) III 242 An instrument called a water spouts, which is verie necessarie for quenching of any greate fire sodainlie 1730 A Gordon *Iffer's Amphith* 230 Next follows the Cornish, with a Water spout 1751 Bankton *Inst Laws Scot* I 682 The cannot, by his fact or deed throw the water from his own upon his neighbour's grounds, by water spouts or otherwise. 1821 Praed *G p* Poems 1865 I 97 The red blood started out Like water from a water spout 1841 Dickens *Barn Rudge* Ivy, I ighted I rnds came whirling down, One rolled beneath a wooden bench another caught a water-spout 1868 — *Dombey* xlv Mr Carker looked down at Mr Dombey like a leering face on an old water spout *alterb* 1612 Sibbd *First Let Brit* iv xiii § 2 The Manor to attend in his own person when Cup-bearer was a bull I wod and danced two 3 ards high by the strength and force of the water spout 1722 J Jones tr *Le Blond's Gardening* 4 Fountains with Water-spouts, which *An d i Arom* XI 43 There are several water-spouts of inferior note near the spring of Geyser

¶ 2 In Ps xlii 7 (Bible version) the word is now commonly apprehended as an example of sense 3 below. It was, however, probably intended, in metaphorical use of sense 1, and it seems likely that the meteorological sense 3 arose from recollection of the passage of the psalm

The Heb word *tsinnor*, here rendered by waterspout', occurs elsewhere only in 2 Sam v 8, where it has been interpreted 'spout or gutter on a roof'. Vulg *domorum fistulas* (Wyclif 1382 'the goters of the hows eues,' Douay 'the gutters of the house tops') the Vulg of 1611 has 'the gutter,' and the Revision 1881 'the water course'. In the psalm the word is rendered in the I XX by καταρράκται and in the Vulg by *cataracta* (Wyclif 'cataractis,' Douay 'flud gates'), the most translators of the Heb essayed to find a literal rendering in accordance with the apparent sense of the word in 2 Sam v 8, han e Paginus has *fistularum* (whence Coverdale by misapprehension renders 'whistles'), the Great Bible (1539) has 'water pipes'

1611 Bible *Ps* xlii 7 Deepe calleth vnto deepe at the noyse of thy water spouts

3 *Meteorol* A gyrating column of mist, spray, and water, produced by the action of a whirlwind on a portion of the sea and the clouds immediately above it.

1728 T Shaw *Trav* 361 Water Spouts are more frequent near the Capes of Natolia, Greece, and Caramel than in any other Part of the Mediterranean Sea. 1747 *Scheme Longitude of Ships* 23 Like Monsoons or Water Spouts, the higher they rise, the more they are contracted 1789 tr *Volney's Trav Syria & Egypt* (1788) I 340 And hence will result those columns of water known by the name of Typhons and water-spouts 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II 51 When a whirlwind happens at sea, or over the surface of water, it forms the phenomenon called a water spout 1818 Keats *Endymion* iii 366 When a dread water-spout had reared aloft Its hungry hugeness 1829 I Reynolds in *Town's Mag Nat Hist* I 458 Water spouts make their appearance from the bosom of a heavy cloud, gradually descending in a spout like an inverted cone, sometimes perpendicularly and sometimes bending, or waved 1900 G Tyrrell *Oil & Wine* (1907) 99 After many vain reaching towards one another, sea and sky at last united in the waterspout.

b. A sudden and violent fall of rain; a cloud-burst.

1779 Thicknesse *Journ France* (1789) I 351 The water spouts which fell into the middle of those narrow streets alm st deluged us 1813 Scott *Guy M* xxiii, Heaps of gravel and stones which had been swept together when some torrent or water-spout from the neighbouring hills overflowed the marshy ground I slow 1827 — *Highl Widow* v, That mountain rivulet, suddenly swelled by a water spout, or thunder storm, has often been the cause of those accidents, which [etc.] 1834 Boswell *Diff in Shetland* xxvi, The demons of the clouds assailed them with water spouts as they toiled up the steep winding path of Fairnelhad n 1866 J Skelton *Noga Cruise* vi 301 It hvl I equal to rain a down pour, a pelt, a water spout 1880 Green *Short Hist* iv 2 *Harlech* 13 A waterspout burst on the hill overhanging the village of Muredford

c *fig*

1852 J Bright in G M Trevelyan *Life* (1913) 201 'After Lord Derby, the delage, says Lord Maidstone 'The' deluge' means Manchester, it is needless to say, a political watering which is to sweep away all that Peer and Parson hold dear

Hence **Wa terspouted** *v. intr.* (*impers*), *nonce-wd*

1891 Stevenson *Vailima Lett* (1895) 190 It was water spouting, we were drenched before we got out of the town

† **Water-spouter.** *Obs.* [Spouter.] (See quots)

1700 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Feb 1651 The water spouter, who drinking only fountaine water, rendred out of his mouth in severall glasses all sorts of wine and sweete waters, &c. 1816 A C Hutchinson *Pract Obs Surg* (1896) 170 See an account of Blash de Manfré, who died in 1651 and who u sed to be called 'water spouter'

**Wa ter-spring.** A permanent flow of water issuing from the earth = Spring *sb.*1 2. Also *fig* Now chiefly in echoes from the Bible.

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 Jo delusyn 3oure pyt deppere in lowne pl 3e fyndyn a watyr spryng of grace 1535 Coverdale *Ps* cvii[i] 33 Which turneth the floudes in to drie londe, and driesh vp the water springes. *Ibid* 35 He maketh the wildernes a standing water, and water spryngs out of a drye grounde 1573-80 Baret *Alvearie* I *ch*[3] *n Husb* (1878) 195 I hat ioyned brookes to dales, to hilles fresh water springs 1595 *Lawrence* in Hugh Holme which have drunke vp the flowing water springes 1807 in Hall *Fs* 1 18 He shall be like the tree, Set by the water springs 1 1766 M Bruce *Lochleven* 147 Her pleasing voice to tend I he flow rs, to lave them from the water-spring 1780 Vox Populi *Iceland* 245 Among all the curiosities of I eland nothing can be compared to the hot spouting water springs. 1806 Lithgow *Lost Leiter Writers, Secret Hist* 92 I he cool margc of rush-grown water-springs. 1890 D David son *Hem Long Life* vi 146 Friends, whose intercourse had I en as refreshing to me as the water spring to the traveller in the wilderness

**Wa ter-stone.** [Cf. *wasserstein* in various senses

†1. A stone basin for holy water *Obs.*

1379 *Mem Ayb* (Surtees) III 98 I e Waterstane pro aq in Sacristia est Anno 1379

†2. A kind of 'philosopher's stone'. *Obs rare*—1 So G *wassersteen* (1709 in Grimm).

1699 J Howell (*title*) Parmedus his Aurora, and Irea sure of the Philosophers. An also I he Waterstone of His Wise Men. Describing the matter of and manner how to attain the universal Tincture

†3. (Meaning obscure) *Obs.*

1703 *Lond Gaz* No 3917/4 I ading of the Dorothy, Cleaning of Canary Wines, Orchilla, Rosewood, and some few Water Stones, will be exposed to publick Sale.

4 ? A whetstone used with water and not oil

1903 Century Dict s v Water 1 Water stone.

1891 *Daily News* 24 Feb 2/5, I sharpened the large blade on my water stone

5 Some kind of building (See quot)

1824 S Chapman *Customs* III 54 (Dunfriesshire) There is a water stone, which dresses into a fine polish

6 A nodule of chalcedony having an internal cavity containing water

1805 Nelson & Ulrich *Phys Geog* etc *Victoria tr notes*, The chalcedony of the Water Stones has a hardness above 8, as the sharp edges scratch it precisely 1869 R H Smith *Gold Fields Victoria* 223 A great number of these Waterstones were found in the Occidental Exhibition

7 A rock-stratum abounding in water

1878 Anstead *Water & Water Supply* 30 Several springs were found to break out from the water stones or lower beds of the Forest

**Wa ter-stream.** Now *rare* [Cf G. *wassers tr om*, Mlg. *waterstrôm*] A stream or current of water, a river or brook, † a flood.

c1000 *Ags Ps* lxxviii[i] 44 He waterstreamas [Vulg *flumina*] in blode to Nacer cluron *Ol Exeter* 67 Ac te [Christ] wolde sylf awa zehiltan mec fulluht and his halgan lichoman & eelle waterstreamas mid his ingange. c1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 191 De water streames [Vulg *flumina*, Ps cxlv 3] on bruceden up here undec c1200 Ormin 18093 For all and a se waterstream A33 fleteþ forþ & ernebþ all wa [etc.] c1425 *Lorr Portiguel* 203 He led us into dun lond, And told us many howe he at flond By a water-streme 1535 Coverdale *Isa* liv 19 He shal come vp a violent waterstreame, which the wynde of le hordo hath driuen vpon vs 1596 Spenser *F Q* v 11 Like as a water streame, whose swelling source Shall driue a Mill, within his ranckes is pent 1665 I Godwin *Moses & Aaron* (1681) 68 The Israelites were bound to pursue the ways to the Cities of Refuge, and they suffered not any hill or dale to be in the way nor water streames, but they made a bridge over it that nothing might hinder them that fled thither 1779 Thicknesse *Journ France* (1789) I 351 The roaring of the water streams was so great, that I very often thought we were upon the margin of some river 1802 Wilkes *Panorama* III 11 20 Erecting Lilliputia mills on the little water streams

**Wa ter-swa llow** †. ? *Obs.* [Swallow *sb.*1 Cf. G *wasserschwalbe*] A name for the water-wagtail

1545 Turner *Avnum Practyk* C7 I. Kyychos ὑγροκυνηγος Gallice vne hoche queue 1658 [see Water-wagtail] 1688 Lotor, *Bateus* in a wagtaile, or water Swallow 1698 Willsford *Nature Serv* 140 The Wagtail, or Water-Swallow 1708 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Water Swallo w*, a kind of Bird

**Wa ter-swa llow** 2. = Swallow *sb* 2 1 b

1811 in *Marshall's Rur Ec Board Agric, Midl* 83 Last of Water swallows or Hacks in the Rocks into which streams of Water fall and disappear in and near Derbyshire 1840 Hudson *Northumd* II 111 327/1 *note*, A stratum of limestone full of water swallow holes 1889 *Trans Dorfordsh Arch Soc* XI 34 This valley is entirely drained by water swallows — natural drain along the bottom, through which the surface rills sink out of sight

Hence † **Water-swallowed** *a*, abounding in water-swallows

1616 Folkingham *Feudyn* 111 4 It would be also perwestigated, whether it [sc the earth] be light, loose, leane, barren, fenny, or swallowed, vnto bound

**Wa ter-ta ble.** [See Table *sb.* 12 a, 13 b, c.]

1 *Arch* a The sloping top of a plinth b A horizontal projecting ledge or moulding sloping on the top, set along the side of a wall so as to throw off the rainfall

1448 in Hearn *Gracers Comp* (1869) 5 The walle atte sond wyst galowsh was swal nor foe in heyghte aboue the water table. 1459 in Willis & Clark *Cambr* (1886) I 309, 81 fotes from the gronde leuell to the water table and the said water table alle of freestone 1480-3 *Acc Exch K R.* 496 No 25 Pro factura Waterstable Gargles at Batsliment 1541 in *Proc Antiq Scot* (1860) III 162 Fra the sollis of the said quere durris to the vper part of the watter tabill vnder the thak thairof 1547 in J R Boyle *Hedon* (1873) App 333 Item, for layinge the watter tabyll above the counsell chamer a 2s8d [see Raising-piece] 1548 *Abp's Ord Corona* in also the water table or coping of a wall 1617 in *Hartland Ch Acc* in *Rep Devonsh Assoc* XXVII 60 For putting in water tables of lead 1709 Mortimer *Husb* 297 The Walls of such Edifices ought to be from the Foundation to the first Water-table, three heading course of Brick, and at every Story a Water table, or taking in on the inside for the Summers, Girders or Joysts to rest upon 1833 Loudon *Encyc Archit* § 1882 The massive buttresses, with its deep weatherings, or water tables between each graduation or stage of the batter. 1898 Mevrick *Ch Ch Cathedral, Dubl* 66 Weathered in the depth of the buttresses by nine courses of Water tables

*transf* 1856 Bulmer *Anthropology* 68 Robbing the Eyes of their natural Pent-house or Water table, they expose them bare to imbrications

2 A channel or gutter on each side of a road, 'also, a small hollow made across a road to carry off surplus water' (Elworthy).

1707-24 Mortimer *Husb* II 295 A Water Table also on each side of the Walk is very good to drain your Walks. 1809 Maton *Agric Berks* 182 The roads are not sufficiently raised in the middle, the water tables are neither regularly made nor with proper outlets towards the ditches 1817 W H. Marshall *Rur Rep Board Agric, South* 74 note, *Water Table*, is an Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire (I ol ssen) for the draining channel, on the side of a barriced road to convey away the rain water that may fall upon it 1850 *Pract Treat Roads* 9 in *Ist Civil Engineer, Abridl* III, Outlets from the water tables to the ditches cannot be seen in too many places 1856 W D Cooper *Chron Sussex, Water table*, a small embankment made across a road, especially on a hill, to carry off the water 1868 Lucraft *W S merset Word bk* 1906 *Wiltsh Gaz* 24 Sept 4/5 Now that the local authorities have permitted footpaths by the roadside and water-tables to be obliterated

3 A window-ledge or sill in a ship or railway carriage

1883 W C Russell *Sailors Lang*, *Water-table*, sills to a ship's windows. 1884 Shorthouse, *Water-tables* in ship it e sills of the windows in the stern 1890 *Funk's Stand Dict*, *Water tall*, a horizontal board with bevelled top, running underneath the window the entire length of a railway car

4 = *water-bridge* (see Water *sb* 29).

1880 Webster 1891 *Century Dict*

5 = Water-level 3

1879 *Cassell's Techn Educ* I 130/2 In other cases it [the water] will rise to the surface, but f rm what is known as t water table' one two, or more feet beneath 1881 *Encycl Brit* XII 567/1 At varying distances from the surface there exists a great water table or stratum lake or sea, known as the ground water or water table

**Wa ter-ta bling.** [f prec. + -ing 1]

1 *Arch* Water-tables collectively; a line of water-tables

1598 *Churches A c Hinchinhampton* in *Archæologia* (1854) XXXV 431 For the water tablinge of Anslowes chapele and the bynche of the porche, xvs 1mp 1709 A Young *Agric Lincoln* 9 Water tabling 1893 *Leicestersh Jan* 24 The east and west walls were surmounted by gables The e seem to have been covered with a water tabling. 1900 *Archæol Cambrens* XXII 87 The corbels on which rests the water tabling

2 The action or process of renovating with soda the side of a ditch where it has become worn away below the roots of a hedge

1844 H Stephens *Bk Farm* II 443 The hedger now resumes his work of water tabling and scouring ditches *Ibid* 509 Of switching, pruning, and water tabling them hedges

**Water-thyme.**

† 1. An (unidentified) aquatic species of thyme

1658 Wm Johnson *Angler* 11 (1883) 3 Some think that the fish (the grayling) feeds on Water Lime, and smells so at his first taking out of the water

2. The American weed *Elodea canadensis* (formerly *Anacharis Alsinastrum*), now common in English waters

1855 Anne Pratt *Flower Pl* V, 190 The Anacharis is called by the fishermen the Water Thyme.

**Watertight** (wɔ̱·tətaɪt), *a* [See Tight *a.* 2 a.]

1 So closely constructed or fitted that water cannot leak through

1387 *Chesters etc Ivin* (1871) 25 Thekyt abovyn with stane and water thyclit *Ibid* 36 The qwilke werke the forsaide masonnys sal warande w tir thicht 1514 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 61 To keep h s wyndy gate and waterthyght 1554 *Extracts Aberd Reg* (1844) I 281 Makand the said tolbuith vatterthicht 1601 T Miles *Customers Accompt* B iij, Her Houses neither Wind tight, nor Water-tight 1848 J J Davidson *Interiors* (1878) 302 The heritors in all pa ishes are ordained to keep the kirk wind fast and watertight 1876 in *Trans Soc Arts* (1783) I 232 High topped water tight boots. 1793 *Trans Soc Arts* V 102 The joint is perfectly water tight 1835 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* xi, All the rivals in Birmingham won't make this boat water tight. 1873 B Stewart *Conserv Energy* 13 Each of these cylinders is provided with a water tight piston

*fig* 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 31 Is there is good hope, when peace is settled, people shall live in more quiet and water tight than formerly 1892 *Daily News* 12 Jan 4/7 The most watertight scheme hitherto proposed is undoubtedly Mr. Charles Booth's

b *Watertight compartment* each of the many compartments, with watertight partitions, into which the interior of a large ship is now usually divided for safety. Hence often *fig*

1858 J Grantham *Iron Ship building* 48 Several of these [water tight bulkheads] divide the vessel into water tight

compartments. 1888 Sir J. Stracney *India* iii. 63 Thus, what has been called 'the policy of watertight compartments' has been applied throughout the Indian army. 1902 J. Smith *Indoor. Sculpt.* vi. (ed. 2) 209 That faith in the Bible ..must be kept in a water-tight compartment, jealously excluded from the least contact with criticism.

**3.** As *sb.* (*pl.*) Watertight boots.

1880 Jefferies *Hodge & M.* xxi. (1890) 303 He...slips his feet into his thick 'water-tights'. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xxvi, Time-stiffened water-tights reappeared.

Hence **Wa'tertightness.**

1869 Sir E. Reed *Shipbuild.* xl. 228 *Watertightness* is usually secured by working angle-irons around the keelsons or stringers in such a manner as to allow the caulking of the joints to be readily performed. 1882 *Athenæum* 6 May 564/3 To have one's representations as to the drainage or watertightness of one's house neglected. 1889 Welch *Naval Archit.* vi. 84 The joints being calculated for watertightness.

**Wa'ter-tree.** [Cf. *G. wasserbaum.*]

†**1.** A tree which grows by the water-side or in watery ground. *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* viii. xiv. 823 There are two sorts of trees in generall; the one is called water trees, or trees delighting to grow in or neere vnto the brinkes of waters. 1612 R. Cr. *Olde Tis-pi newly revived* 51 Will not these trees which you haue termed water trees, grow in any other place then in low watrish grounds?

**2.** A tree which yields a watery juice; applied, e.g. to the pitcher-plant of Ceylon, *Nepenthes distillatoria*, the African climbing shrub *Tetracera alnifolia*, and the Australian tree *Hakea leucoptera*.

For *red-water tree* see Red-water 3.

1799 B. Stillingfleet *Tracts* (1762) 76 The watertree in Ceylon produces cylindrical bladders, covered with a lid; into these is secreted a most pure, and refreshing water. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Tetracera*, *T. alnifolia* [1874 *T. alnifolia*] is called the Water-tree at Sierra Leone, on account of its climbing stems yielding a good supply of clear water when cut across. 1894 C. H. Tyler in *Geog. Trans.* I. iii. 184 The *celico*, or water-tree [of S. America], is a variety of the *bombax*, or silk-cotton tree. 1898 Morris *Austral English*, *Water-tree*, a tree from which water is obtained by lopping the roots, *Hakea leucoptera*, R. Br.

**Wa'ter-vine.** A name for several plants which yield an abundant watery juice. **a.** *Tetracera alnifolia* (or *potatoria*) : see prec. 2. **b.** *Phytocrene gigantea*, a tall climbing shrub of Martaban, Burma, &c. The W. Indian climber *Dolicarpus Calinea*.

1853 *Penny Cycl.* I. 189/1 (art. *Africa*) The water-vine (*Tetracera potatoria*), which is produced in great abundance in vegetable fountain, discharging, when cut across, a cool, limpid, and refreshing fluid. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 771 In the province of Martaban, in Ava, Wallich found the Water Vine (Phytocrene) whose singular soft and porous wood discharges when wounded a very large quantity of pure and tasteless fluid, which is quite wholesome and drunk by the natives. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-vine, *Dolicarpus Calinea*. 1872 Kingsley *At Last* xi. 71 You'll see cut a water-vine, and find a long cool drink.

**Wa'ter-vole.** [See Vole *sb.*²] The common water-rat, *Arvicola amphibius*.

1828 J. Fleming *Brit. Anim.* 23 Water Vole. 1837 T. Bell *Brit. Quadrupeds* 322 The Water Vole, or, as it is more frequently called, the Water Rat, is found in most parts of Europe. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, There never was any sound at all, except of a rocky echo..or the sudden dive of a water-vole.

**Wa'ter-wagtail.**

**1.** The common pied wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris*. Also applied, with some distinctive epithet, to other species.

1611 Cotgr., *Hausse-queue*, the yellow Water-wagtaile. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 90 *Motacilla*..the washer, or water-wagtail. a 1672 Willughby (1678) xxvii. (1676) 171 *Motacilla alba*. The white Water-wagtail. *Ibid.* 172 *Motacilla flava*. The yellow Water-wagtail. 1736 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 54 The most common black and white Water-Wagtail. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 105 The Grey Water-wagtail. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 14 June, As blithe as a water-wagtail. 1837 Mrs. A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xii. 138 The sparrows and water-wagtails perch familiarly on the awnings and hop about the deck. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 59 The Wagtail of Madagascar, *M. flaviventris*, and the Grey Wagtail of Europe, *M. melanope*, are ‘ Water ’Wagtails, with the colouring of Yellow Wagtails.

†**b.** Applied playfully or derisively to a person.

1604 Crowne *Married Beau* v. 61 If my old Water-wagtail will only hop about the brinks of Marriage, and never step in, I'll drive him away. 1697 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* v, Ha, Why now, my pretty Pall; my Goldfinch: my little Water-wagtail—you must know that.

**2.** *U.S.* = Water-thrush.

1813 J. Bursoughs *Waterfowls* ii. (1884) 77 The water-wagtail (*Seiurus noveboracensis*)—erroneously called water-thrush. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 206 *Seiurus noveboracensis*. Water Thrush. Water Wagtail.

**Wa'ter-wall.** [Cf. *G. wasserwand.*]

**1.** A wall which rises by the side of water; a containing wall beside or around a body of water.

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 907 Ther ys a place in the wall, Bytwyn the chamber and the hal, Thor lygthe a mychel water-wal Of twenty feyt brede. 1445-6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 630 Pro reparacione et emendacione de le Waterwall ac rote exterioris molendini de Scaltoke, 15*s.* 1876 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1882, 205/2 Necnon edificando lie waterwall cum aliis[Persannis dicti molendini. 1882 *Hebrew Republic Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 262 [John Mein, mason, sues William Edgar for 41. Scots] for heating of the water-wall. 1907 Jean Webster *Jerry* Pt. ii. xi Three [girls]..were kneeling on the beach thumping and scrubbing a pile of linen. The grass beyond the water-wall was already white with bleaching sheets.

†**2.** Some plant. *Obs. rare*—¹.

Cf. *penny-wall*, dial. name (Isle of Man) for the wall pennywort (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1697 Tournef. *Pourg. Benate* 629 They give bir the Hearbe Penny-wort or Water-wall to drinke in water.

**Waterward, -wards** (wɔ·tərwə·d, -wɔ·dz), *adv.* [See -ward, -wards.] Toward the water; in earlier use *to* (*the*) *waterward*(*s*. Also †*fra the waterward*, from the direction in which the water lies.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 137 [The adder] walkeð to ße water-ward, wile þanne drinkinde. 13.. *A. Jrnl.* 3086 To water-ward *Hodl. MS.*) To waterwardes], with sword egge, Thou othres come at beore rygge. 1418 in *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 13 That the water be ledde downe..fra the third poste of the house of Dame Alice Plumpton fra the waterward of Use [= Ouse], be a pype of lede closed with a loker. 1903 W. S. Blunt *Golden Odes Arcadia* iv. 27 All their will to win there speeding them waterwards.

**Wa'ter-washed,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Drenched with water; swept, flushed, or inundated by running water.

1858 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 157 Rounded fragments of water-washed greenstone. 1860 Tristram *Cit. Sahara* v. 89 All these apparently ancient sea-beaches show traces of having been deposited only on their north sides. 1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ii. 13 The reed-covered water-washed bank.

†**Water-washen,** *pa. pple. Obs.* = prec.

c 1400 *Sir Ferumbras* 788 [He] Made wades of wolle in wete for to plunge, Water-washen as hey wer, & on þe walle hengen.

**Wa'ter-wave.**

*Ult.* A wave of water.

c 1550 *Image Ypocrisie* (1906) 78 [He] Made wodes of wolle in wete for to plunge, Water-washen as hey wer, & on þe walle hengen. 1857 Huxley *Physiogr.* 188 If the centre of disturbance is near the sea, the water-waves may be far more destructive than the earthquake. 1903 J. Davis (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 91/1 Shee stood, as if she stood vpon no ground, But vpon water-waue that made her bound. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 529 Bankes formerly raised against the waterwaues then in-rushing. 1834 *Fail's Mag.* I. 340/1 Steam engines, water-waves are gushing.

**2.** A seismic wave in the sea.

1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 188 If the centre of disturbance is near the sea, the water-waves may be far more destructive than the earthquake. 1903 J. Davis (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 91/1 Shee stood, as if she stood vpon no ground, But vpon water-waue that made her bound. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 529 Bankes formerly raised against the waterwaues then in-rushing. 1834 *Fail's Mag.* I. 340/1 Steam engines, water-waves are gushing.

**3.** *U.S.* A mode of dressing the hair in flattened scallops on the forehead.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1911 Webster.

Hence **Wa'ter-waved** *ppl. a.*, having a wave-like pattern or changing gloss.

1590 T. Lodge *Wits Miserie* 3 Last, Esterene writes from none of Camels tail Made water-waued staffe vnseene before. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* lii. (1844) II. 143 The agates are many of them peculiarly beautiful, most of them waterwaved.

†**Waterwaw.** [See Wough.] A water-wall. 1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 540 In sarracione planorum, cum les Waterwawes, Anglice Abaihe.

**Wa'ter-way.** [Cf. (M)LG. *waterwech* drain, *G. wasserweg* (1) way by water, water as a way, (2) a watercourse.]

†**1.** Used in OE. with uncertain meaning.

Explained by Bosworth-Toller as ‘a channel connecting two pieces of water’. This is possible, but in quot. *c* 1000 the latter seems to be ‘ paths ’, and the entry occurs in a group of words meaning ‘ road ’ or ‘ path ’. Perh. the sense may be ‘a road along which a stream runs ’ (cf. Water-lane).

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxiii. 18 Semble *Coel. Dict. Nov.* 1107 Y. 807 Andlang burnan on ßone æwylm ł of ßam ewylme andlang waterwæges up to ßrete. 956 *Charter* ibid. No. 1198 V. 374 Andlang hirtun on waterwæg ł of ßan waterwæge on waterhammes. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 146/37 *Tramites*, waterweg.

**2.** A channel for the escape or passage of water.

1468 Cart. N. Berwick 51/81 Water or passage. 1686 Aubrey *Faithf. Surveyor* 88 If you are to bring it [sc. the trench] over some ditch or brook, where the water is lower then your water-way, there you [sic] must. 1694 J. Nicholson *Pract. Mech.* 96 Through the waterway the water passes during the rising tide into a large reservoir. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 395 If the water is to be carried away by a tunnel, the water-way should ever be made a little above levelled in with earth. 1862 *Rep. Directors E. Ind. Kimy. Co.* 30 I find that the waterways shown on last year's sections by the different Brigade Majors were very deficient. 1878 *Amateur Work & Water Supply* 161 The alluvial bed is wide, but the channel or water-way, except after heavy rain, is small. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* xii. This gully had a water-way at the bottom of it.

**3.** *Naut.* A long piece of timber, hollowed in the middle, serving to connect the deck of a ship with the side, and to form a channel for carrying off water from the deck by means of the scuppers.

1485 Cart. N. Berwick *Dodgeons about Sea Services* (1685) 149 Water way is that small piece or ledge of timber which lieth on the ship's deck..to keep the water from running down the sides. 1708 *Brown's Exp.* II. iv. 158 Her waterways were open and decayed. 1750 Blanckley *Naut. Expositor*, Water ways, is that Strake of Plank on the Flat of each Deck respectively next the Ship's Side, for turning the Water out of the Seams. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xv. 39 Everything has been moved in the hold, from stem to stern, and from the water-ways to the keel-on. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 262/2 A tug towed 21 her for an hour and a half before she was got off, during that time her decks and waterways were much strained.

**4.** A route for travel or transport by water; a river, canal, or a portion of a sea or lake, viewed as a medium of transit.

1898 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. 167 Pleasant are those hidden waterways. 1869 Rogers *A. Smith's W. N. I.* i, iii. 20 *note*. When time is no object, the use of a water-way, even though it be artificial, is usually cheaper than that of any road on land. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 88 The river is the grand waterway for the produce of the Ural and Central Russia. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lith. Sense Ch. Asia* iv. 48 When a waterway is needed, as at Glasgow, we transform a little stream into a navigable river. 1905 Lyall *Life Mary. Duffering* I. vii. 262 The proposal in the draft treaty, that the waterway of the St. Lawrence should be improved,..was opposed. 1915 A. Hurd in *Daily Tel.* 24 Aug. 8/7 The Russians have done more than elsewhere...the defence of this particular waterway [sc. the Gulf of Riga] was entrusted to a number of older ships.

**b.** Distance to be travelled by water.

1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* ix. 72 The lack of railway and inn accommodation and the length of water-way rendered a cabin necessary.

**c.** (Right of) access by water.

1883 G. C. Davies *Norfolk Broads* xvi. 122 One of the abbots of St. Benedict's once sued the citizens of Norwich for an interference with his right of water-way up to his possessions higher up the river.

**d.** A track across the water. *nonce-use.*

1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* i. ii. 31 Between the sundown and the sea Love watched one hour of love with me; Then down the all-golden water-ways His feet flew after yesterday's.

**5.** The breadth of a navigable watercourse; esp. the breadth allowed for the watercourse of a canal or the like (exclusive of towpaths, etc.) passing under a bridge or tunnel.

1739 Labelye *Short Acct. Piers Westm. Bridge* 35 More free Water-way is left for the Stream..than the whole Breadth of the River at the Horse-Ferry. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Bridge*, These arches give..a water-way of 870 feet. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 16 Total Water-way 755 Feet 5 Inches. 1791 R. Mylne *and Rep. Thames Navig.* 8 The Water-way..is now contracted by the Bank..having grown forward, beyond the opening of the Buttment Arch. 1800 Telford in Plymley *Agric. Shropsh.* (1803) 301 By this towing-path being hollow below, there is a water-way in the middle of ten feet, instead of seven feet. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 323/1 The Canal Company..demanded..an arch 31 feet wide, 24 for water-way, and 7 for towing path. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 16 Oct. 7 The Thames Conservancy..have made demands in regard to waterway and headway which must render it exceedingly difficult [etc.].

**6.** An opening for the passage of vessels; a (broader or narrower) course available for navigation; esp. the passage by which vessels enter and leave a harbour, the fairway.

1883 *Manch. Guard.* 18 Oct. 4/7 The Suez Canal Company's engineers have prepared alternative sets of plans for the improvement of the waterway. 1894 Cunningham *Hist. Dutch Trade* 106 The waterway was considerably reduced in breadth by a large well-cultivated island. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 102/2 The breadth available waterway depends upon the draught of the vessels navigating it.

**7.** The full-open passage area in a cock or valve.

1744 Desaguliers *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 524 His three Valves (whose Water-ways are 48 Inches). 1797 J. Curr *Coal Viewer* 63 Injection cocks with square shanks, 4½ inches by 2½ inch water way. 1802 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* I. 184 As the suction stoppage of the descent of the column Aß, at the instant when the two plugs were both in the water way, might jar and shake the apparatus, those plugs are made [etc.]. 1824 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 256 The pressure of the incumbent column of water is supported by the plates G G, whose circular edges rest on the brim of the water-way..This piston have every advantage of strength, tightness, and water-way.

**Water-weed.** Any aquatic plant with inconspicuous flowers; spec. = Water-thyme 2.

1842 Browning *In a Gondola* 210 Your gondola—let Zorzi wreathe A mesh of water-weeds about its prow. 1848 Schomburgk *Hist. Barbados* 650 Spigelia anthelmia..Loggerhead Weed, *Hughes*..Water Weed. 1855 Anne Pratt *Flower. Pl. V.* 185 He found that this water-weed [sc. Anacharis] had in a few days accumulated there in great profusion. 1897 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 257 The ‘ New Water-weed ’ (Elodea canadensis), an American plant, was first remarked in Britain in 1847. 1890 Bridge *Mem. Manse* II. 93 The water-weeds, that cause alive a narrow stream to pass. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 211/2 We pass..shikaras laden with wood or hay or water-weed.

**Wa'ter-wheel.**

**1.** A wheel designed to drive machinery, esp. that of a mill or pump, with water as the motive power.

1408 *Durham Acc. Roll* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 517 Pro carragio..unius axeltre..pro le Water-wheille. *a* 1530 J. Heywood *Play of Weather* (Brandl) 561 Our boat's aground, our wyndpoole, our water wheele. 1648 Wilkins *Dædalus* xv. 284 For if there were but such a water-wheel made on this instrument [*i.e.* the Archimedean screw] upon which the stream that is carried up, may fall in its descent, it would turn the Screw round. 1759 Smeaton *Exper. Engy.* (1794) I Concerning Undershot Water Wheels. 1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 240 London-bridge has 4 pair of arches out of the water-wheel CD. 1830 Rayer & Lardner *Mech. Arts* 179 In water-wheels, the power is the weight of water contained in buckets at the circumference. 1880 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 25 At one end was a little water-wheel turned by a brook. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 242 A water-wheel, turned by Niagara, virtually derives its energy from the transformation of Sunbeams.

**2.** A wheel for raising water, esp. for irrigation purposes, by means of buckets or boxes fitted on its circumference.

1639 G. Plattes *Discov. Infin. Treas.* vii 32 Water wheeles, with wooden bottels which doe fill in the river, and empty themselves above into a trough of wood. 1805 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 230 As the mule..goes round, those horizontal arms..take hold..of those arms which are fixed on the axis of the water-wheel, and keep it in rotation. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* vi. 140 The water-wheel slowly revolving with its necklace of pots. 1914 *Blackw.*

*Mag.* Oct. 428/1 Waterwheels have to be employed to irrigate the old terraces.

†3. A wheel for propelling a boat through the water; a paddle-wheel. *Obs.*

1787 P. Miller in B. Woodcroft *Steam Navig.* (1848) 29 An account of experiments made by Mr. Miller.. in a double vessel.. put in motion by his water wheel. 1814 in *Scribner's Mag.* (1889) May 518/2 She is a structure resting upon two boats.. The great water-wheel revolves in the space between them. 1822 Imison *Sci. & Art* I. 2 6 Some attempts have been made to place the water-wheels, or paddles that drive the vessel, in the middle.

**Water-willow.**

†1. The purple loosestrife, *Lythrum Salicaria*, or the willow-herb, *Epilobium angustifolium*. (The two plants seem to have been generally confused.)

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 130/a *Lysimachium, salicaria*,.. willow herbe, or loose strife, waterwillowe. 1598 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Water-Willow*, an Herb otherwise call'd Loose-strife. 1736 Ainsworth *Dict. Lat., Lysimachia*, willow herb, or loose strife, water willow. Hence 1828–54 in Webster.

2. Applied to *Salix aquatica* and other species.

1850 Outlier, *Water-willow*, ..the *Salix*? *aquatica*, called also *water-saillow*. 1853 G. Johnson *Nat. Hist. E. Borod.* I. 179 *Salix helix*. Water Willow. Common on the margins of our gravel-bedded burns and rivers. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Water Willow. *Salix rubra*, Hudson.

3. An American basket plant, *Dianthera americana*, with narrow leaves and purplish flowers, found growing on the borders of streams and ponds.

1836 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 297.

**Water-wings**, *sb. pl.*

†1. Wings having a watered or wavy surface. *nonce-use* [after *water camlet*].

1658 Cotton *Angler* 1. xxiv. 74 The Camlet-Flie, in shape like a moth with fine dispred, or water-wings. [Cf. *water camlet* s.v. Camlet *sb.* b.]

2. Organs of propulsion in the water.

1825–40 Swan in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 294/1 We have already alluded to the use of the fin-rays in the Penguin makes of its diminutive anterior extremities as water-wings, or fins.

3. (See quot.)

1841 Brees *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 293 *Water-wings*, the walls erected on the banks of a river next bridges, to secure the foundations from the action of the current; they are usually battered towards the stream, [etc.]. Hence in later Dicts.

**Water-witch.**

1. A witch inhabiting the water.

*a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 77 A Water-witch with Charms Could sink their Men of War, as easy as Storms. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxxvii. (1878) 297 Presently we found ourselves in a sort of water-witches' paradise. Far below us boiled that hell-cauldron of white smoke [etc.].

2. a. *U.S.* A name for several water-birds noted for their quickness in diving: see quots.

1789 Morse *Amer. Geog.* (1792) 60 Water-witch. 1890 Hazlitt *Dict. Amer. Lore* (ed. 2) *Dipper*, a small aquatic bird, common throughout the United States, also called the Water-witch and Hell-diver. 1892 Coues & Prentiss in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1891, 419 *Podilymbus podiceps*.. Crested Grebe. 'Water Witch.' *Ibid.*, *Podilymbus podiceps*.. 'Dipper.' 'Water Witch.' 1899 C. H. Cook *Birds E. North America* 132 *Colymbus auritus* Linn. Horned Grebe. Water Witch.

b. The stormy petrel, *Procellaria pelagica*.

1852 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 460.

3. *U.S.* = Water-finder.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Water-Witch*. A person who pretends to have the power of discovering subterranean springs by means of the divining rod. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 Utah ..abounds in 'water-witches.' 1890 L. C. Davis *Arcana* 134 A man had reached a depth of about a hundred and thirty feet without striking water, when there chanced to come along a man known throughout the section as a 'water-witch.'

**Water-withe.** A West Indian plant, *Vitis caribæa* (see quot. 1756).

1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 172 Wild Vine or Water-with. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 178 Water-withe. The withe of this grape-vine is so full of juice, that a joint of about 3 feet will yield near a pint of clear tasteless water. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Water-withe, *Vitis caribæa*.

**Water-withe.** (wɔ·təɹwiðː). [f. Water *sb.* + Withe *sb.* Cf. Du. *waterwerk*, G. *wasserwerk*.]

†1. A structure built in the water or serving as a receptacle for water or a defence against the force of water, as a tank, pier, sea-wall, lock, etc. *Obs.*

1443 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1835) V. 283 For be makyng of best and west jettys at Calez3 for be weele of be havene and oper water werkes in be same havene. 1540 *Hist. Vil.* 17 Antony Ainger paymaster to the Kinges workmenne of the water workes at Dover. 1577 B. Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 106 The wylde Oke serueth also well in water woorkes. 1590 Vallans *Tale Two Swans* (1744) p. xiii, [At Waltham Abbey] a rare device they see,..a waterwork: the locke Through which the boats of Ware doe passe with ease. 1629 *Pat. Off.* No. 47. 2 The circular bathes or bathing waterworkes above mencioned. *a* 1647 Hamington *Surv. Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) I. 89 Mr. William Sandys' waterworcke on Avon. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 243 They use it in making of Cisterns to hold Water, and all manner of Water-works. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 326 The knottiest and coarsest [oak] is best for Water-works and Piles. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 380 For properly planting the greatest number of the Small-leaved English Elm, for raising timber, (commonly used for keels of ships and water-works)..a Gold Medal. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 186 The ancient baths and water-works of the Romans were built with this kind of mortar.

*transf.* 1586 Harington *Metam. Ajax* H 3 b, Though I called my selfe by metaphor an Admirall for the water workes.

2. †a. A system of machinery for raising, conveying, or distributing water. *Obs.*

The 'New Waterwork' referred to in several early quots. was a lofty building erected near Queenhithe in 1594–5 by Bevis Bulmar, containing machinery 'for the conueying and forcing of Thames water to serue in the middle and West parts of the Citie' (Stow *Survey of London*, 1603, p. 364).

1596 Sir J. Davies *Epigr.* vi. (*In Titum*), Titus.. Three yeare together in this towne hath beene Yet my Lord Chauncellors tombe he hath not seene Nor the New water worke. 1610 B. Jonson *Alchemist* iv. i. 76 *Mam.* I'll giue away so much, while my man, Shall serue th' whole citie, with preseruative, Weekely, each house his dose, and at the rate— *Sur.* As he that built the water-worke, do's with water? *Ibid.* iii. iv. 418, I, that was with the pride Thou lock'st for being seas'd at eighteene pence For the waterworke. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry-Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) II. 129/2 Some 10. yeeres since Fresh water there was scant, But with much Cost they have supplid that want; By a most ex'lent Water-worke that's made. 1644 G. Plattes in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 216 Raise the water by an engine or water-work of the most fit sort for that place and purpose. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Chester* (1662) 292 John Toree..erected a seemly waterwork built Steplewise at the Bridge-foot, whereby the inhabitants of that ward may of River-water from the Cisterne, in the top of that Work, through Pipes of Lead and Wood, to the Citizens houses. 1665 Hooke *Microg.* Preface, *Invent.* xvi. 67, To this same individual Definition of my Water-work, I again adventure to present to Your Majesty. 1774 Whitehurst *Machine Raising Water in Phil. Trans.* LXV. 277 The circumstances attending this water-work, require a particular attention.

b. *collect. plural.* (Sometimes construed as sing.) The assemblage of machinery, buildings, and engineering constructions, used for the purpose of supplying a town or neighbourhood with water conveyed and distributed through pipes.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. 1. i. (1624) 202 Mr Otho Nicholson, that worthy benefactor to the famous Conduit in Oxford. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2625/1 An Act for Incorporating the Proprietors of the Water-works in York-Buildings. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3824/2 The Proprietors concerned in the London-Bridge Water-Works are desired to meet on Wednesday the 10th Instant. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. ii. 8 The Water-works, or pipes sunk underground, and water-works, by which the city is supplied from the river. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 138 Two 36th shares of the King's moiety of the New River water-works. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 249/1 The term water-works is improperly applied only to such works as have for their object the collection, supply, and conveyance of water to towns. 1910 *Knopf. Dict.* IV. 458/2 The municipality owns and operates its water-works.

†3. Any contrivance for producing a pleasing spectacle by means of water in motion; an ornamental fountain or cascade. Chiefly in plural. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xiv. § 1 The table was set neere to an excellent water-worke, for by the casting of the water in most cunning maner, it makes (with the shining of the Sunne vpon it) a perfect rainbow. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* II. i. 31 Now you are come into the Outlandish prisoner sings With more division than a water work When the maine pipe is halfe stopt. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., Gerontum* (1685) 113 In his Palace or Castle of Heidelburg are divers Curiosities worthy notice, viz. the Water-Works. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* Aug. 1641 Where, in the upper roomes of the house were divers pretty water-workes, and perspectives in the ground. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1078 There was always a great boyling and flying up of the Water of the Sea, as in a *Jette d'eau*, or Water-work. 1729 *Lond. Mag.* No. 5 p 3 There was actually a Water-Jest or bringing the New River into the House, to be employed in Jets-eau and Water-works. 1732 *New General Mag.* 12 Water-works are a brilliant and stately adornment to exquisite Water-Works. 1757 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 29 The waterworks..may be said to be more grand than pleasing,..particularly the grand cascade, which [etc.]. 1781 Shenstone *Unhappy Cl.* 4 Jan. (1815) 241, I saw him standing by the wheel, dropping like a waterwork, and trembling from head to foot, partly from cold, and partly from fear. 1788 Moore *View. Soc. Fr.* III. ix. 74 The present Landgrave's grandfather..formed..a series of artificial cataracts, cascades, and various kinds of water-works, in the middle of a barren and sandy wilderness.

b. *transf.* Chiefly in jocular references to shedding of tears and (*nonce-use*) to rain.

1647 J. Cleveland *Poems* 47 Not Bushells Wells can match a Poets eyes In waters water-works. 1709 T. Robinson *Quadr. Hesiodi Sport.* 23 The Veins..of the Earth being now saturated..the Subterrene Lymphedutts and underground Water-works, began to bubble up and play from the Tops and Sides of the Mountains. 1806 J. Berkeson *Historical Hints* I. 12 The fire-works put entirely out of countenance by the water-works [*i.e.* the rain]. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, 'O Miss B., I never thought to have seen this day!' And the waterworks again began to play. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. v, Sneaking little brute ..clapping on the water-works just in the hardest place. 1882–5 *Leisure Chatterbox* (N. Y.) 79 Harry could not bear to see Clare cry. 'Hold up!' he cried. 'This will never do. Hullo! no waterworks here, if you please.'

†4. a. A kind of imitation tapestry, painted in size or distemper. *Obs.*

See J. H. Middleton in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (1888) 197, where this kind of work is described from extant specimens.

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 28 Goodly tentes of blewe water worke garnyshed wt yelowe & white. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, iv. 1. 158 And for thy walls a pretty slight Drollery, of the Storie of the Prodigall, or the Germane hunting in Waterworke, is worth a thousand of these Bed-hangings, and these Fly-bitten Tapistries.

5. In occasional uses: Something done in or on the water, or by means of water; †a pageant exhibited on the water.

1628 *Great Frost* in Arber *Eng. Garner* I. 83 Make me so much beholding to you, as to receive from you the right picture of all those your waterworks; how they began, how they have grown, and in what fashion have continued. 1614 J. Taylor (Water P.) (*title*) Taylors Water-worke; or The Scullers Travels, from 'Tiber to Thames. 1629 Dekker *London's Tempe* (Percy Soc.) 43 The first scaene is a waterworke, presented by Oceanus. 1658 W. Nicholson *Repos. Lock.* (1663) 172 The Scripts that here I'm writing, How water can wash away the spots of sin? To clear it in brief: The truth is, it could not; it is no water-work. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 901 Such savoury discourse..for our deliverance from the devils water-works is worth the reading (as the Spanish Armada). 1900 *Illust. Howrah Exhn.* 140 Usually most of the play [at handball] is in the river, and the 'water work' is the most amusing feature to the onlookers.

6. An operation or a department of labour concerned with hydraulic engineering, irrigation, embanking, drainage, or the like. Chiefly *pl.* Now *rare*.

1564 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 117 The provest hailles and cunsall decernis all watter warkis to be maid thayr partis of thair wattyr wark sufficient betuix the day and dayit heirof and the feist of Andersmes nixt. 1566 in *Acts Chamberl. Trentham Co.* (1866) 18 Item for the mendyng of ye gut cunning perfectnes knowledge and experience in all kind of mineral works and of water works for the draining of all manner of mines. 1591 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxxi. K 3 b, And there I thinke it not amisse to giue you a precepte howe to fynde the diuersitie of these leuelles, whereby yee may exactly resolue sundrie questions perteyning to water woorkes, wherein diuers haue greatly erred, notwithstanding not this difference. 1610 R. Vaughan (*title*) Most approved and long-experienced water-workes. Containing, The manner of Winter and Summer-drowning of Medow and Pasture [etc.]. 1695 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xiii. 35 Some famous for Liming; he curious for Architecture; this for Water works, or any other Art. 1854 [see Water *sb.*] (*title*) The Mysteryes of Nature and Art. Conteined in foure severall Treatises. The first of Water workes, The second of Fyer workes, The third of Drawing [etc.]. 1858 *Cat. Anc. Pict. Dublin* (1859) 113. 343 A still-life piece, introducing still in waterworks, and other works belonging to a plummer. 1863 *I an Ettet's Math. Recreat.* title-p. Secrets and Experiments in Arithmetick, Geometry, Dialling, Watery-works, Fire-works, &c. 1882 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 392 Sir Samuell Morelond, the great engineer in water-works, is gone over to the court of Poland to shew them the feate. 1898 Clough *Amours de Voy.* iii. 12 Where ..amid cotton and maize peasants their water-works ply.

*attrib.* 1824 R. Stuart *Steam Engine* 6 The elasticity of the vapour of water, had now become familiar to waterwork artists.

**Su Water-worker.**

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* vi. (1599) 238 The bottome of the poole, contrarie to the..opinions of many enginists and water-workers, was found to be higher. 1787 W. H. Marshall *Norf.* (1795) II. 391 *Water-wo rker*, makers of meadow drains and wet ditches.

**Water-worn.**

1. Any aquatic annelid.

1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xi. 100 The Kings-fisher feedeth most upon water-worms, and little fishes. 1681 Grew *Anatomy* I. ii. 1. viii. 70 *Water-worms. Lumbricus Aquaticus.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 665/2 Animated Horse-Hairs, a term used to express a sort of long and slender water-worms, by the vulgar supposed to be the hair fallen from a horse's mane into the water..and there animated by some strange power. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* v. i. 176 Bred out of Egypt like the water-worm. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 130 It is not at all uncommon for some Rotifers..to adhere for a time to larger animals, such as Crustacea or Water-worms. 1891 Muriel Dowie *Girl in Karpath*, 36 Water-worms, and newts of every description.

b. *fig.* In derisive use.

1820 Byron *To Murray* 21 Apr., I hate and abhor that puddle of water-worms [*i.e.* the lake poets] whom you have taken into your troop.

†2. Some kind of explosive used under water. 1829 *Lond. Chron.* XXII. 203 Fire-devils, water-worms, Shrapnell-shells.

**Water-worn**, *a.* Worn or corroded by the action of water. Chiefly *Geol.*

1825 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 10 Water-worn fragments of pebbles and limestone are frequently found in many of the secondary rocks. 1829 J. Phillips *Geol. Yorks.* 49 Fragments of chalk and flint which..are very little waterworn. 1839 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Trans. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 33 Bore corallines, encrusting and water-worn near the sea, rough and sharp inland. 1888 F. Hume *Mine. Midas* 2 Prol., There was a smooth water-worn boulder on the beach.

**Waterwort** (wɔ·təɹwɜːt). [Wort *sb.*1] A name for several distinct plants. †a. In early use identified with Maidenhair (i. e. either *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris* or *Asplenium Trichomanes*, or both). *Obs.* b. Any plant of the genus *Elatine*. c. Applied by Lindley to plants of the order *Philydraceæ*, native to Australia and Eastern Asia.

a. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 74 Herba gallí ricun ỹ is waiter wyrt. c1200–50 *Stockh.* 138 Maidenhaire or waterwoort: *capillus virginis*. 1548 *tr. Propertius Herb.* B viij, Capillus veneris. This herbe is called Maidenhaire or waterworte. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Waterwort is Maidenhayre. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 184 Waterwort with new Land, applyed to the sore, easeth the same.

b. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 387 Elatine Alsinastrum. Waterwort. 1818–20 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* I. 489 Elatine Hydropiper ! Opposite-leaved Waterwort. *Ibid.*, Elatine Alsinastrum ! Wheel-leaved Waterwort. 1848 *Jones Week of Linnæi* 286 *Elatine hexandra*. Water-wort, a minute succulent plant, with greenish flowers of three petals.

c. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 286.

**Watery** (wɒ·tĕri), *a.* Forms: 1 **weterig, wetrix,** 3, 5 **wateri,** 5 **watiry, waitery, watri, waitry,** 5–6 **watrye,** 5–7 **waterie,** 5–8 **watery,** *Sc.* **wattirrie,** 6–7 **watrie,** 7–9 **wat'ry,** 4– **watery.** [*f.* WATER *sb.* + -Y. Cf. Du. *waterig,* MLG. *waterich,* OHG. *wattarig, wetterig* (MHG. *watteric, wetteric,* mod.G. † *wasserig, wässerig*).]

**1.** Of land or soil: Full of water; moist, plashy; well-watered.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 402 Rixe weaxst xes unelice on weterixum stowum. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 147/6 *Alluvies aqua*[e] waterig weze. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 250 þis is a good mopat & a watery ground for to haue in sere welle be-nethyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 ɔ Watry, or fulle of water, *aquosus, aquilentus.* Watry, or fulle of moysture, *Humidus.* 1597 *Hieronymo's Hieronymo* I. 20 The watrie ground requireth more store of dounge, and the dryer ground the leeve. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* I. xiv. 11 In fully lilas watery plaines. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 172 Rushes that grow in the water, or watry places. 1686 *Exact Trnl. Siege Tangier* 11 The third (trench) being very deep and watry, a Hundred and twenty four were there killed. 1706 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 230 In every little watry bottom the frogs croaked out a concert. 1842 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* Ser. II. *Sexton Vagabonds,* Some elderly clergyman, long vegetating in a rocky, watery, New England settlement of New England. 1846 R. E. EGERTON WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* 125 Blackthorns stiff the fields divide With watery ditch on either side.

**b.** Of clouds: Full of moisture which is ready to fall as rain; rainy. Also of wind, a season, etc.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 420 Is no wader warmer þan after watery cloudes. 1585 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 133 Vapours whereof watery clouds are engendred. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 291 At the rising of the Sun, if it appear . hid in a black watry Cloud, Rain follows. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epodes* x. 19 Let the Winds the bellowing Ocean shake. 1883 G. C. DARLEY *Nesfolk Broads* xxxiii. 261 The watery year of 1879.

c. *gen.* Full of water, wet, dripping, *rare.*

1581 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 23 The Marmiades . sate.. drying their waterie tresses in the Sunne beames.

**d.** *transf.* Covered with, permeated by water; set or built in the water; washed by stream or tide.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1611 And now this pale Swan in her watrie nest, Begins the sad Dirge of her certaine ending. *a* 1668 *Dunvenant Poems* (1637) 320 The Lark now leaves his watry Nest. 1793 BLAKE *Songs Inn.* Introd. 29 The starry floor, The wat'ry shore. 1797 COLERIDGE *Songs Lady* 13 Sweet Was the Christmas time in the watery town.

**2.** Resembling water in consistence; thin, fluid.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 276 Síf se utgang sie windiz and weterīz and blodiz. 1615 MARKHAM *Farth. Bk. P. R.* v. xxxvii (Bodl. MS.), þe herte sometyme quaketh and bat comeþ of watery moisture. *a* 1625 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. 59 Raw fruytes geuding watry blode. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 6 For now þis vines .Not wattery but thicke humoures wepe. 1561 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 15 Boyle them and take two pounces of the watrie decoction. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 218 God hath created them (fish) like watrie birds, to whom he hath giuen wings agreeable to the element for to sustaine themselues with. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Irel.* (1637) 491 Alders, beside other watery Shrubbes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 656 The Reed or Cane is a Watry Plant, and groweth not but in the Earth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 127 The sev'ral sorts of watry Fowls, That swim the Seas, or haunt the standing Pools. 1728 POPE *Odyss.* v. 64 Wat'ry fowl that trace these paths.

**b.** as an epithet of deities, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II,* II. i. 63 Whose rocky shore beates backe the enuious siedge Of watery Neptune. 1595 *Locrine* II. iv. 7 The Nymphes and the lightfoot Fairies, And all the rabble of the wooddie Nymphs. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Wks. Observ.* Epi. Ded. A 4 b, Neptune, Aeolus, Pluto, and all the watery Lords of Seas, Rivers, and drinking Deities. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 43 The watry Virgins for thy Bed shall striue. 1747 GRAY *Ode on Death of Pet* 32 She mew'd to ev'ry watry God. 1821 S. LIBERI *Hist. Polit. Sev. Sour.* (ed. 3) II. 31 These watery sovereigns [the sea-kings of the North], who flourished in the plunder of the sea and its shores. 1803 SIR A. BOSWELL *Advent. of Five Sons* 11 Neptune . . have been the malignant effect on the *watery* spirit Kelpy, but none on the ethereal demons of Tintoc.

**c.** as an epithet of heavenly bodies, portents, seasons, etc., which are thought to bring rain.

*c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret, Govt. Lordsh.* 86 Whenne þe mone ys yn þe watery tokenynge. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Pis signe is stedfaste neptentrional. 1600 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 307 Sir, I say to you it is thought you are too full of the watery disease. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 438 Ptolomy and his followers . . haue made the Moone, May send forth plentifull teares to drowne the World. 1678 tr. *Wint. Jr.'s* Ms. 1. 8 Nine Changes of the Watry-Starre. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 3), *Watry Triplicity,* the Signs so accounted, being cold and moist, as Gemini, Scorpio and Pisces. 1798 ANDISON *Lady, Balcony* etc. 440 (tr. Claudian), The blurring Stars weep in watry Signs. 1704 *Harvest Mythol.* II. 343 The constellation of the Hyades . . was a watry sign. 1818 J. TAYLOR *Archit. Curr.* 156 Index, Swithin St., the watery Saint, 15th of January, 8 July 5/1 In France the watery saints days are those of St. Medard (June 8) and St. Gervais and St. Protais (June 19).

**d.** *gen.*

*Watery way, journey,* (one's) way or journey over the water; *cf.* 5.

a 1588 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I xiv. § 1 The table was set neere to an excellent water-worke. . I have wore birds also made so finely, that they did not only deceiue the sight with their figure, but the hearing with their songes: which the watre instrumente did make their gorge deliuer. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jarew. Tower-bottles* A 4, When Vpland Tradesmen thus dares take in hand A watry buis'nesse, they not vnderstand. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneas* v. 1 Mean time the Trojan cuts his watry way, Fix'd on his Voyage, thro the curling Sea. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 289 The firm connected bulwark Spreads its long arms amidst the watery roar. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. xxvi, Now back they wend their watery way. 1859 DICKENS *Haunted Ho* I. 7 2 Mr. Beaver proved to be an intelligent man, with a terrific fund of watery experiences on him. 1881 Miss BRADDON *Asphodel* I. 210 The Rector's wife heard of her niece's watery meanderings and gipsy breakfasts.

**7.** Of food: Containing too much moisture; tasting too much like water; thin, flavourless.

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 195 Olyues . . With drasty watry fruyt. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 130 The Pea Salmon . . is more kipped . then the She is; yet she is as watry and as bad meat. 1846 SOYER *Culinary Ajax* 151 Be careful they are not too much done, or they would go in puree and taste watery. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 102 We're cooking watery soup for beggars.

**b.** Of a plant or its parts: Containing a large proportion of moisture.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 84 By greatly increasing the per-spiration of the leaves and other parts of plants, wind renders them less watery. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 354/2 It rarely happens that we find a single watery shoot in a tree which requires pinchings to maintain the proper balance of the sap.

**8.** Of the eyes: a. Suffused with tears, tearful. Hence *transf.*, of weeping, lamentation, etc.

1447 BOKENAM *Seyntis, Magd* 1029 With watry yȝe þe abyymen he preyid & ȝaf hem leue to goon. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 264 Pan dosto would once a day repaire to the Tombe, and there with watry plaintes bewaile his misfortune. 1591 SHAKS. *Ven. & Adonis* 1 With fained face and watrie eyne halfe ouercast. 1632 DONNE *Sermons* IV. 48 With watry rivers doth mine eye ouerflow. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. xl. 356 The Royal Exile answered it with a flushed cheek and a watery eye. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxvii, Little Rosey and her mother sobbed audibly, . to the surprise of Miss Honeyman, who had no idea of such watery-eyed tribute. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* vii, Joe's blue eyes turned a little watery.

**b.** Exuding moisture, as a result of weakness or disease in the lachrymal glands. *Watery eye* = ERYTHOPIA 1.

*c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk Nurture* 282 in *Babees-lk* 134 Glowyng ne twynkelyng with youre yȝe; ne watery, wynkynge, ne droppyng nee, but of sight clere. 1486 *Bk St. Albans* B vj, An haukes that is brought vp with a thousand or a thousand ȝe mony be hath watery ȝȝen. 1600 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXV. xix. II. 103 But a peculiar nature they [snails] have besides to stay the running and waterie eyes. 1790 UNDER WOOD *Diz Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 35 [Children] . . have some times degenerate into what is termed the watery eye. There is, however, a case of watery-eye attending older children, in which the discharge arises from the nose. 1842 R. J. GRAVES *Syst Clin Med.* XXV 309 His eyes became very red, watery, and intolerant of light.

**9.** Of the skin, part of the body: Exuding, or suffused with, a humour or moisture resembling water. † Hence in names of diseases, as *watery mouth, itch*; *watery head* = HYDROCEPHALUS. *Cf.* also 8 b.

*a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. 50 þe watry places I enoynted with ane ointement made of blak sope, and powdir of sulphur. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chir.* 33 If the skyn be of ruddy colour and dryes, than is he vnsounde, and if it be pale coloured and watrye, thanne is he rotten. 1607 J. LEWIS *Hosp. Dr. Glocester* (1636) 23 The Child was not the stoutest child, and had been subject to a watery mouth, which now grew better. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Hydrocephalus,* a watery Head, or Dropsy in the Head. 1818–20 E. THOMSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol.* (ed. 3) III. 220 *Hydrocephalus,* or watery itch. 1820 GOOD *Nosol.* 490 Scabies Vesiculosa. Eruption of larger, vesicles filled with a transparent fluid. 1847 WATERY ITCH *Archives Med.* CH 172 The brain was watery, the veins turgid.

**10** *fig.* Of thought, feeling, literary or artistic composition, persons, etc.: Vapid, washy, poor, thin.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 176 þe heorte, þet was watery, smechles, and ne uelede no sauur of God. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv § 2 Then grew the flowing, and watrie vaine of Osorius the Portugall Bishop to be in prize. 1673 HICK BEARCHILL *Crop & Corydon* 183 A Song of Love, a watry Theme that will hold no print. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. ii. (1858) 109 Through the thin watery gossip of our Jocelin, we do get some glimpses of that deeper reality. 1851 T. HODGSON *Edwin Morris* 128 Slight Sir Robert with his watery smile And educated whisker. 1898 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* x. (1858) 151 New cataracts of watery melodies. 1879 *Jon Fort Flasks* (ed 2) III. 104 To do not tell me that justice is duty for that sort of watery stuff will not do for me. 1904 M HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. vi. 265 She would calculate as she listened, to what extent she might serve herself ypes of this watery fool. 1904 *Times Lit Suppl.* 1 Apr. 104/1 A watery but harmless story of London society.

**11.** *Her.* (See quot.)

1688 [see UNDATED *a.*]. 1872 [see UNDATED *a.*]. 1888 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Watery.* This term sometimes occurs, and is used in the same sense as BOMY, or WAVY.

**12.** *Comb.* in parasynthetic adjs.

1598 SHAKS. *Pass* (1860) 13 Vine first vaterie violent, thairefter of bilious colour. 1683 *Land Gaz.* No 1804/4 A Sorrel Nag, . watery Eyed. 1785 GROSE *Dict Vulgar T.*, *Watery-headed,* apt to shed tears. 1887 *Lancaster's Mag.* Apr. 60/1 The . . rubound visaged watery-eyed driver.

**Water-souch** *v.* : see WATER-SOUCHY.

**Wath.** *Obs. exc. dial.* Also (1 **wæð**), 4 **wadh, wathe,** 6 *erron* **warthe,** 6– *erron.* **warth.** [*a.* ON. *vað* neut. (MSw. *vad*, Sw., Da. *vad*) = OE. *wæd* (pl. *wæde*), *pool.* the sea, the waves, MLG. *wat* (*wad-*), Du. *wad*, OHG. *wat* >OTeut. **wadō-n* :—pre-Teut **wadho-m* = L. *vadum*; cogn. w. WAIE *v.*] A ford; a fordable stream.

In quot. *c* 1100 used as the proper name of the river Forth. [*c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1073 Wyllelm .. þæt land on hiss healfe mid scypum ymb hafd, & him syll mid his landfyrde feohte inn oþer þæt Wæd (*Laud MS.* þæt xewæd), *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5757 þe watir þat time was farr ebband; .. But or he was be watir all past, The wawes come egayne him fast. *c* 1475 *Hist. Ant.* in Wr.-Wülcker 799/41 *Hoc vadum*, a wadth. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 410/2 A wathe, *vadum, fustrum.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/40 A wathe, *forde, vadum.* 1583 *Inquis. Scrutor. Lincs.* (1851) 12 That the Township of Burringham in making their warthes or fordes over the aforesaid dytches do not cast in more sand then is needful for passage of their cattell into the Northmeres. 1610 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 204 Forasmuch as Skipton bridge..Is likely to..become ruinous by..carriages of great burthen,..a ford or wath is there made passable for such purposes. 1694 Ray *N. C. Words* s.v., A Wath: a Waterford. 1692 — *Gloss. Northamptonsh.* s.v., A Wath. Vadum. 1697 De la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 153 From thence I went over a wath, which tradition says was formerly a great river. 1730 P. Welwood *Diary* 4 May (1866) 115 Then came over a corner of Eilbhill moor as direct as I could to Wire and over it at a wath. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wath*, *wath*, a water-ford. 1890 R. S. Ferguson *Hist. Cumbld.* 270 They tried to evade that fortress by taking to the waths over Eden, between Carlisle and the sea. 1894 *Carlisle Patriot* 1 Feb. 7/3 (*Cumbld. Gloss.*) The new bridge over the Kingwater will stand on the site of the wall at the place of the ford or wath.

b. *Comb.*, as *wath gate* (Gate *sb.*2), *mouth*, *way*.

Also Wathstead.

1662 *Durham Inchanking & Drayning* 201 That the Prior of Haverholme ought to find a certain boat at the Rothe, neer to the Wathe mouthe, for to carry over foot-folk, travell by night as day. 1898 *Wiltshire Gloss.*, s.v., 'Wath geeat,' the direction of the ford. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Wath-way, a ford. (East Lincolnshire.)

**Wath(e**: see Waith *sb.*1, What, Wothe.

**Wather**, obs. form of Weather, Whether.

**Wathstead**, *dial.* Also 7 **wathsted**. [f. Wath + Stead *sb.*; cf. Da. *vadested*.] A ford.

1691 *Quarter Sess. Rec.* (*Somerset Rec. Soc.*) (1884) II. 112 [A presentment of] Rob. Spaunton..for digging of a pitt in a wath-stead, called Crooke-holme Wath, whereby man cannot passe. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Wathsteed*, used in that sense [i.e. a water-ford]. 1877 *N.W. Line. Gloss.*, *Wath*, *Wath-stead*, a ford.

**Watier**, *watir*, obs. forms of Water.

†**Wa-tkin**. *Obs.* [f. Wat 2 + -kin.] A hare.

1585 Sharrock tr. *Ockland's Notable Battles Eng. Nation* D j b, When as the victorious Englishmen hadde a watkin spied, full faine he springeth on, his pray to get.

**Watling-street** (wɒ·tlŋstrīt). Forms: 1 **Wæolinga-, Wæxling(g)a-, Wætlinga-, Wætlinga-strét**, 2 **Watlingestrate**, 3 **Watelinge stret**, 4 **Wat(e)lynge-, Watelyn-**, 5 **Wadlyng-, Watelyngе-**, 6 **Wadlan-**, 6 **Watlyng-**, 6- **Watling-**. [OE. *Wælinga stræt*; the first word, app. the genit. pl. of the name of a (real or imaginary) family or clan, occurs also in *Wælinga ceaster* ('the Waelings' city'), the OE. name of the Roman-British Verulamium (now St. Albans), through which the ' Watling-street ' passes.

The forms with *tt* for *cl*, which have been universal from the 11th c, are all but non-existent in MSS. of pre-Conquest date; a solitary example is *Wætlinga ceastre* in *OE. Martyrology, St. Alban*, 22 June (MS. Cott. Julius A. x. fol. 112, written *c* 975). The change of *cl* into *tt* in *Wætlingas* was hardly be due to the close resemblance of *c* and *t* in OE. script (though many instances of the latter form in modern editions of OE. texts are mere editorial misreadings), because the existence of sense 2 seems to show that the name of the Roman road was preserved in popular and not merely literary tradition. Perhaps the word may have been assimilated to the *Wattinga* which occurs in the place-name Watlington (Oxon and Norf.).

The Waelings may have been either an actual family that had obtained possession of the old Verulamium, or a dynastic family celebrated in Mercian tradition, to whom, as typifying remote antiquity, the road and the city were attributed by popular fancy. It has been suggested that *Wæclingaceastre* is a corruption of *Werlamu ceaster*, an alternative OE. name of Verulamium (*Wæclingaceastir sive Verlamaceastir*, Bede *H. E.* i. xxxiii, ed. Plummer); but the British name in a later form i but the conjecture is untenable.]

1. The English name given in pre-Conquest times to the Roman road running from near London through St. Albans to Wroxeter; by antiquarian writers from the 12th c. onwards extended to Roman roads leading from London to the S.E. and from Wroxeter to the north or west.

The placest mentioned in OE. charters as situated on or near the ' Waelinga-strát ' are i Hampstead ; Chalgrave (Beds.); Stowe (Bucks.); Weedon (Northants); Aston (close to Wroxeter) : see Birch *Cartul. Sax.* Nos. 1309, 695, 786, 798, 1315. According to Henry of Huntingdon (*died* 1154) the Watling-street extended from Canterbury to Chester ; according to Robert of Gloucester (*c* 1290) from Dover to Chester; according to Higden (*c* 1340) from Dover to Wroxeter and thence to Cardigan. Modern writers usually assign Dover or Richborough as the eastern terminal point, but some apply the name Watling-street to the road running northwards from Wroxeter through Lancashire.

*c* 885 *Treaty of Alfred & Guthrum* (MS. 11th c.) in Liebermann *A.S. Laws* I. 126 Donne up on Usan on Wætlingastret. 926 *Charter of Æthelstan* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 335 (Boundaries of Chalgrave, Beds.) Ðær se dic sceot in wæclinga stræte, anhanget wæclinga stræte..ælt dice in wæxlingga strate. *a* 1118 Florence of Worcester *Chron.* an. 1012 (1848) I. 166 In septentrionali plaga Westlinga-stræte, id est, strata quam filii Westlin regis, .. per Anglium straverunt. *a* 1154 Hen. Huntingdon *Hist. Angl.* I. § 7 Tertius [*sc.* callis] est ex transverso a Dorobernia in Cestriam..et vocatur Watlingestrate. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 174 From douere in to chestre tille watelinge stret. *c* 1300 Higden *Polychr.* (Rolls) II. 44 Secunda via principalis dicitur Watlingestrete. *a* 1352 Leland *Itin.* (1907) I. 10 Wedon..stondith hard by the famose way, there commonely caulled of the people Watelinge Strete. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 312 That Crosse Wheate those two mightie waies, the Watling and the Fosse, Our Center seeme to cut. (The first doth hold her way, From Douer, to the furth'st of fruitfull Anglesey.) 1785 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. iv. 117 The great antient Road or Way called Watling-Street, which comes from London to this Town [Shrewsbury], and goes on from hence to the utmost Coast of Wales.

b. Erroneously applied to other Roman roads.

Leland, e.g., applies the name to the Ermine-street in Lincolnshire, and to several distinct roads in Yorkshire. At the present day the name is very generally given to the road running from York through Corbridge into Scotland.

*c* 1300 *Gest of Robyn Hode* ccix. in Child *Ballads* III. 66 'Take thy bowe in thy hande', sayde Robyn, .. 'And walk yp vnder the Swyre-hed, vnto Watlynge-street'. *a* 1352 Leland *Itin.* (1907) I. 32 At the north ende of this village [*sc.* Mauton, Lincs.] lyithe the commune way of Watheling Street to Doncaster. *Ibid.* 39, 43, 44, 58, V. 146. 1587 Percy *Reliques* (ed. 2) I. 74 *note*, Cleveland stands near the old Watling street road. 1889 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 568 (art. *Northumberland*) The Roman road from London nearly bisects the county, and still goes familiarly under the name of 'the Watling Street'.

c. The name of a street in the City of London, in the 16–17th c. the principal street for drapers' shops.

1569 Preston *Cambyses* b 3 b, I beleeue all [the] cloth in Preston *Cambyses* b 3 b, I beleeue all [the] cloth in Watlyng streete, to make gownes would not serue. 1580 in *Surv. Lond.* 84 The Drapers..are seated in Candlewick-streete, and Watheling streete. *Ibid.* 348 Then for Watheling streete, which Leyland calleth Athelinge or Adelinge streete; but since he sheweth no reason why, I rather take it to be so named of the great high way of the same calling..At this present, from the Infortune Tauerne of one Wattlin, a famous tailor of woollen cloathes, .more then in any one streete of this citie. 1624 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* D 2 b, Nita. That I should liue to be a seruing-man, the seruing-man.. weares Hollands, and yet dares walke Watling-streete, without any feare of his Draper.

†**2.** The Milky Way, galaxy. *Obs.*

The Milky Way received other popular names from famous highways, esp. pilgrim routes. In England it was called *Walsingham way*, in Italy *Strada di Roma*. A widespread designation of this kind was *the Way of St. James* (of Compostella) ; so *Il Vin di santa Jacopo* (Dante *Convivio* II. xvi), *Sp. Via de Santiago*.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 431 Se yonder loo the Galoxie Which som parfay han cleped hit Watlynge Strete. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508/2 *Watlynge strete*, *lacteus circulus*. 1526 *Secundus demon*, let vs go this donne vp watlyn strete, *c* 1580 Henryson *Orpheus* 71 He..passit to the hevin.. To seke his wyf..By wadlyng strete he went but taryng. 1583 *Cath. Angl.*, *Watlinge strete*, *lacteus*, *galaxia*. 1613 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 22 Arthuris huyfe, and Hyades. Setaikrand rane, Syne Watling streit .. and the Chevir wane. 1640 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 58 The quhyt circle callit circulus lacteus, the quhilk the marynalis callis vatland streit. 1551 [see Milky Way 1]. 1563 Folke *Meteors* III. (1577) 38 b The white cleare called of some the way to saint Iames and Watling streate. 1590 T. Hood *Use Celestiall Globe* 40 By vs..it is called The milke way : some in sporting manner call it Watling streete. *Ibid.*, *galaxia*, *via galaxia*. 1593 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 22 Arthuris huyfe, and Hyades. Setaiknand rane, Syne Watling streit .. and the Chevir wane. 1590 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 58 The quhyt circle callit circulus lacteus, the quhilk the marynalis callis vatland streit. 1593 [see Milky Way 1]. 1683 Folke *Meteors* III. (1577) 38 The white cleare called of some the way to saint Iames and Watling streate. 1590 T. Hood *Use Celestiall Globe* 40 By vs..it is called The milke way : some in sporting manner call it Watling streete.

**Watmol**, obs. form of Waddmal.

**Watna** (wɒ·tnə), *v. Sc.* [*r. wat* Sc. form of Wot *v.* + Na *adv.*2] (I) know not. Hence **Watnathat** *sb.*, n ' don't know what ', a nondescript.

1795 Ramsay *Gent. Sheph.* iv. ii, Sir William's cruel, that used force his son for to wanna mairs, see great a rich to run. 1828 Scott *J. Midd.* xvi, He's been a soldier, and he has been a play-actor, and I watna what he has been or hasna been.

**Watre**, obs. form of Water *sb.* and *v.*

**Watsail**, obs. form of Wassail.

**Watschoed, watshed**, obs. forms of Wetshod.

**Watstone**, obs. form of Whetstone.

**Watt** (wɒt). *Physics.* [f. name of James *Watt* (1736–1819), the inventor of the modern steam-engine, and a pioneer in the science of energy.] A unit of activity or power (used chiefly with reference to electricity), corresponding to 10⁷ ergs of work per second, to the rate of work represented by a current of one ampere acting under the pressure of one volt, or to 3·73 (= 550 ÷ 746) English horse-power.

1882 Siemens in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.*, Presid. Addr. 6 The other unit I would suggest adding to the list is that of power. The power conveyed by a current of an Ampère through the difference of potential of a Volt is a unit convenient with the practical system. It might be appropriately called a Watt, in honour of.. James Watt.. A Watt, then, expresses the rate of work represented by a Volt, while a Horse-power is 746 Watts, and a Cheval de Vapeur 735. 1882 *Athenæum* 9 Sept. 310/3 Two of his [Dr. Siemens's] units were introduced, the ohm and the weber, (2) the unit, which is the rate of doing work when a current of one ampere passes through a resistance of one ohm, [etc.]. 1886 Thurston in *Trans. Franklin Inst.* Oct. 253 It was judged that it might have been driven up to 300,000 watts with safety. 1887 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 208 The Watt is defined to be the work done per second by the ampère passing between two points between which the difference of electrical potential is one volt. 1889 *Telegr. Jrnl. & Electr. Rev.* 13 Dec. 665/2 The A type of Sunbeam lamp required only 2 watts per candlepower as compared with 3½ watts for the Edison-Swan lamp.

b. *Comb.*: **watt-hour**, the work done by one watt in one hour; **wattmeter**, an instrument for measuring electric energy.

1887 Ayrton *Pract. Electr.* 444 By the employment, however, of a ' wattmeter,' it is possible to measure the watts directly. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Jan. 11/2 With 4,500 lamps of 16 candle-power, .at a charge of 5*d.* per lamp per hour, or eightpence per Board of Trade unit of 1,000 Watt hours..the income would be £11,250, irrespective of [etc.]. 1892 J. Swinburne in *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* CX. 15 The ordinary wattmeter as used in continuous-current work consists of a fixed and movable coil. 1907 E. Wilson & Lydall *Electr. Traction* I. 379 This can be converted into watt hours per ton mile thus. 1907 *Athenæum* 20 July 74/3 Mr. J. T. Irwin gave a demonstration of the uses of his hot-wire oscillographs and hot-wire wattmeters.

**Watt(e**, obs. ff. Wait, Wat, Wet, Wot *v.*

**Wattar**, obs. Sc. form of Water.

**Wattchett**, var. Watchet.

**Watteau** (wɒ·tō, ‖ *watō*). The name of Antoine *Watteau* (1684–1721), a French painter, used *attrib.* in *Watteau school*, *Watteau-like* adj. ; also in designations of articles of female costume similar to those represented in Watteau's pictures, as *Watteau hat* ; **Watteau back**, an arrangement of the back of a dress with a broad pleat falling from the neck to the extremity of the skirt without being gathered in at the waist ; **Watteau bodice**, a bodice with square opening at the neck and short ruffled sleeves ; **Watteau mantle**, a kind of cloak having a Watteau back and other details imitated from Watteau's pictures ; **Watteau pleat** (*and elliptt.* **Watteau**, **watteau**), the pleat of a Watteau back. Hence **Wa·tteauish** *a.*, resembling the style of Watteau.

1833 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Barrenness Mod. Art*, This is well, and Watteau-like. 1849 Thackeray *Sk. & Trav.* Wks. 1900 VI. 668 Watteau-like grounds in short silks. 1864 Miss A. B. Edwards *Barbara's Hist.* xxvi, The old designs, of a lamant Watteau school, had been lately removed. 1887 *Brit. Textile Warehousemen* 15 Sept. 109 We send back this figure, but has a full Watteau pleat down the centre, fastened in at the waist, and then flowing in easy folds to the hem. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 From the shoulders at the back hung a long Watteau of the richest cut jet. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 June 3/2 Next week I shall give drawings of an Empire and a Watteau hat. 1900 *Daily Mail* 29 Nov. A heliotrope cashmere tea-gown, made with a Watteau back and a long straight front of silk.

**Wattel(l, Watter**: see Wattle, Water.

**Watthe**, obs. form of Wath.

†**Wattins**, *sb. pl. Obs. Sc.* [*r. ovate* : see Wad *sb.*1] *= waddings*, Wadding *obs. sb.* 3.

1690 Sir J. Foulis *Rec. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 130 To 3*li.* aunbrace for silk and wattins to my black coat sleeves, 0 6 6.

**Wattkin**, variant of Watkin.

**Wattle** (wɒ·tl), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **watul**, *pl.* **watla** (*North.*), **watel**, 4 **wattel**, 4 **wattyl**, 6 **wattill**, *Anglo-Irish* **wathill** (*Sc. pl.* **wattle**). 6–7 **wattell**, 7 **wadle**, 9 *dial.* **waddle**, 6– **wattle**. [OE. *watul* (not found in other Teut. langs.) of uncertain origin, but app. cogn. w. *wæfla*, (?*wætla*) bandage for a wound (*Sax. Leechdoms* II. 208).

It may possibly represent O.Teut. **watlaz* (with irregular treatment of the dental) = liquid *tl* in Horrix *sb.*, Horrock *sb.* ; see pre-Teut. **medlā* *sb.*, **medlo-* (> *medl* v.) to intert wine, plait, see weave : Weed *sb.* If so, it may correspond to mod.G. dial. *wadel* brushwood (see Grimm's *Deutsches Wb.* X.III. 2821, s.v. *Wedel*).

1. *L. In plural and collect. sing.* Rods or stakes, interlaced with twigs or branches of trees, used to form fences and the walls and roofs of buildings. Also, rods and branches of trees collected for this purpose.

*c* 900 *Bede's Hist.* III. xvi. (1890) 200 And miceline ad gesomnade on beaumum and on rafrum and on wagum and on watelum [mistransl. of *l. farietum vergerum*] and on ðeccon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 34 Astigun..ofslihð ðeoh ða watla [*c* 1000 *Rushw. Gosp.* þeoh þa watelas] Vulg. *per tegulas*]. *a* 1000 in Napier *OE. Glosses* II. 489 *Tegulis*, watelum. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in *Wrn.-Wülcker* (2) 121/3 *Fregea*, watul. 1382 *Durham Halmote Rolls* (Surtees) 17 Sunt[et] meremium..et virg. et wattels, cabul., et ferramenta. 1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 150, j fothr' de palis et virgis et j fothr' del Wattylle. 1481-90 *Howard Household Bks.* (1905) p. cclxxxii, Et in adquisitione wattyllis et carriagio aruamnis et wattyllis iiij*s.* x*d.* 1510 *Galway Archives in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 594 Any person that shall sell wode, troffe, or vattill. 1547-8 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 32 And the remanent of the said tenement..standand sufficiently in grett tymmer..and in lathoris, wattillis, thak and deyet, solarly supponed with stekis. 1563 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1567, 444/2 Colligere *lis vattis* et *fallyne tymmer* de dicta silva pro reparatione et edificatione domorum. 1586 Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 160/2 And there they cast a trench, and builded a little castell or hold, with turffes and wattell. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* (1906) 374 These Parkleires are aduanced three or foure yardes in..erected in a singular Frame, of smoake-torne straw..and Raine-dropping wattles. 1633 Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. 313 Having all the day before employed a great puritie of men to the Wood ..to fetch more wattle, to make Gabions. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 43 The Walls are either Mud, or Walls bedawbed over. 1834 Penelle *Afr. Sk.* vii. 218 Stretching a large tree across it [*sc.* the path]..and fastening it with thongs and wattles at either end. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* III. xx. 146 Layers of stiff clay, pressed down close on' wattles of reed. 1891-6 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* II. iv. i. 189 The earliest British churches were built of wattles. 1897 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 63 And there he built with wattles from the marsh A little lonely church in days of yore. 1898 Milman *St. Paul's* II. xi Its growth..from enclosures of wattel and timber to stately buildings of stone. 1906 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiii, The walls were of wattle and covered with moss.

b. **Wattle and daub (dab)** : interwoven twigs

plastered with clay or mud, as a building material for huts, cottages, etc.; chiefly *attrib.* Also (rarely) *daub and wattle, mud and wattle.*

1808 T. Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 21 The cottages and barns..are built with wood frame work, and clay plastered upon a kind of hedge work of splints, which is called wattle and dab. 1836 Ross *Hobart Town Almanack* 66 Wattle and daub. [Instructions for using the branches of the black or the green wattle (see refns 4 below) for this kind of construction.] 1839 W. Wickenden *Hunchback's Chest* 312 Strong wattle and daub walls. 1855 Dickens etc. *Holyfern Inn* iv. 26/1 Robinson..stood at the door of a considerable erection of wattle-and-dab. 1872-4 Jefferies *Fortels of Field* (1892) 183 One wall of the house..was only 'wattle and daub' (i. e., lath and plaster). 1883 Olive Schreiner *Afr. Farm* II. iii, His house was a little square daub-and-wattle building. 1891 Kipling *City Dreadful. Nt.* 36 There was nothing but wattle-and-dab between us and acres, it seems, of foul wattle-and-dab huts. 1901 *Archæol. Trnl.* (Instit.) Mar. 68 A light and simple erection of wattle-and-daub. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* Aug. 59, I saw the house, a mud and wattle rancho.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wattle-cance, -gate, -wall, -work*; ✝ **wattle-silver**, some kind of feudal impost; **wattle-wood** *W. Indian* (see quot.).

1893 Sir W. W. Hunter in *Shirley Life* (1901) 414 In the days, the fishermen use the "wattle-canoes, or curraghs, which their ancestors used at the time of the Roman invasion. 1759 *Universal Chron.* 3–10 Feb. 43/3 The person who committed the robbery, by the help of a wattle ladder specially applied to a "Wattle-gate, set against a closet window, took out a pane of glass, [etc.]. 1863 in *Cal. Inquis. Post Mortem* (1904) I. 173 "Watchever. 1297 *Ibid.* 253 Customs called [Watchencfar', Watchesilver, Wodelode, [etc.]. 1684 *Anc. Deed* 24 Dec. (P.R.O.) D. 1102 Withe certeine Custume siluer to the Constable Monor pertayning called Reuestlight Wattlesiluer and Werkesiluer of the Tenaunter of Charleton[near Steyning, Sussex]. 1886 *Athenæum* 24 Apr. 556/3 These were generally huts built of logs or with "wattle-walls. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787 "Wattle-wood, *Lætia Thamnia*. 1860 H. Mayhew *Upper Rhine* vi. 427 A city built out in the water, and surrounded with a thick "wattle-work of piles. 1878 Beaven *Rural Rec. Rides* (1885) I. 129 This hazle..furnishes rods wherewith to make fences; but its principal use is, to make wattle for the folding of sheep in the fields. 1897 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. vii, The scent [in Hares-and-hounds] lies thick right across another meadow and into a ploughed field. Then you begin to cast and tell; then over a good wattle with a ditch on the other side. 1889 Don. E. Hurst *Horsham* (ed. 2) Gloss. 270 *Wattle*, a branch of a particular kind, made by weaving in long thin stems of underwood.

3. A wand, rod, stick. *dial.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/46 A wattle, rod, *vibex*. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV. x. 1, I cut down two young oak saplings, about the thickness of a walking-staff, and some larger pieces. [To build a canoe.] 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut.* x, Nae whip nor spur, but lost in vacant mair Wi' wagon-graith, an' hauf-lea'n pleugh. 1831 Love *Jas. g. Stor. Irel., Paddy the Piper* 158, I cut a brave long wattle, that I might dhrive the man-asther iv a thief, as she was, without losin' near her at all at all. 1843 J. Batlantine *Wee Kaggie's Courtship* 41, Nae jockey's whup, nor drover's wattle Can frighten thee. 1846 J. Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 305 An old man..tottered with the aid of a long cow-shod wattle which he carried in his withered hand, to the door of a snug-looking public house. 1856 P. Kennedy *Banks of Boro* xii. (1867) 237 Pat's wattle descended on the upper horizontal line of Judy's back.

b. *Comb.*: **wattle-boy** *Anglo-Irish* (see quot.); **wattle-race** *U.S.*, a Western form of 'running the gauntlet' (cf. Gantlope).

1832 Barrington *Pers. Sk.* III. xx. 280 His reverence.. was instantly recognised by one of the wattle-boys, as the piteen-a-vic then called. Duncan in *Cougar Club* Jan., App. 104/2 It would have been like the wattle races I have seen run in the West; he that ran the fastest received the fewest stripes.

II. 4. *Australian.* [Originally *wattle-tree*, from the use of the long pliant branches for making wattled fences or wattle-and-daub buildings.] The common name in Australia for indigenous trees of the genus *Acacia*. Also with defining word indicating the particular species: **black** *A. decurrens*; *A. binervata* and *A. decurrens*; **Broad-leaved, Golden, Green Wattle**, *A. pycnantha*; **Silver Wattle**, *A. dealbata*; but the application of these (and other similar terms) varies according to locality.

The bark of most of these trees is valuable for use in tanning, and they exude a gum resembling gum arabic. The golden yellow flowers are collected for their beauty and fragrance.

The acacias were included in the Linnean genus *Mimosa*. Hence in popular use *mimosa* was long current as a synonym of *wattle*, and is still sometimes so used, at least in England. See Mimosa 1 b.

[c 1810: see *Wattle-tree* in d.] 1820 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* I. 201 The acacias are the common wattles of this colony, their bark affording excellent tan. 1832 Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* II. 23 The black and silver wattle.. are trees used in housework and furniture. 1839 H. Kingsley *G. Hamilton* xxiii, Fringed with black wattle and light-wood. *Ibid.* xliii, The sarsaparilla still hung in scant purple tufts on the golden wattle. 1867 *Technologist* III. 3 The gum of the black wattle (*Acacia mollissima*, Willd.)..is very inferior to the [gr. that of the silver wattle]. 1888 Cameron *Whispering Voices* 45 And the wattle's yellow bloom Fills pure gales with rich perfume.

b. The flower of the wattle.

1867 A. G. Middleton *Earnest* 132 The maidens were with golden wattles crowned.

c. = *wattle-bark.*

1893 *Adot.* in Morris *Austral Engl.* s.v. *Wattle-bark*, Bark.. Bundled Black Wattle, superior, £5 10 £6 per ton; chopped Black Wattle, £5 to £6. 5s. per ton. 1912 Webster.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wattle-bark, -bloom, -blossom, -bough, -cluster, -flower, -gloom, -gum, -scrub, -tree*; **wattle-gold** *poet.*, the golden-coloured flowers of the wattle.

1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* II. 106 The various "wattle-barks are used for tan. 1892 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* 94 The leather tanned with wattle bark is of excellent quality but highly colored. 1890 A. Sutherland *Short Poems* 84 Here, by the "wattle bloom silently laid, Life seems like a rapturous dream. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song Engl., England's Answ.* 21 This for the waxen Heath, and that for the Wattle-bloom. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 60 The honey was coming from the sack as clear as amber and smelling of "wattle-blossom. 1839 Dickens etc. *Holly-tree Inn* v. 93/2 Breaking off a small "wattle-bough to whisk the flies from his face. 1852 Mundy *Antipodes* (1857) 87 A dense scrub of burnt "wattle-bushes about the height of hop-poles. 1889 Lucas *Doubleday* 118 A year in the Past the plundered "wattle-cluster, Bathed no longer in the lustre, Of its golden rain. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Oct. 3/1 Something tasty, like the scent of the "wattle flower. 1867 Goodrich *Angel-Beckoned* 9 Where the "wattle-glooms abound A little way below. 1870 A. L. Gordon *Bush Ballads* (1876) 11 Sweet the spring, when the "wattle gold trembles, Twixt shadow and shine. 1883 Keighley *Who are You* 54 My wealth has gone like the wattle gold You bound one day on my "wattle-tree. 1889 Lucas *Doubleday* III. 1 "Wattle Gum, the gum of the Silver Wattle (*Acacia dealbata*, Lindl.). 1885 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* lii, 'Well! if this don't bang wattle gum.' 'I began with it.' 1889 *Illustr. Bushman* xxviii, They were passing through a narrow way in a "wattle scrub. 1810 in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1827) XV. 348 One of my specimens..I shot in a green "wattle-tree close to Government House. 1834 in K. Cornwall *Panorama New World* (1850) I. 402 We observed on a wattle tree..scratches or marks of figures, representing blacks in the act of fighting. 1904 *Manchester Argus* 10 Dec. 5/2 Of the tender..for the right to strip the wattle trees growing on the upper portion of the Von Yange.

**Wattle** (wɒ't(ə)l), *sb.*[2] Also **6 wattell(e, 7 waddle, wadle**. [Of obscure origin; possibly an altered form of Wattle (which, however, does not appear so early in our quots.), due to assimilation to prec.

Usually believed to be identical with Wattle *sb.*[1] On the ground of the reading '*a wattel* ful of nobles' in two closely related MSS. of *Piers Plowman* C (where other MSS. have *watel*) it has been assumed that from the primary sense of 'something intertwined' (see prec.) was developed the sense 'basket'; hence that of 'wallet', which would be a possible source of the senses below. (Cf. Shaks. 'wallets of flesh': see Wallet *sb.*[2]) This explanation is connected with the view that *watel* is a metathesis of *watil*; but in all probability the reading *watel* in *Piers Plowman* is merely a scribal error for *wallet*.]

1. A fleshy lobe (usually bright-coloured) pendent from the head or neck of certain birds, as the domestic fowl, the turkey, the guinea-fowl, etc.

1513 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 67 John Carson ..bayryth a Cokatrice displayd, goulls with a bed in hys hawll, hys wattell and hys wyndells gone. 1597 R. Cawdrey *Hersilon's Husb.* iv. 258 Cockes..theyr wattelles ycrent. 1616 Surf. & Markh. *Country Farme* 669 Some also doe vse to cut off the Combes, but only Wattles. 1621 Cotgr. s.v. *Barbe*, *Les barbe & les pendans* de Cocks ratles, or waddles. 1683 E. Moss *Antid. Ath.* ii. 8 2 Nor are his [sc. the cock's] Comb and his Wattles in vain, for they are an Ornament becoming his Martial Spirit. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 240/1 Wattell, this is the Gills of a Cock, or the red Flesh that hangs under a Turkey's Neck. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Pigeon*, The Lapwing..is easily distinguished from the Wattle Wattle over his Nostril. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 221 Their combs and wattles purple and yellow. 1781 — *Genera of Birds* 1. 60 Cocks with each side, in a kind of wattle, of an orange colour. 1818 Crabbe *Tales* I. 380 From red to blue the [turkey's] pendent wattles turn. 1852 J. Baily *Fowls* 38 The gamy cock's bill carriage; his face and wattle have a beautiful red color. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 90 Cocks. Bright red comb, wattle and face. 1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* III. (1873) 45 The only species of guinea-fowl that I have seen in the Soudan has with the blue comb and wattles.

b. *transf.* (Cf. Gill *sb.*[1] 3 b.)

1910 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Lady Good-for-Nothing* v. xi, Once, it seemed to me, I detected the wattles of your worthy fellow-magistrate..; he ought not to strain that neck; you should warn him of the danger.

c. *slang.* (See quots.) ? *Obs. rare*—.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wattles, Ears.* 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 129 *Wattles*, the ears.

2. A flap of skin pendent from the throat or neck of some swine.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 38/37 V[e] Wattle of a hog, *nesnes*. 1611 Cotgr., *Goitrons*, Weddles, or wattles; the two little and long excrescences, which hang, teat-like, at either side of the throat of some hogs. *Ibid.*, *Goutteux*, Swines wattles. 1879 J. Weightson *Stories in Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 351/2 This "wattles" or skinny appendages situated upon either side and below the cheek.

b. A similar excrescence on the jaws of sheep or goats. See also quot. 1725 (prob. a mis-use).

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Goat*, The Buck or the He-goat ought to have a large Body, thick Legs [etc.]..his Ears should be long and hanging down, and to each Ear cover'd with a long Beard, or his Jaws rather have two Wattles or Tufts like a Beard. 1840 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 330 Four-horned sheep are numerous in several parts, and a few have six horns; these [often] are said to convex, and there are wattles under the throat. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 81 There were some brown goats, too, with white eyebrows, and wattles hanging down at each side of their necks.

3. A fleshy appendage hanging from the mouths of some fishes; a barb.

1655 Walton *Angler* xviii. (1661) 231 This Loach is of the shape of the Eele: he has a beard or wattels like a Barbel. 1688 Petit *Staffordsh.* 240 [A fish] having two small *Cirri* or wattles issuing out of the nose near the mouth. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 322 The Barbel is said to have been so called from the barbs or wattles attached about its mouth. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* I. (1880) 50 The barbs or wattles that depend from the sides of the mouth.

4. *Comb.*: : (in sense 2) ✝ *wattle-faced*, ✝ *-jawed*.

Also **wattle-bird**, (*a*) = *wattle-crow*; (*b*) the wattled or warty-faced bee-eater of Australia, *Anthochæra carunculata* and *A. inauris*; **wattle-crow**, any bird of the genus *Glaucopis* (*G. cinerea* and *G. wilsoni*), inhabiting New Zealand; **wattle honey-eater** = *wattle-bird* (*b*).

1773 *Cook's 2nd Voy.* I. v. (1777) I. 98 The "wattle-bird, so called because it has two wattles under its beak as large as those of a small dunghill cock. 1829-32 Sir J. Richardson etc. *Mem. Nat. Hist.* I. 314 The Long-eared Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra inaurita*). 1830 — in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* XVI. The Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra carunculata*).—The Brush Wattle-bird (*Anthochæra mellivora*).—The Lunulated Wattle-bird (*A. lunulata*). 1877 Bracken *Bush Friends* 11 The wattle-bird sings in the leafy plantation. 1877 Swainson *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 263 Subfam. Glaucopinæ. "Wattle Crows. *c* 1600 Middleton *Mayor Quinb.* III. iii, I scorn thee, Thou "wattle-fac'd sing'd Pig. 1826 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 222 The Yellow "Wattle Honey-eater (*Anthochæra inaurit.*). 1850 J. Lewin (Water P.) *Sk. Nat. Hist. Aust.* 147/2 Hee is "wattle-jawde, and his eyes are sunke inwarde.

✝ **Wa·ttle**, *sb.*[3] *Orkney* and *Shetland. Obs.* Forms: 5–7 **wattell**, 6–7 **wattill, wattil**, 6–8 **watle**, 6, 9 *Hist.* **wattle**. [app. a perversion of Norw. *veitla* (Aasen, Ross), dial. var. of *veitsla* :— ON. *veizla* entertainment, *spec.* 'the reception or entertainment to be given to the Norse king.. or his stewards' (Vigf.), f. *veita* to grant, give, to make (a feast), to show (kindness, etc.)] : see Wait *v.*[2] For the sense of the sb. cf. *Watting vbl. sb.*[2]

In a Norwegian charter of 15 Aug. 1412 (*Dipl. Norveg.* II. 11. 466), containing a grant by King Erik of Iand in Shetland, the feudal dues payable by the property are enumerated as 'skat, landskyld, ok *wezel*', with which cf. the 'skat, wattle, and dewties' of quot. 1597 below.

Originally, the obligation imposed on landed proprietors in Orkney and Shetland, of giving entertainment to the Foud on his annual journey through the islands for the administration of justice; in later times, a tax for which this obligation was commuted.

1427 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 281/1 Cum universis liberatibus, ad dictas terras..spectantibus [in Orcadum et Zetlandie]. *Wattill, Waithe et Hastwaith.* 1503 in Peterkin *Rentals Orkney* I. (1820) 25 Summa de Wattill of the Ile j last in thre thrulis vnto cost fleschc & fat guild, & iij last in communite & ane pund to pay the tua in wattill & the thrid in flesche. 1587 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 468/1 Reddendo..10s doleras argenteas pro lie wattill. 1588 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* X. 392 Selling..1000 cunnyng skynnis, 160 packis wod-nell, 200 doleris for wattill, 120 angel nobillis for toill. 1592 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1620, 218/1 Payand..to me..the yeir maillis, skat, wattill and dewties contenit in our rentall. 1595 in Peterkin *Rentals Orkney* II. (1820) 83 Thomas Sinclair payis yearly furth of his Wattle of the Baillyerie of Sunday 12 meilis bear. 1609 *Aithet of Kentyll in Zetland* (1898) 6 Quhilk the haill of the wattill as it was in anno 1605. ..Ska, ij nychtis wattill. Trowsilie & Sandsill, ij nychtis wattill. 1610 *Rec. Kirkdom Orkney* (S.H.S.) 185 His own proper land and heritage hablin frielie of the king for payment of scat and wattell and of the teynd therof to the kirk. 1628 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* N. S. VII. 231 Easter Gardie..to the Lairdis of Brumma [for Burray] 4 nyghtis wattill and 6 merkis. 1733 T. Gifford *Zetland Isl.* v. (1879) 37 To grant charters to the heritors.., holding few of the crown but immediately of the earldom, formerly paid, called the *Scat* and *Watle*. 1828 Scott *Pirate* xviii, Is it not enough that we must pay *scat* and *wattle*, which were all the public dues under the Norwegian government; but must they come on us with king's dues and customs besides? 1840 *New Statist. Acc. Shetland* (1845) 63 The wattle was a tax imposed on every family paid in barley to the foud or bailie.

**Wattle** (wɒ't'l), *v.* Forms: 4 **wat(t)ele-n, wattel-n, 5 wattyll, 6 wattill, wadle, 6–7 watle, wattel, 7 wattell, 6– wattle.** [f. Wattle *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To construct (a building, wall, fence, arbour) of rods, posts, or laths interlaced with twigs or flexible branches. Also *rarely* with *up*.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xii. 48 And there-with Grace bigan to make a good foundement, And watteled [*v.rr.* watelide, watelede] it and walled it with his peynes and his passioun. 1552 Huloet, Wattle a house, *crates, tes, tre*, whyche is a maner not vsed but where thacked houses be. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Concratitius . . parics* . . walles watled with roddes as they vse in the countrey. 1601 Holland *Livy* xxvii. iii. 697 To build..cotages and sheds...These were most of them made of hurdles and boords, some watteled and wound with reedes [L. *alia arundine texta*]. 1619 Markham *Hus.* iii. 74 For the meere barbarous Irish either sleepe under the canopy of heaven, or in cabbines watled, and covered with turfe. 1627 in Sir J. H. Ramsay *Banff*

*Charters* (1913) 212 Bindis...him..to caler wattell and theik with thak..the bail biggit be him. 1707–22 Mortimer *Husb.* I. 122 A Hedge wattled standing under a Bog that was five or six Foot above it. 1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 213 He fixes next on some spreading tree, round the bole of which he wattles a slight circular fence of the dimensions he wants. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* II. 94 The artisans he once wattled up in hooks. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* I. 72 The walls were merely wattled and smeared with plaister. 1867 C. H. Pearson *Hist. Eng.* I. 26 The villages were circles of huts hollowed out of the hills or heath, to save wall building, the sides wattled and the roofs thatched.

* b. To construct (a sheepfold) with hurdles.

1785 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* IV. 192 The shepherd.. contented himself with staring at them a moment, and then went on with wattling his fold. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 189 Shepherds have wattled pens about.

2. To interlace (boughs, twigs, osiers, etc.) so as to form wattle-work.

1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 249 Oxyars..to wattyll betwix piles of pe same Briggez. 1563 T. Hill *Art Garden.* (1593) 78 The Romans vsed to..fence their gardens in stede of quickhaths, set very thick in order, and with small rods watled in together. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 121 A Temple or Church. the Walls whereof were on all sides made of Rods, watled or interwoven. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 39 The sides and top of the House are filled up with Boughs coursely watled between the poles. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 296 Riving stakes..and wattling sixty rods between them. 1805 W. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 110 Pl. xxxiii, The dead materials are wattled in between strong stakes. 1823 Loudon *Encycl. Agricult.* § 889 The walls are thickly wattled in with studwork, into which branches of furze are thickly wattled. 1855 Dickens etc. *Holly-tree Inn* iv. 76/1 A building of boughs wattled on stakes, and plastered over with mud. 1858 Rawlinson tr. *Herodotus* IV. cxc. III. 169 The dwellings of these people are made of the stems of the asphodel, and of rushes, wattled together. 1871 W. Lord & Baines *Shifts Camp Life* vi. 382 Rattans, osiers, twigs, reeds, or grass are then wattled in in the manner shown in the sketch. 1884 *Weekly Lond. Times* 12 Sept. 4 A framework of oak beams, with mortise holes cut to receive cross beams, though which hazel and birch boughs have been closely wattled.

3. To bind together (posts, laths, etc.) with interlaced osiers, twigs, or flexible branches. Also with *about*.

1602 Ld. Mountjoy *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* II. 213 Staked on both sides with pallisades watled. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 498 Those people make but small low Houses. The sides.. are made of small posts, very well wattled. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* IV, II, We came to a long kind of building, made of timber stuck in the ground, and wattled across. 1775 Johnson *Jrnl. to Ireland* 56 The great inn which we dined and slept was lined with turf and wattled with twigs, which kept the earth from falling. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 294 The fence was..formed of strong stakes of birch-wood, wattled with smaller branches of the same. 1876 Jenkyns *Travels* I. 109, I have seen The trenches dug, the palisades upreard And wattled thick with ash and willow-wands. 1882 Jefferies *Bevis* II. 208 He proposed to..extend a railing, all round and wattle this with willows. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiii, The trunks of several trees had been wattled across, the intervals strengthened with stakes, and the ground behind this barricade levelled up with earth.

4. To cover or surround with wattle-work. Also with *about*.

1545 Elyot *Dict., Cratis*, to couer with grates, to wattil. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xii. 111 b in *Holinshed*, Our hiues are made commonly of Rye straw, and wadled about with bramble quarters. 1615 Markham *Country Content.* I. 4 Which seats (for honest men) would bee either boorded, or wattled with stakes and small wands on the sides to hold vp the earth from falling. 1629 Hume *Vineyd.* II. 122 They built a Frame of Timber, and wattled it about on either side, to serue instead of Walles, to keepe the Earth from falling too much away.

5. To fold (sheep). *dial.*

1908 *Academy* 27 June 900/2 This garden hears the sheep-bells of the flock That browses, wattled, on its further strand.

**Wattled** (wɑ·tld), *a.* [f. Wattle *sb.*2] Of a bird: Having wattles or a wattle; in *Heraldry*, having the wattles of a specified tincture distinct from that of the body. Also in parasynthetic formations, as *blue-wattled*, *one-wattled*.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. (1905) 368/1 A demy cock with wings displaid Gules, Watled and crested, Or. 1777 Porny *Elem. Her.* (ed. 3) Dict., *Wattled*.., sometimes used in speaking of a Cock whose wattles are of a different Tincture, but *Jollocqued* is better. 1781 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 9 Wattled Stare. Pl. xxxvi. Wattled Starlings. 1785 *Ibid.* III. i. 82 Wattled Heron. Size of the Stork.. Inhabits Africa. 1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 144 The Wattled Bee-eater ..is the size of a missel thrush, [etc.]. 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. 378 Wattled Crow. *Corvus carunculatus*.. This bird is a native of New Zealand. 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1856) 23 The throat of the female being covered with a wattle, instead of being naked and wattled. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 136 A Cock (wattled facie) and two Hens. 1860 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 220 The Wattled Honey-eater, or Brush Wattle Bird of Australia. 1861 Lodge. *Wayside Inn* Prel. 30 The wattled cocks strut to and fro. 1875–84 A. H. Laird *Birds S. Africa* 526 *Crex carunculata*, Gm. Wattled Crane. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 150/2 The scrub is full of wild duck, blue-wattled guinea fowl, partridges (etc.). 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 10/1 The 'Zoo' has a new occupant of some importance—the Eastern one-wattled cassowary (*Casuarius sarunculatus*) from German New Guinea.

† b. Having folds of flesh. *Obs. rare*—1.

1589 Golding *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 222, I turning to the shape of bull rebelled against my fo. He stepping to my left side clow, did fold his armes about My watled necke [L. *induit ille toris a tergo pectora iactatis*].

† c. *Wattled oval*: an oval ring with projecting knobs. (Holme gives a drawing.) *Obs. rare*—1.

1688 Holme *Armoury* IV. ix. (Roxb.) 383/2 At which collor was hunge the medle of the order on a plate in a watled oval with a Lilly slipped.

**Wattling** (wɒ·tl), *ppl. a.* [f. Wattle *v.* + -ing1.]

1. Constructed of wattle-work.

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Concratilius*, made of hurdels or suche lyke thynges, watled. 1552 *Ibid., Cratitij parietes*, watled walles made lyke hurdles, as they vse in the countrey. 1577 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 308 Watled walls only Daubed over with Mortar. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 132, With the use of watled Hurdles and Fascines. 1750 *Univ. Fleece* I. 361 Nor ope the wattled fence, while balmy morn Lies on the reeking pasture. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 674 The flatted hurdle..is much preferable to the close-rodded or wattled kind, as being much more durable. 1813 Rudge *Agric. Glouc.* 386 Wattled hurdles, &c. per dozen. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, Awhile she paused at the wattled door. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vii. 233 His reed hut or wattled cabin generally placed on the side of some narrow ravine. 1836 Mrs. C. P. Traill *Backw. Canada* 309 The fence is a rude kind of wattle work..called by the country folk wattled fence. 1872 *Standard* 12 Apr. 6 The weir is a wattled weir, and had the effect of preventing the passage of fish up the river. 1883 Symonds *Ital. Byways* ii. 30 Wattled waggons drawn by oxen.

b. Said of a sheepfold. Chiefly *poet.* In *wattled cote*, *pen*, *fold*.

1634 Milton *Comus* 544 Might we but hear The folded flocks penned in their wattled cotes. 1730 Thomson *Summer* 395 The gather'd flocks Are in the wattled pen innumerous prest'd. 1753 T. Warton *Ode Approach Summer* 99 His whisp'ring voice the shepherd plants. 1820 Tennyson *Ode to Memory* 66 The livelong bleat Of the thick-fleeced sheep from wattled folds. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gipsy* 2 Go, bid my flock unfold the wattled cote. 1886 Lowell. *Democr.* etc. (1887) 193 The wattled fold they were rearing here on the edge of the wilderness.

c. Of cloth: Made by plaiting. *rare*.

1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* xiii. 365 The wattled cloth of the Sandwich Islanders.

2. Of branches, twigs, etc.: Interlaced.

1577 Mason *Engl. Garden* iv. 645 A shed of twisting roots and living moss, With rushes thatch'd, with wattled boughs lin'd, It was a pleasant shade. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 303 Making a multitude of hurdles of wattled boughs to be laid across the softer places of the bog. 1878 Rosw. Smith *Carthage and the Carthaginians* 68 The Numidians..were made of wattled reeds thatched with straw.

† b. Of hair: Tangled. *Obs. rare*—1.

1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1028 Their [*sc.* the winds'] wattled locks shall still dwell in Rivers out.

3. Enclosed in a sheepfold, folded.

1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 82 And all his host A wattled flock, the fireman's dogs between.

**† Wattle-head.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wattle *sb.*1 (sense 1, as designating a weak building-material).] A weak-headed person. So **Wattle-headed** *a.*

1613 Wither *Abuses* I. Sat. i. 107 But he that is with such a humor led I may be bold to terme a wattle-head. *Ibid.* Sat. v. 90 Those wattle-headed Gallants would but Read At their well tempred passions. 1866 G. A. Lawrence *Sans Merci* III. 3 The damsel's father was an easy-going and something wattle-headed elder.

**Wattless** (wɒ·tles), *a. Electr.* [f. Watt + -less.] Of a current, an electromotive force, etc.: Consuming no power.

1900 *Electr. Rev.* 4 Apr. 544/2 The wattless current being taken as positive, when it is in advance of the E.M.D.

**Wattling** (wɒ·tlin), *vbl. sb.* Also 4–7 **wattelyng(e**, **-ing**, 4–6 **watlyng(e**, **-ing(e**, 6 **wadling**. [f. Wattle *v.* + -ing1.]

1. The action of the verb Wattle.

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 83 To arbor begun, and quick setted about, no paling nor wadling till set be far out. 1631 J. Taylor *Sea Voy.* 10 Her second course was made for the wattleing much after the same manner. 1926 *Contemp. Rev.* July 96 Plaiting, braiding, weaving and wattling, all of which bring into existence very definite rudiments of design.

2. *concr.* a. An assemblage of rods or laths interlaced with branches, twigs, osiers, or the like, serving as the material of a wattled wall, partition, fence, etc., or as the framework of a 'wattle-and-daub' building. Also, in generalized sense, wattle as a structural material.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. (1887) III. 349 Item pro amputacione xxiiij carcatarum virgarum pro 'wattelynge', et pro caringio earundem de bosco usque castrum. *Ibid.* 351 [similarly] xxiij carcatarum. 1540–41 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 338 Pro wattelyng tarrace et gold. The tarace before rehersed, watelled w^t^ gold, w^t^in the watelinge about the said tre, and every of them fylled w^t^ meatis divers. 1545 Elyot *Dict., Cratis*, grates of yron or wood. They be also the wadling of a wall or house slayd or thatched. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 131 Watlings, gabbions, and all other things needfull, at batteries, and besieging. 1618 J. Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 410 Ane new cupply, cabers, watlings, door-cheeks, half doore. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 115 The side Walls are Stud or Watling, plaister'd on the inside. 1765 Hume *Hist. Eng.* xxxvii. (1770) IV. 497 The houses [*c* 1560] were nothing but watling, plastered over with clay. 1837 J. E. Murray *Summer in Pyrenees* I. 63 A wattling of willow boughs, about eight feet square. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 249 Fig. 66 shows the handle and rim of what is called the Scotch basket...Fig. 67 shows the same skeleton, with..the wattling or woven work commenced. 1909 Stacpoole *Pools of Silence* xxx, Adams had swung the man aloft and dashed him against the wall with such force, that the wattling gave way and the plaster fell in flakes.

† *transf.* 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* XII. (1593) 286 He threw an ashen dart Which brake the watling of his ribs [L. *intorsa cratemque*].

b. Boughs and twigs for use in wattle-work.

1602 F. Markham *Bk. War* III. v. 98 To hew downe boughes and young wattlings to make Cabins. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 19/1 Timbers Termes...Wattlings lusted of Laths. 1763 Theophilus Insipidus *Sermons' Second Sight* 26 Going ..to cut wattling for creels. 1809 tr. *Molina's Hist. Chili* I. 128 The Indians abandoned..employ it (a vine) both in making large baskets, and as wattling for their hedges. 1832 Jane Porter *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* I. x. 295 To cut the stakes and wattlings for the stoccado.

3. *Comb.*

1‡.. *Master of Game* etc. (MS. Douce 335) fol. 73 Ony smal wode, that is to wete, blatrons, sparres, wattlyngrodes, or ony other smal wode.

**Wattre, Wattry**, obs. ff. Water, Watery.

**Wattshode**, obs. form of Watchet.

**Wattur, -yr, watur(e, -yr(e**, obs. ff. Water.

**Wau**, var. Waw *sb.*1, wave, Wough *dial.*, wall.

**Wau**, var. Waw *sb.*6 (Hebr. and Arab. letter).

**Wauble**, Sc. form of Wobble.

**Wauch**: see Watch *sb.* and *v.*, Waugh *a.*, Waught *v.*

**Waucht**, var. Waught *sb.* and *v.*

**Wauff, Waufle**: see Waff, Waffle.

**Waugh** (wɔ̄), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also wauch, wauf, waff, etc. [See Wallow *a.*] Tasteless, insipid; unpleasant to the smell or taste, sickly; faint, weak, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray, Waugh*, insipid, unsalted, and so unsavoury. 1814 [Mrs. Hervey Mackenzie] *Grad. Hill.* 189 (Jam.), I think she'll no put owre this night. The wauch earth smell is about her already.

**Waugh** (wɔ̄), *int.* Also 8 wa, 9 waugh. [An instinctive exclamation; cf. Wough, Whau.] An exclamation indicating grief, indignation or the like. Now chiefly as attributed to N. American Indians and other savages.

1762 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Biddulph* (1936) IV. 92 The other brat..squalls for it [the toy] directly. Waugh, Sir, it was mine first. 1792 J. Long *Voy. Lond. Interpr.* 164 *Wa! wa!* or Oh! oh! replied the Savage, but what is the warrior text for? 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* I. xxii. 252 A tall Indian..stood upright, uttering the sentiment in exclamation, 'Wagh!' 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* iv. ix, 'Well, if ever I seed the like!' quoth the corporal;..'augh be—augh be—bother!' 1834 Whittier *Mogg Megone* 212 Wagh! Mogg will have the pale-face's hair. 1846 P. B. Sr. John *Enchanted Rock* iv. 89 'Wagh!' escaped from the lips of the Indian girl. 1851 R. Baldenwood [Sydney-side *Sex.* v], Talgai sings out 'Wagh!' and pointed with his chin, like all blacks do.

**Waugh**, variant of Waff *v.*8, Waw *sb.*8

**Waugh hawk.** ? A perversion or misunderstanding of *water hawk*: see Water *sb.*1 3 b.

1844 Thoresby *Surrey Lexicon* MS., Waugh Hawk, Mr. Barry: don't think..to stand in my shoes when they are vacant.

**Waught** (wɑ̄xt), *sb.* Sc. and *north.* Also 9 **wauch, waft.** [f. next vb.] A copious draught. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1721 Ramsay *Answ. to Burchet* 2 Thirsting for fame, at the Pierian spring, The poet takes a waught. 1722—*Spring & Sybe* 11 Ae day, after great waughts of wet. 1786 Burns *Auld Lang Syne* v, And we'll tak a right gude-willie waught, For auld lang syne. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* iv, Ye needna stick to gie them a waught o' drink and a bannock. 1880 C. Gibbon *Golden Shaft* xxxiii, Then he took up the bottle and took a waft and says he—'Ay, that's rael fine chlorodyne'. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xix. 219, I had a good waucht of milk in by Ratho.

**Waught** (wɑ̄xt), *v.* Sc. Forms: 6 **waucht, wacht, wacht, 9 wauch, 7–9 waught.** [Of obscure origin; prob. allied to Quaff, Quaught *vbs.*] *trans.* To drink or quaff in large draughts; to drain (a goblet); also with *out, over*. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 39 Thay wauchtit at the wichtt wyne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. iii. 90 In flacon rand in skull Thai skryik the wachtis wappin coupis full. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 26 To wacht gude wyne. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlix. 94 Except his coup var wachtit faider nor thair pleasour. 1728 Ramsay *Archers disporting themselves* 100 How hearty went these healths about! How blythly were they waughted out! 1730—*Maggie* 193, I waught o'er This fowing glass of wine. 1819 W. Jamie *Strog Effusions* 27 (E.D.D.) Packman billies waught their ale.

Hence **Waughing** *vbl. sb.*

1858–90 Rose *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 373 Excessive drinking and waughting. 1842 Vedder *Poems* 78 But now he's a dyvor, wi' birling an' wauchin'.

**Waughtar, -or**, obs. ff. Wafter *sb.*1

**Waugle-eghed**, obs. form of Wall-eyed *a.*

**Wauk**, Sc. var. Wake *v.*, Walk *v.*1, *v.*2

**Wauken**, Sc. variant of Waken *v.*

**Wauker,** Sc. var. WALKER *sb*.[2]

**Waukrife,** variant of WAKERIFE *Sc.*

**Waul** (wǭl), *sb.* [f. next.] A loud cry or howl.
1836 MEREDITH *Shan. Shaughat* 355 This was followed by.. the waul of Kroos and the complainings of Dob.

**Waul, wawl** (wǭl), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* **wawill, 6–7 wawle, 6–8 waule,** *9 dial.* **whaul, whawl.** [? Echoic; cf. WRAWL *v.*] *intr.* To utter the loud harsh cry characteristic of cats or of new-born babes.
15 *Poems Gray MS.* v. 19 (S.T.S.) Sit Quhat helps Jan to wawill or weip? 1557 PHAER *Æneid*, VII. (1558) 5 b, Thy figures foule of wolues then heare for we to fret and wawle 1601 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass* v. IV 2151 Where cats do waule by day, dogges barke by night 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. 184 Thou whow'st, the first time that we smell the Ayre We wawle, and cry 1620 MILTON *Astrolog* 52 Many people in these dayes cannot heare a Dogge howle, or a Cat wawle, but instantly they will runne to the Calculator 1681 [? PLATMAN *Heracleitus Redivus* No 35 (1713) I. 208 Your Babes of Grace, which waul and cry, because their Mother won't let them suck to death her Dyes out 1774 COLMAN *Man of Business* Prol., His brats Brought up on playhouse pap, they waule and cry. 1872 POSTE *Gaius* IV §§ 21–25 230 The plaintiff on three market-days shall stand before the defendant's door and waul [*ref.* 1875 wawl].
Hence **Waw ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
a 1530 HEYWOOD *Johan 4 Ips* 118 (Brandl), Wyll thou neuer leue this wawlyng? 1535 BALE *Lett. a Course* 431, Wolde Tolwyn haue bene a good Idoll mayntener with holy e water and sowpinge laitne I sibberynge and wawlynge, he had not bene thus brought to such an vnsauerie state! MOUFET *Camerar. Lut. Vibr.* v. xv 38 Without the shameful bawling and wawling of Lawyers and Attorneys 1648 *Mirror Parliament brought to Bed* 8 There was heard terrible thunderings, intermixed with a wawling of Cats, howling of Dogges, and barking of Wolves a 1708 J. WARD *England's Reform* I (1710) 191 Like snarling Dog and wawling puss 1818 [J. MACDONALD] *Voyage of Wreck* 224, Around his wawling presence swell A huge Seraglio, stock'd, pell-mell, With black, white, tabby, tortoise shell. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Ecclesia* 296 Grimalkin answered with a terrible wauling

**Waul, waule,** obs. forms of WALL *sb*.[1], *v.*[4]

**Waul,** Sc. form of WIELD *sb.* and *v.*, WOLD.

**Waul(d,** Sc. f. *would*: see WILL *v.*

**Waulk,** obs f. WALK *sb.*, variant of WALK *v.*[2]

**Waulm(e,** variant forms of WALM *sb.*[1], *v.*

**Wault,** variant of WALT *v.*

1611 COTGR., *I erser un chariot*, to wault, overturne, or ouerthrow a chariot, whence the Prouerbe *Il n'est si bon chariot qui ne verse*, The best that driues, will sometimes wault, a cart

**Waulter, -tre,** obs forms of WALTER *v.*[1]

**Waum(e,** variant forms of WALM *sb.*[1]

**Waumble,** obs form of WAMBLE *v.*

**Waun(d's,** vulgar or affected pron of *wounds*, used as a profane oath: see WOUNDS *int*

**Waundy :** see WOUNDY *a.*

**Waunt,** dial var WANT *sb.*[1]; obs. f. WANT *v.*

**Waunty,** obs. form of WANTY

**Wauompeg,** obs. form of WAMPUMPEAG.

**Waur-** see WAR *a.*, *adv.*, *v.*[2]

**Waur,** variant of WARE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[4].

**Waurscaw,** corrupt or blundered form of WARBSTALL *Sc.*
1533 *Extracts Aberd Reg* (1844) I. 452 Ane bukat, ane wyrscaw, and sklayis for the buithi.

**Wausper** see WAMSPER *Sc.*

**Waut,** dial. form of WALT *v.*, WELT *sb.* and *v.*

**Wautt,** obs form of VAULT *sb.*[1]
1553–54 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 607 With 13 wautts, furth of ye chamber ye galarie.

**Wauve,** variant of WHAUVE.

**Wau-wau,** variant of WOW-WOW.

**Wave** (wē̆v), *sb.* (Also 6 whawe, 8 weave) [*f.* WAVE *v.*
In sense 1, which appears early in the 16th c, it seems to have been substituted by metathesis for the older WAW *sb.*, which it rapidly superseded in use. In branch II it is a new formation on the verb]

**I. 1.** A movement in the sea or other collection of water, by which a portion of the water rises above the normal level and then subsides, at the same time travelling a greater or smaller distance over the surface, a moving ridge or swell of water between two depressions or 'troughs'; one of the long ridges or rollers which, in the shallower parts of the sea, follow each other at regular intervals, assuming an arched form, and successively break on the shore. Sometimes the word is applied to the ridge and the accompanying trough taken together, and occasionally to the concave curve of the surface between the crest of one ridge and that of the next.
1526 TINDALE *Jas* I 6 For he that douteth is lyke the wauee [1539 *Cranmer*, 1557 *Geneva*, 1611 *Authorized*, a wave] DESIR *Coverdale*, the wawes] of the see 1539 PRINCE *Abp.*/1 Wave of the see, *vnda* 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. I (1895) 116 A large and wyde sea, which is not rough nor mounith not with great waues 1585 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 91 The tempest encreased, the whaues multiplied so faste that nothing but present death was looked for 1588 HUGHES *Summer Romance/ conflit d'vnde repoulse*, waue vpon waue: one waue following vpon another's necke 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 36 As doth a Saile, fill'd with a fretting Gust Command an Argosie to stemme the Waues. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor* 855 As in a settled calme, without winde, weather and wave

1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV 18 As surging waves against a solid rock, though all to shivers dash't, the assault renew 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV 567 Proteus in the Billows plung'd his hoary Head: And where he leap'd, the Waves in Circles widely spread 1781 COWPER *Expost* 273 What ails these, restless as the waves that roar, And fling their foam against thy chalky shore? 1812 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xviii, Like wave with crest of sparkling foam, Right onward did Clan-Alpine come. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I xviii 8 Is that enchanted stream also at the call? Down swell of the long waves that roll in yonder bay? 1860 — *Idyl* 16 Waves on a diamond shingle dash. 1877 W. H. WHITE *Natural Archit.* xi. 443 The main bow wave may also be followed by a train of wavelets, successive waves in a series having diminished heights 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.*, 152 It is merely the form of the wave, and not the actual matter which travels.

**b.** = *Tidal* or *tide wave.* see TIDAL 1 b, TIDE 16 b.
1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat Phil* II 329 The great Wave which, in this manner, constitutes the tide, is to be considered as an undulation of the ocean, in which [etc.].

**c.** *Poet.* Used in collective sing for 'water'; 'sea'. The plural is also similarly used (*poet.* and *rhetorically*), but without quite losing the primary meaning
1598 SHAKS. *1 K. J.* V. i 61 Now by the sea that we call the meditrranium, a sweet touch 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii 32 He looking downe, saw many dainteth in those cast waues [of Cocytus] 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Musæus* F 3, Virgin, the Dolphin will swim in waue of Sea 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I 193 Thus Satan talking to his nearest Mate With Head up-lift above the wave 1742 GRAY *Eton Sch.* Sweet Thames, whose silver-winding wave delights to cleave With pliant arm thy glassy wave? 1784 COWPER *Task* V 835 When he sees afar His sunny s weather bleach'd and blister'd rocks, From which the wave recoils 1820 IRVING *Man Sal* II 1, The calm wave I avours the gondolier's light skimming oar 1825 SCOTT *Talism* I, Where the waves of the Solway mingle themselves into an estuary 1844 HOOD *Bridge of Sighs* 11 Whilst those we constantly Dips from her clothing 1860 PATMORE *Iastiff for Lover's Hall*, Perhaps They wave whispering by the wave 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* V, We came to warmer waves, and deep Across the boundless east we drove

**2.** *transf* & An undulatory movement, or one of an intermittent series of movements, of something passing over or on a surface or through the air.
1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi, The western waves of ebbing day Roll'd o'er the glen their level way 1827 KEBLE *Ch. Y., Christm. Day*, In waves of light it thrills along 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters*, Waves unto waves rolling in foam-waves of sweet water from the inland rain 1850 — *In Mem.* xci, The thousand waves of wheat, That ripple round the lonely grange 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* VII 86 Thus there are the waves of panic in passing over the body 1901 C. LIDDERTON *Circle* III. 23 It was like a wave of sun through a chill room

**b** = *pulse-wave* see PULSE *sb.*[1] 5.
1838 *Penny Cycl* XII 81 The dilatation of the arteries produced by the wave which has propagated along the column of blood contained in them 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* xxxii, All all my blood, a fuller wave, Be quicken'd with a livelier breath.

**c.** A forward movement of a large body of persons (chiefly invaders or immigrants overrunning a country, or soldiers advancing to an attack), who either recede and return after an interval, or are followed after a time by another body of persons repeating the same movement.
1852 T. WRIGHT *Celt, Roman & Saxon* I. 1 Europe was peopled by several successive migrations, or, as they have been technically named, waves of population, all flowing from one point in Asia 1866 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. IX. 176 The Israelite conquest of Palestine is in itself but one amongst a succession of waves which have swept over the country 1875 UREDALE *Coast Irish* I. II 87 The successive tribes which were still affected by the great migratory wave 1879 GREEN *Readings fr. Eng. Hist.* XIX 98 Turned back was the flood of the enemy 1893 O M. ALLEN in *Irish Soc. Eng.* I. 1 The first wave of immigrants that reached Britain was a wave of men of short stature and swarthy countenance 1894 *Times* 3 Feb 9/1 The next send forward wave after wave of men, regardless of the punishment.

**d.** A long convex strip of land between two long broad hollows; one of a series of such strips, also occas. a rounded ridge of sand or snow formed by the action of the wind.
1788 A. YOUNG in *Y. Lasteyrie's Libr. Pract. Agric* (ed 4) II. p viii, The Downs are nearly flat, or only in gentle waves at the top 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Mon. Amer.* 1 2 The variation of the dip and rise there generally consists of gentle easy swelling waves 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 212 A fine Vale bordered with waves of grand extent 1815 R. ROSCOE *Lives I. & Gods* A hollow wave Of burning sand their everlasting grave 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. VIII. 248 The field fences burned under crested waves of snow 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* I. The crest of a great green wave of land, that rolled down a gentle slope to the banks of a little stream

**3.** *fig.* and in figurative context. a. chiefly *pl.*, rough, stormy, or fluctuating conditions (of life, care, passion, etc.).
a 1548 HALL *Chron., 14 Hen VII* (1550) 49 One fierce & strong waue swalowed both their lyues not long asonder. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eclogue* IV. 93 A Creature, caus'e of all my Care, A woman Wauie of Wretchednes 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 34 That he should neuer fall In all his wayes through this wide worldes waue *Ibid* III. viii. 50 That cruell Queene Did heape on her new waues of weary wretchednesse 1600 S. GARDINER *Exh. Angling* 19 Waues of tribulation, tempests of tentations. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 1 Man, on the dubious waves of error tost, His ship hall foundre'd, and his compass lost 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. iii. 75 Alas! was there no one to bid the waves of passion be still? 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III 224 And thus your pains May only make that footprint upon sand Which oft-recurring waves of prejudice Reamouch to nothing 1858 GEO ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* V, An unfeudanted egg, which the waves of time wash away into nonentity.

**b.** chiefly *sing.* A swelling, onward movement and subsidence (of feeling, thought, opinion, a custom, condition, etc.); also, a movement (of common sentiment, opinion, excitement) sweeping over a community, and not easily resisted.
1852 G. DRIVERY *Exz* (1858) 122 Its last vestiges were fast disappearing before the wave of democratic equality 1855 *Hain Sermons & Int* II IV § 18 (1864) 285 All the muscles of the body may be thrown into agitation under a wave of strong feeling 1859 DICKENS ch. *Haunted Ho* II 107/2 What floods of thought came wave upon wave, across my mind! 1870 DE ARCHEL *Joan* I. 9 Certain waves of opinion which at successive periods were perpelled from the ancient centres of Christendom 1903 MYERS *Human Personal* 7 The highest wave of materialism which has ever swept over these shores 1918 *Contemp Rev* May 615 A wave of militarism sweeps through the nation

**4** An undulating conformation; each of the undulations of such a conformation
1547 in Feuilleraf *Recits d'Ed. VI* (1914) 9 Clothe of Sylver in waues 1597 *Ibid* 52 Item, one Sarcloth of Bawe of blewe clothe of golde playne layed on with waves of clothe of silver. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* XXX 95 That [in] the Grain which runs in waves, and makes the Deal to be suitful & unsightly which some woods abound in 1667 — *Fr. Parnass.* II. 4 Your present] toward Eve Addres'd his way, not with indented wave, Alone on the ground, as since, but in his review 1678 MOXON *Mech Exerc* VI 104 It hath a Hole under it cut into those Fashioned waves you intend your work shall have 1702 PALTER *Gaz Phil* I v, *Cimex Venereus* [is] easily distinguish'd from all others by its peculiar Waves and spotted Wings 1721 W GIBSON *Diet Horses* 1 13 The Mane is always the more graceful with a natural Weave from the Roots 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* (1864) 18 Their glorious rolling their long waves Before the gale 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gaildthwaite* IV, Freedom's northern wind will take all the wave out of your hair 1884 K. F. BUTLER *Ink Wood* VI. 137 Often the waves [of sabre blades] are broken into saw teeth 1895 M HEWITT *Farthwork Tuscany* 75 A bush of yellow hair falling over his forehead in a wave

**5.** An undulating line or mark. *Obs.*
1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 281, It will shew some waves, and divers colours 1704 NEWTON *Opt* I (1721) 94 If the Glass of the Prisms be with no those num berless Waves, or Curles, which cause the Irregular Sand holes 1856 R KNOX tr. *Fr. de St. Blair Zool* 9 414 It [the eel] is of a brown colour, somewhat greyish, with deeper coloured transverse waves. 1892 *Encycl Britannica* XXVII 15 The waves written by the syphon above the central line corresponding to the dots of the Morse Code.

**6.** *Arch* An undulated moulding, a cyma or ogee moulding
1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 70 The wave with Lace under it at one penny *per* foot *Ibid* 71 The upper Wave cut with Leaves at six pence *per* foot 1825 NICHOLAS *Archit* (ed 4) 46 These mouldings are generally much contorted, and the wave or zigzag ornament is almost universal

**d** A wavy or zigzag pattern, something made in this pattern: see quots
1845 G. DODD *Brit Manuf* Ser v 176 There are several descriptions of straw [plait made on Long Island—such as the 'wave', the 'diamond', &c 1888 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf* 168 *Waves*, zigzag twill pattern

**5.** Modern scientific uses.
*a Physics* Each of those rhythmic alternations of disturbance and recovery of configuration in successively contiguous portions of a fluid or solid mass, by which a state of motion travels in some direction without corresponding progressive movement of the particles successively affected. Examples are the waves in the surface of water (sense 1), the waves of the air which convey sound, and the (hypothetical) waves of the ether which are concerned in the transmission of light, heat, and electricity
*Undulation* 1818 Oscillations of other waves (discovered by the German physicist HEINRICH HERTZ in 1888) similar to light waves but of much greater wave length
1832 BREWSTER *Nat Magic* (1833) 195 They will produce each equal waves of sound 1833 [see *wave surface, theory*] 1839 G. BIRD *Nat Philos* 292 The waves of light, like those of sound, are transversal 1896 *Encycl Britannica* XXVIII 1906 GREENLEE *Sci. Gunnery* 50 It is necessary so to prolong the explosion, that the wave of vibration has time to travel throughout the whole of the muzzle section 1886 HADLAND *Gas* II 1 227 An aerial wave of sound travels at about the rate of 1100 feet in a second 1863 — *Heat* 257 The condensation and rarefaction of the air] constitute what is called a sonorous pulse or wave 1870 ROSCOE *Elem. Inorg Chem* 1 *Heat* XI 178 Starting with very good conductors and very long waves, the electric current will be uniformly distributed through the whole of the conductor 1900 KIPLING *Wireless in Scirlock's Mag* Aug 137/2 Hertzian waves which vibrate, say, two hundred and thirty million times a second 1900 *Daily Mail* 5 Apr 11/2 These wireless waves are often called Hertzian waves

**b.** *Meteorol.* A change of atmospheric pressure or temperature, consisting of gradual rise and fall or fall and rise, taking place successively at successive points in some particular line of direction on the earth's surface. In popular language, a 'heat-wave' or a 'cold wave' denotes a spell of abnormal heat or cold, which is assumed to be travelling over the country in a particular direction.
1843 SIR J. F. W. HERSCHEL in *Rep Brit. Assoc* 61 If

d locative, as *wave-howered, -reflected.*

**1812** Byron *Ch. Har.* II. xxiv, Thus bending o'er the vessel a living arch To gaze on Dian's wave reflected sphere **1820** Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii 32 Tracking their path by the light Of wave-reflected flowers. **1881** Rossetti *Ballads & Sonn., House of Life* lvi, The wave bowered pearl

**8** instrumental, as *wave-beaten, -buffeted, -lashed, -encircled, -hollowed, -lashed, -moist, -swept, -tossed, -washed, -wet, -worn*, etc.

**a 1593** Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* I. xiv. 34 Such were they[her Lucia's] as Diana painted stands All naked hilding in her waves-moist hands. **1610** Shakes. *Temp.* II. i. 220 He stared Himself to ash-bore: that one his wave worne basis bowed Asbonge to relieue him **1741** Bower *Patience* 200 On these I weel'd spray, the wave tossed body lay **1777** Potter *Euripides* II. 81 Retort ing ring Thence drive the wand'ring ocean's wave, wash'd strand **1810** Scott *Lady of L.* I. xiii, The shaggy mounds wave encircled, seem'd to float **1819** Keats *Poems* II. 67 Amid the barren sand and rocks so rude She and her wave worn love had made their bower. **1842** Tennyson *Arthur* II. 1201, Wave hollow'd caves **1856** Lyte *Poems, Life & Time* 78 Wave like cliffs and rugged crags, the wave beaten isles. **1857** Dickens *Dorrit* II. xiv, Every wave dashed, storm beaten object **1857** Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 58 Around between two wave washed ridges of drift **1876** Mickie *Sagart* II. 92 So Sigurd turned to the river and stood 13 the wave wet strand **1894** *Outing* XXIV. 396/1 The long, wave swept margin was left to the solitude of primeval nature.

**10.** Special comb.: **wave-action** (*a*) *Geol*, the action of water flowing in waves; (*b*) *Gunnery*, 'abnormally high pressure in a gun from very large charges' (*Cent. Dict* 1891); **wave-detector**, an instrument designed to detect very feeble electric waves in wireless telegraphy; **wave-disk**, a metal disk with a waved edge, used in the *wave-siren*; **wave-form** (see quot 1864); **wave-front** *Physics*, the continuous line or surface touching all the waves or radiatory emotions which are in the same phase; **wave-horse** = Sea-horse 5; **wave length**, the length of a wave as measured from crest to crest or from hollow to hollow, **wave-making**, the production of waves by the movement of a floating body on the surface of the water, also *attrib.*, **wave-mark** (*a*) *Geol.* (see quot 1863), (*b*) a wavy marking, stain, or blemish, so also **wave-marked** *a.*; **wave-marking** *Geol.*; **wave-meter** *Electr.*, an instrument for determining the form of alternating currents' (W. 1911), **wave-motion**, motion in curves alternately concave and convex; **wave-motor**, a machine or apparatus designed to utilize the energy in the waves of water as a motive power, also *attrib.*, **wave-path** *Seismol* (see quot 1886), **wave rainbow**, a rainbow formed on the spray of sea-waves, **wave-rate** *Acoustics*, the rate of vibration of a sounding body in a given time; **wave resistance**, the retarding force of the action of waves on a floating body (see quot.), **wave-shell** *Physics*, each of the imaginary concentric spherical layers in any medium traversed by a wave, such that the vibration of the particles of the layer is always in the same phase; **wave-siren**, a form of the Siren (*sb* 7) in which a current of air is driven through a narrow slit against an undulatory curve on the periphery of a cylinder or disk, **wave-slope**, the angle of inclination of the surface of a wave to the horizontal; **wave-surface** *Physics*, a geometrical surface which is the locus of all points reached at one instant by an undulatory agitation propagated from any centre; **wave-system** *Ship-building*, see quot and **Wave-line 1**, **wave theory** = *undulatory theory* (see Undulatory 1 c), **wave-train** *Physics* (see quot.), **wave-trap, winding** (see quots), † **wave work**, watered work (see quot) Also **Wave-like** *a.* and *adv.*, **Wave line.**

**1886** Dana *Man. Geol* (ed. 3) 910 Index, *Wave action on coral reefs **1886** A Winchell *Walks Geol Field* 63 Here the torrential action was less turbulent it was perhaps wave action on a beach **1905** *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 339/2 The centre of interest in wireless telegraphy seems to be shifting from the *wave-detector or coherer to the means of producing the energy required to act upon it. **1890** S. P. Thompson in *Nature* 18/3 In Jan. 1926/2 Two such *wave disks, looking rather like circular saws with irregular teeth **1846** W. Bow in *Arch. Inst. Assoc.* 138 Should the rarefying process be one, not only of the *wave form be considered but also the wave-motion **1889** Welch *Text-bk Natural Philos.* 58 It is only the wave form which advances, and not the water constituting the wave **1887** Watt *Fragments* 89 The planes of polarization of the two rays whose *wave fronts are parallel bisect the angles [etc.] **1888** Rutley *Rock-forming Min.* 58 The plane wave surfaces of wave fronts of the two rays will respectively be represented by the tangent planes **1888** Rider Haggard *Mr. Meeson's Will* xi (1897) 140 They looked out across the troubled ocean . . there was nothing in sight but the white *wave horses **1891** Schuster *Spectrum Anal* § 18 30 The rays of shortest *wave length, namely the violet **1887** Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 66 The fork condenses a bulk of air equal in length to the wave length of its own pitch **1907** V. Cornish in *Geogr. Jrnl* Jan. 25 The water may commonly be seen to grow in the space of a few yards to a uniform wave length of about 2 feet **1877** W. H. White *Natal Archit.* xi. 447 Mr. Scott Russell first drew attention to the importance of *wave-making resistance. **1898** D. Kemp *Man. Yacht & Sailing* vi. 41 There are only two principal sources of resistance, and they are consequent upon surface friction and wave-making **1863** Dana *Man. Geol* (ed. 3) 94 **Wave marks* — Paint outlinings of curved form, on a sandstone layer, like the outline left by a wave along the hard wet shore, it dries out upon a beach. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 4/2 When the novice finds a few pinholes in his negatives, or wave marks on parts of the image **1898** *Ibid.*, The wave marks were the result of careless development. **1903** *Inner Temple* June 356 The top of the Lucernaire is formed by a *wavemarked layer of lime stone **1898** *Ibid.*, Numerous other instances of *wavemarking at this horizon might be given **1905** *Athenæum* 27 May 670 2 Prof Fleming a direct reading *wavemeter or *wavemeter for measuring the length of the waves used in wireless telegraphy **1846** W. R. Bart in *Arch. Inst. Assoc.* I. 139 In contemplating the instruments of the barometric maxima and minima, we regard only the *wave motion—but very different must be the an-motion **1882** F. G. Tait *Light* in *Encycl. Brit* XIV. 609 The exact characteristic of wave motion is that a disturbance of some kind is handed on from one portion of a solid or fluid mass to an after **1898** *Daily Express* 9 June 2/3 The Linden *wavemotor boat **1899** *Ibid* 15 Feb. 8/6 A wave motor, which may be seen working off Dover **1861** R. Mallet *First Principles Seismol* I. iv. 15 The line of most, or *wave path **1886** J. Milne *Earthquakes* I. ii. 31 The seismal lines along which an earthquake may be propagated from the centrum are called *wave paths. **1848** Tennyson in *Ed. Lennyson Memoir* (1878) I. 183, *wave of shadows [at the Land] **1903** G. M. Stratton *Exper Psychol* V. 83 Musical notes whose *wave rates do not differ at least a fifth of a vibration a second **1889** Welch *Text Bk Natural Archit.* 28 The *wave resistance is by far the most powerful agent in each pushing the ots. illations **1883** *Liberator's Pilot Card* 48 *Wave screen, or Breaker, for breaking the force of the waves at entrance of river or of cwhere **1877** F. W. Rutley *Earthquakes in Encycl Brit* VII. 61/2 The points at which a *wave shell reaches the surface form curves which are known as seismal lines or isoseismal line **1881** *Nature* 18 Aug. 359 2 Helmholtz has constructed a new instrument, the *wave siren **1890** S. P. Thompson in *Nature* LII. 240/2 The *wave slope is found recourse to the wave-form, as the first invention of his own **1877** W. H. White *Nat. Archit.* xi. 213 In considering the sufficiency of the range of the curve of stability for any vessel, it is clear it be regarded to all ridged by its 8 or 10 degrees, in order to allow for the *wave slope **1833** Mac Cullagh *Collect. Works* (1880) 34 In this theory, the surface of waves, or the *wave-surface, is the surface which is used to determine the directions and velocities of refracted or reflected rays. being, the surface of a sphere in a singly refracting medium a double wave **1890** Nature Scientific *Math Papers* (1891) IV. 42 Some very beautiful results in relation to the Wave surface have been recently obtained by Herr Zech **1910** S. P. Thompson in *Nature* LXXXIV. 220 Stokes has found by minute experiment that the Huygens wave surface is most accurately obeyed by light **1886** *Encycl Brit* XXI. 665/1 Russell's solitary wave seems in fact to be a popular and experiment on a new system of shipping vessels which is known as the *wave system **1833** Mac Cullagh *Collected Works* (1880) 34 On the *Wave Theory of Light **1893** Lodge *Light* 11. 1. 1. agrees with those who regard the wave theory of light as an established fact in the Science **1897** L. Nichols & Franklin *Elem Physics* III. 12 A periodic disturbance in a medium is called a *train of waves*, each one of which is exactly like its forerunner Graphic representation of *wave trains **1875** Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2963/1 Wave-tube (Acoustics) a resonating musical of the sides of pipes, to afford space for steam waves which roll in at the entrance to spread and extend themselves. **1893** Nature *Light* 1. 1. 1. *Wave tuning*, a method of working disc and drum armatures **1901** Holland *Ivory* viii. Abvil I. 208 The very roll robe made after the manner of water chamlot in *wave worke [L. *i. quo undulat in vol.*]

† **Wa've**, *a. Her Obs.* [Hybrid f. Wave *sb* + Al suffix *f*, after *undé*.] = Wavy. Cf Undee, Undy

**1523, 1688** [see Undee] **1572** Bossewell *Armorie* 26 Crosse fit vee, checkey wave **1846** Sir J. Maxwell *Life & Jrn* 219 Three Barres wave **1680** Sir G. Mackenzie *Stat Her* 26 The Drummonds bear three faces *undé* or wave **1688** *Holme Armory* Bk. 1980/4 Two pair of Gold Buckles dented and wave.

**Wave** (wēv), *v.* Inflected **waved, waving** Also 7 *Sc.* vaf, vayve. [OE, *wafian* (twice, in sense 6), corresp. formally to MHG. (and rare mod G.) *wafen* (see Grimm s.v. *wabben*) to wave, undulate, the Teut. root **wab-* is found in ON. *vafa* wk mase. doubt, uncertainty, and in Waver *vb* and the cognates there mentioned; the ablaut-variants **web-*, **wēb-* occur in G. *weben* to weave, move about (cf. Weave *v.* 2, Wever), which, however, is believed to be partly a dial form of MHG. *wēven* (mod G. *wehen*) to wave, flutter, etc , and in ON *vafa* to swing, vibrate

It is not always possible to distinguish between this vb and the obsolete Waff *v.* the two appear to have coincide in some of their senses, and in some dialects and periods were identical in sound.]

**I.** To move to and fro or up and down.

* Involuntary movement.

**1.** *intr.* Of a thing having a free end. To move to and fro, shake or sway in the air by the action of the wind or breeze.

**1275** Barbour *Bruce* IX. 245 The discurrours saw thame cumande With banners to the vynd vavand [*r.* vawand, wauand] **1598** Dunbar *Poems* IV. 74 As with the wynd wavis the wickin, [Soo] wavis [*r.* wawnis, wavenis] thus warldis vanite. **1503** Berners *Froiss* I. cxl. 50 b/2 Whanne those fotemen sawe the baners and standerdes wave with the wynde **1577** Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 73 His craped locks wavde all behinde **1593** Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 173 Sound Trumpets, let our bloody Colours wave And either Victorie, or else a Graue **1671** Milton *Samson* 718 Like a

stately Ship With all her bravery on, and tackle trim, Sails fill'd, and streamers waving 1723 Pope *Windsor For* 350 High in the midst (His sea green mantle waving with the winds) The god appear'd 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* III xxv. No banner waved on Cardross gate 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, Dresses rustled, feathers waved, and jewels sparkled 1846 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* II III § 5 The bending trunk, waving to and fro in the wind above the water-fall 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II 7 It was then that the flag of England began to be wave over every sea. 1884 Bible (R V) *Judges* iv 9 But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness, and go to wave to and fro over the trees?

*fig.* 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Mrs Eliz. Wheeler* Poet Wks. (1915) 107 In bloome of Peach, and Roses bud, There waves the Streamer of her blood

**† b** *To wave in the wind* to be hanged (Cf Wag v 3 d) *Obs*

*a* 1533 Bennets *Henry VI* (1613) 43 Or it be nyght, I shall cause thee to wave in the wynde

**c** Of long hair: To hang down loose. *poet.*

1672 Milton *Samson* 1493 And view him sitting, in his House, Amid Of loose unshorn locks wave down behind

And on his shoulders waving down those locks 1767 M Bruce *Last Day* Poems (1796) 129 His golden hair Wav'd on his shoulders

**d.** *trans.* Of the wind, etc. To cause (a thing) to sway or move to and fro

1602 Ard *Shaks. Lear* III xii A, Bel. Let a man handle, and tottering, and tottering, as you have seen the winde wave a man. 1815 Shaks. *Lear* (Camb.) III vi 70 Therewith a bright access (a shadowy h. Waved by the wind amid the sunny noon 1828 Lytton *Eliz. Sir* x, The wind waved my long curls 1829 Scott *Talisman* xx, No sound was heard save that of the night wind, when it waved the tattered banners which were the tapestry of the feudal hall

**† 2.** *intr.* To move to and fro restlessly or uncertainly; to waver *Obs*

1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 399 And whil my breeth may in my body be, I record it vnnethe I may soufflye

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi 59 (This world) Quhair it is nocht ever sad, nor alwayis with freindly sangis of ane sorte, Quhair fals beleefnes is wind bayne wave 1598 [see 1 above] 1628 [see Waving *pbl. a.* 2] 1665 [see Waving *vbl. sb.*]

**† b.** To move to and fro unsteadily on its base or (of a person) on the feet; to totter *Obs*

1538 Turner *Dict., V. trill's*, to move inconstantly, to waggue or wiue, to be vnstable, or vnsure 1605 Stukeley *Ir. Hardan* III iv 64 As an Infant when he first begins to goe alone waves weakly to and fro 1608 A. Willet *Hexapla in Exod.* xx 18 445 [A tall lus readeis the verb *lyl*] *exalt to*, they waued 1609 Jeremie *Metaphrase* IV iv Chorus iv, I shall recite your present State, And her foundation waues

**† c.** Of a floating body: To move restlessly by the impulse of the air or water. Also, To hover about in the air *Obs*

1566 (? Wednesday) *Child Waters* xxxvi 94 b, The Ch a ts of them whose hues they had ruinshed from their bodies, waiing before their eyes 1632 Milton *Lycidas* 172 And hot sun strange mysterious dream, Wave at his Wings in Airy stream. *c* 1639 *Knt's Ball* (1889) VI 479 They wave ing up and down the Seas upon the Ocean Main 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II xxx 32 Those that have their heels lightly ballasted are but buoys [buoys] in a hard Sea, waving perpetually up and down 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II 538 In first that waves on Party colour'd wings

**† d.** *To waue oneself* ? To give oneself up to the motion of the water In quot. *fig. Obs*

1618 Fletcher *Resol.* II i, When Rich Crowne hys newly kiss'd the Temples of a gladded King, who e'le finds all thin, s magi cien wynome, hee carelesly waues himselfe in the swelling plenty.

**† 3** Of a person To be restless in mind; to alternate between different opinions or courses of action; to vacillate, waver Said also of the mind, will, etc *Obs*

1587–8 T Usk *Test Love* II (Skeat) 167 Ye wete wel, Ladye, quod I, that I have n t with the wilbes to be waved 1596 Drant *Horace, Sat* I i A v, Thy mynde it wauis and wagges, And wotheth after greater things 1582 N Watson *Pass. Conf. Love* (Arb 1893) 46, I waue in d ubt what helpe I shall require, In bommer freeze, in winter burne like fire 1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v xlii § 5 In the truth as they wone in and out no way sufficiently grounded to stay resolued what to do I see, and therefore wauer 1604 Shaks *Oth* II iii 19 If he did n t care whether he did it or I use or no, here waued indifferently, twixt doing them neither go 1611 Florio *Worlde of Wo.* s v *Ondeggiare a*, I waue Pet Thom *Antithesis* xvi 40 Vaniely, in any thing distrust eth the minde, and leaues it waving in a dull vs trouble 1642 R Mosr *Song of Soul* II iii 11 Thus waves the mind in things of greatest weight 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog* II 62 The court waved between these two factions

**4** Of water, the sea: To move in waves, undulate 1530 Palsgr 729/2, I waue, as the sea doth e *Ye waue* After a storme the see waveth 1552 Huloet, Waue as water doth in tempest *Fluctuo.* 1573 [see Waving *vbl. sb.* 2] *c* 1790–1804 W Blake *Poet. Wks* (1938) 366 Wave fresh), clear waves, flowing round the tender grass 1820 [see Waving *vbl. sb.* 2] 1865 Lyon *Early Hist. Man* iv. 63 Water in that which waves, undulates.

**b.** *trans.* Of a crowd. To move to and fro restlessly in a body

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Pompeius* (1595) 708 Pompey perceiuing that his owne battell on the other side waued vp and downe disordred, as men vnskilfull in warres. 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* II 21 23 Galba was driuen to and fro with the crowde of the companie, as it waued vp and downe [*L. varie inrebo fluctuantis impulsu*]. 1646 Sir J Temple *Ir. Rebellion* 15 The people continued waving up and down the streets. 1860 Froude *Hist Eng* V 387 He was still speaking, when the crowd began suddenly to wave and shift.

**c.** Of a field of corn, etc., To undulate like the waves of the sea.

1667 Milton *P L* IV 981 As when a field Of Ceres ripe for harvest waving bends Her bearded Grove of ears 1720 Pope *Iliad* XX 78 The forests wave, the mountains nod around 1725 — *Odyss* IX 124 With wheat and barley wave the golden fields 1775 Johnson *Jrn. to Ivy* 20 Region vanishing with pleasure and waving with fertility 1782 Cowper *Table* IV 313 The lands, where lately waved the golden barv st 1830 H Coleridge *Memor* (1836) 171 The whole place waved with wood, and was diversified by undulations of surface 1834 Ruskin *Months* III, Rejoice! ye fields rejoice! and wave with gold 1851 J H Gurney *Hym.*, Fair waved the golden corn Canaan a pleasant land

**† 5.** *intr.* To turn aside. Also *trans* To move (a person) aside. *To waue one's way* ? to take a divergent route. [But this may belong to Waive v.]

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen VIII* 56 b, The kynges train waued on the left hande, to geue the Frenche kyng and his train the right hande 1642 Milton *Reason Church Govt. to Ady IV* (1651) 109 Notwithst nding all which importunity he resolved not [1652 *omits* not] to wave his way upon this occasion, but he should but ouer ly his own discretion make his Enemy believe he were afraid of danger, he should never live without 1648 Sir J Berkeley *Present Pa.* 11 When Duke Lorrain was brought by to prison, on which an Eagle fel full upon it Some men would perhaps from hence confute the opinion of Copernicus never conceiving how the motion of the earth below should not wave him from a block perpendicularly directed from a body in the aire aloue

**† b** Of the sun: To decline. *Obs rare*

1615 Knt *Shun Irag* II 83 Till, Phœbus waiuing to the western deepe, Our Trumpeters were cit rgde to sound retreat

**† c** Of voluntary movements.

**† 6** *intr.* To make a movement to and fro (with the hands) Only *Obs*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II 62 Gif hyt ne hrepige, wafie mid hyre wu dorlme mid handa ne bid hit beah bletsung, luta he wyrce tuen pere halgan rode *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 318 Gif hyt ne hrepige, wafie mid hyre wudorlme, wafie mid hyre handa ne bid hit beah bletsung, luta he wyrce tuen pere halgan rode *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 318 Gif hyt ne hrepige, wafie mid hyre wudorlme, wafie mid hyre handa ne bid hit beah bletsung, luta he wyrce tuen pere halgan rode Remedium facio fece; ] wafie mid hyre handa

**† 7.** To make motions (with the uplifted hands or with something held in the hands) by way of signal. Chiefly *Naut.* (Cf Weave v.4) *Obs*

Of the Obs. sense 6, which may possibly have survived unrecorded to the 16 c

1513 Pennyman in *T H Papers War France* (1897) 148 He sayth he see my lord Admirall wayving with his hands and cryed to the Frenshmen to come to him 1596 Capt Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl Soc.) 30 Wee might clerie two or three with a flagg of truce, wauing ge unto us that we might haue conference with them 1604 Shaks *Oth* I iii 12 He did keepe The Decke, with Glowe, or Hat, or Handkerchefe, Still waving, 1611 B Jonson *Catiline* I ii, A bloody cause is, that holds a pure Lighted, aboue the Capitoll And, now It waues vnto vs 1644 Manwaring *Sea-mens Dict* 114 *Hazarge* is made to signe for a ship, or boate, to come now vnto them, or else to see from them, as the signe is made, either bowa ds or from wards the ship

**† 8.** *trans.* To signal to (a person) Chiefly *Naut* (Cf Weave v 8) *Obs*

1555 W Watreman *Hakluyt* I 99 If it 33 Weminstu tied vs me knaues, and being waued by them to come a shoare, yet we would n t *Ibid*, Certaine Negroes waued us with a white flagge, but we would not 1625 *Hist Sea Service* I vi 18 Hee waued me to come to him, and waued vs on shore with a white flagge 1596 Capt Wyatt *Dudley's Voy* (Hakl Soc.) 14 Our Generall commanded vs to waue them, til I bringe them made them know their dutie unto our Leigh Icollers by vailing their topsailes 1602 Shaks. *Ham* I iv 61 Looke with what courteous action It wafts You to a more remoued ground *Ibid* 68 It is an honest ghost, that let me forth say mine, He follow it 1616 Capt J Smith *Descr. New Eng.* (Arb) 225 We were like by two West Indyan ies but when I saw we waue them for the bring to vs, I knew they gaue vs their broad sides 1627 — *Sea Grammar* 31 60 He waues vs to to lee ward with his drawne sword

**† 8** To move to and fro or up and down regularly or rhythmically.

**a** To move the wings up and down in or as in flight Said also of the wings Also *trans.*, to actuate or flap (the wings) in or as in flight *Obs*

1526 *Pilg. Perf* (W de W 1531) 232 Than with her wynges she fourth & waueth vnto she haue kyndled the fyre 1601 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 1 Swans (which in the Dutch tongue are called) *Swaenen* Wauen 1) IV 165 The Bird[s] beeing young, seeing the olde ones through age growen so weake as they are not able t waue their wings, carrie them on their backs 1657 [see Waving *vbl. sb.* 3]. 1667 Milton *P L* VII 476 Those wing'd that lumber flies for wings. 1718–24 Pope *Rape Lock* II 78 Coll nets their chrystal wings, their painted wings vnfold 1748 — *Dunc* IV 422 Of all the enamell'd race, whose silv'ry wing Waves to the tepid Zephyrs of the spring 1808 W Taylor *Pict. Hist* (1813) 145 Before her throne my wings I wave

**b** *intr* To move the body from side to side. Also *refl* Cf Weave v 8) *Obs*

1608 Torshell *Serpents* 138 As fast as the bayte was to the rope and hooke, so fast is he also enuironed and tyed vnto it, which while hee waueth and strayneth to vnloose and breake, he weaueth himselfe so in vaine. 1609 Heywood *Gunaik.* III 69 A Snake With curling Crest, and with advancing Head Waving he rolls, and makes a winding Track *a* 1700 Eveliyn *Diary* (Jan. 1684) All the company fell a singing an Hebrew hymn waving themselves to and fro

**† c.** *transf.* To move (the head *up and down*) with a significant gesture; to incline (the head). *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham* III i, 93 At last, a little shaking of mine Ancient head, for thus I did make them waueing vp and downe, He rais d a sigh 1607 — *Cor* III ii 77 Goe to them, with this Bonnet in thy Hand, Thy Knee bussing the stones wauing thy head 1708 Brabne *Sent Journ., Passport* (*Versailles*), I see the injured spirit wave her head and turn off silent from the author of her miseries

**9** *trans.* To move through the air with a sweeping gesture (the uplifted or extended arm or hand, or something held in the hand) by one or more extremity, e g a wand, a hat, or something that flutters in the breeze, as a flag, a handkerchief), often as a sign of greeting or farewell, or as an expression of exultation, usually implying repeated movements to and fro or up and down

1607 Shaks *Cor* II iii 175 And with his Hat thus waning in it stoome, I would be Consull, sayes he 1611 — *Cymb* I iii 6 *Post* It (i e his first speech) was his, Queene *Iune* Then waued his Handkerchefe 1634, 1667, 1704 [see Waved *ib* 10] 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 533 At once she waved her Hand in either side, At once the Ranks of swelling Stre ms divide 1712 14 Pope *Rape Lock* v 7 Then grave Clarissa graceful waved her fan, Silence ensued 1784 Cowper *Task* VI 699 Maidens wave their kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy 1794 Mrs Rad cliffe *Myst Udolpho* xiv [He] waved his hand for him to leave the room 1814 Scott *Wav* xl, Many sprung up and waved their arms in ecstasy 1847 Tennyson *Princess* II 5 She, ending, waved her hands Thereat the crowd Mutter'd, dissolved 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxii II 385 Half the sprung up and waved his hat At that signal, ben hes and galleries rung with shouts 1859 II Kingsley *G Hamlyn* xli, Sam only waved his hand in silence, and went on across the plain 1896 C nan Doyle *Rodney Stone* vi, He waved his white handkerchief to left to hasside all opposition

**b** of impersonal things personified, chiefly *poet.*

1667 Milton *P L* III 739 [Light] wave your tresses in it With every Plant, in sign of Worship wave 1797 Southey *Acquisition* vii, Unspreading boughs that wave your locks in the stream! 1823 Crabbe *Tales* I 74 Above the slender sheaf The slimy mallow waves her silky leaf 1864 W L Bowles *Spir Discov* II 97 Dark Lebanon Waved all his pines for the 1880 Miss Broughton *Red Cypress* III ii, Seldom wave their boughs 1886 G W Dd *Man & Hamlets* III ii 31 Where the corn waves its yellow ears.

**c** To brandish (a weapon)

1601 Shaks *Twel C* III iv 123 Hold, stay thy hand, Or I shall make the balmy waues thine bloud, Let a lit ey d Peace, I reckoue my Liberty 1606 — *Ant & Cl* V v 9 Bastard Margarelon Hath Doreus prisoner, And stands Caesar waue waiuing the bloud 1718 Lady *Mary Lett* I 38 King Ethelbert thought the Liberty to wave his Sword in 1820 *Hist. Essex Hope* I 363 By that dread time we wave the sword on high And sweat for her to live! 1825 Scott *Talisman* xxvii, [He] waved his sword in Sheath as lightning, leaves the cloud It was waved in the air —and the head of the Grand Master rolled to the ea th unity of the tent 1869 W Allingham *Laurence Bloomfield* Achmet 56 'My rival' shrieked the invalid And drew a mighty sword and waved it 1911 G M Trevelyan *Garibaldi* 1 viii 284 Men and women waved swords with which they would never wield in earnest

*absol* 1607 Shaks *Cor* I vi 74 Let him alone Or so many so minded, Wane thus to express his position, And follow Martius *They all shout and wane their caps a bd*

**d.** *intr* (*for pass*) To be moved to and fro Of a weapon To be brandished. ? Also *trans*, to pass over (something) with a brandishing move ment.

1605 *Perc Pr Jerusalem* III ii 208 See a revengefull sword Waues ore my head 1667 Milton *P L* XI 304 Now waved their fiery Swords, and in the Aire Made horrid Circles *Ibid* XII 643 They looking back all th Eastern side beheld Of Paradise, Wav'd over by that flaming Brand 1711 Hist *Alexis Schoolast* 30 Give a child as long as he will cease, and I dog as long as I shall will wave 1828 I Vitos *I Hunt* xxiii, The lady's handkerchief waved in token of encouragement and triumph 1896 Conan Doyle *Rodney St* xv vi, I see, too, the figures at the garden gate my mother, with her face turned away, and her handkerchief waving.

**e.** *trans.* In the Levitical law To elevate and move from side to side (an oblation or *wave-offering*) before the altar *Obs.*

Pentateuch, following Luther, who renders the verb by *bewegen* and also by the compounds *bewegen, erbeben-ut, make offer* wave loaf 1 reast offering (see 13)

1530 Tindale *Exod* xxix 24 And put all upon the handes of Aaron and in the handes of his sonnes and wave them in and out a waueoffring before the Lorde — *Lev* xiv 21 Let him bringe one lambe for a trespa sooffringe to waue it [1611 1539 Cranmer, and all the versions]

**† f** Occasional uses Of a dog To wag (his tail). Of a fish To flap (a fin)

1677 Gilpin *Demonol* III v 32 The Devil stands like a Fawner, licks, scratching and waving his Tail 1883 E W Gosse *In Russ Mag.* I 499 Beneath the granite grey The sulky fetus lay And waved a fin

**10.** To signify (something) by a wave of the hand or arm Also with dative of person.

1820 Scott *Lady of L* II iv, Perch'ance the maiden smiled to see Von parting lingerer wave adieu 1847 Tennyson *Princess* II 84 She spoke and lowing waved Dismissal 1874 *Sailor's Sans Y* xx 4 (1878) 3 Hold the fort for I am coming, Jesus signals still, Wave the answer back to be ven, By thy grace we will 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 16 Plom no fir mound Waved salute a tall wil ite haire 1888 Besant *Inner House* v 69 The women wept and laughed at the same time, and waved them welcome

**b.** To motion a person, etc.) *aside, away, back, in, off* by a movement of the hand, etc , also with preps. *from, over, to*, etc Also *fig*

1840 Dickens *Old C Mag* xiii Waving them off with his hand, and calling softly to her as he went he stole into the room 1841 C Whitehead *R Savage* I xx 230 He waved me from him 1854 Waterton *Wanderings* (1909) 146 Michael took off his broad brimmed, low crowned hat, and waving in the pack, cheered them to the echo *Ibid.* 7 He presently had the old hounds at his heels and but in hand he waved them over the wall 1884 Miss H Wood *Ld Oakbrn's Dau.*

xxxvii. An attendant opened the door to see if anything might be wanted, but was waved away again 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* ix, 'There is a fire in the sitting-room,' he said, closing the outer door and waving her along the hall. 1894 Mrs. H Ward *Marcella* II 100 Marcella waved him aside and ran on 1914 H James in *O Rev* Apr. 338 If we put ourselves questions we've got to be away double. 1916 W. Sanday *In Vision of Jand Bs* Hitherto the pacifist writings have been waved aside simply on the ground that they were pacifist

c. *intr.* To make a sign by a wave of the hand. 1803 *Edinb Rev* I xiii. 205, I waved to the door, and in silence proceeded to the tyrant. 1847 C Brontë *Jane Eyre* xii, I retained my station when he waved to me to go, and announced — 'I came to thank you for having saved my life.' Thornton *Maud* I iv. 8 Rapidly riding for away, She waved to me with her hand 1908 Hardy Barne & Grinyon *Famil. Hist Man* 219 He looks very miserable and cold and pinched. Poor old Sammy! I must wave to him

d. *trans.* To mark (musical measures) by waving something.

1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind* I 804 All, to please The donna waving measures with her fan.

**II.** To ornament with an undulating design; to make (something) wavy in outline.

1598 in Feuillerat *Revels Eliz* (1908) 63 vj Coueringe of Bordes of clothe of golde wherof three are waued with clothe of golde. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 482 Arms forged of brass, and waved about with tin 1851 Helps *Friends in Council* (1656) 137 Leave a little unevenly waved sometimes about the edge. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 306 Shee Her unadorned golden tresses wore Disshevel'd, but in wanton ringlets wav'd As the Vine curles her tendrils 1798 Gibbon *Hist. C. & F.* vi. 104 When one end of the Riglet is in wave, it with the Vice screwed to the plumb side of the Rack. *Ibid.* 105 The Riglet will on its upper side express the form of the several waves on the under side of the Rack, and also the form or Molding that is on the edge of the bottom of the Iron and so at once the Riglet will be fitted and made a level 1886 tr *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 324 The lower part of which Chappel is cover'd with large Tiles of Porphyry wav'd, and painted with Flowers 1908 Pall Mall Gaz. 8 Nov. 1/1 Lace, in fashion, or make like the waves of the Sea as waved Silks or Stuffs are 1733 *Sch of of Mountaire* 59 Finish by fine thin Strokes, waving and curling them as according to the turn of the Hair 1815 J Smith *Panorama Sc & Art* II. 763 Strokes following the same direction, but gently waved. 1875 Swinburne *Tr & Study* 332 A land and dress of eastern fashion, raised and waved and rounded in the likest of all sea shell 1888 Sweet *Hist Eng. Sounds* § 221 Earlier in the [14th] century they began to wave and long, then the top rings of *e, o, &* etc. 1902 *Daily Chronicle* 1 Oct. 7/4 Hair that has been waved by hot irons till it is broken and irregular.

**12.** *intr.* To undulate in form or outline.

1789 J Williams *Mem. Kongol* I. 108 The horizontal coals are found to wave considerably in several places 1791 Anderson *Narr. Embassy China* 71 Its [sc. the river's] course waves in the finest meanders. 1796 W H Mar shall *Rur Ec* II. 85 A ship or corn-ship, of water formed land, waving with the stream. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* iv. 84 Let From this, and an subordinate to this, the waved the arch and sprang the pinnacle 1883 Miss Pardoe *Life Louis* II ix. Now and then the type waves up and down before her like the furrows of a ploughed field; but she reads on

**III. 13.** The verb-stem in combination, in the names of the several offerings which, according to the Levitical law, were 'waved' (see 9*e*) by the priest when presented in sacrifice, as **wave-breast**, a moat, **-loaf**, **-offering**, **-sheaf**; also **wave-bread**, a mod. synonym of *wave-loaf*.

1530 Tyndale *Lev* vii. 30 Vnto the fatt apon the brest he shall bringe with the brest to waue it a waueoffringe before the Lorde *Id* ix. 21 for the wauebrest and the heuesholder I haue taken of the children of Israel *Num* xviii. 11 And he shall bringe out of youre habitations two wauehaues 1535 Coverdale *Lev* xxiii. 15 From the morne after the Sabboth, when ye be made to Waueoffe [1551 Lawson, the sheffe of the waueoffringe] 1625 I. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* ii. ii. 268 I heue two words, Thenupoth, and Thera moth both signifie shake offerings, heaue offrings, or waue offrings 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II 297 Which with the wave bread and the heave shoulders the priest afterwards took on his own perquisites

**Wave**, obs. pa. t. of Weave *v.*[1]

**Waved** (wēvd) *ppl. a.* [f. Wave *v.* + -ed.] 1 Having the form of waves, presenting a wavy outline or appearance, undulating, undulated.

*a. gen.*

1599 Hamlet *Q*[2] II. ii. 86 In the hole is laied good store of wood, wherein is raised gallantly a waued roofe 1604 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. 5 *Captaines* 114 A large Cave, . . Whose waued Vaults, . . The Nymphs richly hald imbast With Pearls and Rubies. 1768 Bougeville *Coraena* (ed. 2) 235 A rich waved country reaches along the east and south coasts to Bonidecia 1808 Lysons *Heath Antiq Hereford* I. 61 The surface is gently waved, rising with a varied swell from a small h llow, or valley. 1863 *Hunter Found Mews* I. Aug. 116 4 Advt., Crinoline — The Patent Ondine, or Waved Jupon, does away with the cumbrous, ugly plaits of the ordinary hoops 1892 Knight *Dict Mech*, *Wave of Wheel* The edge of the wheel is waved or conv luted so that as it revolves it imparts a lateral oscillation to an arm, pitman or what not. 1892 Hesketh *Carpet Class* Introd. p. xix, [The letter] k, with a waved stroke through it, indicates uel.

*b.* of hair, etc.

1863 'Holme Lee' *A. Warleigh* III. 58 Her hot in her lap, and her waved hr was hair uncovered. 1884 Mcl Anne *Spinning* (ed. 2) 6 Take some hairs and some fibres of youth flown wool and hold them together. The hair will hang straight and smooth the wool will be curly, something like a corkscrew, and will have a waved appearance. 1913 *Play Pictorial* No. 138, p. vi/2 The waved hair is drawn smoothly back from the forehead.

*c. Her* = Undee, Wavé, Wavy.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. iii. 44 Of these [Lines] some are Waued. 1680 Sir G. Mackenzie *Sci Herr* 56 Waved is so call'd, from the waves of the Sea, which it represents, and is therefore called *undé*, and is used for signifying that the Bearer got his Arms for service done at sea. *Ibid.* 64 Across waved *Crest undosa*. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn* I, Waved or Wavy.

*d* Of a sword, dagger, etc. : Having the edge undulated. Also in *Her.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 206/2 He beareth Azure, a waved sword, or a sword waved, or wavy. 1760 Edmondson *Heraldry* II Glossa, *Waved Sword*, by some erroneously called a flaming sword. 1855 tr. *Lebarte's Arts Mid Ages* D. xxiv, Malay knafs . . blade waved 1864 Webster, 2. Having undulated markings. Of silk, etc. = Watered. Also in comb. † *waved wise* adv.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 14 Gardyd abowtes with clothe of golde wavyd wyse 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiii. xiii. I. 398 In the waved and chamelot was from the beginning esteemed the richest and bravest wearing 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 406 Iris shall Groues Of Cristal Watrie Cloudes axle and spoke Inlaid with Pearl and Gold . . 1721 *Fr Bk. Rates* 378 Cambletts, wtered and not watered, waved, and not waved.

**3.** *Bot., Zool., and Mim.* Undulate; having a wavy form or outline; having wavy markings.

1664 Power *Exp Philos* I. 6 The Gray, or Horse fly Her eyes of a semisphaerical figure; bluk and waved 1776 J. Ellis *Introd Hist. Lapid* I. arms 170 *Fl. cruciata*, waved, lent violent and bluish-red from Bud to Bud 1798 Wynnman *Lett Plantats* (ed. 3) III 673 Leaves waved at the edge 1820 J Parkinson *Outl Oryctol* 287 The hance without tooth, waved in rather unusual and unequal. 1840 *Lardner's Cyclop* (1846) II 227 The sepals and petals are very linear and waved 1843 Humble *Dict Geol.* etc. (ed. 2), *Waved*, In botany, applied to the margins of leaves, when bordered alternately with numerous minute segments of circles and angles In entomology, applied to insects when the margin of the body is marked with a succession of arched incisions. 1845 *Ann. Mag. Nat Hist* (ed. 2) I. 112 A slightly waved or sinuous margin is said to be *repand* 1870 Hooker *Stud Flora* 276 Lobes of lower lip subequal, waved and toothed.

**b.** In the names of animals, plants, etc.

1861 Charlesworth *Omnium* II. 130 *Raia Undulata* the waved Skate 1881 Grew *Museum* I. 5 n. II. 147 The Great Waved-Muscle is commonly found in the Red Sea. 1882 *Hortus Anglic* 49 Ivy, Water Undulating, *Sandwicense Word* 1884 R K. Greville *Flora Edin* 20 *Ecra flexuosa* Waved Hair-grass. 1838 Rennie *Comp Butterfl & Moths* 139 The Waved Umber, *Cymatophora undata*, Shepherd's *Comb* 1796 Marshall *Planting* II. 66 The Curled Cactus, or Waved leaved Rock Rose.

**4.** Moved in waves.

1880 Symons *Dramatis Pers.* iv. 187 'Tis the deep music of the rolling world Kindling within the strings of the waved air Æolian in adulations.

**5.** Held aloft and moved to and fro.

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. iii, A burly middle aged figure gest ul ating with raised arms and waved umbrella in mid road 1891 F Lennson *Playtime* 3 Beeches swing their heads, Lifted all waved banners of the winds 1918 Hanfield tr *Odes Me* xi in 19th *Cent* May 1013 She was the first to see Her lord . . Who with waved hand made signal, and her voice Echoed in wood in sweet.

**Wavel** (wēv'l), *v. Sc* Also **7 waivle, weavle, 9 wavle.** [Freq. of Wave *v.* : see -el.]

†**1.** *intr.* 'To move backwards and forwards, to wave' (Jam. 1808) *Obs.*

*a* 1685 W. Cleland *Poems* (1697) 107 He making Hands, and Gown, and sleeves waivel, Half Sleeve, ing venta this Reavel Revel.

†**b** *trans.* To twist (the mouth). *Obs.*

1654 Sir A. Johnston (Ld Warriston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II 283 I perceived by the luck my waggging my head and weavling my mouth in the singing.

**2.** To stagger.

[1658 *cf. ppl a* below] 1896 J. J. H. Burgess *Lowrie Lairds* 31 Ye'll be ta'ing up wi' wivles to dr ink or

**3** ? To embroider with a wavy pattern.

*a* 1844 W Miller in A Whitelaw *Scott. Songs* 536 His coat's o' Lowin' ruddy brown, and wavlet wi' gold

Hence **Wavelled** *ppl. a.* ? twisted, **Wa-velling** *ppl. a.*

1638 Sir A Johnston (Ld Warriston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) I 383 Using al and only his auin means, without wavvling steps to by-sds and bypaths, they may find that spirit within telling them really and sensibly That is not the way . . is not in it. 1886 J. H. Burgess *Shetland Sk* 30 He's an a wavlit ill-yaindid lookin' object', nae manly wy in him ava.

**Wavel** (wēv'l), *sb.*[1] [f. Wave *sb.* + -le.] Having no waves or undulation; not agitated or disturbed by waves. Also *fig.*

*1a* 1597 Peele *David & Bethsabe* (1599) B j b, Thy body smoother then this wauelesse spring 1799 Campbell *Pleasures Hope* ii. 1. 1. In the wavelesse mirror of his mind 1804 Grahame *Sabbath* 212 A wavelesse lake, In which the wintry stars all bright appear 1818 Shelley *Eugan. Hills* 91 Beneath is spread like a green sea The wavelesse plain of Lombardy. 1842 Bushnan *Ingol Leg., Tragic Weaths. Abol.* 1. 1. 1.

†3. A name for the star Fomalhaut in the constellation Piscis Australis. *Obs.*

1556 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* IV. 267 [*marg.*] The Wauet.

**4.** *Printing.* See quots. Also *waver roller.*

1882 Southward *Pract. Print.* 491 Next set in their places the wavers and the lickers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 706/1 As the carriage returns, this strip of ink is distributed on the inking table by roller-placed diagonally across the machine. The diagonal position gives them a waving motion whence they are called *wavers.* 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Waver rollers,* rollers which distribute ink on the ink table in a diagonal direction. *Wavers,* short term for 'waver rollers'.

**5.** An implement for making the hair wavy.

1895 *Army & Navy Stores List* 15 Sept. 180/2 Hair Wavers ... Price per box, containing 4 wavers, 6d. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 7/4 These wavers may be left in the slightly dampened hair for an hour or two, and the result will be a soft, natural-looking wave. Ellipt.

**Waver** (wē·vəɹ), *sb.*[3] [f. Waver *v.*] The act or condition of wavering.

**a.** In physical sense, a flutter or trembling.

1826 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 90 No a bit butterflee on its silent wawer, massing the murmur of the straight-forward bee. 1886 Guillemard *Cruise of Marchesa* I. 137 Here and there a little gap revealed a Hobbema-like scene of sunny distance, whose clearness was unbroken by the waver of a single leaf. 1892 R. Bridges *Spring-time Sax.* xii, Sitting square, without the slightest waver or tremble in her saddle. 1918 Merrick *When Love flies* iv. 44 She sat watching the waver of the candles in the draught.

**b.** A condition of vacillation or faltering. *†In a waver* (obs.), *on* or *upon the waver,* in uncertainty or unsteadiness; inclining now this way, now that.

1519 Howman *Vulgaria* 57 b, I stande in doubte or in a wauer. *Ancepi tum consilio.* 1548 Henry Sinopoli *Merlet, Wife, & Widow* III. 64 His reason was on the waver. *a* 1800 J. Palmer *Like Master* (1811) I. xii. 167 His regret to leave the coppers he touch'd in his present service, and his inclination to embrace the heartier's offer, kept him upon the waver, like an ass between two bundles of hay. 1864 Bersmaid *Lett.* 32 Dec. (1894) 241 Not a waver, doubt, or hesitation when I order, not even research to certain doubt without a murmur if I call on them. 1865 Mrs. H. Wood *Mildred Arkell* xiviii, 'Does she mean to accept him?' asked Travice. 'Well, she's on the waver. She does not dislike him, and she does not particularly like him.'

**Waver** (wē·vəɹ), *v.* Also **4 wever**, 4–5 *Sc.* **wayver, wafar**, 4–6 *Sc.* **vaver**, 4–7 *Sc.* **wawer**, 5 **wavere, wavur**, 5–6 **wyver**, 6 **wavor**, *Sc.* **vaifer**, 7 **wawour**. [M.E. *wæver, wover* – a Scand. source, mod.G. (now dial.) *wabern, wabern to move about,* ON. *vafra* to move unsteadily, flicker (cf. *vafrlogæ* flickering flame), Norw. *vavra* to go to and fro, stagger; a frequentative f. Teut. root **wab-*: see Wave *v.*

Shoreham's *verse-ride* (c 1315, sense 3) shows that the word in the south at least is active (of OE. *wæfre* not steady, also nimble); it is possible that in the north the word may partly represent an adoption of ON. *vafra,* but the supposition is not necessary.]

**I.** Intransitive.

†**1.** To go about or travel at random or without fixed destination; to wander, rove. Also with adv., as *about. Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 41 The sleuth-hund maid stynting thar, And wauntyt [*var.* waweryt] lang tyme to and fra. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Patidan*) 287 Waferand he place to place. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 490 Pai waxed to pure at pai wauerd aboute here & per. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 283 He saw mony rout Off vyld beistis Wuirand in woddis and playne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 To Wavere Aboute (*n.r.* Wafyr Aboute), *vagari.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. v. 70 Quha ar vtheresis a hundreth yeir man byde, Wauerand and wandrand by this bankis syde. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* C 2, There were two Channels.. where through the fisher-men did vander and waver vp to Norwitch and diuers parts of Suffolke and Norfolke.

†**b.** To stray *from. Obs.*

1486 Sir G. Haye *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 6 He slepit apon his scheld, and wauerit fra his folk out of the hyy way. 1599 Fraser *Chron.* (1888) I. 98 Ane Scot, ane said Thomas hes bene accusit of..wavering oftentymes fra his wyll, bairnis, and famelie. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Quon. Attach.* x. 78 Gif..he..sall sweare that, that beast did waver away from him.

**2.** To sway to and fro, as if in danger of falling; to reel, stagger, totter. Now *rare* (cf. 5 d, 7).

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9266 All in wer for to walt, wayueronde be noite. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 4278 Schoggyn, schakyn, or wauerin, *vacillo.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* liii. 10 Bot ay his ane fuit did wawer, He stackerit lyk ane strummall awer. 1532 Hutch *Gov.* L. xi. (1883) I. 93 Qua, for puttyng his handis to the holy shryne that was called *Archa federis,*..though it were wauerynge and in daunger to fall, yet was he stryken of godd. 1691 Ray *Creation* 1. (1692) 142 When they [*sc.* the Pina] are cut off, it [*sc.* the Body of the Fish] wavers to and fro. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii. 298 She was evidently in a condition of great suffering, and Tom often heard her praying, as she wavered and trembled, and seemed about to fall down.

**3.** To swing or wave in the air; to float or flutter.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/1 Wawyn, or waueryn, yn a myry tayyr, *vacillo.* *c* 1514 Barclay *Eclogues* iii, Sometime mixte thou stoupe unto a rude vilayne Calling him master,.. Although thou would see him waver in a lande. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Matt.* viii. 18–22 The byrdes fleyng and wauoring in the ayer. 1574 T. Hill *Art Garden, Weather* viii. 32 The kytes playing and wauering about in the aire. 1620 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xv. 138 Two Lions came running with their shaggy lockes wauering about their shoulders. 1726–30 Thomson *Winter* 930 Thro' the hush'd air the whitening shower descends, At first thin-wavering. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vii, He could discern a figure wavering and struggling as it hung suspended above the heads of the multitude. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VI. 64 On their curls From the high tree the blossom waver'd light. 1862 Sheay *Thanat's Poems* 250 Lo! down waver clustering lingets Round a soft and gentle face! 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 689 Huge butterflies wavered about the cactus plants.

**b.** Phr. *To waver with* or *in the wind.* ? *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *Nut-brown Maid* 74 In Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 200 Wythout pytes, hanged to bee, and wauer wt the wynde. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. ccccxvii. 592 With banners and penons wauerynge with the wynde. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xi. 7 A rede wauerynge with the wynde. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxviii. 158 Afterthis, hee went up and downe, wauering in the winde, tarryeng for the rest of the shippes. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XXII. 508 Soon fled the soul impetuous, and left behind The empty corse to wave with the wind. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xi, Here many an outlaw..had wavered in the wind during the wars. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village Sketches* III. 164 A long, stooping figure, which seemed wavering in the wind like a powder-puff.

*c. transf.*

1860 Hawthorne *Transform.* xxix, Now tumbling down, down, down, with a long shriek wavering after him, all the way. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* II. 241 The wind in his raiment wavered.

†**4.** Of water, waves: To surge. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. 1963 As rewaris reythe for rayn will rysse And mone mare wyse wawis wolde Pan wil a kynsly standand strand of gud..

**5.** Of persons, their sentiments, etc.: To exhibit doubt or indecision; to change or vary; to fluctuate or vacillate (*between*); to falter in resolution or allegiance; to show signs of giving way.

*c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* I. 424 And þi bil-cloue of þesu crist His nou al weuerinde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 285 Mony sare hert on Scottismen had, Quhen thai saw the force of gret bounte. *c* 1407 Lyd. *Reson & Sens.* 2901 And thus I stood al in a rage With look cast fix in his visage, Wauering as in a traunce. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. 114 He was curyousse in his stilles,..Mad in metry meit his dyte, Litil or nought neuir pe lesse Wheruenne pra pe suythfastnes. *c* 1490 *Promp. Parv.* 518 Wauerynge, or wexyn fer vnstabyl-nesse, *mutio.* *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXV. 97 Pat he sette fully his hope in god, and not be dul in be feithe, ne wauere in be temptacion and assaut of god. 1526 Tindale *Pat.* 1. 6 But let hym axe in fayythe and waver not [1611 nothing wauering]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 293 b, That we his yongest chyldeu..sholde not..wauer in our fayth. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Luke* XXII. 30, 31 Why art thou vexed? why doest thou wauer in & out? 1579 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 97 And nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 43 They that wavered betweene warre and peace. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. vii. 28 Vertue that wavers upon the confines. 1732 Robinson *Spect.* No. 585 P 8 His mind continued wavering about twenty Years longer between Shalum and Mishpach. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 569 While he was wavering between projects equally hopeless. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. v. 355 The allegiance even of the bishops and the secular clergy to Rome had begun to waver. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 2. 172 Only on one point did the lungeuses waver from their general support of the Crown. 1883 Froude *Short Stud.* IV. i. xi. 138 Many people had begun to waver in their allegiance. 1884 Creighton *Hist. Ess.* viii. 188 (1900) 239 For a time opinions wavered which boundary to choose.

†**b.** Phr. *To waver as, like, with the wind.* Cf. 3 b.

*c* 1480 Henryson *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 218 (Harl.) With that he calmyt as ane ayr quhen the wind, Quhe rydis on the laid. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V* 13 Not common people onely, which wauer with the wynde, but wyse menne also. 1565 Jewel in *Zurich Lett.* (Parker Soc.) (1842) I. 40 Lest we corrupt the mindes Of rude vnskilfull common sort, that wauer lyke the wyndes. *a* 1585 *Child Noryce* i. in *Child Ballads* (1886) VIII. 6 Child Noryce is a clever young man, He wavers wi the wind.

†**c.** To hesitate *to* (do something). *Ob. rare.*

1604 Milton *Divorce* II. xv. 61, I shall not much waver to affirm, that..

**d.** Of a combatant, body of troops, line of battle: To become unsteady, flinch, give way.

1832 James *Phil. Augustus* xlii, He wavered not a step; but, still striding over the body of the king,..maintained his ground. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxvii, The unceasing fire of the Lanzknechts threw their dense and unorganized masses into rapid confusion. As they wavered, Warwick's horse went in upon them. 1849 J. Buchan *Hist. Wars* IV. xxvi. 75 The line wavered and broke.

**6.** Of things (or a person as an unconscious agent): To change, vary, fluctuate.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* 2 We englyshe men ben borne vnder the domynacyon of the mone, whiche is neuer stedfaste, but euer wauerynge. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 116 Thus the Englishe affaires..within the realme began to wauer, and was variable. 1590 Datis tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 41 b, To suffer this gere to hange wauering [*L. ut rem ita ductus ære sinat*]. 1595 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Nuta,* Victorie wauered betweene them. 1611 Shakes. *Cymb.* III. iv. 50 *Dickens Pickw.* xxxvii, During the whole space of time just mentioned, Mr. Benjamin Allen had been wavering between indecision partial and intoxication complete. 1859 Dickens etc. *Haunted Ho.* iii. 14/1 He had..a waistcoat that wavered in hue between a sunny buff and a stony drab. 1892 *Spirit Lent.* Apr. 68 Among all Arabs assassination is hereditary, but the wavers between the eldest son and the eldest male member of the family.

**7.** Of the voice, the eye, etc. (or a person with reference to these): To become unsteady; to shake, tremble, falter (through emotion or bodily weakness). ‖ Of the wits: To become confused, reel.

1621 Fletcher *Pilgr.* III. iii, Keep my wits Heaven, I feel 'em wavering, O God my head. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlv, 'No,' replied the old man, wavering in his voice, no less than in his manner. 1850 Susan Warner *Wide World* xv, Miss Fortune's conscience must have troubled her a little, for her eye wavered uneasily. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. ix, Her voice wavers and breaks. The tears well up into her eyes. 1883 A. K. Green *K. V. Z.* iv. 63 His eye did not waver from its steady solemn look toward the door. 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 43 The white hands wavered—the bright head dropped.

**8.** Of light, shade, objects seen unsteadily or through a haze: To flicker, quiver.

1664 Boyle *Exper. Colours* III. xiv. 227, I took..two Triangular Glasses, and one of them being kept fast in the same Posture, that the Iris it projected on the Floor might not Waver. 1842 Tennyson *Gardener's Dau.* 129 The shadow of the flowers..wavering Lovingly lower, trembled on her waist,–and still went wavering down. 1892 – *Will Water-proof* 38 The gas-light wavers dimmer. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xvii. (1856) 173 Tall palms and cocoas—their stems wavering in the thin haze. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 491/2 A little gleam wavered ahead on my right.

*fig.* 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* IV. i. I. 247 It may serve to illustrate..the extent to which, under the Roman empire, men's notions of mechanical relations became faint, wavered, and disappeared, if we observe the change which took place in architecture.

**II.** Transitive.

†**9.** *causal.* To cause to waver; to wave to and fro; to set in waving or fluttering motion; to render unsteady or unsteadfast. *Obs.*

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. 798 Pus in seige a sote to se, Or do a dowde in dignyte, Sal ger vnsted[f]astly wauere. And wil bathe wit and worschep wauer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Waueron, or mevyn or steryn, *agito.* 1456 Sir G. Hayy *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 322 Ane vther ressoun quhat that he be wauerit [*printed* wanerit] in his wit. 1561 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 148 Seeing he..showed himself so constant in religion, that neither the Queen's displeasure nor indignation could wauer him, nor great promises win him. 1583 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 683 Item, if the Admirall shall happen to hull in the night; then to make a waueryng light aboue his other light, wauering the light vpon a pole. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* E 2 b, A third wauered and waggled his head, like a proud horse playing with his bridle. 1812 *Courier* in *Examiner* 24 Aug. 540/1 Shot, shells, grape,..could not ..waver the line of the..infantry.

†**10.** To vacillate under, falter in resistance to. *Obs. rare*[–1].

1596 Drayton *Mortimer.* B 4 b, Th'vnconstant Barrons, wauering euery houre, The fierce encounter of this raging tyde.

**Waver,** var. Waiver.

**Waverer** (wē·vərəɹ). [f. Waver *v.* + -er[1].] One who wavers; one who is undecided or vacillates in opinion or choice; one who falters in allegiance or hesitates to embrace a particular party or cause.

1598 Shakes. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 89 But come young wauerer, come goe with me. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rem. of Rom.* I. xxviii. 134, I went to Cloris, unto whom I discovered the desires of my waverers. 1706 [-14] *Vales des vains de cet inconstant*). 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lx. (1862) V. 259 The waverers thought it time to declare themselves. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. I. 687 Many More Moderate Whigs were kept steady by being assured in confident terms that a speedy restoration was inevitable. 1885 *Manch. Guard.* 20 July 5/5 A section of waverers who have inclined lately to the Tory side.

**b.** *Hist.* The name given to a section of Peers who were willing to make terms with the Reform government of 1832 rather than wreck the Upper House.

1832 Greville *Mem.* 27 Mar. (1874) II. 273, I have no doubt that all the ultras will be deeply mortified at the moderation of Lord Grey and of the Duke of Wellington, and at the success *pour ce* of 'the Waverers'. 1886 Kebble *Hist. Toryism* iv. 210 The second reading of the Bill had been carried in the Lords..; with the help of the well-known 'Waverers', led by Lords Harrowby and Wharncliffe.

**Wavering** (wē·vərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].] The action of the verb Waver, in various senses.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 584 The hund al-mais followit the kyng, And changit nocht for na parting, Bot ay followit the kyngis tras, But wauering, as he passit was. *c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2292, I watte he sal neuer be drede, bowe with þat wyle sorowe. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* vi. 12–16 When the prayer wer in wauering and mammering what he was. 1593 Nashe *Terrors T. E.* 83 b, Let not Satan deem on the true Rocke, they had beene ruine-proofe; but now the raine wil rough-enter through the crannies of theyr wauering. 1603 Hakon *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. 3 Mistakes, Errors, and certaine trepidations and wauerings before they fixe and settle. *a* 1768 Sickes *Serm.* (1770) IV. 2 Why this perpetual Wavering and Fluctuation, about the first thing, that you ought to fix. 1818 Jane Austen *Emma* III. xi, Had there been no pain to her friend, or reproach to herself, in the wavering of Harriet's mind, Emma would have been amused by its variations. 1828–41 Webster (1864) I. 1200 The wavering of the English lines was now discernible by the Scottish soldiers. 1831 Alford in *Life* (1873) 68 Quick waverings about of beams of light such as we have in the Polar Aurorea. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I. xx. 443 The King's wavering between a course of clemency and one of rigour.

**Wavering,** *ppl. a.* [f. Waver *v.* + -ing[2].]

†**1.** Wandering, vagrant. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 112 Thai saw on syde thre men cumand, Lik to licht men and vaiuernal. 1607 *Y. Riding Rec., Q. Sess. Rec.* (1884) I. 91 Thos. Hesp of Walth, a wavering person, [presented] for three assaults on the Constable of Aielmerby.

**2.** Tottering, shaking, faltering, reeling.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11546 And wayuerand, weike, [I] was to the lond. 1563 Robert tr. *J. von der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 76 Theyr proude tithes haue no sure foundation, but are buylded only vppon the wauerynge sandes of doubtfulnes & and falshode. 1626 Dymon *Siege of Corinth* xxix,

The portal wavering grows, and weak! 1838 Kinnear *Cairo, Petra & Damascus* iii. (1841) 95 A dim shadowy figure on a dromedary appeared, moving at a wavering and uncertain pace through the sand drift. 1845-9 Lowell *Ess.* 1. v. 127 And like the day of doom it seemed to her wavering senses. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* i, The nervous clutch of the wavering rider.

**3.** Fluttering, floating, waving, surging.

*c* 1405 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 845 Wauerande [*v.r.* welterand] wawis. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 900 As leif of the lynd.. That welteris doun with the wynd, so wauerand it is. 1520 Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) P viii b, Their wauerynge boughes ar adiustured in the wynde. 1660 Boyle *New Exper. Spring of Air* xxiv. 193 These bubbles..ascended with a wavering or wriggling motion. 1662 Davidson *Advanc Reduc* 225 The wavering Streamers, Flags, and Standart out. 1703 Pope *Thebais* 1, 266 As when two winds with rival force contend, Thus way and that, the wav'ring sails they bend. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* i. 42 Broken prismic lights are woven On the thin veils of wavering cloud.

**4.** Vacillating, undecided, inconstant; faltering in allegiance or allegiance.

*c* 1315 [see Wavre *v.* 5]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 185 Mony ane hert ssall vaverand be That semyt ere of gret wourde. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 424 He went vnto his prayers, & stode with a wauerynge mynde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* (1550) 16b, This realm..inuaded and infested with the frantike wauering Welshemen. 1591 Sharp. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 4 Where we have such a wavering as wants *Worcester*, the mere flotsam and waveson on the drifting tide of humanity.

**Wavey** (wē'vi). *Pl.* **waveys, wavies.** [See Wawa.] A northern (American) goose of the genus *Chen*, esp. the common wavey, *C. hyperborea*. Blue wavey, *C. caerulescens*. Horned wavey, *C. rhicir*. 1798 S. Hearne *Journ. North. Ocean* 330 The laughing goose, wavey, (or white goose,) gulls, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 442 Horned Wavey. *Ibid.*, I have seen them in as large flocks as the Common Wavey, or Snow Goose. 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 467 Anser hyperboreus, Snow Goose...Wavey. Hudson's Bay Residents. 1892 W. Pike *Barren Ground of N. Canada* 161 Here the snow geese, or white 'wavies' were resting in thousands.

**Wavey,** obs. variant of Wavy *a.*

**Wavily, Waviness :** see Wavy *a.*

**Waving** (wē'i-vin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wave *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Wave.

**†1.** The action of changing capriciously; vacillation, wavering, *Obs.*

*a* 1628 F. Greville *Life of Sidney* (1652) 223 She preserved her Religion without waving. 1665 E. Hopkins *Serm. Penitence* (1678) 88 Such is the waving and fluctuation of all things here below.

**2.** Movement (of water, the sea) in waves; undulatory surface-movement (of a forest, crop, etc.).

1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxii. 6. 235 Like as if a soft gale stir y^e sea, so as the waves ryse not with great rage, and yit there is some waving. 1724 Addison *Spect.* No. 585 P 2, What tho' I am delighted with the Wavings of thy Forests. 1820 Southey *Sir T. More* I. 60 Not the waving of the sea, nor the motion of the ship, could take away the refreshing sleep which God gave them. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The waving of the corn.

**†b.** Undulating play of colour. *Obs.*

1662 Merrett tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* ii. xxxvii. 61 Hardly would you believe the beauty, the toyes and wavings of divers colours.

**3.** Undulation in form.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 103 This is what I call the waving of the strata.

**4.** Motion to and fro (of something having a free end).

1731 J. Harris *Harmes* iii. iii. (1765) 336 Sound and Motion ...such as the Murmurs and Wavings of a Tree during a storm. 1828-41 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 151 The gleam of arms, and the waving of the pennons of an encamped army. 1883 Anp. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. i. 15 Beech trees and cedars standing as still as possible in it [*sc.* the soft rain] with such gentle slow wavings as to make the most of it.

**5.** The action or an act of moving (the hand or something held in the hand, the wings, etc.) to and fro.

1611 Bible *Lev.* xiv. 21 Hee shall take one lambe for a trespasse offring to be waued for a wauing. 1822 Parkes *Curtain-Drawer* 47 Each Play-house adunneeth his flagge in the aire, whither quickly at the waving thereof, runneth a whole troupe of men, women, and children. 1857 J. Trapp *Comm., Ps.* lxxx. 7 As the bird by much waving gathereth wind under the wing, and mounteth higher, 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xv. 111, 208 He beckoned to me, and by the waving of his Hand directed me to approach the Place where he sat. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 86 The waving of fans was heard. 1857 Dickens *Nicholas Nickl.* The waving of handkerchiefs was renewed. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 579 She...in the darkness o'er her fallen head, Perceived the waving of his hands that blest.

**b.** A signal or direction given by waving the hand, a flag, or the like. *Obs.*

1863 P. Whitehorne *Onesandro Platon.* 87 The commaundements, wauinges, and aignes, ought likewyse first to be geuen to the heads leaders of men.

**6.** *attrib.* **waving-engine,** a machine for cutting waved indentations on wood.

1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 103 Of the Waving Engine. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 354/2 The Waving Engine...is a Wing which hath several Waves. 1703 Moxon *Mechanick Exercises* Of Frames for Pictures and Looking Glasses.

**Waving** (wē'i-vin), *ppl. a.* [f. Wave *v.* + -ing 2.] That waves.

**1.** Of water, the sea : That rises in waves ; full of waves, billowy. Also of the shore (see quot. 1592).

1558 Hulort, Wauynge lyke water, *Ancheuous.* *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 416 As when the Sunne shines upon a waving water. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. ii. 230 The subtill race Of roving Polypes3 who (to rob more) Transforms them hourly on the waving shore [*Fr. Comme sur rivage*]. 1717 Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* iii. *Phaeton* 9 A waving sea th' inferiour earth embrac'd. 1832 R. Nicoll *Poems* (1842) 8 No Scotland's cliffs saw dear to me Aneath the wavin' waters fa'.

**b.** *transf.* of things, esp. of a crop, forest, etc. : Agitated or ruffled on the surface like the waves of the sea.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 136/2 *Vestis undans*,..a wauing garment that ruffleth in going, specially when the bodye is moued or shaken. 1676 Dryden *Aureng.* I. 4 The Vale an Iron-Harvest seems to yield Of thick-spring Lances in a waving Field. 1798 W. L. Bowles *Poems, St. Michael's Mt.* 43 Mountain, no pomp of waving woods hast thou. 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* i. 1 The waving grass was green. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxxi. A country rich with waving fields of grain.

**†2.** Vacillating, wavering, *Obs.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. viii. § 29. 693/1 Their might ..depends of the wauing humors, and wils of those inferiour vassels, of whom they thinke themselues vnreasonable Commaunders. *a* 1625 Ld. Brooke *Lett. to Hen. Lady* iv. Wks. (1633) 282 His hollow, and wauing minde.

**3.** That moves to and fro at its free end by the impulse of the wind or breeze.

1591 Sharp. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 1 Aduance our wauing Colours on the Walls. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 55 Euen as the wauing sedges play with wind. 1676 Dryden *Aureng.* v. 72 The waving Arms of Aureng-Zebe appear'd, Display'd with your Morat's. 1697 — *Æneis* vii. 869 With Joy they view the waving Ensigns fly. 1767 Sir W. Jones *Seven Fountains* Poems (1777) 23 The crimson streamer's waving pride. 1829 Mrs. H. Ward *Casabianca* 22 Upon his brow he felt their breath, And in his waving hair. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* v, A forest of ships' masts, cheery with flapping sails and waving flags.

**4.** Undulating in form or outline.

1604 K. G(rimstone) *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. ix. 359 An azured staffe, cutte in fashion of a waving snake. 1733 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* vii. 38 The waving line, which is a line more productive of beauty than any of the former. 1810 Southey *Kehama* i. ii. The fragrant smoke...hangeth visible on high, A dark and waving canopy. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliv, He was a fine open-faced boy, with blue eyes and waving flaxen hair. 1870 Rosser *Stud. Fiora* 162 Asplenium Filix-femina...Fronds 5-8 in. bright green, flaccid, waving. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 533 A single waving or cyclical line results.

**5.** Of sound : Undulating in tone.

1876 Miles *Caterh. Organ* (1878) 62 *Undo Maris*..a stop with two pipes, one of which is tuned a little higher than the other, producing a waving kind of tone.

**b.** quasi-*fb.* (See quot.)

1876 Miles *Caterh. Organ* iii. (1878) 21 *Waving*, is a lighter species of tremulant, for the more delicate stops.

**6.** Of wings : Moving rhythmically in flight.

1733 Somerville *Chase* i. 236 Th' industrious Beagle twists his waving Tail. 1795 W. Iles *Song of Love* 6 And his shudd'ring waving wings Went enormous above the red flames. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* iii. iii. 145 And it circles round, Like the soft waving wings of noonday dreams. 1856 Conan Doyle *Rodney Stone* viii, I...saw the gliding lines of windows with staring faces and waving handkerchiefs.

Hence **Wa·vingly** *adv.*

1790 G. Hughes *Barbados* 108 The extremities of the higher branches bend wavingly downwards. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 573 The sea below gleams wavingly. 1882 W. James in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* (1883) 108 Moving the hand wavingly across the forehead.

**† Wavous,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Wave *sb.* + -ous.] Full of waves.

1581 T. Newton *Seneca's Thebais* 1. 43 b, Where is the surging wauous Sea?

**† Wa·vure,** *Obs.* Erroneous var. Waver.

1894-9 Wyatt, Gifting *K. Pealt, Wawure*, the act of waving or putting off.

**Wavy** (wē'vi), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also 8 *Sc.* wavey. [f. Wave *sb.* or *v.* + -y.] **A.** *adj.*

**1.** Full of wavey, abounding in waves, billowy.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* H 3 b, The waters...putting all theyr wauy shoulders togeither, bare the whole weight of them [*sc.* the dead carcases] before them. 1685 Dryden tr. *Lucretius* i. 10 For thee the Ocean smiles, and smooths her wavy breast. 1712 Broome *Iliad* xv. 111, 208 Neptune...Trod the high Mountains, and the Wavy Main. 1816 J. N. Brewer *Beauties Eng. & Wales* X. iv. 28 *note*, In this fine and bold reach the waters of the Thames are more subject to wavy roughness, than in any other part west of the ancient bridge of London. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 253 Then under the wavy breeze they drived adown once more.

**b.** *poet.* Pertaining to waves of the sea.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* xii. 256 Strain ev'ry nerve, and bid the vessel fly. If from yon jostling rocks and wavy war Jove safety grants; he grants it to your care.

**2.** *transf.* **a.** Said of hair, clouds, etc.

*c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxviii. iv, [The dove] That glides with feathered oare through wavy sky. 1819 Br. J. Williams *Serm. Apparent Contrad.* 20 Upon the surface of the Ayre about us, 1794-6 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 245 Then o'er the wild and wavy chaos rush And tame the outrageous mass. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvii, The fair, wavy cloud that fed in the morning.

**b.** Path. *Wavy breathing, respiration* : respiration in which the inspiratory, and sometimes the expiratory, sounds are not continuous but broken into two or more separate parts.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 203 Jerky, interrupted, or wavy breathing. 1903 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Respiration, Wavy respiration.*

**3.** *fig.* Fluctuating, wavering, changing.

1795 Coleridge *Friend* 1. xvi. (1865) II. 20 When the public feelings are wavy and tumultuous, artful demagogues may create this opinion. *c* 1825 Brodder *Poems, Sacrif. self-contemplated*, Weighing well man's frail and perilous nature Of all good in the restless wavy world.

**4.** Moving to and fro or up and down with a sinuous, wave-like motion.

1700 Prior *Carmen Sec.* xxvi, Let her glad Vallies smile with wavy Corn. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* 1. 61 Where fall-en'd Sheaves of Rye Grow wavy on the Hills. 1816 Keats *'I stood Tip-toe'* 73 Where swarms of minnows show their little heads, Staying their wavy bodies 'gainst the streams. 1830 Tennyson *Dying Swan* 38 The wavy swell of the soughing reeds. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Sept. 5/2 This rolling sea of wavy grass.

**b.** Of movements : Taking place in undulating curves, sinuous.

1858 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 439 [She] spread out her white canvass to the freshening breeze, while winging her

wavy way over the blue Atlantic. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxxi. 421 An active wavy movement (of the Aurora), dissipating itself into barely-perceptible cirrhus. 1859 Jerdon *Brittany* xii. 201 Representing the serpent's teeth, or his wavy motion, or his circular figure.

5. Of ground, the surface of the country: Rising and falling gently in a succession of rounded heights and hollows.

1776 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* I. 143 The lofty mountains of the other class have a very different aspect. At a distance their tops are seen, in wavy ridges, of the very colour of the clouds. 1789 J. Williams *Mem. Kingd.* I. 114 A wavy country, which gently swells into small ridges. 1892 Hunter in L. Huxley *Life & Lett.* (1900) II. 265 A fine wavy chalk down with 'cwms' and soft furry ridges.

6. Forming an undulating line or a series of wave-like curves. Also, having an undulating margin.

a 1720 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1703) 61 The sides of this Fissure are firm and solid Rock, perpendicular and smooth, only seeming to lie in a wavy form all down, as it were to comply with the motion of the Water. 1792 Pers. *Observ.* 202 Such wavy ringlets o'er his shoulders flow. 1796 Lord *Abbott's Archit.* I. 47 The Wall...must be...exactly even; so as not in any part to vary or sink in, or to be wavy. 1798 Logan in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 339 A straight rod or line, viewed at some little distance through the wavy glass of a window-pane. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* iv. 48 If these [Damascus bars] be drawn in length, the veins will be longitudinal...If they be made wavy in the two directions, undulated veins will be produced like those in the ordinary damascus. 1846 Landor *Comm., Landor, Engd. Tiltlet & Florentine* Wks. I. 340/2 Byron dealt chiefly in felt and furbelow, wavy Damascus daggers, and pocket-pistols studded with paste. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* i. (1878) To Her dark hair flowed behind, wavy but uncurled. 1888 Calverton & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 199 *Wavy Stitch*, a raised Couching. 1888 Jacobi *Perennial Vocab.*, *Wavy rule*, brass rule made with an undulating face thus ~~~.

b. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Of marks, margins, etc.: Undulate, sinuate; having undulate or sinuate markings.

1832 G. Rennie *Comp. Butterfl. & Moths* 147 Between these streaks and the lumber margin a third streak wavy, brown, terminated by a paler colour. 1839 A. Gray *Elem. Lect. Bot.* (1856) 62 Leaves are said to be...*Sinuate, undulate*, or *wavy*, when the margin of the leaf forms a wavy line, bending slightly inwards and outwards in succession. 1839 Anne Pratt *Brit. Grasses* 74 *Aira flexuosa* (Wavy Hair-grass). *Ibid.* 92 *Poa laxa* (Wavy Meadow-grass). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

c. *Her.* = Undee. *Barry wavy*, of the field: Divided into waving bands of generally horizontal direction.

1562 Legh *Armory* 174 b, He beareth party per crosse wauey sable, and argent. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* ii. v. (1632) 69 He beareth, Argent, a Pile wauy Sable. This is termed *wauy*, or *vnde*, in respect it beareth a Representation of the Swelling Waue or billowe of the Sea. 1792 A. Nisbet *Syst. Her.* I. vi. 83 *Wavy* or *Wreathed*, is said of a Line or Lines that are formed after the Waves of the Sea, as parted *per fesse Wavy* in the Arms of Drummond of Concraig, and the Lines which form the *Barrs waved* in the Arms of the Earl of Perth, which signifies, that the Bearer got his Arms for Services done at Sea. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxii. 328 Per fesse wavy, and barry wavy at 1890 Conan Doyle *White Company* xviii, 'How read you this . . ?' 'Argent and azure, a barry wavy of six.'

d. Of a dog (short for *wavy-coated*): Having the coat in waves, not curly.

1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 28 Nov. 512/2 The Retrievers were good,...the curly Doctor having to give place to the wavy Harvester in Dog. 1887 *Field* 2 Oct. Advt. p. xvi/2 Champion Zelstone (Wavy Retriever).

7. *Comb.*, as *wavy-coated*, *-edged*, *-haired*, *-leaved*; **+wavy-ways** *adv.*, after the manner of waves.

1867 ? Stonehenge *Dogs Brit. Isl.* 43 Wyndham ...is a good example of the 'wavy-coated' dog. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* ii. 8 Veneering; fairly, wavy-haired, dark. 1825-60 T. Gibbs *Univ. Herbal* II. 828 *Xyris flexifolia* ? Wavy-leaved Xyris. 1859 Anne Pratt *Flowers, Fr. V.* 98 *Salix undulata*...sometimes called the Wavy-leaved Willow. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2103 When the Load dips almost perpendicularly for many fathoms together, and may rise again in the next Hill ('wave-ways').

Hence **Wa'vily** *adv.*, **Wa'viness.**

1790 J. Wedgwood (*title*) An attempt to discover the causes of cords and waviness in Flint Glass and the most probable means of removing them. 1818 Keats *Epist. Bro. George* 59 The coy moon, when in the waviness Of whitest clouds she does her beauty dress. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* v. ii. Mr. Rappit, the hair-dresser, with his well-anointed crooked locks tending wavily upward. 1877 Watermut ser. in *Abnet's Photogr.* (1881) 190 A fine, even, glossy surface, perfectly free from the streaks and waviness so common when working with thick films. 1886 J. J. Quekett *Contl-Reefs* in *Challenger Rep.* XVI. ii. 136 The waviness and plications of the margins of the septa.

**B.** *sb.* A wavy-coated retriever.

1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 5 Sept 227/3 Retrievers: first and second both wavys. 1884 *Ibid.* 24 Dec. 617/2 So is a Kennel of wavys as is not equalled in any part of the world.

**Wavys**, obs. pl. of Waif *sb.*1

**+Waw**, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **wap**, 4–6 **wawe**, 3 **wau**, (4 **quawe**), 4–5 **waghe**, (5 **whaghe**, **wawghe**), 6 **wawhe**, *Sc.* **we**, 4–6, 9 *arch.* **waw.** [ME. *waȝe*, related to OE. *waȝian* Waw *v.*]

There may have been an OE. **wæȝe* str. fem. or **wæȝe* wk. fem., corresponding to MHG., MDu. *wage*, MDu. *waeye* movement, agitation. In ME. the word took the place of the OE. *wæȝ* masc. = OS., OHG. *wâg* (MHG. *wâc*, *wâge*, masc., mod. G. *woge* fem.), ON. *vágr*, Goth. *wêgs*, *-s*, —OTeut. **waȝo-s* flood, wave, and in the 16th c. was superseded by Wave *sb.* In northern ME. dialects the present word would coincide in form with a possible adoption of ON. *vágr*.]

A wave.

c 1295 Lay. 11977 Wæpen [*c* 1205 vðen] þar arne. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 530 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 8/4 Þe wawes of þe se beoten also hi-fore and hi-hynde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1844 On þe wawes þat arche can ride, þe wauus [*Gött.* wawis, *c* 1378 *Fairf.* waghes] bere on ilk side. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 135 This schippe . . That Crist rad in and his felawes, Emang dintes of grei quawes. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6973 Þe se gan fighte, þe wawes rore. Ta 1366 Chaucer *Kom. Rose* 1561 The water is ever fresh and newe That welneth up with wawes brighte [Fr. *a grant ondet*]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1992 So wode were the wawes & þe wilde stythes. *Ibid.* 12210 Tho shippes to shilde o þe shyre waghes. *c* 1400 *Fourn.* 320 He was so dryven fro wawe to wawe, he hyrd her hede and hay fulle lawe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 91 Full weykly he and his vj felawes In to the see were cast among the wawes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 216 Thise waghes ar so wode. *c* 1513 Douglas *Æneis*, VII. (1821) 373 The water of 3ᵒ ryuer...was so troublous of wawe, that the brydge therwith was all to shaken. 1518 *Orths Vocab.* (ed. 3), *Fluctus*...stery, one of the seue or a wawhe. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* xlvi. 156 The wawes..semyd so greate and hye as mounteyns. 1538 Coverdale *Jas.* I. 6 He that douteth, is lyke the wawe of the see [1526 Tindale wave] driuen. 1549 Thomas *Hist. Italie* 172 The little vessel...whiche the waues of the sea by litle and litle draue towardes the lande. 1572 Jos. I. Mosbach *Answ. to Reporte* 31 Their fleshe...is wadder, waw, and wind. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 4 They on this rock are rent, and sunck in helpelesse wawes. 1600 J. Maxwell *Diurye* (Wodrow Soc.) 269 A tempestuous schoure and drow...with sic a how wa and spenedrift, that...he lukit for grant danger. [1821 Scott *Pirate* xxix, As I would pilot a boat between the waves and Stroma, through all the wawes, wells, and swelchies of the Pentland Firth.]

**+Waw**, *sb.*2 *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 **wagh**, **waugh**, **wawe**, 5–6 **waw**, **wall**, 5 **wal.** [a. MLG. and MDu. *wage* (Du. *waag*), corresp. to OE. *weg*: see Way *sb.*] A measure of weight, usually equal to twelve stones.

1316 *Chron. Scalac.* (Surtees) II. In 3 Wawes plumbi emp., viz. 3*l.* 1309 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 471 11 m. 3 Probatch. lugio iij*s.* Waughes] plumbs. 14.. *Assize de Lodi*. viii. in *St. Archiv.* (1) 84 Andsal ware at pe entre hauthyng lon of ilk waw at pe oute passyng aucht penis gif it be wyst pe waw is 1484 *Acta Auditorum* 1. (1839) 138*b*/2, 2 wall and five stone of lead. 1500 *Treasurer's Accts.* (1877) 225 Ane [sack of wool] wey and vj wall xxv nall, and tother vj wal xv nall. 1501 *Acc Lst High Treas. Scot.* II. 82, xxvj wall thre stane xxvij pund Spanze iren.

**Waw** (wɔ), *sb.*3 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 **weaw**, 9 **wauw.** [f. Waw *v.*2] The cry of a cat.

*c* 1796 J. Cottier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Glouv, Wan. (1863) WVI. 11. 1805 *Newcastle Mag.* Sept. 305/1 O, 3 or little faith!...to be frightened by the cry of an owl or the waw of a cat. 1825 Carrick etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 109 Every cat's waw at the entrance hath got of all ate o'yours. 1899 A. Whitehead *Leg. Westmld.* 35 (E.D.D.) They oftimes saw a cat, . . Uncarthly was its waw.

‖ **Waw**, *sb.*4 **waw**, the name of the 6th letter in Hebrew (see 1611, Vav) and the corresponding letter in the Arabic and other Semitic alphabets.

1830 S. Lee *Grammar Heb. Lang.* (ed. 2) 9 Vaw, or Waw. 1906 *Expositor* May 428 John xii. 15 follows the Hebrew of Zechariah ix. 9, but being grevqetia. 1910 M. Robinson in *Folk-Lore* XXVII. 222 As there is no Arabic character to represent the *v* sound the Turks use the *waw* for this purpose.

**Waw**, *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wasian** (**wesian**), 3 **wazien**, **wawi(e)n**, 3, 5 **waw(e.** [OE. *wasian* – MLG. *wasen*, MDu. *waghen* (mod. W Flem. *wagen*), OHG. *wahôn* (MHG., mod. G. *wagen*), ON. *vaga*.— OTeut. **wahôjan*, f. **wahô* agitation: see Waw *sb.*1 Cf. Wag *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shake, totter, move loosely; to be unsteady. Also *fig.* OE.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L81 *Fabat*, weasat. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lv. 8 (Gr.) Hornsalu waziað, wera wankiað. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Deut.* xxxiv. 7 His eagan ne mustoden ne his tcð ne wæcnodon. Þæt *is ne scolden his mæst seoc*.

2. To sway to and fro on a base; to wave in the wind. Cf. Wag *v.* 3. Also *fig.*

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Da ongon mon seegan be ðam beame ðe he mid ðe handum [*al.* se wisdom] astihte ðy gyrwinge eall þæt it semed verraihche þæt corn growende þerynne wawed hider and þider, as longe corn deop in feelde. 14.. Lydg. *Test.* 653 Min. Poems (1911) 353/1 Wawed with eche wynd, as doth a reedspeare.

b. Of the beard, tongue: = Wag *v.* 4.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1164 Swithe inury hut is in halle, When the ribaudes wawen here berdes. 1340 Ayenb. 161 *Ant Troy Bk.* 6565 Affiir that strok his tongge neuere wawed.

c. Of a person: To swing.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 ♣ Wawyn, or wauery n, yn a mery gyse, *oscillo*.

3. Of water, the wind: To move restlessly or uncertainly (*about*). Also *transf.* and *fig*

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 De se is eure waxiende and nere fore unsiedelfast. *c* 1450 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) iv. 338/1 His worde & his loue & his fayth wawen about as the wynde. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Iudaizo*, wawyng or mouing like to waues.

4. Of a person, animal: To move, stir; to go; also with *away*. Also *refl.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 16941 Hit agon daiȝen and deor gunnen wakenen [*c* 1275 pleo3e]. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2128 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 168 He nas nouȝt þe man þat he wolde as heued eures wawe drawe Ne fondi forto fleo heore strokes, ne enes a-weward wawe. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perser.* 210 in *Macro Plays* 53 Wrethe, þis wrecche, with me schal wawe.

5. *trans.* To cause to move or stir.

*c* 1290 *St. Lucy* 124 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 204 A þousend men with al heore main on hire gomne drawe Ac euere heo hi stille a-sem, huy ne mysten hire enes wawe. 1297 R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) 4200 Þe gentil, þogh is mase adrawe Þat tueye a-wawde nen ne soolde no3 enes wawe. 13 *K. Alis.* 2634 A spere Vn the ground 3-stikit fast, Ac non of hem mȝhte up drawe, Ne forth in ernthe hit wawe. 1386 Wyclif *Matth.* xi. 7 A reede waued with wynd [Vulg. *arundinem vento agitatam*]

b. To move (a limb).

*c* 1290 *Marie Ægiptiene* 190 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 266 Heo ne wawede leome non bote hire lippene vnnehe. 13.. *Sir Beues* 2177 His [the horse] ne wawede no fot, Til Beues hadde þe strop. *a* 1400 *Pearl*, *Cl.* 930 in *Leg. Rood* App. 221 Þe gyle is frikest fowle in fly3e, Ouer all fowles to wawe bys wenge.

c. Of wind: To agitate (water).

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Sel* Wks. I. 20 And wynde of pryde wawen þes floodis, so þat þe wawes of þe see ben reisid vp to wandre.

Hence **+Waw'ing** *vbl. sb.*

*c* 1395 *Pop. Treat. Sec.* 386 This soule deieth in a man... whan he leveth his breth and his wawinge also. 1500 *Ortus Vocab., Celimum*, the wawynge of the water.

**Waw** (wɔ), *v.*2 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **wawe**, 8 **wawgh.** [Echoic: cf. A. Walloon *v.*] *intr.* To cry as a cat or utter a similar sound. Hence **Waw'ing** *vbl. sb.*

1570 Levins *Manip.* 45/40 To Wawe as a cat, *ululare*. 1576 [see Mounen]. 1606 Estherson *Com. Kirunge* iv iii, Well said Wallow, (*Faith*) I will get vpon thy lordes Apperenation of wild Cats, children that shall Waw, waw, scratch their Nurses, and le drunk With their sucking bottles. *c* 1796 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wkt (1862) 47 Three little tyney Bandyhewits...coom Weawghing on if th little Rott'ns wou'd ha worrit meh. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales, Stary Montgomery* (1856) 230/2 He was a'covered wi' blood, an' had a bit bloody baim wawin' on afore him. 1876 J. Richardson *Cumnerland Talk* Ser II 247 Oor Betty's ailin wantin', sawnt, . . Nowt in this warld sattin o. Wad keep her fra her wawin' lang! 1887 [G G Green] *Gordonhaven* v. 54 Ah thocht Ah heard a kin' o' a wawin' or something o' that sort out o' the sea.

**Waw**, variant of Worch, wall.

‖ **Wawa** (wɑ'wɑ). Also 8 **way-way.** [Cree *wehweu* goose (Lacombe *Dict. Lang. des Cris*); Odjibwa *wiwe* goose, *teahwiwe* white goose (Baraga *Otchipwe Gram.*). The current Eng. form of the word is Wavey.] An American-Indian name for the wild goose.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 136 There are various sorts of the geese, as the grey-goose, the way-way, the brant, the dunter. 1855 Longf. *Hiawa.* II. 162 When the Wawa has departed, When the wild goose flies southward.

**Wa-wa, wa-wah**, var. forms of Wow-wow.

**Wawag**, obs. Sc. form of Voyage.

**Waward(e, -art**, obs. Sc. forms of Vaward.

**Wawaskeesh** (wɑ'wɑskiʃ). *N. Amer.* Also 8 **wewashkish.** [repr. Odjibwa *wawaskeshi* (Baraga *Otchipwe Dict.*, 1880 = Cree *wawaskâiew* (Watkins *Cree Dict.*, 1865).] = Wapiti.

1706 Hearne *Journ. to Noth. Ocean* 366 The wewashkish is quite a different animal from the moose. 1896 J. Maclean *Canad. Savage Life* 600 The Wapiti, known amongst the Cree Indians as Wawaskeesh.

**Wawcer**, obs. form of Volvsour.

**Wawd**, obs. form of *would*: see Will *v.*

**Wawe**, obs. form of Woe.

**Wawhte**, variant of Wothe.

**Wawil-eyed**, obs. form of Wall-eyed.

**Wawill**, obs. Sc. form of Waul *v.*

**+Wawish**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Waw *sb.*1 + -ish 1.] Of the sea: Turbulent.

*c* 1450 *Merlin or Boke Subscribed* 31 Amanges the wawes tempestuouses ledere and help singulere With out mast where may noght this wawe see ouerpasse.

**Wawk**, obs. form of Wake *v.*, Walk *v.*2

**Wawl**: see Waul *v.*

**Wawle**, obs. forms of Wall *sb.*1, *v.*4

**Wawlne, wawme**, var. ff. Walm *sb.*1

**Wawou**, var. form of Wow-wow.

**Wawsper** (wɔ'spəɹ). *Sc.* Also 5, 9 **wasper**, 9 **wauper.** [The first element is obscure; the second element is Sprar *sb.*] A fishing-spear. Cf. Warper *sb.*1

1498 *Mumim. de Melrose* (Bannatyne Club) 191 That nane ...pre-ume till fische thair Waters with Wappens nettis or any vthir Instrumentis. 1547 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 268 For keiping of thair watteris and fischingis of Dove and Dee...in tauld tyme fra all maner of nettis, coblis, wawsperis, heyr valyeris, and all vther instrumentis. 1887 Jamieson *Suppl.*, and *Addit.*

**Wawt**, obs. Sc. form of Welt *v.*

**Waw-wew** (wɔ'wɛ). A West Indian climbing shrub (see quot.).

1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 588 Waw-waw, *Kajania pleiosperma*.

**+Waw'wy**, *a. Obs.* [f. Waw *sb.*1 + -y.] Full of waves, billowy; = Wavy *a.* 1.

1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 3938 Pe see is calme and blaundissching From trouble of wynde and wawy boolyng. 1426 — *Pilgrim. Perlyn.* 19244 Alle pylgrymes . . That sawyn men in the wawy see. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 697 Ten thousand shipet at a sight, I saw come out the wawy flood. 1593 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* x. 181 This stormy troublous and waw-y water.

**Wax** (waks), *sb.*[1] 1 ơms: 1 **wox, wex,** 1, 2 **woax,** 3–6, 9 *dial* **wox,** 4–6 **woxe** (5 **vexe**), 4–7 **waxe,** (4 **waxhe,** *Sc* **vax,** 5 **whax**), 5–7 *Sc* **wax,** (6 *Sc.* **vaix, vaux, wakx**), 3– **wax.** [Com. Teut (not recorded in Gothic).] OE. *weax* neut. OFris. *wax*, OS *wahs* (LG., Du *was*), OHG., MHG. *wahs* (mod.G. *wachs*), ON *vax* (Sw. *vax*, Da. *vox*). —OTeut. ***waxs-m.*

Outside Teut. the word occurs as Lith. *vãškas*, OSl. *vŭsŭ* (Russ. воскъ, Pol. *wosk*, Czech *vosk*), but prob. adopted from Teut. The root may be identical with Teut. ***wahs-** to grow (WAX[2]), it seems not impossible that the etymological sense may have been 'that which grows (on the honeycomb)'. The variation in grade in favour rather than of the Teut. germinal root ***wex-** to weave, found in OIr. *fiasm* 'I weave', *l. vexāmen* veil, sail (believed to be from pre-historic ***vegʰ-slom*), and in certain Teut. words (see WICK[1]) the advocates of this etymology appeal to the apparent semasiological parallel of G. *wabe*, honeycomb, presumed to be from the root of *weben* WEAVE[1]. Some other hypotheses have been proposed; but they are all unsatisfactory with regard either to form or meaning.

1 A substance (also distinctively called BEE-WAX) produced by bees, and used by them as the material of the honeycomb. It is a secretion of special glands in the abdomen, mixed with the secretion of the salivary glands in the process of mastication, when slightly warmed it is readily moulded into any shape, and when heated to about 150° melts into a liquid, in its natural state it is of a bright yellow colour *Butter of wax* see BUTTER *sb.*[1] 3. *Cf. wax butter* in 2.

Chemically beeswax is a combination of palmitic, cerotic, melissic acids with myricin. Also *attrib.*

805 *Ælfwine's Prayer-bk.* (1902) 28 CHARLEM *Lant. Ps.* Hy. 4 This I ordaner builde liver as yelow as wex. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxii. (1535) 789 Wexe is clene & fayre. 1419 *Cely Papers* (1900) 1 *I shall sen Hunte* 1 stone of wex. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wex, or hony wexe, *cera.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 165 b, Like as the honye is closed within the cone of wexe. 1580 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1811) 105 As bees takkis walx and honye of be flure. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 65 Since I not wax, but honey lay upon him. 1703 J. MOORE *Pres. Inhab. Interest* (1705) 117 Break the Combs into three parts. The first Honey and Wax, the 2d Honey and Wax with Sun-barack, the 3d all Honey. 1708 J. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Hunts* I. XXXII 145 The wax is formed by the bees themselves, it may be called an extern al secretion of oil, and I have observed it is formed between each scale of the under side of the belly. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Animal Kingd.* 433 Wax, according to the experiments of the same naturalists, is nothing more than elaborated honey. 1872 STAVELEY *Insect Life* 246 The substances or materials collected or produced by Bees are four in number —honey, bee bread, wax, and propolis.

†**b.** *Rough wax* = FARINA formerly applied to the pollen adhering to the legs of bees, which was erroneously supposed to be the crude substance from which the wax was elaborated. *Obs.*

1744 tr. *Hauna's Nat. Hist. Bees* 43 His dust then, which falls upon these stamina of flowers, is the sole matter, of which wax is made, which I shall call rough wax. 1792 J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII 144 The substance brought in on their legs, which is the farina of the flowers of plants, is, in common, believed to be the material of which the wax is made, for it is called by most the wax

**2** 1 ocswax as melted down, bleached, or otherwise prepared for some special purpose in the arts, in medicine, or in manufactures

The more prominent uses are as material for candles and tapers, as a plastic material for modelling as a component of plasters as a vehicle for encaustic paints, and as a protective coating to exclude the air.

893-98 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1887) II 453 Mon læt weax ags æfter to cristan 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 Swa swa cleæ seynd bið þæt he sibe wif scinenb þonne we on candelsticcum æ 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 49 Mon weex on handelsticce, þe wuniað within þam unsene. c 1205 LAY. 2370 Muchel wini, muchel wex, muchel wunsum ling. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 936 While he weke & he wexe vii wiselik lasted. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 31 Tyne and wex, schot and vittale. 1400 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 8 I bis ch wax. 1466 HOCCLEVE *I. to Male Regle* 254 Alle eres of mi mak cumpunge, With wex to stoppe hem I purpose. c 1470 *Henry Wallace* III. 1240 Thai gert thair schippis be cled with wax and ensmelling with fire, who first began and devised the same is not known. 1562 JOL. *Bk. Heresies in Hazlitt's Tracts* (1867) 203 Candles of wax the pount weght thereof, iiis. 1658 JUKES *Faint Anatomy* 231 There should be made three images of wax, in the plaister of free men that were to suffer death; no 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* I vi. 40 A Cerote of Wax and Oyl over the Leg. 1720 in Ashton *Soc. Hist. Reigns of Anne* (1882) I. 283 Edgeus

Curiously done in Wax to the Life. 1707 tr. MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 255 Cleft Grafting. Cover the Head of the Stock with tempered Clay, or with soft Wax. 1768 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 209 The best medicinal use of wax is in plasters in gacnts, and other like external applications. 1787 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 114 The Art of Painting in Wax or Cerecloth in the following letter and note 1789 MRS. I. *Journ. France & Italy* II. 297 They think exact Mrs. Wright's finest figures in wax. 1803 *Nich. Ir. on Prof. Arts* I. (ed. 3) IV. 178 A stream of wax has just overflowed the top of the wax candle by which I have been reading. 1819 S. PARIS *Chem.* 132 In some particular styles of work the operation of certain colours is resisted by the use of wax, out with wax. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Death Goethe* (1840) IV. 118 The true Sovereign of the world, who moulds the world like soft wax, according to his pleasure. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxvii, Children, who were fully impressed with the belief that her grandfather was a cunning deceiver in wax. 1873 *Knight Dict. Mech.* 2315/2 Cover the inside of the [plaster] sections with a shell of wax.

**b.** As used for the coating of writing tablets.

1353 BRETTENHAM *Inv.* (S. T. S.) I. 55 Als ralzeusse as þai ar kend þargayn in þe tablis or wax. 1562 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Cera*, *Cera cerdere aliquod*, Plaut. To write in tables of wax. 1894 LAMBORN *Dict. Terms Art* s. v. *Encaustic*, The artists of antiquity used the stylus and wax for tablet pictures and architectural decorations

**c** A particular variety of wax. Usually with qualifying adj., as *bleached, white, yellow wax*. See also VIRGIN WAX.

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 118 If the child be in great heate annoynte hym with the oyle of violettes or with oyle olyfe, tempered with a lytell whyte wexe. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxi. 11 Of the last [white wax is the best] is called Punica, and is white. The next in goodnesse is the yel lowest such commeth from the countrey of Pontus 1692 in *Ashmole's Hist. Berkshire* (1893) I. 60 Make yellow wax white wax white verie speedily. 1708 W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 208 *Cera alba*. White wax the yellow wax artificially bleached. *Ibid.* 209 *Cera flava*. Yellow wax, in the state wherein it is taken from the combs. 1821 A. J. THOMPSON *Trans. Hosp.* (1818) 122 Unbleached Wax Yellow wax is prepared immediately from the honeycomb. 1843 R. J. GRAHAM *Chem. Med.* 222 Wax forms the substitutions in use were a soft wax ointment and mixture of silver

†**d.** *Man of wax* a waxen image of man. *Obs.*

*Cf.* 1439 *L. P. Wills* 118 Also I will the great Image of wex that is at London be offered to our Lady of Worcestre.

1500 *Will of Roger Wells* (Somerset Ho., Illmyr 293 b), I wille that my wif executors shalle offre for me a man of [*sic*] wex at Walsyngham also at the rode of Berkles a man of wex

†**e.** *pl* Pieces of wax *stones use*

1550 CRANMER *Catechism* III. 80 And as two waxes, that be rolled & put together, they cleve so in one, that euery part of the one, is toyned to euery parte of the other

**f** An object made of wax (*a*) A wax candle (*b*) A figure or model in wax

(*a*) 1464 ROLLS *Parl.* V. 542/2 & 4 *W.* xlix. A resplendent October moon seemed to impose upon us the notion that it would be a starlight night. Diana if we were to shut out her beams, by substituting in their room the glimmering of wax. 1851 BLISARD & RICK *Acad. of Music Mirt* in Don't waste the light, Dick You're burning one of your poor aunt's waxes.

(*b*) 1865 TAYLOR *Early Hist. Man* VI. 135 A mediæval sermon speaks of baptizing a wax to bewit it with 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 2/2 The original waxes by Flaxman, Angelino, Pacetti, and other famous designers, from which the moulds for the familiar classical decorations were made

**3.** In figurative and similative uses, referring to the easy fusibility of wax, its softness and readiness to receive impressions, its adhesiveness, etc. *Nose of wax* see NOSE *sb.*[1] 1 *b*.

c885 *Ruth Peterborough* 25 Xeworden wes heorte min swe swe wex gemaeltende in midle wombe minre. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvi. 7 Swa weax melted, gif hit bỹ wearmum mode fyre gebrinð. 1393 GOWER *Conf. III.* 346 Ne will I send she should have wrought, like wax. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 126 Thy Noble shape is but a forme of wax, Digressing from the Valour of a man. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skialetheia* (1878) 18 He hath a wit of wax, fresh as a rose. 1608 DEKKER and *I. H. Iest Bk.* 1 (1630) B 3 *Hob* I am glad you are wax, not marble: you are made Of mans best temper. 1612 BRAUN & FL. *Coxcomb* II. iii. I'll work her as I go, I know shees a wax, now a stone. B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew, s. v. Iaunt*, Wax to work upon. 1677 PLOT *Staffs.* 377 Any soil I send she should have wrought, like wax. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 126 Thy Noble shape is but a forme of wax, Digressing from the Valour of a man. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skialetheia* (1878) 18 He hath a wit of wax, fresh as a rose. 1608 DEKKER and *I. H. Iest Bk.* 1 (1630) B 3 *Hob* I am glad you are wax, not marble: you are made Of mans best temper. 1612 BRAUN & FL. *Coxcomb* II. iii. I'll work her as I go, I know shees a wax, now a stone. B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew, s. v. Iaunt*, Wax to work upon. 1677 PLOT *Staffs.* 377 Any soil I send she should have wrought, like wax. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 126 Thy Noble shape is but a forme of wax, Digressing from the Valour of a man. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skialetheia* (1878) 18 He hath a wit of wax, fresh as a rose. 1608 DEKKER and *I. H. Iest Bk.* 1 (1630) B 3 *Hob* I am glad you are wax, not marble: you are made Of mans best temper. 1612 BRAUN & FL. *Coxcomb* II. iii. I'll work her as I go, I know shees a wax, now a stone. B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew, s. v. Iaunt*, Wax to work upon. 1677 PLOT *Staffs.* 377 Any soil I send she should have wrought, like wax.

your slave, for twenty pound a year, Mere wax as yet, you fashion him with ease. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 365 When my mind is made such wax, and so fit to take what impression she pleas s to give it. 1827 BYRON *Beppo* xxxix, His heart was one of those which most enamour us, Wax to receive, and marble to retain. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 99 John's heart was of mallstone, Henry's of wax.

**b** Phrases *Close, tight, neat as wax, to stick to* (or *like*) *wax, to fit like wax*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxxvi. 376 Of the pith 35 But you must be as close as wax, d ye see. 1809 BLOOM *Jests to Mr. Heath*, ton 33 All are wrangling Stuck together as close as wax. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch of Atlas* lxxi, The mantle which it wore Became like wax to fit. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 1. 1 Tight and neat as wax. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 11/1 Fits like wax. R. Kenrish followed, Scruff and Glum stuck to them like wax. 1898 N. GOULD *Landed at Last* v. 52 Not much chance of drawing Sim Si applies who likes close fits as close as wax. 1900 *Daily Mail* 5 Jan. 8/2 Tight as wax.

**c** *Man, lad of wax* used as a term of emphatic commendation Now *arch.* and *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

The origin of this expression is not clear. It may have meant 'as faultless as if modelled in wax (cf. 2 *d*)'. Some would refer it to WAX *sb.*[2]

1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 76 Why here's a man of wax. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westward Ho* I. i. 4, Here's a Knight made out of wax. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i. Oh! this Prince of wax. 1621 FIELD *Woman is a Weather-cock* I. i. Bell. Bless thee, thou art a little man of wax. 1811 W. I. MERCHANT *Sons & Lovers* III. iii, A glass of good man. Would have made them, like us, lads of wax. 1840 *Ingoldsby Anc.* I. 132 The shoemaker surveyed the Prin e [etc.] to perfection. 'No fault'ring do that's to like,' he must be a lad of wax.' 1858 HOLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* IV. xii. I get, my lad of wax. 1880 HACKWOOD *Many Adventures* xxiii, Could any lad of wax put up with this, least of all a daring mariner?

**4** In early use, beeswax (or a mixture of this with other substances) as employed to receive the impression of a seal; in later use, a compound, chiefly consisting of lac, serving the same purpose: = SEALING-WAX.

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 Þa fotlastas weron awutole & xesyne on þem sande, swa hie on wexe wimon ðrifað. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 553 Als priest of sent in wax es thrist þer in he has his lefines[l] fest. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lv. 7 Þe priest we bere of þe light as þe wax does of þe sele. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 808 Pymyse is lyddor vnder wexe and pryueleges be conferm yd with wexe. c 1450 *Lov Myst.* (1841) 341 Loo! here is wax ful redy dyght, Sett on your sele anon ful right. 1512–8 *Act 3 Hen. VIII* c. 8 § 2 The Alnager shall not put to any suche clothes any seales of wexe in any wise. 1535 W. STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 264 Bek and promit to him befor he mud In writ and wax, vnder thair seilles bund. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 119 For al the sorte of them accustomed wax in sealing their letters. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 59 We will reade it, I swere me. Breake the neckt of the Waxe, and euery one giue eare. 1593 *Hen. VIII* 4 No more then waxe shall be accounted coull, Wherein is stampt the semblance of a Deuil! 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelmas Term* IV. 1, How will meaner tit it his land in Wax and Parchment as many Gentlemen haue done before him. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme of Trayse* 120 The deposition shall be registrated in the buiks of the Lords examinatour, with seale and walx, and sould not be opened at the second or third examination. 1620 J. TAYLOR (*Water P.*) *Carr's Jaunt* 3, Bound fast in Bonds in Parchment and with waxe. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Il Dester* II. i, O do not squeeze Wax, Son, rather to Ordinaries, and Bawdy houses, than Queens Wax. 1717 POPE *Jane Shore* Prol. 4 Wax, Seal, and Paper send. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* I. 14 *Mrs.* A letter!—Hum—A suspicious circumstance to be sure—What, and the Seal a true Lover's Knot, hey! or possibly the Wax bore the industrious Impression of a Thimble. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 130 One piece of wax may serve for all the grantors, &c. if every seal upon the deed upon the same piece of wax. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxcviii, The seal a sun flower, The wax was superfine its hue vermilion

**b** With designation of colour See also GREEN WAX

1483 *Nottingh. Rec.* III. 230 For rede wax to seale pe endentures. 1496 *Act 12 Hen. VII* c. 19 Any decrete of the Lordes under the quhite wexe. 1530 *Rec. Aberd.* I. 340 (1903) VI. 30 For rede waks and quhite to sele the citationis. 1642 SMEATON-MS. *Trial Anne Hamb. Rem.* § 16 918 The Greene Wax and Red Wax. 1653 *Ordin. Parliam.* 1653 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 528 Stone Bottles with White Wine They are all seal'd with Black Wax. 1728 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ¶ 3, I then rubbed all the red Wax off of our last Full tickets and three Weeks after the black Wax from the Burying Tickets of the old Gentleman

†**c.** *Hard wax* = SEALING-WAX. *Obs.*

1589 R. ROBINSON *Kingd. & commun.* 35 The Islands affoorde plenty of hides, cotton Iacd wax and pearles. 1616 H. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. 1, My purse, my seales, My hard-wax, and my table bookes. 1660 R. BOOTHBY tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 16 Of Lacd Alacc. Which is likewise made by Spanish hard wax. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XII. § 139 A clean piece of paper sealed with three impressions of an antique head in hard wax

**5** Applied to artificial compounds having the properties of wax, and substituted for it in various applications

1763 W. LEWIS *Commerc. Phil. Techn.* 78 The gilding wax is composed of bees-wax, turpentine, ruddle, verdegris, vitriol or alum, and sometimes other additions.

**6.** Any of a class of substances, found in nature in greater or less purity, including beeswax and other compounds resembling it in general properties and (more or less) in chemical composition. In *Chem.* properly restricted to those 'waxes' of animal and vegetable origin which, like beeswax, are composed of fatty acids and alcohols. The mineral 'waxes' are hydrocarbons.

**a** A vegetable product obtained from various trees and plants.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. 168 The matter of wax, as forming an ingredient in many vegetables, is discoverable always from their shining surface partly from a certain flexibility in such bodies 1803 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8vo) IV. 187 The light matter which is found on the upper surface of the leaves of many trees and it has been observed in the juice of the cow tree. The berries of the *Myrica cerifera*, *Jatropha*, as well as the *cer-ferax*, afford an abundance of wax. 1880 ALLOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 590/2 The Ouricury tree grows in Japan (the fruit of which yields the vegetable wax) 1889 METHLEY *Forestry W. Africa* 461 Gums and Resins, Vegetable Waxes

**b** A substance resembling beeswax secreted or produced by various species of scale-insects Sometimes called *Chinese wax*. Also 'the product of some other homopterous insects'. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1800 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1809) III. 190 To their [the larvæ of the cicadæ] labours the Chinese are indebted for the fine white wax that is so much esteemed in the East Indies They form a sort of white grease which attaches to the branches of trees, hardens there, and becomes wax 1819 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* v. (1828) I. 328 In China wax is also produced by another insect, which seems to be a species of

*Cocons Ibid* 331 Early in the spring vast numbers of these caterpillars (of *Phalæna cerasta*) collect on the branches of the *Cedar*, where they form their cells of a kind of soft white wax or resin This wax, which is at first very white, but by degrees becomes yellow and finally brown, is collected in autumn by the inhabitants, who boil it in water, and make it up into little cakes for market 1858 W GREGORY *Handbk Org Chem* (ed 3) 247 Chinese Wax 1876 WESTWOOD in *Trans. Entom Soc Lond* 521 Now this 'cottony' covering was doubtless formed of the wax secreted by the *Fulgoræ*. 1899 D SHARP *Insects* II 375 A great many [of the *Fulgoridæ*] have the curious power of excreting large quantities of a white flocculent wax *Ibid* 390 *Ceroplastes ceriferus*, a Lecanid, produces white wax in India The white wax of China is understood to be produced by another Lecanid, *Ericerus pela*

c. A mineral product somewhat resembling beeswax. *Fossil* or *mineral wax* = OZOCERITE. *Paraffin wax* : see PARAFFIN 4.

1838 T THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 448 Fossil wax of Moldavia 1844 FRANCIS *Dict Arts etc., Wax, Mineral*, a bituminous substance, found at the foot of the Carpathian mountains, near Slanick 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem.* (1877) V 1037 *Wax, Fossil* Syn with *Ozocerite*

d. *pers*

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem* (1877) IV 320 Ozocerite is like a resinous wax in consistence and translucency 1868 *Ibid.* V 1037 Japan wax is not a true wax, but a glyceride.

7 = EAR-WAX.

[1398–1614 see EAR-WAX] 1706 PHILLIPS (ed Kersey), *Cerumen*, the filth or Wax of the Ear, which serves to hinder Dust, Motes, or any Vermin from getting into it. 1889 L HUMPHRY *Man Nursing* (1892) 216 When there is hard wax blocking up the canal [of the ear]

8. A thick resinous composition used by shoemakers for rubbing their thread. More fully *cobblers'*, *shoemakers'* wax: see COBBLER, SHOEMAKER.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virgin Martyr* III iii, Long I cannot last, for all sowterly waxe of comfort melting away, and misery taking the length of my foote, it booted not me to sue for life 1823 *Encyclop Perthensis Sparth Angler* II The amateur must be provided with shoe maker's wax I prepare my own wax, by boiling a little pitch and resin together, and tempering it with a very little tallow 1885 I PHO *Boot & Shoemaking* 229 Wax that will work up into the pure bronze colour so much liked by shoemakers may be made of 4 lbs. resin, 1 lb pitch, 4 ounces beeswax, 3 ounces tallow

9. *U. S.* A thick syrup produced by boiling down the sap of the sugar-maple sugar tree, cooling on ice, etc. (*Cent Dict*)

1845 S JUDD *Margaret* II 15 [Making maple sugar] The 'wax' is freely distributed to be cooled on lumps of snow or the ice head

10. *Mining* (see quot)

1883 GALLUP *Glass Coal Mining, Wax* (Leicester) soft or puddled clay used for *dams* or *stoppings*, and in which the colliers stick and carry about their candles in the mine

11 *attrib* and *Comb* a. Attrib (quasi-adj.) with the sense 'composed of wax'. (See also WAX-TAPER)

1585 HULOET *Junius' Nomencl* 474/2 *Ceroplastes*, a maker of wax images 1588 G SANDYS *Satanas Intus World* 3 This woman had formed an Wax Picture, with puns in the side 1811 A J Images of *Lead Deep* (1818) 314 Wax Plaster 1825 in R W Goulding *Youth Old Corfer Acc* (1901) 185 By Cash of Madame Tussaud for 5 weeks use of the Mansion House for the Exhibition of Wax Figures, £5 0 0 1846 DICKENS *Pict Italy*, Lyons, etc, I here was a wax saint, in a little box with a glass front to it 1847 *Ann Reg* 70 A little box of about 2 dozen wax bougies 1857 *Illustr Christmas Cradle of Twin Giants* I iv 72 An empty bier, surrounded by an hundred wax torches 1853 C C FELTON *Farm Life* (1867) I 181 The coldest thing of all was a wax figure of Frederic the Great 1854 *Poultry Chron* II 105 Some freak of wax fruit modelling 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vesta*, a kind of wax match 1870 *Lower Logic* xi 353 It may be only a wax candle 1892 *Photogr. Amer* II 45 A wax vesta which is lit and the head knocked off 1914 I HAY *Knit on Wheels* xx, His wife kept wax fruit under a glass case in her parlour window

b. simple attrib, 'of or pertaining to wax', as *a wax chip*, *-solution*, *-spot*

1859 *Habits of Good Society* xiii 336 After the Tuileries' balls, we often returned home complete apparitions of wax upon our shoulders, if in moments of carelessness we had stood under the chandeliers 1889 *Anthony's Photogr Bull* II 241 A wax solution or wax chips melted by a hot iron

c. objective, as *wax-bleacher*, *-manufacturer*, *-modeller*, *+-melter*, *producer*; *wax modelling* vbl. sb, *wax-bearing -forming*, *-producing*, *secreting* ppl. adjs. Also WAX-MAKER, -MAKING.

1579 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v II (1592) 884 The Acoluthes say they are "wax bearers, because they carry wax candles 1796 MARSHALL *Yorkshire* II 232 The Candleberry Myrtle, or "Wax bearing Myrtle 1802 BINGLEY *Anim Biog* (1813) III 289 The "Wax forming Cicada 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, "Wax manufacturer *Ibid* "Wax modeller 1890 OLIVER, "Wax modelling 1728 SELLER *Pract Navigation* 131 ? Chalk lickers, "Wax nibblers. Coal scratchers, [etc] 1889 *Waterbouse's Sci Gossip* N.S. XV 131 Insects highly prized as "wax producers 1862 HUXLEY *Mquin Tantoin* iii 206 Bees are the principal "wax producing animals 1881 *Globe* F 91/4 The "wax secreting glands [in the bee]

d instrumental, as *wax-coated -composed*, *-erected*, *-jointed*, *-lighted*, *-polished*, *-rubbed*, *-topped*, *-topped* adjs.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* 2281/2 A machine for preparing "wax cords for stitching or dipping 1892 SIR J RANKINE *Loaning & Sylvans* 1874 His "wax composed wings in feathered were a 1728 PARNELL *Hesiod* 131 Thus in a thousand "wax erected forts A loitering race the prudful ties supports 1845 PROWETT *Pennycuik Bound* 27 While murmurs ever and anon From his "wax jointed reed the same low sleepy drone 1859 HOOD *Lines to Friend at Cobham* 17 You'll sometimes have "wax-lighted rooms 1866 J B ROSE *Dr. Quick's Mat* 245 Chestnut bowls, "wax-polished was their wood 1598 B GUILIM *Skeet* (1878) 26 Like a "wax rubd Citty roome. 1898 CONAN DOYLE *Trag Korosko* I, He had a small "wax-pointed moustache 1820 W IRVING *Bracebridge Hall* (1823) I. 113 The Stout Gentleman and his "wax topped boots

e. similative, as *wax finish*, with adjs. denoting colour, as *wax-brown*, *-red*, *-white*, *-yellow*; also *wax-like* adj

1887 W PHILLIPS *Brit Discomyc* 70 Cup medium size, pale "wax brown 1897 C I DAVIS *Manuf Leather* (ed 2) 464 The making of a "wax finish on chrome tanned horse hide butts 1798 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III 27 Her "wax like flesh answers for the soundness of her health 1826 COLERIDGE *Statesman's Man.* 4 We need not be surprised at the fact, that a jealous priesthood should have ventured to represent the applicability of the Bible to all the wants and occasions of men as a wax like pliability to all their fancies and preposseſsions 1862 MILLER *Elem Chem. Org* (ed. 4) 98 Chloride be mixed with a solution of bichloride of platinum it yields a wax like mass 1885 *Cornhill Mag* Mar 284 A lovely plant with masses of waxlike lilac blossoms 1899 J HUTCHINSON in *Archives of Surg* X Descr Pl xvi The greater part of the hand is of wax like pallor 1898 SHARP *Pen & Ink* 516 Which porch so of thine make, for fear of slugs, Set thy seale manuell, on my "wax red lips 1890 KIPLING *Life's Handicap, Incarn. Krishna Mulvaney* 29 My face was "wax white, an't the worst of it 1898 WARDEN *Cotton Cyclopædia* 144 WATTS' *Werner's Ext. Charact Fossils* 58 "Wax-yellow [G *wachsgelb*] is a light honey yellow, mixed with a little light ashen-gray

f. In parasynthetic formations, as *wax-featured*, *-headed*, *+-heated* adjs.

1612 F TAYLOR *Comm Titus* 1 27 (1619) 227 How many who have seemed wax hearted Christians, soft and pliable 1923 MRS. M. WARDEN *Cautious Lover* 1 vi 156 A wax-faced, shiny Parisianized stylette, with a small wax featured husband. 1924 *Glasgow News* 20 Dec 4 The map was brushing with wax "wax featured faces of great variety in size and colour. They represented army units

12 Special comb : +wax boot, a boot made of waxed leather, for walking in marshy ground; **wax bush**, the plant *Cuphea viscosissima*; **wax-butter** = *butter of wax* (see quot); **wax-cloth**, cloth covered with wax as a protection from wet; also, oil-cloth for covering floors or tables; **wax-cluster** *Austral*, the plant *Gualtheria hispida*, wax colour, (*a*) a pigment ground with wax for encaustic painting; (*b*) the yellow colour of wax; hence **wax coloured** *a*; +**wax-comb**, a honeycomb; **wax creeper** *S. African*, a name of two plants with wax-like flowers, *Hoya carnosa* and *Microloma tenuifolium*; **wax cup**, the hollow at the top of a large wax candle; **wax-end**, thread coated with cobblers' wax, used by shoemakers; hence **wax-ended** *a*, bound with waxends, +**wax farthing**, a farthing paid by parishioners at Easter to provide wax candles for use in church, **wax-gland**, a gland (in certain insects) secreting wax; **wax-hair**, one of the long hairs occurring on the bodies of the young of *Psyllidæ* or flea-lice; + **wax-house**, a building in a monastery where wax candles were made; **wax insect**, an insect producing wax; also *attrib*, **wax lathe** *Watchmaking*, a lathe in which the object to be turned is fastened with shellac or sealing-wax; **wax-leather**, leather 'waxed' or finished on the 'flesh' side, also *attrib*, + **wax-man**, the officer of a trade guild who collected the contributions of the members for the wax candles to be used in the processions, **wax-moth**, a moth whose larva preys on the honeycomb, **wax-mould**, + (*a*) a mould for running melted wax into; (*b*) a mould made of wax; **wax-myrtle** = WAX-BERRY a, **wax-nose**, a 'nose of wax' (see NOSE 2b 4), hence **wax-nosed** *a.*, **wax-oil** *Chem* (see quot); + **wax opal** (see quot.); **wax-painting**, encaustic painting, **wax-palm**, a name for two S. American waxyielding palms, *Ceroxylon andicola* and *Corypha* or *Copernicia cerifera*, **wax paper** (see quot), **wax pear**, a variety of pear of a wax like colour, **wax pencil**, a pigment prepared with wax; **wax-pine**, **wax plum** (see quots), **wax-pocket** *Ent*, each of the sacs on the abdomen of the bee, for receiving the wax secreted by the wax-glands, **wax rose**, a variety of rose whose petals have a waxy appearance, + **wax shoe**, a shoe made of waxed leather (*cf wax boot*), + **wax silver**, money paid by parishioners at Easter for wax candles to be used in the church, **wax tablet**, a board coated with wax, to be written upon with a stylus; **wax-weed** = *wax-bush*, **wax worm**, the larva of the wax-moth.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II 30 'Twill be as common on to buy a pair of Wings to fly to the World in the Moon, as to buy a pair of "Wax Boots to ride into Sussex with 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect Bot* II 96 *Cuphea viscosissima* (*wax-bush*) 1888 WATTS *Dict Chem* (1877) V 1036 Beeswax is decomposed by dry distillation, giving oil a product which forms, on cooling, a white buttery mass, called "wax butter, or *Butyrum cere* 1816 SCOTT *Bl Dwarf* I, The first having a hat covered with "wax cloth, and dreadnought overalls 1834 CALLCOTT *Lect to Mrs Institut* (Harper's Catal 1913) Some sort of wax cloth for a lobby 1868 *Church Lunacy* X 233/1 *Wax cloth*, a name sometimes given, but very erroneously, to *floor-cloth* (q. v.) 1834 J ROSE *Fam Directory Land Ann* 133 *Gualtheria shallon* The "wax cluster, abundant in the middle region of Mount Wellington 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict Terms Art* 87 *Wax Painting* In Encaustic Painting, the "wax colours were burnt into the ground by means of a hot iron 1901 *Macon Mag* Apr 439/2 His sun burned face turned to wax colour 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort* 581 Varieties of cornel with "wax coloured fruit 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI 368 That mychtlikyst be I till any "wax crym[e that leue mais 1890 ANNE MARTIN *Home Life Ostrich Farm* 90 The little "wax creeper with which they are at its, I do not think a more perfect flow er could be imagined 1820 HOGG *Mountain Bard Trans* XC 463 That the "wax cup of the candle be kept clean, and never suffered to run over 1892 BROCKETT & C. *Glass, Wax etc.*, *Modelling* The head used by ed w uners 1858 DICKENS *Dombey* III "I will not, sir,' replied the beadle, adjusting the wax end which we twisted round the bottom of his cane for the purpose of genteel frigidity 1888 PENN *Dick & the Feast* (8), I could mend all it in less than an hour with a nice wax end and a brad awl 1898 DICKENS *Mrs Bardell* xxiii, A fearful instrument of flagellation, strong, supple, "wax ended and new 1588 in *Archæol Aeliana* I 255 Every house paying at Easter 3 farthynge called a "wax farthynge 1899 D SHARP *Insects* II 383 Certain gall dwelling Aphidæ possess numerous "wax glands *Ibid* 380 In these earlier stages the body [of wax ant Psyllidæ] bears long hairs called "wax hairs 1836 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 300 In factura unius candele de "wax holds 1478–3 *Ibid* 413 Cum emendacione unius patelle de le waxhouse, 14d 1815 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* 2 (1828) I 309 This account is in the main correct, but the "wax factory, except that he calls the "wax insect a worm which bores to the pith of certain trees 1857 FORTUNE *Resid among Chinese* 197 The wax insect lives on the ash and privet 1888 (title) *Globe Encyc* I VI 284/1 The Hemipterous family *Coccidæ* includes the chief wax insects, familiarly known as Lac lice 1884 J HUTTON *Bibl Tutorica* 139 For many y operations required in watch jobbing Mr Gunney recommends the "wax cement lathe 1918 STREET *Spr Hay* 48 P 4, I am mounted in high heel'd Shoes with a glued "Wax heals to them 1888 *Encyc Sport* I 4 *Cursing* (185) 1 153 Wax leather is blackened in the flesh 1885 *Harper's Mag* Jan 278/1 Wax leather, the artificial leather for the upper parts of "wax shoes 1788 *Encyclopæd. Londinensis* V 800, A small caterpillar, termed the "wax worm, or wax moth, but more if the havock it makes on wax 1815 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* III 180 [Among the enemies of bees] (*Galleria Cereana*) will for want of wax eat paper wafers, wool, etc 1877 J G WOOD *Nature's Teach* 151 The Wax moth, or Galleria moth (*Galleria cerana*) is a very natural state extremely injurious to beehives a 1679 SIR J MOORE *England's Interest* (1705) 237 First provide necessary Instruments as Hooks, Nets, "Wax Moldes 1849 G. FAIRHOLT *Art of Modelling, Wax and Leaves* 16 Wax moulds for plaster casting, or the electro type, should have [etc] 1823 SIR H DAVY *Agric Chem* III (1834) 96 Wax is procured in abundance from the berries of the "wax myrtle 1888 SARGENT *Rep Forests N America* (10th Census IX) 136 *Myrica cerifera* Bayberry, Wax Myrtle 1823 SOUTHEY *Commonplace Bk* (1851) IV II 11 Wax figures for the Museum of Sir William Jones, than the visions of the poet Let the "wax nose be valued by Volney on one side and Maurice on the other! 1823 SYLVESTER *Lect Wks* (1831) I 44 Wax, Let's leave out I, and No, in Conversation Words now transposed, and "wax nosed, Both 1888 WATTS *Dict Chem* (1893) IV 1040 Wax oil is a name given to the oil which is found

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1430 Euer stod þai [a. þe wandes] still in an, Wit-outen wax, wit-outen wain. *Ibid.* 8214 A-boute pat tre, A siluer cercle so naill he, þat wax ne water for to strength, And kinn þe wax o gret and length. 1892 *Athenæum* 30 Jan. 140/2 'On the Wane' (which should strictly be called 'On the Wane, and on the Wax and on the Wane Again').

**2.** Stature; size (of something growing).

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 245 Thou art best on thi wax that euer was elekyt, or knawen. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Garden* (1626) 75 The beale will be first, and best serued as I fed, because he is next the root, and of greatest waxe and substance. 1858 Atkinson *Cleveland Glass*, and 1876-89 in Yorks. and Lincs. glossaries.

**Wax** (waks), *sb.*3 *slang*, or *slang.* [Of doubtful origin: possibly evolved from some phrase like *to wax angry* (arch.), *to wax warm* (now *dial.*): see Wax *v.*1 9 *a* (*b*).] Angry feeling; a fit of anger; chiefly *to be in a wax.*

1854 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. vii. I used to rush out in a frightful state of wax, and show a leg. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* xxxv, They get into a wax, old girl? 1874 H. Burton *Cranleigh Coll.* I. 181 It ain't my fault if you've been bobbish; so don't be in a wax with me. 1882 'Octave' *Mark's* 112 What a wax you're in, Dolly.

**Wax** (waks), *v.*1 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **waxed** (wakst); also pa. pple. **waxen.** Forms: *Inf.* (and Pres. stem): i **weaxan, weaxsan, weahsan, weaxan, wehsan,** 2-3 **weasen,** 2-4, 6-7 *arch.* **wesen,** 3 **uexen, wexi,** 4-5 **wix(e,** 5 **vexe, wexyn, vix(e, vyx(e,** 3-6 **wexe,** 4-7 (9 *arch.*) **wex ;** 2-4 **waxe(n,** 3 *Orm.* **waxenn, waxxenn,** 3-6 **waxen,** 5 **waxyn,** 4-6 *Sc.* **vax,** 6 **waaxe,** *Sc.* **walx,** 3-7 **waxe,** 3- **wax.** *Contracted* 2 **sinx,** 1 **wyxt,** 4 **wext ;** 3 **wexst, wexþ, wixþ,** etc., 3 **wost,** 3-4 **wexþ,** 4 **wext.** *Pa. t. sing.* 1 **wéox, wéocs, wéohs, wéhs, wéoxs,** 2 **wex, weacs,** 2-3 **wæx,** 3 **woxs,** 3-5 **wox,** 4-5 **wexe, woxe.** *north.* **wix, wyx,** 4 *north. etc.* **wex ;** 2 **waxs,** 3-6 **wax,** 4-5 **waxe,** 4 **waux ;** 3-6 (7, 9 *arch.*) **wox,** 4-6 (9 *arch.*) **woxe,** 4-6 *Sc.* **vox,** 5 **woxse,** 4-5 *Sc.* **woux,** 6 *Sc.* **woix, wolx.** *Plur.* 1 **wéoxon, wéohson, wéoxon.** *Northumb.* **wéxon.** *Mercian* **wéhsan,** 2 **waxsan,** 3 **waxsen,** 3-5 **wexe(n ;** 3 **wuxen,** 4 **wuxe,** 3-5 **woxe(n,** 4 **waxe.** *weak.* 4 **wast,** 4-5 **wex-, waxide, -ede,** *pl.* **wexiden, -sden,** 5 **wexedde, wexid, wexte, waxet, waxte, waxhid,** *pl.* **waxiden,** 5-6 **waxt,** 5-7 **wext, wexed,** 6 **wexad,** 5-**waxed.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **weaxen,** 2 (3**e**)**waxen,** 3 (1 **weaxan,** 3-6 **waxen,** 3-5 **wexe,** 4-5 **wex, waxun,** 5 **-in, -yn, wixen ;** 3-7 (8-9 *arch.*) **waxn,** 3-6 **waxin,** 4-5 **-yn, wax(e,** 4 **ywax,** 5 **waxun, waxsen,** *Sc.* **walxin ;** 3-7 **woxn,** 3-4 **-y-, woxe,** 3-5 **woxe, woxin,** 3 (i)**wox,** 4, 6 **wox, 4 woxyn, woxsen,** 4-5 **woxun.** *weak.* 4 **wexid,** 5 **y-wexed,** 5-7 **wext,** 6 **waxt, waxed,** *Sc.* **vaxit,** 6-7 **wexed,** 6- **waxed.** [A Common Teut. strong verb, which became weak in late ME.): OE. *weaxan* (3 pl. *t. wéox*, Northumb. *wex* ; pa. pple. *weaxen*) corresp. to OFris. *waxa* (W.Fris. *waechje, waechse*, N.Fris. *wäks*), OS. *wahsan*, (M)Du. *wassen*, OHG. *wahsan* (MHG., mod.G. *wachsen*), ON. *vaxa* (Sw., Da. *vaxa*, Da. *voxse*), Goth. *wahsjan* (with *ja*- suffix in the pres.-stem) pa. t. *wôhs*, pa. pple. *wahsan-s*):—OTeut. **wuχs-* :—pre-Teut. **waks-*, an ablaut variant of Indogermanic **awəks-, *auks-, *uks-* (Gr. *αὔξειν, αὐξάνειν* to increase, Skr. *ukṣ* to grow, perf. *vavakṣa*, causative *vakṣayati*), an extended form of **aweg-* **aug-*, **ug-* (L. *augère* to increase, Sk. *ójas* neut., strength, Lith. *augu* I grow, OTeut. **auk-* in Goth. *aukan*, OHG. *ouhhôn*, OE. *êacian* to grow, increase ; see Eke *v.*).

The OTeut. conjugation of the verb is retained in Goth., OHG., OS., and O.N.) in OE. it is confined to the Northumbrian dialect (pa. t. *wéox*) the WS. pa. t. *wéox* and the Du. *w* are due to the analogy of the reduplicating verbs.

The strong pa. t. became rare after the 14th c., and is now wholly obsolete ; the one or two examples in the poetry of the 15-16th c. are deliberately archaistic. For the pa. pple. the Bible of 1611 has *waxed* four times and *waxen* eight times ; in recent use *waxen* is not infrequent when the verb is conjugated with *to be*, but is otherwise very rare.

Originally a more frequent synonym of Grow *v.*, which has now superseded it in general colloquial use, exc. with reference to the moon (see 6). With this exception, the senses below which are not marked as obsolete are confined to literary use, and have, in varying degrees, a somewhat archaic flavour ; some of those under branch I survive only in the traditional antithesis with Wane *v.* The verb is said still to be current in certain dialects : see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

**I.** To grow, increase. (Opposed to *wane*, †*wanze.*)

1. *intr.* Of a plant or its parts : To increase gradually in size and vigour ; to develop, sprout (*up*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* †Also, to grow in a specified habitat or situation (*obs.*).

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 293 Sumu twigu he lete mid wætere, ðonne hie to hiwan weaxson, ðæt hie ðy sniðlur weaxan sceoldon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 402 Rise weaxst geswinlice on weterzisum stowum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 101 Hie wenden þe eorðe, and wurpen god and þaronne, and hit waxes and wel þeigh. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 493 Corn & frut bom wax inous. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Fouls* 2-6 There stew ek euery holsum spice & pees, þat waxeth thikke in the feldes. 1440 Promp. *Parv.* 512 The Stem shall strongly wax, as still the Trunk doth wither. 1886 *S. W. Line. Gloss.* s.v. The plums are waxing nicely.

†**b.** Of a mineral : To be native, be found, in a specified place ; = Grow *v.* 2 *b*. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 11 Þat land þe ys gehaten Euilad, þær þær gold wext [Vulg. *ubi nascitur aurum*]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 192 Al þe precioushe Peerles þat in paradys waxen.

**2.** Of human beings and animals : To increase gradually in size and strength of body and limb, *arch.* and *dial.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 40 So'lice þæt child wexe. *c* 1200 Ormin 1282 & swilpe wel he wex & þræf. *c* 1205 Lay. 31073 Þa children waxen wel & wlech. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1 Þis was in wel hoker, Þat he was mon wel waxen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10613 Als sco wex on hir licame, Sua wex hir loueword and hir fame. 13.. *Coer de L.* 4696 For fourty pound men sold an oxe, Þan it were ful fyfty [yfyl ? *read* fyfty] er it were *Digby Destr. Troy* 12449 Thies [two sons] were gyuen to the gouernaunce of a gay kyng... Till þai waxen were of ait & of wight deitis. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Somme) 146 In this nourysshing he waxe and grewe in all bonte, strenghte, and prudence. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 253 Ascanius yet that waxeth fast behold. 1575 Turberv. *Pastorall* 116 Ye must vnderstande that sonne takes them not before they are somewhat waxen. 1677 in *Ray's Corresp.* (1848) 127, I think they [salmon] wax big for five or six years. 1875 J. C. Stevenson *Day Dreams* 83 For a time I sat down and waxes in his stye. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 311-2 And when nine years they wee waxen, nine cubits length outright Was the measure of their bigness. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* s.v. Thy lad has waxed, she's taller very time I see her.

†**b.** of a part of the body, the hair, etc. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Judith* 11. 434 His fexe wexe swa swa wimmonne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2353 Wiues saumd hai like hare. 1393 R. Rolland *Handl. Synne* 9204 Here clobes ne roted, ne nayles grewe, Ne heere ne wax. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth. tr.* met. iii. (1886) 93 Pat oother is chaunged in a lyoun...and hire nayles waxen like longe hokes. 1548-77 Vicary *Anat.* ii. (1888) 24 The Nayles...are alwayes waxing in the extremitie of the fyngers and toes.

†**c.** Of a company, host, people : To increase in numbers. *Obs.*

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 107 Dryhten cuæð to Noe & to his hiwonne : Wealsað & waridfaldiað & geflldað eorðe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1259 Wyuinges euere-ich-wy[ue] wex þer-inne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann, Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

**4.** Of a person, nation, institution : To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. Const. *in*, †*on*.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Þa wex hit [sc. þe minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. *c* 1200 Ormin 10868 Iwhille mann,...Birrþ...þrifenn 233 & waxenn 233 inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17067 Ned is...Þatt he ne birrþ wexenn, & ec nis ned & god off nu, Þatt i nu forrþ-ward wannse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi hyþ uol wexe and hetye yclius ine dyngsteres. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1483 Cryst of heuene sow alle saue my messangers alle sixe! & þat be vif schulle se huse zour felaschup to make wixe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will not the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. 1658 Phillips *New World of Words* (1658) 2 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

1836–7 Sir W Hamilton *Metaph* xxxvii (1870) II 335 By dulness our conception waxes fuller 1874 Green *Short Hist* viii § 6 525 The puritan waxed greater when it was found they claimed to be acting by the King's commission 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I 15 Even the foxes and their cubs had of late waxed fat and lazy

(*b*) Without the idea of growth or increase · To become, turn (Sometimes used with reference to a sudden or immediate change)

*c* 1220 *Institory* 151 If he [the soldier] clo'ed man se Cof he waxed a 1300 *Cursor M* 3563 His blode pan waxes dri and cold 13.. *A Horn* 309 (Ht ed) Vpon Ait alf childe tymen did com wakie. 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xxiv 12 The charite of many schal waxe cold 1390 Gower *Conf* I 34 When he was seke, ther was nese 1402 Lovelich *Merlin* (Kölbing) 5 Yf the messager wix drok &c. 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xx 64 Pe proude lady wexed red as a rose 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II viii 78 The wyde hallis wolx patent [*Virg. aperta conscendunt*] 1594 Drant *Horace Ep* bk i 14 Ye pe pie whished & waxed dumme 1545 Raynalde *Birth Mankynde* 197 Lake fy'nemeale, and bake 1598 it wexe browne 1603 Shaks. *2 Hen IV*, II iii 30 What? Art thou like the Adder waxen deafe? 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 183 Cornwall waxeth an iler and trueller in manner 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 1180 Our *count* cabin, Nor aske of God the victory to gaue e, Vpon the English wexe so poore and feeble 1632 Lithgow *Trav* I 29 Pey also waxed insolent against the Emperours 1722 Wodrow *Spect* No 276 ¶ 4 My Dwy.hter Tabitha beginneth to wixe wanton 1770 Jortin *Serm.* (1774) I ii 30 When the inward light waxes dim, Faith is gone 1815 Brand *Pop. Antiquities* III, All bloo liess waxd in his look 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I 326 Pale wox I, and in vapours had my face. 1832 Macaulay *Ess*, *Byron* I 11 The howl of enthusiasm gradually waxed fainter 1834 Lytton *Old C. Shop* xxxviii, Mr Chuckster waxed wroth at this answer 1865 Trollope *Bellas Last Year* xxiv 83 Captain Aylmer saw that the man was waxing angry 1880 W Morton *Prescott's Quest* (1892) 61 Where at the eyes of brewen wox thundrous dim

+ b. with sb as complement *Obs*

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 981 pe kinges douhter bigan prouze, And wex fayrest woman on liue 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4931 pe white beres pat waxen sepbe hertes *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v 1324 Whan it was woxen euse *c* 1440 Pecock *Repr* II xvi 244 Summe either waxen sicker in mynde and wexiden better philosophris 1477 Earl Rivers (Cryton) *Dicts* 22 He sawe a peyntour that was wixe a physicien 1530 Palsgr 703 Whan my prepacion waxeth an ulcerde 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 334 He waxed a woondrous huisie medler in all causes. *c* 1550 *A pore helpe* 450 in Hazl *E P P* III 262, I feare me he wil waxe A puppitant stout 1593 Shakspeare *Cymbeline* II iii 3 Ere I waxe A puppitant he wexeth a great landed man 1622 Markh *Hamlet's Gun man C iij* 2 It beginning now to waxe night, they draw off play 1869 Lyttelton *Serm* Rem 1878 II 302 When the grain of mustard seed has waxed a great tree

**c** with complement an adv. or a prepositional phr.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M* 19151 Pan wex pas wrecches vte of wite *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 4930 He wex to a werwolf 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xi 111 In a wyte gan I waxe and with myself to disputie 1388 Wyclif *Mark* iv 32 It waxith in to a tre 1400 *Destr Troy* 108.. Of in want n we kes wex ik with childe *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 455 Pe newe wexe vn to so fayre an I to bryzt a dai 1530 Palsgr 77 *b*, I dare este no crabbes, for my wyfe wyll waxe vn-ripe then 1591 Spenser *M Hubberd's Tale* 1 Whereby, ripe in wonderment, to stomack woxe 1831 James *Hist Augustus* xxvii, It was now waxing towards morning 1864 Burton *Scot Abr* II i 78 A dangerous pasture, apt to wax from pleasure war rant to deadly heat 1870 M D Conway *Earthward Pilgr* I 92 As time waxed on, I perceived that [etc.] 1888 Stevenson *Across the Plains* x (1892) 276 A small child, waxen with indulgence in all the exhibitions 1914 S Phillips *in Continental Sk* Oct 552 Must that wistful dawn ne er wax to noon ?

+ **d.** *To wax in age*, *on el*, to advance in years, Similarly, *to wax to man's estate Obs*

1340 *Ayenb* 64 *Dant* 943 A wich woxen on elde *c* 1385 Chaucer *L G W* 742 Tho as they were in age, wexe here. Ioue 1400 *St Alexius* (W) 3 Pe more he wexe in elde & lenghe, Jo seruen god he dude his astregthe 1588 Greene *Farewell to Folly* (1607) D 1 b, As it [se the child] waxed in age, so it increased in beautie 1590 Spenser *F Q* II x 30 When her sonne to estate did wax 1918 G W Robinson *Wilshaldt's Life St Boniface* ii 31 After he waxed in age and the glory of his blood came

+ **e.** Of fire *To wax out*: to burn out, be extinguished for want of fuel. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *M layne* 403 The fire wexe owte at pe laste 1579 J Lowson *Calvin's Serm Job* 606/ If a fire that hath but little woode, was out, wee put the brandes together, and blowe it, that it may burne

+ **10** With complement a numeral To amount to (a specified number) *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* 13327 A legion ys of fyfe pat wex bowrnyd, as I vnderstande sexti & xxx. *Ib* 13937

**Wax** (weks), *v*.[2] Also 4–5 **waxe**, pa. pple. **waxed**, **-yd**, **waxe**de [? Wax *sb*.[1]

The ME form *waxe* may be an unhist derivative (= ON *vaxa*, OHG *wahsan*, MHG *wahsen* mod G *wachsen*, Du *wassen*), but this is not certain, because we have also a frequent form of Wax *sb*.[1]

**1** *trans* To cover with a layer of wax, to dress with wax, to polish or stiffen with a dressing of wax. Also with *over*

*c* 1386 [see Waxed *ppl a*] *c* 1390 Chaucer *Astr Prol* 140 This tole I & wexede my table in Winter of a peyre tables 1398 Trevisa *Barth De I* xix lxi (1495) 891 Tables ben waxed and dressed with wexe and ben plonyd *Ib*, For diuers vse lynnen clothes ben wexyd *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS Digby 182) 201, Pat one manere [of horn] is waxed with grene wex and gretter of sowne *Ibid*, A good hunture horne should be well y-waxe, & pikker or pynne, after at he hunter liketh pat it woll best sowne 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Cirer*, to waxe 1615 in *The Monastick Siege I Inties* 40 As a Shoomaker waxeth his thread 1659 H Turberville *Walk Knowes Wark* 8 You are to take notice next of the manner, how to wax your winter boots 1666 [I Fowler] *Finer Industry* 56 Small boards or tables of wood waxed over, were in frequent use among the Inter Romans to write in 1825 J Nicholson *Oper Mech* 749 Many cabinet makers are contented with waxing common furniture 1833 [S Sharpe] *Lett 7 Domins*, xxiii (1835) 131 With that I waxed a thread, and got a new button 1848 Dickens *Dombey* liv, The floors were waxed and polished 1861 Miss Hickson *Eng. as I Found it*, The elegant tin ramus whose sole accomplishments consist in putting his hair, waxing his mustaches, and smoking a meerschaum 1886 J H Round *Feudal Englan*, *Jacklin* 160 Waxing your silk a fresh, I ten it with two hands

+ **b** *Photogr*. To saturate (paper) with wax. *Obs.*

1853 *J Geary's Waxed Paper Process* 5 It is proper after the development of the image down to it require to be again waxed to obtain a positive picture 1856 *Orr's Circ Sci, Pract Chem* 146 Mode of Waxing the Negatives

+ **2.** To stop (an aperture) with cr as with wax Also with *up Obs*

1577 Tusser *Husb* (E D S) 251 Alle pat herde pat horne wis heden it had be wexed with a wisp of hines 1697 Dampier *Voy* I 232 Some of them that had not wax up their Cannon 1702 C Schoche *Boras*, wx all their Powder 1709 I Robinson *Trad Mutuach* 91 They fill their little Cells with Honey, and then do so wax it up, that it may not run out and out.

+ **3.** To join with wax *Obs* or *sb.*[1]

1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met* I *Iron form Spring* 36 He form'd the Reeds, proportion'd as they are. Unequal in their length, and wax'd with care

**4** *Leather manuf* To dress (a skin) with a mixture of lamp black, oil, etc.

1885 A Watt *Leather Manuf* 348 Prusse on the flesh and grain up, then wax them [se the skin]

**Wax** (weks), *v*.[3] *dial* [? Wax *sb*.[1] *mix to wax* = *to mix into anger*.] *trans*. To vex, irritate, *up*

1859 Dickens *Haunted House* vii 33/2 No, wench, dunna wax up so, whativer's done, s done

**Wax** (waks), *v*.[4] *U.S. colloq. trans*. To beat thoroughly, gain a decisive victory over (Funk)

1884 A Putnam *Ten Years after Civil War* 207 Mr Bungle would soon have [out of twelve times] be waxed but for the commiseration and the magnanimity of [etc.] 1905 *Century Dict*, Suppl, *Wax*, to beat, thrash

**Wax-bee** *prov*. A name given to the fruit of certain plants and also to the plants themselves. a The genus *Myrsica*, esp *M. cerifera* of North America (Bayberry) b = Snow berry 2 (Webster 1911)

1835 Mooney *Ten Years After* II 197, I could really employ those lonely people in taking from the whitish wax berries, their yield would stand a profitable ratio of the price of wax and tallow, which is mixed with common tallow and used by the colonists for making candles 1892 Stevenson *In South Seas* (1900) 308 Lamps were contrived with cocoa-nut shells, dry leaves and a spray of waxberry 1897 F Glascutt *Hints for Field* 100, I found him peacefully employed basting wax berries for the manufacture of candles

**Wax-bill.** *sb.* Any one of numerous small birds of the *Ploceidæ* or Weaver bird family, whose bills have a waxy appearance; *esp* one of the genus *Estrelda*, the best-known species being *E. astrild* of South Africa

1758 G Edwards *Nat Hist Birds* 270 The Wax Bill The Bill is red, and the Cheeks, like Wax; whence it has I suppose gave the Bird its Name 1769 Lady Mary Coke *Journ* 19 Aug (1889) III 137 The two little birds the Prince of Wales gave me, seem to be the same as some of the Duchess of Montagu's and I think she calls them wax bills 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond, Labour* II 72 In St Helena birds, known also as wax bills and red bills, there is a trade to the same extent 1873–82 A H Layard *Birds S. West Asia* 270 *Estrelda Cinta* 17 July 14/3 The name waxbill is in fact of those misleading trade names that cover many species of small birds 1894 Lydekker *Ibis* 4 Waxbills have brightly coloured bills resembling sealing-wax

**b** *attrib* or *adj* = prec.

1776 P Brown *Hamite Zool* 72 White tailed Wax bill Finch 1783 Latham *Gen Synops Birds* I ii 507 Wax-bill Grosbeak

**Wax-billed,** *a.* In names of certain birds: Having a bill resembling sealing wax

1776 P Brown *Hamite Zool* 70 The Red rumped Wax billed Finch 1782 Latham *Gen Synopsis Birds* I ii 507 Wax billed Arbet

+ **Wax-bred.** *Obs* [f. Wax *sb*.[1] + Bred *ppl a*.] A wax tablet Also *transf* a 'table', list

In quot 1600 and a 1175 misapplied to the stone Tables of the Decal gue

*c* 960 *Lacnunga Anfic* (Schr-Wü) 91 92 Wexal rædu [L *tabulæ*] *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* II 136 I wrihte se Ælmihtiga Godd him twa stænene wexal rædu mid his agenum fingre 1595 *Lisbetha's Handlin in Anglia* VIII 332 Sow as her after ensuithede no anne vthre on Iesum ælfte fel endum wexbredum, pe se awrihen hedh gescrife *c* 1275 (*title II* 20 23), per after wrede God pa pe Iuph mosen tuu wexe his him self in stanene wexbredes. 1853 Kemble *Codex Diplom* V 1 Ælfred kyning, ælc pyse boc awrat on pæs use of such tablets, which we may call the wax books, was kept on]

**Wax candle.** A candle made of wax.

*c* 1785 *Cowper Char* (Hesiod) 1419 *Lunatics cease*, wax-candel *a* 1000 *Ign Christ* in W Wulker 202/28 *Ceres* wexcandel 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* R xvi 321 (1495) 858 They that serue in churches of wexe candyls ben called Ceroferini *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 205 Pan is per mo[re] cros of a wax candul leyde on hys breste *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 318 Sitting in a chaire, & looking vpon a wax candle which burnt before her 1605 Foxwriter *Pr Cur Ord*, Make readie the Siluer candlestickes with the wax candles 1753 Hanway *Trav* II xxxiii 324 In the middle of the room was one large wax-candle 1840 Miss A Marsh *Father Darcy* II xviii 300 Blazing wax candles 1892 Kate Douglas Wiggin *Penny Here* I 22 Two waxen candles, five lbs. weight to be burnt before the high altar of the church

*attrib* 1665 *Cup of Coffee* in Harleian *Misc* I (1866) 360/1 About forty of your grandmothers ghosts upon in your wax candle circles

**Wax-chandler.** [See Chandler 2.] One whose trade is to make or sell wax candles.

1418 *Rolls* (1482) 74 John Baldok, Waxchandeler of London 1466 *Patent Rolls* 19 John Orford, wax chandeler for all Churches in London candell of *lb*, *ivs id ob* 1503 *Pipe Wardr Liv Exp* 11 b (1830) 13 John Hynsted of St Andrews, Waxchandler for wyfes of wite wax [et] 1543 in *Acts Hen VI* c 12 The waxchandelers and dyers of this realme 1583 *Stow Annals Lond* 695 The Company of Wax Chandlers, whose Hall is a faire house of very ancient building, became yet to be incorporated in Anno 1484 1706 *Phillips Wax*, No 2287 a William Rock, late of St Saviours Waxchandler 1861 J A Froude *Fr Conts* I viii 197 The old wax chandler was a well-to-do many years standing.

+ **Wax-chandlery, -chandry.** *Obs* The department of a royal household concerned with the provision and storage of wax candles

1398 *Acc Exch K R* 476/13 m 2 Et eidem pr q certuis emptis pro q estus in le Wexch candels pr 1600 in Jeaffre son *Hale's County Rec.* (1880) I 28 The Wake Chandrie

**Wax doll.**

**1.** A doll with head and bust (often also the limbs) of wax

1828 Miss Mitford *Village*, *Country Parlor* III 165 A certain huge wax doll, called Sophy, who died the usual death of wax dolls, by falling out of the nursery window 1834 Dickens *Sk Boz*, *Learning to L* Mrs Tibbs looked like a wax doll on a sunny day

*attrib* 1892 Miss Gaskell *New Lett* (1903) II 50 Her wax doll face took the fancy of boys at that period

**2.** *pl* = Pumitory.

1855 Anne Pratt *Flowers Pl* I 81 The flowers [*Fumaria officinalis*] are in close compact and tipped with purple and children, in many parts of East call them wax dolls 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant n*

**Waxed** (wakst), *ppl a* [f. Wax *v*.[2] + -ed.]

In the senses of the verb, esp, coated with a layer of wax, polished or stiffened with wax, dressed or saturated with wax e g for water-proofing

*a* 1380 *St Augustine* 87 in Horstm *Altenl Leg* (1878) 68 In a waxed table He writ 1388 Wyclif *Christ Emblem* 98 His [Christ's] waxed wang, that is, his cheke, is the vilte, they melted streighte 1597 A M tr *Gratiemeau's Fr Chirurg* 25 b This suture is de ne with a waxed threde 1633 J Ley *Annals* 1902 (1904) 78 [He paid 16 shillings] for soleing 4 of the boys pumps & for waxing of *Ye Angeling* (1653) 11 You must wax all these grounds upon a waxed silk *c* 1790 Jackson *Wk Arts* II 46 When you take off the paper you will find every leaf wax'd, and draw with the black lead pencil upon the waxed plate 1846 Britton *Oper Song* 347 The piercer is withdrawn and a double waxed thread put in through its canula 1886 *Pall Mall G* 11 Mar, Waxed floors very slippery 1887 D C Murray *Hearts* xxi Tapping his visitor's hat with the waxed end of his long cane 1900 *Water Supply Engin* 1 Waxed paper is used for the

b *Leather manuf* Of a skin Dressed on the flesh side with a mixture of lamp black and oil

1825 J C *Pulleyn's Cycl Useful Arts* (1866) II 46 The skin of leather is now usually called black in the flesh or waxed on the under side, which is the side rubbed on the hair or grain side 1883 Simonds *Dict Useful Arts*, *Waxed Leathers*, a trade name for certain leathers prepared for the inner side of the upper 1886 *Encycl Britannica Manuf* 341 Waxed Leather *Ibid* 350 Waxed Calf skins

c. *Photogr* Of paper, a paper negative saturated with wax.

1853 *Jeffery's Waxed Paper Process* 8 Method of rendering the tablet waxed paper sensitive *Ibid* 16 Renovating the transparency of the waxed paper 1857 W Crookes *Hand Bk Wax Paper Process* 2 Waxing 1875 White this has often place the waxed sheets must be separated one from the other

d **waxed end** = *wax end* (Wax *sb*.[1] 3a)

1914 *Daily News* 30 June 4 It is curiously due to the awl and the waxed end

**Waxen** (wæ·ksĕn), *a*. Also 7 *Sc.* **waxin** [f. Wax *sb*.[1] + -en.]

Of the nature of, consisting of (M Du, (M) G *wassen*, (Hl) -*enhelm*, OHG -*ihtin*, *-ehtin*, mod G *wachsen*) = Of or 'made of' wax.

1 Made of wax

*c* 1000 Sax *Leechd* III 210 Hlaf wexenne [? *cereum*], pon for gan se æ emlice pinum fet [subjunctive mood refers to Gif *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* II 136 Sume hæfdon wexgene sceat in sidi. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii (1811) 210 The who he rule he kepte dayly by waxen tapers kepte by certayne persones 1590 Spenser *F Q* III i 58 Eftsoones loue, waxen torches weren light, Yt to direct bowres of auncient knight 1591 Sharp *Invect* (1840) 21 I am very loth to have the Church like a waxen nose, to be drawen to the lewes no impression of the truth it was 1611 Cotgr (*s ultives* 36 b) the light of a waxen candle 1643 Abbe Rem *Mel Hist autumn* 40 That it is not lawful to burn Candles in that our waxen kingdom thinies 1646 Crashaw *Steps Delights Wks* 125, The working Bees fit matter for that, That with their waxen Mines can fit 1667 Milton *P L* xii 431 The Fiery Seraph that warms Eells With Holies at the Altar 1706 *Phillips Wax*, *Cereus* (1720) 21 They use but the artificial Counterfeit of Virgin Trees Indian with waxen Fruit 1782 *Pr Bk Acts* (1793) III 440 A French bishop cannot give his vicar a certificate of the loss of his seal after the same is sent to the conquered gem 1825 *Scott Talisman* xiii, Let the waxen tapers which the hermit lights be as cheerful as to the place 1865 *Macmillan's Mag* XII 117 A waxen figure was dragged at our Westminster festival 1866 *Jeaffreson Brides*

Mus 1440/3 Waxen Flowers and Fruit 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 286/1 The metal (or lead) plates covered with a waxen composition.

b *Waxen image*. spec. an effigy in wax representing a person whom t was desired to injure by witchcraft

The victim was believed to waste away as the wax melted in the fire and to suffer pain from stabs or the like inflicted in the effigy. Of such magic above

1685 (J. SINCLAIR) *Satans Invis World* 101 The Waxen Image being found and broken the King did recover 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* viii 101 Around his waxen Image first I wind Three woollen Fillets 1821 LAMB *Elia, Witches* 87 Their maidens pined away, wasting inwardly as their waxen images consumed before a fire 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. 1 *Leech Fishest*, Fixed against the door's) was a waxen image—of himself! 1870 ROSSETTI *Sister Helen* 1 Why did you melt your waxen man, Sister Helen?

2 *transf.* and *fig.* As if made of wax. a With reference to the softness, impressibility, or fusibility of wax. Chiefly of immaterial things (often with opposition to *steel* or *marble*).

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I ii 912 The World's owne Matter is a waxen Lump, Which, in vtil changing, takes all kind of stamp 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II* III iii 58 Oh thou the earthy author of my blood with thy blessings steele my lances point, that it may enter Mowbrayes waxen Coate 1603 — *Lucr.* 1240 For princes are the glasse, the schoole, the booke, Where subiects eyes, and minders 1853 MARVELL *Corr* (Grosart) II 4 Truly he is of a gentle and waxen disposition 1787 G. CANNING *Pocket* 28 Watch o'er my son, inform his waxen youth, 1796 (see MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ* (1832) II 424 those who remain are of that waxen substance called the men of property 1849 LYTTON *E. Arthur* III i, But men are waxen when the Fates are steel 1852 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxi, This fellow would make weakness weak, And melt the waxen hearts of men

b. With reference to the smooth and lustrous surface of things modelled in wax Said, e g., of fruits, flowers, youthful limbs Also applied to the pallor of a corpse or a sick person

*a* 1700 SEDLEY *Virg. Past.* ii Wks 1722 I 268 And waxen Plumbs [*L. cerea prima*] 1743 FRANCIS tr *Hor., Odes* I xiii 11 His rosy neck, and waxen limbs [*L. cerea brachia*] 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* viii, But the small waxen form [of the dead baby] had been composed afresh 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp* xxxii (1856) 96 It makes a man feel badly to see the faces around him bleaching into waxen paleness 1894 CRICKETT *Authors* 211, I saw a few waxen lobes of bell heath, perfectly white

¶ c. ? As if written on wax, soon effaced *nonce-use.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I ii 233 Or else our grace I like Turkish mute, shall haue a tongueless mouth, Not worshipt with a waxen Epitaph

3 Covered or coated with wax, loaded with wax.

*Waxen wings* often in allusions to the story of Icarus see ICARIAN *a* 1

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III i 127 The honie bags steale from the humble Bees, And for night tapers crop their waxen thighes *c* 1590 MARLOW *Faustus* (1604) Chorus 22 Till swolne with cunning, of a selfe conceit His waxen wings did mount aboue his reach, And melting heate drew cruell him downe his ouerthrow 1603 HACON *Ad Fratr.* I ii § 3 Hence it is true th t diuers great learned men haue beene hereti ll, whilest they haue sought by their wits to the secrets of the Deitie by the waxen wings of the Sences 1605 I n PARS. ton *Booth* v 23 As heretofore with a swift Stile Men vsed on waxen Tables t o letters and Figures to the graue 1781 COWPER *Anti Thelyphth* 54 She tutor'd some in Dedalus's art, And promis'd they should On waxen pinions s ve without a fall 1789-94 MORSE *Amer Geog* II 17 The old manner of writing before the use of paper of any kind, and waxen tables, was known

4 Special collocations **waxen chatterer**, the Bohemian waxwing, *Ampelis garrulus*, + **waxen vein** *Min.*, argilliferous marlite

1793 BEWICK *Brit Birds* II 24 B lk Tail, or *Waxen Chatterer (Ampelis Garrulus*, Lin) 1868 JOHNS *Brit Birds* 623 Waxen Chatterer (*Waxwing*, 1881 CREW *Mus Geneva* III 51 *Ampelis* (Waxwing) *Garrulus Bohemicus* A Stone composed of two distinct Bodies 1709 S DALE *Pharmacol* Suppl 24 Tudus Piræ elue. Waxen Vein 1740 *Phil. Trans* XLI 857 Waxen or Argillaceous Marle 1796 Hellmo in which is also found in great Plenty on the Sea shore near the Shaw at Scarborough

5 Comb., as *waxen faced, hued, -like, -winged* adjs

1856 KANE *Arct Expl* I xx 170 Three steady, and as many waxen faced men 1906 *Chamb Journ* Feb 126/2 A sorrow laden, waxen hued face 1845 HT ar *Coming of Messiah* xix 34 How waxen like h buds! 1909 *Essex Arch* XVIII 73 Waxen like flowers of t le pink 1645 QUARLES *Sol Recant* viii 9 Since waxen winged Honour is not void Of danger

+ **Waxen**, *pl a Obs* [strong pa. pple of WAX *v*.] Grown up, full grown, adult *Little wexen*, young.

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2060 Me drempte, it stod at a win tre, dat adde waxen lupes re 1338 R. BR NNE *Chron* 181 ‡ 292 Himself in his liking, & had no waxen lesyre I might kepe pe coroune, if he of lond went 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus* 30 23 A litle waxe i man [*Vulg. a tolis cutibulum*] 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret* 161 When hit is waxen lere, an hit is 1503 vnneth hit may bowe *a* 1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula* 161 pe 31 long men or waxen men, I hafe seene fe (*se fistulas*) eauer be cured 1555 RIDLEY *Conser in Foxe Acts & M* (1563) 1 1170 The Lordes supper is and ought to be ceuen to them t t are waxen 1509 *Actur. pr Parmest* II 182 po de tey to thinke that this child s waxen dyse Wt the well spente when manner beares no awaye 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* IX 414 Such a man can neither seduce his (pupil s) minority with ill examples, nor mante his waxen age with s false in tension

+ **Waxen**, *v*.1 *Obs.* Also **wexen, waxden.**

In several writers of the 16th c (chiefly poetical) the forms WAXEN, WEXEN occur for WAX *v*.1, but only in those parts of the verb (inf. and pa. pples pl present) in which these were in Mdr. the normal inflected forms of WAX. Thus in my some times be due to intentional grammatical archaism, but when these forms are used by writers whose grammar is in all other respects normal, it seems probable that the inflexional *waxen* in quotations from older writers was mistaken for a verb synonymous but not identical with *wax*. It has been thought desirable to give here all the examples in our historical, in order that their individual significance may be judged of by comparison The 17th c quots from H More, which are added for completeness, are of course intentionally archaistic

1540 CRANMER *Bible* Prol ‡ 3 h, Anone they r consciences be be admonished, and they waxen sory & ashamed of the euyll 1542 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 4 And contrariewise, what thynges been moste honest the same waxen also moste shamefull, what moste haue been accustomed into them 1586 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul* 1039 The courage of the Mountaigewes, by Romeus sight doth growe, The townes men waxen strong the prince doth send his force 1595 GOI DING *Ovid's Met* III 850 That I scales chappes did waxen wide but nosethrils waxed flat 1597 *Iliad* XIV 327, I felt a hooked greyne I oo waxen hard vpon my mouth 1584 PERLE *Armin Panv* V 3 Now when Corah is swallowed vp, shall not vpon SHAKS *Mids N* II i 56 And then the whole quire hold their hips, and loffe, And waxen in their mirth 1590 VALLANS *Faire Maid* 1 Ere Phœbus bright in Aries I saw, As these lawnes waxen to waxen old 1594 BARNFIELD *Saphs Content* (Arb) 30 When their fleeces gin to waxen rough 1642 H MORE *Song of Soul* I iii 25 Till I waxen Wroth with my self 1647 — *Cupids Conspir* lxxv, Thus is the measure of mans industry To waxen some body and getten grace To 's out ward presence

+ **Waxen**, *v*.2 *Obs. rare* [f. WAX *sb*.1 + -EN 5.] *trans* To cover or dress with wax

1552 HULOET, *Waxen, cæro, cero* 1641 J JACKSON *Trus Exang* I 1 24 OTHER (Nero) staked through and waxened over like bodies, and so set them lighted up, as torches.

**Waxen-kernel.** *dial* [Of uncertain formation, the second element is KERNEL *sb*.1

Variants are *waxen chernel crindle, -crundle, -curl waxin, kernel, churnel, curl, waxy kernel* see *Eng. Dial Dict* I 680 The waxen element is originally WAXEN *a*., WAXEN *pl a*., or WAXING *vbl sb.* or *ppl a.*] = WAX KERNAL.

1500 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (1510) A ub, In plurali he glandule the waxen kernelles 1893 JAMESON, *Waxen kernel* 1896 N THOMSON *Dict Dom Med* 83 Popularly, these enlarged glands go by the name of 'waxen kernels'.

**Waxer** (wæ·ksə) [f WAX *v*.+ -ER 1] One who or something that waxes. a. One who waxes leather in currying. b (See quot 1875.)

1875 Knight *Dict Mech*, *Waxer*, an attchment to a leather sewing machine to wax the thread as it runs from the spool to the needle 1885 A WATT *Leather Manuf* 343 The waxer consists of the t o red side of the leather

**Waxey**, variant of WAXY *a*.1

**Wax flower, wax-flower.**

1 An imitation flower made of wax.

1843 A M'LAREN in E. J. M'Laren *Mem* (1911) 26 Mary, the wax flowers 1844 MRS. MERRYWEATHER *The Hand* book for modelling Wax Flowers 1858 GEO ELIOT *Scenes Cler Life, Janet's Repent* iii Wax flowers presupposes delicate fingers and patient eyes

*Comb.* 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, Wax flower maker

2 A name given to certain plants a. the genus *Hoya*, esp *H carnosa*, b. *Clusia insignis* of British Guiana (Ogilvie 1883), c. *Stephanotis floribunda* (*Cent. Dict*)

1848 GRISEBACH *Flor Barbados* 611 *Hoya carnosa*. Fleshy leaved Hoya Wax Flower 1884 W MILLER *Plant* II 1 144 Wax flower The genus *Hoya*

**Waxily**, -ness: see after WAXY *a*.1

**Waxing** (wæ·ksiŋ), *vbl. sb*.1 [f WAX *v*.1 + -ING 1.] 1 a (Wæ·ksəŋ) The process of growing; increase.

*c* 1055 *Ayrshi reth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII 293 Ponne se mona beo ta nihta eald, and na pænne his leoht beo zeeal on weaxunge 1897 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 6521 (Cnut rediressing the lord Honours of his Realme) Pe pouke wexinge pat pouke 13 *Cursor M* 7430 (Gott) Euer stod pai still in ane, widuten waxing [Cott wax] or wane 23 *Anues & Amil* 89 So like were they both in sight, And of one wexing 1738 *Gentl Magaz* 1 Peculk *Repr* III x 239 Think waxing in possessions was cause or occasion of their decreeing in vertues 1589 *Pappe with Hatchet* (Arb) 17 For the empire euer sounds lowder than when it was full, and protests more in his waining, than he could performe in his waxing 1658 URQUHART *Jewel* 134 The Moon, which was then but in the first week of her waxing 1678 *Gt Instaurac. of Lucian* 1 Their waning and waxings of light in those varial le objects 1870 *Eng Mech* 11 Mar 630/2 The waxing of the light of the satellite arises from the gradual passage out of the shadow

**Waxing,** *vbl. sb*.2 [f. WAX *v*.2 + -ING 1.]

1 The process of covering or dressing with wax.

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 519/1 Waxynge wythe wax, *cera io.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict*, *Caratura*, the waxinge 1699 H TURNER *Welb Amateur Walk* 8 Lastly, you must observe the waxing of the boot 1818 *Trs Preserv Peet* 147 The waxing of the thread is for the purpose of preventing it from slipping 1857 MILLER *Pract Chem*, *Org* 211 683 Pretence to sale, another process [for currying leather], technically termed waxing, is performed 1890 *Anthony's Photogr Bull* III 344 Before the stops is due to touching the waxed surface with the fingers after waxing

b. (See quot. 1858.)

1815 S PARKER *Chem Ess* II 128 *note*, In printing those silk handkerchiefs called Bandanas, a process called waxing is still followed 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, *Waxing*, the process of stopping out colours in calico printing

† c A method of cheating at dice. *Obs.*

1726 [see LEAVING *vbl sb*.1 † c]

2. *concr.* WAX as a polish on furniture

1825 J NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech* 745 Waxing, like varnish, is attended with inconveniences and advantages

**Waxing,** *ppl. a.* [f. WAX *v*.1 + -ING 2.] That WAXES, GROWS, or INCREASES.

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 7228 A grene weaunge tre pat is fram pe more Ismite adoun *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 7328 So waxinge (*Petyt MS* waxand) folk in al ire wrothe, Ne so grondinge, ne so plentyue As we ain of oure kynde, In no londe whilde mon lyuinge 1387-8 I. USK *Testl Love* III v (Skeat) 1 5 Resons of waxing fruit *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 471/2 Spry) gy ge, of a welle or oper waxynge wyzt, *scaturacio* 1598 SHAKS *Tit A* III i 95, I stand as one vpon a Rocke Who makes the waxing tide grow waue by waue 1666 DRYDEN *Anni Mirabil* 19, Each waxing Moon supplied her watry store, To swell those t ides. 1820 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (ed 2) 36 The mutable moon Stamps all the changes of her waxing phase. 1889 M CREIGHTON *Life in Life* (1904) I 263, I am sorry that you think me a waxing Conservative 1910 ROSEBERY *Chatham* 231 456 The Duke was at war with the waxing power of Leicester House

+ b. Of flesh: EXCRESCENT *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS Duff 32) 211, Sometyme commeth to ] e houndes sekenes in hir eyenn, for per commeth a webbe vpon hem and waxynge fleshe, pe which commeth into pe one syde of pe eye and ouerspredeth pat eye

† c. Of *Waxing kernel* = WAX-KERNEL, WAXEN-KERNEL *Obs.*

*c* 1460 *Medulla* (MS St. John's, Cambr.) in *Cath Angl.* 411 note 2 *Glandulæ, nodi* vel *waxing kernelle* cumulle. 1530 PALSGR 287/1 Waxyng kynels *glandes glanulers.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict*, *Iolies*, a waxynge kernell 1684 J S *Pryst & Clear Vnited* 206 Waxing Kernel, Strume, Choaking or the Strangles

† d. absol *In the waxand*, in the waxing (phase). Cf WANIAND

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 22496 Pe mone pat es na scene, quen it es in pe waxand sene

Hence † **Waxingly** *adv*., increasingly.

1483 *Cath Angl* 411/2 Waxingly, *auctim*

**Wax-kernel.** Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

[Prob. f WAX *sb*.2, either with the sense of 'a growth', or with reference to the growing-time of children (cf *wax-farrow*, *-gum*), and not associated with WAX *sb*.1] A hard glandular swelling in the neck or armpit or under the jaw. Also called WAXEN-KERNEL, WAXING-KERNEL

14 *Nom* in Wr Wülcker 707/29 *Hoc glandulum* a waxkyrnylle. 1589 E PRAYDON *Sacr Institure* 38b, As knots in woods, waxkernels in men, or scrofe in beliue 1596 NASHE *Iennite's Complet* III 110 b, Where pon haſten sometime behinde the eares Impostumes, botches and wexe kernelles. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wax-kernels* 1889 *Gentlem. Magaz's Med Vac* (ed 6) *Wax kernels*, popular name for irritated submaxillary glands

+ **Wax-lass,** *a. Obs.* [f WAX *v*.1 or *sb*.2 + -LESS.] Not liable to wax or increase.

*a* 1618 [see WANE-LESS].

**Wax-light.** A candle, taper, or night-light made of wax

*a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Aug. 1654, (Doncaster) a large fine towne, famous for great store of wax-light and stockings *a* 1725 PURNET *Own Time* III (1823) II 124 There were many drops of white wax lights on his breeches 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Chester's Young Lady's Jour* II 134 Strides over the wax lights softened from the sun 1808 SCOTT *Vis* 12 Apr (1891) 572 Tom S said in a whisper, 'I advise you to secure a wax light to go to bed with, shewing him a morsel which he had stolen from a sconce' 1853 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xx. IV 535 Within the Abbey, nave, choir, and transept were in a blaze with innumerable waxlights 1864 KINGSLEY *Arnold & I* v (1875) 70 The Emperor coming out to meet him with pr cessions and wax lights. 1870 *Chamb Journ* 16 Apr 241/1 Visions of private sitting rooms, wax lights, bad wines, at once rise before his experienced eyes

+ **Waxloke.** *Obs.*—? (Unexplained.)

*c* 1 *Allit I* B 1037 And per waltes of pat water in waxlokes greie, pe spumande aspaltoun pat aspyeres vellen

**Wax-maker.**

1 A maker of wax or of wax candles. ? *Obs*

14 *Nom* in Wr Wülcker 688/29 *Hic cerarius*, whaxmaker 1483 *Cath Angl* 411/2 A Waxe maker, *cerarius* 1515 *Guild Br St Mary, Boston* (MS) fol 25 In stipendio William Pannell Waxmaker 1598 *Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II 271 Maister Anthony Fish ne wax maker

2. A worker bee that makes wax.

Translating Huber's term (*abeille*) *cirière*

1814 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol* (1828) I 493 When wax is not wanted in the hive, the wax makers disgorge then honey into the cells 1826 *Ibid* XIX II 128 There are two sorts of workers the wax-makers and nurses 1838 *Partington's Nat Cycl. Nat Hist* I 328

So **Wax-making** *vbl sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1843 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II 172 Costes and damages of the wax makers 1845 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* IV (1828) I 492 The stomach in the wax making bees is much larger than in the nurse bees

**Wax-plant.** A name given to various plants either yielding a vegetable wax or having a waxy appearance, *esp.* a. the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*, b. any species of *Hoya*, as *H carnosa*, c. the corpse plant, *Monotropa uniflora*

1801 J HARROW *Trav S Afr* I 19 In most of the sandy flats are found two varieties of the *Myrica cerifera* or wax plant 1866 MRS H WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xxxv, Mamma made me bring this down at once for your conservatory . It is a wax plant and a very beautiful one 1875 MILLER *St Helena* 321 Hoya carnosa, Wax plant *Hab* China. 1877 SIR C WARREN *On Fields in Structures* (1900) 379 On the window there hung a 'wax plant,' which has beautiful waxen looking flowers 1879 WEBSTER Suppl, *Wax plant*, a white fleshy plant (*Mon otropa uniflora*)

**Wax-scot:** see next.

**Wax-shot.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [WAX *sb.*[1] + SHOT *sb.*[1] OE. had *waxgescot* (Wulfstan): whence the form *wax-scot* in 18–19th cent. Dicts.] A customary payment made for the maintenance of lights in churches.

1[3]. *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 190 *marg.*, To pave for the mayntenyng off the wax and lights, iiij. d. [*marg.*, in later hand, 'Waxshote'). 15[3]. in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Ser.* II. XIV. 238 Every householder payeth . for Wax-shot and Gardens two pence. 1664 [see MAUNDREL]. 1708 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Waxshot* or *Wax-scot.* 1889 [J. CHAMBERS] *Gen. Hist. Norfolk* II. 968 *note*, Ceraigium, or waxshot, was the term used for money expended in church lights.

**Wax taper.**

1. A taper made of wax.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxii. (1495) 898 A wexe tapre hyght Cereus of cera wexe for it is made of wexe. 1408–17 in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (introd. p. xcvi, And xij. wex tapers to be set vpon euery crosse. 1676 A. MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks (1-rosart) IV. 97 Demetrius had no more reason in law against them, than a chandler might have had, if by Paul's preaching, wax-tapers . had grown out of fashion. 1765 J. Brown *Chr. Trnl., Harvest Day* 216 Such is the death of the wicked: but may I like a wax-taper, leave a sweet and edifying savour of Christ behind me. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 148 Ignited by means of a long wax taper.

†2. A cone-shell (see quot.).

1819 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wax Taper, *Conus Virgo.*

**Wax-tree.** A name given to various trees, of different localities, yielding vegetable or insect wax; *esp.* a. the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*, of North America; b. the privet, *Ligustrum lucidum*, of China; c. the genus *Viscia* of South America; d. the varnish-tree of South America, *Elæagia utilis*; e. the Japanese shrub *Rhus succedanea.*

1792 W. BARTRAM *Trnl.* 405 A species of Myrica (Myrica lucifera)...which the French inhabitants call the Wax tree.

1[7]9. CURTIS *Bot. Mag.* 2563 Ligustrum lucidum. Chinese Privet, or Wax-tree. 1803 *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8vo) VI. 188 The *myrica cerifera*, or wax tree. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 159/1 *Wax-tree*, the common name of the plants belonging to the genus *Viscia*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1197/2 The natives [S. America] speak of the tree producing this resin, *Elæagia utilis*, as the Wax tree or Varnish tree. *Ibid.* 1239/2 Wax-tree...Japan, *Rhus succedaneum.* 1890 HOOKER *West China* 197 The tree is known to the Chinese as the *Pai-la shu*, or 'white wax tree.'

**Waxwing** (wæ·ksˌwiŋ). A passerine bird of the genus *Ampelis* (*Bombycilla*), esp. *A. garrulus*, the Bohemian waxwing.

1817 J. F. STEPHENS *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 420 The Waxwings, which have been described from the Chasseurs of Monsieur Vieillot, have a most remarkable and peculiar appendage on the tips of some of the quills, which has very much the appearance of red sealing-wax. *Ibid.* 421 Bohemian Waxwing. *Ibid.* 422 Carolina Waxwing. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* xi. 214 Among the rarer birds found in this district, were the Bohemian Waxwing or Chatterer (*Bombycilla garrula*). 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 616/1 The Carolina Wax-wing, alias cedar or cherry bird. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. Birds* (1892) 348 A large flock of waxwings.. was well worth seeing.

**Waxwork** (wæ·ksˌwɹk).

1. Work executed in wax.

1793 BLACKMORE *Affords* 1. 67 Th' industrious Tenants of the narrow Hive ..fetch Home to their Cells the Wax to renew.

2. *esp.* Modelling in wax; an object or objects modelled in wax; usually applied to life-size effigies of persons, with head, hands, and bust of wax, coloured and clothed to look like life.

1697 *Post Boy* 20–23 Nov. 2/2 At the Golden Salmon in St. Martins, near Aldersgate is to be seen, in the Wax-work, about Fifty Figures, all big as the Life. 1701 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 103 Vo Procession which began before 7 with 12 Pageants of History In Waxwork. 1709[4]. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm. Wks.* 1719 III. 160 There stood Edward III as they told us, which was a broken Piece of Waxwork, a batter'd Head, and a Straw-stuff'd Body. 1774 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 24 Jan., I was desired by Mrs. Wright, of New-York, to let her take my effigy in wax-work. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxvii, I've seen wax-work quite like life. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* iv. 18, It's no good my being kept here like Wax-Work, is it now?' 'People have to pay to see Wax-Work, my dear,' returned her husband.

*fig.* 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 21 Homer gives us figures that breathe and move. Virgil usually treats us to waxwork.

*b. pl.*

1772 COLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 267 Of Mummies, Wax-Works, &c. 1896 S. BUTLER *Life & Lett. Dr. S. Butler* I. 228 This can only be surpassed . by Dr. Arnold's taking the terracotta figures of the Varese chapels for waxworks.

3. An exhibition of wax figures representing celebrated or notorious characters; also, the place of exhibition. Now *pl.*

1796 T. MORTON *Way to get Married* v. i, You must show me the sights—The Hons at the Tower,..the parliament-house, and the wax-work. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* vii. § 67 Escorting two or three coaches full of country-cousins..to the Lions, the Wax-work, the Monument, &c. 1831 *Crockley's Hist. Lond.* 122 Wax Works. Fleet Street. 1837 THACKERAY *Rowenswing* ii, He looked like a figure out of a wax-work. 1839 SIR H. IRVING in *Daily News* 17 June 6/4 'You didn't go to the Lyceum!' Why not?' 'Well, sir, you see there's the missus, and she preferred the wax-works.'

*Cf. S.* The climbing bitter-sweet, *Celastrus scandens*; so called from the waxy scarlet aril of the fruit.

1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 81 *Celastrus scandens* (Wax-work. Climbing Bitter-sweet).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *waxwork-figure*, *-show*; **waxwork-man**, the proprietor of a waxworks.

1897 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 135/1 There is a wax-work Pope, and a wax-work Court of Rome. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, Whenever a juggler, or waxwork man, or concert-giver, takes Great Winglebury in his circuit. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xxvii, Mrs. Jarley's wax-work show. *Ibid.* xxix, She slept..in the room where the waxwork figures were. 1889 R. BUCHANAN in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 912 The highway is strewn with the corpses of dead poets who never lived,..with loud inglorious Cowleys, with waxwork Popes. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VIII. i, The House of Commons has become a tear-garden, and t'other House a wax-work show.

**Wax-worker.** A worker in wax: a. a bee that makes wax; b. a maker of waxwork (Worcester 1860).

1821 tr. *Huber's New Observ. Nat. Hist. Bees* (ed. 3) 330 When hives are full of combs, the wax workers disgorge their honey into the ordinary magazines, making no wax.

So **Wax-working** *a.* (of a bee) that makes wax.

1827 E. BRYAN *Honey-Bee* 367 The power of producing wax is common both to the nursing- and wax-working bees.

**Waxy** (wæ·ksi), *a.*[1] Also **7 waxey.** [f. WAX *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

†1. Made of wax, waxen. *Obs.*

1558 HULOET, Waxie or of waxe, *cereus.* 1615 *Montgomerie's Cherrie & Slae* v. in Ramsay *Evergreen* (1875) II. 201 And suin [sees] the waxie Veschells wrocht, Thair Purchase to pryce. 1634 K. LEIGH *Accidence* which is secreted by the stipules. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 89 In company with the cuticular bodies there are usually found compound bodies of waxy nature.

*b. fig.* Of a person, his heart, mind: Soft, plastic, impressionable like wax.

1596 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 88 If you had had a waxye hart Thou hadst house melt at hot desyre. 1608 HP. HALL *Char.* II. 121 The Hypocrite..He is serulle in imitation, waxey to persuasions. 1632 T. GOFF *Courageous Turk* II. v, Thinke you my minde is waxie, to be wrought, By any Application? 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 284/1 IV. 99 Now..that the softer waxy part of you, may receive some impression from this Discourse, let us close all with an Application. 1881 *Spectator Lett.* 13 Nov. *Lett.* (1880) I. 93 If you will impress this on the waxy mind of —— I shall be truly and unaffectedly obliged to you.

3. Resembling wax in colour or consistence; (of a quality) like that of wax. Often said of boiled potatoes that have not become 'mealy'.

1835–6 *Todd's Cyclo. Anat.* I. 408/1 The..waxy appearance which those who are the subjects of this disease [i. e. chlorosis] generally exhibit. 1842 HOOD *Tale of Trumpet* 209 Two Policemen talking like Hodge, and your ears as dull as waxy potatoes! 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 6 Ground colour a clear primrose, edging a bright purple, petals very waxy. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *Kathie* I. 56 A kitchen way of great antiquity leads directly from St. Catherine's Hill down to the river. 1910 D. G. HOGARTH in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 248/1 The latest type of tomb is a fairly large chamber approached by a horizontal or slightly inclined way, whose sides converge above it.

*Transf.* 1894 HOLMES *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 If the Moone should wander from her beaten way.

b. In figurative context, with reference to a metaphorical walking or travelling. *Parting of the ways*: see PARTING *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

† *Way of indulgence*: said of the Virgin Mary as the medium or channel of God's mercy to the world. (Cf. Christ's words in John xiv. 6, 'I am the Way..: no man cometh to the Father but by me.')

c 1845 *Vesp. Psalter* cxviii. 12 Fot..min stud in wege ðæm rehtan. c 1050 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 3 Æcatuas woes drihtnes. [Vulg. *parate viam Domini*]. *Ibid.* vii. 13 Rumwelle weg ðæ liedas in to helle. *Ibid.* xxii. 16 Soðlice in Dar ðe wei is alder and we liðlicne to fællen. c 1400 *Pety Job* 203 in *Pol. Poems* xxv. 149 All the paines thow hast weite That euer I yolde to the, by wey of iniquite. *Mother of God* 8 Modir of mercy, wey of indulgence. 1678 CANTON *Receipell* (Sommer) 213 Thou haste passd the strayte ways and passage of Infidume fro whens thou art yssued cler as the sonne. 1802 SHARP. *Hum. Life* II. 277 But in the beaten way of friendship, What make you at Ekonower? 1803 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 1. 45 The traunaile therein taken, seemeth to haue ben rather a Maze, than a way. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns* 'Join all the glorious Names' v, O let my Feet ne'er..rove, nor seek the crooked Way. 1898 M. PEMBERTON *Phantom Arrow* 1. The way before him was no longer hidden in darkness. He saw that it lay straight —the road to the prison or the scaffold.

c. A main road connecting different parts of a country. Now *rare* except in names of Roman roads, as the rendering of *via*, *iter*, *cl.* HIGHWAY.

† *The king's way*: = the king's HIGHWAY.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 28 Aug. 156 On þam wege þe æt Rome is nemned Salaria. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xxi. 22 Swa swa se weg lið we furað [Vulg. *via regia ibimus*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 169 Veire weies manion per þeþ in engelonde, Ac voure mest of alle, þou þe olde kinges imad. 1303 *Nennius* (*ster Cartul.* (Surtees) 52 The Sticteleyike per Hedeleey wal ynque ea le Spenstrete. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 541, ij. acris of arable lond, streeche them-self fo the north toward the sowthe beside the kynges wey. 1582 CRT. *Lett St.* 510 pe grounde..in brede fo London weye stretchyng vnto a Corner of a Close of pe Trinite Gildes. c 1589 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IX. 227 There was a weye crossed in

four the one waye was towarde Fraunce 1533 BILLERDEN *Lett* v 119 A stempull was commandit to be maid in ye new way quhirre pe voce was herde 1535 COVERDALE *Judges* v 6 In the tyme of Iuel the wayes fayled 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig Brit* iv 63 Wherever the Romans inhabited, they may be traced by their Ways, by their Buildings [etc.] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III 282/2 The Overseers of the Ways are Men chosen yearly for to see, and put in repair all decayed Highways within the Bounds of the Parish 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr* I xxxi, Broad on the left before him lay, For many a mile the Roman way. 1840 ARNOLD *Hist Rome* xxxii II 288 Nor will the mightiest works of modern engineers ever rival the fame of the Appian Way

**d.** *transf.* In Milky Way and various synonyms

c725 *Corpus Gl* 52 (Hessels) U 174 *Uia lactea*, tunges uueg c1386 [see Milky Way] 1555 Milke way [see Milk 2c] 1555 Mylke whyte way [see Milk-white a 1.] 1583 FULKE *Meteors* (1571) 38 The mylke waye called of some the waye to saint Iames, and Watlyng strete 1594 BLUN DEVIL *Exerc, Cosmog* I xxi (1597) 168 The milke-white impression in heauen, that is called a white way, called of the common people our Ladies Way 1775 *Blomefield's Hist Norf* V 539 They believed the Milky Way was appointed by Providence to point out the particular place and residence of the virgin, beyond all other places, and was, on that account, generally in that age, called Walsingham Way; and I have heard old people of this country, so to call it, to distinguish it some years past 1844 M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Hist Table Bk* Leg Div II 86 The Via lactea, or Milky way, which the peasantry of the North frequently designate 'the way'.

**e.** A road considered with reference to the condition of its surface or to difficulties or dangers of transit

a900 *O F Mastyrd* 18 Þær 3ø wildan hors sceoldon iornan [on] heorde weaxen in westenne & hm þa lima all [to] brecon 1418 in *F F Illst* 31, I be quethe to the mendyng of the feble & foule weye be-side Portmannes Crosse als 1527 *Inventories* (Surtees) I 128 I leanneid a pece of evill waie betweene my house and Hampistwhaite, xvjd 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v 926 When blood is nipt, and ways be foule 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* x 10, I acquainted my proceedings to God and my feete to the hard brusing way 1663 PATRICK *Journ Palgr* II (1687) 5 The weather was cold, the ways dirty and slippery 1710 CPLR FLEMMER *Diary* (1888) 135 To Litchfield 13 mile more all very good ways in mostly Gravel 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III iv I hope thou will not come too hevy laden, to spoil my Ways 1789 DUNTHORNE *Vulgar Errors Northn* 202 Deep and difficult enough please your honour 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I iii 379 In winter, when the ways were bad and the nights long 1871 *Act* 34 & 35 Vict c 115 § 1 Whereas it hath been found expedient that a heap of small stones, placed there at the expense of the parish, for the purpose of mending the way

**f.** A place of passage, e. g. an opening made through a crowd, a vapor or gate, etc. Cf. ARCH WAY, DOORWAY, GAPEWAY. Also *fig*

c1250 *Gen & Ex* 3244 On twel doles delt it be se, an werpes ðar in ben faiper and fie. c1400 *Destr Troy* 1932 In the brest of the tuell He throwhte so felly freikes to grounde Made ways full wide to eggius among *Hist* 6513 c1400 MANDEV (P. J. I. S.) viii 36 And men seyn þat the wikenes ben weyes of helle a1400-50 *Alex Ald*, 1324 Quoso alþinte thicken þe þringe purge þann þe rynnes And makis a wat wyde enoge wes es to mete 1851 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Conn Conts Hood* II 217 Here fortitude can never cut a way like one of the Austrian muskets, out of thrall 1898 C. TAYLOR *Witness of Hermias* 196 The gate is the Son of God. Thus is the one way in (διόδους) to the Lord 1898 G. H. SKENE *Physic* II 1 *a mirar can* is in *stage direct*, Near the parapet there lurks a way to the kitchen masked by a little trellis porch 1914 S. L. W. *Islam Rev* Oct 261 To a Prussian statesman it seems more natural to 'break a way' through the territory of an unoffending neighbour than it would be to public men elsewhere. *Mod* The words 'Way out' are painted on the door

**g.** Applied to a path in a wood or through the fields See also GREEN *a* 2 b.

13 *K. Alis* 6055 (Laud MS.), Hy hadden Calk trappes wide ynowe In wayes & vnder wood howe 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* xxii, The mowe had coured all the wayes in the forest] 1550 PATER *Cato* (1586) 1 Way in a woode syde, *semita*

**h.** *Fortification.* A passage left between walls or buildings. *Covered* (†*cowert*) *way* (= 1. *chemin couvert*), a passage running along the top of the counterscarp, protected from the enemy's fire by a parapet (See COVERED *ppl. a.* 6, COVERT *a* 1 b.) † *Way of the rounds* (= 1. *chemin des rondes*) see quot. 1704.

1481 CAXTON *Godefroy* 257 They dyde do make engyns, cyterlly, chaties, and ways couerd, moche grete plente 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex Techn* I, *Il. ay of the Rounds* is a space left for the Passage of the Rounds between the Rampart and the Wall of a Fortify'd Town

**i.** *Railways Line of way*, a track formed by a pair of rails. See also PERMANENT *way*, SIX-FOOT *way*, WAGON-WAY.

** *for passage of things.*

† **2.** *Phys.* A duct or channel of any kind in the body of man or other animal *Obs*

[tr. mod I was cf. *prima via* (lit 'first ways') the alimentary canal]

c1425 tr *Arderne's Treat Fistula*, etc 21 Pat may be knowen by foldynes of pe pacient and if it haue perced pe wayes of pe vryne 1541 COPLAND *Guydons Quest* I iv, I he bladder receyueth the superfluyte wynall by two longe wayes that descende fro the kydneys. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 581 Wee must therefore enquire further for the cause of this sterility or ba rennesse and not impute it to the intercession of the wayes.

**3** *pl* **s.** *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.)

1699 in Foster *Cert Mon I Ind Comp.* (1907) 332 (The use of one of the docks with its] shores and wayes [to fit and prepare the *Lizard*] 1697 PETTIE in *Archæologia* LXII 58 The smaller [ship] was so ill struck upon the launching ways, that she could by no means be put off, which did some what diverstent his majesty 1708 *Autos Voy* III 111, 325 A dry dock was dug for the hark, and ways laid from thence quite into the sea, to facilitate the bringing her up 1864 Miss S. P. FOX *Angebridge Estuary* 111 163 When once the boat is close on the shore, the dogs are on the look out for the pieces of wood, technically called *ways*, which are placed underneath the boats to draw them up on the beach It is very rarely that a single *way* is laid 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word Bk, Ways*, balks laid down for rolling weights along *Launching ways*, two parallel platforms of solid timber one on each side of the keel of a vessel while building, and on which her cradle slides on launching

*Transf* 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef Mast* xxix, Smooth strips of wood, well oiled, called 'ways' were placed above and below, to cause the hook [sc. a packet of hides] to slide in easily

**b.** Parallel wooden rails or planks, forming an inclined plane for heavy loads to slide down upon.

1868 H. LOSSING *The Hudson* 264 The ice, cut in blocks from the lake above, is sent down upon wooden 'ways', that wind through the forest

**c.** *Mech.* Parallel sills forming a track for the slides of the uprights of a planing machine, the carriage of a lathe, or the like.

1865 RANKINE *Cyc Mech & Hand tools* Plate I 5, Improved Planing Machine These uprights are so arranged as to slide in ways provided for the purpose in the sides of the stationary platform

**II.** Course of travel or movement.

**4** A line or course of travel or progression (whether direct or circuitous) by which a place may be reached, or along which a person or thing may pass Const *to, unto, out of* (hence with *in, out* advs.). *To go a person's way*, to go along with him.

c1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt II 12 Þi on oðerne weg [Vulg *per aliam viam*] he ferde 1297 R. GLOUC (1724) 82 Hem ladden twelue of þan leod folke þa þa weyes le 1375 weyes] cuðen. c1250 *Gen & Ex* 3255 Þideren hem flegan alle þeih þat night hem made be weise liȝt 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 103 Wel we ben at a lit be se 1390 *Havelok* 772 Pul wel] he coupe be rithe wei To lincolne 1560 LANGL *Pl Cr* A vi 24 Conne þou wisen vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ 1590 SPENSER *Faerie Queene* I xii 28 He bidde sent forth Mayster Jon Lobram vs to vow by the neste wey c1440 *Generydes* 5923 With hym ther went bygrene to the wode, Ryght the same maydyn wyth hym, And so came he to spene the redy waye 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I xi 51 He had the hoost Northward the pryuyest ways that they myght, and whan they were forest of Bedgelayne 1585 J. WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* II vi, An vniuersall flood, which by croked ways finally issueth into the Sea 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* II xxiv 108 The wyes at Sea are not as at Lond, to returne the same way they passe 1676 COTTON *Angler* II ii 72, I hope our way does not lye over any of these [hills], for I dread a precipice 1681 *Trans Geneva Convent* 47, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II ix 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, In the Gorgon Head, the nearer way to Edinburgh from Bristol Port? 1820 KEATS *Poems Agnes xl*, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I. iii 371 It is hardly in human nature that a traveller should turn back in Mile End 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii (1892) 113 Mr Bourne hospitably asked if I were going his way 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Florence* xi 271, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II ix 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Is the Gorgon Head the nearer way to Edinburgh from Bristol Port? 1820 KEATS *Poems Agnes xl*, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I. iii 371 It is hardly in human nature that a traveller should turn back in Mile End 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii (1892) 113 Mr Bourne hospitably asked if I were going his way 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Florence* xi 271, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II ix 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Is the Gorgon Head the nearer way to Edinburgh from Bristol Port? 1820 KEATS *Poems Agnes xl*, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I. iii 371 It is hardly in human nature that a traveller should turn back in Mile End 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii (1892) 113 Mr Bourne hospitably asked if I were going his way 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Florence* xi 271, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II ix 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Is the Gorgon Head the nearer way to Edinburgh from Bristol Port? 1820 KEATS *Poems Agnes xl*, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I. iii 371 It is hardly in human nature that a traveller should turn back in Mile End 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii (1892) 113 Mr Bourne hospitably asked if I were going his way 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Florence* xi 271, I return'd by the same way.

**5.** Course of life, conduct or movement.

a1300 *Cursor M* 11 Þis is þe sobere wey [Vulg *hec est uia sobrietatis*] 1382 WYCLIF *Isa* lv 7 Leue þe wicke his weyes 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 103 Wel we ben at a lit be se 1390 *Havelok* 772 Pul wel] he coupe be rithe wei To lincolne 1560 LANGL *Pl Cr* A vi 24 Conne þou wisen vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ 1590 SPENSER *Faerie Queene* I xii 28 He bidde sent forth Mayster Jon Lobram vs to vow by the neste wey c1440 *Generydes* 5923 With hym ther went bygrene to the wode, Ryght the same maydyn wyth hym, And so came he to spene the redy waye 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I xi 51 He had the hoost Northward the pryuyest ways that they myght, and whan they were forest of Bedgelayne 1585 J. WASHINGTON tr *Nicholay's Voy* II vi, An vniuersall flood, which by croked ways finally issueth into the Sea 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* II xxiv 108 The wyes at Sea are not as at Lond, to returne the same way they passe 1676 COTTON *Angler* II ii 72, I hope our way does not lye over any of these [hills], for I dread a precipice 1681 *Trans Geneva Convent* 47, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II ix 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Is the Gorgon Head the nearer way to Edinburgh from Bristol Port? 1820 KEATS *Poems Agnes xl*, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I. iii 371 It is hardly in human nature that a traveller should turn back in Mile End 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii (1892) 113 Mr Bourne hospitably asked if I were going his way 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Florence* xi 271, I return'd by the same way.

**6.** In generalized use Opportunity for passage or advance, absence of obstruction to forward movement, hence *fig.* freedom of action, scope, opportunity. In various phrases, as *give way* (see GIVE *v.* 49), *have way* (see 24), *make way* (see 25), also elliptically *way!* (= 'make way').

a1400 50 *Lib Curiosus* in *Anglia Bk*, 3if þou go with a noper at þo gate, And 3e be bothe of on astate, Ile curtaye and let hym haue be way 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav* 188 If any vulgar fellow meet, they presently alight, and vibrate their Swords and so obtaine the way without oppo sition 1724 in *Jrnl Friends Hist Soc* (1918) 29 Having seen the comfort of our labours I found the way opened for a Return [sc home] 1892 I ARNIVAN *In Mem* xiv, Poor rivals in a losing game, That will not yield each other way 1898 A. BLUNT *Poems*, Once or twice I saw a courser flying north, and clearing the road with a loud shout of 'Way, way!'.

**b** In legal documents sometimes equivalent to RIGHT OF WAY.

1586 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II iii 35 A fourth species of incorporeal hereditaments is that of ways, or the right of going over another man's ground 1700 DENFORD & EARL *Cases K. B.* III 706 The plaintiff by reason of his possession thereof was entitled to a certain way from the said messuage unto into through and over a certain close of the defendant &c unto and into the king's common highway &c and so back again &c 1863 C. HARTSHORNE *Salop Coverp* (1872) III. 180 If a copyholder has had time out of mind, a way over another's copyhold 1892 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will IV*, c 71 § 2 No Claim which may be lawfully made at the Common Law, by Custom, Prescription, or Grant, to any Way or other Easement, [etc.].

**7** Travel or motion along a particular route or in a particular direction. *To take* (a place, etc.) *on one's way*: to visit in the course of one's journey

c1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 16 Læcedom xxi mon on langum weȝe teorige a1400 *Manor Poems fr Vernon MS* xlvii 122 Of þou haue eny wey to wende, I rede þou here a masse In þe Moremynge 14 *Tundale's Vis* (Cott MS) 42 But Tundale hadde a harde warnynge, For as he yn a transynge lay Hys sowle was in a dredefull way, 'I here as hit sawe mony a hydyouse payne Ars hit come to be body agayne c1430 *Chev Assygne* 220 The grypte ys þur a staffe in here honde & on here wey strawȝie. 1566 GRAFTON *Chron* II. 362 They were well onward on their way toward Gascoyn.

1590 Shake *Com. Err.* IV iii 92 Belike his wife acquainted with his fits, On purpose shut the doores against his way 1600 B. Bloumt tr. *Conestaggio* 230 The ioints thereof (*sc.* of the boats) were so shaken and open with the wate 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weeks Observ.* B 2 We past the way away by tailing takes by turnes 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III 274 Our way we bend To Pallas 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia Descr.* xi 119, I left the place of my Abode and took in my way four Fathers, so that the Company was five 1741 C'tess Pomfret *Lett. to Lady Cowper* (1805) III 166 Here we left the shore, but continued our way on very good roads, till [etc.] 1777 Earl Carlisle in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1864) III 228 As to our motions. We may take Chatsworth in our way 1779 Storer *Ibid* IV 242, I shall look in upon you at Matson in my way 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xi The attendants on the execution began to pass the stationary vehicle in their way back to Carlisle 1827— *Highl. Widow* i There was some originality in the man's habits of thinking and expressing himself which made his conversation amuse the way well enough 1883 Earle *Hymn, 'I was wandering'*, As He came along His way

b Qualified by poss pron, the word often occurs as object or as adverbial accusative to the verb *go* (see Go v 21 b) and its synonyms, *ride*, *steer* (see Lead v 1, Steer v), *wend*, etc. From an early period *my, his* (etc) were in these collocations were often merely equivalent to 'away', and with this weakened sense they were formerly used with other verbs of motion, as *flee* (see Flee v 1 d), *run* (see Run v 34), *come, pass, ride* In present literary use *to go, wend one's way* survive as archaisms; mod dialects have only the imperatives *go, come your (thy) way* (or *ways* see 23 b).

c 1205 [see Steer v 4] Leof 3e 3ef Lof 3e 3ef Ich wulle faren minne weȝ c 1230 *Owl & Night* 308 Þet ilue falsęð gode rede & flit his weȝ & ȝit him grede *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 44 9 Pharaon wente him wiþ wreþe, And after ȝoseph he ȝeyed vs a giaunt to erne his weye 1300 Gower *C. A.* I 94 Ryd thanne forth the wey', quod sche *a* 1400 50 *Wars Alex.* 133 Furþe o þis fourme þe folc þe passis his way *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 14 Yef a fare rudely and be cruell with hym [the hawk], he will he his way a nd neuer come atte you 1487 *Coxly Papers* (Camden) 167 He Kynge muste flee his weye owte of the reame 1658 Rowland *Vigo* 1 Then she ruled on me and I went my way 1772 Cumberland *Fashion'able Lo'er* II 23 Go your way for a simpleton, and say no more about the matter 1837 Hallam *Const. Hist.* xviii As he wended his way to the Peacock *Ib. d.* xxvi, Mr Weller went his way back to the George and Vulture

c In the Bible phrase *to go the way of all the earth* (Josh xxiii 14, 1 Kings ii 2) meaning 'to die'. Also in erroneous forms (due to confusion with other Bible passages), *the way of all flesh, of all living* (*The way of all flesh* has sometimes been used to mean the experience common to all men in their passage through life)

A passage (dated 900) in Hexh *Corpus Gosp.* II 241 'Quando Adfred rex suam uitæ cursus adiit', shows that the substitution of of all fl sh (*universæ carnis*) for 'of all the earth' (*universæ terræ*) was current in mod Latin The reading of the Douay Bible (post 1609) suggests that the substitution must have found its way into some printed copies of the Vulgate also the Plantin Concordance (1632) reads *carnis* and *Gen.* and *Exper.* through elsewhere the two readings are cited with the reading *terræ*

1597 Shake *2 Hen. IV*, v ii 4 Hee's walk'd the way of Nature, And to our purposes hee's done 1609 Heiron (Douay) *2 Kings* II 1 I am going the way of all flesh (*Vulg. universæ terræ*) *Ibid. Josh.* xxiii 14 1612 Hewood *Golden Age* III v 84 b, If I go by hand a thousand carts, then I go the way of all flesh 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 448 If go the way of all flesh 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I v 170, I heard that Don Rodrigo had gone the way of all flesh 1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish Characters*, He pondered us off hand, and allowed us something to live on till he went the way of all flesh 1887 *Murray's Mag.* Sept 4 2 His former retainer, Phil Judd, had long gone the way of all flesh however seasoned

*jocularly* 1697 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* II ii, I saw him even now going the way of all flesh (thats to say) towardes the Kitchin

d. In verbal phrases with the sense 'to effect a forward movement by the action denoted by the verb', e. g. in *to force, push, squeeze one's way*, also occas with the sense 'to accompany one's advance by the specified action'

1694 Astbury *Serm. Isa.* lx 22 (1726) I 301 In this manner the Prophet of the East hew'd out his way by the power of the Sword 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III 843 The slow creeping Evil eats his way Consumes the pitching Limbs and makes the Life his Prey 1728 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII 137 McDonald, being surrounded, attempted to fight his way thro', and wounded his man 1750 Gray *Elegy* 3 The plowman homeward plods his weary way 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 42 No more thy glassy brook reflects the day, But ch ked with sedges, wo ks its weedy way 1833 [see I know v 4] 1858 Hickson *Sk. Fr. Hosp. Patient* We entered the office, in company with many dirty faced spectators as could squeeze their w y in — *Hist. Sketches—Night*, The mufti-boy rings his way down the little street 1859 — *F. Two Cities* II iii, The virtuous servant, Roger Cly, swore his way through the case at a great rate 1883 Wiseman *Sophia Ser. Oct. of 317* The devil while wings its wondrous way, Sped by stout arms 1894 Law F. Warne *Lenney Mem.* I 31 I remember forced their way into the house 1897 J. Allen *Choir Invisible* iii He failed to urge his way through the throng as speedily as he on ny have expected

†e A journey, voyage, a pilgrimage *lit.* and *fig* Also = Eyre *Obs.*

With gnot *c* 1395 of Or 'faire une voie a Saint Jacques' quoted by Du Cange (*s.v. Via*) with date 1508

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Þauh heo beon inne worldliche weie, as ich stede er, of pelegrimes, auh habbeð here heorte euer toward heouene *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom* 53 It was a man That tid sain Jamis hit [= *hight*, promised] the way 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxiv 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord had made his weyes welsum [Vulg. *utrum prosperum iter sumsi facissetque Dominus*], or noon *c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 353 He wylle wyghtlye in a qwhyle on his weyes hye *c* 1500 *Lorde Kynge Colyngbourne* (1886) 56 Whan Jeny had spoke togedir and euerych of hem had tolde his purpos and pe cause of his weye *a* 1500 in *Arnold's Chron.* (1502) B 1b, That the citezens may reorde their libartees fore the kinges Justicies and mynystres what so euer notwythstandyng Statutis of the Wey or domes in the contrey made or shewyd oute *Ibid.* B 2, And that the Burgeys haue libertee in the weye of Justice to the tour of London fro hensforward goyng, that they bee not lad by the lawes by which they were ladde in the Weys holden in the tymes of John and herry Somtyme kynge of englande

†f. *The way's end* lit the end of the journey, *fig* the completion of a process *Obs*

1598 in *Hounsh. Ord* (1790) 219 It shall be lawfull for the purveyour to take such Poultry stuff paying at once the such prices as the said purveyour should have paid there for the same 1598 Tindale *Obed Chr. Man* 241 b, I hou must therfore goo also ge by the scripture as by a lyne, tyll thou come at Christ which is the weyes ende and restynge place 1662 Petty *Taxes* 84 The price [stuff] wanting nothing, but the laying up to be at its weys end, and the other tayloring and severall other particulars

g *To hold, keep one's way* (cf 4 c) to travel without interruption, *fig* to continue one's course of action, to 'keep going'. † *To hold, keep way* to keep pace (const. *with* or dative)

*c* 1375 *Sc. Legends* xi (*Symon & Jude*) 326 Syne to þe edefitation þai sat, And commawnd þow to hall þour vyis 1598 Shake *Merry W.* III ii 2 Nay keep'e your way (little Gal lant) you were wont to be a follower, but now you are a Leader 1600 — *Much Ado* I i 71 I would my horse had the speed of your tongue but keepe your way a Gods name, I haue done 1605 Bacon *Adv. of Learn.* II viii § 2 25 It seemeth hard to keepe way with Antiquitie, *saith the olde* 1625 — *Ess., Fortune* (Arb.) 377 When there be not Stonds nor Restiuenesse in a Horse Nature But that he wheeles of his Ranke gracefully, and keepes his way 1640 York *Union Hon., Battles* 63 She had her fore mast he ken off, which so hindred her sayle that shee was vnable to keep way with the rest 1697 Dampier *Voy. round World* I (1698) 1 It flies so fast, that no bird but a Man-of-War, can hold way with it 1708 *Londist. Hist. reasons of the Queen's Proceedings, &c.* 18 Forfeiture of 100 08 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 2 I did not doubt but that I should be able to hold him way 1818 *Hackwood's Sporting Mag.* X 8 Zeare [cried Tom], In running from the Nore to the North Foreland she kept way with the transport 1827 Scott *Surg. Dan.* xiii The reeds of the jungle were moving like the ripple of the ocean, when disturbed by the course of a shark holding its way near the surface 1848 Dickens *Dombey* x, People who have enough to do to hold their own way I had better be content with their own obligations and difficulties

†h *By the way of my soul* (as an oath) by my soul's salvation *Obs*

1460 *Paston Lett.* I 502 For be be weye of my sowle, this lond wer vtterly on don

i *Of a business* (of a ship or boat) through the water, rate of progress, velocity, impetus gained by a vessel in motion *To freshen way* see Freshen v 3

Cf *on her way* (38), from which this sense was perh evolved

1665 Dryden and *Sedley Sea-fight* 21 Those who withstand The Duke of Yorke's way of all flesh Is in vain would onward row We strength and wa ys preserve by lying still 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv vi 160 If you sail before the wind, let be sheet in on the Weather, or fall a Stern 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 15 She stood away for Brest and we fired a Chace Gun, but we fired too soon for we had not way enough to reach her 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L 3 The sea was rough, and the yacht had great way 1764 J. Byron in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I 83 On the 7th, I found myself entirely alone, and as there was no land near, and therefore supposed the ships way had been influenced by a current 1860 Hughes *Tom Brown's Sch.* Now mind, boys don't meddle, but mind and make as much way as you and then steady 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 P. D 101 She ran into the *Ada* before her way could be stopped 1889 Jerome *Three Men in Boat* iv, We can't steer, if you keep stopping You must keep some way on the boat 1891 P. Buller *Log of Sea-waif* 27 By the time our way was exhausted, about ninety fathoms had been paid out on the first anchor. 1892 *Law Rep.* Ho Sh. 98 The ship was engine and boy at once took the 'way off the bipliane. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov 680 The train gathered way

k Distance travelled or to be travelled along a particular route. Hence (with adjs *long, short, good, great, little*), a distance between places or to a place; often as adverb accusative. Also with *off*

Cf Halfway

† *A mile of way* — 'a mile away' (*obs.* exc. dial)

*c* 1000 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v xxiii 'Hig sunne ðæl ðus wæges ȝefaren hæfden' [Gk. *Ἡ μὲν οὖν ἀδελφὴ ἐν τῷ Coldayne Λαν ratumnaulæ* (1802) 25 Dy oudzwaro lon hie mes. C wexdon þ nære mare weȝ þonne meahte on tyn dagum seferan 1150 Malmesb. (Rolls) lxxiii 32 It is a great way between þam 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xlix 7 Nonde vp, and rete, for thou hast a greate waye to go 1552 Huloet *Logic* ii 1 vij, b, It is no good argument, if I se a tree a good way from me to say, it is a tree therefore it is an Apple tree 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iii vii 85 b I trauailed both day and night (they) do dispatch more way then the best horse coulde doe 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* iii 57 The way is but short, away 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i 1 88 Long way he trauelled before he heard aught 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v 176 I there came a man, and two women swimming to vs, more then a mile of way 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius Voy Ambass* 36 The Sand banks reach out a good way into the Sea. 1667 Sprat *Hist Royal Soc* 250 A Charriot may winer, measuring exactly the length of the way of the Chariot or Coach to which it is apply'd 1697 *Cæsar D'Avenay's Trav* (1706) 44 They commit these Villanies hard by a Sanctuary, so have the less way to an hour 1711 Burchett *Speech* Nov 77 p 1, I saw him square at us by Watch a considerable way into the Thames 1791 R. Mylne *2nd Ad. Thames Navig* 10 There is at the first navigable Water all the Way from Mr. Lowry's Meadow to Isleve Lock 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvi, I must ask the favour of your company a little way 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Amusements Sketch*, It is a low, dusty shop the door of which stands always doubtfully a little way open 1844 Brougham *Alb. Lunat.* I ii 36 The Marchioness's walk seldom lasted less than an hour, so that she must have some way to go 1856 F. O. Morris *Brit. Birds* V 8 Ventriloquism making the sound at one moment appear close to the listener and the next a long way off 1880 Besant *All Sorts* xxi, But the village of Davenant is not a great way off 1898 Flor. Montgomery *Tony* 18 She stood a little way from the door

*fig.* 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* i (1765) 18 And now then, continued he as we have gone thus far, and have settled between us what we believe true to be, shall we go a little further to try the Patience and Faith of Oth'ers? and I not if any thing be left We have walked so leisurely, it it much remains of our Way

†b. For *a mile way, a furlong way*, meaning the time which it takes to go that distance, see Mileway, Furlong b *Obs.*

c In adv b phrases used figuratively (*by*) *a long way* qualifying a comparative, = 'far' (better etc.). *At the least way's* see Least-ways. † *A great way* to a great extent. † *A foul way out* miserably for from success *Some way* for some distance (in time)

In *long a long, great, etc* way, see God 43 c d

1601 Shake *Ado Well* I i 122, I know him by his looks, And yet I thinke I am a great way foole 1602 — *Twel. C.* II v 107 Hee's as farre from hanging, as the Constables, Which is a great way growing on the South 1602 — *Hamlet* A iii 20 If I cannot recouer your Neece I am a foule way out 1689 Beveridge *Serm.* (1708) I 1 Is not this much odo, why such a stir and about, to obtain a few Verses? 1874 Sweet in *Trans. Philol. Soc* 1873, 516 The most characteristic features of the English, as, for instance *ti* and *su*, were preserved some way into the sixteenth century 1890 W. E. Norris *Mrs. Fenton* xiv, High who e's junior by a long way

**9.** Direction of motion, relative position, or aspect Chiefly in adv phrases as *this way* (= hitherwards), *my way* (= towards me, into my neighbourhood), *that way, which way, all ways*, etc

In early use *way* often followed a local name or a sb pre ceded by *to* with the force of the *to* in mod. In mod. colloquial and esp rustic speech expressions like (*town*) *Essex way* (i e in Essex or its neighbourhood) are common But *the right way, the wrong way* in uses belonging to this series, see sho e ways

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 225 4 [E 1 asses þat bar ner strule, Ilk vnto his stal Till ordewar] þai sal ga Ilk vnto his awen 1600 *Hunb* 1658) 103 In Cambridge shire fenwards to Lincolne shire way the chan pion maketh his follow in May 1598 Shake *1 Hen IV* III ii 92 Oh turne the rusty Sword vrther way 1605 — *Mach* I v 42 By the prickin of my Thumbes Something wicked this way comes. 1607 — *Cor* I iii 8 When youth with comelinesse pluck'd all gaze his way 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* vi 276 Next day after we saw to the Westward, in the way of Egypt, the Castle of Pharos 1664 Sellon *Bible of Bibles* (Arb) 67 As Saint Peter was walking and throwe it out into the sea, he shall see by which way the Wind is 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiv 235 The Work must run always one way 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XI 1223 His way was bent that he was winding Course for his seats 1744 M. Bishop *Life* 190 Our adversaries Ground was the Destruction of a great many Thousands of the Free h for we had them all Ways from us, as I Near one 1800 Lathom *Death of Day* I iii I seldom come your way now 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxiii, Janet ventures to ask her lady, which way she proposed to direct her flight 1841 Hood *Miss Kilmansegg Diamond* iv As it was a very fine night, I we strolled out for a walk West End way 1846 James *Stepmother* xxxvii If I rode in a stant he entered—though the servants said this was not the way—walked to the opposite door—Mr Morton's visitor set poped bowed to the ladies [etc.] 1850 Newman *Difficulties Anglicans* I ii (1892) I 55, I have stakes and I have a bet and I look at once ascertain which way it is running 1853 Layton *My Aunt* vi 121 The first time you come my way you shall have two glasses of brandy and water 1873 Robin *Aunt Clem* xxxiii 2 When last I was up Huntly Burn way, there was no burn there 1878 Ingelow *Arc. Shelley* etc I 167 A vehement exclamation from one of the two of ladies drew all eyes her way 1892 'R. Lodgewood' *Sydneyside Sk.* vi At last I made out a whirlwind coming our way 1898 Graham Peacock *Heath Wrightfoot* xv 185 Joan she married Farmer Blake as lives over Molt's way 1900 Violet Jacob *Sheep Stealers* xii, Where are you going, to now? 'Down Crabbowell way' 1904 P. Landon *Lot Laurel* 24 Sept 5/6 A Welsh friend of mine by deviating from the ortho lox left to right court e The way I the wine is a custom which would need no explanation to a Buddhist 1910 S. H. Ward tr. *Frost Author & Instr* XLII 115 The sh ft h le is b ted the ugh the thinnest way of t e fat ne ] blade so that the cutting edge comes at right a gles to the sh ft

b *fig* in non spatial applications

In colloquial use sometimes as predicative phr see *sa (a little) that way*, oppr sonating to it at condit n *(all, quite very much) the other way*

1598 Shake *Merry W.* III iii 79 My consent goes not that way 1603 — *Lear* III iii 21 O that a way mutinous he Let me shun that — *Antony & Cleop.* I i 31 Your Parts are Poetical *Mat* Somethi g given that way 1652 Howell *Giraffe's Art Nopies* 1 99 Three Brothers were detected

to have a Design that way 1707 Stterbury *Fun. Doctr Funeral Serm Jer* xl 30 As to the words themselves, there is no thing in them that so much shews 1725 Addison *Spect* No 108 ¶ 7 Finding by a Genius did not lie that Way 1794 J H Moore *Exact Metric* (1818) 179 Suppose the sum's true azimuth S 15° 45′ E and the magnetic azimuth S 18° W is found the variation was and which way 1837 Dickens *Nickl* ix, 'I'm afraid you're wet' 'Yes, I am a little that way' 1858 Hodgson *Three Clerks* xxvi You must not come are me with them. There are patterns of excellence I am all the other way 1882 J H Blunt *Ref Ch Hist* II 126 Some other evidence is often one way and his assertions the other 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX 163/2 The evidence on the point had in his view been all one way

c Prov *To look nine ways, to look two ways for Sunday* to squint excessively *To go, look nine ways (at once, at three)* expressing the indecision produced by terror or eagerness

1542 [see Nine A 3b]. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Ephes* (1643) 253 Some if a thing come into the head turne them forthwith to it, as busily as if they would goe nine wayes at once 1659 [see Nine A 3b] 1869 Mrs Oliphant *Love, Lady* I *theol* xxi 451 He has a bad squint, so that he seemed to be looking two ways for Sunday

d. *The other way about, round* conversely, vice versâ

1894 'M Rutherford' *Cath Twice* vii, She never could see reflect whether the verb was conjugated and the noun declined, or whether it was the other way round, to suit one of her favourite expressions 1902 *Ref Rev* Apr 382 Whilst with Hegel the Logic is the *a priori* framework of the whole philosophy with Fechner it is secondary, adjusting itself to the life process and not the reverse way about

e. *One way or (the) other, either way* (adverb phr): in one direction or the other; in the direction of excess or defect, of assent or denial, of confirmation or disproof, etc

1580 R Hampton in *Pol Verses* (Wright *Q Eliz* 1838) I 36 As some to the ende there I either one wyse or other shall I be knowne, I will not tryste to move the Quene's Majestie that the same may be left 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr* vi § 5, I should be glad to be convinced one way or other 1860 Dickens *Uncomm Trav* vii, The housekeeper who saw it all seemed to have no opinion about it one way or other 1878 Taylor *Gen Pl* xii 218 But a few years' difference between them, either way 1884 *Law Times Rep* L 59 2 The Summary Jurisdiction Act 1879 has no real bearing one way or the other on the question

†10 *Naut* The run or rake of a ship. (Cf Rake *sb*4 1, Run *sb* 25 b) *Obs*

1587 Capt J Smith *Sea Grant* ii, To the meane is the best if her after way be answerable 1691 T Hale *Acc Arts & Sciences* 129 The lower part of the Ship is put off at its great breadth in the midships, and the way of the same shaped from the same section forward in the like manner

**III** Course of life or action, means, manner

**11.** A path or course of life, the activities and fortunes of a person

The use is mainly of Heb origin and is extremely frequent in all English versions of the Bible

*c* 897 Alfred *Gregory's Past C* xli 306 He etað done wæstm hiera ærþes weges [L *comedent fructus viæ suæ* (Prov v 31)] 971 *Blickl Hom* 17 Upon leohte is fulfremednesse weg þe we on ferune scolan þæt is se rihta weg lenta. *c* 1200 Ormin 18068 Forr all þe I sterred Cristess life & all hiss halfhe lare, & all I wel wesste, & all hiss werre, [etc.] *c* 1325 *Cursor M* 8290 (Vsuf) Of mester was per wimmen twyn atte led þaire life in way of sin [*Cott* wit sike and sin, *other texts* in sake and sune (synne)] 1380 Wyclif *Serm* xxi 2 Eche wone of a man tryl him amendi 1853 Hawk *Serm* (1906) 8 By the Lord's providence who disp seth of all the ways and actions of man 1867 Milton *P L* iv 620 Man hath his daily work Appointed out for him, and his delight, And the regard of Heav'n on all his ways; While other Animals unactive range And of their doings God takes no account 1790 Penn *Strays & Answers* 305 Jane Destroy our Safe Child Spare Not While in Danger our common Way divide 1750 Gray *Elegy* 76 They kept the noiseless tenor of their way

**b.** *pl* Habits of life, esp. with regard to moral conduct

*c* 825 *Vesp Psalter* xxxvii (xxxix) 1 Ic cwæð ic healdu weras mine þeo ic ne agylte in tungan minre [Similarly in all later versions] 1535 Coverdale *Ezek* xviii 30/1 So that ear at length euil driftes dreue to nought, & good plain ways es prosper 1569 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 95 Thow wald not follow wickit mennis wayis 1599 Shaks etc *Pass Pilgr* 271 And to hir well frame all thy wayes. 1673 *Quem Inwelling Sin* xvii (17, 7) 235 His Companions in Sin not finding him in his old Ways begin to laugh at him 1838 H Martineau *Miracle* xi 83 Those who knew his ways could easily guess at which of his haunts he might be expected when missing from home 1852 Mrs Stowe *Uncle Tom* I C xxxvii, I wish friend thee would leave off cursing and swearing, and think up in thy ways 1887 Hughes *Tom Brown* I ii, I shall here shut up for the present and consider my ways. 1889 H Cresswell *Iron Men Creighton* I 56 (1904) I 373 Your letter will give me much food for meditation and may in time lead to an amendment of my ways.

*c* *The way or ways of God* the course of God's providence, very common in Bible use

*c* 825 *Vesp Psalter* xxiv 9 Rehtwis dryhten in allum wegum his 1388 Wyclif *Prov* viii 22 The Lord wrouhte me [= Wisdom] in the beginnyng of his weies [so 1535 *Coverdale*, 1611 was]. 1881 *Rev Church Pr L* viii 213 To attune The highth and depth of thy Eternal wayes All human thoughts come short, supream of things. 1736 Chas Harford *Curr* (1803) I 28 It tells us that a dry year will come when the ways of Providence will be cleared up.

**d** A prescribed course of life or conduct; the law or commandments (*of* God); also in *pl.*

*a* 1000 *Andreas* 170 Leode þe[ð] herde on lifes weg *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 6858, I sal hald yow lel mi hight, To-quils yow felu mi weis right 1382 Wyclif *Job* xxi 14 The which seiden to God Departe fro vs, the kunnyng of thi weies we wolen not 1708 S Holden *Arc Life* 166, I walked closely in the ways of God 1899 R K Douglas *Confucianism* vii 72 He says, maintains a perfect uprightness and pursues the heavenly way without the slightest defection

**e** *The Way* in the Acts of the Apostles, a name for the Christian religion (*ἡ ὁδός*, Vulg. *via*).

In Acts ix 2, xix 9, 23, xxiv 14, 22, the Greek has 'the way', the only English translation that has the literal render ing in all the passages is the Revised Version of 1881 ('the Way', with capital). In ix 2 Wyclif, following an error in some MSS of the Vulgate, has 'this life' a later versions down to 2011 have 'this way'. In xix 9 and 23 Wyclif, after some MSS of the Vulgate, has 'the way of the Lord' (so in verse 9, Tindale 1526 and Geneva 1557), later versions of verse 23 down to 1611 'that way'. In xxiv 14 Wyclif has 'the sect (*other texts*) *heresy*', Tindale and Geneva 'that way' Cranmer and 1611 'the way'. In xxiv 22 Wyclif has 'the way', Geneva 'this sect', and other versions down to 1611 'that way'. In Acts xxii 4 the Greek has 'this way', which all the English translators render literally

**12** A course of action Often with the phraseology of sense 4, as *to go the right, wrong, nearest way*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 29225 For-þi to weend be seker wai I rede we be in penitence & shrift & werk Lord *Conf* I 4, I walde go the middel weie And wryte a bok betwen the twoeie, Somwhat of lust, somwhat of lore *c* 1500 Melusine *Nature* (Brandl) 342 Yet he will not leave his own way 1611 Bible *Num* xxii When thou metest me a nother day. 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 9 In thes we may know, what ways to take, & whyt weye to leue 1530 Rastell *Exch Lyt Brit* 352, I thinke this is a better way than all to fyght at one 1539 in W A J Archbold *Somerset Relig Houses* (1892) 75 Albeit it were not the most ways with them as our poore witts coude aduyse, yet in the ende we cowde not bring them to any conformytie 1560 Daltie *Sleidans Comm* 216 I heyre Archebyschop Hermon haithe gon a new ways to worke [L *insistere nouis institutis*] *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* i (1912) 83 He durst not take open way against them and as harde it was to take a secrete. 1610 Shaks *Temp* ii ii 39 My best way is to creep vnder his Gaberdine 1616 Drayt *Bibl Scholast* 2 He goeth the wrong way to worke, or to the wood 1656 Cowley *Plat Ideas* i Note 37 There is so much to be said of this, that the best way is to say nothing of it 1693 Locke *Educ* § 39 The sooner this Way is begun with Children, the easier it will be for them, and there's no reason to defer it 1708 Swollen *R Random* lxii, He told me that I went the wrong way to work

†**b** (One's) best or most advisable course. *Obs.*

1590 Shaks *Com Err* iv iii 93 My way is now to hie home to his house, And tell his wife, that (etc.) 1594 — *Lucr* 1171 Now stops Lucrece her sorrow, and hears therein A long discourse of wretched Troy's ruin, Of the inforced flight of the Greekish fleet, Of hasty marriages, of tears untimely. But wrest with Priam's wrong Achilles' ire, And end the complaint 1604 — *Oth* ii iii 333 And bring him jumpe, when he may Cassio finde Soliciting his wife That's the way

*c* *To have (get,* etc.) *one's (own) way* to be allowed to follow or to enforce on others the course of action on which one has resolved Hence *to love, be fond of one's own way.* Cf 14 i

1593 Shake 3 *Hen VI*, iii ii 139 Like one that chides the Sea, that sunders him from thence Saying hee le lade it with (etc.), to haue his way 1611 B Jonson *Catiline* iv, Had I had my way, He had new'd it flames, at home, not i' the Senate 1622 Bacon *Hen VII* 238 Hee was of an High Mind, and loued his owne Will, and his owne Way 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I 160 Always perverse, and dutiful Clarissa! then take your own way, and go up! 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* viii II 298 Every child knew that he loved his own way and knew how to get it 1870 Morley *Rousseau* I 406, I myself sometimes despise myself for I have let men be, and have had my own way 1874 Stubbs *Const Hist* III xvi 444 Like a man was he, like a man, too, would have his way 1886 Mrs Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* xi, I'll thank you un interruptedly, if you please, to let me have my way in this. It will do me so much good, mamma! 1893 Mrs Oliphant *Innocent* III 310 You are silly, pig headed, unreasonable, and more fond of your own way than of anything else in the world 1894 *Law Times* XCVI 419/2 If they do not get their own way they will resign 1895 *Law Times* XCIV 559/2 If I had had my way, I would have fought every one of these cases

†**d** *Take better way with you* take a more reasonable course *Obs.*

*a* 1553 Udall *Royster D* iv iii (Arb) 65 Let me now treate peace, For bloushed will there be in case this strife increace. Ah good dame Custance, take better way with you.

**13** A course of action, a device, expedient method, or means, by which some end may be attained or some danger escaped. Const. *to* with inf or dep. of with gerund

Proverb, *Where there is a will there is a way*

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 49 Þet we magen mid ure mude bringen us ut of þisse putte and þet burh þeo herde weies þe þus stondeð ibroced 1579 Lyly *Euphues, Glass Hon Queene, Opera satisfactione* *c* 1600 *26 Pol Poems* iv 36 By al way make hym þi frende *c* 1400 *Pelay Pol* 382 þiself 133, I may not from hir myself goon no way, lord, þink now me *a* 1470 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 109 As for the neate corte they hathe founde a way þat schull no thyng be do, 31 no myche as ye be absent *a* 1548 Hall *Chron, Hen VII*, 50 For after yt tyme there were an hundred wayes practised and invented how to one time or another, to deliver or convey them out of prison 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 699 Why should not I Haue benefices two or three? Seas thou hast taught me the wel how I may kepe them and blamelesse be 1606 Shaks *Ant & Cl* i iii 10 Thou teachest like a fole the way to lose him 1624 Donne *Devot* x. (ed 2) 217 Those are the greatest mischiefes, which are least discerned; the most inevitable in their causes come to be the most sensible in their *ends* *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov* (1640) 730 To him that will, ways are not wanting 1668 R Streele *Husbandm Calling* v (1672) 96 I be way to have full barns, is to have free hands 1685 J Cranmer (*title*) French Gramar enriched with a compendious and short way to learn the French tongue in a very short time 1, and a very true way to find out all the articles, nouns, pronouns [etc] 1720 Dr Foe *Capt Singleton* ii (1800) 25 I they took ways to satisfy us 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I ii 5 And tho' he finds a way, by his sister to let Miss Byron know his passion 1844 Disraeli *Alb Lionel* xxx II 176 Against England he is implacable and the only way to ruffle his temper is to praise her 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* x II 554 He now saw that there was only one way of averting general confusion 1882 Bissant *All Sorts* xxi, 'In there no way,' she asked, 'in which he can earn money?' 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept 292/2 Mr Huxley can see but one way of arriving at truth, which he calls experience 1918 *Cornhill Mag* June 634 Radicals who preached Colonial self government as the way and the only way to Imperial Unity

**b** Coupled with the synonymous Means *sb.* · see Ways and means Also †*mean way* (see Mean *a* 4 4), †*way moyen* (see Moyen *a.*). Also †*ways and grounds.*

*c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 4844 Wher they ne may Finde non other mene wey [Fr *ou nus ne set le moens querre*] 1430–2 *Addit Parlt* IV 375/1 Upon more substiall and considered menes and weyes. 1440 in *Wars Eng in France* (Rolls) II 444 For elles youre partie adverse and the saide duc might not godely have fourniens and the moyens that they have communed to geder to conclude thaire confederacy 1455 *Rolls of Parlt* V 287/2 So the weys and grounddes may be founde and laadde for pursuenne 1490 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 115 Our Tre tours, which daily labour be weyes moyens at her power of our final destruccion 1580 Daus in *Sleidans Comm* 89 This is the onely meane and waye, that is ouerthrowne and torne 1581 J Hooker *Gt Englishmens Courtyer* II (1577) N 1 b, Both honest louer vseth so manye meanes and wayes to please the woman whome hee loueth

†**c** *To have the way(s)* : to know how *to do* something. *Obs*

1528 Udall *Proane Apoph* 163 O the right philosophicall Lerte of this prince, who had the waye, euen to ouercome his enemies also to take vnlaue and profite *Ibid* Oh what an horse these folkes doone marre, while through desaulte of skylle they haue not the wayes to handle him [L *dum illo per imperitiam uti nesciunt*]

*d* *Way out of.* a means of escape from (a difficulty). Cf sense 4

1825 Jowett *Iliad* (ed 2) V 430 Let us ask ourselves whether we have any way out of this difficulty

**14.** Manner in which something is done or takes place, method of performing an action or operation.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) Q 74 *Quocumque modo*, gehwelcwæs *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 5326 He wold haue do letter, þif he witte in ony weys wold him haue seruid 1449–1530 *Myrr Our Ladys* I v 17 I yghtynge hys soule with the spirituall vnderstondyng of hys wordes & that in two wayes 1563 J Gale *Antidot Pref* 2 The whole art and way of composition of such medicines 1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* ii 72 But are there more wayes then one of planting and setting? 1603 Shaks *Meas for M* III iii 11 I am going thither, sayde Angelo was not made by Man and Woman, after this downe right way of Creation 1617 Moryson *Itin* I 67 After dinner we rode in like way two miles, to Stow 1698 Fryer *Acct E India* 67 But the Things an Artificer shall judge to be worth his paines, he shall not onely invent them after the best way but also after the easiest way 1852 Baxter *Inf Baptism* 9 There are more ways of nothing then by preaching in a Pulpit 1869 Sturry *Mariner's Mag* iv xvii 208 A perfect Method and Way of keeping Account 1887 A Lovell *tr Lenau's Faust* II 241 I have said enough of the Turks way of Eating, Drinking and Sleeping 1932 Addison *Spect* No 124 ¶ 4, I may pronounce their Characters from their Way of Writing 1814 Bell *Key & Cummins Way S Stut* 66 We have found out a new way of managing the Hauch 1747 Mrs Glasse *Cookery* 1 There are several Ways of making Sauce for a Pig 1798 Susan Lee *Countess of Lving Lady's* II 341 She reflected, in consideration of this concession, that he should allow her to do it in her own way 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* xviii (1842) 256 In many other instances I had occasion to of service in a similar way. 1878 Hardy *Ret Native* II ii (1890) 113 Yet why, quiet, does every body keep on making me think that I do, by the way I walk, and by the way I sit? 1895 *Law Times* XCIX 546/1 Any practical suggestions pointing out in what way and since may be rendered to students generally 1897 *Ibid* CII 5/2 I have had considerable few words on the way in which I was led to undertake the work

†**b.** Literary style or method. *Obs.*

1638 J Hayward *tr Biondi's Eromena* To Rdr A iv, The Authours peculiar way of imbellishing it gained to much on the Italian humour, as a reproach of the Italian Nation to procure him to second it with another I come. *a* 1639 Wotton *Short Educ Relig* (1651) 374 And this is enough for the discovery of a good Author by the way I which I have followed, because the Subject is generall 1672 Davden *Essay Dram Poes* Pref a 2 b, I admire and applaud him where I thought those who do not wholly abandon themselves in their admiration of him and, by telling you they extoll Ben Johnson's way, would insinuate to you that they can practice it 1692 Wood *Ath Oxon* II. 611 Five Sermons in five several stiles or ways of preaching The first in Bishop Andrews way The second in B Halls way

**c** In Chemistry and Assaying. *The humid, moist, or wet way, the dry way* (= *F. voie humide, voie sèche*), processes distinguished by the presence or absence of liquid.

1796 [see Law *a* 11 c]. 1800 *tr Lagrange's Chem* I 398, I am not yet able to give an account of the results of this analysis by the wet way 1838 [see Humid *a.* c]. 1839 [see Moist *a* 5]

**d.** Adverbial phrases without prep. Also Anyway, Somehow

Now somewhat *rare*, the form with *in* being commonly preferred

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 12623 Leue sun, þi fader and i haui mani was Soght þe shute this thredain *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 348 Þerin spuyien be puple many weies, by ipocrisie and oper leasinge. 1548 Hall *Hen. VI* 1 God in þe mene past diversly and many wayes [*Gr* πολυτρόπως] spake vnto the fathers by prophetes 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* iii 90b, When by deuersity of inuention, a sentence is many wayes spoken. 1560 Daus tr *Sleidanes Comm* 286 He declareth how many wayes they have rebelled [*L. quam multis modis ea res tollatur ostendit*] 1589 Hallvyt *Voy* I. 7 Ded. P 5 It hath passed the censure of the learned phisitian M. Doctor Iames, a man many wayes very notably qualified, 1599 Shaks *Much Ado* iii 1 139 What fashion will you weare the garland of? You must weare it one way, for the Prince hath got your Hero *c* 1600 — *Sonn* xvi 1 But wherefore do not you a mightier way Make warre vppon this bloudie tirant time? 1618 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc* iii 167 The Lion is borne these waies, Rampant, Passant, Saliant, Sejeant or couchant 1654 Hobbes *Lev* ii xxxi 187 God declareth his Lawes three wayes 1653 Walton *Angler* x 187 Some say, they [*sc* eels] breed out of the putrifaction of the earth, and divers other waies 1696 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV 129 I here Fleetwood, Disney, with the greatest officers seeke God for councell and act there owne way 1688 Dryden *Mac Flecknoe* 208 I here thou must torture one poor word Ten thousand wayes 1699 W. J. tr *Boileau Treat Epick Poem* II vii 72 An Action may be entire and complete two ways 1780 Johnson *Let to Mrs Thrale* 4 July, I hope she will not be too rigorous with the young ones, but allow them to be happy their own way

**e** Coupled with *manner*. Also in advb. phrases, *all manner of ways, any manner of way* (*1 ways*). Now *rare*

1430 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 28/2 The fermys and the frutis in the menic tyme tane vp in the principal name of ye maner of wayis to be contyt ? 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 141 The grace of Jhesu, how I mekely beseche to preserve your lady, bothe i-alle maner of wayes 1600 *Pennyc. Sea-Coal* I 253/1 Alienation shamefull or heratge, lyferent, or lang takis forthe than thre yeris on3 maner of way. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S T S) 126 Ane man may haue ane maner of wyis of gud 1654 Dorothy Osborne *Lett* (1888) 225 My Lady Ruthin has put a tune to them that I may heer them all manner of ways 1798 in W. Perry *Narr. Coll. Cal. Ch.* 1 Signed ] but without the Privity of Gov^r Nicholson or his being any manner of way connected in it 1718 in *Munro Peerage Bovid* 1874) 33 In such way and manner as to his Majesty shall seem meet 1720 A. Pitcairne *Rules Good Deportm* (1877) 20 It is rude in Company to break Wind any Manner of Way, tho amongst Inferiors 1823 Scott *Guy M* xii, O ay, sir, there's no doubt o' that, though there are many idle clashes about the way and manner

**f.** *In his (her, its, their) way* appended to expressions of praise, with the implication that the praise given is to be understood in a limited sense appropriate to the object *In a way* (colloq *in a sort of way*) appended to a statement to intimate that it might be taken to imply more than it is meant to do

1722 Steele *Spect* No 43 P 3 We are all Grave, Serious, Designing Men, in our Way. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III 255 You are two beloved Creatures Both excellent in your way 1749 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App i 293, I have received from Cairo the Egyptian figures one of which in their way I do not think bad 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd 1st half, All whom I have conversed with, and I have in my youth seen some who knew Rob Roy personally, gave him the character of a benevolent and humane man 'in his way.' 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz*, *Tales* ix as great a chuckle-headed fat as Nicholas, in her way 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, I viii (1857) 149 The letter of the plenipotentiaries is a model in its way 1869 Mrs Whyte Melville *Gladys* xxiii, Of all the looks I ever see in a human face, his was the grievedest then and yet, in a kind of way, it was the grandest 1898 Hardy *Poems of Past* xviii I also verses, lovely in their way. 1885 Mrs Alexander *Valerie's Fate* iii, He is handsome in a way—not elegant and soigné like Captain Grey, but there is something about him [etc] 1908 Bagot *Pasts port* iii 26 Its apartments, though stately in their way, were neither historic nor [etc]

**g.** *Way of thinking* now usually, a set of opinions or principles characteristic of a party or sect. In earlier use with other senses, e g a purpose or intention, a (high or low) level of moral principle.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No 67 1 Lysander, who is something particular in his Way of Thinking and Speaking, told us, a Man could not be Honest without Action 1737 *Gentl Mag* VII 81 The Thing was, at the best, but a very mean Action, and argued a low Way of thinking 1744 *M Bishop Life* 3 I hope he will turn your Heart from this Way of thinking [or wanting to do so] 1841 Hayes *Ess. Transaction of business* (1842) 93 It is often worth while to bestow much pains in gaining over foolish people to your way of thinking 1892 Hutton *Sept Christ Influ* 10 More than you will be of that way of thinking, young woman

**h.** *Way of living* or *life* habits (of an individual or a community) with regard to food, habitation, intercourse, etc

1681 Rycaut tr *Gracian's Critic* I To Rde A 8 b, Their Customs and way of living are different to other Nations of Europe 1709 T. Innes *Crit Hist* (1879) 238 The same author tells us that in his time the Britains were, as to their manners and way of living, partly like to the inhabitants of the Gauls 1741 C. 1758 Pomfret in *C. Hess Hartford's Corr* (1805) III 369, I have got into so regular a way of life here as I could be in at my own house 1774 Goldsm *Hist Hist* VIII 184 If we examine their way of living, we shall find these insects chiefly subsisting upon others, much less than themselves 1777 Sir W. Jones *Ess* I 180 Since their way of life gives them leisure to pursue those arts 1898 M Pembroke *Chantom Arrow* I vi, That the hour would come when he must lay down the sword and turn with shame from the old way of life

**i.** *To have everything one's own way*, *to have it all one's own way* : to have one's wishes carried out; to meet with no resistance or opposition Cf. 12 c.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No 76 P 2 Therefore he would have it his Way; and our Friend is to drink till he is carbuncled and I an Inclined 1744 M Bishop *Life* 107 Never deny him any Thing, for he lives to have every Thing his own Way 1847 Helps *Friends in C* I viii 154 That easiness of mind, which is very pleasant to observe in those who, because it does not look to have everything its own way 1853 Lytton *My Novel* iv vii, That literature admits no controversialists, and the writer has it all his own way 1858 Sharp *Athan* xvi 133 What sort of a world would you make for yourself, if you could have everything your own way?

**j.** In various phrases. † *There is no way but one* : death (or ruin) is certain. *No two ways about it* or *that* (? orig. U S. colloq.) : there can be no doubt of the fact. *It is always the way with (him)* (he) always acts so. *By* (or *with*) *his way of it* (&c.) : according to his account of it.

*a* 1570 ? Tarlton in *Old Ballads* (Percy Soc 1840) 80 No horse nor man could passe Cut buttons wall or post, For since none there was, No way but to be lost. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl* v ii 1982 The Souldan and the Arabian king together Marcht with such eager violence, As hardly were no way but one with vs 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, iii 16 After I saw him fumble with the Sheets [etc], I knew there was but one way 1656 Dryden *Ad Lect Poets* 6, For if he heard the malicious Trumpeter proclaiming his name before his betters, he knew there was but one way with him. 1706-7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him,' she added. 'Whatever can give his sister any pleasure, is sure to be done in a moment.' 1818 Fearon *Sk. America* 320 I horsten s v *No*) You and I have got to the end and no two ways about it 1834 J. Hall *Kentucky* I 145 'I has has been a powerful hot day ... 'No two ways about that,' said the hunter 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, Well, they re [i e the cells are] pretty much full, and that s a fact, and no two ways about it 1852 H. Rogers *Ecl Austin* (1853) 221 It is too much the way with you Oxford men [etc] 1887 Mrs. Clarke *Mansfield Manor* I viii 119 But then that is so often the way with those well-off people 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* ix, Dewar was a great hand by his ways of it, and he up and rebuked the Master for some of his on goings

**k.** *In this way* : in colloquial lang sometimes used vaguely for 'thus' or 'so', when not the manner of an action but the action itself is in question.

1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxviii, I can't let you cut an old friend in this way

**15.** In advb phrases like (*in*) *all ways*, (*in*) *any way*, (*in*) *one way*, etc., the sense of 'manner' (see 14) passes into that of An aspect, feature, or respect ; a point or particular of comparison

1598 Barckley *Felic* I iv 15 His workes doth vs that he is giuen to prayers hee is something peeuish that way *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl* (1900) 38/13 Also we make them to differ in Colour, Shape, Activity, many ways. 1639 H. Jon son *New Inn* iv iii, The office of a man I think truly valiant, is considerable Three ways. The first in respect of matter ; in respect of forme ; And in the end [etc] 1885 Mrs Alexander *Valerie's Fate* v, May you find a companion better in all ways than I could have been 1893 I e Gallienne *Retrosp Rev* (1896) II 1 A methodist is in many respects admirable in other ways, but is not the fit person to edit Burns.

**16.** A condition regarded as hopeful or the contrary. Chiefly with qualifying adj *in a good, bad, forward* (*etc*) *way*. † *To stand in good way* : to be likely to prosper. † *To be in way with* : to be in treaty with (a person) for something. † *To put in good way* : to put in train

Also, *to be in a fair way (to do* something) 1665 Fair *n* 14, *In the family way* (= pregnant) see Family 10 b

1697 *Paston Lett*, bought 123 Wer ty, I tundy[friend, all thyng ware in ill good way. 1748 *Gent's Cop Paper* (Camden) 49, I am in hay wit lyshbryght van whennysakarge for an of yowr sarplers I hope I shall go thorow wt hym 1750 in *Pringle Jerviswood* 72 I hope he will realize & his household in good waye & toke his Journey 1684 in *Eng Hist Rev* (1893) Jan 129 When he hath put the business in a way, I shall be very desirous to go down and take his own place 1848 Gage *West Ind* 210, I am in a good way for salvation 1691 I. H[ale] *Acc New Invent* p xxiii, Therefore sufficient for the use of the Navy Royal shall soon be in a forward way to its sufficient growth 1698 J. Collier *Immor Stage* 211 When you see a thorough Libertine, you may almost swear he is in a wrong way, and that the Poet intends to make him a great Man 1726 Shelvocke *Voy round World* 347 People in such a forlorn way are apt to form innumerable apprehensions. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* II 146 I wish they'd made her love me better, and put 'em the family way ; made her love me better and better *Ibid* 334 So having congratulated their hopeful Ws and wished them joy of themselves [etc]. 1769 Junius *Lett* xxiii 114 Graham *Let* 23 July in 3^d (1812) I 109 But one of the poor men who were hurt at the fire is dead and another of them is, I fear, in a bad way 1848 Carr *Craven Gloss* s v, To be in a hinging way,' neither well nor ill 1858 Dickens *Nickleby* xxiii, There was Mrs Lenville, in a very high bonnet and veil, decededly in that way in which she would wish to be if she truly loved Mr Lenville 1872 Smiles *Character* 160 The notion that has no higher goal than pleasure, or even dollars or calico, must needs be in a poor way

**b.** *To be on a way* ? (with or without specifying adj) : to be in a state of mental distress or anxiety. *Ideal.* Cf. Style 2 c

1855 *Mag. for Young* XIV 131 She keeps on crying out for her mamma and she is in such a way as I never saw. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Lord & Fiddle* xvi 323 But they say she s in a dreadful way She's never yet heerd frae her mair [etc] *Ibid* xviii 354 She'll gae clean distracket—a her she's in a sair way about it 1873 Spelling *M. Mack* 81 (E D D) Well, there I was in a way 1885 Frances M.

Peard *Contr and* xxvi, Mother s in a fine way 1896 Gratiana Chanter *Wtch of Withsfraid* iv 45, I suppose her was in a proper way about it and fell to crying

**17.** Kind, sort, description. Now only in certain phrases. *In the way of* : of the nature of, belonging to the class of, 'in the shape of'. Also, with similar sense, and more frequently, *in the — way*, where *way* is qualified by an attributive sb or an adj. So occas *in this way* = 'of this kind'.

1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* iii § 140 He averred that in that way of bill [*sc* a bill of attainder] private satisfaction to each man's conscience was sufficient, although no evidence had been given in at all 1736 Butler *Anal* Introd, Wks 1874 I 4 Though no hint in this way has been attempted by those who have treated of our intellectual powers 1757 Foote *Author* i Wks 1799 I 134 You have nothing in the compiling or index way, first you would instruct the care of another? *Ibid* 136 In the year forty five when I was in the treasonable way 1770 Lady Hobart *Eulalia & Lucet, Heliogabalus* P 4 From a child he was fond of everything in the military way 1792 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 94, I could have every thing here, that I could desire in the freestone way 1797 Mrs A. M Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1813) I 224 In the affectionate way, her fair embalmed the genteel thing 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I xii P 4, I should want for nothing in the bread and butter way! 1823 J Badcock *Dom Amusement* 170 Some of these will come to us in the way of lining round tea chests 1835 Dickens *Sk Boz, Making a Night of it*, It was his ambition to do something in the celebrated 'Life of Napoleon' way 1837 — *Pickw* iv, Mr Solomon Pell finding that nothing more was going forward, either in the eating or drinking way, took a friendly leave 1875 Farman *Norm Cany* (ed 2) III xxii 305 [He] had a good deal of the Norman spirit 1878 E White *Life in Christ* iv xxvii (1878) 442 More certainly is attainable respecting some things which Divine Goodness will not do, than as to what it will do in the way of positive benefaction.

**18** Kind of occupation, work, or business Now only more explicitly *way of business* Formerly also † *way of life* = 'walk of life'.

1690 Norris *Reflections* (1717) I 6 If God would not accept an House of Prayer from a Man of a Military Way and Character, much less will he accept [etc] 1711 Addison *Spect* No 21 P 3 to place their Sons in a way of Life where an honest Industry cannot but thrive 1721 *Lond Gaz* No 6020/4 Dispers Damasks, Huckabacks and all sorts of Linnens in a Linnen Draper's Way 1726 *Gay Begg Op* i iv, The Ladies are better customers to those in the 1758 *Lond Ledyn Post* 28 30 May 4/1 We hear that there hath been lately an Order made in some of the Royal Hospitals that no Governor shall serve them in the Way of Business 1782 Mrs Burney *Cecilia* IX vi Her mother, she was sure, would never be at rest till he got into some higher way of life 1787 in *Reflections* (1811) I 50 The best workmen in this way, acknowledge that his is like a new art 1791 Sheaton *Edystone L* § 93 This day the plumber completed every thing in a way about the Lanthorn 1820 *Act* 10 & 11 *Geo IV* c 23 § 3 In the case of a seller who was in the same way of business before the war.

**b** Preceded by an attributive sb denoting the kind of commodity dealt in

1760 Dyer *Lett* (1967) 41 The different manufactures of this town, more particularly in the cutlery and toy way 1766 Fiske *Lond* iv IV 214 There are several wholesale dealers in the haberdashery way 1788 *Phil Trans* LXXVI 17 *note*, [He] had some years past the honour to work in the instrument way under the direction of the late Dr Demainbray 1788 *Ann Reg Chronicle* 109 Mr. Lunardi is now in the steel way 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* iv, I am in the oil and colour way 1841 Hackeray *G Gr Hogarty Diamond* ii, It was a new house, but did a tremendous business in the fig and sponge way

**c.** *In my* (*his*, etc) *way* = in my (etc) line, suited to my (etc) capacity, tastes, or requirements Chiefly in negative context. Cf 37 d.

1806 J Reresford *Miseries Hum Life* I Introd, Quoting from a dead language looks a little like showing, and that is not at all in my way, as you know 1863 Dickens *Uncom m Trav* xvii, One is made angry by my modestly suggesting the possibility of Parsimmon being more in their way 1885 Mrs Gaskell *Wives & Daus* xiv, I knew it [*sc* an agricultural meeting] wasn't much in his way 1887 Bissell *Obster Duties* Nt ii 63 Research is not in my line

**19.** *In a great, small way* (living) on a large or small scale of income and expenditure. Also with reference to the magnitude of a business establishment

*c* 1750 J Nelson *Jrnl* (1836) 9 We lived in a good way (as the world calls it) that is, we lived plentifully, and to each other 1779 *Mirror* No 17, I was married, about five years ago, to a young man in a good way of business as a grocer 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* II, Having brothers already established in a large way of business in London 1834 The elder sister was very well married, to a gentleman in a great way, new Bristol, who kept two carriages 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* vii, It was very right that he should take lodgings in his aunt's house, who lived in a very small way 1864 *Law Times Rep* N S X 250/1 The defendants were contractors and builders in a large way of business 1885 *Field* 26 Sept 476/1 Young men go behind me to some big scheme they take into their heads instead of starting contentedly to make way here

**†20.** In the 17–18th c often used for A particular form of church government or polity. *Obs*

*a* 1647 [see Congregational 3] 1648 J Cotton *Way of Congregr Ch.* 1 iii 1 Nor is Independency a fit name of the way of our Churches. 1851 Baxter *Inf Bapt* 145 The Episcopall Party are far more confirmed in their way by it 1737 Waterland *Unchurch* 449 From our own Divines I may next proceed to some learned Foreigners, of the *Arminian* way 1750 [see Presbyterian 2 b.

**21** The customary or usual manner of acting or behaving

1623 Shake *Hen I III*, iii 157 Why should we (good Lords) Vpon what cause, wrong you? Alas, our Title? The way of our Profession is against it 1700 Congreve *Way of World* v ad fin, Even so Sir, 'tis the way of the World, sir. 1730 Law *Serious C* I 13 Here you see, that one person has Religion enough, according to the way of the world, to be reckoned a pious Christian. 1899 in *Conklin's Trans Linn Soc* 1 74, I tried in vain to discover the origin of the whimsical custom, the only answer I could obtain was, 'It is our way' 1839 Thirlwall *Anal Body* Jan. 1 1 vii, With dukes and peeresses, and writing my recollections of them, as the way now is 1850 *Pendennis* liii, Almost every person in this story, according to his nature, and according to the way of the world as it seems to us, is occupied about Number One

b *fig* Customary modes of behaviour; usages, customs

1742 Fielding *J Andrews* I iii, He was in entirely ignorant of the ways of this world as an infant just entered into it could possibly be 1893 F I Richards in Trull Ver *Prog* 1 10 Instances among the barbarians [who] for Roman support, courted it by assuming Roman ways, and invited Roman interference 1884 W C Smith *Kildrostan* 48 We judge a stranger by our home bred ways, Who maybe, walks by other rule of right

**22** A habitual or characteristic manner of action, behaviour, expression, or the like Often in collective plural

*It (only) has way* often said of some perverse or annoying habit or behaviour which the friends of the person guilty of it are accustomed to regard with tolerant hopelessness

1709 Steele *Tatler* No 6 P 1 Now upon any Occasion, they only cry, 'Tis her Way, and I have no more to say 1709—*Ibid* No 25 P 6 As it was my Business to write down all the good Things I have heard in the last Conversation to furnish my Paper, I can fix in this only tell you my Sufferings and my Pangs 1711 Addison *Spect* No 323, 1 As for my Way, my Love with both of them 1718 Parnell *Hesiod to Old Beauty* 34 And all that's madly will, or oddly gay, We call it only pretty Fancy's way 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1 68) III 103 The free dislike I expressed to his ways, his manners, and his contrivances 1779 *Mirror* No 25, I was at last to be angry, but as such occasions as this not my way to fly much 1779 *Lit Mag* I 4 He often indulged in jokes which could not be heard without a flush from any other person, but from him, for his ways is known, they are heard without offence 1800 Miss Henry *Wouldn't you* II 263 Henry gone! with out our knowing any thing about the letter, and all by your slow ways 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* I The easier sex of Mr's temper, which were to them only 'pretty Fanny's way' 1827 G A Lawrence *Guy Livingstone* vi, She had the ways of a child petted all its life through 1863 Dickens *Mut Fr* I viii, I ought to have begun with a word of explanation but it's my way to make short cuts at things 1871 Lowell *Fable* Writ 1820 IV 17 Dryden in his rough and ready way, has hinted at this in his verses to Congreve 1884 W C Smith *Kildrostan* 79 He settled never at us In the next glen, and lived a scamptuous life, Costly, luxurious though his ways were coarse 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 247 It is to other men observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings, awkward ways, or stopping

b *pl* Habits, usual modes of acting (of an animal), + (of a horse) acquired habits, accomplishments.

1706 *Lond Gaz* No 4285 8 Stolen or strayed . . a roan Mare . all her Ways, except Pacing 1899 W J Green *Coaching Days* 68 Like the best of all the way alon to the Litchfield, which it resembles in many of its ways

c *transf* Occas with reference to a thing A tendency or liability to some particular kind of action

1883 *Manch Guard* 3 Oct 7/2 A pig keeps it a way of being coming unexpectedly when it is a misunderstood by a man who does not believe in it 1918 *Times Lit Suppl* 14 Mar 129/2 Each of our nerves has a nature of its own and ways of its own

d *To have a way with one* to have a persuasive manner Also in jural (usually with qualifying word), applied to negotiating tricks of manner.

1712 K Martin in P H Lutton *Life Lit Chal cmar* (1909) I iii 31 Saying he'd make a excellent missioner; He had such an honest way with him 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* ix, Quilp has such a way with him when he likes, that it is not looking a woman here couldn't refuse him 1847 in Lever *Life* I *Kilgobbin* lxxvii, All your little haggling ways and mannuting tricks 1877 Mrs H Ward *Robert Elsmere* II, It was not like a girl to be so fond and gracious with 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 120/2 Sir Thomas Brassey has through the whole length of his career had the fascinating good fortune to be what is called a popular man

**IV 23** Uses of *ways* as a singular.

**a.** The genitive *way's* (Of *ways* occurs in many adverb phrases in which it is combined with a preceding pronominal adj Most of these phrases came to be written as single words, and are treated as such in this Dict see Anyways, Nowais, Otherways (Of *three ways*) and -ways *suffix* Other similar collocations, now *Obs* or *dial*, are *each way's, this way's, that way's, which way's, the same way's*, synonymous with 'each way', 'this way', etc (see 9, 9b, 14d)

† Occas also with a prep, as *in each way's, by this way's*.

21 *O I Chron* an 1016, [He] wendon him sudweard ofhres wezes *c* 1205 *Lay* 18761 Alches wenes [c 1275 wayes] him wes wa *Ibid*, 25328 Neuren hit noht cuthes no pes wenes idilte *c* 1225 *Leg Kath* 1984 Pis punfule gin wes o swuch wise ginnet, þæt te twa turnden eiðer wiðward oðer, & wes wenes ba þe oðer twa turnden anes wen alswa *c* 1225 *Juliana* 45 Set me get witerliuker, quoð ha, hwuches wenis ze wurche? mit bicherred godes children *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (Bodl MS) 122 Hit is þah i wodlic summes wenes to þolien 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1725) 123 Robert þe Marmioun þe same wayes did he He robbed borgh treson þe kirke of Coventre *c* 1400 *Destr Troye* 6248, (E E T S) 352 þe lokyr i-ȝ smale tewellis, and caste þe tewellys aboute þe Dukis nek, and þan þei drowen her towellis eche weyȝ 1530 *Palsgr* 420/1 He hath altered his stayre another wayes, *il a changerme ses degrez tout autrement* 1585-6 Parl Leycester *Corr* (Camden) 463 Before which tyme, the wilde beastes as it were, the fleete wolde be gonne over landes and, and passe that wayes to the seas 1592 Greene *Disc Decer Trel* (1841) 9 Let the slope side of your ditch be towardes your marraine, and that wayes throw vp all your earth 1596 Braid *Theatre God's Judgem* (1612) 20 He could not tell which wayes to turn himselfe. 1598 Shake. *Merry W* II iii 56, I pray your worship come a little nearer this ways 1622 Callis *Stat Sewers* (1647) 197 Doctor Bonhams Case, fol 119 in the same Report, wherein the principall Case there put was as the same ways 1896 Gratz and Charles *Wrath of Wedgford* xiv 170 Going up over the track that ways to Witches Combe

b. Similarly *to go, come one's ways* (also + *on one's ways*), synonymous with *to go, come one's way* (see 7 b), and parallel to the *Go er ging seines weges*. In the later period a loose use of the plural may have coalesced with the use of the advb. genitive

Now only *dial* and *vulgar*, and chiefly in the imperative: in rustic use *come thy ways* is often addressed playfully to children and animals

*c* 1205 *Lay* 3892 Þe ut Ponne rideð alc hiș wetes mid ban feu 13 *Cursor M* 22063 (Edinb), [Sarrah shall be] laind at le taste to walc his wais fote [*Cott* his fath, *other texts* his way] 1340 *Ayenb* 140 Þe vorme zeiþ þet he wyl to helle, *ase* 1 seye 57 He anon lefte there alle his knyȝtes þe body that he appered in, & wente hys wayes *c* 1400 *Maun Voiage, Wisdom* 878 I turne to my bok, but not such occasyon is it not my way to sey much 1779 *Mirror* No 25, I was at last to be angry, but such occasions as this not my way to fly much 1779 *Lit Mag* I 4 He often indulged in jokes which could not be heard without a flush from any other person, but from him, for his ways is known, they are heard without offence 1800 Miss Henry *Wouldn't you* II 263 Henry gone! with out our knowing any thing about the letter, and all by your slow ways 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* I The easier sex of Mrs's temper, which were to them only 'pretty Fanny's way' 1827 G A Lawrence *Guy Livingstone* vi, She had the ways of a child petted all its life through 1863 Dickens *Mut Fr* I viii, I ought to have begun with a word of explanation but it's my way to make short cuts at things 1871 Lowell *Fable* Writ 1820 IV 17 Dryden in his rough and ready way, has hinted at this in his verses to Congreve 1884 W C Smith *Kildrostan* 79 He settled never at us In the next glen, and lived a scamptuous life, Costly, luxurious though his ways were coarse 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 247 It is to other men observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings, awkward ways, or stopping

b *pl.* Habits, usual modes of acting (of an animal), + (of a horse) acquired habits, accomplishments.

1706 *Lond Gaz* No 4285 8 Stolen or strayed . a roan Mare . all her Ways, except Pacing 1899 W J Green *Coaching Days* 68 Like the best of all the way alon to the Litchfield, which it resembles in many of its ways.

c *transf* Occas with reference to a thing A tendency or liability to some particular kind of action

1883 *Manch Guard* 3 Oct 7/2 A pig keeps it a way of being coming unexpectedly when it is a misunderstood by a man who does not believe in it 1918 *Times Lit Suppl* 14 Mar 129/2 Each of our nerves has a nature of its own and ways of its own

d *To have a way with one* to have a persuasive manner Also in jural (usually with qualifying word), applied to negotiating tricks of manner.

1712 K Martin in P H Lutton *Life Lit Chal cmar* (1909) I iii 31 Saying he'd make a excellent missioner; He had such an honest way with him 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* ix, Quilp has such a way with him when he likes, that it is not looking a woman here couldn't refuse him 1847 in Lever *Life* I *Kilgobbin* lxxvii, All your little haggling ways and mannuting tricks 1877 Mrs H Ward *Robert Elsmere* II, It was not like a girl to be so fond and gracious with 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 120/2 Sir Thomas Brassey has through the whole length of his career had the fascinating good fortune to be what is called a popular man

**IV 23** Uses of *ways* as a singular.

**a.** The genitive *way's* (Of *ways* occurs in many adverb phrases in which it is combined with a preceding pronominal adj Most of these phrases came to be written as single words, and are treated as such in this Dict see Anyways, Nowais, Otherways (Of *three ways*) and -ways *suffix* Other similar collocations, now *Obs* or *dial*, are *each way's, this way's, that way's, which way's, the same way's*, synonymous with 'each way', 'this way', etc (see 9, 9b, 14d)

† Occas also with a prep, as *in each ways, by this ways*.

21 *O I Chron* an 1016, [He] wendon him sudweard ofhres wezes *c* 1205 *Lay* 18761 Alches wenes [c 1275 wayes] him wes wa *Ibid*, 25328 Neuren hit noht cuthes no pes wenes idilte *c* 1225 *Leg Kath* 1984 Þis punfule gin wes o swuch wise ginnet, þæt te twa turnden eiðer wiðward oðer, & wes wenes ba þe oðer twa turnden anes wen alswa *c* 1225 *Juliana* 45 Set me get witerliuker, quoð ha, hwuches wenis ze wurche? mit bicherred godes children *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (Bodl MS) 122 Hit is þah i wodlic summes wenes to þolien 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1725) 123 Robert þe Marmioun þe same wayes did he He robbed borgh treson þe kirke of Coventre *c* 1400 *Destr Troye* 6248, (E E T S) 352 þe lokyr i-ȝ smale tewellis, and caste þe tewellys aboute þe Dukis nek, and þan þei drowen her towellis eche weyȝ 1530 *Palsgr* 420/1 He hath altered his stayre another wayes, *il a changerme ses degrez tout autrement* 1585-6 Parl Leycester *Corr* (Camden) 463 Before which tyme, the wilde beastes as it were, the fleete wolde be gonne over landes and, and passe that wayes to the seas 1592 Greene *Disc Decer Trel* (1841) 9 Let the slope side of your ditch be towardes your marraine, and that wayes throw vp all your earth 1596 Braid *Theatre God's Judgem* (1612) 20 He could not tell which wayes to turn himselfe. 1598 Shake. *Merry W* II iii 56, I pray your worship come a little nearer this ways 1622 Callis *Stat Sewers* (1647) 197 Doctor Bonhams Case, fol 119 in the same Report, wherein the principall Case there put was as the same ways 1896 Gratz and Charles *Wrath of Wedgford* xiv 170 Going up over the track that ways to Witches Combe

b. Similarly *to go, come one's ways* (also + *on one's ways*), synonymous with *to go, come one's way* (see 7 b), and parallel to the *Go er ging seines weges*. In the later period a loose use of the plural may have coalesced with the use of the advb. genitive

Now only *dial* and *vulgar*, and chiefly in the imperative: in rustic use *come thy ways* is often addressed playfully to children and animals

*c* 1205 *Lay* 3892 Þe ut Ponne rideð alc hiș wetes mid ban feu 13 *Cursor M* 22063 (Edinb), [Sarrah shall be] laind at le taste to walc his wais fote [*Cott* his fath, *other texts* his way] 1340 *Ayenb* 140 Þe vorme zeiþ þet he wyl to helle, *ase* 1 seye 57 He anon lefte there alle his knyȝtes þe body that he appered in, & wente hys wayes *c* 1400 *Maun Voiage, Wisdom* 878 I turne to my bok, but not such occasyon is it not my way to sey much 1779 *Mirror* No 25, I was at last to be angry, but such occasions as this not my way to fly much 1779 *Lit Mag* I 4 He often indulged in jokes which could not be heard without a flush from any other person, but from him, for his ways is known, they are heard without offence 1800 Miss Henry *Wouldn't you* II 263 Henry gone! with out our knowing any thing about the letter, and all by your slow ways 1824 Scott *St Ronan's* I The easier sex of Mrs's temper, which were to them only 'pretty Fanny's way' 1827 G A Lawrence *Guy Livingstone* vi, She had the ways of a child petted all its life through 1863 Dickens *Mut Fr* I viii, I ought to have begun with a word of explanation but it's my way to make short cuts at things 1871 Lowell *Fable* Writ 1820 IV 17 Dryden in his rough and ready way, has hinted at this in his verses to Congreve 1884 W C Smith *Kildrostan* 79 He settled never at us In the next glen, and lived a scamptuous life, Costly, luxurious though his ways were coarse 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 247 It is to other men observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings, awkward ways, or stopping

c *In a good, great, little, long ways* (now only *dial.*), the origin of the use of *ways* for *way* is obscure.

In what possibly have arisen from the analogy of phrases containing the adjective genitive (see a and b) There is no known instance in OE of such a construction as *ȝelet weges* (= 'pauliam vel, what might possibly be') 1598 Farre in *Membrana's Hist Chaina* 289 They came into the gates of the citties, after they had gon a good wayes into the suburbs 1599 R Ashley in *Pope Le Ayres* (1857) Sith Mr Oldman assailed him with a mightie armie, a good while within his owne kingdome 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III iii, Not that I hope to live to any such Age as that at present—but I shall be early in my journey Heaven be praised, that is a great Ways off yet 1809 Byron *Lo Ar Hedges* 25 June, Palermo is no great ways from the sea. 1841 *Comic Annual* 141 If I'd a be beautiful Arabian must be a great ways further South than this 1845 S Judd *Margaret* I xiii 213 'It is only a little ways,' replied she, 'from here down to the village in my house 1850 Dickens *Surrey Hills* III 206 Maybe we lost his ways 1895 S Crane *Red Badge* v, His mouth was still a little ways open 1899 H McGrath *Needles Pennsylv*, The man staggered a little ways across the hall and fell in a heap

**V.** Idiomatic phrases.

* *with gowe ming verb.*

For *clear the way, fetch the way* (Naut), *gather way* (Naut), *make way*, see the verbs.

**24.** Have way. (See 6 above)

†**a.** To be allowed liberty of action. *Obs*

1603 Shake. *Meas for M* v 238 Let me have way, my Lord, to finde this practise out.

**b** Of feelings or their manifestation To find vent

1846 James *Step mother* xxxii, He evidently strove to speak calmly, but the father's vehemence would have way, and his voice trembled, and his lip quivered 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* xix Tom dropped his face into his hands, and a sobbing noise or two had way in spite of him

**25.** Make way.

**a.** To open a passage, remove obstacles to progress, to facilitate passage or entrance. (See 6 above.) Const. *for*, † *to*, or † dative.

*c* 1000 *Trin Coll Hom* 91 De þe se weie makeden biforen him buen folkes forþcuwes *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chr* (Rolls) 16 Porpe he made þam [*Trot* hym] weye Ou ilk a side he dide þem deye *a* 1400–50 *Alex* (Trin Coll) 513 *in Bahees Bk*, By fore he coure þo stuarde comes þen, je serueur i next alle kyn men Mays wey and stondes by Syde Eyl alle be serued at þat tyde *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii, 653 Gawein com thourgh the presse making me way with the tranchiant swerde 1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 68 b, And the filth or oddie Grane in manner of a pervise sterne, to make the other way in the Ayre, fleith all alone before 1588 Parke tr *Mendoza's Hist China* 184 They were carried in little chaires vpon mens armes backes, and the Captaine before them making way 1593 Shake. *2 Hen VI*, iv viii 62 My sword make way for me, for here is no staying 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 81 Wher gold makes way Ther is no interruption 1638 R Baker tr *Balzac's Lett* (vol II) 107 Hee seemes to thinke that vertue had needs of delight, to make way for her into the soule 1693 Locke *Educ* § 140 All the World forwardly ioyn to oppose and defeat them: whilst the open, fair, wise Man has every Body to make way for him, and does directly to his Business

† **b.** Of ground. To allow of passage *Obs*

*c* 1300 *K Horn* 1489 (Laud MS) Pe sond by gan to gro And hyt hym makede weye

**c** To move from one's place so as to allow a person to pass.

*c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxv 120 He commaunded pe lordes pat rydez nere him to make way pat he men of reli gi un may comme to him 1593 Shake. *Rich II*, v ii 110 Make way, vnruly Woman 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vii, A Portuguese or Spaniard will seldom make way for a stranger, till called upon or pushed aside 1911 Gouldsbury & Sheane *Gt Plateau* x Accordingly I as a young man sees his mother in law coming along the path, he must retreat into the bush and make way for her

**d.** To leave a place vacant *for* a successor or substitute.

1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1809) III 122 When my family were thus turned out of doors, an old follower made way for them in his own cottage, and retired to a cow house hard by *a* 1828 H Neele *Lect Eng Poets* (1859) 33 The tragedies of Shakspeare were driven from the stage to make way for those of Addison and Rowe. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxx, If they [the philosophers] had not been far more learned than that to preach, they must make way for those who had 1859 Freeman *Norm Conq* III xii 152 His castle has been wantonly destroyed to make way for one of the barbarous official buildings of modern times 1896 *Duke Yorkes C* 207/2 At Durham [Sir Charles] refused to stand, and his refusal made way for the present Lord Henscheil

**e** To make progress on a journey or voyage Often with qualifying word, as *to make good, much, little way*. (Cf 7 above)

(*a*) *Naut* (see 7 1).

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxvii, 97 Cast ȝe her sight ferder tow side the see, she sawe the sayles, wyth the flote of the shippes that made good ways 1513 Douglas *Æneis* *Maffei* *Invy* (1589) 98 The windes and seas were high, yet we made some way *a* 1826 Bacon *New Atl* 1 The Winde setled in the West for many dayes so as we could make but a small way 1624 Capt J Smith *Virginia* iii vi 60 We seeing them prepare to assault vs, left our Oares and made way with our sayle to it to winne them 1626—*Accid Ind Sea* 1 *mem* 29 Fetch the log line to try what way shee makes 1744 M Bird *Life* 49 We lost our Main top Mast, so that after the Storm was over we could not make any Way 1792 Smeaton *Eddystone L* § 155 Our vessels made better Way in a rough sea. 1837 Marryat *Dog Fiend* xiii, He stood up on the cloak to assist in what way she was making through the water 1868 Du Chaillu *Ivory Land* xxvi 457 however, widened to nearly a mile in breadth and we made better way

(*b*) *gen.* Also *fig.*

1588 Shake *Tit A* II iv 24 And I have horse will follow where the game Makes way 1590 Sidney *Ar* C ii 1 39 He making speedy way through spersed aire. *a* 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* 921 Æneas. With whose twelue Pine, in ships I plowed the deepe, And made that way my mother Venus led 1596 Shake *Tam Shr* i 239 Where you go him, While I make way from hence to save my life 1820 Scott *Monast* Introd Ep So great is the difference I esteem reading a thing or else it, making toilsome way through all the difficulties, and, as the man says in the play, 'having the same read to you' 1845 M Cut loch *Texarkana* ii 11 (1894) 446 Should the system [of life at natives] not make any greater way than it has done it may not be worth objecting to 1880 Black *Green Pastures* (1876) 182 See how little way they have made in truly spiritual, unselfish affections and inclinations 1882 Ernest *Art Sports* xviii, And the man who can make way with his wood ing that was stopped, apparently, altogether 1883 Frances M Peard *Contrad* i, His companion was making rapid way towards the point 1888 Rolfe *Quart Descent* xxxix II 72 There are some signs in the view is making way.

†**f** To make a hole in, *through. Obs*

1588 A Hall *Iliad* iv 73 That of the staffe the steeled point made in his forehead way 1596 Shake *Tam Shr* II 155 With thrit word she stroke me on the head At d through the instrument my pate made way 1622 Lodge, *Rosse four a*, to make way with

†**g** Of an event or action To let *to*, afford facilities *for* something, to render it possible *to* do something *Obs*

1646 H Lawrance *Comm on Ps* at with *Angels* 24 And this will not be unuseful to consider ances it makes way to shew in what end they appeare and what they can doe for us 1677 Temple *Mem* Miscell (1680) 194 About which time [the ages of forty] the natural heat beginning to decay, makes way for those distempers 1715 Burnet *Own Time* iii 111 (1900) II 143 His made way to more desperate undertakings.

†**h.** *To make way to*, to be a person) with a view to establishing relations with him.

1671 Milton *Samson* 481, I already have made way To some Philistian Lords, with whom to treat About thy ransom.

**26. Make one's (its) way.** (Cf. 7 above)

**a** To travel or proceed in an intended direction or to a certain place *To make the best of one's way* (also, *to make one's best way*) to go as quickly as one can, + to decamp

*c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxxiv 136, I made my way vnto Rome 1582 N Lichefield tr *Castanheda's Cong E Ind* I iii 7 b, The rest then departed, making their ways into the Sea, with a South southwest winde 1668 Cl arendon *Contempl Ps* lxxiii (1727) 471 Those who make their way through a sea of blood and rapine to grasp an authority which belonged not to them 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 393 He makes his way o're Mountains, and contemns Unruly Torrents, and unfoorded Streams 1705 Addison *Italy* Monaco, etc 4 The next Day we again set Sail, and made

the best of our way 'till we were forc'd, by contrary Winds, into St Remo 1748 Lediard *Tr Andrea* I xvi, The Thief without any Ceremony, stepped into the Street, and made the best of his Way. 1856 Litchfield *Greece* xxii. 815 A very small number made their way to Ambracia. 1860 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxiii, With that they putted; Mr Swiveller to make the best of his way home and sleep himself sober; and Quilp [etc.] 1844 Dunglison *Commodity* VII iv, Consigning bade his friend farewell till the morrow, and made his best way to the Castle 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* III 366 Hardly any gentleman had any difficulty in making his way to the royal presence. 1864 Trollope *Small Hs Allington* xxi, Johnny made his way on to the road by a stile that led out of the copse *Ibid*, Then we'll make the best of our way home, and brew a glass of wine there. 1874 Green *Short Hist*, vi § 4 300 It was in despair of reaching Italy that the young scholar [Erasmus] made his way to Oxford.

**†b.** To effect a passage by force, force one's way. *Obs.*

1647 Clarendon *Hist Rcb* VI § 157 But if they compelled him to make his way, and enter the town by force, it would not be in his power to keep his soldiers from taking that which they should win with their blood

**c** To make progress in one's career; to advance in wealth, station, reputation, etc. by one's own efforts

1603 Shake *Lear* v iii 20 If thou do't As this instructs thee, thou dost make thy way To Noble Fortunes. 1721 Addison *Spect* No 219 ¶ 6 He is the best Man in the World by his own Industry 1772 Smollett *Humphry Cl* 28 July ii (1815) 261, I am not at all surprised that these Scots make their way so universally over the globe. 1852 Lytton *My Novel* II vi, A young man who has shown way to make in life had better avoid all intimacy with those of his own age who are kindred objects.

**†d** To find means *to do* something. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 21179 Quat he war wys pat mogbt Stedfast hald ja du in thogbt [For pan mund he her make his wai Pra we ik to were him on pi dai

**†e.** (Also *to make one's ways*) To gain favour, establish relations *with* a person *Obs.*

1618 Raleigh *Apol* Wks 1751 II 250 It was bruited that being once at Liberty, having made my Way with some foreign Princes, I would turn Papist. *a* 1662 *Contin of Hist Irel.* (Ir Archæol Soc) II 37 He made his wales with Colonel Monke, Governor of Dundalke, for the Parliament, and bought of him wood & Ax of an estimation

**f** Of a thing. *To make its way.* to travel, make progress, (of an opinion, custom, etc.) to gain acceptance.

1656 Cowley *To Sir W Davenant* 25 This Fancy like a Flame its way does make, And leave it right It lacks for following Pens to take 1711 Addison *Spect* No 119 ¶ 6 This infamous Piece of Good breeding, which reigns among the Cossacks of the Lows, has not yet made its way into this Country 1861 M Pattison *Ess* (1889) I 48 It might have been anticipated that if other's doctrines would have made their way early among this little circle of his countrymen. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod Par Churches* 80 Brass inscriptions have dire ctly begun to make their way.

**27. Pay one's way.** †**a.** To defray one's expenses on a journey. *Obs*

*a* 1825 *Wolfe Wallace* vi in Child *Ballads* III 271/2 Take ye that, ye belted knight, 'I will pay your way till ye come down

**b** To succeed in paying one's expenses as they arise, without incurring debts. Of a business undertaking, *to pay its way*: To be carried on at least without loss, to be self-supporting.

1823 Byron *Age of Bronze* xiv, 1 ut bread was high, the farmer paid his way 1858 Trollope *Dr Thorne* iii, Mrs. Woodward had three unmarried good daughters, living her way from month to month as widows with limited incomes should do 1886 *Times* (weekly ed) 2 Oct 15/3 The pier has never come near paying its way 1890 *Spectator Times* LXVII 1397/1 It seems to me a most reasonable thing for a person applying for shares to look for a guarantee of interest until the concern can pay interest of its own 1894 Law M Helper *Verney Heirs* IV 155 By great economy John has just paid his way

**29. See one's way. a.** In literal sense, to have a view of the portion of the road or route immediately before one, so as to be able to avoid wandering or stumbling **b** *fig.* in obvious metaphorical uses; now often, to know that some object is attainable (const. *to*); also (chiefly in negative contexts) to feel justified in deciding *to do* something.

1774 Burke *Let to Mayor Rockingham* 25 Sept, I must see my way much more clearly before me, before I take any other step in that business 1775 — *Sp Concil Amer* 22 May, Sir, I do not at all relately assert the impracticability of such represent ation [of the colonies]. But I do not see my way to it 1823 Keble *Serm* iv (1848) 64 To see his way safely, if not clearly or comfortably, through all the snares of error and disputation 1861 M Pattison *Ess* (1889) I. 33 Simple fighting John Bull can understand, but in a negotiation he can't see his way. 1865 Mrs. Newby *Cousin Jessie* iv 111 44, I feel that I know my business pretty well directly, and that I begin to see my way *Ibid* iv 111 55, I wish I could do more but I think I see a way 1870 Newman *Gram. Assent* II ix 353 Laud said that he did not see his way to come to terms with the Holy See, till Rome was 'other than she is' 1875 Helps *Soc Press* II 24 The neighbours do not see their way to altering it 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX 392/1 He did not see his way clear to allow their names to remain upon the register 1886 *Manch Exam* 16 Jan 5/4 Lord Salisbury has at last seen his way to the final choice of a bishop for Manchester

**29b. Take the way.** (Cf. sense 4 and Take *v* 25 b.) To enter on and follow the route leading to a specified place. In early use sometimes without mention of destination: **†** To set out, travel

*c* 1300 *Harrowing of Hell* (Harl MS) 38 In godned toke he jem way Pat to helle gates laij 23 *Gow Warw* (A) 1308 Gij him spedde mit & day, Into Ingland he toke pe way 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 118 All him alone the way he tan Toward the towne off Louchmabane *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's Pr* 556 The Constable and his wif also And Custance han ytake the eighte way Toward the see *c* 1400 Lydg *Assembly of Gods* 551 Wherfore Cerberus toke the next way *c* 1485 *Digby Myst, Christ's Burial & Resurr* 983 I bek iet us tak pe way furth straite. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* lxiii 215 They departed & toke the way towardes Rome 1801 Scott *Song of St John* 86 O fear not the priest, For to Dryburgh the way he has ta'en 1832 — *Cr Robt* xxxiv, Count Robert subjected himself to necessity, and took the way to Europe I y sea. 1835 James *Phil Augustus* xx, Here the anchorite bade God speed him, and, turning his steps back again, took the way to his hut

**†b.** To go about *to do* something Also, to take its course without interference *Obs.*

1605 Hacon *Adv Learn* II xvii § 9 6 That opinion hath beene of all desert, towardes Learning, as that which taketh the way, to reduce Learning to certaine empirie and barren Generalities *a* 1700 Dryden *Theod & Hon* 330 Give me leave to seize my destin'd Prey And let eternal Justice take the way

**30. To take one's way.** To set out on a journey, to journey, travel.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 11138 Pis kinges pre bar wai pu tok A tamhonth ar he ontaste 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 7 7 After he came to Wynchestre & pan he toke his way Wip sorgh Lyndesay 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xviii 114 For the laiff has thair wayis tane till the Ersche kyngis *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's Prol* And right anon his wyf his tale hath told To the Court of Mebee *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2456 His way barfote pan he toke 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* 161, Saynge that [the foxe] toke his way ward Myrmyndone as fast as he myght 1498 *Cov Leet Bk* 588 And they came forth ar pe south durre in be Mymaere & toke their way Wurgh Shilton Wode ryding downe pe Bailly lane *c* 1600 *Sir Aston* xlviii 2 How carefull was I, when I tooke my way, Each trifle vnder truest lwres to thrust 1642–9 Vicars *God's Parliament* 149 Lord Fairfax took his way towards Mynsey 1667 Milton *P L* xii 649 They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow, Through Eden to ik the solitarie way 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 405 Alone, by Night, his watry Way he takes, Swims from all danger, and the billows broke 1761 *Gray Odes* 13 Onward still his way he takes 1893 Anon Sidney *Lad to Deep* I 5 Then the kind maiden's dearerth with all his bow carefull was I, when I tooke my way, Each trifle vnder truest lwres to thrust 1642–9 Vicars *God's Parliament* 149 Lord Fairfax took his way towards Mynsey 1667 Milton *P L* xii 649 They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow, Through Eden to ik the solitarie way 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 405 Alone, by Night, his watry Way he takes, Swims from all danger, and the billows broke 1761 *Gray Odes* 13 Onward still his way he takes 1893 Anon Sidney *Laughs Lord* xviii 157 As she took her way sadly and slowly towards the palace

*** with prepositions.*

**31. By the way a.** Along or near the road by which one travels; by the road side In early use also **†** *by way.*

971 *Blickl Hom* 15 Pa sæt hine sum blind hrycfa be pon wege *c* 1200 *Ormin* 16612 Whanne heo line weore, pa heo li wanne lasenn *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8055 A ric man in wai par lai wa seke, to him pan turnd pai. 1550 Crowley *Epigr* 197 Thou, by the way, as thou dost hye, Hyred some man that craued of hym for charitie 1596 Wyse (quod this Merchant) Do ye begge by the waye 1878 Jefferies *Wild Life in S* (1889) 173 I passed flocks of dying sheep in the hollows by the way their skeletons were here and there to be seen

**b** While going along, in the course of one's walk or journey. In early use **†** *by way.*

*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp*, Luke x 4 Ne bere ge xeoc ne nanne mon be weze [Vulg *per viam*] ne gretað *a* 1225 *O E Chron* (Laud MS) an 1096, Ac þes folces þe i e Hungrie for, fela þusendo for bi Costentin Cyrice ærende 1300 *Cursor M* 1208 in S *Eng Leg* 141 Pov hauest selde i-seie Pene Frebelschop of cauntebury wende in swuche manere ti weie *a* 1400–50 *Alexand & Dindim* 9 He fonde he was serges ones twelue 1587 Fleming *Hofen* III 115 Pek ying wente hom warde, and was i-slawe by pe weie 1550 Crowley *Epigr* 1 *ensuyng* He sayd he found his fat hurt by hauyng bene 1590 Shake *Mids N* IV i 204 Lets follow him, and by the way let us recount our dreames 1617 Morvson *Itin* I 94 By the way in this journey, we saw Ingolstad a faire towne burg, a free but not imperiall City 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I (Globe) 216 Nor is it possible to describe what strange and inevitable Reflections crowe into my Thoughts by the Way 1760 [see *By prep* 12] 1898 M Pemberton *Footsteps Army* I vii, It had been in his mind while he dined at Zarag 21 that he would find an early opportunity by the way to question the spy

*fig.* 1603 Shake *Meas for M* v 458 His Act did not ore take his bad intent, And must be buried but as an intent That perish'd by the way

**c** *fig* with reference to the tenor of discourse Incidentally, in passing, as a side-topic

1556 Robinson *H ret's Utopia* (Arb) 38 *min gen* I will by the way hooked for hast passyng 1581 J Bell *Haddon's Answ Osor* 1 Wherefore I thought it not to bee tolde briefly by the way 1598 Shake *Merry W* I iv 190 She is pretty, and honest, and gentle, and one that is your friend, I can tell you that by the way 1611 — *Cymb* III iv 178 *I regicke* 100 They are inferred often by the way for illustration sake 1632 Lithgow *Trav* x 298 And now by the way I recall to remembrance the 1732 *Lett of Pythag* 32 But we must take this by the Way, that in the reckoning of it, two Ounces will not produce above 40 Grains of 1001 Ounce 1847 R Godwin *Sermon* 5 I will by the way I would hint to you by the way, that we are perhaps not fair judges of our own actions.

**d** used parenthetically to apologize for introducing a new topic, a casual remark, or the like

*a* 1614 Downe *Interhausates* (1640) 30 Though, by the way, this may not passe so generally, but that it must admit the exception which the Rule of Law upon which it is grounded, carries with it 1668 Dryden *Ess Dram Poesy* 46, I mean besides the Chorus, or the Monologues, which by the way should Ben. no enemy to the way of writing *a* 1730 Bury *Lett N Scot* (1734) II 97 By the Way, altho' the Work was not warm, he was without Shoes, Stockings, or Breeches. 1836 Dickens *Sk B* 2, *Sentiment*, This, by the way, was another bit of diplomacy 1850 Thackeray *Rebecca Feb.* When we lost sight of him, and of his little account, too, by the way 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xxvii, By the way, talking of letters, there was one came for you this morning in your Cousin Philip's handwriting

**e** in predicative or complemental use

1564 I Denman *Propfs Cert. Art Relig* 98 b This is yow true but by the waye before yow enter into the matter 1652 Nedham tr *Selden's Mare Cl* 46 Also a word by the way, touching the Mediterranean Sea, in possession of the Romanes 1653 Ramsbey *Astrol Restored* 5 But this by the way, let us now proceed 1739 De Foe *Conjur* 21 (Globe) 243 However, I allow'd Liberty of Conscience throughout my Dominions But this is by the Way 1904 Burnand *Records & Reminn* II 285 But this by the way

**f** As a by work, as a subordinate object of regard. 1611 Cotgr *s v. Passant, Les passants*, vagabonds, lurkers, cursarily, accidentally, by the way 1708 Berridge *Ann Annal* (1712) III 265 It is not to be done by the way, but with all our might. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd* I 91 Maritime skill is not a thing to be cultivated by the way [ἐν παρέργῳ] or at chance times.

**†g.** Indirectly, by a side channel of information. 1609 Shake *Mach* III iv 130 *Mach* How signst thou that Macduff denies his person At our great bidding. *Lo* Did you send to him sir? *Mach* I heard it by the way But I will send

**h** *attrib.* as adj phr Incidental, casual, haphazard.

1869 Mrs Whitney *We Girls* ii, At parting she said in an off hand, by the way fashion— 'Ruth [etc.] 1885 J Hueffer *Wagner* 32 It is the introduction in a by the way manner of the two great religious principles appears not particularly happy 1888 Saintsbury *Dryden* i 21 The ordinary process by which all the ideas indulged in every *defense* and involution of second thoughts and by the way qualifications

**32. By way of —.** A prepositional phrase used in various senses. Also **†** *by the ways of* (The governed sb is usually without article.)

**†a.** By means of; through the medium of; by the method of. *Obs*

1390 Gower *Conf* I 69 This lord spak so that he were of schrifte He drowh hem [ec the priest] unto his conne 1439 in *Ireland Ac* 6 Q (1900) 31 July 2 And it is ak at xis tyme in yis oure grete necessite putte youre handes and ese us by wey of lone of ye somme of C mark *a* 1456 Hardyng *Add to Lat to Edward IV* (1812) 352 Whiche I desireth with all his hert to do yow worship 15 wey of me rage 1495 *Rolls of Parl* VI 493/2 That noo pare ne be not empeched nor chargeable be wey of vexacion or otherwyse 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) I I require you that ye neuer by way of counsaile be besy to attempte any persone therin 1539 Paynell *Salernus Regim* 1 Medicines by way of drinke pr mises [*per ingestion promissa*], ar ewarded him to enter into the Romā e garrison 1613 Shake *Hen VIII*, III i 5 We come not by the way of Accusation, To taint that honour every good Tongue blesses 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 5 Master work men may receive Instructions by way of Drawghts Models, Frames &c 1673 J Owen *Indictm & Sen against Popish Plot* 4 Sensual Sense is not radically in them, but only by way of Communication

**†b.** By the action of (a person or persons *Obs.* 1447–8 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 1450 70 a Gif it happinis the said landis to be distroublit or vexit be way of Inglismen it sal be allowit to the said Alex of the mulis etc.

**†c** Law *By way of plaint.* = At *par voye de fait* see Fraet sb 1 b Also (sc.), *by way of deed* 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* III 141 The tother part with bruit power and myght Without resoune agane he wald pursew, I way of deid his landis till reskew 1552 Lyndesay *Pl Common Weal* I 275 In cause anher of the saidis parteis, be way of deid, be hurt, harmit, invadit, or persewit be ony of the said deid 1580–8 *Mod. Pamph* (1656) 5 That no more be done to any subject be way of deed

**d.** As an instance, or a mode of, in the capacity or with the function of, as something equivalent to (Cf *Ab* 7 *at voye de chanie* 1321 in *Anc Laws* I 923 23 *E Edw II* A 1548 By the way of 1532 to take short 1580 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 9 He were a cruel fadir pat wiste not pese his owne childre fred & pt wolde not suffre anoper man to helpe his children to fede hem 1589 in *Eng Guilds* (1870) 32 Also pese brethern han ordeyned be way of charite [etc.] 1590 Maunsell (1856) xxiii 190 Be bying, and sellinge, and other contracte, betwene leve le, pere men to goo in to the Lake, to gadre hem precyous Stones and Perles be weye of Alemesse 1609 *Ancient Irish* 1 Williams *Acc* 9 (Abridged Club) 94 To be geven vnto sr Thomas Ryder for his maiesties reward, vpon his 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* iii xxiii (Arb) 203 We le still send now and then by way of Epistle to our Poets of complaint 1672 Villiers (Dk Buckhm) *Rehearsal* I i (Arb) 11 My neat Rule is the Rule of Reason and by way of Table book 1711 Addison *Spect* No 110 ¶ 2 And I here ought to be a distinction made in Letters of that nature, between passing a thing over by way of Contrivance and giving a Bribe 1781 Cowper *Truth* 87 P 4 Nothing was wanting but some one to sit in the Pill w Chair by way of President 1791 Alison *Phil* No 265 Pa Philosophy makes his Heroe relate it by way of Episode 1794 M Dubois *Life* 60 Most of them were very industrious in selling, one Thing, or other; by Way of Curiosity, the Perry to a good Eye 1796 Pinkney *Trav* I 14 In vain, I ask pardon for this digression, by way of apology for which I shall observe 1806 J Fenwood *Visions I saw Lit* I 322 Attempting to spring excessively over a five barred gate by way of shewing your activity to a party of ladies 1820 Byron *Juan* I lxi *note* In Turkey nothing is more common than for the Musselmans to take several glasses of strong spirits by way of appetizer 1842 Dickens *Amer Notes* xiii, The drapers always having hung up at their door, by way of sign a piece of bright red cl th 1843 Prescott *Mexico* II i 31 The sovereign holding a golden rod, by way of sceptre, in his left hand 1856 Reskin

*King of Cn in h rer i* He used to chan the plates occasion lly getting what was left on them by way of en tour ig ent 1808 *Hope Dutchess I. Melbert* (Cam den) *Prof* p x Dr Richard Farrar composed some lines upon him by way f captain 1808 Louisa M Alcott *Little Women* xxvii You'll have to go and thank him, and by, by way of a joke 1892 *Ingelow Jl* 1 176 The summary [of the Act] given by way of introduction is concise and clear.

† **b** *Iy way of ex ellency* (or *eminence*) = 'par excellence'. *Obs*

1661 31 [see EMINENCE 8 c] 1843 [see EMINENCY 8] 1694 Locke *Thoughts Educ* in *King Life* (1858) 343 There is one Spirit immediately illuminated from God, I e one created Spirit is way of ex ellency, e the Holy Spirit 1699 *Burnet Hist Conn Of. & Ref Lett* 1 9 They are like wise styl'd the Scriptures by Way of Eminence 1703 [see EMINENCY 8] *a* 1706 [see SCRIPTURE 3 b] 1712 SHAFTESB *Charac* Misc vi II 278 Have you writ a Play, a Song, an Essay, or a Paper so by way of Eminence, the current Pieces of our Weekly Wits are generally said

**f** Followed by gerund, forming predicative phrases with the sense In the habit of (doing something), also, more usually, making a profession of, or having a reputation for (being or doing so and-so) *colloq*

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inheri* xxxii, The Colonel was by way of introducing him into the best circles 1892 *Law Times Rep* LXVII 1 MANSFIELD *J arraigning, etc* (18,6) 182 A wiseacre passenger, who is by way of knowing the river well, says they are called *cygnets* in these parts 1882 H KINGSLEY *Y Nowhere* xlvii, Mary was by way of helping Lady Hunsalt a small, but she was very clumsy about it 1877 LADY M A Bloome *Fr a Hermit's Cave to Africa* 11 Charlie, our groom, who is by way of being a very fine gentleman, only condescends to work until he can purchase a wife 1881 MRS LOCK *R to 19th Cent* III v II 34, I am by way, here, of doing the same thing 1882 *Statute Act* 18 July 295 Mr. Brander Matthews finds fault with the phrase by way of being, and says 'an American can hardly understand it By way of being is colloquially equivalent to about to be, hold ng oneself out in a certain character or being so reputed, and this with an implied disclaimer of pre se knowledge or warranty on the part of the speaker' 1883 MARIA *Martinau* 36 The Gibsons were by way of spoiling me *Ibid* IX 179 Nor did he come across them at any house he was by way of frequenting 1887 *Spectator* 3 Sept 1218 The character of the woman, who is by way of being the female villain of the story, is drawn with skill

**g.** By the route which passes through or over (a specified place) = VIA *prep* Also † *by the way of*

Formerly with omission of of the place name being pre fixed to way Cf sense 9

1 *Cor Chron* (1611) 1 an 885 Heo forðferde be Rome weze [L *in itinere Romæ*] 1460 *Paston Lett* I 315 He shall send his man hom to he Newmarket wey 1701 W WOTTON *Hist Rome* 482 He went by the way of Illyricum 1721 SMOLLETT *Humph Cl* 20 Jan Sir W Phillips is by the Wee set out from Glasgow by the way of Limrik 1865 *Cornh Mag* XI 595 It invaded France by way of Avignon 1901 ATTEMUCY *Mediæval Europe* From Britain we were dive ging from the main road to Freetown which is by way of the Pumlan hills

† **h** Through the medium of (a person) *Obs*

1560 SIR N THROCKMORTON in Wright *Q Eliz* (1838) I 49 The 9th of October last, I wrote to you from Paris by the wiye of Monsieur de Chivtonet

† **33.** From the way Out of the way, in a secluded place *Obs*

1593 SHAKS *Lucr* 1144 S me drink deepe desert vested from the wzy, Will wee find out

**34** In the (etc) way See also senses 17–19 )

† **a** As one proceeds: as he goes along, in the course of one's journey (to one's place). Also *in one's way*, in early use, *in wzy*. Cf. *to take in one's way* (sense 7) *Obs*

*To do* (a person etc) *in the way* to send out (*off* to set forth) on a journey or expedition

1297 R GLOUC 3765 He gesiþude is noble ost & dude him in þe weye 13300 *Horn* 1007 Horn dude him in þe weze On a good galeie 13 A *Alit* 3392 (Laud MS), Þine Oldzuntz & þine leodis, þat ondyzete þe lest Wyl, do hem done in þe weye þat hy were in feli contreye 13 *Gaw Warin* 259 At Pelice he tok his hors and in his way he tok aplit 1377 LANGL *P Pl* B xviii 47 As we went þus in þe weye wordy togydere 1384 WYCL *Acts* Gen xlv 24 Ne wrathithe ze in the weye 1450 *Merl* 2 *Festial* 9 He ytervet sin þe way 1609 HOLLAND *Ammian* 11. 139 But they of Sparta, aware of this, whiles they were yet in their way placed diuers Ambushes not farre from the Cittie 1643 IO HEYDOCK *Antidote* (1886) 140 Going from St Johns to Aungiewny, in the way to Mont gomery Castle 1718 *Lond Gaz* No 3771/2 If you please to call at my House in your Way to the City 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII 144 I left the afternoon Mail was at Islington church, in I e w y home 1792 SWEATMAN *Epistolæ* I 8 *a*, The master of the floating light saw the boys in his way to Plymouth 1822 [WALK A ANDYE] *Dramond* I 186 A beaus fored ding made her linger in her way to her own apartment

† **b** In biblical use, *to be or walk in the w y with* (*1 mid*) = to accompany a person on a journey, *fig* to associate with

1250 *Trudist Cod* Matt v 25 Luc 12 Wu zr Wisum wzr Þin adwersari þrage miþ hit in woes miþ him Vulg *dum es in via cum eo* 1611 *Prov* v 15 My sonne walke not in the way with them

**c** Chiefly *in one's way* On or along the road by which one travels, so as to be met, encountered, or observed

1205 LAY 2790 Wi wæs I am þonen þa þin wæs I com wenne I to wes *Ib* 27993 In his wæze þat he funde si he hit guide *a* 1598 H SMITH *Conteat Chr* Serm (1601) 403 Sinne is nothing so common or more quickly gone without God stop vs, it lies met Balaam in his way 1598 SHAKS *Tam & Jul* 879 I like one that spies an adder, Wreathd vp in fatal folds just in his way 1620 *Shelton Quix* II 1 Like Hedg hogs, which Lye tumbling in my bare foote way 1726 F WARD *Merry Trav* I (1729) 33 Resolving to moisten that our dusty Clay, At the next Alehouse in our Way 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III v, I had not got five when I met one of these Creatures full in my way and coming up directly to me 1840 DICKENS *Old Curios* xiii, She had gained a little wooden bridge, which led into a meadow in her way

**d** *fig.* in phrases like *to come, fall, be in* (one's) *way*, to be met with in one's experience, to come within (one's) range of possible observation, solicitation, or attainment. Similarly *to put, throw in* (a person's) *way*. Also predicatively, in phrases like *it will be* (a certain sum of money, etc.) *in my way* = I shall gain (so much) in the specified contingency

1596 SPENSER *State Irel* (Globe) 631/2 Under it lie his vnlike he can eicily convey my fit gift; for cometh handsomely in his way 1596 SHAKS *1 Hen IV*, I 28 Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it 1605 [see FALL v 34] 1607 J VERNEHAM *Art & Mystery* (1841) 11 43 It [sc his having a son] may be a hundred thousand pounds in his way, if his father keep his word 1666 DUPPA *Aides & Helps Devot* 1 (1695) 72 The Imagination is very slippery in our souls, and forcing the Understanding to reflect upon them 1677 JEMPLE *Misc* a Miscell (1680) 193 The General Officers of Armies the publick Ministers of State, fallen in the way, being generally subject to it [sc the Gout] in one degree or other 1691 I [HARE] *Acc New Invent* p xiii, It comes in my way here to vindicate to him 1728 WOOLLASTON *Relig of Nature* 11 23 King Witham should gease him yerely in the way of a fee 211 Markes of Golde. 1866 SHARP *Ir & Cr* III iii 53 I doe beseech you twin way of taste it is true me now a little benefit 1841 CHAMBERLAIN *Let to Fiance* (1848) II 73 He concluded with a wish for the felicity of that happy couple and in a way of amen, caused the bishop of London to give them a benediction 1853 H HALL *Hard Lexis Anon* II 1 Moab burnt the very bones of the King of Edoms come to ashes, in way of sacrifice to his gods. 1863 LD HERBERT *Cabul* (1886) 1 Akbar's father bestowed upon some servants of the Prince, in way of retribution for my welcome thither 1877 JAS MILL *Brit India* II v 327 In way of compensation, he was allowed a pension.

**b.** By means of, by adopting the method of. Now *rare*. Also † *in way of*.

The first quot may perhaps belong to sense 17

1607 SHAKS *Cor* III iii 137 He returns Consull, Or neuer trust to what my Tongue can doe In way of Iniury further 1772 SMOLLETT *Humph Cl* To Sir W Phillips 18 July, He attempted to open her eyes in the way of exhortation, and, finding it produced no effect, had recourse to prayer. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* xxx, That in the way of treaty more permanent advantages could be obtained than by an action which would wear with a breach of faith and hospitality 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I ii 220 The attack was made, not in the way of storm, but by slow and scientific approaches

† **c** With a view to, as a means of attaining or performing; so as to effect or produce. Also *in way of, in a way of*. *Obs*

1588 SHAKS *L L L* IV iii 74 A kinde of insinuation, as it were *in vze*, in way of explication 1643 I D HERBERT *Autobiog* (1886) 138 He communicated me not to send any more to Sir John Aytes, nor to receive any message from him, in the way of fighting 1652 FULLER *Ch Hist* IX 100 And yet in way of recovering health by changing aire, and study for a time in the University, or of being imployed in publick Affaires, they [licences to clergy for non residence] cannot be wholly abrogated 1655 MUNE *Antid Athiasm* 59 Ded, Which was done in way of Diuine Honour to the Wisdom of the Deity — *Philos Writ* (1712) Pref Gen p xxi, The ancient Diuines and Prophets witness that the Soul is joun'd to this earthly body in a way of punishment 1760 J H BROOKE *Fool of Quat* (1809) III 17 Coming clover [in the way, as it were, of claiming acquaintance with him

**d** In the course or routine of.

1596 SHAKS *1 Hen IV*, III i 139 But in the way of Bargaine, He cauill on the ninth part of a hayre 1606 — *Tr & Cr* II iii 187 *Hect* Hectors opinion Is this in way of truth yet he went backe [etc]

† **f** *In the way of honesty* under honourable conditions, so far as honour allows. *Obs*.

1595 SHAKS *John* I i 182 For thou wast got i' th' way of honesty 1598 — *Merry W* II ii 11 Hee will maintain his lust in the way of honesty 1606 — *Ant & Cl* v ii 253 1639 J CLARKE *Lavern* 25 Yours to command in the way of honesty.

**g** *To be in the way of* to be likely to do or obtain (something), to have a good chance of (doing or attaining something), formerly also † *in way of*, † *in a way of*. *To put* (a person) *in the or a way of*, † *in way for* to put him in a position to obtain or achieve (something) Also with *to* and inf instead of *of*.

See also PAIR a 14

1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 1213 For yyf þou mayst & wylt noght, þou xtyn weye to peyne be broght 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 32 The whiche ypocras seeyng the crafte of physike in weye of perdicion because alle his fellows

were deele. 1588 *Lennet & Pitsone Treat* b.p Deel, I purpose, as neire as my disease is paste, to put me in waye with all dylygence to se you right soone. 1685 Bacon *Ess. Friendship* (Arb) 179 A Physician, that is unacquainted with your body, may put you in way for present Cure, but overthroweth your Health in some other kinde. 1677 in 20th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. v. 96 Lord Mohun is now in a way of recovery. 1680 [see 34 b] 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 410 Being very ingenious at such Work, when they were once put in the Way of it. *Ibid.* 423 Seeing Things in so fine a way of thriving upon my Island. 1709 Law *Serious C.* viii. 112 She has educated several poor children, and put them in a way of an honest employment 1709 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) IV. 259 You cannot expect a Dyer's letter from me, as your nephew Charles is so much more in the way of having authentic information. 1823 Scott *Quentin.* I. 89 Why did you not tarry at Brussels, then, with the Duke of Burgundy? He would put you in the way to have your bones broken every day. 1827 — *Surg. Dam. Prol.* Mr Crotchtrigg is in the way of doing a foolish thing. 1864 Boughman & *Lunel* 211, I soon was put in a way of earning a moderate weekly payment as a translator from the English and Italian. 1867 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 4 Now I am in the way of getting well again. 1880 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* vi, Even then they might sometimes put themselves in the way of being blown into the Regent's Canal. 1881 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiii, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. 1885 *Lpool Daily Post* 7 July 4/4 Diplomatic difficulties, which he hoped were in the way of solution

†**b.** *To be in way of marriage* to have a prospect of being married. Also, *in (the) way of marriage, in way to marriage*, with a view to matrimony. *Obs.*

1582 *Cath. Englesh* (Camden) 102 He askyd me hefe I wher in any whay of mariayge. 1579 Q. Eliz. in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 106 Such Princes as in former time have sought us in way of marriage. 1597 Daniel (1859) II. 81 Philotus in the ende desired Emelia of her father in the waie of Marriage. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. i. 42 Never to speake to Ladie afterward In way of marriage. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. iv. 89 To speake a good word to Mistris Anne Page for my Master in the way of Marriage. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiii. 301 As if their sex in reference to men were not capable of any other kind of familiar friendship but in way to marriage

†**1.** *In a way of* . . in the habit of (doing something). *Obs.*

c 1770 *Jesuchurch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 333 The House of Lords are in a way of having hours very uncertain

**36.** On (or upon) the, or one's, way. On, or in the course of, a journey. *To be well on one's way*: to have fairly started, or to have made some progress. Also *fig.*, in progress towards completion or accomplishment.

In OE. *on weg* see Away *adv.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Matt. v. 25 Beo þu onbuzende þinum wiðerwinnan hraðe þa hwile þe þu eart on weze mid him = Mark ix. 34 Witodlice he wæs (Vulg. *erat*) smeðmod hwylc hyra yldost wære. a 1122 *O. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1086, Þæt þu godan men gan on ðone weg þe us leti to heofonrice = 1123 (Peterb.) Þæt Brutisc folc on his wet. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 8054 Fand þat noper fra þat vith Man ne beste þat þei wit met, Pat on þair wu þam moght do lett. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 549 He thoght to be wele on hys way Or he war passed the thryd day. c 1400 *Destruc. of Troy* 1. 1. 1.

drew up the two boats, and set all hands at work to put the ship under way. 1788 Charlotte Smith *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 73 It was near ten o'clock before the vessel got under way. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, It has been proposed to me that he shall go on board, and get the brig under way. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xi, Mr. M'Kay urged the captain to clear the ship and get under way. 1865 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 431 *Under way*, this expression, often used instead of under weigh, seems to be a convenient one for denoting that a ship or boat is making progress through the water, whether by sails or other motive power. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 708 *Under way*, a ship beginning to move under her canvas after her anchor is started. Some have written this *under weigh*, but improperly. . . A ship is under weigh when she has weighed her anchor. . . As soon as she gathers way she is under way. 1883 *Admiralty Mercantile Circular* 8 Nov. 982/1 Of the collisions on or near our shores, most were between steam and sailing vessels when under way. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 619/2 Trawlers.. are bound to show the same lights as a vessel under way.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1822 Hood *Lit. Jubilee* xci, Ere he could get a word Of all his hundred'd verses under way. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. R.* (1857) II. x. 208 A country in this plight, getting under way (cr No-ker. 1838 *Edinb. Cab. Lib.* XIII. (1839) III. 240 The little Wife has already brought him one child, a Daughter; and has (as Friinrich notices) another under way. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 80/1, I took this opportunity to commune with me in my cab, and under-way we had a good laugh at the spy. a 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* Ser. I. 309 They are restless anxious to get their stories well under way.

**VI.** Combinations.

**39.** Obvious combinations. **a.** simple attrib., as *way-book*, *-end*, *-pane* (Pane *sb.*1 9), *-signal*; **b.** objective, as *way-taking*, *-traveller*, *-wanderer*; *way-beguiling*, *-stopping* adjs.; **c.** instrumental, as *way-bewildered*, *-sore*, *-spent*, *-wearied* adjs.

1645 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* iv. 6 Short miles, and *way*-beguiling Company. 1598 Way-bewildered [see Benighted 7 c]. 1805 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Mar. 1/2 A complete *way*-book of the journey from Cherbourg to Nice has been printed. 1886 J. Hassoun *N. Mining Terms* 72 *Cap-end*, the inner extremity of the wooden railways formerly used in mines. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 923 *Way*-Pane.—The strip of land left for carriages along the side of the main [*i.e.* principal ditch]. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 899/1 Each palm, orange tree, and vineyard left on the old mission-way was a *way*-signal to the new people. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 125 *Way*-sore feet. 1777 Forbes *Æschylus, Choeph.* 355 The *way*-spent traveller. 1823 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Field-Sport on Wastes Wick.* (1856) 11. 233/2 It cleared the Streets of Idle *way*-stopping Wiltshiggers. 1 1472 *Hist. Arrival Edw. IV* (Camden) 27 They thought.. to have gotten into their company, by that *way*-taking-er, great number of Lancashire and Cheshire-men. 1872 Howells *World. Journ.* (1892) 10 Loquacious, acquaintance-making *way*-travellers. 1795 Southey *Soldier's Wife* 4 Weary *way*-wanderer, languid and sick at heart. 1796 Coleridge *Destiny of Nations* 149 And with reflex refinement to the tired Way-wanderer. 1798 J. G. Cooper *Epist. Aristophan* iv. 28 Life's *way*-wearied wanderers.

**40.** Special comb.: **way-baggage** *U.S.*, the baggage or luggage of a way-passenger; **way-beam**, a beam used in the construction of a form of longitudinal railway sleeper; † **way-beaten** *a.*, exhausted by travel; † **way-beater**, ? one who frequents the highway for felonious purposes; **way-chain**, a brake for the wheel of a vehicle; in quot. *fig.*; † **way-door**, a door opening on the street; **way-fare** *U.S.*, a fare charged for travelling between intermediate stations on a railway; **way-passenger**, *-station*; † **way-fore** [Fere *sb.*1], a companion in travel; † **way-flax** (meaning obscure); † **wayfood**, provision for a journey; **way-gang**, *-go Sc.* = Waygate 2; † **waygoer**, a traveller by road, a wayfarer; † **wayhire** *local*, payment made for the concession of way-leave; † **way-lead** *v. trans.*, to guide, conduct; † **way-leader**, one who conducts a traveller; † **way-letter** (see quot.; cf. *By-letter*, By- 4 and *by-way letter*, By-way 3); † **way-mate**, a fellow-traveller; **way passenger** *U.S.*, a passenger picked up or set down at a stage on a coaching route or station on a railway line intermediate between the main stopping-places; **way-point** *U.S.*, ? a wayside stopping-place on a coaching route; **way-post** = Guide-post; **way-rate** *north.*, a rate levied by a local authority for the upkeep of the roads; † **way-reeve**, † **-serjeant**, officer appointed to survey the repair of the roads; † **way-shide**, ? one of the planks used to form gangways; **way-station** *U.S.*, an intermediate station on a railway route, a wayside station; **way-ticket** = Way-bill 4; also *attrib.*; † **way-walking** *a.*, vagrant; † **way-wont**, ? a turn of the road; **way-wise** *a. dial.* and *U.S.*, of a horse, familiar with the roads he is required to travel; also *fig.* of a person, experienced, trained; † **way-wiser** (*JocI.*), one who shows the way, a guide; † **way-wood-ware**, timber to be used in the construction of roads.

1847 Webster, †*Way-baggage*. 1860 in Worcester; and in later Dicts. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 46 Within the troughs [*sc.* trough-girders] are to be laid..'way-beams..packed between the gussets with stemming pieces. 1728 Jarvis *Qui vote* II. iv. vii. 321 The 'way-basten couple, master and man, sat them down. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii. § 9 This he learned chiefly, by the chiefe of those 'way-leaders. 1604 Mottrux *Rabelais* v. xxvi. 122 A sort of People whom they call'd High-way-men, Way-beaters [*Fr. Batteurs de pavez*], and makers of Inroads in Roads. 1882 Lo. Salisbury in *T. Williams Pubd. Wks & Humours* (1889) 67, I will take the Duke of Wellington's simile. He said it (the House of Lords) was a 'way-chain, or, as in these days we should say, a traction-brake. 1597 Ile. Hall *Sat.* III. iv. 7 But hee must needes his Posts with blood embrew, And on his 'way-doore fixe the horned head. 1865 Dicey *Federal St.* I. 53 You can go from New York to Chicago . . for four pounds; but the 'way-fares are three-halfpence a mile. c 1450 Peccock *Donet* (1921) 89 Jesus..oure 'weifere, oure techere. c 1880 *Cry in Stanbridge Fair* in Gutch *Coll. Curios.* II. 16 Also that no man shall regrate of the aforesaid things, as ..'Way-flax, ..Rosin, Yarn, Pitch, Tar-Cloth, or other thing of Grocery ware. 1388 Wyclif *Deut.* xv. 14 But thou shalt ȝyue 'weyfyng, *viaticum* [of the flok]. 1794 Sullivan *Decis. Crt. Sess. 1730-58* (1799) 81 To cause the water restagnate upon the 'way-gang of the pursuer's mill. 1700 Sta. *Hudson Lett.* 30 They use to ship the 'way-goe of the Water, sometimes in the Summer, and lett the Place overflow with Water. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxvii. 25 And sittynge for to eet bred thei seyen Ismaelites comynge of Galaad [*viatores*] to comen fro Galaad. 1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* v. xii. 145 b, Also for refreshyng of weygoers there as clere welles were by hym ordeyned, the some lyyng made more pure and to honge theron shelles or cuppes of brass. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. *Hist. Eng.* 181/1 Such tolles and tallages as were demanded of way-goers at bridges. 1747-8 In *Gilbey Record Soc.* (1899) VIII. 267 To save the country the several rates pay'd by the Riding for 'waybires.. when the said road is overflowed with water. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* VII. xiii. 233 Whan they were ledyd by thes hyghtes. c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 1 Thise Gospelles of me shal pleye them; but sure it shall be no such way, nor 'way-leader, by which I will come to libertee. 1598 Barckley *Theor. Mor. Philos.* iv. i. 99 They are to procure faithful and trusty guides, and skilful way leaders. 1893 H. Jones *Hist. Port Office* x. 141 For purposes of local taxation. A rate for 'way-letters had in a letter passing between any two towns on the Bath road and stopping short of London. 1638 Heathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1876) 1. 49 Hee's pleasing to the 'way-meeting Muse, for their patron. 1799 *Mass. Mercury* 11 Feb. (Thornton) The fare is 4*d* per mile for 'way passengers. 1834 in M'Clure *Early Life Abr. Lincoln* (1889) 174 Fare through, nine dollars; way passengers to send a fourth cents per mile. 1835 C. J. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 102 At Huron, where the boat put in to land way-passengers. 1900 O. Wister *Virginian* xxiv. 276 The letter was a long one, and had been at the station when the stage-coach at a 'way point [etc.]. 1573 Barnabe *Riche His.* (1864) 284 They were like 'waypots, which shew a road but in the same place they stand forwards. 1895 Hall & Neville *Ser. sit. Blandf. Warn.* 338 And you came to a place where three cross-roads divide, Without any way-post, stuck up by the side to point the direct road to London and Maidenhead. 1813 *Examiner* 8 Feb. 91/2, I was..appointed Way-warden for the parish; and was dragged from my business to collect the 'way-rate. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 681/1 Master. Every township ought to employ a roadman or working-'way-reave ..for the same excellent purpose [of road-mending]. 1334 *Rolls of Parl.* II. 84/2 En eyde du leur ferme de 'Wyserjeantie. Any solepyment in Kreye by boy pour le Cheminage, laquele Cheminage & Weywodewares sount ore defete par leson de la Porale. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII* c. 28 Conveyeng waye of the..shoue pyles..from the shoulder and buckles and walles [of the Thames]. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 53 Twenty minutes spent at 'way-stations. 1881 R. G. White *Eng. Without Tears* 178 Like it, as I do at a way-station, the passengers give up their tickets as they pass out through the station. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 67 This was only what is called a 'way station. There was nothing but a section house and a long siding, besides the usual offices. 1893 *Times* 28 Sept. 3/6, I agree with your correspondent.. that the 'way-ticket system is a good one. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 27 Feb. 1/1 Men really in search of work would be given 'way tickets' for definite routes.. Holders would be entitled to lodging, supper, and breakfast at the casual ward. 1534 *More Comf. Agst. Trib.* III. xiii. (1573) P. 1, Whether euery 'waye walking beggre be by this reason out of prieson or no, we shall consyder. c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Perseu.* 392 Fela, Fela Mes really in serch of wyse, he wyll wende wonys, & euery 'weye-went. 1775 Ash, †*Wayvaite*, expert in choosing the road. 1840 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. III. ix. 122 If they [oysters in winter] are too old they grow so apt to be headstrong from havin' had their head so long; and, if they are too young, they are hardly way-wise enough to be depended on. 1891 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 7 *pr/s* When a horse can be safely driven around the home grounds, he is considered 'farm broke,' or way wise. 1918 F. Hackett *Ireland* xi. 307 Flung into the medley of American life, he was compelled . . to learn many things in the factory, [etc.]. c 1440 Lay. 12260 Pa cleopeden þe eorl Costantin & had þa 'wæi-witere [c 1275 wei-witte] for-ærnen þa wateres. 1334 'Weywodeware] [see *wayerjeant* above].

**b.** In the names of plants found growing by the wayside and in stony places, as † **way-barley**, **-bonnet**, **-bent**, *Hordeum murinum*; † **way-cress** = Sciatica *cretis*; **way-grass** (see quot. 1887); **way-thistle**, *Carduus arvensis*. Also Waybread, Waywort.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* x. xlvi. 67 This kinde of wilde Barly is called..in English Wall Barly, 'Way Barly, or after old English writers, Way Bennet. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xlv. 504 Wall Barley, or 'Way Bennet. 1665 Lovell *Herball* (ed. 2) 462, 1763 [see *wall Barley*, *Wall sb.*1 22 c]. 1838 Turner *Libellus, Phenix*..'waybent. 1548 — *Names of Herbes* (1881) 43 Phenix Dioscoridis semeth to be the herbe which is called in Cambrigshire Way bent. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 20 b, [Iberis] may be called in Englishe 'way-cresses. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Calligonon*..'Waygrasse: knotgrasse. 1887 *Cheshire Glass*, *Way-grass*, a weed; knot-grass. *Polygonum aviculare*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccclxxiv. 1053 The 'way Thistles grow euery where by high way sides and common paths, in great plenty. 1796 W. Pitt *Agric. Staffordsh.* 18 The common, curred, or way thistle.

† **Way**, *sb.*8 *Obs. rare.* [? var. of Wey.] A certain quantity of glass.

1545 *Rates of Custom Ho.* C iij, Glasses Reinish the way of .vi. dozen. 1550-1600 *Customs Duties* MS. Addit. 25097 If. 7 b, Glasse the waye or wabe. 1656 *Act Commw.* c. 20 Rates (1658) 468 Glass for Windows called . . Rhenish, the Way or Web.

† **Way**, *v. Obs.* [f. Way *sb.*1]

1. *intr.* To go, journey, proceed.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ii. 22 On a time as they together way'd, He made him open chalenge, and thus boldly said. 1708 *Yorkshire Rogers* 10 They.. Way'd to the course, and gallop'd true and well.

2. *trans.* (See quot. 1706.) Also erron. *weigh*, *waigh*.

1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horseman* I. v. (1656) 43 Untill such time as he hath been..made gentle, .. content to be shod, to be Back'd, Broken, Ridden, Wayed, Mouthed. a 1692 A. Wilson in Pock *Pestil. Curiosus* (1735) II. xii. 25 My spotted Nag.. being younge, it not well weigh'd, run away with mee. a 1694 Selden *Table-t.* (Arb.) 39 He that hath a Scrupulous Conscience, is like a Horse that is not well weigh'd, he starts at every Bird that flies out of the Hedge. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Way a Horse*, is to teach him to travel in the Way. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4450/4 Lost.., a young black Gelding, comes a, not thorough weigh'd.

3. To set (a waggon) on the road with a track on which it runs.

1763-8 in *London Mag.* (1764) 145/2 When a waggon happens to be off the waggon-way, if laden, it will take two or three horses to way the waggon again.

† **4.** *intr.* To construct a way. In quot. *indirect passive. Obs.*

1640 Sonnet *Antiq. Canterb.* 195 It was a Free-Schoole for the City.. ancient by weyed unto, and having a passage to it from some part of Burgate-street.

Hence † **Wayed** *ppl. a.*

1640 Stickling *Lett. Fragm. Aur.* (1658) 77 A well-wayed horse will safely convey them to the journeys end. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Way'd Horse* [with Horsemen] is one who is already backed, suppled, and broken, and shews a Disposition to the Manage.

**Way** (we), *adv. Obs. exc. Sc., north.*, and *U.S.* [Aphetic f. Away. Cf. *G. weg* similarly used.]

1. = Away *adv.* in various senses. † *Do way*: see *Do* v. 53.

c 1205 Lay. 19539 Liȝt aleten þi water & wei weorpen [c 1275 hwy werpen]. 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* (1866) 3 Þan is it no wonder þat þe fende..wil not ga wai. 1362 *Paston Lett.* I. 325 As for tythyngs here, the Kyng is way at Eltham. 1533 More *2nd Pt. Confut. Tindale* IV. 898/2 Which great occasyons Godde suffred to be vpon him, and cause hym way. 1611 *Cotgrave's words are*: to carye him clene out of the way.] 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* xxvi, Gae wa', gae wa'. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* iii, Gae wa', ye haveril. 1908 *Miller's Mag.* (St.) 1 *Travelling for the Presidency* (Thornton a.v. *Lunch-counter*) Mr. Bryan has, during the past twelve years, eaten or otherwise made way with over 2,000 meals at railroad lunch-counters.

2. *esp.* At or to a (great) distance, far. a. with preps.

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 44 You see it was way towards Upper Lake. 1862 Sessa Stanley *Whitby Way-down* Ess. 1888 Mrs. Custer *Tenting on Plains* viii. (1893) 151 He sat way under the mantel, to let the tobacco-smoke go up the chimney. 1892 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 29, I would have sold at a very low price, way below cost. 1901 Lee Bacon *Housekeeper on Nile* 51 The Howadji..was 'way up in that painter's paradise where [etc.].

† **b.** With nouns, as *Bright*, *off*; hence **way-off** *a.*, distant; **way-back** *U.S.*, in the phrase *from way-back* = from a remote or rural district; hence *attrib.* and quasi-*adj.*

1887 *New York Ev. Post* 4 Oct., The 'way-back delegates, those from the farms and the small villages. 1889 Mark Twain *Yankee at Crt. of King Arth.* II. 28 Merlin he's a Sheol of a farmer; thinks he's old Grayback from Wayback. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 2 Sept. 2 The Whitmans were American 'from way-back'. 1918 *Boston Mag.* May 38/1 Here was a *fundi*..who used to let on that the pictures on some vases..were done from wayback Masai. 1865 Mrs. Whitney *Life Worth Living* (1896) 93 The general and Mrs. Templeton had come from their 'way-off, beautiful Wisconsin home. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xxxiii. 215, I am going somewhere; but I don't know where. 'Way-off, anyhow. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* ix, Until you got sick of it 'way off to though.

3. *Comb.*

**a.** with a pa. pple. or verb, as *way-gone*; † **way-put** *Sc.*, to put away: (*a*) to effect the escape of (a fugitive from justice); (*b*) = Put v. 38 d.

1832 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, They are sorted into their wedder herdings to replace the 'waygones lot of the last year's ewe hogs. 1838 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) I. 703 § 1 John Lindy, in Lyntoun, convicted of art and part of the treasonable assistance given to James Douglas..: And for art and part of 'wayputting [him]. 1590 *Extracts Acts of Reg.* (1841) I. 170 I lost nane of thaim way put nor dispone vpon the necessaris requisit to the said schip as ane schip of weir.

**b.** with vbl. sbs. (or other nouns of action), chiefly *Sc.*, as *waycoming*, *-fleeing*, *-passing*, *-sending*, *-sliding*; **way-ganging** = Way-going; † **way-seith**, departure, death; **way-taking**, the action or an act of taking (something) away, removal. Also Way-going.

1631 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S.T.S.) II. 93 Heard of the Scots army coming. Dumfreishing after his 'waycoming. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. vi. 93 Tofoir thi 'waybeing, Had I ane child consavit of thi ofspring. 1456 Sir G. Hayt *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 176 Gif a man..assuris ane othir frely to cum, and speikis nocht of his 'way ganging. a 1605 *R. Bannatyne's Jrnl.* (1806) 190 It was ewin at the way ganging of the day light. 1898 Lo. E. Hamilton *Mawkin of Flow* xi. 125 I'd be laith to get an ill name at the very outset of our way-ganging. 1479 *Acts Dom. Concil.* (1839) 45/1 þat þe persouns þt past fra þe electioun of þe said Alexander be summond..to answer..for þair 'way passing.

*a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) II 11 [They] brunt the toun at thair way passing *a* 1592 KNOX *Hist Ref* Wks 1846 I 496 And sche farther willit, to stay the 'way sending of the men of war *c* 1595 LAW 25856 [She] weop for hire 'wa-es *Ibid.* 28599 Scullen alle mine feond wan nid makeye. 1618 SCOTT *Hist Mutil* xviii, Avoyding right-hand snares and extremes, and left-hand 'way-eldinge. 1679 *Acta Audit* (1839) 93/1 Befor he lordis compeirt Dauid Weimyis summond anent *ye* 'wataking of thre oxin furth of he landis of myre'hairny . . *a* 1732 KNOX *Hist. Ref* Wks 1846 I. 56 And so did Jesus Christ, the only tree Light, sayine unto many, for the w ys lacht to fone. 1823 in *Spalding Club Misc* V 218 The grit trubil and discord betuen the lard and his tenantis anent the waytaking of dorts at thair removing.

**Way** (*wēi*), *int* Also whay. [Cf. WO *int.*] A call to a horse to stop

1828 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, Away went the donkey 'Whay! Wo-o-o-o!' cried Mr Cymon Tuggs. 1846 — *Cricket on Hearth* II, 'Way!' This monosyllable was addressed to the Horse, who didn't mind it at all. 'Oh *do* Way, John!' said Mrs Peerybingle. 'Please!' 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I xv, Whay! Stop. There's an old woman in here.

**Way**, obs form of WEIGH *v.*, WEY, WHEY, WOE.

**-way** (*wēi*), as a terminal element of advs, is identical with WAY *sb.*[1]

1 Phrases consisting of the sb. qualified by an adj. are often used adverbially (see WAY *sb.*[1] 8, 14 d, etc.), and some of the combinations of adj and sb. thus used have come to be apprehended as single words, and so pronounced and written; the second element, losing its separate stress, has assumed in some degree the aspect of an adverbial suffix. The only early example of this process is the OE. *ealne weg*, an adverbial accusative, which after the disappearance (in the 14th c.) of adjectival flexion became ALWAY (q. v. for the development of meaning). *Anyway, everyway, noway, someway*, written as single words, are not found before the 16th c. The only advs in *-way* f. descriptive adjs. are *broadway* (16th c.), *crossway* (early 17th c.), *straightway* (as two words in 15th c.; as one word from 1530). Most of the above-mentioned advs. have parallel and synonymous forms in -WARD.

**2.** The few advs f. sb. + *-way* do not originate from phrases, but are genuine compounds; they all have parallel forms in -WARD. †*Needway* 'necessarily' occurs in Barbour *c* 1375 (*needways* in *Cursor M. a* 1300). *Edgeway, endway, sideway, sunway*, which denote direction of movement, are, like the corresponding forms in -WARD, not older than the 16th century.

**3.** *Crossway* and *sideway* are frequently used as adjs.; the other advs in *-way* expressing spatial direction would perhaps admit of a similar use, but it is not evidenced in our quotations.

**Waysag(e**, obs. Sc. forms of VOYAGE.

## Way-bill.

1. A list of passengers booked for seats in a stage-coach or other public vehicle for places on the road. Also a detailed statement of goods entrusted to a public carrier for delivery at stated destinations.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1763, The Oxford post-coach took us up in the morning at Bolt Court. I found from the way bill, that Dr Johnson had made our names be put down. 1821 *Manchester Sch* 22 May (Thornton), Packages of the larger kind, belonging to any passenger, were always entered on the way bill. 1824 BARNEWALL & CRESWELL *Keb K. B* II 71 The said notice was by Norwich way-bill [in the waggon]. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng Mail Coach* Wks. 1862 IV 237 It is clegon, as it happened, was not in the way-bill and therefore could not have been booked. 1864 T. S. WILLIAMS & SAUNDERS *Bail Commerc Concesp* 91 You will also be kind enough to repay him the carriage according to the bills of lading or the waybills he will show you. 1897 BRAM STOKER *Dracula* xvii [1901] 244 The official sending also the way bill and all the papers connected with the delivery of the boxes at Carfax.

2. A list of places to be visited on a journey.

1866 *Daily Tel* 16 Jan. 2/4 All of which places are set down for visit in my way-bill. 1879 TOURGÉE *Fool's Errand* xxxv 242 He had been traveling on what is known in that country as a 'way-bill', or a description of a route received from another

*transf* 1883 MOORE *Rhymes on Road* Introd 85 I've got into too easy modes, you see, rhyming on the road— Making a way bill of my pages, counting the stanzas by my stages.

3 *U.S.* A label attached to an article in transit to indicate its destination, mode of transport, etc

1882 QUINBY *Mr. Isaacs* vi 145 The old and dilapidated little dirty trunk covered with numerous way-bills.

**4.** In recent use, a kind of pass by producing which a man 'on the road' can obtain relief at certain stages of his journey. So *way-bill system*

1893 *Times* 10 Sept 5/6 This system, which became known as the 'waybill' system, was worked in this way When a destitute wayfarer left a casual ward in the morning he could, on application, obtain a waybill or passport, on which were recorded the day and hour at which the bearer left it, and the route on which he was travelling, [etc.] 1897 *Church Times* 20 Aug 187 Any poor traveller will be fed, lodged, and passed on, the following morning, with a stamped way-bill, to the next lodging-house on the route.

Hence **Way-bill** *v. U S trans*, to enter (goods) on a way-bill.

1877 W. H. BURROUGHS *Taxation* 140 Freight being way billed through 1890 *Railways Amer.* 432 He must count, seal, supercribe, and way bill money packages and handle oyster-kegs . . at a moment's notice.

†**Way-bit.** *north. Obs.* Forms 6 waybitte, wye byt, 6–7 wey-, 7 wea-, 7–8 wee-, (9 wai-), 7– way-bits. [First element uncertain, but prob. representing northern dialectal variants of WEE *sb.* and *a.* + BIT *sb.*[2]] A short distance.

As shown by the quotations, the source of the word was the alleged habit of Northern rustics, on being asked the distance to a place, of giving it as 'a mile (etc.) and a way-bit', which the inquiring traveller found practically to mean two or three miles

1589 *Almond for Parrot* 2 If my full points seeme to tedious to thy puritane perusers, write Northren mans mile, and a waybitte to the weary passenger 1600 *Il tut Ier Dobypell* iv 1 in Bullen *O Pl* III 1.9 How far am I from Court? Some two myles and a wye byt, sir. 1603 T. M. *True Narr, Entert K. Jas* C 3 b, The miles according to the Northren phrase, are a wey bit longer then they be here in the South. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* (1655) IV xxviii 67 In the North parts where there is a wea bit to every mile. 1691 J. C[LEVELAND] *Poems, Dial Two Zeilots* 32 A York-shire Wee bit, longer then a mile. *a* 1861 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks* (1662) 109 As a Country man here on the by, how, how far it is to such a Town, and they commonly return, So many miles and a way bit. It is not My bit, though generally so pronounced, but Wee bit in a pure York-shiere, which is a small bit in the Northern Language. *Ibid* 228 Gener ll Leslie with his Scottish army drew more then an York-shire mile, and a Wee bit. 1775 J. WATSON *Hist Hamlets* I. 548 *Wai bit* As a mile and a way bit Meaning a wee, or little bit. 1824 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I 255 You shall have his description in it, preface and all—which is like the mile and the wai bit, in Sussex, the one twice the length of the other

*Ibid* a 1670 HACKET *Abp Williams* I (1692) 50, I have heard him under-clerk, and very seriously, before himself, who came short a Mile and a way bit. 1692 *Poems in Burlesque* 15 From Sleep to Death, there a bit a way bit

b. *transf.* of time.

1687 SETTLE *Refl Dryden's Plain* 15 In his *anni etatis*, thirty and a way bit. 1732 I ANY B GERMAIN *Left to vault* 13 May, You will find forty years and a wee bit have done no more good to my head than it has to my Face

**Way-board.** *Mining.* Also weigh-. [app. f. WAY *sb.*[1] + BOARD *sb.* (cf. sense 16).] (See quot. 1859.)

*a* 1747 HODGSON *Miners Dict* L 3, These Leaps never happen but at some Way board, or large Bed joint 1818 W PARKINSON *Geol* 137 The lowest or strata contain thin beds of clay, forming the inner or 23 boards 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol Terms, Waysboard*, a mining term, now pretty generally employed by geologists to designate any thin layers or bands that may be found defining the boundaries of beds or strata.

β 1802 J. MAWE *Mineral. Derbysh* Gloss (E D S), *Weighboard*, clay intersecting the vein 1886 WORCESTER, 1894 WEBSTER (And in later Dicts.)

**Waybread, waybred** (*wē*'i-bred). Forms 1 wegbrǽde, -brede, (2 weibrocde, 3 wei-, 5 weybrode), 4–6 weybrede (6 -bred), 5–6 waybrede, 6–7 waybread, 6, 9 waybread, (7 waybred, 8 way-broad), 5– waybred (6 wabred, 6, 9 wabret, 9 waybret, wabert). β. 7 waybarne, 9 -burn; 7 waburne, 9 wabran, -bron, waveron [Com. Weyr. OE. *wegbrǽde, wegbrade* wk. fem., correspond to OS. *wegabrêda, wegebreid* (MLG. *wegebrêde*, M Du. *wegebrêde*, Du. Wfris. *wesbred*), OHG. *wegabreita* fem (MHG. *wegebreite*, mod.G. *wegebreite, wegbreite* fem., *weg(e)breit* masc.), Du. has *wybreed* from LG. The word means 'broad-leaved plant growing beside the ways'; f. WAY *sb.*[1] (the early continental forms have genit. pl.) + OTeut type **brādjōnā*-broad object (cf. OIG. *wintbreita* 'ventilabrum'), *braite* flat cake). In the β-forms, occurring only with *-leaf*, the first element has disappeared before the *-n* of the OE. genitive sing. in *wegebrædan dlaf* (Lechd. I. 84, 86).]

1. = PLANTAIN[1] 1. Also *water waybread* = water plantain see PLANTAIN[1] 2

*c* 700 *Epinal Gloss* 65 *Arniglosa*, wegbrædae *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 293 Xenum ys cuwan weghradan [etc.] II 11 *c* 1265 Walter de Biblesworth *Manuscript* (Anecd Oxon) 14 Arnoglossa, plantago maior idem Anglice weybrode *c* 1500 *Gloss* (1) in *Wakefield MS* (N T S) 28 Hec, plantago, waybrede 1538 T. ELYOT *Dictionar, Alisma dioscoridis*, water plantayne or water waybrede 1562 — *Herbal* II 94 There are two kyndes of plantayn or Waybrede, the one called greater the other lesse Leaued greater VIII 11 293 Themison set forth a whole booke of the hearbe Waibrede or Plantain wherein he highly praiseth it 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* Treat. I. The generall English name is Plantain . . but that which the Greeks call *Ephta neuron*, we call Way bred, because it commonly breeds by the wayside 1709 T. (*prob.*) *Plants* Wks (1721) III 303 Great Waybread is a Remedy against Wounds, and a Sweet Hate Of her among Bl od letters does create 1861 MRS LANCASTER *Wild Flowers* 109 The common name of Plantago Major is undoubtedly Way bred (not Way bread, as it is usually spelt), from its frequency by the way side, seeming as if bred on the road. 1866 *Treas Bot*, Waybread

b. *Comb* : **waybroad-leaf** (also *Sc.* **wayburn-leaf**), sometimes used as the name of the plant.

*a* 1599 T CERVONIS *Caltha Poet* (Roxb) xxxvi, And with a Leaue leafe he made a wallet 1614 G MARKHAM *Cheap & Gd Husb* Table hard words, *Plantayne* is called Waybroad leafe 1803 LAYDEN *Scenes of Infancy* I. 101 The water leaf, that by the pathway grew

β 1609 in T. Craig Brown *Hist Selkirksh* (1886) I 180 Being demandit if she gave drinks, she answered she gave nane but off Waburne leavis for the hart-sores 1623 *Sel. Rec. Presbyt Lanark* (Abbotsford Club) 2 She appointit thame the waybarne leaf to be eattin vpon mornings. 1808 JAMIESON, *Waban leaves*, Great Plantain or Waybread 1820 *Blackw. Mag* Nov 202, I thought the grey whin was gone fra below me—it should like a wabronleaf 1831 W PATRICK *Plants Lanark* 94 Greater Plantain. The leaves (vulgarly called the Waybarn leaf) are spread on the ground 1924 J. S. ARKLAY *Shetland Gloss.* 154 *Waveron leaf*, plantain (*Plantago major*)

**Waycott**, obs. form of WATCHET.

**Waycht**, Sc. var. *wecht* : see WIGHT *a.*

†**Waycoriant.** *Obs rare.* The three obscure terms in the quot. (as also *wagron* on the prec. page see quot 8 v. GHEREAGHAUGH) seem to be arbitrary formations, pretended names of proprietors.

1658 W SANDERSON *Graphice* 69 For an Amethyst, the same Ghereeraghar mixed with Waycoriant and wiswick

†**Wayed,** *ppl a Obs rare* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] Having a way. Also in *three-wayed* = THREE-WAY *a*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa* xv 3 In his thre weied places thei ben gird with a sac. — *Jer* xiv 13 Now it is pleintid oure in dessert, in loond not weied (Vulg *intrat*)

**Wayer(e**: see WARE *sb.*[1], WAYOUR *Obs.*, WEIGHER.

†**Waye-farage.** *Feudal law Obs* [f. WAY-FARE or *v.* + -AGE.] = CHIMINAGE.

1594 COWPTON *Jurisd* 189 Chiminage, that is toll for waye farage 1607 COWELL *Interpr*, Chiminage signifieth a toll for way farage through the forest 1658 BLOUNT *Anc Tenures* 91 They ought to have Toll for wayfarage through the whole Farm aforesaid

**Wayfare** (*wē*'i-fēə), *sb. arch.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FARE *sb.*, after WAYFARING *a.*]

1 Wayfaring, travelling. *to go wayfare.*

*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 1703 The Wrighte was fulle wyde, and wounded knyghtes; Wyrkes his in wayfare fulle werk and wyde. And hewes of he hardneste hilder in sondyre 1601 HOLLAND *Livy* xxi 37 3 Their 'ayfare was so ordinarie and continuall, that wee may see the very hard flint and pebble stones worne with their passage 1610 and 1614 SYLVESTER *Lachrimæ* 114 The heavy load Of Cares and Crosses (in a thousand things) Which this our wretched, sad, short, Way fare brings 1850 S. DOBELL *Grandcharl* 4, I entered on my way fare when I was Gold on the ground and glory in the trees 1886 BURTON *Arab Nts* (abr ed) I 4 On the fourth day he made ready for his wayfare 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* VI 149, I have come, and what helmsman for my wayfare shall I get?

b. Guidance in travel. *rare*[—1].

1875 MORRIS *Jason* VII 336 Me my mother's word well-worshipped hither drew, The nymph Carmentis, and a god, Apollo, wayfare gave.

†**2** Provision for a journey, travelling expenses [T *viaticum*] *Obs*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxii lv 464 A noble Lady named Busa, refused them with a most natural, approved kindnesse, and mony also in their purses for their wayfare 1609 HALL (Douay) *Deut* xv 14 Thou shalt in no case suffer him to depart empitie but geve him his wayfare of thy flockes, and of thy fame floure, and thy presse

**Wayfare** (*wē*'i-fēə), *v.* Now *rare* and *arch* [Back-formation from WAYFARING *sb.*] *intr.* To journey or travel, esp on foot. Also *to wayfare it*

1547 *Acts Edw VI*, c 3 § 3 Divers women and men vseth on leggyng wayefaring. 1579 SPENSER *Shep Cal* Aprill (1617) 42 Abraham, Isaac and Jacob wayfared from place to place vpon the earth. 1596 SPENSER *F Q* VI xi 37 There as he trauell by the way, he with An aged wight wayfaring all alone 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor* 474 A certaine Lacedæmonian he was wayfared, came into a place where there dwelt an olde friend his host 1611 BIBLE *Acts* viii 39 1784 *Lett* Wks 1889 III 142, I hope soon to be writing you about the things of the north, purp sing to wayfare all over those parts. 1850 *Feasts of Mod* N 148 Shoals of people wayfared it up the Rhine 1898 HALL *Pilgrim's Progress* 115 Along through the Stone bordered Forum, Where Legions had wayfared

b. *fig* and in fig. context.

1535 *Goodly Primer, Commendations* Ps cxix Zain, Whilst I here wayfared as in a geer 1578 *Lyfe Chr Prospere* 22 Most louing Father, hasten the prayers of thy seruantes, yet way faring here on earth. 1611 SPENSER *Faerie Q* VI 144 N 1 yading it in the great rode of her mansion, which other still bodies are wayfaring in 1875 MANNING *Mission H Ghost* 1 3 That he is but a stranger way faring upon earth

**Wayfarer** (*wē*'i-fēərəɹ). [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FARER Cf WAYFERER.] A traveller by road, esp one who journeys on foot

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/1 Wayfarere, *viator, viatrix* 1514 BARCLAY *Eclog* iii (1570) B 1 b, Hungrie wayfarers I pitie and scurvy wayfarers. 1555 I WILSON *Eng* 41 The wayfarer shall not (or very hardly) come to his journeies ende, except he have some money in his purse 1602 C. MAR *Cornucopiæ* 1 66 But in stead of remedy they receyued in answere, that neither such an outcome was for the present to be had, neither was it hanging out vnto vs, did they vse any 1836 DICKENS *Sk Boz Streets—Night* Swarms seemed of hot dinners salute the nostrils The hungry wayfarer, as he plods wearily by the steaming rows 1858 CHR G ROSSETTI *Poems, Up hill* 9 Shall I meet other wayfarers at night? Those who have, me bef re. 1898 LOUIS DODD *Exploits of Gee* vi 141 There were few wayfarers between there and Greig.

b *Wayfarer's-tree*, the hobble-bush. *U.S*

1898 [see HOBBLE-BUSH].

**Wayfaring** (*wē*ˑfē-rin), *vbl. sb.* Somewhat *arch.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FARING *vbl. sb.*, after WAYFARING *a.*] Journeying, travelling; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1536 *Primer Kng. & Lat., Command.* (Rouen) 149 b, Thy institucions were to me songes in ye place of my wayfaring. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L iv, Wherfore comest thou a wayfaryinge into this countrey...? 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22–28 He him selfe went on wayfaryinge frome place to place. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. xxv. (1634) 484 To us only and perfect felicitie is knowne even in this earthly walfaring. a 1677 BARROW *Works* (1686) III. Serm. xv. 178 The Scripture aptly resembles our life to a wayfaring, a condition of travel and pilgrimage. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 132 That I may dare, in wayfaring, To stammer where old Chaucer used to sing. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* (1851) 122 To hear a mass and put up a prayer for a prosperous wayfaring across the Sierra. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlii, Gipsy camps they had passed in their wayfaring. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 42 A certain traveller, sad and...worn With wayfaring.

**b.** *Comb.*, as *wayfaring-journey, -life, -sketch*; **†wayfaring-book**, an itinerary; **†wayfaring-shrub** = WAYFARING-TREE.

1549 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxxiii. 269 Give us Grace to forget this Way-faring Journey, and to remember our proper and true Country. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 204 No marvell then why did Ptolemie so specifie any place in his way-faring book. 1614 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 4 Some notable illusions...which I found in my wayfaring journeys. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 4) *Viburnum* The Bark of our Lantorne or Way-faring Shrub. 1847 MISS F. SKENE (*title*) Wayfaring Sketches among the Greeks and Turks. 1889 LUCY TOULMIN SMITH (*title*) English Wayfaring Life in the Middle Ages (tr. J. J. Jusserand *La Vie nomade*).

**Wayfaring** (*wē*ˑfē-rin), *ppl. a. arch.* Forms: 1 **wexfarende**, 4 **wayferende**, -**faringe**, -**varyng**, (5 -**fareng**), 4, 6 **wayfarynge**, -**inge**, 6 **wayfa'rynge**, **wayfaringe**, 7 **way-faring**, 6– **wayfaring**. [OE. *wegfarende*, f. *weg* WAY *sb.*[1] + pres. pple. of *faran* FARE *v.*[1] Cf. Icel. (14th c.) *vegfarandi*, MSw. *vägh-*, Sw. *vägfarande*, Da. *veifarende*. Cf. the cognate WAYFERING.] Travelling or journeying by road. Usually *wayfaring man*, a traveller by road. Also *fig.*

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 204 Sum wexfarende man ferde wið þone feld. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 9650 We ar...Weyfarende men þat wolde haue gryþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 449 For refreshynge and socour of way farynge [MS. y wayfarynge]. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. (1893) 216 O iesu, the solace & comforte of wayfaryngge soules. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 137 The wayfaring man without trouble...before, by ways fayrynge men. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. § 11. 241 The necessities of trauailers waifaring men and such like. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxv. 8 The wayfaring men, though fooles, shall not erre therein. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 151 When the Shepherds perceived that they were way-faring men, they also put questions to them,...to...Whence came you? 1897 'EDNA LYALL' (*title*) Wayfaring Men.

**†b.** *Wayfaring man's tree*, the fuller form of WAYFARING-TREE.

Both are found in Gerarde for the first time, but only the latter survived.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxv. 1305 The Wayfaring mans tree groweth vp to the height of an hedge tree, of a meane bigenesse.

Hence **Wayfaringly** *adv. rare.*

1552 HULOET, Wayfaryngyly, *peregrine, uiatice.*

**Wayfaring-tree.** [Short for *wayfaring man's tree* (see above); cf. *traveller's joy.*]

**1.** The tall shrub *Viburnum Lantana*, with broad leaves downy underneath, white flowers in dense cymes, and green berries turning first red then black. It grows wild in hedges and underwood.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxv. 1305 Of the Wayfaring tree. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxi. § 19. (ed. 2) 101 The *Viburnum*, or Way-faring tree,...makes the most plyant and best bands to Fagot with. 1691–96 PLUKENET *Phytographia* 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Viburnum*; The Wayfaring or Plant Mealy Tree. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvii. (1794) 230. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Seasons* (1831) 81 Wayfaring tree! what a considerable resemblance to that shrub, both in its flowers and berries; but in the leaves differs entirely.

**2.** *U.S.* The hobble-bush (*V. lantanoides*).

1811 PURSH *Flora Americ. Septentr.* 711. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 168.

**Wayfe**: see WAIF *sb.*[3], WAIVE *v.*[2]

**†Wayferer.** *Obs.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + FERE *v.*[1] + -ER.[1]] = WAYFARER.

1588–9 in *1st Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 80/1 De avid. adulti uni weyferer eodem tempore. *c* 1450 MYRC. *Par. Pr.* 1364 Hast þou in herte rowþe I-had, Of hem þat were nede be-stad, To seke & sore and prisoneres, I-he-beret alle weyferes þat?

**†Wayfering,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wexferende**, 3 **weiverinde**, 4 **wayverinde**, -**ferande**, **way-**, **weyferyng**e. [OE. *wegferende*, f. *weg* WAY *sb.*[1] + pres. pple. of *feran* FERE *v.*[1]] = WAYFARING *ppl. a.*

*c* 890 WERFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 128 Þa cwæð se wexferende to ham ærwestan mann. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 164 Dysig bið se wexferenda man seðe nimð þone smeðan weg þe hine misbet. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Heo inindeð, iwis, Sein Iulianes in, þet weiuerinde men ssolde sechen. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10510 He a man yn sykenes, or yn prysoun, Weyferyng, or yn temptacyun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Robberes and kueade herberyeres þet berobbeþ þe pilgrimes an þe marchons and þe oþre wayuerindemen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 79 þe wayfarande fiskere, on fote & on hors,...Labes hem alle iuliffly to lenge at my fest. *c* 1370 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1886) 34 (Camb. MS.) Yit nilowe haddyst entred in the paath of this iyf a voyde wayferynge [*Addit. MS.* wayfaryngi man. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* II. 348 In þis epistle techiþ Poul how weyferynge men þat lyuen here shulden go be streit wey þat lediþ men to be blisse of hevene.

**Wayfire**, obs. f. WAFER.

**Wayff**(**e**, **Wayft** : see WAIF *sb.*[1], WEFT *sb.*[2]

**Way-gang.** *Sc.* [GANG *sb.*[1]] = WAY-GOING.

1737 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* II. 22 Frost and fawshood never hain a sikely waygang. 1894 LATTO *Ann. Bodkin* xxxi. 315 Their wa' gang [*sc.* the death of her parents] brak the hindmost link that bund her affections to the entelouse.

**†Way-gate.** *Obs.* Also 6 -**gait**. [f. WAY *adv.* + GATE *sb.*[2]] The act of going away, departure.

1575–8 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 269 This examinate at his waygait had the said Thomas fairwell. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* III. i. (1607) 71 Least that old wonted manner of his should hinder them it was at his waygate. 1600 HAYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) Q 4 b, So God respect the waygate of my soule, as I know nothing. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. State* (1652) 57 It is an usuall custome (amongst shepheards) att the way-gate of a mowe...to keepe theire sheepe...on some swarth-ground.

**Way-gate**, *Sc.* and *north.* [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + GATE *sb.*[1]] *Cf. way-gang, -go* s.v. WAY *sb.*[1] 40.]

**1.** A passage-way.

For various special uses see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

*a* 1800 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) I. 24 He's awa to sail, Wi' water in his waygate, An' wind in his tail. 1866 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1887) I. 101 Upon all these [books] you have will and waygate', in expressive Annandale phrase of the completest welcome.

**2.** Speed, progress, headway. *Sc.* and *north.*

1825 JAMIESON *Dict. Scot. Gl.* 1894 *Northumbrld. Gloss.*

**Waygh**, obs. form of WEIGH *v.*

**Way-going** (*wē*ˑgōing). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 9 -*ge*ˑ*an*, -*gaun*. [f. WAY *adv.*] The action or fact of going away, departure (on a journey, from life); the act of leaving (a habitation, employment).

1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Laing) *Diary* (S. H. T.) I. 98 Coming home,...my saule blissed God...for his goodnes to me in this communion conforme to my voue before my waygoing. 1649 J. CANSTAINES *Lett.* (1856) 58 Fleeting much the liefer of my waygoing, I daire say no more will be. [Etc.]. 1702 H. GUTHRY *Mem.* 56 They presu'd that the prorogation might be with the consent of the Estates, and upon this reliance Sir Patrick Hume made his waygoing. 1818 *Trial Lord Cochrane & Others* II. xviii. 326 It was a wae wa-gaen to me nor me at that time. 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Way-gaun, Wa'-gaun*, the departure of a person or family from their habitation. 1898 'G. SETOUN' *Robert Urquhart* xxiii. 248 He may ho'e to putten the words in my mouth just to ease the wa-gaun o' a faithfu' servant. 1899 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 413 Christopher Kenwood had lost his position...for drunkenness, and even at that very moment with his companions he was celebrating his way-going.

**b.** *attrib.*, as *way-going premium*; **way-going crop** (see quots.).

1773 *Harpham Inclos. Act* 8 Such farmer...shall...have a "way going crop or crops following him. 1797 J. BAILEY & G. CULLEY *Agric. Cumberland*, ii. 25 Where the tenant quits on the 1st day of May, he is allowed to have a crop of corn from off two-thirds of the arable lands; this is called the way-going crop. 1825 H. BROOM *Comm. Common Law* (1850) 413 It is said that a tenant shall have the way-going crop after the expiration of his term is reasonable and good. 1900 *Act* 10 & 11 *Geo. V*, c. 76 § 10 (5) (f) The tenant shall, along with the value of waygoing crops, have permanent grass seeds. 1881 *Times* 17 Mar. 4/5 They [sc. Irish tenants] care not a straw for five years' rent for the 'way-going premium' which at any time they might receive.

Similarly **Way-going** *a.*, departing, outgoing. *Sc.*

1820 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 62 Much depends on the conditions obligatory on the way-going tenant. 1845 H. HUTCHINSON *Benefit & Tenant* Index, Waygoing tenant's right to value of fallow land.

**Waygoose.** Now *dial.* or *Obs.* [Of obscure etymology; there is no evidence that the second element is to be identified with GOOSE *sb.*] (See quots. and cf. WAYGOOSE.)

1589 *Mems. Hack. Exerc., Printing* 361 It is also customary for all the Journey-men to make every Year new Paper Windows...; Because that day they make them, the Master Printer gives them a Way-goose at his table, to make them a good Feast, and not only entertains them at his own House, but besides, gives them Money to spend at the Alehouse or Tavern at Night. These Way-gooses, are always kept in the Month of March, or thereabouts. And till the Master have given this Way-goose, the Journey-men do not use to Work by Candle Light. 1833 TIMPERLEY *Songs of the Press* 3, 5 Composed for a Printers' Way Goose. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Way-goose*, an entertainment given by an apprentice to his fellow-workmen. *West.* 1857 WRIGHT *Dict. Obs. & Prov.*, *Way-goose*, an annual feast among printers. It appears to have been formerly a practice peculiar to Coventry, where it was usual in the large manufactories of ribbons and watches, as well as amongst the silk dyers, at the season of the year when they commenced the use of candles, to have what was called a *way-goose*, when all the persons of the establishment were accustomed to go a short distance into the country and partake of an entertainment provided for the occasion at the charge of their employers: and this practice uniformly preceded the working by candle-light. 1865 J. Bradow *T. Leach*, etc. (1882) 23 *note*, Once a year they attend the annual dinner of the firm, at which commentors, readers, printers, machinemen, clerks, etc. dine. This dinner is called the 'Way Goose,' and is often referred to in *Punch*. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Waygoose* or *waygoos*, an entertainment given to journeymen workmen.

**Wayk(e, Wayken** : see WEAK, WEAKEN.

**Wayl**, obs. form of VAIL *v.*[1], WALE *v.*[1]

**Waylaway**, obs. form of WELLAWAY.

**Waylay** (*wēlēˑ*, *wēˑlē*), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **waylaid** (*wēlēˑd*, *wēˑlēd*). Also 6–7 **way-laye**, 6–9 **way-lay**. [f. WAY *sb.*[1] + LAY *v.* (where see senses 18 b, c.), after M.LG., MDu. *wegleggen* (= MHG. and early mod.G. *wegelagen*, *wegelagen*, superseded in later German by *wegelagern*), f. *wegelage* :—OS., OHG. **wegalāga* beseting of ways (*wega* genit. pl. of *weg* way + *lāga* besetting, ambush, related to LAY *sb.*[1].]

**1.** *trans.* To lie in wait for (a person or thing) with evil or hostile intent; to seize or attack in the way.

1513 in G. P. Scrope *Castle Combe* (1852) 292 The saynd [*sic*] Robert Butler, Richard Potten, John Lewis eam and wayelaynd [*sic*] my kepers man, and so hert hyem. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 183 [They] shall robbe those men that were have already way layde. 1620 — *Temp.* II. iii. iv. 176, I will way-lay thee going home, where if it be thy chance to kill me [etc.]. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxii, Now on their Coasts our conquering Navy rides, Waylays their Merchants, and their Land besets. 1674 MILTON *P. R.* I. 184 How thou lurk's at...In Valley or Green Meadow to way-lay Some beauty rare. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 73 ¶ 3 The rich are neither way-laid by robbers, nor watched by informers. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 144 Then we should be way-laid by armed concourse. 1823 SCOTT *Kenilw* III. xiii, Thou art a wanderer, it is said, a Northman's death, thy steps way-laid. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 578 A screw-steamer of war...waylaid the English Royal West India Mail steamer in the Bahama Channel, and brought her to by firing a round shot across her bows. 1883 *Blanch. Guardian* 18 Oct. 4/2 A ruffian...waylaid her in the street and assaulted her in the most infamous manner.

**b.** *fig.*

*a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* II. iii, Dost thou way-lay me with ladies? 1635 QUARLES *Emblt.* III. Epig. ix, Thy soule's waylaid by sins of Hell; by sense. 1678 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 495 That Word of God *There must be ten heresy* way-lays them. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 69 ¶ 3 All the other Miseries, which way-lay our Passage through the World, Wisdom may escape, and Fortitude may conquer. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. vi, The accidents which unavoidably way-lay them.

**c.** To intercept and secure (a thing in transit). Also *fig.* to seize (an opportunity).

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Humr.* Dram. Pers. (1600) A iij, He way laies the reports of scruples, & cons them without booke, [etc.]. 1639 *Gentl. Usher. Match* iii. iii, The stratagems To get her silver whistle, and way-lay Her pewter knots or bodkin. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 37, I resolve to waylay all opportunityes for a letter. 1852 HELPS *Comp. Politics* 1. xiv. 134 The fond wife used to waylay and open large packets. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 84 Hans has not returned. I give him two days more before I fall in with the opinion...that Godfrey has waylaid or seized upon his sledge.

**2.** *transf.* (without implication of hostility). To wait for (a person) in the way and accost; to stop (a person) in order to converse with him.

1818–19 BP. HALL *Contempl. O.T.* xiv. 3 (1625) 1355 The Prophet...way-layes the King of Israel, and sadly complaines of himselfe in a reall possible. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* IV. i, Our loves shall now way-lay your welcome. Gentlemen. 1708 SIR R. WALPOLE *Let.* 8 Oct. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 241 Our scheme about the Duke of Ripperda must be alter'd unless you can way-lay this Evening or to-morrow morning, & prevail with him to alter his course. 1864 WORDSW. '*She was a Phantom*' to A dancing Shape, an Image gay, To haunt, to startle, and way-lay. 1897 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1901) II. 87 The Rector of the Reading coach is quite accustomed to be waylaid by our carriage. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Being directed to the chapel [he] betook himself thither, in order to waylay her, at the conclusion of the service. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 80, I have held it a first principle of manners not to waylay people. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 877 The canal lock-keepers waylay me for the latest information.

**†3.** To impede or intercept (a person) in his progress; to block the path of. Also, to impede or obstruct (an activity). *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Usurie* (Arb.) 543 For the Employment of Money, is chiefly either Merchanting, or Purchasing: And Usury Way-layes both. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* viii. 68 Using a strange iniquity to require justice upon him whom he then waylayd and debard from his appearance. 1680 *Baxteriana Bentio. & Ur.* I. (1682) 156 By this means we endeavour to way-lay an inconvenience which others accelerate by Excess in meats and drinks. 1681 *Impart. Right Hist. Reg.* 1 You 'l is our wisdom to way-lay our troubles. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 121 Art thou crossed, disappointed, and way-laid, and overthrown in all thy foolish ways and doings?

**4.** To beset or blockade (a road, position, district) with an armed force or the like. *? Obs.*

1629 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 293 The Pope caused them to bee raised from their meeting, waylaying the Coasts of Verona and Millan. 1632 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penguyles Epiſgr.* F 1 b, Then all the valley on each side having way-laid with a hundred couple of strong Irish Grey-hounds, they are let loose as occasion serues vpon the heard of Deere. 1757 WASHINGTON *Lett.* VII. 189 (1908) I...ordered the passes to be maintained by a waylaid by commands from other places. 1784 BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 19 The next morning they waylaid the road and killed these men. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xii, Our path way-laid? 1828 W. IRVING *Columbus* VII. iii. 11. 237 He spread his army through the adjacent forests; and waylaid every pass.

Hence **Waylaid** *ppl. a.*, **Waylayer**, one who waylays. **Waylaying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (Stress variable, as in the vb.)

1806 Britton *Fantasticke* C 4, The quarter Sessions take order with the way layers 1666 Dryden *Ann Mirab* xxv, I like hunted Crassus, conscious of their Store, Their way-laid wealth to Norways coasts they bring 1674 N Fairfax *Bulk & Selv* 71 Something as powerful to the k or l ind motion as the w3 laying of a grass unweildy body 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v xxiv 142 As we went back to our Ships, we saw three Way Layers [*Fr ils guettoient de cheminal*] who having been taken 1 Ambuscade, were going to be broken on the Wheel 1738 Dyche-Pardon *Life of Pope* 149 A lurking way laying coward. 1808 Sheridan *Doings in London* 222 That fellow is one of the way layers, a contemptible thief that frequents the skirts of the town and couch yards, pretending to be porters; they watch the country people, and offer their services to carry their parcels 1855 Landor *Imag Conf, Aesop & Xan Lucian Cadwell* Wks 1876 II 437 Wherever there are rich waylayers there also are sly and alert waylayers 1870 Morris *Earthly Par* II iii 301 Without a will for aught, did Bodli stand, Nor once evil eye on the waylayer's hand 1872 Lord *Tangier Life* v. 150 It [= death] continues the most *tentalising* thought of the thoughtful man, till he silences its impertinent by listening to all it has to say and reasoning it back into the tomb 1897 'O Rhoslomyn' *Il hate hose Arm* 224 Ned ran rapidly over the history of the waylaying of Ithel.

**Wayle**, obs form of Wale *sb* 1

1601 W Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* iv I (Roxb) 48 Cause y are Friggats Bonnets to wayle

**Wayle**. see Wail *sb*, *v*., Wale *sb* 1, *a* (a *absol*.).

**† Wayland.** *St Obs* Forms 3 **waylond**, **-laud**, **wæland**, **waland**. [? Way *sb* 1 + Land *sb* 2] An artificial watercourse leading to a mill; a mill-lead or mill-leat

1347 *Reg Magd Sig Scot* 73/1 Cum molendino cum aqueductu et cursu ac *le waland* ejusdem *Ibid* 39/1 Le waylond 1365 *Hist Abingdon* II 2 Molendinum cum domibus dicti molendini 1388 *Ibid* 1531, 656 2 Molendinum cum sequelis *lu daun*, *waland* et *waltergrave*.

**Way-leave, way leave.** In 5 **wayle**, **-leve**. [f. Way *sb*.1 + Leave *sb* ] Permission to make and use a way for conveying coal from the pit-head across a person's land; the rent or royalty paid for such permission; the way or road constructed for the purpose. Also, permission to carry telephone wires over or along buildings, or to lay water-pipes or drains across private land, and the charge or rent payable therefor.

1439 *Durham Acct Rolls* (Surtees) 209 Elemosinario pro wayleve 6*s* 8*d* 1458 *Ibid* 711 Wayleve 1661 in *N & Q* Ser xii XI 391 1 (Leeve of a coalmine) Vna cum bona et sufficienti wayleave et stayleve in per et trans terrotorium de Casterton bell pro quolibet centugius 1720 *Penland Papers* (Hist MSS Comm) VI 104 These way leaves are an artificial road made for the conveyance of coal from the Pit to the Staithe on the navigable 1734 North *Life I Keeper* (Guilford (1742) 136 Another thing, that is remarkable, is their Wayleaves, for, when Men have Pieces of Ground between the Quay and the River, they sell Leave to lead Coals over their Ground 1739 *Eng Pet Coals* 24 For leave of way he must pay a consideration, called a way leave 1752 *Acts Lit Sessions* Sect 10 VI 590 His property is advantageously situated for enabling him to demand way leave. 1804 *Standford* 26 Sept 4/4 The Telephone Company are not permitted to make either their own arrangement for way leaves 1892 *Times* 23 Mar 8/3 The Royal Commission on Mining Royalties and Wayleaves *Ibid*. 9/4 As between towns the Post Office usually has way leaves enough to accommodate trunk telephones 1893 Nesbitt *Non's country Sk* 28 By agreement with Mr Tempest who let them both wayleave and staithroom they were limited to an annual rental of 2000 chaldrons *altrib* 1830 *Edin Rev* LI 179 The several collieries are in that situation, have to pay way-leave rents

**† Way-leet.** *Obs* Forms 3 **weiuelate**, **weyn-leate**, **weonlete**, **weiolet** ; **weilot**, **5 weylate**, **late**, **6 waileote**, **6–7 wayleet(e** [Partly repr. Ok. *weggeléte*, partly *wega*, *wegena geléte* : see Way *sb* 1 and Leet *sb* 1

The forms with *lot*, *late* show obscuration of vowel in the second syllable due to absence of stress ]

A place where two or more roads meet

For two, *three*, *four way leet* see Leet *sb* 3

*c* 1000 *O S Glosses* (Napier) 1 4716 *Compitalia*, weggaleote 1295 Law 1550 Statute Iron wks xxvii 2 he shall summe to weiten leetes [1275 weyuleates] 23 in *Manip Poems fr Vernon Mss* 341 Ren s bouts bi pe strete, Bi way and bi weonlete 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I 229 Man fel out of hous in to maklynge and wayles contrary [*de domo ad de-tum*]. 1398 — *Barth De P R* xiv lii, (Tollemeche MS) A wayles wildernesse [1, *extra solitudo*] 1591 Spenser *Du Bartas* I v 387 If without wings we fly Through hundred sundry way less ways addrest 1620 Drayton *Poly-olb* ii 164 As though the peopled townes had way less deserts been 1650 Du Bar tas *Honours of Sem*, *Hymne I auri est I aure* 162 With wonders new my Spirits range possest, And wandring wayles-se in a maze them rest 1690 C Nesse *O & N Test* I 462 He was also their courteous companion in all their way less ways 1821 R S Hawker *Cornish Ballads*, xii. (1904) 258 Joys such as these, Visions of wayless fancy, were the fire That burnt within me 1901 Exon. *Tales Dunstable Weir* 151 The bush which from his account was wide spreading and wayless

Hence **Way lessness.**

1871 4 Hort *The Way*, etc. I (1894) 37 The delightfulness of the opening work depends in no small measure on its semblance of waylessness

**Wayll**, obs. 5c. form of Weil *adv*

**Waylle**, variant of Wail *sb* 1 (advantage, profit)

*a* 1550 *Inct Perfect iv* 115 in *Skelton s Wks* (1843) II 405 Lest mischiefmen goe wayle For that ys ther true waylle

**Waylle**, var Vail *v*.1, obs. f. Wale *sb* 2

**Waylor(e**, obs forms of Vator.

*a* 1483 in *Eng Gild* (1870) 313 Every person that ys of the wayloreof *Ibid* 314 Every servant that they wyll gyve to the waylor of xx *s* and a bolle

**† Way-maker.** *Obs.*

1. One who makes or mends roads.

1483 *Cath Angl* 406/2 A Waymaker or mender, *pontifex* 1609 in *Ellis Orig Lett Ser* 2 I (1846) 95 To Thomas Norton, his Majesty's way maker, appointed to oversee the performance of the mending of the highways £20 10*s*

2. A person or thing that prepares the way for another, a forerunner, precursor, a prelude (*to*)

1574 T Newton *Health Haxy* T lb, Sleepe at noone, is a forerunner-ger or way maker to Feuers, Apostumations, and Abcesses 1584 Sir C Cornwallis in Gutch *Coll Cur* I 149 Which much, I conceived, had been a preparation to and a way maker to this their 1634 Br Hall *Contempt*, *N T* iv iv 127 What was his [John Baptist's] errand, but to be the way maker into Christ? 1662 Bantam *Lect Bishops* viii 13, Now the spirit of Prelacie was the very beginning of the Apostacie, which was Antichrists waymaker.

**Way-man.** [Way *sb* 1]

**† 1** A wayfarer. *Obs*

1570 in Toulmin Smith *Parish* viii (1857) 509 Jhon Stone, Jhon Margrom, Waymen of West Ashton de give up their Accounts 1630 in G P Serope *Hist Castle Combe* (1850) 136 That every housekeeper within the parish wh ch hath noe pt in the, doe come or send one to dig er pick at noone a day (or else 2 pence a day), being warned by the way men

**† 2.** A traveller, wayfarer. *Obs.*

1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III (1818) 83 Shew thy selfe a famous way man. 1676 *Hudibras Gloss*, *Wayman* a passenger.

**3** A workman employed on the permanent way of a railway; a plate-layer.

1840 F Wrisham *Railw Gt Brit & Irel* 259 Waymen, who are employed by the contractors for keeping the permanent way in repair 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz* 7 Oct 7/2 A party of waymen found that a wood and iron bridge...had been . decayed and fly fire

**Wayman, way-mark.** An object, whether natural feature or artificial structure, which serves as a guide to the traveller. Also *fig*

1612 Bible *Jer* xxxi 21 Set thee vp way marks *a* 1656 Br Hall *Rem Serm* (1660) 2 Where it seems there was a cairn or heap left for the way mark of travellers 1703 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) I 424 Now it is so naked that there is not so much as one tree left for a way mark 1780 Cow in *Perry Arct Exped* II 1 Some of the Indians have made this to stand a way mark in the road to Hecla 1871 Tylor *Prim Cult* I 19 Survival in Culture, placing all along the course of civilization way marks full of meaning to those who can decipher their signs 1888 Pusey *Daniel & Catholic Serm* xv 211 The brilliant way marks in the course of God's dealings with men were the palpable mistakes 1899 Baring Gould *Bk It rel* II viii 131 High towers serve as waymarks over land that was all formerly wrste.

**Waymb, waymc**, obs. forms of Wame

**† Waymente**, *sb*. *Obs.* Also 4 waymunt [v. Oh. *wæmmant*, *waymment*, *guamient*, f. *waumenter* : see next.] Lamentation.

*c* 1400 *Land Iroy Bk* 4435 A gret waymente and hideous cry Maght men here then witerly, that the Troyens moste y wyss Ben wonnyde of Pharamus. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III iv. 35 She made so piteous mone and deare waymente That (etc.) 1647 H More *Song of Soul* II i III iv, All things shall augment My heavie plight, and folly I blam'd the best Of wayments, and destroy'd the use of this warment

**† Waymen·t**, *v. Obs.* Also 4–5 **waymente**, **weyment(e**, 4–5, 7 **wament**, 5–6 Sc. **woment**, **weyment**, 6–7 **waiment**. [v. Ok. *waumenter*, *woy-menter*, *guamenter*, f. *wæ*, *guai* int, wo, alas; prob. after *lamenter* to lament.]

1. *intr.* To lament, wail; to sorrow bitterly.

1375 *Cant. Creat* 177 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1878) 126 2 Pus seuentene dayes and more Alle pe fisches sorweden bore And weymentide wip Adam *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars Prol* 79 Thilke same parisshe clerk hath now his wyf also to weymenten in his herte *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb) 94 The whilk for here two sonnes wymentid dolefully 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I vii 7 Memorand, I take mone I dyd my hert yll to here the poore boy e wement whan his mother was gone. 1590 Spenser *F Q* II i 16 For what hootes it to weepe and to weyment, When ill is chaunst? 1595 *Locrine* II ii 89 And therefore well may I weyment. 1678 Littler tom *Eng Lat Dict*, To weament, *lamento* 1814 Cary *Dante Inferno* xxxiii 39 Nor weeping weymenting for my folly past. 1861 *R H* Dicby *Chapel St John* (1863) 182 The profane piety chuckling or waymenting when conferring professionally with one another on their gains, or losses

*refl. c* 1460 *Merlin* xvi 262 Whan he hadde thus bymonlde & waymented

**2.** *trans.* To bewail, lament for.

*c* 1475 *Partenay* 3324 He thaim complained And weymented sore 1568 Grafton *Chronicle* II 157 And meetely wretched dame, waymenting still Th' unworthie exile thy brother to tl ee gaue. 1593 G Harvey *New Let Not sh's Cont* Wks (Grosart) I. 296 Magnifique Mindes In grisly weedes His Obsequies waiment

Hence **† Wayme nting** *vbl sb*. and *ppl a*

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxviii 22 The deed of synfulnes is werst , thof it be endid in riches and honurs and waymenting of men *c* 1386 Chaucer *Anel & F* 139 The grete clamour and the waymentynge that the ladyes made at the brennynge Of the bodies *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III 1 The ladyes wementyng [*c* 1570 womenting], the wofull weping Of that was for his taking 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX viii 4 How many sobbing gruf thow and wowentingis? 1566 Gascoigne *Triall* v 116, I will washe thy wounds with my waymenting teares 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III iv 504 For their lost husbands they entreate their waymentings by injection of the g od and gr t full pores. they were en d wed with 1621 Mabbe *Guzman d Alf* II 200 130 The pitifull waymenting of the people 1883 R W Dixon *Mano* I xvi 53 How waymenting, Come in pos s place

**† Waymentation.** *Obs.* [f. Waymenta- + -ation ] Lamentation.

*c* 1503 Lydg *Temple of Glas* 949 Of him I had so gret compassion, Forto rehersc his waymentacions, That I want coniyng his pevnes to discryue *c* 1485 *St Thos Martyr & Alphn* (EETS) 123/43 She wolde by mentis youns and turmentz hir owne e mpeyns owe *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx 347 Thus wente kynge Ricn, mekynge grete sorowe and weymentacion in to his contrey

**Waymot**, var Wemot *a Obs*, wrathful

**Wayn(e**: see Vain *a*., Vein *sb*, Wain *sb* 1, *sb* 2, *sb* 3, *v*., Wane *sb* 1, *sb* 2, *v*., Wean *v*

**Waynd**, Sc variant of Wonde *v* Obs

**Wayneschot**, -*scot*, etc. see Wainscot.

**Waynge**, obs. f. Wang 1, Wane *v*.

**† Waynoun.** *Obs. rare.* [a Ok. *waignon*, north-eastern var. of *gaignon* dog, cur, scoundrel.] A worthless person, scoundrel.

*a* 1310 in Wright *Lyrics* xv 47 Iher me calleth me fulle flet, ant waynoun wayte glede

**† Waynpayne**, obs forms. 4 **waynnpayne**, **weine pain**, 4–5 **waynpaid**, **payn**, 5 **-pane**, **wanpayn**, **-pan**. [a Ok. *wain pain*, north-eastern form of *gain pain* see Gainpain.]

1. A sort of gauntlet, = Gainlain 1

*c* 1300 *Wills & Invent N C* (Surtees) I 16 ij g leue wai nnpaynes 1408 *Durham Acct Rolls* (Surtees) 44 Le Waynpain xd 1438–9 *Ibid* 71 Cindam f mulo coquine vocat' Waynpain

**Waynscot e**, **-skot e**, etc. see Wainscot.

**Waynt, waynte** : see Quaint *a*, Wants

**† Wayour.** *Obs* Forms 4 **waier**, **woyer(e**, **wayh(our**, 4–5 **wayour**, 5 **wayor**, **-owre**, **way 3owr**, **-wayr**, **-woyr**, 5 **wayre** [a Ok. *waiour* (Britton) = Ok. *gaignage*, f. *waer*, *gaer* (mod F *guère*) to bathe (a horse) in a pond or stream ] A horse-pond.

1310 *Britt, ater Corp MSS* No 833 Sicut iur versus le West Waybur *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Hearne* 111 76 Vpon in wayes to water at a wayour 1340 *Ayenb* 61 Ine mangeis teye [their steeds] 1374 *Bridgwater Corp MSS* No 488 In entem in le longheyes ensuinge vile versus le Wayere *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 514 Wayre, or wayhe, or wayhour, or waygowr, or waygower, *water Pl*, *piscina*. *c* 1450 Rolls *Series* 1877 Stepping wayours, waters, in ev ry region Salt, bitter, and fountaine *c* 1475 *Piers Pl* Vis in W Walker 800/15 *Hec piscina*, a water 1488 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rol* 39 They come to the townes ende at the wayour 1530 Palsg 286/1 Wayre where water is holde, *gord*

**Wayr**, *v*. see Vair, Wear *v*.1, Weir.

**† Way-rope**, altered form of Warbope

1641 S Smith *Herring buss Trade* 8 To every Station belongs a Buye, which is fastned to the Way rope

**Wayrynggle**, variant of Wrianglde *Obs*

**-ways**, the terminal element of certain advs, was originally a use of the genitive of Way.

1. Many phrases consisting of the genitive of *way* (in various senses) qualified by an adj, were formerly used adverbially (see Way *sb* 1 23 a). The earliest known examples are in the Peterborough Chronicle (first hand, A D. 1124) which twice has *dores weges* in the sense 'by another route', in this phrase the adj appears uninflected before the end of the 12th c (see Otherwaies). Similarly *alles wes*, *manes* (*monnes*) *weis* occur early in the 13th c, becoming *allweys*, *manyes* in the 14th c. On the analogy of these words were subsequently formed *everyweys* (1398), *anyways*, † *likeways* (16th c.) and (from descriptive adjs) *crossways*, *longways*, *straightways* (16th c.), *broadways* (18th c

**2** A solitary instance of an adv f sb + *-ways* before the 16th c is † *medeaways* ' necessarily ', occurring in the *Cursor M* (*a* 1300) and in Barbour In the later formations the general sense is a specified direction ', so *countryways*, *lengthways*, *sideways* (16th c), *edgeways*, *breadthways* (17th c), *sternways* (19th c), *sunways*

**3.** As there is no perceptible difference of function between the adverbial genitive and the adverbial accusative, most of the advs. in *-ways* have synonyms in *-wys*. Further, most of the advs. in

*-ways* are synonymous with actual or possible parallel formations in *-wise*; and the similarity of sound of the two suffixes has given rise to the notion that they are mere alternative forms of one and the same ending. Johnson's erroneous statement (s. v. *Way*) that '*way* and *ways* are often used corruptly for *-wise*' has probably led many to prefer *-wise* to *-ways* or *-way* on the ground of supposed correctness. Cf. *alway, always, †always ; anyway, anyways, anywise ; breadthways, -wise ; broadway, -ways, -wise ; crossway, -ways, -wise ; edgeway, -ways, -wise ; endway, -ways ; everyway, †-ways ; lengthways, -wise ; †likeways* (obs.), *likewise ; longways, -wise ; noway, -ways, -wise ; otherways, -wise ; sideway, -ways, -wise ; straightway, -ways, †-wise ; sunway, -ways, -wise.*

**4.** The combinations of *-ways* are, unlike those of *-way*, hardly ever used as adjs., with the exception of SIDEWAYS.

**Waysande,** obs. form of WEASAND.

## Ways and means.

Formerly also *means and ways, moyens and ways, ways and grounds* ; see WAY *sb.*[1] 13 b. Cf. F. *voies et moyen* (Fallot Eng. Parliamentary use).

**1.** The methods and resources which are at a person's disposal for effecting some object.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 440/2 All the weys and menes by the whiche yei mowe enhaunce yo[ur] rentes of her Merchandises. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 48 His grace is wele content that his said commissioners finde suche weyes and meanes as the said Sir Rauff shalle move fitely without expres bement or trouble. 1561 T. HOBY tr. C. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O viij, After he had long attempted by all ways and meanes to compasse his. 1583 WHITGIFT *Servm.* (1589) C 5 b, Gregorie...sought also wayes and meanes secretly to murther him. 1699 G. HARVEY *Van. Philos. in Physick* v. 40 To preserve Health...no better ways and means can be used, than applying at certain intervals, to those cleansers or abstersives here before mentioned. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 P 6, I send with this, my Discourse of Ways and Means for encouraging Marriage. *a* 1737 M. GREEN *Spoiler* 30 Dominion and wealth are the aim of all three, The about ways and means they may disagree. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* 22 Mar. 56 Fortunately I am not obliged for the ways and means of substituting the tax my own unproductive invention. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liii, He has been devising ways and means all the way here of explaining himself, and has been satisfied with none. 1882 [EDNA LYALL] *Donovan* xv, It was true that there were ways and means of raising money. 1905 P. LAMSON *Lhasa* II. 136 In Tibet there are ways and means unknown to western nations.

† **b.** rarely in sing. *way and mean. Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 83 In be prid maner is a ping seid better Jan an oper, in bis, as it helpib better by sum wey and mene to be send of a ping, Jan an oper dob. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 70 The for to plesi thay vocht will wrang and mein. [1530 PALSGR. 287 'a Wey or meane, *acheison.*]

**2.** *spec.* In *Legislation*: Methods of procuring funds or supplies for the current expenditure of the state.

*Committee of Ways and Means.* (*a*) A committee of the whole House of Commons, which sits to receive the annual financial statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to consider the means of procuring the necessary annual supply. (*b*) *U. S.* A standing committee of the House of Representatives, to which are referred bills dealing with revenue, tariff, etc.

1641 *Jrnl. Hs. Comm.* III. 509/1 This Committee, or any Four of them, is to consider of all Ways and Means for raising of Monies..and to make Report to the House. 1685 *Jrnl. H.* 759/1 The House resolved into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Ways and Means to raise his Majesty's Supply. 1695–6 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 16 The commons were yesterday in a committee of the whole house upon ways and means for raising two millions. 1695 (*title*) An Essay upon ways and methods of supplying the war. [By C. Davenant.] 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 654/1 When we take this Affair into our Consideration in the Committee of Ways and Means. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 245 Ye Senatorian Band, Whose *Ways and Means* support the sinking Land. 1769 SIR J. MACDONALD in *Trial* 28, The first Lord of the Treasury thinking of *ways and means*, could not have returned home, with a more embarrassed look. 1785 *Parl. Hist.* XXV. 91, 93 Mr. Stephen's last three scenes, I sit perpetual Chairman of the Ways and Means. 1798 T. JEFFERSON *Let. to J. Madison* 26 Apr., Writ. 1854 IV. 197 The Committee of Ways and Means have lost their land tax. 1824 MACAULAY *Prophetic A.-t. Epic Poem* Misc. Writ. 1860 I. 149 His Lordship..advises him [Mr. Vansittart] to look after the ways and means, and leave questions of peace and war to his betters.

*fig.* 1699 GARTH *Dispensary* VI. 108 No Ways and Means their Cabinet employ, But their dark Hours they waste in barren Joy.

**b.** Pecuniary resources in general.

† *To be upon ways and means*, to be trying to raise money.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 417/2 So have I known a buxom lad...taught by kind mamma at home; Who gives him many a well try'd rule, With ways and means—to act a fool. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 250 People that are upon ways and means, must not be nice. 1791 SWINTON *Keystone* L. § 313 And whenever it shall appear to be necessary to renew it [*sc.* the gilding], I doubt not but ways and means will be found. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Lord, Love & Tried.* x. 159 The party then adjourned to McGreggy's large room, and.. resolved themselves into a committee of ways and means. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lviii, She had not yet had any anxiety about ways and means. 1879 [EDNA LYALL] *Won by Waiting* xxi, She...went to the nursery, to discuss ways and means with Bella's nurse.

**Wayse,** obs. form of OOZE *sb.*[3] and of WARE.

*c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 (Addit. MS.) Wayse, *alga.*

**Way-side.** The side of a road or path, the land bordering either side of the way.

In *1400 Morte Arth.* 1723 They are enbusched one blonkkes, with baners displayede, In sone bechene wode aspes-like be waye sydes. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* viii. 5 As he sowed some fell by the waye side. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 221 By the waye syde, hym chaunced to se A pore manne that craued of hym for charitie. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 19 Among the Corn by the way-sides as we went. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 498 This species is very frequent with us especially on heaths and by way-sides. *a* 1784 JOHNSON in Mrs. Piozzi *Anecd.* (1786) 5 A stone he saw standing by the way-side, set up..in honour of a man who had leaped a certain leap thereabouts. 1850 ANNE PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 171 The wild-flowers, which grace every wayside. 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & B. Ser.* II. *Before Sunset* 6 Lighted shade and shadowy light In the wayside and in the way. 1893 MAY PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* I. A crucifix that stood on the wayside by the hill-foot yonder. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 122 All the wayside now are flowerless.

**b.** *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of or pertaining to the wayside; situated on, lying near, occurring, growing or living by the wayside.

1807 J. RUCKRIDGE (*title*) The Way-side Cottager; consisting of Pieces in Prose and Verse. 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cab. Pict. Engl. Lit.* II. 17 The little wayside chapels, erected for the accommodation of travellers. 1861 MISS JANE M. CAMPBELL *Hymn, 'We plough the fields'* He paints the wayside flowers. 1878 H. TAYLOR *Devereux* iii. vi. 132 Free as the wayside brook to whose thirst. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 388 The coach stopped to change horses at a wayside inn. 1906 PETRIE *Relig. Anc. Egypt* xiii. 85 Such were the places for wayside devotions and passing prayers.

**Wayst, Wayster** : see WASTE, WASTER.

**Wayt(e,** obs. ff. WAIT *sb.*, *v.*[1], *v.*[2], WEIGHT.

**Wayte,** obs. f. WAIT *sb.*[1] 2, WEIGHT *sb.*

**Wayth,** variant of WAITH *sb.*[1], WOTHE *Obs.*

**Way-tree.** *dial.* [? f. WAY *sb.*[1] or WEIGH *v.*] (See quot.)

1854 ANNE E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Batticle*, Sway-tree, Swingel-tree, and Way-tree, are synonymous in different parts of the county. 1898 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Way-tree*, (Lincoln.), the largest tree of the three 'swingle-trees.'

**Wayve,** obs. form of WAIVE *v.*[1] and *v.*[2] *Obs.*

**Wayward** (wē·wəɹd), *a.* Not now in colloquial use. Also **4 waiward, weiward, 4–5 weyward (4- werd, 6-warde), 4, 6 waywarde, 6–7 waiward (6 -warde), (7 waward).** [Aphetic f. AWAYWARD. Cf. *froward.*

The word has prob. often been apprehended as a derivation of WAY *sb.*[1], with the literal sense 'bent on going one's own way'; this notion seems to have influenced the development of meaning.]

**1.** Disposed to go counter to the wishes or advice of others, or to what is reasonable; wrongheaded, intractable, self-willed; froward, perverse. Of children: Disobedient, refractory.

In recent use the sense is somewhat milder, and perhaps always with some mixture of 2. If applied to conduct denotes several nonrel reprobation it would now be apprehended as euphemistic.

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 376 As waiward clerkis wolden in seynt Austyns time haue done owte..his worde of be gospel. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xvii. 16 A thing generacioun vnbileeful and weiward [Vulg. *perversa*]. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 142 Folk so weyward & so vnredy. *c* 1475 *Lament. Mary Magd.* 41 Wo is me ye yke tyrantes wode & wayward! Now haue him thus slayne for his rewarde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 Than he waxeth testy and wayward, and lyghtly wyll is impacyent and angry. 1552 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Gen. Prol. A ij, Many sorowes endureth the woman in nourysheyng a waywerde chylde. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 102 [They] shew them selues either willfull, waiwarde, or maliciously blinde. 1583 WHITGIFT *Serm.* (1589) C 6 b, The third kinde is of those that are conceited and wayward, but onely obey when they list, and wherein they list, and so long as they list. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 9 My wife is in a wayward moode to day. 1651 FEATLY *Clavis Mell. Reliquiæ* 246 A wayward Patient maketh a wayward Physician. 1830 *Tait's Edinb. Mag.* II. 97 Charles..used the wayward genius with all a brother's tenderness. 1833 TENNYSON *New Year's Eve* 25, I have been wilful and waywardly set my heart upon toys. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxix, The wayward boy soon spurned the shelter of his roof, and sought associates more congenial to his stormy mind. 1841 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* I. 186 Sir Ralph treated the wayward girl with a courtesy to which her mother never condescended.

1882 MRS. J. HELL *Maddox's Amru. Otor.* 63 b, Here our old peevish wayward, piketh a new quarell agaynst me. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Pet.* ii, 18 Not only the good and modest, but also the waiward [Vulg. *dyscolis*]. 1912 *Spectator* 23 July 115/2 The two together supply the unwise and the wayward with the necessary instructions.

† **b.** Of things personified. Also of conditions, natural agencies, etc.: Untoward. *Obs.*

1567 TURBERV. *Epit., etc.*, 81 b, When waywarde Winter spits his gall. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxix. § 1 What spiteful God...hath brought me to such a waywarde case, that neither thy death can be a reuenge, nor thy ouerthrow a satisfaction. 1590 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iv. 10 Perdicles is now againe thwarting thy wayward seas. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 803 My Coward Soul shall bear it's wayward Fate. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Apr., This wayward month opened upon me with none of its smiles. 1822 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Ghost of Fadon* vii, We war with wayward fate.

† **c.** Of judgement: Perverse, wrong, unjust. Also of the eye: Perverted. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vi. 23 Sif yhin eize be wayward [Vulg. *nequam*]. — *Hob.* i. 4 Weyward dom [Vulg. *judicium perversum*]. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 40 Suche prowde, lewde, cuerthwarte, and waywarde iudgementes [L. *superba, absurda ac morosa iudicia*]. 1668 DAVDEN *Dram. Poesy* 52 The wayward authority of an old man in his own house.

† **d.** Of words, actions, countenance: Indicating or manifesting obstinate self-will. *Obs.*

*c* 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 44 An other he [the Evil One] stureth to make som weywarde token. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 94 If a man should here together all the cholerike speeches, all the way-ward actions, that ever scaped from him in his life. 1630 *Pathomachia* I. iv. 8 From wayward words they passed on to bloody blowes. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, I shall never forget the diabolical sneer which writhed Rashleigh's wayward features.

† **e.** Of a disease, etc. : Not yielding readily to treatment, obstinate. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Fiv, By the occasyon of them the vicere is waywarde and rebel to be healed.

**2.** Capriciously wilful; conforming to no fixed rule or principle of conduct; erratic.

*a* 1533 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* Lei. iv. (1537) 118b, Our lyfe is so doubtefull, and fortune so waywarde, that she dothe not alway threate in strykynge, nor stryketh in thretnynge. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. B 1, My longings are not wanton, but wayward. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 106 Hard by yon wood...Mutt'ring his wayward fancies he would rove. 1832 WORDSW. *Loving & Liking* 44 Instinct is neither wayward nor blind. 1881 [FAWCETT] *Pauper Inq.* I. 82 The attachment of events is often as wayward and incomprehensible as the course of human thought.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* (of things).

1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 51 He left his bed and took his wayward rout, And down by Simpsons wheel'd the left about. 1799 WORDSW. *Poems Imag.* x. 28 In many a secret place Where rivulets dance their wayward round. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. xv, Thus muttering, to the door she bent Her wayward steps. 18.. SMITHSON *Usef. Bk. Farmers* 32 (Cassell) Send its rough and wayward roots in all directions. 1905 *C. T. C. Gaz.* June 256/1 The wayward hoop is a fruitful cause of those accidents for which no one except the victim gets punished.

† **Wayward,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. prec. adj.] In passive: To be perversely prejudiced.

1586 STANIHURST *Decl.* in *Holinshed* II. 8 If anie be overthwarttie waiwarded, as he will sooner long for that I haue omitted, than he will be contented with that I haue chronicled.

**[Wayward, -wards.** In the 17–18th c. the suffix- *ward(s* was often appended to phrases like *this way, that way, our way*, etc., preceded or not by *to* or *from*. (See WARD *sb.*[1] 4, -WARD, 5.) In printed looks it was common to join the suffix to the word *way* (either with or without hyphen), but to leave the preceding words of the phrase without hyphen, so that *way-ward(s* or *wayward(s* has a fallacious appearance of being a word.

1590 *Warn. Faire Women* ii. 548 To creep that way-ward whilst I live in tyre. 1662 J. WEBB *Stoney-g* Bay, He left the Queene and fleete in the Bay of Biscay, coming this wayward. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* iv. 317 Turning back to our way-ward, we had the view of the highest Part of Parnassus. *Ibid.* iv. 474 Not very far from hence we cross'd a stream that ran from this Way-wards thither. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas's Ho. Medicis* 169 He invited their children to a match of hunting in places where he was to embarque. 1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 31 Mar., I depend upon seeing you whenever you return this wayward. ]

**Wayward** (variant forms of VAWARD).

*c* 1530 BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* cxv. (1814) 497 The baner of Britaine sholde be in the way ward. *Ibid.* cv. 500 The King of Orquency...was put to the wayward with xxx. M. hawberts.

**Waywarden** (wē·wɑ·dn). [*Way sb.*[1] + WARDEN *sb.*[1]] A person (later, one of a board) elected to supervise the highways of a parish or district.

1576 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Jan., As to that [shrew-ash] in the Plestor, the vicar should have burnt it,' when he was way-warden. 1899 in *Archæologia* (1832) XXIII. 308 Mr. George Charman, the way-warden..had frequently observed that the cattle resorted to a particular spot to rest. 1860 *Act 25 & 26 Vict.* c. 61 § 9 The Highway Board shall consist of the Waywardens elected in the several Places within the District. 1894 *Statutes Rev.* (ed. 2) I. 274 He was poor-law guardian and way-warden. 1898–4 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 238 This man..was enabled to do a quantity of hauling, flint-carting for the waywardens, [etc.]

**Waywardly** (wē·wɑdlĭ), *adv.* [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wayward manner.

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxvii. 26 At the last he schal turne weiwerdli his mouth [Vulg. *perverse*]. 1533 PUTTENHAM *Reformatte.* (1851) 43 These principlis vndirstonden weiwardli, and applied blasfemeli to a synful man. 1545 ELYOT *Dict., Morsel*, waywardely. 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Paraph. in Tobit* ii. 7–11 He hath enemies, yea those that turned waywardly from him and that were worthy of euyll. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. § 2 Waywardly proud; and therefore bold, because extreamely faultie. 1828 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 331 Thou art still a creature of...courage and power. But why went such power so waywardly? 1880 *Academy* 30/2 Tastes change so waywardly.

**Waywardness** (wē·wɑdnĕs). [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being wayward (see the various senses of the adj.).

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* i. 29 Fulfilid with al wickidnesse,.. couetyse, weywardnesse [Vulg. *nequitia*]. *c* 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 152 Wretched were that person that for eny waywardenes of harte wolde be vnreconcyled..at that tyme. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. vi. 165 Our faulte and not the waywardnesse of God [*non Dei inæqualitate*] is the cause. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. *Lord's Prayer* 116 Therefore in great condescension to the waywardness of our Natures, he is often pleased to keep the Treasury of out-

ward Blessings In his own hands [etc.]. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* V. 328 The barbarous waywardness that could deprive me...of the exquisite felicity of my lot! 1823 Lamb *Elia, Poor Relations*, The waywardness of his fate broke out against him with a second and worse malignity. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, For all his waywardness, he took great credit to himself in being determined to be in earnest this time'. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (ed. 4) II. vi. 137 There was a waywardness in the course of the disease...for which it is difficult to account. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1150 He, who lets His heart be stirr'd with any foolish heat At any gentle damsel's waywardness. 1919 *19th Century* May 897 Parliament...has rallied the people from the waywardness of rebellion.

¶ In lists of 'Proper Terms' mentioned as the typical attribute of haywards.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj, A waywardnes of haywardis.

† **Wayward**, *sbstn.* Also **wayword**. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swete* 55 Heuen wittes wel wal-wordus þei wrethen awai.

**Way-way**, obs. form of Wawa.

**Way-wiser** (wē'·waizəɹ). Now *Hist.* Also 8–9 **-wiser.** [Formed after G. *wegweiser* (= Du. *wegwijzer*, Sw. *vägvisare*, Da. *vejviser*), *Lwog* Way *sb.*1 + *wiserer*, agent. f. *wetsen* to show.

The Eng. sense is not found in the other Teut. langs. In German the word has, besides its primary sense 'one who or something which shows the way', several other meanings, the most common being 'guide-post', which is also current in Du., Da., and Sw.]

**1.** An instrument for measuring and indicating a distance travelled by road.

Of various forms, usually operated either by the step of the pedestrian or by the revolution of the wheels of the vehicle.

1651 R. Child in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 70, I say twenty Ingenuities have been invented even in our days, as Watches, Clocks, Way-wisers, [etc.]. 1654 Evelyn *Diary* 13 July, He [Dr. Wilkins] had above in his lodgings and gallery variety of shadows, dyals, a way-wiser, [etc.]. 1667 *Ibid.* 6 Aug. I went to see Colonel Blount's way-wiser, showed me the application of the Way-wiser to a coach, exactly measuring the miles, and showing them by an index as we went on. a 1679 J. Wilkins *Dialog* (1839) 80 Which some have called a waywiser, by the motion whereof a man may see how many steps he takes in a day. 1683 Hooke in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1757) IV. 431 It was one part of a way-wiser for the sea...designed to keep a true account, not only of the length of the run of the ship through the water, but the true numb or leeward way [etc.]. 1701 Moxon *Mech. Exercises* (1703) 1 Of the Pocket; a movement, like a Watch to Number or count your steps or paces, in Order to find how far you walk in a day. *a* 1732 R. North *Lives of D. North* (1742) 204, I contrived a Way-wiser, and we both wrought upon it hard till it came to Perfection, and was fixed upon a Calash we used. 1886 *Cheshire Glass, Way-wiser*, a pedometer. 1891 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. viii. 81. 1895 The wayser [of c 1800]...registers only up to twelve miles, after which distance the index must be again adjusted.]

*fig.* 1801 *Monthly Mag.* XII. 98 It is with the spying-glass of conjecture, not with the way-wiser of record, that the bearing of their sources must be made out.

¶ **2.** [In the German sense.] A guide-post, finger-post. *rare*—1.

1855 W. White *To Swits. & Back* x. 127 Why should one side of the mountains have all the crosses, and the other all the way-wisers?

**Waywode** (wē'·wōud). Now *Hist.* Forms: 7–9 **waywode**, **-wood**, **waywode**, (7 **weiwode**, 8 **weywode**, **-wod**), 8–9 **waiwode**, (8 **waivod**, **woswood**). [Var. of Vaivode, repr. an early Magyar form of a common Slavonic title of office. Cf. mod. L. *wayvoda*.] = Voivode.

1661 *Mercurius Caledo.* in *Sir A. Boswell's Poet. Wks.* (1871) 84 There is a consultation of fourteen to carry on the work of the day; among others, a Waywood of Polonia hath a Tartarian horse. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 79 The Governour of Novogorod. 1739 Eton in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. i. iv. 11 We arrived at the city of Saratoff, and waited on the Weywode. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* ii. xii. *Note*, Luseri has laid his complaint before the Waywode. 1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 13 Their waywodes or military chieftains [in Poland]. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. 522/1 These were hospodars in Wallachia and waywodes in Moldavia.

¶ **b.** = Waywodeship.

1837 Alison *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 11 The waywodes and palatinates into which every province was divided [in Poland]...became divided against each other.

Hence **Way-wodeship** [-ship], the province or district ruled by a waywode.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iv. 62 [He] returned his thanks to the several Waywodeships. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3988/2 General Reinschildt...is marching towards the Waywodeship of Cracow. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 226 The Servians desired to transform the territory inhabited by them into a Servian waywodeship.

**Way-worn**, *a.* Worn or wearied by travel.

1777 Potter *Æschylus, Choeph.* 350, I, like a stranger, harried in this coarse And way-worn garb. 1788 Cowper *Iresdion Hill* 14 By soft gradations of ascent to lead The labouring and way-worn feet along. 1844 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* II. 94 [He had a] waywarn look and mengre face. 1856 W. Irving *Crayon Mis.* II. 141 The weary and hungry travellers. 1866 Le Fanu *All in Dark* xxi, The horses...emerged from the inn-yard gate...to replace the way-worn team.

*fig.* 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* liii, That night...she prayed humbly for that poor wayworn sinner.

**Waywort** (wē'·wɹt). Also 3 **waiwurt**, 5 **weye-worurth**, 6 **weywort**. [f. Way *sb.*1 + Wort. Cf. early mod. G. *weg(e)wurz*, synonym of G. *weg(e)wart*(e endive.] A name for † a. the saxifrage (*obs. rare*—1); b. the pimpernel.

*c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/25 *Saxifragium*, ..waiwurt. *a* 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 194 Pympenol or selfhol or weyeworuth or morecrop: *spina maior*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Waywort is Pimpernell. *Ibid.*, Weywort is *Spina maior*. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Way-wort. *Anagallis arvensis*.

**Wayzgoose** (wē'zgūs). [Alteration of Waygoose, under which the earliest evidence for the word is given.

The eccentrically spelt form *wayzgoose*, which, although established in recent use, has not been found, exc. in Bailey's Dictionary (see below), before 1825, is probably a figment invented in the interest of an etymological conjecture (see quot. 1733). Bailey's assertion that the word had the sense of 'stubble-goose' is unsupported, and is very unlikely; this allegation, and the accompanying fantastic misspelling of Ware, may have been suggested by the idea that the obscure word *waygoose* could be explained on the assumption that it had lost *n*. *s*. (The *King. Dict. Dial.* refers to Cope's *Hampshire Glossary* for '*noose-goose*, a stubble-goose', but Cope's authority for this is a MS. word-list which, he says, 'contained many words that had certainly no relation to the dialect of the county'.) It seems clear that the genuine traditional form among printers was *waygoose*, and that the form *wayzgoose*, now prevailing is a supposed correction following the authority of Bailey. The statement that goose was 'the principal dish' for even that it was eaten at all) at the 'waygoose' dinner is also without evidence. It is possible that *waygoose* may be a corruption by popular etymology of some earlier word, but no satisfactory explanation has been found either in English or in any Germanic language.

Originally, an entertainment given by a master-printer to his workmen 'about Bartholomew-tide' (24 August), marking the beginning of the season of working by candle-light. In later use, an annual festivity held in summer by the employees of a printing establishment, consisting of a dinner and (usually) an excursion into the country.

1733 Bailey *Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. Straw, Straw-*Waygoose*, a Stubble-Goose, an Entertainment given to Journeymen at the beginning of Winter. [1823 Temperley *Songs of the Press* 23 *note*, Way Goose.] The derivation of this term is not generally known. It is from the old English word *waye*, stubble. A waye Goose was the head dish at the annual feast of the forefathers of our fraternity, '*Wayes Goose*', as the printers call it, an entertainment given to journeymen at the beginning of Winter.'—Bailey.]

1875 Southward *Dict. Typogr.* 117 The waygoose generally consists of a visit to the country, open-air amusements, a good dinner, and speeches and toasts afterwards. 1892 *Surrey Mirror* 23 Aug. 2/3 The members of the typographical staff of the *Surrey Advertiser* (Guildford) and the *Surrey Mirror* (Redhill) had their waygoose on Saturday last, when they journeyed to Brighton.

*b. attrib.*

*a* 1880 *T. Buckland Notes & Jottings* (1882) 39 London printers generally have a 'waygoose' dinner in the autumn. 1897 *T. T. Bullen Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 372 Carriages were chartered, and numerous quantities of eatables and drinkables provided, and away we went, a regular waygoose or beanfeast party.

‖ **Wazir** (wăzī·ɹ). Also 9 **weseer**, **wuseer**. [Arab. *wazīr*, whence the Turkish *vezīr*: see Vizier.] = Vizier, 1.

1725 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 191 Kolad...accordingly gave Orders to his Wazirs or Viziers. 1807 E. S. Waring *Tour Sheeraz* 27 We...reached a Surae, built by a son of the late Wuseer. 1814 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 2 King Shah-zemán...ordered his Weezeer to repair to him. 1902 F. G. Browne *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 The office of Wazir, for all the power and dignity which it carried with it, was a perilous one.

So **Wazirate** (wăzī·ɹtĕ) = Vizierate 1, 2; **Wazirship** = Viziership 1.

1725 J. Stevens *Hist. Persia* 163 Dividing them [sc. his dominions] into four wazirs, or Viziorships, that is, Governments. 1886 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 173 After which time they entered upon the Wazirate, and the power passed into their hands; as it had been in the hands of their father (the Wazir). 1902 E. G. Browne *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 When the 'Abbásids came to the throne, the laws of the Wazirate were abolished. 1908 *Encycl. Relig. & Eth. Rev.* Apr. 399 The country was annexed to the Wazirate.

**Wder**, var. *uder*, Sc. f. Other.

1532 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 44 Wderis ressonabillis of Dumbertane protestit for ramis.

**We** (wī), *pron.* Forms: 1 **we**, **wé**, *Northumb.* **woe**, 2 **weo**, **hwe**, 4–5 **whe**, 5 **whee**, 4–7 **wee**, *Sc.* **ve**, 2– **we**. Also 7 *rarely* **w'** (before a vowel or *h*). [Com. Teut.: OE. *wē* corresponds to OFris. *wī* (WFris. *wi*, *wy*, NFris. *wi*, *we*, *wei*), OS. *wi*, *wē*, MDu *wī* (mod. Du. *wij*), OHG. *wir*, *wer*, *wier* (MHG. *wir*, mod.G. *wir*), ON. *vér*, *vær* (Sw., Da. *vi*), Goth. *weis*.

These forms seem to go back to more than one OTeut. type. The Gothic form represents OTeut. **wiz*-:-*wiz*-Teut. **weiz*, an extension (with nominative suffix -*z*) of Indogerm. nasalless base found in Skt. *nyám*, Avestic *vaēm*, *vas*. With regard to the OE., ON., and some other forms, there is difference of opinion, some scholars referring them to an ablaut-variant of Indogerm. **nĕ*-, or **nō*- of **nē*-, and others to a pre-Teut. **wē* of which **wī* is supposed to be an extension by the addition of a demonstrative particle.]

**1.** The pronoun of the first person plural nominative, denoting the speaker and one or more other persons whom he associates with himself as the subject of the sentence.

For the obsolete dual see Wit *pron.* For emphasized compounds see Ourself 2, Ourselves 2.

*Beowulf* 260 We synt gumcynnes Eeata leode. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 71 And hig cwædon: hwi ȝyrne we ȝyt ȝewitnesse? sylfe we ȝehyrdon of hys mude. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1690-1 Ah hit was under uoreward þo we come hider-ward þat we þarto holde scholde þar riht dom us sitte wolde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4820 ' Childer,' he said, ' wepen are yee?' Sir, wee are o fair cuntre.' 1382 Wyclif *Num.* i. 4 So that we self glorien in þou. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/1 We, vnus. xxiii. 1783 She se bas þat ar ma þan we. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 174 Vpon the texte whee sware, both I and my wiffe. 1640 J. Gower *Ovid's Festiv.* i. 8 Gold-temples please us, though the obl w' approve. 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. F. Greybeard* 142 Hold, w' have spring a mast. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 392 We; (for myself I speak, and all the Trojane Cities, who to Troy's Destruction came). 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* i. vii. 103 A thorough perception of the simple fact, that they are not we. 1879 Miss Braddon *Cloven Foot* xx, 'We must have everything ready for him.' 'So we will, ma'am, spick and span,' answered Mrs. Trimmer.

**b.** following, as subject, a verb in the subjunctive mood; = let us (do something). Now only *rhet.* or *poet.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Arweorþian we Crist on binne astenne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 177 (Cott.) Ac lete we awei þos cheste. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1297 Make we ve glade eure among. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (auct.) 6600 'Londoners,' he seyd, 'ginne we arme, & sin whe hem to assaile.' *c* 1385 *Metr. Hom.* 53 Furthi I red we it forsak, And hald we us in rihtwisnes. 1590–85 Malory *Arthur* viii. xv. 235 Noo lenger we the knyght and the dwerf, and speke we of Beaumyans. 1590 Patson *Ecclesiastes* i. iv. Giv, Go we in adores. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 6 Put we our quarrel to the will of heauen. 1605–8 Fenton *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 33 Consider we, first, the structure of his body. 1824 Wordsw. *Excurs.* viii. 391 Turn we then To Britons born and bred within the Pale Of civil polity.

**c.** defined or made precise by some qualifying word or phrase.

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 746 Swa we men sculon heortan þehycdum hlypum styllan. 1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 23 We curiude Troiãns. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* Noi, we, I and you and I. And if you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* i. i. 1 When shall we three meet againe? 1612 R. Cox *Hist. Scot.* (1787) 1. 1. 1 Of myself I confesse that we poore Farmers...doe exclaime against Inclosures. 1632 Chapman *Cæsar & Pompey*, B 3 b, *Met.*... We will haue the army Of Vsurpers retired. *Cæs.* Wee? whom we intend you? Haue you already brought the peoples voices? 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way to Dissenters* 23 We of the Church of England. 1732 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* i. iii. 27 We Gentlemen of the many Reasons. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, 'We in the City know you better,' replied Carker. 1865 Miss. Whitney *Gayworthys* xl, Mother, we two must make our wills. 1888 W. Sichel *At Home & in India* 99 She must have been what we westerns should call a child. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V*, c. 1 We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of the United Kingdom...in Parliament assembled.

**d.** qualified by a prefixed adj. *poet.*

[1607, 1635: see 3.] 1646 Crashaw *Sospes te Tumple* 97 (Ps. 132) While unhappy mindes Of the lovely Sion thought on thee. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 810 O wretched we, whom not the Grecian Pow'r, Nor Flames destroy'd, in Troy's unhappy hour!

**e.** used confidentially or playfully to mean the person addressed, with whose interests the speaker thus identifies himself; esp. by a doctor in friendly or cheering address to a patient.

1702 Vanbrugh *False Friend* i. i. C 3, Well, old Acquaintance, we are going to be Married then! 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, 'Well, my dear madam, and how are we?' inquired [Doctor] Wosky, in a soothing tone. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 129/2 Well, Jane, and how are we this morning?

**f.** used indefinitely in general statements in which the speaker or writer includes those whom he addresses, his contemporaries, his fellow-countrymen, or the like.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 444 On Sisum wræcfullum life we seoloon earnum manna bigleofan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Of vre ilkan þare langage, Me thinк we do þam not outrage. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Anel. T.* 40 We seken faste after felicitee, But we goon wrong ful often trewely. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxi. 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2363 Launcelot hyr laydelle leide, In the romans as we rede. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Bocchus & Sydracke* (1510) 7 b, And syf they [sc. fishes] felt the grete quyte of feathers as we do. 1612 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 251 If we should have any difference with Spaine (as happily we may have before we looke for yt). 1720 *Ashmole's Mem.* 1. 1 There is nothing which we receive with so much Reluctance as Advice. 1750 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 463 The Swedes and Danes call it Hjarnag: the Germans Wever: we, the Weever. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* (1871) II. 7 Of Sheriff Morgan...we have no further notice whatever. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* § 1 I say first we have despised literature. What do we, as a nation, care about books? 1875 Jevons *Money* (1878) 25 In ordinary life we use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. 1896 Stedman *Victorian Poets* vi. 163 He is well known to us as a Shakespearian.

**2.** Used by a single person to denote himself:

**a.** by a sovereign or ruler. Often defined by the name or title added.

*Beowulf* 958 Beowulf maþelode...: We þæt ellenweorc...fedtaan fremedon. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 22 *Cotton.* (1800) We, dēemst, prince of Beamynas. 1438 Hy. VI in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 109 We foise alle the gist diseoraging and discomfort that mygte growe to oure true seignorie. 1480 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1910) XXV. 102 We Elizabeth abbas of [= Monastrice of Syon...wylle and ordeyne that [etc.]. 1603 Jas. I in Rymer *Fœdera* (1707) XVI. 598 Wee, Myndinge of our Royall and absolute Power in Us commytted, to visite [etc.]. 1623 Shaks. *Jul. Cæs.* III, ii. iv. 71 Sir, I am about to weepe; but thinking that We are a Queene [etc.]. 1642 Chas. I in *Historical Mem. Rob.* I. 120 In plain English, it is to take away the freedom of our vote; which wee we but a subject were high injustice; but being your king, we leave all the world to judge what it is. 1852 Lytton *Kenelm* iv. vii, Noticed you the rec- the style royal? 1890 Wissman *Pastoral* 7 Oct., In that same Consistory we were enabled ourselves to ask for the Archiepiscopal Pallium,

for our new See of Westminster. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 362 But Arthur, 'We sit King, to help the wrong'd Thro' all our realm'.

b. by a speaker or writer, in order to secure an impersonal style and tone, or to avoid the obtrusive repetition of 'I'.

Regularly so used in editorial and unsigned articles in newspapers and other periodicals, where the writer is understood to be supported in his opinions and statements by the editorial staff collectively.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 11 Nu hebbe we scortlice sæcsed ymbe Asia londcnnesse. c 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 556 We muhton þas halgan readinge menigfealdlicor trahtnian. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 565 Now o þis prologu wil we lin. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* 1. 295 The second sone of Penda, we meane kynge Wulfere. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xix. (Arb.) 56 We our selues who compiled this treatise. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. City of God* III. xviii. 133 Should we parts iniarice, we should become a die t Historiographer. 1897 Cutteton *Advice to Yng. Reviewer* 1 There is a mysterious authority in the plural *we*, which no single name, whatever may be its reputation, can accomplish. 1898 Dicksee *Sk. Boz, Criminal Courts*, We shall never forget the mingled feelings of awe and respect with which we used to gaze on the exterior of Newgate in our schoolboy days. 1860 *Leader* 11 Feb. The volume that we have now before us. 1879 T. P. O'Connor *Beaconsfield* xiv. 577 In this official report [of a speech] the vainglorious and magnificent 'I' is toned down to the safer and less candid 'we'.

c. Hence jocularly as quasi-*sb.*: The editor of a periodical, or a contributor who uses this style; the periodical itself.

1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* iv, It reached the ears of the great Mr. Seedeyman, the mighty *we* of the country, as he sat in his den penning his 'stunners' for his mashed-toy Mercury. 1880 *Chamb. Trod.* 15 Dec. 788/1 Not only was I myself overwhelmed by these accounts of foreign travel, when I was a We, but I noticed [etc.]. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 131 Yet the two great Wes of the eighteenth century, the 'Monthly' and the 'Critical' played no unimportant part in the literary education of our great-grandparents.

3. Used for the accus. *us* (now only by the uneducated). Cf. Let *v.*[1] 14 b.

c 1300 *Melusine* xix. 106 Lete we send for the two knightes. 1553 *Respublica* iii. 68 *Peoples*. He fleeceth on youe & beateth vs faire in hande that therewith he feedeth youe & we of oure Lande. 1607 Shak. *Cor.* v. iii. 193 And in poore we Thine enmities most capitall. 1633 R. Carew in *Literary Papers* (1888) Ser. II. 222 Those favours.. vouchsafed vnto poore mercenaries as we. 1782 Cowper *John Gilpin* 16 So you must ride On horseback after we. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxxii, Not us ever you was proud to folks like we. 1890 Barrie *Auld Licht Id.* 207 He is never disappointed we adore, why should 'un now? *Ibid.* 209 Master Fenton ain't here yet, so let we have another hymn.

† **We**, *int. Obs.* Also 5 whe. An exclamation appl. to pain or emphasis, or to demand attention. Cf. Wt *int.*

13.. *Sir Orfeo* 176 (Sisam) O we, quaþ he, allas allas. 13.. *Gaw. Knicol.* 98 (MS. Rawl.) We, whatkyn godes er þire? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2128 We, lode, quoth he gentyle knyȝt, Wheþer þicke þe greme layked. c 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 137 We! lord, þai wil nought to me trayste. *Ibid.* xv. 46 Whe! buddel be-halde into the hesle! c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 147 We! sym on, in the dwills nayme Before!

**Wo** : see Wee *sb.*, *a.*, Woe, Wy (man).

**Wea-bit**, var. Way-bit *Obs.*

**Weach, Weack**: see Witch (*tree*), Wick.

**Weade**, obs. form of Weed *sb.*[2]

**Weaden**, obs. pa. pple. of Weed *sb.*[2]

**Weafe**, ?etymologizing var. Woof.

1657 C. Beck *Universal Chart.* M 2 b, The weafe or woof of cloath.

**Weago**, obs. Sc. form of Voyage.

**Weak** (wēk), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–5, 4–9 *Sc.*, 9 *dial.* **waik**, (6 *Sc.* **waok**), 4–6 **waike, wayk(e**, (4 *Sc.* **wayk**, 5–6 *Sc.* **vaik, vaike**), 3–6 **weik(e, weyk** *o*, (6 *Sc.* **vaeik, veik**). *B.* 4, 6 **wek**, 4 **week**, 6 **weke**; 5–6 **weke**, 4–7 **weake**, 6–7 **weake**, 6– **weak**. [*a.* ON. *veik-r*, corresponding to OE. *wāc* : see Woke *a.*

The earliest known examples are in the *Cursor Mundi* (*a* 1300, but MSS. 14th c.); the word gradually took the place of the corresponding native adj. (OE. *wāc*, ME. Woke) which did not survive beyond the 15th c. There seems to have been some difference of meaning between ON. *veik-r* and ON. *veikr*: in OE. the primary Teut. sense 'yielding, not rigid or firm, pliant' was still prominent, while in ON. it had developed into the sense 'not strong'.

The β-forms show the same development of Scand. *ei* to *ē* which is found in Berk *a.* (earlier *bleyke*, ON. *bleik-r*), Steak *sb.* (OE. *steche, stecþe*, ON. *steik*), still pron. dialectally with *ē*, and Reak, var. of Rake *sb.*[3] (ON. *reik*).

In mod. dialect literature the word is often written *weath* or *weake*. Graphically, these forms belong to the *a* group; but in certain areas it may be doubtful whether the shade of pronunciation denoted by the spelling descends from ME. *e* or from ME. *ei*. As the normal Sc. representative of OE. *wāc* is *wauk*, which in late Scottish might have been written *waik*, it is possible that some of the Sc. examples given below belong etymologically to Wauk *a.* rather than to the present word.

*A. adj.*

† **1.** Of a material thing: Pliant, flexible, readily bending. (Usually with implication of want of strength.) = Wauk *a.* 1. *Obs.*

The recognition of this sense by Johnson (who has been followed by later Dicts.) is remarkable; his authority has not been 1 verified.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 925 A mantel heng hir faste by, Upon a perche weyke and smale [*Fr. A une perche mout greslete*]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Weyke, or lethy, *lentus*. 14.. *Sir Bewes* 647 (MS. M) All to lethy [*MS. O* weyke] the spere was wrought. c 1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 13, I..saw ane catyf [Age]..cumand..walowit & wane, wauk as ane wand. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lv. 28 Sum, tho tht thum selfin stark, lyk gyandis, Ar now mald weik lyk willing wandis. 1785 Johnson, *Weak*, 3. Soft; pliant; not stiff. [Whence in later Dicts.]

**2.** Wanting in moral strength for endurance or resistance; lacking fortitude or courage, strength of purpose or will; unsteadfast, wavering.

1377 Langland *Piers Pl. B* xviii. 390 [That] dang on thame so hardely That in schort tyme men myght se by At ende ane hundreth weili, and mar ! The remanand the vaykar war. a 1393 Gr. *Anderson's Trent. Pistolæ*, etc. 7 Fir, forsaly, þat is waykc of hert is nocht in way of curacion. c 1450 Capgrave *St. Augustine* xxv. 34 The man was weyk and dred mech þe leyr. 1456 Sir G. Hay *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 170 Peple villain and waykc in the faith. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxvi. 41 The spirite ys willynge but the flesshe is weake. c 1540 R. Morice in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 [He] being very much comforted with the consequence of the decline, and stryvyng gretely to suppresse the same, felt himself to wek to overcom it. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. i. 12 Which are so weake of courage, That they'le take no offence at our abuse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 532 Here onely weake Against the charm of Beauties powerfull glance. a 1716 South *Serm.* (1737) VI. xi. 383 It is the just Shame..of the Frailty of our Condition to consider..how weak we are to intend, and how much weaker to perform. 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Earth* II. 280 Birds though so much remarked for swiftness, they [turkeys] are weak and cowardly against other animals, though far less powerful than they. 1779 Cowper *Human Frailty* 4 Weak and irresolute is man. — *Charity Hymns* xxiii. 12 Satan trembles, when he sees The weakest saint upon his knees. 1889 W. Armstrong *Wrestling* (Badm. Libr.) 224 Outsiders often clamour loudly over these falls, and a weak judge is liable to be influenced.

*absol.* 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 909 But list'n not to his Temptations, warne Thy weaker. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 13 He Who, forming, rests not, watching, cures the weak. W. Adamson *Joseph Parker* xxiii. 299 Faith leads to the Rock higher than self, on which the weak can rest in safety.

**b.** In the translations of the Bible from Tindale onward, used to render Gr. *ἀσθενής, ἀσθένεια*, applied by St. Paul (esp. in Rom. xiv and 1 Cor. viii) to believers whose scruples, though unsound, should be treated with tenderness, lest they should be led by the example of the more enlightened into acts condemned by their conscience. Hence allusively in *weaker brethren* (often supposed to be a scriptural phrase), applied to the more timorous members of a party, who are in danger of being shocked by extreme statements of principle or policy.

In the Wycliffite and other early versions the rendering is 'sick' (Vulg. *infirmus*).

1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* viii. 21 But take heede that youre libertie cause not the weake to fall. *Ibid.* And so thowe thy knowledge shall the weake brother perisshe for whom christ dyed. 1573 T. Cartwright *Reply to Answ. Whit. defl.* A ij b, Which the Lord setteth forwarde of thyn owne, that occasion to the papists of slaundering the religion, and to the weake of offence. 1674 R. Parker *Puppa's Rules & Helps Devot.* 1. To Rdr., If Nobse and Clamour might pass for Inspiration, Apostle must go for Weak-brethren, and mete Novices, compared with our New Lights. 1779 [R. Richardson] *Epist. Ded.* to Bp. Lond. p. xvii, But recollecting the many Injunctions in Favour of the weak Brethren, you thus proceeded with your Charge. 1882 Bennett *All Sorts* viii, I do as little as I can..on Sunday, because I don't like to offend the weaker brethren. The Sunday we [sc. Seventh Day Independents] keep as a holiday.

**c.** of actions, attributes, etc.

1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1186 And left to her self, if evil thence ensue, She first his weak indulgence will accuse. 1671 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 391 The Lord Lucas made a fervent bold speech against our prodigality in giving, and the weak leaning of our affections. 1820 Coleridge *Literary Remains* II. 1. 78 Because he had a weak hour and forgot himself. 1829 Shelley *Cenci* v. iii. 22 They must have told some weak lie, or the avenger Had wrested their tormentors. 1878 Lucy *Diary Two Parl.* (1885) I. 365 Disraeli, in a weak moment, offered him office again.

**d.** Of features, expression of countenance, etc. : Indicating weakness of character or intention.

1897 W. H. Mallock *Veronica's Story* (1898) 30 The nurse smiled a weak smile, as who should say, 'Master's joke is always so amusingly chosen'. 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxix, His forehead, when the original thatch was thick, must have been rather low. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courag.* x. 207 'What have you two men been doing now?' she said, with a weak little smile.

**e.** Lacking in power to control emotion ; unduly swayed by grief, compassion, or affection. Of tears : Indicating weakness.

1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Snuff-Box*, But I am as weak as a woman; and I beg the world not to smile, but pity me. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xiv, They are weak tears, for they are useless ones,' replied the count, drying them. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* I, It's very weak and silly of me, I know, to be so troubled about it. 1880 Mrs. Alexander' *By Woman's Wit* ii, You must love a weak spot in your heart for him, or you would never have done it.

**3.** Wanting in strength and skill as a combatant ; relatively deficient in fighting power as shown by the result of the contest.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1814 Per was turn ageynes turn ; þat waykest [of the wrestlers] was, byhoued spurn. c 1425 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 276 Fayne was the waykyer away for to flee. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 100 Yet thought she fone I haue good auauntage, the clawes of his for feet ben of, and his feet ben yet sore therof, he shal be somwhat the weyker. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, iv. iii. 62 Then if Angolo fight, Weake men must fall. 1600 — *Ham.* v. ii. 273 Your Grace hath biide the oldes a'th' weaker side.

**b.** Deficient as a fighting power in numbers, resources, etc. † Also const. *of*.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 162 With walk power thai durst him nocht persew. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 55 The folke of the duke were weke and almaist gon. For, of the two hundred that he hadde brought, he hadde noo moo wyth hym but fourthi. 1574 *Southampton Court Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 102 The watche of this towne ys neither good nor sufficient but very weak and vnmeet for the preservacon of thys towne. 1590 *Sciman & Pers.* iii. 1, 48 Their fleete is weake ; Their horse, I deeme them fifiie thousand strong. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. v. 7 And of late but sixteene hundred with weake guard. 1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 32 The king's ships were out seeking vs,.. vnderstanding that wee were weake of men. 1614 Ralfon *Hist. World* v. iii. § 21. 578 He was indeede farre too weake for the Enemie in Horse, both in number and in goodnesse. 1670 Dryden *Ind. Emp. Conq. Granada* (1672) 53 We are not provided for a siege...The fort is strong without, we weak within. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. xi, Having concluded, from seeing three men engaged, that two of them must be on one side, he..espoused the cause of the weaker party. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 373 Sham'd as we have been..and in our turn we prov'd Too weak for those decisive blows that once Ensur'd us mast'ry there. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 54 Each detachment of William's great army of occupation was weak and isolated. 1918 *Kipg. Hist. Ref. Oct.* 662 The French..were much in larger numbers than we were weak.

† **c.** transf. *Weak of friends*: having few influential friends. *Obs.*

1586 T. Morgan in *Kng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) Jan. 56 *note*, Burghley..was weak of friends in the Councell.

**d.** Of a position : Poorly garrisoned.

1650 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 25 The Englische Generall, taking this very grevousile, that such a walk hous sould hald out againes him, &c.

**e.** *Chess-playing.* Of a man : Insufficiently protected against capture.

1860 Lowenthal *Morphy's Games Chess* 57 The K. Kt's P. and K's P. are now both of them weak and the rest of much subsequent embarrassment. *Ibid.* 59 The Pawn.. would have been left isolated and weak.

**f.** Wanting in skill as a performer in a game, sport, athletic exercise, contest, etc. Of play, a move, stroke : Exhibiting want of skill. So, *weak play, stroke* (in a person's play).

1827 in W. Denison *Sk. Players* (1846) 57 In other points England was weak : her fielding was not near so good, her bowling was not equal, [etc.]. 1860 Lowenthal *Morphy's Games Chess* 60 On playing the weak reply of Black pawn to Pawn behind unsupported. *Ibid.* 98 A weak move. 1862 *Bell's Life*, Sept. 142 But the Surrey bowling was weak, and the men of The North made 265 in their first innings. 1872 *Ibid.* Aug. 108 Mr. Grace..gave..a chance at his one weak place, short leg. 1891 *Cricket* 128 (Bowling.) And that brings me to my last weak point—spell. No spot in the batsman's defence. 1901 Jassop in *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 371 We (Gloucestershire] shall be even a weaker side than usual in the first two matches.

**4.** Of a person, the body, limbs : Deficient in bodily or muscular strength ; esp. of a child or woman, inferior in respect of physical strength.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15033 Je childer bat war wake & lite ga bat pres a-mang. *Ibid.* 5 624 Pir [the good]-sal be mast strang and wight, Pan [the wicked] sal be wers and wakest. [*MS. Gött.* wit-ven might. c 1300 *Havelok* 1022 Hauelok was þe strokene bothe strong and wayke. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xli. 5, I..set mogbt by lane stiyynge, & I am a gnede wayke man. I be puttynge of a waik man. c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lam's T.* 834 How may this wayke womman han this strengthe Hire to defende agayn this renegat? 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* vi. 23 Certes, ich seyde, Ich am to waike to swoche with sykel oþer with sythe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. xx. 144, I am the youngest and moost weyke of you bothe. 1526 Skelton. *Ware, Sir*, v. ii. 165 Why are our bodies soft, and weake, and smooth, Vnapt to toyle? 1608 Milton *Vacation Exerc.* 1 Hail native Language, that by sinewes weak Didst move my first endeavouring tongue to speak. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. v. 190 Divers continue all their life..left-handed, and have but weak and imperfect use of the right. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 1044 If still he waver, weak Woman, what you can, When Foot to Foot, you combat with a Man. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 197 That on weak wings, from far, pursues your flights. 1737 Whiston *Josephus* (1755) II. 1 The Assyrians..were the sluggish animal was weak, They fear'd, if both should mount, his back would break. 1776 A. Smith *W. N.* V. v. III. 325 He is a very strong man who by means of long practice can force two weak ones to obey him. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxvii, O gentle child..Why didst thou..with weak hands though mighty heart Dare the unpastured dragon in his den?

**b.** *absol.* (Cf. 10 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 832 Pe strang [bigan] pe weker for to sla. 1456 Sir G. Hay *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 257 Of tymes the stark ure..puttis the waykar to the wer. For it is agayne nature that the waykare wan the starkare. a 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 447 But the weyklst gothe eyuer to the walle. 1535– [see Walk *sb.*[2] 13]. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* & *Epigr.* (1867) 56 And where the small with the great, can not agree, The weaker goeth to the pott, we all daie see. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 95 Thinking it a light matter to iniury, beguile, and oppresse the weaker sorte and inferiours. 1579 Kendall *Flowers Epigr., Trifles* 5 The weake may stand the strong in stead : a dog may haue a day. 1768 Ross *Helenore* ii. 83 The weak wring to the pot.

*c. The weaker vessel* [cf. Vessel *sb.*[1] 3], in 1 Pet. iii. 7 said of the wife as compared with the husband ; hence occas. used jocularly for 'the wife' or female partner. *The weaker sex* : see Sex *sb.* 1 c.

1526 Tindale 1 *Pet.* iii. 7 Geveynge honoure vnto the wyfe as vnto the weaker vessel (Gr. *ὡς ἀσθενεστέρῳ σκεύει*). 1568 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 276 Ioquenetta (so is the weaker vessell called) which I apprehended with the aforesaid Swaine. 1668 Sir Sam. *Turnip's Wiles* iii. 23 *Baker's Wife*, O!

you are a fine man indeed! to leave the Government of the Oven now to me that s the weaker vessel.

**d.** of physical effort.

1783 Cradbe *Village* I. 197 Alternate masters now their slave command, Urge the weak efforts of his feeble hand

**5** Deficient in bodily vi.our through age, sickness, privation, etc; wanting in strength of the vit l functions of the body; debilitated.

1300 Handlyng *Pr Conscience* 7667 Put alle ype pat a man waxes alde, Pan waxes his lymde wayke and calde *Ibid* 6157 Seke I was and in full wykke state 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 64 Soure owen lymmes sodeinliche and wayke weare to be hanmes. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* XXII. 851 I lyethe they cannne withan two dayes for they were wayke & feble to goo 1519 *Horman. Vulg.* (Pynson) I 8, I John Gill, hole in myndc and wake in stomak, &c. to be buried in Fannall Chyrchyard 1594 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I 501/1 Patrik is now of verie age, febill and wnk in his person *a* 1648 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 20 Their lured shippes and nutte the lovde Marquess in one, which was so weake that he asked where he was. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl Soc.) 87, I was verie weake, not able to goo so fourre one myle in a daye. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxxii. 173 [All (of Nature be strong enough) it break at last the continuity of the parts ubstructed, ...or if Nature be so weak) the Patient dyeth 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict. s. Tender*, tender, of a weak constitution 1780 Selwyn in Jesse *Y. & Contemp* (1844) IV. 163, I am at present in a weaker state of health than a present disorder of liver can make me. 1840 Dickens *C. Shop* xxiv. You re. too weak to st nd, indeed. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs Bob* xv, And, as is generally the case after hysteria, she is now very weak and prostrate. 1892 E. Gosse *Works & Days* 121, Pompona sat by the bedside, holding the weak hand

*Vanilla ine phrases.* 1840 [see Rat s' l a c]. 1900 C N & A M Williamson *Lightning Conductor* 327 Poor Lady H was as weak as a rag, but ..I'a kept her up on a few egg in wine

**b** Feeble through exhaustion; faint. **?** Now chiefly *dial.*

*a* 1707 Prior *Dk Ormond's Pact* 20 'Till weak with Wounds, He fainted. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan*, I. I am getting wicker just now than I was again with the jog *Antrim's Down Glass, It eak tun*, fainting fit. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 July 23 He took n' weak turn' and died the following day 1918 *Field Hall Gazette* 8 I A wind over the eye, which caused the Welshman to go so weak that the referee stopped the contest

**c** Constitutionally feeble; not vigorous or robust in health.

1523, 34 Fitzherb. *Husb* lii 30 Of every sort of sheepe it may fortune there be some, that like not and be weake *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw IV* (1550) 56 The French king had no here male, but one weake boy 1600 Shaks. *Hen IV* III iv 114 Conceit in weakest bodies, strongest works 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I 218 Laws to prevent the education of weak children 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* II. 201 Fontenelle was naturally of a very weak and delicate habit of body 1780 I. Watkinson *Instr. & Morals & Festivals* (1783) 43 A man may be weak all his life long, without experiencing any disease

**b.** of a tree, plant, fruit, etc

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 115 The weakest kinde of fruite Drops earliest to the ground, and so let me crowe W. W. *New Help to Dise ases* (ed. 4) 221 Stake and bind up the weakest Plants, against the Winds 1754 Justice *Brit. Gard. Director* 131 If your Artichokes are weak in the spring, hill them up with fresh Earth, and they will recover 1768 J. Gibson *Fruit-Gardener* 208 I anly pruning is commonly recommended for we ak trees 1892 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 290 I the roses will deteriorate year after year, getting too weak to open leafy buds

**7.** Of bodily organs or their functions Deficient in functional strength (either naturally or by impairment).

The usual collocations are *weak eyes, sight, stomach, digestion, weak chest, lungs, heart*, also (later) *weak nerves*, which has commonly the loose sense of 'nervousness', liability to be easily agitated.

*a* 1580 Henryson *Sandilands of other Birds* 19 Hir ene ar waik, the sone wo may not ve. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 214 The deepe grone Ismaid in whose fresh regard, Weake sights their sickly radiance do amend 1611 Bible *Isa.* II. iii. 56 Their Villany goes ag inst my weake stom ucke, and therefore I must cast it vp. 1658 Fuller *Ch. Hist* VI. 299 My weak and squeazie stomack will hardly digest such a dish of a small rabbet. 1666 Boyle *Style of Scripl* (1675) 97 Butts are only pleased with (what is alone proportioned to their weak sight) a Twilight. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VI. § 7, I have naturally weak eyes, and know that there are many things that I cannot see 1760 Sterne *Fr. Shandy* III. xiv Author's Pref., With such weak nerves and spirits, and in the condit n I am to at present. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 98 Fancy shall apply To your weak sight her telescopic eye 1820-9 Good's *Study Med.* (ed. 3) I 210 Shell-fishes do not always agree with weak stomachs 1829 J. Denniston *Lge. Gillowayes* His amiable lady being a woman of weak nerves. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 184 One of the large Monkeys in the Zoological Gardens, of weak teeth, and he used to break open the nuts with a stone

**8.** Of the mind or mental faculties: Deficient in power.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel & Arc* 341 But me to rede out of this threde or guye Ne may my wyt, my wyke is hit, nat suffise, In *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh* 80 But of wyn pat ys takyn abundantly it makys wyk pe vertue of pe sawle *c* 1480 Henryson *Sandilone & other Birds* 14 Manne sauie is febill and ouer small, Of understanding waik and impasrite 1580 Wingfield *Cert. Practical* 5 Wks (S.T.S.) I. 7 It appeares to my waik iugement that to attempt six prouide misordour wall [etc.]. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 460 Such shadowes are the weake brains forgeries. *Ibid* 1823 Such childish humor from weake minds proceeds. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 273 And such other Gamboll Faculties hee hath, that shew a weake Minde, and an able Body 1648 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wather the Ironmonger* A 2, This hath past without controlement to the raysing of strifes, in many people of weake capacities and judgements 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 221 For Beauty stands In the admiration only of weak minds Led captive. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. § 12. 240 We are furnished with Faculties (dull and weak as they are) to discover enough in the Creatures, to lead us to the Knowledge of the Creator 1715 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xcviii, Lord A—n was a man of weak intellects. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 366 Forth grows the little, giving room, and no nourish pride, or turn the wk ideat head. 1798 Jemima *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 8 Persons of weak understanding 1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. vii. 458 No where are the weakest parts of the human mind more clearly seen than in the history of legislation 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* (1877) IX, Her suspicions were only the product of a weak brain in a morbid state 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Irish Friend & Anchoress* 317 A boy of weak intellect, a Natural

**b.** Lacking force of intellect or strength of mind; indolent, of wit wayke and unstable 1666 Jer. Taylor *Doctor* III. iv. 900 And that Priest were a weak person who should dare to weare gayer colours, because there is no priest in the colour 1685 Granville *Def. Dram. Poes.* 52 If any are so weak to affirm a thing can be demonstrated, against which nothing that is can be objected (etc.) 1736 Butler *Anal. II.* viii. Wks. 1874 I. 293 By these means weak men are often deceived by others 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* II. 1. 1 Wks. (1813) I. 1 Though Elizabeth was no match either to Mary in beauty and gracefulness of person as she excelled her in political abilities, she was weak enough to comp are herself continually with her rival 1837 Hallam *Const. Hist.* II. xiii. 61 Credulous infancy, or age as we ak, Are fitted auditors for such to seek 1848 Newman *Ess. Miracles* (1854) 127 It can mean nothing else but that St Greg ry did no miracles, and this is the weak, the easy, even heathenish, to believe he did 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng.* VII. 87 He...was everywhere received with outward signs of joy a d respect which he was weak enough to mistake for proofs of the affection that had subsided. 1885 Mrs Alexander *Valerie's Fate* II. 80 You think I should be so weak and stupid as to fall in love with a man I know nothing about!

*absol.* 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 516 The weak perhaps are many, but are not taught, While prejudice in man of stronger minds Labours a deeper root.

**c** Feeble (in one's intellect, the brain, head, etc.).

*a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warwicksh* (1662) 119 Hence was it that the Earl was kept in so strict Restraint, which made him very weak in his Intellectuals 1832 Scott *Crest Diner*, xxi, Some unlucky blow must have weakened the brain in those troublous times 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xxi, Until Mr Smallweed's grandmother, now living, became weak in her intellect

**9.** Inefficient, ill qualified. **a.** Of a person's abilities, productions, qualities, etc. (Often used in modesty or self-disparagement.)

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress's T.* 79 My konnyng is so wayk, o blisful queene For to declare thy grete worthynesse Ibut [etc.] *c* 1450 Lydgate *Henrylas* 31 *Ibid* I have make an ende in metre to glose And waike in my eloquence *c* 1500 J. Stewart *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 63 My waeik and frunle verss. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. i. 92 Good My Lord of Buckingham, if my weak Oratorce Can from his Mother winne the Duke of Yorke, Anon expect him here

**b** Of a person: Wanting in ability, ill qualified, unskilled or inefficient *in*, *of* or *to* do (something).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 Calle, And, some, of wit or wisdom. Sen thou art waike and feble 1564 Becon *Wks* I. Pref. 87 C iv, When such as are yet weake in knowleige of Christ and his holy Gospell 1611 Bible *Num.* XI. 14 I am not able to beare all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me. 1642 Howell *Lond.* (1890) 30 Another Gentleman

Towers in Dust shall lye, The weak Efforts of Human Pains. 1721 POPE *Epitaph Hon. S. Harcourt*, How vain is Reason, Eloquence how weak! If Pope must tell what Harcourt cannot speak. 1741 CYPRIS POWNEY in *Cicero Hartford's Corr.* (1803) III. 53 Knowing with what goodness you receive my weak endeavours to amuse you. 1820 SHELLEY *Chast. I*, II. 290 *Strafford*, In these the expedients until time and wisdom Shall frame a settled state of government. *Laud*. And weak expedients they.

**b.** Of evidence, argument, etc. : Not convincing. Of a case, title, etc. : Not having strong evidence.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 27 That where as my reasons shal appere to you skender and weke, weth your dylygence you may them supply. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Causa infirior*, the leverer, or weker title. 1580 DALRYE *Scalacron's Contin.* 12 b, Which is a light and verye weake reason. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, I. i. 124 *Henry*. I know not what to say, my Title's weake. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. v. § 5, I wonder that a cause so weak and feeble hath bene so much persisted in. c1600 MONTGOMERIE (*Cercle & Stat* 1125 Your warrand is but weik. 1639 MASSON *On Meades*, 6 Dear son of memory, great heir of Fame, What need'st thou such weak witness of thy name? 1662 SPILSBURY, *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 8 How absurd then upon these weaker grounds then we do attribute them to God. 1686 TILLOTSON *Serm. at Whitehall*, *Wks. ser. ii.* 15, 18 [An argument] so intolerably weak and sophistical that any considerate man ought to be ashamed to be led with it. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Tunstal Serm. Bennet* 4 Pretending to shew, how weak and improper the Proofs are, which their Asserters employ in the defence of them. 1781 GIBBON *Decline & F.* III. 308 They believe, though credulous enough To swallow much upon much weaker proof. 1865 TROLLOPE in *H. Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1476/2 Josephus, however, is such a weak authority for any disputed historical fact. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 288 But the direct evidence for a siege of Oxford is so weak that the tale cannot be relied on. 1904 H. BRYCE *Old Road* 129 The first evidence afforded us was weak enough. We saw [etc.].

**†14.** Of a thing: Of little account or worth, inconsiderable. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 434 And this weake and idle theame, No more yeelding but a dreame, Gentles, doe not reprehend. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 443 O that the Slaue had forty thousand liues: One is too poore, too weake for my reuenge. 1820 SHELLEY *Chast. I*, II. 207 *Strafford*, How weak, how short, is life to pay— *King*. Peace, peace. Thou sow'st not nothing to reap.

**15.** Having less than the full or proper amount of a specific ingredient. Of an infusion: Over-diluted.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 10 Doth it not shew vildely in me, to desire small Beere? *Poin.* Why, a Prince should not be so loosely studied, as to remember so weake a Composition. 1676 J. SMITH *Art of Painting* vii. 38 You must give it such a quantity of your fat Oyl, that it may not be so weak as to run when you have laid it on, nor so stiff, that it may not work well. 1752 JOHNSON, *Wk.* ...6 Not much impregnated with any ingredient: as a weak tincture, weak beer. 1769 J. SHEAT *Art of Cookery* 120 Take a pint of wine; it is a white broth or weak gruel. 1790 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 5 By means of a very weak acid. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 837 To a weak solution of galls, add a few drops of a solution of sulphate of iron. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, A great basin of weak tea. 1891 J. S. WIMER *Lumley* xv, A little brandy and water, not too weak.

**b.** *spec.* of iron.

1841 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 120 An iron which is technically termed 'Weak,' can never be made a strong bodied iron. 1868 JOYCE *Physical Sc.* 202 Called 'weak iron,' or cold iron, which contains a high percentage of phosphorus and sulphur.

**c.** Of corn : ? Having a small proportion of grain to the chaff.

1844 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 205 Let the cows get ...a little clover hay, mixed with weak oats, the refuse of what is sent to the mill. *Ibid.* 252 The horse gets about the fourth part of a peck of oats, with some weak and refuse corn for supper daily.

**16.** Wanting in material strength, unsound, insecure.

c1400 *Contin. Brut* (CRNSII. 319 Oper strong workes...were so ymaked berewith, bat ney..shol be euermore, the febelere & weyker while bey stonde. 1535-6 in *Trans. Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.* (1880) III. 256 This yeare wos a mahman slayne in grope lane in Shrewesbirie, by the fall of a weak chymney in an old howse there. 1545 ASCHAM *To sloph.* it. (Arb.) 121 Freates beginne many tymes in a pin, for there the good woode is corrupted, ma[y] many tymes leeden be weke, & bycause it is weake, therfore it freates. 1618 R. CH. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 69 Where that many fences lee weake [1631 lye neerest unbeaten]. 1822 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling* II 5, And by mi-fortune if the Cauke be weake, Three or foure Gallons in the ground may leake. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 84, The gate, Half-rotted from a weak and sickling hinge, Stuck. 1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 850/1 This causes inequality of growth, weak and deficient places in the hedge. 1885 E. P. HOOD *World of Prowess* 131 The strength of the chain is in the weakest link.

**b.** *fig.* and in fig. context.

1581 N. BURNE *Disput. Rom.* 111 b, Thairfoir all that quhilk ye grounde vpone this vaik fundament, man fall altogidder. 1592 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 73 Retire with me againe To push destruction, and perpetuall shame Out of the weake doore of our fainting Land. 1890 PRIOR *Ode Instil. Hor.* xii, Your mouldring Monuments in vain ye raise On the weak Basis of the Tyrant's Praise.

**c.** Of a fortified place: Not possessed of sound defence (esp. in some part or on a particular side). Also † *weak-breach* (in quot. *fig.*).

1520 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 49 Thenne ye kirk of be Sepulchre et be cites inaste wayke, for be grete playne bat es betwene be cites and be kirke. *a* 1568 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiii § 7 The glittering of the armour, and sounding of the trumpets giving such an assault to the weake-breache of his false senses. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 107 He makes his breach and entrie, at some ..parts thereof, which hee hath tried and found to bee weakest and least able to resist. 1632 H. COCAN tr. *Sendery's Ibrahim* Pref., in *Villers' Rehearsal* (Arb.) 30 It is of works of this nature, as of those of war, where notwithstanding all the care the Engineer hath brought to fortifie it, there is alwayes some weak part found. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. Netherl.* viii. 251 Those Outworks which are either weak of themselves, or not well defensible for want of men. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 597 Bristol had fortifications which, on the north of the Avon, were weak. quasi-*adv.* 1700 ORRERY *Verlot's Rom. Rep.* II. xiv. 428 Hirtius found out a Place weaker guarded than the rest, which he carried Sword in hand.

**d.** *Weak side* [cf. F. *côté faible*]. (*a*) Of a fortified place : A side defectively fortified or unsound in its defences. (*b*) *fig.*

(*a*) 1667 DRYDEN *Secret Love* 31 Prol. iv, Plays are like Towns, which, howe're fortifi'd By Engineers, have still some weaker side, By which to Freemen Defendant uncapp'd.

(*b*) 1671 TEMPLE *Surv. Const. Empire, Sweden* etc., Miscell. (1680) 11 Their Application...to trade, has much increas'd their Shipping and Seamen (which they found to be their weak side in their last attempts). 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. CCLXXX. 288 This Dog here would perhaps have Fought for his Master in any Other Cause: But the Love of Mutton was his Weak side. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, To quell the tyrant Love, and guard thy heart On this weak side, where most assaults are made. 1731 T. HUSTON *Hexm. vii.* (1899) 142 Satan soon after got in upon my weak side. 1780 *Mirror* No. 92 My friend : is a little inclined to take things on their weak side. 1819 BEATTIE *Life & Lett.* (1894) I. 82 I envy you the tranquillity of finding out the weak side of that prelate and his principal officers, by discovering their different characters to you.

**e.** *Weak point.* (*a*) Of a thing: The point or feature where it is defective or unsound. (*b*) (A person's) *weak point*, a failing or weakness (moral or intellectual).

(*a*) 1868 N. NEIL *Publ. Meetings* 81 In fit [*sc.* the peroration] the strong points should be collected, and the weak should be slightly over. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 21 A magnificent view indeed it was...The weak point in it was that the country on one side was...secluded from view.

(*b*) 1673 [see F. SWIFT in NICOLAS *Corr. C. Hatton* (1847) 233, I desire not to undertake any such work, but do shun it as storms in a broad sea for a weak vessel. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 118 Those that with haste will make a mighty fire, Begin it with weake Strawes. 1680 J. COLLINS *Plea Irish Cattell*, etc., 26 The Hurds, ...or Tow, of Flax and Hemp, will serve to make a weaker, or a worser sort of Cables. 1711 ADDISON *Guardian* 167 Their weak sides are...covered...with a thick Flesh which is pliable and weak. 1756 R. ROGERS *Irnds.* (1769) 11 We then attempted to cross the lake, but the wind was against us. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* *Shelley's* The billows on the beach are leaping around it, The bark is weak and frail. 1897 PR. RANJITSINHJI *Jubilee Bk. Cricket* 11 Such a player...will handle an unplayable ball. A handle should bend like the butt-end of a good fly-rod and not like an aspen stick.

**f.** *Weak hand.* SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* Ded., I know not...how the world will censure mee for choosing so strong a proppe to support so weake a burthen. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 609 What web too weak to catch a modern brain? 1784 — *Iliad.* xvi. 19 How weak the battlers of inferior nature proves Opposed against the pleasures nature loves!

**18.** Not strongly marked. **a.** Of colours, markings : Not vivid.

1582 HESLOP *Parsons' Nonsensl.* 177/2 *Buxeus*,...a weake or vnperfect yellow, like box. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 6 This weake impresse of Loue, is as a figure Trenched in ice, which with an houres heate Dissolues to water, and doth loose his forme. 1832 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 87 In the spectrum of Pollux there were many weak but fixed lines. 1876 *Amer. Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 100 For a negative of the weak type the lens should be limited. 1880 — *Treat. Photogr.* xii. 85 Defects in negatives...A weak image may be due – 1, to an unsuitable collodion [etc.].

**b.** *Mining* and *Geol.* (See quot. 1884.)

1839 URE *Dict. Mining Distr. Alston Moor* 107 Old Carr's Cross Vein, in Alston Moor, in mining language, is weakest at the north end. 1884 J. A. PHILLIPS *Ore Deposits* 84 In the Mendip district a vein is described as weak when the strata on either side are but slightly displaced.

**c.** Of an animal's scent : Faint.

1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxvii. (1901) II. 6 Pigg lifted his hounds, the scent being weak from the water.

**19.** *Comm.* Of market prices, the market : Having a downward tendency, not firm. Hence of commodities with regard to their prices.

1856 in Tooke & Newmarch *Hist. Prices* (1857) V. 657 In January (56) the market opened with much firmness but 75*s.* subsequently the tone became weaker. 1880 *Daily News* 23 Aug. 2 7 Prices for wheat, however, were decidedly weaker. 1900 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 2/5 Hematite continues to be weak, as was the case at Tuesday's market. 1903 S. S. PRATT *Work of Wall St.* 100 If there are more offers than bids the market is weak and the price declines.

**20.** *Phonetics* and *Prosody.* Of a sound : Pronounced with less force than the adjacent sound or sounds. Of accent, stress : Having relatively little force. Of a syllable, the ending of a verse : Unstressed or without metrical ictus. Of the caesura : Falling after a short syllable.

*Weak ending*, the occurrence of an unstressed or proclitic monosyllable (a preposition or conjunction) in the normally stressed place at the end of an iambic line. Sometimes distinguished from *light ending* (e.g. a relative pronoun or auxiliary verb), on which the voice can dwell slightly.

*a* 1637 B. JONSON *Engl. Gramm.* iv. (1640) 43 Before *e.* and *i.* it [*C*] hath a weake sound, and hiseth like *z.* 1866 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 98 This letter *n*.. hath three degrees of sounds, full in the beginning, weak in the middle, and flat at the end of a word. 1765 J. ELPHINSTON *Princ. Engl. Lang.* II. 329 Combinations of two syllables. Iamb, a short and a long, or a weak and a strong. 1794 [W. MITFORD] *Eur. Harmony Lang.* 100 Besides these, feet often occur with the strong accent on both syllables; and frequently one foot, sometimes two in a verse, have the weaker accent only. 1824 T. MARTIN *Philol. Eng. Gram.* 117 When two consonants fall together and will not combine, the weaker is sometimes silent. 1838 E. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 86 The primary accent of the adjective ought always, when not emphatic, to be weaker than that of the substantive. 1852 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* V. 153 A foot anticlectic on the weak syllable. 1857 C. BATHURST *Short. Classic. Versif.* 38 There are several instances of the weak endings. 1871 J. HADLEY *Ess.* (1873) 273 The effect of a weak *r* on the preceding short vowel. 1874 B. H. KENNEDY *Publ. Sch. Lat. Gram.* 8/2 *Ob* with a weak trochaic caesura, after the trochee or second syllable of the dactyl. 1874 J. K. INGRAM in *Trans. Neva Shakz. Soc.* II. 447 The former may with convenience be called 'strong-and-long', whilst to the latter may be appropriated the name thitherto vaguely given to both groups jointly of 'weak endings'. 1886 J. H. MAYOR *Engl. Metre* 103 Some have maintained that the lines are to be read as trochaic with a weaker stress on the first syllable and stronger on the third.

**21.** *Philol.* In various applications, opposed to *strong* (see STRONG *a.* 22). **a.** Of Teut. nouns and adjs. : Belonging to any of the declensions in which the stem in OTeut. ended in *-n*. Of Teut. verbs : Forming the preterite by the addition of a suffix. **b.** Of Greek grammar, sometimes applied to the sigmatic or 'first' aorist, in contradistinction to the 'second' or 'strong' aorist. **d.** In Sanskrit grammar, the designation of the reduced stems of nouns, and of the cases in which the reduced stem occurs. **e.** In Hebrew and Syriac grammar applied to certain consonants (otherwise called 'feeble') and to verbs which have one or more of these in the root. **f.** The designation of the ablaut-grade which results from absence of stress.

**a.** 1841 (see STRONG *a.* 22a). 1885 J. BYRNE *Struct. Lang.* II. 194 There is also in all the Teutonic languages a weak declension, as Grimm has called it, which is formed from the insertion of *n* or *an* between the stem and the element of case or number.

**b.** 1841 LATHAM *Engl. Lang.* xviii. 398 Weak Tenses. The Preterite Tense of the Weak Verbs is formed by the addition of *d* or *t*...The Verbs of the Weak Conjugation fall into Three Classes. 1845 *Prov. Philol. Soc.* II. 50 In the weak perfects of the Teutonic languages a double difficulty presents itself. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 328 There is a curious confusion of the Strong and Weak verb in *melpt* and *melpmpd*.

**c.** 1875 E. ABBOTT *Curtius' Elucid. Student's Grk. Gram.* 104 The sibilant common to both naturally leads from the future to the weak aorist. 1878 J. PEILE *Anc. Comp. Philol.* 196 The Weak or Compound Aorist (τ bor.).

**d.** 1863 BENLEY *Sanskr. Gram.* § 220, 176 There are some nouns which have a strong and a weak form. *Ibid.* § 238 In the Vela the distinction between the strong and weak cases is less regularly observed than in the later Sanskrit.

**e.** 1874 A. H. DAVIDSON *Hebr. Gram.* 69 A weak verb is a verb which has one or more of its three letters a weak letter. The weak letters are the gutturals, the quiescents, and *nun*. 1904 J. A. CRICHTON *Nöldeke's Syriac Gram.* 42 Weak roots vary a good deal in their weakness. *Ibid.* 106 A few verbs *primæ n* also take *ı*, as well as a few weak verbs.

**f.** 1888 SWEET *Hist. Engl. Sounds* § 249 The result was a variety of vowel-series, each with the three stages, strong, medium, and weak. 1891 A. L. MAYHEW *O.E. Phonol.* § 645 Weak (i. e. Zero) Grades. 1898 WRIGHT *O.E. Grmr.* § 472 In the athematic verbs the personal endings were added to the bare root, which had the strong grade form of ablaut in the singular, but the weak grade in the dual and plural.

**Combs.** a. In the sense 'not strong' : *weak-backed*, *-brained*, *-chined*, etc. See also WEAK-HANDED, *-HEADED*, *-HEARTED*, *-KNEED*, *-MINDED*, *-SIGHTED*.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxviii. 7 They are..*weake* brained thorow strunge drynke. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xiii, It is a foolish fancy, but they are a weak-brained man. *a* 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i. (1664) 75 The *weak*-chin'd slave hir'd me once to say, I was with Child by him. 1892 J. SPRIGNAT *Schism Anatomiz'd* 1 Such Nonsenscical man. 1845 WALLER *To Mistris Braughton* 8 So in those Nations which the Sun adore Some modest Persian, or some *weak*-ey'd Moore, No higher dares advance his dazled sight. 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Evening* iii, Save where the weak-eyed bat With short shrill shriek flits by on leathern wing. 1822 SHELLEY *Chast. I*, ii. 90 And banish weak-eyed Mercy to the weak. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* ii. iii. 119 Not able to produce more accusation Then your owne *weake*-hinded fancy. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, You're not one of the weak-legged ones. 1850 THACKERAY *Esmond* v. xii, My Lord Firebrace was but a feeble-minded and *weak*-limbed young nobleman. 1820 'AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER' *Sk. Paris* II. ix. 293 These *weak*-nerved females, who would have fainted at the sight of a spider mangling a fly. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parlour Orator*, *Weak*-pated dolts they are. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 307 A *weak*-soiled arable District. 1598 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 253 Those the whiche be bashefull and *weyke* spyrryted. 1856 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* I. 299 A *weak*-walled heart...is much more easily influenced by digitalis than a healthy one. 1885 *Graphic* 21 Feb. 174/2

*Weak-willed folk. 1909 G. M. Trevelyan *Garibaldi & Thousand* iv. 73 The doubtful and weak-willed guide of Europe's destiny. 1840 G. Daniel *Primarch., Hen. II*, cclxxiv, Soe cuttle through a Swarme Of Gnatts, an Eagle scouring after Prey, Beats downe the *weak-wing'd vermin in her way. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* iv. 1 159 These men be *weaker-witted than mere fools! When they fall mad once.

**b.** as adv. with pa. pples., *weak-built*, *-made*; with pres. pples., *weak-growing*, *-shivering*.

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 130 Yet ever to obtaine his will resolving. Though *weake-built hopes persuade him to attempting. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Life and Fame* i, Oh Life, Vain weak-built Isthmus, which dost proudly rise Up betwixt two Eternities. 1842 Loudon *Sylva hos Hort.* 305 In *weak-growing sorts, apt to fruit, they should be encouraged with manure. 1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 1260 Those proud Lords to blame, Make *weake-made women tenants to their shame. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 1260 Nor, when cold Winter keens the brightening flood, Would I *weak-shivering linger on the brink.

**c.** † **weak-back**, † **-witt**, one who is weak in the back, in mind; † **weak-hearta.**, = Weak-hearted.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 8 All pinges ar hard to a walk hert man, for pai trow euermore yuellez to be inpe to pam. 1628 Wem. Mouth tr. *Speculum e Adonis. fr. Parnass.* i. ix. (1674) 12 [Greek] proves hard of digestion to the squeamish stomacks of modern weak-wits. 1659 Cleveland *Vt. Uxorio* xviii, By this time 'tis likely shee'l have none. Whilst thou for weak-back go.

† **B.** *sb.* = Feeble *sb.* 4, Feible 2. In quot. 1683 *fig. Obs.*

1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 87 And so [we] lose a considerable advantage over our Adversary by not reflecting where the weak of his discourse lies; we think only on't when the stroke is past. 1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing Master* 28 Thrust with the Part of your Sword from the weakest of his.

† **Weak**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **weke**, **weyk**, **weik**, **wayk**, *Sc.* **waik**, (6 **vaik**), 6 **week**, 6–9 **weak**. [f. Weak *a.*]

**1.** *trans.* To make weak or weaker, to weaken or enfeeble. Also *fig.*

*c* 1440 *Rom. Rose* 3737 A strengthe, weyked to stonde wyright [*Fr. force enfermé*], And feblenesse, ful of might. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 444 He..is yyte lowe inowe, and sore weyke and feblyed. 1500 *Orf. Jas. Mor.* (W. de W.) iii. iii. (1531) 156 In weykynge them and dyscouragynge, be it by they cuyll example or otherwyse. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* ix. v. 50 Nor yit the slaw nor febill outweild age May walk our speris, nor myngs our courage. 1538 Turner *Libel. Spar. Sacram.* (c 1550) Bvb, All that comme to the sacrament ..with the medytacyon to weak the flesh and strenght the Spyrite agaynst her, *ought to be *wrong*. [S. S.] *Serm.* 14 Ane fowsum appetyte, That strenth of persoun waikis. a 1635 Randolph *Poems* (1638) 50 It weaks the Brains; it spoiles the memory. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1103 Weaking the Scepter of old Night. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* viii. 255 Because the Trade of every small Town does not only weaken the Number, but sink the Courage of the Garrison within. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 7 Such a Prostitution of Conscience, he thinks, weakens his Authority. a 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 71 While the witnesses were weakening their own credit, 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 215 Which must weaken the influences of their good works. 1758 Temple *Essays Ireland & W.* iii. II. 1. 467 That the power, and consequently the security of the monarchy, may not be weakened by division, it must descend entire to one of the children. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 208 Weakening the slight difference of age between herself and those she taught somewhat weakened her authority.

**5.** To reduce the strength of (a body of men) in numbers or fighting power; to render (a position) less secure.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 129 b, What tyme the one parte was thus weakened, the Anabaptistes due chuose newe senatours, all of their owne faction. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 111 Imagining how in many places it was diuided, and in strength greatly weakned, both by reason of our nickenesse and also of the number that were dead. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 111 Imagining that Prague would not have..any minde to..hinder his retreate when he should haue weakened his forces by that Plantation [of a garrison]. 1698 J. Gailhard *Compl. Stage* I. 5 Such Liberties [as course tends..to weaken the Defences of Virtue. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 172 If you should be beat, you'll observe this Precaution yourself; but let them not be *too* strong, lest you weaken your main Body. 1800 Edinburgh *Magaz. & Review* I. 1. 1 This view, however, weakens K. Pr. P., which is the very thing he comes the focus of Black's attack. 1875 Gossip *Chess-player's Man.* 646 Black would gain a move, but weaken his position.

**6.** To render weaker in resources, authority, political or military power, or the like.

1568 Bible (Bishops') *Isa.* xiv. 12 O Lucifer...Howe hast thou gotten a fall euen to the grounde, which didst weaken the nations? 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 6 As long as their entire vnion with God continued, nothing could weaken them but Apostasie. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xvii. (1904) 116 So now do Cities and Kingdomes...endeavour as much as they can, to weaken, or weaken their neighbours. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* i. 17 Both Philip and his Son ..found themselves a Match for France, then much weakned, as well by the late Wars of England, as the Factions of their Princes. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. iii, Let us not weaken still the weaker side, By our divisions. 1727 [le Fort *Engl. Tradesm.* (1731) I. vi. 67 As they [sc. those adventurers] very rarely add to his credit, so if they lessen the man's stock, they weaken him in the main, and he must at last faint under it. 1853 Kennedy *Texas* (1872) II. i. vi. 137 They took every means to weaken and annoy the very men whom they had invited. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* viii. (1875) 119 He [Otto] is commonly said to have wished to weaken the aristocracy by raising up rivals to them in the hierarchy. 1887 *Field* 3 Dec. 870/1 The Old Harrovians were now greatly weakened by the enforced retirement of Rosstall. 1915 J. W. Headlam *Bibl. Gregory Papers* 83 Serbia would certainly have been humbled and weakened.

**7.** To render less efficacious.

1639 Saltmarsh *Policy* 101 Perseverance preserves and advances that grace which relapses weaken and loose. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 309 P 16 An ordinary Poet would indeed have spun out so many Circumstances to a great Length, and by that means have weakned, instead of beautifying, the principal Fable. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii, I..swore ..upon another fragment of the true cross which I got from the Grand Seignior, weakened in virtue, doubtless, by so journing with infidels. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, Let not my strong prayer He weaken'd in thy sight.

**b.** To lessen or destroy the strength of (an argument, a case, etc.); to render (a probability) less likely.

1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 195 Ajax ..sets Thersites A slaue, ..To match vs in comparisons with dirt, to weaken and discredit our exposure. 1644 J. Maxwell *Sacro-sancta Reg. Maj.* 46 This weakeneth no wayes our argument. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 166 This concession no more weakens the probability of the hydraulic cause, which I apply to it, than that of the principle of the attraction of the heavenly bodies, which [etc.]. 1853 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 527 They well knew that an inquiry could not strengthen their case, and might weaken it. 1886 J. B. Mayor *Regd. Metre* 76 This would very much weaken, if not entirely destroy, the evidence in favour of such feet.

**c.** To render (faith, resolve, conviction) weaker.

1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xii, Don't let my being an unbeliever in Heaven weaken your faith.

**8.** To render (a material thing) less strong or more liable to fracture.

1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* ix (1842) 240 A hole..will appear before the filter is finished; or if not, it will be so weakened as to be unable to bear a quantity of fluid without breaking. 1857 Dempsey *Artif. Pract.* 51 Cleaners must never be allowed except in the squints; where they necessarily will occur, in order not to weaken the work by cutting those bricks which show on both faces. 1910 J. Barty-Kelly in *Knagel. Boy.* V. 387/1 The timbers are laid together with a spike. In this way they are not weakened. 1914 M. Barrett *Footfar. Anc. Scot. Ch.* i. 36 This weakened the central tower, which fell with a crash in 1688.

**9.** To reduce the intensity of (a colour, sound, fire).

1683 Salmon *Doron Med.* II. 378 Then weaken the fire, and draw off a strong cinnamon water. 1733 *School of Musicians* 34 In working a Shake with the Fourth Green, it constantly weakens the Red which had first been laid on. 1791 W. Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. 143 This weakens the colour of the mulder. 1805 *Nicholson's Journ. Nat. Philos.* (1906) XI. 149 Both sounds are weakened in proportion as I retired from the striking point; but that transmitted by the stone was weakened much more rapidly than that transmitted through the air. 1845 J. Smith *Cotton Spinn. Act* II. 51 The oxygen..acts upon the colouring particles; it combines with them, and weakens their colour. 1876 *Text Rec. Adv. Pract.* 39 The strongest colours might merely have weakened the various kinds of sunlight.

**b.** *Phonetics.* To reduce in force of utterance.

1863 Bushby *Sansk. Gram.* § 187, 153 Many verbs..are weakened ..by rejecting their final consonant. 1874 Sweet in the first case weakened, in the latter weakened. 1877 Sweet *Primer Phonetics* § 271 (1902) 95 There is a distinct tendency to weaken the stress of the last syllable of a syllable-group. 1880–1 *Hist. Engl. Sounds* 186 In *drawen* the *w* was probably soon weakened into an *u*. 1908 – *Sounds of English* 51 The falling diphthongs weaken their second elements, so that they are no longer full *a*, *u*.

**10.** *Card-games.* To lessen the strength of (one's hand, etc.).

1742 Hoyle *Whist* (1746) 25 Whereas if you had trumped one of your Adversaries best Cards, you had so weakened your Hand, as probably not to make three Trick Tricks without your Partner's Help. 1862 † Cavendish *Whist* (1874) 47 You weaken a suit by discarding from it, and lessen the number of long cards you might otherwise obtain.

**11.** To render (market juices, a market) less firm.

1875 *Economist* 2 Jan. 20 † Stocks being quite small, the increased receipts do not have much effect as yet in weakening prices. 1883 *Mem. Sir A. Rumbold* II. 200 Cotton from Manchester have tended to weaken the cotton market.

**II.** *intr.* **12.** To grow or become weak or weaker.

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O ij, It shuld be daunger of to much bleding and than the vertue of the seke shuld weyken. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 81 b, By transporting the principall forces, and reliues from Rome to Bizantium, diuiding of the Empire into the East and West they weakned much. 1605 Shake. *Lear* I. iv. 228 His Noblemen weakens. 1607 Rowlands *Guy Warw.* 32 The Emperour with new forces gaue a new assault, Knowing the City could not be relieued, their strength would weaken by default. 1733 *School of Miniature* 31 With the same Mixture form all the Shades, adding White as they weaken. 1841 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. 82 Nor does it alter the meadow's little fluttering till The Summer's rainbow weakens cool and dim. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. Florence* vi, Whoever an outline weakens, Whoever a blunder mends, Or

a general nervous faintness. 1869 J. Peile *Gr. & Lat. Etymol.* 159 The French *n* is a similar example of weakened articulation. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* xvi. 140 They are said to have a weakened conclusion because the conclusion is particular. 1874 A. J. Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* iv. 1284 In point of fact this (?) in a "weakened" (u) reduced to (ə). 1893 Lennox *Life Pursey* I. xiii. 303 The proposed change, in Pursey's eyes, involves at least a weakened recognition of that duty [of propagating religious truth].

**Weakener** (wī·kˈnəɹ). Also 6–8 **weakner.** [f. Weaken *v.* + -er1.] One who or something which weakens.

1580 L. Andrewes *Serm., Lent* i. (1629) 268 If this Fige, he not Saul, but David. David, which giveth strength unto the Pillers; and not Saul, an enquirer or weakner of them. 1694 [S. Bchin] *Hymnol. God* 261 2794 There being no such Truisms to the Strength of a Land, Underminers and Weakners thereof, as are numbered Provocations. a 1716 South *Serm.* (1737) VI. xi. 292 Fastings and Mortifications . . which . . rightly managed, are . . great weakners of Sin. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (1907) I. iii. 35 Averthon's catalogue of Anti-Monarchs, or weakeners of the supremacy. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Sol.* viii. (1883) 161 The crowds and centuries of books are only . . echoes and weakeners of these few great wits as of Time.

**Weakening** (wī·kˈnĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]

**1.** The action of the vb. Weaken in various senses; an instance of this.

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Debilitatio*, a weakenyng, or makyng faynte. *c* 1550 W. S. *Hist. Comm. Weal Eng.* (1859) 21 Yet your knowe we labour with many impediments, more to the weakynge of the same then by anie other bodyly exercise we can use. a 1568 Ascham *Scholeem.* in Arb. 135 To the great weakening euen at this day of Christen religion in England. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* i. xii. 59 All which causes of the weakening of mens faith, do manifestly appear in the Examples following. 1674 R. Godby *Inf. & Ch. Playwks* 24 What with the weakenings of this fit, twice bleeding an Issue, often vomitting, and oftner purging; I was every year as duly an autumn came, laid up with a continual Fever. 1748 *Hanway's Trav.* I. xx. 84 The diminishing and weakening of our crew by deaths and sickness. 1869 J. Peile *Gr. & Lat. Etymol.* 144 Here we have cases of pure weakening—the substitution of a weak for a stronger sound. 1874 A. J. Ellis *E. E. Pronun.* iv. 1270 Weakening consists, according to Grimm, in an unaccountable diminishing of vowel content'. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 810 *Steam*. The efficiency of the engine is directly proportional to the weakening of the current. 1886 *Jour. Chem. Weast* xiv. 315 The rate at which water flows during purification. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 268/2 The opening can be enlarged and then resutured without causing any weakening in the lower part of the abdominal wall.

**2.** Something that weakens; a cause or source of weakness. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1545 Vsher. Lasbe in Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1877) 130 Which wille a great weakening to the navye, yf any thing in the meane tyme shall happen. 1606 Goldman *Counsel* 18 If Dooues and Windowes . . were as wide as they are high; it must through necessity be a weakening to a Building. 1703 R. Neve *City & Countryman's Ad.* Openings are Weakings. 1748 J. Bobon *Life* 208 This was a great weakening to us, . . for we were environed round on all sides by our Enemies, [etc.].

**Weakening** (wī·kˈnĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That weakens, in various senses of the vb.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. ix. (1912) I. 337 You see we both doo feele The weakning worke of Times for ever-whirling wheele. 1594 tr. *Milton's Lett. of State* 240 To our great grief we have beheld the Protestant Princes, more and more at weakning variance among themselves. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 238 The weakening Joys of Wine and Love. 1792 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensibility* I. Marianne's illness, though weakening in its kind, had not been long enough to make her recovery slow. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* I. xxiv. 281 Weakening measures were therefore contra indicated. 1866 Max Muller *Scr. Germ.* 290 Changed . . before weakening terminations beginning with consonants. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 525 A diagnosis easily explained by the weakening influence of influenza.

**Weakfish** (wī·kfiʃ). *U.S.* [ad. obs. Du. *weekvisch*, *-vis*, I. *week* soft + *visch* fish. Cf. G. *weichfisch*, a gadoid fish.] A marine sciænoid foodfish of the genus *Cynoscion*, esp. *C. regalis*, the squeteague or sea-trout of the Atlantic. Other varieties are the spotted weakfish, *C. nebulosus*, and the white or bastard weakfish, *C. nothus*.

The Dutch name (in the form *weekvis*) occurs in a poem in praise of 'New Netherland' by Jacob Steendam (1661), cited in Goode *American Fishes* (1888) 110.

*c* 1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 365 2 This species . . is known to the Anglo-Americans by the name of *Weakfish*, because it considers it to be a debilitating food, not by others from it pulling but slightly on the line with which it is caught. 1844 *Jrnl. Frnl. Sci.* XLVII. 61 Otolithus regalis, Cuv., Weak fish, Vellow fish. 1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 26 Cynoscion regalis...Squeteague or squit. . weak-fish (New York).

Hence **Weak'fishing**, fishing for weakfish.

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 125 Much the same rig as is used in weakfishing.

**Weak-ha'nded**, *a.*

**1.** Having weak hands; *fig.* not capable of effective exertion.

1539 Bible (Great) 2 *Sam.* xvii. 2 And I wyll come upon hym, wyngle he is werye and weake handed. 1868 Miss Yonge *Cameos* I. iv. 97 Crimes were committed which he had no power to restrain, and, weak-handed and bewildered, he seems to have acted in great matters [etc.].

**2.** = Short-handed *a.*[2] 2.

1817 J. Bradbury *Trav.* 292 This mode is called girdling, and is only resorted to by those who, to use their own phrase, are weak-handed. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* xvi, We certainly may defend the schooner from the shore as well as on board; but we are weak-handed.

**Weak-headed**, *a.*

**1.** Lacking strength of mind or purpose.

1654 (see Sherwood). 1709 De Foe *Consolidator* Wks. 1840 IX. 387 A weak-headed prince, who neither had a right to give his crown, nor a brain to know what he was doing. 1889 Lanoh Bird in *Daily News* 20 Feb. 3/2 A more weak-kneed, weak-headed lot of men could not be conceived. 1908 Jacobs *Sailtwaves* xiii, That weak-headed Cecilia Willett knows nothing.

**2.** Easily overcome by strong liquor.

Hence **Weak'-head'edness.**

1894 Ld. Dufferin in *Lady Dufferin's Poems & Verses* 15 *footnote*, In contrast to Sheridan's weak-headedness, I may cite the testimony of my paternal grandfather. He would occasionally begin a convivial evening with what he called a 'cleaver', *i.e.*, a bottle of port [etc.].

**Weak-hearted**, *a.* Lacking fortitude, faint-hearted. b. Tender-hearted, soft-hearted.

*a.* 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany* 123 To comfort and helpe the weake hearted. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, iii. ii. 390 My Weake-hearted Enemies.

b. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 114 Those soft weak-hearted persons, who think that religion consists in nothing but what they call kindness and forgiveness.

**Weakish** (wī·kĭʃ), *a.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ish1.] Somewhat weak.

1594 Lady Bacon *Let.* in *Lambeth MSS.* 650, fol. 223, I hold fayn have gon to London for phisick next weke, but I perceive I cannot long weakish to Rydon Lay. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 81 The pulse he felt full, will be found to be quick and weakish. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. iv, An innocent young waiter . . with weakish legs. 1890 Ann. Bp. Nova Scot. *Hobson Life* (1892) II. 305 Spoke at Oxford House to about 400 men. They were attentive—and afterwards they asked weakish questions.

Hence **Weak'ishness.** *rare*—0.

1864 Webster, **Weakishness.**

**Weak-kneed**, *a.* Having weak knees; chiefly *fig.* wanting in resolution or determination.

1870 *Daily News* 16 Nov., The Prefects of the Republic know how to keep down the malcontents and enlivven the weak-kneed. 1892 *W. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 208 Kitty Ellison and her weak-kneed lover, we find, are still objects of current affection. 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiv. (1900) 139 Nuttall . . would be a weak-kneed confession of fear.

Hence **Weak'-knee'dness.**

1882 *Standard* 19 Sept. 5/1 The peculiar awkward running-gait of women . . is due to a weak-kneedness characteristic of the Irish. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Sept. 374 The weak-kneedness of the Irish landlords has had much to do with the triumph of anarchy.

**Weakliness** (wī·klĭnĕs.). Weakly quality.

1820 Galt *Last of Lairds* iii. 28 Does na every body ken I'm a seven-months bairn, the which is the cause of my weakliness. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* Prel. 1 The weakliest and the silliest. . . I mean to their elders, their own weakliness or silliness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 952 This has been attributed to the weakliness of hospital infants.

**Weakling** (wī·klĭŋ). Also 6 **weakle**(**e**)**ling**, **weikling**, **weykling**. *6–7* **weakeling.** [f. Weak *a.* + -ling 1. Cf. G. *weichling* effeminate man.] †**1.** An effeminate or unmanly person. *Obs.*

1546 Tindale 1 *Cor.* vi. 9 Neither fornicators, . . nether whormongers, nether weaklinges [*malakoi*: Luther, *weichlinge*]. 1561 Holland *Lucy* xxxiii. xxviii. 840 Men were naturally conceived to thinke, that so horrible and straunge a murder was committed by such weaklings and persons as they were [*qui tam ab effeminatis hominibus, tam a mulieribus interfectus credebatur*]. 1598 Barckley *Felicity* 1. 1 Wherefore, I say, let not the weakeling . . be discouraged.

**2.** A person or animal that lacks physical strength, or is weak in health or constitution.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 358 Will you lay a heauie and weighte burthen, vppon the . . shoulders of a young beginner, of a weakeling, of an infant, which is able to carie? Demosthenes vncke vnder it, and falter to the grounde? 1579–80 North *Plutarch's Hannibal* (1595) 1143 There it was that Annibal's souldiers, became then of valiant men, raskie cowardes: of strong menne weaklings. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 584 Thy selfe art mightie, . . My selfe a weakling, do not then insnare me. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 231 Fifteen yeares they were pell-mell with another, among the soubliours and unarmed weaklings, and no regard of sex was made. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* 31 Like a carved Gyant ready to crush them with his ponderous waight, a Sot, a Weakling. 1658 J. Phillips *Milton's Life* 3 It will . . cause her (the Cow) to produce weakling, or unhealthy Calves. 1697 J. Pudsey *New Land* 5 Infirm Weaklings in Land, they come to be hardy, stout, and healthfull Persons. 1822 Lamb *Elia, Roast Pig*, The strong man may batten on him (the pig) and the weakling thereby wax but mild juices. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* iv, Shakspeare was lame; Alfred, a rickety weakling. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* ii. viii, I say nothing for that poor weakling, that hot-house plant, [etc.]. 1889 *Spectator* 30 Apr. 571/2 The caravans must have dropped many dead weaklings, men and beasts alike, in every hundred miles.

*fig.* 1648 Jeremy *Blind Guide* i. 14 So poor a weakling, and so misshapen a monster it [*sc.* a book] is, that . . none will doubt it for his.

**3.** One who is weak in character or intellect.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1232/2 Those honest men that had beene of Throckmortons quest . . submitted themselues, and said they had offended like weaklings. 1616 Hayward *Sanct. Trnab. Sinod* 1. xiv. (1620) 290 What then shall I doe, wretched weakeling? Shall I speake? or shall I be silent? I must not bee silent, and I cannot speake. *a* 1696 Hales *Serm.* Golden Rem. 1. (1673) 47 Weaklings are able to begin a quarrel, but the prosecution and finishing is a work for stronger men. 1844 Thirlwall. *Greece* lxvi. VIII. 448 If they were men they would be in no want of allies, nor, if weaklings, of masters. 1884 Browning *Fetishist's Fancies* 1. 28 Should he play The helpless weakling, or the helpful strength That captures prey and saves the perishing? 1896 W. Watson *Purple East* 36 Only the writling's sneer, the worldling's smile, The weakling's tremors, fail him not who fain Would rouse to noble deed.

**b.** One who is a tiro or unskilled *in* (a subject).

1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* Ep. Ded. A iij, Leauing nothing vnsifted which might appertaine to the vttermost exposition of these Bucolikes, that weaklinges in Poetrie might rather be supported then suppressed.

**4.** One who is weak in the faith or in spiritual attainments.

Common in 16–17th centuries.

1526 Udall *Erasm. Par. Matth.* i. 9–11 A ministre . . muste . . eschew all thinges wherwith the weaklinges may be offended. 1577 Hanmer *Sacr. Schol. Eccl. Hist.* iii. vii. 304 Eusebius . . confirmed like a cunning Phisicion such as were weaklings in the faith. 1590 Greene *Cornucopia, with God* 11. iii. Digress. ii. 123 We that can doe nothing in our selves, we are such weaklings, can doe all things in Jesus Christ, as Giants. 1865 G. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vii. 201 Many a weakling has thought himself strong.

**5.** *appositive* or as *adj.* Weak, feeble.

1557 Grimald in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 102 Hee shall, for man a weakelyng woman prouue. 1821 Lamb *Elia, Mackery End*, In the days of weakling infancy I was her tender charge. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. v. But now to wash Christ's feet were dangerous honour For weakling grace. 1906 *Times Lit. Supplt.* 13 July 246/1 The author does not spare himself, and he does not spare the weakling reader.

**Weakly** (wī·klĭ), *a.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ly 1.]

**1.** Weak in constitution, not strong or robust, delicate.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. 203 Not to suppresse such a fellowes tis, is to put a sword in a maddie mans hand, to kill vnwise and a weakelie men. 1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* xciii, I talke of stature, and in opperant weaklie. 1598 W. Mountague in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 329 Anne Cole is brought to bed of a son, a very weakly one. 1664 Dunbar *Diary*. 11. (1900) 238 Neither objected I against my weakly Lookes, nor Habit. 1733 Miss Collier *Art Torment.* ii. iv. (1811) 171 Hermia is far from being of a weakly constitution. 1830 H. Martineau *Manch. Strike* iv. 57 Some were weak as the labourers lie down and die. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 133 From the weakly habit of the patient, . . he thought it advisable to give . . stronger wine-chicken broth and light negus. 1877 Conan *Basis of Faith* v. 225 The swiftest hare may be run down by the dogs, weakliest ones meanwhile lurking in safe covert. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 857 In weakly children the sympathetic symptoms of the phosphate of iron . . is of advantage.

*absol.* 1820 T. Graham-Eyre *Explan. Ecclus.* i. 3. 6 The sicke and weakly, thinketh the strong and healthfull happy. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* viii, She, the weakly, was left behind, while the strong man was taken. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* Prel. 1 In the civilised state . . the weakliest and the silliest . . have their chance likewise.

**b.** of a plant, tree, etc.

1775 J. Tait *Land of Liberty* II. xxxv. 47 She cuts him off like a fine poor weakly bow. 1824 *Encycl. Britan. Encycl. Sect.* 364 It would be ridiculous to lay the same quantity of wood into a weakly tree as into a tree in full vigour. 1887 *Field* 15 Oct. 603/2 A weakly grower [*sc.* a rose-tree].

**2.** Characterized by moral weakness.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxiv, Of no avail are weakly condolences or mild assenting pity. 1900 *Month* Aug. 131 A sort of cruel kindness. . . Of a laugh: Feeble, faint, half-hearted.

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* iii. iii, 'Are they?' she says, with a weakly laugh.

**Weakly** (wī·klĭ), *adv.* [f. Weak *a.* + -ly 2.] In a weak manner.

**1.** With little energy, force, or strength; † with gentle action, *soft*, *obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xxvii. (1495) 429 A kite is weke in flyghte and in strenghte and is calleyd Miluus as it were weekly fleenge [L. *nobilis volans*]. *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 697 Wayssour was weykly wownded to the wode. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 b, By more easy meanes commeth to perfeccyon, whiche they slowly & weykly or feynthy deeppe. 1600 Surflet *Countrey Farme* ix. 741 For the young plant which can attract & draw but weakly, & at hand any substance for it selfe, will hardly [etc.]. *a* 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 33 It is very probable that the Motion of Gravitie worketh weakly, and not from the Earth, and also that it did before. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 11 Upon account of their distance from the Fire, they are but very weakly refracted. 1876 Pavillon *Mem. Comedy* 69 Final *m* [in Latin]...must have been weakly pronounced.

**b.** In a weak or enfeebled condition. Also *transf.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10151 Philmen..the gome hit,..gert hym to stoupe, Pat he wauerid wayis, & weikly he sette. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxi. 794 Thenne the wounded knyghte syr Vrre sette hym vp weykely. 1599 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xl. (Percy Soc.) 202 In his hand he bridle A croked staffe ; he went full weakly. 1600 Surflet *P. Q.* II. i. 45 As one out of a deadly dreame affright, She weakely started, yet she nothing dred. 1606 Sir E. Coke in *True & Perf. Relat.* F 3 b, This paper of his Recantation, which he had weakely and dyingly subscribed. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Last Improv.* lxix, By this couch I weakly lie on, While I count my memories.

**†2.** Insecurely, unsubstantially. *Obs.*

1528 Bp. Fox in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* II. II. 8 Also my Lord, I have not soo skienderly buylded my selve, nor soo weykly establesshed my house in thies parties, that I can honestely or conveniently so sodenly depart hens. 1669 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 123 That supposition is but weakly founded, at least in my apprehension. 1784 *Cook's 3rd Voy.* I. Introd. 12 The visits were . . so transient, that it was scarcely possible to build upon a foundation, so weakly laid, any information that could even gratify idle curiosity.

**b.** With weakness of constitution.

1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, ii. iii. 40 *Old Lady.* Haue you

limbs To beare that load of Title? *Anne Bulten.* No in truth. *Old Lady.* Then you are weakly made.

**3.** With slight defensive strength.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 80 Our state eke and persons may not thus weaklye be shielded. 1592 Shake. 1 *Hen. VI*, ii. 1. 74 'Tis sure they found some place, But weakely guarded, where the breach was made. 1593 — *Lucr.* 28 Honour and Renowne in the owners armes, Are weakne forteast from a world of harmes. 1680 Cotton *Gamester* (ed. 2) 52 When you find your adversaries King only way weakly guarded. 1702 Anonimo *Europ. Prospect* 145 Some have wondred that the Turk never attacks this Peninsula, since it is so weakly guarded. 1921 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 5 Feb. 65/3 Haig . . was quite right to hold the southern end of his line, more weakly than the rest.

**4.** With deficiency of numbers or amount; sparsely, meagrely. *? Obs.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. § 7. 52 If a shoemaker should haue no shooes in his shoppe, but onely workes, he loses by sparing, but should bee weakely customed. *a* 1649 Winthrop *Hist. N. Eng.* (1853) II. 218 Here came a pinnace.. for procuring powder, but we could not weekly supplied ourselves. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 112 The captain was so weakly manned, that it was near four hours before we hove the cable right up and down.

**b.** In a slight degree; to a small extent or amount.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 204 A battery so weakly electrified that its shock will not pass through a chain. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 624 The waters are weakly mineralized. 1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 257 The colour is, when dry, weakly magnetic. 1805 T. Wraxall *Werner's Ext. Character. Fossils* 192 Solid with the matrix, either strongly or weakly. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 450 This may be done..by bringing the body, if weakly electrified, into contact with both.

**5.** With weakness of mind or character; with lack of mental grasp or firmness of will.

1610 Shake. *Temp.* II. i. 188, I will not adventure my discretion so weakly. 1660 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 1 The meaning is not that all will was made of the same uniform matter, as the authour of the Pre-Adamites weakly imagined. 1672 Milton *Samson* 50 Who thus high gift of strength committed to me, . . Under the Seal of silence could not keep, But weakly to a woman must reveal it. 1705 S. Clarke *Dist. Nat. Relig.* vi. Wks. 1738 II. 661 Plato, after having delivered very noble . . Truths concerning the Nature and Attributes of the supreme God, weakly advises Men to worship likewise Inferiour Gods. 1864 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 208 What may strike you as weakly fanciful in my desire. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, He was weakly credulous. 1890 Lady F. Verney *Verney Mem.* II. 267 She was not at all inclined to be weakly indulgent.

**6.** With little vigour of action, inefficiently.

1663 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Funeral Alp. Armagh* 1 The Condition of Man in this World is so limited . . that the best things he does he does weakly. 1696 *Phillips's Rarities* 162 *Pa* We please our pride with the effects of our influence that weakly exerted. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, Mr. Boythorn, who interested himself strongly in the subject—though I need not say that, for he could do nothing weakly. 1905 J. E. Fitzmaurice *Ld. Granville* I. xv. 430 Mr. Lowe considered that he had been but weakly defended by some of his colleagues in the House of Commons.

**7.** With little force of argument; unconvincingly.

1660 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 7 Now I appeal to the reason of any Person, Whether either of these two Hypotheses . . be not far more weakly proved, then the existence of a Deity is. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence in Fathers* Note F 73 He blamed by others, as expressing the doctrine which he defends weakly. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* i. 9 He spoke weakly, and from the point, like a flighty girl.

**Weak-minded,** *a.*

**1.** Having a weak mind; lacking strength of purpose. Of actions, opinions, etc.: Indicating weakness of mind.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. xiii, 'Oh fie,' cried he, 'to suffer *your* understanding to be lulled asleep, because the weak-minded Mr. Arnott's could not be kept awake!' 1842 *Anne Wather Cwre* 57 Nor will any one, who wilfully prejudices the weak-minded will be convinced against this method, . . stand guiltless. 1863 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* III. xv. 227 It is my misfortune to be weak-minded. I can't say 'no' to people. 1878 J. Grant *Oath.* IV. i. 5 The Duke of York . . fruitlessly endeavoured to bind a weak-minded king by pledges. 1890 H. James *Tragic Muse* xxxv, If he should go aboard his brother must think he had some weak-minded view of joining Julia Dallow.

**2.** Mentally deficient; half-witted.

1885 *Lancet I. Brit. Sect. XV.* 797/1 The care of the weak-minded and the insane. 1891 *Hibbert Syst. Med.* VII. 742 In the educative and disciplinary influences resorted to in the treatment of weak-minded children. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 7 3 His woman had two sisters weak-minded, who were in the lunatic asylum.

Hence **Weak-mindedness.**

1854 Mill *Diary* 4 Feb., in *Lett.* (1910) II. 367 It might well be that even good men . . thought that to be scrupulous about means was weak-mindedness. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Oct. 449 Murderous attacks may result from . . insanity of primary weak-mindedness. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 340 How long ago this happened it is impossible to say, owing to the weak-mindedness of the African regarding time.

**Weakness** (*wī*knės). [f. Weak *a.* + -ness.]

**1.** The quality or condition of being weak, in any sense of the adj.; deficiency of strength, power, or force.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27054 Hotes thre, Quar-wit bat we mai stri[n]ghed be. pe first for walkenes of vr fa bat qun-sum will mai were him fra. *Ibid.* 28932 [Of alms-giving] 'Wirknes' sal bou lok for mede, For bou man nigh all helpe in nede, Pe warkest and be mast vn-fers. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 1026 Alle be strenthe of Sampson bat was pereles, War noght bair bare bot wax knees. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1321 bou weknes of wemen may not wele stryve, Ne haue no myght towandes men ministries to fend. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520, 2 Weykenesse, of hert, *exanimia, pusillanimities.* 1595 *Greis Herbal* clavvit. (1599) Lij, Agaynst vomyte caused of weykenesse of the vertue retentyfe, take [etc.]. 1598 Stanley *Englund* 43 Wych thyng [sc. retirement from the world] seemyng to not anoys downe of them wych perceyue their owne imbecyllyte and wekenes. 1595 Shake. *John* v. iii. 17 To my litter straight, Weakenesse possesseth me, and I am faint. 1601 — *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 276, I thinke it is the weaknesse of mine eyes That shapes this monstrous Apparition. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iii. xxxvii. 316 And so make the weaknesse of this voice seem to proceed . . from distance of place. 1676 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth [is] going to Bourbon as soone as her weaknesse will permitt. 1686 Thoroton *Journ. at White-Hall* (Cott. iii. 153 iv), I shall shew the weakness of the principle upon which this argument relies. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 259 The weakness of the Sun about Season. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 33 They depend upon the indulgent weakness of their Parents tempers. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. 69 The man who is conscious of the weakness of his cause is interested in concealing it. 1774 [W. Mitford] *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 153 The expression of the 8ay line is much heightened by the extreme weakness of the accent in the first foot. 1781 Burke *Lett. W. Burnet* 27 Dec., The weakness of my nerves. 1788 *Pratt Jrng. Lady of Virginia* (1851) 22 Nancy was much better. Weakness is her only complaint. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 162 Where . . a testator . . was incapable of disposing of his lands from any weakness of mind. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVIII. 108 It was quite know his nature, and fashions and so leade him, . . or his weaknesses or disadauntages, and so awe him. 1827 Donne *Serm.* lxxii. (1649) II. 9 Here, it is a faire portion of that Angelicall happinesse, if you be not subject to the weaknesse of another, or to any such occasionall weaknesses. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Il bert* xiv, The brakes of the British Army can have always been those of the Cavalry. 1914 *Daily Chron.* 7 Apr. 11/1 Any weakness there was in our pre-war small house design was a tendency to fussiness.

**b.** An infirmity of character, a failing.

*c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. v. xii 148, I shall heartily thank you, if you tell me of my weaknesses. 1672 Milton *Samson* 723 *Dalila.* Of what now I stand accus'd, it was a weak mess I am, . . Which I gave them full leave to do, . . Lest Offering high and rigid things, not suited With my sex, I draw on my self those Laws, Which serve not wives, but Daughters of their Lords. 1711 Addison *Spect. No.* 255 P 10 This very Thirst after Fame is it self looked upon as a Weakness in the greatest Characters. 1728 Pope *Dunciad* iv. 310 Now gay Feasts the Members of a year, Now sit in Council, now in Progress steer, Now dance the Polish Morris, now the Minuet, Now mourn the Fair in pow'rful Ermine dight, Now proud Commanders meet in proud Array, Now Judges charge, and now the Mayor gives Day, Now Night descending, the proud Scene is o'er, But lives in Annals to the Day more. 1742 Young *Night Th.* I. 1 Night, sable goddess! from her ebon throne, In rayless majesty, now stretches forth Her leaden sceptre o'er a slumbering world. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 112 The captain was so weakly manned, that it was near four hours before we hove the cable right up and down.

**b.** In a slight degree; to a small extent or amount.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 204 A battery so weakly electrified that its shock will not pass through a chain. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 624 The waters are weakly mineralized. 1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 257 The colour is, when dry, weakly magnetic. 1805 T. Wraxall *Werner's Ext. Character. Fossils* 192 Solid with the matrix, either strongly or weakly. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 450 This may be done..by bringing the body, if weakly electrified, into contact with both.

**5.** With weakness of mind or character; with lack of mental grasp or firmness of will.

1610 Shake. *Temp.* II. i. 188, I will not adventure my discretion so weakly. 1660 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 1 The meaning is not that all will was made of the same uniform matter, as the authour of the Pre-Adamites weakly imagined. 1672 Milton *Samson* 50 Who thus high gift of strength committed to me, . . Under the Seal of silence could not keep, But weakly to a woman must reveal it. 1705 S. Clarke *Dist. Nat. Relig.* vi. Wks. 1738 II. 661 Plato, after having delivered very noble . . Truths concerning the Nature and Attributes of the supreme God, weakly advises Men to worship likewise Inferiour Gods. 1864 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 208 What may strike you as weakly fanciful in my desire. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* vii, He was weakly credulous. 1890 Lady F. Verney *Verney Mem.* II. 267 She was not at all inclined to be weakly indulgent.

**6.** With little vigour of action, inefficiently.

1663 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Funeral Alp. Armagh* 1 The Condition of Man in this World is so limited . . that the best things he does he does weakly. 1696 *Phillips's Rarities* 162 *Pa* We please our pride with the effects of our influence that weakly exerted. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, Mr. Boythorn, who interested himself strongly in the subject—though I need not say that, for he could do nothing weakly. 1905 J. E. Fitzmaurice *Ld. Granville* I. xv. 430 Mr. Lowe considered that he had been but weakly defended by some of his colleagues in the House of Commons.

**7.** With little force of argument; unconvincingly.

1660 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 7 Now I appeal to the reason of any Person, Whether either of these two Hypotheses . . be not far more weakly proved, then the existence of a Deity is. 1855 Pusey *Doctr. Real Presence in Fathers* Note F 73 He blamed by others, as expressing the doctrine which he defends weakly. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* i. 9 He spoke weakly, and from the point, like a flighty girl.

**Weak-minded,** *a.*

**1.** Having a weak mind; lacking strength of purpose. Of actions, opinions, etc.: Indicating weakness of mind.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. xiii, 'Oh fie,' cried he, 'to suffer *your* understanding to be lulled asleep, because the weak-minded Mr. Arnott's could not be kept awake!' 1842 *Anne Wather Cwre* 57 Nor will any one, who wilfully prejudices the weak-minded will be convinced against this method, . . stand guiltless. 1863 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* III. xv. 227 It is my misfortune to be weak-minded. I can't say 'no' to people. 1878 J. Grant *Oath.* IV. i. 5 The Duke of York . . fruitlessly endeavoured to bind a weak-minded king by pledges. 1890 H. James *Tragic Muse* xxxv, If he should go aboard his brother must think he had some weak-minded view of joining Julia Dallow.

**2.** Mentally deficient; half-witted.

1885 *Lancet I. Brit. XV.* 797/1 The care of the weak-minded and the insane. 1891 *Hibbert Syst. Med.* VII. 742 In the educative and disciplinary influences resorted to in the treatment of weak-minded children. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 7 3 His woman had two sisters weak-minded, who were in the lunatic asylum.

Hence **Weak-mindedness.**

1854 Mill *Diary* 4 Feb., in *Lett.* (1910) II. 367 It might well be that even good men . . thought that to be scrupulous about means was weak-mindedness. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Oct. 449 Murderous attacks may result from . . insanity of primary weak-mindedness. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 340 How long ago this happened it is impossible to say, owing to the weak-mindedness of the African regarding time.

**Weakness** (*wī*knės). [f. Weak *a.* + -ness.]

**1.** The quality or condition of being weak, in any sense of the adj.; deficiency of strength, power, or force.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27054 Hotes thre, Quar-wit bat we mai stri[n]ghed be. pe first for walkenes of vr fa bat qun-sum will mai were him fra. *Ibid.* 28932 [Of alms-giving] 'Wirknes' sal bou lok for mede, For bou man nigh all helpe in nede, Pe warkest and be mast vn-fers. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 1026 Alle be strenthe of Sampson bat was pereles, War noght tald

oncoensan godes & yfeles, gumena æghwile welan & wawan. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 Ne on wele ne on waughe. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 142 For God may yeue, penne he wule, god after vuele, wele after wowe. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4054 His wan, his wele, yee sal here bath. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2777 For wel ne for wo. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* (C. xxii. 202-4. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 396 in *Anecd. Lit. Myst. Plays* 100 Per is dred & sorow & woo wythoutin wel. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* v. xii 51 How they sware that for wele nor woo they shold not leue other. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 43 But welcome now my Lord, in wele or woe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii 638 Thine and of all thy Sons The weal or woe in thee is plac't. 1771 Beattie *Minstr.* I. xxix, All human weal and woe learn thou to make thine own. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* iv. v, 'Come weal, come woe, by Bruce's side,' Replied the Chief, 'will Ronald bide.' 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cxxix. 2 Dear friend, far off, my lost desire, So far, so near in woe and weal. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xv, Impulsive and impetuous, she had always taken her own course, whether for weal or woe. 1897 G. Vicomte in *Punch's Almanack* 17 July 2 In weal and woe I have ever had the true sympathy of all my people.

† **o.** *pl. Obs.*

13 ... *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 151 & sure me bot I schulde not wonde For wo, ber wyes, wenen vus mede. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg. 260/2* Thou arte beggynnynge myddell and ende of alle welex and goodes. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 24 He (God) hath gyuen me more of welex than y haue or can sende. 1544 *Lute Exped. Scot.* (R.) 11 To proue whether the Scottes had yet learned, by theyr importable losses lately chaunced to them, to tendry theyr own weales, by true and reasonable suyngye & submyssyng them selues to the Kynges Maiesties louyng liege people. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 156 Nor regardyng their owne weales and states, neyther the weales of their householdes, as their wives, children, or friendes.

† **d.** applied to a person, as a source of felicity, or an object of delight. *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Purst iwriddeden weole ant widewene warant. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 Ihesu mi weole, mi wunne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 363 Pu art my weith & wele. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 O thou my wele, o thou my wo. 1609 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 290 He is our lord and our wele, and therfore I praye you, faye brethern, that ye wyll obeye hym. 1490 — *Encydas* vi. 58 Suth that he hath ..taken awaye hym which was alle my wele.

**3.** *contextually.* The welfare of a country or community; the general good. Often with defining word, as *common, general, publi, universal.* See also Common Weal 1, Public *a.* 2 a, Weal-public 3. Now *arch.*

† Phr. *Thy weal of peace* = OF. *ta bien de paix.*

1444 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 121/1 Where also this tyme for the wele of Peas, Tranquillite and gode Gouernance, bitwene the Kinfolkis and Cominalte of the Reame of Scotland, diuerse compois ions were made bitwene hem. 1483 *Eng. Antiq.* 335 To.. the wele of the kyng ou soueraygn lorde e people. 1531 Elyot *Governour* Prohemye, Graces moste benygnely annexed in limitation towarde the universall weale of your subiectes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 146 It was agreed by the king..for his more surete, and for the weale of the lande. 1643 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 342 As enemies to the weal of both kingdoms. 1697 Dr. La Pryme *Diary* 16 Sept. (Surtees) 159 Who valluet the weal publick more then ecclesiastic. 1756-59 Thomson *Winter* 55 For thy country's weal. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* iv. i, This needful violence is for thy safety, No less than for the general weal. 1826 *Pemmgrip. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 132 He appears to be a watchful guardian of the weal of the domestic weal. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. xxiii. III. 432 This enterprise, undertaken for the weal of the church. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* IX. 122 Thou...shouldst follow willingly Another's judgment when it best promotes The general weal.

**b.** Hence, a state, community; = Common Weal 2. † *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. vii. 92 Avys beiron amangis 3on for the best, And help to bring our felde weill to test. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 301 For the universall Christen weale [L. *ad reipublicæ Christianæ*]. 1591 Shakes. *1 Hen. VI*, III. i. 66 The special Watchman of our English Weale. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* II. iii. 15 Wo to the weale where many lawyers bee. 1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 102 We ought not to marvaile, if this weale hath so flourished now these 950. yeares in great reputation of armes and valor. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* v. ii. 27 Meet we the Medicine of the sickly Weale. 1608 Heywood *Rape of Lucrece* II. b, Tarquinius abilitie will in the weale, Beget a weake vnable impotence. 1727 Gay *Fables* I. xvii. 27 (Shepherd's Dog & Wolf) If mindful of the liberating Hand, They honum burn with real zeal. 1763 Churchill *Epist. Hogarth* 42 To enlarge the mind, Purge the sick weal, and humanize mankind.

† **4. a.** Goodness, virtuous behaviour. *Obs.*

1390 *Three Kings' Sons* 3 Yn what wele that without grete nurture..he myght not knowe the weelis and honoures that he coude. *Ibid.* 36 In his company, wheryn men may lerne la bele wele and honour. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 11 Yf that ye thinke therun but wele & honour.

† **b.** Good or honourable report. *Obs.*

*c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 133 For the grete weeles that euery man reherced of you.

**Weal** (*wīl*), *sb.*[2] [A mod. variant of Wale *sb.*[1], by confusion with Wheal *sb.*[1], a pustule: see Wheal *sb.*[2]] The mark or ridge raised on the flesh by the blow of a rod, lash, etc.; = Wale *sb.*[1] 2, Wheal *sb.*[2]

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 68 Who, soon as mounted, with his switching weals, Beats Bab's bare swifkines in his heavy heels. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* iv. From shoulder to flank, sir, I am one mass of welts and weals. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1852) 111 He told us that his legs were marked by great weals, where the thong had wound round as if he had been flogged with a whip. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 58 His visage ribb'd From ear to ear with dogwhip-weals. 1900 Conan Doyle *Green Flag* etc. 185 Black and bitter were the thoughts of Frenchmen when they saw this weal of dishonour slashed across the fair face of their country.

† **Weal,** *v.*[1] Var. Wheal *v.*[1] *Obs.*

1664 in Pepys *Diary* 31 Dec. (1879) III. 96 (Charm against a thorn) Jesus..Was pricked both with nail and thorn; It neither wealed, nor belled, rankled, nor boned.

**Weal** (*wīl*), *v.*[2] [var. of Wale *v.*[2], by confusion with Wheal *v.*[2]] *trans.* To mark (the flesh) with weals; = Wale *v.*[2] 1.

1592 Dr For *Col. Jack* i, I saw him afterward, with his back all wealed with the lashes. 1820 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 100 The lash that weal'd poor Dobbin's hide. 1845 Scott *Talisman* xviii, His bare arm..wealed with the blows of his discipline. 1888 Ewen *Master Ceremn.* xxx, Were you ever beaten cut—and wealed with your own whip?

b. *absol.*

1908 *Times* 17 Jan. 4/6 The school authorities allowed only four strokes, two on each hand, as a maximum punishment, and they must not weal. 1922 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 355 The knotted ropes that weal and flay.

Hence **Wealed** *ppl. a.*, **Wealing** *vbl. sb.*

1845 Tupper *Twins* xviii. (1844) 131 His weal'd body, full of pains and aches and bruises. 1922 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 7/2 The governess and upper housemaid examined the child afterwards and found severe wealing of the back and stomach, besides bruises.

**Weal,** var. Weel; obs. Sc. f. Well *a.*, *adv.*

**Wealaway,** obs. form of Wellaway.

**Weald** (*wīld*). Forms: 1 weald, 3–4, 6 welde, 5 weld, 5–6, 8 wold; 6–9 wild(e, wyld(e, 7 wile; 6 weelde, 6–7 welld(e, 7 wield, 6–wald. [OE. *weald* ' forest ' (the WS. equivalent of Anglian *wald*: see Wold), normally developing into southern ME. *welde, weeld*; the modern spelling, which is due to Lambarde, is a re-adoption of the OE. form. The form *wild-e*, which occurs early in the 16th c., is probably parallel to Kentish and Sussex dial. *fild* for *field*, but in later use was apparently assimilated in pronunciation to the more intelligible Wild *sb.*, which had an appropriately descriptive meaning.

The plural is applied in the Chronicle (see below) to the forest of Andred, which included at least part of the present 'Weald.']

**1.** The name of the tract of country, formerly wooded, including the portions of Sussex, Kent, and Surrey which lie between the North and South Downs.

(*a*) *O.E. Chron.* an. 893, Se [Limene] mube is on eastwearde Cent, ast bes miclan wuda eastende be we Andred hatab[e]. 980 ea. 1B ut of bam wealda; on be ea hi tugon bi mycle unrihtlace englisc bas in ouy place of englond. 1085 *Chart. Sax.-Norm. Antiq.* (Soc. Antiq.) 1. xxxix/Quoddam silualue nemus concedo famosa in silua Andredewealde.] *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 150 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 380 Seththe ladde he kyng of wuden wynnesam also, pe welde and al pe bischopriche of Cicestre berde. 1357 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls, 31 Edw. III* m. 17 (1909) X. 578 Turbervill placare[ship] in La Weelde, co. Sussex. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) (Sommer) 4, I..was born & lerned myn englisch in kente in the weeld where I doubte not is spoken as brode and rude englisch as in ony place of englond. 1483 Dr. Norton in *Paston Lett.* III. 308 The Kentysshmen be up in the weld, and sey they wol come and robbe the Cite. 1583 *Act 14 & 15 Eliz. 1711, c.* 6 The Hundred of Cranebrigge..in the Shire of your County of Kent. 1543-4 *Act 35 Hen. VIII, c.* 17 § 11 Townes parishes or places.. within the weldes of the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex. 1586 *Act 28 Eliz. c.* 15 § 2 The Weelde of Kent. *Ibid.*, In the Weyelde of the County e of Surreye. 1586 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 208, I was borne in the wylde of Kent. 1590 Shakes. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 60, 1589 [*sic*] *Country Matre* xxvi. (1630) 72 In the highways within the Wields of Sussex Surrey or Kent. 1594 Howell. *Fur. Trans.* v. 62 The Wiles of Kent. 1596 *Act 39 Eliz. c.* 2 § 17 Any Owner or Farmer or Lessee of any Iron worke..within the Wildes of the Counties of Surrey Sussex or Kent. 1597 Dr For *Eliz. Profecies* (1851) 5 Sussex, Surrey, Kent, Wilde, Wyld, which especially in some parts in the Wild, as they very properly call it,..hardly admits the Country People to Travel to Markets in Winter, [etc.]. 1778 *England's Gazetteer* (ed. 3) s.v. Sussex, Surrey. The Wild herebasts is observed to bear excellent oats. 1801 W. Huntington *God Guardian of Poor* 66 Being a native of the Wild of Kent, which is none of the most polished parts of the World.

(*b*) 1250 Lambarde *Perambk Kent* (1576) 167 Nowe then we are come to the Weald of Kent, which (after the common opinion of the Inhabitants) is counted to be very plentifull and narrowe limitt, notwithstanding that in times paste, it was reputed of suche exceeding bignesse, that it was thought to extende into Sussex, Surrey, and Hamshyre. 1605 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xvii. 82 The Weald of Kent is the lower part of that Shire, lying on the South side thereof, and adioyneth to the Weald of Sussex, towards the West. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 190 The right hand stations occupy..the heights which extend across the Wealds. 1822 W. D. Conybeare & Phillips *Outl. Geol.* 244 The Weald. This district may be generally described as a stretching along the coast of the channel from Folkstone to Beachy Head, and thence extending westwards into the interior as far as the confines of Sussex and Hampshire. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 196 There is a great deal of valuable timber and coppice-wood in Surrey, particularly in the weald...Turnpike roads good; but cross-roads, particularly in the weald, very indifferent. 1863 Hesselbe. *Fam. Lect. Sci. Subj.* v. § 4 What has become of all that great bed of chalk which once covered all the weald of Kent? 1903 Kipling *Fire Nations, Sussex* 24 And through the gaps revealed lift upon belt, the wooded, dim Blue goodness of the Weald.

**2.** A wooded district or an open country; a wold. Now only *poet.*

1594 Blke *Chron. Oldcastell* 47 Manye fledde..into the welde of Scotlande, Walys, and Irelande. 1603 S. Daniel *To Lady Marg. C'tess Cumberland* 8 What a false scate hath he, from whence he may The boundlesse waste, & wields of man survay. 1851 Meredith *Sunrise* 18 Poet. Wks. (1912) 78 Glimmering fields, And wakening wealds. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* etc. 83 Forest and upland fish, and the wide weald Herc'nian, where the demon shadow stalks. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 127 But she to Almesbury Fled all night long by glimmering waste and weald.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly ' of or pertaining to the Weald '. **Weald clay**, the upper stratum of the Wealden formation immediately above the ' Hastings sand '; also *pl.* with reference to the various subdivisions of this stratum. **Weald saurian** = Hylæosaurus.

1822 W. D. Conybeare & Phillips *Outl. Geol.* 248 A second valley..occupied by the argillaceous beds which we have called the ' Weald clay. 1878 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 114 The Hastings beds contain more sandstone and less clay than those of the upper Weald Clays. 1888 P. I. Martin *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* Advt. p. vi, The space thus comprised, has otherwise, in geological language, got the name of the ' Weald ' or ' Wealden '. *Ibid.* 40 Weald formation, or Wealden. 1889 J. Timbs *Ancestral Stories* 164 The forest or ' Weald Saurian (*Hylæosaurus*). 1898 P. I. Martin *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 54 Although in any considerable segment of the circle of the ' weald valley may be taken as a specimen of the whole.

**Weald,** obs. form of Wield.

**Wealden** (*wī*ldən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Weald + -en 4. The suffix is here employed arbitrarily in a sense remote from its ordinary use. As the formation of the word was app. suggested by the adjs. in *-ean*, it may be presumed that the inventor regarded the adjectival use as primary, and the substantival use as elliptical for ' wealden formation ': but Martin's own use of the term affords no evidence of this.]

A. *adj.*

**1.** Of or pertaining to the geological formation known as the Wealden (see B). *Wealden lizard* = Hylæosaurus.

1828 P. I. Martin *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 42 This bed of wealden sand. 1829 W. Buckland in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1835) Ser. II. III. 401 The discovery of Iguanodon in the Iguanodon, in the Iron Sand of the Wealden Formation in the Isle of Wight. 1833 Mantell *Geol. S.E. Eng.* 181 The Wealden strata may be separated into three principal divisions; namely, the Weald clay; the Hastings beds, including the strata of Tilgate Forest; and the Ashburnham or inferior limestones and shales. *Ibid.* 308 *note*, The Wealden Lizard, or Fossil Lizard of Tilgate Forest. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 65 *Wealden series*, a name given to a series of clays, sands, and limestones, from having well developed in the weald of Sussex, and which is remarkable for containing the remains of terrestrial, freshwater, and estuary animals. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* 125 It (Weald Clay) was left in its native state, and formed those broad forests which once covered the Wealden area.

**2.** Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1850 Lower *Hist. Sussex* I. 132 This ancient Wealden parish is about five miles in length, [etc.]. 1898 *A. Austin England's Darling* iv. ii, And Wealden wolves will hatten on the rest. 1900 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 327/1 An epitaph in a Wealden church yard.

**B.** *sb. Geol.* The name of a formation or series of estuarine and freshwater deposits of Lower Cretaceous age, extensively developed in the Weald.

1828 P. I. Martin *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 9 To avoid the inconvenience of the emphasis of weald-sands and clays, it is proposed, as any compound from weald must have a Saxon termination, to call the whole formation the *Wealden*. *Ibid.* 28 Beds of the Wealden. 1833 *Ibid.* shells most frequent in this district of the weald, (and they are common to the whole Wealden,) are of the genera Viviparæ, [etc.]. 1841 R. Miller *O. K. Sandstone* (ed. 2) 9 From the Grauwacke of the Lammermuirs, to the Wealden of Moray. 1876 D. Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* 308 Regarding the Lias, Oolite and Wealden as portions of one great system.

**Weald(e,** wealdent : see Waldend.

† **Wealding** *Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. Weald + -ing 3.] An inhabitant of the Weald.

1787 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 297 Ye Essex hunbreds, and ye Kentish wealdings, rejoice!

† **Wealdish,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 weldish(e. [f. Weald + -ish 1.]

**1.** Of or pertaining to the Weald.

[1317 *Kent Fines in Archæol. Cant.* (1888) XIV. 241 Agnes, dau. of Simon le Wealdish'. 1318 *Ibid.* 250 William, son of Robert de Weldyh'.]

1554 J. Proctor *Wyat's Rebell.* (1555) 28 Sir Henrie Isleye, the two Knewetes and certayne other with .v.C. weldishe menne were at Sendocke. 1655 Marshall *Enrichment Weald Kent* 6, I will open the nature and conditions of this wealdish ground, comparing it with the Soyle of the Shire at large. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Kent* (1662) 56 A considerable part of this County is called the Weelde, that is, a Wood-land ground, the Inhabitants whereof are called the Wealdish-men.

**2.** Having the character of uncultivated land.

1598 Norden *Spec. Brit., Herts* i The disposition of this part of the countrie to forrest and wellish grounndes, fitte for the fostering of such kinde of wild beastes.

† **Weald-ly,** *a. Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. Weald + -ly 1.] Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1570 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 169 But when they come to the Tenauntes inhabiting within the Wealdy countrey, then the stile and Intituling, is first, *Reddituis de Walda*, [then (etc.).

**Weale,** obs. form of Wale *sb.*[1], Weel.

**Weale away,** obs. form of Wellaway.

† **Weal-ful,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 weole-, 3–5 wele-, 4–5 welful, 4 welliful, *Sc.* welfull, 5 welfol, 6 weelful, 6–7 weal(e)full. [f. Weal *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Happy, prosperous, fortunate, blessed, gladsome.

*c* 1250 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 51 For, leo hit nu, þat te beo tichedom rine, ant rine wide wihes wlonke & welefulle
*a* 1250 *Vices & Wordes in O. E. Hom.* I 259 Hire wite se wealeful þat such eorðlich ilt is þeonder þo openne
1398 Minot *Poems* viii 17 Weleful men war se, i wis
*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* i met. 1 (1868) 4 Pilke deep of men is weiful þat ne comeþ not in yeres þat beo awreke
*c* 1386 — *Man of Lawe's T.* 153 O cheere, o welful Auter, hooly croys
1398 Holcleve *La Male Regle* 401 O god! Welefulford
1426 Lydg. *Dance Pilgr.* 16599 And wel fall and blessinge be the bestynes and skowynges, that compelyn a clyble to declyne from his trespas, ys and his Fyrste
1556 Grimalde *Cicero De Offic.* Pref 10 Rdr ✠ vij, If ut bee well, and wisely, and conueniently done we shall ly wealfull, and in a bleased case
1609 J. Davies (Heref.) *Holy Roo'd* 3, To tell the lerkes with ioy, that ioy do bring, Is both a wealefull, and a wofull thing

Hence **†Wea'fully** *adv.*, **†Wea'fulness** *Obs*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* ii pr. 11 (1868) 37 It delitep me to comen now to be singuler vsheping of þi weleffulnesse.
*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix (*Andrew*) 663 Alhale þu blessit croice, þat is hallowit welfully of thesu cryste in þe body.
*Ibid.* 785 A mirrone þat welfully quhile maryt wes with a sentitour of þe place
1481–90 Caxton *Myrr.* v. vi 274 If a man be riche and fulfild with worldly welfulnesse, some commendeth it.
1388 Wyclif 3 *Jn.* 2 Of alle thingis Y make preier, that thou fare wel, and be welefuly, as thi soule doth welefuli.
1418 so Lydg. *Chron. Troye* iv 274 Put euery lung in to welfulnes Io youre encres perseuer in and contynue.

**Wealked,** variant of Waxed, Wiselked.

**Weall,** obs. form of Wale, Weil *adv.*

**Wealling,** variant of Walling *ppl. a.*1

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 216 Gif he gulche uppe wealiinde bres to drincken

**†Weal-public.** *Obs.* Also *pl.* 6–7 **weale publiques.** [Weal *sb.*1 + Public *a.* 2 *a*, after F. *le bien publique* and L. *bonum publicum.*]

1. The general good of the community, public welfare or interest. Hence, the state or body politic.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII. c.* 34 Preamble, The reformation of the weale publique in the seid parties of Southwales
1550 J. Lyne *Passage Cav.* 168, The sondry dignities and offices in the weale publik were aptly distributed
*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. iv. P 2 Therefore, the weale-publicke was in no lesse regarded, then any reason or magistrate that thereunto was ordeined
1600 F. Herne *Anatomyes* 13 The weale publike Prudently and Religiously prouided for
1641 Milton *Reform.* ii. 56 What is it else, all this either here, or there to the temporal regiment of Wealpubli k, whether it be P pular, Princely, or Monarchicall?
1671 J. Phillips *Acc. Pretr.* 338 Private men, whose aid in such times must be suspended for a conuenient time, where it is *pro bono publico*, the Weal publick
1710 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No 253 P 8 The Advantages that may arise to the Weal-Public from this Institution
1731 Peyton *Dowsa Catastr. the Ho Stuarts* 62 To K ep and defend the Weal publick in Health and Prosperity

2. A state, community, or commonwealth.

1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov* 84 b, I rudely gyue vnto wysedome, but I shuur and auoyde the moosie chiefely wheeth it in a weale publike
1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (1639) 30 They found a great multitude and weale publike lyues, full of people, gouerned by good and holsom lawes
1610 Healey tr. *Aug. Citie of God* I. xxiv 45 Which cuth nge was sutzed in vnto, and the great terror and terror of the Romane weale publike vtterly extinguished and brought to nothing
1622 [E. Misselden] *Free Trade* 33 This is our vse in this Weale-publike, by the sinfulne lack of Lawes
1687 Hakewill *Apol* (1630) 107 Whatsoeuer the force of the starres be, upon the persons of private men, or the states of weale-publicks.

**†Wea'lsman.** *Obs. rare*—1 [*f. weal's* genitive of Weal *sb.*1 + Man *sb.*1] One devoted to the public weal; a commonwealth's-man

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* ii. i. 59 Meeting two such Weales men as you are (I cannot call you Lacurgusses)

**†Wea lsome,** *a.* Forms: 4 **welsom, -sum, welsoum,** 5 **weylsum, welsaumme.** [f. Weal *sb.*1 + -some.] Happy, prosperous; fraught with happiness.

1382 Wyclif *Gen* xxiv. 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord hath mad al his weye welsom [*L. prosperum*] or nay.
— *Exod.* xiii. 3, I preched vnto the people this dai, and I demede hym welsumeste [*L. felicissimi*] than eith, that þis not born
1483 *Found St Bartholomew's* (1880) 9 Pray, O ye happy and weylsum sir, and most weylsum religious men

Hence **† Wea lsomely** *adv Obs*

1382 Wyclif *Gen* xxiii. 2 He was a man in alle thingis welsumly [*L. prospere*] doynge. — 7 *Thes* 2 Of alle thingis, I make preyer, thee for to entre, and fare welsumly, as thi soule doth welsumly.

**Wealth** (welþ). Forms: 3 **welðe, welðhe,** 3–5 **welþe,** (4 **welthe, -þe**), 3–7 **welth,** (3 **welht,** 5 **welh**), 4–5 **welth**, 4–6 **welthe**, 5 **weelth, G. S. wealthe,** 4–6 **welthe,** (6 **wealthe**), 6 **wealthe,** (7 **wealth**), 5– **wealth.** [Mi. *welþe*, f. Wele *adv* or Weal *sb.*1 + -th, on the analogy of *health*. Parallel formations are MDu *weelte*, *welde* (mod.Du *welde*), MLG *welede* (mod.LG. *welde*), OHG. *welida*.]

**†1.** The condition of being happy and prosperous; well-being. *Obs.* (exc. *arch.*). **a** of a person

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1500 And bid him [Esau] of his kindes lourd ben, In welðe and mat wur hunge ben
*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 755 Adam sipe wolkand in þat welth
*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse* 1285, 1290 And in welthe men walt vs bo, Not parfit men þat live for right lades, Walthe of þe worlde vs þese and dredes *Ibid* 1293 Worldly welthe
1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* vi xiii (1495) 197 Noo man hath more welth [*L. nullus sit felicior*] than he that hath a gode woman to his wyfe
*c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 680 The grete love that I haue to you hath made me forsake alle other, for with oute yow haue I neither ioye ne welthe
1470–85 Malory *Arthur* ix. xxxvii. 600 But whanne sekenes toucheth a prysoner his body thenne may a prysoner say al welthe is hym berafte.
1583 Brinkelow *Frute* I Pref., Above all thynges, wherby mans welthe is sech, speciall lande and cruse ought to be geuen to historie
1596 Lindale tr. *Cor* x 24 Lett no man seke his awne profyghte but lett euery man seke his eighbours welthe
1598–9 Dallington *Meth. Fr. Propert* 122 To preserue thy selfe in health, in wealth, peace, and Godlynes *Ibid* 122 b, In all tyme of our tribulacion, in all tyme of our welth
1599 — *Aphor. for Queen* 11 Content her in health and wealthe long to liue
1598 *Solomon's Love* v 1 24 Vpon great affaires, Importuning health and wealth of Solman, His highnes by me inte reth you
1598 Shaks. *Merch. I.* v. 24–5 I once did lend my husbandry to him
1598 Liz Geffery *Drake* (1881) 104 And o long my wife liue them, and enioy these woothes to our wealth, and thine owne

**b** Construed with *be, wend, seek, care.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 2398 Welle o welth wil þamsur, Cleth þig wil a mi like o cure
*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 2462 Welbe a wey to wo þou [Fortune] strykes
1357 *Lay Folks' Catech* (1483) 111 Exactly to seke after the wa, Welthe or wandreth, whether so betides
*a* 1450 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv 104 Wherfore in welthe be war of wo
1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxi. 1 Thus somtyme my hurme may be my helpe Sythe euery wo is ioyned to some welth
*a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pythias* (1571) H iij b, In welth a louable mirrour is present stay, A sweete companyon in ache state true Friendship is alway.

**c.** Of the world, a country, town, community, its people or members; hence (the common or public) welfare. Cf. Commonwealth 1, Public *a.* 2 *a.*

1390 Gower *Conf* III 91 It is to wel stod the manne of alle welthe Tho wasthe lif of man in helthe, Tho was it lenge, tho was richesse
1456 *Cot. Lect. Ed.* 293 Your own assaylys I rede & lyge Whane God presentis in gud helthe to this landys welthe!
1479 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1010 Wes neuir befor Sic welth and pes at anys in the land
1490 *Little Gest Robin Hood* (1906) II 720 In diuers maters concernyng the welth of the same Town
1581 *Cor Pacifick* 172 For the worship of the Cyte or the welthe of the Craft
*c* 1530 J. Rastell *Exhort. Scotl.* (1895) 18 In matter of the Lawe apply hym to the study of the welth of his subiectes
1550 J. Lyne *Eng. & Fr Heralds* § 353 (1877) 101 You enioye he the welth of marchaundize, pylly, and robbing the christen people
1591 Shakes. *Two Gent.* III. i. 238 Your loue perhaps, that is moued on you for some aduantage, Or force of friendship
1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 88 b/2 Hee shewed vnto them the noble men of the seat or of Prussia, kings, dukes and squyers shewed the realme, and that it should be a great wealth to diuide it them all
1598 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* (Arb.) 28 Why he should be loth to procure the wealthes of as bothe *Irish Act* 2 *Ja.* I. c. 5 (1811) Both pleased God to preserue and keepe Irish and our welthie subiects in perfect peace to augre all men
1652 Prayer *Queen* (1716) 11, And shew The Elect out how to improve their Wealths by Neighbour hood and Love

**†d.** Used for 'state, government (of a nation)' = Weal *sb.*1 3 *b*. *Obs. rare*

*a* 1688 Sir I. Browne *Misc. Tracts* x. (1684) 160 Iulius Cæsar was once in mind to translate the Roman wealth unto it (1705)

**2.** Material well being. Often in the testamentary phrase *for the wealth of* one's) *soul. Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Lay Folkes Mass Bk.* 31 (MS. F) And alle that hit hereth to here soules helthe, Thu [Lord] help hem with thi grace and thi welthe
*c* 1450 *Testam. Ked. Exon.* 84 For the helthe of her soules and the welthe of her husbond
1487 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 201 And where as there can not be so holy recompense as mekid to the welth of my soule [Testator] 1487 *Lect. Ed. VI.* 2 Ye shall be moste meteste and redyeste to gyue your goodys & to my moste perfecte welth and euerlastyng saluacion

**3.** Prosperity consisting in abundance of possessions, 'worldly goods', valuable possessions, esp. in great abundance. riches, affluence

In mod use *wealth* tends to be felt as a stronger term than *riches*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 796 God gaf him for diuer and gold And hird, and orf, and stud, and sat, Vn-tald of welthe he hat
*Ibid.* 2374 Of alle egptes welthe he had he is lachere
*a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 382 Werldes welþe to warmes shal wurþen
1382 Minot *Poems* vii 153 I here es wa-ith mogh to win, To make us riche for euermore
*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1582 Oure bounds are barrayne and bare and lyme full of welth
1447 Bokenham *Sentys. & Vt.* (1835) 31 Alle these profers bye Of worshyp welt or of ryalyte Wyth daly an hym lyghte he set not a stye
1508 Dunbar *Thrs Marit Women* 304 Quhen he had warit all on me his welth, at his substance Me thocht his wyfheid was all wont away with the laif
1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 51 For all this warldis welth and gude, I can na thing tyche thy celestiale
1570 Levins *Manip.* 50 b With, *abundantia rerum*
1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 7 What art thou man That these rich heapes of wealth doest hide apart From the worldes eye?
1591 Shakes. *1 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 13 Iohn. What the deuil was I, that I should be pent vp from my liberty, For a little peece of wealth?
1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 39 Wealth makes worship
1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 722 When Egypt with Assyria strove In wealth and luxurie
1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* (1708) Wealth, however got, in England makes Lords of Mechanicks, Gentlemen of Rakes
1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Epist* I. iii. 45 He sacked a royal Port; Replete with vast ric Wealth
1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. xi My female companion at first seem mistrated against it, but upon producing my wealth, she immediately consented
1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 61 His best companion, innocence and health And his best riches, ignorance of wealth.
1776 H. Hunter tr. *St Pierre's Study Nat* (1796) II 377 There the man of wealth will be invariably ready to practise virtue.
1809 Camp bell *Gertrude* iii. xxiv, More than all the wealth that loads the East
Where Conrad's ships return'd in gold to moor
1833 Tennyson *Poems* (1842) I. 158 *Lady Clara* 61 In all saving wealth, which I more less wealth
1840 Dickens *Old. Shop* xxi, Such a horror I have of the wealth of this rich old banker.
1862 M. Arnold *Essays Crit.* (1896) 147 All this material wealth and splend ur was of no true official consideration with the Church
*Personified* 1592 Robt. Greene *Groats Wor* No 56 I have somewhere met with a Booke that intitles Wealth the Father of Loue
1823 Byron *Cain* iv. 44 Vibe must Wealth and Poverty Pass bridle-reined to the lord
**†b.** in *plural*, with reference to more than one possessor. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 Robbert *Gotlun bk. M Handl.* (1862) 15 b, Many leaue dyuers welthes, that they haue in straunge lo he and lyue wealthy, for lyue and wealthes is but one thyng
1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xi. 85 Pe more he wynneth in swich welthes Am chasse
*c* 1400 *Rose Melayne* 801 The Iuis pyne pyghte I assykyns with a wel hyghe hille, Ful of welthes at will
1450–81 Tetzel *Hist Ital* 147 All thus the halt tithes in hall herity remaine With all welthes at wons at what time he wo vale.
1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (1639) 116 Lawes, wherby all men shulde haue and enioye equall proporcion of welthes and commodities

**d.** Abundance of possessions or of valuable products, as characterizing a people, country, or region, the collective riches of a people or country

The phrase *the wealth of nations* (and some cur rency forms) was adopted by Adam Smith as the title of his famous work, but its early history is obscure.

1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirabilis* cxxiv, The Wealth we have hush'd the Watchman's cries were cease
Tho yet an unknown world we have to find, Since where the wealth of Nations ought to be, We leave a wild of Beasts
1697 Bp. of Ely in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 637 Which is a Country of Great Wealth and Trade
1737 *Hist. Epist* I. 116 Their Country's wealth our mightier Monarchs draw
1739 Jesse Hutchinson *Serm. Gen. Fast* 10 Wealth and Riches we would rather live up to his small annuity all his days than marry a woman he did not personally love, should she possessed the wealth of the Indies
1752 [Eliz. Heywood] *New Dict* P 6 To be poor, in the eye of the world, is only to be deficient in the wealth of nations.
1757 [Eliz. Heywood] *Letters to a Young Lady* 24 Our American Colonies are in possession of wealth of a richer kind than gold.
1776 A. Smith (*title*) An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations
1778 Johnson in Apr. 21 As the Spanish proverb says, The wealth of the Indies will not make the Indies must carry the wealth of the Indies with him
1820 Lamb *Elia Ser.* I. 124 My wife has opened Indies with Lamb in the Lane
1822 — *Dr. Thomas* 221, Not for all the wealth of Indies would I have given up his lamb to that young wolf

**e** said of a specific community as the chief source of its riches. Also with debasing word, indicating a particular source.

1643 Sir R. Weston *Hist. Britanni* (1652) 7 That Land is naturall to Corne Hay, which is called the Wealth of Flanders
1854 J. D. Morell *Ethics in Metaph.* 11 Wealth of the United States Does shed and Comp ised with that of other Countries

**f.** *fig.*

1586 Hyll *Garden Worth* I. iii. 25 I freely told you all the wealth I had lain in my vines. I was a fre liberty. *Ibid* iii. v. 71 Not to be vnquiet with gr eth good occasion, with it is shew the wh le wealth I dly wit in an instant
1687 Miege tr. *Bohun's Geogr.* 11 Sunesis a great wealth of wood, as I am known by want
1835 *Sc Cowley's Dr. Jesus* 4 8 To Help seems all his Power, his Wealth to Give, I dry mu but to his vile Extinction Sees
1838 Thirlwall *Greece* II. 1 Him the wise to all delight of human sentiment and Natures whole wealth
1875 Dasent *Norway* 11 Ye Whom Heav n would fill with Peace and Plenty
1884 Harper's *Mag.* Dec. 11 Love and make their wealth in my soul
1887 Cuthell *Last Days Pompeii* II. xi. 11 Ye ask no boon of Iuno! Ye ask not the Nature's wealth among us, He asked a child of the earth now!
1880 Hawker *Poet. Works* 22 All the wondrous mine of intellectual wealth
1868 I. Taylor *Words & Places* (ed. 3) 11 The Unlearning heaven does not [illegible]

**†c.** Condition with regard to riches or poverty, degree of wealthiness. *Obs.*

1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* II. It shall then bee good to dine at Exeter downe-right who hath such a wealth, and so forth
1662 Petty *Taxes* (*C.*) 17

Ignorance of the Numbers, Trade, and Wealth of the people, is often the reason why the said people are needlessly troubled.

**4.** *Economists.* A collective term for those things (the abundant possession of which (by a person or a community) constitutes riches, or 'wealth' in the popular sense.

There has been much controversy among economists as to the precise extent of meaning in which the term should be used. The definition that has been most widely accepted is that of Mill (1902, 1848 below).

**1841** Torrens *Exx. Produce Wealth* i. 3 When we say, a man of wealth, the term implies quantity, and signifies an abundance of the comforts and luxuries of life. But when we say, again, silver is a source of wealth, the necessary idea of quantity is not implied, and the term comprises the products of ages alone, whether they be raised from one acre or from a million; whether they are capable of subsisting an individual, or a nation. **1845** Bentham *Fragm. Reward* 237 All wealth is either the spontaneous production of the earth, or the result of labour, employed in the cultivation of the earth or upon the materials which it yields. **1852** Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* ii. 23 Whatever lives, or grows, or can be produced, that is necessary or useful, or agreeable to mankind, is wealth. **1848** Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. Prel. Rem. § Money, being the instrument of an important public and private purpose, is rightly regarded as wealth; but everything else which bears exchange value, and exists in such a nature does not afford gratuitously, is wealth also. *Ibid.* 9 To an individual, anything is wealth, which, though useless in itself, enables him to obtain others a part of their stock of things useful or pleasant. Take for instance, a mortgage of a thousand pounds on a landed estate. This is wealth to the person to whom it brings in a revenue... But it is not wealth to the country; if the engagement were annulled, the country would be neither poorer nor richer. *Ibid.* 10 Wealth, then, may be defined, all useful and agreeable things which possess exchangeable value; or in other words, all useful or agreeable things except those which can be obtained, in the quantity desired, without labour or sacrifice. **1856** Prout *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. I. 87 An attempt...was made to bring the production and distribution of wealth under the mandate of right and duty. **1871** Jevons *Theory Pol. Econ.* i. ii. 71 The wealth of any individual is considered to include all useful things—whether material things, as food, clothes, houses, &c., or immaterial things as debts, patents, copyrights, &c.—capable of being sold in a certain price. This aggregate is suitably measured by its exchange value; the common standard of value, money, being taken for convenience' sake. **1891** Shadwell *Soc. Ideals & Cities* xv. 194 The Companies Acts have not, and will not, create wealth: it is not the function of law to create wealth... only to regulate its distribution. Wealth is created ...by labour. **1900** A. W. Kirkaldy *Wealth* 15 If this definition [Mill's] be accepted, the importance of abundance disappears. Wealth may be small as well as large in big thing. A single pin, has exchange value, it is useful, and is therefore wealth...No is a motor-car or a fine yacht or an Atlantic liner.

**5.** Plenty, abundance, profusion (*of* what is specified). Also, the condition of abounding *in* something valuable.

**1596** Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 42 The firth...plenit gret welth of Salmonis. **1618** Scott *Old Mortl.* xxxii, And they be wonte to feid, that's the thing cryed, for lurte's a raw hide that has been about the hurdies o' a score mae half an honr since. **1850** Tenny *on Tu Mem. Consl.* xxvi, Again the feast, the hall, the wealth Of wonderful, and wit. **1858** Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 48 This wealth of silver, gold, and gems, that adorned the shrines of the saints. **1874** Symes *Prin. Rhetoric* 178 The English fold wealth of articulate speech. **1888** Rhys *Celtic Brit.* i. 21 There is no reason, however, to suppose that the great wealth of the country in tin was not duly discovered by Cæsar's time. **1894** Conan Doyle *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 215 With...dark Indian eyes, and a wealth of deep black hair.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly objective and obj. gen., as *wealth-acquiring, -bearing, -centre, -creation, -creator, -despising, -getting, -maker, -monger, -owner, -producing, -store, -worship, -yield, -yielding*; instrumental, as *wealth-elated, -enumbered, -fraught*; † **wealth boastingly** *adv.*, in a way that shows pride in wealth.

**1899** Geo. Eliot *Theo. Gwyn.* xvii. 196 The predominance of "wealth-acquiring immigrants. **1865** J. Maclaren *Keb Rey on Baltic* (1867) 269 The mighty, wealth-bearing Thames. **1593** Marie *Christ. Pref.* 3 Nothing about them but is "wealth-laden or elaborately beautified. **1890** D. Cranmer *Round Calend. Portugal* 19 The first stronghold and "wealth-centre of this ancient kingdom. **1892** F. W. Bain *Under.* On the Brink 15 "Wealth-creation. **1740** J. Dyer *Ruins of Rome* 330 Th' humble roof...Of good Evander, "wealth-despising king. **1801** Mrs. Robinson *Lyrical Tales* II. 149 (*Lad.*) The report awakened the jealousy of the "wealth-elated hamlet. **1844** Ld. Ernle *Walks in Country* 79 A "wealth-seen under Peel. **1708** B. Johnson *Orig. Power* 39 "Wealth-fraught lands in safety the seas. **1904** R. T. Key & Witker *Hem. Pernic. Economics* 3 Those social phenomena that are due to the "wealth-getting and wealth-using activities of man. **1899** *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct. 8/7 The "wealth-makers whom he always hated. **1654** Whitlock *Zootomia* 300 These are sawcy Truths to intrude on the Power-mongers, "Wealth-mongers, and Pleasure-mongers of the World. **a 1665** J. Gauden *Being Filled with the Spirit* xvii. (1670) 476 If the Question should be put to all rich Wealth-mongers and Honour-mongers. **1896** *Daily Tel.* 3 Feb. 4/7 The vast "wealth-producing industries of the Rand. **1891** Meredith *Invect. Achilles Poet.* Wks. (1912) 551 Thou mayest gather here plunder and "wealth-store. **1850** Grote *Greece* ii. lxvii. VIII. 140 Plato was not the man to preach king-worship, or "wealth-worship, as a social or political remedies. **1877** Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) I. 166 The wealth-worship with its marks and deforms our time. **1917** *19th Cent. Dec.* 1237 In [sc. the ocean] "wealth-yield appears to be beyond words bountiful. **1888** Cloud *Creation* xiv. 30 Rich are igneous rocks in "wealth-yielding mineral veins and ores, they are...destitute of fossils.

**Wealthful** (we'lfūl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. Wealth + -ful.] Abounding in wealth; † happy (*obs.*), rich, prosperous; conducive to wealth. † *Wealthful of*, abounding in.

**13** *Cursor M.* 641 (Gött.) Pis is a stede of welthful wone. **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxiii. (1495) 503 Though Flaundres be hyyll in space yet it is welthfull of many specyall thynges and good. *Ibid.* xvii. clvi. 709 In good and latte grounde growyth good eere in grete quantytee and welthfull of corne. **1647** Buckman *Superstr. Christian.* 4 A yate...Welthful and full off werldly solas. **1470** Henry *Wallace* xi. 222 This man...at ye sa welthfull mak. **1513** More *Rich. III*, Wks. 56/1 All is...quiete, and likelie righte wel to prosper in welthfull peace under youre iuyes. **1534** — *Comf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1235/2 God hauynge many mansions, and al wonderfull welthfull in his fathers house. **1577-87** Holinshed *Chron.* I. 20, 2 All things necessarie for the welthfull state of man. **1776** Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 364 Malacca's gainful harbour first survey'd. **1844** A. yte...Welthful and full off werldly solas. **1470** Henry *Wallace* xi. 222 This man...at ye sa welthfull mak. **1513** More *Rich. III*, Wks. 56/1 All is...quiete, and likelie righte wel to prosper in welthfull peace under youre iuyes. **1534** — *Comf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1235/2 God hauynge many mansions, and al wonderfull welthfull in his fathers house. **1577-87** Holinshed *Chron.* I. 20, 2 All things necessarie for the welthfull state of man. **1776** Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 364 Malacca's gainful harbour first survey'd. **1844** A. yte...Welthful and full off werldly solas. **1470** Henry *Wallace* xi. 222 This man...at ye sa welthfull mak. **1513** More *Rich. III*, Wks. 56/1 All is...quiete, and likelie righte wel to prosper in welthfull peace under youre iuyes. **1534** — *Comf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1235/2 God hauynge many mansions, and al wonderfull welthfull in his fathers house. **1577-87** Holinshed *Chron.* I. 20, 2 All things necessarie for the welthfull state of man. **1776** Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 364 Malacca's gainful harbour first survey'd. **1844** A.

**Wealthily** (we'lthili), *adv.* Now *rare.* Also 6–7 **welthily.** [f. as prec. + -ly².] In a wealthy manner.

**1536** Wm. Tyndale *Obedience* ii. (1561) 75 That pertayne not unto a man to lyue well and welthily. **1551** Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 105 All thynges be so well and wealthily ordered emong them. **1611** Speed *Hist. Gt. Britaine* ix. 1586 J. Sanford *Epistetus* Epist. A j b, That we should be in felicitie and leade our life both well and wealthilie. **1696** Phillips, *Wealthily*, in a wealthy manner, or fashion, as in Padua. **1614** S. Daniel *Hymen's Tri.* ii. I, And thus they all unhappy by that meanes Which they accompt would bringe all happines, Live wealthily in want. **1618** *Whole Duty Man* xiv. § 25 When out of an eagerness of bestowing them wealthily, they force them to marry utterly against their own inclinations. **1755** Johnson, *Welthy*, obsolete for wealthily; wealthily.

**Wealthiness** (we'lthines). Now *rare.* [f. Wealthy *a.* + -ness.] Wealthy quality or condition; wealth.

**a 1513** Fabyan *Chron.* III. lvi. (1533) 70 This in treete of tyme made the cyte welthy. And by meane of this welthynes ensued pryde. **1535** Coverdale *Job* xxi. 13 They spend their dayes in welthinesse: but suddenly they go downe to hell. **1556** *Forest, Hyll, & Dale* (Roxb.) 141, Verely I sayde in my welthynes I shall neuermore be mouyd. **1567** *Trial Treasure* D iv b, You shall wante no kinde of welthines. **1596** Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 42 The Welthines of fische in Scotland. **1747** Shenstone *Pr. Fit. to Gratia* 52 Sept., I almost hate the idea of wealthiness as much as the reality.

**Wealthless** (we'lples), *a. rare.* [f. Wealth + -less.] Without wealth, having no money. In quot. 1605 *absol.*

**1605** A. Warren *Poor Man's Past.* B ab, In vaine the wealthlesse seeke for succour, as those be vaine which seeke *Hyde* it. 42 Bard from dilight by Fate's untimely hand, By wealthless lot, or pitiless command. **1886** A. Weir *Hist. Basil Hall.* (1887) 282 Wealthless maidens...cut off their...locks in order to get a suite for the rational cause.

† **Wealthling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wealth + -ling¹.] A wealthy wight.

**1581** Mulcaster *Positions* xxxii. (1887) 147 He there not as unknowen and gentle wealthlings, as those be wanton welthlings. **1605** A. Warren *Poor Man's Past.* etc. G 4, Wealthlings suppose their parting peale they heare.

† **Wealthly,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Wealth + -ly¹.] Happy, delightful.

*c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* I. 185 It is not good to be alone, to walk here in this worthely wone, In all this welthly wyn.

**Wealthy** (we'lpi), *a.* [f. Wealth + -y¹.]

† **1.** Prosperous, well-being, happy, prosperous. Of conditions of life: Comfortable, luxurious. *Obs.*

*c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 222 Quhen hyre chawmir wast saw he, quhare sa ithe wes he wantyt to be. **1540** Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) X 8, If the wife leade a wealthy life an honest...then shal al the maringe be more wealthy and fortunate. **1551** Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* ii. (1895) 201 A pleasaunt and a welthy lyuynge (*Latin text* ad voluptatem...)

1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. viii. I. 506 If the ground be cold, moist, and weely. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 203 This river [Ex] hath his head and springeth first in a weely and barren ground named Exmore. *Ibid.* 364 Flockes of sheepe long necked and square of bulke and bone, by reason (as it is commonly thought) of the weally and hilly situation of their pasturage. 1620 Freeman *Passenger* t. v. 33 Sandy Marle serues (for want of other) chiefely in cold moist and weely grounds.

**Weam(b** : see Wame.

**Weame,** obs. form of Wame, Wem.

**† Weamish,** *a. Obs.* [? Variant of Queimish *a.*] Squeamish.

1571 T. Fortescue *Mexia's Forests* 46 b, Wee in this Age are colde and drie, of complexion none other or better then Melancoly, angrye, wormishe [*Fr. cruuyseuse*], harde to please and enuious. 1577 *Horn Subscript.* (MS.) 462 (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*) *Weamish*, squeamish.

**Wean** (*wīn, wēn*), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Also 9 **ween, wain, wane.** [A contraction of *wee ane*: (see Wee *a.* and One), the full form still appearing in the first group of quotations. In the north-eastern Sc. counties the equivalent *little ane* has similarly given *littlan, littlen.*] A young child.

*a.* 1692 [see Wee *a.*]. 1721 Ramsay *Poems* I. Gloss. 397 *Weem*, or *wee ane*, a Child. 1755 Johnson *s. v. Wee*, In Scotland it denotes small or little: as, a little wean or child. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 6 The mune the wean [178] weeuan] gat, was Helenore. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Hallow-Fair* viii, I ban there's nic yellowchin and din, Wi' wives and wee-anes gublin.

*b.* 1782 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* iii. iii, When Bessy Freetock's chuffy-cheeked Wean Fell in a Fairy turn'd. 1798 — *Amaranthis on Love* 8 A poor youthy Wean. 1786 Burns *Inventory* 52 Wi' weans I'm mair well contented, Heav'n sent me ane mae than I wanted ! 1789 — *To Dr. Blacklock* 52 To sair the bairdly cadie clim' To weans and wife, That's the true pathos and sublime Of human life. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid. iv*, There was my daughter's wean, little Kirstie Dinidle, and Jock Jabos, and Jenny, that was part were sailors' wives and weans. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Ween*, children. Little ones. 'How are the weens?' 1846 J. Wilson *Noctes* Wks. 1855 I. 175 Returnin back hame, the wife and weans were a' at the door. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Nell Cook* end, So bless the Queen and her Royal Weans, say Mrs. Brownrigg. *Aur Lyle*, iii. 247, I being but a yearling wean. 1887 P. M'Neill *Illawarrie* 85 Here comes that great grumpus crying like a wane once more. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 601 2 But poor Shamus he had a wife an' a congregation of wains on his han's.

**Wean** (*wīn*), *v.* Forms: 1 **wenian**, 4–6 **wene**, 4–7 **wain**(**e, wane**, 5–7 **wayn**(**e, weyn**(**e**, 6 **ween**, 6–7 **wein**(**e, weane**, 6– **wean.** [OE. *wenian* to accustom (once only, to wean), corresponding to OFris. *wenia*, OS. *wennian* (MLG., MDu., mod.Du. *wennen*), OHG. *wennen* (MHG. *wenen*, mod.G. *-wöhnen*), ON. *venja* (Sw. *vänja*, Da. *venne*) :—OTeut. **wanjan*, f. **wano-* accustomed (ON. *van-r*) ; cognate with ON. *vane* wk. masc., custom, habit. For the Teut. root **wan-*: **wins-*, to be accustomed, to dwell, see Wane *sb.*2, Wont.

The OE. *wenian* occurs very frequently in the sense 'to accustom', but this use is not illustrated here, as it did not survive into ME. The sense 'to wean (a child)' was ordinarily expressed in OE. by *awenian* (cf. *G. entwöhnen*), and occasionally by *gewenian.*]

1. *trans.* To accustom (a child or young animal) to the loss of its mother's milk ; to cause to cease to be suckled. **a.** with obj. a child.

*c* 960 *Rushwood Scand. Rule* xii. 22 Axyld þu me, driht-ten, mid bitternesse lean, swa a moder deb lyue leanne, þonn hio hit fran hire breosta zesoce wenyb. 23 . Hampole *Psalter* cxxx. 4 As a childe þat has nede to be on his modur kne and fostid with hur mylc, peisch if he be wenid [*another MS.* spaneil & taiyn fro mylke]. 1388 Wyclif *Hos.* i. 8 And she wenyde hir [Vulg. *et ablactavit eam*] that was With outen mercye. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. vii (Tollem. MS.), The childe is wened [*earlier text* spaned] fro be pappe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522 Wenyn or moolyr wenyth here child, sche wetyth here tetys with sum lyttere thyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522 1 Wene chylder fro sokynge, *ablacto, educto.* *c* 1450 *Merlin Erratal* ii. 81 Then, after, when scho was wened, pay lraught hur to be temptull. 1530 Palsgr. 720/3, I wayne a chylde from sookynge, *Je sevre.* 1563-87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1576) 1061/1 Before the child that is borne be wened. 1592 Shakes. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iii. 24 'Tis since the Earth-quake now eleuen yeares, And she was wean'd. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xxiv. xxiv. (1658) 554 If the child be weak, sickly, or feeble, he ought not to be weaned. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 126 Untill shee be weaned, which must be at three yeers end, shee shall remaine with you in her fathers house. 1696 Colepeper *Eng. Phys.* 178 It is much used to dry up the Milk in Womens breasts when they have weyned their children. 1789 Bingham *Dom. Chap.* (1870) 187 As soon as they perceive their strength and appetite begin to fail, they ought immediately to wean the child. 1888 Miss Bradbon *Fated Three* i. iii, His wife would return to him as soon as Lady Castle-Connell's daughter was weaned.

*absol.* 1823 Byron *Juan* xii. xxi, Unless a man can calculate his means Of feeding brats the moment his wife weans.

**b.** with obj. a young animal.

1488 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 34 Reynart..said thus.. Neuertheles yet was I vnto the tyme that I was wened fro the tete, one [etc.]. 1488 in *Descr. Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1892) I. 330 William and Agnes to have the calves of them and thei to be weyned at the age of x. wekes. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 39 It is tyme to wayne theyr lambes, whanne they be xvi. wekes old. *Ibid.* § 66 If thou waine thy calues with hey it wyl make them haue great belyes. 1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* t. 2 Our Lambs new weined from yr dam. 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 250. 1600 Surflet *Country Farme* t. v. 23 Adding to the end of these great houses a little one, to keepe calues in of both kindes, which you haue weined. 1759 R. Brown *Compleat Farmer* 22 The best time for weaning calves is from January to May. 1846 *Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 193 The meal or flour mixed with milk is excellent food for weaning calves. 1908 Westm. *Wkly Gazette* xviii. 2/2 The low of a cow whose calf was being weaned.

**c.** in figurative context.

1573 Campion *Hist. Ired.* ii. x. (1633) 134 No doubt the name and reputation thereof would haue been a spurre to these erections, as nurses for babes to suck in, till they might repaire thither [*sc.* to the University] to be wained. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* iii. iii. (Reason) (must) weane what appetite nurseed. 1598 tr. *Jumius on Rev.* xii. 1 Vntil that time wherin this Church were as it were weyned & taken away from the breast or milk of her mother. 1886 Kingsley *Hereto.* xiv, I put my love out to nurse, instead of weaning it.

**d.** *transf.*

1615 J. Stephens *Satyr. Ess.* iv. 53 As Wormewood, rubbed upon the nipple of a Nurses Teate, weanes the child. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Gard.* xiii. (1623) 41 The Tree must be often with fruit, and wanting sap to feed all she hath brought forth, will waine all she cannot feed, like a woman bringing forth moe children at once then she hath teats. *Ibid.* xv. 51.

**2.** *fig.* To detach or alienate (a person, his desires or affections) *from* some accustomed object of pursuit or enjoyment ; to reconcile by degrees to the privation of something.

1596 *Pilgr. Parn.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 b, By obedyence they were wayned from this worlde. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) in. 157 If they thinke them fit to enter into religion, they neuer leaue vntill they haue effected it. And when they haue setled them in the monasteries, they neuer cease to waine them from all worldlie vanities. 1596 Drayton *Legends, Cromwell* 187 When first the wealthy Netherlands we wan, In vice Germanie, to weane you many Countrie carefully me wayn'd. 1607 Walkington *Optic Glass* I. b, Hee must wisely defeate, and waine his appetite of all such dainty morsells. 1611 Shak. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 29 *Camillo* . . You promised to waine your friendship from mee. 1616 B. Jonson *Every Man in H.* t. i, How happie, yet, should I esteeme my selfe, Could I but any meanes find out, the boy From our vaine course of studie, to weane affects. 1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 192 Luther was a man weaned from the world ; and therefore when honours, preferments, riches were proffered to him, he despised them. 1741 Berkeley *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 266 A long continuance of ill health has weaned me from the world. 1752 Smollett *Per. Pickle* lxxxvi, He endeavoured to wean his eyes from the fatal object. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, I trust the plan I have devised will be effectual in weaning my daughter from this absurd idea. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 226 Mankind cannot be weaned from the opinion. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xxviii. (1865) IV. 64 Already men's minds were becoming weaned from positive belief in the obscene divinities of Olympus. 1870 Bridges *Growth of Love* xxxv, Few there be me weand'd from earthly love. 1907 C. S. Parker *Sir T. Grosham* I. i. 4 He.. strove with some success to wean his tenantry from thriftless habits.

*absol.* 1850 Robertson *Serm. Ser.* iii. viii. 108 The consequences of sin are meant to wean from sin.

**b.** with *away.*

1891 F. H. Williams *Ataman* v. 270, I deliberately planned to wean you away from Margaret. 1913 Woodrow Wilson *Penn Ivy Oration* 11 If they refuse to be weaned away from their independence they cannot continue to enjoy the benefits extended to them.

**c.** *refl.*

1593 Shakes. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. iv. 17 And I the rather waine me from dispaire For loue of Edwards Offspring in my wombe. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. § 2. xlii, Before I wean my self from Italy, a word or two touching the genius of the Nation. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 472 I let us not stand upon a Formal taking of Leave, but wean our selves from them [*sc.* the allurements of the world], while we are in the midst of them. 1718 Prior *Let. to Snape* 24 July, If your heart tells you nothing, say nothing, that I may take the hint, and wean myself from you by degrees. 1872 Darwin *Descent Man* I. iii. 104 Man has weaned his learning from which Edmund [Rich] found it hard to wean himself.

**d.** *intr.* for *refl.*

*c* 1665 Mss. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1885) I. 93 While she was weaning from the friends and places she had so long conversed in. 1887 Hood *Hero & Leat.* Leander, weaning from sweet Hero's side, Must leave a widow where he found a bride.

**† 3.** To dissuade (whether successfully or not).

1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* t. iii. 130 They wayned the people from this hipocrisie by these reproofes in vaine. 1620 Burton *Anat. Mel. Democr. to Rdr.* 38 I will in Epicure..of his irregular course, weane him from it a little.

**4.** To remove or abate gradually (a desire, affection). *rare.*

1708 J. Wood *Wooden World Dist.* (1708) 35 He wrant by Degrees his Longings after the Flesh-pots of Sodom. 1842 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton *Corr.* (1912) 27 The (Baby) Princess has actually at the same time held Love of every sexy-males as Meriel has for you. That is to be weaned, I think, by a little less fondling her yourself.

**† 5.** To train, accustom *to* (good habits). *Obs.*

[Not a survival of the OE. sense (see the etymology) : the use seems to have been developed from the notion of 'weaning' from the contrary evil.]

1579 Lodge *Def. Playes* 8 Weane thy selfe to wisedome, and vse thy talant to reale not for euile. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 149 When the Father weaneth [*later edd.* warneth] them to continencie, the flatterer alureth them to lust. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii, The lewes by reason of their long abode in a place of continuall scruile toyle could not suddainely be wained and drawne vnto contraile offices without some strong impression of terror.

**Weanable** (*wī'năb'l*), *a.* [f. Wean *v.* + -able.] Capable of being weaned.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 2/28 Weanable, *ablactabilis.* 1811 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 94 The lambs are weanable when they can thrive on the same food that the dam subsists on.

**† Wean-calf.** *Obs.* [f. Wean *v.*] A calf newly weaned.

1618 *Depos. Bk. Archd. Essex & Colchester* 66 b, There was a custome within the parish of Almsted.. for the sale of weane calues.. that the parishe who weaned the said calues should paie no tithe therof.

**Weane,** variant of Wane *sb.*3

**Weaned** (*wīnd*), *ppl. a.* [f. Wean *v.* + -ed 1.] In senses of the verb, *ppl. a.* and *fig.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenyd, as chylder fro sokynge, *ablactatus.* 1535 Coverdale *Proverbs* 2 My soule is euen as a weened childe. 1620 Burnsley *Virg. Ecl.* iii. (1634) 35 The wained kids. 1670 T. Brooks *London's Lament.* 215 With what a weaned heart and cold affections do men look upon all the pomp, state, bravery and glory of the world, when [etc.]. 1838 C. Bridges *Christ. Ministry* 318 A weaned heart is absolutely needful for you. 1839 Youatt *Sheep* xv. 517 Many farmers are very fanciful as to the provision for the weaned lambs.

Hence **Weanedness,** spiritual detachment.

*a* 1617 Bayne *Eph.* (1643) 278 Adorning this their age in Christ, with graces correspondent, viz. weanedness, mildness, of meardnesse, all kinde of meekenesse. 1689 Wilson *Serm.* iii. t. *Life of Faith* 28 The Spiritual life..begets a holy weanedness in us. 1708 C. Mather *Magn. Christi* t. iii. 3 § 2 An Example of.. Weanedness from the things of this World. 1858 J. S. C. Abbott *Heroines Re.* *Accol.* 215 Her weanedness from the world. 1889 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* cxxxi. 2 Such weanedness from self springs from the gentle humility described by Jesus there.

**Weanel** (*wī'nĕl*), **wennel** (*wen'l*). Now *dial.* Forms: 5 **weynelle**, 6 **weanell, weannol, wennell**, 6, 8–9 **wennel**, 7– **weanel.** [f. Wean *v.* + -el 2.] An animal newly weaned, a weanling.

1488 9 in *Rec. Mems. Lit. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 472, xx. weynelles, & xxiij. wedirs. 1538 *Stanbridge Vocabula Husb.* lxxvii, Pinch weannels at no time of water nor meate. 1573-80 Baret *Alv.* 368/1 Young colts with thy weanels together go astray. 1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal.* Sept. 196 A Lambe, or a Kidde, or a weanell wast. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric., Dict. Rust.*, *Weanil*, a young Beast newly weaned. 1787 Grose *Prov. Glos.*, Wennel. 1879 *Hereford Mercury* Dec. 2/6 Mr. Edmund Young fleed Steers and Stirks,..4 Weanels, 2 Down Calving Cows.

*appositive.* 1588 *Henrietta Maluia* viii. A ij b, He pawne a calfe, a weanell lambe that runnes by. [Cf. Wean *v.* + -el 1.]

**Weaner** (*wī'nəɹ*). [f. Wean *v.* + -er 1.]

**† 1.** One who takes care of a young person. *Obs.*

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 131 Plato..calm-minded all nurses and weaners of youth, that they should [etc.].

**2.** A calf or lamb newly weaning the current year. (*Australian.*) Cf. Weanling.

1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & Pl.* I. 137 These are the weaners to be looked after. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xi, Wether, be gad—weaner, I mean. Ah, You won't have that weaner flock drafted before breakfast.

**Weangeance,** obs. Sc. form of Vengeance.

**Weanie, weany** (*wī'ni*), *dial.* [dim. of Wean *sb.* : see -ie, -y 6.] A very young child.

1785 Burns *North Dronk* xii, When skirling weanies see the light, Thou maks the gossips clatter bright. 1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* xxiv, The two weanies (big baby and little baby) only attending for the sake of example. 1894 A. Reid *Songs Heatherland* 103 Davie.. Mindit neeburs' crawlin' weanies.

**Weaning** (*wī'nin*), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the vb. Wean : an instance of this.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxi. 8 Abraham made a greet feest in the day of the weaning of hym. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522 Wenyng of chylder fro kynne fro þe wenyng of be calues. 1610 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* i, Whose Lambs are ever fast And dye before their weaning time. 1707 *Curios.* 1 Jan. 29 This from his Weaning, let him [the horse] well be taught. 1764 Cowper *Tirocin.* 557 This second weaning, needless as it is, How does it lacerate your heart and his ! 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Where was the use, within a day or two of Paul's sharp weaning, had been engaged on his muse. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* xxix, The time for the weaning of the babe approached.

**b.** *Comb.* as *weaning-feast, -time* ; with sense 'in process of weaning', as *weaning calf, child, calf, lamb* ; **weaning-brash** (see quot.).

1844 Dungleson *Med. Lex.* (ed. 4), Brash, Weaning..A severe form of diarrhœa, which supervenes at times on weaning. 1898 in *Lores. & Chrsh. Wills* (Cheltam Soc. 1897) III. 8 To the children of John Holcrofte my best Weaning calf. 1778 *Keating Merr. & Oaf Gaz.* 30 Nov., A weaning Bull Calf. 1844 Murray *Settlers in Canada* xxviii, He also took six weaning calves to bring up. 1880 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 210 Like 'weaning child that's lost its rattle. 1913 F. Newton in *Daily Chronicle* 21 Jan. 9 The lambs of our weaning children You crushed in your mills of power. 1923-34 Fitzherb. *Husb* § 115 If there be much grasse than put calues early to weand : and also Waynfeast. 1596 Jeffore & Jones *Life St. William of Norwich* p. lxv, The miracle which happened on his weaning-feast. 1697 Davidge *Virg. Past.* iv. 21 To house, and feed by hand my Weaning Lambs. *c* 1720 B. Gooch *Herrick's Husb.* iii. 119 b, The Lambes..must be well cherished in their weaning time with good pasture.

**Weanling** (*wī'nlin*), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **wayne-, weyn-, waneling.** 6–7 **wain-, e ling.** [f. Wean *v.* + -ling 1.]

**A.** *sb.* A young child or animal newly weaned.

1532–3 *A. t. 24 Hen. VIII c.* 9 § 1 Diuers persons..haue vsed..to kille yonge beastes, called waynelinges, steres, bullockes, and heaters, of one or two yeres old. 1538 *Diuerse*

*Compl. Inc.* (Pc. exxii. 2) K vij, I ama weanlynge in very deele. 1550 *Shampton Ct. Last Rec.* (1908) 5 M any of them have two kyne or weanlinge. 1589 *A. Y. Virg. Bucol.* i. 4 The tender weanlings of our sheepe. 1614 Rowlands *Knave Bald* D 2 b, Mens Children went not then to write and read As every weanelinge now a dayes may do. 1695 Mortet & Bevis *Health's Improvem.* 58 Calves or either Sucklings or Weanlings. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Dec. (1744) 145 By this Stanza it seems as though he recommended the Housing of Weanlings. 1881 W. Hoskyns in *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 292 It is a weanling's weakness for the past That . . Still keeps our gray old chapel's name of 'King's'? **1901** K. J. Saunders *Adv. Tarr. Soul* 24 Akhar put up a score of weanlings away from all contact with adults.

*fig.* 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* I 4 b, The other starre here meant, is called Lucifera, Venus her owne weanling, to whom bawdes are wont to complaine, when they were deceiued or robbed of any of their requested weanlings.

**B.** *adj.* Recently weaned.

1657 Murton *Lyckling* 44 An killing as the Canker to the Roses, Or Taint-worm to the weanling Herds that graze. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 214, I doubted some weanling-calves I had wanted water. 1796 Pope *Odyss.* xix. 469 Hermes, . . Whose silence with weanling lambs he went to load. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lxxv, Into the old farmhouse I tottered, like a weanling child.

*fig.* 1859 Meredith *Ord. of Nevil* xxxix, That part of his pastoral duty he wisely leaves to weanling laymen. 1871 Swinburne *Songs Bef. Sunrise, Eve Revol.* 57 Breasts that bore Our fathers' generations, whereat lay The weanling peoples and the tribes that were.

**Weanscot, -scott,** obs. forms of Wainscot.

**Weany,** variant of Weanie, Weeny.

**Weanyer** (*wi'nyə*), *dial.* Also 6 **wanyer, wayner, wonyer.** [f. Wean *v.* + -yer, -ier 1.] A weanling. Cf. Weaner 2. Also *attrib.*

1584 *Inv.* in *Surrey Archæol. Collect.* (1880) VII. 235 Item vii Wanyers price xxxiiis. 1594 R. Brooke *Will* (Bric. Mus. Addit. MS. 24925 ff. 7 b, 8 b), A heffer and ij weanyers of this yere. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 28 Sept., Advt., Two weanyers. 1901 *Oxf. Times* 28 June 2/3 Advt., A Weanyer Calf.

**Wean(e,** obs. ff. Were *v.*

**Weapon** (we'pən, we'p'n), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wǽpen**, **wǽp(e)n**, **wǽpn**, **wǽmn**, 1–3 **wǽpn**, 2–3 *Orm.* **wapen**, 3–7 **wepen**, 4 **wepene**, -in, 4–5 **wepne**, 4–6 **wepen**, 5–6 **wepn**, **wepon**, 5–7 **wepon**, 5 **weppon**, **weppun**, (**wepen**), 6 **weapen**, 6– **weapon**; *B.* 3 *E. Anglian* **wopen**; *north.* and *Sc.* 3–7 **wapen**, 4 **wappen**, **vap(p)yn**, 4–7 **wapin**, 5–6 **wappin**, **wap(p)yn**, 5 **vappin**, 5, 7 **wappon**, 6 **wapon**, **vapon**, **vapin**, **vaupyn**, **waippin**, **waipons**, **wapoune**, 7 **wapone**. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wǽpen* neut. = OFris. *wépin*, OS. *wâpan* (MLG. *wâpen*, whence OHG. *wâfen*, *wâffen*, mod.G. *waffen* only in the sense of 'arms' and bearings), OHG. *wâfan* (MHG. *wâfen* neut., mod.G. *waffe* fem.), ON. *vápn* neut. (Sw. *vapen*, Da. *vaaben*), Goth. **wôpn* (pl. *wôpna*) :—OTeut. **wēpn-o-m* :—pre-Teut. **wēbno-m*. A parallel type **wēbno-m* (:— pre-Teut. **wēpnō-m*) is supposed by some scholars to be implied by certain rare forms in various Teut. langs.: OHG. or OS. (*Hildebrandslied*) *webnum* dat. pl., OE. *wǽmn*, ON. *vámm*. Outside Teut. no probable cognate can have been found.

The northern ME. *wapen* (later *wappen*) and the rare (E. Anglian) *wopen* represent the ON. *vápn*: cf. Wappentake, Wappenshaw. The shortening of the long stressed vowel in the first syllable is normal; Ormin has still the OE. quantity.

The pl. in OE. was normally identical in form with the sing., but in the 10th and 11th cent. with final -a occurs. In Layamon *c* 1205 the plural is usually *wepnen*, though there are also examples of *wepne* and *wapen*. From the beginning of the 14th *c.* the plural has in ordinary use been formed with the suffix *-(e)s*; with regard to the occasional uninflected plural see 1 b below.]

**1.** An instrument of any kind used in warfare or in combat to attack and overcome an enemy.

*a. Beowulf* 1505 Sum bær on handa hrinde wæs gewealdan. *Ibid.* 1573 He-..wæpen hafenade heard be hiltum. *c* 930 *O. E. Chron.* an. 917, & a-hreddon eall þæt his sæ-menen hæfdon, & eac hira bora & hira wæpna micelne dæl. *c* 1205 Lay. 644 Morpidus, . . wes þam hæfdi of-slein and awarpen mid wæpnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 þe þet his wepnen worpe3 awei, hiin luste been iwunded. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15558 When þey were waxen on elde, Armis to bere, & wepne to welde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* iii. 304 Alle þat bereth haslarde, brode swerde or launce, Axe other han bet or eny wepne elles. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 34 With-outen wepne saue his handes tweyne He slow and al torente the lyon. 1415 Hoccleve *To Sir T. Oldcastle* 47 A clod vf erthe, at suppe bredes to sippe or taste, Were wepne ynow. *c* 1521 *Inf. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 These wepyns is lange jaykes and stones ther they caste anyghty with. 1539 *Mem. Mag., Dr. Suffolk* xxi, And sum with weapons would have layed on lode. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* ii. i. 322 Tis best we stand vpon our guard . . : let's draw our weapons. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* v. iii. § 21. 579 The Rafels of boats . . drew more together, till they were almost within a weapons cast. 1636 Massinger *Bashf. Lover* i. ii, In a cause like this, The Husbandman would change his ploughshare for weapons of defence. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 668 Fix'd in the Mast the feather'd Weapon stands. 1750 Gray *Long Story* 39 They hid their Armour And weild their weapons bright and keen. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* ii. 3, My sword! O fool, I wear no sword: here, fellow, Give me thy weapon. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* i. v, Nothing was represented in a flourishing condition, save tools and weapons. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Eloquence* (end), The Arabian warrior of fame, who wore seventeen weapons in his belt. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 378 The term 'small arms' includes sporting and military weapons carried by the shooter. 1900 A. S. Huan *How Navy is run* 81 There is a roar and a crash as the great 25-ton weapon speaks.

*b. c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 469 Woven of wiȝte and tol of griſſ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15722 Sper and sperd and mace þat bring, And wapens oper man. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 711 Their fayis thaim met with vapyn bair. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* i. 193 Wayynnys he hur, outhir gud suerd or knyff. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 461 With alkin waippyns, that wes for were wrocht. 1500 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 56 Al the vaupins alle armour of scotland to be delyuerit to the inglismen. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 194 All the intelligence . . in all maner of vapoins. 1690 J. Nicolls *Diary* (Bann. Club) 28 Our Scottis army being all drowsie . . and many of thame thair horsses and wapines to seik.

*† Proverb. a* 1575 Pleasing *Rem. Refus. Meth.* iv. (1585) 64 b, A weapon boosts peace, as the common saying is.

*transf. (humorously) a* 1722–14 Pope *Rape Lock* iii. 128 Just then, Clarissa drew with tempting grace A two-edg'd weapon from her shining case. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, For Chadband . . can wield such weapons of the flesh as a knife and fork, remarkably well. 1873 Tristram *Moab* v. 95 Those to whom the weapons were knife and fork.

**† b.** Down to the end of the 16th *c.*, the plural, when used in the collective sense = 'arms', was often identical in form with the sing. *Obs.*

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlv. 10 Bogan forþrestes[0] & ȝebirsted wæpn forbærnde. *a* 1000 *Cædmon Dan.* 87 & hie cnihtnesse alle innen Furþ gedeon wiþ þe laðre, Wiþþ heore wæpenna alle bun, Swa unmen þeȝ3 modlleon fihteon. *c* 1205 Lay. 4496 Þat wepnen an-mihte beren mon þe þeines. *Gen. & Ex.* 2381 Wepen, and snud, siluer, and gold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7372 Þat all mai wit þat gold o might Sauues might man in wapen bright. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* xxi. 54 Out of wapen [*v. r.* wepyn], he was as redy to otheres bydynge as other to hys. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 137 And then the erll of Aronuell sett gouernance in þat cuntre with a fayre power to kepe him. 1590 Shakspere *Sakest's Jugarth* xi. 56 b, Their enemies . . lette them to go to the castell of the towne where their armoure and wepyn was. 1596 Shakspere *Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 240 Hector's wepyn. 1606 As if Conclusions hadde anye freendes, whether they oughte to haue borne weapon with hym agaynste their countrey. 1681 T. Flatman *Cowley's Cutter of Coleman Street* 1 Who had forced to arise from blankettes and runne to weapon. 1685–6 Earl Lexington *Corr.* (Camden) 426 They doe make extraordinary preparations, of their armes and weapons. 1696 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 363 Their myndes war sa in ydleast, and close fra weir and weapon.

**c.** *fig.*

*c* 888 K. Alfred *Boeth.* iii. § 1 Ic [Wisdom] wat þæt þu hæfst þara wepna to hæbbe forgiten þe ic þe ær sealde. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 348 (Gr.) Zyrnde hine zeorne mid gæstlicum wæpnum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 [God] þeue us wepne for to beoten Mid gode wurchen for us to fihten. 1200 *Ayenbit Inwit* 236 in *O.E. Hom.* I, Mid fasten and almesse. . Mid þo wepnen þe god hauest ȝiuen alle mancunne. *c* 1200 Ormin 12985 Þe dedefell wass þe laȝhe wepenn þatt he gluterrmesse wepenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 þe wepnen þet shuwen hiini, þet weren use sunnen. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xi. v. (1495) 512 Angels . . be ywrapped in fyrylem for they ne be ydestly wepyn. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* iii. (1634) 405 That they, should dedicate themselues to God, . . and their members, vnto the seruice of righteousnes. 1590 Shakspere *1 Hen. VI*, i. iii. 61 His Champions, are the Prophets and Apostles, His Weapons, holy Sawes of sacred Writ. 1605 — *Lear* iv. iv. 282 All weapons, mens weapons, water drops, Stainе my mans cheekes. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* xx. 297 So voluble a weapon is the tongue. 1832 Hr. Martineau *Manch. Strike* v. 53 The first man who deserts the work, puts the weapon of the law into the hands of our opponents. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 151 A consummate master of all the weapons of controversy. 1864 Hawker *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1870) 317 The charge of heresy was one of the weapons used with most effect against Frederick II. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 188 William was not slow to follow with weapons which came more to his hand in the struggle.

**d.** *transf.* Any part of the body (esp. of a bird or beast) which is or may be used as a means of attack or defence, as a claw, horn, tusk, or the like; in pl., the spurs of a game cock or hen.

(Cf. *Ann. ib.* 11, Armature 5.)

1835 Marryat *Pirate, Privateer* 43 Your [Game] Hennes.. must be . . well tufted on the crowne, which shewed courage: if shee have weapons also is better. 1849 Fielding *Tom Jones* iii. iv, Those gentlemen who wear weapons on each of her fingers. 1892 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, Weapons*, in cocking, the spurs appearing on hens or young cocks. 1914 A. S. Woodward *Outlines Vertebrate Palæont.* 190 *Hoplopteryx* (1915) 5 Typical modern monkeys, with the canine teeth enlarged into weapons.

**† e.** A soldier of a class distinguished by the weapon he uses. *Obs. rare*—1.

1390 Gower *Mirr. Disc. Wisdom* 12 Whilest the Piquers and other weapons doo reduce themselues into fourme vnder their Ensignes.

**f.** Used for: One skilled in the use of a weapon. *rare*—1. (?*transi-arch.*)

1852 Thackeray *Esmond* ii. viii, Blandford knows which of us two is the best weapon. At small-sword, or back-sword, I can beat him.

**2.** Phrases.

**† a.** *To take weapon in hand*: to take up arms.

1538 Starkey *England* 79 In tyme of warr, hyt ys necessary for our plowmen and labarars of the cuntrey to take weapon in hand. *a* 1548 *K. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 573 Amurath went took weapon in hand against this people, before he understood . . that all Persia was in uprore.

**b.** *At all, any weapons*: with weapons of any kind. + *At the weapons of* ——: with the weapons used by ——. + *To play one's prize(s) at all, at several, in all weapons*: *fig.* to use every or several means to win one's contest (cf. Prize *sb.*2 b).

1620, *a* 1670 [see Prize *sb.*2 b]. *a* 1656 Hr. Hall *Soliloquies* Lxiv. Wks. 1662 III. 461 If the question be concerning some scrupulous act to be done or omitted, now self-respect plays its prizes at all weapons. 1760–70 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 97 At any weapons, against any odds I will prove him a traitor. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 139 [He] said he was not a porter to fight with his fists; but would give him . . satisfaction . . at the weapons of a gentleman. 1832 James *Phil. Augustus* vi, He was . . expert at all weapons.

**c.** (To challenge, fight, etc. an adversary) *at his own weapon* or *weapons*, i. e. with such as he is expert in. Chiefly *fig.*

1610 Marcellius *Triumphs Jas. I* 83 To deale and cope with the envious and perfidious malignity of these calumniators, even at their owne weapons. 1618 Bolton *Florus* iii. 1. (1636) 163 Metellus, . . fayning flight when he meant nothing lesse, matcht him at his own weapons. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* ii. 145 That he should put a full stoccado vpon me, and go brag when he had done, that he had beaten a master of defence at his owne weapon. 1658 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 12 We insist so much upon this philosophy here, . . because, without the perfect knowledge of it, we cannot deal with the atheists at their own weapons. 1760 Foote *Minor* 1. (1760) 9 You cockneys now beat us subjections at our own weapons. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 51 This was truly foiling the Devil, at his own weapons. *c* 1810 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 239 Their undue predilection for Patristic learning and authority originated in the wish to baffle the Papists at their own weapons.

**† 3.** The penis. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Aer. Glosæ.* in Wr.-Wülcker 265/33 *Calamus*, teors, þæt wæpen, *uel* lim. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* ix. 180 Whiles þow art ȝonge and þi wepne keene, Wreke þe with wyuynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Wapne, or wappe, *virga, clanga, -crath, -point, -stroke*; *weapon-proof* adj.; objective, as *weapon-maker, -whetter*; also † **weapon-bearer** = Armour-bearer; † **weapon-love,** love as a Weapon-salve; † **weapon-man,** one skilled in the use of weapons; **weapon-smith** *Hist.*, a forger or maker of weapons; **weapon-tool,** a tool which could also be used as a weapon. Also Weapon-salve.

1535 Coverdale *1 Sam.* xiv. 1 Ionathas sayde vnto his lad which was his †wapen-bearer: Come, let vs go vnter to the Philistynes watch. † 1547 — *Confut. Standish* To Rdr., So am I ready to do the same vnto Gilbert Wyndham of Dome and his weapen-bearer. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* iii. xviii, Then †weapon-clang, and martial call, Resounded through the funeral hall. 1813 — *Rokeby* v. xxxi, And †weapon-crash and maddening cry, Of those who kill, and those who die! *a* 1721 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 168 Thou when the Sword went through her tender Heart, With †Weapon-love didst then sustain Her Blade. 1903 Alex Johnston *Fortunes of Garin* xv. 239 Armourers and †weapon-makers. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* II. 90 Practising my self in the weapon-schoole I had seene done by any iudicious †weapon-man. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* vi. xxi, Each †weapon point is down and sent, Each warrior to the ground is bent. 1611 Cotgr., 599, I cannot think That he is †weapon-proof. 1894 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* ii. vii. II. 306 The heroical †weapon-smith on the one hand, and on the other the poor professors of all the rude arts as the homestead required. 1908 *Ecclesiast. Repository* Sept. 265 The settled weapon-smiths of ancient Egypt . . were quite a different class from the nomad clans of tinsmiths and copper-smiths. 1877 Greenwell *Brit. Barrows* 472 Rightly falls the †weapon-stroke Of an unwarlike weakling. 1861 W. R. Wilde *Catal. Antiq. Anim. Materials K. Irel. Acad.* 360 Weapons and †Weapon-tools. 1882 Skeat *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Samiarii*, . . †weapon whetters.

**Weapon** (we'pən), *v.* Now *rare.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wǽpnian**, **wǽmnian**, 3 **wepne-n**, **wepnie-n**, **wepni**, 5 **wappen**, **wepne**, 6 **wepon**, 6– **weapon**; *B. E. Anglian* 3 **wop(e)nes**; *north.* 4 **wappen**, 5 **wappin**, 6 **wappen**. [OE. *wǽpnian*, f. *wǽpen* sb. ; cf. OHG. *wâffanen*, -*în* (MHG. *waffenen*, *wæffenen*, mod.G. *waffnen*), also MHG. *wæpenen* (mod.G. *wappnen*, to clothe in armour), ON. *vápna*.] *trans.* To furnish with weapons or a weapon; to arm.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xix. (Z.) 122 *Armor* ic eom ȝewæpnod, *armo* ic wæpnige. *c* 1205 Lay. 8644 He seide forſi þrittes: i wepnē cnu̇htes. *Ibid.* 8655 He wepnede his cnihtes and ȝarewede hem to felten. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* v. 16 Ne shamefully ne didde hym to flight, but euer mor he was l-lich redy to fight, and wappen hym-self. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* xiv. 32 Then Symon withstode them, and . . wepened the valeaunt men of his people. 1592 Sir J. Smyth *Instruct. Leigers* 4 Against all sortes of soudiours may presentlie . . arme and weapon themselues in warrelike manner.

**b.** *fig.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 72 He mid rodetacne his mub and ealne his lichaman ȝewæpnode. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 43 Hwer se we euuer iseoh mon ober wummon eani god biginnen ; we wepnib us ayein hann. 1393 Nashe *Christ's T.* II 3, A great many more allegations hath hee to thys end, which heere to recite were to weapon presumption.

Hence **Weaponing** *vbl. sb.*

1592 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 3 b, And as they doo mistake the conuenient arming of horsemen and footmen, so they also mistake the weaponing of them.

**Weaponed** (we'pənd), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Weapon *v.* and *sb.* + -ed 1, 2.]

Furnished with weapons or a weapon; armed.

(*a*) *c* 1000 Ælfric *N. T.* (Gr.) 18/19 He com þa ȝewæmnod *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 993, Hi .. þæt scip ȝenamon sall ȝewæpnod & ȝewæded. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3373 Wopened he ben a-ȝein hiwel. 1358 Minot *Poems* iv. 39 He broght folk, Pat ful wele wapnid were. 1587 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 359, I and þow be here allone, liche wel-horsed and i-wepened. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 136 And all this tyme chorlys of Normandy weren wepond, and born barnes. 1600 *Looke about You* C 4, You see I am

weapoued...He stab them come there twenty. *a* 1650 Brome *Queenes Exch.* v. iii. They are three sturdy knaves and strongly weapon'd. 1819 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxxii. For they were weaponed, and prepared Their mistress on her way to guard. *a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* i. (1863) 8. I was weaponed with a staff, should brute or biped uncourteous dispute our way. 1907 McCarthy *Needles & Pins* xx. You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

(*b*) *c* 1200 Orrin 10025 þe cnihtteas wæaren weapnedd folle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2479 Well weppnede men. *c* 1425 *Chron. Ireland* to Robert...sette the bowmen fur to wer the fight of the kernels, and turned the wepned men to fill þe dich bes. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* vii. 11 Necessite [shall come to us] like a wapened man. 1603 T. Walk in *Linmore Papers* Ser. ii. (1887) I. 65 There should be at two hundreth weaponed men put into armes by the cyttie. 1880 C. Nesbit *Church & Hist.* 372 In the sight and despight of sixty weaponed witnesses. 1908 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 292 The weapon'd slaves of tyranny. 1898 Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 76 Her weaponed children's moan Of stifled rage invoking vengeance.

b. quasi-*ger.*

1689 H. More *Illustr. Daniel* etc. 344 He alone is said to title weaponed, viz. with a Sword coming out of his mouth. 1760 tr. *Duching's Syst. Geog.* V. 413 A griffin gules, crown'ed Or and weaponed, in a field azure.

c. *fig.*

*c* 1200 Orrin 677 Whas itt iss batt waepnedd iss Wiþþ fulle trowwþe o Criste. 1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxi. 5-11 Great troublesome shal...consume a mighti great noumbre of people in sort as though the aire were armed & weaponed to doe vengeaunce vpon the euil sort. 1585 Shute *Archit.* 3, b. Vitruuius myghte be partaker in al these sciences as were Aristarchus, Architas, [etc.]...(for all these were strongely weaponed with al these sciences before rehersed). 1618 J. Hoskyns *Trouh. Soul* i. iii. (1620) 10, I was come to a greatere staielnesse,...I was warned, I was weaponed; I was instructed, I was encouraged. 1839 J. Sterling *Poems* 156 Thy polished and haggard face is bare, And look so strong with weaponed thought. 1844 Emerson *Exs.* xx. Wks. (Bohn) I. 249 We are amphibious creatures, weaponed for two elements, having two sets of faculties, the particular and the catholic. 1860 — *Cond. Life* vi. ibid. II. 108 In all the encounters that have yet chanced, I have not been weaponed for that particular occasion, and have been historically beaten. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 15 'Responsible Government'...may also be found incompatible with that kind of weaponed and sentinelled peace that will follow the conflict.

d. *transf.* (Cf. Weapon *sb.* 1 d, 3.)

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 126 It [the ass] is a woonderful Coltishe beast, & vnreasonably weaponed. I. *animal inter asinos, & inter bestias bortium mansuetas*]. 1643 Milton *Divorce* 2 Yet they shall, so they be but found suitably weapon'd to the lest possibilitie of sensuall enjoyment, be made, spight of Paradise, to fadge together. 1850 Southey *Kehama* xvi. xiii, His mouth, from ear to ear, Weapon'd with triple teeth, extended wide.

**Weaponless** (we'pənles), *a.* [f. Weapon *sb.* + -less.] **a.** Without weapons or a weapon; unarmed.

*a* 1000 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* i. 724 *Inermes quoque*, i. *sine armis*, i. *uniuersi*, gelwylce wæpenleæ. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxix. 175 Wurdodlic þe godes gifu þæt þam wæpenleasan menn wæs to þy wælhreowan þinge wæpnun wiþ-standan. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 181 He sette a lawe for the pes, That non, but he be wepneles, Schal come into the covertt hous. *c* 1430 *Chron. Dice.* 366 Hyt wer grect vyjanye To do a knyght to deye Wepencles yn place. 1548 Udall etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 6-9 He sent them out weaponeles, leste that enuyous aydes should challenge any thing in this heauenly busynesse. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 24 Soone as the knight she there by her did spy, Standing with empitie hands all weaponeles. 1647 Earl Monm. *Sr Hondi's Civil Warr* v. 140 The defendants being suffered to depart away weaponeless. 1671 Milton *Samson* 130 [He] Ran on embattell'd Armies clad in Iron, And weaponless himself, Made Arms ridiculous. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* II. 200 Here the poor captives, weaponless and bound, Saw their stern victors draw again the sword. 1819 Byron *Mor. Judgth.* ii. 95 A lone, unarded, weaponless old man. 1820 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. III. 309 Take my sword, and leave me weaponless. 1895 Scully *Kaffir Stories* 98 Naked and weaponless fugitives from the Zulus and other tribes.

*fig.* 1689 Rutherford *Let. to Mar. M'Naught* 17 Nov., Lett. (1891) 45 My Captain, Christ, hath said, I must fight and overcome the world with a weak, spoiled, weaponless devil. 1880 C. Nesbit *Church Hist.* 32 God will not war with a weaponless devil.

**b.** *transf.* Of an animal: Without natural means of attack or defence.

1537 Coverdale *Expos. Ps. xxii* A viij b, Loke how lythe a naturall sheepe can kepe, gyde, rule, saue or defende it selfe agaynst daunger and mysfortune (for it is a feble and weapenlesse beast). 1644 J. Strickland *Immanuel* 6 Demmets or burroughes where weaponlesse creatures find shelter when they are hunted. 1666 J. Smith *Old Age* 58 That audacious Carper at the works of God who complained that other Creatures had naturally a defence given, and man only left weaponless).

c. Not containing a weapon.

1863 Thornbury *True as Steel* III. 297 'What a poor soldier am I' said the Ritter...looking down to his weaponless belt.

**Weaponry** (we'pənri). *rare.* [f. Weapon *sb.* + -ry.] Weapons collectively.

1824 *N. Brit. Rev.* I. 142 The armour of our ancient hails, the weaponry, the device. 1875 Talmage *Old Wells* 269 Look over the weaponry of olden times—javelins, battleaxes (etc.).

† **Weapon-salve.** *Obs.* [Cf. *G. waffensalbe.*] An ointment superstitiously believed to heal a wound by sympathetic agency when applied to the weapon by which the wound was made.

1631 W. Foster (*title*), Hoplocrisma-Spongus or, A Sponge to wipe away the Weapon-Salve...wherein is proved, that the Cure late-taken up amongst us, by applying the Salve to the Weapon, is Magicall and unlawfull. 1633 Hart *Diet of Diseased* III. xxx. 373 Cures...supposed to have been performed by the weapon-salve. *a* 1646 J. Gregory *Posthume, Serm. etc.* (1649) 63 The Principal Ingredient of the weapon-Salve, is the Mass of a dead Man's skul. 1670 Dryden *Tempest* v. i, Anoint the Sword which pierc'd him with this Weapon-Salve, and wrap it close from air till I have time to visit him again. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* vi. 191 The effects of healing by the weapon-salve.

**Wear** (wēr), *sb.* Also 5 were, 6–7 weare, 7–8 ware. [f. Wear *v.*¹]

I. 1. The action of wearing or carrying on the person (an article of clothing, an ornament, a watch, sword, or the like); the condition or fact of being worn or carried upon the person.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 567/1 The best and lightest Tymbre to make of Patyns and Clogges, and moost esiest for the were of all estate. 16.. *Bell my Wife* 26 in *Percy Fol. MS.* II. 41 My dublet was a very good cloake, it hath benn alwayes good to the weare. 1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 170 P 16 'Tis a Demonstration, that they have more Wood growing upon them, than is sufficient for their own Wear. J. Perry *State Russia* 74 The wear of Furs is a great Fashion in China. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* II. 11. 118 I do not think made in these stuffs...were ...as far as I could judge, superior for the ordinary wear of country people, to any thing we make in England. 1818 *Mem. Fetid Carriage Ribbon Weaver* 19 Every one who visits the sauce hings over some [articles of manufactured silk] for their own wear. 1903 R. Barr *Over Border* I. vi. 66 His costume...hung, loosely unfitting, about a frame that had become thin by dint of its wear and tear. 1908 *Daily Graphic* 31 Dec. 13/2 A charming coat for restaurant wear.

b. *The worse for wear*: deteriorated through wearing. (Cf. Wearing *vbl. sb.*¹ 2.)

1598 Chapman *Iliad* v. 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. 1840 'Ouida' *Mythe* I. ii. 32 The statuette...never seemed the worse for wear.

† **o.** Use, the using or making use (of a utensil). 1572 *Aldine Leaves* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 185/1 For ye wear of a ketill and a trevet xiid.

2. Phr. *To be in wear.* a. Of an article of clothing, an ornament, etc.: To be actually on the person of the wearer; also, to be (still) habitually worn by a person or fashion to have been discarded. Similarly (of a person), *to have in wear.* Of a house, etc.: To be occupied by people.

*style of garment, etc.* To be worn by people generally; to be in vogue or fashion. Similarly, *to come into wear.*

1796 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indicer.* III. 106 Sophia, do you know patches are coming into wear again! 1799 Washington *Lett.* (Writ. 1893) XIV. 40 If there are any handsome cockades (but not whimsically foolish) in wear,... I should be glad if they were sent with the eagles fixed thereon. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 179 The immense gigantic knee-buckles of massy silver are still in wear, that made gallant display in the days of the patriarchs of Communipaw. 1837–8 Maxwell *Lond. Labour* II. 338/1 Hitherto he any part of silk in a dress not suitable for any of these purposes is in wasted, or what is accounted wasted, although it may have been in wear for years. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* I. The lesser roadside inns of Italy; where all the dirty clothes in the house (not in wear) are always lying in your anteroom.

*fig.* 1847 *Inquirer Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1721) 274 Now, Sir, to proceed after the Method in present Wear. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, Assuredly that shield and buckler of Britannia is not in present wear.

3. What one wears or should wear; the thing or things worn or proper to be worn at a particular time or in certain circumstances.

1570 Lambarde *Perambk. Kent* (1576) 22 Makers of coloured woollen cloth, whereof the women weave their kersies: and to furnish the weare of the best sort of our owne nation. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* x. 180 And without crest or plume at all his morian on [he] did his pull, Of Selish hyde, a yong mans weare. 1611 Cotgr., *Le...* vn pas de Mode, the onely weare. 1621 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 347 Will you buy...Any Silke, any Thread, any Toyes for your head Of the newest and finest, fine sutes. 1629 Feltham *Aut. Malim* lii. 1, What's in that pack there? *I Sold.* 'Tis English Cloth, *Nor.* That's a good weare indeed, Both strong, and rich. 1661 Cleveland *Rebell. Poems. Poet. Remedie* 329 Wks. (1687) 190 Our Wear's plain Out-side, but is richly lin'd. 1688 *Holme Armoury* II. 257/2 It is a wear amongst little Children with on to this day. 1696 Mosse *Amer. Geog.* II. 166 A particular kind of flowered and striped lawns, which are a cheap and fashionable wear. 1818 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 292 It has occasionally been questioned whether hats or turbans were the prevailing wear. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Ribbons* (1865) 18 The Great Duke's theory was...that for common people your plain coat without stars and ribbons was the most sensible wear. 1865 in *Ill. Hist. Dress* (1893) II. 261 Little insects of all kinds, especially flies, are good wear in bonnets. 1889 *Manch. Exam.* 5 June 5/6 Their cotton gowns are much cooler wear in the broiling weather of the present week than the warm Welsh woollens. 1900 *Times* 29 July 11/3 The makers...are fairly well supplied with orders, men's wear excepted.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 98 *Clo.* I hope Sir, your good Worship wil be my baile? *Luc.* No indeed wil I not Pompey, it is not the wear. 1732 Young *Sr. TA.* v. 829 Hence burly coquelicot is his familiar wear, and sleek disguise. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & M.* I. xiv. 232 Meeting one day with a lovely face that had flaxen locks about it, we thought for a good while after, that flaxen was your only wear. 1898 C. L. Smith *Tasso's Jerus. Delivered* III. viii. Each from his head removes the laudle there Of silk or gold...Each doffs too from his heart its haughty wear.

4. a. Capacity for being worn or for further advantageous use.

1699 Bovee *Royal Dict., Engl.-Fr.* s. v. A Stuff of good Wear, *une Etoffe d'un bon use.* 1881 *Punch* 6 Feb. 64/1 The shoe that has still wear in it. 1901 Allbridge *Sherboro xxviii.* 339 The native-made cloths...of never-ending wear.

b. Advantage of continued wearing.

1836 [Hooton] *Bilberry Thurland* II. i. 35, I've had more wear out of this one waistcoat, than any half dozen I've had given.

II. 5. The process or condition of being worn or gradually reduced in bulk or impaired in quality by continued use, friction, attrition, exposure to atmospheric or other natural destructive agencies; loss or diminution of substance or deterioration of quality due to these causes.

1729 [T. Prior] *Observ. Coin* (1850) 205 This Scarcity will be further increased by the Wear of Silver Coins, which has lessened their Weights considerably. 1730 Conduit *Observ. Coins* (1774) 51 The telling money on wood, especially with a mixture of sand, very much increases the wear. 1791 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 321, I then sew the coast was in a state of wear. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 546 The foundation should be covered to the depth that is necessary to sustain the wear to which the road is subject. 1869 F. Kohn *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 70 The saw, not being constantly in use, is driven by an independent engine to save the wear of the bearings. 1891 *Flower Horse* iii. 113 The shape of the table alters as the wear of the tooth proceeds. 1894 A. M. Bell in *Trans. Anthrop. Inst.* XXIII. 273 So also with surface finish; if there be any definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather,...of position when found, each of which places them in a class by themselves.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1882 Spurgeon *Treas. Dan. Ps. exlix.* 20. VI. 51 They [*sc.* desires for holiness] cause a wear of heart, a straining of the mind. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 321 Those who care already showing signs of wear in their nervous systems.

8. Wear and tear, wearing or damage due to ordinary usage; deterioration in the condition of a thing through constant use or service. Also (less usual) *tear and wear*: see Tear *sb.*² 1.

1666 Pepys *Diary* 29 Sept., The wages, victuals, wear and tear, cast by the medium of the men, will come to above £3000 more. 1691 [? Halke] *Rep. Ld. Ch.* 19 Wear and tear of Ground-Tackle. 1699 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* IV. 595 Allowing 4*l.* a man per mensem for ware and tear, charge of the ordnance included. 1702 Savile *Mower's Friend* 64 A Work...that cost forty shillings per Annum besides Ware and Tare of Engines. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. ix. (1869) II. 249 The wear and tear of the implements of husbandry. 1835 Marryat *Pirate* xxiii, The pair of shoes may have lasted her five years, for the wear and tear that she took out of them. 1839 Stonehouse *Athome* 46 It is difficult to calculate the wear and tear of fair horses, straining through the thick mud, breaking the gears, and almost pulling the waggon to pieces. 1867 Smith *Sailor's Words, Wear and Tear*, the decay and deterioration of the hull, spars, sails, ropes, and other stores of a ship in the course of a voyage. 1868 Stanley *Westm. Addr.* (ed. 2) 308 The wear-and-tear of four centuries has caused this venerable building quite unfit for its purpose. 1900 *Act 3 Edw. VII* c. 42 § 7 (d), Such damage as the local authority consider to be due to fair wear and tear in the use of any room in the school house.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 1182 That in return would pay Wear-price, The Wear-and-tear of Conscience. 1775 Johnson in *Boswell* (1931) I. 515 You are not to wonder at that; no man's face has had more wear and tear. 1861 J. Hamilton *Hearer Hum. Life* ii. § 31 There is not a whit less wear and tear to the nerves. 1868 Macaulay *Lett. Hallam* (1897) 89 Mr. Hallam...scarcely makes a sufficient allowance for the wear and tear which honesty almost necessarily sustains in the friction of political life. 1898 Hall in *Academy* 22 Nov., Unequal to the wear and tear of daily life, as he had often professed himself to be. 1881 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit. Ser.* II. vi. (1888) 160 (Nay), I doubt whether his [Shelley's] delightful Essays and Letters...will not resist the wear and tear of time better...than his poetry.

7. *Angling.* (See quot.)

1819 *Sporting Mag.* N. S. III. 231 It was who should stay upon the wear-out game in the rain the longest. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 491 Bravo, Neal—he must win it—he has too much wear and-tear for Gayle.

III. 8. The anterior surface of the lower part of the mouth of a carpenter's plane.

1825 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* II. 318/2 The narrow opening between the face of the iron and the line *m n* is termed the *mouth* of the plane; the line *m n* is called the *wear*: the angle between the mouth and the wear should be as small as possible, as that as the sole wears away... the mouth may not be too much enlarged.

**Wear** (wēə), *v.*¹ Pa. t. wore (wōə); pa. pple. worn (wōən). †Forms: 1 werian, 3 4 werie, werye, 3–5 *north.* wer, 3–7 were, 4 weri, 4 6 wher(e, 5 wery(e, wheer, 5–6 weer, e, 5–8 (chiefly *Sc.*) weir, 6 wayre, *Sc.* wair, 6–7 weyre, 6–7 weare, 7 ware, 6– (*n. dial.*) wear. *Pa. t. a.* 1–5 were(de, 3 wooredde, 4 5 wered, -id, werd(e, 5 weryd(e, werryde, -id, veryd, *Sc.* werit, -yt, weiret, 6 weard, 8 *dial.* 8 *dial.* 6 wore, 4–5 wer, weyr. *Sc.* war, wour, 5–6 *Sc.* woir, 5–7 ware, 6 weer, weare, wayre, waare, warre, woore. *Sc.* wair, woure, 6–7 woare, 6– wore. *Pa. pple. a.* 1–5 wered, 4 (*y*)werd, 5 weryd, -yd, *Sc.* -it, werde, weerde. *B.* 5 worn, 5–8 worne,

6 woren, *Sc.* worne, 6–8, 9 *dial.* wore, 5– worn. [A Com. Teut. weak vb. (wanting in Frisian, LG., Du., Sw., Da., and mod. Norw.): OE. *werian* corresponds to OHG. *werjan, werjen* to clothe, ON. *verja* to clothe, also to invest, lay out (money: see WARE *v.*²), Goth. *waisjan* to clothe (also in comb. *gawasjan* to clothe, *andwasjan* to unclothe, strip):—OTeut. **wasjan* (? and **wasjan*), f. Teut. root **was-*, whence Goth. *wasti* fem., garment, MHG. *wester* fem., christening robe; ablaut variant of OTeut. and Indogermanic **wes-*, whence ON. *vest* neut., cloak, L. *vestis* garment, Gr. *ἕννῡμι* (:—**wesnu-*) to clothe, *ἑσθής, ἑσθῆς* raiment, Skr. *vas* to clothe, *vasman* neut., a cover, garment, *vastra* neut., clothing.

The change from the weak to the strong conjugation, due to the analogy of verbs like *wear, bear, tear*, seems to have begun in the 14th c., but is rare before the 16th. In OE. the pa. pple. *geworen* occurs once, along with the regular *forwered*, as a gloss to *decoratus* (Napier *Obs. Glos.* 1900), and in *The Rimed Cato* it was should probably read *wel worene geloreus* for the *forwoorene geloreous* of the MS.]

**I.** To carry appendant to the body (*J.*).

1. *trans.* To carry or bear on one's body or on some member of it, for covering, warmth, ornament, etc.; to be dressed in; to be covered or decked with; to have on.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* iv. ix. (1883) 190 Þæt nan oþer ne moste gyldenne hring werian, buton he æþeles cynnes were. *c* 1000 *Lav.* 1709 He wreeðe an þone. *c* 1200 *St. Patrick* 506 in *S. Pat.* 1731 Ich wereðe clopes of be en-tanle þat heo weoren on eorðe here. 23 *Edw. A. Gr Ant.* 1928 He were a bleaunt of blwe, þat he[d]de to þe vrþe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 139 If þat I liste it do, I dar ryng[e] for to were vp on hir thombe or in hir purs it bere. *c* 1450 *Merl's Testam.* 193 He were þe her next to hys flesch. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* iii. 84 Ilk ane to wour wesche dayly on him he wour. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 72 Though he ware the habit of religyon, yet his herte was in the worlde. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* x. 18 To were a colre of golde. 1590 *Taylor's Newes Fr. Lucarne* 35 A crewe of men that weare Bay-garlands on their heads. 1601, 1696 [see TRUB *sb.* 4]. 1693 HOWELL *Londinop.* 31 Women [Turks] be [sc. a prisoner] ware from Thursday till Sunday. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 355 Wearing Watches in their Pockets. 1721 *Bailey, Wear*, to Cloath, Put on. Wks. III. 199 More fine linen is wore in Great Britain than in any other country. 1857 W. A. BUTLER *Nothing to wear* 10 Miss M'Flimsey The last time we met, was in utter despair, Because she had nothing whatever to wear! *Ib.* Harlan *Eyesight* iv. 78 In Germany it has long been impossible to fill the ranks of the army without allowing soldiers to wear glasses. 1901 J. HUTCHINSON *Walker by Thirlmere* 180 He wears the same clothes for years. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sense.* 215 His ears had been pierced for earrings, though he wore none.

*fig.* 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* iv. 30 Each common Bush shall Syrian Roses wear. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xviii, Every Jujcarith the Garden wore.

**b.** To dress oneself habitually or at a particular season in (a material, garment) of a particular sort or fashion. Also in *passive*, of the material or garment.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Neaxt fleahe ne schal mon werien no linene cloð. *c* 1250 *Dominus vobiscum* in *E. E. Hym.* 64 Mon of Jusse riche þat wereden foh and grei. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11128 He...wered noþer wol ne line. 23 *Edw. A. Gr Ant.* 1928 [See 1] He hadde yweld þe fowe and gris. *c* 1440 PROMP. COOK *Repr.* v. xiii. 143 The habitry whiche I ben accused to be worn of the religiose personnes. 1548 *Life of St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye* lii. She wer euer rough & sharpe woolen cloth. 1558 CONSIDERAR *Scotland* xiii. 18 Soch garmentes wayre yᵉ kynges doughters wh ye they were virgins. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxv. § 2 The Church...suffereth mourning apparell to bee worne. 1785 GEO. A. BELLAMY *Apol.* III. 50 Brown rateen, which at that time was much wore. 1848 THACKERAY *Fam. Inst.* iii, When the Court went into mourning, she always wore black. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf. t.* viii. 126 She wears her trains very long, as the great ladies do in Europe. *a* 1861 R. W. BARNARD *Thoughts* (1900) 66 Wearing scarlet is a badge of being in the Queen's service.

*fig.* 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xl, Loveliest of trees, the cherry now Stands about the woodland ride Wearing white for Eastertide.

†**c.** with *on* or *upon* adv. (= on one's person; cf. *have on, put on*). *Obs.*

*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 564 A chapelet, so semly oon Ne were neuer mayde vpon. *c* 1386 — *Wife's Prol.* 169 I weyed vpon my gaye scarlet gytes. 1387 TREVISA *Higd.* (1. 39 þei victor þym self schulde were on iupster his cote. 1597 HARMAN *Caveat* A lytle whyssell of syluer that his mother dyd vse customably to weare on. 1870 LEVINS *Manip.* 211/43 To Weare on *Serre*. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 364 He weareth on a purple coloured coate.

**d.** said of an animal.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* d iii, The bellis that yowre hawke shall wheer loke in any wise that they be not to heuy ouer hir power to be wore. 1939 W. WILLIAMSON *Lonely Farm I* ove 13 b, A ring of gold ..ceaseth not to be a ring of gold though a swine weare it.

†**e.** *absol.* To dress, be clad (in a specified fashion). *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Þet techeð al hu me schal beren him wiðuten, hu eten, drincken, werien, liggen, slepen, wakien. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 28 They walkinge and wearinge in that common place agreable to there callinge and state.

**f.** *intr.* (for *passive*) = to be worn; to be the fashion.

1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. i. 172 Virginitie like an olde Courtier, weares her cap out of fashion,..iust like the brooch and the tooth-pyck now. 1888 QUILLER-COUCH in *Echoes fr. Oxf. Mag.* (1890) 105 Are 'hems' wearing?

2. *trans.* To bear or carry (arms, also a stick or cane). †Hence, to display (a heraldic charge) on one's shield.

*c* 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* xxx, Ne preost...wæpna ne werize. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i 355 I the byschop...gert him wer His knyȝys, forouch him to scher. *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3872 He was the worthyeste wyȝe in werre that euer stele werryde. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Armys* (S.I.S.) 376 I han will he declare the armes that all prince and nobleis and other gentillis aw to were, and of thair colouris and diverseiouns. 1463 *Lovy Wills* (Camden) 13 To Dawn Willm Boxforde my knyves that I vsyd my selfe. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* vii. 18 Soch as were fightinge men, which weyr sheldys & swerde, and bolde bende in the bowe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Nav.* v. xxii. 191 b, [They had] weapons, at no time after to wear armes against the Turkish nation. 1598 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1. 51 b) I *wore* nothe. The ryd lyon he weires in his armes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 2 Weare thy good Rapier bare, and put it home. 1690 in *Nairn Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 The last Lord Nairn Murray ..to...beare and wear the armes and cognizance of the house and family of Nairne. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 27 Sept., His cane (if unfortunately he wears one) is at present a heavy iron every bit of tea or coffee he drinks. 1775 SIR BRIAN *Downing* iii. viii, You shall know that I have a brother who wears a sword. 1819 D. R. WARDEN *Acc. U. S.* III. 219 Both wear the same cockade in all seasons. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Rankl's Hist. Servia* 270 Their small arms, which they had formerly been permitted to wear.

†**b.** To use, employ, handle. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxvii. 3 Nim nu þine wæs et eriscre. W[oman] weorðiu seoce and riddell. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 367 He offered vnto hym..a grete portion of sylver vessell, but he wold non þerof for his sake.

**3.** To allow (one's hair, beard) to grow in a specified fashion, or as opposed to shaving or to the use of a wig.

*c* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1056 Leofgar...se wereðe his kenegas on his preosthade oððat he wæs biscop. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iii. xvi. 366 Some men...weren hauynge hire lynnen or silken kemerchefs, but weriden her open heer 1580 DAY tr. *Stedman's Comm.* 55 Speake seldome, and weare your haire short. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. 158 The Clearke wil neuer weare haire on's face that had it. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 3 The women weare their haire long on both sides. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 407 Many of them have abandoned their Country to preserve their liberty of wearing their Hair. 1706 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxx, Be so good as to comb your head, for it wants sadly to be combed. 1860 WOOLNER *Resol & Independ.* viii, The oldest man he seem'd that ever wore grey hairs. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i. He wore his own dark hair. 1848 *Queen's Regul. Naval Service* 21 Every Officer and Seaman of the Fleet are not to wear mustachios or beards. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. ii. § 1 She wore her hair in a knob behind.

**4.** Phrases. (*a*) and (*b*).

**a.** *To wear a crown, diadem, mitre, palm, the purple*, etc.: to hold the dignity or office of which the ornament is a symbol.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros* vi. xxx. (1883) 280 Þæt his woldon þa onwaldas forleatan, & þa purpuran alecgan þa his weredon. 1380 WYCL. *Sermons* iii. 84 King Lewis made a gret vow...to alle that weredenⁿ purpre. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Gentileste* 7 Al were he mytre, crowne or dyademe. *c* 1470 *Harp* 1 *Epiphany* (Percy Soc. Camden) 4 He was þis tyme kynge þat ever were[d] crowne of golde in this londe. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* i. 1. 6 The last That wore the Imperiall Diadem of Rome. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, iii. 1. 31 Wisedom lyes the Head, that weares a Crowne. 1597 BUREE *Regne. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 274 It is the power of winning that palm which ensures our wearing it. 1849 MACAULAY *Eng. Hist.* I. ii. 205 Regarding that conflict which it was probable that he would himself one day wear. 1895 ' H. S. MERRIMAN ' *Sowers* ii, He [the Emperor] is a gentleman, although he has the misfortune to wear the purple.

†**b.** *To wear the horn(s)*: = to be a cuckold. *Obs.*

*c* 1530 *Hychescorner* 706 And, knyght of the halter, my fader ware an horne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iv. iii. 24 Take him no leaue to weare the horne. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 98 By reason he was old, and without children, his wife should due well to make him weare the horne. 1662 ALBERT *European...Spy* 28 The good wife weares the breeches, the good man the hornes.

†**c.** *To wear papers*: (of an offender) To have a note of one's offence fastened on one's back or head. *Obs.*

*a* 1529–1608: see PAPER *sb.*² b.

*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 1 Some after were appiehended diuerse called promoters..of the whiche, the moste part ware papers, and stoode on the Pillorie. 1552 HULOET, Weare a paper, *Cartam infamiæ gestare*, *contaminari* [read *cotomidiæ*]. 1560–1 MALBYE *Diary* (Camden) 250 They were paper a-poon their heides for perjury. 1616 BERTON *Good A Bad* 13 Lest when the Law imbeedes Lies them open, in steade of carrying papers in their hands, they weare not papers on their heads.

**d.** *To wear one's arm in a scarf* or *sling*: to support it thus when injured. *To wear one's heart upon one's sleeve*: see HEART *sb.* 54 f.

1597, 1600 [see SCARF *sb.*¹ 4]. 1666 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 27 My companion was so bruised, that he wore his arm in a scarf for two months after. 1707 BOWN *Dict. Royal* II. s. v. *Sling*, To wear one's Arm in a Sling. *Porter le bras en écharpe.* 1794 [see SLING *sb.*² 3 c].

**e.** *To wear the breeches*: see BREECH *sb.* 2. *To wear yellow hose* (or *breeches*): see YELLOW *a.* 2. *To wear the willow*: see WILLOW.

1829 MARRYAT *Dk. Melros* iv. ii, If I were The Duke..I should weare yellow breeches.

†**f.** *slang.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1822 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Bands*, To wear the bands, is to be hungry, or short of food for any length of time. *Ibid.* s.v. *Wear it*, to wear it upon a person, (meaning to wear a nose, or a cank,) is synonymous with nosing, conking, splitting, or coming it.

**5.** Of a ship (or its commander): To fly (a flag, colours).

†Formerly also, to carry (a mast).

1558 in W. G. PERRIN *Brit. Flags* (1922) 88 Mr. Broke, Captaine of the reed Gallie, who is appointed to ware the flagge of vice Admyrall for this present Jorney. 1575 FLEMING *tr. Bucol.* iv. 12 No ship that weares a maste, Shal make exchaunge of wares. 1697 J. SMITH *Sea Grammar*, title, Any ship...where he...resideth...is to weare his flag in the maine top. 1866 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 8081 Thirteen French Gallies, wearing Swedes Colors. 1933 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 33991/1 The Czar on board his Ship wears the Distinction of Vice-Admiral of the Blue. 1803 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) V. 389 *note*, Saint George's Ensign was to be worn by every Ship in Action. 1868 *Queen's Regul. Naval Service* 17 The Admiral of the Fleet, and the Admirals of the Red, White, and Blue, shall wear their proper Flag. 1881 MACGREGOR *Rogr* 73 The other [pennant] is worn at the mast-head of all armed vessels in the employ of the government of a British colony.

**6.** *transf.* To bear or possess as a member or part of the body.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. Prol. 156 Quhy the corn hes the cauff, And kow weris clufe. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* iii. 70 b, The fish that weareth it [the 'fishe bone'] is called in Moscu. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. 2. 24 Who knowes not where a Wasps doe's weare his sting? In his taile. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. i. 14 Sweet are the vses of aduersitie Which like the toade ougly and venemous, Weares yet a precious Iewell in his head. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* Pref D 2 b, Every man weares but his owne skin. 1622 BACON *Instr. Med. Domest.* to Edr. 34 To use to weare a little Garlick in his belly, his gutts in his head. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 531 Two Golden Horns on his large Front he wears. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 41 All this must you suffer first or last, Must one Day perch on Charon's Mast. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 47, I will not put my estate to nurse to you, nor to that best he that wears a head. 1847 H. BUTLER *Jesuit Legacy* (1851) 23 Let it be worn as a badge, an armature of bone outside. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, Steyne wore the scar to his dying day.

**7.** To exhibit or display (a particular look, expression, appearance, etc.).

1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 344 With a countenance as cleare As Friendship wears at Feasts. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* i. 1, Wou'd you see an action of Love wear, 1749 HARRINGTON *Tom Jones* xi. vii, He now assumed a carriage to me so very different from what he had lately worn. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iii, The world now began to wear a different aspect. 1800 R. H. DANA *Jr. Idle Man* (1864) 48 I have everything wore the appearance of a holiday. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* 21, Both were very long faces. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xli, Such a countenance of Lord St. Aldegonde wore a rueful expression.

**8.** In various *fig.* uses: To carry about with one in one's heart, mind, or memory; to have as a quality or attribute; to bear (a name, title).

*a* 1388 SIDNEY *Arcad. Poetrie* (1595) 1 Let this name be worne in the tablet of your memory. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 75 He weares his faith but as the fashion of his hat, it euer changes with ye next block. 1600 — *Hen. V*, iii. 6. 106 Tell me that man, That is not Passions Slaue, and I will weare him In my hearts Core. 1605 — *Meas.* ii. ii. 65 My Hands are of your colour: but I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1652 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. iv. 19 Dr. Reynolds (although (the last I believe) who wore it at title). 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* v. i, He did wear your Brother in his bosome as his dearest Friend. 1727 THOMSON *Sum* 1. 1. 1. 318 'Kuach ! an unfortunate name !' said he,—'but, as it is my name, I will wear it.' 1829 in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., He was sair ill the carriage, and he had now worn for eight years. 1848 *Classical Museum* V. 382 The dithyramb wore the same character as Pindar's *Odes*. 1882 *Christian Commw.* 21 Feb. 439/2 Those who wear His name.

**b.** To possess and enjoy as one's own. Chiefly in phr. *to win and wear* (a lady as one's wife).

The lit. reference may have been to a favour won in the tilt, or to a king's crown (cf. Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, iii. 1. 74).

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 114 I hou hast wone her—weare her. 1588 GREENE *Farewell to Folly* (1617) G 3, Melanegrus in a Knight that hath wonne many by loue, and now but he shall weare me. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 82 Win me and weare me, let me bee assured. 1622 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 56 You may weare her in title yours. 1811 FISCHER *Melegraf Chase* iv. 1, Win 'em, and wear 'em, I give up my interest. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 350, I, who have won the gold, am only fit to wear it. 1849 MARRYAT *Chldr. N. Forest* xxxvii, As for his daughter...you have yet to 'win her and wear her', as the saying is.

**II.** To waste, damage, or destroy by use.

**9.** To waste and impair (a material) gradually by use or attrition. Primarily with clothes as obj. = to damage them by ordinary wearing.

Perh. originally short for FORWEAR, which is found earlier.

1380 WYCLIF *Josh.* ix. 13 Clothis and shoon...for the length of longer weye ben to-roden, and almest wered. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* (1495) 169 Water doth gnawe and weer the nessshe parties of the eithe. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv (end), When his tuskes shoue beth ..weered of be heythe tuskes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weryn, or vson, as clothys and other thyngys, *vetero.* 1530 *Test. Eltor.* (Surtees) VI. 89 Any of the said houshold stuf to worne or spoyn, then she to be reasonable recompensed. 1598 UDALL *Eratum, Apoph.* 45 How it chaunced, that the philosophiers did fette and weare the thrashholdes of riche mennes houses. 1599 SERMER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 8, I have pypped erst so long with payne, That all mine Oten reedes bene rent and wore. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 752 All the letters beside..are so worne and gone, that they could not be read. 1621 BURTON *Anat.* vi. 36 Let thy foote weare [*keepe*] the steps of his doore. 1707 POPE *Rhetor* 19 Ye rugged rocks, which holy knees have worn ! 1764 J. HARRISON *Lect.* 47 When the stone is considerably wore,

and become light, the mill must be fed slowly. 1849 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* 74 We climb'd on the graves, on the stones worn with rains. 1855 Bohn *Ray's Prov.* etc. 339 Constant dropping wears the stone. 1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* 112 When the teeth are crowded too closely together, they...wear one another. 1898 "H. S. Merriman" *Roden's Corner* iv. 33 The house...is of dark red brick with facings of stone, long since worn by wind and weather.

*absol.* 1908 *Retrd Sb. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 222 He sal defend the wranye at it were na ferrar in, efter vale and quantyre of his land.

**b.** with intensifying adv., as *away, down, off, out.*

1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addit., *Contero*, to weare out with occupienge. 1586 in *Innocentiana de la Reyne Douairiere* (Bannatyne Club) 33 An auld cannaliie of grene serge wonne away and brokin. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 4 Her lockes...Grew all afore,... But all behind was bald, and worne away. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xviii. xxi, Downe fell the bridge, swelled the streame, and weard The worke away. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 374 All the linnen is quite worne out. 1674 Boyle *Corfusc. Philos.* 28 Such an attrition, as wears off the edges and points. 1676 J. Smith *Art of Painting* xvii. 75 Too frequent operations in this kind must needs wear off a little of the Colours. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. viii, Never sweep a room out of use; only wears out brooms for nothing. 1838 T. Mitchell *Acharn. of Aristophanes* 620 *note*, The metaphor is derived from a flock of sheep, the fleece of which is worn out. 1858 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) iii. 25 These flinty cases and spicule...are...admirably adapted, when rubbed, for wearing down into a fine powder for polishing the surfaces of metals. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. D. 316 The catch on the pin...was worn away. 1920 C. Alington *Strained Relations* xiv. 192 If you can't get into Parliament without my wearing out your old suits.

**c.** with pred. extension, as *to wear threadbare, smooth, blunt*; *to wear to rags or tatters, to the stumps.* (Also in fig. context.)

*c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 223 Welth and Wyt, I say, le so threde bare worne, That...Wyt shall be lorne. 1732 [see Stump *sb.* 3 b]. 1575 Gascoigne *Wrotes, Compl. greene Knt.* 180 She did but weare Cosmanes clouter, which she in spite had torne to rags. 1577 Harrison *Eng.* II. iii. (1877) 1. 190 Some wore the threeds so neere [etc.]. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 48 My Pen is worn blunt. 1661 Boyle *Style Script.* (1675) 232 In which frequent blisters have worn it to lattice. 1698 Amory *Buncle* (1770) II. 69 There was no water dropping from the roof of this cave; but in a thousand places...it crept through the sides, and formed streams that ran softly over the ground and wore it smooth. 1765 Foote *Commissary* 1. 7 He'll stick to his honour too, till his cassock is wore to a rag. 1808 Scott *Marmion* I. v, His forehead his casque worn bare. 1851 Thackeray *Esmond* I. vii, She would wear a gown to rags, because he had once liked it.

**10.** To sap the strength or energy of (a person, his faculties, etc.) by toil, age, etc.; to fatigue, weary; †to exhaust (a soil).

1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritit Wemen* 127 He is waistit and worne fra Venus werkis. 1543-54 Fitzherd. *Husb.* § 14 All these manner of ots weares the grounde very sore. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 384/1 *Ager effœtus*,...a ground that by continuall fruitfulnes is quite spent, worne, and out of occupying. 1591-5 Peter Pembroke *Lay of Clorinda* 55 That do we weep and waile, and that wear out eies. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. 1. 4 Since you have made the daies and nights as one, To weare your gentle limbes in my affayres. 1663 Pepys *To Carcavy* 26 August I am worn with Cares and Age. 1825 Scott *Talism.* iii, Both warriors, worn by toil and travel, were soon fast asleep. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* ix. 1 He had brought it up to an occupation that wears the spirits. 1869 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., M. de Guérin* (1875) 121 Still the yoke wore him deeply, and he had moments of bitter revolt. 1878 Huxley *Hume* iv. 100 Age, the common fate of all, has worn Thy frame.

**b.** with adv., as *away, out, down*, †*up*. Also with advb. phr., as *to wear to death.*

*c* 1594 in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* 1. I. 193 Ells they [the Irish] shall never be worn out of their barbarous condicions. 1598 Wolton *Cast. Christians* F ij b, Perucrse affections, which doo euen weare away, and consume vs. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 100 You that have worne your eyes almost out in the service, you will be considered. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* v. 241 A weed that groweth commonly upon grounds ouerlaued, and worne out of heart. 1639 W. Walker *Param.* 56 They wil by wearing their eyes out. 1651 Sir T. Herbert Blount *Rel.* 165 In most of these Places the old Inhabitants, or their Breed, are quite wore away. 1701 Collier *M. Aston.* (1726) 8 That will live too fast, wear out their constitution, and destroy the capacities of enjoyment. 1789 Law *Ser. Call* xi. 169 She tells you that her patience is quite wore out. 1797 Encyclop. *Lond.'s Abyssinia*, I. viii. 42 The concern they shew'd at seeing us worn away with Hunger, Labour, and Weariness. 1783 — *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 23 July, Indeed, my dear, you have worn out your body. 1803 Beddoes *Hygeia* iv. 105 At the close of the season in London women appear worn down, haggard and spent. 1840 Ainsw. *Lancash. Nov.* II. 314 With these missiles [they] endeavoured to wear down the mass of their enemies. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxiv, This poor little Machioness has been wearing herself to death! 1847 W. E. Forster in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vi. 190 I found my father pretty well, but worn up and worn down. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, And still you go hanging on to my sister, who's not fit for you all like an old shoe, when she's wore you out. 1872 Daseent *Three to One* x, He always looks well when he doesn't wear himself down dancing all night. 1882 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 230 They carried on an uninterrupted war against the new settlers until they completely wore them out. 1886 'Sarah Tytler' *Buried Diamonds* xviii, To-night, when one is worn off one's feet already, with this miserable ball. 1904 M. Hewlett *Queen's Quair* iii. xi. 300 She wore herself to thread, padding up and down the room. 1910 *World* 7 May 700/1 As the soil...becomes worn out the farmers have to buy more artificial manure.

**11.** *fig.* With object a quality, condition, activity, disease, etc.: To cause to weaken, diminish, or disappear gradually. Chiefly with adv. or advb. phr. (as above). *To wear out*: to efface, destroy, exhaust, abolish, by gradual loss or the lapse of time.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 33 The world...welnyh is wered oute. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2930 Oure wages are werede owte, and thi were endide. 1596 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* I. vi. (1595) 18 But that custome...is long since worne out. 1657 in *Jervis Mem.* (1907) II. 59 That acquaintance with you which time and far distance hath worne something out of our memories. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 47 We grant, although he had much wit, H' was very shie of using it, As being loath to wear it out. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 6 All other Themes that careless Minds invite, Are worn with Use, unworthy me to write. 1705 Addison *Italy, Venice* 200 By the Pompousness of the whole Phrase to wear off any Littleness that appears in the particular Parts that compose it. 1711 — *Spect.* No. 39 ? 2 Diversions of this kind wear out of our Thoughts every time that a man and little. 1757 F. Coventry *Pompey the Little* I. x. 91 When he had a little wore off the Relish of Pleasure. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxii, As the fire wore away the strength of the wood. 1857 B. Taylor *Northern Travel.* xii. (1858) 124 When the novelty of the thing is worn off. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. xvi, As if Time alone could quite wear her injury out. 1891 *Law Rep. Chancery Div.* (1892) I. 236 Will did not strike a blow till all the powers of diplomacy had been thoroughly worn out between himself and his rival. 1899 *Athenæum* 5 Aug. 181/1 Repeated operations with the idea of 'wearing out' the disease.

**b.** *To wear down*: to blunt the force of and overcome by steady resistance or counter-attack. Also, to get gradually ahead of (a competitor in a race) by superior endurance.

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xix. 221 These medicines...remove the agnish fits...gradually, and as it were, by wearing down the paroxysms. 1851 Dixon *W. Penn* viii. (1870) 80 The young Duke...strove to wear down malice by his patient and forgiving mood. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* 20 Be a man, and wear it down. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 25 Mar. 5/1 Mediciar...gradually wearing down Balm of Gilead, won by three-quarters of a length.

†**c.** *To wear out*: to forget, lose mental hold of, through disuse or lapse of time. *Obs.*

*a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* To Rdr., My application to another Study and Profession, have well nigh worn the Language of little use to me, and so I wore it out by degrees. 1708 *Spirit Sent. Ch.-of-Eng. Man* § 2 Misc. (1721) 231 When Men have worn out the Sense preserved among us, the Kingdom had not quite worn out the Memory of that unhappy Rebellion.

**12.** To form or produce by attrition.

1597 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Chas. Brandon* 17 That Nectar...stayned way, The restlesse sunne by trauailing doth weare. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 520 Few Paths of Humane Feet, or Paths of Beasts there were, but all untrod: *Virgil's Æneid.* I. 74/1 Ants, with constant passing up and down, will wear traces even in flints. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. vii. 1 I had not come now; I wore a hole in my shoe. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 203 A steep and rugged path, worn by the boors' cattle.

**III.** *intr.* To suffer waste or decay by use or by lapse of time.

**13.** Of persons or living things, activities, qualities, etc.: To lose strength, vitality, keenness, sharpness, or intensity, by the decay of time; to waste, diminish, or fade by gradual loss.

*c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Per wereb yve wlite in wurmene won. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1 All thyng wexeth and weareth. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 80 Swifter...than wasting Moone. 1591 Spenser *Virgil's Gnat* 1. 68 Deaf old man...mortified to himself...that the sexton was wearing fast. 1864 Browning * Th. Jan. Let's Life* iv. vii, Yet this turns now to a fault ...That I look not and weary and wear.

**b.** most commonly with adv., as *away, off, out*, or advb. phr.

1577 in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) I. 215 Alle thing wexes and weares away. 1590 Gower *Conf.* I. 36 Whilom god wole, it [the schism]schal were oute, For trowthe mot stonde ate laste. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 467 All Welth in Play is wairit away. 1599 Broughton *Lett. Remembr. Health* ecclasn. (1597) 121 b, Were before the eyes a piece of blacke sarcenet...and it [a blast in the eye] wyll were away. 1574 tr. *Hardevat's Apoc.* 28 To the intent these things might neuer more come to your eares. 1601 Bible *Exod.* xviii. 18 Thou wilt surely weare away...: for this thing is too heauy for thee. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 282, I found that my Distemper increased, and my Dysentery was worn away. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 247 In a little Time, however, no more Canoes appearing, the Fear of their Coming wore off. 1720 S. Payne *Hy. R. Cavendish's Journ.* Pref. 39 xiv, His usual Reply was, A Man had better wear out than rust out. 1728 Kames *Decis. Court Sess. 1730-54* (1759) 49 Hence the time was fixed which should be sufficient...to wear leases out of use. 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 111 If clover is apt to wear out of your ground. 1789-96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 308 Many persons conjecture that the Cape [Cod] is gradually wearing away. 1798 Lee *Lond. Bar.* 123. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* I. ii. 112 Till summer heats wear down, 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii, When its novelty had long worn off. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 360 He...seldom got any relief until the attacks were wearing off. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamilton* xx, Her anger, so far from wearing out, grew on what fed it. 1879 Blackie *Æschylus* ix, The chill of driving through the fogs of the plain had worn off. 1889 S. Walpole *Ld. John Russell* xxi. II. 98 The strange things about had so frequently separated Sir Robert Peel and Lord John began visibly to wear away.

**c.** with predicative adj. *rare.*

1877 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. viii, The chorus is wearing weak: the chorus is worn *out*. 1879 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* 334 An old man of great strength now wearing weak.

†**d.** *To wear out, forth*, of something which holds good for a limited time: To determine, expire. *Obs.*

1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 2430 What þe terms þat þai had take Wer weried oute. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. 1682 Nesnipleis he was in dowt, Or his condyte was worne out. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 73, I gat a lycence of hym for a yere, and it is nyghe woryn ought. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1577 93/2 Gif ony feman of the said craft pass furth of the toun or his band of his service be worne furth. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare out, as thynges do after their tyme prefyxed is passed, *je me fauls*... The pardons shall weare out within these fyue dayes.

**14.** Of clothing and other material things: To suffer gradual destruction, loss, or decay from attrition or use.

1500 *Jack Upland* 45 Maketh youre habit you men of religion, or no? Hit do, than, ever as it weareth, your religion weareth; and, after that the habit is better, is your religion better. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 As clothys doth were with wedyr and wynde. ? *a* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 332/2 Werya or wax olde and febyl [by] vse, *veterasco*. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare, as a gament or any other thyng weareth and consumeth with wearynge, *je use*. 1582 N. T. (Rheims) *Luke* xii. 33 Make to you purses that weare not [Vulg. *quæ non veterascunt*]. 1589 Turberv. *Prog. Tudor* 33 By lingring hope the soule maie be worne out, as wane doth weare against the flaming fire. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/2 These milk-teeth...gradually wear and fall out, and are replaced by the second and permanent teeth.

**b.** with intensifying adv. or advb. phr., as *away, down, off, out*, †*on* or *to the thread.*

1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 Alle erthely thynges schal were owte; Castellys and towrys schal bende and breste. 1530 Palsgr. 780/1, I weare away, as pycture, or thyng made for remembraunce weareth away with the weather or with the tyme, *je me effiere*. 1566 A. Fleming in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 358 When it shall commeth to weare on the threed, it seemith like paper. 1601 *Offic. Papers Sir N. Bacon* (Camden) 117 Jettyes and pyles ...to defend that: meshes and banks from weaning away by the rage of the sea. 1611 Cotgr., *Vsé*, worne, or worne out, flesh worn off quickly in the grave. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, My Suit begins to wear out. 1793 [Earl Buckinghamshire] *Hints to Farmers* (ed. 2) 11 The old custom of sowing Colliories in the Firth are wearing fast out. 1836 see fer (1). 1880 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall* II. 38 The gilt beginning to wear off. 1882 [see Thread *sb.* 1 b]. 1884 *Law Rep. Chancery Div.* 27 Feb. 6 When their carts wear out they need the services of the wheelwright. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxiii, Her scanty wardrobe would soon wear out.

**c.** with predicative adj., as *wide, flat, thin.*

1641 Best *Farm. Iiks.* (Surtees) 7 Teeth blacke, wearinge wide. 1856 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/1 After six years old the edges of the teeth begin to wear flat, and at last off the root of the tooth is pushed up in the socket. 1896 Horsman *Shropshire Lad* xxiv, Where the standing line wears thinner and the dropping deeper.

**IV. 15.** *intr.* To last or hold out in use or with the lapse of time; to resist (well or ill) the attrition or waste of use and age; also, to stand the test of experience, criticism, etc.

*a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 19 I hait Quhyt off gilt deliyt... Weill weand it wantonnes will be. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, This Stuff wears very well. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 208 ? 2 The Flattery with which he began, in telling me how well I was, was not disagreeable. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* IV. I, I chose my wife, as she did her wedding-gown, not for a fine glossy surface, but such qualities as would wear well. 1772 *Junius Lett.* liv. 266 These praises...will wear well, for they have been clearly earned. 1788 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 183 The natives [of New York]...do not appear to wear so well as the English. 1816 Byron *Siege Cor.* xiv, Tyrants and slaves! how wisely Less formed to wear before the eye. 1833 De Kens *Mr. Bos, Mr. Minns*, How are you, Minns? 'Pon my soul you wear capitally! 1875 H. James *Roderick Hudson* I. 5, Rowland examined the statuette at his leisure...He discovered its weak points, but it wore well. 1905 Mrs. Baines-Grundy *Twelfth Hazel* 96, I am tired of old-fashioned clothes to wear for ever and ever.

†**16.** trans. *To wear out*: to come safe through, 'weather' (a storm, an attack of sickness). *Obs.*

1617 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 252 She has fallen into it [the ague] again...but...I hope she may wear it out. 1645 Sir Hall *Rem. Vicentio* 61 In that poor man...when hee fore-sees a storm to threaten him, puts into the next Creek; and wears out in a quiet security that Tempest, wherein he sees others pouder'd to death.

**V.** In reference to time, change, endurance, etc.

**17.** In *pa. pple.*, of time, a period of time, a season: Past, spent, passed away. Also with adv., as *out*, † *by*, †*forth*. Now chiefly *poet.*

This use is found earlier than senses 18 and 19, and the vb. may here be regarded as an extension of 13.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1900 Fawnus lyvyd wyfles [till] thre yeer wer weried. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. 1301 Quhen hir tyme was went [*Wemyss* worne] out. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 634 Off tym that is by worn. 1478 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1620, 258, I Efflr the termes of 5 yeris are worne furth and bipast. *a* 1547 Surrey ? *The scote season* ? in ? *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 4 Winter is worne that was the flowres bote. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 221 b, Murnyng in continuall sorowe, not so much for her selfe and her husbande, whose ages were almost worne out of the state of this world, as for her sonne Edward her sonne. 1557 Turner *Two Paints. Herb.* ? 83 Share not thy lannes, till mid July be worne. 1587 Turbery. *Trag. T.* 55 And there he dared, untill sun had set, all this yere was worne. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 187 And for the morning now is something worne, Our purpos'd hunting shall be set aside. 1842 Tennyson *Love & Duty* 69 Till now the dark was worn, and overhead The lights of sunset and of sunrise mix'd In that brief night. 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* II. viii, The year was far worn towards winter.

**18.** *trans.* To spend, pass (one's time, a period of time). Chiefly *poet.* Cf. Wake *v.*? 1.

1567 Fenton *Trag. Disc.* xii. 263 b, She weard her youth

in dule in steade of joye 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 31 To shew the place, In which that wicked wight his dayes doth weare *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* i. 45 Where with G mone th ou least worn the slay. *a* 1777 J. ANTON *Suicide* v. 26 He w ore his endless moons alone, Amid th' autumnal wood 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* II. ix, A deep untrodden gnat Where of the reaking hours sweet Gertrude wore. 1881 CLARK *Will Mainstrel* I. 18 Spinning long stories, wearing half the day 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* XII. 398 He speeding of a silent craft, in loyal wise Pallas wear.

**b.** with adv., as *away, out, + by, + forth.*

1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXVI. 11 They shall weere out their dayes in prosperite. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I (1598) 95 She, perceiuing the song had already worne out much time. 1625 DONNE *Serm* lxvi (1640) 665 Let me within and were out mine age in a discomfortable prison 1669 in *Thomas Mariner's Mag.* I. b. No travel Romance, nor no paultry Plays, To wear out time with, and mis spend our Days. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 384 they thus wear out a life of solitude. 1773 *Life W. Pounds* 150 In this Manner we wore away near seven Months. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. VII (Rtldg.) 25 We wore away a good part of the night in laughing and drinking 1821 CLARE *Vill Minstrel* I. 171 I here they their games wore away, And worn round and marbles wearing Sunday through. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* XIII (1848) I. 315 they were out with patience the ye ars of the toilsome life. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram* 1 And though we wear out life, alas! . In seeking what we shall not find

**c.** To enable (a person) to last or hold out *through* a given period, *&c.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, She should have a pint bottle o' brandy and a pound o' tobacco to wear her through the winter.

**19.** *intr.* Of time, a period of time: To pass on or advance gradually to its conclusion, to pass away Also, *to wear fast, to short.*

1592 F. *Thynne, Anal. Pass.* B 4 The day weares, and I haue fure to go 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. i. 8 Away I say, time wenres. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 107 Your after noon will wear shorter, and your sun fall low and goe down 1763 TOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. i, Well said, Master Mug; but come, time wears. 1837 J. L. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 213 It was now wearing late in the day 1842 LEVER *F Hinton* XIX, As the evening wore late, the noise and uproar grew louder. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. XIII, Without that aid they would have known how the night wore, by the falling of the tide. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 176 But time went on, and still the days did wear With little seeming change

**b.** with adv., as *away, on, out, through.*

1526 LINACRE *Ludus* 12 The dyse began to weare away so [so 1611, 1882, OF RAMEE] 1600 L. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 183 The short season for gallies to lure in that sea began to weare away 1764 LLOYD *Actor* II. 24 How slowly the moments the time away] 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The time wo ore on, but it ta ught o clock arrived 1843 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* (1852) I. 228 And so the days went on, in dull and stupified despair 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II 89 Three years had now worn away in the unequal conflict. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xx, The afternoon was wearing on apace. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xliv, The night wore through.

**c.** *To wear on*, of an action or activity: To be prolonged or continued.

1886 H. C. TRUMBULL *Yale Core Jewt.* IV. 293 What follows is meant to be merely the expression of my ideas for the time being, subject to modification as the discussion wears on

**20.** a. To pass gradually *into* (a condition, etc.).

1556 WATERMAN *Fardle of Facions* I. v. 68 Esterne I but a village, vntil with his fore sydes and wal dooing, he co uil weare into estimacion again 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* II. vi. 215 The mind should not be allowed, till it is so expressly to wear into a conclusion, by a slow and imperceptible transition.

**b.** *trans.* To bring (a person) gradually *into* (a habit or disposition). Also to instil (a view or opinion) gradually *into* the mind.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und* II. xxi. 56) In this by Repetitions weare them into a liking of what nobody, at the first Proposing, displeased us 1712 ADDISON *Spect* No. 407 P 8 A Man who has any Relish for fine Writing natu ully wears himself into the same manner of Speaking and Thinking 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc., Carlyle* 225 Mr. Carlyle has done much to wear this just and austere view into the minds of his generation

**VI.** With reference to movement in space.

**21.** *intr.* To go, proceed, advance; with adv. or advbl. phr. indicating the direction. Usually of a slow or gradual movement. Chiefly *Sc.*

*c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 355 By schop Beik coin with sic Feed and slycht, He wan to Scotland wes for ony lak 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 7 Pal as away she weares, she leaues the Grecians to Gods eraft in Heauen she repaires. 1768 ROSS *Helenore*, I think I feel it wearing, well wear in by, Do we get there. 1821 CLARE *Vill Minstrel* I. 210 [The tree] wearing h me on heavy wing 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Phillace* XVIII, And many waters, ah! seen, clanking thro' shades of Alder green, Wore eastward from the hill (to distinc e grey). *Hird, Malcolm's Hear* XXIX, Faint, dole ful music seem th to hear, As if waked from the hollow ground. And loud and louder still it grew, and upward still it wore 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* XII, The sun was wearing round to the west.

**b.** quasi-*trans.* To move over (a space or distance). *poet.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 19 Thus many miles they two together wore 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov by Sea* A 8 b, Thus we our weary Pilgrimage did weare

**† 22.** *trans.* To cause to fly or flutter *out. Sc.*

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 165 His widdeert weid fra him the wind out wore.

**23.** *Sc.* To conduct (sheep or cattle) gradually to the fold or other inclosure. Also with *in, up.*

1724 *The Ewe-Bughts, Hamson's* in Ramsay *Tea-t Misc.*, Will ye gae to the ew-bughts, Marion, And wear in the sheep wi' me? 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, [She] bade me bound my dog, To wear up three waff ewes stray'd on the bog. 1787 in R. S. Craig & A. Laing *Hawick Tradition* (1898) 246 He...thereby were in the sheep and nolt. so that they could not get to the Common. *Ibid.* 247 Wearing his sheep and nolt from the Common. 1790 *Wilson Poems, Sheph. Dream*, She wore them homewards to the fold. 1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron* 48/1 Some [shepherds] perished in wearing their flocks from the weather side of the hills. 1828 W. MCDOWALL *Poems* 23 An' my auld dog's nae worth a doit He winna wear the sheep. 1912 A. MCGINNIE *Words fr. Wild* xxxviii. 47 Or it may be the bark of a dog that wore a flock of a shepherd as they 'wear' the sheep down the mountain sides to the rees for the clipping.

**Wear** (wɛə), *v.*[2] *Naut.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wore** (wōə). Forms: **wear, warre, wayer, were, 7- wore, 7— wear.** *Fu. t.* 8–9 weared, 7– wore. *Pa. pple.* 9 weared, 8–9 wore. [Of obscure origin; in sense it coincides with VEER *v.* 2, but the early forms seem to forbid the supposition of connexion with that verb unless they are due to association with WEAR *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* Of a ship: To come round on the other tack by turning the head away from the wind. Often with *round.* Opposed to *tack.*

1626 CAPT. *Lingua* (1655) 100 Goods that belong the master dreads: to port, to weare, or serue the seas, the Labouring ship he cannot ease. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seaman* 6 Wayer, or Wayer round will not wayer. 1627 — *Sea Grammar* 19 Touch the wind, and weare no more. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 Were no more. 1697 *Lond Gaz.* No. 3318/2 They kept their Wind, but were forced to Wear. 1761 *Brit Mag* II 515 The Bellona was made to wore round by reason of the studding sails 1795 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 14, I saw the Santa Culotte, who had before me with many of the French Ships, under our lee bow 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef Mast* XL 25 We wore round and stood off again. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II 109 Wearing slowly and cautiously we were marshered a little above sunset. 1880 *Times* 25 Dec. 7/4 The ship sails well, stays quickly and surely; also wears well.

2. *trans.* To put (a ship) about, bringing her stern to windward.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II (Globe) 319 We ward the Ship again, and brought our Quarter to bear upon them 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy round World* 281 They wore ship, and I hailed them to know what they were. 1790 NELSON in Duncan *Life* (1806) 40, I ordered the ship to be wore. 1822 SOUTHEY *Acre Articles Regions* II. 374 The ship was instantly wore round. *Ibid.* 390 When we attempted to wear the ship she refused to turn round. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef Mast* x 23 When the watch came up, we wore ship, and stood on the other tack. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II 110 Before we continued to run before the wind, we knew having seemingly been unable to wear her.

**† Wear,** *v.*[1] *north. dial. Obs.* [Of uncertain origin.] To cool.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, To Wear the pot, to cool it. *a* 1743 JOSIAH REVITT *Misc Poems* (1747) 1 Hur cullar blunts may wear the boolen sweat But my hot hiuid, my hertaw ins heal, Nor collar blunts can wear, nor drops can cool

**Wear:** see WEIR. Also obs. f. WARE *sb* 1, *a*, *v.* 2

**Wearable** (wɛ·rəbl'), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEAR *v.*[1] + -ABLE.]

**A.** *adj.* Capable of being worn; fit or suitable to be worn.

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Diic. Weapons* 14 He did encrease his numbers to the thousand, the most of the which were such, no armours wearable can resist. 1650 HOWELL *Trans. Rem. Nouv.* 151 Of Cheese, Silk, and all other either edible, or wearable Commodities. 1805 LADY SARAH PENNANT *Lett* (1901) II. 151, I assure you a poplin is not wearable in these days 1842 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* II 26 It will not be wearable much longer. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Yorkshire* 31 I. 105 I fy the time I had made an I smoked a cigarette, the powerful sun of January had dried the sock to a wearable state. 1886 *Pall Mall Budget* 18 *Round* II 10 The only way to London is to get a wearable gloves could be had. 1896 J. L. ALLEN *Summer in Arcady* III 11 The thousand things, eatable, wearable, or otherwise usable that may be sent to and from friendly households

**B.** *sb* A wearable commodity, an article of clothing. Chiefly in *plural*

1721 *Lond Gaz* No. 4817/3 Gloves, Buttons, Wearables 1722 *Fr. Weekly Jrnl* (1729) I 215, I had provided her handsome Lodgings and for her Wearables, rich Satins, Gold Watch, and a hundred other Trinkets. 1726 BERKELEY *Lett* Wks 1871 IV 137 Whether a minor be not to be allowed the necessaries supplied on the credit of another. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* xli, He moved off with Mrs. Dutton's wearables and deposited the trunk containing them safely in the back parlour. 1823 C. HOOTE *Antiquary* I. 1 A woman ask me to give her an edible or a wearable I can, at least, understand the demand. 1859 LEVER *Dust, Down the Rhine* xxvii, Here crammed with his wearables.

**Weard,** obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*

**Weare,** obs form of WAR, WEIR.

**Wearer** (wɛ·rəɹ). [f. WEAR *v.*[1] + -ER 1]

1. One who wears or carries on his person (a garment, ornament, etc.). Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 69 But if my cloth be over precious, Jakke, blame the weerer 1549 PEPLOE *Repr.* I xvi. 58 Weavers of pilcoats. *c* 1580 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 333 My gyrdill gay and purs of sylk whils I am werere of sawlke, the longere wereryy may I call 1595 *Act 11 Eliz. Whs.* c. 27 To the great damage lowe and discrite of the Kings true subgectis biers and wereres of such fustian. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. T.* III. iv. 43 O that cleare honour Were purchast by the merits of the wearer. 1668 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 7 By Iupiter, Were I the wearer of Anthonio's Beard, I would not shaue't to day. *a* 1833 G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 491 The wearer knowes, where the shoe wrings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 490 Then might ye see Cowles, Hoods and Habits with their wearers tost And flutterd into Rages. 1793 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 440 This sword ..Whose ivory sheath inwrought with curious pride, Adds graceful terror to the wearer's side 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribblemania* 109 Half of the wearers of buskin and sock. 1849 C. HOOTE *Shirley* vi, Her style of dress announced taste in the wearer 1880 TROLLOPE *Cattle Kichmond* xiii, I here are great red swollen noses, very disagreeable both to the wearer and his acquaintances. 1889 TORRE *Hegel Turkey* II 264 Capes, cloaks, and rings, which render the wearer invisible. 1898 J. DAVIDSON *Inverness* I. 14 What wearers of flesh and blood dwelt then on the sheltered dell?

**b.** said of a lower animal.

1876 E. PARFITT in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh Assoc.* VIII. 247 I his brilliancy of colouring [of some birds] would seem to compensate the wearers for the melodious voice. of their more sober-painted relatives.

**2.** That which wears away, consumes or diminishes by attrition

1773 JOHNSON (ed 4). (But his example belongs to sense 1) Hence in later Diets

**Wearable** (wɛ·rəbl'), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wearied.

1775 ASH, *Unwearable*, not wearable. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod Painti.* III. iv. § 18 The imagination is eminently a wearable faculty, eminently delicate, and incapable of bearing fatigue. 1906 *Contemp Rev.* Oct 546 Lord Leighton, could judge with the utmost confidence what subjects while most critics have to depend on wearisable taste.

**Wearbleness.** rare.

1906 *Contemp Rev* Oct 540 The sensitiveness, the wearableness of the aesthete the weariness, in the Artistic world, the demand for novelty to outrun the legitimate supply

**Wearie,** obs. form of WORRY *v.*

**Wearied** (wɪ·rɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ED 1] (EXCESSIVELY) fatigued; tired out. Also with *out.* Of a look, sigh: Expressive of or indicating weariness.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Exercitus*, exercised, vsed in labour, wetied, hardned. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 419 b, Being so faint and wetied with traueling. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod* D iij, Hee brought to haue rested his wetied limmes in a bedde of sweuntie 1594 SHAKS *Rich III*, IV. iii. 112 Now thy proud Neckc, beares haile my burthen'd yoke, From which, euen here I slip my wearied head. 1608 *May Inog. Georg.* II. 63 And time it is to ease our wearied horse. *a* 1646 *&* BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App 17 My wearied soul he doth restore. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 730 Or thive ye thon n plus After the toyl of Battel to repose Your wearied vertue. 1746 FRANCIS tr *Hor., Sat* I. v. 28 Till wearied passenger retires to rest. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, Why art thou so well pleased that the morning should call thee up to daily toil, and the evening again lay thee down a wearied out wretch? 1849 — *Quentin D.* xxxvi, I he wearied and wounded Scots were willing to take shelter and refreshment. 1850 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Wearying the depressed and wearied look of one who [etc.] 1852 S. WARREN *Ten Thous* I. viii. 113 Wearied limbs to their uttermost. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn* 1234 Yet not less I felt Thy manhood thro' that wearied frame of thine 1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* XXIII, She turned away with a wearied sigh

*Comb.* 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xi, She came back pale and wearied-looking.

Hence **Weariedly** *adv.*, **Weariedness.**

*a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect* (1634) 308 The more we weariedness we feele, the more we may be sold this way 1681 RYCAUT tr *Gracian's Critick* B Having wearied my self to write over much ground, they met no Man. 1802 *Ann.* when the other Spaces wearedly retire to their repose, these careful Centinels of the Soul, attend their guards. 1868 SANDILANDS *Sabbt. Pentateuch* 192 50 Sabbath-keeping—Sabbath-blessedness, and benummedn ess over them 1825 SCOTT *Guy M* xlvi, The poor Dominie wearisedly plodded his way towards Woodbourne. 1865 MRS. NEWBY *Emma. Comm.* I. 247 "What a mother!" exclaimed Mrs. Sowerby, wearisedly 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn* 1262 Sighing wearisedly. 1886 *Daily News* 12 Oct 5/1 Wearisedly trudging home.

**Wearier** (wɪ·rɪəɹ). *rare.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -ER 1] One who wearies or fatigues.

1765 J. BROWN *Char Jrnl, Winter Day* 203 To be a wearier of God with iniquity, a blusphemer [etc.]

**Weariful** (wɪ·rɪful), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + FUL]

1. That causes weariness; that tires one's endurance or patience.

*c* 1454 PECOCK *Folower* 15 Maters which ellis schulde haue be to hem ouer hard and ouer wetiful to be vndurstonde. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb) 82 Yef ye wolde declare synglerly the peynys and tormentys of every synglar cryme hit wulde be ouer tedyus and wetiful to the redder therof 1501 H. LUMLEY *Lett.* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 11 With insuffe forsitude and pa tience, may finish our wearifull pilgrimage in his mercis of the heuyn, lesion and seruice. *a* 1585 FERRY *Voc. L. Angelus, Wearisful*, tedious: giuing occasion to weariness. Lv 'I have had a wearisful bout of it 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* I 80 That wearsfu' jaunt to Embro' to see the King' 1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Inactive Saints*, 194 So proceeds the Professor through ten weariful pages. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vi, This foreign style of darning. was done stitch by stitch, so as exactly to imitate the fabric of the stocking itself; a wearisful process. 1888 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It. Catth. React.* (1878) VII. xiii. 210 Visions of dreary wanderings through wearisful saloons. 1912 W. S. BRUNT *Land War in Ireland* iv 339 Two wearisful Irish miles.

**b.** of a person. *Sc.*

*a* 1700 *Gaberlunzie-Man* vii, The weirisow' Gaberlunzie-man. 1880 STEVENSON *Fam. Stud.* (1888) 199 She was a religious hypochondriac, a very wearisful woman.

**c.** of the weather. Chiefly *Sc.*

1872 J. PAYNE *Songs of Life & Death* 224 Wearyful winter is gone at last. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 223 Spite of gray winter and wearriful weather. 1894 A. HOLT *Sage's Old Heatherland* 48 The wearsfu' snaw, O, the wearsfu' snaw!

**2.** Full of weariness; utterly fatigued. Of a person: Languid or affecting languor. Of a look, sigh, smile: Exhibiting or expressing weariness.

1820 MATILDA B. EDWARDS *John & I* XXIV. (1876) 323 He

lay still for some time with a wearisful smile upon his lips 1886 G Macdonald *Diary Old Soul* Feb 25, And the thought spirit, wearisful and wan, Sinks moveless. 1885 *Jefferies Greene Ferne Farm* 209 The wearyful women came homeward from the gleaning. 1885 *Jean Ingelow Story of Sugarmouse* 8 His weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Wearifulness for a spirit that shifteth still. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq* xxvii Coiney cast a weariful look backward. 1899 Crockett *Ast Kennedy* 9 Lilias sighed the long, wearyful sigh of hope deferred.

Hence **Wearifully** *adv*, **Wearifulness.**

1838 *Lett fr Madras* (1843) 206, I quite dread to hear the subject mentioned, for fear of a quarrel, besides the wearifulness 1885 Meredith *Diana* iv There was a strange interjection, as to the wearifulness of constantly wandering 1886 Black *In Far Lochaber* xxiii, The long night passed, slowly and wearifully. 1907 *G Hamilton's Choral Neodicia* The blurred lights of the streets and shops going weirdly and wearifully 1).

**Wearihood.** *nonce-wd* [-hood] The condition of being weary.

1883 *Academy* 27 Oct 278/1 After years of doubt and deception and the wearihood of waiting, the Wanderer at last returns

**Weariless** (wi·rilės), *a.* [f. Weary *v* + -less] That does not weary or become weary.

*c* 1430 Lydg *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 75 Weryles I walke my in troul le and travaile, Ever inviyng without weryne.ss. 1608 Hieron *Defence* i. 14 Will ever any man say with weryleswe wranigler affirme and stand to it, that wisdome is taken diversely here. 1799 Sheridan *Feuerrot* i. 1, With weariless remonstrance she said to win me from my purpose 1813 Bloc *Queen's Wake* (1814) 51 How came I in white doves from the window to fly, And hover on weariless wing to the sky? 1879 Lowell *Mem Poems, To H. L. Garrison* 49 O small beginnings, weariless withstanding, Based on a faithful heart and wea tless brain! 1886 Ellis Knox *Spring dawn* xv The weariless tide came up and lifted the boulder! leek. 1908 *Fortn Rev Sept* 391 Nov 490/2 A sturdy Dissenter, a weariless promoter of Schools.

Hence **Wearilessly** *adv.*

1791 Cottinson *Hist Somerset* 610 A herd will where a huge disjointed rock is wearilessly contacted by the waves. 1893 F Adams *New Egypt* 122 He cpi sed openly and wearilessly the ruinous policy of his master

**Wearily** (wi·rili), *adv* [f Weary *a.* + -ly 2] In a weary manner, with weariness

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* clxxxv 207 Ireye enemyes weard wery and werily and wily defended them 1523 Berners *Froiss* clxxxvi (1812) I 221 And so they went wearily by the spee 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 238 Then perceaued a flocke of men of armes comming together right wearily 1610 Shaks *Temp* iii 3 32 *Alon* You lookewies ly 18 Moore *Memoirs very Reason* 8 Wearily enough I punnish 1899 Jennilson *Mart Cerdant* 251 [He] down the long street riding weariily, found every hostel full 1866 Geo Eliot *Felix Holt* 1, A heavy mist, chilled by, an l, when it settled, seemed to fall wearily 1891 Farrar *Dr Isa & Datos* liv, While it heaven' asked Pappea wearily

**Weariness** (wi·rinės) [f Weary *a.* + -ness]

1. Weary condition, extreme tiredness or fatigue resulting from exertion, continued endurance of pain, or want of sleep.

*c* 900 *Bx Lus Hist* iii 16 (1890) 178 [Pæt þ >] ] ycwunelscan þeawe hersa after weri.nesse ong n w al stan *c* 1000 *Trin Coll Hom* 31 [Ald Engl MS.] Þurst nure, þolen hunger ne þurst, ne wernesse, ne elde, ne untilbe, ne dede 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 4902 14 He lay muche del of þe nyȝt in wo & in sorwe So þat sleep litte or wery nesse hym none *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) II 5 Vpo tyme is vs to oure weryues *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii 39 I hun thewil te [dra, n] leide hym down to reste for weryneve 1500 20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxv 9 For weriness me nor slummer soft Come with ane dremyng 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* 111 First I shall declare what remedie is to be vsed a, ainst wearinesse which cumm th by mu n abundance of 1611 Shaks *Cymb* iii vi 33 We mu sse Can re vpon the Flint when reste Sleth findes the Downe pill w hard 1649 Taylor (Water P.) *Wan ferings & Travels* A iij, wearinesse and watching, began to inforce sleep upon me 1707 Floyer *Physic Pulse Watch* II The Exercise I e immoderate with grea Weariness the Spirits and Heat are very much exspu sted 1797 Coleridge *Christabel* i. Jesu Maria shield me sprak for weariness. 1805 Sir B Brodie *Psychol Inq* I iv 136 The muscles may be for a long time in a state of involuntary contraction without weariness being indicated.

2 Tedium or distaste induced by monotonous or uncongenial conditions or occupations; tiredness *of* a course of action, a state of things, a person or thing. + Also *rarely* const *to* with inf.

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 129 b, Therof foloweth tedyousnesse in all goostly exercyses, & werynes of holy company 1560 Daus tr *Sleidanes Comm.* 376 A certeyne weryness, and impacience of long imprisonment 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn* (Arb) 387 A man would die, though he were neither valiant, n r mu nimable, only vpon weariness to doe the same thing, so oft over and over 1643 R Baker *Chron* (1653) Oxford, whose wits Cutbugny, out of a loathing weariinesse of wedlock, laid out a divorce from her husban l 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xii, Weyrwood of soul lies before her as it lies behind 1858 Froude *Hist Eng.* IV xxiii 37 The struggle terminated, through weariness of enduring and inflicting suffering. 1885 *Manch Exam* 15 May 5 6 Sheer weariness of things which are to them common and familiar

3. Something that wearies

1580 Dible (Geneva) *Eccl* xii 12 There is none end in making manie bokes and muche reading is a wearines of the flesh. 1645 Froude *Nemesis of Faith* (1849) 100 Long devotions are a weariness to healthy children 1896 Mrs Fooge *Dairy Chaos* II x, The children were dull, and she began to believe she was doing no good—it was all a weariness 1905 R Bagot *Passport* x 90 To be compelled by fashion to sit down to a meal at the pleasantest hour in all the twenty-four is a weariness to the flesh and a vexation to the spirit.

**Wearing** (we·rin), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Wear *v.*1 + -ing 1]

†1. The fact or habit of being clothed in a particular way, kind or style of clothing, also *concr.* what a person wears or might wear *Obs*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 8 Gif heo hit ne bihat nout heo hit mai don bauh he leten hwen heo wel wuie, alse of mete & of drunch, & eschs forgon uper vnch, of wetunge & of liggunge, of vres, of beoden *Ibid* 368 Mid festen, mid wechen, mid disciplines, mid herd wetunge 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 2321 Of bathe þer worldes gret outrage we se In worldes hayyn, and beryng, In vayn apparail and in wrynge *c* 1400 *Brut* cccx (1906) 361 [He] dispiseth him wip wonder ryche cloþes oute of al manner reason bope clothinge and of wering. 1526 *Piler Perf* (W de W 1531) 137 Pampering or ouer moche cherishyng of our bodyes by soft leyenge, soft wearyng, or moche bedyng 1560 Holland *Plotyn* viii Mem I 228 The weaved water chamelot, was from the beginning esteemed the richest and hi west wearing. 1605 Shaks *Oth* iv iii 16 Come me my nightly wear ng, and adieu *a* 1613 Overbury *Wife, Characters, Mikmast* (1618) I 4 b, For though she be not arraid in the spoile of the Silke worme, she is deckt in innocence, a far better wearing 1621 Lady M Wroth *Urania* 501 He perceiued his companion to put on his West coate, and night wearing, and walk into the garden 1629 Gaule *Holy Hadm.* 134 Another shape out, and a nother turn up their wearing 1654 Trapp *Nehem Notes* iv 18 He shifted his Velvet Trunkes, with his his cast mary wearing 1690 Locke *Govt* I. 5, Clouts are but as ill wearing, how much Care soever hath been taken to file and polish them

**b.** *pl* (See quot)

1839 *Patent* 27 Nov 10 *Cast Iron & Arch. Trnl* I 542/2 Certain improvements for producing Ornamental Face or Wearings

2 The action of carrying on the body (an article of dress, an ornament, or the like) + *Of one's wearings* forming part of one's wardrobe (*obs.*) Also *fig.*

1333 *Rolls Parl* II 152/2 Pur les habitz et sa wachyr, but in of schap rounde, & wax euer in pe worlde in weryng es olde, 3et he yerle pryces nat whyle he in pese haste 1456 *Sir Gilbert* (1882) 72, I will but my person have a gowne of my weryng 1459 *Anl de la Tour* xxxi 39 Seint Bernarde, for his holy lyuing, and of weryng of the heyre 1606 Shaks *Tr & Cr* iii iii 150 Let these have their wearings, look you 1648 *Papers Cromwell* 89 My mother has sewyn 12 Mybelliz wyfe a cremsyn goune of her wheryng 1581 Petyr *Guisano's Civ Conv* I (1586) A 3 b, Such rare iewels as we will worth the wearing 1697 Shaks *Timon* iv iii 440 Such Dignities, which vacant lye for thy best use and wearing 1704 Swift *J Dubb* 54 With good wearing, they will last you fresh and sweet 1711 Gt Yar. *Mercury* 3 Dec 4/2 Stolen from Mr Hall a Pair of Leather Breeches, he might all take an equal Quantity of the Goods that were for wearing 1818 Scott *Dr Lamm* xxx, He rushed into the r m with a willow branch in his hand, which he held his head as if that instant it had been torn off for his special wearing 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vii II 282 The pi sition, it seeme l, wishe l to make the crown of Englis d not worth the wearing

**b** *attrib.* in **wearing apparel, wearing gear** (*arch.*) articles of clothing collectively + formerly also in many other collocations with the senses 'suitable or intended for wearing', as *wearing clothes, garments, gown, jewels, linen, sa tes.*

1538 **wearing plate**, plate in actual household use (cf Wear 1 2) 1

1418 / *S Ii ills* (1882) 32 Myne owne werynge clothes 1498 in *Marriage Hall Wills* (1901) 365 All my wering kethelf euerly to be departed betwen her and my Huysb 1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 204 He would of a custome daily serche his robes, and if his wearing gere, & bed [were] 1575 Lewes *Pomp* 266 These were there semitimes to me that faithles fell we hche 1576—*Gascoigne's Steele Glas* 54 The sheepe yeeldeth her wooll, which is wouen and couth, to make vs wearyng garments 1593 Shaks 2 *Hen IV*, i. 88 The very tyrye of her worst wearing & Gowne Was better worth then all my Fathers Lands 1611 Shaks *Tr & Cr Epist* 3 Of my wearing Hys wife s wearing linnen 1617 in W J Shaw *Merch Tayl* (1878) 297 Item all her weryenge apparell, vyzt 1620 *Inl in Trans R. Hist* (1907) XXI 281 Item for wearing vnge from 1666 in *Lincs Wills* (1893) 3, I giue vnto Anth m Littleby all my wearing Cl thes 1683 in *T Hollis Descr* (1892) 263 I leave Judith Hollis the wearing Apparell that belongs to me after my decease I also leave part of all the wearing Cloathes 1685 in *Hearn's Rem* (1907) II 442 Item ding with your best Wearing Ring 1688 *Ellis Household* 311 (Scott.) 1487 Item for wearing raiment carried by his servint 1721 *Ds. Bor Mercr Cavalier* (1814) 72 Some wearing linen 1750 Chas Hart to Lady Cowper in *Cowper Corr* (1864) I 31 Her wearing gowns are fine and most vexatious of a sovereign now living 1835 Dickens *Sk Boz, Watchmaker's Sh* Wearing apparel of every description 1900 H Sutcliffe *Saint's Progress* 201, With blood on his wearing apparel and sutcoat on his face

3 The condition or process of being continuously in wear or use Chiefly in phrases with prep., as *in (the) wearing, (the) worse for (the) wearing.*

1546 J Heywood *Prov* (1867) 44 All thyng is the wors for the wearyng 1580 Petrie *Guazzo Civ Conv* I 1 (1586) 11 That the Boots was made of such leather as w uld shrinke in the wearing. 1613 J May *Decl Estate of Cl* 18 38 After a moneths wearing, it will looke like a souldiers coat after bath line months out of garison 1697 Collier *Ess Vice Stage* II (1703) 69 Friendship is one of those few things which are the better for the wearing 1796 L. Ware *Hindoo World Dict* (1908) 74 His hardest Tools are the worse for Wearing 1721 *Dissenting Teachers Addr agst bill for building 50 New Churches* 18 A Pulpit little worse for wearing to dispose of? 1794 Ramsay *Helena* to The Widow shes youthful, and never an Hair The wear of the wearing

4 The action of wasting, damaging, or exhausting, or the process of being wasted, by continuous use or exposure. Also with *away, down, out.*

1473 *Rental Bk Cupar Angus* (1879) I. 177 For the defens of the said land for the weryng awa of water als far as thre bundy strekys 1500–20 *Dunbar Poems* lxx 3 Hail in every circumstance, In forme, in matere, and substance, But wirreing, or consumption 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen VIII* c. 6 § 2 Many other Common wayes be so depe and noyous by wearyng and Course of Water and other occasions, that [etc.] 1540 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 178, To hang a sangle in a unnexed vtter decaying and wearying out of the same 1597 Shaks 2 *Hen IV*, v. 39 I will deuise matter enough out of this Shallow, to keepe Prince Harry in continuall Laughter, the wearing out of his fashions (which is foure Termes) 1712 Addison *Spect* No 278 Such Writings as tend to the wearing out of Ign rance, Passion, and Prejudice 1802 Playfair *Illustr Hutton's Theory* 294 The thinnest part of that rock has been brought to the level of the rest from every sort of wearing and decay 1883 Mrs Gaskell *Wives* xxiii, The final and unmendable wearing out of the parlour carpet, which there was no spare money to replace 1855 W H Bidlow in *Phil Mag* CXLV 206 This arose from a slight wearing off the working parts of the measuring instrument 1857 Buckle *Civilizat* iv 149 The great wearing down of land which must be effected by man and rivers 1883 *Science* II 752/2 The wearing away of the falls would injure navigation above 1908 *Annual Manageem* (War Office) 283 In this wearing out of Wheeled horse by a steel mat

**b** *concr.* in *pl* Worn places, marks of wear.

1885 Lock *Welsh Parish Ser* iv 323 If the pallets are worn, the wearings must be filed out

c Wasting from disease, as quot. with *away.* (*Obs.*) Hence *absol* a wasting illness, consumption

1654 Sir A Johnston (Ld Wariston) *Diary* (S H S) II 240 Hearing of my Lord Craighall his fyfe grand servt was away, I went to him 1844 Cabr *Centen Inv, Wearing*, consumption 1876 *Mr Dale's Inl Illness* 1 2 I do believe one on em is going into a wearin'.

d Wearying or exhausting effect.

1845 Mrs Ward *Hist Hall* I. 19 The woe and wearing of weeks [sickness] subdued and softened her

†5 Manner in which a cloth, etc. wears (well or badly), degree of resistance to the effects of wear Also *fig*, degree in which a person continues to merit approval, also, degree of resistance to the effects of time *Obs rare*

1549 Thynne *Animadv Speght's Edn Vl* (Arb) 59 S dom a yed to hym [= Adonis] Gette the into thy house, bi lyke he m ante is wonte, and thus shewe hym wyne as that he shall leaue alone thy wife with out all doubt in to be i yet subiecte, and I will iudge it for thy true wearing 1566 A Fraunce *Insignes* (1592) 18 b, Wilde men in stead of clothes and they that know the wearing, are desirous of them bef re the cloth of the women make go forth 1586 It nothing should be 1709 Cibber *Ode* 8 Let the Matron, of her Pow r be always improving, to her Thirty sixth Ye r

6 Passing, elapsing (of a period of time) *rare*

1896 Mrs Oliphant *Two Stories* 11 Even in the midst of this wearing away [of the years]

**Wearing** (we·rin), *ppl. a* [f Wear *v.*1 + -ing 2]

1 Exhausting, tiring, enfeebling by continued strain or exertion Also *wearing out*

1811 Lady Granville *Lett* (1894) I. 1 I have been prevented writing by most wearing persons 1815 Chalmers in Hanna *Life* (1851) II 18 What a hurried, distracting and wearing out of time 1857 Buckle *Civilizat* iv 149 The great wearing down of land which must be effected by man and rivers 1858 Susan Ferrier *Inheritance* xxi, What a weary, a out the g it flesh and a the for the winter 1877 Mrs Oliphant *Mrs Margt* 1 My dear niece, but it is not a weary task, is that true? 1879 Besant & Rice *Golden Butterfly* iii, The wearing, unspeaking quiet of the long days 1885 Mrs Oliphant *Mrs Arthur* xxi, Not see the occupants of the day are sometim s all the wearing 1896 Mrs Oliphant *Two Stories* 11 Even in the midst of this wearing away [of the years]

2 That gradually destroys, diminishes, or impairs by continued use or attrition

1859 K Hunt *Cycle Vers Text Gr* I (ed 2) 292 Fl sc ences exhibit the wearing and grinding f ce of the modern glaciers. 1879 Cassell's *Techn* I 1 The chocolate was laid out under stone in the church vestibule to get the safety fr m the wearing weather 1903 W Cunstal *Annal Agric Japan* 156 All the lower part is covered with sheets of boulder clay, the mineral results from the wearing action of the ice

3 That is undergoing wear, diminution, or impairment by continued use or attrition

1908 *Annual Manageem* (War Office) 56 The surf c [f the tooth] which bites on the fo to its fellow in the opposite jaw is the *table*, or *wearing surface*

Hence **Wearingly** *adv.*

1870 *Public Opinion* 6 Aug 170 It is the trivial, every day suffering that is most wearingly felt in the most keenly felt

**Wearish** (we·rish), *a.* *Obs. exc. dial* Forms 4 **werisshe**, 5–6 **werysshe, werish(e, -ysh(e, wearysh(e, wear-, weerishe, weeryshe,** 6–7 **werish, weerish,** 9 *dial* **wearish, weersh,** 6– **wearish.** [Late Mr. *werische*, of obscure origin Cf Welsh *gwaeth* which is prob. a contracted form of this.

There is some resemblance in form and sense to the early mod. Du. *weers, waars, worsch*, 'contrarius, adversus, malus' (Kilian), mod. Du. *waars*, disgusted, averse, weary of, Du. dial. *waarsig*, Fris. *wer-sick* disgusting: but etymological connexion seems improbable.]

**1.** Destitute of savour, sickly-flavoured, tasteless, insipid; unsalted. Cf. WEISH *a.* 1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* iv. lx. (Tollem. MS.) Flemme is an humouris kyndely colde and moyste, werische and unsauoury [L. *insipidus*]. *c* 1405 *St. Mary of Oignies* ii. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 159 Anoon yman.. amonge many meatye deyntees wolde forsake an vnsauory and werysshe mete. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 74 Also is Weerish tast called Unsavory. 1530 PALSGR. 298/2 Werysshe as meate is that is not sauery, *mal sauoured*. 1535 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* Prol. (1538) 7 *b*, As the tayste of the sycke maketh wholsome and well seasoned meate bytter, weerysh, and unsauery. 1553 BRENDE *Quintil. Sulpic.lv.* Wks. 938/1 If the salt wave ones freshe & werish, wherin shal ant thing be wel seasoned? 1638 FLYOT *Dict., Incondituss*.. werysshe. 1697 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 38 When Hyems shall vpon them shake his locks, Their grazing feast will haue a werish taich. 1808 CARR *Craven Glost., Warish*, unsavoury. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, ..as applied to drinks, 'small', weak, sickly, insipid.

**b.** *fig.* Void of relish, insipid, savourless; flat, futile, ineffectual.

1530 TINDALE *Exp. Matt.* v-vii. (1550) 23 *b*, All werysh and unsauoure ceremonies, which be but bodyly exercises. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Erasm. Pref. 7 *b*/1, In expressyng and vttreyng suche thynges Xenophon seemeth to me somewhat werysshe [L. *insulsior videtur*]. 1671 — *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 10-12 Bieyng ourwhelmed with werysshe opinions and vayne dreyes. *Ibid.* vii. 28, 29 They vsed to brynge in certaine werysshe constitutions, of washyng their handes before meate, [etc.]. *Ibid. Luke* Pref. (C.) 81 *b*, No werishe and vnefFectual was yᵗ vertue of the medicine! Physicke which thei brought *[adeo Pharmacum quod afferebant nihil habebat debilitate & inefficaceni*). 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.* i. 9-20 The rude and weraysh preaching [*sermo rudis et incultus*]. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 523 Yeelding his pleasures weerish, and his amours tasteleve. 1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 4 A sickly, wearish, and momentany Delight.

**2.** Of persons and animals, their limbs, etc.: Sickly, feeble, delicate; lean, wizened, shrivelled. Also, of a countenance: Sickly-looking. Cf. WEISH *a.* 2.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. (1557) 54/1 Then we he plucked vp hys doublet aleue to his elbow.. where he shewed a wrasth withered arme and small. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. H iij *b*, If thou canst spye a wealthie man, that hath a weraysshe chylde, There, there vhye thy selfe officious. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholeh.* I. (Arb.) 34 Gentlenesse, not werishe and crabbed, but faire and cumlie. 1569 V. SKINNER tr. *Montanus Inquis.* 20 *b*, A full weake & wearish body [L. *corpore infirmo & cacheci*]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 116 *b*, If they (the stallions) be to yong, they get but weake and wearish Colties. *Ibid.* 137 *b*, A small and a weerysh Sheepe. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 70 Many haue good Phisitions should go frame their potions, that they might be appliable to the queasie stomaks of their weraish patients. 1596 NASHE *Unfort. Traveller* 3 They haue but a little weerish bona face vnder a hood French fac, 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 34 A wretched weraish elfe, With hollow eyes and rawbone cheekes forspent. 1600 STAPLETON *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 781 The deepe red wine which is harsh and rough, is profitable to comfort the loose & weraish stomacke. 1624 HUSTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) Demoer. to Rdr. 2 Democritus.. was a little weraish [*Oxf.* wearyish] man, very melancholy by nature. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* v. i, A crooked leg.. a weraish hand, A bloodlesse lip. 1685 BURNET *Life Bp. Bedell* 251 I might often have seen easily done, especially upon such a weyaish and weraish Body. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, feeble; deficient in stamina: of a delicate constitution. 1882 STEVENSON *Treas. Arab. Pet.* I. v. 148 All the date-eaters are of a certain weirish visage.

**b.** Comb.: *wearish-coloured*, sickly-hued, pale.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram., Dict.* (1567), *Pallida*, pale, or wearishe coloured.

**c.** Lacking energy, languid.

1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 163 A wearish and Impotent giving up of the spirits. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 348 At the first setting out they seemed to run exceeding well, but after a while, to grow somewhat wearish.

**3.** Dull-witted, stupid.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 52 A weryshe [L. *insulsus*] felowe maie sil this be-synes. 1539 in *Eliz. Orig. Lett. Ser.* II. III, 103 My thynckes yt ys better a weryshe person to have and such lerning of prophesye.

**4.** ? Peevish, cross-grained, crabbed.

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 197 Have any of you children, that be not sometimes cumbersome? Have any of you fathers, that be not sometime weerish? What, shall we hate our children, or dis they our fathers?

Hence **Wearishly** *adv.*, languidly, without energy; **Wearishness**, lack of savour.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lii. (1495) 891 The nynthe sauour hyght werysshenesse and vnsauerynesse. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 106 *marg.*, Beetes is an herbe .. of whose exceedyng werysshenesse and vnsauerynesse. 1633 AMES *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremonies* Pref. p. xvii, How wearishly & unwillingly goe they to the worke?

**Wearisome** (wi·risŏm), *a.* Forms: 5 **wery-som**, 6 **weerysom**, **worisum**, **wearisom**, 7 **wearysome**, 6- **wearisome**. [f. WEARY *v.* and *a.* + -SOME.]

†**1.** Weary; showing signs of weariness. *Obs.*

*c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 751 The sotelte a man with sikelle in his hande, In a ryvere of watur stande wrapped in wedes in a weryson wyse. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4406 Hyt declare and tell shall my wery|som gost. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K iv *b*, At banckettes they refreshed their weerysome mindes, in those high discourses and diuine imaginations of theirs. 1638 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 49 The wearisome creatures of the world declining to their rest. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 190 They came and saw no attendance about him, only a decrepit and wearisom old man, lying along upon the beach.

**2.** Causing weariness through monotony, or the continuance of uncongenial circumstances; tedious.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 55 The remedy hereof [understood] ys..to abyde vpon the tretable sayng of thyyre seruice, be yt neuer so weysom. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 32 This is. The worlds sweet Inn, from paine and wearisome turmoyle. 1596 RALEGH *Discov. Guiana* 97 It is nowe time to returne towardes the North, and we founde it a wearisome way to lie. *a* 1633 BISHOP *Sinner's Sanct.* xxix. Wks. (1739) 316/2 What is your Life, but a tedious and wearisome Repetition of such brutish Actions which only terminate on the Body? *a* 1699 TEMPLE *Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 282 All will allow, the several Conditions of Fortune to be all wearysome, dull or disagreeable without good Humour. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. vi. Extremely unentertained, becomes wearisome. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, A forecast of the wearisome day that lies before me. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, It was impossible for life to be glide away in more wearisome monotony than at the castle of the Garde Doloureuse. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Jan. 5/1 The ceremonies of a court are wearisome to me. 1891 *Spectator* 2 May 593/2 The author might do much better if he would give up this wearisome mystery-mongering, and take a fresh subject. 1900 *Spectator* 21 Oct. 590/1 At almost wearisome length we have endeavoured to set forth the..case.

**b.** of a speaker or writer.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 35, I persaiv how tertsium and tertius I have bene unto your wysship. 1634 W. TIRWHITT tr. *Balmford's Letter* I. 4 Were it not that I feare to be wearisome unto you, I should never make an end of my newes. 1841–44 EMERSON *Ess., Intellect* Wks. (Bohn) I. 141 Some men are wearisome by their importunate memory, whose balance is lost by the exaggeration of a single topic.

**3.** Causing weariness from bodily or mental exertion or protracted pain; fatiguing, exhausting. Now somewhat *rare*.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xvii. § 7 The route hereof, divine malediction; whereby the instruments being weakened wherewithall the soule (especially in reasoning) doth worke, is perforce rest in ignorance before wearisome labour to knowe. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 4 The Head..would have been very painful and wearisome to carry, if the Neck had lain parallel or inclining to the Horizon. 1703 M. WARNER in Hayward's *Cold Bathing* II. 297 A tedious and wearisom Pain, together with a soreness upon the Part. 1750 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 6 ¶ 2 There was once a time when Wealth and Happiness could be purchased by recompences equal to the more wearisome labours. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 66 Their great Trouble, Care, and wearisome Attendance. 1823 JAMES *Mod. Chivalry* I. 158 Rowland..*Mod. Chivalry, Treaton* (1871) 156 If he botanise somewhat wearisomely, he gives us now and then superb outlooks from some jutting crag. 1882 *Manch. Exam.* 11 July 5/4 The cross-examination was somewhat wearisomely towards the end. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1041/1 The wearisomely abundant current literature concerning actors and acting.

**4.** Full of weariness or ennui. *rare*.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. vii, As he wanders wearisomely through this world. 1858 — *Frede. Gt.* III. I. 214 What struggle and struggle, inevitable armed-litigations there were for it, readers of Brandenburg-History too wearisomely know.

**Wearisomeness.** [-NESS.]

**1.** The condition of being wearied; liability to become wearied. Fatigue, exhaustion from effort or pain; liability to be easily fatigued. *b.* Tedium, ennui; weariness of something uncongenial or uninteresting. *Obs.*

*a* 1560 tr. *J. Fisher's Godly Treat. Benef. Prayer* G 4, Excepte eyther the great wearysomenes of our bodyes, or some other lawfull occasion. 1600 STAPLETON *Country Farm* IV. x. 643 The fresh leaues..being put vnder the naked soles of the feete, they greatly take away their wearisomenesse, which by walking haue wearied themselues. *a* 1693 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* lx. 17. (1655) 240 Sundry infirmities of body, as hunger, thirst, cold, wearisomnesse. 1870 R. *Venn Mild. Observ.* 184 But if the wind blow stiff, or there is a weakness or weariness in the Ensignbearer, then he may set the butt end against his waste and not otherwise. *a* 1708 SPENCER *Serm.* (1770) III. 270 For in this Temple, even the eyes are in a state of Weariness and Pain, of Weakness and Danger. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* I. A kind of languor and wearisomeness.

**2.** Tendency to cause weariness. *b.* *pl.* The Troiane wyues, at the instigation of the Raynbow, and for wearysomenesse of theyr longe trauayle: cast fier amonge the fleet. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Toxophil.* (Arb.) 37 Such a wise, as to auoide wearisomenesse, vseth diuersitie of exercises. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1648) 109 Scandersbeg declaring his wearisomenes of captivitie, desired to visit his kingdome. 1632 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 86. 266 That wearisomenesse which is hated in the Iewes that said, when will the New-Moones and Sabbaths be gone? 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Pref. 9 Yet they shall..be made, sulkie if obliged to fadge together, and combine as they may to their unspeakable wearisomenesse & despaire of all sociable delight in the ordinance which [etc.]. 1821 [MARY A. KELLY] *Quinced* I. 289 'Tis their wearisomeness of Osmond's stupidity. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* II. 229 Where there is no variety, and where wearisomeness as well as fastidiousness will follow. 1840 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1893) II. xxiv. 156, I should have been afraid of the casting lots, lest it should arise from a wearisomeness of indecision, instead of waiting patiently for the time when He would enable one to decide according to His will.

**2.** The quality or fact of causing weariness; tendency to weary. **a.** Aptness to cause fatigue. **b.** Tediousness.

**a.** 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 254 The commodite is nevertheles in proportion not measured, by the wearisomenes of the labour. 1691 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. 261 Amidst the joltings of the Waggon, the trouble and wearisomness of the journey, they kept their Prayer, as in the Quire. 1843 FOX *Tales, Pol. & Pendulum*, As if those who lore me..had paused from the wearisomeness of their toil.

**b.** 1579 TWYNE *Petrarch's Phisicke agest. Fortune* I. 109 *b*, *Inp.* The eyes is very cleere, I would it might not be changed. *Keason.* Thou knowest not how soone this cleerenes wil bring weerisomenesse: There is nothing so pleasant whi h continuall frequentyng the same maketh not loathsome. 1668 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 5 The Ambassadours endeavour'd to abate the wearisomeness of our stay there, by hunting matches, and walking. 1879 HINGSTON *Austral. Abr.* vii. 71 A great tameness about it was soon, however, observable, producing even the usual effect of monotony—wearisomeness. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 5/1 A second article..which has, notwithstanding these good qualities, just a suspicion of wearisomeness.

†**3.** Loathing (for food). *Obs.*—1

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 346 Evell which causeth such a fulsomeness and wearisomeness in Gods stomacke.

**Wearne**, obs. f. WARN *v.*1; var. WARN *v.*2 *Obs.*

**Wearry**, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

**Weary** (wi·ri), *a.* Forms: 1 **wērig**, (**uoeris**), **wērix**, 2–4 **weri**, (3 **werri**, 3–6 **werie**, -*y*, (4 **wiry**, 5 **werey**), 4- *S. Sc.* **wery** (5 **were**, **wereye**), 5–6 **wereye**, 6 **weery**, **wiery**, 6–9 *Sc.* **wearie**, 6- **weary**. [OE. *wērig*, corresponding to OS. (*Hēl.*) *wōrig* weary (with a journey), OHG. *wuarag* drunk :—W.Ger. **wōrigo-*, *-ago-*. The root **wōr-* seems to be identical with that in OE. *wōrian* to wander, go astray, and in ON. *órar* fits of madness, *órr-r* mad, insane; the primary sense was perhaps 'bewildered', 'stupefied'.]

**1.** Having the feeling of loss of strength, languor, and need for rest, produced by continued exertion (physical or mental), endurance of severe pain, or wakefulness; tired, fatigued. Now with strongersense: Intensely tired, worn out with fatigue.

The strong emotional emphasis which the word has acquired in modern times tends to exclude it from colloquial use and from unimpassioned style.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter*, Hymn xii, *Mentes fastas*, mod worrigu. *a* 900 *Elene* 357 (Gr.) Þa wæs wergan mod, þe mon..driseð & þreceð. *c* 900 *Leechd. Wid.* II. 18 Wið þon hine þe on here stowe þreteð wæs, þa wæs leo werix. *c* 940 *Brunanburh in MT. E. Chron.* an. 937 Þær leoc secg monig, garum scyred, ofersiedd wiðeon, wer wiges-mod. 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 240 (Lamb. MS.) Ho [*sc.* souls in hell] wilkeð wert up and dun, se water deð mid winde. *c* 1290 *Katerine* 24 in *S. E. Leg.* 92 Of sunne and of sond, of sorhe and of sore, fan þe este to þe weste þat trauaillieth and neuere werie ne breoth. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1158 ibid. 139 Swiþe werí was he þoli mani, omelpe he bar up is fet. *c* 1330 *Havelok Lalcune* 1588 Mekenild was so wery þat sche ne wold mipt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 143 His men als that wer very Hynt of thair beanelis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 75 He was so wery þat he myȝt na ferthire. 1557 TUSSER (Genev.) 1 Fol. 28 Come vnto me all ye that are weasie and laden. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 68 *b*, The fift or odde Crane..fleeth all alone before, till he be weary so doing. 1667 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 159 To know when the Stag is weary, is easily done by his Slavering, sloathing at the Mouth, [etc.]. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 182 After an absence of twenty days, they returned weary and discouraged. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 465 Producing what? A pair of slippers, To put on when you're weary. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 30, I am tired too soon; I could have danced down hours Two years gone hence and felt no weariet.

*absol.* 1382 WYCLIF *Job* iii. 17 There reesteden the wery in strengthe [1611 There the weasie be at rest]. 1382 — *Isa.* xl. 29 The Lord..ȝyueth to the weri vertue. 1568 CHAPTON *Chron.* II. 627 The Scots were not euer fresh men, to succor the were, and put new men in places of the hurt persons. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 162 Death may bring rest to the weary and overladen. 1804 CAMPBELL *Soldier's Dream* 4 Thousands had sunk on the ground overpowered, The weary to sleep, and the wounded to die. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, The thermometer for all the weary and the heavy laden. 1887 J. R. *Lady's Rancho Life Montana* 105 In a few minutes we were sleeping the sleep of the weary.

**b.** said of the body, its limbs or organs.

*c* 1205 LAY. 16592 To leclonden þa wunden of leofenen his cnihten & lofden on horse heore werie han. 1573 GASCOIGNE *Fruites, Herbes* Wks. 1907 I. 352 If thou sittest at ease to rest thy wearie bones. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 39 There they alight, in hope..to..rest their weary limbs a tide. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 264 Late at Night, with weary Pinions come the labring Swarms, and heavy laden. 1790 ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 73 (1810) 12 How oft..We.. Welcom'd the wild-bee home on weary wing. 1842 LONGF. *Excelsior* v, 'O stay,' the maiden said, 'and rest Thy weary head upon this breast.'

**c.** with the source of weariness indicated. Const. *with*, formerly also † *of* (now only in sense 2), † *for*, or † genitive.

*Beowulf* 579 Sibes werig. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lix [lx] 10 Werix þæs weorces. *c* 1205 LAY. 18406 Heo leoȝ swiþe werie þoren heore wepnen. *c* 1280 *Bestiary* 633 Danne he is of walke werí. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A* Prol. 7, I was weori of wandringe [H. wery forwandred]. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 440 Ne

certis she was fatt no thing But semed wery for fasting. 1380 Wyclif *John* iv. 6 Jhesu maad wery, or feynt, of the iurney, sat thus on the welle. *c*1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) x. 40 When he was wery of being of be crosse. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* ii. xxxvii. 257 They fonde the watchemen sore wery of longe watche. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 93 Both armies being wery with fighting. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. vii. 19 Weary of trauell in his former fight, He there in shade himselfe had laid to rest. 1620 Shakes. *Temp.* iv. 134 You Sun burn'd Sicklemen of August weary. 1619 Monson *Hin.* i. 279 My horse weary of this long journey without so much as a daies rest, beganne to faint. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 581 Weary with his Toyl, and scorch'd with Heat. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* i. 8, The stag, downcast, weary with the chase, Lay stretch'd upon the rushy floor.

**d.** Of pace, tread, voice, etc.: Showing signs of fatigue.

*c* 1000 *Cynewulf's Christ* 993 Beornas gretaš.. werzum stefnum. 1638 Quarles *Hieregl.* i. 8 When at length His weary steps have reach'd the top. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 803 His foes in sight, he mends his weary pace. 1784 Burns *Auld mare maude* 6, I spy'd a man, whase aged step Seem'd weary, worn with care. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* iii. 9 The weary sound and the heavy breath, And the silent motions of passing death. 1821—*Adonais* 9 The lamentation loud Whose poor slaves with weary footsteps tread. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xv, Accordingly, towards this spot, they directed their weary steps.

**†0.** quasi-*tr.* in *for weary* : see For- *prefix* 10.

*c* 1350, *c* 1400 [see For- *prefix* 10]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5574 Then were the Troyens wel, Thei myght not for werì hem sterì. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* xvii. For were slothis he on slepe, No lengur myste he wake. 14.. *Sir Beues* (O.) 2449 What for wery and hyt dyd se fayn, Syr Beuys was nerchande straynt. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Prophesie* 180 But on be morow, what for wach, what for wery, he fylle on sleepe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 226 Vnethes may I wag, man, for wery in youre sauàle Wille I set my staf, man.

**2.** Discontented at the continuance or continued recurrence of something, and desiring its cessation; having one's patience, tolerance, zeal, or energy exhausted; 'sick and tired' of something. Also with *in*, and *to* with inf.

*c* 1205 Lay. 32118 Ne bið nan man wers heora songes to herasn. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 181 What be is wery of þat he wenbe wil he neuere haue labour þerin. 1393 Gower *Conf.* ii. 388 Chaucer *Parson's T.* 1043 It [*sc.* the Paternoster] is short ..for a man schulde be pe lasse wery to say it. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6958, I wol no more of my matiere be wery in my pasoen me herby: I mighte maken you wery. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvi. i. 664, I am nygthe wery of this quest. 1526 Tindale 2 *Thess.* iii. 13 I am nether be wery in well doynge. [So all later versions exc. Rheims] 1534 — *Gal.* vi. 9 Let vs not be wery of well doynge [1611 in well doing]. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* vi. 6 I am wery of grongynge. 1551 Robinson *More's Utopia* ii. vi. (1895) 219 In the exercyse and studdye of the myndc they be neuer wery. *c* 1590 *Fair Em* iv. I. 28, I am growne werie of this companie. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* i. iv. 218 He like keepes not crus, nor crum, Weary of all, shall want some. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* iv. § 42 By this time the King was as weary of Scotland as he had been impatient to go thither. 1650 Dryden *Iil. Pl. Cong. Granada* i. 1, 'Tis just some joyes on weary Kings should write. 1721 in 10th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 143 He cannot be ignorant how weary we are of the war. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* i. 1, The last of these voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the sea. 1790 Burke *The Taylor fell* 13 There's somebody weary wi' lying her lane. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* Ded. 33 For I grow weary to behold The selfish and the strong still tyrannize Without reproach or check. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* i. xvii. 4 She is weary of dance and play. 1860—*Idyl* 91 His compass is but of a single note, That it makes one weary to hear. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 Plato is never weary of speaking of the honour of the soul.

**b.** Tired *of*, anxious to be rid *of* (a person). *rare.*

*c* 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 123 Me thynk pay schuld nat be so wery of yow, but dyd so gret labour & diligence to have yow. 1600 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* iv. 6 All parts alonside where our Iland bears Grow weary of me, and denies me succour. *c* 1653 R. Brome *City Wit* iv. 1, I will suddenly take occasion to break with the Foole Widdow of whom I am heartily weary. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 687, I am weary of her.

**3.** Depressed and dispirited through trouble, anxiety, disappointment, etc.; sick at heart.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxii. § 1 Eala Wisdom, þu de eart sio behæfdest frofer ealra weriga moda. *c* 1000 *Homilies* 25 Ne mæg werig mod wyrde wiðstondan. *c* 1205 Lay. 28 Ich þa wes ich al wet & wert of sorzen and seoc. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15875 Mani sari wepand wai þai had. 1538 Coverdale *2 Esdr.* xii. 5 Yet am I weery in my minde. 1558 Starkey *England* ii. i. 150 Many febul and wery soulys, wych haue lyyn oppressyd wyth wordly vanyte. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* iii. 1. 112 *I Murth.* So weare with Disasters, tugg'd with Fortune. 17.. *Slighted Nancy* in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1739) I. 23 For ben the house I ran; And a weary night am I. 1792 Burns *Banks of Doon* (later version) 4 How can ye chant, ye little birds, And I sae weary fu' o' care! 1802 L. Johnson in 1st *Bk. Rhymers' Club* 6 Our wearier spirit faints, Vexed in the world's employ.

**4.** Of persons: Having little strength, feeble, sickly. *Sc.* and *dial.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (Egipciane) 240 Pocht he auld & very vas. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* iii. iii. (S. T. S.) I. 250 Than was Elsecus, sone of Philo consullis, deid in pe cietc, and his collegi seruilius sa wery but he myght skarsly draw his aynd. 1808 Jamieson & *v.*, A weary bairn, a child that is declining. *S.* a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., It is a poor weary child. 1879 *Good Words* 405/1 The minister had christened Nicky Macdonald's bairn in the house, since it was far too weary a thing to be brought to the kirk.

*Pg.* 1333 Bellenden *Livy* iii. vii. (S. T. S.) I. 273 Pa cietc was nocht as wery [*L. aegrum*] þat it myght be dantit with sic remedis as It was wont to be.

**II.** Causing weariness.

**5.** Fatiguing, toilsome, exhausting. (Sometimes blending indistinguishably with sense 6.)

*c* 1325 Shoreham ii. 84 To here hyt [*sc.* the cross] to cairy, I wys, hyt was wel wery. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 457 The dede sleepe for wery bisynesse fil on this Carpenter. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 b, They wente a wery and a paynefull Iurney [*L. difficili et molesto itinere*]. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Jos.* xxxii. 2 As the shadowe of a great rocke in a wearieland. [Literal from the Heb.] 1575 Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* iii. 29 Let's synging passe our weary wayes, lesse troubls wyll be cures. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 129 Many a weary Stroke it [*sc.* the boat] had cost, you may be sure; and there remained nothing but to get it into the Water. 1784 Golding *Trav.* 233 Vain, very vain, my weary search to find That blisse which only centres in the mind. 1783 Burns *Despondency* 5 O Life! Thou art a galling load, Along a rough, a weary road, To wretches such as I. 1832 Hr. Martineau *Layin Wilde* vi. 76 It was weary work with any tool but the hatchet. 1833 Tennyson *Lotos-Eaters* 41 Evermore Most weary seem'd the sea, weary the oar, Weary the wave. 1849 Aytoun *Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 72 And aye we sail'd, and aye we sail'd Across the weary sea. 1864 J. A. Stuart *In Day of Battle* iv, India..is far away. Many a weary mile lies between us and it.

**b.** Irksome, tedious; tedious; in graver sense, burdensome to the spirit.

1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 188 Thys yn to wyry a lyffe to a lyyde for you and all youre. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iii. 1. 129 Thy best of rest is sleep, And that thou oft provok'st; yet grossly fear'st Ache, perjury, and imprisonment Can lay on nature. 1798 Wordsw. *Lines Tintern Abbey* 39 In which the heavy and the weary weight Of all this unintelligible world, Is lightened. 1823 Scott *Redgauntlet* v. iii, In the rude guard-room, where of yore Their weary hours the warders wore. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xii, Like the clear sunshine after weary rain. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* ii. 96, I have had a weary day in watching you. Yours must have been a weary.

**†b.** Of discourse, a speaker or writer: Tedious, wearisome. *Obs.*

1549 Compl. Scotl. etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Tim.* I. 1–7 Wherto should a man labour for saluacion by meanes of so many wiery obseruacions [*per tot molestias observationibus ad salutem contendere*]. 1571 T. Fortescue *Morin's Foresta* vii. 15 b, Many other considerations, of which I will omitte to speake, Firmianus..as also some others, haue written, large, & wery volumes. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* i. iv. 25 Your Brother and Queene loue you. But to be weary with you, he's in prison.

**7.** *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Sad, sorrowful, hard to endure.

a 1549 Forbes *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* ii. 35 With blubiour'd cheeks and weary nose, Her weary mou' to wail close. 1823 Scott *Redgauntlet* xi. Song, A weary lot is thine, fair maid. a 1893 in R. Ford *Harp Perths.* 24 This weary, wastle tale o' mine.

**b.** Of depression of spirits: Tiresome, vexatious, 'wretched', 'confounded'.

a 1785 W. Forbes *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* ii. 27 Wae worth that weary sup of drink He lik'd so well! 1800 Siddall *Chron. Sc. Poetry* (Glous.) *Song*, Wretched, weary, weetless, ne'erdo-weel vagabond I. 1845 Hall in S. C. Hall *Whitebuy* x. 85, I went hunting everywhere for the weary cat and her kittens. 1864 Lady *Tour. Boddin* xiv. 131 In the weariness, ne'erdo-weel vagabondage of it. 1893 'I. Knitit' *Lisbeth*, iii, 'Lisbeth, mind these weary steps. Your aunt's very infirm in the feet.

**c.** quasi-*adv.* as an intensive: Grievously, 'sadly'.

1790 Burns *Tam O'Shan. Dial.* 262 Poor Scota now is sha'd and auld, Her children blood rins weary cauld, To see her Palace like a fauld For baddin' sheep! 1880 J. P. Kay-Shuttleworth *Scarsdale* 155 How'll he weary potter (disturbed) wi' a letter fro' ovvlody but myself.

**8.** *Sc.* in certain phrases, perh. influenced by Wary *v.*, to curse: *Weary fa' (fall), weary on, weary* (a person or thing), a curse on (him, etc.).

1808 *Jamieson Song* 1 Weary fa' you, Duncan Gray. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxix, O weary on the wars I more! In the comely face they destroy. 1816 — *Bl. Dwarf* iii, O weary fa' thae evil days! 1828 W. M'Dowall *Poems* 21 Weary fa' the hour I ever saw her, Neat how neer she vowls. 1873 W. Alexander *Sk. I. fe Ayrsh Folk* 149 Weary set that chiel!.. he has scarcely nae taste nva. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* ii. 18 For such mischief-making, weary fall it! 1896 A. Lilburn *Borderer* xxix. 291 Eh, weary on us! There seems no end to our misfortunes.

**III.** 9. *Comb.*, as *weary-laden, -looking, -winged, -worn* adjs.; † **weary-foot** *a.*, having weary feet, tired with walking; *sb.* = next.

1798 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* ii. I, The hungry and †weary-foot traveller. 1784 Burns *Man was made to mourn* 61, A blest relief to those That †weary-laden mourn! 1885 Lib. R. Genie *Old Love* (1892) 19, I'm a weary †weary-looking man of middle age. 1833 Scargill *Puritan's Grave* (1846) 63 The occasional cawing of the †weary-winged rooks. 1795–8 Wordsw. *Hart-leap well* 140 If you know.. how weep will master The †weary-worn. 1819 Keats *Otho* ii. iii. 117 For I am sick and faint with many wrongs, Tir'd out and weary-worn with contumelies.

**10.** **Weariside** [-HEAD], weariness.

1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Efterward comþ weriheede þet makeþ þane man weri and worsi uram daye to daye.

**Weary** (wī·ri), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wearied** (wī·rid). Forms: 1 (**3e**)**wérigian**, (**3e**)**wérgian**, **wérian**, 3 **werȝie**, 4–6 **wery(e**, **werie**, 6 **wearie**, 6–7 **weary**. [OE. *wérȝ(i)an*, *-ȝian* intr., and *gewérȝian* trans.; *f. wérig* Weary *a.*]

**I.** *intr.* To grow weary.

1. To become tired; to suffer fatigue. Now *rare.*

*c* 890 Wanderth *Gregory's Dial.* 204 Jet ilce mod æxþer ge mid bealicum mæȝnum weaxeð & strangaþ & eac of his ærenre unmyrnysse wergaþ & teoreð. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* i. xxvii. (1890) 78 Forðon hyngran, þyrstan, hatian, calan, werizian, al þæt is of untrymnesse þæs ȝecyndes. *Ibid.* iii. iv. 178 Þa ongon hia hors semninga wergian & ȝestondan.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252, & sif þet heo wergeð, eusrichon wreoð-ð him bi oðer. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* etc. K j b, My hande with long holdyng weriede. 1688 *P. Gordon Diary* (Spalding Club 1859) 126, I had not ridden four miles when one of the horses wearyed. *a* 1776 *Lisle Bullitt* xi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 169 She was nae ten miles frae the town When she began to weary. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxv. 9 Nor could I weary, heart or limb, When (etc.).

**b.** Of the heart, mind, patience, etc.: To become tired or exhausted. Also of a person, to grow dispirited or sick at heart.

1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* xi. 124 Stedfastly he bidys in body & wernis not in hart. 1600 in Haringtn *Nugæ Antiq.* (1779) II. 257 Thus I will lay down my quill, which seldom wearys in a friendly tale. 1692 J. Carstares *Lett.* (1846) 74, I hope he [God] keeps you from wearieing in reference to the delay of our liberie. 1769 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1809) I. III. xlviii. 379 The spirit wearies with perpetual dissipation. 1829 Hebrside *Jrn.* (1851) 324 That diligence which never wearies,..goes on adding grain by grain to the mass of results. 1891 R. Peacock *N. Brendon* II. 76 His poetic mind never wearied.

**c.** To become affected with tedium or ennui.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 436 [† improper expressions used in Edinburgh.] I *weary* when I am alone; I become weary. 1823 G. J. Cayley *Lett. Affection* 288 The theme is ever kind and sympathising spirit which does not weary over my diffident gossip.

**2.** With various constructions. **a.** To grow tired *of* (something, doing something); *to do* (= of doing); *or to be* (= of being) (*arch.* or *poet.*); also with pres. pple.

*a* 1225 *Juliana* 22 For ne wergeð he neauer to watchen ow al þat wandreðe world a buten ende. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1209 That thei were wery of werre, & wolde fayne rest. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 84 *In Macro Plays* 62 Pat of hys ȝyfftes he wil neuer & qwak for wery fere. *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Swallow & other Birds* 189 Quhilk day and nicht weryis not for to ga Sowand purpoun. In nannis sault. 1667 Milton *P. Lost* ix. 1135 Whence arise, who in singlenesse seeketh Resolution will not wearie to search it. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* II. iv, She now wearied of passing over her time by herself, and sighed for the comfort of society. 1829 Carlyle in *Foreign Rev.* IV. 120 Into the ocean of air he gazed incessantly; and never wearied contemplating the mysterious element. 1832 *Edinburgh Lit. Rem.* II. 376 How the mind wearies of, and shrinks from, the more than painful interest, the misery, of utter depravity. 1846 G. Washington *Huckleberries* I. 217 The eye does not weary to see, but the heart does, in even a thing the one would—beauty. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 628 He...had ridd'n a random round To seek him, and had wearied of the search. *Ibid.* 694 As a boy that hath surfeited on sweets, Will sing the simple passage o'er and o'er..., till the ear Wearies to hear it. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 356 It is not wonderful that a man should..should have wearied of life task before it was completed.

**b.** To suffer weariness from long waiting or deferred hope; to wait wearily *for or to* do (something), or *through* (a period of time); to long or languish *for* something. Chiefly *Sc.*

1549 Sym. Smith (*title*) Why may it not..induce him to carry on the load of life who pants, and wearies for the grave. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* II. iii. 44, I hae wearied to see them. *a* 1830 H. Cockburn *Memor.* (1856) 175 The Lord Advocate..generally leaves his responsibilities ..to endure the humming up, and to weary for the verdict. 1839 Carl *Lamorie* I. iii. xi, [they were] watching the corpse and wearying for my return. 1844 Wheelwright *Lett.* (1881) 280, I was beginning to weary for a letter from you. 1866 'Annie Thomas' *Played Out* I. iv. 153 A congregation of women assembled immediately under a lamp-post, wearying through the hour before the men rejoin them. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., They keep me wearying for dinner. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Ad Eng* viii, I have been wearying to see you. 1888 R. Buchanan *Heir of Linne* iii, I was wearying to speak with you. 1894 G. Moore *Esther Waters* 39 She wearied for a companion.

**3.** quasi-*trans.*, with *out*: To go wearily through to the end of.

1594–5 *Merchant's Daughter of Bristow* i. vi. in *Roxb. Ball.* (1872) II. 1. By there wall I waste and wearie out my dayes in woe. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* xviii. 131 After I had here wearied out the weariesse, which I brought in my bones from the Cuchumatanes. 1889 *Ben's Own Paper* 17 Aug. 731/2, I soon fought to be sorry for foster Mary, left to weary out the holidays in vacant loneliness.

**II.** *trans.* To make weary.

**4.** To exhaust the strength or endurance of (a person, his limbs, etc.); to fatigue or tire with toil, sickness, watching, sustained mental effort, etc.

*Beowulf* 2852 He ȝewerȝad sæt, *c* 897 Alfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 229 He ȝewergode þone þe hiersan mid'e þearde mid ȝy ȝesuince. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* (1900) I. 192 Þuh godes fore-stihtunge me hoss ne he sy-ȝ ferwæd wæs. *c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 976 He bade wevyde the wurme [*sc.* dragon] by wyghtnesse of strenghte, Ne ware it fore the wylde fyre that he hymre with defendet. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Weryyn, or make wery, *fatigo, lasso.* 1530 Palsgr. 770/1, I weryed my lyege with long time wearyng or travayle, *je lasse*... This horse is toothed so harde that he hath weryed me more than I was a gret while. 1563 Gosynhyll *Cæsar* ii. (1565) 18 b, Many men long time wearied their armes, chose rather to cast their targets out of their hands. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 10 They in the practise of their religion are wearied with

he could not surpass in speed. 1825 Scott *Talism* vi. A mighty cuirtal axe, which would have wearied the arm of any other than Cœur de Lion. 1825 — *Betrothed* xii. She wearied her mem ry with your efforts to recollect his features. 1859 Jephson *Flauds* 827 'Alas, he said, 'your ride hath wearied you

b *Transf.* and *fig.*

1593 Bp Hall *Sat.* I. 96 If the vine be wearied with plentifull bearing 1593 Shaks *Lucr* 1363 So woe hath wearied woe, moan tired moane *Hen* I 1370 Thus elis and ills wea the countries Their sorrow, And time doth weary time with her complaining 1604 Jas I *Counterbl to Tobacco* (Arb) 18 So being ouer-all continually vsed, it [medicine] doth but weaken weame and weare nature 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 648 Then roaring Beasts, and running Streams he tryes, And wearies all his Miracles of Fires.

c With adv. or advb phr., esp. *to weary out*, to fatigue completely, so as to render incapable of further exertion

1647 Cowley *Mistress Thraldom* v Like an Egyptian Tyrant, some Thou wearriest out, in building, but a Tomb 1670 Dryden *1st Pt Long Granada* iv (1672) 35 In walls we mean thy must our hopes inclose, To wait our friends, and weary out our foes. 1829 Landor *Imag Conv Greeks & Rom* (1853) 352 Whose movements would have irritated, distracted, and wearied out the elephants 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lx, He was stupefied and he was wearied to death. 1859 Jephson *Heiress* 580 Then he found a door. I And wearied out made for the open and slept

5 To tire the patience of, to affect with tedium or ennui; to satiate (*with*). Also with *out*

1340 *Ayenb* 99 He wolde pet hit were scent nor pet non ne wolde him weorye hit nor to lyerny 1386 Chaucer *Can Yem Prol* 631 Ther is nevere man to telle it al wel thise ne c1450 Sir R Roos *La Belle Dame* 62 It weieth me tha matter for to trete 1589 Canon *Sonnets of Ascham* x 271 How am I shuned For I ne glorified I exiles this weryes me a rel 1593 J. Wits *What* 118 b, But now because I haue halfe weri'd the reed I with a teal me matter, I will harken him vnto it with a merry eare 1600 Shakes *A and C* II vi 30 I will weary you then no longer with idle talking 1667 Milton *P L* xii 103 I will not be tedious We wearied with their many trains, and how He spake of them mystical 1675 F. Watson *Spectator Dunedin* 1 ref And now good Reader, I have even wearied thee out 1797 Mrs Radcliffe *Italian* xii Our patience is not wearied, although our curiosity is unsatisfied 1798 Wordsworth *Lines Lady I* II 38 Wearied out at last by it tender imp ritunity she relucta untly t'ok solemn charge of the child 1830 Tennyson *Eulogium* Gately without peril she Wet with me. 1848 Macaulay *Hist* I 611 649 He was doing his best to weary out his benefactors patience an l good breed ng. 1877 Miss Oliphant *Makers Flor* x 348 My company bowing, and receiving applause wearied the simple mu kind at last 1883 Ouida *Wanda* I 06 He had a sensitive fear of wearying with his presence ladies to whom he owed a homage

b. To trouble by importunity (*between*, the gods, etc.).

1633 Ford *Tis Pity* II, I have even wearied heaven with prayers 1718 Hearne *Collect* 7 *Oxford*, 371 Which I suppose I shall find, as I with Midnight Prayers Weary the Gods to keep Thee in their Care 1831 Scott *Quentin D* Introd, He wearied heaven and every saint with prayers for the preservation of his life. 1848 H. G Robinson *Cel of Herm* xxiii I weary not The Gods to mend my present plot 1879 Browne *Cruise* xx 227 Here, for sixteen months, to weary Heaven and all his friends with his lamentations.

c *absol.* To cause weariness or ennui

1815 Sir R. Peel in *Croker Papers* (1884) I iii 56 Which would have been under even eight o'clock an hour but, like other good things, we stayed by constant repetition to weary 1870 Emerson *Conduct* xx There was so much novelty to me in all around, that a moderate touch of terror of the scene never wearied

Hence **Wea rying** *vbl sb*

a 1225 *Ancr.* R. 252 Vor longe as alle prunge & alle prunge & burnh werzinge beoh hitocned pa vnbeawes vnder alooh he pet Iseh onmete Iet ut pe 1340 *Hampole Prose Treat* 20 *Ayenbit* 44 Hence are pe vnbeawes vne werynga of places and companies & gether with our sele

**Wearry**, the form of Worry *v*

**Weary** (wi·ri·ri), *pple* [ ENG 2.]

**1** That causes weariness, fatigue, or lassitude

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A x xxiii (B di MS), And the wayke [of large limbe wexe as he large with he re-ceptacles wesen and pipes perof *a* 1500 Skelton *Col Clout* 1156 Harke, howe the lowell prates, With a wyde wesen mouth! 1541 R Copland *Guyde in Pylgrymage* B iij, The wesaunte is a carefull grounde grysled partyche creatable and fourmed for to be instrument of yonge 1547 Boorde *Brev Healthe* ix *Trachea arteria* In Englysshe it is named the wesaunte, the wesen, the throte 1. 1609 [Bible (Rheims)] *Hum Hes en na Earth* 1 xxx, His wesen wherof when his breath is did fill 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* iv vii 181 The high arteries or winde pipes 1658 Phillips *Wesaunt* (*oundes* viii 68 The Aspera Arteria or Weasand 1697 Dryden *Æneis* viii 532 In unerring steel descended while he spoke, the weasand Mouth, and thro his Weson 1 le 1708 Petr Incibaldi *Cesari Fusini* in Thes hel I 351 strongly by his hurry, They almost stopt his whizzen 1796 [Jonathan Utly] *Lucy Arthur* I. 1885 Rohina *Festivum Xeres* 39 A thin little weasel of a Brahmin, like Peboo

b In prosecutal sayings. † *To be but by a barm weazel* to be drunk.

1673 R Head *Canting Acad* 171 He is but by a barn Weasel 1825 J Neal *Brother Jonathan* III 269 On with your slavery, with you, and if you have caught another—Caught! me!— catch a weasel asleep! 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxiii, I m as sharp as a ferret, and as cunning as a weasel

† **Wea** Erroneously spoken of as a corn eating animal

c 1600 *Distr Emperor* in 1 in Bullen *Old Pl* (1884) III 208 True, daughter, I see it like the weasel that went into the meale chamber, it gnawes a plumme full of humour, it askes a crannye as bygg as a cenye borrowe to gett out sayne 1744 Pope *Hist Eng* I vii 51 A Weasel once made a foolish Lodging In at a Corn-Mow. [1755 Johnson, *Weazel*, a small animal that eats corn and kills mice]

**d.** In some parts of England and Ireland confused with the Stoat, which is sometimes called *ermine weasel* or (when wearing its winter coat) *white weasel*

1807 Tuberv *Faur f Beasts* 176 The white Weasel is called *Mineter* 1676 Colton *Angler* ii viii 55 A I he called the Owl like the dubbing of a white Weasels tail 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* III 338 This animal [ie ermine] is sometimes found white in Great Britain, and as then called a white weasel 1821 *Fashing Gaz* 3 Jan 7/2 The stoat, or ermine weasel (*Mustela erminea*) in many parts of England is called a weasel 1916 *Field* 22 Apr 661/3 The stoat in many parts [of Ireland] is known as weasel

2 Applied with qualifying words to various animals belonging to the family *Mustelidæ*, or having some marked resemblance to the weasel, as *fisher w* (see Fisher 2 b); *four-toed w.* = Sericate:

he could not surpass in speed. 1825 Scott *Talism* vi. A mighty cuirtal axe, which would have wearied the arm of any other than Cœur de Lion. 1825 — *Betrothed* xii. She wearied her mem ry with your efforts to recollect his features. 1859 Jephson *Flauds* 827 'Alas, he said, 'your ride hath wearied you

b *Transf.* and *fig.*

1593 Bp Hall *Sat.* I. 96 If the vine be wearied with plentifull bearing 1593 Shaks *Lucr* 1363 So woe hath wearied woe, moan tired moane *Hen* I 1370 Thus elis and ills wea the countries Their sorrow, And time doth weary time with her complaining 1604 Jas I *Counterbl to Tobacco* (Arb) 18 So being ouer-all continually vsed, it [medicine] doth but weaken weame and weare nature 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 648 Then roaring Beasts, and running Streams he tryes, And wearies all his Miracles of Fires.

c With adv. or advb phr., esp. *to weary out*, to fatigue completely, so as to render incapable of further exertion

1647 Cowley *Mistress Thraldom* v Like an Egyptian Tyrant, some Thou wearriest out, in building, but a Tomb 1670 Dryden *1st Pt Long Granada* iv (1672) 35 In walls we mean thy must our hopes inclose, To wait our friends, and weary out our foes. 1829 Landor *Imag Conv Greeks & Rom* (1853) 352 Whose movements would have irritated, distracted, and wearied out the elephants 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lx, He was stupefied and he was wearied to death. 1859 Jephson *Heiress* 580 Then he found a door. I And wearied out made for the open and slept

5 To tire the patience of, to affect with tedium or ennui; to satiate (*with*). Also with *out*

1340 *Ayenb* 99 He wolde pet hit were scent nor pet non ne wolde him weorye hit nor to lyerny 1386 Chaucer *Can Yem Prol* 631 Ther is nevere man to telle it al wel thise ne c1450 Sir R Roos *La Belle Dame* 62 It weieth me tha matter for to trete 1589 Canon *Sonnets of Ascham* x 271 How am I shuned For I ne glorified I exiles this weryes me a rel 1593 J. Wits *What* 118 b, But now because I haue halfe weri'd the reed I with a teal me matter, I will harken him vnto it with a merry eare 1600 Shakes *A and C* II vi 30 I will not be tedious To weary you then no longer with idle talking 1667 Milton *P L* xii 103 I will not be tedious We wearied with their many trains, and how He spake of them mystical 1675 F. Watson *Spectator Dunedin* 1 ref And now good Reader, I have even wearied thee out 1797 Mrs Radcliffe *Italian* xii Our patience is not wearied, although our curiosity is unsatisfied 1798 Wordsworth *Lines Lady I* II 38 Wearied out at last by it tender imp ritunity she relucta untly t'ok solemn charge of the child 1830 Tennyson *Eulogium* Gately without peril she Wet with me. 1848 Macaulay *Hist* I 611 649 He was doing his best to weary out his benefactors patience an l good breed ng. 1877 Miss Oliphant *Makers Flor* x 348 My company bowing, and receiving applause wearied the simple mu kind at last 1883 Ouida *Wanda* I 06 He had a sensitive fear of wearying with his presence ladies to whom he owed a homage

b. To trouble by importunity (*between*, the gods, etc.).

1633 Ford *Tis Pity* II, I have even wearied heaven with prayers 1718 Hearne *Collect* 7 *Oxford*, 371 Which I suppose I shall find, as I with Midnight Prayers Weary the Gods to keep Thee in their Care 1831 Scott *Quentin D* Introd, He wearied heaven and every saint with prayers for the preservation of his life. 1848 H. G Robinson *Cel of Herm* xxiii I weary not The Gods to mend my present plot 1879 Browne *Cruise* xx 227 Here, for sixteen months, to weary Heaven and all his friends with his lamentations.

c *absol.* To cause weariness or ennui

1815 Sir R. Peel in *Croker Papers* (1884) I iii 56 Which would have been under even eight o'clock an hour but, like other good things, we stayed by constant repetition to weary 1870 Emerson *Conduct* xx There was so much novelty to me in all around, that a moderate touch of terror of the scene never wearied

Hence **Wea rying** *vbl sb*

a 1225 *Ancr.* R. 252 Vor longe as alle prunge & alle prunge & burnh werzinge beoh hitocned pa vnbeawes vnder alooh he pet Iseh onmete Iet ut pe 1340 *Hampole Prose Treat* 20 *Ayenbit* 44 Hence are pe vnbeawes vne werynga of places and companies & gether with our sele

**Wearry**, the form of Worry *v*

**Weary** (wi·ri·ri), *pple* [ ENG 2.]

**1** That causes weariness, fatigue, or lassitude

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A x xxiii (B di MS), And the wayke [of large limbe wexe as he large with he re-ceptacles wesen and pipes perof *a* 1500 Skelton *Col Clout* 1156 Harke, howe the lowell prates, With a wyde wesen mouth! 1541 R Copland *Guyde in Pylgrymage* B iij, The wesaunte is a carefull grounde grysled partyche creatable and fourmed for to be instrument of yonge 1547 Boorde *Brev Healthe* ix *Trachea arteria* In Englysshe it is named the wesaunte, the wesen, the throte 1. 1609 [Bible (Rheims)] *Hum Hes en na Earth* 1 xxx, His wesen wherof when his breath is did fill 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* iv vii 181 The high arteries or winde pipes 1658 Phillips *Wesaunt* (*oundes* viii 68 The Aspera Arteria or Weasand 1697 Dryden *Æneis* viii 532 In unerring steel descended while he spoke, the weasand Mouth, and thro his Weson 1 le 1708 Petr Incibaldi *Cesari Fusini* in Thes hel I 351 strongly by his hurry, They almost stopt his whizzen 1796 [Jonathan Utly] *Lucy Arthur* I. 1885 Rohina *Festivum Xeres* 39 A thin little weasel of a Brahmin, like Peboo

b In prosecutal sayings. † *To be but by a barm weazel* to be drunk.

1673 R Head *Canting Acad* 171 He is but by a barn Weasel 1825 J Neal *Brother Jonathan* III 269 On with your slavery, with you, and if you have caught another—Caught! me!— catch a weasel asleep! 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxiii, I m as sharp as a ferret, and as cunning as a weasel

† **Wea** Erroneously spoken of as a corn eating animal

c 1600 *Distr Emperor* in 1 in Bullen *Old Pl* (1884) III 208 True, daughter, I see it like the weasel that went into the meale chamber, it gnawes a plumme full of humour, it askes a crannye as bygg as a cenye borrowe to gett out sayne 1744 Pope *Hist Eng* I vii 51 A Weasel once made a foolish Lodging In at a Corn-Mow. [1755 Johnson, *Weazel*, a small animal that eats corn and kills mice]

**d.** In some parts of England and Ireland confused with the Stoat, which is sometimes called *ermine weasel* or (when wearing its winter coat) *white weasel*

1807 Tuberv *Faur f Beasts* 176 The white Weasel is called *Mineter* 1676 Colton *Angler* ii viii 55 A I he called the Owl like the dubbing of a white Weasels tail 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* III 338 This animal [ie ermine] is sometimes found white in Great Britain, and as then called a white weasel 1821 *Fashing Gaz* 3 Jan 7/2 The stoat, or ermine weasel (*Mustela erminea*) in many parts of England is called a weasel 1916 *Field* 22 Apr 661/3 The stoat in many parts [of Ireland] is known as weasel

2 Applied with qualifying words to various animals belonging to the family *Mustelidæ*, or having some marked resemblance to the weasel, as *fisher w* (see Fisher 2 b); *four-toed w.* = Sericate:

**4.** *Comb.*, as *weasand muscle*, *weasand-stopping* adj.; **weasand-pipe** = sense 1–3 above.

c 1720 W Gibson *Farrier's Guide* V iv (1739) 60 The Bronchium, or the *Weasand Muscles 1544 Phaer *Regim Lyfe* (1560) Sviij b, Somtyme it lyeth upon the *weasant* pype, and than it stoppeth the breath & strangleth the patient anone 1596 Siebert *P Q* iv 11 72 His weasand pipe it through? his gorges cleft 1620 I. C *Two Merry Milde Wooers* iv 1, Lib, Why Cut my throate I *Tra* I your Weason pipe, your Gullet 1658 R Cox *Actæon & Diana* 31 He will come armed with nothing but a Razor, with which if he doe chuse your weasand pipe, it will not be amiss to take it patiently. 1872 O W Holmes *Poet Breakf t* viii 267 Poor, yelling, scalping Indians, *weasand* stopping Things

**Wease-alley**, corrupt form of Weese-allan

**Weasel** (wē·zĕl) Forms 1 uuecsule, uuesulae, weole, 4 weasill, 4–5 wesel(e, 4–6 wesell, -il, 5 wesyl(le, wees, weasylle, weysyl, wosel, wheasille, 5c quhasill, 6 weeyll, weysell, 6–7 weasell, -ill, weesell, we(e)sill, 6–9 weasel, 7 weasell, -il, weassel, weesle, we(e)sill, weesle, wheesle, 5c waesel, 7–8 weesel, 5c wassell, 8–9 weasle, 9 *dial.* wizzel, 5– weasel. OE *weosule*, *weosle* wk. fem = Nrth *wesel* (Wrm., *Lindisf.*, *teaseling*), (M)Du *wezel*, OHG *wisula*, *ala* (MHG *wessle*, *wusel*, mod G. *wiesel* fem.) —Olcel **wesulōn*, of obscure origin.

From German dialects come the Icel (*hreysidrátt*, (canin) weasel', Sw *vessla*, *vessla*, Da *vesel*)

**1.** A carnivorous animal (*Putorius nivalis*), the smallest European species of the genus (of the order *Mustelidæ*) which includes the polecat, stoat, etc. It is remarkable for its slender body, and for its ferocity and bloodthirstiness

c 725 *Corpus Gl* ii M 337 *Mustela*, uuesule c 1000 *Ælfric Gram* vi (*Z*) 20 Mustela, weosle 1 wesle 1 *Epinal* 1 xxxix in th type *Ag Exod* 11 164 Sif on hwylcre myccle wesan mus oððe weasle onbefealle sprenge mudh mis ætwæsse 1340 *Gloss Ld de Ingham* in Wright *Lyric Poet* (1842) 1 Wesle, a wesele 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat* 20 Pe wesill ouercumys him [ie the Deuill] & slys him 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A xviii xxxiv (1495) 829 The wesell hathe a red and a white wombe and is chiefely vse to kylle Gouge *Hesbands Husb* iii 156 b I would counsell you to destroy your Rattes and Mise with Weasels 1570 Levins *Manipulus* (Arb) 172 He that is bitched with a wesyl, weare the tuie of a weesill in a ring which is in enchauntment against such chames. 1666 N Bacon *Gouernm Germania* G ij, The Pole is tall, and wilde eates the Weesels & Mice. 1682 Capt J Smith *Virginia* iii 35 Of Weesels and other Vermines haue a good many 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* I 97/2 Pole-cats, Weasels or the like Vermin 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R Usher* (1850) 136 Shaving like a weasel 1844 *Jesse Scenes Country Life* 157 Keepers have informed me that Weasles will sometimes kill and feed on Snakes 1883 Sir Monier *Dict Sanskrit Armor* 1 he long tailed weasel (*Mustela longicaudata*) 1919 *Contemp Rev* Aug 183 I came across a bloodthirsty weasel, dragging a large buck rabbit after it

*transf.* and *fig.* 1599 Shake *Hen V*, i 1 170 For euen the backe of pardon being in prey, I to her vngraunted Nest, The Weasel (quoth he) will follow, and the Mouse will enter 1632 Chapman & Shirley *Ball* i (1639) A 4, Do I See not how him in the Court dancing Weesil? *Ha* A Dancer, and so gay 1632 B Jonson *Magn Lad* i vi Wherefore did I, Sir, bid him Recall d, you Weasell, Vermin of a Humbler? 1638 J. ab *Fancies* ii ii, Whenson, (cries the wise weesle) 1790 Weesle & Pindar] *Ades to Futures Funerall* 19 Prudentell, thou stinkest! weesel, policell, fly! 1886 J Robins *Festivum Xeres* 39 A thin little weasel of a Brahmin, like Peboo

**2.** In proverbial sayings. † *To be but by a barm weazel* to be drunk.

1673 R Head *Canting Acad* 171 He is but by a barn Weasel 1825 J Neal *Brother Jonathan* III 269 On with your slavery, with you, and if you have caught another—Caught! me!— catch a weasel asleep! 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxiii, I m as sharp as a ferret, and as cunning as a weasel

† **Wea** Erroneously spoken of as a corn eating animal

c 1600 *Distr Emperor* in 1 in Bullen *Old Pl* (1884) III 208 True, daughter, I see it like the weasel that went into the meale chamber, it gnawes a plumme full of humour, it askes a crannye as bygg as a cenye borrowe to gett out sayne 1744 Pope *Hist Eng* I vii 51 A Weasel once made a foolish Lodging In at a Corn-Mow. [1755 Johnson, *Weazel*, a small animal that eats corn and kills mice]

**d.** In some parts of England and Ireland confused with the Stoat, which is sometimes called *ermine weasel* or (when wearing its winter coat) *white weasel*

1807 Tuberv *Faur f Beasts* 176 The white Weasel is called *Mineter* 1676 Colton *Angler* ii viii 55 A I he called the Owl like the dubbing of a white Weasels tail 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* III 338 This animal [ie ermine] is sometimes found white in Great Britain, and as then called a white weasel 1821 *Fashing Gaz* 3 Jan 7/2 The stoat, or ermine weasel (*Mustela erminea*) in many parts of England is called a weasel 1916 *Field* 22 Apr 661/3 The stoat in many parts [of Ireland] is known as weasel

**2** Applied with qualifying words to various animals belonging to the family *Mustelidæ*, or having some marked resemblance to the weasel, as *fisher w* (see Fisher 2 b); *four-toed w.* = Sericate:

*Malacca tr.* = RABBE; *Mexican w.* = KINKAJOU; *water-w.* (see WATER-), *q.v.*

1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 298 Four-toed Weesel. 1781 — *Hist. Quadr.* II. 328 Fisher Weesel. *Ibid.* 338 Mexican Weesel. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 406 Malacca Weesel.

† **3.** [transl. L. *mustela* (*marina*).] A fish, taken to be the lamprey. (Cf. *weasel-fish*, *-ling* in 6 b, and Fr. *belette*.) *Obs.*

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. ix. II. 445 The liver also of the fish named the Sea-cat or Weasill, is given in like case.

† **4.** The SHREW. Cf. *weasel root*, *shack* in 6 b.

*a* 1688 Sir T. BROWNE *Nonf. Birds* Wks. 1835 IV. 317 The *...mustela tarligata*, ...the variegated or party-coloured weasel, so called from the resemblance it beareth unto a weasel in the head.

**5.** *U. S.* A nickname for a native of S. Carolina.

1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 South Carolina is Palmetto State, and the natives are Weasels.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weasel family*, *kind*, *tribe* (designations for the order *Mustelidæ*); *weasel-colour*, *-run*, *-skin*, *-whelp*; similative, as *weasel-* † *backed* (= beaked), *-faced*, *-headed*, *-like* adjs.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. vii. 173/2 In *Holinshed*, If a man...be "weasil backed and have his nose left on the cheekes will make the owner looke big like a bowdled hen. 1589 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 1577/2 *Vulimus*...fox or "weasill cloue. 1596 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (1883) I. 221 Mounseur Fregeuile Gaulius, that prating "weazell fac'd vermin, is one of the Pipers in this consort. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 148 A little meagre, weasel-faced Frenchman. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 282 The "Weasel family. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. ¶ ii. 1. 70 The "Weasle-Headed Armadillo, *Tatu Mustelinus*. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 82 This species is the least of the "weasel-kind. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Short Ac. C. Africa* 320 Their. "weasel-like slenderness of body. 1901 LINEBARGER *Words by Repentance* 253 Setting his crans in a "weasel-snout. 1582 *Rates Customs* &c. F ij b, "Wesel skinnes the dosen, iiij. d. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 378 The "weesel tribe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), 56b Þe "weesel whelpes falleþ hi ony happe in chynnes...þe wesel helpiþ ham wiþ a certeyne herbe.

b. Special comb.: **weasel-coot**, **-duck**, the female or young male of the smew; † **weasel-fish**, a rockling (cf. WHISTLE-*fish*); **weasel-lemur**, a small short-tailed lemur (*Lepilemur mustelinus*); † **weasel-ling**, a kind of rockling; † **weasel-monger**, one who hunts rats, etc., with weasels; **weasel-snout**, the yellow dead-nettle or archangel (*Lamium Galeobdolon*), from the shape of the corolla.

1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 266 Red-headed Smew, or "Weevel Coot. 1885 SHARPE *Cat. Birds Nearct. Birds* 165 "Weasel ducks or Weasel coots. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 220 The Bladder Fish, and the "Weasel Fish. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 293 This "Weasel Lemur...has fair-sized ears, and its colours are of all sorts of shades of red, grey, white, and yellow. *a* 1688 Sir T. BROWNE *Nonf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 308 *Mustela Marina*; called by some a "weazel ling, which, salted and dried, is a good Lenten dish. 1530 PALSGR. *Lesclarc.* 308/1 I Pekle *Sp. to Q. Elin. at Theobalds, Gard. Sp.*, This "weasel-monger [*i. e.* a mole-catcher]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 320 Yellow Archangel. Yellow Dead Nettle, or "Weasel snout.

† **Wea·selled**, *a. Obs.* [f. WEASEL + -ED 2 (irregularly used).] = next. Only in Comb. *weaselled-coloured*, *-faced* adjs.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 714 The colour of them was like a Weasled coloured horse. *a* 1650 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. i. (1693) 36, I never saw so weasell'd-faced a Puppy.

**Weaselly** (wī·zĕlli), *a.* [WEASEL + -Y 1.] Weasel-like. Also *weaselly-looking*.

1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 382 He was a weaselly-looking little man. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* II. App. xi. 359 An individual...of middle stature, a thin and weaselly figure, a sallow complexion. 1861 ANTHONY HOPE '*Quisanté*' ii. 10 He was a little weaselly perhaps.

**Weaselship** (wī·zĕlʃip). [f. WEASEL + -SHIP.] † **a.** A mock title for a weasel. **b.** The condition or qualities of a weasel. In quot. *fig.*

1592 VALENS *Strap of Vert.* (1633) 23 b, For...sak'dthim...why his Weaselship would keep In durance vile. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 317/1 Such a representation...as would...exhibit his weaselship in the most striking light.

**Weasen**, obs. form of WEASAND.

**Weaseny**, variant of WEAZENY.

**Weasill**, variant of WEKELE *Obs.*

**Weason**, variant of WEASAND.

**Weast**, obs. form of WEST.

**Wea·swa**, obs. form of WHOSO.

[**Weasy**, spurious word in Dicts., is based on a misreading of WEARE in *Foyle's Expos. Dan.* 1545.

So **Weasiness** [*joye wearyner.*].

**Weat**(e, obs. forms of WAITE 9 f, WET.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) *2 Thess.* iii. 5 The Lord guyde your hearts to the loue of God, and the waytyng for of Christ-te.

**Weather** (we·ðəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **weder**, 2 **wæder**, 2–5 **weder**, 4 *Sc.* **vedir**, **weddire**, **wedyre**, 4–5 **wedir**, **wedire**, **wedur**, **wedyr**, **whedir**, 5 *Sc.* **weddre**, *-ir*, *-yr*, **wedere**, **wedyre**, **whedere**, **whed(d)yr**, 6 **weddur**, **wedor**, *Sc.* **wad-der**, (**weddir**), **wodder**, *-ir*, **wodur**, (**vodder**); 5 **wethyr**, 5–7 **wether**, 5–6 **whether**, 6, 9 *Sc.* **wathir**, (6 **wedthir**), 6– **weather**. [Com. Teut. (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *weder* neut., OFris. *weder*, *wether* (NFris. *weddher*, WFris. *waer*, *war*), OS. *wedar* weather, storm, Du. *weder*, *weer*, OHG. *wetar* (MHG. *weter*, mod.G. *wetter*), ON. *veðr* (Sw. *väder*, Da. *vejr*).–OTeut. ***wedro-m.* It is uncertain whether the pre-Teut. form was ***wedhro-m* (= OSl. *vedro*, Russian ведро good weather, *vedrá* adj., fair, said of weather; cogn. w. Lith. *vidras*, *vydra*, storm, *vėdaras* storm, flood) or ***wetrd-m* (ablaut-var. of Lith. *vėtra* storm, OSl. *vetrŭ* air, wind); on either alternative the word is prob. f. the Indogermanic root ***wā* to blow (see WIND *sb.*1) + suffix *dhro-* or *tro-*.

The spelling with *th* instead of the earlier *d* first occurs in the 15th c. (though the pronunciation which it indicates may well be much older); before the end of the 16th c. it had become universal. In several dialects, chiefly SC. and Irel., the pronunciation with (d) still survives. See Tit 6, and the note s. v. FATHER *sb.*

The nautical use of wind, direction of the wind (see senses 3, 8) is probably derived from ON. *veðr*.]

**1.** The condition of the atmosphere (at a given place and time) with respect to heat or cold, quantity of sunshine, presence or absence of rain, hail, snow, thunder, fog, etc., violence or gentleness of the winds. Also, the condition of the atmosphere regarded as subject to vicissitudes.

For *wind and weather* (rarely † *weather and wind*) see WIND *sb.*

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 221 *Tempestum*, unedet. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Hom.* I. 298 Wedere onlicnæt, þonne on sumeres tid sended weorþeð driqunra dreorunga. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 259 Þæt he friðige & forðige ælce [tilþe] be ðam...ðe hine unðer wiscð. *c* 1205 LAY. 20746 Þe wes gomel aldren & þat weder leoðelæc. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2441, & vor weder & oþer þing on erbe after hom [*sc.* the planets] moche is, & þis inhabiteþ ine hom ilkepele godes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 670 And if ye liggen wel to-night, com ofte, And eareth not what weder is on-folie. *c* 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 1233 Þe wedir was fair, þe weder fyn, mantell he feld togydre & nede sette hym doun to reste. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 393 And oft also, after a dropping moone, The weddir clereth, sikerly. 1450 *Cokaygne* (Surtees) 627 But comonly þe weder chaunged. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Gard. Laurel* 1442 How men were wonte for to discerne By candelmes day what weather shulde be. 1545 RAYNALDE *Birth Mankynde* 28 Then the intemperancie & mutation of the ayre, & whether it may be cause of alteracion. 1548 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 774 Surmounting the myd Regioun of the air, Quharc no maner of perturbatioun Off wedder may ascend nor hie as thair. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. England* II. iv. 1. 1. To know what Wether was to come By th Almanacke. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 247 A Wheel-Barometer, and other Instruments for the Weather. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 1. 1. Relating to prellet the changes of the Weather. 1698 LADY CHAWORTH in 12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth is next day after to come to see the weather vane. A fine travelling. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 The conversation began about the weather, my aunt observing, that the seasons were wonderfully altered in her memory. 1784 M. CLIVE *Lawsuits Ruth* XXV, I was weather for green doors and windows. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* VIII, However, I am sincerely glad you are come, I knew no weather would stop you. 1890 C. DIXON *Rural Bird Life* 309 They are birds which have no regular winter home...they wander to and fro, south and north, just as the exigency of the weather drives them.

¶. In adj. phrases sometimes with omission of *in*.

1738 CHRIST. POMFRET in *Chest Hartsford's Corr.* (1805) I. 10 On your left hand is the fire (no bad thing this weather), and on your right a window. 1856 HOLDSWORTH *Shropshire Lad* XXX, Fired here with the bonnie All kinds of weather.

**b.** With descriptive adj., e.g. *good*, *bad*; *hot*, *cold*, *warm*; *bright*, *dull*; *fine*, *fair*, *foul*; *dry*, *wet*, *rainy*; *clear*, *thick*; *rough*, *windy*, *still*, *calm*.

*c* 893 *Alfred's Oros.* VI. xxxii, Þa het he betan þærinne mid fyre, & hit was eall swiðe wel gedon. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Gosp. Matt.* xvi. 2 To-morzen hyt wyþ smylte weder, þes hweþen ys read. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 376 De mire is mayti, Mikel 3e swinked þa mid in wiked weder. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 198 Þat weder þat was so cler and fair. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Ase vuyr weder went in-to reine. 1360 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1442 Nowe þou ligh in hele and ly3tnes, And now wayes in þe domland. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 2440 What of here hard beiting & of þe hote weder, Melkors was al mat. 1566 LANGE. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 1 In a Somer seson whan soft was þe sonne, I schoop me into schrowdes as I a shepe were. *c* 1390 *P. Pl. Creed* 300 Now han þei...husen in harde weder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 146/1 Fayre, mery wedur or tyme, *serenus*. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 153 And at that tyme the wheder was hote. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XV. 56 The reyny wedre therto propyce and conuenable. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xlvi. 203 Sometimes they flower against the end when the wheather is milde and temperate. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 142 You and you, are sure together, As the Winter to fowle Weather. 1631 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. (1634) 21 The next day, you shall cut something thicke, and much yce in the Offing [etc.]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii. 41 The gloves of an Otter are the best Barometer for your hands against wet weather that can be thought of. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Hortic. Surr.* 95 In moderate Weather, anchor a Vessel at the Shoal. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. IX, To go out in all weather to work. *Ibid.* IX. V, The weather being good on the morning he called. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* II, The vessel being pretty deep in the water, and the weather being calm and quiet, there was but little motion. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* XV, There was no fire, though the weather was cold. 1919 H. L. WILSON *Ma's Pocketful* 165 Will you look at that mess of clouds? I bet it's falling weather over in Surprise Valley.

**c.** *fig.* and in figurative context.

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 65 Iustinian restored it [the Empire] somewhat to a better state, driuing the Vandals out of Africke, and the Gothes out of Italy by his captaines: but this faire weather lasted not long. 1630 R. HALL *Occas. Medit.* 8 73 O God...Let mee haue the Weather but Sunneshine from thee. 1752 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* XCVI, Pipes, who...knew the contents of the piece [a pistol], asked...if it must be foul weather through the whole voyage. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvii, Certain polemical skirmishes betwixt her father and her husband, which...often threatened unpleasant weather between them. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* XXVIII, We hadn't much besides our pay, had we? we rubbed on through bad weather and good, managing as best we could. 1878 E. W. BENSON in *Life* (1899) I. xiii. 463 But we have foul weather coming. We have to do the Church's work without sacrificing those party men, [etc.]. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 266 A barometer is thus formed by which the financial weather of the country is forecast.

† **d.** With indef. article: A kind of weather; a spell of a particular kind of weather. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 4573 Æst aras a ladlich weder. *Ibid.* 5398 Þeo com hoin a welere wunderlich he feire. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 667 Lord, this is an huge rayn ! This were a weder for to sleepe inne. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 1291, It made tho a lothely weder, Hit rayned faste, thondred, & blowed. 1546 *Gaster's Pregnost.* A viij b, Not long before the Sonne shall set, we may looke for a rebelious wether, & perchaunce snow. 1548 *Elyot's Dict., Aprilis*...a fayre clere wether. 1618 ROWLANDS *Sacred Hem.* 25 Their storme was chang'd into a fayre calme weather.

**e.** *pl.* Kinds of weather: sometimes equivalent to sing. Now *rare* exc. in phr. '*in*) *all weathers*.

*Beowulf* 546 Wederu cealdost, nipende niht and norþan wind, heaþogrim onhwearf. *a* 900 *Andreas* 1192 Weder colodon heardan hægelscurum. *c* 1205 LAY. *Leechd.* II. 244 Swa bið eac on wintra, for cyle & for þara wæta missenisse, hæt se milte wyrð feleðed. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Wederes þurh uuele weder þat þe men habbeð to suffrien. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) xxxv, Cutel cometh and goth As wederis don in lyde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1424 Sere sorwes, sere trauayles, Sere wederes, sere kyndd wedlrs and seasons. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5216 For wind & gods wederes hade þei at wille. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XV. 349 For þaw were ten and twykked wederes and wikked vntresonable Wederwise shipmen. Han no bileeue to be lifte ne to be lore of philosofres. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. 140 God is such oon, that he mediliþ to hem þat loueþ him for to coueire him fro reyne and fro oþir sturne wedris. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2470 Wederes had they feyre and good. 1598 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 628 Lowlie loanes of leade for defence of great wyndes and other outragious wethers. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Teare*, 44 Every Sunday in the afternoone in all manner of weathers. 1662 T. SMITH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 247, I was forced...to go downe to Westminster...in all weathers. 1798 E. WARD *Nation Fools* (1708) 81 He's...not so stiff as to carry Sail against all Weathers. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 17 May, It is covered on the top with boards to keep out the rain, that merchants may meet conveniently in all weathers. 1853 BRONTË *Shirley* xi, She took walks in all weathers—long walks in solitary directions. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* XIX, It was impossible to go anywhere in weather like this on horseback in the best of weathers; now doubly so. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, All weathers saw the man at the post.

*fig.* 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* V. i. 195 Camillo has's betray'd me; Whose honor, and whose honestie till now, Endur'd all Weathers.

† **f.** With implied favourable qualification: Weather suitable for some purpose. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Alachar*) 1486 Þar-to wedding had Jost Joane, þat þat wane tryst of land & se thru his prayere in gret playnte. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeless* III. 51 Ich hadde weþir at my wil ich witeð god be cause. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 3280 I hei...passed the see, when thei hadde wedur, To Thenedom. 1469 *Paston Lett.* III. 213 Sche...Whether is so lutesum in this cuntrey, that men can neither well geit corne nor hay.

**g.** With unfavourable implication: Adverse, unpleasant, hurtful, or destructive condition of the atmosphere; rain, frost, wind-driven waves, etc. as destructive agents. *Street of weather*: see STREET *sb.* 3.

*a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1097, He þohte his hired on Wincestre to healdenne, ac he weard þurh weder ælet. *Ibid.* an. 1114, Ac swiðe micel yfel & micel hunger & weder. 1413 Swich housinge we han to holde out þe wedures. *c* 1400 *Sawdone Bab.* 76 A drift of wedir ys drofte to Rome. 1425 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 3 Whether the swifte shippe or chynne or affraye with frost or weder or water. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 233 b, Which bridge was made and covered with boordes, onely to kepe off the wether. 1597 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* XXXV, Thinges sownie, set or graft, in good memory haue: from beast, birde and weather to cherish and saue. 1606 G. WOODCOCK *Hist. Jonah* (1871) 443

boleten wens fees. *c 1250 Gen & Ex* 3015 Moyses, do his weder ut kem, And sua it [is] kenni mi farest *a 1300 Cursor M* 6018 [he sende] on wind [or of the plagues of Egypt] Was a we ler ful selcut a tell 13 *K Alis* 5794 (I and Min), Pe weder was so tempe ins hem dudeth grete molestie 1387 CHAUCER *Parl foules* v 681 Now welcom somer with thy sonne softe, That hast this winters weders overshake 1389 *E E Wills* (1882) 13 And so hy mokel durcast of weders and of stormes I was driven to an yle. *c 1400* MAUNDV (Roxb) xxxii. 144 Per es neuermare nowper thinn ner le lesse tyme bute in pe same, an oper tenuperance of alle pe weders 1402 *Test Lewes* (Rolls) II 44 To were us from wederes of wynteres at stirnes *c 1440* WYNTOUN *Cron* VII x 3768 And bar he a te spent fel Off 3 ret weddrys schape and snel 1450 1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* 111 303 There are gendered tempistes of weder and hayle 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxii 114 Whan thenne they had sonne & sayllid so moche that they were in the hyghe sea stronge weddre arose 1523 BERNERS *Froiss* II (1812) I CCCXIII 5 & This rayne and I wether endured till the sonne rose. 1526 *Pilgrim Heb* xii 18 Ye are not come . to myd and tempest and whirlwynde of weder (Gr θυέλλῃ). 1532 *Inst Adv* (Surtees) VI 26 Tempestes of weddre or stormes 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet* 206 b, Diogenes beyng vpon the Sea espied a number of naughtie gyltes in a greate storme of wether, when diuerse of those wicked felowes cried out for feare of drowning, [etc.] 1598 in *R C Comte Ct Burghley Sheet* (1867) II 1 [They] sleped this wet imperidit be storme of weddir 1703 DAMPIER *Voy* III 1 110 Upon these Signs Ships either get up their Anchors or slip their Cables and put to Sea, and ride off and on till the Weather is over. 1718 HEARNE *Collect.* (O H S) VI 212 The Master and the other Seruant, runn g through the Weather towards the Houses, were both struck dead 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III vi 71 Even don't be late this night with "threes weather coming." 1898 *Wm Post* 12 Nov 5/2 Wasn't it a beautifully disciplined Mess, though? I wish you could see 'em at an evening parade.

†**1** What falls from the clouds; rain, snow, etc. Also in fig context *Obs.*

1380 WYCLIF *Deut* xxxii 2 Flowe as dewe my speche as wedre [Vulg *imber*] vpon erbe *Hist Job* xxiv 8, *Cr Lit* 3 *Ye* v 6, *Per* xiv 22 *Cron R* III 4432 Hit fel in pat tyme in sheves shere, May falle a weder pat shal it dere *c 1475 Kath Conf* 2941 The welderis of ye fell, that fallis on the feild. *a 1533* LD BERNERS *Golden Bk M Aurel* xxxiii (1535) 69 The labourer whan it reyneth not, coureth his house, thinkynge that an other tyme the wethers or raynes will fall theron and trouble hym. 1549 COVERDALE *Joha* iv 35 Yoo A fearefull eye thou hast! So foule a skie cleeres not without a storme Poure downe thy weather! how goes all in France? 1824 LANDOR *Imag Conv* I 48 Rain or snow accompanied with boisterous wind Roar When the wind comes ungly , [people say] 'It ill be no weather the day, but wind.'

†**2** In contexts relating to clouds or fog the word sometimes assumes the sense of Air, sky. *Obs.*

*c 1375 Cursor M* 24414 (Fairf) pe weder [*earlier trett* air, aier] be gan to derken & blake *c 1475 Jacl Voc* in Wr-Wülcker 805/14 *Hec aer, Anglice, the weder, hec aura*, pe wedyr *a 1500 Cot emtry Corpus Chr Hayes* 209 These weders ar darke and dym of lyght 1530 PALSGR 648/2, I overcast, as the weather dothe or make some darke and lykely to rayne. We shall have a rayne a none, the weather is sore overcaste sodainly I over cast as the cloudes do the weather *c 1569* DAVIDSON *Salutac* 76 Arrowes that like to serpents stoong, pearcing the Welter.

**2** Phrases.

†**a.** *The weather raues, thunders*, etc. = 'it rains', etc *Obs*

1390 GOWER *Conf* I 140 The weder schal upon thee rune. 1590 SIR J SMYTHE *Disc Weapons* 19 b, If it be time of a the battle the weather doth happen to rune, haile, or snow 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 24 The weather thundring and storming excedingly

†**b** *To make* (rarely *bear*) *fair weather* to be conciliatory, make a show of friendliness (*to or with* a person); also, to make a specious show of goodness, etc. *To make fair weather of* (as to etc things) to gloss over, represent as better than it is. *Obs.*

*c 1400 Lanf Prov Wit* 2580 Pe pridde is pe comyng in pe fair wedur, A id spak of many thynges to gedur 2537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 93 Thother paine declare him in wordes towardes his Mate to make only faire wether, and in his harte to doo all that he canne to his graces dishonour 1547 CHEKE in Harington *Nugæ Ant* (1804) I 20 And I will not doubt but that shall of me to make faire wether, and, whatsoever they shall see to the contrarye, shall tell you all is well. 1560 DAUS tr *Ste dana's Comm.* 363 b, Duke Mauis to make faire wether (IL *fascifications eaus*) sendeth his ambassadors to the Counsell 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut* CXIX 732 And that is the cause why wee see so fewe holde out in well doing M any make faire wether for a time, so as ye would thinke them to bee marueilous good men but in the turning of a hande all is made 1589 R PAINE *Brief Des r Ire* 7 At the better a ri doe deale wt ye Spaniardes, & yet I thinke they beare them faire weather, for that they are the pope's champions 1593 SHAKS *2 Hen VI*, v 1 30 But I must make faire weather yet a while, Till Henry be more strong, and I more strong 1596 *Edw III*, i ii 23 Returne and say, I that we with England will not enter parlie, Nor neuer make faire wether, or take truce 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal Sat* i. 31 Ixion makes faire weather vnto Ioue 1622 BACON *Hen VII*, 49 To which message, although the French King gaue no full credit, yet he made faire weather with the King, and seemed satisfied 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Cit* 163 My Mother in law made very fair weather to me, and gave me many good words

*c* **Naut.** Of a ship, *to make good, bad*, etc. *weather of it* to behave well or ill in a storm.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* I ii 17 We make foul weather 1781 *Naval Chron* XI 287 The Ship makes a very good weather of it 1880 *Merc Marine Mag* VII 86 The ship making very bad weather and shipping large quantities of water 1897 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk* 'Make *bad weather, To* A ship rolling, pitching, or leaking violently in a gale 1881 *Daily Tel* 28 Jan, The sea was not so heavy but that in my judgment a twenty ton yacht would have made excellent weather of it

*fig* 1915 'IAN HAY' *1st Hund Thou* I xiii § 2 The feckless and muddle-headed, making heavy weather of the simplest tasks.

**d.** *In the weather* in an exposed situation, unprotected from rain, cold, and wind, in the open air (usually with implication of severe weather). Similarly *to go into, through the weather.*

a 1513 FABIAN *Chron* v. xxxiii. (1516) 52 The kynges Herdesmen payed by, And neuerthe lesse they Hyeshop with his company sytting in the weder, desyred hym to his bowse to take there such poore lodging as he had. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* II 124 The Tree roots bear, that in the Weather stande. 1693 MOXON *Mech Exer* (1703) 241 The out side of Buildings that lies in the Weather 1842 DICKENS *Amer Notes* I. The captain, turns up his nose at our 'weather lore of the various oceans and seas 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 757/1 The International Monthly "Weather Maps issued by the United States Signal Service 1893 *Humorous Lore* 15 Binging Old Age and "Weather marks on you before you have run half your Course 1894 MACTAGGART *Gallovid Encycl* 190 Gowie moor and dale for many a year, MAP DAVIES famous dykes appear, Ne'er bilged out wi' weather wear, But past the same 1895 INGRAM *Encl Archit. Lrel* 96 In truth, I have seldom seen a letter executed piece of masonry, despite the work having been seven hundred years. *a 1916* BEAUM & FL *Wit at Sev Weapons* II i, Well, well, you have built a nest That will stand all storms, you need not mistrust A 'weather watch

**b** objective, as †*weather-welder, weather-brawling, -withstanding* ppl adjs

*c 1611* CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII 3 As the weather welder sends, to Sea men prosperous gales 1800 HURDIS *Lay 1 village* 4 How long noon it's hill has stood Fly weather beaten tower. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Those prudent and resolved as d weather withstanding professors, who has kend what it was to lurk in bogs and caves

**c.** instrumental, as *weather-bleached, -blown, -borne, -bronzed, eaten, -hardened, -scarred, -stayed, -tanned, -tinted, † waft, -wasted, -worn* ppl. adjs. Also WEATHER BEATEN, etc.

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 834 His country's †weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks. *c 1800 Anal Man Fishes* 133 Strong Limpe, that for height, is ouer †weather blowne 1807 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk*, *Weather borne*, pressed by wind and sea. 1839 W IRVING *Capt Bonneville* xlv. Their †weather bronzed complexions 1814 COLERIDGE *Lett* (1895) 640 [A Janus face] all †weather eaten 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* II 111 A countenance which, †weather hardened as it was, might have given the painter a model for a Patriarch 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I i, The †weather scarred gray walls 1894 MRS C L. BALFOUR *Working Women* (1908) 138 Whenever he had a quarter stood to him that lonely region 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* III, A †weather tanned woman with a basket 1814 SCOTT *Wav* v (verses), The †weather tinted rock and tower 1866 *Sloane Cobler* 20 Men , that are †weather waft up and down with every eddy wind of every new doctrine 1820 SCOTT *Pirate* xxiv, These haggard and †weather-wasted features. 1609 *Hevey Discov New World* I v 13 We beheld a tombe, which as far as I could guesse by the †weather worne inscription contained the tombe of Ferdinando 1827 CARLYLE *Germ Lit* Mvce 1857 I. 48 The weather worn sculptures of the Parthenon 1882 ARNOLD *Channel Fl* I 1 (ed 2) 8 Sash, somewhat the loftiest of the islands, is also the most weather worn

**d.** with adjectives expressing imperviousness or power of resistance (to the weather), as *weather-free, tight, -tough.* Also WEATHER PROOF.

1696 G DANIEL *Eccles* 18 6 Lambs, sooner wise then wee, Have got the Hedge, and now stand warm 1819 BYRON *Juan* II xi, The dashing spray flies in one's face, and makes it weather-tough. 1832 HT MARTINEAU *Ella of Garv.* I 10 If your honour would order the boat down below to be made weather tight for us. 1853 *Poultry Chron* III 388 Place a hen, with her brood, under a good weather tight coop. 1902 A AUSTIN *Haunts Ane Peace* 20 The cottages looked solid, sturdy, and weather tight.

**7.** Special comb. †**weather-basket**, a wicker-work screen or covering to protect a plant, **weather-box** = *weather-house*, **weather-brained** = WEATHER-HEADED, †**weather-caster**, a weather-prophet, **weather-cloth** *Naut.*, a covering of canvas or tarpaulin to protect the hatches, hammocks, etc, or to shelter persons from wind and spray, **weather-cord**, a cord used as a hygrometer, **weather-cottage** = *weather-house*, **weather-dock**, an upper deck exposed to the weather [cf G. *wetterdeck*], **weather-dog** *dial.* [Dog *sb.* 10] = WEATHER-GALL; **weather-door** (*a*) a louver-hole in a church steeple (cf LOUVER, *q*, quot 1858), (*b*) *Mining* (see quot.); †**weather-fan**, a pinnah, **weather-fence** *sb* [= *fence* 1] = *weather-fences* *trans* = WEATHER-PEEL, **weather-fish** *thunder-fish* b (= *v.* THUNDER *sb* 6); †**weather-flag**, a vane; **weather-gleam**, -**glim** *Sc.* and *north. dial*, clear sky near a dark horizon; also, the horizon; **weather-god**, a god who presides over the weather; **weather-guard** *v. trans*, to guard against bad weather, **weather-head** *dial*, a secondary rainbow; **weather hen** *jocular*, a female weathercock; an inconstant woman, **weather-house**, a toy hygroscope in the form of a small house with figures of a man and woman standing in two porches, by the varying tension of a string the man comes out of his porch in wet weather and the woman out of hers in dry, **weather-line**, the conclusion. *Ibid* 273 So also with surface finds, if they possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather, then these are certainly local accidents.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

**8.** a Simple *attrib.*, as *weather-cast, -change, -chart, -forecast, -lore, -map, -mark, -report, -wear, † -wrack*

1866 SYMINGTON *Weathercasts* 149 "Weather-casts by the Barometer 1878 R STRACHAN in *Mod Meteorology* (1879) 84 A system of storm warnings and weather casts. 1876 GEO ELIOT *Deronda* liii. Something as dim as the sense of approaching "weather change 1901 *Westm Gaz* 26 Oct 2/2 The "weather chart showed that there were several small atmospheric disturbances in the neighbourhood of the British Isles. 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 758/2 "Weather Forecasts and Storm Warnings 1875 *Chamb Jrnl* 2 Jan. 2/2 We shall thereby add every year to our "weather lore of the various oceans and seas 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 757/1 The International Monthly "Weather Maps issued by the United States Signal Service 1693 *Humorous Lore* 15 Binging Old Age and "Weather marks on you before you have run half your Course 1884 MACTAGGART *Gallovid Encycl* 190 Gowie moor and dale for many a year, MAP DAVIES famous dykes appear, Ne'er bilged out wi' "wather wear, But past the same 1875 BRASH *Ecol Archit. Lrel* 96 In truth, I have seldom seen a letter executed piece of masonry, despite the work having been seven hundred years. *a 1616* BEAUM & FL *Wit at Sev Weapons* II i, Well, well, you have built a nest That will stand all "storms, you need not mistrust A "weather watch

**b** objective, as †*weather-welder, weather-brawling, -withstanding* ppl adjs

*c 1611* CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII 3 As the weather welder sends, to Sea men prosperous gales 1800 HURDIS *Lay 1 village* 4 How long noon it's hill has stood Fly weather beaten tower. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Midl* xiii, Those prudent and resolved as d weather withstanding professors, who has kend what it was to lurk in bogs and caves

**c.** instrumental, as *weather-bleached, -blown, -borne, -bronzed, eaten, -hardened, -scarred, -stayed, -tanned, -tinted, † waft, -wasted, -worn* ppl. adjs. Also WEATHER BEATEN, etc.

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 834 His country's †weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks. *c 1800 Anal Man Fishes* 133 Strong Limpe, that for height, is ouer †weather blowne 1807 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk*, *Weather borne*, pressed by wind and sea. 1839 W IRVING *Capt Bonneville* xlv. Their †weather bronzed complexions 1814 COLERIDGE *Lett* (1895) 640 [A Janus face] all †weather eaten 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* II 111 A countenance which, †weather hardened as it was, might have given the painter a model for a Patriarch 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I i, The †weather scarred gray walls 1894 MRS C L. BALFOUR *Working Women* (1908) 138 Whenever he had a quarter stood to him that lonely region 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* III, A †weather tanned woman with a basket 1814 SCOTT *Wav* v (verses), The †weather tinted rock and tower 1866 *Sloane Cobler* 20 Men , that are †weather waft up and down with every eddy wind of every new doctrine 1820 SCOTT *Pirate* xxiv, These haggard and †weather-wasted features. 1609 *Hevey Discov New World* I v 13 We beheld a tombe, which as far as I could guesse by the †weather worne inscription contained the tombe of Ferdinando 1827 CARLYLE *Germ Lit* Mvce 1857 I. 48 The weather worn sculptures of the Parthenon 1882 ARNOLD *Channel Fl* I 1 (ed 2) 8 Sash, somewhat the loftiest of the islands, is also the most weather worn

**d.** with adjectives expressing imperviousness or power of resistance (to the weather), as *weather-free, tight, -tough.* Also WEATHER PROOF.

1696 G DANIEL *Eccles* 18 6 Lambs, sooner wise then wee, Have got the Hedge, and now stand warm 1819 BYRON *Juan* II xi, The dashing spray flies in one's face, and makes it weather-tough. 1832 HT MARTINEAU *Ella of Garv.* I 10 If your honour would order the boat down below to be made weather tight for us. 1853 *Poultry Chron* III 388 Place a hen, with her brood, under a good weather tight coop. 1902 A AUSTIN *Haunts Ane Peace* 20 The cottages looked solid, sturdy, and weather tight.

**7.** Special comb. †**weather-basket**, a wicker-work screen or covering to protect a plant, **weather-box** = *weather-house*, **weather-brained** = WEATHER-HEADED, †**weather-caster**, a weather-prophet, **weather-cloth** *Naut.*, a covering of canvas or tarpaulin to protect the hatches, hammocks, etc, or to shelter persons from wind and spray, **weather-cord**, a cord used as a hygrometer, **weather-cottage** = *weather-house*, **weather-dock**, an upper deck exposed to the weather [cf G. *wetterdeck*], **weather-dog** *dial.* [Dog *sb.* 10] = WEATHER-GALL; **weather-door** (*a*) a louver-hole in a church steeple (cf LOUVER, *q*, quot 1858), (*b*) *Mining* (see quot.); †**weather-fan**, a pinnah, **weather-fence** *sb* [= *fence* 1] = *weather-fences* *trans* = WEATHER-PEEL, **weather-fish** *thunder-fish* b (= *v.* THUNDER *sb* 6); †**weather-flag**, a vane; **weather-gleam**, -**glim** *Sc.* and *north. dial*, clear sky near a dark horizon; also, the horizon; **weather-god**, a god who presides over the weather; **weather-guard** *v. trans*, to guard against bad weather, **weather-head** *dial*, a secondary rainbow; **weather hen** *jocular*, a female weathercock; an inconstant woman, **weather-house**, a toy hygroscope in the form of a small house with figures of a man and woman standing in two porches, by the varying tension of a string the man comes out of his porch in wet weather and the woman out of hers in dry, **weather-line**, the

*surface of* an embedded timber just above the ground; **weather-maker**, a weather-prophet; also **weather-making** *vbl. sb.*; † **weather-man**, one who observes the weather; † **weather-monger**, a weather-prophet; **weather-moulding** *Arch*, a drip-stone, † **weather-plate**, a plate marked with a scale for indicating the height of the mercury in a barometer; **weather-prophet**, one who foretells the weather; one who is weather-wise; also *fig.*; † **weather rope** (see quot.); **weather-sharp** *U.S. colloq.*, a weather prophet; an official meteorologist (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909); **weather-sick** *a.*, sick of, suffering from, the weather; **weather-sign**, a phenomenon that indicates change of weather; also *fig.*; † **weather skirt** *U. S.* = SAFE-GUARD *sb* 8, **weather slated**, -slating (cf. *weather-tiled, -tiling*); † **weather-spar** = WEATHERBOARD *sb*; † **weather-spy**, a weather-prophet, † **weather-stone**, a kind of stone classed according to its imperviousness to weather; **weather-strip**, a strip of wood or rubber applied to a crevice in order to exclude rain and cold (Webster 1864); hence as *vb trans*, to apply a weather-strip to (*Cent. Dict* 1891); **weather-table** *Arch* = WATER TABLE 1 b; **weather-tile**, a kind of tile used instead of weather-board to cover a wall, **weather-tiled** *ppl. a.*, covered with overlapping tiles; **weather-tiling** *vbl sb.*, the process or result of covering a wall with tiles, **weather-tree**, the white poplar, *Populus alba*; **weather-vane** = VANE 1; also *fig*; **weather-wall**, a wall serving as a shield from the weather; **weather-warning** (see quot.); **weather-wise-sore** *nonce-wd*, one who professes to be weather-wise, † **weather wizard**, a weather-prophet, † **weather-worts**, devices to protect a ship from rough weather.

1699 MEALKER *New Art Garden* 28 When they are Grafted they must be fenced either with a †weather basket, or some earthen Vessel. 1848 HACKERAY *Van Fair* x, The elder and younger son of the house of Crawley were, like the gentleman and lady in the weather-box, never at home together. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst* vii, But ait thou not an inconsiderate †weather breasted fellow, to set forth as thou wert about to do, without taking to heart thy charges ? 1856 H MILLER *Sch & Schm* x (1858) 10 These was a weather brained tailor in the neighbourhood, who used to do very odd things, especially when the moon was full. 1807 DERKER *Knt's Conjur.* (1841) 9 The storme bearing at rest, what buying up of almanacks was there to see if the †weather-caster had played the doctors to a hare 1856 KANE *Arct Expl* I xxiv 313 A sort of †weather-cloth, which would certainly make her more comfortable in heavy weather 1897 *Outing* XXIX 347/1 A coil of rope for heel rope, a discarded sail for weather cloth 1746 *Phil Trans* XLIV 169 The †Weather-Cord is an Hygrometer of a very ancient Invention 1906 E V LUCAS *Wanderer in Land* 179 One of the old †weather-cottages, with a little man and a little woman to swing in and out and foretell rain and shine 1859 *Rep. Commiss in G Mountain Affairs Gunnage* (1862) 167 The Depth in Middlehas from the Underside of the †Weather Deck to the Ceiling at the Lumber Strake 1906 ATTWOOD *Warships* 96 Wood is generally used for weather decks [etc] 1908 PEARCE *Brom Keel to Truck* (ed 4) 75 *Weather deck*, Term given to an upper deck on account of its exposure to the sun, rain and wind. 1758 BARKER *Nat. Hist Cornw* 17 There appeared in the North East the frustum of a large rainbow. They call it here in Cornwall a †weather dog, and pronounce it a certain sign of hard rain 1865 R HUNT *Pop Rom W. Eng* (1881) 434 Weather dogs' are regarded as certain prognostications of showery or stormy weather 1753 J PITT *Observ Cathedral Ch. Salisbury* 50 The upper part of the Spire [is] in the †weather Door 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Glos., Weather-door*, a door in a level to regulate the ventilating current. 1611 COTGR., *Feuille*, also, a †Weather-lly, or great Weather-fanne 1773 *Phil. Trans* LXIV. 140 The †weather fane which terminates the conductor a 1850 W L BOWLES *Poems, Sybil of Snowdon* 66 On eastern hills, the †weather fence the blossoms of the vale 1886 H G SEPLEY *Freshw Fishes Europe* 248 In Germany and Austria it (*Misgurnus fossilis*) is known as the weather loach 1611 COTGR. *Girouette*, a fane, or †weather flag. 1860 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Lit.* Glove, *Weddir glum*, clear sky, near the horizon, spoken of objects seen in the twilight or dusk; as 'between him and the weddir glum'. 1908 *Sea-Sun Mag* Oct 84/1 While the weather gleam of the eastern hills began to be tinged with the brightening dawn 1819 W. HENRY *Pulpit Storm'd* (1820) 185 Rae cloud over head the lift did dim, But i' the western weddir glim A black up-castin 1905 E. CLODD *Animism* § 11 58 Indra, the old Vedic †weather-god, has been completely worked out as an object of worship by special rain gods 1885 *Buck's Handbk Med Sect* I 338/2 The pioneers attend to this work, touching the ground, †weather guarding the shelters 1859 TODAY *Pract. Engin., †Weather head*, the secondary rainbow 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Ranger* 318 He did folk watched for weatherboards and talked of storms 1852 HAWOOD *and Pt. Iron Age* 4, 1 Cr, And now faire Truth †Weather hen adow, And when thou next lowest, thinke to be more true. 1859 B THOMAS & GRAHV. BARKER (*title*), The Weather-Hen. 1726 *Post Man* 1–3 Sept. 2/2 Advt., The Gentlemen, Ladies and Farmers famous new invented †Weather Houses. 1764 COWPER *Task* I. 211 Peace to the artist, whose ingenious thought Devis'd the weather-house that useful toy! 1800 LATHOM *Death of Day* I 1, He is always in bed when I am up, and I am always at rest, when he is stirring; our movements put me in mind of the man and woman in the Dutch weather house. 1912 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Nicky Nan* xiii. 156 A man has no business to stand grimacing in his own doorway like a figure in a weather-house. 1850 R MUDIE *Pop. Guide Obsrv Nature* 302 As little was the injury done at the †weather-line, just by the surface of the earth, where the durability of timber is put to the severest test. 1888 EMILY GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II *to note*, Instances of †weather-maxims are also common in Germany 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz* 13 Oct 3/2 A weather maker for an almanack got into conversation with a shepherd. 1883 STALLYBRASS tr *Grimm's Teut Mythol* III 1152 The gift of prophecy and the art of †weather-making 1545 ACHAM *Toxophil* ii (Arb.) 159 Therefore as a skuggynge there is as muche difference betwixt an archer that is a good †wether man, and an other that knoweth and marketh nothynge, as is betweene a lubyde man and he that can se 1856 *and Nav Almanack* 3 If the †weather mongers rule hold true. 1841 *Few Words to Churchwardens* 1. (Camb. Camden Soc.) 10 You may see what is called the †weather-moulding of the old roof remaining 1878 SIR G SCOTT *Lect. Archit* I 165 A hollow projecting moulding containing the foliage, capped by a weathering 1858 URQUHART *Pillars Hercules* XX 4 The †Weather plates are to be put upon the Frame [of a portable barometer], by setting them to the same height, at which the Mercury stands in a common Barometer. 1866 STEINMETZ *Weathercraft* 7 The most successful †weather prophet of modern times, the late lamented Admiral Fitzroy. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Dom Canada* 2 The meteorological or political weather-prophets 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk.*, *†We other-wyses*, an early term for those which were taxed 1884 *Graphic* 23 Dec *Holy Times* 1/1 The †weather-lores of 1700 have not their westward some three thousand miles of land studded with signal stations 1797 DYER in J Duncombe *Lett* (1773) III 180, I think I may as well wait for the †weather, as deep snows forbid me air and exercise 1892 MEREDITH *Ode to Comic Spirit* Poems 1898 II 222 A statue losing feature, weather-worn 1726 DEFOE *Barbarous Assn Jacobites* 69 Can tell The †weather-signs of love you love this man 1913 *19th Cent* Jan 190 His prophecies [about India] are perpetual, and read like weather signs at a glance 1893 ALICE M EARLE *Two Cent. Costume Amer* II 617 Another name for a safeguard was a †weather skirt 1879 *Lect Society* Sept 268 A...house, †weather slated from top to bottom 1899 J HOBY *Brettany* 16 Old Building of lath and plaster, covered on the most exposed parts with †weather-slating 1638–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 62 It is We...ordered by y^e Master & Scholl^rs of this House, with †Wether sparrs handsomely wrought. c1595 DONNE *Sat* I. 59 And sooner may a gulling †weather spie By drawing forth Cardanus Jacobs eie...Than shee 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh* 168 It being all of it good †weather-stone, but not enduring the fire 1839 *Cent. Engin & Archt Antiquary* Jan 7/2 Weather Slating is a mode by which projects half an inch from the general face of the window 1908 *Antiquary* Jan 7/2 A weather table on the north wall 1833 *Lect. Dict Arts* 908/2 Sidney Hall's †weather-tables called "weather-tiles 1887 HARDY *Hoodoo on Road* 230 A somewhat quaint little inn, having a †weather tiled upper story 1906 C G HARPER *Scenes of Coast* 15, One wing is weather tiled 1793 [R NEVE] *City & Country* 186 †Weather tyling Is the Lying, or Covering with Tyles the upright Sides of Houses 1833 LOUDON *Encycl Archit* § 438 The weather boarding may be covered with what is called weather tiling 1847 C A JOHNS *Forest Trees* I 357 *note* I think there will be rain, for the †weather tree is showing the white leaves of its under surface 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk.*, *†Weather-tree*, the poplar 1708 J HARRIS *Lexicon Tech.* A round ended Window in a Church 1726 *All in Dark* 1, The pointed gables, with stone cornices and glittering weather vane on the summit. 1896 *Tablet* 12 Feb 235/2 *Sir Thomas Lauder's Prophecies* 21 Mr Lauder as a Royal weather vane 1858 *Civil Engin & Archt Jrnl* I 235/2 A †weather wall in the centre will run the whole length of the building 1865 *Sailor's Word bk.*, *†Weather warning*, the telegraphic cautionary warning given by hoisting the storm drum on receiving the forecast 1867 W Johnson *Patronymica Britannica* (1884) 1 Here is the general remark among the †weather wizzarres of the day 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep Ded B 3 b, If the Prophets, †Weather wizards, Fortune tellers, 1652 GAULE *Magastromancer* 11 Weather wizzards, giuers prognostications, and fortune tellers 1771 COTES *Spicil* p 1 in (1784) I 74 The cauilkers were set to work to caule the decks and inside †weather worts of the ship

**8.** *Naut* Used attrib. or as adj. with the sense Situated on the side which is turned towards the wind, having a direction towards the wind, windward; opposed to *lee, leeward* adj.; as *weather-anchor, -beam* (BEAM *sb*[1] 17), *-bowline, -brace, -division, -earing, -gangway, -gun, -leech, -list, -lurch, -post, -quarter, -rail, -rope, -shroud, -spoke, -stack, -tide, -topping-lift, -wheel*; **weather-bow**, the bow that is turned towards the wind; hence as *v. trans*, to turn the weather-bow to; **weather-gage, -gauge** (see GAUGE *sb.* 8); hence as *v. trans.*, to keep the weather-gage of; **weather helm**, a tendency in a ship under sail to come too near the wind, requiring the tiller to be kept constantly a little to windward. Also *(to the) weatherward* adv.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk*, *†Weather anchor*, that lying to windward, by which a ship rides when moored 1790 BEATSON *Nav & Mil. Mem* II. 140 Two sail gave us chase before the †weather-beam of the ship 1868 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk*, *Weather beam*, a direction at right angles with the keel, on the weather side of the ship 1888 CAPT J SMITH *Recoil Voy, Seaman* 18 On the †weather bow. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xv 80 Take a peep over the weather-bow and tell me what ye see there 1840 R H DANA *Bef Mast* xxxvi, We made but little by †weather-bowing the tide 1865 STURMS *Mariner's Mag* I. 18 Set in the Lee Braces, and haul forward by the †Weather Rowlines *Ibid* 17 Let go the Lee Braces and set in your †Weather Braces. 1786–8 FALCONER *Shipwr* II 308 The sheet and weather-brace they now stand by 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvii), A small pull of that weather main-top gallant brace—that will do,'and the master 1890 *Discovery* Nov. 349/2 Nelson had intended his †weather division to be in line ahead. 1840 R H DANA *Jr Mast* iv, I the first [sailor] on the yard goes to the †weather earing, the second to the lee, and the next two to the *dog's* ear. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiii, Walk this boy up and down the †weather gangway. 1892 *Field* 2 July 30/3 Daffodil was sufficiently far to windward to †weather gauge her 1702 *Ann Reg* 120 We run our †weather guns out. 1691 T [HALE] *Acc New Inuent* 126 †Weather, or Leeward Helm may be fitted to promote or hinder the sailing upon occasion 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed 6) 190 A screw slup carries more weather helm than a sailing ship 1836 MAR RYAT *Midsh Easy* xxvii, The Aurora dashed through at the rate of eight miles an hour, with her †weather leeches lifting. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea Waif* 279 The weather-leech of the lower main sails began to flap. 1867 SMYTH *Sea? Ar Word-bk.*, *†Weather-lurch*, a heavy roll to windward 1899 *Sporting Mag* XXXIII 147 A great sea poured through one of the †weather ports. 1888 CAPT SMITH *Recoil Voy Seamen* 19 Boord him on his †weather quarter 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy S Seas* 9 The Commodore being on the Weather Quarter, bore down under our Lee, and spoke with us 1894 M SCOTT *Mount of Graces* (1898) 16 The felucca was now within long pistol shot of our weather quarter 1888 E J MATTHEW *Nor and 1 Degree* 352 He had to hang on the †weather rail, the heavy sea rolling like mountains 1815 *Falconer's Dict Marine* (ed Burney), *†Weather Rolls*, those inclinations which a ship makes to windward in a heavy sea 1625 MANWARING *Seamans Dict.* (1644) 76 If the †weather sheate be as fare as the Bulkhead 1851 H MELVILLE *Whale* xiii 67 The tremendous strain upon the mainmast and the †weather shrouds 1888 CAPT J SMITH *Recoil. Voy. Seaman* 30 Come to an Anchor under the Lee of the †weather shore 1897 J PICKEE *Nero Dist* 16 A North-West Wind makes Hull, York and England a Weather Shore. a 1625 MANWARING *Sea mans Dict* (1644) 32 Then cutting the †weather shrowds, the mast will presently fall and without danger fall over board 1849 CUPER *Green Hand* vi (1856) 59, I looked to the wheel, as he coolly gave her half a †weather spoke more. 1883 *Man Seamanship* 56 Hauling the †weather tack to the lee shroud 1813 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed Burney), *†Weather Tide*, denotes that which, by setting against a ship's lee side, while under sail, forces her up to windward. 1883 *Man Seaman ship Boy* 163 The fiddle block for the †weather topsail-topping lift 1557 TOWSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 127 At night the Minion, and the pinnesse came vp to vs, but could not fetch so farre to the †weatherward as we, and therefore they ankered about a league a wether the caste. 1600 (25 Dec.) *Adm Ct Exam.* 34 (P. R. O.) [A ship] to the weather ward about a league 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk.*, *†Weather-wards*, the position of the man who steers a large ship, from his standing on the weather side of the wheel

**Weather** (we·ðə), *v.* Forms: 5 wederyn, 5–7 wether, 6– weather. [f. WEATHER *sb.*

OE had *wedrian, wedrian, wedrigan, gewedrian*, to be (good or bad) weather = ON *viðra* see WEATHERIN *v.*[2] Cf MHG *wetern* to blow (of the wind), to make (a) wind and sun (= sense 1 below), *wetern* (mod. G. *wittern*) to storm, etc. 2 also WITHER *v.*]

1 *trans.* To subject to the beneficial action of the wind and sun, to air. a *Husb.*[ing (see quot 1856) Also *refl* and *intr.* in PASSIVE sense.

14.. in Hunting *Pepf Ek Hopf & Sparhauk* 2 (1886) litle dr[ie]ȝ, For wetheringe yo[r] hauke offer yo[r] hauke water 1575 *Turberv Falconrie* 134 When you haue kept her two or three yeares the fat, that is in her nature in the Sunne to waste her haif an houre 1575 *Pepf Ek Hopinge Sparhauk* (1886) 11 Set her to wether fasting, a longe tyme *Ibid* 14 In myte they will not endure well 1883 *Man Seamanship Country Gentleman* 1 VII 88 Then he shall see time to weather his Hawks abit and euery euening except on her bathing dayes. 1773 J CAMPBELL *Mod Falconry* 190 Of Bathing and Weathering Hawks. 1898 'STONEHENGE' *Brit Sports* I IV. § 5 223/2 Hawks must also be weathered; that is to say, they should be put out on perches in a proper air, and then left for many hours a-day, but not in the sun *transf* 1590 SPENSER *Mui p Imag* 184 And then he [the butterfly] percheth on some braunch thereby, To weather him, and his mayst wings to dry 1596 — *Q VI* v. 42.

b. To air (linen, etc.), to dry thoroughly (a harvested crop)

c 1440 *Promp Parv* 529/2 Wederyn, or leyn or hangyn ȝe cloth, *aero* 1530 PALSGR. 580/1, I weather clothes, I lay it abrode in open ayre *Je ayre* It shall be well done to weather your garmentes in Marche for feare of mothes 1598 FLORIO *Worlde Wordes*, Arieggiare, to drie, to weather, to wel-vanne. 1611 COTGR., Esuenter, to drie, to weather, to ayre. 1688 *Holme Armoury* III. 346/1 They may not well wash long, if men as herbes that grows in the shadowe, neuer well weathered with the warme sunne 1580 TUSSER *Husb* (1878) 149 Mowles, mustard seede gather, for being too r pe, and weathered, it will fall away 1706 *Agric. Sec* V 1 26/ After reaping the produce of the several plots was well weath ered, and then thrashed 1847 HALLIWELL, *Weather*, to dry clothes in the open air 1894 J PEARSON *Son of Jems* xvii. 173 'Well, the stuff [of ferns] is rather heavy, ain't it?' 'If want to be weathered, bor

c To expose (land, clay for bricks, or the making) to the pulverizing action of the elements

1548 [see WEATHERING *vbl sb.* 3 b]. 1865 *Daily Tel* 3 Nov 3/4 The clay bank, where the raw material is stored and weathered.

2. To change by exposure to the weather. a. *trans.* To wear away, disintegrate, or discolour by atmospheric action. Const. *into*, to a specified form or condition. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *away* Also, to produce as an incrustation *on* a surface by the action of the weather. Spec. in *Geol*

1757 tr. *J. & Hendel's Pyritol* v 61 That leady clay derived from a lead ore, weathered and reduced to earth *Ibid* 87 On this sinter we find glitter, iron and copper pyrites, not conveyed by streams of water, nor agglutinated, but weathered thereon, or produced by weather or damp. 1789 [see WEATHERED *ppl a* 1] 1833 [see WELL *Prose Geol* III 210 the face of the limestone is hollowed out and weathered

into such forms as are seen in the calcareous cliffs of the adjoining coast. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach* xiii. (1870) 267 The rain-cloud hangs low, overhead; the smoke hovers around; and they weather the finest sculptured surface. 1878 Ansted *Water & Water Supply* 89 It [*sc.* percolation] acts also very powerfully in weathering the rocks through which the water passes. 1918 H. Balfour in *Man* XVIII. 147 The new either was not represented or has been weathered away.

**b.** *intr.* To become worn, disintegrated, or discoloured under atmospheric influences. Const. *into*, *to*. A specified condition or result. *To weather and* : to become prominent or isolated by the decay or disintegration of the surrounding rock.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* II. 20 The grey granite begins to weather or decompose. 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxiii. 441 The lower shale is here clearly seen beneath the limestone, and weathers to the same light ashen colour as in Salop. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* I. i. 7 Hard crystalline rock, decomposing or weathering by the constant action of the sea and weather. 1883 Rivers *Kent Class.* xcii 207 The dark rock weathers easily into surface soil. 1885 Sir J. W. Dawson *Egypt & Syria* v. 112 The pillar-like masses of salt that project out of the salt cliff of Jebel Usdum. 1914 Mork in *Man* XIV. 170 Those fragments of flint would in time, by thermal effects, 'weather out' and leave a clean-cut groove behind.

**c.** In *pass.*, esp. of a crop: To be deteriorated by too long exposure to bad weather.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 74 With feet nigh shoeless And naples heaver, weather'd brown 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 285 All barleys that have been weathered in the field, should be rigidly rejected (for malting).

**d.** *intr.* To wear (well or ill) under atmospheric influences.

1883 R. Hadfade *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 436/2 For outside work, boiled oil is used, because it weathers better than raw oil.

**3.** *Naut.* **a.** *trans.* To sail to the windward of (a point or headland, another ship etc.).

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 Our carvell plying into the winde weathered the sayle which came from the shore. 1608 W. Hawkins in *Hawkins' Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 383 We lay close E. S. E. with a S. W. wynd, seeking to get Mohuton, but could not. 1627 Capt J. Smith *Sea Gram.* xii. 57 You cannot board him except you weather him. 1660 Ingelo *Bentivolio & Ur.* (1682) 170 When they have weather'd the Cape of Good Hope. 1694 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 323 Not being able to weather the Lizard Point because of the strong south west wind. 1703 Burchett *Mem. Trans at Sea* 141 Our Blue Squadron by a cluft of Wind had weather'd the French. 1801 Nelson in *Nicolas's Disp.* (1845) IV. 414 The Agamemnon could not weather the shoal of the middle, and was obliged to anchor. 1806 *Naval Chronicle Regist.* II. 476 An impervious mass of ice which we could neither weather, nor discover a passage through. 1878 Dixon Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 51 A weather is to pass on the windward side of an object In cross tacking the vessel weathers another that crosses ahead of her.

**b.** *fig.* To get safely round; to get the better of. 1626 Donne *Serm.* xxii. (1640) 210 That sayle which is the nearest destruction, may weather that miss-hiefe. 1654 Whitelocke *Jrnal. Ambassy* (1772) I. 449 Built, through mercy, to be weathered this point also. 1708 Motteux *Pyr. St. Ware* 15 We have been tugging a great while against the Storm, and have almost weather'd our point. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxvii, Peter, read me about Jacob, and his weathering Esau with a mess of pottage.

†**c.** To anni while of (the mark) on the windward side. *Obs. rare*—1.

1588 Lucar *Tartaglia's Colling, Lucar Appendix* 4 Every Gunner ought to weather the marke according to the hardnes of the winde, and the like distance.

**d.** *intr. To weather on* or *upon*: to gain upon in a windward direction; also *fig.*, to get the advantage of, take liberties with.

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 5 nine fowre leagues did leave a sayle to weather us. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 35 How well soever he can weather upon others, he is never able to fare enough upon his Commander. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 163 We had both weathered and fore reached upon her considerably. 1829 Marryat *P. Mildmay* xvii, How do you think the scoundrels weathered on me at last? 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 475 [weathered upon] my property without discredit, my leisure without care, my liquor without quarrelling. 1863 Kraay *Hard Cash* I. ix. 252 The other [sarcat] came up to weather on him and bear on his partners, pirate fashion. 1881 *Daily News* 9 June 5/4 There is a triumph, too, which only a genuine yachtsman can feel when inch by inch a dreaded rival is weathered.

**4.** *trans.* **a.** *Naut.* To withstand and come safely through (a storm). Often with *out* (also *absol.*).

1673 Ferrer Observ. *United Provs.* viii. 255 Such old Seamen in so strong a Ship that had not suffered so many storms without loss. 1681 H. Neale *Ship-Carpenter* (ed. 3) 1 more than] the Pilot and Mariners [are answerable] for not weathering out a Storm, when the Ship hath sprung a plank. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 62 Had they [the masts] weathered the preceding storm, it would have been impossible to have stood against those tempests we afterwards encountered. 1790 Cowper *On Receipt of Mother's Pict.* 89 As a gallant lark (The storms all weather'd and the ocean cross'd) Shoots into port. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. xii, But the ship labour'd so, they scarce could hope To weather out much longer. a 1829 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 204 In the port lay fleets of great ships which had weathered the storms of the Euxine and the Atlantic. 1864 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 137 To sell the boat—and yet he loved her well—How many a rough sea had he weather'd in her! 1866 R. M. Ballantyne *Shifting Winds* ii, She had sailed from the antipodes, had weathered many a gale.

**b.** *fig.* or in fig. context. To come safely through (a period of trouble, adversity, affliction, etc.); to sustain without disaster.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 192 He Weathered out the Reign of Queen Mary. 1692 Carve. *Sir Salomon* iv. 76 My designs of Revenge are vain, and unjust: I must pull down my Sailes to weather out this storme. 1694 Boyle *Excell. Theol.* I. iii. 95 Afflictions slight and short may well be weather'd out by these Philosophical Avocations. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 78 They value no such Puffs, if they can but weather a Beating. 1732 Mackenzie *Hist. of Work* II. xx. After having weathered so many disasters, I at last arrived near the place of my nativity. 1775 Jefferson *Let* 4 July in H. S. Randall *Life* (1858) III. 568 If we can weather out this campaign, I hope that we shall be able to have a plenty [of gunpowder] made for another. 1787 Burns *Let. Earl Glencairn* Dec., My brother's farm is but a wretched lease, but I think he will probably weather out the remaining seven years of it. 1834 Cobbett in *C. Papers* (1900) II. xii. 296 The Government could not have weathered the session. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. II. 693 They were thrown into the shade by two younger Whigs, who weathered together the fiercest storms of faction. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xix, I'm told me, only yesterday morning, that he couldn't weather another year. 1865 *Lett.* 1880 II. 242, I rather doubt their being able to weather it out. 1885 *Contemp. Rev* June 906 Their projections are less indebted and weather a crisis better. 1900 C. C. Bombaugh *Facts & Fict. Lond.* 143 The other weathered a serious illness and lived on for two or three years.

**c.** *gen.* To pass through and survive (severe weather).

1680 Otway *Orphan* iv. i, The Beasts that under the Warm Hedges slept, And weather'd out the cold bleak Night, are up. 1748 J. Woodhouse in Hanway *Acc. Brit. Trade Caspian Sea* (1753) I. i. xvii. 113 We had weathered out the inclement season, and could be good expectation of soon to bid a neighbourhood. 1765 Cowper *Let. Lady Hesketh* 9 Nov., Was, 1815 I. 271, I began to fear I should never be able to weather out the winter in so lonely a dell. 1795–8 Wordsw. *Borderers* I. 513 My husband, Sir, Was of Kirkowald—many a snowy winter We've weathered out together. 1800 *Ib. Iagonet* I. 80 Among these hills from West to East, We've weathered many a furious blast. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xiv. (1863) 275, I weathered some merry snow storms.

†**d.** To take shelter from (a storm). *Obs.*

1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. iii, They said there was a violent shower of rain coming on, which they intended to weather there [i. e. at an alehouse]. 1749 — *Tom Jones* xiii. viii, Partridge, who much warranted Entering privately with Jones to enter, and weather the Storm. 1798 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Winter* 196 Beneath whose trunk I've weathered many a storm.

**5.** *intr. To weather along*, †*to weather it on*: to sail or make headway in spite of wind and weather. Also *to weather her way*.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* D 3, [All] that euer Yarmouth vshered or ingraffed to weather it on till these late North-starre. 1836 W. Irving *Life & Lett* (1866) III. 95 I have ever since made my calculations to 'weather along'; as the sailors say, for some time to come, without any of the Bank Directors. 1881 J. K. Stephen *Lallonica Gallica*, 14 See the 'Press Hume' steerin' strecht for Ian', Will she weather her way to the shore?

**6.** *trans.* To set (the sails of a windmill) at the proper angle to obtain the maximum effect of the wind-force. Cf. Weather *sb.* 4.

1745 *Phil. Trans* XLIV. 1 All which Sails [of a waterwheel] are weathered in the same Manner as those designed for Windmills. 1795 *Sea Service* I. 241 Plain sails weather'd according to the common practice. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 138 From which it appears that sails weathered in the Dutch manner produced nearly a maximum effect.

**7.** *Arch.* To slope or level (a surface) so as to throw off the rain; to furnish (a wall, buttress) with a weathering or water table.

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 860, 23 feet 6 inches oak wrought, framed and weathered (beveled to throw off the wet). 1868 MacVittie *Ch Ch. Cathedral, Dublin* 66 A plinth which is weathered in the depth of the buttresses by one course. 1870–1 Rickman *Gothic Architecture. Intrd.* II. 294/1 Fig. 397 shows the manner in which the sill is sloped off, or 'weathered'.

**Weather,** obs. f. Wether, Wither *sb.*

**Weather-beaten,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

1. Beaten or buffeted by wind and rain; that has been exposed to severe weather.

c 1560 J. Mowntayne in *Narratives Reform* (Camden) 160 Thence to Colchester, and there take shypyngne, thynkynge to have gone vnto Selande, but we were so wheatherbeatyn that of force we were compelled to retorne bake agayne. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* IV. (1565) 108 b, Most of our shyppes were thus broosed and weatherbeaten. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 50 To meet our weather beaten bones. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 16 The galleys of Sardegna being (by a great tempest) weather beaten and driven to that shore. 1645 Cheshyn *Hist Ref* vi. 337 The King's harbour, weatherbeaten, and half starved troops. 1720 Croxall *Fables Æsop* xii. 76 The Sun darted his warm sultry Beams upon the Head of the poor weatherbeaten Traveller. 1791 Cowper *Sylva Dict. & Daily Chron.* 16 July 9/4 Another weather beaten pigeon sought rest on the brigantine Janet.re.

*fig.* or in *fig.* context. 1681 T. Williamson tr *Goulart's Wise Vieuillard* 22 At that time when Saint Cyprian lived, the whole world was judged to be very much weatherbeaten. 1692 Fuller *Holy War* II. xxxvii. 94 Mean time Jerusalem was a poore weather-beaten kingdome. 1668 Br. L. Hopkins *Van. World* Wks. (1710) 19 If honourable, we are but raised above others to be the more weather-beaten.

**2.** As *adj.*, expressing the result.

**a.** Of things: Worn, defaced, or damaged by exposure to the weather.

a 1547 Surrey *Eccles.* iii. 12 Auncient walls to race,. and of their wether beten stones, to buylde some new deuyse. 1593 Norden *Spec. Brit., Middx.* 38 Pancras Church standeth all alone, old and wetherbeaten. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* I. B 3, Orators writes shortly will bee knowne like images on water markes, euer in one weatherbeaten suite. a 1618 Ralegh *Royal Navy* 27 They make their Oeum. of old scere and weather-beaten ropes 1697 *Lond. Gaz* No. 3360/4 Wanting a Weather-beaten Perivig. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* x, A very an-all and weather-beaten old cow-skin trunk. 1860 White Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xii, Under the weather-beaten winkers and shabby harness of a four-horse waggon.

**b.** Of persons, their countenances, etc.: Bronzed, coarsened, toughened, hardened by exposure to all kinds of weather.

1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Weather beaten, as men be that have been in the felde or see. 1577 tr Heidenbach *Chron.* I. 175/1 Harold answered, that they were not priests, but wetherbeaten and hardie souldiers. 1607 Dekker *Knt's Conjur.* B 1 b, Neither they, nor the weather-beatenst Cosmographicall Statie cicches of mine. 1661 Herbert in *Worcestersh Hist.* II. 144 Such was his undoubted resolution, that neither their great words, nor their high looks could daunt him, Weather-beaten-soulder (as I may so speak) in Christianity. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) A 2, s. v. *Emmarind, Matelot emmarind*, a case-hardened or weatherbeaten fort i a veteran sailor. 1773 Smollett *Humph Cl.* 3 May (1815) 63 An old man, with a wooden leg and a weather-beaten face. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xviii. 209 The scarred and weather-beaten features of his old warrior. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 633 Two weatherbeaten old seamen who had risen from being cabin boys to be Admirals.

Similarly †**Weather-beat** (*dial.* -**bet**) *ppl. a.* Also † **Weather-beat** *v. trans. rare*—, † **Weather-beating** *obl. sb.*

1586 [J. Case] *Praise Mus.* vi 75 Alas what pleasure could they take at the whippe and ploughtaile in so often and wearisome labours, and in so weather beat fields. 1598 Florio, *Sbattere*,. to thrash, to wetherbeate. 1615 Chapman *Odyss* VI. 193 [Ulysses] so wet, so weather-beate 1620 T. Granger *Expos. Eccles.* v. 8 319 The teeth, standing like weather-beate stakes, falling out one after another. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 178 The Devil he was so Weather-beat, He was forc'd to take to a Tree. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss. Weather-bet*, weather-beaten.

†**Weather-bit, -bitten,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. Da. *veirbidt*, Norw. *vederbiten*, Sw. *väderbiten*.] Nipped, gnawed, or worn by the weather.

1622 Sharp *Wint. T.* v. ii 60 Now he thanks the old Shepheard (which stands by,) like a Weather bitten Conduit, of many Kings Reignes). 1624 Heywood *Captives* II. ii in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, What are you poore soules Thus wett and wether-bit?

**Weather-bitt, -bit,** *sb. Naut.* [See Bitt.] An extra turn of cable about the butts in bad weather. Also *v. trans.*, to give this extra turn to (the cable).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Weather-bitt*, a turn of the cable of a ship about the end of the windlass, without the knight heads. It is used in bad weather in order to slacken it gradually out of the ship, in tempestuous weather, or when the ship rides in a strong current. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxiv, We were obliged to weather-bitt loose the topsails. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk*, *Weather-bitt*, is that which holds the weather cable when the ship is moored. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 191 To weather bitt a cable is to take another turn round the bitt end. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb 600/2, I now moor ship, weatherbitt cables, and leave the sloop *Spray*. safe in port.

**Weather-blate, -blade, -bleat.** *Anglo-Irish.* [Etymologizing perversion (after Weather *sb.*) of OE. *weferbléte*: see Heather-bleat.] The snipe

1802 G. V. Sampson *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 459 The weather-blate, or snipe, flying high in a calm night, is a good sign. 1850 [A. Bunting] *Enough & S. Donegal* (F. D. T.), *Weather blade*, a snipe which utters a sound like a goat. 1908 *Irish. Nat.* 29 Sept. 2/3 The black water-hen and the sad weather bleat.

**Weather-board.**

1. One of a series of boards nailed horizontally, with overlapping edges, as an outside covering for walls. Also *collect. sing.*

1539–40 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 268, C foot of weather borde to wheathalonde the howes end. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 389 Some of the weather-boards were thrown outwards to the bottom of the garden. 1820 *Jarrington's Hist. N. S. Wales* x 420 The stores were of brick, and the guard-house of weather boards. 1845 J. O. Halliwell *Sk. N. S. Wales* 10 Settlers have accordingly to their means, built of free-stone, brick, or weather boards, cottages and houses. 1883 Stainton *Antis al. Tyrrel* 25 The other, nore-directed, scarcely crawled to the sheltering weather-boards. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* vi 61 The more ambitious buildings are of weather board, sawn pine or hewed wood boards, roofed with large sheets of galvanized iron.

*attrib.* 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets*, etc 173 The weather-board walls creaked and groaned like a ship's timbers in a gale.

**b.** A board laid over builders' work or material as a protection.

1852 *Hunt & Holl. Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 30 Every heap [*sc.* of quick lime] being covered by mats or weather-boards. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 295 Unfinished walls should be covered with straw, on which boards, called weather-boards, should be laid.

**2.** A board placed sloping over a window or other

opening to throw off or keep out rain; † *pl.* louver-boards; also, a board used to carry off water.

1598 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 108, ij bordes to make weather bordes for the windowes in the steple, 1569 *Ibid.* 138, iij bordes...for weather bordes in the steeple windowes. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 210/2 *Deliquium*...water boords, or weather bordes; gutters whereinto the house eases doe drop. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 577 The Cathedrall Church of Holen hauing...also beames and weather-bourdes, and the rest of the roofe proportionally answering to this lower building. 1741 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 498 A great Number of large Holes, regularly placed,...with Weather-boards placed over each Range of Holes, so as to hang over them obliquely downwards. 1818 Moore *Fudge Fam. Paris* iii. So Such hats!—fit for monkeys—'d back Mrs. Draper To cut neater weather-boards out of brown paper. 1833 T. Hook *Love & Pride, Maryuess* xii, Rattle went all the windows—*slap* went the weather boards [of an omnibus]. 1850 *Dict. Arch.* (Archit. Publ. Soc.), *Weather board*, a board fixed.. at the bottom of a door or window, to keep out driving rain.

**b.** *Naut.* (See quots.)

1769–70 tr. *Joan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 304 On the 30th we took down our weather-boards. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Weather-Boards* are pieces of plank placed in the ports of a ship, when laid up in ordinary; they are fixed in an inclined position, so as to turn off the rain without preventing the circulation of the air. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Pram-sheer, *From Keel to Weather* (ed. 4) 346 *Weather-boards*,..boards fitted closely together.. in front or on the sides of a bridge, poop or raised quarter-deck.

**3.** *Naut.* [See Weather *sb.* 8 and Board *sb.* 12. Cf. Icel. *veðr-borð.*] The windward side of a ship.

a 1685 Manwaring *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 22 The weather-board, that is as much as to say, to windward. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1805 Steel *Sailor's Pocket-bk.*

Hence **Weather-boarded** *v. trans.*, to nail weather-boards upon (a wall or roof); also *absol.* **Weather-boarded** *ppl. a.* **Weather-boarding** *vbl. sb.*, the work of covering a building with weatherboards; also *concr.*, weatherboards collectively.

1525 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 461 In duobus tenuris carpentariis conductis ad weatherbordandum finem capitule. 1535–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 370 Paid for viij*c* di. of barde for to weth'bords the south side of the Steple house bowen. 1613 *Shaugton Ct. Leet Rec.* (1905) 464 The Towne howse now in the tenure of Thomas beare...would requier to be weather-boorded. 1632 in R. H. *Gentlem. Inst Co.* (1837) 300 The boarding and weatherboarding of howses sheddis and hovells. 1703 [R. Neve] *City & C. Purchaser* 285 Weather-boarding..is to signifie the Boards themselves, when nail'd up. 1737 W. Salmon *Country Builder's Estimator* (ed. 9) 16 To build a Barn with all new Oak-Timber, to thatch, underpin, and weather-board with Feather-edged Deals. 1796 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 211 Farm houses ..with weatherboarded barns. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 48 The outside covered over with strong weather-boarding. 1847 J. D. Leslie *Hillfoland* 98 A neat, comfortable, weather-boarded cottage. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 626/1 Narrow strips of weather-boarding.

**Weather-bound,** *ppl. a.* Detained by bad weather; prevented from the use of weather from sailing, travelling, or other outdoor activity.

1590 R. Ferris *Dang. Adventure* B1, There we were wether bound, and constrained to stay full seuenteene dayes. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 334 Thef whereof who carried the Rose Lantorn, being weather-bound and sea-beaten, could not come so soone. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 193/4 The Fleet of Colliers that lay here weather-bound, are now under sail for the Thames. 1798 Fox *Speech in Mem. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 187, I lye weatherbound here by a deep snow. 1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* I. xvii. 346 Two young Americans,..were in the house, equally weather-bound with ourselves.

*fig.* 1779 Johnson *L. P., Milton*, This dependence of the soul upon the seasons...may, I suppose, justly be derided as the fumes of vain imagination...The author that thinks himself weather-bound will find, with a little help from hellebore, that he is only idle or exhausted.

**Weather-breeder.** A day of exceptionally sunny and calm weather, popularly supposed to be a presage of a coming storm. Also *fig.*

1655 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 160 The King had intentions of being present at the General Assembly; but this lucid interval proved but a weather breeder. 1659 J. Arrowsmith *Chain Princ.* 391 Look at a very fair day, as that which may prove a weather breeder, and usher in storms. 1780 *T. Smith Trad.* (1821) 38 A most delightful day; a weather breeder. 1828 Carr *Craven Glass*, I. v., A cloudless sky, after a succession of rainy weather, denotes rain, and is said to be a weather breeder. 1879 J. Burroughs *Locusts* 98 Weather-breeders..are usually the finest days in the calendar, all sun and sky. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 Feb. 5/2 Isolated fine days in February are known in Surrey as 'weather-breeders'.

So **Weather-breeding** *a.*

1899 R. M. Gilchrist *Nicholas* 23 The last se'nnight of March had been dull and weather-breeding.

**Weather-cock** *sb.* Formerly also see Weather *sb.* and Cock *sb.* [Cf. Du. *weerhaan*, G. *wetterhahn*, Sw. *väder-*, Da. *veirhane.*]

**1.** A vane in the form of a cock, which turns with its head to the wind. Also used *gen.* for a vane of any form. Often mentioned as a symbol of mutability or fickleness.

a 1300 *Reckone de Utenail.* in *Wright Voc.* b, 114 *Ventillum*, veder-coc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Peruore hi byeþ ase þe wedercoc þet is ope þe steple, þet him went mid eche wynde. a 1400 Chaucer *Prol. Womans Unconstanst* 12 As a wedercok, that turneth his face With every wind. c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 567 Thairfoir, I treid 3e tak thame as 3e find, For thay ar sad as Widdercok in Wind. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 86 The said Steple having a wether cokke theruppon all gylt. 1583 D. A. *Art of Converse* 21 Some are as changeable as weather-cocks in their humours. 1590 Greene *Let. Lady Hesketh* 22 Mar., I have as many opinions about it as there are whims in a weathercock. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. Loire* 37 The Duc de Choiseul..consoled himself by setting up the head of Voltaire as a weathercock. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 100 The most conspicuous weather-cock in the town is a golden trumpet on the spire of one of the churches.

**2.** *fig.* As object of things (in various obvious allusions). † *Upon the weathercock*, inclined to turn and vary.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 48 No doubt your mother was made of a Weathercocke, that brought foorth such a wauering companion. 1661 Gouge *Jews Adm. Synod.* Introd. (2), He that vents his own Notions, or sails by the weather-cock of his own Brain. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* I. 465 The Word's a weathercock for ev'ry wind. 1702 Vanbrugh *False Fr.* I. ii. 23 As much upon the Weathercock as the Ladies are, there are some the Wind must blow hard to fetch 'em about. 1888 Bayce *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxix. 35 Newspapers are powerful in three ways, as narrators, as advocates, and as weathercocks.

**b.** of persons; esp. one who is changeable or inconstant.

1588 Shak. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 97 What plume of feathers is he that indited this Letter? What veine? What Weather-cocke? 1598 — *Merry W.* III. ii. 18 Where had you this pretty weather-cocke? 1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* iii. (1608) 3, I take more pouder part of our happinesse then to make these weather-cocks our equalls. 1670 Dryden *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1692) 21 The word which I have given shall stand firm: Never like the King's, that wears Fortune for Point of State. 1709 Nelson 6 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* III. 326 The last are weathercocks, and will always be on the side of the conqueror. c 1850 Calhoun *Wks.* (1874) II. 198, I ask the attention of the doctrine, in what do they differ in their actions from the mere trimmer, the political weather-cock? 1870 R. Brough *Marston Lynch* xix. 218 He was..a terrible weathercock in the matter of opinion.

**3.** *attrib.* and *appos.*, passing into *adj.* = changeable, inconstant.

a 1680 Clarendon *Attrib. Cal* (1834) I. 558 The wavering and weathercock resolutions of men. 1720 in Hearne *Collect.* 7 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 356 Not to nick favourable and returning cau shew. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 316 Heartwell Lisman was one of those every-day sort of weather-cock characters that is veer about with every turn, gust of prejudice, folly, or envy. 1818 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 216 Their political opinions depend with weathercock uncertainty on the changeful gusts of rumour that blow from Paris. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* II. 162 In affairs of the heart, Mr. Tuchill belonged to the weathercock species.

*b.* *Comb.* : *weathercock-like* adj., -*wise* adv.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 48 Inlaied with cock-like-spirits to make their Buildings according unto things a-la mode. 1874 Iselin *Carr Jud. Cuyp* II. vii. 192 It was not in the steadfast nature of Jacob Cuyp to be weathercock-wise.

Hence **Weathercockish, -cocky** *adjs.*, fickle, changeable. **Weathercockism**, changeableness.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVII. 301 Thiers will always be regarded as the very condensed essence of weathercockism. 1885 *Chambers's Journ.* (1886) 298 She is what her husband characterises as 'weathercocky'. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 213/2 To do these Radicals justice, there is a great deal of consistency in their weathercockism.

**Weathercock,** *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*]

† **1.** intr. *To weathercock it*: to veer or vary like a weathercock. *Obs.*

1654 J. P. *Tyrants & Protectors* 39 Men that will be of the Kings Religion, he he of what Religion he will, and are clamorous against all that cannot weather-cock it like themselves.

**2.** *trans.* To provide with a weathercock; to serve as a weathercock for.

1658 *S. Austin's Sayings upon Parmenian* B 4, But that's a work onely befits the Gods, To Weather-cock their Eyes with fishing-rods. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 17 Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 696/1 Elaborately adorned gables, ..scrolled, and weather-cocked.

**3.** To send (a person) up to the weathercock. *jocular nonce-use.* a 1845 [see Mast-head v. 1].

**Weather-coil,** *v. Naut.* † *Obs.* [See Weather *sb.* 3 and Coil *v.*4] *intr.* Of a ship (see quots.). Also **Weather-coiling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1625 J. Knewstub *Serv. Naut. Dict.* (1644) 115 *Weathercoile* is when a ship is a hull, to lay her head the other way; without hoseing any saile; which is only done, by leaning up the helme. It is an excellent condition in a ship for most ships will not weather-coile. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Weather coyle 1627 — *Sea Gram.* 18, 20 If shee will weather coile, and lay her head the other way without loosing a saile, that must bee done by bearing vp the Helme. c 1635 Capt. N. Boteler *Dial. Sea Serv.* (1685) 22 The Weather-coiling of a Ship, is, when being a Hull [see Hull *sb.*1 2] *Chamber's Cpt.* Supply, *Weather-Quoil, or Coile.* 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-coil*, when a ship has her head brought about, so as to lie that way which her stern did before, as by the veering of the wind; or the motion of the helm, the sails remaining trimmed. *Weather-coiling*, a ship resuming her course after being laid aback; rounding off by a stern-board, and coming up to it again.

† **Weather-driven,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [See Weather *sb.* 6 c. Cf. Sw. *väderdriven.*] Driven by stormy weather.

a 1553 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clxiii. (1811) 230 He, in his course of sayling, was weder dryuen, and by tempest, into þe countre or prouynce of Ponitie. 1530 Palsgr. 844/1 Weather driuen, as a shyppe is that is let go at all aduentures, *abandonner*[sic]. 1530 Chonwall in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 103 A certain frenshe ship laden with Scotishe goodes wetherdryven at South schelys. 1600 Carew *Corrn all* II. 251 Philip.. during his voyage .. towards Spayne .. was weather-driuen into Weymouth. 1619 O. Walker *Oratory* 16 Like a weather-driven ship destitute of her Pilot.

**Weathered** (we ðəɹd), *ppl. a.* [i. Weather *v.* + -ed1.]

**1.** Worn, stained, or seasoned by the weather or by atmospheric influences. Also *weathered out.* Chiefly *Geol.* (See Weather *v.* 2 a, b.)

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 420 This weathered or dissolved copper is found in many places in the state of an ochre or of a loose powder. 1820 *Edin. Philos. Journ.* III. 185 The weathered surface of several specimens of calcareous sandstone. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* IV. 212 The weathered aspect of the towers. 1843 Rickman *Med. Paint.* I. ii. 1. viii. § 26, I have never yet seen any restoration or cleaned portion of a building whose effect was not inferior to the weathered parts. 1854 Hooker *Himal. Journ.* I. 94, 254 The weathered surface of each block was black. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. viii. 54 The weathered ice of the surface could be cloven with great facility. 1879 *Knight Dict. N. Copyt* Practice enables a geologist to discriminate some rocks by the feel of their weathered or fresh surfaces. 1906 *Cornish N. & Q.* Ser. I. 235 A collection of weathered-out crystals of felspar. 1914 Moon in *Man* XIV. 180 What we have succeeded in deep strata caused by immense pressure are in all probability simply weathered out shattered scratches.

**2.** Of a crop of grain or hay: Deteriorated by too long exposure to the elements.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 183 Weathered barley has a dull and often a dirty appearance. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Weathered*, damaged, but not spoilt, by too long exposure to weather—wet and sun alternately: said of hay or corn. 1892 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 3/5 Barley is particularly liable to become 'weathered' and unfit for malting.

**3.** *Arch.* Made sloping, so as to prevent the lodgement of water; furnished with a weathering or water-table.

1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 274 Two octagonal turrets, strengthened by weathered buttresses of double set-off stages, the lower part terminating in weathered canopies, the middle having weathered offsets. 1879 *Caswell's Techn. Educ.* II. 294, 1 Copings are worked with..an inclined or weathered upper surface.

**We'ather-eye.** [? a jocular use of the *Naut.* sense, Weather *sb.* 8; or ? erh. a the eye which is specially used for observing the weather. Cf. ON. *veðr-eygr*, ? keen-eyed.] Used in fig. phrases, such as *to keep one's weather-eye open*, to be watchful and alert, keep one's wits about one.

1839 Hook *Sieges of Hastings* 169 Howbrit his weather eye the seaman aim'd Across the calm, and hasted by his speech A gale next morning. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. v, You look out. Keep your weather eye open. 1887 Rider Haggard *Sheba* III. 88 Job returned in a great state of nervousness, and keeping his weather eye fixed upon every woman who came near him.

**Weather-fend,** *v. trans.* [f. Weather *sb.*] To defend from the weather; to shelter. Also *fig.* Hence **Weather-fending** *ppl. a.*

A Shakespearian word echoed by later writers.

1610 Shake. *Temp.* v. i. 10 In the lime-grove which weather fends your Cell. 1788 Cowper *Lett.* (1816) II. 154 A friendly mount, that weather-fends My reed-roofed cottage. 1800 Coleridge *Tell & Duncngerfe* in *Biblitt Poet. Rem.* (1819) 306 A young man, with a load of wood, defended from all the elements of experience. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* II. 420 A penthouse, framed To weather fend a little turf built tent. 1858 Lowson *Adventures* 155 We..flocked in a white spruce to weather fend the roof. 1873 Ruskin *Queen of Wind Ostre* App. 192 Finding its work more prosper, the little mediæval mason-weather-fending companion took courage.

**Weather-gall.** Also 6, 9 *Sc.* -gaw, 9 -go. [f. Weather *sb.* + Gall *sb.*2 Cf. G. *wettergalle*, Du. *weergal*; also Watergall 2 and Windgall 2.] An imperfect rainbow, believed to be a presage of storm: = Watergall 2. Sometimes applied to other appearances in the sky to which the same significance is attributed.

1613–35 Magnian *Aqg. Anal.* I. i, iii. 22 If you shall see one or more Weather-galls which are like Rainebowes, onely they arise from the Horizon but a small way upward. 1621 Burthwayt *Towel's Curtain Drawn* 17, The rainbow of Starres, and clipes of the Sun, Of weather-gaws and many sike as these. 1694 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Ser. Late Voy.* II. 10 These Lights are called Weather-galls by the Seamen. 1802 Jamieson *Wedderspoon* 1. 6 Weather Prats iv, See how much heavier the clouds fall every moment, and see these weather-gaws that streak the lead-coloured mass with partial lightning! 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. 29 Short Shrimpton's *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 23 A little before sunset, a weather-gall for the limb of a rain-bow), of extraordinary brilliancy, appeared. 1866 Carr *Craven Glass, Weather-gall*, a secondary rain-bow. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Gaw*, A weather-gall at noon, Fine weather all gone. *Ibid.*, *Weather-go*, the end of a rainbow, as seen in the morning in showery weather. 1898 J. Nicol *Pict. Sketch. Forster* xix. 215 They eyed carefully the weather-gaw, or broken bit of rainbow above the horizon.

**Weather-glass.** [Ch. Du. *weerglas*, Da. *veirglas*, Sw. *väderglas*, G. *wetterglas.*]

† **1.** A kind of thermometer, used to ascertain the temperature of the air, and also to prognosticate changes in the weather. *Obs.*

It consisted in its simplest form of an open tube filled with water, terminating at the top in a bulb containing rarefied air. The water-sank or rose in the tube as the air in the bulb expanded or contracted.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 97 Cold...doth manifestly Condense: As wee see in the Contracting of the Aire in the Weather-Glasse. 1634 J. [Bate] *Myst. Nat. & Art* 98 A Weather-glasse is a structure of, at the least, two glasses, sometimes of three, foure, or more, as occasion seemeth, inclosing a

quantity of water, and a portion of ayre proportionable, by whose condens ation or ra ction the included water is subject unto a cont nuall motion, either upward or downward ; by which motion of the water is commonly foreshewn the state, change, and alter ation of the weather *a* 1643 Sir. KENELM *Digby Addr.* 11. 1, His colour sanke down As water in a weather glasse Presd by a warme hand 1665 WORLIDGE *Syst Agric* 257 For the true discovery of the nature and temper of the Air, as to its density or rarity, we have not met with a more certain and ingenious invention than the Weather glass. *Hist* 259 The Weather-glass or Thermoscope 1670 *Diamond in Phil Trans* V. 2076 (1671) 36 As in some weather-glass my Love I hold; Which fills or sinks with the heat or cold. 1694 *Phil Trans* XVIII. 205 A tender Weather Glass or Thermometer 1720 *ibid* XXXI. 117 Two Thermometers, the one the common seal'd Weather-glass, having no Communication with the outward Air, wherein the temper as to Heat and Cold was shewn by the swelling or shrt king of the included Spirit

**2** A barometer.

1695 *Lond Gaz.* No. 3103/4 A Portable Barometer, or Weather Glass. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 208 3 Iconcellius, the Inventor of the common Weather Glass 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 33 P. 2 Weather-glasses. Consulted my weather-glass. 1848 Clough *Bothie* II. 17 The weather-glass, say they is rising 1889 *New Sh Sports* 93 There is no trusting the weather glass among the Highland hills.

**3** *fig.*

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 376, I shall onely refer you to the Polititians Weather glasse, whereby he not onely foreseeth (but discerneth aright) what is fallen in the constitution of his respective Place he liveth in 1688 D. Urwin *Proper Honesty* xiv 32 His Bone s his Weather Glass, and his Back Is his perpetual Almanack. 1740 H. Walpole *Lett Mann* 24 June, My uncle, who is my p hitical weather glass, and whose quicksilver rises and falls with the least variation of north-easterly weather. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 180 When the weather glass of my pride got up again, I found I had gone too far to recede. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *Maurice Dering* II. 82 Besides, I am not at all sure that he was losing his wife so much as his weather glass.

**4** *Poor Man's, or Shepherd's, Weather-glass* a name for the scarlet pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*, from its closing its flowers before rain

1827, 1870 [see Shepherd 38 7d]. 1836 J. F. Mackay *Flora Hibern* 1. 194 Common Pimpernel, or Poor Man's Weatherglass.

**† Weather-headed,** *ppl. a Obs.* [Prob. f. Weather (cf. *sheep-headed*), but admitting of association with Weather (expressing the notion of instability).] Light-headed, foolish.

*a* 1652 Brome *Queen's Concubine* IV. iii. 86 Here come more of our weather headed wise neighbours. 1695 Congreve *Love for Love* II. vii. 36 For that old Weather headed Fool, I know how to laugh at him 1822 Scott *Peveril* viii. You deserved to be clucked for a weather headed puppy.

**Weathering** (we·ðərin), *vbl sb.* Forms: 1 **wederung**, 2 **widerung**, 4 **wedring, weduring, -ynge, widdringe**, 4–6 **wederyng(e**, 5 **wedryng e, wedryrynge, wedyrryng**, 5–6 **wether-ing(e, -yng(e**, 6 **wedering**, 7 **wothring**, 6– **weathering.** [In sense 1, repr. OL. *wederung, f. wed'e rian* (see Weather *v*) ; in later uses f. Weather *v* + -ing1.]

**†1.** Weather conditions; (good or bad) weather; in nautical use chiefly with reference to the direction and force of the winds *Obs*

*a* 1122 *O. f Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1085, & þæs ilcan geares was swiðe hefelc ȝear & wes mycel ungelimp on wederunge, swa man ilce dæȝ ȝe þenc soð ne mæȝ on nane ðinȝ stor þu ring & læst wes. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 13 Gif se mann bið de hraðlicȝ þen ne scal he a-sun mid wiðerunge *c* 1300 *Poem temp Edw I* (Cott.) Godbath send wederyng on erthe Cold & unkynde. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test Love* III. vii. 74 After such stormes [in budding time], how hard is it to awayde, til ofte weders be past, & ayre þu maiest her vt take & cure al about, er any fruit be able to be sowld! 1425 *Rolls of Parlt* IV. 290/1 Grett rayne, and longe abydyng up-on the water, le fortune of wederyng or otherwise. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv.* 520/1 Wederynge, or þe tyme, *tempus*. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 284 So prayen to God forto have hyde wedryng to all maner of sedys þat bene cast yn þe erthe. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiii. 184 He wyte it, that by forteny of wedryng, they were well eyght monethes vpon the see. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxvi. 206 That no rayneor other kynd of wedryng myght greve hem within the tounne. a 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii (1811) 324 by reason of the vnreasonable wederynge, as in yᵉ laste yere fell, yᵉ whete was sold for xx s. a quarter. 1528 R. Copland *Rutter of Sea* (c 1535) D vij b, If the maister and his masters trimmeth not their sayle as it should be, and all wethering taketh them in the se. *c* 1565 Stanbr. in Hakluyt *Voy* (1589) 337 He did come to the place where he should spend (as he could get so fare to winderward again, which would haue bene with the weathering which we had to or 12 dayes worke.

**† b.** Propitious or sun able weather *Obs.*

1300–50 *Alx & Dind* 1 Whan þis weith at his wil wederyng hadde, Þal rabe rommede le ɔ3dom, & pedire 1389 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 43 We shal prepare for alle ise we shipmen, yᵗ godd for his grece ȝeue hem wedernyng and passage *c* 1400 in *York Manual* (Surtees) 22ᵇ Je schulleb also bidde þat god sende wuldirnges ys wende on erbe þat he fruyt þat is her inne þrive. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 261 Se þou synfull man exclude[ ] þe, & seȝst, I may nost kepe be halv day, for god wil sende no wederyng on be werkeday. 1532 Fisher *Expos Matt. v.–vii.* 59 Where the prestes oughte to praye in the mother toungue for wedering and fruites [etc.] 1553 Huloet *Abiquere of Rome* (1565) 235 b, He shal pray for al manner of fruites yᵉ almightye God maye sende suche wederynges, yᵗ they maye come to the sustenaunce of man.

**† c.** Stormy weather, also, a storm. So *great, strong weathering* [cf. F. *gros temps*]. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Coutim. Bruit* 480 Pere was such wedryng of thonder, lightnyng, hayll and rayne, þat the peple were sore adredde. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* II. 68 So thanne Cam pere bothe wynd & wedyynge, and for Into the bee it gan hem bryngе. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt* V. 325 A litle while after þat any Carrik or Galey arryveth by force of Wederynge in the Porte. 1460 Capgrave *Fardes* xv. 58 The duke Eneas and Ilydo flen ige the wedryngе, shalle rendre hemself bothe togydre alle al one. *Ibid* 55 Vnto the tyme that the sayde cloudes were well thyck gadred with the stronge wedryngе that surprised them all aboute. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* v. (1811) 76 Both hoostes were so greuously betyn with the sayd tempest and wederynge. *Ibid.* vii. cxxxix 249 In the v ere of our Lorde passynge tempestes of wederynge fell in sondry places of Englonde. 1526 in Wills & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 616 For defense of great wyndes and outrigious wetheringes. 1605 Stow *Anno* 653 On Candelmas euen was great weathering of wind, hail, snow, rain, &c.

**2.** The action of exposing a hawk to the action of the weather. (Cf. Weather *v.* 1 a.)

1575 Turberv *Faulconrye* 76 He muste remember euery morning to tyr e out his hawke a weathering 1690 N. Cox *Gentl Recr* II (ed. 2) 168 *It eatherin*, is when you air your Hawk in Frost, Sun, or by the Fire side 1773 Cambrit. *Mod Faulconry* 264 *Weathering*, the setting out of a hawk to take the air

*attrib* 1635 Quarles *Emblems* v. ix. 3 Ev n like the Hawk, (whose keepers wary hands Have made a prisner to her weathring Block. See Stock *sb* 1 19.]

**3.** The action of the atmospheric agencies or elements on substances exposed to its influence, the discolouration, disintegration, etc. resulting from this action.

1664 J. Wren *Stone-Heng* (1725) 88 The weathering of so many Centuries of years 1757 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyrit* v 87 The ore on under it is a plain and easy proof in behalf of a weathering, or a r oduction by damps, rather than by the action of fire. 1774 *Phil. Trans* LXIV. 289 The miners have called this decaying of the sulphurous ores of copper, iron, and other metals and semi metals, the weathering of these ores. 1795 Pinkerton *Petral.* I. 11 In snow white, a description which is very applicable to the newer part of the deposit at San Filippo, where it has not become liable to the weathering. 1845 J. Phillips *Rivers of Lancel Metrop* VI. 702/2 The weathering of the surfaces of buildings by the fluctuations of heat and moisture is partly dependent on the structure and composition of the stone. 1856 Ruskin *Mod Paint.* IV. v. xii. § 3 Now this sculpture by streams, or by gradual weathering, is the finishing work by which Nature brings her mountain forms into the state in which she intends us to love them. 1878 Huxley *Lessons Africa* viii 94 Hills of red sand formed from the weathering of a ferruginous sandstone of which the plain consists. 1880 Ruskin *Fors Clavigera Hist* 132 Through weathering, the iron becomes converted into sesquioxide 1914 Moir in *Man* XIV. 179 The second part of my paper is on the weathering of flint and its relation upon flint.

**b.** The action of the elements (on land, clay, etc) as a beneficial agency; the state of being pulverized and rendered workable by this action.

1548 Latimer *Ploughers* (1562) 16 And I feare me this land is not yet ripe to be plowed For as the sayyng is It lacketh weathering. This geare lacketh wethering, at least waye it is not for me to plough

*c. Italic.* Diluvial decay. *rare.*

1870 F. A. Maccoll *Canon of Scripture* 102 Weathering of Cave endings. *Ibid* § 106 Weathering of Inflexion endings

**d.** Exposure (of the face or skin) to all kinds of weather.

1887 Stevenson *Moon & Pootr.* VI. 96 His face was ruddy and buff with weathering

**4.** *Naut.* The action of passing (an object) on the windward side. Also *attrib.*

1878 Dixon Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 378 2 *Weathering*.—A native term used in sailing to define the action of one vessel that is rowing to windward of another. 1894 *Times* 30 July 7/3 Britannia had stood far enough out into the English Channel to get weathering distance.

**5.** *Arch.* The sloping course on the face of a wall, serving as a 'drip' to throw off rain-water; a sloped 'set off' of a wall or buttress; the inclination or slope given to a surface in order to prevent the lodgement of water.

1739 Labelye *Piers Westm Bridge* 69 The Sally, or Projection of the Cordon or rustic Cornish serves also as a Weathering to the Stone work 1842 J. Newman *Oper Mech.* 545 The measurer takes a line or tape and begins at the plinth, then stretching it e line to the top, bends it into the offset, or weathering. 1852 Rickman *Gothic Archit* 182 The massive buttress, with its deep weatherings, or watertables between each graduation or stage of the height 1856 Fergusson *Gothic Archit. Weatherings*, a slight inclination given to horizontal surfaces, especially in masonry, to prevent water from lodging on them 1875 Hasm *Lect. Archit.* 191 All the weatherings are executed with skill and judgment. *attrib* 1886 *Cheshire Glory, Weathering course*, bricks set out from the wall round the bottom of a chimney, to protect the bottom where it joins the chimney

**Weathering,** (we·ðərin), *ppl. a.* [f. Weather *v.* + -ing2.] That wears away or dismtegrates through the action of the weather.

1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* 21 Syenite usually does so in our damp climate, from the 'weathering' effect of frost and rain 1863 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxi. 198 The shifts of the Bretlhorn are much exposed to weathering action. 1892 in A. L. Lee *Heat Columbia* (Ohio) I. 676 The uses of the clays derived from the weathering shale are only in their infancy as yet. 1912 *Hibbert Jrnl* Oct. 106 What we call changing physical objects—weathering hills or ageing suns.

**Weatherliness** (we·ðəlines). [f. Weatherly *a.* + -ness.] Weathrly quality (of a ship).

1883 Dixon Kemp in *Porter Rev* 1 Sept. 324 The Mosquito carried her ballast much lower than any existing yacht This was a principal cause of her weatherliness 1893 Marian *Infl. Sea Power* I. 203 The superior speed and weatherliness of the Spanish ships might have enabled them seriously to molest the British.

**† Weathering.** *Obs.*—[ LING.] A student of the weather.

1698 S. Partridge *Synopsis* B 3, Many more the like rules [for Prediction of the Weather] I might here have added; but in this little Booke, let the Weathering be satisfied with these.

**Weatherly** (we·ðəli), *a* (and *adv.*).

**†1.** Of or pertaining to the weather. *Obs. rare*—1.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom* 61 Any proposition or prognostication (as well touching weatherly events as arbitrary contingents)

**2.** *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: Able to sail close to the wind without drifting to leeward. Also used loosely (see quot 1904).

1709 *Phil Trans.* XXXVI 57, I proposed to make a Ship work far better to Windward, than it is possible for the most Weatherly one to do at present. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* viii, Notwithstanding her weatherly qualities, the heavy ea se sea, as she drove into it, headed her off bodily. 1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* I. 29 Those stout weatherly boats crowding up to the wharves, have just now returned from fishing for cod. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weatherly*, said of a well trimmed ship with a clean bottom, when she holds a good wind, and prevents such lateral resistance to the water, that she makes but little leeway while sailing close-hauled. 1888 R. C. Leslie *Sea Life* 87 For downright weatherly qualities, lead and leverage will beat beam without depth. 1904 *Dixon Kemp's Yacht & Boat Sailing* 699/1 *Weatherly*, the quality of hanging well to windward or holding a good wind This term is often improperly used to denote good behaviour in a sea way or in bad weather.

**† 3.** *adv.* To the windward of the wind. *rare*—1.

1708 *Lond. Gaz* No. 4432/2 Three of their Ships being almost as far Weatherly as we were.

**Weathermost** (we·ðəmoust), *a. Naut.* [f. Weather *sb.* (8) + -most.] Furthest to windward.

1891 Lowson in *Blackw Mag* CXLIX. 784 The Christopher being the headmost & the weathermost man 1892 *Sun* 8 R. Hawkins *Voy. to Sea* Ix. 140 But in equitie and reason, the le ward shippe ought euer to giue way to the weather most 

school, Long-seasoned and weather-stained in the typhoons and calms of all four oceans 1868 Lloyd *Less Middle Age* 36 Unlovely dwelling with its weather-stained walls 1876 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 5/1 The only detriment time has wrought in the monument is the weather-staining of the marble statues

**Weather-wisdom.** The traditional lore of weather prognostics.

1822 *Lights & Shades* II 53 That science of guesses commonly called weather-wisdom. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Inductive Sci.* I 99 Another reason, founded upon strictly upon some limited empirical maxim of weather-wisdom taken from the climate of Greece 1866 Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 7 'Weather-wisdom' is very far from being a mere superstition

**Weather-wise** (we ðəiwaiz), *a* [f. Weather *sb* + Wise *a*] Skilled in prognostics of the weather

1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xv 350 Wederwise shipmen. 1586 S Burrough in Hakluyt's *Voy.* (1589) 319. I marvelled why he departed so suddenly, and went ouer the shoales But after I perceiued them to be weather wise 1637 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Direkte & Perfect Way* 5 Some by their corses are wondrous Weather-wise. 1735 B Franklin *Poor Richard* (1850) 50 Some are weatherwise, some are otherwise 1808 Cole *Hudson Depredations* 4 He had been a weather wise, who made The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spence. 1869 James *Woodman* vi, Auguring rain to the minds of the weather-wise. 1886 Steinmetz *Weathercasts* 54 A certain weather-wise nobleman, Lord Portarlington, predicted the intensely hot summer of last year. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* I. xv 167 Are you weather wise ?—able to tell when the clouds will hold off or pelt ?

*b. fig.*

1581 W Stafford *Exam Compl* I (1876) 27 Some weatherwise fellowes, that could change their opinions as the more and stronger part did change theirs. 1937 Quiller-Couch *Sir C. Dilke* II. 313 He was weatherwise in the assembly, and knew the conditions which might lead to unforeseen disturbance.

†**Weather-wiser.** *Obs.* [ad. Du *wederwyser, weerwyser*, f. *weder, weer* Weather *sb* + *wyser*, agent n. f. *wyzen* to show; cf. Way-wiser.] An instrument serving to foretell the weather.

1667 Sprat *Hist. Royal-Soc* 255 Several Discourses about Thermometers, Barometers, and other Weather wisers 1676 Glanvill *Ess.* iii. 40 He hath there given an account of the defectiveness of common Weather-Glasses, and Ascent of Water by Cold in the ordinary Weather-wisers. 1708 R Neve *Barosciopt* 4 By which means it is now become an excellent Weather wiser, to predict dry and moist Weather. 1789 Mayor (ed. Aubrey) I 359 The flowers of pimpernell the opening and shutting of which . are the countryman's weather-wiser, whereby he tells the weather of the following day

**Weathery** (we ðəri), *a. rare.* [f. Weather *sb.* + -y1] Fitful, changing like the weather.

1863 *Mure Mag. Ld Hastinges* xiv, As nought may last, so Fortunes weathery cheare With sowying lookes gan lower on my Syre 1880 Hackwood *Heavy Anerley* II vi 82 The fitting fancy of boy and girl, who pop upon one another, and skip through zig zag vernal ecstasy, like the weathery lightning of gnats.

**Weavable** (wi·vəb'l), *a rare.* [f. Weave *v.*1 + -able] That may be woven.

1483 *Cath Angl* 412/1 Weffabyle, *textilis* 1886 Ruskin *Mod Paint* III iv xvi § 37 The world got weavable fibres out of the grasses, and made fabrics for itself

**Weave** (wiv), *sb.* [f. Weave *v.*1]

†**1.** Something that has been woven, a woven fabric *Obs*

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 171 A couelet fine aloft, Of woollen weaue 1597 Middleton *Wisd Solomon* v 11 So rotten are allurde by sins deceit, And oft inticed into sinners weave 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep.* v xv. 257 This habit of John, was rather some finer weave of Camelot

**2** A particular method or pattern of weaving.

1888 C P Brooks *Cotton Manuf* 132 This weave is not confined to the making of fabrics with an unbroken pile surface. 1888 R. Beaumont *Woollen Manuf* 2 279 It may be useful to consider how, from a plain weave warped and woven one thread black and one thread white, the solid lines of these colours have been formed 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 11/1 With reference to linens there has been a larger demand for weaves of this kind.

**Weave** (wiv), *v.*1 Pa. t. wove (wōv); pa. pple. woven (wō·vn). Forms: *Inf. and pres stem* 1 *weban* (*3 sing. wyfst, 3 sing. wefð, wifeð, wyfð*), *wefan*, 3–6 *weve*, 4–5 *wave*, *waf*, *e*, 5–6 *weyve*, 5c *weif*, *f*, *weff*, 6 *weeve*, *weyve*, *3c. weive*, *weiwe*, *wif*(*f*, *wyf*, *wyve*, 6 9 *3c wyve*, 6 *weave Pa t sing.* 1 *wæf*, *wef*, 4 *wof*, *woof*, 4–5 *waf*, *wafe*, *wave*, 6– *wove*; *weak forms* 4 *wevede*, 7 *weavde*, 6–9 *weaved*. *Pa t pl.* 1 *wǣfon*, 4 *weven*, *woven*. *Pa pple.* 1 *wefen*, *3cwefen*, *giwefen*, *North* *geuoefon*, 3 *iweove*, *iweven*, 4 *iweve*, *wovun*, *y*woven, (1)–*wovyn*, 5–6 *3c. weif*, 6 *3c. weffin*, *wiffin*, *woifen*, *wowen*, *wolvin*, 7 9 *wove*, *3c woven*; *weak forms* 4–6 *wevede*, 4 *wefe*, *wefed*, 5 *weuyd*, 7 *weovd*, *weavd*, 6–9 *weaved*. [A Common Teut strong verb (not recorded in Gothic) OE. *wefan*, pa. t. *wæf*, pl *wǣfon*, pa. pple *wefen*, corresponds to OFris. **wevia* (Nfris. *weevien*, Wfris. *weve*, *weevje*), (M)LG., (M)Du. *weven*, OHG. *wëban*, *wepan* (MHG., mod. G. *weben*), ON. *vefa* (MSw. *væfva*, Sw. *väfva*, Da. *væve*).—OIcel. **vefa* (:**wab-* **wa·fb-*).—Indogermanic **webh-* (:**wabh-*, **wobh-*), represented in Skr *ūrnavābhis* spider (lit. 'wool-weaver'), Gr ὑφή, ὑφοι, web, ὑφαίνειν to weave. The same root occurs in *web* (and *abb*), *weft*, *woof*.

In the 14th and 15th c. the form of the pa. pple. became assimilated to that of the pa. pple. of strong verbs with root ending in a liquid (e. g. *shaken*, *stolen*), and, as in most verbs of that class, the *e* of the pa. pple was extended to the pa. t both sing and pl. The weak inflexion has been occasionally used in all periods from the 14th c. onwards, but has never become general.]

**1.** *trans.* To form or fabricate (a stuff or material) by interlacing yarns or other filaments of a particular substance in a continuous web; to manufacture in a loom by crossing the threads or yarns called respectively the warp and the weft. Also with obj. the web itself, a garment made up of such a stuff or material. †*To weave out*, to complete the weaving of

† *To weave in a stool*; see Stool *sb* 3

c 900 *Rædra Hist* IV xxv (1890) 354 Hio smale hnæzel wendlp & wundr[i]p & ceapap & *wefp* in W-Wilkker 994/8 *Ordinatur*, weben 1000 *Vitæ & Pass* 39 Al swa nan webb ne mai lesen iwesen wiðuten twa leames. c 1290 *St. Edmund* (Rawl.) 17 *Lay* 436 Þat he ne *wefde* (Laud 1) nas i-sponne ne i-weue, ake i broide stiengus longe. c 1300 *Assump Virg* 668 Þis like webbe here self wof 1390 Gower *Conf* III. 237 Ibet with ten him a Lyn to I rede, And weve a Pours c 1450 *Merl's Festival* 246 Scho ouerspet hir clothes of weyinge clopes and ornamentes to be auter 1483 *Cath Angl* 412/1 Wefe, *texere* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII viii 86 The precyous webb, Wrocht curiously, and weft of gritted threds Quhilum be fate A sidromachais hand 1528 More *Dyalogue* III x. O v b 2 Yf were as some doone to weue a new web of the same fashion that they were in before 1530 Palsgr. 779/1 I the wey ver sayeth he can nat wayve my clothe tyll he have more yarne 1535 Coverdale *Judges* vi 6 My dayes passe ouer more quyckly, then a weuer can weaue out his webbe 1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Textrina*, the place where thinges be weaued or wounden 1539 Bible (Great) *2 Kings* xxiii 7 Where the women wrought hangynges for the groue 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen VIII*, 73 b, For all the copes and Vestementes wer but of one piece, so wouen for the purpose. 1584 *Multitude not Acc* (Cotillum Soc.) 23 Ingate weauing fourscore yardes and four of Lanuine, or 1598 Lithgow *Trav* VI. 290 He weau'd these Napkins. 1670 Sir S Crow in *6th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App v, 15 The silke bearing 18 inches will weave 4 yards and quarter 1693 Dryden *Æneis* VII 340 These Purple Vests were wrought by Dardan Dames *Ibid* IX 651 The Mantle which I wove with Care. 1705 Prior *Alma* III. 55 Accept, dear youth, this monument of love, Long since, in better days, by Helen wove. 1789–96 Morse *Amer. Geog* I 541 Woollen stockings of excellent quality are woven by the Germans, especially in Germantown 1856 G Roberts *Soc Hist*, 376 Our lace was not wove. It had neither warp nor woof 1872 Yeats *Techn Hist Comm* 69 The shawls and the textile furniture used in the rites of religion were frequently woven in the temples.

**b.** in figurative context.

In many langs the equivalent *sb* is used in metaphorical expressions relating to the contriving of plots or deception so Gr ὑφαίνειν, *L texere*, *ordiri*, *Fr ourdir* Cf †*1*

1580 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx 1 Woe vnto the Lord, that sue to holden the counsel, and not of me and weuen a web vnwil, *ordereminis telam*], and not bi my spirit 1606 *Sir G Goosecappe* v. 1, in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III 85 All the wiles Weaued in the looms of greatnes, and of state 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect* (1693) 293 If I should goe about to give in writing to the State in England a full relation of its Government and the State of that kingdome [Ireland] it is to be successour might weave the same web he had begunn, and not make a newe frame of his owne 1766 Berlin *Cyber Angl* 64 For much they feared that Abbot Wolf would weave a web which Bancroft's skill could not have wevved 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II 220 The robes of the seasons, wove in the change full tissue of Nature's loom 1817 Scott *Harm* VI xvii O what a tangled web we weave, When first we practise to deceive! 1848 Lytton *Zanoni* I. 3, All this I eloped silently to weave a thread by thread my counterplots in 1853 J Thomson *Pictures* 59 Better thou wov'st thy woof of life than thou didst weave thy woof of sing

**c** said of the loom.

1804 Wolcott [Peter Pindar] *Peter Pindar* II 275 The mistress fairied th' embroidered suit, That looms of Lyon wove

**d** To depict in tapestry.

c 1385 Chaucer *L G W* 2160 She hadde I-woun In a tapyt, ful wel I-wrought, was beautee and Thisbe 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V. v. 15 Quhairon wes wrocht in subtell goldin threidis King Priamus [etc.] 1683 *Domestick Rites* (1841) 114, I have seen a handsomer Mortal carv'd in Monumen al Ginger-bread, and woven in Hangings at Mortlock

*Pa. pple.* 1 *Wæfen* in Ps. (Thorpe) xliv. 14 their loves, their woes, the gifted band In fairy tissue wove.

**e.** *fig.* To contrive, fabricate, or construct (a mental product) with elaborate care Also with *out*, *up*

c 1440 *Ilpelf Bible* I 71 2 Of whom the first [Isaiah] is not vn yn to me weuesh prophecie, but euangelie 1586 S Daniel *Arcadia* III (1598) 331 Your wise, but very darke speeches, I understand not, nor comprehend, nor can I see how to proportion mine answere vnto them 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol* II vi 6 For answer whereunto A twist weaveth out a long History of things that happened in the persecution under Decius 1656 Earl Monm tr *Bacchini's Addit. fr Parnass* I xxxv (1674) 44 The Author's subtilty in weaving of his Poem 1799 Campbell *Lett. Hofe* I. 195 Then we've in rapid verse the deeds they tell 1819 W S Rose *Lett N Italy* I 24 I had already woven a little romance for him in my imagination 1824 Lamb *Elia*, *Blakesmoor*, Contemplations on the great and good weave for us illusions 1849 Miss Mutock *Ogilvies* II, Katherine had already woven out the whole romance of the stranger's life. 1861 Geo Eliot *Silas M* I. 1, I've stole the money,

and you have woven a plot to lay the sin at my door 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* I iii § 21 (1875) 66 The original materials out of which all thought is woven. 1874 M Creighton *Hist Essex* (1902) 48 The desire for unity that made him [Dante] weave his poem around himself 1876 Thompson *Chron A de Dak* 186 The evil arts of brewing charms and weaving spells 1885–90 Barnes *Poems & Psyche* May 15 Pathetic strains and passionate they move, Urgent in ecstasies of heavenly sense 1913 W.K. Fleming *Mysticism Chr* 108 In his writings his weakness lay in his proneness to weave endless allegories out of the Old Testament writings.

**f** To form (e. g. a basket, a wreath) by interlacing rods or twigs, flowers, etc.

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* xvii. cliv (1495) 704 Strikes be ys glitte in the ground to and there alowes ben weuthes wouen and wounden of thornes 1509 Cuthwood *Caltha Poet* (Roxb.) cxxiv, And others very busie do begin To weaue their little baskets to put their hearbs and all their flowers in 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 639 Adam the while Had wove Of choicest Flours a Garland to adorne Her Tresses 1737 Dyer *Fleece* I 575 Hurdles to weave, and cheerly shelters raise. 1813–14 Sir Walter Scott *Rokeby* v 211, But, Lady, weave no wreath for me, Or weave it of the cypress tree! 1839 Fr A Kemble *Record Georgia* (1863) 21 Among the Indians of Georgia . . the rightshade weaves a perfect matting of its poisonous garlands. 1839 Emerson *Poems*, *The Problem* 25 Know'st thou what wove yon woodbird's nest Of leaves, and feathers from her breast? 1842 Macaulay *Horatius* lxix, When the gods are weaving baskets, And the lads are shaping bows 1900 S. R. White *Blanco Posnet* 1 With the skill of a lady practise some of them were to place on which the body was placed.

*fig.* 1893 Liddon *Life Pusey* I App A 451 I regard has woven a wreath round the early history of the family

**g** *Sc.* To knit Also *dial.* to j lait (hait)

1695 *Rec Old Aberd* (New Spalding Club) I 160 Privat schooles wherein children are taught to sew or weave 1785 Burns *Epist. to J. Lapraik* I. iii, Or, like the snowfall in the river, A moment white—then melts for ever; Or the breath of wounded pride, Thou canst not weave the sunshine 1825 Jamieson, To *Weave* v. a. and n. To knit applied to stockings, &c. 'pron Wyve' *Roxburgh.* 1875 Jackson *Sussex Tolk* 2 He used to go regularly twice a week to the house of one of his principal customers, to weave his cue, or, in less professional language, to plait his pigtail

**†h.** In figurative use apply sometimes confusedly: To spin, twine (a cord, thread).

1486 Tate *De Guil Pelgr* 24413 The cordeler that waf the corde Of pes, vnyte, and concorde Hy name was called Charyte 1648 Gage *West Indies* 144 The Indians weave but weaved for 10 a thred of long discourse 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl* II xxv 249 The men weave them long yarns with peals of rattling, heavy laughter between

**2.** *absol* or *intr* To practise weaving, to work with a loom

c 1000 *Ælfric Gram* xv (Z) 104 *Tha ancilla texit* Dhn wyln wefð 1390 Gower *Conf* II 170 Hire moder Bid that sche schulde lerne forto weue And spynne 1450 *Cal Chanc St Gillert* I 229 A companie of fat same ordre sat stille in his craft weuyng 1585 T. D *Prayse of Nothing* A ijb For equitie would not that Arachne weaue in the frames of Minerua 1602 Shaks. *Ham* I. v. 30 Meet it is I set it down, That one may smile, and smile, and be a villaine 1781 Cowper *Truth* 317 Yon cottager who weaves at her own door, Illumes and lightens all her little store 1820 *Constable Miscell Treat* I 119 My father is a silk weaver, it is about twenty years since I first began to weave 1828 Carlyle *Hero Pen* 1840 II 41 He [Mahomet] was poor, he had never learned to read, or write 1917 J. R. Glover *From Persia to Italy* 17 [In Egypt] Women go to market and mend it at home and weave, and they weave it where others sell it

*fig.* 1622 Fletcher *Sp. Curate* II 1, They that pretend to orders must weave cunningly

**3** *trans* Of a spider, insect To spin (a web, a cocoon) Also *absol*

c 1200 *Ancrene* 468 De soumere webbe of suo hire wel and weued on hire wise 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* lix 5 The web thereof an attercop shal weuen [*v. r.* weueden] 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* xviii. 21 (Bodl. MS.) Þe spyder weueþ hire webbe and þeraf comeþ smal spinkes and be in dre semeþ hem to weue as it were as þei web yheist 1426 Lydg *Destr Troye* 1269 As an spreyne wevyth a cobbe, To make flyes there in to falle. c 1450 Henryson *Mor Fab* I. 130 She began to devyse & spynne a new webbe, like a spyder it is daily weveth when hys calle is torne 1604 Dekker *Orc* I. 2 b The spyders weue their webbes in euery corner 1634 Milton *Comus* 111 Sit the Siluer worms enfold themselues in a piece of silk they weaue of an euill forme and yellow colour 1794 Sullivan *View Nat* I. 395 The spider artfully weaves And winds his web about the tuvell'd leaves

*fig.* 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen VI*, III. i. 340 My Brayne, more busie than the labouring Spider, Weaues tedious Snares to trap mine Enemies 1663 Butler *Hud* I. 1. 159 He could twist as tough a Rope of Sand, And weave fine Cobwebs fit for Skull That's empty when the Moon is full 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* lx, Men the flux of latter spin Arg, Drawn their nets, and sting and sing And weave their petty cells and die

**4** To form a texture with (threads, filaments, strips of some material); to interlace or intertwine so as to form a fabric

1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Lucia*, he threedes, whiche a lke w m n du weaue in lynceles or stooles 1601 Shaks *Twel N* IV. 66 The Spiders in the corners, that deck their houses with fine roades that weaue their throwes in their eues 1608 — *Per* IV Gower 21 When they weaude the sleided silke, With fingers long, small, white as milke 1638 H Lyttelton *Hist of Leicester* 132 There remains here Fame thredy, like unto Flax, which are woven into cloth 1697 Dryden *Virg Past* x 103 This while I sung my bonny Phoebe well, And binding Osiers into Baskets weav'd 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 27 Aug 3/2 A young lady of Milton lately spun 70 skeins of thread out of a pound of Cotton—which no other young lady would have 1808 Trevisa *Beauties of W* 272 To bind cotton yarn from the mills into the remote skeins of the Highlands, for the purpose of being weaved 1870–80 *Industr Gr Brit* III 212 Michigan wove in the silk whilst

and dyed the flowers their natural colour in the piece. a 1908 C. Bell *Cryg. Chr.* (1909) 459 The art of weaving flax had been introduced from Babylon.

**b.** To entwine or wreathe together.

1578 [see Intertex v.]. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 167 Citizens daughters, weare nothing vpon their heads but their haire wouen with laces, and so gathered on the fore-part of the head. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* Ix. 57 The Grottoes cool, with shady Poplars crown'd, And creeping Vines on Arbours weav'd around. 1727 [Dossington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 42 He bent the branches, and weaved them into one another. 1830 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxviii. Again at Christmas did we weave The holly round the Christmas hearth.

**c.** *fig.* To intermingle or unite closely or intimately as if by weaving; to work up *into* an elaborate and connected whole. Also with *in*.

1545 Gardiner in Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 27 In the tragedy untruth is so maliciously weaved with truth [etc.]. 1603 Shaks. *Lear* IV. i. 37 This weaves it selfe perforce into my business. 1657 Rutherford *Lett. to Lady Kilconquhair* 8 Aug., Is not this hell and heaven woven thorow other? 1658 Sir T. Herbert (*title*). Some Yeares Travels...Describing especially the two famous Empires, the Persian, and great Mogull: weaved with the History of these later Times. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 25 Can they receive and assent to adventitious Notions, and be ignorant of those, which are supposed woven into the very Principles of their being..? 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 40 P 2 An Author might as well think of weaving the Adventures of Robinson Crusoe into one Poem. *a* 1719 — *Whig Exam.* (1739) 42 When religion was woven into the civil government, and flourished under the protection of the Emperors. 1816 Lingard *Ch. Hist.* II. 628, And in these words, thus woven into a song. It may be that they are a harmless wile. 1860 J. Martineau *Ess.* (1866) I. 303 Science weaves phenomena into unity. 1875 Dunlap *Mus. Teacher* 39 Put the melody in the bass, or in an inner part, and weave in a new melody with it in the upper part. *c* 1900 Bridges *Following* Poems (1912) 381 Grave Dante weaving well His darkened thought into a song divine.

**d.** *intr.* for *refl.* To become woven or interwoven. Also *fig.* rare.

1613–6 W. Br. wne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 30 The amorous Vine which in the Elme still weaues. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. lxxi, Tears weave with smiles to form the bridge to heaven!

**e.** *intr.* With quasi-passive sense: To admit of being woven.

1892 R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* II. 26 It will not spin into good yarn, nor weave into wearable cloths.

**†f.** intr. *To weave out* = to become unwoven. *nonce-use* (suggested by the context). *Obs.*

1642 Milton *Reform.* II. 78 The government of Episcopacy, is now so weav'd into the common Law In Gods name let it weave out againe.

**5** *trans.* To enmesh or entangle, to wrap up, as in a net, etc. In quots. *fig.*

1620 [T. G. Bentley] *Rich v Shifts.* 394 And thus being woven in their [Roman] nets, they lie in a manner destitute of all possibility of recovery. 1869 Lowell *Study Wind, Condescension in Foreigners* (1871) 43 The mind can weave itself warmly in the cocoon of its own thoughts.

**6.** To cause to move in a devious course; to direct (one's steps) in a devious or intricate course, as in dancing.

1650 Heath *Clarastella* 11 Her steps with such an evenness she wove, As shee could hardly be perceiv'd to move. 1850 De Quincey *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. 1862 I. 132 Sarah was going about the crowd, and weaving her person in and out. 1893 Kate D. Wiggin *Cathedral Courtship* 136 To weave that donkey and that Bath 'chee' through the narrow streets...is a task for a Jehu.

**b.** To go through the intricate movements of (a dance).

1798 Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. 36 Weave the light dance and swell the choral song. 1855 Neale *Hymns Eastt. Ch.* 46 They...to that eternal Pascha Wove the dance and raised the strain.

Hence **Weaved** *ppl. a.* = Woven *ppl. a.* Also *weaved-up*.

1552 Huloet, Weued, *textus*. 1561 B. Googe tr. *Palingenius' Zodiake* VI. R v, Lyke as the flye that smallest is in weued Cobweb hye. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 229 (Qo. 1608) And must I rauell out My weaued vp Folly?

**Weave,** *n.*[2] Also **wheave, † weive.** [Continuation of M.E. Weve.]

**1.** *intr.* To move repeatedly from side to side; † to toss *to and fro*; to sway the body alternately to one side and the other; to pursue a devious course, thread one's way amid obstructions.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 10 Whilest thus amidst the billowes beating of her wofull griefe, long time she wept, ere she weaued [*hymns* bereaued, *ed. quarto*]. 1625 G. Sandys *Trav.* 146 Their fantasticall gestures exceed all barbarisme, continually weaning with their bodies, and often jumping vp-right (as is the manner in dancing). 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 72/1 By and by I saw him weaving from one side of the Pulpit to t'other. 1805 Worlow. *Pocklington* VII. 290 Him who o'er the world in hungry quest, At fields weaves, Rattles the sale-book [etc.]. 1854 Miss A. E. Baker *Northanger. Glost., Worcestersh.*, moving backward and forward in their wheel unsteady or in the rumble. 'You're weaving your web of sorrow,' is often said to any one so doing. A metaphor from the loom. 1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* xx, The preacher...began to earnest too; and went weaving first to one side of the platform and then the other. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, Weave* (American), to work along from one side to the other...A drunken man 'weaves along'. 1898 Cockett *Standard Bearer* II. 14 Twenty or thirty dragoons were urging their horses forward in pursuit, weaving this way and that among the soft fairy places.

**b.** *spec.* of a horse: To move the head, neck, and body restlessly from side to side of the stall.

1832 Youatt *Horse* xix. 345. 1869 Fitzwygram *Horses & Stables* § 194. 122 As a general rule, horses do not weave, unless they are tied up.

**2.** *trans.* To move (the hand or something held by it) *to and fro, up and down.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 404 Make the ointment to sinke wel into the flesh, by holding a hot broad barre ouer the place annointed, weauing your hand too and fro, vntil the ointment be rubbed into the skin. *Ibid.* 411 Having annointed all the raw places with this ointment, make it to sinke into the flesh, by holding and weauing vp and downe ouer it, a hot broad barre of yron.

**3.** To make a signal to (a ship or its occupants) by waving a flag or something used as a substitute. Also *intr.* with *for*.

1593 P. Nichols *Sir F. Drake Revived* (1628) 27 He wheaued vs with his hat, and his long hanging sleeues to come a shoare. 1599 Hakluyt in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 The neate dayes...he came to the sea side, and weaved for a boate. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 566 Then shaking a peece of linnen cloth of the enimie, and weauing them amaine, we had them come aboord: and an Englishman in the gallie made answer, that they would come aboord presently. 1620 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 53 Which when they perceaved, they weived us with naked swords. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 59 Although I shott towardes them and weaved them to follow me.

**4.** *Fencing.* (*Cogn. acc. intr.*) To cross close into (one's opponent) before delivering one's blow; to step in feinting and try to approach close to one's opponent in order to administer punishment. Also (? *Obs.*), to get (the adversary's head) 'in chancery'.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) II. 23 Spring held his opponent's hand...to prevent being weaved. *Ibid.*, Painter...endeavoured to weave his opponent. *Ibid.* III. 131 Neither were expert hands at weaving, and Martin was thrown. 1820 *P. Egan's Boxiana* (1829) III. 399 The strength and skill of Brocco enabled him to hold up his opponent, and weave on, till he got hampson down on both his knees. 1832 *P. Egan's Bk. Sports* 26/2 In closing, Curtis captured his opponent's knuckle-bone', and was endeavouring to weave it under his arms, but [etc.]. 1921 *Times* 29 June 10 6 Defensively he [sc. Dempsey] is a much better boxer than one might easily suppose...His body-work as he weaves in and out, shifting from a very elusive target and very difficult to land on with a hard punch.

**Weave**(1, obs. ff. Wrevil.

**Weaver** 1 (wī·vəɹ). Forms: 4 **wefere,** 4–5 **wevere,** 5 **wevyr, wewar(e, weiver, weyver,** 5–6 **weffer(e,** 5–7 **wever,** 6 **weaver, wayver,** 6–7 *Sc.* **wiver,** 6, 9 *Sc.* **weyver,** 7 *Sc.* **weiver,** 8 **weever,** 9 *Sc.* **wyver,** 6– **weaver.** [f. Weave *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

**1.** One who weaves textile fabrics; a workman or workwoman whose occupation is weaving.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 99 Wollene websteris and weueris of lynen. 1382 Wyclif *Job* vii. 6 My dayes swifter than a webbe of a weuere. 1388 — *Judges* xvi. 14 Of Caleph ware *Sir. Gilbert* I. 31 Pe apostell, which was a weuer of cloth. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. i, A wayuer or fuller shulde be in smale copiniō of his arte. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 146, I would I were a Weauer, I could sing all manner of songs. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 188 The wiveris fiemen within this bough feirit that [etc.] 1675 in *York Mag.* (1792) 1. 600 Anne Ayre, a Lace Weefe there was ane upriser in London occationed by the weavers. 1765 H. Walpole *Lett. to Mann* 95 May, Many thousand Weavers come, on a day appointed, to the house being thrown out of the House of Lords. 1768 *Iron Copy Roll City Of.* 16 Mitchel, James, Wytham, Weaver. *c* 1770 *Life Capt. Sawbridge* 28 Every Walloon Man is his own Cartwright, and every Woman a Weaver for her own Family. 1851–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 857/2 The weaver...pressing with one foot on one of the treadles, leaves one of the treadles, [etc.]. 1897 *Lisbon Lace of Gold* v, The weavers obtained employment principally from the manufacturers of Kingshaven. 1899 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Weavers*, women employed in the manufacture of cloth.

**b.** One who 'plaits. Also *Sc.*, one who knits.

1783 *European Mag.* Sept. 176 Betty got the hair wove into a tail at the...wig-makers...assuring the nimble-fingered weaver, it was for herself. 1818 Jamieson, *Weaver, wyver*, ...a knitter of stockings, Aberd.

**2.** *fig.* One who weaves, in metaphorical senses of the vb.; one who contrives, constructs, etc. (sometching specified).

In the first quot. the word may be misread for *wenere* Wenere.

*c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 77 Panne comeb forb good hope: To saue man he wolde fonde: Pou wonge weuere perbrigt I make him free, pou woldist make him bonde. 1587 M. Grove *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 73 Yet say not nay-thelesse that I...am the weauer of your woe. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 240 Inventors of long tales Give me the fidgets. 1885 Cloud *Myther* I. iii. 20 The savage is not a conscious weaver of allegories. 1905 J. B. Firth *Highways & Byways Suffolk.* xvi. 243 A weaver of rhymes.

**3.** *Sc.* A spider.

1825 Jamieson, *Wyver*, a spider, Aberd. 1882 *Ibid.*, *Wyver's web*, cobweb.

**4.** One of numerous Asiatic or African tropical birds of the family *Ploceidæ*, so called from the elaborately interwoven nests that many of them build. Also more fully *weaver-bird* (see 6).

1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 240 *Ploceus Philippinus*, Tem.. Philippine Weaver...*P. Abyssinicus*...Abyssinian Weaver. 1844 Lady G. Fullerton *Ellen Middleton* (1851) II. xiv. 149 The weavers with their endless tails. 1894–8 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 363 The red-billed black weaver (*Textor niger*) is found in the Transvaal. 1909 *African Monthly* VI. 270 A colony of Spotted-backed Weavers.

**5.** A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidæ*. = Whirligig *sb.* 4. 1864 Webster.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weaver-body, -boy,* † *-craft, -girl, -leg,* † *-trindle*; also in the names of certain birds, as *weaver-bird* (see sense 4), *-hunting, -finch, -oriole.*

1806 J. F. Stephens *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIV. 34 Ploceus, Cuvier. "Weaver-bird. 1879 Lubbock *Sci. Lect.* ii. 38 The pendulous nests of the weaver-bird are a protection from snakes and other enemies. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, Ye are willing to be guided by the Glasgow "weaver-body's advice. 1819 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIV. 58 The appellation of "Weaver Boys" was...bestowed on the speakers at the numerous meeting, held at Manchester, in November last. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 193 "Weaver Bunting. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 87 Robert Kosell being freman of the "weaver Crafte swarne with [etc.]. 1876 A. R. Wallace *Distrib. Animn.* II. 288 The Ploceidæ, or "Weaver-finches, are especially characteristic of the Ethiopian region. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* I. viii, The "weaver-girls in their flowers and ribbons. 1875 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* II. 44 He was...as fast a hand as the wee "weyver (*spider*) legs cud wag. 1878 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 435 Weaver Oriole. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/2 A "Weffer tryndylle, *tarabulus*.

**b.** Possessive combinations, as *weaver's beam, † brush, -craft, -glue,* † *hand-roll, † jack, -loom,* † *-weight, -winder*; † **weaver's beef of Colchester,** a name given to sprats; **weaver's bottom, weavers' cramp** (see quots.); **weaver's knot,** a sheet-bend or single bend, used for joining threads in weaving; † **weaver's larum,** an alarum made of a candle, a weight, and string; **weaver's lights** (see quot.: *cf. weaver's tenedrons*); **weaver's shuttle,** (*a*) the shuttle used by weavers; (*b*) a shell *Radius* (*Oyulinus*) *volva*; **weaver's windows** (see quot.: *cf. weaver's lights*).

1539 Bible (Great) x *Sam.* xvii. 7 Ye shafte of his spere was like a "weuers beame. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 24, 1 Ward *Diary* (1839) 122 Sprats are commonly verbally called "Weaver's beef of Colchester. 1865 W. White *East. Eng.* I. 145 She had never heard sprats described as weaver's beef, as they are (or were) in Colchester. 1902 Soc. *Lex.*, *Weaver's bottom*, term for chronic inflammation of the bursa over the ischial tuberosity from pressure. 1583 *Rates Customs Ho.* A vj, Brushes called "weuers brushes of heare, the dozen, iij.s. vj.d. 1468 in W. A. Hankins *Northampton Bor. Rec.* (1898) I. 298 Euery persone that shall occupie and set vp the seide "Weyverescrafte within the Boroughe of this towne. 1884 W. Watson in *Academy* 1 Nov. 297 The patient, who had been a weaver, suffered from what we may call "weavers' cramp', by which is meant a contraction analogous to 'writer's cramp'. 1877 W. Heaton *Experim. Chem.* iii. 308 When cotton thread or cotton fabrics are bleached, it is merely in order to remove the oily, waxy, and mealy substances (†"weavers' glue, &c.) which have become attached to them during spinning and weaving. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 251/1 A "weaver hand Roll. *Ibid.*, A "Weavers Jack. 1832 [G. Walker] *Dice Play* B ij b, To turne the dice boxe, and cast a "weauers knot on both his thumbs behind him. 1678 Wanley *Wonders Little World* I. x. 16 With the flexure of her tongue only she could express, what the Dutch call the Weaver's Knot. 1745 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 555 This little Apparatus goes commonly by the Name of the "Weaver's Larum, from its being chiefly or originally made use of by Persons employed in that Trade. 1866 *Morn. Star* 14 Aug. 4/5 Broad windows extending the breath of the house, and known as "weavers' lights'. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his spere was like a "weuers lume. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Radius*,...a "wayuers shytell, wherwith he throweth the yern in to the webbe. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Job* vii. 6 My dayes are swifter than a weuers shittle. 1825 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Weaver's Shuttle, *Bulla Volva*. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 80 When "weauers weight is found in buxsuum web. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 19 The trades taught are those of the...weaver, "weaver's winder, carpenter, and blacksmith. 1896 K. Snowden *Web of Life* xiii. 121 The house had what we used to call "weavers' windows—three or four narrow lights together.

**Weaver**[2]. [f. Weave *v.*[2] + -er[1].] A horse that 'weaves' or rolls the neck and body from side to side.

1897 T. Brown *Modern Farriery* 71 Animals of an impatient, irritable temper,..will sometimes keep moving their head, neck, and body to and fro, like the motion of a weaver's shuttle: these have been called weavers. 1883 Mrs. Gabell *Sybrie's A.* xi, 'I'll tease 'em a bit,' the driver one was. 1886 W. Day *Racehorse in Training* I. 6 If a horse is a weaver put him into a box, for in it he is more contented and often forgets his tricks.

**Weaver,** obs. f. Waver *sb.*[1]; var. Weyver.

**Weaveress** (wī·vəɹĕs). [f. Weaver *sb.* + -ess.] A female weaver.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/1 Mary Griffin,...Weaveress. 1877 J. H. Burton *Doorjet* 122 He found two looms alone remaining at work in the hands of an ancient weaver and weaveress. 1890 *Tablet* 4 Jan. 25 An old weaveress, a widow 72 years of age.

**† Wea·vering,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [f. Weaver[1].] Weaver's work.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* VI. 92 In Weavering and in Fulling, I have...Skill; And underneath my Weavering-Beam, There stands a Fulling-Mill.

**† Wea·verly,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Weaver *sb.* + -ly[1].] As a depreciatory epithet: Like a weaver.

1643 J. White *First Cent. Scandalous Malignant Priests* 47 [He] calls his parishioners...Plow joggers, Rawling doggs, Weaverly Jacks, and Church-Robbers.

**Weavill,** obs. form of Wevil.

**Weaving** (*wī·vɪŋ*), *vbl. sb*[1] [f. WEAVE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the *vb.* WEAVE; *esp.* the operation of forming cloth or other stuff by the interlacing of yarn or other filaments in a loom.

1377 LANGL. *P Pl* B xv 444 Cloth bat cometh fro be weuyng is nouȝt comly to were. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii xi (Bodl. MS.), Pe femele [spider] is more of bodie pan be male and hab lengre feete and more plounte and more able to weuynge and to weuynge. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II 284 As mychе for gardyng, spynnyng, and wevyng. 1511 in *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, *c.* 6 § 1 The Wever whiche shall have the weaving of any wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. IVI. I 188 Weaving was the invention of the Ægyptians. 1774 JEBARY *Methods* (1775) II 595 Which is to which place likewise the weaving of linen, and making of nets was first found out. 1843 J. S. KNOWLES *Secretary* III I 25 His grace the duke is in a net of his own weaving caught. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist Comm.* 45 Weaving was an art in which the Egyptians excelled.

† **b** *corr.* A tissue, plexus. *Obs.*

1578 J. ST. *Le Dean's Observ. Surg.* (1773) Duct Dd 3. *Vermium Genera*, that Weaving of Blood Vessels, wh ch enters into the Testicles.

**2** *slang* (See quot 1865.)

1803 *Sporting Mag* XXI 306 Weaving—Is securing one or more cards upon the knee, under the table played on. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Weaving* a notorious card-sharping trick, done by keeping certain cards on the knee, or between the knee and the underside of the table, and using them when required by changing them for the cards held in the hand.

**3** *attrib.*, as *weaving-factory, -frame, -house, -loom, -mill, -room, -sheet, -shop, -work*.

1849 G. DODD *Brit. Manufactures* I. IV 95 Some being 'spanning factories', some 'weaving factories', and some both conjoined. 1850 PALSGR. 288/1 'Weving frame, *mestier.* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Wevynge howses, *textrinum.* 1772 [see SPINNING HOUSE 2] 1466 in Weaver *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 343 A weving lome w' his appurtell and pertenances. 1678 in *Publ. Rec. Lit. County Rec.* (1892) IV 63 Wooden frames of weaveing Loomes. 1835 *Ure's Philos. Manuf.* 380 A weaving mill near Manchester. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. IV, Nor should the weaving room be forgotten. 1867 Morris *Jason* II 455 Whom soon they found within the weaving room, Bent earnestly above the rattling loom. 1894 *Penny Mag.* I 70 'pupil' 38 We next descend to the 'weaving'. Here we find eight hundred and forty power looms in one room. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct 430 The men from the imperial weaving-sheds. 1906 *Int. on Blankets Worst. Related Textiles* 137 In the 'weaving' shoppe 31 loomes, v geares [etc.] 714. in *Hamplet's Wks* (1895) I 150 Ivo renders to none sche ocupied hir in 'weving werke. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* II 11 Anna wente dyvlre to the weevynge worke.

**Wea ving,** *vbl sb*[2] *Pugilism.* [f WEAVE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] (See WEAVE *v.*[2] 4.)

1820 *P. Egan's Boxiana* (1829) III 465 In closing, after a struggle, they broke away from each other Neither of them seemed to have any idea of the weaving system. 1841 [DE QUINCEY *Murder* I in *Blackw. Mag* Feb 210/2 In the course of the round we tried the weaving system, in which I had greatly the advantage, and hit him repeatedly on the cone. 1887 R. G. ALLANSON-WINN *Boxing* 261, I was obliged to retreat, and did so, as slowly as possible, using the weaving guards with both arms and completely evading punishment.

**Weaving** (*wī·vɪŋ*), *ppl. a.* [f WEAVE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That weaves, in senses of the verb

*c* 1000 *Sonq Heahstan* in *Anglia* IV. (Suppl.) 118 Forcorfen is swylce fram wefendum wife [*L. uelut a textente*] hlf mun. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. II. 90 Weaving Spiders come not here. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIV 458 Weaving Drone. 1825 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol* xiii (1818) I. 411 The weaving spider ...presses her spinnerets against one of the walls, and thus glues to it one end of her thread.

**Weavle,** obs f. WAVE *sb.*, *v.*

† **Weavy,** *a. Obs rare*—[f. WEAVE *v.*[1] + -Y.] Suitable for weaving.

16 CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl* (1683) 44 Others fell'd Wood, and some dy'd weavy Yarn, The Women Spun

**Weasand, Weasell** SEE WEASAND, WEEZLE.

**Weaseled** (*wī·zɪld*), *a.* Also 8 weesen, 9 weasen. Altered form of WIZENED.

1796 POOTE *Commissary* I 10 His little weezen face as sharp as a razor. 1793 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Old Manor House* I III (ed 2) 53 However she may set her weazen face against it she likes at the bottom of her heart a young fellow of spirit. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk*, *Inn Kitchen* I. 327 A little swarthy Frenchman, with a dry weasen face. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholby* xiii, A little, weasen, hump backed man. 1877 W. S. GILBERT *Forty-Five Fairy* (1892) 76 A weazen little body, with quite ladylike manners

*Jig.* 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Oct 577 Their policy was not weazen and conservative.

**b.** *Comb.*: **weasen-face, -faced** *adjs.*

1796 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 37 He is but a poor, weazen-face chicken of a gentleman. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales of a Bold Dragoon* (1848) 36 A single, weazen faced fellow. 1841 HACKERAY *Gt. Haggarty Diamond* II, A little weazen-faced old lady. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xi, A little blear eyed, weazen faced, ancient man. [see CRUMPLED 2].

**Weazen** (*wī·zn*), *v.* Also 9 weesen. [Altered form of WIZEN *v.*] *intr.* To shrink, shrivel. Also *trans.* (*pronce-use*) to cause to shrink.

1821 *Lonsdale Mag* II 409, I put those three shillings into a hole, and I found them weesened every time I went to look at them. I have just found it out that Dick has weezened them. 1850 *Trnl R. Agric Soc* XI. II 605 Nothing retards their [sc pigs] feeding so much as allowing them to be pining and weazening for their anticipated regular meal

Vol X.

**Weasened** (*wī·zn'd*), *ppl. a.* = WIZENED *ppl. a.*

1840 THACKERAY *Sultan Stork* Wks 1900 V. 730 The old woman blushed as far as her weazened old face could blush. 1862 DALE *Seven Sons* III IV 65 Jockeys swindled from strong men into little weazened brats of children. 1879 J. PAYN *Under One Roof* I, A small grey man, frail of limb, somewhat weazened as to face. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl* 12 May 289/2 Weazened black and tan terriers.

*transf.* 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. XI 119 Old and weazened as that parrot. 1882 CRESWELL *Bp Woodford Anne* I 22 The small face showed the most profound, almost weazened, solitude.

**Weasony** (*wī·zəni*), *a.* [f WEAZEN *a.* + -Y[1].] Somewhat weazen.

1854 *Lowell Fireside Trav*, *Roman Mosaic* (1909) 201 A half-dozen of weazeny baked pears 1865 MRS H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* XXVII, A thin, weazeny sort of man.

**Weazond, weasond,** obs. ff. WEASAND.

**Web** (web), *sb.* Forms 1 web, 1–2 webb, 3 woob, 3–8 webb, 4–5 veb(b, 4–7 webbe, 5–7 webe, 6 wabe, 3– web. Also *Sc.* and *north.* 6 vob, webb(e, 6–9 wob, 7 woob, 8–9 wab [OE. *web(b* neut., corresp to OFris. *web, wob* (WFris. *web, webbe*, NFris. *web, wobb*), OS. *webbi* (MLG. and LG. *webbe*), MDu. and Du. *webbe, web*, OHG. *wappa, weppi, webbi* (MHG. *wappe, webbe*) neut., ON *vefr*-(in gen. *vefjar*, Dat. *vefi*), Sw. *väf*, Da. *væv*, Goth. **wabjo* m., -*n*, f. **wab-* ablaut-var. of **web-*: see WEAVE *v.*[1]]

**I.** 1 A woven fabric; *spec.* a whole piece of cloth in process of being woven or after it comes from the loom. Also *collect.*, woven stuff. Often as cognate object to *weave.*

Regularly used to translate L. *tela*

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) F 89, 90 *Telum*, web *Textrinum*, webb. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill* (1889) 216 *Tela contaminatur filis*, webb byþ zefylled mid þrædum *c* 1200 *Trin. Hom.* 11 Ich wæs min webb te mon lætte lowen, if wib uten tun beames. *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 322 Wule a weobb beon, et one cherre, mid one watere wel bliched? *c* 1325 *Gloss. Ar.* in *Voc.* 744/1 Weght *Fex* 1530 *Palsgr* A webe to weven *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 456 Pe wefand bat sheres ti wn be web ure it be fulfild. 1382 LANGL. *P Pl* A v 92 Penne I shal weuen te webbe bat wexeb nouȝt. 1388 WYCLIF *Isah* VIII 6 My dages swiftliere passiden than of the weuere the web ia kut of. 1544 *Ord Hen VIII* C 9 § 2 In the weuer to renuen the web of the same lynnen, if any shall be left not put into the same Web. 1546 *Extracts Aberd Reg* (1844) I 236 Ane veb of lntane, contenand x ellis. 1552 *Huloet*, Webbe of cloth *Tela*. 1598 *Florio*, A thing beaten to a softnesse, serueth for webbes of Linnen 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial in County Folk Lore* (1903) 111 78 Christane Reid in Sett cam in ane mad errand, seiking weft to ane webe. 1657 DARTON *Serm* 15 Her Hand the Web forsakes. 1780 BURNS *Robin shure in hairst*, I gaed up to Dunse, To wyse a wab o' plaiden. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 849/2 The breast bone, a pretty square beam in which there is an opening to let the web through as it is wove. 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc & Arts* II. A whole web or piece of cloth is divided by them into nineteenths. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 8 He shall pay Each fortieth web of cloth to me, As the law is. 1854 SIDNEY *Handbk Cr* (1903) 115 Some were dressed like his master —coat, waistcoat, and breeches of the same web. 1909 K. LEWIS *Art of Life* xv 312 The pattern of the cloth is more clearly displayed in the web than in the patch.

*in figurative context* 1576 FLEMING *Panopl Epist* 114 Should I recant now in mine aged years, and as it were begin a new webbe? 1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal.* Oct 102 Nowbely weauers, with fauors two webbes in hand. 1587 GREENE (*title*), Penelope's Web. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl* 6 Sept 5 How long shall we be constrained to weave Penelope's web? † **b** The weaver's trade. *Obs.* rare.

1552 *Huloet*, Webbe of cloth craft *Textura*.

**c** *transf.* and *fig.* Something likened to a woven fabric, something of complicated structure or workmanship. Also, the texture of such a fabric.

1599 *Jul. Cæs.* III I. 10 Scarce cotten on my face about. Her virtue web had spun 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. III 83 The webbe of our life is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* (1637) 12 Nor Some that who may object to the slightness of my style. 1663 CHARLETON *Chorea Gigant* 28 Having thus, thread after thread, unravell'd Mr Jones his long Web of Reasons, which he has spun so closely and artificially, even as to be strong enough to bind his Readers to a belief of his Opinion, that Stone hengwas a Roman Structure 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.*, *A Sunday in York* I 131 I had passionate and fanciful amour, which has woven into the web of his story the magical hues of poetry and fiction 1822 HAZLITT *Table Talk* Ess (1869) 122 The web and texture of the universe is a mystery to them. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl* I 1 24 The web of diplomatic negotiation and court intrigue which had been slowly spreading over the leading states of Christendom. 1894 LADY M VERNEY *Verney Mem* III 108 Sir Ralph is soon trying to disentangle the complicated web of John Denton's debts. 1909 O WILDERSPIN *Captain's Cr* 235 His cheeks had a web of criss cross wrinkles.

**d.** Used for WARP. *Ist* and *fig.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict Interpretum*, a weauers shyttel, or a bylle wemans taruell, wherein they sette or threde benuge wounden is shot through the whyte or threde benuge wounden. 1644 QUARLES *Sol Recant.* x 51 How mungrell nature weaves Wisdome and Folly in the self same Loome, Like webbe and woof 1781 Cowper *Expost* 331 He strikes the rough thread of error right athwart The web of ev ry scheme they have at heart 1806 SOUTHEY *Poem Relig* II (1839) 31 Service and pray er are the web and woof of the Christian life. 1883 OGILVIE, *Web*, locally, the warp in a loom.

**2.** An article made of woven stuff (e. g. a garment, tapestry, a winding-sheet). Also *collect.* woven stuff of a particular material or pattern. Now chiefly literary or *arch.*

In quot *c* 1205 *gode webbe* app represents OF *godwit, godewit*, 'fine linen'; etc, the first element being perh interpreted as = 'good'.

*Beon wif* 993 Goldfæg scinon web after wæpnum. *c* 1205 LAY 19945 Iþeruð mid gode webbe. *c* 1275 *Ibid* 29584 Pe king caste on his rugge swiþe riche webbes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 1593 All þe wawis without in webis of ynde 1560 ROLLAND *Sat* xii 1492/2 In riche Baldkins, de cuntrie velvot webbes. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* III 1 902 If Phœbus lured in Latonas webs Came courting 1757 DYER *Fleece* II 540 What nation did not seek, Of thy new inodell'd wool, the curious webs? *Ibid* III 59 A diff erent spinning ev'ry diff erent web Asks from your glowing fingers 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I 233 Common woollen stocking web 1813 J. HUNNEMAN *Inflammatis* n 263 I then cut the web on which the plaster is commonly spread 1892 J HACKERAY *Esmon* II III, Kneeling down at the bedside and kissing the sheets out of respect for the web that was to hold the sacred person of a King. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VI 477 With richest webs the marble walls were hung 1891 ROSETTI *Staff & Scrip* XXII, I sur ffe my web [a banner] 1883 MRS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II VII, Costly fabrics all dainty webs

† **b.** ? A kind of net for catching fish *Obs.*

1533–4 *Act 25 Hen I III*, c. 7 To take or destroye in or by meanes of any weir ...pipe fyke or any webbe lister syer the yonge frye of any kynde of Salmon

† **c.** A bandana or large handkerchief *Obs*

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr* IV iv 369 The waste cotton-shrub, have ye not made it into webs and neckcloths? 1850 'SYLVANUS' *Bye lanes & Dykes* IV 53 The unmistable web of cambric carefully folded *Ibid* VI 76 The flash, reared up fellow, in the light blue pantaloons and huge web of satin round his neck!

† **d.** *pl.* Stockinet pantaloons. ? *nonce use*

1825 T HOOK *Sayings* ser II *Sutherl* (Colburn) 57 Our tall friend in tl e webs

**3.** A band of material woven strongly without pile. Also *collect* = WEBBING Cf GIRTH-WEB

1337–8 [see WAMP TOW] 1505 [see WAMP TOW *attrib*] 1794 in *Trnl. Forest Hist Soc* (1918) The Coffin was covered down with Ropes and Webs. 1820 *Rep Blacksock Dom Annuum* 115 Procure two 3 yards, more or less, of web, of broad tape, or close lasting. 1860 *Catal Internat. Exhib.*, *Irel.* II No 3841, I Union web. 1875 *Rep Post Office* The elastic web is so placed as to allow the free rising of the inside 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech*, II 865 (*Elastic*) Stout bands of elastic fabric, used as straps to limit the extension of the hood

**b.** *attrib.* (and *Comb.*). Made of webbing

1844 *Queen's Regul and Ord* 350 A web headed halter with two rings 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col Reint Austr.* I. How you no breaking bit, or web surcingle? 1913 'IAN HAY' *1st Hund Ann.* VII, Sam Browne belts have been wisely discarded by the officers in favour of web equipment. 1915 P MACGILL *Amateur Army* 100 Wet belts were cleaned and every speck of mud and grease removed

**4.** A cobweb. Also applied to the filmy textures spun by some caterpillars Also *collect. sing*

So L *tela*, † *toile*

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 468 De spai nete werpeð ðus hire web ut 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 104 10 He sal make his webbes forto be theghes with gile *c* 1390 CHAUCER *A.B.C.* 1 § 3 Thi Riet shapen in manere of a net or of a webbe of a loppe *a* 1400 *Romaunce* (Sk.) 6 Pou *a toile de Araundre*, A web of gossomer 1446 LYDG. *Temple Glas* 756 The place is not Clenly kept with reuerence, For bef en, and ek behynde, Ystynes and webbes men may fynde *a* 1500 *Wit of Merlin's Head* (Halli.) 1 Ther was a dewe vpon pe grounde that is called webe off arigne hongynge vpon pe grasse 1555 *Pilgrim Decles* (Arb) 219 Her lodyre was full of that same sherd That make these webbes 1606 N [BARTAS] *Sydney's Ourania* G 3 b, Th admirable Silke worme Whose diuinitie webbe doth ci nth potentates. 1718 *Poor Robin's Alm.* A 5 b, Spiders Webbs from Tops Of Twigs. 1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* VIII 22 Some (caterpillars) spin themselves a cone or web in which they lie secure till they have arrived at maturity. 1843 BYRON *Jrnl* x IAAAIV, With a soft bes m will I sweep your halls, And brush a web or two from off the walls 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot* 858 A silken purse mesh'd in a great old tyrant spider's web. 1866 J. J WITH in *Trans Entom Soc* I 21 Larvæ which spin webs, and are eaten by birds, but not with avidity they appear very much to be protected by the sticking to their backs. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* xvii 317 At the end of September acres of furze may be seen covered with web in the morning.

**b** A single thread or line spun by a spider, used in optical instruments, = COBWEB 1 b.

1877 [o LINDSAY & D GILL in *Dun Icehl Observ Publ* II 11 If the webs a, *b*, *c*, and *f* are all attached to the frame which is moved by the micrometer screw. 1883 *Proc R Brit XVI* 248/1 A spider is caught and placed on a wire fork The insect immediately attaches a web to the w re That web is wound up on the fork till ten or twelve turns have been secured

*c.* *fig*, esp (*a*) a subtly-woven snare or entanglement, (*b*) something flimsy and unsubstantial, fanciful reasoning or the like Cf COBWEB 3

When the spider is not indicated in the context it is often difficult to decide whether the quot belongs to this or to 1574 *Mirr Magg O Edistes le xxvi*, O wretched wight bewrapt in webbes of woe 1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* I 5 They taught that men ...by their owne wit ...brought into the worlde death and damnation t ogether with a wel be of miseries, out of whiche it can not t nde it selfe. 1604 SHAKS *Oth* II I 169 With as little a web as this, will I ensnare as great a Fly as Cassio 1605 BACON *Adv Learn* I IV § 5 19 The Schoole men ...find out of nature quantitie of matter, and infinite agitation of wit, spun out into vn those laborious webbes of Learning which are extant in their Bookes. 1672 DRYDEN *Amb Pt Cong Granada* I II (end), I Silk worm like, so long within have wrought, That I am lost in my own Webb of thought 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd & Is* I. I introd 88 The law seemed only the web to ensnare the weak 1841

Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xviii, He...felt that accident and artifice had spun a web about him. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* vi, He is entangled in a web of crime and guilt from which there is no escape. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 780 Who wove coarse webs to snare her purity, Grossly contriving their dear daughter's good.

**5.** *Paper-making.* a. An endless wire-cloth working on rollers and carrying the pulp. b. A large sheet or roll of paper made in this way.

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 369 A horizontal frame,... furnished with a roller or cylinder at each end, over which is stretched an endless web of brass wire, of the requisite texture or fineness for the paper about to be manufactured... the web proceeds slowly forward with a tremulous motion, which arranges and disperses the pulp regularly over the whole surface of the web. 1854 C. Tomlinson *Cyc. Useful Arts* *Paper* 30 A continuous or endless web of wire cloth, stretched over two or more revolving rollers. 1854 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* II. 285/1 An endless wire-cloth, over which the web of paper is formed. 1855 Herring *Paper & Paper Making* 76 The web, as it is termed by the paper-maker, being thus severed longitudinally. 1867 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* III. 514/2 White paper, supplied by the paper-maker in large rolls of web, about 18 inches in diameter.

**II. 6.** A tissue or membrane in an animal body or in a plant. Also applied to similar pathological formations.

*c* 1290 *St. Michael* 720 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 320 A smal weob it [the fœtus] bi-lupped al aboute, to holden it togadere faste. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. i. (Tollemache MS.) Sunnetymes ey hap twey webbes and twey skynnes, and a tuo by on webbe and call [*read tela*]. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* E ij b, The sayde webbe or tunycle called Rethina. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Eye*, A delicate Web, that lines the *Vitreous*, *Crystalline*, *Coroidea*, &c. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Bot.* 324 The five filaments of the *Celosia*, Cock's-comb, are connected at their lower part by a membranous web. a 1822 Gilb. *Study Med.* (1829) III. 421 When these sinuosities are first formed or scooped out, their walls are soft, irritable, and of the common cellular web. 1829 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Web*, in *Anat.*, any membranous-like investment structure. 1837 *Hall Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 812 Chronic stenosis of the larynx, ...due to...the formation of membranous webs.

*attrib.* 1856 tr. *E. Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 167 The circulation in the web-membrane is retarded after closure of the femoral artery. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 612 Cicatricial web formations [in the larynx] should be divided by cutting dilators.

b. The omentum or caul of cattle.

1808 Jamieson, *Web*, the covering of the entrails, the caul, or omentum, apparently denominated from its resemblance to something that is woven. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., 'The web of the body' i. the omentum. 1842 J. Ayton *Bonnet. Econ.* (1879) 212 Meal is understood to darken the flesh, web, and lights of the animal [a calf].

†**7.** A thin white film or opacity growing over the eye; a kind of cataract, albugo, leucoma, or pterygium. Also *pin and web*: see Pin 3† 11. Also *fig. Obs.*

1387 T. Usk *Test. Love* i. ii. 280 That hath caused my comynge in to this prison, for whan the webbes of thyne eyen to make thee clerely to see the errours thou hast ben in. 1398 Wycliff *Tobit* ii. 9 To anoynte iyen, in whiche is a web. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xvii. (1495) 294 Another disese is cleped the eyen we calle a webbe and Constantin calleth it Albugo and Pannus. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, Sometyme cometh to be hounde seknes in his eyens, for per comeneth a webbe vpon hem and wexynge flesshe. 1564 *Mann. & Houshh. Exp.* (Roxb.) 280 For a webbe and a pinne in yᵉ eye. 1578 Elyot *Dict., Suffusio*, a webbe in the eye. 1583 *Treat. Bk. Keeping Spanish Sheep* (1586) 31 Pyn or Web or other clymmes by strokes *&c.* must be speedely loked unto. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 28 If a horse haue a web in his eye. 1621 Bansfield *Treat. Physic* vi. iii. 118, Of the webbe or cataract, called in Greeke, *hypochyma*, in Latin, *suffusio*, *gutta*, *aqua*, *imaginatio*. a 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 645 [I] find that whole Maine of Scripture, should not cure this web, and take this filme from the eyes (I mean!) 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 67 Drop a drop or two at a time into the Eye, and it takes away all Spots, Webs, or any other Disorder whatever. a 1827 Good *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 220 This opacity [caligo], as well as the pterygium, was denominated a 'web of the eye', from its giving the idea of a film drawn across the sight.

†b. *gen.* A crust or film. *Obs.*

1594 Plat *Jewell Ho.* i. 61 [The candle] always supporting it selfe above the water, by a thin crust or webbe, which it maketh about the flame by the moisture thereof.

**8.** The membrane or fold of skin which connects the digits of an animal; esp. that which connects the toes of an aquatic bird or beast, forming a palmate foot.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lxxiii. 201 They [sc. otters] are footed like a Goose: I meane they haue a webbe betweene theyr clawes. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 533 The lower part of the toes and wrist black. *Ibid.* 548 Mr. Ray calls this a cloven-footed gull; as the webs are deprest in the middle, and form a crescent. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 230 Each foot [of the otter] is furnished with five toes, connected by strong broad webs like those of water fowl. 1823 J. Thomson *Inflammation* 77 The capillary vessels in the web of the foot of the frog. 1842 Trevisick *Morris of Arthur* 269 Like some full-breasted swan That sails the flood With swarthy webs. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxvii. 206 My hands pricked at the thin fine skin between the fingers that we call the webs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 665 The burrows [of the itch insect] well generally be found in the webs between the fingers and toes.

b. *Path.* An extension of the normal fold which occurs as a congenital malformation in the human hand or foot.

1866 Bardwell in *Med. Press* 25 Apr. 416 On examining the fingers I found them connected together, not merely by a thin web, but by a thick layer of tissue covered...by skin from corresponding parts of the fingers. 1876 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 When the fingers are well formed, the Surgeon should, if possible, divide the web.

**9.** The series of barbs on each side of the shaft of a bird's feather; the vane or vexillum.

1713 Derham *Phys-Theol.* VII. i. 373 *note*, The Mechanism of the Vanes, or Webs of the Feathers. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 500 The greater quil feathers are black; the exterior webs of the next are a fine green. 1848 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 226 First feather of the tail white, with a black square spot on the interior web. 1857 Gould *Birds Europe* V. pl. 372 The shaft and the narrow inner web white; the outer web broad and deep bluish black. 1893 Gadow in Newton *Dict. Birds* 239 The rami, radii, and cilia compose the inner and outer web, vane, or *vexillum* of the feather.

**III. 10.** A sheet of lead, such as is used for roofing and for coffins. † *Obs.*

Cf. med. L. *tela plumbi*: 1318 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 499/18 m. 2 (P. H. O.).

1450–85 Tale of Beryn *Arthour* xxi. xl. 857 After she was put in a webbe of lead & than in a coffyn of marbyl. 1489 in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. viii. 10 For the Balmynge, Fencyng and Scowering of the Corse, with the Webbe of Lead and Chest. 1525 Rec. *Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees 97) 152 Leade. In the coveing upon the same colledge Mr Dxiii square yerdes of webbe. 1577 in *Assoc. Archit. Soc. Rep.* (1866) VIII. 301 One webb of Lead flynge in the gutter within the said battlement cont. in length iij$^{xx}$. yardes and in bredth one yarde. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* x. xxvi, And there with stately passages they wend, And Christian slaine rolle vp in webs of lead. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxi. vi. 11. 421 Those pipes be called properly in Latin Denariæ, the web or sheet whereof between ten fingers in breadth. 1606 *Churchw. acc. Pittington* etc. (Surtees) 197 For taking upp the high roofe of the leades and laying the webbs againe. 1852 R. Burn *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of lead, *Vanilla de Plomb*.

†**b.** A quantity of glass. Cf. Way *Sb.*$^{2}$ *Obs.*

1545–1656 [see Way *Sb.*$^{2}$].

**11.** The piece of bent iron which forms a horseshoe.

1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 118 Make your shoores with a broade webbe. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 111 That no gravell be remaining betwixt the web of the shoo and the sole. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Horse-shoe*, Shoe-webs are made of Spanish Iron, with a broad Web, fitting it to the Hoof. 1831 Youatt *Horse* xvii. 312 The inside part of the web is bevelled off, or rendered concave, that the nail may not wound it. 1908 *Encycl. Horse Managem.* (War Office) 297 The whole of the sub-tance of the shoe is called the 'web'.

**12.** †*a.* The blade of a sword or of a carpenter's plane: the iron head of an axe or hatchet. *Obs.*

1600 Fairfax *Tasso* II. xciii, A sword, whereof the web was steele. *Ibid.* viii. xciv, The brittle web of that rich sword. 1676 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 223 This informant got hold of the...sword by the web of the sa. 1747 Hoskins *Direct. Dict.* R 3 b, This [Rudder] we use to let in the ends of Sliders, or Headtrees, where the Web of the Back is too short for the Mortice. 1812 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exercr., Joinery* 204 Web of an Iron, is the broad part of it which comes to the sole of the plane, the upper edge or end of the web has generally one shoulder, and sometimes two, where it joins the tang.

b. (See quot.)

1784 J. Swale *Ploughs* 13 The web may be three inches broad at the handle, and taper from a foot down all the way to the point. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Web of a Coulter*,...that part of it which is drawn out thin and sharp, in order to cut and separate the furrow-slice,...In the sock, too, any thin sharp part has the name of web or wing.

**c.** The detachable long narrow blade of a frame-saw or fret-saw. Cf. *web-saw*.

1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 330 It [the Grecian saw] consists of a square frame, having in the middle a blade or web, the teeth of which stand perpendicular to the plane of the frame. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning*, etc. II. 723 The web is so formed as to allow of cutting deals thin boards. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 508/1 The Ribbon-saw,...consists of a very long land—or web, as it is called—of steel, which is supported and worked with finely-cut teeth.

**13.** The bit of a key; also, each of the 'steps' or incisions in this.

1773 W. Emerson *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Web*, the thin broad part of an instrument, as the web of a key. 1800 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVIII. 241 So that the webs or bits of the Key may clear the Tumblers in the lock. 1856 *Trans. Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* XII. 225 This key has a solid or blank web. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6105, The 'bits' or steps on the 'web' of the key, that act on the levers inside the lock.

**14.** The vertical plate (or its equivalent) which connects the upper and lower laterally-extending plates in a beam or girder. Also applied to each of these lateral plates or flanges.

1851 Dempsey *Builder's Guide* 144 The two [flanges of the girder] are united by a vertical rib or web of just sufficient thickness to connect the flanges together. 1856 *Am. Pract. Inst. Cyc. Engin.* XV. 155 On the Relative Proportions of the Top, Bottom, and Middle Webs of Iron Girders and Tubes. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 406 Cast-iron girders, with their lower webs considerably larger than their upper, were ordinarily employed where the span was moderate. 1870 B. Baker *Strength of Beams* etc. 290 The experiments on the lower tube for the Britannia bridge indicated clearly that diagonal strains, both compressive and tensile, occurred in the webs of the tube. 1877 W. H. White *Nav. Archit.* iv. 313 The webs are in one piece as long as possible, the pieces forming its web are well connected together edgewise, there is no difficulty in meeting this racking strain. 1892 *Inst. Mech. Engin.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Web.* The iron plate, fixed vertically, in a single web girder; or two plates in a tubular girder.

**15.** The upright portion between the tread and the bottom flange of a rail. † Formerly applied to the tread and the bottom flange (*upper*, *lower web*); also to the upright ridge of an edge-rail.

1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 169/1 The lower web is, in some examples, not so wide as the upper web by nearly half an inch. 1840 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail Roads* U.S. 156 Which lip extends upwards and laps over the lower web of the rails on that side. *Ibid.* 264 *Web*, the outer projection of a rail, intended to prevent the wheels of carriages from running off the track. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 295/1 There was a waste of metal in these early rails...owing to the excessive thickness of the vertical web.

**16.** The arm of a crank, connecting the shaft and the wrist.

1825 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Aug. 4/7 Cranks having the additional strength provided by an increase of metal in the webs of the crank itself. 1889 Haslock *Model Engin. Mechanik.* 79 It is best to turn the shaft and outsides of the crank webs first; the insides and the pin can be turned after.

**d.** The thinner part of an anvil, between the head and the base.

1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.* I. 120/2 Body or web of the anvil.

**e.** (See quot.)

1908 Parkin *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 270 *Web*,...that part of a boat-oar, between the blade and the loom.

**f.** In a sheave (see quot.).

1796 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 153 *Web*, the thin partition on the inside of the rim, and between the spokes of an iron sheave.

**g.** A solid disk connecting the centre and the rim of a wheel, instead of spokes.

1895 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wed* 3. That portion of a carwheel which extends between the hub and the rim. *Ibid.* s.v. *Web-wheel*, Clock and watch wheels are cast or stamped with webs and then *crossed out*.

**17.** The basketwork of a gabion.

1852 R. Burn *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of a gabion, hurdle, &c., *clayonnage*. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 255 Gabions are...5 feet 9 inches high, in the web.

**18.** *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Greeley *Glos. Coal-mining*, *Web*, the face or wall of a long-wall stall in course of being holed and broken down for removal. The web varies in thickness (according to the height of the seam) from 2 or 3 to 7 feet. Fig. 135 shows a cross-section of a long-wall with a web of coals after drawing the timber. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 51 *Plane*, a working room driven at right angles to or facing the plane joints. *Ibid.* 72 *Web*, the plane.

**19.** *Math.* A tangential net.

1911 Webster s.v. *Net*, But if (represented) in line coordinates, the net is tangential to a web.

**IV. 18.** *Comb.*, as *web-like* adj.; **web-fingered** *a.*, having the fingers united for a considerable part of their length by a fold of skin; also, applied to a fish, *Prionotus carolinus* or *palmipes*; **web-frame**, (*a*) the frame to which the spider-threads are attached in a filar micrometer; (*b*) in iron ship-building (see quot.); † **web-footed** (Gabriel Harvey's pen'); † **web-lace** (see quot.); **web-lead**, sheet-lead; † **web-loom**, a weaver's loom; **web-machine**, **web-(perfecting) press**, a printing machine which is automatically supplied with paper from a roll or web (see 5); **web-plate** (see quot. 1908); **web-printing**, printing on a web-press; **web-saw**, a **frame-saw**; † **web-stand**, a folding tray-stand with a top composed of strips of webbing; **web-toed** *a.*, web-footed; **web-weaver**, in quots. applied to a spider; **web-wheel** (see quot. 1895); **web-work**, a tissue like that of a woven fabric; also *fig.*; **web-worked** *a.*, worked with cobweb; **web-worker**, a spider that spins a web; **web-worm** *U. S.*, a name for various lepidopterous larvæ which are more or less gregarious and spin large webs in which they feed or rest. Also Web-beam, -foot, -footed.

1788 Bard in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 362 Of these [children] 2 was †web-fingered. 1824 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 59 Prionotus Carolinus, Cuv., Web-fingered Grunter. 1832 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 137/1 He was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, as a duck. 1842 Penny *Cycl.* I. 73 Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 21 Prionotus carolinus...Web-fingered sea-robin; Carolina robin. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/2 As the web-frame is more delicate than the fork, the web will now be stretched across the former, with a certain amount of tension. 1898 Kipling *Day's Work* ii A huge web-frame by the main cargo-hatch. 1908 Parkin *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 81 Web-frames consist of strong plates fitted transversally to the frames to which they are riveted...They serve for extra strength at bilge of hold-beams, etc. 1440 *York Mem. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 78 That noon of the said craft shal make no cayes of †webb garn nother blew ne meld nor noon other colloure. 1861 Felton *Carriages* (ed. 2) II. 61 Gloss, *Web Lace*, a thick coarse kind of lace, mostly used for footman holders. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 Apr. 482/2 The casting of †web lead for 100ft. 1708–24 Tusser *Lit. Lect.* (1854) 134 This †web-like expansion of the ethereal strings. 1815 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* II. (1818) I. 31 The web-like nests [of the larva of *Bombyx chrysorrhœa*] which so often disfigure our trees. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 3/3 The silk Chantilly laces..are...very pretty and webbike. 1326 in Rock *Text. Kalend.* (1870) 96 Pro †webbones emptis, xxx. s. 1494 *Rec. Borough Nottingham* 27 Aug. II. 92 Appentiatores anius wollyn webbone cum uno cam et j. slay. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 16 Sept. 5/6 The splendid †web machines now in use. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Web machines*, cylindrical printing machines in which the paper is laid on by tapes. 1895 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, s.v. *Web Printing-machine*, The †web-press is a late improvement. *Ibid.*, A †web perfecting-press. 1897 *Harper's Mag.* July 176/1 The web perfecting press, containing two printing cylinders, printing both sides of the paper. 1898 *Schiller's Technol. Dict.* III. 111, *Web*, † *Web-plate* (Iron ship-b.).

**1908** Paasch *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 103 *Web-plate.* Term given to a plate of great breadth and thickness, as for instance to one forming a shifting-beam in a hatchway. **1890** W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 198 Printing from continuous paper is known as "web-printing"; "roll-printing" or "reel-printing". **1875** Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Web-saw. **1889** *Century Mag.* Jan. 418/2 The web-saw, the glue-pot, the plane, and the hammer are the principal tools used. **1837** *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 439 A large tray of glasses . . stood in the room on a *web stand. **1870** Bryant & Aut. 256 In some cases these folds extend far along, binding the digits together, and causing the person so affected to be what is called 'web-fingered' or "web-toed". **1884** Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 622 *Macrorhamphus.* Web-toed Snipe. **1550** Bale *Apol.* 15 b, It hath bene so handcled and tossed amonge the spyders *webbe weuers of Babylon . . that it is become moche larger both in length and bredthe than afore. **1826** Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xxxvii. 31 The instinct of a crippled spider so completely changed, that from a sedentary web-weaver it became a hunter. **1844** Knight *Dict. Mech., *Web-wheel*, a wheel in which the hub and rim are connected by a web or plate, which is sometimes intact and sometimes perforated. . . The term is applied in the manufactures to wheels with spokes. **1790** R. Merry *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 10 A *web-work of despair, a mass of woes. **1812** (see Venomed *ppl. a.* 2 c). **1862** Linton *Str. Story* II. 150 The man who dissects the webwork of tissues and nerves in the dead. **1874** J. T. Mogridge *Suppl. to Harvesting Ants* 200 A glutinized, *web-worked purse, about three inches long. **1858** Kow. and *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1071 All Net-workers, and *Web-workers amongst Spiders. **1841** T. W. Harris *Insects Inj. Vegetation* (1862) 337 The caterpillars known by the common name of fall *web-worms, whose large webs, may be seen on our native elms, and also on apple and other fruit trees, in the latter part of summer. **1883** *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 4/5 The webworm . . did considerable damage to the stands. **1856** Lodeman *Spraying of Plants* 256 Fall Web-worm (*Hyphantria cunea*). *Ibid.* 325 Web-worm (*Depressaria heraclitana*). *Ibid.* 351 Privet Web-worm (*Margaronia quadristigmalis*).

**Web** (web), *v.* [OE. *webbian*, f. Web *sb.* All the senses after 1 are new derivatives from the sb.]

1. *trans.* To weave (a fabric) in the loom. ? *Obs.* In OE. only in fig. phr. *wroht webbian*, to devise a (false) accusation.

*c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webbon, or webbe clothe of lynnyn, *linifico*. **1449** in Hulme & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1910) II. 285 Providinge alwey that the clopinge be webbed be the avyse of the said wardeyns. **1512–18** *Act 3 Hen. VIII* c. 6 § 1 The Statute whereby shall have the weaving of eny wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. **1530** Palsgr. 778/2, I webbe a clothe, *Je contrit.* I have nat yerne ynough to webbe my clothe with all. **1809** J. Hanley *Calumet*, II. 513 Her sprightly mind & various genius had for the present design'd; And here she seeks the wool to web the fleece. **1850** *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Web*, to weave.

† 2. *intr.* Of a spider: To spin its web. *nonce-use. Obs.*

*a* **1604** Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 195 The roofe of Westminster Hall, where no English Spider webbeth or breedeth to this day.

3. *trans.* To cover with (spider's or caterpillar's) web; to weave a web upon.

**1853** *Zoologist* XI. 4044 The canker-worm . . forms itself a house by webbing the corner of a leaf.

b. *transf.* To cover as with a web or fine network. **1895** *Forum* (N.Y.) Jan., Continents were being ribbed with railways, the atmosphere was being webbed with telegraph wires. **1905** P. Landon *Lhasa* I. 361 An exquisite head-dress in which the hair surrounding . . was barely recognizable under the strings and riggings of pearls which webbed the whole thing.

c. To stretch threads of spider's web across (a micrometer, etc.).

**1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/1 Method of Webbing the Filar Micrometer. The webbing of a micrometer is a process that should be familiar to all practical astronomers. **1890** W. F. Stanley *Surv. & Levelling Instrum.* 50 It is a somewhat delicate process to web a diaphragm. . The webs are taken from a rather small or young garden spider. *Ibid.* 100 The diaphragm of the inclined form of the Y-level is generally webbed with plain cross webs.

4. To entangle or envelop in, or as in, a (spider's) web. Also with *round*.

**1662** Webster *Wks* 1/2 Not to unite or surround with a web, or as if with a web; to envelop; to entangle. **1901** *Fun* 20 Apr. 189/2 A peasant kills a giant spider who has webbed a fly. **1907** *Black Cat* Jan. 206 The girl was ready when again they [*sc.* wolves] webbed her round, each trumpet-mouthed with his own hunting cry. She lashed out.

5. To connect (fingers, toes, etc.) with a web or membrane. Also with *together*.

**1730** Gouldm. *Mod. Artist.* VI. 39 Nature..by broad skins, has webbed their toes together. **1890** W. P. Ball *Effects of Use & Disuse* 147 Use-inheritance..aids in webbing the feet of water-dogs, but fails to web the feet of the water-hen.

b. To imprint with the marks of web-feet. *nonce-use.*

**1866** Howells *Venetian Life* xiv. 203 The ground was webbed with the feet of geese.

† **Webb, webbe.** *Amer. Indian. Obs.* [perh. obs. Algonkin.] (See quota.)

**1634** W. Wood *New Englands Prospect* Nomencl. O 3 b, *Webb*, a wipe. **1638** Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 20 The Indian Webbes make use of the hairs & teeth of the Fawns to hang about their Childrens Neck when they are breeding of their Teeth. *Ibid.* 62 One Christopher Luxe..was healed again by an Indian Webb, or Wife, (for so they call those Women that have Husbands). **1676** I. Mather *War with Indians* 28 A party of English came in a Warlike posture with some of their Webbs (as they call them) *i. e.* Women, as they were gathering corn.

† **Webbe.** *Obs.* Also 5 web. [ME. *webbe* represents (1) OE. *webba* masc.; (2) OE. *webbe* fem. (only in *freoduwebbe* peace-weaver, woman);

OTeut. types **wabjan-*, *-ōn-*, *i.* **wab-*: **wab-* : see Weave *v.* The word survives in the surnames *Webb, Webbe.*]

1. A male weaver.

*c* **1200** in Wr.-Wülcker 188/10 *Textor*, webba. *a* **1327** *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 188 The webbes ant the fullaris assembleden hem alle. *c* **1386** Chaucer *Prol.* 362 A Webbe, a Dyere, and a Tapycer. **1389** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 12 Johanni de Bokkyngham, webbe, civi Londoniensi. **1393** Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 204 Theos eremytes . . Whilom were webbes, webbes and taillours. *c* **1400** tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 99 Somm hat assemblyd yn a toune, & herberd hem yn a webbe hous, to whom pat nyght a child was born. **1403** *Will of John Oxtiref* (Somerset Ho.), Johanni Anketell Webbe de Sarum.

b. In gen. sing. or plur. (OE. *webban, webbena*), with *light* and *loom*.

**1346** *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 3 Si aliquod instrumentum textoris, videlicet Webanium [*sic*] de novo fiat. *Ibid. a.* **1403** *Will of Ralph Style* (Somerset Ho.), Lego ad lumen beate marie vocatum Webben lyȝt xiid.

2. A female weaver, a webster.

**1377** Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 215 My wyf was a webbe and wolde fayne worche. *a* **1425** *Cursor M.* 1503 (Trin.) She was be formast web [*Cott.* webster] in kynde þat men of þat crafte did fynde.

**Web-beam.** [Cf. OHG. *weppi-, weppe-, webbaum*, mod.G. *webebaum*.] The roller in a loom on which the web is wound as it is woven.

*c* **1100** in Wr.-Wülcker 187/11 *Liciatorium*, lorh, uel webbeam. *Ibid.* 188/4 *Insubula*, webbeamas. **14..** *Ibid.* 656/19 *Hoc licciatorium* [sic], a webbene. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 835/2 From this opening the web passes to the knee-roll or web-beam, round which it is rolled by means of the spokes.

**Webbed** (webd), *ppl. a.* [f. Web *sb.* + -ed 2.]

1. Furnished with a web or connecting membrane; *esp.* of the feet of certain birds.

**1664** Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 5 The Common Fly..her wings look like a Sea-fan with black thick ribs or fibers, dispers'd and branch'd among them, which are webb'd between with a thin membrane or film, like a slice of Muscovy-glasse. **1678** Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. iii. 302 Such Birds as have all four toes webb'd together. **1773** Pennant *Genera of Birds* p. xl, The toes of birds that swim are either plain,.. or pinnated,.. or entirely webbed or palmated. **1816** Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* II. (1818) 47 Three toes full webbed, the fourth free. **1851** Richardson & Woodward *Birds of Arms* (except the ventral pair), webbed high up. **1859** Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1873) 142 What can be plainer than that the web-footed birds of marshes and the open sea should be formed for swimming?

b. *Path.* Having a 'web' as a congenital malformation. See Web *sb.* 8 b.

**1869** E. J. Chance *Bodily Deform.* 1. 86 The Fingers or Toes may be more or less webbed together. **1876** T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 Webbed fingers and toes are another common deformity. **1913** Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Penis*, *Webbed penis*, a penis that is inclosed by the skin of the scrotum.

c. *Machinery.* In various uses: see Web *sb.* 14.

**1794** *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 154 Sheaves..are made.. of iron, with a brass cock, either open or webbed. **1913** J. B. Bishop *Panama Gateway* vi. 56 Each [lock gate] is a huge webbed steel box, the girders of which are covered with a steel sheathing.

2. Connected with, or as with, cobweb. In *Bot.* = Cobwebbed 2.

**1810** *Splendid Follies* I. 110 The tender blades of trefoil were still webbed in silvery gossamer. **1882** Thornbury *Turner* I. 62 There were skies of an orange yellow, skies webbed with grey showers. **1870** Hooker *Stud. Flora* 191 Cardiuus crispus..involucre webbed. **1905** E. T. Thurston *Zenith* 28 Only beyond the gardens, whose isolated poplars stood out, webbed, against the leaden colour of the sky.

† **Webber.** *Obs.* Also 5 **webbare.** [f. Web *v.* + -er 1.] A weaver.

*c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Loome of webbarys crafte (*v.r.* of webbers craft), *textorium*. *Ibid.* 519/2 Webbare of lynnyn clothe, *linificus*. *c* **1515** *Cocke Lorelles B.* (Percy Soc.) 9 Gyrdelers, forborers, and webbers.

**Webbing** (we·bing), *vbl. sb.* [f. Web *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action or process of weaving. ? *Obs.*

*c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webbynge, of wullyn clothe, *linificium*..Webbynge, of lynnyne, *linificium*. **1463–4** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 501/2 Without dyversite in webbyng, fullyng, kerseyyng and lustryng. **1483** Walpole *Acts Tercent.* 3 Wyth woll and webbyng weren wont to gete their lyvynge. **1558** in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1897) XII. 439 Which yerely fee ferme was paid so long as webbyng in the said citie was used. **1562** Phaer *Æneid* IX. E 1 b, Webbing wasting tyme to eas thereby myne aged care [*stela curas solabar anilis*]. **1697** J. Watts *Scribe* etc. Author's Epist. 3 Weaving, webbing, and follow your own businesses of spinning and webbing.

2. *concr.* A woven material.

**1754** Pococke *Trav.* (Camden) II. 15 Welch Webbings.. a thick woollen stuff, of which the Soldiers' clothing is chiefly made. **1883** *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/6 In elastic webbings there is no improvement in the trade for gussets [of boots]. **1894** *Irish Fabrics Catal.* 84/1 Webbing made of reed and used in substitution of fir-lathing.

b. Woven material in the form of a strong wide band, used by upholsterers and others. Also *attrib.* in *webbing belt, tape.*

**1794** Girth-webbing [see Girth-web]. **1796** *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 76 A chain, webbing, strap or line, is applied on the ledge on the face of the wheel. **1833** Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 632 A box footstool. The top is formed of an outside frame, on which is stretched strong webbing, for the purpose of supporting the stuffing above. **1858** Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Webbing tape*, a kind of broad tape. **1883** *Manch. Exam.* 5 May 5/2 A broad band of Turcoman webbing of extremely fine texture. **1888** Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *Webbing*, a term for the wider tapes of a printing machine; also applied to the girthing used for running in and out the carriage of hand-presses. **1916** *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 548/2 Trench coat, rifle, bayonet, webbing belts [etc.].

3. Material for a (spider's) web. ? *nonce-use.*

**1883** G. Macdonald *Princess & Curdie* xxvii, A huge spider,.. which, having made an excellent supper, was full of webbing.

**4.** = Falmation 2. Also *Pair.*, a webbed state of the fingers or toes.

**1879** Eichelberg *Surg.* (ed. 6) II. 298 Webbing of the Fingers is occasionally met with. **1888** *Med. Press* 18 July 59/2 In the feet..the webbing is less thick and complete than in the hands, the terminal phalanges being separate from each other. **1894** *Century Mag.* Jan. 353/2 As the palmation, or webbing [of the larger mosaic's antlers], is not so wide as in the first variety, the points are longer.

**Webby** (we·bi), *a.* [f. Web *sb.* + -y.]

1. Consisting of web; resembling web or a web.

**1661** Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 289 The Caeruleous [Spider] causeth a paine of heart, deep sleep and vomiting of a webby matter. **1768–74** Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 396 They delight to..entangle the feeble and webby filaments. **1854** Lady Lytton *Behind the Scenes* I. i. iv. 194 His gloves were..of some webby elastic texture. **1904** E. Nesbit *Phœnix & Carpet* x. 185 The little girl dare in the middle of the carpet was all open and webby like a fishing-net.

2. Of the digits: Furnished with a web, palmated. Also *fig.* of a person.

**1857** Chambers *Pop. Rec.* I. 381 Bats on their webby wings in darkness move. **1861** G. H. K[ingsley] in F. Galton *Vacation Tourists* iv. 165, I am of so fishy and webby a nature, that I take to the water at once. **1895** *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 2/1 If I have not pointed eyes or webby fingers, [etc.]

**Weber** (vē·bər), *Wēbər*). *Electr.* Also weber. [After the German physicist Wilhelm *Weber* (1804–91).] A name (now disused) for the unit of electrical quantity (now Coulomb) and the unit of electrical current (now Ampère).

**1876** Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 3 The unit quantity of electricity in general use has been called a *weber*. **1879** G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 469 In the weber current and the electro-motive force..we have the data for comparing the work of these machines. **1881** *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 405 The current produced by a Volt acting through an Ohm . . is called a Weber. **1891** in *Trans. Amer. Inst. Elec. Engs. Arts* XXX. 32/1 To tear away a single gramme of hydrogen from the oxygen with which it is combined requires no less than 95,060 webers (Coulombs) to flow through. **1893** J. Swinburne *Trans. Electr. Engrs.* 18 The coulomb has taken the place of the weber as unit of quantity, and the ampère is used instead of the weber-per-second as unit of current.

**Weberian** (wĕbi·ĕrĭăn), *a.* [f. name of E. H. *Weber* (1795–1833), a German anatomist + -ian.] *Weberian corpuscle* or *organ*, a tubular vesicle in the prostatic portion of the urethra. *Weberian ossicles*, a chain of small bones between the ear and the air-bladder in certain fishes; *Weberian apparatus*, the set of structures, including the ossicles, which connect the air-bladder with the ear.

**1849–52** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1415/2 The Weberian organ or corpuscle. **1889** *Amer. Naturalist* May 407 Hypophthalmus possesses an air-bladder connected with the auditory organ by intervention of the Weberian apparatus formed of parts of the anterior vertebræ. **1889** *Trans. Roy. Soc.* 20 June 309 The Air-bladder and Weberian Ossicles in the Silurida.

**Web-foot.** [See Web *sb.* 8.]

1. A foot with webbed toes. Also, the condition of being web-footed.

**1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325 *note*, It was common to see a fenman was an amphibious creature; and that their children were born with a web-foot. **1777** *Monit. Brit. Zool.* IV. 5 This is among the species taken notice of by Aristotle on account of the webbed feet, which, he says, assist them in swimming: it is called the web-foot. **1884** J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1890) 64 If it dive, it will generally have a hull-shaped body, short legs, and web-feet.

2. A bird or other animal having web-feet.

**1895** *Funk's Stand. Dict.* **1911** Webster.

3. a. A nickname for a dweller in the Fens. ? *Obs.* b. A native of the State of Oregon. So called on account of the moist climate.

**1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325 I would fain rouse up the spirits of some of my brother webfeet. [*Note.*] This is a contemptuous term given to fenmen. **1893** J. H. Beadle *Undeveloped West* xxxv. 595 Everybody and everything we saw had the unmistakable 'Oregon look'. We were among the 'Web-feet' at last, and a comely race they are. **1875** *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 The inhabitants of Alabama are Lizards:..Oregon, Hard-cases or Web-feet.

**Web-footed,** *a.* Having web-feet.

**1681** Grew *Museum* I. § iv. lii. 69 Web-footed Fowl or Palmipedes. **1748** P. Thomas *Voy. S. Sea* 337 Flat-gunns. ..The Legs are..Web-footed like a Goose. **1774** Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 191 It [the capibara] is in a manner web-footed. **1818** Keats *Endym.* IV. 245 Web-footed deep creators. **1852** Marryat *Lond. Labour* (1860) II. 232/1 One of these men..was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, and partially web-fingered. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 359/1 Platypus..is of aquatic habits, being web-footed.

Hence **Web-foo·tedness** (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

**Webless** (we·blĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Web *sb.* + -less.] Not furnished with a web.

**1898** Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* II. v. [iv.], O'er still and webless looms The listless craftsmen through their elf-locks scowled.

**Webster** (we·bstəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 2 **webbestre**, 4 **web(b)ester**, **webiater**, 4–5 **webstere**, 5 **webstar**, 6 **wyebster**, 3– **webster**;

*Sc.* 5-6 webster, 6-7 webster, 6- webster. [OE. *webbestre*, fem. of *webba* weaver, WEBBE: see -STER.] A weaver: a. as the designation of a woman.

*c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 188/11 *Textrix*, webbestre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1523 Sco bad he forbeid webster pat man findes o bat mister. *a* 1375 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 330 Anota Milner, Webster, etc. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 795/8 *Hec textrix*, a webster.

b. extended, or applied *spec.*, to a male weaver. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 99 Wollene webesteres [1377 B. Prol. 219 Wollewebesteres, 1393 C. 1. 222 Webbesters] and weuenis of lynen. 1379 *Pollitas W. Riding in Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 14 Thomas Webester...Webster vj *d. Ibid.* 15 Johannes Clerke...Webester vj *d.* 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his speer was as the beem of websters. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1189 Wrighters, websters, walkers of cloithe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webstar (or webestre), *textor, textrix*. 1467/9 *Ord. Worcester* § 17 in *Eng. Gilds* 383 Sqynners, websters, dyers, sharmen, and other laborers or artificers apperteynynge to the same [i. e. cloth-making]. 1493 in *Rep. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1550-1, 219/2 The best and worthiest of the haile craft of the webstaris within the burgh. 1538 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4106 Find me ane Webster that is leill, Or ane Walker that will nocht steill. 1573-80 TURBER *Husb.* (1878) 32 Sell wolster thy wull. 1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 160 The wooll of Istria and Liburnia, which if it were not for the spinning in Portugall, and the web-stern Art thereupon, it were no better then haire. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts & Inf. in Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 199 That the webster's ell be 3 feet 4 inches, or 40 inches long, on which only unscoured cloth is measured. 1792 BURNS *Wilkie Wastle dwalt on Tweed* 1. Willie was a webster guid, Cou'd stown a clew wi' ony bodie. 1841 GEM. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) VI. 12 Is it likely that it is only because the websters and hosiers do not set about it themselves? 1847 H. S. RIDDELL *Poems* 104 The websters weary at their looms, Maun still at them be thruming. 1892 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, Tod was a webster to his trade.

c. *attrib.*, as *webster beam, loom.*

1334-5 *Leicester Borough Rec.* (1901) II. 17 Webstere bem. 1509 *Canc. 4 Chashire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 152 Webster Lomes.

d. *appositive.*

*a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlviii. 43 A weid...Weill wrocht in the wowis of websteir gyrnis I trow. 1721 RAMSAY *Elegy on Patie Birnie* xi, A crishy Webster Lodia. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* ix, An' there, a batch o' webster lads, Blackguarding frae Kilmarnock. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi. A quite webster body. 1880 DOUGLAS-*Arabia Deserta* I. 225 Good webster-wives weave in white borders made of their sheep's wool.

**†Websterite** (we'bstərait). *Min.* [Named in 1822 after T. *Webster*, who discovered it: see -ITE.] A synonym of ALUMINITE.

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 452. 1837 DANA *Min.* 450. 1868 J. PHILLIPS *Mem. Geol.* 386.

**†Webstery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WEBSTER + -Y.] Goods made by a webster: woven materials.

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 7 They do sell none of their silkes there by the yard, neither any other kinde of webstrie...but by the waight. *Ibid.* 368 There is also great store of flaxe, cotton, and other kinde of webstrie.

**†Wecche,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 weccan, 3 wecche, 4 wechoche. *Pa. t.* 3 wehte, wehte, 3-4 weiȝt(e), 4 wight. [OE. *weccan* = OHG. *wecchen* (mod.G. *wecken*), ON. *vekja*, Goth. (*us-*) *wakjan*, I. root **wak-*: see WAKE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To rouse from sleep. (Cf. AWECCHED. 1.)

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lxiv. 461 Se ðe hine...arærð ðonne he crawan wille, herð up his hiðru, & wecð hine selfne. *a* 900 *Crist* 887 (Gr.) Englas ælbeorhte on eðen hlywað hyrnan on heahnesse, hwonne hi deaðes dryhtgumem bearn. *c* 1205 LAY. 798 Ohtliche heom mæðen & wecchen heom of slepa. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 446 That hi ne weiȝte nout the [sleeping] fisches, leste hi here schip breke. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2093 We ssulle ssarie us wiȝte. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1628 Thous [he] the king bigan to wechche, And saide, 'Sire, vp ! wit is dai !'

2. To stir up, excite (e. g. wind, fire, passion, strife). (Cf. AWECCHE *v.* 2.)

*Beowulf* 2046 Onginneð zeomormod zeongum campan...wixbealu wecenan. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 268 Forþon Dalfinus hyfde onzyrcnes windas wecende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Nis þeos þurhfuhl to wecchen lust þeo to. *Ibid.* 161 [The devil] wecchеð among hem ðite and win. *c* 1205 LAY. 16216 Þe wind wæht [*c* 1275 wehte] þat fur þat hit wunderliche barn.

**Wech(e,** obs.ff. WATCH, WHICH, WITCH, WYCH.

**Wechesafe,** obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

**Wecht, Wechty,** Sc. ff. WEIGHT, WEIGHTY.

**Weck,** obs. form of WEAK *a.*, WICK.

**Weckid,** -it, obs. forms of WICKED.

**Wed** (wed), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 1, 4 **wedd,** 3-6 **wedde,** (5 **wedd**), 5-9 *Sc.* **wad,** (5 **wadd**), 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **waed**; 7 **wade.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *wedd* neut. = OFris. *wed* neut., pledge, covenant, OS. *weddi* neut., pledge (MLG. *wedde* pledge, wager, etc.), (M)Du. *wedde* fem., wages, OHG. *wetti* neut. (MHG. *wette*, *wet* neut., fem., pledge, wager, etc., mod.G. *wette* fem., wager), ON. *veð* neut., pledge (MSw. *vaþ* neut., pledge, wager, Sw. *vad* neut., wager), Goth. *wadi* neut., earnest-money, pledge :—OTeut. **wadjo-m*, cogn. w. l. *vadem* (*vas*) masc., surety (whence *vadimonium* bail). Lith. *wadinti* to redeem a pledge. The OTeut. word was adopted in the Rom. langs.: see GAGE *sb.*[1], WAGE *sb.*]

1. A pledge, something deposited as security for a payment or the fulfilment of an obligation; sometimes of a person, a hostage.

*a* 1122 *O. K. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016, & heora freondscipe ber zeðeastnodon, ȝe mid wedde ge mid aþe. *a* 1205 *Ancr. R.* 304 Ne salleð me him ben god feolawe þet leið his wed ine Giwerie uorto acwiten ut his fere? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6798 If þat þou...O pur man tas wedd o cloth Yeil[d] again bat cloth...Ad sun ga dun þai bi dal. *a* 1340 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He hath hewe sum wher a burthen of breire, therefore sum hay-ward hath taken ye wed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 244, I lerned amonge Lumbardes and lewes a lessoun...to legge a wedde and lese it. 1380 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xviii. 7 He shal ȝeelde the wed [Vulg. *pignus*] to the dettour. *c* 1380 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 91 And qwo-so come after prime be ameten, he shal pay ȝd. or leye a wed. 1436 *E. R. Wills* (1882) 107 Item I wolle that the prioresse & the house of Chesshunt haue freely theire Weddys ayen without any mony payenge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Wedde, or thynge leyyd yn plegge, *vadium, pignus*. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 155 And he nother his heires shuld never seke wedd of the forsaide dunnyr or of her assignes. 1458 *Forman's Munimt. Christ's Hosp., Abingdon* 70 For now is Culham hithe i com to an ende,...Few folke there be now abide that way wende, But they waged a wed or payed of her purse. *a* 1500 in *Arnold's Chron.* (1811) 18 Yf any man of our landis...take any tolle or custume of the burgeis of Gaunt ouer the wyse than they shuld the Sheresfe of London shall take wed of hem at London. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sagis* Prol. iii, My buke to borrow greitlie echo did Inquyre, Ane wed thairfoir scho said scho wald doun ley. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (1888) I. 67 Ane man hes borrowed and lent, he giving and receaving of ane wad. *Ibid., Stat. Alex. II*, 18 And gif he may not gise wades...he sall remanis in the...presone, quhill he haue payed the pleyntyis quhilk he promised. 1776 *Herd's Sc. Songs* II. Gloss., *Wad* or *wed*, pledge, wager, pawn. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv, I thought the yeld Morris looked shrink quean when I determined he should remain a wad, or hostage, for my safe back-coming.

b. *fig.*, or in reference to staking one's life (cf. 2 c, 4).

*c* 1300 *Spend.* 102 þis adopcion is noe weddes ase sayþ asynte paul hueriby we lyþ zikers bet we ssolle habbe be eritage of our auhte. (Cf. Vulgate *pignus*, Eph. i. 14.) 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 214 Ich wil be bi-knowe...Ich wil be no wed. I durste haue I-leid my fyf, and no lasse wed. He bedde beo lord of pat lond. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Scipcian*) 602 For oure wed he vpholde [true] was he ouer alle leuid schede, & for ws put nane vthir wed. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 309 And he so grucche or grone, ȝeynes her grette wrong, May lese her lyff lyghtly, and no lesse wedde. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3164 Ne I shall pem lyvyn I swere. *c* 1530 *Ord. Kel. & L. Poems* (1903) 59 He that lawith at a mynstrels worde, geyith to hym a wedde.

†2. A stake in a game or wager. Also *fig.* † *To lay wed*: to wager (cf. 2 c).

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 320 Now bob e her wedde lye, And pilay bai biginne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 488 Lat Symone one fer stande fra pe bede, And ȝe sal se, I lay wede, pe feindis craft sone ouer-come. 1536 *Rec. Leet Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 178 He harde the Kynge say...that He trestyd to gett that proffett that never Kynge of Scottes had, and He shulde offer hym for the same xx*li.* of hym the best wed He had to leysse. 1865 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Yow Trees* 166 It is a dear wade, when your Life lies upon last Stake. 1870 BESANT *Children of Gibeon* I. 1. Wage or pawn; a word still retained in the Country sport, called *Pray my Lord a course in your park*. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 19 A Wad is a Fools Argument. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Before they proceed to any further step, after but disputing, we offer to lay a Wager that we are in the Right. 1820 SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. F. IV.* Gloss., *Wadds*, a youthful amusement, wherein much use is made of pledges. 1828 JAMIESON, *Wadds*...In this game, the wadds being equally divided...each lays down one or more *wads* or pledges at that extremity where the party, to which he belongs, chuse their station. The wadds are then laid on an equal distance from the extremities, the object is to carry off the *wadds* from the one of these to the other.

†3. A gage of battle. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8404 Þay xx non hede of þeyr grete host, for wel ȝe wot þei ar bot host,...for hem our wed schal nought be leued. *c* 1425 in *Kingsford Chron. London* (1905) 54 This shall I preve with my body, and so here my wedde ; and threwe florth his hode.

†4. *Comb.* (all *Obs.*): **wed-bed,** the marriage bed; **wedbedrip** *Law*, some kind of BEDRIP (the force of *wed-* is uncertain); **wed-breach,** breach of covenant (*O.E.*), adultery; **wed-break** [as if OE. **wedbræc*], an adulterer; **wed-breker** [cf. ON. *veðbrótar*], a sworn brother; **wed-fee,** a wager, the prize in a contest; **wed-fere,** a spouse; **wed-keeper,** a stakeholder; **wedman,** a married man; *pl.* married people; **wed-shooting** (*Sc. wad-*), shooting for a prize; **wed-spite** *nonce-wd.* = SPITE-WED.

In the later instances referring to marriage prob. directly associated with WED *v.*

*a* 1250 *Old Robin* 9 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 235 They had not in their *wed bed laid, scarcly were both on sleepe, but vp shee rose. 1598 W. TYMME tr. *Hondius' Hist.* 267 Those priests the wed-bed who renounce. *c* 1398 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) I. 575 Et debet unam *wedbedripp per voluntate dominæ. *c* 1000 *Æthelstan Hom.* xxxii. (1883) 164 Eac sy[n]dan wide...þurh aðbryczan and ðurh *wedbrycas and ðurh mislice leasunga forloren and forlogen. 1638 W. LIGON *Heliodorus* ii. 99 This crime of wed-breach. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlii. 18 If...with *wedbrek [Vulg. *cum adulteris*] þi dele þou sete. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Conan begen þa cyninges to gædre..& wurdon feolazan & *wed broðra. *c* 1205 LAY. 14469 Send after mine sune Octa & after...Ebissa his wed-broðer. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 905 He tok wit him anoþer þat was hornes wed broþer. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (Abbotsf. Club)

it to wed, was degradit of auctorite, and banist, as unworthy creature, out of their campany. 1580 in *Bth Reg. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 6/470 Layd in wed to Maister Robert Haychartoon...in pledge of twe thousand pundis thir jowells after following. 1873 in *Inventaires de la Reyne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. clii, All that was lefte of the iuelles unlayde to wed. 1897 J. S. *Cat. MS. Poems, Way to Thrift* F 6, And bay to wed both pot and panne When the fire clean is blowne out. 17.. *Drinker Wyfe o' Gallowa* v. in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 39 My Sunday's coat she has laid it a wad.

†5. *fig.* Often, *to lay one's life, head, to wad*, used to confirm or guarantee an assertion or an undertaking (cf. 4). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Þus Halzan Gastes, se was of heofenum ousended, to wedde þæs heofonlican ælðes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16670 Þare he gaf his suete flesche for ur ransceun in wedd. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 246 Sith Adam of Stratton fulle hard was he led, Nouht without encheson, I lay my gloue to wed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xvii. 31 Lyf seyth pat he likth and leyth his lif to wedde, pat [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 433 Herby pei myȝte ȝyue mennis ȝyftes, and laye hor soules in wedde, pat oper mennis soules shulde be saued. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 95 And thus his trowthe he leith to wedde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Skeat) 5830 Thei...profreden here hedes to wedde, but ȝif it wolde faile as thei seyden. *c* 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (Galba) 200 Pairs carping þare no thing þou haue þou ne maiste finde in wel. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* viii. xxix. (1554) 194 b, The sword of Arthur he durst not abide, Lest he should lay his lyfe to wed. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 56, I dar lay my heede to wed, Or that we go vntill owre dede, That we shall here anothere. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 633 Sit felle Sothron left the lyff to wed. *Ibid.* ix. 1209 My hed to wed, Lochlewyn he past to se. *a* 1500 in *Child Ballads* V. (1895) 247 A leche hath layd hys hed to wed To make a plaster that wolde me please. *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* C j, I warraunt you she wyll inuyte saye you meye lyfe lyth & dare laye to wedde.

†6. *To lie or be to or in wed* : to be in pawn. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 360 Lat hym be war, his nekke lith to wedde. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 146 For in London lyth to wedde many ryche lewellys of ours. 1497 *Rec. Leet. High Treas. Scot.* I. 345 Item..giffin to the Prothonotar, to quit out the Duke of Yorkis broune bore that lay in wed in the toune, xiij lib. *c* 1500 *Melusine* (1895) 167 He may rynse a pycher, for his plate is to wed. 1556-7 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 3 The forsaid pece of land wes lyand to hyrne in wed of ane layre to wedde.

†3. Something taken or left that serves as evidence. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4402 Bot for mi cri ful suith he [Joseph] fled And left wit me a taken wedd [*Gött.* a tokin in wedd]; His mantel as tikell wit me, þat lift him ware he went see. *Ibid.* 7706 Fra þe kings aun bedd þus he [*sc.* David] brought a prist wedd.

4. A stake in a game or wager. Also *fig.* † *To lay wed* : to wager (cf. 2 c).

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 320 Now bob e her wedde lye, And pilay bai biginne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 488 Lat Symone one fer stande fra þe bede, And ȝe sal se, I lay wede, þe feindis craft sone ouer-come. 1536 *Rec. Leet Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 178 He harde the Kynge say...that He trestyd to gett that proffett that never Kynge of Scottes had, and He shulde offer hym for the same xx*li.* of hym the best wed He had to leysse. 1865 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Yow Trees* 166 It is a dear wade, when your Life lies upon last Stake. 1870 BESANT *Children of Gibeon* I. 1. Wage or pawn; a word still retained in the Country sport, called *Pray my Lord a course in your park*. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 19 A Wad is a Fools Argument. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Before they proceed to any further step, after but disputing, we offer to lay a Wager that we are in the Right. 1820 SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. F. IV.* Gloss., *Wadds*, a youthful amusement, wherein much use is made of pledges. 1828 JAMIESON, *Wadds*...In this game, the wadds being equally divided...each lays down one or more *wads* or pledges at that extremity where the party, to which he belongs, chuse their station. The wadds are then laid on an equal distance from the extremities, the object is to carry off the *wadds* from the one of these to the other.

†5. A gage of battle. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8404 Þay xx non hede of þeyr grete host, for wel ȝe wot þei ar bot host,...for hem our wed schal nought be leued. *c* 1425 in *Kingsford Chron. London* (1905) 54 This shall I preve with my body, and so here my wedde ; and threwe florth his hode.

†6. *Comb.* (all *Obs.*): **wed-bed,** the marriage bed; **wedbedrip** *Law*, some kind of BEDRIP (the force of *wed-* is uncertain); **wed-breach,** breach of covenant (*O.E.*), adultery; **wed-break** [as if OE. **wedbræc*], an adulterer; **wed-breker** [cf. ON. *veðbrótar*], a sworn brother; **wed-fee,** a wager, the prize in a contest; **wed-fere,** a spouse; **wed-keeper,** a stakeholder; **wedman,** a married man; *pl.* married people; **wed-shooting** (*Sc. wad-*), shooting for a prize; **wed-spite** *nonce-wd.* = SPITE-WED.

In the later instances referring to marriage prob. directly associated with WED *v.*

*a* 1250 *Old Robin* 9 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 235 They had not in their *wed bed laid, scarcly were both on sleepe, but vp shee rose. 1598 W. TYMME tr. *Hondius' Hist.* 267 Those priests the wed-bed who renounce. *c* 1398 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) I. 575 Et debet unam *wedbedripp per voluntate dominæ. *c* 1000 *Æthelstan Hom.* xxxii. (1883) 164 Eac sy[n]dan wide...þurh aðbryczan and ðurh *wedbrycas and ðurh mislice leasunga forloren and forlogen. 1638 W. LIGON *Heliodorus* ii. 99 This crime of wed-breach. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlii. 18 If...with *wedbrek [Vulg. *cum adulteris*] þi dele þou sete. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Conan begen þa cyninges to gædre..& wurdon feolazan & *wed broðra. *c* 1205 LAY. 14469 Send after mine sune Octa & after...Ebissa his wed-broðer. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 905 He tok wit him anoþer þat was hornes wed broþer. *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (Abbotsf. Club)

263 We beth wed brethren and trewthe plight. *c1400 Brut* (1906) 220 O pow false traitoure! haste pow my trowe wed-broper slayn for cause of me? *c1440 Alphon. Arth.* 2, Butte carpe we now of ther other thinge, How thay prayed hire *wedde-fee* 1504-5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas Scot* III 228 Item, to Dande Doule, that the King tynt on ane wedfee, xxvij*s.* *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Person* iii 7 Sleep na mair in sleuth and sin, Bot ruthfully rin That hevenly wedfie for to win Whilk he prepairs for him. 1620 in A Maxwell *Hist Old Dundee* (1884) 408 [He] past in the hands of Thomas Scot twa double-angels of gold upon ane woodine betwix himself and Alexander Hering 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let to Alex Gordon* 16 June, It is folly then for men to say, this is not Christ's plea, he will pass the wed fee, men are like to beguile him that were indeed a strange play 23 *Ye Bewes* (4) 2166, I trowe, he is nought now here, pat schel be me *wedde-fee* 1792 R BURNS *Scots Wha* Liv C 4 b, For as to this conscience, it is a faithfull *wed-keeper*; the gages that it receiveth, it randers *c1560 Implevit Ajst* in 1200 Ma the wyfe bert vpfis, To ze ab dis stryfis *wedmen emong Ibid* xiii 63, We ne'ly wolmen dre mekyll wo *c1475 Pict Voc* in Wr Wülcker 806/22 *Hic sponsor*, *a wedde Statut Acc Scot II* 229 Many animale themselves with shooting for prizes, called here *wad shooting. *c1560 SIR I SMITH in Strype *Life* (1618) App 24 You may well be called by Agamus or Misogamus, surnamed in right heigh *Wedspuse* or *spuswed*? 1598 I never heard Man speak so despitefully against Wedding and Marriage of the Queens Majesty in my Life

**Wed** (wed), *v.* Inflected forms (also **wed**), **wedding.** Forms 1 **weddian**, 2–3 **weddenn**, 3–4 **weddenn**, **weddi**, -*y*, 3–5 **wedd**, (4 **wed**, 5 **weede**, **wid**, **weddon**), 3–6 **wedde**, 8–9 *Sc.* **wad**, 4– **wed**. [Com. Teut.: OE *weddian* corresponds to OFris. *weddia*, MLG. *wedden*, OHG. *wettôn* (MHG., mod G. *wetten*), to pledge, wager, ON. *veðja* to pledge, Goth. *ga-wadjôn* to espouse (*ἀρραβ(ων)ιάω*):—OTeut **wadjoyan*, f. **wadjo-m* Wed *sb.*

The form *wed* in the pa t is now only dialectal; in the pa ppl it is common *dial* but otherwise rare exc. in poetry.]

†**1.** *intr.* To engage, covenant (to do something). Only OE. (Const. *genitive* or *to* with gerundial inf.)

*a* 900 *Lawa Æthelstan* (Liebermann) 3, [If] lawa and ure wedniße, ßonne cume he [etc.] *c* 2000 *Ags Gosp* Luke xxii 5 And hiz him weddedon feoh to syllenne

**2.** *trans.* To wager, stake (e g money, one's life, one's head). *Obs. exc.* as in 3.

1382 LANGL *P Pl A* vii 129 And yif pou worchest hit in wil ich wedde bobe myn Eres Put lawe schal ben a laborer 1393 *Hist C.* iii 56 My lyf i-lik to stande, He shal lese for hem pese a lappe of Cresse and a lyttel pyk-thonge *c* 1430 *Chev Assigne* 6 & pat dare I my hedde wedde 1560 *Pedlex Burgh Rec.* (18 2) 262 Steve Robesone wedde ten merkis of money ageanes the sydi tar barrell, I sudd it be ane barrell full the said king of Swane *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn* xlvi 8 Sum doutt I se who first my wedfie wins, for I will wed ane supple and a nute 1786 BURNS *Cursing Clerk's Prayer* xv, Or Faith! I'll wad my new pleugh, pettle, Yell see t or lang 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* xxxvi, I'll wad ye a pluck as we say 11 the n rth, that you get the pardon from the king 1843 in *J Doubleday's report of Duke Hamilton's Trial* 1852 I've wad a pund, when night c mes round That, creel for creel, we bing them a'! 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *To bet*, to pledge; to bet 1894 *Barrie Window in Thrums* xxiii, I'll wad that sune our neebors' hauds Will doors and windocks thrang.

**3.** To marry. (Common in dialects, otherwise only *literary*.) **a.** *trans* Originally, to make (a woman) one's wife by the giving of a pledge or earnest. More fully, †*to wed* (a woman) *to wife*, *to or unto his wife*. Hence, of a person of either sex To take in marriage, to become the husband or wife of (a person) by participating in a prescribed ceremony or formal act

*a* 1000 *Laws Edmund*, *Ic æfgiuenne bræutlunge* § 1 (Fagerman) *Gif* man mædan to him to dowt weddan wille, & hit swa hire & freondan zeðeniße, [etc.] *Ibid* § 6 Gif hy ponne mices þinges sammele beon, ponne fon m þæs to & weddan beorn mypan to wife *a* 1122 *Chron. Abingd.* (Rolls) 1 Ne maidens he gon weddle and nom heo to his bedde *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 1090 I wo þe werren quam him ßopte eur To wedden his two dohtre Swart Loth bern wes *c* 1275 *Lay* 4500 A king of Britayne hadde bre i-wedded [*c* 1205 bwedded] 13 *E E Allit P* A 272 Quat kin kyng may be bat lambe, Pat he wedde vnto wife? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1 Wolde he be my worldly make & weddy me to wyue *Hrd.* 2022, & she hym wedede after pan pat was hure fader fo. 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) xv 70 Pe lady hat mykill sorow pat scho hed wedded hym *c* 1425 *Rauf Coilzear* 915 Wed ane worthie to wyfe 1485 *Plumpton Corr* (Camden) 48 My lord Schanchier publyshed in the Parlament house the same day, that the King's grace shuld wedde my lady Elizabeth *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lii 216, I wyll wed her to my wyfe *a* 1548 *Bk Com Prayer, Matrimony* 14 With thys ring I thee wed 1552 HUTCH. Wolde, *dumbe*, to haue his woman *despeone*, for the man 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* III. ii. 218 If you loue her, then to-morow wed her *a* 1665 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wed* I v (1664) 154 *Pars* If she be my wife Sir? I have wedded her and Bedded her, what other Ceremonies would y' aduise? 1704 BLUNT *Weary Pound o' Tow* iv, And or I wed her pull I'll wallop in a tow 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. iv 248 I he husband, now no longer tied My wed a new and blushing bride 1856 ANTONN *Bothwell* i xxiv, I wed a trembling, shrinking shrewish dame, And put her from my bed 1873 BLACK *Pr Thule* ix. 233 To think that your aunt should forbid your wedding a King's daughter!

*fig.* *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 339 Crists Churche is hiv Spouse. . And he sent it fro Cristene men to graunte pat Crist hab wedded pe fend. *c* 1440 *Godstow Reg* 23 O true valeyntyne in oure lord to me . With his blode, Seynt daniel I he did me wedde 1593 SHAKS *Rich II*, v. i. 94 Come, come, in wooing Sorrow let's be briefe, Since wedding it, there is such length in Griefe. 1697 MILTON *P L.* v 816 They led the Vine To wed her Elm 1870 DRYDEN *2nd Pt Conq Granada* III. (1672) 133 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune too Which he has Wedded and which I But Wooe 1781 *Cowper Retirement* 209 As woodbine weds the plant within her reach.

**b.** With Prace. *To wed* (*a*) *wife*: to get married.

1297 R GLOUC. (Rolls) 6798 He sede pe king pat he moste neda wede wif *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3215 Abraham wald in his liif pat 3 saac had wedded a wijf *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 248 Than was ther A riche knight yong and jolnue; And had nought yete ywedded wine 1377 LANGL. *P Pl* B. x 249 He hath wedded a wyf with-inne pis 3ȝx monebes 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron* (Rolls) 139 The fader of Geffrey Plauntgenet wedded a wyf only for beute 1548 UDALL *Erasm Apoph.* 144 b, To one demaundyng when best season wer to wedde a wife

**4.** To bind (the contracting parties) in wedlock; to conduct the marriage ceremony for (a man and woman); also *absol.*

*c* . *Rule of Chrodegang* (Napier) 81 Brydguman & bryde mid zebedum & mid ofringum mæssepreost sceal bletsan & weddan hi & beteecan hi be lagan *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 51 Knowen scurryd alle peraya pat weddyn ony obere but here owyn paryaschenys wyth-oute leve, or weddyn wythoute be banys askyd *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 1 Alle men of religion & worshepful of pe cuntre, or ynelich any man or woman, with out leve. *c* 1450 *Contn. Brut* 425 The Lrche busshop of Caunturburi weddid hem togederis there by ordynaunce of God and holy Churche *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii 214 How Huon went to Rome to the pope, who weddyd togyther Huon and the fayr Esclaramonde 1546 *Yorks Chantry Deeds* (Surtees) 228 The 3yrd presbyter schall burye, wedde, and christen wythin the sayd chappell 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I xxxii, The *Helmsley Courier* de votes three columns to the describing of how they were clad, who wedded them, [etc.]

**b** To give (a woman) in marriage; to cause to be married

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v 863 And whi here fader tarieth so long in Grece, Nis for no wyf, ne to wedde hir eyther 1523 *Sc Log Saints* VI (*Thomas*) 47 Je kinge of pat cuntre if nev hu doun hir vedit had 1843 J S KNOWLES *Secretary* I i 22 His father would wed me against my will

**5** *pass.* To be joined in wedlock, to be married †*with*, †*unto*, *to* (a husband or wife); also, to be joined together as husband and wife.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 1942 & 3uw birp witenn batt 3ho was Weddedd burrh Godess wille Wipp an weppmann off bass kinn 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conse* 5446 Pou wil [keep Wip Godes lashe wedded *a* 1225 *Ancr. R* 394 Auh þeah heo were iwedded him heo muhte i warðen so unwrest, [etc.] *c* 1300 *Harrowing Hell* (Percy) 54 Pou wes bitraised and bisold, And maiȝe bin, to gidere bedded 138 WYCLIF *Serm Sel* Wks I 334 Sho pyrode sevene 3eer wip hir howsbonde pat wes wedded wip hir 1450-1530 *Merlin* 1 Ther was a lord in Tore xlvii-xlix 66 After the knight was wedded to another wife, and he and the seconde wife leued togedre v yere 1598 FRITH *Antichrist* 96 b The Pope sayeth my preste also shall not be wedded 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* I iv 1 37 In Siracusa was I borne, and wedde Vnto a woman, happy but for me 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 251 Cecilie was wedded to 3 Humfrie Gretie 1667 MILTON *P L* x 828 And Adam wedded to an other I v, Shall live with her enjoying, I extinct 1673 J WADE *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 21 Before that ever we were wed 1689 STORY *Diary* (1851) 8 When I returned I found her wedded to a Gascon squire 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* iii § 2 Eleanor the daughter of Simon of Montfort was wedded to him [Llewelyn] at the English court

*fig.* *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel & Arc.* 131 Hir hart was to him wedded with the ring 1590 *Mirr Mag. Lydgate's Serm fr Vernon MS.* xl. 253 Hence, my soule is wedded to pe.

**6.** *intr* (†also *refl*) To enter into the matrimonial state; to take a wife or husband; to contract matrimony. Const †*to*, *with*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 368 Nolde him leoken betere þen þauh me sculde him bi-swiken þat iwowede & gotnede, & nolde oðer men, & leuede in delicez? *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Merr tale* 28 Bet ys to wedde than brenne in worse wise 1483 CATON *Golden Leg* 109/3 Sarray, Sara, came to deny calle for to wedde and accomplissh the marryage by force ageynst her wyll 1530 PALSGR 778/2 There be seasons (sayd he) to wedde in 1562 J WINJET *Wks* (S T S) I 47 Quhy sulde not preistis ete he be wise, sh ill die ere he thrise 1592 KYD *Wurther t. Brunow* Wks (1901) 292 But if I were so minded' (quoth he), I would wedde Saxony, and make a iourney with a trumpet as thy selfe' 1596 SHAKS *Tam Shrew* III ii 17 Hee'll woo a thousand, 'Yet neuer meanes to wed where he hath woo 1619 J DEE *Counterpoison* (1620) 21 And yet how many wicke not to wedde to Christians! 1722 *Lett fr Mist's Jrnl* (1792) II 248 A Country Fellow had the Misfortune to wed with one of the Godly 1788 COWPER *Table T* 228 And the poet, purposing to wed, Should cut with himself a wife in gingerbread 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg* i 432 Yet there were times of joy, (The day they wed, the christening and the boy) 1832 COLERIDGE *Ch of St. Rom* (1839) IV 59 Alas! alas! this is the misery of it, that so many wed and so few are Christianly married! 1899 TROLLOPE *Mrs Mathews* xxxvi, And may Jane live to wed, but then whom first you love 1884 H SPENCER in *Contemp Rev* Feb 153 Dissenters were made free to wed by a purely civil rite

*fig.* *a* 1225 *Leg Kath* 1517 He haue I iweddet him to mi nieðhad mit te ring of rihte bileaue. 1620 HASLIN *Mistr contmus* 243 [The Thames] fleth through Berks, Buck Mid. Surrey, Kent, and Essex and so weddeth himself with the Kentish Medway

**7.** *trans.* To unite as in marriage **a.** To attach (a person, his thoughts, etc.) indissolubly by affection *to* something. Chiefly in *passive*, to be obstinately attached to (an opinion, one's own will, a habit, a faction, etc.). Also (rarely) *refl.*, to addict or devote oneself *to* a party

*c* 1397 CHAUCER *Lach Steff* 28 (MS Cotton) O prince Deeds god And wed thi folk aȝen to stedfastnesse. 1421 *Jo Pol Poems* xviii 8 Swete Jesu in deuocion, Is wedded to chastite 1540 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 279b, This Poppeus. . wedded hymselfe wholly to the faction of Sylla *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 181 b, The king perceived & knewe well, that the quene was wedded to her awne opinion 1582 J. HEYWOOD *Prov & Epigr* Lij b, I was wedded vnto my will 1598 FLEMING *Virg Bucol*, To Indifferent Hair, The Bucolicks of Virgil I haue translated into the Anglishe tongue, wedding my selfe (as it were) to y* vulgar and common phrase of speach 1624 RALEIGH *Hist World* II i § 5 If he highly contemnde his diligence and indigested, that he was not so wedded to any author, as affected with the loue of truth 1869 STUBBS *Mariner's Mag* VII 881 47 They are so wedded to superstition, that some adore the Devil 1903 *R Ness City & C Purchaser* 45 Nations are very apt to be wedded to their own Ways and Methods. 1907 *Curtis. in Hush & Land* 20 The frivolous Cares that wed you to the Town. 1918 ARNUTHNOT *John Bull* iv. vi, Your Honour has it in your power to wed me still closer to your interest! *c* 1730 SHENSTONE *Love & Hon* 88 The love That weds each bosom to its native soil 1820 CAMPBELL *Ode Assaying a Scene in Bavaria* xvii, Then wed thee to an exile's lot 1866 J ROLLOCK *Clearings* III, He was not wedded to the joys of his college hall, or the college common room 1880 COLLIN *Parish* iii. 34 Ready to entertain any set of ideas, he could never wed himself to any as representing ultimate truth 1889 Miss E. KENNARD *Landing at Father* VIII, You have been wedded to your comforts all your life 1923 WODEHOUSE *Wilson Row Freedom* vi 119 There are those, of course, who are wedded to the old ways

†**b.** To unite by liking or custom *with Obs.*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 364 And errour in weiyng of pis love makip many fals weddingis, as men ben wedded wip pe habitis, and pei forsaken pe newe singular maners, as I pei weren Cristis comaundementis

†**c.** To commit or pledge (a person) irrevocably *to* a course of action *Obs*

1598 H WOTTON *Corr the Controve* 251 Hauing married a woman which did but dissemble her conuersion, and had wedded him vnto a war so dangerous, as [etc.]

**d** To join or couple (a thing) intimately *with* or *to* something else; to associate closely *together*.

1818 KEATS *Endym* iv 481 Where his head With golden curls did their white hue out-wed To make a contrast. 1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* x, Whilst we were panting with the sultry weather, And hardly cared to wed two words together 1858 WYCLIFF *Introd Sermons* 1 Wedded to the Old Text. 1870 R. LEE. wedded Greek language to Hebrew thought 1889 SAINTSBURY *Hist Elizab Lit* ii (1890) 36 The *Ecclesiastical Polity* remains a book in which matter and manner are wedded as in few other books of the same kind 1892 *Lindley's New Holidays in Essex* 38 There is an excellent thing locally wedded with Blackwater Sunday It is unknown

†**8** To espouse, adopt (a cause, a course of conduct, a custom, etc) *Obs*

1626 T H[AWKINS] tr *Camain's Holy Crt* 4 Men, who willingly wed the manners, and affections of those on whom they see they fortune doth smile 1642 *Declar. Lords & Com* I § 49 And though most of the principal men of the House of Commons were again elected to serve in this Parliament yet they were far from wedding the Counsels of the Lords 1657 of the King's Privy Council now as frankly wedded that it terest as any of the leaders 1742 *Young Nt Th* i 510 I had my meed, and thx thy friend hath wedded it to woe 1837 CARLYLE *Fr Rev* II i ii, Oh, in milder language, They have wedded their delusions fire to steel, nor any absence of forbearance, shall ever part the bond

**Wed** (wed), *ppl. a rare* [pa. pple of WED *v.*] = WEDDED

1440 *Morte Arth* 700 This werre That warnes me wythe-inne of my wedde londe *a* 1500 *Kellig Preces fr Thornton MS.* 3 The wate ancomfortabylle Wedde[d]nes to foly fleschely with any woman owper wedde or vnwedde *c* 1400 *Alphabet of Tales* xxxv 25 He was a wed man 1823 BYRON *Juan* xi xlvi, A rib as thorn in a wed gallant's side, Requires decorum

**Wed(d,** obs forms of WEED *sb.*1, *sb.*2, *v.*1

**Wedaw,** obs. form of WIDOW.

**Wedda,** variant of WEDDA.

1896 B J. HARRINGTON in *Trans Roy* Mar 406 The Weddas, or, as they are more commonly but inaccurately called, the Veddas of Ceylon 1900 *Contemp Rev* Mar 453 Peaceful, as is the wonthy of the Veddas or the Maories

**+We ddable,** *a Obs*—0 [f WED *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wedded.

1611 COTGR., *Warnalie* Mariable, weddable, marriageable

**Wedde,** obs. form of WIDDY *sb.*

**Wedded** (we ded), *ppl. a.* [f WED *v.* + -ED1.]

1 Joined in wedlock, living in the married state

1340 *Gawayne & Gr Knt* 2422 Pe wedded wyf wrapped in 146 Da zeweddadan fæmnan [L *puellanedesponsatam*] hire yldran hi ne moton sillan oðrum men *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 143 Je wedded wiues *c* 1200 ORMIN 4004 Wedded were Pe wedded wif 13 *Cursor M.* 10498 (Gött) Quar of suld i hue ioy or bliss, Quam i na wedded fuerd miss? *c* 1382 CHAUCER *Pard Prologue* 335 The wedded turtil with hire herte trewe *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg Princ.* 1144 Many wedded couples haue I knowe 1598 *Bk Com Prayer, Matrimony* 13 b, If any wight thou haue thy woman to thy wedded wife 1607 SHAKS *Timon* III iii 7 My wedded Lord, I here shall see signe 1667 MILTON *P L* VIII 605 Harmonie to behold in wedded pair More grateful then harmonious sound to the eare 1919 *Poor Relief Act* 19 Wedded Lord, let it spout, wait the wedded wife 1848 MRS. CAREW *Lucrece Borgia* I 205, I have been a close observer of the behaviour of wedded folks 1878 I. MORISON *Speech Life* (1879) 111 There is no wife. My lady died wedded

**2** Of or pertaining to marriage or to married couples.

1598 SHAKS *Rom.* & *Jul.* I v 137 (Fo) Go aske his name: if I be an enemi May graue as like to be my wedded bed [Qq wedlie bed]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV 750 Haile wedded Loue, mysterious Law true source Of humane Offspring 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 184 ¶ 2 As so much as all she took upon her the wedded Condition. 1843 SCOTT *Quent. D.* xxxi I care not myself for the wedded state. 1852 COLERIDGE *Table T.* 27 Sept. I will here has sketched the most beautiful picture of the nature and duties of the wedded life I ever read. 1866 NEALE *Negotiat. & Hymens* 130 And wedded life remains as firm and wedded love as pure. 1888 BOURINOT *Can.* 18 *Cent. Mon.* II v 8 The sun of his wedded happiness set in the same year.

**3** Obstinately attached (to an indulgence, a habit, opinion, party etc.).

1579 TILNEY *Euphues* (Arb) 217 If thou be either so wicked that thou wilt not, or so wed led that thou canst not absteine from their gluttonies. 1591 MONTAIGNE *Healt* I 1 The wedded Opinions of the Gener ality to the Cust om and Practice of their Neighbours. 1854 C. P. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) I 206 New Hamp shire the most wedded of all the Northern States to the Democ ratic party.

**4.** Of things. Coupled or joined together.

1842 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 43 Then fled she to her inmost bower and there did die: the wedded eagles of her heart 1916 *Irish Mag.* Nov 532 The country side [Ireld] with its wedded vines and elms

†**6** *He did it brother = wed-brother* (see WED *sb.* 6). *Obs. rare*

c1350 *Athelston* II (Zupitza), For loue of here meting he pere Pey swoor hem weddyd brepren for euer more In trewbe trewely dede hem bynde *Ibid.* xiv, Pey weddid hir bre brepren.

Hence † **Wedded** *vbl. sb.* [WED *v.* + -ED] One who weds *Penny ne'er* (1708 PENNY *wedding*).

1866 *Virginia Star* 15 Sept. 2/5 The sounds of hobnailed feet and giggling was heard in the church porch, denoting the arrival of the first batch of penny weddees. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

**Wedder**, obs. and dial. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

**Weddesette**, obs. form of WADSET *v.*

**Weddewede**, obs. form of WIDOWHOOD

**Wedding** (we·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms 1 **wed-dung**, 3 **weddingue**, 4 **weddin**, 5 **yn**, 4–5 **wed ing**, **yng**, 4–6 **wedding(e**, **yng**, 6 *Sc* **wedding**, 3– **wedding.** [f. WED *v.* + -ING1.]

**1.** The action of marrying, marriage, espousal. Chiefly *occasional.* + Also, the married state, wedlock, matrimony (*obs.*)

c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxii 3 in Thwaites *Hept.* (1698), Seo wed dung is gelicu pam cyninge pe dyde sune wyrcean Sondes secgab *Corp. Gosp.* (1871) 3 Seo wed dung is gelic pam cyninge pe dyde sune wyrcean. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1498 Sibben was hidden ikil, first to freinen pe wimmanes wil, Or or men here to louerd giue, for wedding or for morgen-lyue. c 1290 *St. Edmund Conf.* 97 in *Ang. Leg.* 434 Pis wedding is treulpe betpe and his weddingue also, And trewe wiue was mony a. c1300 *K. Horn* 423 Hit nere no fair wedding Betwexe a frid & a king. 1382 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x 178 Summe For Countes of Catel vnkyndelokhe help maried And Careful Conscience comeb of such wedding. 1385 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 367 Wedding is the hardest bind That any man may take on hand. a 1400 CHAUCER *Envoy to Bukton* 24 So my happe That the were leuer to take in Frise than eft falle of swich lygge in the trappe. 1440 *Promptorium Alph.* xiii 92 Be well war of wedyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 Ye secund Weddynge, *digamia, deuterogamia.* 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiv 52 My sone hyeremon, whiche is named the 3od of weddynge. 1564 *Brief Exam. for Marriages* 11 Is not the ring first in weddyng? the He ither. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II i 76 Wooing wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch iigge, a measure, and a cinquepace.

*Prov.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 129 Wed dyng and hangyng are destiny

**2** The performance of the marriage rite, the ceremony of a marriage, with its attendant festivities.

'Tis as the word an general use for this sense

c1300 *K. Horn* 1295 (Laud) He rongen pe Pellen pe wed ding (*Cambr.* wedlak) for to fullen. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 72 I the feste that was at her weddynge. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* lxxii 263 Moche ioye was there made atte theyr wed lynge. 1565 FINDLAY *Blatt* xxii 10 The weddinge was done, sympsheil with gestes in Palace. 1587/9 Weddyng, *nuptiæ.* 1600 SHAKS. *Hamlet* I iii 178 I thinke it was to see my Mothers Wedding. a 1663 KIRKHEAD *Parv. Wedd* v ii, I'll run and invite them to the Wedding. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* V ii 347 Every woman's heart leaps when a wedding is decreed. 1797 *Sir* F. M. EDEN *St. Poor* I 568 The custom of celebrating weddings and christenings. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I The very wedding looked dismal as they pressed in front of the altar. 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *At Bay* x Are you to be at the Mitton wedding next week? 1897 STOKER (1) Jacks *Life & Lett.* (1911) II 52 I am told the wedding went off well

*fig.* a 1501 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* (1903) II 225 Since that great wedding between Science and Experience, which immortalises the name of Galileo

**b** The *penny wedding* see PENNY 12c. *Silver wedding* [G *silberhochzeit, silberne hochzeit*], the 25th anniversary of a wedding (see SILVER *sb.* 20). *Golden wedding*, the 50th anniversary. *Diamond wedding*, the 60th or 75th anniversary (see DIAMOND *sb.* 12)

1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Nov. 485/3 The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Prince William of Hesse and the Princess Charlotte ... has been called the golden wedding ... as such an event is called (etc.). 1894 LORD HANNEN *Reminiscences* VII, It is the Golden Wedding day

†**3** Occas. found in other senses of the verb. Close union or association, the action of pledging or wagering. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III 364 [see WED *v.* †**b**]. *Ibid.* 431 But Lord I wheper weddyng wip siche signes helpip to holde religioun of Crist, and I se3 3ym of hem? — *Ib.* (1880) 448 Wedding wip pes newe bitwixe, passing pe wedding wip goddis lawe, makip pes newe rotun sectis. 1593 *Act. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II 401 Item, the xxj day of Octr. 1er, to the King quhilk he tynt on wedding with the Abbot of Camiskaithmark, xxxvj li.

**4** *attrib.*, as *wedding-anniversary, appearance, -banquet, -bed, bell, chamber, + cheer, clothes, coat, dinner, dower, -dress, feast, festival, gown, -guest, -journey, mass, night, -peal, present, -robe, -sermon, + smock, song, suit, -supper, table, torch, + tun.*

1590 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Aug. 1673 It being his wedding anniversarie. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV 257 How bravely shall we enter a court, dressed out each man, as if in his wedding appearance. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XII 378 That the wedding banquet ended. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I v 237 (Qo 1599) If he be married My grane is like to be my wedding bed. 1683 T. DRYDEN *Daphnis* 64 in *Virgil* II, Virgin's wedding Bed at least. 1849 POE *The Bells* II, Hear the mellow wedding bells. 1558 HILTOFT, *Weddyng de* chamber *thalamus.* 1611 BIBLE *2 Esdras* I 9 Were my sonne in the house of his wedding chamber he fell downe to and died. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV v 87 Our wedding cheare (turns) to a sad buriall Feast. 1600 DEKKER *Hist.* II 1 377 The Bride, that with her *Wedding cloathes* undresses Her Complices one and Gentlewises. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I 288 Betsy prepared her wedding clothes and kissed her only love the bridegroom. 1887 BOWEN *Lett.* (1889) 18 A pair of common nankeen tights, and blue wedding coat. 1632 ROWLEY *Match at Mid.* II i, Dab, One wedding dinner must serve both marriages. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* III *Miss taken Milliner*, Miss Amelia Martin was invited to honour the wedding dinner with her presence. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III i 86 Then let her beauty be her wedding d wre. 1865 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* II They helped her on with her *wedding dress.* 1633 JONS. *Tale Gipsy* III v, They that now [Thou wilt need a wedding feast.] My chance to meet: 'tis by Bridegrooms rune. 1855 LONG. *Hiawa.* XI (*heading*) Hiawatha's Wedding feast. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Border* 721 133 The villages a-holing in—2 *Wedding festival* 1439 *R. Hull Wks.* (1885) 218 My wedding garment, my clothis of gold. 1767 MURPHY *School for Guard.* IV iv 66, I have brought your young lady a wedding gown. 1798 COLERIDGE *Ancient Mar.* vii, The Wedding-Guests here beat their breast, For he heard the loud bassoon. 1881 HOWELLS (*title*), Their Wedding Journey. 1812 WEBSTER *Works Devil* II 190 Farewell be this night! That sung the howling masse. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Oct., So home, and intended to be merry, it being my sixth wedding night. 1682 OTWAY *Venice Pres.* I ii, The very bed, Which on my wedding night Receiv'd thee to the Arms of Belvidera. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Witnin Tottle* I, I spent my wedding night in a back-kitchen chimney. 1868 SIR HENRY *It. Crowde Hill* 24 note, In the village of Hemingham it is customary, when a young person dies unmarried, to ring the "wedding peal on muffled bells, immediately on the interment. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* (1886) 1 *Wedding Guide* 81 A travelling clock in a leather case (the inevitable wedding present). 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II 238 I lyys in holy lande yn a new *wedyng gowne.* 1598 I. BROWN *Lottery for Ladies* 8 *C.* Wks. 1711 IV 169 Dr B——g shall preach the "Wedding Sermon. c 1620 DEKKER & HEYW. *Fair Maid* I, If my Wedding smock were on. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, 'Come sit we under yonder Tree. 22 Next we will talke of Brides and who shall make That wedding smock, the Bridal Cake. 1598 R. ROWLAND *Vennor, Adelgiza* A iv (1607) 32 They which sing the "wedding song. 1594 *Taming of a Shrew* (1844) 22 For this I sweare shall be my wedding suite. 1738 GRAY *Pr. Prudent Wed* 111 1 53 The Wedding suit of a first Dutchess. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV xv, Ha, I'll ha't. That a Man should have a Stomach to a "Wedding Supper, when the Religious goods are going to the fire! 1720 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* II 53 To tell how mickle cakes and ale Was serv'd up in the "wedding table. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III ii 28, But, thus is shame happy "Wedding Torch, That joyneth Roan unto her Counterpheet. a 1700 TICKELL *Colin & Lucy* 43 He in his "wedding trim so gay, I in my wonted sheet!

**b. wedding-breakfast**, the entertainment formerly given at the bride's house after the marriage-ceremony and before the departure for the honeymoon, **wedding-cake**, a large rich cake, covered with icing and decorated with sugar ornaments, cut and distributed to the guests at the wedding-feast and sent in small portions to absent friends; also *attrib.*; **wedding-cards**, cards, bearing the names of the two parties, sent out to friends as an announcement of the wedding, **wedding chest**, an ornamental chest made to contain a bride's clothes, etc., **wedding church door** = *wedding door*, **wedding coffer** = *wedding chest*, **wedding-day**, the day on which a marriage is performed, or which is fixed for the marriage, also, an anniversary of this day, also *attrib.*; **wedding door**, the church-door, or porch, at which couples were married; **wedding favour**, a knot of white ribbon, or a white rosette, sometimes worn by guests at a wedding, **wedding-finger** = RING-FINGER; **wedding-flower**, (*a*) *Moræa* (*Iris*) *robinsoniana*, of Lord Howe's Island, N.S.W.; (*b*) *Dombeya natalensis*, of S. Africa; **wedding-garment**, a garment appropriate to, or customarily worn at, a wedding, also *fig.* (with ref. to Matt. xxii 11–12), †**wedding-garter**, a garter worn as a wedding-favour, †**wedding-house** = BRIDE-HOUSE, †**wedding kirk door** = *wedding door*, †**wedding knives**, ? = BRIDE *sb.*1 2, **wedding-knot**, (*a*) *fig.* the bond of matrimony, (*b*) *Naut.*, a tie for uniting the looped ends of two ropes (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875), **wedding march**, a march (Mendelssohn's, if not otherwise specified) composed for performance at a wedding, †**wedding-monger**, one who is busied about a wedding, **wedding ring**, a ring, usually of plain gold, placed by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand as part of the ceremony, and worn by her ever after, also *fig.*, **wedding sheet**, a sheet laid on the bridal bed and sometimes kept to form a shroud for the bride at her death

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XXX, To make the furnished lodging decent for the "wedding breakfast. 1899 *Habits Lond. Society* xv 370 It must be noted that the mid-day wedding breakfast is not a *dinner*. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Bride Cake*, This day my Julia thou must make For Mis tress Bride, th' "wedding Cake. 1708 CIBBER *Love Makes Man.* I *Grace Graves* 60 The wedding cake with her own hand The ruth less mother brought. 1879 MRS F. D. BARNES *Trial Judge's Trust* III (1883) 43 The Palace, somewhat of the wedding cake style of architecture, all over stucco ornaments and white wash. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXIX, I noticed a basket containing some of their "wedding cards. 1888 A. K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* II, My daughter's wedding-cards are out. 1874 J. H. POLEN *Anc. & Mod. Times* I 3 *Ams. Hus* 227 Collect The figures of angels on the ends and the front of the "wedding cake. 1598 I. *Wedding chest* 1560 *Ludlow Churchin Acc.* (Camden) 97 Paid for mendynge the window over the "wedinge churche dore. 1904 *Under Two Flags* "Wedding coffers, or 'carsones' as they are sometimes called. a 1533 UDALL *Royster D.* I iv (Arb.) 26 What weepe on the "wedding day? Ye marrie women. 1600 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II i 35 O Sonne, the night before thy wedding day, Hath death lyne with thy wife. a 1300 EVELYN. *Diary* 18 Nov. 1659, Sir John Evelyn married to Mrs. Mary Browne on the "wedding day. 1788 COWPER *Gilpin* 9 Though wedded we have been These twice ten tedious years, yet we No holiday have seen. 10 morow is our wedding day. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxxvii, The third day from this must be our wedding day. Jane 1470–3 *Rec. Andover* 11 Paid vnto John helyer for repercen don at the "weddyndor vid. 1638 in Swayne *Churchin Acc. Sarum* (1896) 161 Item, wayne cover the Wedding doore in the Church. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 590/1 A "wedding favour, *Lemniscus nuptialis.* 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* xi, (1883) 263 The church was crammed with the guests in wedding favours. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* P ij The "weddyng fynger (whiche is the neare to the little fynger). 1548 *Patten Exped. Scotl.* I iv, Hurt vppon the weddyng fynger of hys right hande. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr.* xiii, She slipped it on to her wedding finger. 1869 in *Gardeners' Chron.* (1870) 393/3 A large iridaceous plant, termed the "Wedding Flower. 1596 TINDALE *Matt.* xxii 11 The kynge spyed there a man which had not on a "weddinge garment. c 1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* To Rec. (1593) A ij b, The old Adam ought we to lay aside and to put on Christ the Lord, as the new wedding garment. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV i 51 Is supper ready, the house trim'd, and every thing in due "wedding garment on? 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I ii 574 Are these the fruits o' th' Protestation, Which all the Saints, and some, since Martyrs, Wore in their hats like "Wedding favours. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519 2 "Weddynge (howsa A., *prop.*), *idem quod* bridale howse, *supra.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 A Weddyng howse, *nuptorium.* 1584 [PUTTENHAM (1589) II 32 Wilfully was late at a Wedding house, Where Lords and Ladies dance all arow. 1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I 237 He was found in the "wedding kirk dur wit his boist on his heid. 1598 I. *Wedding knives* II 173 Hee by my side doth hang my "wedding knifes. c 1620 DEKKER *Match me in London* V (1632) 70 See at my Girdle hang my wedding knives. 1900 RICHARD WHITE *Banshee* II 93 Of course, from the British Public point of view the Mos lem "wedding knot is not alte gether respectable. 1892 J. BENNETT *Life of Hendrik Ibsen* 9 Ibsen's famous "Wedding march. 1903 J. I. ALLEN *Mettle of Pasture* II 33 The loud crash of the wedding march closed their separate pasts with a single melody. 1567 CAWDRY *Sch. Solomon* 19 By this time the Lawyers, the Taylors, the Semstresses had runing Poets, with the rest of the "Wedding Mongers, will have all things in readiness. c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 812 And heere agayn my clothyng I restoore, And eek my "wedding ryng. c 1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* (1593) Kk v b, The same holie Ghost, who is the earnest pennie of salution, the wedding ring of grace. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II ii, 139 Wouldst thou not from my false hand cut the wedding ring? 1630 R. *Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 42 The sand about us seemes to be our wedding Ring, and the Rocks of the Sea our Dowrie. 1704 PRIOR *To Fair Gent. in Love* 70 The Moral of the Tale I sing (A Posy for a Wedding Ring). 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* XXXI, The only article of ornament of which she stands possessed appears to be her wedding ring. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV ii, 103 Prythee to night, Lay on my bed my "wedding sheetes, remember. 1893 LOCKHART *Rec. Dalton* I 108 (1840) 6 Her wedding sheet, which, according to the primitive fashion of the district, had been carefully laid by for that purpose, was formed into the shroud which enveloped her remains

¶ For alternative forms of many of these collocations see BRIDAL 2, BRIDE *sb.*1 5 a, 6, MARRIAGE 8, NUPTIAL *a.* 1. The adjectival force of *wedding* is recognized in the following quot:

1530 PALSGR. 239/1 (The Table of Adjectyves) Weddyng, belongyng to marryage, *nuptial*

**Weddinger** (wed-inja). *dial.* [f. WEDDING + -ER 1.] A wedding-guest; *pl.* the whole wedding-party, including bride and bridegroom.

1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 458 After a few days' carousal among the groom's friends, the wedding-ers move towards the bride's country. 1811 *Trip to Jwlict* IV. 185 But wont you have some cake, ladies, before the weddingers come to church? 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xv, 'Good luck to the weddinger!' they said. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* (ed. 2) 205 The weddingers passed down the little slope leading to the churchyard gate.

**Weddir(e**, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

**Weddow'(e**, obs. forms of WIDOW.

**Weddre**, -**ur**, -**yr**, obs. forms of WEATHER.

†**Wede**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wédan** (3 *sing. pres.* **wé(t)**, 3 **weden**, -**enn**, 3–5 **wede**, (3 **weede**, 4 **wed**, **weddo**, 3–4 **wide**), 5 *Sc.* **weide**, **weid**, **weyd**. [OE. *wédan* = OS. *wódian*, OHG. *wuoten* (MHG. *wueten*, mod.G. *wüten*), ON. *óða* :—OTeut. ***wōdjan*, f. ***wōdo-** mad : see WOOD *a.*]

1. *intr.* To be or become mad. Cf. ÆWED.

c 900 *Bede's Hist.* v. xiii. (1890) 438 Cwæð he þæt he wede ic [L. *non insanio*]. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 20 Deofol is on him & he wet. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1264 Þes keiser...as mon bet ligeð to weden & to wurðen ut o þa ahne witte, wodelichen þeode [etc.]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3749 Ai sin wan, almast i weede. c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1509 He...went hom ayeine, Weping as he wold wode for wo & for sorwe. 13.. *S. E. Allit. P.* B 1585 So was þay wrope weylle, he wod wel ner. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 539, I am all in aunter, as akis me þe wame, Of werke weld me I wede. c 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 936 Hee...ferde ala he wode þat he nuste hwider he ferde. 1423 *Autors of Arth.* 558 (Ireland MS.) Nexthond Syr Wallan wold wede, So weppulte he fulle sore.

b. Phrase. *To wede* (*out*) *of, but wit.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 13975 Of þis woman þe grete fairede Did mani man of witt to wede. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 1903 Ilot ay withe roris reythe he [rerde], Wedande but wit as it wode man. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 651 Hight of witte he sold wede. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 205 Thocht I for wa all out off witt suld wed!

2. To be wild with anger or desire; to rage. Const. *again*; *to* (*do* something).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvi. 223 He [the Devil] wet nu swiðe and wynð on ða cristenan. c 1200 ORMIN 14140 Fra batt greillinesse batt dop be mann to wedenn rihht To winnenn eplic ahhte...a mann sinnfull wel mare wedeð him bi mis Louerde, þenne ec erst biginnð þe deoflen to wedenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4408 Quen þai be see, for þi faithede To crus me þai bigan to wede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þe vyfte ys ongeð þet *Cron.* v. vi. 1179 Fra þine ha crestet to te wede Agayne þe cristyn men in deide. *Ibid.* v. xiii. 4624 In ire as he was wedande ben. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 47 Ye, wonder if I wede, I that may do no dede; how wold I theder wyn for eld? a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2480 Wedand in a rage.

b. Of waves, pestilence: To rage, be furious.

c 900 *Bede's Hist.* III. xv. (1890) 200 Þa wæs wæstm & weddan þæs sæs. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. iii. 230 In Scotlande þat shere in wiolence [Was] wedande þe thride pestilence.

Hence †**We'ding** (Sc. *wedand*) *ppl. a.*, raging, raving.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* I. 198 *Limphaticus*, woedendi. c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xvii. § 4 Hwa mæg þam wedendan xietsere þonoh forgifan? c 1275 *Lay Folks Catech.* xliii. (*Cotton*) 132 Almacius cane til hire say: þat wedand wodnes do away, & sacryfy oure godis til. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xi. 1776 Al hwym he belyt in þe se, And wrythis al in wedand wreth. a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1641 Fore wedand Joy bound in vages Latis al authfast gud knawleges.

**Wede**, obs. form of WEED.

**Wedensdai**, obs. form of WEDNESDAY.

†**Wedenoufa**. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 **wedonyngha** (**wedumfa**) 8 **wedenofa**, 9 **weddinoffa**. [f. OE *wédenn* (in *wédenn-hocorl*, *-sócc*) mad + *onfa*', ONFALL. Cf. WIDDENDREAM.] Ague (in later use *spec.* puerperal ague, WEST *Sh.*), or a fit of this.

c 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 57 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 300 The worme, the wareit wedonyngha [*Maitl. MS.* wedumfa], Rumbunsis, rymp, or ballythraw. 1597 In Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) II. 27 Item, for hailling of women of the Wedonyngha [by sorcery]. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax* etc. *Tryed to Yorrowick* 33, I wis fley'd that she had taen the wytenon-fa'...for she shuddered a' like a klipsert in a cauld day. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wedenophka*...This fact quot. 1755] is rendered 'trembling, chattering'. But it is the term generally used in the North, to express that disease peculiar to women, commonly called a *twist*] *weidinon'fa*. Anglosax.

**Weder**(**e** : see WEATHER, WETHER, WHITHER.

‖ **Wederdoper.** *rare*—1. [Du. *wederdooper*, f. *weder* again + *dooper* baptizer : see DOPPER 2.] (See quot.)

1647 N. WARD *Simp. Cobler* 16 The Crowds of foraigne Wederdopers, that is Anabaptists.

**Wederlyng**, corrupt f. *yuerdlyng*, CONLING 2.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 102 þe wince and þe wederlyng.

**Wedester.** *Obs.* —1 (Meaning uncertain.)

1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 12 [Ordinaciones pro fullonibus.] Item ordyneez est qe nul mestre paye a nule femme quest apelee Wedester...aynoun jd. le lout.

**Wedeu, -ew(e, Wedewer** : see WIDOW, -ER.

**Wedge** (wedj), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wæcg**, **weog**, **wegge**, (4 **weeg**), 4–7 **wegge**, (5 **vegge**, **weegge**, **weggbe**), 5–6 **weg(e**, 5–7 **wagge**, 6 **wadge**, **wegg**, 7 **wedg**, 3– **wedge**. Pl. 6 **wedgies**, *Sc.* **vagis**, **wagis**. [Com. Teut. (not found in Gothic): OE. **wecg** masc. corresponds to OS. **weggi** wedge (MLG. **wegge**, **wigge**, LG. **wigge** wedge, wedge-shaped cake), MDu. **wegge**, **wigge** (mod.Du. **wegge** fem., wedge-shaped cake, **wig** fem., wedge), OHG. **weggi**, **wecki**, wedge (MHG. **wegge**, **wecke**, wedge, wedge-shaped cake; mod.G. dial. **weck**, **wecken** masc., wedge, wedge-shaped cake), ON. **vegg-r** wedge (Norw. **vegg**, Da. **vægge**, MSw. **vägge**, **vigge**, Sw. **vigg**, **vägge**) :—OTeut. ***wagjo-z**.

The affinities of the word are somewhat uncertain. Some scholars regard it as cognate with OHG. **wuganso** (see **wegeuse** in Gloss. *D. Wb.*), ON., Norw. **vangeir**, Gr. ἄβαξ (Hesychius) ploughshare, OPrussian **wagyr-s** axe, Lith. **vagìs** pin, plug, f. Indogermanic root ***wogh-**. (Teut. ***wag-**) cf. Skt. **váh-i** to pave.

The I.E. and Du. form with *f* for *c* (whence perh. the Sw. form and the Eng. **wig** *sb.*), a kind of cake) is not easy to account for. It may be due to a special sound-change in some local dialect; the hypothesis that it represents an ablaut-variant of Teut. ***wegjan-z** is inadmissible.

1. A piece of wood, metal, or other hard material, thick at one end and tapering to a thin edge at the other; chiefly used as a tool operated by percussion (or, less frequently, pressure) applied to the thick end, for splitting wood, stone, etc., forcing apart contiguous objects, dilating a fissure or cavity, tightening or securing some part of a structure, raising a heavy body, and other similar purposes. Hence, in *Mechanics*, the type of simple machine of which the wedge proper is an example, and which includes also knives, chisels, and cutting and piercing instruments in general; formerly reckoned separately among the 'mechanical powers', but now regarded as a variety of the inclined plane.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 970 *Cuneus*, **wæcg**. a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* XXXII. (1889) 103 Hèla treowen on ealne tyhð þæt nægel oðêðe seo to fasniginne ȝe. a 1250 *Ȝ. de Garlande* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 137 Ek cuin cuneis [*glossed* wedges] ic cavilla. 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þe vyfte ys ongeð þet *Cron.* vi. Wegges ferri. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. xiv. 4 Thow wich pyn ther goth a litel wegge which þat is cleped the tayl, betwene þilke two shaftes in-bowed. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 518 Wegge, or wegge, *cuneus*. 1474 *Statut. Paisey* (Camden) I. 147, j wegge of yron. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The plough-fote is a lyttell pece of wodde, with a croked ende set before the plough-fote in the plough-beame, sette fast with wedges, to dryue vppe and downe. 1548 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 184 To...reformand mend the stullery, and to mak tartilis, boalis, wedges and vtheris necessaris pertenand thairto. 1552 ELYOT *Decades* (Arb.) 369 The marble stone...they breake and cleaue with wedges of iren. 1569 SPENSER *Theoc., Nouther's Wife* 20 Ne yet with engine vnder the wedge. 1613 in *Trans. Exeter Dioc. Archit. Soc.* Ser. II. (1867) I. 395 For 5 peire of iron wegges to make faste the brasses, xij d. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. viii. 52 The fifth Mechanicall faculty is the Wedge, which is a known instrument, commonly used in the Cleaving of wood. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 721 Tyrrheus...left his Wedge within the cloven Oak. 1718 *Hoyle's Sea Disc.* II. (ed. 3) *Subject* 10 Use wedges to make fast the Mast in the Partners. They also put a Wedge into the Heels of the Top-Masts, to bear them upon the Trestel-Trees. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Pop. Errors in Mechanicks*, The last of the five Powers or simple Machines...To the Wedge may be refer'd all Edge-Tools, and Instruments which have a sharp Point, in order to cut, cleave, chop, pierce, bore, or the like; as Knives, Hatchets, Swords, Bodkins, &c. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 44 The sharper the wedge, or the more acute the angle, the easier it will divide any thing, or overcome any resistance. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 43 Forth goes the woodman...To wield the axe And drive the wedge in yonder forest drear. 1790 WILKINSON *Coalbrookdale* II. xviii. (1791) 208 The disordered ropes...are then confined at the holes with wedges, that they may not slip. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 73 The wedges used to secure the rails in the chairs are similarly compressed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Wedge*, ...a small fastening for a door or window. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk. Sea-gang*, raising a gun over her blocks, shores, &c. by wedges driven between the heels of the shore and the dock foundation. 1888 W. E. NICHOLSON *Glos. Terms Coal Trade* (ed. 2), Wedge, a sharp or pointed iron or steel, used for splitting and breaking coal or stone. 1923 *My Magazine* Jan. 22 Wedge. A small piece of wood placed under the heel of a living model for support. It is seen in the round.

b. *Grafting.* (*a*) A peg to keep the cleft open. (*b*) The tongue or tapered end of a scion or stock.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 136 Thou muste haue...a mallet, to dryue the knyfe and the wedge in the tre. 1653 AUBREY *Prob. Trees* 48 Being cloven with the knife, and a wedge of Box, or other hard wood knockt in, to keep it open, then prepare the Graft [etc.]. 1832 *Planting* 30 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Plants* III, The upper division of the scion made by the slit, termed the tongue or wedge, is then inserted into the cleft of the stock.

c. The movable slip of wood, tapered on one side, by means of which the blade of a carpenter's plane is adjusted and fastened in the stock.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 64 This knocking on the Brich [of a plane] raises the Iron, so it also raises and loosens the wedge: therefore...whenever you knock upon the Brich, you must also knock upon the wedge, to fasten the Iron again.

d. *Arch.* A voussoir, wedge.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 73 b, The last wedge, which is called the key-stone, shou'd be cut according to the lines of the other wedges, but left a small matter bigger at the top, so that it may...drive the lower wedges closer together. a 1790 W. NEWTON in *Vitruvius* VI. (1791) 147 In edifices which are built with piers and arches of wedges with the joints tending to their centers, the extreme piers are to be made of a greater breadth, that they may resist the force when the wedges, pressed by the weight of the walls, and impelling toward the center, thrust against the abutments. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 20 We might conceive an arch whose voussoirs should be wedges, not of stone...but of wood.

2. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 378 Take an other unwanquishable argument such as all ye Heretiques wedges with all their Bentelles and malles cannot beat abroad. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 13 Now I am cum to a knot that I have noe wedg to cleave. 1643 FULLER *Good Thi. and Bad Times* II. vi, The same wedge will serve to cleave the former difficulty. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 78 I hope these Reflections will not be misinterpreted...as a Wedge to make way for any Design of mine. 1845 CALHOUN *Sp. Wks.* 1861 IV. 11 This bill is the entering wedge for all the measures of the session. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* xxvii. 267 Just as he had fixed on the nature question which was to drive the first wedge into the mystery, Guy turned...and met him full. 1900 G. A. T. MIDDLETON *Eng. Ch. Archit.* i. 17 England became a wedge of paganism driven in as it were between the Christianity of the Continent...and the Christianity of Ireland. 1913 R. LUCAS *Ld. North* xiv. II. 168 Shelburne...perceived that there was room for a wedge to be driven in between the French and the Americans.

b. Phr. *The thin* (*little or small*) *end of the wedge*, a small beginning which it is hoped or feared may lead to something greater. Also *attrib.*

1898 TAYLOR *Dr. Thorne* xxxii. (Chapter-heading) The Small End of the Wedge. 1900 *Daily News* 4 Oct., We have heard of the little end of the wedge....That pill had been the little end of Lady Arabella's wedge. Up to that period she had been struggling in vain to drive a difference between her husband and her enemy (the doctor). 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. x. 460 The rule [of Clerodegang] was but the small end of the wedge. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Dec. 3/1 The temperance advocates have managed to get in the thin end of the wedge in France.

*attrib.* 1896 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/1 How many reforms have the Tories resisted with the thin-end-of-the-wedge argument.

3. An ingot of gold, silver, etc. ? *Obs.*

Presumably so called from the ordinary form of an ingot was that of a wedge; cf. Heb. *lāšān*, lit. 'tongue', used in the same sense; but in the Eng. use of the word there appears to be no evidence of any reference to shape. The Heb. word is in translation of Matt. xiii. 45 used for 'piece of money' (rendering L. *stater*).

c 900 *Bede's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 16 Berende on wegge unsmæte ærfæstnes, leades & reoflres. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 60 Hi bebw yrflisn heora are...on summe xyldenum wegge, and done on sae swæppan. c 1100 *Glos.* in Wr.-Wülcker 141/34 *Metallum*, ælces kynnes weorc of ænigum ofne. 1298 *Abbr. Plac.* (1811) 318 Wyllip *Il ke.* (1880) 49 Þei wiken not touche an halpeny or ferþing wiþ þe coyn...of þe king,...a weg of siluer or a cuppe of gold þei wolen breke. 1438 *Libel of Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 171 Also Prusse mens make here aventure Of plate of syluer, of wegges gode and sure In grete plente. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (1858) 158 Þe Iewes...made þe vesselesof syluyr whech longed on-to þe cherch to be molten, and þe weggis þerof be sold and depated to per men. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xxii. 8 With many goodes of gold & Syluer, 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Josh.* vii. 21 Two hundreth shekels of siluer and a wedge of golde of fyfte shekels weight. (So 1611 (*margin*), Heb. tunge). 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Aurum purum, infectum*, gold vncoyned, and in the wedge. 1613 [see INGOT 3]. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 140 Fifty thousand Talents of vncoyned Gold, besides siluer wedges. 1694 BRADLEY *Dict. Turneller* s.v. Tis like a child's slighting a wedge of gold, and rather pursuing an empty bubble because it shines and glitters. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (1840) 196, I found there...some small Bars or Wedges of Gold.

b. *Cant.* Silver, whether money or plate.

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Wedge*, Plate, or Silver or Gold Moveables and Trinkets: Also Money. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A convenient fencing repository, from the lady's take to the nobleman's wedge. 1821 *Life D. Haggerston* (ed. 2) 58, I had some wedge planted in garnet on South Leith...I was anxious to convert it into blunt. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 Between two and three I turns over a pawnbroker's shop, and gets safe away with a lot of wedge—that's silver plate.

*attrib.* 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Wedge*, A wedge-feeder, a silver-spoon. 1839 AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* II. xiv. A wedge-lobb, otherwise a silver spoon-lobb.

4. A lump or cake of any solid substance.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 146 b, The Creame is...put into a vessell...wherin with often beating and mouning up and downe, it commeth to a certaine heyght: then they seuer the thinnest part of from the thicke, which at the fyrst gather together in little crombles, and after with the continuance of the violente beating, they ioyne together in wedge, or cake [I. *in massam cogatur*]. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 57 When you have churned, wash your Butter...and beat it well...; let it stand in a Wedge...till the next morning. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley* I. iv. 74 Different kinds of rude money...it skins in one country, shells in another, and wedges of salt in a third.

5. *transf.* & *fig.* A formation of troops tapering to the front or van, in order to cleave a way through an opposing force. (Orig. after L. *cuneus*; cf. *wedge-battle* in 10.) Now more widely of a body of people.

1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* II. xii. § 7, 152 Taking a choise Company of the most able men, he made them into the forme of a Wedge, or Diamond. 1625 H. PEACHAM *Relat. Affairs Cleve & Gulick* C 2 b, The Horse...were shewne in the field in order of fight: that in manner which they call the Wedge, called of the old Romans, *Cuneus*. 1674 MILTON *P. R.* III. 399 See how in warlike muster they appear, In Rhombs and wedges, and half moons, and wings. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 842 One Soul inspiring all, Form'd in a Wedge, the Foot approach the Wall. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. 1822 SHELLEY *Hellas* 377 Thrice their keen wedge of battle pierced our lines. 1897 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 2/1 A wedge of 15 or 23 policemen were endeavouring to be driven into that meeting. 1900 M. HEWLETT *Richard Yeaand-Nay* II. iv, The wedge held firm; red work for axe and

swords while it lasted 1913 J. H. Morrison *On Trail Ironcrete* 1 Every entrance is blocked, and down every gang way in turn one by one a floating people has been driven deep into the heart of the house.

**b** The V shaped formation adopted by a number of geese or other wildfowl when flying

[1705 Watts *Logick* II. ii. § 2 The wild Geese flew over the Thames in the Form of a Wedge.] 1809 Blackmore *Fornic. Doomsday* xxii, So like half a wedge of wildfowl, to and fro we swept the field 1889 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 5/3 I here drifts over the moor a wedge of clangorous geese, making for the Channel

**c** *gen.* Something in the form of a wedge, a wedge-shaped part or piece of anything

1821 Shelley *Ad nasc.* I, One keen pyramid with wedge like shine, Pavilioning the dust of him who fled This refuge for his memory. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, A pot of the real draught stout, and cushions of bread, and wedges of cheese. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xiii. 89 The ice here was cut up into a wedge. 1889 H. Saunders *Man. Brit. Birds* 660 The three outer primaries are finely black which becomes paler towards the edges of the inner webs though there is no grey 'wedge.' 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 430 It is better, instead of removing such a kidney to treat each focus independently by scraping or by the excision of part only.

**d.** A strip of land narrowing to a point

1678 Phillips (ed. 4) *Wedge* a Sand so called, being broad at the West end and sharp at the East end and lies on the South side of the Margate Sands. 1861 Mc Murchison *Silur.* xvii (ed. 4) 412 The Coal field thins out so much that to the west of Bethune it has merely become a narrow wedge. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 771/2 The white wedge of Ashton Island is now on our port bow.

**e** In an organ (see quot.).

1852 Stiehl *Organ* 78 The wedge of the mouth is the interval between the under lip and the language.

**f** *Meteorol.* A narrow wedge shaped area of high pressure between two adjacent cyclonic systems, also the representation of this on a weather chart

1887 R. Abercromby *Weather* II. 26 Between the two cyclones the isobar of 29.9 ins. projects upwards like a wedge or an inverted letter V. This wedge of closed high pressure, this shape of lines is called a wedge

**g** The wedge shaped stroke in cuneiform characters. Also *attrib.*

1861 Rich *Babyl. & P.* (1839) 240 The wedges in the third [kind of inscription] cross each other. 1883 T. Evans *Fis Assyri* I. 8 The kind of writing in the copies with the wedge as its fundamental element is by them perfectly new.

1881 Tylor *Anthrop.* I. ii. Deciphered from the wedge characters of Nineveh. 1915 Pinches in *Pro. Soc. Bibl. Archæol* XXXVII. 90 We have a direct testimony to the practice outside the wedge inscriptions.

**h.** Short for *wedge-shell* (see 10).

1825 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol* 157 Wedge, *Donax*

**6** *Geom.* **a** A triangular prism. **b** A simple solid formed by cutting a triangular prism by any two planes.

1709 J. Clarke tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 87 Let ABC represent a Wedge, and let CG be perpendicular to AB. 1809 *Nat. Philos., Mech.* II. x. 43 (U.K.S.) A Wedge is a solid figure, which is contained by a triangular prism. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 418/1 The wedge being merely the frustum of a triangular prism we have at once [etc.] 1894 A. Lodge *Mensuration* 7 If from a triangular prism of indefinite length a piece is cut off by two transverse planes which are not parallel, this piece is called a wedge.

**7** *Her.* A charge consisting of an isosceles triangle with the acute angle at its vertex

1716 S. Kent *Gramm. Her., Practic. of Norfolk*; His heareth Or, three Wedges Sa. 1780 Et. Mondoun *Her.* II. *Alph. Arms, Esam or Isham* Vert three wedges ar. 1847 W. S. Evans *Gramm. Her.* 151 The Nail (sometimes called the Passion nail) must be conjoined with the Wedge, which is of course wider at the top and in shape something like a pale.

**8** Cambridge University. *The (woo'den) wedge* the student last in the classical tripos list.

The counterpart to the 'wooden spoon' is the Wooden *a*), designating the last man in the mathematical tripos was suggested by the fact that in the first classical tripos (1824) the last man was Wedgwood, of the first 6 College, afterwards famous as an English etymologist.

1852 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 251 Of the remainder, five were Wranglers, and the first of these, and a fifth a favorite for the Wedge. The last man is called the Wedge, corresponding to the Spoon in Mathematics.

**9** Combinations, chiefly similative, as *wedge-block, -bolt, -fashion, -form, -head, -shape, stone, -wood wedge-billed, -tailed* adjs.

1836 E. Stenhouse *Fam. Hist. Birds* III. (1848) 289 The Cuneirostral (*Wedge Billed*) 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions of War* 55 The breech is opened and closed by a "wedge block worked by a hinged lever. 1890 Greener *Breech Loader* 22 A round steel "wedge bolt. 1665 J. Wren *Stone Henge* 190 These [stones] also were either of a "Wedge fashion, or wedged under the Great One. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton Theory* 293 This "wedge form of the whin stone masses. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 June 4/2 A dive on which black and white wedge form was used. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 343/1 These [bars of steel] are welded together by forging to "wedge heads, trying together with vice [etc.] 1811 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb., Scot.* I. 45 The white thorn [hedge] when properly trained, and occasionally cut over or dressed in the "wedge shape, will last for ages. 1895 Hoffman *Begin Writing* 141 The end of the stick would be sharpened into a wedge shape. 1892 *Mechanics' Mag.* 10 July 53 When taper or "wedge sided type is employed the cylinder need not be more in circumference than the size of the sheet of paper. 1894 C. F. de Warren tr. *De Saulty's Round Dead Sea* II. 113 The voussoir, or early "wedge stone. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 53 "Wedge woods consist of two wooden wedges connected by a piece of cane. These wads are to be rammed home separately after the projectiles

**10** Special comb. • **wedge-battle** = sense 5 *a*, **wedge bill**, a bird with a wedge shaped bill, as (*a*) the Australian *Sphenostoma cristatum*, (*b*) a South American humming bird of the genus *Schistes*, **wedge bone**, †(*a*) the sphenoid bone, (*b*) a small bone sometimes occurring in lizards on the under-surface of the spinal column at the junction of a pair of vertebræ, **wedge coral** (see quot.), **wedge-dramming**, a mode of draining land, somewhat similar to *plug dramming*, **wedge-fern**, a fossil fern of the genus *Sphenopteris*, **wedge fish** *Naut.* (see quot.), **wedge form**, *-formed adjs.* (see Wedge-shaped), **wedge-grafting** (see quots.), **wedge-gun**, a field-gun in which a wedge is used in closing the breech, **wedge leaf fern** = *wedge-fern*, **wedge-micrometer**, a graduated wedge-shaped piece of metal or glass, to be thrust between two fixed points to determine their distance apart, **wedge-photometer** *Astr.*, an instrument consisting of a wedge of glass, used for measuring the comparative brightness of stars, **wedge press**, a press used for extracting oil from seeds, **wedge-shell**, a marine bivalve, belonging to *Donax* or allied genera, **wedge-tailed** *a.*, having a wedge-shaped tail, used *spec.* in the names of birds, as the wedge-tailed eagle (*Uroaetus audax*) of Australia, and the wedge-tailed gull, *Rhodostethia rosea*.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 78 Out of a square of men hath ben reduced a triangle or "wedge battell in perfect order 13 fight. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 373 The wedge battell of the Christians could not of the Turks be broken. 1848 Gould *Birds of Australia* III. pl. 17 Lesser "Wedge bill. 1776 *Trocbil. IV.* pl. 219 *Schistes acuminatus* 1st Masked Wedge bill *Ibid.* Pl. 220 White throated Wedge bill. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 442 *Sphenoides* or the "Wedge bone. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 442 The 23 bone is sub vertebral wedge bone is commonly developed beneath and between the 2d. third bone and the body of the second vertebra. 1882 *Garden* 21 Oct. 324/3 The smooth tailed or "Wedge coral *Sphenotrochus Macandrewanus Ibid.* 326 The Knotted Wedge-coral *Sphenotrochus Wrightii.* 1830 *South Conch. Cab.* 23 in *Libr. Useful Know. Mollusk* II. 1 The "wedge or brick dramming is certainly not so well known among practical farmers as its merits deserve. 1867 W. W. Smith *Coal & Coal-mining* 36 "Sphenopteris (*Wedge fern*) 1867 Smith *Dict. Apiculture* (ed. 2) 182 The "wedge fork and top gallant masts in two parts lifting by shores and sett wedges 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 221 Ovatedly "wedge form 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 15 In many plants the wedge form plates appear as an irregular cellular tissue 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 188 A longitudinal, "wedge form [, squivalved bivalve 1862 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 265 I have packets cohere into many wedge formed masses in Orchis 1838 W. Barron in *Gardener's Mag.* XIV. 80 Remarks on *Wedge-grafting Dendrium* on the Cedar of Lebanon is accomplished by what I call "wedge grafting 1824 Loudon *Suburbs in Hort.* § 657 Wedge grafting is a modification of side grafting. *Ibid.* § 664 Herbaceous wedge-grafting may be performed by the union into a wedge shape, and inserting it into a corresponding slit in the stock 1870 Vyse & Stevenson *Mistl. Dict.* (ed. 3) "Wedge Gun 1851 Mantell *Petr.* I. 32 The other characteristic Wealden plant is the Sphenopteris (*S. Mantelli*) or "wedge leaf fern 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Micrometer*, "Wedge micrometer 1889 *Dublin Univ. Exper. Farm. R. Astron.* 10 XLVI. 230 The question, then, arises as to the applicability of the "wedge-photometer to the measurement of the magnitude of such stars 1842 *Penny Mag.* Sept. 381 The triturated seeds were put into wo llen bags which were wrapped up in hair cloth, and then submitted to the "wedge press 1820 Woodrich *Introd. Conchol.* 23 Donax — "Wedge shell 1848 Gould *Birds of Australia* II. pl. 1 "Wedge tailed Eagle 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer Birds* 316 Wedge tailed or Ross Rosy Gull 1898 "R. Bolderwood *Convict Forest Kons* 73 The great wedge tailed Eagle soaring above them.

**Wedge** (wedʒ), *v.*[1] Also 5–6 **wegge.** [f. Wedge *sb.*]

**1** *trans.* To tighten, fasten tight by driving in a wedge or wedges Also with *in, on, up.*

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wedge wythe a wegge [*Wedge with a wegge, cuneo* 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 24 That maye be done, to take the vices and drawe them to, and wedge faste and harde, and than wedge them above with drye woode of oke. 1667 Boyle in *Phil. Trans.* II. 500 A piece of Iron, which was wedged in with a piece of cork. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 66 The Iron [of the Plane] being then well wedg'd up. 1722 A. Phillips *Britton* III. v. 32 My Master straight sends for the Prince. Store them with Spears wedge on the keenest Scythes. a 1790 W. Newton in *Vitruv.* (1812) II. 240 When posts are placed under them, and wedged, the beams cannot settle or be strained. 1818 Jane Austen *Emma* I. xxvii, I have been assisting Miss Fairfax in trying to make her instrument stand steadily. You see we have been wedging one leg with paper. 1826 Gwilt tr. *Vitruvius* II. xi. 21 (1860) 148 When posts are introduced and wedged up under them, the beams are prevented from sagging. 1840 H. S. Tanner *Canals & Rail. Roads* (ed. 3) 131 The wooden key used in wedging fast the upper string piece. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Compressed trenails would hold tighter than the trenails now used, which require to have the points split and wedged up. 1875 *Carpentry & Joinery* 55 The simple but useful operation of wedging tenon and mortice joints

†**b** *transf.* and *fig.* To fasten firmly or attach *to Obs.*

1609 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* IV. 191 Both the Emperours seeking to win and wedge to their seuerall Factions by faire Promises. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinalate* II. 46 They find the Prelates and Popes themselves, so wedg'd and link'd to Secular advantages, they have not time to think upon God.

†**c** To render (a gun) useless by the insertion of a wedge. *Obs.*

1680 *Exact Jrnl. Siege Tangier* 8 Leaving the Guns double shotted, spiked and wedged with steel *Ibid.* 11 The Men of Charles Fort having Spiked and Wedged their great Guns

**d** *To wedge up* to raise a ship before launching, by means of slivers or wedges driven between the false keel and the bilgeways

1879 H. Collingwood *Secret of Sands* xix, Four months saw her caulked, her seams paid, her hull painted, and, in short, everything ready, even to wedging up, for launching

**2** To cleave or split by driving in a wedge

1530 Palsgr. 778/1, I wedge a blocke, I put in a wedge to cleave it *Je coigne* Wedge this blocke, it will rive the sooner. 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 35 My heart As wedged with a sigh, would rive in twaine. 1678 (see Wedging *vbl. sb.* 1]

**b** To split *off*, to force *apart, asunder*, or *open*, by driving in a wedge Also *fig.*

1823 Kane *Gunnell Lap* xlvi. (1856) 183 And even now great ledges are wedged off from the hillsides by the ice. 1865 Carlyle *Frederick Gt.* xix. vi. (1873) VIII. 301 Friedrich and he are wedged asunder by that idea of Russians and Austrians. 1873 Mocgridge *Hark Antizi* 33 Having contrived to wedge off several large flakes of the rock. 1894 *Ark ance* (Chicago) Oct. 4 It is not commonly known that but the little ones which wedge pastor and people apart. 1914 H. Balfour in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Instit.* XLIV. 33 A billet of lime wood, split at one end and wedged open with a stone.

**3** *transf.* To drive, push, or squeeze (an object) into something where it is held fast; to fix firmly by driving in, or by pressing tight. Const. *into, in, under, between* Also with *adv.* as *in, up, down.*

1593 Douglas *Æneis* xv. 85 Quhill that the lance wedgit deip within hir cost stude. 1607 Dekker *Wonder of Banket* II. i, Fall thunder, And wedge me into earth, stuffe me I am. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 58 Among the crow'd i' th' abbey, Where a long Time we did not be wedg'd An inch more. 1658 Cleveke *Body of Man* 442 *Sphenoides* or the "Wedge bone is wedged in between the Os Petrosum. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. viii. 292 Here we hawl'd our Boat and Canoe they take up together, they often find great lumps, wedg'd between the Rocks. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 985 Sergestus in the Centaur soon he passed, Wedg'd in the Rocky Shoales, and sticking fast. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. iii, Squeezing my legs together, [he] wedged them into the narrow bone above my waist. 1784 Foote *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 353, I was wedged so close in that place I could not get out. 1806 A. Duncan *Life of Nelson* 12 They therefore fast wedged in the ice. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. 336 If a coach or a cart entered either alley, it was no longer that it would be wedged between the houses. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* VII. 43 The boy tried to wedge some of his cake into her mouth. 1862 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, Driven into that nook, and wedged as I e had described, was Gaffer s bat. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 1370 1 If they are permitted to go on, they will wedge themselves between the Germans, and be al le to enfilade the corps on each side. 1890 *Hardtmuth's Sex Cosmos* XXVI. 239 In its persevering search for the snails, it had got its head deeply wedged some distance into the wall. 1908 H. Watts *Old Allegiance* I. 14 He sat with his pipe firmly wedged in the corner of his mouth

**b** *fig.*

1607 Shake. *Cor.* II. iii. 30 Nay your wit will not so soone out as another mans will, 'tis strongly wedg'd vp in a blocke head. a 1659 Br. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. xxvi. 340 If wedges in the other Prayer for a competency of temporal things. 1730 *Scotland's Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 29 Having been wedged down in this detestable place [the Fleet prison] by an incurable and painful malady, poverty and tatters

**4.** To pack or crowd (a number of persons or animals) in close formation, or in a limited space Also with *together.*

1790 Penr. *Tour* xvii. 346 While Greece a heavy, thick Retreat maintains, Wedg'd in one Body like a Flight of Cranes. 1798 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. (1789) I. 16 The strength of the phalanx consisted in sixteen ranks of long pikes, wedged together in the closest array. 1807 J. Farlow *Calumet* III. 766 Here Zamor ranged his ax men deep and wide, Wedged like a wall and thus the king defied. 1844 Maria J. Anstar *Hints to Mothers* II. 88 The room was wedged with people. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus Epith.* 64 Wedged round it. 1871 Carlyle in *Hist. Caricat. Lett.* (1885) I. 8 The 2,000 human figures, wedged in the huge room into one dark mass, would be locked down upon

**5** *intr.* **a.** To become fixed or jammed tight by (or as by) the operation of a wedge.

1706 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55 Which all wedge together and intersect one another both with equal and unequal Angles. 1893 *Engineering* 17 Feb. 192/2 The men started carefully, holding the saw quite true that later it might not wedge.

**b.** To force one's way *in, on, through, etc.*

1826 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* III. iii. 36 This comes of haunting The *Globes*, and *Mermaides*! wedging in with Lords, still at the table!

**c.** *To wedge their way*, to fly in a wedge-shaped formation, tapering to the front or van *poet.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 426 Part loosly wing the Region, part more wise In common rang'd in figure wedge their way

**Wedge** (wedʒ), *v.*[2] In 7 **wegge.** [Of obscure origin, the modern form is probably less correct than the earlier *wagge*, but cf. Wedge *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To cut (wet clay) into masses and work them by kneading and throwing down, in order to expel air-bubbles. Hence **Wedging** *vbl. sb.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 123 [Potter's clay] is brought to the wageing board, where it is slit into flat thin pieces...: This being done, they wage it, i.e. knead or mould it like bread. 1824 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 461 Wedging the clay is a similar process [to that of slapping]...The presser cuts off, with a thin brass wire, a piece of clay from the mass, which he slaps forcibly between the palms of his hands, and then with great violence throws it on the board. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1011 The first of which is called the potter's *slopping* [ed. 3, 1860 *slapping*] or *wedging*. 1882 W. White *Workm.* xxvii. 297 The [pug-mill], however, continued to work, and in time convinced the men of their stupidity; and now, if a man were ordered to 'wedge' his own clay, his answer would be 'Aw'll stroike first'. *Ibid.*, The clay...is thrown into the 'pug-mill', or 'wedging-mill', a large upright cylinder, in which it is forced or screwed gradually downwards, and extruded at the bottom in a continuous cubical mass.

**Wedge**, obs. var. Wage *sb.* and *v.*

1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Wedge a pledge, *gaige, pleige. Ibid.* 778/1, I wedge, I lay in pledge, *je gaige.* I wedge my bond it is not so.

**Wedged** (wedʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wedge *sb.* and *v.*1 + -ed.] Shaped like a wedge.

1552 Huloet, Wedged, *cuneatus*. 1720 A. Philips *Briton* I. 1 In Chariots, fang'd with Scythes, they scour the Field: Drive through and wedged Battalions with a Whirl. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 307 The Key-Stone in the middle is wedged, and, as we say, Swallow-tail'd. 1822 Campbell *Gert. Wyom.* iii. xxv. With...arrowy frize, and wedged ravelin. *a* 1823 A. Wilson *Foresters* Wks. (Belfast 1846) 250 Above, around, in numerous flocks are seen Long lines of ducks o'er this dividing scene; Some to the lake in wedged divisions bend. 1827 *Encycl. Lond.* XXII. 806/2 Two fore-teeth, of which the upper are wedged, the lower are acute. 1877 *Encycl. Metropol. Mayday* 23 Or hark, Where yon wedged line the Nestor leads, Steering north with raucous cry Through tracts and provinces of sky. 1894 Theakle *Naval Archit.* 336 The cover being secured by wedged buttons worked with a spanner. 1891 *Century Dict., Wedged*, in *zool.*, wedge-shaped: cuneiform or cuneate: as, a wedged bone; a wedged tail of a bird.

**Wedge-like** (wedʒlaik), *a.* [f. Wedge *sb.* + -like.] Like or resembling a wedge.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 48 There are commonly sixe bones, which compasse the braine on eche side, besides that which is called the wedge-like bone, which is vnder the pallat of the mouth. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 The Wedge-like-forme of the country. 1692 Bentley *Theophila* x. xcii, But still thy knotty Brain with wedg-like Anguish cleave. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 239 Of these [teeth] there are six rows,..sharp-pointed, and of a wedge-like figure. 1822 *Imperial Engin. & Arch. Treat.* III. 125/1 They are farther secured by a wedgelike pin driven into their centres. 1829 *Edinburgh Syst. Med.* VIII. 508 Diminished by degrees into a wedge-like steeple.

**Wedge-shaped** (wedʒ-ʃēpt), *a.* Shaped like a wedge, cuneiform; *Bot.* and *Zool.* = Cuneate.

1788 J. White *Trnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 143 The tail [of this bird] is long and wedge-shaped. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 843 Leaves wedge-shaped. 1837 *Lond. Engin. & Arch. Trnl.* I. 24/2 The rafters to be of wood.., and the section to be wedge-shaped. 1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 10 If very much wider at the point than at any other part, they [leaves] are *cuneate* or *wedge-shaped.* 1867 Schele de Vere *Studies in English* 10 The wedge-shaped inscriptions of Cyrus, Darius, and Xerxes. 1893 Tucker tr. *Haltsche's Amphisbæna* 90 Changing to high and sharply pointed wedge-shaped cells.

**Wedgewise** (wedʒ,waiz), *adv.* [f. Wedge *sb.* + -wise.] After the manner, in the form, of a wedge.

1548 *Hyot's Dict., Cuneatim*, wedgewyse, by lyttell bandes or companies, imbattayled wedgewise. 1600 Holland *Livy* II. 1. 79 They...with a pointed battaile wedgewise pierced through and made themselues passage. 1610 *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 It lieth Wedg-wise upon the sea. 1657 R. Carpenter *Astrol.* 28 That these words may be understood to the bottom, and withstand all Objections and that no opposition may wedge-wise enter upon them. 1703 Neve *City & C. Purchaser* 10 Bricks moulded...Wedge-wise, broader above, than they are below. 1712 Ozell *Tatlocke's Anthropom.* 140 We saw the oval notochord transverse section still wedged in between the cells of the mesenteron...In the region of the later segments we still find the former condition of the wedging.

**b.** *concr.* A wedge-shaped piece or pieces of some hard material driven in for tightening or securing.

1824 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 337 The wheels are fixed on the shaft by means of a wedging of hard wood, driven in all round.

**2.** *Geol.* The jutting *out* or flaking *off* (of rock, etc.), as if by the operation of a wedge.

1819 J. Fowler *Coal-Field District* (1822) 21 At one point of this natural section, an instructive example of what is called by geologists the *wedging out* of a bed, is observable. 1882 A. Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* VII. 928 Their naked precipices are kept bare and steep by the wedging off of successive slices of rock along lines of joint.

Vol. X.

**3.** *Sport.* (See quot.)

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583 *Sprainf*, the excrement of the otter: also called *wedging.*

**4.** *attrib.*, as *wedging joint*; **wedging crib**, curb *Mining* (see Crib *sb.* 12 and Curb *sb.* 10).

1839 Ure *Dict. Art* 972 Three kinds of cribs are employed; called wedging, spiking, and main cribs. *Ibid.* 973 The flange for the wedging joint is bent turned inwards. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Wedging-work* or *Wedging-crib, Eng.*

**Wedgwood** (we·dgwud). Also incorrectly **Wedgewood.** [A proper name: see below.]

**1.** Used *attrib.* to designate the pottery made by Josiah Wedgwood (1730–95) and his successors at Etruria, Staffs. The best-known kinds are vases, plaques, medallions, etc., of fine clay lightly glazed, with classical designs in white relief on a blue or black ground.

Sometimes spelt with lower-case initial.

1787 Cowan *Noble's Vert.* iii. 3, She's...quite dark; but very elegant; like a Wedgwood tea-pot. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 368 A piece of black Wedgwood-pottery. *Ibid.*, Wedgwood-wares. 1819 G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 374 A still simpler...method is to place the filters in a wedgewood basin on the sand bath. 1861 J. Gardner *Househ. Med.* 410 Two Wedgwood-ware mortars...and pestles to match. 1880 *Cassl. Internatl. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6892. Solid jasper, that is the material now exclusively called Old Wedgwood Ware. 1883 Sir J. D. Hooker in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 133 I sent [Darwin] a wedgewood medallion of my Father.

**b.** Used to designate the blue colour which is characteristic of Wedgwood ware.

1900 *Bluebd* (Bath) 28 Mar. 6/3 You will recollect how many of the Christmas cards were wedgewood blue last year. *Ibid.* 7/1, The wedgewood frock I have described. 1902 *Daily Graphic* 20 Oct. 13/2 Touches of cherry colour or Wedgwood blue insets of velvet.

**c.** *fig.* Of literary pottery or ware. Also with *pl.*, a piece or specimen of this.

1863 Sir J. D. Hooker in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 78 Wedgwoods are an unspeakable relief to me. I look over them when Quadrilling evening, and poke them all the little second-hand shops I pass in London, seeking medallions. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Mar. 3/1 Mr. Cornelius Cox's unique collection of old Wedgwood. 1892 *Ibid.* 25 Mar. 6/3 The very choice collection of old Wedgwood belonging to the late Mr. W. D. Holt, of Liverpool.

**2.** Designating the scale of temperature used in the pyrometer invented by Josiah Wedgwood for testing the heat of kilns. The zero corresponds to 1077° F.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 510 Flint-glass melts at the temperature of 130° Wedgwood.

**Wedgy** (we·dʒi), *a. rare.* [f. Wedge *sb.* + -y1.] Resembling a wedge; shinped like a wedge.

1799 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXVIII. 225 An attraction of cohesion..which is darting its wedgy crystals in every direction, and severing, with restless interstitial force, the once close-knit loose and feeble organization of every contiguous state. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timotheus* Wks. II. 31/2 He...pushed his wedgy snout far within the *Aphrodisium*. 1862 J. Inman *Text Life in Tigerland* 296 She shoots from aloft and cleaves the water with her wedgy beak.

**+ Wedhood.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Wed *ppl. a.* + -hood.] The married state.

*c* 1440 [see Weddehood].

**Wedir, weder,** obs. forms of Whether.

**Wedir(e,** obs. forms of Weather.

**Wedirwyn(e,** variants of Withewind.

**Wedlock** (we·dlɔk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **wedlāc,** 2–3 **wedlac,** (*Ormin* **weddlac**), 3–4 **wedlak(e, wedlayk, 4 weddelak, wedlak,** (5 **vedlak**), 6 **wedlake;** 4–7 **wedlok,** 4–6 **wedlock,** 5–7 **wedlocke,** 7– **wedlock.** Also **wedlic, i, wedl** (spelling), Wed *sb.* + *-lāc* suffix forming nouns of action: see *-lock* in *Additions*, etc., Preface to the letter L.

In two vocabularies of the 11th c. *wedlāc* renders L. *arrabo* earnest-money: but the sense, if it existed, did not survive into M.E.

**†1.** The marriage vow or obligation. Chiefly in phrases, *to hold, keep wedlock*, to be faithful in marriage; *to break (one's) wedlock*, to commit adultery. *Obs.*

*a* 1200 *Ancren Riwle* 130 Ich wulle, wedlac, wiðsakenie. 1205 *Lay.* 29107 Ich wulle þet ȝe wedlac healden. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 15 *O. E. Misc.* 150 Heo þat her wedlake brekeþ To beore mube þe flod take. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 305 For alle kepid they here maydynhod Or this wedlok. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 3 Kepe your wedlokes. 1490–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11 207 How wedlocke betwyxte man and woman shulde be kepte after the lawe of god. *c* 1532 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 35 To wedlocke. 1538 Starkey *Exhort.* v. 32 And whosoever breketh that is divorsed, breketh wedlocke. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* Pref. A iii, None remembred the true observation of wedlocke. 1579 Rich *Farewel. Worn Ep.*, Christe saunswered...Thou shalte not breake wedlocke: Thou shalte not kill. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 142 *Æmil.* That she was false to Wedlocke? *Oth.* I, with all my heart. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. i. 124 Your Mother was most true to Wedlock.

**2.** The condition of being married; marriage as a state of life or as an institution; matrimonial relationship. Now only in literary or legal use.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Uor hwuso hit euer is idon,..bute one ine wedlake, hit is deadlich sunne. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus M.S.) 13 Hit [*sc.* coliun] is tah in wedlac sammes weis to bolien. *Ibid.* 23 Wedlac hauð hire feut þritid fald in bealnesse; widewehad, sixti fald. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11301 For many come neuer yn wedlak But for þe fyrst counaunt hat man spak. *c* 1360 Lovel. *Dk. & Lion* (Pitts M.) 1. 2200 (MS. T.) Sibye lawe hab y-graundit hat iche man hauue a make in maner of wedlak. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 20 Noon oother lyf, seyde he, is worth a bene, For wedlok is so ioyned to torture That in this world it is a Paradys. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 253 In a nyȝt whan þei hadde i-payde dette of wedlok ryȝte to oþer. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xiii. 265 In lele wedlak þou lede þe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Yf scho had conceyuet out of wedlocke, þe lewes wold haue sayde scho had ben a lechour. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xiii. 46 Iuno, the goddesse of wedlocke. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Marriage* 14 b, Forasmuche as N. and N. haue consented together in holye wedlocke. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 287 They put away their wyues, and enter againe into wedlocke. 1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 68 Of Venus in wedlock theo daughter [*Veneris ouerui*]. 1595 Shake. *John* I. i. 117 Your brother is Legitimate, Your Mother chaste as Heauen, that made him, And bath him spent your Fathers Honour on, A That kind of loue which is the perfectest ground of wedlocke is seldome able to yeeld any reason of it why. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 39 [The Banians] so extreamely honour Wedlocke, that they seldome are vnmarried at seuen yeares of age. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1331 Hee weds her, and thought his barrenness In wedlock a reproach. 1765 Foote *Commissary* I. 9, I look upon wedlock to be a kind of lottery. 1797 S. James *Narr. Yeo.* 170 He offered himself his partner in wedlock. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. 256 Children from wedlock we by laws restrain. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* I. i, Sir Arthur had two children by wedlock. 1854 Milman *Lat. Christ.* vii. (1864) III. 21 Frederick, the Archbishop, was a married man; his wedlock had neither diminished his power nor barred his canonisation. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. iv. 34 In her early days of wedlock, he neglected her.

*fig.* *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxii. 25 To god, thi wedlok wil lowe holde. *c* 1530 Lyndesay *Monarche* Prol. (Chalm.) This euell...nacion (which breake ȝe wedlocke of faith wherwith they be maried vn to God).

*transf.* 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 301 Instructed thus, produce him [the stallion] to the Fair; And join in Wedlock to the longing Mare.

**b.** *Born in* (or † *under*), *out of wedlock*: said distinctively of legitimate or illegitimate offspring. Now the most frequent use of the sb.

*c* 1205 Lay. 295 Arabcus heuede enne broþer þe was under wedlac boren. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conc.* 2261 Som bat er in lele wedlayk born. *c* 1400 *Gesta Romanorum* (G.) 250 In wedlayk I-wys, and nowe wedlayk I was born. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxiii. 451 Sire Aglouale was his yrste sone begoten in wedlok. 1549 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 160 His brethren and sisters gotten in wedlock. 1594 *Carew Nicest. Scdar.* v. 219 Those children which are born under wedlock. 1675 *Charac. Town-Gallant* 2 He is no better an Enemy to Marriage, that would suspect him born out of lawful Wedlock. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 434 A legitimate child is he that is born in lawful wedlock. 1824 W. Irving *T. Travel.* II. n. 25, I forgave the fellow..his two heinous crimes, of having been born in wedlock, and inheriting my estate. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* II. 97 He did not believe that little Bessy was born in wedlock. 1901 *Encycl. Brit. Suppl.* XVI. 304/1 Where questions arise, how far, if at all, English law recognizes the legitimacy of a person born out of wedlock.

**c.** In particularized sense: A matrimonial union; a married life.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* ix. 152 And þus bourw cursed caym cam care vppon erbe; And al for þei wrouȝt wedlokes azein goddis wille. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 206 Thys lesson telleth, how holy a wedlocke was betwyxte Joachym and Anne. *Ibid.* 207 Whyle he [God] beheldе all the rightwys and honeste wedlockes that shulde be from the fyrste makeynge of man vnto the laste of all. 1581 Sidney *Sonnet's Herc. Œtæus* ii. 107 O woefull wight, it pitieth vs to see Thy wedlock in this tickle state to bee. 1624 Fletcher *Wife* v. (1640) 64 This Sacrilledge to violate the wedlock. 1823 Scott *Betrothed* xii, It was then your mother..of whose unhappy wedlock you have spoken? 1846 Jerrold *St. Giles and St. James* ii. 18 Snipson's wife in her winding-sheet, might so have solemnised a second wedlock.

**†d.** A marriage ceremony, wedding. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 1254 Hi Runge þe belle þe wedlak for to telle.

**†3.** A wife. *Obs.*

**a.** 1561 Nuce *Seneca's Octavia* iv. L F iij, Cæsars wedlock are you. 1587 Turberv. *Ovid's Epist.* 149 b, [Ulysses says] But I, not forcing of my wedlocks good, my wedlock best. 1597 Golding *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 213 He heard his wedlocke shreeking out, and did her calling knowe. 1620 B. Jonson *Fortunate Isl.* iii. Wks. (1640) 1000/2 Wedlocke, Menelaus? thy Hellen? 1665 Chapman *All Fooles* i. ii. 118 Valerio, here's a simple means for you to have vp Nicke and manger with your wedlocke. 1668 Marston *Insatiate* (1.) I. C 3, But to lie with ones brothers wedlocke, O my deere Herod, 'tis vile and vncommon lust. 1822 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* i. i. F 4 b, He makes For quarrelling wedlockes, and poore shifting starters. 1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* v. vi, The most true constant lover of his wedlock. 1690 Dryden *Don Sebast.* ii. ii, For his Wedlock for all her haughtiness, I find her coming.

**4.** *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. (now *rare* or *Obs.*) as in *wedlock-band, -bed, -debt, -knot*, etc.

1488 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 194 To pay wedlocke debt bit is of no syn. 1559 *Mirr. for Magistr.* (Skelton's Introd.) In the choyse of their wedlock mates. 1580 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* v. 457 By wedlocke copulation we came into the world. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 243 Be loyne mine eldest daughter..To him forthwith, in holy Wedlocke bands. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 32 She kneeles and prayes For happy wedlocke houres. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 150 While a Wedlocke Hymne we sing. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* v. i, Will it please you to taste of the wedlock courtesie? 1624 Davenport *City Night-cap* ii. (1661) 17

Since our marriage, I have perform'd So fairly all judicial wedlock-offices, That [etc.]. 1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Old Old Man* B 3 b, She dead, he ten yeares did a Widdower stay: Then once more ventred in the Wedlock way. 1671 Milton *Samson* 986 Who to save Her countrey from a fierce destroyer chose Above the faith of wedlock-bands. *Ibid.* 1009 Love-quarrels oft in pleasing concord end, Not wedlock treachery endangering life. 1819 Scott *Noble Moringer* i, It was the noble Moringer in wedlock bed he lay. 1824 Sykes tr. *Æschylus' Agamemnon* 64 To Ilion came the wedlock-woe.

† **b. wedlock-bound** *a.*, bound in marriage; **wedlock-breaker**, an adulterer; so **wedlock-breaking** *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wedlokbrekyng, or lechecraft. 1450 *Myrc Instr. Parish.* (Percy Soc.) 23 All wedlocke brekers. *c* 1530 Tindale *Jonah* Prol. (1863) B 3 b, This euell & wedlocke breakinge wer vnto . . . seale a signe. 1550 Latimer *Serm. Lincs.* i (1562) 67 Thou shalt not be a wedlock breaker. 1608 Torkell *Serpents* 267 Wedlocke breakers, & Sodomiticall-whoremongers. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 905 Abreadie linkt and Wedlock-bound To a fell Adversarie.

Hence † **We·dlock** *v. trans.*, to unite in marriage (in quots. *passive*); also (nonce-use), *to wedlock it*, to get married. † **We·dlockable** *a.*, marriageable. † **We·dlockhood**, the married state.

*c* 1290 *Hali Meid.* (Trans M S) 33 [If] þeos þe had, medenhad & widewehad, & te þridde, wedlachad [*Bodley MS.* wedlad]. 1557 Phaer *Æneid* VII. (1558) B iiij, Ony doughter did remayne. Now Iuuinalrdine, now wedlockable fall, of laufull yeres. 1644 Milton *Divorce* (ed. 2) 60 Is it not most likely that God in his Law had more pitty towards man thus wedlockt, then towards the woman that was created for another. 1692 N. Ingelo *Bent. & Myst.* Exp. Decl., That man . . will never feel himself less at ease for being wedlock't but to one. 1737 Ozell *Rabelais* iv. ix. 50 A single Person is never seen to enjoy that Joy and Solace that is found among those that are Wedlock't. Wedlock it then in the Name of God, quoth Pantagruel.

**Wedmell, -molo, -moll**, obs. ff. Waimal.

**Wednesday** (we·nzdē, -di). Forms: *a.* 1 **Wǽdnes dæ** (dēg), **Wǽdnesdæ**, -**dæg**, (3 *pl.* **-dawes**), 3–5 **Wednes-**, 4 **Wodnis-**, 5–6 **Wodens-**, **Wodinsday**. *β.* 3 **Wednes-**, **Weodnes-**, **Wendesdei**, 3–4 **Wednesdai**, 4 **Wendes-**, 4–5 **Wedenis-**, **Wedenys-**, **Wedenes-**, **Wednesday**, **-dai**, 4–7 **Wednis-**, 5 **Wyndenesse day**, *Sc.* **Wedynnisda**, 5–6 **Wed(d)ens-**, **Wed(d)nys-**, **Wednys-**, 6 **Weddynnis-**, **Wednis-**, **Wednz-**, *Sc.* **Weddynis-**, 6–7 **Weddins-**, 3– **Wednesday**. *γ.* **Wonnesdai**, 5 **Wan(n)ys-**, **Wones-**, **Won(n)ysday**; 3 **Wonnes-**, **Wi(h)nes-**, **Wonnesday**, **Wonstay**, 5–6 **Wennysday**, **Wensdaie**, 6 **Wenes-**, 4–7 **Wensday**(e. [OE. *Wódnes dæg* = OFris. *wônes-*, *woenis-*, *wern(ĕ)s-*, *wernes-*, *wern-*, *wer(ren)dei*, *wônsdei* (mod. WFris. *woandei*, *woansdei*, *wonsdei*, *wernsdei*, NFris. *winjdei*, *walensdei*), MLG. *Wôdenesdach*, *Gudensdag*, MDu. *Woendach* (mod.Du. *-dag*), ON. *Óðinsdagr* (Sw., Da. *Onsdag*), 'the day of (the god) *Woden*', a translation of late L. *Mercurii dies*, whence the name of the day in the Rom. langs. (F. *Mercredi*, Sp. *Miercoles*, It. *Mercoledì*). In High German the day appears always to have been called 'midweek' (mod.G. *Mittwoch*), although for the other days (exc. Saturday) the translated Roman (planetary) names were adopted as in the other WGer. langs. and ON.

The name of Woden (OE. *Wôden*, OS. *Wôden*, OHG. *Wuotan*, ON. *Óðinn* <O Teut. **Wōdanoz*) is referred to the Teut. root **wōð-*, found in OE. **wōð-* mad, furious (see Wood *a.*), ON. *óð-r* (:—**wōdo-z*) poetic frenzy, inspiration; cognate with L. *vātēs*, Irish *fáith*, prophet. The identification of Woden, the highest god of the Teutonic pantheon, with Mercury, appears already in Tacitus ('Deorum maxime Mercurium colunt', *Germ.* IX); it was probably chiefly suggested by Woden's character as the god of eloquence; another feature common to the German and the Roman deity is their swiftness and wide range of travel.

As representing the OE. *Wôdnes dæg*, the *β* forms are anomalous. The same irregularity appears in some of the Frisian forms above quoted, and in the English placenames Wednesbury and Wednesfield, Staffordshire, and Wensley, Derbyshire (1086 Domesday *Wodnesleie*, *c* 1200 *Wednesleie*). Some scholars have proposed to account for the change of vowel by the assumption that an unrecorded form **Wōden* (<**Wōdno-z*, with suffix-ablaut) existed in OE. and OFris. beside the form without umlaut: but the supposition involves even greater difficulties.

The uncontracted pronunciation (we·dnēdi), though not recognized in the dictionaries (Webster 1911 gives it as 'in British use, esp. in the north'), is not unfrequently heard from speakers belonging to the northern and north midland counties. The contracted pronunciation now prevailing goes back to the 15th *c.*: the earlier metathetic form *wendesdei* (*c* 1275) is noteworthy.]

The fourth day of the week.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark *Introd.* p. 5 *Feria iiii.* wodnes doeze. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. *Iheadinc*, On Wodnesdæg. *c* 1183 *O. E. Chron.* an 1123 (Laud MS.) On an Wodnes dei. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2215 Þet wes on Wodnesdei (*c. r.* Wednesdei, Weodnesdei) þet ha þus wende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Iben Aduent, & iðe Umbridawes, wodnesdawes, & fridawes. *c* 1275 Lay. 13905 Tydeus we þefue tisdei Woden we þefue wendesdei. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2432 In oure tonge ycleped in honour of him is wodnes day [*v. rr.* -*ȝyth* -*ȝ*, Wednesday, Wodenesday, Wodonesday, Wensdaye]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 370 + *Lunn* Monenday *Mars* Tiwisday *Mercurius* Wednesday. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 154 In a signe of the Saterday that setteþ þere þat kalendare, And al the witte of the Wednesday of the neste wyke after. *c* 1386 Fortun *Chron. Gentis Scot.* v. iii. (1872) 253 Quhen [Jerkin] was deposit, and dedicatyves, dem Wodnis vocabant, quae consuetudo per Anglos etiam hodie servatur, vocant enim eundem diem Wodenisday. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xli. 99 Al þe wikin he sunnir, sal ye fast,—þe wednisdai and te fryday. *Ibid.* 1708 Wednisday. *c* 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 107 Other men or wymmen that have non peyse of their owen growyng, leit hem gerlur hem weyse in the weke on Wednesday and on Friday. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 Vche Wenysday and Fryday, he made hys confessour bete hym wyth a yarde apon be backe al hole. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3412 On a wedenesday he fell seke. *c* 1450 *Golagros Keg* (1911) 906 The wonysday Afore wytsonday. 1457 *Paston Lett.* I. 414 At Nw wich, Sundy, Monday in Estir weke. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 1280 Now that him kep to martyr in London toun On Wednysday, befor King and commoun. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 1505 On þe weddysday, owr lord . . maty3ede in hod. 1490 *Ant. Lat. Wrigh. Voc. Scot.* I. 131 On Wedynnisda the xxiij da of Marche. 1509 Chomwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 304 To morow at myghtt I purpose to goo by none at the Fryrhest. *a* 1533 Bernes *Huon* lxviii. 235 On a wednysday they came to Parys. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1099/2 The day before his passion, that is to wyt the wednysday before hys paspon. 1536 Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 39 The 19th day of May, being Wednesday. 1537 Cromwell, in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 59 At Wodnesday next dinner peniecost. *c* 1544 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1729) XV. 54 The thirtieth of July (being Wednesday). *Ibid.*, Wednesdaye the sixth of August. 1546 in *Sel. Cases Cr. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 58 The Wednysday of Whytsonweke. 1550 Hulot, Wendsaye, *mercurij dies*. 1556 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist* (1791) I. 274 And upon Wednysday, she . . departed. 1578 in Wright (J. Bridges) I. 4 Mr. Tyrell will be with you apon Wensdaye week. 1582–3 *Act 5 Eliz.* c. 5 § 11 Every Wednesdaye . . which heretofore hathe not by the Lawe of this Realme . . of this Realme been used and observed as a Fishe Dayes . shalbe hereafter observed and kepte as the Saterdays in every Weeke bee or ought to be. 1585 Wilkinson (St. T. S.) 1. 26 The Wks (S. T. S.) I. 126 The Lord of Gord heirfor, observing . . abstinence . . on Wodinsday generalie in the orient Kirk. 1574 [? Whittingham] *Briefe Discours* 40 The next dale bewixte wednesdale. 1579 Fulke *Stapleton's Part.* 468 Wednesday and Wednesday, and on other dayes. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. iii. 64, I look'd vpon him a Wensday halfe an houre together. 1639 Sir T. Hope *Diary* (Banna-tyne Club) 58 On Wedinsday the 3. July, the tumult of women in Edinburgh. 1715 Gay *Trivia* II. 410 Wednesdays and Fridays you'll observe from hence, Days, when our sires were doom'd to Penance in their Sins. 1781 Cowper, Wednesday. 1820 Downes *Lett. fr. Bic kleubur* 173 The evening of Wednesday was a gloomy one. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Last Cause* ii, Wait till you see my leader in Wednesday's issue.

b. In names of certain days of the ecclesiastical calendar, as Ash-Wednesday [= med.L. *dies cinerum*, Fr. *jour or mercredi des cendres*, It. *di delle ceneri*, G. *aschermittwoch*, Du. *aschdag*, ON. *píku-dagr*, *píku-dhenslagr*, Da. *askeonsdag*, Sw. *askonsdag*], the first day of Lent, also called *Ash-Wednesday* [from the words 'pulvis es et in pulverem reverteris', used in the service]. Also *Good W.*, *Holy W.*, *Spy W.* (*Anglo-Irish*: see Spy *sb.* 5), the Wednesday before Easter.

1297, 1387 [see Ash-Wednesday]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 82 Se schull begyn your fast at Ashe Wenysday. *c* 1454 [see Holy *a.* 11 *b*]. 1497 *Acta Sanctorum* (1839) *Maii* I. 'Dune gude Wednisday in passioun wouk'. 1840 [see Spy *sb.* 5]. 1845 *Dublin Rev* June 490 On Holy Wednesday at the words in the Gospel, 'et velum templi scissum est', if [the veil] is torn open in two parts. 1894 *Notthumb. Gloss.*, Good Wednesday.

c. *attrib.*

1338. Wyclif *Sirl. Wks.* II. 421 Bigynnynge first at þe Wednesdai gospel þe firste woke of Advent biforn Cristmasse. 1690 in *Reg. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. (Ld. (1909) VI. 241 Wednesday Night Meetings. Tuesday for the Wensdays lecture. 1692 Maswell *Rehearsal transpros'd* I. 246 You say that the Clause 5th Eliz. of the Wednesday-Fast has been the model of all the Puritan Disorders. 1693 *Sow him Bayes* 100 To your long business about the Clause to the Wednesday Act, and its binding the Conscience or no, I answer, [etc.]. 1784 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 303 Several early liberal Wednesday-evening guests have been made peers. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* liii, My Wednesday nights came regularly round. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* vi, They're going to hear Joachim's 'Dream of Venice' at Hoffmann's Wednesday Concerts.

Similarly † **Wodnes-niȝt**, Wednesday night.

*c* 1000 *Ælfc. Pentt.* ii. § 23 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 290 *Ælfre* Sunnan-dæge . . Wodnes-niht. 1000 *Ags. Gosp. Introd. Hom.* (Intrd.) 305 Sunnanniht[um] . . ne Wodnesniht[um. *c* 1207 *Beket* 112/16 *S. Eng. Leg.* 138 His wei wodnes-niht out of þe toune he nam.

**Wedo**, obs. form of Widow.

**Wedonympha**, var. obs. Sc. Wedenonpa'.

**Wedou(e, -ow·e**, obs. forms of Widow.

**Wedre, -ur**, obs. forms of Weather.

**Wedred**, obs. form of Withered *ppl. a.*

**Wedset(t, -sette**, obs. forms of Wadset.

**Wedue, wedw·e**, obs. forms of Widow.

**Wedy**, obs. variant of Widdy.

**Wedyr**, obs. f. Weather, Wether, Whether.

**Wee** (we·), *sb.* and *a.* Originally *Sc.* Forms: 4 **wei**, **wey(e**, 4–6 **we**, 6–9 **wie**, 7 **wee**, 8 **wi**, 6– **woe**. [Northern ME. *wei*, repr. earlier Anglian *wéȝ*, *wége* = WS. *wâg*, *wâge* (see Weigh *sb.*); the later *we*, *wee* shows the normal loss of the final palatal spirant which is still indicated in all the rhymes of the earliest texts.

In the sb. the original sense of 'quantity', 'amount', is very slightly recorded, the word being mainly used (almost always with *little*) as a measure of time or space. In adjectival use, however, the idea of quantity or size has been retained; this use evidently originated in the Sc. idiom exemplified by Bit *sb.*2 9 (*a bit thing* = 'a bit of a thing', 'a little thing'); cf. *wee bit* in B c below. It is however remarkable that, although found as early as the 15th *c.*, the adj. is rare in Sc. writers before 1721, though our quots. from Shakspere and Heywood show that it had become known to Englishmen early in the 17th *c.* The word (both *sb.* and *adj.*) is current in the dialects of some English counties (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), but there is no evidence to show that it was commonly used in England before the 19th *c.*; see however Way-bit.]

A. *sb.* In earlyuse almost always *a little wee*, later also *a wee* : — 'a little', 'a (little) bit'; in various applications (chiefly as adverbial accusative).

† **1. a.** A little or young thing; a child. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8459 He ne es yitt bot a littel wei, þow do him for to foster slei.

**b.** A small quantity.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Christopher*) 605 Þe kinge tuk þan a lytil wa of þe fresche bludde, & wet his ee.

**c.** To a small extent, in a small degree.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. ix. 61 The quene Dido, astonist a litle wie [1970, we] At the first sycht. 1590 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 85 It hills a wie, and sigruhs, As I think upon these bitten Scruhs. 1793 *Regul Rambler or Dewlin London* 69 Dinna be angry, . . I have been drinking a wi, and I believe the Deil was in me.

**d.** Qualifying an adj. or adv.: Somewhat, rather.

1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxvii, His brain was a wee ajee, but he was a braw preacher for a' that. 1818 — *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, I thought it right to leave the matter to you a wee first. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* ii, 'Are you sure you know the way?' . . 'I maybe kend it a wee better fifteen years syne.'

**2.** A short time.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11665 Quen seo had sitten þar a wei [*Gött.* wey] Seo sihild a tre was hei. *Ibid.* 19531 [Janes, stung by an adder] Bolned in a litl wei, but al-mast bigan he to dei. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Margaret*) 443 Quhene he . . wist þat in a lytil we for falt of met þe barne suld de. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 182 The K yng than wynkit a litill we. *c* 1500 *Priests of Peblis* 817 Ane lytill wa befoir the feist of Iule. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 163 Now will I leif of this ane lytill we. *Ibid.* 173 So at the last the cloulis ane lytill we Discourit wes, that the micht better se. *c* 1580 Rolland *Seven Sagis* 1454 Scho was wyteles a lytill we. 1592 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* lvi. 2 Stay, passinger, thy mynd, thy fute, thy ee: Vouchsall, a we, hu thy epitaph to vew, Quha [etc.]. *a* 1700 *Gaelic tune-Mac Iv.* They rais'd a wee befor the cock. *a* 1728 Ramsay *Ode Birth of Prince-Jamie* 47 Ye hardy Heroes, Forsake a wee th' Elysian Plains. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, Hide a wee, hide a wee; you southrons are aye in sic a hurry. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, I an & I Thee*, vii. 190 In a wee they baith felt their warmes lowin' them, an' they war in their sesses.

**3.** A short distance; a journey. Also *a little wee*.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 217 Arrowes that fellv Mony gret wundis can thame ma, And slew fast of thair hors alsua, That thai vaynyst it bot wa. 1513 — *Troy* I. Prol. 8 Beyond hir a litill we It left. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxxiii. 5788 He sal fenghe wa as we walde fle, And wipe draw wa a litil we.

**B.** *adj.* Extremely small, tiny. (In Sc. use with weaker sense, as a synonym of *little*.) Often more emphatically *wee wee*, *little wee*, *wee little*.

The Shaks. example is not found in the quarto of 1603; as this has 'a whay-coloured beard' in the corresponding sentence, it has been conjectured that the 'wee' in the Folio may be a mistake for *whey-face* (cf. *Mach.* v. iii. 27). However, the reading of the Folio may be taken as evidence that the adj. was known in the 17th *c.* as a variant of the adj. is hyphened to the following sb., and preceded by *little*.

*c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit durche was. 7 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* (1623) I. iv. 32 He hath but a little wee-face, with a little yellow beard. 1627 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* I. i, If we were nothing so tall as I, but a little wee man, and somewhat huckt backt. 1638 in W. N. Clarke *Coll. Lett.* (1848) 173 Her ministers gangand in guid auld little short cloakes, with wee blacke hattes and sockes. *Ibid.* 180 Upon his weake wee leg. 1692 [? Calder] *Sc. Prestbyt. Eloq.* 104 The very wie-ones [*marg.* little Children] were then so serious that [etc.]. 1782 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* A 178 A wie *Pyat-nakit* Lintie, Nature will creep under a muckle Corn-stack. *Ibid.* B 35 Better a wie Fire to warm us, than a muckle Fire to burn us. 1721 Ramsay *Poems* Gloss. 307 *Wee*, little; as, A wee Thing, a wee Bit. 1726 *Heuing's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Sects Phr., *Wie*, little or small. 1786 Burns *Inventory* 37 Wee Davock hauds the nowt in hunt. 1793 — *Sang*, Obe is a winsome wee thing. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* v, It wad aye serve to keep the puir thing's heart up for a wee while. 1819 J. R. Drake *Culprit Fay* xv, He banned the water-goblins' spite,—For he saw . . Their little wee faces above the brine. 1827 Dahley *Sylvia* 31 Nenter, I ween, though not much ampler, Than wee miss works upon her sampler. 1832 Motherwell *Poems, Oh Il ne be* 6 The wee wee files piped loud and shrill. 1846 H. Coleridge *Poems* II. 83 Like a wee bird struggling in the net. *a* 1856 in Strang *Glasgow & Clubs* 574 You have only to raise the window, haud up

your wee finger, and, [etc.]. 1884 Q. Victoria *More Leaves* 204 We met little Alix on her wee pony. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* iii, She would be free..to hie herself to London-town and take a dear wee little flat.

**b.** in *superlative.*

1708 Ramsay *Reasons Hackney Scribblers* 22 To wiest insects ewn'd and painted. *a* 1856 in Strang *Glasgow & Clyde* 378 They're a' awa, fin the wee'st to the biggest o' them. 1863 ' Holme Lee' *A. Wentrigh* II. 272 Strangers ..who were such amplitude of petticoat that in passing between the ranks of infants..they literally swept the wee-est over. 1878 A. J. C. Hare *Story of Life* (1896) I. 206 Tell me all about the wedding—every smallest, weest thing. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* v, The boat the wee-est black speck on the silver of the water.

**c.** *As wee bit* : = ' a wee' (see A. *sb.*). Often quasi-*adj.* (cf. Bit *sb.*²) and quasi-*adv.* (qualifying an adj.).

*a* 1868 [see Way-bit]. 1881 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* A 183 A wie House well fill'd, a wie bit Land well till'd, and a wie Wife well will'd will make a happy Man. 1785 Burns *Cottar's Sat. Night* 23 His wee bit ingle, blinkan bonilie. 1823 Moir *Suffolk Words* 474 'A wee bit of a thing'—applied to a child, and to almost every little thing. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxvii, A boat will wait for you..at a wee bit creek about half a mile westward from the head of the Tay. 1896 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Rise.* xxviii. 140 The champagne..that I had this morning has given me just a wee bit of a *migraine.*

**d.** *The wee folk* : the fairies.

1819 W. S. Mason *Stat. Acc. Frel.* III. 27 The curate has heard a man swear most solemnly, that he has seen some hundreds of the ' wee folk' round these trees. 1845 Allingham *Fairies* 5 Wee folk, guid folk, Trooping all together; Green jacket, red cap, And grey-cock's feather. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 3 Some people have supposed a fairy story..But the Wee Folk were under a cloud: sceptical brains had embittered the children.

**e.** *The Wee Free Kirk* : the nickname given to the minority of the Free Church of Scotland which stood apart when the main body amalgamated with the United Presbyterian Church to form the United Free Church in 1900. Hence *Wee Frees, Wee Kirkers,* the members of the ' Wee Free' church.

1904 *Monthly Rev.* Oct. 5 The Free Kirk and the ' Wee' Kirk. 1904 *Times* 31 Dec. 8/1 The union must be handed over to the remnant of the old Free Church—the ' Wee Frees', as Scotland nicknames them. 1905 P. W. Wilson *Wkys we believe* v. 61 The property..will become the property of the United Free Church has been handed over by a court of law to a remnant of Wee Kirkers.

**Wee** (*wī*), *int.* Imitation of the squeal of a pig. *a* 1849 in Halliwell *Nursery Rh.* 119 This little pig said Wee, wee, wee! 1860 *Hist. Five little Pigs* 31 Poor Piggy ran off crying out in great pain, '*Wee! wee! wee!!!*' all the way home.

**+ Wee** = *we're,* with you. *Obs.*

1611 Chapman *May-Day* iv. 67 And yet I speake no hurt of them neither. *Lane.* No Captaine, thus farre, I goe wee.

**Wee,** obs. f. Wy, Why, Woe; var. Wy *Obs.*, man.

**Wee-bit** : see Wee A. 1*c*.

**Weeble,** obs. or dial. form of Wervil.

**Weech,** obs. variant of Wych.

**Weed** (*wīd*), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **wēod, wiod,** 3 **wied,** (**wod**), 3–4 **wod,** 4–5 (*pl.* **weoden**), 4–6 **wede,** 4 **wyed,** (§ ? **wade**), 5–6 *Sc.* **weid,** 6 **wyde,** *Sc.* **weyd,** 6–7 **wide,** 5–7 **weede,** 5– **weed.** [OE. *wēod* neut. = OS. *wiod* neut., mod. LG. *wōd,* Flem. dial. *wied,* EFris. *wiud* ; the ulterior etymology is unknown.]

**1.** A herbaceous plant not valued for use or beauty, growing wild and rank, and regarded as cumbering the ground or hindering the growth of superior vegetation.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiii, Swa hwa swa wille sawan westuhkere land, atio æcrest of ..ealle þa wæd he be gesio þæt þam æcerum derigen. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Coll. Hom.* 129 For þi is þit westren forgrowen mid brimbles and mid bornes and mid iucle wiedes. *c* 1290 *St. Marry of Egypt* 108 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 364 Heo ne et nouðer buschc nauðe bote weodes ane wilde more. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xiii. 224 On fat londe and ful of donge foulest wedes groweth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Weed, or wyyld herbe, *adorigo.* 1482 *Cowentry Leet Bk.* 445 [They] stoppen the dyches with þe wedes of their gardeyns & other sweypyng of their houses. 1532 Hewyt *Kenagh. Husband.* 29 b, The grounde must be clene kept and deliuered from wides. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 946 They bid thee crop a weed, thou pluckst a flower. *a* 1600 *Contempl. Hist. Frel.* (Jr. Archæol. Soc.) I. 128 To keep a field from over growinge with wides. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 87 Whilest they [*sc.* Hedges] are yet young, they are to be constantly weeded, least the Weeds prevent the thick spreading of the Hedge at its bottom. 1708 J. Lamberton *New Syst. Agric.* 455 Couch-Grass is a pernicious Weed, keeping the Land hollow and loose. 1782 Cowper *Expost.* 214 But grace shuns'd brings forth the foulest deeds, As rich-est soil the most luxuriant weeds. 1825 Worsw. *White Doe* vii. 1856 Piste of monumental brass, Dim-gleaming among weeds and grass. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xvii, In the garden there was not a weed to be seen. 1885 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 32 The soil teemed with flowers. There was no room left for a weed.

**b.** A plant that grows wild in fresh or salt water. Cf. Ore-weed, Pondweed, River-weed, Seaweed, Water-weed.

1538 Elyot *Dict., Alga,* reyte, or wedes of the see. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. ii. 109 As Weeds before A Vessell vnder sayle, so men obey'd, And fell below his Stem. 1697 Monxon *Hin.* iii. 146 Both Ilands [Jersey and Guernsey] burne a weede of the Sea or Sea coales brought out of England. 1653 Walton *Angler* ix. 177 This fish..loves..to live..in standing waters, where mud and the worst of weeds abound.

1676 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 65 *marg.,* Of Sea-weeds, and Weeds in Rivers. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 177 They are bred from eggs, which are laid upon the weeds along the sea-shore. 1847 Sir H. Davy in *Bull. Penzz.* CXV. 309 Weeds and shell fish. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* vi, The weeds were new to me—some green, some brown and long, and some with little bladders that crackled between my fingers.

**c.** *collect. sing.*

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 945 [The ant] gaddreð ilkines sed bo8en of wudc and of wed. 1230 *Owl & Night.* 593 Among þe wede [*Cott.* wode], among be nette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1140 Insted o pin oper seede, In sal be grouse bot thorne and wede. 1434 *Misdon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 20, no. 1 Ricardus Kynge jactat le weede gardini sui in Skykkis lane. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 54 The grasse that groweth vppon fallowes is not good for sheepe; for there is moche of it wede. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. vii. 4 When suddenly behind her backe she heard One rushing forth out of the thickest weed. 1791–3 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 252 The coat of weed, which was likely to fix upon it during the winter. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 107 A wild and wanton pard..Crouch'd fawning in the weed. 1884 Mrs. L. B. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* i. 18 They [needles] will be extremely useful in laying out the weed.

**d.** Prov. + *The weed overgroweth the corn. Ill weeds grow apace.*

1509–10 *Barclay Ship of Fooles* viii. 224 To see suche a ladde to matche suche a knyghte as the wede ouer growe the corne. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. x. (1867) 22 Ill weede growth fast ..whereto serue herbe Iorne. For surely the weede ouergroweth the corne. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. iv. 11 Small Herbes haue grace, great Weeds do grow apace. 1616 Drake *Bold Soldadoe.* 216 An ill weede growth apace. 1630 Pollexfen *Eng. & East-India* (1697) 20 An ill Weed grows apace, so these Manufactured Goods from India. 1721 J. Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 319 The Weeds o'er grow the Corn, the bad are the most numerous.

**e.** Used, with defining word, to form the names of wild plants, as Bindweed, Cottonweed, Cudweed, Duckweed, Dyer's weed, Greenweed, Hogweed, *hungerweed* (Hunger *sb.* 4*c*), Ironweed, Knapweed, Knotweed, *matweed* (Mat *sb.*¹ 8), Milkweed, Mugwed, Neckweed, Ragweed), *yellow-weed* (Yellow C. 1).

**2.** Applied to a single plant. Chiefly *poet.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 30 Xifeceres weod [Vulg. *fenum agri*]..God swa scryt,..þam mycle ma he scryt e ow. 13.. *K. Alis.* 796 Mury time is the weed to sere [*Laud MS.* in wele tide]. 1567 Jude in *Bannatyne MS.* 1896 I. 67 Quhen I cum to the tre, I sall schortlie rid The ridged Acres of their richest Weid. 1607–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 365 These evils have all come upon you through [*sic*] Cursed weed. 1892 Tennyson *Vivien* 321, I once was looking for a magic weed.

**b.** Applied to a shrub or tree; *esp.* to a large tree, on account of its abundance in a district.

1897 Daniell *Voy.* I, 165 Cotton-trees..are the biggest Trees, or rather Weeds, in this Country, in the West Indies. 1797 Mortimer *Husb.* 604 The Rasberry Tree..is rather a Weed than a Tree, never living two Years together above ground. 1860 W. Wilkinson *Orcadia* xi. 90 There is no lack of wood of ' Herrefordshire weeds', as oaks are called. 1885 Morley *Remin.* II. 206 The ash is the weed of the county [Northants]. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 1, 7 The elm, which from its abundance in the country, is still known as the ' Warwickshire weed.'

**3.** *spec.* Tobacco.

1614 T. Adams *Meth. Euag. xiv.* xcii. (1612) 369 An Indian weede, That feam'd away more wealth than would a many thousands feed. 1629 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* iv. 19 Where, if you cannot reale, exercise your smoake, and inquire who has sent you this Indian weede. 1687 Montague & Prior *Hind & Panth. Transv.* 17 Your Pipe's so foul, that I disdain to smoak; And the Weed worse than e're Tom. I.—— took. 1688 *Holme Armoury* II. 225/2 Pernicious weed is those scent the fair annoys. 1707 *Sporting Mag.* X. 58 And chaunt the song, and puff the weed. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* i. vi, He kneel'd the weed from his pipe. 1859 *Athwlt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 153 Tobacco vertigo and the other nervous consequences of the weed resemble those of neuralhosia.

**b.** A cigar or cheroot. *colloq.*

1847–9 Thackeray *Pendennis* (1879) 9 Pulling a melancholy looking weed from the lining of his hat. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xli, We..kept up with brandy and soda and cheroot weeds till four. 1889 C. Lowe *Proverbs* 328 *note,* The strategist carefully selected the best weed in the Chancellor's case.

**4.** *fig.* An unprofitable, troublesome, or noxious growth. (Formerly often applied to persons.)

1 tale *Mary Ambree* 1322 Her no wyghtyle weede wayne, ne wrythe one this erthe. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 161 So rysyth of the roote of an..ripert traytoure, othyre rebellis, many wickid weddis sone growynge, that at treweme in londe sore greuyth. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 349 And if..those persons..entended the contrary, there must also be deuised howe such euill weedes may be destroyed. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 3 Lawes..to disburden their shire of common weeds, as they tearme it, do picke out the scumme of their countrie for the warres. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. ii. 61 Oh thou weed! Who art so louely faire, and smell'st so sweet, That the Sense akes at thee, Would thou had'st neuer bin borne. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 79 An immoderate ambition is a weed that will not easily grow in the same ground. 1730 Johnson *Rambler* No. 183 P 11 Envy is, indeed, a stubborn weed of the mind, and seldom yields to the culture of philosophy. 1850 Grote *Greece* ii. lxviii. (1862) VI. 516 Intolerance is the natural weed of the human bosom, though its growth or development may be counteracted by liberalizing causes. 1912 F. S. Oliver *Ordeal by Battle* ii. v. 146 Militarism is a tough weed to kill.

**5.** *slang.* (Cf. Weedy *a.*¹ 4.) **a.** A poor, leggy, loosely-built horse.

In Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. iii. 20 the word has been explained to mean 'an ill-conditioned horse'. Theobald's correction, 'steeds', may be right.

1845 Stonehenge *Manlibk. Brit. India* (1854) 181 The necessity..for constant renewal of the blood..without which the breed degenerates into weeds. 1859 Lever *Davenport Dunn* ii, He bore the same relation to a man of fashion as a ' weed' does to a ' winner of the Derby'. 1861 *Farmer's Mag.* LV. 1/2 A leggy weed that can go the fastest for half a mile or so owes the flat. 1890 W. Robinson *Southern Dream* iii. 28 Here she pointed to her steed, a small violent weed. . .

**b.** A lank delicate person without muscle or stamina.

1869 A. L. Smith in Morgan *Univ. Oars* (1873) 231, I know men who, from being weeds, have grown into strong and healthy men on the river.

**† 6.** *Mining.* (See quots.) 1703 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2102 (Tin), So[we] continues sinking from east to east..till we find either the Load to grow small, or degenerate into some sort of weed..as Mundick, or Moxy ..Diazo,..Iremould. *Ibid.* 2103 The Load is usually in an hard..Countrey, made up of metal, spars and other weeds. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Weed,* in the Miners Language is the Degeneracy of a Load or Vein of fine Metal, into an useless Manchaste.

**7.** *altrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *weed-bed, -bush, -case, -field, fish, -nosegay, -root, -seed.* Also Weed-hook.

1660 *Phil. Trans.* I. 13 They went into the Weed-beds of the Gulf of Bhaida. *a* 1688 Sir T. Browne *Nerf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 330 A wed-fish, somewhat like a haddock. 1782 Mrs. Delany *Autob.* (1861) I. 368 My amusement was running after butterflies and weed-hunting. 1791 W. H. Marshall *H. Eng.* (1796) II. 279 The weed seeds having spent themselves, the dressing will be turned in. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 149 The weed-hook and weed-tools will then be seen upon the surface. 1848 Ain. Smith *Chr. Tantole* xiv. 395 Metal weed-cases. 1863 Kingsley *Water b.* Even if marriage was but one weed-field of temptations, as these miserable pedants say. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 884 One of those curious round weed-bushes known as ' tumble weeds'. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 251 He would make the rod bend like a bow and quiver as he ran out the line, always making for the weed-bed at the bottom.

**b.** instrumental, as *weed-choked, -entwined, -fringed, -grown, -laden, -hung, -like, -plaited.*

1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* ii. 201 O'er each Runic altar, weed-entwined. 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 65 Weed-hidden roots. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* i, Weed-grown walks. 1857 Gosse *Romance Nat. Hist.* 96 Weed-fringed side-pool. 1870 H. Macmillan *True Vine* v. (1879) 188 The idleness of another is seen in the meagre, weed-choked produce of his neglected fields. 1871 *Blackw. Edinb. Mag.* Cxcviii. 57 The weed-hung flukes of the little anchor.

**c.** objective, as *weed-cutter, -grubber* ; *weed-cutting* vbl. sb.; also *weed-like* adj.

*a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. ii. 37, I save the Expence of the Weed-grubbers. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 213 Upspring, such weed-like Coarseness it betrays, Flocks on th' abandon'd Blade perennative graze. 1863 Hawthorne *Old Home, Consular Exp.* I. 138 The needlike glossy awns beneath of our localities. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 3/2 An endeavour is being made on the Test to have all weed-cutting completed by the middle of May. 1903 *Field.* 2 Oct. 9/1 Patent weed-cutters, worked by machinery.

**d.** + **weed-wash,** ? soda-ash (which is made from sea-weed) ; **weed-killer,** a preparation of arsenic used for killing weeds.

1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxxviii. 407 Also pot-ash, weed-ash, and pearl-ash. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 2/3 In mistake [he] took up a bottle of weed killer, some of which he drank.

**Weed** (*wīd*), *sb.*² *arch.* exc. in sense 6 *b.* Forms: 1 **wēd, wēde,** *Northb.* **wæde, wæde,** 3 *Orm.* **wede,** *pl.* **weaden,** 3–6 **wede,** 3–4 *pl.* **weden,** 4 *north.* and *Sc.* **wed, weid, wyd,** (5 *pl.*) **weyd,** 4–7 *Sc.* **weid(e,** 5–6 *Sc.* **weyd,** 6–7 **wide,** 4–7 **weede,** 5– **weed.** [ME. *wēde,* repr. two formations: (1) OE. *wēd* fem. = OS. *wād* (MLG. *wāt*), OHG., MHG. *wāt* (early mod.G. *wat*), also in comb. *līnwāt* fem., linen (= Du. *lijnwaad* neut.; mod.G. in perverted form *leinwand*), ON. *váð, váð* fem. (Norw. *vaad,* Sw. *våd*) :—OTeut. type **wēdiz* m., **wēdi* f., **wēdą* neut. = OS. *wādi* (MLG. *wāde*), prob. shortened from the collective formation OE. *gewēde* (ME. I-wede), OS. *giwādi,* Du. *gewaad,* OHG. *giwāti* :—OTeut. type **gawiðjo-m.*

It is disputed whether the Teut. **wēdiz* descends from a pre-Teut. **wēti-,* root **wē-* (= Skr. *vā-,* or from **wēthi-,* root **wēth-* (= Zend *vad* to clothe oneself ; the Goth. *ga-widan* (OHG. *wetan*), to join together, is by some regarded as cognate.)

**1.** An article of apparel ; a garment.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxviii, Þeah nu se unrihtwisa cynig Neron hine æscyppte mid ealles þam wiltrestrum wæduum. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 500 Mantinus me bewæfde eotte mid fyxenre wæde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Uoðl bet heo hefde fleaned one wummone to one wake on of hore weiden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1972 He..hoden him sen If his children wede it mighe ben. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1563 Two walkes in ileues of he wode wiowste he hem wedes. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 289 b, By & by dooyng on hym a wede sumwerahle vnto his present fortune, he fel aboue a secretely. 1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* xxv. 36 There was an obstinate strife..concerning the habite, or apparel of S. Augustine, that is to saie, whether he did weare a blacke weede vpon a white Coate, or a white weede vpon a blacke Coate. 1614 Camden *Rem., Apparel* 333

They began to wanton it in a new round cartill weede which they called a Cloake. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgr* v vi, I o my house now, and suite you to your worths, Off with these weeds, and appeare glorious. *a* 1708 in *Watson's Collect Sc. Poems* I 38 On Sabbath days his Cap was fedder'd, A seemly Weid 1725 POPE *Odyss* XVI 293 An aged mendicant in tatter'd weeds. 1764 H WALPOLE *Otranto* V, One in a long, woolen weed 1805 WORDSW *Prelude* III 457 Spare diet, patient labour, and plain weeds 1808 SCOTT *Marm* v vi, The baron doffs his peaceful weeds. 1846 KEMBLE *Lyra Anno* (1873) 168 Her innocent vesture, the pure Chrisom weed 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* v 9 In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er, Like coarsest clothes against the cold

**2** *collect sing* Clothing, raiment, dress, apparel

*a* 1200 *Daniel* 103 Þæt þam ȝengum þryn gad ne were wiste ne wede *c* 1290 *S Mary of Egypt* 160 in *S Eng Leg* 265 Ne wilne þou nouȝt þat ich þe abide, for ich am withoute wede *a* 1300 *K Horn* 1052 We schulle chaungi weede Haue her cloþes myne, & take me þi seluayne 1393 LANGL *P Pl C* XXII 211 Lacke he shal þe insurie Wede ne wrldlich mete *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, I stale forþe yn pore wede 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas & Payne* 140 Wyllynge that eche should at his meete, Haue bredde and drinke, harbour and wede 1576 HAMMER *An Eccl Hist, Socr. Schol* II XXXIII 292 A little before he had bene deposed . . For appellyng himselfe vnto the pope, as was not decent for the dignity and order of priesthood 1595 SPENSER *Co in Clout* 713 For each mans worth is measured by his weed 1616 CHAPMAN tr *Odyssey* F 6, Illus sayd, his faire limbes of his weede, he strip'd 1708 BRIT *Wrestler* 24 *Friars Curse Hermitage* 2 Be thou clad in russet weed 1808-70 MORRIS *Earthly Par* I 1 290 In fore, in figt re, and in weed, She with a smile before his w indering eyes *Ibid* 325 Who robbed me, and with blows Stripped off my weed and left me on the way

**+ b.** In the expletive phrase *in or under weed*, usually appended to an adj., *in wortli[y, wyght, wise* Cf *under gore*, GORE *sb.*2 2 *Obs.*

*c* 1330 *Amis & Amil* 30 Two ladyes þat worthi were in weede *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 585 Of lumbarde a dukes douster ful derworþ in wede *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* IX 37 Iohn of Coupland, a wyght man in wede *c* 1400 *Anturs* 250 Then sayde þat worthy vobur wede *a* 1435 *Torr Portingal* 2307 One of the fayrest knyghtis That sleputh on somer nyghtes Or walkyd in wede, *c* 1490 *Sir Degrev* 1301 Many bold mene and wyght, Wyse undere wede *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* xviii 230 Worthy wyghtys in wede. *a* 1586 *Marrying Man* (n) 55 in *Hazlt Pol Mi* 361 Ihan wepit scho lustie in weed

**3** *transf.* and *fig* (e. g. our ' garment ' of flesh).

*c* 1320 *Cast Love* 657 God þat from heuene dude alihte, And vnder vre wede vre kynde nom *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III 1431 O blisful light, þat shapest art for god þis world to hide At certeyn tymes with þi derke wede 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 338 Sche fith before his ihe a Crowe . . to kepe hire maidenhod, Hire Under the wede of feathe blake 14 LYDG *Ballat of Deceitful Women* 26 Hir galle is hid under a sugred wede 1557 GRIMALD in *Tottel's Misc* (Arb) 96 As mornyng Titan bright, with scarlet sky, doth prasse the euening wede 1567 JEWEL *Def Ap* I ii 221 Therefore the Greekes calle Baptisme, κόσμησιν εἵματος, That is, the Weede of innocencie 1592 SHAKS *Mids N* III ii 256 And there the snake throwes her enammel'd skinne, Weed wide enough to rap a Fayry in 1623-26 BROWNE *Pseud Epid* I ii 11 That heaven never wore these habiliments Weed. *a* 1618 RALEGH *Rem* (1644) 116 Being stripped out of this mortall weed *a* 1639 CAREW *Comparison* 20 Thy skin's a heavenly and immortall weede. 1784 BURNS *Scotch Drink* VII, Gie him strong drink, until he wink, Wi' Gee tlis heart then erects thy heed 1793 — *By Allan Stream* 20 How cheery through her shootering day Is Autumn, in her weedy o' yellow 1805-8 CARY *Dante, Inf* XXVIII 60 Father thou gavest These weeds of miserable flesh we wear, And do thou strip them off from us again

**4** Used contextually for: Defensive covering, armour, mail. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Also *iron, steel tested.*

*c* 1205 LAY 23773 Þe king mid his weden [*c* 1275 wede] leop on his stede. *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 3535 Was non so stif steien wede þat withstod his wepen 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI 380 A cheuerey, for þair weill, þai had þair armyng had he then *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 3904 Thei drow out horses and stedes And here strong Iren weles. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II 122 The third he stoukt throuch his pasand of maile, The crag in twa, no weidis mycht him wald 1480 *Rob Do pli* 910 in Hazl *E P P* I 254 Iremis horses stamped in yron, Their weidis were of steil 537 in *Chetham Misc* II, They will stucke with their standarts in their stele weedes 1621 W AUSTIN in *Cowpat's Crudities* Panegyr Verses 5 § 3, His garments Which heretofore like weedes of proofe Secured him to keepe the colde aloofe. 1823 SCOTT *Tvanhoe* III xx, Oh for his arms! Of martial weed Had never mortal Knight such need!

**5** A garment, or garb, distinctive of a person's sex, profession, state of life. *a. sing* (collect. or particular)

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 4918 Sire bisaop wu ne sirstius of þine wite brede þat ich se wulf at þi masse in þi se vaste wede *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 23348 Wede o nath wil i nanar, Clething wil i me tak o care 13 *Guy Warw* 1721 Gef seye a man of rewly ble Go in pilgrims wede 1393 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 2343 Sehyn toke þe knyst palmers wede *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6548 Þat day þt cuth bert toke bischop wede 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII 18 700 They sawe the good man in a rel gyous wede. 1581 J BELL *Haddon's Answ Osor* 276 b, Such as are burned in the cowle & weede of a Franciscane Fryer 1587 FLEMING *Contin Holinshed* III 1080 1 Wherin also it buried John Voer g in his doctors weed 1869 ENGHEIDALE *Fr Garri* G 3 b, It is not the weed yt maketh the monke *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub Chas I* (Bannatyne Club) I 16 Ihia was the ordinary weed of the Ihis majestie's foot guards 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr* II 253 They neither have the Pilgrim's Weed nor the Pilgrim's Courage 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1328 This poor gown, This silken rag, this beggar-woman's weed

*b pl*

1360 LANGL *P. Pl* A VI 7 Apparayled as a Palmere In pilgrimes wedes *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond* (1905) 130 Sche eschapede thens in a mannys weede. 1570 GOODE *Popish Kingd.* III 39 b, Who can declare the massing weedes? 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I Introd i, Whose Muse whilome did maske In lowly Shepheards weeds 1650 HOWELL *Lexich's Rem Naples* 1 80, I would never have shaken off my mariners weeds. 1667 MILTON *P L* III 479 They who to be sure of Paradise Dying put on the weeds of Dominic 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg Father Greg* 7 A Conformist Minister with all his Aaronical weeds on. 1783 C JOHNSTON *Reverie* II 104 Though he was habited in the humble weeds of a slave 1781 COWPER *Truth* 82 In shirt of hair and weeds of canvass dress'd 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd & Is* II XXI III 372 The spirit of the soldier burned strong and bright under his monastic weeds.

**c** Sometimes without specifying word = a palmer's dress, the religious habit, etc (as indicated by the context)

*c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (verse) 1338 If ane so for wikkid dede Leue hir abbay & hir wede *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* 1 Whan he had put on the weed of a chapell, and take his wede & his staffe 1561 I HOOK tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* II Z ij, The frier beesought me to lett him goe downe, and not to shame his order in the weede 1706 [see 6 b]. 1760-72 H BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) I 147, I gave her two pence, to assumed my former garb, and left the weeds in her custody

**6.** With defining word, esp *mourning* A black garment worn in token of bereavement; mourning apparel Also, a scarf or band of crape worn by a mourner

1536 *Bellenden Cron Scot* (1821) II 263 This other sall pas in violence, on sen he hes lost his sone 1598 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) II App A 4 Commandment was given to put on them every man his mourning weede 1599 KYD *Sp Tr* III ii, Yet let me take the weeds I wore, She will not rob me of this sable weed 1603 H PETOWE *Elizas Funeral* A 4 Then weepe no more, Your sighing weedes put off 1636 PART MOUNT tr *Boccalini's Advts from Parnass* 189 Being clad in a long mourning weed, he appeared in the Colledge of the Lutetian 1787 BURNS *On Death Sir J Hunter Blair* 15 A stately Form In weeds of woe 1832 MRS HOWITT *Hope* II ix xxvii, People who saw him in the street knew of his loss only by the weed on his hat *Ibid* xxviii, A long strip of bla k crape, torn from the funeral weeds 1837 *Dict Dress* 1/1 The hat band of cloth or crêpe for a man's hat in time of mourning W Wks

**b** *spec.* The deep mourning worn by a widow, including a crape veil, 'weepers,' etc Now always *pl.*, with or without *widow's* prefixed. (The sing. seems to have been used formerly to mean the veil.) The only use of the word now generally known; quite *colleg*

1595 *Locrine* v i 24 Let her there prouide her mourning weed And mourn for euer her husbands vntimely death 1598 MRS CRENTHE *Platonus Lady* I iii, 14 The disconsolate Wife having borrowed a Weed of her Neighbour, is consulting her Glass to see how it becomes her 1708 PHILLIPS *New World of Words* s v, A Garment or Suit of Clothes; whence it is still us'd for a Friar's Habit, a Widow's Vail, &c 1818 ADDISON *Spect* No 44 ¶ 4 An afflicted Widow in her Weeds 1821 CLARE *Shepherd's Calendar* 11 Her husband made her Widow's weeds. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII 217 What a charming widow would she have made! How would she have adorned the weeds! 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III i, As this (her habit) changed from weeds to black, from black to grey, from grey to white 1836 DICKENS *Sk by Boz, Tales* I, The widow wore a remnant of her weeds 1839 THACKERAY *Pendennis* III, There were no entertainments during the year of her weeds 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 428 He had heard the cook remark that his mother would never wear weeds

**+ 7.** A cloth, covering, hanging, or the like Also *collect. sing. Obs*

*c* 1200 ORMIN 8172 All þatt wedde þatt tiss wass Uppe þe here Drihhtenn 1340 *Ayenb* 111 Of þe bestes pal i spret *Deuter Imp* 272 And þan ayleu to atte vppon alike wedes *c* 1440 *Lallad on Husb* 1 830 Eek as ferr hid a russet weede is to knowe the goode huerte *I Kinnir mode coperter*] 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III (Arb) 72 With black weede the altar is hanged

**Weed** (wīd), *sb.*1 *Sc* and *Anglo-Irish* Also weid [The first syllable of *weeden-* WEEDABONPA', wrongly analysed.] *Weed an' onfa'* (see quot *c* 1830) A sudden febrile attack, esp a kind of puerperal fever.

1700 A DUNCAN *Med Comm* Dec. II V 300 It may be difficult, therefore, in the beginning, to distinguish puerperal fever from accumulations of faeces in the alimentary canal, especially if joined to an Ephemera, or Weed 1818 SCOTT *Br Lammm* XII, Dunna ye hear the barn greet? I se warrant it is that dreary weid has come owre it again 1819 *Ann Hog* Mar 1310 There is no appearance as still as very sick of a fever, incident to women in her situation, and here termed *a weed* 1830 CARR ETON *Traits Irish Pea* (1843) I 308 Before the bed bolster was taken off for the weed, ever since I had that weary weid *c* 1830 in *Proc Berwick. Nat Club* (1916) 86 Ephemeral colds, vulgarly called weeds and onfas 1900 *Brit Med Journ* 19 July 109/2 A touch of the 'weed' (or weid), which means a sudden febrile attack

**b.** A feverish disease in cattle

1811 J TROTTER *Agr Surv W Lothian* 168 Milch cows, however, are not unfrequently subject to what is here called a weed, which is a kind of feverish affection 1851 *Jrnl R Agric Soc* XII II 123 Irritation and inflammation of the absorbent vessels and glands constituting the disease termed *weed* [in horses]

**Weed** (wīd), *v* *Pa. t* and *pa. pple.* **weeded.** Forms. 1 wēodian, 4–6 wede, (4 wed), 4–7 weede, (5 wedy, 6 weade, 7 weyrdde), 6 *Sc.* wed, 6– weed; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple* occasionally 5–9 wed, 8 wedd, 9 *Sc.* weede [OE. *wēodan* = OS *wōdlin* (LG. *weden*), (M)Du *weden*, (M)LG. *weden*, WFris. *wjudde*, *f.* OE. *wēod*, OS. *wōd*, WEED *sb.*1]

**1** *intr.* (or *absol.*) To clear the ground of weeds; to pull up weeds.

*a* 1100 *Gen&Ex* in *Angelia* IX 262 Me [*read* Mon] mniȝ.. on sumera fealȝian tyrfuman, wrohtan, weodan, fældan. 1393 LANGL *P. Pl* C IX. 66 And alle þat helpen me to erye oþer elles to weden, Shal haue leue, by our lorde to go and gynne eltur *Ibid* 186 1392-94 FITZHERB *Husb* § 51 The chyefe instrument to wede with is a paire of tonges made of wode. 1523 HYLL *Art Garden* 74 If any by ignorance doo weede about the plantes without gloues on their handes. 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc* (Chetham Soc) 128 A woman that helped to weydde in the garthinge 1j days, 1d 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr* v § 21 Whoever hath a mind to weed will never want work 1733 W ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 221 The Sheep can't weed amongst them (Beans and Peas), and eat up the wild Oat and Curlock 1820 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII iv, In the garden then they all went, and saw him upon the ground, weeding 1847 F. W. ROBERTSON *Human Race* VII (1881) 73 When once the farmer has sown, he can do little more except weed 1880 W WHITE *Werkin* XXIII 342 The gardens adjoin the inclosure, and there I saw boys digging, hoeing and weeding amid plentiful crops of cabbage and beans.

**2** *trans* To free (land, a crop, plant) from weeds.

*c* 1395 *Sire W de Bibbesw* in Wright *Loe* 156 Vostre lyn en tens sarchet [*glossed*] wed tu flax 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P* XVII lxv (1495) 642 It nedyth that corne be clene weded and cleused 1523 FITZHERB *Surveying* Pref *lad on Husb* II 289 And wattre hem. Ek delue hem al aboute, and wede hem clene *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 259 A man went to wede his corne 1523 FITZHERB *Husb* § 21 How to wede corne. 1534 *Mds Acc St Johns Hosp., Canterb.* For a woman weding ye bens 13 days, 13*d* 1533 HERMAN *C vertuum* 34 b, Cauen into the corne, and found him weding of his ground 1586 A DYBER *Herbal* II 52 When it is an inche long, it must be diligently weeded wt handes & not wt a weding yron 1646-47 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II 511 For the gardiner for weeding y^e garden and the wilkes. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl Gard* I II 15 Your small Plants, as Strawberries, Fetitles, Succory &c. require to be weeded 1707 *Curios Husb* 21 Better to perform their Duty *c* 1720 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 31 One Garden with Grass plotts and Earth walks Cut and weeded 1766 *Compl Farmer* 174 *Corn Spurry* 1 It is a handsome hoed them once, and weed them twice 1816 J SMITH *Panorama Sc & Art* II 685 Weed the beds of onions, lettuces, carrots, and leeks. 1844 LOUDON *Encycl Gard.* (ed 2) § 1352 Garden pincers . . Their chief use is to weed beds 1858 SLIGHT & BURN *Bk. Farm Implements* 328 The hand draw-hoe is used for weeding corn sown in rows. 1859 JEAFFRESON *Gerard's Herbal* 1 Let the ground be weeded the white horse on the Berkshire hills To keep him bright and clean as heretofore *a* 1894 STEELMAN *In South Seas* II 11 (1900) 152 The alleys where we walked were smoothed and weeded like a boulevard

**b** *fig*

1377 LANGL *P Pl* B XII 17 Herte hatte þe herker hat it [the tree of Patience] in gyuynesse, and þe holy goste *withdrauen* hath þe londe to ferme, Vnder Piers þe ploweman to ȝeplen it and to weden it *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg* (1867) 77 God graue þe nurture among my wyues to weden þe vnpurete þ sowe late, And Repentaunce my corne schal weede 1545 BRINKLOW *Complt* 56 b, The kynge grace began wel to wede the garden of England 1598 BARRET *Theor Warres* 1 *Compl Farm Tent* Black of tithe pig, That our Church of England might be well weeded from to grosse errors 1600 SHAKS. *A Y L* II vii 45 Provided that you weed your better judgements Of all opinion that growes rancke to them 1648 EARL WESTMORLAND *Diss Sacra* (1879) 41 So let our Hearts be throughly wed of Sin And then They ll prove good ground again 1662 EVELYN *Sylva* I 10 It is not to shew how diligently we have weeded the Calepines, and Lexicons but the result of much diligent collection 1735 SWIFT *Gulliver, Introd. Let Capt* Gulliver be assured you would let me know when courts and leaves of great ministers [were] thoroughly weeded and swept 1818 KEATS *Endym* II 106 Could I weed The tyranny that doth my sway disown 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v 454 A hasty brace Of twins may weed her of her folly 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* x 210 The Senate was at once weeded of many of its disreputable members. 1897 *Bachman Inn* 190/1 The following would be better from a literary point of view if weeded of some of its cleverneses

**3.** To remove (weeds) from land, esp. from cultivated land or from a crop Also with *out, up.*

*c* 1430 LYDG *Min Poems* (Percy Soc. 1853) 73 Hereth kyn have lefte Þeire frowardnes, Wyth þe corne wyl I weede 1523 FITZHERB *Husb* § 21 Dogfenell, goldes, mathes, and kedlokes are yll to wede after this maner 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb* (1878) 73 June ply by weede hoke, and weede out suche weede, as the corne doth not love 1611 A. STANDISH *Commons Complt* 44 Weede the grasse cleane vp from all out the rootes of the weedes 1618 *Colasts Med* 77 Lake a discreet Damsell, which peeseires wholesome Herbes, and weeds vp hurtfull Weeds 1656 EARL MONM tr *Boccalini's Advts from Parnass* XII (1674) 18 So great abundance of Weeds grew up [they could not] undergo the charges they were at in weeding them out. 1670 HILMAN *Tvuzer Redivv* Mar (1744) 32 Wild Oats are not easily weeded when in the Ear 1765 *Ann Reg* 1 146 The natural grass is to be considered as a weed, which, if not at first weed out of the ground, will soon destroy the artificial grass. 1790 W W JACOB *Ast Sauvmock Port* II 13 Mr Wikes weeded two pieces of grass from the parish, and carefully removed a dead branch from a laurel.

**+ b.** *transf.* To remove (vermin, noxious animals). *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T j b, The Kite came weede the worme, can kill the Moulewarpe 1593 SHAKS *Rich II*, II iii 167 Bushie, Bagot, and their Complices, The Caterpillers of the Commonwealth, Which I haue sworne to weed, and plucke away

**c.** *fig.* To eradicate (errors, faults, sins, etc.); to remove (things or persons) as noxious or useless. Also with *away, out.*

1579 *Lupton Pref* (W de W 1532) 30 By holy exercyse of

the same plucketh out by the roots & wedeth away all be euill customes of synne. 1536 Tindale *N. T.* To Chr Rdr. Thou hast here…the newe Testament, Which I haue loked oder agayne…with all diligence,…& haue weded out of it many faultes. 1548 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 62 Your Hyghnes…hath…supplanted, and, as it were, weeded out, a great number of valiaunt and sturdye monckes, fryers, [etc.]. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 56 If wise fathers, be not as well ware in weeding from their Children ill thinges. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 851 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 284 Twice trebble shame on Angelo, To weede my vice, and let his grow. 1615 *John Plowfer* in Rollins *Pepysian Garl.* (1922) 58 And weed away from euery plaine and Clttie, Such idle Drones, you cherish with your pittie. 1643 Payne *Serv. Power Parl.* 1. (ed. 2) 24 That they were nominated for the good of the King and Kingdome, and to weed from about him, such Traytours as he continually held with him. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 1 These customs savour of their antient Idolatry. The Ministere do all they can to weed it out of them by little and little. 1690 Locke *Educ.* § 147 Where you may…gently correct and weed out any bad inclinations, and settle in him good Habits. 1736 Berkeley *Diic.* Wks. 1871 III. 415 Those who are so active to weed out the prejudices of education. 1857 Byron *Lament. Tasso* iv. I weed all bitterness from out my breast. 1891 Jane Lewis *Study Wind., Chartres* (1871) 170 Sir Harris Nicolas, with the help of original records, weeded away the fictions by which the few facts were choked and overshadowed.

**4.** To clear *away* (plants, not necessarily noxious or useless); to take *out* (plants or trees) to prevent overcrowding; to thin (a crop).

1543- [see Weeding *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1791 W. Gilpin *Rem. Forest Scenery* I. 85 I went to shelter a nursery of young trees, plant Scotch firs: and the phrase is, you may afterwards *weed them out*, as you please. 1825 Jamieson, To *Weed*, to thin growing plants by taking out the smaller ones; as, 'to weed firs'. *S.*

¶ b. The refrain of Jean Elliot's song (quot. *c* 1760) has often been quoted in the form 'The flowers of the forest are a' wede away'. In allusion to this, Scottish writers have sometimes used *weede away* (app. without associating it with the verb *weed*) in the vague sense 'carried off by death'; sometimes it has been interpreted as 'withered, faded'. Similarly *to wede away* used intr. for 'to die off', trans. for 'to carry off by death'.

*c* 1760 Jean Elliot in F. Elliot *Trustworthiness of Border Ballads* (1908) 166 The Flowes of the Forest are weeded away. 1808 Scott *Marmion* v. x. Out of those flowers, which plaintive lay In Scotland mourns as 'wede away'. 1845 — 4 Apr. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xx. 198 How sad it is to see those whom we love gradually wear away from the world in which we are left. 1894 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Ava my gude auld native parish, the Browns and the Spences are a weedin away. 1895 A. Macadam *Sk. Nature* 225 If sad Fate before me should Wede him away.

c. *transf.* To remove (inferior or superfluous individuals) from a company, herd, etc.; also with *out*.

1803 E. Farmer *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 3) 27 The hounds have been 'weeded', some sold and some hung. 1809 Whyte-Melville *Songs & Verses* 87 Faster and faster comes grief and disaster, All but the good ones are weeded at last. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bull* 1. 1 Our house, as hereditary, all her old society (excepting such as she had judiciously weeded out). 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Great Mutiny* 3 Those unfit for foreign service were carefully weeded from the service companies. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 25 Mar. 5/7 If a herd is to be made profitable, about one fourth of the cows must be weeded-out every year.

d. *intr.* Of a company: To become thinned *down*.

1887 Sir R. H. Roberts *In the Shires* v. 90 The field has weeded down to the select few.

**5.** *slang.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Weed*, to pilfer or purloin a small portion from a large quantity of anything; …an apprentice or shopman will *weed* his master's *fob*, that is take small sum out of the till. …To *weed the swag* is to embezzle part of the booty, unknown to your *pals* before a division takes place. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf*, To *weed*, to steal part only. 1894 J. G. Little *Sheffield Words*, &c. (ed. 2) 158 Thus, in the case of a famous American bank robbery, he is suspected of having 'weeded the swag' to the amount of nearly £100,000.

**Weed**, obs. form of Wed *v.*

**Weedable** (*wi*·dăb'l), *a.* [f. Weed *v.* + -able.] That may be weeded.

1621 Cotgr., *Sarcable*, weedable, fit to be weeded.

**Weedage** (*wi*·dĕdg). [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -age.] Weeds collectively. Also *fig.*

1895 Lynch *Rivulets* civ, vii, When [wit Thou] with last desolations Earth's weedage consume. 1866 Rendrave *Cent. Painters* II. 112 The weedage, leafage, and flowers have been painted white, as appropriate to it.

**†Weedbind.** *Obs.* = Bindweed 1.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. v b, The properties of bynd weed. The iuice of weedbynde, purgeth the belly.

**Weede**, obs. form of Wed *v.*, Wide.

**Weeded** (*wi*·dĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Weed *sb.*1 and *v.*1 + -ed.]

**1.** Covered with weeds. Of a crop: Abounding in or choked with weeds; weedy.

1818 Keats *Endym.* III. 193 Upon a weeded rock this old man sat. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 785 [It] sent up only weeded, raggy, and mixed crops. 1830 Tennyson *Mariana* i, Unlifted was the clinking latch; Weeded and worn the ancient thatch Upon the lonely moated grange.

**2.** Freed from weeds. Also *fig.*

1766 *Sp. agst. Suspending & Dispensing Prerogative* in *Parl. Hist.* (1813) XVI. 310 It was the rump of a well weeded parliament that abolished the monarchy. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. i. 3 The fields are covered with fine well-weeded turf.

**3.** Of a crop: Thinned out; sparse.

1832 T. MacQueen *Gleaning Amusem.* 65, O I white, white was his weedit haire!

**†Wee'dess,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -ess.] Unclean with weeds.

1509 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 We that had our weeden pillowes.

**Weeder** (*wi*·dəɹ). [f. Weed *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** An implement used to eradicate weeds.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wedare, *runco.* 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 246/1 The Fift is a long staffe, with a Broad Hooke of three teeth turning up much like to the end of it…This is termed a weeder. 1882 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xx. 478 Weeding is commonly done by hand with a small weeder. 1895 J. Grant *One of Six Hundred* II, Occupied with a weeder, which he always carried, and with which the ends of all his walking-sticks were furnished.

**2.** A person employed to remove weeds from a crop, land, etc.

1395 *Mss. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For mett & drynke to a weeder ij days, vjd. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Sarritor, & sarter*, a weder of corne. *Ibid., Sitipices*, wieders in gardeynes. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 52 b, The Weeders must be chosen out of such, as the workfolke & handes may reach to the middest of them. 1645 Whitby *Two Pacif.* 74 Some Weeds, and Corne, are in the blade so like, That many Weeders deceived by him. 1691-8 T. Fuller *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 136 To 9 weeders in y' yard to drinke, 0 4 0. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 385 My wheat was putting out into ear when I sent weeders to weed it. 1796 Stuart *Trav. Shamefr* III. xxxiv, Whilst I am worth one [sc. shilling] to pay a weeder—thy path from thy door to thy bowling-green shall never be grown up. 1794 J. Boys *Agric. Kent* 95 Women weeders. 1807 *Gl. Ed.* 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 47 Each morning now, the weeders meet To cut the thistle from the wheat. 1838 *Abp. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1699 [Among Officers of Richmond, Yorks, corporation] Weeder of Footpaths. 1870 *Inquiry, Yorkish. Deed & Dumb* 20 He is employed as weeder in the garden at Wighill Park.

*fig.* 1600 A. V[enn] tr. *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 111 *Monthly Mag.* XI. 648 Novels, Poems, Plays, and Periodical Trash, without end, press upon us for notice—it must be left to the weeders.

**3.** An extirpator (of weeds). Chiefly *fig.* Also with *out*.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, i. iii. 223 I was a packe-horse in his great affaires: A weeder out of his proud Adversaries. 1598 Florio *Worlde* 200 The weeder out of Tyrants from the place of vertues graine. 1611 Cotgr., *Escharbonneur*, a weeder of thistles.

**4.** *attrib.*, as *weeder woman*; **weeder-clips** *Sc.* = *weeding-shears* (see Weeding *vbl. sb.* 3).

1748 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Cl'ess of Bute* 10 July, I generally rise at six, and as soon as I have breakfasted, put myself at the head of my weeder women and work with them till nine. 1787 Weeder-clips [see Weeding-hook].

**Weedery** (*wi*·dəri). [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -ery.] Weeds collectively; also, a place where weeds abound.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul, Psychozoia* II. lxxii, Hard by there was a place, all covered o're With stinging nettles and such weedery. 1814 Southey *Roderick* VI. 46 The weedery which through The interstices of those neglected courts Luxuriated. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I. long and seeded there. 1857 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 629 Two poplars at the end of a strip of weedery. *a* 1890 Marianne North *Recoll. Happy Life* (1892) I. i. 29 Our garden was much overgrown with weedery in those days.

**Weedful** (*wi*·dfŭl), *adv. rare.* [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -ful.] Abounding in weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1618 Sylvester *2nd Sess. Parl. Vertues Royall* Ded., Need full in this Weed-full Time. 1649 Mangan *Poems, To Yon. Ryc* 4 Weedfull Of the thorns and tarde, that choked the weedful Garden of my mind!

**Weed-hook.** In 1 *wēodhōc*, 4 *wyed hoc*, 5 *weed hook, wedhoc, -hoke, -huke*, 4–6 *wede-hoke.* [f. Weed *sb.*1 + Hook *sb.*] A hook for cutting away weeds. Also in fig. contexts.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1340 *Aspendi.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 221 Pe ysiȝhe of dreðe…is þe weyd hoc of þe gardine þet nordeþ al þet kueade gers. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 597 *Sarcle*, Wedehoke. 1408 *Pecock Repr.* III. vii. 391 (Rolls MS. K.) A good *tol ti*, a weed hook. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husbandry* 1561 Then Reson & Sadnesse take weede hokes tweyn, and wilde wantonnes out of the fyslde gan weede. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* lxxii. In June get thy weedehoke, thy knife and thy gloue. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xi. § 11 (1562) 72 Learne that thou hast nede of a weedehoke, and of a sickpey, that thou mayst doo the worke of a Prophete. 1620 J. Robinson *Justif. Separat.* 117 How dare the Prelates..take this forbidden weedhook into their hands, & vse it against any tare amongst them? 1652 *Mayne Catechism* I. 21 To root it out streight with the weed-hooke of good workes. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 These [thistles] may be weeded off with a Weed-hook, or Stabling-knife. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 941 The only implements used in weeding corn are the hand drawhoe, and the weed-hook. 1858 Slight & Burn *Bk. Farm Implements* 34 Scarifier, or Weed-hook, consists of a blade of iron, flattened,…with the two inner edges as far set asunder as to embrace the stem of succulent herbaceous plants, and made as sharp as easily to cut through them.

**Weeding** (*wi*·dĭng), *vbl. sb.* [f. Weed *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action or process of freeing (land, a crop, etc.) from weeds.

*c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 103/3 *Runcatio*, weodung. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Weddynge, *runcacio.* 1468-9 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 102 For wedyng in the whete, iij s. j d. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 21 After a shoure of raine it is beste wedynge. *Ibid.*, But as for terre, there wyll noo wedynge serue. 1583 *Shirtliewortha' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) to John Hewode for the dressing, wyedinge and kypinge of the gardenes…foure and tynty shillynges. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* 52 The weeding and worming of every bed both in that, and all other Gardens thereabout. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 126 The common price of weeding of it [sc. wood] is about eight pence an Acre. 1846 T. Baxter *Libr. Practic Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 381 When draining is properly attended to, there will be little occasion for weeding. 1901 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 8 Sept. 274/3 The laborious and wasteful weeding of the young crop [of teak] until it can hold its own against the rapid growth of weeds and useless trees.

**b.** The eradication (of weeds); also with *out*. Also *fig.*

1562 Turner tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 68 b, The wedyng out of Heretikes. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xvi, 58 It was…ridiculous to compare the purging of the world from seditious spirits, with the weeding of noysome hearbs out of a Garden. 1901 *Scotsman* 13 Mar. 9/4 One who…was all for the weeding out of incapacity and the selection of the fittest officers.

**c.** That which is weeded out.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 96 Hee weedes the corne, and still lets grow the weeding.

**2.** The action of thinning out plants, trees, etc. Also *concr.* (*pl.*) the plants removed in the process.

1543 *Act 35 Hen. VIII* c. 17 § 5 Persons…which haue…Woods or Coppice…shall, at the felling or weeding thereof, leave standing…twelve Trees of Oak. *a* 1725 Bowen *Chron Time* (1732) II. 274 Turnep Seed 1lb [1d. Halfax] for another Grant…to the waste of the Timber…[He replied] His Grant in the Forest of Dean was only of the Weedings. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 324 In a second weeding, when it appears necessary, another third of the original number may be cut down. *Ibid.* 325 Ditto number of weedings, taken out before 20 years, produced one hundred cords. 1825 Jamieson, *Weeding*, what is pulled up, or cut out, in thinning trees, &c. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1058 To cut a 3 j yramid of 3 small trees or weedings of larch or Scots fir.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. 3 The accession of Mr. Canning to the cabinet…soon led to a new weeding of the Whig sinecures. 1853 Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lx. 343 It seemed agreed on all hands that their party rather wanted weeding than increasing. 1870 *Daily News* 21 Nov. The feeling…is so strong, that a great weeding of the judicial bench is probable if the Republic lasts. 1884 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 800/3 Its value would have been greater if the two volumes had been reduced to one by the judicious weeding of the articles dealing with the controversy with Mill.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weeding season*, *time*; in the names of many tools used in removing weeds, as *weeding chisel*, *-dog*, *-forceps*, *-fork*, *-iron*, *-knife* (lit. and fig.), *-plough*, *-shears*, *-tongs* (lit. and fig.), *-tool*, also Weeding-hook; **weeding dues** *slang* (see quot. and Weed *v.* 4 e); **weeding shim** *dial.* (see quot.); **weeding-woman** (*cf. weeder woman*, Weeder 4).

1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Weeding-chisel*, an useful tool with a directed chisel point, for cutting the roots of large weeds within the ground. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 304/2 In the Basis is…a Gardiners *Weeding Dog*. It is made with a Taper Fork, and a Cross bar of Iron, some six or eight Inches above, [etc.]. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Weeding*, speaking of any person, place, or property, that has been weeded, it is said 'weeding dues have been concerned'. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Weeding-forceps*, or *Tongs*, is the tool of the nipper kind which is made use of for taking up some sorts [of plants] in weeding corn and other crops. 1611 Cotgr., *Serfoir*, a weeding hooke, or "weeding forke. 1828 *Sp. Westmr. Work. Weeding-Fork*, a strong three-pronged fork, used in cleaning ground of weeds. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* June 769/2, I was summoned into the house…and leaving my weeding-fork and hat, I was absent…perhaps an hour. 1568 "Weeding iron [see Weed *v.*1 2]. 1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard.* (1907) 149 Pull up the roots cleanly, taking the help of the weeding-iron where needful. 1728 *Swiss Tutor and Host.* xii. Misc. 1731 I. 18 Ill him on my Lap you never more should see; Or may I lose my "Weeding-knife—and Thee. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 183 The acche of almost every weeding-knife of a judicious editor, will cut down the docks and thistles. 1840 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 381 When large weeds only are to be pulled out of shrubberies, this may sometimes be done with "weeding pincers. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 385 The latter end of the "weeding-season. 1908 Alice Wilmot *Englishwoman's Year* 21 In the planting and weeding seasons, people set out for the gardens before daylight. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 246/1 He beareth Gules, a paire of "weeding Tongues Or, else a paire of "Weeding Shearers, erected and open. 1850 Ocilvie, *Weeding-shears*, shears used for cutting weeds. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Weeding-Shim*, an implement…made with a frame somewhat like that of the common wheelbarrow…It is a very useful and convenient tool for the purpose of tearing up weeds. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 16 The seconde is the great huste to the corne, when it shall be sowen, and specially in the "weeding-tyme of the same. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 298, I was obliged several Years after, to cut them up by "Weeding-time. *a* 1555 Bradford in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 462 Yf god…purchaunce beginne..to poure his showers vpon you: to nippe you with his "weeding tonges, &c. 1688 [see *weed-tug shears*]. 1850 Ocilvie, *Weeding-tongs*, an instrument for pulling up, digging up, or cutting weeds. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 222 He gave me positive Orders to turn off an old "Weeding-Woman. 1908 Dallas *Real Dick Turpin* I. *Ancholme* 40 Two old weeding-women, cheek by cheek, taking up daisies.

**Weeding-hook.** = Weed-hook.

1578 *Acc. Roll Doune, Wandewoyth, Surrey* (Westm. Chapter Munim.), iij Wedynghokes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wedynge hooke, *runco.* 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 22 And if it be drye wether, than maste ye haue a weedynge-hoke. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 290 Weeding-hooks and rakes The first Smiths made. 1763 Mills *Syst Pract. Husb.* III. 22 The common weeding-hook will not go

deep enough to take out the whole of the long slender tap root of this plant. 1787 Burns *Answ. Gudewife of Wauchope-House* ii, The rough hurr-thistle, spreading wide Among the bearded bear—I turn'd my weeding hook (*Ibid.* Wks. 1800 III. 378 weeder-clips) aside, An' spar'd the symbol dear! 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 135 The weeding-hook, which has a narrow strap of iron forked at the lower extremity, and a wooden handle at the other, is also used for raising weeds. *Ap.* 1642 Milton *Ch. Govt.* i. v, He little dreamt then that the weeding-hook of reformation would ever be put into plush up his glorious poppy from insulting over the good corne.

**Weedless** (wī·dles), *a.* [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -less.] Free from weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1612 Donne *Anat. World, 1st Anniv.* 82 For all assum'd unto this dignities, So many weedlesse paradises bee. 1659 W. Chamberlayne *Pharon.* iii. 95 Whose weedless banks no pining winter knew. 1670 Davies *1st Pt. Cong. Jeremiah* iv. (1672) 38 When troubled most, it does the bottom show, 'Tis weedless all above; and rockless all below. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Indi.* (1844) II. 164 The thousand treeless, bushless, weedless hills of grass. 1879 W. Cory *Lett. & Journ.* (1890) 371 A clear, weedless, rocky pool. 1908 H. Walpe *Old Allegiance* viii. 137 Straight shaded walks and weedless lawns.

**Weedling** (wī·dling). [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -ling.]

1. A small weed.

1820 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 62 And though thou seem'st a weedling wild, Wild and neglected like to me. 1881 R. Buchanan *God's Inf. Child* i. 17 Dry and thin those flowers seemed no other sign of vegetation; ..not even the weedlings of the rock.

2. A slight, weakly person.

1890 *Universal Rev.* 15 July 410 What is pathetic is the maternal anxiety shown by the weedy lady for her weedier child. ..Her whole care is that the weedling's days shall be long (etc.). 1911 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6/1 Mr. Hutchinson has done..go off to the Colonies and only the weedlings remain.

**†Weedwind.** *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *weedewinde* = G. *wechdwinde* (see Withwind)), with assimilation of the first element to Weed *sb.*] **a.** Black Bindweed, *Polygonum Convolvulus*. **b.** Wild Convolvulus, *Convolvulus arvensis*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. lii. 334 Of blacke Withiwinde, or Bindeweede. ..This kinde of Bindeweede is called ..in shoppes *Volubilis nodus*, that is to say, The meanie Bindeweede. In English Weedewinde, and Withwinde. Byndinwinde. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Table Engl. Names, Weedwind, that is withywind. 1601 R. Chester *Love's Mart.* (1878) 82 Sweete Trefoile, Weedwinde, Honysuckles. 1665 Lovell *Hortus* 265 Weedwind, see Withy wind.

**Weedy** (wī·di), *a.*1 [f. Weed *sb.*1 + -y1.]

1. Full of, abounding or overgrown with, weeds.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 219 Lond, weet, wodi, wedi, or stony, to remedie. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. x. 55 But I ..Like weanie Hynd within the weedie soyle, For no intreate would forgoe my glotonie. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* iii. 21 The noise thereof was heard in the Red (*marg.* weedy) Sea. *a* 1631 Donne *Lett. to Persons of Honour* (1651) 50 A sullen weedy lake, where I could not play, nor scarce exercise by my swimming. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* i. 10 If Wheat is weedy it must lie up on the Gravel. 1767 A. Young *Farmer's Lett. to Peop. Inducing the Bill* 14 A weedy manner as to give each method a fair proportion of the weedy and clean parts. 1828 Davy *Salmonia* 47 The fish here are large, and the river weedy, so you must take your flies and your tackle. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvii, the waggon rolled up a weedy gravel-walk. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xiv, The garden was a weedy wilderness. 1919 Weekley *Jig.* 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 122, I have Nought reaped but a weedy crop of care. 1628 Peyne *Brief Surv. Covent* 15 The infallibilitie of the Church of Rome, from whom a weedie Garden, this Garland of Devotion hath been gathered. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xiii [x]. A sad down-fall if we forget what human nature, in its green weedy Spring is composed of. 1913 *Daily Tel.* 31 Aug. 3/4 [The library] of the Church House is still scrappy, weedy and incomplete.

2. Of the nature of or resembling a weed; made or consisting of weeds.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vii. 175 When downe the weedy Trophies, and her selfe, Fell in the weeping Brooke. 1620 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vic.* i. 1, Let ..nettles, kine, and all the weedie nation, With mute elders grow, sad agent of desolation. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 349 The Sheep..in quest of their weedy Food. 1753 Dodsley *Publ. Virtue* i. 64 His new machines form'd to exterminate The weedy race. 1881 Grant Allen *Evolutionist at large* 44 Thus the crowfoot, too, cannot blossom to any purpose below the water; ..only those individuals whose chance lies that it was to grow a little taller and weedier than the rest, and so overtop the stream, have handed down their race to our time. 1884 *Spectator* 21 June 794/2 Sleeping in their tired little hands the weedy spoils of the hedgerow.

*fig.* 1819 H. Busk *Festivals* ii. 84 The brawny Tritons, with their weedy hair. 1835 Waterhouse *Examin. Distinctive Princ. Protestantism* 7 The ..weedy prejudices never will be torn up. 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxvi. 238 A long-legged gentleman with weedy whiskers. 1888 D. C. Murray *Weaker Vessel* xiv, Some of them are weedy; many rooted fools by nature, who bear a weedy little blossom of wit, and suppose themselves to flower all over.

3. Having a taste or tang of weeds.

1892 J. M. Walsh *Tea* 107 The liquor [of Neilgherry] is thin, muddy and rank or 'weedy' in flavour.

4. *colloq.* (Cf. Weed *sb.*2 5.) **a.** Of animals, esp. horses and hounds: Lean, leggy, loose-bodied, and lacking in strength and mettle.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 107 The poor, slight, weedy, spindle-shanked stock of brood mares. 1856 Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxviii. (1901) II. 15 He rode a weedy chestnut. 1865 Morley *Mod. Characteristics* II. A very shabby old brougham drawn by a pair of very weedy horses. 1877 Stables *Pract. Kennel Guide* 37 *Weedy* a very expressive word, as applied to a dog who looks leggy, thin, badly-bred, and apparently going to seed. 1888 R. Boldrewood *Robbery under Arms* xi, We drafted out all the worst and weediest of the cattle.

**b.** Of persons: Unhealthily tall and thin; lanky and wanting physical vigour; also, weakly, of poor physique.

1859 Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxi, 'Nice size, too,' continued he, '..plenty of substance..(puff)..Hate a weedy woman—fifteen two and a half—that's to say, five feet four, is plenty of height for a woman.' *a* 1865 Mrs. Carlyle in *Weeds & Daw.* viii, Grace ..is looking rather pale and weedy. 1892 *Nation* 21 Apr. 293/3 In order to fill the ranks large numbers of weedy men have been enlisted.

5. *Comb.*, as *weedy-haired*, *-looking* adjs.

1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 36 That monstrous region, whose dull rivers pour, Ever from their sordid urns into the shore, Unwieldy sedge, weedy-haired pools. 1854 Wilkie Melville *Gen. Bounce* vii, His fastidious taste cannot but admit that there are 'some weedy-looking ones among 'em'. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxiii, I am thought them weedy-looking animals. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1309/2 Various genera of coarse weedy-looking plants.

**Weedy** (wī·di), *a.*2 [f. Weed *sb.*2 + -y1.] Of a woman: Wearing widow's 'weeds', clad in mourning.

1848 Longf. *Life* (1891) II. 133 A weedy woman came sweeping up to us, and introduced herself as an admirer. 1850 Dickens *David Copp.* xvii, She still wore weeds. I suppose, to the end of her days. 1851 — *Bleak Ho.* The tops of hedge-stakes, coopers' ware, &c., bound with one wither or wef. *Ibid.*, *Withes or weeds*. The pliant shoots of hazel, ash, willow, &c., for binding the spray and prunings of trees into faggots, brooms, &c.

**Weef, Weeft**: see Weffe, Weft.

**Weegle,** Sc. var. Waggle *v.*

**Weehee**: see Wehee.

**Week** (wīk), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 wice (rare), wiou (inflected wicun, wicean), 3–5 wike, 3–6 wyke, 5 wyck, 6 wicke; 4 wyoke, 6–7, 9 *dial.* wicke; *β.* 3–6 woke, 6 woocke, wooke, wouke, 6–week; *γ.* 1 wucu, 2–3 wuke, 3–5 wuke, 4–5 woke, 4–6 wok, 5 wooke, wouyk, wowke (wokk), 5–6 wok(e; *δ.* *Sc.* 4–8 ouk, owk(e, 5–8 ouk, owlk, ulk, olk, 6 wke, 9 ook. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wicu* wk. fem. corresponds to OFris. *wike* (WFris. *wike*, NFris. *week*, *wik*), OS. *-wika* in *crūcewika* Passion Week (MLG., LG. *weke*), MDu. *weke* (Du. *week*), early OE. Kentish *wicu*, in combinations, where it was general); the *β* type represented by the standard English form descends from this. The form *wouke* (inflected *wouken*) is the ancestor of the type OE. *wucu*, *wuce*, whence the *δ* type was developed in the North by the loss of the initial (*w*) before the labial vowel. (The written *l* in many of the Sc. forms, *wolk*, *oulk*, etc., was never pronounced.)]

1. The cycle of seven days, recognized in the calendar of the Jews and thence adopted in the calendars of Christian, Mohammedan, and various other peoples; a single period of this cycle, i. e. a space of seven successive days beginning with the day traditionally fixed as the first day of the week.

The Jewish week began with the day after the sabbath, and this beginning was adopted by the Christian church. The days of the Jewish week, except the seventh (the Sabbath) were not named, but designated by numbers. In early Christian use the name Sabbath was retained for the seventh day, and the first was called the Lord's day (*i* *supper* *dæge*, *dies dominica*), the other days being numbered only. The English names, Sunday, Monday, etc., belong to an astrological week which, quite independently of the Jewish-Christian week, arose from the practice of assigning the successive hours to the seven planets in the order of their distance, and then naming each whole day (of 24 hours) from the planet supposed to rule its first hour. The planetary names, *Dies Solis*, *Dies Lunæ*, *Dies Martis*, etc., came into common use in the Roman empire, and were adopted in translated form by the English (before they came to Britain) and other Teut. peoples; the names Mars, Mercurius, etc., being apprehended as names of Roman gods, were rendered by the names of the Teutonic deities supposed to correspond to these: for details see the articles Tuesday, Wednesday, etc.

*a.* a900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.) On þare seofoþan wicean ofer Eastron. c900 *Beda's Hist.* v. ii. (Miller) 388 Mid ðy hit ða an wice hæs fæstnes gefylled wæs. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 12 Ic fæsto twiga in wice [c975 *Rushworth* wicak. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 Alle oðer daies of þe wike beoð to þreldome to þis dei [samnan dei]. c1205 *Lay.* 13907 Þenne feorðe dei i þere wike hes sifuen bim [Woden] to wurðscipe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Euerich oriisne of ðe yer holdeð silence, bute ssif hi hes dubie festes; & teonne holdeð hit sum ðær dai ðe wike. c1300 *K. Alis. Leg.* 312/438 Þe seoue Dawes in þe wyke. c1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 430, I shal nomore com here bis wyke. c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 13 Þe Lenge of a Lenten, fech moot ȝe ynne..And Wednes-day ich wyke wibouten flech-mete. c1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 3058 Iliones of us, withouten lesyng, Might win ilk wike fourty shilling. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 171 A Sarasyn said to a Christian] Þis is be wyke þat soures gret profete deyt in. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. i. 4 The seconde parte ys of youre seuen storyes, accordynge to the seuen dayes of the wyeke. 1498 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 57 My lord of Norwich shal the next wyke visite the hous of Hykelyng. 1500 in P. H. Hue *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 271 James.. went to St. James' faire to Bristow the last wike.

*β.* c 1275 [see *a.* c 1205]. c1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 1 Pe Wednesdai in þe firste weke of Advent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 218 He..Of seuenes alle þinges made a weke. c1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 On þe Saterday it ryennes fast, and al þe weke elles it standes still. 1589 More *Let. to Wolfe* 3 Sept., Wks. 1419/1, I shal (I think) ..be with you this next weke to come home and se you. 1596–7 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 458 The said [Recorde] shall dhe daies every wicke gyve attendance. 1680 Dan. tr. *Stenhusen's Comm.* 251 That thre daies in the weke they tame theyr body with fastynge. *a* 1633 G. Herbert *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 587 [*Proverb*] Thursday come, and the week's gone. 1796 Chron. Pooipert in *Chas Hartford's Ch.* (1897) 43 The Rev. Mr. Wake of great devotion and retirement with all good catholics, so it is a week of great idleness and equal retirement with us protestants. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* iii. viii. 390 Provisions there is a constant store of provisions prepared for the vessels who go thither every week from Panama. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Inductive Sci.* (1857) II. 61 Laplace..has given a calendar the Week, with Laplace as 'the most ancient monument of astronomical knowledge'. 1839 Dickens *Pickw.* xliii, You couldn't make it convenient to come and build a house all the latter end of next week, could you? 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* i, The present week is yet but at Thursday, and on Monday (etc.), the 5th. 1851 E. Farrar in *Fraser's Lett.* (1852) I. 321 Last week I have been working at the early life of Lanfranc.

*γ.* c 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 51 Þrit leon ai nelcere wucan salterie..geungenne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1118, On þissen ȝeare on þare wucan forðgonge monna ealmæstes swylce mycel ihtinge. c 1200 Ormin 4173 Hit iss ȝiss leh messeðazz Att hire wukenn ende. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 And hit [sc. Advent] lasteð al weke fulle fowr wukenn del more. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2431 Vr eldore him [sc. Woden] bitoc of be wouke ben yerje day. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 If ȝe ant te laillis..redes ȝe ech fourtenyt ones, bote ȝif hate sullen maken enquestes of men herburgges. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 254 Þus be persoun þat al þe wouke dispoyl hym to preche to his sheep (etc.). c 1400 *Sir Beues of Hamt.* 281 Al þe wukis in be summir, sal ye faste ilke wuke tua dais. c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxv. 261 For thei schryven hem and howsele hem evermore ones or twyes in the Woke. 1413–6 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1710) I. 137 He seconde terme begynnande the Monunday of the first hail wolke of lenteryn with ilk continuacion of termes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Woke (*v. rr.* wok, wouke), *hebdomada*. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 231 To gefe to Jᵉ power nedy paryschens of bloxham euery wouke & euery ȝere halfe a quarter of coone mengyld. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law of Armys* (1901) 124 The peple desyris..the marr to se him na he nade euery day, or euery wolk or moneth. 1552 Aup. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 51 Als well on the Satterday as ony other day of the wouke be.

*δ.* c 1470 *Col. & Gaw.* 1343 With reualing and reuay all the ouk hale. 1508 *Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberd.* (New Spald. Club) I. 152 With ane irrenche of land..lyand ouk[ j]at ye said olst[ aill happin in. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 338 That na nedfull is oppynnit bot thryis in the ouik for selling of thair geir. 1596 Sir Hew Fleming *Mery Q. of Scots* (1897) 49 Sche keipit onlie the sex Sondyis bot also the hole rest of the ouk. 1584 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 182 Ther shalbe four Sermones in the ouk; twa on the Sunday, and twa on the vuk-dayes. 1608 *Rec. Innerwick* in A. I. Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1850) 114 The examination to begin ye nixt ulk, for that purpose. 1928 Ramsay *Rokl., Reply*, A Sonday last cwm the Sonday bot also the hole rest of the ulk. 1584 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 182 Ther shalbe four Sermones in the ouk; twa on the Sunday, and twa on the vuk-dayes. 1608 *Rec. Innerwick* in A. I. Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1850) 114 The examination to begin ye nixt olk, for that purpose. 1928 Ramsay *Rokl., Reply*, A Sonday last cwm the Sonday bot also the hole rest of the olk. 1584 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 182 Ther shalbe four Sermones in the olk; twa on the Sunday, and twa on the ol

beoð twa & fifti wucena. *c* 1205 LAY. 29931 To feouwer wikene [*c* 1275 wekene] uirste Pat wrec [*read* werc] wes iuorbed. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2473 So woren forð ix. wukes gon, gret adde Iacob birgeles non. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 68 And two ȝer and al-meast þreo wyke. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7042 Pis ost . bisegede þen castel, nie wuke wel vaste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18587 He . Was tuas and þrilish wintures ald, And monet sex and wyckes tua. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM v. 110 In þyssere loye we schulde by-louken Al hyre ioyen of wourti wroken þe wyleni he þede wyþ chylde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9353 Al a wyke þe kyng þer lay, He spilte his tyme. 1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 359 He gert his menne buske likane, Quhen xx owkis of the sege was gane. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVI. 100 And in þe wombe of pat wenche was he fourty wokes. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. lx. (1495) 354 A monthe conteynyth foure wekes and a woke seuen naturall dayes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1047 For foure wookis full, or he did hir entere, She lay in lede within his house. *c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. XXV. 2375 Pat about þe hundrithe day, Wouyk, monethe or monoyth (etc.) *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 1662 He regnede not foure ȝere here, Hy sixe wykeus aȝ yche vnderstonde, Pat he was martrid. 1466 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 108, I hopyde of every wyke to have tydyng be content. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 273 Hyr dochtir had of xij wokkis ald a knayff. *a* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1003, I haue not kept her thys twelcyns. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 214 Whiche catall hath ben..Impoundyd by the tyme and space of ten wykes at the leste. 1553 *Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 318 The expens of the vik precedand the xxvi day of Marche. 1598 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 36 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue beene with yong: So many weekes, ere the poore Foales will Eane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1888) 248 After many owkes quhen mekle tha had wrocht and mekle had swat, tha [etc.]. 1625 K. COCKE *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 9 He hath lyen in this place a wk., and never came into the English howse till now. 1734 FORE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 93 A Buck was then a week's repast, And twas their point, I ween, to make it last. 1736 HUTCH. *Anal.* I. I. Wks. 1755 I. 21 A man determines . . that he will walk to such a place with a staff a week hence. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 214 Thinking every Day a Week, and Week a Month. 1758 P. COURTNEY *Pamphey the Little* II. xii. 256 As he had expected a Packet from London by the Coach for a Week before, he naturally concluded this to be the same. 1767 HOV *Let.* 31 Oct. in *Burns' Wks.* (1809) II. 120, I should give him nought but Sunday's play-day, to allow for sax owks, or ay until he fell.. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. ix. She was within six weeks of seventeen, and surely she need not be sent down to governess-bondom. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xiii, Then there came a week of rain.

**b.** Seven days as a term for periodical payments (of wages, rent, or the like), or as a unit of reckoning for time of work or service.

1446–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 66 Also payd to Thomas Sevjere and his fere for to set vndir þe clerkis chamber dore þe o mason a hole woke iiij s. iij d. 1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 205 And for alimos, gevin wouikly, of xxiiij wokkis, xlviij li. 1497 *Rec. Edin. Hen. VII* (1873) I. 373 After the rate of 18*d* by the wooke. 1558–3 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 342 Item to Andro Mansioun for half ane vik's wage. 1597–8 *Rec. St. Michael's Hill* 109 Payde to wyllyam Elsame for j quarter and vj wyekes the soms of xix s. vj d. 1580 *Former Acc. in Archæol. Æl.* (1851) VIII. 181 Pd for xij weckes bord for Mr. Richard Farnine and his man, at xiij*s* the weicke iiij*li* iiij*s*. 1584 *Morm. Chron.* 26 May 4/1 Advt., The above premises may be taken by the week, and entered upon immediately. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii. (end), The house is full of boarders, many of whom..contract by the week for their board and lodging. 1888 ELGAR *All Sorts* xxi, Eighteen shillings a week would buy him outright until his engagement began again. *Ibid.* xxii, And in two days more the week's rent would be due. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* ii. (ed. 3) 39 A week's notice is the general rule before vacating rooms. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Carry on Wheels* xviii, I have two thousand a year.. I don't know how much that is a week, but I'll work it out some day in shillings and see.

†**c.** Followed by *day* used pleonastically. (See DAY *2b.* II.)

*c* 1440 *Partonope* 6634 This lyfe they ladde vj. wekes day. *c* 1670 [see DAY *2b.* 11].

**d.** Used vaguely for an indefinite time, as *in a week or two*, implying a moderate space of time; *weeks*, referring to a duration which is felt as long.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 367 But thurgh his magik for a wyke or tweye It semed that alle the Rokkes were aweye. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 174 My freend, alþir, I trowe, a wile or two That this a-dredd was, hoom to me cam. 1513 And seide [etc.]. 15.. LYNDESAY *Play* 1048 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 505 Than scho deit to, within ane olk or twa. 1550 COVERDALE *Ps.* xc. (1895) 105 How often haue thou gone whole dayes togither, whole weakes, yea whole yeres, and neuer thought once to loue hym aryght? 1597 in *St. Medulfe Antiq. & Flores* (Surtees Soc.) 424 Alas! the mounths, alas! the wkes and dayes, That I consum'd in foolishe sports and playes. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, He *did* feel the same. Elinor—for weeks and weeks he did. It . I know he did. 1891 J. S. WHITE' *Lumley* vi, 'Oh, Vere is not going for weeks—weeks,' declared Mrs. Jock with great decision. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Apr, 183/2 The unbounded hospitality that when a few letters of introduction gave weeks of princely entertainment.

**e. Feast of weeks** *Heb. Antiq.* [tr. Heb. *ḥag šābūʿōṯ*] = PENTECOST 1.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXXIV. 22 The solempnyte of weekis. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible*, The feast of wekes. [So the later versions.]

**3.** The six working days, as opposed to the Sunday; the period from Monday to Saturday inclusive. Cf. WEEKDAY.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 244 Ælf se terminus xescyt on sumon dæge þære wucan þonne lyð se sunnan dæg þær after eauter dæge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 218 Þe-ȝuore me let of bodliche werkes of þe weke uor betere to ouderstonde to bidde god. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 243 For slumme of my seruaunts heoþ seke ofter-while, Of alle þe wike [*v.r.* wyke, weke, wowke] heo worcheþ not so heor wombe aket. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 76 Why such impresse of Ship-wrights, whose sore Taske Do's not diuide the Sunday from the weeke. 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* xxix, On this Sunday morning, when the old man looked at the cares of the week were off his mind.

**4. a.** *Week of years*: used in Lev. XXV. 8 by Wyclif, Tindale, and in the Douay Bible (after the Vulgate) for 'a period of seven years' (Coverdale has 'yeare sabbathes', and the other versions 'sabbaths of yeard', following the Heb.). Also used by commentators in explanation of the 'weeks' mentioned in Dan. IX. 24–27, where periods of seven years are meant.

1382 WYCLIF *Levit.* XXV. 8 And thow shalt noumbre to thee seuen wekes [1388 woukis] of seeris. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *God's Arrowe* (1592) 3 This worde *Hebdomade*..is sometimes taken for a weeke of dayes, sometime for a moneth, but nat oftner times it signifieth the space of seauen yeares, and then is it called *Sabbathicke* or *Sabbarum*, 4. weeke of yeares. 1611 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 147 The two not obserue how in those weeks of yeares three are dead? 1650 SCLATER *Expos. Rom.* iv. Ep. Ded. A 2, Having now, (by the space of full three weeks of years, and more), had a strong dispute with my thoughts, whether [etc.]. *c* 1680 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Script.* ii. iii. (1726) 278 They know Daniel's seventy weeks, clearly taken in his [the Messiah's] coming, and though it were taken either for weeks of days, or of years, it must long since be expired, but if they should mean weeks of years, then for many thousand years his coming could not be yet expected.

**b.** *Week of days*: used by Bible commentators (following a mistranslation of Dan. x. 2) to denote a literal week as opposed to the 'week of years': see quots. in 4 *a*.

It is not easy to ascertain Scott's use for 'a whole week' is an echo of this, or whether it was a current phrase.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Dan.* x. 2 At the same time, I Daniel was in heauines three whole weekes of dayes. 1611 [see 4 *a*]. 1615 weekes of daies were fulfilled. 1621 *Ibid.*, Three full weekes [*margin*, Heb. weeke of dayes]. 1818 SCOTT *Dr. Lamm.* x, They dared not keep me a week of days in durance.

**5. a.** In expressions serving to fix a date. *This day, tomorrow, Monday*, etc. *week*: seven days before or after the day specified. Similarly *this day*, etc. (so many) *weeks*. *Yesterday, Monday*, etc. *was a week* (dial.), seven days before the day mentioned. † Formerly also *four* (etc.) *weeks day*, exactly four weeks (cf. 2 *c*).

1398 *Inventaire de Metrot* (Bannatyne Club) 490 [Gif] defaut be of þir payementis..ore runnene ande ganeby sex wookis daye efter þe lymite terme. 1454 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 68 That all manner of men of Irysh blode..shuld be oute of Dublin by this day iiij. wekys. And every of the Irysh lryssh blode..may be founde within the said cite or fraunchesis after the said iiij. wekys day, they shall..be put in prisone. 1470 HARDYNG *Chronicle* Cxxxiii. (Cadell) 200 The same Court so adiorned to be kepte ther that day thre wekes next ensuyng. 1582 STY. J. PONHAM in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Eng.* (1886) 220 Item if God please to be at Hampton the wekes-daie at night before Kasterdaie. 1700 in *Pyrd. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 181 Wee heard..of her being then but 4 wks dead. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 8 Four weeks off 360 The whole of the money must be made good that night week. 1825 SCOTT *Greg St.* v, Allow me to recommend some of the Upper—it was but last day that I eat them, Saturday was a week. 1832 *Lincoln Herald* 23 Sept. 4/4 Early on Monday morning week, an attempt was made [etc.]. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, Send Charley to me this night week —Let me see—Thursday. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. vi, The crisis came on Saturday, the day week that Thompson had died. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xx, Last Saturday was a week I touched at Liverpool with a cargo of furs [etc.] *Ibid.*, When I came back last Saturday week. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiii, Can you make it convenient to be there this day week? 1887 J. S. WINTER *Bob*, I. 5, Let us say Thursday week, dear—This is Saturday, so it is quite enough notice to give.

**c.** *Week and week about*: in alternate weeks.

1891 *Pall Mall Light that Failed* vi. 94 The girls were supposed to market week and week about.

**6.** Proverbial phrases. † **a.** *To be in by the week*: to be ensnared, caught; *fig.* to be deeply in love. *To go to it by the week*: to commit oneself thoroughly.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 69 This prouerbe sheweth the in by the weeke. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* v. ii. 4 Heis in by the weke, we shall haue sport anon. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* (1592) 71 Yet now we be in, let vs go to it by the week. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 61 O that I knew he were but in by th' weeke. 1598 R. BRUNARD *Terence, Andria* i. (1607) 12 He is in the Mire; he is in for it, and is in by the weeke. 1820 WILSON *White Devil* I. 1, Enter Flamineo and Marcello guarded, and a Lawyer. *Law.* What are you in by the weeke.

**b.** *To go late a week*: a jocular understatement for 'far too late'. Now only as echo of Shaks.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 74 At seauenteene yeeres, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. 1846 SCOTT *Tyrol.* (1850) I. 105 If she had her youthful activity, and could manage things, it..would amuse her. But I fear it is too late a week. 1849 *Ibid.* II. 220.

**c.** † *The week of the four Fridays*: an imaginary date that will never arrive (*obs.*). *A week of Sundays*: seven Sundays or weeks as representing a long time.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quint.* (1809) I. Ded. p. x, At the period that the hogs shall..feed along with the herrings! ..or on the week of the four Fridays, so long looked for by astrologians. 1898 WD. HARK' *Broken Arrow* I. 19 Tex wark..never done, an' nar' a bit o' play for I,—no, not in a week o' Sundays. 1901 D. SLADEN *My Son Richard* iv, He ..got to know her more intimately in that five minutes than he might otherwise have done in a week of Sundays.

**d.** Pugilistic slang. *To knock* (a person) *into the middle of next week*: to give (him) a decisive blow, to punish severely; to astound, flabbergast.

1821 MOORE-SMITH *Tom & Jerry* II. iv, They knock'd me into the middle of next week—besides tipping me this here black eye—only see how red it is! 1833 [S. SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* xv. (1835) 95 The first clip I made was at Amos,—but he dodged it, and I hit one of the Editors of the Globe, and knocked him about into the middle of next week. 1846 W. T. PORTER *Quarter Race Kentucky* 105 The next moment he was knocked into the middle of the next three weeks! 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xvi, I believe you would knock me into next week if I were to have a battle with you. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 729/1 I would not be comfortable to be knocked by his heels into the middle of next week.

**7.** Combinations: † **week-boy**, a boy hired by the week, as distinguished from an apprentice; **week-long**, continuing for a week; **week-night**, a night in the week other than Sunday night; also *attrib.*; **week-old** *a.*, that has lived or lasted a week; † **week-silver**, some kind of feudal dues (prob. in commutation of WEEK-WORK).

1662 *Act 14 Chas. II* c. 5 § 17 No Master Weaver..shall.. sett on worke above two Appentices or any †weeke-Boy to weave in a Lombe in the said Trade in worsted weaving. 1683 [see DEVIL *sb.* 5 2]. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 6/4 The ladies, true to their †week-long entl usiasm,..made the University College Theatre look very bright. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. clxviii, I hope to see the devil..taking down my struggling flesh with week-long fastings. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby*, Both he and Ellen thought it strange that their brother should take to †week-night duty: ..ever usually read it [the bible] save on Sunday evenings. 1877 SWINBURNE *Chron.* XXIII. 190 Week-night services. 1892 *Lichfield Mercury* 9 Mar. 8/5, I've visitated nately shut our eyes and keep company with the hapless †week-old kittens. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 115 Out of the darkness we reach'd Them in handfuls of weekly papers And a mouthful of human speech. 1430 in *N. & Q.* (1913) Ser. I. 249/1 Excepiis redditibus, seruiciis,..et xvij. s. annuis vocatis 'Wik'-silver.

Hence † **Wukemalum** *adv.* [-MEAL], by weeks.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 556 Drihhtin Godd To Jewwtenn wukemalumm. *Ibid.* 554.

**Week** (wik), *int.* Also **8 weeck, 9 weke**. [Cf. WHEAK 9, and *int.*, WHICK *v.*, WEE *int.*] Imitation of the sound of a sheep or goat.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 146 Weeke, weeke, so cries a Pigge prepared to th' spit. *a* 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 87 Wee-ke, Weeck, Weeck, squeak'd the Pig. 1855 HOLMES *Iron Lyre Lippi* 11 Hurry out, Where, where, where, hops on his wrong hole, And nip each softling of a wee white mouse, *Weeke, weeke*, that's crept to keep him company!

**Weeke**, *obs.* forms of WICK, WEEK *sb.*

**Weekday** (wi·kdeɪ). Forms: see WEEK *sb.* and DAY *sb.* [OE. *wicdæg*, f. *wic(u)* WEEK. Cf. OHG. *wehhtag*, ON. *vikudagr*.]

† **1.** A day of the week. (In quot. *c* 1200 a literal as opposed to a metaphorical day.) *Obs.*

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v, Þæt hi by feorðan wiclæge & by xxxtan dæge to cirican comon, & þæt hi þonne on þam wicdæge þæs werldes dæg Ribbi onfaest eften wæne, For þi þat ure wuked:ɜȝ bi twelfe timeas emeþ þ [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2859 Sir lai in wif..in a salt stan men seis hand sal bides likes o þat hand, þat ani es o þe tua, þat es to like[d at a]-way. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 166 [They] do mare the Sonday or the haly day na othir wekk dayes.

† **2.** A day of the week other than market-day or Sunday. *Obs.*

1477 in *Charters etc. Edin.* (1871) 141 The nolt merket.. [to be held] about the Tolone,..and nocht on the wolk day. 1588 in C. P. Scrope *Cal. Papers* (1916) 39 Ye shall not shall bye any grayne or other vittell on our markett-daye before ayne of the clocke in the forenoune, nor in the wicke-dayes more then shall serue their owne howsholde.

**3.** A day of the week other than Sunday.

*c* 1546 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacram.* etc. F ib, In lyke maner as thou seist this blessed sacrament ministred on the sunday, euen so when the congregacyon is gathered in the same house on those wyke dayes, that the congregacyon . hath appointed to that vse. 1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. ii. 139 For although they wyll not reuerently heare Gods worde vpon the weeke dayes, yet they wyll not rest in holynes. 1593 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 57 That..whome the oulk dayes that begin at viij houris and end precisele at ix houris, 1633 HEARNE *Trophæ, Sawdays* ix, Thou art a day of mirth! And where the week-dayes trail on ground, Thy flight is higher. 1654 J. ARTELAND in *Pyrd. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1919) XVI. 135, I have been in Bristoll severall first dayes and I have been going into the Countrey, in the Weekdayes. 1732 SWIFT etc. *It hat passed in London* Misc. III. 263 My Wife and I went to Church (where we had not been for many Years on a Week-day). 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Seven-Dials*, Past through St. Giles's in the evening of a week-day, there they are in their liveliest colours. 1862 *Nat. Rev.* I. Mar. 277 2 His [ex. Spurgeon's] father was a hard-working man on week-days, and a preacher on Sundays.

**b.** *attrib.*

[1505 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 72 In the oulk dayes preiching in Glasgw, it is decyit that the ministeris keip precielie the hour.] 1693 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1882) IV. 147 That house where the week-day lecture had been kept. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 345 One solid dish his week-day meal affords, An added pudding solemnis'd the Lord's. 1762 SHORES *2nd Charge Dioc. Canterb.* (1773) 33 Diligence..

in bringing your People to the holy Communion, and where it can be, to Week Day Prayers. 1802 Wordsw *Sonn. I expected For Brain-sport!*, The talk Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk Of the mind's business. 1859 Geo Eliot *Adam Bede* lii, He knew nothing of week day services, and thought none the worse of the Sunday sermon if it allowed him to sleep from the text to the blessing. 1877 A Maclaren (*title*), Week day Evening Addresses.

**Week-end.** a. (with *a* and *pl*.). The holiday period at the end of a week's work, usually extending from Saturday noon or Friday night to Monday; esp., this holid y when spent away from home.

1879 *N & Q* Ser v XII. 428 2 In Staffordshire, if a person leaves home at the end of his week's work on the Saturday afternoon to spend the evening of Saturday and the following Sunday with friends at a distance, he is said to be spending his *week-end* at So and So. 1880 Miss Braddon *Day will Come* xxiv, Theodore and his friend betook themselves to Cheriton Chase on the full evening Friday for that kind of visit which in both country people describe as 'a week end'. 1890 *Times* 18 Mar 8 4 They had evidently taken the house for week ends. 1893 N Barbarian (*Cromwell*) vi 192 Oliver may be regarded as the inventor of that modified form of enjoyment to which Lord and Mrs. Caudgens have, in our day, given the name of the 'week end'. 1905 *Spectator* 26 Aug 289/1 What a week-end it must have been for the host, whatever it may have been for the guest. 1878 *Advts. of* ... (in Lanes.), Week end tickets. 1895 *Hutton & Holt* Dutch Gilders x, Week end trips are now advertised on most of the (railway) lines.

b. The period from Saturday to Monday during which business is suspended and shops are closed.

1878 J Almond *Bunch o' Water-cresses* 4 If I get my bacon now, I can make it last the week end per very well. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept 3/3 The Money Market was steady with a fair demand for advances over the week-end at about previous rates.

c. The end (i. e. the last day) of the week, Saturday *obs. rare*.

1880 C H. Poole *Staff. Gossip, Week end* Saturday

Hence **Week-end** *v. intr.*, to spend a week-end holiday. **Week-ending** *vbl. sb.* Also **Week ender**, one who spends the week ends away from home

1880 *N & Q* Ser vi I 42 Lodging-house keepers and tradesmen in Llandudno, North Wales, publish yearly notices in it Wales, empl y the derivative form 'week enders when they speak of visitors who come on Saturday and go on Monday. 1902 G H. Jessop *Week Ender* 144 Three bedrooms for the use of the week enders. 1901 *Daily Chron* 31 July 7/2 Where shall we week end? 1905 *Sat Rev* 14 Oct 491 1 Saturday morning is quite time enough for the week enders to get away. 1906 H Vaughan *Vow of Society* 66 You see 'week-ending' have been the part of the British Constitution, and no authority exists why a man anybody has to be out of it in the season, any from Saturday to Tuesday. 1913 W J Locke *Stella Maris* xv 201 Where have you been week ending? 1914 A N Lyons *Simple Simon* i. 22 All the week-ends at Paris Plage.

†**Weekfish.** *Obs.* [ad. Du. *weekvisch*, f. *week* soft + *visch* fish Cf. Weakfish.] A fish of the Dutch East Indies, the size of a whiting, esteemed a delicacy.

1686 R w *Hillegh's 1 First Part* App 6 Pisces Indiæ Orientalis a Joanne Nieuhofo Descripti Wet fish or Week fish

**Weekly** (wī·kli), *a* and *sb* [f. Week *sb.* + -ly 1.] A. *adj.*

1 Of or pertaining to the week (either as an seven-days period or as opposed to Sunday) *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* i. II, 138 That vpon the Sabboth day...they should celebrate from all weekely and worke day labour. 1618 Drayton *Poly-olb* xi 178 Hen gests stable heyres; there holy that to cause Heere put their German names vpon our weekly dases

2 That occurs, is done, made, given, etc once a week.

*Weekly Bill* see Bill *sb.*1 10. *Weekly tenancy* one determinable at the end of any week

1489 *Reg Mag Sig. Scot.* 1529, 170/1 In the delivering of thir oukly penny to God and to Sanct Johnne 1525 *Reg Mag Sig. Scot* Weekly and monthly penny and halpeny salbe payit fik Setterday 1576-77 *Reg Privy Council Scot* II 582 His reiref of the said owklie wages as accords 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v xxx 8 The latter haue alwaies had their weekely readings of the law of Moises 1620 (*title*) Certaine or weekely newes from Italy, Germany, &c.] 1681-11 *Statutes at Large Ireland* (1874) 18 With a weekly markett and two free fa res yearly 1699 G Harvey *Van Phul's & Phyl sicke's* 16 the daily, weekly, or frequent use of Opium 1711 Steele *Spect* No 72 1 The Indiscretion of the Books themselves, whose very Titles of Weekly Preparations lead People of ordinary Capacities into great Errors 1712 Addison *Spect* No. 253 P 2 The Use I make of the above mentioned Weekly Paper 1730 Pope *Ep. to Arbuthnot* 264 The Man of Ross divides the weekly sweat. 1806 Howlett *Serm* (1812) II xxiii 227 A public weekly assertion of the two first arts in our Creed 1849 Dickens *Amer Notes* iv, The weekly charge in this establishment for each female patient is three dollars 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* I 329 In this way he gathered materials for weekly epistles destined to enlighten some county town 1899 S R Gardiner *O Cromwell* vi 192 He found repose in a weekly visit to Hampton Court 1900 *Act 10 & 11 Geo V c.* 30 § 2 Entitled to receive payments at weekly or other prescribed intervals.

b. With a personal designation: Performing some action, or employed in some capacity, once a week, that has a contract by the week.

*Weekly man* Austral., an extra hand taken on for one or more weeks *Weekly tenant*, one paying rent by the week, and liable to removal on a week's notice (Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, 1858).

1718 Prior *Estrange Instr.* 1 Our Weekly Friends To-

morrow meet At Matthew's Palace 1737 Pope *Hor Ep.* I. i. 155 I hey chuse their weekly Barber 1890 'R Boldre wood *Col Reformer* xx, Filling up the station with a lot of weekly men

†c. slang *Weekly-accompts* pl., a name given to the small square white patches on each side of a midshipman's collar.

1819 Vale *Neva* I 69 The midshipmen proceeded to cut off the weekly accompts from the tails I had on.

B. *sb* A newspaper or review published once in each week

1846 C Mitchell *Newsp Press Directory* 81 Not any of the newspapers put hitherto at the close of the week display more activity or success than this (*the Observer*) in the acquisition of news, which, after the preceding six days, has been swept and enhanced by the impressive resources of the *dailys*, and this in the great difficulty in a *weekly* 1898 *Times* 29 Nov 6/3 Clever weeklies and less clever dailies 1903 *Morn. Herald* 3 Jan, To day a new literary Weekly of high pretensions begins its existence 1904 in *Cent Soc rev* 3 *ser lxb* (1916) 294 They take 6 penny daily papers and 3 halfpenny ones, 3 weeklies costing 3*d* each and 5 weeklies costing 1*d* each

**Weekly** (wī·kli), *adv* [f. Week *sb* + -ly 2.] In each or every week, week by week Usually, once in seven days.

1465 in *Paston Lett* II 193 He payith for his bords wikely 8*d*. 1474 *Durh Acct Rolls* (1899) 23 It is stitut & ordeyned that the said Cuthbert have in the Fraitorie 1520 in *Surtees Soc* in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App v 200 No man shalle trade fre unlesse he can specke the Englisshe tonge and i shewe his openyon weekly 1540 *Ac Accts Tyn* V (1814) II 378/1 That parr be wekly thre market dais for selling of breid within the said toune 1568 Hall *Chron.* Hen VI 172 The Frenche nation weekely & euery date were argumentes on bothe parties and nothyng els doen 1602 E. [Gubbyns] *D Scotus a Hist Indeed* v xxx 271 There are some Priests amongst vs, (continually) the which they changed weekely 1670 in *11th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App v 13 Our daughter tells me she gives your Worship weekely an account of her selfe 1700 *Exeter Diocese* 7 Sept 1665, There is perishing neere 10000 poore creatures weekly 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 140 As these Persons are obliged to perform the Communion Service, so are they obliged to hear the Sermon called Hebdomadal Canons 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xxvii, An acute Gallegan who gave me weekly a faithful account of the proceedings 1905 *N. Amer Review* 142 You had arrangements for her (a governess) to come here two or three days weekly

**Weekman** (wī·kmăn). [f. *week's*, genitive of Week + Man.] *A month's-man*, Month *sb* 1 6 b.] A functionary whose term of office is a week, *spec* (see quot)

1855 Hark *Cases Chancery* X 298 Until 1830 (when the Defendants were appointed day to-day meters), all minutes received weekly by the Weekmen were divided equally among them A list was kept, and each of the eighteen meters in rotation took upon himself the duties of 'weekman,' whose office it was to allot the boats to each of the meters in his turn

**Weekwam,** obs. form of Wigwam.

**Week-work.** *Hist.* [OE *wec-, wecewor-*, f. *wic* (*n*) Week + *weorc* Work *sb.* Cf. OS. *wekewerk*.] In Old English Law, work done for the lord by the tenant so many days a week. Also *attrib* in † *week-work silver* (cf. *week silver*, Week *sb* 7).

c 1000 *Ancient Laws* I 449 Swa manwe landes swa hit iæt he, the *gebur* scæal wyrcan to wucweorce in dæges wuic weor swilc him man tæcð oðer geares first æfter Eastron 1086 *Exon Domesday* in Dugdale *Warwicksh* 1030 in Kemble *Cod Dipl* No 461 III. 450 Conuentudines in Dyddanhamme 'de zebur scæal his riht dun' be scæal cran Eastron to wukeworce 1355 *MS. Rental of Wenche nbe Abbey*, fol 1 b, In magno Quaderno Cowcher xxi and 1883 Seebohm *Engl Village Comm* ii 78 Week-work—a work for the lord for so many days a week, mostly three days. 1906 *Red Book* July 2 A Kentish custom reminds us of the week-works of the villein under our own manorial system

**Weel** (wēl). *Sc.* and *north* Forms 1 **wél**, 3 **wel**, 4, 6 **wele** (4–5 **welle**), 6 **vele**, 6–7 **weill**, 6 **weil**, 8–9 **weil**, **weel**, **wheel**, 9 **weal**, 4, 7–9 **weel**. [OL. *wél* masc and neut. = WFris. *weel*, OLow Frankish *wêl* (pl *wêlâ*), 'abyssus', MDu. *weel* (Hlem. *weele*), MLG. *wel* (LG *weel*, *weele*, whence mod G *wehl* masc., *wehle* fem.).] A deep pool; a deep place in a river or the sea; a whirl pool or eddy.

c 897 *K Alfred Gregory's Past C* Knowy 169 Ac se wel wunað on weres breostum dop & stille. c 1000 *Ælfric Gen* (Z) 32 *Hic gurges* þis wel, þæt is, deop water. c 1200 Ormin 19600 Godd patt mihhte henim alle Inn helle wel bunnenn. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII prol 39 *Vnd fyr to O P Mac.* 149 Of vych a wem pat atter berep Ifulled is pat fule pool. Hwenne pe feondes heom ilost soulyd forletep, Shaken and reddred heom imeteb, and dreyed heom into a wel per heo bolyep al vnsel a 1300 *Cursor M* 2093 Bituuen pat sun & pat wele par neuer man sank pat was o sele a 1300 *E E Prudentius* xxxv 9 And with welle (*Harl* weel) of pi liking si Sal toudrinke pam [Vulg *torrente voluptatis tuæ potabis eos*]. 1483 *Cath Angel* 413/1 A Welle, *gurges* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII iii 13 Tyber flowand soft and evely, Wyth swirland wellis [L. *vertiginibus rapidus*] and mekle yallow sand 1536 Bellenden *Cron Scot* (1821) I 9, xlvii, The greteest vele heruf is namit Corbrek, for it will othir sink, or ellis draw ane schip to it, howbeit it be distant thrufra ane mile. 1553 *Rec Burgh Canark* (1893) 26 Sir Jhone Cunygan settis the tan half of his haat gangand aponn Sant Katrynis weill in Clydahoim to Wylyam Pumfra 1599 Alex Hume *Hymnes* iii 211 The beis and circles on the wells, Throw lowpping of the trouts. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words, Weel*, Lancs a whirlpool. 1688 in *Marine Surveyors Evid* (1874) 18 From the sand foord of Cellie to the weill of

Buckmenem. 1786 Burns *Halloween* xxv, Whyles owre a linn the burnie plays, Whyles in a wiel it dimpl t. a 1800 *Aare & Wilie* viii in Child *Ballads* IV. 189/2 In the deepest weil in a' the burn, Oh, there she fand her Willie! 1817 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxvi, The deep waters and weels of the Avondow 1818 W Phillips *Scot* 113 The pool of still water or wheel, above the falls. 1894 Hogg *Dom Mannery Scott* (1900) 55 In a few minutes we reached Gleddie's Weal, the deepest pool in all that part of Tweed. 1909 *Fishery Bd Corr.* 28 May 3/7 A large, deep pool known as the 'Old Weal'.

*b attrib*

1703 Thoresby *Let to Ray*, A *Whinkpit*, whirl-pool a 1800 *Young Huntingtow* viii in Child *Ballads* II 153/1 They douked in at ae weil head, And out aye at the other

**Weel** 2 (wīl). Forms: a. 3–5 **wyle**, 6 **wyle**, 7 **wile**; 6 **wyll**(e, **whyll**. β. 5 **wele** (5–6 **welle**), 5–7 **weele** (6 **weyle**, **weale**), 7– **weel**, (6 *Sc.* **weill**, 7 **weall**, 9 **weal**), 6–9 **wheel** (7 **wheele**). [OE. *wale-* (in *wale swíge*), a reduced form of *wælge*, *walze* basket: see Welly. The form *wele*, *weel* is a normal development from this.]

1. A wicker trap for catching fish, esp. eels.

1296 *Northumb Assize Roll* (Surtees) 103 Fit destructio [in the Tyne] salmunculorum per wyles et per minuta retia. 1369–70 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon* (Camden) 19 In wyliys et puttuis, 11*s.* 1426 Lydg *De Guil. Pilgr* 18057 Like a wyle in a ryver, to cache the fysshe bothe fer and nere; the entre large, but it wexeth narowe, ye stant in dout. 1450–1 *Acc Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 130 Pt in weles empte pro piscibus capiendis in fossato Conventus, 10½ *d.* 1481 *Cath Angel.* 413/1 A Welle, *nassa*. 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W de W) C v b, *Nassula*, a wyll, or a leepe 1519 Horman *Vulg* 2 1 b, One hath robbed my weyle, *Aliquis nassum diripuit* 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 87 Watch ponds, go looke to weeles and hooke 1649 E. Reynolds *Hosea* iii. 26 We are like fishermens wheels, made at that end which lets in the Fish, but narrow at the other end, so that they cannot out 1678 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, Weel, made of Osier twigs, which are supported by Circles or Hoops, that are round, and are ever diminishing from the broadest somewhat Broad, but the other end terminates in a Point It is so contrived, that when the Fishes are got in, they cannot come out of it again, because of the Circles or Hoops, which advance on the inside, to the Place where the Hoops are, and which stop the Passage, leaving but a small opening there. 1736 Penhall *Brief Concl.* III. 163 It does not often take a bait, but is generally caught in weels 1872 *Act 36 & 37 Vict c* 71 § 15 Any basket, trap, or device for taking fish except wheels or leaps for taking lamperns 1883 *Fisheries Exhib Catal* (ed 2) 43 Weels from the apron of Weirs for taking Lampreys 1902 Cornish *Naturalist's Summer* 163 The movable eel-trap or 'grig wheel', like a crayfish basket, only larger.

b. In fig. context.

1639 Mayne *City Match* III iv, Slight who would think your Father should lay weeles To catch you thus? 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xvi (Rosh) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with two hoops vpward, &c. 1786 Edmonston *Her* II Gloss., *Weel*, &c. catching of fish, is always drawn in armory, as in Plate VIII. Fig. 39. c 1828 Bentley *Wordbook*.

*c. attrib.*, in † *weel-net*.

1803 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 218 Weaving them close together in a round and large forme, after the manner of a fishers leape or weele net.

2. A basket, *esp.* one in which fish are kept.

1532 *50 tr Higden* (Rolls) II 329 Moyses was putte in a weele made of rishes [L. *in fiscella scirpea*] dressede with pacche, and caste in to the water. 1548 Hall 553 The fader and mother aborrenge to se there owne sone put from him in a wele in to the see. 1550 Palsgr 287/2 Welle or lepe for fysshe, *bouticle* 1651 J Baker *Art of Angling* (1659) 44 Providing a little weele or basket to carry their fish. 1659 Lobiano, *Caragna* a fisher-weel, or basket 1698 Littleton *Dict., Lat. Eng., Fiscella*, a wele wherein fishes are kept 1881 *Trans Highland Soc* (ed 4) 104 Hard Weels [are] large baskets in which eels and lamperns are kept alive until sold

**Weel,** obs. contr. form of *we will*

1652 Cotterell *Cassandra* v. (1676) 543 Wee'l set our selves up again.

**Weel(e,** obs. forms of Weal *sb.*1, Well.

**Weeld,** obs. form of Wkald.

**Weeld(e,** obs. forms of Wield.

**Weele, weell,** obs. contr. forms of *we will*.

1590 Shak. *Two Gent* II. iv 69 Why then wee'll make exchange. 1598 Chapman *Blinde Beggar Alexandria* B 3 b, Weele strike vp a drumme 1868 Marston *Parasit.* iv G 2, Stay Dicke weele follow thee 1880 *A May Hero* I (1633) B 4 b, Lay it (the child) to him, weele out face him at his.

**Weelful, -som,** var. ff. Wealful, -some.

**Weely,** var Weally *a.*2 *Obs*

**Weem** (wīm). [a early Gael. *uaim* (now *uaimh*) cavern.] The name applied in Scotland to a cave or underground dwelling-place used by early inhabitants of the country.

1790 *Statist Acc. Scot* IV. 102 An artificial cave or subterraneous passage, such as is sometimes called by the country people a weem. 1851 D Wilson *Preh Ann.* I. iv (1863) 107 The general name applied in Scotland to these subterranean habitations is Weems, from the Gaelic word *uamha* a cave 1869 C W Kett in *Q Jrnl Sci.* Apr 247 We find in Scotland underground dwelling-places formed

of large unhewn stones without cement of any kind, these are called *weems* 1850 D MACRITCHIE *Underground Life* 47 It would be an easy matter for proprietors to fence in and otherwise protect existing 'weems'

**Weem,** var. WAME

**Weem,** obs. pl. of WOMAN.

**†Ween,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1–2, 3–4 **wen,** 3–6 **wene,** (3 **wene**), 4–5 **weene**, *Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 **weyne,** 4 **wene, weyn,** 5 **weyn** [OE *wēn* fem (rarely masc. or neut.) corresp to OFris *wēne* opinion, OS *wān* masc, hope, etc, OHG, MHG *wān* masc, opinion, hope, etc (mod G *wahn* fem, delusion), ON *vān* fem, hope, Goth *wens* hope —OTeut. ***wēni-z,* f. Teut and Indogermanic root ***wen* to love]

1 Opinion, belief (Cf WONE *sb*)

*Beowulf* 383 Ne bidl iof mi ænig monna wene, þæt ic wið fæhðe spræce 1340 *Ayenb* 178 Þe wene þet hi ne þy nouȝt mare 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3 *note*, Efter monnes wene 1350 *Gen & Ex* 73 Þis ilk wort on ehtnesse wen, He wisten ße sobe þat as sen *Hrl* 3271 Egipcienes worcn in twired wen quebe þat wolden folwen of þeode 1375 *Prov Ælfred* 215 in *O E Misc* 125, & ich her ȝu wille leren wenes mine, wit & wuldome

2 Expectation, hope. (Cf. WONE *sb*)

*Beowulf* 383 (Gr.) Þæt ic wen habbe 1389 LAY 28141 Of þine kume nu na wene for no wenes heo nauere to sobe þat þu cumen ayin from Rome 1390 *Ir rem & Hl* 651 (Cambr. MS) To hire was mi meste wene, For to halbe to mi quene 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 88 It were bette be refused Than forto worchen upon weene

3 Probability supposition, doubt

*Beowulf* 1845 (Gr.) Wen ic talige Sec wi ȝe Forðæm hit is wen ßæt se ne mæge oðerra monna mylle ofaðwean [etc] 971 *Blickl Hom* 135 Nu hæfst ße gefyrnende. *Ibid* 239 Cuðn nu mid us þy læs wen is þæt hi us eft æwen 1000 *Ags Gosp* John viii 29 Ȝyf se me cuþe3 wen is þæt ze cuþ3 on minne fæder 1200 ORMIN 7132 & wen ich þatt he wass forðredd & seorrhfull in hiss hertæ

b I *Without(an (any) ween, hint ween* (Sc.), *forout(en ween* (Sc.) without doubt

c 1200 ORMIN 4326 Þu findesst wiss wibjuenn wen Rihhte ehhte nihe an hundredd c 1205 LAY 6311 Io soðen wihtnen wene þe hie habbe Maidne 1330 *Cursor M* 468 In þat curt þat is so clene May na filth in dwell wtiuen wene *Ib* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom A* 5574 Withouten wene, Wel semyde by hir appyraylc Shie was in worst to gret trauayle c 1374 — *Troylus* iv 1513 Er Phebus suster lucyna the shene, For shortnesse of pas ariete, I wol ben here, withouten any wene 1375 PARTON *Bruce* vi 169 Tit si prest hym as fast I hat, that he ocht the better beyn, He had beyn ded forouten veyn *Ibid* xix 292 The evil sperit gilf he hym weyne The Inglis host ȝas, schir, but weyne c 1440 *York Myst* xxvi 1 Wele is me wite witt owten weene c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 389 Of ȝ otland the wer wall, wit ȝe but weine Our fais fiirce to defend c 1500 *Lanc lefor* 1680 I he thank it wer, wyth owt wene but ȝe c 1550 ROLLAND *Cref Venus* iii 51 I wentie and flue quhen thryr war red but weine

**†Ween,** *a. Obs rare* [n ON *vænn* —OTeut. *wūnjo-z, f. *wūn WEEN *sb*] Beautiful

13 *Gaw & Gol Ant* 2 Ho watz be fayrest in felle ; & wener þen Wenore [Guenever] as be wyȝe bost

**Ween** (*wīn*), *v. Obs* exc arch Pa t and pa. pple **weened** (*wīnd*) I orms 1 **wénan, wénan,** 2–4 **wenen,** 3 **weone,** 3–5 **wen,** 3–6 **wene,** 4–5 **whene,** *Sc* **wen**(e, **wein,** 4–6 *Sc.* and *north.* **weyn**(e, 5 **weyn,** 6 **wean.** 6–7 *Sc* **wein**(e, 4–7 **ween,** 5– **ween.** 3–6 **wind**(e, **wynd**(e *Pa t* 1 **wénde,** 3–6 **wende,** 3 **wende,** 3–6 **wend,** 4 *Sc* **wende, weend,** 4–6 *Sc* **weind, weynd,** 3 6 **went**(e, 4 *north* **weint,** 5 **wentt, whente,** (6 *Sc* **wont, wount, wint**) *Pa pple* 4 6 **wend**(e, **went,** 5 **whent.** [A Common Teut weak verb OE. *wēnan* corresp to OFris *wēna* to think, OS *wānian* (MLG *wænen, wænen*, LG *wanen*), OLow Frankish *wahnan* (MDu, Du *wanen* to fancy, think), OHG *wānnen, wānen* (MHG *wænen*, mod G *wahnen* to suppose wrongly, imagine), ON *vænta* to hope, Goth *wēnjan* to hope —OTeut *wēnjanan, f *wēni-WEEN *sb*

The wr ld seems to have g ne out of general use in the 19th c It has survived as an archaism, esp in the parenthetic formula illustrated in 2 b

1 *trans* In regard to what is present or past To think, surmise, suppose, conceive, believe, consider. In ME often with *well* & *Const.* object-clause, with or without *that*

971 *Blickl Hom* 55 Þa w nd he he wenb þæt him leofoste ȝeo to zehyrenne 1250 (?) *Chron* (Laud MS) an 11 7 Al þe tunscipe flugen for heom wenden ßæt hi weren reueres *c* 1200 ORMIN 11984 Forr þatt te deoflell sholldc Wel wennenn þatt he were mann *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1543 Yeanc wende it were eanu *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 7557 Quat! wyns þou sum a hund? 1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 10596 He went he had be hys brother 1471 CARTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 148 When they sawe Iupiter, they had went he had ben half man and half hors 1530 PALSGR 756/2 The cawell which men wente had ben inprenable is thrown downe nowe 1532 MORE *Confut Tim Wks* 455/1 If they had but tolde the myracles that Christ did, the countries to whom they were sent, wouldc haue went that they had lyed 1580 FULKE *Martiall Confuted* Iv 169 Let him looke in his lexicon, where I wente he shall finde it 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* vi xxxix 205 The Romanes weening that there was none left aliue 1612 CAMDEN *Rem., Prov* 313 They that be in hell were there is no other heauen. 1721 *Celia's Misfortunes* iv 3 Well I ween, That Dan Spenser makes the fav rite Goddess known 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr* III xxxi Some said that there were thousands ten, And others ween'd three It was thought that Jeffries clans, or Lochiel and Keppoch 1858 MRS BROWNING *Dessert to Garden* xix, Though never a dream the roses sent Of science or loves compliment, I ween they smelt as sweet 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I i I but well I ween that Gryffyth will never keep troth with the Englısh

†b. *Const. infin I to ween to be or do* = to think that one is or does *Obs*

*c* 1200 *Trin C Verhuss* Nume wenesb hem excleas of ßessere senne [of wæstinge] for ßan ße me nett hem to ßan ße *c* 1205 LAY 24535 Þe wende to been betere þene oðer *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 12219 Þof þou wen in-wham kess to be, Þat nan in lare wil techen þe *a* 1375 CHAUCER *Anel & Arc* 96 So that she wende haue al his hert yknowe 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 25 Hetwen two Stoles lyth the fal, Whan that men wenen stonde stark 1450 *Rel Antiq* I 311 I wil I ween that Gryffyth will never keep troth with the Englısh

†b. *Const. infin I to ween to be or do* = to think that one is or does *Obs*

*c* 1200 *I rest & Verhuss* Nume wenesb hem excleas of ßessere senne [of wæstinge] for ßan ße me nett hem to ßan ße *c* 1205 LAY 24535 Þe wende to been betere þene oðer *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 12219 Þof þou wen in-wham kess to be, Þat nan in lare wil techen þe *a* 1375 CHAUCER *Anel & Arc* 96 So that she wende haue al his hert yknowe 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 25 Hetwen two Stoles lyth the fal, Whan that men wenen stonde stark 1450 *Rel Antiq* I 311 I wil I ween, That Dan Spenser makes the fav rite Goddess known 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr* III xxxi Some said that there were thousands ten, And others ween'd three It was thought that Jeffries clans, or Lochiel and Keppoch 1858 MRS BROWNING *Dessert to Garden* xix, Though never a dream the roses sent Of science or loves compliment, I ween they smelt as sweet 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I i I but well

in like land To pas þat ȝer in ſtreche falland *Ibid* cxlii 3 Lauerd, while ex ſone of mai for þou weneſt ham [Vulg *quia ſpretus eum*]!

†**b.** To impute (an offence) *to* (a person). *Obs*

1300 *R. Brunne Handl. Synne* 9 Seli man to wham noght wenes Iuged anne [Vulg *cui non imputavit Dominus peccatum*]

†**8** In impersonal use Only in the absol pres. pple *weenning* = it seeming, as (because, since) it seemed (*to* some one) *Const.* clause (usually with *that*) or inf *Obs*

*c* 1450 Cargrave *Life St Aug* xxviii 42 For þat same hud he do or þis tyme had not Valery sent him owt of þe weye, wenyng to many men þat he schuld not some come a geyn *c* 1470 Gregory *Chron in Hist Coll Cit Lond.* (Camden) 214 Wenyng unto the theyys that the boys ys hadde ben sylver gyvyt gylt but was but copir 1485 Caxton *Chas Gt* 92 Wherof they were sore aferde , weenyng it them that it had be the deuyl 1523 Berners *Froiss* (1812) I c lxv 301 They came to a village called Puiern n, and toke their lodgynge, weenyng to them to be in ſurety *Hist* ccclxxxv 652 Y^e duke and his went to Herwyk, weenyng to the duke to haue entred into the t owne but the capitaine of the towne refuſed to lette the entre, and close the gates againſt hym and his ſ 1544 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 213 Alax in his mad neſſe slewe a greate noumbre of them, weenyng to hym that he had slain Ulysses and his coumpaignie 1558 Grafton *Chron* II 276 The comens of Rome and of Bourges sodainely met with the Englishe Marshalles, weenyng to them they I ad bene Frenchmen

**Ween(d**, old forms of W^end *v*, to go.

†**Wee ner.** *nonce-wd.* [f Ween *v* + -er1] One who weens, *easy weener*, a credulous person

For an earlier doubtful instance see quot *c* 1430 3 *v* Weaver 2

1604 Pasquils *Obsert Cutter's Comm* vi *v* 33 The incon uenience of ouer light credulitie leading ſuch easie wee ners to a disappointment of their hopes.

**Wee ness** *rare.* [f Wee *a.*] Smallness.

1880 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s *v*

**Weening** (wĭ·nĭŋ), *vbl. sb Obs or arch* [f Ween *v* + -ing1]. Cf. OHG *anawānunga* ' existimatio', *pwānunga* 'deliberatio', MHG. *wānunge*, *wenunge*, G. *wähnung*]

1 The action of thinking, supposing, expecting, etc In ME. often = mere opinion, surmise or suspicion (as opposed to certain knowledge)

*c* 900 *Bæda's Hist* iv (MS *c.*) Þæt hine ða wenunge set nyhstan Surhteah *c* 1230 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 7433 Per wenyng þat day bey tynt 1340 *Ayenb* 113 Hit is ope substance, þet is, virtuous and substancel aboue onderstondinggge and wenynge 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xx 33 Wenynge is no wyssdome ne wyse ymagynacioun 1397 *Gesta Romanorum* III 370/1 I was in weyenynge and wenyng for to have do the best *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 2601 Hit is but foly and wrong wenyng To aske so outrageous a thyng *c* 1420 *Pilgr Life Man* 36 Se wende hafe dine till ys wi þyr eldin dudde sumtyme till þay began tesen, bot your wenn desayued 30w 1477 Norton *Ord Alch* 1 in Ashm (1652) 22 An old Proverbe, In a Bushell of weeninge Is not found one handfull of Cunninge 1597 Dr *Mathi. Prof* 3 In mountyng the imperfection of conecture, weenyng and opinion 1605 Gill *Sacr Philos* 1 56 These upstirt ween ings are so willeaue as they are falſe. *a* 1633 G Herbert *Outlandish Pro* 811 Weening is not measure 1652 H Hell *Luther's Colloq Mensalis* 225 A Prea cher ſhould not build upon a wee ning, but he ought to be sure of Gods word 1659 Law *Behmen's Myst Magn* xl (1765) 231 It lies not in any Mans own willing, weenning, or going to will

†**b** Phrases. *To be at or in weenning* = to be in a state of uncertainty or expectation. *To (one's) weenning* to the best of one's belief *To put in weenning* to make (a person) think or believe *Obs.*

*c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 505 in *O E Misc* 54 As heo stode and speken and weren at weynynge Of vre louer þes wrecche and fele oþer þynge 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 582 Sen þat ar in-to weyng Forouten certane v thing *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints xlvii* (*Amast ice*) 184 As he wende he hvl doin til his wenyng Inuch *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* i 1 cvii. (1869) 50 Vn þrend i to dat i bee, for to my weenynge in ou shuldest bere it the bettere. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 8588 Ye haue chose wisely now And wolde put me in wenyng I hat it were for good Partonope 1470 Caxton *Reynard* xxix. (Arl) 42 Nay I shal brynge you out of weny ng a d shewe it you by good wytnes

†**2.** Arrogant opinion, self-conceit *Obs* Cf. *overweening*

1573 Fenton *Gold Epist* (1582) 88 Temporall riches bring with them pride and weening to him that hath them 1603 Holland *Pluta arch's Mor* 1018 Yong gentlemen filled with a great weening and opinion of themselves

†**Wee ning,** *ppl a Obs* [-ing2]

1 That weens or thinks, *capricious*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sneth* III pr x (1686) 72 Yif so be þat this good be in hym by nature but that it is diuers fro hym by weyngne reason [*and rature Anteriam*].

**2.** Self-conceited, arrogant, overweening

1579 Fenton *Gnic iard* ix 47 5 The Swizzers being of nature proude and weening, became more ryo-ed and lifted vp in mynde by the estimation that others had of them

**Weenong** (wĭ·nŋ) [Inv *winong*] The Javanese name for the tree *Tetranieles mudiflora*

*a* 1858 Horsfield in J J Bennett *Pl Javan Rariores* 80 Weenong of the Javanese. It is a large tree. I found it in full flower in 1815 1866 *Treas Bot* 1 *v Tetr anieles* This tree is the Jungle bendy of India, and the Weenong of Java

**Weent,** var Went *sb Obs*

**Weey** (wĭ·ni) *a. dial.* and *colloq* Also 8 **weny**, 9 **weany** [f Wee, with ending imitated from Tiny, Teeny *a*2] Very small, tiny Also *teeny-weeny* (see Teeny *a*2)

1790 Goose *Pron Glass* (ed 2) *Wee and weny*, very small North 1833 *Christmas Improvement* iii (1841) 40 Such a little tiny weeny pill can never cure such a great big head-ache as I have got 1836 *Mr Greg's Neighbours* II 140 You have to keep her head the tinyest, weanyest bit in the world to the nor east 1921 C Beadle *City of Shadows* viii, I he pupil how of a mouse opened just the weeniest bit 1920 W J Locke *Tale of Irishman* ii 83 They're little tiny weeny sheile

**Weep** (wīp), *sb.* Also 3 woop, weop, 3, 4 wep, 5-6 wepe, 6 weepe. [f Weep *v.* Cf. Woif ]

†**1** Weeping, lamentation *To burst a-weep* to burst out weeping *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay 17951 Þa herde þesne weop [*cf* 19981 5370, 19066] *c* 1230 *Gen & Ex* 2308 He brogte hem in for ioseph Wid rewelich lote, and wiues, and wep *a* 1300 in *Anecd Lit.* (1844) 90 Al the blisse of thisse live Thou shalt, mon, hendien in woop 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 5721 For comunlych after weepe Tal men scene on slepe 13 *K Alis* 7873 (Laud MS.) Michel weep mychel waylyng *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 4 Ne shepe noun to i rest a weep a noun. *a* 1425 *Cursor M* 10456 (Trin.) Whal she mened þat hour more Wip wepe *lather* [*text* weping] & sorwes mony one 1512 *Heli* 18 in Thoms *Pr Rom* (1828) III 116 The wh n he weeps piteously bewayled her good spouse 1545 *Hen VIII's Primer*, *Epistle* 3 Deuout prayer, meynt with wepe, Suffreth not the hart to slepe

**b** A fit or bout of weeping

Also in 'Hence these weeps', a burlesque alteration of 'Hence these tears'.

1836 C Sisaw *Mem* etc (1837) II 574, I had nothing else for it but in the middle of the night to go as de a d have a very hearty weep by myself 1856 J F Smith *Ups in Life & Lett* iv (1918) 49 But those days are gone Hence these weeps 1886 Kipling *Departm Ditties, Mare's Nest* 4 Hence these weeps! a scene—a temp est two—With many blanks

**2** An exudation, perforation, or exuding of moisture.

1838 *Civil Engin & Arch Jrnl* I 213/2 Weeps which in iron would speedily be stopped by the natural c peration of rust and iron, in copper indefinitely, working their way like worms in wood 1892 *Century Dict.*, *Weep*, exudation, sweat, as of a gum tree 1902 *Daily Times* 2 Mar 3/4 The water also has by percolation found its way through simple ooves or weeps or whatever term they used to describe what took place

**3** Comb. • †**weep-drop**, a drop of moisture like a tear, **weep-hole**, an opening through which water percolates or drips

1509 Fisher *7 Penit Ps* h Wks (1876) 190 A manners breithyge whan it toucheth ony thynge that is c le vayren or glasse anone it is resolued in to water spott of water 1851 *Ecclesiologist* July 3 The water filters through the red sand, running through 'weep holes' made of brick, into a reservoir

**Weep** (wīp), *v* Pa. t. and pa. pple wept (wept) Forms: a *Inf.* I wēpan, wēpan, 2-3 wepen, (*Orm* -enn), 3 weopen, 3-6 wepe (3 weape), 4 wipe, weope, 3-4 wep, (5 wepyn, wape), 5-8 *Sc* weip, 6 *Sc* veip, 6-7 weepe, (7 weap), 7- **weep.** *Pa. t.* 1 wēop, 2-4 weop, 3 weap, wiep, 3-4 wep, wop, 3-5 wepe, (4 weep, wip, 5 wippe), 3 wepude, 4 wepped, 4-5 weped, (4 wepid, wepet), 4-6 wept, 4, 6 wepped, 5 wepud, 6 wepte, 6-7 wept, 6-9 weeped, 4- wept *Pa. pple* 1 wōpen, 4 wopen, 1-wope, 4 wepen; 4 wepid, 8 weeped, 4 ywept, wepte, 7 weept, 4- wept [A Com. Teut. vb., prob originally weak, but in WGer assimilated to the reduplicating conjugation OE *wēpan* (pa. t. *wōp*) corresponds to OFris *wepa* to cry aloud (str pa pple *wepin*, *-en*), OS *wōpian* to bewail (pa. t *wōp*), OHG. *wuofan* to bewail, pa. t *wuof* (MHG *wuofen*, pa. t. *wie*), also OHG. *wuoffōn*, pa. t *wuoffōta*, MHG. *wuoffen*, pa. t. *wuoffte*), ON *ópa* (pa. t. *épta*) to scream, shout (whence ME Epe *v*), Goth. *wopjan* to cry aloud, call, f the OText **wōpo-* represented in OE *wōp* masc , weeping (see Woe) OS *wōp* masc , lamentation, OHG , MHG *wuof* masc , lamentation ON *óp* neut , cry Outside Teut no certain cognates are known

The weak inflexion first appears in the 13th c and became prevalent in the 14th ]

**I** *intr*

**1** To manifest the combination of bodily symptoms (instinctive cries or moans, sobs, and shedding of tears) which is the natural, audible, and visible expression of painful (and sometimes of intensely pleasurable) emotion, also, and in mod use chiefly, to shed tears (*more* or *less* silently)

In mod English somewhat rare in non literary use, being superseded by *cry* recently a sense of the inappropriateness of that verb as applied to silent manifestations seems to have in some degree revived the colloquial currency of *weep* in the sense 'to shed tears'

*c* 900 *Bæda's Hist* iii xiv (1890) 198 He ongon wepan hluttrum teaum *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xxvi 75 And he eode ut & wep [Vulg *flevavit*] bityrlice *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 43 Nu bi gon paul to wepen wunderliche, and mahal beh engel her weop for ði mid him *c* 1200 Lay 6699 Þer Eldur he leng weop [*c* 1275 mid his eȝnen *Hird* 18895 Þe serenite gon to weopen 1297 R Glouc 6924 Þe quene wepinde [*r r* wepude] wel sore, þe king anuyerede þis. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 14003 Þis woman [Mary Magdalene] wepand on his fete 1340 *Ayenb* 93 Ne þet ne is nast lyf of man ac of child þet neu wep þ nou þeþ 138 Wyclif *Serm* Sel Wks II 249 Þei shulden wipe wiþ men þat wepen here *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 144 She was so pitous She wolde wepe if that she saugh a Mous Kaught in a trappe if it were deed or bledde *c* 1488 *Sir Gawayne* (P) 570 Schlo wippe and her bondis wronge *c* 1550 *Merlin* ii 30 And a noon þan other [child] began to crye and wape 1570 *Satyr Poems Reform* xiii 130 The tyme sall curn that he sall weep and murne 1604 Shake *Oth* iv 1 143 She so langs and lolls and weepes vpon me. 1620 — *Lear* iii 1. 74, I am a foole To weepe at what I am glad of 1667 Milton *P L* xi 495 Sight to deform what heart of Rock could long Dree ey d behold? Adam could not, but wept 1700 Dryden *Aurung & G* 578 Away, with Women weep, and leave me here, For d like a Man to die, without a Tear 1788 Miss Burney *Cecilia* iv 1, Mrs Harrel had shut herself up in her own room to weep and lament 1830 Tennyson *In Mem* xxx v, They twain, we said, And silence follow d, and we wept 1880 Tyndall *Glac* I xxv 191, I could have wept like a child

**b.** said of animals

*c* 1400 Maundev (1919) xxxii 192 Þeise serpentes [*sc* crocodiles] slen men & þei eten hem weppinge 1600 Shaks *Ham* iii ii 282 I see the strucken Deere go weepe 1612 Webster *White Diet* D 3, Here is a Stag my Lord hath shed his horness And for the losse of them the poore beast weepes 1870 Darwin *Descent* ii 167 The Indian elep hant is known sometimes to weep 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) V 361 Man is affected with the inclination to weep more than any other 5 imal

**c** Const *for*, *over*, + *on* (a person or thing regretted or commiserated)

*a* 900 *O E Martyrol* 30 July 132 Þa weop eall Romana dug 30 for hare dyde *c* 950 *Lind Gosp* Luke xix 41 And Nalla8 sie wopa ofer mec [*Vesp Ps* mec] ah ofer uih seolfv woepa8 *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 1 7 He iseh Marihim and Mynian Magd ilene þe weopen for here broðer deð *a* 1225 *Ancr A* 312 He weop ouwarde & ec Iuðeis, & for þeis salem *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 4149, xxx dayes we þat israel for his dead *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 17709 For þor misdeides wepe I nan *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 1 (1686) 348 Nis wonder nouht whan he laudde take be kyng of percienes weep pitously for þe captiuitee of þe self kyng 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xx 41 He seyngge the cites, weepide on hem 1470 Harding *Chron* xlvi 1450 *Merk Festival* 32 Pen for lon segh mony wepe for hyr, lon sayde to hyr Drusyan, ryse up 1549 *Compl Scot* ii 25 The iuyst is neuir to be pitiet nor to be wailit for the iniuſt vil of the public veil of babilone 1593 Shake *Rich II*, v 1 87 Weepe thou for me in France, I, I for thee heere 1601 — *Hamlet Well* i 2 And I am going Madam, weep not for y^r fathers death anew 1683 Cocker *Arithm* iii, 8 Ye Crye *e tille* Hwaing eaten the body of a man, it [*sc* a crocodile] will weepe ouer the head, but in fine eate the head also 1712 Addison *Spect* No 70 P 8 Instead of weeping over the Wound she had received as it might have excited them to a Warrior of her Sex 1803 M G Lewis *Str Agilthorne* Liv They who can weep for Clarissa, will not refuse to weep for me 1807 Carlyle *Rem*, *Richter* (1840) I 29 Like him we have long laughed at them or wept for them 1833 Tennyson *Poems* (1842) I 2 Weep for her cause

To perish wept for, honour'd known 1855 — *Maud* I viii, An angel watching an urn Wept over her, carved in stone 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* I xi I knew by that time how you had mourned for me and wept for me

**d** Const. *for* (the emotion that prompts weeping) Similarly with *to* and inf, or a *that* clause.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 6954 Pe busopes þat hir ladde vor ioye weope al so *a* 1325 *Minor Poems Vernon* MS 311/1 We wepe 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xx 237 Þat wes i-nane in þat Cumpany I hat þat ne wep it for pite *c* 1440 *Antura of Arthur* 560 (Dulce MS.) Thus wepus for wo Iowayne & wgine 1591 Shake *2 Hen VI* iii 2 Ah Gloster, you should haue wept to haue seene your parting 1593 — *2 Hen VI* I, iii 11, 221 Henry weepes that thou dost liue so long 1593 — *Rich III*, iii ii 4, I weep for ioy To see another Bucking-ham Kingdome once againe 1648 Herrick *Hesper*, *To Dafo dills* I Faire Daffadills, we weep to see You haste away so soone 1667 Milton *P L* viii 521 Leaving me neither heat nor him, and for joy I tenderly weep 1784 Cowper *Task* vi 700 Maidens wave Their kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy *a* 1806 H K White *Solitude* ii, I start, when the breeze the woods flown, I weep that I am all alone 1864 Swinburne *Chastelard* iii ii 1, I have wept for wrath Sometimes and for mere pain, but for love s pity I cannot weep at all

**e.** To cry with, + *on*, by weeping *rare.*

1897 R Glouc (Rolls) 7820 He weop on god vaste ynou & nede bun mide & ore *c* 1480 *Merita Missæ* 105 in *Fay Folks Mass Bk* 151 And how he dude for the weop I to his Fader on þywete [*Sarum* Oratione] 1611 Bible 1 Esdras iv 73 For they wepe vnto me, saying Giue vs flesh that we may eat. 1845 Miss Norton *Child of Intimate* (1846) 13 I ten sweet St Mary stands in her recess, Worshipped and wept to, as a thing divine

**f** Phr *To weep one's fill* or *belly full.*

*a* 1290 *S Initiate* 193 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1881) 215 Ich habbe I wopen al mine fille 1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par John* xi 28-31 They folowed hir suyt eting that she woulde haue gooen to the graue, and there to weye hir belly full 1593 Shake 3 *Hen VI*, ii v 113 He beare them hence, where I may weepe my fill

**g** Proverbial expressions

1546 J Heywood *Prov* i xi (1867) 28 Nase good childe better children weepe then childe 1616 Drake *Eng Scholast* 23 It is better that children weepe, then old men 1603 Shake *Meas for M* iii 1 122 But man Plaies such phantasticque tricks before high heauen As makes the Angels weep 1859 H Kingsley *Hamlyns* xliii, To see a young fellow like that only ripe for the gallows at five and twenty, is e nough to make the angels weep 1889 J S Winter *Mrs Bob* xii, Ye could l it n a sight to make the angels weep

**2.** Phrases. † *To weep Irish* to weep unfeelingly, as a professional mourner weeps at an Irish wake. *To weep teeth* (or *over*) *an onion* fig to weep with feigned grief.

1586 Stanyhurst *Descr Irel* viii 44/2 *In Ir lanished*, They follow the dead corpse to the graue with howling and bar larous outcries, pitifull in appearance *wherof* grew, as I suppose, the prouerbe To weepe Irish [orig *Hibernice lacrimari*] 1589 *Pappe w Hatchet* D iv b, He make thee to

forget Bishops English and weep Irish 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II xii § 18 247 Surely the Egyptians did not weep-Irish with feigned and mercenary tears. 1882 W Robertson *Phrenol. Gen.* (1693) 305 To weep Irish, or to feign sorrow.

[1601 Shake *All's Well* v iii, 301 Mine eyes smell Onions, I shall weepe anon.] 1616 *Withals Dict.* 557 *Fiere ad nouercæ funndum*, to weepe with an Onion 1882 I G Bowles *Flotsam & Jetsam* 144 Here again is the Vicomte weeping ruefully over the strongest onion that ever man sliced.

**3.** Of the eyes: To shed tears.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 136 And wowis vaine, quhilk thay did neuer keip, Sall gar thame gnasche thair teith, & eyis weip 1588 Shake *Tit Andr* II iii § 58 (Qo 1600) Titus, prepare thy aged eyes to weepe 1786 Cowper *Boadicea* iii, Princess I of our aged eyes Weep upon thy matchless wrongs, To because [etc.] 1812 Scott *Lady of L* II xxiii, 'Twas in hero's eye that weep'd 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiii, Her eyes are always weeping for the loss of her beauty. 1851 R Elsie *Catullus* lxi 85 Her innocent Eyes do weep to be going

**b** *fig.* of the heart. (Cf 6 b.)

13 *Adam Davy's Five Dreams* 64 Myne I[e]re wep for grete drede 1550 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* 161 In other sorte To make my harte weepe when they come to my mind 1623 Shake *Hen VIII*, iii 335 My heart weepes to see him So little, of his great Self 1798 *Lett. of Consider in Trial Friends' Soc* (1918) 32 We dearly love and weep for thee with the tenderest solicitude for thy welfare

**4.** *transf* Of things: To shed water or moisture in drops, to exude drops of water. Also, to waste *away* in drops

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV 3 The preost seide pat here come neuere reyn i but the trees hidde i wope in pe eclipses of pe sonne and of pe mone 1. 1400 Maundev (1839) xii 78 And there besyde ben 4 Pilleres of Ston, that alle weye droppen Watre and sum men seyn, that thei wepen for our Ladies Dethe 1440 *Pallad on Husb* iv. 75 Clayes wepe Vncurteysly, whos terres beth right weete 1570 *Lester Poems Reference* xxi 36 Montanues, murnis I 30 valyeis, wepe 1603 G Owen *Pembrokesh* (1891) 78 In these buildinges you shall finde all the walles of the house to be all wepinge and couered with droppes of water 1610 Shake *Tempest* II iii 168 When all our Offices haue beene oppreſt With riotous Feeders, when our Vaults haue wept With drunken spilth of Wine 1698 Evelyn *Acc. Archit.* 8 P 106 I saw Women washing the dish tilling of Water from the (the tank's) dewy sides, whi h they catch in Jarrs, and carrying it away, leave the Water to weep it selfe 1794 Luke *Husb* (1757) 23 If you lay dung on a sandy or rocky ground it will be weeping away. 1832 P Miles *Guard Kalendar* (1762) 280 Where examined, require some of their branches to be cut off, that in the Interim for now they are not so subject to weep 1870 Scott *Lady of L* I xxxv, The birch trees wept in fragrant balm 1854 J S C Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II xxxvi 148 The sky seemed to weep, and the veil of clouds was withdrawn 1909 *Engl Rev.* Mar 617 Within the forest nought weeps save the rain

**b.** To issue in drops, to trickle or fall as tears Also with *out*.

1596 Shake *2 Hen IV*, iv iv 58 The blood weepes from my heart, when I do shape [etc.] 1739 (N Perinton) *G. D. Lucca's Vent* (ed 8) 173 Cold comes oftentimes in great lumps from the Mineral Rocks, and it weeps out from between the joints 1828 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* 340 The water will continue to weep or run from the holes 1884 *Manch Exam* 3 May 5/3 The Corporation could scarcely have been some difficulty in keep g the tunnel clear of water, which h 'wept' into the heading at the rate of 247 gallons a minute

*fig.* 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xv 295 Down there [in Paris] is dropping languor wept 1878 *Gastelh & Lynet's* 213 Barefoot The Lady of the Lake stood all her dress Wept from her sides as water flowing away.

**c** Of a boiler, etc.: To allow small drops of water to percolate or trickle through; to leak in drops from a joint or rivet.

1869 Sir F Reed *Shipbuild* i. 11 Every rivet being tested not one of them was found to weep 1869 *Daily Rev* 12 Aug. Nearly all new boilers weep more or less first few weeks 1885 R C Leslie *Sea Painter's Log* 31 He will admit, 'she weeps a trifle in her garboards'.

**d.** Of a sore, etc.: To exude a serous fluid.

1888 *W Yorks Gloss, Weep* to exude a watery fluid. 1899 *All Hall's Syst. Med* VIII 243 The fluid escapes just as any raw surface weeps *Ibid* VIII 553 It [i e. psoriasis] never weeps.

**5.** To hang limply; to droop. Of a tree: To drop its branches. Cf. Weeping *ppl. a.* 6.

1764 Churchill *Gotham* i 265 The Willow weeping o'er the fatal wave, Where many a Lover finds a watry grave 1858 Linnæus *Dying Tree* ii, The willow o'er the river wept 1878 Oliver *Hints Lat* ii 207 Young plants, raised from seeds of the Weeping Ash, had a tendency to 'weep' in their first branching

**II.** *trans.*

**6.** To shed tears over; to lament with tears.

1567 Æneid *Gregory's Pont C* x 61 Dæt ſkatte o'ire me in un lifedes d; he ſeral wepin sua tha his agne ſcylde e'rom Alle nec / sawen ſi He weep hit ſamt longe tide *a* 1128 *O E Chron* (Laud MS) an 1086 Oððe hwa is awa heard heart þ[æt ne] mæg weop i sawy[ies unteolmpe?] *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1. 1537 þi fader ani now wepes he 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 2928 Sche wepede wel dyng, ffor ſcheo had I-lued longe byfore þe kyng of Denmark. 1389 Langland *Vis Pier* vii 96 Monkes come ynelpe at pe laste, whan þey had longe i wope [v. r. ywept] þe wrong of her violent out puttynge 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* 1. 21 Many by sweteness of the songe, ar stirred to wayle and to wepe their synnes 1593 Shake *2 Hen VI*, iii 1 221 His fortunes I will weepe 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* v N 2, Now they gin to weepe The mouchafs they haue done 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix 648 Nor was I near to close his dying Eyes, to wash his Wounds, to weep his Obsequies. c 1726 Savage *Epist to Dyer* 54 Why sympathizing breast his grief can feel, And my eyes weep til e wound I cannot heal. 1790 Cowper *Castaway* iv, No poet wept him: but the page Of narrative sincere Is wet with Anson's tear 1808 Scott *Marm* v xvi, A child will weep a bramble's smart, 1849 — *Jalam. xvii*, Edith, for whom he dies, will know how to weep his memory 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv 50 Nor is it Wiser to weep a true occasion lost 1880 C Reade *Cloister & Hearth* lxxii. (1896) 209 The princess went barefoot to Loretto, weeping her crime and washing the feet of base born men

*fig.* 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Vertue* i, Sweet day, . The dew shall weep thy fall to night, For thou must die

**7** To let fall from the eyes, to shed (tears).

The object is freq expressed by a synonym, as *water, drop, brine*, or a hyperbolic term, as *flood, sea, rain* etc

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1. 1537 þi fader ani now wepes he 1330 R Brunne *Chron. Coll. Hom* 63 Pat pridde þing is wop he we for ure synnes wepeð *Ibid* 149 Swiche teares we[p] he holie spuse uppen hire aþus. 1362 Langl. *P Pl A* v 44 Penne Ron Repentaunce and Reherast þis tenne, And made William to weope watur with his eyen *c* 1374 Chaucer *Tr ylus* i 041 Sithen pat how hast wepen [v. r. wepen] many a drop, e 1588 Shake *L. L. L.* iv iii 75 Thou shalt in euery teare that I doe weepe 1606 — *Tr & Cr*, iii ii 84 When we vowe to weepe seas 1612 *Two Noble K* I iii 95 Women That have had their Husbands in the brine, they weyt at killing em. 1631 Milton *Fast March Winchester* 56 Here be teares of perfect moist Weepe I for thee in Helicon 1667 — *P L* ix 1122 Tears such as Angels weep, burst fr th 1781 Cowper *Hope* 519 The wretch, Has wept it from the foot of reverend his ways, is sober, [etc.] 1819 Keats *Lamia* ii 66 She wept a rain Of sorrows at his words 1853 Mrs Gaskell *North and S*, All tears had been wept out of her long grief 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxiii, The eyes of Nero had to weep crocodile tears

**b.** *fig.* Of the heart, or a wound *To weep (tears of) blood*

1592 Shake *Ven & Ad* 1054 His soft flanke, whose wounded lilie white With purple teers that his wound wept, was drenckt 1605 B Jonson *Volpone* iii 11 (1607) F 4 b, My heart weeps with him, in anguish 1613 — *Epithal Jul & Pall* l. 88 My Vine of wine (yet sure) That griev'd, it could weepe blood fr him no more *Tr* 1634 Chapman *Iliad* xvi 46 Why heere weepes Patrocle? why heere weepes Iliad odd to see thy age thus like a lefty tame fill 1728 Pope *Iliad* xiii 160 My heart weeps blood to see your gr ry lost l

†**c.** *To weep misfortunes*: = of Misfortune *a* 1.

1594 Shake *Titus Andr* III i 264 *Clarence*. I do conjure thinke on this, and he will weep— *1st Murderer*. I Mistonee, as he lessoned us to weep [Cf *Ibid* i iii 254 Your eyes drop Mill stones, when Fooles eyes fall tears.]

**d** To declare, express, utter with lamentation. Also with *forth*, *out* (chiefly *poet*).

1599 Marston *Ant & Mel* v (1602) H 3, He weepe my passi n to the senseleſs trees. 1612 Shake *Wint Tale* II iii 159 Lamentable speech, Kneeles and weepes, O cruell wife! 1667 Milton *P L* iv 1 O for that warning voice, which he who ſaw The Apocalyps then cried, Woe to the Inhabitants on Earth! now weep and wail, The poor woman wept her thanks 1790 Cowper *On Receipt Mother's Picture* iv I drew A long, long sigh, and wept a last adieu! 1849 Longfellow *Evangeline* iii 14 'My fault she wept 'my fault I and yet not mine'.

**8** quasi-*trans.*, with adv. or compl. a in phrases expressing excessive or prolonged weeping, esp *to weep out one's eyes or heart*.

c 1250 *St Lawrence* 40 in *S Eng Leg* 341 That bidde so mu h woop þat he ſcholde weop out both his eyzen 1601 Shake *Tw N* v iii 91 I could weepe My ſpirit from mine eyes. 1630 *Palmerin d'Oliva* iv 44, I haue wept out mine Eyes for Griefe 1633 Massinger *Unnat Combat* v iii, Poore Old Lady, Weep out thy Reasons, and thy Body's Eyes 1809 T M Crane and *Sacramenca* vi, It seemed unspeakably pathetic to hear a child weep itself to sleep

**b.** To bring (oneself, another, etc., into a specified state or condition) by weeping. Const *into, to*, or with adj. complement.

1591 Shake *Two Gent* II. iii 14 Why my Grandam having no eyes, looke you, wept her ſelfe blinde at my parting 1605 — *Lear* iv vii 34 Let's ſee: I ſaw it direct ly ſhe ſtood like ſhadow and there Weepe our and I somes empty 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* i. 1 ' And Joseph fell upon his fathers face ' as willing to have wept him alive again, if possible, 1647 R Stapylton *Juvenal* 108 Weeping her ſelfe into a ſtone foul taine. 1818 Shelley *Rosalind & Helen* 363 Put now— What I have told you, and mild When April has wept itself into May. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv 216 She wept her true eyes blind for such a one 1891 *Temple Bar* Dec. 600 Phil wept herself to sleep in her father's arms

**9.** To bring, cause, or *to weep* (a thing) *back*: to recover it by weeping. *To weep out*: to remove, put out, extinguish, by weeping; also, to expend (one's life) in weeping. *To weep down*: to weep until the setting of (the sun).

1593 Shake *Rich II*, v 48 The senceleſs Brands will ſympathize The heauie accent of thy moning Tongue, And in compassion weepe the fire out 1595 — *John* iv iii 15, I loud him, and will weepe My date of life out, for his ſweet life's loſſe 1600 — *Ant & Cl* II iii 18 Then Pompey doth this day laugh away his Fortune *Enob* If he do, ſure he cannot weep't backe againe 1606 Chapman *Mons. D'Olive* i 1, He like a mortified hermit clad Sits weeping out his life 1681 Flatt *Herb Grace* xxvii 453 As it is with the eye when anything offends it, it cannot leave twinkling and watering till it have wept it out 1706 Phr *Object Sex* xxi 240 Thus had their joy wept down the setting Sun

**d** esp. *To weep away*: (*a*) to spend, consume in tears and lamentation; (*b*) to remove or wash *away* with tears of commiseration. (Said also of the tears.)

(*a*) 1590 Shake *Com Err* II. i. 113 Since that my beautie cannot please his eye, He weepe (what's left away) and weep ing die 1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v vi, He weepe away my life in true affections teares 1709 Addison *Italy* 9 Mary Magdalene is said to have wept away the rest of her Life among these solitary Rocks 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 734 Nothing left But into some low cave to crawl, and there weep my life away

(*b*) 1589 Strabe *Iv Shandy* v xii, My father managed his affliction otherwise: he neither wept it away, as the Hebrews and the Romans—or slept it off 1823 Peard *Austrolasia* 262 And the calm Chastity which day by day Weeps every wound and every stain away

**9** To shed (moisture or water) in drops, to exude (a liquid, etc.). Also *to weep forth*.

1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 47 Ormus Iland, has no fresh water, save what the Inhabitants Clouds weepe out for them, in sorrow of her desolation 1652 Biggs *New Disp* p 70 Cc landin weepeth a golden juice 1667 Milton *P L* iv 248 Groves whose rich Trees wept odorous Gums and Balme *Ibid* ix 1003 Skie lowr'd, and muttering Thunder, som sad drops Wept at compleating of the mortal Sin 1669 W Simpson *Hydrol Chym.* 328 Cut a vein in January you shall find it weep forth a deal of insipid water 1697 Dryden *Virg Past* iv 35 The Knotted Oaks shall shw rs of Honey weep 1705 Post *Sprung* 60 And trees weep amber on the banks of Po 1820 Scott *Lady of L* iv iii, Forgetful of its branches grew Where weep the heavens their holiest dew On Alpine's dwelling low 1880 Tennyson *Lithonia* 3 The vapours weep their burden to the ground 1879 *Edinb Med Jrnl* Dec 514 The surface of the integument had been weeping a bl ody sanies for three days.

**Weep**, obs. var of Wipe *v.* Lapwing.

†**Weepable**, *a Obs. rare* [f Weep *v.* + -able.] Deplorable, lamentable.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr* i xvi 86 Lat us now seuli cause lusible the sewful and weepable destruccion of the worthi cetee and vniuersite of Prise c 1450 *Merlin* 3 Ful many weepeable thinges 1500 for which so bireweable and wepeable peril vbiche the clergie may se in it e lay party, wh ich ought [etc.]

**Weeper**, obs. form of Wipe *v.*

**Weeper**, obs. f. Wapentake.

1576 in *Trans Cumb & Westmorld Antiq. Soc.* (N S) xx 247

**Weeper** (wī·pəɹ). [f Weep *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** One who weeps or sheds tears, *esp.* one who is constantly weeping; also one who has tears at command.

c 1380 *Anterest* in Todd *Three Trad Wyclif* (1851) 142 Crist chese to him wepers; & pei chesen to hem myſte zyngers 1382 Wyclif *Tredy* ii 5 The name of that place [Cochim] is cleped, of wepers, or of teris [Vulgate in *Iudic* 2 *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 46 Seynte marie do for our to weperes. 1597 Shake *Lover's Compl* 104 To make the weeper laugh the laughter weepe 1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Epid* i 7 The Weeper 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* 46 Laughter is not let but the Wonder is, Wi at so rea l Ihing su ply'd the Weeper with Eyes 1735 *Pope Arbuthnot* 317, I 367 Thus, while he laugh d and dr pt a tender Tear, The Hiefers N ce (vital Bro ks, nor spr uting Grass reyard, So much they us'd it Weeper a Sorrow shar d 1849 J Hunt *Sappho* 82 *Passion & Prose* xi III 210 My first wife was a weeper, Mam an I I *did* hope to have c ied a second Husband, it seems you are come t weeping f mily 1840 C Whitehead *A Sorrow* 111, Had I been a mere matter of my life a weeper and waller 1874 I Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) II vii 212 Cowper's tears never ſuggest that th e weeper is proud of his excessive tenderness

**b** *spec.* A hired mourner at a death-bed or funeral.

1418–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk* ii 3062 It nedeth hem no wepers for to here.—Pei haddle I non, ne I non of hem 1485 *Digby Myst* iii 815 With wepers to be erth yow lym bying 1634 W Habwyt tr *Bal. de la Ruë* I 380 At funerals in Paris, weepers are usually hired for money *Lond Lamb Archives* 23 b Several Weepers for the Sick 1824 Monies *Ad. Hagji Baba* xxv, Leilah, who is a pr fe sed weeper at funerals 1895 Pater *Appl Lates* ser 1 115 The weepers crouching at the door of thy tomb shall cry aloud the prayers for offerings

**c.** One of a number of little images in niches on a funeral monument, representing mourners.

1656 Dugdale *Antiq Warw* 1 354 Alw hollow arches, all of Imds and Ladyes in divers vestures called Weepers, to stand in Lozinges made about the Tumbe 1790 Jennant *Lond* 64 The sides [of the tombs] are embellished with figures of mourners, *alias* weepers, frequently in monastic habits 1864 Boutell *Her Hist & Lore* xxiii (ed 3) 88 Eight compartments, each of them having a canopied effigy of a weeper 1877 Ellacombe *Ch-yard Lore* 85 A magnificent canopy with figures either of saints or of 'weepers in niches

**d.** *Ch. Hist* One of the lowest class of penitents (*πρωτκλαυσιντες, flentes*) in the early Eastern Church.

1841 *Gentl Mag* Aug 159/2 That abject class of penitents, menti ned in ancient ecclesiastical canons as mourners, kneelers, and weepers, who, covered with sackcloth and ashes, were enjoined to perform penance in the open air 1885 *Encycl Brit* XVIII. 480/1.

**2.** The Capuchin monkey (*Cebus capucinus*) of South America. Also *weeper-sai, capuchin, monkey*.

Cf *F. singe pleureur* and *Humboldt* 1.

1781 Shuckb *Buffon's Nat Hist* (1791) VIII 174 The sai, which some travellers have called the weeper is so e what larger than the sajou 1781 Pennant *Hist Quad* I 294 Weeper monkey. 1822 Hilton M Williams *Hon Solit's Trav* V 132 Those bearded monkeys called *capuchins*, which must not be confounded with the weeper or sai 1841 *Penny Cycl* XXV 15 One of the most remarkable is the Weeper (*Cebus Apella*) 1894 H O Forbes *Handbk Primates* I 216 When sleeping the Weeper Cay curls itself up, covering its face with its arms and tail

**3** A conventional badge of mourning. Usually *pl.*

**a.** A strip of white linen or muslin formerly worn on the cuff of a man's sleeve Cf *F. pleureuse*

1724 *L at Lea.* No 6255 ¾All being enjoyned to appear in long black Cloaks, Cambrick Bands, Chamoy Shoes, Weepers, &c 1746 H Walpole *Let to Mann* 1 Aug. I was assisted by the sight of the Marquis of Lothian in

weepers for his son who fell at Culloden. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit W* xl.vi. Our merry mourners clap bits of muslin on their sleeves and these are called *weepers* 1849 Hood *True Story* 115 There comes some unexpected stroke And hangs a weeper on the cuff 1892 D Fraser *Auton.* ii 4 Our cuffs were covered with white linen 'weepers'

b. A broad white cuff worn by widows

1735 in W Macgill *Old Ross-sh* (1909) 148 Making 6 shirts 6 suit double mohs—6 lawn hoods—6 pair weepers. 1786 Burns *On a Scotch Bard* 25 Auld, canine Kyle may weepers wear, An' staun them wi the saut, saut tear 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII 47 With weepers she has topped her sleeve The while she's laughing in it 1843 Thackeray *Bluebeard's Ghost in Fraser's Mag.* Oct 453/1 She (the widow) had her beautiful hair confined in crimped cups, and her weepers came over her elbows 1889 J S Winter *Mrs Bob* xiii, Mrs Antrobus wore very deep and very wide weepers.

c. A long black hat-band formerly worn by men.

1832 Standish *Maud of Ystruth* The plumes broad floating in the air, And weepers which the followers bear 1834 Marryat *P Simple* xii, My father wore if the crape weepers, and then threw them on the floor as he walked away. 1898 Besant *Orange Girl* i vi, The undertaker . was tying the weepers on his hat.

d. The long black crape veil of a widow.

1880 Geo Eliot *Mill on Fl* i xii, He might cherish the mean project of heightening her grief at his death by leaving her poorly off, in which case she was firmly resolved that she would have scarcely any weeper on her bonnet. 1872 — *Middlem* lxxx, If anybody was to marry me, flattering himself as I should wear those hyeous weepers for him

e. *transf.* A streamer of moss hanging from a tree.

1857 B Taylor *Northern Pr* xiv (1858) 144 The firs were hung with weepers of black green moss.

4. Usually *pl.* Long flowing side-whiskers as worn by 'Lord Dundreary' (L. A. Sothern) in the play 'Our American Cousin'. So *Dundreary* (or *Piccadilly*) *weepers*

1864 *Du* Maurier *Punch* I (1912) 4 He wore an immense pair of drooping auburn whiskers, of the kind that used to be called Piccadilly weepers. 1903 *Outlook* 13 June 760/2 A mid Victorian English woman with 'Dundreary weepers' 1908 *Sat Rev* 20 June 775/2 Sir James Day was adorned with the 'weeper —a form of whisker at one time a popular forensic compromise between the bare face and the full beard.

5. A hole or pipe in a wall for the escape of dripping water. (Cf *weep-hole* in Weep *sb.* 3.)

1890 *N Y Tribune* 4 Feb (Cent.) The eyes with which it [ie the aqueduct tunnel] is provided are small vertical weepers, being small rectangular openings in the side walls, through which all the water is fleeted and collecting on the outside of the masonry pours into the inside. 1893 G D Leslie *Lett. Marco* xxxvii 255 A drain pipe, or what builders term a weeper The weepers in it are to allow the water from the bank behind it to escape.

Hence **Wee pered** *a.*, furnished with weepers

1908 Edith Somerville & 'Ross' *Further Exp Irish R.* ii 54 John Cullinane, with dusty, and waving a crushed and weepered hat.

†**Weepful**, *a Obs rare.* [f. Weep *sb.* + -ful.] Full of weeping, mournful.

1582 Wyclif *Wisd* xviii 10 And weepful wailing [L. *fletibus planctus*] of bewepte yunge children was herd 1886 in Worcester (Living Worcest. and an later Duke.)

**Weeping** (wī·pĭŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. Weep *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb in the various senses; an instance of this.

1. The expression or manifestation of sorrow, pain, etc. by shedding tears

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 53 We muzen michel sŏere for ŏen weopinge þene song *c* 1275 Lay 13290 Mabel was þar wepinge *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard's Tale Manciple's Tale* 600 My sorowe is turned to playnyng And al my lyghtes to wepyng *c* 1450 *Merlin Sahs version* (Roxb.) 158 Fiodes of teres ne stoode and wepyng 1561 Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtier* i D ij, The great Alexander, hearing a certayne Philosophers oppynion to be that there were infinite worldes, fell in wepyng. 1573 Benese field tr *Cardanus' Comf.* ii (1576) 16 b, The weeping of y^e heire is the weepinge of one that lyugheth vnder a vizar 1633 P Fletcher *Pis. Eccl.* xxvii 5 There we had watering Our eyes and weeping For visions fell 1652 Hobbes *Leviath* i vi 27 Sudden Dejection is the passion that causeth Weeping 1732 Steele *Spect* No 95 ¶ 3 There is nothing, so much Expressive of Joy as Tears and Favour as immoderate Weeping 1808 Scott *Marm* v. xxxii, Weeping and wailing loud arose 1882 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* i 1, So must this book begin with tears and weeping 1896 H G Wells *Wheels of Chance* xix, Such weeping as he had seen before had been so much a matter of damp white faces, red noses, and hair coming out of curl.

b With *a* an *i. pl.*

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 4180 He hurde Of a womman a deolful cry & a pitos wepinge *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* i pr ii. (1868) 9 And wip þe lappe of his garment she diede myn eyen þat were ful of þe wawes of my wepynges. *c* 1440 *Promptor* (1893) 52 [Pa. cxvi 8] He hab delyuerid myn eyen fro wepingis 1593 Byrners *Frosts* (1814) 1 corneve 683 Euery day encreased the complayntes, weepynges, and cryes, made to Phylyp Dartuell. 1630 Milton *Passion* 51 Should I . Take up a weeping on the Mountains wilde 1777 Hickhesius *Yorem Fragm* (1780) II 51 You seem to hear the groans, weepings, and bewailings, from the dying 1889 J S Winter *Mrs Bob* xx, And then what a weeping and a wailing there was!

2. The exudation or dripping of moisture generally, the flow or discharge of humours from the body, of gum, etc. from a tree; also the liquid so falling. Also *fig.* the produce (of the vine)

*a* 1655 G S in Hartlib *Ref Commw Bees* 29 The Bees gather out of the weepings of Pine Trees abundance, both of Honey and Wax. 1709 W. Salmon *Pharm Balneum* (1713) 654 They are good against a Gonorrhœa, Whites, Gleets, Weepings, &c. 1730 *Phil. Trans* XXXVI 453 The mucous Particles and Steams arising from the Lungs, made a constant weeping of a thin slavery Liquor from the Mouth of the Pipe. 1746 Berkeley *Siris* § 28 The weepings of the lentiscus and cypress 1815 Moore *Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* 199 Vases filled with Kishmee's golden wine, And the red weepings of the Shiraz vine. 1877 A W Hewlett tr *Thomé's Bot.* 48 A process on which depends, for example, the weeping of the wounded grape vine 1884 *Welch Naval Archit* x 118 Any weeping of the rivets or caulking which results, is rectified.

3 The drooping or downward sweep (of hair)

1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* viii, The dark soft weeping of her hair

4. *attrib* and *Comb.*, as *weeping-match, -scene*; †**weeping-dale** = ' vale of tears ' (Vale *sb.* 1 2 b), **weeping-hole**, an opening through which moisture percolates; **weeping-rope** *n.*, ready to weep; †**weeping-room**, a room for weeping in; †**weeping-spot**, a spot or stain where a tear has fallen; **weeping-time**, -while, a time when one weeps or may weep.

*c* 1400 *Pety Job* 410 in *26 Pol Poems* 134 In thys wofull †weping dale, I dwelle alway. 1886 *Chamb. Journ* 1 Oct. 1917/2 Many a weeping-hole in the wall called 'weeping-holes'. 1900 C. Bald *Indian Tea* vii (1917) 97 It is imperatively necessary to have weeping holes, to carry off any water which may get behind the building. 1898 *Sat Rev Acctic Lexpl.* II. xi 117 They often assemble by concert for a general †weeping-match 1548 *Udall Apoph. Lucky.* xvi 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xiii 198 *Shakes L. L. L.* v. ii. 774 The King was weeping ripe for a good word 1593 — *2 Hen VI*, i iv 172. *a* 1614 Fletcher *Valentinian* i iii, That as Soulders they tell their wounds Even weeping ripe they were no more nor deeper 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *Pastor all to King* 7 Behold him weeping ripe 1822 Char. man *Iliad* xxiv 554 Ilion Shall finde thee †weeping roomes store 1899 J Henry *Trav* 28 I have previously been witness to a †weeping scene of this description, I should certainly have been as prehensive of y^me disastrous catastrophe. 1630 *Lyte Jests* (Percy Soc.) 2370 The †weeping spottes in my wise I bet coude with noo craft gete a way While thei had weak it so many a day. *c* 1400 *Lowne of Mirre* (1907) 1048 Þe gode knyght wept wyp †wepynge tyme. 1893 F Thompson *Poems* 72 Smile, sweet baby, smile, For you will have †weeping-while

†*b Anat.*, as *weeping corner* (of the eye : *weeping flesh*, the lachrymal caruncle ; *weeping vein*, the ophthalmic vein. *Obs.*

*To ope the †weeping vein* to cause weeping. *goet.*

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg* II iv 257 b. In the weping corners of the eyes, there groweth a fistula [etc.] 1616 Chapman *Iliad* xxiv 554 Ilion Shall finde thee †weeping roomes store 1899 J Henry *Trav* 28 I have previously been witness to a †weeping scene of this description, I should certainly have been as prehensive of y^me disastrous catastrophe. 1630 *Lyte Jests* (Percy Soc.) 2370 The †weeping spottes in my wise I bet coude with noo craft gete a way While thei had weak it so many a day. *c* 1400 *Lowne of Mirre* (1907) 1048 Þe gode knyght wept wyp †wepynge tyme. 1893 F Thompson *Poems* 72 Smile, sweet baby, smile, For you will have †weeping-while

†*b Anat.*, as *weeping corner* (of the eye : *weeping flesh*, the lachrymal caruncle ; *weeping vein*, the ophthalmic vein. *Obs.*

*To ope the †weeping vein* to cause weeping. *goet.*

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg* II iv 257 b. In the weping corners of the eyes, there groweth a fistula [etc.] 1616 Surflet *Markh. Country Farme* (ed. 3) 191 The weeping veine In all my men 1639 I. de Grey *Compl. Horsem* II i (1656) 65 The *Veins* which we do mutilate upon, viz. the two *Temple-Veins* . Secondly, we open the two *Eye or weeping-i-veins Hort.* II. iv 494 I first let him bloud in the neck and weeping veines 1658 J Smith *Pract Navig* 120 A Haw in the Eye is discerned from the weeping flesh, because the roots of the N ul ver inclineth most to whitenesse *Hist* 345 An Ulcer of the weeping flesh, namely an Aegylops.

**Weeping** (wī·pĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Weep *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. That weeps. Said of person, also of the eyes

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Josh* vi 21 Hi ofsloton ða wepende eald 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 6938 Þe queene was so yvoȝ shal mid mone & wepinge eȝe 1340 *Ayenb* 14 Þe wepinge eȝe 1400 *Lanerc Pr* xxvi (Trin.) Were þat non prophete so ȝong ne so wepynge womman [*Fairfax* 1572 þis womman wepand] on him wood He auste to witen what he were. 1450–1530 *Myrr* 168 Þe wepyng eyen 1579 The gretter is þe wepyng eye, the lesse is the lytel body of a weping chylde 1594 *Bury Ballads* (Camden) 245, I requeath to my neece Mary Gifford my ringe with thee wepinge eye. 1598 Chapman *Fr. of Yeare, Teath Mountaincte* 164 That so he might be shewed Unto us all whose weeping eyes dyd much abshore the night 1598 Shakes *Rich II*, v. v. 33, I feare her story is sad, unto the weeping Philosopher when he growes old, being so full of woman-lyke sadnesse in his youth 1617 R White *Cupid's Banquet* 10 in *Farq. Pap.* (1849) II 293 The Weeping Drunkard next. 1667 Dryden *Ind Emp* I iv. (3) Or More cruel than the Tyger o're his spoil; And fiercer than the Weeping Crocodile 1697 *Æneis* vii 807 Turning to the sad Parents the Eyes, and 1708 Rowe *Ulysses* iv 3, I sadly attentive to the weeping Queen 1711 Steele *Spect* No 252 ¶ 3 there is something so moving in the very Image of weeping Beauty 1798 Robertson *Caledonia* (1868) IV 136 A weeping eye indicates a gentle heart 1754 Gray *Progr Poetry* 44 Disease, and Sorrow's weeping train 1848 Thackeray *Pendennis* xl, Full fondest dove with weeping eye, and once kissed her 1848 Thackeray *I an Fair* xxxii, He had taken leave of his weeping sweetheart 1884 J Parker *Apost Life* III 124 When men speak of Jeremiah, they think of him as the weeping prophet

†*b. absol* Persons weeping *Obs.*

*c* 1480 *Henryson of Freedom* (Arb) 24 He fulbitterly beganne to weip & mony mo weipingis teryis sorofully sobbyd as weping doth [L. *ut plorantes ridentes*]

*c. Weeping monkey* : a name applied to the sapajous Cf. Weeper 2.

1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim Kingd* 48 Their name of *Weeping Monkeys* is derived from their plaintive voice

2 Of the voice, the countenance Tearful, lachrymose. Of utterances . Accompanied with weeping, tearful Of emotion Expressed by weeping.

*c* 900 *Bæda's Hist* i xii, Da onsendon hi serend-wrecan to Rome mid ġewritum & wependre bene [L. *lacrimosa precibus*] *c* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Thorpe) vi. 7 Forðam þe Drihten hyrde mine wependan stefne [Vulg *vocem fletus mei*], *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 17947 Wip wepynge preyere. 1382 Wyclif *Dan* vi 20 With a wepynge voice [Vulg *cum lacrimabili voce*] 1400 *26 Pol Poems* 21 46 Repentaunce makeþ wepyng mon [= moan] 1561 Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtier* ii (1900) 161 For undoubtedlye it is not meete for a Gentle manne to make weeping and laughing faces. 1593 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, i. i 34 Her words yclad with wisedomes Majesty, Makes me from Wondring, fall to Weeping loyes, Such is the Fulnesse of my hearts content 1638 Jasticow *Trav* x 457 Leauing me with a weeping good-night 1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1809) II 154 Having taken a weeping leave of all the family. *Ibid* IV 17 We behold him with weeping gratitude 1897 Pollok *Course I* ix. 1156 Bards bewailed them much, With doleful instruments of weeping song.

3. †*a. Weeping tears*, abundant weeping. Rarely in *sing. Obs.*

*a* 1470 Harding *Chron* cxl x, He shroue hym then vnto abbots three With weping teares sobbyng and lyue contrition, And weping teares 1471 Canton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 644 I be troiana toke the body of paris with wepyng teres and bare hit vnto the cyte 1523 Douglas *Æneis* xiii iv 40 With sik plente of bitter wepand teris 1560 tr *T Kyffin's Godly Treat howe Prayer* H 3, With many sighes and abundance of weeping teares 1593 Shake *Lucr* 1375 Many a dry drop seem'd a weeping teare, Shed for the slaughtered husband by the wife. 1598 C B. Stapylton *Herodian* 1 7 This Message was receiv'd with weeping teares *a* 1700 *Fer Patience in Hallow Fordx. Anthol* (1851) 339 With weeping teares she did reply, My heart is overwhelm'd with grief. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc E Anglia, Weeping tears*, A very odd pleonasm, but in very common use for excessive sorrow.

b Falling or issuing in drops like tears. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1686 Plot *Staffordsh* 79 The Springs on, or near the tops of hills, if weak and weeping, may proceed from rains 1704 Post *Wonders of Nat* 30 Leaf India bears of plants, not very we The weeping amber or the balmy tree 1783 J. Price *Hom.-Br. Thames* I 60 to empty out the weeping Water and Spring. 1796 *Complete Farmer & Cheese*, Except it be obstructed by a stratum of clay, chilled at every weeping spring 1827 Pollok *Course T.* v 98 I hough poets talked and sang Of brooks, and crystal fountains, and weeping dews 1831 Wordsw *Yarrow Revisited* 1 *Scott* i A trouble, not of clouds, or weeping rain. . Engendered

4. Exuding moisture **a.** Of soil : Oozing, swampy.

1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* i 17 b, Yf it be wette or weeping ground, or subiect to other inconueniences 1597 Shaks *Lover's Compl* 30 A ruore Vpon whose weeping margent she was set 1685 Mar Kham *Instructions Would Aunt* 9 The Hazell grows only, and best in moist or Winter springs, or teares of water (for which some call such, A winning or weeping ground) is to be handled thus *Ibid*, 19 A sandy and grauelly ground like to that weeping 1844 G Playter in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 216 The best Experiment, shewing how weeping land may be drained where there is no level 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 June 1676, The soil a cold weeping clay, not answering the expence 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 33 Ray Grass is reckoned to grow on any Land, but chiefly in Cold sour Clays, and weeping Grounds 1801 *Farmer's Calendar* (ed. 6) 600 Dung, rotted, weeping clays where the dung is locked up, the application of lime is equally salutary 1823 Vancouver *Agric Devon* 40 The shaley rock, covered with a coat of a moderate depth, and producing a very wet and weeping surface. 1826 *Trial Berkeley Poachers* 30 There I could see, for there was a wet or weeping place, the tracks of sixteen men.

b *Path.* Of the eyes Running, watering. Also of diseased tissues or structures from which moisture exudes. *Weeping eczema*, a variety of eczema characterized by abundant exudation.

1580 Bundvile *Curing Horses* xix xxxvi 18 Of weeping or watering eies. 1810 *Sporting Mag* XXXV 81 It appeared that at the time of sale the horse had weeping eyes 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 503 A general raw, red, weeping surface is produced . . . Such is the condition of weeping eczema *Ibid* 710 If the epidermis is exfoliated leaving the skin underneath red and tender but never moist or weeping as in eczema

c In general use

1550 Bale *Acts Engl Votaries* II 67 b, I coulde here shewe ye wonders of wepinge Rodes, and sweating ladies 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iii 1 The Steed, that hath disclos'd th' Abyss of Hell He weeping Statues did the Wars foretel 1710 Hilman *Trosser Redivo* Apr (1744) 45 His Bark clean without Lymp or Weed, & (by no weeping Holes or decayed B ughs upon him 1805 R W Dickson *Pract Agric* I 283 Oozing springs weeping rocks 1903 S Childers *Riddle of Sands* ix 204 I returned, with a shock, to the present; to the weeping walls, the discoloured deal table, the ghastly breakfast litter

d. †*Weeping Bower*, the name given in Barbados to a tree that exudes a gum of some kind. *Weeping Gum*, the name of two species of Eucalyptus, *E. paucifloru* and *E. viminalis* (Morris *Austral Engl.* s. v. *Gum*).

1696 Pulkeney *Almagestum Wks* 1769 II. 43 Arbor Siguam topiarium efformans ; achry mifera, forte Stactefua, ; Myrrham liquidam fundens Nostratibus Colonis Weeping Bower nuncupata

5. Of climate, weather, skies, etc. Dripping, rainy.

1597 Shaks *2 Hen IV*, i iii 61 A naked subiect to the Weeping Clouds 1668 Dunham *To Sir John Mennes* 1 All on a weeping Mondain, Little Adriana, John To Bologne is gone 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl* 6 Sept, This country would be a perfect paradise, if it was not, like Wales, cursed with a weeping climate 1819 Keats *Otho* v. v 39 Gauzes of silver mist, Loop'd up with cords of twisted wreathed light, And tassell'd round with weeping meteors ! 1821 Scott *Pirate* iv, The inconveniences arising from a cold soil and a weeping climate 1844 H. Stephens *Bk Farm* III 582 In a weeping season, the hay on one property was effectually saved by the use of the teedding-machine. 1846 Mrs A Marsh *Father Darcy* xxxviii, It was a weeping day—a cold, cloudy day, at the very beginning of September 1883 Annie S Swan *Carlowrie* i 30 The rain still falling desolately from weeping skies.

**1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas, Three Scalers*, The weeping fog rolled fold on fold the wrath of man to cloak.

*transf.* **1613** CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 646 Joy and griefe together Her breast inuaded: and of weeping weather Her eyes stood full.

**6.** Used to designate trees (less frequently other plants) the branches of which arch over and hang down drooping. Chiefly in the distinctive names of particular species or varieties. [So F. *pleureur* in *saule pleureur* weeping willow, *frêne pleureur* weeping ash.]

*Weeping ash*, the Californian white oak, *Quercus lobata*; also, a cultivated variety of the English oak, *Quercus Robur*.

The *weeping ash, beech, birch, elm*, etc. are varieties of certain species of those trees; in botanical works they are designated by the addition of *pendula* after the specific name. See also WEEPING WILLOW.

**1608** N. BEALE[?] *Sydney's Arcania* F 4 *b*, The weeping Elme, the Beech, the Hyrch. **1793** W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 41 There is another variety also of this tree, called the weeping elm. *Ibid.* 66 Of the white birch there is a...variety, sometimes called the lady-birch, or the weeping-birch. **1807** J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 61 The weeping variety of the Common Ash. **1838** LOUDON *Arboretum* II. 1214 *Fraxinus pendula*...The pendulous, or weeping Ash. *Ibid.* III. 1691 *Betula pendula*...the weeping Birch. *Ibid.* 1732 *Quercus Robur pendula*...The Weeping Oak. *Ibid.* 1952 *Fagus pendula*...the weeping Beech. **1849** *Florist* 273 Among weeping trees, we found the weeping purple Beech, the weeping Holly, the new weeping Elm, the weeping Yew, the weeping Oak, weeping silver Fir, and weeping red Cedar. **1865** GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 343 The...rhizome of Coniophleium discinife...allows to droop on every side its long, weeping fronds. **1868** *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 902 Weeping and drooping trees. **1880** *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 436 At the upper end stands a great beech, and a weeping elm, there being weeping ashes elsewhere. **1895** CORBIN *Wild Eng.* 92 On the shaded bank, a line of weeping-birches dips into the pool. **1898** MORRIS *Natural Engl.* 71 Rich Grass Meadow, *Microtanus stipoides*. Called also *Weeping Grass*. *Ibid.* 506 *Weeping-Ayrshi*, an Australian tree, *Acacia pendula*. Cunn.

## Weeping Cross.

**1.** A place-name occurring in several English counties, presumably indicating the site of a stone cross (now destroyed) formerly known by this designation.

The present Ordnance Map shows places so named (1) about 2 miles S.E. of Stone (2) about 2 miles S.E. of Stafford: (3) about 2 miles S.E. of Banbury; (4) near Bury St. Edmunds (see quot. *a* 1500); (5) near Ludlow. See also quot. 1893. All the places are at cross-roads. It is said that the remains of the 'weeping cross' near Banbury were removed in 1803 (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*, 1841); with reference to that near Ludlow cf. quot. 1826. It is usually assumed that the name implies that acts of devotion at these crosses were enjoined upon penitents, but there appears to be no evidence of this. Pennant's explanation (quot. 1782) seems to be merely a conjecture; another conjecture (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*) is that the cross marked the place at which bodies carried to interment were set down for the bearers to rest.

*a* 1500 in *Fasti Anglian* (1857-8) II. 226 (Bury St. Edmunds) Fidula incipit justa riperam apud Winothes, et pronedit ita ultetius ascendendo versus Austrum usque ad Crucem Lacrymantem [Camden, *Britannia* (1698) 709 At 24 come to Weeping-Cross a noted Place, where 4 Ways meet)...and at 27 enter Banbury. **1782** PENNANT *Tours, from Chester* II. 276 (leaving the town [Stafford] *crossed* the Wolverhampton Navigation at Radford Bridge...A little further is Weeping Cross; so stiled from the vicinity to the antient place of execution. **1826** T. WRIGHT *Hist. Ludlow* (ed. 2) 275 Passing along the road which leaves the town at the bottom of Hulgate Pee, we come to a small lump of earth and stones which marks the boundary of the parish. The name of the 'Weeping Cross', yet retained by this land mark serves to preserve the traditionary record of a Cross. **1893** *Dublin Rev.* July 587 There is a road outside Salisbury called 'King John's Lane', leading from Clarendon to Old Sarum; it is crossed by another road, and at this point there is a clump of elm-trees. These trees are known as the weeping cross trees.

**2.** Used allusively, esp. in the proverbial phrase *To come home by Weeping Cross*, to suffer grievous disappointment or failure.

Cf. the occasional variants 'to come home by broken cross' (1662 Howell *Parly of Beasts Prov.* 48) and 'to make our prayers at whining cross' (1602: see WHINING *vbl. sb. b*).

**1599** GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 They...pull the house on their owne heds, returne home by weeping Crosse, and fewe of them come to an honest ende. **1580** LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 243 The tyme will come when comming home by weeping crosse, thou shalt curse him [etc.]. **1592** GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, Heerein I hold the Tailor for a necessary member to teach proud noulces the way to weeping crosse. **1612** WITHER *Fair Virtue Dedic.* A 3 *b*, Here I mourne, for your-our publike losse; And doe my pennance, at the Weeping Crosse. **1625** FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Wit without L.* I. One is a kind of weeping cross, Jack, A gentle Purgatory. **1643** TRAPP *Gen.* iv. 26 God fetcht Jonas home again by weeping-cross. **1665** [DAVIES tr. *Scarron's Novels* II. iv. 159 And so the poor Boy was forc'd to get back again to Madrid with a weeping-cross. **1741** OZELL tr. *Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 36 Making an Irruption into Provence, he came home by Weeping-Cross. **1884** W. MORRIS *Ardèle & Hist.* (1900) 16 How different that [*sc.* artistic finish] is from mechanical or trade finish, some of us, at least, have learned, maybe, by the way of Weeping Cross.

**†Weepingly**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. WEEPING *ppl. a.* + -LY 1.] Tearful.

*c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. (1878) 259 The Emperoure gothe into swiche a chaumbr glad I-nowe, but when he comythe oute, al his visage is weepingly [*sola facies eius est lacrimosa*].

**Weepingly** (*wĭ*-pĭnli), *adv.* [f. WEEPING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a weeping manner.

1340 *Ayenb.* 192 Huet ysehe is bet...bet be on nimb glad liche and be oþer hit lyest wepindeliche. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 7203 Ful tendirly the teres he dide down lete, and so wepyngly he torned ageyn. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus, Lachrymans*,...weepyngly: as though one wepte. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 207 Their kind acceptance weepingly beseecht. **1621** LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 76 They sap doth weepingly bewray thy paine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mawdlins*, weepingly Drunk. **1896** MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. xxx, It is four months...since Wolferstan went—since, weepingly, his love said to him, 'God keep you, Anthony!' **1899** W. C. RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* II. xxv. 259 My mind revolving...blackly and weepingly.

**Weeping willow.** [See WEEPING *ppl. a.* 6. Cf. F. *saule pleureur*, G. *trauer-, thränenweide.*] A species of willow, *Salix babylonica*, a large tree, native of Eastern Asia, having long and slender pendulous branches, cultivated in Europe as an ornamental tree and regarded as symbolical of mourning.

**1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict., Salix 1 orientalis*...The Weeping Willow. **1755** YOUNG *Centaur* III. *Wks.* 1757 IV. 171 Their wretched joys flourish, like dismal weeping willows wretched joys flourish, like dismal weeping willows watched by sighs. **1771** SMOLLETT *Lady of L.* I. xvii, 'Tis the weeping willow twig to lave. **1898** 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxi. 224 A weeping-willow, trimly trained in the form of a pollard.

**†Weeply**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WEEP *sb.* or *v.* + -LY 1.] Lamentable, tearful.

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 3 My wepli complevnte [*querimoniam lacrimabilem*]. *Ibid.* iii. met. xii. 106 By thys weply [v. r. weppli] songes [*flebilibus modis*].

**Weepy** (*wī*-pi), *adv.* [f. WEEP *v.* + -Y 1.] Weeping, mournful. *Obs.*

**1601** DAVISON *Poet. Rapsody* C 2, And when I weep, And sigh full deep, A weepy sighing Voice againe thou lendest.

**2.** Inclined to weep or shed tears, tearful.

**1865** 'HOLME LEE' *A. Wartleigh* II. 95 She appeared with...her watery eyes more weepy than ever. **1894** DU MAURIER *Trilby* iv. (1912) 166 The bold dragoon sang..'My Sister Dear',...with such pathos, that his audience felt almost weepy with pride at their gallantion. **1897** BRAM STOKER *Dracula* xix. (1912) 276, I shall put a bold face on, and if I do feel weepy, he shall never see it.

**3.** *dial.* Exuding moisture, damp; oozy.

**1825** *Jennings Obs. Dialect W. Engl.*, *Weepy*, abounding with springs; moist. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v., One o' the fat cheeses is weepy. **1886** *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, All the places in the neighbourhood are weepy. **1906** LYNN *Puck of Pook's Hill* 196 An old marlpit full of black water, where weepy, hairy moss hangs round the stumps of willows and alders.

**Weepsanding**, *vbl. sb. U.S.* Also **wigwassing**. [f. Algonkin *weigwas* birch-bark (canoe) + -ING 1.] The spearing of eels or fish from a canoe by torchlight.

**1888** GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 436 Vast quantities [of suckers] are taken...by spearing by torchlight or 'weequashing'. **1902** A. F. CHAMBERLAIN *Trans. Amer. Folk-Lore Soc.* XIV. The word *weequashing*, or *wigwassing*, would seem to be derived...from *wigwas*, a widespread Algonkian...term for birch bark...The indistinct source of the word being Passamaquoddy or Micmac.

**Weer**, obs. form of WEIR, and var. WERE *Obs.*

**Weer**, obs. pa. t. of WEAR *v.*, BE *v.*

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 2617 And therfor wisdom weer...Nevir to fele with hem of no vengaunce. **1440** *Promp. Parv.* The word *weequashing*, or *wigwassing*, would seem to be derived...from *wigwas*, a widespread Algonkian...term for birch bark...The indistinct source of the word being Passamaquoddy or Micmac.

**Weerish**, var. WEARISH *a.*

**Weerne**, var. WARN *v.*[2] *Obs.*

**Weerook**, var. WIRROCK.

**Wees**, obs. form of WAS: see BE *v.*

**Weesand**, obs. form of WEASAND.

**Weesse**(wīz), *v. Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 **wēsan**, 5 **wese**, 6–7 **wheese**, 8–9 *dial.* **weese**, 6– **weese**. [OE. *wēsan* (.–**wēsjan*), f. *wēst* OOZE *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To ooze, drip or distil gently.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 Þonne sceal engrinse se healsgrund wesan. 14.. *Seven Deadly Sins* 58 In *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 240 He take me 'carytas', and quit it in a clout, And bade me bame me well aboute, when hit wolde other water or wese. *a* 1555 BRADFORD *Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 303, I will not seek of the often weesing out. **1674** EVELYN *Diary* 10 *Jun. Bartas* I. ii. 79 At his knots his Water wheezes forth. *c* 1620 *Z.* BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) II. It seemes I heare How water weesing in. **1790** D. MORISON *Poems* 105 Von greetin' cheese, Frae which the teats perpetually weeze. **18**..in var. dial.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Weese.*

**Weese**, var. WASE.

**Weese allan** (also **weese alley**), an alleged local name of the skua (cf. SCOUTY-ALLEN).

**1849** *Zoologist* VII. 2393 The common skua is a 'weese-alley'. **1885** SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 210 Richardson's Skua (*Stercorarius crepidatus*)...Weese allan (Orkney Isles).

**Weesel**(l: see WEASEL, WEESLE.

**Weeshy** (*wī*-ʃi), *a. Anglo-Irish.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. WEE *a.*] Very small, tiny.

**1830** CARLETON *Traits Ir. Peasantry* (1843) I. 141 The first man he met was the weeshy fraction of a tailor, as nimble as a hare. **1842** LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, And what weeshee little balls them is, sir. **1894** M'NULTY *Mither O'Kyan* v. 48, I had larned...as a weeshy lad, to repate some 'Spaches from the Dock'.

**Weesil**(l, var. ff. WEASEL, WEESLE *Obs.*

**†Wee'sle**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [dim. of WEESE *v.*] *intr.* To ooze.

*a* 1555 BRADFORD *Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 304 For a time the streams of our affections may be stopped...; howbeit so yet they will weesel out now and then.

**Weesle**, obs. form of WEASEL.

**Weeson**, obs. form of WEASAND.

**Weesp**, Sc. form of WISP *sb.*

**Weesshe**, ? obs. form of WISH *v.*

**Wee'st heart**, var. of the northern dial. phrase *woe's theart*: see WOE *sb.*

**1605** CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. ii, Nurse, where's your young Mistress? *Nurse.* Wee'st heart, I know not, they're none of 'em come home yet.

**Weet** (wēt), *v.*[1] *arch.* Also 6 **wete**, 6–7 **weete**. [repr. ME. *wēte(n*, var. ff. *wite(n* inf. and pl. pres. ind. and subj., and *wite* imperative and sing. pres. subj., of WIT *v.* (for the other parts of the verb see WOT *v.*, WIST *v.*). From the middle of the 16th c., if not earlier, the form *weet* seems to be obsolete in ordinary speech, but down to the second decade of the 17th c. it was frequent as a literary archaism (chiefly *poet.*), as attributed in the drama to rustic speakers, and as a variant of *wit* in the phrases *to do or gyve* (a person) *to wit*, (*that*, *to wit*). The archaistic use in the 16th and early 17th c. was confined to the inf., the plural present, and the present participle; but the poets of the 18th c. and later, who have used the word in imitation of Spenser, have often treated it as a regular verb, with 3 sing. pres. *I weet*, and inflexions *weets*, *weeted*.

For the examples of *wete* before 1550, and of the phrases above mentioned in which *wete* occurs, see WIT *v.*

**a.** *trans.* To know (a fact, the answer to a question); also with clause as *sb. intr.* To know of something.

In Shaks. only once: see quot. 1606.

*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 13 Ye may se in dout to Phebus temple sent Euripilus, to wete the prophesye. **1560** PILKINGTON *Aggeus* D], They money, that waste away, thou not weetyng how nor when. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) 131 b, The client should gladly weete I could not only lie in no fault, but not so much as weetting of their fathers yll doings. **1575** *Gamm. Gurt'n* II. iii. Tush, man, in Gammers neele found? That should gladly weete! **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witches*, xv. xxvi. (1886) 443 Then would I weet of our witchmongers, the reason why. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 3 Forth he came with entertainment fell, Where waite him many a gazing eye, To weet what end to straunger knights may fall. *Ibid.* I. xii. 3 That aged Sire...looked forth, to weet, if true inquest of those tydings were. **1594** CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* Author's Pref., Curious parents may have an art and maner to discouer the wit of their children, and may weet how to set each of them in hand with that science wherein he shall principally profit. **1599** T. MOUFET *Silkwormes* 53 Others deuine that they themselues did weete No other liue could yeelde their silken threede. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembrokes Pedegree* A 2 Which Percelly weareth a hatte All Pembrokeshire shall weete of that. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & C.* II. ii. 39 In which I bande One paine of punishment, the world to weete Stand ey'd in equall. **1706** PRIOR *Ode to Queen* iv, We all to mean for such a task I weet. **1727**—*Alma* I. 289 Well I weet, thy cruel Wrong Adorns a noble Song. **1728** POPE *Dunciad* III. 83 Thou weetest not what Madhouses in them are. **1751** MRS. ANNE STEARNE tr. Prado *Cl. Christ. Women* (1758) II. 238 And while the lambs in saunter voices bleat, their mothers hang their head, in doleful plight I weet. **1827** SHELLEY *Revolution* IV. xiv, But, when ten suns should set on the shrine, he only weets, Though he says nothing, that the truth is known. *a* **1846** LADOR *Mission. Life Samoa* iii. 27 Ah! little weet those who dwell at ease among the Christian people, what the missionary endures! **1861** PARMOOR *Angler in Lit.* II. xi. xv, Natures infinite scient Of lowly flowers...That weet not whether any bend. **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads, 3rd. Dorothy* 92 That in a noble vexature, well I weet, That likens women to an empty can. **1886** R. F. BURTON *Arabs, Arts.* (abr. ed.) I. 121 Well weeting that Fortune is fair and constant to no man.

**Weet** (wēt), *int.* and *v.*[2] [Echoic. Cf. WEET-WEET and TWEET.] **a.** *int.* An imitation of the cry of certain small birds. **b.** *v. intr.* Of a bird: To chirp or twitter. Hence **Weeting** *ppl. a.* Also **Weet-bird**, the wryneck.

**1852** *Zoologist* X. 3649, I was completely surrounded by yaffels, green woodpeckers, and weet-birds. **1865** WISE *New Forest* 186 The wry-neck is in the Forest known as the 'weet-bird', from its peculiar cry of 'weet', which it will repeat at short intervals for an hour together. *a* **1897** LAO C. GORDON *Suffolk Tales* etc. 160 A robin weeting or chirping at the window foretells a death in the house.

**Weet**(e, obs. and Sc. forms of WET.

**Weete**, obs. form of WHEAT.

**1464** *Stone Papers* (Camden) I. 68 The chirchemen of Dadcote wer in targeyng off a rake of weete for the welfare and help off the chirch.

**Weetingly**, obs. var. WITTINGLY *adv.* (Cf. WEET *v.*[1] and next.)

**1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 218, That a manne should weetyngly & willingly come in the presence of them. **1570** LAURE *Manup.* 100/4, Weetingly, *scient & prudenter*. **1596** SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. This ill state, To which she for his sake had weetingly Now brought her selfe. **1642** H. MORE

Song *Sol* II 1 III xv That man is wood That weetingly havres on the thing he hates

**Weetless** (*wī*·tles), *a arch.* [f. WEET *v.*¹ + -LESS] App. coined by Spenser, distinct from *witless* ] Unknowing, unconscious. † Also (quot. 1579): meaningless

1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal* July 15 Syker thous but a laesie lord and rekes much of thy wastfull wame, That with fond termes, and weetlesse words to libre my ne eyes dost thinke [F. *Cf. ne*, Weetlesse not understoode ] 1590 — *F. Q* III iii 26 But the false Archer, vvhich that arrow shot So slyly that she did not feele the wound, I ind sayst. full smoothly at her weetlesse wofull stound 1596 *Ibid* VI viii 47 And now all weetlesse of the wretched storme In which his loue was lost he slept full fast 1747 [UTTON] *Nat Canto F Q* xix 13 Nath lees the Soul, from her true heavenly Way, Caught by some Semblance fair, too weetless wends astray [*Et oter. Et lest*, thoughtless careless, unknowing too thoughtless goes astray ] 1751 MICKLE *Sessions* xxx in Pearch *Coll Poems* (1768) II 246 Or else the way Ward me further to chastise When fro her verthy nest the weetless vagrant lies 1767 MICKLE *Concub* I xx, Bushfully the weetless Poy did ca 1810 IRVING *Cont of Archdeac* xxxvii, Pve is here for Mangerton's brave lord A bob sty feast was set, Who weet less at the feast boar'd, The bull's brood frontlet met 1814 CARY *Dante, Purgat* x 91 And I was with him, weetless of ascent But as a man, that weeth him come, ere thinking 1824 [C. DARLEY] *Bertling Wake, Annals*, 73 Look how the weetless, reckless air Moves its dead breast now! 1859 MACKAY *Poet* (1859) 256 Mother dear, thy happy heart is weetless of my dolour

**Weet-weet,** *int.* and *sb* ¹ [Lchoic.]

1 *int* (*wī*·t,*wī*·t). An imitation of the cry of certain birds, esp the sandpiper and chaffinch Also *sb* as the name for the bird.

1808-13 A WILSON *Amer Ornith* (1831) III 170, I could still hear the low note of *weet weet* as it is apparently fear to the vessel I drew me 1831 HOWITT *Seasons* (1837) 256 The weet weet of a pink and the chaffinch. 1843 *Zool Sist* I 2 1 The weet weet of the sandpiper.

2 *sb* (*wī*·t,*wī*·t) Used as a name for the sandpiper.

1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit Birds* IV 430 *Actitis Macularia*. The Weet *Bird*, The Weet weets are small migratory birds, which frequent the sandy and muddy margins of lakes, rivers, and estuaries *Ib* 434 *Totanus Hypoleucos*. The White breasted Weet weet 1855 *Ibid Totanus macularius* The Spotted Weet weet 1866 JOHNS *Brit Birds* 625 Weet weet, the common Sandpiper

**Weet-weet** (*wī*·t,*wī*·t, *sb.*² [Native Australian: see quot 1878.] An Australian toy (see quot 1878) contrived to be capable of being thrown to a great distance

1878 R B SMYTH *Aborigines of Victoria* I 352 The plaything (Fig 170) called by the natives of the Yarra *Wī-tchoo-lā-ke-a-nā-ick. Wī-tchoo-lā-ke* is used as one of the extraordinary instruments used by savages The head—in shape like two cones placed base to base—is about four inches and a half in length at its widest part in diameter and the stem, not quite two tenths of an inch in diameter, is about twenty one inches in length 1886 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/3 The Australian toy called the *wee wee* which can be thrown for several hundred yards bounding off the ground at frequent intervals all the way 1901 I A JOYCE *Handbk Ethnog Coll Brit. Mus* 117 A peculiar toy is the weet weet or 'kangaroo iron,' which the practised player can throw to enormous distances.

**Weet-weet,** *v* [f. WEET-WEET *int.*] *intr* To cry 'weet, weet'.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II (1871) 7 A sand piper glided west weeting along the tide

**Weety** (*wī*·ti), *a* Sc Also 7 **weytie, 9 weetie** [f *weet*, Sc f. WET *a* + -Y ¹] Rainy, wet.

1698 J NICOL *Diary* (Bannat) 10 Club) 222 The crop was verie pure, be reason of the rainy time, qll the wee's was cold and weyrie by the space of many weeks 1774 FERGUSSON *Mutis ill C mpl* 23 Insnshine, and in weety weather 1887 BEATRICE *Dugald* 241 Now the spring time was weety and cauld 1913 SIR J WATSON *Cornd and Scotl* A 165 [Written Eng.] a wet day [Spoken Sc.] a weetee day

**Weeve,** obs form of WEAVE *v.*

**Weever** (*wī*·vəɹ) Also 7 **wiver, 7–9 weever** [Prob. originally *wiwer*, a OE. (north-eastern) *wiwre* the weever (13th c.), a transferred use of *wiwre* serpent, dragon (see WIVERN, WYVERN), = Central OF *guivre* (mod heraldic F *guivre givre*), rel. L. *vipera* VIPER, the more normal OF descendant of L *vipera* is *vivre*, the weever (whence VIVERI, QUAVIVER), mod.F. *vive*. The fish was called 'viper' from its venomous spines see quot. 1622 ] A fish of the genus *Trachinus* or family *Trachinidæ*, common on the coasts of Europe, esp *T. draco*, the Greater, and *T. vipera*, the Lesser Weever. They have sharp dorsal and opercular spines with which they can inflict painful wounds

1688 DRAYTON *Ivby oft* xxv 167 The Weauer which although his prickles venom bee, By Fishers cut away which Buyers seldom see 1686 MOUFET *Theat Insects* 1178 Aranetus or Weaver, or Wiver 1747 MRS GLASSE *Cookery* ix 88 To Broil Weavers. 1752 HILL *Hist Animals* 263 The famous The Weever 1796 SMOLLETT *Trav* I xviii 298 Here too are found the *tyre*, or, as we call it weever remark'd for its long, sharp spines, so dangerous to the fingers of the fishermen 1830 *Penc Boys Nat Club* I 7 I'll see an the greater weaver and the tadpole fish 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 171 It was the Lesser Weever

*Comb* 1867 J G WOOD *Intellect Pop Nat Hist* III 97 The Great Weever, or Weever Fish

**Weevil** (*wī*·vl, *wi*·vil) Forms: *a* 1 *wibil*, *wibul*, *wifel*, 5 *wyvyl*, -*oil*, 6 *wyvel*(1 *e*, 6–7 *wivel*(1 5 *wevel* -*yl*, 6 *wevell* (*wew*-), -*yll*, 6–7 *wevill*, 6–8 *wevil* , 6 *weavill* (7 -*ll*), 6–7, 9 *weevel* (7 -*ell*), 6 *weevell*, 6– *weevil* (6–7 -*ill*). *β dial.* 7 *wibel*, -*ill*, 9 *wibble*; 8–9 *weeble*, 9 *weabel*. *γ dial.* 7 *whule*, 8–9 *whool*, 9 *wheul*, *whewl*, *wule*, *weuel*, *yule*. [OE *wifel* masc, beetle, corresp. to OS (*gold-*)*smvnl* glowworm, MLG. *wevel*, OHG *wibil*, *wipil* beetle, chafer, ON. *vifill* in *tordyfill* dung-beetle (MSw. pl. *torddoffla*, Sw. *tordyfvel*, Norw. *tordivel*, cf. OE. *tordunfel*) —OTeut **webilo-z*, f. **web-* to move about briskly (see WAVE *v.*) or **web-* to WEAVE, 'from the filaments spun for the larva-case' (Skeat) From the same root is the synonymous OE. *wibba* (—**webjon-*) beetle, glowworm

For the special phonology in English of *beetle* repr OE *bitela* the OF i when lengthened in an open syllable became *e* in ME The *β* and *γ* forms illustrate normal dialectal alterations of the *ē*

In the 16th and 17th c some writers app confused the name of the weevil with that of the weevil, using *weasil*, *weesel*, for the insect, see the quotations under WEEZEL.

1 In OL., a beetle of any kind, in later use, any beetle classed under the group *Rhyncophora*, the larvæ of which, and sometimes the beetles themselves, are destructive by boring into grain, fruit, nuts, the bark of trees, etc ; esp. a beetle belonging to any of the numerous species of the family *Curculionidæ*, the true weevils, also one belonging to the families *Brenthidæ* and *Bruchidæ*.

The best known are the corn weevil, *Calandra granaria*, a small red beetle that does much damage in granaries by boring into the grains of corn in order to lay out its eggs, and the NUT WEEVIL. For *clover*, *gra n*, *palm*, *pea*, *rice-weevil* see those words.

c 725 *Corpus Gl* (Hessels) C 152 *Curiarus*, wibil *Ibid* P 110 *Lupida*, wifl a 1000 *Rid Ælfric* MS 73 (Gr) Is þeo gores sunu gonge hrædra Pone we wifel wordum nemnað c 1440 *Promp Parv* 522/2 Wevyl or malte bonde (Which MS *curculio*) 1455 *Rolls of Parl* V 324/1 Whether in Malt be bid or good, til is cast togeder in soo grete a multitude, that noo man can kepe it from Wormes called Wevels. 1530 PALSGR *Introductor* (Camden) 21 Also that you gar the malt be windowed or at be laid in any garners, for elis there will brede wyvolls in it 1598 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) 11 Ther is the wyvils within the malte with wevells. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi (1617) 284 The Husbandman createth not the wiuell in the Corne 1623 T SCOT *Vox Populi* 78 Mothes are no worse in cloth, nor in yron nor wholes in Mault, then these in the Commonwelth 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 696 A Worm called a Wevill that breedeth upon Roats 1628 MAY *Virg Georg* I 10 There little Vessells heapes of corne destroy 1741 *Compl Fam Piece* II 284 Your Malt not having had Time to contract Wevils, and the Insect that breeds out the Heart of the Grain 1750 W ELLIS *Country Housewife Fam Compan* 7 Whoofs, or Wevils, or Maggots, may be screened and sifted from the Flower 1760 R BROWN *Compl Farmer* 91 Pease are very apt to breed worms, wevils, and mites 1827 KIRBY & ST *Ent* III xxiii 3 2 The whole tribe of wevils (*Curculionidæ*) 1834 *Penny Cyc Diemen's Land Ann* 70 In the month of May South Wales is seldom sue months old before it is affected with the weevil 1863 J G WOOD *Illustr Nat Hist* III 474 We now arrive at a vast group of beetles, containing several thousand species, which are popularly classed under the name of Weevils. 1883 STEVEN SON *Treas Isl* iv, If you had the pluck of a weevil in a biscuit you would eat them still

*b collect. sens.*

1866 *Standard* 16 July 5 The plaintiff stated that he found the malt contained weevil, a very destructive insect 1908 *Annual Report* (Board of Agriculture Office) 99 Beans should be hard and dry and free from weevil

*c fig* and in fig Context.

1598 E GUILPIN *Skiad*, Sat VI E 3, If that some weevil, maskes worms, barky sap Hearing my lines hailing across my ink kanne, Sweares them for good 1793 WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Epist Peter* 179 The French are downright devils. In heavenly wraps, and I destructive weevils!

2 Applied to other insects or their larvæ

1589 J WRIGHT *Meth Watering Meadows* (1790) 41 One of the ewes was killd, and its liver was putrid, and replete with the insect called the Fluke or Weevil

1901 *Country Life Illustr* 16 July 72 The weevil tribe. 1891 DAVIS *Dese Man* II viii (1890) 208 In some weevil beetles there is a great difference between the male and female in the length of the antennæ, constituting an anour 1890 *Naturalist Herald* 26 July 2/4 Sheepmen.— Bir ken and weevil d mmaged skins bring from 18d to 31d per lb

**Weevilled** (*wī*·vld), *a.* [f. WEEVIL + -ED] Infested with weevils

1901 *Cantiana Soc* Mar 409 The system which flogged the men and fed them on weevilled biscuit.

**Weevily** (*wī*·vli), *a.* Also 8 **weavely**, 9 **weevilly.** [f WEEVIL + -Y ¹] Infested with weevils

1737 W THOMPSON *R N Advoc* 21 Rotten, musty, weavely Flour 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) V 280, I sincerely h pe no weevily b read will be sent 1859 SALA *Two Round Clocks* (1861) 365 Men who are sometimes brought to live when on shipboard upon weevily biscuit that breaks the teeth 1889 MRS C PRAED *Romance of Station* 45 I threw out (to the hens) a handful of weevily rice 1891 C ROBERTS *Adrift Amer* 6 Some old salt who has forgotten the tough salt horse and weevilly biscuit

**Weevle,** *v rare*⁻¹ [f. WEEVIL *sb* ] *refl* To wriggle (oneself) *out*

1889 A T PASK *Eyes of Thames* 234 The small boy weevles himself out from the boxes

**Weese** : see WEESE.

† **Weesel** (also 6 **weasell**), erron. var. of WEEVIL.

a 1533 BERNERS *Golden Bk M. Aurel.* (1535) 101 Nor the darnell amonges the corne, nor the weasell amonge the grayn, dothe so muche the domage 1897 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* I 268 The Corn devouring Weesel [L *curculio*] here abides, And the wase Ant her wintry Store provides

† **Wee zle.** *Obs.* Forms 6 **weessel**, -**zill**, 6–7 **weesell**, -**ill**, -**yll**, **weesell**, -**zil**(l, **weasill**, **weesill**, **7 weasell**, **wissel**(l, 8 **weesle**. [First recorded in the 16th c., but perh. repr an OE. **wisīsel*, corresponding to G. dial *wassel* —WGer.**wastsīlo-*, from the same root as WEASAND. Substitution of *-el* for *-en* is however possible ]

1. The trachea or windpipe : = WEASAND 2.

1538 ELYOT *Dict*, *Curcutio*, the wesyll of the throte of a man, wherby he drawyth wynde 1579 &c NORTH *Plutarch, Demosthenes* (1595) 908 But what men haughtily at his fine excuse, iolde him it was no sauncke that had stopped his wesill that night, as he would make them beleeue ? a 1597 FERLE *Dar id & Bethsab* (1598) B iiv, The mastiues of our land, shall werry ye, And pull the weesels from your greedy throtes 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 174 The Weasill or Wind pipe 1639 MAYNE *City Match* III iv Death you Pander, Forbid the banes or I will cut your wizzell

b *Comb*

1632 tr *Bruel's Pr ctis Med* 198 Blood if it doe come from the throate, or weasell pipe it is vopyed by I eaning 1847 LILLY *Life Astrol* xliv 565 The Weasell-zipe of a man 3 throat or Lung pipe 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit* III 34 From the Weesle pipe to the Joynt of the Neck

2. The epiglottis

1594 T B *La Primaud Fr Acad* II 86 The weesell of the throte, which is a litle fleshy and spongie bodie, in figure like to a pine apple, hanging at it end of the palat 1598 FLORIO, *Epiglottis*, the coner or weasill of the throte 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX IX II 51 The ashes of the root being burnt, cure the Vvula or swelling of the weasill in the throat 1672 H M tr *Erasm Colloq* 440 The Weasil, or throat-pipe, which tongue as we have, nor has he a weesil [L. *nec (aiunt) epiglottis*]

**Weezon,** obs form of WEASAND.

**Wef,** obs form of WEAVE *v.*, var WEEF, WEFE

**Wefie, wefel,** var. forms of WEVEL, altar.

**Wefle,** var. of WEAVE *v* obs.

**Wefore,** obs. form of WEAVER 1.

**Weff,** obs. Sc. form of WEAVE *v.*

† **Weffe** 1. *Obs.* Forms. 3–4 **wef**, 4–5 **weef**(*e*, 4–6 **weffe**. [Of obscure etymology; represented later by *weft* WAFT *sb* ¹ 1.]

1 A (foul or unsavoury) scent or odour = WAFT *sb* ¹ 1 *b*. Cf. WHIFF *sb* ¹ 3.

a 1300 *Body & Soul* (Laud MS) in *Anglia* V 202 Þe wlatsum *Poems* (Camden) 139 And nou so lodly thou list greinie, fro the comeþ a wikke wef 13 *Ibid* (Vernon MS) 342 A wikked wef 13 *Metr Hom* (Vernon MS) in *Archiv Stud neu Sprach* LVII 288 Wormes in þe mouth þat of þat loth [= corpse] wef nedde he nouȝt c 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 (MS K.) Weffe *vapor*

2. Flavour, taste, all-savour : = WAFT *sb* ¹ 1 *a*. Cf. WHIFF *sb* ¹ 3 *b*

c 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Weef [*Winch MS.* Weefe], or summe what semynge to badnesse, *vncinnacio a malum* 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Weffe taste, *saveur* 1611 COTGR. Ne mat away with this ale, it hath a weffe *elle est de mas tuaye goust*

† **Weffe** 2. *Obs* —1 [f. WEVE *v.*] A blow or cut (Cf WAFF *sb.* 3.)

13 *Cœur de L* 1593 He took to hys mace off bras, And gaff hym a sory weffe, That hys helme al to cleff

† **Weffe** 3, earlier form of *weft* WAFT *sb* ¹ 6 (a small flag waved as a signal)

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial Health & Sickenes* 76 b, Then Artaclue reuite from his ensignarily apparell, making a weffe thereof upon the ende of a pole.

**Weffer,** obs. form of WAFER, WEAVER.

**Weffle,** obs Sc. pa. pple of WEAVE *v.*

**Weffler,** var. WHIFFLER 1.

**Weffome,** obs. form of WEVEN.

**Weft** (weft), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **wefta**, **weft**, **wift**, 4 **wyft**, **weeft**, 4–6 **weffe**, 4– **weft**, 6 **woft**(*e*, 7–9 *Sc.* **woft**, **waft**. [OE. *wefta* wk. masc., *weft* str masc , *? wyft* fem , corresp to ON *veptr* masc , *vipta* fem , weft, MHG *wift* masc. , thread; repr. O Teut types **wefton-*, **wefto-z*, **wefta-z*, f. **web-* to WEAVE.]

1 *Weaving.* The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp threads with which they are interlaced . = WOOF 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) D 57 *Deposite* weffe a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX 263 He sceal fela tola to tune tilian & fela seldlonena to husan habban & fela wiftan. fealanan, spinle, reol, scearnwinde, wefle, weftcamb, [etc.] c 1200 *Gloss* in *Wr Wülcker* 587/32 *Deposite*, wefta, *uel* weft 1382 WYCLIF *Gen* XIV 23 A threed of the weft *Ibid Exod.* XXXIX 3 He made thredes of golde, that thei myȝten be platted with the weft of the rather colours 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* XVIII 81 (Bodl MS.), Sif þe weffe in þrokes ben beggynge to amende it. 24 *Note* in W Wülcker 696/21 *Hec trama* a weffe 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 52 Weffe, wofte, *stamen* *Ibid* 137 Yᵉ Woft of a web, *subtegmen* 1615 MARKHAM *Engl Husman* II iii 89 The one they call warpe, the other weft, or els Woofe 1699 *Ordnay Welch Triall in County of Ielk Lore* (1903) III 78 Christiane Read in Cleet cam in new mad errand and stiking weft to ane web 1864 FOWLER *Exp Indicis* 1. 46 In the Silk Ribbons, you might plainly see the Contexture, how the Warp and the Weft

cross one another at right Angles. 1747 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxi, She…wets it—dries it—then takes her teeth to both warp and weft of it. 1788 Picken *Poems Scot. Dial.* 108 Glaas., *Weft*, wool. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxii, And we have many of foreign knacks Of finer weft than woo' or flax. 1832 Hy. Martineau *Manch. Strike* ix. 106 My father used to…set my mother to card and spin the raw cotton for the weft. 1860 Smiles *Self Help* iii. 34 'Blackburn Greys,' consisting of linen wefwand cotton warp. 1867 Morris *Jason* xv. 360 And Exadius left The casting of the fine wool for the weft. 1876 Rock *Text. Fabr.* v. 41 Bagdad or Baldak silks, with a weft of gold, known among us as 'baudekins'.

*fig.* 1585 *Mirr. Mag., Richard Duke* xx, Of ambicion behold the works [*Tread* warpe] and weft, Prouoking me to do this bounteous treason. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 Wouldst thou…untwist all the Threads of the warp and the waft of the weav'd Sister Parques?

**b.** The strips of cane, palm-leaf, straw, etc. used as the filling, in weaving baskets, mats, etc. Also, the woven fabric.

1845 *Trad. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. i. 272 Many workmen thought nearly force their feet between the weft or horizontal branches of the hurdle. 1859 C. Williams *Narr. & Adv. Trav. Africa* xvii. 289 Flags, reeds, and bulrushes…are woven…into mats, and so close is their weft that neither light, nor wind…can penetrate it. 1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 1015 For these purposes wires… may be used as the warp and straw or cane as the weft, or other materials being the weft. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Straw-fabric Loom.* A loom for making goods the weft of which is straw.

**2.** Yarn to be used for the weft-threads.

1793 Aikin *Country Round Manchester* 233 Employed in spinning cotton wefts for check-makers. 1802 *Bancks's Manch. & Salford Directory* 54 Bancks, Richard and Co. dealers in twist, weft, &c. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 677 All sorts of wefts, from the lowest to the highest numbers, are now spun by means of this machine. 1898 *Daily News* 10 May 6/5 Cotton wefts…have been dealt in to a larger extent than for weeks back. 1900 *Times* 29 July 12/3 Doubled wefts are offered at easy prices; single wefts are dull.

**3.** That which is spun or woven.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lv. (1495) 896 Certen smalle wormes as it were attercoppes…done appyne and weue and make webbes and weftes for the hoty conelles. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 52/45 Weffe, wofte, *stamen*. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 381 Then Weavers stretch your Steys upon the Weft. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Weft*, a thing woven; as *A Weft of Hair*. 1799 H. Gurney *Cupid & Psyche* xx. 44 See those crones that on the left Weave the many-colour'd weft. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* ii. 192 Let thy weft lie of one woof and warp. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Trachin.* 675 The investiture O' the robe, a weft of wool, fleecy and white.

**b.** *fig.* and in figurative context.

*c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxi. 64 In helle is shewed euell-spon-nen wyft. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 435 Yey, ill spon weft ay comes foule out. 1719 Hamilton *Ep. to Ramsay* 29 Luly, I'm unco wiry, and dirt feart I mak' wrang waft. 1884 Swinburne *Atalanta* 738 The weft of the world was untorn That is woven of the day on the night. 1891 'R. Boldrewood' *Squatter's Dream* xi. 91 I cannot unravel the weft of it. I've made and helped to make a sight of victual in my day, and now [etc.].

**4.** Transferred uses. †**a.** A film formed over the eye. *Obs.*

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 209 The ashes of the head of a black Cat…put into the eye…helps the haw, weft, and web in the eye. *Ibid.* 105 The gall [of the Rock-goat] cureth the weft in the eye.

**b.** A layer of closely interwoven hyphæ produced in certain fungi; also a 'mat' of hairs on the stem or leaf of a plant.

1879 Cooke *Fungi* ii. 26 Certain filaments of the weft of the fungus. 1879 *Academy* 11 Jan. 33/1 The access of…injurious insects to the flower is prevented…by the dense weft of woolly hairs which covers the stem and leaves. 1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* v. 31 The peripheral portion of the delicate hyphal weft…takes an active part in the further growth.

**c.** (See quot.)

1847 Halliwell, *Weft*, …(5) The ground of a wig.

**5.** A streak of cloud; a thin layer of smoke or mist. Cf. Waft *sb.*[1] 2 d, Waff *sb.*[3]

*a* 1820 Shelley *Queen of My Heart* ii, And thy beauty more bright Than the stars' soft light, Shall seem as a weft from the sky. 1889 Symonds *Coll. Poems* 97 Exceedingly soft and grey, with rose-tinted weft of steam upon its summit, stood Vesuvius above us in the twilight. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 477 The mountains…opposite were just enough illumined to let one see the wefts and floating veils of blue-white mist upon them.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weft cop* (Cop *sb.*[2] 3), *dealer, thread, warehouse, winding, yarn*; **weft-finger** (*Knitting*), the forefinger; **weft fork** (or **-pronged** *weft stopper*; (*b*) (see quot. 1875); **weft-hook** (see quot.); **weft line**, flax (see **Line** *sb.*[1] 1 b) for the manufacture of weft-thread; **weft (stop) motion, stopper**, a device that automatically causes a stoppage of the loom when the weft-thread breaks or fails; **weft-way** (see quot.).

1882 *Weft* cop [see Twist *sb.*[1] 22]. 1892 *Daily News* 26 July 7/1 There is only a small demand for twist and weft cops for the home trade. 1802 *Bancks's Manch. & Salford Directory* 34 *Weft* and twist dealer. 1880 [Mrs. Flower] *Plain Hints Needlework* 37 The…fore, or '*weft*,' finger; the thumb, or 'rest:' the second, or 'position' finger. 1832 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 329 Improvements in the manufacture of 'weft forks' for looms. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Weft-fork*, one used in certain kinds of looms where the filling is laid in, one piece at a time. 1898 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 2/1 As soon as either thread breaks the machine is stopped immediately by the weft forks. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Weft-hook*, one for drawing in the filling in the case of slat-weaving looms and some forms of narrow-ware and ribbon looms. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 9/4 The rangs of 'weft lines continues unchanged at 32. 1846 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* ii. (1857) 410 That part of the loom known as the 'weft motion' for stopping the loom when the weft breaks. 1878 A. Barlow *Hist. Weaving* xxiv. 361 The fork and grid 'weft stop motion.' 1839 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* (1861) 208 An improved 'weft stopper for two or more shuttles. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 177/1 Into this shed…he throws the shuttle containing the 'weft-thread. 1802 *Bancks's Manch. & Salford Directory* 54 Twist, 'weft and calico warehouse. 1888 C. P. Brooks *Cotton Manuf.* 168 *Weft-way*, yarn twisted over to the right in spinning. Weft may be either twist-way or weft-way. 1863 B. Woodcroft *Brief Biogr.* 44 A 'weft-winding engine. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be spun into warp-yarn and 'weft yarn, each of peculiar grit.

† **Weft**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **waift, wayft**, 7–8 **waft.** Variant or perversion of Waif *sb.*[1]

1579 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1893) XI. 196 Claiming the ship and goodes as a weft dewe to the lordes of the soile. *Ibid.* 247. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* iii. st. 36 The gentle Lady…did…wander wide At wilde aduenture, like a forlorne weft. 1596 *Ibid.* iv. ii. 4. *Ibid.* iv. xii. 32 For that a waift [i. e. Florimell], the which the vncouth cane Vpon your coast, he clayme'd as propertie. 1591 *Art. conc. Admiralty* 21 July § 46 Those, which vpon the high Seas, haue found any…Boates forsaken, or wayfts, driuing, or floating, without any creature in them. 1598 R. Jonson *Ert. Man and Hum.* i. ii. The Lord of the soile ha's al wrecks and straies here? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Elder Brother* iv. iv, You are Lord o' the soile Sir, Luly is a Weft, a Strale, she's yours, to use Sir. 1678 Dryden *Limberham* v. i, Do you know that I am Lady of the Mannour; and that all Wrecks and Strays belong to me? *a* 1680 Butler *Characters* (1908) 127 His Belly is provided for,…his Back…takes other Courses to maintain itself by weft and stray Silver Spoons, straggling Hoods and Scarfs, etc.). 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Weft*, (1729) 532 It is as a waft, or stray, that belongs only to the head landlord of the world, to whom therefore you must restore it. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. ii. 218, 408 The Cases compriz'd under the Admiralty Court of Scotland, are these among others…Wafts, and Strays, and Deodands, and Wrecks. 1838 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 360 Farther corrections I shall make for a posthumous edition, in which also I shall embody some wefts and strays.

**Weft** (weft), *v. rare.* Also *Sc.* **waft.** [f. Weft *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To form a weft or web; to interlace the weft with the warp. Hence **Wefting** *vbl. sb.*

1789 Burns *2nd Epist. Lapraik* viii, Ne'er mind how Fortune waft an' warp. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Jan. 8/2 The warping, wefting, milling and finishing occupied 3h. 15 min.

**Weft,** Sc., dial., and Naut. form of Waft *sb.*[1]

**Weft,** obs. pa. pple. of Weave *v.*

† **Weftage** [*f. weft* vbl. Weft *v.*[1] + -age.] Conveyance: = Waftage.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 175 The naturall faculty needeth no vehicle or weftage, because it is inbred in euery part.

**Weftage** [we·ftēdʒ). [f. Weft *sb.*[1] + -age.] The arrangement of the threads of a woven fabric. Chiefly *transf.*

1681 Grew *Museum* I. ii. 3 Whereby also the weftage of the fibers…of the Muscules might more easily…be observed. 1706 G. Adams *Microgr.* xxxvii. 8 (1746) 90 The Weftage of the Fibres [of wood]. 1901 F. E. Taylor *Folk-Sp. S. Lanc.* (E. D. D.), *Weftage*, the texture of woven cloth.

**Wefted** (we·ftĕd), *a.* [f. Weft *sb.*[1] + -ed.] Composed of the woven hyphæ.

1901 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 534/1 The thallus…is…composed of…cell-filaments, with apical growth (hyphæ), or of more or less complex wefted sheets or tissue-like masses of such threads.

**Wefty** (we·fti), *a. rare.* [f. Weft *sb.*[1] + -y[1].] Of the nature of a weft (of thread, filament, vapour).

1869 W. Barnes *J. Poole's Clost. Eng. Colony Forth & Bargy, Wexford*, s.v., *Wefty*, webby, cobwebby. 1876 J. W. Mandeville *Malbone* II. ix. 179 There stood a gaunt form pale But regal…His brow Was circled by a wefty coronet.

**Wegg(e,** obs. forms of Wedge.

**Wegh,** var. Wye *Obs.*, a river: obs. f. Wey.

**Weggh,** obs. form of Weigh *v.*

**Weght,** obs. form of Weight *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

**Wegion, -yon,** obs. ff. Widgeon.

**Wegotism** (wī·gŏtiz'm). [A jocular formation on We and Egotism.] An obtrusive and too frequent use of the first person plural by a speaker or writer.

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 424 A more trifling matter of objection is the use of the plural form [we] throughout in speaking of himself…In an individual preacher…it seems a strange assertion of propriety: and if used to avoid egotism, leads to that which it would if we did not too much mistrust…that we might jocularly style *Wegotism*. 1821 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Cleas & Gertr.* I. Introd., We may have blended '*egotism* and *egotism*;' but Cleas writes 'diverem' and 'scripsimus', 1882 H. J. Jennings *Curiosities of Criticism* 136 What has been called the 'wegotism' of the press.

**Wehee** (whē·), *int.* and *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *a.* 4 wehe (4 wey); 4 **wehee**, 6–7 **weehee**, 7 **wehe, weahae**; 9 *Nc.* **wahaw**. *B.* 4 **whi** (7 **whi**), 6 **wyhie, wigh-hie**, 6–7 **wihy**, 7 **whee (whhi-hhee)**, 7–9 **dial. wighee.** [Echoic.]

*A. int.* A conventional representation of the sound uttered by horses.

1366 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 94 (MS. T.) As wilde beatis wip wehe worb vp togederes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 146 When the hors was loos, he gynneth gon Toward the fen, ther wilde Mares renne Forth with wehee [*v.r.* wehe]. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 477 And Annot wolde be nyce, and laughes, 'tehe, wehe'. 1590 *Triall of Treasure* E iij, We, he, he, he, ware the horse heles I saye. 1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* iv. ii. 194 Hee neither would cry wyhie, nor wag the taile. 1603 Dekker *Patient Grissill* 367 So they can crie wighee and hollow, kicking lads. 1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* i. i. 30 One cannot crie 'wehie'; but straight shee [your Barbarie mare] cries 'tihi'. 1664 [see Tehee *int.*]. *c* 1690 *Rerb. Ballads* (1890) VII. 56 The Tapster bid them welcome then, and wee-hae did cry.

**b.** Used to a horse.

1822 Macnaggart *Gallov. Encycl.* 472 *Wehaw!* a cry which displeases horses. 1847 Halliwell, *Wighee*, an exclamation to horses.

**B.** *sb.* An utterance of this sound; a whinny or neigh.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 31 Sit wol he make moni a whi [*v.r.* many (a) wehe, wey] er he come pere. *c* 1385 *Wyf for Age* 26 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 418 Such habaes, trehees, weehees, wild colts play. 1592 *Def. Conny-Catching* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) IX. 59 The olde Chuffe comming an hower before Supper time,…for an amorous wehe or two, as olde Jades wynnie when they cannot wagge the tayle. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Humm.* ii. i, There's ne're a Gentleman i' the countrey hav the like humors for the Hobby-horse as I have? I haue the Methode for the threeding of the needle,…and the wigh-hie, and the daggers in the Nose,…all the Humors included in the Hobby-horse. 1618 Fletcher *Women Pleas'd* iv. i, His [the hobby-horse's] lewd whihes. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes To Don.*-Ryskinnade looks for your Tih-hees, and you but hanse his Whi-hhees. 1673 *Char. Coffee-House* 6 To…make an Oration to Caligula's Horse, whence you can only expect a weehee or Jadish spurn.

† **Wehee,** *v. Obs.* [From the *int.*] *intr.* = 6–7 **wihy, 7 wighie, wiby, wybee, weyhey.** [I. prec.] To neigh or whinny, as a horse does.

1599 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* iii. (1602) F 2, Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. 1606 — *Parasit. & Soldr.* Ci b, At that can we[y]hee like a horse. 1611 — *Dutch C.* i. i, Yet grieuous paines of their backe sommond to be assistant in that Session…loue. 1615 [Hoby] *Curry-Combe for Coxe-Combe* iv. 156 Tis an ill Horse that can neyther wey-hey, nor wagge his taile. 1618 Rowlands *Night Raven & Countryman* (Grosart) 8, 2 The young Colts wighie at their parting with their Fillies. 1668 Davenant *Rivals* iii. 36 Tho' lightly on the hobby-horse and jingling, and wihying, and with the rest to prance—Sirs. 1847 Halliwell, *Wiby*, neigh.

**Wehl,** obs. form of Wail *v.*[1]

**Wehrgeld, -gelt** : see Wergild.

**Wehrwolf** : see Werwolf.

**Wehte,** pa. t. of Weche *v. Obs.*

**Wehy,** var. Wy *Obs.*, a man.

**Wei,** obs. f. Way, Weigh, Wey, Whey, Woe.

**Weid(e** : see Weed *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[1], Weie *v.*, Wide *adv.*

**Weidenagemoot,** obs. form of Witenagemot.

**Weido,** obs. Sc. form of Widow.

**Weie,** obs. form of Way, Weigh *v.*, Wey, Whey.

**Weierstrassian** (vaɪ-əstrā·siăn), *a. Math.* [f. name of Karl W. *Weierstrass* (1815–97), an eminent German mathematician + -(i)an.] Pertaining to or invented by Weierstrass, esp. *Weierstrassian function.*

1878 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1896) X. 434 We have thus in all 21 equations which exhibit the form of the Weierstrassian functions $\sigma(u, v, w)/v$, …, $\sigma(u, v, w)/w$. 1884 Daniels in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* VI. 202 The Weierstrassian proof of this…is as follows. 1901 Osgood in *Ann. Math.* II. 122 The Weierstrassian function Φ.

**Weiete,** obs. form of Wet *v.*

**Weiff,** f, obs. Sc. forms of Weave *v.*[1]

**Weife,** obs. form of Wife.

‖ **Weigela, Weigelia** (wəidʒī·lă, -ī·liă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. name of C. E. *Weigel*, a German physician (1748–1831).] A genus of caprifoliaceous shrubs from China and Japan cultivated for its flowers, now commonly merged in *Diervilla*; a plant of this genus.

1846 *Trail. Horticultural Soc.* I. 68 A Weigela…from the North of China. 1851 Glenny *Handbk. Fl. Garden* (1855) 101 Weigela. Very handsome hardy deciduous shrubs, adapted for planting against ornamental walls. 1870 W. Cook *Lect. & Pract.* (1897) 384 Weigelia is out in glory. 1880 *Garden* 18 Mar. 184 All the Weigelas delight in a good, free soil.

† **Weige'lian,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [f. the proper name *Weigel* (see below) + -ian.] *A. sb.* A follower or adherent of the German mystic Valentin Weigel (1533–88). *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to Weigel, his opinions or followers.

1687 Baxter *Present Ts.* 4 The persons holding this third Opinion are the Paracelsians (from whom I cannot exhend the Weigelians and the rest of the Enthusiasts). 1696 W. Hubbard *Happin. People* 28 No man, unless a Weigelian Sectpick, ever did account Moses less fit to be a Leader unto Israel because he was learned in all the wisdome of the Egyptians.

**Weigh** (wēi), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wǽg(e, wǽs, 2 weiġe, 3 weie, 4 waye, weih, weȝe, 4–5 weigh.e, 5, 9 wee, 5–7, 9 *dial.* wey, 6 wey, 7–9 way, 9 *dial.* weigh. [OE. *wæġ* str. fem., *wæs* wk. fem. (both meaning 'balance' and 'weight'; see Wey), corresp. to OS. *wâgo* (MLG. *wâge*, MDu. *wâghe*, Du. *waag*; see Waw *sb.*[2]), OHG. *wâga* (MHG. *wâge*, mod.G. *wage*), ON. *vâg* (Sw. *våg*, Da. *vaag*):—OTeut. **wāgō-, -ōn.* f. **wag-* (: **weg-* : **wag-*): see Weigh *v.*]

†1. A regular unit of measure. *Obs.* (For the word as the name of a particular denomination of weight, see WEY.)

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 78 *Pondus*, byrðen oððe wæge [*v. r.* wæg]. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 God us forbeit þat we ne sculen þahwile weiȝe ne twifeald imett.

2. A balance, pair of scales. †*a. sing. Obs.*

*a* 1050 *Liber Scintillæ.* xxiv. (1889) 97 Wordu sohlice motera on wæge beoð *waegscealu* [*Exodus* xxi. 2 *statera pondera-bunt*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Auh seint Austin deð þeos two boðe in one weie, wihnen, & habe wille uorte been twilned. 1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Þe wordes of þe wyse byeþ y-weyȝe ine þe weye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 947 Þou waltres al in a weih & wel y vnderstande whider he belaunce bremliest houwes al-gate. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xi. 1 A treccherous weye [Vulg. *statera*] abominacioun is anent God. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 Then come thyike brennet dekon, and layde a grete pot on be wey be whech anon weyit vp al togedyr.

*b. plural* (sometimes construed as *sing.*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* ¶Also, the zodiacal constellation Libra.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxi. 10 *Mendaces filii hominum in stateris*, lease bearn monna in wegum. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 548/16 *Trutina*, wæȝa. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Ixi.* 9 Leighers in weighere, þat is, in þe weighes of right-wisnes. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 74 Herwest lyggynnes whenne þe sonne entrys þe first degree of þe tokenynge of weghes. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 701 Pap Silvestir gart þaim be layide In til a weyis. 1480–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 97, j par Weez lign. cum ponderibus. 1530 *Rec. Convoc. Ancrd. Reg.* (1841) 151 Ane pair of woll weyiss, ane pair of ballendis of brass. 1558 Lynnekay *Monarche* 2286 Sanct Mychaell, with his wyngis and weyis. 1573 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1888) II. 20 A pair of weyis with ballis, pryce xl.li. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 The kitchinge..A pair weyes and wyghts, iis. vj d. *c* 1585 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xviii. 11 Hald evin the Weyis. 1589 Sinclair *Reg. Magj., Bannerm Lawes* c. 125 § 3 The heire..sall haue..ane flasll, the weyes [*l. stateres*], with the wechts, [etc.]. 1808 Jamieson, *Weire, Weyri*, a balance with scales for weighing. 1825 *Ibid.*, Weyes, Wees.

*c. Sc.* (See quot.)

1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Weighs*, a weigh-bridge: a waggon-weighing machine.

3. A pole borne on the shoulders of two men, for carrying a water-vessel. ? *Obs.* Also *wey and bolkins* (dial.): see quot.

1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. xiv. (Roxb.) 11/2 A Runge or Soe: which is a kind of vessell that Tanners, Glouers, and Beere-brewers use to carry Water in, being borne on a Wey or pole betweene two men. 1846 W. Barnes *Poems Rural Life* Glos. 368 *Wey an' bodkins*, a set of spreaders for hitching two horses to the end of a pull of harrows. The first, the *Wey*, is fastened at its middle to the plough or harrow by a *cops*..and the *bodkins* are connected by a crook on their middle to *clipsis* on the two ends of the wey.

**Weigh**, *sb.*2 In *under weigh*, a common way of *under way*, from erroneous association with the phr. 'to weigh anchor'. See WAY *sb.*1 38.

1785 Cumberland *Observer* xii (ix.) P 7 This perverse wind has at last..come about to the east, so that we are all in high spirits getting under weigh. 1798 *Hist. Nor. Exam* I. 182 Mr. Evans stood upon the beach till the packet got under weigh. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxiii, She got under weigh with very little fuss, and came near us as to throw a letter on board. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxii. (1844) II. 2, I embarked..and was glad to get underweigh. 1854 W. C. Armstrong *Warbarks* I. xii. 91 The following morning he embarked with his attendant, O'Regan, on board The Royal Anne, which got under weigh shortly after.

**Weigh** (wē), *v.*1 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **weighed** (wēd). Forms: 1 **wegan** (*3rd sing.* **wigeð**, **wihð**; **weȝeð**, **wehð**), 2–4 **weiȝe** (3 *3rd sing.* **weihð**), 3–4 **weȝe**, **weyȝe**, 4 **weȝhe**, 6 **weygh**(e, **weygh**, 6–7 **weighe**, **waigh**, **weigh**; 2–6 **weie**, 3–7 **weye** (5 **wheyhe**, 3–7 *Sc.* **veye**), 4–7 (9 *Sc.*) **wey** (5–7 *Sc.* **vey**); 4–7 **waie**, 5–7 **waye** (5 **whaye**), **way**, 6–7 **weye**; 5–6 *north.* and *Sc.* **wye** (5 **whye**), 7 *Sc.* **wie**; 5 **whe**, 6 *Sc.* **we**, **ve**-, 9 *Sc.* **wee**. *Pa. t. a.* 1 **wæs**, *pl.* **wǽson**, 3 **way**, *pl.* **weȝe**, 4 **wez**, **wey**, **weyȝ**(e, **weygh**, **wayȝ**, **waȝhe**, **weie**, (?**woghe**). *B.* 3–4 **weide** (3 *pl.* **weidenn**), 3–5 **weiede**, 4 **we**(y)**ȝed**(e, etc., 4–7 **weied**, **weyed**, 5–7 **waied**, **waiede**, **waied**, etc., 6– **weighed**. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 **wegen**, 2–3 **iwæiȝen**, 4 **yweȝe**, **weyen**, (*i-*), (**y**)**wey**(e, (1)**weis**; 5 **wawyn**, **wewyn**, **wowne**. *B.* 4 **yweid**, (1)**weied**, **weȝed**, 4–7 **weyed**, 5 **weiede**, 5–6 **weyd**, 6 **wei**(e)**d**, **wayed**, **wayd**(e, etc., 7– **weighed**. [A Com. Teut. strong verb: OE. *wegan* (*wæg*, *wægon*, *wegen*) corresponds to OFris. *wega*, *wein* to move, weigh, OSax. *wegan* to weigh, (M.)Du. *wegen* (o) weigh, OHG. *wegan* to move, shake, weigh (MHG. *wegen*; mod.G. has *bewegen* to move, while the simple verb is represented by the two verbs *wägen* trans., to weigh, *wiegen* intr., to weigh, be of a certain weight), ON. *vega* to lift, weigh (Sw. *väga*, Da. *veie*, to weigh), Goth. *ga-wigan* (only Luke vi. 38 in pa. pple. fem. *gawigana* shaken). The Teut. root **weg-*, **wag-*, **wig-* (for words representing the several grades see WAY *sb.*; WAG *v.*, WAGON, WAIN, WAW *sb.*1 and *v.*1; WEIGH *sb.*1, WEY) is:—Indogermanic **wegh-*, **wogh-*, **wigh-*, found in Skr. *vah*, L. *vehere* to carry, Gr. *ὀχος*, *ὄχεσθαι* vehicle.

The remarkably early appearance of the weak conjugation was prob. due to confusion with Weigh *sb.*1; the two OE. verbs *wegan* and *wecgan* coincided in the form *wegeð* of the 3rd sing. pres. (though the former verb had also the more normal *to* infin.). The strong inflexion of the pa. t. died out in the 14th century, and that of the pa. pple. in the 15th.]

I. To bear, carry, hold up; to have, to weigh, lift.

†1. *trans.* To bear, from one place to another; to carry, transport. *Obs.*

In quots. 13 .. ¶To carry sound and serve (wine).

*Beowulf* 1207 Hē þa fætwe wæȝ..ofer yðа ful. *c* 1000 *Narratiuncule* (1861) 9 Micel mannigeo elpenda þe þe gold wæȝon & ladodon. 13 .. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1420 So faste þay weȝed to him wyne, hit warmed his hert. *Ibid.* 1508 Wyse wyn in his won, wrassayl, he cryes. 13 .. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1203 Wyger he walle wyn weyed to hem oft.

†2. To bear (arms); to wear (a robe, etc.). *Obs.*

*c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xiii. 77 Ón ðæm selfan hræȝle, ðe he on his breostum wæȝ. *c* 900 *Rede's Hist.* ii. iv. (1891) 133 Hildle he & wæpn mid hine wiereȝe habbenne xcxttred. *c* 1205 Lay. 24471 Heo weȝe on heore honde feouwer sweord of golde. *Ibid.* 26279 Ælc weiede an acoldre sceld wiðe3 þe scheldes. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1093 (Cott.) He mişte bet teche ane bore To weye [*Trin.* here] bohe sheld & spere.

†3. With *up*: To hold up, support. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 He ðe weiþ upp mid his fingre heuene and ierðe.

†4. a. With *up*: To hoist, to lift up. *Obs.*

1241–8 Hoccleve *Dialogue* 402 Right as a theef pat hath wrenches maad..to breke..he dredeþ hath eft his ax to weie, Til pat he trees him weye vp, body and bones. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 1272/2 They tooke the sayd Roode and weyed him vppe and set him in his olde accustomed place. 1699 Wodrow *Sufferings* (1828) III. 229 Some Kouges you may feclip the [Hop-]Pole at the bottom, and resting the joynt thereof on a block of wood, you may weigh up the Pole.

†b. *intr.* To raise anchor. *Obs.*

*c* 1586 Ctess Pembroke *Ps.* cvii. xiv, [God] from want the poure doth waigh.

*c. Naut.* To set up (a mast). *Obs.*

1841 *Encycl. Metropolitana.* 134 *Weigh*, to lift up; as, to weigh an anchor or a mast.

5. *Naut.* To heave up (a ship's anchor) from the ground, before sailing. Now usually *to weigh anchor* (without art.). †Formerly also with *up*, *in*.

13 .. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 103 Cables hay fasten, Wiȝt at þe wyndes wylle anker3 to weye. *Merlin Arth.*, 4 We ryghly one þe wale thay wye up þaire ankers. 1496 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 245/1 Compelling of þe saidis Wegeantis ser-vandis to weye þair ankeris. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1874) I. 108 Come to our shyp our aukers ar in wayde. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 24 Than Cocke wayed anker, and hoyssed vp his sayle. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 48, When the wynde was prosperous..they waied up the Ankers. 1596 W. Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 We wayed our Grapnel and went away. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (1868) 19, I weighed anchor and set sayle. 1632 Lithgow *Travels* II. 45 The windes fauouring vs, we weighed Ankors. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Gothick Wars* I. 21 Constantinople was distant from Epidamnus, 1700 The For *Capt. Singleton* x. (1840) 173 We weighed anchor the same tide, and stood out to sea. 1814 Scott *Lot. of Isles* iii. iv, Cormac Mac..Hoisted his sail to the favouring breeze. 1835 J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* v. 77 We immediately weighed anchor.

*b. fig.*

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 17, I will streight weie anker, and hoyse vp sayle. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* Prol., Our Author weighs up anchors, and once more Forsaking the security of the shore, Resolves to prove his fortune. 1656 St. Germain *Laws Eng. & Ireland* c. 18 Art. 11. As for this sacred Anchor [of Religion] is weighed, so often the Ship of the Common-Wealth is tossed. 1888 *Century Mag.* Sept. 792/2 The time when the seaton has tolled the bell has 'weighed anchor'.

*c. absol.* = to weigh anchor. Hence, to sail (*from*, *out of* a port, etc.).

1513 Sir R. Howard in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. I. 213 We coved yet on Wednesday last wheder we shuld go, or we went to get us in to the Downes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister..bald the marynalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok; so veyrnd thai wey. 1556 W. Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 Wee wayed and set saile. 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) x The 14th in the morning we wayed out of the roade of Bantam for Japan. *a* 1627 Pette in *Archæologia* XII. 20 On Wednesday..we weighed from Limehouse, and anchored right against the Tower. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* i. iv. (ed. 4) 47 On the 3d of November we weighed from Macao road. 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* i. 97 Ere night weigh ninely, which would have occupied fifteen minutes each. 1893 H. M. Doughty *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 20 In the morning we weighed early.

6. To lift (a sunk ship, gun, etc.) from the bottom of the water. Also with *up*.

*a.* *c* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 133 After tyme she was weyed and toued to the hauyn at Calels. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. VI* 208 Leuying the ordinaunce that the master carpenter stayde 'x he would shortely way it out of the water). 1578 W. Bourne *Treas. Trav.* iv. viii. 17 Then it will waygh or lyfte the sunken Shyppe from the bottome. 1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* v. viii. 81 Rules to weigh Ships, or Guns, or any thing else in the Water. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 230 [The diver] could find but one small gun..which he weigh'd and brought ashore. 1777 J. Putnam in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 540 Should the enemy succeed in weighing the chevaux-de-frise, and proceed up the river. 1783 Cowper *Let. to T. Hill* 29 Oct., I must beg leave, however..to mourn..that the Royal George cannot be weighed.

*b.* 1545 Dr. Suffolk in Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 129, I trust by Monday or Twsday..the Mary Rose shalbe wayed upp and saved. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. xcix. 194/2 The Reuenge had in her diuers faire brasse peeces, that were all sunke in the sea, which they of the Island were in good hope to weigh vp againe. 1643 Baker *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 7 A great Gunne..was overthrowne in a deep Pond of water;..the Master Carpenter talking with him a hundred labourers, went and weyed it vp. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 June 1687, A vast treasure, which was sunk in a Spanish galloon..was now weigh'd up by some gentlemen. 1728 S. Gale in *Archæologia* I. 180 *note*, One of these stakes, entire, was actually weighed up between two loaded barges at the time of a great flood. 1760 S. Derrick *Lett.* (1767) I. 16 She was weighed effectually indeed. In the heavy sandy bottom, all attempts to weigh her up have been ineffectual. 1782 Cowper *Loss of Royal George* 23 Weigh the vessel up..Her timbers yet are sound, And the may float again. 1813 *Local Act* 53 *Geo. III* c. lv. § 73 If any Boat..shall be sunk in any Part of the said Canal,..and the Owner..shall not, without loss of Time, weigh or draw up the same.

†*c. intr.* for *refl.* To be raised *up*; to admit of being raised. *Obs.*

1655 W. Hammond *On death of Brother* (No. 9) Only this difference, that sunk downward, this Weigh'd up to bliss.

1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 If the thing sunk be upon Sands or Rocks, it will weigh the better.

II. To balance in the scales; to ascertain the weight of; to consider or compare in this respect.

7. *trans.* To ascertain the exact heaviness of (an object or substance) by balancing it in a pair of scales, or on a steelyard, against a counterpoise of known amount.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xiii. 84 Ælc þæra ðinga, þe man wihð on wæȝan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 374 Xeniim zeeluwne stan & salt stan & ðonne ðu hie wihte. *a* 1100 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Gif hit cheginge be, þe me shule meten oðer weien. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 He wile hes habben wel imotet and il mitet and wel iweiȝet. *c* 1205 Lay. *Arthur* 44 Huanne þo þet zelleþ be wyste purchaceþ and maketh zuo mochе þet þet þing bet me sael weye aseweþ more heuy. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Sam.* xiv. 26 He weiȝide [1388 weighide] the heeris of his heed with two hundred sicliis bi the comoun weist. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 273 When..þe woolle worth weye, woo ȝt þe bynne. *c* 1400 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 346 Pe kynges by whaw wyȝte hit be weyȝe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyn, or weyyd, *ponderatus*, *libratus*. 1469 *Plompton Corr.* (Camden) xx The wheight stone that the wooll was weyed with. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* 155 Are there ballance heere to weigh the flesh? 1613 J. Saris *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 49 A Beame to waye spice with. 1627 Morison *Itin.* iii. 98 The weighing of wares there is set on Table, and taken away, being paid by the weight. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 28 ¶ 9 Engines should be fixed in proper places to weigh chaises as they do weigh waggons. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 179 We have weighed it green, that is, just after mowing, against all the other pasture grasses, and it out-weighs them all. 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* xv. (1842) 287 A graduated transfer jar containing the gas to be weighed. 1863 Miss Bradon *Aurora Floyd* xiii, While the numbers were going up, and the jockeys being weighed. 1894 Sir J. Astley *Life* I. 3 When we were weighed their riders after the morning's work, we found that Peter was giving Foxhall two stone and a half.

*b. absol.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 118 Furst I leornede to lyue a lessun or tweyne, And wikkedliche for to weie was myn oþer lessun. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 122 Libra..hath figure and resemblance Unto a man which in his hond hath hise hondes forto weie. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iii. vii. (1883) 138 And by the potte and elle ben signefyed them that haue the charge to weye and mete and measure truely.

o. In Horse-racing. *To weigh out*, *in*: to take the weight of (a jockey) respectively before and after a race. (Cf. 9.)

1890 *Rules of Racing* in *Encycl. Sport* (1898) II. 224 The Stakeholder shall not allow a jockey to be weighed for any horse until such horse's stake [etc.] have been paid. *Ibid.* 225 The Clerk of the Scales..shall in all cases weigh in the riders of the horses..., and report to the Stewards any jockey not presenting himself to be weighed.

8. To measure a definite quantity of (a substance) on the scales. Usually with *out*: To portion out (a quantity measured by weight) from a larger mass; to apportion (such a quantity) *to* (a person or persons); ? to measure exactly or to the full weight (*obs.*). Also with *in*, *into*: To introduce a specified weight of (a substance) into a specified receptacle.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 745 And of that coper [he] weyed out [*Cambr. MS.* vp] but an ounce. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* ii. iii. 33 b, We began to way out the biskes vnto the Mariners. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* 155 Are there ballance heere to weigh out the iuice of the carbonate weighed out, the acid is of proper strength.

†b. To measure (a sum of money) by weight, in order to pay it *to* (a person). Chiefly in Biblical renderings. Also with *out*, *down*. *Obs.* (So OE. *awegan*, G. *wägen*, *dar-*, *zuwägen*.)

1382 Wyclif *Zech.* xi. 12 And thei weyeden my meede, thritti platis of syluer. 1388 — *Ibid.* xxviii. 15 Nether aliuer schal be weied [1388 peisid] in the chaungyng therof. 1535

Coverdale *Jer.* xxii. 10, I..weyed him there the money vpon the waighte. — *Zech.* xi. 12 So they waved downe xxx. sylver penis, y^t value that I was prysed at. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 492/2 An officer that weyed out money for soldiers wages. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* II. i. Some [are] cutting purses, some cheating, some weying out bribes.

**c.** *fig.* To dispense or administer (justice) impartially.

*c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 14 Weye o lawe in euenhele, Bytwen flaunur and vengeaunce. 1582 A. Scott *Poems* I. 29 (*To Q. Mary*) Waye iustice, equale without discrepance.

**9.** *intr.* in *Horse-racing.* Of a jockey: To take his place in the scales, in order that his declared weight may be verified by the clerk. *To weigh out, in*, to do this before and after a race. (Cf. 7 c.)

1805 *Weatherby's Racing Cal.* XXXII. p. xxxiii, That every person who shall ride at Newmarket for Plate, Sweepstakes, or Match, shall be obliged to weigh when he comes in. 1808 *Oddy of Racing* § 31 Jockeys are required to weigh at the usual place of weighing, before the race, ..and every rider is, immediately after the race, to ride his horse to the usual place of weighing, ..and to weigh to the satisfaction of the person appointed for that purpose. 1888 Whyte Melville *White Rose* I. xiv. 174 Their riders are drinking sherry..preparatory to 'weighing in'. *Ibid.* 189 Mr. Snipe, returning to weigh after an easy victory. 1897 *Oddy of Racing* § 31 Weighing out and starting. *Ibid.* § 34 Weighing in. 1899 J. Rice *Hist. Turf* I. 298 The rider of Musjid.. is said to have weighed in and weighed out with a weight weighing 7 or 9 lbs. and to have exchanged it for a lighter whip before and after the race. 1900 Mascelyn *Right Royal* 33 When the clerk struck three and the men weighed out. *Ibid.* 119 Then the riders weighed-in, and the meeting was over.

**b.** Hence *To weigh in with*: to introduce or produce (something that is additional or extra). *colloq.*

1888 *Daily News* Nov. (*Passing Englisb*, 1909) The journal 'weighs in' with a pristaatic Christmas number. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 464/1 Carver..used to sit up and snort a bit when we weighed in with hock and seltzer instead of tea. 1901 D. Macrail *Romance in Resice* I. 9 A Rhodes scholar weighed in with praise of Greenwich Village.

**10.** *trans.* To hold (an object) in the hand (or in both hands) in order to observe or estimate its weight; to balance an object in the hand (or hands) as if estimating its weight.

1540 Patsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. M j b, Waye me this gyrdel heuy with moche goldie :i. fele me this girdell, howe heuy it is with golde. 1581 Cowper *Exhort.* 343 Who poises and proportiones sea and land, weighing them in the hollow of his hand. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* lvii, 'But why should he know of it?' said Glossin, slipping a couple of guineas into Mac-Guffog's hand. 'They are weighed like gold, and looked sharp at Glossin. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxiii, Mr. Bumble..counted the teaspoons, weighed the sugar-tongs. 1848 — *Dombey* lvi, He remained before him weighing his white hat in both hands by the brim. 1911 H. W. & F. G. Fowler *Concise Oxf. Dict.* s.v., [He] meditatively weighed his stick in his hand.

**b.** To keep (the wings) evenly outspread in flight. *poet.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1046 Satan..in the emptier waste, resembling Air, Weighs his spread wings.

**11.** *fig.* (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression) : To estimate, assess the value of (a person, a condition, quality, etc.), as if by placing in the scales.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 63 in *Lamb. Hom.* 163 Per me scal ure werkes weien biforan þe heuen king. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. i. 150 Pe same Maister þat Moyses Mesten A mis obeit selue, Is schul be weyen per-with whon ȝe wenden bennes. 1382 Wyclif *Job* vi. 2 Wolde God, my synnes weren weyed..in a balaunce. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 129 Pou bet it-weye on a balaunce and i-founde pou hast lasse (Harl. MS. 2261 weyest). 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 29 b, Our sayd lorde..at the houre of our iudgement shall ponder and wey euery mannes mayenge or decayenge. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer* *Communion*, Not waying our merites, but pardonyng our offences. 1557 Northe *Gueuara's Dial Pr.*, Pro. A 4, God doth not way us as we are, but as we desier to be. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 27 Accursed vsurie was all his trade, And right and wrong ylike in equall ballance waide. 1670 Traherne *1st Pl. Conv.* (1717) 10 Who can tell the bondings of weights by th'lump, and, when the cause is light, Puts kindness in to set the Ballance right. 1736 Berkeley *Discourse* Wks. III. 419 Were all men to be weighed in the exact scale of merit. 1784 M. Bishop *Life* 39 Where such a coarse grain'd Piece of Stuff is concerned..one should ponder with inward Consultations, to be able to weigh him to a Hair. 1786 Cowper *Hope* 366 The best will weigh man's virtues and his crimes With nice attention, in a righteous scale. 1823 Byron *Hebrew Mel., Vis. Belshazzar* vi, He, in the balance weigh'd, is light and wanting clay. 1870 Bagehot *Lays Hight.* 134 God numbers not the heads, but weighs the hearts Of them that worship. 1897 'Ouida' *Massarenes* xxiii, [She] had mentally weighed him, and found him wanting.

**b.** To balance *with* or *against* (another object regarded as a counterpoise) in order to a comparative estimate. Also *to weigh together.*

1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 471/1 Waye the good that they doon, with the harte that Courteney hath. 1559 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., If those men will waye their labor, with the profite in knowlege, whiche dayely they shal obtein by readyng vpon the bokes. 1590 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 101 But in that Christall scales, let there be waid Your Ladies loue against some other Maid. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ii. 45 For by no meanes the full with the truth be wayd. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horne-bk.* I. heading, The old world & the new weighed together. 1620 Shake. *Temp.* II. i. 8 Then wisely (good Sir) weigh Our sorrow with our comfort. 1657 Cowley *Mistress, Love vndiscovered* ii, Forbid it Heaven my Life should be Weigh'd with her least Conveniency.

Vol. X

**12.** To consider (a fact, circumstance, statement, etc.) in order to assess its value or importance; to ponder, estimate, examine, take due account of; to balance in the mind with a view to choice or preference.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 323 3if we weyn aryht dispensis li lore of be holy goost. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 384 (398) And weyen every thyng by equite. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. 344 Whan they had well weyed and considered the mater. 1535 Coverdale *Heb.* xi. 26 Weieth this matter in your discrecioun. 1556 Sir G. Have *Gov. Princis* (S. T. S.) 147 Cast all thair counsaillis ilkane efter vthir, and weye thame in thair myndis as thou thinkis the caus requeris. 1533 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 300 They wayeing in thaire myndes the force of the saide acte. 1603 Daniel tr. *Philibert de Comm. de la Reg.* 1596/2, I do not weigh you a pin. *Non ego te flocci facio.*

**†b.** with adj. compl. (*light, dear*, etc.). *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Sythe Pembroke *Ps.* cxvi. v, Thy people all be holding, Who dear their death esteemeth in the sight *Archive of Feversham* I. i. 361 To let them see how light I wey their words. *a* 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* vii. vi. 53 Them all, and all that she so deare did weye, She vtterly despised. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 43 In cases of defence,'tis best to weigh The Enemie more mightie then he seemes. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. iii. 32 Let scandal liue, and weigh heaute of her worth, That he does weigh too light.

**†14.** *intr.* **a.** To pay heed or deference *to. Sc.*

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxx, Myn effectis grete, Vnto the quhich ye ȝaldnion maist nocht weye. 1558 Sir H. Have *Arnot* (S.T.S.) 157 Suppos that have na soverane to quham thai wey, bot anerly God allane.

**†b.** with *of*: To ponder, consider (something); to judge of, estimate (its value, worth, etc.).

1529 *More Conf.* Wks. Diij b, God would not..Of my vesture, or outward apparance a mite. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* v. v. 81 But weye of this euery man as pleaseth him. 1584 Lodge *Forbonius & Prisc.* 35 Sulpitius, not willing to weigh of the submissiue request of his daughter, interrupted her thus. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. viii. 29 Vn-worthy she to be belou'd so dere, That could not weigh of worthinesse aright.

**†c.** with negative : (Not) to hesitate *to* (do something). *Obs.*

1573 Lloyd *Pilgr. Princes* 14 The women of Scithia called Amazones..wayed not to encounter with Hercules in the fielde.

**III.** To have heaviness or weight.

**15.** *intr.* Of a material object or substance : To have a greater or less degree of heaviness, as measured by the scales; To be equal to or balance (a specified weight) in the scales.

The specifying word is to be regarded as a predicative complement rather than as governed by the verb.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 92 Sio sceal wegan twa pund le sylfyr þeswyht. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xiv. (1883) 208 Æfic an hagelstan wegeð fif pund. 13.. *Sir Beues* 1474 A dede Beues hondis a ston gret, þat wey seue quarters of whet. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 454 Hir kirtel wey x pond. Al the remenant of hir garnement, I dorste awere they weyeden ten pound, That on a sonday weren vpon hir heed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 207 Oon of the barones weide x pound. 1483 Caxton *Cato* 111. iv. (1889) 111 One framonian had promysed to hym as moche weyght of pure gold as the heed weyed. 1503 *Kyng Alex.* (Kölbing) 1683 Hir heed silver spune and a masar veand 3 uncis. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 34 The fleshe therof wayed xlvij. pound weyght. 1590 Shake. *Com. Err.* v. i. 170 Of what weight is this? How much your Chaine weighs to the vtmost charect. 1655 Manq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 69 A little, Key, not weighing a Shilling. 1697 R. Vaughan *Mem. Worcester* 75 They have it..so as the Pieces of Silver and Gold should weigh one to other. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 44 Some of them [sc. marmots] are said to weigh forty pounds. 1828 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 891 The gum weighed 3 per cent of the almonds analyzed. 1896 J. Richardson *Recoll.* I. vi. 145 In person he was tall and corpulent, weighing something over twenty stone.

**b.** with adv. or pred. adj.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Hwon two bereð one burðene ant te ober bileaueð bi, þeonne mei þe þet holded hit up ueolen þa hit weieð. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 503 in *E. Eng. Leg.* 211 Heouene geth al aboute be eorþe, euene it mot weyze. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 237 in *Hall. A. P. P.* I. 68 He lep in þe bucket, þat wey sumdel. 13.. *St. Christopher* 364 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 458 The childe swa heuy wogbe þat ofte-sythes one kneos he hym drogbe. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1978 (Fortune) And as she wolde, hir fauel she fel prestc. What best ys that, quod she, that weyeth thus? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 136 A1 sir, yhe whe wele! *c* 1475 *Mactin Plays, Manhind* 630 Ther ys to moche cloth, ye wyll as ony lede. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cxxxviii. 205 They.. becam stronge, and delyuer in suche wyse that the armes that they bare weyed nothyng as them semed. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 174 His shield that weighsie waied. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblt.* 41 The beaste loade, did weye so harde behinde. 1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 32 Heere's sport

34

indeede How heauy weighes my Lord! 1779 Cowper *Yearly Distress* 48 Like barrels with their bellies full They only we ah the heavier 1828 Scott *Br Lammr* x. His fingers fumbled as if the other [sc his beaver] had weighed equal with a stone of lead.

16 *fig* (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression)

a 1225 *Ancr R* 332 *Wuerc orðia vuprecsallnd judicium* [Lat it is] his merci toiward us wiieð euer more þen þet rihte nearuwe 1340 *Ayenb* 91 Loue is þe wyzte ine þe balance uor non oþer þing ne may weze buanne ine comp to ine eech his wzeze bote loue and charite c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T* 243 Ihy regne is do,m, thou weyest noght at al. 1390 Gower *Conf* II 275 Ther ben manye of these Lovers, that thigh thei love a lyte, That scarsly wolde it were a myte for wiche thei have a pound again. As doth Usure in his bargain c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 4 Se weyn now in meanys herisy, in dreed of goure myst, more þan all he world, for all þe world dare nyst wythstonde you c 1440 *Gesta Rom* xiv 177 For synne is not þ,it, but it is hevy, and weythe more than lede 1598 Shaks. *John* II i 331 Oon must proue greatest While they weigh so euen, & hold our Towne for neither yet for both 1599 — *Much Ado* v i 93 I know them, yea And what they weigh euen to the vtmost scruple, Scambling, out-facing, fashion monging boyes. 1601 — *All's Well* III iv 31 Let euerie word weigh heauie of her worth

†b. To amount or be equivalent *to Obs.*

1509 Mouse *Dyalogue* IV xi 108 b/s Yf ignie him occasyon to dwel est Luther ment not al thing so euyl as his words ysame to wis to 1588 Lambarde *Eiren.* II iv (ed 2) 152 Whether a man doe accomplish the force in his entre, or doe come so readily appointed and arased for it, it seemeth to weigh to a violent (or *forcible*) entre.

†c. *To weigh with* (also *even with*) to counterpoise in power, value, etc.; to be of equal value or importance with *Obs*

1597 Shaks 2 *Hen IV*, II iii 106 In euery thing, the purpose must weigh with the folly 1607 — *Timon* I i 136 Some hum thy Daughter: Who (wanting gold) goes on, no man lik's countenance An't make him weigh with her 1646 I. and Mons. le *Bocalini's Advis fr Parnassus* II iii (1674) 4 Prince may vie and weigh even with Greece it self, in point of learning

d. *To weigh against, †again* to counterbalance, countervail

c 1410 (see 20) 1590 Greene *Never too late* ii (1600) K 4 b, Here that seeketh to weye against his owne will, oftentimes leeth against the prick 1593 Shaks. *Rich III*, v iii 256 Much more in this great worke should we know our owne estate, How able such a Worke to vndergo, To weigh vgainst his Opposites? 1631 [T. Heywood] *Martin Mar-Sixtus* IV 47 Such evils can neither be helpe I nor be allowed to weigh against the advantages of union 1884 Gilmour *Mongols* xviii 216 He believes that every sin will weigh against him and drag him down in the scale of being

e. quasi *trans.* To equal (something else) in weight or value, to counterbalance; † to be tantamount or equivalent to

1585 Greene *Mamillia* I 63 So that ey ther thou couldest ry ch her with a frumpe, or els lay a lode ig cande on her backe she could wey t sc ffe 1588 Shaks. *L L L* IV iii 26 Indeed I weigh not you, and therefore light 1623 — *Hen V III*, I ii 18 *Ibid* II ii 159 The heads of all thy Brother Cardinals Weigh d not a haire of his 1893 *Westm. Gaz* 21 May 3/2 There are difficulties in the poem Only they do not weigh the enormous difficulty of a multiplicity of Homers.

†f *absol* Of two things To balance each other *Obs*

1543 Bvrnebe *Frvyte* (1812) I xliii 59 So that finally the good and the yuell weigh

17 *intr* To be of (much or little) value or account, to be regarded as considerable or important, to have influence *with* (a person) when he is forming an estimate or judgement.

c 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T* 736 (Hengwrt MS.) Dedily synne, whan the loue of any thyng weyeth in the herte of man ys moche as the loue of god or moore 1535 W Stewart *Cron* (Rolls) III 313 And his command with him richt litill weyd 1597 Hooker *Pol* v lxxvii § 8 Why things of light in their owne nature should weigh in the opinions of men so much 1659 *Ns holas Papers* (Camden) IV 179 Younge Darby [6th Earl] whoe nowe weighes much less then his name formerly did 1670 Milton *Hist Brit* III 207 Pleasing to God, or not pleasing, with them weighed alike, and the worse most an end the weightier 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Dec (1850) II 2 In truth, their testimony did little weigh with me 1705 Atterbury *Serm bef Queen* 28 Oct 22 A Wise Man is then best satisfy d when he finds that the same Arguments and Weights with Him, both weigh d with Thousands before him 1744 James *Decis Cur Sess 1730-52* (1759) 79 Nor ought it to weigh that Murray was the Bearer of Factor's bankruptcy 1856 Mr. Allay *Let to Napier* in Irevelyan *Life* (1876) II viii, 12 There is another consideration that weighs much with me a 1853 Robertson *Lect* (1858 I vi 91, I have not the vanity to say that my name had weight with many, but it did weigh with some 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks, Rousseau* 338 Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action 1899 Doyle *Duel* xiv 199 Holland is a sound man and his opinion would weigh with any judge 1910 J. Rae *Eve of Purpose* I ii The Roman verdict weighed much throughout Christendom

IV. To affect, or be affected, by weight

18. *trans. To weigh down* to draw, force, or bend down by pressure of weight; *fig.* to depress, oppress, be heavy on Similarly, *to weigh back, † on one side, to the earth.*

a 1340 Hampol *Psalter* vii 17 He likyd to be seruaunte of syn, awa þat his synn weghe him down, þat he neuer rise til þe rist of heuen 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Degravo*, The vine lodeth and weigheth downe the elme. 1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal* Feb 238 The watrie wette weighed downe his head 1598 Daniel *Civ Wars* III lxxvi, O could the mighty but giue bounds to pride And weigh backe fortune ere shee pull them downe 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen IV*, III i 72 Gentle Sleepe how base I frighted thee, That thou no more wilt weigh my eye lids downe ? 1598 Grenaway *Tacitus, Ann.* XIV xi 201 Then the rowers thought best to way the galley on one side [1 *unum in latus inclinare*] and so to smcke her. 1612 Bible *Wisd* IX 15 The corruptible body presseth downe the soule, and the earthly tabernacle weighth downe the minde that museth vpon many things. 1712 Addison *Spect* No 494 P 4 There are many excellent Persons, who are weighed down by this habitual horrour of Heart. 1785 Cowper *The Rose* 4 The plentiful moisture incumber d the flower, And weigh'd down its beautiful head 1857 Buckle *Civ Hist* I xi 625 The people were weighed down by an insufferable taxation 1858 Dragon *Sport Scenes & Sk.* 208 The Kaffirs returned, almost weighed down by the immense weight of meat 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1303 Falling and weighed back by clamorous vows Sharp rang the dead limbs of Eurytion 1879 Pattison *Milton* xiii 215 Causes other than the inherent faults of the poem long continued to weigh down the reputation of *Paradise Lost* 1884 *Contemp Rev* Feb 259 What, then, was the *consuetudo carnalis* which thus weighed to the earth this soul of fire, striving to ascend to its true home ?

†b. Without adv To depress, disquit. *Obs. rare*

1633 Fletcher & Shirley *Night walker* i (1640) B 3, You are light Gentlemen, Nothing to weigh your hearts.

†19. *intr* a. Of the scale of a balance (with *up* or *down*) To rise or sink according as it holds the lesser or greater weight. Also *gen.* (with *down*): To sink through excessive heaviness or load. *Obs.*

a 1300 St *Jas Saints* xxii (*Laurence*) 750 A gret pot . in þat balance has he done; þane ouryes veyt þye tycht [*read* tyght] bone 7 vp56 W P St *Curia's Pageant in France* 61 That Iustice . . Shall euen the ballance hold in the scales, and the balance] way downe the heauier a 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 610 The Cause is the plenty of the Sap and the Softnesse of the Stalk. For the Stalk, the ft sap, being ouer loaden, and not stiffely vi held, weigh downe

†b. *To weigh with*: to move with, follow the motion of (something that shifts or varies). *To weigh against* to strive to make head against (the wind). *Obs.*

1555 Eden & *Cortes* IV 34 b Waying with the worlde, according as the tyme should alter [*semper ex auctipiti mutatione temporum pendent*] a 1557 Mary Basset in *Mrs Prat Lives* M 2 Wks 1372/1 A faint hurted man . . cannot weigh with them that be sturdy and lusty, and suffreth the ship alone to waye with the waues [*puppim pa.mitti fluctibus*]. 1557 *Tottel's Misc* (Arb) 263 And where thou seises a quiet port, Thou dost but weigh vgaynst the winde

20. *trans* Of an object set in the scales (with *down, up,* † *out*; also † *to weigh to the beam*) To turn the scale when weighed against (something else); to outweigh, cause to rise in the scale Also *to weigh down* (the balance or scale).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* V 31 He laste pe stoon is weyed in a balaunce, and he weep[ MS's a, ß, y, weyȝh, weyȝ, wey3] up al þat me myzte leie a3enst hym in þe oþer side c 1410 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 21 Helpeth to weye Ageyn his feendy, þat with handes twey, And his might, pluttke wole at the balance To weye vs doun c 1450 *Knt de la Tour* 66 Her euell dedes weyed downe and ouercame her good dedes. c 1450 *Merlin* 2 *Ireland* 24 When alle his sorwyrs were layde on þe balans and was nygh ouercomyn, then come thylke brennist dekon, and layde a grete pote on þe weye þe balans anon weyt vpp al ouerte 1593 Shaks. *Rich II*, III iv 89 But in the Ballance of great Bullingbrooke, Besides himselfe, are all the English Peeres, And with that odds he weighes King Richard downe 1596 Spenser *F Q* IV ix 1 Hard is the doubt, and difficult to deeme, When all three kinds of loue together meet And doe dispart the hart with powre extreme, Whether shall weigh the balance downe 1601 Shaks *All's Well* II iii 16 We poising vs in her defective vse, Shall weigh thee to the beame 1613 — *Hen VIII*, I ii 18 Your Lordships Graue Iudgements (Put in the vnseene Queene) may quickly make it Without my affliction. 1706 E. Ward *World Dis'd* (1708) 14 Four Ounces of *Virgo* Dust, shall weigh him down more, Than Forty Pounds of Feathers 1711 Swift *Examiner* No 16 One Whig shall weigh down ten Tories 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* vii, Where all other inducements were wanting, the habitual slovenliness of this disposition stepped in and still weighed down the scale on that side 1881 *Westm Gaz* 27 Mar 7/3 Whose mistakes are a thousand times weighed up by his countless individual deeds of true friendship

†21. *trans* To sway or influence (a person), to induce (a person) *to* (do something) *Obs*

1571 Campion *Hist Ireld* 121 When these wordes weighed him nothing, his owne man began to reprove him for not vnderstanding to such a profiter 1587 Holinshed *Hist Ireland* Holinshed II 83/2 By the procurement as well of the archbishop as of all the clergie [the legate] was weighed to giue the Irishmen absolution.

22 *intr.* with *on* or *upon*. a. Of a thought, feeling, circumstance To lie heavy on, depress (a person, his spirits, etc.) Also in indirect passive.

1575 Sheridan *Ducenna* II iv, If either of you had known how each moment of delay weighs upon the heart of her who loves 1820 Keats *Lamia* II 43 Where am I now? Not in your heart while care weighs on your brow 1832 Tennyson *Lotos-eaters* 87 Why are we weigh'd upon with heaviness ? 1858 Lytton *Alice* II ii, Something seemed to weigh upon her spirits. 1868 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett* II 387 That London atmosphere weighs on me 1869 Mary Howitt II *Forrester's Greece* II 211 47 The sceptre of despotism weighs oppressively on all free public life 1909 J. L. Allen *Bride of Mistletoe* v 147 The silence began to weigh upon her.

b. To insist or dwell upon (a fact, argument, etc.) *rare*

1827 H. T. Colebrooke *Algebra*, etc Notes & Illustr p. xlii, These facts will be further weighed upon as we proceed. 1828 — *Import Colonial Corn* 70 Without weighing upon this surmise.

23 The vb.-stem in combination. **weigh-balk** *north.* and *Sc.*, the beam of a pair of scales or steelyard; *pl.* scales; **weigh-bar** = *weigh shaft*; **weigh-beam**, a balance or steelyard; **weigh-brods** *pl. Sc*, boards used for the scales of a large balance; † **weigh-gilt** *Sc.*, a payment for weighing (after Du. *waaggeld* G. *wage-, waagegeld*); † **weigh-leaf**, a board or plate used as a scale; **weigh-look** *U.S.*, a canal-lock at which barges are weighed and their tonnage is settled; **weighman**, a man employed to weigh goods, etc. , in a colliery, one who weighs the tubs of coal as they leave the cage at the pit-mouth (for *check weighman* see Check-); **weigh-master** (cf. G. *wagemeister*, Du. *waagmeester*), the official in charge of a weigh-house or public scales; **weigh-out**, the verification of a jockey's declared weight before a race (see 9); **weight-shaft** = Rock shaft. Also Weigh-bridge, -house, -scale.

1485 *Inv in Ripon Ch Acts* (Surtees) 372, † *weighe cum skales* 1593-4 *Burgh Acc Sterling* (1889) II 380 Quhat-sumever parson in aym cuming borrow the use of thair wey balk to wey inone or vther 1818 in Cockburn-Patrick *Early Acc Mining Scot* (1878) 150 Ane gnt weybak with the balance brodis thereto for weying the ore 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch xxiii, To see a lady warldly substance capering in the air in a pair of weigh bauks, now up, now down 1841 *Civil Engin & Arch Jrnl* IV 93/1 A lever is fixed upon the cross-head working in a hole connected to a second lever fixed on a shaft or "weigh bar across the engine, whereby a rocking motion is produced 1890 W J. Gordon *Foundry* 56 Beam frame with weigh bar gearing 1492 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 178 My weybernes [*read* bernes] with all my weights of lede 1804 *Cust Act of Com. III* c. 88 § 1 To erect and set up Weighbeams, Cranes. 1833 N Abbott *Physics* (ed 2) II 11 If we balance a quantity of tea in a delicate weigh beam 1578 *Inv R Wisbridge* (1815) 255 Ane iaire of wey brodis garnest with yron for wey of merchandis with all thair wyis. 1497 Halysbutton *Ledger* (1867) 74 Hous hir, 12s, "weygyit, 4d 1498 *Ibid* 223 Item weygitt, ilk seik 4 1893 in *Archæo-Æliana* (1893) XXXV 438 Introducing John Hall's new Patent "way leffe, broken in wayinge of lead, 19d 1835 Ireby *Strangerin Amer* II 140 The object of the greatest interest to me, in Utica, was a "weighing machine, an American invention if I am not mistaken The toll for freight on the canal is proportionate to weight 1883 Greeley *Lives Coal mining, Wyoming* See *Weigh-h* 1597 (see Weigh house) 1917 *Min Eng Mag* Apr 630/1 The bigger fish were weighed on an ingenious balance, consisting of a long steel rod with a sliding weight, the whole suspended on a bit of string held aloft by the weighman 1867 in Smith *Cowcers' Comp* (1869) 428 The "Weymaster and his porters, which attended at the Guildhall 1889 Rathbill *Ace Comp Cowcers* 4 The Cowcers may be well presumed (time out of Mind) to have had the management of the King's Beam, as an Office peculiar to them, they having had all along the naming of the Weigh-Masters, and the nomination of the moving and governing of the four Porters attending that Office, all to be elected out of their own Company 1885 *Racing* (Badm Libr) 67 It was, indeed, the absolute certainty as to the accuracy of the weights, which led to the detection of the attempted fraud when Catch em alive won the Cambridgeshire 1867–72 N P Lurgin *Mod Marine Engin* 73 Motion is imparted to the "weigh shaft by a toothed quadrant keyed thereon 1888 *Lockw'od's Dict Terms* 407 Weigh Shaft or Way Shaft — Sometimes called a reversing shaft

† **Weigh,** *v.*2 Only OE. and early ME. Forms 1 **wegan**, 3*rd sing.* **weȝeð**, *pa. t* **weȝ(e)de**, *pa. pple.* **ȝeweȝd**, 3 **3ed** *sing.* **weiede**, *pa. t* **waide**, 4 *pa. pple* **yweid**. [OE. *wegan* = OHG. *wegan*, MHG. *wegen* (weak vb, with umlaut *ä*, distinct from OHG. *wegan*, MHG *wegen* str vb = Weigh *v.*1), Goth. *wagjan* to shake; f. Teut. root **wag-*, ablaut-var. of **weg-* see Weigh *v.*1] *trans.* To shake, toss, agitate, move about.

a 1000 *Beth Metr* 235 Wegeð hwæt him seðþan his modes hus, þær he mæge findan grundweal ȝearone se to ghlan ne þearf þeah hit wege wind wundrafulra 1000 *Ags Ps* (Thorpe) cxvii 25 Hit wegdan Beuns leafod 1000 *Lay* 30137 Swa þe hæste wuden þenne wind wode weieð hine mid mæine *Ibid* 21869 Heo wenden in hære ærmen heore chaldren sermen c 1230 Shoreham *Poems* 1 370 Þat maketh man so hardiliche To wonde, and to mene In goste, þat he ne may naugt sweid be Wyþ blanding ne wyþ boste.

**Weighable,** (*wēi ĕb'l*) *a* [f. Weigh- *v.*1 + -able.] That can be weighed; heavy enough (or reckoned as heavy enough) to be weighed in scales.

1426 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 340/1 Woll, and al maner binge weiable. 1592 Dee *Math Praf* (1651) 6 Euery man, the Content knowen, in your least weaight, that is weyable. 1616 *Burgh Rec Stirling* (1887) I 144 All weyabill merchand wairis sic as wax, hemp, irn, woll 1798 T. Twining *Trans. Aner* (1894) 161 It was applicable in every wholesale warehouse of weighable goods. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* III. vii, Anything so ridiculously shameful as the whelp in his come livery, Mr Grudgrind never could by any other means have believed in, weighable and measurable fact though it was. 1898 *N Amer Rev* CXXVII 50, I am not aware that the soul of Shakespeare or of Newton, when they died, added any weighable powers to the dust to which they returned 1885 *Leeds Mercury* 5 Aug. 3/5 Where he found a weighable quantity was in the liver.

†Weighage. *Obs.* Also 7 way-, weyage, -edge. [f. WEIGH *v.*¹ + -AGE.] A duty or toll paid for the weighing of goods.

1547 *Charters rel. Glasgow* (1906) II 321 All oure Custumar out cuete and burgh of Glasgw, with meitage and weyghage and all uther commoditeis pertenand thareto 1603 *Rec. Mag. Stp. Scot* 314/1 The pitte custumes togidder with the dewties and customes of weyage and meitage 1604 In *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot* (1870) II 176 That tak na mair for weyage bot ane penny for the stane [of wool] 1612 *Shamptun Crt Leet Rec.* (1905) 441 We finde that the Towne is defrauded of that dew of weyage as it ought to receave by wayenge of goods saleable at the King's beame. 1632 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V 243 Weyages and heaven dewties daw to be payed in harberies 1683 in *Somers' Tracts* (1748) I. 180 [London dues] Meetage, Weighage, Scavage, Hallage *a* 1701 LEVINZ *Rep.* (1702) III. 37, 8 d. per Tonne pur chescun Tonne de Chesre port de aucun lieu en Angleterre al Port de London en nom de Weighage 1814 CRITTY *Laws Commerce* II 26 Weighage, called either *tronage* for weighing wool at the king's beam, or *petrage*, for weighing other avoirdupoise goods 1892 BOUVIER *Law Dict. U S A* (ed 6) II. 647.

**Weighboard** : see WAY-BOARD.

**Weigh-box.** a. One of a set of boxes, used in the operation of 'drawing' wool, in which the wool is more accurately weighed. b. A weigh-house. c. A chute which weighs and delivers coal at a railway coaling-station (*Cent Dict.* Suppl. 1909).

1884 *M'Laren's Spinning* vii 120 (2) the spindle gill box [3] the 4 spindle drawing box; [4] the 6 spindle weigh box 1907 *Daily Chron* 23 June 9/2 The following is a comparative list of the cars which weighed in at the public weigh-box

**Weigh-bridge.** [Cf. *G. brückenwage*] A platform scale, flush with the road, for weighing vehicles, cattle, etc.

1796 R. SALMON in *Rep. Arts & Manuf* VI 74 Weighbridges or engines, with their apparatus, for the purpose of weighing carriages 1825 in *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts* (1828) XIV 253 Considerable improvements on Weighing Machines which Machines he (the patentee) denominates German Weigh Bridges. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III 1052 The cart steels and weigh-bridge 1851 *Rep. Insp. Mines & Pokers* viii (1852) 75 [The] trucks are immediately drawn by horses first over a weighbridge 1886 *Daily News* 26 July 9/2 The heaviest lamb turned 169lb on the weighbridge

*fig.* *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Hints Th. Isfa* (1848) 21 The positions of science must be tried on the weigh bridge of common opinion and logical usage.

**Weighed** (wēˑid), *ppl. a.* [f. WEIGH *v.*¹ + -ED.]

1. That has had its weight ascertained by the scales

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520 1 Weyd, or wowen, *ponderatus, libratus* 1669 [see WEIGHT AND -] 1827 BARADAY *Cattle Manuf.* xxiv (1842) 600 Then ascertain whether the weighed animals are above or under the standard 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 765 A weighed portion of the solid is carefully introduced 1886 JAGO *Chem. Wheat* etc. 407 Counterpoised and Weighed 1 litre

2. Of judgement, opinion, etc: Considered, balanced. +Of = person. Having a balanced and steady judgement Cf. WELL-WEIGHED.

*c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett* (1650) I 34 Secretary Walsingham, and Secretary Cecil, a pair of the best weighed statesmen this island hath bred 1647-8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 18 The Admiral, a very well weighed Counsellor, opposed the Princes opinion 1675 DRYDEN *Aurenge* I 1 (1676) 4 Aurenge'be, by no strong passion sway'd, Except his Love, more temp'rate is and weigh'd. 1682 *Reg. Letter Europe* 67 Our English Ancestors have always been of a more steady principle more wise, and more weigh'd, than to dance after their Fellows 1900 *Nation. Gaz.* 29 Apr 3/1 The weighed judgments of the staid 'councillor'.

3. With *down* Depressed, downcast

1822 BYRON *Werner* I 1 309 Its past fatigue with a given new weigh'd down spirit An outward show of though

**Weigher** (wēˑi ɔɹ). Forms: 4 wier, weir, 4–5 weiere, weyere, 5 weyor, -ar, 5–6 weyer, 6 waier, weygher, 6–7 weyer, 6– weigher. [f. WEIGH *v.*¹ + -ER¹. Cf MLG, MHG. *weger*]

†1. ? One who bears up or supports (a person)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 22115 [e wicked gastes his wiers [*Gött* wern] Him folaand in all his laters

2 One who heaves up or weighs (an anchor)

1868 FLORIO, *Saltatore*, a weyer or heaver of ankers *a* 1618 M G Lewis *Jrnl W. Ind* (1834) 5 The weigher of the anchor

3. A person who is employed to weigh commodities; an official appointed to weigh or to supervise weighing, to test weights etc.

14 *Voc* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/3 *Pretinator*, a weyere. 1463 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden Soc.) 113 Brewers, weyers, porters, treasurers clerks [etc.] of the Staple. 1476 *Stanor Papers* (Camden) II. 5 And what I haue weyd be heme to pay to the weyer for my sake 3 d. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron* VII (1811) 341 Where before tyme ye weyer veyd to lene his draught towrde the marchaundyse, soo that the byar hadde by that meyne x or xii li in a draughte to his aduauntage. 1532 *Act 23 Hen VIII. c.* 14 (§ 2) The waier of the Wolles within the said Porte. 1677 W B *Touch-stone Gold & Silver Wares* 20 Their Assay-Office, wherein is a Sworn Weyer 1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel* V 79 Mr. Fitch, chief weigher of the gold and silver at the Mint 1794 GIBBON *Agric Essay* 26 Two men are nominated whom we call public weighers, whose business it is to examine the weights of all millers and shopkeepers. 1818 J. SMYTH *Pract Customs* (1821) II. At landing the Goods, the Weigher is to call out the full and true gross weight in the scale 1852 H G DALTON *Hist Brit Guiana* II 368 Licensed Weighers or Gaugers 1880-1 MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* II. 9 The crowd much one another to pull in the effort to get the weighers' attention to their trunks.

1886 *Act 49 & 50 Vict c* 49 § 16 The Admiralty may appoint persons to be meters and weighers at and within the harbour

b. In fig. sense or context.

1388 WYCLIF *Prov* xvi 2 The Lord is weiere [1382 pesere] of spiritis *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* III xix (Roxb) 146 The time and the sesone ymaked myn owen and in my balaunce I putte hem Bi myn ouerage I haue maad my self weyere iber of and sellere ? 1566 W P tr *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 63 b, *mercy*, Saint Michaell weyer of soules 1750 [E YOUNG] *Centaur Corp Comp* 72 Old Time, that best weigher of merits. 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) I 171 Do you like a skilful weigher, put into the balance the pleasures and pains 1903 *Critic* (U S) XLIII 360/1 Now that you are becoming a professional weigher of books yourself

c. A machine for weighing.

1901 *Westm Gaz* 21 Aug 4/1 Biscoal is then placed into a weigher, which dips at each quarter of a ton

†4. Used to translate L. *æquator* (EQUATOR 1).

*c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol* I § 17 This same cercle [the equinoctial] is clepid also the weyere, *equator*, of the day.

Hence **Wei'ghership**, the office (of public) weigher.

1885 *American* XI. 68 After all, Mr Sterling seems likely to miss the Brooklyn weighership

**Weigh-house.** Also 6– MLG *weeghûs*, G *waagehaus*.] A public building to which commodities are brought to be weighed.

1438 *Cal Patent Rolls, Hen VI* (1907) III 192 [By the way which runs between] le Weyhous [of the said staple, and the said] Wellenegge 1483 *Duty Weights* (Camden) 25 Robert Basset, clerc of the Weyhous at London. 1530 INDENTURE *Aberd. Hosre* Wks (1572) 278/2 Thirty or forty sturdy lubbers, or whole, or weakest shall be as ready at the belly when he commeth vnto the manger, as the mightiest porter in y^e weyhouse 1598 STOW *Surv* 150 On the North side of this street [Lombard] one large house is called the Weyhouse, where marchandizes brought from beyond the seas, are to bee weighed at the Kinges Beame 1649 W GREW *Charges* 17 Under the Town Court is a common Weighhouse for all sorts of Commodities 1658 *Rec Burgh Lanark* (1893) 170 The bailies and counsell ordaines the wechts in the wechous 1776 G. TEMPLE *Building in the Air* 154 Public Stores and Weigh houses 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv I might haue hung there till the day of judgment wi' my head hanging down on the tas aside, and my heels on the tother, like the bullocks at the tron weigh house 1829 HEATH *Grocers' Comp* 186 The general Weighhouse and King's Beam were in Cornhill, upon the site of the present Sun-Court; they are now in Weigh House Yard. 1844 A weigh house for the use of the inhabitants with the necessary weights, scales and measures. 1883 *Harper's Mag* Apr 670/1 Every scale-station has a public weigh-house and a weighing officer 1907 *Daily Chron* 18 Oct 9/2 A large motor car backed into a public weigh house at Blairgowrie (Perthshire) The building was damaged and the steelyard destroyed. The weighing-man in the house at the time, but was uninjured.

**Weighing** (wēˑiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms see the vb.; also 5 **weyng(e** [f WEIGH *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The action of lifting raising, or hoisting Also with *up*, +*out*, etc.

1483 *Cath Angl* 420 *Hen I VII* (1858) 27 Paid for the weying of an Anker 1*p*. 1497 *Ibid* 171 The brekyng vp of the dokke he is at Portesmouth weyng xt of the piles & shorys 1545 in Hoker *Life Sir Thos Cheyne* (1850) 151 My Lord Admyrall told me that he had a good hope of the waying, upright of the Mary Rose this afternone or to morrow *a* 1687 SIR W PETTY in J. Hilale *Acc. New Invent* (1851) 149 In the weighing up of the Ship 1755 in *Ulster Jrnl Arch* Ser. App II 128 A Windlass, for the more easy weighing a Ship's Anchor at Sea

2. The action or process of ascertaining the weight of an object.

1430 *Coventry Leet Bk* 234 The oursight of the weyng and the sealyng of weghtes *c* 1440 *Pr wip Parv* 520 2 Weyyngge, wythe whyyge, *ponderacio, libracio* 1500 in *Archæol* XLIII (1872) 36 Whyyngge apparteynyth to schomer tronage. 1720 *Lond Gaz* No 5869/2 Owners of Hops are to give Notice of the Hour of lagging and weighing 1827 in *Hone's Every-Day Book* II (1841) 74 The method of double weighing invented by Borda 1842 LOUDON *Handy Andy* 1 Certain weighing of soap and tobacco was going forward 1857 MILLER *Elem Chem., Org* 4 A method of weighing gives the quantity of metallic lead 1884 IN KELVIN & S P Thompson *Life* XIX (1910) II 801 I shall be greatly assisted in best course of your silver weighings.

b. *concr.* (See quot.)

1828 WEBSTER *Weighing* 2 As much as is weighed at once; as, a weighing of beef

3. *fig.* Balancing in the mind, pondering, considering.

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 364 And erroure in weying of pis love makip many fals weddingis. 1560 in *Becker's Coutin. Troat Prayer* H 6 b, Ouercumming a multitude of wicked weyings with small consideration or weyghing of them 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* (1637) 636 After mature deliberation and weighing of the matter 1666 JAS TAYLOR *Duct Dubit* III v rule 8 § 12 The truth is determinable by a just weighing of all that which very many wise Men have said, being put together 1827 *T. Powell's Devisee* (ed 3) II 151 If the 'weighing of inconveniences' were to be made on every particular will, the relative situation of the heir and devisee being thrown into the scale 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xv, Will's love had no blindness to dishonour; every weighing of words 1885 *Law Rep* 15 Q B D 137 The statute requires that there should be a real inquiry, a real weighing and sifting of evidence.

4. (Downward) pressure.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lv (1495) 81vb, This skynne is decked other slakyd somtyme by to grete weyghte & weyenge downwarde of the other membres.

5. *Comb.*, as **weighing-cage**, *-fee*, *-house*, *-room*, *-scales*, *-yard*; **weighing-engine**, *-machine*, an apparatus (e. g. a combination of levers, a spring-balance) for weighing heavy bodies, +**weighing-post**, a post on a race-course, indicating the place appointed for the weighing of the riders

1819 REES *Cycl.*, "*Weighing Cage*, an open box or cage, by means of which any small animal, such as a pig, sheep, calf, may be expeditiously weighed It is constructed on the principle of the common steel yard 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf* VI 77 [the main or long lever of the "weighing engine 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict c* 97 § 34 Any House, Building, or Weighing Engine erected for the better Collection, Ascertainment, or Security of any such Toll 1898 *Rules of Jockey Club* § 30 The "weighing fee for plates and stakes is 10s each horse, and 10s. extra for the winner 1819 REES *Cycl.* "*Weighing-House*, a building furnished with a dock, and conveniences for gauging or ascertaining the tonnage of boats that are to be used on a canal 1829 UTLEY *Hist Scot* VI II 155 It would be necessary to have some experienced person to attend in the weighing house upon the part of the king, to inspect and to keep annual payments 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xiii, John was tumbling over small loads men in his agitation pushing from the ring to the weighing house 1796 *Repert Arts & Manuf* VI 75 (page heading) Patent for an Improvement in "Weighing Machines. 1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* II 343 The weighing machine is an important article of the farm furniture 1884 MRS CARLYLE *Lett* III 231 There is a weighing machine at our green grocer's 1688 *Lord Gen* No 2317/4 Every House shall be shewn that shall carry Meat above the Rate at the "Weighing Post of Cuythorp Course 1734 CHENEY *List Horse Matches* 22 *Small hedges* came in first, but the Rider slighting of the same came in the weighing Post, the Gelding was fined a Distance 1838 *Circ J Assp & Arch Jrnl* I 216/2 There is an office for the clerk of the market, and a "weighing room *c* 1450 *Lett Eth* (Surtees) III. 263 par "weyenge[ande] 1888 *Daily News* 17 Oct 8/8 Burnt wood *Sydney title Sur* xii, [After the race] Possie rode up to the "weighing yard with me

†**Wei'ghing**, *ppl. a.* Obs. [f. WEIGH *v.*¹ + -ING².] Heavy *Obs rare*

*c* 1400 in *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lydg* 71 Ley vpon by wombe an hoot sherte and wey[e]ynge *[e manuscript calidam pondere.]*

**Weighment** (wēˑiment) *Anglo Indian* [f. WEIGH *v.*¹ + -MENT, after *measurement*.] The action of weighing (commodities)

1878 J INGLIS *Sport & Work* xii 135 They check in the weighments and measurements 1880 V HALL in *Lancet* 1 Nov 11 447 The various kinds of weighment employed by Tavernier and Schrauf respectively 1903 C. BALL *Indian Tea* xiv (1919) 215 A careful examination of leaf, load 15 load, bef re weighment 1906 J. MACLEOD in *Pioneer Mail & Allahabad* 20 Dec Deputy Opium Agent let him set up a shop in the opium can p during the two months that the weighments last.

**Weigh-scale.** Orig *north* In 4 weys scale, 5 weyscale, -scall, 6 weye skaale, weyskale [ad. Du *waagschaal* or MLG *waegeschale* (whence Mdw. *wæġskiæl*, Sw *vågskål*, older Da *vægskiol*, Norw *vægskaal*) = G. *waagschale* (+ *waage*), OI *vægskalin* (once). See SCALE *sb*¹ and NEAT In recent use perh a new formation] The pan of a balance, *pl* a pair of scales.

13 *Metr H in* (Vernon MS) in *Archiv Stud new Sp* LVII 333 Pe flendes laide in a weye scale Alle pese synnes grete and smale *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 202 Hym bogt per was fowle blak men pat in pat oper weyscale was 1533 skele And on pe toder hand hym beght per was faye men, & pat were passand leyy, & said pat had no gude dede of his to put in pe toder weyscale, quarfra pat it mycht ga down *Inventaries Relics* (Surtees) By two drawand rape et un smithape pro Weyscall, and 1456-60 *Ibid* 83, 1 ir del Weyscale cum diversis ponderibus 1582 *Inventaries Halls* (Surtees) II 45, 1 paire of wey skailles 1600 *Minor M Gildas Durh* (Surtees) 27 Paid for mendinge of a weyskaie 1897 KIPLING *Capt Cour* viii 179 Unlike man who had been sitting in weigh-scale troops aloan into the schooner

b *To be on the weigh-scales* to be undecided

1886 M Mo *soon Thirteen all Left* 43 Elliot was still on the weigh scales about going

†**Wei gh shale** (§ weyschalle, weschale, var. of prec. (perh. directly representing OI *vægtskálar*)

1485 *Pers rp of Finch'sle* (Surtees) p cxxxiii par cxxxiii cum diversis ponderibus *c* 1475 *Cath Angl* 422 2 (Addit MS) I A Weyschalle, *pl.* *libre*

**Weight** (wēit), *sb*¹ Forms *a.* 1 **zewiht, ze-wyht**, 2 **zwioht**, 1–3 **wiht**, 3 **wyht, wiȝt(e**, 4 **5 wyȝt(e, wyght(e, (4 wygthe), 4–6 whygh(t(e**, 4–5 **wighte**, 4–7 **wight** (5 *Sc.* **vycht**); 4 **wythe**, 5 **wyt(e, whyt(e, 4–5 witte, wytte.** *β* 3 *Orm* **wehht**, 3–6 **weght, 4–5 weghte, weȝt(e, 4– *Sc* weoht** (6 **vocht**) 3 **4 weyght(e, weiȝt(e, wey3t(e, 4 6 weyghte(s, 4–7 weighte(s weigt-e, weighte-s**, 5 *Sc* **weicht**, 6 *Sc* **weycht, weycht, weyghte)**, 4– **weight**, 5 **waȝt-**, 6 7 **waight(e, wayght(e**, (6 *Sc* **waicht, waycht, 7 wayht**); 4–5 **weit(e**, (*pl* **weittes**), 5 **weyte, wheyt(e, weyth(e, wheith, whet(t)e**, 6 **waithe**, 6 *pl* **waytts**, 6–7 **wait(e**, 7 **wayte** [*Obs. wiht* (? fem.), = OFris **wecht** (N Fris **wecht, weit, weegt, wecht**), MDu. and Du **wicht**, MLG. and LG. **wicht, wecht** (whence Mdn. **vekt**, Du. **wegt**, Norw. **vegt**, Mdw **wiht, riht**, Sw **vigt**), G (irreg) **wucht**, ON **vætt, vætt** fem. —OTeut. type ***wexti-s**, f. root ***weg-** see WEIGH *v*¹ The more usual form in OE was **gewiht** or nent = MDu **ghewicht** (Du. **gewicht**), MLG **gewichte, gewechte**, MHG **gewichte** (G **gewicht**) —type ***gawextjo-m** As the prefix *ge-, y-* (—OE. *ge-*) in sbs. fell away in

early ME, the two formations coalesced in the 12th c. The normal descendant in mod English of the OE *wiht* would be **wight*; the vowel of the *ß* forms may be due partly to the influence of the prehistoric ON **weht*, and partly to association with *weigh* vb ]

I Measurement of quantity by means of weighing, quantity (in the abstract) as determined in this way.

1 *By weight* as determined by weighing +*Without weight* taken unweighed.

*c* 1200 *Vor Leechd* I 148 Þenim ] as wyrte & swinen s neru exþres gelice micel be wihte [*Cf ibid* I 148 Þenim enira þysse wyrta gelice fela þe gewihte ] *a* 1225 *St E Chron* an 1086 (Laud MS) Manig mare goldes & mi hundred punda seolfres. Det he nam be wihte of his land leode *c* 1325 *Chron Eng* 503 (Rawson) He made thre cordien by wyht 2500 *Gawayne* 42 Hun ne þo bet zelly he wyste purchaced and makeþ mo mooche bet [etc ] *c* 1440 Lagrave *Life St Kath.* 1238 Alle oules I hat shal to Hune, I peyse hem alle be wyte Whether in goodnesse thei ben heuy or lighte *c* 1460 *Cantun Brut* 492 It was ordeyned þat þe gold in Englisshe coyne shulde be weyed, & none receyued but by weight 1500 Brita (Greene) *Anniv* xiv 16 I he brasse of all these vessellles was without weyght 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II 2 32 Io distribute the lyuiers by weight 1600 *Dyer Quo Warranto* (1836) 15 (1587) 13 The seriant chaundeler shal receve the wax & lighte in weight from the clarke of the spicery *c* 1618 *Turners Dirh* 11 Rollins *Pepysian Garl* (1922) 56 You that sel your wares by weight, and liue vpon the trade 1823 Purchas *Pilgrim age* II m 58 Besides iewels and brasse, and iron, without weight, with Cedars and stones without number 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 561 With Axes first they cleave the Wood, and thence I y Weight the solid Portions they dispence 1730 Cunduitt *Observ Coin* 11 (1774) 10 Foreigners who take our guineas in quantity by weight may make much gain by the heavy ones 1822 A T Thomson *Lond Disp* (1518) 440 The proportions of acid and water were equal by weight 1824 W H Ireland *Neckinger* 1000 15 Of paper a pile Which by weight had been purchas'd

2. Associated with *measure* and *number*, esp in figurative expressions referring to due proportion

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 430 Met of corn, and wizte of fe And in the of felde, first þat he sulde fo 1340 Hampole *Pr Conic* 7970 For he made alle thyng of right myght and right wisdom, and right mesh quantite and weght *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 321 It is good & resonable men to huse churchis in mesure, & in nu nbre & in weyhte after þe lawis 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII 61 Let comon lawe his cours hab, Euene mesure mett, an l wyst *c* 1480 Henrvson *Orpheo* 1666 All creature I le to þe iudgeþ Accordyngeyour werk and how proper toun 1551 Crowley *Pleas & Payne* 362 You that ly discrete haue wonne, Were it in weyght or in measure. 1580 A King in *Cath Tract* (Arb) 314 To vse falset in buying selling or chaunging in price, in weight or measure.

3 Ponderability, as a general property of material substances, relative heaviness

Also *transf* in Phrenology (see quot 1860)

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L G W* 1211 (Fairf MS) His gilte here was corowned with a sonne I stede of golde for heuynesse and wyght 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* R xix cxxx (1495) 938 Two þynges be wyghtes, lightnesse and heuynesse 16 Lydg *Beware of Doublenesse* 92 In ballaunce whan they be peised For lakke of weight they be bore down *c* 1450 *Merlin* 11 They sedde it was by no possible to charge, they [the stones] were of soche gret nesse and wight 1600 Shake *All's Well* II m 126 Our wighs Of colour, weight and heat, pour'd all together 1708 Would quite confound distinctn n 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 315/1 The Axe for the cutting of the great and large Bones hath weight and ballaunce in it 1728 Pope *Dunc* I 183 As clocks to weight their nimble motion owe, The wheels above urg'd by the load below 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV 74 The wool had thereby very much gained weight centerably *a* 1790 Hemet *Hist Ct Brit* (1793) VI 694 If the number of coins did not actually make a pound in weight 1858 Lardner *Handbk Nat Phil.* 154 Ap pearances, in common with all material substances, possess qualities of impenetrability, inertia, and weight 1860 Maine *Expos Lex, Weight or Resistance*, a faculty common to man and the lower animals, taking cognizance of weight and other kinds of mechanical force

*Phr* 1897 G A Lawrence *Guy Livv* I He had slowly gravitated on into his present position, on the old Ring principle— weight must tell'

b In *fig* or *transf* uses

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* II pr iii (1886) 23 Yif any frute of mortal thinges may han any welthe or pris of welefulnesse 1560 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 41 b, In the weyght of this noble treasure, standeth all the effecte of the pilgrymage of perfeccyon. 1598 Shake *Merry W* I iii 24 Sir, the ditty is prayse, Excellently describing the weight of affection, the simplicitie of loue 1698 Fleckhoe *Enigm Char* 12 He hovers in his choice: he an empty Ballance with no weight of Judgement to incline him to either scale 1787 Wolcot (P Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks 1812 I 443 And really I would rather be knock'd down By weight of argument than weight of fist. 1891 Cayley *Math Papers*(1897) XIII 110 It is for this purpose convenient to introduce the notion of 'weight ' ; say a triangle has the weight 2, then a quadrangle, divisible into two triangles, has the weight 2

c. Impetus (of a heavy falling body, also of a blow).

1575 Babbour *Bruce* XVII 693 The gynour swappit out the stane That evin toward the lift it gane And with gret wecht syne duschit doune *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2163 Their strokes shuld come with grete wight

d In scientific use . (see quots.).

*a* 1791 Keill *Maupertuis' Dist* (1734) 3 A secret Force, we call Weight or Gravity, attracts, urges or impels Bodies towards the Center of the Earth 1806 G Gregory *Treat Mechanics* I 46 It will not be difficult to attach a just and scientific meaning to that which is commonly called weight it is the effort necessary to prevent a body from falling 1827 N Arnott *Physics* I 14 Weight, therefore, is merely general attraction acting everywhere.

e *Prosody* (See quot.)

1898 Sweet *A S. Reader* Introd (ed 7) 86 Stress and quantity together constitute weight *Ibid* 92 This double alliteration is not essential to the metre like that caused by eaten weight

4. In various phrases (see also sense 1)

a *In* (or †*of*) *weight*, added to adjs, such as *heavy, light, great, etc*

*c* 1400 *Laud Troy bk* 1662 Semely dight With eglis faire an l riche In wyght, Of riche gold and werchel of wyght 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* vi, Thow wenest that within my belv should be a precious stone more of weyght than I am 1488 * Act Sc Parliament* 8 iii, That noone bey heuyer then an other bot like of weight *a* 1500 in Arnold *Chron* (1811) 198 The said bales were mycle heuyar in weight than they shulde naturally haue ben 1510 W Parker in *Archæol Brit* XI 359/1 I hey [opossum skins] are not only very light in weight and warm, but handsome

*fig* 1570 B Goodge *Poore's kingd* 13 b, Ihe Dorebeepers instructed thus, what things he ought to do Whenas this office great of weight he there doth come vnto

†b. *Of weight* (as adj phrase) Heavy *Obs*

1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 1383 (Campsall MS) For myrther cours comth ay the more wight in ch wighte When it descendeth han don hynges lyghte *c* 1386 — *H Pame* 730 Any thinge that bey to As ston or lede or thynge of wight *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4273 Þerrays of wex I wa hundreth pond ay a þeu *c* 1500 Alex Hume *Poems* (S T S) *Hymn* VII 112 Crosbowes of waight, and Gnoak gaingves kein 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 24 Materials of weight, as Sander, where with an unconscionable Plummer can ingrouse his Bill

†c *Of n.eight* of full or standard weight. *Sc*

1500 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 253 (Certain coins) all of wycht 1594 *Acts Jas VI* (1814) IV 58/2 Ane pund scall have comone course be Hary noble of Weicht for xl* be scottis denny of weicht xviij* 1599 *Aeg Mag Sic Scot* 228 2 Item twelue of gold and weicht

5 The amount which an article of given price or value ought to weigh. Chiefly *ellipt* in predicative use — 4 c *Short weight* see Short a. 15 *a* 1400 *Five Gentle* 354 3if he ferþinglost is in defawte of wyzte owre wyght parti, þe bakere is in þe amercy 1433 in Kingsford *Chron Lond* 73 That no man shulde putte forth ne profre no lolde but yff it helde the weyght 1530 Palsgr 770/2 I pray you go wey this angell, and se me and he lacke ought in loue, no gram too much 1540 in *Lond Hist Rev* (1914) XXIX 521 Spanishe gold of I ext and those [pieces] that be weight. 1693 Stephen & Rowley *Maid in Mill* IV iii, We have bought it for love, no grain too much 1840 Quarles *Enchirid* II xlv, If thou finde him weight, make him thine owne 1691 Locke *Consid Lower, Interest* (1696) 13 Your Money is light, or else which is weight according to its Denomination, by the Standard of the Mint) 1720 De Foe *Capt Singleton* vii (1840) 119 It was near 100 pounds more than weight in gold 1820 Hazlitt Fogwortn *Pop Fales, Mirandi* 1, I protested that I had never furnished the people with bread that was not weight 1830 Galt *Rothelan* (Bohn) 230 The miller ordered me to bring the scales, to see if the money he was going to pay was weight

†6. The action of weighing. *Obs rare.*

*a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ Ord* (1790) 63 One of these clerkes shall have the weyghe of wax for the chaundrey

7 Ponderable matter, that which weighs.

1665 Gerbier *Counsel* 53 What resistance dust can be, when weight as lead upon it 1755 Chambers *Dict Arts St Gt Brit* I 111 viii 196 They are suffered to be over charged with Weight laid upon them, that they expire pre sently 1859 Tennyson *Merr Geraint* 396 Slowly falling as a scale that falls, When weight is added only grain by grain

II An amount determined or determinable by weighing, a definite quantity weighed or capable of being weighed

8. A portion or quantity weighing a definite amount, often preceded by an expression indicating the amount in Ob in the primitive, as *ten pundes, preora punda wiht* ; now in attributive or appositional form, as *one pound, three pounds weight* Often abbreviated *wt*

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* I 374 Seofone ofælcere þysne wyrt ge peneza wihte *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 21499 Ilk hu mone mesly mogbe nit ogt, þat ilk weght þat þar was 1340 He sukl yeld of his aun flese 1* 1366 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 1106 The barres were of gold ful syne Full heuy gret and nat lighte 1382 In exemplum was a leaden weight 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V 397 Pe monkes took wiþ hem a weyte of breed for the sorwy [*L pondus panis dixerat*] *c* 1430 *Chev Assigne* 1 Ther sente a gobet sprynge of bloode a-bove here a cowpe, And delyuered hym his weyghte 1494 *Acc. Lt High Treas Scot* I 314 For vj pund weicht foure vnce of quhit 1590 Shake *Merry W* v 42 You take me why I rather choose to haue A weight of carrion flesh, then to receive Three thousand Ducats? 1655 Mary Worcester *Cent Inv* § 190 Take one pound weight & a quarter & an hundred as high as one pound falleth 1669 Earl Sandwich tr *Barbas Art of Metals* 1 (1674) 12 Lemnian Earth is esteemed as rich as Gold, and sold two weight for weight. 1728 E Smith] *Compleat Housew* (ed 2) 264 Mix the Pulp and Meat together, and take the weight and half of Sugar 1794 Vancouver *Agric Cambridge* 58 The grass produced from the water meadows is chiefly inferior to that which for weight which grows upon unwatered ground 1807 Stewart *Planter's G* (1828) 130 Close planting, pruning, and other means are employed to obtain what is considered the greatest possible ' weight of wood 1845 Dodd *Brit Manuf* v 26 About 112 lbs weight of biscuits are put into the oven at once 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem, Techn* (ed 2) I 236 The quantities of heat contained in equal weights of water and air at the same temperature.

*fig* 1382 Wyclif *2 Cor* iv 17 [The] ligt thing of oure tribulacioun worchith the cuerelastyng weyte of glorie in vs

1611 Shake *Cymb* III v 88 Is she with Posthumus? From whose so many weights of baseness, cannot A dram of worth be drawne 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* x, Impartial Justice holds Her equal Scales; 'Till stronger Virtue does the Weight incline 1852 Tennyson *Ode Death Wellington* 240 One, upon whose hand and heart and brain Once the weight and fate of Europe hung 1895 Hopkins *Organ* II 493 [In the New Organ] there are several reservoirs producing different weights of wind

b *ellipt* A pennyweight of gold.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 9 Aug 4/6 Tried a crushing, and didn t get four weights to the ton

9 *In his, etc. weight* as *or of gold, silver*, etc. a quantity of gold, silver, etc. of the same weight. Chiefly in hyperbolical statements of value.

*c* 1205 Lay 30835 For nauer ieo3er neoßer naide for nan mihti of golde þat þe king hi wusse þat [etc ] *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl* 630 (Cambr MS ) 3e habbeþ sheuf of blauncheflur. Hu the hire bones For treuesse of gold hire wyst 13 . *Sir Beues* 1725 An hors he hadde of gret pris , For him a 3ar eelner wyst, He he þat hors haue myst *c* 1325 *Metr Hom* 8122 He wold haue 3 ore for him of maynig (of the sword) The weyght of gold and of other thyng *a* 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) II 324 I hou art worth the weyght of gold 16 *Egerton Chron* 1552 in *Ferry Pol MS* I 300 He is worth to her his waight in gold 1614 J Sarie *Ivy Judgan* etic (Hakl Soc) 204 Musike, worth the wayht in bulver 1630 T Rowlet *Noble Soldier* III 3 I would not for a million stock infernall draught for the weight of the world in Diamonds 1672 Petty *Pol Anat Ireld* (1691) 68 Gold has been worth but twelve times its own weight in Silver 1815 *Sherb Panorama Sci & Art* II 783 Add to the solution twelve times its weight of distilled water 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho* I iv 30 A lady worth its weight in gold 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II xxvi, The dear old nurse . whom George Rivers would have paid with her weight in gold, for taking care of his new daughter

10. The amount that something weighs ; the quantity of a portion of matter as measured by the amount of its downward force due to gravitation, the amount of resistance offered by a body to forces tending to raise it. *Line weight* see Livers 7

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L G W* 1218 Sakkis ful of gold of large weyghte 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 59 Pe lock heedis þat be I ameres were of diuers weyhtes 1398 — *Barth De P R* xix iv (Bodl MS ), Pouȝe it (ie gold) in on fire e nyvaiep nouȝt be ameynsed and wexeþ more leseþ his weiȝt [*L nec etiam in fondere minoratur*] *c* 1400 Maunder (Rawl) lxvii 84 Marchunds sophisticated peper, þat it is alde and so by nesse þe weyght is semes fresch and new *c* 1475 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 286 Ihe pore peyple be oppressyd In yevyng theym to myche weyght into the beginning 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV*, II iv 276 The weight of an halfe penny will turne the Scales betweene their Haber de pois 1599 B Jonson *Cynthias Rev* II ii To a friend in want hee will not depart with the weight of a soldred groat. 1643 N Carpenter *Geogr Del* I xiv (1672) 73 The parts are indowed with an equall weight. 1698 Fryer *Asthma* (1717) 196 The Morning Weight [of the Asthmatic] was 178 Pound 1715 in *Gregory Astron* (1726) I 491 The Weights of hom igeneous Bodies placd near one another 1769 *Museum Rust* IV 74 The weight of this wool encreased from August 7th to October 17th, 22 too to 1031 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* ii (1842) 25 Small weights cannot be al preciated in instruments in tended for great quantities of matter 1830 Herschel *Astron* I xii 323 The weight of all bodies is diminished by the centrifugal force, so that the weight of any body is greater at the poles than at the equator 1876 Lait *Rec Adv. Phys Sci* xiv (1885) 357 The weight of a pound of matter varies from place to place on the earth s surface

*fig* 1390 Gower *Conf* II 276 Mi weyhe of love and mi mesure Hath be mor large Than ever I tok of love ayein 1575 Campion *Hist Irel* xiv (1633) 46 When he was forced to silence with the weight of truth 1580 *Lyly Euph. Secretorie* II (1595) 128 If men wold but throughly enter into the weight of their estates, and truly consider with themselues what of right appertaineth to very reputation 1600 Shake *A Y L* I ii 9 Heerein I see thou lou st mee not with the full weight that I loue thee.

*transf* 1892 Rutherford *Mrs Hutch* (1891) 128, I know not the weight of the pension the King will give me

b In phrases stating how much a thing weighs, as *of two pounds weight*.

1389 *Eng Guilds* 30 Also ich seaue chyld heren a candel yat day, ye wyyght of ix pound 1449 *Paston Lett* Suppl. (1901) 22, 13 tapers of wax of 13 lbs wyght. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 And 13 saltz salers of syiver of the weyth of 1 unce an 1 1553 *Engl Gilds* 1 And the said Wax to be fleshe therof wayed xlvij pound weyght 1557 Records *Hertf* R 3, A Cube of Brasse of 4 inches square, doth weighe 5 pounde weight 1611 Cotgr *Marck* 1 Poids de 24 Livres le heauier sonne, by the weight of a man 1798 *Jayne's Universal Chron* 29 July–5 Aug 141/2 A Turtle of upwards of 300 lb. wt

c. In figurative phrases.

1617 Morveon *Itin* III 37 The vastnesse of their Empire, falling with his owne weight. 1704 Guy Miege in Sparks *Life & Writ* (1831) II 393 We have found a system fall by its own weight 1721 *Brit Weekly* 6 Oct 2/3 There was a general belief that people round us were not pulling their weight.

d Chem *Atomic weight* the relative weight of an atom of any element.

1826-41 Brande *Chem* (ed 5) 236 A compound of 1 atom of hydrogen and 1 atom of chlorine, these respective weights being 1 and 36 1838 J. Thomson *Chem Org Bodies* 256 This would raise the atomic weight to 31 72

e *transf* in *Mechanics*. (See quots )

1810 *Encycl Brit* (ed 4) XIII 532/1 When two forces act against each other by the intervention of a machine, the one force is called the power, and the other the weight 1819 *Chapters Phys Sci* 77 In the *Inclined Plane* is always inclined obliquely to the *weight*, or the *resistance* to be overcome

**11.** A heavy mass; usually, something heavy that is lifted or carried, a burden, load. Also *fig.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* II met. v. (1886) 35 Allas what was he justyest dalf wythe gobetes or the weyhtes of gold coueted vnder erthe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* xxiii. (Bodl. MS.) A philosophur was preued whi an horrible man is more heuy panne eny burbon oþer weizte [*ed* 1495 wyttel, *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxi. 127 Her he was nye dyynyne, for grete weyte of his burden. 1523-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 20 With the weyght therof it pulleth the corne flatte to the erth. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 78 Not to lyue as an vnprofytable weyght and burden of the erth. 1562 Bp. Pilkington *Aggeus* Pref. Any. The greater weyghte that is cast on, the more it breakes. 1584 ? Greene *Circle of Fortune* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 75 I found it built so slenderly, as yᵉ least waight was able to pash it into innumerable peeces. *c* 1620 Fletcher *Rules Our* v. iv, My free mind, Like to the Palm-tree walliug fruitful Nile Shall grow up straighter and en large it self Spight of the envious weight that loads it with. 1640 *Dove Lett Pat at Oxf.* (1837) 393 New inventions to raise ponderous weights. 1668 Davenen *Heroick Stanzas* xv, His palms, the under Weights they did not stand, Still thriv'd. 1698 Fryer *Asthma* iv 197 All strait Cloaths, and the weight of Blankets hinder the Extention of the Breath. 1764 [J. Burton] *Pres St Nat ng Thames* 39 There will be no Occasion to pass up such a vast Weight of Water passing on the Way. 1790 *Trials Comm.* XLVII 363/2 It is an Absurdity to load the Extremities with more Weight of Metal than the Middships. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* v. xx, Strongly are mane arms, and little care A weight so slight as mine to bear. 1852 Mayhew *Builder's Pocket bk* 57 The whole weight is thrown upon the beam. 1866 Tyndall *Fragm Sci* (1871) 14 The simplest form of work is the raising of a weight.

*transf.* 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Sat.* I. x. 12 Let your sense be clear, Nor with a multitude of words fatigue the ear. — *Art of Poetry* 260 *note*, The Verses were so heavy with a Weight of Spondees.

**12** *spec.* **a** In horse-racing or riding: The amount (expressed in stones and pounds) which the jockey or rider is required or expected to weigh, or which the mount can without difficulty carry

*Catch weights*: see Catch *sb.*

1692 *Lond Gaz* No. 2773/4 None but Gentlemen to ride, The weight 12 Stone. 1740 *Act 13 Geo II*, *c.* 19 § 3 Any Horse carrying less than the Weight herein before directed to be carried. 1771 [P. Pasquin] *Neweastrel* I. 108 Who ever heard of a rider's throwing away part of his weight, or tearing his pocket that the shot might run out? 1858 *Rules & Regulations* § 58 No jockey shall be allowed a lb above the weight specified for his horse to carry and no more. 1883 'Rapier' *Types of Turf* 24, I remember how eagerly in a certain stable the weights were expected for last year's Cesarewitch.

**b.** Without article.

1734 Cherry *1st Horse Matches* 11 The highest Horse to carry 12 st. and all under that Size to be allow'd Weight for Inches. 1780 Cowper *Gilpin* 115 He carries weight! he rides a race! 1886 Earl Suffolk *Racing* 145 Weight for age is the basis of trade, and horses 1889 Baron Powell *Pugstacking* 117 The chief objections to an Arab are his frequent inability to jump and to carry weight. 1892 'R. Boldrewood' *Squatter under Sod* v. viii, He was a dark brown horse up to weight and good across country.

*Comb.* 1863 Miss Braddon *Aur. Floyd* xiii, The bay filly which was to run in a weight for age race at the York Spring [meeting]. 1898 *Field Sport* II. 1/2/2 Weight for age races are of three varieties.

**c** *Boxing* A match between boxers of a particular weight

1914 *Varsity* 24 Feb. 15/1. An experienced boxer who won this weight last year at Cambridge. *Ibid.*, Selected to do duty in the two weights.

**III** In figurative senses from the above.

**13** A burden (of responsibility, obligation, suffering, years, etc.)

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Eng Wks* I. 66 Pes [the Jews] shal bere to be ende of be worlde be wiste of be olde lawe. *c* 1450 Cargrave *Life St Gilbert* 90 He held him self onworþ to be borden of wordes. 1538 Bible (Geneva) *Num* xi. 11 Seynge that thou puttest yᵉ weyght of all this people vpon me. *c* 1586 Sidney *Pr.* v. iv, With heaped wrongs that were unpossible to oppresse These most unpacified rebells unto thee. 1590 Shake *Com. Err.* II. i. 36 But were we burdned with like waight of paine, As much, or more, we should our selues complaine. 1600 Shakespeare *Hen. V*, 393 You that groane vnder the waight of Gods displeasure. 1661 F. Howell in *Ecrit S. P. ses Friends* II. (1921) 129 The Imprisonment of Princes lyes as a weight vpon the whole Nation. 1675 Dryden *Aureng.* I. (1676) 2 The weight of seventy Winters prest him down. 1718 Prior *Poems* 694 Permit me strength, my weight of woe to bear. 1720 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Golden) 50 Nor was my Part I had a Weight taken off from my Heart. 1738 Wesley *Ps* cxlvii vii, Ye, who bow with Age's Weight. 1822 Byron *To Thyrza* 43 Oft have I borne the weight of ill, But never bent beneath till now. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, The child, overpowered by the weight of her sorrows and anxieties burst into a passion of tears. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 297 He was an aged man and seemed enfeebled by the weight of years.

**b.** Burden (of proof), onus.

1824 J. Marshall *Constit Opin.* (1819) 322 The whole weight of proof is thrown upon him who would introduce a distinction.

**14. a.** The force of an onslaught or encounter in the field; pressure exerted by numbers.

*c* 1300 *Melusine* xix. 106 Wel ye wote that two kenghtes may not susteyne & bere the weight ayenst wel Leek or houandred thousand paynemys. 1643 R. Baker *Chron., Hen III* (1653) 127 And so undertaking the main weight of the battell [he] perished under it. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 1071 They bear him back, and whom by Might They cannot Conquer, they oppress with Weight. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist* (1827) IX. 289 No longer able to support the weight of the enemy, they thought fit to retire. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xi, The tumult forced asunder, by the weight and press of numbers, the Prince and Douglas

**b.** *To feel the weight of* · to suffer from (by receiving a heavy blow or undergoing severe pressure). Freq *fig.*

1593 *Respublica* 284 He that ones wincheth shall fele the waite of my fiste. 1819 Mowbray *Tim* I. 98 He had felt the weight of her Majesties power. 1681 Flavel *Meth Grace* xvii. 317 His enemies felt the weight of his prayers, and the church of God reaped the benefits thereof. 1701 Atterbury *Serm* (1716) I. 268 They, who lately felt the weight of the English Arms. 1708 De Foe *New Test Ch Eng Honesty* Writ 1709 II. 306 The Church, who by this time began to feel the Weight of the King's Hand, had been Deposses'd of Magdalen College in Oxford. 1882 Mrs. Pen *Adam & Eve* II. 21 I've a made that great butterputch feel the weight o' me hand

†**c.** *To give a weight to* to add force or vigour to

1796 Mme D'Arblay *Camilla* VI. iv. III. 202 To see her thus completely disconcerted, gave a weight to the mischief our malice of Miss Ardbery.

**d.** *Mining.* (See quot.)

1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Weight* A weight is the gradual or sudden lowering of the roof of a mine after the coal has been worked out the long wall system.

**15.** Importance, moment, claim to consideration; esp (**a**) in phr. *of weight*, *of great* (*little*, etc.) *weight*

(**a**) 1521 Wolsey in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser. I. I. 279 A matter of no great weight, or important. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 70 b, In matters of weight and difficultie. 1583 Stubbes *Anat Abus* II. 113 What obedience then is due to the Magistrate in matters of weight, of small importance. 1606 *Prov. agst Late Traitors, Garnet* etc. 103 Such new matter as shalbe worth the hearing as ben g indeed of weight and moment. 1640 D. Rogers *Naaman* 50 Yᵉ world we in our g urneyes, travailes, attempts of weight, beseech him that his good hand might appeare. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 345 Pond'ring future Things of weight and moment. 1779 J. Sowden *Cur Cr* xv. 237/1 It is certain, that all such bodily actions as affect the soul, are of great weight in Religion. *a* 1770 *Justin Serm* (1771) II. xiii. 339 It is an argument of weight. 1788 Burke *Impeach. Fox & India bill* Wks. 1792 II. 417 The objection is of weight. 1852 Hallam *Comp Solit* xi. 274 The right mares of Arabia are in no great request with us; they are the only horses of weight in the world.

(*b*) 1581 N. Burne *Disput* To King xx, As the importance and weight of the matter requyres. 1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* v. lxv. § 4 Ceremonies haue more in waight then i t s g t. 1614 Ralegh *Hist World* iv. vii. § 2. 299 Considering the weight of the businesse, which he had taken in hand. 1697 *Lond Gaz* No. 3316/4 Of small weight in the French she [the letter ¥] is of that weight that she makes sometimes a whole word of her self. 1698 Swift *Sermon last Misc.* (1711) 328 But these are Points of the highest weight in that *Impror Mind* it iv, The weight and force of argument which should influence the mind. 1830 Cunningham *Hist Amer.* I. 1. 1. The weight and force of the opinions of Northcote. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* iv. I. 513 Weight of moral character was indeed wanting to Edward Seymour. 1861 Pichat & Merlet *Tres Sacr* 397 Having no wealth to give him weight. 1888 Baker *Amer Comm* I. viii. 206 The two elections are the best evidence of the weight of this consideration.

**b.** *Spec.* The relative value of an observation.

1838 De Morgan *Ess, Probab* 138 The merit or cf finding an average is this multiply every observation by its weight and divide the sum of the products by the sum of the weights.

**16.** Persuasive or convincing power (of utterances, arguments, evidence), impressiveness (of matter or speech)

1534 Fenner *Godden bk M Austel* Prol. (1539) A iv, It sufficeth to put the weyght the sentence. 1544 Udall *Erasm. Apoph* Erasm. Pref. 9 omitt'd, A famous speaker geueth to the sayinges moche weight and grace also. 1586 J. Day *Eng Secretorie* (1625) 3 A matter of seruice is to be delivered with waight. 1630 Prynne *Anti-Armin* 113 A Sentence of sufficient antiquity and weight to put it beyond exception. 1641 *Answer Antid Exhort Archb Usher* No 19 P 3 Having nothing of any manner of weight to effect against the principles of their antagonists. 1783 Blair *Rhet* xxiii. I. 382 Nothing requisite to form true weight and dignity of any composition, than too great attention to ornament. 1809 Southey *Lett* (1856) I. 218 But this decision not from the weight of the reasoning. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II. 172 No man spoke with more weight and dignity in Council and in parliament. 1866 Mrs. Whitney *Nay L. Goldthit* II. the Oftener I warn't without its weight.

**17.** Weighting as the heaviest supply, greatest stress or severity; preponderance, superior amount (of evidence, authority) on one side or the other of a question

1568 Grafton *Chron* II. 621, xv thousand men, in whom consisted the weight and peyne of the wh le enterprise. 1613 Shelton *tr. Cervantes' Don Quix* I. 139 The weight of Judgment has ever given Invention Priority before Language. 1720 De Foe *Hist Plague* (1754) 8 The Parish of St. Giles's where also the Weight of the Infection lay. 1866 Rogers *Agric & Prices* I. x. 168 The weight of evidence is in favour of the latter hypothesis. 1883 *Law Rep.*, 11 Q. B. D. 592 An order for a new trial on the ground that the verdict was against the weight of evidence.

**18.** In various phrases

**a** *To lay weight upon* † to urge (a person) to do something (*obs.*), to attach importance or value to

(*a*) 1600 Holland *Livy* xxix. 1238 The woman laid great waight upon me to depart out of those quarters.

(*b*) 1708 Swift *Sacram Test* Misc. (1711) 36 We are apt to lay some weight upon their Opinion. 1825 Scott *Cap M* iv, We lay no weight whatever upon the pretended information thus conveyed. 1863 H. Taylor *Quaker II* xlvii xvi, And it was brought upon my mind That we on dress and outward things perhaps lay too much weight.

**b** *To hold weight with* to vie in greatness with. *Obs*

1641 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 148 For there are but few deliverances temporall, that hold weight with the delivery from the paines of child birth.

**c.** *To have weight* to make an impression on, weigh *with* (those who judge a matter), to receive favourable consideration, to be recognized as valid or important. Similarly *to carry weight.*

1658 Sir K. Digby *Let to Lᵈ G Digby* (1651) 10, I conceive they are to have no more weight with those that have ability to examine them, then [etc.]. 1790 Pegge *Peter Leicester's Cond Sp* 108 The latter opinion had its weight, and prevail d. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I. 113 If such narrow motives have so little weight with me. 1771 *Junius Lett* lix. 328 The conditions which constitute this right must be taken together. Separately, they have little weight. 1818 Cruise *Dig. Laws* (ed. 2) I. 368 If the tenant were likely to be prejudiced by not being named, this objection would have weight. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr & It Jrnls* (1891) I. 31 The visit of a minister seems more weight

†**d.** *Upon the weight of* on the strength of, by relying on the value of *Obs*

1710 Steele *Letter* No. 4 Introd. I shall not pretend to raise a Credit to this Work, upon the Weight of my politick News only.

**e** *To give* (full, due) *weight to* to allow (a plea, argument, circumstance) its proper force, to weigh equitably; to treat as valid or important

1885 *Manch Exam* 26 June 5/3 His Hon. ess has given due weight to the strong arguments against the case. *Ibid* 10 July 5/1 It is proper to give full weight to the exculpatory evidence adduced.

**19** Influence or authority (of a person) due to character or ability, position, office, wealth, or the like. Chiefly in phrases *of weight*, *of* (great, etc.) *weight.*

1710 Steele *Lather* No. 4 P 7 Those Persons at the Helm are so useful, and in themselves of such Weight. 1747 *Lounds & Adams C. at Chester* 3 In all popular Assemblies, it has been found necessary to place some Man of Weight and Dignity in the Chair. 1779 J. Moore *View Society France* (1781) II. iv. 25 The opinions that a considerable weight in the manners and opinions of people of rank. 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xiii. III. 293 It could hardly be doubted that they were directed by a secret agent of great weight. 1885 *Manch Exam* 6 Nov. 5 3 Political economists of weight refused to join the Commission.

**IV** A standard of quantity determined by, or employed in, weighing.

**20.** † **a.** Standard of weight *Obs*

*a* 1000 *Laws Edgar* in viii in *Liebermann* 204 Gange an gemet and an gewihte swylce man on Lundenbyrig. 1158 and on Wintancestre healde. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 211 in *O. E. Misc.* I. 173 Godes wil hit is wit to holde & nan mikle naut lesse, ac bi lan ake iwichte. *c* 1200 *Ibid* 284 (Inn MS.) *ibi* I. 235 Pur ne sullen [i. habben g.] alle þi one white & one weight. 1340 *Ayenb* 6 Pe false weyht. 1398 *Ibid* 356 Þe kinges by wi as wyste hit be 3 weye. 1499 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 349/1 It was ordeyned yat on weight and on mesure be al ye Reme as wel with oute ye Estaple as with yn ne.

**b** With addition of a distinguishing word, as in *troy, avoirdupois weight* Any of the various systems (consisting of a series of units in fixed arithmetical relation to each other) used for stating the weight of a quantity of matter.

*a* 1500 in Archæol *Cham* (1821) 191 Ther beth in maner weyghtes, that is to wete, troy weyght, auncell weyghte and lyghtinge weyght. 1540 *Act Chancellor Lands* (Selden Soc.) II. 222 Every person shall sell wax by the lawfull weight called Haberdepois. 1545 *Rates Customs* 60 v, Fyrst of the weyght of Troye. Yᵗ ilke weyght is bought and solde golde and jewels. 1695 *Proclam* 8 Nov. in *Ruding Coins* 356 ¼ Ounces by wi as wyght hit be 3 weye. 1699 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 549/1 It was ordeyned yat on weight and on mesure be al ye Reme as wel with oute ye Estaple as with yn ne.

**b** With addition of a distinguishing word, as in *troy, avoirdupois weight* Any of the various systems (consisting of a series of units in fixed arithmetical relation to each other) used for stating the weight of a quantity of matter.

*a* 1500 in Archæol *Cham* (1821) 191 Ther beth in maner weyghtes, that is to wete, troy weyght, auncell weyghte and lyghtinge weyght. 1540 *Act Chancellor Lands* (Selden Soc.) II. 222 Every person shall sell wax by the lawfull weight called Haberdepois. 1545 *Rates Customs* 60 v, Fyrst of the weyght of Troye. Yᵗ ilke weyght is bought and solde golde and jewels. 1695 *Proclam* 8 Nov. in *Ruding Coins* 356 ¼ Ounces by wi as wyght hit be 3 weye. 1699 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 549/1 It was ordeyned yat on weight and on mesure be al ye Reme as wel with oute ye Estaple as with yn ne.

**21.** A unit or denomination of ponderable quantity.

*c* 1000 Ohmin 812 All þatt mann abolide liggen ut wiþþ sife wehnte [= sheckels] off silfferr. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 4837 Akam þe ligh hal i wyped fals weght and mette. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* xviii. 1. (Bodl. 370a) Mna is a certeyn wyzte and valewe. 1463 Cockeram II. A weight of three grannes, *Arrat*. 1857 J. H. Walsh *Dom Econ* 60 The last mentioned goods may be sold either by the heaped measure, or by the established weight. 1863 Miss Braddon *Aur Floyd* xxxi, She knew—to the smallest weight employed at Apothecaries Hall how much sugar Mr Bulstrode liked in his tea.

**b** In pl and coupled with *measures.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 227 Cayus temperde 25m o lysynge [of] men to fyndynge of ensaumple and wyʒtes [*Rendelome el mesure or pois*, 1495 (*Trin*.)] he Patriarp to Knowledge Conteynynge certeyne brief Tables of English weights, and Measures. 1656 Blount *Glossogr* s.v. *Weights*, One Phidon an Argive is said to have bin the first finder out of Weights and Measures. 1742 *Gray Agric* 41 The power to judge of weights and measures. 1799 *Med Jrnl* I. 199 The operations relative to a general uniformity of weights and measures. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk Farm* II. 393 The Weights and Measures Act (5th Geo IV, c. 74).

†**c.** Used in various localities as a name for the customary unit for weighing particular commodities (e. g. wool, hemp, cheese, potatoes), the quantity denoted differs greatly in different places (see *Cwt* Vs., and Measure *sb* 5 **b**. *Obs*

1490 in *Somerset Med Wills* (1901) 291, I have xvii weyghts of walle besydes the bequestes aforesayd. *a* 1500

in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 263 The weyght of Essex chese is..CCC. weyght, fyue score xij. li. for the C. The weyght of Suffolk chese is xij. score and xvi. li. 1500 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 381 Ane neif full of wirrie weicht of voll. 1656 H. Phillips *Purch. Patterns* (ed. 3) 193 There are some other denominations of these weights in several places, as.. Rooven, Weights, Lasts. 1687 A. Lovell *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 98 The Inhabitants make Five thousand Weight of Silk yearly, with the Money whereof they pay their Tribute. 1881 Rugby *Old Chemistry Primer* 178 A 'weight' for some unexplained cause, was the Boston method of expressing 256 pounds. 1830 *Edin. Cycl.* VII. 221/2 [In Cork] Potatoes, when retailed in market, are sold by a measure called a weight, generally containing 21 lb. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1127 (Dorsets.), of wool, a weigh or weight is 30 tills, and 4 lb. or 1 lb. over in some places. Weight (Dorsets.), of hemp, 8 heads of 4 lbs., twisted and tied, making 32 lbs. (Somers.), of hemp, 30 lbs.

**22.** A piece of metal or other substance, weighing a known amount and identical with one of the units or with a multiple or aliquot part of a unit in some recognized system.

In early instances *fake weights* is ambiguous, as it may be referred either to this sense or to 24 (pair of scales); probably the writers did not always distinguish, the virtual sense being 'fraudulent weights'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne me heþ diuerse wyhtes..and beggeþ be þe gratteste wyhtes..and zelleþ by þe leste. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxxi. (1495) 911/1 In þe Sompyme massy þynges and heuy by the whyche the heuynesse is assayed is called a weight. 1580 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46 I seeve to be sonn William my best bell with weyght, and lyttle leuys, also iij^s of ledyn wyghts. *c* 1430 *Contin. Brut* 448 In þat tyme þe gold of þe realme went by weght; And euery man had a payre ballaunce And weghtes in hys sleve for þe gold. 1487 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 354 That all other wyghtes wyth the cite..be enseuled accordynge to the kynges standart. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 107 A man holding in his ryght hand a balaunce And in the lefte hand..two weyghtes. 1540 *Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) 112 Sufficient beames scales and weightes sealid..for true seruing of the byers. 1583 *Rates Custom Ho.* (1659) 8 By the weights called the weights the *c*, l. s. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 535 The lightest little weight, giving motion to the Balance, they call a Grain. 1748 Somerset *Dairying* 59 Press it with a four pound weight, or..with a lighter weight. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. cxvii, Scales and Weights.

b. *Athletics.* A heavy lump of stone, or ball of metal, which is thrown from one hand placed close to the shoulder. Commonly in the Sc. phr. *putting the weight* (see Put v.) *Putting vbl. sb.*[1] 8). Also *elliptically* as the name of this sport.

1865 *Field* 21 Jan. 34/1 Throwing the hammer, puting the weight.

**23.** A block or lump of metal or other heavy substance, or a heavy object, used to pull or press down something, to give an impulse to machinery (e. g. in a clock), to act as a counterpoise, or the like. Cf. *letter-weight, paper-weight, sash weight,* Jack-weight.

*c* 1405 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1943 Pis worthy, wykkid werld, I wagge with a wyt (= wyst). 1518 in *Archæol. Cant.* XXXII. 17 Payed for mendyng off the waights off the clock ij d.. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* xxi. 13 Ouer Ierusalem wyll I stretch forth the lyne of Samaria, and the weights of the house of Ahab. 1606 *Shuttleworth Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 175 Payed for the jacke, the cordes and pulleys, xxvi^s; the weight and cheans, vi^s. 1627 Middleton *Tim.* III. 66 The doores that keep by weights are made to shut of themselues at the heeles of him that is gone in. 1668 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 266 A delicate Clock with weights to it. 1774 M. Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* 48 Let the Weight at the End of the Spritty Purchase be..about *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Supply 2/3 Sash pullies, weights and lines. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metals* II. 299 A weight being attached to the hook in the opening, is drawn downwards. 1838 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 216 There was a clock without a case, the weights being visible. *fig.* 1822 Bacon *New Atl.* (ed. 2) 89 By the wonderfull prodigence, that..hangeth great Weights vpon small Wyres. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 109 Great weights hang on small wyers. 1645 Gauden *Love of Truth* 22 Love is the weight and motor of soule.

† b. *To go on weights* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50/4 The small, thinne, and Hern-fashioned hippes and legges, wherof we commonly say 'they goe one Waygthes'.

**V.** A means of weighing.

†**24.** *pl.*, less commonly *sing.* (A pair of) scales, a balance. Also in figurative context. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. 10 Lihers sones of men are ai In weghte [L. *in statera*]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1734 Py wale renge is walt in wegtes to heng, & is funde ful fewe of hit fayth dedes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 332 If that I mihte finde a skeyles To leie it and to make in weyhte. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxxx. (1495) 911/1 In this wyse..the thynge in the whyche a thynge is weyed is callyd a weyghte. 1537 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 508/1 Where ye Kinges Weightes and his Been ben sette. 1613 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 763 The world would put her and her kindred in the wight, and say that they had..broken the amitie and peace. 1655 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 220 One of these byrdes with her nest put in a paire of gold weightes,.. hath ueild no more than ii. *Tomani.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ii. 43 The false he layd In th' other scale; but still it downe did slide, And by no meane could in the weight be stayd. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ii. § 3 (1622) 174 That.. weigheth the mountaines in a waite. 1629 Z. Boyd *Last Battell* IV. 497 Dauid in his time put them in the weights together [Ps. lxii. 9].

**VI. 25.** *a. attrib.*, as *weight balk, beam, -charge, -equivalent, scale, sense, stone, thermometer;* **weight-clock,** a clock operated by weights; **weight cloth,** a cloth carried by a jockey to make up his riding-weight; † **weight-house,** a weighhouse; **weight nail** (see quot.); **weight-plate,** a plate on which articles are to be weighed in a weighing-machine.

1375 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 255, j olde *weight balke* with skayles, ij d. 1482 *Malden* (Essex) *Court Rolls* (Bundle 37, No. 2 b). A *weight beme* de ferro, precii iiii *s.* 1898 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 2/7 The weight-charge on packets above 1lb. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 March *Clock & Watch-work* 110 The great wheel of a *weight-clock* rides on the barrel arbor. 1889 *Daily News* 4 June 3/8 Before..her driver could return to weigh in, his *weight cloths* were abstracted from the bulky. 1897 Sinden & Berens *Some Unrecognised Laws Nat.* 107 The volume-equivalent would be too great and the *weight-equivalent* too small. 1724 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 300 Any of the Duties of the King's *Weight-House.* *c* 1850 *Weekes. Navig.* (Weale) 134 *Weight nails* are similar to deck nails, but not so fine, have square heads, and are used for fastening cleats, &c. 1881 P. M'Neill *Bluemore* 169 The colliery engineer was quickly on the ground, [and] the *weight-plate* removed. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 357 A similar bow was formed on the back of the armature, to which the *weight scale* was attached. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 709 The *weight* sense was lost in the hands as well as in the feet. 1469 *Hungerton Corr.* (Camden) 21, I have a counterpais bieth wyth skayles and *weyght stone* that lete wooll weye wyth. 1849 R. V. Dixon *Heat* I. 52 One an air thermometer,..the other a mercurial 'weight thermometer.

b. *Comb.*, as *weight-carrier* (*sb.* a horse that can carry a heavy rider), *-carrying, -lifting, -maker, -raising, -resisting, -thrower,* †*-wiser* (= indicator).

1862 G. A. Lawrence *Barren Honour* xix. II. 90 Red Lancer is a very model of a fast *weight-carrier.* 1893 *P. Y. Handbk.* (1894) 17/2 Lord Lurgan's..is a good weight-carrier, that chair. 1883 Mrs. E. Kennard *Right Sort* xix, Mounted on a huge 'weight-carrying hunter. 1897 *Sporting Life* 3 May 3/1 Our luggage animals have the limit of their weight-carrying capacity. 1898 *Ibid.* 6 Apr. 5/2 The London 'Weight-lifting Club. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 4/3 A series of weight-lifting competitions. 1647 in W. M. Metcalfe *Hist. Founders' Co.* (1887) 103 No Weight Maker that doth cast Brass Wayghtes and..put them to sale. 1850 Denison *Clock & Watch-m.* 245 The going part is also subject to a mere 'weight-raising' machinery. 1908 Phillips *Cyder* 1. 365 Hazel, and 'weight-resisting Palm. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 461/2 Any one of her five 'weight throwers could beat the best man at Cambridge. 1683 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1003 We find, by several sorts of Barofcopes (or 'weight-wisers) not only that (etc.).

**Weight** (wēit, *Sc.* weyt), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 2 weiht, (wheit), 4 wyeyt, whight, 4–5 weght, 8–9 weigh, 6– weight. [Cf. *Icel. Reit. Dicht.*]

*Fog. Dial. Dict.*] (Possibly a special application of prec. 21, orig. denoting a utensil capable of containing a certain weight of grain.) A farm utensil resembling a sieve in form, with a bottom of sheepskin or wood (unperforated), used for winnowing corn, also as a measure.

*For timbre weeht*; see Timbre *sb.*[1] b.

1183 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 23 Et j. wheit de scatmalt, et j. wheit de farina, et j. weiht de avena. 1354 *Finchale Acc.* (Surtees) 9 xxxvi, iij weyegtes. 1360 *Ibid.* p. lii, ij weghtes. 1391 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 19, ij riddile; j whight. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 432/2 A Weght, *capisterium.* 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Mist.* (1733) II. 181 My bairn has tocher of her awin..A Weight, a peet-creel and a cradle. *c* 1786 M. Dodds in *Rec. Stenton & Wenner Halliards Scotland.* (1866) 279 Theer was whangs an' shives, thick an' thin, I' weights an' riddles puth'n. 1786 Burns *Halloween* xxi, Meg fain wad be the lass That gi'es him three wechts o' naething. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 283 Wechts or maunds for taking up corn are made either of wood or of skin, attached to a rim of wood. Wechts should be made of two different sizes. 1898 J. Colville *Sc. Vernacular* 12 When snow covered the ground, the barn wecht or stoe sieve was the favourite fan for winnowing.

Hence **We'chtful**, the amount contained in a 'weight'. Also **Wecht** *v. trans.*, to winnow (corn) with a 'weight'.

1804 Tarras *Poems* 67 She wechts the corn anent the blaw. 1808 Jamieson, *Wechtful*, as much as a wecht can contain. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 273 Here the wecht with a smaller weight is given up the good grain...and divides the wechtful between the other two women. *Ibid.* 283.

**Weight** (wēit), *v.* [f. Weight *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *trans.* To oppress (the mind); also *pass.*, to be oppressed in mind or spirit. *Sc. Obs.*

1647 R. Baillie *Lett.* (1842) III. 3 However this silence sometimes weighted my mind, yet I found it the best and wisest course. 1655 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* to Apr. (S. H. S.) II. 230 Shoe told me my daughter Elizabeth had found under his seaknesse a deserted condition and now shoe was weighted with it. 1728 P. Walker *Life Peden* (1827) I. 82 When he took it, he seem'd more than ordinary weighted, and groan'd heavily, saying, Sad Days for Scotland.

**2.** To load with a weight; to supply with an additional weight; to make weighty. Also with *down.*

1747 Hodson *Miner's Dict.* G 3 b, If the Wholes be too soft, that we think it will let the Forke settle when they come to be weighted, we put a Sill under them. 1823 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 65 The large masses [of stone] used for weighting the levers of the cider-presses. 1851–4 Tomlinson *Cycl. Arts & Manuf.* II. 321/1 The boards..are..filled with earth and then weighted down. 1885 *Manch. Examn.* 10 Sept. 5/3 A bough is cut from a tree..weighted with a few heavy stones and then dragged over the soil.

*fig.* 1889 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* 78 We may see with complacency the Arrows of Satire feathered with Wit, weighted with Sense, and discharged by a strong Arm, fly home to their mark. 1880 Motley *Nethert.* (1868) I. ii. 58 Intricate nets of diplomatic intrigue,..thoroughly weighted with Machiavelian gold.

**b.** *fig.* To oppress with weight, to weigh down; chiefly *pass.*, to be heavily burdened (*by* or *with* oppressive conditions or circumstances). Also with *down.*

1898 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. xvii. 445 Weighted as he was with faults,..he fought his battle bravely. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xlvi, It wants to have a House of Commons which is not weighted with nominees of the landed class. 1880 Swinburne *Study Shaks.* 236 The memory of Mr. Tennyson would be weighted and degraded by the ascription of whole volumes of pilfered and diluted verse.

**c.** *techn.* To add weight to (an inferior commodity) by the admixture or use of an adulterant.

1862 C. O'Neill *Dict. Calico Printing & Dyeing* 19 A sulphate of baryta...is used for 'weighting' that is, for giving weight and apparent body and firmness to inferior goods. 1886 *Daily Tel.* 24 June (Cassell) Dark arts are in certain quarters practised...in disguising and weighting teas. 1898 *Daily News* 1 Oct. 6/3 The ingenuity of the foreign dyer was such that he was able to 'weight' or adulterate his silk.

**d.** *Statistics.* To multiply the components of (an average) by compensating factors.

1901 A. L. Bowley *Elem. Statist.* 111 The very important statistical method known as the 'weighted average.' *Ibid.*, Should we weight the numbers given by the actual numbers of inhabitants of the contributing counties, or by their distance from London, or by some quantity derived from these?

**3.** To assign to (a horse) the weight he must carry in a handicap race. (Cf. Weight *sb.*[1] 12 a.)

1846 Darvill *Engl. Race Horse* (ed. 3) II. 286 Such horse is generally highly weighted, to bring him on a fair equality with the others. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* II. i. 8 Horses are constantly entered and run solely with a view of inducing the handicapper to 'weight' them at a low scale. 1883 'Rarey' *Types of Turf* 73 A very bad colt..was weighted in a manner ludicrously disproportionate to his capacity.

*fig.* 1865 Huxley *Lay Serm.* ii. (1870) 30 So lo g as this potential motherhood is her lot, woman will be found to be fearfully weighted in the race of life. 1875 Merivale *Com. Hist. Rome* v. 29 The plebeians, however unfairly weighted in the race for riches, could not be always kept in poverty.

**4.** (In senses of Weight *sb.*[1]) To ascertain the weight of (goods, etc.) by means of a weighing machine; to weigh. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *colloq.*, to feel the weight or heaviness of (something held in the hands).

1882– [see Weighting *vbl. sb.*]. 1898 L. Quiller-Couch *Span. Maid* xiv. 209 Why, there 's no'n a touch of cold in the air...I an' heavy—you can almost weight it in yer hands.

**b.** Of a jockey: *To weight out, in,* to undergo weighing before or after a race. = Weigh *v.* 9.

1879 *Rules of Racing* § 31 (iii), It is optional for the Jockey to weight out or in with his bridle.

**Weight,** obs. form of Wait *sb.*, *v.*[1], Weight.

**Weighted** (wē²tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Weight *v.* + -ed 1.]

†**1.** a. Of one's mind or spirit: Overburdened, oppressed. *Obs.*

1600 in Hodson Weighedness (below)]. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1809) 168 Their weighted and sorrowful life will be succeeded with a fulness of joy.

**b.** Burdened with a heavy weight; loaded. Of the eyelids: Heavy with sleep.

1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* xiii, His head fell forward...and his weighted lids went softly down over his eyes. 1904 J. Oxenham *White Fire* xiii, Their weighted progress was slow.

**2.** Furnished with a heavy substance to give additional weight.

1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 360 When filled and covered with a weighted board, they [sc. the bladders] will support a constant stream of air. 1878 *Dict. Arts, etc.* 1286 The warp and web are kept longitudinally stretched by a weighted cord. 1879 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Raising etc.* (ed. 2) 182 A stationary rod, on which is mounted a weighted lever.

**b.** *fig.* Of words, etc.: Made weighty.

1879 *19th Cent.* Oct. 596 Supposing Mr. M.'s argument to be...that a special pleader who keeps weighted words even in preparing to open his discussion. 1914 D. Macmillan *Life R. Flint* xii. 344 Its objectivity is equally evident, if one compares it, say, with the more subjectively weighted definings.

**c.** *Weighted average,* an average in taking which each component is multiplied by a factor chosen to give it its proper importance.

1901 A. L. Bowley *Elem. Statistic* 111.

Hence **Wei'ghtedness,** the condition of being weighted.

1660 J. Durham *Expos. Rev.* v. l. 284 Secondly, There is a disappointment, verr. 3. Thirdly, There is John's exceeding great heaviness and weightedness therewith, verr. 4.

† **Wei'ghtful,** *a. Obs.*[-2] [f. Weight *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Weighty.

1530 Palsgr. 309/1 Weyghtfull, *pondereux.*

**Weightily** (wē²tili), *adv.* [f. Weightt + -ly[2].] In a weighty manner; with or as with weight. Usually *fig.*

1552 Huloet, Weyghtelye, *ponderiuole.* 1580 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 93 b, It is very needefull...diligently to see, and weightely to consider the cote armors, whiche are put to them to be painted. *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Discov.* Wks. 1640 II. 101 No man ever spake more neatly, more pressly, more

weightily. 2667 H More *Div. Dial* II xiv (1668) 157 How few ,do seriously spend their studies in any thing weightily Moral or Intellectual? 1705 Bridome *Pope's Odyss. Notes* VII. 379 II. 170 He makes his agents speak weightily and sententiously. 1856 Froude *Hist Eng* II. 409 Abuses, which told most weightily on the serious judgment of the age. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I. xix 410 I here was some division of opinion upon the bench on the question thus weightily opened.

**Weightiness** (*wē*·tinės). [f. Weighty *a* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being weighty a. *fig.*, the fact of being of much weight, importance, or consequence ; grave or serious character.

1530 Palsgr. 287/2 Weightynesse, *aggravation* 1560 Daubt *Sludane's Comm* 152 b, The weightines of the cause also requireth, that many of us should come to the counsell 1596 Lodge *Marg Amer* 42 If thou faint through feeblenesse of bodie, I will default through weightinesse of discontent 1618 *Sermon bef. v. Apol.* 2, I had complained of the weightinesse of the Office imposed vpon me. a 1665 J. Goodwin *Relied w. the Spirit* (1867) 372 The weightiness or penetrating force of these arguments 1733 Ellwood *Autobiog* (1714) 15 The Weightiness that was upon their Spirits and Countenances. 1744 M Bishop *Life* 14 Observing the Weightiness of the Concern, this was my Method of proceeding 1905 J Oberholtz *White Pirit* xvi 161 The matter is worth consideration, he said, with an assumption of weightiness.

b. of material things

1539 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* III vii, There is felt in the entrayles a weyghtynesse with tension or thrustyng out warde 1591 Spenser *Ruins of Time* 573 The Lawe with her owne weightinesse is from vs driuen fell 1650 Locke *Hum. Und* II xxxii(1). § 18 The peculiar Weightiness, and yellow Colour of Gold 1832 L. Hunt *Sir R Esher* (1850) 33 It was without fear on an appearance of too much weight by the very weightiness of the hanging sleeves 1839 Bailey *Festus* 95 A deathless spirit's state, Freed from gross form and bodily weightiness

**Weighting** (*wē*·ting), *vbl sb.* [f. Weight *v.* + -ing¹.]

1 The action of the verb

1865 Janet Hamilton *Poems* etc. (1870) 154 It is England make's an' vigm's the pear o', When Europe's in fittest guisin' ages, She trims the scales for creation 1905 *Westm Gaz.* 22 Jan 1/2 A different system of weighting, &c , may cause a difference of 1, 2 per cent. in the index numbers.

b. *spec* The action or process of artificially adding weight to textiles (see Weight *v.* 2 c).

1904 *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug 480/2 *Woollen Draper's Terms*, Weighting A process by which sulphate of zinc and other metals is absorbed in wool, and so adding weight.

2 *concr.* Something used as a weight to press down, steady, or balance

1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2464/1 *Weighting* Blocks put on a flask to keep the c pe down under the upward pressure of the body of iron poured into the mold 1909 *Westm Gaz.* 16 Feb 13/1 Another evening frock has weightings of jet and silver at the foot and about the décolletage

**Weightless** (*wē*·tlės), *a.* [f. Weight *sb.*¹ + -less.] Without weight, having comparatively little weight.

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II 1054 But she was gone, And suttly fled into the weightlesse aire 1597 Shaks *1 Hen IV*, IV v 31 Dost heare, thou Hall, that light and weightlesse Doctrine Periion must move 1621 Sir Sandys *Christ's Med.* x (1626) 214 The swans that drew Idalia's waightlesse chariot through the aire 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* II xxx, Those lights Who would portray, 'tis easy may find A way to paint the viewless, poise the weightless wind 1860 W W Reade *Liberty Hall* I v 77 The Captain of the Liberty Hall boat had long since observed Saxon, his form and therefore weightless 1890 K Pearson in *Messenger Math* XX 28 Suppose the load at the free terminal not to be produced by a suspended load but by a weightless spring

b. of immaterial things

1608 J Robinson in Bp Hall *Apol. Brownists* (1610) 3 *margin.*[They] are oft times emboldened to route vpon them as from aloft very scalene and weightlesse discourses 1662 Dryden *To Ld Chancellor* 155 The glorious course you have begun must both weightless and immortal prove. 1855 Tennyson *Lucretius* 814 For neither weightless was Amata's name. 1858 W Arnot *Laws fr Heaven for Life on Earth* and Set it as a volatile tongue may not add one grain to the stock of human wisdom by the impassing bulk of its weightless propellent.

Hence **Wei ghtlessness.**

1884 L. Fawcett *Rutherford* xvii 195 The hand which she gave him had vanished into utter weightlessness.

**Weighty** (*wē*·ti), *a.* Forms: 5 **wehty**, 6 *Sc.* **wegh-**, **vech-**, **vych-**, **wyoh-**, **waich-**, **waychtie**, 6–7 *Sc.* **wechtie**, 7 *Sc.* **weychtie**, 6, 9 *Sc.* **wechty**; 6 **weyghty**(6, 6–7 **weightie**, 5– **weighty**; 6 **wayghty**, wai(h)ti, **wayt(i)y**, 6–7 **waighty**, -ie. [f. Weight *sb.*¹ + -y¹.]

I. 1. Of a considerable or appreciable weight; that weighs a good deal, heavy

1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Onerosus* or wehty 1538 Coverdale *Prov* xxvii 3 The stone is heuy and the sonde weighie but a fooles wrath is heuyer then they both 1577 B Googe *Heresbach's Husb* I 94 b, The best seede also is that which is waighti st. 1668 Manley *Grotius' Low C Wars* 351 A very great Frost had covered with Ice, both the Marshes and Rivers, that they would bear the greatest and most weighty Carriages 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m* 1 § 4 Let all the Hasle Rods be no weightier than you can easily manage with one Hand 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII 1284 Now stones his weighty Spear Against his Foe 1721 Pope *Iempe Fame* 439 As weighty bodies to the centre tend 1852 Mayne *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 43 Many ceilings , have heavy cornices, pendants, and other weighty matters attached to them 1879 J. C. Cox *Ch of Derbysh* IV. 141 He lies buried under a weighty unmarched tomb.

*fig* 1641 J Jackson *True Evang T* 1 63 By that path, their Crowne of glory had neither been so certaine, nor so soone, nor so weighty

b. Of persons or animals: Of more than the usual size, large or bulky of body, corpulent. † Of soldiers *Heavily* armed or equipped

1581 A Hall *Iliad* II Catal. Princes 39 And Ilon breeder good Of weighties fatted felled sheepe. 1590 R. Ferris *Dang Adventure* D 2 b, We reasoned him and got him vp againe (although he were a verie weighty man) 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit* II 59 Ostorius ,could hardly stay this flight; till the weighty Legions coming on, at first poyz'd the Battel, at length turn'd the Scale *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journey Texas* (1732) 129 Upon the bough there sits a good weighty Fellow, to press it down to the bottom [of the water] 1819 W Tennant *Papistry storm'd* (1827) 49 Auld Saunders Clerk, a man o' echty, Though eild encumber t now and wechty.

c. Of great weight in proportion to its bulk, of high specific gravity

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Argentum grave*, weighte siluer, or siluer in bullion, as they call it *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 June 1664, It look'd like a fatigue, but was weighty like metall 1728 J Hill *Hist Fossils* 23 Friable, weighty, fine red Bole 1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 338 Barcelonian Bolush and harsh, but appears weighty. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 816 The successive precautions that it receives, determine the weightier matters, and consequently those richest in metal, to accumulate towards its upper end

†d. Of coin : Of full weight, of the standard or legal weight *Obs.*

1627 Morrison *Itin* 2 264 He that brings a weighty French crowne *in ghoste* to the Goldesmyths, they will give him six shilling six pence for it 1691 Locke *Consid Lower In terest* (1692) 136 He will contract to be paid in weighty Money 1732 Hughes *Old Coin Cabinet* (ed 3) 58 If Persons who take our money in large parcels only by weight, are suffered to pour in light money upon us, at the same rate as if it were weighty

2. Bearing down heavily as if weighted or of great weight ; falling with force or violence.

1583 tr *Masson Newes Gerileon* 1 61 b, If he had not by his agilitie and nimblenesse, eschewed the weighte blowes of the Gentleman 1597 *1 & 2 Ducdecim's Ich St Lewis* (1904) 101 Another must both brawl ing words and weighte blows abide 1725 Pope *Odyss* x 298 Then leaning on the spear with both his hands, Up leap'd the Chief, and from the sinking sands With weighty step 1738 Wesley *Ps* xxxii viii, Whose'er like Heaue and Mule withstand, I bruise beneath my weighty Hand

II. 3. Of great gravity or significance ; requiring earnest thought, consideration, or application , highly important, serious, grave, momentous

1580 Earl of Northumberld in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 61 For right weighty consideration me moving concerning the pleasure of our said king, 1597 Hooker *Eccl Polity Vii*, *c* 28 Preamble, Great and weighty matets concerning the comen weale of this Ilnde. 1598 Hall *Chron*, *Edw I* (1614) 83 My Lordes, we haue perceiued the King your masters requests, which be greate and of a wughtie Importaunce. 1598 Shaks *1 Hen IV*, II. i. 62 This was y order, fault, That being Captaine of the Watch in Nigh, I tooke no letter to that weightie Lha ge. 1606 Stock *In Whitaker's Antm, Campian* 95 A waighty question con cerning lwefull ceremonies. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 50 I am glad to hear you are gladly I would impart things of weighter and more pleasing consequence 1693 W Penn *Sel Wks* xxvi 254 By Dissimulation and Trifles, sometimes the Weightiest Affairs have been discussed. 1718 Free *thinker* No 65 71 What weighty Negociations did He bring, to a Conclusion ? 1737 Pope *Ir Epist* II i 379 Or chooses at least a weighty Bribe, not Worthless as the Laureate's weighty place 1769 Burke *Observ Late St Nation* Wks 1842 I 80 The questions of war and peace the most weighty of all questions. 1800 Coleridge *Friend* I 7 (1818) Here are three weighty motives for a distinct exposition of this Theory 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* III iv, And now I am going seriously to tell you four secrets Mind ! serious, weighty secrets.

b Of a substantial or solid nature, ranking high in respect of importance or value

In quot. 1744 employed sarcastically with allusion to sense 1 1558 Br Watson *Sicknesse Sacrament* xxv 134 To excl aunge the sheepe for many Oxen ; fithy lucre, with the precious and weyghty iewes in the Kyngdome of heauen 1586 A Day *Eng Secretorie* I (1596) 49 The authority of Example is also weighty. 1596 Nashe *Saffro n Walden* 54 b Were they weighte Treatises? 1633 W Rammes *Astrol Restored* 110 You are to know that a more weighty pl net or that which is more remote from vs, ply unto the lighter inferiour, except when he is retrograde 1744 *Def People* title p , Full Confutation of the Pretended Facts advanc 1 in a late Huge, Angry Pamphlet In a Letter to the Author of that weighty Performance 1816 Singer *Having Courts* 165 Mr Dibdin whose authority on the subject is the weightiest that could be possibly adduced 1874 Digby *Golden Remains* I. 1 In these days, when the weighty books may be had cheaply, in the lightest form 1877 Huxley *Techn Educ* 82 & Cult (1882) 84 Steps which will have a weighty and salutary influence on the growth and spread of sound and thorough teaching

4. a Of an argument, utterance, etc : Producing a powerful effect ; adapted to influence or convince ; forcible, telling, potent.

1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* 114 With moste weighte wordes 1573 G Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 12 Your worship hath harde what forcible and waiti reasons M Nevil hath vsed against me. 1594 Shaks *Rich III* III i 148 Lays well saide'd with weighty Arguments. 1641 J Jackson *True Evang I* II 133 A speech so goomicall and waighty, that S Augustin highly commends it 1717 Prior *Alma* III 44 No fool Pythagoras was thought : Whilst he his weighty doctrines taught. 1759 Robertson *Hist Scot* I iv 264 But on the other hand several weighty objections had to be urged 1856 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) II. 332 Reflections very wise and weighty indeed 1868 Freeman *Norm Conq* II ix 334 Few and weighty were the words which the great Earl spoke that day 1890 *Law Times Rep* LXIII 684/1, I must adopt the evidence on the other side, which I think is more weighty

b. Of persons : Having great authority or influence , important or impressive in respect of position, views, or utterance.

1662 Howell *New Engl Grown* To Rde 4 Mr Ben Johnson a Weighty man and one who was as patient as hee was painfull in all his compositures. 1666–7 Pepys *Diary* 17 Feb, A mighty quack, ready man, but not so weighty as he should be 1708 Swift *J Ld* Author's Apol 86 Since the weightiest men in the weightiest Stations are pleased to thunk it a more dangerous point to laugh at those corruptions in religion. 1790 Butler *Serm* Wks 1874 II 49 There is not any necessity that men should aim at being important and weighty in every sentence they speak 1893 Lytton *My Novel* II v, The great commoner, the weighty speaker, the expert man of business 1860 Emerson *Cond Life* (1861) 112 The argument is scouted, until by and bye it gets into the mind of some weighty person , then it begins to tell on the community 1879 Huxley *Sensation* Sci & Cult (1882) 246 We sometimes hear it [this maxim] enunciated by weighty authorities, as if its natural consequence had the force of a moral of ligation

5. Hard to bear or endure without failing or giving way , oppressive, burdensome, grievous

1500 Pecock *Folewer* v iv 434 b, I am tourmented with horrible weighty charge of my conscience 1588 Grafton *Chron* II 653 Like a wise prince, he alleged his insufficience for so great a rome and weighty a burden 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed 3) 723 It was beholden to the Romanes, that eased him of so weighty a burthen and lessened his cares of gouernement 1718 Strype *Abel* No 308 P 1 The weight of Cares which you have thought fit to undergo for the publick Good 1822 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxii, I have lived ill, and the world has been too weighty with me 1849 Lever *Con* xl, Only for those two hundreds, here, whose weightiest evil would be that they awoke an hour earlier than their wont

†b. Injurious, severe. *Obs rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Timon* III v 102 We haunsh thee for ever. If after two days shine, Athens contaime thee, Attend our weighter Judgement

†6 Serious, grave , expressing seriousness or gravity, earnest, solemn *Obs.*

1599 Marston *Antonio's Rev* Prol, If any spirit breathes within this round, Whatsbie of with hie passion 1613 Shaks *Hen VIII*, IV i 2, I come to moue vs to a weighty laugh, Things new, That wear a Weighty, and a serious Br. We now present 1622 J Jackson (Water P) *Virg Gnos Nomenclator* Wks (1630) II 3/1 With that the smug fa d Plutoshook his vestment, Despe ruminating what the weighty Iest ment 1677 Penn *Tryal* (1696) 11 The Countess look't upon me with a weighty countenance, and fetcht a deep sigh in on, out, O the comfort and entangle ments of this vain World!

7 = Heavy *a* 20.

1898 W Irving *Life & Lett* (1864) II 347 My chief fa ur of the w k is that it may prove in some parts heavy I shall work it up, however, as much as possible and endeavor to lighte t it where it is weighty.

**Weih**, var Wai, *Obs*, man **Weiht**, obs f. Weight, Wight. **Weik(e, Weikst, Weikit**, obs ff. Weak *a*, Wick, Wicked, Wicket. **Weil**, var or obs f. Well ¹, Weil *adv*, Wheel, While

†**Weila**, *int. Obs rare* [Ob. *weg id.* see Well int.], and cf Weila ant] Alas!

*a* 1000 *Aug Ps* [see Wela *int.* 1]. 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat* 20, Weyla, weyla [Vulg *qui dixunt mihi, Euge, euge*] *c* 1350 *Hali Meid* (1922) 23 Weila þat prawde ! *Hit* 23 Weila [= wala], hwet is þe mon-leoued for þi mon-luue ?

**Weilaway, awei, -away** var ff Wellaway

**Weilcum**, obs Sc. f. Welcome v. **Weild(e**, obs ff. Wield **Weile**, obs f. Weil. **Weile fair**, obs Sc. ff. Welfare. **Weill**, obs f Wall *sb* ¹, Well, Will. **Weillaway** *e*, var Wellaway

**Weille, Weill-fair**, obs. Sc. ff Well *a.* and *adv*, Welfare.

**Weily**, var. of (or error for) Welly *adv.*

1731 R Yorke *Fed Conspcies* II (1736) 170 Well, I m welly (I hooten, as they say in Lancashire.

†**Weimer** *Obs rare*[—¹]. [Cf. Wein (17th c.) *a remeasure*, ? song of woe.] Lamentation

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 3 (Ilms MS.) Feos ne schulen neauer mon þe stogen in heouen, ah schulen wimmes wakien ed mire in helle

**Weind**, obs. form of Wind, Wind , Sc. var. Wend *v.*²

†**Weine**, *v. Obs.* [a. ON. *veina* = OL. *wanian* Wonia 2.] *intr.* To lament, wail

*c* 1205 Lay 25827 Pa þerde he wepen wunder ane swiþe weinen and wemen [*c* 1400 *Pistr Semis* (Cauton 1 v (1859) 13, I ne can nought done, but cryen, and weyne That thurye nought reckyn of me ygone wel neye.

**Weine pain, var.** Wainpain *Obs* **Weing**, obs Sc. f. Wind. **Weinsoot**, obs f Wainsoot.

**Weipe**, obs. Sc. f. Wipe *v*

**Weir** (*wī*ə), *sb* Forms: *a.* 1–2 wer 3–8 were, 5 werre, 5–7 weere, 5–8 weer , 5, 7 ware, 6–8 weare, 7–9 wear , 6–7 weire, weyre, 7– weir , 6–8 wier *β* 6–7 wyre, (7 wyer), 7 8 wire [Ob. *wer* m , = OS *were*, MLG. *wer*, *were*, *weir*, *were* (Du. *weir*, *were*), MHG *wer*, *were* (G. *wehr*, † *swehr* ; dial. *weir*) neut., f. the stem of Ol. *werran* to dam up : see Warm *sb.* The Oicel *ver*, *var* , landing-place, is possibly related.

Normally the standard modern form would have been *wear* (*wɛ̄z*) but is represented by the dialectal *waar*, *ware* The late variant *were* is difficult to account for]

**1.** A barrier of dam to restrain water, *esp* one placed across a river or canal in order to raise or divert the water for driving a mill wheel; also, the body of water retained by this means, a mill-dam, now gen., a dam, of which there are various forms, constructed on the reaches of a canal or navigable river, to retain the water and regulate its flow

a 1687 *Æ.lfred Gregory's Post C* xxxviii 279 Se we de done wer brice, & dær wæter utfleat se bið fruma ðæs gefluxes *c* 1460 *Osney Acc* 9 With all dwellynges be which been vppon the were of be mulles 1482 Caxton *Mirrour* (Roll) VIII 143 The mayer of London and the comynalte dyd bedo brake vp al the weerys that were lytwene Medewey and Kyngeston 1491 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 323 To arrest ther mill Lowes, and to keep them till they make the saide weire 1550 Ireland *Hen* (1769) IV 92 A Damme or Weire to serve the Kinges Milles a little lower then the Towne 1583 in W H Turner *Sel Rec Oxford* (1880) 434 A locke or weare by Rewlie lock, to lende the water to ye mille and to drawe vppe in wynter 1653 Walton *Angler* 11 83 [He trauil wil about especially] of the time of his spawning to get vnmolested through Weires and Flood Gates against the stream 1695 *Act 6 & 7 Will III, c* (title) An Act to prevent Obstruction of the Occupiers of Locks and Weares upon the River of Thames Westward 1722 Dr F F *Hague* (1751) 170 A Weer or Stop upon the River made to raise the Water for the Barges which go up and down the River 1792 A Young *Trav France* 21 The navigation of the river in the town being absolutely impeded by the wear which is made across it in five or of the corn mills 1813 Vancouver *Agric Devon* 314 There are no other reservoirs than those which are formed by the dams or weirs by wh ch the streams are raised for the purpose 1824 Knight *G Hamble* viii 8 In the best swimmer in Dev n That was proved by my living it that weir in fi ld time 1866 M Arnold *Thyrsis* ii, The Vale, the three lone weirs the youthful Thames 1877 Huxley *Physiogr* 5 About 380 million gal lons flow over the weir every four and twenty hours

*B* a 1738 Hale *Hush* (1757) 203 A good kill ought to have such a draught as to make like a cascade on a river 1758 *Peter Thames* to Fuller 25 Weirs or Weirs Days Weirs, (et ). 1776 G. Shaw *Chalybeate* 13 There was a Weir or Stone Dike built across the River 1873 H R Robertson *Ifyn Upper Thames* 49 A boat descending the stream meets with no impediment till it reaches the dam or weir (or as more of wire by the riverside people), as it is techni ally called

**b** *Her* A charge representing a weir

1780 Edmonson *Heraldry* II Glossa *Weare, Weir* or *Dam, in Water* It is made with stakes and osier twigs, wattled or interwoven as a fence against water

**2.** A fence or enclosure of stakes made in a river, harbour, etc, for taking or preserving fish. (Cf *fish-weir* Fish sb 7.)

In OE it is used to render L *captura* in the sense of a 'catch of fish'

a 830 in Birch *Cartul Sax* I 398 Twyxen weorra in fluxio qui dicitur Stur 901 *Ibid* II 247 An weor on Vceman. 996 in Kemble *Cod* IV 236 Dat ðæs heafdan weres æt Brægzenforda 1056–87 *Hist* IV 211 At dare punge be ðarto and richte gehirð on water n and on weren 1188 *O F Chron* (Laud MS) an. 565 Þa twa dal of Wilhelmes mæ waters & mil wæres & seonnes. 1200 in Birch *Cartul Sax* I 371 In captura piscium quæ terræ illi adjacet, ubi aunt scilicet duo quod nostratim dicitur Weres *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii 1348 Ne this fish ne caught ther-inne cometh to were 1430 *Hylt Jhesus* 1 xxv (1870) 150 It is maad as a were for fysh Entree ther is but noone out 1459 *Rolls of Parl* V 364/1 And a were calle I Petersam were to be bid for evermore to the seid Prioure and Monkes 1523 *Act 14 & 15 Hen VIII c* 13 Diuers weres & ingins for takyng of fish 1548 Hall *Chron* the same hauen 1584 R Scot *Discov Witchc* xii xvii 216 [He] robbed a miller, weare and stole all his eeles 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas's* v 335 The delicate Golden eye, Kept in a Weare, the wonders space doth spy 1610 Holland in *Camden's Brit* (1637) 8 8 A very goodly Weare for the catching of Salmons 1697 Dampier *Voy* I 465 Their only Food is a small sort of Fish, which they get by making Wares of stone, across little Coves, or branches of the Sea. 1704 *Lex Rec Pennsylv* III 233 An act for demolishing Fishing Dams Weares & Sedges set across the River Schuylkill 1791 W H Marshall *W Eng* (1796) II 240 The (Salm.) Weir consists of a strong dam or breastwork, tap or twelve feet high, thrown across the river 1899 R. Burton *Centr Afr* in *Trans Geog Soc* XXIX 8 *note*, The Wilo, or weir, is like that of Western India 1894 *Outing* Feb 401/1 Close to the weir—a kind of circular fish trap made by driving stakes into the bottom close toge her

*fig* 1548 Udall *etc Erasm Par Luke* v 47 Satan hath fishers of his owne too who doose towle them into the were and nette of damnacion

*B* 1604 Capt J Smith *Virginia* I 7 The people were fled but their wiers afforded us bab 1658 Sucking *Angler* I 35 Lake water is the most commonly in wash floods, that leap o re wyers and l ets and make their way 1697 Dampier *Voy* I 106 They carry them alive to Jamaica, where the Turtles have wires made with Stakes in the Sea to preserve them alive

**b** A weel for catching fish. †Also *Her*, a representation of this, borne as a charge

1611 Cotgr., *Boussel d'osier* A weele, or weare of Osier twigs. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xvi (Roll) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with its hoope vpward, Or This is also termed a Fishard, or a Ware 1834 Whittier *Mogg Megone* 841 The clear stream where The idle fisher sets his weir 1849 *Peter Parley's Ann* VI 52 A weir is a basket loose and open at one end and smaller at the other, into which the fish were driven

**3** A pond or pool *Obs* exc. *dial*

For the forms *weyre, weire* see Wayour

a 1300 *F F Psalter* cvi 35 He set in weres of waires [L *in stagna aquarum*] wildernes *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 143 And soo was hit bryd her yn [to] be tyme þat bysychops of be tempull let make a were [*r* weyre] yn be same plas, forto wasch schepe yn 1657 J Watts *Scribe*, etc *Disciple Vprubbed* 31 To make choise of a comm n Pond or Were to dip your two new converted holy Sisters in 1692 Ray *S & E Country Words, Were*, or *Wear*, a pond or pool of water 1877 *Holderness Gloss*, *Wair*, a pond

**4** *local* A fence or embankment to prevent the encroachment of a river or sea-sand, or to turn the course of a stream

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 22 The burdensome detrimentes of our haven, which euery twelue month deuoures a fustee of peace hauing, in weares and bankes to be set off the sand 1680 *N Yeatling Rec* VII 30 Roger Hodgkinson and other of the adjoyning neighbours have taken care to make a weare to keep the said river in its antient channel 1824 Lady Cranstoun *Poems, Were*, an embankment against its [*i e* a river's] encroachment 1846 Brockett *N C Words* (ed. 2), *Were*, an embankment to prevent the encroachment, or turn the course of a stream 1894 *Times* 11 Jan 9/6 *Weir*, *wear* a structure of stone mixed with rice (brushwood) for protecting a bank from the wash of a stream

**b** (See quot)

1894 *Northumbrld Gloss Wear Water* the landing place and fishing ground at a salmon net fishery

**5** *Sc* A hedge (Cf Wear *v* 23)

1789 J Davidson *Seas in* 51 Now wear an fence o' waitl d trees, Ibid 61 Let hedges, dykes, an embankment aguains its [*i e* a river's] encroachment 1846 Brockett *N C Words* (ed. 2), *Were*, an embankment to prevent the encroachment, or turn the course of a stream 1894 *Northumbrld Gloss Wear, weir

yarked was til adam kin ?] 1894 'Quida' *Two little Wooden Shoes* 138 Swallows do not tell their secrets. They have the weird of Procne from the mists of all. 1877 Trench *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 178 But a weird was upon him and upon his race. 1885 Jean Ingelow *Sleep of Sigismund* 7 The weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Weariful feet for a goal that shifteth still.

**4. a.** A happening, event, occurrence.

Prov. *After word comes weird*, the mention of a thing is followed by its occurrence or appearance.

a 900 *Cynewulf's Christ* 81 Ne wæ þære wyrde wenan þurfon toweard in tide. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Þa gelamp wundorlic weyrd þæt se hex ongan slean & þrecan ongean þone wind. 1320 Cursor Mund. *Cotton. Cleopat.* 240 It were a wonder wierde To see a king become an hierde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* 5459 It befell þis wondir werde. 1901 J. Kelly *Sc. Proverbs* 2 After Word comes Weird: fair fall them that tell me Madam. 1883 Hall Caine *Shadow Crimes* xxxvi, Weel, weel: after word comes weird. That's why the constables are gone, and that's why Robbie's gone.

**b.** That which is destined or fated to happen; predetermined events collectively.

*c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1082 Thair wil nane wyis, that ar wis, wary the werd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 48 Bot we from werd to werd mon ws commyt. 1596 W. Morris *Sigurd* I. 3 A tale that the elders have told, A story of weird and of woe.

**5. † a.** A decree (of a god). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Ware Adyse.* 270 Þe werdes Of my gracious goddis, þe grettest on erde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. xii. 202 Ald thou, Tellus, mast nobill God of erd, Hald fast the speris bed by your werd.

**† b.** An omen or token significant of the nature of a future event; a prognostic. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. xiii. 150 Jove, had hir hald doun lothlyar to the erd, For to devoyd Iulmanis ire and weid [L. *omen*]. 1533 Hellenden *Livy* (S. T. S.) II. 233 Þe senat ..said þai accepþit þe weird þat followit one þir wourdis.

**c.** A prediction of the fate which is to happen to a person, etc.; a prophecy.

1785 *Poems Buchan Dial.* 31 Altho' his mither, in her weirds, Foretald his death at Troy. 1802 C. Gray *Poems* (1811) 73 Then, as to his fortin tellin',..he ne'er likes to be sain'd wi' the weird.

**d.** A supernatural or marvellous occurrence or tale.

1814 W. Nicholson *Poet. Wks.* (1897) 40 [She] Could tell her tale or hilt her sang, Wi' weirds and wilderies aft at awes. And unco sights that sune had been. *c* 1829 A. Tait in Jas. Watson *Living Bards of Border* 151 What legends and weirds these fair scenes still awaken.

**6.** *Comb.*, as *weird-laced, -set* adjs.; **weird-licht** *Sc.* the light of destiny; **† weird-man**, a seer; **weird-woman,** a witch.

1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 181 Now was come the "weird-fix't hour Ordain'd to break the Papish power. 1844 W. Thom *Rhymes & Recol.* 54 There a baleful e'e looks love to me, Like the "weird licht o'er me shining. 1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 258 'Dire is the doom', the "weird-laced said'. "Nae man, O lady, sets it'. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 46 The "weird-set day begins to daw. 1845 J. E. Carpenter *Poems & Lyrics* 34 The "weird-woman had stol'n away.

**Weird** (wīrd), *v.* Also 5 **wyrde**, 5–6 *Sc.* **werd(e**, 6 **weird**, 7 **weyard** (**weyward**), **woer'd**, 8 **weird**, 9 **weerd**. [Originally an attrib. use of prec. in *weird sisters* (see sense 1), the later currency and adjectival use being derived from the occurrence of this in the story of Macbeth.

The evolution of the forms found in Shakspere's *Macbeth* was as follows: "*Weyrd sisters*" (reversed in Acts III and IV in the First Folio) and *weyward* (used in Acts I and II); the latter was no doubt due to association with *weyward*, a word used many times by Shakespeare. (The later folios retain the *weyward* spelling, and alter the other to this or to *wizard*.) In several passages the prosody clearly requires the word to be pronounced as two syllables; hence Theobald's use of the diæresis in his emendation *weird* (see quot. 1713 below), giving rise to the scansion of quot. 1755 in sense 1, and quot. 1800 in sense 4.)

**1.** Having the power to control the fate or destiny of men, etc.; later, claiming the supernatural power of dealing with fate or destiny.

Originally in *the weird Sisters* = † (a) the Fates; (*b*) the witches in *Macbeth*.

*c* 1440 *Sc. Troyan War* II. 2818 Yberis said sche was, I trow, A werde-sister, I wait neuir how. *c* 1460 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xviii. 1862 Þa women þan thought he Thre werd systeris mast lyk to be. 1470–71 *Compt. Lord. Aug.* 490/2 (Adam MS.) Wyrde systres, *fatrices*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xiii. 74 Admit myne asking, gif so the fatis giuis,..Or sit werd sisteris list gif thaim that centre. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* (1872) 64 The tail of the three weird systirs. 1577 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 243/2 *marg.*, The prophesie of three women supposing to be the weird sisters or fairies. 1605 Shakes. *Mac.* I. iii. 32 The weyward Sisters, hand in hand,..Thus doo goe, about, about. *Ibid.* III. i. 2 Thou hast it now, King, Cawdor, Glamis, all, As the weyard Women promis'd. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 133, I will to morrow..to the weyard Sisters. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 The weer'd Sister Parques. 1733 Theobald *Shakes. Mach.* I. iii, *note*, In every passage..my Emendation must be embraced, and we must read *weird* [ed. 1740 *Weird*, or *Weïrd*]. 1755 J. G. Cooper *Tomb Shakz.* 99 Where three swart sisters of the weird band Were mutt'ring curses to the cursed wind. 1765 *Birth of Sk. George* 47 in Percy *Reliq.* III. 218 To the weïrd lady of the woods He purpos'd to repaire. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmagundi* (1824) 192 He had rather see one of the weird sisters flourish through his key-hole on a broom-stick. 1820 Shelley *Lei. Martin Gisborne* 106 And here, like some weird Archimage sit I, Plotting dark spells. *a* 1864 H. Rogers *Eccl. Biog. Poets* V. (1867) 189 The weird women with beards meet to seal the deep damnation of their victim.

**2.** Partaking of or suggestive of the supernatural; of a mysterious or unearthly character; unaccountably or uncomfortably strange; uncanny.

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* IX. viii, Some said, I was a fiend from my weird cave, Who had stolen human shape. 1820 — *Witch Atlas* 670 It is A tale more fit for the weird winter nights Than for these garish summer days. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. xii, This solitude has something in it weird and awful. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* I. 74 Myself too had weird seizures, Heaven knows what. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, Both men then looked with a weird unholy interest at the wake of Gaffer's boat. 1878 Lucy *Disrey Two Parl.* (1886) I. 393, I hear a weird story in connection with the private history of the family.

*absol.* 1888 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 4/7 Miss Seward, according to Sir Walter Scott, was a mistress of the weird in oral narrative. 1899 Sir G. Douglas *James Hogg* v. 102 Unlike the German, Hogg's 'weird' is seldom or never morbid, fevered, hectic.

**b.** of sounds or voices.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 36 In lone and silent hours, When night makes a weird sound of its own stillness. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 11 The weird rattle of the debris which fell at intervals. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, The person of the house gave a weird little laugh here. 1876 Sidney *Nature*. vi. 100 He was awakened by a weird and uneathly moaning

**3.** Of strange or unusual appearance, odd-looking.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 448 Mutable As shapes in the west clouds. 1862 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 23 The soft yielding carpets of greenest verdure and weirdest pattern; woven by the tiny plants on the floor of shadowy woods. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* Prol., He begins to people the weird places of the earth with weird beings. 1907 Jr. A. Robertson in *Trans. Devon Assoc.* 53 Rampisyde Moore Caves, the last of the species, remains a weird, extravagant figure that has moved across Devon's stage.

**4.** Out of the ordinary course, strange, unusual; hence, odd, fantastic. (Freq. in recent use.)

1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 107, I..bade her steep Her hair in weird syrops, that would keep Her loveliness invisible. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* II. xxxvi, The prophet up the plain, Gathering weird images, paced. 1855 Tennyson *Holy Grail* i, He was a man with a weird belief in him that no one could count the stones of Stonehenge twice, and make the same number of them. 1912 *Eng. Illust. Rev.* Oct. 8/1 The Cambridge Camera, of p. 140 is a weird misprint for Gainsborough.

**5.** *Comb.*, as *weird-looking* adj.

1862 [Epic Journeys] *Digby & Grosses* xix. 184 All the trees grew into strange, very familiar, fact weird-looking trees. 1868 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 437 The Prophet first pointed out a weird-looking creature, a turnkey. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., A crazy, weird-looking scene, fantastic, unreal, and bizarre as one of Doré's marvellous conceptions.

**Weird** (wīrd), *v. Sc.* and † *north.* Also 4 **weirid, werd, wirid, 6 waird, 8 woerd, 9 wierd**; † *pa. pple.* **weard**. [f. Weird *sb.*]

**1.** *trans.* To preordain by the decree of fate; esp. in *pass.* to be destined or divinely appointed *to, (to) have to* (with inf. or *sb.*).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23368 Ne hert mai think þaa ioies arne, þat iesus crist has dight til his, þat weirdied er vnto þe bliss. *Ibid.* 25245 All þe men þat werded er for to be hroght into þe bliss. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* (ed. 2) 360 Sic Ferlys I ne wait may woce where he will, but he will wed where he is weard [ed. 1, where his hap is]. 1748 R. Fooms *Apoc. Sp.* (1755) 14 These dead Witnesses were To tak the town of Ai. 1805 Jamieson *Popular Ballads* I. 23 Say..what the doom sae dire, That's wierdit to mune on earth? 1862 *Sc. Spirit Rev. Braes of Carse* (1898) 182 A lesson teaching pure and rich That nane should weird ill to a witch.

**2.** To warn or advise by the knowledge of coming fate.

1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 247, I weird ye, gaugna there! *Ibid.* II. 274, I weird thee, to let me be were best.

Hence **Weirded** *ppl. a.*; **Weirding** *vbl. sb.* in Comb. *weirding feast*, penny employed in divination. 1804 Tayler *Poems* 68 Jock Din is to the yard right shy, To saw his wierdin pie. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xvii, Say, what hath forged thy wierded [*footn.* fated] link of destiny with the House of Avenel?

**Weirddom.** [f. Weird *sb.* + -dom.] The supernatural world.

1863 B. Barclay *Chron. Waverley* Introd. p. xv, Stories of old and weirddom are vanishing too.

**Weirdish** (wī·rdiʃ), *a.* [f. Weird *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat weird.

1863 Disraeli in Monypenny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. 472 A great number of owls have been disturbed..Their hooting at night is..louder than the south-west wind, which, indeed, is rarely the accompaniment to their weirdish arias. 1914 F. E. Benson *Dodo the Second* III. 68, I was always weirdish, and I am too old to change now.

**Weirdless** (wī·rdlĕs), *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -less.] Destined to ill fortune, ill-fated, unlucky; hence unbusinesslike, incapable, worthless.

*c* 1800 *Mary Hamilton* iii. in Child *Ballads* III. 391 2 And wae is to that weirdless wicht. 1822 *Joseph the Book-Man* 99 Ye weirdless, naughty, spendthrift man. 1825 Jamieson, *Weirdlessness*. Destitute of any capacity to manage worldly affairs, S. 1864 Latto *Tam. Bodkin* x. 93 What could she think, but that I behooved to be some wild, weirdless, ne'er-do-weel?

Hence **Weirdlessness.**

1823 Jamieson, *Weirdlessness*, wasteful mismanagement.

**Weird-like** (wī·rdlaik), *a.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -like.] Suggestive of the supernatural, ominous, eery, uncanny. Of a person: Uncanny-looking.

1854 Grace Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 113 The almost deathly quiet, the oppressive loneliness, the strange deep, unearthly gloom of this mouldering city of the dead are things to be *felt* in all their melancholy and weird-like power. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* vi, Still I hear the awe-struck, questioning, weird-like tone. 1875 G. Jacque *Hope* iii. 35 Along that dismal silent road A weirdlike man was seen to plod. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 45 So weird-like was the feeling of the place.

**Weirdly** (wī·rdli), *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -ly 1.]

**1.** Favoured by fate, happy, prosperous.

1807 Hogg *Min. Bard* Poet. Wks. 1838 II. 211 Harden was a weirdly man. 1819 — *Jacobite Relics* II. 184 In thy glen and weirdly nook Lie some stout Clan-Gillian bones.

**2.** Pertaining to, or suggestive of, witchcraft or the supernatural.

1831 Hogg *Magic Mirror* in *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 650 A hill for weirdly deeds renowned. 1858 Mason *Hilton* I. 38 In such studies and weirdly phantasies let the night pass. 1880 J. K. Watt *Poet. Sk.* 19 (E. D. D.) Though a Warlock had waggit his weirdly wand To bring doon the lift on my head.

Hence **Weirdliness.**

1859 Masson *Brit. Novelists* 243 Passages to which, for visual weirdliness, there is nothing comparable in the pages of his rival.

**Weirdly,** *adv.* [f. Weird *a.* + -ly 2.] In a weird or fantastic manner.

1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1. Elaine..past beneath the weirdly-sculptured gates. 1861 J. Thomson *Ladies of Death* xv, That face Of subtle loveliness though weirdly pale. 1888 Annie S. Swan *Doris Jessop* iv. 71 A low, moaning wind.. waved the lone tree boughs weirdly to and fro.

**Weirdness.** [f. Weird *a.* + -ness.] The fact or quality of being weird.

1869 E. W. Benson in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. 289 Then fell the wierdness that sometimes lightens Weir, after earnest talk, I fall to talk For talking's sake. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 44/2 The greatness, vastness, and, if the word be permissible, the weirdness of this region. 1895 *Spectator* 5 Jan. 11/1 The weirdness of the night.

**Weird-ward,** *a.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -ward.] Pordering upon or approaching the supernatural.

1866 J. B. Rose in *Ovid's Met.* xiii. 697 Unnumbered sisterhood Of wierdward birth.

**Weirdy,** *a. Sc.* [f. Weird *sb.* + -y 1.] Fateful.

1802 *R. Gilfillan Poetry* II. 41 Life's ember suffers unco throws—What will ye, weirdy time, disclose!

**Weire,** Sc. var. War *sb.*1 **Weirely,** obs. Sc. var. Warlike *a.*

**Weiring** (wī·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Weir *n.*] The constructing of a weir or of weirs; also, *concr.* materials used for making a weir or of which a weir is composed.

1704 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 289 Hitherto, piles and planks had been used, to confine the rapid Taxy within its channel; much valuable timber having been used in weiring'. 1882 *Act 45 & 46 Vict.* c. 38 § 25 If the making..of any works for any of the following purposes:..(iv) Embanking or weiring from a river or lake. 1907 *Spectator* 27 July 119/1 In the canalised stream, there were numbers [of coal] fish], which made homes in..sides of locks, and in the wood of the weiring.

**Weirlie, -lyk** (wī·rli, -lik) obs. Sc. ff. Warlike. **Weirlie, -ly,** var. ff. Warly *Obs.* **Weirwal,** var. Werewall *Sc. Obs.* **Weiscbo,** obs. Sc. f. Wash.

**Weise,** var. Wark; Sc. var. Wise *v.*

**Weisht,** Sc. var. Wisht *sb.* and *int.*

**Weism** (wī,iz'm). [f. *We pron.* + -ism, after *egoism.*] The too frequent use of 'we' (see *We pron.* 2 b) by a speaker or writer. Cf. Weissmann.

1890 *Anti-Jacobin Rev.* V. 58 What intolerable weism! more revolting than the worst species of egotism! 1893 *Fraser's Mag.* Apr. 505 His 'egotism', so offensive to the vulgar, is merely

**Weismannian,** *a.* and *sb.* [f. as next + -ian.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to Weismann or his biological theory. **b.** *sb.* One who accepts the theory of Weismannism.

1903 *Almer. Naturalist* May 349 The line of argument will be followed by all but the confirmed Weismannians. 1903 *Science* 5 June 906 The method..in which..there is no reduction division in the Weismannian sense. 1905 *Nation. Gas.* 30 Mar. 1/3 Objections to the Weismannian theories.

**Weismannism** (vəi·smănizm). [f. the name *Weismann* (see below) + -ism.] The theory of evolution and heredity propounded by the German biologist, August Weismann, esp. in regard to the continuity of the germ-plasm and the non-transmission of acquired characteristics.

1894 H. Spencer in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 (*title*) Weismannism once more.

**Weissite** (vəi·saiⁱt). *Min.* [Named (G. *Weissit*) after C. S. *Weiss*, German crystallographer: see -ite 1 b.] An altered form of iolite.

1836 T. Thomson *Outl. Min.* 282 Weissite occurs thinly scattered in a chlorite slate in kidney shaped pieces about the size of a hazel nut. 1849 J. Nicol *Min.* 263 Weissite,

externally like fahlunte, but said to be monochlinohedric
1868 Dana *Min* (ed 5) 320 Wernsite, iberite, huronite, are supposed to be altered rhiite.

**Weiat,** obs. f WEBT, var WIGHT *a dial*
**Weit,** obs. Sc f WET; obs. f WHITE, WYT *v*, var. WITH *sb* **Weith,** obs. f WEALTH, WAVE, obs f. WAIVED [1], WEAVE; var. WAIVE *v.*[2] **Weize,** var. WASE, Sc var. WISE *v*

**Wejack,** earlier form of WOODCHUCK.
1796 S HEARNE *Journ N Oceans* 377 The Wejack and Skunk are never found in the Northern Indian country
1829 J RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor Amer* I 50

**Wek,** obs. form of WEAK *a*

**Weka** (we ka, wē kă, wī kă) Also waika [Maori, so named from its cry.] The native name for the flightless rails *Ocydromus australis* and *O brachypteryx* of New Zealand Also called *wēka rail*

1845 E J WAKEFIELD *Adv New Zealand* II iv 95 I two young *weka*, or woodhens about as large a spaniel
1852 *Zoölogy N. Spec* 30 The habits of the Weka (*Ocydromus*), detained in the Middle Island, New Zealand
1873 *Rep Sec* in (1874) IV 97 Wood or Maori Hen *Weka* 1906 *Westm Gaz* 20 Jan 3/2 The weka trails are also flagtailed
1914 *Chamb Jrnl* Nov 751/1 The weka is very common throughout the New Zealand bush

**+Weke,** *sb Obs rare* [ad. ON *vāka vōku*, obl case of *vāka* moisture.] Moisture, liquid.
*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 4698 (Trin) Als pai war sons laur sede had vrun, But alkin weke it was wit drunn *Ibid* 11 25 He frat pe walud wand moght ger In a night leif and fruit ber, Wiuten weke or erth a bute *Ibid* 24413 bot als fer sum i moght reke, I sis pat tre was i lodi weke

**Weke,** obs f WEAK, WEEK *sb*, WICK *sb* 1, var WEEK *int* **Weket,-ett,** obs. f. WICKET **Wekid, -it, Wekir,** obs f WICKED, WICKER. **Wekke,** var WECKE *Obs*, WICK *a* **Wekked, Wekker, Wekyt,** obs f. WICKED, WICKER, WICKET

**Wel** sec. WEAL, WELL 1, WELE
**W'el,** obs contraction of *we will*
1677 C D *Servant Christ* II 35 Let him dye, to his greatest well dance and well sing,

**Wel-adaie, -aday,** etc. see WELLADAY **Welans (-anye), -ly,** &c, var. ff VILLAINS *a*, -LY *Obs* **Welaway,** obs Sc f. VILLAINY **Welawel, -way,** etc, **Welawo** see WELLAWAY, WELLOWO

**Welawylle, -wynne :** see WELL *a adv*
**Welbede, -bode,** obs forms of WOONUP.
**Wel bego(n, bigoo** see WELL BEGONE.
**Welch,** obs form of WELSH.

**Welcome** (we lkəm), *sb* 1, *int*, and *a* forms: a. 1 wilcuma (wilcyma), 2–3 wilcume, (3 wil kume), 6 *St* wylcum, wylcome; 1 wylcume, wylcme, 3 wilcumen, 3–5 wilcom, 4–5 wilcume, 5–6 wel-come, wel-cum, 4 welkum, 4–7 welcom (5 Sc. welcom), 7 well come (7 *Sc* wellcome), 7–8 well-come, 3- **welcome** [Originally OL *wilcuma* (f. *wil-*, *will-* will, desire, pleasure + *cuma* comer, guest) = OHG. *willicomo*, MHG and M G. *willekome*, *-kume* (whence OF. *walecome*), with subsequent alteration of the first element to *wel-* WELL *adv*, and identification of the second component with *cor* infinitive of the verb *come*, under the influence of OF. *bien venu*, *bien veignues*, L *bene venisti*, *bene venias*, etc., and possibly of the Scand forms given below.

Parallel developments appear in the cognate languages, either with retention if the original form of the first element, as Du willekom or extension of the sec. or 3, as in older G *wille*, *willkumm*), *komm*, G *willk mm*, LG *willk mm*, MDu *willecomen*, MLG *willek men* (LG *willkamen*, MHG. *willechkamen*, *-komen*, *-kumen*), or with substitution of *wel-* for *wil-*, as in MDu *wellecome* (Du *welkom*), *comen*; also MLG *wolkamen*, Westn *welkom* It is not clear whether the ON *velkominn* (Norw *velk men* MNw *vel*, *velkomin*, Sw *vel*, Da *velkommen*) is an independent formation or the result of LG and Romanic influence

The occasional MF forms in *-e* may represent either the southern *weal-* from *wyl-*, *wil-*, or the *w* which appears as a variant of *wel* WELL *adv*

†A 1 One whose coming is pleasing or desirable; an acceptable person or thing *Obs* (OE only)
*Leges wif* 1894 He cwæþ þæt wilcuman Wedern hodum wæren wilcume to scipe from *c* 900 *Lets Alexis* 1 iv (1850) 29 Mete, cwæþ he, þou gyrne on mirhum þonce Ye þu eart le fwilcum [I *et tine tenuisti*] *a* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* II 332 (Gr) Ic hælepum I sæde wilcumens fela wohe mire re.

**B** In predicative use, passing into *adv*.

2. Of a person. Acceptable as a visitor, companion, etc., also in phrase *to make* (a person) *welcome*.

*a Leges If* 78 Xeasyx him eac wilcum, þæt he sitt wilcuman Denisca leoda *a* 1000 *Cædm as Satan* 617 (Gr) Se sind wilcuman I gyld in wuldres hi hi to heofen rice *c* 1205 LAY 8528 Wulcume art þu fulus *Ibid* 15393 Murling þu art wilcume *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 394 Iturn þe and cum agean, wilkume schulle I con ne *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc) 1263 For ther nere hi nou welcome for the scl ame bifore, And the desclandre of Seint Ih mas *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 532 Welcome *exceptus* c 1560 A Scott *Poems* (S T S) xxvii 58 Quhen schow growis meik and tame, Sa ho salbe welcome hame

*β a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Þif þar cumþ ani þuht oðer ani word a godes half hie bieð bire swiðe welcume *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1600 Vor þan ic am hire wel welcume 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 10456 Þe king wel adoun ikne To þe erchebissopes fet & sede leue fader wel come mote þou be *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 3148 Se ben welcom to me be crist þat me made *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn T* 103 Algates wel come be he, by my fey *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 9392 He was welcom I wis to the worþy all 1480 CAXTON *Chas* 1 *Prol* (1868) 276 And no creature warned that feste, but alle were welcome. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxviii 235 They that gyue me ease were welcome 1567 CHESTER *Pleasts* 1 *Invoc* 5 In deale, very many do him entertayne Vyke as there were not e mone welcome then he. 1607 SHAKS *Timon* I iii 23 *Tim* O thperm mone, you are welcome *Alper* No Yet shall not make me wel come I come t haue thee thrust me out of doores 1667 M POOLE *Dial gue* 150 And the offiner they come to him, the welcomer they are 1687 A LOVELL tr *Thevenot's Trav* II 3 Since for a little money all are welcome, one may eat as many as he pleases 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V i, Hari quin was always welcome on the stage 1849 JAMES *Le Gomarin*, I ord Chorley and his friends were right welc me 1892 *Hist Ev Ann* II. 635 Visitors from abroad are always welcome

*b. Comb.* and *absol. use*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm Tim* 901/1 When we shall see them lee in credit and be the welcomest men in the w rld which fight against God and his truth 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* I 83 Happy with full Thirsh receive the welcome Guest 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T More* (1831) I 240 The kindest host, the welcomest guest 1902 *Westm Gaz* 27 Jan 8/2 At heart ly welcome member of the family

**3** Of a thing. Acceptable, agreeable, pleasing + *To be at welcome* to be badly received.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 2419 His presand wel im was at he, Als bringe i wot was to be fre *c* 1375 *Sir Tristrem* 1097 (Laud) Þayre offeryng was welcome 1535 COVERDALE *Ps* xl *M* (1563) 1620 As for death, if it come welcome I see it 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm Tim* 63/2 Dost thou take against the sentence of God, because the thing is not welcome to the r doctrine to be euill welcome 1654 COCKAINE *Dianea* II iii 47 Knowing 's full Relation will e me the welcomment to me 1695 *Lond Gaz* No 3080/4 Any new inventions that would be beene welcome 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No 1 Fit Praise is not so welcome to the Idler as quiet 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw* xxvi 311 Think stories of guilt are like oil of fetters—they are ever the weightier the welcomer 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV This letter was by no means welcome 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I ii, Humour Portraiture, faithfully drawn or not, will generally be welcomest to human wit.

*Phrases* 1598 FERRONIUS *Serv* (S T S) 52 Of untym ous persons He is no welcomes ss visiter in a privi shi 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxvii 1 Now is the welcomer to me, for that I know I am not to be troubled with your complaints 1659 HOWELL *Lett Parly Engl Lett* I 115/1 As well me as we ster into neighbors As well me as flowers in May 1671 J HUNT *Abeel* 28 *Sed deal* 99 As welcome a Snow in the Harvest.

**b.** In attributive use.

1577 B GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* IV 189b Till the swallow with her appering, promise a well nuner season 1598 SHAKS *Merry W* I iv 16 And he hath brought us smooth and welcome newes 1620 FLETCHER *Lover's Cure* V iii, Why this will be A welcomer present to our Master Philip Then the Ile from his Exiles 1660 ROLLE *Anat Exp Hist Mech Answ* 309 The People, up in a very well come Occasion testified their Joy by numerous Bon fires 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* I 244 Their Joys, w n with Loads, and spent with Watching, Lay on the welcome Land 1760 SAMUEL ST *Anacreon* Introd p vi, A Person of Anacreon's Character must meet with a welcome Reception wherever Wit and Humour were esteemed 1892 FR A. KNIGHT *Rabbit Catcher* (1893) 49 Pork and bacon would pr ve a most welcome addition to their farinaceous diet 1916 C *Aitken Ice Hunt* 82 But perhaps my welcome sights of the drawing together of the Churches

**4** Freely permitted or allowed, cordially invited, (*to do or to have* something)

1535 *Lyfs Sagez* 1582/1 Ye hond in that same cets *c* 1400 *Sir Tristem* lii xv (Horstm) 1 1924 To get þat golde . Thu wil t he suld be richt welcume *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 71 Fernelis thair full I e wel cum to þair hous 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist* 1705 De Foe *Jure unit World* (1840) 49 They were very welcome, if they thought fit, to go. 1709 J WALKER *Dactyl* 1805 It is to be very welcome to learn the land of it till Martinmas. 1820 DICKENS *Old C Shop* xxvi, You're very welcome to pass another night here 1861 PALMERSTON in *Life* (1871) II *Suppl* (1876) 380 I must have no or 24 Iran cased ships—you are quite welcome to have 40 or 48 1882 FONA LYALL *Donat an* xviii, He's welcome to tell me what he pleases

**b.** *And welcome*, added to statement to imply: And he is (you are, etc.) freely permitted or cordially invited to do so, to have it, or the like.

1491 *Act Hen VII*, *c* 22 Preamble, He may surely come here at his pleasure 1600 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 19 Now you are welcome neighbour (quoth he) 1609 SHAKS *Lr* II iv 22, I *Lord* I. I tell Heltcate, a word Well With me I and welc me, happy day my lords. 1709 WARD *Dial Dead* 3 Sirs if this be done, let it in judge and welcome. 1764 *Museum Rust* III 136 On the continent let them use the scythe and welcome, be sure here there we adhere to the unrefined as ours 1858 MRS C. F TAIT *Recln Canada* 75 Here are some cakes take em, and well ome 1869 L WELT *Study Wind* (1871) 9 Burg ine may surrender and welcome

**c** Freely offered or open to all *mentis-use.*

1772 PENNANT *Tour Sc* I (1774) 364 My hall was filled with my friends and kindred and hea thsmils of beeves and deer covered my table but were me tables

**C. 5.** Used in the vocative as a form of address to a visitor or guest; hence as *int*, serving as an expression of good will or pleasure at the coming of a person. (Sometimes addressed to a thing personified or quasi personified)

*a* c 800 WERFERTH tr *Gregory's Dial* 276 He engan, þu cwelþan ' wilcuman la, mine hlaforday, wilcuman, mine hlaforadas !" *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt xxv 23 *Fuge*, wilcyme *c* 1200 *Gloss* in Wr-Wülcker 191/13 *Euax*, wilcume *c* 1205 LAY 22485 Wulcume sire Arður, wilcume lauard [*c* 1275 welcome] 1300–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv 51 Now tak me be the hand, Wylcum ! my golk of mairland 1578 *Henrysone's Orpheus & Eurydice* 135 (Bannatyne MS) Fair well my place And wylcum woddis wyld

**B** *c* 1150 *Dv Vita et Miracula S Godrici Heremitæ de Finchale* (Surtees) 306 Dixit enim mee here verba Anglica ' Welcume, Simund ' welcume, Simund . *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O & Hom* I 259 A seið warschipe, welcume, luues luue *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8168 Alsuith sum he bat king had knaun, He seid, 'wer welcum to gan wend' 1340 *Ayenb* 1 *Pl A* xii 62 Al hayl, quod on þo, and I answered welcome and with whom be 1450 *Myrk's Festial* 222 Welcom my swete sun and cosyn 1590 SWETNAM *Haggef* 290 What I whom have we here, Jenkyn Toby? Nowe welcom, by the God holy ! 1598 HULOET, Welcome euen with all my herte, *optato advantu* 1688 SHADW *E Lancash* II 92 Fare Princesse, welcom to the Court of Nasuar. 1656 COWLEY *Misc* 31 Welcome learn'd Cicero, whose liberal Tongue and Wit Preserves Rome greatness yet 1708 ROWE *Tamer I* i 4, Welcome I dear and worthy partner of my laurels 1766 GOLDSM *Vicar W* xii, Welcome, welcome, Moses ! well, my boy, what have you brought us from the fair? 1842 MACAULAY *Horatius* xxvii, Now welcome, welcome, Sextus ! Now welcome to thy home ! 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II i 76 Look, Here come my riddle-readers Welcome all ! 1870 THOMPSON *Pallas* (1884) 105 Welcome to this poor cottage, my dear lady

**b** *To bid, wish* (a person) *welcome* (*home*) to tell (him) that he is gladly received (*home* or as a guest, etc.).

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 23060 (Fairf) Pe rescewes pine awen folk & buddis welcome hame [*Cott* and bidde pe welcum hame] 1598 SHAKS *Merry W* I i 202 Wife, bid these gentlemen wel ome : come, we have a hot Venyson pasty to dinner 1720 N BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 162 My Wife sent Ned Howard to Woolton to wish my Lady well come home.

**c** The word 'welcome' displayed in letters
1892 MARIE DE LISLE *Compan Prof* 20 Many rooms were ornamented with 'welcomes' and wreaths of maple

**6** + *Welcome to our house*, a name for the Cypress Spurge, *Euphorbia Cyparissias*. Also *Welcome-home-husband*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* ii cxxxii 407 The fifth [called in English] Cypresse Spurge, or army e women Welcome to our house 1664 J OSTER *Haskall* (ed 2) 465 Welcome to our house, see Cypres spurge. 1882 CARR *Craven Gloss*, *Welcome home husband*, Sc. spurge.

**Welcome** (we lkəm), *sb* 2 [f. prec or next Cf Du *welkom*, G. *willkomm*, MHG. *willekum*]

**1** An assurance to a visitor or stranger that he or she is welcome, a pleasant or hearty greeting or reception given to a person on arrival at a house or other place.

*To entertay, or merstay, one's welcome* see the vbs
1585 BUNDES *Physics* (1812) II 433 She had neuer before ben at Parys, therfore the burgesses of Parys gaue her her welcome 1610 B JONSON *Alch* I i, *Face* Let 'em alone, *Lovewit* 'em welcome 1620 SHAKS *Temp* V i 311 And to thee, and thy Company I bid A hearty welcome 1622—*Wint Tale* IV 560 Methinks I see Leontes opening his free Armes and weeping His welcomes forth 1649 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Wand Wonders of West* 15 A house where I tooke a welcome, a supper and a bed till the next morning 1703 DE FOE *Quest Ans to Lord* II 11 I was entertained by him with an English Dinner and an English Welcome 1757 DYER *Fleece* I 123 The little smiling cottage, where at eve He meets his rosy children all of joy, Their welcome comes. 1814 HOOD *Lamia* I vii, Warm was his welcome to the haunts of men 1846 MRS A MARSH *Father Darcy* II xiv 249 That he was then I believe sufficiently made, was sufficient to insure him a welcome from Evelyn 1847 MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 144 Then the abbot he prayed them all to stay, And let their welcome be free 1874 CHLIN *Short Hist* III § 6 125 The welcome of the townsmen made up . for the ill will of both clergy and monks

**b.** *transf.* (esp. with *adjs* ) A greeting or reception of an unpleasant or unsatisfactory nature.

1598 HALL *Satires* (Arber) III (1753) 339 So when they arrived there, and had received the welcome, the artillarie beganne to shote This welcome semed very strauge to King Edward ponderinge it together yesterdayes preparacion 1874 CALLW *Short Hist* III § 6 125 The welcome of the townsmen made up . for the ill will of both clergy and monks

**c.** *transf.* (esp. with *adjs* ) A greeting or reception of an unpleasant or unsatisfactory nature.

1598 HALL *Satires* (Arber) III (1753) 339 So when they arrived there, and had received the welcome, the artillarie beganne to shote This welcome semed very strauge to King Edward ponderinge it together yesterdayes preparacion 1874 CALLW *Short Hist* III § 6 125 The welcome of the townsmen made up . for the ill will of both clergy and monks

**2** *Welcome home*, entertainment provided to celebrate the return home of a person; also, expressions of greeting made at a person's home-coming. Also *transf*

1530 TINDALE *Answ More* iv ii Wks (1572) 323/1 As when we call one that is new come home to breakfast and set an open before him and say, Sir, this is your welcome home 1598 H WOTTON *Courtlie Controv* 296 She had good promision of embracings, & wanton toyes, to feast him at his welcome home. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch M* xiv viii 765 Sylla's welcome home, up my returne to Rome, after I had been long absent, invited me to a supper for my welcome home 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let to J Kennedy* Lett (1664) 186 Our little inch of time suffering is not worthy of our first night's welcome home to heaven 1680 LADY RUSSELL *Let* 6 Mar (1809) 3, I am very earnest to hear how my brother is after his journey, and melancholy welcome home. 1885 *Manc*

Alexander' *Valerii's Fate* ii, 'I hope Madeleine has not forgotten my fire,' murmured Miss Riddell, as she walked.. down the Champs Elysées. 'Such evenings as these one wants a welcome home.'

**b.** *Sc.* (See quots)

1808 Jamieson, *Welcome-hame*, the repast presented to a bride, when she enters the house of a bridegroom. 1818 *Edin. Mag* Nov 415 2 On the Monday evening, just about gloamin, the husbands and wives of the village assemble at the house of the newly married couple, to celebrate the wel come hame, by a good drunk and funny reack.

3. Hearty or hospitable reception of a stranger or guest

1590 Shake *Com Err* III. 1 26 Small cheere and great welcome, makes a merrie feast 1596 — *Tam Shr.* Ind 1 107 Do mine, sake them welcome. And were there anie friendly welcome euerie one 1641 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I 39 It will much depend uppon what assurance of welcome we shall have from some in more then beare words 1645 Lingard *Anglo-Saxon Ch* I III 337 Pedwaich, king of Sussex, received him (Wilfrid) with welcome 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 587 A youth, that followed with a coutel bore The means of goodly welcome, flesh and wine 1870 — *Falcon* (1884) 105 And welcome turns a cottage to a palace

4. A welcoming salute. Also *attrib.*

1665 R Cocks *Diary* (Camd Soc) I 65 The Duch envited the King of Denmarke aboard their ship, and gave him 3 pec ordinance for a welcom. 1808 Scott *Marm* I iii, The gunner held his linstock, pare, For welcome shot prepar'd *Ant. & A.* II. The cannon from the ramparts glanced, And thundering welcome gave.

†5. *Powder of welcome*, a medicament for the eyes.

The origin is obscure *welcome* is merely a rendering of the name used in the orig. L. of the text 1541, viz *pulvis Anglicus vocatus* Cf *Treasures of Poore Men* (1540) 8 'Of 5 ouder called Bonauenture'

1542 R Copland *Guidon's Farm* V 1 b, Fythly is put the powdre of welcome, of myne owne makynge for all spottes of the eyes

**Welcome** (we·lkəm), *v.*1 Forms a. I (ge)-wilcuman, wylcuman, 3 wil-, wilcumen, welcume, 4 welcumman, 2 wel-cumien, 3 -cumen, 4–5 welcum, -kum (§ wheil-cwm, *Sc.* welcum); 3–5 welcome (6–7 *p. t.* -commed). [Originally OE. *wilcuman*, f. *wilcuma* Welcome *sb.*1, with later alteration of the first element in the same way as in the noun.]

1 *trans.* To greet (a person) with 'welcome!'; to receive (a visitor) gladly and hospitably; to accord a friendly reception to; to make welcome.

a 1000 *Ags Gosp Matt* vi 47 *Gif ge þæt an hiwan þeet ge eowre gebroðra wylcumiað* c 1000 Ælfric *Saints Lives* iii. 307 And basilius sende sona him to geanes and hine wylcomode c 1205 Lay 17008 Þe king ut him gon rideð to wulcumen Marlin. a 1250 *Owl & Night* 440 Þe hine mid hire faire white welcomeþ [*Jesus MS* welcumeþ] me c 1290 *Beket* (Percy Soc. I 80) Þat folc to him droug And welcome him and makede feste c 1330 *Will Palerne* 4030 And worþili here he welcomed wiþ here mette

*B* c 1000 in *Engl. Studies* III 158 Dæt folc wellcumaþ Fenne c 1160 *Ags Gosp* (Hatton) Matt v 47 *Zif ge þæt* an doð þæt ge eowre gebroðre welcumeð c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1396 And laban cam to þat welle ner, fuger welcumede he þer eliezer c 1290 *Beket* 60 Þo þe king *Lyg* c 1300 *Beket* 4013 He welcumd iacob well fair, He wist he was his fader air 13.. *Sayon* 1. 1. 1.

the ˆweld plants. 1769 *Museum Rust.* IV. 147 The French sow their ˆweld-seed in July. 1809 MACKAIL *W. Morris* I. 317 Madder or ˆweld vats. 1845 LINDLEY *School Bot.* (new ed.) 72 Resedaceæ—ˆWeld-worts. 1859 in Mackail *W. Morris* I. 312 Madder red, ˆwald yellow.

**Weld** (weld), *sb.*[2] [f. WELD *v.*]

1. A joining or joint made by welding.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 96 Should the bars of iron not be...long enough, they are to be welded, and the welds separated. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 634 Tires for locomotive engines are also exhibited, made without a weld. 1882 *Engin. Lett.* XI. 279/2 Each barrel has a weld running down its whole length. 1892 *Professn. Papers Corps R. Engineers* 10 It was desirable, with such a weld, that the two surfaces should not be at an angle and this form of weld was called a 'butt ' weld.

2. The act, process, or result of welding; the state or fact of being welded.

1860 *Times* 12 Aug. 9/4 Where soundness of weld might have been expected...thin layers of interposed ˆcinder have ...prevented perfect union between contiguous laminæ of iron. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 68/1 Copper phosphide would be formed, which would...effectually prevent a weld. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* I. 7 Under these conditions but moderate pressure is required to ensure a perfect weld.

3. Comb.: **weld-iron**, wrought iron; **weld-steel**, puddled steel.

These terms have not been generally adopted.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Weld iron. Weld-steel. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 266/1 Steel which will harden from any cause...is termed weld steel.

**Weld** (weld), *v.* [Alteration of WELL *v.*, prob. under the influence of the pa. pple.]

1. *intr.* To undergo junction by welding; to admit of being welded. Also *fig.*

1598 [ss. I. *Basilk. Danon* 133] Mixinge through...dailie conuersation, the men of euery kingdome with an other, as may with time make them to growe and weld [*orig. MS.* well] all in one. 1859 THOMAS *Mech. Exerc.* I. 10 They also makes the Iron weld, or incorporate the better. 1724 RANSAY *Song. Widow* 23 Strike iron while 'tis hot, if ye'd have it to weld. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* x. 304 When heated to whiteness...the particles cohere or weld together perfectly.

2. *trans.* To soften by heat and join together (pieces of metal, esp. iron, or iron and steel) in a solid mass, by hammering or by pressure; to forge (an article) by this method.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 9 And so weld, or work in the doubling into one another, and make it become one entire lump. 1680 ALSOP *Mineral Chymist*, vii. 51 A Cutler's boy ...was making a knife, and unluckily the steel fell off when he had welded it. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 341 They are usually made of iron and steel welded together. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxv. (ed. 3) 302 In this difficulty, the contractors resorted to a mode of welding the gun-barrel. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i. I heard the smith welding arms on the anvil. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 284 The bayonet consists of a steel blade welded to a wrought-iron socket.

*b. fig.* and *transf.* To unite intimately or inseparably; to join closely together.

(*a*) 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 243 Let us love, and die, And weld our souls together, night! 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. vi. If boys and men are to be welded together in the glow of transient feeling, the mould must be made of metal that will mix. 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* xi, Habits, inexorably welded into the being of the man.

(*b*) 1859 MACMICHAN *Siluria* xi. (ed. 3) 301 The lower part being welded on to the Upper Silurian by thin fissile strata. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 119 All the glaciers...are welded together to a common whole. 1892 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 623/2 Mr. Wells's *Wheels of Chance* is a hypertrophic condition of the horny layers of the epidermis—the cells becoming condensed or ˆwelded ˆ together.

**Weld**, obs. f. WEALD; obs. f. (and *pa. pple.*) of WIELD; var. WOLD *sb.*

**Weldability** (weldăbĭ·liti). [f. WELDABLE + -ITY.] The quality or property of being weldable.

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* i. 8 The above-mentioned elements harden malleable iron, and probably affect its weldability. 1884 LOCK *Workshop & Rec.* Ser. III. 266/1 Its weldability depends upon the viscosity it [sc. glass] assumes at a bright-red heat.

**Weldable** (weldăb'l), *a.* [f. WELD *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being welded.

1864 *Reader* 9 Apr. 449/1 We have the various kinds of steel, which are highly malleable, ductile, forgeable, weldable. 1880 *Metal World* No. 24, 372 Pure malleable and weldable nickel. 1882 *Nature* 15 Sept. 502 Many metals not hitherto considered weldable, such as tool steel, copper, and aluminium are readily welded.

*b. transf.* Of plastic substances: Capable of being united in a solid mass.

1881 *Knowledge* 25 Nov. 67/1 Wax, pitch, resin, and all other solids that fuse, gradually cohere, are weldable ...when near their fusing point. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 300/2 Outside of the metals there is a multitude of weldable substances. Glass is a typical example of these.

**Weldar**, obs. form of WIELDER.

**Weldbore**, var. WELDBORE.

**Welde**, obs. form of WELD *sb.* and *v.*

**Welded** (weldĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. WELD *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. United by welding.

1869 *Scientific Opinion* to Feb. 270/1 The wire had been drawn from welded palladium. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 3/1 The immensely expensive welded-iron gun to which Sir W. Armstrong was wedded.

*b. transf.* and *fig.*

1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* (1844) Ded. 4 The welded mass of haut ton, or low ton. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxiii, The welded strength of its sinews was best shown in the lightness and grace of its movements. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* lxxi, Welded lines with clinch Of ending word and word. 1898 *Alibert's Syst. Med.* V. 1043 The firm, thick, fibrous septum of the welded valve-structures.

2. *Welded joint*, = *welded joint*: see WELT *v.*

1882 W. J. CHAMPLY *Pocket* 197 This variety [of overlapping joint] thus compactly rolled together is otherwise termed a welded joint.

†**Weld-dede.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wel-dǽd**, 2–4 **weldede** (**wel-dede**, **wel dede**). [OE. *weldǽd* = MDu. *weldaet* (Du. *weldaad*); LG. *weldâd*, WFris. *weldâd*), OHG. *woltatt* (MHG. *woltât*, G. *wohltat*), Goth. *wailadêds*: see WELL *adv.* and DEED *sb.*] A good deed; a benefit.

a 1000 *Phoenix* 543 [Hie] stigað to wuldre wlitige ȝewyrhtu mid hyra wel-dædum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 346 Do well on eallum þingum þæt we us wyrhan æfter Drihtnes wel dædum þinne ðe eft ȝeninnað us. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Vre laurd seinte paul..munegeð..to godes worde and to weldedde. *c* 1205 LAY. 3160 Wolðeschre buen his wel-dede. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 62 For þi I leue ȝou, brebyngres, such writyynge ȝe leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of ȝoure wel dedes.

**Weldende, weldent**, var. ff. WALDEND *Obs.*

**Welder** (weldəɹ). [f. WELD *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who welds; spec., a smith employed exclusively in welding.

1828-32 WEBSTER. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 136 The spirals are welded together, the welder commences their day's work. 1854 *Wham's P. O. Directory* 683/2 Of the gun trade are the following:—gun barrel borers, filers, welders, tibbers. 1908 *Chamb. Jrnl. Aug.* 532/2 This was done by engaging every available marine welder and patcher.

2. A welding-machine.

1896 *Cyclist* 8 Jan. 25 A 40 kilowatt welder...occupies the following floor space.

**Welder**, obs. form of WIELDER.

**Weldinde**, var. f. WALDEND *Obs.*

**Welding** (weldiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. WELD *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb WELD; the process of joining with a weld.

1603 [see 2]. 1691 T. HALE [title] *Acc. New Invent.* 14 Their Pintles, and hanging, and welding. *Ibid.* 23 To give it its due welding or working. 1825 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 21 The fire for welding should be free from sulphur. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 438 The kaligeneous metals, potassium and sodium,...readily admit of welding. 1881 J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 203 The tool was, however, inappropriate to a metal of the character of bronze.

b. Capacity for uniting under the operation of heat and pressure.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 784 *Welding*. The property of conjunction possessed by some metals at high temperatures. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 536 This property of welding, which belongs to platinum and iron at a high degree of heat, belongs only in a low degree to the substances [sodium] at common temperatures. 1868 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 236 When hot, it [wrought iron] possesses the peculiar property of welding.

c. = *welding heat* (see 3).

1842 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 106 A piece of the same iron heated to welding, and left to cool, broke...in one blow.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* The act of uniting, or the fact of being united, closely or indissolubly.

1603 J. DAS. I *Basil. Doron* II. 149 The uniting and welding of them hereafter in one, by all sort of friendship, commerce, and alliance. 1857 J. TAYLOR *World of Mind* 669 These are the welding links in the social system...but Love is a welding. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xii. 212 Now was it in their welding of the bricks alone that these scattered fragments were united? 1885 C. THOMAS *Lost Cause* xii, The harmonic welding of the order and traditions of our Lord's Own time with the full vivid life of the Scottish Church.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *welding-machine, process, state, swage*; **welding heat**, the degree of heat to which iron is brought for welding; **welding point**, degree of heat requisite for welding; also *fig.*; **welding powder**, a flux used in welding.

1720 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Welding-Heat*, is a Degree of Heat, which Iron will give that Name to. 1825 *Welding*, when there is occasion to double up the Iron, and to Weld...the Doubling. 1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 310, I heated a piece of iron...to a white heat, as the smiths call a welding heat. 1884 LOCK *Workshop & Rec.* Ser. III. 301/2 Cast-steel requires a low welding-heat. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-machine*, one for uniting the edges of plates previously bent, [etc.]. 1868 JOHNSON *Metals* 69 Each quality of iron has a different *welding point. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* I. 16 The feeling...may be a warm one, but not warm enough to heat us...to the welding point. 1892 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 361/1 The steel to be welded...is then dipped into the *welding powder, and again placed in the fire. 1909 E. WILSON & LYNDE *Electr. Traction* I. 93 The electric *welding process...welds the rails together. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 108 The parts first fused are gathered on the end of a similarly heated rod, in a *welding heat. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-swage*, a block or fulling-tool for swisting the closure of a welded joint.

**Welding**, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. WELD *sb.*[1]] The process of dyeing with weld.

1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 550 The cloth is prepared as for welding, and dyed yellow.

**Weldish**, variant of WEALDISH *Obs.* [To this may belong the following:—

1258-7 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 6 In C. Weldisbord' emptis ad eandem [bargiam]. 1419 *Will of Richard Hallum* (Somerset Ho.), Cum j pare linth[eaminum] de Weldysshclothe.]

**Weldless** (weldlĕs), *a.* [f. WELD *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Made without a weld.

1865 *Athenæum* 30 Sept. 442/2 Weldless tyres. 1869 F. KOHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 162 Weldless Tubes. 1894 *Daily News* 14 June 6/4 The Triumph Weldless chain, an American invention.

**Weldsomly**: see WEL(D)SOMLY *adv.*

**Wele**, obs. f. WEAL, WEAL *sb.*[1], WEEL, WEEL *sb.*[1] and *adv.*, WHEEL.

†**Wele**, *v. Obs.* [ad. ON. *velja*: cf. WALE *v.*[1]] *transf.* To choose, pick out.

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7340 Whan...Oure Prynces perceyue per ar so fele, þe ȝonge dur þey nought out wele, Bot bulke of twenty wynter elde Or mure. 23... *Ibid.* (Trayt MS.) 1031 Sex hundred of hyse weled [*Lambeth MS.* colede] he out.

**Wele, we'le**, contr. ff. *we will.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. iii. 74 Lyke louing frends, we'le meete him on the way. 1697 C. DAVENANT *Circe* V. iv. 57 Then we'le retire.

**Weled**, obs. pa. t. of WIELD *v.*

**Weleful**, var. WEALFUL *Obs.*, WILFUL.

**Welew**, obs. f. WILLOW. **Welewe(n**, var. ff. WALLOW *v.*[2] **Weleygh**[2], obs. f. WILLOW.

**Welfare** (welfēəɹ). *sb.* [From: *n. 4–* **welfare**, (4 **wilfare**), 4–8 **wilfare** (5 **wellefare**); 5 **welfar**, **whelfar**; 7 **wolfaire**, **wellfair**. *B.* 4–5 **welefar(e**, (4 **weylfare**, 6 **-far**), 5 **weelfare**, *Sc.* **weillfair**, **weilfar(e**, **weill-**, **weylfar**, **-fayr**, 5–6 *Sc.* **weil-**, **welefair**, (6 **veilfair**, **-fayr(e**, **-fare**). [f. the verbal phrase *wel fare* (see FARE *v.*[1] 7), the verb being replaced by the noun (FARE *sb.*[1]). Cf. ON. *velferð* (Sw. *välfärd*, Da. *velfærd*) welfare, *velfor* parting, leave-taking.]

1. The state or condition of doing or being well; good fortune, happiness, or well-being (of a person, community, or thing); thriving or successful progress in life, prosperity.

*a.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3928 Syf þou euer hadyst sorow oþer kare for þy neȝheburs welfare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* (Fairf.) 1320 My wyfe, my lustes, be me loothe, For al welfare and I be wroothe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 216 So overcast is my welfare, That I am schapen al to strife. 1406 LYDG. *Dr. Bochas* IV. 1 Thow art bounde to deuyse Hys goostly [bjelthe & wel-fare. 1446 *Slanor Papers* (Camden) I, 77 Desyryng to here of yower welfare and prosperyte of body and saule. 1450 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D j b, I...had myne eye contynually vpon his welfare, I ouerpassed nothynge that myght profyt him. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* (Arb.) Wherevpon dependeth either the welfare or ilfare of the whole realme. 1570 *Mirr. Mag., Eldrede* xxvii, [Thou] Didst liue a life deuoyde of all welfare. 1623 J. LAWSON (Water Ex.) *Diteon. & Sea* C 3 b, Your laudable endeauors for your welfare and commodity. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 130 Above all let the King or Master flee be Long, Sluming, and Chearless...for upon his Success depends the welfare of the whole Swarm. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 65. 71 It was one continued Series of Actions, for the Welfare of the People. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 186 Their welfare pleas'd him, and their cares distress'd. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, Her first wish in life is for your happiness and welfare. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 264 They know not, cannot guess How much their welfare is a passion to us. 1892 *Weekly Reporter* 17 Dec. 97/1 The welfare of the child—religious, moral, and social, as well as physical and pecuniary—is the paramount consideration for the court.

*β.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1715 Syf þou fordost he weyfare Betwyx þo þat weddyde are. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 434 That our bert be nyght & day In þaim welfare, Ne ouer mikel vndir fo nane ȝyel fare. *c* 1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 1354 Ful glad was sir Gawayne, Of the welefar of Sir Ywayne. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Sheep & G.* 1 Where pees restith, ther is al weelfare. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 524 Syne I will off Wallace glaid weillfar. 1521 G. DOUGLAS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 293 Gyf ȝe wyll do ȝour dewtie and suris of his derrest nevo the Kyng. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 224 Pray..[that] Hir grace lang space may in gude weillfar stand. 1789 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* v, Brothers and sisters meet, And each for other's welfare kindly spiers.

†*b.* As the name of a ship. *Obs.*

1510 *Rot. Scotiæ* 90/1 Willi's le Fissbere de Gravesiende magr' navis ipe vocatur le Welfare. 1511 *Ibid.* 92/1

†2. A source of well-being or happiness; *pl.* the good things of life. *Obs.*

*c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1040 For certes she was ...My worldes welfare and my gode hope. 1375 BARBOUR iv. 228 Lyth Troylus byrayt of ache welfare I-bounde in þe blake lark of care. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 450 Som tyme þer was a knyght þat lefte all his possessions & his wurshuppis and his welefaris, and made hym a monk.

†3. Good cheer, good living or entertainment. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 602, & ȝat þane il ane fole haf þaim he can, & gret welfare, þan welfare of al thing þat was necessary. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIX. 350 To wasten, on welfare and on wykked kepynge, Al þe worlde in a while þorw owre witte. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 186 Pe iij. tryst, þei weryn herberwyd a-mi-dper good herbarwe, & haddyn gret wel-fare. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. ii. 262/1 When that yonge folke wexe rebelle ayenst fader & dame & fyne them to sustre ryot & welfare & ydlenesse. 1508 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 45 Both in welfare and wede, With oute doute they fare excede The nobles of the region. 1577 W. HARRISON *Descr. Scot.* I. 5/1 in *Holinshed*, Those that are given much vnto wine and such welfare.

†*b.* Abundance (of meat, drink). *Obs.*

*c* 1386 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 62 Pei...han lordschipis, rentis, gaie houses & costy, & welfare of mete & drynk. *a* 1393 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lxxii. (W. de W. 1494). He that... delytes in welfare of mete or drynke.

**4.** *Comb.* In recent use with sense of 'relating to or concerned with the welfare of' (workers, children, etc.) as *welfare-committee, policy, work*; **welfare-manager, -worker,** a person engaged in looking after the welfare of people working in factories, mercantile establishments, etc.

1904 *Century Mag.* Nov. 61 The welfare manager..who may be either a man or a woman, is a recognized intermediary between the employers and employees of mercantile houses and manufacturing plants. *Ibid.* 63 The welfare worker of a large retail establishment. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 11/1 Another scheme..is well described..by its title, 'the welfare policy'. The home of 'the welfare policy' is the city of Dayton, Ohio. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 4/3 The camp was managed by the Men's Welfare League. 1908 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 6/3 Welfare work tends to improve the conditions of life for women and girls employed in factories, etc.

**† Welfare,** *vbl. phr. Obs.* Also 6 **well fare,** 7 **wellfare.** [f. as prec. Cf. FAREWELL.] The optative phrase *well fare* (you, it, etc.), used either as a genuine expression of good wishes (= 'May it go well with', 'good luck to') or employed ironically.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1214/2 Welfare your hert, good Uncle, for this good counsell of yours. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 2 Well fare London yet, for a policie besides water..pull downe the houses burning. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 42 But thine my Deare (welfare thy heart my deare). 1618 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Script.* III. 33 Yet welfare another learned Iesuit that had leasse at Rome. 1628 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 32 Now welfare Brownist. 1672 S. PARKER *Pref. to Bramhall's Vind.* a 2 Well fare poor Macedo for a modest Fool!

b. Used as sb. with *a.*

1648 Sir E. DERING *Sp. Relig.* t A well-fare to my Reader if he be either of *birth* or *breeding*: A farewell to the rest.

**Welfarende, welfaryng(e**: see WELL-FARING *ppl. a. Obs.*

**Welfed,** obs. f. WELL-FED. **Welful**(l, var. ff. WEALFUL *a. Obs.* **Welge,** Sc. var. VAIL *v.*[1] *Obs.*

‖ **Well, wely** (we'll). Also 9 **wall, wullee.** [Arabic ⟨ *wall, weli* friend (of God), saint.]

**1.** A Mohammedan saint or holy man.

1829 T. HOPE *Anast.* (1820) I. 341 Notes, *Hafees*: holy, but in a less degree than the Wely or saint. 1840 J. B. FRASER *Yezdi, Koordistan* etc. I. 312 He..had on his head a magnificent turban of cashmere—somewhat in fancy resistent in a dervish; but saints and *wullees* are now-a-days privileged people. 1876 STOBART *Islam* 204 Those fagirs who attain to great sanctity are called 'Walis'.

**2.** The tomb or shrine of a well.

1838 E. ROBINSON *Res. Palestine* (1841) I. 332 Rachel's Tomb..is merely an ordinary Muslim Wely, or tomb of a holy person. 1851 FRASER *Mesopot. Hist.* iii. 124 The white-domed wely of an obscure Mohammedan saint.

**Welk** (welk), *v.*[1] *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 3 **welken,** 4–7 **welke,** 5 **wylke,** 7 **wilke** ; *ppl. a.* 6 **welked,** 9 *dial.* **wilki.** [ME. *welken*, prob. of Continental origin : cf. (M)Du., LG., OHG. (MHG. and G.) *welken* (also OHG. *welchen*, MHG. *welchen*), in the same sense, and Du. *welk, welkt*, OHG. *welk, welc* (G. *welk*) adj., withered, flaccid, sere, etc.]

**1.** *intr.* Of a flower, plant, etc. : To lose freshness or greenness; to become flaccid or dry; to wilt, wither, fade. Also with *away*.

*c* 1250 [implied in WELKED *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxiii. 6 It wites als gresse neri de dai;..At euen down es it broght Vnlaues, and welked gas to noght. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 707 A man may likend be Til a flour, bat.. Welkes and dwynes til it be noght. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 77 No manere of tree bereb his leues : no floures here welkeb. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 262 Thou faryst as a vyne wyth broste leuys bat sone welkyn. *a* 1450 [L. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. xxiii. 189/1 They [the garlondes] shall always be grene & freshe, & neyther welke ne fade. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. xiv. 113 b, Saffron.. These flowers are gathered..before the rising of the Sunne, whych would cause them to welke or flitter. 1641 DEST *Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 31 Soe soone as the pennie-grass beginne to welke and seeme dry, then is it time to beginne to mowe. 1668 *Hunting of Fox* 2 Some particular vixen.. doe daily welke and wither away. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s. v., Mown grass in drying for hay is said to welk. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, Welk*, to dry; to wither.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* (or in fig. context).

*c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii. 17 Behaulde the laste endinge of wicked men, when thair flour welkes, & wytes away.e. 1380–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. 315, I..am a seer tree, without bunjoning or fruite, alwaye welke. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 41 And so I quenchid be furseid superfluitas..no bat bigan to dry and to welk and fall away. 1685 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* Pref. 4 For Bookes translated doe,..like remov'd Trees, welke. 1697 REEVE *God's Plea* 232 This world..can hold nothing in it long, the whitest flowers welk and drop.

**† 2.** To become less, to diminish, to shrink. Of the sun or moon : To wane, lose brightness. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 35 The Sea now ebbeth, now it floweth, The land now welketh, now it groweth. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 13 The Moone being in the waine is sayde of Lidgate to welke. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 23 When ruddy Phoebus gins to welke in west, 1632 QUARLES *Samson* xlii. 74 When the Sun was welking in the West. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 29 The Church that before by insensible degrees welk't and impair'd, now with large steps went downe hill decaying.

**3.** *trans.* To cause to fade or wither.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 13 But nowe sadde Winter welkes and all his flowres deade. 1594 *Zepheria* xvi. C 4 b, Oh how hath black night welked vp this day? *a* 1625 FOSBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*...2. To expose to sun and air, and turn over in order to be dried ; as grass to be converted to hay.

**Hence Welking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Ret. Ant.* I. 6 *Emerece*, to wex drie and welkynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkynge, *marcor*. 1630 J. LANE *Comm. Squire's T.* 225 (Ashm.) While welking Phoebus went down to the west.

**† Welk,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Related to WALK *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]] *trans.* To roll or knead together.

*a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 300 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 Take ayre & an eyȝ seke, & an eyȝ yelke, bem to-gedyr wel bete & welke. *a* 1825 FOSBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*...To soak, roll, and macerate in a fluid.

**Welk(e,** obs. forms of WHELK.

**Welk(e,** obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

**Welked** (welkt), *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. WELK *v.*[1]] **a.** Withered, faded, dried up. **† b.** Dulled in lustre.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2107 And vii. lene [ears] riȝt Sor-bi, welkede, and smale, and drufte nunne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 410 For which ful pale and welked is my face. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. 37 Mistrust with foly, with yvel wil medled, engendreth that welked padde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 361 Thus which was whilom grene grass, Is welked hey at time now. *c* 1440 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula* etc. 51 Ilyngyng in maner of a welked grape [*pendentes instar uvae vindemiae*]. 1440 LYDG. *Dt. Guil. Pylgr.* 16530 A dyre stobyll, or..a welkyd leef. *Ibid.* 16355, I, the most wrechchyd Wyght off alle synners, and most dyffad ȝ and wylked with synne. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* xcv. xii, The Romes dede gates welked were aforn, vnsaued grewen was gan reuest. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xii, Her wealked face with woful teares besprent. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 73 By that, the welked Phoebus gan asunke His weary waine. 1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 258 Our faces..are most deformedlye welked and wrynkled. 1603 DRAYTON *Barons' Wars* vi. xxxix, There comes proude Phaeton tumbling through the cloudes,..And setting fire vppon the welked shrowds [*ed.* 1619 His Chariot tumbling from the welked shrowd]. 1879 CUMBERLAND *Forefath.* III. 321 Shep likes tumups better when they're wilkt.

**† Welken,** *v. Obs.* [f. WELK *v.*[1] + -EN [5.] intr. To wither, fade.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xi. ix. (Tollemache MS.), Hore freste..makeb herbes and floures up on he which he falleb welkenen. 14.. *A Goodly Balade* 59 in *Chaucer's Works* (1687) 560 Ye welkeneth fairer then sone.

**Hence † Welkening** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Mirour Salvacionn* (Roxb.) 144 There is the flour of youthehe yt neure shal knawe welkyng.

**† Welkan,** obs. var. WELKED *ppl. a.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkyd, or welkyn [*Winch. MS.* welkyn], *marcidus*.

**Welkin** (we'lkin). Forms: *a.* 1–2 **wolcen,** wolcn (3 **wlcn**), wole, 2–3 **wolcne,** 3–4 **wolkne,** (1) 4 **wolken(e, wolkon** ; *pl.* 1 **wolonu, -na,** 2 **wolcne** (**-enu**), **wolkne.** *β.* 2–3 **welcne** (also *pl.*), 4 **welkyn** ; 3–5 **welkne,** 4–5 **welkene,** 4–7 **welken** (4 **welcen**) 4–6 **welkyn,** 5 **-yne,** 6–7 **welkine,** 6– **welkin** (7 **-ing, welkin, wilkin**). *γ.* 3–5 **walkne, walkene** (4 **-on**), 4–5 **walkyn**(e. [OE. *wolcen, wolcen* neut. = OFris. *wolen-* (*olen-, ulen-*), *wolken* (*olken, ulken*; WFris. *wolken, wolk-e*, NFris. *wolk*), OS. *wolcan, wolcn-* (MLG. *wolke-n, wolke*, LG. *wolk-e, wulk-e*; MDu. *wolcke, Du. wolk*), OHG. *wolkan, wolchan* (MHG. *wolken*, G. *wolke*) : the word is lacking in the Scand. group and not recorded in Gothic. A rare OE. *wolcne* wk. fem., is also represented in early ME.

The phonology of the ME. forms with *eo, e*, and *a* in the stem is irregular. It has been suggested that the *eo* and *a* are due to assimilation, but there is no obvious reason for the changes, and the explanation still leaves the forms with *a* unaccounted for. In a number of the early ME. instances it is difficult to decide whether the forms are to be taken as singular or plural.

**† 1.** A cloud. *Obs.*

In OE., esp. in poetry, freq. in plural, esp. in the phrase *under wolcnum* = under the sky or heaven (cf. sense 2).

*Beowulf* 851 Þæt hit eal hatode ærgeapum wyrme under wolcnum. *c* 885 *Ps. Paalter* civ. 39 Aðenæd wolcn in xscilnisse heara. *c* 897 *Rel. Lerd Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 281 Þæt he mid his wordum..ne rirþ ne nafre. *Ibid.*, Se wind driseð ðæt wolcn. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Ealle þa gewitab swa swa wolcn. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 30 Þonne scinð se leoscð mannes bearn..cumendne on heofones wolcnum. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (C.) an. 979 Þy ilcan ȝeare wæs gesewen blodig wolcen on oft siðas on þyses geliccnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 11974 Þurkren vnder sunnen sweorre weolcnen. *Ibid.* 29530 Þa com þer..winden mid þan wolcnen a berninge drake.

**2.** The apparent arch or vault of heaven overhead ; the sky, the firmament.

In late OE. and from 16th c.) only literary (chiefly *poet.*) and *dial.* (Lancs.).

*a.* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Hi sæzon on norð east fyr micel & wel neh þam wolcne, swylce hit ware up on tat to þam wolcne & se wolcne un dide on fower healfe and fahi þær to ȝeanes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Þe sunne neȝ water from eorðe up to þe wolcne. *c* 1205 LAY. 27457 Þa wolcne gon to dunien, Þa eorðe gon to biuien. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. E 4 Per hi bigan his flizt, & fley him swiþe an hey Vp hi þo lofte fer, and þe wolcne was wel ney. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM VI. 68 Þe werlde by-clepb al þe molde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 399 Ethelbert spak wiþ hem out of house under þe wolken [*and ibid.*].

*b. c* 1205 LAY. 2883 He ferde swiþe hehze Þere weolcne he wes swiðe nih. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Al þenne world leitende of swarte leite up into weolcne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1082 (Jesus MS.) We habbe stefne brihte & stiueþ vnder wolkne bi nyhte. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xliii. 114 Ase fele sythe ant oft.. As sterres beth in welkne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 160 Al þe wyde worlde.. Bobe welkne and þe wynde, water and erbne, Heuene & helle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 459 It is ful likynge to us to beholde þe welkene and þe sterres of hevene. *c* 1440 *Autore of Arth.* 328 (Douce MS.) Þe welkes, þe welken, þe welkenes vnliche. *Ta* 1500 *Chester Pl., Creation* 21 To be a dividente to twyne the waters aye ! Above the welkin, benathe also. 1529 MORE *Dyalog* III. Wks. 1229/2 He..caste vp his eyen in to the welkin and wepte. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 7 Whiche parte is aboue all the faire Elementes, and compaseth them about, and is called the Skie, or Welkin. 1590 SPENSER *Tim Bartast* i. ii. 224 That lightly burn..Safe through the Welkin I my course may take. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 82 When the welkin had put aside the vizard of the night. 1662 HERBERT *Synagoga* (1870) 29 Jugg'ling deceiveth in an instant the whole welkin over. 1678 VAUGHAN *Thalia Rediv.*, *Daphnis* 18 Not one Black cloud, no rage, nor spots did stain The Welkins beauty. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 419 A Nose chipping Lark the Welkin sheen invokes. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* i. lviii, There would he linger, till the latest ray Of light sat trembling on the utmost verge. 1827 SCOTT *Harold* i. ii. If a sail but gleam'd white 'gainst the welkin blue. 1897 LONGF. *Sandalphon* 44 When..the welkin above is all white, All throbbing and panting with stars.

*fig.* 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxviii. I..see a fine, perfect rainbow, bright with promise, gloriously spanning the beclouded welkin of life. 1868 LOWELL *Under Willows* 284 And all the heavens revolve In the small welkin of a drop of dew.

**γ.** *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 96 Do god lad ben fe firmament, Al abuten þis walkne sent. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1717 (Laud MS.), Ich laue mos knyttes to werren Pan ben in þe walken sterren. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 355 Shipmen and shepheides..Weiten by þe walkne and by þe weder hire lyue. 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3106 As stemis in the frosty nyght, Whanne walkne is most bryght, With-oute cloude or any skyes. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Annunc.* 80 To þe walkyn of þis watyr I make The walkyn also ful fayr and bryth.

**b.** Considered as the abode of the Deity, or of the gods of heathen mythology : The celestial regions, heaven.

1559 *Mirr. Magistr., Hen. VI*, xiii, If..such as way the welkon fortune wakes, I leue to praise for our fate. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 6 But Iuno hearde from Welkin high, this cruell iarre. *Ibid.* ix. 32 Of Gods thou loue the soueraigne childe, and Lord of Welkin high. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 1 Hye aboue the welkin, where wyde earth bownes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 397 How glittereth now this place of great request, Like to the seat of heavenly welkin hie! 1653 W. RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 157 It is Nectar and Ambrosia such as will make the welkin roar. 1858 KINGSLEY *Andromeda* 34 Far-seeing Apollo Watched well-pleased from the welkin.

**c.** In phrases descriptive of loud sounds, as *to make the welkin ring, to rend the welkin*, etc.

1587 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iv. ii. 1479 (Broke) As when a fiery exhalation Wrapt in the bowels of a freezing Cloude, fighting for passage, makes the welkin shake. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. ii. 1103 O heare Iarbus plaining prayers, Whose hideous ecchoes make the welkin howle. 1596 SHAKS. *Taw. Shr.* Induct. ii. 70 Your hounds shall make the welkin answer them. 1635 QUARLES *Emblt.* viii. 33 One frisks and sings,..and makes the Welkin rore. 1708 PURE *Dunc.* II. 246 Shouted forth, my Dunces, and the welkin rend. 1733 SOMERVILLE *Chace* II. 157 The Welkin rings, Men, Dogs, Hills, Rocks, and Woods In the full Consort join. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* iv. 368 That shout, Which, like a thunderpeal, Through the Asturian Sent through the welkin, rung within his soul Its deep prophetic echoes. 1818 WORDSW. *Poems, Hermit's Cell* v. 20 Hermit Dove that utters the welkin rend. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i. 'Vive le Roi de la Fatherland!' rings responsive to the welkin. 1854 SOUTHEY *Homiliy Cr.* i, Away they go full cry, making the welkin ring with the music of their deep-mouthed throats. 1870 *Three Queens* VII. i. II. 1 The citizens rent the welkin with their shouts.

**d.** In the asseveration *by the welkin.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. 3, This villanous poetrie will undoe you, by the welkin. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvii, Which, by the welkin and its stars, you would not be slow in avenging.

**e.** *As the welkin,* 'to the skies' (SKEAT *Sup.*).

*c* 1746 J. COTTER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1859) 48 This Rascal..roost neh Bit to ta the varra Welkin.

**3.** The upper atmosphere ; the region of the air in which the clouds float, birds fly.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 521 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrastelez with þe sunne. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 313 Ne in al the welkyn was no clowde. *c* 1450 *Destr. Troy* 3302 Ouerskoyning here with shoures of sperres, As neuer water fro the welkyn nade way nit before. *a* 1450 *Alvh's Festial* 160 Men of all iurisdyccons..were comen togedyr ynto be temple for fere of be fyre bat was fallen fro be welkyn. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 134/21 The Welkin, *aura, aer.* 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* iii. (Arb.) 89 Thee stars imparted no light, thee welkin lay hidd. 1601 W. PRYNNE *Cockpaunters & Cockolds Errants* v. iv. (Roxb.) 69 Hold vp thy Lynk I say, I may observe the state of the welking. Kayne or no Kayne ! Ha, ha. 1645 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* 1. 41 The Royall Eagle, in the welkin towers. 18.. CHARIDEU. *Theatina & Cl.* (1683) 160 One might perceive such changes in the King As hath th' incontant welkin in the Spring. 1713 CHOVALL *Orig. Canto Spenser* x (1714) 72 When the blasting Meldew's dreary Bane With poison Breath infects the Welkin sheen. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* Epil., It this welkin augry loundsdefon. 1823 C. BRONTE *Juvenilia* xxxvi, Down washed the rain, deep lowered the welkin. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig.* 19 Breath that drew the rolling rivers From the welkin's dewy cells. 1880 WEST *Gaelic's Exod.* ii. 67 The baleful powers of air, Which through the welkin stream.

*fig.* 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. i. 63 Who you are, and what you would are out of my welkin, I might say Element, but the word is over-worne.

**† 4.** In the Ptolemaic system : A 'heaven' or sphere. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 288 And eueriic on dat helden wid him

[Lucifer] fellen ut of heuones ligt In to ðis middil walknes nist 1387 TREVISA *Hig den* II 185 þe planetes and þe neyþer wolkons moeueþ out of þe west in to þe est *Ibid.*, The meoug nge of þe ouermeste wolken out of þe est in to þe west

**5** *attrib.* and *comb.*; as **welkin-country**, **-dome**, **-way**, **welkin high**, **-like** adjs.; † **welkin-eye**, a heavenly or blue eye, **welkin-wise** *adv.*, after the fashion of the welkin, † **welkin-wizard**, an almanac maker who makes astrological forecasts

1588 A. HALL *Iliad* 1. 25 He God his mansion keepes, In ♥welkin Country he remaines. 1860 G. F. MORRIS *Poems* (ed. 15) 169 When victory rent the ♥welkin dome He earned a seat in her—at home 1812 SHARP. *Introd. to Pict.* II. 136 Come On I will Looke on me with your ♥welkin eye 1804 J. (RANAME *Sabbath* 875 The joyous choir unseen, Pleas ♥welkin high harmonious fills the air 1829 BAILEY *Festus* 2.4 That high and ♥welkin infinity 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 9 He leaues the ♥welkin way most beaten playne, And rapt with whirling wheeles, inflames the skyen With fire not made to burne. 1864 J. D. BURNS *Vision of Prophecy* 122 A luminous element of gladness Now vaults our sky here of being ♥welkin wise 1596 LARROW tr. *Lazarus's Three Sermons* 100 The consecrators of these ♥Welkin Wizards [see 1] Almanacke makers], whose Prognostications of euerie yeares warres, diseases, heate, colde [etc.] prouse either manifest vntruthes or conjecturall ghesses.

**Welky**, var. WILELY *adv.*

1820 *Scots Worthy Wed* (ed. 3) II 357 A welky or but-talked face

**Well** (wel), *sb.*[1] Forms **a** 1 **wella** (**uella**), 1, 3 **wælle** (**i uælle**), 3–5 **walle**, 3–4 **wall**, 4–5 **wal**, *Sc.* and *north.* 6– **wall** (6 wall, 9 wal), 6–7 **woll** (6 wol), *β* 1 **wælla**, 1, 3–5 **welle** (4–5 **wele**), 1– **well**, 3–7 **wel**, 7– 1 **wylla**, **willa**, **wielle**, 1, 3 **will**, 1, 3–4 **wille**, 1 **wyl** 1–4 **wyll**, 1, 5 **will** [OE. *wielle* (*wylle*), ♥*weell* (*wyll*, *will*), str. masc., ♥*wella* (*wylla*, *willa*, Anglian *wælla*, *uella*), wk. masc., *welle* (*wylle*, *wille*, Angl *welle*, *well*), wk. fem., † the stem of *weall-an* to boil or bubble up see WALL *v.*[1] Cf OHG *uella* (*G. welle*) wave, ON *vella* boiling heat.]

1. A spring of water rising to the surface of the earth and forming a small pool or flowing in a stream, a pool (or, rarely, a stream) fed by a spring. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

a 825 [*cod. Psalter*] *lii* 8 Swe swe heorut zewilla's to wellum wetra swe zewillað sawul mun to ðe god *c* 1205 LAY. 7005 Summe heo wenden þat hit weren þa wateren of Alarken þat is a welle [MS. and] *c* 1440 *Hors & Bl.* 901 (Cambr. MS.) Aboue þe walle stant atreo *c* 1450 *Myrk's Festial* 19 Anon sprang ÿ fayr welle WYNTOUN *Cron. Scot.* II. 219 Out of ane wall discend ÿ fyr ane spring He send that tyme cald water for to bring 1567 *Rec. Burgh. Lanark* (1893) 30 That na personis wyt be cry clathis vt the Lurne nor ÿt at Sanct Mungois wall 1595 *Reg. Mar. Sig. Scot.* 91/5 Fra the said pull eist to ane wall callit the Dokandwell 1654 in *Trin. College & Antiq. Mag.* (1881) 12 Going to a brick-yarne well and wch was the well of her daughter's eyen, & saying All ye all of my burns eyen in ÿ well fall 1775 *Compt. in to Hall of Peebles* 107 There is a remark able Spring called the Cross-well, which is at the top [of broad Law]. *a* 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 61 Tak me to your well, Youll wash my bludy wounds o'er and o'er

a 900 *Rit. Exon.* *Hist* v. 2 (1890) 418 Is ðæt ec ænd þætte in ðere stowe, þer his ofsleyne wæron, welle an welle *c* 1205 LAY. 19982 Heo comen to þere welle and heore tollen foldin *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 84 A welle is þat ȝiuð water & ȝeggneð an bo'e be nigt and bi dai 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 35 Ver engelonde is vol inou of frut & ek of tren, Of welle3 swete & colde *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6 Þe spring o wells ilk a dell it euer vte rinnand es þe wel es neuer mar þe less 7*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1417 Ab ut the brinkes of thise welles

Spring up the grass *Conf.* 1396 Ye strawthe hun forto drinke Up-on the feussbe welles brinke 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 245 [In autumn] Wells wyth drawen hym grene thyngis Fruite fallyth *c* 1450 *Golagros & Gaw.* 40 They walkit be the syde of ane fair well 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* vi (1870) 141 There be welles, the whyche doth tourne wool in to Irone 1579 T. HILL *Art Gen. Sen.* ii. (1608) 69 And when ryuers and wels be shallower of water than customably, doe then declare raine to followe 1603 STOW *Surv.* 11 Then was there 3 principall Fountaines, or wels: the other Suburbs (or writ H by well, Clements well, and Clarkes well Neere vnto this last named fountaine, were diuers other wels 1663 R. LOVE *Lance Disarm'd* (1877) 8 I went with Master to other wenches to a well [at the] bottome of towne field 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trn. Asia M.* (1825) I. 122 At a well was a mark, a pedestal perforated, and serving as a mouth 1838 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 11 And my self of wn one room, tide I did slept under a palm tree by the side of a scanty well 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 68 The well flows in a pure and abundant stream from the granite rock 1870 *Handbk. Orkney Isl.* 94 There are several mineral wells in the island 1892 J. A. HENDERSON *Ann. Fraser Dioceſe* 169 He at last reached what proved to be a well of water

γ 1803 *Aldford Orm* in *Ir.* 810 An wes þat on Pecona þærn wudu an welle weol blode *c* 1300 *Pat. Hist* I. 111 (1890) 38 And þa sona hea'e beforan his fotum was wyl up ȝrnende. And nu seo wylle is þæt water (etc.) *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Deos wyrt [watercress] of hyre wylle cenned bi'ð, on wyllon & on broccen *Ibid.* II. 32 And ab weah sit þa eagan on clennum wylle *c* 1305 *St Nicholas* 31 in *E. E. P.* 58 For þer is a wille fair ynou In þe stede as he sai on *c* 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* v. 55 Þe wylle þat hys ys paralys Fol wel by-tokenep hys auȝs 83 *Cursor M.* 20272 (B. Mus. Add.) Sche dide of hure clopes alle, and wasche hure with water of wille.

**b** A miraculous spring of water (or oil); a spring of water supposed to be of miraculous origin or to have supernatural healing powers, also, in later use, a medicinal or mineral spring.

Freq. in proper names assuming the well to a particular saint

*c* 825 [see HOLY WELL] *c* 1305 *St Kenelm* 905, 997 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 53 A wil sprang vp þare stod. Þat me clepeþ sent kenelmes welle þat menie men hab 1403 *c* 1440 *Stacyons of Rome* 548 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 172 Two wells there bethe, I tell thee, that spryngyngtlie oyle *c* 1450 *Myrk's Festial* 14 And whan he was buryet, at þe hed of þe tombe sprong a well of oyle þat dyd medcyns to all sek 1588 *St. Ninian's Well* 17, [1] 1815 *Aberd. Journal* in pilgramage to chapells wells and croce 1598 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 84 Where meete we? *I go* At Saint Gregories well 1832 ROWLAND (*title*), The Queenes Welles That is, A Treatise of the nature and vertues of Tunbridge Water 1648 GAGE *Hist. Ind.* 5 [Papists] encroaching upon many Houses and Farmes, enriching themselues, as namely at Winifreds Well (so termed by them) where they had bought an Inne *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Daft Days* 35 Reaming ale. Mair precious than the well o Spa. Our hearts to heal 1806 J. O'NEILL *Tour Orkney* 26, I likewise visited the wells of Kildingie These wells or springs are situated in the Mill Bay 1824 SCOTT (*title*), St Ronan's Well 1828 W. TAYLOR *Monthly Mag. Jrnl.* 3 *note*, A copious fountain of pure water situated on the girth boundary in the heights of the parish has from time immemorial borne the name of St David's well 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 420/2 Under the Priory and the well and chapel of St. Modan on the hill, were my favourite haunts.

*c. pl.* A place where medicinal springs exist, to which invalids resort; a watering-place or spa.

1793 SMOLLETT *Lett. to Preſtley* 1, I inter Mrs. Woodly, ♥ to Astley and Wells. 1798 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVIII. 1. 348 Att on *Sonc I ſpe O Anne* (1888) II. 113 The New Wells at Epsom, with variety of Raffling Shops, will be open'd on Monday next 1718 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5565/2 The Princess set out for the Wells of Medway 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* v. 93 Thro' every sign of vanity they run] Assemblies, Balls, Wells, Bedlams, [etc.]

†**d.** *Her.* The representation of a stream, used as a bearing. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St Albans* Her ys þe armys of hym þat bereþ thes armys þe most say He berith of golde and in Wellis

**e.** A fountain fed by a spring, a structure erected above a spring for convenience in obtaining the water. Also *spring-fountain*. Chiefly *Sc.*

1575–6 in *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 457 Item, to J. hne Wilsoun for four geistis to the wall in Gallowgait 2*s* viij*d* 1830 *Hist.* 733 The new well in the Tronsgait to be clekitter the Sklaitt 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* 300 Ane wyfeand for taking doun the well at the Croce 1865 *Hist.* (1882) 353 The two new wells newlie buildit in Tronsgait and at the xennall 1893 *Chron. Scots. Gard.* 1 Let us go to the well in the whinny knowe

**2** *transf.* and *fig.* **a.** In allusive contexts directly suggestive of the nature (flowing, etc.) or uses (drinking, taking water) of a spring.

1897 ALFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xii. 49 (MS. Hatton) Hio (the 25 sec.) awoell of anum wille [*Cott.* welle], heah and hyre ðæt hio ne mæg nan ðing wiðstandan 1898 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 *Rest. Surt.* 341 Danne we ðus þiennen lahoueð us to rennen to cristes quike welle, drinken his wisdæg *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Þis boc es cald a welle Þar-in sal men drinke, & þat es gode wisdome welle of his grace *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 310 Fader is he cald for þ' þat he is welle þat neuer sal dri 1400 *Rel. Pieces* (1867) 1 Welle of alle grace 1513 SHOREHAM I. 63 Þys welle hys god self man by come, Of hys herte yeden helpe alle ÿ nome 13 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 190 Crist was þe furst qwyk welle of grace *c* 1400 *Joseph* 68 Mi wif is a welle good, þat es ful wele 1598 *Grk. & Lat. Contin. Ars Amatie* (1870) 52 O ye hie hirt whose Well of grace, shall spring and never drie 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* 98 Not one of these Mercy, my Wife, must forget, Drink from her well the waters undefiled 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* iv. O sleep, Holding unto our lips thy goblet filled Out of the fountain of dreams and laughter! 1844 H. STEPHANS *Transvaal* I. 25 The effect of the annexation was to stir the wells of piety bubbling—with British Gold

**b** That from which something springs or arises, a source or origin.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3 Þer xxxv to Forßen þu mid þe welle lifes 1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Uor þrehede, wyf ine þeuse, myn e vrie m and iobleisse, þise bieþ riit welles of zaledneisse 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 30 And hadde it wyt and wisdome, þe welle of alle crafles *c* 1400 *Fantasme's Cursary* 71 And fro dufragma it mas go to be bryan, þat is þe welle of alle science 1513 *Bk. Nobleſſe* (1860) 3 Wisdom, þat is wha the welle of cunnyng and of wisdam 1538 STARKEY *England* 180 Tyra may in al commynalyte ys the ground of al, the welle and begynnyng of al mysordur 1539 TAVLR (Great) *Prol.* xvi 22 Understandyng is a well of lyfe vnto hym that hath it 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 416 [He] purg'd with Euil hrasis and Rue The visual Nerve . . And from the Well of Life three drops instill'd 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* *Owner* xxxiv Then to this ea then Bowl did I adjourn My Lip the secret Well of Life to learn

**c** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Theme) xxxv 9 Forþem mid þe is liues welle 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Vndyrstondynge is the begynnynge and well of al vertues.

**3.** Applied to persons regarded as a source or abundant manifestation of some quality or virtue.

*a* 1225 *St Marher.* 11 Þu art welle of wisedom. *a* 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiii 94 Ofte ÿ crie mercy of myles þat art welle 1377 *Piers Plowman* (Rolls) I. 218 Prince Edward I shall make was of alle cortaise. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 107 Crist, thist of perfection is welle *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* v. i (1859) 74 He is the welle of all maneere of goodnes *c* 1440 *Partonope* 226 That thay may say as ȝe passe by strete Loo, yonder sothe the welle of gentylnesse. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. 78 O þou welle of euerlasting loue 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 7 Oure lustis quein, The well of welth, guid cheer, and mirrines 1599 *Merry Mag. Adm. IV*, vi, A Salomon that was of wit the well 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 32 Dan Chaucer, well of English vndefyled, On Fame's eternall beadroll worthie to be fyled.

**d.** A copious flow (of tears or blood). Also hyperbolically applied to a weeping person.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 For þu he [Jeremiah] bed welle of teares to his eien, þat heo ne aclawenden nanmore þen welle *a* 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom.* I. 289 Þe ilke hit wellen [= *r* wellen] þet of þi blisfulle bodi sprungen and strake dun stronden of blode 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 2 Who shal ȝyue to myn hed water, and to myn eyen a welle of teres? *c* 1550 *Heckscorner* 19 She sawe her sone, all dead, splayed on a crosse with the fyue welles of pite 1866 SHAK. *Jr & Gr* v. v. 19 Here is a word will Priam turne to stone: Make wels, and Niol es of the maides and wiues.

**e.** A whirlpool.

Applied spec. to certain whirlpools in the Orkneys as a rendering of the ♥native designation. Cf. ON. *Iðavǫllr* (sprung Jennyson a use may either be independent or derived from Scott

*a* 1694 BLAEU *Le Théatre du Monde* v. 139–60 Man, Orcades Souna The Welles *Ibid.* Spurness well 1893 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* The Wells of Swona which are two Whirl pools in the Sea 1790 M. MACKENZIE *Orcades* 51/1 One of these Whirlpools is the Wells, as they are called in Orkney 1774 G. LOW *Journey* etc (1879) 29 The whirlpools called the Wells of Swona, so long famous for the alledged danger in passing them, are over-rated 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxviii, Even as the wells of Tuftilee can wheel the stoutest vessel round and round, in despite of either sail or rudder

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xi, If the roaring wells Should spill him fathom deep in brine *Ibid.* cxiii, To scale the haven a highest height, Or dive below the wells of death

**3.** A pit dug in the ground to obtain a supply of spring-water, spec. a vertical excavation, usually circular in form and lined with masonry, sunk to such a depth as to penetrate a water-bearing stratum.

*a.* *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv 6 Uæs ðer uælle i stodes *c* 1175 *Hom. Skeat* (1871) I. 13 *O. E. Misc.* 31 Ieusus sat ore walle reste hum seolf al one *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13299 Here nu quat herodias did, In a wall ia heued so hid *c* 1395 *Flor. & Blanch. I.* 298 They folwe after him þat he bloode ło heven, as bucket in to the well 1888 JACK ROBINSON *Auld Lales* II. (E.D.D.) I horrator war prayan fer a girt wal at he cud drop intil

*b.* *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv 6–7 Iser was iacobes wyl, Se heleend sæt æt ðam welle *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2917 In euenic welle, in euenic trike, men fu'en blod al o witerlike *c* 1275 *Lay* 1780 Þe wymmen þe comen to þere welle *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21701 Mak vs a well for mine sake, þat all mi plente o water take *c* 1386 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1584 Or as a welle that were I sette by ÿ bokes brinke 1530 PALSGR. 285/2 Well made of stone, *puyts fait* 1533 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* III. 146 He wyste nocht quhat kynd of wattir to le dronke the Macedons fell to digging of welles 1592 SHAKS. *3 H. VI* II. i. 99 No time so oportune as a well nor so wide as a Church-dore 1611 BIBLE *Num.* xxi. 22 Neither shall we drinke of the waters of the well 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 281 A Well of an exceedin, depth 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* II. iv. (1635) 60 Statues from the darke bottome of a deepe Well of Rome 1697 DRYDEN tr. *Virgil's Georg.* III. 1 Of Wells to draw the Water, and to shade the Stalls of Cattle 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 155 A little out of the Way is erected an high wall of Well 1700 WHEELER *Journey into Greece* 4 Here is a Well of Stone, as Buckets in a Well 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* VI. The ground being dig'ds after a manner of wells which they call *puteis*, receives the fruits 1852 TENNYSON *Sir Sim. Sobol* 63 For many weeks also, at my house I have kept that hauled the buckets from the well 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 337 There is no familiar object connected with daily life so interesting as a well 1888 *Longm. Mag.* XXIV. 402/2 When the population of a district is scattered it is possible to supply individual wants by means of streams, springs, or shallow wells.

*fig.* *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 191 Now we han medycyns drawen of ÿ wellis & of manie maistris. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 38 Let vs not then loue the rope that hauled the buckets from the well 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 337 There is no familiar object connected with daily life so interesting as a well 1888 *Longm. Mag.* XXIV. 402/2 When the population of a district is scattered it is possible to supply individual wants by means of streams, springs, or shallow wells.

*fig.* *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 191 Now we han medycyns drawen of ÿ wellis & of manie maistris. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 38 Let vs not then loue the rope that hauled the buckets from the well 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 337 There is no familiar object connected with daily life so interesting as a well 1888 *Longm. Mag.* XXIV. 402/2 When the population of a district is scattered it is possible to supply individual wants by means of streams, springs, or shallow wells.

**b** *Her.* A bearing representing the stone curb or border of a well.

1780 R. *Glover's Coll. of Arms Anc.* 49/2 Edmondson *His.* II. 6, Gu. three wells ar. water ar. 1828–40 BURKE *Lnrg. Hist. Her.*

**4.** In various proverbial sayings or phrases. (See also PITCHER[1] I b.)

*a* 1340 *Hampole Pros.* (1895) 70 Wel wel (quoth he) many wele many buckets 1797 H. FRANKLIN *Pro v Richard* (1890) 278 Then as Poor Dick says, When the Well's dry, they know the Worth of Water 1832 J. *Illustr. Reform. Eng.* 140 We know not, says he poets, what the world is worth till it is dry. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Alt. Hard.* xiii, 'He's as deep as a well, as my master answered old Isaac

(*b*) 1640 HABINGTON *Castara* 181 If Truth, as Democritus fansied, lies at the bottom of a deep Well 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxii, He tried a glass of grog but melancholy truth was at the bottom of that well, and he couldn't brush it. 1888 J. M. CORBAN *By Telegraph* IV. The depth of the well at the bottom of which truth is hid was nothing to the unfathomableness of his designs

**b.** *To put* (a person) *in the well* (see quot.) *slang.*

1818 Vaux *Vocab. Flash Lang.* (1870) s.v. *Garden*, To *fail* a person *in the garden*..*or in the well*, are synonymous phrases, signifying to defraud him of his due share of booty by embezzling a part of the property, or the money it is fenced for.

**†** *b. transf.* + **a.** = Fontanelle 1 a. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 216 Make him..iij. cauteriis:.. oon bihinde be nolle in be wellis herof, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 309 Also in be welle vnder be seria & bihinde be eeris bou schalt make cauteriis for passiouns of ijen.

**b.** *A well of a* (place): like a well, as being damp and cold or deep and dark.

1843 Dickens *Chr. Carol* ii, He then conveyed him..into the veriest old well of a shivering best-parlour that ever was seen. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xliv, She had gotten it in a great well of a cupboard.

**6.** *Naut.* **a.** A vertical shaft protecting the pump below the lower (or upper) deck in a ship's hold. *To sound the well*, to ascertain, by means of a sounding-rod, the depth of water accumulated in the hold.

1821 Cotton, *Lenire*, the sinke, or well, of the pumpe of a ship. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The Pumpe, the pumpes-well, the pumpes brake, [etc.]. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* ii. 9 The Dutch men vse a Borre pumpe, to pumpe vp the Billage water in their ships..cannot come to the well. 1790 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor.* 1768-9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 464 They sound the well. 1829 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prine.* xv. 187 The ship seemed rapidly settling..yet no one dared to sound the well. 1836 Marryat *Pirate* iv, The well was again sounded. Nine feet water in the hold. 1881 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 5/2 So long as the sounding-rod gave a dry well, the men's courage kept tolerably steadfast.

**b.** A cistern or tank in a fishing-boat, in which the catch of fish is preserved alive. Cf. Well-boat 1.

1614 Gentleman *Eng. Way Wealth* 19 Fresh fish, which they of purpose do keepe alive in their boates in Wells. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 37 This well [was of] the same kind with the small fisher-boats in England have to preserve their fish alive in. 1828 Davy *Salmonia* 49 He.. is landed. A fine well-fed fish, not much less than 4 lbs. Throw him into the well. 1844 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 208/1 The store-pot is emptied and its contents transferred to a well in the hold of the vessel. 1911 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 4 The Hetsy was running for harbour for all she was worth. Her 'well' was full of live cod.

**7.** A shaft or pit bored or dug in the ground. In various specific applications.

**a.** An excavation for the storage of ice.

1881 *Cal. Treas. Bks.* 8 Building an ice well for his Majesty's use in Windsor Great Park. 1890 *Gardeners' Mag. of Bot.* I. 82 Section of ice well...*a*, well; *b*, porch.

1893 Snow *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 364/1 There must be perfect drainage insured from the bottom of the well, so that the ice will be kept dry.

**†** **b.** *Mil.* = Shaft *sb.*[3] 2.

1702-12 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) 1, *Well*, a Depth the Miner sinks into the Ground, and thence carries on the Branches, or Galeries, to find out, and disappoint the Enemies Mines, or to prepare one. 1736 J. Campbell *Milit. Dict. Fr. Engene* etc. I. 117 We now began to perceive that their Miners were in search of our Mines, and that they worked in sinking Wells in order to get into our Galleries.

**c.** (See quot.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Observatory*, The Royal Observatory..furnish'd with all sorts of Instruments..and a dry Well for Discovery of the Stars in the Day-time.

**d.** A shaft sunk to obtain oil, brine, gas, etc.

1799 *Asiatic Researches* VI. 127 An Account of the Petroleum Wells in the Burmha Dominions. 1869 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 713 In 1859 a well bored for brine in Wayne county, Kentucky, yielded a much black petroleum that it was abandoned. 1891 [see GushER 2]. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 743/2 The first flowing (petroleum) well, or 'gusher,'..was struck in 1859.

**e.** A shaft to carry water through a retentive to a porous stratum or to a drain; a sink for sewage.

1856 J. C. Morton *Cycl. Agric.* I. 692 It will be proper.. to cut a drain of four feet in depth only, and there to sink small wells down to the watery bed. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 30 Oct. 5/2 The system of drainage adopted is that of running the pipes of each house into a dead well...These wells are made of bricks, without a bottom.

**f.** *Engin.* A hollow cylinder or shaft of masonry sunk and filled in solid to form a foundation.

1885 L. F. Vernon-Harcourt *Harbours & Docks* I. 405 Where the thickness of the wall exceeded 13 feet, square masonry wells were sunk through it on to the rock... These wells, being..filled in solid with masonry, form piers for arches. 1900 in Webster.

**8. a.** The central open space, from roof to basement, of a winding, spiral, or elliptical staircase; the open space in which a lift operates.

*a* 1720 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. 1644, 2 paire of oval stayres all of stone and voide in the well. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 138 Which, passing over pullies.., was fastened to a scale that descended into the well of an adjoining staircase. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor* etc. 161 In the well of the staircase, by a cord of black and yellow, hangs a Gothic lantern. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, If you choose to consider it, and sit on the landing, looking up and down the well! 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iv, The same passing brightness showed me the steps were of unequal length, and that one of my feet rested that moment within two inches of the well. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/8 Fell down a hoist well. *Ibid.*, The cage..was at the bottom of the well.

**b.** The space on the floor of a law-court (between the Judge's bench and the last row of seats occupied by Counsel) where the solicitors sit.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* I, The various solicitors in the cause..ranged in a line, in a long matted well..between the registrar's red table and the silk gowns. 1879 Escott *England* II. 209 In the 'well,' a seat a step below that of the Queen's counsel, sit the solicitors. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii, Wigged heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were rustled to and fro on the table.

**c.** A deep narrow space formed by the surrounding walls of a building or buildings, serving for the access of light and air.

1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. v (end), Climbing to a high chamber in a well of houses, he threw himself down in his clothes on a neglected bed. *a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Cecil Dreeme* v. (1876) 64 Through a most unsavoury alley into a court, or rather space, serving as a well to light the rear range of a tenement house. 1913 *Spectator* 29 May 748/2 The black-rooms look south—into the well.

**9. a.** A space left, in stacking hay, to serve as a ventilating shaft. *dial.*

1720 Hilman *Tusser Redivi.* Aug. (1744) 102 Some prescribe leaving a Hole or Well in the Middle of the Mow.. by keeping therein a Basket or Barrel, and raising it as the Mow increases. 1842 C. W. Johnson *Farmer's Encycl.* 1261 *Well*, a..vent hole left in a rick or mow of hay or other similar materials, to prevent its overheating.

**b.** In *Ship-* and *Boat-building* applied to various vertical apertures: see quots.

1874 Thearle *Naval Archit.* § 192 When it is not considered necessary to provide a well for raising the propeller. 1894 *Rudim. Naval Archit. for Naval Cad.* 108 Well. The distance in between the ends of two waterballast-tanks, or between the ends of a double-bottom and a bulkhead. 1897-8 *Engng. Dict.* II. 1/2 *Well*, the opening in a lockmad canoe to admit the putting in of cargo and to accommodate the crew.

**10. a.** A box-like receptacle in the body of a vehicle, for articles of luggage.

1783 *Hom. Chron.* 14 Mar. 4/2 Advt., A very roomy cranenecked Travelling Coach, with well to the bottom, and luggages behind. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. 197 The Well of a Carriage is a strong box conveniently placed at the body to carry luggage. 1848 Thackeray *Pen. Pend.* lxvi, The baggage was strapped on. Francis came out with his master's sword, cane, and umbrella tied up together, and laid them in the well. 1911 Sir W. Butler *Autobiog.* xx. 354 He took three or four brace of grouse from the bag, and..put the birds in the 'well' of the vehicle [an Irish car].

**b.** A comparatively deep receptacle at the bottom of a piece of furniture, esp. of one fitted with trays, drawers, compartments, etc.

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing.* 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* vii. ii, He peered into the well [of an escritoire], and opened the drawers. 1879 Miss Braddon *Vixen* III. 47 There was an old-fashioned work-box, with a fretted red silk well, beside the open window. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Well*, a receptacle under the case in the upper part of a composing frame. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Dec. 3/1 Mr. Allen *Keeps* iii. iii. § 4 Kipps..draws out the marvellous till; here gold is to be, here silver, here copper—notes locked up in a cashbox in the well below.

**11.** A hole or cavity containing or to contain a liquid. In various applications.

**a.** The water-tank at the base of a shot-tower, into which the drops of melted lead fall.

1825-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 514/1 For at the body of every tower the invention shot-towers which have been constructed. 1884 *Lock Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 360/1 They are sufficiently hardened by cooling to bear the shock of the water in the surface of the water in the well below.

**b.** A cavity at the bottom of a furnace, into which the molten metal falls.

1864 Webster. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 2 s.v., *Well.* The crucible of a furnace.

**c.** A sunk receptacle for a liquid, as ink, etc.; also, an indentation or cavity in a dish, tray, etc.

1893 Snow *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 166/2 The bath should be..larger than the well, which must be a square hole, a little larger than the plate, and about an inch deep. 1881 *Pharmacent. Jrnl.* 165 A small glass 'naphtha well' set in the case, similar to an 'ink well'.

**12.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *well-covering, -drill, -grating, -hook, -mouth, -plate, -pump, -rope, -shaft, -side, -stage, -tubbing* (Tubbing *vbl. sb.* 2), *-yard*; *well-maker*; *well-like* adj.

1849 G. Petrie *Eccl. Archit. Ireland* 149 *Well* Coverings. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Well-drill*, a tool for boring wells. 1880 W. J. Thoresby *Ecc. Europe* 214 It is the duty.. of the eldest boy in the school..to see that the *well* gratings are closed. 1595 Hughes *Junius' Nomencl.* 309/1 *Lupus...* *well*. 1900 Bram Stoker *Jewel of Seven Stars* xxi. 241 [He] pointed to a jagged, "well-like hole blown out..by the recoil of the blast. 1666 *Despauterii Grammat. Institt.* VII. (Jam.) *Aquarium*..a well made..to keep fishes alive in. 1670 Ray *North.* Words (ed. 2) 82 When the second slip took place, the well-maker was suffocated. 1537-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 377 Paid for [lode of bryk for his *well mowthe*. 1809 Tozer *Hight. Yarborough* 8 Of *well-mouth*, from being dry, becomes full of water. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., *Well Plate*, A cast-iron plate put over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps, &c. 1889 *Daily News* 5 Aug. 2/7 It is unquestionably constructed of 'well' pumps, even if fitted down a well 100 or 200 feet from the ground level, may be utilised as a fire engine in large establishments. 1890 Mrs. Flor. Caddy *Footsteps Jeanne D'Arc* v. 88 Chemillé has a romanesque church and the usual domical stone 'well-roofs.' 1877 *Aldenham Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 227/1 For 2 bucket's for buyers, and a 'well Roape..xiiiil'. 1444 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 151 It. Roberto Raper pro ij wellerapis. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 Rigwoodses, tethers, wallropes. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 2/1 He went to a well and clambered down the well-rope. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* i. iv, In one corner of the hall..there was a little waiting-room, like a *well*-shaft. 1856 Earl. Mouse. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xcvii. (1674) 138 The Rope which hung upon the Bucket by the *well*-side. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xx, For all she can sit idle by a well-side the whole day, when she has a handsome young gentleman to prate with. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., *Well Stage*, A framing of timber erected over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps and pipe connections. 1898 F. Davis *Silchester* 42 Roman wine casks that have served the purpose of *well* tubing. 1580 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 446 Their plum house by be *well*-yarde yate.

**13.** Special comb.: **well-basket**, a long deep basket formerly used by street-hawkers; **well-beam**, the wooden beam or roller over which the rope of a well-bucket runs; **well-borer**, (*a*) one who bores wells; (*b*) a machine or apparatus for boring a well; **well-boring** *vbl. sb.*, the process of sinking a well by drilling through earth or rock; also *concr.*, the shaft of a well; **well-brick** (see quot. 1889); **well-bullock**, one used (in India) to turn the windlass at a well; **well-cabin** (see quot.); †**well-carse** (see Well-cress); **well-chapel**, one enclosing a holy well; **well-cistern**, one fed by a spring; **well crane** (see quot. 1888); †**well crank**, a windlass for raising and lowering a bucket at a well; **well-curb**, (*a*) the stone border round the mouth of a well; (*b*) see quot. 1892; **well-digger**, one who digs or bores wells as a profession; **well-dish**, a meat-dish with a depression at one end as a receptacle for gravy; **well-drag** (see quot.); **well-drain** *Agric.*, a drain for wet land, made after the manner of a well, with a boring through which the water rises to be carried off by the drain; **well-draining**, a system of land drainage (see quot. and prec.); hence **well-drain** *v.* (Webster 1847–54); **well-dresser**, one who takes part in well-dressing; **well-dressing** = *tap-dressing* (Tar *sb.*[1] 6); **well-eye** *Sc.* and *north.*, a spot in a bog where a spring rises to the surface; a small pool of spring-water; *fig.* a source; †**well fern**, the maiden-hair *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris*; **well-flowering** = *tap-dressing* (Tar *sb.*[1] 6); **well-grist**, -**grass** *Sc.* = Well-cress; **well-guard**, a tutelary deity of a well; **well-horse**, a horse that turns the windlass of a well; **well-house**, a small building or room enclosing a well and its apparatus; **well-karses**, -**kerses** *Sc.* and *north.* (see Well-cress); **well-kerb** = *well-curb*; **well-packing** (see Packing *vbl. sb.*[1] 2 note); †**well-pipe**, a conduit-pipe; in quot. *fig.*; **well plum**, a local name of the pochard, *Nyroca ferina*; **well-pole**, (*a*) a well-sweep (see quot. 1893); †**well-reeve** (see quot. and Reeve *sb.*[1] 2); **well-rig** (see quot.); **well-room**, (*a*) the place on the floor of a boat or ship where the water collects, and lies until it is pumped out; (*b*) = *well-house*; (*c*) see quot. 1858; **well-shauker** *Sc.* = *well-sinker*; **well shrimp**, a fresh-water crustacean found in wells; **well-sinker** = *well-borer*, *-digger*; **well-sinking** *vbl. sb.* = *well-boring*; **well smack** = Well boat[1]; **well-spheromeleter**, a form of spherometer for accurately measuring the radius of curvature of a lens' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **well-staircase**, **-stairs**, **-stairway**, a winding or geometrical staircase with a well or open centre; **wellstead** [Stead *sb.* 7], a site for a well; **well-sweep** (see Sweep *sb.* 23); **well-tomb**, a prehistoric tomb having a well or shaft for an entrance; **well-trap**, (*a*) a depression in a road in which water lies and prevents the escape of foul air; (*b*) see quot. 1893; **well-tube**, the casing-pipe of a driven well; **well-way**, the shaft of a well; **well-wheel**, the wheel that turns the axle of a windlass at a well; **well-work**, the making of a well; **well-worship**, the worship of a well or its guardian spirit; also **well-worshipping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also Well-boat, -bucket, -cress, etc.

1852 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 485/1, I give two shillings for a 'shallow' that's a flat basket with two handles; they put 'em a top of a well-baskets', them as can carry a good load. 1897 Kipling *Soldiers Three* (1917) 273 He will hang him by the heels from the 'well-beam. 1706 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 30 George Naylor, of Louth, in the County of Lincoln, a 'Well-borer. 1852 *Mechanics' Mag.* 6 Nov. 370 Thomson's Artesian Well-borer. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 10 Oct., Experienced well-borers ..will endeavor to find petroleum. 1833 Urr *Doctrine Manuf.* 57 Mine and artesian well-boring. 1808 *Hardcastle's Gossip* XXVI. 74/1 Many years ago, in a well-boring,..the flanks of the buried Primary rocks were reached at a depth of 1100 feet. 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 3 To the bottom of clay against the murassy sides of the well, with a wall of 'well-bricks internally, up to the top of it. 1889 *N. & Q. Line. Gloss., Well-bricks*, curved bricks used for lining wells. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Household. Manageni.* 72 One of the 'well-bullocks had a violent attack of the malady. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Well-cabins*, those in large and small vessels, which have no after-windows or thorough draught. 1898 J. T. Bright *Ann. Cressie & Corrane.* 91 'Well-chapel, Meancastle, St. Austell... The length of this building is 22 feet...The spring rises in the east end. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 150 A 'well-cistern of clear spring water. 1905 W. Holman Hunt *Pre-Raphaelitism* II. xi. 289 To judge from the company round the well-cisterns..it [Cana of Galilee] was at the time a happy neighbourhood. 1849

J. Glynn *Constr. Cranes* 33 The 'well crane having been found inconvenient for raising great weights, because of the insufficient resistance of the ground at the well top. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Well Crane*, a fixed post crane, one-half of whose post is above ground and the other sunk in a pit, or well, dug to receive it. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 *Welle crank, *tolinum*. 1877 Tai Mage *Fifty Serm.* 23 Will you sit down in front of the *well-curb, when a few more turns of the windlass might bring up the... bucket? 1886 Kipling *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 56 We have trodden the mast and the well-curb. 1892 *Dict. Archæol.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-curb*. The ring of elm or metal upon which the lining of a well is built. 1693 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1701) 254 A Turret such as *Well-Diggers use). 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/1 By trade he is a well-digger. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xlvii, When a coal comes to table in a *well-dish. 1857 Wright *Obs. 4 Provinc. Phrases*, **Well-draw*, a three-pronged drag to bring the bucket up when it falls in. Leic. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* 1819 Reps *Cycl.*, **Well-drain*, in Agriculture, that sort of vent or discharge for the wetness of land, which is constructed in somewhat the well or pit manner. *Ibid.*, **Well-draining*, that means of clearing lands from wetness, which...is accomplished by making deep drains or wells. 1898 R. M. Gilchrist *Willenbrake* I, Within five minutes the curtain would be drawn aside and the *well-dressers set free to join the turbulent outside crowd. 1898 **Well-dressing*, *Derbyshire tap dressing*: *Par. xli.* 6. 1882 C. F. Keary *Outl. Prim. Belief* 81 Fetichism survives in the honours paid to wells and fountains, in England known under the name of *well-worship. 1538 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 170 They knew nocht the ground, and thair sustenyne in swardis of mossis, and sum time in *well-eys. 1820 *Mammalian of Clyde* II. in *Edin. Mag.* Vi. 492 An' the marmalet's grass was green as grass In the cauld wall-ee that grows. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxxv, 'the cause o' our national distress, and agricultural distress, is a want o' *well-faith and well-ee. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Adiantum* ..it may be called Venus heare ..other name it to be *well ferne. 1894 E. Hughes *Peak Scenery* 255 An ancient custom still prevails in the village of Tissington....It is denominated *Well-Flowering. 1874 *Murray's Handbk. Derbysh.* etc. (ed. 2) 188 An ancient...custom of dressing the wells or springs in this village...is still kept up, and is known as 'Tap Dressing' or 'Well Flowering'. 1903 Seccombe & Allen *Age Shakes.* I. 44 His [Hesiod's] conception has a large population of river-gods, *well-gods, and nymphs. 1673 D. Wresbeburn *Vec.* 18 (Jam.) *Nasturtium aquaticum*, *well-grass. 1885 Jamieson, *Wellgrass*, *Wellgirse*, *Wellkerses*, Water-cresses. 1894 Mem in Lett. (1911) II. 467, I am under an engagement...to deliver a novel in the Spring, and have to go the round of a *well-horse daily. 1354-5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) I. 494 Pro sera separanda pro le *Wellhousdore. 1466-7 *Ibid.* 641 Pro punctuacione super stabulum hospitum et le Wellehouse infra abbathiam. 1597 in *Archæologia* LXII. 1 Item, in the hall the *well house. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxvii, I made a rush swiftly round the corner, and entered the well-house. 1889 Kipling *Soldiers' Three*, Losson...lowered the cage [of the parrot] into the cool darkness of a well, and sat on the *well-kerb. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Well-packing. 1540 Coverdale *Pruyff. Lessons* T 4 b, Here are opened the conduites and *pipe yron of life. 1866 *Rep. Brit. Birds* 625 *Wellplum, the Red-headed Pochard. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 160 Well plum. 1826 *Lonsd. in* S. Longfellow *Life Hawthorne* (1891) I. 51 It is in the remaind one that he is out of town: no corn-fields,- no slab-fences: no *well-poles. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss.*, *Well-pole*, a pole having at the end a bucket, with which the bucket is lowered into the well for the purpose of bringing up water. 1823 *Coventry Lect Ha.* 11. 21 Apr. 11 Jas. I. leaf 63 (MS.) Such said aldermen...and such persons...shall choose and elect two persons dwelling in everie particular ward where any common well is...to be *well-reeves for one whole yeare. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2398/1 **Well-rig* is the term applied to the whole *plant* for well-boring, consisting of the derrick, its engine [etc.]. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), s.v. *Limbers*. The water...is conveyed to the *well-room, where the pumps are fixed. 1892 *Hist. Co. Oxford* 278 A very curious well-room of the time of Henry II has been discovered in the centre of the keep tower. 1898 Simmons *Dict. Trade*, **Well-room*, an apartment or building containing a mineral spring or spa, where the waters are drunk by invalids. 1888 *Well-shanker [see Shanker 5]. 1853 *Gosse's Canada's* A *Well shrimp, a small white crustaceous animal, about half an inch long. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Returns* 321 Well-shrimp. 1604 *Shuttle-worths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 116 A *well-sinker, 6*d*. A man sinkinge the well...iijs. 1884 *Pharm Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/4 Wanted ..three good Well-sinkers. 1858 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 6 All sorts of earthwork, in embanking, boring, and *well-sinking. 1915 *Daily Mail* 10 Aug. 3 The authorities have requisitioned all workmen with a knowledge of well-sinking...and are sending them...to work on drilling artesian wells. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 218 The *well-smacks employed in our cod-fisheries. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlviii, A little out-of-the-way door at the foot of the *well staircase first briskly opened. 1868 *Daily News* 4 Aug., If space is an object, two or three well-staircases ..might be employed. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), **Well-stairs*. 1858 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 340/1 The central column around which these *well-stairways usually wind. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 152 For a *wellstede...for a wheele and a fyvahyne. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Wellsteead*, the site of a well. 1888-92 Stevenson, *Well-sweep. *c* 1850-60 Alice & Phebe Cary in M. C. Ames *Mem.* (1873) 250 A grape vine, shaggy and rough and red, Swings from the well-sweep high, sharp head. 1885 E. S. Morse *Jap. Homes* ii. 73 In this sketch a regular New England well-sweep is seen. 1589 *Nation* 11 Apr. 303/1 The graves belong to the type of 'well-tombs'. 1850 Ogilvie, **Well-trap*, the same as *stench trap*. 1893 J. Watson *Comfort. Poacher* 133 The well-trap is a square, deep box, built into the ground opposite to a tunnel-hole in the fence through which the rabbits run. As the rabbits run, the floor opens, and they drop into the well. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Well-tube. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. ii. xvi. 69 The method of keeping them clear of water, is by a large scoop which is suspended...over the *well-way. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 778/2 A sea-going hydraulic dredge having the ladder for the suction-pipe and cutter in a well-way in the centre. 1535 *MS. Rental D.* 277 fol. 8*a* b, ix new storoppes to staye the Rynge of the *well wheell to the spokes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 24 *marg.*, The scoldyng of brathels is no more to bee passed on, then the squeasing of welle wheles. 1896 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 308 You take insult like a donkey on a well wheel. 1858 Sievking *Builders' Prices* 76 The digging will only be applicable to *Well-work, as that for Drains must of course depend upon their depth. 1810 C. O'Conor *Columbanus's Third Let.* 84 Origin of Irish *Well-worship. 1882 *Pres. Rerm. Nat. Club* IX. 310 Well-worship continues to this day, and votive gifts...are still thrown into the clear spring waters. 1810 C. O'Conor *Columbanus's Third Let.* 79 *Well-worshipping was a Druidic superstition. 1894 *Catholic News* 23 July 5 A race of *well-worshipping semi-pagans.

**†Well,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Well *adv.*, substituted for Weal *sb.*[1] under the influence of *F. bien.*]

**1.** Well-being, welfare, advantage, profit. **a.** In contrast to *woe*.

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 683 Neuere...3e nere out of myn hertis remembraunce For wel or wo, for carole or for daunce. *c* 1440 J. Page *Siege Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 95 Then were the sygh3rs of dyffereawns...That one of wel with other of wo. 1490-1500 *Lanfr. Cirurg. Lanfr* 111. 390 For the soulle when yt ys departed fro the body by deithe receyueth anon welle or wo. 1550 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* (1931) 11 Let not do thine owne wickednes be cause for wel nor yet for wo. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 380 A resolute intent...in well, and in woe, to remaine constant.

**b.** In general use; freq. *in for the well of —*.

1424 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 72 3if it so be þat thei towche the well of the kyng...or his realme. 1446 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 588 Why sulde he not desire þat it like the king of his goode grace, for the grete welle of bothe his royaumes, to ordeyn,...that (etc.). 1497 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (1861) I. 82 He wille þat thys bille be sent hym soo leese doo then sue for absolucion. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* 229 For worldly ryches, the trouth nat playne to tell, Puttynge in auenture the welthe of their soules. 1525 Hyrde *Perf. Feaste*. II. xx. 17 b, For yᵉ well of the peace...we desyre them to sette to their swines. 1590 Spenser *F.* Q. ii. 43 That may restore you to your wonted well. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 414 Heauenly Monarchs in all things for the earth can produce for the well of man. *a* 1645 Lo. Napier *Mem.* (1793) 43 My Lord Lowdon..might have thought me willfull against the well of the cause.

**2.** *Well public* = Weal-public 2. *rare*[—1].

1579 Lodge *Def. Plays* 6 Though Plato could wish the exposition of Poetes from his well publiques,...yet the wisest hold not that stand opinion.

**3.** Good or honourable report.

*c* 1500 *Melusine* 115 She..desired moche to see him for the well that it was said of him. [1820 Coleridge *Ode to Rain* 28 I'll not listen to aught you say of well.]

**Well** (wel), *a.* Forms: 3–7 wel, 4–6 welle, 5 welle, 5– well; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 weyll, 6–7 weill (6 weil), 6– weel. [From Well *adv.* in predicative use: see sense 1.]

**1.** Used predicatively to denote a state of good fortune, welfare, or happiness: †**a.** With the dative of the personal pronouns, esp. in the formula *well is me, thee, him*, etc., or *well worth him*, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. L. *bene est mihi*, etc.)

*Beowulf* 186 Wel bið þæm þe mot æfter deaðdæge Drihten secan. *c* 893 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxix. 22 [Ilic] cwedon: wel bi, wel bi [*Trin.* wela wela, *Gr.* εὖ εὖ] us. 13 þim ne wel six þe, and min sawul lybbe for þinum inlingan. *Hrdr. Num.* xi. 18 Wel si us wæs on Egipta lande. 12.. *Moral Ode* 202 in Cott. *Jul.* A. vii. 1 Wel is þe þat wel þenkeð. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1452 Now er men wele, now er men wa. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 33 Ne þat leden vs þis wel ver herbowe schal wase. Pei founden hit newely, so wel weore þei neuere. *Ibid.* 659 We weore so wel of vr-self, we nuste what we duden. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 72 Whil thy power [O Health!]...Regned in me & was my gouernour, Than was I wel, tho felte I no duresse. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Conc. Yews* 92 *Cayphas*. Yare wel, acre, and wel be he. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* 1. 58 Now wold I be well in my ship in the myddes of the see, for if I abyde him, he shall make an ende of me. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. iii. 38 All hail our native goddis, well be ye! *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* iv. 301 And well were they whose handes might tow þ the coules. 1563-83 Foxe *A. & M.* 583 They fell to singyng...Well was he that could reache the next vnto. 1595 J. King *Serm. Queen's Day in Lect. Jonas* (1597) 703 (I well were wee in the daies of Queene Elizabeth. 1597 Hieab *Theatre God's Judgem.* 283 Wel was he that could finde himself in a sanctuary. 1600 *Penton Guardian's Instruction* 24 He was never well but when he was managing or talking of his Dog. 1818 Shelley *To Mary* xxiv, Every dear, come to me soon, I am not well whilst thou art far.

**2.** In favour, in good standing or estimation, on good terms, *with* (a person). Also rarely with *together*.

Originally with *to be* (see also the special senses below); now common only with *keep* (see Stand 9, 15 c), with approach to an adverbial force. The gap in the evidence between the 15th and 18th cent. is remarkable.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14951 (Cott.) Wel an anlepe was, Pat wit his fader was sa wele Pat [he] wit his wisdum ilk dele. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2878 She is fayr, and she is fre,..I pretekene she is wel with me. 1377 *Langl. P. Pl. A* vii. 110 Ac he þat [Meed] is wel with pe kynge, wo is þe reuwe. *c* 1425 *Tors. Portugal* 1048 That man was well with god all-m3t. *c* 1450 *Gesta Rom.* 276 She was fayre and comly, and well was with the kyng almyghty.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 76 There was nothing I outwardly omitted to be well with her Majesty. 1730 in *Kolbin's Anc. Hist.* (1731) II. 91 Who will be well with...intreated Philip to keep well with Aratus. 1748 Chesterf. *Lett.* 8 Aug., The last [report] I had from Mr. Maittaire was so good a one, that you and I may be at present extremely well together. 1750 *Ibid.* 26 Apr., He is well with...many people of the first distinction at Paris. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* II. xiii. 87 That he might be well with her, and with whose character...made his father half afraid of him. 1770 in Knd Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* (1844) I. 66 For although they are by no means well together, they would not, I find their advantages in a war. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* II. 66 She chose to keep well with the Dudleys in all appearance. 1881 Mrs. Lynn Linton *My Love!* I. i. 13 I contrived to keep well with Stella's father. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv, 'The new heir...had good reasons for standing well with his neighbours.

1800 T. Brown *Lect. Philos. Human Mind* IV. c. 608 *The true secret of happiness', says Fontenelle, 'is to be well with our own minds'.

**b.** *spec.* In terms of intimate friendship or familiarity *with* (a woman).

1704 Cibber *Careless Husb.* v. iii, But it's so natural for a prude to be malicious when a man endeavours to be well with any body but herself. 1708 Inge *Bath Guide* Epil. 91 You must know Sir, I have the honour to be well with Mrs. Gadbury, Lady Conollan's woman. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. v. 72 All our set were well with some fine woman or other. *Ibid.* III. vii. 73 Do not suppose that you are well with a Duchess.

**†c.** Pleased or satisfied *with* (oneself). Also *well to do*. *Obs.*

1586 Mas. A. M. Dennett *Juvenile Indicor*. I. 11 He could not avoid being extremely well with himself. 1854 Sweers *Handley Cr. vii.* (1901) I. 62 He went on 'Change with a strut that plainly showed he was well with himself. 1869 'Annie Thomas' *On Guard* I. iv. 61 His horses...rattled over the stones...at a rate he would not have driven them had he been well with himself but then.

**†d.** Without comp. = *Obs.* 1.

1594 M. Peton in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 213 Neither the Dauphin or Mons' Luxemberg are very well to Court. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* 22 Sept., However, be as well at court as you possibly can. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* Journey well there, without making yourself ill somewhere else. 1776 in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 203, I have the pleasure to inform you that I am extremely well in the opinion of the senatorial part.

**3.** In a state of prosperity or affluence; more explicitly *well in goods* or *cash*, *well in the world*; = Well off 1 c. (See also Well to do, to live, to pass.) Now *rare* exc. in *well to do*, *well off*.

*To leave* (a person) *well*, *to be well left*: to leave or be left well off by devise or inheritance.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 68 Thanked be fortune and hire fikel wheel, That noon estaat assureth to be weel. 1483 Anon *Prisoner's Reply* 78 Whiche greuyd me sore...To be in pouert and of goodes bnd, That before was well in goodes and rest. 1606 Dekker *Sero. Sinner* v. (Arb.) 36 Richmond sonnes that were left well, and had more money given by will, then they had wit how to bestow it. 1681 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 436/2 He has left euery body that is related to him good Legacyes and his wife extreame well. 1688 in *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 130 A Family that is not very well in the World. 1746 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) I. 180 Vanesius was well in Cash. 1780 *Mirror* No. 97 He imperceptibly became, 'in easy circumstances, well in the world,

of great credit, [etc.]. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. ¶ 6 He must be very well in the world. 1835 *Politeness & Good-breeding* 97 Those who..the one high-born as to rank, and.. the other well in the world as to riches. 1875 [see Leave *v.*¹ 2 b].

† b. *Well and warm*: in comfortable and affluent circumstances. *Obs.*

1591 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. (1633) 114 But you are well and warme and so hold you. *a* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 129 A. W. seemed very sorry at this news, because he was well and warme when he was a-bed. 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. F. Greybeard* 4, I shall not get a penny by your custome; neither do I desire it. For I am well and warm.

c. Favourably circumstanced; having things as one wishes them to be; = Well off 1 a. *Now rare.*

*c* 1440 *Partonope* 1281 When wymmen be well they can not cese. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 278 *An.* Wil't please your worship to come in, Sir? *Sl.* No, I thank you forsooth, heartily I am very well. 1608 — *Lear* III. iv. 33 We are to say, the dead are well. 1643 Burroughes *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* II. v. 351 You who are thorough Gods mercy in his way, you are now well, know whom you are well, and keep you wel. *c* 1649 Howell *Lett.* (1650) III. 24, I am afraid we have seen our best days, we know not when we were well. 1784 Bage *Barham Downe* I. 63 But every body, Mrs. Susan, don't know when they are well. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Academies* P 2 Not without a little hesitation—for apparently they found themselves very well as they were;—they consented.

4. In a sound or undamaged state; *spec.* in marine insurance, of a vessel.

*c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 475 God shewed merualle in apere, Pe bell was wele at pe last. 1580 H. Smith in Hist. Inquiry *Yorp.* (1589) 470 Wee were afraid that she [the ship] had taken some hurt, but she was well. 1667 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 288 His..reason..to inform me of the weakness he was driven from them by force of weather, but doubts not, that she is well. 1848 J. Arnould *Marine Insur.* I. 586 In order to protect himself from liability in case the vessel is given day, the underwriter frequently causes a warranty to be inserted in the policy that the ship was 'all safe', or 'well', on the day.

5. Sound in health; free or recovered from sickness or infirmity: more explicitly *well in health*. Const. *of* (a sickness, wound). Also *not well* (Sc. *no weel*) = Unwell *a.* 2 († formerly with *of a sudden*, *of th' sudden*).

1555 Caro. Pole in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 529 Thoy my passage over the sea were not well, yet after I was landed I found myself very wel. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 428 b, She was not very wel in health. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 238 Nor shall we now see these wanton lines in minde, Nor wel, vnlesse in minde. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 80 *Mr. Page*. I am glad to see your Worships well. 1599 — *Much Ado* IV. i. 63 Is she well now? 1600 — *Hen. V* I. ii. 260 I speake so wide? 1634 Milton *Comus* 1000 Where young Adonis oft reposes, Waxing well of his deep wound. 1650 Crom-well *Lett.* 39 July in *Carlyle*, The Major-General will, I believe, within few days be well to take the field. 1721 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Dec., He..drinks no claret yet, for fear of his rheumatism, of which he is almost well. 1781 Cowper *Gilpin* 220 This shall be yours when you bring back My husband safe and well. 1832 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxxii, Ursel.. is restored to you well in health. 1853 Dickens *Hlenk Ho.* xxiii, I hope you are well. I am happy to see you. 1861 Trollope *Small Ho. Allington* xx, 'The fact is this; I'm very well, you know;—as strong as a horse.' 'You look pretty well.'

(*b*) 1608 Middleton *Trick to catch Old-one* v. H 2 b, Troth I am not well of a suddaine. *a* 1626 Heaum. & Fl. *Wit without Money* III. i, A proper Gentleman: I am not well o' th' sudden. 1667 Davisen *Secret Love* I. iii, Dear Asteria lead me, I am not well o'th sudden. (*She faints.*)

† b. *Well in* (one's) *wits*: of sound mind. *Obs.*

1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1900) 59 A manne may assuredly thinke him not to be well in his wittes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. 206 What man that were wel in his wittes would say? 1581 J. Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 If I should say it, rather I (than you) might be thought scarce wel in my wits. 1645 Sir R. Weston *Treach. Prothero* (1650) 26 Such proffered Terms, as no man, that is well in his wits, but will venture at them. 1686 W. Claghyt *17 Serm.* (1699) App. 18 No body, well in his wits can be misled by it. 1707 Waterland *Kyd's Vern.* 90 A Man would hardly be supposed well in his Wits, that should seriously entertain any the least Doubt concerning it.

c. Used attributively, esp. with *man* (†sometimes hyphened). Now only *U.S.*

1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 14, I tooke a view of my well men. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 93 Out division of the living is not so much into Physitian, and Patient, as into well Physitian, and sick Physitian. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 12 Feb., In spite, ..ill people would breathe in the faces, out of their windows, of well people going by. 1670 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. vii. 50 He..could take no rest until his wounded finger was digested, yet his pain was not so great in his Wound, as in his well fingers. 1700 Dryden *Fables, Cock & Fox* 401 But neither Pills nor Lazarlton I like, They only serve to make a well-man sick. 1737 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 73 Poor Dick eats like a well man, and drinks like a sick. 1738 *Gent. Mag.* 60 One of the ships..with no more than 65 guns..and but 472 well men at quarters. 1842 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlv. 80 Of those who are alive, I have not well counted enough to take care of the sick. 1874 Howells *Chance Acquaint.* iv. (1882) 97 Calling Kitty's attention to his ingenuity by a pressure with her well foot. 1879 — *L. Arnostook* (1881) II. 10 They welcomed him back to animation with the patronage with which well people hail a convalescent. 1900 'Mark Twain' *Man that corrupted* etc. 128 Two days later he 'began to eat like a well man'.

d. *absol.* (as pl.). Those who are sound in health.

1676 *Prine. Caymiates Loud.* 104 For our S. P. never worketh on the Well, either by Vomit or Stool. 1693 Johnson *Let. Dr. Brockbanke* 29 Aug., in *Boswell*, It is great consolation to the well, and still greater to the sick. 1842 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlii. 69 Leaving about 30 sick, and about an equal number of well to take care of and protect them. 1880 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* xxv, Every body feels it, the sick and the well, the patient and the nurses. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 16/1 It should be the business of the doctors to prevent the well from getting sick.

e. *Well day*: a day on which one is free from sickness, esp. from an attack of an intermittent disorder. (Sometimes hyphened.)

1652 Wood *Life* Aug. (O. H. S.) I. 176 What in the well-days his stomach had contracted, he would on the sick-day vomit it out. 1657 R. Lovelace *Lett.* (1659) 175, I have not enjoy'd one well day in ten Weeks absence. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 96 The 30th was my Well-day, and I went abroad with my Gun. 1786–8 H. Downe *Feod. of Cunl.* (1809) II. 123 As it was one of his well days, he walked in without help. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 302 Repeated cold and hot fits..with one or more well days between them. 1859 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) II. 252, I struggle to hang by my 'Work', and generally do get a particle or two of it done every well-day.

f. Of a person's health or spirits: Sound, good. Of sickness: Cured.

1712 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., Lord-treasurer has had an ugly fit of the rheumatism, but it is now near quite well. 1760–72 Sterne *Gt. Cyr.* V. His health, thank Heaven, is still pretty well. 1801 Eliz. Helme *St. Marg. Cave* III. 180 Your health is, I fear, not well. 1836 Southey *Cowper's Lett.* (1837) II. 301 I am not well enough to be pleased with it in the day. 1847 Surtees *Hawbuck Grange* iv. 74 Indeed he had fully determined, if his cold was well enough, to ride over to Snaiswell.

g. In the phrase (*It is*) *well* (*that*) *or to*: **a.** Advisable, desirable, to be recommended.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 82 It is welle to understonde that ye haue no protectoure, kepar, ne defendour but it come of God. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 1 Then have you well done quickly. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxvii, If thou think'st well To trust, fair Madeline, to no rude infidel. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, I never thought it good to ask him again, ..but it's well I should, perhaps. 1864 'Annie Thomas' *D. Donne* III. 97 Suggestions as to the seat it would be well for him to take. 1910 *Nacpcl. Brit.* II. 282/1 When a trout rises it is well to strike 'ten' before striking.

b. Gratifying, fortunate, lucky; forming a matter for satisfaction or thankfulness.

1665 Dr. Ormonde in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 132 It is well we have little more to make about to defend the next assaute. 1701 De Foe *Trueborn Eng.* 93 'Tis well that Virtue gives Nobility. 1727 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) I. 161 It is well they afford us still these. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Scrutiny* (1824) IV. 277 Such a dinner as we had to-day! it was well it was a christening! 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, It was well for us, that we were in this humour, for [etc.]. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxxvi, It were *yet* well it is that no child is born of thee. 1895 Le Fanu *Guy Deverell* III. 249 It is well when these sudden collapses occur, that nerves accompany.

c. *As well . . as of that*, in preceding senses.

1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxvii. 209 Perhaps in this case..it were as well they did not. 1820 *Marvellous Life* 22 Which, by the by, was as well for him. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, I never thought it good to ask him again, ..but it's well I should, perhaps. 1889 Mrs. E. Kennard *Landing a Prize* vii, Perhaps it was just as well..that Ebenezer remained in London.

7. Of a state of things, work, an undertaking, etc.: Satisfactory; of such a nature, or in such a condition, as to meet with approval or give content.

1328 in Knighton *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 For if the ende be wele, then is alle wele. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* ¶ 14 If it be well, you shyckler the neate yerys and if it be not well, holde his hande there other yeres. 1523 Skelton *Gart. Laurel* 763 He can neuer leue werke whyle it is wele. 1580 H. Smith *Serm.* (1591) 1 (1592) 4 We are to learne..how to know whether all was well with her. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 76 The warre they deeme not well for them. 1804 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. ii. 200 Good now Good Lieutenant! I am sorrie For your displeasure: but all will sure be well. 1620 T. *May Heire* I. (1633) B 1, That's well, that's very well. 1746 Francis *tr. Sall. Jug.* vi. 19, I have enough in my possessing, 'Tis well. 1798–1803 Jane Austen *Northanger Abb.* v, Though it is vastly well to be here for a few weeks, we should live horribly miserly. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Wife* (1821) I. 35 She saw..with the quick eyes of affection, that all was not well with him. 1859 E. Fitz-Gerald *Omar Khayam* laiv, He's a Good Fellow, and 'twill all be well.

*Prov.* 1381 [see above]. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 21 All's well that (quoth Alee) All is well that endes well. 1602 F. L. *Owl's Almanack of Love* etc., To R[ic. E.] 3 by Yet take this old Prouerbe with a right application.. All is well that endeth well. And so end I. 1794 P. Walker *Pedlar* (1878) 11 Well, it is well. The old Saying holds, that All's well that ends well. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* iv. 106 All's well that ends well? You won't have the services disturbed again.

b. of material things.

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 118 It[.sc. a cheese] is, saith an other, well as can bee. 1595 in *Archaeologia* LIV. 1. 389 Your Mr. Mullen rye and wheat is well and free of one collors, the most be wheyted at the plasterers charge. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 172 *Nate.* The meate was well. ..*Pet.* I tell thee Kate, 'twas burnt and dried away. 1599 Minsheu *Span. Dial.* 3 This water is now well *Yo estia buena est aqual*, you may now wel wash Sir. 1600 Shaks. *Sonn. cxli*, Were it not sinfull then striuing to mend, To marre the subiect that before was well. 1786 Foote *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 14 Do you know now, that..I honour the Park? forty thousand million of times preferable to the play house! Don't you think so, my dear? *Miss Godfrey*. They are both well in their way.

*absol.* 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 78 Sweet Censors take my silly worst for well.

c. *To let* (or *leave*) *well alone*: to refrain from trying to make better that which is already well.

1740 Cheyne *Regimen* Pract. Ess. p. xxxvi, When a Person is tolerably well, and is subject to no painful or dangerous Distemper, I think it his Duty..to let Well alone. 1830 [see Let *v.*¹ 28 b]. *a* 1885 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xxxii, Why can't you leave well alone? 1885 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xii, Tom was very near yielding..But Mr. Carroll could not let well alone, and unfortunately he went on, 'Whom am I to believe, [etc.]'

d. *All's well*: a sentry's reply when he has received the password in answer to his challenge. (See also quot. 1769.)

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All's well!* an acclamation of sentinels or centinels, pronounced by a centinel, at the time of striking the bell each half-hour during..the night watch. 1802 C. *James Milit. Dict. s.v. Pass, All's Well*, a term used by a British sentry after he has challenged a person that comes near his..post, [etc.]. 1803 T. Dibdin *Engl. Fleet* III. iii. Duet, 'Who goes there?' Stranger—quickly tell; 'A friend,'—the word—'Good night—All's well'.

e. *Sc.* Quite ready. *rare.*

1805 A. Scott *Poems* 40 With hunger smit, may hap they seem to feel, Or cry, perhaps, in the hodgil weel! 1825 Jamieson *s. v. Weill*, Is the dinner weel?

8. In conformity with approved standards of action or conduct; right, proper. Now *arch.*

1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 215 John..toke the seid iij horses..and they impounded, as well and lawfull it was..for hym to doo. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. v. N ij, That is well, or well done, let hym be brought in. 1713 Addison *Cato* III. ii, O Portius, was this well—to frown on her, That lives upon thy Smiles!

† b. qualifying a noun of action. *Obs.* (For the similar use with verbal abs., see Well *adv.* 30.)

1583 in Neal *Hist. Puritans* (1755) I. 259 The bishop has power to make laws for the well government of the church. 1635 Stafford *Lett.* (1739) I. 482 That he see to the upholding of my Houses and well Usage of my Grounds. 1677 Earl Essex in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 148 The well payment of their Rents depending much upon the well paying of the Army.

9. Good; of a character or quality to which no exception can be taken. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

1601 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 70 The things [clauses in the Act] seem to me generally well and desirable. *Ibid.* 344 Which thing, as it hath a well and certain foundation, so it is your wisdome [etc.]. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1723 Nothing is here for feare, no weakness, no contempt, Dispraise, or blame, nothing but well and fame. 1694 A. Charlett in Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 499 His behaviour was very well during his illness; was very patient and quiet. 1706 Guthrie, *Trans.* 25, Our honest neighbour's goose and dumplings were fine...It is true, his manner of telling stories was not quite so well. 1773 — *Sleepy to Sleep.* II. I. Yet the fellow, but for his unaccountable bashfulness, is pretty well too. He has good sense. 1780 Johnson in *Boswell* (1857) IV. 94 Yes, they are very well, Sir; but you may observe in what a general way he speaks. They are the forcible verses of a man of a strong mind, but not accustomed to write verse. 1798–1803 Jane Austen *Northanger Abbey* v, It is really very well for a novel.

† 10. Of good or satisfactory appearance. *Obs.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 119 Hee'll make a proper man: ..His leg is but so, so, and yet 'tis well. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 20 Hast here ha! [*sc.* a stained cloth] I say 'tis well. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 148 In this parke stands another pallace St. James, wch is very well. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 162 He is a lively Gentleman, well enough in his Person. 1798 — *Clarissa* (1768) I. 7 but then, stepping to the glass, she complimented herself, 'That she was very well'.

b. *Well to live*, *well to be seen*: (of a person) good to look upon, comely. *rare.*

1804 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* (1820) 111 To be seer she's a sarvant, but weel to be seen. 1808–9 Lamb *Poetry for Children*, *Three Friends* 23 Well to do and well to see Were the parents of all three. 1900 Crockett *Dark of Moon* vii. 43 In person she was short, well-to-see, rosy-cheeked, buxom.

10. In concessive use, followed by an objection or contrary view expressed or implied: **a.** *It is all very well*: it is right and proper in itself or under certain circumstances.

1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 And where as they sayes that the Gospell must be taught after the first maner as it was approued by the churche (that is very well) but all the stryfe is, which is the trewe church. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Scrutiny & Contemp.* (1824) IV. 283 It is all very well, Sir; I know what you will say—that you [etc.]. 1864 Trollope *Small Ho. Allington* xxiii, That's all very well, Amelia. 1879 F. L. *Owl's Almanack* 31 Oct. Wise men who make contracts are all very well, but if the contractor stops payment —where are you? 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* v, Oh, it's all very well, vicar,..we know you never say anything against anyone.

b. *He* (*it*, etc.) *is all very well*: there is no fault to be found with him, it, etc.

For the force of the appended phrase *in his (her, its, their)* may see Way 18. 14.

1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, As to the curate, he was all very well; but..the curate wasn't a novelty, and the other clergyman was a new one. 1838 — *Nich. Nick. Wint. Hitt.* III. 746 2 As a curiosity the black swan is all very well..but it has none of the beauty and grace of the white swan. 1898 'Meredith' *Reader's Lament* xxii. 258 Mr. Cornish is all very well in his way. But we're not fools.

c. *Well enough*.

1798 Wordsw. *Goody Blake* 37 'Twas well enough, when summer came,..But when the ice [etc.]. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., Their higher wines, indeed, are well enough ..yet I cannot but remember the generous qualities of my sound old Oporto. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xv, This is well enough, but nevertheless I cannot..incline towards the Shakers.

d. Without vb.: *Well and good*. Also (? *Obs.* or *dial.*) *good and well*.

1699 Rovers *Royal Dict.*, Eng Fr, Well and good, *à la bonne heure* 1749 Smollett *Gil blas* x. x (1783) IV 51 My mother's predictions were always favourable to those who solicited them if they proved true, good and well, but when they came back to reproach her [etc] 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x x (Rtldg 1864) My mother always sold good luck for good money if the accomplishment trod on the heels of the prediction, well and good 1854 Slatter *Handley Cr* viii (1901) I 74 These people arrive to-day If you can find anything out about them you know, well and good 1888 R Holdsworth *R Mary under Arms* vii, "If you like to bow and scrape to rich people, well and good", I said

e For *very well*, without verb, see Well *adv.* 25

†11 Quite sufficient (as a statement). *Obs.*

1673 Ray *Journ. Low C* 152, I have been often told that there are in Paris a million and a half of people whereas it is well if there be half a million *Ibid* 379 A free State as the Inhabitants I own, for above 1000 years, but its well if half so long

12 Easy (to deal with) *rare*—1

1816 Jane Austen *Persuasion* iii In the way of business, gentlemen of the navy are as well to deal with

**Well** (wel), *v*.1 *Pa t* and *pa pple* **welled** (weld). Forms: 1 **wiellan, wyllan, wellan,** 1–2 **wellan,** 4 **wellen,** 2–6 **welle,** (6 **wel**), 3– **well** (4 **will**). *Sc.* 9 **wall.** *Pa t* 3 **welden** (*pl*), 4 **wellyd,** 4–5 **welled,** 5 **welledde,** 5–7 **welled,** 6 **weld,** 4–7 **willed** *Pa pple* 3 **welled,** 3–4 **iwelled,** 4–5 **welled, wellyde,** 5 **wellyd,** 5– **wellit,** 4– **welled.** [OE. *wiellan* (*wyllan*, Anglian *wellan*, *wellan*), causative verb from the stem of *weallan* to boil, Wall *v*.1 Cf. MDu and Du, MLG. and I G, MHG (and G dial) *wellen*, to cause to boil, to boil or well up, etc, Wfris. *welle* to well up, NFris *wel* to boil, ON and Icel. *ze la* (p t *ze ldi*) to boil (trans.)

The form in 4 pple. probably represents trans. senses: in the intr it has taken the place of the original strong verb *wall* ]

†1. *trans* To boil (a liquid, ingredients, etc.)

a 1000 *Sax Leechd* 1 70 Aenmn þa ylcan wyrte betonican & wyl on ealdan wine *Ibid* 1 82 Aenm wudurofre & wudu merce & wyl on baðstron *Ibid* 2 372 Xepuna Dæwyrte to somne & wæl to somne *c* 1000 *Sax Leech* 145 in *S Eng Leg* 105 Þo nomen huy pick and brasmston, and welden a wel faste *Te* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2736, I wilde be wellyde alle ywyke, and quatterde in sondre Bot I wyrke my dede *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 19 Take beefe and peper and ale, And temper þo broithe And welle let it to gedere 14.. Lydg *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 375 in *Pol Rel & L Poems* (1903) 21 [Mutton] Welld with growel

†b *fig.* (Cf 3 b.) *Obs*—1

*c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 499 The wyis quh se tit e wicht went war in wa wellit

†c. To thicken or curdle (a liquid, esp milk) by boiling or heating. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Welle, mylke or oþer lycure, *c aquio*

d *spec* (See quot)

1876 *Ib kitty Closs* x iv *Welling* ? They're welling livers, obtaining the oil from the livers of fish, in the way of making it flow by an adapted heat

†2 To liquefy (metal) by heat; to melt down, cast, found *Obs*

a 1225 *Ancr R* 284 Þe calic þet was smelt ine fure & stronliche iwelled and seoðden so awuðe uuere afeinted *c* 1290 *St Patrick's Purg* 272 in *Eng Leg* 208 Pe feondes welden led and brass and in þe re mouþes caste *c* 1300 *Havelok* (Ashm) 2301 He nom þe brasmston and dyvde hem wel 1338 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 136 Men schal welle [1388 *Ia* si 4 welle togidere Vulg *conflat ou*] hor swerde into plowgh scharen 1388—1 Kings xxiii 17 Thei han welid togidere [Vulg *conflaverunt*] the siluere, which is foundun in the houre the Lord *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 520/2 Welle, metel, *fundo* 1570 Levins *Manip* 55/14 To wel iron, *c ferrum*

b To soften (metal) by intense heat, to join while heated, to weld. *Obs. exc. dial.*

Du and I G *wellen* also have this sense

1424 *Mem Exch* (Surtees) I 152 To scharpyng et well yng of weiges de ferro *a* 1500 *Hist K Boccus & Sydra* fo (1510) R iij As two peces of Iron fare In the fyre whan they well[d] are They wolde not other wyse weld And geue them a stroke upon Thornbery hethe they together bynde 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii vii 174 A huge gre semely targat, or it were wellit In euery plyt was thai wil vnd ane 1599 *Churchm. Acc Littington, etc* (Surtees) 275 For welding the springe an[d] for making nailles to the c ke [clock ?] beedes, iijd 1616 *Ib* 1 292 To Thomas Pearson for mendinge the greate bell wayghe 5 li 3 quarters & for welding the greate bell wayghe 5 li 3 quarters & for a gge and helpinge Thomas Pearson, xijd 1808 Jamieson *s v. To-weld*, To knit two maxes into one 1884 [Carr] *Craven Gloss, Weld*, to weld 1895– in various northern glossaries

3 *intr.* To boil. (Said of a liquid, of ingredients, and also of the containing vessel) Also with *up*

a 1300 *Stockholm Roll* 2 in *Archæologia* XXX 396 Take yᵗ whyte of tweyne yrie And a por yon of rye mele, And late it well to geder welle *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 5 Take sope, cast i hys p tage Penne welle þe pot tegin to rage And welle on alle wyse *c* 1425 *Macro Plays, Castr Iherem* 3504 Go þou to helle, þou dr-yl In brast & brimston to welle! *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3372 When pe cal dr-un began to well pe tempest sess 1483 *Cath Angl* 413 2 To Welle *bullire, ebullire* 1554–9 *Songs & Ball Phil & Mary* (Roxb) 12 Full leyn be thy potage where the pote welle 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss, Weell*, to boil

†b *fig.* Chiefly in the phrase *to well in woe*

Cf *welling woe, welling wood* Welling *pl. a* 1 b *c*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 23166 Gas to þe denil, þar sal yee ga, for to well þar in his wa. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P* xi 40 In such wedinrying for wo y welle *c* 1325 *Metr Hom* (1860) 29 Þar þai sal euermare duelle, And wafulle in pine welle. *a* 1400 *Min Poems fr. Vernon MS* xliv B Þe Mon þat is taken in dedly synne, He may wel when In wo to wellen *c* 1440 *York Myst* 1 231 For thi efter þaire wakes were, in wo sall þai well

†c. Of metal: To melt and boil up. *Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Chev Assygne* 166 And I breke me a cheyne & halfe seyde in be fyre, And it wexede in my honde & wellede so faste, That I cude be ofour lyve & fro be fyer caste

†d *fig.* To unite as by welding.

1590 Jas I *Basil Doron* iii (MS *m ed* 1599, p 153) Mixing the men of euerie kingdome with another, as maye with tyme make thaime to grow & well all in ane [Cf Weld *v* 2]

4. Of liquids, esp. of a well or spring of water: To rise up to the surface (of the earth) and flow in a copious stream. Also with *up, out, forth* † Const *of.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* II 59 In þis cite welleþ vp and springeþ fiue welles 1398 — *Barth De P R* xiii 1 (MS Add. 27944) Other watir springeþ and welleb owte of the inner pities of the erthe as welles watir and pittes watir 1500–20 *Dunbar Poems* xxvi 3 Thane cleir was wont to the welle by the wode euin, That alle wellyde of wyne *c* 1489 *Seven Sag* (P) 135 Fayre welles there welleþ fast *a* 1500 *Hist A A & S Graveland* Ugh, that (earth) turneth to dry mestone Which wellyth vp as mony ane anon 1530 Palsgr 778/2, I well up, as water that bobyllyth or cometh out of the ye sythe 1590 Spenser *F Q* I iv 34 Hereby a Christall streame did flow, Which from a sacred fountaine welled forth alway 1614 *Br Hall Contempt* v vi 62 Hee might (if he had pleased) haue caused a spring to well out of the hardest earth 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* Boy From his two springs, Pure welling out, he rolls i s infant stream 1787 Burns *Death Sir W Wallace* ii Lone as I mus'd where limpid streams wind silent down the dell 1793 Scott *Waverley* xlvii It is t sa l y a spring which welling at his feet With many a wi ding crept along the mead 1832 James *Phil Augustus* xxvii, A clear and pure stream, that welled up from a rocky bed 1869 Tozer *Highl Turkey* I 19 The fountains were believed to well up from the Skamander 1877 Huxley *Phys* iv 70 The molten matter, which wells up the throats of a volcano

*fig.* 1818 D Israeli *Calam Auth* xxii (1859) 278 A few of those wonderful hot waters silently welled up from the spring of Helicon 1838 Lytton *Leila* I ii, As the water glides from under the sunbeam, I see the tide of empire welling fo m my hands 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc* (1873) 72 Ye wells from the hills, Why dropp from that eternal Fount Of heavenly Intercession welling night and day?

b. *transf* of vapours, etc, that rise up to the surface, or flow forth in a stream; *poet* of sound

1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii vii 174 Ane hiddwis hoill in it Quhar throu the heit vapouris wellyt vp 1590 Spenser *F Q* I xi 54 Whose sweet sounds from her sacred quire welled out 1600 Shakes *Much Ado* v i, Sweet Hero! she is wronged, she is slandered, she is undone 1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1632) 1 xxiv 104 The heat wagers hardly welled up from below, frustrating the moist and yielding beds 1895 S Crane *Act Bad of* v, Sm. Le welled slowly through the leaves

†5 1848 Mozley *Strafford* I 13 iv, Whatever sweet sounds from her fast closed lips are welling *a* 1849 Poe *Bells* i, Keeping time, time, time In the tintinnabulation that so musically wells from the bells 1867 Morris *Jason* xiv 43 White bodies moving, Wherefrom it seemed that lovely music welled

c *To well over*, to overflow *lit* and *fig.*

1843 James *Forest Days* I, It had a pond, which was kept clear by a spring at the bottom, welling constantly over at the side next the road 1883 L C Mervan *Hereste* viii His heart welled over with joy 1885 Mrs Alexander *Ind Bar* I, The spring of imaginative passion lay there, ready to bubble up and well over into a strong current at the touch of Love's burning wand

5 Of tears To rise (*up*) to the eyes in a copious flood, to flow *down*

*c* 1374 Chal *Tr Cryseyde* v 215 But þo þy gan a lyte his herte unswelle Þt trough teres which þat gonnen vp to welle 1377 Langl *P Pl B* xix 375 And I sette wel sadder for wikked werkes, Lgerlich eringge out of mennes eyen 1600 Shakes *As Iikes* iv xciv, Downe from her eies welled the pearles falling on her lap Fennell of her face 1601 — *Twel N* ii iv, Her eyes had a storm Fell from them 1602 — *Ham* iv 54, Still the pearles found Still through her eies an i wel vpon her face 1791 Mrs Radcliffe *Rom Forest* iv Tears welled into her eyes as she spoke these words 1858 G Macdonald *Phantastes* iii 157 She lay with closed eyes, whence two large tears were just welling from beneath the welling lids 1862 Mrs Henry Wood *Dene Hollow* I, As she looked, the tears welled slowly up to her eyes which had been dry before 1894 J A Steuart *In Day of Battle* vii, My heart welled into my eyes in thankfulness

6 Of blood or corrupt matter. To flow from the body, a wound, or sore.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV 289 Herodes was i tormented wiþ wormes þat welled þat sprang out of his priue harneys *Ibid* 289 *St Mercy of Oignies* (MS Douce 114) in Anglia VIII 140 Wormys well[n]ge oute of seint Symeʒ sunnes wounde 1532 More *Confut Tindale* Wks 491/2 As the water welle i out wyth the blood oute of his blessed heart vpon the crosse 1590 Spenser *F Q* I viii 47 Her dread dayes Hong downe, and filthy matter from them weld 1667 Denham *Æneis* ii 184, With clotted locks, and Blood that welled from out the Wound 17 Broome *Iliad* x Poems (1727) 128 Blood o er the crums it Field Welld from the Slain 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Agamem* 972 Where the welling of wealth is wound, Thick purple stream ing blood shall fall 1835 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 238/2 The blood wells up abundantly from the bottom of the wound 1898 G Macdonald *Phantastes* xii 182 His hand was pressed against his side The blood was welling from between the fingers 1899 *Brit Med Jrnl* 29 Mar 707 Many small cavities were exposed They were tensely filled with foul pus, which welled out freely from them.

b *transf* of the source or a place Const *of.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* V 235 (MS 7) He welleþe ful of wormes 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3819 Alle wellys falls of blode, thare he awaye pases. *c* 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb) 32 Also y behylde the right syde of the ymage of oure lordis body and hit welled oute of blode.

7. *fig.* To spring or originate, to issue or flow *forth* or *out. Of* qualities, conditions: To emanate † *of, out of, from* a person or thing as a source.

13 *Ir Ælfred in Engl Studien* VII 321 Pyre ryueres hep holy scryptures, þat welleþ out fro þe welle of wysdom, þat is Crist 1387–8 Trevisa *Higden* VI 11 Irewly, al maner of blisse and preciousnesse in vertue out of thee springen and welleu. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 438 in *Pol Poems* new 253 Vertues, lorde, þoughe I hause none Lat thy grace in me now welle *c* 1450 tr *De Imitatione* iii x 77 Considre all þinges as welling of þe hyest & most soureeyn good 1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par John* iv 90–94 The wordes whiche proceded from the mouth of Jesus welled foorth from a brest replenished with the heauenly sprite of God 1590 Spenser *F Q* III vi 25 With sugred words and gentle blandishment, Which as a fountaine from her sweet lips went, And welled goodly forth 1834 H Miller *Scenes & Leg* xv (1857) 223 Those old artless compositions which have welled out from time to time from among the people 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* Feb 134 The Pilgrim's Progress welled up from the deep fountains of the author's own mind, and flowed on without reserve 1883 R W Church *Spenser* v. 129 The abundance of his ideas, as they welled forth in his mind day by day

8. *trans* & Of a spring To pour forth (water, etc.) Also with *adv*, as *up.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII 391 Þis pere at Fynchamstede in Barrokschire a welle was i seie welle blood fiftene dayes 1590 *Disc Irel* 300 In the middest is a wide water full noble, In whe the place of the playne with plentius streines 1730 Savage *R Wanderer* 22 Rills Meet in 3 on Mead and well a River's Source 1820 Irving *Sketch Bk* I 32 Some classic fountain, that had once welled its pure waters in a sacred shade 1853 G. Johnston *Nat Hist F Bord* I 297 Another green bank from which a spring wells up to the light its sparkling waters

b *fig.* To pour out (something) in or as a stream Also with *out, forth, up*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 170/6 (Titus) Mary welle of mercy, welling (*Lond* welleþ) euer gite 1340 *Ayenb* 17 Þise *Pilgr* (1859) W 1532) tiz Wherfore it vs deuyded in two partes on the one parte it welleth vp all mocyons of concupyscence 1590 Spenser *F Q* II ii 8 She sate Welling out streames of teares *Ibid* x 26 Behold the boyling Bathes at euerbarton, Which seeth with secret fire eternally, And to their people wealth they forth do well 1610 G Fletcher *Christ's Victr in Heaven* xlvii, How a mild voice the gushing streams doth flie, And shed forth streames of choycest rhetorie, Welling celestiall torrents out of poesie! 1834 De Quincey *Autob* iv Wks 1853 I 74 Deep in the breast of mankind lie who, with hearts welling forth love, have none to love them

**Well,** *v*.2 [f. Well *sb*.1]

1. *slang* To defraud (one's confederates) by embezzling part of the booty, to conceal (booty) from one's confederates, to conceal a portion of one's estate) from creditors

1812 Vaux *Flash Dict* (1819) s v *Well* To well your accomplice or *put him in the well* 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict Vulgar Tongue, Well*, to divide unfairly A cant phrase used by thieves, when one of the gang conceals some of the booty instead of dividing it fairly among the confederates 1824 *Compl Hist Murder Mr Weare* 255 Probert frequently alluded to the money and the impressions lest Thurtell should *well it* (meaning keep it to himself) 1893 *Illustr Sporting & Dram News* 22 July 56/1 Out of the wreckage of my fortune—for something had been safely "welled," you may be sure—I purchased a tricycle

2 *Naut* (See quot)

1890 Sonerby *Acc Arctic Reg* II 450 To well the ship — The operation of (for stopping a leak), consisting in the building of a bulk head or partition on the fore part of the hold, and caulking it, so as to confine the water within it.

**Well** (wel), *adv* Forms: α 1–7 **wel** (1 **usl,** 3 **wuel, wul**), 1, 5– **well** (2 **well,** 5 **welle**), 5 **welle.** β 4–5 (8–9 *Sc* and *north*) **weel,** 4 **wiel,** *Sc.* 5 **weill,** 5–6 **weil,** 6 **weyll,** 7 **weele,** (7 *north*) 4–5, 7 (6 *Sc*) **wele,** 5 **weyle, weylle,** 5 **weyle,** 6 **weele,** 7 (Chiefly *north*) 4–5 **weil** (5–6 **wyll**), 5 **wil,** 5–6 **wyl,** 4 **wille,** 5 **wile, wyle, wylle** See also *Very adv.* [Common Teutonic OI *wel, well* = Ofris. *wel* (NFris *wel, well*, WFris *wel, wol*), MDu. and Du. *wel*, OS. *wel*, ON. and Icel. *vel* (Norw, Da. *vel*, Sw. *val*), also OS *wela, wola* (MLG and LG *wala, wal*), OHG. *wela, wala, wola, wol* (MHG *wole, wol*, G. *wohl*), Goth *waila* The stem is regarded as identical with that of the verb Will.

An early lengthening of the vowel is indicated by the ME *weel* (*weel, wele*, etc.), which appears in northern and Scottish texts from the 14th cent, and is still the current form in Scottish, northern, and midland dialects. The forms *will* and *wol*, probably originated in unstressed positions]

I. 1. In accordance with a good or high standard of conduct or morality, in a way which is morally good Chiefly with *do* and *live*

*c* 825 *Vesp Psalter* xxxv 4 [He] nalde ongeotan ðæt [he] wel dyde [*L. bene agere*†] *a* 1000 *Doomsday* 219 Welan sh in wuldre se nu wel þencedl *a* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Matt 21 12 Hyt ys alyfed on teste dagum wel to donne [*L. licet*] *a* 1128 *O J Chron* (Laud) an 1086 I stel rihtwisnesse wes on þesum lande buton mid munecan one þar þer in well fordon *c* 1205 *Lay Amend Horn* 231 De non wel deð, he wel ifeðð. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 37 Ne scal na mon slawen wel to done *c* 1300 *Relig Songs* 1 in *Owl & Night* etc (Percy Soc) 65 Mon, let sunne and lustes blinne; Wil þou do and wel þu thench *c* 1340 Hamiole *R Pr Consc* 288 He seys he has no wille to fele Ne to understand for to do wele *Ibid.* 1987 þe last day of man is hyd, For he shuld kepe wele al þe oder dayes *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* vii 12 For þi lokys þat ye do wel *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 1 Perfore goeurne þe wele the whele til I come home again *c* 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 47 *Qui spes fera bien aura*, Who doth well shall

well haue 1586 J Heywood *Prov* (1867) 21 Doo well, and haue well, men say *a* 1598 H Smith *Serm* (1601) 209 It is better to doe well then to doe good for a man cannot offend in doing well. 1663 S Patrick *Israel Pilgr* (1669) 355 Let me see a Man that keeps his shop and buys and sells, and yet lives well and keeps the Laws of Christ *a* 1793 Burnitt *On N. T.* Mark x 17 It is not talking well, and professing well, but doing well, that entitles us to heaven and eternal life 1805 Wordsw *Prelude* VIII 527 That, by acting well, And understanding, I should learn to love The end of life 1860 Pusey *Min Proph* 606 If thou livest well and teachest well, thou wilt be a judge of all, if thou teachest well and livest ill, thou wilt burn only

**b.** Satisfactorily in respect of conduct or action *a* 1000 *Riddles* [i]. 5 Hwa him wel herefð, þeowaþ him þe þwærre. *c* 1325 *Spec Gy Warw* 82 Wisdom in godes drede Yse wel, þat he my rede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T* 958 And they him sworen his axying faire and weel *c* 1400 *Chron Vilod* 4838 To loue god & seruis hym wyle 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* 11 63 Deuoute reding causeth moche grace and comforte to the soulle yf yt be well and dyscretely vsed 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 60 The same Archas gouerned hym so wele and so wisely that [etc.] 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim* v 17 The auncyent that rule wele are worthy of double honoure 1534 *Cal Irish Chancery Rolls* 1 11 Ye swere that ye well and trulie shall serue our Soveraigne Lord the King 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 349 If any Citizen do come vpon the king and his realme, howe it may be well and honourably supported 1710 Steele *Tatler* No 212 ¶ 4 A Woman must think well to look well 1881 *Spectator Temp Fenii.* XLIX 13 He there worked well and never touched alcohol 1883 Whites *Sophocles, Antigone* 1323 'Tis counselled well, if well it can be

**† o.** Justifiably, rightly *Obs*—1

1380 Wyclif *Jonah* iv 4 And the Lord sede, Gessist thou, wher thou art wel [L. *bene*] wroth? *Iliad* 9

**2** In such a manner as to constitute good treatment or confer a benefit, kindly, considerately, generously, charitably

*c* 825 *Vesp Psalter* cxviii[v] 4 Wel doa [L. *bene fac*], dryhten, godum & rehtum on heortan *c* 897 [Alfred *Gregory's Past* ii xli 304 For mid þon we us, þæt we ða unsæm wel don *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt v 44 Doð wel þam þe eow yfel doð *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 59 Þeiss Mon he lufede and wellhpoðe wel *c* 1200 *Ormin* 5 Þatt man ne seȝȝ þatt he wel lufe himm, for, lete [*c* 1340 Cursor M. Merrima *Cott A Lett* (1909) 11 270 Your grace was very much displeasyd 'sa3ing I am not well handeyd 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s v *Bene*, To be well vsed for little or none 1730 Swift *Direct Servants* 21 Oct, Opportunities will often fall in my way if I am used well 1896 Gladstone in *Daily Chron* 8 Oct (1903) 5/6 My danger is the danger of being too well used by my biographers

*b To deserve well of* to be entitled to gratitude or good treatment from (a person). See Deserve 3 b Cf L. *bene mereri de, & bien mériter de*

1589 Earl Leycester *Corr* (Camden) 243 He can tell you whether I dyd use Prat Bun and Secretary well or his handes, or no 1709 Addison *Tatler* No 117 P 1 A great Man, who has deserved well of his Country 1709–1840 [see Deserve 3] 1865 Dickens *Mut Friend* III iii 11 I do right, child, to speak well of those who deserve well of you

**c** With verbs of greeting, receiving, etc : In a kindly and friendly manner, with friendly words, with favour or welcome

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* II 270 Wel *a* 2

*c* 1000 in Kemble *Cod Diplom* IV 224 Eadward king gret wel Willelm biscop *a* 1220 *O. E. Chron* (Laud) an 6 3, Ic Agelwi grete wel ealle mine *A*. Selest, and I an 1137, He far to Rome & þær wæs wel underfangen & fram þe papa *c* 1205 *Lay* 13084 Uortigerne greteþ wel Hengest *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1490 I shal him and his moder fugheden wel Do, sonden him *c* 1340 *Cursor M.* 52, [I] grete þe well, fadyr mon 1443 Hen. VI in Lilia *Orig Lett* Ser II I 79 Right dere in God we grete 3ou wele 1483 Rich III *Hist* Sel II I 159 Right dere in God we ladre in God right trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele 1506 *Ir Pol Vilets Act Painting* 336 He was well receyu'd at Court, and in fourme with Four Kings vnto Rome), 1882 St Mary Adex *Bay* v, You receive him very well considering you do not like him?

**d.** With verbs denoting feeling or intention

1689 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I 3 Wee are interesting well to the King, for they are vowed rebells. 1691 J Hamwich in *Fefe S P rel Friends Ser* II (1911) 128 A Gentle man that wishes well to the King 1797 J Innes *Corr Lics* (1879) 17 At least I mention it well and aimed only at truth 1831 Scott *Cast Dang* IV, I am an Englishman, and wish dearly well to my country 1836 Dickens *Mr Bris, Mr & Mrs Crumpty*, We wished him well, but we trembled for his success 1847 Marriat *Hilt'n Tomtit Jane*, There is a great difference between wishing well to a cause and supporting it in person

**e.** With verbs of thinking or speaking (†also of hearing) *of* a person, etc

1445 †*Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII 269 Evyly with the thus thi men leve, thou seth hem ever wele *c* 1450 tr *De Imitatione* III xxxiii 2 Wher yf I euyl wel wherper þer say evel, þou art not þerfore a noþer man. 1526 Tindale 1 *Tim* v 10 So he a wone as wel reported off in good workes. 1538 Starkey *Engl* I 188 Add, *Hore omnes*, I be well spoken of 1576 R. Peters *N G della Casa's Galateo* 22 Ka he man desireth to bee well thought of 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 1 Let Ajax, If you haue heard so well of my poore h use 1596 Shaks *Tam Shr* IV iv 37 Signior Baptista, if I knew he was well 1610 —*Temp* II ii 92 His forward voyce now is to speake well of his friend 1698 M. Henry *Christianity no Sec* 1 (1847) 190 Ill-will never speaks well 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II xlvii 388 One would be willing to be well thought of by the worthy 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, Papa thinks well of Mrs Pipchin. 1865 [see a b] 1895 *Rookin in* Oct 22/2 'The Fbb Ide' was practically by Mr Stevenson himself, and he was disposed to think very well of it

**f.** With equanimity or good nature; without resentment. Chiefly with *take*.

† *To take* (a thing) *well a worth* see Worth *sb*

1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* III x 133 They did not suffer her to go out of her chamber ! which she took not well 1903 R. A. Freeman *Dr Hurryidee Cases Dk* I 31 'And how did the coloured gentleman take it?' 'Not very well'

**g.** With courage and spirit, gallantly, bravely.

1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1725) 24 So many doubty dyntes was bituex tham tueye, Wele þei did togidere, better may noman seye 1447 Shillingford *Lett* (Camden) 20 Doubyyoth acquyted him well *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi 91 Alle the bar sons that weren of valoure and wele hadde don *Ibid* xxxii 654 Sir Gawein and his felowes dide merveiles and wele 1600 Shaks *A Y L* I iii 134 Hee that escapes me without some broken limbe, shall acquit him well 1667 Milton *P L* vi 29 Servant of God, well done, well hast thou fought The better fight 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxi, Well and chivalrous did De Bracy that day maintain the fame he had acquired

**II. 4.** Fortunately, heelfully, carefully, attentively : **a.** With verbs of holding, keeping, attending to, etc.

*c* 851 in Sweet *O E Texts* 446 Ic behalde þa Iwealde Set he his wel healde *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1 36 Preo tacen þæs he his þrya leodnes wel wordum and weorcum in wilhen healdon 971 *Blickl Hom* 109 Hit is nyt þæt þæs hes hearra fulwiht hadas wel xehealdan *c* 1000 Ormin 1033 Patt fellkess haligdomess wærenn inn an arike þær Wl & wurrpliss þemmde *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2 And yeue him, his shulde wel loke *a* 1400 *Cursor M* 6840 Besaldes, his wife [*Gott* wele], i bid yow now *c* 1375 *Ilad* 438 (Fairf) He gaf an mist of al þat wele hir he coude a keppet hir wel 1375 *Barbour Bruce* I 28 Quhill Dowbar was in a king, that myght Have haldyn veyle the land in tyght 1423 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 427/1 And well and truly kepe the seid gode 1480 *Ordin Chivalry* (Camden) 72 Ye shall prouyde myself hym & a bow and trusse & that he wyll se wheil to yower hors 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 130 To cart gap and lane, wel a goade is broke weede 1597 D Cooke *Unbrac Iackes Hunt* 11 53 Touchyng seede, this is to be well seen to 1611 Bible *Jer* xxxii 12 Take I im and looke well to him and loke him to hande 1786 Burns *Ep to Rankine* 6 Sae fer'd, I gat a me gear wi' meickle care, I held it weel thegither

**b** With verbs of observing, considering, studying, etc

971 *Blickl Hom* 103 Mid þy þe þa Cristenan leoda þæt wel xeæwodon, & þæ wæs he [etc] *c* 1200 Ormin 1820 Wel þærrp uss I keun þær whatt wass Patt i ame inn3, I mannenn 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I 1 A Man suld ay ourse well his deidis, Thankfully, for he wate weill quhat thai are 1385 Chaucer *L G. W* (Fairf) 335 Of thyn answere avise the syght weel *c* 1400 *Rule of St Benet* (Prose) 12 And that he se wel, & þenke þeron 1438 *Lib Cust* (Rolls) II 191 Loke wele about Unfaylyngly, unfeyn 1516, and unfeynte 1813 Bradshaw *St Werburge* 1338 Well to consyder with the eye of the mynde 1603 Harsnet *Popish Impost* 36 Heere is her lesson read ouer and marke the scholler how well she conned it 1611 Bible *Rom* xi 25 I be prud n un to Ik Aeth well sy his g.ning 1746 Francis tr *Hor. Epist* I xiii 119 Philip, who well observ'd our simple Quest, Laughs in his sleeve 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 610 Severs him had lyed to himself well in the glass 1873 *Punch* 4 Jan 9/2 After thinking the matter well over, we have determined not to compete

**5** In a way appropriate to the facts or circumstances; fittingly, properly **a.** With verbs of saying or speaking. †Also rarely in other contexts ( just *c* 1375)

*c* 897 Alfred *Gregory's Past C* xxi 151 Be ðære lufunge suðe wel Drybten ðreade hafaþ, & hirh þone witran ne eð[e] *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xxi 5 Dar cað cwebeð þæt zewritu se zoð, þæt [etc] *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* John iv 17 Cuæð to hir se halend uel ðu cuæde þætte ic ne hæbbe *a* 971 *Blickl Hom* 9 Wel hæfst ðu ze-sæd, sunu Sirjan be þæt. [*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 7 Þi he cuoð þa his fore-sæidde ord. Wel he com þi him, þa he bicom alswalch alse he 13 *A Ancr* 3007 þou hauest wel spoken, Dilmad is 1340 *Gawayne & Gol* 1 Hit is wel ysayd, bi my hode 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xv 7 Ysay, the ʒ prophete sede wel ʒou *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1815 Whanne the Sowdon had hard hym soy so wel 1509 Barclay *Ship Fools* (1570) 290 b Wel sayd sir *Arthure* xxxvi 427 This is wel sayd, sande Morgan le fys 1561 Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtier* 1 (1900) 94 And you say wel 1611 Bible *Luke* xx 39 Then certain of the Scribes answered, and said, Master, thou hast well spoken 1610 Donne *Juan to Master* 170 Sepulchred, unto well That the soule doth dwell 1611 Shakespeare *Cymbeline* iv ii 393 Thou hast (*aunt. Anc ends*) It is well observed by an ancient Orator [etc.] 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig Sacræ* III ii ¶ 1 If so as Maimonides well observes, the whole Religion of Moses is contained in these Two *Orig Sacræ* III 153 Well is that thing ke (Lucyalus replies) 1779 *Mirror* No 37 P 8 It is delightful occupations of a country life, which Cicero well says are neat in the world 1809 Kendall *Trav* IV 119 It was well suggested that it would be better [etc.] 1825 Perry *Analytics* (1861) Pref p xi It is, Hermann himself well says an extraordinary [etc.] 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Electra* 251 If I speak not well Hive thou thy way.

**b** With verbs expressing fitness, suitability, etc.

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1 Wel þe gereord, þæt þu hersfod ne licsie mynegie. 971 *Blickl Hom* 13 Wel þet xeras þæt heo ware eadmod *Ibid*, Wel þæt eac gedafenode þæt he to eorðan astize *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron*, (MS C) an 1 36 Ys Mann hine man bryngeð, swa him wel gebyreðe, ful wel hine swa he wyrðe wæs *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Hearne* (Rolls) 11914 Nys non on lyue þat seme þe swel his berynge, 23 *A. S. Hist* I B 293 Whiuk wil it was her we le, & wel hit hem semed 1378 Barbour *Bruce* I 134 And in speik wisspyt he sum deill ! Bot that sat him rycht wonder weill. To 1400 *Morte Arth* 179 Sone the semlyour was sett, as þyme wel semyde, At the kynger owane borde.

1508 Atkynson tr *De Imitatione* III xxxiv (1893) 223 It acordeth nat to well to my lert 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII Prol 165 As our bank begouth his werisar tell So, well recordinge, dewin bene anneast Thow drery preasuhill 1596 Shaks *Tam Shr* Induct 1 126 An Onion wil do well for such a shift 1600 — *A Y L* IV iii 4 It would doe well to set the Deares horne vpon his head 1610 — *Temp* III iii 68 *Ah man ! Gnoman d'Aff* II 167, I haue imarged my selfe in speaking more already then may well become mee 1783 *A* Richardson *Grandison* II xxxv 183 She is dissatisfied with what she has written But I tell her, I think it will do very well 1832 G R Porter *Porcelain & Gl* 274 Almost any inflammable vegetable matter will probably answer equally well 1848 I Aird *Cav Bride* II 1 Yes, well that forehead's beauty undebased Beseems the scion of a prince's side

**c.** *To do well* to act prudently or sensibly. Also *ironically*

1476 *Norw Papers* (Camden) II 19 Ye do Ryghte welle to set byt in a sureté *c* 1489 Caxton *Vitas Patrum* VII 176 Ye have well doon, sweete knyghte, for to have hir with your horse here *c* 1530 Hunnes *Rich Hyst* (1548) 535 It were well done that I should cause you be rounded v hundred knightes 1576 Turberv *Venerie* 192 The Hunts man shall do well to stop up his earthes if he can finde them 1668 Black *Spitch* 8 It shall doe well to put in some few Slices of Irysgunn Roots 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 22 Roomes in most grounds, do well to be Paved with Marble 1683 Dryden tr *Juvenal* 1 (1693) 1 Some Poets make his time. 1795 Dr For I cy *rount Hyde* (1840) 180 Who ever shall follow the same or a like track will do well to make it as good, then it needeth as well with thy servant — *Kingsw* 26 Axe lies ſ ſtig s well with her 1540 Ellyot *Ac lastus* III iii P 3, All haue made vse t go d set de the well to fare 1551 Robinson tr *Utopia* (Arb) 109 Ye do well, quod he. Thus I byd you moste hartely well to fare 1573 Bo Tusser *Husb* (1878) 48 Too lustie of courage for wheat doth not well 1607 Shaks *Cor* I iii 76 Do as thou list Thy valiantnesse was mine, thou strok'st him well 1611 Bible *Acts* xv 29 Ye shall do well yet 1810 Burns *Ch & wn* 12 Also Judah things went well. 16 Sir Wm Muir *Ps* xxxiii 7 And fret not that ill-ways go well and prosper 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* III 1638 Shirley *Sch Compl* v 1 08 Would I were well rid of you 1668 in *Yeatlis's Club Mis* I 40 I am were I am dont ill if the best view of our familie shall goe on as it was 1793 Smyth *Pract Exercises* I 320, I but i k well, and turned off the disco ree 1798 Hor *Epitaphs* 5 If Human Tr ings went Ill or Well 1842 Dickens *Barnaby Rudge* xxvi 274 The 3 selenyy and the common-sensibility sucket equally well 1899 *Black Mag* Mar 552 All went well as far as the foot of the ice fall

**b.** With verbs of going, bringing, getting, etc., and adverbial complements.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5024 Ledes wel you let iamin G dd giue your bedir well [*Lincr* wele] to wite *c* 1470 *Minor Papers* (Camden) I 110 God ȝeve yow goode nyghte and ȝynge yow welle home and in goode tyme 1586 Co Ent *Haven* 5 *Bene*, Good speede the, and send the well to returne. *Ibid* s v *Cares*, To call and praie to god to send well in our cares 1656 Blount *Glossogr* 1 *Bene*, well 1659 (1689) 415 So he came well off at the last, though he was danger only engaged onward 1708 S Sewall *Diary* 23 Dec, Gr Mother was also sent for, but could not send slewa. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VIII 184 God send him well out of the kingdom ! 1748 Smollett *A Random* xv We proceeded on our journey blessing our selves that we had c me off so well 1828 Scott *Nigel* xv, I wish you well through my i rd but it is an unequal fight 1850 L Mariott *Dawson Turner* 210 (1868) 1 Many thanks for what we left of his reputati n secured with his greed of gold in wri ing his guest well away 1860 Sala *Lady Pet-ger* I xvii 307 However, I got well out of it I dont mean New, but I got well out of his courtship 1876 H Prescott *Nat* II 194 After he had got well off from the tribes in the old neighbourhood

**c** Successfully in some material respect, profitably, advantageously.

*c* 1450 *Gest rv Rog* 245 To be had and to be hold frely 1513 Th. wele and in pease 1604 E. Grimstone] *D Acosta's Hist Indies* II ii 108 What a father doth to marie his daughter well, in the same doth a good man in marriage 1673 Janeway *Heir en ugh n Earth* (1847) 9 C nsider before you make light of this busine s and know when y u are well offered 1709 J Logan *Let* 1 mo 1 I mu w ong d the tender Soul shall m ve, And A th ny will I se the World for Love 1753 4 Richardson *Grandison* II xxx 256 Will four thousand pounds le well laid out in a quarter partnership? 1863 W C Bal win *Afr Hunting* vii 231, I sold all my oxen well 11 Bloemf ntein 1864 Trollope *Small Ho Allington* xxvi, Annie has d ne very well for her mother and myself in my day. 'Oh, if y u'll d ing well for your girls, I don't' 1865 Mrs Gaskell *Wives & Daus* xxxii, Mamma always says y u have done very well for yourself [in marriage].

**d.** *spec* Profitably for the seller or buyer, at a high or low price respectively *Obs*

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxiii (*Margaret*) 6 And for þese prophetis thre we se þat [it a pearl] oft wele bouht & selde 1576 [see Well bought] 1599 Hakluyt *Voy* II i 59 They are exceeding fat [geese] & wel sold [L. *optime fere*]

**7.** a. In a state of plenty or comfort. See also LIVE v.¹ 4 d.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric's Colloq.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 9 Se mæzon ...butan minon cræfte ilf aðreogan, ac ne lancze ne to wel [L. *vehementer*]. 1300-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 106 Jeanne ferile þe worlde as a feld þat ful were of beestes, Whan euerì lud liche wel lyuende upon erþe. 1874 DASENT *Tales fr. Fjeld* 302 He would be able to live well and good all his days.

b. Satisfactorily or excellently in respect of health or recovery from illness. Usually with *do*.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 251 A brother of his askid hym how he did, and he said, wele. *a* 1458 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 29, I trust to God þat he sal doo rycht wele, and so doth þe fesechane. 1530 PALSGR. 524/1, I do well: *ie me porte bien.* 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iv. 40 How doth the Prince? *Brit. Mus. Add. MS.* 34181, f. 1 Sweet Prince, iii. 1. 96 How fares our Noble Brother? *Yorke.* Well, my deare Lord. 1611 BIBLE *John* xi. 12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleepe, he shall doe well. 1721-2 SWIFT *Pres. to Sheffs* 19 Mar., Mrs. Percival's youngest daughter has got the small-pox, but will do well. 1841 H. GREVILLE *Diary* (ser. 1, 1885) 152 A fine child, and the Queen does well. 1863 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 25 Bowditch is wounded through the arm; C. through both shoulders...Both doing well.

**8.** With good reason; naturally; as a natural result or consequence.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (Schipper) 110 Cwæð he: Wel þæt awa mæge, þeah he engelisce ansyne habbað. *c* 1205 LAY. 283 Wel ich hit wat, wenden he wule ich hit were. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 26 Slȝ lordis and men of grete statis...ben so muche blindden to destruie it, & nouwe welle done it is dede. *c* 1386 CHAUC. *Wife of Bath's T.* 1016 Wyf, wel it calle may the deuele, or elles the ye of day. 1443 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xiv. Wist thou thy payne to cum... For sorow and drede wele mycht thou wepe and waile. 1485 CAXTON *Malory's Arthur* Pref. 2 In hym...myght wel be areted grete folye and blyndenesse. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 270 Kude is thy wede,...Wele aucht thou be afrett of the licht. 1578 N. N. tr. *Conq. Ilt. Occas to Abridgyng.* ...flot he wele had common 20.0 leagues by Sea, nought well goe 70 leagues by lande. 1678 R. R. *Let. Pep. Friends* 3 Well may our Irish Friendsury Oh-Neal (the Hone[?] 1753-4 RICHARD-SON *Grandison* II. x. 70 What! are you confounded?—Well you may, if you cannot answer me as I wish I. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* v. 319 Now Priam and his sons may well exult. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xlix, Ye could hardly well be said to breakfast this morning. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 368 The government...is not to enforce a regulation of which the legality might well be questioned. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 Another might well have said of him what he...said of his famous contemporary. 1901 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, 'How do you get it all up to Abergavenny?' 'Ah, you may well ask.'

**b.** In clauses introduced by *and* or *as*.

*a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 633 The childiren awoke bo anon...Sore bi beob offerd and wel mate. 1563-83 FOXE *A. & M. Apr.* 1921 With thys vnseamely outrage the King was much displeased (as he myght full well). 1569 BULL. CROMWELL *Let.* 27 Dec. in *Cor. Eric.* Which I make well bold, my writing is slightest: as well it may. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 785 Back to the This ket slunk The guiltie Serpent, and well might. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 May (1850) II. 11 Dissimulation...gave him brage (as well it might) to every good Protestant. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 213 The dear creature.. took pride, as well she might, in her hair. 1852 GLADSTONE *Gleanz.* (1879) IV. 81 The capital was in amazement at the boldness of the Judges; and well it might. 1877 MARK TWAIN *Exp'Operts* 37 As the high houses...were full, windows, roof, and all! And well they might be.

**c.** In concessive sense: Indeed, certainly. *† How well* (after F. *combien que*), although.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 116 Alas sir, sayd the lady...I must nedes leue you, but wel wold, said Lyonel, I were more. 1475 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 9/1 I haue not intencion for to obeye his conandement how well that he is my fader. 1494 — *Fayttes of A.* III. 5 How well that he lyon be the strengest beste, yet somtyme a lityl bride eteth hym. *Ibid.* II. iv. 47 How well he was kynge by right. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicolay's Navig.* I. xxv. 43 Though labour & til the ground, how wel there groweth no corne... But well there groweth certaine other graine and hearbes of small estimation. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 9 Who...may well be sayd a writter, but not a Poet. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 211 These thoughts may startle well, but not astound The vertuous mind.

**9.** Without difficulty, hesitance; rendily, easily.

*c* 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* vii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 346 Hy mihton þa wel habban wif on þam dagum. 1154 *O. N. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Wel þu myhtes faren al dæis fare, & nidlest þu neure findan ane tune sittende. *c* 1200 *Prayer to Virgin* 19 in *O. E. Misc.* 196 Helpe þruh þin milde mod for wel þu mist (*rime* litle). 13.. *Cursor M.* 20018 (Edin.) Alle þa leuedis þare were, Ful wel þai mistin hir forberne. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 36 Þat lord of heuyn not Edward ded Auaintese him als he wele may. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) 124 Þai may wele hafe swilk clathes, for þai er of lesse pryis þare þan wollen clathes er here. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxix, For he that schope hafde nouse and none, Fulle wele may pay for alle! *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 19759 (Laud) Thow maiste wele se now our wone Yefris haue we to the non. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* i. xiii. 41 Who that myght haue the parfayt seyence therof, he myght wel knowe how the world was compassed. 1551 R. ROBYNSON *More's Utopia* (1895) 53 All their houshulde stuffe, whiche is verye lyttle worth, though it myght well abyde the sale. 1803 *Mod. Trnl. X.* 303 With respect to this query,...I cannot so well answer. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 16 Nor were the refugees such as a country can well spare. 1848 [C. C. LAWES] tr. *Beccelly's Pol. Econ. Athens* I. 318 These ambassadors remained absent three months, although they might have equally well returned at the end of one.

**b.** Used to denote the possibility or likelihood of an occurrence or fact.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1788 So may the wynde weile turne, I quytte hym or ewyne. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* iii. 111, Ile that is...atte vppersest of the whele of fortune, may wel falle doune. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 373 This night hand well nought have ben her defense. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orchard & Gard.* (1623) 7 The chilling cold may well some little time stay, or hinder the proud course of the sap. 1620 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* xi. I j, Was not this my Word,...When this mis-hap mought well haue bin escaped? 1682 MONOR *Mech. Exerc.* x. 148 Though no size for the height of the Puppets can be well asserted. 1709 BERKELEY *Ext. Vision* § 144 A little consideration will shew us how this may be. 1757-8 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xii. 66 That a learned man and a linguist may very well be two persons. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 188 This was as strong a case as could well come before the Court. 1874 SCHUYLER *Lect. Text N. T.* 5 No transcript...can well be found which does not differ from its prototype in some small points. 1887 L. CARROLL *Game of Logic* i. 10, I grant you they couldn't well have fewer. *Ibid.* 35 Your Premisses...are as fallacious as they can well be!

**c.** In negative or comparative clauses.

1293 SELD. *Soc. Court Leet* I. 25 If I can not write tell you what was the occasyon. 1556 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 31 b, The thinge seemed graver vnto him then that he mighte well speake of it. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *4 Kings* iv. 13 Comm. There was no exceding much, that they wel could not, or did not weigh it. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 173 The Base stirketh more Ale, than it can well strike againe. 1691 *Taunton's Tent. in Sec. Lett. Eccl. Mem.* I. (1694) 135 The Wind would not well suffer them to go to the Northward. 1696 [AYLIFFE] *Parerg.* I. ii. 10 Hopkins *Matrimonial Laws*, fol. 8 Answer...I could not be well written before the Year 868. 1721 SWIFT *Prof. to Stella* 27 Apr., I see not how they can well want him,...and he would make a famous Secretary. 1727 *Gentl. Journ.* II. 14 (*Passport, Paris*), By the time La Fleur had well told me, the master of the hotel came...to tell me the same thing. 1813 PERCIVAL *Ir. Ch. Catech.* v. vii. 56 How Vivian could well finish his sentence. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 192 He can praise a sharp remark before it is well out of another's mouth. 1898 'MICKEHAM' *Rodent's Corner* xiii. 135 Appearing to know what that look of evil than she well could.

**+d.** At least, assuredly. *Obs.*

1885 SCOTT *Retrothed* xxi, Surely, if I am willing to confer such confidence, it is well thy part to answer it.

**10.** To a great degree; much. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17000 Penne coom a mon...þat semed wel to haue ben eremyte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 569 Wel semed eche of hem a fulle hurteyn. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Lady* 137 That yt appere wel that she is my mother. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. viii. 192 Thou semest wel to be a good knyght.

**b.** With acute reasoning; shrewdly.

*c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 25 When thei herde the e-words, [they] supposed wele what he ment. 1593 BERKNER *Pretiss.* I. xxiv. 116 They supposed well before that the King of Englande would come. 1688 CHARLETON *Chorea Gigantum* 1 Which well pondered by the Judicious, will...be found probable. *c* 1690 *Rem. Rose* 1911 But the opponent halpe me wele. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiii. 270 Scheldes & hawberks al to-broke, Ys wel knowe, þat þey were neuer seen before. 1566 (1856) III. 262 The printer gets on well with my History.

**12.** In a manner, or to an extent, approaching thoroughness or completeness.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 292 Xecnus [þa wyrta] wel. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12906 Þatt wollde wel þe Laferrd Crist Wel lerenn hiss þeowwess. 1340 *Ayenb.* 222 Þe þridde is þet he wepmen weren iwexan, þa wimmen wel ibowene. *c* 1300 *E. E. Poems* (1862) 153 His ners is ful wel iwrost. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 242 Now I find þo here, wele set is my translate. *c* 1400 *Morte Arthure* 1911 Þe Inglis men war armed wele Both in yren and in stele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T. Prol.* 99 The chambres and the stables weren wyde And wel we weren eke bistd. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9900 (Trin.) A deep dicke is þere aboute wel wrouȝte wiþouten doute. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iii. 150 Ȝee tiel he wel acquaintid and wel schamfast and wel schamid. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 112 Is nayne in warld, at scaithis ma do nar, Than weile trastyt in lorne familiar. 1553 ASCHAM *Rspt. Germany* 3 Where the Saxons be wel learned, the sickenes would haue proued also to vs...very contagious. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 When the number of Hyschoppes was wel increased, they began to be Counsell. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Navig.* I. xxiii. 108 A Leopardes skynne well spotted. *Ibid.*, The poleaxe at the point being well steeled. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. 335 Maides well summer'd and hot woed. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iii. 57 Plaine as Harbloome-wyde. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Crabtree Let.* 46, I am neither well litter'd, nor well provender'd... nor well rubb'd, nor well curried, nor well used any thing'd. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 271 Some say the Swoade is well beaten by the Dane and Dutch. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 190 Well fraught with numbers is the rhyming trade. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 255 Wood-ashes well sifted. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Medl. Commun.* I. 286 Well-seasoned. 1824 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 497 Pots...either new or well cleaned in the inside. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xxvii, She had been drawn on into wider schemes, and could not retire until these...were well started.

**d.** With past. pples. followed by prepositions or adverbs.

1538 RICHYE *Diet.* *Addi., Artitus*, well instructed in sciences. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. (1685) 212 The kind by that means well-prepared for the conquering Locusts. 1755 J. SHERBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 178 Surgeon Macpherson being well learnt in northern knowledge. 1865 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. iii. 198 He had not been kept well imbued with the policy which his Government was pursuing. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/1, I conceived that his system was not well-bottomed on facts.

**e.** With adjs. in *-ed* (cf. 32).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e j b, An hert beeded weele.

**14.** Clearly, definitely, without any doubt or uncertainty.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 95 Wel wostu þat hi doþ þar ynne. 1298 HEN. III *Proclam.* 18 Oct. in Pat. Wel we þat we ne let we willen [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Beket* 219 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 110 For we it mowen wel i-wite, þat...it is godes sonde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1628 Þidiger Bigiþ Mid him miȝt wel witen hi mi play þat leb wile luuen mine sway. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 866, I sagh wel bat i misfard. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 91 Men seþ wel þat he see sæep & stinteþ. *a* 1393 CHAUC. *Rom. Rose* 1355 There were, and that wole I full well, Of pome garnettys a full gret dell. *c* 1386 — *Merch. T.* Epil. 7 And from a sooth euere wol they weyue; By this Marchaunten sate it preuyed well which was Petrius. 1483 CAXTON *Golden*

(*b*) *c* 1000 ORMIN 19300 Þiss birþ þe full well trowwenn. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 41 Gas þai war and wele þai thoght On þe Erle Moree and eþer mai. 1393 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 149 He thocht weile...That he suld stekly fynd the gaist[e]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1507 That may I noght do, Bileves wele, for me bus go. *c* 1450 *Chron. Aisigne* 67 þe kynge... wente wele it were bothe alle þat ilke seyde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 655 Thei bothe fill to the erthe as he that trusted wele vpon his felowes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxxi. 34 *Thomas.* Sir, What so euer ye bid vs do We assent vs well ther to. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 22 In trowthe I hadde wil hopide that your horsis shulde a ben here as his night.

(*c*) 1342 DIDALL *Erasmus. Apoph.* 223 b, Many more then one to had well deserued to be whipped. *a* 1669 [see DENHAM v. 3]. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* Ep. Ded., You were then pleas'd to express an high esteem for the Author, as he very well deserves it.

**b.** with verbs of pleasing (*† like, pay*), liking, or loving.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 639 Dum wile þa word wel licoden. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 918 Þam þe him on mode sy gemynd wel gecweden. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 34 Wel mæȝ *vel* wel licas [L. *sufficit*] ðæm dæȝ wærnisse his yfel. 1297 *Bickl. Hom.* 89 Pis is min se leofa sunu, on þaem me wel þelicode. 1340-70 *Morte Arth.* 230 Here ne es no tarieinge, ne gape,...That he ne myghte be wele payede of thees pryce metes! 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 39 Your plainnesse and your shortnesse please me well. 1733-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. ii. 410 Sir Hargrave did not seem so well pleased.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 548 Wit bestes doumb man has his fele, O þinge man liks, if he wele it se. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 54 Sythen seche to be courte..., And þou shalt lyke fulle wele yf þou may lyfe after. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxx. 607 Kynge Ban ...be-hilde the mayden tenderlyche, and liked hir fulle companye. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 2 He trusted I shuld lyke it right wele. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 419 Perhaps while some of us are for Matrimony, others for Celibat, God likes well of us All. 1847 RIDDELL *Cottagers Glendale* III. xxv, Our Mary liket weel to stray Where clear the burn was rowin'.

(*c*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11310 O pouert na dedeigne had he bat bidles vs luue ouer pouerte. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 36 In England neuer before was kyng fulled so wele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T. Prol.* 131 Of fissh and flesh, and þat þe moost deyntous, and eek lekes. *c* 1418 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 3892 Thei loue as wel as doth sustir & brothir. *c* 1450 *Castle Persev. of Sp.* 1, 3 Þe fadir is wel plesyd wyth me. Ihesu! þe Greke letteris and louel wel þe Latyn. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. V*, IV. vii. 139 Let them kisse one another: For they loue well When they were alike. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* II. ii, It is a spot connected with the legendary lore which I love so well.

**c.** Placed before past pples. to denote a high degree of the state, etc., described. *† Also* OCCAS. following the pple.

*c* 1205 LAY. 340 Þa wepmen weren iwexan, þa wimmen wel ibowene. *c* 1300 *E. E. Poems* (1862) 153 His ners is ful wel iwrost. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 242 Now I find þo here, wele set is my translate. *c* 1400 *Morte Arthure* 1911 Þe Inglis men war armed wele Both in yren and in stele. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T. Prol.* 99 The chambres and the stables weren wyde And wel we weren eke bistd. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9900 (Trin.) A deep dicke is þere aboute wel wrouȝte wiþouten doute. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iii. 150 Ȝee tiel he wel acquaintid and wel schamfast and wel schamid. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 112 Is nayne in warld, at scaithis ma do nar, Than weile trastyt in lorne familiar. 1553 ASCHAM *Rspt. Germany* 3 Where the Saxons be wel learned, the sickenes would haue proued also to vs...very contagious. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 When the number of Hyschoppes was wel increased, they began to be Counsell. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Navig.* I. xxiii. 108 A Leopardes skynne well spotted. *Ibid.*, The poleaxe at the point being well steeled. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. 335 Maides well summer'd and hot woed. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iii. 57 Plaine as Harbloome-wyde. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Crabtree Let.* 46, I am neither well litter'd, nor well provender'd... nor well rubb'd, nor well curried, nor well used any thing'd. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 271 Some say the Swoade is well beaten by the Dane and Dutch. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 190 Well fraught with numbers is the rhyming trade. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 255 Wood-ashes well sifted. 1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Medl. Commun.* I. 286 Well-seasoned. 1824 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 497 Pots...either new or well cleaned in the inside. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xxvii, She had been drawn on into wider schemes, and could not retire until these...were well started.

**d.** With past. pples. followed by prepositions or adverbs.

1538 RICHYE *Diet.* *Addi., Artitus*, well instructed in sciences. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. (1685) 212 The kind by that means well-prepared for the conquering Locusts. 1755 J. SHERBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 178 Surgeon Macpherson being well learnt in northern knowledge. 1865 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. iii. 198 He had not been kept well imbued with the policy which his Government was pursuing. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/1, I conceived that his system was not well-bottomed on facts.

**e.** With adjs. in *-ed* (cf. 32).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e j b, An hert beeded weele.

**14.** Clearly, definitely, without any doubt or uncertainty.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 95 Wel wostu þat hi doþ þar ynne. 1298 HEN. III *Proclam.* 18 Oct. in Pat. Wel we þat we ne let we willen [etc.]. *c* 1300 *Beket* 219 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 110 For we it mowen wel i-wite, þat...it is godes sonde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1628 Þidiger Bigiþ Mid him miȝt wel witen hi mi play þat leb wile luuen mine sway. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 866, I sagh wel bat i misfard. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 91 Men seþ wel þat he see sæep & stinteþ. *a* 1393 CHAUC. *Rom. Rose* 1355 There were, and that wole I full well, Of pome garnettys a full gret dell. *c* 1386 — *Merch. T.* Epil. 7 And from a sooth euere wol they weyue; By this Marchaunten sate it preuyed well which was Petrius. 1483 CAXTON *Golden*

*Leg.* 489 t. The kyng theodoryk that wel wyste of it commaund-ed (etc.). *c* 1483 Skelton *Death Edw. IV*, 37. I se wyll, they leve that dolde my seris. 1526 Tindale *John* iv. 26, I wot well Messias shall come. 1561 Rich *Farrem. Hibbl. Prof. Exp.* Ded. a ij. Wisdome now hath warned me, that I well knowe Cheese from Chalke. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. xix. 29 b. Which he well perceiued, and smiling, tolde mee that he saw wel that I dissembled. 1604 Br. Montagu *Immocl. Addr.* 95 As, his most ancient Maiestie can well remember. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* II. 13. The number of my enemies is great, I see it well. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 926 Well thou knowst I stood Thy fiercest. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 78 P 9 We well know, Sir, you want no Motives to do Justice. 1741–2 Gay *Aprylthron* 60, I well remember too (for I was present). 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist. vi.* xxiv. 150 Nor does it well appear that their kings did afterwards introduce any other laws. 1839 Wakefield *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 158 All is done by an impulsion which one does not well understand. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 94 He could well remember the political contests of the reign of James the First. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 544/1 The parties know perfectly well beforehand what are the points in dispute.

**b.** Intimately, familiarly; closely, in detail.

(*a*) *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 229 Mi broþer wele it [a ring] knewe, Mi fader saf it me. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 253 Peter he apostel, wel hym knewe, for *Crist* seyde hym so. 1513 Wele his cosyn he knew, & kaght hym in armys. *c* 1520 *Awow. Arth.* xxx, The kinge his bugulle con blaw, His knyȝte couthe hitte wele inowe. 1570–89 Maldon *Aristot.* vi. iii. 186 We here knowe the wel that haue arte syre Launcelot du laake. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxix. 5 We knowe him well. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 153 You know me well. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 449 The Shepherd knowe it well; and calls by Name Hippomanes. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 58 P 2 He being well known to us all. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* (1875) 208 Those who think he will ever colonize know him well.

(*b*) *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 44 He couth.. wele as Aristotill he artis all seuyn. 1440 *Promp. Parvul.* 522/1 *Wele*, or well Aryystotle.. well kowth the lawes. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3693 Be cause ye knowe so wyll this contre. 1620 *tr. H. Reinolm to Farnaccius* Prol. 48 Whereof you know the subiect well, you may returne home as wise as you came. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* vii, He thought himself happy in having found a man who knew the world so well. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, I can well of woodcraft.

**16.** In a skilful or expert manner.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxiii. 3 Wel singaþ [L. *bene psallite*] in wynsumnisse. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 668 Sum mæȝ fing-rum wel, heorpan stirgan. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Homil.* I. 122 Se þe wel him na Mon alsa wel cleonen ne alsa riðne. *c* 1205 Lay. 41 A Frenchis clerc, Wace wes hoten, þe wel couþe writen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3166 Ac he ne couþe nouȝt so wel, þat he me leuede him saste. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 122 Ful wel she soong the service dyuyne. *Ibid.* 384 He koude.. Maken Mortreux and wel endite a play. 1509 Barclay *Ecclus* lii. 2368 This Tullai koude forge wel. 1529 More *Dialogue Heresyes* Wks. 208/2 And men mutter amonge them selfe, that yf loke was not only faithles, but also very wel translated. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron. Edw. VIII* 73 The same gate or tower..well and warly was maile ouer the gate loups. 1590 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. and Masque, How well Diana can distinguish! 1606 *c. Stapleton of N.* iv. I, Well play'd, my Poet. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. iv. iv. 3 A Man..able to discourse wel. 1706 tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 366 He was a universal Painter: he perform'd well alike in all kinds, Landskip only excepted. 1741 Cyrus Pommet in *Cives Hartford's Corr.* (1805) II. 257 Lord Stratford..looks extremely young, but talks very well. 1803 Scott *Cadyow Castle* xvii, Aim'd well, the Chieftain's lance has flown. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. 8 A great work is only done when the painter..determines to paint it as well as he can. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 381 Every one of these poets has said many things well and many things the reverse of well.

**b.** In a sufficient or satisfactory manner.

**The exact sense varies in different contexts.**

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1541 He serueđe his fader wel Wiđ wines drinc and seles mel. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 50 God may richt well our werkis mend. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 18 He..kepte alwey so wel roial estat, That ther was nowher swich another man. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 2 Alle weldynge god. Wele he wereth his wrok with his owne bonde. 1522 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 96 Mar., The quickseats..do not grow so well as those famous ones on the ditch. 1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. ii. 368/2 The machine..could not cut laid corn well. 1895 *Poultry Chron.* II. 323 She appears moping, but eats very well. 1903 *Weekly Notes* 85/2 The existing practice has worked well, and..ought to be maintained. 1908 Miss E. Fowler *Heron Dyne & Anchorine* 40 Very fine lrishes..grow well in that garden.

**c.** With good appearance or effect; elegantly.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 196 After he Inglis kynges he says þer þai left, In meir lle wele he dight. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 339 This markis..his sette Upon an hors, sonw-whyt, and wel amblynge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 44 Thider come to hym a comely wele arayed. *c* 1530 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 135 Yt wold garny che wyll thy face. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 212 P 4 A Woman must think well to look well. 1778 D. Jarrold *Lett.* 14 Upon the whole, it is a neat well laid out town. 1779 *Mirror* No. 11 That [science] of the serjeant, as it teaches a man to stand well on his legs. 1884 F. Vayes *Recoll.* I. 149 The gardens were large and well laid out. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms!* vi, I was a big, strong fellow, carrying my six feet well.

**IV.** As an intensive with adjectives, numerals, adverbs, etc.

**16.** With adjectives. Formerly in common use, the sense varying from 'fully, completely' to 'fairly, considerably, rather'. Now *rare* exc. as in b.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxv, Seo leo, þeah hio wel tam se.. heo forgit sona hire niwan timan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. ii. 258 Wæron her strongo cynigeas and wel cristene. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Þa wæs he þær dæzas wel manige. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 180 Plsan..gesodenn..on wine wel scearpum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Ah leofemen godalmihtin hauеđ iceawed us wel muchele grace. *c* 1205 Lay. 29694 We habb-ð wiȝ him iuolsten wel feole siðen. *c* 1200 *Ruskiany* 110 His mub is wel unkuð wiȝ pater noster and crede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 Engelond his a wel god lond. *Ibid.* 7693 Þou out al engelond he hulst wel god yes. *c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* I. 24 Be him wel siker, her-to he schel. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 4 In þat forest.. per wond a wel old cherl. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 44 In a wel perilous place þat Purgatorie hatte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 33 I haue peynt a wel faire man. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) lx. 35 I will tell zow more þinwel wel wonder þinges. 1552 *Gudstow Reg.* 160 Hit shold be wele lawfull to the same Abbesse. 1584 Cogan *Fables of Avian* ii. Wel hyghe fro the ground. *a* 1593 Bernard Dwn lii. 176 He thought hymselfe ryght wel happy. 1597 Harrison *England* iv. ii. 62/1 *In Hollinshed*, The Ogur or Gur.. is a welfaire streame. 1598 Lyte *Dodoens* iv. xxxi. 489 A branche of leaues, very well like to the leaues of the Lenill. 1599 Sanderson *Sylvester's Retr. v.* iv, Tis well brim full. Euen I haue glut of blood. 1848 Cage *West Ind.* 180 They have enough and more then is well suitable to their vow of poverty. 1664 H. More *Apol*, vi. in *Myst. Iniq.* 520 When he was once well worn in his Dignity. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 151 Nor well arm'd, nor well they were. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Painting*, To Paint on a Wall: when well dry, they give it two or three Washes of boiling Oil. 1822 *Scrretly's Prof. Wks. Prob.* (1849) 448 We..made her well fast for another night's lodgings.

**b.** In modern use esp. in *well able, aware, worth, worthy.*

*c* 1400 *Sir Amadace* xxxi, Ze mone haue maystirs ouyr-wharre, Pe wele worthe to be sene. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 1. 2 Amen, if you loue her, for the Ladie is verie well worthie. 1621 Burton *Anat.* xii. 30 Let vs goe vp at once into Paradise, we are well able to compasse it. 1812 R. Ch. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 64 Though it be a seemely and large tree, and well worth the hauing, yet [etc.]. 1897 Thackeray *Virginians* (1911) 1. 1 Himself was well up in happer Thione. 1911 Strele *Spect.* No. 78 P 9 You are well able to settle this affair. 1780 Cowe *Rust. Dis.* en. 167 He was well worthy to be remembered. 1791 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 164 Every day produces letters as well worth attention as most of Cowper's. 1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph. Knts.* I. iii, It was well aware that these intrigues were carried on. 1888 *Law Times* LXXXV. 111. 250/2 She thought the property was well worth that amount.

**+17.** With numerals, or terms of measurement, denoting fulness of the number, distance, etc. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* (Jul.) xv. 37 Se Sarazena Ælexander þurhwunode wel twa zear mid him. *c* 1000 *On Nvtu T.* (Grein) 13 For þon þe ic zesett hæbbe..wel feowertig lar-spella on Engliscum gereorde. *c* 1290 *St. Andrew* 230 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 326/2 Þe ȝeres þat þis wonder þaiȝ..remained wel a dai ȝware ȝe kou bicome. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1747 He tok xone knihtes ten, And wel xinti oþer men. *a* 1350 Minot *Poems* vi. 14 Þe kinges sister was þam nie, Wele a þousand fra. *c* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 521 Seraphe takes of heore men wel a two hundred. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxii. 196 Wel a .iiij. quarteres of a furlong ore more. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 208/2 Wel a þousand men. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 456 He was there well three owres seechyng yf he cowde fynde hym. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 31 *Scheme of Aymon* I. 23 They were well an hondred men or more. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. xvi. 17 There was dead in the place, well to reken, fyue hondred. 1528 *Pl. Crede* (Skeat) 1 *Antichristes Conq. Ir. Ind.* I. iii. 8 A great Harbour, which reacheth into the Lande sixe leagues, and at the entering it containeth well as much more.

**18.** †**a.** With adverbs. (Cf. 16.) *Obs.*

See also Well-a-pine, -most, -near, -nigh, and Whither adv.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 8 Wel late ich habbe me bi-þoht: þah ich ne cume wel sone. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 56 For þine wile lete Wel ofte ich my song bilete. *c* 1290 Lay. 25328 Folk þar com wel sone to þare both of Rome. 13.. *Gest Wartre.* (1891) 446 Wel wele y knowe.. Herhaud, so god me rede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4089, I hope in hert it schal wel late Bi-falle. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 67 The moste myl[s]heef on molde is mounteyng wel laste. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 9. I wot wel ye han it herd ful ofte, And wel the bokys maketh me to gon. *c* 1400 *Soudone Bab.* 2513 Down to the erthe wele lowe thay loute. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secretorum* (E.E.T.S.) 11 Wel late he schal be ware. 1563 Winsh tr. *Vincent. Lirin*, ix. Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 27 The writtingis of sum auld auncient man wel dirkliе setfurth.

**b.** With advs. and preps. of place or direction, in later use fixed, in figurative phrases.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1309 Til ensample wele is sefoth stadd, Hir child in wamb [began] be gladd. *c* 1330 *Sir Tristrem* 22 His name, it sprong wel wide. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 71 Þe lond of Irlond is wel wide fro Spayne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 31 Her bookis swire wel wide. 1563 Winsh tr. *Vincent. Lirin*, ix. Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 27 The writtingis of sum auld auncient man wel dirklie

spirited as well as excellent scholar 1821 CRAIG *Lect Drawing* etc VII 404 The back-ground as well as other parts is dotted or stippled 1834 MRS JAMESON *Comm pl Bk* (1897) 38 How are different sorts of strength as well as different degrees 1856 *Law Times' Rep* LXXIII. 615/1 A highway for carriages as well as for foot passengers.

**21. As well as.** Also, in addition; in the same way.

1303 R BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 536 As she dyde, he dyde ye dede; Rygt as she dede, he dede as wel 1549 *Compl Scot* Epist 1 As well as he bringis forht bonium fruite of honour etc 1631 DONNE *Paradox* etc (1652) 60 They should love their brothers as well 1669–70 MARVELL *Corr* Wks (Grosart) II 302 The next news will be, that they [the Lords] have as well compounded with their sins 1675 *Economist* 23 Jan 93/1 But the state of the French Exchange is such that gold is taken from London as well 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xxvii. Because she was a dressmaker, and lived at Stepney, he would be a workman and live there as well.

**b.** To the same extent.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* II xv 199 Wherfore as weel or miche rather Cristen men ouzten be ware forto entermete with like symples *Ibid* II xviii 260 Wherfore as weel and as allowable I may sese this speche

**c.** With *may, might, had,* etc.; implying the equivalence or equal result of one action in comparison with another.

*c* 1440 *York Myst* XXIX 249 Sir, we myght als wele take tulle a stone tonne! 1484 CAXTON *Reynard the Fox* 71 *and xii* 87, I might as well have thrown my money down the river 1852 SHIRLEY *Brothers* IV. v, He might as well have murdered me, for I shall have no heart to live. 1891 F WALKER tr *Epictetus' Man* xxvii As well you might Wish Vice were Virtue, wish that Black were White 1730 *Lett to Sir W. Strickland &c to Lord Trade* 23 Dyers do not wholly of the Lightermen, tho' they might as well buy of the Masters 1768 STERNE *Sent Journ, Le Patissier.* As I am at Versailles, thought I, I might as well take a view of the town 1800 WORDSW *Hart-Leap Well* II 18, You might as well Hunt half a day for a forgotten dream 1820 BYRON *Mar Fal* IV. II, It had been As well had there been time to have got together. I am quite as well fee'd more than retainers—but it is too late 1870 J K J ROGERS *Hist. Gleam.* Ser II 151 He thought he might as well strive to go minus his own ends. 1894 MRS HEALDON *Cor-ors of Lot* XXXVIII. You really may as well let me have a little food

**23 a.** With qualifying adverb prefixed, as *too well, pretty well.*

Also freq with *to, very, full* (see FULL *adv* 1 c), *right* (see RIGHT *adv* 9a).

(*a*) *c* 888 ÆLFRED *B ethius* VII § 3 Þ 20 Þam þæt he ðonne wouldæstða to wel ne tylste. 971 *Blickl Hom* 183 Ic lære þæt men ofte[ngen] wæron to wel in trawum 1604 SHAKS *Oth* V II 344 Then must you speake Of one that lou'd not wisely, but too well 1753 4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II IX 59 Dine [Miss] Jones to-day as well pacify him 1818 *Blackw Mag* II 417 The pallium had then pretty well its modern shape (*b*) 1509 BARCLAY *Ecl Cl Lawes* II, The Dutch Vesy I swallowe I pretty well 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I 214 Give the Horse pretty well of my Cordial 1747 *Ibid* 215 He has pretty well of Flesh upon his Back 1753 4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II VII 40 Their father by that time, had pretty well got over his grief 1829 KNOWLES *Wetter Hall* II He had his heart pretty well hardened by long baneful use 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* XXVIII, They had got by this time pretty well all they cou ured for. 1888 J S WINTER *Cavalry Child's* xi, Lavie kept her composure pretty well 1902 J K MANN *Hist Popes* I I 417 The pallium had then pretty well its modern shape (*c*) 1909 BIRTHS *Eccl Reform* 168 We have had a godly good deal to mean, and it serves us jolly well right

**b** *Well enough* sufficiently well, adequately.

In the 16th cent occas usually written as one word.

1390 GOWER *Conf* II 299 And Jhonne him thoghte wel ynouh. It was fantosme *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 215 When she saw his manner of be knyghtis, she knew hym well enough to be hur *Ibid* 401 Whan he had lad hur þat gown well enogh 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI 1 837 And by cause of hyr fayre speche Syr Mordred trusted hyr wel ynough. 1579 J STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D 3, Which nought wel ynough be the cause why the Pope decked him with hys title of most christian king 1585 PARSONS *Chr Exerc. Pref* 4 The vulgar translatio is reioyned weimough 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxi (1592) 322 But the Rabbines very wellynough that the miracles of Iesus could not be denied 1832 SHIRLEY *Sch Compl* V 168 He gaue me two or three licks which I deserued well enough 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod to Stella* 11 Jan, The scheme would have done well enough in good hands 1753 4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I XVII 129 They liked not the Man, but he seemed to be in well enough to comply with his request.

**VI 23.** Employed without construction to introduce a remark or statement, sometimes implying that the speaker or writer accepts a situation, etc, already expressed or indicated, or desires to qualify this in some way, but frequently used merely as a preliminary or resumptive word.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* xl § 4 Wella, wisan men, wel, gað ealle on þone wæg [etc] *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* 285 Wel, broþer Ne non ne may iceasted be Ar he his loren of moder. [1382 WYCLIF *Isa* xliv 16 He is chaunid, and seide, Vah, or wel I am hat 1388 — *Luke* XXVI. 2 Wel the yuel of puplis ben brokun] *c* 1440 T LAN *Assembly of Gods* 505 Well, seyde Pryde, I set be at ese ben, Wyth my breny[n]g chere I shall hym confound *c* 1450 *Crt Myst, Counc Trent* 76 Wel seyn 3e all so I xal correcte hym for his trespas 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. XII. 31 b, Well quod I yet wold I wit one thyng more 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 320 Wel, like to this geare be tyme 1581 A HART *Loath* 23 Wel, then to please, I wil [go] to loue 1586 [T LYTE] *Perfect w Holsbed* Bij, Squirrilus were a better word well, let me alone to squirrell them 1610 SHAKS *Temp* II II 47 This is a very scurvy tune to sing at a mans funerall well, here's my comfort *Drunkes* 1630 H BELL *Luther's Colloq Mensalia* 293 They take from us what wee have. Well! they will repent it. 1631 T *Fruitsame's Observ Journ Naples* 207 Well, (said he) I shall make a shift to eat them with my Fingers 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl to Stella* 3 Nov Well, but as I was saying, what care I for your Mayor? 1766 GOLDSM *Vicar* XII, Well, my boy, what have you brought us from the fair? 1778 WARNER in *Jrnls Settlem & Contemp* (1844) IV 261 He asked, 'Well, and how is George?' 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* XVII 252 'I understood that Mr. Maitland' was one of your most particular friends' 'Well, and what of that?' 1863 MRS CARLYLE *Lett* III 170 Well, I returned from that visit quite set up 1894 TREE *Thirteen Ser* 181 As work for art—well, they were rather too highly coloured for works of art

**b.** 3. An instance of this use of the word.

1866 LOWELL *Biglow P* Ser. II. Introd (1902) 282 A friend told me that he once heard five 'wells' precede the answer to an inquiry 1885 *Proc. Amer Soc Psych Research* I. 312 (Cent) The 'wells' and 'ahs,' 'don't you know's' and other stop-gap interjections.

**24.** *Well, well,* denoting surprise, resignation, or acquiescence.

[1388 WYCLIF *Pr* XXXIV 27 Þei seiden, Wel, wel, ouere ben han sein. *c* 1440 *Pryvate* (1855) 66 *Pr* 2 xl. 13] Here hee her[e] a[fo]rmen[t]yd, þi[t] seiden to hym, 'wel! wel!' 1548 HENRYSON *Tom & C Mouse* 8, 'Well, well, sister,' quod the rurale mous [etc] 1596 J HEYWOOD *Love* (1867) 70 Well, well, I see many wenes many buckets. 1672 COTTON *Burlesque* 183 *Apol.* Well I well! but here must take heed How he antiquates my Maiden head 1718 STEELE *Lover* No 5 Well, well, you may banter as long as you please. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M* xiii, But well, well—it will last my time 1847 HELPS *Friends in C* I vii 137 Well, well we will have nothing but pleasure in the first stage of civilisation 1883 D C MURRAY *Hearts* XV, 'Father,' 'you must not talk like that.' 'Well, well, my dear,' said her father, 'well, well.'

**25.** With intervening noun (in vocative).

*c* 1550 R WEVER *Lusty Juventus* (c 1560) D 3 b, Well wanton well, I wyse I can tel [etc.] 1554 *Interl Youth* (Tudor Misc) 1908 I 38, Well wanton well, for this volume 1598 B JONSON *Ev Man in Hum.* I (1601) B 2 b, Well Cosen well, I see you are e'ene past hope Of all reclaime 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. I. L 1, 'Well, wag, well, wife thou wilt deserue this father' 1632 HEYWOOD *Wise Woman* II. (1663) H 6 b, Well wag well, you must not now put me off with my wife

**26.** *Well, well,* denoting agreement, approval, or acquiescence.

In the absence of construction the distinction between the adverbial and adjectival use becomes obscured cf WELL *a* and *int*

1564 *Brief Exam* D 3 b, You will say we haue a common indement of the Iorde Very well 1579 DE LUE *Crusoe* II (Globe) 518 We were chas'd By five Sloops, says the Master, very well, said I, then it is apparent there is something in it 1815 SCOTT *Guy M* xiii, The Baronet, though highly offended, could only say, 'Very well, sir, it is very well, very well, indeed' 1818 — *Mid Lothian* xli, last he said 'I agree—I mu t have time' 'Very well. It is a bargain.' 1878 HARDY *Ret Native* II III, 'Very well, then,' replied Thomasin 1888 J S WINTER *Cavalry Child's* xi, 'Very well,' said she

**28** *Well then,* introducing a conclusion or further statement, or implying that one can naturally be drawn or made.

*c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXVIII 237 Wele þan, We sall frayst er they founde ferr fro 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XXIII (Percy Soc.) 138 Well then, quod she, I shall you nowe tell Howe the case standeth. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek* IV 15 Well then, I will graunte the to take cowe dunge, for mans dunge 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 51 Well then, quoth he, I will proue it, first for the, in the neate spice I fynd one counter, which I remoue forwhile 1608 J DOUGHTY *Sermon* To Well then, let both principles of Religion and Policy meete and stand in fame 1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Wish* 1, Well then, I now do plainly see This busie world and I shall ne're agree. 1659 [J WARD] *Simp Cobler* 14 Well then, Doct. Bastyl you kill'd him *Adv* Well then, I kill'd him bavely 1802–12 BENTHAM *Rationl Tactic Extd* (1827) I 136 *n* 2, Well then, since we must needs somewhere, we will stop at a trifle. 1884 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III 3, Well then, there were Bolingbroke and Pitt 1884 D L FAIRJON *Cel Porter* 56 (6) XXXVII. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag* XXV 1 Well then, calmly, winding up the argument thus, as is the way with women

**27.** With various additions, esp. *well now, oh well, ah well.*

(*a*) 1599 B JONSON *Ev Man out of Hum* IV IV, Well now my lord, mee saw you 1715 T ADAMS *Spiritual Nosegay* 19 Well yet, as salt and bitter as this Ocean the world is, there is some good wrought out of this 1782 HANNAH MORE *Cælebs* VII 111, 'Well now,' said he, 'remember the aim of this breach of appointment lies wholly at your door' 1889 J S WINTER *Mrs Bob* XIX, 'What are you thinking about, Stevie?' 'Oh! well really, I can't say.

(*b*) *a* 1779 D GRAHAM *Wrist.* (1883) II 56 *Satury* A well then good day to ye good mister 1814 SCOTT *Wav* XXVII, Well, Duncan—[he] is say your name was Duncan or Donald? 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* XXXI, The old woman tried to comfort her, beginning with her accustomed—'Well, then' 1868 LE FANU *Uncle Silas* I XXII. 200 'Oh! I must, after luncheon, then,' said he

**VII.** *Comb* The adverb *Well* is extensively employed in combination with various parts of the verb, esp. the past and present participles, and in parasynthetic adjectives ending in *-ed.* In modern practice the latter are regularly hyphened. In attributive use the participial formations are properly hyphened, and the hyphen is also frequently employed even when the construction is predicative. On account of the large number of such combinations, all those of any standing (either by common or continued use, or in virtue of their source) are treated as main words, the less important or less common being printed in smaller type without definition, after the model of similar words in UN-. The normal insertion or omission of the hyphen, according to the construction of the word in the sentence, is indicated by printing it within parentheses, as *well(-)baked.*

In the following enumeration of the different types of combinations the illustration is chronological, and partly includes words more fully exemplified below.

**28.** With past pples., as *well-born, -bred, -done,* etc., in predicative or attributive use.

*Beowulf* 1927 Hyzd swiðe ǽzeng, wis, welþungen. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C.* XVII 111 Sill hwæt welgedones bið *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Luke XIX 16 Min herwan wel-boren *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp* John VI 45 Alle larwas wel welgitarde *c* 1275 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 385 Bot off lymmys he was well maid With schuldrys braid *c* 1280 [see DISPOSED 2] *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* II 13 It is merytorne and weel doon forto þeue thilk ensaumple. 1474 SIR J PASTON *Lett* III 107 He lefte a great garnyson there, weell flonyshyed on vytayll, and all other thyngs 1593 BARNES *Frosts.* II clxvii 469 A well trauelled knight and well known 1597 B GOOCH *Heresbach's Husb* III 128 His legges wel sette. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Lover's Cure* III iv, *Cla* . . . it sit for a fair Lady to be idle *Say* She had better be well-busied 1832 WEBSTER *Anc Funeral Hon* 548 An ancient and well allied Family 1861 BOVILL *Hypnol Exs.* (1869) 178 The haidness of a well blown Bladder 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor, Epist* I vi 58 Venus decks the well bemoney'd Swain 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Phys.* II XXIII 116 Well arched and short forehead are not of long duration 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XXI, This was said in well-accentuated English 1890 W BUTHERWOOD *Master's Flight* xxxiii, The well disciplined, well-fed, well-amused passage through barren hours

**29.** With present pples. in adjectival (predicative or attributive) use

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C* XVII 107 Ongean ða ealdan & ða wellibbendan *Ibid* 111 439 Wyrta swiðe welstincenda. *c* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Spelman) cl 5 Hernað hine on cimbalum wel swegendum 1382 WYCLIF *Ps* CL 5 Wel sowndinge thei ben to ȝeue heryng 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek* XXVI 4 A 300 well felende [*Alius sensatus*] 1432 *Rolls of Parli* IV 405/2 the wynes . were fayre, fyne, wele drinking *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* II xx 274 Thilke lawe is weel techende and dresse-ing. 1477 *Paston Lett* III 182 If ther be among them any prie horse in especiall that he be well trotting *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol Poetrie* (Arb) 40 A well enchanting skill of Musicke. 1597 A M tr *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 38 a Then with a well cuttinge sawe, sawe of the head 1600 LODGE *Incarn Jesu Christ* 67 b Well-liking 1648 The People expressed it with such exact harmony of well agreeing voices 1670 EACHARD *Cont Clergy* 12 If a lad has but a lusty and well bearing memory 1830 GALT *Entail* xxxvi 273 Sticks split from some good or well splitting wood 1884 MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed 2) 36 A vessel containing a well-closing lid 1889 JEAN POWELL *Pigsticking* 12 A spurt which draws so well prepares a position on either village

**30** With verbal sbs., as *well building, -guarding, -joining, -keeping,* etc.

The later tendency is to employ *good* with the vbl sb, and restrict *well* to the gerund.

*a* 1300 *E Prether* cxvii 97 And with þi wele setting [*L ordinatione*] hatez dai *a* 1388 ASCHAM *Scholem* 1 (Arb) 69 Finding paine in all doing, and pleasure in well studying 1586 A DAY *Eng Secretorie* (1625) 8 Writing of my well deeming 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIII XCIX, I though my well guiding is your voice doone 1613 SHAKS *Hen VIII* II I 152 *Cor* And euer since it stucke Close to my side, Entirely to her heroique vertue, Her well beseeming ornament 1623 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Discov. by Sea* C 2 b, A large Armorie with other Weapons and munition, with good newes, and well keeping, is not second to any Nauemans in England 1624 WOTTON *Elem Archit* 1 Well building hath three Conditions 1646 SIR T BROWNE *Pseud Ep* II III 94 1671 H. 195 In the well 303 [n]ing consisteth the strength of structure.

**b.** Freq with vbl. sbs. followed by *of.*

*c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf* (W. de W 1494) I lxxii, Vayne gladnes & wel payeng of thselfe *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I iii (1912) 19 The well bringing up of the people 1596 HAMILTON *Catal Bellend Apoc* Epp I 3 b, The well handling of the matter 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov by Sea* B 3 b, His goods are but lent him, by him that will one day call him to a reckoning, for the well or ill disposing of them *a* 1639 W WHATELY *Prototypes* II. XXXII. (1640) 27 The well-husbanding of abundance 1655 D DICKSON *Ps* XIII 4 in Spurgeon *Treas David* IV. 272 One of the parts of the well spending of the Sabbath 1692 *Stat Irel Acts at New St I* cli (1742) 305 I or the well constituting of the said corporations. 1868 DAVIES *Druid Temples* 46 The copiousness and well knitting of the Language 1708 JOHN JOHNSON 1690 CHILD *Disc Trade* (1698) 158 The well making of our Woollen Manufactures 1691 T H[ALE] *Acc New Inventions* 4 The safety and well sailing of a Vessel 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 48 In the well draining of Cornlands lies a main advantage *Ibid* 50 I've had well covering of the Seed must be of great advantage 1778 J HOWARD *Transl Hosp* etc 4 I he well ploughing of the Land is a very great Advantage to all Seeds sown 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Hoeing,* The well going of the plough wholly depends upon the placing of the.

**c.** With gerunds followed by an object or preposition

*c* 1568 in Pettus *Fodina Reg* (1670) 61 Rules and Ordinances for the well governing the Affairs of the Society, etc. 1629 K. LONG tr *Barclay's Argenis* V xiv 383 For the love of her hee would not faile in well looking to his charge. 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 138 Because of the well-seating it . he allured out of Babilon nere hundred thousand soules. 1693 G. ST. LO *England's Safety* title-p, A Sure Method for Raising Qualified Seamen for the well Manning of Her Majesties Fleet on any Occasion. 1699 T. C[OCKMAN] tr. *Tully's Offices* 135 By Moderation we mean the Knowledge of Well timing whatever we do 1765 GALE in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 197 The well peopling the

colonies, and securing our new acquisitions. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s v *Lucerne*, The grand secret of well managing a trading populous country. 1854 *Poultry Chron* II 351/2 The all important necessity of well matching the poultry. 1870 A. P. Morton tr. *Le Roux' Acrobats & Mountebanks* 168 In well calculating the strength of the steed.

**31.** With verbs, as *well-ally, -clothe, -employ*, etc. Now *rare*.

a 1300 *F E Psalter* civ 9 He was mined of his wite-word hende þat he wisseț [Vulg. *disponat*] for Abraham make 14 *Voc* in Wr. Wülcker *Gen/22 Paradox*, to well wone. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 286 b, Seyng that the mystery of the holy Trinitye did not well ly̆ke with that people 1626 Drayton *Polyolb* xvii 6 That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower, Might well alie their House 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit* III. 109 Prowlers intent upon all occasions to pamper and well line themselves 1852 (*title*) Robert Owen a Journal. Explanatory of the Means to Well place and Well feed, Well-clothe, Well lodge, Well-employ, Well govern, and Cordially unite the Populations of the World

**32.** Forming parasynthetic adjectives in *-ed*, as *well ancestored, -dispositioned, -eared*, etc.

Cf OE. *welunlædnes*

1530 Palsgr 442/2 This sworde is well bucked 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 495 Of bodie he was slender, well membred, and strongly made 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps* xviii 34, 63 He had bin a well sinewed man. 1593 Greene *Farewell to Folly* (1617) I 4 b, The Gentleman is well form'd and well forcheaded. 1630 Br Hall *Occas Meditt* xlii 307 Why perfectly limmed, not a cripple? Why well sensed; not a foole? 1850 Tennyson *In Memoriam* II viii 52 That those that shall be received, be thereto called by God, and be well dispositioned. 1888 J Grubb *Rest Heroes* iii, Castor the flame of fiery steed, With well spun'd locks look down 1704 *Hymn to Victory* ix 41 Old English Courage scorns those trifling things, The Higher Ground, the Well flank'd Wings. 1818 Hunt *Feast of Imagin* 372 A well read poet will of course avoid cacophony in rimes 1855 *Poultry Chron* 111 452 Her eggs are well formed and well shelled. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* xi 198 The formidable Shark, a well toothed adult 1892 *Blackpool Mag* July 13/1 The well ancestored, rich, respectability from which she springs 1894 *Outing* Sept 427/2 The five brace of grand, plump, well-plumaged birds

**33.** With adjectives.

a 1580 *Brass o Yarrow* vii in Child *Ballads* IV 165/1 Nine well wight men lay waiting him 1797-1803 Jane Austen *Northanger Abbey* xxvii, The two girls found themselves so well sufficient to themselves, that it was eleven o'clock before they quitted the supper room 1853 *Inst a Hog* XX 267 In a cool season would bring on well weildable strength with it 1886 J Corbett *Ballit Asgard* I 125 The charm of his face were the well open eyes

**Well**, obs. dial. var. Will, *v.*

**Well**, obs. f. Were, Will *sb* and *v*

**† Wella**, *int.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 wel 16, 3–4 welle, wela, wele, (3 wella, walle, welle, wellen). [Ob. *wel* + *a*! (see Well *adv.*, and Lo *int.*), partly confused with *sed la* (see La *int.*), and/or *la* (Weila).] Cf. also Ob. *wel gā, wealgā*, and/or *lā* (Weila).

**A** *int.* a. Well then. b. Ah! alas!

Also followed by *as* as object = alas for, or a chuse = alas *that*.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxxiv § 8 Wells men, wel c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* II 627 Hwæt þa se leece cwæð mid wope wella bwilus, ær ðu sylf noldest, nære þu nit forðī Faun c 1205 Lay 3456 Wellan, dæi, well, dæi, þat hwen ich neh forlemen. *Ibid*, 7825 Welle i rode Neimnus þatich þe quic nabbe.

**B.** As adv. or intensive prefix Very, exceedingly.

c 1205 Lay 5370 Welle muchel wes þa wop þæ Pelin þeonne wende *Ibid* 18805 Peiler com i o ohte mon, walla wel wes he ihon *Ibid* 29622 Welle uan [c 1275 wele glad] wes he þer uore *Ibid* 32258 Wellan, dæi, well, dæi, þat hwen Oric thuhten 13 *E. E. Allit. P* B 811 Pe gestes gry & ful glad Welaw̆ newly wlonk 13 *Gaw & Gr Kn* 518 Wele wynne is he wost bring bi-foren *Ibid* 2084 Wela wyle is wa be way, her þay ly wod i-holden a 1400 *Wars Alex* 1970 Wella [r *wele*] wele wate þe wele, Mist þou be marchis of Messedoyne mayntene þowhe

**Well-abu sed**, *adj.* 1579 Hurleey *Hume* II 36 The offer ..was particularly honourable to so well abused a man

**Well-acce pted**, *ppl. a.* a 1763 Shenstone *Ess Men & Manners* Wks 1768 II 42 Had such entire possession of the hearts as well as understandings of his friends, that he could soon make the most surprizing paradoxes believed and well accepted. † **Well-accomplished**, *ppl. a.* 1598 Shaks *L. L. L.* IV i 56 A well accomplisht youth 1650 Weldon *Crt. K. Jas.* 19 A well accomplished Gentleman 1708 J. Murphy *Exc Johnson* 9 Mr. Alt's Parish's the saw a constant succession of well accomplished visitors 1821 Scott *Kenilw* x, I know you to be a worthy, kind, and well accomplished gentleman. **Well-acquitted**, *ppl. a.* 1581 Sidney *Def Poetrie* (Arb) 46 The Lincke, with his tuned Lyre and well ac corded voyce. 1732 Pope *Ess Man* II 188 The lights and shades, whose well-accorded strife Gives all the strength and colour of our life. **Well-according**, *ppl. a.* 1814 Byron *Lara* I xx, Blest are the evily hearts and gentle hands That mingle there in well according bands. **Well-accu rsed**, *ppl. a.* 1713 Dobnam *Phys Theol* iv. xii (1720) 225 When those [animals] that are able to shift for themselves are left to their own Discretion and Diligence, but the Helpless well accurs'd and provided for. 1882 *Brit Q Rev* Jan 41 That the Indefinite dogma survives all the determined and well-accustomed assaults made thereon without saying **Well-acce rtified**, *ppl. a.* 1847 Mrs Gore *Castles in Air* xxiii (1857) 268 The subterfuges which tarnish many a well-accredited transaction on the turf

**Well-acco mplished**, *ppl. a.* Much frequented by customers. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1690, 1786 [see Accustomed 2] 1736 Entick *Cant Tales* Prof 1 An Inn noted for its great Trade, or as we say, a well-accustomed House 1880 F Peel *Risings of Luddites* v 74 The St. Crispin was a well accustomed house, and the inner doors were swinging to and fro in the usual fashion

**Well(-)acquainted**, *ppl. a.*

**+1.** Familiarly known (to others). *Obs*

1565 Jewel *Repl Harding* xiv 509 These Authorities be wel acquainted, and known vnto the World 1590 Shake. *Com Err* IV. iii. 2 There's not a man I meete but doth salute me As if I were their well acquainted friende.

**2.** Having a good acquaintance *with* (= knowledge of) a person or thing; familiar *with*. Also without const. (of two or more persons).

1598 Chester *Provoked Husb* I 1 7 He is a Man too well acquainted with the Female World to be brought into a high Opinion of any one Woman, without some well examined Proof of her Merit 1837 Buckle *Civiliz* I. xii. 666 Mounier was well acquainted with our language. 1864 Percy *Hermann* (1870) 11 Habakkuk's hymn shows a one well-acquainted with the Psalms 1877 W S Gilbert *Sorcerer* I Ballad, Time was when Love and I were well acquainted.

**Well-a cted**, *ppl. a.*

**1.** Meritoriously conducted or lived

1792 A Murphy *Life Life & Genius Johnson* 85, I boast no knowledge gleaned with toil and strife, That bright reward of a well acted life

**2.** Cleverly feigned or simulated.

1821 Scott *Kenilw* xxxvi 'Alas! my lord,' said Varney, with well acted passion 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* x, My dear Daniel 1901 A Habakkuk's hymn shows a one well-acquainted with the Psalms 1877 W S Gilbert *Sorcerer* I Ballad, Time was when Love and I were well acquainted.

**Well-a dapted**, *ppl. a.*

1890 'I Falconer' *Mille Leo* III 256 With far less emotion than a well-adapted surprise was excited in her

**Well-adapted**, *ppl. a* 1713 Steele etc *Guardian* No 64 P 18, I am charmed with his artificial P xpressions in well adapted Similes 1845 T Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I 164 Here was a well-adapted bit of cut and paste adapted for the display of her fine shape 1894 Dickens *Amer Notes* III, With a rude eloquence, well adapted to the comprehension of his hearers.

**Welladay** (we lădā'), *int* (*sb., v.*) Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 well a daye, 6–7 wel(-)aday, (8 wel-a-day), 6 wellada, 7 wel-adale, weleaday, welady, welody, welliday, 7, 9 well a-day, 6– well-a-day, welladay. Also 6, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial* wal(l)aday, 6 wer(e)aday, 9 *dial* weeraday [altered † Welaway, by substitution of Day (or Aday), as in *wo worth the day, leckladay*.]

**A.** *int.* An exclamation expressing sorrow or lamentation; = alas! Also with *ah* or *O* prefixed.

c 1570 W Elderton in *Collect B L Ballads* etc (1867) 1 Well a daye, well a daye, well a daye woe is me 1570 Levins *Manip* 195/43 Wel aday, *heu, hei* 1591 Sylvester *Du. Gnat* 417 Ah (waladay) there is no end of paine 1598 Shake *Asw & Jul* III ii 37 A welady I ha seene him 1600 — *Much Ado* III iii 61 Well-a-day that you were, sir 1605 — *Lear* IV vi 182 [Q a wereaday], that euer I was borne 1599 T Cot wood *Catholic Lover* (Roxb) xxxiii, But wallady, he was not there 1611 — *Winter's T* III iii 59 Welladay the while! *Cromwell* IV ii 22 A, welliday for my Cowe! 1693 Holiday *Juvenal's Sat* I 158 Alas and weladay, what shall we do? 1697 — *Persius' Satyr, Mad Maid's Song* iii, Alack and welladay! 1852 C. B. Stapylton *Herodotus* xiii 205 Then quire of Boys and Ladies singing Wel dy, Wel dy Hymns and Paeans making dolefull Melody. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* VI 148 Alack and a wellada 1837 *Gentleman's Magazine* V iii *Kinsman's Text Misc* (1762) I 70 She clapt her hand, cry'd Welladay 1881 Bowker *Lyf* 4 8 Well-a-day, what page was I to be! 1798 Coleridge & *Sou. Mtly. Mag.* I 135 [139] Ah! well a day! [*later* well a lay!] what evil looks Had I from old and young 1813 Monk *Inc Poems* (1819) 37 Well-a-day! Thou know'st the time, I o, well a day! It takes to dance that chalk away 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Lay of Cuthbert*, Well a day! Well a day! All but can say It but too much trouble and time has run away 1852 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* I. viii. 154 Ay, welladay, he hear a shrill voice of affliction 1888 *Scheffel's Gleam. Werner* 1. welladay!

**B.** *sb.* Complicated form *wella, welladay*.

1805 G McIndoe *Poems* 92 The prect us clay Which in the tomb, with tears I laid, Wells welladay! 1820 Keats *Eve St Agnes* xiii, And as she muttered 'Well—well a day!

**B.** *sb.* The utterance of this exclamation; lamentation; a lament.

1580 J Watson *Centurie of Loue* lxxiii (Arb) 218 At last, though late, he sawe all his wellada. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem* I xvi 57 Their iolysull song was turn'd to mournfull dities, And all their gladnesse chang'd to wel ladaes 1598 Peirce *and Pt Henry V Launcelot* Cij b, That all alone sad Lady gan to play Framing sweet musick to her welladay. 1608 Shake *Per* II iv 49 (1st Qo) His daughters woe and hers we welladaes 1814 Miss J West *Alicia de Lacy* II 291 Her ears were alternately assailed by the peevish of penitence and the well-a-days of 1 se.

**Welladay**, 1593 Shakespeare *New Lit. Notable Conc* C a b, Let him be the *Atlanta domus* the *dulle* of Rome, the *Hoy hoballoday* of Prose, the *Well alladay* of new writers.

**C** *v. intr.* To cry 'welladay.' *nonce use*

1593 Cooper *Christ Dialog* 163 The saints are making all, and well a daying.

**Well adjusted**, *ppl. a* 1735 Thomson *Liberty* II 330 Their well adjusted mantle well adjusted flow 1895 Scott *Jessica*. xxi, The marabout raised his head gently from the ground, moving with a well adjusted precaution **Well-ado rned**, *ppl. a.* 1626 Chapman *Odyss.* VII 239 He adorned it him to a wonder

**Well(-)advised**, *ppl. a.* In 4–5 **avised**

**1.** Of persons: Prudent, wary, cautious, circumspect.

In modern use chiefly predicative, as 'He would be well-advised to give up the idea'.

a. c 1386 Chaucer *Mk's Tale* P 9514 A man þat is wel avysed, he dredip his leste enemy c 1430 Lydg. *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 141 Hooly Awsyn, mad and wel avised, Kneuke by regnes þat compleynyt was no falde. a 1466 Gascoyne *Chron in Hist Coll Cst Lond* (Camden) 158 That Parlyment hadde an evylle fayre ende, to shamefully for to be namyd of many welwyse[s] men

*B* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xli 2 Be ȝe ane luvar, think ȝe nocht ȝe suld Be he well advysit in your gouerning? 1585 T. Washington tr *Nicholay's Nav. Turk.* 1, b, A most valiant & well aduised knight 1594 Shake *Rich III*, iii iv, 317 Hath any well aduised friend proclym'd Reward to him that brings the traytor in? 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* (1638) 988 The well aduised and valiant captaine Kanaconites *ibid.* 1580 Pinle (Lenev) *Pron*, xiii. 10 With the wel advised is wisedome (And so 1611)

**+b.** with const. Careful or heedful *of* or *that*—.

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T* 358 He will ay seo on that like night That noon of his wyfe make a word c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Also þat he be wele auysed of speche c 1450 *Merlin* III 53 Quod the keye, he wel avised that ȝe knowe it is he. And they seide, We knowe verely it is he 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 57 To an Heir he put forth a question, who was to be well aduised of his answer

+c. In one's right mind, sane. *Obs.*

1588 Shake *L L L* v ii 434 And were ȝ as well aduis'd? 1590 — *Com Err* II ii 211 Sleeping or waking, mad or well aduis'd?

**2.** Of actions, etc Based on wise counsel or careful consideration.

a 1529 Skelton *Ware the Hawke* xiii (1812) 314 The king full sad, with wordes well auysed, I thanked them all 1846 Mrs A Marsh *Father Darcy* II viii. 140, I hope I should not be found wanting, either in spirit or perseverance to carry out well advised plans. 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* III. iv VIII 203 Constrain'd by their studied and well-advised silence into a proof of collusion

Hence **Well-advi sedly** *adv.*

1589 Golding *De Mornay* ix (1592) 127 He seemeth to speake discreetely and weladuisedly. 1648–58 Hexham *I. & Wallachian&c.* Well (aduisedly), or Considerately

**Well(-)affe cted**, *ppl. a.*

**1** Favourably disposed, inclined to be favourable or friendly (*to* or *towards* a person or thing), *spec*, well disposed towards existing authority, loyal.

1562–83 Foxe *A & M* 1502/2 If any good men were well affected or minded tow ard religion 1609 R I *Ans a Jesuite* title p, Now R. Persons Offering at Most Excellent fruites by Planting in Virginia. Exciting all such as be well affected to further the same 1621 Sibbs *I heat Gr Jerr* 10 Rde, To the well affected and fearfull Christian Reader. 1864 D Fleming in *Lyte Maxwell Papers Friends* III (1912) 213 Here Lives in a very well affected Towne, both to the church and State 1691 R Montagu in *Lyte Maxwell Papers* (Somers Coll.) I 502 The Presbyterian party never were well affected to a French alliance 1746 Br Sherlock *Let to Jacobite* 2 Jacobite Cabinet, App 1 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (1848) 1 Well affected Clans 1838 Lytton *Leg Arame* I 24, I know you are an honest man, Bunting, and well affected to our family 1878 Dowe Smith *Carthage* 259 Sicily was unlikely to give her further trouble, and the Romans became very well affected, but simply because she was exhausted

*absol.* 1643 [Anglus] *Lamb Valid Archer* 10 Without the Sieve lasted against Manchester, it is a shame to have a sympathy with the well affected 1658 *Dom State Papers* 360 The petition of the well affected of Gateshead 1779 Arnot *Hist Edin* I vi 206 It has been the common practice of government, to screen the well affected from the punishment of their misdeeds

**2** Adroitly accustomed or situated

1500 *Nats nal Church* 15 Oct 277/1 By this process in matters of religion the state will have washed its hands of any responsibility for the moral character of its citizens a Gillie in his well affected mind thinks himself

**+ Well affe ctionate**, *a* c 1515 [Cf next] Well disposed 1550 Sparke *F Q* III iii 62 Then each to other well affectionate, Friendship reneude with stedfast bond

**Well-affe ctioned**. [Cf prec] = Well-affected 1

**Well-affe ctly** *adv.* *Obs.*

1628 tr *Matthieu's Conseruat La vnite* 227 A Senatour whom hee knew to liue a good Citizen and well-affectioned to Libertie 1875 Jowett *Thucyd* I iii 322 They were obedient to the laws, and well affectioned tow ards the gods

**Well-a-fine**, *adv* and *int. Obs.* exc. *dial* [See Affine *adv.*]

**A** *adv* Right well, well indeed, to good purpose, thoroughly.

c 1330 *Kyng of Tars* 780 Icham nou glad wel a fin, Mas no mon bidhur be. c 1380 *Sir Fernumb* 2751 Now ȝ knowe wel a fin, by message schendeth me. c 1400 *Rom Rose* 3790 For no man may hir love atteine ha wayte ful wel gra es type and wel a fyne he sone empreuid c 1400 *Lavȝn* 1393 The tale wol be ryȝt Of me, & of noon other, I louve ȝiste wel a fyne 1577 Tusser *Husb.*, Author a life ariz (1878) 210 A Moone, Which well a fine me thought did shine 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (B. D.) 82 Chem ablazed well a fine and well a fine 1850 *Thal Poems* 309 Hit is a'l well a fine. 1886 *W Somerset Word bk*, *He ill a fine*, adv. phr, very well; truly, indeed

b. Altered to *well and fine*.

1400 *Cursor M* 2219 Ane to samelyn hadde eten wel and fyne c 1400 *Sarum* 303 Fawnus leie hym about in þe quut wellage, & fyne 14 *Guy Warw* (Camb MS) 9 86 Oȝe lokyd theron well and fyne 1450 *Lovelich Merl* III 6660 This knowe ȝe alle well and fyn

**B.** *int* (See quot. 1880.)

1880 *L. Coates Glos., Ill a fine*, a common interjection, meaning 'oh! all very well' 1890 'Q' *Three Mrgts.* 33 Well a fine! What a reasin' armful is woman, afore the first born comes!

**† Wellage.** *Obs. rare*[—]. In quot welladge. [? Well *ill* + *a*-age (denoting a material).] (See quot and *prest-wares* s v. Fress *sb.*[1] 16.)

1618 Sturtevant *Metallica* 98 Wellage is a kind of Press-

ware for the speedy making of Wells, fairer cheaper then the rounds which are made of Brick to keepe the earth from falling in w e

**†Well-aged,** *a Obs* Advanced in years, of a good age

*c* 1470 Henry *Actes & Pass* 815 Like that youre counsell be rather to ... ally set Wele yaged, of goode discrecion 1535 Coverdale *Ps* lxxi. 9 Thou art olde & well aged 1568 As man *Sch Iem* iii (Arb) 141 The Latin tong, concerning any pas t of pos e ssse of it did not endure moch longer, than te the life of a well aged man

**Well-amused,** *ppl a*

1598 Chapman *Iliad* xi 99 Atrides with his wel asmde lan e a ste saus on the brest 1606 — *Gentl Usher* i 1, Y ta ment nere sum h t discharge alnofe Your wounding Pistoll or well ay ned Dart 1667 Milton *P L* ix 1136 [ re k n t o it fight well asm l 1725 Pope *Odyss* xxii 4 Wha n w can be t Ulyss s' low, and wing The well aı n d ar ow thro the dı tant r ng 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xlvii The wearied horse of Ivanh e, and its no less exhausted rider went down before the well-aimed lance and vigorous steed of the Templar 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxv His recreated before a well aimed blow 1868 G V Cox *Recoll. Oxford* 206 A well aimed orange th own from the gallery, struck him forcibly on the face

**† Well aired,** *a* [f Air *sb*] Having a sweet breath *Obs.*

1505 in *Mem Hen VIII* (Rolls) 333 The said queen is like for to be of a sweet savour and well eyred.

**Well(-)aired,** *ppl. a*

1 Thoroughly ventilated, favoured with good air 1818 S orr *Hert Mid* Note 3 The situation in the centre of the High Street rendered it (the Tolbooth) so particularly well aire t that when the plague had waste the city in 1645, it affected none with in these melan holy precincts 1843 R J Graves *Syst Clin Med* i 62 The bed room of a patient labouring under fever should be well aired 1871 Naismith *Pre & Cure Dis* ii 47 Well aired locality

**2** Damp free l by exposure to air or heat.

1898 Mrs Gaskell *Wary Barton* xxxi, She went on to an ot Mary the bed was well aired

**Well all ed,** *ppl a* 1603 Shaks *M as for M* iii 1 10) Thı s cu st of a great k n l reat it is well allied 1631 [see Well a-ft B] **Well ally** *v* 1620 Shirley *Lady of Pleas* iv 1 Ny mph That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower Might well allie their House

**Well-anear,** *int Obs* exc. *dial* [app altere l f Wellaway by substitution of Anear] Alas! alack! = *lway*

1600 *Look about y* 11 B b Now well a neere that ere I liu d to see, Such prtue ice and so much iniuery 1608 Shaks *Per* iii Prol 52 The l tly shrekes and well neares, Does fall in trauaile with her feares 1849 J D *Knox in Gerrans* iii 1 6 2, Wherefore wis n't well a neere 1877 W Nicolson in *Trans R Soc Lit* (1870) Ser II ix 320 *Wellanear*, well away, alack day 1787 Grose *Prov Glass Wellnear* Alas N a 1856 in S Glpin *Pop Fo try Cu mb* (1857) 209 Ilit, wellenee! when he sud tean his knee Hur elbye rease hurt him fra his bliss.

**Well-anes** ring in some sense

1683 G M[eriton] *Yorks Dial* 4 Wellsneenin well aneerin run fast run, Hyre thee H l h and hi l my Mswgh Henry come *Hick Up* 19 Wellsneen wells gung and see 1703 Thoresby *Let to Ray*, Hi ella seering alve.

**Well anneal led,** *ppl a* 1832 Herapath *Optics* xxi 184 Thin plates of well annealed flint glass 1854 *Perreira Polarized Light* (ed 2) 94 A well annealed piece of glass all of whose parts pos ess e qual elasticity, is a single refractor

**Well anoi nted** *ppl a* 1726 Francis *tr Hor Sat* ii v 142 Upon his naked Back, their hair anoint ed the well anointed pack *Iscidunt m un tum si o Virgil.* 1860 Geo Eliot *Mill on Fl* i ix, Mr Rappit, the hairdresser with his well anointed crystal hair, standing wevily upon

**Well(-)apai d,** *ppl a. Obs* exc. *arch* Heartily pleased or satisfied.

13 *K Alis* 2031 Darie was wel apaied Of that Archelaus haveth ysaide *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 1314 Wh nne hem persour it were, he was wel apaied 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xvi 328 And eche p ure m n [was] wel apayed to haue pesen for his huyre. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III 383 He cowbe feyne hym gracious and wel apayed, & he were wroth, it wol nop when he were wel apayed 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* xxii 767 I am wel apayed, said sir Gareth, that I may knowe him. *c* 1500 *Melusine* (Roxb) 5 Sire quod Ffrayn, he she wroth or w ll a payde 1576 Kinwelmersh *Conf Sect*, Sarm Q 2 b, There is good cause, not only to be content, but also well appeide with it 1590 Spenser *F Q* iii ii 47 She therewith well apayd, The drunken poure downe in ordoyle did steepe 1611 R Benton *Treat Usury* To Rdr 2, I shall thinke my selfe well apaid, if I can cause them but to take these words aright 1643 Trapp *Comm Gen* xxiv 47 He yeth over her with singing as wel apaid of his choyce 1825 Jennings *Obs Dial W Eng Well apaid* appeased i satisfied 1870 Ward *Fortbly Rev* iii 11 32 Or all is n ught Whereof I think at last a wan lerer said, Or of my tale shall ye be well apaid

Hence **† Well-apaid daass,** *Obs.*

1633 [D Rogers] *Treat Usur* 1 290 This complacence and well apaiedness of heart

**Well(-)appa relled,** *ppl a*

1530 Palsgr 320/1 Well apparyyled or well decked *gorye* 1576 R Peterson *G delin Cures Gallantes* 18 I w ill haue euery man well apparelled, meete for his age and call ing 1598 Shaks *R m & Jul* i ii 27 When well apparelled April on the heele Of limping Winter treads 1821 Lamb *Elia Ser* 1 *All Fo l s Day* The g ss ly ornature of well appareiled speech 1860 Longf *Wayside Inn K Olaf* xiv 11 Never, while they trusted and quarrelled Oft King Gorm or Blue Tooth Harald, Owned a ship so well appa relled

**Well-appli ed,** *ppl a*

*c* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. xvii (1912) 463 By the diligent c re of friends and well applied counsell of surgeons 1625 K Long *tr Barclay's Argenis* i ii 5 Tymocles, with well applied language began to question her Guest 1764 Douglas 11 *Shenstone's Whs* (1768) II 317 A stone seat with this well applied inscription 1768-74 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) I 646 A discreet and well applied industry in the service of mankind 1842 Lever *Handy Andy* vi, Giving him a hearty cuff on the ear which would have knocked him down only that Oonah kept him up by an equally well applied box on the other

**Well-appointed,** *ppl a* Properly equipped or fitted out

1530 Palsgr 844/1 Well apoynted, *I en a geynt* 1535 Coverdale *Jer* xl 22 They ride vpon horses well apointed 1538 Bystell against the 1597 Shaks *2 Hen IV*, i 1 190 The gentle Arch bishop of Yorke is vp, With well appo nted Powres. *c* 1600 Drayton *Mirr Magy*, clxxviii, Ten thousand valie t well appointe d men 1606 Conley *Feudar Obed*, *Ir-tius* iv, Our would have thought I had heard the morning crow Or seen her well appointed Star Come marching up the Eastern Hill after 1784 Cowper *Iliad* 676 In him thy well app nte l proye see Arm d for a work too difficult for thee 1807 Wolf *White Doe* 609 Nor wanted at this ti e rich store Of well appointe l chivalry 1836 *Court Mag* VI 169 a The well appointed talk, w aterpr f coat, pocket handled, umbrella & his friend 1864 Annie Thomas *Diana* II 29 She saw that he had good horses and a well appointed m ll b tween 1889 G Findlay *Eng Railway* 3 A well appointed hotel

Hence **Well-appoi ntedness**

1880 H Monk *Apo ti Apoc* 80 They have Breast plates of Iron, which denote their courage (Horse Soldiers) and well appointedness for War 1890 H James *Tragic Muse* xxvi, He remem ere l to her actual smartness, as London people would call it, her well appointedness

**Well-apprehended,** *ppl a.*

1590 Spenser *F Q* ii x 65 Hengist and Horsus, well approud in warre 1596 Shaks *Tam Shr* i 1 7 My trustie seruant well approu'd in all *c* 1610 Chapman *Iliad* xvi 1 Ajax the tall t to Peleus, these well approu d supplies, Th' Arcives an l the Spartan king 1684 Burnet *Theor* II (1690) 212 There dwell also n ot far from thence one Mr Skill in whom is well approved Physician

**Well a rgued,** *ppl a* 1708 J Phillips *Cyder* ii 80 With winning Rhetoric and well argu'd Law

**Well-argued,** *ppl a.*

1 Adequately armed for war or combat Also *transf* and *fig.*

*c* 1290 *St Christopher* 143 in *S Eng Leg* 275 Well armede he wendeth forth 13 *K Alis* 2582 Faire chevalry him wen f d Wel yarmed, wel ayled, on heigh stede 1390 *Gawayne* 170 Pe best man by wel y armed wor to ouercome parfitliche zeane *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* viii clxxiv 6723 His horn well armyt 1606 Shaks *Tempest Epist* xxvi 469 A thousand shall I newly, and no, well armed likon 1592 Shaks *Rom & Jul* i i 216 In strong proofe of chastity well armd 1605 — *Lear* iii iv 90 1636-98 Clarke *Dutch Lang* 4 Vive, well a rmed and exercising Con 1791 Cowper *Iliad* ix 96 Forth rush l the guard well armed 1825 Higgenson *Hist U S* v xx 133 The Indians arrowed diligently on an equity with the well armed Englishmen 1901 *N Amer Rev* Feb 246 Create a regular and well disciplined arm), and secu e a well armed diplomacy

**2** Furnished with a powerful armature

1832 Brewster *Nat Magic* xi 273 A strong and well-armed l ns

**Well-armed,** *a* 1868 Morris *Earthly Par* I ii 578 The King's brave well ar noured folk

**Well-arra nged,** *ppl. a*

1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb T*, *Young Lady's T* II 177 Dr Hollis was employed in most astonishment, in th s well-arranged extravagant plan 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xxvii, A well-arranged and handsomely trimmed board 1844 Disraeli *Sybil* iii iii, A well arranged and handsomely of some ten thousand volumes. 1905 *Athenæum* 7 Oct 4/1 A good deal of interesting and well arranged inf rm ation will be found in the sections wh h come before the main list of b ograp ical names

**Well-(-)array ed,** *ppl a*

*a* 1386 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 472 Al to welde ways I v o y t ben well arrayed 1387 — *Prol* 1 278 *Squyer* 1 1 630 And also blisful Venus wel vrayed was in hire seuenthe hous of heuene po 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII 359 I and how he here alome the wel e horsed, and i wepened niche wel arrayed 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* ix xxv 4 Wyll Wallis nobyll e mpany Wel arayit an l duntely 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* i x 49 The two kynges were come ouer the see with well arrayed ost 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol 1 Apollos t Ffrayis, he she wroth or w ll a payde 1576 Kinwelmersh *Conf Sect*, Sarm Q 2 b, There is good cause, not only to be content, but also well appeide with it 1590 Spenser *F Q* iii ii 47 She therewith well apayd, The drunken poure downe in ordoyle did steepe 1611 R Benton *Treat Usury* To Rdr 2, I shall thinke my selfe well apaid, if I can cause them but to take these words aright 1643 Trapp *Comm Gen* xxiv 47 He yeth over her with singing as wel apaid of his choyce 1825 Jennings *Obs Dial W Eng Well apaid* appeased i satisfied 1870 Ward *Fortbly Rev* iii 11 32 Or all is n ught Whereof I think at last a wan lerer said, Or of my tale shall ye be well apaid

Hence **† Well-apaid daass,** *Obs.*

1633 [D Rogers] *Treat Usur* 1 290 This complacence and well apaiedness of heart

**Well(-)appa relled,** *ppl a*

1530 Palsgr 320/1 Well apparyyled or well decked *gorye* 1576 R Peterson *G delin Cures Gallantes* 18 I w ill haue euery man well apparelled, meete for his age and call ing 1598 Shaks *R m & Jul* i ii 27 When well apparelled April on the heele Of limping Winter treads 1821 Lamb *Elia Ser* 1 *All Fo l s Day* The g ss ly ornature of well appareiled speech 1860 Longf *Wayside Inn K Olaf* xiv 11 Never, while they trusted and quarrelled Oft King Gorm or Blue Tooth Harald, Owned a ship so well appa relled

**Well-appli ed,** *ppl a*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. xvii (1912) 463 By the diligent c re of friends and well applied counsell of surgeons 1625 K Long *tr Barclay's Argenis* i ii 5 Tymocles, with well applied language began to question her Guest 1764 Douglas 11 *Shenstone's Whs* (1768) II 317 A stone seat

**Well-attired,** *ppl-a poet.*

**† 1.** Properly equipped or furnished *Obs.*

13 *Sir Orfeo* 138 (Sisam) He brought me to his palays, Wele attird in ich ways.

**2.** Richly arrayed.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 146 The Muse rose and the well-attird Woodman. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xviii 473 Charis, Vulcan's well attired spouse

**Well-anthe nticated,** *ppl a*

1786 Polwhele *tr Theocritus, etc.* (1792) II 212 Amidst the legends of superstition it is in vain we search for well-authenticated truths. 1800 W Irving *Sk Bk*, *Spectre Bridegroom*, Events of the kind are extremely common in Germany, as many well authenticated histories bear witness 1879 Lubbock *Ants Bees & Wasps* v 167, I have endeavoured to select only those arguments which rest on well authenticated facts

**Well-avised:** see Well-advised

**Wellaway** (wı, lăwē), *int.* and *sb.* Now *arch.* Forms *a.* wos, la wes, wel la wel (2 wl la wel), 3 wellawai, 3–4 welawai, 3–5 wai (6 *Sc.* -wa), 4–5 wellawey, 3–5 -way, 5–6 wellaway (5 -weye), 4–5 weylawe (5 weylaway, -awey), 4–5 weylowey (weylo-), weylowey, 5 wellowey, -waie (-wey, -weylle-), weylwey *B.* 3–4 wailawai, 3–5 -way, 3–4 waile-wai, 4 -way, 5 -wey (3–4 wailwai), 4–5 wailoway, 6 waile a way, 3–5 wayle-, 4–5 wayle-, waylo-way. *γ* 3–4 walawai, 4–5 -waie, walawai(e, 3–5 (9) walaway, 4–5 -waye, -wey(e, 4 waile-(a)way, woleway, 4–5 walo(w, way, *Sc.* 6–7 walla, 6 wallo-, 7 wallouway, 8 walaway, 9 wallo-wae 3 welawai, 4–5 -wai, 4–5 -wey, 4 -weye, 4–7 welaway, 4–6 -wey, 5–6 wela, whela-, weloway, 4–5 well-, welle-away, 5 well y weye, 5–6 well-, 6 welle awaye, 5–7 (9) wellaway (well-away, woll-a-way), *Sc.* 6 wellaway, 9 wellawa, 8–9 willwa (9 will a waes) *ε* 4–5 welaewey, 4–6 -away, 6 *Sc.* well away, 6–7 wealaway, waale away. [OL *weg la weg*, *wes la wes*, an alteration of *wa la wa* (see Wellawo), by substitution of the O-cand, interjection *wes* (= *wei*, and Lord + *za*, see Wellawo). The later forms are partly normal phonetic developments, partly the result of contamination with forms representing OL *wa la wa*, and partly due to the first element being identified with, or replaced by, *wel*, *wele* Well *adv* (cf Wella).]

**A.** *int* An exclamation of sorrow or lamentation (Cf. Welladay, -anfar, -a-wind.)

Formerly often in phr *to sing wellawai*, *-wey* (*his*, etc) *song* = *to lament*

*a* c888 4 ipsen *hoeth* xxxv § 7 Welawei [*Rodl* wila wei] *c* 1000 *Ælfric Ps* xxxix 16 (*Cui dicunt mihi euge euge*) Pe be cwe3þ mi wela wela *wel wela* wa te3 wala eala *c* 1205 Lay 17918 Wæilwæi, wæilawæi muchel is þe sorje þe isizen se to londe *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 64 Welawei, min ne3hsuð irobled al mine sawle 1340 Gloue (Calls) 8103 De mount scribouse wis aslawe, wellaway *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 1238 Brude þe toumbe þis womman lay, & ofter cried Wela wela wo is me! Chester *Acres* T 152 Ihn gan to crie harrow and weylaway 1412 20 *Lydg Chron. Troy* iv 4392 For now her trust of knyghthod was gone, Her worpl men slayen, wellaway! *c* 1440 *Pr Parv* (1834) 89 Defautes fele that me defance, Maketh me synge weylawey

*B a* 1250 *Owl & N* 270 Pu singest ainzhit and nozt aslo & al þu song is wailawai [*MS* wailawai] 1297 R Glouc *Chronicle* M 8669 Bot wailawai! it was bitide, Mi felaw smord hir barn in bedd *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 107 (Harl MS) And for he herd a ferly, wayloway he gan to crie 1533 Bradshaw *St Werburge* ii 1614 Women and children cried out and waile a way

*γ* a 1300 *Cursor M* 3056 Has þou, oth þai, bi lau renald ? Yan, soth bri l, walawai! he said 13 *Gaw Knicol* 1314 (Nion MS) For come he here, I haue greete dreede we sal say walowy 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 3434 Pan sal walawey to be sang *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* ii 268 Now, alas, and walo way! *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wf* 155 Now, quod the Fox, allace and wellaway! *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunter. Club) 378 Now, wellaway, is than helpl ? 1794 Ramsay *Last Mis* (1775) I 256 Walawaes! I dow to do! 8 *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 408 Louerd, wullu smiten? Welawei! þu meiht wel 1293 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 11254 Wel sweye þey cry and wey *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel & Arc* 338 Ilut welawaye, to far I en thei to fecche. 24 *Pol Rel & L Poems* (1903) 125/65 Therfore my song is wel y wey! *c* 1440 *Partonope* 8193 My song was but wellaweye 15 *Adam Bell* xi. 99 In Christ *Ballads* (1889) III 27 Alas that euer I so this daye! Alas and welaweye 1533 Bellenden *Livy Prohemiance* (1903) I 5, But alas and wellaway Lords anger hath taken him away by death. 1582 J Bell *Haddon's Answ Osor* 426 Wellaway surely my Purgatory sing if it haue no better Practise to exploit it then that 1590 Spenser *F Q* ii viii 46 Harrow and well away [ed. 1609 weal away] 1609 W Rands *tr Gascoigne's Life Petrarch* 135 Alas and well awaye 1618 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxix, There is not a farmer but shall sing well a wa over a burnt barnyard and an empty byre. 1820 [A Sutherland] *St Kathleen* IV. 11 Will a waes, when ye has a long account to settle 1878 A Mary F Robinson *Handfast Honeysuckle* 80 Alas, and Wellaway!

*ε* 13 *K Alis* 4481 (Laud MS) For Oreatre & Darmadas He grade wellaweay & allas ... 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* (Roxb) 1958 But welaeway! so is myne hert wo 1426 Audelay *Poems* to In hunger, in cold, in thurst, welawaye! Affiyr here almes ay waytyng *c* 1495 *The Epitaphe*

ste in Skelton's *Wks* (1843) II 391 Alas for sorowe there fore I Oute and weleway. *c*1330 *Hycheescrour* 549 We all may say weleway For synne that in now adays 1580 H Gifford *Gillyflowers* (1879) 101 Her song was woe, and weale away. 1616 W Browne *Brit Past* II i. 13 Alas and weale away, since now I stand In such a plight.

**b** with *so* or *full* prefixed

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 13586–9 He mai sai walawai Full walwa þan mas he sing *Trin.* 23703 Þis misdeleth, ful wail wai & *Ioth* ful walewai, *Trin* so wayleway) Al to noght sal ben awai *c*1369 Chaucer *Bk Duchesse* 730 Phyllis also for Demophon Henge hir selfe, so weylawa) *c*1440 *York Myst* vi 24 For ve is wroughit so welaway, Doole endis nyght nyghte and day 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV i 52 Quhast in he portunit ais, full welloway, The lufl abhommable of quene Pasyphe

o followed by *that* and clause, expressing the ground or subject of lament +Also with *what* = how!

*c*1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 183 A weolewei þu fule hold þet ich aure was to þe iteied *c*1205 Lay 8031 Wasla wan wail i wail i wan Þæt he is þus i fren awæi *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 17323 Walwai quat þai wil þis wind *c*1330 *Arth & Merl* 6801 (K libing) Quaþ king Angvisaunt Woleway þat ich euer bot þis day 1390 Gower *Conf* III 286 Helas, mi Soster, waleway, That ever I sih this like day! *c*1440 *York Myst* xxxii 309 So wala way Þat euere I was in writ-or wille Þat treuy treuye for to be traye 1596 Shakspere *K & Q* v i 5 Ah woe is me, and well away (quoth hee) I hate euer I this damsall day did see

†**d.** Followed by a sb. = woe worth . . Also with *to* or *for* + sb. *Obs*

*a* 1300 *K Horn* 936 Walawai þe stunde! Walawai þe while! 23 *Gov Wyttes* (1901) 1 Wayle way þat euer he be! *c*1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III 1078 Allas þi wyle Serueth of nou3ht, so wel away i-e-while *Ibid* 1695 But cruel day so wel away be stounde, Gastest reuche *c*1440 *York Myst* 8 12 He wepte and mayde, Welle a wo, For my s ne no dere! *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 3854 Walawny to wrichen, & was is þow ur-ethe *c*1440 *York Myst* vi 93 Sa wel-way for-lwrde peyne 1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal* Sept 58 Wel away the while I was so foode

**B** *sb* I. The utterance of this exclamation. Hence, lamentation, a lament

*a* 1300 *K Horn* 1458 (Camb.) Her-wiþ-inne-wrde Rymenhilde lyv, & heo in-wrde walawiy *a* 1300 *Cursc o M* 24152 Þat o wei i rewuld vp in rage I ne wist I o3t wai wai (*Gott* walwai, *Edinb* walewai) *c*1450 *Merl* (*Add C and S Add*) 193 Now wyl I go wende my way With sore syeng and wel away 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5474 With lowde allure and welaway 1553 Bradford *Serm Repent* (1574) To Rdr B ij b Then was wel away, mourning and woe 16 J D *Mare of Collingtoun in Illustrat S Ct Poems* (1706) 42 With mony a shout in Wallawy 1820 Keats *Isabella* lix, Spirits of grief, sing your saddest Well-a-way! For Isabel sweet Isabel, will die 1823 Galt *Entail* II 160 I wish that I was dead but I m no like to dee wi fenyy syen in her willy wae behind her father's cow and stell Dickon Gray 1884 Wootner *Silenus* 22 Syrinx he saw plunge in the stream A d her s ung strid paw into the reeds That no were whispings her wail well away

**b** *transf* A cause of lamentation

1593 G Harvey *New Let Notable Cont* A 3 b, Who honoureth not the very name of the renowned Lepanto the Hallelun of Christendome, & the Welaway of Turky?

†**2.** Sorrow, distress, misery, woe *Obs*

1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 11222 So, betwyx ese fih and cowsetous 3a wel weye broyt to hous *c*1375 *Curs o M* 22472 (Fairf) Quar to sulle we be borne to day & se bot sorou & wale say *c*1377 Langl *P Pl* B xviii 102 Wote no wighte what is witterly wel til wyl wey hym teche 1400 *Destr Troye* 10 *Troye Poems* (Roxb) II 122 Thou shalt have the welaway of Delphi hilles, the woo of S olome, and al sinful cries 1597 *Gesta vel & Simmind* I B 3b, Bringing forth the night and cure, and wele away 1600 Sir A Johnston (Ed 1828) *Diary* (S H S) 240 Thou bad sorrou fall the, and another tyme wallouway fall the

†**Well away,** *compound adv Obs*

1. Qualifying a comparative. Far and away, much Cf Welle adv 1

1362 Langl *P Pl* A xi 215 Pis is be lif of þis lordis And wel a way wors and I shulde al telle 1377 *Ibid* B xii 263 Pe larke, þat is a lasse foule is more louelich of lodyng And wel away of wenge þan þe wodewale 1386 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 119 And somdele lwxe it (the river) was than Seyn But it was straw3tner wel away.

2 Used elliptically with *can* and a verb implied: *well away with* = put up with, tolerate, endure Cf Away 16

1569 Beagle *Sch Conscience* 2 Whose pride I could not well away with 1587 Holinshed *Chron* III 271/1 He could well awaie with bodilie labour (1577 II 334 a c uld well endure trauaile and bodily labour) 1612 T Taylor *Comm Titus* II 14 (1619) 532 They can well away with either religion, but care greatly for neither 1622 Gataker *Spirit mall Watch* (ed 2) 91 It is no small degree of euill, when a man can well away with euill in others *a* 1629 Hinde *T Bruen* xxxvii (1641) 116 This Master Do se being young and youthful could not well away with the strict observation of the Lords day

**b** To bear or submit *to* (do something)

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Alcib* (1595) 234 Notwithstanding the pe ople of Athens could well away to liue like subiects vn der the gouernement of a fewe

**Well-a-wing,** *int. Sc.* In quots will-, weel-, wull . Altered form of Wellaway

*a* 1574 Ferguson *Poems* (1789) II 79 Ah! willawins for Scotland now *a* 1800 *Lady Yeare in* Jamieson *Pop Ballads* (1806) II 81 O will-awins! that graceless scorn Should love like mine repay 1828 Scott *I r Lammr* xi, Wull a wins! —such a misfortune to be sib the House of Ravenswood, and I to live to see it! 1829 W Tennant *Pathetic Ballads* (1827) 51 But will-a-wins! Your hands are toom 1872 W

Alexander *Johnny Gibb* III. 23 Weel a wunn, than, Jinnie, we se lat 'im rest a banes in peace an' quietness

†**Wellawo,** *int.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms α I wǽ lá wé, 3–4 walwa (4 walwa, walaiwa), β. 3 walawa, 4 walewo, 3 wolo-, 4 wole-, 5 wolowo, γ- 3, 5 wellawo, 5 wellawoo, 4–5 welleawoy, 5 weallowy. δ. 4 wellawo; 4–5 woylawo (5 woyle a woo) [Oe. *wá lá wá*, f. *wá* Woe *sb.* and *lá* Lo *int.*, cf Walaway. In the γ-forms the first element has been assimilated to *wel* Well *adv.* (cf. Oe. *wel lá* Wella), and in the δ forms to ME *wey-* in *weylawey* see Wellaway ]

1 *int* = Wellaway A

α 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxxvi § 3 Walawa þæt ða ungesæ lixan menn ne magon ȝehicdon hwonne he him to cume *c*900 *Beda's Hist* II i (1890) 96 Wala wa þæt is sarlic, þætte [etc.] *a* 1122 *O.T. Chron* (Laud MS) an 1086, Wala wa, þæt ænig man sceolde mid3an wa *c*1205 Lay 19238 Wi la wa [*c* 1275 Wo la wo] þat hit sculde twurðen swa. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 13586 Wa wai walwai þan mas he sing *a* 1300 *Ibid* 15279 (Gött) He mai sai walawa his werd pat forwal him es laid

β *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 88 Wellawei & wolawo, heo mide *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1418 Þu singest 3 wynter wolawo *c*1330 *Arth & Merl* 742 (K lib ng) Wolewo, mi swete maide *c*1400 *Pricke of Life* 327 (Brandl) 3e world is nou, so wo lo is it, so wo is me! I bound

γ 8 13 *Minor Poems of Vernon MS* xxxvii 225 Weilawei & wellawo, þat ay me was I wrought! *c*1400 *Arth & Merl* (*Add* W Inn) Syngand allas and weylawo *c*1405 *Processional Nunn Christ* (1899) 31 Thy white body was I-cake and bloo Oure synnes it made so weyle A wo *c*1500 *Lyfe of Joseph of Arim* 438 in Child *Ballads* (1888) III 77 Alas and well a woo!

2 *sb* = Wellaway B 2.

*c*1275 Lay 26769 Wel wo was 3am ibore Þat in hire wey were bore 1386 Chaucer *Merch T* 749 (K libng) To Winchester þat flowen þo With many wayling & walewo 1397 Langl *P Pl* B xix 225 He hath a greuous pensaunce, Pris wyth wellawo 1401

**Well(-)baked,** *ppl a* 1632 Rowlfy *Queenes Welles* 67 Presd of good pure wheate, well handle d well bake I Pasti F e d Ibid 71 Well bak d 89 A fyres like me polite to entertain With bread well b ked, with sauces season d right 1811 *Kegul & Orders Army* 169 Pa h Soldier is to receive, as his Allowance for Four Days a well baked l af

†**Well-been,** *sb.* Sc. well biked 1549 *Fairfacts Aberd Reg* (1844) I 269 I reid, that be guid stuf, and well baikin

**Well-bla lanced,** *ppl a*

Thus ab the true reading (as suggested by Rowl in Shirk. *Meas for M* IV iii 104, for 'wcile Lallanct of the Folios

**Exactly** poised or equilibrated

1649 Milton *Hymn Nativ* 111, While the Creator Great His constellations set, And the well ballanct world on hinges hung

2 Having an orderly or harmonious disposition of parts.

1859 J White *Heat France* 69 A tumultuous republic f knights and barons had become a well balanced kingdom

3 Having or betokening a good balance of the mental faculties; sane and sensible, not flighty or eccentric

1861 Buckle *Civilis* II vi 494 Hitcheson rightly supposed, that an admirati n of every kind of beauty is essen tial to a complete and well balanced mind 1890 *St Stan Coll Lantern* 3 Very healthy, steady, and well balanced young man 1912 *Herald* 7 May 673 2 Mr Long s peech was a practical, well balanced and thoroughly sane fighting speech

**Well-be-ten,** *ppl a* (Beat v 1 3, Beaten 2) *a* 1704 I ocke *Cond Underst* § 28 Their Master s Rules misled those who think it sufficient to excuse them if they go out of Doors well beaten 1821 Clare *Village Minstrel* (ed 2) I xxiii 165 Ascending, the mountain by a well beaten path 1883 Miss Brought n *Bellet rist* x, The well beaten pathway

**Well(-)-beco ming,** *ppl a.* Highly befitting or suiting

1530 Palsgr 179/1 Well becommyng, *bien advenant* 1611 Cotgr *Remeant* well beseeming, well becomming 1666 Cotton *Scarron Virgil Travestie* This is the well becoming order which all Churches do observe 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi 94 A well becoming but a weak Relief 1831 Scott *Cr Abbot* xxxvii, Such well becoming his odious garments 1864 Burton *Scot Abr* I ii 102 Or is the l ow of the industr ous c ofter we may yet see the well becoming pride that in the fifteenth century took the honours and distinctions of France as a natural right

**Well be dded,** *ppl a* 1626 Slebl. & Marsh *Country Farm* v xxxii 557 Then you shall try it on a well fe l ed sick 1880 **Well-bet tting,** *ppl a.* 1845 Fox *Haunted Leaves* 23 A throne where sitting In state his glory well befitt ng, The ruler of the realm was seen

**Well bego ne,** *ppl a. Obs* Also 4 well bigon [See Begone B]

1 Well-contented, cheerful, joyous

*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 693 I was neuer S wlyf nor so wel bigon Ne merey en herte I was the 3 *c*1381 — *Parl Foules* 172 But lord so I was glad & wel leg en *c*1400 *Rom Rose* 5535 And certes he is wel big ne Among a thousand that I-ndith oon 1481 *Hocclere Min Poems* xx 11 How welthye a man be or well be gone, Endure it shall not 1530 Palsgr 844 I Well bygone, *bien a gayst* or *bien aise*

**Well(-)begu n,** *ppl a* Favourably or fully started Chiefly in t roverb (see quot. 1639)

1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 38 For accordyng to our englishe prouerbe, a thyng well begoonne, is more then halfe doone 1639 J Clarke *Parœm* 3 Well begun is halfe done. 1708 Ward *Nt Tk* ix 206 And dost thou chuse what men are well begun?

**Well-beha ved,** *ppl a* 1772 H Walpole *Let to Mann* 22 Oct, His cousin is going to him with a commission from Louis the well behaved. [Instead of well beloved ]

**Well-beha ved,** *ppl a* Displaying good conduct or manners, decorous.

1598 Shaks *Merry W* II i. 55 Hee gaue such orderly and well behau ed reproofe to al vncomelinesse, 1653 Fosh *Vita Pity* II vi A very modest well behau d young Maide. 1725 De Foe *Every woman H orld* (1840) 235 His sons were very pretty, wellbehaved youths. 1861 Kingsley *Water Bab* iii 126, I have met one or two creatures like you before, and found them very agreeable and well behaved

*Adapt* 1828 I Cunningham *Cr Wardec* (ed 3) II 253 To live all due encouragement to the well behaved

**Well-being** (we llbi ng), *vbl. sb.* [Cf. F. *bien-être*, mod L. *bene esse* ]

Occas written without the hyphen, as one word or two

1653 Ockenury *A Wyfe*, etc (1658) 46 Man did not the well being of th is life From Woman take; for Being she from Man 1677 Wycherley *Gentleman Dancr* (1893) Epist 5 So many wastes in use f r t e health and well being of man kinde 1696 Berridge *Christ Advice* 8 The publicke-Weale wherein our owne Being and Well-being are wrapped up 1708 B Fuller *Mod Options* (ed 2) 32 Money likewise is essential to the well being of the Body of Man 1723 I erkeley *Bee Guardian* xiv Wks III 150 That beli vious which best suits with the e mon well-being 1774 A Munro *Anat of Nerves* (ed 3) to Circumstances necessary to the Being or Well-e ng of this or t ther particular Creature 1776 J Lucas *Enq Manners* I 155 Matters is nere very t ifle well being of man in all ages. 1837 Dickens *Sketches* IV 121 That parents should solicit de for the well being of his rural depe dants 1849 Cobden *Sp* 58 High prices are incon patible with the well being of this country 1861 Lowell *Fireside Unive* Writ 1890 V 46 A living fact with a direct bearing on the mon well-being 1885 Fleay *Truth Engl Ch* 38 Al thy (faith wi ch I know and believe is essential to the well being of all Christians 1889 J M Rotheram *Inst* 235 Most healthy persons feel a sense of well being after a meal

3. Satisfactory condition (of a thing)

1700 Calamy *Abridgm Baxter's Life & Times* vii 337 He says that Impositions of Things and Words, are necessary not to the Being, but the Well being of Ordination 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxii, His loudly expressed anxiety in every act, or rather thing, for the safety and well being of the new bags the lead r had got hold of 1840 Barham *Ingol Leg* 1st Ser 249 The principles re ts ssary to the well being of the ri

4 *pl* (= individual instances of welfare)

*a* 1672 Wilkins *Nat Rel* 207 He is the Author of our Beings and our well beings 1724 J Pointer *Relation Legf Forbes* 102 *Ads & Trans Mem* So that it may be well with Juste th at we one our Beings to God, and der him our Well bei gs to the Lord

†**Well beknow n,** *ppl a. Obs* In Sc *wellbeknaw* Well known 1553 Douglas *Æneis* VII ii 37 On I nis wellis beknaw and flouris lay 1 **Well pelle wing,** *ppl a. Obs* Easy of belief credulous *c*1370 Coudrey le *Croid* Wks 1720 III 274 Lut lut not pardonable, nor easeno d H ur, your well believing, easie Hearts ensnare.

**Well-belo ved,** *ppl a* and *sb.*

A. *ppl adj.* 1 Dearly loved, greatly beloved

*c*1386 Chaucer *Prol* 215 And wel biloued and f amulier was he With frankeleyns ouer al in his contree 1440 *Promp Parv* 517 *Se rets Secret* 247 With lefe and well eloued Petyll lagh and Play *c*1440 *Ipomedon in Hampshire Wks* (1896) I 218 M st Hawkelone, hee, wel-beloued Iames pulas of Hesus 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 8 The chrysten man as the welbeloued chylde of god 1602 Shaks *Twel C* III iii 10 Through the first yard I were bound I rutus staffe 1648 *Jus Wills* (Camde 1902) Susan Despotin my well beloued wife. 1799 Hr Les *Cursor F, Old Woman's C* (ed. 2) 3 31 Lothaire, my dearly and well beloved page of Louis IX. 1832 Scott *Cr Robt* II Our well beloved and faithful s feed d ughter 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* cii, We leave the well beloved place Where first we gazed upon the sky

2 In letters, decrees, etc, of a sovereign or lord, prefixed to the names or designations of the persons addressed or referred to Usually 'right, trusty and well beloved', cf. Right A 10 Also *absol* (with omission of 2nd), and † (Sc.) with plural ending

1423 *Rolls Parl* V 318 Right wyse and right wel-beloued Fadres in God oure right trusty and welbeloued 1443 Hen VI in Ellis *Orig Lett* Ser iii I 79 Our right trusty and right welbeloued Cousin Isabel of Suffolk *c*1450 *Merl Reg* 653 Our well beloued seed in crist the Abbasse of Shirbourne 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 472 2 Our welebeloueit knycht and counsaiour William S ot of Balcarry 1524 Henry VIII in Pollard *Orig Lett* Ser i 9 Trusty and well-loued we grete you wele 1544 in Ashmole *Feeders* (1719) IV 19 Oure Welebeloueitis How Cu 1564 Brit Mus Stowe MS 571 f 4 Bishop of Abbasse of Coldingham, and th mas Bisshop 1568 *Grafton Chron* II (ed 2) 241 Our right trustie and right well elouc l e Cousin the Earle of Louiter lail 1803 in *Nation Trev* 42 *Scott* (1879) III 2 31 He will tell it to Pope *Orig Lett* Ser i 278 Right trusty and welbeloued Cousin George Keith baron Keith of Stone Haven 1814 Scott *Tr Lochhard* (1837) III x 311 He will tell it to Pope *Orig Lett* Ser i 278 Right trusty and well beloued Councillor Sr C W Duke, 1902 *Burke's Peerage* 1 The Sovereign addressed officially by the Crown 'Our Right trusty and well beloved' *Ib* 3 A Vise unt is off ially a ddressed by the Crown as Our right trusty and well beloved Cousin

**B** *sb* A dearly loved one

1432–50 tr *Higden* VI 190 I rechynge Beda his welebeloyde while that he lyvede 1575 Gascoigne *Lasse of Gooll* in H

Wks 1910 II 47 Nowe my welbeloued and what saith the Markgrave unto you? 1622 Bible *Cant* 1 13 A bundle of myrrhe is my welbeloued vnto me 1795–1814 Wordsw *Excurs* VII 320 The great, the good, The well beloved, the fortunate the wise,—These titles emperors and chiefs have borne *c* 1805 H K White *Hymn, 'Awake, sweet harp* iii God sees his Well Beloved cries here 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* xv 317 Then he comes back to me, for his well-beloved is here

**Well-benched,** *a* [Well *adv* 32] Used to render Homer's *Ὠκυπόροισιν*, epithet of a ship.

1846 Buckley *Iliad* II 33 Let him by hands upon his well benched black ship 1870 Bryant *Iliad* VII 522 From their well benched ships The Achaians also raised 1887 Morris *Odyss* II 424 they brought forth all and laid it within the well benched keel

**Well be nefited,** *a* 1701 Boswell *Johnston* (1904) I 696 A wealthy, well bred and well beneficed clergyman **Well be nee ming,** *ppl a* = Well becoming Hence **Well be nee mingly** *adv* 1588 Shake *Tit A* II iii 56 (Qo 1600) Romes royall Empresse, Vnfurnisht of her well beseeming troope? 1598 — *Hen IV*, I i 14 In mutuall well beseeming rankes. 1611 Cotgr, *Bienseant*, well be seeming, well becomming 1616 *Bienseamment*, comelily, agreably well becomming

†**Well besee n,** *ppl. a. Obs* Also 4 be-, bisoye [see Besee *v* II] Good-looking, of good appearance well appointed or apprizelle1, well furnished *with*, versed or accomplished *in*

*c* 1396 Chaucer *Rom Rose* 821 Feiys he was and wel bese-y [*Contes fu et de bon aguet*] 1450–1530 *Merlin* *Conf* L 302 My wif Which is with reson wel besein *Ib I* III 121 She [Virgin] is with sterres wel besein *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1978 I seiye large full riche and wele besey 1450–1530 Heiwes *Hyd-lace* 1 213 I tikle he wyll richt byge and weyle beseyne 1530 Lvdgate *Bal* 1 Well beyene *then accounted* 1576 R. Pytheon *Q. Helis Cas* 1 *Galatea* 10 A Nyle gentlemen, a ciurte is an I well beseene in all good behauiour 1578 Lyndesay (Pinkerton) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 147 Teo Ior Gaza ane well beseene man with in fatione and speche 1591 Sylvester *Iesprit Du Monde* 651 Effsoones he gins to fashion forth a place, squaring it in compasse well beseene. 1596 — *Fr* V viii 29 The British Prince him reedie did awayte In glistering armes right goodly well beseene 1733 Fr Lindesay *Epithal* xiv, Our dealing Prince to meet Au gusta well-beseen *a* 1911 *Jr* J G Mackay *Fiscottie* (1924) v *Besteng*, Stell'd in a rare well beseine the day *t e* well cl thed or fit to look upon

†**Well bespo ken** *ppl t Obs* Fair spoken, of courteous speech 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (1894) I 73 Answered in right wise and well bespoken 1474 1483 — [see Bespoken 23] 1490 — *Eneydos* x Cviij, Payr and wel bysp̃oken †**Well beutru ted,** *ppl a* Amply dowered or plu rued out 1648 Herrick *Hesper*, *Oberon's Feast* 34 He eates the sagge And well bestrutted Bees sweet bag,e

†**Well betee mingness** *Obs rare* 1, In quot **beteam.** (Ht team v 1) Readiness to vouchsafe or grant 1620 1) Ro ies *Naaman* 178 I hat it [Grace] may appeare in all the excellency and fulnesse, freedome, bounty, unchngeal le nesse and welbeteamingnesse thereof **Well blacked,** *ppl a* 1820 Scott *Nigel* n His low flit cas and his well blacked, shining shoes indicated that he belonged to the city 1860 G H Kingsley in Gallon *Voc Four* 1 54 I sun and a well blacked crock **Well ble nded,** *ppl a* 1708 J Philips *Cyder* 61 Whose liquid Store Abundant, flowing in well blended streams The Natives shall applaud.

†**Well-blo'ded,** *ppl a* Also 7 **-blouded** [see Well *adv.* 32 and Blooded *a.* 2] Having plenty of blood.

16 Middleton, etc. *Old Law* v 1 Trust me, a lusty woman able bodied, And well blooded cheeks *Cle* Oh the paints my Lord. 1688 Lovelace *Lucasta* (1648) 342 His Countenance chearful and well blouded

**We ll-boat.** [see Well *sb* I 6 b]

1 A fishing-boat provided with a well or tank for the storage and transport of live fish

*c* 1600 [see Tone *sb*1] 1662 Gentleman *Angl Way to win Wealth* 79 And these he Pinks an I Well boats of the burthen of fourty Tunnes. 1683 H Cogan tr *Pinto's Trav* xxx 120 Others get their living by selling fish alive, which to that purpose they keep in great well boats 1708 Pennant *Brit Zool* III 301 They [carp] are there a great article of commerce, and sent in well boats to Sweden and Russia 1800 Colquhoun *Comm Thames* xv 438 The wasting in Well boats at Gravesend. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal* 311 Severn Fisheries Board Model of Trunk or Well Boat

†**2** A flat-bottomed boat for landing troops and stores *Obs*

1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) II 482 The 40 well boates I nit at Deptford, which carry about 90 or 3 o oars each, to land men in shoal water 1693 *MSS H of Lords* (N S) I 187 An able seaman to take charge of the well boats at Portsmouth and the stores to be put on board them 1693 *Hist Gen* No. 1056 3 The Bomb Ships, with the 12 Brigantines and Well-Boats went in and Anchored within half a Mile of the Town

**Well-bo den,** *ppl a* Sc [See Boden *ppl a*] Well provided or furnished, fully armed or equipped *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* viii xxxviii (1658) 360 Well bodyn Knichtis men 1498 *Extracts Aberd Reg* (1844) I 60 I hat al frennen compeir at the Cunnegar hill, weilbodin and abilzeit for wer in ther persons 1568 Bergusson *Sc Prov* (S T S) 49 He is well bodden ther ben that needis nather hors nor lond 1808 Jamieson *s v Boden*, *Well bodden*, or *ill bodden*, well or ill provided in whatever respect

**Well-bo died,** *a.* [Well *adv.* 32.] Having good bodily development.

1481 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 59 Sche ys as goodly a pe rsone who name as fayr; as wheilbodyd [etc] 1484 Caxton *Fr de la Tr* v C iij b, Loo ther is a welbodyed woman which is wel worthy to be belouyd of a mme knyght 1596 *A mach to Ax us a Knave* E 4, My Lord, she is Well boiled but her face was something blacke, Lyke those that follow houshold businesse. *a* 1633 Bisning *Comm Prem* Wks (1732) 28/2 By thus he grew to the Stature of a tall and well bodyed Christian 1708 Pore *Dunc* II 40 All as a par tridge plump full fed, and fair, She form'd this image of well body'd air

**Well-bo ding,** *ppl a* 1719 Oldsworth *Calliphedus* II 517 Or when the I yon or the Centaur shines, Or the auspi cious and well bonding I wins **Well bolied,** *ppl a* 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI 871 A knotty Lance of well bol'd Oak be bore [*telum solidum nodis et robore cocto*].

**Well-boned,** *a.* [Well *adv.* 32.]

1 Having large or strong bones

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 8501 Dukke mon he was ynou wel boned [*MS* y boned] & strong 1330 Palsgr 290/1 Well boned, *estre* 1553 Ascham *Rept Germany* 16 Marches Albert is rather wel boned for strength, then ouerlodes with flesh

2 Properly stiffened with whalebone

1887 [see Boned *ppl a* 2] 1901 *Daily News* 12 Jan 6/7 It is made over a carefully fitted, well bone I lining

**Well-booted,** *a* [Well *adv.* 32] 1647 Trapp *Comm Ephes* VI 15 (1656) 772 As one that is well booted or buskined can walk unhurt amidst briers and brambles 1778 Burke *Speech on Conciliation* I though I cannot ride in wel booted pride, And flee e er the hills like a craw, man 1894 A Lang *Ban & Arrière Ban* 45 Lady lady neat Wherefore dost thou weep? Dost thou in sorrow, Or well booted feat?

**Well-born,** *ppl a* [See Born B i d Cf Da *velbaaren*, Du *welgeboren*, G *wohlgeboren* (Mlle *wolgeborn*)

The bulk of examples in ME is noticeable]

1 Of good birth or lineage, of gentle blood

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Luke xix 12 Monn sum wel boren [L *nobilis*] gefeerde on lond un ioden *Æ* rric *Deut* I 15 I. nam wise men and well breine [Vulg *nobiles*]

1595 Shake *John* II i 278 As many and as well borne bloods as those 1598 — *Merch Ven* III 2 Which is he you see well borne men to despise honest callings 1667 Dryden *Secret Love* I iii (1668) 13 My Cousin is Valiant and wise and well born 1711 — *Spect* No 280 But not of Royal blood 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xiii xii There is a something in persons well born, which others can never attain 1784 Cowper *Task* II 423 With a well bred whisper close and courteous 1808 Miss C. Smith *Rosalind* II 97 You sit at a ch a well bred distance from ea h other one wo l l sweat you had been married 24 years, instead of 24 h rs 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxiii Thus reminded only ans wered in a hint with a well I red stare which gave no sort of en couragement 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle I* vii 173 His manner was grave to sadness, but extremely well bred

2 Of good breed or stock Said of animals

1815 *Sporting Mag* XLVI 118 I knew in these days ru n s of fair repute, and I as well bred as any horses up n exile 1859 Cleaveland *Coll Worthies* 204 When the horse is well bred and has good bottom

**Well**)**browed,** *ppl a* 1713 *Ital Trans* XXVIII 135 A small and well browed Beer 1876 Geo Eliot *Dan Deronda* I, He was neat but not showy in his dress, so that the atmosphere was well brewed to a visible haze

†**Well**)**broke,** *ppl a Obs* 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Cudy*, Leaves that are cut into various beautiful Stripes, according to the Ground of their Foundation Self colour but this must be intirely thrown off otherwise they don t esteem a Flower well broke 1796 C Marshall *Garden* VIII (1813) 104 Having thrown on a little good sand and well broke mould

**Well**)**broken,** *ppl a* 1580 Blundevil *Art of Riding* II x 198, I to say the truth weshines an I back ed horses, that have some vnie bow, but the well broken, I to do it e same 1728 Mandeville *Bees bees* (1733) II 310 All horses ve ungovernable, that are not well broken 1857 *Puchanan s Jr nd ndsky Mag* 1737 I am sorry that I was not t umerous T choice, it may be said to have been well broke 1874 *Animal Life Jas Stud Sch* 147 A brace of remark ably well broken pointers 1884 Blackmore *Lorna D* Abounding in streams 1887 Morris *Odyss* xv 295 Well broken was she in ring, and the well broken Chalus shore[Κλαλεῖα πολυκάπνοιο] **Well**)**brought-up,** *ppl a.* (see Bring *v* 27 b) 1861 Cobden *Morgan* 28 Well brought up Mount Edgcumbe *Mus Remin* (ed 2) 119 She was the daugh ter of an English gentleman and well brought up 1861 Miss *Gledd* III 40 An ordinary girl, brought up young woman 1866 Mrs Carpyn *Quaker Grandmother* 6 She had an adopt ible well be brought up Lie **Well browed,** *a* (see Well brow) 1583 *Babees Book*, *Eng Wom* 37 Your wives, Thomas *Med Housewife* 59 A well browned crust of bread 1904 Slaugh *Lovers in Japan* II vi, Won t a cigarette do? he asked, pulling out a well browned leat er case **Well-brown,** *a* 1887 Scotch *Grocer* 144 Sugar very Thin clean linen and well brushed coat 1835 Dickens *Sk Boz*, *Parl Sk*, A well brushed suit of black

**We ll-bu cket.** [Well *sb* I 3] A bucket used to draw water from a well by means of a rope and pulley or windlass

Often in pairs, one on each end of a rope so arranged that the empty bucket descends while the filled one is raised

1477–9 *Rec St Mary at Hill* 81 For a welbokette to harry Williamsons well, and for ij welbokettes 1564 *Inv in Surrey Archæol Collect* VII 240 Item a Well Bukket wt a rope & a Chayne, xiijs 1868 Holme *Academy* III 296 a He knoweth Argent, a Bucket Sable, the Handle and Hoops, Or This is termed for distinction, a Well Bucket 1695 Dryden *Dufresnoy's Art Paint*, *Colours* 70 The Muscles are so many Well buckets, when one of them is and drawn, the i necessary that their mate should stay 1709 *Brit Apollo* II No 6 3/1 You like two Well Buckets As neat, Which always mount clash when they re near 1823 Cobbett *Rur Rides* (1885) I 326, I saw a large well bucket, and all the chains and wheels belonging to such a concern

**Well-bui lded,** *ppl a.* Also 4 -bild = next

*c* 1400 Maundev IX (1919) 38 An Abbeye of Monkes wel bylded *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1563 Grete pale of prise, plenty of houses, Wele bild all alle out of the best wise 1535 Coverdale *Jer* II 7 When I had brought you in to a lieasaunt well buylyded londe *c* 1812 Chapman *Iliad* XVIII 332 Twenty Tripods I to set for stooles about the sides of his well builded hall 1647 H More *Song of Soul* II App XLVI 215 Seeing th se few that were kept safe in store In that well builded ship

**Well-built,** *ppl. a.*

1. Of a house, town, ship, nest, etc.

c1581 Chapman *Iliad* vi. 14 Axilus, that did dwell In faire Arisbas well-built towres. 1615 — *Odyss.* xiii. 132 The well-built Ships. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* i. 196 The fashion of a well-built City. 1820 Shelley *'When the Lamp'* 18 When hearts have once mingled, Love first leaves the well-built nest. 1858 W. Ellis *Madagascar* xii. 309 The houses were all well-built, with clean swept court yards around them. 1870 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 230 On arriving at the well-built cairn, the prospect is magnificent.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* (e. g. of a person or animal, a suit of clothes, a poem).

1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xv. 302 This is well-built consolation which reaches the heart. 1706 [see Built *ppl. a.* 2]. 1707 Junr *Sat. Poets* 19 The Author then, whose daring hopes would strive With well-built Verse to keep his Fame alive. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I. v, This Gentleman...was of a middle Size, and what is called well built. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 269 His mill, well-built figure was shown off to advantage by his magnificent dress. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* I. iii, She was a strong, well-built woman, of about six or seven and twenty. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* vii, He was wearing a remarkably well-built suit of rough yellowish stuff.

Hence **Well-built'ness,** *nonce-wd.*

1899 H. Wright *Depopulation* 2 One saw the city standing out in all its strength of substantial well-builtness.

**Well-burnished,** *ppl. a.* 1787 Hunter *W. Crutch* 2 Auld chuckie Reekie's sair distress, Down droops her ance well-burnish't crest. **Well-burnt,** *-burned, ppl. a.* 1727 De Foe *Compl. Eng. Tradesman* I. iii. (1732) 23 The brick-maker's men...turn'd their hands from the grey hard well-burnt bricks to the soft sammel half-burnt bricks. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* viii. (1842) 288 A piece of well-burned charcoal. 1832 J. Watson *Compl. Poulterer* (1893) 15 On a well-burnt moor the best poaching method is by using a silk net. **Well-ca'culated,** *ppl. a.* 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* 187 Their conviction was matured by well-calculated expedients. **Well-calved,** *a.* 1744 *Essay on Acting* 14 A...prominent Chest, and a well-calv'd Leg. 1883 T. H. Huxley *Sapiens* Ser. II. *Mem. of Many Pec.* (Colburn) 136 A pair of superfine ladies' footmen, with well-calved legs and broad shoulders.

**Well(-)carriaged,** *a.* See Carriaged.

**Well-carved,** *ppl. a.* 1625 Chapman *Odyss.* viii. 614 Nausicaa...Stood by a well-carv'd Columne of the roome. **Well-caulked,** *ppl. a.* 1697 Dryden *Æneis* iv. 575 And well-caulk'd Galliots the Embourdre. **Well-changed,** *ppl. a.* 1635-56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 30 Lo, with pure hands thy heav'nly Fires to take, My well-changed Muse I a chast Vestal make! **Well-cha'racterized,** *ppl. a.* 1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* I. xxvi. 176 Referred to the south of are flagstones, sandstones, and other well-characterized beds of the system. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall, etc.* ii. 31 Well-characterized lithomarge beds. † **Well-cheered,** *a. Obs.* Of good cheer, cheerful. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* I. 3 God hits wele chered gifers. 1535 Misyn *Fire of Love* 11. viii. 89 Per doulles welcheryd þa sal hym see. † **Well-choosing,** *ppl. a. Obs.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iv. (1922) 110 Neither hath the one any feare, but a well choosing judgement.

† **Well-chose,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

1682 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Res. Poetry* 133 Of well-chose words some take not care enough. 1751 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 188 Confirm it by a few well-chose arguments.

**Well(-)chosen,** *ppl. a.* Carefully or happily selected.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 12 The girle they well chosen mistresse, perchaunce shall defend thee. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 17 Heere comes the King, *Rich.* And his well-chosen Bride. 1636-56 Cowley *Pindarics* iv. last line, But, Lo! they 'arriv'ed now at th' appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the Chase. 1697 Walsh *Dryden's Virgil Life* 7 A well chosen Library, which stood open to all comers of Learning and Merit. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 93 P 10 To the Mind never unbends itself so agreeably as in the Conversation of well chosen Friends. 1755 Young *Centaur* i. 5 Well-chosen Pleasure is a branch of happiness. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 393 Then to his book, Well chosen, and not stuffed with all the selfish silence.

b. esp. of words or language.

a 1704 Locke *Cond. Underst.* § 31 Well-chosen Similies, Metaphors, and Allegories. 1733 *Trav. J. Massey* 21 The Terms in which he expressed himself were strong, and well chosen. 1828 Whately *Rhet.* III. ii. § 9. 243 A well-chosen epithet may often suggest...an entire Argument. 1845 Lowell *Poets & Y. Europe* (1871) 600 His language is simple, well-chosen, and beautiful.

**Well-ci'rcumstanced,** *a.* In good circumstances, well off. 1881 M. Arnold *Pop. Educ. France* 99 Parents, even the well-circumstanced, receive gladly...this boon of free education for their children.

**Well(-)clad,** *ppl. a.*

1484 Caxton *Chivalry* viii. (Ellis) 91 To a Knyght appertayneth...to haue fayr harnoys and to be well clade. 1684 *List Military* To Rdr, Four Thousand advantagiously Trained, and well clad Men. a 1798 Burns *As on the banks o'* 19 When a' my weel-clad mates could see Their woody pictures in my tile. 1907 McCarthy *Needles & Pins* xx, You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

**Well-cleansed,** *ppl. a.* 1598 Chapman *Iliad* VIII. (1598) 117 Ships when he had infuse Into the greene well-cleansed wound,...the wound did bleede no more. **Well-closed,** *ppl. a.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 27 But that [their breath] hoped to bee drawne in againe to that well closed paradise. 1696 Earl Monm. *Tr. Socialist's Advice, fr. Parnassus.* II. xiv. (1699) 150 Each of them [drawn] a Ball from forth a well-closed Urne. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* III. 28 The dry mass is...transferred to well-closed bottles. **Well-clothed,** *ppl. a.* 1636 Crashaw *Temperance* 21 A well-cloth'd soul; that's not oppress Nor cloak'd with what she should be dress'd. 1797 Somerville *Occas. Poems* 353 He bow'd, obey'd, well-cloath'd, well-fed, And with his Patron's Children bred.

**Well-co'loured,** *ppl. a.*

c 1400 [see Coloured *ppl. a.* 2]. 1449-52 Metham *Whs.* 92 Qwan the myd lyne ys..euyn and wele colourd, yt sygnyfyth a myrythi stomake. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xvii. 42 He was but a childe, well coloured, and beutyfull to loke vpon. 1592 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 37 Those eyes that now these now well coloured, Shall see thee withered, bloody, pale, and dead. 1686 Charleton *Myst. Vintners* (1979) 164 In which time the Wine usually becomes well-coloured and bright. 1738 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 153 The rich Buffet well-colour'd Serpents grace. 1923 *Oxford Mag.* 6 Nov. 67/1 Well-coloured wines...in a well-coloured and original style.

† **Well-commended,** *ppl. a.* 1603 R. Pricket *Soudiers Wish* C 1, For God commands each welcommended means To shield a kingdome from an enemies.

**Well-compacted,** *ppl. a.*

1628 Venner *Baths of Bathe* 1 Bathe...is a little well-compacted Citie. 1720 Pope *Iliad* xxii. 6 Advancing o'er the Fields beneath one Body of well-compacted Shields. 1785 — *Odyss.* xxi. 253 At ev'ry portal let some matron wait, And each lock fast the well-compacted gate. 1823 Scott *Tristrem.* iii, The accuracy of proportion displayed in his nervous and well-compacted figure. 1864 Milman *Lat. Chr.* III. v. (1864) II. 11 The solid and well-compacted body of Roman law. 1874 Tr. Eliot *Coll. Breads/.-P.* 815 Close by the stream where well-compacted boats Were moored.

† **Well-compe'xioned,** *a. Obs.* Having a good complexion (constitution, colour, etc.).

1613 [see Complexioned 1]. 1620 S. Ward *Life of Faith Indeed* (1627) 10 Such soules...as place is to be found, to be in a full fedde, and well complexioned body. 1635 Bereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc) 105 Proper, personable, well-complexioned, and of good colour. 1688 Collins *Several Disc.* (1730) 15 And yet when Nature seems thus vigorous and strong, thus healthy and well complexion'd, 'twill then sicken, and sink on the sudden. 1713 [see Complexioned 3].

**Well(-)compo'sed,** *ppl. a.* 1606 Shake. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 79 The Grecian youths are...well compos'd, with guift of nature. 1651 Gataker *Riddley* in Fuller *Abel Redev.* 104 His very outward aspect...bespeaks a well composed inside. 1792 Burke *Let. Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1907 V. 210 It was a complete system,...well digested and well composed in all its parts.

† **Well(-)conce'ited,** *a. Obs.*

1. Displaying good fancy or invention; witty, ingenious.

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 30 Well conceited, Davy. 1598 — *Much Ado* v. *Villanis* II. vi. E 6 b, Such straines of well-conceited poesie.

2. Of persons: Having a favourable opinion (of a person or thing).

1640 D. Rogers *Naaman* 227 Weakely...affecting them who have...well-conceited of me, tender and indulgent. 1649 [see Conceited *ppl. a.* 2]. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C. Ded.*, I am not...so well conceited of any Composition...of mine, as to think...to give any Honour by this Dedication. a 1677 [see Conceited *ppl. a.* 2].

**Well-conce'ited,** *ppl. a.*

1725 Pope *Odyss.* xxiii. 33 With well-concerted art to end his woes. 1744 Young *Nt. Th.* I. 326 Death's bolt is sped within...Sinill'd at thy well-concerted scheme. 1768-76 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) I. 483 Wisdom...pursues invariably one grand and well concerted design. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xvii. 262 By a well-concerted opposition and peaceable exposure of their grievances.

**Well-conce'rted,** *ppl. a.* 1676 Wiseman *Surg.* IV. vi. 414, I...was by Incision, and discharged a well-concocted Matter. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Sobriety in our riper years is the effect of a well-concocted warmth. 1787 Cowper *Let.* 16 Dec. The well concocted jokes. **Well-concorded,** *ppl. a.* Duly harmonized. 1811 *Henry & Isabella* I. 227 Of all the utilities of this well concorded creation, the inventory of calamities...is one of the last which we learn to comprehend.

**Well-condi'tioned,** *a.*

1. Of good disposition, morals, or behaviour; having good 'conditions' or qualities; right-minded.

c 1482 *Monk Evesham* (Arb.) 75 He yat was so honeste of lyuyng...and so well condycyonyd in hys demenyng. a 1500 *Prouip. Parv.* 521/1 (MSS. K., H.) Well condiciond or manerȝd, *morosus, vel bene morigeratus.* a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 583 Ye be both wise and well conditioned. 1632 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 30 Their King (then, sixteene yeares old, and well-conditioned). 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* v. p. 242 Sec, in his well-ordered mind, A Third To match with your good Couple. 1835 Pod *Hans Pfaall* (init.), The well-conditioned city of Rotterdam. 1880 Emerson *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 298 See what allowance vice finds in well-proportioned and well-conditioned men. 1884 Mrs. Annand *Ext. Cri.* 285 (*M. Aurelius*) They sincerely regarded it (Christianity) much as well-conditioned people, with us, regard Methodism. 1889 Fraser *Corinthians* 1. 84 The book is wrought into the mind and memory of every well-conditioned English or American child. 1905 R. Garnett *Wake* 218 Nor thy full assurance I have feigned her Contrite and well-conditioned at the last.

2. Having a good physical condition; being in a sound, healthy, or satisfactory state.

a 1823 Raleigh *Let. to Prr. Henry* Sceptick, etc. (1651) 128 In a well conditioned Ship, these things will not happen.

1820 Mabie *tr. Altman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 240 Not a barrell that was missing, and...they were sound and well-conditioned. 1879 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 240 Father Simon...was a godly well condition'd Man, very free in his Conversation. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* II. s. v. *Sugar*, The other well-conditioned Bottings. 1732-4 Reynolds *Conundrum* II. xxiii. 172 A pretty estate, which, tho' not large, was well-conditioned, and capable of improvement. 1735 In Hughes *Insurances* I. 5 The Goods are arrived and brought a-shore safe and well-conditioned at Ancona. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xxvii. 205 The devoted horse is in fact a well-conditioned animal. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xii. Surveying with an eye of satisfaction his ...well-conditioned cattle.

b. *spec.* in *Surg.*

1672 Wiseman *Wounds* II. iii. 12 If you judge the Wound to be no well conditioned that there is neither fear of Putrefaction nor Mortification. 1676 — *Surg.* II. i. 165 If the Constitution be good, and the Serum well-conditioned. 1883 Gouldie (Annandale), *Well-conditioned,...in surg.* being in a state tending to health; as, a well-conditioned wound or sore.

3. Established on good terms or conditions.

1645 Fuller *Gd. Th. in Bad T.* IV. vi. 205 A well-conditioned Peace. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Deronda* lxvii, An irksome submission to restraints, only made bearable by his thinking of it as a means of by-and-by securing a well-conditioned freedom.

**Well-condu'cted,** *ppl. a.*

1. Properly directed, managed, or carried out.

1749 Francis tr. *Horace, Art P.* 34 *note*, A regular well-conducted Piece. 1752 Mason *Effrida, Lett. Drama* iii. p. ix, The advantages the Audience receiv'd from a well-conducted Chorus. 1803 Chalmers in *Life* (1941) I. 479 A series of judicious and well-conducted experiments. 1842 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 185 Hence land, after a well-conducted fallow, is always more productive of good grain than when it has undergone any other preparation. 1844 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. 157 Every well-conducted restaurant nowadays is conducted on these principles.

2. Displaying exemplary conduct, well-behaved.

1838 Dickens *Nickleby* iv, Whether you consider me a highly virtuous...and well-conducted man in private life. 1853 Thackeray *Sorrows of Werther*, Like a well-conducted person, Went on cutting bread and butter. 1873 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 302 Well-conducted and meritorious citizens.

**Well(-)conne'cted,** *ppl. a.*

1. Linked together in good order or sequence; exhibiting proper sequence or coherence of thought.

1738 Berkeley *Analyst* ii. 5 When from the distinct Contemplation of Homogeneous Comparisons a Habit is acquired, by a perpetual well-connected chain of Consequences. 1782 Johnson *L. T. Milton* I. 262 It [*Samson Agonistes*] wants that power of attracting the attention, which a well-connected plan produces. 1804 [see Connected 1]. *ibid.* a. 3].

2. Of good family and connexions.

1840 [see Connected *ppl. a.* 3]. 1858 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. i, He learnt from other sources that the Ernscliffes were well connected. 1872 Le Fanu *Rose & Key* I. xiv. 126 The vicar is a well-connected old gentleman.

*absol.* 1882 W. S. Gilbert *Iolanthe* (*Ballad*), Spurn not the nobly born With love which you affected, Nor treat with virtuous scorn The well-connected.

**Well-conned,** *ppl. a.* 1808 Scott *Marm.* III. Introd. 229 From me, thus nurtur'd, dost thou ask The classic poet's well-conned task? † **Well-conniected,** *a. Obs.* [Wks. *adv.* 3a.] 1a... *T. Beckwith* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* II. 168 Such wele consyvenced persones. 1534 [see Consciencied]. **Well-conse'nting,** *ppl. a.* 1715 Pope *Iliad* I. 370 Let both unite, with well-consenting voice.

**Well-consi'dered,** *ppl. a.*

1. That has received due heed or consideration; carefully reflected on.

1769 Burnow *Repl. K. B.* (1776) IV. 2347 A solemn well-considered Determination. 1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. Hight *ed.* I. 107 We testify...by this well-considered address, to inquire into treasons. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 75 The cock...wading at their head With well-consider'd steps. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* III. iii, Mrs. Deane was a thin-lipped woman, who made small well-considered speeches on peculiar occasions. 1865 [see Considered *ppl. a.* 2].

2. Highly esteemed.

1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xii. 112 He...was a well-considered poet in his own lounge.

**Well-consi'dered,** *ppl. a.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 11 So forth they pass, a well consorted paire.

**Well-co'nstituted,** *ppl. a.* Of good make or constitution; rightly formed or framed.

a 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1768 II. 279 If we should see no cause to please a well constituted mind. 1832 J. H. Newman *Arians* ii. 1. (1876) 143 So reluctant is a well-constituted mind to reflect on its own motive principles. 1836 A. Comte *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 263 A healthy and well-constituted nurse. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* iii. 47 What is it that has made an orderly and well-constituted state, Solon answered, 'When the people obey the rulers, and the rulers obey the laws'.

**Well-constru'cted,** *ppl. a.* 1784 Cowper *Trivia.* 523 If shirwed, and of a well-constructed brain.

**Well(-)co'nte-nt,** *a.* Highly pleased, gratified, or satisfied.

c 1440 [see Content *a.* 2]. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 257 Whan rowlande sawe that they were armed, he was not well contente wyth it. 1556 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 298 Off the quhilk somme forsaid I grantt me well content, satisfit, and paist. 1645 Waller *Battle Summer Isl.* iii. 32 Now would the men with half their hoped pray Ilee well content. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 805 He that finds One drop of heav'n's sweet mercy in his cup, Can dir, beg, rot and perish, well content, So he may wrap himself in honest rags At his last gasp. 1788 [see Content *a.* 2]. 1864 Tennyson *En. Arden* 323 So Philip rested with her well-content.

**Well(-)conte'nted,** *ppl. a.*

1555 R. Powell *Musculus' Temporiser* iii. E]b, Being well contented to suffre & indure all that the Lord hath ordeined for me, in that behalf. 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* xxxii, If thou survive my well contented daie. 1611 *Tarlton's Jests* (1638) 3 But I, being well contented, sate still. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 340 Thus he in her, well contented with the joy Of his return, went his way well contented to find her know not how to amend it. a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* xiii. (1673) 238 Then there was no such rout Of goals, as now: a few did serve throughout The well-contented skies. 1842 Tennyson *Gard. Daut.* 88 From the woods Came voices of the well-contented doves. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. 431 Unless The dawn...should creep Cold-footed o'er their well contented sleep.

**Well-conte'nting,** *ppl. a.* 1648 Trapp *Comm. St. John* xxi. 24, 151 Humility...would chuse to live and die in its well-contenting secrecy. **Well-conte'sted,** *ppl. a.* 1804 *Oxf. Jrnl.* 28 Jan. 1, 2 Wimbledon Common,...where Belcher

has fought many a well contested round 1835 DICKENS *Sk Boz, Lover* A well contested rowing match on the Thames, in a very lively and interesting scene **Well contr'uned,** *ppl a* Diligently carried on or maintained 1534 NORR *Counf agst Trib* III xvii (1553) Q viij b, Howbeit, if this persecution come, we be by it the meditacion and well contrived intente and purpose, the better strengthed and confirme I 1644 MILTON *Educ* 2 Their untutor'd Anglicisms, not to be avoided without a well continu'd and diligent conversing among t ure Authors.

**Well-contrived,** *ppl a*

1613 JOCOSE *Dr t* I 2, Lake Natures rarest workmanship the Eye, The well contrived instrument of seeing 1620 [see SCARLET 1 9 b] 1711 LADY *Fallacies Archit* (1726) II 56 The well contriv'd Stair case of the Castle of Chambor 1784 COWPER *Task* III 603 Nor taste alone and well contriv'd display Suffice to give the marshall'd ranks the grace Of their complete effect 1808 FOSBROKE *Beauties Scot* V 23 A deep large well contrived ditch secures it from the north.

**Well contro lled,** *ppl a* c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IX 128 Twelve yong horse, well shap't and well controld Well **cooked,** *ppl a* 1611 [see COOK *v* 2] 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol Digestion* (ed 2) 285 Plain well cooked animal food not too recently killed 1865 MRS GASKELL *Wives & Daus* xxviii, I hen the meals is, hit and well cooked, suited his taste and deli ate appetite so much better than beer **Well corked,** *ppl a.* 1774 E LONG *Jamaica* III 886 A scorpion, a house spider, and a cockroach, were put all together for experiment into a well-corked phial

**Well-cornered,** *ppl a* of

†1. Covered with a good crop of corn *Obs.*

1652 MAYNE *tr Donne's Ignat* Paradoxes 98 Glebes, which were long of sun and skie bereav'd, Now the Dutch Plowmen see well corn'd & shrowded

2 Of cereals beans, peas Bearing a good head of grain or seeds

1800 1865 [see CORNED *a* 3 4].

3 Of beef High cured by salting.

1779 *Ann Reg* 221 Beef, half famished, every hour Biscuit and well corn'd beef devour

4. Upholstered with liquor *Sc.* and *dial*

1825 JAMIESON *v* CORN *v* 2

**Well corre cted,** *ppl a* Properly disciplined or regulate l 1711 STEELE *Sp t* No 100 P 4 When a well corrected lively Imagination and good Breeding are added to a sweet Disposition

**Well-couched,** *ppl a.*

1. Of a structure Firmly bedded or based

1538 [see COUCH *v* 3 b] 1608 B HALL *Char Virtues & Vices* II 104 He is the wheele of a well couched fire worke, that flies out on all sides, without stop or stay 1618 SELDEN 1639 [see TRUNCHEON *sb* 6] 1675 [see COUCHED *ppl a.*].

2 Of speech Skilfully framed or expressed.

1625 K LONG *tr Barclay's Icarus* V 335 He, in well-couched Language, beseecheth Polarchus to use his fortune moderately 1644 MILTON *Educ* 61 go, with all her well couch't heads and Topics 1649 — *Eikon* xxiii 98 We have hear a neat and well couch'd Invective against Lawyers 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab Bees* (1723) I 128 Whilst harm's from Musick and well-couch'd Flattery entertain his Hearing by Turns

3 Skilfully or craftily planned

1672 MILTON *P R* I 37 Not f ee, but well couch't fraud, well woven snares.

**Well-cou nterfeited,** *ppl a* 1625 K LONG *tr Barclay's Argenis* I 21 29 With well counterfeited griefe

**Well-coupled** see COUPLED 3

**Well-co vered,** *ppl. a*

1697 WALSH *Dryden's Virgil* Life 22 In other Writers there is often well cover'd Impudence, in Virgil, concealed Learning 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson an* 1776 (1904) II 46 My worthy booksellers an I friends Messieurs Dilly in the Poultry at whose hospitable and well covered table I have seen a greater number of literary men, than at any other 1824 SOUTHEY *Pantisphoion* 122 They are then cooked without water, in a well-covered vessel 1884 MRS GASKELL *Wives & Daus* xxxiii, Till he had picked him, nothing loth in the well covered dining tal le 1884 *Nonconf & Indep* 9 May 445/2 Thrusting his elbow into the well covered ribs of Mr W H Smith

**Well crammed** *ppl a* 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 324 Where are thy boasted implements of art, An I all thy well cramm'd magazines of the deadly? 1818 *Blackw* II 464 A well Noble, valiant (Cf obs. *F tien cred*) a 1588 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IX (1922) 130 She strengthened her well created heart

**Well-cross.** Now *dial* [OE. *wylleurse, -cerse* see WELL *sb*1 and CRESS] Water cress, *Nasturtium officinale*

c 1000 *Sax Leech* I 140 Seoð mid wylle cærsan [L *cum fani cresc*] c 1000 *Ags Ps* 22 in Wr Wülcker 298/16 *Fenegrecca* wyllecerse 1393 LANGLAND *P Pl* C VII 293 Sat were the laurer lyued yet 23 Pan bladie my fode and my fyndy ige of false menne wynnynges 24 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 537/24 *Nasturcium*, walkarse *Third* 713/17 *Hoc nasturcium*, welcresse 1597 in *Yorkshire Club Misc.* (1841) I 105 Sche commaundit him to send Johne to eat valcarse 1808 JAMIESON *Well kerses* water cresses called also *wall* or *well grass* 1894 *Northumbrld Gloss* s.v *Kers Watter-kers* are also called *well kasses*

**Well(-)cre sted.** *a* [WELL *adv* 32] Furnished with a good crest, *fig* proud, high spirited

1642 HOWELL *Inst Prat* (Arb) 76 It being the greatest glory of a king, to be king of a free and well crested people 1680 *Iust Gaz* No 176 8/4 A White grey Roan Gelding well Crested

**Well cropped,** *ppl a* Bearing a good crop 1798 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I 235 These rich meadows, and well crops acres. **Well crushed,** *ppl a* 1880 GEO ELIOT *Mill on Fl* I xii, The precious inland products, the well-crushed cheese and the soft fleeces.

**Well-cu ltivated,** *ppl a*

c 1720 CONGREVE *tr Quad Wks.* 1730 III 304 And plente ous Crops of golden Grain are found, Alone, to grace well cultivated Ground 1735 SHOLLETT *Quint* (1803) IV 221 A student of acute parts, and a well cultivated understanding 1781 GIBBON *Decl & F* XXX III 171 The banks of the Rhine were crowned with elegant houses and well cultivated farms 1847 MRS GORE *Castles in Air* I 21 The thriving cheering aspect of our well cultivated kingdom 1879 MRS HAWEIS *Art of Dress* 124 We are offending well cultivated eyes and well regulated minds

**Well cu ltured,** *ppl a* 1683 J REID *Scots Gardiner* (1907) 87 Kitchen herbes and roots require very fat, light, warme, and well cultured ground

†**Wellcurda** (also **weale, wel-**), obs var. *welled curds* : see WELLED *ppl a.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict*, *Schiston* the mylke that remayneth after that the mylke is sodden, whiche is called well curdates 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Schistum*, weale curddes 1577 B GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* III 148 Of the Whey that commeth from the Cheese, being sodde with a soft fyre tyl the substance of the Cheese swym aloft, are made Welcurdes [*Marg.*m Wellecurds]

**Well cured,** *ppl a* 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XVII (ed 3), A slice of streaky, well cured bacon. 1854 W BRAMSTON *Mr Hamilton* II 238 The kitchen was well furnished, too, with well cured hams and good thick sides of bacon

**Well-curled,** *ppl a.* 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 177 See that they [*sc* sheep] have a soft grass we well curled clean Woll 1833 T HOOK *Parson's Dau* I xi The well curled damsels, standing at the shop doors 1859 *Habits Gd Society* 186 The heather should be well curled, long at i firm **Well-curried,** *ppl a* 1825 W H IRELAND *Scribblemania* 1 My paffrey a long eas'd and well-curried ass **Well-cushioned,** *ppl a* 1797 VANCOUVER *Agric Devon* 127 The light Dorset swing plough has a well curved iron breast **Well cu shioned,** *a* 1800 MISS YONGE *C test Kate* I, Round, white, well cushioned limbs 1857 *Westm Gaz* 3 May 2/1 To be speedily well settled down to his well cushioned life **Well(-)cu stomed,** *ppl a* 1594 PLAT *Jewell ho* 1 66 But this [trick of the vintners] is dangerous unless it be in a house well custome l 1681 *Lond Gaz* No 1578/4 A l a e and well customed Inn

**Well(-)cut,** *ppl a*

1635 56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV 288 His Epbod, Mitre, well-cut Diadem, and Sword 1638 GEO MACKENZIE *Aph in Works's Collect Sc Pieces* II (1709) 79 A well cut Crystal, in a richer Case Covers and Shews it once that Virgin's Face 1721 in Verd *Church-yards by Poore* (1932) 18 Close, Cover'd by some well cut Hooks, Let a thin Hasto tell In sp ght of plump and pamper d Looks, How vanity sense can dwell 1843 R HERRON *Conservative's Wks* (Hohn) II 97, Your tools are well cut and well ground 1846 C BRONTË *Shirley* xi, A well cut, well made gown 1856 H G WELLS *Wheels of Chan* x 3 A well cut holiday suit

**Well dabbled,** obs form of WELLED *v.*

**Well dea ling,** *ppl a* Fair in dealing or business with others 1590 SHAKS *Com Err* I 1 7 The rn corous curtsie of your Duke, To Merchants our well dealing Countrimen

**Well-de ported,** *ppl a* 1859 *Habits Good Society* v 191 One well dealt blow settles the whole matter

**We ll-deck.** [WELL *sb*1 9 b] An open space on the main deck of a ship, lying at a lower level between the forecastle and poop, also *attrib* Hence **We ll-decked** *a*, furnished with a well-deck. Also **We ll-de cker,** a ship with a well-deck.

1888 *Daily Tel* 29 Mar 3/1 The objection to the well-deck ship is not due to structural form 1888 *Engineer* 8 June 468/1 Steamers of the 'well-deck' type 1888 *Fron* 21 June 5/3 The well-decked steamer of 2170 feet length 1888 *Illst* 20 July 65 The *Hurworth* has a poop, long raised quarter deck, long forecastle, and a topgallant f re castle, leaving a good well-deck 1895 *Ingram's Illust Mag* 129/2 A large p portion of the steamers built and owned at West Hartlepool are well deckers 1898 KIPLING *Day's Work* I 3 In the long windships, which was a well-deck sunk between high bulwarks

**Well(-)decked,** *ppl a* [DECKED *ppl a*]

1 Finely adorned

1530 [see DECKED *ppl a* 1] 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well ourpyssyd with lawne, *garnyr* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* X 4 As quicke lightnings flie From well deckt Iuno's soueraigne, out of the thickest skie 1865 [see DECKED *ppl a.* 1].

2 Furnish a good deck

1887 MORRIS *Odyss* IX 127 The well decked ships.

†**Well-dee ded,** *a Obs.* [f. WELL *adv* 32 + DEEDED (cf WEL-DEDE) Characterized by good deeds

1612 R CARPENTER *Pathway Saints* 92 The witnes and inward testimony of a well deeded life will strengthen comfort you in death 1623 — *C nsectionable Chr* 69 There is a reward in heauen for all well deeded Christians prepared 1650 I BALE *Comm*, *Numb* XXII 28 A well spoken and well-deeded per on

†**Well deemed,** *ppl a. Obs* Of good report, much accounted of 1581 J SPENSER *Calvin Court* 65, By vil standing he well deemed of 1588 **Well deft aced,** *ppl a Obs* 1616 [see DEFENCED]. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Apol Voy Guiana* (1650) 15 From hence we sayled to Gomarvah, one of the strongest and well defenced places of all the Islands

**Well-defe nded,** *ppl a*

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III XXVIII (1912) 516 Pressing upon Zelmane in such a well defended manner, that [etc] 1603 SHAKS *Meas for M* V 1 407 Whose salt imagination yet hath wrong'd Your well defended honor *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII 244 Vaine entire seeking vnderneath our well-defended walls 1616 DRYDEN *Æneis* II 933 Soon repulst they fly, Or in the well defended Pass they dye 1829 SCOTT *Ayrs* I G XXXIII, Instead of attempting to secure a well defended frontier 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I 169 We freely will appoint for thee Threefold and fourfold recompense, should Jove Give up to sack this well defended Troy.

**Well-defined,** *pl. a.* Clearly indicated, marked, or determined.

1704 NEWTON *Optics* II 1 (1721) 171 When the Rings appeare l only black and white, they were very distinct and well defined. 1823 J DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat Libr) 154 A numerous and well defined family, including nearly 800 known species. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl* II XXVIII 279 There was one well defined lead which lost itself to seaward 1865 LIEBUCH *Perihiat Times* 161 His well defined geographical and historical range 1879 CROCKETT *Ast Kennedy* XXXIX 276 If Kit had looked closely he would have seen that his fra knees had brought a well defined blush to her cheek

**Well deft wered,** *ppl a.* 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* II 53 These cuirasses were not proof against a well delivered thrust of the point of the sword or dagger **Well-de men red,** *ppl. a* Of good manners or behaviour 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III v (1655) 54 A very handsom fellow, And well demean d. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser II xii, The young queen was well dressed and well demeaned. **Well-(-)deri ved,** *ppl a* Of good descent or stock 1595 SHAKS *Two Gent* V iv 146 Thou art a Gentleman and well deriv d 1601 — *All's Well* II ii 90 My sonne corny'd a well derived nature With his inclination **Well(-)desc ended,** *ppl a* Of good descent 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb* V iv 393 Sicil. Sir King This man is better then the man he slew, As well descended as thy selfe 1650 HEATH *Clarastella* 23 But she is high and well descended, true, My birth alike is as freeborn 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser III 269 A rich and well descended country gentleman

**Well(-)dese rved.** *ppl. a* Rightfully merited or earned

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II XXII § 9 We caused the wicked Historian to conclude his history, with his owne well deserued death 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I xi. 20 The lignage right, From whence he took his well deserued name 1819 DRAYTON *Barr Wars* II xliv 25 Your Bayes must be your well deserued blame, For your illactions quench my sacred flame 1756 C SMART tr *Horace* (1767) II 95 He who deserved a well deserved title from the destruction of Carthage 1825 SCOTT *Talism* V, Until his awful judge shall at length appoint the well deserved sentence to be executed into execution 1889 J B BURY *Later Rom Emp* I 76 The Gildonic war, through which Stilicho won well deserved laurels

†**Well deserving** *a Obs* In active sense or loose connexion = having well deserved it? *Obs*

1601 SHAKS *All's Well* II i 192 If I breake t me or flinch in property Of what I spoke, unpitied let me die, And well deserv d

†**Well-dese rver.** *Obs* One who deserves well (*of* another)

1627 A NEWMAN *Pleasures Vision* 30 Then will deseruers well reward deseruers 1628 F MARKHAM *Bk War* I vi 29 This Reward of martiall excellence commended fourth to the seuen to the lowest soulder in his Campe and meanest well deserver 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* Ded The Count A place of forgetfulness, at the best for well deserving 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No 26, I at all think my self a Well Deserver of the Church, in recommending all the dumb Clergy to the famous speaking Doctor it Kensington

†**Well-dese rving,** *adj. Obs* [f. WELL *adv* 32 + DESERVING] Having well deserved; = WELL-DESERVED

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Macc* vi Contin Ch & Relig 704 Booz prayed God to render to Ruth a ful reward for her well deserving 1620 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng* II xxvii (ed 2) 331 Whether I live with the wrong of a Tyrant, or with the pension of our well deserving 1622 WITHER *Faire Virtue* K 4 b, Shall a Womans Virtues moue, Me to perish for her loue? Or, her well-deseruing knowne, Make me quite for get mine owne?

**Well-deserving,** *ppl a* Highly meritorious or worthy.

1596 FLEMING *Panopl Epist* 113 How deepely the common wealth is growne in your debt, for your meritorious and well deserving behauiour 1598 HARINGTON *Ep Fur* Apol Poetrie 14 b, Traito n that sell their princes fauours, and rob well-deseruing seruitors of their reward 1606 MORTON *Trat* II 66 The Generals diuided a numerable spoyles to their well deseruing Captaines 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* III 281 Now what are the best well-deserving friends? 1708 WORDSW *Letter Bell* 936 Calm is the well deserving brute *absol* 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trat* 100 To defend and relieue the distrest and well deseruing 1656 S. ROM. MORE tr *Bocachius's Adv fr Grave* (1674) 8 Only the most vertuous and well deserving commanded

Hence **Well-deservingness.**

1632 MASSINGER *Celestina* III 141 The gentleness and well deservingness of Melibea

**Well desi gned,** *ppl a* 1709 ATTERBURY *Serm* (1726) II 232 The ill success, that has been observed to attend well design d Charities. **Well-de signed,** *ppl a* 1716 ADDISON *Free holder* No 14 P 5 Under the name of Tories, I do not here comprehend multitudes of well designing men who were formerly in that party, but are now in the interest of his Majesty and the present government **Well(-)desi red,** *ppl a* Much sought after 1805 SHAKS *Oth* II i 62 (Folio) Your wish'd desir d in Cyprus **Well devel oped,** *ppl a* 1838-6 *Todd's Cycl Anat* I 435/2 Well developed systems of nerves 1861 MILL *Utilit* (1864) 49 Any mind of well developed feelings **Well devi sed,** *ppl a* 1805 SCOTT *Talism* XV, Some well devised stratagem 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit Const* (1862) 77 A well devised system of registrati n **Well dieted,** *ppl a* Subjected to a good regimen of diet 1475 J PASTON in *P Lett* III 141, I may not ete half t nof gh, when I have most hungry, I am so well dyetyd 1599 H JONSON *Cynthia's Rev* I iv 51 What I like well dieted Amorphus become a water drinker! 1605 [see DIETED *ppl a* 1.

**Well(-)dige sted,** *ppl a.*

†1 Of good digestion, *fig* able to assimilate one's learning. *Obs*

1610 B JONSON *Epistoler* V iii If they should eo ofiiely praise their workes, In them it would appeare inflatn n Which in a full, and well digested man Cannot receiue that foule humane name

†2. Fully matured or ripened *Obs.*

1657 JER. TAYLOR *Disc. Friendship* 12 some have splendid fires, aromatic spices, rich wines and well digested fruits 1708–74 TUCKER *Lt Nat* (1834) II 112 The strong tone of the muscles and its precipitant circulation drive on the juices before well digested, and are apt to throw crudities into the fruit

3 Carefully and methodically arranged.

1708 J Chamberlayne *St Gt Brit* II. III. XI 340 The College has a well digested Library 1732 *Hist Jnl* III 255 At the end of each Volume [is] a copious well digested Index. 1748 Hartley *Observ Man* I. III. § 3 § 354 Regular and well-digested Accounts of the Phaenomena of the Natural World

**4.** Carefully pondered or thought out.

1708–74 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II. 284 Each man, what ever his peculiar notions be, if he has any serious well-digested ones, may find something in them, which [etc.] 1806 *Ant Browning* (ed 2) Pref, The well-digested Plan which the large brewers have acted upon 1807 A Barry *Sir C Barry* VII 281 A scheme which will probably be thought to show well digested principle.

**Well(-)dire cted**, *ppl. a.* Aimed, addressed, guided, conducted, with skill and care

*a* 1686 Sidney *Arcadius* III. XI. § 2 With a number of well directed Pioners 1694 Locke *Hum Und* II. XX § 18 (ed 2) The right application of well directed study in the search of Truth. 1743 I Francis tr *Hor Odes* III. II. 3 To hurl the well-directed spear 1768–74 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II. 284 well directed Arrows 1788 Cowper *Expost* 237 They breath'd in faith their well directed pray'rs 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 4/4 The Penelope whose well directed fire...had shot away the main and mizentopmast 1838 *Ld* Colne *Physical Degeneracy* (ed 2) 279 The power we possess of modifying the constitution by well directed regimen is very great 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* XII III 236 Like Dartmouth possessed of them as well directed broadside *a* 1870 Grote *Eth. Fragm* II 36 If we explain it only as a well directed choice and discretion on the part of the individual

**Well(-)di sciplined**, *ppl. a*

**1.** Kept under good discipline, strictly trained or controlled.

1595 [Lewkenor] *Estate Engl Fugitives* Rviv, Like well disciplined souldiours that keepe still goode a id warie watch, in those parts where the Foes lyeth in the enuron. 1642 Rich or Coke in Parl Orrery *St Lett* (1742) 8 These seasoned and well disciplined companies. 1702 J Dennis *Fas Nova* title p., England's Advantage and Safety, prov'd Dependant on a Formidable and well Disciplined Navy 1768–74 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II 339 A well disciplined imagination 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* I 211 The power of self government which is characteristic of men trained in well disciplined camps to command and to obey 1849 C Bronte *Shirley* x, At the first sight, all but peculiarly well disciplined minds were apt to turn from her with annoyance

**2** Soundly flogged.

1659–60 *A to Veryp* vi, It did now like a Truant s well disciplined Bum. With the rod of filth from border les.

**Well disgu sed**, *ppl a* 1704 Fiddes *Morality* Pref p lxxv, What we term public spirit...is nothing m re than a refined and well disguised self-joyning Well disgu sed, *ppl a* 1732 Berk *Alciphron* IV In heaps, like Ambergrise, a stink it lies, But well dispers'd, is Incense to the Skies

**Well(-)dispo sed**, *ppl a*

**1** In good physical condition, healthy *Obs*

*c* 1386 [see Disposed 2] 1398 Trevisa *Barth De* I. v xli (1495) 157 Yf these [organs] ben in good state and yf they ben hole and well disposed, the beest is al hole 1482 Monk tr *Secreta Secretorum* 247 I shulle you say shortely What thynges maketh the body fat, moore, and well disposed 1590 L Lake *Hum Und* II xxix § 4 Such a full and evident perception as it findeth, and discerneth from any outward object operating duly on a well disposed organ *a* 1726 South *Serm* (1842) III 473 An healthful body and a sound mind, vigorous faculties and a well disposed soul

**+ b** Of reason ? Sound, sane *Obs.*

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* II III 148 Wherfore no doom of well disposid reason reproueth and weereth the seid hauyng and vsing of ymages in the churche

**+ c** Of the weather : ? Temperate, fair. *Obs*

*c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 54 b The fyr some shone clere and the weder was softe and well disposed.

**2** Suitably or skilfully placed, arranged, or adjusted.

*c* 1470 Ashby *Active Pol* 307 He ye rather clept an executer Of wisdam Than to be proclamed a wise speker,

Of bothe, well disposed, fame shal arise. 1576 R Peterson *Q Gelia Canal Cambridge* 17 Long and continued Walkes which would be well disposed, wel vttered & very wel set forth 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict* s v *Vine*, To plant an Acre of such Ground with Vines, in some well disposed place on the declivity of an Hill 1748 Melmoth *Fitzosborne Lett* III (1749) II 116 The grace and harmony of well-disposed lights and shades

**3** Of a good disposition, *esp* disposed to be friendly or favourable, well-affected

1455 *Rolls of Parlt* V 329/1 Every wele disposed persone of yis lande 1456 *Paston Lett* I 392 The Comons of Kent or not all well disposed. 1592 [Lyly] *Euphues Anatomy* 158, An honeste or well disposed manne. 1570 Levinus *Manip Voc* 1/2 *Gaste* (Huth 1875) 113, Though the wicked ayer Shoulde seeme for to provoke His well disposed sonne to yll 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II xvii (1912) 159 A certain sparke of honour, which rose in her well disposed minde, made her fearc to be alone with him, with whom alone she desired to be 1593 Shaks *Rich. II*, v. 206 You loose a thousand well disposed hearts. 1628 Wither *Faire Virtue* K 2 b, Should my heart be grieud Cause I see a Woman kind? Or a well disposed Nvnne, ioyned with a louely Feature? 1660 *tr* Brooke tr *Le blanc's Trav* 286 I was in a humour so well disposed that I accepted very willingly 1669 Boyle *Worth Theol* (1693) 39 Sceptics and well disposed Readers may certainly understand such [truths] as are necessary for them to believe. 1709 Shaftesb *Charac* (1711) II. 74 While he stands so well-disposed towards the Laws and Government of his higher Country 1776 Adam Smith *Wl N* I II, The charity of well disposed people supplies him with the whole fund of his subsistance. 1813 Scott *Exp M* III, An obliging, well disposed, and civil neighbour of mine. 1836 *N Brit Rev* XXVI 95 The Government should have done their best to secure a well disposed House.

*absol.* 1689 South *Serm* (1697) 72 The Unprepossessed on the one hand, and the well disposed on the other 1861 Broughan *Brit Const* xv 535 The indolence and timidity of the well disposed enabled the enemies of the people to prevail.

Hence **Well-dispo sedness**, *rare.*

1682 Br. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 10 By a well disposedness of mind, we may correct the iniquity of all hard events

**Well dispu ted**, *ppl a* 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII 902 Amid the Main, two mighty Fleets engage Their Brazen Beaks, Action surveys the well disputed Prize. 17 Congreve *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks 1730 III 369 The Martial Maid O er War presides and well disputed Fights 1728 Pope *Dunciad* II 245 Thus well disputed game Well-disse cted, *ppl. a.* 1708 J Phillips *Cyder* 333 Thy Specular Orb Apply to well-dissected Kernels.

**Well-disse mbled**, *ppl a.*

1693 *Dryden's Juvenal* IV (1697) 84 Unhappy Youth! whom from his destin'd Inn No well dissembled Madness could defend 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III 594 The Grove it self resembles Ida's Wood; And Simois seem'd the well dissembl'd Flood 17 Congreve *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks 1730 III 370 While to your Eyes, Some well dissembled Shape the God belies 1746 Thomson *Spring* 383 The well dissembled Fly, the rod lineasparing with elastic spring 1765 Colman *Terence, Andrian* I. i 15 Then I there I the frighted Pamphilus betrays His well dissembled and long-hidden love 1817 Scott *Ivanhoe* I. 180, The spy went round amid the well dissembled applause of the courtiers

**Well dist nguished**, *ppl a* 1706 Watts *Horæ Lyr* (1709) 60, Lo, those that have the present Power with a well-distinguish d Ray 1878 Stubbs *Const Hist* III xxi 538 Servants, all arranged in well distinguished grades. **Well** dividded, *ppl a* 1626 Shake. *Ant & C* I v 51 He was not sad For he will shortly be at it. *Cleo* Oh well divided disposition. 1634–40 Habington *Castara* (Arb.) 21 If the Swans of Thames Oh sudden heare thy well divided breath. [Cf Dividded.]

**Well-door** (we l,dɔ·r) One who does well, one who lives virtuously or acts uprightly

*c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 To bryng weldoers to be blys bat euer schall last 1530 Palsgr *Lesclarc* 2 Well doers in yonge dayes be myrrour and lyght 1 Hewlett tr *Erasm Enchiridion*, *ifol xiii verso*, A Benefactour or a Well doer 1684 *Contempt of Mar* v (1699) 51 Who is so general a well-doer, that no Body complains of him.

**Well-doing** (we l,dɑ·ing), *vbl sb*

**1** The action or practice of doing good; virtuous life and behaviour

1424 Brampton *Penit Pr* (Percy Soc) 62 Slownes in a cursid thing For it is euere wers of well doyng. *c* 1450 *Ant de la Tour* Ladies that were honoured for her well doinge and goodnes. 1526 Pindar tr *Joye* III 13 Brethren be not weary in well doynge 1574 Hart *Conchylane* E 2 b, Of some supposed to be well doing continue in the same 1663 Patrick *Parab Piger* xv (1687) 128 He suffered for well doing and we for ill 1736 Butler *Anal* I III Wks 1874 I 99 We are to consider, that well doing as such gives us satisfaction 1894 Scott *W Romans* xiv, I wish it your aim to com p uches—it will be lang r t y ur wel doing till th em 1813 Wesleyan *Methodist Magazine* 1 Selfdoing and not for fame of sire or son, Of son to sire, is noblest ornament.

**+ b** Valour, martial prowess *Obs*

*c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVI 550 But the custin ne myght but hitill space endure, nedde be the well doinge of the v knyghtes of the v sone of Iofres

**c** *pl* Good deeds or actions

1552 Latimer *Serm, 1st Sund Epiph* (1584) 300 b, Seeing we be bound to serue towarde your well doinges

**2** Thriving condition, health, prosperity, welfare, success.

1387 8 I Usk *Test Love* II x 120 In hope of weldoing, and of getting again the double of thy losing. 1587 Q Mary in Mary & Lady Jane *Cabala* (1691) III 41 Wee and my lady Latimer, who, of a natural and motherly affection doth tender the well doing of her sad daughter, hath seen of late an hundred times [etc.] 1611 Speed *Hist Gt Brit* IX. (1632) 570 *Manuntius Phrases Lat* (1595) 154 Your welfare and weldoing reioyceth me much as mine owne. 1625 I Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS* (Hist MSS Comm) I 261 We are glad to hear of your well doing. 1659 H Adams *Arrival Irene Age* 215 He began to make head again, and was in a way of welldoing, when he received the Kings command to disband 1763 Richardson *Pamela* II 238 Hopes for the welfare and well doing of the plants 1800 Wordsw *Michael* 432 A good report did from their Kinsman come Of I uke and his well doing 1809 *Coventry Mercury* II 338 Hopes for the well and wild fowl, whose well doing was to considered, that [etc.] 1904 Rose Macaulay *Orphan Island* IX 91 'Our ten [chickens] have been doing well.' 'I hey certainly seem to have had a fairly large allowance of descendants at once, if that is well doing.

**We ll-do ing**, *ppl a*

**1.** That does good or acquits oneself well, valiant, diligent in performance of work or duty, well-behaved, respectable.

*c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* (Kölbing) 4773 Four score Harls & wele donde knistes 1597 Shaks *Lover s C mpl* 112 And controuerse hence a question takes, Whether the horse ly him bestowed Well, if a man aryle n it for my own desire, but th se Of a well-doing sire, who hath been found Righteous enough to save his children 1888 D Grant *Sc Scot* 76 Sic an honest, well-daen woman as I kent my wife to be ?

**2** *Sc* Well-to-do, prosperous, thriving.

1814 Galt *Ann Parish* v 59 He was a douce and discreet man fur and well doing in the w rld 1897 L Keith *Wy Honey* 67 Do you know nothing of her folk? 'Nothing, forby that they are well doing in the world.'

**Well(-)done** (we l,dʌn), *ppl a.*

**+1** Wise, prudent, virtuous *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 99 Du ert wel don man, and barto wurðlich *c* 1205 [see Ydon]

**2** Skilfully or rightly performed or executed

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* II viii 190 It is a merytorie and a well don deede 1479 *City Leapes* (Camden) 22 Hyt wher wheil doyn to anower how he myght be payd 1602 Shaks *Twel N* v 253 We will draw the Curtain, and shew you the picture

Iist not well done! 1806 — *Ant & Cl* v ii 328–9 What works in beere harmian? In this well done? *Char* It is well done, and fitting for a Princesse 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci Gossip* XXVI 82 This is a clear and well done translation 1900 *Il estm Cas* 5 May 2/1 A well done landscape of late autumn

**b** as an exclamation, expressing approval of what some one has done.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* xvi 347 *Secundus Miles* Well done! 1838 Eliot *Duet, Engl*, well done 1881 Rhoe *Music* xxiv 21 Well done, thou good and faithfull-seruant 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl* 3 Oct, Well done my dear boy!—O bravo! 1792 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 189 Tam roars out, 'Well done, Cutty sark!' 1873 Trevelyan *Italia* (ed 2) I 243 *Iam* I obtained the first prize of all, Socrates *Soc* Well done

**c** quasi *sb* The utterance of this exclamation, as an expression of commendation

1648 Earle *Microcosm*, *Scholler Conceited Man* (1811) 32 In a excellent well donea haue vt done him 1790 *Proc Agricult Assoc* 12 A single well done ch m your Association has m re worth in it to me, than all the t a ty s ps of the East 1820 R. H. Dana *Two Years before Mast* vi (1834) 40 Fortunately I got through without a w ord from the officer and he rd the well done of the mate, when they r t reached the dec k

**+ d** quasi *sb* What is well done (In quot personified.) *Obs*

1602 Warner *All Eng* IX. ix 236 And cur ous thay I hat drilling Alines by Arte, disl and wel Meant from wel Don pay

**3** Of meat: Thoroughly cooked.

1846 S ire *Gastr in Regen* p xxii, Veal and pork must be well done Venison must be un lerdone

**Well dow ered**, *ppl a* 1822 Scott *Pirate* III. Unless you think rather of tak ng a rich, well d wered English lady 1871 H Lave n *Faust* II III 253 If en each st all dwell in houses well dowered

**Well-drawn**, *ppl a.*

**1.** Skilfully delineated Also of the human form Well modelled or proportioned

1679 C Nesse *Antichrist* Ded As a dark s il in a well drawn picture 1709 Shaftesb *Inquiry* II. III 32 N t adequated by the Lineame ts of a fair Face or the well drawn Prop rti ns of a human Body 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* 162 Two little Popular Histories fu ni hed with well d awn and coloured plates

**2** Strongly stretched, strait, tense out, etc.

1795 Pole *Odyss* VIII 269 In fighting fields as far the spear I throw As flies an arr w from t e well drawn bow 1864 *Prof Regent's Worry* V 87 Like a buck coat on a Russian dry wheat straw is the l id over them [as the potatoe]

**Well(-)dressed**, *ppl a*

**1.** Clothed in good and becoming attire

1576 R Peterson *Q delia Canal Cambridge* 20 They be neuer rede+ euer a trumping neare vnto the Ladies or other mindes 1728 J Pope *Rape of Lock* III 5 Nymphs and well-dress'd Swains around her shone 1791 B Smith *Tobacco* 19 Sept 1777, A well bl. t elderly housekeeper shewed us the house. 1849 Jas. B *oddman* IV, This was no well dressed an l splendi l assen blage 1876 Burnsh *Lett & V Atmos* Wks (1894) III 177 The lady who do the dirty work—that's the sense of being perfectly well-dressed gives a feeling of inward tranquility which religion is powerless to bestow

**2.** Properly prepared, cultivated, trimmed, cooked, etc.

1593 Congreve *Two* Sat at 1 6 Scarce a Slave but has to Dinner now, The well dress d Pasa of a fat prey Aunt Sow 1598 Boswell *Coryate* (ed 3) 282 At dinner we had no less than twelve well drest dishes. 1771 *Encyl Lond* (ed 1) II 211/2 The wool must be of a good quality and well dressed 1799 J Robertson *Agric Perth* 464 The sloping banks of the Tay are finely w ooded with well dressed walks o the t p II f 470 Surrounded with well dressed fields to the south

**Well dried**, *ppl. a.* 1824 Chapman *Hymn to Hero* 93 Seven strings, of seuerall tu es, Made of the Entrailes of a sheepe well dried 1728 L. Sheridan *Compleat Housewife* (ed 2) 133 Then put in Plums of the largest and best well dried 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 467 The most proper fuel for drying the flax is the charcoal, or well dried turf 1882 C R Markham *Peru* xxvi 395 About 200,000 well rip n and well dried coca leaves were now gathered

**Well-drilled**, *ppl. a* [See Drill v 3]

**1** Thoroughly trained, exercised, or disciplined

1817 Lady Morgan *Italy* I 53 A certain mechanical immobility of the well drilled battalion 1847 Halliwell *Nurs Rhymes* 1 Ye are like the 120 Immediately afterwards Richard's dead over a well drilled territory to Louis XIV 1878 *Vanity Fair* CXXVII 257 Its vast and well drilled army of Jesuits.

**2** Skilfully t ained or performed

1873 W Pengelly *Cave Meen Dezon in Manchester's Lect Ser* v 8 1 125 A bone needle of the well drilled eye in it 1896 Killing *Seven Sons*, *Story of Uns* 31 No store of well drilled needles.

**Well dri ven**, *ppl a* 1605 B Jonson *Volp* IV iii (1607) H j b, Not a Cart Nor a Coach well driuen now. 1811 I ee so curte us to have cleft me downe, Vn to the l mill ere I lau d to see [etc.] 1861 Chesham *Him* IV 388 His sword he threw quite through his shield I his field was well driven lance **Well dunged**, *ppl a* 1577 Stock *Ill rers book's Hush* 131 The lies a delightfull ri iche and well dounged ground 1760 R Brown *Compl Farmer* II 61 Barley which delights in a well dunge l soil **Well dy ing**, *vbl sb* 1633 Earl Manch *At Mondo* (1636) 77 Seldo ne doth hee dye well that lives ill: therefore in the course of your life practise well d ing, and at parting you shall have the c mf rt of well dying 1693 *Dyer Lame Hist H nast Orders* 209 Of the Order of the Fathers of Well dying **Well dy ing**, *ppl. a.* 1833 Earl Manch

*Al Mondo* (1636) 104 But to assure there are joyes in Death, what saith the Scripture to well dying men?

**Welle**, obs. form of WELL

**Well(-)earned**, *ppl. a.* Fully deserved or due, merited or acquired by good work or behaviour

1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 343 The big hopes And well-earn'ed treasures of the painful year 1749 WARTON *Eve Hen* 61 To wear the well earn'd wreath that merit brings. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 503 The ruddy boys Withdrew, on summons to their well earned meal. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 23 Yet William might have had a more triumphant reign if he had possessed, at a time, the well earned promotion of his chaplain. 1855 PEARS *Æschylus* (1861) Pref. vi. Its well earned character for practical utility and careful editorial supervision. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. vii. 305 No pirate who ever swung on a well earned gallows had committed darker crimes.

**Welled**, *ppl. a*[1] [f. WELL *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

†**a.** Of metal: Molten, cast. Also *welled to gether*, rendering L. *conflatilis*. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *Sayn Julian* 54 A chetel wol of welled Iron I bidde pe maide wis it frost. 1382 WYCLIF *Hab.* II. 18 A welled thing to goire [Vulg. *conflatile*] and a fals ymage. *c* 1440 *Pr. Parv.* 514/2 Welle, or welled, metel, *fusus*. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. vi. 173 And if the ymage is clepid there a-bued thing, and a welled to godres thing.

**b.** Of milk: Boiled, curdled. *Obs.* Of curds: Coagulated. Cf. WELL-CURDED. *Obs.* exc. *Stat.*

*c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 53 Melle white breke in lyneses aboute, Powre in welly‡ mylke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/2 Wellyd, is mylke *congulatus, concretus*. 1552 HULOET, Welled curdes, *de coagulato*. 1590 WILLIS *Mithridate* (1685) III. 1. viii. 338 From the Whey, if set on the Fire, will arise welled Curds by putting a few Milk-maids or Butter milk to it. 1870 *Acts Parl. Scotl. Weal't*, I. tould 30 to wesh em: the willed wey.

**Well, ppl. a**[2] [f. WELL *adv.* + -ED[2].]

**1.** Having a well or hollow on the surface, pitted. 1848 HARDY in *Proc. Leeds Nat. Club* III. 33 A series of ill-defined welled deposits. 1855 H. *Educ. Arch. Mid. Ages* p. xxix, A broad flat border, with a welled centre, characterise this class of plates.

**2.** Having a tank or cistern in which fish are carried or preserved alive.

1864 *Rep. Comm. Sea Fisheries* (1866) II. 450 In the year 1712, at Harwich, welled smacks were first constructed, with a hole for fishing in the North Sea for cod fish. &c. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Aug. 4 Your fish are be ught in lively state in welled fishing boats. 1874 H. MACKENZIE *Characters* 333 These almon m ny be one in welled steamers.

**Well-edged**, *a.* Having a sharp edge. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 57 I then drew I from my Thy, My well edg d sword.

**Well-e ducated**, *ppl. a*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. 9 Define, define well educated infant. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Op.* (1711) 50 If ever went to take him by the Hand in the Way of Salutation, Peter with a Grace like a well educated Spaniel would present them with his Foot. 1828 [LYTTON] *Pelham* I. II. I was rank ned an uncommonly well educated boy. 1885 W. H. WHITE *M. Antoinette's Debts* IV. She was attractive and well-educated

**Well-embo died**, *ppl. a.* 1776 BYRANT *Anc. Mythol.* III. 55 Firm to their cause the Titans wide displayd A well embodied phalanx. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* VI. Being the outcome of a happy, well emb died nature

**Well-endow'ed**, *ppl. a.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 20 Whilst the Desire of Esteem, Riches, or Power makes Men suppose the well endow d Opinions in fashion. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. I. 65, I found myself a well endowed widow. 1870 HULAH *Speaking Voices* 4 A well endowed but incomplete vocalist. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Daniel Deronda* III. In Rex's well endowed nature the passionate stirring had gone deep

†**Well e ntered**, *ppl. a.* Duly initiated. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. 1. 6 In our hope sir After which well entered soulders to returne And finde your grace in health. Well-entitled, *ppl. a.* Obtained by good title. 1675 BROOKE *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 519 The crown of life notes a well entitled crown: a crown that comes by a true and noble title.

**Well-equi pped**, *ppl. a.* 1872 J. BURNETT *Early Scottish Navy* 74 A well equip ped vessel might have left dedicatores at various points. 1890 *Harrischer's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 256/2 A well equi ped observ story

†**Well-er**. *Obs.* Also 6 **wellar.** [f. WELL *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

**1.** A caster or founder (of metal)

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* VI. 29 Feed is wasted in the fier the wellere [Vulg. *conflator*] hath cast out the reyn. *Ibid.* II. 18 [see WELLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1547 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 445 The master wellar at xij^d the day, and ij wellars with him at viij^d the day.

**2.** A salt boiler

*c* 1440 *Prom. Parv.* 447/1 Saltare, or wellare of salt, *salinator*. [1684 see SALTWELLER.]

**Welleresque** (welə rɛsk), *a.* [see WELLER + -ESQUE.] Like Sam Weller or his father; two celebrated characters in Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*.

Also **Wellerism**, a speech or expression employed by, or typical of, either of these characters.

1886 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* X. I'm the wretch that did it, sir,' said the new recruit, with a Welleresque nod. *Mr. Pickwick* 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Feb. 5/2 Sam Weller's story of the muffs is a not Wellerian at all

†**Wellesay**. *Obs.* Also **welle s saye, wyllosay** [var of WELLAWAY for the ending cf HARMESAY.] Alas!

*c* 14 *Lamentacio Peccatoris* 58 in *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 117 Euer per sang ys wyllosay *c* 1440 *Dame Hon.* 1130 Sche caste up many a rewfull rerde And seyde ofte Welle a saye! *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 91 Brenis I his sely innocentis wole vnclothe And wellesay to tere her skynnys bothe.

**Well-esta'blished**, *ppl. a.*

1709 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue* Charac. (1711) II. 38 That sound and well establish d Reason which alone can constitute a uniform and steddy Will and Resolution. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xviii. § 27, We ought to stand firm in such well established principles, and not be tempted to change for the sake of every difficulty. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 138/1 There are therefore many well established families in this last mentioned place. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xx. 537 Although there are some well established cases of national decay. 1879 BOWEN *Logic.* xii. 394 Any well established Law of Nature. 1887 *Spons Mechan. Man.* 724 Some well established shop, famed rather for the soundness of its goods than for their apparent cheapness

**Well-eated**, *ppl. a.* 1749 CHESTWOOD *Hist. Stage* 219 Mr Sparks has, by incessant Attention to the Drama, arrived to be a well esteemed Person in the Business of the Theatre.

**Wellewerd**, var WOOLWARD

**Well exa mined**, *ppl. a.* 1728 CIBBER *Prot. the Hind* I. 17 He is a Man too well acquainted with the Female World to be brought into (high Opinion of any one Woman, but what is well examin d. Proof of her Merit. 1731 SMOLLETT *Reg. Sharpe Lett.* VI. (1749) II. 76 I do descend to truth; I'm the less progression of well examin ed doctrin s is considered as a tendency to the quickness of understanding.

**Well-expe rienced**, *ppl. a.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 159 Coasting the forest of Islan I enquired of divers well expe rienced persons. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. 164 Like an arrow shot from a well experienced archer hits the mark his eye doth level at. 1842 *Brit. Ann. Reg.* 52 Men well experienc d and of no theist parts. 1866 GRANT *Prince Bonl ing* 22 A well experien ed Surveyor. 1876 *Encyclopædia Britannica* II. 130 A fine, small and well experienced judge. 1878 TAYLOR *Trans Coal* I. 104 Of a well experienced magistrate they say' that is quite a Lapp

†**Well-eyed**, *a. Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 3.] Having good eyes; keen sighted

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xviii, And also pat he be both in felde and at wode deliyere and wele ysed and wele auysed of speche. 1483 CAXTON *G. Leo Leg.* 333/2 His yonge sone was wel eyed, well rowed [etc.]. 1614 RALEIGH tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1637) 59 Let the gallantnes of this world, so well eyed, and gorgeously apparelled, make these things well valued. 1577 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxxix. 71 They doo nought else but doze in this world well eyed and quicksighted of themselues. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 154 Shepherd must he be well eyed, as Argus was. 1596—*Faerie Queene* III. viii. 46 Let them well eyed be, and throughout Search them, ere reliev'd: the true antiquity'e though disguised, which a well eyed man may haply discover and find out

**Well-ey'ed**, *ppl. a.* 1870 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* II. iii. 215 But in Medicine, and well fal reated Players, you can't discover Beauty and admire the kind

†**Well-faced**, *a. Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 3.] Having a fair face or good countenance. Also *fig.*

1553 BRENDE tr. *Quintus Curtius* (1570) 89 b He was one of the nine of xxiii yeares well faced. *a* 1569 KINGSFORD *Perf. Age Engl.* (1580) 13 Not so well faced as well lived. I meane not so well attired in rich vard man as clothed in the inward manne. 1578 T. BANCROFT *Anat. Abuses* A. 4 If my credit be better then yours, with th s my well faste headsice. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 2 Hee that hath a well faced purse, may in this Crowne. 1693 [CALLIPHILUS] *Sea. Pret. Ep.* (ed. 2) Preface 1 A great Hantle of Bonnie brave well faced Lasses. 1707 *Land Carr* No. 4368/4 On the 15th Instant a pretty well faced Dapple Grey mare with Switch tail

**Well famed**, *ppl. a.* Of good fame famous. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 173 My well fam d Lord of Troy. 1850 MONRO *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 89 While he forgetting Like his fair crow and the joy his eyes had seen, Lies quiet and well famed

**Well-fa ncied**, *ppl. a.* Designed or devised with good invention and taste, displaying a happy fancy

1700 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 P 1 She was mounted on a Pad, with a very well fancied Furniture. 1751 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 202 This I appened to be the first day of her putting on a very rich, and extremely well fancied gown. 1772 FOOTE *Orator* II. 156 1790 *Ibid.* 304 What think you of a bracelet, or a well fancied aigret? 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 328 Kenderchurch, a well fancied seat from the mint of the metropolis by his vile provincial pronunciation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXII. The dress of Raleigh was a well fancied and rich suit

**Wellfare**, obs f WELFARE

**Well-fa ring**, *ppl. a. Obs* exc. *arch*

†**1.** Of handsome or well-favoured appearance, good-looking; also, robust, healthy *Obs*

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaun* he 452 I han founde I sy ite euen vpright A wonder welfaring knyght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 240 Sche thoghte how neuere creature Was so wel farende as was he. *c* 1400 *26 Pol Poems* II. 52 Wel faryng men of armes. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. 184 Kyng Arthur thought he sawe neuer noo wel farynger a man. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clvi (1812) 144 He was fayre and well faryng of body and sterne of looke and of face. 1536 *Pilgr. Perf.* 1531 (1870) 1 *Hymnode* to 2 Thee I prayed wallying a comely pryst and a welfaryng. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 47/3 The entralles of a sowende and welfaring man

†**2.** Couched in proper or appropriate terms. *Obs*

*c* 1400 *Jumbras* 3333 A chartur was mad fulle wele farande, That thofe he never come in his lande, That scho solde qwene bee

**3.** *arch.* Doing well, prosperous.

The spelling indicates association with *welfare*

1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* II. 116 If only his Lord would leave him here other two or three years!—then would he be fully at his ease and a welfaring person.

**Well-fa shioned**, (*pple*) *a.*

**1** Of good make or fashion, well made.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* I. iii. 3 His thighes large and long with bones well fashioned. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Art of Love* I. 509 Wear well fashion'd Cloaths, like other Men. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 108 When down in thy ship well-fashioned at last thou drawest anigh To the Three-horned Island

†**2** Of polite manners or demeanour *Obs*

1611 COTGR., *Morigené*, well behaued, of good carriage, well fashioned. 1685 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. 300 Behaving himselfe with so well-fashioned modesty. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 143 (1699) 259 First, a disposition of the Mind not to offend others, and, Secondly, the most acceptable, and agreeable way of expressing that Disposition. From the one, Men are called *Civil*, from the other *Well-fashion'd*. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* an. 1646 (Chandos) 189 His daughter, a pretty well fashioned young woman. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 198 P 2 A young Man of two and twenty, well fashioned, learned, genteel.

**Well-fatted**, *ppl. a.* 1785 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 51 A Kid s well fatted entrails (tasteful food!). 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IX. 578 Oxen and sheep they slaughter'd, many a plump Well fatted brawn extended in the flames

**Well-fa voured**, *a.* Handsome or attractive in appearance, good looking.

1440-80 LYDG. *Thebes* I. 734 He was a semly knyght Wel favoured in every manns sight. *c* 1450 — *Alin Leaves* (Percy Soc.) 40 Your weel favoured face. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XIV. iii, They were fayre and well favoured. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Seditt.* (1569) B iij b, If one be well favoured rider than another, well ye punishe him because ye looke for an equalitie of all things. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. of Ven.* III. iv. 15 1633 C. FERRYMAN *Ir. India Collation* 15 A man of a lively countenance and well favored. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 220 The Boy was very mean Cloaths, but of a very fresh and well favoured Countenance. 1787 BURNS *New Theres a Change* 3 She is bonie and brawe, weel favour'd and well clad. 1848 ANDERSON *Anc. & Mod. Coins* V. 80 A well fed and well favoured man. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. 52 The decided and his wife want to get their own infamous conduct shifted now over upon that well fed and well favoured man. 1884 CHOLMONDELEY-PENNELL *Portraits* I. 57 The fact that in the days of yer youth ye war a well favured lass

**b** Of an animal, a locality, a plant

1539 TABLE (Gresh) *Gen.* xli. 4 The eu‡l favored & leane fleshed kyne did eate vp the seuen well favoured & fatt kyne. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* 122 The purple goat's beard, the corn blue bottle, are well favoured plants. 1861 W. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 401 This ill named and not very well favoured spot formed the nucleus of Abbotsford

†**c.** *transf* (cf. WELL FAVOUREDLY *b*)

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. v. 34 [He] bangs the mule at a well favour d rate

†**Well-fa vouredly**, *adv. Obs* In a well favoured manner.

**a** Beautifully, handsomely, attractively, gracefully

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 668/2 But now goeth Tindall well favouredly forth with another fruitful oblucion. 1538 ELYOT *Dict. Pulchra*, an aduerbe, signifyeth fayre & eautifully, well fauoredly. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 We doue not put images to makyng but onely to suche workemenne of whom we see some nouelty of images welfauouredly and mynionly made afore. 1545 AS CHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 143 I relche me to shoote as fayre, and welfauouredly as you can imagine. 1562 *Acts Parl. Scotl.* II. He that had ben in Itelye and Germany, and had sene howe costly and welfauoredly the bathes are trimmed and apoynted there wouldelest haue sene. 1570 *Levins Manip.* 39 *Weelfavedly*, cleverly, with a good grace. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weel favourlie, adv.* 2 Handsomely, 5

**b** Ironically, in reference to thrashing, punishment, etc. Severely, soundly, handsomely.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 200 Diogenes tooke abrode the rogue and the same well fauouredly bestowed al out ye ribbes and pate of Midias. 1565 *Kyng Daryus* 404 (Brandl) He wil not away til I haue cumus him well favouredly. 1580 NORTH *Plutarch, Antonius* (1595) 990 They them selues were oftentimes put to flight and welfauordly beaten. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxiii. 116 God will not let you serve a smart iese, and sometimes he was well favouredly met with, as the best fencer in wits school hath now and then an unhappy blow dealt him. 1652 BULWER *Coromor* II. 151 The [Russian] women think themselves neither loved nor regarded, unlesse they be two or three times a day well favouredly swadled. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, I stung'd him off*, I lay'd on and beat him well favouredly

**c** ? Lavishly, liberally

1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 259/1 About the suite whereof when much money was bestowed on both sides welfauoredlie.

**d.** By good fortune, happily. *Obs.*

*a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Eclogue* 96 When I sit out my n se in, ten to one If I weelfardly see my ane heartbitane

**Well-fa vouredness.** Now *rare* or *Obs.*

The quality or condition of being well-favoured; beauty comeliness

1565 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 149 Nature it selfe taught men to toyne alwayes welfauouredneasse with profytable nesse. *a* 1575 *Piers Plowman's Vis.* (Camden No. 36) 129 He in reported greatlie to haue marryaged at their witte and welfauerdnes. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. (1617) 65 It maketh your Gelding haue a delicate fine leane head, of a comely shape, well fauouredneasse and proportion. 1642

Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 75 The longevity, well favoured-nesse and innated honesty of the people. 1780 M. Madan *Thelyphthora* (1781) I. 213 A worthy man, who was in love with a married woman upon account of her modesty, and well-favouredness of her children. 1825 Jamieson, *Well-faur'insess*, handsomeness. 1889 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 33 Khalid., was pleased with his well-favouredness and elegant aspect.

**Well-feasted**, *ppl. a.* 1672 Milton *Samson* 1419 The well-feasted Priests then soon'st fir'd With zeal, if aught Religion seem concern'd.

**Well-(:)fea·thered**, *ppl. a.* 1340–50 *Alexander* 269 Well fethered fion flounged aboute. 1591 Sylvester *Visions Bethay* xi. 4 Bird all white, well feathered on each wing. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. x. (1640) 58 And herein he discovered his want of judgement, being indeed like an arrow well-feathered, but with a blunt pile; he flew swift, but did not sink deep. 1672 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. xiii. 75 Like some young Bird, not so well-feathered. 1883 *Poultry Chron.* II. 419 Short, well feathered legs.

**Well-fea·tured**, *a.* Having good features. Formerly also in wider sense: Well formed or shaped.

c1300 *Three Kings Sons* 111 And many tyme he wold.. thinke yn his mynde that they were passing wele fetured and goodly folkes. 1390 *Tarlton's News out of Purg.* 11 A bare faced youth, well featured, of a lively countenance. c 1600 Lodge in L. D. & C. M. *Epigr.* (1878) D 5 b, Wel featurde lasse, Thou knowst I loue the deare. 1622 J. Davies (Heref.) *Wits Pilgr.* etc. (Grosart) 27/2 Well featur'd Flesh too base a Subiect is For Soul'raign Loues diuine, ny luted, imbrace. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1634/8 An Indian Black, about 28 years of Age, well featur'd. 1787 Burns *Song, 'There's a Youth'* 10 Well-featur'd, well-tocher'd, weel mounted and braw. 1860 White Melville *Mkt. Harb.* v. Who, to do him justice, was a gentleman-like, well-featured fellow enough. 1874 Motley *John Barneve.* II. xvii. 226 A tall, , well-featured, mild, gentlemanlike man.

**Well-(:)fed**, *ppl. a.*

1 a 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 871 Al to selde iwys Is ony pouere man wel fedde. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxv. 6 Fat and welfed beastes. 1600 *Sir P. Oldcastle* III. i. 99 Weele strike the stagge our selues, shall fill our dishes with his wel-fed flesh. c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* IX. 208 Then of a well fed swine A huge fat shoulder he cuts out. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 535 Bid some swain to stand A well-fed bullock from the grassy mead. 1786 Burns *The Vision* I. xiv, There, well-fed Irwine stately thuds. 1820 Lamb *Elia* I, *Christ's Hosp.*, Sleek well-fed blue-coat boys. 1840 Davy *Salmonia* 49 A fine well-fed fish, as much less than 4 lbs. 1874 J. M. Rothergill *Maintenance of Health* 344 Good meat has its red meat marbled or interstreaked with fat. This shows it is well-fed.

**Well-fed, -fo'd**, *ppl. a.* 1688 *Contempt. St. Man* I. ix. (1699) 93 The rich Man shall not then have.. well-Fed'd Lawyers to defend his Wrongs. 1712 *Wotton. Conf.* 28 Some 8/1 Twelve angry litigants, each assisted by bewigged and well-feed counsel. **Well-fe·ding**, *ppl. a.* c 1621 Chapman *Iliad* III. 285 On Troy well feeding soyle [Gr. πίονα δῆμον Τρώων].

†**Well-fe·ting**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Sensible, intelligent. 1380 Wyclif *Eccles.* VII. 21 Wile thou not gone awei fro a wel felende woman [Vulg. *a muliere sensata*].

**Well-feigned**, *ppl. a.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 470 Under shew of Love well feign'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. 57 Ulysses then with art, And fears well-feign'd, disguis'd the dauntless heart. 1823 Scott *Kenilw.* v. xix. [He] took'd with well-feigned fear around. 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 136 The Colonel expressed a well-feigned astonishment at the appearance of the visitor.

**Well-fenced**, *ppl. a.* 1705 Mandeville *Grumbling Hive* 25 'Till some well-fenced Retreat is found; And here they die, or stand their Ground. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 248 Some enclosed Piece of Ground, well fenc'd either with Hedge or Pale.

**Well-fe·nded**, *ppl. a.* 1865 Allingham *50 Mod. Poems, Southbourne* 120 The well-fended mansion.

**Well-ferme·nted**, *ppl. a.* 1731 Arbuthnot *Nat. Ailments* (1735) 193 Well fermented Bread, and well fermented Liquors.

**Well-filed**, *ppl. a.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XXI. 274 Giue banquet ; and the rest (Poems and Harpe) this well-fil'd bourde. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 8 The well-fill'd palace, the perpetual feast. 1781 Cradbe *Library* 148 The dull red edging of the well-filled page. 1788 Burns *Epist. to Willie* 11 Wi' well-filled tail thou wad has whisket, An' spread abreed thy weel-fill'd brisket. 1832 Longf. *Coplas de Manrique* lxi, He left no well-filled treasury. 1883 Gen. Kelly *Dress* 48 Well, when light-brown hair was set up in a small parallelogram above his well-filled forehead. 1878 J. Buller *New Zealand* I. iv. 77 They came in fleets of their well-filled canoes.

**Well-finished**, *ppl. a.* 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 173 One truly splendid action, or one well-finished composition, includes more than all the results from more trivial performances. 1901 *Scotsman* 2 Apr. 7/3 For cattle, well-finished animals met a brisk selling trade.

**Well-(:)fi·tted**, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Fully equipped or furnished. *Obs.*

1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* II. i. 45 A man of souereigne parts he is esteem'd : Well fitted in Arts, glorious in Armes. 1596 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Resurrection* II, Lo how the Years come, a numerous and well-fitted Quire, All hand in hand do decently advance.

**2.** Exactly adjusted, shaped, or suited.

1798 Cowper *Iliad* XVIII. 758 A pond'rous helmet bright Well-fitted to his brows. 1839 Ainsworth *Jack Sheppard* III. ii, It was a night well fitted to their enterprise—calm, still, and profoundly dark. 1904 A. C. Fraser *Biogr. Philos.* iv. 142 An easy flow of well-fitted words.

**Well-fi·tting**, *ppl. a.*

1837 Dupperin *Lett. High Lat.* vi. 59 A well-fitting white waistcoat. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxvii, His well-fitting cord breeches. 1881 J. W. Haward *Orthop. Surg.* 70 Only well-fitting boots, with a sufficiently wide sole, should be worn.

**Well-fixed**, *ppl. a.* 1728 P. Rae *Hist. Reb.* vi. 289 Followed by 40 or 50 stately Fellows, .arm'd each of 'em with a well fix'd Gun on his Shoulder. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 246 The complete Well-fixed necessity and end of all things.

**Well-(:)fla·voured**, *ppl. a.* **a.** Having a good natural flavour. **b.** Mixed with an ingredient which imparts a good flavour.

1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 352 The natural history of this well-flavoured fish. 1778 *Farmer Brit. Zool.* III. 31 The flesh, when boiled, is of a pale red, but well flavoured. 1868 *Epicure's Year-bk.* 185 Serve it with a well-flavoured sauce or purée. 1882 *Ld. Derby Scrolls* I. iv. 134 The culinary preparations .were well flavoured, highly seasoned, and much relished by us.

**Well-fledged**, *ppl. a.* Well-feathered. 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 562 The weak young bird..dozes till the dawn of day, Then claps his well-fledg'd wings, and bears away. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* IV. 248 A well-fledged arrow that had never flown.

**Well-(:)fleeced**, *ppl. a.* 1616 W. Browne *Britan. Past.* II. ii. 46 Thou hast a well-fleec'd flocke feede to and fro. 1650 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *The Search* 27 They..drove home to the Tent Their well-fleec'd traine. 1724 [see Fleeced *ppl. a.*²].

**Well-(:)fleshed**, *ppl. a.*

1. Well furnished with flesh; plump, brawny. Also *fig.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 448/2 *Torosus*, . well fleshed. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. ii. 11 1676 Gen. History *Devonshire* lxix, Happiness is considered as a well-fleshed indifference to sorrow outside it. 1901 H. Sutcliffe *Mister, Barbara Goodhye* 11 Well-fleshed men could never stand up long agen an ale-pot.

**2.** Inured to or eager for bloodshed.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 372 As gray-hounds well fleshed after a wilde beaste. 1591 Spenser *Epit. Sir P. Fairborne's Tomb* 11 Against the Moors his well-flesh'd Sword he drawe.

**Well-(:)flowered**, *a.* Well-feathered. 1646 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olymp.* x, Leave, wanton Muse, thy roving flight, To thy loud String the well flatcht Arrow put. **Well-(:)floured**, *a.* 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 191 Chambers bounded after the manner of owre waynscotte and well floured. **Well-(:)floured**, *ppl. a.* 1728 E. S[mith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 108 Put under it two or three Slices well-floured. 1824 *Mrs. Dalgairns Dally Checon.* 25 Oct. *Ets.* The potatoes and flour are worked into dough on a well-floured board.

**Well-(:)flowered**, *ppl. a.* **a.** Richly embellished with flowers or figures of flowers. **b.** Having a good head of flowers.

1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 63 Why then is my Pump well flower'd. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 135 Leicestonian coupe-dahys, well flowered.

**Well-fo·llowed**, *ppl. a.* (Follow v. 6 b.) a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 390 Thus with the well-followed valure of Amphialus were the other almost overthrowne.

**Well-fo·rtified**, *ppl. a.* 1591 Shake. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. ii. 85 What boaded this? but well fore-warning winde Did seeme to say, seeke not a Scopions Nest. **Well-forged**, *ppl. a.* 1595 Cowper *Iliad* XIII. 273 The well-forged helmet. 1823 Scott *Kenilw* VI. ix, He school'd us in a well-forged tale, Of scheme the Castle walls to scale. 1856 Kinglake *Crim.* *Song of English Victories*, The tested chain holds fast, The well-forged link rings true!

**Well-formed**, *ppl. a.* **a.** of persons and material things.

c 1580 W. Walter *Cuystarde & Syr.* (Roxb.) A iij, Ofshape and proporcion she was well fourmed. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 58 The kissing of her welformed mouth. 1645 Waller *Poems, Palamedes to Zelinde* 1 Fairest piece of well form'd earth, Vyed not thus your haughty Mate. 1651 R. Saunders *Physiognomie* 73 The well formed head is like a Mallet or a Sphear. 1788 Mrs. Hughes *Henry & Isab.* xviii. II. 89 Not a pleasing view,..or a well-formed tree, was passed without furnishing matter for her observation. 1809 Worisw. *Prelude* VII. 206 A range Of well-formed characters, with chalk inscribed Upon the smooth flat stones. 1813 James *Forest Sc.* xxvi. IV. 8, man of thirty or thirty-three years of age, tall, well-formed, handsome. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* 162 Well-formed flint hatchets. 1883 Dr. C. Mansell *Pop. Sc. Lect.* He had a large and well-formed body, plump but not corpulent.

**b.** of immaterial things.

1643 Donne (*title*), A briefe and exact Relation of Passages that have been in the late well-formed (and as valiantly defended) Seige laid before the City of Gloucester. 1725 Watts *Logic* IV. Introd., A well-formed Proposition, or a just Argument. 1746 Francis *Horace* (ed. 2) II. 1 Nothing well-form'd can offend, Unless with too much Fondness we dote On our own Plays. 1781 Gibbon, *Pros. State Pol.* xxxi. (Globe) 444/2 In a well-formed education a course of history should ever precede a course of ethics. 1787 Burns *Prol. spoken by Woods* 23 Well-form'd taste and sparkling wit.

**Well-(:)fo·rtified**, *ppl. a.*

1538 [see Fortified]. 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 19 For I protest we are well fortified, And strong enough to issue out and fight. 1628 Gainsford *Glory Eng.* I. viii. 60 They can bring you into well fortified Cities. a 1629 Manwayring *Seamen's Dict.* 68 If a Piece have much mettle in any part, they say, she is well fortified. 1692, 1757 [see Fortified *ppl. a.*]. 1821 tr. *Iliad* II. I. 41 The well-fortified city of Ilium.

†**Well-fo·rtunate**, *a. Obs.* = next.

1593 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 34 The well fortunate and sawge Capetayn, the yerle of Surrey. a 1633 Harington *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 361 Cæsar, the fortayl the princis are glorious, and the people well fortunate, and the senate happy, whan all agree in one councell.

†**Well-fo·rtuned**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Favoured by fortune.

c 1374, 1484 [see Fortuned]. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 249 Gretyng . fro the esquyer vnknowen and well fortuned. 1530 Palsgr. 329/1 Well fortuned, *bien eurt.* 1556 *Florel Arcelio & Iste.* O.R. If fanney lady well fortuned founde you disposede in her chaunce.

**Well-fought**, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Inured to fight. *Obs.*

1596 Chapman *Seven Iliads* v. [IX.] 90 The Curets ware did hold With the well-fought Etolians (Αἰτωλοὶ μενεχαρμαὶ).

**2.** Valiantly contested.

1717 Ticknell. *Epist. To a Lady to Gent at Avignon* 74 Our Sex has..purchased Fame in many a well-fought Street. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 401 Oh! I had he perish'on some well-fought day, 1726 Pope *Lucan* V. (1760) 17, I returned to reap the harvest of the well-fought field. 1824 Scott *Lord of Isles* IV. xx, Who in the well-fought conflict fell. 1828 Newman *Poems* (1909) 48 The strange events of many a well-fought day.

†**Well-fou·ghten**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = prec.

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, IV. vi. 28 In this glorious and well-foughten field. 1622 Drayton *Polyolb.* xxiii. 1277 Brought-ton..there lastly gaue his blood To that well-foughten field.

**Well-(:)found**, *ppl. a.*

†**1. a.** Used in the vocative (like *welcome*) to greet a person when met. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Ipomadon* 5715 (Kölbing) Well founde, mayde Imayne. c 1350 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Ritson) 1060 The constable seyde, Well founde, Noble knyght of the table rounde.

†**2.** Of tried goodness, merit, or value; well-approved, commendable. *Obs.*

In quot. 1887 push. an old use of Shakspere's use.

1601 Shake. *All's Well* II. i. 103 The greatest de Narbon was my father, In what he did professe, well found. 1627 – *Cor.* II. iii. 48 In our well-found Senate. 1887 Miss Lynn Linton in *Fortn. Rev.* May 728 Many [of the Athenian hetaeræ] lived comparatively well-found lives.

**3.** Fully furnished or equipped.

1793 [see Found *ppl. a.*, 2]. 1864 Bowen *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 144 The garrison is large and well found. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* x, He seemed very old, being over twenty, and well found in beard. 1891 A. H. Markham *Sir J. Franklin* 301 A well-found steamer.

**Well-(:)fo·unded**, *ppl. a.* Built on a good and solid base. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 922 (Fairf.) And which a goodely softe speeche I had that swete.. So frendely, and so wel ygrounded, Ytyl at reason as wel ygoundedly *Semde our lovis reason*]. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. xxiv. 164 My Prayer began to settle itself, like a well-founded Building. 1706 Congreve *Pindar. Ode, Cynthia* 11 Thy Beauty's well-founded Pile, Rais'd on the Base of Her well-founded State. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing*, etc. vii. 366 We will for this purpose establish a set of well-founded principles, and examine.

**b.** esp. of a belief, sentiment, etc.: Having a foundation in fact; based on good or sure grounds or reasons.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. vii, Her jealousy, already but too well founded, received from him but unwholesome nourishment of fresh conviction. 1824 Scott *Redg.* xl, A well-founded disbelief in the co-operation of the English Jacobites kept many Scottish men of rank from his standard. 1827 – *Two Drovers* II, The Scotch Squire, who had entertained some suspicions of his manager's honesty, was taking occasional measures to ascertain how far they were well-founded. 1859 [see Founded 1]. 1909 J. Hall *Chatham* iii. 42 There was no personal malignity in his accusations, he believed them to be well-founded.

Hence **Well-fou·ndedly** *adv.*

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Oct. 486/2 They had prided themselves, not too well-foundedly, that..they had far the better of England.

**Well-framed**, *ppl. a.* Well shaped, fashioned, constructed, or composed.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* V. (1922) 246 Like a man whose best building was a well-framed conscience. 1605 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xi. 188 As soone as I shall come to shore..some well-framed pile of that happely may be set vp heir. 1718 Prior *and Hymn Callim.* 73 In the well-fram'd Models, ..Thou shew'dst, where Towers or Battlements should rise. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IV. 72 Which Vulcan for the Kings of Greece It is well framed and prudent. 1876 Handy *Eteliberta* xxxv, A well-framed reflective man with a grey beard.

**Well-fraught**, *ppl. a.* 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., That well-fraught world of words that answers words. 1708 J. Phillips *Cyder* II. 371 The well-fraught Bowl Circles incessant. 1808 Mrs. Inchbald *Nat. & Art* (1848) 98 How wise Ulisses' well-fraught tale Did o'er Nausicaa's fears prevail.

**Well-freckled**, *ppl. a.* 1609 C. Daniel *Triumph.* To Rdr. 140 For Leopard Lanuine's Spotted Beast [men] a-like or Damne; well-freckled wits shew best. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, He was broad-faced, broad-shouldered, well freckled, and pug-nosed. **Well-frequented**, *ppl. a.* 1663 Cowley *Country Mouse* 82 Loe, in the midst of a well fratted Pye, They both at last glutted and wanton lye. **Well-frequented**, *ppl. a.* 1715 Pennecuik *Tweedale* 20 An old and well frequented Inn. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. xiii. 278 An amicable well frequented port. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 5 A well-frequented weekly market each Thursday. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* (1846) 98 A well-frequented Rose inn. †**Well-freshed**, *ppl. a. Obs.* 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Lamp* 970 In a bucket, that (Sheathed) Well-freshi himself by fears sore vnmatched I lack. **Well-fri·ted**, *ppl. a.* 1626 Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* xx. xl. 251 So wee haue seene the kernell of a well fruited plant degenerate into that crab, or willow, which gaue the originall to his stocke. a 1693 Urquhart *Rabel.* III. Mark xii. 8 A vineyard is..a place well planted, well fruited.

**Wellful**, var. Welful *Obs.*

**Well-(:)fu·rnished**, *ppl. a.* Amply provided, stocked, equipped, etc. (see Furnished).

1574 *Puston Lett.* III. 107 He..lefte a greet garnyson theer, well & comyshyd in vitayll. 1653 [see Furnished 2 c]. 1866 Painter (*title*) The Palace of Pleasure, Beautified adorned and well furnished with pleasaunt Histories and excellent Nouels. 1628 Gainsford *P. Warbeck* 45 The Kings Forward being full of companie and well furnished. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* IV. end, Lo! they arrive now at his appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the

Chase 1687 *Irnd Cas* No. 2940/4 A thick well furnished grey Gelding full aged 1720 Concerta *Doris* 11 Wks 1730 III 293 Her sparkling Eyes she still retains And Teeth tho' old Repair And her well furnish'd Front disdains To grace with borrow'd Hair 1852 Grote *Greece* II. lxix (1862) VI 193 A year's campaign would enable them to return with a well furnished purse

b *esp.* of a house or room.

1635 56 Cowley *Davideis* I 681 Well furnish't Chambers, for it's each there stood A narrow Couch, Table and Chair of wood 1849 *Amis erstyn* 292 He has a fair estate, a well furnished house, [etc.] 1850 Lynch *Theoph. Frunk* v 133 A well clad woman in a well furnished room

Hence **Well-fu rnishedness.**

1653 H More *Conject Cabal* (1662) 118 In respect of th Fitness and well furnishedness of the Earth

**Well furred,** *ppl. a* 1822 J Davies (Heref.) *Scourge & Ally* (Gromm. 1858) 1 The well furred Dame 1837 Sir F Palgrave *Merch & Friar* 1 (1844) 22 These well furred and well plenipotentiaries 1879 Geo Eliot *Theo Such* xviii 309 Well furred skins

**Well gal ted,** *a* 1722 [see *Gutted ppl. a* (Gut *sb.*)] 1825 James *Sir. Wealdg* xiii 211 I'll try a horse that is thoroughly broke . . Well! [ga rnished, *ppl. a.* 1597 [see Garnished] 1838 Mabo Lytton *Night & Morn* (1860) 65 More than one well garnished inn to be

**Well geared,** *ppl. a* 1470 [see Geabed 2] 1899 F T Jullen *Log Sea & Lag* 21 Like a well geared machinery. **Well-gi fted,** *a* 1653 Gauden *Hierask* 20 Though Ministers might be well gifted and well affected men 1918 Abbutnot *Pub. Bull* iii 111 Jack Tars, and other Ablatives than other Men he was well gifted, as he prended

**Well-girt,** *ppl. a* Firmly encircled or secured by a girdle or girth, esp., after Gr *εὐζωνος* (*dorip*), girt up for exercise, in good trim for walking, hence *fig.* (of time) strenuously employed.

1647 H Ward *tr. Mer. Casaubon's* Engli sh ver 11 Invesevery man content 1798 Wor *Sk at boy* 39 The well girt Soldie 1816 Southey *Lett* 3 *Liger* 1 111 Some three long journey for a well girt man 1843 Fonb *Hon Ho* 1 111 72 To be Homer's well girt soldiers all Jason, I's dresse on cuill or to war 1858 Carlyle *Frederick* VI Wanster *Hertz. Hist* 11 Why are you in a Circle to the worlds conscience, and in a rie s re to wel pu nment? 2 1611 Chapman *Hesiod* vii 176 This said, the well girt Lemnian soldiers prayed

**Well glebed,** *a* 1645 W E *tr. Cl. Stuart's Peris* (1737) 134 A well glob 1 Virgin 1878 **Well glossed,** *ppl. a* 1581 J Mayhew *Tim Fran* 264 J. Tell in was gine I Afaire well glossed purple waste **Well gloved,** *ppl. a* 1864 Owen Thomas *D Donne* III 30 She laid her well gloved hand on his arm

**Well-go ing,** *ppl. a* (Said of an animal, a machine, etc.)

1623 Lisle *Wilfrid on O & N Test* (Crawford) 16 Make me now ready a well going house 1786 Burns *Interview* 29 My hair is in a word, a well going like *Addie Cleishbotham's* 5 Whose life is like a well-going mill, Supply'd wi' store o' water 1789 Cowper *Task* II 15 *Retir* 5 June It seems they are well going clocks and clogs 1854 Crockett *Mose Miss Wade* xxxii 236 Her well going talk eased my heart in the midst of so many troubles

**Well-go rthen,** *pl. a.* Obtained by good means, honourably gained (Cf It-gotten)

1530 Palsgr 844/1 Well gotten, *de lon acquest* a 1533 Berners *Huon* lxxiii 235 Duke Naymes wolde take neuer a peny for he thought al that ryches was nat it wel gotten 1656 Cowley *Mistr., Dialogue* 3 Is the well gotten Estature Safe in my Memory I rea ure. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I x 10, Your father has wealth well gotten, and I am nameless and poor

**Well-go verned,** *ppl. a*

1. Following a good rule of life and behaviour, controlled by reason

c 1410 *Lantern of Light* 10 Whanne þu neigh ur is wise, well gouerned 1449 Pecock *Repr* II vii 179 He to stand well governed pupil 1530 Palsgr 844/1 Well gouerned, *de bon gouvernement* 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 26 Where a brags of him, Jo be a venturous and well gouern 1 uth 1598 B Mexes *Pallad Tamia* 281 b, A man of verie rich possession and well gouerned carriage 1614 Br Hall *Cont. of O. T.* v xi 137 How highly God do he teeme a well gou ned zeale 1634 Milt *Comus* 703 An I that which is not good is not delicious To a well gover ned and wise appetite 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* II viii, Yes, but a well governed mind can be soured sitting!

2. Of a state or society of men Ruled by a good government

1570 *Homilies* II *Disob* i 7 *Rel Illon* IV (1574) 350 In time well governed co mon wealth, where good lawes are in force 1658 Earl Monm tr *De rita Electis P. Ferrarii* 1 xxv (1676) 57 The rewards which were proposed in well governed Common wealths. 1748 *Anson's Voy* III x 443 The whole Em, ire was a well governed t affect inate family 1816 Coleridge *Lay Sermon* (1852) 22 By the happy orga ization of a well governed society 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) I 395 If you go away from well governed states to Ithaca, where there is great disor er and li ence

**Well go vernung,** *vbl. sb.* 1649 Milton *Eik* 2 xv 141 Had he know n how to distinguish between the whol some feat of well Gover ning, and the lavorous rage of Ty nnizing 1656 Earl Monm tr *D Scalinis Advice fr Jamaica* II (1674) 202 [His] Wit was miraculous in the well g ve ning of those people †**Well go vernment.** *Obs* 1714 Fortescue Aland *Prof. Fortescue's Aris & Lim. Mon* p xvi Positive Institutions for the Well govern-

ment of the People †**Well-go vernor** *Obs* One who governs well 1588 Wyclif *1 Tim* v 17 The prestis that ben wel gouernours (1382 that ben wel bifore, Vulg *qui bene præsunt*).

†**Well-graced,** *a. Obs* Full of grace or graces.

1593 *Jacke* [see Graced]

**Well gra ded,** *ppl. a.* Having even gra dients. 1850 [see Graded 3] 1878 J S Campion *Skein* xxi (1879) 166 The well graded waggon road to Lerida. **Well-grassed,** *ppl. a* 1731 [see Grassed *ppl. a* 2]. 1866 R. C. White worth *Builder's Journal Gazetteer* Advts p xix, Large and well-grassed paddocks 1890 'R Boldrewood' *Col Reformer* viii, An open thinly timbered, well grassed country

**Well gra velled,** *ppl. a* 1717 Well grouted. 1852 Vaugh an *Prairie Countries life* ix. Wks 1914 I 127 In populous Cities their Corns is either mouldie, or not well grinded 1859 *Instr. to Coast Chem.* 92 A soft and well grinded pouch of mevl

**Well-grooved,** *ppl. a* a *int* of a horse

1890 'R Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* xvi The well grooved shoulder-of-mutton whiskers hanged at their collars

1900 B H Cooper *Mondrems* vi 40 Young men in smart riding suits on well groomed backs.

b of persons Neat and trim, spick and span, with hair, skin, etc. carefully tended.

1886 [see Well tai lored] 1889 *Daily News* 5 De 5/6 He had a well al soned air, th gh he seemed carelessly dressed 1907 B Wingham *Flies of Footlights* 1, I dabbled with well groomed men and pretty women

Hence **Well-gro medness.**

1901 *Hackney Mag* Apr 553/2 The first thing I observed, when I was shown in was his well groomedness.

**Well-grounded,** *ppl. a* Of immater al things Based on good grounds, firmly founded, having a good basis or foundation.

c 1369 [see Well foundel] 1579 E. K in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal* Ded, What in most Pagh h writers vseth to be loo e, and vnlearned, that is well grounded 1611 *Bible* Tit i 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and conuince the gainsayers 1633 T Adams *Exp 2 Pet* ii 20 Knowledge and Repentance without a Faith well grounded 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 11 Assurance of Mercy we bring Happiness 1671 J Jordan *London's Resurr* 11 A Vnion well grounded no Malice can hurt 1709 Hearne *Collect* 1 (1715) 1 Founded upon the great and well grounded

1766 Ld. Kames in *Complete Farmer*, s. v. *Flax* 3 M 1 b, This prospect must be agreeable to every well-hearted Briton. 1862 Quinn *Heather Lintie* (1869) 36 But then his son Is a well-hearted winsome chiel, And's fond o' him. 1900 Mrs. Harker *Montagu Wycherly* I. 22 Kind little girl!...so transparently 'well-hearted' towards all the world.

**Well-hea'ted**, *ppl. a.* 1849 Eliza Acton *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 185 Bake the meat from five to six hours in a well-heated oven. 1886 W. J. Tucker *R. Europe* xiv. 82 There were wooden benches round a well-heated earthenware stove. † **Well-he'ling**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [See Heiling.] Good concealment (in quot. a personification). *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1857 Thanne shal delite and wel hevlynge [*Fr. Bien-Celer*] Fonde shame adowne to bringe. **Well-hewn**, *ppl. a.* 1826 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Life & Fame* ii. A lasting Life in well-hewn Stone they rear. **Well-hinged**, *ppl. a.* 1868–70 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. ix. 310 And there he saw a door within the wall, Well-hinged, close shut. † **Well-hired**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Receiving a good salary. 1705 Mandeville *Grumbling Hive* 20 That a poor Bee should Ten times come, To ask his Due,...And by some well hir'd Clerk be made, To give a Crown, or ne'er be paid.

**Well-hoe'ed**, *ppl. a.* 1708 Cowley *Vision, Gallileo* vii. The auld Guidwife's well-hoeorded nits Are round an' round divided. 1842 J. Vedder *Poems* 200 See Rinaldi shooked out, in the shape o' a fee, A well-headed guinea frae out o' his spleuchan.

**Well-hole.** [Well *sb.*1]

**1. a.** An opening through a floor or series of floors, for a staircase, chimney-stack, or for the admission of light, etc.

1680 Leybourn *Primatt's City & Country Purchaser* iii. 187 Note...that...you do after wards take the dimension of the Well-hole for the Stairs. 1690 — *Curt. Math.* 911 In the measuring of flooring,...you must deduct out of it the Well-holes for the Stairs and Chimneys. 1701 Swaton *Edystone L.* (1793) 8 42 A Well Hole was begun to be left upon these courses for stairs in the center. 1819 Reeve *Cycl. Well-hole*, in Building, is the hole left in a floor, for the stairs to come up through. 1850 *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-hole*...the space through a floor or floors, in a large warehouse, whereby light can be obtained from a glass roof over it, to each floor.

**b.** The empty space round which the stairs of a winding staircase turn.

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 185 Stairs that have a well-hole, or hollow in the centre, are called geometrical stairs. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 357 A cylinder...of the size of the well hole. 1881 Stainton. 1833 Audsoon *Encycl. Archit.* § 423 The well-hole of the stair is shown at *w*.

**c.** A vertical passage-way (for machinery, a lift, etc.); a shaft.

1841 Brees *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 307 *Well-hole*, a hole connected with some mechanical contrivances, and adapted for the reception of a counterbalance weight, for working lifts, etc. 1886 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 5 The upright or guides of the shaft or well-hole [of a lift].

**2.** The compartment at the lower end of a ship's pump.

1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 411 If...plates of copper...were...continued down the main-top-gallant-mast, the main-top-mast, and part of the main-mast, into the well-hole.

**Well-horned**, *a.* 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 368 Where to the pastern-bone by nerves combin'd, The well-horn'd foot indissoluble join'd.. 1900 Elworthy *Horns of Honour* ii. 125 A bull with a handsome well-horned head.

**Well(-)horsed**, *ppl. a.* Furnished with, mounted on, drawn by a good horse or horses.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 359, I bow be here allone, iliche wel I-horsed and i-wepened. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. 1018, Twenty thousande men Well armyt and wel horsait. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. x. 48 Vlyvus and Brastias..rode forth wel horsed and wel armed. *a* 1533 [see Horsed 1]. 1656 [see Horse *Powder, Ostr., Twice Year* 4], His well-horst Troops, the Months, and Days, and Hours. 1666 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 200 Nothing now being talked of but war, where money will not spare it to be well horsed. 1884 [see Horse 2 b]. 1890 *Strivers Mag.* XXV. 66/2 The smart and well-horsed army service wagon. 1901 *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 8/2 The force was well-armed and well-horsed.

**Well-housed**, *ppl. a.* 1838 Dickens *C. Twist* xxiii, It was a night for the well-housed and fed to draw round the bright fire and thank God for their lot at home. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 445 A well-fed, well-clothed, and well-housed population. **Well-hued**, *a.* *a* 1598 R. Senfir *Ballad* 31 in *Donnatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 357 With vils to remove it and mak it weill hewit. 1625 [see Hued]. † **Well(-)hu'moured**, *a. Obs.* [Well *adv.* 3a.] Good-humoured. 1693 Urquhart *Life Rabelais* ii. As we say in English, a well humour'd man and a good companion. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 108 He, who had the better of the Argument, would be easy and well-humour'd.

**Well-hung**, *ppl. a.*

**1. a.** Furnished with large pendent organs.

1611 Cotgr., *Oreillé*, eared; well hung, or hangd; which hath great eares. 1681 Davden *Au. & Achit.* i. 574 In the name of Dulness be The well-hung Balaam and cold Caleb free. 1893 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.*

**b.** Decorated with rich hangings or tapestry.

*a* 1669 Cowley *Ess. Verse & Pr.* i. (1906) 389 A painted Cage; Or the false Forest of a well-hung Room.

**2.** Of the tongue: Working readily and freely; glib, fluent.

1678 *Quack's Acad.* 6 If niggardly Nature or more penurious Education have not afforded you a Tongue well hung. 1790 J. Fisher *Poems* 57 Be sure to keep a well hung tongue, Your knav'ry to defend. 1833 Hickie *Antiphil.* (1872) II. 576 Thou well-hung tongue.

**3.** Suspended or attached so as to hang well. Said, e.g., of a window-sash, a carriage, a gate, a lady's skirt.

1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* v. xvii, Susannah did not consider that nothing was well hung in our family,—so slap came the sash down like lightning upon us. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* 26 June, The carriage is remarkably commodious and well hung. 1847 Surtees *Hawbuck Grange* xl. 224 Some well-hung green gates. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castle in Air* I. x. 204 The light, easy, well-hung, well-finished barouche. 1896 *Daily News* 4 July 6/3 Nothing is fresher or prettier than a well-hung skirt of white or cream colour.

**4.** Of meat or game: Hung up for a sufficient time.

1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1079/2 Well-hung four-year-old mutton. *Ibid.*, 1080/1 A fine, well-hung steak of venison.

**Well-husbanded**, *ppl. a.* 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. iiv. 383 You shall plant their shootes after the same manner, in a well husbanded and stigged ground. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* 50 A well-husbanded nursery of plants and fruits. 1885 Rankin *Uncle Farm Stew.* Pref. p. v, In the quiet morning of his well husbanded and well spent days. **Well-ima'gined**, *ppl. a.* 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 13 A well-imagined, or well-timed compliment. 1809 [see Imagined 2]. **Well-imbrued**, *ppl. a.* 1794 Armstrong *Preserv. Health* III. 91 With the well-imitated fly to hook The eager trout. **Well-improved**, *ppl. a.* 1641 [see Improved 2]. 1709 T. Molyneux in *Fr. & Portland Corr. Misc.* (1846) I. 177 From thence to Mont, thro' a well improv'd, well planted country. 1735 Berkeley *Querist* § 413 A handsome Seat amidst well-improved Lands.

**Well-in**, *adj. phr. Austral.* [f. dial. use of *in* = furnished, provided, 'off'.] Well-off, well-to-do.

1892 R. Boldrewood *Sydney-side Sax.* Introd., He's a well-to-squatter, that took up runs or bought them cheap before free selection.

**Well-inclined**, *ppl. a.* Of good natural inclination or disposition; well-disposed.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 237 These words long men'd me to take Dalicia, who quickly carried away their well inclined braines. 1612 Rich *Honest. Age* (1615) 12 Zelous, and well inclined married wives. 1625 Chapman *Odyss.* v. 60 Well-inclin'd, well-loth'd, And Conscience of Alcinous mind. 1683 H. Prideaux in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 285 We looke on him as a studious well-inclined young Gentleman. 1711 Shaftesb. *Soliloquy* (1900) I. 74 For the sake of those, who...may be well-inclin'd to Work of Mercy. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 207 ¶ 1 A well inclined young Man...must needs take Delight in being surpriz'd in his Kinders. 1881 Gladstone *Lett. to Forster* 8 Sept. in R. B. O'Brien *Life Parnell* (1898) I. 304 To reduce the following of Parnell by drawing away from him all well-inclined men.

**Well(-)informed**, *ppl. a.* Well equipped with information; fully furnished with knowledge, whether of a special subject or of things in general; having a well-stored mind.

*c* 1440 [see Informed *ppl. a.* 2 b]. *c* 1612 Chapman *Iliad* Epp. Dedic. 94 Princes...being well informed and clear With gracious vertue. 1614 [see Informed *ppl. a.* 2 b]. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett. to Son* 23 June, He is a very pretty and well-informed young Gentleman. 1790 Burke *Fr. Revol.* (1841) 148 This great man...was yet well-informed in the common affairs of life. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, A well-informed mind is the best security against the contagion of folly and of vice. 1897 Sir J. Barrington *Pers. Sk.* I. 251 Colonel Burr was...a well-informed, sensible man. 1896 Reskin *Mod. Painters* IV. v. v. § 20 The perfect and well-informed knowledge of Albert Durer and his Netherlandish work. 1863 B. Woodcroft *Brief Biogr.* 18 Crompton...was intelligent, though not what is generally called 'well-informed'. 1898 Ward *Robert Elsmere* I. v, Her aunt was a well-read, no doubt a well-informed woman, had been attending to her education.

*absol.* 1844 Landor *Imag. Conv., Bacon & Hooker* II. 65, I have observed, among the well informed and the ill informed, nearly the same quantity of infirmities and follies. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* II. xxvii, The ill-informed and the well-informed, but the ignorant and heedless. 1901 G. K. Chesterton *Man who knew* vii. 124 It startled the well-informed by being a new and fantastic idea they had never encountered.

**Welling** (we'lin), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Well *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of boiling or scalding. Also comb.

**welling-lead**, a cauldron.

1377–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 In emendatione unius Wellyngleede in pistrino. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521, 1 Wellynge, of mylke and oþer lycure, *coagulacio, decoccio*. 1508 I. M. tr. *Fr. Dyeing* 29 Take so much water as will go into the vessel...and put it in a welling lead, and let it boyle fine. 1591 Ray *S. & E. Co. Words*, 'Welling of whey' is heating it scalding hot, in order to the taking off the curds.

**b.** The boiling (of a liquid in a pot).

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521, Wellynge, or boylynge of playynge pottys, *ebullicio, bullicio*.

† **2. a.** The melting or founding of metals. *Obs.*

1377–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 In emendatione unius Wellyngleede in pistrino. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521, 1 Wellynge, of metel, *fusio*.

**b.** = Welling-lead. *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib. Obs.*

1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* i. vii. 109 Smiths...compactly consolidated their Irons together as if they had been vanquished in the welling-fire-vacuation, or welling-heat. G. Pearson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 398 The substance made white hot, by the forge, had the glassy smooth surface of iron, in what is termed the welding or the welling state.

**3.** The action of overflowing (of water); the flowing *forth* or *out* (of a stream); the swelling (of flood-water, the sea).

*c* 1400 *Contin. Rust.* cccxiv. 997 Pere arose suche a springyngynge and wellinge op of watere and floodes, bothe of le see and also of fressile ryveres & springyngs, bat [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521, Wellynge, or boylynge op as water ho be crithe or springe, *scaturicio*. *a* 1500 *R. Dale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 135 The 1st day of October was such a welling and spring of waters...that [etc.]. 1867 Myers *St. Paul* (1868) 38 Welling of waves, dis-coolate and tender, Sighed on the shore. 1893 Macduff *Mem. Patmos* xxiv. 326 The welling up of the Jordan in the cavern at the base of giant Mount Hermon.

**b.** *fig.*

1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xiv. 309 The notes...strike the mind by their loudness and variety, as the welcomings forth from joyous hearts, of praise to Him who fills them with overflowing gladness. 1896 F. M. Crawford *Corleone* xxvii. (1897) II. 192 With a wild welling up of hope, Francesco galloped along the road. 1916 Mrs. H. Ward *Lady Connie* I. v. 95 It was a moment for her of strong reactions, of a welling-up and welling-back of life, after a kind of suspension.

**Welling**, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Well *adv.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of making a well or shaft; in quot. *concr.*, shaft-work.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Oct. 7 He was assisting in placing a pile in the 'wellings' when the chain broke and down the 'crab'

**Welling** (we'lin), *ppl. a.* [f. Well *v.*1 + -ing 2.]

**1.** Boiling: said of a liquid, of molten metal, etc.; also of a pot. *Welling hot*, boiling hot.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21049 In a tun was welland hat filld of oyle he hedli him schott. *Ibid.* 26953 Alle your entrailles likon in welland pottes sal dun. 1393 *Langl. Piers Plowman Vision* 6578 Whoso handily pyketh be welling hote He shal have fyllthe thereof anoyed. 1549 Hawkes *Pr. C.* 2326 It nalle be latter jan ever was Bellen in ðat welland kan. 1570 *Bp. Unions of St. Paul* 134 in *O. E. Misc.* 207 And þei 3 dun cureichon in wellyng pich and Brumston. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4070 Till he come likewond on a leyan was welland hate. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxiii. 385 Some after come ij. dayes yelping, and broughtyn a Cawderon full of hote welling leave.

† **b.** *fig.* in phr. *welling wave* (or hell). Cf. *to well in wee*, Well *v.*1 3 b. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21836 He demed me in-till hell depe, Euer in welland wa to wepe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (Andrew) 634 [Christ] thold þare dyspitione del, Fra welland wa wal to led.

† **c.** *Welling wood*, raging mad. (Cf. Walling *ppl. a.*1) *Obs.*

13–17 *Cursor M.* 53 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1881) 455 Bathe togeder away þay sode Als þay hade bene wel and wode. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 344 Thes folk shall flyt no fay, If he go welland wode.

**2.** Of a spring, tears, etc.: Flowing abundantly, surging, gushing.

1387 *Trevisa Higden* VII. 359 Wellynge watres and stremes. 1393 *Langl. Piers Plowman* C. xxii. 19 Thei diggeden in the stonde, and þei fonden wellynge watir. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 7 He was a continual welling fountayne of eloquence,...a botomlesse spring of largesse. 1567 *Trial Treas.* (1850) 60 Alongste my stayned cheekes echo houre the welling teares doth trickle. 1819 S. Rogers *Human Life* 741 Their questions, their replies, Fresh as the welling waters, round him rise. 1850 Disraeli in G. E. Buckle *Life* (1914) III. viii. 398 There should be more variety in the movement. Something to break the low, tho' welling, hum of the domestic multitude. 1898 Farrar *Eric* x. xiii, Soft hair, tangled with welling blood. 1890 H. H. Johnston in *Nature* 13 Nov. 46 A welling, brackish pool.

**3.** That pours out a stream or streams. Of a wound, etc.: Bleeding copiously. Also *fig.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 281 The Sun...and Windes ...Extract as much still of her humours thin, As weeping Eyes, and welling Earth powres forth. 1594 Blundeville *Exercises* xiii. 468 A Bore-speare...is a welling Speare. Kneeb, Kaled watchful or his welling side. 1910 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Feb. 225 2 His speeches...have the air of happy improvisation, as though they came from a welling heart.

**Welling**, obs. dial. var. Fellinge *vbl. sb.*

1513 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For wellyng of ij elmys jd. 1520 *Ibid.*, Payd for wellyng off xv pesys off tymber.

**Wolling**, obs. form of Willing *vbl. sb.*

**Wellington** (we'lingtən). [Named after Arthur, first duke of *Wellington*, 1769–1852.]

**1.** *attrib.* a. *Wellington boot* = sense 2.

1818 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journ. Amer.* (ed. 3) 88 Americans in pantaloons and Wellington boots. 1830 Disraeli *Young Duke* II. iii, Grey miniature pantaloons, and Wellington boots drawn over them. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 64. 332 The Wellington boot at present worn by our dragoons and their trumpeters. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. ii. 46 No gentleman could wear anything in the daytime but Wellington boots, high up the leg, over which the trousers fitted tightly, covering most of the foot, and secured underneath by a broad strap.

**b.** Used to designate other articles of clothing introduced by the Duke, or named after him, as *Wellington coat, hat, trousers*, etc.

1818 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xiv, The enormous length of their great-coats, and the equally fashionable latitude and longitude of their Wellington trousers. 1828 Carrick *Taylors* etc. (1904) II. 155 Yesterday morning he made his first appearance in a new 'Wellington' Coat (a kind of a half-and-half great Coat and undercoat, you know, meeting close and square like the lower part of a Waistcoat) and Hat. 1838 The above look much more scientific than Wellington trousers. 1893 George, Hill *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 254 Wellington hat with the yeoman Crown.

**2.** A high boot covering the knee in front and cut away behind. Also a somewhat shorter boot worn under the trousers.

1817 Moncrieff *Giovanni in Lond.* I. iv, And wear of wellingtons a pair, To shine from top to toe, in Kean's style. 1821 Keats *Modern Love* 8 Miss Comb is made a great deal, And common Wellington boots beside. 1854 C. Knight *Once upon a Time* II. 266 The tops lasted till Wellingtons and trousers drove them out. 1869 E. A. Parker *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 416 The cavalry have Wellington and jackboots. 1906 *Stores' Price List*, 2 Pairs Calf Wellingtons.

**3.** A variety of cooking apple, large, roundish, and with yellowish white flesh. Also *W. apple.*

1822 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1822) IV. 529 Mr. Richard Williams sent...specimens of an Apple called the *Wellington*.

a very handsome and long keeping variety. 1839 C. Mclntosh *Orchard* 18 Dumelows Seedling (syn. Wellington Apple, Dumelow's Seedling). 1884 *Garden* 28 Mar. 281/3 Cooks go generally for the Wellington as a cooking Apple.

**Wellingtonia** (wɛlɪŋtəʊ·nɪə) [Named by Lindley after Arthur, first duke of Wellington (1769–1852); see IA1.] The popular name in England of *Sequoia* (*Wellingtonia*) *gigantea*, a large coniferous tree, native of California; the big tree or Washington of the

1853 *Gard. Chron.* 4 Dec. 821 Wellingtonia stands as high above the contemporaries as the Californian tree above all the surrounding forests. Let it then bear henceforward the name of *Wellingtonia gigantea*. *Ibid.* 823 These considerations seem to leave no room for doubt that Wellingtonia is an entirely new coniferous form. 1868 *Times* 20 May 18 Lime, Ash, and conspicuous of these Wellingtonias. 1880 Miss Thackeray *Just as I am* xxvii, Curious rich in monkey trees and furs, Wellington trees.

**Wellingtonian** (wɛlɪŋtəʊ·nɪən), *a.* and *sb.* [see prec. and IAN.] Belonging to or characteristic of the duke of Wellington.

1854 *Punch* 1 Apr. 139/2 She performs this duty to a certain Wellingtonian point, coming off her new tenth quiet dignity. 1859 *Academy* 14 Sept. 159/2 The Wellington monument was one so strong that it might last as the Pyramids of France. 1909 *Times* 8 Oct. 9/2 There is a Wellingtonian vigour in his way of stating a case.

**† Wellinha bi'ld,** *sb.* *Obs.* Populous place.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 286 The Ilande of seynt Lucie once beinge well inhabited & of temperate aier. 1585 J. Washington tr. *Nobility* 1 b. Any of the Iland [is] well inhabited. 1799 J. Nichols in *Archæol. & Misc.* (1846) I. 163 It seems to have been of old a well inhabited and thriving town. 1799 Nicholson *Annalists* II. 490 At Bath's River on the Wellinhabited Plain. 1880 Cook *Knut Pasha* 30 Two well inhabited islands.

**Wellink** (wɛ·lɪŋk) *int.* Also **wallink** [app. worn down from *Well* (WELL *sb.*1) *-link* (see LINKER and BROOKLINE).] A provincial name of the Brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga*.

1831 W. Patrick *Plants Linnæ.* 40 Brooklime. The Wellink of the village herbalist. 1878 *Cassell's Cyclop. Natural Hist.* III. 1/2 *Veronica Beccabunga*. Brook-lime. Wellink. 1879 A. Irvine *Crail* 180 Wellink.

**Well i instituted** *ppl. a.* 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 No Nation, or well instituted State, if they could but see vice punished. 1783 *Cowper Conversat.* 93 But let the wise and well instructed hand Own'd like the shell bees oh his just command. 1835 *Congr. Mag.* XIX. 229/2 A well-instructed appreciation of his public claims. 1838 R. A. Vaughan *Hours with Mystics* (1856) I. 84 Many such [as] Mary's brother performs all the offices of a well instructed writer with great efficiency. 1865 *Pioneer Youth's Mag.* I. 224 It is such a child I hardly be commended in age or in any one of well instructed consciences.

Hence **Well-instructedness,** *rare*—1.

1628 [see INSTRUCTEDNESS].

**Well-inte nded,** *ppl. a.* Characterized by right and sincere intention, meant.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiv. (1912) 437 Especially set long forth their noble goodness, never yet meaning, but intended services. 1628 I. Eliot *Resolves* I. xxvi. 83 So by bad circumstances (we) poysons a well intended purpose. 1648 J. Lilburne *Lil. Matt.* (1934) II. 163 The reason I well intended labours may claim thy patronage. 1777 Johnson *Let. to Dr. Dodd* 26 June in *Boswell*, I'm sensible of those well intended offices which you are pleased so gratuitously to acknowledge. 1781 Cowper *Conv.* 1. *Hannah* 66 The perhaps well intended but unsensical and fruitless efforts of our priests. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 208. The pamphlet is well intended & little and temperate.

**† Well(-)intentioned** see INTENTIONATED.

**Well-inte ntioned,** *ppl. a.*

1 Of a person. Having good intentions.

1598 Parsons in *Archæologia Cantiana* (Camden) I. 31 If the magistrates were known to be godly and well intentioned men. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 52 Pa. Among us I this has been a mark of such well intentioned persons to avoid better than either of they were able. 1788–9 Tucker *Light of Nat.* (1831) II. 681 Following me a well intentioned body but a little bewildered by fleshing too much among heathen authors. 1848 Miss Mitford *Village* III. 113 Dame Pinks was in fact a well intentioned worthy woman. 1859 Burgon *Sir F. Cretchant* I. 65 The truth seems to be that however well intentioned, he did not possess the requisite qualities for the office he filled. 1867 Richie *Creed* I. viii. 397 These well intentioned though mistaken men.

2 Of actions, utterances, etc. Due to or based upon good intentions.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* iii, Polly triumphed not a little in the success of her well intentioned scheme. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 449 Well intentioned efforts to reform a currency have thus been frustrated. 1885 *American* XI. 44 A well intentioned argument.

Hence **Well-inte ntionedness.**

1799 Courtenay *Lett.* (1893) 315, I see enough of the boy to be fully convinced of his goodness and well intentionedness.

**Well-inve nted,** *ppl. a.* Cleverly fabricated or made up. Cf. *It. ben trovato*.

*Well invented* occurs as pr. t. in Spenser's *F. Q.* IV. ii. 2, IV. xii. 2.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 206 He full of fraudful Arts This well invented Tale for Truth imparts. 17 Bernard *Art Fugl Poetry* (1762) I. Pref. p. vii, The well invented Fables of the Antients were design'd only to inculcate the Truth with more Delight.

**Wellish** (wɛ·lɪʃ), *adv.* and *adj.* [f. WELL *adv.* + -ISH1.] Pretty well. *Wellish off*, fairly well to do. Also *not wellish adj.*; rather unwell.

1737 Hon. *Rem.* (1856) II. 122 Mr. Lloyd complained of being not, faint, not wellish. 1875 S. Bradshaw *Hamilton* II. 234 They (the hops) look mouthy round wonderfully, and they have taken hold wellish. 1899 *Cumbrld. Gloss.*, *Wellish off* in easy circumstances.

**† Well-ito ssed,** *obs.* var. of *Well-tossed*, *ppl. a. Obs.* [See TOSS, and cf. UNTOWEN, WANTON.] Well trained or instructed; well-conditioned, modest.

c 1205 Lay. 10099 Luces wes wel itoȝen. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 242 Scholiȝen of Leclerie habbeð swuðe kundies þet in one wel ituwe muȝe beore summes nomeliche nat nont noȝt nemnen. Þurh one muȝe hutten alle wel ituwe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1618 (Cott.) Ne mu he duhi bidloker þen ein wel it be ituwen mube segen. c 1275 Lay. 1. 183 A child þat was wel itowe.

**Well-joined,** *ppl. a.*

1553 Ascham *Apol. Gos. sonne* 8 If proper & naturall words, well ioyned sentences & plainly expressed, the matter. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1912) 260 Alas, how painefull a thing it is to a desired minde to make a well ioyned sentence! 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XIII. (Q. Ed.) Through full swifties, Blacke Oxen drawe a well ioynd chariot. 1625 — *Odyss.* XXI. 197 Thus, he (the Archer) well ioyn'd bored he hole. 1645 Milton *Tetrach. & Bp.* (1848) 38 The intolerable yoake of a never well joyn'd wedlocke.

**Well jointed,** *ppl. a.* 1413 [see JOINTED]. 1874 J. M. Stuart *Maintenance of Health* 58 The ruin should be laid into sufficient and well jointed stones.

**Well-judged,** *ppl. a.* Marked by sound judgement, judicious, wisely estimated, correctly calculated.

1725 Bentley *Prop. val.* Wks. III. 230 An extensive and well judged charity. 1780 Cowper *Conv. Journey Let. Hanna* I. 164 The well judg'd purchase. 1841 Tennyson *Ill. in Italia* II. 53 A well measure was the style turn'd and well judged. 1850 Gen. Lucy *Diet.* (1870) 325 A well crop, that can feed one sit, not at all by hurried stretching, but only by a well judged patient process. 1895 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 7/3 Stoddart being out to a well judged couple of runs.

Hence **Well-ju·dgedly,** *adv.*

1768 Miss Burney *Early Diary* (1889) I. 18 Never was anything so expertly, so well judgedly affectionate!

**Well-ju·dging,** *ppl. a.* Having or exercising or characterized by sound judgement.

1751 *Peregr. Pick'd* V. 240 An Age so distinguished for well judging Patrons. 1755 Young *Centaur* I. 5 Well judging Patrons. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 769 Some well judging Critic. 1814 Southey *Roderick* XXIII. 34 When the mind is endued With well judging taste from above. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* (1), He always spoke in the most proper and well judging terms. 1828 Scott *Fair Maid* I. xxvi, Some well judging Critic. 1879 Tennyson *Queen Mary* III. i. 58 It is peculiar in the use of it: he (a well judging critic) has only used it in the first act.

**† Well kept, -kemmyt,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Carefully combed. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. 13 His well kemmyt lerdy, hyngyng doun behynd. 1540 *Palsgr.* 1. 1 How is *Jane* so well kept. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. 878 Their leaues are well kept, their cloues full of clene thyrs tayles well kempt.

**Well kenned, -kent,** *ppl. a.* Well known, familiar. 1776 Lewis *Du Halde's Chalmers* I. 1 I doubt not, but that we well kend name Mi cant a pair o' blushes. — *Ipsy to Virtue* 7 You'll easy do me a favour, but you'll be well strange. 1788 Wolcot *Nimrod's Anticipation* 11, Others, all well kenned gentlemen had their care in his society. 1895 Crockett *Men of Air* xxii. 230 I was there upon well kenned ground.

**Well-kept,** *ppl.* Carefully preserved or stored, faithfully observed or guarded; maintained in good order or condition.

14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 233 He shall never have good larder, fure garde o, nor wel kepte coun teil. 1613 Shelton *Don Quixote* III. xxxvi. 181 That well kept Register who can write All the men doe. c 1670 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1881) II. 348 How much reall comfort a Christian hath in a well kept house. 1772 *Museum Rust.* I. 143 A well kept garden. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* LV. 19 Ruddy as a well kept apple. 1871 Ingelow *Rest* & *Angel* III. 272 A well kept and large stone building. 1891 *Law Times Rep. Reports* LXIV. 157 Well kept, picturesque cottages. 1895 *Field* 30 June 1/1 The well kept secrets of the older Gods.

**Well-knit,** *ppl. a.*

1. Firmly conjoined or compacted; closely linked or connected.

1445 in *Rymer* XI. 43 In *Anglia* XXVIII. 261 Ner fur noise of litel offence (Fidelity) duvaluyth not kin tiis wele knyte. 1635 Sir Cowley *Davideis* I. 380 His spirit contains The well knit nerves strong and well knit joints. 1708 *Odyssy* XVII. 299 They well knit frame. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* IV. Joe was a well knit, characteristic looking blacksmith. 1890 *Nature* 20 Nov. 68 *Reptomeryx*, The squarish form and well-knit figure of an ordinary English aristocrat.

*fig.* 1867 M. Arnold *Imm ortality* 13 His soul well knit, and all its faculties won.

**Well-kno tted,** *ppl. a.* 1835 D. Costello *Stories fr Screen* 122 Bundles tied up in well knotted handkerchiefs. 1888 H. Woods in *Montalmi Conf Sweden* 61 Upon the head was a well knotted woollen scarf. **† Well-know·ing,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Intelligent and well informed. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 5 Most well knowing men have been wary of speaking it out. 1709 Sheffield *Mordaunt* i. 10 Knowing as you are (continu'd) well knowing and experienc'd in all the Degrees and Orders of Beauty. **Well-know ledged,** *ppl. a.* Furnished with sound knowledge.

1858 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* (1882) I. 407 He had the *momentum* of a strong, clear, well knowledged mind.

**Well(-)known,** *ppl. a.*

1. Known to many, widely or generally known.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 82 In weyle knawyne on many diuers wyde, How that half wrocht in to thar mychty pryde. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 269 He is as well knowne in London as [he] is in Yorkshire. 1548 Turner *Herbal* I. 8 Medewurte is an herbe well knowen unto all men. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. vii. 82 He by enquirie gotte to the well knowne house of Kalander. 1612 Chapman *Rev. Homer's Odyssey* II. He not wrong My well known Brother for Anonymos. 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 19 The well knowne and avowable practs of the Ancients. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 141 The fruitful Isle of Crete, well known to Fame. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 197 P. 3 It is well known we have not had a more moderate Summer these many Years. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87 She remained the well known lines of Shakespeare. 1818 Scott *Hrt Mid.* xxxiii. The well known leader of the Porteous mob. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 163/1 Dry Rot, a well known disease affecting timber. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt* I. ii. (1874) 240 It is well known that art has in general preceded science. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 46 His father being a very well known man. 1907 J. A. Hobson *Evolution Modern Thought* (ed. 2) 95 Any well known brand [of Bromide paper].

2 Intimately or thoroughly known

1590 Shakes. *3 Hen. VI*, II. v. 11 A narrow fourth, to them well known. 1596 *Id.* *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 111 Signior Baptista may remember me, Near these seven years, by the name of Hortensio. 1818 Scott *Hrt Mid.* xxxiii. The well known leader of the Porteous mob. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 163/1 Dry Rot, a well known disease affecting timber. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt* I. ii. (1874) 240 It is well known that art has in general preceded science. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 46 His father being a very well known man. 1907 J. A. Hobson *Evolution Modern Thought* (ed. 2) 95 Any well known brand [of Bromide paper].

2 Intimately or thoroughly known

1590 Shakes. *Com. of E.* II. v. 17 A narrow fourth, to them well known. 1596 *Id.* *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 111 Signior Baptista may remember me, Near these seven years. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87 She remained the well known lines of Shakespeare

widow ' well left ', who kept a small shop. **Well-legged,** *a.* 1598 Huloet, Brawned or well armed, or legged, *torosus.* 1693 *Nat. Mortice* (1870) 8 Some are worn ...perfect of bodie, yet ill legged; others, which are well legde, shaked with their feete. *a* 1779 D. Graham *Writ.* (1883) II. 53 For his mither tell'd him the women look'd ay to the men's legs or they marry'd them, and the well-legged loons gade ay best aff.

**Well-le'ttered,** *ppl. a.* Having a good knowledge of letters; imbued with learning.

1593 R. Bruneie *Hanall. Synne* 894 (Bodl. MS.) Preat wey letired ys to blame Pat lattep nat...To pleye wyb wymmen. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 217 A bisshop but was a passyng auncil clerk, & a well-letered. 1483 Caxton *Golden Legc.* 277/1 The which ...was also in theologye wel letered. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 305 Quintius Valerius, a wise and well lettered man. 1658 Gen. P. Thompson *Jewish Alt.* lvi. I. 220 Happy and well-lettered peasantry. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* xlii. 211 The Bishop...would not himself have made a bad cardinal, being polished and plausible, well-lettered, yet quite a man of the world.

**Well-lighted,** *ppl. a.* 1632 Milton *Epit. March. Winch.* 20 With a scarce-well-lighted flame. *a* 1665 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* xxvi, The rooms are well-lighted to-night, are they, Mr. Preston? 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 84 Each family occupies a parlour corridor, high, well-lighted.

**Well-liked,** *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. *wel-gelicad,* glossing L. *beneplacitum.*] Regarded with much affection or approval. Also † *well liked of.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. (1922) 12 This their well liked fellowship. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* 1. 95 To put himself into possession of his new, and well lik'd of charge. 1820 A. McNay *Poet. Wks.* 33 (E. D. D.) The herd came rinnin' o'er the lea, His well-liked hound ran ahead. 1898 *Macm. Mag.* VI. 446/1 A good politician, and, on the whole, a very well-liked man.

† **Well-li'king,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Cf. OE. *wel-licung,* glossing L. *beneplacitum.*] Favourable regard, fondness; approbation or love (*of*).

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 12. 214 All well-lyking of reason and honestie was quite banished. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 491 But this man lacking luck, did also lack the wel lyking. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Whilest by an outragious well-liking of your selfe, you become ignorant of your owne mischiefes. 1603 Daniel *Def. Ryme* Wks. (1717) 6 Drawn farther on by the Well-liking and approbation of my worthy Lord. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 65 His approbation and well-liking of those Innovations. 1679 Penn *Lett. & Maxims* 5 May, Which you have profited ..to expresse your well-liking of.

**Well-li'king,** *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. *wel-licendlic* adj.], pleasing. For † *well-like* v. see Well *adv.* 31.]

1. In good condition and of lusty appearance; thriving, healthy, plump. *arch.*

13.. *Prose Psalter* xxiii. 4 Pi shal ben wele likand. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1564 Aboute it is gras sprynging, For moiste is thilke and wel liking That it ne may in wynter dye. *c* 1440 *Pal. Honoure* 1087 Strong he was and wele lykyng. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* xciii. 13 They...shalbe fat and wel lyking [1611 flourishing]. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 113 The Popes clergie shal be well fed, faire and well liking. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 46 Houselikes...is alwaies greene and well liking. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* 1. ii. ii. 1. 90 A Carthusian of a ruddy colour, and well like. 1685 H. More *Enthus. Openers* etc. 7 They refusing the King's portion, grow fair and well liking with pulse and water. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Tot-nurse,* Introd. 16 But be very careful daily to observe how your patient continues in good health, and is fat and well-liken. 1795 *Feminea* I. 176 His Lordship...looks altogether smug and well-liking. 1864 Kingsley *Hereward* xxvi, Here came into the camp one Brandon, riding on an ambling pad, himself fat and well-liking, none other than Sir Deda. 1891 M. Meredith Dowie *Girl Kept.* 121 There was a tendency in the conditions at the farm to make one fat, lazy, and well-liking.

*fig.* 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 268 Well-liking wits they have, groose, groose, fat, fat. 1599 — *Much Ado* iii. ii. 29 Ped. 3 To grow wel-liking and flourishing in goodnesse.

† 2. Pleasant, agreeable. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 1. xlvii. 478 It besteemeth a man...to be well liking and acceptable for *rendre plaisant, douce & aggreeable*] to an honest and vertuous wife.

**Well-limbed,** *a.* Having good or fine limbs.

1611 in Lysons *Chron. Prov.* 1. 201 [Jason] So well limbed and compact by mesure. 1655 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 151 Thinkabitantes are of high and goodly stature, well lymmed and proportioned. 1698 Fryer *E. India & P.* 111 Well limbs'd 208 No. 9 A well-tymb'd gelding. 1834 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 14 The people are...well limmed and proper, nor want they courage. to their limmes. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4049/4 Lost ...a Horse,...a strong well-limb'd Pacer. 1793 *Ann. Reg., Chariv.* 359 She was well limbed though so low of stature. 1876 Bascroft *Hist. U.S.* V. liv. 137 He was tall and slender, well-limbed, graceful address.

**Well-limned,** *ppl. a.* Also 7 -limb'd, lim'd, limned. *lit.* and *fig.* (See Limn *v.* 3, 3b.)

Quot. 1616 perh. belongs to Well-limbed.

1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* xiv. 18 The craft-man...makes the idoll comely, faire, and great, With well limned visage, and best fashioned shape. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. 1. 20 Neere this the curious Pencell did expresse A large and solitary wildernesse, Whose high well limmed Oakes in growing show'd As they would ease strong Atlas of his load. 1637 S. Marmion in T. Heywood *Descr. H.M. Ship* (1638) To Author A...Poet, Homer whose Immortall Verse In well lim'd lines, and raptures might rehearse The bravery of this Vessell. 1652 *F. Gerald's Sidney* Ep. Ded., Both your Blood and Vertues do so strongly Inhibit you to this well-limb'd Piece. 1694 Whitlock *Zootomia* 468 It is the part of Poetry to have a judicious Reception of a well-lim'd Notion.

**Well-lined,** *ppl. a.* [See Line *v.*1 1, 3.] Furnished with a good lining. Also *fig.*

1562 Bullein *Bulw. Def., Sick Men* (1579) 6 The pacyent to haue light warme clothes, and slyppers, cleane, & well lyned. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xvi. 338 Well couer'd in a well-lin'd shield. 1697 Dryden (Conyer *Talk* ii. 237 His cap well lin'd with logic not his own.

b. *spec.* Of a purse: Full of money. † Of a person: Affluent. *Obs.*

1622 Cotgr., *Aist en son mesnage,* of good estate, well lined, well to line. 1667 Milton *Fr. Acad. Dict.* s.v. *Chanel,* He wants not wherewithal to line his throat, his belly, his purse, his breech, well-lined. 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxxvii, A well-lined pouch of chamois leather.

† **Well-li'quored,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Stocked with liquor. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* 6 His blushing Lattice would bewray, Both what and how well liquored he may be. 1658 Osborn *Advice to Son* (1673) 110 Never well liquored man.

**Well-li'veried,** *a.* 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* iv. iv, Thinking of his own well-liveried menials.

**Well-li'ving,** *vbl. sb.* A virtuous manner of life. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* (Verse) 253 For who to wele-lifing sall win, With greuaunis grete paim lus ligin. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 160/2 The first [part of Philosophy], concerning well living.

**Well-li'ving,** *ppl. a.* That leads a good life. 1577 Lanci. *P. Pl.* B. x. 431 Pere aren witty and wel lib-bynge (*Justi atque sapientes*], ac ber wrakes ben yliudde In be hondes of Iesu Crist. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 240 Iyuyng man [is] hardy of kynde. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 87 Thi self waand thy witchecraft, altogidder contrarius to the institute of weill leveand persones. 1870 Dyer *Gram. Ancient* I. iv. 55 The piously-minded and well-living people in all ranks of the community.

**Well-loaded,** *adj. a.* 1766 Cowper *Conversat.* 196 Were I empow'd to regulate the lists, They should encounter with well-loaded fists. 1821 tr. *Iliad* IX. I. 275 When I have dragged to the sea my well-loaded vessel. 1871 *Loaded Dice* 1. 1. 7 Supplies with warm activity and force A mind well-loaded.

**Well-looked,** *a. Obs* exc. *Sc.* [See Well *adv.* 32 and Looked².] Of good appearance, good-looking.

1664 *Pepys Diary* 19 Aug., His lady...is a well-looked, fat, short, old Dutchwoman. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* viii. (1816) 245 Nine thousand Scots...All swinging, able, lusty, well-looked men. 1768 *Lloyd's Evening Post* 1. 1. 7 Two men, were very apt to discharge an old Soldier, as often as they could find a clever well-look'd young Fellow ready to list in his Room. 1796 Hist. Europe 1. 1. 1.

**Well(-)ma·rried**, *ppl. a.* Fortunate in one's marriage. Also, † legally married. 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 77 Shee's not well married, that liues married long, But shee's best married, that dies married yong. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 94 He is not like to marrie me wel: and not being wel married, it will be a good excuse for me hereafter, to leaue my wife. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxii. 273 It is not a sad thing to think of, that ladies, let them be young or old, well-married or ill-married, cannot live without intrigue? **Well-ma·rshalled**, *ppl. a.* 1849 WALLER *At Penn-hurst* II. 16 If shee walk, in even rankes they stand, Like some well marshall'd and obsequious band. **Well-masked**, *ppl. a.* 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 212 Vice imagines virtue to be well-masked vice.

**Well-matched**, *ppl. a.*

1. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 356 And sacrilege and she, A well-match'd pair, got graceless heresie. 1709 I. WARE tr. *Pindar, Olymp. Odes* v. (1753) I. 46 The well-match'd Coursers. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 358 Now to be wed a well-match'd couple came. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* III. You are a well-matched pair of them, rascally, pettifogging robbers. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 310 All perhaps very good birds, but...not forming a well-matched pen.

2. 1598 GRENEWEY tr. *Tacitus's Ann. Kennedy* xxi. 142 Then the well-mated pair proceeded to hold high discourse of fate and freewill. **Well-matured**, *ppl. a.* 1676 EVELYN *Terra* 53 Cast on this layer of well-matured Dung. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lvi. (1749) II. 81 Sound thought and well-matured reflection. 1897 *Century Mag.* May 104 This quiet but intense thinking and the well-matured ideas which resulted from it.

† **Well-meaned**, *a. Obs.* [See WELL *adv.* 32 and MEANED.] Furnished with considerable means. 1605 MANSION *Dutch Courtezan* v. (Ill.) H 2 b, He thats of faire blood, well meand, of good breeding.

† **Well-meaned**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [MEAN *v.*!]

1. Kindly disposed. *Sc.*

*c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1041, I haiff spokyn with lord Clyffurd that worthy knycht, Wyth thair chyftanys wyll meuyt for your lyff.

2. = WELL-MEANT.

*a* 1721 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. II. 94 Well-meaning, tho' wandring Prayrs. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* I. 506 *The Christian Common Prayer Book*...Sensible, moderate, and well-meaned.

**Well-mea·ner**. One who means well or is well-intentioned.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* To Rdr. A 6 b, With well-meaners even good Meanings and Aimes in Authors attune their Fallings. 1683 DRYDEN *Vind. Dk. Guise* 59 Deluded well-meaners come out of honesty, and small offences, but out of common discretion, or fear. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* III. 205 Well-meaners think no Harm. 1855 M. BARING *Russ. Hist.* 439 On its head, well-meaning enthusiasts, no sages, a few well-meaners, and some colos-sal scoundrels.

**Well-mea·ning**, *vbl. sb.* Disposition to do what is right; good intentions.

1589 ELYOT *Gouer. Clouet of Counsels* (1573) To Rdr., I craue thy curtesie to respect of my well meaning, rather than of my abilitie. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 57 The almightie powers, whom I inuoked as triers of mine innocencie and witnesses of my well meaning. 1657 H. MORE *Exp. Dial.* v. xxvi. (1713) 587 If that be at the bottom,...their well-meaning is commendable. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. ii. 38 Sir, your Impertinence has been very surprizing to me,...but your Youth and Well-meaning may in a great measure excuse you. 1744 MASON *Musæus* (1748) 13 Let my well-meaning mend my ill essay. 1768 *Woman of Honour* I. 209 A few men of good sense, and well-meaning. *a* 1849 H. COTTRIDGE *Exil.* (1851) II. 253 Though I give the Bishop credit for well-meaning in his refusal of the pictures offered to St. Paul's.

**Well-mea·ning**, *ppl. a.* Having, or actuated by, good intentions; animated by a kindly purpose or friendly disposition.

Often with a somewhat derogatory implication of inefficiency or unwisdom.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. v. 117 Right as see yeveth flood, so draweth see ebbe, and pulleth ayen under wawe al the forte out-throwe, but-if good pyles of noble gouvernaunce in love, in wel-meninge, ben nat sadly grounded. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 124 And albeit that he were not lerned, yet was he a vertuous and well meaninge man. *a* 1593 GRIMALD in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 106 This nothyng hynder your welmeaning minde. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Faun. Love* B ij, Take this briefe freindly and well meaninge answeare to your questions in good part. 1592 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 138 My brother Gloucester, plaine well meaning soule. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xvii. 158 What a Cordial and well meaning Helper they had of him abroad. 1673 *True Worship of God* p. iv, Some out of a well-meaning mistake, thinking that which they call Preaching, the only means of Salvation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. P 1 To the fault of many a well-meaning Man, to be officious in a wrong place. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 P 1 She...treats me like a plain well-meaning Man, who does not know the World. 1826 LYTTON *Pelham* lxxxi, The annuity we have agreed upon, is only to be given in case of success—not merely for well meaning attempts. 1857 MAS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 342 The well-intentioned but injudicious action of what are called well-meaning people. 1919 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 440 The paternal attitude of the Tudor monarchy was at least well-meaning towards the education of the poor.

Hence **Well-mea·ningly** *adv.*; **Well-mea·ningness**.

1680 J. C. *Vind. Oaths & Swearing* (ed. 2) 37 That some expedient may be found out for their ease in this Point, to such especially as do erre ignorantly and well-meaningly. 1900 *Spectator* 13 Jan. 52/1 Sloppiness, mental and moral, and vague well-meaningness.

**Well-meant**, *ppl. a.* Rightly, honestly, or kindly intended; said or done with good intention.

† 1478 J. PASTON in *P. Lett. III.* 159, I have herd oft tymys Rychard Stratton say that ye can and wyll take every thyng wel that is well ment. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 67 His demand Springs not from Edwards well-meant honest Loue, But from Deceit, bred by Necessitie. 1628 R. HAYMAN in *Fug. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 32 The poore successe of diuers of these well meant general treatises. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 4 Had I err'd in this case, it had been a well-meant Mistake. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, My ill-timed, though well-meant, request. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxiv, Valentine's well-meant, but perhaps injudicious interference.

b. quasi-*adv.* (with personification).

1602 [see WELL-DONE 2d].

**Well-mea·sured**, *ppl. a.*

1. Composed in good measure or rhythm.

*c* 1645 MILTON *Sonn. to Lawes* 1 Harry whose tuneful and well measur'd Song First taught our English Musick how to span Words with just note and accent. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. vi. vii. § 9 Puttenham is perhaps the first who wrote a well measured prose.

2. Wisely calculated or adjusted.

1839–40 WORDSW. *Punishm. Death* viii, Yet, as she may, for each peculiar case She [the State] plants well-measured terrors in the world's highway!

**Well-meated** : see MEATED *a.*

**Well-met**, *ppl. a.* (See also MEETE, 4 b and HAIL-FELLOW A. b.) *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xi. (1912) 223 To stand well meaned'd being gard be could, sometime with strong and well-met wards. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* v. 57 Haste then, let's joyn our well-met Hands together. **Well-mettled**, *ppl. a.* Literally supplied with proper mettle; well paid or remunerated. 1609 J. DAVIES (Kerch.) *Humours Heaven* (Grosart) 38/1 But, Fortune from the same these Scripts did pull, And in exchange filld either fist with Gold Ore, which they had but Papers they were dull; But being well-mettl'd they were blithe and bold. *a* 1734 (see METALLED 3). † **Well-mo·ttled**, *ppl. a.* [METTLED 1.] 1632 T. DELONEY *Gentil. Horsem.* I. iv. (1676) 37 Horses...must have also good eyes, obedient mouthed, and well mettled. 1693 J. D. MARSH in Congreve *Old Batchelor* To Author, Your well-mettled Hawk you took your flight Quite out of reach.

**Well-mi·nded**, *a.*

1. Having, or actuated by, a good disposition or intention; right-minded, loyal; † generously or favourably disposed, benevolent.

1520 in *Pol. Poems & Lett. Wolsey* 74/1 By whiche thy speache and talking, thou shalt not onely profite thy selfe as thou shoddest haue done by thy well minded zeleouse, but also [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xxxii. 4 The Heart of Rash shall understand knowledge, and the tongue of the stammerers shall be ready to speake plainely. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 1. ii. 12 Had he been perfectly well-minded in the matter, he would have gone too.

2. Wishful or determined (*to* do something).

1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* 243 Forty thousand weathercocks Each well-minded to keep his place.

**Well-mi·ngled**, *ppl. a.* 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. (1737) 231 How blest the lovely Pair, Beyond Expression, if well-mingled Souls, and well-minded Bodies could conjoin our Bliss!

**Well-mixed**, *ppl. a.* 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 10 Others thinke the name of Soule is vaine, And that we onely well mixt Humors are. 1680 OTWAY *Compl. Mistr.* 61 Let us frame a Commonwealth, And Dominion by stealth: 'Tis palliate it at first, and Cry 'Twas but a Well-mixt Monarchy. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 304 Thousand well-mixt Humours meet at Sixty. Well-mixed Sinner. 1820 **well-mixed**.

**well-mo·uded**, *ppl. adj.* 1621 [see MODULE *v.* 3]. 1666 BURNET *Mem.* in *Miscell. Sc. Hist. Soc.* (1904) II. 340 We enjoy the purity of Religion under a well modelled government.

† **Well-mo·neyed**, *a. Obs.* Well supplied with, having plenty of, money.

1479 [see MONEYED 1 b]. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. 1 I iij, Then one of my well moneyed mayster [*ceffarius ciunqfiam nummatioris domini*]. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The soldiers...designed out the well moneyed masters [*ditiores magistros*]. 1630 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* IV. viii. 180 So well-moneyed he was, that for ten yeares together he might for every day expend an hundred marks. 1726 C. JOHNSON *Country Lasses* I. i. 6 Sir, the goddesses, Persuasion and Venus, grace the well-monied man.

**Well-mo·ralized**, *ppl. a.* Regulated by good morals. 1658 [see MORALIZED 3]. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 69 There is no more Example of all Living than of ill Thinking, or a well-moralized Conversation, is a greater Rarity, than an Orthodox Head. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1578 Chaunce, who knows how mannors painting verse, Well-moralis'd, shines tho' the Gothic cloud.

† **Wellmost**, *adv. Obs.* Also 6–7 **welmost**(e. [Formed after ALMOST, by substitution of *well* for *all*. See WELL *adv.* 18.] Almost, well-nigh.

1550 *Crowley Pieces* 166 There are yet people, welmoste innumerable, That are dryuen to begge. *Ibid.* 274 They had both sute legges...Al rawe from the pote welmost to the knee. 1556 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Transl. Epist. A ij b, In this point...Englishmen are much inferiour to well most all other Nations. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* To Rdr., Which hath made me welmost a meere Peripatetician in my studies. 1622 R. HARRIS *Sermon* To Rdr., Our vnthankfulnes and vnfruitfulnes hath welmost vndone vs. 1626 — *Hezekiah's Recov.* (1630) 30 Is it [sickness] welmost vpon him into an Image.

**Well-mo·tived**, *pl. a.* 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* XXV. 377 This villainous, though well-motived trick of his.

**Well-moulded**, *ppl. a.* 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 91 A quick brunette, well-moulded, falcon-eyed. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 39 The well-moulded form in which those bones had once been encased.

**Well(-)mou·nted**, *ppl. a.*

1. Seated on a good horse.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vi. 42 These Lincolne-Washes haue deuoured them, My selfe, well mounted, hardly haue escap'd. 1630 CAPT. J. SMITH *True Trans.* viii. 72 Turbashaw with a noise of Howboyes entred the fields well mounted and armed. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dotage* i, Shadows well-mounted, streams in a career. 1708 IRVEN *Siege Toulon* II. 28 A Trooper well mounted and armed. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* 18, He was accosted by a well-mounted stranger. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, He was well-mounted upon a sturdy chestnut cob.

† 2. ? Having a good bodily carriage, well-developed, † well set up[1]. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-hater* IV. ii, A handsome, young, fair enough, and well mounted wench. 1621 FLETCHER *Wildgoose Chase* II. ii, Of a small body, she has a mind well mounted.

3. Fully equipped, well-appointed.

1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Chan.* (1852) II Sir Gordon Mosley and his white cravat are essential portions of every well mounted dinner-table. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxvii. XI. 495 After all the wants of a well-mounted peace-establishment were satisfied.

4. Skilfully fixed or fitted.

1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 47/2 Offered in exchange for two well-mounted slides, or other unmounted micro material.

**Well-mouthed**, *a.* Having a good mouth (in various senses).

1. *lit. in Horsemn. Hell* Introd. 25 The horse...well-mouthid, well-wyndyd. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 73 b, The master that instructeth, ought first to giue to his scholler a strong bridle and sharpe bit, to the intent he may be well mouthed, so that no man take him with the lyght. 1590 COGNIZE *Treat. Hunting* B 3 b, Hounds...well mouthed, cold nosed. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. i, With harmonie Of well mouthed hounds. 1642 BRET *Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 13 Such [ewes] as are whole and well woul'd, and indifferent well mouthed. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2056/4 Sixteen Couple of middle sized Harriers, well mouthed. 1690 SIR W. *Hope Master* 222 A well mouthed horse, that will answer your Bridle-Hand and spurres. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 123 One Tragic sentence...Which...well mouth'd both with emphasis proclaims. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 237 The mutton of a well-mouthed wether is better than that of a young wether.

**Well(-)named**, *ppl. a.*

1. Called by an appropriate or suitable name.

1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 This damysel corruption is right well named. 1861 L. CAMPBELL *Theocritus* I. vii, 'It was written' (so the last page informs us) 'by the hand of John's well-named "Calligraphus".' 1879 SYMONDS *Shelley* v. 129 This poem (*Prometheus Unbound*), they cried, is well named, for who would bind it?

† 2. Having a good name or reputation. *Obs.*

1390 [see NAME *n.*? 2 b]. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* ix. 12 A good woman, wel named and charitable. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 5.15, I commynd late with a worshipful and a wele namyd, a good thrifty man of this town. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. b.

**Well-na·tured**, *a. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1. Having, or showing, a good or benevolent disposition; kindly, good-natured.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 86 For which reason we feare not in common speache to call men well natured, and an other of euell nature. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 443/2 A quiet and well natured mind. *c* 1655 DUR. OSBORNE *Lett.* xlix. (1903) 222 If this be a fault in me, 'tis at least a well-natured one. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1687) 98 He was a well-natured man, charitable to the poor. 1697 DRYDEN *State Innoc.*, Apol. Her. Poetry c 2 b, These last lines, which have been unfriendly construed by my well-natur'd Censors. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) II. 212 This great satisfaction of mind in doing any generous well-natur'd action. 1739 HUME *Treat. Human Nature* III. iii. 176 The social and well-natured James the First of Great-Britain. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxv, His brother's disgrace seemed to have removed from his well-natured bosom all recollection of their differences. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* v. (1819) II. 97 Brave indeed, well-natured, and affable. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stor.* 37, I ken that he's well-natured an' kind-hearted.

b. *fig.* Accommodating, obliging.

1721 *Country-Man's Lett. Curat* 74 So well natur'd are some Arguments that they can equally serve two contending Parties.

† 2. Of soil: Kindly, fertile. *Obs.*

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 51 This (trenching) is to be done in several ways, as deep as you think fit, that is, so far, as you find the Earth well natur'd.

Hence **Well-na·turedness**.

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 225 You had better leave off valuing your selves upon the Mercy and Well-natur'dness of that Tenet.

**Well-near**, *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Early ME. *wel-ner*, f. WELL *adv.* 18 + NEAR *adv.*²] = WELL-NIGH.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 25517 An wif, þatt was þurrh blodless flud Well ner all brohht to dæþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4760 þan iacob and his sunes warn For defaut wel ner for-farn. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 191 Whereof he com to late. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1585 So wel ner I was wrapped in a wede. *a* 1400 *Pearnelee Myst.* xiii. 387 Weiner at the fyrst cok. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 438 He for wo woyle ner worthit to weide. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 6 He lettes me to pursue a conquest welnere wonne. *c* 1578 in *Halliwell's Voy.* (1600) III. 68 The day was welneere spent. 1623 FAVINE *Theat. Honour* II. i. 69 Who liued (well-neare) at the same time as the Geographer. 1627 DRAYTON *Nimphidia* 471 Who then had well-neere crack'd her spleene With very extreame laughter. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 398 Well-neer three miles in circuit. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* iv. 60 The Public Stock was well neer exhausted. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 45 The last Time of these two had well near been fatal to me. 1869 STEWART *Rhymes*

5 (E.D.D.) Trees bow'd wel-near uprootin'. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s. v., There were well-near a hundred people in the field. 1893 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Well-near*, an occasional var. of *Welly*, but not nearly so common.

†**Well-necked**, *a. Obs.* 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* II. B vij b, The fellawe is wele decked, Dyaysyed and wele necked. 1598 J. Jones *Preserv. Bathe & Soule* 1. iii. 6 [The nurse shall be] broade breasted, and wel neckt.

**Wellness** (we·lnės). [f. Well *a.* + -ness.] The state of being well or in good health.

Rather a nonce-wd. than of settled status like *illness*.

1859 Sir A. Johnston (Ld. Warrington) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 197, I...blessed God...for my daughter's wealnesse. *c* 1865 Dor. Osborne *Lett.* xcviii. (1903) 126 You...never send me any of the new phrases of the town... Pray what is meant by wellness and unwellness? 1901 T. Twining *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 145 When I say "well," I can't be supposed to mean the wellness that one should predicate of a professor who makes those instruments his study. 1898 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) I. 33, I feel really very well at present; and could almost persuade myself it were the natural state of *wellness*. 1864 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 210 Some weeks of such comparative ease and well-ness. 1896 Mrs. Drew in A. C. Benson *Life & Lett. Benson* (1899) II. 774 We were all struck by his *wellness*. 1905 H. H. Cozell-Stepping Stone 264 With an old man like that, wellness was illness, and illness didn't seem not so very different from wellness.

**Well-nigh** (we·l,nəi), *adv.* Also as one word or two. [*OE. wel nēah, nēh*, f. Well *adv.* 18 + Nigh *adv.*] Very nearly, almost wholly or entirely.

a 1128 *O. E. Chron.* an. 999 (MS. F.) Welneah all west Cent. *a* 1135 — an. 1132 (Laud MS.) Sua ðæt te king was wel-neh bepatt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 [He forfunnelden him welnaih to death. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 22886 *Oxnl & Nihtg.* 44 Hire horte was so gret, þat welnez hire faust atschet. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 477 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Hit was welneyt mydday þo husterenese com. 1389 Trevisa *Higden* III. 281 Wel nyh alle his lyf tyme. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 539 Of werke well ne I wede. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. i. 7 Weelnyȝ þurout al the chapiter. 1483 Warkworth *Diary* (C.S.) 7, There was alreadie a whole yeare and a halfe welnie paste. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. iv. 81 (Qo.) They swore that you were welnigh dead for me. 1642 J. Webster *Passions* 1. vi. 22 The experience is common (welnie) in all beasts. 1647 *Noble K.* II. ii, Tis now welnigh morning. *a* 1657 W. Burton *Itin. Anton.* (1658) 34, I had wel-nigh forgotten the distance. 1786 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* I. 48 I...fell into a slow which killed a son had well nigh killed a father also. 1848 Whittier *Poems* 2 The dreary night thus wellnigh passed. 1864 Dasent *Tent & Saddle-bag* II. 265 Though luckless they were well-nigh beggars. 1896 *Law Times* C. 490/2 Suspicion pointed so strongly, well-nigh overwhelmingly against the prisoner. 1900 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Jan. 344 The amiable and wellnigh faultless hero.

†**Well-noised**, *a. Obs.* Keen-scented. 1611 Cotgr., *Naselle* e, well noised. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1. 1. 18 He was a passing wise, and wellnos'd Hound. 1625, 1709 [see Nosed 1 b]. 1718 *Inhertinner* No. 41. 281 Like a cunning and well-nosed Blood-Hound. **Well-nu·tted**, *ppl. a.* 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 11 In this the Antickes, and well noted face Of plaine old forme, is much disfigured. **Well-nou·rished**, *ppl. a.* [See further s. v. Nourished 2, 2.] 1592 Yonge tr. *Sevetia Gentile* 237 The body...may endure longe tyme, yf the kynde of man be well-ynourschid...hy ettynge and dryukynge. 1883 J. M. Fothergill *Indiscretion* 280 Stout, well-nourished persons do not die of wasting maladies. 1894 J. T. Fowler *Adamnan* Introd. p. lxxv, His ruddy cheeks, and his well-nourished appearance. **Well-nurtured**, *a.* 1553 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxvi. 14 A well nurtured mynde. 1603 R. F. *Dedekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 4 Well nurtured youth. 1761 Cowper *Table-T.* 634 A well-nurtur'd trait Of uber nature. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* III. A well-nurtured boy, brave and gentle. **Well-oared**, *a.* 1772 Murphy *Grecian Daw.* I. 1, A well-oar'd galley. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* II. 362 On board his well-oared bark.

**Well off**, *adv.* and *a.* [See Off *adv.* 11 and quot. 1636 in Well *adv.* 6 b.]

1. In predicate, normally without hyphen: **a.** Favourably circumstanced, fortunately situated; **b.** well provided, having no lack (const. *for*, † *in*); *esp.* **c.** in easy circumstances, well-to-do.

**a.** 1733 *Fam. Memoirs* I. 1 It was well off (the only call'd me a Libertine. 1768 [see *Orr adv.* 11]. 1796 T. Morton *Way to get Married* I. (1800) 5 Why don't you go to the other inn? I'll tell you—cause you know when you are well off, ha, ha! *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* I. 382 It was a silly little thing, and did not know when she was well off.

**b.** 1800 Cuthbertson *Lett. to Poole* in J. D. Campbell *Life* (1894) 225 In gardens, etc., we are uncommonly well off. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* viii, We are well-off for wild-flowers here.

**c.** 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* vi, I began to conceive a great grudge against all who were well off in life. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr.* ii. (1901) I. 16 He was pretty well off, that is to say, he had more than he owed. 1866 Twi. Lore *Charlemont* iv, If he dies, she will be well off, of course. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* I, He was rich (or at least certainly well off).

**2.** *attrib.* or *adj.* (with hyphen). In sense 1 c. Also *absol.*

1884, 1888 [see *Orr adv.* 11]. 1893 Furnivall *Child-Marriages Pref.* 49 A well-off widow. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 301 The poor and hard-working are subject to mental upset during nursing in much larger numbers than the well-off. 1908 *Sociolog. Rev.* Apr. 131 The long-continued refusal of the well-off classes to enter public hospitals.

Hence **Well-o·ffness**. *nonce-wd.*

1866 Mrs. Oliphant *Madonna Mary* vi, [Hesketh's well-off-ness...was trying to a man. 1915 H. James *Sense of Past* (1917) 289 His being in 1820 as "rich" as he is, or was, in 1910—which counts for a immense well-offness at the earlier period.

**Well-oiled**, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1790 Somerville *Hobbinol* ii. 34 The well-oil'd Champion shone. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 54 Rip Van Winkle...was one of those happy mortals, of foolish, well-oiled dispositions, who take the world easy. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 127 Sir, I was courteous, every phrase well-oil'd, As much as could be. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 256/1 Since then she [the gun] has slumbered in well-oiled security.

**Well-o·mened**, *a.* 1754 Francis *Constantine* v. v. 56 These well-omen'd Thunders...Shall drown the Cries of Death. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 211 Not a very complimentary or well-omened name, certainly. †**Well-opi·nioned**, *a. Obs.* Having a good opinion (*of* oneself). 1655 T. Adams *White Devil* 61 The insolent hasty, well-opinioned of themselves. 1688 Earle *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 47 He is not so well opinion'd of himselfe, as industrious to make other.

**Well-o·rdered**, *ppl. a.* Exhibiting good order; rightly regulated; carefully arranged; following good lines of conduct or procedure.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 180 There is a Law in each well-ordered Nation To curbe those raging appetites that are Most disobedient and refractorie. 1611 Cotgr., *Ordyre*, xix. 158 Nothing else, the cause Of all these blessings, but well ord'ed Lawes. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 40 Well-ordered charity makes no man poor. 1710 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) I. 318 A Vertuous and Well-ordered Life. 1728 Addison *Spect.* No. 417 ¶ 5 The *Æneid* is like a well ordered Garden. 1768–74 Tucker *Light Nat.* (1834) II. 23 It is of the utmost importance to have a well-ordered imagination. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) I. 527 The well-ordered ranks of Romans and Barbarians. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xl, White, well-ordered teeth. 1857 Hulsey *Trans. Educ.* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 77 A well-ordered community...should...have a church or chapel. 1886 Rees & Lewis *Acts* (ed. 3) 193 To church or chapel in the morning, at least, is the Custom of most well-ordered persons in London.

**Well-o·rdering**, *vbl. sb. a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 12 The well ordering of a banquet. 1614 Markham (*title*) Cheape and Good Husbandry, for the well-Ordering of all Beasts, and Fowles. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 10 Sept., The well ordering of the Navy. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 115 ¶ 3 Skilfully selected or manipulated. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1715) IV. 163 The Legerdemain of a well packed and put Jury. 1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* IV. ii. 181 Mary...Illustrated by wes how well I squeeze The well-packed cards in shuffling.

**Well(-)paid**, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Highly pleased or satisfied. Const. *of*. (See Paid 1, Pay *v.*1 1.) *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 14560 *Sodaforn Reg.*166 John, bishop of exetur, was plesid & well paide of pe gifte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 425, I hope they will nott be well payde when thay haue shepe tak. *a* 1846 in M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table-bk., Leg.* III. 259 If he's struck my daughter I shall make him a well-paid wife.

**2.** Liberally remunerated.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N. Dream* I. *Argum* Ded. 4 b, Soudiours well paid, and chiefly being subiects to the Prince that they serue. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & C.* III. ii. 14 With his Mutiners, now well paid with Donatiue. 1693 *Art of Valetaris* iii. xviii. 147 The well-payed Incomes of Regenting-Doctors. 1726 *Learned Pris. Dumpling* (ed. 2) 17 The Well-Fed, Well-Paid, Well-Try'd Cause. 1841 Hr. Martineau *Hill & Valley* iv. 61 It is the duty of well-paid labourers to become capitalists if they can. 1845 Smith *Jr. R. C. Ch.* Wks. 1859 II. 334/1 A well-paid Protestant clergyman.

**Well-pai·nted**, *pp. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*) 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1213 To this well painted peece is Lucrece come. 1604 — *Meas. for M.* III. iii. 181 Corrupt and well painted Iustice. 1647 *Buffe, Buffe, Honi Handfier*, 67 The rule in building should be good joints and well-painted joints. **Well-pa·ired**, *pp. a.* 1603 Nashe *Pref. Nun* 208 Nun and Monke, well paired Heyfers, beare all huthens together. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xv. 98 The well-pair'd mules. 1729 Jenyns *Art of Dancing* 11 8, Being on each side the well paired Gentlemen stand. **Well-parked**, *ppl. a.* 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 115 A very beautiful and well-parked farm. **Well-paved**, *ppl. a.* 1761 Chapman *Gentl.* xxiv. 77 If all that could be well-paved. 1772 Sowerby *Chase* I. 157 From the full Cistern leal the ductile Streams, To wash thy Court well-pav'd. **Well-penned**, *pp. a.* Well written. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. v. Hide those long scraped stock Of well penn'd playes. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosm* (Grosart) 81/2 A well-pen'd Poem. 1622 Fletcher *Beggars' Bush* I. iv, He will...read Upon the assurance of a well-pen'd Letter. 1757 [see Penned *ppl. a.*2 3]. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxv, The stranger then, in a well-penned speech, announced herself as that famous Lady of the Lake.

**Well-peo·pled**, *ppl. a.* Full of inhabitants; populous.

1588 [see Peopled b]. 1608 R. H[ling] *St. Hilt. Sidney's Arcadia* (1629) 504 The desolation of their well-peopled country. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, The Isle...is but ten miles in circuit, but in those days very rich and well-peopled. 1887 Besant & Sr. *Antonina* xv. II. 196 A well-peopled hive. *c* 1890 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 270 Large, flourishing, and well-peopled town.

**Well(-)placed**, *ppl. a.* Set in a good place or position; rightly, fittingly, or judiciously placed.

1606 [see Sure *adv.* 6]. 1611 Florio, His strong an influence works in well plac'd words. 1617 B. Jonson *Volpone* v. iii, To coven him of all, were but a cheat Well plac'd. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* i. 595 A well-placed Tapers light, Adds a becoming horror to the night. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 5 The Bone is well-placed, if in the second dressing, you find all even. 1753 Mrs. Collier *Art Torment.* I. iii. (1811) 86 Well-placed kindness. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 96 They have perverted in themselves...all the well-placed sympathies of the human breast. 1898 *Country Calendar* 21 Filey...after losing ground at the start, got well placed.

**b.** Holding a good position. In quot. *absol.*

1863 Jeaffreson *Sir Everard's Daus.* 204 That distrust and commmerating disdain which the rich and well placed are so prone to feel for the poor.

**Well-pla·ying**, *vbl. sb.* 1692 Dryden *Conq. Granada*, Def. Epilogue 167 Well placing of Words for the sweetness of pronunciation was not known till Mr. Waller introduc'd it. 1674 *Bartlett's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 4 A broken Bone requireth four Manual Operations: Extention, Conjoyning, Ligature, Well-placing. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Architect.* (1742) I. 34 Great care taken in the well-placing of Stair-cases. **Well-planned**, *ppl. a.* 1735 J. Nixon in Somerville *Chase* To Author, The well-plan'd System. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xviii, A large, strong, well-planned stockyard.

**Well-pla·nted**, *ppl. a.*

**1.** Well stocked with growing plants.

a 1703 Burnett *Own Time* I. 478 Mark still 8 A vineyard is a place enclosed, a place well planted, well fruited. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* lv, Where the fine old turf sloped...towards a lilied pool and well-planted mounds.

**2.** Of a blow or the like: Skilfully placed, directed, or delivered.

1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 271 Sancho...held out his face and beard to the first, who treated him with a well-planted switch. 1897 C. Hemyng *Jane Eyre* xxvi, He could have settled her with a well planted blow.

**Well-pleased**, *ppl. a.*

**+1.** Received with approval. *Obs.*—1

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxl[i]. 5 In the wel pleisid thingus of hem (Vulg. *in beneplacitis eorum*).

**2.** Highly gratified or satisfied.

*c* 1400 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 180, I am wellpleyd, quod thy a Eolus. 1539 Bible (Great) *Mat.* III. iv, This is my beloued sonne, in whom I am well pleased. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. x. 75 Sufficeth, that I haue maintaines my state And sends the poore well pleased from my gate. 1619 Drayton *Bar. Wars* III. lxxiii. 1748 Welcome Duke! with a well pleased face. 1707 E. Smith *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 The well pleas'd Sun With all his Beams survey'd their guiltless House. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Conclusion 118 And home well-pleased we went. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. ix, "I drink to my hostess and her family," says the Prince, with a very well-pleased air.

Hence **Well-plea·sedly** *adv.*, **Well-plea·sedness**.

1633 D. R[ogers] *Treat. Sacram.* ii. 36 So that former anger is turned into well-pleasedness. 1644 Hammond *Tracts, Conc.* § 58 Serving God eleutervs (i.e. either well pleasedly, cheerfully, willingly, or well pleasingly, so as God may and will accept). 1658 *Il Infe Duty Man* viii. § 2. 1 This contentedness is a well pleasedness with his condition ...that God hath placed us. 1701 Beverly *Praise of Glory of Grace* 21 The pure and perfect Eudokia, or the Well-Pleasedness of his Will in it self.

**Well-plea·sing**, *vbl. sb. rare.* The fact of being highly pleased, or of giving great pleasure.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxxxviii. 18 In thi wel plesing [Vulg. *in beneplacito tuo*] shal ben enhaunsid oure horn. 1652 *Nat. Use Imitation* 110, In my well-pleasing, in my worshipping & worship [*in mei solius beneplaciti ac honoris*]. 1655 Bacon *Wks., Cmtly Kellig.* (1740) 3/1 The Fruits of Unity here into the well Pleasing of God, who is All in All. 1901 [see Well *adv.* 6].

**Well-plea·sing**, *ppl. a.* Giving great pleasure or satisfaction.

1382 Wyclif *Col.* iii. 20 This is wel plesynge to the Lord. 1607 *Statutes in Hist. Winchfield Grammar Sch.* (1892) 66 That the disciplynarie hardines of learninge shalbe made easie in the welpleasinge manner of teachinge. 1611 Bible *Phil.* iv. 18 A sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 846 My Sister Goddess, and well pleasing Wife. 1718–19 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) II. 76 Upon such Principles and Grounds as are well-pleasing to God. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* iii. 344 We ask the Holy Spirit of counsel to give us light to know what is right, what is well-pleasing.

Hence †**Well-plea·singly** *adv.*

1644 [see Well pleasedly *adv.*].

**Well-pe·nished**, *pa. a.* 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 50 Surely there was no room, behind so well-furnished an equipage, for the well-fed valet. 1897 Sarah Tytler' *Lady Jean's Sun* 274 A well-plenished dower-house. †**Well-pi·rghted**, *pa. a. Obs.* [= *Pointed*; see Pight *ppl.*] 1590 Shakes. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 211 Small well-pirghted flock. **Well-pi·umed**, *pa. a.* 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 55 The well-plumd Goshawke. 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 1. 6 But see! the well-plum'd Warrior stalks along, Stately and slow. **Well-poi·nted**, *pa. a.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vi. 35 Her welpointed weapons. 1885 J. Nicholson *Operat. Heraldr.* 304 A well-pointed punch of German steel.

**Well-poised**, *ppl.a.* = Well-balanced, Well-weighed (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. i. 24 The well poys'd Dames Of the purer Elements, the sweet Ether's body. 1642 Chas. I *Answ. XIX Propositions* 17 The ancient, equall, happy, well-poised...Constitution. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* (1687) 409 Humility and Charity...are sufficient to carry us thorow this evil World with an equal and well-poised mind. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* Ep. Ded. A 2b, We who have the happiness to be born under so equal, and so well-poys'd a Government. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Agamemn.* 271 Comes sloth, and from her well-pois'd sling Scatters the piled up stores. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 281 By this he forms...His well-poised and estimate of right and wrong. 1791 Burke *Let. Member Nat. Assembly* (near end), They were offered a well-poised, free constitution. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* ii, The well-poised mind of the veteran. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. i. 32 Announcing the mural...in well-poised sentences.

†**Well-policed**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next. 1591 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 65 The necessitie of an Officer of this sort is inevitable in every well-politied Kingdome. 1651 Howell *Venice* 198 That powerfull and so well policed Commonwealth. †**Well-po·liced**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a good

polity or government. 1647 Contentment. *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 4 Well policied Government. 1662 Petty *Taxes* 19 This, I conceive, were the worst of Taxes in a well policied State. 1768-74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 11 In every well-policied kingdom.

**Well-po·lished**, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* v. 312 A faire well polisht helme. 1625-8 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. (1630) 246 Campian was ...of a sweet Disposition, and a well-polished man. 1696 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxiii. (1704) 39 You have lived in the well-polish'd Court of Rome. 1861 Walter *St. James's Park* 57 Here a well-polish'd Mall gives us the joy To see our Prince his matchless force imploy. 1877 Payne *Eph. Farmer* 32 This small, well-polish'd Gem, the work of years. 1883 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* II. 317 Say something clever and well-polished.

**Well-posse·ssed**, *pa. pple. Obs.* Having large possessions. 1590 Shakes. *Merch. M.* I. i. 100, I am my Lord, as well deriu'd as he, As well possesst.

**Well-pra·ctised**, *pa. a.* Skilled through long or good practice.

1598 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. iv. 43 He through long and perfect industry, Therein well practised was. 1597 Shakes. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 121, I will...humble my Intents, To your well-practis'd, wise Directions. 1633 Prynne *Lover's Mag.* II. E 3 b, He's a well practis'd gamester. 1634 Milton *Comus* 310 Without the sure guess of well-practis'd feet. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. i. 28 A well-practised Musitian. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. Pacific* xiii. 159 They...pulled like canoes well-practised arm. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. iv. vii, An eye well-practised in nature.

**Well-prepa·red**, *ppl. a.*

1598 Spenser *F. Q.* V. iv. 37 With weapons well prepard, 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 234 Now are we well prepar'd to know the pleasure Of our fair Cousin Dolphin. 1603 Drayton *To K. Jas.* 21 Your well-prepared policies. 1611 Boyle *Physiol. Exc.* (1669) 67 A well-prepar'd Medicine of duly refin'd Silver. 1703 Keysby *Serm.* 253 We bring not good, well-prepared Minds to Sacraments. 1868 Geo. Eliot *Felix Holt* 335 He knows that for an article to be worth much.. there must be well-prepared material.

**Well-prese·rved**, *pa. a.*

(Often used to describe elderly persons who carry their years well.)

1854 *Weekly Oregonian* Dec. 9 (Thornton) Antiquated gentleman ...well preserved, but somewhat wrinkled. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* v, Her well preserved faculties, and her old-fashioned dignity. a 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* vi, All the furniture in the house was of well-fashioned and as well-pre-served as it could be. 1872 'M. Legrand' *Caudle Breakfast.* 10 They were well-preserved women for their time of life.

**Well-primed**, *ppl. a.* (See Primed, under Prime *v.*!) 1705 Tate *Warrior's Welcome* xxxiv, Then try your Skill: a well-prim'd Canvas stretch.

**Well-principled**, *a.* Holding, actuated by, or founded upon, good principles.

1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 113 A Pious and well-principled Education. 1692 *Mercurius Infernalis*, By way of Dialogue, between a Well-Principled Layman, and a Professour of Theology. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1754 The wild and pernicious tavings, under the name of Philosophy, which were thus infused into the rising great, offence to all well-principled men. 1828 F. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 60 An intelligent, spirited, and well-principled population. 1837 Hr. Whittman *New Amer.* III. 157, I should like to see a well-principled reform in diet tried. 1873 Mrs. Brookfield *Not a Heroine* I. 5 Four children had grown up amiable, well-principled, and good-looking.

**Well-printed**, *ppl. a.* 1678 Phillips (ed. Blount) *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) 53 This Edition of Polybius...is a well printed book, and very correct. 1852 Cotton *Edit. Bibles* (ed. 2) 70 This is a well printed book. **Well-printing**, *ppl. a.* 1611 Cockeram II. 1834 Hallam *Lit.* II. 478 Loth he should taint the well-prisd fat, of any stall-fed steere. † **Well-prospe·rationated**, *ppl. a. Obs.* a 1656 Hall *Contempl.* (1825) I. 1 Well-prosperationated Keeping a well-proportionated space One from another. 1657 [see next, quot. 1579-80].

**Well-propo·rtioned**, *ppl. a.* Having good or correct proportions.

c 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 154 The hors of Lras...So well proporcioned for to been strong. 1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. 3203 He was...Well proporcioned. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Adeli, *symmetriata*, made by line, wele proporcyoned. 1579-80 Morth *Plutarch, Lycurgus* 155 If they found him...well proportioned [ed. 1657 p. 41 well proportionated] of all his members. 1592 Shakes. *Ven. & Ad.* 290 When a Painter would surpasse the life in his Art, Euen as one neere-hand seeing, Limbes are but lame without their fit proportion. 1596 Nashe *Saint. Lent* 19 Every kinsman rejoyced at Religion seems not onely pleased, but dying and deploredi). **Well-refra·shing**, *ppl. a.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 118 The noble Pamela having delivered over this well-refreshing fearefull cares to the naturall ease of a well refreshing sleepe.

**Well-re·gulated**, *ppl. a.*

1709 Shaftesb. *Moralists* II. iv. 108 If a liberal Education is the form'd in us, well-regulated Appetites, and worthy Inclinations. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 250 The practice of all well regulated courts of justice in the world. 1812 J. Joyce *Sci. Dial., Astron.* vii. II. 126 The equation of time...is the adjustment of the difference of time, as shown by a well-regulated clock and a true sun-dial. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lviii, A reminiscence for which I am sure every well-regulated person will blame the Major. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* I. v. 27 It appeared, to her well-regulated mind, like a clandestine proceeding. 1869 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 163 The well-regulated never wanting adjunct to every well-regulated American embryo city.

† **Well relie·ved**, *a. Obs.* [See Relieve 18.], (=2.) Clear in utterance or delivery. 1588 *Marp. Epist.* Howard *Osrl.* (1590) 50 Chapleynes and clerkes of the Chapell...cleare voysed, well releesed and pronouncynge. † **Well-re·liished**, *a. Obs.* [? Corruption of *Ill.* and *fig.*.] 1593 [see Relished *a.*]. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v. *Relish*, well relished, *qui a bon gout.* † **Well-re·lishing**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a good flavour. (*Lit.* and *fig.*.) 1656 Vaughan *Praise Countrie-Life* ii. Wks. 1914 I. 177 The Husband-man...is alwaies furnished with well-relishing bread. 1658 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 155 A well-relishing Latine Writer of the Annals of his times.

**Well-(e)reme·mbered**, *ppl. a.*

1. Appropriately or appositely brought to mind. 1488 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 290 And, well remembred, I wot well ye ought not to have me in jelusye. 1596 Shakes. *Merch. V.* II. viii. 26 Marry well remembered. 1704 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* lxxxviii, 'Aye, that is well remembered,' said Dorothea.

2. Clearly or distinctly remembered.

1638 [see Remembered *ppl. a.* 2]. 1760 A. Murphy *Desert'd Isl.* II. 18 Each well-remember'd object strikes my view. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 446 Emily [was] going to take the well-remembered old ferry-man. 1843 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The well-remembered voice of my goddaughter. 1890 R. Boldrewood *Col. Reformer* xiii, He whirled...along the well-remembered road.

**Well-reple·nished**, *ppl. a.* 1616W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 53 Fly to the well-replenish'd Grouse. 1829 *Anniversary* 113 A well replenished house. **Well(e)repleted**, *ppl. a.* Held in good repute. 1592 Shakes. *Two Gentl.* II. vii. 43 Fit me with such weeds As may beseeme some well reputed Page. 1620 — *Tw. C.* II. i. 105 A Woman well reputed. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* viii. 37 The most of them being...of knowne and well reputed ancestry. † **Well(-)reso·lved**, *pa. pple. Obs.* Resolute. 1613-16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v. 96 Like a valiant well resolued man. 1647 [? Falkland] *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 114 Three hundred well-resolved Gallants. 1671 Milton *Samson* 408 Who with a grain of manhood well resolv'd Might easily have shook off all her snares. **Well(e)respe·cted**, *ppl. a.* † Duly considered or regarded (*obs.*); highly esteemed. 1596 Shakes. 1 *Hen. IV*, iv. iii. 10 If well-respected Honor bid me on. 1653 Br. Hall *Hard Texts, Hist.* xi. 4, I did to them, as a kind husbandman to his well-respected teame; I tooke off the yoke from them. 1689 *Anniversary* 20 He...well contented, and well respected. **Well-ribbed**, *adj.* 1697 Dorset *Fleet-f. Beasts* 74 (Cows) wel ribbed. 1707 [see Ribbed *ppl. a.* 3]. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Or Boy's* 16 heavy and well-ribbed canvas. 1908 Weston *Gaw. Grt. Apr.* 361 Large, well-ribbed umbrellas warranted not to blow inside out.

**Well-rigged**, *pl. a.*

1. Said of ships.

1592-9 [see Rigged *ppl. a.*1 3]. 1599 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. xi. 4 The Ferriman..With his well rigged boate. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ix. 313 Madock...Put forth his well-rigg'd Fleet. 1715 Pope *Iliad* I. 440 Some time Atrides launch'd with num'rous Oars A well-rig'd Ship.

2. Of a person: Well dressed or clothed.

a 1743 Ozell, tr. *Brauthme's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 18 A well-rigg'd, spruce, proper Man. 1788 Haliburton *Clockm. Sect.* II. ii. 14 A tidy, well-rigged nigger help.

**Well-ringed**, *a.* 1838 Lytton *Alice* xi, A Warning his white and well-ringed hands by the fire. **Well-ripened**, *ppl. a.* 1660 Dryden *Astræa Redux* 170 'Twas not the hasty product of a day, But the well ripened Fruit of wise delay. 1684 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 459 With good culture, in twelve months, they will produce well ripened cane. **Well-ri·sen**, *ppl. a.* † a. Of a horse or deer: Having an erect chest and well-carried neck. *Obs.* b. Of bread or paste (see Rise 72 a, 73 a). 1611 Cotgr. *Sanglé Horsent.* s. iv. (1656) 37 Those three [properties] of a Hart, are to have lean and dry legs, to be well risen before, and a neate head. *Ibid.*, *Horse...*to have a large belly, and to be well risen before, straight backt. 1728 E. [Smith] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 333 When 'tis well risen, put in a pound of Carraway-comfits. † **Well-rode**, *ppl. a.* Skilled in riding. c 1610 Chapman *Iliad* III. 269 The well-rode Peeres of Troy.

**Well-rolled**, *ppl. a.* 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 351 We tread the wilderness, whose well-rolled walks [etc.]. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* (ed. 2) 288 This layer contained well-rolled tertiary pebbles. **Well-roofed**, *ppl. a.* 1831 James *Phil. Augustus* xxii, Like a heavy shower of hail upon some well-roofed building. 1844 H. Smith *Gold. Calf* Wks. 1859 II. 334/1 A well-windowed and well-roofed house.

**Well-(r)oo·ted**, *ppl. a.* a. Firmly implanted. b. Well furnished with roots.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xvi. 138 Two high hill-bred Okes, Well rooted in the binding earth. 1627 May *Lucan* 1. A 3 b, And round about well rooted Trees doe grow. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 4 A well rooted Set. 1844 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 253 The advantages of taking off cuttings in spring is, that they can be well rooted before winter.

**Fig.** 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xxviii, Well-rooted local people. 1878 [see Rooted *ppl. a.*].

**Well-rotted**, *ppl. a.* 1706 Hoys *Agric. Kent* (ed. 2) 190 Fifty cart-loads of well rotted farm-yard dung and mould. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 91 Soil not in half filled with well-rotted manure. 1858 Glenny *Everyday Bk.* II. 2 Top-dress Strawberry-beds with a coat of well-rotted dung.

**Well-rou·nded**, *pl. a.* *lit.*

1752 'Sir H. Beaumont' *Critic* 17 The Knee should be even, and well-rounded. 1880 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* III. vi, Such things bring in well-rounded sums.

b. *fig.* (Cf. Rounded 6, 6 b.) Of a person, his life: Complete and symmetrical. Of a period: Full and well turned.

18.. Longfellow (Cent.) Something so complete and well-rounded in his...life. 1873 Brunetière in *Explorator* I. 414 His well-rounded periods would be to those of what the rhetorical morality of Cicero was to Augustine. 1889 Gertrude *Memmary's Hardback* 277 Assuredly the preacher mistakes his errand...when he thinks to please by well-rounded periods. 1897 Peery *Girl of Japan* 224 The great variety of work necessitates a well-rounded man.

**Well-rowed**, *ppl. a.* 1703 Fors *Odyss.* xv. 506 Swift to the town the well-row'd gally flew. **Well-ruled**, *pl. a.* [see Ruled 1 2.]. **Well-ru·ling**, *pl. a.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 37 Today the heasts of mans well ruling hand. **Well-run**, *ppl. a.* 1876 *Coursing Cal.* 38 A well-run course of good length. **Well-running**, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*.) 1400 *Pearice & Gaw.* 1067, I have a wele rinand dage, Wil stirt thider right in a stage. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Dedic. (e) 2 If I shou'd instruct some of them to make well-running Verses, they want Genius to give them strength as well as sweetness.

**Well-sa·ttled**, *ppl. a.* 1608 Shakes. *Per.* iv. iv. 17 Well saying shipe, and bounteous winds Haue brought This king to Tharsus. **Well-sa·nded**, *ppl. a.* 1707 [see Sanded

*ppl. a.* 5 c]. 1843 *Chambers' Edin. Jrnl.* 45/2 A smiling infant . . crawling over the well-sanded floor.

**well-saved**, *ppl. a.* Carefully kept, stored, or hoarded. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide For his shrunke shanke. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xx. 107 She herself owned a score or two of well-saved dollars. 1892 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Their racks full of well-saved oaten hay.

**well-savouring**, *ppl. a.* Sweet-scented. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 171 Many wele-sauerynge spicis. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. E ij b, Folfoote is a well sauouringe herbe.

**well-say'ing**, *vbl. sb. nonce-wd.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 152 *King.* You haue said well. *Car.* And euer may your Highnesse yoake together..my doing well With my well saying.

**well-scented**, *ppl. a.* 1. Keen-scented. b. Sweet-scented. 1598 [see SCENTED 1]. 1618 GRIMSTON *P. Warbeck* 108 Well-scented hounds. 1728 J. LAURENCE *Agric.* 268 Its beautiful well-scented Flowers. **well-schand**, *ppl. a.* 1798 FOWNE in *Theobald's Horatio Falsehood Prol.*, Most modern Authors . . The well-schem'd Plan keep strict before their Eyes. 1909 H. BALFOUR in *Monumenta Jrnl.* IX. 14 A well-planned plan of campaign.

**Well-see'soned**, *ppl. a.*

**1.** Said of meat or drink (see SEASON *v.* 1).

1684 EARL ROSCOM. *Ess. Transl. Verse* 248 Well-season'd Bowls the Gossyps Spirits raise. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 69 The eating of a well season'd dish suited to a Man's palate. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxvii. 330 He took the same pleasure in falsehood that an epicure receives from a well-seasoned dish.

**2.** Well matured and fit for use. Chiefly of timber: Thoroughly dried and hardened. Also *fig.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. D j b, These be well seasoned reasons, and substantiall assertations in deed. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. 27 Letter-Boards . . ought to be made of clean and well-season'd Stuff. 1795 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 26 To bring him of well-season'd oak a hyde. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* iv, Well-seasoned timber is an expensive article.

**3.** Of persons or animals: Fortified by training or experience. Also, inured *to*. (Cf. SEASONED 3 *c*.)

1756 C. SHART *tr. Horace, Sat.* II. v. 55 A well-seasoned lawyer. 1832 JAMES *P. Marston Hall* x, Our horses were strong and well-seasoned to hard work. 1849 — *Woodman* iv, My well-seasoned stars would have drunk the whole beer in the town without rolling. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. iv. (1866) 241 Twenty thousand well-seasoned and disciplined veterans.

**Well-seat'ed**, *ppl. a.* Having a good seat or site. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 150 Eighteene fayre great cities, all of them very strong, and well seated. 1621–1700 [see SEATED 3]. 1705 MANDEVILLE *Crumbling Hive* 21 The once gay, Well-seated Houshold Gods. **Well-seeing**, *ppl. a.* Sharp-sighted. 1608 SHAKS. *Somn.*, calvill, Cuining loue, with teares thou keepst me blinde, Least eyes well seeing thy foule faults should finde. **Well-see'ming**, *ppl. a.* Presenting a good or specious appearance. 1592 SHAKES. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 83 Wishers were esteemed a reasonable forme. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. i. 232 This well-seeming Angelo.

**Well(-)seen**, *ppl. a.*

**†1.** Well provided or furnished. Const. *of*. Obs.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1011 O selenes es it [Paradise] wel sene. *c* 1450 [see SEEN 1 *c*].

**2.** Skilled, versed, proficient *in* (some subject or affair). Now *arch.*

1598 [see SEEN 3]. 1545 J. HEYWOOD *Four P.* (W. Copland) H j, Syr, ye seme wel sene in womens causes. 1560 TURNER *Herbal* II. 80 Matthiolus a man otherwyse well sene in symples. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxiii. 178 He was well-cellently well seen in all martiall affairs. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 13 A man well seen in Natural Causes and Effects. 1680 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1107 Well-seen in a business, *callentissimus*. 1750, 1886 [see SEEN 2].

**†3.** Plainly visible, evident. Obs.

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 66 Now be we caytyues, as it is wel sene. 1535 COVERDALE Isaiah, lxviii[i], 24 It is well seen (o God) how thou goest. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 90 Her perfections then should have beene as well seene as Parrhisis. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* I. i, Daftly wad ye hilte Your well-seen love and dorty Jenny's pride.

**Well-sele'cted**, *ppl. a.* 1808 SCOTT *In Lockhart* I. v. 54 There is generally, in a well-selected library, a portion of talent sufficient to meet the forwardest. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, My cellar of well-selected wine in Baker Street. **Well-se'lling**, *ppl. a. obs.* 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* iii, Some, whom sorry pocket-puncturations, or well-selling Pamphlets. **Well-served**, *ppl. a.* (Cf. *F. bien servi*.) 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 344 A numerous and well-serv'd artillery. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, A well-served table. 1876 *Coursing Cal.* 26 A party of upwards of thirty sat down to a capital and well-served dinner. 1880 RUSKIN *Bible of Amiens* I. 11 At this halting-place . . there is a well-served buffet. 1882 SIR G. WOLSELEY in C. Royle *Egypt. Campaigns* (1886) I. 319 In full view of the enemy, and under the fire of his well-served artillery.

**Well(-)set**, *ppl. a.*

**1.** Skilfully, fittingly, or happily placed, fixed, settled, arranged, or adjusted.

*c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blanche* 828 So had she Surmountyd hem all of beautee, Of stature and of wel-sittynge, Of wit and Manere. (1919) vi. 25 The town & the cytee weren full wel sett in a fair contree. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 18 For thair requeris obligatioun and trew consent, with wit seker and wele sett. 1473 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 75 The people that were welle set. 1533 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 789 She vertuously denied hym, but . . with so good maner & words so well set, that she rather kindled his desire then quenched it. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* iii. 24 For wellset hayre there shalbe baldnesse. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVII. 51 Like a well-set plant In best soiles. 1633–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 348 Above the well-set Orbs soft Harmony. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *On False Historians* 129 Well-set in plan, and polish'd into style, Fair and more fair may finish'd fraud bequile. 1776 [see WELL-WRITTEN]. 1805 CROCKETT *Men of Mass-Anet* xxxviii, The air of well-set distinction which marks the man of ancient family.

**b.** with *on*.

1630 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 41 The Trunchion small, long, well set on. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* I. ii, A light, well-set-on head.

**†c.** Of a blow: Well planted or delivered. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 391 While Ismenus doubled two or three more valiant, then well set blowes.

**2.** Of a person, animal, the limbs: Strongly built, firmly knit.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 6015 He was michel & wele y-sett. 1530 PALSGR. 715/2 The felowe is well sette, or well ypight. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 250 That lying Edward was . . strode brested and well set. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 113 If shee be well sette, then call her a Bosse. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 94 (Cowel) Well set and compacted legs. *Ibid.* 666 A thicke, round, and well set Hogge. 1666 W. BOGHURST *Loimographia* (1894) 25 Strong well sett men dyed commonly in two dayes. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. iii. 273 The Taster was a lusty Man, and the Sailor short, but well set. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 21 Dec. 4/2 Run away, a clever smart looking boy, well set. 1883 D. D. MORRIS *Heart's* I. His figure was well set.

**b.** Now usually *well set-up*. (Cf. SET *ppl. a.* 10.)

1867 [see SET *ppl. a.* 10]. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxvii, Very powerful shoulders, and well set up. 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* xiii, The men's . . muscular, well-set-up figures.

**†3.** Well-disposed. *Sc. Obs.*

1638 LITHGOW *Trav.* To Rdr., Referring the well set Reader to Chapter 8. Beseeching it safe. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 5 The marquess of Huntly, and some well setit freinds settled this fald.

**†4.** Of wine: Matured by keeping.

1710 MARSH *Author's Counsel. Lad. Carnarvon* iv, The wale of well set ruby juice . . I can afford.

**5.** *Cricket.* Said of a batsman who is playing the bowling with ease and seems unlikely to get out.

1882 *Lillywhite's Cricket. Annual* 7 There were only 40 runs left to get with six wickets to fall, one batsman thoroughly well set, and the ground by no means favourable for the bowlers. 1903 JARMAN in Hutchinson *Cricket* 112 A bowler that . . might have a man at any period of his innings, however well set he might be.

**Well-settled**, *ppl. a.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxxi, She could not be well settled Amongst her foes. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xviii. (1632) 511 He wolde washe his handes with very well smellyng waters. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 360 There were found many well-smelling Locusts. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* III. 230 Well-smelling oil. **Well-soled**, *ppl. a.* 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 426 Well-soll'd Boots. **†Well-sou'nding**, *vbl. sb. obs.* 1579 THOMAS *Digges' Stratiot.* Prol. 2 Well sounding Phrases. **Well-spea'king**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. Eloquent. See SPEAKING *pbl. a.* 1 b.

**Well-sped**, **-speeding**: see SPEED 7, 7*c*. SPEEDING *ppl. a.* 1.

**Well-spent**, *ppl. a.*

1. Of time, life: Passed profitably and virtuously.

1534 MORE *Dial. Comfort* III. xvii. (1557) Q viii b, The well spent time. 1660 G. WHARTON *Cal. Carol.* Feb. 31 5h, Who . . laid down Their well spent Lives for Charles's Injur'd Crown. 1712 POPE *Temp. Fame* 470 Consolatory Fame of whose well-spent days No less deserv'd a just return of praise. 1780 *Mirror* No. 90 An old man, looking back on a well-spent life. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lv, He hears all the women I have ever seen in the course of all my well-spent days.

**2.** Expended judiciously or to advantage.

1749 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 184 'T is a well spent penny that saves a groat.

**Well-spiced**, *ppl. a.* 1644 MILTON *Treat.* (Arb.) 61 Some well spic'd tongue. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. 98 Well-spic'd Hippocras. 1899 A. CUNNINGHAM in *Amateur* 137 Bowls well spiced and reeking.

**Well-spo'ken**, *ppl. a.* Also 5 **-spoke**.

1. Of a person: Gifted with good or ready speech; courteous and refined in speech.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 394 When his chylde was waxen he was fayr & semely & wele-spoken. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 232/2 Eloquent, or welle spoke man or woman, *Elocucus*. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 157 He is a wel spoken man, and wyly, wetely well in Frenshe. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Christmas Day* (1584) 273 b, Shee did not as our welspoken damsels do: Shee spoke not in hand to preach. 1592 SHAKES. *Rich. III*, III. iii. 48 For Clarence is well spoken, and perhappes May moue your hearts to pitty, if you marke him. 1604 DEKKER *Apol. Eiron* (1842) 37 I told her at first sight, my Lord was an eloquent and well spoken man. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* v. end, Mr. Vellum, you are a well spoken Man: Prayd'ye you thank my Master and my Lady. 1847 JANE AUSTEN *Pernasse-ion* ii, A very well-spoken, genteel, shewd lady, she seemed to be. 1844 EMERSON *Lect., Nom. & Real.* I. 3 Strong, punctual, practical, well-spoken England. 1899 *Daily News* 5 June 4/7 A pretty, well-spoken girl of 13 years.

*transf.* 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 23 Since I cannot prone a Louer, To entertaine these faire well spoken dayes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Induct. I, I verg'd it

..the rather To give three ignorant well-spoken dales Some taste of their abuse of this word Humors.

**2.** Of words: Spoken well or with propriety.

a 1592 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) E 2 b, Well spoken fellow in thine owne behalfe. 1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 58 Fore God, my Lord, well spoken, with good accent, and good discretion. 1605 — *Lear* II. iv. 239 Is this well spoken?

**3.** Of arts: Favourably mentioned.

1538 ELYOT *Dict. Add.*, *Bene audire*, to be well spoken of. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 252, I have heard Henry's *History of Britain* well spoken of.

Hence **Well-spoken-of-ness.** *nonce-wd.*

1872 W. H. CUTHBERT *Origenes, Being & Attributes, God* v. ii. (ed. 6) 179 The word *Bleibtreuheit*...may stand for consummate *Wohl-thought-of-ness*, or *Well-spoken-of-ness*.

**Well-spread,** *ppl. a.*

**1.** Widely extended; † *spec.* of a horse, broad in the rear (*obs.*).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* III. 115 b, If he be broade buttocked, & well spred behind, and goeth wide, his pace wilbe the surer. 1598 GRIM w. *Blas. Bonds Merchant* (Wks. (Steevens) XI. 18 How was a faire large Gelding well spread and forheaded. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 495 An ancient and well spred Family. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horseman.* I. iv. (1656) 37 He must have...large Thighes, round well spread Buttocks. 1676 WOOLRIDGE *Vincentius Brit.* 67 Any fruit on a low well-spread Tree, be better and fairer than that on a high. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2004/4 Lost a black Coach Mare..., well spread behind. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* II. i. 18, I took my usual Way, To seek the Coolness of the well-spread Shade. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 308 Woods of tall and well-spread trees.

**2.** Of a surface: Plentifully or elegantly covered with articles spread over it. Of a table: Laid out for a good meal.

1577 PORTER *Rich. Dyalus, Cheap.* 356 The well-spread couch Inuiting soft repose. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 408 Proud of his well-spread walls. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xiii, A well-spread bleaching-field. 1827 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. v. 176 The curious neophytes that surrounded the well-spread board. 1854 STIRLING *Handley Cr.* xxiv, The pawing of a horse caused him to look up from his well-spread table.

**Well-spring.** [OE. *welspryng, wyl-spryng*: see WELL *sb.*[1] and SPRING *sb.*[1]]

**1.** The source or head-spring of a stream; a fountain-head.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 22 God...utende ren of heofonum forwerttu dara tungena to gode bur togaderes ælle wyllsprinegas. c 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 387/9 *Latex*, welspreng. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2343 An angel...laste her ba a welle spring. c 1300 *K. Alisaunder* 930 (*E. E. T. S.* 1867) 55 A wil spring vp bere stod Of be stede ber he lai on. c 1450 *Merlin* xx. 348 A litill brooke that com renning ne of two welle springes of a mountaigne. 1549-50 STANBRIDGE & H. *Pe.* xiii. 1 Lake is the last dath breath and bray the wellsprings to obtaine. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 12 When of that streame he had discouered The fount, the well-spring, or the bubling head, He there would sit. 1657-80 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* vii. (1652) 54 The water of these Well-springs is for the most part cold, clear, and pure. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Norf.* II. Gloss., Well springs. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 290 Such ditches...should be cut at the feet of the adjacent rising grounds...so as to intercept the well-springs and land-floods. 1827 J. CHAMBERS *Dir. Worship* 233 The Water...drawn recently from a well-spring.

**2.** *fig.* A source of perennial emanation or supply.

c 887 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lxv. 467 Dære water-slipes welspringe is on hefonrice. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 52 Seo soðe lufu is welspring and ordfruma ealra galnyssa. a 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom.* I. 298 Al engleme sorze...Sigged and singed þet tu ert ilues welspring. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1208/1 Surely ȝ^e riche nuinnes substaunce, is ȝ^e welspring of the pore nonnes liuing. 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* I. vi. 54 True fayth is the welspryng and roote of all vertues. 1612 BIBLE *Prov.* xvi. 22 Vnderstanding is a well-spring of life vnto him that hath it. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 71 This City was the Mother & Well-spring of all liberall Arts and Sciences. c 1720 DYER *My birthday* 13 Well-spring of all my joy and woe, Clotilda. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiv. It was because they bore in their own hearts an inexhaustible well-spring of affection and devotion. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxii. 21 War for liberty became unexpectedly a well-spring of wealth.

**Well(-)squared,** *ppl. a. lit.* and *fig.* (like GR πετράγωνος).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 126 Thinking it want of a well squared judgement to leave any meanes unassayed of saving their lives. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 79 A large well squared stone. **Well-attacked,** *ppl. a.* 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 411 The well-attacked fife of fifteen bugs. **Well-attained,** *ppl. a.* 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 70 The well-stain'd canvas, or the feature'd stone. **Well-starred,** *ppl. a.* born under a lucky star, fortunate. 1867 MY. SIDNEY *Netz Pomet* 133 *Hinn*, I must *him*, well-star'd. 1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 83 Friend, in whose friendship I am twice well-starred. † **Well-staid** *ppl. a. obs.* Steady, sober. 1550 HAMILTON tr. *Cocleus's Hist. Preestishipe* (1561) 13 A well stayed mind. *Ibid.* 48 In full growen ages and well stayed wyttes. **Well-staieed,** *ppl. a.* Stoutly armed with steel. 1613 WITHER *Abuses* II. v. 306 Let's thin our rowty Armies, and scoure Those long vn-wel, well-steeld blades of our. 1731 [see STEELED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 708 The well steeled spears. **Well-stored,** *ppl. a.* 1749 G. WEST *Odes Pindar, Iphigenia in Taurus* II. (1753) I. 163 Swift the well-steer'd vessel sails. 1809 WORDSW. *Epist. Chatsworth* iv, Fifty years Over the well-stocked galleys did I rule.

**Well(-)stocked,** *ppl. a.* [STOCKED 6.]

1634 MILTON *Comus* 152, I shall ere long be well stock't with as fair a herd as grac'd About my Mother Circe. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 235 In this happy dwelling, and this well-stocked farm. 1796 BURNS *Hey for a Lass* 4 O, gie me the lass w^i the weel-stockit farms. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Court. Countries* I. 255 Several handsome, well-stocked shops. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, A well-stocked orchard. 1876 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* v, He had a well-stocked steading.

† **Well-stomached,** *ppl. a. Obs.* 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 222, I wolde be gladde to have a weell stomakyd felawe that wolde *be* my sake everye daye see the seyde woodes..and to worse of hem wer fellyd heer affire. 1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Well stomakyde, *bien encouraigé*. **Well-stopped,** *ppl. a.* 1626 F. HAWKINS] *Cousin's Holy Ctr.* 299 Keepe the vessell of your hart, as a wellstopped pot. 1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 725 The fruit when...dried is packed in well-stopped bottles. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 197 The lozenges should...be kept in a well-stopped glass.

**Well(-)stored,** *ppl. a.* Amply stocked or furnished.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The wellstoared grounds [*fertes aruos*]. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 54 Fro out a well-stor'd garden to mother. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Pindars 1st Ep.* 181, The well-stor'd Egyptian year Began to clouth her Fields and Trees anew. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 184 His head...well stor'd with subtle wiles. a 1704 LOCKE *Lord. Underst.* § 18 His Head was so well stor'd a Magazine. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 520 The well-stor'd Quiver on his Shoulders hung. 1806-7 J. BEDFORD *Misc. Hom., Life* (1826) VII. 140, While you are attentively listening to the information or opinion of a well-stored man. 1825 [see STORED *ppl. a.* 2].

† **Well-strained,** *a. Obs.* [f. STRAIN *sb.*] Coming of a high strain. 1710 CONGREVE *To Easter Ophelia* iv, And now a while the well-strain'd courses breathe. **Well-strained,** *ppl. a.* [f. STRAIN *sb.*] 1667 MORRIS *Jason* III. 264 Now from the well-strained bow across the well-built Hall The longed-for wind. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Most. Housewife* 53 Put a layer of well-strained boiled rice into the dish.

† **Well-strand,** *worth.* and *Sc. Obs.* [f. WELL *sb.*[1] + STRAND *sb.*[2]] A small stream flowing from a spring.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 123 We wol wasshe us...bi þis welle strande. c 1450 *Merone Antiquitates* 4018 Of whilk þair wele stremdis all bede brast out freely. 1802 G. FRASER *Faith Aerie, Peebles* 16 note, The designation of the smallest rill of water is a syke, or a well-strand, if from a spring-well. 1858 J. HOGG *Mountain Minstrel Gloss.*, The little well-strand that trickled into the burn at our foot.

† **Well-stream.** *Obs.* [OE. *wylle-strēam*: see WELL *sb.*[1] and STREAM *sb.*] A stream flowing from a spring.

a 1000 *Boeth.* 105 Swa se mþa la fæzel...wunaþ wylle-streames. c 1205 LAY. 284 King Bladud baden þwuhte...mid ane stem-wune...þe he leide in ane walle stream. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6052 þe lond of knitten dede & of medewe þat wex þer-inne after þe day as þe well-stream out of wel streme. c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 189 Colde welle stremys...That swemyn ful of smale fi chis lite. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 92 For when the hulles ben most hyhe, Ther mai men welle stremes fiude.

**Well-stricken, -stricken, -stricken** (*in years or age*): see STRICKEN *ppl. a.* 1, STRUCKEN *ppl. a.* 1. 1596 *Lucr.* 1, Troy was by Hector well-stricken in age. 1576 R. PATERNON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 11 The same gentleman...was a man well stricken in yeares. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 70 *Dragon Dragon Mis. Margaret* xciv, Out goe the Browne Bills, with the well-string Bowes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 85 Gods! how his nerves...Swell'd in his well-strung limbs. 1875 BLACK *Green Past.* xix, His man of hard, well-strung, healthy nerves.

**Well-stu·died,** *ppl. a.*

**1.** Produced or devised by careful study.

1624 HEYLIN *Mixt. Contr.* (1633) 1, The whole Symphony with artfull and unimaginable touches adorn and grace the well studied cords of some choise composer. 1727 POPE *Epist. Pyrrus* 40 Pyrrus was the well-studied models for our modern kings. KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxii, Orestes...waved his hand for silence, and versed in the profoundest arts of declamation. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus's Prol.* p. xxvi, The well-studied wisdom of lumbar verses.

† **2.** Of a person: Well read, learned. Also, versed or proficient (*in* a subject). *Obs.*

1595, 1602 [see STUDIED 2 b]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. ii. 45 An excellent book-man in reading of men, and otherwise well studied. 1651 FULLER *Holy & Profane State*, *Epistle* He was also well studyed in Metaphysicks, Mathematicks, and School Divinity. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* § 9 A well-studied Jew. 1825 [see STUDIED 2].

**Well-stuffed,** *ppl. a.* 1583 [see STUFFED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1612 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* VI. 75 This struggle to performe, a well stuff Hamlet could need. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* III. (1848) 207 The carriage...moved slowly under the weight of so many well-stuffed trunks and well-stuffed travellers.

**Well-swelling,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a happy issue. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. ii. § 2 Sure nothing so intricate and yet so well-succeeding a temper, that she made her people by peace, walthe. **Well-sung,** *ppl. a.* 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. ii. 144 The well-sung woes shall soothe my pensive ghost. 1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* vi Till echoes a' resound again Her weel-sung praise. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Harold* IV. lxi, Till Harmony sings from Rousseau's fairy bowers. **Well-sustained,** *ppl. a.* 1748 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 41 Our Comment on the Comedy, Pleasing Reflections on Fate, Providence, Op^{n}. (Op^{n}.) well-sustained. 1824 BURKE *Pr. Rev.* 249 A slow but well-sustained progress. 1842 LOCKE *Handy Andy* iii, The bugler, lifting his instrument to his lips, gave some long well-sustained blast. **Well-swelled,** *ppl. a.* 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* iv, Till a' their weel-swell'd kytes belyve Are bent like drums. **Well-taid,** *ppl. a.* 1928 YOUNG *Iron Fame* ii, 215 The well-taught tie-ins, equal honour claims. **Well-talented,** *ppl. a.* 1886 PAR OE *Lond. To-day* iv. (ed. 3) 60 For aught one can see in Rotten Row on a Midsummer morning, all the world may be properly described as highbred, well-talented, well-groomed. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-Eye Rings* 36 The...well-talented, dapper little man. **Well-ta·ken,** *ppl. a.* [TAKEN *ppl. a.* 1]. 1639 DAVENPORT *Too late to call* 18 Times oft Well-taken Leek. 1761 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 288 Some compliments in verse...well-tim'd, and, what was better, well-taken. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* I. xii. 175 MRS. Maitland's dressing-room was ornamented with many well-taken copies and elegant designs. **Well-tanned,** *ppl. a.* 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 538 While Winter like a well-tanned lion walks. **Well-tanned,** *ppl. a.* 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 51 The rest...content With base materials, sat on well-tann'd hides.

**Well-ta·sted,** *a.* Now *rare*. [See TASTED B.]

**1.** Having a good taste or flavour.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 673 A pure, well-tasted, wholsome Fountain. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. 1645, In this place are excellent oysters, small and well tasted like our Colchester. 1771 in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 321 Carp...will grow within two Summers...to be fleshy and well-tasted. 1803 *A. Hunter's Georg. Ess.* I. 429 Sweet and well-tasted butter from the milk of cows fed upon turnips. 1850 GOSSE *Rivers of Bible* (1858) 232 The water was found by this traveller to be well-tasted.

*fig.* 1641 MILTON *Prel. Apice.* A 2 b, To upnold their now well-tasted Hierarchy by what fare pretext soever they could. 1746 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1883 With thee bring, Not hideous visions, nor of late; but draughts Delicious of well-tasted, cordial, real Man's rich restorative.

**2.** Of a person: Gifted with good taste.

1911 R. BROOKE in *Memoir* (1918) p. lxvii, So many intelligent and well-tasted people didn't seem to have any idea what I was driving at.

**Well-taught,** *ppl. a.*

a 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 177 At mete, wel ytaught was she with alle. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 204 He was...Nocht lange of tong, wailie taucht and debonayr. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Eccius.* xxxi. 19 How litle is sufficient for a man well taught? 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. v, Our sonne well-taught troopes. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. v, When that well-taught dame Had her Qu; giuen her, to crie out a rape. 1645 MILT. *Poems, Lat. Italia* ii, The grace of a well taught minde. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 165 Wise Aurelius, in whose well-taught mind With boundless pow'r unbounded virtue join'd. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 155 Some of the German birds are well-taught runners. *obsol.* a 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Leaves fr. Note-bk.* Ess. (1884) 302 The well-taught, an increasing number.

**Well-tawed,** *ppl. a.* = WELL-TANNED. *Cornish. Amer.* Sel. Wks. 1897 I. 220 If you tax the import of that rebellious colony, what do you tax but...the goods of some other obedient and already well-taxed Colony? 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. v. 59, I laboured...with all the ingenuity of a well-taxed mind, to keep up the spirits of my comrades.

**Well-te·mpered,** *ppl. a.*

**1.** † *a.* Having a good bodily 'temperament' or constitution. *Obs.*

1492 VORCE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 220 Rede coulure tokenyth complexion wel temperit. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Bartlay's Anatomie* III. xi. 189 His wife temperd himself with a well-tempered Disposition, To be as Wise as a Serpent, and as Harmless as a Dove. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 347 Christian Wisdom...depends not so much upon great parts, as a willing and well-temper'd Mind. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* II, Yet she appears to me a pretty well-tempered girl. 1892 CROCKETT *Grit a Girl* II. 31 Such a well-bred, well-tempered officer. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/2 Crowds were walking in the middle of the roadway—merry and well-tempered.

*transf.* 1790 G. WALKER *Serm. H.* xxv. 216 Christianity is a mild, pleasant, and well-tempered religion.

† **2.** Of climate or season: Temperate. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. 111 *Colonia* 649 Well-tempered Summer Saluts quinoctiall. 1600 *Merry Mingd. Lament.* vi. (GROSART) 123 A calme and bright well-tempred day. a 1688 F. GREVILLE, *Sidney* ii. (1652) 30 That well-tempered, though over-zealous, and superstitious Region of Italy.

**3.** *a.* Of steel: Brought to the right degree of hardness and elasticity.

1597 C. MIDDLETON *Hymen* (1925) 18 His well tempered sword, 1886 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 263 A well-tempered Turkish or Persian Scimitarre. 1897 DAVID N. *Kenrick* VI. 354 His Blade and Bayonet, Well tempered Steel and Sword Brass hiveas. 1899 SIR. SMITH *Lett. Catholics* iv. Wks. 1859 I. 236 ȝ No power in Europe, but yourselves, has ever thought ...of asking whether a bayonet is Catholic, or Presbyterian, or Lutheran: but whether it is sharp and well-tempered. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 775 The pallet-knife, is mostly a thin well-tempered blade of steel.

*fig.* 1662 GAULDEN in *Strode's Wks.* Pp. to King A 3 b, Agreeable to right Reason and true Religion (which makes this well-tempered Peice a file capable to break the teeth of any that venture to bite it). 1710 *Spectator* No. 251 ¶ 2 That wit...which with Attic point And kind well-tempered satire, smoothly keen, Steals through the soul, and without pain unkens.

**b.** Of clay or mortar: Well mixed or compounded.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 9 Like Clay, well-temper'd with informing Skill, He may be moulded to what Shape you will. 1833 *Wealthy Jew to Lep.* 120 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, On this time a bed of well-tempered clay is directly laid. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* ii. § 28 The builder who lays good bricks in well-tempered mortar.

**4.** *Mus.* Tuned in equal temperament.

Only in renderings of G. *das wohltemperirte Klavier*, the title of Bach's double set of 48 Preludes and Fugues in all the keys. Cf. TEMPERED 1 c.

1824 CLARA HELL & FULLER-MAITLAND tr. Spitta *Bach* II. 6 *note*, The Well-tempered Clavier. 1880 GROVE'S *Dict. Mus.* IV. 180 The well-tempered Clavichord.

**Well-tended,** *ppl. a.* 1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 1047 Many a sheltered and well-tended plant. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 97 The sloping hill-side...is covered with well-tended vineyards.

**Wellthe,** obs. form of WEALTH.

**† Well-thewed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [See THEWED.] Having a good character or disposition; well-conducted, well-mannered, virtuous.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Þe wise manne and þat well-þeaud child haiheð beðe on laye. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1492 He wulde þat he sulde hem sen ðat he wel-þewed sulde ben. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 89 Tweye jongelynges..wel i-þewed (*moribus compositos*). 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 35 It sit a poet to be wel thewed, And schame it is if he be lewed. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* iv. 1121 This Calistenes, in youthe riht weel thewed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 Wele thewyd, *morigeratus*. *a* 1550 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 147 Malapert, mellyllar, nothyng wil thewde. 1642–7 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. I. xxiii, Well thewed minds the mind do always seiten free.

**b.** *transf.* of speech, etc.

*c* 1325 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 328 Thy tonge is nat wel thewde. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 96 To nought more..my mind is bent, Then to heare nouells of his deuice: They bene so well thewed [E. K. *Closse*, that is Bene morate, full of morall wisenesse]. 1594 *Zepheria* 1. 2 Many their well thewed rimes doe fayne attempting their amours. 1644 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 35 The Prayers of the Church, in our Common Liturgies,..are very well thewed and composed for the nonce, to fit the dispositions and affections of men.

† **Well-thi'nking,** *ppl. a.* Judging rightly and fairly. 1593 *Nature augmentation* 13 in R. S. *Phœnix Nest* 11 He was..to each well thinking minde, A spotlesse friend, a matchles man.

**Well-thought,** *ppl. a.* In comb. with a prep. or adv., as *of, on, upon, out, etc.*

1579 GOSSE *Lepes & Rebound.* Epist. Ep. Dedi., This gentleman..desireth of all men to be welthought of. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 173 Philanax..beganne a well thought on discourse. 1611 FLORIO, *Ritenevole*, well beloued, well thought of. 1648–58 HERRICK *Hesp.*, *Well-bedecht*, Well-adviced, or Well-thought upon. 1865 tr. *Erckmann-Chatrian's Waterloo* ii. I had rather remain upon my hard hardworking, than become rich and well-thought-of in this manner. 1901 E. PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 250 You'm gwaine to blacken your own name, an' that of a well-thought-on fam'ly. 1902 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Scotsman* 13 Jan. 7/4 Well-thought-out plans.

Hence **Well-thought-of-ness.**

1880 [see WELL-SPOKEN-OF-NESS].

**Well-thri'ven,** *ppl. a.* c1375 *Cursor M.* 14806 (Fairf.) Þis man is wele þriuen [*Cott.* fast es he throd and thriuen]. 1598 RICHARDSON *Chaucer* (1598) 1, 7 Then I have a quarel against his face, though in his person, for a well-thriven man, tolerably genteel. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 698 A well-thriven ox. **Well-thumbed,** *a.* Bearing marks of frequent handling. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* III. 127 She used to hear me read French out of a well-thumbed copy of Telemaque. 1890 DICKENS *Dict. C. Sheph* XXVII, A couple of well-thumbed tambourines. 1886 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 251 A large collection of greasy well-thumbed *Miscellany* volumes.

**Well-ti'mbered,** *ppl. a.*

**1.** Strongly built or constructed of wood.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xi. 29 As when the Mast of some well timbred Hulke Is with the blast of some outrageous storme Blowne downe. 1852 MARRYAT *Pirate* (ed. 4) 341 Instruments..should be sufficiently *well-timbered* to insure durability is much affected when they are finished off too weak in wood.

**2.** Having a good structure or constitution; well-framed, well-built. Chiefly of persons and animals.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Ind. iii, A well-timberde fellow, hee woulde ha' made a good columne and he had been thought on when he was a building. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horseman.* 1. iv. (1656) 40 A well timbred Horse. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fit. Quev.* (1708) 269 The Devil of Subornation came next, which was a good-compleation'd, and a well-timber'd Devil. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 78 Let them [*sc.* the 'animal spirits'] be as Sleek and well Timber'd, as those Atoms Epicurus made his Soul of. 1765 *Stratford Jubilee* I. 14 I'm as well timbered about the legs and face, as one can meet. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv, Niel, a clean, tight, well-timbered, long-winded fellow. 1861 *Times* 30 Sept., 5's Cart-horses, young, and well-timbered, and quick walkers,..50 to 65 guineas.

**3.** Well-wooded.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3724/4 Pig-sott's Farm..within a Mile of the Thames, being well Timbered, having a new-built House fenc'd. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. iv, You devised into a well-timbered enclosure. 1904 A. C. FRASER *Biogr. Philos.* i. 26 The charming well-timbered parks which surround it.

**Well-timed,** *ppl. a.*

**1.** Occurring, done, or made at a good or fitting time; timely, opportune.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* III. 839 But Jonathan, With well-tim'd zeal, and with artful care, Rov'd, where 'twas better'd soon the nice affair. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 225 But Wisdom's triumph is well-tim'd Retreat. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* v, This well-timed address pleased more powerfully in his favour, than anything I had to say could obviate. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 504 Their well-timed and rapid charge decided the conflict. 1855 PALEY *Aeschylus* Prel. p. xix, By a well-timed humility they might have escaped the curse of ancestral guilt. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 149 A slight and well-timed frost next morning. 1901 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 56 The question was well-timed.

**2.** Actuated in regular time or at the right moment.

1697 TUTCHIN *Search Honesty* vi. 9 Two gentle Channs, Rowing, he espy'd, With Well-tym'd Oars, upon the Ebbing-Tyde. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 Ev'n now the well tim'd Oars With sounding Strokes divide the sparkling Waves. 1822 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxvi, With well-timed croupe the nimble coursers veer.

**Well-toohered** *Sc.* : see under TOOHER *v.*



**Well-to-do,** *adj. phr.* [See WELL *a.* 3.]

**1.** Possessed of a competency, in easy circumstances; thriving, prosperous: **a.** as predicate (with or without hyphens).

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* 270 *Well-to-doe*, well to do—living comfortably. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* iii, Her husband had returned well, and *well to do*. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Terry Darvil's Wife*, A reputable grazier of Ivychurch, worthy and well-to-do. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 310, I am rich and well-to-do. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. vi. 119 For Corsicans they [the Napoleon family] were well-to-do.

**b.** in fuller form *well to do in the world.*

Cf. *well in the world*, WELL *a.* 3.

1825 MRS. CAMERON *Crooked Paths* (*Houlston Tracts* I. xxvi) 5 He is what is called very well to do in the world. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xiii. (1901) I. 93 They are very respectable—that's to say,..people well-to-do in the world. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Corporation of the Steelyard were too well to do in the world to be other than..thoroughly Anglican. 1889 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 647/2 Both were well to do in the world.

**c.** *attrib.* (with hyphens).

1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal.* Jan., My father was..a well-to-do gentleman of Bungay. 1850 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 202 It is only idle and well-to-do people who kill themselves. 1865 THEODORE *Bilton Est.* xiii. 143 The well-to-do squirearchy of England. 1892 GARDINER *Student's Hist. Eng.* 489 The Colony of Virginia grew into a tobacco-planting, well-to-do community.

**d.** *absol.* (as pl.).

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xiv. 136 He has strayed into the paradise of the well-to-do. 1891 MRS. OLIPHANT *Yeroushalem* IV. ii. 61 The well-to-do of every village gathered conspicuous on the road.

**e.** *transf.* Indicative of easy circumstances, prosperous-looking.

1855 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* vi, Still, in spite of disorder like this, there was a well-to-do aspect about the place. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, A comfortably furnished sitting-room, with lamps and well-to-do-looking curtains gave things a well-to-do and homelike look.

**2.** Of an animal or plant: Thriving.

1675 F. L. SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 16 The cattle in the forrests..look sleek and well-to-do. 1861 *Lancaster sch. Glass*, *Well-to-do*,..thriving, applied to trees, cattle, &c., as well as men. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* iii. 25 Fat and well-to-do rabbits.

**3.** Pleased or satisfied *with* oneself. *rare*—1.

1854 [see WELL *a.* 2 c].

Hence **Well-to-do-ism, Well-to-do-ness,** prosperity.

1848 CLOUGH *Poems* (1862) Mem. p. xv, Well to-doism blushes before Egyptian scourge, to the end of the ages idle, ye are life's. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* II. iii, The house had an air of solidity; and well-to-do-ness about it. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Life* II. viii. 131 Even the poverty of wealth is better than the well-to-do-ness of the humble. 1887 E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* xxii, 'It [an inheritance] is nothing wonderful,' he added, 'but well-to-doism for a fellow like myself.' 1924 J. BONE *London Perambulator* 227 All the nice well-flavoured old things [at a pastry-cook's in High Street] that suggested Kensington 'well-to-do-ness'.

**Well-trained,** *ppl. a.* 1723 DEFOE *Guardian* No. 42. P 3 Yet the very same O. currences shall please them in a well-told story. 1884 J. HALL *Chr. Home* 88 It must be a well-told tale that holds its place in the memory for thirty or forty years.

**Well to live,** *adj. phr.* Now *rare*; latterly *Sc.* and *U.S.* [See WELL *a.* 3.] Prosperous, well to do. Also *well to live in the world.*

1579 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 329 And further-more, to shewe that hee was well to liue, and that his house was rich and wealthie, he bringeth forth these proofes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. of V.* II. ii. 55 I am Lancelot, a man whose parentage is honest enough, and very well to live. 1622 MABBE tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 95 Shee..was married in the end to one of an honest condition, and well to liue. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* 1. 24 The Piemontese are generally well to live. 1796 *Hist. Rich Exams* I. 217 He was well to live, and was said to have plenty of money besides his stock. 1797 *Gentl. Anniversary* 171 They were..well to live in the world, extensive dealers in corn and cattle. 1836 CARLYLE in *Atlantic Monthly* (1858) Sept. 295/1 The Honourable Lady is very well and sonsy; he seems in good health and well to live.

*attrib.* 1897 *Boston* (Mass.) *Trnl.* 4 Jan. 10/1 Unable to collect money from well-to-live people who have owed it to her for six months.

**b.** Partly intoxicated.

1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, One is colouring his face, a third is gone to the dogs, a fourth is well to live. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weil to live.* 2. Tipsy, elevated with drink, half seas over. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 4) *Well to live.*

**Well-toned,** *a.* Having a good tone, in various senses: see TONED.

*c* 1460, 1748 [see TONED 1 *a*, 1 *b*]. 1701 C. BURNEY *Pers. St. Illus. Franc. & Italy* (1773) 145 The voice, which was in a word well toned. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGCUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 74 David..was..the first tenor of his time, possessing a powerful and well-toned voice. 1874 H. G. HEWLETT *Anc. Art Philos.* II. 284 Harmonious and well-toned colouring. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* x. § 64. 176 The..consequent discolouration, caused in a person of fair tissues by a blow which leaves in well-toned tissues no trace.

† **Well-tongued,** *a. Obs.* Gifted with good speech. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Benedicus*, a man wel tunged, or faire spoken. 1600 *Nuncius* (1893) 462, I was a well tounq'd nimphe. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 96/1 Which wel-tongu'd Mercury shal faire relate. † **Well-took,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [See TAKE *v.* A. 5 *b* and B. 19 *b*.] 1622 SMARK. *Ham.* II. ii. 83 Meane time we thanke you, for your well-tooke Labour.

**Well to pass,** *adj. phr.* Now *Sc.* [See WELL *a.* 3.] **a.** In predicate: Well off, well to do. Also *well to pass in the world.*

1620 T. SCOTT *Philomythie* (1616) A 7 His Mothere Husband, being rich and well to passe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. xv. (1890) 152 Their Masters are both of them very wel to pass, and of good repute. 1702 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* ix. 29 Those who are well enough to pass in the World. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 100, I..am mistress of this inn, and thank God well to pass. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvii, Our poor friend has died well to pass in the world. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Green Shutters* 11 They were an able lot, and..most of them were well enough to pass. *Ibid.* 266 Johnny Coe, idle and well-to-pass.

**b.** *attrib.* (with hyphens).

1908 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mankin of Flow* xvii. 298 With a neatness that any well-to-pass housewife might have envied, were ranged sack upon sack of oatmeal, barley and peas.

**c.** *absol.* (as pl.).

1900 BARRIE *Little White Bird* xxii. 124 They were children of the well-to-pass.

**d.** Well provided, well off *for* (something).

1899 E. S. BARRETT *Spring Season* I. 65 Charles XII. of Sweden falthough himself a king, and not very well to pass for sense even among them).

Hence † **Well-to-passer** *nonce-wd.*, a person of good estate.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 504 Horace met with such Selfe-applauding well-to-passers, triumphing over anothers inferiority in Estate.

**Well-toned,** *ppl. a.* *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* III. ix. [x.] 31 When well-tong'd [*bene pa. tati*] mattocks did the ground prepare. † **Well-traced,** *a. Obs.* Having a good foot-print. *c* 1400 *MS. Digby* 86 (1882) xvii, Per both some hyndes wele traced, be whiche haueth be soole of be foote as a staggard. **Well-tra'ded,** *a.* Having a good trade. 1585, 1610 [see TRADED]. 1697 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Well*, A well-traded Town, *une ville fort marchande.*

**Well(-)trained,** *ppl. a.*

*c* 1681 CHAPMAN *Homer's Iliad* IV. 350 His well-train'd Athenian troopes. 1818 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. ii. 164 A hundred well trained and ordered soubdiers will beat a thousand of them. 1883 J. RUSKIN *Præterita* (1907) I. 43 Well-trained trees in a nurserie. 1738 SOMERVILE & *Chase* v. 297 A pill'ring Race; well-train'd and skill'd In all the Mysteries of Theft. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* III. ii. The well-trained ear of this guardian of the gate. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* II. § 105 A well trained youth. 1894 *Disp. Sex. Monthly* June 184 Well-trained dogs transferred to Siberia.

**Well-tra'velled,** *ppl. a.* That has travelled far; experienced in travel; also *fig.*

In the first quot. the word may be = well travailed: the Fr. probably means 'active', 'energetic'. Cf. also quot. c1450 S.V. TRAVAILED.

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. 463 Sir Johne Roseau, who was a well trauelled knight and well knowen *bien renommé et cogneu en armes*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Hystories, written by wyttie and expert men well trauayled in the worlde. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To Dr. Scarborough* v. And why well-travell'd knowledge too does love No less account of th' Empire Sea-itive. 1870 DIX, or ARGYLL *Iona* i. 7, I have heard well-travelled men declare that nothing they had seen in any part of the world had ever produced such an effect upon them as Fingal's Cave).

† **Well-tricked,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Artfully adorned. 1599 DRAYTON *Idea* Son. iii, Many there be excelling in this kind, Whose well trick'd times with all inuention swell.

**Well-tried,** *ppl. a.* Often tried or tested with good result; thoroughly tried.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 311 Neither bi eny sufficient euydence of Holi Scripture or of other special and peculiar sure wel tried resolucioun. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 40 [They] tansacke Greece with all her wealthy spoile, Which..in 1632 DONNE *Elegy*. 40 The bright Signe of a lov'd and well-try'd Inne. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 33 Physick..is made up of severe reason, and well-tried experiments. 1735 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 265 They well-try'd wisdom, and thy martial fame. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 148 Love, Confirmed by long experience of thy worth And well-tried virtues. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvii, A well-tried friend has appointed to meet me in this neighbourhood. 1858 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. i. 20 Our sledge then is made of well tried oak.

**Well-trimmed,** *ppl. a.* (In various senses of TRIM *v.*)

1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perfwig above, and a well-trimm'd shoe below. 1728 GARDINER tr. *Rapin Of Gardens* II. (ed. 3) 90 When with a low and well-trim'd Head They [*sc.* cypresses] circling round adorn some flowry Mead. 1824 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiii, The mass of hair (now limited to a well-trimmed beard). 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, A well-trimmed lamp. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* v, The well-trimmed lawns and green meadows of home are not there. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxx. 412 His coil of walrus-hide, a well-trimmed line of fourteen strands length.

**Well-trod,** *ppl. a. poet.* = next.

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 131 Then to the well-trod stage anon.

**Well-tro'dden,** *ppl. a.* Frequently trodden; much used to walk on. Also *fig.*

1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 14 A smooth and well-trodden part of the road. 1825 J. NEAL *Brother Jonathan* II. 141 A solid, hot, stone pavement is not so agreeable as the cool, fresh turf, or the well-trodden path. 1881 TYRWHITT *Authorpel.* xv. 387 We need not go over the well-trodden ground of later history.

**Well-trussed,** *ppl. a.*

† **1.** Of the human or animal frame: Well-knit; firmly and compactly built. Also with *together*.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxii. 392 Men of my stature, well-trust, short and tough. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 He must have..a well-trussed

together Body. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* II. i. 304 The Tumbler…is a well-trus'd Dog.

**2.** Securely tied in a bundle.

1633 Herbert *Temple, Church-porch* xxiv, Man is a shop of rules, a well trus'd pack, Whose every piece call under-writes a law.

**Well-trusted**, *ppl. a.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 2, Like the clyent that committes the cause of all his worth to a well trusted advocate. a 1667 Cowley *Ess. Verse & Pr.* (1906) 412 (*R.*) *'Beatus ille'*) How he is pleas'd th' encreasing Use to see Of his well trusted Labours bend the tree? 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xxiii. 233 My well-trusted friend.

**Well-tuned**, *ppl. a.* Melodious, in good tune. 1535 Coverdale *Pr. of S.* Prayse him upon the well tuned cymbals. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 18 The Hounds, Replying shrilly to the well tun'd Hornes. 1591-5 Spenser *Colin Clout* 413 That well tuned song Which late he sung vnto a cornfull lasse. 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* viii. 5 The true concord of well tuned sounds. 1653 H. More *Antid. Atheism* II. viii. (1712) 62 A Pack of well-tuned Hounds. 1662 J. Bourdman (*title*) The Well-tuned Organ. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 1212 What I see well-formed or hear well-tuned.

**Well-tuned**, *ppl. a.* W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 42 Whose well tun'd eares, that chirt-clouting eyne Ne'er heard nor saw the workes of Arethne.

**Well-tuned**, *ppl. a.* [Turn *v.* 4, 5.]

**1.** Skilfully turned or rounded.

[a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 July 1670, The arches of the cellars beneath are well turn'd'd by Mr. Samuel the architect.] 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xviii. 195 Her nervous thighs By just degrees like well-turn'd columns rise. 1821 J. Mitchell *Exiles, Exile.* Eng. Pref. p. xv, The well-turned arches of the intercolumniations. 1823 Van Voorst *Brit. Insects* 17 The voice, gradually ascending along this well-turned plate, operates with an equal friction on its whole surface.

**2.** Of the body or limbs: Symmetrically shaped or rounded.

1618 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* II. vi, To play with this smooth, round, And well turn'd chin, as with the Billiard ball. 1687 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2281/4 A large well turn'd Chesnut,…5 hands. 1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* I. 650 Her well-turn'd Neck he view'd, and Ramsay *Beauty Ode* iv, How straight, how well turn'd and genteel, are Her limbs! 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 29 They are a well-made race, …with well-turned thighs and legs. 1886 J. Corbett *Fall of Asgard* II. 66 Her well-turned form, so girlish and dainty still.

**3.** Of speech: Neatly finished, felicitously expressed.

1618 B. Jonson in *Shakes. Wks.* To Mem. Author 68 In his well turned, and true-filed lines. 1668 Dryden (*cf. Prean. Poesie* 59 The labour which is requir'd to well turn'd and polish'd Rhyme. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 556 P. 3 I made a Speech consisting of about half a Dozen well-turned Periods. 1773 Boswell *Tour Hebrides* 22 Oct. (1785) 141 It contains a just and well-turned compliment to my illustrious friend. 1888 Bergen *Twelve Good Men* I. 41 Enshrining the friend's name in a note, commonly with the addition of …some well-turned phrase.

†**4.** Of the mind: Having a good bent, well disposed. *Obs.*

1708 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 354 Nothing then remains, even in minds well turned, but a sense of mutual duty.

**Well-tutored**, *ppl. a.* 1648 J. Quarles *Fons Lachrym.* 41 Let thy well tutor'd grief Know rather how to purchase a relief. 1790 Burke *Fr. Revol.* Wks. 1842 V. 105 And thus, well-tutor'd only while we share A mother's lectures and a nurse's care, 1791 — *Hind* xviii. 744 They, with well-tutor'd step, now nimbly ran The circle. **Well-twisted**, *ppl. a.* c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii. 106 Well-twisted cords. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 81 Well-twisted threds. a 1687 Waller *Maid's Tray, altered* (1690) 40 Like a well twisted Cable, holding fast The anchor and Vessel in the lowest Bilst. **Well-understood**, *ppl. a.* a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, A skreene…accurately cutt in topiary worke, with well understood Architecture. 1798 Burke *Sp.* (1816) IV. 55 Without the guide and light of sound well understood principles. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* iv 101 She only followed a well-understood practice among her countrywomen. 1868 Gladstone *Jnvr. Mundi* iv. 141 Homer may seem, then, to designiate, though not as by absolute and well understood synonyms, but rather with a certain vagueness, substantially the same person. **Well-urged**, *ppl. a.* c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* x. 378 Till your well urg'd and rich returne prove my relation sound. 1708 Thomson *Cato Indoll.* i. lxvii, Thy words let shakes, And now with well-urg'd sense th' enlighten'd judgment takes.

**Wellus**, var. Vellous *Sc. Obs.*

**Well(-)used**, *ppl. a.*

†**1.** Well practised or exercised. *Obs.*

c 1590 Henry *Wallace* III. 379 For thai war wicht, and well wyt in wer.

**2.** *a.* Rightly or effectively used.

1596 *Solomon* xx. H 2 b, A societie of puddings, did you make that well vsed matter? 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 70 [He] only us'd For prospect, what well us'd had bin the pledge Of immortalitie. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xvii, As she stands above him with her hardened manner, and her well-used eyes.

**b.** Much or often used.

1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 56 Where the well-us'd plough Lies in the furrow. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* I. viii. 54 A little further on was a baker's with a well-used oven. 1840 Dickens *Bell C. Sk.*-*Bill*, That's the sexton's spade, and it's a well-used one, as you see.

**Well-varied**, *ppl. a.* 1668 Chapman *Byron's Trag.* I. i, In the well varyed seasons of the yeare. 1764 Dodsley *Descr. Leasowes in Shenstone's Wks.* (1765) II. 293 A small lawn of well-varied ground. **Well-ventilated**, *ppl. a.* 1818 Kitchiner *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) Pref. p. xliv, A well-ventilated larder. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 39 A well-ventilated drain.

**Wellvet**, obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

†**Well-vi'saged**, *ppl. a. Obs.* c 1440 *Prose Life Alex.*, 74 Bipande pat nurce pay saw wonder faire & wele veseged women i-cledd in fole clethyng. 1490–85 Malory *Arthur* VII. i. 213 He was…broke in the shulders & wel vysaged.

†**Well-voiced**, *a. Obs.* Having a good or powerful voice. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 86 A well voiced boy…sings Psalmes to Mahomet. 1811 Scott *Nigel* I, The aforesaid…able-bodied and well-voiced apprentices.

†**Well-wai'ting**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Compliant in attendance. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 38 Poetrie euer writes…not in her best cullours, making Fortune her well-waiting hand-mayd.

**Well-waled**, *ppl. a. Sc.* Well-chosen. 1718 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* iii. 28, She her man like a bonny lad Hame, wi' a well-wal'd wordy.

**Well-walled**, *a.* Having good walls. (Cf. *Gr.* εὐτείχετος.)

c 1400 [see Walled 3 b]. c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* x. 1 10 The well-walled Troy. 1618 Gainsford *Glory Eng.* ii. xv. 126 Valentians…in very spacious, well walled, and full of ancient buildings. 1867 Morris *Jason* III. 133 Admetus from the well-walled Pierie came.

**Well-ward**, *ppl. a. Sc.* [See Ward.*] Well spent or bestowed. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, O then well-warded pained hours! and sore backs…in spending early and late to you! 1856 G. Henderson *Pop. Rhymes, Berwick* 14 The best fish I the Tweed…Shall be thy well ward weel'd meat. **Well-warded**, *ppl. a.* 1838 Stirling in Carlyle *Life* II. vii. (1872) 144 We slept…at the Village of Sunplon, in a very fair and well-warmed inn. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* I. 16 Men…who've done their work in a well-warmed studio all their lives. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 4/7 The sturdy beggars…who are just now making their annual exodus from well-warmed workhouses to a life of freedom on the road.

**Well-wa'rranted**, *ppl. a.* Authorized, guaranteed, or approved by good warrant.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 254 You, my noble and well-warranted Angelo. 1644 Milton *Areopag. Prose Wks.* 1851 I. 294 A well-warranted rule. 1648 Br. Hall *Sel. Th.* lxxxi. 930 His well-warranted judgment. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Deronda* xxxvi. 11, It was rather ashamed that Hans's hopes caused him uneasiness in spite of his well-warranted conviction that they would never be fulfilled.

**Well-washed**, *ppl. a.* 1797 Encyclop. Londinen *Spunmer* 383 Repeated times till the well-wash'd fleece Has drunk the flood. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 377 If a dilute solution of glycerin be mixed with well-washed yeast. 1900 H. Lawson *Prose* I. 5 She wanted to make out that he was nice, and wholesome, and well-washed, and partial.

**Well-wa'ter.** [Well *sb.*1 Cf. W'Fris. *wel-welter.*] Water issuing, or drawn, from a well or spring.

c 1200 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 330 Seoðe þonne his sceallon on ynnanlum wylle watere. c 1205 Lay. 19790 We habbeð þe þrohit…ceold well water. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Thomas*) 94 Vith þat water, vith well water. 1530 Palsgr. 250/2 Let it brynge. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 129 For meth,…Assaye of vncouned hony do lo seeþis vj of welle water cleer. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 11 b, As they haue none other water to drinke then well water. 1630 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* ii. 123 All experience teacheth vs that Well-waters arising from steepe springs, are hotter in Winter, then in Summer. 1745 T. Short *A New Jmparl Trav.* 164 Well-water is to be found at a small Depth almost in every Part of the Island. 1860 *Family Economist* VII. 240 Analysis of the well waters of London contain eighty grains of chalk in a gallon. 1911 Mary Johnston *Long Roll* v. 49 Lifting the gourd of well water to his lips. *Sc.* c 1715 *Cauld Kail* 129 Let pure Jet Bleu scour'd by face of pisse lue is ineanned welle watere, for be welled of Je horis awa do'r water of welle.

**Well-wa'tered**, *ppl. a.* [Well *adv.* 2*b.*] Plentifully supplied or moistened with water.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 438 in *Babees Bk.*, Litere…Wele watered, I wrython, be craft ȝe trode. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xiii. 10 Lot…beheld all the plaine of Iordane, that it was well watered euery where. 1621 Lye *Speed. Camb.* 1 Well watered. 1708 Cowper *Task* I. 323 The Ouse, dividing the well-water'd land. 1867 Morris *Jason* III. 170 A plain well-watered, set with fruitful trees. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* (1875) 247 Well-watered plantations…of well-wooded and well-watered Asturias and Gallicia.

**Well-wea'poned**, *ppl. a.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2179 He…had him nimen him fere-mitte, Wel-weapned men. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 8 Knyghtes and be skyers wel I-hoised and wel y-weapned. c 1450 *Reign Hend 4 Monk* viii. in Child *Ballads* III. 97/1 Takes he with him wyghty men, Well-weapned, be bi side. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* 169/2 in *Holinshed*, A thousand well weaponed and appointed men. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. 108 The Duke of Buckingham's Servants…came with a train of well-weaponed servants. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* II. 61 Thick upon the shoar stood several gross bands of men well weaponed.

**Well-wea'ring**, *ppl. a.* [Wear *v.*1 15.] *a* 1568 [see Wear *v.*1 15]. 1803 Syd. Smith *Ir. Ed.* (1859) I. 29 ‡ A man …composed of those well-wearing materials, which adapt a person for stations where genius and refinement would only prove a source of misery and of error. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* I. 55 One is never thoroughly sociable with flowers till they are…provided with decent, homely, well-wearing English names.

**Well-wea'ving**, *vbl. sb.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxv. (1912) 320 The same disdainefull scorne, which Pallas shewed vpon Arachne, that durst contende with her for the prize of well weaving.

**Well-weighed**, *ppl. a.*

**1.** Carefully estimated; duly pondered or considered.

1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 70 Liuely to expresse diuers passions, by the low and lofty sounde of the well-weyed sklable. a 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* vii. 34 The well-weigh'd works of the Almighties hand. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxviii. 296 A deliberate and well-weighed Covenant. 1688 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. xviii. (1716) 106 The well weighed thoughts of their Hearts. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (ed. 4) A well-weigh'd Judicious Poem. a 1704 Locke *Cond. Underst.* § 26 Well-weighed Reasons are to determine the Judgment. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 229 To Worth or Want, well-weigh'd, be Bounty given. 1754 Mrs Boothby in *Life Johnson* (1805) 76 Not without deliberation and well-weighed choice. 1829 Southey *All for Love* iv. ix, Nor ever might light motive bias From well-weigh'd purpose bend. 1858 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 278 The well weighed and prudent letter of William was read. 1883 R. H. Smith *Lol. Lancaster* II. 256 In this document he had set forth, in well-weighed language, alike his methods and his motives.

†**2.** Of persons: Displaying deliberate purpose and balanced judgement. *Obs.*

1701 Collier *St. Anton.* (1726) 135 He was a person modest, prudent, and well-weigh'd. 1709 Steele *Ann. Reg.* I. xiii. 428 This Bullinger was a right prudent, peaceable, well-weighed, and learned Man.

**Well-weighing**, *vbl. sb.* 1697 Rawlyn *Resene, Bacon Life* (ed. 2) Which may be imputed…to the well weighing of his Sentence, by the Scales, of Truth, and Reason. 1767 Mansfield in Burrow *Reft. Cases* (1776) IV. 2016 Barbuit's Case…was solemnly argued before and determined by Lord Talbot, on considering and well-weighing…all the foreign Authorities.

**Well-weighty**, *adv. Obs.* Very. 1601 Shaks. *A's Well* iv. iii. 203 Or whether he thinks it were not possible with well-weighing summes of gold to corrupt him to a result. **Well-whipped**, *ppl. a.* 1738 Pope *Epil. Sat.*, Dial. i. 70 All the well-whipt Cream of Courtly Sense. 1840 Marryat *Olla Podr.* (1850) 277 She spins round like a well-whipped top. **Well-whipt**, *ppl. a.* 1798 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 71 The well-wigged justices. 1832 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) II. 177 Our well-wigged ancestors.

†**Well-will**, *v. Obs. rare. trans.* To wish (one) well, to regard with favour.

a 1618 Sylvester *Maidens Blush* 688 Weening therefore these Assayes all fulfill'd In Joseph now, him every one well-will'd. 1659 Du Verdus tr. *Camus' Admirable Acount* 217 He…is well l'nowne in Count, and well willed by great Ones.

**Well-willed**, *a. Obs. exc. Sc.* and *north.* [See Willed *a.* 2.] Kindly or favourably disposed.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxv. (1495) 727 Of good men and well wylled: drunkenesse maketh euyll men and wyckyd. c 1420 Hoccleve *Jereslaus* 1. 1598 Though I be nat wys, Wel-willed am I. 1484 Rit. III, II. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 166 Oure sayde sourayn Lord, as a welewilled, diligent, and coungious Prince. 1550 Pasche 329/1 Wellwylled, *de bona voluntate.* 1598 J. Stalker *Life* (S.T.S.) 82 Nothing is difficile to a well willit man. 1891 Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 65 This was but one of the many exploits of a like nature performed by the well-willed brag. 1899 J. Spence *Shetld. Folk-lore* 212 The well-willed man is the beggar's bridler.

**b.** Const. *to, unto*; also *to* (do something) or *that* (something be done).

1417 *K. K. Wills* (1882) 38 Y pray hem hat pey be well wyllet…to here. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 705 And puf all he war not wellewilled vnto, yit he was compelled to drynk. c 1465 *Engl. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 65 All the Cite was vnto thaym frendly and wellwillid. 1465 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 302 As for the woman that made the clayme,…he ys wellwyllyd that she shold be wyll to in the way of mariage. c 1473 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 29, I will be as wellwilled to doe things for your pleasure. 1477 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 178/1 Wherunto the more parte of the Lordes…shewed them wellwilled and agreable. 1543 Bernher *Freiss. I.* ccxl. 754 Certayne yonge knyghtes…well wylled to do some dede of armes. 1877 W. Allingham *Johnny Gibb* xxii. 163 But nae sic a hank'as that state o' matters gies to them that's but owre well-will't to be lords owre God's spiritual heritage.

**Well-willer.** Now *rare.* [See Willer 1 and cf. Goodwillers.] One who bears good will or wishes well (to another, to a cause, etc.); one who is disposed to be kind or favourable.

In very frequent use from 1450 to 1700. Since then largely superseded by Well-wisher.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 63 All hys mene, and all that ben hys well willers. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. xvi. 463 Wherfore he thoughte to slee hym and alle his wel wyllars in that countrey. 1581 Petit R. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) II. 78 Those with whome we liue, ought to be our assured, louing well-willers, than true friendes. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 121 Is the diuell our friende or our foe, our wellwiller or our enemie? *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxv. (1912) 309 No man darst shew himself a wel-willer of mine. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. iv. 249 We may haue many well-willers, but very few special friends. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iv. 182 Therefore he thoughte to slee hym and alle his wel wyllars in that countrey. 1581 Petit R. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) II. 78 Those with whome we liue, ought to be our assured, louing well-willers, than true friendes. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 121 Is the diuell our friende or our foe, our wellwiller or our enemie? *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxv. (1912) 309 No man darst shew himself a wel-willer of mine. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. iv. 249 We may haue many well-willers, but very few special friendes

W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 18 For the satisfaction of the well-willers to Astrology. 1654 Cleveland *Char. Diurnal-maker* 5 He is the first tincture and rudiment of a Writer, dip't as yet in the preparative blew, like an Almanack well-willer. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 240 [He] with the Moon was more familiar Than e'er was Almanack well willer. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Persp* 4 One thing is so much a well-willer to the Satire, that he spares no man. 1678 Hilagraye *Astrol. Pract. Physick* 128 To all such who are Students, and well-Wishers unto this most excellent Science of Astrology. a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 185 A Virtuoso is a Well-willer to the Mathematics. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. vii. 245 To us Well-Wishers, nothing can be more pleiner, than that Comets are Flammeous, or Lucid Expirations.

**† Well-willing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1. The act of wishing well (to another); good will, favour, kindly regard.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxlviii. 13 Wellwillynge is til lordon dredand him (*Beneficentiam est domino super timentes eum*).

c 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 505 Ilette he cowde enforme hem of youre volunte, for he is with hem aquemted and theire wel-willinge. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xviii. 67 By thy well wyllynge, and by the yeftes & alle other thynges that I haue doon vnto the. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* C c j, In those slaues I wearied thee with my wellwilling and yet I am not tired to procure thy welfare. 1640 tr. *Perdere's Rom. of Rom.* ii. xx. 75 It begot a well willing in her towards him. a 1708 Brunswick *Pen. Thank. Friend.* (1710) 30 Benevolence, or Well-willing, to the Object beloved.

2. (One's) good pleasure; what it seems good to a person to do, intend, or allow.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxlviii. 8 My prayere in haire wellewillynge (*preces meas in beneplacitis eorum*). c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iv. iv. 439 This was doon .. bi Goddis wellwilling that it schulde be doon. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. iv. 50 He chose be wellwilling of god (*divinum beneplacitum*) before mannys solace. *Ibid.* iii. iv. 132 Do wib me bi desired wellwilling (*desideratum beneplacitum tuum*).

3. Slight or virtuous intention; willing what is good.

c 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 27 Efere my rightwisnes .. That is efere my wellwyllynge pat is in my saule. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 355 Pes to the man of wellwillinge In erthe among ous here (Lk. ii. 14). 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. § 12 Simplie to will proceedeth from nature, but our wellwilling is from grace.

**Well-willing,** *a.* (and *sb.*) Now *rare* or *dial.* [Cf. Du. *welwillend.*]

**A.** *adj.* Wishing well to another; disposed to be kind or friendly; benevolent, propitious; loyal, well-affected.

c 1000 *Ælfric Homiliæ* viii, Ne beon bin modlize, nic .. welwyllende, & mildheorte. *Glosses Saints' Lives* xxvi. 59 Pæt he hraðe dælde pearfum and wædlum mid well-willendum mode. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 46 How that he kind mane wellwillend, And was pat euir he fand. c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 214 This fowle is sacred unto Jupiter, The lord of briddis in the highe heven, Wele willyng pinne behelyng from pe fyrre. 1448 Hen. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 299 I..pray my said heirs..that they shewe them self welwillyng faithful and tender lovers of my desire in this behalf. a 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* i. Bj b, Yoddes law requyreth a thynge to be done with a well wyllynge harte. 1540 Paisgr. *Acolastus* Ep. Ded. A j b, The louyng and well wyllyng subiectes. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 120 His folkis..was nocht so well willing as he required. 1597 J. Melvill *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 410 They ran in a louing and well-willing manner to inquyre. 1611 Cotgr., *Bienueillant*, well-willing, favourable.

*absol.* c 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiv. 223 Da welwillendan li. *Benedict. Rule* (1888) 72 *Pro omnefi bene.* I. 67 That the well willing may be remenberit, and the obstinat constrenit to thair dewtie.

b. Const. *to, towards, unto.*

1300 Gower *Conf.* II. 13 It semeth love is welwillende To hem that [etc.]. c 1440 *Generydes* 964 To ther desire the kyng was wellewillyng. 1461 *Paston Lett.* (1904) IV. 11 I knew..not whether they we well wyllyng to yow or no. 1549 Q. Old *Person. Par. Sophes.* Pref. 2b, Sondry other curates & ministres..are honest and diligently well wyllynge towardes the trueth. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Faun. Letter* 52 b, Those which stand wellwilling with his instructions. 1598 R. Bernard *Terence, Heyres* v. 1. (1607) 308 Your speach hath made mee fauorable and wellwilling to warrant you now. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physic* 80 Transl. to Reader, Through the persuasions of diuers well-willinge Dutchmen to the English nations. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* Prol. 20 I was not to know those who were.. ruggedly faithful and well-willing to their friends.

c. Ready or desirous *to* (do something).

c 1440 *Generydes* 2181 To waste on hym ther were [they] well willyng. 1585 *Bancr. Epist.* (1882) IV. 437 Sith persouns..as ar knawin to be..maist cairfull and weil willing to seik the saifitie and preseruation of the same.

**† B.** *sb.* One who is well disposed to another; a (person's) well-wisher or friend. *Obs.*

In pl. either unaltered or with *s.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8948 He spak so wyp pe kyng of pat land, pat he was his wel willand Vpon Bretaigne a route to rege. 1340 *Ayenb.* 119 Pe echedayes dol bet god yef3 to his wel wilynde. c 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 368 Oure sib men and oure welewillandes. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 298 If that thou wilt as, What Clerk doth in special To love and to his welwillinge. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* vii. ix. 3018 Obir gudis..Pat langit til hym or til hismen, Or til his wel willandis pen. 1493 in *Reg. Rag. Scot.* 1430, 30/2 Til al lordis our frendds and wele willand effectuusly we praye. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 12 To al oure frendes, and wel wyllyngres. 1483 *Paston Lett.* II. 138 Wretyn..Be your welewyllard, Abbot of Langeleye.

Hence **† Well-willingness.**

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxi. 44 Embe his efencempan he hæfde welwillendnysse and micele lufe. a 1390 *Wycliff Bible, Exodus*, Prol. I mouest you to comen with wel wil-lingnesse [Vulg. *cum benevolentia*].

**Well-willy,** *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See Willy *a.* Cf. Sw. *välvillig*, Da. *velvillig.*] Full of good will, benevolent, well-disposed, generous; = Good-willy *a.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1357 Venus mene I, be wel wily planete. c 1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 899 Al bat pat vele wylly was to be apostil. c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 629 A I faire lady I wellwily founde at al. c 1425 *St. Mary of Egypt* iii. in *Archiv* CVIII. 47 Pese in laste to men pat are wele wily. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. vii. 522 Wherfore ber mai not so greet a multitude be weel will to religioun, if [etc.]. 1808 Jamieson, *Wellwilie, Wellwillie, Wellwilly*, Liberal, not niggardly. 1881 *Lric. Gloss., Well-willing*, and *Well-willy*, favourable to; having a kindly feeling towards; bearing good will towards.

**Well-winded,** *a.* Sound or strong of wind. 14.. in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. p. xxv, The horss hath xxv propertes..After the asse, well-mouthid, well-wyndyd. **Well-windowed** *a.* 1845 [see Well-lodged]. **Well-winged,** *a.* 1613–26 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 66 He past them o'er, quick, as..well-wing'd Shaft forth of a Parthian bowe. 1629 Drayton *Barr. Wars* II. xxxvi. 33 Those well-wing'd Weapons..Slip'd from the Bow-string, impotent and slacke. 1649 [see Cancelleer *sb.* b]. **Well-winnowed,** *ppl. a.* 1685 Dryden *Threnod. Augustal.* 318 A plentiful Crop..Of well-winnow'd Grain. 1849 Lytton *Pelham* ii, Seldom seen at large assemblies, she was eagerly sought after in the well-winnowed *soirées* of the elect.

**Wind,** *a.* 1. *Hook Sayings Ser. in Church of Mary Ir.* (Colburn) 117 Artificial flowers were taught to twine round mock marble columns, and fragrant lights to spring spontaneous from well-wind boughs of brass.

**Well-wish,** *sb.* Now *rare.* An act of wishing well to another; a good wish. Const. *to, for.*

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 435 If..these speeches haue receiued no welcome to your eares, I must be sorry for them. 1693 Ht. Nell. *Incert. Mercator* 161 (1695) 518 Our zealous well-wishes..for the vnwonted truth of our Maker and Redeemer. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* ii. 13 If this be true, I must confesse I am charitable only in my liberall intention, and bashfull well-wishes. 1652 J. Sherman (*title*) White Salt: or, A Sober Conviction of A Mad World, In some Well-wishes to Goodness. 1708 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 40 Suppose that this is well Wish for his Friends or Posterity. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 228 Sends hearty wellwishes to Barnes'..design. 1816 Keats *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 46 You know with what Reverence I would send my Well-wishes to him. 1872 Mrlne *Deeside Tales* xiv. (1908) 178 The bridegroom..got presents of worn silver as tokens of their well wishes. 1880 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 206 Testifying their thanks and well-wishes to the captain and steward. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 June 3/1 Many letters of well wishes. 1909 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 206 Testifying their thanks and well-wishes to the captain and steward.

**† Well-wisher.** One who wishes well to another, a cause, etc. Const. *to, of*, or with possessive.

1590 *Tarlton's News Purgatorie* 1 Amongst the rest of whose wellwishers my selfe being not the least. 1609 C. Butler *Feminine Monarchie* (1634) 88 Number No. 82 Yet the tale has amoral, by no means flattering to the well-wishers of this country. 1618 Bolton *Florus* Pref. 2 July, He seemed to feel the Romane State to be a sad and sympathizing well-wisher. 1858 C. Wordsworth *Athen.* (1887) 16 Some wise well-wisher to the Areopagus. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* i, It would be a nice opportunity for any of his well-wishers to pay him a visit. 1909 *Times* 10 May 10 Those who are not well-wishers of either country.

**† b.** One who aspires *to* (be or become). *Obs.*

1720–23 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., The latter has a good deal of learning, and he is a well-wisher to be an author.

**Well-wishing,** *vbl. sb.* The action of wishing well to another; also, an expression of good wishes.

1569 Elyden *Closet of Counsels* (1573) Ep. Ded., Wherefore..I haue beene bold to offer you this same, as a token of my well wishing. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* i. (1625) 14 Not forgetting our accustomed greetings and interchangeable well-wishings. 1637 Monipenny *Hist.* iii. 29 I see who knowes not the truth of Holmes..to be can giue their well-wishing. a 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* 326 Religion..will teach them..to be generous and large in their well-wishing and their well-doing. 1909 J. R. Harris *Side-Lights N. T. Research* 78 There is much hand-shaking and well-wishing. 1921 Chaik *Clarendon* xxi. II. 190 Some one, 'who was practising at the Sword' wished the King 'such that sort of well-wishing which characterized the time-serving of Bennet and his confederates.

**Well-wishing,** *pl. a.* That wishes well to others, benevolent; † loyal. Also *transf.*

C. Middleton *Chron. of Engl.* iii. (1925) 90 Flying with the fauorable fortune of well wishing windes. 1823 T. Scot (*title*) An experimentall Discoverie of Spanish Practises of the Conuoll of a well-wishing Souldier. 1768–76 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 Thy candid well-wishing eye. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xvii, And glass after glass they did drink in all sorts and shapes of well-wishing toasts. 1898 Black *Briseis* xviii. 249 Marked by a perfect self-possession—a self-possession sweet and serene and well-wishing.

**† Well-witted,** *a. Obs.* Gifted with good wits.

c 1450 Metham *Wks.* 147 He that ys born that day schuld be trwe and wele-wytyd. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 196 I hys man is, well witted, well mained. 1530 *Comment. Scripture* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. 198 Such subtile interrogatories..as are able quickly to trap a simple unlearned, or yet a well-witted layman without learning. 1552 Huloet, Able to receyue, or well witted, *capax.*

**Well-won,** *ppl. a.* Gained by hard or honourable effort.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. iii. 51 (Qq.) My well-won [*Rowe* worne] thrift Which ne cals interest. 1788 Burns *To a Mad Mare* iv, Tho' it was smar, 'twas well-won gear. 1791 *To R. G. of F.* 43 His well-won boys, than life itself more dear. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid. Mid.* xxxix, I..will not lose well-won gear with the like of him if I may be helped. 1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 5 A well-won penny is worth an ill-won pound. 1879 R. Lowe in *19th Cent.* June 992 The great and well-won reputation of Mr. Wallace as a scientific observer.

**Well-wood'ed,** *a.* Covered with growing trees. a 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1769) III. 32 The Soile very good, and indifferent closid, and metely wel wooddyd. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* I. xii. (1824) 248 This pretty well-wooded and well-watered estate. 1780 Cook *Voy.* (1821) 1. 118 Well-wooded mountains. 1885 K. F. Warden & Cleveley *Wanderings' Beetle'* 120 Past long well-wooded islands. 1914 D. Macmillan *Robert Fisher* v. 111 The land is fertile and well-wooded.

**Well-wooing,** *ppl. a.* 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 102 Rain-scented eglantine Gave temperate sweets to that well-wooing wind. **† Well-woolled,** *a. Obs.* having a thick coat of fleece. 1611 Cotgr., *Mouton à la grande laine*, a Sheepe well-woolled, or of great burthen. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 13 A score of large and well-wold weathers.

**† Well-word,** *v. Obs. rare.* To talk politely.

1605 J. Davies (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* 19 The other twaine, Whiles he was speaking, his speech seem'd to praise, And how, by word, well-word they what he sales.

**Well-worded,** *a.* Having good or terms.

1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, The Muse*, Figures, Conceits, Raptures, and Sentences In a well-worded dress. 1841 Lover *Rollick. Lord's Supper* iv The fathers and mothers Stood behind table, to see that all were plied in well-worded answer. 1865 Pusey *Truth Eng. Ch.* 127 Yet even from Italy came a distinct, well-worded objection from the Bishop of Mondovi. 1907 J. H. Cardinal Newman *Apo.* 1, I thought that some at least of what I said was rather well-worded.

**Well-worked,** *ppl. a.* 8. Thoroughly operated. b. Skilfully wrought. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 41 On very middling soils, thirty bushels an acre is considered as only fit for sowing, after tolerably well-worked fallow. 1865 Ludlock *Prob. Timber* 1. 5 The well-worked implements of the tumult. **† Well-worker.** *Obs.* One who does good. c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps. cxxxi.* iv, As the well-workers, see the right believers, Let honour flatter. **Well-working,** *vbl. sb.* † a. Doing good, well-doing. *Obs.* b. Skilful fashioning or forging. c. Successful activity or operation. 1611 *Bible* (Authorized) *Acts* xxvi. 18 That they may receiue forgiuenesse of sinnes, & inheritance among them which are sanctified by the faith that is in me. 1611 Cotgr., *Ouurage*, in Cockayne *Shrine* (1863) 179 Ie le hable, Au seruice, wel vilende & wel ysceude children. c 1400 *Lerouely Myst.* iii. 1 Pou wist alway well warnid, to me trew as scile. 1611 Cotgr., *Ouurage*, in Cockayne *Shrine* (1863) 179 Ie le hable, Au seruice, wel vilende & wel ysceude children. c 1400 *Lerouely Myst.* iii. 1 Pou wist alway well warnid, to me trew as scile.

**Well-worn,** *ppl. a.*

1. Much worn or used; *fig.* trite, hackneyed.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Oliver Valentine's Visitant* 53 It is a well worne saying, That [etc.]. 1786 Burns *Tam Samson's Epit.*, Tam Samson's weel-worn clay here lies. 1814 Scott *Hrt. Midd.* xii, The old man was seated by the fire with his well-worn pocket Bible in his hands. 1842 Tennyson *Gard. Daus.* 108 A well-worn pathway. 1865 Lyte F. B. Head *Stokers & Pokers* iii. 37 That variety of free and easy well-worn costumes in which quiet-minded people usually travel. 1898 Meryle *Recon. Engl.* (1906) 191 The incumbent of the situated Essex still flowed freely enough in the well-worn channels of literature. 1905 G. Thorne *Last Cause* v, It is a trite and well-worn aphorism that no event is trivial.

2. Becomingly carried or displayed.

1814 Byron *Lara* i. xxvii. To whom he showed nor deference nor disdain, But that well-worn reserve which proved he knew No sympathy with that familiar vein.

**Well-worthily,** *a.* Worthy in a high degree. 1597 Marsham *Pharonis* 55 b, Thou lively worke of her great excellence, Well-worthily Matter for her power to frame. 1612 Sieed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. ix. § 91 Behold here good people, my Sonne Edmund..; how comely and well worthy he is of all your loues. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 538 Unless the world were all prepar'd t'embrace A plan well worthy to supply their place. 1796 *Steuart's Anecdotes* III. 145 The Admiral [Keppel] approaching the Queen with a servile well-worthy of the greatness of the Prince..read [etc.].

**Wellwott,** obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

**† Well-wou'lder.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* A conditional or would-be well-willer.

1643 *Plain English* 28 These are well-wouders to the Parliament and Kingdome.

**† Well-wove,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

c 1710 Congreve tr. *Ovid Wks.* 1730 III. 305 The well-wove Tours they wear, their own are thought; But only are their own, as what they've bought.

**Well-woven,** *ppl. a. lit.* and *fig.*

1591–8 Spenser *Astrophel* 97 There his wellwoven toyles and subtil traines He laid, the hurtfull nation to entrap. 1663 South *Serm.* (1727) V. 206 No such Instrument to carry on a refined, and well-woven Rebellion, as a tender Conscience, and a sturdy Heart. 1671 Milton *P. R.* i. 97 Not fenc'd, but well couch't fraud, well woven snares. 1768–74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 When thy well-woven

bands unite societies. 1728 Cowper *Iliad* xviii. 341 Ev'ry maiden neat-attir'd In finest linen, and the youths in vests Well-woven. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Trachin.* 622 This well-woven robe. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* v. 58 The Nymph.. of the hair well-woven.

**Well-wreathed,** *ppl. a.* Skilfully twisted. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* II. 609 They.. with well-wreath'd halsers bose Their white sailes. *Iliad* xvi. 143 As one..doth..In tuning of his Instrument..lend To every well-wreath'd string, his perfect sound.

**† Well-writing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* 33 All passions may be lively represented on the Stage, if to the well-writing of them the Actor supplies a good commanded voice.

**Well-written,** *ppl. a.*

1598 Barnfield *Poems* (Arb.) 119 Drayton, whose well-written Tragedies, And sweete Epistles, sound thy fame to skies. 1778 Bunney *Hist. Dial.* I. 171 A well written and well-set scene of relations. 1779 *Mirror* No. 56 A well-written preface. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* xi. vi. (Rtldg.) 405 This well-written statement.

**Well-wrought,** *ppl. a.*

1. Well made or fashioned, skilfully constructed or put together: **a.** of material things.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 343 To Westmynster hei hym brouht, Beside his fadere is laid in a toumbe wele wouht. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1004 His nose, lik unmete and eyghe and cheke Wel wrought *[thien faite]*. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1739 We haue a Cite.. Well wrought for the were, walls full high. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Addi., *Infabrum*, well wrought. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xi. 204 Yet pierc't it not his well-wrought mure. 1640 Harington *Caution* 21. (Arb.) 22 And so I in thy Country's Vniuersitie for me a well-wrought tombe prepare. 1723 Mandeville *Fable Bees* (ed. 2) I. 185 From Caves..we are come to warm and well wrought Houses. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* iv. 8 The cask by turns, the other's bound invade, As, in some well-wrought picture, light and shade. 1806 Earl Derby *Iliad* v. 24 Idæus from the well-wrought chariot sprang.

**b.** of immaterial things, esp. literary or musical composition. Also with *out*.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 170 This is well wroght gere that euer may be. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* 52 The Plots of their Plays be more regular, and the perfection of their Acts was written in a less compass then one of our well wrought Scenes. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 11 ¶ 4 In answer to your well-wrought Tale, I will give you a true History of Inkle and Yarico. 1849 Helps *Friends in Co.* II. (1854) I. 269 A store of goodly thoughts in well-wrought words. 1878 *Mus. Times* 1 June 490/1 Concluding his performance with a well-wrought-out fugue on this subject.

**† 2.** Of air: Thoroughly 'worked' or fermented. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 26/1 Put them in new well wrought Beer or Ale.

**† 3.** Of a convert: Fully persuaded. *Obs.*

1684 I. Mather *Rec. Illustr. Providence*, ii. 291 He is..judged to be a well wrought Convert and real Christian.

**Welly** (we·li), *adv. dial.* [Colloquial reduction of Well-nigh.] Well-nigh, almost, nearly.

1615 W. Godward *Month of Wantes* No. 8 Shoe strakes, eyes shoes we full, she hurt shall we like. *Ibid.* No. 8 Shoe strake gone, hir back hurt shall we like. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 120 (1656) 63 Yea, Your Worships Charity to a poore Cryth welly stary'd. 1649 *Man in the Moon* No. 30. 235 Our long night of sorrow is now welly past over. 1727 *Obliging Husband* 10 I was welly guilty of one with taking out. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 42 Bekeney, Mammy, I welly lost my nyut. 1855 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xxvii. A pack of spiritless, down-trodden men; nearly clemmed to death. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* iii, I should ha' been sure of her then, as she wouldn't go away from me to Snowfield, welly thirty mile off.

**Welm**(e, var. of Wilm *sb.*, v., and Whelm *v.*

**† Welmish,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also ? **whelmish.** [Origin obscure. Cf. Qualm *sb.*?] Of colour: Pale, sickly (?).

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 231/1 Sky colour, or a light welmish Blew. *Ibid.* II. 239/1 If it [the rainbow] consist all of Yellow, this is paleish; if white, its deffiled, or whelmish. *Ibid.* II. 241 A Green Vesture, Whitish or Welmish green.

**Welmost,** e, var. forms of Wellmost *adv.*

**Welogh,** obs. form of Willow *sb.*

**Welonye,** obs. form of Villainy.

**Welp,** obs. form of Whelp.

**Welsh** (welʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: **a.** 1 **Wilisc, Wilsc,** 1–2 **Wylisc,** 2 **Wylsc.** *β.* 1 **Uuelesc,** 1–3 **Welisc,** 2–5 **Welsch** (**Welssc**); 2–3 **Welsc,** 4 **Welsse,** 5 **Welshe** (? **Welse**), 6–9 **Welch,** 6– **Welsh.** *γ.* 1–2 **Wellsc,** 3 **Walisc,** 4 **Walish, Walysch,** 5 **Walisshe, Walysshe, Wallish, Wallych,** 6 **Walysh**; 2 **Welsc,** 3 **Wailsc,** 3–4 **Wals, Walsch**(*e*, **Walsh,** 4–6 **Walshe** (6 **Walche**), 5 **Walasshe,** 6–7 **Walsh.** [*Obs.* (West Saxon) *Wilisc, Wylisc,* (Anglian and Kentish) *Welisc, Wuelisc, f. Weath, Walh,* Celt, Briton, = OHG. *Welh, Welah* (MHG. *Welh*), G. *Welhe*) Celt, Roman, etc., ON. * *Valr* (pl. *Valir*, Gauls, Frenchmen): see etym. note to Walnut, and cf. Walach and Vlach. To the English adj. correspond OHG. *walā(h)isc, walesc* (MHG. *walh-, walhisch, walisch*, etc., G. *wälsch, welsch*), Roman, Italian, French, Du. *waalsch* Walloon, ON. *valskr* Gaulish, French (MSw. *valskr*; Sw. *valsk*, Da. *vælsk* Italian, French, southern); cf. the note to Walnut.

In OE. the final *h* of the stem normally disappeared before the adjectival ending. The West Saxon type * *Wielise* (from *Wealh*) did not survive beyond the OE. period; the two Anglian and Kentish types (from *Walh*) existed concurrently till the 16th cent., after which *Welsh* became the sole form in general use, *Walsh* remaining only as a surname. (The AF. *Waleis*, which is rarely employed in ME., also survives in the surname *Wallace*.)

The spelling *Welch* is retained in the titles of the Welch Regiment and the Royal Welch Fusiliers.]

**A.** *adj.*

1. Of persons: **a.** Originally: belonging to the native British population of England in contrast to the Anglo-Saxons. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* **b.** In later use: belonging to Wales by birth and descent; forming (part of) the native population of Wales.

*a.* 688–693 *Laws Ine* § 32 De Wilisces monnes londhafene. All Wilisc mon hebbe hide londes [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxl. 3 Ic ..ealle Wilisce men ehtende. 1013 Wealan & Ænglan: vi Englisce & vi Wylisce. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1052 Griffin se Wylisca cing. *Ibid.* (MS. C.) an. 1055 Gyrmetig se Wylisca hlaford. *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Da Wylisce menn syddon hi fram þam cynge gebugon.

*b.* *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1052 Eac man sloh Hris þes Welscan cynges broþer. *c* 1205 Lay. 31639 Þa iwarf alsoluen a Welisc king in þe hepe. 1380–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 360 Stephano Welshkeuer dat Willo de Dalton, 3*s.* 4*d.* 1552 *Lyfe Hen. V* (1911) 10 And this sufficeth of the Welsh compasses and battailes. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. 1. 109 Sir, there is to fray you and to fight, you mounsier Sir Hugh the Welsh Priest, and Caius the French Doctor. 1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 9 An infamous as a Welch-harper that playes for cheese and onions. 1647 Clar. State *Hist. Rich.* II. I 153 I was a Welsh regiment of the King's..assaulted the works. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 147 Henry I of England, planted a colony of Flemings on the frontiers of Wales,..none of the Welsh princes being powerful enough to oppose them. 1836 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 475 Here I have found out who the Welsh are Hughes the wine merchant. 1862 Burnaby *Ride* xlix, Why, you told me you were of Welsh parents. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lest Cause* x, The sly Welsh girl was indubitably right.

*γ.* *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 Mid Gryfines fultume i Walas cwom. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 141 Had þei had a spie among þe Walsch men. 1387 *Pol. Poems* I. 224 Hand þat had a spie among þe Walsch men. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2490 'A ! A !' sais the Walsche kynge 'wirchipid be Criste !' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518 Jere was a man þat was clepid 'þe walsh whistle,' and he dwelled a mile of trewsn. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxiii. 767 And there with al he aspyed a walysshe knyghte where he was to repose him. 1577 [see Welsh land. 1597 Shakes. *Lucrece*, Argt., Collatine..To defende them-selues yet from them which were walsh and strangers,..[they] agreed..to consult in common.]

**2.** Of things: Of or pertaining to Wales or its inhabitants, † or to the British race in Anglo-Saxon times.

In OE. the wider sense of 'foreign' appears also to have been current, but clear instances are rare.

688–92 *Laws Ine Prol.* 1 Of hi Outone hiš Willise onsæl, ne bið se nó na hyrmara. *Ibid.* § 70, xii ambra Wilisc calab. 805–10 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 459 selle mon..xxv. ombra Welisc unrecalad. *c* 1120 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Se Wulfred sceolde siþen ..ewa tunnan fulle libutres ales..& ten mittan Walices ales. *c* 1205 Lay. 13021 Yortiger habfe Walisc blod. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. 621 Þe Walsch men 245 Fram þe walsche see ywis, Fram seint Denis to see. 1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 552 Redward his sone..þat of þe welsche lande cleuþeþ al out. I wot he beþ gode. 1387 *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 267 Þe Walsch cannot wash your Maiesties Welsh plood out of your body. *Ibid.* VI. 283 Henneforth let a Welsh corrion, teach you a good English conditi on. 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 390 In the Welsh Prouerb *Mon mam Cymbry*. 1761 Goldsm. *Ess., Taste*, The native, genuine, and salutary taste of Welsh mutton. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (1) At night..we go..to the Pump-room ; which is crowded like a Welsh fair. 1774 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) III. 438 Yesterday I returned from my Welsh journey. 1786 Gilbert *Poems* II. xxxvii. (1789) II. 623 Their subjects, of Welsh or Cambrian extraction, assume the respectable station of inferior freemen. 1806 Bonnor *Wales* I. I reached a large village, the name of which, like those of most Welsh villages, began with Llan.

*Proverbial* (and allusively). *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 As long as a Welsh pedigree. 1795 Young *Love of Fame* iii. 221 Till I surpass in length..A Welch devent. *a* 1764 Churchill *Serm.* Dial. 60 (1772) p. iii, When thou art to myself, thy Sire unknown, A whole Welsh genealogy alone?

**b.** In the names of various products of, and commodities obtained from, Wales, as † **Welsh cloth** (see *Welsh cotton*); **Welsh coal,** coal obtained from the South Wales coal-fields; anthracite; † **Welsh cotton,** a kind of woollen cloth with a nap; **Welsh dresser** (see quot. 1858); † **Welsh frieze** = *Welsh cotton*; **Welsh glaive** (see quot.); **Welsh lay,** a class of roofing-slates; † **Welsh** lining, a woollen cloth without a nap (cf. Cotton *sb.*2 and Frieze *sb.*1 1); **Welsh lump,** a kind of fire-brick made in large pieces; **Welsh mutton,** mutton obtained from a small breed of sheep pastured on the Welsh mountains, highly esteemed for the delicacy of its flavour; **Welsh ollstone** (see quot.); **† Welsh plain** = *Welsh flannel*; **Welsh rag** = Rag *sb.*2 1 b; † **Welsh scarlet** (see Scarlet *sb.*1); **Welsh snuff** (see quot.); † **Welsh stone-coal** = *Welsh coal*. Also Welsh bill, Welsh hook.

1566 *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 7 § 1 †Welsh Clothe and Linyng, commonly called Cottons Fryses and Plaintees. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Invent. Shipping* 42 Our Newcastle, or our †Welsh Coales. 1743 *London & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 277 At a famous Town in the West for brewing Beer, they burn this Welsh Coal in a moveable Iron Grate. 1842 *Loudon Suburban Hort.* 222 Welsh coal..is a very durable fuel, peculiarly well suited to these boilers. 1546–7 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1910) 3, iij yardes d. †welshe Cotton at vj*d* yard. 1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 And that..Welshe Cottonne..shall not be stretched on the Tentor..above a nayle of a yarde in bredth. 1580 Welsh cotton (see Manchester 1). 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 578/1 A peculiarly effective combination of oak and mahogany is found in the dress-ers ..made on the borders of Staffordshire and Shropshire. ..The impression †'Welsh dresser'..is now no more than a trade term,..applied to all dressers of this type. [1858 'Welsh flannel; used allusively in referring to a Welshman: see Flannel 1 d.] 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Welsh flannel*, the finest kind of flannel, made from the fleeces of the flocks of the Welsh mountains. 1860 Hunt *Ure's Dict. Arts, etc.* s.v. *Flannel*, Welsh flannel, the country which flannel was originally made, and the Welsh flannel is still held in much estimation. 1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 1 All †Welshe Frises..made and woven in the shires of Cardigan and Pembroke..or elsewhere of lyke makynge. 1766 Grose *Anc. Armour* 56 The †Welsh glaive is a kind of bill, sometimes reckoned among the pole axes. 1894 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Lay*, 2. A †Welsh lay, a slate measuring 3 by 2 feet. 1557–8 *Act 4 & 5 Phil. & Mar.* c. 5 § 5 Everie Clothe of Welche lyning shall..be three quarters of a yarde in Breadthe. 1833 [see Frieze *sb.*1 1]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Welsh lining*, the most convenient fire bricks are what are called 'Welsh or Stourbridge lumps. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 1326 Fire bricks..'This sort of brick is made in the Welsh lump of Wales, whence they are called Welsh lumps. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) *Welsh lump*..It can be had up to 3 ft. long, 9 in. by 3 in. thick. 1850 Loudon *Encycl. Agric. Hist.* I. 141 The genuine †Welsh mutton is highly esteemed. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 643/1 Ideal or †Welsh oilstone, used for small articles. 1778 Bailey *Lett. from Dr. Lee* (1908) 370 For 15 yardes of †welshe playne. 1725 [see Plain *sb.*1 9]. 1823 Nicholson *Pract. Architect* 306 Patent slating was originally composed of what is called the †Welsh Rag. 1887 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Rag slate, or Welsh rag*..*Langland's P. Pl. A.* v. 123 (MS. T.), I may hit not leue Ne sclaute sclate on þat †walshe scarlet, so was it bredabare. 1845 Dore *Mem. Manuf.* 11 There are many kinds of snuff called 'high-dried', such as '†Welsh' and 'Lundyfoot'. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 143 †Welsh stone-coal.

**c.** in the names of plants, beasts, insects, etc., indigenous to or found chiefly in Wales, as *Welsh cattle, pony; runt* (see Runt *sb.*2); **Welsh clearwing, club-moss** (see quots.); **Welsh poppy,** a perennial poppy of the genus *Meconopsis* (see Poppy *sb.* 3); **Welsh sorrel, speedwell, wave** (see quots.).

1894 Topsell *Cattle* 47 Howell Dha..describes some of the †Welsh cattle in the tenth century, as being 'white with red ears'. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 752 *Lycopodium annotinum*..With the mountains of Caernarvonshire. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 125 The Welsh Clearwing (*Sesia scoliæformis*). 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (3), Patience is like a mute †Welsh pony; it bears a great deal, and tires at last; but it will tire at the long run. 1832 Youatt *Horse* 58 The Welsh pony..has a small head, high withers, deep yet round barrel, short, fine, flat legs, and long mane and tail. 1792 *Compl. Family-Piece* II. iii. 374 †Welsh-poppy. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 462 *Meconopsis cambrica* Vig. Welsh Poppy. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 355/1 A broad blue chinn bowl is brilliant with..Welsh Poppy. 1659 Howell *Lex. Tetragl., New Sayings* v. 8, 1 lie thrives as well as a †Welsh Runt in Rumney. 1797 E. Lancaster *Duty of Steward* 76 The Steward should be advis'd to stock the Ground with Scotch Keylys or Welch Runts. 1768 Pennant *Tour Scotl.* II. 307 (1769) 294 Some of the Welsh cattle are well known in the Midland counties..where, under the name of 'Welsh runts', large herds of bullocks are fattened on the pastures. *Encycl. Brit.* XI. x. 745 *Actinia Cambro-Britanica Montana*. Mountaine †Welsh Sorrell. *c* 1570 Prittie *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. iii, Welsh Sorrel. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Veronica*, Welsh spiked Speedwell, with a hairy Weed Leaf. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 12 *Veronica hybrida*..Welsh Speedwell. Bright-leaved Speedwell. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 96 The †Welsh Wave (*Venusia cambricaria*).

**d.** in other collocations: **Welsh acre** (see quot.); **Welsh ambassador,** a name for (*a*) the cuckoo; † (*b*) the owl (cf. *Welsh falconer*); **Welsh aunt** (see quot.); **Welsh bait,** a rest, without other refreshment, given to a horse on reaching the top of a hill (see Bait *sb.* 5); also *fig.*; † **Welsh bribe** (meaning obscure); **Welsh carpet,** † comb, cornice (see quots.); † **Welsh cricket,** a louse; **Welsh diamond** (see quot.); **Welsh drake,** the gadwall or grey duck, *Chaulelasmus streperus*; † **Welshdraper,** a maker of, or dealer in, 'Welsh cotton'; a woollen draper; **Welsh ejectment** (see quot.); † **Welsh falconer** = *Welsh ambassador* (*b*); † **Welsh fiddle** (see quot.); **Welsh grain, grotining** *Arch.* (see quots.); **Welsh ham** (see quot.); **Welsh main** *Cockfighting* (see Main *sb.*2 3); **Welsh mile,** a distance of a mile and more; a long and tedious mile (chiefly proverbial); **Welsh mortgage** (see quot.); **Welsh niece,** a first cousin (cf. *Welsh aunt, W. uncle*); **Welsh**

**onion** = **Cibol** 1; + **Welsh parsley** (see quots.); + **Welsh pearl**, ? an inferior or counterfeit pearl; + **Welsh-pot shell** (see quot.); **Welsh road** (see quot.); **Welsh springer**, a kind of spaniel (see Springer[1] 8 b); **Welsh unole** (see Uncle 1 d); **Welsh vault, vaulting** *Arch.* = *Welsh groin, groining*; **Welsh wig**, a worsted cap. Also Welsh Bean, Welsh Harp, Welsh Rabbit.

1704 *Dict. Rust.*, **Welch-acre* 1 it's usually two English Acres. 1708 Middleton *Trick to catch Old One* iv. II 2, Thy Sound is like the cuckow, the *welch Embassador. c 1800 *Welch Embass.* iv. 1901 (Shaks. Soc.) Pray ye Heres ..what is the reason that wee english men when the Cuckoe is vpon entrance saie the welsh embassador is Comingo. 1657 in *Retrosp. Rev.* (1827) I. 271 Arrival of Welch Ambassadors. 1683-4 in Macray *Reg. Magd. Coll.* N. S. IV. (1904) 135 Mr. Clerke, commoner, complain'd of Sir Chernock, demy, for abusing him, calling him foole, Welsh ambassadour (an expression for an owle). 1894 C. F. Northall *Folk-phr. Four Counties* 22 The Welsh ambassador = The cuckoo. 1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. II. 105/1 Sir Radnorshire Words. + *Welsh Aunt*, first cousin of father or mother. 1693 T. Powell (*title*) *Welch Bayte to spare Prouender. Or, A looking backe vpon the Times past. 1658 Harrington *Prerog. Oceana* I. vi. 92 In this place he takes a Welsh bait, and looking back makes a Muster of his Victories. a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 The Proverbs.. Give your horse a Welch bait. 1626 H. Jones *Staple of N.* v. i. It is a thing of greater consequence, Then to be borne about in a blacke bone, Like a Low-countrey vorlorle or *Welsh-baiter. 1841 *Household Words* 2 Sept. 53/1 This *Welsh carpet is a pattern produced on the brick floor by staining the brick squares in figures with dark-leaf juice. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), **Welch ale*, the thumb and four fingers. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 459 These walls..should have what is called a *Welsh cornice (two or three courses of projecting) consisting of brickwork, one of which has dentils formed by the ends of bricks projecting at equal and regular distances) to finish with at top. 1592 Greene (*Cony-catch* 1) 2, A..Gentleman Merchant Tailor, gaining armes and the lodye Lunake in his creast, where before he had no other cognisance, but a plaine Spanish needle with a *welsh cricket on the toppe. 1884 F. Britten *Watch & Clockmakers* (ed. 2) 108 crystal..also known as * Bristol', * Welsh', or 'Irish' diamond, is also used by watch jewellers. 1844 J. P. Gibaud *Birds of Long Island* 306 At Egg Harbor I have myself also seen..a Welsh ore there known by the name of * Welsh Drake' or ' German Duck'. 1681 *Coventry Lect Bk.* 180 Hugh Walker..*welch-draper. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, **Welch Fig-peckers*, to turn of the house, a method practised by landlords in Wales to get a bad tenant. a 1647 Fletcher, etc. *Lovers Progr.* iii, I hear by th' Owle, There are no Welsh Fidlers, no *Figgum-peckers

londes, his wer bið cxx scill. c 1000 *Agt. Laws, Dunsetan* § 6 Nah nadher to fæenne ne Walisc man on Ænglisc land ne Æniglisc on Walisc be ma, butan gewettan landmen. c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1063 Eac Wylsce menn gehergade mycelne del Englisces folces.

*B.* c 1210 LAY. 2170 Þat Cambisle wes ihaten þat is þat wilde lond þat Walisce Ieteð. 1297 HARTARD *Cirencest.* lib. xxxiii. 72 A Welch and English man meete on the way. 1697 DRYDEN & WEBSTER *Virgilius, Æne.* i. II 4, The Northern man loues white-meates, the Welshman Leekes and Cheese. 1663-4 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Feb., The Duke of Monmouth's mother's brother, being a Welchman. 1728 Gibson *Decl. & Pr.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 605 *note*, The malicious Welshman [= Giraldus Cambrensis] insinuates, that [etc.]. 1832 MARTIN *Lond. Labour* II. 250/2 The men...are about three fifths Irishmen, a fifth Welchmen, ...and the remainder Englishmen. 1882 Rhys *Celtic Britain* 249 The northern pronunciation...is spoken of in the Saxon Chronicle as that of the Strathclyde Welshmen.

γ. c 1205 LAY. 2124 Þar þan duke Gunlun Walisce [c 1275 Walse] men me heom hateð. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 35 Edgar...went to Kerliun, þe Walsch men he band With homage & feaute. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 159 Edward his tyme Walsche men stodiede it passe þat diche wiþ wepoun vppon a grete payne. c 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 93 He commandede...alle þe Walsshemen...To ben ycleped Walsshemen. *Ibid.* 96 Nassones clepud hom...Walshemen. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 6 Ther was the Erle of Penbrok taken...and two Walsshemene slayne. 1533 BARNHAM *St. Werburgh* 50 Whiche kynge anone sent...All bruites and walshemen there out of his londe. 1565 STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 132b, Inhabited by the olde Britons and walsh men.

2. *U.S.* A name applied locally to the black bass (*Micropterus*) and other fishes.

1714 J. LAWSON *Hist. Carolina* 153 The brown Perch, which some call Welch Perch, is the largest sort of Perch, that we have. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 908/1 A black bass ...becomes ‚a' 'welshman' in North Carolina. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 51 On the Atlantic slope of South Carolina, it [the Black Bass] is called 'Chubb' and on the Neuse, 'Welshman'.

3. Possessive combinations. **Welshman's button** = *hazel-fly* HAZEL 1 4c. + **Welshman's hose**, in phrases like *to make a Welshman's hose of, to make like a Welshman's hose*, to stretch or wrest the meaning of (a word, sentence, etc.); cf. *shipman's hose* SHIPMAN 3 b. **Welshman's knot**, a reef-knot. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 117 The 'Welchman's Button or Hasle comes on about the latter end of July. 1880 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi (ed. 2) 230 The Welshman's Button, where it is found, it is a splendid fly. 1892 SKEATON *Lond. Lamps* 1039 And after conveyances as the world goes, It is no folly to use the Welshwoman's hose. a 1589—*Old Debate* 152 A thousand thousand times more than...make a Welshman's hose of the texte and of the glose. 1599 *Mirr. Mag., Robt. Dyvelton* xi, And wurds that wer mo'd plaine when thei lay vn'er Sconde, We turned by construction like a web 'o Welshmans hose. 1683 *Jog. Ep. St. Andrews* 737 Of omnigatherum now his glosses: He maid it lyk a Welchman hose: *Tam pro mutatur* was his text. 1888 *N. Somerset Word-bk., Scotch-Fiddle. s.* The itch, more commonly called the 'Welshman's bug.'

**Welshness** (we·lʃnės). [f. WELSH *a.* + -NESS.] Welsh character.

1688 W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 82 The stabbiness of their Bodies and the Basticalness (? = Bastional dullness) of their Souls, and that, which cannot any otherwise be express'd, the Welchness of both. 1797 PENNANT in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1829) 203, I was much amused with the extreme Welshness of the good lady. 1894 *Athenæum* 22 Dec. 866/3 Prof. Rhys ...is but backward in recognising what may be called the Welshness of the whole body of histories concerned with the 'blameless king' and his knights of the Round Table. 1912 ARNOLD H. SIDGWICK *Life & Writings* iv. 68 In spite of the strangeness, the *Welshness*, of Pontypool, Stirling had been disappointed to find that it was not *in* Wales.

**Welsh rabbit.** [WELSH *a.* + RABBIT *sb.*] Cf. *Scotch rabbit* SCOTCH *a.* 4, and, for the jocular use of the noun, CANON *sb.* 2. A dish consisting of cheese and a little butter melted and mixed together, to which are added ale, cayenne pepper, and salt, the whole being stirred until it is creamy, and then poured over buttered toast: also, simply, slices of toasted cheese laid on toast.

1725 J. BYROM *Recip.* (1854) I. 1. 108, I did not eat of the cold beef, but of Welch rabbit and stewed cheese. *Ibid.* 109, I had a scollop shell and Welsh rabbit. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 18 To make a Welch-Rabbit. Toast the bread on both sides, then cut the Cheese on one side, and lay it on the Toast, and with a hot Iron brown the other Side. 1772 in Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) I. 230 When we met to brew'd a pot of Castalian Porter and a Welsh Rabbit. 1825 SCOTT *Talisman* II. xxiii. 259 A Welch rabbit and a tankard of ale. 1854 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* v, A desire for welsh-rabbits and good old gee-singing led us to the Cave of Harmony. 1894 FR. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. xi. 164 She had...prepared a welsh rabbit...for a little party of friends.

**Welsh rarebit.** [An etymologizing alteration of prec. There is no evidence of the independent use of *rarebit.*] = prec.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Rabbit*, a Welch rabbit, bread and cheese toasted, i. e. a Welch rare bit. 1845 AIR. SMITH *Poet. Sadstorp. Fam.* xliii, One of those intolerable vivians which are alone dependent upon love, or Welsh rarebits, for their origin. 1865 *Morn. Star* 10 Apr., Then you advance to steaks,...thence to marrow-bones, thence to Welsh rarebit. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. vi. § 6 He had also eaten two Welsh rarebits—an unusual supper.

**Welshry** (we·lʃri). Also 4 **Walschrie**; 7 **Welshrye**, 9 **Welshery**. [f. WELSH *a.* + -RY, or ad. med.L. *Walescheria* (1249).]

†1. Welshmen or Welsh people collectively. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) II. 244 After þam alle he went, & dwelled in Walschie with him at þer powere.

2. That part of a town or county (inhabited by English and Welsh) which is appropriated to the Celtic population, as distinguished from the ENGLISHRY.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* iv. (1891) 38 This Shere is taken to be deuided into two partes, that is to the Englishrie, and Welshrye as shall be more largelie declared hereafter. 1804 J. EVANS *Tour S. Wales* 226 This country (in Pembrokeshire) is still divided into what is called the Englishry and Welshry; the latter, containing the original inhabitants. 1862 BORROW *Wales* II. xxx. 347, 'I have no Welsh,' said she, 'where is that?' said I; 'this village is I think in the Welshery'. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 338 Up to the time of Æthelstan Exeter had remained a common possession of Teutonic and Celtic inhabitants. No doubt there was an English and a Welsh town, an Englishry and a Welshry.

3. Welsh origin or nationality.

1894 GRANT ALLEN in *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 2/1 Sometimes...I have even known them indignantly deny the imputation of Welshry.

**Welshwoman** (we·lʃwumăn). Also **Welsh woman**. [f. WELSH *a.* + WOMAN *sb.*] A woman of Welsh nationality.

1440 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 51/2 So that the saide William to a Walshwoman in no wise marie him. 1586 J. HOOKER *Girald. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 24/2 There came vnto him a Welsh woman called Mary. 1598 S. HIERON *Serm. in Jonah* v. 112 Thy Mother sure was some Welsh woman, who instead of her own fostered thee with Mares Milk. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral Tr., Angelina* iii, Battland,—you have no ears, Welshwoman as you are!

**Welshy** (we·lʃi), *a. rare.* In 8 **Welchy**. [f. WELSH + -Y 1.] Resembling that of Wales or its inhabitants; Welsh-like.

1704 MRS. A. M. D'ARNEY *Ellen* II. 210 (Her name, Winifred, is) a very Welchy name. 1708 *Spectator* No. 186 ¶ 2 Welchy Maria. 1848 *Bentley's Misc.* Jan. 106 Then we get towards a wild and Welshy country.

**Welsom(e, -sum** : see WEALSOME, WILSOME.]

**Welt** (welt), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 5 **walt**, 6 **walte**; *b.* 6 **wat**, 7 **wault**, 9 **waut**, 9 **wault**; *north. dial.* 9 **wolt, wote, woat, waut**. *B.* 5–6 **welte, welte**, 6 **woalte**, 6–**welt**. [Of obscure origin; the variation in the vowel suggests an OE. **weall*, with Anglian variant **walt*.]

1. *Shoemaking.* A strip of leather placed between and sewn to the edge of the sole and the turned-in edge of the upper in soling a boot or shoe.

*a.* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Walte, of a schoo, *insecium*, *resecium*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 A Walte, *insecium*. 1530 PALSGR. 257 A welte of a shoe, *ourelevre*. 1737 DYCHE & PARDON *Dict., Welt*, that Slip of Leather, or Part of a Shoe that lies between the Sole and upper Leather together. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 To attach a narrow strip of flexible stout leather (the welt) to the outer sides of the uppers, and the same to the insole. 1894 *Boot Mending & Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) vi. 95 Whether the work is to be...let plain, which is called a 'blind-welt,' or the stitch used, and the welt bidged to imitate stitching.

*β.* c 1425 *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 604/5 *Hic intercusium*, *vulve*. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welte, of a schoo, *intercisium*, *vulva*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 A Welte, *intercisium*. 1530 PALSGR. 257 A welte of a shoe, *ourelevre*. 1737 DYCHE & PARDON *Dict., Welt*, that Slip of Leather, or Part of a Shoe that lies between the Sole and upper Leather together. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 To attach a narrow strip of flexible stout leather (the welt) to the outer sides of the uppers, and the same to the insole. 1894 *Boot Mending & Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) vi. 95 Whether the work is to be...let plain, which is called a 'blind-welt,' or the stitch used, and the welt bidged to imitate stitching.

2. A narrow strip of material put on the edge of a garment, etc., as a border, binding, or hem; a frill, fringe, or trimming.

Frequently associated with Guard (*sb.* 12).

*a.* 1500 *Sc. Lit. 15th Cent. Scot.* III. 115 Item, for ane yard of Rislit toun to [a kirtle] iijs. 1824 W. TAGGART *Poems* 38 Gin onie chiel had coulie scawt, She's grough'd crown, or raggit waut, Wad we na jeer't.

*b.* 1530 PALSGR. 257 A welt of a garment, *ourelet*. 1547 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9 One half having a border of black Letters & thother half having ij Rounde welttes of black velluett. 1582 BARTON *Florissh. Fancy* 21/1 (Grosart) 15/1 Whereof good store of cloathe...in fashions may be spent: In gardes, in welts, and lagges. 1611 SPEED *Hist. G. Brit.* VIII. ¶ 30. 909 Their Cassocks were...of linnen, trimmed and set out with very broad Gards or Welts. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 355 A Scarlet Cloak, edg'd with a Welt, was thrown him o'er. 1748 *Anthyemalia Pers.* l. 63 Their Habit is grey, with a purple Welt. 1824 SCOTT *Memorat.* xxix, The unction with which he dilated upon welts, laces, sashes, and trimmings. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. vii, Welts, handkerchiefs, and the like, were particular attention is devoted...to the welts on the undress overalls. Some Fusilier battalions substitute a narrow stripe stitched on in place of the orthodox welt.

*fig.* a 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.* (1641) 91 There are certaine *Scioli*, that are busie in the skirts...of Learning...They may have some edging, or trimming of a Scholler, a welt, or so: but it is no more.

†b. Phrase. *Without welt or guard*: without ornamentation or trimming. *Obs.*

1598 GRENE *Upst. Courtier* B 3 b, I sawe they were a plaine payre of Cloth breeches, without welte without garde. 1632 JONSON *Nat. Bather* Ded. (1663) 4 A plain suite of our Country Cloath; without welt or gard. 1679 *Hist. Jetter* 36 He was cloath'd in a close Cost of coarse cloth, without welt or guard.

†c. *Sc.* (Also *without welt or cover.*)

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* 2140 Marke you maisters, heers a plaine honest man, without welt or cover. 1594–1602 [see GUARD 2*b*, 12*b*]. 1693 HARENSE *Fophth Impost.* 167 Loe heere...plaine Gentleme, without welt or cover. 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 7 (1740) 18 And of these irrefragable Authorities some he affords great Encomiums to, others pass without Welt or Guard.

d. Used by R. Holme (and hence by later compilers) as a heraldic term, in contrast to *border*.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 31 An edg, or hem, or welt, only runs on the sides of the (Ordinary;) but the Border...goeth clear round the same. 1828 BURKE *Peerage, Hert. of Glenw., Welt, or Edge*, a narrow kind of border to an ordinary, or charge, sometimes improperly called a fimbriation, but the cro·s...should have the fimbriation to be all round the...which the *welt or edge*, does not. [Hence in OGILVIE (1850) and in later DICTS.]

†3. A binding strip or band. *Obs.*

In quot. 1607 perhaps an error for 'netts'.

1607 TORSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 215 Hauing found out the field or hill where the beasts are lodged, they compasse it ...with welts and toiles couered ouer, for that purpose. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. III. xxi. 183 The Edges [of the basket-] both aboue and below [must] be so well wrought as not to waver. There must be also a Welt round about the middle for the same reason. 1698 FRYER *Voy.* 133 Their Privy-parts, which they cover with a little Cotton-veil [*Fr. ceinture de coton*], that hangs down by their Legs.

4. A narrow ridge, a raised stripe. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 5 Their haunt...hauing but as it were a welte of Land betweene it and the Sea. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Resc.* III. v. 375 Her muskie Mouth ...A swelling Welt of Coral round beliems, Which smiling shows two rows of orient Pearl. 1624 MARKHAM *Country Gouf. Husb.* II. Of Hawks I. 137 And these Stones if they be full of crests and welts, they are the better. a 1688 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseudox.* v. xxiii. 297 The Trunk or Body there of (of the palm tree) is naturally contrived for ascension,...having many welts and eminencies. 1694 MOTTEUX tr. *Rabelais* v. xxiii. 107 Their dainty Chops and Gullets were lin'd through with Crimson Satin with little Welts, and Gold Purls.

b. spec. in *Nat. Hist.* Now *rare*.

1598 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxxv. 190 Of Prunes Deluce or Iris...In the leaues [of the flowe] that hang downewardes, there are certaine rough or hairie welles lyke vnto a mans browes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxxv. § 5. 50 Flowers of a purple or violet colour,...with a white welt or list in the middle. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* xiv. 958 Upon the shoulders [of the butterfly] there is a kinde of sandy dusky coloured roll or welt. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 131 The Toucan,...whose bill is...all over nothing but black and white welts or streaks, like Ribs up and downe interlaid. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 93 On the upper margin of the horn, in a semigamous welt, lies the seed. 1713 PEITKEN in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 208 Its Leaves generally single,...with a large forked welt which saddles the back. 1748 ANSON *Voyage Pref. Bot. Trans. Welt*, a broad, raised stripe or ridge upon the surface of a fruit, as is occasionally seen in the orange and lemon.

c. A ridge on the flesh, esp. the mark of a healed wound; a seam.

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 8 The cicatrix formed a hard welt, tender to the touch. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iv, From shoulder to flank, sir, I have the mass of welts and wells. 1876 F. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 30 If the actual cautery be applied upon a corpse, there arise only...more or less hard or leathery welts. 1881 *Daily Graphic* 29 Mar. 534/1 The slight welt of a salve cut on one cheek.

*Transf. and fig.* 1882 G. F. PENTECOST *Out of Egypt* i. 12 Who can tell what the last heat and beating with rod and Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* 1. Kipps 13 O the blazing tropic night, when the wake's as day of light.

5. Technical uses. a. A flange on a horse-shoe.

b. *Saddle-making.* A narrow strip of leather stitched in between the skirts and the seat. c. *Glove-making.* (See quots.) d. *Knitting.* (See quots.)

e. A strip or fillet laid over a seam or joint or placed in an angle to secure or strengthen it. f. The lap or fold of a welted joint (see WELTED *ppl. a.* 4).

See also WELT-LEAD.

1. a. 1770 T. FAIRFAX *Compl. Sportsm.* 21 [Horse] Shoes with swelling welts, or borders round about them, are used in Germany, &c. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 171 Ordinary [horse] shoes...are rather light flat plates, or of much greater strength, with welts or knobs on the toe.

b. 1871 *Saddlers' Gaz.* 1 Nov. 10/1 The skirts being properly edged up, you will now make the welt and fix it to the skirt. 1900 *Saddlery* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) iii. 29 Place the thin hogskin welt along the upper edge of the seat and stitch the skirt and welt together...From this point to which the seat is stitched, a wider welt doubled like the narrow one must be stitched to the skirt.

c. 1883 S. W. BEEK *Glovers* xii. 179 One minor...process, known as 'felling the slit-welt'—welts is, the turning over and hemming of the welt on the edge of the opening of the gloves. 1886 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 30 Apr. 276/2 Out of the purts left for cuts pieces...for the back of the top and the opening [of a glove]...which are called 'welts'.

d. 1860 *Louisdale Glass, Welt*, ribbed knitting. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Welt, (Knitting-machine)* a flap of work (as a heel-piece) disengaged laterally and knitted separately from the main body, and subsequently joined thereto by re-engagement of loops or by hand-knitting. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., The ribs of knitting at the top of a sock or stocking are called welts.

e. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Carpet-built*, The edges of the plates are brought flush together and riveted to a lap

or welt in the rear. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict Mech Engin.*, *Welt*, the covering strip used in butt riveting

† 1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract* viii 81 A mandrel must be fixed inside for the welt to be worked in quite closely.

**6.** A stroke with a lash or pliant stick; also, a heavy blow with the fist. (Cf. Welter *v.*[1] 5.)

1863 *Cornhill Mag.* VII 453 There's thirteen of us to do the punishment, and we must have two welts apiece 1900 A. McIntosh *by Lone Creag Limmie Burn* v. 53 Every man claimed the right of bestowing a "welt" on a restive horse with his ash 'plant' as he passed.

**7** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in the names of shoe-makers' tools, appliances, and materials, as *welt beater*, *-cutter*, *file*, *guide*, *-knife*, *-leather*, *-machine*, *-wheel*, *-worker*, (cf. Shoulder *sb.* 8, *h*), *-trimmer*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL 14 Cobler-wax and welt leather 1862 *Catal Internat Exhib.* Brit. II. N. 4671, Curtis'd Welt Shoulders. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2760 Welt cutter, gauge, knife, machine 1895 *Boot Making* (ed. P. W. Hasluck) iv 83 If they are too thick, reduce them on the flesh side in a welt mill or skiving machine *Ibid* xi 109 The welt file, used for smoothing the welt 1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* 637 To dress the welt leather and flexible splits

**† Welt,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. Cant.* (See Run *a*[1] 21.)

**Welt** (welt), *v.*[1] Forms: 4–5 *walt*, *wolt*, *welte*, *wolte*, *walte*, *wate*, *wat*. *β.* 6 **welte**, **weelt**, 6– **welt** [f. Welt *sb.*[1]]

**1.** *trans.* To furnish (shoes) with welts, to repair or renew the welts of.

*a.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 407 To Walte, *interciware*. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Intsicuto* to walte a sch[o]e

*β.* 1598 P. Wateson *Pourey* (1601) 49 Hand for welting and soling my shoes, to 6d 1854 G. Borrow in Shorter *Life* (1908) 374 My boots were worn up by the time I reached Swansea, so was obliged to get them new soled and welted 1914 *Daily News* 30 June 4, I cannot consume the machine which stitches uppers and welts to soles.

**2.** To border, hem, or ornament (a garment) with welts or strips of material. Also with *about*. Also *absol.* (Cf. Welted *ppl. a.* 1 *a*.) Now rare or Obs.

*a.* 1489 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I. 162 Ilne quartanis of velvus to wate the gowne 1542 *Rod* VIII 29 For grene velvet to walt ane gown 1546 *Ibid* 438 Juvenis blak velvet to welt the said goun and kirtill.

*β.* 1580 Holleband *Treat. Ivr Tong*, *Iumbe* *y couvre le bord*, to border, to welt 1598 Greene *Upt Courtier* D 1 b, In making of veluet breeches, where there is required silke lace, and such costly stuffe, to welt, guard, whip, stitch, edge, face, and diuerse out 1755 Johnson, To *Welt*, to sew any thing with a border.

**† 3.** ? To bind in strips. *Obs. rare.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 422 If any be sicke, a spare is set vp in his Tent with blacke Felt welted about it.

**4.** Technical uses: a. To bind with strips or a strip of leather, spec. in *Glove-making* and *Carpet-lining*.

1795 [see Welting *vbl. sb.* 1 *b*]. 1860 Miss H. Wood *Mrs Halliburton's Troubles* xxxiii, Some welted, or hemmed the gloves round at the edge of the wrist.

**b.** *Plumbing.* To join (the ends of a pipe, etc) by turning the edges one over the other and pressing them together. Cf. Welted *ppl. a.* 1 *b*.

1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract* viii 82 At a sanitary exhibition were exhibited some joints made by welting the ends of the pipes together.

**5** To beat, thrash

1823 Moore *Suffolk Words*, *Welt* to beat severely—so as to raise wales or weals 1837 Haliburton *Clockm.* 1st ser. xvii, And they just fell to and welted him all the way into the town with the tip end of their hosses 1855 [C. Annesley] *Westbank* I. xii 211 I'll soon fix you with a rope's end if you don't muzzle 1894 Antlers *Scenes Life* I. 105 My ribs ached as though they had been welted with a single stick 1901 E. Pettman *Stirling Hawes* 12 Next time I'll welt the hide off your bones.

**Welt,** *v.*[2] *Obs. exc. dial.* Pa. t. 4–5 **welt(e**, [a. ON. ***velta** intr. strong verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, Msw. *valta*), and trans. weak verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, MSw. and Sw. *valta*, Da. *vælte*); the latter corresponds to OE. ***wealtan** (Angl.), *wyltan*, OHG. *walzan*, *welzan* (MHG. *welzen*, G. *wälzen*), Goth. *waltjan*, f. the *a*- grade of the stem *welt-*, *walt* see Walt *a.* and *v.*]

**1.** *intr.* To roll or turn over (also with *over*); to fall over (also with *backward*); to sway or be unsteady.

*a.* 1300 *St Cristofer* 651 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 462 Where he kynge hadde of hem sighte In his chayere he welte vpryghte *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7488 Philos with felle angur fiusshet to Reon, Till bothe welt backward of hor hare sadles 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. x. 136 So syll hys hart stondis the prik of death, He welts our, and saldis vp the breith *Ibid* xi. xii. 83 And steidis throwand on the ground that weltis 1570 Levins *Manip* 59/1 To Welt, *nauter*, *dicidere*. 1703 Thoresby *Let Ray*, *Welt*, to totter. 1876 *Whitby Gloss* s.v., I cart coup'd, an' we com welting into t' gutter. 1895 *Lakeland Gloss*, *Welt*, to roll or roll over, to incline on one side.

*fig.* 23 *E E Allit. P. C* 115 His was a wenyng vn-war þat welt in his mynde *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 4891 We, as vnwise men, welt into pride, Anawarth hym awterwart with angur & skorne

**b.** To gush *out*. Cf. Walt *v* 4.

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 839 (MS Ashm.) So hard him blusis on the hede his hernes out weltid [*MS. Dublin* weltyn]

**2.** *trans.* To cast or throw *down*, to throw to the ground; to overturn; to beat down; also to roll, trundle. Cf. Walt *v* 2.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3152 Walles he welte downe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7490 Anther wegh other woundit, & welt to þe wrethe 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. viii. 76 The burgeonit treis on bound thai bring for aires, Welten down in woddis gret massis *Ibid* iv. viii. 197 Down weltyng esk of huge weicht gret stanys. *Ibid* x. iii. 91 Ane Agmon of Vlyssyis fast thairby Preyis, wyth all the fe es in hys body. A fellowne stone to welt the wallys fyll 1570 Levins *Manip* 59/1 To Welt, *a tergo*, *euertere* 1703 Thoresby *Let Ray*, *Welt*, overturn cart or wain 1828 Craven *Craven Gloss*, Corves or corn is said to be welted when it is beaten down by wind or rain, &c. 1869 *Constable Gloss.*, *Welt*, v. to overset, to overturn. 1898 *Kirkby Lakeland Words*, *Welt*, upset.

**Welt** (welt), *v.*[3] Chiefly *dial.* [? Alteration of Welk *v.* Cf the earlier Welter *v.*[2] and Wilt *v.*] **a.** *trans.* Of the sun or weather: To wither (cut grass, etc) Chiefly *pass* **b.** *intr.* To become withered by exposure to the sun and air.

1764 *Museum Rust* III. 333 That wheat which is mowed will require more turning, or it will be welted by the grass and weeds 1830 Sturdens *Tobit's Voc. E. Anglia* *App.*, *Wilted*, shrivelled as an apple Also *Welted* the same sense 1854 Mrs. A. E. Baker *Northampsh. Words*, *Welted*, 'It is well welted' or 'It is not fit to carry, it wants a good welting first 1865 *Trans R. Agric. Soc.* XXVI. 11 Mr. Hall-Dare's system from *Welted*, then ferments. 1865 *Ibid* and see I. ii 422 It is good management to use these turnips on grass, and to let them 'welt', or become dry from exposure to the sun and air.

Hence **Welting** *vbl. sb.*

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 488 Cut the herb in the morning, and put it into the vats as soon as possible, in order to prevent its withering or welting 1854 [see above].

**Welt,** obs. form of Wealth.

**Welt, weelte,** obs. contr. ff. *wealdeth*, *wealdeð* see Wield *v.*

**Welted** (we·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* Also **8 wholted** [f. Welt *v.*[1] or *sb.* + -ed.]

**1. a.** Furnished with a welt as a border or edging. Of a gown, etc.: Adorned or trimmed with 'welts' (hence of a person with reference to this). ? *Obs*

1501 in Rites Durham (1901) 106 *vestimenta welted with* (*a*) *c* 1507 in *Romania* (1865) 214 Servants cots of black cotton welted with yelowe 1540 *Inst Edw* (Nutting) VI 211 My bill of cloth welteis with velvet 1598 Greene *Upt Courtier* C 1, I saw fine fat fallowes all in dimaske cotes and gowns welted with Velure very braue *Ibid* 1599 *Grs. No.* 1378/4 A Bar Gown Faced and welted with Velvet

*fig.* 1631 J. Burges *Answ. Rejoynd* 435 It standes welted and guarded with so many reasons

(*b*) 1595 *Locke K Leg for Money* Sat iv E 4, They say thy welted gowne, and ruffes of lawne, When thou wert warden last was but a prawne 1606 Dekker *Ants for Hell* Wks (Grosart) II 137 Hee shall meete a number there, who once went in black veluet coates, and welted gownes. 1606 — *Seven Deadly Sins* 10 The welted Vsurer, and the poll'd Bachelour 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. xiii. 157 When in your gowne 'not a Clerecall habit of any I earning) but welted and cross-laced

**b.** Of boots or boot-soles: Furnished with a welt. *Welted work* the making of welted boots.

1851 *Daily News* 10 Apr. 5/1 A patent has been taken out for welted work at Northampton should be prepared 1905 *Westm Gaz* 10 Oct 7/3 Hitherto America has produced practically all the machinery for the making of welted boots

**2.** *Nat. Hist.* Furnished with a raised welt or projecting edge. *Welted thistle*: see Thistle 3

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* i. xxxv § 8 So The flower [of the Germaine flower de luce] consisting of sixe great leaues, ... welted or doubled the middle 1599 — *Lond Pryde* in *Harto* 4 *Bernices Jerusalem* Welted Colewoorts 1703 Petiver in *Phil Trans* XXIV 1424 [of] These leaves [of] much resembled the English Stanch, with a winged or welted stalk 1722 J. Morton *Nat. Hist N'rthampt* 470 Fowls of the Hatched Tribe, that is, such as have their Toes welted or Finn'd, as it were, all along on each Side with superficial Membranes; but not webb'd together, by any intervening Skin, as are those of Ducks. 1723 *Phil Trans* XXVII. 51 In deep Scarlet Flowers, and square welted Pods

**b** Marked with a ridge or with ridges

1899 Barrow Good *A. Walk* I. iv 67 In the face of the moor is in places welted to such an extent that it alters the character of the scene.

**3.** Marked with a welt or raised wound or mark of a lash.

1855 Wiseman *Fabiola* II. xii, The mangled limbs, and welted backs, of the tortured Christians 1908 *Westm Gaz.* 15 Jun 5/1 At the unfortunate servant of the Christian was set fire and given 4000 blows, so that he was welted skin.

**4.** *Welted joint*, a plumbers' joint made by turning the edges to be joined, one over the other, and pressing them together.

1888 J. W. Clarke *Plumbing Pract* iv 94 About 1½ years ago, a section of the burn was given by a master plumber ... and he showed a specimen of a welted joint 1890 *Daily Chron* (Arch Publ Soc.), *Welted joint* The old system of making a union of the ends of two lengths of lead on a church roof, as preferred to the present system of a dead roll

**Welter** (we·ltər), *sb.*[1] [f. Welter *v.* Rare before 19th cent.; cf. Walter *sb.*]

**1.** A state of confusion, upheaval, or turmoil.

Freq from c 1870, often with subsequent of *a* or *3*

1596 Daiemplt tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* II 277 He feared be that commotions sould follow sum Welter in the religioune, casting downe of the Kirkes, Monasteries and sklikke *Ibid* 466 1619 Br Andrewes 96 *Serm. Nativ* xiii (1629) 125 Away with peace, *mercatur terra*, let all the earth be on a welter. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. ii. 355 [Danton] was heard to ejaculate "I leave the whole business in a frightful welter (*qu'elles époux autable*)" not one of them understands anything of government" 1864 — *Frede Gt* xv. v. IV. 82 What a downstruck of confusion there round ... Bellboks himself must have passed uncertain over such a welter 1888 *Sat Rev* 26 May 622 They are not precisely the strongest party in the present welter of English politics.

**2.** The rolling, tossing, or tumbling (of the sea or waves).

1849 Cuthbert *Green Hand* iv (1856) 47 The long welter of the sea when the ship ceased to move 1863 Whittier *Andrew Rykman's Prayer* 85 In the welter of this sea Nothing walks to but Thee 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* 12 He went out solemnly to take his boat home through the dark and the dismal welter

*fig.* 1873 Dowden in *Contemp Rev* XXII 177 It is rather the peaceful calm, the refluence and welter of the great social and moral wave flung forward by the wind of revolution

**3** A surging or confused mass *a.* of material things, persons, etc.

1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* iii, A confused welter and quiver of mingled air, and rain and spray 1891 *Spectator* 18 July, A World Fair is only to fill up wakening recollections of a vast welter of miscellaneous exhibits 1893 McCarthy *Red Diamonds* III. 33 Caught the welter of the wind and welter of the turned building

**b.** of immaterial things

1851 Carlyle *Sterling* iv. v (1872) 206 His talk went tumbling as if in mere welters of explosive unreason 1864 Mitchell *Hist Dog* I. 140 Of such a welter of ideas, and force and efficiency in a welter of words 1882 Mackay *Own Times* IV. xxvii § 3 The historian is constantly involving himself in a welter of the most tumultuous and confused

**Welter** (we·ltər), *sb.*[2] [f. Welt *v.*[2] + -er[1].] A worker who makes or inserts the welt in a manufactured article).

1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs Hallib Trouble* I. xxiii, Some welted, or hemmed the gloves round at the edge of the wrist: these were called "welters" 1866 *Eng. Mech.* 4 May 165/2 There are various epithets for shoemakers; there are welters clickers, lockers closers 1881 *Inter Census Tables* (1883) 75 Hosiery manufacture. Welter. *Ibid* 70 Glover, glove maker. Welter

**Welter** (we·ltər), *sb.*[3] [? f. Welt *v.*[3] + -er[1].]

**1** A heavy-weight horseman or pugilist. Cf Welter weight

1804 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 203 The highweight, among the Subscribers called the Welters. 1863 L. Parmee *Scenes Fr & el* 36 In leaving Welters and Cruisers and low sans b hind 1869 *Contemp Rev* XI. 65 There is a pleasing representation of the Jockey Club, who seem from it to be an awful lot of welters.

*b. Horse-racing.* Used attrib with the meaning 'for heavy-weight riders'; as *Welter Cup*, *Welter Stakes*, *Welter handicap*, *race* Also elliptical (= welter race, etc.)

1843 W. Scott *Cecil to the Turf.* 6 The Welter Stakes of 20 sov each 1850 *Bell* 64 The Cheshire Welter Cup 1880 W. Day *Racehorse in Training* 198 Five runners in a welter race have surpassed those in the light weight handicaps by two 1897 N. Gould *Steeple-chase Triumph* xxi, The welter handicap for amateur riders *Ibid*, There were ten starters for the amateur welter

**2** Something exceptionally big or heavy of its kind *collog* and *dial.*

1865 J. Selby *Derbysh Gl* in *Reliquary* (Jan 1860) 127 *Welter*, a large person. 1888 *Shefford Gloss.*, *Welter*, anything huge, as a large stone 1899 Kilvert *Slattby* II. 43 Then he was no eight cubic inches—no welter.

**Welter** (we·ltər), *v.*[1] Forms **4** *walter*, **4** *welte*, **4** 6 *St.*, **weltir**, 5–6 **weltyr**, 5– **welter** (5 *St* **veltir**) [a. MDu. *welteren* or MLG. (also LG) *welteren* (hence NEris, *walteren*, Sw. *valtra*), MHG. *weltzern*, frequentative of the stem *welt-*, see Welt *v.*[2] and cf. Walter *v.*[1]]

**1** *intr.* **1.** To roll or twist the body, to turn or tumble about; to be and roll about, to writhe, to wriggle. Also with *about*. Now rare or Obs.

*a* 1300 [implied in vb.] In ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 890 He weltes, he writhes, he wrynges by his bodies! *Ibid* 1142 *Aspidis & Basilisk* þat in þe sande walteres 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. 118 And when Arthur weltered and wonne, the knyghte made hym ande an other tyme aboute *Ibid* xii. 552 She wrythed and weltered as a mad woman 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 78 There [in Hell] the companions of his fall, tho' wounded, welter, and in blood Driv'n back 1704 Swift *Battle Books* 272–46 I have seen *Sommers* &c. They weltering in the bowl, With powerful wings around them wrapt 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 600 In June, in mixed companies with your equals you may sit, stand, or occasionally walk as you like, but I believe you would not think it very *Breakfast* to welter in an easy chair 1815 Scott *Lay of Last Minstr.* v, And the shy seal had quiet home, And welter'd in that wondrous dome

**b.** To roll about (*in* the mire, etc.). Chiefly *fig.* Now rare or Obs.

1530 Palsgr. 779/2 Thou welterest in the myre, as thou were a sowe. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Psalm* xxi. 12 Some fees of them vomited to a wonder that for all of them lay wilting still in their owne dung. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 564 Oftentimes he will welter and wallow in the mire, confessing with sinnes he hath committed 1641 Milton *Church-Gov.* I. iii, Such principles of evil as these wherein she [Prelaty, bred up in slime and mud] welters from a young one 1706 E. Ward *Hudibras Redivivus* 167 Fowls are apt, after a great Drought, to welter in the Ground, or Dust, to cleanse their Feathers *a* 1732 J. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 140 Man threw himself into the mire at first, and now he is justly left weltering in it.

**o.** To roll or lie prostrate (*in* one's blood); hence (hyperbolically) to be soaked with blood or gore; also *fig.* of a nation, etc. Now only *poet.*

1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1593) 10 Till all these Princes weltring in their bloods, The Crowne due fall to Countie Sarzepant. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Edw. II*, ii. v. 1181 Vpon my weapons point here shouldst thou fall, And welter in thy gore. 1643 *Decl. Commons Refs. Ireland* 26 Two Protestant Nations [were] ready to welter in each others blood. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 1218 Prostrate on the Plain, Welt'ring in Blood, she sees Camilla slain. 1744 P. Whitehead *Groundsel* iii. 73 Down droppt the Hero, weltring in his Gore. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 252 Three successive generations were doomed to welter in their own blood. 1803 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 4/2 The deceased was weltering in his blood, and bore every indication of having been robbed as well as murdered. 1849 D. G. Mitchell *Battle Summer* (1850) 31 They lie—the fifty corpses—weltering in their blood. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* iv. 667 Slaughtered, and weltering each in the blood from the others that flows.

**2.** *fig.* + **a.** To revel, live at ease. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4503 Man þat weltes in his welis And, thurh his welth, na faintes fels. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxvii. (1887) 140 The wicked sorte of parents do not suffer their welter in to much wealth, nor wraste with to much wante.

**b.** æ Wallow *v.*[1] 6. Now *rare.*

1535 Coverdale *Eccl. xxiii.* 12 But they sit feare God, exchue all wrak and lyue welter in ye worlde. 1561 Hyll tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 133b, Who in the meane tyme swell with pride, and welter away in filthy pleasures. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 12 2 He suffered his owne subiects welter in all vice and voluptuousnesse. 1611 Speed *Hist. G. Brit.* viii. i. 793 Numbers of them lay senslesse and weltring in wine. 1646 H. P. *Mr Cl. Scige* 7 Luxury...in which thou hast welter'd with contentment. 1867 Trench *Hulsean Lect.* 267 Happier are those that welter in their sin.

**c.** To be sunk or deeply involved *in.*

1600 J. Cole *Death* 132 Let us then no longer lye weltring in sorrow, lest [etc.] Mourning wee sinneres of Gods wrath. 1642 Prynne *Nov. Antidote* Pref., To make England in the selfesame desperate deplorable condition, as Ireland now lies weltring in. 1642 H. Rogers *Naaman* 16 Suffers them to welter in their fears, doubts and complaints. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Empr.* I. (1865) VI. 153 We seem, indeed, in perusing the narrative before us, to be weltering in a dream of horrors. *a* 1871 R. Chambers in *Cassell's Inf. Magazine* I. 204 They...leave you weltering in astonishment.

**d.** *transf.* of inanimate things.

1847 Kingsley *Poems, Sappho* 4 Upon the white horizon Atho's peak Weltered in burning haze. *a* 1849 Bryant *Hymn of Sea* 42 The Earth...welters in shallows.

**3.** Of a ship: To roll to and fro (on the waves). Also *fig.* Cf. Walter 2. 1 b.

1443 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xxiv, We pullit vp saile, and furth oure ways went. Vpon the wawis weltering to and fro. 1609 Healey *Discov. New World* iii. vii. 92 But contrary to my desire, did so welter from side to side. 1822–36 Dr Quincey *Confess.* Wks. (1856) V. 266 My mind tossed, as it seemed, upon the billowy ocean, and weltered upon the weltering waves. 1876 J. Saunders *Lion in Path* iv, The soldier's barque was weltering aimlessly, helplessly, hopelessly upon the seas. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* iv. 370 The keels roll down the sea-dale, and welter up the steep.

**b.** Of a dead body: To be tossed or tumbled about (on the waves); to roll or tumble about (in water). Also *fig.*

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 54 All the sinnes of the first World now welter, sowse, & beate vnquietly in the Sea. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 13 He must not float vpon his watry bear Unwept, and welter to the parching wind. 1718 Pope *Odyss.* xiv. 155 But he whom some unseen hand makes sure Mantlers in earth, or welters on the wave. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* iii. 115 Whether he on the continent hath fall'n By hostile hands, or by the waves o'erwhelm'd Amphitrite, welters in the Deep. 1806 Scott *Poems, Palmer* 40 A corpse amid the alders rank, The Palmer welter'd there. 1823 S. Rogers *Italy* xvi. *Cenotaph of Pliny* 150 Alps, ...where, exulting, he had felt A swimmer's transports, there, alas, to float And welter.

**4.** To roll down in a (cream; to flow.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Cuthbe*) 306 A gret hyll..brak owt in fyre & brynt doo, weltrand, as a burne had bene. 1598 Dunbar *Twa Maritit Wemen* 433 With that wateris myn ene, and welteris doune fete. 1825 Lytton *Rienzi* v. xii, From the left arm, the blood weltered slowly. 1846 Keble *Lyra Innoc., Sleeping on Waters* 44 And Nile, soft weltering nigh, Sings him to sleep. *Ibid., Bathing* 2 Around the rushy point comes weltering slow The brimming stream.

**†b.** To flutter (*down*). *rare*—[.

*c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 290 [It] tall he licht as leif of the lynd le-t, That weteris doun with the wynd, sa wauerand it is.

**5.** Of waves, the water; sea: To roll; to toss and tumble; to surge. Also *fig.* Now only *poet.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 290 The strem sa sturdy was, That wawys wyd (that) brekand war Weltryt as billys hir and thar. *c* 1480 Henryson *Testament of Cresseid* 173 Quhair watter is the warld, ay welterand With mony wall of tribulatioun. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 11. 23 As of the seas we see The storme the boistrous surge to raise, weltring now low now hie. 1787–9 Wordsw. *Evening Walk* 192 There, waves that, hardly weltering, die away, Tip their smooth ridges with a softer ray. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. i. 201 The sea that welters dreadly Around the boundless earth! 1821 Bryant *Ages* xviii, Till the North broke its flood-gates, and the waves Whelmed the degraded race, and weltered O'er their graves. 1862 Swinburne *Poems & B., Song in Time of Order* 7 It swells and welters and swings, The pulse of the tide of the sea.

**b.** *transf.* Of a mass of persons or things: To be in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. i. i, When a Nation...must now seek its wild way through the New, Chaotic,—where Force is not yet distinguished into Bidden and Forbidden, but Crime and Virtue welter unseparated. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Tragi.* ii. iv, We sit in a cloud...while right below Welters the black fermenting heap of life On which our state is built. 1853 — *Hypatia* xxiii, The mob had welteredd and howled ineffectually around the house for some half-hour. 1889 Jerome *Idle Thoughts* 128 Huddled like vermin in sewers, they welter, and sicken, and sleep. 1897 'Mark Twain' *Man that corrupted* xiii. (1900) 317 The whole Left was surging and weltering about the champion, all bent on wringing his hand.

**6.** + **a.** Of a vehicle: To sway or rock unsteadily; to overturn. *Obs. rare.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 25 A litill stane oft, as men sayis, May ger weltir ane mekill wane. 1535 Coverdale *Nahum* ii. 4 The charettes rolle vpon the streetes, & welter in the hye wayes.

**b.** To go with a heavy rolling gait; to flounder. Also *dial.*, to reel, stagger.

1595 R. Johnson *Seven Champions* II. (1608) 52 Oh that some cunning Surgey would let me from his Cisterne. 1674–91 Ray *N. C. Words, Welter*, to goe aside, or heavily, as women with child, or fat people. 1785 *Bran New Wark* (E. D. S.) 188 Sometimes he brake her up the sands, and mud weel be astonished. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xvii, [The whale] was lying perfectly still, in a deep part of the voe into which it had entered. 1825 Mayne *Siller Gun* (*Jrnal.* xii. 324 With desperate energy I plunged and weltered through it [the water]. 1884 D. Grant *Lays & Leg. North* 75 [She] Weltered home through bogs an' hillocks After mony a day's fishing.

*fig.* 1837 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) I. 70 On the eighth day after this I am to make my appearance as a Lecturer!.. Some way or other we shall "weather through it".

**II.** *trans.* **†7.** To move, turn, or force by rolling. *Obs.*

*?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1140 Sitt es þe warlow so wyghte, he weltes þame vndere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. ix. 185 For sum welthy & gentill name wald bra. 1590 M. Nisbet *N. T. Scots* Matt. xxvii. 60 He weltirit a gret staan to the dure of the beriele. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxvi. 27 And he yͤ weltith a stone, it shall fall vpon it hymself.

*refl.* 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxvi. 14 Like as the dore turneth about vpon the trosholde, euen so doth the slouthfull welter himself in his bedde. *Micah* ii. 10 Thou at Betaphra, welter thy self in the dust and ashes.

**†b.** In pa. pple. with *in. Obs.* (Cf. 1 b, 2 b.)

1535 Coverdale *Judith* xiv, 15 Then sawe he the deed body of Holofernes..weltred in his bloude vpon the earth. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* viii. 110 In whiche absurditie many are weltred. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 10 Fouse Soldiers lay weltred in their blood. 1650 — *Amazon* 26 Princes, who are..weltered in their own blood. 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. Father Greybeard* 257 England, as well as other Countries, has been di-sciplin'd, 'till weltred in blood and ruine.

**†8.** To cause to roll; to toss up and down. *Obs.*

*c* 1425 *Storie Playes, Cast. Perver.* 2003 Bytter balys ber þis enemyes berde on brode, Manyone in wo is weltyr & wase. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. 110 The wyndis weltiris the see continually. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* ii. 536 Fomy Neptun..From bottomd depth doth weltre up the seas. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* i. i. 223 And they so wracke and weltred by the waues, As euery tide tilts twixt their oken sides.

**9.** To overthrow, overturn, upset: also with *down.* Chiefly *Sc.*

*c* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 467 Wrighis weltrand downe treis. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cresseid* 436 All is decayit, thy speild is weltit doun. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vii. 51 This cruell dochtyr of the auld Saturn The marbyll hyrst can weltr and ourturn. 1572 [see Walter 7. 7]. *a* 1663 Spottiswood (1668) II. 297 Were it but an ox, or an ass, that lay weltred in a ditch. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *To welter a cart*, to turn it upside down.

**†10.** To wear *out* (one's days) in a state of trouble or disquiet. *Obs.*—[

1654 H. Vaughan *Isaaman* 238 They returne to their old acquaintance with selfe, and so welter out their daies in utter misery.

Hence **Weltered** *ppl. a.*

1590 T. Watson *Hekatompathia* Poems (Arb.) 175 Cador and Pollux,...two welcome messengers, Comuey great comfort to the weltred minde.

**Welter,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Cf. Welt *v.*[2] and -er[5]; the ending may have been suggested by *wither.* Cf. Wilter, *v.*] *intr.* To wither. Hence **Weltered, Weltering** *ppl. adjs.*

1645 Jer. Hall *Remedy Discontentm.* v. 94 As for Beauty, what is it, but..a flower, which with one hot Sun gleam weltreth in the heat? 1657 R. Austin *Advice* 148 Your fading honour I esteem as dung, Earth's weltering glory as the dirt in Street. 1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1860) 62 These veimin prefer weltered and baggy leaves to those that are quite fresh. 1860 I. Taylor *Ultimate Civilis.* i. i. v. 40 The weltered hearts, and blighted memories of those whom we love...gathered from out of the...lost and wretched. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Welter*, to wither. 'The leaves begin to welter.'

**Weltering** (we·ltərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Welter *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

**1.** The action of turning or twisting the body about (on the ground), rolling (in the mire), wallowing (in sin), etc. Now *rare or Obs.*

1548–9 Micheu *Amorym & Cl.* 1631 This lyoun..Wyst on the gres hys bloody mowth t and in hys weltyrynge Made alle bloly Cleopes kerchyf in hys wypyng. 1590 M. Nisbet *N. T. in Scots*, 2 Pet. ii. 22 The hound turnit againe to his spewing, and a sow [that] is weschin in weltring [*Wycl.* walwyng] in fenn. 1596 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 206 All kind of superfluitie, riot, and weltering in pleasures.

**†2.** The action of rolling or turning round; unstable condition; political agitation. *Obs.*

1443 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxiii, To se the sudayn weltering Of that ilk quhele [of Fortune]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arc. & Stella* Sonn. xxx, If in the Scottish Court be weltering yet. 1588 in *Rep. Commiss. Univ. Scot.* (1837) III. 103 In this confused tyme (quhen all folkis ar loukand to the weltering of the warld).

**3.** The rolling and tossing (of waves); the surging (of water, the sea). Also *fig.*

1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* vi. 138 The surpassing life,..incapable of change, Nor touched by welterings of passion. 1867 Poilon *Course T. v.* 595 And all in dreams, the..sinner..heard the weltering of the waves of wrath. 1891 Trench *Poems* 73 'Mid the long weltering of the dreariest surge. 1899 Morris *Tecton* iv. 681 A figure standing with wide wings of gold, Upright, amid the weltering of the sea.

**Weltering,** *ppl. a.* [f. Welter *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

**1.** Of the sea: That tumbles and tosses; raging, surging.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 719 The Se wald tyn on sic maner, That off the wawys the weltrand lycht Wald reik thaim off off thar sycht. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* iv. 903 Qwhil þe weltrande wawis keyn Solde a part aswagit beyn. 1493 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* c, In the huge weltering wawis..Off litle rage. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales, Epit.* etc. 170 No.. wrath of weltring waues could stay, those inartill mates at home. 1689 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xii, While the Creator Great..bid the weltring waves their oozy channel keep. 1772 Beattie *Minstr.* i. liv, The deep roar Of the wide weltering waves. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1848) I. 78 The mere sprinkling of bulk-heads, as the ship laboured in the weltering sea. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* xiv. 20 As when the face Of the great deep grows dark with weltering waves. 1897 F. Hueffer *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 366, I trembled for his life in such a weltering whirl of rock-torn sea.

**b.** That is in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1832 Carlyle *Misc., Nibelungen Lied* (1840) III. 71 A firm sunny island amid the weltering chaos of antique tradition. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xxviii, The weltering mass of bullocks, pigs, and human beings. 1894 Hall Caine *St. Paul* I. xviii. 329 That vast weltering mass of idolatry and corruption. 1890 J. Pulsford *Loyalty to Christ* I. 105 You restless, heaving, weltering kingdoms of Time, mock us not.

**†2.** *Sc.* **a.** Moving clumsily or unsteadily. **b.** Rolling. *Obs.*

*c* 1580 Henryson *Trial of Fox* 111 The wyld Once, the fluk, the Uelterand Wolf, the Dogue. 1768 Ruddiman *Gl. Gawin.* II. 81, Thair mich I se..The weltrerand stone wirk Sisipho mich eair.

**3.** That is tossed about on or by the waves.

1609 Healey *Discov. New World* iii. ii. 129 They..hold it fondnesse to hazard their liues either in a weltering tide, or in a weltring barge. 1820 Scott *Lady of Lake* vi. xx, Another flash!—the spearman floats A weltering corse beside the boats. 1899 Fagan tr. *Æneid* i. xiii. 377 They had drifted fourteen days, tossed up and down on the heaving waves of Adria, a weltering plaything for the gale.

**4.** Lying prostrate in blood; saturated with blood. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* iii. lxxxvi, Our Slaughter heap'd on high his weltering ranks. — *Siege of Cor.* xvii, It is humbling to tread O'er the weltering field of the tumbled dead.

**Welter weight.** [Welter *sb.*[2]]

**1.** †**a.** Heavy weight (of a horseman). *Obs. rare.*

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 280 He was always well mounted for his welter weight.

**b.** A heavy-weight rider.

1850 'H. Hieover' *Pract. Horsemanship* 101 A horse belonging to a friend, a welter weight. 1883 Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 344 A welter weight never went better to hounds in a fast run. 1897 *Daily News* 31 Mar. 3/4 Horses equal to carrying a welter-weight of fifteen stone or more.

**c.** *Horse-racing.* An extra weight sometimes imposed in addition to weight for age.

1880 W. Day *Racehorse in Training* 201 They have..added to other improvements the introduction of welter-weights; so that it only requires a little alteration—more long races with heavy weights, and lower short courses with light weights—to complete the reform.

**2.** A boxer or wrestler whose weight is between that of a light-weight and a middle-weight. Also *attrib.*

1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Oct. 3/1 Weltherweight champion of California. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 19 Sept. 3/3 Not even an indomitable spirit will bring a bantam-weight and a welter-weight together. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 351/2 The boxing rules of the American Athletic Association differ slightly from the British...The recognised classes by weight are: Bantam,...Feather,...Light,...Welter, 145 lb and under; Middle,...and Heavy.

**Welthe, welthi,** obs. forms of Wealth.

**Welting** (we·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also *Sc.* and *north.* **6 wawting, 7 walting, 7–8 welting, 8 ? watling; 7, 9 weltin, 9 wattin.** [f. Welt *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

**1.** The action of furnishing with a welt. **a.** The edging, binding, or ornamenting (a garment) with a welt or welts; chiefly *concr.*, an edging, a border, fringe.

1598 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 135 Item, for grathing of foure sadilles..and wawting of thaim with wellus, xlvij s. 1552 in Feuilleriat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 139 The garmentes welted aboute with blew & yellow gould tinsell conteyning xxxi[1] yardes weltinge. 1598 — *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 23, viii plackardes of the same Maske and the welting and jagginge therof. 1600 Rowlands *Letting Humours Blood* ii. 34 The welting of his hat, in our chardlers stood, Being the rumer of a cast French hood. 1649 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 100 Item for 4 elnes of Tours weltinge to his clathes o to o. 1737 *Oekterlyre House Books of Accounts* (S.H.S. 1907) 80 For 8 of a yeard of cherry waiting [*sic*: *the Glossary gives* watting]. 1875 *Plain Needlework* 16 They can be stitched (like welting) and finished off with strings. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Welting*...a seam; a seaming.

*transf.* 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* xxi, A westerly breeze played with the half ripe pods of gorse, and the brown welting of the heather.

**b.** in techn. senses, esp. in shoemaking.

1795 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Welting* is the sewing a narrow strip of leather over the corner seams,.. which..keeps out the wet. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Jan. 6/2 [Shoe trade.] Welting machinery is making progress, and hand labour for welting is being trained. 1893 Eliz. Rosevear *Textile. Headwear* &c. 305 Welting or Ribbing is usually knitted at the top of stockings, socks, mufflateen, and sometimes throughout a garment.

**2.** A beating, a thrashing.

1840 Cockton *Val. Vox* xii, Do you want a good welting? ony say, and you shall catch, my dear, the bleediest rope's-ending you ever had any notion on yet. 1866 Lt. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 230 She received a sound welting..from her father. 1887 G. Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 191 He [a dog] bewhimpered his welting, and I Scarce thought it enough for him.

**3.** *attrib.*, as *welting cord*; ¶ **welting stake**, some kind of armourer's anvil.

1660 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 128 Welting stakes. 1887 Jamieson *Suppl., Waltin-cord, Waltin-Cord*, cord used in forming welts for seams and hems of gowns.

**Weltir, weltre,** obs. forms of Welter.

**Weluette, -uot, -wet,** etc., obs. ff. Velvet.

¶ **Welwitschia** (welwi·tʃiă). [mod. L., named by J. D. Hooker (1862) after Dr. Friedrich *Welwitsch* (1806–72), Austrian botanist : see -ia.] A genus of gymnospermous plants (N. O. *Gnetaceæ*) consisting of one species *W. mirabilis*, native to the sandy regions of south-western Africa.

1862 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1864) I. 1 On Welwitschia, a new Genus of Gnetaceæ. By Joseph Dalton Hooker. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

**Welwot,** obs. Sc. form of Velvet.

**Welwous,** variant of Wellous (velvet).

**Welȝ,** var. Wealȝ *a.*¹ *Obs.* ; obs. form of Wily.

**Welȝe,** var. north. form of Wail *v.*¹

**Wem** (wem), *sb. Obs. exc. arch.* Forms : 3- **wem** (5. *Sc.* **wam**), 3–7 **wemme,** 4 **wembe** (6 **wemb**), 4–6 **weme,** 6 **wem(e.** [ME. *wem*, substituted for OE. *wamm*, *wom*, *wo* (see Wam), under the influence of the verb.]

**1.** Moral defilement; stain (of sin). Chiefly in phr. *without(en) wem* = Immaculate *a.* I. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

(*a*) *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Cleane religiun & wiðuten wem is iseon & heiȝen wideweu [etc.]. *c* 1290 *St. Cecilia* 10 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 490 Lat. leosten..þat ich neure wemme ween be. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 647 Marie..Cleane maide and cleene wyf, Clene widewe wiþ oute wem. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xviii. 14 I þar was noght bidd of me, þan was I all be wiðouten wem. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 304 Jamus telliþ of two religiuns; þe first is clene wiþ-oute wem. ..þe secunde is veyn religioun. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 37 My son shall in a madyn light..wythouten wem, os son thrugh glas. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 466 That god..of the virgyn mild Was born without wemme in hir attamed. 1538 Dr. Longland *Serm. bef. King* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 1951/2 Impollutus. He was vndefyled. He lyued clene, without spotte or blame, without wemme or malyce. 1581 Daus *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 23 Therefore was the Church of Smyrna right excellent, howbeit not vtterly without any wem. 1658 Mosses *Def. Gentleness* etc. 123 Rapunzel sings ..Mary, maid without a wem. [etc.]

(*b*) 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3111 Make not thy soule so wykked a wem To do wykkednes for pryde of hem. *Hist.* 7426 þe breidis [sing.] þe were wem. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* i. f. 74, I wot wel, wem ne spot may not abyde there no nolle vertues haboundeth. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Wisdc* (Cranton 1483) I. xxii. (1859) 56 Ye clene of wem, that no thyng nedeth the To weyle, ne to wepe thy sinnes fore?

†**b.** With defining term, as *of sin*, etc. *Obs.*

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xviii. 14 I salle be withouten wemme [*v. r.* wem] of dedly gilt. *c* 1340 — *Prose Tr.* 18 For in hir [Mary] was full-hede of all vertus with-owttyne wome of synne. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 136 A mayde..Wiþ-outen wemme in-to his worlde broughte hym. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12208 (Trin.) Iesu hir childe bar she bone-, Mayden wiþouten wem of flesshe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 77 Qwre Lord Iesus Crist cam in-to þis worlde, he was born of a clene mayde, and of hyr body. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* Prol. 5 Mary..wold not be defylyde With spot nor wem of man. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 81b, Our lady bare a chylde without any spot or wem of her virginite.

**2.** Material blemish, defect, injury, or stain. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Hwon þe gost iwent ut..wið-oute bruche & wi-hute wem, of his wunne bisne. 13.. *S. Eduth. P. A.* 1003 Saffer helde þe seconde stale, þe calsydoyne penne wiþtonten wemme. *Te* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 900 That other bowe was of a plante Without wem, I dar warante. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* v. 185 Vppon þat halle lettres þat were i-write in pouder were i-founde wiþ oute wem [L. *illibate*] at he yeres ende. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 2928 Alle herre clothus..were celene wiouȝ spotte ore wemme. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 157 Yf hit [water] be cleer apperyng like the skie, Withouten wem or signe of thingis vile. 1548 Abcedis of Gude Nurtour 11 b, Ane horse marred with knot, gaule, wynd-eshake, wem, freate or pynche. 1553 *Respublica* ii. iii. 565 Naie, Honestie will not see a wemme on your Cote. 1576 Fleming *Pan. Epist.* 180 *Chs. Eng.* 151 All the clothes, that were about hym, semed.. without wem or any blemish. 1657 C. Beck *Universal Char.* M 3 a, wemme, *v. Flaw.* 1692 Ray *S. & E.-Country Words*, *Wem*, a small fault, hole, decay, or blemish ; especially in cloth, *Essex.* a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wem*, a small fretted place in a garment. 1880 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* s.v., I'd no idea that tree was so full o' wems as I've fun it out to be.

†**b.** Hurt, harm, injury. *Obs.*–1

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 76 So grete vengeance he nam of men of holy kirke, þat not did no wem tille him ne no trespas.



†**c.** *fig.* A break or pause (in time). *Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 43 This scuffling or bopeepe in this darke they had a while without weame or bracke.

**3.** Bodily blemish, disfigurement, or defect ; also, the mark of a bodily injury, a cicatrix, a scar. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6897 Sif..hire vet in eny wemme be yhrost, Holdeþ hum guilt of þe dede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19781 Mesire him þan Vte ouer þe walles a þe tun, Wiþ-vten ani wond or weme. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2460 þat þam þe leste aðoun sette Wiþoute eny maner wem þe worse it to geten. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xii. 5 It shal ben a lomb with-outen wemme [Vulg. *absque macula*]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 231 He schewed opounliche þe wemmes of the sore wounles [L. *vulnerum scentrices*] þat he hadde i-fonge in Egipte. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy* 247 Macula is a wem in a mannys ize. 1448–9 Metham *Amorwe & Cl.* 1666 Hole and sound, with-owte wemme off yowre woundys, Nowe vp-ryse. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrake* (1510) 2 Ha, If a man..haue a wemme in a lym Shal a man vphreyse it hym. 1526 R. Whytford *Mornynge* 122 b, A marty shuyng by ye swerde, whose holy body was founde all clayen after his deth without wemme or wounde. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 9/1 There appeared in his head the signes and pikes of ten wounds or more : all the which were growne into one wem. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 463 This is the Glasse Ladies wher-in I wouldе haue you..ribbe out the wrinckles of the face, and be not curious about the wemmes in the face. *a* 1623 Drexelius *Lang. & Relig.* 156 Although the wound be in some sort healed, yet the wem or scar will remaine. 1634 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. x. 61 Is't wem so,' he added,..' neither wem nor wound—not as much as a rent in his frock !'

*Sc.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. t. 46, I knaw and feile the wemys and the way Of the ald fyre and flamb of luffis heit. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon, Comp. Rom. Manner of War* 8 Vos spoils and wems of Gallia Belgis [*sc.* Lipsius *vos manubiæ et gemmæ Martiæ*], which make the warres a refuge and sanctuarie for your villanies.

**4.** (By confusion with Wen I.) A raised spot ; a protuberance.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 36 b, Theophrast sayth that it [the Cedar tree] is of marveylous highe growth...about the bodie without wem or knot. 1584 D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 153 Your sonnes, and daughters, and neighbors of late. 1610 Donne *Pseudo-Martyr* iv. § 31. 138 The Reformers.. thought to..take off euery Mole, and paire away euery Wemme.

**Wem,** *var. when* Whim *sb.*¹

1769 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 101/1 Four horses, ..at a common wem or engine, are sufficient to keep the mine clear.

†**Wem,** *v.* *Obs.* Forms : 1 **wemman,** 3 **wemmi,** 3–4 **wemme ; pa. t.** 3 **wemde,** 5 **wemmed** ; *pa. pple.* 3 (*Orm.*) **wemmedd,** 3 *y-*, 4–5 **wemmed** (3 *y*-**wemmed,** *y* 3 *i-*, 4 **wemmid,** 4–5 **wemmyd** ; 3 **i-wemmet,** 5 *Sc.* **wemmyt** ; 4 **wemed,** 6 **wembde.** [OE. *wemman* (and *gewemman*), *i. wamm* Wam. Cf. Awem *v.* and OHG. *bi-, giwemman*, Goth. *anawammjan* to blame.]

1. *trans.* To disfigure, mutilate (a person, his body) ; to impair (the mind) ; to injure (a thing). *c* 900 tr. *Boethius* iv. xxxii. (1899) 358 Wen is þæt mynstre sum ȝeong monn, ðam unwitte, swyle & atolic his earan wyrde & wemde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1446 Ah þet wes mundes mei, þet wes þe licome wemmet ȝeond þurh his beiðen. *c* 1275 Lay. 6380 Þat þurh his wraþþe his wit was i-wemmid. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6965 Ledeþ me þanne to wo[n]ne, þat ich ne wemme me þer-a-boute wiþ no binehe, wo hit ywimmed be. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20884 If þat ani.. Was wemed, or on fote or on hand, ..it sal na wem o þam be sene. *a* 1325 *Prose Treat. Arms* 20 in Rel. Ant. I. 290 Wiþ þat þan he þat hadde was wemmid, Was striken of þat on Arm and þar hit in þat oþer. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 213 He ordeyned þat a man þat were i-wemmed in his body [L. *vitiatus corpore*] schulde forge non ordres.

**2.** To desecrate or violate ; to hurt or harm.

*a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) lxxxviii. 31 Syf rihtwisnys min hi wemmap [L. *profanaverint*], *c* 1000 *Ags. Laws* (Thorpe) II. 144 Gif hwa wemme þæt mynster. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4197, & þe wule he wolde þis tenðe þing wemmy fulle yvele. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19504 (Fairf.) Yat god him gette, þat knawes al gode, þat he wemmed neuer sacles bloode.

**3.** To spot or stain with sin or impurity.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Alse þe liuendes godes sune in to þe meidene wombe nolde hire meiden-had wemmi, ne unwemmede. *c* 1200 Ormin 2326 Sannte Marge sahh, þatt þho þa shollde wurrþenn Wiþþ childe, wass batt þho þurrpurrt Ne shollde nohht þatt wemmenn hire. *c* 1200 *Ancrene Riwle* (Cleop. MS.) 408 Hed..neuer wemmed wax a dele. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 213 Also he seide þat Adam his ayen wemmed [L. *lustit*] Adam alone. 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. vi. 174 If the lande of Laban hadde be wemmed ȝe cursidli as with the synne of ydolatrie. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (1510) G iij b, And she after clyde beyonge Shalbe wemmyd of nothynge.

**4.** To stain ; to mark with spots.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxix. (Tollem. MS.) Whan sche [the moder] is ouerwaxe to heye tercian, þo is it bryȝte and clene ; and þan sche semeþ nouȝt wemmid with no spiek and suttynge. 1587 Dhant *Hor. Art Poetrie* Ded. "Ij, The verie Crownes and Scepters of best Monarks and princes had beene naught, vnmeete, and warpde with oblation.

Hence † **Wemmed** *ppl. a.*

*c* 1373 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Margaret*) 697 God forbed þat I With wemmyt [*rend.* wemmyd] hanlis sal be In ly. 1582 Wyclif *Deut.* xii. 15 Other vncleine it were, that is wemmed and feble, other cleene, that is hool and without wemme.

**Wem,** obs. form of Wame.

† **Wemay,** *int. Obs.* Also **wemo, wemmow.** [Cf. We *int.*] An exclamation, app. denoting impatience or surprise.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 148 We! ryn on..Before! Wemay, man, I hold the mad ! *Ibid.* 198 Wemo, wemo, foure [sheaves], la, here ! *Ibid.* xxvii. 291 *Lucas.* wemmow ! where is thin maa becom !

**Wemb(e :** see Wame, Wem *sb.* **Wemble,** var. Wamble. **Weme :** see Wame, Wem *sb.* **Wemed, Wemel :** see Wemd, Wamble. **Wemen,** obs. pl. of Woman.

† **Wemeless,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wem *sb.* + -less. Cf. Icel. *vammlauss* faultless.]

1. Without stain of sin ; undefiled, immaculate.

*c* 1275 *Orison Our Lord* 10 in *O. Misc.* 139 Þu þu hire to come heo mayde wes, And mayde heo wes after wemmeles. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xix. 2 Lauerd, in þi tele wha sal wone ?..Wiþlke þat liueres wemeles, And ai wirkes rightwisnes. 13.. *Bonaventure's Medit.* 822 My sone ys slawe here afore mym ye þe wlyche y bare wemeles of my body. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Suzan* 151 Are I þot worthliche wiethe, þat al þis world wrouȝt, Ieterre is wemles wemde of þis world wyde. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Ballad* 104 Minor P. (1911) I. 258 O wemles mayden, enbelyshed with his byrthe.

2. Free from material blemish or imperfection ; spotless.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18839 His for-bed fair, wemless to sight, Wiþ-vten ani runkel slight. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 736 'His makelez þeȝe..is wemles, & cleue. 1398 [implied in *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxvii. (1495) 338 Nou thynge [is] more Impassyble and wemles..than lyght.

3. Free from hurt or harm ; uninjured.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 7906 He bar hym so in þat fiȝt þat of wounde he was wemles. *a* 1400 *Mirror St. Edmund* in *Hampole's Wks.* I. 222, I..þanke þe þat euer..þou hase kepid..in þi mayne, hale, and wemles, and wonderfully saued. 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4666 (Ff2) wendis away with þat word & weules pain leuys. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 99 Bot thow mon hym þat may..Throw sail rew in thi ruse..Or thou wend of this wane wemeles away !

**Wemlock(e,** var. forms of Wam-lock.

† **We·mming,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 3 **wem-munge,** 3–4 **wemming(e, -ynge,** 4 **wemmyne.** [f. Wem *v.* + -ing¹.] The action of the verb ; defilement ; injury.

1200 *Ormulum Gloss.* i. 4317 (Napier 113) *Lenedmii* wemming. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 19 Alswa deð meiden-had [preserve] meidenes ezhne flesch, wiðute wemmunge halt alle hire limen & hire wittes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6895 Hest crist hir barn seo lute,..and maiden neuer lees, Wit-vten wemming of hir flesc. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6895 [Het ihesu sir-yn wel lute, Mayde he was and maiden he bynam saþ wiþoute wemminge.] *c* 1300–1400 *Ipot.* App. XX. 2 Heo sal out be king & hadde bure broþer wiþoute wemming. *c* 1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 201 Angelis. It kepit eyk fare fra wemmyne of þe fyr, oþir in body or in claith.

**Wemmow, wemo :** see Wemay *int.*

† **Wemod,** *a. Obs.* Forms : *a.* 1 **wéamöd,** 2–3 **wemod,** 3 **weamod,** 4 **wamod,** 3 **wamed, wemed.** [OE. *wéamöd*, i. *wéē* affliction, trouble, malice + *-möd* : see Mood *sb.* The *B*-forms may represent an OE. variant **wǽmöde.*] Passionate, angry.

*a.* c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past.* C. xl. 289 Oregan ðæt sint to manianne ðā weamödan & ðā gramheortan [*Lauriensis* : *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne þu ne þe forsuoriȝe þurh ne wilie ne stunie ne wemod ne ouer mod. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 Telliað us, so weamod & so wreiðful þet hit sleað ofte ure gome his owune leofmon þe we ȝeornliche ancre. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg. St. George* 690 He is..Proud and wemod, and drunkare ; and in wraþþe al-mest wod. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 404 Wiy art þu so waymot wyse for so lyteyt?

*b.* *c* 1205 Lay. 6368 Of alle þingen heo weore god ȝif heo neure to wamed. Amon ar þan wreð wid cni man i þan stude he hine wolde slæn. 13.. R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. II 25 A knyȝt he was swiþe god, ac to wemod & to wylde.

**Wempel,** pill, obs. forms of Wimple.

**Wen** ¹ (wen). Forms : 1 **wenn,** wenn, 2 **wean,** 4, 7–8 **wenn,** 5–7 **wenne,** 6 **wan.** [OE. *wenn* = Du. *wen*, W'flem. *wan*, app. related to MLG. *wenne* (1403), LG. *wehne, wehne* tumour, wart ; the ultimate etym. is obscure.]

1. † **a.** A lump or protuberance on the body, a knot, bunch, wart. *Obs.* **b.** *Path.* A sebaceous cystic tumour under the skin, occurring chiefly on the head.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Wiþ wenne on eaxon scenan þa holan eorsas [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. 46 Wiþ wenne & wennessa ȝewunad on þet heafod foran oððe on ða eaȝan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 429/2 *Impetigo*, eaȝan wenn. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 8 In dogges wey þat is clepid skirgut ar wrtis or wennys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 542/1 Wenne, *verruca*, *gibbus*. *c* 1475 *Piet. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 797 *Hic tibon*, a wenne. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 57 As he that wolde haue slaine Prometheus, wounded his wenne with his swoorde, whereby he was healed of that disease. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* i. xxxvi. § 2. 44 The seede of Lentilles..consumeth wens, hard lumps, and such like excrescense in any part of the body. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 907 It would be tried, with Scenes and Waines, and such like excrescences. 1672 Wiseman *Treat. Wounds* ii. iv. 89 I saw the Bullet lye like a small Wen or Scrophul, thrusting out under the Skin. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 19 ¶ 4 Cicero, who was so called from the Founder of his Family, that was marked on the Nose with a little Wen like a Vetch. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 290 Others..exposed to fewer exhalations.. will merely be deformed with wens and swellings about the joints. 1819 Keats *Otho* ii. ii, Feminia has my shame fixed upon her, sure as a wen. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xi, A tall, meagre man, with a nose like a wen. 1884 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 4) I. iii. 288 The acquired sebaceous cysts ..are more common on the head and face than elsewhere..: when on the scalp they are known as 'wens'.

*Comb.* 1861 Wynter *Soc. Bees* 120 That cabinet of wen-like tumours.

**c.** Applied to the swelling on the throat characteristic of goitre. Also *Comb.*

1530 PALSGR. *Lyfte* WEMME of the throte *g wastrye, goistre.* 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 67 The men and women have great wemmes upon their throates, which they call in their language the Mine. 1670 RAY *Journ. Low Countr.* (1673) 450 (Alps) People having massie excrescences or wennes of flesh growing to their throats. 1832 R. C. LEMON *Lyric Apr.* I. 9 Like a Chimera who have unseemly wens in the throat as large as tuns. 1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 111 The wen necklace.

**d.** An excrescence or tumour on the body of a horse.

1559 in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 1. 3 One gray nage with a wen in his neck. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* (1668) 178 If in the weall [*Surfeit*], upon it whom a small pimple arises full of water. 1649 [LANGLEY (Walter P.)] *Hunting Improved* 111 That the Horse, he had two wens upon the cheeks of the jaws lying over the bone. 1677 *Hale Prim. Orig.* (1713) 111. vi. 230 Such as we impute the Effect to Child. 1845 W. C. SPOONER *Veterin. Surg. Horses* Wens are usually round tumors, fluctuating in consistence.

**† e.** An excrescence on a tree. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Wilsonum* the wenne in the tree. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husbandr.* III. 48 With the saw cut off the wens and knottes, and after the same smooth, with the edge of the knife bee wennes that do wex out of it. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 1 Think it best to graft it ten Inches ground from the Stock, and then to prune off the Wens, that the Sap be not lost, to nourish the Graft. 1725 [LANE in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VII. 78 One old wife, by a kind of extraordinary art, upon my word, has worn me to a wen thirty two feet [? *Qu.* inches] about. 1727 *Ibid.* 1. 1 Add Sides comb'd With prominent wens, close

**f** *transf.* and *fig.*

Sometimes applied *obs.* to fungi or excrescences.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 332 *Fern.* You offer him sir Iohn, for him that will take them on his honour. *Lord Bard.* Iohn? No, They are not the Body, but a wen of the Church, but a wennes or swellings growing out of it: I speake not this to Iohn. 1649 [LANE (Walter P.)] *Hound Improved* 111 Take Sage, which Medicine is a present help, little wen or wen. 1658 CLEVELAND *Introd. Vind. Prel.* 2 Such is the Dogmaticalness of our times in Wen, or Parts, only, in the Body of this Book but a Nation and Necessity (Neither thereof 1796). 1670 *Hist. Jesuits* (Supplem.) III. 118 Thus but whether makes me Pope and In Stone Language I'le [myself] be known. 1783 [LUCAS (*at Large*, *Anti Sacy* 11. 45 If this Wen of Popery, and Superstition, and Wickedness up to the no better than a Wen, at Rome is to, in the Holy Palace. 1822 CHANTRY *Rural Rides* (1878) 31 I do take it once applies the Church to those huge wens of corruption, the Cities and Towns, impoverished philosophy. 1872 KINGSLEY *Alt. Prince* II. 21 Part of Spain would be such another wen up in the face of God's earth as the city of Havanna.

**† 2.** A spot, blemish, stain *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.* (Confused with WEM *sb.*)

1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Pis boc is wyt hoot him ut ine he bere ane alle manere zenne [*ref.* to pure mayde ne bleue o nou3t wen. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. clxxxiii. (1495) 1274 Fyre (of the wylde tyne) wolde ete the water and medlyd with the wyne thoth awaye wennes [*L. macula*]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* 20 Ware the lyke wyse, as I ken, or wemmed, or hauynge a wen they shal offre none vnto the Lord etc. 1552 HULOET Wenne or fleshe spotte *nevus*. 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* I. xiii. Not one wen in her body could I espie.

**Wen** 2 (wen). [a. OI. *vēn* var. of *vayn* WEEN *sb* 2] The name of the Old English rune letter *ƿ* (= *w*) and of the manuscript form of this (*ƿƿ*) in Old and early Middle English

c 1300 *Ucelaan* M. 30 in *Mod Lang. Rev.* (1911) VI. 442 Wen ƿ Þunnan Þeapmum Þone 1795 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Pref. 83 Quod a Runic Theme in Wen. 1818 CHALMERS *Gen. Biog. Dict.* XXXII. 505 Dr. Hickes, in Thorn, and Þ Þ, Þ, or Wen, are of Northern growth. 1884 PEACOCK *Life. Math.* 4 The Saxon Wen, like the rune Wen of his original for a *pain*. 1909 J. I. WISE *Owl's Nightingale* 3 In a number of places *thorn* is doubled, and so is like rune.

See WEN *sb* and *v*, WHEN, WHENNE.

**† Wenbote,** var. WAINBOTE. *Obs.*

1250 *Records of Leicester* (Sharpe) I. 61 Dat hiden wenbote, sachlet, unum quidque plustrum, unum lignum. 1562 *Ibid.* 363

**Wench** (went∫), *sb* Forms: 3–7 **wenche,** (4 **weynche,** 5 **wenge,** 6 **wenschе, whence**), 4– **wench**; Sc. 6 **winch, wynch, vinche,** 8–9 **winch** [ME. *wenche*, shortened form of early ME. *wenchel* see WENCHEL]

**1. a.** A girl, maid, young woman; a female child. Now *dial.*

c 1290 *I Lye I, St Kath* 75 Nu is þis gret sel ame to wenche a boute After þe kaiserene Maxtre, for to do pusti a gret fol wedcher. c 1300 *I Lye I, St Iacob* 1317 Þeos come princes vnnome I-sunge and I-ȝo, in midde wenches of tumpanwrake. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2301 Will am Nis nou3t wenches fa. Meditor his betrothe I þis were I-þe of he help. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 150 He came to þe hous of his pun e þat he wenche I-dred inne. a 1450 *Works Clerical* 201 Then cayed he fonde and sayde 'Alas, al my mystes I have lorne, such a ȝong wenche to be overcomen me. 1549 *Intrel. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 45 Than we will have it tell Nell, A proper wenche, she dwelt with well. 1598 LODGE *Reraign Pier., Tobit* 57, 58 Fo whom it had been an happie chaunce to have brought forth a wenche, but a muche more lucke happie it was, to have brought forth a sonenne. 1686 in Warley *Records Wills* (1880) 2 If my wife be with Child whether it be a Boye or a wenche I doe give and bequeath unto yt. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & C.* II. iii. 26 Prythee how many Boyes and Wenches must I have. 1648 CROMWELL *Let. to Norton* 3 Apr., The money I shall need for my two little Wenches) and thereby I shall free my Son from being charged with them. 1665 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 63 One Mr. John Vincent's only child (a wench) of 11 years old. 1787 HOWES *Let. W. Bond* Hunt, Aches shanks, straight, tight, well far'd wench. 1850 CUD THOR *Mill on Floss* II. 8 It seems a bit of spite, though I, said Mr. Tulliver, as the lad should take that the mother's side instead of the little wench. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss Hags* 287 But she was ever the most spiritful wench in the world.

**b.** A girl of the rustic or working class.

1575 (1 March) *Letter H.* (Camden) 115 She was but a milk maide, and a plaine countie wench. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. She to her gan call, But the rude wench her answer'd nought, but all. 1680 SHADWELL *Scowrers* II. 1 Sir, I'll say nothing but the three wenches he was a mewhat to blame. 1727 [GAY & MONCRIEF] *Three Hours* 9 Apt to wanton with the pretty wenches he was somewhat too much addicted. 1742 [GAY & MONCRIEF] *Three Hours* (ed. 2) 11 He wenches [sic], hates cheats, gardiners] pays them at their time. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* v. His taste lies amongst country wenches

**c** As a familiar or endearing form of address; used chiefly to a servant, a daughter, wife, or sweetheart. Now only *dial.* or *arch.*

1581 A HALL *Iliad* v. 97 [Hector to Pallas] Go we my wench, and let us shew this dooble lucke at full What power we shall use. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 376 Dispatch it wench: her women Will find her conference strange. 1600 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 36 Well, I am sorry for thee: is it possible? 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl. I forgive his wench's idle tales. 1842 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 70 Thanks, my wench, for your letter. 1846 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 956 Be in that field right, saying 'Why wench's this, and where's the use of you now'. 1893 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 289 Of course that suited me, wench, to see I'm such a good mate

**2.** A wanton woman, a mistress. *Obs.* exc. as *b*. Now usually *common, legal, or wanton wench, trench of character.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A* Prol. 72 I impresse an hap wip hit nat but wip wenches pat wip wib wrong it haue. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xi. 3 He hadde wenches of princesses. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 85 Ypocras, which was a wys man, Wolde have no wenches wib him. 1555 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxvi. 16 Lake thy lute (saie men to her) and go about the citie, thou art yet an vnknowne wenche. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. v. 55 Ay, marry, see where she is, the hurly drum And here she comes in the habit of a light wench. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* I. i. Thou art a pretty wench, i' faith. 1608 *Ibid.* III. 1698 [see II. 1a]. 1765 [see *Hen., Sat* (ed. 9)] 11 6 His spendthrift Son who scorns the portion'd Bride, And keeps a common wench. 1786 [JOSEPH MOSES] 3 May, Chief Justice ... who lived a wench, summed up favourably, and she was acquitted

**3.** A female servant, maidservant, serving-maid; also † handmaid, † handswoman.

1382 *Lay Folks Catech.* (1) 261 Thy neyghoris howe, he knowe Cruesyx then nost. 1584 CHARLTON *H. Lynne* 226 I and and Lady, gronie and wenche Of al the Lyn I am not to know. 1600 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 60 I had rather be a giantess, and lie under Mount Pelion. 1691 *Chart Goldsmiths' Co.* 8 He [Peter] that for a wore'e of a wenche his kingdom. 1746 [WATSON] *Merlin* 210 There came seven of the wenches off the foyest prese. 1878 T. HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxford* He determined to send one of the wenches to call her minister. 1899 *Spectator* 30 Mar., I by wife is washing and the wench is out. 1900 *Daily Mail* 5 Oct. 5/2 Sir Edward Clarke informed the party looking over which opened the door that the young ladies were gone. 1883 MRS. L. CAMERON *Bella's Inn* xiii. Jess is brought out to them, in unusual awe of young Kingston, for about seven hours a day Mrs. Pewsie servunnte, *amalia*. A. mail servunnte, er i qore wenche servaunt.

**b** *U.S.* (See quots.)

1765 *Boston Gazette* 17 June (Thornton) Tu and the Fire was occasion'd by a Negro Wench carrying a Quantity of Ashes. 1828–32 WEBSTER *s.v. Wench* 3 In America, a black or colored female servant; a negress.

*Phr.* *Common Wench* (*Law*), a prostitute.

1888 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) 681 Colored women of any age, a negress or mulattress, especially one in service. (Colloq.)

**4.** comb. **wench-like** *a.* girlish.

1554 H. BRINKLOW *Complaint, Lamentac.* (1874) 11. 13 Do not play in Wench like words with that Which is vnseemly.

**Wench** (went∫), *v. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. WENCH *sb*] *intr.* To associate with common women.

† *To wench out* (trans.): to spend (it) in wenching

1599 PORTER *Two Angry Women Abingdon* H 1, Indeed (to time, I am thus late a wenching. But I am forc'st to wench without a wench. 1604 CHAPMAN *Hymn to H. roses* 324 The better sort of Gentlemen the Gods And wine e wench out all times Periods. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* 1 (1906) 10 To be drunke, sweare, wench are the attributes and mark s now adayes of a great part of our Gentry. 1668 DAVENANT *Love Tree* IV. ii As I am a Gentleman, a man of the Town, one who wears good Clothes, Eates, Drinks, and Wenches abundantly. 1702 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* IV. iii. Sir, I never saw a Man that wench'd soberly and discreetly, that ever left it off. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. I. (Rtldg.) 111. Tell me where lies the Sanctillane is fallible. Is he fond of play? does he wench?

**† Wenchel.** *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3 **wencel,** (1 **wincel**), 3 **wenchel,** (*Orm*, **wennchell**), **wancel.** [OE. *wencel* n. :—**wankil-*, prob. related to *wancol* WANKLE *a.* The form *wincel* may represent a variant **winkil-*.] A child (of either sex), also, a servant or slave; also, a common woman.

c 890 WARFRITH tr. *Gregory's Dial* xv. 80, & ic arn an wencel [L. *mancipium*] mid þreowsum ðeowne to þære wyllan. c 1000 *St Basil's Admonition* 11 (1849) 34 And he for his wife ne for his wencilun ne dearr inne asylse belaðian. c 1000 OSWALD 3366 Lord saw us leornan us to dinge Helennde off pure sinnes An wennchell batt ha Jesu Crist c 1205 LAY. 31834 Quelcun þa wifmen, quelcun þa wenchen. a 1225 *Juliana* 34 And sitheðe he[he] wenchen Sodome & Gomorre, mon & wummon & children *MS.* *Ld.* wenn & wif & wenchel). c 1300 *Orm* 1000 *Orm* 98 In ȝe Ebbʒ 68 His Cardinalls were þerannt þatt he has dignete gan reue Wiþ wenchen [? *Orm. Lye* 19456 fale wummen] forto go.

**Wencher** (wen∫ər). Also 7 **wentcher** [f. WENCH *v.* + -ER1] One who associates with common women.

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 6 Those I suspected to be wenchers. a 1625 FLETCHER *Rabble Lett.* I. I am a whoremaster, And such a one as dare be jointed at to be a noble wencher. a 1654 SELDEN *Table Talk* Clergy 5 I like the Fellow that was a great Drinker and no Roarer. 1697 *Dunton* 29 July, My cozen Roger told us that the Archbish p of Canterbury, that now is, do keep a wench, and that he is as very a wencher as ever he was. 1721 *Lond. Journ.* 27 Nov. 2/2 He must be no Gamester, Wencher, Lyer, 1792 STEELE *Spect* No. 74 P 1 Impotent Wenchers

**Wenching** (we·nʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WENCH *v.* + -ING1] 1. The action of the verb. Also *attrib.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. 11. 245 Given he were exceedingly to wenching. 1620 FLETCHER *False One* IV. ii, You were told what this same whorson wenching long ago would come to. 1672 DUNTON *Life & Errors* (1818) I. 100 Idleness, is either plain wenching where every Curtizan is your Mistress, or else plain Whoring after one Woman. 1712 Anderson *Spect* No. 583 P 1 Having asked Pardon for not ashamed to go a Wenching at his Years? 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* II. 3, Between ourselves, he is not content if anybody sees us wenching. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 306 The youth who trains Must bear privations. He call'd to bed or wh n he thinks to dine, And, hardier still, leave wenching, or his wine. 1873 *Q. Rev. Hand Crime* I. 93 In reality the Priest to k to Money getting and Wenching. a 1876 *Carlton's Newest Purgatorio* 5 And some I can tell you have come thither for wenching matters. 1890 *Lit. Comp. watching* in Gossip *Lit. Rec.* 1. 1. 3/1 I could Miles the Millers cossenage for wenching affaires. 1697 DUNTON & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* II. 1. 34, I hope you'll make my wenching Excuse for the past.

**Wenching,** *ppl. a* [f. WENCH *v.* + -ING 2] That habitually associates with common women

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. iv. 15 Whats become of the wenching rogues? 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 242 Wenching Smell-smocks give. These 1853 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Oct. Supp. 1/1 Fox was himself a gambling, drinking, wenching rake.

**Wenchless,** *a. rare*—[] [f. WENCH *sb.* + -LESS.] Unprovided with a wench or wenches.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. ii. 5 Methinks we are full of gallants, we lost too much money this mart by being too wenchless.

**Wenchy,** *adv.* See form of WANCHY.

**Wend** (wend), *sb.* Also **Vend**; 8 **Winde.** [ad. G. *Wende*, *Winde* (pl. *Wenden*, *Winden* = Da. *Vender*, ON *Vindr*, OHG. *Wuntda*, OE. *Wunedas*, *Weonod-*, med. L. *Venedi*, *Veneti*), of doubtful origin.]

**1.** A member of the Slavonic race now inhabiting Lusatia in the east of Saxony, but formerly extending over Northern Germany; a Serb.

1786 tr. *P. B. Avegrave's Hist. Europe* 111 *note*, The Vandals mentioned here, are undubitably the Wends, or that tribe of the Sclavonians which opposed the Moguls and the Tartars. 1788 *Impl. Dict.* (ed. 3) *s.v. Adriatic*, The Windes who are mixed with the Germans in these countries. 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 340 The Vends are a well made, active, courageous, and industrious people. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 208/1 The Lusatians, the native Wends of this first literature from the Reformation. 1865 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* 158 Castle was still unable to subdue the Wends, who made common cause with the heathen Abodrites. 1886 HARING *Count in Germany* 264 Henry I had created the Margravate of Brandenburg as a bulwark against the heathen Wends, who lived on the Baltic.

**2.** *Southern Wends* (see quot.).

1822 *Encycl. Brit* Suppl V 292 In 640, the Sclavonians took possession of Illyria, and they still retain it, under the names of Servians, Croatians, and Southern Wends. *Ibid*, The southern Wends are now mixed with Germans in Carniola, Carinthia, and Lower Styria.

**Wend** (wend), *v. Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* worded (we·nded). Forms. *Infin.* **1** WENDAN (*North.* **wendas**), 2 **wendan** (**wendas**), 3–4 **wenden** (3 *Ormen* **wendenn**), 5 **wendyn**, *Sc.* **wendin**; 3 **wende** (4 **whende**), 4–5 *north.* and *Sc.* **wend**, 4– **wend**; 3 *sing pres.* 1–4 **went** (2 **want**); *β.* 3 **wiende**, 4–5 **weende**, *north.* and *Sc.* 4 **ȝ** wend, **weynd**, 5 **weynde**, 7. 4 **winde, wind**, 5 **wynde, wynd**; *δ.* 4–6 **went**. *Pa. t.* 1–4 **wende** (3 *Ormin* **wennde**); 2 **wente** (**wante**), 4–5 **wente**, 4– **went** (5 **whent**), *north.* 4 **weint**, 4–5 **wynt**; 6– **wended** (5 *north.* **weyndut**). *Pa. pple.* 1 **wended**, 3–4 **iwend**, 4 **ywend, -e** (**wende**), 3–5 **wend** (3 *Ormin* **wennd**); 2 **i-want**, 3–5 **i-, ywent, went, wente**, 4 **y-, ywent**, 5 **i-wente**; *Sc.* 6 **wynt**; 1, 4, 6– **wended**. [Common Teutonic:

OE. *wendan*, = OFris. *wenda* (WFris. *weine, wine*, NFris. *wein, wän*), MDu. (and Du.) *wenden*, OS. *wendian* (MLG. and LG. *wenden*, LG. *wennen*), OHG. *wentan* (MHG. and G. *wenden*), ON. and Icel. *venda* (Norw. *wenda*; Sw. *vända*, Da. *vende*), Goth. *wandjan*; f. **wand-*, the preterite stem of *windan* WIND *v.*1, of which *wendan* is the causative. The original forms of the pa. t. and pa. pple. are respectively *wende* and *wended, went*, but the forms *wente, went* appear beside these from *c* 1200, and latterly become the more usual; in the refl. and intr. senses *went* finally replaced the older preterites belonging to *go*, and from *c* 1500 is most naturally regarded as the pa. t. of that verb, while *wend* was provided with the new form *wended*.

The following are illustrations of the less usual forms of the infinitive and present. The *b*-forms represent a normal lengthening of the vowel in certain dialects. The *y*-forms are merely graphic (by confusion with WIND *v.*1), as the rhymes regularly indicate *wind* or *wend*. The *b*-form is due to the influence of the pa. t. and pa. pple. in the form *went*(*e*.

*b. c* 1290 *St. Sithestor* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 391 Tonyght þou schalt, whenne þe sonne is of hizte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2363 Þee sal weind til a better land. 13.. *Northern Passion* 198 (Camb.) Vnto þat cite sone gan þai weynd. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 371 Elles schal al dym, and to helle weende. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 452 Thow weyndez by Watlyng-strete, and lyg no waye elles. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Mother P.* xxii. 360 On my labadan to þy lady weende [*rhyme* weende = send]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 132 Good brother, let vs weynd sone.

*y. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 Til vnwelth windes al his wald. *Ibid.* 8019 Haf godding, for-þi we wind i. *a* 1400 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 805 (MS. B) þat ich was wond to wynde Mid so mony honderd knyztes a boute in eche ende. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2014 (Ashm.) I wayte whan I wynd. *Ibid.* 2130, 2177, etc. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 107 He takythe leve at lordbys hend, And on hys way gan he wynd. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* I. 330 To hys bys that ye may wynd At your last day.

*i. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27748 It wentes man fa god his will. *Ibid.* 16681 Þou fand . all for to went his will. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 257 And thi Ferrand..Sall richt to Paris went. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2027 When þai sal went in cuntre. *c* 1450 HENRY *Wallace* i. 330 Schir Iniraydle he said to the lord Persye went. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 75 Thow semis better for to haue punischement, . nor halie ganis to went.]

**I.** Transitive and reflexive senses.

**1.** †**a.** To alter the position or direction of; to turn (something) round or over: also with *across, adown, away*. *To wend down*: to overthrow, destroy. *Obs.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i. ¶ 2 Þa wendon hi me heora bec to. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Petrus cwæþ, þa he com to þære rode,.. Wendaþ min headod ofdune'. *a* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 126 Clæm þonne on æfnet: læt standan nyxton niht: wende þan æfne dæge. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vi. 29 And þam þe he slyhð on þin zewenge, wend oðer onzean. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 377/18 *Connutiuer*, wendende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Þilke mon þe wurðe & wurpen, gol sad þaronne. *c* 1205 LAY. 46 Lazamon leide þeos boc & þa leaf wende [*c* 1275 torneð]. *Ibid.* 26559 Bon.. his hors wende wunder ane swiðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Lowerd, wiles Dauid, wend awei mine eien vrom þe worldes dweole. *Ibid.* 430 He..went þe neruwe ende of þe horne to his owune muðe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1649 Iacob wið hine wende ðat stan. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lv. 7 Þair cite down-dide þou wende. *c* 1320 *Assump. Virg.* 711 (Add. MS.) Here mouþes were to here nek went. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1552 Bi þat he wrþe wel wende his brydel. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxxii. (1495) 646 Heya is ofte reysed torned and wended. *Ibid.* cxlvii. 702 It falleth to powder while it is wended and turned to and fro in the honde. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2837 They made hir takelyng redy, & wend be saill a-ron. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 17 Ayeñ of the rayn biwarne, Wende hit [hay] not til hit be parfit drie. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1430 Hors de gawnes stille stode And wrothe a-way hys yzen wende.

*absol.* 1425 *Parteney* 4566 Þai metten with,..Þe it in baleds, uers, Rime, or prose, He most torn and wend. metraly to close,

†**b.** *fig.* To turn over, revolve (thoughts, etc., in the mind). *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 & zet hwon he is forðe, heo went in hire þuhte ofte swuche wordes.

†**c.** *To wend away*, to take away, remove. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2613 Egipte wimmen..loden ðe childe leiten ðer, Oc [þ]he wepni it awei wið rem. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 42 Oway I will it wende full wyght. *Ibid.* 46 Now sene þe erthe þus ordand es,..to grave with gres, and weldis þat sone away bese wend.

**2.** To turn (a ship's bow or head) to the opposite tack. Also with *about, aloof*. (Cf. 6 c below, and WIND *v.*1 8.)

*To wend* (a boat) *off*: to float (a stranded boat) by this operation.

1598 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* lvii. 206 Better wende your ship a loofe: and take sea roome: Then roon here on rockes. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxxiv. 84 And laying out an Anchor, we sought to wend her off. 1631 PELLHAM *Gods Power & Sons* of our companie..were perswaded, to wend about the Boates head the second time, unto the Southwards. *Ibid.* 7 We wended the Shallop.. unto the Northward. 1635 *Adm. Court Exam.* 32, 22 Oct., The Neptune being then newly wended from the Shoare. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Wending*, is a term for bringing a Ships' Head about. 1824 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xliv, He hauled-to the launch, and wending her bow to the privateer, directed her carronade..to where the Frenchmen were crowded the thickest. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

†**2.** *fig.* **a.** To turn (one's mind, thoughts, will, etc.) in a new direction; to alter (one's mind or intention). Const. *from, to. Obs.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 4 Ic wolde nu þæt ðu wende þin ingeþonc from þæm leasum zeðalum. *Ibid.* xxxv. § 7 Swa hwa swa..his mod went to þæm yflum þe he ær forlet. *c* 1205 LAY. 6956 Nu ich wille wel de an mod, ingenes unrel ich wulle don god. *c* 1290 *St. Kath.* 16 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 92 Nire, heo seide,..þow schelchest þi wisdom and þi wit to some gult-do wende. *c* 1300 *Becket* 998 *Ibid.* 1350 We worþez i-brout to noutte, hote þoy þi þouzt wende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20645 Al hir might and all hir tene To godis seruis had sco went. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1724) (Rolls) 7807 Anon tys wif his wille he went. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 235 Where lord his herte wente To love in eny other place.

†**b.** To turn (a person) *to* or *from* a course of life or condition; to alter (a person's will or purpose). *Obs.*

*c* 1200 ORMIN 3441 Forrþi þatt he þeggm wolde þa To rihhte lafe wendenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 170 Forte wenden us uppon-mard be licunge þet flesches lustes askeð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 603 To wenden men fro godes reed, To newe liue and to newe dad. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7280 (Gött.) Þat þou be hail in gilles till, wid hightes faire he went þair will. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 194 My broþer..Is riche of tenement, his sonnes strong & stith, Per wille wille not be went.

†**3. a.** To change the character of; to alter. *Obs.* Rarely also with adj. complement.

*a* 1000 *Guthlac* 730 [758] Þy læs þa sydran mod þa gewitteras wendan þine. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He..makede mani werkes & wende þe tun hetere þan it ær was. *c* 1205 LAY. 7128 Þe uncuðe weoren.. wenden heore [*c.* the burgh] nomen. *c* 1230 *Juliana* 38 Ant he wende alle þeos wiues & alle þe meiðnes to unwiht, of belle. *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 347 þe king of kent was þo kyng of al þe londe of Engle, Ac weren inne wrake þulked þre kynges þat nu þe kent wenden. *c* 1300 GOWER *Conf.* II. 144 That sche ne mai..speke a word, ne ones loke, That he [a spy] ne wol it wende and croke And torne after þat it wolde.

†**b.** To 'turn' from one language into another; to translate. Const. *on* (= into), *till* (= to). *Obs.*

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Prol. 7 Da ongan ic..ða boc wendan on Engliscne gereord. *c* 900 *Bede's Hymn, Æfired kuning* was wealhstod ðisse leor, & hie of localædene on englisc wendde. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 113 Siff mann wile wennenn..Whi ioc till Ennglissh hafe wennd Goddspelless halljnn lare.

†**c.** To change the form or nature of; to transform, transmute, or turn *to, into*. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ærfric Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 168 Sitt ðu Godes Sunu sy, wend þæt stanas to hlafum and et. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxiii. 8 He wendeð stan on widne mere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Per, þurh hire bone, was water iwent to wine. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (Cott.) Þat child lit me his undercumd An his unred to rel went. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Selcuþ dude vre dryhtin þat he water wende to win. *a* 1300 *A.* Kirk. Gamlyn, MS. 240 Iesuss my brother wende In to knijth al. 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Hi alle..wendeb to gaude al þet he gaudeman deb oþer zuyb. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 2132 Þouȝ hur chauntement To worune bey hadde me went.

†**d.** To bring (into a certain state). *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *Gen. & Ex.* 2896 Louered, qui was ic hider sent? Bin folc is more in sorwe went.

†**4.** *refl.* To turn, direct, or betake (oneself). Const. with advs. or preps. *Obs.*

Orig. in purely local sense, with the accusative of the pronoun, which is subsequently replaced by the dative.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Ic wolde..þæt wit unc wenden sumne weg to þæm lifes cræfte. *c* 893 *Ibid.* xxxiii. § 6 [He] hiene siþþan wende on his þrie xelimðar. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 Þa se cyning hine þa west wende. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 18 Ic wende me hider hiðwen from þam a-gan. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. met. xii. (1868) 1. 18 He wende him to houses of helle [etc.]. 1382 HOLCOT *Conf. Intl.* in Hollinshed II. 1172 He thought long yer he could wend himselfe ouer into Ireland. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 213, I know it stands vs vpon to wend us hence assoone as we conveniently can.

†**b.** *lit.* of a vane: To revolve (*with* the wind). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Hi byeþ ase þe wederecoc þet is ope stegle: þe him went and þet eche wynde.

**II.** Intransitive senses.

†**5.** Of events, etc., or impers. with *it*: To have or take a certain course; to take place, happen, or come about. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 2739 Ac him eal worold wende'on willan. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 2 Hwi wendde swiðlice forhwi hit swa went swa hit nu oft deð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9400 Cuþe þo day 3oure manhede þat it nouȝ wende To 3oȝe & 3oure children to honour & worþinesse ende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18789 Þot god for-bede sua þat it weind, Pat we ȝa make of ur friend. 13.. *Beket*, 7662 (Göt.) Þare mani a man fel vnder schild, bot wel dauid went be feld. 1390 *Apocal.* 268 Nou ich wille bet ze ywyte hou hit is y-went Pet þis boc is y-write mid englisc of kent. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* iii. 280 For so is his worlde went wiþ him þat han powers That who-so seyth hem sothes is sonnest yblamed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 276 If myn happ were so wel went, That for the bok I mihte have halt. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1264 Thus Beryn..seid, 'is this a sermon or a prechement?' Yee wenn nat wont her-to, how is this I-went?'

**6.** †**a.** *To wend again*: to turn back, to return. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

In OE. also without adv., and with *on bac*.

*O. E. Chron.* an. 895 Þa hie ða eft ut of Norð Wealum wendon and þære here hyhe þe hie ær Sturemynd hæfdon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 31 And se þe bið on æcere ne wente he on-bæc. *Ibid.* xxiv. 33 And hig arisen..& wendon [*c.* 1160 *Hatton* wenten] to Iherusalem. *c* 1205 LAY. 1550 He wende on ȝean sone & he ohtliche feaht. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 979 An angel..bad hire sone wenden ȝagen. *Ibid.* 3724 We wilen..wenden in-to egipte ȝeten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3027 Pai went again to bersaloc. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 1867 (Fairf.) Agayne he dide be waters wende, þe ship on lande bigan to lende. *c* 1430 *Hymn. Assigne* 137 Wende þou aseyne, malkedus, & gete me þe cheynes.

†**b.** Of the wind: To change in direction. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 9307 Þe wind wende forð riht framward þan seamen to in þissen lande. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 901 And seuze.. For to seke Gamelyn..To telle him tydinges how the wind was went.

†**c.** *Naut.* Of a ship: To turn her head about (see 1 *d* above). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 21 Wateres..Ȝware hi þe ssipes mowe come fram þe se & wende And lienge alonde god inoȝ. 1530 PALSGR. 779/1, I wende, I turne, as a shyppe dothe with the tyde. 1537 *Belden. Cicero's Offices* 73, No. 38 The said wood hoyle..dyd wende about for to turn to an anker. *a* 1619 SIR THOS. ELYOT *Comm.* (1657) 32 About me the Gallions let slip Cable in the bushes, and with their top sails wended and drew towards the shore on the left hand of the Bay. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Observ. Royal Navy* (1650) 9 The lesser [ship] will turne her head sides sooner before the greater can wend once. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* Wks. iii. 05 Kast and by South, West and by North she wends. 1702 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. *s.v. Wending*, . They say, How wends the Ship? i.e. Which way does her Head lie?

†**7.** To turn from one condition or form to another; to change *to or into*. *Obs.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* Lev, Forþan went nu fulneah eall moncyn on tweonunga, xii [sic]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 248 Þonne ne maxon ða þing helpan for þon þe þæt wille wendan on wæter tollum. *c* 1205 LAY. 1281 [Lazamon] wende into a wirme, and tolde eue a tale. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 His blode..wexus dri and cald, Til vnwelth windes [*v. r.* wendis] al his wald. 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Þe gaudeman..he is bestalle, þet wel wende to zenne dyadliche þet yef him ne lokð. *Ibid.* 69 Þet him wolde lyc triacle, to him went in to wynym. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 329 Was þis tre þat wel moore wende ate laste. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 151 Be-holde thy-Selfe, that thow arte Erthe and into Erthe thow shalte wende. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 11 Many of the world wend in his commun course From good to badd, and from badde to worse?

†**8.** *Of persons*: To turn in thought or purpose *to or from* (a person, course of action, etc.); to betake oneself (*to* something different); to change or vary one's purpose. Said also of the heart. *Obs.*

For further illustration see 17 a.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, Forðam nit nis nanet þæt we hopien to Gode, forðæm he wende to mildheortnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Fuer so þe wittes beoð more ispreidde utwarles, se heo lesse wenden inwardes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3510 Or þorelom þat ðu ne do, Ne wend no bekeninge to. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1715 From him ne mithe [might] his herte wende, Ne fro him, ne fro his wif. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23049 (Edin.) [They] went vnto religioun, And did þair bodis in prison. 1390–?*a* *Adv. of Arth.* xxxi. 24 For he hem somone kid & kumde nouht blinne, But euere wenden to winne wordliche goztus. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 313 Pair-for þat I spek no fowl þing, I wend I wald noght say. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 132 b, Can plague nor payne Make you refrayne, Nor from wickednes wende? 1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 71 Quha..To saif vs la ful plyabill, ȝitt we repent and to him wend.

†**9.** To turn round, over, or from side to side; to turn or twist the body. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* 28 Nithes when ȝe wende ant wake. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8197 When þey [the dragons] hadde longe to-gyder smyten,..Wyppyng wyþ wenges, ouer-seppe wyth seete. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 43 Forthi nay to certeine Be set upon his ligginesse, Ne as the wheel aboute went He ȝifth his gracis unleserved. *c* 1425 *Parteney* 2905 In on estat ne myght he noght so-iurn; Here on bake lakkes, þere on bely, þere on bothe lirning and wendyng euer emuron. 15.. *Schole Hk. Women* 1074 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 115 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, And he will bite, wring and wend. 1611 HALL *Param. Apoph.* Pref. *vj, [Wrestlers] haue..certain suer poinctes and wayes lothe to catche holde, and also to wend out of holde. 1661 HOLLYWOOD *Art Memory* 108, A man..wends and waltereth, and happely his head and fete do mete together.

*fig.* c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 187 Hir daunger made him hope lowe and beende, And as hir lyste made him tourne and wende.

†**b.** *To wend to ground*, to fall from one's horse. *Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Circ. Assigne* 302 What yf grace be [that] we to grounde wende?

**10.** To go off, away, or out; to depart. Also with preps., as *into, to, from*, or *to with inf.* Now *arch.*

In later use not clearly distinguishable from sense 13

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxv. 425 Oð þat hi oncnowon þæt se cræn hadas him wel-bleodende wæs wende from him [*L. recessit*] heoe mon þen ich er was. *c* 1290 *Beket* 840 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Þo þoȝ wendest of his stronge he ne Awnde þe no-þinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 860 Wen Adam sagh he had misdon He went to hide him al-doun. *Ibid.* 14126 Yee sal Vnto Inde weind wit me nu. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 172, I askede hire þe leue way wher Cleregie dwelleþ,..for tynne is þat I wende. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 21 In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay Redy to wenden on my pilgrymage. *To* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2483 Thare salle weende to this viage sir Gawayne hym selfene. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 523 In soth, quod he, I woll nat fro þe dorre vend.

*c 1440 Gesta Rom.* 246, & pere for withe owten lenger delay he made aithinge Redy for to wende. *a 1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrake* (1510) N1b, When the soule at the ende shal out fro the body wende. 1568 *Grafton Chron.* II. 80, I may not wende out of my lande, for mine awne somses will rise against me, when I bee absent. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 150 Wend you with this Letter. 1819 *Scott Ivanhoe* xx, Wend on your way, in the name of God and St. Dunstan. 1879 Burchill & Lang *Odyss.* 22 To the end that after thou hast bathed...thou mayst wend to the ship joyful in spirit.

**b.** with advs., as *away, out, hence.*

*c 1200 O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1090 Se cyng ha sende after him sumne...þe ær hann wendon. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 *Hinc ex þue ueteres amigraneres coloni.* Aure seoðen þe eahle tilie henne wendon. *a 1225 Ancr. K.* 50 Wiðer ber our eien, leoðe þa ureo[illegible] wenden ut. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 623 He and hise wif wenten ut fro. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 6160 Quen his time was al broght to end, Of egypte godin out vte went. *c 1300 Will. Palerne* 329 Seþþe þou schalt hennes wende, whanne þou konnest to kourt...bere þe boxumly & bonure. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xii. 82 Þe ieuwes knewe hemselues Gultiest wenden awey ech scheme.

**c.** In various obs. phrases, as *to wend to bed, to church, to meat, to seat.*

*c 1300 St. Brendan* 221 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 295 Þe monekes wende to bedde & slepe: þo soper was ido. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9946 (Gött.) Þeines kirc to make þair wende, ...wend to kirc or to make þair hone. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 72 When þay had waschen, worþyly þay wenten to sete, þe best burne ay abof. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 5558 Than wounded he wente to his wife, & to tyme; Askit water wightly, wentton to meyte. *c 1430 Chron. Angiae* 161 And whenne it drowȝe to be nyȝte he wendeþe to bedde.

†**11.** To depart by death. Usu. with advb. phr., as *to wend of or from life, (out) of this world, forth, hence, to death, etc.* (See also 17 d.) *Obs.*

*971 Blickl. Hom.* 195 Forþon ure yldran swultan & swiþe oft us from wendan. *a 1250 Prov. Alfred* 132 in *O. E. Misc.* 112 Not no man, þeiðe hwanne he schal of þisse hunne wende. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3681 Aaron he wente of liwe ȝor. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 11752 Þou þrai hin þat he word me send Quren I scal to þis werld wend. *c 1300 Havelok* 2777 *Ac in Archenefelde* XIX. 123 The time of deth at our last end, When that we schul from hennes wend. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* i. 152 For þe same Mesure þat ye Meten A-nis oþer elles, Se schal he wey3en þee, whon ȝe wenden hennes. *a 1400 Piers Fely.* 7 b 632 in *Pol. Poems* 142 But oute of the world sone shal I wende. 1421 Hoccleve *Mimor P.* xxiii. 276 Lord ȝif shal y now out of þis world wende? *c 1470 G. de Warm.* 1081 Quhasa with wourschip sall of this warld wende. 1563 tl. Gough *Relegr etc.* (Arb.) 71 The ennyous fates...in the mydst of all their ioyes, cause hym to wende. *c 1570 G. Cavendish* (1893) 151 Ye ought to...make your selfe redy to wende hens. 1597 *Gode & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 13 Grant vs grace, quhen we sall die, And fra this present lyfe we wend.

**b.** Similarly *to wend to, into* (heaven, hell, bliss, etc.).

*c 1200* Ormin 8436, & silþenn shall all Cristess hird Wiþþ Crist till liofflne wenndenn. *c 1250* in *O. E. Misc.* 186 Alle hise bidtere wenlet [c 1275 wenlep] to helle. *c 1305 St. Andrew* 59 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 10 Þat þi3t þeste þes Lordes þat he holi soule wende þerwiþ to heuene bliss. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 3557 Þan sal his soul wende til blis. *1340 Ayenb.* 23 And nur þe soule wolde þe wenden in-to helle. *1368* Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 267 Sif I ...for here werkis & for here wyt wende to pyne, þanne wrouȝte I vnwisly. *c 1400 Rule St. Benet* (Yerw.) 55 Þe whyle, sf hay dyȝt werle, nyght wend To blys þat es wythouttyn end. *c 1480* Henryson *Sheph & Dog* 219 And efter deith [thay will] to lestand pane wend.

†**12.** *Transf.* and *fig.* of things: To pass away; to disappear, perish, decay. Also with *away. Obs.*

For further illustration see 17 e.

*a 1000 Cuthlac* 57 (Gollancz) Xesihð he þa domas...wonian & wendan of worulde ylde. *a 1300 Seven Sons* 46 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 19 To worldis wel þat is nu tit-ne, þat wil sone wexi so dob þe miste. *c 1386* Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2167 The gyte tours se we wane and wende. *c 1480* Henryson *Age & Youth* 46 Quhen thy mannheid cal wendis as the mone. *1560* Rowland *Seven Sages* 118 This being done, the well away sall went.

**13.** To go forward, proceed; to journey, travel; to take one's way. Now *arch.*

*a 1122 O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999 Her com se here eft aburan in to Temese & wendon þa up andlang Medewæran to Hyde ceastre. *a 1300 Moral Ode* 161 He ane is eure an Riche stude, wende þer he wende. *c 1386* Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 6 And though the strete men nyghte ride or wende. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 261 And I cde hit in þy bowne, whatt wiher I on wel wende. *a 1400 Piers Pl. A.* v. 78 *Pol. Poems* 113 Hy a forst syde, walkyng as I went, Dispute to take. *c 1480* Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 56 Neid cauis me to tend quhairever I wend. *1600* Fairfax *Tasso* xiii. 61, Downe from the trce I come in hast, And lookes thee vp and on my iourney wend. *1613–26* W. Browne *Brit. Past.* i. iii. 54 Vpon her walkes she all the day attends, And by her side the Nymphs where ere she wends. *1725* J. Tait *Land of Liberty* 1. xlvi. 23 The hero saw, amazed, A crowd of nobles o'er the country wend. *1814* Scott *Lord of Isles* iii. xxiv, For know, that on a pilgrimage I wend. *1837* Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. ii. II, The Merovingian Kings, slowly wending on their bullock-carts through the Streets of Paris. *1850* "Stewart" *Speculative Dreamings* xi. 118 'racing-man', to whose cottage I was wending so pleasantly.

**b.** with advs. Now *arch.*

*c 1175 Lambh. Hom.* 79 Ho him forwundeden. and wendc forh. *c 1205* Lay. 29927 Þe kinges leuer he com bilder in Kaswa he up is wende. *1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 8419 Þis kinȝ[illegible] nolde iwend aboute in ani3 nonsel cas Attelaste he com to carrie. *Ibid.* 11317 Þe king was among þe fuzres & li manion Radde him vor to wenden in. *c 1330 Will. Palerne* 3138 Men ..wenden out wiþli & wiþ sour lin meteþ. *c 1380* Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 427 Collegians wenden out & preche & quykenen many partis of englond. *c 1400 Beryn* 674 The knyȝt & al the felisship, forward gon þey wende. *c 1470 Gol. & Gaw.* 790 Than schir Gawine the cray Prayt for the iournay, That he myght furth weynd. *1582 A. Hall Iliad* lx. 171 Vlysse the wisest takes his leaue, and forth doth formost wend. *1590* Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 28 Then mounted he vpon his Steede againe, And with the Lady backward sought to wend. *1635 J. Hayward tr. Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 73 Whither away wend you so late? *a 1653* Chalkhill in Walton *Angler* iii. 76 Then care away, and wend along with me. *1798* Coleridge *Sonnet to Stonehenge* i, Since scorning Faction's low and public way, Thou wendest in thy stately pace. *1842* Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xvi, It was not unusual for those who wended home about at midnight, to keep the middle of the road. *1848* Lytton *Harold* I. vi, When I depart, Rolf, thou wendest back to thy marches. *1865* Kingsley *Herew.* xi, To avoid which end the disappointed palmer wended homeward once more.

†**c.** With predicative adj.: To go or move about in a certain state. *Obs.*

*1340–70 Alex. & Dind.* 34 Nouht welde we now but naked we wende. 13.. *Gaw. Medcinament* (G.) 476 We war vnclene, ȝe ken, bale þurgh his word we wend.

**14.** *tranf.* and *fig.* of things: To move, flow, run (in a specified course or direction); to go *up* or *down.* Of a road: To extend or stretch in a continuous line.

*c 1200* Lay. 29914 Alse þet waite Desse wende[illegible] into þere se. *1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 179 For me clupeþ bilke wel þat li manit a god toun deþ wende. *a 1400–50 Wars Alex.* 37 As wide as he wild, & went wonde of hale kethis. *c 1400* tr. *Secreta Secret.* 80 And þanne it [the blood] wendis vp to þe bitereli. *1433 Rolls of Parli.* IV. 447, a He smote.. his wif þrowe the hed, so þat the dint wente a-doun. *c 1450, a 1500* [see 17 g]. *1620* Drayton *Polyolb.* xxvi. 272 That heist Her weaker wandring Streame tow'rds Yorkeshire as she wends. *1816* Shelley *Noum. Pantc* 4 Ascend A magic Ship, whose sails Should fly With winds at will where'er our thoughts might wend. *1821* Scott *Kenilw.* xxiii, Adieu, and may the blessing of God wend with you! *1853* Bayard Taylor *Iceland* 230 A river winding towards a portal of black rock. *1866* J. R. Rose *Guide's Met.* iii. 99 The hero started, as the tremors wend Through every vein.

**15.** With adverbial accusative, esp. *way*: To go or journey in a certain way or direction. Also, †to go (in a certain voyage). Now only with possessive pron., *to wend one's way* (†*gate, tride*), a phrase which was revived c 1800, and is now the most familiar use of the verb.

*c 1250* [see 17 h]. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3950 To madian lond wente he his vride. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 10305 Quen þou again wil wend þi way, Þou sal mete at þi wiif anon. *Ibid.* 11989 Nu yese sal mine erand wend, Til þat þei gret lauerding leste. *Ibid.* 14294 Qua has to wenden ani wai God es to go bi Kirkil or Bede. *1340 Ayenb.* 82 Sex dale[illegible] ynou þe prude, to wende he wule to helle wharne þei wenten to goo to heuene. *a 1400–50 Wars Alex.* 402 And þen he went furth his way. *1490 Caxton Eneydos* 284, I am nyȝ ways for to wepyle, For to speke with a fynde. *c 1535 Tyre Foringal* 115 He þat scha I wend sache a way, Yt were neds for hym to pray. *1550 Crowley Pleas. & Pain. Land Pudgm.* 138 But wel I wote that the way that Abraham went, wend I may. *1597* Surfl. *Remed. Iv.* 616 She was left alone Uncompanied, great wages to wende In diuers land. *a 1586* Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 142 The turning of Zanche from a most strong sterne enough to all their motions, wending no way, but as the inchaunting force of it guided them. *1810* Scott *Lady of Lake* iii. Now back they wend their wary way. *1829* G. *Hall Forest Scenes N. Amer.* 109 We wended our way down the ravine. *1837* Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiii, Mr. Muzzle had begun wending his way towards Leadenhall Market. *1839 — Nicklely* xi, As she wended her way homewards. *1866* Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 216 Wending my way to the City. *1883* Sealey *Footsteps of Eccles.* 23 I. 27 Pleasant it was to wend his way back to familiar Knit.

*Transf.* and *fig.* *a 1300 Cursor M.* 29512 For-bi to wend þe selues þat wende we be in penance al. *1860* May *Phys. Geog. Sci.* § 34 On the Australian side, as it is bearing current is found wending its way from the Antarctic regions.

†**16.** *fig.* (of persons). To go to and fro on business or procedure; to busy oneself; to fare, † get on '. *Obs.*

*1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 4063 For ȝif we in þisse manere wenden, we ne ssyleþ on no weyes þat we ne wolleþ [*1338* wenden] ase a wyse. *a 1400* in *Archæol.* xxxvii. 280 Chaucer *Amorum Com. pl.* 78 (Skeat) Ever have I been, and shal, howso I wende, Outher to live or dye, your humble trewe man. *1530* Palsgr. 752 I wende, I go or come about I-tunnel & I-went, That he had brought his sone to-fore þe Emperour [etc.].

†**17.** The compound tense *is, was, etc. went* (or *wend*), originally a true passive (= 'is, was turned'), was used as the perfect of the prec. intrans. senses = has, had gone, departed, etc.: **a.** in sense 8. *1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 567 King Iotrines herte was al & clene vp bure iwent. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 3113 In wrechedon his wil was went. *1340 Ayenb.* 82 Þe gulf gif þat is went. *1393* R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7 þat shal y shewe when he is went Vnto þe Joyfle comaundement. *a 1400 Minor Poems Vernon MS.* xxxiii. Whon I was went fourtiene wyl wynge. *c 1400 Rpm. Rose* (Ff) They ben fro clene Riligioun went.

**b.** in sense 10.

*c 1205* Lay. 17571 To þere se beoð iwende Gillomar & Cassibelan. *1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 1727 Aðelbrus[illegible] was to rome mid þe emperour iwent. *Ibid.* 11857 [They] were in his ordut iwent an hontinge. *1340–70 Alex. & Dind.* 53 Paune werres from hem went with-e children. *c 1386* Chaucer *Miller's T.* 479, I trow that he be went For timber, ther our Abbot hath hym sent. *a 1450 Le Morte Arth.* 3025 To a wyldernesse he is went. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* xxx. 116 All oure saules ar wente, and none ar in hell.

**c.** in sense 10 b.

*1297 R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 2939 Þo hii were alle henne ywend. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 5994 All þe fleies were went awai. *c 1386* Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 129 When an unclene spirit is went out from a man. *c 1386* Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T.* 75 Hoom to Surrye been they went ful fayn. *a 1400 York Myst.* xxii. 33 To wildernesse he is wente owte. *c 1440* in *Babees Book* (1868) 357 When he fro the ye wente A-way.

**d.** in sense 11.

*1303 R. Brunne Handl. Synne* 605 God ayue vs grace, or we be went, To kepe þys fyres comaundment. *c 1422* Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2876 When þat he is out of þis worlde went. *c 1425 Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1664 Pe sekatouris schal seyn it is here beclouse to make us mery, for he is went, þat al þis good gan owle. *1600* Fairfax *Tasso* xii. lxx, But when he saw her gentle soul was went.

**e.** in sense 12.

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 1640 Al right wines awai es went. *a 1325* Minot *Poems* vi. 9 When all yowre weis are went. *a 1400* in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 255 Loue is out of lond iwent. *1426* Audelay *Poems* 29 When al the welth of this world is went from hem away. *c 1440 York Myst.* xli. 347 My age is went, I feyll no fray. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* xxx. 388 This nyȝt is wend away in wrake. *c 1470 Gol. & Gaw.* 1112 As all his welthis in warld had ben away went. *1552* Lyndesay *Monarche* 4242 For, sicłyke as the snaw doith melt in May, ...Thir great Impyris sychlyk ar went away.

**f.** Of a period of time, a season, etc. = is gone, past, elapsed, or ended. Also with adv., as *out, over.*

*13.. Gy Warw.* 326 (Caius) Thus þi wuth Guy in grete turmente Till the feest was quer went [*Auchinl.* was in went]. *c 1386* Chaucer *Prioress's T.* 88, I wol do my diligence To knowe it al er Cristemasse is went. *Destr. Troy* 4866 Winter was went. *c 1400 Laud Troy-bk.* 10045 Thy nyȝt is went, the day drawith nyȝ. *1507* Terme is went out of the trewe. *15.. Tayis Bank* 40 (Dann. MS.), Wod Winter with his wallowand wynd But weir away wes went.

**g.** in sense 14.

*c 1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1271 Þou haue so ferr to ryde þat þe sonn sall be went doune Or þou come whider þou ert bounne. *a 1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrak* (1510) Z3b, Whan sonne [stars] go doune, sonne up are went With meanyng of the fyrmament.

**h.** with *out's way*: see 15.

*c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1149 Ishicer is went his wil. *c 1440 York Myst.* xxxvii. 245 He is resen and wente his way.

†**Wond,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [*l. wendle*, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Ween *v.*] *intr.* To think, suppose.

*1388 A. Hall Iliad* v. 63 And that now he is entrepise none of them all should wende, He caused his souldiours hap him wel with buckler and with targe. *a 1600* Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxxiii. 49 His feirdnit wes nevir to wane Nor his wit to wend.

**Wendage,** var. Vendage.

*1496 Dives & Pauper* vii. xiii. (W. de W.) 251b, *Diues.* Of what thynge is a man bounde to tythe. *Pauper.* Of corn in hestock, of wyne in wendage, of frute, [etc.].

†**Wenday,** *Obs.*[1] [*l. wend*, comb. f. Eng. with Ofe. *wæn, wægn* Wain *sb.* Cf. Wennreves.] A day allowed to a tenant for preparing his wain in order to carry grain in harvest.

*c 1250 Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 83 Et del-et habere j wendaȝ, scilicet, unum dienm ad carnum suum prepanandum antequam incipiat metere, preterea de omni alio opere.

**Wended,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wend *v.* + -ed 1.] Twisted, plaited.

*1729* D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 127 Her Bongrace of Wended Straw.

**Wendian.** *rare*[−1]. [f. Wend *sb.* + -ian.] = Wend *sb.* 1.

*1838 Trans Cycl.* XII. 345/1 Russniaks, Slovacs, Croats, Wendians. (these four...are of Slavonian origin).

**Wendie** (wendi). *Obs.* and *sb.* Also **Windio.** [f. Wend *sb.* + -ie. The form *Windie* is after G. *Winde*, var. of *Wende* Wend. Cf. *Windish* = Wendish.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends. *b. sb.* The language of the Wends, Sorabian. (For a wider use see quot. 1861.)

*1861* Max Müller *Lect. Sci. Lang.* 186 The fifth branch, which has been usually called Wendie, I propose to designate by the name *Windic*. *Ibid.* page-heading, Windic class. *1868 Chamb. Encycl.* X. 139 Those remnants of the Slavic population of Lusatia who still speak the Wendic language. *1883* Morfill *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 36 The Wendic mountains...are mentioned by the geographer Ptolemy.

**Wending,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wend *v.* + -ing 1.]

†**1.** The action of turning or changing; a change or turn. *Obs.*

*1897 Richard Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Hit þedeð hit self þan selfum suiþe ungelic for hiere geliomlican wendinge. *a 1050 Liber Scintill.* xl. (1885) 63 Eurfoðe yu ȝarlic wending (L. *penuentiale*). *a 1150 Pallad. on Husb.* II. 11 But at the weendyng [L. *ubi ad vertitum uenerint*] stake The yook, thyn oxon nekkis forto cole.

**2.** The action of going; *esp.* a going away, departure.

*13.. K. Alis.* 920 Nis in this world so siker thyng So is deth, to olde and yyng! The time is nygh of heore wendyng! *13.. Guy Warw.* 1218 He gop him to his fader þe, Pat for his wending was ful wo. *c 1340* Hampole *Psalter* civ. 36

**Egipt was fayn in thaire wendynge** [L. *in profectione eorum*]. *c*1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1630 And by my pryft my wendynge out of Troye A-noper day shal torne vs alle to loye. — *Boeth.* II. pr. I. (1868) 32 If þou wil write a lawe of wendyng and of dwelling to fortune. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9967 She went ageyn with hir meigne; The third day afir hir wending, [Generides] ther was crowned king.

**†3.** A journey. *Obs.*

23.. *K. Alis.* 3284 (Laud MS.). And per he ordeynde his wendyng Toward Darrye pe riche kyng. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 209 Jon dred pat wendyng, to France wild he nouht. *Ibid.* 260 Jei hed red redy wendyng, at Douer pei toke lond. [1878 SHELBY *Stein* II. 189 Accordingly appeared 'My Wendings and Wanderings with the Imperial Hean.']

**We·nding**, *ppl. a.* [*f.* WEND *v.*] Going, proceeding. (In comb., as *backward-wending*.)

1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. Egbert's true grandchild . . backward-wending pilgrima say, was seen (etc.).

**Wendish** (we·ndiʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7, 9 **Windish**, 9 **Vendish**, **Vindish**. [*f.* WEND *sb.* + -ISH, or ad. G. *Wendisch*, *Windisch*.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends.

1614 (see VOIVODE *sb.* 1) 1788 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 470 The people . . are called in Saxony *Wenden*, i. e. Wends, or Vandals, or Wendish. 1790 BURNEY *Dr. Puttler's Dendrol. Germ. Emp.* III. Index, Wendish or Venedic countries. 1820 BOWRING *Lett. fr. Machlenburg* 177 Pribislaus, a Wendish chief. 1822 *Imp. Dict.* s.v. Wendish, The Wendish dialect of the Sclavonian. 1892 DOUGHTY *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 113 Country places are still known by their Wendish names.

**B.** *sb.* The language of the Wends, esp. the Sorabian tongue spoken in Saxony.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 68 In the villages of Carinthia . . the Countrey people speake Windish, or the tongue of the old Vandals. 1788 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 462 Every Saturday one of them preaches, in Wendish, a sermon in the university church. 1822 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 243 A language consisting of a mixture of Windish and German. 1887 MORFILL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 150/1 The Slovenes are sometimes called 'Wends' and their language 'Windi-h' or 'Wendish'. 1915 *19th Century* Nov. 1045 Carniola, where Vendish, a Slav dialect, is spoken.

**† We·ndling**, *sb. Obs.*–1 (Possibly *f.* WEND *v.*, and = 'wanderer', 'vagabond', but more prob. an error for *fondling* 'foundling'.)

*c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Hall) 729 (Laud MS.) Henne þou foule wendling [*Harl.* fundly] Out of boure flore.

**Wendo-** (we·ndo), combining form of WEND *sb.*

1853 FREUND in *Trans. Ethnol. Soc.* (1856) IV. 77 The boundary-line of Low-German and Wendo-Sclavonian. *Ibid.*, Wendo-Sclavonic cities.

**Wendoye**, obs. form of WINDOW.

**Wene**, pseudo-arch. var. WANE *v.*2

1823 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 11. (1874) 174 In yon green-wood there is a wark, And in that wark there is a wene. *Ibid.*, In that green wene Kilmeny lay.

**Wene** : see WEAN *v.*, WEEN *sb.* and *v.*

**Wenem, -im, -ym**, obs. forms of VENOM.

**Wenene, var.** WHENNE *Obs.*, whence.

**Weneth(e**, var. of †WEATH *adv.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secretorum* 156, 187.

**† Wengand**, variant of (or error for) *wenyand* WANIAND.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Sir M. Burdet* lii, Wylde wengand on such tre, wherby the realme clos long.

**Weng(e**, obs. forms of VENGE *v.*, WING.

**Wengeance, -aunce**, obs. forms of VENGEANCE.

**Wenhill**, obs. form of WEANEL, WENNEL.

1721 *N.N.C.* (Oxf.) *Docum. A*1. 20 One Bull, eight Wenhill Calves.

**Wenisaunce**, obs. form of VENGEANCE.

**† Wening**, var. of WAINING or WONING *vbl. sb.*

*c*1425 *Eng. Conq. Ircl.* xvi. 54 Who-so had I-hard þe wepynge, & he wenynge, & the sorow that they mad.

**† Wenlich**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *wenlic*, f. WEEN *sb.* + -LY 1. Cf. OS. *wânlîk* beautiful, MHG. *wænlich*, early mod. G. *wahnlich*, *wahnlich* probable, supposed.] **a.** Beautiful. **b.** ? Worthy, excellent.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assman *Anc. Hom.* 108 Heo wæs swiðe wlitig & wenlices hiwes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 þe shadewe [i. e. her reflection in a mirror] hire tacheð hwu hit mal leten wenlukest mukken. *Ibid.* 81 And swo wenliche iturnd þat folc of ateliche to wenliche. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 105 in *O. E. Misc.* tok þe mon þe on his youðhe yeorne leornеþ . . may beon on elde wenlukest larþeow.

**Wenlock** (we·nlɔk). The name of a town in Shropshire, used attributively in **Wenlock formation**, **group**, a formation of Upper Silurian age, typically developed near Wenlock. Also **Wenlock limestone**, **shale**, **slate**.

1835 MURCHISON in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* II. 14 The lower part of this formation is termed the 'Wenlock shale'. *Ibid.*, The shale beneath the Wenlock limestone. *Ibid.* 15 The Ludlow and Wenlock formations appear in the same escarpment. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. etc., Wenlock beds.* Called also Wenlock shale. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 247 Splendid examples of Wenlock fossils.

Hence **Wenlo·ckian**, *a.*, of or belonging to the Wenlock formation.

1855 J. PHILLIPS *Mem. Geol.* 204 The genera being mostly Wenlockian and Ludlovian.

**Wenne** : see WIN *sb.*2, WHEN.

**Wennel** : see WEANEL.

**Wennesone**, obs. Sc. form of VENISON.

**Wennion**, variant of WANION.

**We·nnish**, *a. rare*–1. [*f.* WEN 1 + -ISH.] Of the nature of a wen.

1814 WOTTON *Lect.* 16 June *Relig. W.* (1672) 434 The incision of a wennish tumour grown on his thigh.

**Wennome**, obs. Sc. form of VENOM *sb.*

**We·nny**, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [*f.* WEN 1 + -Y.]

**1.** Of the nature of or similar to a wen.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxvi. 463 A remedie against . . hard wennie swellings. 1621 COTGR., s.v. *Goitreux*, The wennie lags that breed vnder the throats of the most inhabitants of the Alpes. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. App. 1. 79 I have had some persons . . so deformed with these [cicatrices], as they have suspected them to be wenny. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 538 A wenny Tumour of a monstrous Size. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* Dd 1, *Capelletts*, in horses, are particular swellings . . of a wenny nature, which grow on the heel of the hock, and on the point of the elbow.

**2.** Afflicted with wens; goitrous.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 60 The women are . . for the most part wenny, that is, having great bunches under their chinnes with drinking snow water. 1786 *Burghers Antho.* 110 Others . . with hump-backs, wenny necks, and even horns.

**Wennome**, obs. Sc. form of VENOMOUS.

**Wennis**, obs. Sc. form of VANQUISH *v.*

**Wennsoete, -skot(te**, etc., obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

**† Wenseves**. *Obs. rare.* [*v. wen-* (see WENDIAY) + *seves* pl. of SHEAF *sb.*] Sheaves given as payment for carrying grain in harvest.

*c* 1250 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 68 Nec aliud debet recipere, nisi wenseves [*read* wenseaves] quando cariat blada ad grangiam, 3 garbas que vocantur wenseves.

**Wenskett**, obs. form of WAINSCOT.

**Wensleydale** (we·nzlidēl). The name of a district of the North Riding of Yorkshire, used *attrib.*, and hence *ellipt.* as *sb.*, to designate a. A breed of long-woolled sheep originally raised here; b. A local variety of blue-mould cheese.

1881 J. B. SHELDON *Dairy Farming* 290 Though the Wensleydale cheese are so small. 1893 J. WIGGINTON *Sheep* 39 The Wensleydale is a large, high standing sheep, with a characteristic blue in the skin of the face and ears. 1896 J. BENSON & J. LONG *Cheese* 105 The Stilton shaped Wensleydales are . . classed as British blue mould cheeses.

**Went** (went). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **wennt**, 6 *Sc.* **went**, 8 **wendt**, 9 *dial.* **want**, **wint**. [Related to WEND *v.*1]

**1.** A course, path, way, or passage. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In later use esp. in pl. with *three* and *four*; also in combs. *three-went-way* THREE B. III. 2, and FOUR-WENT-WAY.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 136 He sleiðe . . He settes in pe firmament, Al abuten his walkne went. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 358 (Fairf.) Hyt forthe went Downe by a flowry grene went Ful pikke of gras. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* 121 In a forest, as they wente, At a turninge of a wente. 1418-20 J. PAGE *Siege Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 17 Govnays goode and redy bente, They were layde in many wente. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11010 By perylous weyes and by wentys I hadde had gret adversyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 40 Quhill ane cave we went, Vndir a blogrand bewch, in derne stent. *Ibid.* VII. 13 And fellonly throw the samyn went we huge, Quhar so the wynd and sterisman wa drave. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 66/8 A went, lane, *tractus*. 1596 SPENSER *Prothal.* 47 To the shires fayre Shall wish it house she went. Faire vnder ground from tract of liuing went. 1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Cantérb.* 20 The Iron crowne, which sometime stood at the East-end of Cole-street, at the meeting of the two wents. 1688 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* VI. 475 Where these ways part was called by the ancients Tpeis Κεφαλαί, or, the Three Heads, signifying I suppose the same as the Three Wents. 1854 W. CHAMBERS *Lect. Lancs. Dial.* 20 We have also . . 'wint', a passage. *a* 1896 BARNESLEY *Dict. Sus-names* (1901) 8 ? There are one or two WENDS, and a Went, in my late parish [Hove, Sussex].

*fig.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 384 Logitianes knawis hurtin myne entent, Ondir quhais boundis lurkis mony wrechit went.

**† b.** A journey, course of movement. *Obs.*

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. 2145 [They] . . ful accordid be Thorah Iraille for to make her went Toward Rome. 1596 SPENSER *Q. Vn. Prol.* 4 But here my weanie muse with ouer great wants forwearied, Is selfe awhile, after so long a went.

**† 2.** A course of action or plan for attaining some end; a trick, contrivance, device. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 529 þe hyssshop made a trek þan wryte Alhalowen, And þe kyng hyde þe same went. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 273 Ich made many wentes, How ich myght haue hit, al my wit ich caste. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* IV. 929 Thanne do ye wrong ageyn her entent On what-maner wise ye make you went.

**† 3.** A turn or course of affairs; an occasion or chance. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 63 Do him vnto be sweet, withouten jugement, If þe may Griffyn take bityme at any went. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. x. 123 Eneas . . The falis of perdale . . Of wrang, wow, and sydaly straunge wentis. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vi. 3 He knew the diuerse went of mutuall wayes.

**† 4.** A turn or change of direction; a turning about. *Obs.*

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 63 For which yn wo to bedde he went, And made er it was day full many a went. *Ibid.* V. 1294 Yp on pe walles made he many a wente. 1412-20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* II. 3733 Vnto hir chambre in hast sche is goon, Where vp and down sche made many went. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 219 The monsire wente here and there, And made many wentes with oute seeyng and knowing where he wente.

**† b.** ? A turning or winding of a stair. *Obs.*

*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 b, The staier of the saied halpas was caste of passage by the wentes of brode steppes.

**Went**, pa. t. (and pa. pple.) of WEND *v.*1 : now used as the pa. t. of *Go v.*

**† Went**, app. used as pa. pple. of WIND *v.*

*c* 1500 *World and Child* 40 (Manly), I am not worthely wrapped nor went, But poorely prycked in powerte.

**† Wentle**, *v. Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wentelen* (also mod. Du.) = MLG. and LG. *wentelen*, G. dial. *wenteln*.] *intr.* To roll or tumble about. (Used only by Caxton.)

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 18 Whan he was so wery, he wentled and tombled in-glue half a myle. . And whan he was seen so comyng fro ferne, Some doubted what it myght be that cam so wentelyng. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 475 At nyghte he coude not fall a slepe, but wentled in his bed without any rest.

**Wentletrap** (we·ntltrap). Also 8 **ventle-**. [a. Du. *wenteltrap* winding stair, spiral shell, = G. *wendeltreppe*.] A marine shell of the genus *Scalaria* or the family *Scalaridæ*, esp. *Scalaria pretiosa*.

1758 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 9 Feb., I have seen a little 983 shell called a Venile-trap sold for twenty-seven guineas. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 151 Gualtieri ranks the famous Shell the Wentletrap, or Stair-case, with Vermiculi. 1819 S. Barr *Intend. Conchol.* 195–8 S. P. Woodward *Mollusca* 16 note, A Wentle-trap which fetched 40 guineas in 1701 (Rumphius) was worth only 20 guineas in 1753, and now may be had for 5*l*. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 188 Family *Scalaridæ*. (Wentle Traps).

**† Wentsunday.** *Obs.*–1 [Of obscure origin.] The Sunday after Michaelmas.

*c* 1330 *Westminster Chapter Monuments* No. 37926 L'que diem dominicam proximam post festum Sancti Michaelis que dicitur Wentsunday.

**Wenyand(e**, variant forms of WANIAND.

**Wenym**, obs. form of VENOM.

**Wenyson, wenyseune**, obs. ff. VENISON.

**Weod**, obs. form of WEED; variant of WOOD *a.*

**Weofid, -od, -ed** : see WEVED *Obs.*, altar.

**Weol**, obs. form of WHEEL.

**Weolde**, obs. form of WIELD *v.*

**Weole**, obs. form of WEAL *sb.*1, WHEEL.

**Weolk**, obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

**Weoltðe**, obs. form of WEALTH.

**Weoman**, obs. form of WOMAN.

**Weonlete**, variant of WAY-LEET *Obs.*

**Weonne**, obs. form of WHEN.

**Weop(e**, obs. forms of WEEP *v.*

**Weopmonne**, variant of WAPMAN *Obs.*

**Weore**, obs. form of WORK.

**Weord**, obs. form of WORD.

**Weore**, obs. form of *were* : see BE *v.*

**Weork**, obs. form of WORK.

**Weor(ld(e**, -uld, obs. forms of WORLD.

**† Weorne**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *weornian* (also *forweornian*, possibly related to *wesnian* to wizen.] *intr.* To wither.

*a* 1380 *Wirg. Antioch* 215 in HORSTM. *Allengl. Leg.* (1858) 29 þe tiht hend...Ofhim weorned and wox al dile [*L. arust*].

**Weorne**, obs. form of WARN *v.*1

**Weote**, variant of WITE.

**† Weothe**, *v. Obs.*1– [For obscure origin.] *intr.* ? To rush.

*c* 1205 LAY. 6508 Pat deor to-dede his cheftes and to þan king wendele, and for-þat hine anridden a rima.

**† Weothele**, *a. Obs.*1– [ME. *weoðelen*, *wiðelen*, = MHG. *wedeln* to flutter, etc.] *intr.* To become unsteady or uncertain.

*c* 1205 LAY. 2885 Pe wind him com on widere, weodelede his flubtes [*c* 1275 wiþelede his flihtes].

**Weoued**, variant of WEVED.

**Weoufd**, obs. form of WEEVIL.

**Wep**, obs. variant of WAP *v.*2

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Bernardus*) 206 Al þe fyre...þai wepyt in a clath of lede. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machar*) 221 Weppit in clathis i be barn can lay.

**Wep** 9, obs. forms of WEEP *v.*, WIPE *v.*

**Wepen(e**, -in, obs. forms of WEAPON.

**Wepentake**, obs. form of WAPENTAKE.

**Wepit**, variant of WHIPPET *sb.*

**Wepman, -mon(ne**, var. ff. WAPMAN *Obs.*

**Wepne, weppen, -on, -un, -yn** : see WEAPON.

**Wept** (wept), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of WEEP *v.*] **a.** Of tears: Shed in weeping. Also *fig.* of poetry. **b.** Of a person: Mourned for, lamented, with tears. Also *absol.*

1594 *Zepheria* lv. C 1, He wip't wept teares from Telus bosome. *Ibid.* x. C 1 b, Since that, how often haue they seen wept Elegies To beg remorse at thy oblioust hart? 1599 SHAKS. *Wanderer* II. 83 Near the wept Fair, her Harp Cecilia strung. 1829 J. F. COOPER *Borderers* I. *Heading*, The Borderers; or the Wept of Wish-ton-Wish.

**Wepte, wepuit**, var. ff. *wopul* pa. t. of WIPE *v.*

**Wepun, -yn**, obs. forms of WEAPON.

**Wepyntaille, -tale** : see WAPENTAKE.

**Wer**, dial. f. OUR; Sc. var. VIR *sb.*1; obs. f. WAR *sb.*1, *v.*1, WAR, WARE *a.* and *adv.*, WARE *a.*, WEAR *v.*; var. WERE *sb.*2, *sb.*3, *v.*; var. *were*, pa. t. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WHERE, WHETHER.

**Wer-**, variant of WERE-.

1802 SCOTT *Minstrelsy* II. 100 A wild story of a wat-wolf, or rather a war bear.] 1838 *Court Mag.* XIII. 21 A curious

story of a *were-bear*...is quoted by Sir Walter Scott. 1902 *Folk-lore* June 157 *note*, The were-tiger beliefs, which are held...by the Peninsular Malayan. 1904 G. C. Kittredge *Mary-Toy in Japanese Tradit.* 1 (MS.) The Were is he, whom we may so call him, is invisible. 1925 C. K. Meek *North. Tribes Nigeria* I. 184 The villagers next day taxed the British officer with the death of the Galadima, who was known to be a were-hyena.

**Weraly,** obs. form of Verily.

**Weratie,** obs. Sc. form of Verity.

**Weray,** obs. Sc. f. Were; var. Wary *v. Obs.*

**Werbil, -by,** obs. forms of Whirebay.

**Werble, -ul,** variant forms of Warble *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3]

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Fuule, avec ses pesons,* the quill of thread, or the spindle and thread with the werble.

**Were,** obs. form of Worm. **Wercc,** obs. form of Worse.

**Werch,** obs. Sc. form of Welter.

**Werche, werck,** obs. ff. Work.

**+Wercock,** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Cock *sb.*, with obscure first element.] Some kind of bird.

1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 36 Oper smalle bryddes.. As osel, smityng, laveroc gray, Pestryk, wercock.

**Werd,** obs. form of Weird *sb.*, Word, World.

**+Werde,** *v. Obs.* [ISO 1 werdan, 3 werdende. [OE. (Anglian) *werdan* (Northumb. *wardd*), = WS. *weorðan, wyrdan,* f. the stem *ward-* (WS. *weord-*), which appears also in OS. *a-wardian, -werdian,* OHG. *wart(i)an, wertan* (MHG. *werten*), *far-warten,* Goth. *fa-wardjan* to spoil, corrupt, injure, etc., with cognates in the Slavonic languages.] *trans.* To harm or injure.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 156 *Offendit,* werdit. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 45 Da menigo þec þeðringað & werdað [L. *affligunt*]. *c*1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxvi. 4 Wæron earsan mine eagmið wæccenum werded swyþe. *c*1100 *Ælfred's Boeth.* (Bodl. MS.) xvi. 8 Þa smalan wyrmas þa ðone mon ze innan ze utan werdaþ [*Cott. MS.* wyrdaþ]. *c*1200 Ormin 4251 Þe ræwhess fule wille, þatt alre werrest... Werrdeþþ þe wrecche sawle. *Ibid.* 4254 Ne birrþ he ahenndenn nani mannn Ne weorrdenn þine þannkess.

**Werde,** obs. pa. t. of Wear *v.*; obs. f. Weird *sb.*, Word, World.

**+Werder.** *Obs.*[−1] (Meaning obscure.)

*c*1390 *Wilt. Palerne* 3181, Wode neiles of wit for þo werd-er bestes, þat folwe your felachip, so ferli þei are.

**Werdingale,** var. Farthingale, Vardingale.

**Werdliche,** obs. form of Worldly.

**Werdour,** var. *verdour* Verdor *Obs.*

**Werdy,** Sc. variant of Worthy *a.*

**+Were,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wer,** 2–3 **were.** [Common Teutonic: OE. *wer* = OFris, OS., OHG. *wer,* ON. and Icel. *verr,* Goth. *wair* = L. *vir,* Olr. *fer* (Gael. *fear*), W. *gŵr,* related to Lith. *vyras*, Skr. *vīrá*, man, hero.]

**1.** A male person; a man.

*Beowulf* 993 Fela þara wæs wera and wifa. *Ibid.* 1352 Oþer...on werum wundrum scealdaþ tremi. *c*900 *Laws Ælfred* § 21 Gif ucca oðfleme wer oððe wif. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Salomones rescie wæs...symbesteð...mid syxtigum wermn. *c*1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 156 Þeos yfele wyrt zeðeah hat nexler þe wera ze wifa fram ne fleo. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom birieð weran. *Ibid.* 131 Bitwuxe were and wife nes nefre maren mon þenne he. *c*1200 Ormin 7615 Patt halltlike were Symeon Himm toc hiderenn armess. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 And on þe seuðe hundred zer Wimmen weliten weren mester. *Ibid.* 3077 So was ðis were to wunder broyt, Þhat he was spac, frijteli he nogt.

**2.** A husband.

*c*893 (Alfred) *Oros.* 1. x. § 1 Heora wif...sædon...hie him wold in oðerra wera ceosan. *a*900 *Laws Alfred-Ine* § 18 (title) Be Sun & riht-cundum hwan habbe, and ðonne se wer þewite. 972 *Rickling Hom.* 185 Wif ic hæfde þæt hie hi zra weras lufeðan. *c*1000 *Ælfric Ex vi.* xxi. 29 Hete swa micel swa hat wifes wer zyrede. *a*1100 *Metrical Ords* 31 Na lupnin wif to hire were, ne were to his wine. *c*1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 Hire latere were...lesse hauеð ben hauede eur hire earre. *a*1250 *Owl & Night.* 1324 For god wif may...It i lauyen hire owe were, Þan on oþer hire copiinere. *c*1275 *Wom. Saunaria* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Go and clepe þine were and cumeþ hider y-mene.

**Were** (wɪə), *sb.*[2] *Hist.* Also **wer.** [OE. *were,* var. of *wære* (dat. *were*), abbreviation of *were-, wergild.*] = Wergeld.

1607 Cowel *Interpr.* 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 127 *Were* or *Were* sometimes signifieth amerciament or compensation. 1666 R. Cocke *Power & Subj.* 190 Who shall commit perjury upon holy things, let him lose his hand, or half his *were.* 1819 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 124 He paid the *were* for the death of Æthwin. 1842 Sir H. Taylor *Edwin the Fair* II. v. He that within the palace draws his sword Doth forfeit an Earl's were. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 236 *note,* In later days it was a principle of Landright that no freeman should be amerced 'above his were'.

**+Were,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 3–5 were (5 *Sc.* vere), 4–5 wer (4 werr, 5 *Sc.* ver). *β.* 4 wehere. 4–5 where, 5 wher, wheer. *γ.* 5 wyre. [Of doubtful origin, but possibly the same word as northern ME. and Sc. *were,* var. of ME. *werre* War *sb.*], retaining the original sense of 'confusion', 'perplexity', which is prominent in OHG. *werra,* etc. The form agrees with northeastern OF. *were* (also *weire, wiere, wyere*), which is the immediate source of ME. and Sc. *were* 'war'.

In R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2126 and *Rom. Rou* 5699 the use of *were* is suggested by *guere* and *guerre* in the French originals. Although employed by some midland and southern writers, the word is chiefly characteristic of northern texts and latterly confined to Scottish use. Except in senses 5, 6, and 7, it most frequently occurs in the phrase *in (to were).*

**1.** Danger, peril, jeopardy.

*c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1783 Engel wirð a-gen him cam, Alle it were wrogede here, Kerll to sloðen him fro were. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 319 His life was alle in wehere. He bed grete catelle, his lif foto vaue. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 974 He þat quit wil wirk moyster...þis defendit þis harme here, þat fyk wer to be in gret were. *c*1400 *Beryn* 2850 They had levir saille forth, ben pat[ten] hem in were, both lyve & goodis. *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 8266 All in wer fore to wall, wayterowle he seire, But he held hym on horse. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxvi. 1 Sen thy lyfe is ay in weir, And deid is evir drawand neir.

**b.** *To have (be, put) in* danger of. Also *Sc. in were to* (with inf.).

*c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 7408 Bothe were þai bold men borne to be grene, Wounth full wickedly in wer of hor lyues. *Ibid.* 11301. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 75 For outtrely þei stod here cite Shal þrist & mys-rewle in were. 1801 *Tarras Farras* 42 Lums [= chimneys] in wiers to get a dird [= shock] Or downward flung.

**2.** Condition of trouble or distress.

*a*1300 *Cursor M.* 2425 Qui did þou vs þus in were, þat said þi wijf þi sister were? *c*1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 828 He regned foure & þrytty zer In pes wyþouten were. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints Jacobus Intercisus* (Hal) 111 þoo þe Iuglit men put þam to were Fol balelly, with bow and spere. *c*1400 *Rom. Rose* 2827 Swete speche That hath to many soon the fyn corn out of hond yeven. *c*1400 *Minot's Poems* (Hall) App. ii. 79 Þan sal he land duel in were. *c*1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3061 For day to day most ful of mesese, Þhrynges, and vnlust, In a woman in gret were. *c*1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 20 Adam...liffyd...In sorow and in trauell stryng, And euery day he was in were. *c*1500 *Lancelot* 6 Ban he was in were, and wist not what to do.

**b.** A state of uncertainty or instability.

*c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 460 His present lyfe is ...vndiliot to chasses sere, za þat men liffis ay ine were. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 97 For we thot duelle under the more Stonde in this world upon a were. *c*1400 *Pety Job* 129 in *20 Pol. Poems* 195 Thus mannes tyme ys in a were; But thy tyme stondeth in no degre.

**3.** Apprehension, fear, dread.

*a*1300 *Sat man* lix. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 7 Loke þat ze nah no were, for seue zer ze habbiþ to pardoun. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 9 So þat Sexlond was in were, þe Cristen had suilk note, Sir Edwarde's powere ouer alle he dred moste. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Vetture*) 318 Sin efitr can crist appon þe prich, wes in sic were, and lasl[ed]. *c*1400 *Tol. Rel. & A. Poems* (1903) 259, I am þi broþer, be nout in were, be nout agast to come me nere, 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 5304 He was bope feerful & in were, In gret dispeire and full of drede. 1567 *Pr. Civill. Pilgr.* 21662 I...dred off hyre, I was in were. *c*1440 *York Myst.* ix. 146 Loke in and loke with-outen were. 15.. *Colkelbie Sow* 541 (Hamb. MS) Is nocht þis a myre caiss Thair...is no mony dengeris, He eskapit with were?

1808 Jamieson s.v. *Were, I half nae weir of that,* I have not much fear of it.

**b.** A state of mental distress or trouble.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5676 Pers...on hys dreme gan þinke, Syghyng with mornyng chere, As man þat was pas in were. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 98 Quhen he wes in were Of dethe doth hir so mochc woo That thries doun she fell in swiche a were.

**4.** Perplexity; confusion of mind; doubt or uncertainty how to act or regard one's position, etc. Also with *a.*

(*a*) 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 81 William was in wehere, when he herd þat tiþing. *c*1400 *Maundev's Trav.* (Pt. 3) (Roxb.) 98 Sothliche me is were of many thynges or thynkes one Godd. *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 13160 A myst & a merknes mygget with rain, þat wit vs in were & our way lost. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xx. 50 He went away with sylit and fyrie smowk;...And I awoik in wy that was in were.

(*b*) 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 111 In a were gan I waxe and with myself to dispute. *c*1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 109 He...feler, for dred in a were, I trowe ther be noon. Þan halt him lasse worth thanne I To be beloved. *c*1400 *Pety Job* 129 in *20 Pol. Poems* 297 Thus he wandreth in a were As man þat hath lore his way. 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3041 Thus I stood al in a rage...Wavering as in a were. 1422–30 — *Chron. Troy* v. 4973 But in a were he abydynge longe, Aforn hym sawe þe Sarsynes stronge.

**5.** A (subjective) state of doubt or uncertainty with regard to the truth or reality of anything; undecidedness of belief or opinion. Const. *of, what, that,* etc. Also with *a* and *pl.*

(*a*) *a*1300 *Cursor M.* 9469 Herof thar naman be in were. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1 Of þat haly man is na mal[e] in were. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 306 For bei were euer in wehere,...While wat best lanere, with þat side forto hold. *Sege of Perlham* (Camb. Ff.) 1. 1. 24 Þat was in were [*v.r.* dowte] of him þat sal take it [baptisme] Whethir he be baptized or he be noght. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iii. 1993 So þat ye schal no lenger be in were Of al þat euere þou seest þou here. 1425 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22228, I stood in a maner wher, What tokenes that it myght be, The thynges that I dyde se. *Ya* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xxiii. 74 Fowle haue we leued many a yeare, And of our wayes seeme we were. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 89 In weir that he was sit on lyf, Thai ran ane rude speir in his syde.

(*b*) *c*1300 *Wilt. Palerne* 3313 William was in a wer bat it were him-selue. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvi. 3 Ac set I am in a were, what charite is to mene. *a*1393 Hylton *Scala Perf.* II. xi. (W. de W. 1494). Therfore they falle ofte in suche wereres and doubtes of hemself. *c*1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1872 All that tyme stood I in a were [*rhyme desyre*] Whyche way forst myn wofd ywas mere To looke. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc. 30 Sa that thi confessour be wyss and discreit, That can the discharge of every doute and weir.

**b.** *To have no were,* to be in no doubt. Also Sc. *to have weres.*

*c*1375 *Cursor M.* 12235 (Fairf.) Of pine elde we haue na were: vnnepes artow of vij. 3are. *c*1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 216 For of reward sche hab no were þat þus abidiþ in charite. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Dyreck. Bk. 80 Of your mobilys and all other geyr 3e will me serf sikikye, I haue na weyr. 1535 W. Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 5 So that it be substantious of sentence In plane termis, thairof haif thow no weir. 1768 Ross *Helenore, Songs* 129, I thought ere I died to have anes made a web, But still I had weers o' the spinning o't.

**6.** The condition of being (objectively) doubtful or uncertain; a state of affairs such as to give occasion for hesitation or uncertainty; a matter of doubt.

*a*1300 *Cursor M.* 20704 Disput, he sais, es na mister Bi tire ti wis in swilk a wer. 13.. *Ibid.* 25804 (Edinb.) Pat ilke dai we se and here, we ah it noht to hald in were. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 469 Pan ys doute & grete were [*v.r.* wey] To wyte whether þey ben ydo ne. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 378 For-thy it is in wer gyff þis be paulis hewid or nocht. *c*1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 746 Sone is Wymond, I wait, it worthis no weir. *c*1500 (*Garioch*) 1. 130 Quhairfor this knicht we tuike in this maneir To save our aithes, traist weil this is no weir.

**7.** Often in phr. (usually introduced as a mere tag) *but, forouten, out of, without were,* without doubt. Also occas. with *of-, out-.*

(*a*) *a*1300 *Cursor M.* 2257 Arphaxat lued wit-outen were Threhundret aght and tuenti zere. *c*1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2096 Pan er we certayn, with-outen were, Pat at our last ende pai sal apere. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1 Hast þou gode chere þy faire tour to gete ogan wyþ-oute any where. *c*1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 31 To yive me drynke of her tonne, Of which she hath, without were, Enbaned hyem in hir celler. *c*1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1027 With-owtyn ony wyre, þer xall ye se hym. *c*1530 *Songs, Carols,* etc. (E. E. T. S.) 83 This worde wrytyn ys wyrd wythowtyn were For many a man, þat dredd þerde, 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 5228 Elle sayis, withouttin weir, The warld sall stand sax thousand zeir.

(*b*) *c*1305 *Land Cokaygne* 21, I sigge for sob, boute were, Per nis lond on erbe is pere. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 70 We hat 3ow wyt, but ony ver, þat of lord criste libbes,...we are þe seruandis & mene. 1548 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 109 That he is his soverane...is but were. *c*1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 490 For na gold on this ground wald I, but were, Be fundin in sic treasoun. 1567 *Guide & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 37 Thay within ane lytill stound Began to myrrie be but weir. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 300 Thair suld be lamit throw this land At euerie Kirk...Ane Preichour at the leist but weir.

(*c*) 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 292 But he wes fule, forouten weir, That gaf treuth to that tresoun. 1535 *Rauf Coilyear* 288 He will be found in his fault that wants, forouthin weir.

(*d*) *c*1425 *Cursor M.* 3709 (Trin.) He seide, owre lord ont of were I wist not his wonyng here. *c*1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 230 'Out of weir', said the King, 'I wayndit neuer to tell'.

**Were,** *sb.*[4] *rare.* [f. Were *v.*]

**1.** A defender, protector. *Obs.*

*c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2680 Moyses was louered of þat here, þor he wirð fame egyptes were.

**2.** *Sc.* Defence.

a 1878 Ainslie *Land of Burns* (1892) 237 At guard an' weir by Andro Kerr—He fought for Scotland.

**Were** (wɪə), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 1 **werian** (**werxan, werizean**), 2–3 **werien** (3 **weriin,** 5 **weryyn**), 3–4 **werie,** 4 **weryе**(*n*); 2–3 **weren** (3 *Orm.* **werenn**), 4–5 **were, wer** (4 **werr,** 5 **werre**), 5 **weire,** 5–6, 9 *Sc.* **weir,** 6 **weere** (9 *dial.* **weer**), **weare,** 8–9 *Sc.* **wear.** *Pa. t.* 1–4 **werede** (1 **-ede**), 4 **wered,** -ed, 5 **were** (*Sc.* -yt); 5 **were, weire,** *Sc.* **wor.** *Pa. pple.* 4 **wered,** 9 *dial.* **weared.** [Common Teut.: OE. *werian, wergan* = OS. *werian, werean* (MLG. and LG. *weren*), OFris. *weren* (WFris. *weare, warre*; NFris. *weeri, wiare*), MDu. and Du. *weren,* OHG. *warian, werian,* etc. (MHG. *wergen, weren, wern,* G. *wehren*), ON. and Icel. *verja* (Norw. *verja*; Sw. *värja*, Da. *værge, værge*), Goth. *warjan.* The extent to which the two senses of preventing or checking, and defending or protecting, are represented, varies in the different languages; the greater currency of the second in English, though already prominent in OE., may have been assisted by the agreement with ON. *verja.*]

**1.** *trans.* To check or restrain; to ward off, repel. Also with *away, off.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

*a*900 *Andreas* 1743 Stan...scepte ascerdas sweotulum tacnum, wiðig ofer flodas & werige cwelm. *Laws in Ælfgard* § 4 Þat ælc man habbe symle þa men gearowe...; & heden ða men de heora ezen seczen willen, and hy for nanum medscettum ne magon hy werian. *c*1200 *Beatitudes* 170 [He] Of hiss eyen wereð 3e mist, wilen he dreccheð 3ore. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2898 Ic sal hem leasen fro, And here fon weren wit wo. *c*1300 *Sir Tristr.* 2543 His glouе he put per inne þe sonne it wer owe; 13.. *Cann. & Cok. Myst.* xcviii. 51 Yyt he clad hym in his clopes, be colde for to were. *c*1375 *Leg. Rood* xvii. 207 Þe Cros i calle þe heerdes 3erde,...And wil þe 3erde þe wolf be werde. *c*1470 *Harding Chron.* xcviii. 31 (Rit.) 182 By whiche he mayе the wolf were [*v.r.* bete] frome the gate. *c*1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 182 Of his Father the wraith fra ve to weir.

1791 Learmont *Poems* 47 Lord wear aff the featour's blow Frae honest fock! 1889 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), *Were on, Wear,* to stop or oppose, to keep off, to guard, to hinder.

**2.** To defend, guard, or protect from assault or injury.

*Beowulf* 1205 Siðfan he under segne...wæreaf werede. *Ibid.* 1327 Donne we on orlege hafelan weredon. *a*900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 755 Se cyning on þa duru eode, & þa inhabitice

hine wereðe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* vi. 79 Hie for þæm hungre þa burh werian ne meahton. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1016 (Laud MS.), Hit rice he beardlice werode þa hwile þe his time wæs. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Al þes godnesse hom ne mihte werien, þet ho ne wenden alle in to helle. *c* 1200 Ormin 5305 Þa birrþ þe standenn þær ommpenn & werenn Cristess þeowwenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 3696 And swiðe wel heom wereden þa walles of Rome. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 834 Hute he can clymbe swiþe wel; Þar nyyl he werey his greye vel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23708 Ich es for to win wit heer, þe rune þat nan es bute to were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Þou best kueade þeawes þet þe saulle lede to be dyadse of hielle bote þe grace of god be ne werie. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ix. 379 All tym had I Handis, myne hede for till weir. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2546 He of iustice is bounden hem to were And to diffende. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 Weryyn', *defendo, defendere.* *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 183 Wallace.. Wichtly him wor [*v. r.* did him wei], quhill he a sueird had tayne. *a* 1800 in Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 152 He teth-ered his tyke ayont the dykes, And bade him weir the coin. 1807 J. Stagg *Misc. Poems* (1808) 40 For tho' wi' witch wood weard, yet weel They kend auld Hornie's tricks.

† **b.** Const. *with* or *against*, *from* (or *of*). *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1000 *Exodus* 237 Þe ne mihton ..þreostiert wern wiß flame fodmun weriġean. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Ic eow wille werien wiß elcne herm. *c* 1200 Ormin 10237 To fihhtenn for þe feoþe, To werenn hemm wiþþ wiperrdæp Patt wollde hamm oferrgangenn. *c* 1315 Shoreham 1. 1244 þe brydde hys is hepel 'continement' Ageynys þe foule lyynge to werie he þe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 348 His enchantement Ayein the Sergent schulde him were.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11468 Hir sun he sal and fader habe He to wer his folk fra werr. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 4210 And fro my liown i sal the wer. 1400 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 44 For holy chirche hath us..happid with grace, to were us from wedeles of wynneres stormes. *c* 1485 *Digby Plays, Cast. Perseu.* 1056 Þese wyne wymyn we schall hem were. *c* 1570 *Gol. & Gaw.* 58 Luke that wisly thow wirk, Cleire were the fra wa !

(*c*) 1801 Hogg *St. Pastorals* 23 For wearin' corn of hens an cocks, His match was never made.

† **c.** To defend, uphold, or give support to (a cause, etc.); to maintain (one's opinion). *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3714 Burges stronge and folc wi-ðiuti, stalworþ to weren hine vigt. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1476 Wit antecrist þan sal [Enoch] fight For to weye cristen right. 1340 *Ayenb.* 69 Per byeþ none..þet none guode techinge ne onderuongeþ, ak alneway weryeþ hare sentense buet þet hit by.

**d.** To keep or hold (a means of entrance or exit); † to have or possess as one's own.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9312 þe Erl.. þoght no feyȝ til [him] wold here. But he in pes his wyf myght were. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix. 1965 At Sterlyng bryg he ordanit thair full rych, And thar to lyd, the entre for to wer. 1820 *Keep of Kilmalie* in Scott *Minstrelsy* I. 187, I set him to wear the fore-door wi' the speir. *a* 1894 J. Shaw in R. Wallace *Country S.-Sw.* (1899) 355 To wear a gate at sheep-shearing, to open and shut it.

† **e.** To protect or save by removing. *Obs.*

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 151 If thay with wrong away wold wrast, out of the way I shall the were.

† **3.** *refl.* To defend or guard (oneself, etc.); often followed by *against*, *from*. (Cf. 1 b.) *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 541 Wit unc wið hronfixas werian þohton. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 82 Ælfere & Maccus, hi fæstlice wiþ ða fyrd weredon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist.. ȝeue us wepne ..Mid godde werkes for us to werien. *c* 1200 Ormin 14266 Acc þu mihtest werenn þe fra þeȝm þurrh rihhte lefe o Cristе. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Were þe, nif þu kunnt, a-þeȝn me. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2083 Þore se an in sorge and hunger, for ic ne migte me nogt werien. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2227 Þat culd find on no manere How to wer þam fra þe flode. *c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* 1. 114 For we help of noon power To weryen ous fro schame. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 845 Olyuer tok is spere & eke ys scheld & her-wiþ on her-wiþ him self to were. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt. T.* 692 Poyne if hym list on foote, hym self to were. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1195 From al hir fon hir self to were, In her ryght honde she had a spere. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 901 A sueird he drew, rycht manlik him to were.

† **4.** *absol.* **a.** To make a defence, to offer resistance. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 Ormin 2046 Þuss mihhte þho bitellen wel & werenn þurrh hiȝt hinne. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2391 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 230 Ne muge we werien naðer ne wiþ burst ne wiþ hunger. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 851 Fowle [kinges]-sonaken and sflue weren, 83.. *K. Alis.* 3513 The spies on bothe sydes goth, Of Ali-saundre and eke Darie, Þei ne dorste fram othir were.

† **b.** To act as a shield or protection. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11108 Sho..Hade no helme on his hede fro harmes to were. *c* 1575 *Cursor M.* 4840 (Fairf.) Hit is our shilde & our spere, Þe gainis þe feinde for to were.

Hence † **We·ring** *vbl. sb.*

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxi. 20 And þou, lauerd, ne fer þi help fra me: At mi werring [*v. r.* Oht ye in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 230 Ne muge we werien naðer ne wiþ burst ne wiþ hunger. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 851 Fowle [kinges]-on-seken and sflue weren, 83.. *K. Alis.* 3513 The spies on bothe sydes goth, Of Ali-saundre and eke Darie, Þei ne dorste fram othir were.

**were** (wɪə). The first element of WEREWOLF used in combination, chiefly with names of animals, to indicate a human being imagined to be transformed into a beast; as *were-animal*, *-ass*, *-bear*, etc.; also *were-man*. Cf. WER-.

1873 Lonsd. *Wapiddi Inn* iii. Interl. v. 4 The were-wolf is a legend old, But the were-ass is something new. 1883 J. F. M'Lennan in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 92 The Arcadians, or bear-tribe, sprang from the were-bear Callisto. *Ibid.*, in Ashanga-land,..a were-leopard was..charged with murder and metamorphosis. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Sept. 289/2 The simple explanation..that that beast was a were-calf. 1897 Sir H. H. Johnston *Brit. Centr. Afr.* 439 In this respect the belief in 'were' animals..is nearly universal.

**Wereangel**, **-angle**, var. forms of WARIANGLE.

† **Wereed.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **werud**, **-od** (3 **werod**), 1–3 **wered**; 1 **weorod**, 2, 3 **weorud**; 1 *north.* **worud**, 3 **wored**. *β.* 2–3 **werd**, 3 **word**, 3–4 **wird**, 4 **weird**. [OE. *weorod*, *weorud*, etc., without parallels in the cognate languages.] A band, troop, company, host.

*a.* *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 407 *Agmen*, weorod. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Ac se heahgyst þam Godes hades þem endlicum weorudum simle ondweard wes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 34 Ealle þas þing se halend sprece mid bix-spel-lum to þam weredum. — Mark xv. 16 Hi to-somne gal weorud clypedon. *c* 1205 Lay. 2598 He bicom vppen ane weredes of wlfan awedde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Ase þer beoð miene engliene ordres [*MSS. B, C* weordes]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun i Cott. Horning* 25 All englene werod[i] and alle holie þing Siggeð and singeð þet tu eart liues welspunng.

*Comb.* *c* 1205 Lay. 509 Sið he heom mihte bi-winnen mid his weredmenne.

*b.* *c* 1180 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke vi. 17 He stod on stedelicere stowe & micel werd hys leorningcnihte. *a* 1225 *St. Marherete* 22 Hali h.., þe lauerd of heouene riche werdes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1788 Þe cam ner camaneus, Ekeðer wiþ Iagen him cam. *Ibid.* 1790 Þor ðis wird of engeles metten him. *a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 657 in *O. E. Misc.* 138 Hi find dages & nihtes þe wile þat hi ne ben ibrud. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20282 He þat i bar, þat bligh brid, Sal me send of heuen wird [*Gött.* weird].

† **We·reful**, *a. Sc. Obs.*[1] [f. WERE *sb.*3 + -FUL.] Doubtful.

1456 Sir G. Hay *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 104 To geve the ensample and instruction to wysly governe the in many thingis that now a-wereful to the.

**Wereged**, **-gild**, var. forms of WERGELD.

**Wereit**, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WEAR.

† **Wrei**. *Obs.* [? *a.* OE. *wrǽg*—.] Of obscure origin: cf. MHG. *wedel*, *wegel*.] A fan or fly-whisk.

*a* 1300 *Wycliffite Bible*, *Job* Prol. II. 672 For the weiele, lepis, baskets [L. *pro flabello, calathis, spiritellisque*], and coltis [*Lambeth* MS. *wrǽgis*, *wiffis*, taketh.

**Werelbone**, obs. form of WHIRLBONE.

**Wereld**(*e*, obs. forms of WORLD.

**Werelie**, obs. Sc. form of VERILY and WARLY.

**Werelike**, obs. Sc. form of WARLIKE.

**Werely**, obs. Sc. var. WARLY *a.*

**Werena**, *Sc.* = were not : see NA *adv.*3

**Weren't**, colloq. contraction of 'were not'.

**Werew**, obs. form of WORT *v.*

† **Wereȝall**. *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 **wer-**, 6 **weir-**. [f. WERE *v.* + WALL *sb.*] A bulwark, rampart. In quots. *fig.*

*c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 382 The armes of the Dowglass ..Of Scotland the wer wall. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xxii. (S. T. S.) I. 222 Pais war campit to be ane-vere-wall for defence of Veanis. 1536 — *Cron. S. of.* xiv. viii. (1821) II. 383 The..surname of Douglas, quhilkis war evir the sicker targe and wer-wall of Scotland aganis Inglismen.

**Werewolf**, **werwolf** (wɪ·ə-, wə·rwulf). Forms: *a.* 1 **werewulf**, (3 **-wlf**), 7–9 **-wolf**; *pl.* 5 **-wolfes**, 9 **weir-**, **werwolves**. *β.* 4–7, 9 **werwolf** (6 *Sc.* **-wolf**); *pl.* 4 **-wolfe**, **-wolues**, 9 **werwolves**. *γ.* 5–7 *Sc.*, 9 **warwolf**, (7 *Sc.* **warewolf**, **warwoof**); *pl.* 6 *Sc.* **-wo(o)lfes**, 7 *Sc.* **-woophs**. *δ.* 9 **wehrwolf**. *ε.* **werewulf** (once). [OE. Dn. *werewulf*, MHG. *werwolf* (G. *were-*, *wehrwolf*), LG. *werwulf*; also WFris. *waerdl*, *war ale* (and *waerwolf* after Du.), Da. and Norw. *varulv*, Sw. *varulf*. The latter may represent an ON. **varulf-r*, whence ONF. *garwald* (Marie de France, *c* 1175), later *guaroul*, *-ou*, *garoul*, *-ou*, *warou*, *-en* (mod.F. *loup-garou*); ON. *vargulf-r* (by association with *varg-r* wolf) occurs only in the translation of Marie's lay of Bisclavret.

The OE. *wer* man WERE *sb.*1, but the form *were-* in place of *were-* (cf. however *were-* and *weregild* WERE-GILD), and the variants in *were-*, *wehr-* are not known elsewhere.

Evidence for the real currency of the word (chiefly in the *β* and *γ* forms) is rare, and confined to Sc. after the 17th cent. In modern use it has been revived through folk-lore studies, and until recently the most usual form has been *werewolf*, and occas. *wehrwolf* (from German.)

1. A person who (according to mediæval superstition) was transformed or was capable of transforming himself at times into a wolf; † also, an exceptionally large and ferocious wolf.

*a.* *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Lives* (Leberm.) Þæt se wodfreca werewulf to swyþe ne slite, ne to fela ne abite of godcundre hearde. *c* 1210 Gervase of Tilbury *Otia Imper.* xv. in Leibnitz *Scriptt. Brunsw.* (1707) I. 895 Quod latine dicunt nimis *gerulfos* Galli nominant, Angli vero *Werewolf* dicunt. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, Per beth some [wolves] but litell and litell, And per be lepard werewolues, for men shulde be wete of hem, or þe maist pe lees hem. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* 237 The were-wolues are certaine sorcerers, who hauing annoynted their bodyes, with an ointment which they make by the liuinest of the deuil; and putting on a certaine inchanted girdel, do not only vnto the view of others seeme as wolues, but to their own thinking haue both the shape and nature of wolues, so long as they weare the said girdel. [Hence in Blount *Glossogr.* (1656), etc.] 1816 *J. Scott* XIX. 68 The weir-wolves of the wilds of Indiana. 1831 A. Herbert in *Will. & Werewolf* (Roxb.) 2 As a punishment for his ferocity he [*sc.* Lycaon] was deprived by Jupiter of the human form, and ended his days a were-wolf. 1865 W. K. Kelly *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 253 Stories about werewolves are still current in Germany. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. iii. 77 The old doctrine of Werewolves, not yet extinct in Europe. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi. 213 Stories of magic and vampires and were-wolves told them by travelled youths.

*β.* 1870 Lonsd. *Waypiddi Inn* ii. Introd. i 23 The brutes that wear our form and face, The were-wolves of the human race !

*B.* *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 35 Þat while was he werwolf went a-boute his praye. *Ibid.* 846, I wold him hunte in hardé ȝe euer bounise in erthe hontid eny werwolf. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 439 Þei ben wilde wer-wolues, þat wilne þe folk robben. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* xix. xi. 792 His wyf..made hym seuen yere a werwolf. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 251 Wod werwolf [*v. r.* werwill, worme and scorpion venemous. 1560 Daus ton *Prince Lyf. A Pact., Mem 18 Mome* G 8 b, About the fields reliquously they went, with howling charms the Werwolf thence to fray. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxv, All the German superstitions of nixies, oake-kings, were-wolves, hobgoblins. 1868 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1870) 115 Lycaon,..after passing through all the stages I have mentioned, becomes the ancestor of the werwolf. 1911 E. O'Donnell *Werwolves* 212 As in France, the werwolf, in Belgium, is not restricted to one sex. *Sc.* 1900 *Spectator* 5 July 17 When from that undersworld..The were-wolves of the darkness pour by night And show..their misery and their guilt.

*γ.* *c* 1480 Henryson *Fart. Beasts* xiv, The warwolf and the pyg-gase restlous. 1483-4 Act. *Jas. III* (1597) *Among rarus*. a 1533 Bellenden *Hoon* clvi a. 62 Huon the sone-rayne kyng of the fayry wolde condempne hym iurpetually to be a warwolfe in the wyldernes. *Ibid.* 1597 Trans. *Venetis* lxxv, 226 Some Writers..will haue them sometimes: and then they neuer feede nor pray vpon any other thing after wards...Such Wolues are called *Warwolues*, because a man had neede to beware if I knew. [*c.* 1400 in 4.] 1597 Jas. VI *Demonol.* iii. 61 And are not war-wolfes one sorte of these spirities also..? a 1628 Roaring Boy *Ballet of Merlin* in Child *Ballads* VIII. 169 Thou shall walke..our Water-wolf mad. 1665 Sir J. Lauder (Fountainhall) *Jrnl.* (1900) 83 Instead of our red deasons and giants we have (as *Arthur*, *Merlin*, *Merwoophs*,..a Robert Adam-son, in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1802) II. 96 O was it warwolf in the wood..? 1817 Coleridge *Zapolya* II. i. 137 Madman, that would'st be haunted by the unborn child..? 1897 Baring-Gould *Curious* xvii. They hold Loup ja tamed wolf) to be naught else but a war-wolf.

*δ.* 1834 W. J. Thoms *Lays & Legs., Francis* 57 The Lay of Bisclavaret; or, the Were-wolf. 1855 D. Costello in *Bentley's Misc.* XXXVIII. 161 Lycanthropy in London; or The Were-Wolf of Wilton-Crescent. 1884 J. Davidson *Fleet* iv. iv, The wehrwolf, roaming in the marsh, growls. 1913 R. Hodder *Vampire* iii. 41 The wehrwolf who discards his human form to bury his fangs in the throats of sleeping children.

**2.** *Sc. dial.* (See quot.)

1808 Jamieson, *Warwolf*...A puny child or an ill-grown person of whatever age; prob. warwood, *Aug.*

3. *attrib.*, as *werewolf nature*, etc.; **werewolf girdle**, the enchanted girdle by means of which a man could transform himself into a wolf.

15.. *Kewell's Cursing* 192 (Bannatyne MS.), Dragoun hentis and warwolf nails, With glowrane evne as glitterand glass. 1865 W. K. Kelly *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 255 In Germany..the skin of a man that has been bad god makes as good a werewolf girdle as the skin of a wolf. 1879 H. D. Conway *Demonol.* I. 80 The Werewolf Superstition, which exists still in Russia. 1883 Stallybrass *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1096 Bodin's Daemonomanie..has several werewolf stories.

Hence **We·rewolfery**, = Lycanthropy 2; **We·rewolfish** *a.*; **We·rewolfism**, = Lycanthropy 2.

1831 A. Herbert in *Will. & Werewolf* (Roxb.), 3 It is obvious to suspect that the most ancient Lycians were proficients in 'Werewolfery.' 1871 D. O'Donnell *Werewolves* i. 3 Persons accused of were-wolfery. 1891 *Century Dict.*, 'Werewolfish. 1895 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* viii, 100 The traditional belief in 'were-wolfism' must, however, have remained long in the popular mind. 1901 *Edin. Rev.* July 198 In fact 'were-wolfism' is now known to have made the round of the globe.

‖ **Werf** (werf). *S. African.* Also **werft**. [Older and dial. Du. *werf* (*werft* = NFris. *werw*, *werew*, LG. *warf*, in the same sense; orig., a raised plot on which a house is built, and identical with the same forms in the sense of 'wharf': see WHARF *sb.*1] The Cape-Dutch name for a homestead or the space surrounding a S. African farm.

1818 Lichtenstein *Travels S. Afr.* in *We thereft* took leave, pitched the tent on the werft, and kindled a fire. 1861 Anderson *Oba. ange Rever* xiv. 179 Five minutes further walk brought us to a werft consisting of but a single cottage and thirty huts. 1888 A. Bruce *Sunny Fountains* 231 A Dutch-man calls his homestead his *werf*. 1895 *Times* 19 Jan. 5/3 They arrived at the deserted werf on November 7, possessed themselves of the guns and arms on the werf,—and then shot Mr. Christie.

**Werfore**, obs. form of WHEREFORE.

† **Werg**. *dial. Obs.* (See quot.)

1797 E. Lhuyd *Archæol. Brit.* I. 23 A Willow-Tree was Anciently call'd *Willig*; whence the Modern *Wreg* (a Willow) us'd in Berkshire and some other Countreys, seems corrupted.

**Wergeld** (wɜ·rgeld), **-gild**. *Hist.* Forms: *a.* 3 *Sc.* **weregheld**, 5 **weregylt**, 7–9 **weregild**, 9 **-geld**. *β.* 5 *Sc.* **wargeld** (7 **vergeld**), 7, 9 **wergeld** ; 9 **wehrgeld**. *γ.* 8–9 **wergild**. [ad. OE. (Anglian and Kentish) *wergeld*, (WSaxon) *wergield*, *-gild*, *-gild*, late *werggild* (*l.* *wer* man WERE *sb.*1 + *geld*, *gield* YIELD *sb.*] = OFris. *wergeld*, *-ield*, OHG. *wer-*, *wergelt* (MHG. *wergelt*, G. *wer-*, *wehrgeld*, Du. *weergeld*) ; the equivalent ON. term is *mannigildi*.

The three OE. types *wergeld, wergild*, and *weregild* are represented in the modern forms; the spelling *wehrgeld* is due to the incorrect German form.]

In ancient Teutonic and Old English law, the price set upon a man according to his rank, paid by way of compensation or fine in cases of homicide and certain other crimes to free the offender from further obligation or punishment.

*a.* a **1214** *Assize Will. c.* 14 in *Stats. Part. Scot.* (1844) I. 176 De weregehelde furis. De unusquaque fure per totam Scociam est weregheldo xxxiij vacc. et dimid. **14..** *Ibid.* Of be law pat is callyt wereyit. **1614** Skene *Tilla Homor* 78 *Were* is before delivered in *Weregild*, and is calld *pecuniam Redemptionis* in the laws of the Confessor. **1714** J. Fortescue-Aland *Prof. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mem.* 32 A Payment in Money called the *Weregeld*; for which no Body can doubt, but our Saxon Ancestors had their *Weregild*. **1761** Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1762) I. App. 1. 156 The price of the king's head, or his weregild, as it was then called, was by law 30000 thrimsas. **1769** Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 303 In those times, when a private pecuniary transaction, called a *weregild*, was constantly paid to the party injured, or his relations. **1818** Hallam *Mid. Ages* ii. ii. (1831) I. 230 Such were the weregilds of the barbaric codes. **1848** Lytton *Harold* v. vi, There is no weregeld for murdaying on the head o' him by assaults wi' in-fleath or his old country law. **1864** Burton *Hist.* II. xx. 533 The Weregild, or compensation for murder was regulated according to the rank of the person slain. **1864** Kemble *Lett. Rom. & Teut.* vii. 249 He...died, like Saxon, Gaul, and Paul, having got good weregeld for the loss of his eyes.

*b. a* **1250** *Reg. Mag.* iv xii. in *Stats Part. Scot.* (1844) I. 631 De unusquaque fure...est wargeld triginta vacce et una iouenca. **1609** Skene tr. *Reg. Maj.* iv. xiv. 70 b, The Vergeli, or Ransom of ane theif, throw all Scotland is threttie kye; and ane young kow. **1614** Skene *Titles Honour* 200 This wergeld or wergeld is often met with in the Salique laws. **1848** Mrs. Hopkirk tr. *Menzel's Hist. Ger.* I. 53 The Wergeld or fine setttle by law was introduced at a later period. **1854** Milman *Lat. Chr.* III. v. I. 395 In the Burgundian law...the life of every man...is assessed...at a certain value, and the wergeld may be received in atonement for his blood. **1901** P. Vinogradoff *Tribal Custom Anc. Laws* I. The Anglo Saxon wergelds were stated, with perhaps one exception, in silver shillings.

*c.* **1582** M. Foster *Rep. Crow. Surry* etc. 287 The Anglo-Saxons in Case of Homicide contented themselves with a pecuniary Compensation, which they called the *Weregild*, the Price of Blood. **1820** J. Mackintosh *Hist. Fr.* II. 249 Culpable homicide was punished with banishment, besides the wargild [sic], or fine, paid to the nearest kin of the deceased. **1880** Rose *Lives Anc. Mar.* 13 His position in society was, according to the custom of the age, marked by the amount of his wer-gild. **1870** Freeman *Norm Conq* (ed. 2) I. App. 629 By this treaty provision is made for wergilds.

**†wergeldthief.** *Obs.* [*Eng. Law.* Forms: 1 **werszidtheof** (-zild-), 3 **weregelt thef**; 3-5 **wer(e)gelthef** (4 **wergilif**, 5 **werkelthef**). [OE., f. prec. + *þéof* Thief.] A thief or other criminal whose 'wergeld' was paid as a satisfaction for his crime; also *elliptically* the conviction over a thief of this description.

**c850** *Laws Ine* §72 Gif man werzildþeof zefehð. **781** in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 334 Nec etiam fures illi aut quos Saxonice dicimus wæregildestheuues alicui fiat reddant. **1235** in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 208 With sac and sack...infangenethef, utfangenethef, wergeldthef, in mercy [etc.]. **c1290** *Britton* i. xlvii. (1647) 62 Weregelt thef, latrocinum qui redimi potest. **13..** Higden *Polychron.* (Rolls) II. 94 De quibus (regibus) nominalia vocabula adhuc frequentat hic Fuerere dignitatuti: ..Wergelthef, id est, solute de latrono eschape. **c1437** John Brompton in Twysden *Hist. Anglic. Script.* (1652) 957 *Werregelthef* est solutio latronis evasi, i. soute de latrone eschape.

**Weri,** var. Wary *sb. Obs.*, obs. f. Weary *a.*

**Weria,** var. Waried *ppl. a. Obs.*; obs. pa. pple. of Wear *v.* **Werie,** obs. f. of var. Very, Wary *v. Obs.*, Weary *a.* **Werielle, Werielie,** obs. Sc. f. Verelet *adv.*, Verily. **Werihede** *Obs.*: see after Weary *a.* **Wering,** obs. var. Warning *vbl. sb.* **Weris** s)he, obs. ff. Wearish. **Werius,** obs. f. Verjuice *sb.*

**Werk(e,** obs. ff. Wark *sb.*[1] and *v.*, Work.

**†Werke.** *Obs. rare.* [a. MLG. *werk* (LG. *wark*): see Work *sb.*] Honey-comb.

The quota. refer to Hanseatic traders of 1398-8.

**1398** Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 169 Five pieces of waxe, foure hundred of werke, and halfe a last of osmundes. *Ibid.* Diuers goods and marchandises, namely oyle, waxe, and werke, to the value of 500. pounds.

**†Werkhop.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A measure containing two bushels and a half.

*c* **1300** *Battle Abbey Cust'umals* (Camden) 55 Cottarii malores debent triturare unum werkhop, quod continet 4j. bussellos et dimidium, scilicet de frumento...De ordeo vero, ij. werkhops ejusdem mensure.

**Werkyn, werkyng,** obs. ff. Work, Working.

**Werlaugh(e, werlaw(e,** etc.: see Warlock[1].

**Werld(e,** obs. forms of World.

**† Werle.** *Obs.*—[1] [*f. were* Wear *v.* + -le.] ? Covering, mitre.

*a.* *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 269 A pyȝt coroune set wer þat gyrle, ..Hiȝe pynakled of cler quyt perle,..To hed hade ho non oþer werle.

**Werlik, Werlot,** obs. Sc. ff. Warlike, Varlet. **Werlle,** obs. f. World. **Werlyng,** var. Warling *Obs.* **Werm,** obs. f. Worm.

**†Wermod.** *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3-5 **wermod** (1 **wær-, wyr-,** 4 **wr-**), 2 **wermot**; 3, 5 **weremod**; 4-5 **wermode, wormod(e.** [OE. *wermod* = OS. *wer(i)mōdia, wermōde* (MLG. *wermede*), OHG. *wer(i)muota, wer-, wormōta*, etc. (MHG. *wermuote, -muot*, G. *wermut, -muth*, whence F. *vermout* Vermouth), of obscure origin.] = Wormwood.

*c* **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 9 *Absinthium*, wermod. *a* **1000** *Riddles* xli. 60 Swylce ic eom wræþre þonne wermod sy. *c* **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Deos wyrt is man absinthium & oþrum naman wermod nemned. *a* **1200** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 296/24 Wermod. *a* **1200** *Ibid.* 544/35 Wermot. **1382** Wyclif *Prov.* v. 4 Bitter as wormod. — *Lam.* iii. 19 Recorde...of wrmod [1388 wermod] and of galle. **1402** *Friar Daw in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 52 Wermode, Jak, moost werch was Weield, your maister. *c* **1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 344 The soure almaund & wermode & feyn gresk. *c* **1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) Absinthum ..gallice aloine, anglice wermode.

**Wern(e,** obs. ff. Warn *v.*[1] ; var. ff. Warn *v.*[2] *Obs.*

**Wernage,** Sc. var. Vernage, Warnage.

**†Wernard.** *Obs.* [a. AF. **wernard* = O. F. *guernard* 'trompeur' (Godefroy).] A deceiver, liar.

**1362** Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 98 For wel ȝe witen, wernardes, but ȝif ȝe wil leyne, ȝe faile at a ffyne. *Ibid. B.* III. 179 Wel ȝow wost, wernard, but ȝif þow wolt gabbe, þow hast hanged on myne half eleuene tymes. **c1386** Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 161 Of Cryspyn, this ilke wernard, god yiue hym meschaunce.

**Wernerian** (wɜnɪərɪən), *a.* and *sb.* [See -ian.]

**A.** *adj.* Of or relating to A. G. *Werner* (1750–1817), a German mineralogist and geologist, who advocated the theory of the aqueous origin of rocks; favouring Werner's views; agreeing with Werner's system or theory.

**1811** *Edin. Rev.* XIX. 222 We cannot help thinking that the Wernerian geology is faulty. **1842** Sedgwick in *Hudson's Guide Lakes* (1843) 206 The Wernerian hypothesis has now passed away. **1856** J. Hamilton *Mem. T. Witon* I. 12 The discussion...between Wernerian and Huttonian theorists.

**B.** *sb.* A supporter of Werner's theory; a Neptunian.

**1815** W. Phillips *Outl. Min. & Geol.* 183 These two parties are termed volcanists and neptunists; or more familiarly by geologists, Huttonians and Wernerians. **1858** Sedgwick *Geol. Cumbrian Mts.* in *Life & Lett.* (1872) I. vi, The career of the Wernerians in undervaluing...the influence of volcanic forces. **1890** *Nature* 3 July 218/1 The Wernerians were retreating before the Huttonians.

Hence **Wernerianism,** the Wernerian or Neptunian theory or system.

**1890** *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 181/1 Ignoring the importance of volcanic action as a geological agent, Wernerianism saw even in basalt no lava, but a basalt nothing more than precipitates from aqueous solutions.

**Wernerite** (wɜ·nərəit). *Min.* [Named in honour of A. G. *Werner* the German mineralogist: see -ite.] Silicate of aluminium and calcium, the most important member of the scapolite group.

**1821** Phillips *Min. Petrol.* I. 205 Wernerite is generally reddish. **1823** J. Bischof *Crystallogr.* 481 Scapolite... Wernerite. **1851** Mantell *Petrifactions* iv. § 1. 304 Felspathic substances, Triphane;...Wernerite.

**Wernne,** var. Warn *v.*[2] *Obs.*

**Wernysh-,** obs. form of Varnish *v.*

**Werowance** (we·rowans). Forms: 6–7 wer-, wiroance, wiroans, 7 wyroaunce, -ance, wyroun(n)ce, 7–9 werowance. [Amer.-Indian.] A chief of the Indians of Virginia and Maryland in old colonial days.

**1588** Harriot *Brief Rep. Virginia* E 2, One onely towne belonged to the gouernment of a Wiroans or chiefe Lorde. *Ibid.* E 3 b, What subtilty soeuer be in the Wiroances and Priestes, (in opinion workers) so much [etc.]. **1589** R. Lane in *Hakluyt Voy.* 738 There be sundry Kings, whom they call Weroances. *c* **1608** F. M. Wingfield *Discourse Virginia* in *Capt. J. Smith's Works* (Arb.) I. p. lxxvi, Both these werowances were sent ouer-seas prisoners to peace and trade with vs. **1612** Capt. J. Smith *Map Virginia* Wks. (Arb.) I. 82 This woord Werowance which we call lord ouer-Lord or king, is a generall woord whereby they call all commanders. **1635** *Relat. Maryland* 26 Their Government is Monarchicall, he that governes in chiefe, is called the Werowance. **1705** Beverley *Hist. Virginia* iv. 58 (1722) 191 A Werowance is a Military Officer, who of Course takes upon him the Command of all Parties.

**1893** M. S. Dixon *Old Rabbit* 1. 3 She was accepted as a child of the Werowances. **1899** *Atlantic Monthly* June 765/2 The canoe of the Namesmond werowance.

**Werp(e,** obs. forms of Warp *sb.* and *v.*

**Werr,** obs. f. War, Waur *a.*, Wear *v.*[2] **Werra, -ly, -ment,** obs. Sc. ff. Very, Verily, Verament.

**Werrand:** see Warrant.

**†Werrar,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *werr* War, Waur *a.* + -er.] = Worser *a.*

*c* **1400** *Apol. Lolt.* 49 Pey semen werrar þan þe fend, þat asked stonis to be turnid in to bred.

**Werrate,** obs. Sc. f. Verity. **Werray:** see Very *a.*, Warray *v.* **Werrayour:** see Warrior.

**Werre,** variant of Were *Obs.* spring-time.

**1436** *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 194 In tyme of wynter and of werre (*v.r.* veer) Whan boistous wyndes put see-men into ferre.

**Werre,** obs. f. Very, War, Ware *a.*, Worry *v.*

**Werres,** var. Werray *v. Obs.* **Werreles,** obs. f. Warless *a.*

**+Werrell.** *Obs.* (See *sea-poull* Sea *sb.* 23 d.)

**1658** Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 The handsome Rhombusses of the Sea-poult or Werrell, on either side the Spine.

**Werrest,** obs. f. Worst. **Werrey,** obs. f. Very. **Werrey(e,** var. ff. Warray *v. Obs.*, Worry *v.* **Werreyoure, -iour,** obs. ff. Warrior.

**Werrie,** obs. Sc. f. Wary.

**Werrit** (we·rit), *v. dial.* [Local variant of Wherrit or Worrit.] *trans.* To tease, annoy.

**1825** Brockett *N. C. Words, s.v.*, He would request not to be *werrited* so much about it. **1828** Carr *Craven Gloss.* **1865** W. S. Banks *Wakefield Words* 80 *Werritin*, weary-ing; fretful and tiresome. Whata werritin barn thah are!

**Werrow, Werrowan,** obs. ff. Worse, Worsen *v.*

**Werry,** var. Verry *a. Obs.*

**1486** *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b v b, The threde [coat-armour] is calléd werry, whan the felde is made like gobelettys of diuerse colowris.

**Werry,** obs. or dial. f. Very; var. Warray *v. Obs.*, Wary *v. Obs.*; obs. f. Worry *v.* **Werry-o(u)r,** obs. f. Warrior.

**Wers(e,** obs. ff. Verse, Worse. **Wersell,** obs. f. Wrestle. **Werset,** obs. f. Verset.

**Wersh** (wɜʃ; Sc. werʃ, wɛrʃ, warʃ), *a.* Sc. and *north dial.* Forms: 5 **warsch(e,** 6 **walrsche,** 7–9 **warsh,** 9 **wairsh, wearsh, wersh,** 8- **werrish.** [Prob. a contracted form of Wearish. Cf. Wersired *a.*]

**1.** a. Of persons: Sickly or feeble in appearance. Also Comb. *wersh-like, -looking.*

*c* **1480** Henryson *Orpheus & Eur.* 293 Lene and dedelike, pitiouse and pale of hewe, Rycht waisch [*v.r.* warsche] and wan, & walowit as a wedis. **1842** Carlyle in Froude *Reminis.* (1884) I. 244 A harmless, intelligent enough, rather *wersh*-looking man. **1877** W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xii. 289, I thocht she was lukin' unco like.

b. Physically weak or sickly; squeamish.

**1725** R. Forbes *Ajax* etc. *Jrnl. to Portsmouth* 29 It was enough to gi' a warsh-stamack'd body a scunner. **1872** Mrs. Lynn Linton *Joshua Davidson* vi. 119 We were getting wersh and weak for want of food.

**2.** Destitute of savour; insipid, tasteless, or sickly-flavoured; unsalted. = Wearish *a.* 1. Also *fig.*

*fig.* **1599** Rollock *Serm. Epist. Paul* viii. Wks. 1849 I. 398 He calls it not simple and fatuish with one wearish word, the gospell,, but he calls it the licht of the gospell. **1618** W. Barlay *Well at King-horne* A vij, So ceasing to prosecute this warsh and unsauery matter, I will neuer cease to continue Your I.. most humble and obedient seruitour. **1633** W. Struthers *True Happiness* 48 This was Balaams warsh wishing, his desire was good, but his heart peruerted not his heart, how could he possess the heauen? **1720** Ramsay *Wealth* 133 And Helicon's wersh well thou ca's divine. **1820** *Hackw. Mag.* VIII. 80 As Anarticles, they were not so musty as those of the old Scots Magazine, or so wersh. **1884** Swinburne in *19th Cent.* Oct. 556 Charles Reade's Dominican is worth a dozen such 'wersh', ineffectual, invertebrate studies.

*trans.* **1823** J. Wilson *Marg. Lyndesay* xxix, Water's unco wersh, and does na sloken weel. **1832** *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 256/2 Sage-stuffing and apple-sauce—without which indeed your goose is wersh. **1853** Sheeba *Gold-Finder Australia* 161 It is my opinion, this mutton's unco wersh, Watty. Ha'e ye ony sauce? **1861** E. B. Ramsay *Reming.* Sct. ii. 61 It's a' very true, but a kiss and a tinnie'ful o' cauld water makes a gey wersh breakfast. **1901** *Glasgow Herald* 2 May 8 To be sure, unfermented wine is wersh.

**3.** Of weather or wind: Unrefreshing; raw.

**1830** Galt *Lawrie T.* vii. vi, The breeze, as it comes from the surrounding lofty woods, is wersh. **1894** Crockett *Raiders* xl. 338 The yellow mist..had a wersh (raw) unkindly feel about it.

**Wersh(e,** *adv.* Obs.—[1] [Cf. prec.] Tasteless.

**1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xcv. (Tollemache MS.) With oute salte nyȝe all mete is wersh[id (1535 werishe] and unsauery (*insipidus et insaporus*).

**Wershly,** *adv. Sc.* [f. Wersh *a.*] Insipidly; without animation or cordiality.

**1633** W. Struthers *True Happiness* 101 The Scribes spake warshly, as men doing some seruice; or as Boyes in the Schoole, rehearsing other mens inventions. **1676** Row *Suppl. Blair's Autobiog.* xi. (1848) 364 The Moderator thanked him as slenderly and wershlie as before.

**Wershkill,** obs. Sc. f. Vermicle.

**Wersil, wersale,** obs. ff. Wassle.

**Wersslete,** error for Berclet *Obs.*, hunting dog.

*c* **1425** Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. 1610 *note.*

**Werst,** obs. 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of Be *v.*

**Werst,** obs. f. First, Worst. **Werst(e,** obs. ff. Verset. **Werstl...tle,** obs. ff. Wassle.

**Wert,** 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of Be *v.*

**Wert(e,** obs. ff. Wart, Wort. **Werteous,** obs. f. Virtuous. **Werterean, -ian, -ism:** see Wertherian, -ism. **Wertew,** obs. f. Virtue.

**Werth(e:** see Worth *sb., a., v.*

**Wertherian** (vaɪtɛ·rɪən), *a.* Also **Werterian, -ean.** [f. G. *Werther*, the hero of Goethe's romance 'Die Leiden des jungen Werther' (1774) + -ian.] Morbidly sentimental.

**1831** Carlyle *Sartor Res.* II. v, Their mad Petrarchan and Wertherean wars. **1850** *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 249 Some who are accustomed to consider that poem [*Locksley Hall*] as Werterian and unhealthy. **1852** Hackeray *Pendennis* xli, The Byronic despair, the Wertherian despondency. **1857** Trollope *Barch. T.* xxxiv, An ancient love-lorn swain.. full of imaginary sorrows and Wertherian grief.

**Wertherism** (vaɪtərɪz'm). Also **Werterism.** [f. as prec. + -ism.] Morbid sentimentality.

**1831** Carlyle *Charact. Esa.* 1872 IV. 26 Werterism, Byronism, even Brummelism, each has its day. **1856** Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* iii. 471 My German stopped At germane Wertherism. **1873** Hamerton *Intell. Life* x. ii. 343

Goethe…cured himself very soon, and the author of 'Werther' had no indulgence for Wertherism.

**Wertow, wertu,** obs. ff. VIRTUE. **Wertual(l, Wertuo(u)se,** obs. ff. VITUAL, VIRTUOUS.

**We'rturn.** [var. of *wartern*, dial. f. QUARTERN *sb.*² 3 c (quot. 1883).] A particular weight of wool (see quots.).

1883 ISSERSON *Woollen Manuf. Guide* 13 Threads of slubbing, varying from 4 to 12 skeins per werturn. *Ibid.* 89, 1,500 yards are a standard skein. Six pounds, or 1,536 drams, are a standard werturn.

**Wertu(u)s, wertuwise, wertus,** obs. ff. VIRTUOUS. **Wertwale, var. WARTWALE. Werty,** obs. f. WORTHY.

**† Werve.** *Obs.* [OE. *weorf* (rare) a beast of burden.] A 'beast' for riding on.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 [He] bond his wunden & brohte him huppan his werue. *Ibid.* Þa bigeaten his werue, þet is unorne mare. [= Lk. x. 34 *in iumentum suum.*]

**Wervel,** variant of VARVEL.

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss.

**Wery,** obs. f. WERY; var. WARY *v.*; obs. f. WEARY, WORRY *v.* **Weryauns,** obs. f. VARIANCE.

**† Weryer.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. ME. *werien* WERE *v.*] A defender, guardian.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 926 After his spac god to abram: 'Sin here and tin weryer [OE. *werigend*: L. *protector*] ic ham.

**Weryfy, Weryly,** obs. ff. VERIFY *v.*, VERILY.

**Weryouns,** obs. f. VARIANCE. **Weryson,** var. WARISON *Obs.* **Weryte,** obs. Sc. f. VERITY.

**Wes,** obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.* **Wesage,** obs. Sc. f. VISAGE. **Wesand(e, -a(u)nt,** etc., obs. ff. WEASAND. **Wesar,** obs. Sc. f. VISOR.

**Wesch,** obs. f. WASH. **Weschael(le, -all, -ale, -all,** obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL. **Weschcraft,** obs. f. WITCHCRAFT. **Weschc,** obs. f. WASH, WISH. **Weschel, -ele, -ell,** etc., obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL.

**Wese,** obs. pres. imper. of BE *v.*; obs. f. VIZY *v.*

**We'se** = *we shall*: see SHALL *v.* A. 5.

**† Wesel.** *Obs. rare.* (Meaning obscure.)

c 1220 *Liber Cocorum* 52 For wesels. Fyrst grynde poke, temper in fere With eggen [etc.].

**Wesel(e,** obs. ff. WEASEL. **Wesell,** obs. f. WEASEL; var. WEZZLE *Obs.* **Weser,** rare obs. Sc. f. WIZARD.

**Wesh,** dial. f. WASH *sb.* and *v.*

**We-ship.** *none-a-tod.* [f. WE *pron.* (2 b) + -SHIP (3 b).] *His we-ship*, a mock title applied to a writer who has used the impersonal 'we'.

1673 MARVELL *Rehearsal Transp.* II. 105 'Tis most gracciously done that his We-ship will allow them it.

**Wesil,** obs. f. WEASEL. **Wesill,** obs. f. WEASEL; var. WEEZLE *Obs.* **Wesing,** rare obs. f. WEASAND. **Wesit,** obs. Sc. f. VISIT *v.* **Wesle,** obs. f. WEASEL.

**Wesleyan** (we'sliăn, wez'liăn, wezl'ĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **Weslean, Wesleian.** [f. the name of John *Wesley*, 1703-1791, originator of Methodism + -AN. The accepted pronunciation among Methodists is (we'sliăn).]

**A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Wesley or his teaching; belonging to the Wesleyans as a religious organization.

1771 J. W. FLETCHER *Checks to Antinom.* Wks. 1795 II. 277 Upon the scheme of what you call the 'Wesleyan orthodoxy', Christ is really the Saviour of all men. 1791 HARRISON *Hem. Wesley* III. 77 A circumstance, in the Wesleian economy, as remarkable as any, is the admission of lay-preachers. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* viii, A trim Wesleyan chapel, with tiny windows. 1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jrnl.* (1891) 39 D, and I drove to see a fine Wesleyan church. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 56 A Wesleyan meeting.

**b.** *Wesleyan Methodist*, a member of the society of Methodists as constituted by John Wesley; also *attrib.* passing into *adj.*, of or pertaining to the Wesleyan Methodists as an organization. *Wesleyan Methodism*, the religious principles, practice, and organization of the Wesleyan Methodists.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Univ. Geog.* I. 480 In 1788, the number of Wesleian Methodists in the United States, stood thus. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 142 2 Since his decease, the prevalence of Wesleyan Methodism in North America has been very great. *Ibid.*, The Wesleyan Methodist church in Upper Canada. 1858 [see METHODIST 4 a]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 186/1 Herein was the actual and vital beginning of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, that is, of Wesleyan Methodism.

**B.** *sb.* A follower of John Wesley; a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, a Wesleyan Methodist.

1792 *Gentl. Mag.* LXII. 1. 20/1 The Wesleyans found fault with the curate for the topics of his discourses. 1832 in Flor. M. Hawtrey *Hawtrey Family* (1903) II. 25 That John should leave the Weslians [*sic*] puzzles me. 1877 F. G. LEE *Celest. Lithurg. Terms, Wesleyan*, a person who belongs to the sect of Arminian Methodists founded by John Wesley.

**Wesleyanism** (we'sliănĭz'm). Also 8 **Weslei-anism.** [f. WESLEYAN + -ISM.] The system of Arminian theology introduced and taught by John Wesley; the doctrines and church polity of the Wesleyans; Wesleyan Methodism.

1774 J. FLETCHER *Hist. Ext. Wks.* 1795 IV. 20 They have departed from what we call Christianity, and what you are



at full liberty to call Wesleianism. 1842 PUSEY *Present Crisis* 163 Wesleyanism then was said to be 'degenerating into a developed heresy,' in that it substitutes for the Catholic teaching, a doctrine of justification, for which there is 'no warrant in the Word of God'. 1861 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 345 No sooner did he find that Wesleyans formed the majority of —— Parish, than he began to preach and to talk Wesleyanism. 1902 *Q. Rev.* July 243 Wesleyanism was traditional in the family.

**We'sleyanized,** *pa. pple.* [f. as prec. + -IZE + -ED.] Affected by Wesleyanism.

1892 KELLS in J. T. Coleridge *Hom. Rev.* (1867) 313 [Isle of Man] The clergy a nice set, but rather Wesleyanized. c 1905 J. HUNTER in R. S. Hunter *Life* (1921) 220 The English Congregational Union. Its churches and ministry…are getting to be religionists more and more 'Wesleyanized'.

**Weslеyism** (we'slĭĭz'm). *rare.* = WESLEYAN-ISM.

1827 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xx. 394 Wesleyism also flourishes. 1902 *Ch. Times* 22 Apr. 3/3 Wesleyism and Quakerism..had no hold on him.

**We'sleyite.** *nonce-wd.* = WESLEYAN *sb.*

1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 504 Among the Wesleyites, and some other denominations of Dissenters.

**Weslyng,** var. WISSELING *Obs. Sc.*

**Wesp,** obs. form of WISP.

**Wess,** obs. f. WASH *v.* **Wessande,** obs. f. WEASAND. **Wessayle, obs. f. WASSAIL. Wessch,** obs. f. WASH *v.* **Wesschael(le,** obs. Sc. ff. VESSEL.

**Wesse,** obs. f. WASH *v.*; obs. pa. t. of BE *v.*

**Wessel,** *adv. Sc.* Also westle, wastle, wassel, etc. [Perh. *adv.* use of f. WESSEL.] Westward.

*Awestill* 'to the west of': occurs in 16th c. Sc.

1815, 1829 [see EASSEL]. 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws of Marches* xiv. 157 We was jickering along westsil, as I say, wi' our heads to the weather.

**Wessel(e, -ell(e,** obs. ff. VESSEL. **Wesseyl(e,** obs. ff. WASSAIL. **Wessh(e,** obs. ff. WASH.

**Wessie,** obs. f. VIXY *v.* Sc.

**West** (west), *adv.*, *sb.*¹, and *a.* Forms: 1- west (1 west-, 3 *vest*, west, 3-7 weste (5 *Sc.* veste), 4-5, 7-9 wast, 6-7 weast, 9 (*Sc.* wast, weyst, 7 *Sc.* vaist). [Com. Teutonic: OE. *west* adv. = OFris. *west* (WFris. *west*, NFris. *wést*, *wést*), OS. *-west* (in *north-*, *súthwest*); MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du. *west*, OHG. *west-* (G. *west*), ON. and Icel. (with *r*- suffix; cf. *austr* EAST, etc.) *vestr* (MSw. *väster*, Sw. *vester*); MSw. *väst* (rare), Norw., Sw., Da. *vest* (prob. after LG.); not recorded in Gothic. The primitive Germanic stem **west-t-* appears to be an extension of the **west-* found in Gr. ἕσπερος, ἑσπέρα, L. *vesper*, *vespera* evening, west. In HG. dialects *abend* is similarly used for 'west'.

In OE. *west* occurs only as an adv., the use as noun and adj. being a later development. In the cognate languages it is usually (in some exclusively) a noun in the earlier period, the adverbial use coming later, and the adjectival being represented only by the first element in compounds (OE. *west-in-west-dæl*, etc.).

The fact that the Romanic forms for 'east' (F. *est*, etc.) have been adopted from English indicates that this, rather than any other Germanic language, is also the source of F. *ouest* (OF. *west*), Sp. and Pg. *oeste*.]

**A.** *adv.* Towards or in the direction of that part of the horizon where the sun sets.

**1. a.** With reference to movement, extension, or direction.

In Sc. (and Anglo-Irish) use freq. added to verbs of going or coming to indicate the general direction: see quots. under (*b*).

(*a*) *O. E. Chron.* an. 886 Her for se here eft west þa æt east Sture. 1154 *Charters of Eadmund* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 541 Þonne west andlang weges on ðone lytlan beorg. c 1298 *Battle of Maldon* 97 Weston þa wæl-wulfas,..west ofer ðæt wæter. 1340 *Ayenb.* 226 Þe wei þet gyt west. Of ham herþaðe west..on ðone stanz of ðon stane west..on Hidusfolde. c 1205 LAY. 1278 Heo ferden forð & eoden heo þenne west & norð. c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 2068 (Kaluza) Whan sche was take wip gile, He fiii for greet peile West into Hidusfolde. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 3, 3 *Sattan*.. I schall walke west & north, And gaste Jame werke þat ye walke. 1489 *Rec. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 116 A man to pass to Edinburgh to haist the gunnis west. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 b/1 Whan the wynde is west, it goth westward. 1581 BUSBECQ *Discourse Voy. Compas* (1589) 61, The course set downe from Sillie to Cape Raso is due West. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 115 There lies your way, due West. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 1, I intended once to have gone due West this Journey. 1760 R. ROGERS *Ponth.* (1766) 197 We..kept the following courses:..west-by-south one mile, west two miles. 1848 B. WISE *Rep. Coal Scotland*, If the basilica orientated west. *Ibid.* 482 The remaining three..have their altars facing due west. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxvi. splendid mansions, which..stretch west further than any man has been yet. 1892 KIPLING *Barr. & Room Ballads* etc., L'Envoi, It's North you may run to the rim-ringed sun..Or West to the Golden Gate.

(*b*) a 1294 *Ewbanke, Marion* 34 in Ramsay *Teat. Misc.*, And soon as my chin has nae hair on, I shall come west, and see you. c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* viii. (1754) I. 181 He told us we must go West a Piece (though there was no Appearance of the Sun) and then incline to the North 1887 ARNIE S. SWAN *Gates of Eden* i. 14 Weel a weel, tell them I'll come west when I'm ready.

**b.** In special applications: (*a*) *To go west*, of the sun; also *fig.*, to die, perish, disappear. (*b*) To America, or to the Western States.

Also (*c*) in Highland Sc. and Anglo-Irish use freq. rendering Gael. *siar*, *iar* (= west, back) in the sense of 'back', 'away', 'up', or 'down'.

The immediate source of the modern use in (*a*), which became common during the Great War, has not been established.

(*a*) c 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 13365 For bit was nyght, the sonne goth west. 1590 C. *Bancroft* in *L. G. W.* 61 (Trin. Camb.) Assone As the son gynneth go west. 18—. *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 48 (S.T.S.) 55 Women and mony wilsome wy as wynd or wattir ar gone west. 1915 E. CONNY *Thirty Yrs. Boxing Referee* 2, I shall once again be in the company of dear old friends now 'gone West'. 1919 J. B. MORTON *Barber of Putney* ix, 'All the lads is gone west,' someone said. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 368/2 Their parcels..went persistently 'west'. 1923 'LOIS' *Death of Millionaire* vi. 57 Wilson sighed. 'These are valuable evidence gone west,' he said. 'It may be hard to pick up the trail now.'

(*b*) 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xviii. 129, I could not help thinking that one must 'go west' in order to learn a little of everything. 1851 J. L. B. SOULE in *Terre Haute Express* (Hoyt) Go West, young man! Go West. 1898 W. NASH *Oregon* 5 After declaring the state settled to go West by the Pennsylvania railroad, going South..to Philadelphia, and thence West by way of Pittsburg. 1899 W. SAUNDERS *Through Light Cent.* 15 'Go West, young man,' was Horace Greeley's advice, and West I went accordingly.

(*c*) 1893 W. K. *Le Fanu Yr. Irr. Life* vii. (ed. 2) 90 'Why didn't you wash the face of it?' 'Sorra time was too far west, my lady.'..'Tis not a cold I have at all..'tis a fly that's gone west in my stomach.'

**2.** With reference to place or location.

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix. 8 ȝ Se..aefenscuræa, þonne he bið west ȝeæwen, þonne tacnað he uðfu. c 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 894 Þa he þa wið þone here west ahiexod wæs. 971 *Rievaulx Hexne.* 129 Zenuelphum..in parte occidentali ecclesiæ on anre mile. c 1200 ORMIN 12255 Þa fowwe dalesalle Þatt Æst, & West, & Suþ, & Norrþ þiss middellärd bilukenn. a 1250 *Owl & N.* 923 East & west, south & north, I dele al Þayre my mesitr. c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 59 Whether ȝe be south other west. c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 2128 Est, west, norþ and soupe, He maistrie of hem troupe Many man comþ þey schende. 14.. *Sporting Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 18 Londay and the old bede of Hundilfode lye west and by north. 1559 CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 1 Fine Hauens..Of which that which is most west, is called properlye Ebusa. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 459 Where it [Suffolk] leth West and toward Cambridgeshire. a 1648 HACON *New Atlantis* 14 The Phœnicians..had great Fleetes. So had the Carthaginians their Colony, which is yet further West. 1799 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 379 One of the Islands which lay West, and a little Northerly. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. v. § 2 We shall have a nice little flat somewhere, not too far west.

**b.** Followed by *of*.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 49 b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Kenet riseth above Ouerton, v or vj myles west of Maileborow. 1597 STOWE 2 *Hen. IV* IV. 119 West of this Forrest, scarcely off a mile, lyeth a pleasant Towne, named Ilsam. 1728 [see WESTERLING]. 1784 FILSON *Kentucky* 52 Lees town is west of Lexington. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 219 The Lakes..lay south-west, and west of Keswick. 1873 RUSKIN *Mornt. Florence* i. 5 A few hundred yards west of you..is the Baptistery of Florence.

**c.** *U.S.* In the West, out West. (Cf. C. 3 b.)

1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xi. 126 One of 'em married West, and her husband left her.

**3.** With modifying addition (in senses 1 and 2), as *west by south*, etc. Also WEST-SOUTH-WEST, -SOUTH-WEST.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 48 b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Wittrish..meeteth with the Sea west by south of Northmore. 1760 R. ROGERS *Ponth.* (1765) 197 We..then steered..west-by-south two miles, west-by-north four miles.

**4.** *Sr.* Elliptical, as *prep.* = At, in, or to the west of. **b.** Towards the west along (a road, etc.).

1587 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 480/2 Iuniper creavit di tum Burgum de Anstruther supe occidentali fi rentis (west the burne). 1589 *Ibid.* 573 1 Steckend west the hie street to the dyk. 1728 RAMSAY *Mar and Keith* 1 Ye'll step ye west the Kill A Pow shot, and ye'll find my Hame. *Mod.* I saw him rinnin' west the road. He bides west the town.

**B.** 1. Quasi *sb.* = C.

c 1200 ORMIN 11258 All þiss middellärd iss eȝ Dowwre dalesa tiredd, Onn Æst, o Weest, o Suþ, o Norrþ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12339 Fra sat to weest, fra weest to est, Sal do mak hosannun cuth. a 1300 *K. Horn* 1177 (Camb. MS.) He habbe go mani Mil's, Wel four hi ponde weste. c 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 15 A longe rope in a square from est to West, fro south to north. c 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxix. 208 Lord, whenne I you comest to deme so Al be world be frye, bofe est and west. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 51 Knicht be this warld had eist and west, All wer poopillit be lang gladnes. 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* ii. 69 Th' increasing shadowes doubleth the sunne going downe at West. 1577 [L. SKEITE *Ashtheol Pep.* B iv b, West is the space between West and Northwest, vntill the 4. of Iulie. 1611 SPEED *Cumb.* v. v. 471 The Romaine Eagle From South to West, on wing soaring high Leuell'd her course. 1848 E. FITZGERALD *Clear Sun-shine of Comp.* 30 A brighter day..wherein East & West shall sing the song of the Lambe. 1674 SIR J.

**2.** *By west* : **+a.** In the west; on the west side; also westward *of. Obs.*

13 . *K. Horn* 5 (Hall.) Kyng he was by weste. *c* 1300 — 1366 (Laud) He wonede alby weste. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 18 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 41 Temese into be est sest, & souene bi weste. *c* 1325 Shoreham vii. 64 By weste by grendely, alle by-se, And comeb agen her by ayse. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* (1901) 640 As I wandrede late bi weste flaste vnder a foreste ayble. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 419 Quhare wourschip walkis he west. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1764) III. 7 A Castel a Mile by West from Markeschin. 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. 54/1 in *Holinshed*, The Weie in the Waxe rising by west, cometh from Olsted. *Ibid.* 53/2 By west of Auterton point also lyeth another haven. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iii. 32 Not farre away, but little wide by West, His dwelling was.

**+b.** As a compound prep. : On the west side of, to the west of (see By *prep.* 9 c). Also *fig.* (quot. 1612). *Obs.*

*c* 1175 Lay. 2136 Cambor hafde al him gralf bi weste Seuarne. 14 . *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 16 And by west bribille and Ortingere southwest. 1582 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 201/1 In Southe Wales, by west the blak Montayne. 1598 in *Arch. Cambr.* (1878) 118 Lewis ap Owen before Sanct Michaelis altar be West the said altar. 1612 Davies *Why Ireland* etc (1787) 177 Whereupon grew that by-word used by the Irish, viz. that they dwelt *by west the law*, which dwelt beyond the river of the Barrow. 1661 Lamond *Diary* (Maid Club) 139 The Earle of Weyms be ganne to build a new hauny for shipping, a little be west Saltgreene. 1714 R. Smith *Poems of Controv.* (1853) 2 Let all be-west the Spittel come.

**c.** *Naut.* Indicating certain points of the compass (see By *prep.* 9 b).

14 .. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 14 How haunt and the poule hope lien north and by west south. *Ibid.* 20 For cause of that Rok ye must go north and by west. 1598 W. Phillip in *E. Luke Inform.* (1605) 165 We be all our course, from thence south West and by West, vnto the cape *de Bona Sperança*. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 242 South and by west the streamers flowing from below.

**C.** *sb.* (Usually with *the*.)

**1.** That one of the four cardinal points which lies opposite the east and at right angles to the north and the south; that part of the horizon or of the sky which is near the place of the sun's setting.

*In the west*, of the wind, as blowing from the west.

*c* 1180 *Homorities Cambr.* (1858) 118 Vele versus le West per viridem viam. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Axe is be sunne gleam, bet smit from east into be west. *c* 1290 *Beranger* 48 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 231 Ase a coumb is a water, bat euere fleam-ward be est, toward be west it drouy. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 23 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 48 Engeland . is . two hondred [miele] brod in Fram be est in to be west. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* x 19 The Lord . made blow the moost hidous wynde fro the west. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 45 pe lengbe of pe erbe pat men wonep yone fram pe est to pe west, pat is from Ynde to Hercules pilers . a 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 46 Toward the West, is the Contree of Coston. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 209/28 Pan is hys heyl leyde into be west and hys fette into be est. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 54 When ye se a cloude ryse out of the west, strayght waye ye saye: we shall have a shewer. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 40 Leaving open a space for two dooures, a fore dooure and a backe dooure, but so, as neyther of them open to the West. 1614 E. Wright *Dialling* C 2, Your face being turned towards the North, your right hand sheweth the East, your left hand the West. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 511 In the Eastern Paris, and rising Sky, You in Heav'n Downfal, and the West must lie. 1712 J. Morton *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 421 Pikes . never bite freely, than when the Wind is in the West. *a* 1723 Bingham *Antiq. Chr. Ch.* XI. vii. § 6 In renouncing the Devil they had their Faces towards the West. *a* 1748 Watts *Summer Evening* 5 Now the fair traveller's come to the west,.. He paints the sky gay, as he sinks to his rest. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* III. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar. 1828 Pusey *Lect. Eccleslast.* 106 A road, . between which and the communion-table was a small prayer-desk facing the west, i. e. the people. 1876 Bartlett *Faith of Love* xxiii. 71 I travel to thee with the sun's first rays. That lift the dark west and unwrap the night. 1925 J. Metcalfe *Smoking Log*, etc. 116 When the wind was in the west.

*transf.* and *fig.* 1863 Dowden *Spiritual.* 181 May never age, or error overthwart With any West, these radiant eyes, with any North, this heart. 1609 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 47 O joyfull day! Thou hast restord our light Wrapt up in constant night, In one continu'd West. 1655 Fanshawe *Camoens' Lusiad* I. xxxii. 7 But now he fears that Zelinda's neer it's West, the black Water of Oblivion.

**b.** That quarter which with regard to the speaker or some particular place lies in a westerly direction.

1537 *Recorde. Aberdeen.* (Maitl. Club) I. 412 His tenement lyand in Auld Aberdene afornent pe cors of pe samynge one pe west. 1692 Milton *P. R.* IV. 45 A Sunny hill . Back'd on the North and West by a thick wood. 1773 Northcote *Hist. Lond.* 597 Cord wainers-ward . is bounded . on the west by Bread-street-ward. *a* 1857 Moore *Irish Melodies* (1863) 25 The Lithuanians of Prussia on the west.

**c.** Followed by *of*.

1613 Zouche *Dove* B 61, Above Judæa, bord'ring on the West Of great Armenia, lesser Asia lyes. *a* 1660 *Contempl. Hist. Jrel* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 134 The armie marched to Bellaghmegree on the weaste of Aleage. 1715 tr. *Cre.py's Annales* (1729) I. 328 According to the Meridian I travel to lies to the East or to the West of the Meridian I the other. 1789 S. Shaw *Trav II. Eng.* 563 To the west of this lies Overton. 1839 Alexander *Kaffraria* iv. ii, Horrow-on-the-Hill . lying to the west of the green on which they walked.

**2.** *spec.* **a.** The western part of the world. Now commonly, Europe as distinguished from Asia.

*c* 1205 Lay. 2231 Bi-zende France i pet west pu scalt finden a wunsum lond. 1297 R. Gloue. (Rolls) 2 Engeleond his luet in be on ende of be worlde as al in be west. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* viii. 11 Manye shulen come fro the est and west. *c* 1400 *Antures of Arth.* 703 Wayuour gared wisely write in be west, To al be religious to rede and to singe. 1503 Skarn *z Hen. VI*, I. i. 154 All the wealthy Kingdomes of the West. 1613 Zouche *Dove* D 4, First Bacchus . set vp tropiees in the conquer'd East: Oh would he had gone on as he beganne, And neuer turned to subdue the West! 1782 Cray *Descr. Odin* 63 In the caverns of the west. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 811 Eastern Java there Kneels with the native of the farthest west. 1800 Wordsw. *Extinction of Venetian Rep.* 2 Once did She hold the gorgeous east in fee; And was the safeguard of the west. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the women-markets of the west, Where our Circassians let themselves be sold. 1890 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 188 The Lords of Their Hands assembled: from the East and the West they drew. 1900 A. S. Hurd *Naval Efficiency* 19 In the West there seems to be an impression that the fleet of Japan is a mere matter of show.

**b.** The western portion of the Roman world after its division into two empires in A.D. 395.

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Schol.* VI. i. 360 When y^e Emperour Theodosius had departed this life, this somnes tooke in hand the gouernment of the Romaine empire. Arcadius ruled the East and Honorius the West. 1610 R. Field *Fifth Bk. Ch.* xxxv. 194 The Bishop of Rome . called a Synode of all the Bishops of the West. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxiii. (1789) III. 327 Honorius, emperor of the West. 1790 Priestley *Gen. Hist. Christ.* I. 332 Having now carried the history in the East, let us now turn our eyes towards the West, where Valentinian governed. 1840 Milman *Hist. Chr.* II. viii. 11. 207 Of the persecution under Decius in the West we have few . 1855 Bruce *Holy Rom. Emp.* iii. (1860) 27 Odoacer . resolved to . extinguish the title and office of Emperor of the West.

**c.** The western parts of Europe.

1916 J. Buchan *Nelson's Hist. War* XIII. 121 A strong offensive in the West might induce the Allies to make a premature peace-attack.

**3.** The western part of a country, region, or area ; *spec.* **a.** of England, Great Britain, Scotland, or Ireland.

14 .. *Treveri an Papers* (Camden) 67 The Boor is farr in the west, that shuld a helpe vs hold and spar'. 15 *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 37 When thou rydest into the west, I pray the take noe companye But such as shall be of the best. 1630 Heywood *Golde* the Fair Maid of the West 1850 *Macaul. Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 54 Their ministeris . held their awin secreit meetingis in the west. 1666 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 358 From Kingsale I intend to go to Bandon: to settle that town, and all the West. 1693-4 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 248 Letters from the west say, our Streights fleet is clear of the Lands End. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* 1/1 The Scots Parliament . the Earl of Aberdeen is set out for the West to visit his daughter. *a* 1736 Woodrow *Collect. Lives Reformers* (1834) I. 109 Mr. Welwood was appointed . Superintendent of the West. 1793 Coleridge *Sonnets, Rivers of the West* Wild streamlet of the West! 1836 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 465 My purpose is to . take Cuthbert with me into the West by way of Bristol. 1841 Lever *J. Hinton* II. 8 It was peculiarly during this departure from the West on Saturday. 1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* xii. 289 The aunt . resided in the vicinity of the capital of the west of Scotland.

**b.** The western States of North America.

Formerly the country west of the original thirteen states, now usually taken to mean the country west (or north-west) of the Mississippi River. Sometimes limited, as *The Far, Middle West*.

1829 Everett *Oral. & Sp.* (1850) I. 203, I have made a journey to the West. 1836 *Amer. Encyc.* XV. 11 In the west. 1837 Peck *Gaz. Illinois* Introd. p. vi, No state in the 'Great West' has attracted so much attention . as that of Illinois. 1838 *Knickerbocker's Miscellany* II. 44 I am disgusted with the West. If ever you catch me at large, anywhere west of the Alleghanies, again, you may shoot me. 1872 Scribner for Year *Americanisms* 65 The States west of the Mississippi continue to be called the West. 1898 H. H. Vivian *Notes Tour Amer.* 101 Omaha is the last city of the West. After you pass it you are in the 'Far West' . 1900 Mrs. H. Chaska, 1886 *Life in Colorado Tale Lonely Parish* v, In the mining districts of the West, in up-country stations in India.

**c.** The western part *of a* specified country, etc.

1893 Lowell in *Atlantic Monthly* LXXII. 8 The west of Asia, once Earthly Paradise. 1789 S. Shaw (*title*) A Tour to the West of England. 1838 *Dowling Introd. Eccl. Hist.* 37 The political and social condition of the West. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 208/1 *Ch. Sheppard*, Pretty nigh all over the West of England. *elliptic.* 1894 C. Vickerman *Woollen Spinning* 232 Our super wet cloths are all tender when finished. *Ibid.* 271 A plain super wet cloth [of wool cloth.]

**d.** The West End of London.

1823 W. T. Moncrieff *Tom & Jerry* III. iii, Let the West boast of their highflyers as they will, you'll find there are still some choice cattles of society left here. 1877 A. Austin *Golden Age* 34 In one brief hour behold him curled and dress'd, and borne on wings of fashion to the West!

**4.** *Ch. Hist.* The Catholic Church in the Western Roman Empire and countries adjacent to it; the Roman or Latin Church.

1586 [? J. Case] *Praise Mus.* ix. 94 Look vpon the East and the West, the Greeke and Latine Churches, and you shall finde this to be true. 1650 E. Symmons *Sciat. Atlantis* 4 Do not all the golden Fountaines of the Fathers (both of the East and West, the Greek and Latine Church) flow with the same sirrupe? 1790 Priestley *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 312 Though the bishops of the West had been deceived at Ariminum, they had all abjured the blasphemies of that council. 1830 Neale *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. p. l, shall constantly reckon among the Saints those whom the Eastern Church, whether with or without the consent of the West, so accounts. 1877 J. D. Chambers *Diu. Worship* 233 According to the universal custom of the West, this water should be cold.

**5.** The west wind.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 133 They have reckoned two other windes, the East of summer, and the East of winter, and by consequence, two Weasts. 1728 Pope *Odyss.* XII. 428 Now out flies The gloomy West, and whistles in the skies. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* V. xxi, Dark rolling like the ocean-tide, When the rough west hath chafed his pride. 1869 Swinburne *Poems & Ballads* Ser. I. 198 As roses, when the warm West blows, kneak to full flower.

**b.** A westerly direction of the wind.

1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xvi, Some nautical authority had told me a day or two previous, 'anything with west in it, will do'.

**D.** *adj.*

**1.** Lying towards the west ; situated at or in the west ; western, westerly. **+** Of a planet : Seen in the western part of the sky (tr. L. *occidentalis*).

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* II. (*Paul*) 70 Syne Nero in be weste partis ban lastyn lyue gan. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 123 Pere I sawe sothely . Out of be west coste a wenche, as me thoujte, Cam walkynge in be way. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxiv. (1495) 360 A weste stere that hyghte Vesperus. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 44 At Antioche, upon the West See, duelte the Cadj fee of Barbaryeus. *c* 1460 *Towneley Mcy.* 176, I rodde of Arabie londe vppon Otehulle at forthiheer, list is to say, the more weste Rodde. 1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 504/1 Greste part of the Westbordures of Scotlande. *a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1764) III. 9 The very Westeste Pointe of Cornewaile is Pole Carue. 1611 Speed *Theat.* Gt. Brit. ix. xxiii. (1676) 38 The East and the West Gates be now the fairest. 1577 D. Settle *Forbisher's Voy.* title, A true reporte of the laste voyage into the West and Northwest regions. *Ibid.* 13 b [iij], On the Westside we found a deade fishe floating. 1880 *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 54/2 That two friggets be got to cruse on the west coaste. 1789 N. Portlock *Voy.* 314 There is anchorage to the Northward of the West point. 1800 Hist. Domestic *Observ. Atmosphere* 89 Those parts of the West coasts of Africa which lie between the Tropics. 1895 P. Hemingway *Out of Egypt* II. 185 The west sky grew pale and gold.

**b.** Of western Europe, as opposed to the east ; *esp.* belonging to the Roman or Latin church ; = Western A.

Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 141 b, The Occidentall or weast Churches thinke not all things. 1562 Hallopius *Answ. Jewel's Challenge* 86 b, Yet had they of that nation their Seruice then in Latine, as all the West churche had. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Scholast.* V. xxii. 398 In the West empire there was one Eugenius, [etc.]. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi. § 12 The West Church using vnlearned Iewes, as the Iewes in their passouer did. 1608 R. Hall *Old Angle.* xii. 44 The most eminent Diuines of both East and West Churches.

**c.** *spec.* **+ west ialse,** the western Isles of Scotland ; **+ west world,** the new world, America.

1587 Harrison *Descr. Brit.* in *Holinshed* I. 7/2 Of the Iles that lie about the north coast of . Scotland . are either occidentals, the west Iles, [etc.]. 1613 S. Daniel *1st Pt. Hist. Eng.* 2 As now, we see all the West world (lately discouered) to bee.

**d.** Of or pertaining to the west.

1572 Twyne *Diompsius' Suro. World* B vj b, Two winds, the one Eurus, or Sirocchus, which is Vulturnus, and the Southeaste, whiche bloweth from the sea Aegeum. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 349 All the West Allies of stormy Boreas blow. 1900 H. S. Holland *Gold & New* 97 Whether East or West, we all with one consent excuse ourselves from our responsibilities.

**2.** With proper names : **a.** Denoting the western part of a country, district, etc., or the more westerly of two places having the same name.

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. xxiii. 320 The lord of westwalis promysed to hymage xxx M men. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 10 In West Deppyng or Est Deppyng yn the countie of Lyncoln. 1662 Bowman *Hist.* (1853) I. 58 West-Meath and Lanfordsh or Carlo . West-Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, [etc.]. 1666 R. Baillie *Lett., Journalsome* Club) II. 388 The French are like this year to very bad neuter, both in Italie, Spaine, and West Flanders. 1754 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 27, I . set forward through west and East Jarsey. 1799 Mowse *Amer. Geog.* 168 The principal town in West Florida is Pensacola. 1886 R. M. Williams *A List of Ancient Words at present used in the mountainous district of the West Riding of Yorkshire.* 1886 Kingston Oliphant *New Engl.* I. 44 The term *west-Ark* is used in the honourable sense of the West Midland.

**b.** Denoting the western division of a race, nation, or people. Cf. West-Saxon.

1581 Bible (Rhem.) *Judges* iii. 290 The Westegothes possessed all Spayne. 18 . T. C. Luby *Life & Times O'Connell* 343/1 Thomas Spring Rice . was probably the first Irishman who nicknamed himself 'a West Briton'. 1909 Jane Barlow *Irish Idyls* 3 Not to believe in, at least, fairies, argues you a west-Briton, if nothing worse.

**c.** With sbs. and adjs. derived from the names of countries, districts, or peoples.

1611 Speed *Theat Gt. Brit.* Kings of West-gothique blood. 1883 Graves *Rom. Law in Emrpel. Met.* (1845) II. 765/1 A manuscript of the Westgothic compilation, called the *Breviarium Aniani*. 1898 Gould *Birds of Australia* I. Pl. 18 Western Australian Gos-Hawk. 1902 Henbry *Yeat. Law.* 169 Thus we get four sections of Germanic plants, viz. : .. c. the west-Germanic. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 363 The West African River Shrew.

**3.** *Eccl.* Situated in or at that part of a church (normally the actual west) which is farthest from the altar or high altar.

1431 *Cattcrich Ch. Contract* (1834) 9 The lenght of the body of the Church, with the thickner of the west walle. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* Aug. (end) 1641, There hang near the West window [of the church] two models of shippe. 1773 Northcouke *Hist. Lond.* 609 The west front [of St. Paul's] is graced with a most magnificent portico. 1818 Rickman *Engl. Archit.* 72 The west doors of York are of the richest composition. *Ibid.* 92 The west window of St. George's, Windsor, has fifteen lights in three divisions. 1896 Hardy *Under Greenw. Tree* Prel., The Melistock choir and its old established west-gallery musicians.

**4.** Facing to the west.

1903 T. Fale *Horology* 7 b. The making of the East and West Erect Dials. 1658 S. Foster *Art of Dialling* 13 Those plaines are called East and West incliners, whose horizontall line lyeth full North and South, and their inclination is directly towards either East or West. 1840 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 In a West-window in summer time towards night, the Sun grows low. 1832 *Planting* (Libr. Usef. Know.) 26 The soil of the nursery must be...under a south, east, or west exposure.

**E.** In combination: **a.** with vbl. shs. and ppl. adjs. as † *west-coming*; *west-facing*, *-going*, † *-walling* adjs.

1992 in *Mailt. Club Misc.* I. 53 That that report testimoniall heirinnill againe thair first west cuming in this cuntrey. 1595 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinvile* xxxiv. The great west-walling bolwarke. 1600 Shakes. *Merry Wives* I. iii. 300/1 During the first two dayes we passed upwards of a hundred west-going waggons. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 181 A long...west-facing gallery.

**b.** with advbs., as *west-about*, *-away*.

1579 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1578 73/1 Thairfra passand west about as the new stank brak lyis. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *West-about* adv., around toward the west; in a westerly direction. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, Will onybudy...grumble at the treaty that opened us a road west-away yonder? 1825 Kincaid *Adv. Peninsula* II. 265 The soldier right west away far enough, you'd surely come to the edge, and fall over cleve. 1879 *Auderida* II. xi. 195 Three ships ran down the coast west-away.

**c.** With adjs., as **west-central** *a.*, belonging to the western half of the central postal division of London.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 372 A small street off one of the west-central squares. 1865 'Annie Thomas' *Cut by Guard* II. 265 The show-rooms of the west-central Mantalini for whom she worked.

**West** (west), *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] A sty or inflammatory swelling on the eyelid.

1569 Androde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* iv. 1. 4 To heale a West that riseth vpon the eye lidde. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4185/4 A down Look, having a West in one of his Eyes. 1847 Halliwell. 1893 G. K. Paul *Memories* 250, 'I have a west coming in my eye'.

**West** (west), *v.* Also 4 **weste.** [f. West *adv.*] *intr.* To move towards the west. Chiefly of the sun: To draw near to the west, to sink in the west.

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 366 On a bel of gold he lay to reste Tyl that the hote sunne gan to weste. c 1385 — *L. G. W.* 61 Whanne the sunne he gynnys for to weste. 1598 Spenser *F. Q.* v. Introd. viii. Poore timely life! how soone is thy date shifted hath in sight, And twice has risen, where he now doth West, And wasted twice, where he ought rise aright. 1607 Walkington *Optic Glass* 162 Phœbus beginneth low to west. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* x. 213 From Mohawk's mouth, far westing with the sun, Thro all the midlands recent channels run. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 143 The sun at length westing to the valley brow. 1889 in F. W. H. Myers *Human Personality* (1903) II. 340 A ship going round the world and always east all the way would gain a day, and by westing would lose one.

**West**, obs. Sc. f. West *v.*; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Wit *v.*1

**Westar**, obs. Sc. form of Wastrer *sb.*1

**We·st-bound**, *a.* [West *adv.*] Travelling to the west or in a westerly direction; connected with travel in this direction.

Orig. *U.S.* of railway trains. In more general use from c 1900, freq. of Transatlantic steamers.

1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar., The west-bound express was laid up all night at Kenney. 1882 *Fall Mall Gaz.* 3 Sept. 2/3 He will at once pay a west-bound ticket to Chicago. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 67, I watched my chance... and got on a west-bound freight train. 1894 *Outing* (Amer. ed.) 22 Oct. 1/3 The West-bound traveller...would choose his 'bus along the Embankment.

**† Westbury apple.** *Obs.* (See quot. 1676.)

1676 Worlidge *Vinetum Brit.* 160 The Westberry-Apple, taking its name from Westberry in Hampshire,...its one of the most solid Apples that grows, of a tough rind, [etc.]. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 3) II. The Westbury Apple (not Westbury Apple). 1767 Mas. Glasse *Cookery* xxi. 164 Pippins,...Westbury Apples, Russetting.

**West-by(e** (we·st,bəi·), *adv.* Sc. [f. West *adv.* + By *adv.*] = OFris. *westa*, OS. *westan* (*wind*), ON. and Icel.(Norw., Sw.) *vestan*(Da. *vesten*) : cf. Western *adv.* and Bywest.] From the west. Also with *fro*.

a 900 *Genesis* B. 6 Þǽr her wind cynð westan 088ē eastan. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se fyrdla beoð[ð]-wind.. bleow[ð] westan. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3076 On wind cam fro westen, and fro [h]oppers nam.

**West end.** [OE. *west-ende* (see West *adv.*) = Du. *westeinde*, OFris. *westerin*, MLG., G. *westende*.] In later use f. West *a.*]

1. The western end or extremity of anything.

c 893 Alfred *Oros.* 1. i. § 3 Hire on westende is Scotland. c 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1056 Sydðan hinen man hy rygde ...æt þam westende, þam styple ful ȝebrocle. c 1225 *Lofsong Ř.* 242 Þe westward þe west ende of þe worlde. c 1300 *Wars Alex.* 1733 A selly nounbre Of wrichis & wikingis out of the west ende. 1448-17 in *Rec. St. Mary of Hill* (1905) Introd. p. xcvi, A tenement the west ende of the Church yerd made of Clothe. a 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1964) II 7 The West Ende of Kewlin Paroche Church. *Ibid.* IV. 124 There be 2. Wooden Bridges at the West Ende of the Towne. 1591 Sharp. *Two Gent.* v. iii. 9 Goe thou with her to the West end of the wood. a 1900 Evelyn *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, Having two spires and middle lanterne at the West end. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4946/3 We met an English Runner off the West-end of this Island [Jamaica]. 1782 Miss Bowry *Castle* III. iv. He privately took a lodging at the west end of the town. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, The west end of the delfie formed by the Luckenbooths was secured in the same manner. 1867 [see Resound *sb.*2]. 1880 Dickens *Dombey* vii, A fashionable neighbourhood at the west end of the town. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 59 The upper row of stalls...at the west end of the chancel.

2. *spec. The West End*, that part of London lying westward of Charing Cross and Regent St. and including the fashionable shopping district, Mayfair, and the Parks; also, those living within this area.

1807 in *Gentl's Mag.* I. 38 The devices at the west end, are usually crowns, stars, crescents. 1815 *Edinb. Mag.* III. 141 As you're staying with a relation at the west end...there's no harm in making a genteel acquaintance—eh? 1835 Dickens *Sk. B. 2, Tuggings Academy*, It was not in the West-end at all—it rather approximated to the eastern portion of London. 1863 D. W. Harper *Old Inf. Life* (1891) 97 We know what the West End of London will be—may be result of this controversy. 1881 Blisset *All Sorts* vi, She was setting up a dressmaker's shop; she had hopes of support, even from the West End, where she had friends.

3. *transf.* The fashionable or aristocratic quarter of a town or other place.

1823 Byron *Juan* xi. xiv, The great world...Meaneth the west or worst end of a city. 1830 Carlyle *Misc. Ess.*, *Richter* (1872) III. 35 Richter, for his part, was quite excluded from the West-end of Hof: for Hof too has its West-end...So poor Richter could only be admitted to the West-end of the Universe. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* I. 6 He was, however, a sort of West-end to the room, where the fashionables and the Vons seemed instinctively to congregate. 1854 tr. *Hoffman's Althaus & Neighb.* 28 This is the fashionable part, or 'west end' of New Athens. 1863 Serre *Source Nile* xii. 330 A number of huts...were at once assigned to me, on the face of a hill...It was considered the 'West End'.

4. *attrib.* (from senses 2 and 3.)

1833 *Court Mag.* VI. 4/1 A refuge for the West end destitute of all denominations. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* i, Doctor Parker Peps's West End practice. 1860 Mrs. Henderson *Aurora Floyd* xxxii, A colour that West-End tailors had vainly striven to emulate. 1888 *Engel. Rest.* XXIV. 28/1 Spacious west end quarters in Cavendish Square. 1889 *Law Jrnl. Lit. Fr.* (1891) 67 With that West-End view of the realities of life which Englishmen of a certain class feel it proper to take.

Hence **We·st-ender**, one who lives at the west end of a town, *esp.* of London; **We·st-endian** = prec.; **We·st-endish** *a.*, of or characteristic of the West End; **We·st-endism**, West-end quality or character.

1832 Disraeli *Vickfield* xxxiii, A peasant fiction invented by jealous 'West-enders. 1874 H. Mayhew *Lond. Characters* 299 Already there is a sort of *esprit de locale*...amongst the inhabitants of the other end of town that the old West Ender never dreamed of. 1885 Hon. Smith *Gazette à Grace* II. 52 'West-endians and Bond street loungers. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 5/4 An advanced...'West-endish sort of woman. 1893 in *Pall Mall Gaz. Extra* No. 48. 3 Of course a West-Ender likes apish mimicry of mere polish 'West Endism.

† **Westene**, *adv. Obs.* [OE. *westanе* = OS. *westane*, OHG. *westana*: cf. Wester *adv.*] From the west.

c 890 Ælfred *Oros.* 1. i. § 24 Da beorgas...ontinnad westane fram þam Weudelsæ. c 1205 Lay. 25591 þa com þe westene wisdon niht þan weolcnen a bermnige drake.

**Wester** (we·stər), *a.* [f. West *adv.*] **1 westen**, *Sc.* 4 **westyr**, 4–6 **westir**, 5 **vestir**, 6 **vester, weister**), 7 **waster.** [OE. *westra* (f. west Wester *adv.*) = ON. and Icel. *vestri*, *vestar* (Norw., Sw., Da. *vestre*). The comparative ending is different from that which appears in OHG. *westar-*, MHG., LG., Du., Fris. *wester-*, western.] Lying (more) towards the west; western.

963 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 563 Se westra crosbyrst. 967 *Ibid.* 486 Se westra east healh. 1305 *Antig. Aberd. & Banff* (Spald. Club) IV. 158 Omnes terras...in Westir Dummedelis. 1390 *Invent. Ch. Ch. Canterb.* (Dallaway) 160 Terras de West-yer Baillotheilis. 1438 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* V. 56 De medietate terre de Westerlawath in Strathdone. 1474 *Acta Dominorum* (1839) 54/2 De lands of Pettindreich, part of Stratherny. 1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 131/1 De landis of ester Cupmalindy and Wester Cupmalindy. 1520 in *Laing Charters* (1899) No. 1186 Quhilk landis...lyis in the ester pairt of the said Wester Cupmalindy. 1584 R. Norman tr. *Safeguard of Sailers* 7 Keep off from the wester shore, for...the easter shore is deper. 1615 J. Speed *Theat. Gt. Brit.* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 He was sent to the Wester side of the Iland. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 5 We had...coasted the Wester side. 1880 A. Haig in J. Russell *Haigs* xi. (1881) 309 The apple trees which is within the uppermost wester quarrell. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4430/5 The Magistrates and Town-Council of *Amsterdam Wester*. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1793) I. x. 448 From the Easter to the Wester Scheldt. 1892 *Hartland* (Devon) *Gloss.*, *Easter*, *eastern*. Similarly we have Weste, Nother, and Suther. Fields are frequently distinguished as Easter and Wester. 1898 A. Balfour *To Arms!* vi, Away in the wilds of wester Dumfries.

† **b.** *Naut.* (Cf. Easter *a.* and Board *sb.* 15.)

1697 Damper *Voy.* I. 81 But the Winds hanging in the westerland, and blowing hard, oft put us by our Topsails; so that we could not fetch it.

**Wester** (we·stəɹ), *v.* [f. West *adv.* + -er 5.]

1. *intr.* Of the sun, moon, or a star: To travel westward in its course; to draw near the west. (Freq. after 1850.)

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 926 Pe sonne Gan westren faste. 1412-20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* Prol. 136 And Espesus gan to wester down, To haste hir cours aȝeyn be mones grave. *Ibid.* v. 2674 Ay-son he point when Phebus with his hot wester-ik is.

1790 Cowper *Iliad* xxiii. 195 And now the lamp of day, Westering apace, had fleet them still in tears. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. i. ii, The Sun shines; serenely westering, in smokeless mackerel-sky. 1850 Dobell *Roman* ii. Poet.

Wks. 1875 I. 36 The little star…westers to its setting. **1889** Clarke Russell *Marooned* vi, The moon was westering and looking over our foretopsail yard-arm. **1902** A. E. Housman *Last Poems* xxvi, The half moon westers low.

*fig.* **1845** R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* x. 330 Instead of turning to the sun of a once mighty prosperity as now fast westering and going down.

**2.** Of the wind: To shift to the west.

**1580** H. Smith in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 468 The wind did Wester, so that we lay South southwest with a flawne sheete. **1648** Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 53 The wind northered upon us. All night it westered againe. **1699** T. Allyson *Voy. Archangel* 11 We…began to consider…as to our safety in that place, should the Wind Wester. **1823** Scoresby *Jrnl.* 373 The wind having unfortunately westered. **1913** M. Roberts *Salt of Sea* x. 233 The wind westered so fast that I nearly jibed the mainsail.

**3.** To be moved farther west. *nonce-us.*

**1803** W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* I. 561 Let Germany awake, and give herself a better constitution…and the frontiers of France will wester again.

**Wester**, var. Waster *sb.*3

**Westeria**, var. Wisteria.

**We·stering**, *vbl. sb.* [f. Wester *v.*] Westward movement, declension westwards.

*c* 1410 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* lxxii. (MS. Ashm. 39 ff. 89) This sterre…To shewe hym light in every straunge & shade With oute westryngе or drawynge to declyng.

**Westering** (we·stərin), *ppl. a.* [f. Wester *v.*]

**1.** That declines from the meridian towards the west. (Said chiefly of the sun when it is nearing the western horizon.)

In very common use from *c* 1830.

**1637** Milton *Lycidas* 31 Oft till the Star that rose, at Evening,bright Toward Heav'ns descent had slop'd his westering wheel. **1792** Coxe *Russia* II. xx. 193 Eastward he prologues again his westering wheels. **1795** Southey *Lett. Spain* (1799) 31 Hills beyond hills, part involved in shadow, and the more distant illumined by the westering sun. **1802** Lavinia *Lord Sudely* 4 And bloody set the westering sun. **1831** Mosher *Summer Fete* 132 Warned…by the daylight's westering beam. **1859** Gen. Elliot *Adam Bede* iii, The low westering sun threw slant rays on the stems of the old Beech on Hills. **1894** Blackmore *Perly-rose* vii. 56 By the light of the westering moon.

*fig.* **1851** Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 403 Learn The strong man's impulse…and discern By his clear westering eye, the time of day. **1885–94** Baid.ks *Keats & Byr.* he March sky, Eros…was Cupid named anew In westering afternime of latin lore.

**2.** That moves in a westward direction. Of the wind: That shifts to the west.

**1747** Collins *Ode Liberty* 84 Mona,…Where thousand Elfin Shapes abide, And Wisards wild o'clocks the westling Tide. **1871** Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Rev.* 66 Asia, that sawest their westering waters sweep With all the ships and royalls of time to carry, **1876** Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* I. *Prose Scalers* 142 There comes no good o' the westering wind that backs against the sun.

**We·sterlings.** [-ings.] Westerly situation.

**1730** Bailey (Folio) s.v.: 1852 S. W. *Occidentalnacs.*

†**We·sterling.** *Obs.* [f. Wester *a.* + -ling.] An inhabitant of a western country or district.

**1630** Capt. J. Smith *True Trav., Adv., & Observ.* xxiii. (Arb.) 891 The Country being then reputed by your westerlings, a most rockie, barren, sterile desart. **1631** Dekkar *Dodr. Sabb* 83 The Westerlings, the Easterlings, the Europeans, and the Asians. **1687** A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 19 The Magrebins, or Westerlings, comprehending those of Barbary, Fez, and Morocco, who meet at Caire. **1728** Morgan *Algiers* II. i. 213 The common appellation of Westerling, they [Turks] give to all as inhabit West of Egypt. **1845** T. Cooper *Purgatory of Suicides* i. lxxix, Some literary teacher…Whose wisdom's fu.ure doth…transcend The glimmering lights your westerlings revere.

**Westerly** (we·stəli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. West *adv.* Cf. *easterly*, etc., and next.]

**A.** *adj.*

**1.** Coming from the west.

**1577** Goo.ge *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 20 What time so euer it be doone, you must looke that the winde be Westerly. **1608** Shake. *Per.* IV. i. 51 In Tharsus was not westerle Eolus blowes **1630** in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 221 A fine gentle westerlie sea winde blowing. **1708** *Answer's Voy.* II. iii. 140 The westerly winds are also perpetual in this port. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 631 She…had been detained in Holland, by strong westerly winds. **1855** Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxxiii, They put on a lee shore in Cardigan Bay, before a heavy westerly gale. **1885** Stevens in *Addr. nagpied* xiii, She tore through the seas at a great rate, pitching and straining, and purused by the westerly swell.

*Comb.* **1888** Jefferies *Metaph.* 116 Ever the weather has to be consulted,—a westerly-wind day is the best.

**2.** Situated in or towards the west.

**1577** H. Vernon *England* II. i. 49 b's in *Hollesheed*, Two waters…whereof the westerly called Basingwater, commeth from Basingstoke. **1584** R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 10 The most westerly hours of Wieringhen. *a* **1609** Sir F. Vere *Comm.* (1657) 51 Flores and Corvo, the westerly Islands of the Azores. **1610** Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 637 But the more Westerly part is not so fruitfull. **1669** Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 44 The Table…sheweth how much a Ship is more…Easterly or Westerly, by sailing upon any Point…of the Compass. **1765** R. Rogers *Concise Acc. N. Amer.* titlep., The Interior, or Westerly Parts of the Country, upon the Rivers St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, [etc.]. **1845** J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 381 All the water on the westerly side of the town, was of a clear wine colour. **1870** *Daily News* 1 Feb., The eight twelve-pounders moved forward from one of the more westerly batteries.

b. Of a person: Dwelling in the west.

**1855** W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. xiv. 241 Nor are more westerly historians always exempt from similar weaknesses.

**3.** Situated near the western horizon.

**1801** Southey *Thalaba* vi. v, Nor stay'd he till over the westerly heaven The shadows of evening had spread. **1809** Scott *Anne of G.* xxx, The distant landscape, partly illumined, with ominous lustre, by the now westerly sun.

**4.** Extending towards the west; facing the west. Of motion, progress, etc.: Directed towards the west or the western horizon.

**1697** R. Norwood *Sea-mans Pract.* ix. (1655) 115 Then shall you have…the Latitudes and Longitudes Helical, Heliacal, or Westerly. **1708** *Answer's Voy.* II. iii. 138 The westerly motion of the latter [planet]. **1897** Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 202 This…leads from Niamo to the Atlantic in a nearly due westerly direction.

**B.** *sb. pl.* The prevailing westerly winds found in certain latitudes.

**1876** Smyth *Cruise of 'Challenger'* 109 The strong westerlies caused the weather to be of such a boisterous character. **1897** F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 16 The dirty weather and variable squalls, which nearly always precede the 'westerlies'. **1898** *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Oct. 503 The lengthening of the degree of the prevailing westerlies came at about latitude 40°.

**Westerly** (we·stəli), *adv.* [f. as prec. Cf. ON. *vestarliga.*]

**1.** In a westward direction; towards the west.

**1625** Hitchmers tr. *Bloun's Sea-Mirr.* III. 3 You must goe first southwest, and afterwards westerly until we…come. **1669** Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 152 S. W. b. W. & Westerly on Leagues. **1680** J. Collins *Plea Irish Cattell* etc. 7 Our Ships…Sailing Westerly, and Victualled…from the Dar *Fox Col. Jack* viii, We began to steer away westerly. **1777** *Cook's 1st Voy.* 26 A small white cloud…from which a train of fire…was issuing itself westerly. **1792** Vancouver *Agric. Essex* 67 Crossing the great road, and proceeding thence westerly through Shenfield. **1835** W. Irving *Tour Prairies* (1866) 18 We travelled westerly until we should pass through…the Cross Timber. **1865** *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr. The principal channel…running in a straight line with the opening between the islands, westerly, out to sea. **1891** Clark Russell *Mid-Watch* of Sea II. We're going to get a breeze…I nothing to harm…if it don't draw westerly.

**2.** (Blowing) from the west.

**1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4443/3 The Wind blowing fresh Westerly, obliged us to anchor. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* iv. vii. 214 We found the wind to hang westerly. **1816** Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 51 The winds now came in as westerly.

†**Westermore**, *adv. Sc.* In 5 **westermar**, 6 **westirmair**. [Cf. next and -more.] Farther west.

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* i. 207 Wallace mowrnd, said: 'Westermar I sowld ma weill.'

†**We·stermost**, *a.* [-most.] *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Wester *a.*2 + -most.] Lying or situated farthest west; = Westernmost.

**1555** Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 381 The Westermost poynte of the Trespoynctes. **1598** Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 537 The riuer Ob is the most Westermost part thereof. **1605** N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* i. iii. (1635) 65 The Meridian about the Westermost of the Azores. **1697** Dampier *Voy.* I. 421 Three of the Islands were Burning. **1727** A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 2 Sagor the westermost Chanel of the Ganges. **1775** Romans *Florida* App. 37 At the east end of the westermost key is another channel 8 feet deep. **1777** Robertson *Hist. Tudgement* I. 10 From far Glaramara, Bleacrag, and Maidenmawr, to Grizedal and westermost Withop.

**Westernes**, var. (we·stəns), *a.* and *sb.*1 Forms: 1, 6–7 **westerne**, (1, 6 **westerne**); 4–6 **western**, 6– **western**; 1 **westrene**, 2 **westrene**, 4–7 **westren.** [OE. *westerne* (f. *west* West *adv.* + -ern) : cf. OS. and OHG. *westrōni*, ON. *vestrænn* (Norw. dial. *vestren*).]

**A.** *adj.*

**1.** Coming from the west. Of the wind, a gale, etc.: Blowing from the west. Of a current of water: Flowing from the west.

*c* 1250 *Beda's Hist.* v. xii. (MS. H.) Sona þæs þe he on scip eode, þa astah westerne wind & bleow. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O. E. Glosses* xxiii. 17 *Zephiri*, westernes windes. **1598** Thynne *Boethii. De Pr. Mor.* xii. xv. (1868 MS.) Whanne he westeren winde blowith. **1590** Palsgr. 288/1 Westerne wynde, *le vent daual.* **1981** A. Hall *Iliad* II. 92 When as the western winde doth meete a field of greine, In harvest time. **1604** E. G[rimstone] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iv. 128 They saile with a westerne winde vntill they come to the burning Zone. **1613–26** W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 79 A westerne milde, and pretty wholesome gale. **1673** Ray *Journ. Low C.* Rome 386 The commixture of the warm Southerly and Western air, with the cold Northerly and Eastern. **1798** *Naval Chron.* I. 103 The western winds which blew almost constantly there. *a* **1721** Gray *Song* 9 Western gales and skies serene Speak not always winter past. **1796** Nelson *Let.* in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 228, I, p. 1, am endeavouring to get to the Eastward, but we have an amazing strong western current. **1820** Levien *Mermaid* viii, Softly blow, ye western breeze! **1867** Stuart *Plunter's G.* (1828) 331 Removed Trees…appearing unaffected by the western, and southwestern blasts. **1867** Morris *Jason* iv. 94 The piping of the following western breeze.

**2.** Dwelling in the west (of a country, esp. of England or Scotland); *spec.* living or originating in the 'West country' or south-western counties.

*c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1013, & com *Æþelmar* ealdorman þyder & þa westrena Begenas mid him. **19..** *Lalye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 61 Hee…drewe an eigle upon the entrye, That the westeren men myghte yet see. **1570** Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 316 Muche are the Westerne men bound…to Polydore, who…removing the infamous reuenge from Dorsetshyre, laieth it vpon our men of Kent. **1668** Wilkins *Real Char.* I. I. 4 A Western man [would speak it] thus, *Chud vat mon vor Mous an chad it.* **1693** T. Pitts *New Martyrol.* (ed. 4) 527 The…Christian Courage of the Western Sufferers. **1820** Scott *Halidon Hill* I. ii. 407 O, were my western horsemen but come up, I would take part with you! **1842** Lever *O'Malley* xiii, Few Western gentlemen were without constant intercourse with the Athlone attorney. **1869** A. Macdonald *Lore, Law & Theol.* xxv. 376 There was a respectable muster of western folks got up for the occasion.

b. Of things: Of or belonging to the south-western counties.

**1525** *Rates Custom-ho.* d vj b, A dossan karsay, ill. A westerne dossen, ii. **1653** W. J. *True Gentlew. Delight* 85 To scald Milk after the Western fashion. **1721** Addison *Spect.* No. 109 ? 3 Being a Lawyer of the Middle-Temple, a Cornishman by Birth, I generally ride the Western Circuit. **1782** R. Locke (*title*) The Western Rebellion. **1886** Kington Oliphant *New English* I. 564 The Western dialect appears, as *ch'dun, ich'chare, vu'ly.*

**3.** Having a position relatively west; lying towards or in the west. *Western hemisphere*: see Hemisphere 3.

**1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. lx. (Tollemache MS.) Amonge Jesse triplicitie of Europe…þat hab þe name best & strenger in here worchynge…þan þe Westren. **1584** Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 96 With a great armie out of Mercia and other westerne countries. **1610** Holland *Camden's Brit.* 694 *Pennigent*, which among the Westerne hils mounteth aloft aboue the rest. **1649** J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders Wales* 114 The farthest Western Parish of…Cornwall. **1671** Milton *P. R.* IV. 75 He brought our Saviour to the western side Of that high mountain. **1692** Sir G. Mackenzie *Vind. Gent. Scot.* 121 As to the bringing in the Highlanders on the Western shires…It is answered…that [etc.]. *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 224 Tempestuous weather from the western quarter. **1784** Cowper *Task* vi. 484 Where England, stretch'd Towards the setting sun,…o'erlooks the western wave. She Scott *Lady of L.* I. viii, The Hunter marked that mountain high, The lone lake's western boundary. **1848** H. Kean *Coal. Accidents*, 117 The plan is quite Mahlican, containing a western bay between two western towers. **1870** W. H. Knight *W. Australia* I. The colony of Western Australia was founded on the 1st June, 1829. **1870** Morelet *Testac. Azores* 1 Natural History of the Azores, or Western Islands. **1886** Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiv, We were to pass through the western end of the county of Balquhidder.

b. Of the sky or the horizon; esp. as the place of the sun's setting; also of the sun, or the evening star (cf. West *a.* 1).

**1591** Shake. *Two Gent.* v. i. 1 The Sun begins to guild the westerne skie. **1596** Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 35 As the bright sunne, what time his fiery teme Towards the westerne brim begins to draw. **1633** P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* vi. lxxvii, But see, the sterling night, with softly pace, To flie the Westerne Sunne, creeps up the East. **1667** Milton *P. L.* x. 92 Now was the Sun in Western cadence low From Noon. **1728** Piton *Solomon* II. 370 The Sun declin'd had shot his Western Ray. **1749** Collins *Ode to Simplicity* 20 The bright-hair'd Sun Sits in yon western Tent. **1805** Scott *Last Minstrel* iii. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar, For lovers love the western star. **1853** Smith *Life Drum* iv. Poems (1854) 60 From yonder realms I've seen the western sky All washed with fire. **1860** Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxi. 146 The sun was near the western horizon.

c. Of or belonging to the west; found or produced in the west.

**1590** Shake. *Mids. N. Dr.* II. i. 166 Yet marke I where the bolt of Cupid fell. It fell vpon a little westerne flower, **1764** Goldsm. *Trav.* 318 My pretty friends are here wing, And flies where Britain courts the western spring. **1853** Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxi. (1856) 161 He himself would take the western course.

†**d.** *Western barge* (*boat*, or *wherry*), a barge, etc., used on the Thames westward of London. Hence *Western bargee, pug, man*, a navigator of a Western barge or boat.

**1596-6** *Will of T. Reede* (Somerset Ho.), My body…in the stylyde seruice…to be buryed in the bote of the westerne barge. **1591** Lyly *Endymn.* iv. ii, In a Westerne barge, with a wet sayle and lustie pugges one may goe ten miles in two houres. **1592–680** Wherry Boat [see Wherry 3]. **1603–4** *Act 1 Jas. I* C. 16 § 1 Wee…beseech his Maiestie and all other Vsuells ordinarilie serving for other vses then the carryinge of Passengers. **1607** Dekker & Webster *West-w. Ho* ii. 1, Th'Lobb like his Lordes,…the Westerne man his Page. **1666** Western bargee [see Bargee]. **c 1704** T. Brown *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1730 III. 304 A Western-Boat, stow'd with a Mixture of both Sexes. *Ibid.* 328 Others crowded into Boxes, like Passengers into a Western Wherry. *Ibid.* 370 He was a Western Bargeman.

**8.** In the specific names of animals or plants.

**1784** Pennant *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 489 Western Duck. *Anas Stelleri*, Pallas. **1804** Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XII. II. 206 Western Pochard. (*Fuligula diispar.*) **1848** Gould *Birds Australia* I. 1 *Procellaria leucoptera* (*Australis*) Gould. Western Brown Hawk. **1876** F. G. Waterhouse in Harcus *S. Austral.* 288 Western gerygone. *Ibid.* 292 Western ground parrakeet.

**4.** Of or pertaining to the Western or European countries or races as distinguished from the Eastern or Oriental.

**1600** Fairfax *Tasso* iv. xvi, These western rebels, with your power withstand, Plucke vp these weedes, before they coengroe The gentle seruiture of Christendome. **1602** R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 121 For such an other piece of ground…is not to be found againe in all our western world. **1704** Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) I. 339 Those Conspiracies and Rebellions, with which they have…disturb'd the Quiet of this Western World. **1778** C. Burney *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* (1773) 272 *note*, As yet there is no

regular catalogue of the western MSS. in the Vatican library. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 309/1 The little intercourse that subsisted between the inhabitants of India and the Western nations. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Kunhe's Hist. Servia* 449 They who are desirous of ascertaining..the reaction of Eastern on Western affairs, may examine the Egyptian question. 1883 T. Watts in *19th Cent.* May, 813 The mystic type of all Eastern, and yet the mother of all Western, beauty.

*Comb.* 1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 6 After years of residence with the Bedawin, the Western-born..will stop and wait the passing of the stately brute.

**b.** *Western Church*, the Latin as distinguished from the Greek or Eastern Church; also, one or other of the early Churches of Western Europe.

1668 Br. Hall *Old Relig.* viii. 72 The Westerne, or Romane Church. 1859 H. Thorndike *Wks.* (1846) II. 557 Those controversies about which a settled division is once formed, as now in the western Church. 1878 W. Palmer *Ch. Christ* I. 276 The Western churches..were in communion..with the great apostolical church of Rome. 1890 Neale *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. 9 The tendency of the Western Church..has been to embroil herself with the kings and kingdoms of this world.

**c.** Of or belonging to, connected with, characteristic of, the Western Church.

1699 Burnet *39 Articles* xxi. (1700) 201 All the First General Councils were made up for most part of Eastern Bishops; there being a very inconsiderable Number of the Western among any of them. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1769) I. 83 *note*, The eastern christians, called in contempt Arians by the western tritheists. 1790 Pennsylvania *Ch. Ch.* 11 The Western bishops in general and Liberius himself at their head, were the avowed advocates of the Nicene faith. 1850 Neale *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. 317 The whole body of Eastern and Western Liturgies may be divided into four branches. 1852 C. Hardwick *Ch. Ch., Mid. Age* 265 Gregory VII., who seems to have expected that Crusades, while strengthening his throne, would tend to reunite the Eastern and the Western Christians. 1880 A. P. Stanley in *Fraser's Mag.* May 600 The Roman Church..remains the great trunk from which the other communions have been divided in Western Christendom.

**d.** *Western Empire*, the more westerly of the two parts into which the Roman Empire was divided in 395 A.D. So *Western emperor*, etc.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvi. (1869) II. 38 Maximus would have obtained, without a struggle, the sole possession of the western empire. 1790 Priestley *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 332 After the death of Constantine, the Western emperors were of the Nicene faith. 1842 Milman *Hist. Chr.* III. 1. III. 343 In the Western provinces, Gaul, Spain, and Britain.. the constitution of society was very different. 1856 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* 69 Odoacer..did not abolish the Western Empire as a separate power.

**5.** With *States*: Constituting the more westerly of the United States of America: cf. West *sb.* 3 b.

1822 Kennedy *Jrnl.* S.A. (1850) I. 206 Allow me..to propose the following sentiment:—The Eastern and Western States. 1879 W. Saunders *Through Light Coal.* 131 The conditions under which first-class stall-fed beef may be produced in the Western States.

**b.** Of or belonging to the Western States.

Freq. in the names of animals and plants resembling those of the Atlantic coast but whose habitat is west of the Mississippi.

1834 R. C. Sands *Writings* II. 179 One of the favorite and most expressive words of Western invention. 1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 284 Riding a western horse is a science, a study. 'The way in which folks'll stare, squire, will be a caution'. 1845 P. H. St. John *Trapper's Bride* 69 The Eutaws reined in as the two hunters faced them with the deadly western rifle levelled in their direction. 1871 *Leisure Hour* 336/1 A quality of tobacco, the 'stemmed' variety commonly called in the 'Western Strips'. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* June 747 The changing conditions in agriculture caused by Western competition.

**6.** Directed towards the west; facing westward.

1580 Hanlmer *Eccl. Hist.* Rdr. P 7 Touching the western Naulgations, and trauailes of ours, they succede naturallie in the thirde and last roome. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 11 Of the Western Aspect...The Western Exposition begins at half an Hour after Eleven, and continues 'till the Sun sets. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 107 P 8 A ship at sea has no certain method, in either her eastern or western voyages,..to know her latitude exactly. 1795 Pilkington *Dict. Painters* 552 The passengers on the western road must furnish him with his demands. 1784 Filson *Kentucky* (1793) 13 Salt river..runs a western course nearly thirty miles. 1795 *Gentl. Mag. Moraliser Corrected* 18 Distant a little mile he spied A western bank's still sunny side. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Mark* 6 And on the western window panes, The chilly sunset faintly told Of unmatur'd green vallies cold. 1886 *Lond. Society* Aug. 138 Hunstanton..is the only watering-place on the east coast of England with a western aspect.

**7.** *fig.* Of a person's life or days: Declining.

1615 Tomkis *Albumazar* v. vi, Fye, that a gentleman.. Crown'd with such reputation in your youth, Should in your Westerne dayes, loose it by good opinion Of all your friends. 1879 Lonsdale *in Life* (1892) III. 209 We, who are on the western side of life, must forget ourselves a little, and see with their eyes, who are looking out at the eastern windows.

**8.** Hinder, posterior. *Cf.* West *adv.* 1 b (*c*).

1809 Marryat *P. Mildmay* xxiv, What have you done to the western side of your gown? 1840 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. II. ix, I'd a-kicked them till I kicked their western ends up to their shoulders.

**B.** *sb.*

**1.** A member of a Western race; a native or inhabitant of the West, as distinguished from an Oriental or Asiatic.

1708 Ockley *Hist. Saracens* (1848) 337 The folly of the Westerns in despising the wisdom of the Eastern nations. 1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* II. 925/2 (*Medicine*) He [Hippocrates] extols the discernment of Orientals above Westerns, and of Asiatics above Europeans, in medical diagnosis.

1882 J. Neil *Palestine* 44 The former figure 'wings of the morning' to a Western is not a little obscure. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 54/3 It may not be altogether superfluous to remind Western that Russia is now celebrating the three hundredth anniversary of her first printer, Ivan Fedorof. 1917 T. R. Glover *From Pericles to Philip* vii. 216 The employment of the camel in war strikes the Western oddly.

**2.** A member of the Western or Latin Church.

1880 W. Bright *Hist. Ch.* 313–451, 50 Among the bishops who had received the sympathy of the Westerns was Paul of Constantinople. 1895 Pusey *Truth Engl. Ch.* 60 S. Basil ..blamed the Westerns for their 'pride, haughtiness, precipitancy'. 1902 J. K. Mann *Hist. Popes* I. i. 30 Despite the express declaration of Justinian, some of the Westerns persisted in maintaining [etc.].

**3.** *U.S.* An inhabitant or native of the Western States.

1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* II. 92 There were Southerners and Northerners, Downeasters, and Westerns. 1886 Rhode *Amer. Commw.* III. lxv. II. 480 He was a raw rude Western, a man of the people.

**†Western,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Old Northumbrian *wéstern*, var. of OE. *wésten*, *wíste*n, f. the stem **wōst-*: cf. West *a.* The ending *-ern* for *-en*(*n* also appears in *fyern* Even *sb.*, *fastern* Fasten *sb.* and **lenctern* Lenten *sb.*] A desert, wilderness.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 1 In woestern iudeæ [*in deserto Iudeæ*]. 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxi. 5/2 He gewunode on marien, whiche breedeth in water hasses, *riparia*. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* I. 1702 Blinds, A Marien, or westerne. *Ibid.* 1705 A Westerne, vide marien. 1658 Cotgrave *Dict.* s.v. *Riparia*, 90 *Hirundo Riparia*..the Sand, or Bank Marten, or Western.

**Western,** *v.* [f. Western *a.*] *intr.* Of the sun: To decline in the west. (Cf. Wester *v.* 1.)

Hence *Westerning ppl. a.*

1851 Puseyite *Secret Service* 83 The warm tints of a westerning sun. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 5/4 The sun was rapidly westerning.

**†Westernal,** *adv. Obs.*[1] [App. an alteration of *Easternal*.] Wrongfully, perversely.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 307 Þe sexten hys worldes ful westernays þat louez no fynk [= thing] bot 3e hit sygne.

**Westerner** (we·stəɹnəɹ). [f. Western *a.* + -er.]

An inhabitant or native of the Western States of America.

1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 21 'We are apt to think,' said a westerner to me, 'that..we are just as great and good.' 1872 Howells *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 196 Those Europeans of surprise at the existence of civilisation in a westerner which westerners find it so hard to receive graciously. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 502/2 Cowboys, like most Westerners, occasionally show remarkable versatility in their tastes and pursuits.

**2.** One belonging to a western race, as distinguished from an Oriental.

1900 *Times* 5 Mar. 6/1 The crowd crushing at the window at Peking where applications for tickets..is a spectacle which affords constant amusement to the Westerner. 1919 Rihbany *Syrian Christ* 146 Some Westerners have an exaggerated idea of Oriental credulity.

**3.** One who lives in, or is a native of, the west part of a country.

1905 *Daily News* 24 Apr. 2 The Westerners [Gloucester and Bristol ringers] hope to eclipse this performance with a peal consisting of 15,000 changes.

**Westernism.** [f. Western *a.* + -ism.]

**1.** An idiom or expression peculiar to the Western States of America.

1884 *House Missionary* (N.Y.) Jan., A Westernism originating in Kansas. 1885 *Athenæum* IX. 378 It will become better known if he keeps his strength, as an alleged Westernism has it. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 773 'I hain't.'—Such another Westernism made a droll face as he uttered this Westernism.

**2.** Western characteristics, practices, etc., as distinguished from Eastern.

1830 W. W. Peyton *Memor. Yeast* 298 But theology is too Eastern; we want our Westernism. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 20 Feb. 3/4 A great moral conflict between the teachings of two schools, the Slavophils and Westernists.

**Westernize** (we·stəɹnaiz), *v.* [f. Western *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To make western in character; esp. to make (an Eastern country or race) more Western in regard to its institutions, ideas, etc.

1840 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 617 She herself pleads to having become so Westernized, as no longer to be a competent painter of Western peculiarities. 1848 *Eccir. Laird* 247 A remnant of it [*sc.* the palace], rather clumsily Westernized, is now the official habitation of the British resident at Delhi. 1888 *Sat. Review* 30 Sept. 340/1 Bulgaria is being..more and more Westernized.

Hence *Westernized ppl. a.*; **Westernizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Westernization.**

1893 *Sketch* 1 Feb. 38/2 The westernising of India is.. shown in the most curious ways. 1900 *Speaker* 9 June 284/2 The Young Turkish or Westernizing party. 1903 Fairbairn in *Comh. Mod. Hist.* II. xix. 701 He regarded Aristotle as a westernised Mohammadan rather than as a Greek. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 3/3 The process that is generally called the Westernisation of Japan.

**Westerly** (we·stəɹli), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. Western *a.* + -ly[1]. Cf. Westerly *a.*]

**1.** Situated in or towards the west.

1628 Blundevil *Exerc., Descr. Univ. Maps* (ed. 6) 790 The Westernly [1597 Westerly] 18 Meridians. 1637 J. Watts *Scrift etc. Dipper Spiritualist* 90 Our Westernly Northen Climate is colder much then those Easternly Southern.

**2.** Directed towards the west; extending westwards.

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 52 Wee.. after altered that course and bear for the coste of Florida, a more westernlie course. 1643 G. Wilde *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* 3 Mar. 27 To look East upon the Rising Laity, and to reflect a Westerly Glance upon the declining Clergy. 1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 484 Thus nineteen [churches] have an easterly orientation:—and exactly nineteen also have a westerly direction. 1897 *Daily News* 22 May 5/5 The road..next turns in a westerly direction.

**†We·sterly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Western *a.* + -ly[2].] Towards the west.

1500 Greene *Never too late* (1600) B 3 b, France..beeing westernly seated nere great Britaine. 1627 Ray *Creation* 136 Why the same Eclipse..should be seen to them that live one degree more Westerly.

**Westernmost,** *a.* [f. Western *a.* + -most. Cf. Westermost.] Farthest towards the west; most westerly.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3937/3 The Westernmost Rocks of the Minques. 1778 Forster *Observ. Voy. World* 107 There is a small species of sea-fowl in the tropical isles of the South-Sea, but more common to the Westernmost than the Society Isles. 1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* II. 191 Not more than four thousand square miles of the westernmost peninsula is capable of cultivation. 1884 Helen Jackson *Ramona* ii, The two westernmost rooms had been added on. 1892 J. L. Allen *River Cross Reference*, (1900) 259 Pine Mountain, the westernmost ridge of the Alleghany system.

**Westfalite** (we·stfəlait). Also **-falit, -phalite.** [ad. G. *Westfalit*, f. *Westfalisch*- (Westphalian), in the name of the original manufacturing company.] An explosive compound, used in three varieties, of which the principal ingredient was ammonium nitrate.

1896 *Glasgow Herald* 29 Feb. 7/7 The high explosives, ammonite..securite, and westfalit. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 7 4 The manufacture of the high explosive known as Westphalite, 1908 Sansone *Mod. Explosives* 44 Westfalite No. 1. West Falite No. 2. 1909 Guttmann *Manuf. Explosives* 92 Sabulite..Bobbinite..Westfalite.

**†West-half.** *Obs.* [OE. *Westhelfa*: see West *adv.* and Half *sb.*] The west side, the west.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 8 On westhealfe [is] se sæ þe non land Propondidis. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 [He] dregon heora scipa on west healfe þæs wudes. 1299 Lay. 29287 An est halue, an west halue, an wes Brutteo bere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20933 On þe west half o þat cite Hild a cristen man was he. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6334 (Laud MS.) A Folk þet wonep in þe west half þe water of Nile. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvi. 58, Quhill that, besyde Enuerkethyne, On west half, toward Dunfermlyne, Tuk land.

**Westiness,** error for Westyness (q. v.).

**West India.** Now only *attrib.* Also 7 *pl.* India's. [West *a.* Cf. East India.]

**†1.** = West Indies. Also *pl. Obs.*

1555 Eden (*title*) The Decades of the newe worlde or west India. 1598 T. Nicholas (*title*) The Pleasant Historie of the Conquest of the West Indies, called new Spayne. 1598 *Cures of Diseased* C, A great Fruit that growes in the West India, called Pina. 1648 Gage (*title*) The English-American his Travail by Sea and Land: or, A new Survey of the West India's.

**2.** *attrib.* (sometimes hyphened.) Of or pertaining to, connected with, the West Indies. *West India Islands*, the islands lying between North and South America.

1696 Whitlocke *Mem.* (1853) IV. 281 An account of the engagement with the West India Spanish fleet. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4520/3 Three other of the West-India Ships were also taken. 1731 *Annual Register* (1733) 177 The West-India dry Goods are perhaps occasion'd by the too great Quantities of Acids. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxviii. II. 293 All sorts of lumber for the West-India trade. 1772 E. Long *Panacea* 1 Green Tea ..*Coprosia, erecta ramosa &c.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 644/1 In Jamaica and others of the West India islands. 1818 *Edinburgh Christian Instructor* II. 1 West India Planters. *Ibid.* 41 West India Merchants. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xxvii, The thin partitions of the West-India house.

**West-Indiaman.** [f. prec. 2.] A vessel engaged in the West India trade.

1689 *Treat. F.* (1811) 196 (P.R.O.) The French Fleet has taken 5 dutch West Indiamen that came from Cuiresoe. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 161 The steward of a West-Indiaman. 1794 *Hon. London Dock* 11 Wanted for the London-Dock, a vessel of extensive usefulness to West Indiamen..? 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, A voluminous silk handkerchief, like the mainsail of one of his own West Indiamen. 1861 Holcroft *Strat. Coasts.* xx. 393 Compare the numbers of men in a West Indiaman and in a Baltic or Hamburgh trader.

**West Indian,** *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 *vulgar* -indies. [f. West India.]

**1.** *sb.* †**a.** *pl.* The original inhabitants of the West Indies. *Obs.*

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* III. xv. 50 The West Indians doo the like. 1597 J. King *Jonas* (1618) 177 Those [cruelties] that were practised by the Spanish nation upon the west Indians. 1618 W. Lawson *New Orch. & Gard.* xii. (1623) 41 Also I read in the History of the West-Indians, out of Peter-Martyr, That [etc.]. 1858 Phillips, *Hyrcanea*, a name given to any great Lord, among the West-Indians.

**b.** An inhabitant or native of the West Indies, of European origin or descent.

1661 E. Hickeringill *Jamaica* 100 The Major part of the Inhabitants being old West-Indians. 1757 [Burke]

*Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vi. x. II. 112 In the foregoing manner the West-Indian would state some part of what he conceives to be his grievances. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. (1781) 11 This is one of Lofty's companions, a West-Indian of an over-grown fortune. 1771 CUMBERLAND (*title*) The West Indian. 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 78 And I have heard that's very much the case with your West Indians. 1893 B. HARTE *Fiddletown*, etc. 97 Yet here sat that young West Indian...Alexander Hamilton. 1896 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* I. iii. She had no notion how her maternal grandfather got the fortune inherited by his two daughters; but he had been a West Indian—which seemed to exclude further question.

**2.** *fig.* Of or pertaining to, situated in, connected with, the West Indies.

1611 COTGR., s.v. *Aramye*, A round...ornament of feathers, worne by the West-Indian Sauages at their backes. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 4 The Subjunkters of a West-Indian Island. 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 230 The West-Indian fleet consists of an hundred and thirty five sail. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. iv. 10. 8. A Great Nest of an other West-Indian Bird. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Kunt*, a West-Indian Drink stronger than Brandy. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 2 Nov., The West Indian was but thrown out into a new shape. 1821 T. DWIGHT *Trav.* II. 458 Horses they sell at New Haven and Hartford for the West-Indian market. 1835 MOORE *Tom Cr. Post. S. &c.* I. 20 Some cold rum-punch, made after the West Indian fashion. 1885 TENNYSON *Wreck* iii. 6 A rich West-Indian isle.

**b.** in specific names.

1768 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* I. 1. 283 West Indian Green Parrot. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 108 West Indian Pike. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Voluta Musica*, West Indian Music Shell. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 West-Indian-dark, *Eustrophus caricbæum*.

**West Indie,** obs. var. WEST INDY.

**West Indies.** [WEST *a.* See INDIES and cf. EAST INDIES.] †**a.** The parts of America first discovered by Columbus and other early navigators. *Obs.*

**b.** The West India Islands.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Suche thynges as I haue seene in yowre Empyre of the West Indies. 1577 EDEN & WILLES (*title*) The History of Trauayle in the West and East Indies. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc., Descr. Univ. Maps* (1597) 568 b, America, which we now call the West Indies. 1625 BACON *Ess., Vicisit. Things* † The great Burnings by Lightning, wch is are often in the West Indies. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Leaving Mine* 10 Mine too her rich West-Indies were below, Where Mines of Gold and endless treasures grow. 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 4 All those strange species of animals in the West-Indies. 1734 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Melo*, Those Melons which are produc'd in the West-Indies are generally very large. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xx. He was the heir to a fortune, hinted Miller, got in the West Indies. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvii, Providing the infant negroes in the West Indies with flannel waistcoats.

*Comb.* 1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* Wks. (Arb.) 225 The next was a West Indies man, of 160 tuns. [Cf. next and WEST INDIAMAN.]

**West Indy,** *sb.*, obs. or vulgar var. WEST INDIA. *West Indy man* = WEST INDIAMAN.

1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* Wks. (Arb.) 225 Within two dayes after, we were haled by two West Indy men. *Ibid.* 226 Vnder the colour to take Pirats and West Indie men. 1849 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 45 Her West Indy Fleet...is subject to casualties of Sea. 1850 E. WILLIAMS *Virgo Triumphans* 2 The West Indie Pirates.

**1817** JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 77 A West Indy Family and a school. That sounds well.

**Westing** (we·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEST *adv.* or *v.*]

**1.** *Naut.* The net distance made by a vessel towards the west. (Cf. EASTING *sb.* 1.)

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 91 But for easting and westing, great diligence is required not to fall into error. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* xviii. 90 In the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh Columns, set down the Northing, Southing, Easting, and Westing. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 632 The Lesser Easting or Westing, subtracted from the Greater, shall give the Sum of Departure. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 384 The Westing we should gain in going to California would make amends for what we should lose. 1777 G. ROBERTSON *Voy. round World* II. 309 After leaving Ascension we made a good deal of westing. 1820 SCORESBY *Arctic Reg.* II. 369 A decrease of the variation of the compass, tends to give them more westing than they calculate upon. 1839 MARRYAT *Phantom Ship* ix, Their easting and westing could only be computed by dead reckoning. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 257 Furthest westing N. of Equator 26½° W.

**2.** Direction or course towards the west.

1825 SCOTT 29 June in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 280 How set is the vane..? One north I hope, will a westing towards Abbotsford. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xxiii. 339 The westing we were making brought us among people who are frequently visited by the Mambari, as slave-dealers. 1872 — *Let. to R. V. Herndl* (Feb.) in *Daily News* 29 July 5/6, I...at last found that the mighty river left its westing and flowed right away to the north.

*b. Astron.* Attainment of the western limit of the apparent course.

1828 FROCTOR *Ct. Pyramid* iii. 139 The easting, southing, westing, and northing of heavenly bodies.

**3.** Of winds: The fact of blowing from, or shifting to, the west.

1800 MAURN *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) iv. 79 Hitherto winds with westing in them have been most prevalent. *Ibid.* v. 127 The forces of diurnal rotation assist to give these winds their westing. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 144/1 The westing of these great aerial currents is due to...the rotation of the earth round its axis.

**We·sting,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Tending towards the west.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. ii. 247 In the like manner you must do if your Course were North-Westing. 1836 *Scott. Monthly Mag.* July 207 The westing sun's beam Cast gold on the grass. 1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even* I xxvi, A shade against the westing sun.

**We·stland,** *sb.* Also *Sc.* 6 **westland,** 6, 9 **westland,** 8 **westlan'.** (Cf. WESTLIN *a.*] [f. WEST *a.* (or OE. *west-*) + LAND *sb.*]

**1.** The western part of a country; *esp.* the West of Scotland.

1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* I. 109 To pass with letteres of the Kingis for the Lordis of the Westlandis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scott.* (S.T.S.) I. 291 He passed ...to the toune of Air and to the pairtis of the westland. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xxxv, He uses maist partly the westland of Scotland. 1894 K. HOWARD *Little Scot. World* v. 58 It was understood Montrose would make a descent on the Westland.

**2.** *attrib.* **a.** Of persons: Living in, coming from, the West of Scotland.

*c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 776 A hundyr fyrst till him self he has tayne, Off westland men. *Ibid.* x. 308. 1522 Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig.* B. vi. 290 b, On the on syde, the westland lordys and my lord of Angus. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scott.* (S.T.S.) I. 205 All the rest of the norland men and westland men meitt the King at Stirling. 1641 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Warriston) Diary (S.H.S.) II. 74 The vyle band which seven Westland gentlemen had subscryved. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiv, When he raised his natural...against the wrang-headed westland whigs. 1827 — *Two Drovers* i, The strong westlandman laughed aloud. 1828–43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 239 On the rear division were the westland men under Lesley.

**b.** Of places: Situated in the west.

1523 Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig.* B. vi. fol. 440 The eil of Huntlay hath all the ruil of the north parts, & the eil of Lennox all the westland part. 1699 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Annatyne Club) 30 Ane Associatioun concludit and drawn up among the Westland schyres. *c* 1670 in *Trad. Friends Hist. Soc.* XIV. 59 Yesterday about the Westland ye-thieves [were] sent to that synod [sc. Glasgow]. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 668/1 Had she not given...reason to believe she thought them the greatest people on Westland ground. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* VIII. 148 All the Westland north beneath my sway shall lie.

**†** Proceeding from the west; blowing from the west, westerly.

1650 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Warriston) *Diary* (S. H. S.) II. 30 They were Westland windes, and commonlie nor nor Northland Band. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* 236 Smoking in a squalid room where yet the westland breezes come.

Hence **We·stlander**; **-landwaye** *adv.*

*a* 1656 H. CUTHBERT *Mem.* (1702) 18 The West-Landers advanced towards Edinburgh. *Ibid.* 240 The Westlanders ...were all poor ignorant Creatures, taken from their Husbandry. 1822 GALT *Entail* I. xxiii, The wind...became exchanged betwixt them and the Westlanders. 1880 — *Monast.* xxxv, Instead of that comes news that he has gone westlandways about some tuilzie in Ayrshire.

**We·stlin,** *a.* *sc.* Also 8 **-len.** [var. of *westland*] WESTLAND 2.] Western; westerly.

1787 *Patie & Peggy* Chorus in Ramsay *Tea-t. Mist.*, Sun, gallop down the westlin skies. 1791 RAMSAY *Keith* 27 Ye westlin breezes that gently sail to play by her white breast. 1728 — *To Starr* 28 Welcome, as Westlen Winds, or Berries ripe. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to Davie* 6 To...spin a verse or two o' rhyme, In hamely westlin jingle. 1818 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* ii, When the fringe was red on the westlin hill. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* i. ii, The goodwill of the westlin winds. 1833 TENNYSON *Edin. Poems & Songs* (1891) 168 Auburn the Westlin sunlight.

**We·stling,** *adv. Sc. rare*—1. [f. WEST + *-ling* 2.] Westwards.

1728 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Grs.* III. i, Frae East Nook of Fife the Boats to speel Westlings up the Firth.

**† West-looker.** *Obs.*—1 [f. WEST *adv.*] A name for the hare.

*a* 1300 *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, Pe westlokere..pe sidlokere and cke pe roulekere (*read* -lokere).

**† We·stly,** *adv. Obs.*—0 [f. WEST *adv.* Cf. MLG. *westlik*, Du. *westelijk*, Da. and Sw. *westlig*.] Towards the west.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Westward, or westly, *occidentaliter*.

**We·stm,** var. WASTUM *Obs.*

**We·stmont,** obs. form of VESTMENT.

**We·stminster.** The name of the abbey on the north bank of the Thames at London, used *attrib.*, esp. with reference to Westminster Hall as a court of justice, to the assembly of divines held in 1643, or to St. Peter's School.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 28 Thus thys bargayne became a westminster matter; the lawyers gote vnto the fote of the horse. *a* 1614 TIMME *Strict Watch. bell* vii. (1634) 140 If his neighbor do damnifie him but the value of two pence, he will prouide a conserue of Westminsterial wormwood for him out of hand. 1671 (*title*) Westminster Drollery. Or a choice Collection of the Newest Songs & Poems. 1691 *Hist. Rel. Late Presbyt. Govt.* (1714) 12 Westminster-Hall was accused for neglecting the Catechism of the Westminster Divines. 1693 *Acc. Establ. Presbyt. Govt. Scot.* 43 Such a vast number of Propositions as are contained in the Westminster Confession. 1698 *Cassandra Disbrow'd*, 5 It does not appear by any thing our Author says, that his Marriage with Mary Tomkins was any other than *Congressus Furtivus*, a Westminster Wedding. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Westminster-Wedding*, a Whore and a Rogue Married together. 1719 *Collect. Conf. Faith Ch. Scot.* I. Pref. p. xi, Every body known in what unhappy distracted Times, the Westminster Assembly met and compos'd that Confession of Faith. 1720 *Pref. to Addit. Westminster Confession* 182 Other catechisms, which...are for no other valuable quality any ways comparable to the Westminster Catechisms. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 79 A Westminster-Fool. Take a Penny-loaf, cut it into thin Slices, wet them with Sack...; take a Quart of Cream, beat up six Eggs...[etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, The waiters, from their costume, might be mi-taken for Westminster boys. 1843 HETHERINGTON (*title*) History of the Westminster Assembly of Divines. 1856 SARA T. L. ROBINSON *Kansas* (ed. 2) 38 The old Westminster catechism allows works of necessity and mercy to be done on the Sabbath day. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* i. 13 The Nonsense Club, consisting of seven Westminster men who dined together every Thursday.

*b. attrib.* A present or former pupil at Westminster School.

1690–1 SMALRIDGE in *Epist. Corr. Atterbury* (1783) I. 17, I suppose you expect to do little good but upon the Westminsters. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* i. 13 The set was strictly confined to Westminsters. Gray and Mason, being Etonians, were objects of its literary hostility. 1895 *Spectator* 23 Nov. 709 The Busby Trust, managed by thirteen trustees, who must be old Westminsters.

Hence **We·stminsterian,** *rare*—1. [f. *Westminsteri-um*, Latinized f. WESTMINSTER.] One educated at Westminster School.

*a* 1693 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 274 Richard Rhodes,...a confident Westminsterian.

**† We·stmony.** *Obs.* [adl. Icel. *Vestmannaeyjar* (Da. *Vestmanner*.] A group of islands off the south coast of Iceland. In quot. *attrib.*

Erroneously printed *Westinary* in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 260.

1663 *Act 15 Chas. II*, *c.* 7 § 13 For the Encouragement of the Herring & North-Sea, Island [= Iceland], & Westmony Fisheries.

**We·stmost,** *a.* Forms: 1 **westmest**, 1, 6 *Sc.*, **westmest** (1 weste-), 6 *Sc.* **-mast**, 6–7 *Sc.* **-maist**; 3, 6– **westmost** (9 *Sc.* **wastmost**). [f. WEST *adv.* + -MOST.] Most westerly; westernmost.

893 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 549 Æerest of þam west mæstan weyfle...upp to þam ealdan hengiste. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. i. Romana þonan wendeð, is mæst æ westmest. *Ibid.*, On þæm west-mestan [onwealde], þæt is Roma. *c* 970 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 262 Þus landes gemæra þe geþyriað into þære westmestan hide. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1605 Fram þe weste syde of þe world þe est mote ende, þo adde king arþure ywonne fram þe west moste se. 1456 *E. Ch. Rolls Scot.* VI. 224 Onerat se...de ix li. de Mydmestrelde de Wairwod. Et de ix li. de world se est moste episcopi. Et de lx li. de Estmestestede de Faughup. 1510 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 30 The halle forland of the said tenement with the westmost plantis. 1595 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* IX. 9 To the westmest dyk of the eistmest cornefauld. 1632 LITHGOW *Travels* 23 Gayetta, the West most confine...of the Neapolitan Kingdome. 1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 They are the westmost portion of the horde. 1805 *State, Leslie of Powis* 256 (Jam.) That the westmost sight was above the Hucky-schot. 1879 *Cassell's Newsp.* 30 Jan., A vague ...attempt on the part of the French...batteries at St. Ouen to enfilade our westmost one at Ormeson.

**West-north-west,** *adv.*, etc. [See WEST *adv.* and NORTH-WEST. Cf. MLG. *westnortwest*, Du. *-noord*, G. *-nord-*.] In or from the direction situated midway between west and north-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

1... *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc., 1880) 11 The Ilonde and Berwik haven lien west nough west and Est South 11. *Ibid.* 18 The streems...of Brigantie are west nor nowest. *c* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 287 Anglice west-north-west versus Sesyn Dawyes. *a* 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 30 The second forcke lyith West North West. 1598 ERN *Decades* (Arb.) 29 Proceading...at the lengthe towarde the weste northe weste. 1625 HYMMER tr. *W. Blaeu's Sea Mirr.* II. 119 When that Lagernesse is westnorthwest from you, then goe on southward. 1685 J. SPENCE *Art Contriving* 22 Our course by the North-Star was West-North-West. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6360/5 With little Wind at West North West. 1795 DE FOE *Tour* (1927) III. 111 The land lying away from the west-north-west to the south-east-by-south. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxxi, A strong west-north-west gale blowing. 1885 R. H. *Encycl.* 359 The wind flies round to West, or West-north-west.

Hence **West-north-westerly** *a.*

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/2 She met with a tremendous west-north-westerly gale.

**Weston(e,** obs. forms of WESTTON.

**Westour,** obs. Sc. form of WASTER 16.1

**Westphalia** (westfē·liă). Also 7 **Westfalia.** [med.L., f. OHG. *Westfalo* (G. *-fale*, *-phale*) an inhabitant of the district now called *Westfalam* in German.] The name of a province of western Germany lying between Hanover and Rhenish Prussia, used *attrib.* with *bacon*, *gammon*, or *ham*.

*c* 1590 TOWNESEND *Poems* (1930) 8 Give me a salt Westphalia Gammon, Not meat to eat, but meat to drink. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Westphalia Bacon. 1664 F. HAWKINS *Youths Behav.* 118 A Westphalia Ham of Bacon. 1678 *Westphalia Ham* 1. 1688 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* 1. 178 His face...recalls the good Westphalia-Ham. 1730 P. LAMB *Royal Cookery* 66 To make a Westphalia-Ham. 1754 LADY G. BATELIE *Housek. Bk.* (S. H. S.) 102 For 1¾ lb. westfalia hamb at 11d., 0 15 7.

**Westpha·lian,** *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to, connected with, Westphalia.

**b.** *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Westphalia.

1694 MARTON & WEBSTER *Mercurius* II. The salloe-westfalian-gamon-faced zarza. 1668 J. WILSON *Erasm. Praise of Folly* (1913) 25 As plump and round as a Westphalian Hogg. 1708 ADDISON *Present St. War* 34 The

Westphalian Treaty 1764 Falconer *Poems, Demagogus* 128 Her vital blood, that pour'd from every vein, So late, to fill th' accurs'd Westphalian drain 1778 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II 321 Wernerus Rolewinck, a Westphalian 1800 *Mem. Crt Westphalia* 220 The Westphalian troops per formed miracles at Moscow. *Ibid.*, The Westphalians lost, in that battle, many valuable officers 1824 Byron *Juan* xv lxv, They also set a glared Westphalin ham on. 1849 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xviii, I have seen many a Westphalian hog quite as tall

† **Westphalie, -phaly,** obs var. Westphalia

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb* III 148 The Gamonds of Fraunce, which I suppose were no ne other but the flyches of Westphaly, so greatly esteemed at this day. 1661 Kennet *Cchery* 20 A good piece of Westphalie Bacon *Hist* 136 A Westphalie Gammon of Bacon. 1725 Mandeville *Fable Bees* (ed 4) I 263 For the Small Beer they sent abroad, they received large Returns of Westphaly Hams [etc.]

**West-Pointer,** *U. S.* [f. *West Point*, the name of a village on the west bank of the Hudson River in the state of New York] An officer trained at the United States military academy at West Point

1863 *Congo Gleb* 12 Jan 377/3 There I have been wounded since this war opened from thirty to forty genteel officers Many of them were West Pointers 1878 W *Amer Rev* CXVI 85 A West Pointer opposing the *Institute* of 'thanks' 1895 J. Allen *A Kentucky Cardinal* xiii The West Pointer had been writing for some months in regard to the wild behaviour of his cousin

**Westralian** (westrā·lĭăn), *a* and *sb* [f. *Westralia*, a telegraphic abbrev. of *West Australia*] a *adj* Of or pertaining to West Australia. b *sb* A native or inhabitant of West Australia; *pl* West Australian mining shares

a 1896 *Economist* 14 May 593/1 The position of the Westralian Government in the matter is a serious one *Ibid* 25 Apr 512/2 Westralian shares have been somewhat more freely dealt in 1896 *19th Cent* Nov 711 (*title*) The Westralian Mining Boom 1900 *Spectator* 12 May 757/1 In the Westralia Outbinder complains that all the taxation falls on the gold mines. 1904 *Kln Inv Mag* Mar 308 Westralian finance coupled the bad features of the Kaffir Circus

b 1896 *Economist* 14 May 593/1 The Westralians have been weak on balance 1896 *19th Cent* Nov 711 When every department of the Stock Exchange was inactive, West Australians came to the rescue 1900 *Pall Mall Gaz* 17 Aug 7/1 The boom in Westralians which does not come off

Hence **Westra·lianism.**

1903 *Westm Gaz* 2 May 9/1 Strictures on the subject of Westralianism 1903 *Daily Express* 8 Sept 8/2 'scandals,' such as during recent years I've made the term 'Westralianism' one of evil significance

**Westro,** obs form of Vestry

**Westring,** var of Westering

**West Saxon,** *sb.* and *a. Hist.* Also **West-Saxon** [f. West *a* + Saxon *sb* and *a*, after OL. *West-seaxan* pl.]

**A** *sb.* 1. *pl* The division of the Saxons in England occupying the area south of the Thames and westward from Surrey and Sussex; also *sing* an individual belonging to this group or race

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI 403 Hugmundus ordeyned fyve [bishops] to be in ilof Gowys, pat is pWest Saxons 1432 50 tr *Higden* VII 99 Edmunde Irnside subdued to hym the Westsexons pnom 1513 Brad shaw *St Werburge* I 155 The thyrde [realm] was West Saxons famous and myghty 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 72 a Aidus wanns the feild vpon the Pechtis and West-saxon s 1642 Baker *Chron* (1653) 7 The Heptarchie was of the West Saxons 1724 Atterbury *Speech* No 5 6 p 1 was the other Day with honest Will Funnell the West Saxon 1728 Chambers *Cycl Suppl. s.v.* Ina, Ina King of the West Saxons 1782 Gibbon *Decl & F* xxxvii (1787) III 618 *note*, On the, the West Saxon 1877 Jennings *Hereford* 14 4 Hour art thou a West Saxon or are Danes?

**2** The dialect of Old English used by the West Saxons

1844 Garnett in *Proc Philol S.* II 17 The plural totally unknown in West Saxon *Ibid* 18 The discrepancies from the ordinary West Saxon are specified 1858 Sweet *Gr Hatter* p xii The West Saxon of the eleventh century differs in many respects from that of Alfred's reign 1893 A. C. Champneys *Hist Eng Lit* 81 Northumbrian retains some very ancient forms not found in West Saxon

**B** *adj* Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, the West Saxons or their speech

1570 Lambarde *Perambt Kent* (1576) 20 Kent was vnited by King Egbert vnto the Westsaxons Kingdome and governed after the Westsaxon law 1670 Milton *Hist Eng* I 121 Before the West Saxon Kingdome 1842 *Encyc P* XXII 231/2 During the West Saxon, Anglo Saxon, and Anglo Danish dynasties 1848 Latham *Eng Lang* (ed 2) 32 The Psalter also exhibits the West Saxon form 1896 Sweet *Anglo Saxon Primer* (ed 8) 81 Northumbrian points were also copied in the West Saxon dialect. 1893 A. C. Champneys *Hist English* 86 The Southern or West Saxon plural, *-aþ*

Hence † **West-Sa·xonry,** the kingdom of the West Saxons

1850 Elderfield *Civil Right of Tytnes* x 70 Kenulph King of West-Saxonrie

† **West-saxene,** ME. form of OE *Westsc(a)xena*, gen. pl. of *West-sc(a)xan* (sec prec.)

1130 *Shires Eng* in *O. L. Hist* 146 On ys west-saxene lande

**West side.** Also **west-side.** [Want *a.* Cf. White, MLG. *westside*, Du. *-zijde*, G *-seite*] The side situated in or lying towards the west.

c 1290 *Kenelm* 62 in *S Eng Leg* 347 De bischopriche of Rouceste put in pe west side in west 1300 Harpole *Fr Conse* 5287 Als pe leveneyng out gas in short tyde I ra pe est, and shewes it in pe west side c 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* Ther is at the West syde of Ytaille Alastry playne

c 1391 — *Astrol* 1 § 6 The west side is cleped the left side 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl Soc 1889) 17 On the west side of Mulodos 1503 *Swerres Hist* (1890) 30 The utter west syde of his seignyntye 1599 *Reg Mag Scot* 211/2 At the west syde of the Blak tour 1669 Earl Winchilsea *Trew Relat Hit Lima* 16 The two Torrents of Fire forward had on the West side land about it self into several Streams. 1681 in *Nature Lerrage I* 61 (1874) 6 The west syde of the high way 1789 S Shaw *Jour W Eng* 178 A pleasant little town on the West side of Salt 1896 Baden Powell's *Matabele Campaign* IV, On the west side of this road Umlugulu a town and stockade

*b trans?* (Cf. Western *a* 8.)

1829 Marryat *P Mutiny* xxv, Rubbing herself on her 'west' side, as the Philadelphia ladies call it

† **West-south,** *sb. Obs. rare* [See West *adv* and South *adv.* OE. had *westsuðwond*] The south-west

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 476 To pe on ende of engelond, as in pe west soup A litle bi nolpe cornewaile

**West-south-west,** *adv* etc [See West *adv* and South-west, Cf MLG *westsüdwest*, Du. *-zuid-*, G *-süd-*] In or from the direction situated midway between west and south-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

a. *adv* 14 *Sailing Directions* (Hakl Soc. 1889) 21 It flowith west southwest. *Ibid* 23 Yif the wynde be west south west 1440 *Alphab Nobil* 170 And west south west Le Mountayne hath been for to order west & est from I Howard in Flis *Orig Let* Ser II I 214 On monday the wynd cam west south west 1584 R Norman tr *Sayle's 1st & 2nd Voyages* 81 The land east northeast, and the ebbe west southwest 1698 Hennepin *Nem Dis et Annes* I 78 Steering our Course West South West, with a favour able Wind 1760 Tr Rogers *Voy round World* 197 After the following course west south west two miles west north west three miles 1833-4 Phillips *Coal in Engel* Introd 41 (1848) I Uncertain and continuous fissures passing nearly East North East and West South West

b *adj* 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* x xi 11 (1495) 386 The weste so sthwaste wynde I sighte Zephirus 14 *Sailing Directions* (Hakl Soc 1889) 21 All the haven I shall at a west south west n one *a* 1550 I Stand Itin (1764) III 12 An Hospital of S John yet standing at the West South West end of the Town 1615 Crooke, *Lord of arat.* A West South west wind 1632 Lithgow *Trav* III 123 The West South west end of this once Regall Towne

c 1718 Lisle *Pirate Decr* (Arb) 7 I shall steere bended sumetyme towards the Weste and westesouthwest a 1790 Greene & Tooke *Living Gl* (1598) L. Now the wind standeth West south west, a gale. At West Southwest 1837 W Irving *Capt Bonneville* I 11 61 One of these branches rises in the west south west 1839 Dela Beche *Rep Geol Cornwall*, etc 1 8 On the west south west of the same district

Hence **West-south-we·sterly** *a*

1881 W Powell in *Proc A Geog Soc* (N S) III 92 A long straight piece of coast, running in a west south westerly direction

**Westum,** var. Wastum *Obs*

† **Westvale.** *Obs.* Also 4 -fale, 4–5 -vall (-uall), 5 westevalo [a MLG *Westvale, val* Westphalian] A variety of cloth of Westphalia in origin

1388 S Bentley *Excerpts Hist* (1831) 139 Item legeo duobus vlnis de Westfale ad faciendum in le mea. 1390 *Inqu Earl Derby* (Camden) 35 Item ix vlnis Westuall empris pro trausers duabus pro pum *Ibid* 168 Item *Inquisitio* facta apud Pontefractum 1398 *Will Archb of Ketinelly* (Comm Ct London) Iego Walterd Burtone unum lectum de Westvale 1397-8 *Acct Earl Derby* 56 Vitaill de westvall 1403 *Will Archb of Canterb* in *Lincoln Chapter Acts* (MS), Cum uno Dover de Westvale stenned cum ymaginibus 1423 *Pr & C Ellen* II 1 Pur I pece de westevalle 1 pece de ellebon

**Westward** (westward), *adv., sb*, and *a.*1 Also 5 weste-, 5–6 westwarde, 7 westheard [Of *westweard*, f. West *adv.* + -ward. Cf. MLG *west wart, -wert, -wort*]

**A.** *adv.* 1. Towards the west; in a westerly direction **a** Of motion or direction

1 or 11 *est ward ho!* sec. *Hoo* 1 *sb* b

c 900 Cædmon 89, Þa gestod he mucle here of þam eastrice westweard to I unum s 1000 *Saxon Leech* I III 70 Þa scolon steorrin gangenle eastan westweard. *O Ch* & *Lhr* 81 (1693) An to a lit gewendon beom þa west weard 08 þat hi cunnon to I rel ande 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 10 350 Þo I le dnun him ward, þe se he wen le me & *Chr* 1137 Ran te, / Of Bayon 118 Her suiter eum Tuene out of I e e t, ed westward she I kel e 1390 Chaucer *Introd* to *Tr* 324 In diligently whit this sesse stere steme pes eth westward 1450 Merl 81 (Rolf) xxvii 1217 It hatez westwar I to be jnur of I lson c 1400 Ywe *Acton & Sanct* 658 Whan thyn he hath hys cou rs hy hoon, Ageyn westwarde he hed he repeire 1473 Warkw *Chron* (Camden) 4 Her fleddie westwarde to the see vpte, and take there here schippys 1535 Coverdale *Jer* xiv 7 As fore as reach th westwarde and eastwarde 1592 I Mar Epist (1845) 11 The declin ti of your plat le Wor ward, or from C toward B 1613 Purne *Poems* (1633) 170 Goodfellow, 1613 Riding Westward a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 32 Here forward the Sun of the Kings cause declined, veering more and more Westward, till at last it set in Cornwal 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi 1316 But westward now the Sun declin'd 1756 Brand *Acct Orkney & ancit Planting Arts & Learn Amer* 21 Westward the course of empire takes its way. 1783 J King *Thoughts Disp ultras* 10 29 We were told by a priest that all the virtues were flying westward 1816 Keats *J. Gen Keats* 142 Why westward turn? 'I was but to say nothing! 1822 Scott *Nigel v.* The citizen rode on westward along the Strand 1848 H Ware *Lord Falcond* 160 Proceeding westward from the nave arch is a stone roodloft 1877 Rubrin *St Mark's Acct* 10 40 Look, as you recross its bridge, westward, along the broad flowing stream.

b Of relative position

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T.* 1036 I stward ther stood a gate of Marbul whit, Westward right ayeyn another in the oppoit 1390 Gower *Conf* III 103 And thanne upon that other syde westward The brother Aufrique nam 1472-3 *Rolls Parl* VI 157/2 Almaner Wull except Wolle to be shipped westward in Gloues or Carry kkes, to be shipped and carried oute of this Reame, shal be conveyed to the Staple of Calays 1530 Tindale *Ivil* xxvii 12 And in the breath of the courte westwarde, there shalbe hangynges of fyfty cubetles long 1598 W Phiten tr *Tomach Am's* xxiii 171 We compass'd about y^e other corner that lay westward from us 1600 Holland *Livy* xl xxi 1 147 He telleth that Westward there are people whose long hair hut one eare 1632 Weever *Ans Funeral Mon* 642 A certaine holy Crosse, stand farre Westward, and brought hither by my uncle 1772 Nonsuch *Hist Lond* 792 Ye m Bed ford hou e on the same line westward to Great Russel street Bloomsbu y 1810 Scott *Lady of L* i xxvi Due westward, from a to the green, A path of pebbles was seen 1881 Crockett *Stickit Minister* (1893) 1 Westward the sun clim bs slow, low slowly But westward, look, the land is bright!

c Followed by *of*

1691 *Hist Rel Late Presbyt Con Assembly* 6 For twenty Miles Westward of Perth there were but two or three Ministers 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* 128 Westward of these lies The long bait isle of Hirtaboth wise 1821 *Ace Pacif Nations in Coal Trade* 4 Their papers should not be sent from the Ship until she has arrived westward of Black wall 1842 Dickens *Diddl. Papers* 1 It is situated about twelve le gues westward of Madrid

d *Comb.*, as *Westward blowing, flowing*, etc.

1871 Jenkyn *Last Days* 188 With the westward blowing west wind seeing seen 1875 *Knight Bk Build* III 109 The position of the destination of the westward-flowing rivers 1891 *Nation* (N Y) 29 Nov 393 The westward-flowing portion of this volume A 1893 *Times* 24 Dec 6/1 That fierce westward blowing gale of late

+ 2 *spec.* In allusive use To Tyburn *Obs.*

1600 *Life Pierce Penilesse* (Arb) 30 They doe so fast trot westward then with the Cartes 1605 Shakespeare *Lear* III 1 Ile I. I'm a Sir, Eastward hoe, will make you go Westward e 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw Ho* iv ii Gill I'm a Sir, Eastward hoe, will make you go Westward e 1626 H Parrot *Cures for the Itch* A 3 b, If any thing hap pen it must screw it in the next Sessions pounded there be some to transport Westward 1647 A H [Phewet] *Counterscuffle* 13 Scrip Is it not time he should now go downward? Hat And time, that you should go Westward

3 quasi-*sb.* = next.

1697 Dryden *Æneis* vii 909 Like the Sun that flies From Westward when the Show'rs Kids arise 1810 Scott *Lady of L* iv xii, My fall were guard each pass s mouth I west, to westward all to south

**B** *sb.* That direction or part which lies to the west of a place, etc.

1652 H Phillipps *Ge metr Sea man* 79 Which differs in longitude fr m the former place 90 degrees to the West ward 1673 in Ireton *Jour* (1827) 41 Ye Castle to the cleare and I yne the street n the cock of the Castell to the westward 1695 *Lond Gaz* No 3099 1 the same day I said by the *Hastings*, with 18 sail to the West ward 1705 Du Fos *Jour round World* (1840) 308 They saw two rockets n up from the westward 1762 Falconer *Shipwr* III 371 The Fren sweh wheeling to the westward flies 1838 Stirling in C tyle *Life* II xii (1872) 144 The highest part which commands a view of the vale of Clyde Arno to the westward 1881 *Encycl Britannica* (1875) 221 Such enough there were the tracks of horses coming from the westward

b. Const of

1766 Smollett *Trav* xii I 213 The river Var fall into the Mediterranean about four miles to the westward of Nice 1776 *Trial of Lund servant* (c Q Where is the place? I is the western end of Sussex 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I 318 Directing his course to the west to the very place where we left 1896 Baden Powell *Matabele Campaign* xv, About 16 miles to the westward of the mountain

*C. adj* Having a westerly situation or direction, lying, facing, moving, etc., towards the west

1878 Jenkinson *Guide Lake District* (1879) 133 On completing the worst part of the climb and obtaining a westward prospect 1880 C. P. Scott in *Manch Guard* (ed 3) 241 Let us retrace our steps to the westward end of Deansgate 1896 Howells *In Spain & Italy* 282 On of the west ward avenues 1900 *Trial Mrs Maybrick* 1 Apr 134 A further link in the westward series was finished in 1887

† **Westward,** *a.*2 *Obs.* [Obs. *westeu* card cf. prec.] Westerly (= the west, or western part, of). 1849 *Chaucer* 13 Sweet O I *Texts* 431 Donn on ba bytan burg we towarde 1893 Earle *Oxon Text* 1 § 3 In west sudpenda Lurgo is in Espania westewardum 1200 *Lay* 657 He sende þat ber west numen a scadie lobe of westward sipe 1440 *Promp Parv* 523/1 Weste and *occidentalis* **We·stwardly,** *a.* [f. Westward *adv*]

1 a Of wind: Blowing from the westward

1563 Vrsewa 17 [They] hoist up their Sails, the wind beinz, Westwardly, and good for their intended Navigation 1708 Luttrell *Brief Rel* V 511 As the wind being westwardly, a general embarkation is making at Harwich for Holland 1805 *Phil Trans* XCII 249 *note* He expected a continuance of the westwardly or still westwardly winds 1876 Davis *Trans Fast* 259 The pack was driven in by a westwardly wind

b. Moving or flowing westward.

1850 Proctor *Athens II* 1 xi 1 1 The relatively cold and westwardly equatorial current is

2 Situated to the westward

1704 *Phil Trans* XXV 1614 The Se tion [seemed] to be a small matter more Westwardly 1703 *Art Sp Cert III* 131 title, The Trial before Lord Chief Justice Holt at the westwardly part of Hardwick Heath

**We·stwardly,** *adv.* [f as prec.] In or to the westward, in a westerly direction.

them westwardly. Here by by mistfe, alone doth by Ireland. *a* 1633 Donne *Poems, Love-Lect. Shadow* 29 If love once faint, and westwardly decline. 1756 Tolderoy *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 76 After steering their course westwardly a few days, they met with a shallop company of strollers. 1794 Vancouver *Agric. Cambridge* 69 Thence extending westwardly. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. v. 56 The travellers took final leave of the Sweet Water, . . keeping westwardly. 1892 A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 317 Westwardly . . traveled an interminable caravan of emigrants.

**Westwardmost,** *a.* [f. as prec. + -most.] Most westerly; farthest west.

1685 W. Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 175 We . . came to an anchor . . on y^e Westwardmost Braze. 1788 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* (1790) 109 The westward-most point of a very large bay. 1804 *Daily Advert.* 7 May 6/3 They propose to commence at once on the westwardmost bay of the chapel.

**Westwards,** *adv.* and *sb.* Also 6 **-wardes.** [f. Westward *adv.* + -s.] Cf. Du. *westwaards*, G. *westwärts*, and OE. *westwearde* (once).]

**A.** *adv.* = Westward *adv.* 1 a.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII* c. 17 The way from the barres in Holborne westwardes to the farre ende of high holborn. 1582 Bergoign *Discouerie Yar. Countries* (1583) 1 b, From hence Westwardes to Meta Incognita. 1614 E. Wright *Dialling* E 1 An occidental Dial looketh directly westward. 1619 Heylin *Cosmogr.* IV. 96 He . . informs us, that he sailed not Westwards, but more towards the South. 1915 J. Buchan *Nelson's Hist. War* V. 126 The bulk of the Russian army went westwards to reinforce the van.

**B.** = Westward *sb.* 1 b.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 17 b, A mountaine Westwards, and fiue miles from the Citie. 1599 E. Wright *Haven-finding Art* 11 Holmshude (which place is Westwards from the Mart Cape of Finmark). 1854 tr. *Heftner's Athens & Pelop.* 162 Westwards yonder, towards the sea, lies Lerna.

*b. ob.* = Westward *sb.* (Also with *of.*) Now *rare.*

1574 W. Bourne *Regiment for Sea* 47 To the Westwardes of your towne. 1581 Borough *Discourse Var. Compas* (1581) G. It lyeth Westward from S. Nicholas 2 or 3 Mauneiow. 1584 R. Norman tr. *Safegard of Sailers* 37 Then he shall see the towne to the westwards before him. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 28 b, Vpon the North coast, and to the Westwards of Foy, few or none are taken. 1669 Earl Winchilsea *Pene Relat. Mr. Etun* 22 The other Torrent, . . in probability could not eafily overflow to the Westward. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s. v. Wind*, The Easterly Trade-Winds blowing to the Westwards thereof.

**West wind, west-wind.** [OE. *westwind*, = OS., MLG., MDu., G. *westwind*, WFris. *weste-wyn*, NFris. *wistwin*, = ON. *vestanvindr* (Norw. *vestan-*, Da. *vestenvind*), MHG. *westwint.*] The (or a) wind blowing from the west. Also with *a* and *pl.*

*c* 900 *Bede's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 458 Sona þes he he on scyp eode . . bleow westwind. *a* 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 567 *Vent gederot* . . west-wynde. *c* 1440 *Promph. Parv.* 530/1 West wynde, *uphirius.* 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xi. iii. 386 Faunonius, the West wynde neyghth in the Weste. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* iv. The Lorde turned a maruelous stronge west wynde. 1577 B. Sheltie *Frobisher's Voy.* B vij, Within foure dayes the Northwest and West windes diuerted the yce into the Sea. 1634 Milton *Comus* 563 And West winds, with musky wing About the cedarn alleys fling Nard. 1645 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1652) 176 As the West-winds are much common in Ireland, . . than from East. 1715 Pope *Iliad* xv. 317 The Cloud condensing as the West-Wind blows. 1789 Wordsw. *Sonn., Lone Flower* 11 Bright jonquils, their sun-loving hue On the soft west-wind and his frolic peers. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 178 The West Wind called.

*attrib.* 1602 Holland *Pliny* x. ix. I. 301 Some are of opinion that the west wind will engender them: for which cause also they are called Zephyria [*i.* West-wind-egs].

Hence **west-winded, west-windy** adjs.

1813 G. W. Cutts *Mist Mother* xiii. 221 That west-winded, rose-shoured street. 1850 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) 379 It being a bright, westwindy, bracing day.

**† Westy,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 **wysty.** [OE. *wēstiġ, wēstiġ, l. wēste, wiste* Weste *a.* Cf. Westy *a.*[1]] Desolate, waste.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Mark* 3: 15 [He] gode on weestirum stowum [*c* 978 *Ruthw.* in west-tigestowel. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 Of Angle . . se syððan sted westig betwix Iutum & Seaxum. 1340 Ayenb. 119 Leodle nere þut name, ne wapmen ne wimmen, luite westlye þeodes [*c* 1375 weste þeodes]. *c* 1430 *Hali Meid.* 42 (Bodley MS.) Þei tu . . schalt grenin goolies in west wisel [*Titus* westi] wahes. 1513 *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2189 Now iwysse, quoþ Wowayn, wysty is here; þis oritore is ygly.

**We·sty,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Confused; giddy.

1599 Br. Hall *Sat.* IV. i. 158 While hen lies wallowing with a wesite hed And paiid-h carkasse, on his brothel-bed. 1674-91 Ray *N.C. Words, Westy*, dizzy, giddy. 1867 *Cornh. Mag.* XV. 741 He's a bit westy at times is Ashford. 1881 Evans *Leicest. Gloss.* s.v., My head's very wesy and bad.

**Wesy,** obs. f. Vizy *v.* Sc. **Weseyng,** rare obs. f. Weasand. **Wesz,** obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of Be *v.*

**Wet** (wet), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* † **wæt, ȝ wet** (*dat.* **wete**), *Orm.* **wet** (*dat.* **wete**) 3–6 **wete,** (5 **whete**), 4–6 **weete,** 4–8, 6– *Sc.* **weet,** 6 **weat(e,** 5–6 *north.* and *Sc.* **weyt,** 5–7 *Sc.* *β.* 4 *north.* **was(e.** *γ.* 6– wet, 6 wette, 7 wett. *δ.* 9 *Sc.* **wat.** [OE. *wǽt* neut. (substantival use of *wǽt* adj., = WFris. *wiet*), giving normally ME. *wēt, wete, weete* and later *weat(e.* The other ME. and mod. forms are due to the influence of the adj. OE. had also *wēta* wk. masc., represented in ME. by Wete; in later use the two become undistinguishable, and some of the examples given here (in sense 1) may really be survivals of *wæta.*]

**1.** Moisture; liquid or moist substance.

In occasional use applied to water, blood, sweat, sap, etc.

*a.* *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Swa þæt heora nan oðres wæstmes ne ofereode, & se eale þryhwordne wæl & þa hearde, & þæt wæt wið þam drygum. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 73 Hise fedres fallen for þe hete, And he don niste to be wete Fallen his fust wille grund. *a* 1240 *Ureisun of O. & Hom.* l. 187 Hwa is þenne unwaschen þe haueþ his halwende wet inwið his heorte. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 668 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 318 Man hath of eorþe al is bodi, and of watere he haueþ wete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 634, I se wel how ye swete, Haue heer a clooth, and wipe awey the wete. *c* 1400 *Herpin* 1022 (Her) smote þe Damesell swipe be eie, þe weet gon vpward spyn. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 3375 Whan he [Phoebus] . . dried vp þe moysture & be weete Of herbes & floure with his feruent heete. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/1 Weytt, *maditas.* *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrac ha* (? 1510) M ij b, After a man hath in hym moat Of wete of dryeth bete or colde shall his complexyon be vnlyk. 1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 124 The quyckest wyll take no rote, excepte it haue greate wete.

*γ.* 1509 Skelton *Lavrel's Compl.* 40 Like vnery applying wet to wet. 1530 Palsgr. *Introduct.* 1 *Lyquyde*, as wete as the eth' earth was dry, thou mad'st a sea of wet. 1709 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* (1734) 437 Divide the Sum of all those Dips or Wets found by the Number of Places you took them in, and the Quotient will be the Mean Wet of all those Dips. 1784 Twamley *Dairying* 32 If you cut the Cheese when young, you will find there is a Moisture, or Wet, in every Place where the Eye is, . . which Wet or Moisture is called Tears. 1898 Dickens *Dombey* liv, The foam was on his lips: the wet was in his hair. *Knights Templars' Quarterly Pagan P.* 149 The drippings made worms of wet in the thick dust of the road. 1897 Max Pemberton *Queen of Tears* iii. 105 The floor of the staircase was covered with wet and slime.

**2.** Rainy or damp weather.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Man . . poleð hwile druin and hwile wete, hwile cheldes. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 6746 Wynd, þat walkes ful wyde In weete and in dryye. *c* 1400 Maundeville (Roxb.) vi. 23 Per falles oft sithes grete drith of corne. By cause of oure sighill wete. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 4 Now I here, now in heyll, now in wyght, now in blast. *c* 1480 Henryson *Garm. Gude Ladeis* 24 Hir mantill of humiliite, To hald hayth wind & weit. 1650 J. Nicoll *Diurnal Occurr.* (1836) 82 That night being ful of wind and weit. *Ibid.* 132 Tempestis of weit and wind. 1790 Burns *Young Jockie* iii, Thro' wind and weet, thro' frost and snaw. 1820 Keats *Lamia* ii. 63 Ne for wet nor drought, Nor for the sun, Changed neuer pul pare stole. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 7021 In wete and dryye, in hate and calde.

**3.** Liquor, drink. OE. had also *wætennawæl* in wet, is little to get. 1577 Goode *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 28 There is nothyng more hurtfull to Winter Corne, . . then the wette of Winter. 1599 *Minsheu's Ace Welt* 1. iii. 197 This drinke is the messenger of wet, The manie colour'd Iris. *a* 1725 Burkit *Own Time* (1724) I. 804 Great numbers came to see him. That, after they had stood long in the wet, went disappointed them. 1801 Wordsw. *Sparrow's Nest* 8 The Sparrow's dwelling, which . . in wet or dry My sister Emmeline and I Together visited. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxiii, Many haste to get out of the wet, Tom. 1866 Rossetti *Hist. Exp.* xxxiii. VI. 419 The sermon intended to be preached at the stake was postponed, in consequence of the wet, to St. Mary's. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 15 July 8/2 It is the alternation of wet and fine which brings every crop in its season.

**b.** Atmospheric moisture precipitated as rain, mist, or dew.

*c* 1290 *S. Michael* 604 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 317 Swane þe sonne hath þudere idrawe þene mist for here, It ne may no fcor for þe colde, ake bicometh al to wete, And gaderez þare to one watur-cloude. 1833 Bellenden *Livy* I. vii. (1822) I. 41 Ane heych hill tempestuous, inade till nobil prince . . Invisibill with thik schoure of wete and myst. 1794 Burns *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weet o' the morning.

**7.** 1613 T. Campion *Relat. Royal Entert.* A 4 b, Because soone wet had fallen that day in the forenoone, all her footway was spoyled with blood clots. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xi, 68 The Pace of the Muyrye, by reason of much wet lately fallen, . . was hard to passe. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 433 And now the Sun . . with his all-cheering ray, made the nobil prince . . Invisibill with thik schoure of wete and myst. 1794 Burns *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weet o' the morning.

**7.** 1613 T. Campion *Relat. Royal Entert.* A 4 b, Because soone wet had fallen that day in the forenoone, all her footway was spoyled with blood clots. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xi, 68 The Pace of the Muyrye, by reason of much wet lately fallen, . . was hard to passe. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 433 And now the Sun . . with his all-cheering ray, made the nobil prince . . Invisibill with thik schoure of wete and myst. 1794 Burns *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weet o' the morning.

**7.** 1613 T. Campion *Relat. Royal Entert.* A 4 b, Because soone wet had fallen that day in the forenoone, all her footway was spoyled with blood clots. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xi, 68 The Pace of the Muyrye, by reason of much wet lately fallen, . . was hard to passe. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 433 And now the Sun . . with his all-cheering ray, made the nobil prince . . Invisibill with thik schoure of wete and myst. 1794 Burns *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weet o' the morning.

**c.** Rain, water, or damp regarded as deleterious or detrimental. Also, standing water which collects in pools, or which makes the ground muddy.

*a.* *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2016 Pre dayes þroly þai . . duret vnder haccche. For wete of þe waghes þat wastis ouer hed. *Ibid.* 4643 Þere longit to þem tentes. Þaugh þai rase & þe rayn, þai raiked aboue, All wery for wete, & for wan strokes. *c* 1480 Henryson *Studlienis & Herde* 222 The woddis grene wer weltrisch with the wete. 1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 54 Pelte-rotte . . commeth of greatest wete, especyally in wooddy countreyes. 1545 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* VIII. 341, xxiiij pyonneris . . quhilkis drew the cannonis and artaile . . within the mekle mure houss to saife the stokis thairof fra wete. 1598 J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 68 Salt and vther garnell guid subject to the perrell of weyit and rayn. *a* 1670 Spalding *Hist. Chas. I* (Iliam. Club) I. 207 He stoode and heard bigg up betuixt the croces ane court de guard, for saiffeing his souldiers free weit and caukl on the night.

**7.** 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure unfitted* 74 The Infirmitie of this Creature [the Ass] is mostly in the Feet, occasioned by standing or travelling in the wet. 1710 Hillman *Tanner Redivi.* Feb. (1724) 16 The reason why unharrowed Beans set in Clay are apt to dye, is because the Wet fills the Holes and rots them. 1730 *Swift Panegyr. Dean* 109 Familiar grown to dirt and wet, Through dagged round, I scorn to fret. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lix, The wet had penetrated my dress. 1898 J. M'D. Stuart *Trnls. Explor. Australia* (1864) 18 All our rations . being perfectly saturated with wet. 1866 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 74 On high, safe out of wet's way. 1881 Whitman *Amer. Prvillage Poems* (1868) 95 Parties of snowy herons wading in the wet to seek worms. 1885 Hardy *Wessex Tales* (1886) I. 5 The gable-end of the cottage was stained with wet.

*Comb.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 30 June 3/7 Wet-proof wire coverings.

**d.** (With *pl.*) A burst, storm, downpour, shower, or spell of rain.

*a.* *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 217 On þe day at he was beried on, þer fell such a wete and a rayn, þat if dayes after þai nott bete hyin. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xii. 53 A huge weit gan doun pour and tumlell. 1549 Tavernier *Erasm. Prow.* 52 A mynselyng yeugh gendreth a great weet. *a* 1678 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 312 Terribill windes with raine and weittis quhilk continewit abill fourie togidder. 1868 in *Sel. Rec. York Sess. Aberd.* (Spalding Club) 53 The gryt invndatioun of weittis fiklie to rott the cornis. 1890 J. Nicole *Diary* (Bann. Club) 8 Much unseasonable weathere, the lyke quherof we not usuall for weittis, cold, frostes and tempestes. 1661 Children *Brit. Baconica* 65 Earthquakes always succeed great wets.

**7.** 1811 Sibbald *Hist. Gt. Brit.* II. xxi. (1639) 1021 The weather extreame in wets and frosts. 1726 J. Laurence *Agric.* 282 Gardens which . are apt to be overflowed or soak'd with Water in the Winter, or Summer Wets (when hurt them). 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 47 The Wets that generally fall then. 1852 *Prof. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. ii. 392 The weather after the wets was unusually fine.

**3.** Liquor, drink. In mod. use only *slang*; esp. in *heavy wet*, malt liquor.

*a.* *c* 960 Æthelwold *Bened. Rule* xliii. 69 Ac he ane gereordie . . and be dele ut and wæt gewandod sy. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 66 Ic ne mæg ælces oðres wæstmes beacan . . buton þæs wæteres. 1575 Jul. 270 He . to micel nimð on æte oððe on wete [*c* 1225 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 on ete oðer on wete]. *c* 1200 Ormin 7652 Himm birþ lokenn himm full wel Fra sinnfulnesn æte & wæte.

**7.** 1821 Egan *Life in London* iii. 226 The soldiers and their *wets* were soon tossing off the heavy and sparkling. 1821 [Egan] *Real Life Lond.* I. xviii. 302 Note, *Heavy wet* —A well-known appellation for beer, porter, or ale. 1830 J. Grant *Penn. Sketches* I. 70 Here they drink heavy wet. 1894 Astley *50 Years' Life* II. 197 After a lot of talk and a certain amount of 'wet' he and I made three matches.

**† 4.** Phr. *Without wet*, without being wetted. *To take wet*, to be injured by damp. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1850 Apon þe wiues wit-vten ete Gangand als apon a strete. 1513 [see Take *v.* 44 b]. 1690 Holland *Anim. Marvell.* 378 After they had beene weakened with this disingenuous wet they [were] . . left to dry. 1703 *Phil. Trans. Abridg. Fewer* 24 We found that all our Fittars of the Whale were almost spoyled with the wet that they had taken. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2879/4 He then consulted his Machiavels and Mortal a thing, taking Wet in the Feet is to those, who have been bred nicely. 1718 [see Take *v.* 44 b].

**† 5.** *In wet* = in fresco (see Fresco *sb.* 2). *Obs.*

1688 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* (1634) xii. 141 He wrought in distemper (as we call it) or wet (as the Italians) upon a piece of patient Lob. *Ibid.* 149 Making in his Cloyster many Histories in wet, after Mantacio's manner.

**Wet,** *sb.*[2] *colleq.* [f. Wet *v.*] A drink or draught of some alcoholic beverage; a glass of liquor.

In the 18th c. app. sometimes confused with Whet *sb.* 2 b.

1729 D'Urfey *Pills* V. 125 At Noon he gets up for a wet and to Dine. *c* 1758 *Amer. Journ. in Gentl. Eng.* (1869) 47 Valentia protested he could not walk a step further until he had taken a wet, as he called it: and . . he went into a tavern . and produced some cold roast beef, Cheshire cheese, and a cool tankard. 1789 *Ann. Reg.* 34/2 Mr. John Philip Wright . . of his knot of brethren on the roof whether they would take a wet. 1880 Baring-Gould *Mehalah* xxiv, Do you, Elijah, have a wet now? 1884 Mrs. Palliser *Brit. Life Queensland* iii. (1888) 20 No bargain could be completed without a 'wet' over it. 1890 *Bentley's Christmas Ann.* 17 You look dry: let's have a wet. 1892 Charles Gerard *Golden Centipede* x, Chrys won't dare to hide the wets when there are visitors in the house.

**Wet** (wet), *a.* Forms: *a.* 1–2 **wæt** (**wǽt**), 1 *Anglian* **wæt** (**wæt**), 3–4 **wet,** 3–6 **wete,** 4–5 *Sc.* **weet,** 4–6 **weete,** 5 **weiote,** *north.* **weyte,** 5–7 *Sc.* **weit,** 6 **weate.** *β.* 4 *north.* **wat,** 4–5 *north.* and *Sc.* **wate,** *midl.* **wote,** 5–6 *Sc.* **wait.** *γ.* 4– **wet,** 4–7 **wette,** 4–8 **wett,** (6 **whet**). *δ.* *Sc.* 6 **wat,** 6– **wat.** [Three distinct types are represented here: (1) the *a*-forms, originating in OE. *wǽt* adj. = OFris. **wet** (NFris. *wiet*, dial. *wæt*; NFris. *wiat, wit*), ON. *vátr* (Icel. *vatur*, Norw. *vaat*; Sw. *våt*, Da. *vaad*), a word not found outside of the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian groups; (2) the *β*-forms resulting from the adoption of the OScand. **vátr** (ON. *vátr*), giving the common northern ME. *wate, wait*, and the rare midland *wote*; (3) the *γ*-forms, properly the pa. pple. of the verb, which finally supplant the others except in dialect. The Sc. *wat* may either be a variant of this or of the earlier *wate.*]

**1.** Consisting of moisture, liquid. Chiefly as a pleonastic rhetorical epithet of water or tears.

In OE. used with ref. to medieval physiology = Moist 1 d, Humid b.

*a.* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Sic se ðe is dryge & ceald, & þæt water wæt & cealt. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxx. 441 Forxif, drihten, þæt lyses fyres hete sy ȝeȝyrred on wætne deaw. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 259 Al þat eure amelleð swa-te, be it drie, be it wete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23679 Waters renand alwais wat. 13.. *K. Horn* 970 (Harl. MS) Horn . . spec wip wete tesen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 9952 Ire dayes hit was þey nought ate, Ne nought drunk bat was wete. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 89 This cely Venus

nygh dreynt in teres wete. — *Tryolus* v 1109 Phebus with his hete Gan To warmen of þe Est See þe wawes wete 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII v 82 Caret thron fell large lave stremys wat 1699 Shadw *Lear* IV vii 12 Be your teares wet? Yes faith I pray weepe not. 1866 Mrs Browning *Last Poems, My Heart & I* iii Our voice which thrilled you so, will let You weep, our tears are only wet 1894 *Pall Mall Gaz* 20 Dec. 3/1 At Suez, Padishah gave way to tears—actual wet tears—when Potter became the owner of the lands. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas* 85 But, oh, the little cargo boats, that sail the wet seas roun.

*Comb* 1597 Middleton *Wisd Solomon* xix 18 The drie land, did make the sea there nest, The wet sea fish did make the land their rest

**2** Of weather, a period of time, a locality · Rainy

c 893 *Æt. Oros* iii In 108 Of antidilean zewider in lest ii of wætum tumeorum, & of dregum ventrum c 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* I 96 As wete wynter nurishen suche trees c 1401 *Lake's Chron* in *Sev Treat Chron* (1911) 145 Upon Thursday wh it was a wete day 1597 Gerard *Herbal* i ii 1 Hurt 1 urb, You must not plow in wette weather 1634 Milton *Comus* 930 Wot O others torient fl nd 1665 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 382 The rain and thunder day that I have seene a true Estyve *Diary* 6 Oct 1679, A very wet and sickly season 1785 Burns *Halloween* xv The summer had been cauld an' wet 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xiii, They had passed a wet day 3 wet day together with out ennui 1881 J H Bennet *Shores Medit* v vi (1875) 161 [In] the Riviera it is solst m or never at the same time, cold and wet. 1883 [see Dry *sb.*<sup>1</sup> c] 1877 Huxley *Physiogr* 46 The wettest spot in England being near Seathwaite in Cumberland

**b** Of the air, wind, etc · Holding or carrying moisture in the form of vapour

c 1400 *Destr Troy* 12474 Wrathe up wyndowes with he wete aure 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq* (1890) 41 In the tunnel it is odd, wet draught I blow

**c** Of a star Bringing rain

c 1485 *Mir Dighy* 433 If ⁊ 25/1 At holy r de day ly gynneth be myst & be sreenful e de wete sterre arture

**d** *transf* and *fig.* (Cf. Rainy 2 b)

1611 Cotgr, Humide, wet (moist) 38 Eigo, saith the Mr er, part with nothing but keep all against a Wet day 1691 Norris *Pract Disc* 34 The children of this World well tooł lhe say and were thereupon of providing against a Wet Day 1865 J Hatton *Ritter Sweets* v, You'd most likely come down top 3 turvy, and have a werry w t welcome at the end of it 1874 Black *Adv Phaeton* xxxi, Scotland was evidently bent on giving us a wet welcome

**e** *Comb* (adj + sb used as an attrib. phr.)

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* iii vi, It was an innocent enough wet day amusement 1893 Mary Kingsley *W Afr* 2 96 The torrential downp ur f the wet ea s n run 1901 C Holland *Mirimel* 33 Their huge wet weather hats

**f** *absol* = wet season

1859 Mary Kingsley *W Africa* 231 When the Ogowé and its neighbouring rivers come down in the long wet *Ibid* 375 In February comes the short dry, then the short wet till May

**3** Of land or soil · Holding water, saturated with water, heavy

a 900 *Leiden Riddle* 1 Mec se ueta uong, nundum fe rit, ob his innihne ner si unnie c 1000 *Sax Leechd* I 60 Þeah wyrt bæ ceonne gesette on mistlondum oþþe on wætum a 1023 Wulfstan *Hom* (1883) 249 *Terra humentia*, þæt beoð wætte stowa a 1300 *Cursor M* 1318 Gyues, fisun, tigre, swilke þa fou and þa orth wer 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xix 634 For I haf ge t spy wa gat Suppos that it be sum deill wet, A page of ourn we will no ly tyne 1377 Langl. *P Pl* xiv 47 Þe wyndy wynne vnder wel t rthe 1495 Wynkyn de Worde in 968 þe water of Nyle our flesh it all Withe moysyne sprynges wyb outtyn spaine, Qwhen I gipte medis I ys a wete [*MS* bi wait]. 1529 *Skelton Speke* 35 Sa wonder wet was the way 1593 34 Fitzherb *Husb* § 14 [Oats] wylle grow on weter grounde than any corne els 1597 Lowde *Iron Treasts Husb* § 38 Which Nation is wone, and the Inhabitmer and weste. 1598 Dallington ii *Lexil's Hist Sect* (S T S) II 188 This intendit to cum out of that narow and wat place ful f ould in myres 1625 G Markham *Inrich unrich trad* I *Arm* 9 A cold, stiffe and wet clay 1784 *Country Amusements Agric* II 43 In many of their fields they are troubled with springs, they call the wet spots *squalls* 1824 Bischop *Woollen Manuf* II 383 This is not, however, a turnip soil, being mu h too wet 1851 to 1857 [see Soaking *ppl a* 1] 1870 Macdonald *Unspoken Wild's* xi 132 The field at the botto n is still wet an I marshy

*absol* 1824 Scott *St A* xxxiv, Miss Clara cares little for rough roads. *Zounds*! she can spank over or wet as well as dry

*fig* 1864 W Irving *Tales Trav* ii *Ch de Our ret Ld Mon*, A good joke grows on a wet soil, .but withers on your d—d high dry grounds

*Comb* 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric, Dec* vi 70 A wet Ind I farm

**b.** Of a crop Grown in a moist or watery soil

1885 W W Hunter *Imp Gaz* (ed 2) II 63 The most valuable of the t wet crops is sugar cane

**4.** Made damp or moist by exposure to the elements or by falling in water, sprinkled, covered, or permeated with rain, dew, etc Const. *with*, † *of*. ▲ of things, esp clothing

c 900 *Rædes Hist* v vii (1890) 436 Embe he ð is wætan hond & þe cealdan forlætan wolde · oðþet his eft of his seollan lichomian ze wermeodon & adruzedon c 1290 *Sir Beryber* 3931 *Y beg ze* 193 So gret rain ore I ueted to corbe sende þat hem clopes al wete 1387 Chaucer *C Tales* B 1 3 Wel I woot he lyketh real wete Hadde dreyed vp the dew of his wete c 1440 *Promp Parv* 523/1 Weet, wythe reyne, *conphatus* 1571 Canton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 282 As for hercules all that he had vpon hym was weet and nothing drye 1598 Rainon *Discow Guiana* 9 The weete clothes of so many men thrust vp together 1597 Shaks 2 *Hen IV*, v i 93 O you shall see him laugh, till his face be like a wet Cloake, ill laid vp 1785 Mandeville *Fab Bees* (ed 4) I 201 In comes the humble Messenger into king Jobs, with his Cloaths as wet as Dung with the Rain 1800 Wordsw *Two Thieves* 9 The traveller would hang his wet clothes on a clear 1837 Dickens *Pickw* ii, The sky was dark and gloomy, the streets wet and slopsy 1853 — *Bleak Ho* xviii She slipped off her shoes and stockings deliberately through the wettest of the wet grass 1866 Swinburne *Queen & Lily, An Interlude* 2 In the greenest growth of the Maytime, I rode where the woods were wet, Between the dawn and the daytime. 1884 Par *Entrance* 13 Existence was not long in divesting himself of his wet garments

**b** of persons (together with their clothes) or a part of the body. Also of animals.

c 1300 *Lay Soules* 89 Þa was ich al wet, & wen of sorgen and sec 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 380 I bouch that wate war and wery c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T* 187 Wery and wet as beest is in the reyn Comith selp John 1407-8 Durh *Treasurer's Rolls* (Surtees) 279 Wherof herdsikes and skalone were all wette of the washing and sprengyng of the wawes. 1592 Lyly *Endym* v i, Ocean, 2015 Vouche as wete were & colde smale fyre I can warme them 1597 Shaks 1 *Hen IV*, iii 1 27 Come thou (O partiall Sleepe) giue thy Repose To the wet Sea-Boy, I'm h ire so nie 1600 Alphay *Instr Surv* I xiv, The whole land is wings with rayne & I drowned, a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Oct 1641, We were forc'd to walke on foote very wet and dismp s t 1728 Ramsay *Amen. Past* 8 A poor young wean a' wet 1789 W Hamilton *Voy Afrique, Little I try I sat* 6 The child was wet with dew 1825 Cobbett *Rur Rides* (1885) I 199 The farm house I m the w ood, with good fire of which we did by means to stir, until we can do it with ut the clance of a wet skin 1849 James *Woodman* xiv, Set me a seat by the fire, I am wet to the skin 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* lxxxiii, Wet shoulder and hair L. D. Coon *Potter's Pain* 1 Besides, I hate to get wet 1918 *Chamb Jrnl* 2 Oct 678/2 Made as a wet hen because I refuse to use the word for it that the rules are I d for

**c** with prefixed adj. as *bone-pipe*, as *soaking* (see Weshing *ppl a*), *dripping* † *droppen-wet* *Wet through, to the skin* having one's clothes completely saturated † (cf Wet *v* 4 c)

a 1300 *Bevoun* 3 *Lay* 4 16 Whereuth they made hem sykes lyues, ase he wer wete through Here hi were wonderwete 1526 *Ac Merry Tales* No 82 (Facs) 29 b There fel vp a showre of rayn that the shoter w s well washyd and wete 1591 Shaks 1 *Hen VI*, i iv 72 Dismay'd not this our Captaines, but doubles Our fortune dazeth vs! 1598 Southwell *Lett* (1) I do but this day in a tempestuous rain, I was dripping wet I wring fallen into the water 1604 Dekker in *Jests* (1841) 359 The first eighteen miles it rained like fury and I reached Hartford wet through 1899 F J Paget *Cure of a wounder* 143 The man was wet to a s heavily, that in half an hour I was wet to the skin

**d.** absol *The wet* = one's wet clothes

† *The Nightingale* in Hird *Songs* (1777) II 145 Cast off the wet, put on the dry, And get to bed, my dearie. 1816 Scott *Antiq* xxxi And I'll en the man casts off the wet and puts on the dry, an I sits down abut the ingle

**5** In the state of being wet with tears, weeping or with being wept upon Const *with*, † *of*

c 1205 *Lay* 32068 Wete we ren his wongen *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 278 I bold mid wet een i ine sche mid sunnen c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2737 Þo þe kinneth hi ta te, þe tiþe gret here wes of is teres wet *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 20333 Pat Iosu mun wi wil we þ ro, hier, Mi wepi g mun bi dul it wet c 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 2 Hir mouth was red hir eyen grete Wered of his bitre welle teres wete 1390 Gower *C M* I 38 Here þe is smale and dipe set, Here clek is ben with teres wet c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxv 380 His eyen weked with teres for pite 1500-20 Dunbar *Lament for Makers* 133 Reyneen e ay with cheikis wet No pane nor pennee cu dill eschew 1621 Sharp *Conf* v v 35 I feel her Woman who is wet with cheekes We e p ouer with teares 1667 Davies & R. Dr Newcastle's *Sir M Mac alin* v 1 I rely her innocency makes me laugh my Cheeks all wet 1785 Cowper *Task* II 51 Sad witness the last words that dwell down the writer s cheeks. 1872 Bryant *Odyss* v 205 Crying with wet eyes upon the barren deep 1889-94 Parlton & Ker *Epic Lit* 180 And when at night I found Verkii at her lo l Her tender face was wet with tears of grief

**b** Suffused or covered with blood, dripping or oozing with blood (Only of wounds, or with explicit mention of blood)

a 1300 *Cursor M* 20333 Pat was blod þrin of I am rain, þe place wes þar wit wet *Ibid* 19082 His body all I bidi wat 23 *Sir Orfeo* 80 Sche fet e l i r houlen and l i fe fel And crached his visage, wel wete 1390 *Gower C A* I 38 Hir wonndes ben of mochel wete 1804 W I Irving *Salmagundi* (1824) I 170 The evil of his march through cities is mired And rejoins wet with blood

**c** Moist or damp with perspiration

c 1400 *Tawd Iron Pl* 5146 Of his forhede burst the swete, That al his face ther of was wete 1803 *Ant Jrnl* X 84 After violet perspiration, a linen or cotton shirt becomes wet

**6** Made moist or damp by dipping in, or sprinkling or smearing with, water or other liquid

Used of new painted matter (newspapers or books), esp in the phr *Caveat the first*

1390 Gower *Conf* II 264 This lay ther certe s wode eleft, Of which the priest man and eft Schop mad it a litil pistle e tele, And put hem in the fyr, thanne 1548 Hall *Chron K. R. H* vi (1550) 85 b The water slydeth if it were eft t wete hyde c 1430 *Lydg. Assembly* 48 Wete þin ey sche in þe bony & with þe were dyssche I ȝe in dulnesse 1 be ȝe ryn 1611 Cotgr, *Mouillé*, wet 1697 Then the white neckes schille be humected or made weiete with g lle c 1450 *Merlin Lethal* 191 Bydhym goo into be church, and se how al be prument set ȝe wete of be holy water 1644 Milton *Areop* (Arb) 53 Do we not see weekly that continued Court bindl Printed as the wet sheets can witnes, and dis ly pens'ries for all that licensing cand el 1721 Ward *Wand Spy* I (1729) 3 Then a wet Finger d ses its Duty, And robs the Bar board of its Beauty 1754 *Connoisseur* No 19 P 3, I watch up the favourite sheets wet from the press and devour every syllable 1798 Coleridge *Recoy. Nation* xx, With the morning a wet newspaper 1804 *Ht J Jrnl.* XII 494 It should be afterwards cleaned with a wet sponge 1835 *Nees Monthly Mag* XIV 337 Just published, and wet from the press, 'The Stranger's Guide through Little Fedlington' 1838 Dickens *Nich Grenadicle* I xii 186 No sooner did they arrive wet from the rain, than men on horseback were immediately despatched with them to Canterbury 1839 Dr Quincey *Wordsw & Southey* Wks 1889 II 316 W ndsworth a hater of using books were not vulgar, not the habits of those who turn over the page by means of wet finger 1890 F K Hunt *Book-Hunter's Vade* II 229 Just as th wet Newspaper, fresh from the News bo s, is being pens l at the eight o'clock breakfast table 1899 Fitzgerald *Omar* xxxvi, I watch d the Potter thump ing his wet Clay

† **b** *With a wet finger* easily, with little effort

Also (*b*) readily, without hesitation, (*c*) slightly, lightly. *Obs*

Perh from the practice of wetting the first or second finger on one s tongue in order t facilit ate turning over the leaves of a b k or to rub out writing on a slate Cf quots 1721 and 18 9 on 6

1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* To Rdr *iv, A rge and pl us table whereby to anyg sod matter in the booke contained rudie wyse and reasonable wyse with a wett finger es ily bee found out 1562 J Heywood *Prov & Epigr* (1867) 78 With a wet fi ger ye can fet, As much as mine eyes all this mutterow 1580 *Hist Jas I & of Scotland* 64 And I can find, O with wet finger, the Cause thereof 1593 G Harvey *Three Lett* v 30 2 I hate l rivles with my hart and can turne over A volume of wronges with a wett finger 1620 *Hist Dr Dodd* (1651) 11 Can I turn this matter me thither? *I confess it*! With a wet finger sir 1644 Evelyn *Roma Instaur* 5 I could with a wet finger produce divers decrees of Popes for the same t the other 1700 C Nesbit *O N Y Last* I 293 How easily even with a wet finger (as we say) could G d t ase overturned Jacob 1728 [De Foe] *Street Robberies* 38 The Thief came on we got clear with a wet Finger, as the Folks say 1748 Richard & Clarissa (1768) V 152 If thou likest her, I get her for thee with a wet finger as the saying is 1754 D'Urfé *Astrée* 15 If Dame Winifred was here she'd make em all out with a wet Finger but they are above me 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xii If we could but find any one to say she'd let us in the least hint o her condit n, she'd be brought aff wi a wet h ger

*f* 1883 Stevens *Anct Adue* ii 39 The Broker will grue many for them, with a wet finger 1904 Ibsen *Honest Wife* Aq, If ever I stad in need of a wanche that will cne with a wet finger

(?) 1586 [J Case] *Praise Mus* vii 79 To let passe ll gener alities wh h I touched before with a wett finger 1644 Calamy *Transient* 45 The slighte ese an I slendernesse of his Answeres with a wet finger (as we say) passing by the manifold allegations pr dis

**c** in other proverbial expressions

*To owe one's self a wet sark* see Sark *sb*<sup>1</sup> 1

1581 R Cleland *Spec Godly Knowl* (1830) 1 Thinking that he is escaped when he is covered, as the common saying is under a wette sick 1578 H Wotton *C uttle Centro* 61 I r so many pleasures vanished in the bubble s wette Dude 1579, a 1651 [see Sack *sb*<sup>1</sup> 3] 1816 Brand *Pict Sh hist* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the tale 1679 *Lett Cand Remark Ast to Dr Threl* There being now no h ld of them than of a wet Eel by the tail

**d.** *To come with a wet sail* to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind

1586 Drake *Corr with Earl Leic* (1849) 9 Thinking that he is escaped when he is covered, as the common saying is under a wette sick 1578 H Wotton *C uttle Centro* 61 I r so many pleasures vanished in the bubble s wette Dude 1579, a 1651 [see Sack *sb*<sup>1</sup> 3] 1816 Brand *Pict Sh hist* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the tale 1679 *Lett Cand Remark Ast to Dr Threl* There being now no h ld of them than of a wet Eel by the tail

**d.** *To come with a wet sail* to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind

1586 Drake *Corr with Earl Leic* (1849) 9 Thinking that he is escaped when he is covered, as the common saying is under a wette sick 1578 H Wotton *C uttle Centro* 61 I r so many pleasures vanished in the bubble s wette Dude 1579, a 1651 [see Sack *sb*<sup>1</sup> 3] 1816 Brand *Pict Sh hist* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the tale 1679 *Lett Cand Remark Ast to Dr Threl* There being now no h ld of them than of a wet Eel by the tail

**d.** *To come with a wet sail* to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind

1586 Drake *Corr with Earl Leic* (1849) 9 Thinking that he is escaped when he is covered, as the common saying is under a wette sick 1578 H Wotton *C uttle Centro* 61 I r so many pleasures vanished in the bubble s wette Dude 1579, a 1651 [see Sack *sb*<sup>1</sup> 3] 1816 Brand *Pict Sh hist* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the tale 1679 *Lett Cand Remark Ast to Dr Threl* There being now no h ld of them than of a wet Eel by the tail

**d.** *To come with a wet sail* to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind

1586 Drake *Corr with Earl Leic* (1849) 9 Thinking that he is escaped when he is covered, as the common saying is under a wette sick 1578 H Wotton *C uttle Centro* 61 I r so many pleasures vanished in the bubble s wette Dude 1579, a 1651 [see Sack *sb*<sup>1</sup> 3] 1816 Brand *Pict Sh hist* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the tale 1679 *Lett Cand Remark Ast to Dr Threl* There being now no h ld of them than of a wet Eel by the tail

**d.** *To come with a wet sail* to make swift pro

syrupy nature. Of surgical or natural-history specimens: Bottled in spirits.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 312 Wett confectionis—Preserved barbareis., Marmalad [etc.]. 1688 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 259 Sweat-meats Dry and Wet, upon small Occasions. 1836 [Mag. Trade] *Jackin Canada* 46 The American Crab, these beautiful little scarlet apples so often met with as a wet preserve among our sweetmeats at home. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 87 The 'wet specimens,' those bottled in spirits. 1891 *Century Dict., Wet preparation*, a specimen of natural history immersed in alcohol.

**12.** Of measure: Used for liquid articles. ? *Obs.*

1597 Skene *De Verb. Signif.* s. v. *Gangintares*, Al measures, & weichts, baith dry & weete. 1622 Malynes *Lex Mercat* 39 The Romanes in times past, called the wet Measure by Ounces, as we doe the weight. 1638 L. Roberts *Merch. Map Comm.* 11. 238 Wet Measures are also derived from this pound Troy.

**13.** *Med.* **a.** Designating certain diseases which are characterized by moist secretions.

1565 Blundevil *Curing Horses Dis.* Iviii. (1580) 99, I call it the wet cough, because he his his coughing will voide moiste matter at his mouth. *Ibid.* cxxvii. 58 Of the wet Spauen, or through Spauen. 1658 P. Mannon *Troph. Distortus* xiv. 230 In pituitous cases are designed 'dry beriberi' or beriberi atrophica; the tropical cases, 'wet beriberi' or beriberi hydrops. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Wet brain, Wet eczéma, Wet fever*, etc.

**b.** *Wet cup, cupping* : see Cupping *obl. sb.* 1.

1807 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 175 Wet-cupping the loins to the extent of several ounces may be of service. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict., Wet-cup*, a cupping-glass to be used after scarification.

**c.** Designating various modes of hydropathic treatment, as in *wet bandage, compress, pack, packing, sheet*.

1843 Sir C. Scudamore *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 16 Wet Bandages. 1848, 1870 [see Compresse *sb.* 2]. 1859, 1899 [see Pack *sb.*1 11]. 1874 [see Packing *vbl. sb.*1 1c]. 1874 Buchheit & Tuke *Psychol. Med.* (ed. 3) 751 The Wet Sheet or Wet Pack...acts as an energetic sedative.

*fig.* c 1864 J. B. Paton in *Life* (1914) 85 We cannot submit to have these men...wrapped in the eternal wet-sheet of a monastic college

**14.** *colloq.* **a.** Primed with liquor; more or less intoxicated. (Cf. Wet *v.* 7 b.)

1704 Prior *Celia to Damon* 66 When my lost Lover (the tall Ship seemd)...With Muscle gay, and wet with lovial Friends. 1834 Courtenay *Table Talk* I. 20 Jan., Some men are like musical glasses;—to produce their finest tones, you must keep them wet.

**b.** Addicted to drink.

*a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wet-Quaker*, a Drunkard of that Sect. *c* 1713 in Aitken *Steele* (1889) I. 395 It's a very wet town, and the voters are wet too. 1825 Hogg *Perils of Man, Wet-hand*, a drunkard. 1827 J. Gutmke *Katty Nanjo* 103 It might keep some o' the wet hands out o' the pub.

**c.** *Transf.*

1598 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 Those that keep a wet corner for a friend, and will not thinke scorne to drinke with a good fellowe and a Souldior. 1805 [see Bargain *sb.*1 7]. 1844 W. Irving *Tales of Trav.* II. *Club Queer Fellows*, His jokes, it must be confessed, were rather wet, but they suited the circle over which he presided. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xli. He said he should have a wet night, it was agreed that he might gallop back again in time for church on Sunday morning. 1905 Vachell *The Hill* II. 49 S. one of us had a wet night of it, last night.

**15.** *colloq.* Of a Quaker: Not very strict in the observances of his sect. (See also No. 1.)

1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* Wks. 1720 III. 29 Would you buy any naked Truth, or Light in a dark Lanthorn? Look in the Wet-Quakers Walk. *a* 1708 T. Ward *England's Reform.* ii. (1710) 44 Quakers, and Wet-Quakers, or Merry-men. 1785 Geo. A. Bellamy *Apol. Life* (ed. 3) I. xiii. 78, I had not indeed thrown myself with the studied formality of a rigid Quaker, but only so plain and neat as to entitle me to the denomination of a wet Quaker; a distinction that arises chiefly from the latter's wearing ribbands, gauzes, and laces. 1838 *Bentley's Miscell. IV.* 297 Who has not heard of...a wet Quaker? who *does* and *prays*, wears no collar his neck...but is in other respects...living that...best of life which, in England, is not and is a jolly dog. 1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 255 Mr. Buffum...was dressed as what is termed a wet Quaker. 1866 Carlyle in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 53 An enthusiastic wet Quaker, very good-natured. *Transf.* 1831 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 461 Mine host, the Rev. C. R. Reaston Rodes...is a kind of *wet* parson, if I may borrow that phrase from the Quakers. 1892 Norman *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Aug. Agellius is but a wet Christian; ...not obstinate, like his brother three. 1896 Manch. Dublin *Consol. Trade* (1897) 94, I believe our old friend here is a 'wet' Mormon, and at his house, when we spent the evening, we only met one-wifed men.

**16.** *a.* Consisting of alcoholic liquor.

1579 *Remedy-a-mer* VIII. 277 Saturday last arrived here from Cadiz, a pinke or, with a large and generall assortment of dry and wet goods. 1837 J. Cottle *Early Recoll.* I. 200, I think he carries on a wet business in the smuggling line, and...is on the look-out for a sure wet cargo. 1861 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 5/1 The entire wet and dry trade [of]...wines and spirits. 1882 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 26 Jan. 58/2 Casks of various liquors, technically known as 'wet goods'.

**b.** Concerned with the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor.

1892 [see Dry *a.* 11 a]. 1899 H. Wyndham *Queen's Service* 93 Canteens...are known as either 'wet' or 'dry'. In the former, beer, porter, and stout, but no spirits, are sold. *Ibid.* 98 The hours during which 'wet' Canteens are open. 1913 R. H. Gretton *Mod. Hist. Engl. People* I. 90 Whereas at ports the customs arrangement allowed 'bonding' on a large scale, there was no such possibility in inland towns, except in some 'wet' trades.

**c.** *U. S.* Permitting the sale of alcoholic liquor: accepting or adhering to this as a principle; opposed to the prohibition of the liquor traffic. Freq. in recent use.

1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* liv. II. 350 *note*, Some States, e.g. Georgia, have adopted a local option system, under which each county decides whether it will be 'wet' or 'dry' (i.e. permit or forbid the sale of intoxicants). 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 13/1 A map of the United States, with prohibition States white, license States black, and States patently 'dry' and partly 'wet' under local option indicated by shading. 1919 H. L. Wilson *Ma Pettengill* 36 Like a cowhand with three mouth's pay hitting a wet town.

**d.** *absol.* or quasi-*sb.* (from prec. sense).

1906 *Mission Field* Aug. 144 The 'wets' would carry such cities as Guthrie, Oklahoma City and Shawnee. 1919 *Hawkins Lang. Now.* 193/1 The anti-party calling themselves 'The Wets' still believed that the President would intervene to avert such legislation. 1920 [A. G. Gardiner] *Windfalls* 17 The wasp...shares man's weakness for beer. In the language of America, he is a 'wet'.

**17.** Designating various technical processes or operations.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 308 Analysis by the wet way. 1807 Aikin *Dict. Chem.* I. 497 Tin is soluble in acid of tartar, and this solution is of importance in manufacture, as it is the method by which wet tinning is performed. 1824 tr. *Thenard's Chem.* 1. 1. 1.

|ette hatep & watelp bone Innop. 1560 Goosz tr *Paluzgnunis' Zodiac* iii (1561) F iij, Apace we feede and scarce canne ryse, so wesne the wyne our brayne.

**4.** To make moist or damp by exposure to rain, by a fall into water, or the like. *To wet through, to the skin*: to drench the clothes of (a person).

**a** Said of water, rain, etc.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 6578 Þat water was cuere vaste, & watte is kou & wet. 1320 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 23681 Waters þat were þan cristes fleus. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II 25 Pe water wolde...wete [MS y wecte] al her clopes c1480 Henryson *Age & Youth* 4 Perly droppis of pe balmy schowris þir wolis grene had wet, be watter wet 1530 Palsgr 780/2 In the begynnyng of the yere the dewe weteth the grounde sweely. 1589 *Pappe w Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (Bond) III 394 We cannot rot for a Scotish mist, though it wet vs to the skin 1600 W Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 228 Men of as bad a nature and have a moulde as ever water wette, or wynde dried 1658 *Osborn Advice* (Camden) IV 57 Wea had not above 4 shots of powder and that the worst that euer water wet. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* an 1646, These waters in many places breaking in the fall wett us as if we had pawfs through a mist 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* ii. (Globe) 534 I he Place was a nit deep, but it wetted me all over. 1795 Southey *Lett to Speed* (1799) 60 The clouds wetted me as they passed along. 1816 Lockey *Narr h.sped. R. Zaire* v (1818) 179 During the night we had two smart showers of rain, which wetted us through. 1839 Dickens *Nicholas Nick.* xi, It doesn't take much to wet you and me through, Mr Crowl, said Newman, laying his hand upon the lappel of his three bare coat. 1858 Faulkner *Hanwell Nat Phil* 73 If a capillary tube be plunged in a liquid which wet it 1874 March Phillipps *Canad Trail* (1890) 171 A thunder shower which wetted us to the skin 1884 *Lamp Lower Rep* II 1 *seq.s* The water soaked under the wall and wetted the mud below it

*fig.* a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii 17 *Apparuerunt fontes aquarum* þat is þe scriptures of holy men, þe whilk wetis men wip halesome lare 1667 Flesh *Pdow II* (1680 fol) 93 What can he do to England, which hath a wooden wall will wet his courage?

**b.** *absol.*

c1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* 10340 Wyp rywyng wawes, For aboute hym wel he [the lake] wete *Ibid* 10343 Pe wawes bat so wete 1340 Hampole *Mend. Prayers* 44 All it not gold that glistin. Nor water all that wetis 1600 Shaks *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 23 The properite of rayne is to wet, and fire to burne. 1660 F Brooke tr *Du Moulin's Peace* 373 All they ever have is dew, which is so slender it never weis at all 1661 Boyle *Physiol Ess* (1669) 187 I hough every wetting Liquor be fluid yet every fluid Body does not wet 1756 C Lucas *Ess Waters* I, 82 The purest water weis soonest and most

**c** *passive.* Often *to be wet through*, (also *† thorough* or *through wet*), *wet to the skin* (cf. a).

The form *we'd* of the 3rd pple is sometimes difficult to distinguish from *Wet* a 4c.

c1400 tr *Higden* VII 151 In processe of tyme þat body yowesse wip deep droppes be y-mouw corrupciones of dedly men c1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 12942 So faste doun the water set, That ther were alle thorow wet 1407 *Naval Acc Hen VII* (1896) 129 In the Newe manking of a lest of gonnepouder wett in wilsonne 1535 Coverdale *Dan* iii 15 With the dew of heuen shall he be wet 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 99 b, But if he had been wetted from toppe to toe, no man should haue vsed to wet it, then had he been miserable in veraye deede 1589 Puttenham *Eng Poesie* iii xxii (Arb) 269 As the fine ground that thirsteth after a shower seemes to receiue it when it is well wet. [see Through *adv* 4] 1639 J Taylor (Water P) *Pict Summers Last* 44 So that the mine dale Stipend will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him when he comes home to dry him, when hes is through wet 1659 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 141 Hee was wett to the skin before he came half way 1795 Jones *Voltaire* No 27 p 14 He then with great delight a shower, by which he was not wet, rattling among the branches a 1766 Mrs F Sheridan *Sidney Biddulph* (1798) IV. 53 The bottom of that vile ditch into which he had fallen was full of water, and he had been wet quite through 1773 A Burnaby *Iran N Amer* 36 I had been wet to the skin in the afternoon 1820 Southey *Wesley* I 78 Having slept on the ground, because his bed had been wetted in a storm. 1842 *Min Proc Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Some of the compressed tremails had been wetted by accident, and could not be got to expand in the bank as those in the chairs 1856 Hawthorne *Engl Note bks* (1870) II. 14 We were caught in two or three showers but got back without being very much wetted, and had indeed been wet quite through 1773 A Burnaby *Iran N Amer* 36 I had been wet to the skin in the afternoon 1880

VI. 2048 Adapting my phraseology to the author's, I would say such parts of the book are very ' wet-blanketty '.

**Wetche,** obs. form of WATCHET.

**Wetched, -et,** obs. forms of WRETCHED.

**Wet dock.** (In contrast to DRY DOCK.)

†1. = DOCK *sb.*3 1 (where see quot. 1627). *Obs.*

**2.** (See DOCK *sb.*3 4.)

1661-2 [see DOCK *sb.*3 4]. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2512/4 A Pink about 30 Ton, lying in the Wet-Dock at Deptford. 1724 *Hist. Ns.* 6/2115 The great wet Dock in Rotherhith. 1733 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. lxxxvi. 400 The harbour or wet-dock..will contain eighty men of war. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, The little inlet of water, where, as in a wet-dock, the skiff..was still lying moored. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 261/1 It is proposed to construct a ship canal from Newhaven Harbour to Lewes, with a wet-dock and basin at Lewes. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 466.

†**Wete.** *Obs.* [OE. *wæta* wk. masc. In later ME. merged in WET *sb.*1 1.] Moisture; a liquid, liquor, drink.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 73 Se wæta ðara innoða [*humor viscerum*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 109 Swiþe wynsum and bluttor wæta uðfluwende. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vii. 6 Hit forscranc forþam þe hit wætan nafde. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 298 Se ðridda wæter..he wines drenc, ne nan ðara wætena þe druncennysse styriað. *c* 1205 LAY. 19761 Vt hao droȝen sone amþuellen scone ifulled mid attere, wetan alre bitterest. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Two þeo were a dreȝewiȝe licur, oðer a deaðewiȝe wete, as is lame, in a felde uetles.

**Wete,** obs. f. WEET *v.*1, WET, WHEAT, WIT.

**Weter,** obs. f. WATER *sb.* **Weteri, -y,** obs. ff. WATER *v.* **Weterly,** var. WITTERLY. **Wete-wold,** obs. f. WITPOL.

†**Weth,** var. WITH *sb.*2

1620 *Reg. Mac. Sig. Scot.* 476/1 Cum parvis custumis, . . wrak, waar, weth et proficuis quibuscunque. 1631 *Ib.* f. 6 3 Cum ile gressingis, schellingis, multuris wraik, waar, weth.

†**Wethe,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. an alteration of *weve* (cf. BEWEVE *v.*1 2), or related to south-western dial. *weath* plant, supple.] *trans.* To twist or twine.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. c. xlv. (Bodl. MS.) Som wejnes bieþ..so pliaunte þat þei brekeþ nouȝht but leþ maste stronge wiþ wejing [ed. 1495 wythyng] and wiþinne as þeiole is wt ywouen. 1440 *Promp. Parvul. on Heath.* iv. 676 Too bowes..they take And bynde, and wethe [L. *torquet*] hem so that gemynynge Commit vp ȝe.

**Wethe,** obs. form of WITHY.

†**We'thead.** *Obs. rare.* In 4-5 **wetheh(e.** [f. WET *a.*+-HEAD.] Wetness.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. 1. f. iv. 11 b, And wirketh þe frost doth in the wetehede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 235 Moysture, wetehed, a fluhed & wetehed.

**Wethen,** var. WHETHEN *Obs.*, whence.

**Wether** (we'ðəɹ). Forms: *a.* 1, 3 **weder,** 3-4 **weper,** 4-5 **wethur,** -ir, 5 **wethyr,** -ire, 6 **wethar,** 6-9 **weather,** 4-**wether**; 4-5 **whethir,** -ur, 4-6 **whether,** 5 **whetther.** *β.* 4, 6 **weder, wedir,** 5 **wedyr, weder**; 5-9 **wedder** (5 -ur, -yr); *Sc.* 5-6 **vedder, woddir,** 6 **wadder, wodder, weadder.** [Common Teutonic: OE. *weder* = OFris. **wether* (NFris. *wether*, WFris. *weer*, OLFrank. *wither* (MDu. *weder*, Du. *weer*), OS. *withar, -er* (MLG. *weder, wêr*, LG. *wer*), OHG. *widar, -er, -ir* (MHG. *wider*, G. *widder*), ON. and Icel. *vethr* (Norw. *veder, ver*; MSw. *vädhur, wadhur*, etc., Sw. *väddur*, Da. *væder*), Goth. *withrus* (= lamb), prob. related to L. *vitulus* calf.]

**1.** A male sheep, a ram; esp. a castrated ram. See also BELL-WETHER.

*a.* 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 34 He bread on þam halfre for bideine & wepera falla for saldule. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 576 His bidelpa wæs ælce dæg . . hundteontig weðera. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1938 Ofte he nam ælberscēp, And fex, on an calf and a weðer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1210 Youthi bousend of ruþeren he let quelle þer to, & of fatte weþeren an hondred bousend al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21640 Wolf and weper, leon and ox, bul and sowe, and lamb and fox. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 35 And he seuerde that day the she geyt, and the sheep, and the hyrȝ geyt, and the wethers. 1388 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. c. (1495) 310 As a wether in lyenge vpon oo syde tornyth and chaungyth by egall tymes. *c* 1450 *Mirroure Saluacionn* (Rush) 81 Ysaac . was delyuered fro dede and a wethire cleving in breres sacrified in his stede. 1533 in *Weaver Wills* (1890) 2 John Hurley oon wether. . ij yewes. 1588 LAURENCE *Eiren., Prerogative* (1591) V j b, Tres quasi denitas tes (anglice vocatas Wethers). *a* 1589 MASCALL *Cattle, Sheep* (1596) 236 In some pla es they doe . point the wethers, the yeanes, and the lambes each by themselues. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 317 My weathers bell rings dolefull knell. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv. 95 The Weathers bell that leads our flocke around. 1674 MILTON *Samson* 538 Who shore me like a tame Weather, all my precious fleece. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1122/4 Lost or stolen..45 Sheep, called Western Weathers. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 409 Some mingling stir the melted air, and Others the unwilling weather drag along. 1747 SMOLLETT *Reprod* 71 All senior members of the horned race.—The weather, goat, ram, elk and ox were there. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 323 Two pigs, one cow, and wethers half a score, Increased his stock. 1861 *Times* 7 Oct., For wethers the average prices obtained were 5*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.* 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XII. 542 As when a shepherd carries home with ease A wether's fleece.

*β.* *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiv. 14 Cled ere weders of schepe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 115 And ane of thame apon his hals A meikill bundgeon wichtlie hurlit. *Ibid.* 159 Thai slew the veddir at thai har. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 127 Daniel seiȝ þe fifte siȝt and visioun of þe weder þat hadde hornes nat sat al-liche. *c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* (1909) 33 Turn þe & take þat wedyr there, & sacrifye hym on þat awtere. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 290 At ans he wolde ete a quarter of a weddur, or ij hennys, or a goise. 1479 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 53 And also the same Edmund haue cccc weders in my flokke of Ryngmer. 1503-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 53 It is than best tyme to..seuer theym in dyuers sortes, the lambes by theym-selfe, weblers and the rammes by them-self. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5443 Quhat holynes is thare within Ane wolf cled in ane Wod deris skin? *a* 1598 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 205 Fore store of lambes and lang-tailde weddirs. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVILLE *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 382 But some yearly nomber of weithers wilbe reasly granted, be them that possess presently the saidis stoir rowmes. 1681 CHEVNE *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 85 Two three beggars,—Who stealing public geese and weithers, were fined, by rendering skin and feathers. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Engl.* I. 263 The weddere, of the best sort, fat perfectly well, at two years old. 1830 *Comb. Farm. Rep.* 55 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. Sheep generally fed off by turnips are the best description of live-weight cleiders. 1861 *Times* 10 Oct., Weblers commonly clip 7½lb. of wool. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life Tigerland* 96 What might be the price of weblers now in Kentucky?

**b.** *transf.* of a man; *spec.* a eunuch.

1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 187 b, So the great wether which is of late fallen..so craftely, so seasonably, ye & so vntymely haggled with the knyue, that [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Merch. T.* IV. i. 114, I am a tainted Weather of the flocke, Meetest for death. 1794 GAY *Captives* Epil. 19 But the soft weather, like those vital streams called The Grey Withers [*sic*], are scattered irregularly about the country. 1835-95 [see GREY *a.* 8].

**2.** (*Comm.* The fleece obtained from the second or any subsequent shearing of a sheep).

1879 *Encycl. Techn. Educ.* IV. 560 (Wool) To good, healthy, sound fleeces more than one year old the term 'wethers' is given. 1895 *Agric. Gaz.* 27 June 398 3 Superwether, 30d.; selected Yorkshire wethers, 27d.; deep wethers 24d.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wether fleece, -flock, haggis, -mutton, -skin*; **wedderbouk** *Sc.*, the carcass of a wether; **wether-gammon,** a leg of mutton; †**wether gang** *Sc.*, a pasture or right of pasturage for wethers (see GANG *sb.*1 4 c); **wether-gotten,** a ram kept for breeding wethers; †**wether goat,** a castrated goat; **wether head,** a sheep's head; *fig.* a stupid person; **wether hog,** a male sheep (castrated or not) before its first shearing; also *wether hog sheep* (cf. HOG *sb.*1 4); chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; **wether lamb,** a male lamb; †**wether-silver** *Sc.*, money in lieu of a wether paid as a customary rent or tax; **wether teg** = *wether hog.* Also WETHER-BELL, -BLEAT, etc.

1585 *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), ijs. Scottis for half ane †weddirbouk. 1822 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* (1898) 163 Pelleus.. Sende..Iason..into the Ile of Calcos to wyn the †wether fleis of golde. 1825 JAMIESON *Scot. Dict.* s.v., In Zetland rather of keeping a †weather-flock than an ewe-flock on the hill-county. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 32 Wedder fleeces are always the lightest and the heaviest in the fleece. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, The wether flock which had been lost. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Drink Elegies* 47 Wi' skelpin' like †wether gangs. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 70 Ae †wether-gammon. 1561 in *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 497 Item the fourplaces and †weddir gangis within the parrochin of Dunfermling, lxxxvij. li. 1699 in *Rec. Elgin* (1903) I. 400 Ane †wether-gotten and ane quhyte ewe. 1808 *Scots Mag.* 1 Dec. 1/2 The characteristic difference between what is called a wether and a †wether-gotten sheep. 1871 T. HUNT *Alcest. Scholast.* 52 Cafer, a †Wather-Goat. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Friar Cornwal* I. 35 To drub this Signior Baphi-cotton, this false-hearted wether-goat. 1789 BURNS *'Ken ye ought'* 8 Is he slain by Highlan' bodies?..And eaten like a †wether haggis? *a* 1796 *Grose's Prov. Glossary* And send us from thy bountiees store A tup or †weather-head! 1808 in *Edinburgh Mag.* II. 102 Why didn't ye tell me, ye d——d wetherhead? 1837 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees 1908) 103, I geve unto..John half a hundreth of shire †wether hoggis. 1541 in *Cockburn Inventories* (1912) 118 Item, ile wether hogg sheipe at xiiijd. the peice. 1614, 1794 [see HOG *sb.*1 4 b]. 1776 *Compl. Grazier* (ed. 4) 149 No of the same sheep, we reckon them weather hogs, and ewe hogs, after they are, of a year's growth. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 38 (In Scotland) a female is called a *ewe-hog*, a female of a year old, and not intended for a *wethers hogg*. *c* 1475 *Piet. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 758/12 *Hic agnus*, a 'weddyrlombe. 1595 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 62 Unus agnicus [Anglice 'a wether lambe']. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 360 Weather lambs..are selling from 10*s.* to 12*s.* and 13*s.* per head. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 227 She..gave me a detail of their management in buying their wether lambs and fattening their wethers. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 133 The best ewe lambs..are retained, and all the wether and the second ewe lambs are sent to the market. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 171 She never dress'd 'Wether-Mutton, when she could get Ewe or Goat. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 281 Does Mr. Giblet, the butcher, reserve his..weather-mutton for better customers? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 500 Wether-mutton is the meat in perfection. 1857 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1506, 223/1 Custum-meit-sylver, custum-weddir-silver. *c* 1860 A. SCOTT *Poems* II. 128 Burst we baith wi' bum bysnid hyddin And weddir skynnis at hame. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 676/2 (*temp.* 1750-90) Wood and wedder-skins and grain packed for export to the South. 1890 in Phillipps *Wills* (n.d.) 180 Forty †Wether Teggs. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 39 In England, sheep bear the name of lamb until 8 months old, after which they are called ewe and wether teggs until once clipped.

**Wether,** obs. f. WEATHER, WHETHER, WHITHER.

**Wethering(e,** obs. forms of WEATHERING.

**Wether sheep.** = WETHER 1.

1. .. *St. Peter & Powel Jrnl.* 24 Wether sheep. *Atlantic Leg.* (1881) 79 Jan Nero gart his heuedis of strike, For he wedir scheps was him like. 1509 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 449 For teddirsto tun weddersche[p..xxd. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 31 That which is the mine of a wether sheepe new killed. 1583 in Phillipps *Wills* (c 1830) 273, I bequeath unto my Sonne..six wether sheepe. 1669 FOSSELL *Fossyl. Beasts* 59 Of the Weather-sheep.—At Nations do distinguish him from the ram, because of one property or defect in him, for that hee is not fit for generation. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Fenaticus* 52 Wether-sheep, are reckoned for the Ships use. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 284 Fatting of Oxen, or Wether Sheep. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 306 The next year it carried upwards of forty wether sheep.

**Wetherun, wetherwine,** var. ff. WITHERWIN *Obs.* **Wethewinde,** obs. f. WITHWIND.

**Wethir,** obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER, WHETHER.

**Wethirwyne,** var. WITHERWIN *Obs.* **Withering,** obs. f. WEATHERING. **Withy,** obs. f. WITHY. **Withyr,** obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

**Witing(e,** obs. ff. WEETING, WETTING.

**Wetish,** var. WETTISH.

**We'tly,** *adv.* Also 6 **wetly.** [f. WET *a.*] In a wet manner or state.

*a.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* Dd iv b, Walke thou weatly, walke thou dryly; I haue wet hose, walke thou by me. 1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 234 *Idem.* How fares he? *Gab.* Wetly and wearily, but out of peril. 1866 R. BUCHANAN *Poems* (1882) 163 The fair fields on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round. 1890 Miss BROUGHTON *Alas!* II. xii, February has come wetly in, with rain wildly weeping against the casement. 1893 J. A. HARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 3 The immense beauty of the wetly bush.

**We'tness.** Also 1 **wǽtnis,** 5-6 **wetenes,** 6 **-ness(e,** 7 **weatness**; 4-6 **wette-, wetnes(se.** [f. WET *a.*+-NESS.] The fact or condition of being wet; also *concr.*, moisture, wet.

*a.* *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 41 Oðer feall oðer stan and . . fodrupule forðon na habbe wǽtnisse. *c* 1425 *Cyr. Curious.* (Roxb.) 546 The king..of thine wetenes [*sc.* tears] was afraied That by his arme and his shuldres ran. 1530 PALSGR. 287/1 Wetenesse, *moisture, moiteur*. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Dialogue Proverbs* (1562) 165 The wetenes of the grounde and grete inundations of waters. 1573 *Kent & Surrey Sewers Comm.* (1909) 163 These men..were at the view of the bankes in the extreamenes of the wiuenesse of the winter. 1664 J. CASTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 149 See that it be kept verie dry, the least weatness will much prejudice me.

*b.* *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Hearne* 10352 Schal he neuere take scathe, Ne haue wetynge [*Petyt MS.* haf wetenes] ne wabe. *c* 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 149 A lanterne..pat myȝt nouȝt be quenched nouȝt wiþ wynde ne wiþ moysture ne wetnes. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser for harlie then wetnes and cold? 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 141 b, The wetnesse hereof is not onely hurt..their feete, but also spoyleth their coates. 1645-50 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* xxi. § 3 (1652) 165 Which increasseth and wetnes of the weather is, commonly, in Autumn. 1699 MEAGER *New Art Garden.* 42 If the Vine stands against damp Walls, the wetness perishes the Clusters that touch it. 1768 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 1 Where the wetness of land from its situation is prevented. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 57 This meadow land..in that state of wetness. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 209 The subsoil is wetness and cold of the furrows. 1872 D. STEWART *Heat* § 152 The sensation of dryness or wetness does not depend upon the absolute amount of aqueous vapour present in the cubic foot of air.

**b.** A wet spot or patch of ground.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. PL XLVI, The plan of draining wetnesses on the tops of hills and banks.

**Wet nurse, wet-nurse,** *sb.* A woman who is hired to suckle and nurse another woman's child. Cf. DRY-NURSE.

1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. ii, I call the Wet Nurse hither. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 45 She was both wet-Nurse, and dry-Nurse herselfe. And yet this his handmaid was his Mother. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2548/4 A young woman with a good breast of milk. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. iii, A wet-nurse being wanted at the great house. *transf.* and *fig.* 1794 SCHILLER *Schwärm.* 21 How Romulus was bred in savage wood, By wet-nurse wolf, devoid of wolfish rage. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* XXXII. 375 China has acted the wet-nurse to Mongolia, and discharged her duty well.

**Wet-nurse,** *v. trans.* To serve as wet nurse to, suckle (another woman's infant). Also *transf.* 1784 *Morn. Chron.* 13 Apr. 4/4 Advt., Wanted, a Child to be Wet Nurse, by a Young Woman, with a good breast of milk. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 52 At the house of the woman who had wet-nursed him. 1880 O. W. HOLMES *Professor* I. 25 *A mythus*...Such as Livy told about the wolf that wet-nursed Romulus and Remus.

**b.** *fig.* To treat tenderly or take under special care, as if helpless.

1873 *Slitad* 109 A curious youth...Who, ere his whiskers had completely grown, Possessed a comic paper of his own? But though wet-nursed by someone in Debrett, It died quite young. 1892 *Telegr. Jrnl.* 13 Feb. 205/2 The system of wet-nursing adopted by the Post Office authorities in the case of the telegraph service has not been one of uniform success. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 6/1 A member of independent spirit —not wet-nursed for party purposes by political gold. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 584/1, I was wet-nursed by an elderly old buffer of a General.

**Wet-safe,** obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

**Wet-shod** (**†-shoed**), *a. Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: **a.** 4–5 wete-schood, -shood, -schode; 5 wet-schoode, -schode, -shood (whetshood), 6 -shoode, 7 -shoed; 5 wetschood, -schood. **β.** 4 wete-shodde, 5 wete-shodd; 5– wet-shod (5 -schod, 7 -shodde; 5 wadsahod, 7 ? wet-shot). (Also in many dialect forms: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [*f. wete, wate* WET *a.* + SHOED, SHOD, *ppl. adjs.*] Having the feet wet.

**a.** 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 1 Wolleward and wete-shood went I forth after. 1393 *Gower C.* XVII. 14 And gut is wynter for hem wore, for wet-shood pei gangen. ? *a* 1400 *Arthour* 469 Pere men were wetschoode All of brayn & of blode. *a* 1470 GRIGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Collect. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 207 They fulle ungoodly smote owre the hedys of the yppys and hoggs hedys of wyne, that men wente wete-schode in wyne. 1530 FULLER *Pisgah* II. v. § 2 Moses foreseid that he should be wet-shode.

**β.** 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 161 And 3it is wynter for hem worse, for wete-shodde thei gange. 1393 *Ibid. C.* XXI. 1 We-wrie and wetshood wente ich forth ABLUT. *c* 1400 *Alphabet of Tales* 172 A preate pat hight Stephan on a tyme was wate-shodd. *a* 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B vj, I am wete shodde, *Perfricuisse humectant.* 1548 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 293 Beware of takyng colde in the legge, or ryding, or goynge wet-shod. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* I. iv. 10 Ile warrant by this time he is wetshod. 1607 DEKKER *Agnes and Dorothy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 208 I went wet-shod in gore. 1657 T. M. *Life Sat. Puppy Nim* 10 They which followed the Coffin to burial, went wetshod in those affectionate Teares. 1864 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 231 So he went over [the river] at last, not much above wet-shod. 1748 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 320 Your Billy has not yet been accustom'd to be wet-shod. 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 41, I passed the stream several times without being wet-shod. 1825– in many dialect glossaries (cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

**b.** *fig.* (or in figurative context).

1573 FENTON *Golden Epist.* (1582) 249 You seeme...to wade continually wetshoode in the lanke of this miserable worlde. 1589 LYLY *Pappe* Wks. (Bond) I. 158 He will make their wits wetshod, if he ale haue his swift current. 1620 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* III. iii, All my hopes are seam-rent, and go wet-shod. *a* 1632 BROME *City Wit* IV. i, Virtue goes often wetshod, and is forc'd to be cobled up with base means, to hold out water and cold necessity. 1676 *Times* 1 in *Cleveland's Wks.* (1687) 239 To speak in wet-shod Eyes, and drowned Locks.

**Wetshode,** obs. form of WATCHET.

**Wettable,** *a.* [f. WET *v.*] Admittling of being wetted.

1883 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 484 His only wettable garment being his loin-cloth.

**Wette,** var. WIT *sb.* and *v.*

**Wetted,** *ppl. a.* [f. WET *v.*] Made wet; moistened, damped.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXII. 561 Clense each board & Throne With wetted Sponges. 1719 *Hist. Tryals* XXX. 1084, I touch'd the end A with a wetted Finger. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 249 They sound the well, and...Along the line clear wetted feet appear. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 202 The eggs are covered with a tough white skin, like wetted parchment. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxiii, He saw her sitting up in bed,...her head bound round with wetted cloths. 1870 *Rogers' Agric.* July 170/1 Spreading over it a strip of wetted paper.

**We'tter.** [f. WET *v.*]

1. One who wets; *spec.* one who damps paper to be used in printing.

1732 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 93 Wetters of paper for [rolling-press]. 1760 *Court & City Reg.* 130, 7 Layers of Paper, and 2 Wetters of ditto. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocabl., Wetter*, The wetter's chief duty it is to 'wet down' paper preparatory to printing.

**b.** *Wetter-off,* in glass-making, a workman who detaches glass by wetting it. (Cf. WET *v.* 13.)

1883 H. J. POWELL *Glass-making* 61 The bottle is large it is handed, whilst still attached to the blowing-iron, to the 'wetter off', who detaches it by applying a moistened tool to the neck. 1888 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/7 The glass is never attached to any part of the machine, and so the 'wetter-off' is dispensed with.

2. *colloq.* A wetting, soaking.

1885 SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 28 Unheedful of the dew. Until a shiver told him that he'd had a thorough wetter'.

**Wetter,** dial. form of WATER; var. WITTER *sb.*2

**We'tterly,** var. WITTERLY *adv. Obs.*

**We'tting,** *vbl. sb.* [f. WET *v.*]

1. The action of making wet, or the fact of becoming wet; also (with *a* and pl.), an instance of this: **a.** Of persons, esp. by rain or falling into water.

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 268 Þo Marie hadde i-blessed þat watur with hire honde, With-oute wetingue þare-ouer heo seode. *c* 1330 [see WETHERE *sb.*]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1579 Fight vp with pilers..[fre] Weghis into walke for wetyng of rayn. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 221 That's more to me than your wetting. 1643 JER. HALL *Remedy Discont.* 149 It must be our wisedome...some whiles to abide a wetting; that, if need be, wee may endure a drenching also. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 May 1645, So that one can hardly stepp without wetting to the skin. 1836 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 490 At the cost of a thorough wetting under a succession of heavy showers. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxvi, Many a wetting we got amongst the mountains. 1896 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xii. (ed. 4) 250 The sea was like a sheet of glass; so that he had little fear of getting a wetting during his few hours' stay.

**b.** In general use. Also in fig. context.

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* l. 3 He will be as a tre that..has ay veyinge of the watirs of grace. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 297 Þat men þora hem moun take wetyngge of hevenly deew to her drie hertis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 39 As a cat wolde ete fisshes without wetinge of his clees. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/2 Wetynge, *madefactio, madidacio.* 1677 GOGGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 219 b, Your stable must be buylt i'n a dry place, for wetting the Horses houfe. 1823 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 285 The wetting and late coming downe of thier goods. 1893 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 59 The second thing that is to be done, after having remov'd Fig-Trees out of the Conservatory,...is (to use the Phrase of Gard'ners) to give them a good Wetting in every Case; which is, one good substantial Watering. 1905 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Narcissus of Typhon,* Just moisten a sound wetting, keeping the Pots in Water until you find it swims upon the Surface. 1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 23 It can be of no service in the least to the Grass of meadows, unless as a watering in Spring or Summer. 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 255 The wetting of the slate was merely superficial. 1867 H. HARTLEY *Magnetism* 117 The only sensible effect is the wetting of the wires. 1886 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 268/2 It is functionally protective against undue wetting by rain.

**2.** The action of moistening the throat with liquid; a small quantity of water or liquor used for this purpose.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1033 Drink may him helpe, A litil wetinge of watur his wo wol amende. 1835 J. M. WILSON *Tales of Border* I. 118 It is seldom a thimbleful that fa's to my share,—just a wetting, a wee bit. 1880 *Graphic* 11 Oct. 380/1 'Twas like the free run of a Bar, And Politics wants lots o' wetting. 1906 *Times* 6 Mar. 9/6 Drinks and 'wetting' ruinous to health and morals, are part of the business plant.

**3.** The action of making wet or moist as part of a special process: **a.** Of cloth. (Also in fig. contexts.)

1465–6 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 That every Cloth of Kersey ..be parfitly wette, and after that wetyng redy to the sale,... contenyng in length xviij yerdes. 1540, 1592 [see SURIRE v. 2]. 1593 CYRIL TOURNEUR *Mamillia* II. X 4, The cloath is not knowne till it come to the wetting. 1616 DEKKER *Bell-Ringer* 189 He will not abide the touchstone. He shrinketh in the wetting. 1691 [T. TAYLOR Weter &] *Navy Land Ships* 8 Oct. 180/2

OS. *with*, ON. *vi* holy place, sanctuary, and OHG. *wih* (MHG. *wîh*, G. *weih-*), Goth. *weihs* adj. holy.] An altar.

*a.* *c*897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 217 Xif se weobud ufan hol nære. Ibid., Hwæt elles xetæcnað ðæt weobud buton rybiwere mænia xtulaf. *c*960 ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* lxi 123 Healde he ænlic þone styde ,butan þone benum,e anre þæs halgan weofodes. *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii 35 Zwa hanas . þone xe ofslogon betwenx þam temple and þam weofode. *c*1205 LAY. 31931 He Peteres weofed þere wunihe he stobte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R* 346 Uallc3 huoren ower weoued a creoke to þer corðe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Ich biseche þe þurh þine suð seoche and þine ilmeclede bleode ðæt weouede.

*β* *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mat v. 23 Xif þu bringst þine fic to weofe,ðe lxt þær þine fic liggan fam a lxte. *c*1330 *O E. Chron* an 1125, He sang done helimes e on Pentre i dai at Cristes wifod, *c*1205 LAY. 28747 Meiscon fleh to ære churche and for þi nihr ascah hem fram o re wofde. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1082 in *S. Eng. Leg* 137 He let smiten ase leol

Op in þe here churche in twene twei wenedes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1593 At glastunbury ut wore þe heye weoued ansydde þe quer 1340 *Ayenb.* 224 Pe ymenyment of þe wyf-elde. *Ibid* 236 Godes table is þe weoued. 1387 TREVISA *Higden.* I 161 þe piters and wroches of þat p ple. *c*1425 *Lay. Cong. Ireland* xvii. 42 In the moiyr chyrche, & to for the weued

**Wevede**, obs. pa. t and pa. pple. of WEAVE *v*

**Wevel**(l, **Wever**,e, obs. ff. WEVIL, WEAVER.

**†Wevesterte.** *Obs.* In quot **wewostrote** [f. WEVE *v* + STANT *sb.*1 Cf. WAGSTART] The wagtail

*14.* in Wr. Wülcker 617/44 *Iru,a, ,uidam a.is*, a wewe stote

**We vet.** *south-west dial.* [f. WEAVE *v.* + VET *sb.*1] A cobweb. + Also *collect.*

1400 1500 *Lincolnshire Acc. to J. Ismun's, Saturn* (18.6) 51 To Will Belay for the cleyng & dwne of the Wenes in the Churche. 1581 J. BRIT *Hadd.'s Ans to Osor* 56 b, he skryppe over the open Churches of truth, and are entangled in the wevett of errour [*Cf. 3ib. ler wet et* A.V. SPEIGHT in] 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 134 In the church we durty —We've here Hang'd daughter into thru ruf. 1886 W. BARNES *Dor set Glossa*, *We xet, wevet*, a cobweb.

**Wevil**(l, **Vil**, obs. forms of WEVIL.

**Wew**, obs. sc. f. VIEW; var. WHEW *int.* **Wewe**, obs. f VIEW *sb.*, WEAVE *v.* **Wewell**, obs. form of WEEVIL. **Wex**(e, obs. ff. VEX *v.*, WAX *sb.* and *v* **Wexin**, obs. f. WAXEN.

**Wey**1 (*we*I). Forms: 1 wǽg(wǽg), wǽ3o, 4-8 **weye**, 5- **wey** (5 **wegh**), 5-7 **way** (6 **waye**, **waie**), 7 **waigh**, 9 **wa** high. [Identical in origin with WEIGH *sb.*1 Cf. WAY *sb.*2 and WAW *sb.*1]

1. A standard of dry-goods weight, varying greatly with different commodities. (See quots.)

a. Of cheese.

*Beg.* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I 459 Ðis hit ðonne fæsten dæg ne salle man unne ðe cyse & hunes. *c*833 *Ibid* 577 VI wex spices & cyses 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B v. 91, I wolde be gladder Than pou'e I had pis woke ywonne a weye of ewes cheese. 1541 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* K vb, The very weights of it [r. cheese] are cloues and weies, so that a cloue should containe 7 pounde and a wey 32 cloues, that is 224 pounder. 1590 PENNE *Brief Disc. Irel.* (1841) 8 You may haue yerelie fortie great weyes of cheese, of the milke gathered betwixt May and Michaelmas. 1596 *Recorde's Gr. Arts* 162 And so much [256 pound] weyeth the weigh of Suffolke cheese. The Wey of Essex Cheese containeth 26 store, and 16 pound 1638 J. ROBERTS *Merch. Mag. Comm.* ii. 219 The true weight of cheese an I butte, called the Waighe / The Waighe of Suffolk cheese being 256 lb and the waighe of Essex cheese 336 lb averdupois. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* v. *Cheese*, In Suffolk they allow forty two of these Cloves or three hundred thirty six pounds to the Wey. 1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract Agric* (ed 4) II. 429 A wey in Suffolk 32 cloves, or 256 lbs A wey in Essex 42 cloves, or 336 lbs.

b. Of wool.

*a* 975 *Lmx Edgar* iii § 8 Ga seo weye [r. *wæg*] wul e to cxe þenninga] [*c* 1300 *Leta* in xii (1647) 71 I t duze waye lanan faciunt unum saccum ] *a* 1300 *Arnolde's Chron* (1811) 100 Of the sac wulle goyng out of London of 11. weys, the Sheref owt to have xld. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Mag Comm* ii 232 The sacke of woolf formerly so famoused by the staplers, did weigh 364 lb. averdupois, two waighes of wooll make a tacke, and 2 sacks make a lasie. 1665 W. SHEPPARD *Offic. Clerk of Market* 65 The Sarplar is the Cace wherein the Wooll is, and the Waigh respecteth the quantity of the Wooll it self. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 261/1 A Wey [of Wool] contains six Tods and a half. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III 8 8 Wool is weighed out in double stones of 28 lb., each being called a weigh.

c. Of salt

1443 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 83 In 2 Wegh et di. grosi salis empt. 50s. 1455 *Paston Lett* I 298 I hat ye sold a wey salt but for xx2 that she might hafe had xl2 for every wey 1489 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 4 No. 1, vi weyes de bayvall, prec. le wey xxvi2 viiid. 1533-4 *Durham Household Bk* (Surtees) 103, 28 qu. [salts] vs xiid & wc) 1548 *Rates Customs ho* c v b, Salte called bay salt the weye shal stand. *a* 1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev* (1914) XXIX. 517 You must lade for every thousand lashe a wey of salte or rather more 1611 in Picton *Liverpool Munic. Rec* (1886) I. 179 Ite'ey Way of Salt, conteyning by measure x barrells. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Scarner* 1895 Lastwise, the Buss cannot stow conveniently stow, at once, above ten Weys of salt. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Mag Comm* ii 248 A tunne of Salt at Plimouth is greater than a wegh of London by 32 gallons 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 70 Salt is reckoned by the Hundred and Wey. In 1 Hundred of Salt 103 Weyes, in 1 Wey 40 Bushels. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No 4060/5 About 50 Weigh of Salt, out of the Isa seas 1748 W. BROWNRIGG *Art making Salt* 114 The law now allows three bushels duty free, for every wey (or forty bushels) of British salt carried co stwise.

d. Of coal, corn, etc., or in general use.

*c* 1300 in *Rec Comm Weights & Meas* (1758) 19, xiv pe trac faciunt unum pondus, quod Anglice dicitur weye *a* 1400 *Rec Stat* I 70 Seven- waxpund makyt bolewe pondo one wexs, twelf weyn on fothr 1497 *Aberdeen Acc Histor.* (Spalding Club) 1. 70 Ane wey coile, 2s 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9. § 5 The said common meaiter to haue for the measuring of euery way of corne and 1560 *Mem. Ist. Bk Dutchers Co., Lond.*, The price of a Wars of tall we was thirt yere Rated at 30/. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Weigh*, in some parts of this land it signifies a quantity of Corn (most commonly of Barley or Malt) containing six quarters 1660 F. BROOME tr *Le Blanc's Trav* 383 Out of the Mounts of Libani in Cuba, there was one [piece of gold] when weighing 3310 weighs. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Weigh*, the greatest measure for dry things, containing five Chaldron *Weys* or *Weights* are also 165 Pounds, 180 Pounds, or 200 Pounds and a half for a Charge. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Wey*, A Weigh of Barley or Malt, is six Quarters or forty eight Bushels. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 54 During which time five or six weys of culm were used 1824 J. GUY *Tutor's Assist.* 55 How many weys and bushels, in 72 lasts? *Ann.* 144 weys, 5760 bus 1892 L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Measures* 97 *Wey*, or *Load* (dry measure) = 40 bushels = 5 quarters

*attrib* 1623 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 137 Neither is the Cranoke or Wey m asures used in selling thereof here.

**†2.** ? A pound. (Vulg. *libras centum.*)

*a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 372 Nicodemus brohte worte smurien mi ture Lowerd an hundred weien of mirre & of aloes.

**†Wey.**2 *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; the variation in the stem-vowel would normally indicate an OE., *wiig*, *wdg-*.] ? A bill or halberd.

*a* 1300 LAY. 29985 Brekeden hire weapes [*c* 1275 weyes], brustleden scaftes *Ibid.* 215 5 Cheorles mid clubben swiðen g æir, mid speren and mid graste wæpen. *Ibid* 21 56 Mi cniht child mid here wahsen [*c*1275 wawes] ualden him to grunden

**Wey**, obs. f. WAY *sb*, WEIGH *v*, var. WY *Obs.*, man **Weyard**, obs. var. WEIRD *a.* **Wey-bit**, var. WAY-BIT *Obs.* **Weybred**, obs. var. WAY-BREAD. **Weyche**, obs. Sc. f. WITCH *sb.* **Weycht**, obs. sc. f. WEIGHT, WIGHT. **Weydde**, obs. f WEED *v.*1 **Weyde**, obs. f. WIDE *adv.* **Weydraught**, obs. f. WITHDRAUGHT.

**+Weye**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also **waye.** [OE. *wégan* to delude, deceive.]

1. *trans.* To deceive, lead astray.

*c*1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 370 Pat he ne may nauȝt yweld be Wiþ blanding ne wiþ boste. *Ibid.* vii. 648 The deuel . dorste nauȝt adam assayliy, Al for to weye.

2. *intr.* To go astray.

*c*1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 301 Bote hi arȝt ikrained be, Fram houene neure hi weyȝe

**Weye**, obs. f. WAY *sb.*1, WEIGH *v.*, WHEY; var. WY (man) *Obs.* **Weyfe**, obs. f. WAIF *sb.*1, WAIVE *v.*1 **Weyffe**, obs. f. WIFE. **Weyghe, Weyghte**, obs. ff. WEIGH(T. **Wey-hey**, var. WEHEE *v.* **Weyhte**, obs. f. WEIGHT. **Weyit**, obs. Sc. f. WET *v.* **Weyk**(e, obs. ff. WEAK *a.*, WICK. **Weylawey**, obs. f. WELLAWAY. **Weyld**, obs. f. WIELD *v.* **Weyle**, obs. f. WAIL *v.*, WAIE *v.*1, WEEL2. **Weyle a woo**, var. WELLAWO *Obs.* **Weyleootl**, var. WELKOAT *Sc.*

**+Weyleyship.** *Obs.*—1 [f. *wey* WEIGH *v.* Cf. METEYSHIP.] The office of weigher.

1587 LD. BUCHELEY in *19th Rep. Hist MSS Comm. App.* VII. (1890) 12 [Concerning the office of the] weyleyship and meiley-ship [in Penrith]

**Weyliee**(l)tt, obs. ff. WYLIECOAT *Sc.* **Weylsum**, var. WEALSOME *a. Obs.* **Weyme**, obs. f. WAME. **Weymen**, obs. pl. WOMAN. **Weyment**(e, var. ff. WAYMENT.

**Weymouth** (*wē*·məp). [The title of the first Lord *Weymouth*, by whom the tree was extensively planted after its introduction into England in 1705.] *Weymouth Pine*, the American white pine, *Pinus Strobus*.

[1731 P. MILLER *Gard Dict.* s. v. *Pinus*, *Pinus Americana*, Lord Weymouth's Pine.] 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Apbernouth*, The white Canada-pine, which is better known in England by the name of Weymouth pine. 1781 *Ii estimater Mag.* IX. 133 The Weymouth-pine has been long naturalized here; the patriarch plant still existing at Longleat 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I 82 The Weymouth pine has very little picturesque beauty to recommend it 1826 ARNELD *Channel Isl* iv. xxi. (ed 2) 456 The Weymouth pine, the stone pine, and the larch, are all occasionally seen. 1882 *Garden* 16 Sept. 231/2 Weymouth Pine, Scotch Spruce, and Silver Fir timber sold at a low figure.

**Weyn**, obs. f. VAIN *a.*; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.* **Weynd**(e, obs. ff. WEND *v.* **Weyne**, obs. f. VEIN, WAIN *sb.*1, WINE; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.* **Weyng**(e, obs. ff. WING. **Weynscot**, -**scotte**, -**skot**, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

**Weynt**, ? var *quaynt*, pa. pple. of QUENCH *v.* *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1102 Hast þou for slowþe I-be so feynt þat al þy wylle has be weynt

**Weype**, obs form of WIPE *v*

**+Weyr.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Some piece of timber in the structure or fittings of a vessel.

1296 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/20 m 2 b, In xiiij lignis de longitudine 1 pedum emptis ad Weyres. *Ibid.* m 3 b, In duobus Weyris ad Bargiam emptis de Henrico de Wemse *Ibid* m 4 b, In Weyris Sparchis et aliis emendacionibus factis in Galea et Barga.

**Weyr**, Sc. var. VER spring. *Obs.* **Weyre**, Sc. var. WERE *sb.* doubt, etc. **Weyrly**, var. WARLY. **Weysand**(e, obs. ff. WEASAND. **Weysse**, obs. f. WISE *a.* **Weyst**, obs. Sc. f. WEST. **Weyte**, obs. f. WHITE. **Weyth**, obs. f. WITHE.

**+Weythernoy**, error for ***wetherwy**, southwestern var. *fetherfoy*: see FEATHERFEW.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Weythernoy is Feuerfew. [1863 LOWELL *Herbal* (ed. 2) 563 Weyther-ney, see Feaverfew]

**Weythwynde**, obs. f. WITHWIND. **Weyve**, obs. f. WAIVE *v.*1; var. WAIVE *v.*2 *Obs.*; obs. f. WEAVE *v.* **Weyward**, = *weyard* obs. var. WEIRD *a.* **Weszand, wezen, wezsand**, obs. ff. WEASAND. **Wezeor**, obs. f. VISIER. **Wezill**, var. WEEZLE *Obs.* **Wez(a)on**, obs. ff. WEASAND.

# Wh.

WH, a consonantal digraph, normally represents initial *hw* in words of OE. origin, as in *hwæt* what, *hwistrian* to whisper. In words of other origin, its occurrence may be due to analogy resting on the supposed phonetic appropriateness of the 'aspirate' sound, as in *whelp*, *whisk*; it sometimes varies with *h* or simple *w*; e.g. *whortleberry* and *hurtleberry*, *whoop* and *hoop*, *whetkeed* and *wetkeed*. Historically OE. initial *hw* represents OTeut. *xw* (under which Indo-Eur. $q^w$ and *kw* were levelled), which appears as *hw* in the early forms of the Germanic languages, but is variously modified in their modern forms, appearing in High and Low German as *w*, in the Scandinavian languages, according to dialect, as *hv*, *kv*, and *v*, in English as *wh*. For typical forms see WHAT.

The normal OE. spelling *hw* was generally preserved in early ME. till late in the 13th century, e. g. in the Nero MS. of Ancren Riwle (with occas. variants in *w*, as *wase* whoso), and the pieces contained in An Old English Miscellany (E. E. T. S.); it persists in the Ayenbite of Inwyt in the form *hv*, as *hutch*. The modern spelling *wh* is found first in regular use in the Ormulum, e. g. *whille* which; it is the commoner spelling in the earlier text of Layamon's Brut (with frequent variants in *w*), the Harl. MS. of King Horn, and the earliest MS. of Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, and continues thence without interruption to the present day; sporadic anticipations occur in the 12th century in the Interlinear Rule of St. Benedict, as in *miwhepera* (ed. E. E. T. S., p. 81), *whomne* (ib. 103), and in the 12th century in the Peterborough Chronicle (e. g. *while*, an. 675), and the Lambeth and Cotton Homilies. A few instances of the omission of *h* occur in some early texts (e. g. *sinuurful* 'teres' in Epinal Gloss., *wiltun* 'nunc' in 9th century Rule Glosses), and there are some in the 11th century Rule of St. Benedict (e. g. *wyfre* which, *wanon* whence); it becomes more frequent in the 12th century, chiefly in words of the interrogative class, e.g. *wile*, *gewilcum*, *wat*, *wenne*, and (*sun*)*wile*, for *hwile*, *gewhilcum*, *hwæt*, *hwenne*, and *hwile* (Cato Glosses, Canterbury Psalter, Peterborough Chronicle, Homilies, etc.). Many examples of simple *w* are to be found in the two versions of Layamon and other 13th century texts, and this variant spelling continues in widespread use till 1500.

Strong enunciation of the back (guttural) element in the pronunciation of (hw) is shown by the spellings *chua*, *chuet*, *chwem*, *chuele* = *hwil*, etc. of the Lindisfarne Gosp., and began to be denoted in ME. of the 13th century by the use of *qu* (*quon*, *qw*), first in East Anglian texts (once in the Destiny, *quat* whale; regularly but not exclusively in Genesis and Exodus). It remained a feature of East Anglian spelling till *c* 1450 (as in the Paston Letters and the works of John Metham), but after 1300 it became more especially a characteristic feature of northern English, surviving in Scottish, esp. in the form *quh*, till the 18th century. (For the converse use of *wh* for *qu* (kw), see the letter Q.)

Early in the 15th century appear spellings with *wh* of words with initial *h* followed by an *o*-sound. It occurs first before *ǫ* (= *a*), e. g. *whom* for *him* (OE. *hām*) in Brut *c* 1420 (E. E. T. S.), pp. 346, 370, *whalle* for *halle* (OE. *hall*) in Chron. Vilod. *c* 1420, 3368, and Cantel. MS. of Guy of Warwick 3423, *whole* for *hāl* (OE. *hāl*) in Partonope, *whare* for *hāre* hoar (OE. *hār*) in Revel. Monk of Evesham (1482); *wholy* for *hālȝ* is used by Tindale, 1526. Later, other words normally spelt with initial *ho*- (of whatever origin) became subject to the same variation of spelling; e. g. *whore* for *hāre* (OE. *hōre*), *whole* for *hāle* (OE. *hol*), *whood* for *hood* (OE. *hōd*), *whoord* for *hārd* 'hoard' (OE. *hord*). Some of these spellings were especially frequent in the 16th century; thus *whood* 'hood' is used by Hall the chronicler, Nashe, Harvey, John Davies of Hereford, and Sylvester. The *wh*-spelling has become standardized in two of these words, viz. *whole* and *whore*, and their derivatives, in which it became common *c* 1600. The corresponding labialized pronunciation is current dialectally only in *whole*, but it survives in several other words where the standard form has preserved the original *ho*-, as in *hoard*, *hold*, *hole*, *home*, *hot*; in *home*, pronunciations such as (wom), (wuom), (*wpm*) cover a wide area. For details of the evidence see the various words in this Dict. and Eng. Dial. Dict.

Spellings of How *adv.* with initial *hw*, *wh*, and (consequently) *quh* are on a different footing, as they are due in the first place to association of the word with the interrogative *why*, *where*, etc.

From the fourteenth century onwards there are sporadic instances of initial *wher* for *wr*, as *whrighter* (R. Brunne's Chron. Wace 8711), *whrastid* 'wrested' (St. Cuthbert, 6041), *whrethchalfy* (Hale, 1456). For the relationship of *hurlpool*, *hurlwind*, *hurlleberry* to *whirlpool*, *whirlwind*, *whortleberry*, etc., and of *thwack*, *thwang* to *whack*, *whang*, etc., see these words.

*Pronunciation.* In OE. the pronunciation symbolized by *hw* was probably in the earliest periods a voiced labial consonant preceded by a breath. This was developed in two different directions: (1) it was reduced to a simple voiced consonant (*w*); (2) by the influence of the accompanying breath, the voiced (*w*) became unvoiced. The first of these pronunciations (*w*) probably became current first in southern ME. under the influence of French spenkers, whence it spread northwards (but ME. orthography gives no reliable evidence on this point). It is now universal in English dialect speech except in the four northernmost counties and north Yorkshire, and is the prevailing pronunciation among educated speakers. The second pronunciation, denoted in this Dictionary by the conventional symbol (hw), and otherwise variously denoted by phoneticians, (*wh*), (*w*), (ʷ), (ʍ), is general in Scotland, Ireland, and America, and is used by a large proportion of educated speakers in England, either from social or educational tradition, or from a preference for what is considered a careful or correct pronunciation.

The 13th or 16th century Welsh transcript of the English Hymn to the Virgin (E.D.S. Misc. 3, p. 27) shows the voiceless pronunciation, rendering *where* by *hwiter*, and the evidence of the 16th century and later orthoepists goes to show that this was the prevailing pronunciation among cultured speakers, but there are indications that it was not of universal currency. Towards the end of the 18th century the voiced was unnoticed by the voiced sound, and the lexicographer John Walker (1791) notes that in London speech 'the aspirate *h* is often sunk', and includes the voiced pronunciation of *wh* among the four faults of the speech of the metropolis. The pronunciation of the voiceless labialized (hw) which took place in the 19th century was due in part to Scottish and Irish influence, and in part to conscious reference to the spelling. Some early orthoepists admitted a pronunciation of *whole*, *wholesome* with (hw). This must have been familiar to Samuel Johnson, for in the Grammar prefixed to his Dictionary he remarks that '*in whore only*, and sometimes in *wholesome*, *wh* is sounded like a simple *h*'. The dialectal pron. (wōl, wul) are widespread.

In the north of the Tay the voiceless labialal (hw) has become the voiceless labio-dental (f) in interrog. pron. and advs., as *fa* who, *fat* what, *fan* when; in Aberdeen and Banff in other words also, as *fite* white, *fulp* whelp, *fup* whip. (Cf. *Flee* *vb*[1].)

**Wha**, a, dial. forms of WHO; var. WHAU *int.*

**Whaaped**, var. WHAPED *pa. pple. Obs.*, WHAUP.

**Whack** (hwæk), *sb. colloq.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **whawk**, **whauk**, 9 **wack**. [? Echoic: perh. an alteration of WHACK.]

1. A sharp stroke with a stick or the like; a heavy resounding blow; also the sound of this.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 17 As sair greets the bairn that's paid at e'en, as he that gets his whawks in the morning. 1824 E. MOORE *Suffolk Words* 237 *Whack*, a blow, a thump. 1832 BABBINGTON *Peas. Sk. Ill.* xviii. 243, I never saw any dangerous contusion from what they called 'what ks' of the shillelah. 1834 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxiii, Bill gave the boy two or three more hearty whacks, and then kicked him into the hostler's shop. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* v, Henry's 'Ah!' or little cry was followed by a whack, which I heard as clear as anything I ever heard in my life.

b. *To have or take a whack at*: to make an attempt or attack upon. *U.S.*

1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 20 June 2/2 There are thousands ..who..are anxious to have a whack, at the polls, at the party that deceived them. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 1787 Mother's got over her long weak spell, and is able to take a whack at doings.

2. A portion, share, allowance; *esp.* a full share, a large portion or amount.

Chiefly in phr. *to get, have, take one's whack.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whack*, a share of a booty obtained by fraud. 1790 ALEX. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 51 Whauks o' guid silt-fast I wrocked the Rascal's Jacket. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* Introd. (1879) 2 The sheriffs.. whacked each other soundly with their wands. 1857 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 225 When the husband loses his temper,..he whacks his wife *absol.* or *intr.* 1882 C. W. DAY *Five Yrs.' Resid. W. Indies* I. 294 Whacking away, I found my head in front of his body. 1898 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Creole of Bough* xxiii, Her tough tweeds whacked on the ivory lintel.

b. *fig.* To bent in a contest.

1827 *Hodgeneck Gloss.* s. v., Ah can whack him onny day at sums.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* Substituted for 'put', 'bring', 'get', etc., with implication of vigorous or violent action; cf. *knock up*.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* viii, Why should we.. thole sae aft the Spleen to whauk us Out of our Reason? 1861 J. BARR *Poems* 154 (E.D.D.) A rotten stump my brain had rackit, Till Doctor Manning out did whack it. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* x. 219 If I design to paint a head, or a foot, or an arm, I get my little old Saxish Jane to peel the rotten flesh off, and then whack her in on the canvas. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* v. 115 When they whacked up a match 'twix' his sister Hitty an' Long Jernaiel. 1903 — *Five Nations* 1. 10 *Truthful & Discov.* 117 Can we whack her [sc. a torpedo-boat] up to fifteen, d'you think?

3. [Sec. prec. 2.] To share, divide. Also with *up*.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Whack*, to share or divide any thing equally. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 94 We got twenty-two screaves by this adventure, which we whacked. 1888 J. K. BOTHERSON in *Bellbird Songster Australia* xlviii, We hadn't much trouble dividing the gold, and what cash there was we could whack easy enough.

**Whack**, dial. form of QUACK *v.*[2]

1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard*, *Pedlar* xxiv, The ducks they whackit, the dogs they yowled.

**Whacker** (hwæ·kəɹ). *colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. A heavy blow. *dial.*

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 477 *Whacker*, a blow, a thump.

b. A driver of animals, a drover. *U.S.*

1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 599 The whacker's long whip cracking..as he lashes his unwieldy beasts [*sc.* oxen] into position. 1889 H. O'REILLY *Fifty Yrs. on Trail* xvi. 172 To search round for bullet-trees to drive them over.

2. Anything abnormally large of its kind; *esp.* a 'thumping' lie; a 'whopper'.

1825 JACKSON'S *N. C. Gloss.*, *Whacker*, a lie. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXII. 416 Though the fences are whackers, the brooks they are small. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, Oh, there's a whacker!.. we haven't been within a hundred yards of his barn. 1872 J. R. GREEN *Let. to E. A. Freeman* 18 Sept., The Dome which ought to be a whacker is a poor wee thing.

**Whacking** (hwæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb WHACK.

1. Beating.

1826 Mrs. H. WOOD *Channings* i, Then take your whacking! 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 2/2 There is a sound of the whacking of staves and sticks *attrib.* 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 June 5/1 We turned away followed by the beaters, one of whom tucked his long whacking-stick under his chin.

2. Dividing up or sharing.

1845 MATHAM *Lond. Labour* II. 154 At last Long J—— and I got to quarrel about the 'whacking': there was cheatin' a-goin' on.

**Whacking** (hwæ·kiŋ), *ppl. a. colloq.* [f. WHACK (ER + -ING[2].] That is a 'whacker'; abnormally large; 'thumping', 'whopping'.

Often quasi-advb. in *whacking big, great.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd. P 7 A certain whacking

priest in our neighbourhood. **1849** — *Jrnl.* 16 Apr. (1850) II. 268 This whacking reason. **1853** G. J. Cayley *Lex Æsopus* II. 103 We saw a whacking great building. **1873** C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond., Walworth Josephus* 91 A good whacking kiss that echoed all over the archway.

**Whad, Whaddie:** see What, Waddy.

**Whaey, Whafer, Whaff, Whaffle:** see Wheyey, Wafer *sb.*, Waff *sb.*¹, Waffle *v.*

**Whahoo,** variant of Wahoo.

**Whaiee:** see Why.

**Whaiet,** obs. dial. f. Quiet.

**1581** N. Woodes *Conf. Consc.* iii. iv, Ay wawd he wer brunt that ay mawght be whaiet.

**Whaile,** obs. var. Quail *v.*², to curdle.

*c* **1440** *Aer. Cookery* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 151 At the first boyling take hom off the fyre that they whaile neght.

**Whaint, Whair(e, Whaish, Whais(h)le, whaisle, Whaite, Whake:** see Quaint, Where, Wheyish, Wheeze, Wheezle, Wait *v.*¹, Quake.

**Whaker,** north. dial. form of Quaker.

**1790** in Sir C. Sharp *Chron. Hyrak.* (1841) 51 Att ye Whakers meeting house. **1802** R. Anderson *Ball Cumbld.* (1808) 22 The neist was a Whaker, caw'd Jacob, He turn'd up the whites of his een.

**Whale** (hwēl), *sb.*¹ Forms: **1** hwæl, **3–4** whal, wal, **4–5** wall, **4–7** whall, **5** wale, **5–6** whalle, **7** whaill, wheal, **4–** whale; chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* **3** qual, **4** quale, **5** qwal, qwall(e, qwayle, **5–6** quhall(l, **6** quhale, quhell. [OE. *hwæl*, corresp. to OHG., MHG. *wal* (*G. walfisch* Whalefish, q. v.), ON. *hvalr* (Sw., Da. *hval*), related to OHG. *wdhira, welira*, MHG. *wâire*, and MHG., *G. wels* (= **xwalis*) sheath-fish; cf. Prus. *kalis* sheath-fish.

The present form *whale* represents oblique forms (OE. *hwales*, etc.); the OE. nom. *hwæl* gave 14th–17th cent. *whall* (cf. *small, awl,* ↑ *all,* from *smæl, æl*).]

**1.** Any of the larger fish-like marine mammals of the order *Cetacea*, which have fore-limbs like fins and a tail with horizontal flukes, and are hunted for their oil and whalebone; in wider (scientific) use, any cetacean of the groups *Mysticoceti*, or whalebone-whales, and *Odontoceti* or toothed whales (which are distinguished by the names dolphin, grampus, porpoise, etc.).

*c* **893** Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. § 16 Se hwæl bið micle lengra þonne oðre hwalas. *c* **1000** Ælfric *Gen.* i. 21 God gesceop þa ða micelan hwalas and eall hilderpade fyr-cinnes. *c* **1025** *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 310 Þa mycelan hwalas, & þa lytlan sprotan. *c* **1220** *Bestiary* 735 He is blac so bot of qual *c* 1300 *Havelok* 753 Hetok be vitsigin, and be qual. *c* **1325** *Metr. Hom.* 136 Kitt als the quale fares wit the elringe, And rit als sturious stes merling. *c* **1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 1495 He hadde a bodi as a whal. *c* **1386** Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 121 Me thynketh they been lyk lorayn Fat as a whale and walkynge as a swan. **14..** *Metr. Voc.* in W.-Wülcker 625 LI Wale, *cete.* **14..** *Nom.* ibid. 704/15 *Hic cetus*, a whalle, a qwall, a qwayle, a Whale, or qwal, grete fysche. **1513** Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 23 Fludis monstreis, sic as mariswyne or quhaillis. **1608** Shake. *Per. Pr.* v. v. 23 And these they tipe or dye, like scaled sculs, Before the belching Whale. **1707** *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 140 Steep your Corn, or any other Seed, in Oil of Whale. **1765** Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 35 Whales are still seen one hundred and sixty feet long. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothed Whales are subdivided into those which have teeth in both jaws and those which have teeth in the lower jaw. **1880** Gosse *Nat. Hist.* v. 253 The pursuit of the whale, whether that species which our hardy mariners seek amidst the ice-floes of the Polar Seas, or the still huger kind which wallows in the boundless Pacific, *collective sing.* **1637** J. Jones & Davenant *Brit. Ind.* 15 And then on Rock he [*sc.* the giant] stood to bob for Whale. **1845** Coulter *Adv. Pacific* vii. 78 While cruising for whale, the look-outs are on the cross trees.

**b.** With defining words for various species:

e. g. Bottle-nose(d or ), Caing-whale, Fin, Finback(ed, Finback, Greenland, Gray, Hump(back, Ice, Pied, Piked, Pike-headed, Pilot, Rostrated, *round-lipped* (Round *a.* 16 b), Scrag (adj. 5), Sperm(aceti *w.*, Sperm whale), Whalebone, Also **Bald, Beaked, Black, Bowhead, Sowerby's, White Whale**: see quots.

**1795** tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 129, I shall call it Balæna rostrata, or Nebbe-hval, the "Beaked Whale. **1800** *Brit. Mus. Rethen* 1. 1. 1. Beaked Whale (*Delphinus cavirostris*). **1834** Dewhurst *Cetacea* 16 *note*, *La Baleine Franche*, Common "Black Whale. **1840** Marryat *Poor Jack* vi, The spermaceti don't taste the harpoon quite so quietly as the black whale does. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 296/1 The Whalebone Whale or Black Whale of the South Seas. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 201 Slabs of whalebone of "Bowhead Whale. **1900** *Brit. Mus. Return* 101 Tooth of a "Sowerby's Whale (*Mesoplodon bidens*). **1834** Dewhurst *Cetacea* 190 *Delphinapterus Beluga*, or the "White Whale.

(*b*) **Right Whale**, a whalebone whale, esp. of the genus *Balæna*. Hence *right-whaling, right-whaler*, etc.

**1725** P. Dudley in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 256 The Right or Whalebone Whale is a large Fish, measuring sixty or seventy Feet in Length. **1824** J. F. Cooper *Pilot* xvii, 'Tis a right whale, . . I saw his spout. **1874** Darwin *Desc. Man* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 116 The males of the right-whales do not fight together. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 537/2 A right whale fishery of great importance. **1895** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Dec. 2 1 Just before I took to 'right' whaling.

**2.** Applied to the 'great fish' which swallowed Jonah (*Jonah* i. 17).

*c* **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xll. 40 Sue forðon was Ionas in innað ærf in wom huales þrim dagum & þrim nehtum [**1382** Wyclif As Jonas was in the wombe of a whal three dayes and three nyghtis]. **13..** *K. Ht. Allit. P.* C. 247 Now is Ionas þe Iwe wigged to drowne:. A wyple walterande whal..lol þat lest Rome. *c* **1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 57 Grete god . þat saued þe prophete with in þe whall. **1548** Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22–28 Euen as did ȝe whale receaue the prophet Ionas. *a* **1586** Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxvi. Ionas, in þe quhelis kelde, þrow selfe thir dayis. **1687** A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 41 Jona's Whale is also to go to Paradise.

†**3.** *Whale of the river, rivers-whale*: = Sheathfish, a large freshwater fish, *Silurus glanis*, *Obt.* **1598** Hakluyt *Voiages Nauuigat. 6oja Silurus*, . a fish much like a Sturgeon: a sheathfisher, a whale of the riuer. **1621** Cotgr., *Silure*, the rauening sheat fish, or Whall of the riuer.

**4.** *transf.* (from 1). An object resembling a whale; *Astron.* (with cap.) the constellation *Cetus*. **1551** Records *Cust. Kwend.* (1556) 267 The greate Whale, containyng 22 starres. **1664** *Phil. Trans.* I. 5 In the evening of that day it [*sc.* a comet] was to come into the jaw of the Whale. **1760** *Ann. Reg. Chron.* 66/1 The comet . passed . toward the whale's jaw. **1866** Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 2) 356. **1905** F. M. Crawford *Gleam. Twat. Pearl.* I. 5 Where the fishes swarmed with their convoluted action upon the back of one of the sand whales in the lagoon.

**5.** Allusive, proverbial, transf., and fig. uses of sense 1. **a.** Prov. phr. (*To throw out a tub to the whale*: see Tub *sb.* 9 b. *Very like a whale* (often Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 398): see quot. **1859** — *Very Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) C 3 b, The mariner, Spying the hugie Whale, whose monstrous bulke Doth beare the waues like mountaines fore the wind, That throwes out store of spowtings to stay His fury.]

**1859** *Slang Dict.* 115 *Very like a whale*, said of anything that is very improbable.

**b.** *allusively.*

**1601** Shake. *All's Well* iv. iii. 249 A . lasciuious boy, who is a whale to Virginity, and deuours vp all the fry it finds. **1606** Dekker *Seuen Deadly Sinnes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27 He wise therefore, play with these Whales of Sinne, till you receiue them that are deuourers of your Merchants. **1914** Marriott in *Edin. Rev.* July 1 Amid a shoal of minnows they promptly pose as authoritative whales.

**c.** fig. phr. *A whale on . .*, having a great capacity or appetite for . ., very good at or keen on . . *A whale of* (U.S.): 'no end of'. *colloq.*

**1859** McCarthy *Red Diamonds* xxiii, He was not, as he put it himself graphically, a whale on geography. **1899** A. Matthews *Pen Pict. Disney* 215, I'm told he is a whale on parental authority myself if I were in your place. **1913** *19th Cent.* Sept. 620 [They] had what the Americans call 'a whale of a good time'.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whale-blubber* [Blubber *sb.*¹ **4**], *-butt, -calf* [Calf 3], *-catching, -cub, -cutter, -drive* [Drive *sb.* 1 c], *-duty, -gut, -hunter* (cf. OE. *hwælhunta*), *-hunting* (cf. OE. *hwælhuntaþ*), *-killer, -killing, -kind, -meat, -spoil, -steak, -striker, -striking, -trade, -vessel*; also in names of weapons, etc. used in hunting whales, as *whale-gun, -lance, -line, -net, -rope, -spade*; also *whale like, -monthed, -tailed* adjs. b. Spec. Combs.: **whale-acorn-shell** (see quot.); **whale-barnacle** = Coronule 2; **whale-bird** [Bird 7] = *whale-fowd*; **whale-deep** = *whale-hole*; **whale-feed** = *whale-fowd*; **whale('s) fowd** [tr. G. *walfischhaus*, 1747], a general name for the small animals upon which whales feed; *spec.* a mollusc, *Clio borealis*; **whale-foots** [Foot *sb.* 22], the refuse in refining whale-oil, used by soapmakers and tanners; **whale-gull**, the ivory gull (Gull *sb.*¹); **whale-head**, the shoebill or whalehead stork, *Balæniceps rex*; also called **whale-headed** *stork*; †**whale-horn**, whalebone; **whale-laid** *a.* of a rope (see quot.); **whale-louse**, a small crustacean of the genus *Cyamus*, parasitic on whales; **whale-mouse** = *whale's guide*; **whale-pool** *humorous*, the Atlantic ocean (cf. *herring-pond*); **whale's belly, -tail**, etc., stars in the constellation *Cetus* (see 4); †**whale's guide**, the animal called by Pliny *musculus piscis* (cf. note s.v. Mysticeti); **whale-shark**, (*a*) a very large shark, *Rhinodon typicus*; (*b*) the basking-shark (Basking *ppl. a.* 2); **whale-ship** = Whaleboat; †**whale-shot** [Shot *sb.*¹ 19], spermaceti. Also **Whaleback, -bird, -boat, -bone, -fin**, etc.

**1815** Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 194 *Balanoides*, Small, striated Acorn Shell]. *Diadema*, "Whale Do. **1854** A. Adams *Gen. Mam. Zool. Mart.* 305 "Whale-barnacles (*Coronulidæ*). **1844** H. Stephens *Brk. Farm* II. 648 "Whale-blubber . forms a good compost for turnips. **1845** Darwin *Jrn. Nat.* 113 A species of putrid whale-blubber. **1852** Bateman in K. Cornwallis *New World* (1850) I. 269 The 'Belinda', of Sydney, with a cargo of "whale-butts. **1897** Sawyer *Sailor's Word-bk.*, "*Whale-calf*, the young whale. **1685** K. Turner in W. Penn *Fourth. Acc. Evangelic.* 13 Then Companies for "Whale catching. **1885** J. G. Wood in *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 552 The whale cub, when first formed, has no baleen. **1832** Pelligan *Gods Former & A.* 9, Thomas Ayers, "Whale-collector. **1668** Phynne *Aurum Reg.* 197 This "Whale Duty hath been totally suspended . from the death of King Henry the 8, till the first year of King James, for want of a Queen Consort. **1893** *Housek. Words* VI. 402/1 The little red creatures (" whale feed ', sailors call them) are retained by the fringe [of the baleen]. **1767** tr. *Cronstedt's Hist. Greenland* I. 109 This "whale's-food is found in the greatest quantity between Spitzberg . and Greenland. **1865** Gosse *Land & Sea* 166 The immense aggregations of close-packed swimming invertebrata so well known to mariners in Arctic regions under the appellation of 'whale-food'. **1892** Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 508 *Cetoparactes cheirosetes*. . The ivory "Whale-gull. **1858** *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 149 The crew . murdered the Captain and third officer by shooting them with a "whale-gun. **1780** Cook *Narr. Discov.* 298 Clunks, . made of thin "whale guts. **1884** Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 654 *Balæniceps rex*, the Shoe-bill or "Whale-head, of Africa. **1879** *Encycl. Brit.* III. 735/1 The gigantic "Whale-headed Stork, *Balæniceps rex*. **1760** in *Inv. Mary Q. Scots* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. xxviii, *note*, xij bowtis of "quhaill horne. **1598** Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 2 He was come as far towards the North, as commonly the "whale hunters vse to trauell. **1852** H. Melville *Whale* xvi, Some of these same Quakers are the most sanguinary of all sailors and whale-hunters. **1615** *Tyndal's Jnc.* 52 The Greenland company, with all the premisses of their first "Whale-hunting. **1668** Gorrit *Summ. & Writ. in Orkneys* viii. 323 The whale-hunting fleet. **1613** *Vey. Spitsbergen* in *Archael.* XVI. (1812) 293 When he enters into the sounds, our "whale-killers doe presentlie sallie forth to meet him. **1625** Purchas *Pilgrims* III. iii. 562 The first sailed, ordinary and orderly Voyages for the "Whale killing. **1793** Dampier *Voy.* III. ii. 57 About Christmas these are mostly employed in Whale-killing. **1706** Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Mysticeti*, a kind of whale, or whale-kind that breeds about the Island of Hispaniola. **1812** Manby *Ess. Preserv. Shipwr. Persons* 17 It may likewise be coiled in the manner used in the whale fishery. "Whale laid. **1823** Southey *Vey. N. Whale-fishery* 1 The whale is only with a whale-lance, he . set out on his adventurous exploit. **1608** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 1016 This mighty Fish, of "Whale-like hugeness. **1851** Melville *Whale* xxxvi. 166 The large whale-like back of a prostrate pilot. **1785** *Act 25 Geo. III* c. 56 § 2 Short Chucking, Half Clean, "Whale-line, or other Toppings. **1897** T. Bullen *Cruise Cachalot* 12 The whale-line, manilla rope like yellow silk, 1¾ inch round, was brought on deck. **1774** Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) III. 91 A small animal, . . is the shell-fish called the "Whale-louse, that sticks to its body. **1873** Knight *Dict. Mech.* s. v. *Whalebone*, Time has passed since the people of England revelled in "whale meat. **1607** Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 304 A little like to the Whale . in their oviposition, the "Whale-mouse. **1656** Osborn *Advo. Son* (ed. 4) To Rdr., As I did then, in imitation of Sea-men by designe, to . I may perhaps now cast out a "whale-sculpin, to find play for the "Whale-mouth'd gapers after Levity. **1893** Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xlvii. (1856) 426 Stalwart fellows, practiced in the "whale-spud, and wielding, each, the whale-net. *a* **1876** M. Collins *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 145 This is one of the good turns for which I am grateful to our friends across the "whale-spout. **1859** in Trevelyan *Longf. Watlish* (1866) 342 A coil of "whale-strings. **1823** Ws. Beechey *Regim. Sea* (1580) 59 b, The names of the Starres..*Whales back*. Whales belly. . Whales tayle. **1668** Charleton *Onomast.* 129 *Cetomorus*, Whale-back. **1706** Phillips (ed. 6), *Mysticetus*, a Fish, call'd the Whale's Guide. **1884–5** *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 78 ? The Rhinodontidæ embraces only the "whale-shark, one of which well deserves the name "whale-shark, which is applied to it. **1880** Scoresby *Arc. Arctic Reg.* II. 199 The crew of a "whale-ship usually consists of thirty men. **1612** *St. Bk. Rates in Hakluyt-soc's Ledger* (1867) 332 "Whale shote the barell, xx li. **1852** Murray *Antipodes* (1857) 104 The harpoon, the line, and the "whale-spade. **1838** *Dick's Philos. Converse.* II. 249 They heard "whale-spouts near them. **1823** *Vey. Spitsbergen* in *Archael. Assur.* (1860) IV. 289 Then the Basks, our "whale-sticers, went aboard to make ready their Shallops. **1881** Scott *Pirate* xx, No "whale-striking bird-nesting favourite for me. **1782** Pennant *Brit. Zoology*, II. 517 "Whale-tailed Manati. **1850** H. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* v, He had been forty years in the "whale-trade. **1822** Scott *Pirate* xxxviii, A garland of faded ribbons, such as are used to decorate a "whale-vessel.

**Whale** (hwēl), *v.*¹ [f. prec.] *intr.* To engage in whale-fishing; see also Whaling *vbl. sb.*¹

*c* **1700** in *Chevree's Whaleem. Advo.* i. (1850) 3 [They] visit out in the deep for sperm whales. **1820** *Sydney Gaz.* in *Oxford's Hist. N. S. Wales* (1896) 186 The brig Active . was at Frederick Henry Bay whaling.

**Whale,** *v.*² Now *U. S. colloq.* [Of obscure origin. Commonly regarded as a spelling of Wale *v.*¹, but there are difficulties of form, chronology, and meaning. Perhaps orig. = to thrash with a whalebone whip (see Whalebone 3 b).]

**1.** *trans.* To beat, flog, thrash.

**1790** Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whale*, to beat with a horsewhip or plant stick. **1801** Col. G. Hanger *Life* II. 160 Whaling a gentleman in but a vulgar manner. **1884** 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* iii, He used to always whale me when he was sober and could get his hands on me.

**2.** *transf. intr.* To do something implied by the context continuously or vehemently.

**1837** Barham & Leland *Dict. Slang, To whale away*, (Amer.), to preach, talk, or lecture away continuously or vehemently. **1908** H. Day *King Spruce* xxiv, You don't think I've whaled up here . to be a mere drummer, do you? **1915** *Morning Post* 1 June 4/4 They . snatched these rifles up, and whaled away at our chaps.

**Whale,** var. Wale.

**Whaleback** (hwēl-lbæk). [f. Whale *sb.* + Back *sb.*]

**1.** An arched structure over the deck of a steamer; = Turtle-back 1.

**1886** *Times* 20 Apr. 10/2 He was standing under the whale-back.

**2.** A kind of steam vessel having a spoon bow and the main decks covered in and rounded over, suggesting the back of a whale.

**1891** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 June 2/2 The Americans claim that, in Captain Macdougall's steel 'whalebacks', they possess the universal ship of the future.

**3.** *Geol.* A large mound of the shape of the back of a whale.

**4.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* Furnished with a whale-back (sense 1); of the shape of the back of a whale.

1891 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 The first 'whaleback' boat which has crossed the Atlantic arrived at Liverpool on Monday. 1894 *Engineer* 13 July 33/3 A new craft is expected to take part in the yacht races at Galveston. She was built in Fort Worth, and may be classed as a whale-back yacht. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 25 July 4/5 Beneath a hot sun Belgrade lies bleaching on her whaleback promontory.

Hence **Wha'leback** *a.*, shaped like a whale's back; **Wha'lebacker**, a whaleback steamer.

1879 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/7 Whale-backed station of the London and South Eastern Railway Company. 1892 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 These 'Whalebackers' as they are termed offer very little resistance to the sea. 1903 KIPLING *New Autum., Sussex* 29 Our blunt, bow-headed, whale-backed Downs.

**Wha'le-bird.** Name of various birds which inhabit the places where whales are found, or which feed on their oil or offal: (*a*) a petrel of the genus *Prion* or *Procellaria*; (*b*) the turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; (*c*) the red or grey phalarope; (*d*) the ivory gull.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 157 Another bird, not much unlike a quail, which they call here the whale-bird, from its feeding on the offal of those fish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Whale-bird*, a beautiful little bird seen hovering in flocks over the Southern Ocean. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 200 The Whale Bird (*Procellaria glacialoides*). 1879 *Bulletin U.S. Nat. Mus.* No. 15 *Phalaropus fulicarius*, Linn. 'Shatgak', Cumberland Eskimo. 'Whale-bird', or 'Bow-head Bird', of whalemen.

**Wha'le-boat.** A long carvel-built boat, sharp at both ends, and steered with a rudder or an oar, used in whale-fishing. b. A boat of this kind carried as a life-boat by large passenger-steamers and warships.

1756 R. ROGERS *Jrnls.* (1769) 13 Our rendezvous was appointed at Albany, from thence to proceed in four whale-boats to lake George. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* iv. iv. (1849) 415 A picked crew of daring fellows set off for her in a whale-boat. 1872 *Good Words* 713 Having come to her moorings, she is immediately surrounded by a multitude of whale-boats.

**Whalebone** (hwēɪ·lbōun), *sb.* Forms: see WHALE *sb.* and BONE *sb.*; also 4 huelbon, 7 whel-, whal-, whealbone, quhalbon; (in sense 1) **whales bone, etc.**

†**1.** Ivory from the walrus or some similar animal confused with the whale: chiefly in phr. *white as whale's bone. Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 2265 Pe walles of stone, be duren of whales bone [c 1275 wales bone]. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 38 A wayle whyt as whalles bon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 219 Her bis more blayr pen whalles bon. *a* 1400 *Sir Perus Degre* 337 Lady, as whyte as whales bone. † 1487 *Paston Lett.* II. 198 But yef ye purposid to falle hastely in my Lady Anne P. lappe, as white as whales bon, &c. *c* 1500 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 472 An huelbon stoppis mennyng to the bulle, One of iasper, another of whalis bone. 1567 TURBERV. *Hpit., etc.* 138 Hir Mouth so small, hir Teeth so white as any Whale his bone. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 332 This is the flower that smiles on euerie one, To shew his teeth as white as Whales bone. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 219 Lyppes as white as whales bone. 1620 TOFTE *Hon. Acad. iv.* 162 Her hands were white, as Whale his bone. 1648 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* iii. i, Purer than white whales' bone.

*b.* 13.. *Cœr de L.* 60 All it was whyt of huel-bon. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3555 Alle qwyte & qwem as any qwalle bon. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 46 Toungis mare fre maid of quhyte quhalbon, nor ane mantil of hard flynt bone.

**2.** The elastic horny substance which grows in a series of thin parallel plates in the upper jaw of certain whales in place of teeth; baleen: used esp. for stiffening parts of the dress, etc.

Formerly supposed to be obtained from the whale's fins.

1604 *Lismore Papers* Ser. (1887) I. 107 For whelbone to ye bodes ix*d*. 1623 *Yor. Stitchergen in Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 321 They cut of his head, containing his toung and his fines, commonly called whalbone. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶ 4 A Female who is thus invested in Whalebone is sufficiently secured against the Approaches of an ill-bred Fellow. 1732 HERVEY *Mem.* (1848) I. 182 Petticoat has no Whalebone. 1880 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 447 Fifteen feet is the greatest length of the whalebone. 1898 J. W. HAYES *Draper's Handbook* (ed. 2) 89 Stay Whalebone is prepared and cut into suitable lengths for corsets. *Ibid.*, Dress Whalebone is sold in lengths varying between 27 in. and 54 in. 1900 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. xi. 390 At a Christmas party, [she] acted my part—that dependent on whalebone [*i.e.* stays]—admirably.

**3.** A strip of whalebone, esp. used as stiffening in women's stays, dresses, etc.

1660 [P. MANNYON] *Pack Drawn Enlevt.* iv. F 4, Oh I could crack my Whalebones, breake my Buske, to think what laughter may arise from this. *a* 1635 CORBET *Iter Bor.* 301 She was hurl'd up in Whalebones that did lesse None of the Whales length, for they reach'd her knees. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 107 If they fish with a Cane or Whalebone. 1728–54 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 40 Fans clap, silks russle, and tough whalebones crack. 1871 *Figaro Training* 106 In order to insure a good fit, and to keep it perfectly in place, the busk in front, and the whalebones behind, are made somewhat longer than the present fashion.

**b.** A riding-whip of whalebone.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, Smarting under a sense of injury and whalebone. 1867 A. L. GORDON *Poems* (1912) 56 Ah! there goes Vere's whalebone a flasher.

**4.** The jaw-bone of a whale. (Cf. *G. walfischbein.*)

1846 R. E. E. WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* viii. 25 Where 'twixt the whalebones the widow [*sc.* Maria Hollingsworth, a German by birth] sat down.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whalebone-cutter, -knife, -man*; **whalebone-hair,** the hairy fringe of whalebone; **whalebone-tree,** an Australian urticaceous tree, *Pseudomorus brunoniana*; **whalebone-whale,** a whale of the family *Balænidæ*, having plates of whalebone developed from the palate instead of teeth; a right whale.

1761 *Brit. Mus.* Add. MS. 6179 Phillip Henton, of Gainsborough,.. *whalebone-cutter and merchant. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 451 Large shreds of old thin canvas, 'whalebone-hair, and a quantity of ashes. 1708 J. CRANFORD tr. *St. Gr. Hrit.* v. ii. (1734) 331 Great whales of the Baleen or whale bone kind. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lx. Wks. (1641) 208 The whale-bone man That quilts those bodies I have leave to span. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 191 *Pseudomorus Brunoniana*,...called 'Whalebone Tree in Southern New South Wales. 1725 'Whalebone whale See Whale 1 b (b). 1843 *Penny Cyc.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothless or Whalebone Whales.

**b.** as *adj.* Stiffened with strips of whalebone; made of or containing whalebone; also *fig.*, 'stiff', affected.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i. (1905) 28 Your whale-bone-ladies. 1603 in *Arch Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 One pair of quhallbon bodis. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 193 And to that end, shut up their Wester in a Whale-bone prison. 1711 SWIFT *Tend. to Stella* 18 Nov. Have you got the whalebone petticoats among you yet?..A woman here may hide a moderate gallant under them. 17.. in *Lyra Hibernica* (1887) I. 3 Sure Sunday's St. Simon's prayer, In dress in all my whale-bone airs. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Good Fr. Gov.*, A few words in defence of backs, long waists, and whalebone stays. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 6 (1811) I. 119 A plentiful stock of whims, and oddities, and whalebone balats. 1866 LE FANU *Ill in Dark* lx. iii. To make sure that the whalebone in the petticoat-bow, and the whalebone wig which everyone of taste admires.

1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betty, Trent & Anchalone* 382 A light whalebone cane. 1910 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 1/2 Whalebone ribs.

Hence **Whaleboned** (hwēɪ·lbōnd) *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, stiffened with whalebone.

1641 J. DAY *Parl. Bees* (1881) 29 Such whale-bon'd-bodied rascals. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. vii, p. A mantelet..whaleboned in such a manner as to prevent it from contracting the dress. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit*, etc. iv. 150 A laced, whaleboned, fizzle-headed, high-heeled daughter of iniquity.

**Wha'le-fin.** *obs.* Also 7 *whales-finne.* Whalebone, formerly supposed to be the fin of the whale.

1612 *Sir. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 339 Whale fin the fin, xiiŝ. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* iv. xvii. (ed. 2) 430 The Inhabitants make sundrie wilde workes,..for..Beasers, Downe, Whales-Finnes. 1741 *Daily Post* 12 Apr. 1/3 On Tuesday was imported..from Holland 9 C. Whale Fins. 1744 *Whale Fishery* I. iii. 107 By which fin has always been meant the barb, from which the whale-bone is really obtained. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 415 Whale-bone, or whale-fins, as the substance is sometimes, though improperly, called.

†**Whalefish.** *Obs.* Also 6 wall-, whal(le)-, 6–7 wale-. [repr. unrecorded OE. **hwælfisc*, or a. MLG., MDu., Du. *walvisch* = OHG. *walvisc* (MHG. *-visch*, G. *walfisch*), ON. *hvalfiskr*: see WHALE *sb.* and FISH *sb.*¹] A whale.

*c* 1321 *Nil Desp. Edw. Amorr.* (Bath) Introd. 98/1 There by he mony wallefysch he flyinge fyshes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlviii. 7 Prayse the Lorde vpon earth, ye whallishes and all depes. 1546 *Gaister's Pregnant.* A v b, The Son in the same vessell, and do drinke or eat with the whals of the Whalefish. 1598 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. ii. 6 b, These people doe maintaine themselues with rootes of herbes, and Whalefish. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxvi. 36 Cocles *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 91, 2 pec. wale fyshe. 1632 R. JOHNSON *Hist. Tom a Lincolne* (1828) 105 The whale fishes lay swimming in the Ocean. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1440 About two Years ago there came a Stranger to me, who had two Penis's of the Whale-Fish.

**Wha'le-fi·sher.** [f. WHALE-FISHING: see -ER¹.] = WHALER 1. So **Wha'lefisherman,** = WHALER 1 and 2; **Wha'lefishery,** (*a*) the occupation of industry of whale-fishing; (*b*) locality where whale-fishing is carried on or where whales abound.

1773 BERRIDGE *Chr. World Unmasked* (1805) 43 In Greenland among the *whale-fishers. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 271 The whale in the sea..destroyed by whale-fishery, by sea, and, in the language of the whale-fisher, completely rots it. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* i. 1 Hither [*sc.* to the Arctic Regions] our brave whale-fishers have annually ventured for many years. 1876 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 103 Our *Whale Fishermen of Nantucket. 1880 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 74 Foreign Protestants also, who had settled there [on the coast of Spitzbergen] for the whale-fishery. 1892 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* i. 8 The ships engaged in the whale fishery are all most substantially built.

**Wha'le-fi·shing.** [f. WHALE *sb.* + FISHING *vbl. sb.*] The occupation of taking whales, whaling.

1580 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 460 To the end we may turne our new found land fishing or Island fishing or our whale-fishing; that way. 1699 T. ATKINS *Voy. Archangel* 109 A Flemish Fly-boat bound to Greenland, for Whale-fishing. 1721 ELKING *View Greenland Trade* (1859) 95 We can carry on the whale-fishing trade..much cheaper than the Hollanders. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 257 Ice becomes exceedingly fragile towards the close of the whale-fishing season. 1889 C. EDWARDES *Sportsman* xviii. 315 The industry [of tunny-fishing] is as speculative as whale-fishing or silver-mining.

**Whal ele,** obs. f. WALL EYE.

**Whaleman** (hwēɪ·lmăn). [MAN *sb.*¹ 4 *p*, 14.]

**1.** = WHALER 1.

1726 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 And Whale-men then will be very serviceable in this Expedition, which having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* i, iv. 21 He launched out..into tremendous laudations of whalemen; declaring that whalemen alone deserved the name of sailors. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* xvi. 198 A smarter whaleman than Mistah Jones did not live.

**2.** = WHALER 2.

1767 M. CUTLER in *Life, etc.* (1888) I. 19 Whalemen fitted out for the Straits of Belle Isle, and Davis Straits. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xii, The ship was the Coiners, whaleman, of New Bedford. 1880 *Mcc. Monthly Mag.* VII. 254 There were two or three whalemen in port.

**Wha'le-oil.** Oil obtained from whale-blubber.

1535–6 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 218, ii shippes of walsh, conteynyng xlviij ˢ iiii v. oyll. *c* 1580 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 520 Whose oyle and fishe coste me frome newfound Land. 1672 *Acts & Ord. Plant.* I. v. 71 Noe English built Shipp..importing Whale oyle or Blubber or other Fish, Oyle. 1728 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 157 We have Oil of Camomile and Linseed..when Train or Whale-Oil is dear. 1856 *Harper's Mag.* XIII. 31 The pure whale oil, pale, brownish-yellow or brown.

*attrib.* 1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4044 Syringing the young tree well with a whale-oil-soap. 1895 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 368/2 Flavilla lit the..whale-oil lamp.

**Whaler** (hwēɪ·lər). [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*¹ + -ER¹.]

**1.** A person engaged in whaling; a whale-catcher.

1684 *Reasb. Bull.* (1885) V. 457 Without you do now employ the Whalers to do it, for they are the fittest people all about. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 79 The North, or Grand Bahama bank, is little frequented but by whalers and traders. 1843 *Penny Cyc.* XXVII. 272/2 The whalers kill the calves in order to capture the mother. 1895 GOAT-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Hadn. Libr.) xvi. 476 Two bulbed heads (pronounced 'bullet heads' by the Scotch whalers).

**2.** a. A vessel used in whale-fishing. b. = WHALE-BOAT b.

1806 *Sydney Gaz.* in *O'Hara's Hist. N. S. Wales* (1817) 270 Arrived..same day, the Aurora south whaler. 1817 TRAIN *Beppo* lxi, Brought by a homeward bound whaler. 1893 *Times* 3 July 6/9 Some loose oars..with which I supported myself until picked up by the Dreadnought's whaler. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* 60 Two of the whalers..had the whaler's crew sleeping all handy by. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 320/1 The original plan was to descend the Mackenzie to the Beaufort Sea, leaving the stores to come round by whaler.

**3.** Anything unusually large of its kind; a 'whacker', 'whopper'. *U.S. slang.*

*a* 1860 *Georgia Scenes* 184 (Bartlett) 'He's a whaler!' said Rory: 'but his fore is mighty little to his hine hand legs.' 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 91, I shared..a cabin with a captain who had been a whaler for forty years; and he was a whaler I and no mistake.

**Whalery** (hwēɪ·lərĭ). [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ERY.]

1. The industry of whale-fishing, or the establishment for carrying it on.

1683 W. PENN *Let. to Free Soc. Traders* 9 The Whalery (its conveniently posted) for oil and Whalebone Bank. 1688 — *North Am. Concernpts.* 8 We justly hope a considerable profit by a Whalery. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 15 Since I sailed away to the whalery, When I was a lad of a lad. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 6/4 South Sea whaleries.

2. A tank to keep a whale in.

*a* 1880 F. T. BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* (1882) 245 When the whale had been in his whalery about three hours, he had quite recovered himself both in mind and body.

**Whales bone:** see WHALEBONE.

**Whaling** (hwēɪ·lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action, practice, or business of catching whales.

1726 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 Whalemen..having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xxxv, Concerning the subtle whaling?'...'Well, sir I want to see what whaling is.' 1895 GOAT-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Hadn. Libr.) xvi. 407 The Arctics seem to have an exceptional and inexplicable attraction for some people; and when it is coupled with whaling, to the author it becomes almost irresistible.

*b. attrib.* or as *pl. a.*

1841 SCOTT *Pirate* v, Hill-barr'd tools they had in their hands, whawling knives they ca'ed them. 1843 SCORESBY *Voy. N. Whale-fishery* 34 The practice of such kinds of harmless frolic, as the circumstances of a whaling voyage will admit. 1876 *Uncle Philip's Conv. Whale Fishery* 6 There was a whaling ship fitting out for her voyage. 1893 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/2 The number of whales has greatly decreased on the whaling-ground. 1896 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* ii. 33 He listened to the brilliant promises of a whaling captain. 1899 Mrs. HASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xvi, Stores had to be purchased by the whaling-masters. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvi, The barque was empty and the whaling gear in trim.

**Whaling,** *vbl. sb.*² *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. WHALE *v.*² + -ING¹.] Beating, thrashing.

1892 Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvi, How did yer whaling agree with yer, Tom? 1893 'C. E. CRADDOCK' I 2

*Proph. Gt. Snorky Mts.* ii. 44 From fear of a whaling by his active parent.

**Whalish** (hwē·lĭf), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Of the nature of or resembling a whale.

a 1892 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 424 A big, wide-flippered whalish-looking creature.

**Whalke, Whall·e**: see WALK *sb.*1, WALL.

**Whallabee, var.** WALLABY. **Whallup,** obs. f. WALLOP *v.*

**Whally** (hwē·lĭ), *a. rare.* Also 9 **-ey.** [? f. *whall*, WALL *sb.*3, ' whally eyes ' being equivalent to ' eyes of wall '; i. e. wall-eyes.] Of the eyes: ? Showing much white, glaring.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* i. iv. 24 A bearded Goat, whose.. whally eyes (the signe of gelosy). 1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 669 His low vile forehead, whalley eyes, pendulous cheek.

**Whalm, Whalp**: see WALM, WHELM, WHELP.

**Whaly** (hwē·lĭ), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -Y 1.] Of whales.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xxxix, The ocean's monarch.. The great coast-chiuller of the whaly ranckes.

† **Wham.** *Obs. none wd.* [A factitious word made by altering the vowel of WHIM.] A whimsical or fantastic person.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 253 The Author of it was a whim and a wham, a Fellow that invented ridiculous Principles.

**Wham,** Sc. and north. dial. form of WHOM.

**Whamble,** var. WHEMMEL *Sc.*, overturn.

**Whame.** *Obs.* or *dial.* A gadfly.

1658 Rowland tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 937 This Fly [*Cervo-rustica*] the English in their proper tongue call a Whame and a Barrell-fly. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 51 *wite, Tabanus* [*sic*] is Spanish for a whame or horse-fly. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 127 *Oestrus Bovis*, Whame or Barrel Fly. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* ii, He mistook a large stone-fly.. for a genuine oestrus, a hot-fly, whame, or tabanus.

**Whamera,** var. WOOMERA. **Whamire,** dial. var. QUAMIRE *Obs.* **Whammel,** var. WHEMMEL *Sc.*, overturn. **Whampee,** var. WAMPEE. **Whan,** obs. f. WHEN, WHOM; obs. var. f. of WIN. **Whand,** Sc. var. WAND *sb.* **Whane, Whanene:** see WHEN, WHENNE.

**Whang** (hwæŋ), *sb.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* **quhayng, quhaing,** 7 **whange,** 9 *Sc.* **quhang;** 7 **whanck,** 7– **whank.** [Variant of *thwang*, THONG.]

**1.** = THONG *sb.*

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 32 Quhen Hengist had gottin the grant of as mekill land as he micht circle about with ane bull hide, he schure it in maist crafty and subtell quhaingis. a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 317 Ane gret scheif of arrowis knet togeither in ane quhange of leathir. a 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1785) 64? Many ane times the half-meik whinger for the halfpenny whang. 1870 JEAY *Prov.* 282 Of other mens lether, men takes large whanges. 1691 — *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 151 Shoe-whang. 1727 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* iii. 268, I had not the worth of a Shoe-Whang in Many A Nut, was mounted of Horse and Arms of my own. 1737 *M.N. Par. Bk., Pannal, Ykr.*, Church gate mending a lease face and Whangs, 1s. 6d. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiii, Never weigh a MacGregor's blood against a broken whang o' leather. 1837 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* i. 16 Their sacks..tightly bound by many a whang and thong.

**2.** A large or thick piece of cheese, bread, etc.

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 57 What a whanck's there. a 1700 *Cuberlunnie Man* viii. in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The twa, with kindly spoot and glee, Cut frae a new cheese a whang. 1818 HOGG *Tales & Sk., Adv. Allan Gordon* (1836) I. 264 A good whang of solid fish. 1866 W. HENDERSON *Folk Lore N. Counties* 3 The whang must be taken from the edge of the cheese, and divided into portions. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 33 With a glass, a whang of bread, and an iron fork, the table is completely laid.

**Whang,** *sb.*2 Chiefly *dial.* [Echoic. Cf. WHANG *v.*2]

**1.** A resounding blow or stroke, or the sound of such a blow; a bang.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Whang*..a blow, or rather a lash with a whip. 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. v. 279 The ' whang ' of the round-shot. 1889 *Q. Splendid Spur* ix. 130 Soon the whang-whang of the hammer below told me.. 1891 *Century Mag.* Dec. 246 Our gear came down with a whang as the ship forged ahead.

**Whang,** *v.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* [Variant of THONG *vb.* cf. WHANG *sb.*1]

**1.** *trans.* To beat as with a thong; to lash (also *fig.*); *gen.* to beat, strike, hit or knock violently.

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 54 If she hear she'l whang me varra sayer. 1786 BURNS *Ordination* iii, Heresy is in her pow'r, And gluttonly she'll whang her. 1889 ELWORTHY *Pigsticking* 21 A savage would consider it the height of sport to go and whang a pig on the head.

**b.** To throw, drive, pull, etc. with force or with violent impact.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 2) 60 I'd just streak'd down, and with a swish Whang'd off my hat soak'd like a fish. 1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* xix, Whang the steel bolt through his ribs. *Ibid.* xxxiv, Being luck every true lad that can whang bow, or gar sword-iron whistle.

**2.** To cut in ' whangs ' or large slices. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1743 *Argyll is my name* in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Sng.* (1856) 274 I'll aff to the Highlands as hard's I can reel And whang at the bannocks o' barley meal. 1801 W. HEATTIE *Tales* (1823) 8 At last, came cheese..My uncle set it to his breast And whang'd it down.

**Whang,** *v.*2 [Cf. WHANG *sb.*2] *intr.* To make a loud resounding noise, as of a heavy blow or explosion, of shot flying through the air, etc.

1879 KINGLAKE *Crimea* V. vi. 246 Another of the mighty 28-pounder shot flew whanging over the heads of our soldiery. 1912 MASEFIELD *H. Harw to Bye Street* ii. iv, The organ whangs, the giddy horses reel.

**b.** The vb.-stem used adverbially: cf. BANG *v.* 8.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxi. 335, I..went falling, and falling through air till my crown came whang against the ground. 1865 Browning *Up at a Villa* ix, Bang, whang, whang goes the drum.

**Whang,** dial. f. WANG 1.

**Whangee** (hwæŋgē·). Also **wh**(**h**)**anghee.** [Chinese *hwang* bamboo sprouts too old for eating, a hard white-skinned bamboo (Giles).] A cane made of the stem of one or other species of *Phyllostachys*, Chinese and Japanese plants allied to and resembling bamboos. Also *whangee-cane.*

1813 W. MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* II. 545 Wanghees, sometimes called Japan canes, should be chosen pliable, tough, round and taper. 1836 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 56 Duties of Customs Inwards.. Canes, *viz.* .. Whangees, Jumboo.. and other Walking Canes or Sticks, the 100. .. 5 *s.* 0. 1891 A. JOHNSON *Hogarth* ii. 31 A short-trowered tar of the Tom Bowling era is deliberately executing a nautical *pas seul*..with the aid of a whangee. 1906 OXENHAM *Long & Lost* xxiii, A tough flexible whangee cane.

**Whanger** (hwæ·ŋəɹ). [f. WHANG *v.*1 + -ER 1.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Whangers*, or Cod-whangers. Fish-curers of Newfoundland. An old term for a large sword.

**Whanhope,** obs. form of WANHOPE.

**Whanne,** obs. f. WHEN; var. *wan*, obs. pa. t. of WIN *v.* **Whannen,** var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence. **Whannes,** obs. f. WHENCE.

† **Whannow,** *int. Obs.* Also **wannowe.** [? f. WHO + ? HOW. Cf. WHAT, which is similarly used.] What! I say! Come, come!

c 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Addit) 147/50* 'Wannowe', sayde kayme, 'ther es Envy! My smoke gose down and thyne gose hye.' c 1480 *Temperley Hymt.* xxviii. 284 *Thomas.* Whannow, peter! art thou mad?

**Whanse,** var. WANZE *v. Obs.* **Whante,** **Whantite,** obs. ff. QUANT, WANT, QUANTITY. **Whap,** var. WAP *v.*3 *Obs.*, to bark, WHAUP *Sc.*, curlew, WHOP.

† **Whaped,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 4 **whaped,** 5 **wapped.** [Cf. AWHAPE.] Bewildered, dismayed, c 1290 CURSOR *M.* & *Arc.* 215 Turnid is in quakyngs all my daunee My surrcee in a whaped [TRIN. waped, wapped, whaped] countenaunce. c 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 401 With derkenes were wiped & amate. 1406 — *Pilgrimage* 1297, I was so whapyd & amaat.

**Whapper,** etc.: see WHOPPER, etc.

**Whappet** (hwo·pĕt). *dial.* Also 9 **wappet.** [? *whap*, WAP *sb.*2 + -ET.] A small dog addicted to ' wapping ' or yelping.

1797 Henley & Smyth *Lincs.* vii. (1878) 48 The whappet or prick-eared curre. 1822 S. WARD *Life of Faith* (1627) 62 As the sturdie Steede dashes out the little Whappets braines, so easily doth Death with the least Sicke .. the stoutest Constitution. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wappet*, a yelping cur.

**Whapple,** var. WARPLE. **Whapto,** var. WAPPATO(-). **Whar,** obs. f. *were*, pl. pa. t. indic. of BE *v.* obs. f. WHERE *a.*; Sc. and n. dial. f. WHERE; obs. contr. of WHEREFORE.

† **Whar,** *v. Obs.* Imitative of a rumbling sound.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2203 What I hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne.

‖ **Whare** (hwā·ɹe, hwo·ɹi, wo·ɹi). Also **ware, warree, warré, wharre, wharry.** [Maori *whare*, *wharé* house.] A Maori or native dwelling.

1833 H. WILLIAMS in H. Carleton *H. W.* (1874) 251 The Europeans, who were near us in a raupo whare (rush house). 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 170 A capital breakfast..was served in a handsome glass-windowed and carpeted warree. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Sept. o/2 Lounging among the wharres of a pah. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 31 He pulled up..beside a wharry. 1890 L. RENVER *Homeward Bound* 63 A smart man he, and transacted his business in a very handsome wharé.

**Whare,** obs. shortened form of WHARROW.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 272/1 A Ropers Whare or Wharve, or Wheele Spindle.

**Whare,** obs. form of WHERE.

**Wharel,** obs. f. QUARREL *sb.*2, quarry.

c 1356 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 537 Wharel-wegges. **Wharf** (hwōɹf). Pl. **wharfs** (hwōɹfs), **wharves** (hwōɹvz). Forms: 1 **hwearf, wearf,** 1, 4 **warf,** 4 **wherf(e, warffe, wharghffe, quarf,** 5 **qwerf,** 5–7 **warf, wharff(e,** 5–8 **wharfe,** 6 **quarfe, (wharthe),** 7 **hwarf,** 7– **wharf.** [Late OE. *hwearf* (cf. earlier poetical comp. *merehwearf* sea-shore), corresp. to MLG. *warf, werf* mole, dam, wharf, raised site protected from flooding (LG. *warf*), whence ERris. *warf, warf*, Du. *werf* shipyard, *G. werf* wharf, pier, *warft* dockyard. Ultimately related to WHARF *sb.*2, WHARVE *sb.* and *v.*

[1] Mr. Pickering notices this form of the plural of *wharf*, as peculiar to Americans. The English say *wharfs*. In the Colony and Province Laws of Massachusetts, Mr. Pickering says he has observed the plural *wharfs* (or *wharfes*) as late as the year 1735; but after that period the form *wharves* is used ' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, 1848.)

**1.** A substantial structure of timber, stone, etc., built along the water's edge, so that ships may lie alongside for landing and unloading.

Often with prefixed sb., as *fish-wharf, gun-wharf.*

10.. *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 221 Ic wille Sat sánkte Petre and Sa xebúendes æt Westminstre habben ðat land and ðone wearf.. ðe Ulf and his wif..xafon. 1067 in *Charter Roll 9 Edw. III*, m. 18 De uno hwarfo quod est ad applicationem navium ad capud portus illius civitatis [sc. London]. 1080–5 in H. W. C. Davis *Regesta Regum Anglo-Norm.* (1913) 126 Unum warf quod est ad caput portûs Londoniæ. c 1320 *Domesday of St. Paul's* (Camden) 158* An qwarve sive kaye, unurf sive wallat..debite reparentur. 1320 *Rolls of Parli.* I. 370/2 In shopis suis super Warfam predictam. 1397 *Ibid.* III. 371/1 De la novell Keye autrement appelle le Wharf [1432 *Act to Hen. VI*, c. 5 § 2 Querf] a le cost du dit Port de Caleys. 1442 *Ibid.* V. 54/2 Diverse Wharves and Keyes beyng by the water sides. 1485 *Cal. Rolls* (Hen. VII) The hawes and wharfes of Walton and Waybrigge. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 37 § 5 Too Cotages or Messes with Howses & Wharfes..in Stepeney. 1680 *Sidney Mariner's Mag., Pen. & Ferf.* 8 If any Custom-house Officer..keep any Wharfe, or hold any Hostelry, or Tavern. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Aug. 1654, A wharfe of hewn stone, which makes the river appeare very neate. 1814 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 241 Its [sc. Blackfriars bridge] length, from wharf to wharf, is about nine hundred and ninety-five feet. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Amateur Excurs.*, The hull at London-bridge Wharf rang; and a Margate boat was just starting. 1878 NARES *Polar Sea* I. i. 1 H.M. ships 'Alert' and 'Discovery' cast off from the dock-yard wharf. 1880 *Times* 31 Aug. 9 JOHN CELTIC *Brit.* ii. 46 The wharfs for the tin-barges were erected.

† **2.** a. An embankment, mole, or dam. *Obs.*

1338 *Chapter of Leyrelond* in *Reg. Pal. Dunelm.* (Rolls) I. 249 Pro pace habenda inter homines de Hildrythe & homines de Patrington pro quodam wharfo quod homines de Hildrythe fecerunt in aqua de Hull. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* xv. 196 b, Untill that bee the bowwing wharf beside the haven tooke forgs. *Ibid.* 197 b, *Tarrets aquiferre portus*]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xl. ii. 1091 Lepidus..raised the great causey or wharfe at Tarracina. 1601 — *Pliny* vi. xxviii. I. 149 The Aquimans..set upon the sluces, and breake up the wharfes and bankes that keepe these two rivers asunder.

† **b.** A terrace or raised platform. *Obs.*

1533 in W. H. St. John Hope *Windsor Castle* (1913) I. 249 The makyng off a new wharff upon the north syde of the said Castell. 1535 *Ibid.* 262 The buttreases made on the lakesyde of the new Wharffe.

**c.** † The bank of a river (*obs.*); **also,** a gravel or sandbank.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. v. 33 The fat weede That rots it selfe in ease, on Lethe Wharfe. 1666 — *Ant. & Cl.* ii. ii. 218 From the large A strange invisible perfume hits the sense Of the adiacent Wharfes. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wharf*, in hydrography, is a scar, a rocky or gravelly concretion, or frequently a sandbank, ..where the tides throw up dangerous ripples and overfalls.

† **d.** A large raft. *Obs. rare.*

1626 J. HANGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 239 They were brought upon wharffs or rafts of many pipes.

**e.** A place raised or otherwise marked out on which stuff is deposited for subsequent removal to another place.

1725 in *Dig. Peac. Crt.-leet Savoy* (1989) 22 For making a dung wharfe or lay stall at the lower end of Fountain Court

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wharf-end, -frontage, -head, -holder, -house, -lease, -man, -master, -measure, -property, -side, -stead, -wall*; **wharf-boat,** (*a*) *U.S.* a boat supporting a platform and moored at a bank, used as a wharf; (*b*) a boat employed about a wharf; † **wharf-gelt,** ? an impost levied on shipping for the use of a wharf; **wharf-rat,** (*a*) the common brown rat, *Mus decumanus*, which infests wharfs; (*b*) a man or boy who lonfs about wharfs, often with the intention of stealing (*slang*).

1849 LOWELL *And I Visit Ch. Ch.* Wks. 1890 I. 180 Here I expected to find a bed for the first night. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., On the Western rivers the master of the water craft so suitable that a wharf would be useless. In its place is used a rectangular float. .. It is moored to the ground on the shore side, and is entered by a plank or movable platform. This is a *wharf-boat*. 1898 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 225 She was an old wharf-boat, not a steamship. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Courr.* iv. 95 Her rigging flew knotted and tangled like weed at a *wharf-end*. *Ibid.* x. 216 Statistics of boats, gear, 'wharf-fronting, capital invested, .. and profits. 1505 *Cal. Pat. Rolls Hen. VII*, 404 [Without paying any] sandegelt, 'wharfgelt. 1600 *Acts. Ann. Reg., Chron.* 371 All goods whatsoever, that are thereunladed at the 'Wharf Head. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 486 Whether the persons for whom the weighing was done were wharfholders or not. 1698 in *Hereford Rec.* (1905) I. 128 [Encroaching upon the river Lee] by building a 'wharfe house..thereon. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 5 Aug. 5/3 Converting a piece of 'wharfland on the Isle of Dogs into a public pleasure-ground. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. i. § 6 Bargemen, sailors, 'wharfmen. a 1618 RALEIGH in *Rem.* (1661) 179 From any Port Town..the Bridge-master or the 'Wharfmaster, will deliver a true Note of the number of Lasts of Herrings brought to their Wharfes. 1821 *Acc. Pecuniat. Cond Trade* 13 All coals sent out, 'wharf measure. 1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 120 The whole 'wharf property .. was liable to be taxed. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, ' *Wharf-Rats*. 1. Rats that inhabit wharves. 2. Thieves that infest the wharves of seaport towns. 1883 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Boston* I. 269 Lolling on long-heads, ..as sailors and old wharf rats are accustomed to do. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, A crowd of high-pressure steamboats, clustered together by a 'wharf-side. 1891 MENNOTH

*One of our Cong.* xxv, A hanged heavy look, suggestive of a wharfside crane. **1858** *Craven Gloss.*, *Wharf-stead*, a ford in a river. In Ray it is *warstead*, q.d. waterstead. **1833–9** in *Knight. Mechan.* (1845) VIII. 604/1 A "wharf wall . . at the East end of His Majesty's dock-yard, Woolwich.

† **Wharf**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [OE. *hwearf* (poet., alliterating on *w*), corresp. to OS. *hwarf* crowd, MLG. *warf*, *werf* circle, assembly sitting in a circle, court of justice, OHG. *warb* (MHG. *warp*, *warf*) : cf. prec.] A crowd, assembly.

In the first quot. from Layamon's *Brut* perh. = change (OE. *hwearf* cf. OFris. *hwarf*, *werf*, OHG. *warba*, MHG. *warbe* (with numerals) time(s), (M)LG. *werf*, *warf*, (*ene*) turn, time ; cf. Wharf, v.).

*a* 1200 *Guthlac.* 934 Beorg ymbstodan hwearfum wræc-mecgas. *c* 1205 Lay. 2050 Þus is þis eiðlond igon from hondo to hondo, þet alle þa burhes þe þrittuwrohte . . beoð swiðe afellede burh warf of þon folke *Ibid.* 17485 Þider com Aurilie ..& al his folc mid him. Whiten-sunendæie he þer werf makede [Wace *Arrilie . . ses assemblis Feste ther*].

**Wharf** (hwōif), *v.* Also ? **warfe.** [f. Wharf *sb.*1]

† **1.** *trans.* To strengthen or make firm (e. g. the bank of a river) with a wall of timber or stone. *Obs.*

1589 *Survey 4 Kent Sewers Comm.* (1909) 6 To cove and wharfe xxiiijtt rodes of the walle. **1615** *Cr. Coll. of St. Waltham Manor, Essex* (MS.), Precepium est . . sufficienter cumulare (Anglice, to wharfe) fossatum suum. **1618** In F. Devon *Issues Exch.* (1836) 533 For three hundred to go over the sewers, and for wharfing the sides with strong timber. **1674** Josselyn *Two Voy. New-Engl.* 162 The houses are for the most part raised on the Sea-banks and wharfed out with much industry and cost. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 6 Mar. 1667, I proposed to my Lo Chancellor Monsieur Kivvet's undertaking to warfe the whole river of Thames, or Key, from the Temple to the Tower . . with brick **1724** (see Wharfing *vbl. sb.*). **1793** R. Milne *Rep. Thames* 37 The Road ought to be raised and wharfed.

*transf.* **1628** Wotton *Elem. Architect.* 1. 29 Iron that land, which our love . . Did wharfe about (within her watry Dike) With mighty Rocks, and Cliffes?

**2.** To bring to shore or discharge at a wharf.

**1629** Wadsworth *Pilgr.* 1 A Master of an English Barke who had wharfit ouer a hundred French. **1694** *Lond. Gaz.* No 3024/4 Goods will be Wharfed here at easier Rates than heretofore. **1703** *Naval Pract. Tyrrels* (1709) II. 351 Every species of property (whether landed, funded, wharfed, warehoused, or shipped). **1803** W. Tatham *Exp. Imped. Thames* 73 Nor would it be a very difficult matter to dock or wharf the whole of their commerce.

**3.** To accommodate (vessels) at a wharf.

**1902** *Times* 1 Nov. 3/6 A large stone basin, capable of wharfing a dozen battleships of the first class.

**4.** *intr.* To come to a wharf.

**1891** *Pease* (N.Y.) 1 Jan., When the Mayflower wharfed at Plymouth Rock. **1902** *Daily Chron* 4 June 3/4 The Royal Squadron wharfed . . at half-past seven.

**Wharfage** (hwōi-fėlj). Also [3 **wherusagium, 4 querfage, werphagium**], 5, 8 **wharfage**, 6 **warfeage**, 8 **warf(f)age.** [f. Wharf *sb.*1 + -age.]

**1.** The provision of or accommodation at a wharf; the stowage of goods on, or loading or unloading at, a wharf.

[**1295** *Memoranda K. R.* 23 & 24 Edw. I (P.R.O.), in cariagio dicte lane . . vendite *in* cam wharagio et portagio eiusdem. **1376** *Rolls of Parl.* II. 321/2 Ore sont ils constreints de passer pur Meswage de chescune Sarp' ou. 3*s* un autre ou pur Querfage. **1382** *Cowpebath Will. Christ contodes collegii Cantuar Oxon.* (1881) 28 Item pro werphagio eiusdem (meremii capelle) iij*s.* iiij*d.* **1469–71** *Stoner Papers* (Camden) I. 106 Paid by Cant'ys ll. of Iren, vjs. viijd. for the wharfage, 1*d.*, for hanging of the said stuffe to Dorteford, vj.*d.* & **1552** Leland *Itin.* (1768) II. 29 There is great Wharfage of Timbre and fier Wood on the West Ende of the Bridge. *c* **1640** [see Wharf *sb.*1 *Derbeley*] (1881) I. 341 Renting out the Toll or profit of the wharfage. **1687–8** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 545 Expences for sawing, carriage, and wharfage of Cedar . . **1795** J. Phillips *Hist. Inland Nav. Addenda* 109 I or wharfage exceeding six months, to make a reasonable recompence. **1848** Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. v. § 3 The rents of wharfage, dock and harbour room. **1885** *Law Times* LXXIX. 189/2 Duties for defraying the expenses of pilotage, wharfage, light-houses, and lights and buoys.

**2.** The charge or dues exacted for the use of a wharf.

**1533** *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 23 Lordes Marches . shall have within . their said Lordeshippes . weeke de mere, wharfage and customes of Kaye . . **1598** Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 135 All marchants . may come into our kingdome without paying wharfage, pontage, or passage . *c* **1683** *Citizens Lease to Somers Trustees* (1748) 1 The Wharfage, with Power to distrain for the same. **1713** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5387/2 The Wharfage, Duties, and Profits arising . by and out of Billingsgate-Dock. **1795** J. Phillips *Hist. Inland Nav. Addenda* 109 Wharfage for more than twenty-four hours, to be a reasonable allowance. **1894** *Times* 25 Aug. 5/4 The company is gradually issuing through rates, inclusive of Ship Canal toll and wharfage.

**3.** Wharfs collectively ; wharf accommodation.

**1807** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 406 The company assembled on the insular wharfage. **1836** Jesse *Angler's Rambles* 295 The little secluded harbour . . with its small planked wharfage. **1848** Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. I. § 4 The wharfage or harbour-room. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 9/2 At the terminus of the railway the Dominion Government is erecting complete wharfages to make the harbour suitable for oil vessels.

**4.** *attrib.*

**1724** Lady G. Baillie *Hounsch Bk.* (S.H.S.) 30 For wharfage porters carte to the Lodging etc., 9 *p.* 1*s.* For wharfage bale and carling to the Lodgine, o. 2. 8 **1861** G. T. Lloyd *38 Yrs. Tasmania* xvi. 415 Wharfage accommodation. **1867** *Seven Soldier's Wordsbk., Wharfage dues*, the dues for landing or shipping goods at a wharf ; customs charges in particular. Wharfage charges are demanded even from a ship of war !

**Wharfe** (hwōif). Short for **Wharfedale** (*machine*) : see quots.

**1888** Jacobi *Printers' Vocab., Wharfedale machine*, a cylindrical machine manufactured in Yorkshire and called after the place of that name. *Ibid.*, short term for the Wharfedale printing machine. **1890** W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 210 The Wharfedales, Bremners, and other machines on which is printed most illustrated work. **1901** *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 9/7 Printer's Minder, 31, seeks Situation ; Wharfes, platens, gas engine.

**Wharfing** (hwōi-fiŋ). [f. Wharf *sb.*1 + -ing 1] † **1.** = Wharfage 1, 2. *Obs.*, *rare.*

**1466–7** *Manch. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 392 Item, fore wayffenge at the keye, ob.

**2.** A structure in the form of a wharf ; materials of which a wharf is constructed ; the facing of sea-walls, etc. by planks secured by ties.

**1691** T. Hall *Acc. New Invent.*, p. Davisii, To go into the Thames . will cost a Man 300 l. with the slighter sort of Wharfing. *a* **1700** Evelyn *Sylva* II. 11 (1776) 49 A strong stone-wall, which was a kind of wharfing against a river running by. **1724** Pat. Roll *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6247/1 The Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharft up on either Side with Stone, at the End of this Wharfing a Grating of Wood. **1731** R. Mi[l]ne *Rep. Thames* 7 An old Wharfing, bent over into the Stream, which formerly supported a Parish Road along the Shore . **1800** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 168/2 The destruction of the wharfing of the basin. **1897** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 672 Wharfing along the sides with short posts and rough boards.

**Wharfinger** (hwōi-finėlǰəɹ). Also 8 **wharfonger.** [app. for earlier **wharfager* (f. Wharfage + -er 5), like *hay-bingel*, *passenger*, *messenger* for earlier *hayager*, *passager*, *messager*.] An owner or keeper of a wharf.

**1552–3** *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 7 § 3 No person . shall buy any suche Wood Coles or Fuell but onelye suche as will consume the same, . without fraude or covine, or Wharfingers or Bargemen. **1694** *Two Orations of Lds. to Comm.* 3 Dec. 2 No Carrier, Waggoner, Watchman, Wharfinger . **1704** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4024/4 Francis Haslewood, of London, Wharfinger. **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4461/4 Mr. Jo. Barron . . Whether the wharfingers are accountable for the thefts committed on board their lighters. **1858** Reduplin *Law Intell.* 1. 227 As to the allowance to the wharfinger without notice, if warranted by the usage of the place, was sufficient. **1911** Sir H. Craik *Life Clarendon* I. ii. 42 Their goods were . . stayed at the entrance of the wharfinger.

**Wharfless** (hwōi-flės), *a.* [f. Wharf *sb.*1 + -less] Having no wharf.

**1822** W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XCVII. 35 Wharfless shores. **1906** *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 1/7 Exercises in embarkation and disembarkation on a wharfless beach.

**Wharl** (hwāil), *v.* Also 5 **warl-.** [Imitative] *intr.* To pronounce the letter *r* with a burr or guttural sound ; = Burr *v.*3 1. Hence **Wharl** *sb.* = Burr *sb.*8, **Wha·rler**, **Wha·rling** *vbl. sb.*

*c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 37/2 Blafforde or warlare, *traulus*. [P. 77/1 *traulo*, *leccat in R*, *accent in S nebunat.*] *Ibid.* 521/2 Wharlare, in specie. **1610** Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 517 As for Carleton, as one would say, the husband-men townes, wherein all in maner that are borne, have an illfavored, unseemly, and harsh maner of wharling or fetching their words with very much adoe deepe from out of the throat, with a certaine kind of wharling. **1634** W. Wood *New Eng.* II. xii. 92 Some . . have a hollow throat, whose Tongues runne so much upon *R*, that they wharle much in pronunciation. **1668** Dioc. Newc. *Natures Pict.* etc. 365 Cheverons . . excelling in the sharp wharling or speaking through the Nose. **1661** Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 209, I have heard from some that were this County [Hereford] born, that it is Breeon that is the Town of the Warlers, and not Carleton. **1769** *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 251 The Northumberland R, or Wharle. **1825** Jamieson.

**Wharl** (hwāil) : see Quarrel *sb.* 1, 2, Whorl.

**Wharp**, error. form of Warp *sb.* (sense 6).

**Wharre, wharry, Wharrel**, var. Wharf, Quarrel *sb.*2, quarry.

**Wharrow** (hwa·rou). Also 6 **whar(r)owe, wherrow(e, 9 worra.** [By-form of Wharve *sb.*] = Wharve *sb.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (= grooved pulley in spinning-wheel). Also attrib. *wharrow-spindle* (a heraldic bearing).

**1475** Bk. Noblesse (Roxb.) 27 We-Wyndsor ymo[n]ted *Hoc* [=*tchelmet*, *namoun*]*le.* ] **1519** Horman *Vulg.* 149 b, I wotte not where my spyndel with the wharowe. *a* **1529** Skelton *Ware, Hawe* 1. 1. 1.

*was*₁; ON. *hvat* (Sw. *vad*, Da. *hvad*). Goth. *hwa* :– OTeut. **xwat* :– Indo-eur. **qʷod* (cf. L. *quod*). neut. sing. of the interrog. pron. **qʷos* WHO, q.v.]

Of the various possible arrangements of the uses of this word the following has been adopted as likely to be most convenient to the reader. The main classification is according to meaning: Branch A. comprises the uses of *what* as an Interrogative, B. as an Exclamatory word, C. as a Relative, D. as an Indefinite (non-relative), and E. as a Substantive. Within these divisions meanings and uses are arranged according to the part of speech; the following is a key to this arrangement :—Pronominal and substantival uses, A. 1–12, B. 6, C. 1–7, D. 1, E. 1–3; Adjectival, A. 13–18, B. 5, C. 8–10; Adverbial or Conjunctional, A. 19–21, B. 4, C. 11–12, D. 2; Interjectional, B. 1–3.

**A.** Interrogative and allied uses.

**I.** *pron.* * In direct questions.

**1.** As the ordinary interrogative pronoun of neuter gender, orig. sing., in later use also pl., used of a thing or things: corresponding to the demonstrative *that* (That *dem. pron.* **1.**).

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 1 Hwæt mæg ic þy more secgan be þæm weorcum þe ic worhte? 971 *Blickl. Homil.* 13 Hwæt wit þu þæt ic þe do? *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* xix. (1848) 184 Hwæt hatte Noes wif? *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Uwrsnste man, wat lueste þeu an elle mire rice? c1200 Ormin 10070 Whatt shall wass þatt te Fadere selff þer off wit3 Sune seȝnde? c1205 LAY. 3004 Wat seist tu? *Ibid.* 5963–4 Whatt þenchest þu, Austin, what þenchest þu, leaf min? 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conc.* (MS.) Wat sulle hi segge o-fore-don at þe muchele dome? 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Sleȝhe zayþ, 'God, wet schulle we do?' *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swsan* 287 What signifyes, gode sone, þyne awyn hat þou seist? c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 30 þe furste question was þis, What was he grettest mervayle & fayrest þing but ever God made in lesti towme? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xiv. 20 What is your broders name? c1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1249 Qwat sey ȝe? 1580 *Bible* (Geneva) Ezra v. 4 What are the names of the men...? — Zech. vi. 4 What are these woundes in thine handes? 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 60 One demaunded, 'What do you meane by Catholike Religion?' 1630 DRAYTON *Barons* x. 919 What will they say of their deerching Chief? 1740 [DYCHE & PARDON] *New Engl. Dict.* s.v. 'Nubbing Cheat', cries Partridge, 'pray, Sir, what is that?' *Ibid.* xv. xii, 'What is the Name of the Street?' cries Jones. 1788 MISS H. MOORE *Sir William Harrington* I. 11 What and in what are we so very odd? 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xxv, What has come to you? 1865 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Autocrat of Breakfast-Table* iii. 48 What technical words..? 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* iv. *Fin.* But what are these? *Ibid.*...Why, Academic robes, Worn by the lady undergraduates, When they matriculate. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xv, I do not find the female society of Montefiano very—what shall I say?—sharpening to the intellect.

**2.** Of a person (or persons), in predicative use (cf. That *dem. pron.* B. 1 b); formerly generally, in reference to name or identity, and thus equivalent to *who*; in later use only in reference to nature, character, function, or the like. Also in phr. †*what for a...* = what kind of: see For *prep.* 19 c.

For the OE. construction with a partitive gen. see 13.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxiii(ii). 10 Hwæt is se ȝeweald-rola lyming? [L. *Quis est iste rex gloriæ?*] *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxvii. 32 Þa cwæð Isaac: Hwæt eart þu? He andwirde and cwæð: Ic eom Esau. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Hwat is þis þe andsuarede þa sieonet? c1205 LAY. 25869 What aert þu, fere wiht [*MS.* wiht]? eart þu angel, eþer þu] cuiht[uf]? *Ibid.* 27332 What ben3 þeos ut-laȝen? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3683 Sai quat nu þou?' þe fuder said, 'Sir, i esau, þi mest es grathild.' *Ibid.* 13592 'Quat sulles þou þat tamer?' said þai. 'A prophet,' said he. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 151 'What is þis wommon,' quod I, 'þus wonderlike Arayed?' 1390 GOWER *Sonnes Bret.* 1623 What be I? That make here this ruly moone? *c* 1430, *c* 1440, 1470–85 [see Hicrat 9c? H. 58 b, d]. *c* 1485 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. What ben ye, knyghtes, that are soo chyuttered, wyth paynemes, or of what countrey ben ye? 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* vii. 13 What are these which are arayed in longe white garmentes? and whence came they? 1535 COVERDALE *Ibid.* Who thou that talkest of reuendge? 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. ii. 62 *Tra.* What is he Blondello? *Bion.* Master, a Marcantant, or a pedant, I know not what. 1604–5 — *Oth.* i. 1. 91 *Bra.*...What are you? *Red.* My name is Rodorigo. 1691 in J. Russell *Indict* (1881) 335 For it is not now as it was of old *What is he?*, but, *What has he?* 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* i. 5, *Buck.*...Do not ask you, boy! *Jack.* Jack, ye suis Perquier, Monsieur. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 497 What were they? what some fools are made by art, They were by nature, atheists. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* v. You noticed that young man, sir, in at Darby's? 'Yes. What is he?' 'Deserter, sir.' 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 755 About his feet A voice clung sobbing till he question'd it, 'What art thou?'

**3.** In rhetorical questions, implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

*What am I for..?* It is equivalent to 'I am nothing but...', *What did he (do) but..?* to 'He actually did...', *What can he not do?* to 'He can do anything'.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 346 Hwæt wind þas buton ðrymsell heora Scyppendes, ðe þa bewundende nan genum deofol? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Hwet halt þe wredhe? 1340 *Ayenb.* 237 Huet an ich bote eauue and speariken? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Tale* 111, 526 What did this Eolus but he Take out hys blake trumpe of bras. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Sheep & G.* 492 What but thi wolle was cause of al the strif? *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xl. 256 What dude he but purveyde him of so mochie mony? 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 5 Pleases me sent vnto you, & what is he that wyl dryuge them away? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 414 What could he see but mightilly he noted? What did he note, but strongly he desired? 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 68 What did me he, but...thrust aloft. 1611 *Bible* Judges xiv. 18 What is sweeter then honie? and what is stronger then a Lion? 1640 BRYDEN *Abr. & Achit.* 3, 303 What cannot Praise effect in Mighty Minds? 1780 *Mirror* No. 96 P 6 Give a young woman admiration, and what more can she wish for? 1798 WORDSW. *We are Seven* 4 A simple Child, That lightly draws its breath,...What should it know of death? 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* (1894) 399 What else is the meaning of our Trades-Unions?

**b.** In predicative quasi-adj. use: Of what account, consequence, value, or force?

*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxliii[ii]. 3 *Quid est homo quia innotuisti ei?* Hwæt is monn ðæt ðu cuðæcles him? 1388 WYCLIF *2 Sam.* vii. 18 Who am I, my Lord God, and what is myn hows, that thou broughtist me hidur to? 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 77 What is a workman, without his tooles? 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* iv. 29 What's a Patriot? a fancy'd life in others' breath. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 109 Your sentence and mine differ. What's a name? 1841 BROWNING *Pippa passes* iii. And in (strange) What's death? You'll love me yet! 1891 *Hausek. Words* & Sept. 553/1 What are my strength and weight compared with that one pillar? 1885 MRS. ALEX. ANDER *Valerie's Fate* ix, I am an Englishman of unblemished character. What would your assertion be against mine?

**4.** *a.* With ellipsis, esp. of the remainder of the question; hence (*colloq.*) short for 'What did you say?' or 'What is it?'

*a* 1300 *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2193 'On the falle...swich a manner slevyng,' he seyde, 'ne worthe he for his sake.' 'Yis, maister, he saide, what?' what? I the praie, tel me that. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 183 *Isaac.* A, good sir, abides! *Rider I.* Abraham. What sa? *Isaac.* I do yours will I am ready. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1244/1 Why wife quod her husselande what wouldst you doe? What? by God you shall not with the beste. 1669 MILTON *P. L.* II. 365 What when we fled amain,...and beyond Had Eliza and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1783 COWPER *Bean's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 188 We...like as many girls ...play'd Charades.. And *what's my thought* and *when and where and how*.

¶ *But what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?* : but, after all.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 59 Ye shall have verie few, but such, as they are enimies to evill... But what? As they never knew what a goodnes meant, so they know as litle of the contrarie. 1605 EDMONDES *Fr. Gard.* N 7 b, O Marguerite!...thou hast beene heretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither, ...as well as flowers.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).)

Here the interrogative form is according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e. g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him = What did he mean?'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (B. 1 b) which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical: cf. 'I did not know what he intended' (= 'the object of my mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not bear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause; e. g. 'What he meant was unknown' = 'that he meant = I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 BY. HOOLE *adv.* 8 b.)

**5.** In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (*a*) in finite clause, or (*b*) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. To *prep.* B. 16).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10565 Ace what for[þi nasa þatt nohht don. 1390 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth. Metres* 29 ȝwat mon ?' cwæð þis boke minister: 'ȝwy ne lufabe ge him i-brout?' *c* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible, Prol.* 3 Seint Jerom ii. 63 What if þilk beest ye luddeu hatt vilayns þe owne wordis? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil sayd 'what & I dye nott or to-morn?' 1590 HARRIS *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (1555) K i, What thinges shall I speake you not touche. 1611 *Bible Ecclus.* iv. 10 Prol. 900 Quhat of bewte, quhar bone-stle lyis deid? 1594 [see THEN *adv.* 4]. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iv. 9 what end Hath Horace prouided vs to ouerwinde his wits? 1599 — *Mids. N.* i. 1. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinkes not so. 1791 LADY *Midas* iv. 112 *Pet.* Well, tis hard to loose ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 51 Heere we haue no Temple but the wood...that what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 374 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run thro' ev'ry school? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx, My ship sails to-morrow!..what if you go in her as a passenger? 1849 KEATS *Otho* I. i, To me? What of me, ha? 1867 HORNE *Hymns, From Greenlander's Icy Mountains* 'Tis, What though the spicy breezes Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle...In vain with lavish kindness The gifts of God are strown. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xix, But if...they...dropped off and left me one by one, what then? 1856 BROWNING *Fenes & Sennpies* x, What, and if your friend at home play tricks? 1885 'J. S. WHITE' *Mrs. Bob* ii, 'Did anybody tell you about the Manor Lodge?' 'No, not a word: what about it?' 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 Game and rubber...! Now, what about bed?

**b.** In various other phr. (See also 8, 10, 11.)

† *What is thee?* (THEE *pron.* 1 b), what is the matter with thee? † *What lack you?* or *what do you lack?* [LACK *v.*¹ 3; a salesman's cry: hence as an appellation for an itinerant vendor or pedlar. *What say you (mod. what do you say) to..?* *what think you* (mod. *what do you think) of..?* are you inclined for..? how would you like..? *What's my thought?* a guessing game the same as *Yes and No*: see YES 1 b). See also WHAT-D'YE-CALL, WHAT'S-HIS-NAME.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9720 Po sede on to an oþer, meilin, wat is þe? þou faderlese sarewe, wy mildestou me? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1051 Bernard, hwat is þe? Hwo hauue þe þus maked?

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 121 A secular wit that hath lued all daies of his life by what shifts you lacke. 1597 BRETON *Will's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 16/2 The sonne of What lacke you, was become the onely right worshipfull Maior. 1606 GEORGE *Scottish Trag. Dougue* B 1, What lacke you sir? faire suffes or veluets? 1665 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i, His Father was a...Pedler, a what do you lack, Sir.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 77 What say you to a Neats foote? 1649 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i. 93 Betweene us two, what thinke you of a wench? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iv, 'What think you of some Eggs and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1783 COWPER *Bean's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 188 We...like as many girls ...play'd Charades.. And *what's my thought* and *when and where and how*.

¶ *But what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?* : but, after all.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 59 Ye shall have verie few, but such, as they are enimies to evill... But what? As they never knew what a goodnes meant, so they know as litle of the contrarie. 1605 EDMONDES *Fr. Gard.* N 7 b, O Marguerite!...thou hast beene heretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither, ...as well as flowers.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).)

Here the interrogative form is according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e. g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him = What did he mean?'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (B. 1 b) which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical: cf. 'I did not know what he intended' (= 'the object of my mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not bear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause; e. g. 'What he meant was unknown' = 'that he meant = I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 BY. HOOLE *adv.* 8 b.)

**5.** In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (*a*) in finite clause, or (*b*) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. To *prep.* B. 16).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10565 Ace what for[þi nasa þatt nohht don. 1390 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth. Metres* 29 ȝwat mon ?' cwæð þis boke minister: 'ȝwy ne lufabe ge him i-brout?' *c* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible, Prol.* 3 Seint Jerom ii. 63 What if þilk beest ye luddeu hatt vilayns þe owne wordis? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil sayd 'what & I dye nott or to-morn?' 1590 HARRIS *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (1555) K i, What thinges shall I speake you not touche. 1611 *Bible Ecclus.* iv. 10 Prol. 900 Quhat of bewte, quhar bone-stle lyis deid? 1594 [see THEN *adv.* 4]. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iv. 9 what end Hath Horace prouided vs to ouerwinde his wits? 1599 — *Mids. N.* i. 1. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinkes not so. 1791 LADY *Midas* iv. 112 *Pet.* Well, tis hard to loose ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 51 Heere we haue no Temple but the wood...that what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 374 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run

1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx, My ship sails to-morrow!..what if you go in her as a passenger? 1849 KEATS *Otho* I. i, To me? What of me, ha? 1867 HORNE *Hymns, From Greenlander's Icy Mountains* 'Tis, What though the spicy breezes Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle...In vain with lavish kindness The gifts of God are strown. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xix, But if...they...dropped off and left me one by one, what then? 1856 BROWNING *Fenes & Sennpies* x, What, and if your friend at home play tricks? 1885 'J. S. WHITE' *Mrs. Bob* ii, 'Did anybody tell you about the Manor Lodge?' 'No, not a word: what about it?' 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 Game and rubber...! Now, what about bed?

**b.** In various other phr. (See also 8, 10, 11.)

† *What is thee?* (THEE *pron.* 1 b), what is the matter with thee? † *What lack you?* or *what do you lack?* [LACK *v.*¹ 3; a salesman's cry: hence as an appellation for an itinerant vendor or pedlar. *What say you (mod. what do you say) to..?* *what think you* (mod. *what do you think) of..?* are you inclined for..? how would you like..? *What's my thought?* a guessing game the same as *Yes and No*: see YES 1 b). See also WHAT-D'YE-CALL, WHAT'S-HIS-NAME.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9720 Po sede on to an oþer, meilin, wat is þe? þou faderlese sarewe, wy mildestou me? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1051 Bernard, hwat is þe? Hwo hauue þe þus maked?

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 121 A secular wit that hath lued all daies of his life by what shifts you lacke. 1597 BRETON *Will's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 16/2 The sonne of What lacke you, was become the onely right worshipfull Maior. 1606 GEORGE *Scottish Trag. Dougue* B 1, What lacke you sir? faire suffes or veluets? 1665 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i, His Father was a...Pedler, a what do you lack, Sir.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 77 What say you to a Neats foote? 1649 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i. 93 Betweene us two, what thinke you of a wench? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iv, 'What think you of some Eggs and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1783 COWPER *Bean's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 188 We...like as many girls ...play'd Charades.. And *what's my thought* and *when and where and how*.

¶ *But what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?* : but, after all.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 59 Ye shall have verie few, but such, as they are enimies to evill... But what? As they never knew what a goodnes meant, so they know as litle of the contrarie. 1605 EDMONDES *Fr. Gard.* N 7 b, O Marguerite!...thou hast beene heretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither, ...as well as flowers.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).)

Here the interrogative form is according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e. g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him = What did he mean?'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (B. 1 b) which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical: cf. 'I did not know what he intended' (= 'the object of my mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not bear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause; e. g. 'What he meant was unknown' = 'that he meant = I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 BY. HOOLE *adv.* 8 b.)

**5.** In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (*a*) in finite clause, or (*b*) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. To *prep.* B. 16).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10565 Ace what for[þi nasa þatt nohht don. 1390 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth. Metres* 29 ȝwat mon ?' cwæð þis boke minister: 'ȝwy ne lufabe ge him i-brout?' *c* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible, Prol.* 3 Seint Jerom ii. 63 What if þilk beest ye luddeu hatt vilayns þe owne wordis? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil sayd 'what & I dye nott or to-morn?' 1590 HARRIS *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (1555) K i, What thinges shall I speake you not touche. 1611 *Bible Ecclus.* iv. 10 Prol. 900 Quhat of bewte, quhar bone-stle lyis deid? 1594 [see THEN *adv.* 4]. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iv. 9 what end Hath Horace prouided vs to ouerwinde his wits? 1599 — *Mids. N.* i. 1. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinkes not so. 1791 LADY *Midas* iv. 112 *Pet.* Well, tis hard to loose ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 51 Heere we haue no Temple but the wood...that what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 374 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run

1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx, My ship sails to-morrow!..what if you go in her as a passenger? 1849 KEATS *Otho* I. i, To me? What of me, ha? 1867 HORNE *Hymns, From Greenlander's Icy Mountains* 'Tis, What though the spicy breezes Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle...In vain with lavish kindness The gifts of God are strown. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xix, But if...they...dropped off and left me one by one, what then? 1856 BROWNING *Fenes & Sennpies* x, What, and if your friend at home play tricks? 1885 'J. S. WHITE' *Mrs. Bob* ii, 'Did anybody tell you about the Manor Lodge?' 'No, not a word: what about it?' 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 Game and rubber...! Now, what about bed?

**b.** In various other phr. (See also 8, 10, 11.)

† *What is thee?* (THEE *pron.* 1 b), what is the matter with thee? † *What lack you?* or *what do you lack?* [LACK *v.*¹ 3; a salesman's cry: hence as an appellation for an itinerant vendor or pedlar. *What say you (mod. what do you say) to..?* *what think you* (mod. *what do you think) of..?* are you inclined for..? how would you like..? *What's my thought?* a guessing game the same as *Yes and No*: see YES 1 b). See also WHAT-D'YE-CALL, WHAT'S-HIS-NAME.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9720 Po sede on to an oþer, meilin, wat is þe? þou faderlese sarewe, wy mildestou me? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1051 Bernard, hwat is þe? Hwo hauue þe þus maked?

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 121 A secular wit that hath lued all daies of his life by what shifts you lacke. 1597 BRETON *Will's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 16/2 The sonne of What lacke you, was become the onely right worshipfull Maior. 1606 GEORGE *Scottish Trag. Dougue* B 1, What lacke you sir? faire suffes or veluets? 1665 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i, His Father was a...Pedler, a what do you lack, Sir.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 77 What say you to a Neats foote? 1649 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i. 93 Betweene us two, what thinke you of a wench? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iv, 'What think you of some Eggs and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1783 COWPER *Bean's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 188 We...like as many girls ...play'd Charades.. And *what's my thought* and *when and where and how*.

¶ *But what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?* : but, after all.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 59 Ye shall have verie few, but such, as they are enimies to evill... But what? As they never knew what a goodnes meant, so they know as litle of the contrarie. 1605 EDMONDES *Fr. Gard.* N 7 b, O Marguerite!...thou hast beene heretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither, ...as well as flowers.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).)

Here the interrogative form is according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e. g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him = What did he mean?'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (B. 1 b) which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical: cf. 'I did not know what he intended' (= 'the object of my mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not bear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause; e. g. 'What he meant was unknown' = 'that he meant = I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 BY. HOOLE *adv.* 8 b.)

**5.** In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (*a*) in finite clause, or (*b*) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. To *prep.* B. 16).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10565 Ace what for[þi nasa þatt nohht don. 1390 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth. Metres* 29 ȝwat mon ?' cwæð þis boke minister: 'ȝwy ne lufabe ge him i-brout?' *c* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible, Prol.* 3 Seint Jerom ii. 63 What if þilk beest ye luddeu hatt vilayns þe owne wordis? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil sayd 'what & I dye nott or to-morn?' 1590 HARRIS *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (1555) K i, What thinges shall I speake you not touche. 1611 *Bible Ecclus.* iv. 10 Prol. 900 Quhat of bewte, quhar bone-stle lyis deid? 1594 [see THEN *adv.* 4]. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iv. 9 what end Hath Horace prouided vs to ouerwinde his wits? 1599 — *Mids. N.* i. 1. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinkes not so. 1791 LADY *Midas* iv. 112 *Pet.* Well, tis hard to loose ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 51 Heere we haue no Temple but the wood...that what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 374 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run

doe with. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* iv. 493 Love will inspire him, when, and what to say. 1713 Berkeley *Hylas & Phil.* i. (1725) 47, I know not what to think of it. 1883 D. G. Murray *Haverie* ii, Cousin Mark was not hardened with more money than he knew what to do with.

**7.** Of a person, in predicative use (with distinctions of sense as in 2).

c 1897 *Æelfred Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 158 Donne eow mislicia þa mediycmnessa þe ge on eowrum manum healdon, donne gebence ge hwæt ge sien & hwelce ge sien. *c* 1290 *St. Dunstan* 627 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 237 Ich eschte him þwat he were. He seide, 'ich am Jin Abbot.' 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 910 Pe king eschte wat hii were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9515 Ye ble asked quat þoi suld be, 'Theues,' coth ioseph. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 8 Is he a clerk or noon? telle what he is. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxvi. 95 The kynge, that gretli desired to knowe of his estate, asked of hym what he was, of what lande and of what lynage. 1340 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) Table X iij, Athleta (= æt), what they be that are so called. 1596 (see 2). 1604 Shake. *Oth.* iv. i. 74 And knowing what I am, I know what she shall be. 1695 in Thoresby *Ducatus* II. xl. 109 To answere to formall interrogatours..as quhat he is, for I can neuer yett heare of any man that knowis him. 1697 Danson *Virg. Ecl.* 301 To write a Letter to the Governor, to inform him what we were, and on what account we came. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 1104 He..ask'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. 1834 Burke *Corr. Fleming* vii, I am to be something great, and glorious, and dazzling; but what, we could not determine. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* ii. What or what he was, . . no one cared to enquire.

**8.** Phrases. *a. To know what's what* [Know *v.* 15]: to understand the qualities or values of things; to have a good judgement or appriehension; to have clear or full knowledge of the matter in hand, or of the state of the case; to know what is fitting or profitable. So with other verbs, as *perceive, shew,* etc. *colloq.*

*c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 432 Ful sarily than thare i-sat, For wa wist noght what was wat. 1441–8 Hoccleve *Diet.* 778 in *Min. Poems* 138 They me oghten haue in greet cheertee, And elles woot I neuere what is what. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1056 Neither I knew what he was nor he what was what he who was who. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* i. ii. (Arb.) 17 Enamoured quod you? haue ye spied out that? Ah sir, many nowe I see, know what I know not. 1600 Rowlands *Letl. Humours Blood* Epigr. xxv. 31 Tut, tell me not whats what! I know the law. 1663 Butler *Hud.* i. i. 749 He knew what's what, and that's as high As Metaphysick Wit can fly. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 215, I dare venture to say, that not a common Farrier in the Universe knows what's what. 1862 Thackeray *Lovel* v, I had so much claret on board as not to know what's what was what. 1911 *Times* 26 Oct. 8/4 My distinguished friend ..who appeared as a witness had told me what was what.

**b.** Phrases used as sbs. *I know or wot not* (mod. *I don't know*), *I would not know, Lord knows what* (Lord 1b. 6 b, God 19 b), *who knows what? + know-not-what* (see Know-), *wotna what* (see Watna), etc.: something unknown or only vaguely apprehended or suggested; cf. *I.*, *nescio quid*, *Ť je ne sais quoi*. So . . . *and I don't know what all* (colloq.) = '. . . and various other things unknown or unspecified', '. . . and all sorts of things besides'.

*You know what*, + (*you*) *wot what*: something that need not be specified (see You 11).

*a* 1000 *Riddles* liv. (Ivy), Þæs...hrand under gyrdels hyre stondendre stipes nathwæt. *c* 1360 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxx. 39 Thay luve no man effeminat, And haldis thame, bot I wat not quhat, That suld nocht be wt thame. 1508 Grafton *Chron.* II. 765 Sent, no man wist whether, to be done wyth, God wot what. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 115 Se worke maist lykest wat not quhat With your Politick bridle. 1587 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 70 Which when they did see they putt theyre hands they could not tell to what. 1593 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 154 When he was about to speake (I wot not what) as touching painting-craft. 1606 *Rump Songs* i. 52 Next come those idle Twittle-twats, Which calls me many God-knows-whats. 1901 Wallis in *Collect. Geol. Soc. Glasgow* V. 1 (who knows what?). 1902 S. Parkhurst *Cicero's De Finibus* Transl. Pref., The Grandeur, Eloquence, Neatness, and I know not what all, of the Author's Expressions. 1823 [see Go pb]. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Anr., Shouting out, 'Aha!' and '*Napperritia!*' and I don't know what. 1858 Thorpeau *Lit. to Mr. B.* 21 May, So we shall save some of our money, and lose—I do not know what. 1859 Dickens *Haunted House* viii. 33/1 There's examins, and catechizes, and I dunno what all for him to be put through.

**c.** *To know what it is*: to apprehend what it implies or may involve; hence, to have had experience of it. Usually with *inf.*

1598 Shakes. *Ven. & Ad.* 615 Thou know'st not what it is, With lustings pain'd, nor kisses able to appease. 1608 Shakespeare *Reply to Sutcliffe's Answ.* Ep. Ded. a v, 'I ill mberie had taught the prodigal Sonne wit, he neuer knew what it was to line at home in his Fathers house. 1912 Aldington *Specl. No.* 26 P 7 Though I am always serious, I do not know what it is to be meiancholy. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, On Two Children in Black*, As for the first night at a strange school, we most of us remember what *that* is. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Elec.* xiii. 58 To know what dust is, you must come to Switzerland in August: the road was like driving through sand.

**d.** *ellipt.* for 'what it is', 'what is the truth of the matter', 'what is the thing to do', or the like, in *I('ll) tell you what* (and similar phrases now *obs.* or *dial.*), used to emphasize or call special attention to what is said (= 'let me tell you'), or (*mod. colloq.*) in making a proposal.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *H. Fame* iii. 694 Ye be lyke the swynt catte That wolde have fisshe, but wostow whatte He wold no thinge wete his clowes. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 78 Diadaine him not: for shal I tel you what? Such cõme to heauen, before the shauen crowned. 1592 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 86 This tricke may chance to scath you, I know what, You must contrary me. 1595—*Rich. III*, iii. ii. 92 Wat you what, my Lord, To day the Lords you talke of, are beheaded. 1596—*Merch. V.* i. i. 86, I tell thee what Anthonio, I loue thee. 1697 in *Bruns's Pol. Tracts* (1705) I. 121 He tell thee what, Tom Trotter should shalt see Me weare the willow. 1773 G. A. Stevens *Trip Portsm.* i. 10 *Sir Flimsey.* I'll tell you *what*, madam—*Miss Flirt.* And I'll tell you *when*, Sir Flimsey. When you take a lady out with you, don't domineer so. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 449/1 I'll tell you what we'll row down. 1899 H. Wedmore *Soldiers of Queen* viii. 176 Tell you what, Bill, you can start your stock with one of my old shirts for the price of a quart.

*** Various special uses and collocations (in direct questions or in dependent clauses). See also 17.

**To** *what becomes* (*is become*, etc.) *of* . . . see Become *v.* 4.

**9.** With intensive additions, as *what the dence* (*devil, dickens*, etc.), *what in the name of* . . ., *what in the world, what on earth*, etc.: see also the sbs. (Cf. How *adv.* 11 b.)

*c* 1386– [see Devil *sb.* 20] 1390– [see Plague *sb.* 3d]. 1600– [see Hell *sb.* 16] Jackson *Creed* iv. 133 What a Gods name, hinders him from doing it? 1709 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 210 ¶ 4 What-a-Pox hast thou to do with Leadenhall? 1797– [see Dickens 2 *sb.*] 1818 Shelley *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 116 What on earth does he mean by some of his inferences? 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xii, Thinking what in the universe could be made of. 1838 [see Hide *sb.*] 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xv. 101 What the mischief have I done? *Ibid.* xvi. 105, I wonder what in blue thunder you mean.

**10.** Of quantities, amount, or price: How much, how many. So of the time of day, in *what's o'clock, what's the time* (see Clock *sb.*1 3, 4; Time *sb.* 13).

The orig. use was with partitive gen. 1 later, partitive *of* occurs.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.*(Th.) cxviii(ii). 84 Hwæt synt þinum eane ealra daena? *c* 1420 *Anow. Arth.* xxxiii, Quat is thi rawunsun opon rystis? *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 26 Yf þou wold wete qwat þat a hundryth times 4. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 71 I knaw quhat of rethorike hes spent. *c* 1585 *Voy. Populi* 374 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 981, I know not whates a clocke, But by the countre cocke, 1593 *Order of Hospitalle* C vij b, That there be geven Warrants . what shall be paid to any such Pencioner wekly. 1600 Shakes. *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 329, I pray you, what 'tis a clocke? 1603 *Florio* 1st Fr. 1 Quanto tempo? how long? So is it to what? 1824 *J. H. Moore's Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 130 What is Greenwich Time when it is Noon 75°, or Five Hours, Wat. Time is it at Noon? 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xi, But I'll see what o' them can be gotten back. 1839 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parlour Orator*, He can tell what's o'clock by an eight-day, without looking at the minute hand, by Jove. 1859 *Public Sch. Mag.* 205 What of that essential harmony can there possibly be between a hundred..people? 1904 Sir H. Hawkins *Remin.* II. 2 Lloyd must have made £30,000 a year. . I what I made is of no consequence.

**11.** *What for* (introducing a clause; sometimes written as one word; Sc. and north. dial.; earlier north. ME. + *for what*, replacing OE. *for hwæm*); now, in polite colloq. use, only *What . . . for* (in independent or dependent clause), or *What for?*: for what purpose, with what object? for what reason, why, wherefore? Also + *through what*: how? So + *what to (till)*: to what end, wherefo.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxvii. 20 Hu mæg ic nu witenn þes? *Ibid.* 4824, 5 For what is Drihtnin me þus wrah? *Ibid.* 14113 For all mannkinn to sæwenn swa For‡ what he nann ne sparede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6 Pe king wende him for quat he swane So fer. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 28 (Camb. MS.) God . . wat quhat-to [*Edin. MS.* quhat-till] all thing efferis. *c* 1796 Burns in *Ramsay's Reminis.* v. (ed. 18) 108 What for should I burn & my..bukies? 1799 Edward *Const. t.* viii, What are you staring at a fellow like that for?

**b.** When subordinated *what . . . for* comes to mean 'the reason why'.

1914 R. Rimron *Pract. Dict.* 11. 236 But what I cited all these passages for is to show [etc.]

**c.** As sb. phr. in the slang phr. *to give* (one) *what for* = to inflict severe pain or chastisement.

1873 *Routledge's Ev. Genll. Mag.* Feb. 137/1 It'll give you what for, if it touches your lips. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* i. Taffy was a match for any swaggerer at arms in the whole French army, and Svengali got 'what for'.

**12.** As indefinite final alternative in a disjunctive question. Chiefly *colloq.*

1796 J. Adams *Diary* 29 July, Wks. 1850 II. 198 In what is this man conspicuous?—in reasoning, in imagination, in painting, in the pathetic, or what? 1769 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 98 Feb., Is it owing to the vast, many buildings of that place? is the many waters of it, or to what else? 1842 E. FitzGerald *Lett. to Bowten* 16 Sept., Have you supposed me dead or what? 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 341 We shall further discover whether the true path is a circle, an ellipse, an oval, or what.

**II.** *adj.*

**13.** As the ordinary interrogative adjective, sing. or pl., used of a thing or things, a person or persons, in direct questions: often with ellipsis, as *what cheer?* (Cheer *sb.* 3 b), *what news?* etc.

The meaning was expressed in OE. by *hwæt* with a partitive gen.

[*Beowulf* 237 Hwæt syndon ge searuhabbende byrnum wrættet . . ? 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Hwæt is þinga þe biterre sie on þæs lareowes ea mode . . Donne se ande & for rybtwisnesse bið unbalsen?] *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet gold heistu mi hersuinnen? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29034 Quat bote is fra mete to min And dedeis for to lig in bir? 1382 Wyclif *John* iii. 22 And for what thing slew he him? *c* 1386 Chaucer *H. Fame* iii. 535 And what thy name is i-shyt?' quod hee. *Ibid.* iii. 1058 And eur‡yche cried, what thing is that? And somme sayde, I not neuer what. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat seruise is it at ȝe stode on? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13154 (Trin.) What maner þing. *c* 1440– [see Cheer *sb.* 3 b]. 1500–20 Dunbar *Freems* xiii. 3 Quhat tydingis cowpe, 3eme or wit? *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* i. ii. (1912) 14 What cause then made you venter to leave this sweete life? *a* 1596 *Nr. T. Myst.* iii. 71 Sirra, what newes? 1600 Shakes. *Temp.* ii. i. 88 What imports unlike matter will he make envy next? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. ix, What saucy Fellow..told you any Thing of my Lady? 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xi, 'What Mr. Bertram?'..'not Mr. Bertram of Ellingtown, I hope?' 1823 C. Brown *Villette* xxxvi, A story! What story? 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxii, But what good would it do?

(*d*) *What way* (Sc. and north.): how? why? 1570 Levins *Manipl.* 197/3 Whatway, *qud, quomodo?* 1919 Ramsay *To Absolute* v [He] disna care for A bow, a what way, or a wherefore. 1790 Mitchell *Scotticisms* 95 What way did it happen? 1902 J. Bell in *Wks. Burns Club* V. Macgregor, . . what wey did ye strike pair Willie Thomson?

**b.** In rhetorical questions, implying a contrary assertion: cf. 3.

*c* 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxiii, Quat wundur were hit, thaghe him were wo? 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. Prol. 105 Quhat cristnit clerk suld hym haue consaitt betir, Althocht he nevir was cunnoble wight? 1592 Shakes. *Rom. & Jul.* v. 565 What were so fearful to one that is dead? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 770 With what be comming Thanks can I reply? 1790 Burns *Ball. Dumfries Election* xx, What Whig but wails the name Sir James? 1818 in his country by the names, Friend, Patron, Benefactor! 1820 Shelley *Ib.*, As 'tis of refuge, or retreat, or aid? 1848 Kemble *Lear* xiii, What wonder if the children take them at their word and act accordingly?

**14.** In indirect questions, and dependent clauses of similar meaning, with varying interrogative force, sometimes approaching the compound relative use (C. 8): cf. I.* above.

*c* 1000 Orosius 310 Godes engelcynn wyle hinum þær, What name he sholde settenn Upon att ilke child. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 34 Bot be the fruit may scliwis se, O quat vertu is ilke tre. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2746 Ley þe spiandre her & þer In what batuille he ley quarter. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 31 Tell þes men what þou hast ysayne, and what joy þes men han yset. 1470–85 Harding *Arthur* x xxix. 460 Thanne sire Tristam bad him telle his name & what manere that it sholde be. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 1st Sund. after Epiph.*, Graunt that they maye both perceyue and knowe what thinges they ought to do. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 2 To examine..what dependencie it hath on God. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 741 Till first I know of what thou art, What thing, first tell. 1820 *Kelso Cavalier* (1840) 25 They called frequent councils of war what course to take. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, How, or at what hour, Mr. Watkins Tottle returned, is unknown. 1918 *Cornh. Mag.* June 637 He made no attempt ..to suggest upon what lines that future might be shaped.

**b.** *I know not what, Heaven knows what*, etc. used as adj. phr. = some unknown or undefined . . , some . . . or other: cf. 8 b.

*a* 1633 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1936) III. 43 There was present on horse-backe, I knowe not what poethical preacher, named Pourcelet. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinalats* II. 211, 205 There has been already some dispute..about I know not what reducement of the Light-horse. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* viii, And I know not what other menaces of formidable import.

**15.** In reference to quality or character: = What kind of (= *I. qualis*). Also followed by *a* (*dial.*).

+ *What dane, what dones*: see Done *ppl. a.* 2.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 225 He wolde iwite ȝwat man þe child scolde be. *Hist. Jacob & Joseph* 1505 Pere bigonnel me wot reducement of the Light-horse. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* viii, And I know not what other menaces of formidable import.

**16.** In reference to quantity or amount: How much, how many.

Cf. the OE. use with partitive gen. (to above).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xix. 293 'Quhat folk ar thai?' 'Schir, mony men.' 1605 Shakes. *Macb.* iii. iv. 102 *Mach.*.. What is the night? *La.* Almost at odds with morning, which is which. 1654 *Kirk Sess. Rec.* in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 168 To stent and sie what bolls of victuall everie heritor wow. 1820 Dibdin *Tranklin* 4 Then there what money had thou bought? 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 728 What water have you? The question is to the man sounding, as to the depth of water which the lead-line gives. *Mod. colloq.* What pudding is there left?

**17.** In predicative use, corresponding to a predicative adj. in direct statement: usually referring to quality (cf. 15) = of what kind, character, or disposition.

Syntactically indistinguishable from the pron, but essen

tially adjectival in meaning and sometimes implying ellipsis of ab e g in quot a 1450 *what more*='what more wits'.
1340 *Ayenb.* 264 'And huet is helle?' 'Helle is wyd wyþ-oute mesinge, dyep wyþ oute boteme'. 1400 *Anturs Arth.* viii, What is þi good rede? *a* 1450 Myrc 1333 Here ben þe wyttus fyue How þey ben spende, telle me blyue And what þou hast in herte ymaȝt. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. 84 He goeth his way e, and hath immediatly forgotten what His fassion was. 1606 Shakes. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 269 I see you what you are, you are tho proud. 1665 — *Ham.* ii. iii. 231 What was th offence you giue him? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* viii. 178 To search the Land, and wi ere the Cities lye: And what the Men (*Virg. quæ vi hæ ant homines*) *Hist.* xi. 456 Noble his Mother was, But what his Father's Parentage unknown. 1828 Duppa *Isa. Italy*, etc. 3 What the Irmsfiguration may have been to execution and l ol using I cannot tell. 1903 R. Broot *Angler's Guide*, 3 ou know what he is about anything, disagreeable—how he simply is, apres its existence

**16** In parasynthetic compounds, as *what-fashioned -natured* adjs. (= of what fashion, nature) S y t *hat countrymans* (= a man of what country) see Countryman 1

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* P 2 1, 'some of you knowe what natured men they be' 1609 R. Carew] tr. *Estiennes Worl of Wonders* 237 [One] may well doubt whether locke smithes use t files or rather what fashioned files they h d. 1824 Mabrie tr. *Alman ach aman & Hf* ii. 3 He leg it to make f om what Lonnon is I ve. 1 1 1 hold him t be a wis of Sevill. 1798 Southey *Lett fr Spain* (1799) 197 Turning round to Manuel he asked him what country man he was. 1807 [see Countryman 3]

**III** *adv.*

**†19.** For what cause or reason? for what end or purpose? why? *Obs*

*It hat needs* see Need v. † b, 2 b, 5 b
1888 Alfred *Boeth.* xiv § 2 Hwæt murcnast þu þonne[e] after þam þe þu forlæte þæt *Wisdom* 14 Hwæt seceatu munne naman fremmes mycel & wundorlic? 1205 Lay 11632 Wi hat [c 1275 wil us þat þu murnest. 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2218 Alceste. What should I more tellle how complein ynge? *c* 1400 *Mor. Ho ker* 5007 Withoute me (what should I glose?) 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. vi. 5 What ben he grete cose to him to worschip? 1539 Elyot *Healthes Iarl* 148 But what stand we trifling about this testimonie? 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. 4 But what mention wee three or foure wes of the Scripture? 1667 Milton *P. L.* ii. 329 What sit we then projecting Peace and War? *a* 1677 Barr w *Serm.* I. 7 What should I mention beauty, that fading toy?

**20** In what way? in what respect? how? *Obs.* or *arch* (See also Ail v. 4, quots *c* 1450–1817.)

*c* 1000 Ormin 19249 What Urrþ þatt Crisstess sawle till hiss modere; What fallebþ þiss till te wibb þe Wilmann þiss þatt tu mælesst? 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xx. 9 What hast we synned in thee? 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxxiii. 23 Quest knawes þou þat? 1587 Harding *Chron. in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 744 Whit hath Englonde so felly the offende That noble prynce I Knuyshe so of God? *c* 1400 in *A. Rel. & Parent.* (1866) 250 Wheþ þat I wil you þis? 1535 Coverdale *Baruch* iv. 17 But alas what can I helpe you? 1816 Scott *Ivanhoe* xv, It just can ugen o free will in my hand—what could I help it? 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arth.* 250 For what are men better than sheep or goats If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer?

**b.** To what extent or degree? how much?

Chiefly with such verbs as *a ail, care to ffer, vgnify,* or with *the* and comparatives, as *the b tt r* (= Nothing 1. 2 c, None C 1 b. Also *t gain by it fe* (= no obs.)—how much?
1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxiii. 15 What shal it profit vs if I sleen oure I rotl er? *c* 1400 *Test. Love* Bk. 1. 1. 1

1716. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II I. 285 The country was not what it had been twenty-two years before. 1861 Thackeray *Round. Papers, On being Found Out*, Would you have your wife and children know you exactly for what you are? 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 The book is very much what might have been expected from the author.

c. Expressing parallel relation or correspondence (with *to* in principal clause and in relative clause).

1673-4 Grew *Anat. Pl.* III. (1682) 227 And what the Mouth is, to an Animal; that the Root is to a Plant. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* IV. § 21 Intellect is to the mind what sight is to the body. 1853 Ruskin *Stones Venice* III. iv. § 12 What the elm and oak are to England, the olive is to Italy. 1904 *Month* Dec. 608 Jungoism is to true patriotism what bigotry is to true religion.

3. a. In a parenthetic phrase (chiefly with *call*) qualifying a following word or phrase; equivalent to an adjective phrase, or to a following phrase with *as*: e. g. *what I should call* . . — ' the so-called . . ' or ' . . as it is called '.

1697 J. Lewis *Hem. Dh Gloecester* (1789) 25 A fortification, mounted with small guns, and what were stiled his great ones, which were four little brass cannon. 1794 in *Jrnl. Ancient's Hist Soc.* (1918) 8 Other demonstration of which they call Loyalty. 1801 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 346 Calvert is what is well called a handy man. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 211 A very small . . island, and of what is called squashes. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 9, I, writing thus, am still what men call young. 1906 R. Hacot *A. Cuthbert* v. 40 She is what we call taking your measure.

b. Introducing a prefatory (usually parenthetic) qualifying clause, equivalent to a following clause with *which* (or to an adv., e. g. *what is more* = furthermore, still more).

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 5 Where we saw (what we always feared) a Ship [etc.] 1719 Defoe *Crusoe* I. (1840) 36 If it be true, what I have heard often affirmed by innocent people, That [etc.]. 1743 Burnaby & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 40 And, what was reckon'd very odd, the Cabbin-Bell came ashore. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* v, She wore, what was then somewhat unusual, a coat, vest, and hat, resembling those of a man. 1908 Hackett *Fatal Boots* I'eh, I got from him . . a . . silver-laced waistcoat, and, what's more, I had no less than three golden guineas in the pocket of it.

4. In generalized or indefinite sense: Anything that: = Whatever 2 a. Now only in such phrases as *what you please, come what may*, or esp. (*b*) *for what I know, care, can tell.* †Formerly also in a qualifying dependent clause: = Whatever 3 a.

*c* 1325 Shoreham ix. 159 Ac I do *be* be what by-tyde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 43 Oþer be uengeþ hi uore manere, huet hi hit by. 1340 70 *Alv. v. Derd* 68 What it be þat ȝe bidde, ȝour bonus I graunte. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 13348 (Trin.) He laid for sake what ȝou wil wantunn, *Fairf.* quatuner) she wolde. 1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 50 To make theryf qwat that he can. 1532 Coverdale *Gen.* I. 24 Catell, wormes and what so hath life yppon erth. 1601 Shaks. *Jstle of ploy*) Twelfe Night, Or what ȝou will. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint., Mt. Olives* i, Such all plac'd wit, Concret, or call it what you please, let the brains 6t. And mirrie disease. 1670 in *Churwell's Corr.*, Wks. (Grosart) II. 299 Its therefore my request to you to. . be assisting to him with your Certificates, or in what else you can serve him. 1680 Morden *Mech. Exercises* 168 With your Flat Chisel or Gouge, (or what is nearest at hand) knock softly. 1749 Hamilton *Observ. Man* 2. I. § 2, 20 Be the Cause what it will. 1829 H. Kingsley *Recoll. Colonist* (1830), One thing she was determined on, not to give up her lover, come what would. 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xix, To sacrifice his pride, his ambition, his what-you-will.

(*b*) 1697 J. Lewis *Mem Dh Gloecester* (1789) 55 You may have half a dozen [legs] for what I know, as it is difficult to discover any under the petticoat. 1798 Chant. Ottes Smith *Ymg. Philos.* I. 92 She may die for what you know. 1828 Scott *Fair. Mail.* xxii, It may have been murdered, for what I can tell. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lx. 334 You may, for what I care, what you please in such matters.

† b. Of a person or persons: Whoever. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 Harrowe *Prose Treat.* 43 like man, what þat he be, þat recalles be name of þe deuel, þat es to say, þat accusione by theus and by his passione. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 445 And what he be, let hym be sowght. 1448-9 Mettham *Amorys* 4 Cf. 916 He redy schulle be For þis lady sake to luste, ȝeyre ȝyche knyght in general, . . And qwat he were myght yeue hym a falle. 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 43 Be what thou wilt, thou art my prisoner. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 47 Your Accusers, Be what they will, may stand forth face to face.

c. with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever, so*, etc. following (now only immediately following: see Whatever, Whatsoo, etc.): cf. 9 b below.

*c* 1000 Ormin 2500, & all swa manniskhe þing Whatt hitlem se þeȝȝ hafldenn. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 20 What as eny man accuse. *Ibid.* 103 What as overe that ye sete. 1484 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 68 What that ever he wer to ȝy straw, he must pay in honde. †1486 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (ed. 2) g v, To alle trewe marchaunttis and other what that somwer [ed. 1474 other what som euyr] they be.

d. *What else* : = (ellipt.) = whatever else there may be; hence, with loss of the relative force, anything else, anything and everything.

1879 *Expos. Termes Laws & v. Reservation.* They reservations were as wel . . in vittailis, whether flesh, fishe, corne, bread, drinke, or what els, as in money. 1585-6 Exc. Lincester *Corr.* (Camden) 83 Imposts, customes, and what els that yeld them money. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, III. i. 51 Warwicke . . In conclusion winnes the King from her, With promise of his Sister, and what else, To strengthen and support King Edwards place. 1659 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 487 That you will afford the best of your assistance, and what else needfull. 1873 Ruskin *Crown Wild Olive* App. xi. 201 The right to keep everything and



every place about you in as good order as you can—Prussia, Poland, or what else.

5. *But what* (after a negative expressed or implied) : except what (or who); which (or who) . . not (= But C. 12 b) : see also But C. 30.

1586 Shake. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 14 Padua affords nothing but what is kinde. 1622 Evelyn *Sculpture* Table, Never any of the Antients excelled in these Arts, but what were Gentlemen. 1688 South *Serm., Matt. xviii, 14* (1697) II. 333 Few are Confident, but what are first Careless. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 247/2 Of the seals that were left, I believe there is not a cloth but what has a shot through it. 1780 Bentham *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xiv. (1789) p. cxxxv, *note*, There are few madmen but what are observed to be afraid of the stunt waistcoat. 1795 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* IV. 133 Not one of these insinuations but what gathered something from malevolence.

b. *loosely* as conjunctional phr. : But that, that . . not (= But C. 12) : see also But C. 30. *colloq.*

Plus quot 1892 exceptionally without preceding negatives = But C. 12 b.

1586 (see But C. 30). 1733 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn* 7, xi. No. 43 I here hardly grow an Incident, but what my Fellow-Traveller would repeat twenty or thirty Verses in a Breath. 1890 W. Irving *Salmag.* No. 9 (1824) 244 In vain did the wind whistle and the storm beat—my aunt would waddle through mud and mire, over the whole town, but what she would visit them. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* vii. (1895) 284 Not but it had many good points. 1908 R. Hacot *A. Cuthbert* xxi, 257 You should have kept quiet in the house to-day. Not but what you are certainly looking better than you did when you came.

6. Used redundantly after *than* introducing a clause. *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, I think I laughed heartier then than what I do now.

** 7. As simple relative (*sing* or *pl.*) : Which (or who); that. i. e. referring to a prec. (demonstr. or indef.), occas. to a noun; obj. introducing a dependent question in apposition with it (A. 6); esp., in later use only, in *all what* (now *dial.* or *vulgar*).

Apparent instances in OE. are due to imitation of Latin : cf. Gothic 2 (a). Cf. also the use of Fr. *quoi* in *tout dire quoi dyde!* (*Vulg. nec hoc, legitis quod facit D.*)!, 22 : *Adfeyt's Boethius* xl. 63 (Bodl. MS.) Eall hwæt [*Cott. MS.* ȝ] he willnaþ hi þigetaþ. 1300 Ormin 1115 Nu ȝee wite shawenn þatt whatt itt bitacnebþ. 1307 R. Glor. (Rolls) 4862 þe king . wende toward bangor þo To destruye þe brutons, wat he founde mo. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 56 He told þam all what at he sawe. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. iv. 291 Afur al þis what is tretid upon the forse . . gouernaunce. 1532 Tindale *Expos Matt v-vii* (c 1550) 20 b, Here seeth he what a perfecte ryghteousnes muste looke for. 1557 North *Guevara's Dial Pr.* 244 They do al thinges what they iyst, and nothing what they ought. 1596 — *Plutarch* (1612) 70 tell that what ye haue made out 1599 G. Harvey *Trimming of Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 53 The least Ephemeron, which . . hath manie legs, foure wings, and all what Nature can afforde, to guse her expedition. 1645 Fuller *Good Th in Bad I.* (1841) 36 For matter of language there is nothing what grace doth do, but wit can net. 1697 S. Trym *Kolling on Blasphemy* 3 They . . thought it not adultery what was committed with her. 1728 Pitcairne & Nelson *Y. Kettlewell* III. § 78 He continued Unmoveable in all what he believed to be his Duty. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 57 Your mistress is not so artful a person as our Neighbour . . does not pride herself, for all what he said at Table, in such a pretty Maiden! 1909 J. B. Morton *Inns & Outs* 61 Sit down to write a book, I'd want to shove in all what I saw.

† b. in dependence on a prep. ; spec. in phr. *for what* (replacing OE. *for hwon*) = for which purpose or reason, wherefore. *Obs.*

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Þis monne me mei sermonen mid godes worde, for hwat he seal his sunne nor-aken and bileuen. *c* 1200 Ormin 2832 Ure preost iss þohht ne mihhte trowwenn þatt nann mihhtenn þurrh Godess mihhtess þeȝȝ o þinnkenn forr hwatt himm wass hise sawle þe3 þe Drihhtin all þurrkedd. *c* 1200 *Ureisun & Pirtinæ* 39 Gif ðu nis þing ne luuest ðurh hwat ðu miht forleosen godes luue. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Þe uirtuz of þe eiȝe is þet al þet hwat heo schulde uoreþ bimeneþ hir ewike bridde. *Ibid.* 382 He . . bid me ofte techen him sum ping mid hus at he muhte his luue drahen to. 1297 R. Gloc. (Rolls) 1 Hengist . . sum grantede . . is dozter aske to wif, Vor þat ȝe king sexe him be contreie of kent. *a* 1300 *K. Gloucester's Chron.* 3431 Mid þis he wende þer-fram, vor he nas nouȝt ywar þat he Drihhtin all bræfedd. *c* 1200 *Ureisun & Pirtinæ* 39 Gif ðu nis þing ne luuest ðurh hwat ðu miht forleosen godes luue. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Þe uirtuz of þe eiȝe is þet al þet hwat heo schulde uoreþ bimeneþ hir ewike bridde. *Ibid.* 382 He . . bid me ofte techen him sum ping mid hus at he muhte his luue drahen to. 1297 R. Gloc. (Rolls) 1 Hengist . . sum grantede . . is dozter aske to wif, Vor þat ȝe king sexe him be contreie of kent. *a* 1300 *K. Gloucester's Chron.* 3431 Mid þis he wende þer-fram, vor he nas nouȝt ywar þat he Drihhtin all bræfedd. *c* 1200 *Ureisun & Pirtinæ* 39 Gif ðu nis þing ne luuest ðurh hwat ðu miht forleosen godes luue. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Þe uirtuz of þe eiȝe is þet al þet hwat heo schulde uoreþ bimeneþ hir ewike bridde. *Ibid.* 382 He . . bid me ofte techen him sum ping mid hus at he muhte his luue drahen to. 1297 R. Gloc. (Rolls) 1 Hengist . . sum grantede . . is dozter aske to wif, Vor þat ȝe king sexe him be contreie of kent. *a* 1300 *K. Gloucester's Chron.* 3431 Mid þis he wende þer-fram, vor he nas nouȝt ywar þat he Drihhtin all bræfedd.

c. *gen.* (Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*)

1711 Addison *Spectator* No. 11. (Arb.) 21 In following so precisely, either the matter what other men wrote, or else the manner how other men wrote. 1821 Elsing *Debates Hse. Lords* (Camden) 34 To add that the weight of what the washer had taken away. 1868 Wilkins *Real Char.* 122 That incisure or resemblance of cutting what is common to most of them [*sc.* insects]. *c* 1890 in T. W. Read *Life Forster* (1888) I. v. 124 De like Long Forster, that walked to Colne and back before breakfast. 1869 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, Them's her lights, Miss Abbey, wot you see shining over yonder.

II. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons; always as compound with relative exc. in 10 b.)

8. That (or those) . . which (or who); such . . as; often expressing quantity, So much (or many) . . as : cf. C. 1, 2 a.

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1114 Fondes to do be duk what duresse ȝe may. *c* 1400 *Mirour Pemey P. Vernon MS.* 608 Tak what þing þe profred is Without þou maiȝt redi hause. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 150 By what things I was convicted you wote ȝow, those things . I haue giuen vnto you. 1609 Shake. *Lear* III. vi. 9, I will peece out the comfort with what addition I can. 1677 in *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.*

App. v. 36 I and Purbeck makes what hast he can to consume his ladie's fortune by gameing. 1720 Steele *Tatler* No. 169 P 2 Do we . destroy the use of what organs we have? 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VI. 388 What few to guard the town Unwilling had remained, haste forth to meet The triumph. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xlii. 199, I will take what indulgence the . . reader will give me.

9. In generalized sense : Any . . which (or who), any . . that : = Whatever 2 b. Now only in certain collocations : cf. C. 4. Also = Whatever 3 b.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 311 What man seiþ heij to suche ministris shal haue part of heere werkis for it seemi þat he ȝuelþ. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl C* III. 34 What man þat me louyeþ and my wille folweþ, Shal haue grace. 1422 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 90, I bequeth to what thinge þat is most necessary in þe same Church, y make 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxvii. 475 What King þat maye overcome that Knyght shall haue me and alle my landes. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 101 Into what cleare fountaine or River he swimmeth, he infecteth it. 1590 Shake. *Rom. & Jul.* II. vi. 3 Come what sorrow can 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 149 Provide a good large Box . and of what depth you shall judge convenient. 1711-14 Pope *Rape Lock* I. 70 Some assume what sexes and what shapes they please 1852 Thoreau *Summer* 23 June, The red clover will also be agreeable in a landscape, or let them be what color they may 1891 Morris *Poems by Way* 126 Unmoved I stand what wind may blow.

b with the generalized sense indicated by *ever, so, soever*, or *somever* following (now only, except with *soever*, immediately following: see Whatever, Whatso, Whatsoever, Whatsoemver).

*c* 1200 Ormin 10112 Whatt mann se itt sua Patt hafeþþ tweȝenn kirtelenn, ȝiffe he hafe an þatt alle manne þatt es wiþþutenn kirtell. 13 . *Cursor M.* 2249 (Gött.) To quat contre so bu wend, Sal bu na man find to frend. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. 1 (Harl. MS.) Þat knyȝt shall dy by my crafte, yn what contre of the worlde so euer þat he be yne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 5 In what nede that euer ȝe haue. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x. xli. 481 Sir Launcelot knyght wete ye well that smote doune sir Palomydes sholde haue his damoyssel to hym self. 1472 in P. H. Hore *Hist Wexford* (1900) I. 210 A strange marchaunt what that ever condicion he be. 1568 Q. Kennedy in *Reform. Soc.* 18 Quhat sect or opinioun that ever thou be of. 1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* v. i. 82 By that same God, what God so ere it be. 1676 Shadwell *Epsom-Wells* iv. (1) 64 In what humour soever he be between Lovers at first, in a short time it turns to scurvy jangling 1726 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 567 What Pow'r soe'er provokes our lifted Hands. 1744 Harris *Three Treatises* Hon. Pref. p. v, The Gentlemen of England, of what rank or estate soever they may be 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. ii. 460 All people ceased What talk they held soever.

c. Usually with *soever*, in indef. (non-relative) sense (cf. 4 d) Any . . at all, any whatever : = Whatever 4 a, Whatsoever 3 a.

In first quot. 1856 = some or other.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 11 For all right believers be of good comforth vnder what cross or distresse soever 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* v. 1 Plays 1873 II 243 Kiss then for euer Quit of what guilt soeuer. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii 44, I have not a larre o th' Clock, behind What Lady she her Lord. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos* II 92 At which Angle of Incidence the greatest Refraction is made to ly inches, let the Tube be of what length soever. 1725 Ibr Use Voy. round World (1840) 197 Not to come into nearer view what soever 1758 *Gentl. Mag.* 28/1 Gen. 721 2 Goods, Chattels, and Things of what Nature or Valu e soever. 1885 Scott *Talisman.* xx, She wore not upon her person any female ornament of what kind soever. 1856 Robinson *Eng. Lexicr, Word List Eng.*, Mr. Landor has a wonderful brain, by what chance converted to letters *Ibid*, Whatever is didactic—what theories of society, and so on—might perish quickly. 1881 Swinburne *Mary Stuart* I. ii. (1899) 32 We took in hand to cut this peril off By what close means soever and what foul hands Unwashed of reason.

10. *What time* [also † *at what time*], as conj. phr. : At the time, or at any time, at which; when; whenever. So *what day*. Now only *poet.*

1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (1) 65 I eche tham thar chidire . What time so thai er of eld to leer tham. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 109 Seyn þat sende what time he lyved þat penne weren many antecrists. *c* 1440 *Gesurydes* 4225 What tyme that eny lyng waddid shuld be, . . He lyȝ not, and þat is verrey trouthe. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* viii. 14 Lake as I deuised to punyah you, what time as ȝoure fathers prouoked me vnto wrath. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 28 What time the Graye-fly winds her sultry horn. 1698 Fryer *New Acc. East P.* Browne 18 Dec., Abstaining from using uncivil terms at what time they differed in judgment. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xx. 150 What time the monster of the Deep pursued This Hero. 1882 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Sept 11, Was the trial waged What day the Sirens with the Muses strove.

† b. (with *what* as simple rel.): At which time; when; and then. *Obs.*

1388 Grafton *Chron.* II. 65 The kinges Ambassadors repulsed of the French king returned, at what time he sent another Ambassade vpon the lyke cause. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Navgt. & Commerce* 128, I recall this, what time I was builded . in the time of Edward the third of England; at what time our Kings . had as yet nothing to doe in this Citie. 1643 H. More *Antid Ath* III. xv. 83 He gave up the Ghost about the third hour of the night, at what time a black Cat ran to his bed

III. *conj.*

† 11. a. During the time that; while. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne need..., wet we on þisse middeleard huilen, sed scrift.

† b. Up to the time that; till, until. (See also Allwhat.) *Obs.*

*a* 1175 *Cott. Hom* 215 Se laye adliȝede ..wat hit com to þa time þe god sende þe hyhe writþe. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. & Misc.* 50 Þu best ischalde þet beate wyn wat nu.

*c* 1315 Shoreham v. 245 Fram clystes resurreccioun, Wat comeþ hys ascencioun. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4902 In þat cite hii lei-lened here Wat Tirry was hole & fere. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5022 No finel þai neuer awiche a sleyt, Wat þai to Gaheriet com vijt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 87 Wyboute comynge ayen of huyche þinges, non ne is ury in þise worlde, huet he is y-do. 12. To the extent that; as much as, so far as. (Cf. C. 2 a, 8.) Obs. exc. dial.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 35 Eftor.. Caste on a day wip Grekes for to fighte As he was wonid to greue hem what he myghte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1794 He .. welcomyt hym worthely as a wegh noble, And frayntt hym with frendship qwat the fre wold. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q viij b, As thoughe shee wouldde .. allure what she can the eyes and affection of whoso beholdeth hyr. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* (1843) 52, I speak these things to excuse what I may, my Countrymen in the hearts of all. 1690 Penn *Rise & Progr. Quakers* (1834) 6 They changed what they could, the kingdom of Christ..into a worldly kingdom.

†13. (?after *F. que..ou.*) Whether (with correl. *or*).

*c* 1350 Rolland *Crt. Venus* v. 707 Befoir my Maiestie.. Or my deputis quhat thay be greit or small.

**D.** Indefinite (non-relative) uses.

*Pron. (sb.).* †1. Something; anything: only OE. exc. as surviving in phrases in which *what* is qualified by a quantitative or identifying word, (sometimes a genitive), e.g. Anywhat, Elsewhat (OE. *elles hwæt*), Little-what (OE. *lytles hwæt*, Mk. *litles what, what litles*, Little B. 3 c), Many-what, Mostwhat, Muchwhat (also *muckle what*, Mickle A. 3), Nowhat, Otherwhat, Somewhat, q.v., whence was evolved a subst. use of *what* = thing. *All what*: all the sorts of things. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 Ormin 2015, & þet for all an oþerr whatt Seggde he laffdi Marpe, Patt Josepp Cristess follstr wass. *Ibid.* 18653 Patt all batt stannedd tatt off Godd, off Godess ajhenn kinde, All þa wass itt all þatt Godd tes inn himm selfenn. *c* 1290 *St. Edmund* 408 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 412 Swat luttes it was þat he ut, was al of grete þinguc. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5 563 Þis ȝyueþ vus to vnderstonde Þat non ne schal wite Þat hys þync forȝat. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth. tr.* pr. xi. 704 (Camb. MS.) She a lytel what smylynge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 98 Florent..seih this ensur wher sche sat, Which was the lutlideste what That euere caste on his yhe. *a* 1400 90 *Wars Alex.* 3046 So fell flixt was of flaȝs.. Of arrowe & of all quat. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 122 Doo, say, or what, I can not tell. 1590 Spenser *Faerie Queene* III. xii. 3 A minion mar[r]-al. 1679 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* July 31 Come downe, and learne the little what, that Thomalin can saine, 1596 — *Ir. Q. St.* (1633) 100 Let him for to feed Such homely what, as serues the simple clowne.

**II.** *adv.* or *conj.*

(Often, esp. in early examples, capable of being construed as a pronoun = 'some'.)

**2.** Introducing (*a*) each, or (*b*) only the first, of two or more alternative or co-ordinate words or phrases: (*a*) *what . . what*, (*b*) *what . . and* (*† as, † so*) = Some . . others; both . . and; including . . and; as well . . as; partly . . partly. Now *rare* exc. with special implication (see b).

(*a*) *a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 211 Þat he was sigged þat hit cumþ fastlice..wat freind, wat fa. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1152 Hor folc hii bore..Wat in batalle, wat in þe se, and harsdhem nei eiþer. 1340 Wat born & stalwarde hede, wat buru godes grace, Mony was þe gode body, þat he slou. *Ibid.* 8289 Wat adreint, wat aslawe, tueif þinnes þer were ded. *a* 1350 *Gawayn M.* 1093 Quat for lauu and quat for dout. *Ibid.* 1098 Quat in swoȝe, quat in swyn in spus, And wat of hand wimmen in hus, Tuelue sens had he o þas. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8273 Wat wib writelyng, wat wib loggyng, Wat wib smityng & wib skirmyng, On hoþe half 83 þai wrouȝten, Her kinges on horu fol bioustes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. Prol.* 968 The thinges that I bende them What is mery, and what in ernest. 1500 Mauni ev. (Roxb.) xxv. 118 Fyfty comary of men, what of hors men, what of fote men. *c* 1440 Promp. Parv. 11. viii. 189 He schal, what in the feste, what in the halle, what in parvis, fynde herto proof ynogh. 1532 Tindale *Prol. Jonas* Wks. (1573) 28/1 All the noble blood was slayne vp, and halfe the commons thereto, what in Fraunce, and what with their own sword, in fighting among them selues for the crowne. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 23 b, These lordes had much people following them what for feare and what for entraide. 1820 Hogg *Lett. Somerville & Scott* 61 The Severn sea..what beeing driven backe, with a Southwest winde, and what with a verie strong pirrie from the sea to rumbling it, swelled [etc.]. 1854 Kane, Mdern. tr. *Bonifacius's Wars Flanders* 122 Most of the Kinges ships which, what great, what little, were about forty. 1870 Cotton *Esperanto* lii. viii. 130 A hundred and fifty Horse (what Gentlemen, and what of his own Guards). *a* 1893 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. i. 19 Seven Children at the least (what Male what Female) were brought forth. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxvi, I conceive they may be—what of yeomen—what of commons, at least five hundred men.

(*b*) *c* 1400 Maundev. (1moll) xxviii. 170 What on horse & on foot, mo þan CC. M. 1442 *Hocking's Cert.* (1828) 201 There is in pypes, what in the towne so in the castel, moo than CC legge hernesys. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 483 What of rayne, thonders and lightning and hayll. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 240 Many riche rayments..were made what for the spouse as for the ladyes & damoyselles. *Ibid.* 266 About xviii C. what bale-ters as torches. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* iii. iii, The very perfect hyerarchyes, What of the tower, and of the cleare sunne. 1523 Lp. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxxiv. 119 b/1 They rode so long what night and day. 1870 Cotton *Esperanto* lii. ix. 441 They had been mann'd out with above four hundred and fifty, what Mariners, and Souldiers.

**b.** Introducing adv. phrases formed with prepositions (in the earliest periods chiefly *for*, later usually, now almost always, *with*), implying (in early use only contextually) 'in consequence of, on account of, as a result of'; in view of, considering (one thing and another).

In quot. 1301 without alternative: *what for* simply = 'for, because of'.

(*a*) *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beoð in monifald wawe..hwat for ure eldere werkes, hwat for ure ajenne gultes. *c* 1290 *Beket* 392 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 117 Swat for wiþe, swat for loue, no man him ne wib-sede. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7100 What for sorow, and what þrugh smoke And what þrugh cald, and what þrugh hete, þai salle sy grete. *c* 1400 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1743 What for hungyr, what for thrist, þe shipmen of na lykyng lyste. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 161, I ame somewhatt crased, what with the see and what weyhe thys dyet here. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 216 The ile corners, what wythe fordys and shelues, and what with rockes, be very inperdious. 1570 Foxe *A. & M. Introd.* 2 100/2 What for the pillage of the Turcke, and what by inward theues and bribes: this land was brought into great affliction. 1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 85 What with the war; what with the sweat, what with the gallowes, and what with mirth, in a Custom-shrunke. *a* 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* I. iii. (1675) 36 What through their vicious affections..; what through their loose principles of conscience..they are not to be convinced. 1673 Marvell *Rch. Transp.* II. 181 The Penalty of the Bonds should have differ'd, what in case he run the Subject only into Error, and what in case of Sin. 1678 J. Williams *Hist. Gen. Quakers* 18 What for wording the Report of too much Credulity,..what from the care of doing any thing that might reduce to the likenish of the Earl of Northumberland, it was resolved [etc.]. 1796 *Monitor* No. 23. I. 325 What by..diminution of trade: what by the immense weight of taxes..some were actually ruined. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, I am willing to believe, that between the natural indolent kindness of his own disposition, what through the prayers of his mother Edith..had terminated [etc.]. 1824 Percy *Anc. Greece* Wks. 1890 VI. 131 What through banks, and what through policemen, the concern has dwindled to nothing. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* II. The track, what with pork-horses' feet, and what with the wear and tear of the heavy-laden yeast rainfall, was a rut three feet deep and two feet broad.

(*b*) *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 46 The fowles..What for the seson, and what for hir owene lust, han chosen hire makes anone. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xviii. 85 What þorw werre and wrake and wycked hyfdes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 781 Quat of þe wiche candels & sterring of þe wynde, þai were be dale. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3173 What by-cause of be hele of his gode wyff, & also of be meracle be whiche ber was do. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 21 What for calde & for holdyng fro be wynde, he nere-hand was dede. 1450 *Merlin* 1 What for Excise laws and Custom Laws and Constantine Laws in the abel Laws, & human Being..sincerely knows what he dares do or. say. 1867 Pakkman *Travels in N. Amer.* xxiii. (1875) 346 What with hunting, fishing, horse-racing, and lounging, the strangers and the travellers was so slow. 1870 Dasent *Ann. Revenf. Life* xxxvi, Aunt Mandeville,..what between the White Lady and the ancient gentleman.

* For other indefinite (non-relative) uses see C. 4 d, 9 c.

**E.** Substantival nonce-uses (from A., B., C.).

1. The question 'What?', 'What is it?', or the like, or the answer to such question; the essence or substance of the thing in question.

1666 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Estrange's Life*, An unexhausted Ocean of Learning Swallows up some, and My whole Life what with Sickness and my Studies, will hardly answer all What, or How, or Where. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* v. vi, 'What, ma'am!—how?—what?—' 'Nay, nay, don't look so, Lucilla! I'm only in joke.' 'And yet I'm sure you know what the whats mean!' 1832 Motley in *Corr.* (1889) I. 18, I was summoned before the Senate of the University to give my name and my whereabouts, my whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1844 L. Hunt *Blue Stocking Revels* II. 171 Poems 124 My lady will know all the what and the why. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 201 Desiring to divine the necessary rather than the circumstances of things—in search of the *what* chiefly in order to question it, make it give up at whatever cost the secret of its *why*. 1884 in *Lister's Lifelogh.* 431 I must seem utterly inconceivable that we should ask for the 'what' of a thing, and yet look for the answer in anything except that which this thing is and does.

2. A something.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittifull who's, and in short the slender whats are against modest Learning in Religious Divinity. 1909 A. Machen *Secret Glory* 54 We are not seeking a What; we are seeking a Whom.

3. An instance of the exclamation 'What!'

1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemps.* (1844) IV. 254 His partner..gave..a 'What!' of such sharp, shrill astonishment, that you could not but have laughed at it. 1785 Mme. D'Arblay *Evelina* 76 Dec., The *What!* was then repeated.

**+What,** *a.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **hwæt**, 3 **hwat**, **what**, **wat**. [OE. *hwæt* = OS. *hwat* keen, bold, OHG. *hwaz*, *waz* sharp, rough, severe, ON. *hvatr* bold, vigorous: related to Whet *v.*, q.v.] Quick, active; stout, brave.

*Beowulf* 1601 Nses ofgeafon hwate Scyldingas. *a* 1000 *Bi Monna Cræftum* 81 Sum bip to horse hwæt. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 To gode þu ware slaa and let; and to euele spac and hwat. *c* 1205 Lay. 7137 Per weoren sceles ase ille vluttie (*c* 2275 wate) and leiden þone king bi ane zate.

**What,** *int.* See I. What v.

**Whatabout(s** (hwɒ·tăbaut(s). *rare.* [f. What *pron.*, after *whereabout(s.)*] What one is about; doings, occupations.

1830 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 170 Then you might know of all my whatabouts and whereabouts from Henry Taylor. 1841 N. Hawthorne in *N. H. & Wife* (1888) 227, I think me that you may have no objections to hear something of my whereabout and whatabout. 1868 Elze, Parnther *Life & Lett.* (1882) 424, I was right glad..to learn of your whereabouts and whatabouts.

**+What-call-ye-him,** also simply **what-call.** *Obs.* = next.

1473 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 204 Ber the cuppe evyn, as What-calle-ye-hym seyde to Aslake. 1598 Marie *P. Penitesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 130 His Page shal say..he is no bosie with my L. How-call-ye him, and my L. Whatcall ye him. 1598 *Nev Lanoune's Cong.* (1868) 166 M. What-call-you-hims man. 1609 *Rowenscroft's Deuteronomie* 21 This other day I start a hare On what-call Hill.

**What-d'ye-call-'em (-um), -her, -him, -it** (hwɒ·tdy·e, wɒ·tjăkfăm, etc.). *colloq.* Less commonly **what-do-ye-call-'em** etc. ; also semi-orally abbreviated (see quots.); also simply 7–8 **what-d'ye-call.** See also *β* below. [What *pron.* A. I.] An appellation for a thing or person whose name the speaker forgets, does not know or wish to mention, or thinks not worth mentioning. Also *attrib.* substituted for any word (e. g. an adjective) which the speaker fails to recall.

1639 [J. Taylor (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 217, I..gave her a sound spurre-galling on the Buttocks:..O my what doe you call't, said shee. 1641 Cowley *Guardian* v, v, *Dog.*..How the what-d'ye-call'um runs? What do ye call it? *Jun.* Hum, Sir. 1648 Milton, Sir. *Edw. Dering on Answer to Answer's Cons.* 12 By shallow Edwards and Scotch what d'ye call. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* III. i, His Father was Squire what d'ye call him, of Swan-yard. 1694 Swift *T. Tub* Pref. 17 Spoken by Mr. Whatdicall'um. 1752 Foote *Taste* II, She was a kind of a what d'ye call'em ..a sort of a Queen or Wife, or something or other, I'm sorry body, that liv'd a damn'd while ago. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xiii, There being so many tendons and what d'ye call-'ems all about it. 1773 H. Walpole *Let. to W. Cole* 8 Jan., Mr. Whatd'ye-call-him's pamphlet. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 16 June, Miss What-d'ye call-her. 1806 Sir *Winter in Lond.* III. 257 We..went to that public house or what-d'ye-call-it. 1809 Miss Edgeworth *Chron. Caxtonsyde* iii, There is good accommodation at the what-d'ye-call-'em inns. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxv, To break up old associations of what-d'ye-call-'em colours of that kind. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 74 As legitimate a subject of human study as the glacial period or the silurian what-d'ye-call-'em. 1875 W. E. Hoelopp *Charm. Fellow* I, College is out of the question..unless he entered himself as a what-do-you-call-it?..A sizar.

*† β.* In contracted forms **whatd'ecall, what d'ee call't, what-d'ye-caw't, whatchicall, whatsha-call-em,** etc. (cf. Whatchamacallit) = sometimes analysed as = *what shall I call . . ? Obs.*

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 Hollinshead engrosing; some-bodies abridging; and whatchicalles translating. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii. (1601) B 4, I think there was a fellow that was a whatsha-callum doublet? 1632 Brome *North. Lasse* v. v, Your great acquaintance, and alliance in the Whatshicall Court *Non obstante*. 1642 — *Sparagus Garden* III. ii, Your tongue enough though, to offer us his whatd'ecalls? his Doates. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 121 What think you Sir of you whatsha'come Water and Diles, and? 1658 A. Fox tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* II. xxviii. 188 It is called also the not-named, or in what-d'you-call an unknown Sore, no body knows what it is. 1673 *Wo'ken Boyes* 1, I came onely to..be a witness for the orthodoxness of what d'ee call't. 1691 Mme. D'Arblay *Cecilia* viii, Let me see, now, which'ee call, Syntaxe-governatical. *a* 1807 T. Skinner *Songs & Poems* (1809) 43 Thee comen-every—what'd'ye-call't (I didn't-a's genius, watlie fa'!). 1820 Scott *Abbot* xxvi, My head turn'd with's powder.

**†** To what-ye (*or* -you) -call(-ish, etc.), later usually what-you-may-call-it [What *pron.* C. 4]

1598 Chapman *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* Plays (1873) I. 28 *Elk.* Why hees a what you call. 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 74 Good wam good Mr what ye call't. 1602 — *Merry Wives* III. i, *Lit.* Heeres your first weapon ducks meat. *Sim.* How, a dutch what you call em, Stead of a German falchion. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvii, There is no What's-his-name but Thingummy, and What-you-may-call-it in his prophet! 1870 *Many Baughman Kobl. Lyone* xxiv, Fine place, Bob; built by the what-you-may-call-it. 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* ix, Say good-bye to all your what-you-call-'ems.

**+What,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *pl.* **hwata**, 3 **hwat**, 3–4 **quate**, 3–5 **wat(e**, **what(e**, 5 **quate**. [OE. pl. *hwata*, **hwatan* (gen. *hwatena*), related to *hwata* augur, *hwatung* divination.]

1. Divination, augury; †foreboding.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Lev.* xix. 26 Ne eton ne blod, ne ne gimon lwæta on swefne! *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 12 Wæringe, and handsæne, and time, and hwate, and fele swilche deueles crafte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1054 Set sat loth at þe burges gate, After sum gouie stod him quake [*read* quate]. *c* 1325 *Cursor M.* 19567 (Fairf.) Of wate he [*sc.* Simon Magus] was ful wonder wise.

2. Fortune, destiny, fate, luck.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Pa unbilefulle..Werpeð þat gilt..uppen hwate, and seiß, nahte ich no betere wate. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 800 Alas alas þou luþer wate [*MS.* ð fortune], þat vilest me þus one. *Ibid.* 8319 Vor þat wat

afterward he nadde in none dede. 23.. *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 304 Þis is a child of goode whate. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1768 Pen fortune his fall lelli aspies, Vnqwemys his waste, & þe qwele nurnys. 14.. *MS. Cantab. Ff.* v. 48, lf. 94 (Halliw.) To bilde he hade gode quate.

b. ? Good fortune, luck.

*c* 1330 *Storie* & *Mir.* (1850) 14 And he hit erli and be hit late To þi wille thou schalt haue whate.

† **Whate,** *adv. Obs.* [f. WHAT *a.*2] Quickly. The identity of the word in the phr. *Alas* (*what se* (= as soon as) is uncertain.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Al se hwat se he forgulte wes..þet him er luuede ho hiin for wundeden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 Alse was swo þe man his sinne sore bimurnet, ure drihten leoſs þe sinne bewleas. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2659 (Laud MS.) To Tebes ward hij wendeþ whate, Hij sheteþ ayeins hym þe gate. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1741 Lambard ladde hym forth well whate.

**Whate,** obs. north. f. WOT.

**Whatever** (hwɒt,e·vəɹ), *pron.* and *a.* Also *poet.* **whate'er** (hwɒt,ēə·); 6–7 **whatere.** [Orig. two words, WHAT A., B. and EVER *adv.* 8 *e.*]

**1.** *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *what*, used in a question (direct or indirect), implying perplexity or surprise. Now *colloq.*

(More properly written as two words: see EVER *adv.* 8 *d.*)

a. *pron.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3314 Son, what may al this noys be, Whatcuer sal it sygnyfy? 14.. in *Anglia* XXVII. 285 Schew, thoght i ware neuer so wikked, whatever I wolde. 1450 *York Myst.* xxiii. 85 *Petrus.* Brethir, what euere 3onne brightnes be? 1883 *Spirit Publ. Journ.* 409 Whatever possessed her, I know no more than the child unborn. 1896 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* xiv. 141 'Gracious heart alive, whatever in all the world was that?' asks one. 1880 MRS. OLIPHANT *He that would not* etc. xxiii, Whatever can you want to emigrate for?

b. *adj.*

*Mod.* Whatever [or What ever] contrivance is that? I wonder whatever [or what ever] quest they'll do next.

**2.** As compound relative, in a generalized or indefinite sense: see EVER *adv.* 8 e. (Occas. with correl. demonstrative following.) a. *pron.* Anything at all which, anything that; sometimes contextually (esp. *poet.*), all that, everything that.

*c* 1378 *Curser M.* 321 (Fairf.) Quat euer þe haly gaste wille, Pe later and sone wil ȝee falle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4603 Holdynge ferme & stable what euyr he wolde da ther-with. 1498 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Arms* (S.T.S.) 328 Quhatever sik men dois, it is comperit to þe dede of a Prince. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 39 Quhat euer I haif, all that is thyne. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 623 Being mou'd he [*sc.* the boar] strikes, whatere is in his way. 1597 HOOKER *Pr. E. L.* v. 239 Whose constant perseverance overcame Whate're his cruel malice could inuent. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. v, It is a Maxim among these Mares, that whatever has been bred in the Country before may legally be done again. 1830 HY. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* vii. 88 In a few months we shall have stores of whatever we want. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, We'll lay in whatever you want to-morrow.

b. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons): Any . . a at all which (or who), any . . that; sometimes (*poet.*), all or every . . that.

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 343 Whatever reasonn men makeen of Crist, of Peire, or oþer good ground, it goiþ opinli ayen sich a pope. 1382 — *Ecc.* ix. 10 The riȝt wijsnesse of a iust man shal not delyuere hym, in whatever day he shal synne. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iv. viii. 463 What euer gouernaunce God in his Holi Scripture of the Newe Testament blameth. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 39 Quhatever thing the Iudges of auld had twechet, . . fourne al ask thay abstenied mony dayes thairefter. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 22 What-ever successive Duration, shall be bounded at one end, and must end present, must needs be infinitely short of Infinity. 1704 GOLDEN. *Trans.* 113–117 Whatever fruits in different climes were found, . . Whatever blooms in torrid tracts appear, . . Whose sweets salute the northern sky. . : These, here [*sc.* in Italy] disporting, own the kindred soil. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 374 They will hear homilies of whatever length Or form they please. 1887 COLLINS, SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* July 3 The Government-General has been stripped of whatever little authority he retained.

**3.** Introducing a qualifying dependent clause equivalent to a conditional or disjunctive clause, often with verb in subjunctive (*whatever happen* = 'if any (sort of) thing happen', 'whether one thing or another happen'). a. *pron.* = 'No matter what'; frequently implying opposition (equivalent to a conditional clause with *though*): = 'Notwithstanding anything that'.

As predicate sometimes (esp. of persons) expressing equality or character, and thus approaching a pred. adj. (cf. WHAT A. 17). Often with ellipsis (*whatever its merits* = 'whatever its merits may be').

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 344 Whon þe bef passeþ quyt a-way, Pe trewe mon hab achome, what-euer men sai. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22143 (Trin.) But what euer he had in boust Mis-likyng chere had he nouȝt. 1599 *Minor. Mag., Jack Cade* i, Whatever it were this one poynt sure I know. 1593 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 100 Take no repulse, whatsoeuer she doth say. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xciii. 11 Whatere thy thoughts, or thy hearts workings be, Thy lookes should nothing thence, but sweetnesse tell. 1600 — *A. V.-L.* II. vii. 109 What eye you are That in this desert . . Loose, and neglect the creeping houres of time. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 77 *Æne.* If not Achilles sir, what is your name? *Achil.* If not Achilles, nothing. *Æne.* Therefore Achilles: but whatever, know this. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *1st Folio Shaks.* A 3, But, what euer you do, Buy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 162 Whatever doing, what can we suffer more . . ? 1668 DAVENANT *Secret Love* i. iii, *Phil.* And yet, there is a thing, which time may give me The confidence to name. *Lys.* 'Tis yours whatever. 1697 — *Æneis* VI. 506 Mortal, what e're, who this forbidden Path In Arms presum'st to tread, I charge thee stand. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 497 P 3 Whether it were from Vanity, or whatever it was, he carried it so far, that [etc.]. 1780 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 342, I am glad to hear you speak of a little horse, whatever his colour be. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, So Richard asked her whatever she said, it wasn't No. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* iii, Whatever the defects of American universities may be, they disseminate no prejudices. 1858 NEWMAN *Univ. Sk.* (1902) 191 Men of one idea and nothing more, whatever their merit, must be to a certain extent narrow-minded. 1859 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 326, I have had nothing to suffer from hast, whatever else.

b. *adj.* = 'No matter what . .'; often implying opposition: = 'Notwithstanding any . . that'.

Also (after a prep.) with ellipsis, passing into sense 4 *a* (*a*).

1587 WHIGIFT *Def. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 77 We addict our selfis to the doctrine of na man, of quhatever leirning and auctoritie he be. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 84. 1691 HICKERINGILL *Bayle Lect.* v. 17 What-ever Considerations of this nature you propose to this Atheist, . . he hath this one answer for them all. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 149 ? 10 Money, in whatever hands, will confer power. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 74 Whatever fables they have mixed with the narrative, they preserve the material parts. 1889 *Nature* 19 Jan. 253/1 Rocks of whatever age, mineral and ground to pieces, . reconstruct themselves into new forms. 1906 H. HELLOC *Hills & Sea* 176 In whatever place a man may be the spring will come to him.

**4.** As indefinite adj. or pron., with loss of the relative force: cf. WHAT D.

a. *adj.* (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons); Any . . at all. † (*a*) preceding the sb.: cf. WHAT C. 9 *c*. *Obs.* or merged in the elliptical use under 3 *b*.

*c* 1383 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1911) Oct. 742 Prelatis curatis & presetis or whatsuere clerkis[:] shulen not sue symonie. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvii. 91 Þei ben not come into whatt euer exampuncion of argumentis whiche mowe be mad ther upon. 1620–58 J. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 12 Accomodating their Habitest Glory to the Modish apparel in whatever Asia. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 442 If there's he scape into whatever world, Or unknown Region. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* II. 1. iii. 91 The Bull alone . . hath whatever head against the Lion, or whatever other invading Beast of Prey.

(*b*) following the sb.: usually, now only, after *any*, *no*, *all* (*anything*, *nothing*), etc., which it qualifies like *soever*: cf. WHAT C. 9 *c*.

1623 N. ROGERS *Str. Vineyard* 78 We see that the Barke of the Vine seemeth more withered and dry than the . Barke of any other Tree whatsoeuer. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* (1689) 42 The most brilliant Colours of all other whatever. 1718 PRIOR *Poems* Dedi. (1905) p. xx, He was so strict an Observer of his Word, that no Consideration whatever could make him break it. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 20 I shall not look on myself as accountable to any Court of Critical Jurisdiction whatever. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvii, Fortifying her strong castle against all assailants whatever. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iv, I know nothing whatever of Mr. Jellyby. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. 105 All bodies whatever are liable to the mutual communication. 1884 *Mansfield's Tennis Cuts* 94 That a player using a racket had no chance whatever against an opponent catching and throwing the ball.

b. *pron.* Anything at all: cf. WHAT D. 1. *rare.*

1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 211, I surely should not put this behinde what ever else. 1892 M. DODS *Gosp. John* II. xiv. 218 The torrent bursts in on me and carries me by main violence, resolves, high aims, and whatever else.

**What ho:** see WHAT B. 3.

† **Whatkin,** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [f. WHAT D. 1 + -KIN.] A little 'something'; a minute particle.

1604 T. RAINFAU *Sick & Sickn.* 1 Is it well [*sc.* a feasting or atom] being an unthroughfareson whatkin.

† **Wha·tkin, -kins,** *a. Sc. and n. dial. Obs.* (Sometimes as two words.) Forms: see WHAT *pron.* and KIN *sb.*1; also 5 **what skynnos.** [f. WHAT *a.*1 + KIN *sb.*1 6 *b.* In later use Sc.; cf. WHAT'NA.]

1. Interrogative or exclamatory: Of what kind; what kind or sort of; what.

*a* 1300 *Curser M.* 963 Tell me.. Howgat and wit quatkin thing, I sal couer þi saghtelling. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 727 Quat-kyn ȝyng may be bat lambe, Pat ȝe wolde wedde vnto þis wy? 1513 DOUGL. *Æneis* VII. Prol. 69 We wate wele Iosephi was a wrighi, . and marí vs menes his moder hight, we, whatkin goddes er ȝiss? *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 58 If ȝe wil not whatkyns lettres ȝai vse, here ȝe may here bam. *c* 1405 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol. 1 Now haf ȝhe hed on qwhatkyn wyse I haf contenyt þis tretyis. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* (Laing MS.) 1 Sum a fallow was þat ane? 1561 WHITE *Ith. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 60 Quha declaris expreslie quhatkin a faith that haif in God.

2. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5687 (Gött.) 'Sir, . þi mete es graid.' 'And quatkines mete?' 'sir, venisun.' *Ibid.* 10442 Ne wate bu nought .Quatkines a fest it es to day? *a* 1450 MYNC *Par. Pr.* 1506 Take gode hede on bys degre, Of what skynnes lyuynge þat þay be. 1557 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 732 To spye . whatkyns passage wer for an hoste to ryde.

† **Wha·tkin-like:** That kind of . . which, such . . as; usually in generalized sense (sometimes with *so* or *soever*): Whatever.

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lv. 10 [vl. 9] In whatkin dai I cal the not, Loke, I knew þat mi God art bou. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 315 Men clepid men of holi Chirche whatkyn, þo what kynne sinne, what kynne tresoun, likeþ hem. 1438 MIRYN *Fire of Love* i. vii. 14 Slike ons & so grete he is, whatkyns so mykill none odyr is, no neuer may be. *a* 1450 MYNC *Par. Pr.* 210 On what skynnes maner so byt be wrogt, Dedly synne hyt ys forthe broght.

† **Whatliche,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **hwætlice,** 3 **hwatliche,** *Orm.* **whattlike**; *comp.* 3 **watliker,** 4 **whatliker(e, -likere**; *sup.* 4 **whatlikest.** [OE. *hwætlice*, f. *hwæt* WHAT *a.*2 + *-lice* -LY 2.]

*a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxvii[i]. 4 [2] Fehyr me hwætlice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12166 Patt deofell let te Laferd nemn Whatlike inn an hanndwhile Off all þiss wide middellærd Þe kinedomes alle. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1708 Þeos hule spac wel baldeliche, For þah hee nadde swa liwaliche Here fiðer after hire here, Heo walde neopeles ȝefe answere.

b. *comp.* Sooner, more readily, rather; *sup.* soonest.

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 89 Bute ȝe hwile, & hwatliker hit te scall beore ma rewen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8846 Worst he wolde walkiner mid worde þan mid mine. *c* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 1249 And whatlokere [*v.r.* wel *rapur*] schulde such an hej man ne come he nojt so sone, And nother ich ne be hwat like is Miss Havisham? 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* I. 752 Meanwhile unhappy Dido . . naked . . With whatsoever arms Aurora's son had come unto the King.

b. *as sb.* Aspect, appearance. *nonce-use.*

1853 C. C. LEITCH in *Mem.* (1856) 125 The . questions of the whereabouts and the whatlike of a new bungalow.

**Whatman** (hwɒ·tmăn). [From the name of the maker.] In full *Whatman paper*: A kind of paper, made in various qualities, used for drawings, engravings, etc.

1880 *Man'm. Mag.* No. 245. 380 For rapid sketching, thin rough Whatman, properly stretched upon a board, is as good as any other paper. 1886 H. R. ROBERTSON *Art of Pen-and-Ink Drawing* 37 Some old Whatman paper.

**What'n, whatten** (hwɒ·tn), *a. Sc.* and *n. dial.* Forms: 6 **quhatten, quhattene, -in(e, whattin, 9 whaten, -an, whatton.** Also *8* (with indef. art.) **what'n a, whatna.** [Reduced form of WHATKIN *a.*; cf. THAT'N, THISSEN.] Properly, What kind of; hence, what.

*a* 1550 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 245 Quhat will ȝe saye me now for quhatten plyght? *c* 1560 J. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxviii. 26 Quhattene ane ghaist falis ane I. 1561 WHIGIFT *Ith. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 57 Quhattin a Paipist I am in this samin redd. Buik of Questionis.. I tak on hand to preue.. this maist holy Mayd Marie to be ane samin Papistia. 1600 [T.LEVE] *Maydes Metamm.* iii. ii, Priapus quoth a' Whattin a God might that bee? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I wish I had whatna kind of a beast it is. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, Whatten o'clock is't? 1891 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* 137 And whatten a leaf for me?

*b.* 1796 BURNS *There was a lass* iii, Whatn'a day o' whatn'a style I doubt it's hardly worth the while To be seen mice wi' Robin. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxix, But whatna wife is this, wi' her cheek red as the mornin? 1871 *Art Kennedy* iv, Think, oot o' whatna hole the bullet has been dragged.

**Whatness** (hwɒ·tnĕs). [f. WHAT *pron.* + -NESS: transl. L. *quiddităs* QUIDDITY.] That which makes a thing what it is; essential nature, essence: = QUIDDITY 1.

1621 FLORIO, *Quiddità*, the whatnesse of any thing. 1627 W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1636) 49 The kinde or quality, or if you'l so terme it, the whatnesse of it. 1658 [T. STANLEY] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 158 The Understandableness of a thing, or the quiddity, the Whatness. 1870 MORLEY *Stud. Lit.* (1891) 286 Pressing for definition, you never get much further than that each given quiddity means certain Whatness. 1889 MIVART *Truth* 219 We must..have the conception of the kind of thing the object is—'what' it is, or the idea of its 'whatness'.

† b. Used by N. Fairfax for: Statement of what a thing is, definition. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 80 The definition or whatness of a thing ought to be of a thing as a thing.

**What-not, whatnot** (hwɒ·tnɒt). [Properly an ellipt. interrog. phr. (see first quot. below, and cf. WHAT A. 5).]

1. Usually and preferably as two words (hwɒt nɒt): Anything whatever; everything; anything and everything; 'all sorts of things': mostly, now only, as final item of an enumeration: = anything else, various things besides. (Also occas. of persons.)

1590 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. ii. Yiij b, Excesse of fleshely pleasures..hath taken awaye all thynges..my goodes, or substance, my name ā, my good name and fame, my frendes, my glory ā, my renowme or good reporte and I. what thyng is it that abe hath not taken from me? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 185 His minde was so altered, his conditions so changed, and what not in him so alienated. 1598 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 110 Marrie peece it boads, and loue, and quiet life, An awfull rule, and right supremicie: And to be short, what not, that's sweete and happie. 1600 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, I have.. Borne out the shock of war, and done, what not, That valour durst. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Dec., The strange variety of people.. bakers, brewers, butchers, draymen, and what not. 1718 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 183 Our evening Walks in the Park, our amusing Voyages

on the Water, our Philosophical Suppers, our Lectures, our Dissertations, our Gravities, our Reveries, our Fooleries, our what not? 1741 Richardson *Pamela* I. xix. 46 A Gentleman .. who is my Master, and thinks himself intitled to call me Bold-face and what not. 1849 in H. Gregory *Side Lights* (1898) 46 Well off with the profits of his books and whatnot. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. iii, The blessed king's rosaries, the medals which he wore, the locks of his hair, or what not. 1872 Blake *Adv. Phaeton* xxix. 301 We had our chops and what not in the parlour of the inn. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Fencing, dam-making, cattle-droving, what not. 1921 *Athenæum* 24 June 721, They were too apt to go to law and fight over their lands and fishing rights and what-not.

**b.** A thing or person that may be variously named or described; a nondescript. *rare.*

1602 *How Chose Good Wife* v. I 2, Why you lake sawce, you Cuckold, you what not. 1903 Alice M. Earle *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* II. 481 Besides the furbelown and *frillitalities*, or 'whatnots', were hurly-burlies and *fanfreluches*.

¶ Confusedly used in *pl.* for 'various things'.

a 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 53 Passengers who are constantly to make portages will not encumber themselves with what-nots. 1870 Dickens *Edwin Drood* iv, I profess to be an impartial chronicler of poor Phil's fortunes, misfortunes, friendships, and what-nots.

**2.** An article of furniture consisting of an open stand with shelves above one another, for keeping or displaying various objects, as ornaments, curiosities, books, papers, etc.

1808 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton *Corr.* (1902) 51 The old chairs, tables, what-nots, and sofas. 1831-4 R. S. Surtees *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 89 Between 'what nots' on the right of the fire-place. 1880 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5674, Canterbury what-not. 1885 Hawthorne *Our Old Home, About Warwick* I. 170 Such delicate trifles as we put upon a drawing-room table, or in a what-not.

**What-now.** *nonce-wd.* = Quidnunc.

1890 C. Martyn *W. Phillips* 236 The wits of the pot-house and the what-nows of society were ..mightily amused.

**What rock, whatreck,** *interrog. phr.* (*adv.*) *Sc.* Also 6 quhat rek, 8 whatrack, quastrack, 9 foutrack. [f. What *a.*1 (13 *b*) + Reck *sb.*1 2.] What matter? does it matter? Also parenthetically as *adv.* : For all that, nevertheless.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxviii. 30 Thocht a man half a brokin bak, Haif he a gude crafty telyour, quhatrak, That can li ewer with craftis full fyve. 1568 Lyndsay *Satyre* 3304 The Mers sould thrll me beif and kaill. Quhat rak of bread I a 1586 Montgomerie *Poems* (S.T.S.) 280 ^ And thow stell a cow, cairle, thair they hing the.' ' Quatrock, I wes nocht of that' For anis mon I die.' 1787 Burns *When Guilford good our Pilot stood* ii, But yet, whatreck, he, at Quebec, Monkeywylke did fa', man. 1808 A. Scott *Poems* 141 Yet they whatreck in popularian spread. 1825 Jamieson s.v. *Foutrack*, One, who hears any unexpected news, exclaims, Foutrack! [i.e., Indeed! Is it really as you say? 1847 J. Halliday *Rustic Bard* 165 But yet whin reck?

So **Whatrecks** (6 quahatt rax, 9 *Sc.* fatrecks) [What *adv.* (20) + Reck *v.* 8 I] in same sense.

1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 1540 (Bann. MS.) Now quhilt the king is sound sleiband, Quhatt rax to steill his boy? 1724 Ramsay *Tevot. Mist.* (1733) I. 5 Tho' still into some Bed had fawn Whatrecks, quoth she, let it be gawn. 1802 Tannas *Poems* 12 'Fatrecks' quo' Will, 'it needs nae badder.'

**Whatsalle, -sall(e, obs.** = next.

**What-sha-callum, what-sha'-come,** etc. : see What-is'-ye-call-'em.

**What's-his-name** (hwɒ·tsʰizʰēm). *colloq.* Substituted for the name of a man or boy (loosely, of a thing) which the speaker forgets, does not know, or is unwilling to mention. So **What's-her-name** (of a woman or girl), **what's-its-name** (of a thing), **What's-your-name** (of a person addressed).

*Whitsennaut* (quot. 1866) represents an ambiguous form which is not uncommon. *What's-their-names* (quot. 1773) is very rare.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* iii. 61 Two Figures on the sides emboss'd appear; Conon, and what's his Name who made the Sphere. 1737 Foote *Author*, Look ye here, Mr. What's-your-name? 1773 G. A. Stevens *Trip Portsm.* ii. 28 The what-d'ye-names at Newcastle. 1846 Sketchley *Adv. Mrs. Mort.* Concl., 'And what became of old Mrs What's her name, the housekeeper?' 'Mrs. Wilson, madam', answered I. 1849 Marryat *Frank Mildmay* xxiii, Mr. Thingamy, you will take the what's-his-name. 1858 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxxi, Those great folks in what's-his-name Place. 1865 — *Cricket on Hearth* iv, He was soon the very What's-his-name to pay. 1868 — *Dombey* xxi, ' But seclusion and contemplation are my what's-his-name—' 'If your mean Paradise, Mamma, will but let me say so, to resolve yourself intelligible.' 1866 Reade *Griffith Gaunt* xv, He.. almost persuaded Whatsoname, and her heathen gentleman, to be a Christian. 1872 Earl Pembr. & G. H. Kingsley *S. Sea Bubbles* I. 99 The backwelling individual is looked upon .. by the more ..decent of the community as little better than one of the what-shi-nasmes. 1880 Ouida' *Moths* I, It makes one feel like What's-his-name in the 'Travelure'.

**Whatso** (hwɒ·tsoʊ), *pron.* and *a. arch.*, chiefly *poet.* [ME. *wh(a)at so, quatso, hwot se,* (Orm) *whattse*, reduced form of OE. *swā hwæt swā*, early ME. *swa hwat swa*, generalized form of *hwæt* What *pron.* : see *So adv.* 17 *d.*]

**1.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 2 *a.*

*c* 1200 Ormin 426 Forrwarrd we don unnhasherrlij Whatsse we don to gode. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1324 Oc abraham it walde wel Quat-so god bad. *c* 1275 Lay. 25703 We letep him one den wat so [*c* 1205 Faren beu swa] he wolde. 13.. *Gawn. & Gr. Knt.* 255, & quat so by wylle bi, we schal wyst after. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 359 What so we worchen in bis worlde,..For his sake þat it sente so3li we worchin. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 56 Mekely to suffre what so him sente were. *c* 1425 *Rauf Coilzear* 112 And sloe mat me ony mair, cum efter quhat sa may, Thow and I sall dyntis deill. 1509 R. [Carew] *Tuzo* (1881) 7 When Sire eternall.. Lookes downe, and..in one vew, Compriseth all what so the world can shew. 1602 Withie *Faire-I'irtue* N 2 b, And, my Care, it addes not to What-so, others say, or doe. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 70 And whatso He commands, that I must speak. 1876 Morris *Æneids* xii. 182 Whatsoever God is in the air, or whatso rules the blue sea with its rod. 1900 Hawtrey *Confes. Edw. to Mrs.* Died, Despatches, sermons,—whatso goes into their brain comes out as prose.

**b.** *adj.* = Whatever 2 *b.*

1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 682 And whatso other hearbs.. The loyous Sylvan beings doth..Ne planted there. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* I. Prol. 17 His fleet held whatso land he could swim From Jutland to Land's End. 1892 C. E. Norton *Dante's Hell* xi. 30 Whatso power he have.

**2.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 3 *a.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9036 Ne [*er*] be gode þe wers to prais, Quat-so men o þe wick sais. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 382 Gawan I hatte, þut bede þe his buffet, quat-so bi-falles after. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* x. 128 Al worth as þow wolte, what so we dispute. 1457 Harding *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 747 What so men gat couetyse nought hym fylde. 1548 Wm. Patten *Exped. Scotl.* (1878) 115 Whatso befall, still that I serve By proof full well it shall be known. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* v. lxxvii, Loue calles it follie, what so wisdome saith. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 143 And fiess will I enter here And meet my fate, whatso be. 1870 *Ibid.* L'Envoi (1890) 444/1, I love thee, whatso time or men may say.

**†b.** Of a person : Whoever. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 6355 What se [*c* 1275 wose] hæfde richedom, he hine makede wræcche mon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Ancre, hwat se hoo beo, alse muchel ase heo euer can & mei, ioldie hire stille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M. Prol.* 52 Bot it be wele ouer-sene, Whatso it be, it sal be lathe. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1435 Hym wolde be vnybben. 1420 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 He fownde lord in his syris ryght as thai be for this tyme. 1565 J. Hall *Crt. of Virtue* 103 b, The poore man,..As well as he, What so he be, That ryches doth endue.

*c. adj.* = Whatever 3 *b.*

1867 *Metr. Homilies Trans.* 456 Whatso thing the next day bring, Right merrily shall pass these coming hours.

**3.** *adj.* = Whatever 4*a.*

1901 A. Austin *Crowning of Kingship* ii, And, like the sea, let whatso tempest shrill, Speak wild-wise,..and there.

**Whatsoever** (hwɒtsoʊe·vəɹ), *pocl.* **whatsoe'er** (hwɒtsoʊē·əɹ), *pron.* and *a.* Also 5 quat-sever, 6 whats'ever. (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. What*so* + Ever *adv.* 8*e*; cf. Soever.]

**1.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 2 *a.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 970 Wisdom he made ilc bing of noȝt, Quatsoeuer he wrogte or her [*c.* wrot. *c* 1330 *Cott. Leve* 420 Hirt nespareþ for to jugge What-so-euere Sop wol sugge. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Cainden) xlvii, Quat-sever 30 will take, 1548 Hall *Chron.* 139 Whatsoeuer ye saye in my name, that will I do. 1592 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 252 Whatsoever now the Heav'ns wide arms embrace. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlvii. 9 Whatsoever hath been matter of a mortall man, there is in him whatsoever the name of vanitie doth comprehend. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 297 He knew what's ever's to be known. 1827 Shelley *Rev. Islam* v. xxxiii, Whatsoever my weakness might create. 1874 Pusey *Lenten Serm.* 103 More grievous will be that fire, than whatsoever man can suffer in this life.

**b.** *adj.* = Whatever 2 *b.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* vi. ii, None, for what so euer myght that he haue ought not to despreyse the other. 1526 Tindale *Phil. iv.* 8 Whatsoever thynges are true, whatsoever honest, whatsoever iuste, whatsoever pure, whatsoever mynde. 1584 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 130 Whatsoever thinges are seen with bodily iyen. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 587 In whatsoever shape he lurk, Of whatsoever mix Hell can devise, Whatsoever craft. 1870 I. i. 71 Whatsoever things We asked for,..those were ours.

**2.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 3 *a.*

1300 *Cursor M.* 10298 (Gött.) Pu mai gode chere Quat so euer þu se or here. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 37, I will knowe the soth, what-so-euer it coste. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xlvii. 143, I will not be dyspleased what so euer thou wylte saye. 1590 Spenser *Faerie Queene* (1596) 16 Meaning by the state (whatsoever they otherwise pretende)..the welfare of some few..upholden by this new religion. 1696 Phillips (ed. Kersey) *Dict.* s.v. Whatever, whatsoever my Letter did pretend, I made this meeting for no other end. 1681 — *Abr. a Achit.* 397 Whatsoe'r their Sufferings were before, That's now Abraham's Seed. 1700 All wants he can supply. R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 113 Any force by which bodies tend towards each other, whatsoever be the cause. 1823 in Nead *Bp. Percy Diocesan Hist.* 187 They froze me, or affronted me,..whatsoever I did.

**†b.** Whoever : = prec. 2 *b. Obs.*

*c* 1430 Lydg. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 46, I Counsell, what-so-euer thow be. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 122 Pay iustly thy tithes whatsoeuer thou bee. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 69 Quhatsaeuer he be yat ar baptized in Christ he haue put on Christ. 1600 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 128 1608 *Puritan Ecclesiast* iv. (1) 21, 29 Could'st thou that readest this, whatsoeuer thou art..?

**c.** *adj.* = Whatever 3 *b.*

*a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxlix. 568 Ye ought to praise our lord god, what so euer losse ye haue had. 1598 in Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 68 Quhatsoevir extait or ordour he be of. 1598 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 1 Afore the eyne baith of our Nobilitie, and of the lail people, in quhatsaeuir state or degrie. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 125 ? 8 Those whom they ought to look upon as their Common Enemies, whatsoever Side they may belong to. 1889 Rosetti *Seven Lamps* I. (1883) 7 The art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, for whatsoever uses, that [etc.]. 1894 L. Morris *Songs of Two Worlds* Ser. II. *Reply* ii, Whatsoever chance befall, Of myself I'd die easiest.

**3.** *a. adj.* + (*a*) = Whatever 4 *a* (*a*). *Obs.*

1589 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 177, I wil put it in practice, notwithstanding whatsoever inclination to the contrary. 1605 A. Wotton *Answ. Popish Pamph.* 76 [We] who submitt whatsoever our assertions to be compared with the Scriptures. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. p 3 He would not suffer it to be broken off for whatsoever speaches or practises. 1611 W. Sclater *Key* (1629) 195 Fornication, is any whatsoever breach of Chastitie. 1658 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 232 One True God, from whom is all Whatsoever Nature. a 1679 Hobbes *Rhet.* Prel., The Art of speaking, which.. is able to bring about whatsoever Interest.

(*b*) = Whatever 4 *a* (*b*).

1478–8 *Rolls of Parll.* VI. 34/1 In this Parlement, or any other Parlement afore this tyme holden whatsoever notwithstondyng. 1490 Whatsoeuer *Chron.* (Camden) II. 9 This realme of Englande and other the Kinges dominions whatsoeuer. 1582 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 80, I build not my faith upon any one man whatsoever. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 216, I promist we would be Contributors, And beare his charge of wooing whatsoere. 1620 Hickeringill *Good Old Cause Wks.* 1716 II. 555 You may easily know to get an Assize against Drunkards, and Loosers, and Crosers, whatsoever. 1796 Alison *Anecd. W. Pitt* II. xxix. 127 In every circumstance of government and legislation whatsoever. 1869 Kingsley *Herew.* ix, He felt in himself no title whatsoever to the estate.

**†b.** *pron.* = Whatever 4 *b. Obs.*

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 1023/1 Other will become horne maddle and be at defiance with whatsoever. 1583 Stockwood *Def. Doctr. Ch. E.* 111 This was also well furnished..with whatsoever els necessary for a Trenche. 1642 Earl Monm. tr. *Blondel's Chrst Ware* III. 232 The pompe and solemnity exceeded whatsoever of former times.

**†Whatsome,** *pron. Obs.* In 4 quat-sum, -sim. [f. What *pron.* + Sum *rel. adv.*] Whatever.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 792 Quat sum first þar was guin saw, Al for noght bat ete it lath. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 9036 (Fairf.) Quatsim men of be wikked make.

**Whatsomever** (hwɒtsʰŏmĕ·vəɹ), *pron.* and *a. Obs. exc. dial.* (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. prec. + Ever *adv.* 8 e.]

**1.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 2 *a.*

*c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 223 þai will graunt þam what sum euer þai aske. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. xii. Ser. I. 312 Yit your Grace wrocht wittasfit to wryght iij. wordes to the sayd Archibishope shewyng lyme, what so mever hathe ben wrygin. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reformation* 374 The vther number of the congregation, Redaris, exhortaris, or quhatsumever thay be. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. ii. 249 And what soeuer els shall hap to night, Giue it a vnderstanding but no tongue. 1648 Earl Westmld. *Otia Sacra* 67 Whatsomev'r both Earth and Air afford.

**b.** *adj.* = Whatever 2 *b.*

*c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 5041 Bot þai had sum euer woo they fele, They wole not plegyne. 1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 168 Whatsomeuer thynge is gyuen vnto them for the loue of hym, he taketh it as it were done to hym-selfe. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 58 Quhatsoeuer thinga ye treuis, quhatsumeuer things ar honest. *c* 1620 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 2 a b, Favourites, who..take pleasure of whatsomever Recreation they find the Prince delighted in. 1694 in J. Russell *Haiga* (1881) 207 Whatsomever bonds are in Moneys in my behoof.

**2.** *a. pron.* = Whatever 3 *a.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10308 'Anna,' he said, 'þou ma god chere Quat-sum euer þou se or here.' *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2804 Wel am I wroken on the, What som euer fal on me. *c* 1486 *Dicby Myst.* (1882) 139 Whatt-so-mever yow bet-tyde. 1598 Finbier *Pymit. Pr.* ii. Wks. (1876) 35 Alwaye content what someuer god sent vnto them. 1583 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxii. 106 b/2 Dukes, erles, barons, knyghtes, esquyres, vniuersities, or syngular personnes, what someuer they be. 1603 *Plutarchs* lxxvii, Quhat sumeuer me behall.

**†b.** Whoever : = Whatso 2 *b. Obs.*

*c* 1450 in *Three 15th Cent. Sermons* 58 That the justice may do vpon them trew iugement, what some evar they be. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 398 Quhat sumeuer that he be, Ging him haistely to me. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* (Rolls) ii. 641 Nor na other, quhatsumeuer that thai be, Haldis of yow or 3our auctoritie. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* III. v. 54 What somere he is He's brauely taken heere.

**c.** *adj.* = Whatever 3 *b.*

1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) I. 363 No man.. schal be i-saued, but he be verrey repentaunt, what somme euer penaunce he doo. 1593 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxvii. 109 b/1 Subiectes, (whatsomever estate or condicion they be of). 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 7 In quhatsumeuir way it sall happin. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 100 All menis faces are sad, whatsomere their bands are.

**3.** *a. adj.* = Whatever 4 *a.*

1499 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 10 Any other acquyens quhatsumeuer be twyx thaim. 1588 in *Charters Kilun.* (1872) 155 Quy vther nocht sance quhatsumeuer neidfull, or amangis quhatsumeuir merchandis. 1588 in *F. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 560 All and whatsumever persones, wyowit or suspected to be Papists. 1676 G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* tit. xi. § 5. (1699) 202 In all the Courts of Bishops, Abbots, and the Lords whatsomever. 1721 in *Fairne Carnegy Scrid.* (1879) 130 Him his heirs and successors whatsomever. 1892 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer*, I can't see no Drummer-boy here whatsumdever. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xviii, Silver Sand had no cloak or plaid whatsomever.

**†b.** *pron.* = Whatever 4 *b. Obs.*

1698 Earl Westmld. *Otia Sacra* 54 Our Lust, our Pride, Ambition, Or whatsome'r beside.

**Whatstane,** obs. form of Whetstone.

**Whatte,** obs. form of Wot.

**Whatten, -in** : see What'n.

**Whatway** : see What A. 13 (*b*).

**What-wise,** *adv phr. rare* [Properly two words, WHAT *a.* (13) + WISE *sb.*] In what manner; how. Also *in whatwise.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20398 Of vs ne nan þat wat for quam, Ne wat quat-wis we bader cam *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 904 Seue me in what wise þat þat bale be haldes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* XXIII. 36, I shall you tell what-wyse and how. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol 188 With Venus benwilis quhat wyse may I fene? 1605 J. Bury *Life St. Patrick* VII. 139 Tell us how we may know him, in whatwise he will appear.

**What-you-(may-)call-it, etc.:** see WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

**Whau,** *int. north. dial.* [A natural exclamation; perh. also contained in WHANDOW.] Also **wha, whaugh.** Well! Why! Also = WAUGH *a.*

1880 'Mabberlate' *Hay any Work* 30 Whau, wh'ip, but where haue I bin al this while 1884 Mrs Eton *Jacobite's Diol Glose, Whaugh,* a word of Admiration, as God bless us, &c. 1888 *Craven Gloss ; Wha,* well. 1892 Lytton *Eugene Aram* IV ix, Depend on it, they are two of a trade—augh!—bother! —whaugh! 1897 Halliwell *Dict. Arch., Wha, why? tw. North*

**Whaule eyed,** obs. form of WALL-EYED.

**Whauf(wp,** hwâp), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6 quha(l)p, 7 whoup, 7–9 whap, 8–9 whaup, 8– whaup, (8 whape, wap, 9 whawp, quhaup). [Perhaps for **whalp* and allied to OE. *hwilpe* (Seafarer 21), = early WS. **hwwelpe* :– **xwalppon-*, *f. xwalp- 1 xwelp-* a stem imitative of the bird's cry.] and represented also by *1 xgeenwalp, xwalp* sandpiper, WFris. (*gwaze*) *wylp* curlew (*tean-, wetter-wylp, lytse wylp* Numenius phæopus), Du. *wulp, wulp* curlew. (WFris. *wettergulp,* LG. *regenqlp* show a variant with *g.*) The dial. name *curlew-help* may be for **curlew-whelp,* and so attest the former existence of a variant **whelp*; but cf the form *hulpe* (1530 in *Ancestor* XI. 179).] The larger curlew, *Numenius arquata.*

Also † *great whaup, stock-whaup* (see STOCK *sb.*3 6*b*).

1538 *Durh Rec. Rolls* (1872) II. 92 A quhap that is gretit xij d 1553 *Ibid.* 185 The best quhap vij d. 1549 *Compl. Scot* VI. 39 Quhilk gart the quhapis for fleyines ile far fra hame 1683 Alex Leslie *Hunter's Lament, Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 133 I the Whap also vset to be eaten. 1733 T. Gipford *Zetland Jnl* (1786) 26 Wild fowl such as plouwers, whapes 1793 *Statist. Acct V.* 188 The wild land fowls are plovels, pigeons, curlews, (commonly called whaup) 1839 Stoddart *Songs & P.* 18 An his durges lang and dreary Pipes the quhaup to the mornin. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss Hags* XXXIII. Not so much as a whup came near me on that great, wide, dappled hill.

**Whaur,** Sc. f WHERE.

**Wha(u)ve** (hwēv), *v. dial.* Also 7 **whoave,** 9 **wauve.** [ad. ON. *hvalfa, holfa* : see WHALF.]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to turn (pottery) when drying.

1611 Cotgr., *s. v. Dent, Mettre vn pot sçe à dents,* to turne it vpside-downe, to whawve it with the mouth downewards. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 123 When the Potter has wrought the clay either into hollow or flat ware, they are set abroad to dry ,turning them as they see occasion, which they call whawving.

2. *a. trans* To cover over. b. *intr* To hang over.

1674 Ray *N. C. Words,* To *Whoave; Chesh* to cover or whelm over. We will not kill but whoave. *Prov. Chesh.* 181 *A.* To *Hoaff, Hoaff, & Whoaff,* to Canopy ; Verb. *Hoaffan,* camerare, fornicare. 1828 *Craven Gloss* ; *Whawve,* to whelm. 1847 Halliwell, *Whawve,* to cover, or hang over

Hence **Whawve** *sb.* , (*a*) *Chesh* the amount of the dish (Dish *sb.* 5) of a wheel ; (*b*) *dial* the arched covering of turf over a grave (*Shropsh. Word bk*'); **Wha'ver** (in quoits see quot. 1818).

1674 Wheaver [see Rings] 1818 Wilbraham *Gloss Cheshire* 251 in *Archæologia* XIX, A Ring is when the Quoit touches the peg or mark . A Wheaver is when it rests upon the peg, and hangs over. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 389/3 Add it this twice the wauve (dish) of the wheels, *i. e* 5 in.

**Whaw,** obs. form of VAU.

1708 Wm *Sonne Lng. Enr.* 137 *note,* The Hebrew ו Vau or Whaw.

**Whawl, Whax, Whay, Whayle, Whaynt, Whayte, Whasle, Whe, Wheadle:** see WAUL, WAX, WAY, WHEY, WHOLE, QUAIL, QUAINT, WAIL, WHEEDLE, WE, WHO, WHEEDLE.

**Wheak,** *v. dial.* Also 6 **qu(h)eik.** 6, 9 **wheek,** 9 **weak, week.** [Imitative.] *intr.* To squeak, whine. So **Wheak** *sb.*, a squeak or whine.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. IX. 79 With many pant, and felloun hauchis and quhaikis 1584 R. Scot *Discov Witches*. XIII. viii. (1886) 245 The wheeking of a little pig. 1828 *Craven Gloss* ; *Wheek.*

**† Wheal** (hwīl), *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 whele, (5 **whelle, wheel,** 6 **whell, wele**), 6–7 **wheale,** 7–8 **wheal.** [OE. **hwele* (Somner), related to WHEAL *v.*3 : *cf.* WHELK.2] A pimple, pustule.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whele, or whelke, soore (*K.* whelle, *S.* qwelke, *P.* wheel), *pustula.* 1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whele in the hande, *bonbelle, bubitie* ; *mesue.* 1545 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 120 Sumetymes happeneth to yᵉ chyldren whales and blysters on theyr tounges and mouth. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* U vj, Applye it to the scrupulues and weles, it kylleth and brekyth them. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* K 3, I durst not let out a wheale for fears through it I should bleede to death. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXVII. vi. II 437 It killeth the tich, and healeth angrie wheals. 1623 Hart *Arraignm. Ur.* III. iii. 46 Small wheales like the small Pove 1708 *Phil. Trans* XXV 2317 When she scratched the little Pimples or Wheals that arose on its surface.

*fig.* 1592 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 71 The assemblees of yᵉ people swarmyng about the same oratours, he called the pymples or little wheales of glore.

b. *attrib.* **wheal-worm,** an insect producing wheals, as the itch-mite or harvest-bug.

1648 Wilkins *Math Magick* I. xvi. 115 What strang discoveries of extream minute bodies (as lice wheal worms, mites, and the like). 1658 Rowland tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1095 The most vertuous Lady of Pennoddock was for ten years troubled with these wheal-worms 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 56 Syrones in cute, Wheal-worms. [1889 Coon *Study Med.* (ed 3) V 665 ] from the glowy wheals which its bite the harvest bug ] bite produces, it has sometimes been called Wheal-Worm ]

Hence † **Wheally** *a.*, pimply.

1621 Cotgr., *Bathocal*, wheally, poukie, pushe.

**Wheal** (hwīl), *sb.*2 [Misspelt form of Weal *sb.*2 Cf. Wheal *v.*2] **a.** The ridge raised on the flesh by a blow : = Wale *sb.*2, Weal *sb.*2

1821 J. M. Hawkins *Cetes & Certe.* I. 26 Cover her neck over that I may not see the wheals on it. 1884 *Gentl Mag.* May 396/2 Each blow raised a wheal upon the place where it fell 1896 Marriat *Midsh. Easy* V, Without support—covered with wheals. 1897 Hume Haggard *She* III, Across his face was a blue wheal where the whip had fallen.

b. In modern medical use, a flat, usually circular, hard elevation of the skin, esp. that characteristic of urticaria.

So called because resembling the 'wheal' raised on the skin by a blow.

1808 Willan *Cutan. Dis* I p xi, Wheal : a rounded, or longitudinal elevation , with a white summit, not containing a fluid, but tending to suppuration 1818–22 Thomson tr. *Cullen's Nosologia* (ed 3) 326 It [*sc* Urticaria] is distinguished by those elevations of the cuticle, which are usually denominated wheals 1826 Bateman *Theory of Pract. Med.* 292 A wheal may be regarded as a form of tubercle.

*Cyclo.* 1876 Bristowe *Theory & Pract Med* 342 The internal coat of tumulent wheal-like thickenings.

c. *gen* A ridge.

1855 Newman *Callista* XV, They [*sc* locusts] moved right on like soldiers in their ranks , they carried a broad furrow or wheal behind them. 1871 H. Cox *Why not to Court* II *xvii* 81 The water in its track rose in a boiling wheal crested with steam

**Wheal,** *sb.*3 *local* [Cornish *hual*.] A mine.

1830 *Eng & For Mining Cal.* 21.

**† Wheal,** *v.*1 *Obs* Forms: 1 **hwelian,** 5 **whelyn,** 6 **whele,** 6–7 **wheale,** 6– **wheal.** [Late OE. *hwelian* ; pa. pple *gehwelod, f. *hwele* Wheal *sb.*1]

1. *intr.* To suppurate, gather ; to develop or become affected with wheals.

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* II 282 Gif þæt in heard sí, utan lecze mid þone leaf and þone heard for hí hwelige 1 1050 *Lofsong Scintill* xv (1889) 77 *Multi de tumorum pyrectibus inuidie fructore fabricant*, Manigre þeg sidra frennum anban mod wunde hi wheal. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelyn, as soore, *pustulo* 1530 Palsgr. 780/2 Outher you have many wormes, or els you be nat well in your lyver, for ȳ^ur hondes wheale as grene Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. 1, Now gin the lepre run cankers and sins Wheale to a heade 1899 Brockett *N C Gloss* (ed 2).

2 *trans* To suppurate or bring to a head ; to affect with wheals. Only in *pa. pple.* suppurated, pustuled, impaled.

1597 Reynes *Gregory's Past C.* 275 Forsámðe hie [*sc.* speech] sæl gehwelede on ðæm ofrum geopenaß & ut forlæt. *c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* II. 208 Siphan þæt geswel inb gehwelede & tobyrst. 1542 Skelton *Why not to Court* 1182 Domingos nose that was wheled. 1556 Withals *Dict* 768/2 Matter, as in a wounde when it is whealed, *pus* 1607 *Topsell Beasts* 655 If they be wheled and filled with matter. 1676 Wiseman *Surg.* I. xxiii 631 I washt the Parts whealed and swelled with *spir vini*

Hence † **Whealing** *vbl. sb* , suppuration.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelynge, or whelyd, *pustulacio* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelynge, of sorys, *pustulacio.*

**Wheal** (hwīl), *v.*2 [Misspelt form of Weal *v.*] 1. *trans.* To mark with wales or weals.

1696 Phipps *Acc. E. India & P.* 135 Pains and Wages followed, and continued till they have Wealed them into Contrition for their unadvised Provocation. 1701 Stan hope *Pious Breathings* VII. 239 His Body rent and wealed with Scourges. 1823 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 21 The horse would have been whipped and wealed 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II, His eyes were bloodshot, his cheeks wealed and puffed. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* V. 1335 I now show nothing, one wide wound all of me

2 *intr.* To be marked with weals or ridges.

1570 Goose *Pop Kingd* III. 34 b, The blood sprang out a pace, and else there backe did swell and wheale With multitude of stripes.

**Wheale, Whealke, Wheam, Wheap, Wheang, Whear:** see Weal, Wheel, Whelk, Qupme, Quelm, Whenn, Whang, Whelp

**† Whease,** *v. Obs.* [?] *trans.* To signal.

1536 R. Carew *Cornwall* 132 b, By crying with a loud voice, whistling through his fingers, & moreover causing diuerssified signes, with a bush, which hee holdeth in his hand. 1690 J. Reynolds *Flower Beded*, 151 The Master upon the Poop with his silver Sword to whease them to Lee-ward.

**Whease, Wheasle:** see Wheeze, Wheelle.

**Wheat** (hwīt), *sb.* Forms: 1 **hwæte.** 2–3 **hwete,** 3–6 **whete,** 4–5 **wheet(e, whet,** 4–6 **whete,** 6–7 **wheate,** (7 **hwate, 3 whaete, hweate,** 4 **huete, whyte, wit, 3 wheyte, white,** 5–6 **whett(e,** 6 **whyt, 6 whett, whaytt, whitt, wett(e, weate,** 6- **wheat** ; *Sc* and *north. dial.* 4–5 **quhet,** qwet, 5–6 **quhete, qwhet,** 5–7 **quheit** (4 quete, 5 qw(h)ete, qwheet, qhete, qwete, qwyte, qwyet, quhe(y)t, 6 quheitt, quhait, quheite, qwheytte, queat, quhyt(e, vhyt). [OE. *hwæte* str m. = OFris *(h)wete* (NFris *wette*), OS *hwēti* (MDu. *weete*, Du *weit*), MLG *weten, wēten* (LG *weten*), OHG *weizi*, (MHG *weize, weitz*, G. *weizen*), ON *hveiti* (sw *veti*, Da *hvede*), Goth. *hwaiteis* —OTeut. **xwaitjan*, derivative of **xwīt-* White.]

1. The grain of a cereal (see sense 2), furnishing a meal or flour which constitutes the chief breadstuff in temperate countries.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxv [lxxvi 15] *Convallies abundabunt frumento*, þeras gemiclunnaþ hwæte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Matt III 12 He zegaderaþ hys hwæte on his bern *c* 1200 Ormin II 5257, I þa þatt swellenn wunndwæþ Crist & clenn sedjþ here hiss whæte. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 290 in *O. E. Misc* 10 De mine sunnè de barnes, Dunne se fint is wete. *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 270 Ane wummen þet windweole hweate 1297 R. Glou (Rolls) 18 Vor eng elondie is wel ioie of frut, & eke of tren, Of wel [r *v* whyte, whyt] & of wolle god 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 10091 Pe vble ys made of whete, þe hueleyst corne þat men ete. 13 *Cursor M* 22393 (G. II) Pe mett of wyet, als it ere fand 1340 *Ayenb.* 218 *And c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints xxvii (Scholastica)* 214 In þe hawine schipis gret Ware ani wit, charit, with quhet *c* 1480 Henry *Sco Wisd* 201 Full I cannot tell quhilk is maist nutrity, peirs, ry, and quhite. 1488 in *10th Rep Hist MSS C* 200/1 App v. 291 The bushell of whette le boghte for xii *d* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* VIII. 187 The best of wheate is solde for fourty shelynges and twenty pence 1550 3 *Decays Eng* in S. Fish *Supplic*, etc. (1871) 99 Allowe toteare ernest 13 quarters of weate 1596 *Chron. Exp. Irel.* (Camden) 4 They yere a bushelle of weat was at five shillings 1569 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 2, I stroke queat unbarrowed 1603 Dekker *Batchelars Banquet* Wks (Grosart) I 176 I can tell you there was a time when I could buy with a bushell of wheat th speake it. 1833 Tennyson *Lotos Eat.* 167 An ill used race of men Storing yearly little dues of wheat, and wine and oil

b in allusive and proverbial use : often opposed to *chaff, tares*

*a* 1225 *Juliana* 79 Hwen drihtin o domes dei windweð his hweate 1390 Gower *Conf* II 59 Where as hore leyene To winne chaf and lese whete 1581 Wyndet *Bp Quharas* Wks (S. T. S.) I 120 God and euill, expressit in the Euangell, be the smultitude of quheit and fitchas. 1618 Colby *Vse Vara, Queen to meridian Rome* 3 Yea, and if Wisedish thou haue better bread then s made of wheat ? 1639 Clarke *Paræm* 46 Malt is aboue the wheat with him *Cyllenius stans*, &c. 1874 *Sunday's Work* 7 Separate ye Let not keep the wheat and roses, Casting out the evil ones and chaff 1874 C. P. Norton *Left* (1913) II 38 He had now got a good handful of ripe wheat to offer in the place of his common sev kful of the most unnutritious chaff.

2. The cereal plant (closely related to barley and rye) which yields this grain, esp common wheat, *Triticum vulgare* (*sativum*), cultivated in temperate climates.

With qualifications denoting ? particular kind, as Bearded wheat, *goat's wheat* (Goat 4 *b*), Guinea wheat, *Indian wheat* (Indian *a* 4 *b*), *Tammas wheat* (Lammas *sb.* 2), Poland wheat, *tallard wheat* (Polland wheat), Red wheat, *Rivet wheat* (Rivet *sb.*), *Spelt wheat* (Spelt *sb.*1 2), *Summer wheat* (Summer *sb.*1 4 c), Turkey wheat, White wheat, Winter wheat, also as plied to some plants of other genera, as Buckwheat, Low wheat, *French wheat* (French *a.* 5)

*c* 950 *Lindis f. Gosp* Matt xiii 25 Mid ðy ȳ utedlice zesleptun ða monn his feond & ofersawun ðæt hwæte 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xiii 25 In middum hwæte 1340–70 *Alex & Dind.* 692 Hue studied in hur time on ȝe tough erþe, & whete vplichie sew 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* XVII. clxxxv. (W. de W. 1495) Wheate is dowble kynde One manere kynde is red wythout and is moost wyte within, & heuy The other manere wheete is ȝelowe wythout and clere and whyte within and is lighte. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxi 114 In þese contree es vttill wheet or larly 1523 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xi. 80 Stuffis, and all kukis that seiketa quheit 1580 Lyder *Math* (1618) 49 Grase wheat is the leest wast of any seed 1597 Much like vnto rie be his properties found 1599 Shake *Much Ado* I. i. 185 When wheate is greene, when hauthorne buds appeare 1601 G. Owen *Pembrokes.* (1892) 41 A third kinde of wheate which is called hithe wheate or sommer wheate 1632 Lithgow *Trav* IX. 415, I found the Wheat here to grow high, but then my heart fell 1697 Evelyn *Kal* (1729) II. 256/1 The three principal kinds of bad wheat are, the blighted, the smutty, and the worm eaten 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* (1870) 103 Wheat will not thrive in hot climates 1868 Howden *Earthly Par* (1870) I. II. 287 The tall wheat, coloured by the August fire Grew heavy-headed.

3 *pl.* Wheat-plants ; crops of wheat ; kinds of wheat.

1795 *Scots Mag.* LVII 544 : In Lincashire, their wheats are not yet on the bloom 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X 297 The new Wheats already thrashed out 1862 R. W. Dixon *Pract Agricc.* I. 429 They are frequently also sown on the young wheats and clovers in the spring 1882 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst Husb Scot* I 339 The Trench wheats in particular, whose home wheats are now used equals any in the united kingdom. 1886 *Daily News* 13 Oct 2 6 foreign white wheats have hardened to a small advance on the week 1894 *Times* 20 Jan 4 The young wheats looking little or none the worse for their week beneath the snow.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wheat-area, awn, -barn, -blade, -blossom, -blossoming, -board, -bran, -bread, -chaff, -cloze* (Cloze *sb.*1 2), *-colour, -crust, -drill, -eddish, -fallow, -field, -flour, -garner, -gluten* (Gluten *sb.* 1 c), *-grain, -ground, -grower, -harvest, -haulm, -house, loaf, -loft, -malt, -mill,*

-*mow*, -*pat* (Pit *sb*1 11), *plant*, -*producer*, -*production*, -*seed* (Reed *sb*.1 2 *c*, *rick*, -*ridge*, -*ripper*, -*sciennge* (cf. Screen *sb*1 5), -*script* (Script *sb*.4), *seed*, -*sealing*, -*sheaf*, -*sowing*, -*stack*, -*stalk*, *starch*, *straw*, -*stubble*, -*threave*; *wheat coloured*, -*fed*, *growing*, -*hid* adjs ; applied to insects, fungi, etc. destructive to wheat, as *wheat-bug*, -*cater pillar*, -*gall-fly*, -*gnat*, -*insect*, -*joint-worm*, -*mite*, -*magot*, -*midge*, *mildew*, -*mite*, -*moth plant louse*, -*sweevil*, -*worm*; applied to implements used in obtaining or preparing the wheat-grain, as *wheat brush*, -*dryer*, -*flail*, -*heater*, -*riddle*, -*separator*, -*sieve* b Special Combs : **wheat barley** *naked barley* (Naked *a*. 12*c*) ; **wheat berry**, the grain of wheat ; **wheat bird**, a bird that feeds on wheat, esp the chaffinch , **wheat-duck**, the American widgeon, *Mareca americana*, found in flocks in wheat-fields, **wheat-fish**, the squeteague; **wheat fly**, name for various insects whose larvæ infest the wheat plant, as the Hessian fly, the wheat-midge, etc., **wheat-grass**, name for various species of the genus *Triticum*, esp. couch grass, *T. repens*; **wheat lay** *dial*, the sowing of land with wheat; **wheat rent**, in the Channel Islands, wheat paid as rent (cf Quarter *sb*. 4 b). See also Wheat-corn, etc

1884 *Spectator* No 29 2 1165 Whether the wheat sees of the world will be maintained 1880 Black *w*. *Forest Days* I caught a limb, and I rit like a *wheat* swell from the socket 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iv xli 462 *His beam Nudum* Nake [or Lire Rotle], Wheate Barley 1577 in *Q. Eliz. Acts* 295 (Halliw.) Barley called Sprat Corne, 1674 *S. Dunham Anc. Rolls* (Surtees) 136 Pro tectura super le Wheteharn Muneri de Pluit 1543 *Aubinet Wills* (Surtees) 42 In the wheit barne, whyit and rye 1905 *Westm Gaz* 2 Sept 8 2 The 'wheatherry, to become flood bone and flesh must be broken up 1746 7 M Cannaye in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 181 Wheat [sown in Virginia] annually at the time that Wheat is fit to attain Degree of Maturity they have attain'd the Name of Wheat 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Dec 1 *Wheat, May* 19 The dead log tied his hands and left the 'wheat blade whispers of the sheaf 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb* xiii 154 The nipping Winds which might destroy the tender 'Wheat Blade 1794 Ingr *Hist* (1795) 99 The cows milk abates about 'wheat time 1883 Hone *Every day Bk* I 130 The 'wheet bruid was strong 14 *Sir Bevis* (1622) 251 Sys as he some bef ore eche day Of 'whyte bi wne to bhue s meese *a* 1425 in *Reliq. Antiq.* I 161 The wyte braune is myxte as sufferh 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I 23/2 Wheat bran is boiled in our ordinary Peer 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B xii 200 Pough 'white bred me fulle 1552 *2nd Answer Bk Edw. VI, Common* rubric, The best and purest white bread, that conueniently may be gotten 1792 J. Rand *Descr. Oxon* 178 As it 'wheel bread is rises 1884 *Knight Dict. Mech.* Suppl 345 1 *Wheel-lamb* a device for securing, etc. 1880 *Times* 11 Nov *Farm Valuables*, 'Wheat hogs *Mem. Statues and Memorials* 1846 Mann & Sir *Inclement* xxxi III 277 This door is to serve the moth for its rest, like the 'wheel-tarred yellow caterpillar 1573-80 Tusser *Hush* (1879) 46 'Wheat chaffe fye yp doe 1847 W. L. Martin *Orchards* Supposing it to be at small, he distended by light, when 'wheat-coloured, and stiff straw 1599 *Grange Garden* Q.b. Midge pointed to meete me in your 'wheate close 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxiii, He is Gaffer Shell's steward's wheat close 1911 *Harper Collect* (1915) III 82 The hut on the upper [lip] being thin and short of a 'wheat Colour 1898 *Westm. Gaz* 23 Mar 3/2 The 'wheat coloured straw 1581 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II 42 All the 'wheate crope, that is sowen upp in my farmhold 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 38 That my wheat crops would be hurt by the rich easterly winds 1857 Miller *Farm Crops* (1867) 310 The 'wheat-fields which might have been supposed to have been exhausted of its phosphates by a previous wheat crop 1615 Markham *Eng. Husman* iv 116 b, Your course 'wheat cause will be kneeded with hot water 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb* xvi 328 In the Soile of Mr White's a 'Wheat Drill 1884 *Health Exhib Catal* 213/1 Model of the Patent 'Wheat Dryer 1764 *Museum Rustic* I 'wheat fill'd immediately after harvest I turn them on the 'wheet eddishes *a* 1782 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 20 They will not allow a Lad of dung at his rent to sow with them 'wheat fill'd 1892 *Times* (weekly ed) 2 Feb 8/3 The 'wheat fed pork of the North West 1425 in *Rep MSS Lit Middlett* n (1908) 108 That no man take up his beates fro the corne-yerd to go in the 'qwete feld to lese the qwete 1603 Holand *Plutarch's Mor* 203 Y laying corne grounds and I wheat fields to their owne demaines 1850 Lowell *Sibyl* ii 1, Over the wheat fields, where the shadows trail 1771 *Encycl Brit* II 768/2 That the 'wheat firlot shall contain 19 pints and two pouzettes 1888 *Gentl. Amer. Ireland* 111 The Squire 'some old authorities use the name 'Wheat-hall *a* 1425 in *Archæol. Journ. Essex* 31 When per is added perio white of euren and ys, wip wite and 'wheite flours 1535 Coverdale *Ezek* lxxvi[i]. 16 He shulde fede them with the fynest wheate flour 1639 O. Wood *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 112 Fry them together till they be thick with a little wheat-flower 1796 *Phil. Trans* LVII 456 A much finuous vegetable paste as wheat flower and water 1847 W. C. Martin *Orchards Gruel* made of fine wheat flour 1798 Newman *Bridget Lee*, *Virginia* 'Wheat-fly, a mis hief as insect in the American state It eats the grain, and is a moth in a perfect state 1844 H. Stephens *Bk Farm* III 931 The wheat-fly, *Cecidomyia tritici* 1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 534 Operant super emendacionem de le 'Wheat-garner *c* 1430 Lyd. *Mim. Poems* (Percy Soc) 46 The 'wheate glene crowned above the greyne 1825 Jamie & St *National* xiv IV 201 The Ichneumon of the 'wheat-goat. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 5509 An hundred mwus [? mowns] of 'whete greyne 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev* I iv iii, It has now sifted out the true wheat grains of National Deputies 1918 *Chamb Jrnl* Aug 520/1 For years millers have laboured to provide us with a perfectly white loaf, throwing away some of the most valuable parts of the wheat grain in so doing. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char* 72 'Wheat grass either the greatest used in the making of fruits or the lesser 1766 *Museum Rust* VI. 441 Common 'Wheat-grass, or Couch grass 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II. 173 Sea Wheat-grass. Rush *Wheat-grass* 1730 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 17 He sows on his 'wheat ground about February 1765 *Museum Rust* IV. 348 That is a profit more than the rent of the ground, and full as much again above the profit of the 'wheat grower 1868 *Rep U. S. Comm Agric* (1869) 18 The reporter upon the prairie is a wheat grower 1840 Hurl. *Farmer's Comp* 23 Pennsylvania, then one of the best 'wheat growing States 1588 Wylde *Jos* xxi 14 And Ruben goon out in tyme of 'wheet heuest into the feld 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb* xiii 154 If their Wheat thrived in Sicily be about the 20th of May *c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* II 130 Genim gate hreod & 'wheete healm gebrent to duste 1748 *Lond & Country Brewer* iv (ed 2) 55 Wheat Straw under a Hair Cloth is reckoned the best Food for Swine 1884 *Manch. Exam* 2 Dec 5/1 Wheat Straw 1827 Clark *Sel pls. Cat* 50 And lonely chirp the 'wheat bird quails 1559 in Wills & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 141 For covering 'y Wheate & Rye 1562 *Cal Pat* 1560-3 p 180 Wheate [and] Rye 1598 Barckley *Felic Man* (1724) 72 Lay it in the best Place you have, for which the Wheat Houses now in request are I think the best 1819 D. D. Warren *Ac. Cultivated Vegetables* I. 180 Wheaten Bly, or 'wheat-meat (*Lepidium sativum*) *a* 1728 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 324 It may be proper to fold till Christmas, and then 40 on the 'wheat by 1532 *Mem Christchurch Canar* (Sidney Sx.) II 208 The Hutch Weyed meyn his bredde wiche was to leight in the 1st 'Wheite boffe my ounces 1587 in Wills & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I 141 For 'wheite & Rye 1450 *Cal Pat* 1446-52 p 180 Wheite

*Gt. Brit.* I. ii. 57 The Bird call'd a Whentear, or as we may call them, the English Ortolans. 1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* III. ii, A hot-brain'd headlong spark, that would run into our trap, like a wheat-ear under a turf. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 111 The wheat-ear uncovered its white rump as it flitted from rock to rock. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 291 The winter home of the Wheatear extends from the North-western Himalayas to Persia, and also to North-eastern and Eastern Africa, as well as to Senegambia.

**Wheaten** (hwī·t'n), *a.* Now *rare.* Forms: 1 **hwæten, husæten,** 3 **ȝwæten,** 4 **huæten,** 5, 6 **whetyn,** 6 **whettyn, whe(a)ton,** 7 **wheten,** 6– **wheaten.** [OE. *hwǽtēn* = MDu. *weiten*, MHG. *weitîn* : see WHEAT *sb.* and -EN 4.]

**1.** Composed of the grain or flour of wheat.

Sometimes applied *spec.* to bread made of the whole grain ('wholemeal') as distinct from white bread.

805–32 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 444, cxx husetenra hlafa & xxx cleana. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 370 Mid hwætenan melwe. *c* 1290 *St. Cuthbert* 59 in *S. Engl. Leg.* 360 Clene ȝwetene flour. 1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Pe wyfman grat myl childe, bet more hi uynt amak in ane zonne eppe Ianne ine ane huetene floure. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 33 Hymd hym ype with flour of Rys, oper with whetyn floure. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Wheatynbreed, *pain bourgeois*. *c* 1550 *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E.E.T.S.) 190, I forgo as doth a dolu the wheten cake. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. i. 95 b/1 It is in *Holinshed*, Wheaten bread, so named because the colour . . resembleth the graie wheat. 1608 J. Nicholl *Cent. Lond. Lyrics* (1866) 20 Whose . . to be ground into meal and baked into white and wheaten bread, and the wheaten to contayne xj oz. the penny wheten loffe, and the three-halfpenny white loves after the same rate. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Arithm.* Ha, The Law doth appoint three sorts of Bread only to be made, viz. white, wheaten, and houshold. 1709 *Act & Anne* c. 19 Table, The White Loaves are One Half, and the Wheaten Three Quarters of the Weight of Household Loaves. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 4 Our penny wheaten brown bread loaves. 1818 COBBETT *Cottage Econ.* 69 The bread made of this mixed flour is found to be . . better . . than that made with plain wheaten meal. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Hb. Farm* II. 567 Mysc bread is deemed . . inferior to wheaten. 1857 MILES *Chem. Chem. Org.* (1862) xiii. § 2. 839 Bread made from wheaten flour. 1919 *Q. Rev.* July 182 The food and fuel regulations respecting wheaten bread, sugar, and "lightless nights" had been enforced.

**2.** Of or belonging to wheat as a plant; made of the stalks or straw of wheat.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 24 Þæt hwæstene corn wunað ana, buton hit fealle on corþer & dead. 1552 HULOET, Wheaten braunse. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1587) 17 There waited summer naked starke all saue a wheaten hat. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. I. 1 Apporent sheue of wheaten leaues. 1600 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 43 As Peace should still her wheaten Garland weare. 1681 GREW *Museums* IV. iii. 376 The Stalk as thick as a Wheaten-straw. 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 1 Cover'd with the sickle and the wheaten sheef. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 49 Oft making 'love-knots' in the shade, Of blue-green oat or wheaten blade. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., In Hon. of another* 9 In many a tender wheaten plot Flowers that were dead Live.

†**3.** *Wheaten plum* = WHEAT-PLUM. *Obs.*

1541 [see WHEAT-PLUM, quot. 1538]. 1552 HULOET, Wheaten plummes, whiche be white yelowe plummes, *prunea pruna*. 1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* ii. xlii, Bullas and wheaten Plumbs.

**Wheat-t-land.** Land on which wheat is grown or suitable for growing wheat on.

977 *Charter of Oswald*, Kemble *Cart. Dipt.* III. 159 Baton ¿k. mcran ðæt hieft se arcebisceop zemunen into Cymeyse to his hame him to hwate-lande. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 108 They that once ouer endeu, go strike by lyne, by both wheat land and leathe. 1603 G. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 59 *marg.*, Wheate lande howe dressed. 1763 MILES *Pract. Husb.* I. 12 He gave fix plowings to a peice of wheat-land. 1841 CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 173 The same Power . . That browns the wheat-lands in their summer-stain. 1916 *Times* 27 Nov. 10/4 Many thousand acres of our richest wheatland is to-day uncultivated.

**Wheatmeal** (hwī·tmēl). [OE. *hwǽtemelu* = MHG. *weitʒen(en)mel* (G. *weizenmehl*), ON. *hveitimiol* (MSw. *hvetemiol*, etc.) : see MEAL *sb.*1] Meal or flour of wheat. Also *attrib.*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 354 Rebriw wel swiþe briw þær on mid hwate melwe. 1388 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxiii. 2 Of pise whete meele þow shalt make alle þingis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clviii. (W. de W.) Twiȝ b/1 The flowr of whete meele hyghte Simula; and is the chief mesle of whete. *a* 1440 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 72 Tak cow mylk, and put þerto a subtile whete meel. 1579 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 103 Wheat meale the best iijs the bushell. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. ii. II. 229 It must be mixed nothing near so stiff as our Wheat-Meal. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 51 The bill to continue . . the free importation of wheat and wheat-meal. 1890 *Daily News* 6 Dec., The mixed diet of linseed cake, barley, beanmeal, wheatmeal, peameal. 1913 *Ibid.* 3 Jan., 4 It is specially necessary that the sick and wounded should not go short of wheatmeal bread.

†**Wheat-plum.** *Obs.* (or *dial.*) [orig. a misinterpretation of L. *cērea prūna* waxen or wax-coloured plums (Virgil, *Ecl.* ii. 53), *cērea* being misapprehended as **cērea* wheaten (*i. Ceres* wheat, corn); subsequent association with *white* is probable (cf. WHEATEAR 2 and Du. *witte pruim*).] Name of a supposed variety of plum.

1538 ELYOT *Addit. Cerea prunea*, wheate [ed. 1542 wheaten] plummes. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 76 Januaries abstract. Of trees or fruites to be set or remooued . . Wheat plume. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 96 Wheate Plomes, and horse Plomes, wherewith they vse to fatte Hogges. 1611 COTGR., *Prune blanche*, the wheat, or white Plumme. 1657 C. BUCK *Univ. Chur.* M 3, A wheat plumtree. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 629 There groweth wild in some places of the Woods a Plum somewhat like our Wheat-Plum. 1793 M. CUTLER in *Life, etc.* (1888) II. 292, I am uncertain what he intends by the Wheat-plum. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wheat-plum*, a large fleshy plum, sometimes called a bastard Orleans plum. *Linc.*

**Wheatstone** (hwī·tstən). [Called after Sir Charles *Wheatstone*, who in 1843 brought into notice the 'differential arrangement' apparatus, which had been invented by S. Hunter Christie in 1833.] Short for *Wheatstone('s) bridge* : an apparatus for measuring electrical resistances.

1879 *Jrnl. Soc. Telegr. Eng.* 8 May 196 A Differential Resistance Measure-or, as it is commonly called, a 'Wheatstone's Bridge'. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr.* I. 222 The principle of the instrument known as Wheatstone's Bridge. 1898 *Daily News* 21 May 7/4 The clicking of the needles, the tapping of the Wheatstones.

†**Whea·ty,** *a. Obs.* [f. WHEAT *sb.* + -Y1.] Containing grains of wheat.

1598 YONG *Diana* 259 Ripening fruit, and wheatie eares. 1611 COTGR., *Froumentieux*, wheat-yeelding, wheatie. *a* 1623 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Deut.* xxxii. 14, Ea is þa? With fat of wheaty kidneyes fine [see KIDNEY 4].

**Whee,** *sb.* and *v.* See **Wheech(e, Wheeker, Whed(d)er, Whed(d)le, Whee·** : see WHO, WHERASE, WHEREE, WHICH, WHITCH, WITCH, WHICK, EB, WEATHER, WHITHER, WHITHER, WHEEDLE, QUEY.

**Wheedle** (hwī·d'l), *sb.* Now *rare.* Forms : see the vb. [f. next.]

**1.** An act or instance of wheedling ; a piece of insinuating flattery or cajolery ; also *gen.* wheedling speech.

1668 ETHEREGE *She wou'd if she can'd* v. i, Dost thou think to pass these gross Wheadles on me too? 1682 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* vii. Wks. 1716 II. 61 It looks like a dissembling, or a Trepan, to drill a Man into a Court by Process in a feigned Suit. 1687 SEDLEY *Reliantus* iv. i, You have several times talked to me of a sister of mine, but from our first discourse I found it was only a wheedle upon it as a mere wheedle. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Engl. Ref.* ii. (1710) 87 In Cant and Wheedle most Expert They were. 1755 JOHNSON *Lett.* (1926) II. 68 She . . by a sad insinuating wheedle . . took possession of the divine's good opinion. *a* 1814 *Word of Honor* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 368, I cannot stand this wheedle. 1851 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Cox's Diary*, So were the Sirens were—pretty blue-eyed things . . singing their melodious wheedles.

†**2.** A wheedler. *Obs.*

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i, *Hilt.* You saw I discarded him for you. *Mrs Fash.* Why should you think I could not with you? *Cer.* So young a Wheadle? 1682 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Dainty Wheadle, here's a Fellow will be a Wheadle in Spite of Fate. 1706 PHILLIPS, A Trencher Friend, a meer Wheadle. *Ibid.*, *Wheadle*, a Sharper.

**Wheedle** (hwī·d'l), *v.* Also 7 **whed(d)le,** 7–9 **wheadle.** [Origin obscure. Possibly a survival in a specialized application of OE. *wēdlīan* to beg, *wēdla* to be poor, †*wǽdl* poverty.]

**1.** *trans.* To entice or persuade by soft flattering words ; to gain over or take in by coaxing or cajolery.

1661 HLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Whead* or *Wheadle*, is a late word of fancy, and signifies to draw or move by words or subtile insinuation, to act any thing of disadvantage or reproof. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* I. v. So Come Sir, don't think to Wheadle me at this rate! 1675 TULLY *Ict. to Ireland* 3 To have wheadl'd with base Flatteries. 1702 FOE *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 He wheedled Eve, deluded Adam. 1824 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 274 Smooth words he had to wheedle simple souls. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxxii, He was crossing you and wheedling you. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xxxix. II. 38 The citizens are too numerous to be all thus wheedled or threatened.

**b.** with various preps. and advs., or with inf. : To bring into a specified condition by such action.

1667 *Leatherwaver* : *Advice conc. Canning* (1668) 7 If the Winner be bubblеable, they will . . wheadle him into play and win all his Money. 1689 WOOLRIDGE *Sycrt. Apricic.* (1688) 249 By laying the Net in such haunts, and wheedling them [*sc.* pigeons, etc.] in by a Stale. 1692 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 129 To wheedle princes into slavery. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneidea* Prol., Religion wheedled you to Civil War. 1685 in *Magd. Coll.* (O. H. S.) 167 They were wheedled out of it by some few sugar words. 1702 FOE *Hist. Jack* I. (1840) 12 The major . . was wheedled away by a couple of young rogues. 1706 — *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 How he wheedled the people . . into the absurd . . undertaking of building Babel. 1860 DICKENS *Uncommer.* I. iii, I should have no idea . . how to wheedle a man into ordering something he doesn't want. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* II. (1879) 167 He has a tongue that could wheedle a bird out of a tree. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 184 Whom he wheedled over not to betray him. 1891 NEILSON *Legal and Social* 281, I have seen you wheedle an angry Mahdieh woman into giving you dates.

**2.** To do (a person) *out of* a thing, or to get (a thing) *out of* a person, by such action.

1697 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 196 The M[asters] are wheadled out of one [Act]. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xviii, I have already a deed of Settlement of the best part of her Estate ; which I whedd'd out of her. 1758 FRANKLIN *Hist. Penn. Wks.* 1840 III. 109 These proprietaries . . would have either nullified or wheedled the inhabitants out of the privileges they were born to. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, I wheedled an old woman out of these [ballads]. 1832 — *Cast. Dang.* xi, I suffered the abbess to wheedle the secret out of me. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiv, Wheedling my money from me while I lay half conscious.

**3.** *absol.* or *intr.* To use soft flattering words ; (of an animal) to fawn ; + *to wheedle in with*, to curry favour with ; + *to wheedle with* = sense 1.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 335 His bus'ness was to pump and wheedle. 1728 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 290 Lancaster goes down to the Dean of XT. Church, and began to wheedle with him. 1746 SMART *Phyllis* 87 Johnny wheedled, threaten'd, fawn'd, Till Phyllis all her trinkets pawn'd. 1748 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. x. (1840) 183 Secretly wheedling in with the dignified clergy. 1822 *Dyer's Pollitt* I. 204 She wheedled with the housekeeper, till she insured a glass of cordial from her. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 151 Wheedling and siding with them ! 1885 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Satia te Sanguine* xiv, As a tame beast writhes and wheedles.

**b.** *Cant.* = WHIDDLE *v.*

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 107 Sing in the Proverb, is the same that our Newgate-Birds call Wheedle ; which is, when one of the Gang Tattles, Confesses, and Accuses the Rest.

Hence **Whee·dled** *ppl. a.*, **Whee·dling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (chiefly of conduct, manner, etc.) ; whence **Whee·dlingly** *adv.* ; also **Whee·dler** ; **Whee·dlery,** wheedling ; **Whee·dlesome, Whee·dly** *adjs.*, of a wheedling character.

1675 R. HEAD *Proteus Redivi.* 226 His guilded or *Wheedled* Patient. 1773 *Ainsworth's Lat. Dict.* II, *Delinitor*...a cajoler, or "wheedler." 1886 T. WILLIAMS *Poems in Open Air* (1863) 41 Smith, wheedler of trout. 1868 L. M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xiv, You get everything you want out of people...you are a born wheedler. 1880 G. G.[WEDD] 58 The fond daughter continued her "wheedleries. 1883 L. M. ALCOTT *Hosp. Sk.*, etc. 94 Anything more irresistibly "wheedlesome I never saw. 1894 R. B. HEAP *Jackson's Research.* Bij b, Incomparable at the Art of "wheedling, which some call Complaisance. 1702 POE *Wife of Bath* 363 By mum'ring, wheedling, and a double Tongue, I still prevail'd. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, Notwithstanding all kinds of coaxing and wheedling, there were Mr. Winkle and the horse going round and round each in other for ten minutes. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxvi, Seditious Love did as little as argument. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* iv. (o Pox on't what a "wheedling Rogue art thou now? 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Canvassing* 11, a His Wheedling insinuations. 1723 ROWE *Jane Shore* i. i, A laughing, toying, wheadling, whimpering she. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iii, "I wonder Master didn't take you off from that old woman in a wheedling voice. 1856 MEREDITH *Shaw. Shagpat* i. 28 "Wheedlingly she looked at him. 1909 W. S. GILBERT *Fairy's Dilemma* i, 18 "Wheedlingly, Will you do it? 1838 SARAH, LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1912) 285 The maids of honour...are very cosey and "wheedly with me.

**Wheef(f)le,** Sc. forms of WHIFFLE.

**Wheel** (hwēl), *sb.* Forms : **1** hweogol, -ul, -el, hweowol, -ul, hweowl, hweohl, 1–3 hwecl, hwel, 3–4 weole, wel, 3–6 whel, 3–7 whele, 4–5 wele, (whiel), *north.* quele, 4–6 *Sc.* quhele, 4–7 wheele, *Sc.* quheill, († hwiol, 3 wheol, weol, 3 wcel, 3 wele, 4 whoole, weole, huejel, whewel, *north.* quel, quile, quil, *Sc.* quhel, 5 whoyle, whelle, whyll, wyle, *north.* quhoyll, quoyll, qwell, 5–6 whoylle, *north.* qwhoyle, qwele, quheil(e, quheill, 6 wheill, whefyll, wheale, whieale, weil, whyl(l)e, qwyl, *Sc.* wheill, whel(e, while, 7 *Sc.* quheele), 4–wheel. [OE. *hweogol, hweowol, hwēol* = OFris. **hwēl* (EFris. *weel, wēl*, NFris. *weil*), (M)LG. *wēl*, (M)Du. *wiel* (whence G. *wiel* in technical senses), ON. *hjól* (Sw., Da. *hjul*), *hvél* :— OTeut. **xwe(g)nla-*, **xwexula-* :— Indo-Eur. **q"eg"lo-* repr. by Skr. *cakrá-* circle, wheel, Zend *caxrem*, Gr. *κύκλος*; unrelated L. **q"elo-* : **q"ol-* : **q"el-* repr. by ON. *hvel* (Norw. *hvel*), OPruss. *Kelme* wheel, Gr. *κέλλω* axis, pole, ploughed-up land, L. *colus* distaff, OIr. *bolo* wheel ; the root meaning of *q"el-* is 'to turn' (cf. Skr. *cárati* to move, Zend *xarəiti* 'versatur', Gr. *πέλεσθαι* to be in motion, L. *colere* to till, *in-guil-inus* sojourner).]

**1.** A circular frame of wood, metal, or other material substance (sometimes in the form of a solid disk, but usually of a ring (*rim* or *felloe*) with spokes radiating from the centre (*nave*) attached or capable of being attached at its centre to an axle around which it revolves ; used, in many different forms and sizes, for communicating, facilitating, or equalizing motion, and for other purposes.

**a.** In a vehicle, plough, locomotive engine, etc., each of two or more such appliances which support it and, by rolling upon the ground or other surface, enable it to move along with the least possible friction.

*Art or in the wheel*, of horses, next to the carriage, in the place of the wheelers (see WHEELER 3) as opposed to the leaders. *On the wheel, on wheels*, riding in wheeled vehicles. (See also 1 b.)

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 7 Swa swa on wænes æxe hweorfaþ þa hweol. *a* 900 O. E. *Martyrol.* 26 Dec. § An plezende cild ann under wænes hweowol wæzð swa dead. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 270 Se fiimamentum went on ðam twam steorran swa swa hweogol [v.r. hweowol, hweowul] tyrnð on eaxe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 356 Elles hweoles þet werren furene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6437 An quointe tour hii lete make...Yt was idrue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21267, I sal tell, Quat mai be york, and quat quele [*Fairf.* quile, *Trin.* wheel] mai be, bridel quat es, and quat axeltre. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM iv. 23 Me makeþ prynses þe host to gouerny, And ase wheelen þe lissen To-gadere beldeþ hy. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 118 He rydes in

a chariot with foure wheles. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Kente they haue other maner of plowes, somme goo with wheles, as they doo in many other places. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 130 Hoy out (sir carter) the long fro thy wheels. 1599 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 9 Two turfe waynes furnisheri w^th wheles and axeitries. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 281 The wattir dolphin, tumbland lik a whele. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 490 They.. have moving houses built on wheeles. 1782 Cowper *John Gilpin* 41 Smack went the whip, round went the wheels. 1820 A. SUTHERLAND *St. Kathleen* III. 216 It widna be Christian-like to stay cosie at hame, an' a' the country-side on the Wheel. 1883 F. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 223 Noble lords were now and again to be seen following the chase on wheels. 1884 J. E. T. ROGERS *Work & Wages* 23 Plain wheels—that is, wheels formed from the trunk of a tree, with holes bored through them for the axles to run on. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Three leaders and a pair of great upstanding half-bred horses at the wheel. 1893 DURHAM *Yachts* II. 258, I took my tarantass with five horses attached, three in the wheel and two leaders.

**b.** Generally, in machinery or mechanical apparatus of any kind.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 502 (Napier 15/1) *Rota haurtoria*, hæzdtrendle, hweowla, hweowol. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 600 *Panus, virgula illa circa quam tramia tuantrahit. Idem et canthus dicitur* a Quele. 14.. *Nominale* (Add. 5646) 30 *Hec vertubrum*, a whelle. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 96 A carte-wheel, dreye & vngreecyd, cryeth lowdest of opere wheles. 1479–81 REG. ST. *Mary at Hill* 200 Nayle to amende the whele of the Sanctus bell. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 A Wheylle of a drawe wele, *ancilla*. 1495 *Norw. Acc. Mem. Hill.* (1869) 189 Wher for to wynde up the Mayre Sayle. 1586 *Stratton Churchw. Acc.* in *Archæologia* XLVI. 203 A new wheyell for the gret bell. 1595 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 18 A whele to wynde the rownde. 1599 SIR J. SMYTHE *Diff. Weapons* 47 Whereby they should faile to strike iust vpon the wheeles being fire-lockes. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* H 6, Some wheels were taken off.. And some stood vseless, as the Clock was spoild. 1766 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* I. i, iii. 59 A curious engine compounded of wheels screws and pulleys whereby a lady with a single hair of her head might raise a stone of two hundred weight. 1803 MES. P. L. PIOZZI *Pass. fr. Diaries* (1899) 354 Before you enter the Silk-Manufactory you pass an immense wheel; by that one 90,000 other wheels are all turn'd. 1824 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 185 Other wheel and pinion work.. modifies this motion.

**c.** *Wheel and axle* (or †*axis*), as one of the mechanical powers: see POWER 28.1 12.

1577 W. EMERSON *Prime Mech.* (ed. 2) 284 *Wheel and axle*, a machine to raise weights. One of the mechanic powers. 1799 JAS. WOOD *Prine. Mech. in.* (ed. 2) 63 The wheel and axle consists of a cylinder called *AB* moveable about it's axis *CD*, and a circle *EF* so attached to the cylinder that the axis *CD* passes through it's center, and is perpendicular to it's plane. 1824 *Turner's Arit.* & *Alg.* 89 In using the wheel and axis as the weight is raised, the rope coils round the axis and enlarges the diameter, hence the advantage of the power is diminished. 1860 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 170 (1862) 323 The advance from the lever to the wheel-and-axle is an advance from a simple agent to an agent made up of several simple ones.

**d.** With prefixed defining words indicating kind, structure, use, etc.

There are numerous compounds, as CART-WHEEL, COG-WHEEL, DRIVING-WHEEL, FLY-WHEEL, etc., etc. *Fifth wheel*, *tilt-wheel*: see FIFTH 5 b, TILT *sb.*^1 5 b.

**II.** A wheel or wheel-like structure, or an instrument or appliance having a wheel as its essential part, used for some specific purpose.

**2.** A large wheel, or contrivance resembling one, used in various ways as an instrument of torture or punishment. *To break on the wheel*: see BREAK *v.* 7 b.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 Þæt unstille hweol ðe Ixion wæs to gebunden. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xiv. 86 Het se arleasa casere gebinden georium on anum bradum hweowle. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1985 His achat beon to hwiðerest, wið þe hweowles awa, in an hondhwile. c 1290 *St. Georg.* 38 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 295 So sone ase huy þis goode man a-boue þuene tweole brouhte, þat yweol to-brac. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (Christine) 545 Þa brochi wes a quhele made Awfule & bye, & in it bade Sharpe swerdis scheraud in al syde. c 1450 *Hirk's Festial* 134 A whele set full of hawkes yn bat ost of pe whele, wyth swerde poyntys in bat obyr syde aseyne bat. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlia Controv.* 111 By the same Iudgement was Ponifre.. broken vpon a wheele. 1608 Dunbar *Dead Tearme* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 11 As if hee were a Male-factor, and hadde beene tortured on the Germaine Wheele. 1709–10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 233 ¶ 3 To rescue him from the Ignominy of the Wheel. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 433 The lifted axe, the agonizing wheel. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, He was swoln like a corpse three days exposed on the wheel.

**b.** *Wheel of Fortune* (ASTROL.): see quot.

1390 T. HOCCLEVE *Of Celestial Globe* 30 b, *Corona Australina*, the South garland..Others call it the wheele of Ixion.

**3.** Various mechanical contrivances. **a.** The revolving part of a turning-lathe, or of a potter's lathe (*potter's wheel*: see POTTER *sb.*^1 3); also, allusively, as in phr. *on the wheel* = in process of being fashioned, in the making. **b.** = MILL-WHEEL. **c.** = SPINNING-WHEEL. **d.** = TREAD-WHEEL; also, a treadmill. †**e.** *Musical wheel*, the revolving barrel of a barrel-organ or musical box. **f.** An instrument for measuring distances: = PERAMBULATOR 2. **g.** = *Grinding-wheel*: see GRINDING *vbl. sb.* 2. **h.** *Naut.*, etc. = *Steering-wheel*: see STEERING *vbl. sb.* 3 b. **i.** = PADDLE-WHEEL.

a. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xviii. 3 And Y cam doun in to the hous of the crockere, and lo! he made a werc vp on a whel. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. R ij b, As well proportioned as if it had ben made of a tourners hande, at his wheele. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* x. 251 While they are upon the Wheel (as a Potters Vessel in the Prophet) they are often marred. 1695 J. SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbytery* (1697) 9 Our Reformation was on the Wheel. 1708 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pottery*, The Wheel and Lathe are the Chief, almost the only Instruments, used in Pottery. 1895 JEWETT *Pinto* (ed. 2) 11 The Indians have their wheel at hand, that they may work a little when they please.

b. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxv. (1859) 30 The whele of a mylle lyyhtly tornyth lowyer than that he bygan. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x, For the swyftenesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the whele of the mylle. 1809 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 1. 113 b, Of ane mylne and ane man slane with the quheill thereof. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 109, I loved the..dark round of the dripping wheel.

c. 1407 *Maldon, Essex, Crt. Rolls*, Bundle 43, no. 24 (MS.) vii cushalmes, i whyll, i par cardunum, i hemper. c 1525 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 10 Item j qwele, j par of rapers, j rakyncrok, xij*d*. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Hens. Eastry* (1870) 279 One payer of wheles cawled two wollers and two. 1631 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Ilann. Club) 61 Sum pune pepill quha wer spynning that day loist thair quheillis and wer brokin. 1790 WARNER *Diary* (1866) 35 A Jersey wheel to wind 90 cops on. 1834 D. CROCKETT *Life* iv. 32 My wife had a good wheel, and knowed exactly how to use it. 1890 HARTLAND *Sci. Fairy Tales* (1891) 1 Some assert that wheels and wheel-pins are the only love ditties.

d. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wore Discov.* A 6, In a Wheele I saw a comely Asse.. drew as it were from the Heauens to Hell. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3918/4 Run away.. *Abr. Ashf.* 11. (1703) 114 Envy is.. a vice they say which keeps no holydays, but is always in the wheel, and working upon its own disquiet. 1749 TOWNE *Nt. Th.* iii. 331 The infinite daily Life's worm wheel, Which draws up nothing new. 1827 SCOTT *Fort. Nig.* Mar., It.. makes one feel like a dog in a wheel, always busy and never advancing. 1832 TENNYSON *Sk. Rec. Last Cab-driver*, He positively refused to work on the wheel; so after many trials, I was compelled to order him into solitary confinement.

e. 1696 PHILLIPS *Wks.* I ij b, Let there be a Musical Wheel..so when the said water Wheel shall turn it shall cause the Musical Wheel to turn.

f. 1696 PHILLIPS *Wks.* (1720) 103 One by the Wheel was Sixteen Perches round, another in walking Seventy six Paces. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marit. Surv.* iii, 7 Some Surveyors measure their Distances by a Wheel.

g. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 433 Running at the Grinder, [he] made him quit his Wheel. 1894 J. PARKER *Manuf. Metal* I. 284 The edge tools, after being hardened, are directly carried to the grinding-mill, or wheel, as the establishment is called.

h. 1743 BUCKLEY & CUMMING *Voy. S. Seas* 8 There broke a Sea in the Gallery, which carried over the Wheel. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, It took two men at the wheel to steer her. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxiii, Most of the people were asleep, and the few on deck were clustered near the wheel. 1906 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Car of Destiny* xxxii, Taking the wheel himself, .he backed the big, rapidly-moving car into the boathouse.

i. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* i, The two great wheels turn fiercely round for the first time; and the noble ship..breaks proudly through the billows.

**4.** A turnstile or similar contrivance at the entrance of a convent. Also *turning-wheel* (TURNING *ppl. a.* 7). *Obs.*

14.. in Augier *Syon* (1840) 257 The kepers of the wheyles, grates, gates, or entres into the clausures. a 1552 BOOKE *Ady* (1) 1 Ye shall not be lodged in the lowe Chambers before Nunnery yonder. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxxi. 170, I wished him to go, and put up a Wheele, and a Grate, in the Hole through which he gave me Wine.

**5.** In full *wheel of fortune* (see 2 11 a): = *Lotterywheel*: see LOTTERY 5. Also *allusively*.

1698 *Post Boy* 3 Jan. In Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 1400 We have divers wheels agoing. 1750 *Mem. Jerry Architect* Sev. 11. (1895) XII. 640 The [Lottery] Tickets will be putting into the wheels on Wednesday. 1793 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 548 Beware the Wheel of Fortune—'tis a sad, You'll lose a dozen times before you win. 1774 SCOTT *Journ.* 11, I believe Toby will hardly thank me for going into the wheel. 1820 T. MOORE *To the Large & Beaut. Miss* —— I bid how coyly you, me, and the copied image. Should so long have remained in the wheel? 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 167 Stalls, provided with wheels-of-fortune, at which the Norman lads boldly venture their solid sous for empty hopes. a 1840 *Mc Kay's Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 192 Wheel-of-fortune men, offering to make all rich in a fair.

**6.** a. A rotatory firework in the form of a wheel. (See also CATHERINE WHEEL 3, PIN-WHEEL 2.) b. *Wheel of colour*: = CHROMATROPE. c. *Wheel of life*: = *Zoetrope*.

1699 in Hodgkin *Rariora* (1904) III. *Fireworks* 16 Girondelles or Fierle Wheeles. 1853 *Jan Etten's Math. Reveat.* 272 How to make Wheels of Fire. 1886 HOOD *Vocal Mech.* 81 The while—small crackers—serpents twist. 1892 Wheel of life [see ZOOTROPE]. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach., Optics* ii. 306 The Chromatrope, or Wheel of Colour.

**7.** orig. and esp. *U. S.* A bicycle or tricycle; also *attrib.* (with def. art.): the practice of riding on one, cycling; (with indef. art.) a cycle-ride.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 302/1 The wheel was a new thing in New York ways. 1888 P. FURNIVALL *Phys. Training* 3, I am more accustomed to the wheel than the pen. 1892 *Cycling* (U.S.) XXII. 190/1 It would have been a most lovely wheel had we chosen to explore it on bicycles. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* vii, Hoopdriver .. felt a pleasing sense of having duly asserted the wide sympathy that binds all cyclists together, of having behaved himself as becomes one of the brotherhood of the wheel.

III. Something resembling a wheel in form or movement.

**8.** An object having the form or figure of a wheel; a circle, or something circular; a disk.

*spec.* (*a*) in *Needlework*, an open pattern or decoration with radiating threads; (*b*) in *Arch.* an ornament with radiating tracery (*cf. wheel-window* in 10); (*c*) in *Zool.* a wheel-like structure, as the *wheel-organs* or trochal disk of a rotifer, or a *wheel-spicule* in an echinoderm or sponge.

a 900 *O. K. Martyrol.* 5 May 74 He sende þæt he drihtnes folmatas weoron beworht mid mycle hwelan. c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* (Surtees) 22/25 Þære sunnan hwegeal [orig. *solis rotam*]. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 986 Yf that thow Thorwe on water now a stoon Wel wyst how hyt wal make anone A litel roundell..And, thow shalt see wel That whele sercle wol cause another whele. a 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 55 With playing going doun Inmiddes the place, with turning wheel, certayn. 1556 *Aurelio & Izab.* (1608) F vj, The peococke putteo in a whylle his gelteole feithera. 1611 COTGR., *Rond de nuyt*, the sea-wheele; a huge, round and monstrous seafish. a 1652 SIR J. SKEFFINGTON *Herve of Lorrane* (1655) 71 Let the Peacock please himself with the glorious wheel of his train. 1834 R. WILLIS *Archit. Med. Ages* vi. 64 Wheels occur mixed with the tracery and panelling of the Italian Gothic. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Forms Anim. Life* 550 The calcareous deposits .. are .. represented .. by wheels (= rouelas), e.g. in *Chironeles*. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/3 Trimmed with smart wheels and tassels of brown silk.

**9.** The celestial sphere or firmament, or one of the spheres of the planets, etc. in the ancient astronomy, regarded as revolving like a wheel. *Obs.* or merged in figurative senses (see 12, 13).

c 1000 OSMUND 1733 Þæt hweol wæs liðende ofer hiræ garcart To dreahenn helle pine? c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. v. (1868) 21 O þou maker of þe whele þat bereþ þe eterne [1382 O thou makere of the wheel that berith the shynyng sonne of vertue in bright wheele of this Margarye beholde. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xl. (1869) 94 The wheel in whiche the moone goeth alwaie aboute. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xvi. 241 Þe firste mouyng is of þe firste or whele. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* I. 60 Her eyes fast fix'd on the eternal wheels [*i.e.* the heavens].

**10.** One of the wards of a lock, which are rotated by the key. *techn.*

1784 BRAMAH in *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* (1796) V. 218 The inserting..between the key-hole and the bolt, a greater or less number of wheels or wards. 1848 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 214/1 These prominent wards are termed in the technical language, *wheels*, which impede the introduction of a false key.

**11.** Figurative, allusive, and abstract uses.

**11. a.** The wheel which Fortune is fabled to turn; an emblem of mutability. (See also 5.) So *wheel of Providence* (rare).

Phr. *To set or sit high on the wheel* (of Fortune): to make or be highly fortunate.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii. § 2 Wenst þu þæt ðis þat hwarfende hweol þonne hit on ryne wyrð mege oncerran? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23715 Dame fortune turnes þan hir gucle. 1340 *Ayenb.* 24 Þuanne þe heuedi of hap heþ hire huegel yweri. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 1 Fortune hes a quheil. This mychty kyng of Ynglandschone had set on her quheill on hicht. c 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 67 Thanked be fortune and hire false wheel. a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2140 Þe wyele of qwintounes youre qualite encreses. 1448–9 METHAM *Amorym & Cl.* 380 O fortune,..Qwy chongydyst thow thi qwele cawsles? 1596 T. WILSON *Thomas Cantuar* 1 Fortune turning whyle. 1810 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 448 Fortune turned her wheele and downe went this Colony. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 108 So fatall a thing it is, for the greatest and straitest Amitice of Kings, as one time or other to haue a little of the Wheele. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. xxix. (1890) 608 'Till the great Wheel of Providence turn up another spoke. 1782–3 GOLDSM. *Ess. Wks.* IV. 31 The wheel of fortune turns incessantly round. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 347 Turn, Fortune, turn thy wheel and lower the proud. 1918 L. TRACY *Ivy of Life* v, The turn of fortune's wheel was distinctly favourable.

**b.** With allusion to the wheels of the chariot of the Sun. *poet.*

1597 PRAER *Aeneid* VII. (1558) S ij b, The golden morning bright with wheels driuing rose. 1600 SHAKS. *Hamlet* v. ii. 360 Horse and chariot both, Whereto this goodly vision is confin'd, Were of the Sunne. 1700 DRYDEN *Theocr. Idyll* xi. Poems 177 While with his morning Wheels, the God of Day Climb'd up the Steep of Heav'n.

**12.** In direct fig. use from 1, esp. 1, 2, chiefly in reference to the capricious sequence of events, procedure, the passage of time. So from 2 a.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Prather* xix. 8 Þai ere draghen about in wheles by ordes of coustys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 18 Whos carte goth upon the wheles, Of covelins and worldes Pride. ? 1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wit & Mirth* (1630) 17 The wheele of Time would turne. a 1628 F. GREVIL *Caliea* viii, Turrowes not worne by time, but wheeles of anguish. 1668 DRYD. *Dufresny* 17 Then, All they can hope for to do out of the King's revenue being but to receive what is going on present services. 1679 OWEN *Indwelling Sin* xvi. (1732) 219 To oyl the Wheels of Mens utmost Endeavours. 1679 EVERARD *Disc.* 80 All these States may be in a condition to nail the Wheel, and to produce an Universal Peace in Christendom. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1737) V. 86 On these Wheels moves the Traffick of the East, and has succeeded better than any Corporation preceding. a 1726 SOUTH *Serm., Luke xii.* 58 Wks. 1727 IV. 438 Covetousness has been .. the principal Spring and Motion and .. hypocritical Prayers and Fastings, the sure Wheels, by which the great Work.. has still gone forward. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. 1. 366 The great wheel of circulation [*sc.* money] is altogether different from the goods which are circulated by means of it. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *South Sea House*, Nicholas's wheels are not yet worn out. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I, This present writer.. is anxious..to help the wheel over, and throw his stone on to the pile. 1894 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 73 A little recognition of merit, a kindly reference to loving service done.. helps the wheel of life to run round more smoothly. 1907 *Standard* 19 Jan. 6/6 The wheels of progress might be unduly impeded.

**b.** *On wheels*: (*a*) With rapid and continuous movement or action; chiefly in phr. *to go or run on wheels*, to proceed swiftly or uninterruptedly;

to go smoothly, make good progress; to go on actively or incessantly; (humorously, of a clock) to go too fast or irregularly. (*b*) In working order, in normal condition for action (*dial.*).

1847 Gardiner in Fore *A. & N.* (1856) 734/2 The swell wilters of the realme will take change and make accompt.. that all goeth on wheles. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 317 Then may I set the world on wheeles, when she can spin for her living. 1600 Burton *Penyeil's Peare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 From the blaines and kibes upon my heeles; And from a madding wit that runnes on wheeles.. The blessed Lord of heauen deliuer me. 1697 Homer *Odyssey* xviii. 32 While his tongue Thus runs on wheels. 1732-8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 108 *Col.* Pray, my Lord, what's a Clock by your Oratch? *L.-t. Sparkish.* Faith, I can't tell, I think my Watch runs upon Wheels. 1820 J. Clark *Poems* 89 If fate's so kind to let's be doing, That's—just going cart on wheels a going. 1831 Mrs. Sherwood *Henry Milner* III. xv. 309, I can..let my jointure run up to ten thousand dollars and then, when it is clear, we shall be on our four wheels again.

†**o.** *A word on wits* (or *upon the*) *wheels*: an echo of the marginal 'Heb. spoken vpon his wheele' in the A.V. of Proverbs xxv. 11, where the text has 'fitly spoken'. *Obs.*

Heb. אֹפַן (dual or pl.) of this passage is now regarded as *hapax legomenon*, and אוֹפַן interpreted as 'in its turns', 'in (right) circumstances'; formerly referred to אָבַן a wheel.

1650 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1669) 36/1 A word in season is a word on its wheele. *c* 1687 P. Henry in *Life* (1699) 93 There never was Truth..more seasonable to any than this was to me: It was a word upon the Wheels.

13. With allusion to sense 1 *b*, denoting a constituent part or element of something figured as a machine.

1625 Bacon *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 405 So that if these three wheeles goe, Wealth will flow as in a Spring tide. *a* 1628 Preston *Sainte Daily Exerc.* (1629) 108 It sets all the wheeles of the soule the right way. 1692 W. Lloyd *Pref. Kr. Iurors.* 15 The French King (the main Wheel in this designed Restauration). 1696 Toogood *Lt. Del. Wholl. Ind.* II. 363 Nor does He find the wickedness of men improper wheels for carrying on His most important designs among them. 1721 Wesley *Jrnl.* 31 Mar. (1827) III. 415 In the Methodist discipline, the wheels regularly stand thus: the Assistant, the Preachers, the Stewards, the Leaders, the people. 1916 *19th Cent.* Apr. 822 The protagonist sets the wheels of fate in motion.

*b. Wheels within wheels*, less usually *a wheel within a wheel* (after Ezek. i. 16): a complexity of forces or influences; a complication of motives, designs, or plots; also *gen.* any complexity.

1659 Pearce *Add. Jacob* 18 Like unto the Wheel within the wheel moved upon other grounds, God making use of his Soveraignty over his Creatures, in raising and stirring up One Nation or Person to punish the Evils of Another. 1710 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) I. 214 Thus we have Wheels within Wheels. And in some National Constitutions..we have even Empire within another. 1754 E. Edwards *Servile Wrath of Man* Wks. (1793) 711/2 There is a wheel within a wheel, which will turn matters about so, as the wrath of man shall praise God, and advance his interest, instead of ruining it. 1824 L. Murray *Engl. Gramm.* (ed. 5) II. 257 They are wheels within wheels; sentences in the midst of sentences. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., There's a wheel within a wheel, or you wouldn't have got that. 1861 Gurowski *Diary* (1862) 75 McClellan ought to..have direct action; and not refer to Scott. What is this wheel within a wheel? 1900 S. Merriman *Isle of Unrest* vi, There are wheels within wheels..in the social world of Paris.

14. *fig.* A reiterated or recurring course of actions, events, or time; an endless round or cycle.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Uorte leren us bet we of be woldes torbelesse, & of sunne bet wule, ofte gon to schrifte. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xl. 9 Erthly godes bat tornes wip be whele of seuen dayes. 1382 Wyclif *Iames* iii. 6 The tunge..wet alpis of bulle, enflawmeb be wheel of oure birbe. 1871 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* Pref. p. xiii, All Buddhists..call their religion the doctrine of 'The Wheel of the Law'.

†**b.** *Alch.* A series of operations by which one element was supposed to be converted into another.

1472 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* in Ashmole (1652) 133 The Wheele of Elemenis thou canst turne about. *Ibid.* 187 Then to wyn to thy desyre thou needst not be in dowte, for the Wheele of our Philosophy hath bene turnyd alowte. 1657 R. Johnson *Alch.* ii. iii, I have another worke i..That three dayes since, past the Philosophers wheele, In the lent heat of Athanor; and a Sulphur o' nature.

†**c.** = Turn *sb.* 28. *Obs. rare.*

1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 214 Me sholde ordeyne that euery gouernoure hadd tene Vicaries in his hoste, and euery vicarie ten lederis in his whele.

15. [Partly f. Wheel *v.*] A movement like that of a wheel. **a.** A movement in a circular or curved course; a circling motion (usually, through a single complete circle); a revolution.

1602 C. (Clibborne) *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxviii. 193 In these daunces they made twoo circles or wheeles forig. *dos ruedas de gente*]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 741 Satan.. Throws his steep flight in many an Aerie wheele. 1805 Cary *Dante, Inf. xvi.* 21 They..Whirl'd round together in one restless wheel. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxi, Amid his senses' giddy wheel. 1815 — *Guy M.* xxii, A rough terrier dog..scampered at a thousand wheels round the heath. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* I. iv. 34 Merrily whirled the wheels of the dizzying dances.

**b.** A movement about an axis or centre; a rotation; a turn (usually, not completely around); *spec.* (*Mil.*) such a movement of a rank or body of troops about a pivot (Pivot *sb.* 2); occas. = Cart-wheel 3.

*a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 69 The captain mountinge on a white horse, did leade the musketires, without any wheeles, but went the high beaten way. 1672 T. Venn *Milit. Discipl.* 19 There may be a Counter-march for the gaining of Ground; but I conceive that wholly without but where you have not ground to make your Wheels. 1788 D. Dundas *Princ. Mil. Movem.* App. 5 All wheels or flings made from the halt into column or line, are made at a quick step. 1797 J. Bailey & Culley *Agric. Northumbrld.* 123 At the first appearance of any person they set off in full gallop and at the distance of two or three hundred yards, make a wheel round, and come boldly up again. 1832 *Prov. Reg. Instr. Cavalry* II. 10 Right Wheel. 1864 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* 21 Tea and coffee were enlivened by a collision between the footboys. Stiffneck with the ten-tray made a sudden wheel upon No. 2 with the coffee-tray. 1892 'R. Butterworth' *Dict. Engl. Proverbs* xxvii, The reckless speed and practised wheel of the trained stock horses. 1904 Johnston *H. P. Liddon* xx. 301 The 'gannins' who used to wheedle pennies from him by making 'wheels' for his amusement.

16. *Prosody.* A set of short lines forming the concluding part of a stanza, usually five in number, varying in form and length, but generally having the first line riming with the last, and often the intervening three riming with each other; the first line in some types is very short, and is then called the *bob*.

1838 Guest *Engl. Rhythms* II. 290 Besides the staves which originated in mixed and continuous rhime, there are others, which have sprung from the use of the Wheel and Burthen. The Wheel is a set of lines terminating in rhime and the return of the same words at the close of each stave, and by the former the return of some marked and peculiar rhythm. 1877 Hueffer *Troubadours* 178 The Provençal I. 105 The bob being of two syllables, and the wheel an irregular but unmistakable ballad-quatrain.

**V.** Combinations.

17. **a.** General: *a. attrib.* Of, pertaining to, consisting of, or connected with a wheel or wheels, as *wheel-bearing, -block, -box, -boy* (cf. Wheel-lad), *-cage, -case, -circle, -coulter, -counter, -flanges, -grease, -lathe, -mark, -nave, -rim, -ring, -road, -rod, -rut, -spoke, -sweep* (Sweep 16. 16 c), *-timber, -tire, -tooth, -top, -track, -train* (Train *sb.*[1] 15), *-tread* (Tread *sb.* 10 b), etc.; furnished with or moving on a wheel or wheels (of vehicles = 'wheeled'), as *wheel-arquebus, -bier, -bridge, -clock, -crane, -harrow, -machine, mail, -sled, -vehicle.*

1895 *Westminster Gaz.* 18 *Mch.* 1/2 Cages x. 369 These arms were denominated 'wheel-arquebuses [*F. arquebuses à rouet*]. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 390 The castors at the front feet work in *wheel-boxes*. 1884 W. Hillis *Railway Signaling* (ed. 2) 128 There can be no slipping of the twine 'wheel-belt. 1898 F. D. How *Bp. Waldhams How* 371 A simple wheel-brake, actuated on the principle of the *wheel-bridge*. 1833 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iii, [A carriage] with silver *wheel-boxes*. 1892 Black *Wolfenberg* 21, The solitary figure slowly wheeling up and down by the wheel-bow of a ship. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 423 Little or no attendance is required from *wheel-boys* or followers. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Aug. 1641, The 'wheel-bridg, which engine his Excellency had made to run over the moate when they storm'd the castle. 1889 Mivart *Orig. Hum. Reas.* 268 A squirrel or white mouse which turns in its 'wheel-cage. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* II. 2277/2 *Wheel-carts*, a stout paper case with composition..tied to the rim of a wheel or rotating piece of fire-works. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thop.* 58 Hire *wheel-chaar* ful hye. 1810 By the Peace is not more immortal, by 'Wheel-clocks we are made companions of time. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 77 Automata..are certainly not older than the wheel-clock. 1823 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-coiter*, a sharp-edged wheel running in advance of the breast of the plow, to cut the sod or weeds in the line of the furrow. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) II. *Crane*, a 'wheel-crane, built on the deck. *a* 1663 Killigrew *Parson a Wheel.* II. vi. (1664) 99 Ever since yellow starch and 'wheel Farthingales were cry'd down. 1859 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl. Arts* I. Feb. 111 Friction of the 'wheel-flanges will tend to crush any obstructing substance upon the chair. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 360/1 *Arungia*,..'wheele grease. 1697 *Acta Eruditorum* 180 Machine with an locomotive and everlasting Midland 'wheel-grease. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 399, 1 'qwhele harow. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-head*, a lathe for turning wheels or any other large work. 1770 Furber *Turf.* (1886) 288 A Wooden Bridge..by which Horses and 'Wheel-machines do easily Cross the River. 1838 Bournemouth *Corp. Accounts* xxvii, It was problematical whether the contractor was running a 'wheel mail or not. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxix, Following the old 'wheel-marks on the gravel. 1907 Mrs. Hinkson *Trade* 332 The Witch-Elm..is good for 'Wheel-naves. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. Prol. 162 The paynyit povne..Kest vp his tail, a proyd pleasand 'quheil tyre. 1886 Pall Mall G. 8/3 (Cent. Mfg.) My new wheel-pump. 1766 *Complete Farmer s.v. Fence*, This timber is of excellent service..for ploughs, axle-trees, 'wheel-rings, harrows, &c. 1894 Sportsman 7 *Novem.* 1, To my own contemporaries, who have known 'wheel-road, bridle-way, and footpath for thirty years. 1888 Morris in Mackail *W. M.* (1899) II. 67 The 'wheel-spurge the downs are dabbled with. 1598 Florio *Voy.* I. 05 The breadth betweene the 'wheele-ruts of one of their cartes. 1889 Camelot *Misc.* (1857) II. 99 Little is laid open to us but two wheel-ruts and two hedges. 1596 Nashe *Unfort. Traveller* (New Shakspere Soc.) 195 That tall 'quheill sleddis..cum vpon the brig. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 19 I. A 'wheele spoke, *radius vel modiolus*. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 326 Oak..for..Shingles, Wainscot, Wheel Spokes. 1891 Harpy Text xxxiii, It had stout wheel-spokes, and heavy fellies. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1244 The Pulborough stone paving of the 'wheel-track. 1778 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 584 Rob'o Yoill, carpentario, culpanti 'qwelltimber. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1869) 139 Item herds cowper tymber wheles and whele tymber. 1866 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 Plow-timber, cart-timber, wheel-timber. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 41 In 1787 were exported Sets of wheel timbers 1,036. 1838 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 145 According as the metal is intended to be reduced to the strength of 'wheel-tyre, hoop-iron, or different sized bars. 1892 J. Nimmo *Oper. Mech.* 509 The points of the 'wheel-teeth must not be rounded off. 1500 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 118 Beholdynge Mars how wouderly he stode, On a 'wheele set vp with a lady of pryse. 1552 Huloet, 'Wheele tracte or rutte, *orbita*. *c* 1180 S. Rogers *Italy, Naples* 115 The wheel-track worn for centuries. 1899 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Notebks.* (1912) II. 285 A vineyard, with a wheel-track through the midst of it. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Wheel-train*, a number of wheels so arranged that the revolution of one causes the revolution of all. 1725 *6* 'Wheel-tread [see Tread *sb.* 10 b]. 1734 J. Rowe (*title*) All sorts of wheel-carriage improved: ..Waggons, Carts, Coaches, and all other 'Wheel-Vehicles. 1856 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) I. 48 The wheel-vehicles making no noise.

**b.** Objective, as *wheel-bearer* (= Rotifer), *-cutter, -maker, -tapper, -turner*; *wheel-bearing, -cutting, -greasing, -resembling, -turning* sbs. and adjs.; instrumental, as *wheel-engraving; -wheeling, -made, -marked, -smashed, -spun, -turned, -worn* adjs.; similative, parasynthetic, etc., as *wheel-broad, -footed, -like* adjs.

1861 H. J. Slack *Mary. Pendaflye* 23 Following the Protosa, come the Rotifers, or 'wheel-bearers. 1877 Wood *Nature's Teach., Optics* ii. 306 Soon after the powers of the microscope became known, these 'Wheel-bearers were discovered. 1840 Paterson *Lond.* 6 The order itself Rotifera, or 'wheel-bearing. 1691 Ray *Corr. Grounds* 1. Prol., 'Wheel-broad hats. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 308/2 'Wheel-cutting, comprehends the modes of cutting the teeth in the wheels used by watch and clock makers. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 58 The circular brass plate in a wheel-cutting engine. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 996/1 *Wheel-engraving*, that distinguished from sand-blast engraving or acid etching. See *Glass Engraving*. 1788 Cowper *Gratitude* 9 This 'wheel-footed studying chair. 1888 Rochester & Strood *Guide* 11 Had come, as it were, to the end of this 'wheel-going Europe. 1835-6 *Todd's Cyl. Anat.* I. 607/1 The villa constitute the 'wheel-like form of the Rotifera Infusoria. 1888 *Trnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* X. 59 'Wheel-made pottery in the barrows of the district. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 588/15 *Hic catarius*, 'wheel-maker. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1134 The principle which directs the modern wheel-maker. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 398/2 Along a wide and 'wheel-marked trail. 1898 R. Lydekker *Dhulia* (1877) 68 Great Gerboise of (Pale Footed-Gerbille) Henaen. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, **Wheelspun*, very stout worsted yarn, spun on the common large wheel. 1881 *Instr. Leisure Circles* (1885) Index 8 'Wheel-spun yarn. 1837 Wheelwright tr. *Aristophanes* II. 203 O thou clear lustre of the 'wheel-turn'd lamp. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wheelwearing Valve*, one with two very small check-valves with large face-plates, and two slide-revels operated by a ratchet-teel from an overhead rock-shaft. 1707 Bonnet *Taron & Mestea Poems* 224 Along the 'Wheel-worn Road they hold their way. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 22 The chariots bounding in her wheel-worn streets.

18. Special Combinations: **wheel-animal**, **-animalcule** = Rotifer; **wheel-assembler**, one who fits together the parts of the wheels of bicycles, etc.; so **wheel-assembly**, the operation of doing this; **wheel-back**, a back resembling a wheel, characteristic of chairs made by Hepplewhite about 1775; **wheel-barometer**, a mercurial barometer having a float attached to a string passing over a pulley-wheel on which the index turns; **wheel-base**, the distance between the points of contact of the front and back wheels of a vehicle, as a bicycle or railway-carriage, with the ground or rail; † **wheel-bed**, a trundle-bed; **wheel-bird**, a local name for the night-jar or goat-sucker, from its cry suggesting the noise of a spinning-wheel; **wheel-bont**, a boat with wheels, *esp.* (*Sc.*) a steamboat with paddle-wheels; **wheel-bug**, a large reduviid insect (*Prionidus cristatus*) of the southern United States and W. Indies, with a semicircular serrated crest suggesting a cog-wheel; **wheel-chain**, see quot.; **wheel-chair**, a chair with wheels, *esp.* a bath chair; **wheel-cross**, a variety of ring-cross with arms radiating from a small circle in the centre of the ring; **wheel-draught**, a current of smoke and hot air in a steam-engine, circulating continuously in one direction; † **wheel-fire** (mod. L. *ignis rotæ*), in *Old Chem.*, a fire completely encompassing a crucible; **wheel-guard**, (*a*) a circular guard on a sword or dagger; (*b*) a guard to protect a wheel from dirt or injury, or to prevent it from chafing some other part of the vehicle or machine; **wheel-head**, (*a*) the nave or central part of a wheel; (*b*) 'the headstock of a spinning-mule' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); (*c*) 'the lathe-head of a seal-engraver's engine' (*Cent. Dict.*); **wheel-horse**, a horse harnessed between the shafts of a vehicle, next to the wheels, as distinguished from a *leader*; *fig.* a person who bears the chief burden of a business; **wheel-insect** = *wheel-animal*; **wheel-iron** (see quot. 1837); **wheel-ladder** (see quot. 1888); **wheel-map** (see quot. 1899); **wheel-money**, name for certain prehistoric metallic objects, supposed by some to be money, made in the form of a wheel, i. e. of a cross surrounded by a ring; **wheel-organ**, *Zool.*, see 8 (*c*); **wheel-pair**,

a pair of wheel-horses; **wheel pen**, a pen with a small toothed wheel instead of nibs, for tracing dotted lines (Webster 1920); **wheel-pisces**. (*a*) a lateral part of a car-truck, supporting the pedestals or axle-boxes; (*b*) a post fixed beneath a door-sill on each side, to take the strain of the wheels of a vehicle when passing over it; **wheel-pit**, (*a*) a space enclosed by masonry for a large wheel, as a fly-wheel or turbine, to turn in; (*b*) *dial.* a whirlpool; **wheel-plate**, (*a*) the part of a solid wheel between the rim and the hub; (*b*) see quot. 1892; **wheel-plough**, a plough having wheels running on the ground to reduce the friction or regulate the depth of the furrow; **wheel-press**, (*a*) a form of rotary printing-press; (*b*) a hydraulic press for moulding a solid wheel, or for fixing it on the axle; **wheel-race**, the part of a mill-race in which the mill-wheel is fixed; **wheel-rood** = *wheel-cross*; **wheel-rope**, *Naut.*, † (*a*) cf. quot. 1495 in 1 b; (*b*) a rope passing round the barrel of the steering-wheel to the tiller; **wheel-seat**, the part of an axle encircled by the wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **wheel-shaped** *a.*, having the shape of a wheel; *spec.* in *Bot.* = ROTATE *a.*; † **wheel-sick** *a.*, giddy; **wheel-skate**, a roller-skate; so *wheel-skater*, *-skating*; **wheel-spicule**, *Zool.* one of certain disk-shaped calcareous concretions, with an appearance of radiating spokes, in the skin of some holothurians; also, a wheel-shaped spicule in sponges; **wheel-spur** (ME. -spore), the ridge on the inner side of the wheel-rut (cf. SPOUR *sb.*1, and *cart-spur* s.v. CART *sb.* 6); **wheel-stitch** (see quot.); **wheel-stock** (*local*), (*a*) the nave of a wheel, or timber to be used for this; (*b*) wood materials for wheel-making; **wheel-stone**, a fossil consisting of a detached joint of the stem of an encrinite, and having the form of a circular disk with a central perforation; an entrochite; **wheel-swarf** [SWARF *sb.*2], the pasty substance produced by the friction of a grindstone and the cutlery ground upon it, consisting of a mixture of particles of stone and steel, and used as an air-tight coating in steel-manufacture; **wheel-tax**, a tax on wheeled carriages; **wheel-tracery**, tracery radiating from a centre, as in a *wheel-window*; **wheel-troo**, (*a*) a S. American tree (*Aspidosperma excelsum*), also called *paddle-wood* (cf. quot. 1866 s.v. PADDLE *sb.* 11); (*b*) an Australian tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) with flowers in circular clusters; (*c*) *Mining* (see quot. 1886); **wheel vat**, in *Tanning* = PIN-WHEEL *sb.* 3; **wheel-way**, a way, road, or track along which wheeled vehicles run; also *fig.* (cf. RUT *sb.*2 1 c); † **wheel-whirl** (see quot.); **wheel-window**, a circular window with mullions radiating from the centre like the spokes of a wheel (= CATHERINE WHEEL 2); **wheel-wise** *adv.*, in the manner or form of a wheel; (of swimming) with the arms moving like the spokes of a wheel. See also WHEEL-BAND, WHEELBARROW, etc.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 581/1 The Wheel-Animal, or Vorticella .. is found in rain water that has stood some days. 1834 *Lancet* 24 May 290/2 We see in this "wheel-animalcule, the *hydatina senta*, many of those muscular bands passing down longitudinally from the ring, nearly as we saw in the large holothuria. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 277 2 All through the arts of the "wheel-assembler. *Ibidem.* 270/2 They are then sent to the "wheel-assembly department, to receive the bearings, spokes and rims. 1909 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furnit.* (ed. 2) 489 Heppelwhite's "wheel-back chair .. may be found with cabriole legs, and later with typical straight tapered ones. 1666-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 155 My "Wheel-barometer I could never fill so exactly with Mercury, as to exclude all Air. 1892 *Hutton's Arith. Rev. Mech.* 629 Several expedients have been adopted for lengthening the scale of the barometer. .. The most popular expedient is that adopted in what is called the wheel barometer. 1888 *Trnl. Franklin Inst.* Mar. 201 The distance between the supporting wheels is four times that which fits the rigid "wheel-base of the truck. 1558 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 92 On pare of bed stocks & one "wheb bedd. 1589 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1860) 206 One standinge bedd and a wheelebed in yᵉ parlor. 1819 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 238 For a "wheel bill. 1823 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 1. 147 This species [European Gontsucker] makes a .. noise, which has been compared to that of a large spinning wheel, .. and has with that account been called the "wheel bird. 1868 [see WHEELER 6]. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* viii, 'How did you come from Glasgow?' 'By the "wheel-boat, or steam-boat, as they call it, to Lunnon.' 1864 WEBSTER, *Wheel-boat*, a boat with wheels, to be used either on water or upon inclined planes or railways. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 170 The "wheel-bug can .. communicate an electric shock to the person whose flesh it touches. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.*, (1869) 316 The *Reduvius*, or wheel-bug, is found in gardens, feeding voraciously upon caterpillars. 1891 H. PATTENSON *Naut. Dict.* 194 "*Wheel Chains*, chains used in place of the rope for connecting the steering wheel and the tiller. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* II. Jan. 1662 *My Lord Ashiguie*.. shew'd us..his "wheele-chaire for ease and motion. 1904 LEE *Recoll. Gen. R. E. Lee* 196 When put in her wheelchair, she could propel herself on a level floor. 1882 WORSAAE *Industr. Arts Denmark* 66 The ring-cross was sometimes employed indiscriminately with the "wheel-cross to indicate the wheels of the sun-carriage. 1877 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 529 A "wheel-draught; that is to say, the current of flame and smoke, after passing along the bottom of the boiler, rises up at the end. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 165 Make a good fire of Charcole about it, wch is called a "Wheel-fire of cementation. 1880 HEWITT *Anc. Armour* II. 278 The guard took a variety of forms, as the crossguard, that composed of two knobs, and the "wheel-guard. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wheel-guard Plate, (Ordnance)*, an iron plate on each side of the stock of a gun-carriage to prevent its being chafed by the wheels when turning. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. vi, On naked beams above were suspended .. "wheelbands, &c. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 7/1 The wheel-head crosses of Ireland. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4424 1 Which enjoins Waggoners to draw with a Pole between the Wheel-Horses. 1897 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. 10 He falls into it as certainly as a new wheel-horse in a mill. 1911 H. S. HARRISON *Queed* xxvii, The only speech was made by the Solon who had the bill called up, a familiar organ-grinder wheelhorse. 1880 J. ANDERSON *Account* II. 257 There has been discovered among the *animalcula infusoria*, one which..has been called by the English, the "wheel-wearer. 1769 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXIII. 388 What we call a "wheel-iron, placed, as usual on the nose of an axle-tree. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 87 Splinter Bars, to retain the action of the draught. Formerly these were affixed to the ends of the axles, and called "wheel-irons. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 "Wheele leather for harnesse. 1770 HERMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 117 Art Ladders and Wheel Ladders are Frames on the Sides and Tail, to support light Loads as Hay, &c. 1888 KEMPSHOTT *W. Somerset Words.bk., Wheelladders*, a pair for the back part of a waggon, having small roller or windlass attached, by which the ropes for binding the load can be strained tight. 1899 *Geog. Jrnl.* Mar. 296 The most striking maps, in which Jansanius was accepted as the centre of the world, whence the main geographical lines radiated like the spokes of a wheel. 1909 T. G. MASTERS *Gloss. Lancs. Amer. Words*, *Wheel-lines*, a 'wheel-map.' of the globe, devised by St. Isidore. 1861 *Anhaut. Conference* Sec. III. 225 These specimens of "wheel-money, which were fabricated in the Isle of Man place (sc. Calu). 1878 BELL tr. *Greenhaw's Comp. Anat.* 138 This "wheel-organ—so called from the movement of its cilia—rotates like a wheel in character. 1794 in *Cornwall* (1858) 96 Oct. 234/1 The position so managed the "wheel-pair, that the princesses .. were..enabled to leap from the carriage without injury. 1833 LINDLEY *Encycl. Archit.* § 889 The sill of the wheel is level with the threshing-floor, and supported by two stout posts or "wheel-pieces. 1826 *Craven Gloss., Wheel-pit*, a whirlpool. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wheel-plough*, a plough for the lower part of which a pair of rolls, etc. 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Trnl.* I. 7/2 In Broughams, .. when a "wheel-plate twenty-two inches in diameter is used, the bending of nine inches is gained between the fore and hind wheels. 1881 J. W. BURGESS *Coach-Building* 92 The central circle is the wheel-plate, or, as the American .. the fifth wheel. 1892 *Scientific Amer. Suppl.* 1 Oct. *Terms Mech. Engin., Quadrant Plate, or Wheel Plate.*— The plate which carries the stud wheels in the change wheel-work for screw-cutting in the lathe. 1709 HOWLETT *Husb.* 38 The Hertfordshire "Wheel-Plough. 1710 HERMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 219 A Wheel-Plough for Stony, and Gravelly Ground. 1711 *Ibidem* 220 "Wheel-Ploughs *Ek. Farm* I. 646 It must be admitted, even by the advocates of the wheel-plough, that..they cannot by any means be brought so handily to follow the undulations of the surface. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-pole*, a bolt used in coupling for forcing car-wheels on to their axles and removing them. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 185 The wheel-press of Bentley and Shaw. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 200 The "wheel-race should always be built in a substantial manner with masonry. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 259 Here, when the closed carts hung a "wheel-road of exceeding beauty. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII.* (1896) 37 "Whele Ropes feble..j. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 483 The upper part of the helm strained a new wheel-rope. 1823 — *Jrnl.* 358 We lay to under a close-reefed main top sail, until new wheel ropes were arranged. 1775 J. JENKINSON in *Linnæan Soc. Trans.* (1791) II. 231 "Wheel-shaped. 1895 R. DE *Lantsheere & Subb. (Suppl.)* I. 15 An open wheel-shaped box, divided into compartments. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 141 As boyes when they have made themselves "wheel-sick, they..cannot stand but lay hold on the next post to keep them from falling. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Suppl. 8/1 A pair of "wheel skates. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter Cities* 1 Those "wheel-skeletons, the bicycles of our time. 1875 *Field's Jan.* 1/3 The "wheel-skating at Brighton and at Prince's. 1897 *Engineer. Brit. Vill.* 630/2 Elsewhere in the building was ventilated upon the "wheel-space. 1521 "Whele-spoke (*K. H.* welspore), *orbita*. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., If, to avoid the deep rut, a carriage drawn by a single horse was ventured upon the grass, the horse was obliged to make the wheel-spur his path, often a very unsafe one, particularly in stiff soils. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195/2 "Wheel stitch, in stitch sampler work, spiders in web, and worked into the material, and not over an open space, like English wheel and other lace wheels. 1835 DAV. WEBSTER *Rhymes* 11 (E.D.D.) Ye mithers a' beware Lest ye become "wheel sick. 1884 C. S. SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 515 Manufacturers of cooperage and wheel stock. 1888 KEMPSHOTT *W. Somerset Words.bk., Wheelstock*, the nave of a wheel. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 46 The detached vertebræ are well described by the common English name of "wheelstones'. 1852 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 229 In Sheffield, a mass of the stiff ferruginous mud, called "wheelswarf,..is generally used. 1888 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 5/4 There had been enough of this sort of "wheel-tax policy tried in other places. 1913 M. BARRETT *Scott. Monast. of Old* II. v. 178 The west window contained a splendid specimen of "wheel tracery. 1886 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 438 "Wheel-Tree, or Paddle-wood (*Aspidosperma excelsum*)..when cut transversely the section has the appearance of the rays of a wheel. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Wheel-iron*, a prop to which the pulley on a short self-acting incline is fastened. 1888 "Wheel vat [see WHEEL 9. 17]. a 1789 *Charter of Offa* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 342 And on "hweogol wez, to þan rihtweze. 1890 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* vi. (1867) 114 To lie supine in the ruinous wheelway of chance. 1889 *Century Mag.* Aug. 570/2 Nearer the wheelway and upon the outer edges of the public road. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 213 The tayle [of the Newt] standeth out betwixt the hinder-legges in the midle, like the figure of the "wheele-white [cr. GESNER: *hoc habet figuræ quidam similitudinem*]. 1835 R. WILLIS *Archit., Mid. Ages* vi. 63 "Wheel windows are exceedingly prevalent in Italy: unfortunately the tracery is often removed. 1394 NEVILLE *Unofort. Trans.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 105 Embossed christall eies affixed, wherein "wheele wise were circularly ingrafted sharpe pointed diamonds. 1899 W. H. GRIFFIN *Egypt* I. 376 Swimming as schoolboys call it wheel-wise.

**Wheel**, *v.* FORMS: see prec. [f. WHEEL *sb.*]

**I.** To move like a wheel (and connected senses).

* **1.** *intr.* To turn or revolve about an axis or centre, like a wheel on its axle; to rotate; to whirl. *c* 1395 *Ancr. R.* 356 Hire bed is hwel-horsse in a mulnes þet oueturnneð ase, and ne lesteð none hwule. *c* 1586 C'ESS PEMBROKE *Ps. cvii. x*, Now shipp with men do touch the skies; For now the whirlwinde makes them wheele: Now stop'd in midst of broken round A drunckards use, they staggring reele. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. xl. (1890) 262 His Glory sound thou first Mobile, which mak'st all wheel in circle round. 1798 [E. HOOPER tr. *St Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 426 If the Earth wheels around it's axis. 1823 SCOTT *Tristrem.* III. xxi, When the whirlwind's gusts are wheeling. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* lxxviii, Let the horsemen's scimitars Wheel and flash, like spherelets stars. 1886 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* I. 83 The gates which lead to the Elysian fields are slowly wheel back on their adamantine hinges.

b. *fig.* of time, the seasons.

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1687) 859/2 When they behold the course of the Heavens, and the various Seasons [O. BOYLDEN] *Hero Subs.* 116 If these giddy gods be forced to give a reason for their wheeling up and down the streets. 1698 R. JOHNS *Drunkard's Char.* 54 No man ever saw men so much as wheel in the streets, but in the time for no drunkard. 1838 MARRYAT *Newton Forster* xxvi, [His] head wheeled with the sudden change in his prospects.

2. *trans.* To turn (something) on or as on a wheel; to cause to revolve about an axis; to rotate; to cause to move in a circle or cycle.

Used with variety of context, lit. and fig.

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1139 Fortune on loft And under eft gan hem to wheelen him by whiles. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. *Prol.* 4 *Hush*, xxvii, This fair is of fortoun: As ane cummis vp, scho quheillis ane vther doun. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* III. met. ix. 3 Thou, who time from first Didst go, and stable stedy all eft dost while. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. xvii. 284 In the execution of their rites, shaking and wheeling their heads like wanton males. 1667 R. LEIGH *Transp. Reform.* *Eliz. tr.* 532 Affaires in Court were not now slowly abroad upon one Axell-tree. 1854 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 197 The Lord seems to be wheeling all things about to the re-establishing of that Covenant negrye. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 501 Now Heav'n..rowld Her motions, as the great first-Movers hand First wheeld their course. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* 1. 15 Others will have the Arm to be wheeled about by the *Infraspinatus*. 1880 KEATS *Lamia* II. 64 While through the thronged streets your bridal car Wheels round its dazzling spokes. 1900 FORBES *Lit. Papers* ix. 250 The Lamas, whose temples, modes of worship, ..compendious methods of wheeling their prayers, [etc.]. 1875 HOUGHTON *Aristoph. Aph. Heraclius* 1.397, I shall play Ixion's part quite out, the chained and wheeled.

b. *spec.* To twirl or flourish (a stick) in menace or challenge. Also *absol.* (in Irish use).

1807 MONSON *Hen.* 34 I'll wheel my cane, my wife went slowly, hee wheeled his cudgell about his head, and crying *Whowoe Row* [etc.]. 1825 *Daily News* 26 Feb., 'Wheeling,' said he, 'is one of those challenges which is given by this unexpected population to express their own anxiety for a free fight.' 1883 LE FANU *Tg Yrs. Irish Life* iii. 32 One man 'wheeled,' as they called it, for his cane is, he marches up and down, flourishing his blackthorn, and shouting the battlecry of his faction.

**3.** *Mil. intr.* Of a rank or body of troops: To turn, with a movement like that of the spokes of a wheel, about a pivot (PIVOT *sb.* 2), so as to change front.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 111 The Ruyters vse to Wheele about with their whole Troupe. 1691 MILTON *P. R.* II. 323 He saw them in their form of battell rang'd, How quick they wheel'd. 1792 YORK *Milit. Disciph.* 62 Right half ranks, wheel about to the right until they be even a breast with the front half files. 1794 M. DE LA CHETARDIE *Life* 212 The Colonel.. said, what to the left of the Battalion. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, Leading file, to the right wheel—trot. 1859 F. A. GREVILLE *Artill. Man.* (1860) 9 Left wheel into line. Quick march.

b. *trans.* To cause (a rank or body of troops) to turn in this way.

1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xx. 245 *marg.*, Wheele the Body to the right hand. *c* 1700 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 104, I wheeled off my troop. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxiii, He wheeled his little body of cavalry round the base of the castle. 1832 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 34 The ranks are then wheeled up.

**4.** *intr.* To turn so as to face in a different direction; to turn round or aside, esp. quickly or suddenly. Often with *round*, *about*, † *off*.

1589 FULKE *Holy War* III. xi. 128 The French and English wheeling about, charged the Turke most furiously. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 148 The rebells wheeled off

behind their owne cannon and musqueteers. 1735 SOMER VILLE *Chase* III. 105 How to the Heid they press, justling in close Array, then more diffuse Obliquely wired. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 518 His steed Death of the death, and wheeling swiftly round Baffled his rider. 1807 SCOTT *Flight. Widow* V. A party of five Highland soldiers wheeled suddenly into sight. 1809 J. HADLEY *Farrogut & Bet Comin* 575 [The captain] wheeled out of line and ran with a full head of steam on straight into the toneled monster. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr'n.* viii. He kneeled round from the window as if he was about to confront Halliday and offer to fight him on the spot.

**b.** *fig.* To change or reverse one's opinion, attitude, or course of action; to turn aside, deviate, decline *from* some course or attitude.

1632 G. HERBERT *Church Militant* 54 Plato and Aristotle were at a loose, And wheel'd about again to spell Christ Crosse. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* (1670) 27 Who lind wheeld from his loyalty during the War. 1716 SOUTH *Serm., 2 Thess* II. 11 Wks. 1737 IV. 413 From Independents they improved into Anabaptists. From Anabaptists into Quakers. From whence they are able to advance no further, they have in a fair Way to wheel about to the other Extreme. [POPERY.] 1784 J. WRIGHT *New Bk. Martyrs* Boyfa Jeffreys summed up the evidence against the parson, but wheeled at last into this.

**c.** *trans.* To turn (a person, animal, or thing) round or aside.

1808 SCOTT *Fast Mystic* II. viii. So had he seen, in fair field, The youth in glittering squadrons start, Wielden the flying jennet wheel, And hurl the unexpected dart. 1829 G. HEAD *Forest Scenes N. America* 221 Wheeled round every man and then by the waist, we were completely cooped in. 1841 LOVER *Handy Andy* xix. Wheeling his horse suddenly round, he charged along the advancing front of the people.

** *Intr.* To move to a point in the circumference of a wheel; to move in a circle, spiral, or similar curve; to circle, revolve; to go round about.

1600 HOLLAND *Liv* xxxiv. xiv. He commaunded two elect cohorts of footmen to wheele about the right flanke of the enemie. 1667 SHARP *Corr* I. vi. 30 I was forc'd to wheele three or four miles about. 1617 MORYSON *Itin* I. 185, I might see him and two horsemen after me, who wheeling about the mountaines, shortly reached vpon me. 1718 *Phil Trans* I. 72 Those two Planets in the Moons wheeling about them. 1793 POLE *Thetis* 441 The son of Maia wheeling down the steep of heav'n he flies, And drives a rapid arc circle o'er the skies. 1726 46 THOMSON *Winter* 145 The cormorant on high Wheels from the deep. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcvii. When all is gay With sport and song, And while the circled embers throw A genial blush. 1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XIV. The gulls that wheel and dip around me. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads I Am* iv. The tall star-stair wheel back, dear lass, That blaze in the velvet blue.

*fig.* 1666 J. STEPHENS *Processations* 128 But I wheel too far about. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 132 Those occurrences which wheeled in their Sphere. 1740 SMOLLETT *Regic* II. 18, Love, Je dowy, implacable Despair In Tempests wheel

**b.** *trans.* To cause (something) to move in this way; to perform (a movement), trace (a course), spend (a time) in this way.

1725 POPE *Odyss* IV. 704 Till the twelfth moon had wheel'd her pale career. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* II. Save when the beetle wheels his droning flight. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* VI. 263, Wheeling their march, and circling still, Around the base of Bidden hill. 1827 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves, Hapless Hind* 111, Transient joys, that unto sadness soon Wheeling. 1830 Wheel out their giddy moment. 1839 KEMBLE *Saxons* (1849) II. 30 Hawks of every sort and size wheel their varied rounds above the sea-line fields. 1846 TENNYSON *Golden Year* 24 The sun flies forward to his brother burn: the dark earth follows, wheel'd in her ellipse.

**c** *transf.* & *intr.* To extend in a circle or curve. *Obs. rare.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind* xvii. 114 In a narrow passage where the way went wheeling. 1789 WILLIAMS *Mim Ang.d.* I. 122 Coal and coal metals wave and wheel. 1797 WESTON *Essex Agricult. Survey* II. 6 A furrow-land, which wheeled around us in the form of a crescent.

†**b.** *trans.* To encircle, surround, encompass. *Obs. rare.*

1580 STANYHURST *Æneas* II. (Arb.) 55 He sigh'ed his person with a linnen coppymade wheeled. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 783 Half these draw off, and coast the South With strictest watch, these other wheel the North.

*** *Intr.* To roll round like a wheel. *rare.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 183 Haile mixt with fire must rend th' Egyptian Skie And wheel on th' Earth, devouring where it rouls. 1878 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log Ish* 355 The waves at the outer end wheeled as if with gallop.

II. To move on, or by means of, wheels.

* **8.** *trans.* To convey in a wheeled vehicle, or on a chair, sofa, etc. moving on wheels

1608 *Shuttlewortha' Acc* (Chetham Soc.) 130 For wheelinge forth xxiv quarters of colley, vjs. 1740 MRS P. MONTAGU *Corr* (19 6) I. 41 Lord Berkshire wrs wheeled into the rooms on Thursday night, where he saluted me with much snuff and civility. 1781 COWPER *Fatima Wife* I. 72 You shall clap Her into a Post Chaise, wheel Her down to Scotland. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xxiii, Let the gardener press the leaves into full barrows, and wheel them off, till they lie ankle deep. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr'n* vi. She was able to totter to the sofa and be wheeled into the adjoining room.

**b.** *fig.* To pass or convey easily or smoothly, as if on wheels *rare.*

1658 HARRINGTON *Oceana* 23 Through the paucity of her Citizens, her greater Magistracies are continually wheeled through a few hands. 1682 HICKERINGILL *Ceremony Monger* VI. Wks. 1716 II. 444 We'll have as many Organs if we have nothing else to do with our Money; or cannot tell how to wheel off an hour or two in Devotions. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 309 As some smooth river which is overflowed Will slow and silent down its current when A loosened forest.

**9** *intr.* To travel in or drive a wheeled vehicle, to go along on wheels, as a vehicle, *mod colloq.* to ride a bicycle or tricycle, to 'cycle'.

1781 RAMSAY *Content* 351 He found he could not walk, and wheel away. 1798 SIDNEY *Vent Jaune, The Adieu*, By the time he [*sc.* a coachman] had wheel'd round the court, and brought me up to the door. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang Abb* xxi. The chaise and four wheeled off with some grandeur. 1884 *Century Mag.* Sept. 643 ? A youth on a bicycle, who wheeled attentively by her side. 1898 HARDY *Gen. Manage's Story* v. 48 Both trains were wheeling down under the bridge at a fairly mile pait.

**10.** *trans* To push or draw (something) on wheels.

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 37 Let fell the customs, wheel the sodden load. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene Aram* I. v, He safe was wheeled into the hall where they dined. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xiii, He wheeled the table close against Florence on the sofa. 1888 *Lewis Lewis* LXXIX. 471 A porter put all the luggage on a trolley and wheeled the trolley on to the platform. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* IX. The other man in brown had a bad puncture and was wheeling his machine.

** †**11.** *t* To wind *up* the mechanism of in quot.

*fig. Obs. rare.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav* IX. (ed. 2) 417, There are their passages of unusuall Inferior persons, Interwoun into this peice, which serue as a royle to the Beauery and light of the (largest), yet are Instruments aptly set going to wheele vp the weights.

**III** Miscellaneous uses.

†**12.** *intr.* Of a peacock: To spread the tail in a circular form like a wheel. Also *trans* with the tail as *obj.* *Obs.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St Werburge* I. 1803 Prowde as a Pecocke wheelynge full bright. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xix. 115 You neede no other signe then this [*sc.* the peacock's] viewing of himselfe, and carrying of his whole bodie with the feathers of his taile, which then we say hee wheeleth. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius Gate Lat Unl* § 237 The most fair is the Peacock, ever and anon wheeling his tayle. 1715 *Whimsicall Mad* VIII. 81.

**13** *trans.* To make like a wheel, to give a circular or curved form to *rare*

1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat Unl* § 203 The hair covereth the chiefest part of the head, being wheeled on the crown (*capitis coronis in vertice*). 1808 SCOTT *Marm* V. vi. At every turn, with dinning clang, The wheel-ruck'd army clashed and rang. Or told the swarthy mouth, to wheel Like those that erst did curve the heel.

**14.** To furnish with a wheel or wheels.

1661, 1898 [see WHEELING *vbl. sb* 1] 1801 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenroy* I. 46 She begged leave to paint, glaze, new wheel, and repair the old carriage.

†**15** To torture or 'break' on a wheel. *Obs. rare.*

1621 [implied in WHEELING *vbl. sb* 1]

**16.** To form or shape on a wheel, as pottery.

**17.** *Tanning.* = PIN-WHEEL *v.*

1882 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* 550 The skins next go into the I ngland wheel vat and are 'wheeled' in sumach liquor

**Wheel-** see WEEL, WHEAL.

**Wheelage** (hwī·lėdj). [f. WHEEL *sb* + -AGE.]

**1.** A toll paid for the passage of wheeled vehicles; cost of carriage in a wheeled vehicle, cartage. *Hist.*

1611 COTGR., *Droict de Roüage*, wheelage. 1672 *Statl.* Dead between William Obolston and the Mayor and Corporation of London, relates to the Collection of Tolls, etc. Wheelage over Old London Bridge (Ms.). 1765 *Lond. Chron* 25 Apr. 398 The Committee fett the toll of carts and wheelage over London Bridge. 1806 *Hist. Worcester* 30 A ton of iron is the sufficience for wheelage. 1894 C. WELCH *Tower Bridge* 48 The Sheriffs never had anything to do with the wheelage, which was collected by a City officer

†**2.** Wheel-making. *Obs. rare*—1.

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1302 Wheelage, or wheel work, *rotarum fabricatio.*

**Wheel-band.** [f. WHEEL *sb.* + BAND *sb.*2]

†**1** The tire of a wheel. *Obs.*

1392 3 *Lael Derby's Rec.* (Camden) 200 Item pro j wheleband, j s. vj d. 1557 *Richmond & Hill* (Surtees) 93 In the hay house iij qwele bandes. 1598 CHALMAN *Hiad* VII. 8 ? b, [in 466] The chariot tree was doound in blaake, and th arches by the seat Dispeipled from the horses houes, and from the wheelbandes beate.

**2.** A band or strap that goes round a wheel, as the driving band of a spinning-wheel *dial.*

a 1656 *Rauk Rail* (1881) IV. 107 It is a well twined Wheelband. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond Invis World* (1862) 159 One Susanna Sheldon had her hands Unaccountably tyd together with a Wheel band. 1705 *Phil Trans* XXV. 2166 To prevent the Recipients being drawn from its place by the motion and tug of the Wheel band.

**Wheelbarrow** (hwī·l,bæ·rŏu), *sb.* Forms see WHEEL *sb.* and BARROW *sb.*1; also 4 wil, 6 whil-, 4-bargh, 5-borghe, -berwe, 6-barugh, -berow, 7-barrough. A barrow or shallow open box mounted between two shafts that receive the axle of a wheel at the front ends, the rear ends being shaped into handles and having legs on which it rests; also applied to similar contrivances with more than one wheel.

a 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 218 Sikeman lith in hors-bere Ane wheelbarowe in the wilbarewe. 1304 in *Archaeologia* XXIV. 308 Et in j welbargh empt' pro stauro Maner' xijd.

14 *Jo.* in Wr.-Wülcker 572 2 *Cornucularium rotatum*, a wheiberwe. 1533 *MS. Acct. D* 770 ff. 149 Wheelbarrowes for laborers to wery brykkyns with. 1563 *Jack Juggler* (1912) B iv b, I shall make thee not able to goo nor ryde But in a dung cart or a whilberow lying on on syde. 1598 FARRET *Theor Warres* II. 232 Hand barrowes, and wheele barrowes to carrie earth. 1598 OTWAY *Inland ship in* I. iii. 5, I can act the rumbling of a Wheelbarrow in two. 1611 HOLME *Armoury Armament* 20 Another Fellow driving a Wheel Barrow of Nuts. 1835 DELAMER *Artch Gard* (1860) 8 Two doors, wide enough to admit a wheel barrow, or a small cart.

†**b.** *transf.* applied to a light carriage. *Obs.*

1600 DAY *Dogg Bednall Gr.* v (1881) 114 To be jaunted up & down London Streets in a lethern wheelbarrow. 1685 H. JOHSON *Staple of Newes* II. iii, You thinke I can runne like light foot Rowland, Or keep a wheele barrow, with a nayle in towne here. In which one to you. 1778 *Fug Canditer* (ed. 2) v. v *Sommonds*, I cople are carried here all over the town for 6d an hour they call a coach, but it is only a wheel barrow, drawn by one horse. 1796 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Lustrarana, Hymn to Adversity*, Morality may throw by his wheelbarrow and keep a carriage. 1819 SCOTT *Let in Lockhart* (1837) IV. 290 You know of old how I detest that means of driving wheel barrows up and down, when a man has a handsome horse and can ride him.

**c.** In allusive and proverbial phr. ; see quots

1597 BACON *Wks. Anachronous* Wks (Grount) II. 9 ? It is not a little tension in words to couch an whole barrow. 1618 ? ADAMS *Gods Bounties* Wks. 874 This oppressor must needs go to Heaven, But it will bee, in the by word is, in a Wheele barrow, to the Gallowes, and not the Angels will take hold on him. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon Ir.* 128 When drunk in a Wheelbarrow. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. iii. 36 Behold the Wheelbarrow Wheelbarrow! That goes to rumble. *Ibid.* v. 150 The Believing Collier wheels right to Heaven in a Wheel barrow. 1709 [see DRUNK *sb.* 2].

**d.** *attrib* and *Comb.*, as *wheelbarrow-load, -man, race, tub; wheelbarrow fashion* adv.b. phr, **wheelbarrow machine** (see quot.)

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midg.* xxvii, Laying hold of the navigator "wheelbarrow fashion." 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Outside & Margin Lord Lisle* The former inhabitants have based their coal by the "wheelbarrow load." 1876 *Trial Sec Acts IV* 402 Mr. Applegarth . . has also invented a beautiful little machine, for carrying the bodies on silk handkerchiefs called the "wheelbarrow machine, from its being worked by the hand round the cloth, which remarkable invention [etc.]. 1882 JAMES *Portr. Lady* xxix. 299 The "Wheelbarrow Men make five or six hundred, according to the length of the Way. 1888 *Massachusetts Spy* 26 Nov. 1/1 It is not the practice to have what is called wheelbarrow men, but the rule is rather improbable, as their object did not appear to be plunder. 1837 D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 341 Wheelbarrow Race. Along this course, or on the high road, and up to the goal, the candidates must drive their barrows blindfolded—if they can. 1833 TOUSON *Encycl Archit* § 732 More economical to convey the milk thither in "wheelbarrow tubs."

Hence **Wheelbarrow** *v. trans*, to convey in a wheelbarrow (whence **Wheelbarrower, Wheelbarrowing** *vbl. sb.*), **Wheelbarrowful**, as much as a wheelbarrow holds.

1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil* No. 44 (1726) 244 The greatest part of his brevy complements are "wheel barrow'd from the lime kiln. 1887 LADING GOULD *Gateworks* xiv, Onions wheelbarrowed into the town. 1893 W. WALLACE *Scot Lect* 73 He became the regular "wheelbarrower at the Castle. 1837 THACKERAY *Autocrating* viii, The theatre servants wheeled away a "wheelbarrow full. 1892 *Barrie & Half Hour Stories* 1. 1 Jamie's wheelbarrowing the wheelbarrow full to every twelve of soil. 1893 W. WALLACE *Scot Lect* 74 Often I saw him passing in his "wheelbarrowing.

**Wheel-carriage.**

**1.** Carriage (CARRIAGE 1) or conveyance by wheeled vehicles.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 30 Ashes or Soot are seldom used, but those they generally use too distant for Wheel Carriage from London. 1765 *Museum Rust* IV. 217 Where the country proves clay, marle, or sand, or a stony soil, and yet much wheel-carriage necessary, and no turnpike.

**2.** A carriage (CARRIAGE 23) moving on wheels, a wheeled vehicle; also as a part of a machine (CARRIAGE 29).

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 19 Its fore part lying on the Stock of the Wheel Carriage as the Fallow-plough does. 1756 *Washington Lett* Writ. 1889 I. 369 The only step of the Allegheny that is practicable for wheel carriages. 1845 G. DODD *Brit Manuf* IV. 193 The wheel carriage on which the roller rests is then wheeled onward. 1882 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 304 The roads that led from town to town were barely passable to wheel-carriages.

**Wheeldom** (hwī·ldăm) *nonce-wd* [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -DOM.] The domain or 'world' of wheeled vehicles, esp. bicycles or users of them.

1889 *Cycl Tour Club Handbk Gt Britain* 193 A prominent interest in matters pertaining to wheeldom.

**Wheeled** (hwī·ld), *poet.* hwĭ·led), *a.* Also 7 wheeld, whilde [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -ED.2. (In OL. in parasynthetic comb *fyrhwēohled* four wheeled, *hēhhwēolelad* high wheeled.)]

**1.** Furnished with a wheel or wheels, or with any revolving disk; *esp.* of a vehicle, mounted or moving on wheels. Also in parasynthetic comb., as *two-a-heeled*, etc

1606 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl* IV. xiv. 75 The wheel'd seate Of fortunate Cæsar. 1633 J. STAFFORD *Pac Hib* III. viii. (1821) 352 Pickaxes and Wheldebarrowes. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat Agric* (ed. 2) 229 I have the wheeled plough. 1815 FLEMINGTON *Acc Caudal* (1842) I. 378 An inland country, destitute

of navigable rivers, and not suited to wheeled carriages. 1856 Prichard *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 3) I. 258 Ever shifting their wheeled houses. 1855 Hewitt *Anc. Armour* I. ix. xxii. The knights appear to have rejected with particular obstinacy the innovation of the wheeled spur. 1858 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* ii. 139 Roads for wheeled vehicles are now unknown in any part of Palestine. 1875 Reynardson *Down the Road* 107 A tinker with one of those wheeled grinding-stones.

**b.** *transf.* Effected on wheels or by wheeled vehicles.

1849 Spectator *Handbk. Brit. India* (1859) 328 Wheeled carriage is unknown;..no wheeled conveyances could be used. 1880 T. G. Bowles *Flotsam & Jetsam* 110 The almost entire absence of wheeled traffic. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* May 610/2 The country through which we passed in our wheeled pilgrimage to Land's End.

**2.** Of the form of a wheel. *poet. rare.*

1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* iv. 233, I see a chariot...Its wheels are solid clouds...A guiding power directs the chariot's prow Over its wheeled clouds.

**Wheeler** (hwī·lər). Also 4 **whelere**, 5–6 **wheler.** [f. Wheel *sb.* and *v.* + -er1.]

**I.** Senses derived from the sb.

†**1.** *Wheeler dog*, ? orig. a turnspit dog; *transf.* a roasting-jack or similar instrument. *Obs. rare.*

1379 *Will of Carter* (Comm. Crt. London), Vnum instrumentum vocatum a wheler dogge.

**2.** A wheelwright or wheel-maker.

1497 *Norw. Acc. Roy. Wdr.* (1826) 107 Wheelers and Smythes tolles. 1549 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 570 A wheler to make wheles. 1666 *Bedloe's Narr. Popish Plot* 6 A Paper with a Ball of Wild-fire,..was found in the Nave of a Wheel, in a Wheeler-yard. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 19 The Stones that..ever will be the Cause of a greater Change of Smith's and Wheeler's Bills. 1830 Mrs. Mitford *Village Ser.* II. 84 The wheeler's shop, always picturesque, with its tools, and its work. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Millit. Dict. 468/1 Wheelers*, ..the mechanics of a battery who put together the wheels of the gun-carriages. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 11 2 Wheelwrights.—Wanted 2 good wheelers.

**3.** A wheel-horse. (see Wheel *sb.* 18) or other draught-animal in the same position; often opp. to *leader* (Leader1 ‡ 6 b).

1813 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 82 My leader took fright...but luckily I kept my wheeler in. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv. Now, the coachman on the box of the two wheelers: and now it was rearing up in the air. 1885 *New Sk. Sports* 171 Few things are more distressing than to see...one wheeler hanging away from the pole, and the other hugging it.

**4.** One who attends to the wheel in a spinning-machine.

1876 Smiles *St. Natur.* iii. 47 Each spinner had three boys under him—the wheeler, the piecer, and the stripper.

**5.** *Needlework.* One who makes 'wheels': see Wheel *sb.* 8 (*a*).

**6.** = *wheel-bird*: see Wheel *sb.* 18.

1862 *Johns Brit. Birds* 695 Wheel-bird, or Wheeler, the Nightjar.

**7.** Something, as a vehicle, a boat, etc. furnished with a wheel or wheels: chiefly in compounds, as Four-wheeler, Sperrwheeler, etc.

1886 A. Watt *Elec.-tro-Depos.* 314 The whole bicycle fraternity, who had been accustomed to plain steel or painted wheelers.

**8.** ? A nail used in fixing the parts of a wheel.

1873 *Trow* 1 Feb. 75/1 Nails ..Wrought .. Best Derby Countersunk Dish deep Wheelers, 3 lbs. 1 s. 9 d.

**II.** Senses derived from the verb.

**9.** One who wheels a vehicle, or conveys something in a wheeled vehicle (esp. a wheelbarrow).

1683 J. Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 55 With wheel-barrows; three barrows for two wheelers and one filler sometimes doth well. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 466/1 *Wheeler*, is him that carryeth the Clay from the Pit, to the Moulding Board foot. 1862 Sheen *Engineers* III. iii. 24 The younger boys worked as wheelers or pickers on the banks. 1884 C. T. Davis *Bricks, Tiles* etc. (1889) 131 The wheeler gathers the stones and hard lumps of clay that have been thrown out..and wheels them to some out of the way place.

†**10.** One of a series of projecting stones in a battlement: see quot. *Obs. rare.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 470 2 A Tower with a plain Battlement; that is, the Battlement is not made with Wheelers and Kneelers, but is streight, and even in the Walk of the Wall. *Ibid.* 472 2 (Terms of the Fractable on a Gable end) A Wh eler, are wrought stones that lye level and streight, yet make outward Angles when other stones are layned to them.

**11.** *Mil.* The man at the outermost end of the rank in wheeling.

1798 Sir W. Young *Instr. Armed Yeom.* 13 The man on the other Flank, or Wheeler, will move round square, to Dress by the Post Man.

**12.** One who turns so as to face another way; *fig.* one who changes his opinion or attitude, a turncoat, a 'weathercock'.

1736 *Tait's Mag.* III. 40 He..is one of the most notorious wheelers in Parliament.

**13.** One who rides a bicycle or tricycle, a cyclist, *colloq.* 1897 Barrère & Lelland *Dict. Slang.*

**Wheelerite** (hwī·lərəit). *Min.* [Named from Lieut. G. M. *Wheeler*, of the U. S. Army: see -ite 1.] A yellowish fossil resin occurring in lignite in the cretaceous strata of New Mexico.

1874 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. VII. 372.

**Wheelery** (hwī·lərі). *rare.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ery.] Wheeling, circumgyration.

1847 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Tyrants*, With curlings and twistings, and twirls and wheeleries.

**Wheel-house.**

**1.** A structure enclosing a large wheel, *e.g.* a water-wheel; *spec.* a house or superstructure containing the steering-wheel, a pilot-house; also, the paddle-box of a steam-boat.

1850 H. Taylor *Eldorado* i. (1862) 7 On the morning of July 5th, I took a station on the wheel-house. 1883 Gray-lee *Glos. Cook-Mining* 282 *s.v.* Bye. 1892 J. S. Fletcher *Here Chas. I was King* (1896) 56 The mill at Westbridge, where the stream was pouring through the wheel-house like a cataract.

**2.** A building in which cart-wheels are stored.

1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 472 The wheel-house under the barn, 25 feet square.

**Wheeling** (hwī·lin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ing1.] The action of the verb Wheel, in various senses.

**a.** Turning or revolution about an axis or centre; rotation. Also *fig.* **b.** *Mil.* (See Wheel *v.* 3.) Also *Attrib.* **c.** A turning aside or in a different direction, deviation; also *fig.* **d.** Motion of the *transf.* extension) in a circle or curve; circling, circuitous movement; also *fig.* **e.** Conveyance of something in a wheelbarrow or the like; travelling in a wheeled vehicle (*colloq.*) on a bicycle or tricycle. Also *attrib.* **f.** Furnishing or fitting with a wheel or wheels. **g.** *Needlework.* The making or working of 'wheels': see Wheel *sb.* 8 (*a*); *attrib.* as in *wheeling stitch, yoke*, etc. **h.** Torturing or breaking on a wheel. *Obs.* **i.** The process of shaping or forming something by means of a wheel: in quots. *attrib.*

**a.** 1638 Jonson *Loves Welc. at Bath*, In Bessus *Anc. Songs* (1877) 150 This world being Of such wheeling Me contraining. 1687 Goding *De Mornay* xiii. 223 The wheelings about of the Skyes. 1794 *Sullivan Torrents* N. H. (ed. Trumbull) III. 269 As the firmament is still moving and working, so vicissitude is the wheeling and rolling on of our braines. a 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 238 All Reasoning and Wheelings cause a Kind of Giddiness in the Brain. 1773 Mrs. Grant *Lett. fr. Mount.* (1847) I. xiii. 105 The 'boiling' and 'wheeling' of the waters below.

**b.** 1813 Jack Daw† *Vox Gracchi* 38 What wheelings, what windings, what summoning to parlees. 1865 Markham *Soulsbies Accid.* 22 Wheeling (or by conversion or turning to the right). 1876 *Instr. & Exp. Cavalry* (1881) 15 In division Wheelings, the whole keep closed lightly towards the hand they wheel to, and must avoid pressing the pace, and the ground. 1882 *Regul. Regt. Cavalry* (1884) 15 In division Wheelings, the whole should at first be practised in single rank. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 20 The Wheeling Step, or Motion, is 120 steps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in a minute. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 236/1 The wheelings and dress are fully equal to the best regular regimental.

**c.** a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 182 His uncontant whilinges to Ormond. a 1721 Ken *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 64/1 I scorne coward's dodging, Wait The Rise, Recess, and Wheelings fled, Than of my heart detect the Wiles.

**d.** 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 94 After all this wheeling about, the sun is a step further than we were. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 15 A different dip or declivity of the strata, which is occasioned by the waving and wheeling of the strata. 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xvi. 101 We had been watching the wheelings and flittings of a flock of prairie hens. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxx, The hovering and wheeling of Grandcourt's eagle.

**e.** 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 113 When stones can be got within a wheeling distance, or about sixty or seventy yards. 1880 *Prospectus Cycle Touring Club*, The encouragement of all that is admirable in the art of wheeling. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 727/2 Travelling in the saddle and...a necessity, wheeling is now everywhere in vogue.

**f.** 1661 in Maylone *Churches Anc. Sarum* (1896) 332 Stocking and wheeling of the same [sc. bells]. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 120 Far more suitable for amateurs than bilding or 'wheeling' as it is termed. 1892 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 6/5 The gearing and wheeling of the cars.

**g.** 1808 Jamieson, *Wheeling*, coarse worsted. 1860 *Catal. Internat. Exhibit.*, Jurors' Rep. II. 80 (Cl. 29) 4036. Fingering, lamb's-wool, and wheeling hosiery. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 99 Wheeling yarn.

**h.** 1611 Cotgr. *Crudelités* 388 The fifth and last punishment is wheeling, which is onely for murderers.

**i.** 1882 *Standard* 16 Sept. 8 2 Brickmakers' plant and stock, consisting of...wheeling tables. 1883 *Urban Dainty Pets* 23 Feb. 2/4 Tin and Iron-plate workers, &c...Wiring, Swaging and Wheeling Machines.

**Wheeling** (hwī·lin), *ppl. a.* [f. Wheel *v.* + -ing2.] That wheels, in various senses.

**a.** Turning like a wheel; revolving about an axis; rotating, rolling, whirling, swirling. Also *fig.* of a recurring or 'revolving' period of time. **b.** *Mil.* (See Wheel *v.* 3.) *Wheeling flank*, the outward flank in wheeling, which describes the largest curve. **c.** Turning round or aside; changing direction. **d.** Moving, or executed as a movement, in a circle or similar curve; circling. †In first quot., wandering about, roving. **e.** Moving on wheels.

**a.** 1628 Milton *Vac. Exerc.* 34 Where the deep transported mind may soare Above the wheeling poles. 1635 L. Lewkenor *Resp. Venet.* 185 Wheeling streames, like exile tides. 1636 W. Cartwright *Royal Slave* v. ii, Hemm'd in on every side With Beauties, which his wheeling eye runs o're All in a Minute. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* iv. ii, With Patience then I'll wait each wheeling Year. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1274 What arm Almighty put these wheeling globes In motion? 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxii, The deep and wheeling stream of the river.

**b.** 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 41 An officer or under officer from the wheeling flank..of each squadron. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 23 The outward wheeling man..lengthens his step.

**c.** 1716 Pope *Iliad* v. 13 As he to Flight his wheeling Car address'd. a 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 388 The pilots. Still with the wheeling stern their force repel. 1882 'Ouida' *Bimbi* vi. 186 He endeavoured to soothe his fretting and wheeling beast.

**d.** 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. i. 137 Tying her Duties, Beautie, Wit, and Fortunes In an extraunguant, and wheeling Stranger. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 263 We are faine to use a wheeling-stride, and go as it were in cube. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 823 Hark as a Cloud they make a wheeling Flight. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 487 Happy he who tops the wheeling chase. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* iii. 93 Around whose eyes glowed wheeling flames. 1847 Keble *Chr. Y., 20th Sunday after Trin.*, The wheeling kite's wild solitary cry. 1905 Treves *Other Side of Lantern* ix. xxii. 119 Pigeons sweep round this square in wheeling flocks.

**e.** 1806 Sir J. Davies *Orchestra* cxv, A wheeling Cart. 1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 21 Goe harnesse straight my wheeling chaire. 1772 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 29 Aug. (1970) IV. 225 He was placed in a wheeling chair, as he has not the use of his legs. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 907/2 A new stretcher, which could be used either as a light portable or as a wheeling stretcher.

Hence **Whee·lingly** *adv.* on wheels. *rare.*

1811 Florio, *A rvetta*, wheelingly.

**Wheelless** (hwī·lles), *a.* Also 4 **-lesse.** [f. Wheel *sb.* + -less.] Without a wheel or wheels; having no wheels; not adapted to wheeled vehicles.

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xxvii, The carpet...wns...strewed with beaded bells, trifling hoops, wheelless carts. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvii, Where...stood upright...behind her wheelless chair at dinner-time. 1897 *Cr. Rev.* Oct. 470 In many a rollicking expedition in wheelless Liddesdale.

**Wheel-lock.** [f. Wheel *sb.*1 + Lock *sb.*2]

**1.** A form of gun-lock in which the powder was fired by the friction of a small wheel (wound up with a spring) against a piece of iron pyrites. Also *attrib.*

1670 Cotton *Esperon* I. iv. 181 The wheel-lock of a Pistol, ready wound up. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 72 These...have been much used for Carabines and Pistols, whilst wheel-locks were in fashion. 1814 Encyclopædia *Metr.* (ed. 2) I. 579 Guns,..some with old match-locks,...and others with wheel-locks. 1860 Hewitt *Anc. Armour* III. 589 Their [sc. German Reiters' or pistoliers'] characteristic arm, the wheel-lock pistol. 1904 Tylor *Anthropol.* i. 77 The match-lock led up to the wheel-lock, and that again to the flint-lock musket.

**2.** A form of letter-lock (see Letter *sb.*1 8) with a series of wheels or disks upon the edges of which the letters were inscribed.

1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

**3.** (See quot.)

1878 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wheel-lock*, a wagon-lock, to retard the revolution of the wheels in descending a hill.

**Wheelman** (hwī·lmăn). Pl. **-men.** Also **wheelsman.** [f. Wheel *sb.* + Man *sb.*1]

**1.** A man who attends to a wheel in some place of mechanism; *U. S.* a helmsman.

1869 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 643/1 The...wheelsman...tries to entice her up to his pilot-box, which towers above the vessel. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 72.

**2.** A man who rides a bicycle or tricycle; a male cyclist. *colloq.*

1882 *Tribune* (N. Y.) 5 Apr., An enthusiastic wheelman of Boston had not up to January 1, missed but one day riding on his 'steely steed' since the winter season commenced. 1889 *Morning Post* 8 Aug., A communication...has to be carried out more quickly...by wheelmen than by horsemen.

So **Whee·lwo·man**, a female cyclist.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Sept. 12/2 Wheelmen and wheelwomen.

**Wheelwork** (hwī·lwɔ̈k). [f. Wheel *sb.* + Work *sb.*] A set of connected wheels forming part of a machine or mechanical contrivance.

1670 Evelyn *Sylva* xxiii. (ed. 2) 115 The Cornel-tree..is exceedingly commended by divers Artificers, for Mills in Wheel-work, Pinns, and Wedges. 1772 C. Hutton *Bridges* 99 Pile Driver, is an engine for driving down the piles...It is worked either with or without wheel work. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 347 These spindles are connected with wheel-work. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 99 This axle, by the aid of intervening wheel-work, is set into rotation.

**b.** Applied to the trochal apparatus of a rotifer or *wheel-animalcule.*

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 448/2 The most remarkable part of this animalcule is its wheel-work.

**Wheelwright** (hwī·lrəit). Forms: see Wheel *sb.* and Wright.

**1.** A man who makes wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1282 *Pat. 9 Edw. I* m. 22 d. in *30th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 22 Richard le Wheleywryht. 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Wheleyzt. *Bk. Rosh.*) 198 To the whele wryzt of Boxford for eayng of a carte v.d. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 A Whele wryght, *rotarius*. 1523 *Test. Ebor. Rosh.* I. 233, If there be ashes in it, [I] wil[ve ther] to sell...the grei ashes to whele-wryghtes. 1536 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 373 Thomas Hobe...the qwyl-wryght. 1580 in *Pres. Soc. Publ. Yorksh. Archæol.* (1883) VI. 50 To Jno Blomfield Wheelewright as by his bill, 02 05 co. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 486 They carry with them only their best wood for spars and wheelwright's work. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* Introd., Wheelwright putting the last touch to a blue cart with red wheels.

†**2.** One who works at or turns a wheel: applied to Fortune (cf. Wheel *sb.* 11 f). *Obs.*

a 1500 *Poem on Fortune* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 8 A wifman of so much myght, So wonder a whelewyght, Sey I never with sygth. c 1440 *Anturs of Arth.* xxi. (Thornton MS.) False fortune in fightes, That wondirfully whele wryghte.

Hence **Wheelwri·ghting**, the business of a wheelwright; the making of wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1894 *Review of Rev.* Apr. 441/2 Wheel-whirligig also grows of necessity out of the making and care of the wagons and other vehicles of the farm.

**Wheely** (hwī'li), *a. rare.* [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -Y 1.] Of or pertaining to a wheel.

c 1660 Bosworth *Arcadius & Sepha* 1. 957 Fortune (whose continual wheely force Keeps constant course). 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 80 To exercise the pointed Steel On the hard Rock, and give a wheely Form, To the expected Grinder.

**Wheem(e,** dial. forms of QUEME *a.*

**Wheen** (hwīn), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4–5 quheyne, qwheyn(e, 4–6 quheyn(e, -on(e, (5 qwhayne, 7 whein, wheene, 9 wheen), 7–9 whin, 7– wheen. [Represents OE. *hwēne* (*hwǽne, hwēne*) in some degree, somewhat, instrumental case of *hwān* WHON = (a) few, the meanings of which it took over in ME.]

1. Few, not many.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 344 Thocht that war quheyn, that war worthy. *Ibid.* XI. 80 Quheyne be full fer war thai Than thair fayis. *c* 1400 *Sc. Troyan War* (Horstm.) II. 2283 pe quheyne folk pat ware Liffand. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. iii. 43 On the huge deip quhen sklaik is did appeir. 1557 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 303 Within thir quheyne last immediat yeiris. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., An bevvi't seen him these sheen days.

*absol. c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 921 pe beat part of paim ves slane, & quheine eschapit. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. vii. 740 Qwhayne had toyme par aynde to draw. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 34 So quheine the Psalme and Testament to reid Within this land was nevir hard nor seine.

**2.** *A wheen (of),* a few: in recent use = a 'good few' number.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII. 368 The king.. With a quheyn [*Edinb. Adv.* quhone] lik pouerale, Vencust him with a gret menge. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. vi. 45 Of mony worldis, schortlie, a quheine sall I Declair. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XLV. 237 A wheen of canny wise professors. *Ibid.* 241 A whin knaves. 1682 Peden *Lord's Trumpet* 10 O sirs! Christ had a wheein noble worthies in Scotland. 1814 Scott *Waverley* xlv. What use has my father for a whin bits o' scarted paper? 1816 — *Antiq.* xxiv. There will be a wheen idle gowks coming to glower at the hole as lang as it is daylight. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iii. 23 I wouldnae like the Balfours to be humbled before a wheen Highland Campbells. 1901 G. Douglas *Hw. to Gr. Shutters* 71 'Have the carriers a big load?' 'Ainly has just a wheen parcels, but Ebbie's as he can haud.'

**3.** *A wheen* as advb. phr.: A little, somewhat.

1869 C. Gibbon *Robin Gray* x, The auld wife's a wheen better.

**Wheen(e,** obs. or dial. ff. QUEEN *sb.*

1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* v. 4463 pe qwene [*MS. Howes 136* wheene] of Amazons.

**Wheen, Wheenard, Wheenge:** see WHINE, WINNARD, WHINGE.

**Whee-ob, -oo.** Imitative of the cry of some birds, of a bullet whistling through the air.

1892 Lowndes *Coupling Sb.* 9 The shrill 'whee-ob' of the widgeon. 1915 *Chamb. Journ.* 5 June 426/1 Whee-oo! whistled a bullet...uncomfortably close to my head.

**Wheep,** *sb.* [Echoic.] A long-drawn sound of a steel weapon drawn from its sheath.

1851 Kipling *Life's Hand., Head Distr.* v, The soft wheep, wheep of unscabbarded knives. 1905 Crockett *Cherry Ribband* xlvi, With the long clean wheep of steel leaving steel, he unsheathed his weapon.

**Wheep** (hwīp), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] = WHEEPLE *v.*

1808 Jamieson, *To Wheep*, 1. To give a sharp whistle at intervals. *v.* To squeak. 1894 A. Reid *Sangs o' Heatherfi.* 39 The plover wheepit owre the lea.

**Wheep,** Sc. form of WHIP.

**Wheeple** (hwī'p'l), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To utter a somewhat protracted shrill cry, like the curlew or plover; also, to whistle feebly (*intr.* and *trans.*). So **Wheeple** *sb.*

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 80 *note*, I wad na' gie the wheeple of a whaup for a the nightingales that ever sang. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck, Haunt of Eildon* v, Like Mailwings wheepling through the mist. *a* 1832 R. Nicol *Poems* (1843) 264 We've a been heathens—now we pray, And sing and wheeple. 1901 G. Douglas *Ho. w. Gr. Shutters* 80 He sometimes wheepled a tune.

**Wheer, Wheese, Wheesh, Wheest, Wheeson:** see WHERE, WEESE, WHISH, WHISHT, WHIST *int.*1, WHITSUN.

**Wheetle** (hwī't'l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Imitative: cf. *wheeple.*] *intr.* To whistle shrilly. Also reduplicated.

1825 Jamieson, *Wheetle*, shrill peeping sound made by young birds. 1899 Conan Doyle *Green Hand* xvi, A hand clear wheetle-wheetling note from some curious fowl. 1905 H. Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* I, Parrots..who, crowded in long rows, kissed one another, and wheetled idiotically.

**Wheetle,** Sc. var. WHEEDLE.

**Wheese** (hwīz), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An act of wheezing; a whistling sound caused by difficult breathing.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 477 *note*, A loud sibilant or dry sonorous rhoncus, corresponding with the loud sighing wheeze, audible by the naked ear. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xx, A wheeze very like the cough of a horse. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves* 40 A ladylike sneeze, Or a portly pope's more elaborate wheeze.

**b.** *transf.* A sound resembling this.

1835 Longf. *Outre-Mer, I'll. Auteuil* (1886) 53 The last wheeze of the clarionet died upon my ear. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shakes.* 220 A somewhat hoarse and reedy wheeze from the scrannel-pipe of a lesser player than Pan.

**c.** *Phonetics.* A whisper (see WHISPER *sb.*) intensified by further contraction of the glottis.

1890 Sweet *Primer of Phonetics* (1902) 118 Wheeze. If we strongly exaggerate an ordinary whi-per, we get that hoarse, wheezy sound known as the 'wheezing' or 'stage whisper.'

**2.** *colog. Theatr., slang,* A joke or comic gag introduced into the performance of a piece by a clown or comedian, esp. a comic phrase or saying introduced repeatedly; hence, (*gen. slang* or *colloq.*) a catch phrase constantly repeated; more widely, a trick or dodge frequently used; also, a piece of special information. a 'tip'

1864 P. Patterson *Glimpses Real Life* 138 The art of getting up 'wheezes', as the clown's jokes are called. 1884 G. Moore *Mummer's Wife* xiv, Up to the present, only one 'wheeze' had been found. 1889 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 18 He [sc. the comedian]..would, for a quarter of an hour together, improvise 'wheezes' to keep the house in a roar. 1890 *Spectator* 17 May 698/2 The new hackneyed wheeze, A sudden thought strikes me, let us swear eternal friendship', is taken from 'The Rovers'. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 534/1 He is now wisely convinced that this wheeze is played out. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 2/6 Someone gave the defendant the wheeze. 1910 *Dundee Adv.* 2 July 6 The old wheeze about one touch of nature making the whole world kin.

**Wheeze** (hwīz), *v.* Forms: 5 **whese, 6 whiese, wease,** 6–8 **wheese, wheese,** 6–9 **wheaze,** 8 **wheez,** 7– **wheeze.** [prob. a. ON. *hvæsa* to hiss (MSw., Sw. *hvässa*, Da. *hvæse*). (There is no connexion with OE. *hwōsan*, 3rd pers. pres. ind. *hwōst*, pa.t. *hwōsta* to cough, dial. Hoosk.)]

1. *intr.* To breathe hard with a whistling sound from dryness or obstruction in the throat, as in asthma.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 477, I lugh that I wheese. 1538, etc. [see Wheezing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*] *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XV. 222 Not streit he upon his bed, Nor wheasing with a wearie breath. 1648 Winyard *Alb. Morus to Hee* I shortly be a Baptist without a voice, and wheases already, as if he fed on nothing but Locusts and Grashoppers. 1679 Hickeringill *Priest & Levit.* 2, I Tickling his ulcers, and Coughing till he wheez'd. 1688 Southerne *Disappointm.* II. 1, I must laugh at him; not south him in his vanity, nor tickle him, till he wheeze. 1697 R. Dunlop *Bath Mem.* II. ii. 278 She..wheezing very vulgarly term it here, when the Windpipe makes a Noise in Breathing. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VII. ix, Wheezing as he went with corpulency and exercise. 1860 Hellish *He knew*, etc. ii. (1880) 48 'I'm not a bit afraid to die', said the old woman, wheezing. 1873 White-Melville *Katerfelto* xiv, He chatted, he chuckled, he coughed and wheezed, and told his stories.

**b.** *transf.* To make a similar sound.

1854 G. W. Curtis *Potiphar Papers* iv. (1866) 177 That elegant youth has pumped life dry, and now the pump only wheezes. 1870 *Rock Ages Ago* 1. 1 Like a firework... It wheezed and banged with a mighty power.

2. *trans.* To utter with a sound of wheezing.

1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xiv, 'If you'll look in that glass yonder, you'll see,' pointing to the mirror, 'you'll soon see I wheezed out the old man, maliciously.' 1880 P. Ludlow *Nick Hardy at Coll.* vi, A hand-organ grinder..began to wheeze forth the everlasting 'Old Dog Tray'. 1901 G. T. Sheppard *Red Cravat* iii. x. 362 A barrack clock, wheezing out the hour. 1902 F. Young *Sands Pleas.* II. vii, Listening to the strain of *Ilex Iran* wheezed out on an old harmonium.

3. *Comb.* as *wheeze-bellyful* used adverb.

1728 Vanbr. & Cibber *Prov. Husb.* I. i, We were in hopes to ha' come Yesterday, an' it had no' been that th' owld Wheaze-belly Horse tyr'd.

**Wheeze,** obs. form of WERSE, to ooze.

**Wheezer** (hwī'zəɹ). [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ER 1.]

One who wheezes; *esp.* a broken-winded horse.

1831 Youatt *Horse* x. 106 The Wheezer utters a sound not unlike that of an asthmatic person when a little hurried. 1894 H. Stannard *Vivien Vyvyan* 227.

*transf.* 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 259/1 Beastly cold on top of this old wheezer [sc. omnibus].

**Wheezing** (hwī'zing), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb WHEEZE.

1538 Elyot Addit., *Asthma*..a syckenesse, where one maye not fetche his wynde but with moche difficultie, with wesynge [1545 Cooper wheesing] of the breast. 1596 [T. Twyne] *Schoolmist.* 1600 in Q. Eliz. Acad. (1869) 21 Sirrahs, will take away the wheesing. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 178 Coughs, Wheesings, Shortness of Breath. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 572 Violent cough and severe cough, with great shortness of breath and a wheezing. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvi, The Major..fell into a fit of wheezing. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 283 In the treatment of the attacks of wheezing, or, as they call it, emphysema.

*transf.* 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 9 The working of a Newcomen engine is..accompanied by an extraordinary amount of wheezing, sighing, creaking, and bumping.

**Wheezing** (hwī'zing), *ppl. a.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING 2.] That wheezes; characterized by wheezing.

1560 Goode tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) F iv, Heare soundes with wheasyng noyse, The boxen shalme. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* II. ii. A cough o' the lungs, or soa y wheezing matter. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 745 The wheasing Swine With Coughs is choak'd.* 1730 Swift *Panegyric Dean* 178 Wheezing asthma, loth to stir. 1874 Lilie Carr *Judith Gwynne* i, The..dismal droning of the wheezing old organ. 1905 Treves *Other Side Land.* ii. xii. 90, I entered the hallowed town in a wheezing carriage.

Hence **Wheezingly** *adv.*

1886 *Hamilton. Rev.* (U. S.) Nov. 422 Wheezingly saying to himself in secret, 'Soul, be of good cheer'. 1895 Zangwill *Master* II. ix. 233 He laughed wheezingly.

**Wheezle** (hwī'z'l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8–9 **wheazle, whaisle,** 9 **wha(i)sle, wheasle, wheesel, whasle, whosse, etc.** [f. Wheeze *v.* + -LE.] *intr.* To wheeze. Hence **Wheezling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1779 *Mirror* No. 40 P 3 One of your damnation apoplectics killed him in the closing of a lumper; you could scarce have heard him wheazle! 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* x, But sax Scotch miles thou try't their mettle, An' gar them whaizle. 1808 Mayne *Siller Gun* II. xxiii, Tho' wheezling sair and trappet down Auld Saunders seem'd. 1839 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 83 Gin the win' were out o' your whusht chaunr, I'd marry again and be snuggle. O. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss. s.v. Wastlin'*, Do you hear the chile wasslin' in his chest?

So **Wheezle** *sb.*, a wheeze.

1822 Hogg *Perils of Man* II. 346 My voice went away to a perfect wheezle. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wheasle*, an indication of asthma.

**Wheezy** (hwī'zi), *a.* [f. Wheeze *v.* + -Y 1.] Characterized by wheezing; resembling a wheeze. 1818 Keats *To a Cat* 10 The velvet purring. 1822 Good *Study Med.* I. 466 Many persons have a thick or wheezy respiration. 1843 Thackeray *Fitz-Boodle's Conf., Ottilia* ii, The Chancellor is...too fat and wheezy to stride at the Privy Council. 1892 F. Anstey *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 13 A couple of Matrons converse in wheezy whispers.

**b.** *transf.* Making a wheezing sound.

1847 Thackeray *Love Sonnets, Old-fashioned Chair*, The rickety, ramshackle, wheezy spinet. 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xii, A lean, wheezy old clock. 1889 Jerome *Three Men in Boat* ix, The strains of 'He's got 'em on', jerked out of a wheezy accordion.

Hence **Wheezily** *adv.*, **Wheeziness.**

1884 *Punch* 27 Dec. 308/2 Breath that comes not wheezily. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 288 More or less wheeziness and constriction of the chest.

**Whoft,** variant of WAFT *sb.*1

**Whofyll,** obs. form of WHEEL.

**Whegh,** var. WIE, WY, man.

**Whell,** obs. form of WHEEL.

**Whein, Whelst,** obs. dial. ff. QUEAN, QUAINT *a.*

**Whelm,** obs. form of CHOIR, QUIRE.

1528 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 248 In the lie wheire of oure Blisside Ladie in the parishe church of Ellughton.

**Wheisht, Whelt, Whether:** see WHISHT, WYCHE *sb.*2, WHET, WHETHER.

**Whiel, whiele,** obs. forms of WEEL, WHEAL, WHEEL, WHITE.

**Whelk**1 (hwelk). Forms: *a.* 1 **wiloc, wiloce, wyloc,** (2 **wilque**), 4–5 **wylke,** 4–8 **wilke,** 5–9 **wilk.** *B.* 7–9 **whilk.** *γ.* 1 **weoloc, -uc,** (2 **weloche**), 2–7 **welke,** 4–7 **welk,** 6 **welke.** *δ.* 5–6 **whelke,** 7– **whelk.** *ε.* 5 **welke,** 5–6 **walke.** [OE. *wioloc, weoloc* = W Flem. *willok, wullok* (whence OF. *willo*): of obscure origin. The unetymological spelling with *wh* begins in the 15th cent.]

A marine gastropod mollusc of the genus *Buccinum*, having a turbinate shell, esp. *B. undatum*, common on the European and North American coasts, much used for food.

Also applied, esp with qualifying word, to molluscs of allied genera, as the hairy or ribbon whelks of the genera *Fulgur* and *Sycotypus*, the reel whelk or *Sycotypus canaliculatus*, the rough whelk (*Groenlandicus vitreus*), the Bucchum whelk of the genus *Nassa*; see also quots.

*c* 1395 *Compos Girou.* (Heinzel) C 865 *Coccum*, wiloc. *c* 1573 *Exford Glosses* 167 *Cochleæ*, wyulocus. 1382–13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 10 In lenpetis, Wylkes. *c* 1485 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 642/6 *Hec tortinga*, wylke. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxii. 24 As your Hie Grace wes wont to bot crudis and milk; And at your Trone but cokill and wilk. 1565 Goodr tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VII. A 2 b, Scallops of the bayes, And Wilks, & Urchins of the Sea. 1604 E. Grey *Virginia* v. 180 One..hid himselfe in the Woods, and liued onely on Wilkes and land Crabs. 1782 P. H. Bruce *Mem.* xii. 424 Their shellfish are conques, periwinkles, periwigs, peeper, wilkes, etc. 1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, Divers specimens of a species of snail (*wilks*, we think they are called). 1841 J. T. Wheeler *Journ. Lord* III. 232 Searching for..wilks, periwinkles, and other shellfish.

**B.** 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 152 *Cochlea*, Sea-Snails, Whilks, or Periwinkles, & Periwinkles. 1713 Teldfall *Diary* (1872) 79 Cox Lane..where they sell salt water with us on whilkes in the shell. 1773 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Sept., Muscles and whilks in their natural state. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words*, Whilk or Whelk.

*γ.* 1300 tr. *Bede's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 26 Her beoð swyþe zenihtsume weoloces, of þam hið xeworht se weloceada helph. *c* 1290 in Wr.-Wülcker 549/35 *Cochee*, wioluc. 1440 Manl. de Fraisce *Fables* xii. 3 Une welke [MS. welche, wilque] trova entiere. 1490 in *Archæologia* XV. 252 Pro ij lampred' vij^c^ welkes vjd. 1513–... *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 244 Oysters, welkes, muskelen ou soel. 1530 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 231 De anguillis, ostris, conchiris, welkes, flounkis et aliis quibuscunque minutis piscibus venalibus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Welke, welkes and wasshe fayre. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 217 The shelles of certeyne great welkes. 1606 N. Baxter *Country's Charmain* D 1 b, Rockes where groweth the Necessarie Welke, and Oyster. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 7. 129. 16.. *Mem. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625 Welkes, *com.ba.* 1789 in Feilden *Records Q. Eliz. Exch.* 1900 The smallinge of iij welkes shelles and Coulloringe them. 1855 Mosley & Benney *Health's Improv.* 164 Periwinkles or Whelks, are nothing but sea-snails, feeding upon the finest mud of the shore and the best weeds. *c* 1721 Prior *Ganghyl.* viii. 77 Limington Bottle Whelk. 1815 S. Brooks *Conchol.* 202 *Strombus Lucifer*, Spiked Whelk. 1862 *Meeson. Mag.* Oct. 323 The whelks, clams,..and occasionally the crabs, are used by the fishermen as bait for their white fish lines. 1874 A. H. Markham *Whaling Cruise* ii. 19 By way of supper I was initiated into the mysteries of 'whelks'.

*c.* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take Walkys an sethe in Ale. 1444 *Maldon, Essex Ct.-rolls* Bundle 26 No. 1 b (MS.) Vendidit in mercato pisces frescnes, viz. wolkes. 1589 Riders *Bibl. Scholast.* I. 1734 A welke, or winkle, *turbo.*

† b. The shell of this mollusc, or a representation of it. *Obs.*

1575 Laneham *Let.* (1907) 52 Tunnyes, Conchs, & wealks: all engrauen by exquisit labour and skill. 1605 Jonson *Masques, Of Blackness* Wks. (1616) 894 Torch-bearers . . all hauing their lights burning out of whelks, or murex shells.

† c. A structure resembling a whelk-shell; a testudo. *Obs.*

1608-9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* IV. xiv. (Roy. MS. 18 A. xii) If. 105 The gynne that is clepede the snayle or the welke.

*d. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whelk-boat, -man, -pot* (Por *sb.*1 5 b), *-shell, -snail, -stall, -trifle* ; *whelk-like, -shaped* adjs.; **whelk-tingle,** the Dog-whelk. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 343 Item, quantum dabit *welkbot* de v tandles. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Aug. 7/1 Two fishermen went off in a whelk boat. 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 280 A 'whelk-like dentition. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 263/2 The 'whelkmen, who are the biggest rogues in hillingsgate. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 10 Set of 7 Whelk Pots with Gear. 1861 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860 (1861) 279 Genus . . in which the shell is thin and 'whelk-shaped. *c.*725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 530 *Conquilium*, 'welce xel. 1440 *Antrom. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Capricorne pat is pe signe of a goot in a welke shelle. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. vi. I. 131 'Tis usual to give Drink to Children that have the Chin-Cough, out of a Welk-shell. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 71 The hermit crab . . which always lives in empty welk shells. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. vi. I. 131 The 'Wilk-Smil winding, from the Mouth towards the right Hand. 1841 *Punch* III. 72/1 The subscribers 'whelk-stall. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/2 The dog-whelk or ''whelk tingle'.

1838 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Animi.* I. ix. 279 The Buccinidan or Whelk tribe.

**Whelk**2 (hwelk). Forms: 1 **hwylca,** 4–7 **whelke,** 5 **qwelke,** 5–6 **welke,** 6 **whealke,** 8–9 **welk,** 9 *dial.* **wh**(h)ilk, 5– **whelk.** [Late OE. (WS.) *hwylca*, prob. for **hwylca* (cf. late *hwylp* for *hwelp*), f. *hwelian* Wheal *v.*1 For the formation cf. *swelca* swelling, f. *swellan* to swell.]

1. A pustule, pimple; = Wheal *sb.*1

*a* 1000 *Leechdom Closs.* (S. A. Wulcker) 161/17 *Varix*, cwydele, *uel* hwylca. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* 632 Ne oynement that wolde clense and byte, That hym myghte helpen of the whelkes white. 1388 Wyclif *Lev.* xiv. 56 This is the lawe of al lepre . . and of al lithe a helkis [1382 bleynes; Vulg. *papularum*] brekynge out. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. lxiv. (1495) 518 b In the face ben reisde pymples & whelkes, out of whom oftetymes blood & matere. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 241 *Oblolmia* is clepid a whit welke or a reed poynt'. 1545 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 116 Whelkes or bladders on the body. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 108 His face is all bubukles and whelkes, and knobs, and flames a fire. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 198 If the patient sick of the Collick . . hath certaine small whelks or pushes arising upon his belly. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 308 Purple colour spots, or else little whelks arise. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. Sc. Eng.* Series II. 249 Those little gatherings which occur on the eye-lids of children, locally called 'wilk's'.

*Comb.* 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl. 71/2 Mordella*, . . a wlke flie, or blister flie.

2. Used by confusion for Weal *sb.*2, Wale *sb.*1

*a* 1761 Cawthorn *Poems, Wit & Learn.* (1772) 153 I'll lay thee, miscreant I on my knee, And print such welks thy naked seat on. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xxiii. 894 And on their flanks and shoulders, red the welks arose. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk, welt.*, to give a sound beating, which is likely to raise weals, welks, or welts. 1830 Bryant *Homer* I. 11. 17 A bloody welk & row whereon the golden sceptre fell.

**Whelked, welked** (hwelkt, welkt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **welkt, welk't, woalked.** [f. Whelk 1 + -ed 2.]

1. Formed like a whelk ; twisted, convoluted, or ridged like the shell of a whelk.

*a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* x. (1562) Gij b, Him Triton cambrous hare that galeun blew wt whelkid lyppe *concha*[*s*]. 1611 Golding *Ovid's Met.* v. 61 b, With crooked welked forig. *recurvis*] hornes that inward still doe tcrue. 1625 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 71 Hornes welk'd [*Qos.* welks, welk'd], and waued like the enraged [*Qos.* entidged] Sea. 1697 [R. Nicols] *Beggers ship* A 4, He with . . shaggy beard And welked hornes so Satire-like appeard. 1876 A. S. Palmer *Leaves Wordsworth's Prel.-Bk.* iv. 73 Look up at his [sc. the tree's] towering expanse of branches, observe its whelked and furrowed bole.

2. Marked with ridges on the flesh, waled, wealed : cf. Whelk 2 2. (Sometimes as pa. pple. of an assumed verb **welk** : see also below.)

1727 Gay *Fables* I. xliv, The smacking lash he smartly plies; His ribs all welk'd, with howling tone The puppy thus express'd his moan. 1812 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 Stripes from the fiend attain her heart, And the welk'd bosom scar. 1828 Scott *Y. M. Perth* xxii, The labour of their welked hands. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxx, My hand has been too much welk'd and laundered by practice of the bow.

¶ In the following Scott uses *welk* as an intr. verb (? = rise in ridges) in the collocation *welk and wave* based on a misunderstanding of Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 71, which he echoes directly in quot. 1827.

1824 Scott *Pirate* ii, The . . boatmen saw the horns of the monstrous leviathan welk'ing and waving amidst wreaths of mist. — 1827 — *Napoleon* I. viii. 331 Looking out upon the tumultuary sea of pikes, agitated by the fifty thousand hands, as they rose and sunk, welked and waved.

† **Whe'lky,** *a.*1 *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Whelk 1 + -y1.] Formed in a shell.

1598 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 105 Ne ought the whelky pearles [orig. *couched bacca*] esteemeth hee, Which are from Indian seas brought for ware.

**Whelky** (hwe'lki), *a.*2 *rare.* [f. Whelk 2 + -y1.] Pimply.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. xvii, His shining bald pate and whelky red face streaming with moisture.

**Whell** (hwel), *sb.* Also 6 **whelle,** 6–7 **whelme.** [f. Whelm *v.*]

1. A wooden drain-pipe : orig. a tree-trunk halved vertically, hollowed, and ' whelmed down ' or turned with the concavity downwards to form an arched watercourse. Now *dial.*

*c* 1376 in *Cartul. Archives All Souls' Coll.* (1877) 37 Quidam trunchus vocatus whelle. 1584 *Ct.-roll Wennington, Essex* (MS.), Cursus aquae vocat. The whealme est in decasu. 1613 *Ibid.*, [To place] sufficientem trunceam (Anglice a whelme) . . ad cursum aquae. 1797 A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 157, I strongly recommend these carrier ditches to be open, though at the expence of a wheim at the bottom of a field where a net-way is necessary. 1811 P. Moon *Suffolk Words* 478.

2. The overwhelming surge of waters. *poet.*

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 287 Dark yawn'd a cleft in the midst of the whelm. 1888 Swinburne *Armada* vi. iii. Poems 1904 III. 206 Deep in the whelm of the waters.

**Whelm** (hwelm), *v.* Forms: 3–5 **quelm,** 4 **welme,** 4–7 **whelme,** 5–6 *Sc.* **quhelm,** 8–9 **'whelm,** 5– **whelm** ; 9 *dial.* **whalm, whawm, welm.** Also Whemmel. [? representing OE. **hwelman*, parallel to **hwelfian* Whelve.]

†1. *intr.* To overturn, capsize. *Obs.*

In second quot. perh. pass. of sense 4.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24862 Pan pai loked ai sua for-wonken, Quen he scip suld quelm and drunken. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1811) 599 By the mysgydynge of the steryseman, he was set vpon the pylys of the bydge, and the barge whelmyd.

2. *trans.* To turn (a hollow vessel) upside down, or *over upon* something so as to cover it ; to turn with the concave side downwards. Now *dial.*

*c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 360 *Apes beyner hundz endenie*, with þe bones, *uel* whelme, *uel* kouere, *uel* hilie. Whelmyn a vessel, *subpino*. 14.. *Med. Receipts in Mis. Lincoln A. f.* 17, If. 285 (Halliw.) Tak a bryghte bacyne, and anoynte it with þe same, and whelme, ouer a presse. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xii. 18 And, with that word, his beist lleftsir their feit all void down did he quhelm. 1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus* 1. iii. 1 Whelme a pan ouer it, to saue it from flyes. 1590 Lucan *Lucan's Ghost* iv. 147 Whelme a new elme hole in the bottome of the said hole. 1604 N. F. *Pount. Sacr.* 18 Whelme downe my tendrels, emptying them prettily into small baskets. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 201 The barbarous whelmed their shields over their heads. 1643 Lightfoot *Gleam. Ex.* (1658) 47 On the top . . lay a golden dish whelmed downe. 1657 R. Norwood *Voy. Bermudas* 178 A tub, which as soon as you have emptied, suddenly whelm it vpside down. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 2 That the Faith is like a Trencher, and the Priest a Dish whelmed over it. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 254 It was found with the Mouth whelm'd downward. 1796 Thornber *Scilly Isl.* 106 Whelm the vessels, and let them remain, until small baskets. 1818 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 201 The barbarous whelmed their shields over their heads. 1843 Lightfoot *Gleam. Ex.* (1658) 47 On the top . . lay a golden dish whelmed downe. 1857 R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes* 178 A tub, which as soon as you have emptied, suddenly whelm it downe. 1867 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 2 That the Faith is like a Trencher, and the Priest a Dish whelmed over it. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 254 It was found with the Mouth whelm'd downward. 1796 Thornber *Scilly Isl.* 106 Whelm the vessels, and let them remain, until small baskets. 1818 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 201 The barbarous whelmed their shields over their heads. 1643 Lightfoot *Gleam. Ex.* (1658) 47 On the top . . lay a golden dish whelmed downe. 1657 R. Norwood *Voy. Bermudas* 178 A tub, which as soon as you have emptied, suddenly whelm it vpside down. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 2 That the Faith is like a Trencher, and the Priest a Dish whelmed over it. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 254 It was found with the Mouth whelm'd downward. 1796 Thornber *Scilly Isl.* 106 Whelme

**1.** The young of the dog. Now little used, superseded by *puppy*.

*c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 27 Soð hiu cweð ȝea drihten forðon & hundspua brucað of screadungum þa ðe fallea of head hlafarda hiora. *c1000 Sax. Leechd.* I. 368 Xyf þu on forewearsin gumera higest hwylene hwelpan þonne xyf unkyssendne. *Ibid.* II. 372 Xif þu wille þæt wif cild hæbbe oþþe life hwelp. *c1000 Ags. Ps.* in Wright *Voc.* 78 *Catulus*, hwylp. *c* 1205 LAY. 31679 Let þu þa hundes.. elðer freten oðer swa hund deð his bruðer, and leten heore whelpes wiðuuenen heom bi-sides. *c* 1275 *Vc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 278 He folouyt hyreas it had bene þe mekeste quelepe wes euir sene. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 61 Seuenne whelpes she sawe towlynge þe dammes. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 39 So must I dispraysse his methode in writing, which following the course of amurous Poets, dwelleth longest in those pointes, that are most vaine, and like a wanton whelpe, leaueth the game, to runne riot. 1607 Topsell *Beasts* 139 That Whelpes.. of one and the same entrayle, be neuer suffered to couple. *a* 1680 Sir T. Herbert *Tracts* v. (1684) 109, I kept an Eagle two years, which fed upon Kats, Kittlings, Whelps and Rats. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 37 P 2 Trips, whelps just set in. 1765 Goldsm. *Elegy on Mad Dog* iv, Both mongrel, puppy, whelp, and hound. 1816 Scott *Let. to Terry* 18 Apr. in *Lockhart*, His whole pack rushed out upon the man of evening tale and Dandie followed them.. exclaiming, 'the tae hauf o'them is but whalps, man.' 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I. v, I want to call at the Hall Farm on my way, to look at the white Pomeranian Poyser is keeping for me. 1894 Kipling *The' Mary Gloster'* Verse 109 I. 173 Mean as a collier's whelp Nosing for scraps in the galley.

**b.** † (*Great*) *with whelp*, *now in whelp*: (of a bitch) pregnant, in pup.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxv. (Bodl. MS.) If. 260 b/2 þe bitche ȝelp with ȝonge whelpes, þe wombe is ful of humours. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 203 Thy bytch great with whelpe. 1634 Bereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 17 A bitch in whelp. 1885 *Field* 25 Feb. 227/2 All the bitches that missed last year have this season got in whelp, and mostly to the same dogs.

**2.** The young of various wild animals, *esp.* and now only (chiefly as a literary archaism) of such as the lion, tiger, bear, and wolf, to the young of which the name *cub* is now usually applied.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xvii[i]. 12 Swa swa hwelp leon eardiende in deaðlmissum. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 95 *Keptil forthun*, getrymmed cnapa oððe hwelp. 1340 Ayenbite 98 Forr leones whelp þær þarf itt iis Whelpinges, tær lib itt stille þre dazhes. *c* 1390 *St. Edmund* 72 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 299 And rist swa he [sc. a wolf] wolde ȝiuen ȝwelp with wilde beste it waste. *a* 1300 *Curtor M.* 7103 A lion quilpe þat ran ouer-thuert, Rampaud to sampon he stert. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 431 A by the whelpe chastised is the lion. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.) If. 147 b/1 [The whale] louþ his whelpes with a wonder loue. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 309 þer was wonder-whelpit þerin. *Ibid.* 378 þe propurtie of þe ape is to hafe ij whelpes. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lix. 245 (Harl. MS.) Whan longe tyme feddid þere with he serpente his whelpes. *a* 1536 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 302 Also lyke of Sauchie that callfit xxv grew quholpis. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* ii. (ed. 2) 134 When the she-bear perceiveth her self with whelp, she withdraweth her self into some Cave. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 233 To let the lioness suckle her own whelps. 1824 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 265 The whelp of a bitch-wolf. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xii. 430 Stripes can be plainly distinguished in the whelp of the lion. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* xvii. 161 Firm as stands A lion o'er his whelps.

**b.** *transf.* A young child; a boy or girl. Now only *jocular*.

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* v. xxii. (1554) 137 b/1 Father (quod she) and ye take heede, ȝe shall haue a whelpe. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 265/1 Thou arte moder of a right noble whelp. 1572 *Sc.* Tussher (1878) 185 Not rod in mid bruines hand14 that can helpe, But gentle childi can make the proper whelpe. 1592 Monyson *Let. in Ellis.* (1827) 2. 14 I labroce in my suite our common friend G. B. and of my loving hosts family let not the whelpe goe unsaluted. *a* 1592 *Greene's Orpharion* (Manl. Club) 5 But he would chiefly mene his cance, To quhalpis ar of his nobill race. 1852 Kingsley *Let. in Life* v. (1879) I. 273 My little whelp Maurice.

**c.** *fig.* (from 1 or 2) with literal language retained, often with implication as in 3.

*Lion's whelp* is used allusively, partly after Shaks. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 267, *Hen. V.* i. ii. 109, for 'a valorous youth springing from a valorous race'.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þe Unicorne of Wre5ðe, haueð six liwelpes. Þe uormest is Cheaste, oðer Strif. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1733 'A-gilt þe,' a seide, 'þou foc welp.' *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* v. (Shaks. Soc.) 51 And save thi nevuant from helle welp. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* ii. iii. 281 Two of thy whelps, fell Curs of bloody kind Have here bereft my brother of his life. 1596–7 *Min. Archd. Colchester* (MS.) If. 147 Calling them (sc. neighbours) dogges, slye whelpes, and that they might have barked before they had bitt. 1631 A. Wilson *Switzer* ii. i, And there's a whelp (*pupils of Alcidonus*) wo'd haue a Marybone. 1663 Cowley *Cutter Colemans St.* iv. vi, This bouncing Hear of a Colonel will break the Back of my Whelp of a Captain. 1811 *James Philip Aug.* xxvii, You were but a whelp, where you are now a lion! 1842 *Times Lit. Supp.* 23 Feb. 123/1 A time when young Englishmen were just as formidable lion's whelps as they are to-day.

**3. a.** Applied depreciatingly to the offspring of a noxious creature or being. (Cf. *son of a bitch*.)

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 281 Cambinhay bares hin coy, þat fendes whelp. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lvi. 5 Warldis lufers þat are the whelpis of deuels. 1560 Becon *New Catech.* Wks. (1844) I. 107 Those whelpes of Rome. 1580 H. Gifford *Gilleflowers* (1875) 6, I would..liken all such whelpes of Zoilus, to that..canckerly naturde curre, 1590 Greene *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) C 9, Use not dice, for they be fortunes whelpes. 1610 Shake. *Temp.* i. ii. 283 The Son, that she did littour heere, A fiekelid whelpe, bag-borne. 1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* 105 Their vngracious Bishops, these whelpes of Antichrist.

**b.** An ill-conditioned or low fellow; later, in mild use, and esp. of a boy or young man: A saucy or impertinent young fellow; an 'unlicked cub', a 'puppy'. Also *attrib*.

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4516 Him to helpe, To fist onain þe Sarrazin welpe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 426 Thou art an vly welpe for-gro. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* v. i, Let me but finde you againe with such a face: You Whelpe. 1720 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 20. 3/2 He's a Silly Whelp. 1818 Scott *Bath.* (1636) III. 161 Sir Thomas Mansel and Thos Harley met me in the Park, and made me walk with them till nine, like unreasonable whelps. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 11 When she was beginning to complain of the whelp lord's impertinence. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* ii. i, Stupid whelp! But I don't wonder: the boy takes entirely after his mother. 1809 Scott *Let.* 7 Aug. in *Lockhart*, It is funny enough to see a whelp of a young Lord Byron abusing me. 1824 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* 192 *Whelp*, a boy with dog's-tricks. 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* iii, But company, you whelp! 1866 Miss Braddon *Lady's Mile* i, The shabby whelp gambling for marbles in the gutter. 1888 *Nat. Rev.* xii. 687/1 These whelps have been before the magistrates charged on their own confession with murder.

**4.** *Naut.* One of the longitudinal projections on the barrel of a capstan or the drum of a windlass. The spool described in the first quot. is evidently a whelp.

1356 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III m.* 34/1 Idem computat expendisse.. in factura iij. Whelpes ȝ. grossi Wynche.. c lb. *a* 1400 *Destruction of Troy* (Harl. MS. 525) 1763 The Whelpis are like Bracketten, set to the bodie of the Capstaine close vnder the barris, downe to the Decke, and are their whilis giue the Sweepe to the Capstaine. These are made soe in partes that the Cabell maie not be so apt to surge, as it would if it did run vpon a whole round bodie. 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Grammar.* ii. 9 The Whelps are short peeces of wood made fast to it, to keepe the Cable from coming too high in the turning about. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) *s.v. Capstern.* The Key *Rowers*, *Naut. Gergon* 19 The space between which had been filled up with wood, like the whelps of a capstan.

**b.** One of the teeth of a sprocket-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

† **5.** *Naut.* One of a fleet of auxiliary war vessels established in Charles I's reign, app. orig. so called because designed to attend upon H.M.S. Lion. *Obs.*

1628–9 *Cal. St. Papers, Dom.* (1859) 455 [When she [sc. a small man-of-war] heard our Whelps bark so loud and saucy, and saw them put up the King's colours, [she] endeavoured to escape]. 1631 Sir J. Pennington *Jrnl. in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. iv. 376 Our whole fleete being 4 men of warr, viz^t the Convertine, the Advice, the Assurance, Vice Admirall, the Tenth Whelpe, and the Second Whelpe. 1634 Bereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 128 If we had had but one whelpe more, to attend the fleet which now is ready to go hence to Bristoll fair. 1641 Prynne *Pract. Pref. Tyrr.* ii. 135 Being imbarqued.. in one of the Kings Whelps.. he landed at Dover. 1660 Burney *Képhalonia Λόγος* 53 When he visits the Navy, and even boards the Whelps and Frigots. 1804 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Chron. Fleet* I. 5 Sons of smaller craft, such as Gun-brigs, was decided on. They were called 'whelps', and were vessels built for sweeps as well as sails.

**6.** *Gunnery*, as *whelp-robbed* adj.

1827 *Man Lincan* v. 1181, Swifter then whelpe-robb'd Tyger.

Hence **Whelphood**, the condition of being a whelp; **Whelpish** *a.*, of, resembling, or characteristic of a whelp; **Whelpless** *a.*, having no whelps, deprived of its whelps; **whelpling** [-LING²] *adv.*, like a whelp; **Whelpling**, a young whelp; also *contemptuously* of a person.

1886 Swinburne *Misc.* 211 A vapid and effeminate rhymester in the sickly stage of 'whelphood'. 1586 Whitgift *Christ. Admonit.* Wks. (1851) I. 488 Whelpish, his natural dil disguise Yet time at length vnto my euell lucke Bewray'de his harte. 1687 Miege *Gr. Fr. Dict.*, Whelpish, *mechant*, *mauvais*. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Nov. 1/2 Mr. Swinburne.. habitually hugged this whelpish Thought. 1883 J. Christie in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. vi. 269 Thou gar'd the rocks and hallows ring Whelpling shaking glee. 1598 Yong *Diana* iii. 41 more then *whelpelesse* Beare. 1814 Byron *Lara* ii. xxv, Her eye shot forth with all the living fire That haunts the tigress in whelpless wrath. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 83 The old lion, glaring with his whelpless eye. *c* 1300 *Beryn* 481 He.. scrapid the dore 'welplich, *a* 1618 Sylvester *Profit of Imprisonment* Wks. (1621) 625 As, when the Lyon fierce .. Runnes mid-ta million swords, his 'whelplings to defend. 1781 Elphinston *Martial* xii. clxxi. [v. lxxxiii.] 160 On thy bow'd lips, the whelpling tumbrel hung. 1822 Fanshaw *Lives of Fathers* I. v. 222 That whelpling (Ls. *catulus*) Diogenes sought to find a man.

**Whelp** (hwelp), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To bring forth (a whelp or whelps).

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gosp.* Matt. xv. 27 Soð hiu cwæð ȝea, Þætt hreþ þo þe þridde dæȝ Affæer þætt lit as wheolpedd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Monie mo hweolpes þen ich habbe inempned hauen Se þe ich habbe hweolpened. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (Bodl. MS.) If. 241 b/2 þe female wolfe whelpiþ manye whelpes as þe bitche doþe. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W.) 201 b/2 Whan she was ynow whelpe they shall lye as deed thre dayes after yᵗ they ben whelped. 1577 Goodge *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 155 b, As soone as they be whelped, must away with as you milike. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* i. (ed. 2) 135 [Hears] are whelped most commonly in March, sometimes two, and not above five in number. 1791 *Gent. of Town*, From a Lioness and Lion whelp'd there 6 years before. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 103 They all come on shore in December, by which they young. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, Jack's the dog as can draw a brock..agin any Lonnun dog as ever was whelped.

1892 *Brit. Fancier* 19 Feb. 71/2 His bitch Dainty..has just whelped a..fine litter to Mrs. Dainty's Dictator.

*b. transf.* and *fig.* To bring forth: often with contemptuous implication.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 82 b, Two detestable lyes whelped at one lytter (so pregnant is this wormes). 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* ii. iv, Volesse shee had whelpt it her selfe, she could not haue lou'd a iliing better. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 492 Antignus, Boethus, Sadoc, and such mungrels were scarce whelped in Epiphanius his day. 1675 Horneck *Offspr.* viii. 472 Sing now of the Horse of Wood..Which in Troy-Town destruction to it whelpt. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 306 Whelped without a prologue with great pains. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xix, Out, you diminutive pint-pot, whelped of an overgrown reckoning! 1900 Watson *Purgatorium* xv, None of 'em was whelped savage enough to sing himself bloodthirsty.

**2.** *intr.* To bring forth whelps.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Þat vessels conceyue ofte moyste and whelpiþ ofte ȝere. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 470 The tygre afyr thys batayle, Whelpede sone for hyr trauayle. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* ii. i, Your lyons whelping, in the Tower. 1660 Rowe *Nero Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Digress. 368 A Bitch that was said to be almost ready to whelp. 1798 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* V. 308 On Paris' tomb The flocks a insulting frisk, And whelpa the lioness in Priam's hall. 1887 *Sir Edmund Lacrine* iv. ii. 98 No she-wolf whelps upon the wold Whose brood is like thy mother's.

*fig.* 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 874 The foliage in which Fame, the eagle, built Her aerie, while Dominion whelped below.

Hence **Whelped** *ppl. a.*, **Whelping** *vbl. sb.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), In bicches melk is founde many daies biifore þe whelpinge. 1605 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* ii. xiii. 105 She was taken newly dead in whelping. 1611 Speed *Theatre of Britaine's Mem.* (1841) I. 491 Licking the whelped bears into courtlinesse at one's leisure. 1907 R. Leighton *New Bk. Dog* 358 Breeding and Whelping.

**Whelm**, obs. form of Whilk.

**Whelve** (hwelv), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **hwylfan**, 3 **hwelfen**, 5– **whelve**, (9 **whilve**). [Late OE. *hwylfan* = **hwielfan*, Anglian **hwelfan* (also in compounds *á-*, *be-*, *of hwylfan*) = OS. *bihwelbian* to cover over, (M.)Du., (M)LG. *welven*, OHG., MHG. *welben*, *welwen* (G. *wölben*) to vault, arch, ON. *hvelfa* to turn, upside down :— OTeut. **xwalbjan*, causative vb. f. **xwalb-* (: *xwelb-*, *xulb-*), whence OE. *hwealf* sb., arch, vault, adj. vaulted, OHG. *walbe* (MHG. *walbe*), curved object, gutter-tile, roof-gutter, *walbî* 'volubilitas', *walbên* to roll, ON. *hvalf* vault, concavity, *hvalfa*, *holfa* to capsize (see Whauve); further related to Goth. *hwilftri* coffin, Gr. κάλαθος basket: the radical notion being 'something turned, or turning'.]

1. *trans.* To turn (a vessel, etc.) upside down so as to cover something; *gen.* to turn or roll over, overturn; to upheave. *To whelve over*, to overwhelm: = Overwhelve.

*c* 1000 in *Teubner's Zeitschr.* (1885) II. 125 Donne þu bild halduu wylle, þonne hafa þu wynsuman ðæl & ansundne & eac swa þu swylcum and hwylf by sylfhan oðer þa wynstran eal swyle þ ic cuppan bilde. [*c* 1000 *Ælfric's Psalter* etc. (Roeder) 276 Creentis uiam alzelde & ic hwelfde [*Cotton* hwylfde] is fram me.] *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 513 in *O. E. Misc.* 51 He hwelfde at þare sepulchre-dure onne grete ston. [*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* ii. met. 1168 ȝe þe horrible wynde aquilon moeueþ boylyng tempestes and euer whelweþ þe see.] *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 161 For harm & stryf of that vpon thy selue May ryse, þe benchemerke euer shee whelue [*r. v.* the overwhelue]. 1854 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 84 (Surrey) I'll whelve a pot over 'em, to keep off the sun. 1894 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 9 (Cornwall) *Il ketva ov Wallee*, to turn upside down any hollow vessel.

† **2.** To cover over with anything; to hide, bury.

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 393 Ek whelue a seriol ther-out þine house Grauel vp to the wyndes. 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Trance* To Rdr., The candell whelued vnder the Bussell will burne a hole throughe. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Whelve* or Hide.

**Whome**, var. Queme *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

**Whomen**, obs. f. *women*, pl. of Woman.

**Whemmel** (hwe'm'l), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see next. [f. next.] An overturn, upset, overthrow: a state of confusion.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxii, Nae doubt, nay doubt—ay, ay—it's an awfu' whummle—and for one that held his head sae high too. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* civ, The chaise made a clean whamle, and the Laird was lowermost. 1830 *Lanark. T.* iii. v, Many a joint-dislocking jolt, and almost headlong whamle. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl., *Quhemle*.. a rock, tone; a rocking, tossing. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xviii, His horse and he fell from rock to rock, and among a great whammel of stones, reached the bottom of the delnie.

**Whemmel** (hwe'm'l), *v. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6, 9 **quhemle**, **quhomle**, 7–9 **whemmel**, 8–9 **whomel**, **whemble**, 9 **w(h)ommle**, **whamm**, **wham(b)le**, **whommle**, **whum(m)el**, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Metathetic form of Whelm *v.*]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to overturn, capsize; to drink off (liquor) to the bottom; also *transf.* and *fig.* to upset, throw into confusion.

1538 Bellenden *Cron.* Prothesis ii. (1541) Fiv. And schyll Triton with his wyndy horne Quir quhemlit all the flowand oceane. 1684 [Maitton] *Yorksh. Dial.* 47, I whemmeld Dubler ower th' Mearh. To keep it seaf and warm for you to Eat. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* ii. 22ɛ, On whomelt tubs lay twa lang dails. 1721 — *Prospect of Plenty* 196

Health fou hearts shall own their honest flame, Which raising quaff, and whomelt to her name. **1816** Scott *Antiq.* xl, I think I see the coble whombled keel up. *Ibid.* xli, He took the carbuiane, and he's whomled her as I wad whomble a toun bicker. *c* **1850** *Denham Tracts* (1895) II. 31 Put into a wheelbarrow and whemmeled over upon the muck-midden. **1883** *Trans. Amer. Philol. Ass.* 55 *Wonomi'le*, to turn a trough, or any vessel, bottom upwards, so that it will drain well; used in West Virginia.

**b.** To cover (something) by turning a vessel, etc. upside down over it.

**1790** Grose *Prov. Glass* (ed. 2), *Whemble*, to cover with a bowl. **1824** Macaulay *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v. *Whomuld, d*, To be whomled beneath a bushel. **1895** [J. D. Rees] *Anthology, Beggar Boy* (1859) 57, I was, like the turkey, whomalled under a tub.

**2.** To submerge in or as in a flood; to drown.

**1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 51 Quhomlit in sorow and plunett in care. **1824** Macaulay *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v. *Whomulted*, 'To be whommled by a wave,' to be whelmed in the deep.

**3.** *intr.* To tumble over, capsize; also, to move unsteadily, stumble about.

**1895** Crockett *Men of Moss Hags* xxiii, The dell whummelt on his hearthstane! **1897** — *Lads' Love* iii, When . . your hogs [are] whummelin' in the black lugs by the scaur.

**Whan** (whæn), *adv.*, *conj.*, *sb.* Forms: α. 1–3 **hwonne**, (1 huonne), 3 **wonne**, 3–4 **whonne**, 5 *Sc.* **quhone**. β. 1–3 **hwanne**, 3 **wanne**, **quanne**, (**quuanne**, **3wanne**, **3wane**), 3–4 **wane**, 3–5 **whanne**, **wanne**, **quane**, 4 **huanne**, 6 **whane**, *Sc.* **quhane**. γ. 1 **hwenne**, **hwænne**, (**hoenne**), 2–3 **wenne**, 3 **hwenne**, **weonne**, 3–5 **whenne**, 4 **quenne**, **qwenne**, **quene**, *Sc.* **qwene**, **qwhene**, 4–6 *Sc.* **quhene**, 5 **whene**. δ. 3–4 **hwon**, **won**, (4 **wjon**), 4–5 **whon**, 4 **qwon**, 3–4 **hwan**, (3 **uuan**, **quan**), 3–4 **wan**, **quan**, 3–6 **whan** (4 **van**, 5 **whann**), 5–6 *Sc.* **quhan**. ε. 3 **hwen**, 3–5 **wen**, 4–5 **quen**, (4 **qwhoyn**, 5 **qwon**, **qwhen**), 4–8 *Sc.* **quhen**, 4 - **when**. [OE. *hwanne*, *hwænne*, *hwenne*, (Nth. *hwanne*), late WS. *hwænne*, corresp. to OFris. *wanne*, (*h*)*wenne* until, if (Fris. *wan* when, if), OS. *hwan* when, *hwanna* at some time, when, (MLG. *wan*, *wen*, *wanne*, *wenne*, MDu. *wan*, *wen*, surviving in Du. *wanneer* when = OS. *hwanar* *ɔr* as soon as). OHG. *wanne*, *wenni*, *wenne* (MHG. *wanne*, *wenne*, G. *wann* when, *wenn* if), Goth. *hwan* when, how: a derivative of the interrog. stem *hwa-* Who, What, as *then* is of the demonstrative *ba-*; cf. Skt. *kadá* when, L. *quom*, *cum* when, OPruss. *kan* if, OIr. *can*, W. *pan*.

The formations present points of difficulty: the following related forms have a dental suffix: OHG. *(h)wanta*, *hwanne*, *wande*, *want*, *hwonde*, *hwentê* (Fris. *wanti* for), because, as, OS. *hwanda*, *hwand*, when, for, because (MLG. *wande*, OHG. (*h*)*wanta* why, L. *quando* when (cf. Skr. *kadâ* when, Lith. *kadà* where, etc.).

**I.** Interrogative uses.

**1.** In a direct question: At what time? on what occasion? Sometimes passing into the sense: In what case or circumstances? (cf. 8). Also with ellipsis of the remainder of the question (see also b).

*c* **1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 37 Hwænne sceawe we ðe hingrigende, & we ðe feddun? *c* **1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xl[i]. 5 Hwonne ser he heo deað, oþþe hwænne his nama aspringe? *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Hwenne scal þos lodе ut gon deie? **1382** Wyclif *1 Tr.* xli[i]. 1 Whan I shal comen, and apere befor the face of God? *c* **1412** Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 864 Whan schul ye be to ye regnable? **1535** Coverdale *Ecclesiastes* v. V[.] b, Thou shalt haue gold lolde out to the. *La.* Whan, at the Grekish calendes? **1590** Shaks. *Com. Err.* ii. ii. 13 When spake I such a word? **1628** Prynne *Hist. & Antiq.* i. 389 When should People surrender their Bonds to break, not when Kings are Negligent or Weak? **1742** Young *Nt. Th.* iii. 537 When shall I die?—when shall I live for ever? **1841** *Punch* 24 July 21/1 When is a horse like a broken heart? When he's hard rod-. **1865** Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. xiv, When shall I come to see you, Mr. Boffin? **1867** Tennyson *Holy Grail* 201 Who shall sound the knell? when and how?

†**b.** *ellipt.* as an exclamation of impatience. *Obs.*

**1592** Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iii. 1, 47 No more, I say; to the tortures, when! **1598** Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 147 Off with my boots, you rogues: you villiniens, when! **1623** Middleton *Mad Dissemblers* v. i. (1657) 66 Why when? begin Sir: I must stay your leisure.

**2.** In a dependent question or clause of similar meaning: At what time; on what occasion; in what case or circumstances. Also *ellipt.*

*Say when*, colloq. formula used by a person pouring out drink for another, to ask him to say when he shall stop.

*c* **1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 7 Hwonne he-befran hi ȝeornne, hwænne se steorra hym ætywde. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 5416 Nou tek i neuer quen i dei. *c* **1375** in Horstman *Altenel. Leg.* (1878) 124/1 Alle ȝe haue herd told & rad How & whanne god his world made. **1535** Coverdale *Lam.* v. 5 That it maye be knowne, whan ony thinge is vncleane or cleane. **1570** N. Ferne *Vnkinde Deserter* i. 22 To know when is speake, and when to be silent. **1720** Swift *Prof. to Stella* 7 Oct., I wonder when this letter will be finished. **1854** R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* i. (1901) I. 11 He knew when to lay hold of his hounds, and when to let them alone. **1865** Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. iii, Say when you've put it safe back, Mr. Venus.

*a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 144 Deað let we beoð siker of ure time hwenne. *c* **1400** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Deþe we seulin sikerliche; but god wot wanne & were. **1545** Ascham *Toxoph.* ii. (Arb.) 125 Whych matter was onse excellentlye disputed vpon, in the Scooles, you knowe when. **1590** Shaks. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 39 He tell you when, and you'll tell me wherefore. **1667** Milton *P. L.* x. 490, I am to buisie his heel; His Seed, when is not set, shall bruise my head. **1779** H. Walpole *Let. to Selwyn* 4 July, Can you tell me if the Duchess of Leinster still goes to Aubigny; and, if she does, when? **1828** Hazlitt *Self Love & Benev.* Sk. & Ess. (1850) 104 What might be the consequence to myself the Lord knows when? **1883** Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xii, Well, now, if you want to know, I'll tell you when. The last moment I can manage; and that's when. **1888** J. S. Winter *Bootle's Childr.* ii, I haven't seen such food I don't know when. **1889** *Mod. Society* 6 June (Farmer's *Slang*) 'Say when,' said Bonks, taking up a flagon of whiskey and commencing to pour out the spirit into my glass.

**3.** After a prep. (esp. *since*, *till*), in a direct or a dependent question: = What time?

*Cf.* *E. depuis quand*, *G. seit wann*.

**1340** *Ayenb.* 172 Sin quam ase hi ssolle vor dempsteт? **1583** Melbancke *Philotimus* N iv, If any circumstance of where, or whome, or whose, may make a probable Argument. **1828** Scott *F. M. Perth* xvi, Since when is it, good Father, that the principal liberties has uttered his morals so much? **1861** H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xiv, 'Since when have you missed her?' 'Since yesterday afternoon.'

**II.** Relative and conjunctive uses.

For merely (now archaic) also followed by *that* (*That conj.* 6).

**4.** As compound relative (cf. What C.*), or as correlative to *then* (implied and sometimes expressed): At the (or a) time at which; on the (or an) occasion on which.

Also *elliptical* with only the predicate expressed, e. g. *when a boy* = when he (I, etc.) was a boy; *when cold* = when it is cold.

**a.** In reference to a definite actual occurrence or fact, chiefly with verb in past tense: At the time that, on the occasion that; sometimes with verb in present tense = now that (sometimes with mixture of sense 9 a').

*c* **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 2069 Hwonne hy mid mengtu maran cwonne, þa þe for his life lyt sorgedon. *c* **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 576 Seve hundred ȝer noe was hold Quan he dede him in de archewold. *c* **1300** *Cursor M.* 6958 Quen þat wo to þe flode kam, Noe cam in at bat ilk yate, þar his ire lai in hir gatt. *c* **1350** *Will. Palerne* 2484 Wan þei þider come, þei founde al awai fare. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 1685 Quhen this Citie was set. Then noumbre myght ȝe not. [etc.] **1470** *Sir Gawayne* 2 Whan Quen he was gone on this kin wise, Thenne ȝe mon sayd thayre dedne. **1470–85** Malory *Arthur* v. lxx. 536 Whanne he was come to the chirche he ferll lyke a lyoun that there nyghte no man withstande hym. **1533** Bellenden *Livy* v. xxiv. (S.T.S.) II. 230 We sald nocht leif oure cieis nor oure lyvis In hes sa mony ingrauen bowis. **1577** Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 239 When that he was certified . . that the Ethnicks offred sacrifice . . in that place, he sharply rebuked Eustathius. **1581** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 154 Some efter that the Counsell crouned ȝoursell, Quhen Gedd Murray as a regent rang. **1605** Shaks. *Mach.* ii. ii. 27 Listning their feare, I could not say Amen, When they did say God blesse vs. **1733** J. Brown *Poetry & Mus.* 156 Music had then its greatest Power, when the Melody was most confined in its Compass. **1775** Harris *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 343 Some by being attacked when asleep, that the gigantic Polyphæme fell a sacrifice to Ulysses. **1779** *Mirror* No. 54. ⁋ 3 He lost his father when an infant. **1848** Thackeray *Pen. Pasr* liii, It was ten o'clock when I woke up. **1863** Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xxvi, When I was a child . . I used to think that I should like to play at China on Eton battels. **1894** Barnes-Gough *R. Fairy T.* 70 It is not the time for violets when the snow lies deep!

**b.** In reference to a future time (whether in the present or the past).

*971 Blickl. Hom.* 97 He sceal winnan & sorgian, hwonne se deg cume. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 149 Wanne he sceal þenne cumen, þat folc þa þe ȝeornen to heouenliche blisse. **1340** *Ayenb.* 172 *Knof* (1871) 21 Vr lord bi-het me þere Wiþ Oyle of Mile smere me whonne hit tyme were. *c* **1420** *Anturs. Arth.* xxiv, Quen þise wordes were oute in ȝere, Take þis schild and þis spere. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) 1 Sam. iii. 10 When I begin, I will also make an end. **1588** Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 145 What will Biron say when that he shall hear Faith infringed? **1646** in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxxi, I desyrit our people to convein quhen the bellis suld be ring. **1769** *Mrs. Raffald's Eng. Housekpr.* (1803) 109 When your bread is boiled, take it out with the yolk of an egg. **1784** (see That *conj.* 6). **1805** Kingsley *Herew.* xxxi, Pray St. Etheldreda to be with us when the day shall come. **1889** Lyndsay *Rose o' Joy* xv, I hope for her, I hope for you When face to face When I have crost the bar. **1915** 'Ian Hay' *First Hundred Thou.* ii. xx. 303 The Oxford Dictionary of the English Language will have to be revised and enlarged when this war is over.

**c.** Indefinitely or generally: At any time, or at the several times, at which; on any occasion that: most commonly with vb. in pres. tense.

*c* **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 Wanne he sezen men wanred þolien oðer on sinne bifullen, þeruor he hadden reuþe. *c* **1280** *Bestiary* 16 in *O. E. Misc.* 1 Wanne he is ikindled Sulle hi be leun. *a* **1250** *Owl & Night.* 324 Ich singe an non a riht tune & solpe wen hit me bistunt. **1340** *Ayenb.* 27 Hwanne he yrihþ oþer yherþ he guod of oþren: þanne him comþ a zoȝe to þe herte. **1460** Paston *Lett.* I. 541 To se þat the Kynges benche be alwey redy to come bothe Estern and hoos men, qwen they be sent for. **1553** *Respublica* 894 Solace we muste nedes have when that we are were. **1591–5** Sylvester *Astrophel* 29 There was no pleasure but delightfull play, When Astrophel so euer was away. **1630** J. Clarke *Parœm.* 67 When God will, all winds bring raine. **1721** Addison *Spect.* No. 26 ⁋ 7 When I look upon the tombs of the great, every emotion of envy dies in me. *a* **1774** Goldsm. *Elegy Mrs. Mary Blaize* 16 She never slumbered in her pew,—But when she shut her eyes. **1807** Scott *Wright. Widow* v, The answers which he received from him, when conversing on religious topics. **1860** Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, I am overpowered when I think of you and your hospitable home.

**5.** Introducing a clause as the object of a verb, or (later) governed by a preposition: = The or a time at which; † a case in which (cf. 8).

This use arises from the dependent interrog. use (sense 2), and the OE. examples are only particular cases of this.

*972 Blickl. Hom.* 227 Hine ðæs heardoste langode hwanne he of disse worulde moste. *a* **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 2433 Hiniedi langede...hwonne his of neorwe-, strangan mosten. *c* **1378** *Cursor M.* 5933 (Fairf.) Sette se..Tyme & quenne (*Cott. term* wen) we salle pray for þe & þi men. *c* **1412** Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 113 Passe ouer whanne þis stormy nyght was gon, And day gan vp-rise wyndowe in to pyȝe. **1487** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 166 They loke euery owre when the comens of the town schall ryse. **1568** [see Look 8, 34]. **1603** Shaks. *Meas. for M.* ii. iii. 13, I haue seene When after execution, Iudgement hath Repented ore his doome. **1648** Herrick *Herper., To the Lark*, And know thy when To say, Amen. **1689** Richard *Scobell's Toilet*, Dedi., In your Fancy carry along with you, the *When* and the *Why* many of these things were spoken. **1838** S. Sharpe *Hist. Egypt under Ptol.* 186 As to the when, the why, or by whom the pyramids were built. **1867** Momms *Treaties* 111. 109 Since when I am dead, by none but him the people shall be led. **1868** — *Battle Par.* Prol. 202 Expecting when our turn shall come to die. **1884** *Dublin Sf. Soldiers Fire* 3, I was a grown young man of twenty by when it happened.

**6.** As simple relative (cf. What C.**): At which time, on which occasion; and then. Sometimes implying suddenness: = and just then, and at that moment.

*c* **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 2269 Siddan hundtwelftig geteled rime wintra on worulde wæce bixedon fæge þeoda; hwonne fiea wolde on werhagan wite settan. **1461** Paston *Lett.* I. 541 Weyyn the xxiij. day of Janware in haste, wan I was not well at hese. **1592** Harington *Orl. Fur.* xxxiv. (S.T.S.) I. 2 Haistelie maid one Pasche twisday,...1560, quhen thair apperit ane dangerous sedition in Edinburgh. **1592** Shaks. *1 & 2 Hen. VI*, *Cade* 1. iv. 1, Here they say is a parliament holden, And many gentlemen lose their head for feare,.. swiftly doth forsake him. **1634** Ford *Perkin Warbeck* ii. ii. E 2 b, There haue been Kings in this Iland, who haue made one too. **1721** Budgell *Spect.* No. 77 ⁋ 1 We took a turn or two more, when, to my great Surprize, I saw him squirr away his Watch a considerable way into the Thames. **1780** *Mirror* No. 78 ⁋ 3, I had not been above three years at college, when the death of an uncle put me in possession of a very considerable estate. **1820** Keats *Lamia* ii. 76 There they reposed,... When from the sloping side of a suburb hill,.. came a thrill Of trumpets. **1893** *Law Times* XCV. 62/2 An inspector..tested the drain, when he found that the joints of the pipes over every alternate length were Flanged-Socketed *Br. Fairy T.* 58 Scarcely had she touched the spindle when she pierced her hand with it.

**b.** As *quasi*-pronoun after a preposition (esp. *since* or *till*): = which time.

**13–** *Cursor M.* 20180 (B. M. Add. MS.) Haueþ he nie sette any day Agens when I me greithe may? **1581** A. Hart *Hand. C.* 12 But then a suter will I be, til when I with tiny child Von from the battayle do absteine. **1593** Shaks. *3 Hen. VI* ii. ii. 89 *Ed.* I was adopted Heire by his consent. *Cla.* Since when, his Oath is broke. **1634** Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 145 Since when it [sc. Persia] was vanquished by Tangrolipix the Turke, an. 1040. **1721** Mrs. Centlivre *Perfide Lovers* iii. i, Till when, thou Charmer of my Soul, Farewel. **1820** Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* iii. ii. 40 Thy steed will pause at even, till when farewell.

**7.** With *time*, *day*, etc. as antecedent: = at or on which.

The following OE. quot. exemplifies the kind of context out of which this construction might arise:—*Gutheben* hyrn wæs on godes dome, hwonne Gutlâcan on his undȝitean enge sealde þæt [etc.].

*c* **1000** Owun 133 Ali senne time whanne bise lott Wes cudenne upp to þeowetenn. *c* **1300** *Cursor M.* 19716 To wait þe time Quen þai mought cum to munther him. **1362** Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 1 In a Somer seson whan softe was þe sonne. **1406** Hoccleve *Jonathas* 1. 1 Vpon a day, til I can the tyme whan they to bedde goon, it is so late. *c* **1440** *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 (Harl. MS.) A day was set whanne the king should come and se his doughter. *c* **1470** *Harding* vi. 9 On a day when Cupid kept his court. **1697** Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 79 A time will come, when my matures Muse, in Cæsar's Wars, a Nobler Theme shall chuse. **1798** Rowlandson *Let. to S. Ann* 29 Oct., At all times, when I shall suit you to give us your company. **1845** M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 The ages of faith, the ages when the Church bore sway over every action of life. **1884** *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 1/1 *Opin.* iv. sec Charges...which..I fully believed at the time when I made them. **1896** Sidebottom *Note Engl. Keepsh.* 16 I am sure when England herself might have spared this noblest of human rights. **1896** Meredith *Beauch. Career* iv, There are times when an example is needed.

**8.** With the notion of time modified by or merged in that of mere connexion: In the, or any, case or circumstances in which; sometimes nearly = if. Often *elliptical*, with only the predicate expressed.

The clause with *when* is often equivalent to a phrase with preposition and gerund (*when he sees or saw* = 'on seeing'; *when he says or said* = 'in saying').

*c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Mildheortnesse me cuð þim soluen, hwænne he him þæreng þet he isuneged hueð and þet sare bimurneð. *c* **1220** *Bestiary* 502 in *O. E. Misc.* 16 Sef þa it nogs wan it fle. **1387** *Higden's Polych.* (Rolls) I. 318 That is when we will nought do to god almighten,..That us augh for to do. **1570–80** *Visions St. Paul* 198 in *O. E. Misc.* 229 He quesse þe Mouþ of þat Put. Hit schuld be foule wenn hit was vnschut. *c* **1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 63 Sers and reals dedys sliul bettir come to a kynges myude when enbyed. *c* **1450** Pottecker *Abs. & Lim., Hon.* iv. (1883) 117 When a kynge rulith his reaume only to his owne profite..he is a tyraut. **1588** A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 181 The qualitie thing the scripture meanes quhen it says [etc.]. **1592** Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 44 Oh tis the curse in Loue . . When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd. **1643** Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 God..takes his opportunity, (for we are best, when at worst). **1704** Dr Fox *Four Gr.*

*Brit.* 13 When I have mid this, I think I have done Malden Justice. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 148 More confident, when palpably most wrong. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* i. § 42 A painter designs when he chooses some things, refuses others, and arranges all. 1892 J. Chamberlain *Sp.* 7 May W. W. Lilly *1st Prem. Pol.* 161 *note*, When great national interests are at stake...the party system breaks down.

**b.** As simple relative (cf. 6): + (*a*) with *case* as antecedent: = in which: (*b*) in which case; whereupon; and then.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Except in case when you understande not yᵗ ye rede therin. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 564 It may be opened with a lancet or a needle, when the fluid will run out. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 693/1 The ribbon ..is sometimes couped or cut short, when it becomes a *bâton*.

**9.** With the notion of time passing into that of cause or contrast. **a.** It being the case that, seeing that, considering that, inasmuch as, since. (Often, and now only, with implication of opposition or contrast, thus approaching b.)

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Hwen þus is of be riche, hwat wenes tu of þe poure? 1297 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 7 Hii wolde suore abbe þyne, whenne he nom an alle wise. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1272 Otuwel, when it is so, Tak be batailis a godes name. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* xxxvii. Whan wynde and wedir hit, thanke him were wo, Quen alle his godus were spendutte him fro. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 142 What maidenue rules in brain-sicke men, When fast & violent sway is cause, Such fictious semulations shoul arise? *a* 1637 B. Jonson *Timber* Wks. (1640) 118 And indeed when the attaining of them [sc. all knowledges] is possible, it were a stupidity not to have things in despaire. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 64 But where to find that happiest spot below, Who can direct, when all pretend to know? 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iv. iii, What's the good of my pretending to stand out, when I can't help myself? 1885 [E. II. Dering] *In Light of 20th Cent.* iv. 85 'If you would only...look at the question without prejudice.' 'Prejudice! I like that, when you are full of prejudices about it.'

**b.** In adversative sense: While on the other hand, while on the contrary, whereas.

+ In quot. *c* 1489 = although.

1897 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 7 Hii wolde euere abbe pyne, wanne he poure nadde wo. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 153 And when the kyng gaaff you not his suster but a simple damoysell, yet ought you to belieue hym. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* ii. (Arb.) 143 To follow rather the Gothes in Rymiug, than the Greekes in trew versifiyng, were euen to eate acornes with swyne, when we may freely eate wheate bread emonges men. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 139 You rub the sore, When you should bring the plaister. *c* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (1689) 26 Little things do great works, when great things will not. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, An estate like yours yields braw content, When we but pike it scarcely on the bent. 1856 Marryat *Japhet* lvii, I...received fifty shillings, when I ought to have received, at least, ten pounds. 1888 F. Harrison *Cromwell* vi. 118 He was solemnly making a treaty, when he never intended to keep any treaty at all.

**III.** Indefinite and substantival uses.

**+10.** *adv.* At some time (only OE. with *nu*, *seld(sum)*; *when and when*, at one time and another, now and then. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. i. (1890) 94 He nu hwonne on þam ilcan biſ on wulder arfcende mid ofrum hyrdum þære halgan cyricean. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* cxxi. iv, And Scottes also that false were of fay, When and when.

**b.** As the second element of a compound: see Anywhen, Atwhen, Elsewhen, Everywhen, Nowhen, Seld-*when*, Somewhen.

**11.** as *sb.* The time at which something happens (or did or will happen): = *time when* (sec 7); also *vaguely*, Time, duration.

Often conjoined with *where* or *how* similarly used.

1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xxxiii. Wks. 777 Thou art but gone before, Whither the world must follow. And I, now, Breathe to expect my *when*, and make my *how*. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi. The gardener...troubled his head very little with the *hows* and *whens* of life. 1819 Shelley *Ode to Heaven* 6 Deep, immeasurable vast, Which art now, and which wert then Of the Present and the Past, Of the eternal Where and When. 1864 Newman *Apol.* vi. 362, I have very little reason to doubt about the issue of things, but the when and the how are hidden from Him. 1867 Carlyle *E. Irving in Remin.* (1881) 101 The *when* of my first call there I do not now remember. 1885 Tennyson *Asc. Sage* 104 This mindá, who creep from thought to thought, Break into 'Thens' and 'Whens' the Eternal Now.

**When**, var. Whenne *Obs.*, whence.

**Whenabouts** (hwe·nǎbouts). *nonce-wd.* [f. When, after *whereabouts*.] The time at which a thing happened.

1898 L. A. Tollemache *Talks with Gladstone* I. 19 The whereabouts and the whenabouts of my interviews with him.

**Whenas, when as** (hwen;æz, hwe·n æz), *adv., conj. arch.* [f. When + As *adv.* 27.]

**1.** At the, or a, time at which; in a case in which: = Where 4, 5.

1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* ii. Quhen as I lay In bed allone waking...Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing. 1550 Leyes *Serm. 4th Sund. Lent* A vij b, Ye shall heare, when as much people commyth lesse, ...what Iesus did. 1574 T. Hill *Art Gardein., Bees* 66 This is a great token of rain to follow, when as the Sunne in the day time, and the Moone in the night, do appeare pale, or blackish of colour. 1602 Kyd *Ad. Trag.* III. H 2 b, At the mid of noone, When as the Sun-God rides in all his glorie. 1638 Quarles *Hieroglyph.* vii. iv, Subjects must vail, whenas their Sov'reign's by. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxv, Whenas we found he would not here be pent, To him the better sort this friendly message sent. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. xxviii, Whenas the Palmer came in hall, Nor lord, nor knight, was there more tall. 1904 M. Hewlett *Queen's Quair* v. vi, Whenas he hesitated ... the came forward in a pretty, shy way.



**+b.** At which time; and then; whereupon: = When 6. *Obs.*

1853 in Fieldhouse *Revels Q. Mary* (1912) 159 Vntill the xxvijth dayes of the same monethe wen as the same..surr. ceased. 1632 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 254 Hugh had scarce continued one yeare of probation, when as the foresaid Abbot Wido departed the world. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 205 Where's that Other Duration or Succession before Time,...whenas 'tis confessed there was none.

**2.** a. Seeing that, inasmuch as: = When 9 a.

1555 Turner *Herbal* 1. B ij b, When as the greater Galanga is...without any...euell sauoure I wold rather take greate Galanga for Cyperus, then the comon calamus. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 57 How can he be a Doctor in his book.. whenas all he teaches..is but under..the correction of his patriarchal licenser? 1708 in *Swift's Letter-bk.* (1886) II. 240, I may well condole the bereavement, whenas so much personal friendship is therewithall vanished. 1809 C. W. Doyle *Evenings of Youth* i. Whenas my hand suspend.. from the blows of the chuprassi's shoe,...I took the oil from my chirag and anointed my back therewith.

**b.** In adversative sense: Whereas; = When 9 b.

1578 Timme *Calvin on Gen.* 95 They doe verie childishly erre, which'do consider originall sinne onely..in the inordinate motion of appetites: when as it fulfilleth the waste of reason and the whole hart. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, v. vii. 34 So Iudas kist his master, And cried all haile, when as he meant all harme. 1609 Bentley *Phal.* 272 He brings in this Dark Saying of Solon's, Death, out of Phanias; as if it were a point uncontrouerted, and allow'd by Plutarch himself. Whenas Plutarch barely mentions it. 1722 Sewall *Diary* I. 464 [He] Left me ill, brought the Goodness of God, I had little or no hurt, when as my Horse's Nose bled to it.

**Whence** (hwens), *adv., conj.* (*sb.*) Forms 1–5 whannes, whennes, (4 huannes, wannes, whenus, -ys), 4–6 whens, 5 qwens, 6 whense. *Sc.* quhens. [ME. *whannes*, *whennes*, f. *whanne*, Whenne + -*s* *suffix*. In all senses often preceded by redundant *from*, *fro* (From 15 n), occas. *of* (obs. or arch.).]

**I.** Interrogative uses. (Now replaced in ordinary colloquial speech by *where . . . from*.)

**1.** From what place? **a.** In a direct question.

*c* 1300 *K. Alis.* (Camb. MS.) 3 Whannes be ye, faire gumes, but her to londe beoþ icume. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xvi. 8 Whens comyst thou, and whidir goist thou? *c* 1430 *Syr Tryamour* 1. 1. 18 Quens here, maiden? for me thynketh thou [*ed. Copland* (*c* 1559) Of whens be you..?]. 1526 Tindale *John* vi 5 Whence shall we bye bread that these might eate? 1540 Bible, *Ecclesiastes* ii. v. N ij, From whense haue they brought hym hyther? 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xcvii. (1870) 192 Of whens be you? I am of England. 1596 Shaks. *Taming Shr.* II. i. 213 Of whence, I pray? *Tr. Ul.* 1. iii. 180, 1611 Speed *Theatre* v. 245 Whence he first fo'd, and whether am I born? 1720 Delany *Neuw fr. Parnass.* 19 From whence is this Fool? 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* III. Wks. 81 The Kid...Asked, who, and whence that fine woman. 1797 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 1147 Anch'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. *Ibid.* VIII. 150 Receive me, Strangers, whence, and what you are. 1872 De Vere *Ch. Christ's* We ..hardly know whence it (*sc.* the wind) comes, or whither it goes. 1801 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* v, He inquired whence the water came. 1886 J. Parker *Inner Life Christ* xxxi. There was no question put of whence I came or whither I was going.

**2.** *gen.* and *transf.* From what source, origin, or cause? **a.** In a direct question.

*c* 1300 *Prov. of Hend.* 58 (1859) 139 Loke hou crokede thu were þer,...Whannes [*earlier text* Fra wanne] comst hit sibbhis to bere be so heȝe? 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxi. 25 Of whennes was the baptym of Ioon? of heuene, or of men? 1526 Tindale *Luke* I. 43 Whens happeneth this to me, that the mother off my lorde sholde come to me? 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 9 From whence these Inventions, and this Change of Mind? 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, But whence ...have you concluded...that the writer is of our church? 1823 Fenimore Cooper *Mo.* xix, From whence have we derived that spiritual profit?

**b.** In an indirect question.

1485 Caxton *Chas. G.* 53, I am wel admeruayled fro whens thilke prouerbe is the whiche ye haue spoken so hastyly. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* viii. 28 There are some that can tell...from whence you borrow..your much learnt. of Corinthians. 1611 Bible *2 Pet.* i. 15 Change paint and new! Doctrin which we would know whence learnt. 1728 Prior *Solomon* I. 459 Ask Reason now, whence Light and Shade were form'd, and Colour. 1776 Cowper *Truth* 230 An humble trade shall show Whence springs the conduct that offends you so. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* vii, The laughter and mirth of her sisters, and Hannah, and Mary, she could not tell whence originating. 1859 Tennyson *Pelleas* 80 For so the words were flash'd into his heart He knew not whence or wherefore. 1869 F. Harrison in *Questions Aff. Paris* 253 No man can say from whence the greater danger to order arises.

**II.** Relative or conjunctive uses.

**3.** From which place; from or out of which. Also with ellipsis of *thence* or *thither* in the main clause.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxxiii. 1, I rered vp myn eyen in to the mountenyes: whennys [1388 fro whannes] shal come helpe to me. 1535 Coverdale *Deut.* xi. 10 The londe of Egipte, whence ye came out. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. li. 1 Loke vnto the rocke, whence ye are hewen. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 20 June 1641, A dreadfull cliff, from whence the country and river yeald a most incompanable prospect. 1726–46 Thomson *Spring* 580 Mossy rocks, whence on each hand the gushing waters play. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxiv, The little room...looked into a garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1887 Swinburne *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 141 The quarter from whence the following lucubration is addressed.

1598 Shaks. *Com. Err.* III. i. 37 Let him walke from whence he came. 1901 — *Two Gent.* II. iv. 122 Now tell me: how do all from whence you came? 1611 *Bible Job* x. 21 Let me alone that I may take comfort a little, Before I goe whence [Coverdale thyther, from whence] I shall not returne.

**+b.** as *compound relative*: From the place in which, from where. *poet. Obs. rare.*

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. ii. 124 Come thou home Rossillion, Whence honor but of danger winnes a scarre, As oft it looses all. 1607 — *Timon* I. i. 22 Our Poesie is as a Gowne [*printed* Gowne] which vses [*i.e.* oozes] From whence 'tis nourish'd.

**4.** *gen.* and *transf.* From which source or origin (as a product); from which cause (as a result); from which fact or circumstance (as an inference).

1598 Ascham *Schoolm.* i. (Arb.) 61 This opinion is not French, but plaine Turckishe: from whens, som French fetche moe faultes, than this. 1599 Spenser *F.* Q. II. iii. 1 Vertue...Whence springs all noble deeds and neuer dying fame. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 32 To lay down such Principles, as from whence it would follow, that any Real Entity in Nature did come from Nothing, and Something from Nothing. 1731–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 29 From whence I did then conclude...that Wine doth not inspire Politeness. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 115 Faith, and love, whence every fair action rises. The graces of a life that wins the skies. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 81 St. Ive...became a successful advocate, whence he is now commonly called the Breton lawyer, as their patron. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* 400 During its revolution a tip bows or nods successively to all points of the compass; hence the name nutation.

**III.** 5. as *sb.* (*nonce-use.*)

That from which something comes or arises; place of origin; source. 1832 Motley in *Corr.* (1889) I. 18, I was summoned before the Senate of the University, and then wrote my name and my whence and whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1869 Mrs. Whitney *Hitherto* xviii. 242 We start from some whence, and are expressed through to somewhere. 1875 R. White *Life in Christ* I. iv. 88 Uncertain as to the Whence and Whither of humanity.

**Whenceforth,** *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, Whence and Forth *adv.* 3.] **+a.** Forth from which. **b.** From which time onward: cf. *henceforth*. (With redundant *from*.)

1390 Spenser *Mutopot.* 316 The God of Seas..strikes the rockes with his three-forked mace; Whenceforth issues a warlike steed in sight. 1698 Harrington *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* 54 From whence the God proposeth unto the People no otherwise then by Hoses.

**Whenceforward,** *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, Whence and Forward *adv.*; cf. Henceforward, Thenceforward.] **a.** = prec. b. **b** From which place onward.

*a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Shropshire* (1662) III. 16 Whence forward and not before, his Forces deserved the name of an Army. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 4 6 From hence it is no great way to Woodford, whence forward the return journey is but a repetition of the outward.

**+Whence-from,** *adv. Obs.* [An inversion of *from whence*: cf. Hence-from, Thence-from.]

**1.** *interrog.* = Whence 1.

1530 Tindale *Answ. Moore. Frith. Prol.* 29 Whence-from did our Lord Iesus Christe and his Apostles drawe their doctrine, but out of Moses? 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Arke* 508 Whence-from shall it come? whither shall it come? ..That [etc.]. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* Pref., I have diuers times weighed with my selfe, whencefrom it should proceed [etc.].

**2.** *rel.* = Whence II.

1566 J. Smith *Old Age* (1676) 236 Whereunto all the blood ..doth naturally tend;..and whence-from it will in no wise depart.

**Whencesoever** (hwe·nssǒe·vəa), *adv., conj.* Also *poet.* -soe'er (-sǒe·ə·). [In early use as two words.] [f. Whence + Soever.] From whatever place or source; wherever . . . from. (Also with redundant *from*.)

1521 *Everyndefe's Pilgr.* (Camden) 27 This Cytie of Jherusalem..stoodeth vpon suche a grounde that from whens soever a man comnyth theder he must nede ascende. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 22 It is my therefore, my Harry Percie, Sent from my Brother Worcester: Whence soever. 1612 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 208 (2) Whencesoever the name came, it is antient. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg. Granadas* iv. ii, From whence-soe'r their Hate our Houses drew, I blush to tell you, I have none for you. 1799 Johnson *Rasselas* xxvii, Whencesoever you are. 1840 Manning *Serm.* i. (1848) I. 2 Whatsoever or whencesoever be the origin of Sin. 1887 Morris *Odyssey* I. 20 O Goddess, ..from whencesoever ye may, Gather these. 1902 G. H. Gray *Crit. Introd. O. T.* 200 He re-moulds his material, whencesoever derived.

**Whencever** (hwens,e·vəa), *adv.,conj.* Also *poet.* **whence'er** (hwens,e·ə·). Earlier as two words, **whence ever.** [See Ever *adv.* 8 c.] = prec.

1718 Prior *Solomon* II. 793 Whence ever I thy cruel Essence bring, I own thy Influence. 1888 Clough *Poems, Progem. Myst. Fall* xii, A thing, whencever it came, To be forgotten and considered not. 1899 Hyde *Donlon iv.* 119 The enthusiasms which, from whencever they blow, are the fresh winds of the soul.

**+Whencoward,** *adv. Obs. rare*–1. [f. Whence + -ward: cf. Thenceward.] *From* whence.

1701 Rav *Creation* II. (ed. 3) 366 In those Ponds from whenceward they steered their course.

**Whenoh,** variant of Quench II.

**Whene,** obs. f. Queen, Wain, When.

**Whenever** (hwen,evəa), *adv., conj.* (In

early use as two words.) Also *poet.* **whene'er** (hwenie·ə). [*f.* WHEN + EVER (see below).]

**I.** As relative adverb or conjunction : cf. WHEN 4.

**1.** [EVER *adv.* 8 c.] At any time when; every time that, as often as. In a qualifying (conditional) clause, the meaning becomes : At whatever time, no matter when. Also with the idea of time weakened or lost (cf. WHEN 8) : In any or every case in which.

*c*1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 354 As þe popis clerkis feynen þat þei done miracls whanne evere þei synggen, moo and more woundirful þan ever dide Crist or his apostlis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Romanorum* 145 Ser, on to him logaynge, When euer it plesse yow, I shall lie your gyde. *c*1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 2 Whanne euer he takiþ vpon him for to..correpte his Cristen neisbour. 1599 *Rep. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 293/2 Landis .. that vall happen to cum in the Kingis handis .. throu the said Henrys decess quhenevir it sall happin. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 13 When euer you haue need, You may be armed and appointed well. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 771 His doom is fair, That dust I am, and shall to dust returne : O welcome hour whenever ! 1678 *Veg. Man's Call*, p. xiv, So might you welcom your death with pleasant smiles when ere it comes. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* IV. xxv, You may, at a minute's warning, send them over England whenever your humour best fits. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ix, Whenever an English-man would cry 'All right !' an American cries 'Go ahead'. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* § 95 Rogues and lying care instantly to be dragged out of the way whenever discovered. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xiv, She still had access to the Emperor whenever she desired. 1901 *Q. Gard. Mag.* 28 Jan. 163/1 When the official story ..is published, whenever that may be, minor details .. will require correction.

**2.** [EVER 8 c.] At the very time or moment when ; as soon as. (Now only in *Sc.* and *Irish* use.)

1603 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* VIII. 138 He gave me a good supper last night when ever I came within his doors. 1800 *Monthly Mag.* IX. 323/2 We will go to our dinner whenever the clock strikes two. 1859 *Jas. Gilf. Arts* 58 One-third of the matter is introduced at first ; whenever this is melted, the second third is thrown in. 1875 A. WILSON *Abode of Snow* xxxviii. 360 And whenever my tent was set up I went to sleep in view of the wind.

**II. 3.** As interrogative adverb, an emphatic extension of *when*. (Properly two words, and usually so written : see EVER 8 d.) Now *colloq.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, Whene're did Juba, or did Portius, show A Virtue that has cost me a Hesitancy ? *Mod.* When ever did I say that ? I waited and waited, and wondered when ever he would come.

**†Whenne, when,** *adv., conj. Obs.* Forms : **a.** *t* **hwanone, 3 hwanene, whaneno, wanens, hweonene, wheonene, wenene, whonone, whonne, wonne, (wonne-with).** *β.* **3 hwenne, 3 hweonne, whone, wanne, 3–5 whenne, 4** *Sc.* **quhene.** *γ.* **1 hwanon, -an, -un, hwonan, -on, 3 hwannen, whannen, -in, wannen, wanen.** *δ.* **1 huona, hwona.** *ε.* **4 wen, wan,** *north.* **quen,** *Sc.* **quhen, 4–5 when.** See also WHYNE. [OE. *hwanone, hwanon, hwonan* = OS. *hwanon, -en,* whence (*hwānanen* from somewhere or other), OHG. (*h*)*wanana, wanān, wannēn* (MHG. *wannen* = *sō wannen sō* whencesoever) : a derivative of the interrog. stem *hwa-* WHO, WHAT, as HEN, HENNE (= hence) is of *hi-* HE, and THENNE, THEN (= thence) of *ba-*.]

**1.** *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

*Beowulf* 313 Hwanon ferigeað ge fætne sciþhas ? *Ibid.* 2403 Hæfde þa ærfremen, hwanan sio fæhþ aras. *c* 888 *Ælfred's Boeth.* v. § 1 Hwanne he wære ærest cume ? *c*950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 43 *Unde hoc mihi ut veniat mater domini mei ad me*, huonu (*Hatton.* hwona ; *Rush.* hwonu ; *Aug.* hwanu ; *Hatton* hwanun) me þeos gesyne mueder drihtnes mines to me ? *a* 1000 *Cosp. Ni. a l. iv.* (Thwaites) 2 Hwanone scealdest þu specan on Hebreisc ? *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Se warni..hat hi..understande wel hirene fasliche þa þeknydes of sinne, hwannen and hwanne hie cumen. *c* 1205 LAY. 1430 Whonene [*c* 1275 Wanene] hea se cnihtes ? *Ibid.* 1603 He..bahte hwon ssiggen wunnen heo weoren. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4295 Ac ȝet ich nim wanne [*v.r.* wanne] hi kome þe hrut nou gonne to fle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 122 To..me..To whenne, whenne that he cam.

**b.** Qualified by *ever* : = WHENCESOEVER.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 156 He which was a Bacheler, Mi fader, is now mad a Pier ; So whenne as ever that I cam, An Ealles dawhter now I am. *c* 1440 *Promptorium* 497 Where [*v.r.* when] he euer come or what he is.

**Whenne, Whennes, -us,** obs. ff. WHEN, WHENCE.

**Whennes.** *nonce-wd.* [*f.* WHEN + -NESS.] Condition in respect of time.

1710 DE FOE *Fem. Public Credit* 6 It has no Whenness, or Whereness, Scite, or Habit.

**Whens, whense,** obs. ff. WHENCE.

**Whense** (hwensəs), *adv., conj.* Forms : see WHEN and SO. [ME. *hwensę*, representing OE. **hwā hwanne swā* : see WHEN and SO *adv.* 17 *b.*]

**†1.** = WHEN 4. *Obs.*

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Ic þe dede of liureisun hwense god almihtin wule windwin þet er wes ihorschen. *c* 1205 LAY. 15054 Wonne so ich heo worð faren, Hengest eow wul makien kare. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Se ȝet moten chaungen hem hwense he euer willeð. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxvii, Quhen so my teris dropen on the ground,..the lyuill birdis smale Sysmith thaire song. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 522 Quhen sche thrid ȝeiris cruell murthour wes committit,.. nevir ceisit he of his wickit..pretense.

**2.** = WHENCE 1. *arch.*

*c* 1200 ORMIN 1466 Whannse þu forsiþfest tuss þin wrahle & ec þin wæchle, Ase þannse lukeȝst to þin Godd Godd unnlike i þine þæwess. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 861 When so we sern ony thing þat may fall vnto flesch likyng, Thinke we god waites vs weterly ! *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 2540 in *Macro Plays* 153 It is good, whanso þe wynde blowis, A man to haue sum-what of his owe. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 He sal haue the fredome of hoslary quhowne as it is sufficient. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 830 Whenso loue of letters did inspire Their gentle wits. 1866 ROLLE *Ps.-xxxviii. Hymns, etc.* 216 Whenso that battle seemes against vs, remember the legend. 1879 BLACKIE *Homer & Iliad* I. 1 Whenso the Achæans remember the legend.

**Whensoever** (hwensoe·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Also **pout. whenso'er** (-ē·əɹ). [f. prec. + EVER *adv.*; cf. SOEVER.] = WHENEVER 1.

*c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 377 That whensoever the appul be ȝete, Thorwhe deth with lyfe he shulde forlete. 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 632 (T.) ..whom-so-ever he wolde, euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth..hit. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij b, Whensoeuer and whersoeuer they se any hawkes. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 28 b, Ye shall haue power with you all wayes : and when soeuer ye will, ye maye do them goode. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 158 What! you banish'd, I beseech him to call vpon me, That by mine handy-worke he may be full, Whensoeuer he's conuented. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm., James iii.* 16 Wks. 1727 V. 307 Whensoever the Romans conquered an Enemy, it was indeed the General himself only, who was said to triumph. 1825 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 20 Whensoever Mr. Southey issues from the press, we find him arrayed in a different costume. 1829 SIR J. *Peter Pall* 318 v. x. 2 Whenever he should please, He could speak of locks and trees In poetic metre. 1853 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. ii. 57 The bishop first blessed the attire with which those ministers were to be arrayed whensoever they had to go about their holy office.

*b. ellipt.* with loss of relative force : At any time.

1604 SHAKS. *Haml.* v. ii. 210 (Qo. 2) If his fitnes speakes, mine is ready : now or whensoeuer, prouided I be so able as now. 1652 tr. *Life Father Paul Sarpi* 10 Either rising from the board, or from his bed at midnight, or whensoever applying himself wholly to the subject.

**Whensomever** (hwensŏmje·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Now *dial.* or *vulgar.* [See SOMEVER 2.] = prec.

*a* 1485 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula* etc. 61 When-somever he pacient feleb tykling or tykyng or pryckyng in be iure. 1597 *Cert. Causes* 158 Whensomever any Bishop vacate the case shall require. 1558 Q. KENNEDY *Compend. Treat. in Wedrone Soc. Misc.* (1844) 93 Quhensumever questioun or scrupill sall ryse. 1598 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot. Mem. Gen.* 547 The next elegiee I expecte is some violent fryars and Jesuites inciting..the Catholicke Princes against heretik ks. ..Which whensomever I see I confidentlie believe you shall see ye warre in France. 1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 112 You have my consent, sir, to marry the girl whensomever it is convenient.

**Whst, Whsoder, Whsoever,** obs. ff. WHETHER, WHEEL.

**Wher,** obs. f. *were*, pa. t. indic. pl. of BE *v.* ; obs. f. WHERE ; obs. or dial. contr. f. WHETHER.

**Wherble,** obs. form of WARBLE.

**Where** (hwēə), *adv.* and *conj.* Forms : **a. 1–2 hwær, (1 huoer, hwoer, wær, uər), 1–3 hwer, 1–4 huer, (3 wher(e, wer), 3–5 wer, 3–6 wher, 4 hwere, 4–6 were, 6 whear,** *Sc.* **wher, 6–7 whearo, 7 (9** *dial.*) **wheer.** *β.* **4– where ;** *Sc.* **and** *north. dial.* **5 quer, 4–5 quere, 5 qwer(e, qwher, 6 quheir, 7 quher(e.** *β.* **1–3 hwar, (1 hwarə), 2–4 war, (3 wahr, 3war, 3ware), 3–5 ware, (8** *Sc.*) **whare, (8–9** *Sc.*) **whar, 4 hware, 5 whaire, 6–7 whair, (9** *Sc.*) **whair, 9** *Sc.* **whaur ;** *Sc.* **and** *north. dial.* **3–4 quar, 4–5 quare, 4–6 quhar, quhare, 5 qwar, qware, qwhar, qwhare ; 5–6 quair, 5–8 quhair, 6–7 quharo.** *γ.* **3 wor, quor, quuor, 4 hwore, quore, 4–5 whore,** *Sc.* **whor.** *δ. n. Sc.* **6 for, 9 faur** (*Irish* **far**). [OE. *hwær, hwār*, corresp. to OFris. *hwēr*, OS. *hwār* (MLG. *wār*, LG. *waar, woor*, MDu., Du. *waar*), OHG. (*h*)*wār, wā*, MHG. *wā*, G. *wo* (*wār* surviving in G. *warum*). A disyllabic OE. form *hwǣre* (ME. *whēre*) also existed ; cf. *þǣra* there. Forms with short vowel appear in OE. *hwar, hwara*, (ME. *whar, whare*), OS. *hwar*, OHG. *wara*, MHG. *ware, war* whither, ON. *hvar* (Sw. *var*, Da. *hvor*), Goth. *hwar* where.

Derived from the interrog. stem *ywa-*, as HERE is from *yi-* HE, and THERE from *þa-* ; cf. Lith. *kur* where, L. *cūr* (:—**quēr*) why, Skr. *kdr-hi* when.]

**I.** Interrogative uses.

In dependent clauses formerly sometimes followed by *that* : see *That conj.* 6. For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I. *.

**1.** In or at what place (region, country, etc.)? **a.** In direct questions.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xli. 4 [xlii. 3] Hwer is god din ? *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* iii. 9 God .. cwæð : Adam, hwar eart þu ? *c* 1178 *Coll. Hom.* 241 Þis is hare bread, hwer scule we win finden ? *c* 1200 ORMIN 19734 Lef maȝȝstre, whærre biggesst tuȝ ? *c* 1205 LAY. 4454 Whær beo ȝe mine cnihtes, whar beo ȝe mine kempen ? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 356 Eu, nu, quor ert, adam, adam ? *Ibid.* 1321 Quar sal ben taken De offrende þat ðu wil maken ? *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1123 Caym were es he broþer abell ? 1386 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 9 The Lord God clepide Adam, and seide to hym, Where art thou ? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat stanse is it at ye study on, quare stekis it in beuyn ? 1488 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Arms* (S.T.S.) 6 The accounde questioune that is to say quhare was bataill first fundyn. *c* 1560 *Tomneley Myst.* xiii. 402 *Primus pastor.* But I will go before, let vs mete. *Vjus pastor*, where ? *Iijus pastor.* At the crokyd thorne. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lvi. 13 Vhair go they then ? 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 50 Where were ye Nymphs when the remorseless deep Clos'd o're the head of your lov'd Lycidas ? 1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 285, I have been preaching this morning, and am going to dine,—where ?—in the afternoon. 1858 P. EGAN *Pilgr. Canterb.* 259 Where is the place am I ? 1868 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, My dearest Edith, .. where on earth have you been ? 1896 BARRIE *Sentim. Tommy* iii. 34 Where have you that name ?

**b.** In dependent clauses.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* IV. x. § 3 Ǽsecgað me no Romane, cwæð Orosius, hwonne þæt seowuðe oþþe hwara [etc.]. 1297 *Bridl. Hous.* 241 Þine ne ne wite nouȝt hwer þu eart. *c* 1300 *Prin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Se here8, ware heo com to ure heleðe. *a* 1340 *Ureisun* 106 *In O. E. Hom.* I. 107 Ful wel he wot hwer we wunnie and hwat we dude. *c* 1390 *Leg. Lyc.* 10 ȝee He wuste ȝware he rode lai. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 137 Hit anl be reddynn panne. How he was born and quen and ware [*v.r.* quare, whare]. *Ibid.* 17288 *e* 223 Þai haf taken him ware [*v.r.* quare] þai wil. In þe wote whare. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 65, I ne wyste in þis worlde quere þat he were. 1401 *Paston Lett.* II. 17, I have knowledge quere the shippes at Masshow and Masshow *Arthur* x. lvii. 511 Yet wold not sire Launcelot telle me certeynte of you where I shold fynde you. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 127 Where lyeth your drawe, I will pleasure to knowe. 1645 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 56 Ye will certainly knaw whair to find wa with the Regimentis. 1648 CROMWELL *Let. to Tr. Cromwell* in *Carlyle*, You may send to Colonel Herbert, ..who will certainly acquaint you where he is. 1784 RAMSAY *Fession* vii, I...Spaird, quhair he had been sae lang ? 1786 GOWER *Eph. to T. Hill* 47 An emp'ror, a wise man—No matter where, in China or Japan. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, You did not tell him where I lived, you knave ? 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, Little does it signify to us, when the soul has departed, where this poor body lies. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* xv, You come from no one knows where ; you live no one knows how.

(*b*) In dependence on an int. or vb. of looking : *Lo, see, look, behold where* (he comes) = Here or there (he comes) ! *arch.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 5099 Leo wær here þa nemne he þa lutle lanne swa longe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3117 Lowe where is a lomb ! a fayre wiȝtye lomb ! lo ! lo ! 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. i. 7 See where she comes. 1593 *Hen. VI*, C. v. 50 My Lords, looke where the sturdie Rebell sits. 1605 — *Mach.* v. viii. 55 Behold where stands Th' Vsurpers cursed head. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* II. 1. 1 Behold the Princely Barque in loosest Pride, With all her Guardian Fleet, Adorns the Tide ! 1798 *Gray Spring* i, Lo ! where the heavy bow'd Hours, Pair following Pair, The rosy-bosom'd Horæ, Fair Spring display. 1798 HOOD *Quaker's Courtship.* ii. 29 Lo ! where the Soldier walks, alas ! With Scars received on foreign Grounds.

*c. colloq.* with *from* or *to* at the end of the sentence or clause : *where . . . from ?* = whence ? *where . . . to ?* = whither ?

1576–78 H. BROOKE *Fool Quat.* (1809) II. 103, I must go suddenly, but where to ? 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, Where on earth the husband came from. 1846 *Jan Hay's Knt. on Wheels* xiii, Where he has been had to be told. 1847 *Jan Hay's Knt. on Wheels* xiii, Where he has been had to be told.

**2.** In general and fig. senses : In what position, situation, or circumstances ? at what point or stage (of action, speech, or thought) ? in what passage or part (of a writing) ? in what particular ? in what respect ? in what ? also (contextually, with *get*, etc.) from what source ?

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Aslæȝ him, hwat leo ordre, & hwar he findes in boli write refuȝiað, þen is hali freond in eiȝe. James cannonid spistle ? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 892 & þan sunfulle ic helpe al so Yor ic him teche hwar is wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2600 Quat sal I now of hir say, Quar sal I ende, quat þai þai ne wist war þai war stad. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Hys angyll..telleth hym redely wher and how oft he hade don anys. 1532 *Rolls Parl.* III. 116/1 Wherby knowledge of orations and poetes I had all moste forgoten where I was. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. v. 15 Where haue they this mettell? Is not their Clymate foggy, raw, and dull ? 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 31 O, I know where you are. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. vii. 28 If there were no opposition where were the triall of an unfaind goodnesse and magnanimity ? 1728 *Law Serious C.* iv, You must not deceive your-self with saying, Where can be the harm of clothes ? 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xxxii, 'But where is the use of going on,' I asked. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xvii, 'I see. You were attracted by the ancient inscriptions ?' 'Naturally ; without inscriptions, where are you ?' 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 47 That is all very well; but where do I come in ?

**3.** To what place ? Now, in ordinary use, taking the place of WHITHER ; cf. HERE *adv.* 7, THERE 8. (Formerly freq. with BECOME, q.v. 1 b.)

*c* 1000 *Wanderer* 92 Hwær cwom mearr ? hwær cwom mago ? *c* 1205 LAY. 21913 Wær scullen we bicumen ? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13728 Quar sir þai cumnen, bin wiþerwins þai þe had nummen ? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7492 Þat þrostel sagh he no more ! Hyt become, he ne wyst whore. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 166 Were þere a belle on here beyȝ ..Men myȝte wite where þei went and awei renne !

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi iv 846 Where ne al my noble knyghtes become? 1489 Harrison *England* i xi 47/1 *in Holinshed*, Whose eies are so blinded with the thickenesse of that element, that they cannot see where to become. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iii. 1 166 Where shall we go? 1612 — *Wint. T.* iv iv 304 *Aut* Get you hence, for I must goe Where it fits not you to know. *Dorc.* Whether? *c* 1708 *T.* Ward *Eng. Ref.* i (1710) 86 His Soul departed, God knows where. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 289 We shall now mention where every one of those Entries lead. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iii iii P 8 Unconscionable dogs! Where do they expect to go when they die? 1860 Dickens *Un. comm. Thief* iii, Who departed this life I don't know when, and whose coaches are all gone I don't know where.

**4.** In rhetorical questions having the effect of emphatic negations (cf. What A 3) e.g. *where is* — ? implying or suggesting '— has vanished' or 'there is no — anywhere', *where is not* = everywhere (cf. What not)

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxv, Where synt nu þæs Welondes ? in, oððe hwa wat nu hwær hi waron ? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vii 25 Ac ewiþ se halend, hwæt is eower geleaf? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1083 Hwere mahe I finden nu to bey Su hnuelok is, or so sley? *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 86 Where is bestow cevir, þat lordis was of all? *c* 1500 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2035 Where is now my Welfulle and my wantes estate? 1567 *Gutte Poems Reform* iv 374 Quhair sall men find steddfast Stabilnes? 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 34 All went to wrack, and England, Scotland, Flanders, Germany, Polony, and where not. 1790 Jane Austen *Henry & Emma* 28 And where is Emma's Joy, if Henry flies? 1842 Mrs. Hemans *Vis. Italy* I iii 49 As to pictures, where could I find foolscap enough to contain the multitude I have seen? 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* i v, Where would be the good of Mrs. Boffin and me quarrelling over it? 1906 Hice *Hospitals* 54 vi 334 Where shall we find him [sc. the perfect reformer] except in the Son of Man?

**II.** Relative and conjunctive uses.

Formerly often followed by *that* (= What conj. 6).

* In senses referring to physical position.

**5.** as compound relative, or as correlative to *there* (implied and sometimes expressed, cf. What C.*, When 4): In or at the (or a) place in or at which, at the part at which

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt vi 21 *Ubi enim est thesaurus tuus ibi est et cor tuum*, ðær ðær forðon is mid ðin Sinc, ðær is & hearta ðin ] *Wer. Hatton* I 138 Þei souhte anoher where þei myhte 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1725) I. 22 Per where he was schotte. *c* 1400 tr *Secr. Secr.*, *Gov. Lordsh* 89 A hors þat hath ben hurte þerwhere he dwelleþ. 1483 *Acta Audit* in *Acta Dom Conc* II Introd 102 The Lordes ordeyns that letters be writin to the schireffis quhar the said landis lis 1548 Hall *Chron.* Henry VI 182 (Bancke *Philotimus* E), Wher God buildes a church the deuill builds a chappell *a* 1592 Greene *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII 33 Where the sea is most deepe, there is most calme 1639 ] Clarke *Parsons* 48 He is where he would be 1779 Cowper *A Late*, '*Where Humber*'. Where Humber pours his rich commercial stream, There dwelt a wretch, who breath'd but to blaspheme 1820 Crabbe *Borough* II 45 Where the common eye Can but the bare and rocky bed descry. There science loves to trace her tribes minute 1859 Rogers *Italy* I 82 Sweetness pleases where it might ennoble one of the sweetest landscapes 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* iv, I shall stay where I am

**b** To the (or a) place in or at which (= *thither where*).

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* John vi 32 *Cum nemniset vti eral resuit*, Miððy cuome ðær hi hiuer uara se hrelend ] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i (*Peter*) 100 Þo he prince vi sprik he bare, þat quhare þam war, þat war 1500 *Pol. Verses Boccace & Sydnacke* (Trajan) *N.*, They fire as a lefe on the tre That turnes where the wynd wylbe *c* 1586 C. Tyes *Pembroke Pr.* Lxxxvii iii, Ma veremus I see them going Where mulberries are growing 1672 Milton *P. R.* iii 244 I will bring thee where thou soon shalt quit Those rudiments 1697 Dryden *Virgil* xi 44 He took his Way, Where, new in Death, mourned Pallas by *Mod.* I'll take you where we shall get a better view

**6** Introducing a clause as obj of a verb or prep., or as predicate = a or the place in (or to) which

Originating in, and not always distinguishable from, the use in indirect questions (1 b)

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt vii 20 *Ielitus hominis non habet ubi caput reclinet*, Nis mannes sunu ne hafeð hwer [*Rushw* wær] heafud aclynsiæs ] 1382 Wyclif but mannes sone hath not wher he reste his heued ] *c* 1400 Orrin 1293 Pezt tokenn þam þer Kyngnenn Crist Off where he was at hame 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Anon. Lord's Brief Descr.*, Not hauing where they durst at any time rest. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* iii iv 27 From where the dyr out of the sea doth spoile Vntill the cleuene of the Ilsenig 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* ii xvii 170 The Jewes will not quite empty any place of water, that on the Sabbath these horse soules may there come to coole them. 1680 Goldsm *Vicar W.* v, Within about twenty paces of where we were sitting. 1706 — *Hermit* 3 And guide my lonely way To where yon 1 spet o'ercast the vale With buoyant skie 1876 Tennyson *Harold* v ii, I can see it From where we stand. 1882 Bryant *All Saints* (1898) 43 He showed her where the liquor stood to ferment

**7.** as simple relative. **a** With antecedent *place*, or some ab. denoting a place or receptacle; introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense In or at which.

*c* 950 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc* 27 Al wat hi kam over þo huse was ure louerd was. 1390 Gower *Conf* III 124 He had his man to gon and spire A place wher ache myhte abyde *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1666 And honest place for to be in, Wher þai may sit with-outyn dyn 1657 *Trat. Ebor* (Surtees) II 207 All Saynt Nicholas euter before the stall quer I sitt at mease. 1530 in *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I 159, I sell lesd the to the place for the freis sewwyt the. 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas VI* (1814) III 23/2 Tua Superintendentis, and Ministeris of that Prouince quhair the benefice lyis. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn* xlviii 2 In bruthonnes wher thou hyds thy self and hants 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv 732 The unhappy Climes, where Spring was never known. 1788 Picken *Poems* 97 At yon burnie ] Whar the shinan peebles lie 1838 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* xiv, I hastened to the black hole where I'm was confined 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* iii, Looking for all the world like some great dog that has entered a house where dogs are forbidden

**b.** Introducing an additional statement, the sense being complete without the relative clause In or at which place; and there.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 4540 Vnto be vrecched werld to ging, Quare þou sal thinc þou lines to lang 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v 354 To Sanct Androws he come Quhar the bischop Reynyt him 1440 *Arthur & Arth* xxxvii, By þat on plumtons land a palais was pyte, Were neuer freke opone folde had fouzten biforne. 1526 *Liber Pasf* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, I hepr prokopius on deserts, where god yeuyth they fayth and hope *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlvii (ed. Laing) 2 Then to the Downs, quair that we rud a space 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 72 Russet lawns, and fallows Gray, Where the nibling flocks do stray 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xiv, We were shewn into a little back room, where there was only a venerable old man 1820 Keats *Lamia* i 360 A splendid palace, Where many a mighty guest 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, I have been in America, where, if anywhere, the people have it their own way

**8.** as simple relative (= Which 2 a). In or to (a place) to which, whither.

13 *Cursor M* 1134 (Gott) Wid all þu sal bihalden vile, Quar þu wendis in euile 1508 *Kg. Privy Seal Scot* I 250 Quhar the burdale and I pass in the reirme of Ingland or vther partis quhere ples them 1594 Shaks. *Rich III*, i iii 108 He is in heauen, where thou shalt neuer come 1655 in *Nichitas Pap* rr (Camden) III 209 A letter which hee undertooke to transmit where it was directed 1774 Chesterf. *Lett* I 2 Holland, where you are going, is, by far, the finest of the Seven United Provinces 1891 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers* xxvi, I am looked up for help where he had always been looked to 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* i, Him I am going to meet in this place where I am standing

**9** In generalized or indef. sense In, or to, any (or every) place in, or to, which; wherever

The indef sense is more explicitly expressed by the addition of *ever*, *so*, *soever* see Wherever, Whereso, Where-soever, *where-so-ever* under Where adv.

*c* 1200 Orrin 5304 Whære o þande summ itt iss Pitt me in off ! sidepell spellenn 1205 ] Lay 331 ? Leie we sum þe mon inde Cumeð ofte 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 6617 Where þat he come ledde þe broþte 13 *Cursor M* 6136 (Gött) M is a scrifisour þwerd inuild, Quar-euer he wil he sal him schriue 1377 *Langl. Piers Pl. (B)* xii 70 None leues him be way to wende whore he will 1395 *F. E. Wills* 8 Ware that euer I deyje 14 in *Ywaine & Gawin* 1 Where-so euer þou wyghtly ga3e Gen Beowe derfenesse ageyn owre mercifulle 1558 Hudgift, Where you will, *wishlist* 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iv v 30 Where he arraines, he muses On his owne rage, and that infects my sence 1738 Cowper *Table T.* 288 Sing where you please 1868 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii viii, I won't stand in your way So where you like ** In general and figurative senses

**10.** as compound relative. **a.** In the phrase or part (of a writing) in which; at, or to, the point or stage (of action, speech, etc.) at which

*c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (verse) 206 In his godspel, whare he says þus 'Nolo mortem peccatoris' *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St Aug* Prol, In be first capitle Ad Romanos, where he saiþ þat þe flesch is euer contrarie to þe spirit 1580 R. Parsons *Brief Disc.* 40 I throughe out the whole tract, where Iniokes are forbidden, they translate it Images 1620 Hacket *Abp. Williams* ii 50 But we must remember we left 1661 in *Extr St. Papers rel Friends* Ser II (1912) 126, I marked the looke where there is a passage full of treason 1900 *Academy Mar* 205/2 Where Powell and Pemberton pany most fiercely from the Radicals was in his steadfast patriotism

**b.** In or the case in which (often nearly = When 8); in the circumstances, position, or condition in which; in that respect or particular in which (sometimes with implication of contrast or opposition cf. 12 b)

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V 227 Were þe scrour of þe watir faile le here men schulde defende hem in be land by help of be see 1513 Douglas *Æn.* ix Prol. 96 Quhar I wes in Troy 1526 Pilgr. Perf (W. de W. 1531) b, I hepr prokopius on deserts, where god yeuyth they fayth and hope *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlvii (ed. Laing) 2 Then to the Downs, quair that we rud a space 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 72 Russet lawns, and fallows Gray, Where the nibling flocks do stray 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xiv, We were shewn into a little back room, where there was only a venerable old man 1820 Keats *Lamia* i 360 A splendid palace, Where many a mighty guest 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxviii, I have been in America, where, if anywhere, the people have it their own way

**11.** as simple relative. **a** Introducing a defining or restrictive clause (cf. 7 a). In or at which, † *sarely* with person as antecedent, In whom.

*c* 1290 *Melusine* 308 She considered ing the daunger where lothe she & her people had be 1385 Jas VI *Lett Francis* (Aib) 53 I knowe þis chiburde, quahar wilful err ar lyis 1593 Shaks *Rich II*, v ii 5 *York* Where did I leaue? *Duch* At the last withdrawne vpon Barkley, Where rude mis gouern'd hands, Throw dust on King Richards head 1622 Dryden *St Francisnavier* 858 There is no life so regular, where particular Actions don't sometimes exceed the generel habit and con ti 1792 *Trial Hr Comm* XLVII 641/1 In a Case where the Officers had broken into a Red Number 1889 W. Black *Autobogr* I xxi 284 It is difficult to put one's finger on the precise spot where confidence merges into conceit

**b.** Introducing an additional statement (cf. 7 b). In or at which, and there, hence, † whereupon, and then

1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B v 283 Who so leueth nought þis be soth loke 11 be Sauter Clowe, In *Exitus tsrael de*, where I meene trouthe 1483 ] Cath *Angl* (Pr 1a), With that anon ryche she toke vp a mese of golde, & þerin soon þe birdes and slight 1560 Shakes *Two Gent* i 2 29 To be in loue, where scorne is bought with groues. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 3) The Agent for the Shaw had much reason to call a Banquet where he shewed a hearty Entertainment. 1694 tr. *Martens's Voy Spitzbergen in Acc Ser Trade Voy* ii 228 The seamen let them alone until the Whale be killed, where they take him without any trouble. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 172 The controversial field, Where deeds, always foul of, yet seem to yield 1832 Scott *Anne* Introd, The York where Trapdeg, a play accounted very valuable to Shakspeare, where a Rake throws his wife down stairs

**12** † **a.** It being the case that, in view of the fact that, forasmuch as, inasmuch as = Whereas 2; cf. When 9 a. (Chiefly in legal or other formal documents) *Obs.*

1444 *Rolls of Parll* III 650/1 First, where the forsaid Lord the Roos compleyneth hym by a Bille, surmetting on the same Robert [etc.] *c* 1450 *Gowtbow Reg* 25 Wonen of 1483 same, in redy 71.8 Quh ar the said Schir Johne is of grete vnderstonding, where it is not her modyr longe 1548–9 (Mar) *Ist Com Prayer* Pref, And where hereto for 1. There hath been great diuersitie in vsyng this seruice Now from henceforth, [etc.] 1562–3 *N. C. Wills* (Surtees) II 36 Where that Hodsle the smythe hathe gyven to me his eldest sonne Christopher as my owne, I will he be put vnto the schoole 1593 *Acts Privy Council Mary's Reign* App v 336 Where it is considered 13 the Maior, Sheriffs and citizens of this cite how greatly the cite is impoverished 1637 *Bk Com Pr Scotl* (1912) 2 Where the Psalmes [*also* Whereas] the Cate psalme is diuided into xxij portions, it is so ordered [etc.]

† **b** = In adversative sense While on the contrary = Where 9 b, Whereas 3 *Obs* (or merged in 10 b)

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* III 358 It ford þ Cristis privy lefe, þei where Cristene men shulden be free, now þei ben maad to lyve a prest or a monk 1548 Hall *Chron.* Edw. I 60 Here all that I wanne Where here before I was a threfty man 1548 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 62 Purple in those dayes was for the wearyng of none but kynges & princes, wher now it is commonly vsed of euery woman 1596 *Edw. III* iv iii, And, where 1 fore I loued these as Villeins Here after He embrace these as my selfe 1668 Rolle *Worthyn. relation iust Cause of Swerne*, that the Wood was worth 40s. where it was dear of 13s. 4d. 1681 in Pepys *Diary & Corr* iii App, All Repiist s bases are ingable, where in my of Scotch Bases are not

**III.** Indefinite and substantival uses

**13.** With preceding qualifying words (*one*, *other*, etc.), forming adverbial phrases In or at (one, another, etc.) place

Chiefly as second element in compounds see Altwhere, Anywhere, Anywhen, Elsewhere, Everywhere, Nowhere, Somewhere, Otherwhere, Somewhen, Whensoever

1508 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II 3 2 Suth it is, and scene in all our quhyne, Ye crully thig b t for a tyme may lest 1526 Pilgr. *Perf* xiii 33 For it cannot be that a prophet may die any where save where he is borne 1528 — *Diet Chr. Man* 74 We must store vp some warre one where or a nother 1559 Sir Thomas in Cullinson *Hist Penrith* (1867) I 58 They haueing vsed vnder many a where 1586 C. Tyes *Ecclesiast* I viii 20, How many where di the concert Well wished grounds to thusty sand? 1650 Austens *Ultima* (1652) 286 His Apostles are scattered in the garden, his gethsemane the Cave of his blood how many where! *a* 1694 Tillotson *Serm* VII. 108 Though they be set by active, yet they can be but one where at once 1720 The *Lost Coll Tr* I 1 1 1

*Darling* i. i, While he roams abroad,...Spying the where and whither of his foes.

**IV.** 15. In senses of branches I and II, in comb. with advs. and preps.

For history of this use see HERE *adv.* 16† of THERE 19.

2. With advs., as † *whereforth*; **whereaway**, whither, in what direction. **b.** With preps.: = what or which († *occas.* whom), as *whereagainst, wherealong, whereamong(st,* † *whernnigh, whereover, whereround,* † *wherewithout.* See also main words, WHEREABOUT to WHEREWITHAL.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxii. 15, I will gyve you a mouth and wysdom †were agaynste all youre aduersaryes shall not be able to speake. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 213 That holy, where against My grained Ash an hundred times hath broke, 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Gvzmane d'Alf.* I. 251, I was... driven to seeke out some Wall, where-against to leane. 1768 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* I. ii. vii. 201 The organs or other channels *whereby* they pass. 1782 MURPHY *Knight, Roue, & Af.* v. 55 Religion, Where among he named the Navy, that nailed Christe on the Crosse. 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* 160 Isabella fell into abundance of teares, whereamong she mingled many sighes and groanes. 1598 FLORIO *Prologo* iv. xxviii. 483 Growing almost as high as the wheat or corne .."whereamongst it groweth. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 67 And †*quhair* ewe, quhither to levin or hell. 1824 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. III. 84 He daunert on, ne'er thinkin' wharaway. 1867 SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk., Where away?* in what bearing? a question to the man at the mast head to designate in what direction a strange sail lies. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 212/2 Much pondering whereaway The Northeast's Passage lay. *c* 1290 *St. Cuthbert* 77 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 361 He hire mige wynne in fore, †*wharforth* he wende a-wei in snowe ne in pe flore. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XVII. 230 Ac bote weskes pou myght wite wher forþ he walkep. 1842 *Ingk Puffe* 16 in *Hazl. E. P. P.* IV. 315 The shockt mount, whereforth a Mouse did clime. 1658 BURTON *Comm. Hin. Antoninus* 90 Our learned Antiquary therefore hath shewed very good judgement in observing the ground, *†where*-nigh it stood of yore. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 72 It was never seen that any countre..did receive welle Whenever many nobles offices.. was reigny[n]g..over theym. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 73 Whereof the holie Ghost hath made them ouerseers. 1853 T. PARKER *Disc. Death Webster* Wks. 1865 XII. 12 A great gulf..., wherover neither Dives nor Abraham, yet Moses himself, can pass. 1883 SWINBURNE *Cent. Roundels* 68 Love lies bleeding in the bed whereover Roses lean. 1910 *Spectator* 4 June 977/2 The surrey party..Whereover-round tall rhododendrons dance. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol* v. xiii. 572 The conducters of Water, *†wherewithout* menne cannot commodiously live. 1578 *Bk. Cert. Bpprs* II. 53 Thou light, wherewithout all things are deepe darckenesse.

**Where,** obs. f. CHOIR, WERE, WHETHER.

**Whereabout** (hwē·răbou̇t : stress var.), *interrog.* and *rel. adv., sb.* [f. WHERE 15 + ABOUT.]

1. *a. interrog.* About where? in or near what place, part, situation, or position? Now *rare*: replaced by WHERE + ABOUT 1.

*c* 1290 *Cursor M.* 15499 Quar abute sbide yee nu? 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xiii, My leader and my frend where aboute is thy nest? *c* 1506 J. AUDAY tr. *Bonaventure's Thest. World* (1580) K.iij, My hope is new...wel must I but you know not where about it doeth hunt & grieue me. 1605 *Pilg. Trans.* I. 39 His Ephemerides directing whereabout it is to be. 1720 D. DEFOE *Diary* 4 Nov. (1885) II. 274, I ask'd her Whereabout we left off last time. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iv. The irregularity after another embarrasses things to such a degree that they know not whereabout they are. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 175, I desired the owner of the ass to enquire whereabout the house.. was. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xviii, She.. used to look over to where the ship lay between sea and sunset and wonder whereabout it was. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 288 And whereabout do they go?" I asked. "Oh, all about anywheres."

(*b*) Contentually, with WHERE in its sense (*b*). 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308 Fane walid I luve, bot quhair abowt? Thair is so mony luvaris thairowt, That thair is left no place to me.

†**b.** *rel.* About or near which place; in the neighbourhood of which. *Obs. rare.*

1724 WHISTON *The. Earth* II. 218 At..Pekin..whereabout probably Noah liv'd immediately before the Deluge.

2. † *b. interrog.* About or concerning what? on what business or occupation? *Obs.*

*a* 1325 *Northern Passion* (1393) I. 852 We wist nought whare o[n]t pou went. *c* 1445 *Cast. Persev.* 456 in *Macro Plays* 148 Whereto bowe schonde 3e al day? 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 1 Sam. xxi. 2 Let no man know whereabout I send thee. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 107, I must not have you henceforth, question me, Whether I go: nor reason whereabout. 1598 R. BRANDON *Terence, Andria* IV. iii, Wherefore about goest thou?

**b.** *rel.* About, concerning, or in regard to which. ? *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Operitio*, the wark, or that wheraboute a man labourith. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 Those things wherabout they differ. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm., Rom. viii.* 2 Wks. (1735) 220 That wherabout the Thoughts and Discourses of Men now run.

**3.** *rel.* About or around which. ? *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 267/2 *A vir*,..the axeltree or the axetree where about the wheeles turne.

4. as *sb.* (hwē·răbou̇t). [from 1.] With possessive or *of*: The place in or near which a person or thing is; (approximate) position or situation. Now replaced by WHEREABOUTS 3.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. i. 58 For feare Thy very stones prate of my where-about. 1706 COWPER *Let. to Hazel* 17 Nov., Wks. 1836 II. 263 That..I shall derive consumable advantage..from the alteration made in my *where-about*. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XII. 27 A voice That made me scem like needle to the star, In turning to its whereabout. 1832 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iv, By degrees, the eye grows accustomed to its new Whereabout. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads & Battle-F.* 370 Both armies..were then within a few days of each other's whereabout.

**Whereabouts** (strēss var.), *adv., sb.* [f. prec. + adv.s, *-s*: cf. HEREABOUTS, THEREABOUTS.]

1. a. *interrog.* = prec. 1 *a*. Also *fig.*

*c* 1450 *Merlin* 242 Where stondeth your counsayl whereabouts it is? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. v. N[i]b, Whereabouts is our house house? 1621 J. G. in *T. Bedford's Sin unto Death* 83, Except they know.. whereabouts the danger is. 1648 DUPPA *Saules Solid.* 2 Many..go away informed..where abouts the Spleen lies, or where the Liver. 1797 GODW. MOSES in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1839) IV. 357, I ask him whereabouts he is with the claims of the German Princes. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iii, Whereabouts were your apartments, Mr. Pickwick? 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 97 The natives pointed out to me whereabouts they passed in the valley below.

†**b.** *rel.* About the amount at which. (Cf. THEREABOUTS 2 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1766 J. INGERSOLL *Lett. rel. Stamp-Act* 6 *note*, The Parliament have..settled the above Duties just whereabouts they are stated in the above Letter.

†**2.** *interrog.* and *rel.* = prec. 2 *a*, *b*. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO *Worlde* I. 13 Whereabouts studyeth he..i. wherebuttes gothe he? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 222 Neyther had I any thing at all, where about to occupie my penne. 1588 BRISSET *Mem. Gentleman's Life*, etc. (1668) 452 Only he labours about Kildromfarten : Whereabouts I purposed to have spoken with your Grace.

3. as *sb.* (hwē·răbou̇ts). [from 1.] = prec. 4. Also *fig.*

1597 T. TOMKINS *Let. to Parr* 15 Feb. in *P.'s Wks.* (1828) VIII. 273 By way of giving you the whereabouts of my present political opinions. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scot.-Yard*, Being in possession of a knowledge of the whereabouts of the..missing property. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* i. 12 Bunyan wrote the Pilgrim's Progress..without giving a hint of his ecclesiastical whereabouts. 1894 *Nature* 3 May 5/6 The prisoner..succeeded in concealing his whereabouts.

**Whereafter** (hwēsrā·ftar), *rel. adv.* Now *formal or arch.* [WHERE 15.] After which.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Laurentius*) 11 He tane hald halely in pame, Quhare-efyre sa hit pe emperore.. *c* 1450 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. 7 He hath ynogh at done..to like wheather he hunteth. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epist.* 1 Whereafter I shall be bold..and but whereafter he did snatche. 1632 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 819 The Parish and Lordship of Ellpesby..gave name..to a familie of auncient note..whereof there hath beene divers Knights; where after it had passed in the names of Algar, Filled, and Oilberd, all sinnamed de Clipesby. *a* 1645 HE. MONTGOMERY *Sea-Mans Acc.* (1846) 289 The imagde..with similitude of God, whereafter God made man at first. 1849 HAWK *Vict. Faith* 68 Whereafter in another generation Consciousness was asserted to be the ground of all existence. 1884 *Athenæum* 15 Nov. (1886) 161/2 The judicious Dr. Nott has written in the margin 'This is much too unqualified'; whereon—or at least, as I presume, whereafter—a pen was struck through the last fourteen words.

So † **Where-afterward** *rel. adv. Obs. rare*—1.

1583 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 354 b/1 Whereafterward..it was shewed..that by cause that place was ouer hyll..they should do make..many *Dirrye*.

**Whereagainst, -along,** etc.: see WHERE 15.

**Whereanent** (hwēr-ănent), *rel. adv.* Orig. and chiefly *Sc.* [f. WHERE 15 + ANENT *prep.* 11.] Anent or concerning which.

1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI*, lxix. (1814) III. 182/2 The said Institutioun..notwithstanding quhairat his maist..dispensis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 1 *b*, The delinitable matter, quhairanent the summons is made. 1681 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 1. 161 The said letters..passe the great seale per saltum whereanent these presents shall be a sufficient warrant. 1899 tr. *Dante's Paradiso* XXXI. 379 To question my Lady concerning things whereanent my mind was in suspense.

**Whereas** (hwēnæ·z), *rel. adv., conj.* (*sb.*). In early use as two words.

I. As relative adv. or advb. phr.: cf. *where that* s.v. WHERE II.

†**I.** = WHERE 5, 7–11. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

*c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1782 Pei..tok forþ here wey..to wam wildernesse wheras pei beiþe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 74 Nat fer fro Pedmark ther his dwelling was Wheras as he lyveth, *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1966 The helthe of bue[rs] mut be founde Wheras as lowes ben to mounde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 242 The grete distruxion whereas the kynge Aguysans baddle Elie. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, Collect 4th Sund. after Easter, That..oure heartes may surely there be fixed, where as true ioyes are to be founde. 1567 J. SWFORD *Epist. etus* 23 Whereas vilitie is, there is pietie. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xx. 172 Auicularia groweth..in fields amongst Wheate, whereas the Wheate hath growen. 1578 *Bible* (Geneva) To Rdr., Whereas the Ebrewe speache seemed hardly to agree with ours, we haue noted it in the margent. 1600 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xxxvi. 1. 39 All that levell whereas the river Maeander now runneth by goodly medowes. 1653 GERBIER *Counsel* 30 Ornaments on that straight, whereas the Southerly windes raise much dust. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. ii. 655 And quickly too he gat Unto the place whereas the lady sat.

**II.** As illative or adversative conjunction.

2. In view or consideration of the fact that; seeing that, considering that, forasmuch as, inasmuch as. (Chiefly, now only, introducing a preamble or recital in a legal or other formal document.)

1444 *Information against Walter Aslak* in *Paston Lett.* I. 16 Where as the seyd William Paston, by assignement and commaundement of the seyd Duk of Norffolk..was the Styward of the seyd Duc of Norffolk. 1488–9 *Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 2 Where as it was of old tyme ..., that ther was for the weale of the Kyng .. Fynours and parters of Gold and Silver [etc.]. *a* 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clv. 548 Where as thou sayest I am a traytours I shall shewe the how thou lyest. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Kings viii. 18 Where as it was thyne hert to buylde an house vnto my name, thou dyddest well, that thou wast so mynded. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 31 Whereas the Emperour and the Catholicke Princes by many Letters made intercession, that the displaced Bishops might be mercifully dealt withall.. thee answered [etc.]. 1713 *Act 13 Anne* c. 28 § 1 Whereas Part of the Highway .. is become so very ruinous that [etc.]. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 6 Preamble, And whereas the Army Act will expire in the year, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen on the following days.

3. Introducing a statement of fact in contrast or opposition to that expressed by the principal clause: With on the contrary; the fact on the other hand being that. (The principal clause usually precedes, but sometimes follows as in 2.)

† In quot. 1549, Notwithstanding that; though (*obs.*).

1535 COVERDALE *2 Esdras* vii. 5 There are layed vp for vs dwellynges of health & freedome, where as we haue lyued euell. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 This knaue, whereas he is the greattest glutton .. that maye bee, yet is he the most lithe lubber. 1591 *Sir J. Smythe's Disc. Weapons* 25, I derued am From Lionel Duke of Clarence..: whereas hee, From lohn of Gaunt doth bring his Pedigree. 1632 MEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 520 Here might haue wonne the Diadem many yeares, whereas by the title of Duke he no longer than two moneths. 1740 FIELDING *Tom Jones* X. iii, Whereas he had received a very hand-some fortune with his wife, he had now spent every penny of it. 1818 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* I. xxi, 'Yet they are great whiskered fellows, six feet high each.' 'Whereas..., Henry, you will never be anything more than a little pale thing.' 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. iii, I bought him up in ignorance of his father, whom he had always imagined to be a gentleman; whereas he was only a sergeant in a line regiment. 1850 *Household Words* II. 529 Whereas a pinhole has no focus, every lens has a focus.

**III.** 4. as *sb.* (from 2). A statement introduced by 'whereas'; the preamble of a formal document.

1705 COLCHROP *Plot Discov.* 23 While the contrary remains unproved, such a Whereas must go for most insolent Groundwork for the present Bill. 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., To follow a whereas; to become a bankrupt.:: the notice given in the Gazette that a commission of bankruptcy is issued out against any trader, always beginning with the word whereas. 1804 F. L. HOLT *Land-tax Law in* 1. (1805) 30, I am at a loss to understand the whereases of this lamentation. 1863 GUROWSKI *Diary* 18 Oct. (1864) 347 A new *whereas* calling for three hundred thousand volunteers.

**Whereat** (hwēræ·t), *adv.* Now *formal or arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + AT *prep.*]

1. *interrog.* At what?

In first quot. app. = for what cause or reason, wherefore: cf. At 34, 37.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3837 Quað god, 'quor-at calles þu me?' *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eury.* 140 Quhat sall I call thy cruell Lorrence leuch. 15.. *Adam Bel & Clym of Clough* cxlvii, 'I hold hym neuer no good archar That shuteth at butte so wyde.' 'Wherat?' then sayd our lyege. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. iii. G j, Thou wottest fulle lyttell wherat thou reloysest. 1755 JOHNSON *s. v.*, Whereat are you offended?

2. *rel.* At which. a. in local and allied senses.

*c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXVI. 121 A wyndowe, whare at pe light commez in. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 33 A litle gett, Quhairat was wont ane entre for to be. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* Iiv, Giff 3ow wald knaw ye dominn all letire of ony hundereth gere, quhairat ye ordre of ye first table according to ye awld kallendar is interrupted. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xi. 454 At this Cott hang many..Ropes, wherat all the people hale and pull. 1626 GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chiualry* 9 Take notice of the generall Scope wherein the Holy Ghost moueth, in this Chapter. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Pit or Hole, from the Body, or stock there is wherein the branches sprout out. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. v. 58 Albert I think Ye have caught the mark wherein my heart is bent. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 271 I returned to the spot wherein the Squire kept dreary watch.

**b.** In reference to occasion or cause.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb) 11 Wherat many were offended. 1599 T. SCORER *Life & D. Wolsey* F 4 What had the wiser sort wherat to wonder. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 189 With full assent They vote: wherat his speech he thus renews. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 205 Wherat his horse did snort, he had Indeed a lion roar. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Nell could not help weeping..; whereat..the simple schoolmaster shed a few tears himself. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invis.* ii, The inventor..said..that..he would demonstrate by his own model that some day navigation would be by steam; whereat they all laughed kindly at him for a dreamer.

**Whereaway:** see WHERE 15.

**Wherebole,** obs. form of COLE-BOUILLI.

*a* 1400 *Warres of Troues* (MS. Cott. Calig. A. ii) in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Sect. x. (1840) II. 106 Whippes of wherebole [*Lond. MS.* quyrbole] lywent his white sides.

**Whereby** (hwērbai'), *adv.* [f. WHERE 15 + BY *prep.*]

I. **1.** *interrog.* **a.** By, beside, or near what? in what direction? **b.** By what means? how? (1Sr 29, 30.) †**c.** For what reason? why? (1Sr 36).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7801 þai þal bath er slain, quar-bi Wat þou it es sua? *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2256 Wharbi seistow so? so 3e god help! 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* x. 456 Wherby wote men whiche is whyte if alle bingo blake were? *a* 1450 *Myre Par. Pr.* 4 In-to þe clyche bey fallen boo, For bey ne sen where by to go. 1490–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xvi. 307 Be ye a knyght of Cornewale? where by aske ye hit? sayd sir Tristram. 1548 TINDALE *Luke* I. 18 Wherby shall I knowe this? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i, 9 *Cas.* Thereby hangs

a tale. *Mus.* Whereby hangs a tale, sir? 1755 JOHNSON & Vv. Whereby wilt thou accomplish thy design?

**II.** *rel.* **2.** By means of or by the agency of which; from which (as a source of information); according to which, in the matter of which, etc.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 81 We wolden sen sum forgone of þe, Warbi we mihten cnowen þif it nod were þat þu seist. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 573 Mete ouzelt ðei miyten liuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 40 Ryflode ... Wher-of or wherfore ye where-by to lybbe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 294 A staf, wherby, he seide, he wolde That Adrian him schulde holde. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Testim.* 195 Summe spyritual viewen wherby þat he myst have ben confortyd yn sonde. 1450–1500 *Myrr. our Ladye* fl. 234 A starre of Jacob wherby ys vnderstonde our lorde Ieshu cryste. 1526 *Bible* (Geneva) Jer. xxxiii. 8, I will cleanse them from all their iniquities, wherby they haue sinned against me. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 192 The absolut power, wharbie .. the hail priviledges of the liene Estates of the Realme is weakened. 1660 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 3 The rationall evidence of that divine authority wherby Moses acted. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 411 Every lower faculty Of sense, whereby they hear, see, smell, touch, taste. 1697 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 316 His Return of respect-entatives for Council was produced, by w<sup>ch</sup> appeared [etc.]. 1729 FRANKLIN *Th. Vision* 161 Stated Lengths, wherby we measure Objects. 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 92 An universal plastic power, whereby every body in nature weighs, by its ... specific force. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Ajax* 1025 This ..sword-point— this whereby Ebbed out thy life. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Mar. 124/1 There is no convention in war whereby the loser can convert disaster into stalemate.

**3.** In consequence of, as a result of, or owing to which; from which (as a cause or reason); wherefore; sometimes practically equivalent to 'so that', 'in order that'. *Obs. exc. dial.*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 320 Þise men lousen crist þat maken his membris horen speche of cartouris, & leuen to hise crist conliche heere patrounn, werbi þei leuen lasse crist. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. c. 49 b/2 The table rounde, wherby sprange the fame of the moste noble knyghtes through out all the worlde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, It was put in to my mynde to drawe it in the englyssho tongo, wherby it myght be the more accepte to many. 1596 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, V. i. 69 We were inform'd for safety sake, to ... raise this present Head, Wherehy we stand opposed by such meanes As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 212 We are buried the slayne people in deep graues, wherby Iackals should not open vp their graues. 1678 WARNEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 81. 472/2 He was suddenly seized with a Cancer in the Veins of his back, whereby he rotted above ground. 1844 HOOD *Univ. Knot* 105 Whereby it so may happen as that neither of them Scholars May be the proper Chairman for the Glorious Apollers! 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, I ought to be .. going peacefully to bed, whereby I should wake up with a clear head.

**b.** Upon which, whereupon. *dial.* ? *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 104 Goodwife Keech ..telling vs she had a good dish of Prawnes; whereby y<sup>e</sup> didat desire to eat some: whereby I told her that I knew a place, where a good dish of Prawnes is to be had. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xxiv, Whereby he told the captain that .. he would heave him overboard. *Ibid.*, We heard friking, whereby we made for the place.

**4.** Beside or near which; along, through, or over which. Now *rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 21 Wateres .. Þware bi se spines mowe come fram þe se. 24.. *Master of Game* xix. (MS. Digby 182). A kenell shall haue a gardein or two, wherin alle þe piese of þe hounides .. may renne oute. 1386 LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* 154 b, Hee .. hideth him selfe vnder some ... rocke, or any other place, whereby hee seemeth to bee. 1596 HARINGTON tr. *Ariosto's Hist. Sacrif.* v. I. 103 He occupies and standes in a way quhairby the men of weir fled. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxxiii, The brawling brook, wherr-by ..glide the haunted hours With a calm laughter. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 359 Fear .. wing'd Her transit to the throne, whereby she fell Delivering seal'd dispatches. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* I. 80 To the Apollo's golden gate—whereby They came as night was clove on twilight dim.

**Where-ever:** see WHEREVER.

**Wherefore** (hwē·rfōə), **wherefor** (hwe·sfō·r), *adv.* (*sb.*) Forms: *a.* 2– hwarfore, 3 waruore, quor-fore, 4 quar-fore, quer-fore, huervore, werfore, 4–5 warfore, 4–7 wherfore, 5 wharfore, wher-fore, qw(h)erf(*r*)ore, *Sc.* qwharfore, 5–6 *Sc.* quharfore, 6 *Sc.* quhairfore. *β.* 3 werefore, ware uore, 4 warefore, where-fore, 5 wharefore, qwerefore, *Sc.* quharefore, 6 *Sc.* quherefore, 5– wherefore. *γ.* 4 wharfor, quarfor, querfor, 4–5 warfor, 4–6 *Sc.* quharfor, 5 werfor, qwer for, 5–6 wherf(*r*)or, 6 *Sc.* quherfor, quhairfor, 6–8 *Sc.* quhairfor, 7 *Sc.* quherfoer. *δ.* 4 quare-for, 6, 9 wherefor. [I. WHERE 18 + FOR *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarvoor*, ON. *hvar fyrir*, MSw. *hvarfore*, Sw. *varför*, Da. *hvorfor*, G. *wofür*. For the spellings cf. THEREFORE.]

**I.** Interrogative uses.

For the dependent or Indirect interrogative use, and its distinction from the relative, see 1 and A. I.*.

**1.** For what? *esp.* for what purpose or end? (Often scarcely distinguishable from 2.)

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 Þu finst feawe ðe wile þiuen ße ani þing, buten hie witen hwarfore. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1296 Seth þan sette him spell o-nend And tald him warfor þat he was send. 13.. *Ibid.* 1734 (Göttl.), He teld þat resun to mani a man, Quarfor he suilt a schip bigan. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 121 (MS.) I vndarstande there schalle be a gret Counsell, wherefore I wat nere. 1555 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 199 As herunder the partyes names and somes of money due and wherfore particularly ensue. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 40 *E. Ant.* ...Open the dore. *S. Dro.* Right sir, He tell you when, and you'll tell me wherefore. *Ant.* Wherefore? for my dinner. 1593 — *Rich. II*, II. iii. 132 Wherefore was I borne? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 657 But wherfore all night long shine these..? 1846 MISS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxix, Here I am—wherefore come, I have to learn.

**2.** For what cause or reason? on what account? why? (Freq. with ellipsis; often coupled with *why* for emphasis.)

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 Þe feondes flan flegð awei: nawiht on him seluen, and loke wherfore. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1152 Iacob cabbe ßat stedie beteil Quor-fore he it dede, he wiste wel. *c* 1305 *Metr. Hom.* 31 His felau thoht herof ferly, And asked him quarfor and quat. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lii. As I lay in bed allone waking.., Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing, Off this and that; and I can nocht say quharfore. 1533 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xii. 23 Now that it is dead, wherfore shulde I fast? 1585 JAS. I *Fair. Poesie* (Arb.) 54 Ze may maruell paraventure, quhairfore I would haue writtin in that mater. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 8 Whose honesty they all durst swear for, Though not a man of them knew wherefore. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 12 Hard lot of man—to toil for the reward Of virtue, and yet lose it! Wherefore hard? 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xi. (Rtldg.) 56 You..ran away.., without leaving me word why or wherefore. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, If he be ever asked how, why, when, or wherefore, he is ready to one eye and shakes his head. 1873 LOWER *Michael Ang.* I. iv, But wherefore should I jest?

**II.** Relative uses.

**3.** For which. Now distinguished by stress and spelling (*wherefor'*).

† *Without anything wherefore*, without a return or equivalent. † *to do wherfore*, to make a return, give an equivalent.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7526 William his sende hire vaire iiuen In ßouhte ney þing was ware. 1377 [see WHEREMID]. *a* 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere..ne may habbe no stal in be heye-stret of Wynchebeie bote he do war-fore. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 27/22 Þa þat serue to þe hous of God, þat ben cites, þat ay haue na defaute of þat ay sal haue, wharfore þai maa na noise. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* iii. L. Wks. (1573) 304/1 That we be bounden to belieue the church in thinges, wherfore they haue no scripture. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 62. I..gaue you that wherefore ye sought. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 2 Peace to this meeting, wherefore we are met! 1608 TOPSELL *Earthly Par.* III. 194 He..gat him down..unto the town, Where for the high-tide folk were dight. 1913 *Act* 3 & 4 *Geo. V* c. 28 § 1 All sums..the liability wherefor accrued before the said date.

**4.** On account of or because of which; in consequence or as a result of which. Chiefly with sb. (esp. *reason* or *cause*) as antecedent. *arch.*

*c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 18 Gode werkes bet bieth be mon ne werche ne yleste[nnan]..of scheome & of blyce of heuene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10784 Par es resuns.. Quar-for godd wald sco spused were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 Greate blasfemie is of god þet he let þise þinges þurhout god him wrebeh. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Þou schall fynd na thing wib vs wharfore þou schuld werray apon vs. 1474 CAXTON *Game & Play Chesse* (1883) 1 The causes wherfore this Playe was founden ben three. 1496 *Liber Festivalis* v iij 2, I denounse .. all tho that purchasen lettres of ony lordes courte wherefore letynge it made in cristen courte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 1 The true reason wherefore Christ doth loue believers is because their belief is the gift of God. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 187 The reason is sufficiently manifest wherefore a preference for republican institutions should hitherto have been shown.

**5.** Introducing a clause expressing a consequence or inference from what has just been stated: On which account; for which reason; which being the case; and therefore. (Now always *wherefore.*)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16628 Þe pin com word to sir Ioseph, Of all þinges þat hafeli. Wharfor he wex radd. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1194 Whar-for woldes worshepe may he sold Noght elles. 1498 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S. T. N.) 232 This knawe is al innocens, quherfore he is nocht to be accusit. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 208 Wherefore was I to this keene mockery borne? 1600–10 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 5 Wherefore, with sobirne weill vsit and mett, Se mend the faltis of ill maid feit, Quhairfor to Hevin your saulis will fle. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 Quherfore I am requyred I wold commend to our eares the imitation of the greck and latin. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. Wakef.* xxii, I could not continue a silent spectator of her distress: wherefore, assuming a degree of severity in my voice and manner [etc.]. 1842 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* 148 Where things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice Rise like a fountain for me night and day. 1878 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, Wherefore, you see, is an individual, or an individuite thing. Wherefore, let us not despise our neighbour.

† **b.** Followed by *soever*: For whatever reason; on whatever account. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 61 Sune so þu telles to betere þen an other —beu it hwerfore se hit euuer beo,..þu marres ti meidenhad. *c* 1330 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brytt.* lxvi. (1814) 331 He is in a great study, wherfore so euer it be. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxxii. (1592) 514 But come they once in Question, wherefore soeuer it bee, let them not escape.

**III.** *sb.* as *sb.* A question beginning with *wherefore*, or (more usually) the answer to such a question; cause, reason. Often following *why* similarly used.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 45 *Ant.* Shall I tell you why? *S. Dro.* I sir, and wherefore; for they say, euery why hath a wherefore. 1614 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. i, Such as are understanding in their draughts, And dispute learnedly the whyes and wherefores. 1642 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii, 144 But let him first answer our *Therefores*, and wee will quickly answer his *Wherefores*. 1719 RAMSAY *To Absubkie* 6 [He] disna care for A how, a what way, or a wherefore. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, They *will* have the why and the wherefore, and will take nothing for granted. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Dor. Kirke* xiv, I am carried back to the days when I rebelled and demanded the wherefore of all God's dealings with me.

† **Wherefrey**, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc.* (**quhairfrs**). *Obs.* [f. WHERE 15 + FRO *prep.*]

**1.** *rel.* = next.

In quot. 1585 *elliptical* = to the place whence.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iv. xiii. 407 The occasioun wherbi and wherfro the gostli fadir hatiþ him sumtyme withdrawe. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 57 Amang the grene rispis and the redis, Arrivit sche, quhar fro anonn thare landis Ane hundreth ladyes. 1542 COPLAND *Galfyn's Terap.* III b, The thyng wherfro nothyng can be taken, nor put to it. 1585 JAS. I *Fair. Poesie* (Arb.) 48 He tolde me then, how she flew bak againe, Where fra she came. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisii Catech.* b iv, It behoueth ye curree of ye dominicall lettre to be interrupted, euerie hundereth zere quhairfra is subduced ane day. 1643 *Kcg. Privy Council Scot. Ser.* II. VIII. 66 Thomas Irwing..being veris seik in Quondale, quherfra he was flitting.

**2.** *indirect interrog.* = WHENCE 1 b.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. vii. 8:6 To se quhayfra the grundyn dart dyd glyde. 1560 BUCHANAN tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 95 This gave ieirlie in the spring tyme returnes to ws: quhairfra can na man tell.

**Wherefrom** (hwe·rfrɒm), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + FROM *prep.*] From which; whence.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 45 There is the Region of thire, wherfrom we haue wythdrawen .. all this people. 1821 SANDERSON *Serm., 1 Cor. vii. 23* (1674) I. 203 Some Calling; wherefrom he may be altogether averse, and wherein also gether unfit. 1708 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 40 We have none others wherefrom to describe anything conceivable to our imagination. 1832 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) II. iv. 89, Lofty galleries wherefrom dames of honour.. may sit and look. 1865 KINGSLEY *Heroes*, xvi, Wherefrom Hereward opined that Gilbert had need of his help. 1870 DIXON *Freedom. Ideas Chr. vii*, Akin to the infinite source wherefrom they proceed.

† **Wherehen, -hence**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 **whar hanne**. *β.* 6 **wherhens, wherhence**, 6–7 **where-hence, wherehence.** [f. WHERE 15 + HENNE, HENCE. Cf. HERHENCE, THERHENCE.]

**1.** *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose.* (Ashm.) 3776 Wonder it was whar hanne [*v.r.* watsene, whannen, whens] it com. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3389 Of norreies Anon gan hym to enquere; Wherhens he cam. 1596 JAS. VI *Basil. Doron*, III. 336 Where hence haue Schisms, and Heretick sprunge vp, or whence hence doo they springe, onlease [etc.]. 1584 *Copie of a Letter* 78 And wherhence (I pray you) ensueth al this?

**2.** *rel.* = WHENCE 3, 4.

*c* 1475 *Partenay* 5489 Where-hens thay shull noght depart wevly Fro thys vnto the day of Iugement. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* ii. 24 b, Not after the flesshe onely (wherhens it dede the beginning and the generation hath proceded). 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 27 But wherehence soeuer the name is deriued, this is moste assured, that of all other birds of pray, the Lanner is most commended. 1823 J. DAVIES *Mexicoiones* Wks. (Grosart) I. 317/2 Dust of the earth .. Wherehence we came, and wherevnto we must. 1612 CONVAY *Crudities* 148 This part of the countrey.. is inhabited by a kinde of people called Tribocies, .. wherehence it was called *Tribocum regio*. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vii. 5 God will lay them in the slimy valleyes,..wherehence also they shall be brought forth to the last Iudgement.

**Wherein** (hwēr-in), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + IN *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarin*, G. *worin*, MSw. *hvarinne*, Sw. *vari*, Da. *hvori.*]

**I.** Interrogative. **1.** In what (thing, matter, respect, etc.)?

In quot. 1600 = in what dress? (In *prep.* 6.)

For the distinction between the use in dependent clauses and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I** note.

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 39 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit? *a* 1280 MIDDLETON *Hymn to Christ* 6 Wherin is al grace and smal, Her namys and natury.., and qwere-in thei nay be kend natural. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. Cicest Richmond* Wks. (1876) 289 To shewe wherin this..prynces may wel be lykened..vnto the blessyd woman Martha. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezekiel* xxii. 27 His rayment is his onely couerynge, of his skynne: wherin shulde he walke? 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* ii. 22 Wherein is hee to be accounted of? 1672 MILTON *Samson* 564 To what can I be useful, wherein serve My Nation? 1798 S. T. COLERIDGE *C. to Wordsworth* Does the sinfulness of this behaviour consist? 1850 M'COSH *Div. Govt.* I. iii. (1874) 60 It is not needful to show wherein the weakness of this theory lies. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, Oh, Britannicus! wherein have we offended?

**II.** Relative. **2.** In which (place, material thing, writing, etc.); where.

*c* 1200 MAYENCE (Roxb.) 18 A felde where in bawme growes apon smale bruschen. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfons.* iv, A grete pouse wherin were a thousand Crowues. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxv. 59 b/2 The cytie..was destroyed, and the churches and place where god was honoured. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 Anie latin word, quharein now we sound *c* as *s*. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 135 Stay thy cloudy Ebon chair, Wherein thou rid'st with Hecat'. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 158. P 5 Your Paper, wherein you fall upon me whom you envy. 1859 SWIFT *An hit.* (ed. 4) 1097 A species of building wherein the faces of the stones are..picked with the point of a hammer. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, Peering keenly into the shallow wherein she stood.

**b.** In which (place, material thing, writing, etc.); where.

*c* 1200 MAYENCE (Roxb.) 18 A felde where in bawme growes apon smale bruschen. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfons.* iv, A grete pouse wherin were a thousand Crowues. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxv. 59 b/2 The cytie..was destroyed, and the churches and place where god was honoured. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 Anie latin word, quharein now we sound *c* as *s*. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 135 Stay thy cloudy Ebon chair, Wherein thou rid'st with Hecat'. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 158. P 5 Your Paper, wherein you fall upon me whom you envy. 1859 SWIFT *An hit.* (ed. 4) 1097 A species of building wherein the faces of the stones are..picked with the point of a hammer. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, Peering keenly into the shallow wherein she stood.

**b.** In, at, during, or in the course of which (time).

1533 COVERDALE *Pr.* lxxiv. [BC.] 15 The yeares wherin we haue suffred aduersite. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Music.* Pref., We liue in those daies wherein eruditi ennie rarigenti. 1689 MILTON

*Nativity* i. This is the Month, and this the happy morn Wherin the Son of Heav'ns eternal King...Our great redemption from above did bring. 1733 Berkeley *Th. Vision Vind.* § 70 In an Age wherein we hear so much of Thinking and Reasoning. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* i. i. 32 Length of days Wherein to act the deeds which are the stewards Of their revenge.

**3.** In which (matter, fact, action, condition, etc.); in respect of which.

*c* 1400 *Apol. Lol.* 88 He hab god þis þat he moost lofiþ, and wer in he tristiþ, as in God. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 1. 104 Þies er sophyms & subtelte, whare-in I wotis all my dayes. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xx. 22 He taketh from him his harnes wherin he trusted. 1611 *Bible* Luke i. 4 That thou mightest know the certainetie of those things, wherein thou hast bene instructed. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 33. P 2 Poor Daphne was seldom submitted to in a Debate wherein she was concerned. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* I. 265 A very sharp action ensued, wherein...the Athenians got the better. 1805 Swinburne *Castelfard* v. ii. 209 Whate'er this be wherein you were engrieved. 1889 J. S. White *Mex. Rob* xiv, There began a round of pleasure for Julia wherein she was the central figure.

*Obs. ellipt.* or *as comp. rel.* = in that respect in which; that (one, something) in which.

1500 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 179 Wherein it doth impaire the seeing sense, It paies the hearing double recompence. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxi. § 3 Wherein to exercise patience. 1628 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 30 Your Wisdome will supply it, wherein it is defective. 1728 H. Home *Decis. Cas.* 1716-28 To Rob., No Decision is taken Notice of, but wherein some new Point is established. 1804 *Forum* (N. Y.) Oct. 248 This is wherein a bracing climate...accounts for much with the New Englanders.

**4.** Into which: = Wherrinto 1.

*c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxiii. 81 A coufre wherin þat men shal put pryue thynges. 1526 Tindale *John* vi. 22 There was none other shippe there save that won wher in his disciples were entred. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicolay's Voy.* ii. x. 44 We came to an anker very nich the castle, wherin when our patrone would follows vs [etc.].

**†Where,inne,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Where 15 + Inne, Inne. In later instances perh. only a variant spelling of *wherein.*]

**1.** *interrog.* = prec. 1.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 13 3if the salt shal vanyshe away, wherynne shal it be salted? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7209 (Trin.) Til she be sope made him to say Wher ynne al his strenghe lay.

**2.** *rel.* = prec. 2, 3, 4.

*c* 1375 Lav. 26336 Ear hii come side anon to be tealdes dore war ine nas þe cuisere. 1397 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5006 An chirche of sein Martin...War ine we vaðle godes seruise do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 Pis zenne is þe dyeules paune of helle, huerinne he maked his fiinges. *Ibid.* 109 Þe bridde bene huerinne we bydeþ oure zoster of heuene þet his wyl by ydo. *Ibid.* 178 Ure be zennes uenials huerine me naþ ofte. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 475 Jhou hast not were ynne to don such a dede, for hym seemeþ is ful of coveitise. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 38 Þis wes þe rihte gate wharine þu salle life.

**Where,inso,ever,** *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Wherein + Soever.] In whatever matter, respect, etc.

1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* xi. 21 Wherin soever eny man dare be bolde..I dare be bolde also. 1552 *Hk. Com. Prayer, Communion* Exhortation, To examine your lyues...and wherinsoever ye shall perceyue your selues to haue offended, ...there bewaile your olde synfull lyues. 1788 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 456 That their own person, wherein-soever it consists, shall be made accountable for the actions performed by it in this life. 1842 Keble in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 472 The impression...of its being my own fault, not theirs, wherein-soever I am found wanting. 1870 Myers *Essays* 56 Wherein-soever they may rise and die Their generations follow on.

**†Where,intil,** *adv. Sc. Obs.* In 6–7 quha(i)r-. [f. Where 15 + Intill.] Wherein. 1526 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1823) XII. 367/2 For ye surty of oure Soverans person quharintill we ourselves ar above all utheris bundin & obligit. 1567 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) III. 97 The...land of Craigintfeoch quharintill he saidis Lyonis ar infeft. 1652 Z. Boyd *Zion Flowers* (1855) App. 24/2 Bands quharintill hir name is insert.

**Whereinto** (hwēr,intū'; hwe·r,i'ntu), *adv. arch.* [f. Where 15 + 1.]

**1.** Into which.

1382 *Bible* (Trevisa) John vi. 22 None other shyp...saue that one wher into his disciples were entred. 1569 Golding tr. *Heninge's Postill* Ded. n vij b, The death whereinto all mankynde was fallen. 1641 J. Jackson *Confut. Socin.* 7. iii. 211 Proverbs, and Apophthegmes, wherevnto a great deale of wisedome is abridged. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 9 They find...some things which they call by these Names, to be that wherewith Bodies are dissolved. 1788 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 519 Voluntary agents...can...change the course wherein bodies had been thrown by impulse. 1865 Cor. Rossetti *Poems* 171 I, I have a room wherein to no one enters Save I myself alone.

**†2.** In which (cf. Into 22). *Sc. Obs.*

1560 *Discm. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 63 Ane buik, quhairinto was contenit, that thair sould be in this realme tueif superaltendentis.

**†Wherenid, -nide,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Where 15 + Mid *prep.*3, Mide. Cf. Du. *waarmede(d)e*, MSw. *hvarmädh*, Sw. *varmed*, Da. *hvormed.*] With which, by means of which, wherewith.

*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 Þa he nadde hwer-mid he hyt agulde. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 221 Nah ich wæremide leden mi lif i þisse wrecce. *c* 1300 *Vox & Wolf in Rel. Ant.* II. 274 Nothing he ne founde..Wermide his honger aquenche mighte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 266 Þe tokenen of þe passion he hep in his body, huermyde he ous bouhte.

**Whereness** (hwē·-nės). [f. Where + -ness: cf. Hereness, Thereness.] The condition, quality, or fact of being where it is; position, situation, location, *ubi*-(as an attribute of something, or *vaguely* of things generally).

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 43 It would crack my brain to find so many wherenesses there, to stow each of them in. 1701 Grew *Cosmol.* I. iii. 11 A Point..hath no Dimensions, but only a Whereness. 1733 Watts *Philos. Ess.* vi. v. (1734) 165 The *Ubi* and Wherenesss of a Spirit. *a* 1845 Southey *Doctor* excii. (1848) 909, I...can never be lost till I get out of Whereness itself into Nowhere. 1887 *Athen.* Jan. 18 Any special whereness or thereness. 1895 G. Macdonald *Lilith* iii, You know nothing about wherenesses.

**Wherenigh** : see Where 15.

**Whereof** (hwē-rŏ'v), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + Of *prep.* Cf. (M.Sw. *hvaraf*, Da. *hvoraf*; Du. *waarvan.*]

**I.** *Interrogative.* Of what.

**1.** + *a.* in various obsolete senses of Of: *etc.* From what source, whence; to what purpose, what; for; for what reason, wherefore.

*c* 1200 Ormin 2931 He sahh þatt þo wiþ childe wass, & nisste he nohht whatrofte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 350 Hu he sulen maken Þe tabernacle, and worcd-liken Þe tabil, and telter, and þe candelstikke. *c* 1305 Quar-of stories and resse Of sothfastnes, or of iustise, Hot for to yeme þe yes in land. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 283 in *26 Pol. Poems* 130 Wherof þan schulde þei ben proude, þat ben bope bestli & vnclyn? wroth? 1528 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 273/2 Wherof shal reason serue if man laid no power of himself to warde the direccion of his own workes? 1579 & 80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 19 *marg.*, Manipulares wherof so called.

**b.** in various current senses of Of.

*c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* 64 Whese-of is mad al manlynde? *c* 1440 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiii. 83 Wharof he walle is made, can na man tell. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 71, I not what to askes, ne wherof for to speke. 25.. *in Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) I. 310 Thus wail I nocht quhairof I wryte. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. i. 4 What stuffe 'tis made of, whereof it is borne, I am to learne. 1605 *Lear* i. iv. 312 Now Gods that we adore, Whereof comes this? 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 60 To know...how this World ...first began, When, and wherefor created. 1755 Johnson s.v. Whereof was the house built?

**II.** *Relative.* Of which.

**1.** Expressing out of which (as source or origin, in the way of result or consequence, liberation or privation, etc.), whence (Or I–III).

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Auh hwarse wummon liuep oðer mon bi him one..of þinges wiðuten hwarof scandle ne kume, nis nout wummon. *c* 1275 Lay. 18090 Þe king hit bihuld & bine cume war of þan hurse þat isprunge. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* iv. 60 A cours of kynde wher-of we comen alle. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* ccix. 305 The holy sepulcre where he laye deed in, and out wherof he arose from deth to lyf. 1526 Tindale *Herbal* ii. 96 b, [Polygala] hath sede besyde euery lefe, wherof it is called the multe. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 27 The ilch, wherof thou canst not bee healed. 1632 W. Cowper *Holy Alph.* 376 Wherof we learn, that...if when we haue fallen, a Scorpion, or a Serpent, it is euer to be imputed to God that teacheth vs. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 259/2 By Avoir-du-pois Weight is weighed...all things wherof comes waste.

**b.** Of which material substance (Or VII).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 368 Þe mater of þe four elements..Quar of was serenes sipen scapen. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 49 The Arke wherof Bezeleels are made. 1620 A. Hume *Orth. Tongue* (1865) 10 These and al other diphthongues I wald counsel the teacheres not to name be the vouales quherof they are maed. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 518 Mineral fire, wherof Hell-fire and Vaporous Tarr. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 107 The pre-existent..mater wherof bodies are formed.

**2.** For, by reason of, because of, or on account of which; wherefore (Or 13, 14). Chiefly in constructional dependence on certain classes of words.

*a* 1325 *Mis. Raund. B.* 520 If. 80 b, Send .iiij.l. chosene knigtes..to seon were he he sik ware of he soined him of sik wherof he ne mihte him nout helpe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Þerof þenchiþ þat i haue fallinde..yow..wherof i beseche yow of grace and mercy. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xi, [He] oughte to doo good.. wherof other may preyse hym. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 106 He knewe well that they were of his kynrede wherof he was full sory for it. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxii. 215 Huon gaue her a ryche gyft, wherof humbly she thanked him. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ezra iv. 14 The Lordes hath done greate thynges for vs all ready, wherof we reioyse. 1560 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 139 The Reaner, wherof all our Horses are taken. 1648 *Southampton Rec.* (1917) II. 344 The wall..is much impaired & verye daungerous wherof wee desier the same to be amendyd veye speedelye.

**4.** By means of which, with which, whereby, wherewith (Or 15). *Obs.* or *rare arch.* exc. with *full*, *plain*, (= of which).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = that by which, that with which: cf. Wherewith 2 b, Wherewithal 2 b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 119 Þis beyþ þe graces huer-of he wes al ual. 1377 [see Wherewp]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 For þe whilk land ikke a gude Cristen man þat may, and has wherof, suld mekere him for to conquere oure right heritage. 1450 *Merlin's Festival* 4 Ze hadden ynogh wherof to haue fed me. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxi. 134 [They] kept their wynes...vnder lock and key, for feare least they should gette of theyr neyghbours, whereof sometymes theyr lealous husbandes could not furnish them. 1598 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* III. iv, Borgia's wine, Wherof his sire...was poysond. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 194 Dry vp thy Marrowes, Vines, and Plough-torne Leas, Whereof ingratefull man...greases his pure mindo.

**5.** About or concerning which: in regard to or in respect of which (Or VIII, IX, XI).

In quot. *c* 1400 *ellipt.* or as *comp. rel.* = in that in respect of which.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1624 Als it in nue fod be-fell, Quae of i sal yow sipen tell. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5311 Where of that thou be vertuous, Ne be not straunge ne daungerous. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xvii. 19 Thy newe doctrine wher off thou speakest. 1560 T. Wilson *Rhet.* Prol. to Rdr., That I was in farther perill, then wherof I was aware. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, He had vnderstanding, that the Frigate...was of Malta, whereof he thought very strange. 1611 *Bible* 2 John iv, 3 This is that spirit of Antichrist, whereof you haue heard, that it should come. 1672 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 408 We shall now shortly come to a good issue. Whereof therefore you may please to advertise your worthy Society. 1742 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 25 Sept., Our Duke goes...they say, to marry a Princess of Prussia, whereof great preparations have been making. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 382 More precious gifts...Whereof not e'en in dreams they could have thought.

**6.** Of which, in *objective* senses (Or X).

1469 *Busy Wills* (Camden) 50 In wittenesse qwherof I haue set to myn seele. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* v. To Rdr., Whereof I geue to the godly eadere a new profe in this setting fourth of this boke. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 880 Like one that spies an adder,...iust in his way, The feare wherof doth make him shake. 1747 Hooker in *Gentleman Instruct. Rel.* i. § 18 In dispensing wherof, he was guided more by the rules of Judgement, than of Ingenuity. 1676 Wood *Corr.* (1848) 123 Reputation I do no value of any affectation wherof I desire to be wholly mortified). 1847 Hood *Plea Midsh. Fairies* xxxv, We be the handmaids of the Spring, In sign wherof, May .. Hath wrought her samplers on our gauzy wing.

**7.** Of which or whom, in *partitive* sense (Or XIII).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = some or something of which (Or 45).

*c* 1300 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 54 Tu haue no wif ne no gossoned on þese mynstels. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 473, xiij. spones, wherof oon is gilt, weiyng xvij. ounces. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* iii. 12 Hast thou not eaten of the tree, wherof I commaunded the, yt thou shuldest not eate? 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, i. ii. 11 Edmunds seuen sonnes (whereof thy selfe art one). 1680 — *Temp.* i. i. 38 The greene-sowre Ringlets ...Whereof the Ewe not bites. 1686 Milton *Hist. Eng.* 384 Lethe the River of Oblivion.., whereof who drinks, Forthwith his former state and being forgets. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iv. vii, Civil Wars, the mention whereof was happily put an end to by this Prince's Grandfather. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* xxix, I presume that you have many titles, whereof some are more grateful to your ears than others. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* i. iv, The two bottles: whereof one held Scotch ale and the other rum.

**8.** Of which, in *possessive* and related senses (Or XIV).

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4380 Þe faire flurysehi filds of floures & of herbys, Quarefof þe breth as of fawme blawis in oure nouse. 1534 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xvii. 43 Iohn Lesson wherof we affirm Purgatory...to be the Doctrin of Antichrist. 1576 Tusmax. *Pract.* xxviii. 72 You shal seke the hart in heaths and broomie places, wherof they then delight to crop the flowers and toppes. 1661 J. Chilmead *Irish Rebellion* 3 Hodrits, Each one street...on the South side wherof it hath a great high hill. 1753 *Memoirs's Trial* 219 In the eyes of those tenants wherof he had assumed the Protector. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xviii, Dangerous sickness, the issue wherof is in the will of Heaven. 1880 Besant *All Sorts* xxxiii, All that work for your grandfather wherof you now sweetly reap the benefit.

**†9.** To which, whereto (Or 58). *Obs. rare*—1.

1659 Leak *Waterwitch.* 25 Let there be a water wheel to the Anten, whereof let there be fastned a Wheel of thirty six Teeth or more.

Hence **†Where-o-ffen** *adv.*, in quot. in sense 5.

*c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxvii. 11 Where-offen they spoken ful pleyn.

**Whereon** (hwēr,ŏ'n), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + On *prep.* Cf. Du. *waaraan*, G. *woraan.*]

**I.** **1.** *Interrogative.* On what?

*c* 1205 Lay. 15516 Ne mihten heo nauere finden..wher on hii weore liuing. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1310 Do wurd he child þeire fader and wur Dat Sor sal him don, & wher on he sal be quunt, ne quor-on. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 968 Quare-on muse ze sa mekill, maister? 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* i. iii. 59 Tell me whereon the likelihood depends? 1602 — *Ham.* II. iv. 124 Whereon do you thinke? 1611 *Bible* 2 Chron. xxxii. 10 Whereon doe ye trust, that yee abide in the siege in Ierusalem? 1753 Johnson s. v., Whereon did he sit?

**II.** *Relative.* On which. **2.** Of local position (Or *prep.* 1–4).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16962 + 116 Til our lord in erth so mikel was not leued, Whar on þat he mijt rest on is wery beued. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi. 48 A stane wharon oure Lord satt and preched. *a* 1598 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 5 Ane gudlie greue ganis,...Hegeit...with hawthorne treis; Quhairon ane bird...lirst out hir notis. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. iii. 5 Ye place wheron thou standest, is holy grounde. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 164 A horse wherevon the Governor doth ride. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 506 He [ie. the Serpent] lick'd the ground whereon her foot had trode. 1710 *Ch. Harb.* 1. xlix, On you long level plain, at distance crown'd With crags, whereon those Moorish turrets rest. 1856 A. Morrison *Child Page* xiv, The ground was bought whereon should be built a church.

**3.** Of time, esp. with antecedent *day* (Or *prep.* 6).

1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* h vj, The astrologians estiming ye iuuil varietes of ye change to tak end in 1936 yeir and returne yairefter to ye same dayes quhairon yai fell before. 1598 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 156 On that day at noone, whereon he sayes, I shall yeeld vp my Crowne. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 158 Vpon eight seuerall dales of the yeere besides, whereon the Moores feastes are solemnized. 1827 Shelley *Rev. Islam* v. xxxvii. The eve of that great day Whereon the many nations..Decreed to hold a sacred

Festival. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Electra* 378 That fatal day whereon Our father by her treachery she slew.

**4.** Of immediately subsequent or consequent action (*On prep.* 7). Now more usually Where-upon (sense 4).

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 81 Your Highnesse . . strooke me . . Whereon (as an Offender to your Father) I . . did commit you. 1685 Fountainhall *Hist. Obs.* (Ilannatyne Club) 146 He . . kept nevertheless himself as himselfe dead, had not the Whig's carabine misgiven, whereon Douglas pistoled him presently. 1865 Kingsley *Water-bab.* iii, Whereon she curled up her lip. 1882-90 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxi, Whereon she quickly led him down on earth, And show'd him Psyche.

**5.** Of motion or direction to or towards (*On prep.* 14–). Onto which.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1896 Noe . . Lete vte a doue pat tok hir flight And fand na sted quare-on to light. a 1398 Lindkaw (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 310 Ane skaffald suhairon they pat this innocent man. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 807 He . . will therein set His triple-colour'd Bow, whereon to look And call to mind his Cov'nant. 1708 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Glass*, The Table, whereon the Glass is to be run, is of Pot Metal. 1800 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 259 The oaken shelf whereon 'tis laid.

**6.** In reference to the object of an action, feeling, etc., and in various constructional uses (*On prep.* 20–23, 28).

1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Verst be be heuuede, hueran me set ofte grat cost. 1526 Tindale *John* iv. 38, I sent you to repe that whereon ye bestowed no laboure. 1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 47 To thinke, that you have ought but Talbots shadow, Whereon to practise your sweetitie. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* i. iii. § 3 If the thing whereon he striketh chaunce to be vnstainable & harmeless. 1681 Shadwell *Virtuoso*, i. 1 If you shall chance . . to visit Bohemia, on the like occasion whereon my services are now on-foot. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 656 Flip-love-Pharo-Whisk-Vingt-un-Speculation feeds. 1841 *Silverpen Gineyra* 193 A corpse whereon A vulture has just feasted. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxi, I take the grasses of the grave, And make them pipes whereon to blow.

**†7.** Of which, whereof (*On prep.* 27). *Obs.*

c 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 48 To declare her greefe of the gret offence To theym done by Eolus, whereon they complayned. 1526 Lo. Daubeney in Ellis Ser. I. xcxxvii. 302 3/2 The duke fell sycke, wherun he dyed. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Louis C.* iii. 112 No milke to be solde, whereon butter might be made. 1624 Wotton *Job Militant* Medit. 17 The parts, whereon the World consists.

**Whereout** (hwe·rout), *adv. arch.* [f. Where 15 + Out *adv.* Cf. Du. *waaruit*, G. *woraus*.] Out of which, out from which (in various senses: see Out *adv.* and Out of).

1340 *Ayenb.* 242 Lottes wyf lokede behinde hire be cite pet turnde, hueruot hi were ique. 1378 in Horstmann *Attengl. Leg.* (1878) 133/1 Pe tre of mercy . . Where out renep oyle of lyf. c 1469 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 428 He hath betrapped me within his gynne wherout I can not scape. 1535 Coverdale *Micah* ii. 3, I deuyseth a plage, wherout ye shal not plucke youre neckes. 1598 in Feuilleratt *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 300 In the Skales . . lyeyng, wherout abate vj^ viij^. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 245 The very breach, whereout Hector great spirit flaw. 1648 Earl Monm. *tr. Biondi's Civil Wars* vii. 72, I have not wherewith to frame a History. 1768 Ducket *Lit. Nat.* (1811) I. 615 The general good becomes the root wherout all our schemes and contrivances . . are to branch. 1885 Tennyson *Q. Mary* i. 3 The heavens Whereby the cloud was moulded, and whereout The cloud descended.

**†b.** From which, whence (as an inference). *Obs.*

1589 J. Rogers *Glass Godly Love* (New Shaks. Soc.) 179 The wife must bee obedient vnto her husband, as vnto Christ himselfe; wherout it foloweth, that the saide obedience extendeth not vnto any wickednesse or euill. a 1626 W. Sclater *Exp. 4th Chap. Thess.* (1630) 12 The end wherout he is Father of Believers in both people: whereout amounts the conclusion intended.

**†c.** Also *wherezout* of (cf. Wherein(to). Obs.

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 21 Yet did hee sauour of the earth, wherout of his bodie was taken, and wherin hee was placed to liue. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxiv. 142 Being humbled in our selues by beholding the miseries wherout of we be waded. c 1658 in G. Harry *Orkney* (1805) 474 The Baillie of the paroch whereout of he has fled, shall cause him be logged at the church.

**Wherever, whereover:** see Where 15.

**Whereso** (hwē·rsō), *adv., conj. arch.* [ME. *whar swa, se*, representing OE. *swā hwær swā*: see Where and So *adv.* 17 d; Ormin's form **whærs** is influenced by ON. *hvars* = *hvar* where + *es* rel. particle.]

**1.** = Wherever 2, 3.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Wæs se me thede se erthe ne bar nan corn. c 1200 Ormin 1574, & whærs itt iss. *Ibid.* 4874, & whærse lec amm bitwennenn menn lee hatedd annn & hatedd. c 1205 Lay. 9001 Ah whare swa he fonde enne guine: þe of Rome were hider ycumen, he lette smiten hem of þet hueðle. c 1300 *Havelok* 1349 Pou maght til he aren quike, Hwore so he o worrie aren. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1797 And red wher so þou be or elles songe, That þow be vnderstonde god beseche. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* vii. 99 Penne was ich a-redy . . to lacke myn neighebores, Here werkes, here wordes wher-so ich seise. c 1460 *Play Sacrum.* 337 Syr Almyghty god mott be yow^ grde And glad yow where soo^ e rest. a 1548 Wyatt *How to vse the rowt* 13 Stay him by the same where so he walke or goo. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 18 That short reuenge the man may ouertake, Where so he be. a 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Cycle* i. (1874) 118 Since I find not one . . Whereso I be or whitheres I turn. 1879 W. Morris *Earthly Par.* IV. 165 Few indeed were there Who did not pray that well he still might fare Whereso he was. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems, Carrier Song* iv, Whereso you keep your state Heaven is pitched over you!

**2.** = Wherever 3.

c 1290 *Beket* 1363 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 145 To spene to him and alle his ȝware-so heo euere come. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1134 Quar-so þou wendes in eard. c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T.* 118 Wher so yow hyt.. Beren youre body in to euery place. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. vi. 29 No would the Prince him euer foote forsake, Where so he went. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IX. xli, I follow thee, where so thee list to goe. 1832 Neale *Med. Hymns* 134 On must the faithful warrior go Whereso the Chief precedeth.

**3.** = Wherever 4.

a 1225 ? Worster *Leg.* (Worcester *p.*) c 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 2 Whare-so I be, whare-so I syit, wiuat-so I doo. c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3201 Wher so ne her sort was set, The hool newe was wiknet. c 1547 Surrey *Poems*, *Set me wheras the sonne* 11 Thrawle, or nat large, alike whereso I dwell ; Sike, or in healthe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 790 Hee oft Frequented this' Assemblies, whereso met. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* Prol. 89 To seek your own land, whereso that may be.

**†4.** = Where 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 8496 (Gött.) Pe kind of thinges leued he Bath of eird and of water fele, Quilk war þair vertus lele . . Quer-so þai grew in wode or playn.

**Wheresoever** (hwē·rsōe·vəɹ), *adv., conj.* Now *formal* or *arch.* Also *poet.* **wheresoe'er** (-ee·ɹ); **-ere, -e're**; also 4–5 *contr.* **wher(e)so're.** [f. Where 15 + Ever; cf. Soever.]

**1.** = Wherever 2, 5.

13.. *Cursor M.* 6931 (Gött.) Bot quar-sun-euer [*Cott.* quarsum euer] þis tre lay, God schued þar-on his milites ay. 13.. *Guy, G. Kn.* 644 Quare-so-euer þys man is nelly wes stad, þe lasse was in hast þan his oþer bygge. a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 105 in *Babees Bk.* 302 Where-sere þou sitt at mete in boide, Avoide be cat. 1546 Tindale *Matt.* xxiv. 3 Whersoeuer this gospell shalbe preached . . there shall also thys that she hath done, be told for a memorial of her. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 35 We worshipe Christ him Self and his Angels, whatsoeuer they are wheresoeuer they are made their images. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iii. 79 Conquerours, who have bin hired Nothing but ruin wheresoe're they rove. 1733 Watts *Philos. Enq.* i. x. 173 Wheresoever the Mind is plac'd by Providence. 1842 Tennyson *Ulysses* 19 All experience is an arch wherethro' Gleams that untravell'd world, whose margin fades For ever and for ever when I move. 1879 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 349 The many years Wheresoever thou wasted. 1896 A. Mee *Lesson Child Jago* v, A hole where-through a very small boy might squeeze.

**2.** In reference to agency or instrumentality (Through *prep.* 7) : By means of which, whereby, wherewith. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

13.. *Northern Passion* I. 25, 222 It is my flesh þat I yow gif, Whar þurgh ȝe may þe better lif. 13.. *Gesta Alex. Magni* (G.) 284 We say a spirit enclosed in a bottle, wherwith all things he wate. 1488 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 128 Force of Powere, wher-through he may his reme kepe, mayntene, and defende. 1490–8 Barclay *Eclogues* viii. 548 Whanne shalle the holy vessel come by me where thurgh I shalle be bleraid. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1068 a A great tempest . . wherewith the fortifications of Leuerne were borne downe. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* xiii. § 2. 446 That . . Spiritual Body of Christ ; whereby, and wherethrough, he communicateth Life to Men.

**3.** In reference to cause, reason : By reason of which, on account of which, wherefore; in consequence of which, from which, whereby, whence (as result or inference) ; *rarely* referring to a person = by whom : cf. Through *prep.* 8. *arch.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 779 in *O. E. Misc.* 25 Amidden men a sweete smel He let her of his holy dep, Wherthurf me thingh him in-to his godcundnesse-fin. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 236 Ne mis na þing lwerþuih monnes muchelse wreðscð him wiðuten mare. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 259 Wher thurf me thingh þat of nothing þu ne schalt ansere noȝt. 1325 Bannock *Bruce* I. 170 Schir Ihon the Baliecll . . Assentyt till him, in all his will ; Quhar-throuh fell eftir mekil ill. *Ibid.* vii. 89 Quhar-throu. 1500–20 Dunbar xxvii. 22 For wherthrow neir I brist ; Quhairthrow I walknit of my trance. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 27 This was done without the chancellaris consent, quhairthrow he was hichlie offendit. 1638 Penkethman *Artach.* I. 3, There could be none found for money, where-through many poore people were in contempt of such Bookes of Trees. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* ii, Your Spaniard . . is a person altogether unparalleled in his own country, wherethrough he maketh not fit a count of such foreign acquaintance as were pleased to take service with him. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. vii. 7 Folk cried the name Of him wherethrough the weary struggle came.

**Wherethil** (hwe·rþil), *adv.* In later use *Sc.* [f. Where 15 + Till *prep.* Cf. (M)Sw. *hvartill*, Da. *hvortil*.]

**1.** *interrog.* + **a.** = next, 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7292 ' Lauerdingen,' he said, ' sais me quartill þat yee me folc?' c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 113 þis ȝe þe ffygure of 4ȝe ȝeordes ; wharetill þou haue ȝe askyd me þerof?

**b.** To what place, whither.

1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 21 She tauld the friskie fairy thing Whairtill to flee on rapid wing.

**2.** *rel.* = next, 3.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxx. Though thy beryng nyng hath bene nourygrade, He lowis nocht oppon it quhare till repent. Now all that turnis, and lukes on the dert. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 362 How Carentius schew his Desyre to thir Tua Kingis, quhairtill that grantit laith na gladdie.

**Whereto** (hwe·rtōi), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. Where 15 + To *prep.* Cf. Du. *waartoe*.]

**I.** Interrogative.

**1.** To what? (in various senses of To *prep.*); in what direction, whither?

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14488 Quen i sagh son warto þat tight, Al mi limm can þai light, And mi mode a mend. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 293 Wher to so þai turn þair mode *Hid* (prose) 38 Pan sal man rede hir þe reule, þat also may wete wherin whar to who salle halde hir. *c* 1500 in *26 Pol. Poems* 149 Wherto ys a man more lyke, Then to a floure that springeth in may?! 1582 *Lett. Lopez Lopez* (Camden) 253 Wherto thys schall growe I can nott saye. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 154/40 Wherto, *quo rsum.* 1590 Shak. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 256 Lysander whereto tendes all this? 1855 Browning *Misc.* xii. 56 What is matter? Whence is it? and Whereto?

**†2** [1 o *prep.* ¶] To what end? for what purpose? for what reason? wherefore? what for? *Obs*

*a* 1225 *St. Mariher* 16 Herto schulle tellen þe cunde? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 464 Wat mon ernde is ide, Sholde ich lilleue? mai war to? 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvi. 50 Jhesus seide to him, Freend, wherto art thou comen? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 287 How sche that schrape ewedes blod Receive scholde and do wilnad so as sche wot wherto it schal. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Qwhere to pan graders þou pe riches of þis werld? *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv. Alter* 46, I ame sent vn to pe for kyng Alexander to wete where to pou tynes to come till hym to gyffe hym bistelle *c* 1450 *Henry Hallen* 231 Quhye to wald I her of? Quhat profess mak? 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* iv, What is it of wiche thou berest on thy fyste and wher to mit [se a spere hawkl good 1588 Newton *Lem. Health* (1636) iv. 176 We marueyle muche wherto thus lingering stule Pilles out so longe. *a* 1585 Montgomerie (*Cherrie & Slae* 653 Quhairto suld he count heir? 1586 *Marr. Nature* iii. 46 Wherto serues mercy, But to cal fort the vsage of Offence? 1590 Spenser *Poems Se Dial.* 144 But whate to did ye t, oman, let me hear?

**II** Relative

**3** To which (in various senses of To *prep.*)

1340 *Ayenb.* 163 Þeruore is pe reuunde st ope of pise untue pe slke pet tune myster klau crist deþ þerto huerto pe Blasofes me mote come. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiii. 350 The sone of a maide hath nit wherto he maylay his hede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21 b The fruytes of the heuenly countrey, wherto they be. 1598 Shak. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 21 I has night I ha ha no sole, vnless dreame, Which I dreame nusted many a Guest. 1602 — *Ham.* v. 2. 334 That Lone, (wherto he was conuerte I). 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 368 Wherto th' Almighty smiled, and said it good. 1798 Lyrical *Ball.* (1834) II. 356 The perfection wherein their statues are destined. 1810 Visct. *Athorp* xxi. 230 A matter wherein I gave not all the attention and sequence. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xii. 162 The mast step wherein shall the cords be tied

**†b.** In addition to or besides which (*To prep.* 18)

1598 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 97 Quharto, till dedi sow wt some clatter, Ar nocht in the Bybill to knaw

**†4** For which (purpose); cf. *To prep.* 8 *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* lv. 11 The worde also that commeth out of my mouth shal prospere in the thinge, wherti I sende it

Hence **Wheretoever, Wheretosoever** *adverb*, to whatever place, whithersoever. *rare*

1609 *Bible* (Douay) *1 Sam.* xxvii. 5 David also went forth to all thinges wheretosoever he should him. 1635 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* 1. 5 Because the Heavens of all the parts of the World are most conspicuous vs that wheretoever we bend our eyes, being the m st glorious Creature.

**Whereunder** (hwɛ:rɔ·ndəɹ) *adv. & conj.* [f. Where 15 + Under *prep.* Cf. Du *waarondet*, Da *hvorunder*, G. *worunter*] Under which

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1348 Him thoght it right fra erth til hell Quine vnder he sagh his fa per abell 1390 *Gower Conf.* III. 221 He mayde mestre Nede, and sette him next hemself, vnder wolde by godes zone y ccrteyned and y bore. 1550 Bale *Image Both. A* ij b Dyd thus hime we here what is done already, and what is it to come vnder this next trompet blowyng (where vnder we now worlde is bounde) but the the second wo. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xv. lxii, Her amber tresses Where vnder loue himselfe in ambush placed 1615 *Lanthorn for Cat. Rock* (1907) iii. 493 He ought to shutt downe the bolcase where vnder the water Runeth 1697 W. Sclater *Expos 2 Thess* (1669) 162 The misse dle bondage vnder sinne and Satan, wherevnder we groaned not? 1838 Landor *Pericles & Aspasia* I. xxiv 49 The flowery bank of youth, wherevnder runs the stream that yet we irreverently 1888 H. S. Holland *Eng. Hist. p.*, Known wherevnder lay the wise trout.

**Whereuntil**(hwɛ:rʊntɪl), *adv. dial* [f. Where 15 + Until.]

1888 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 403 Wee know where-vntill it doth amount. 1898 Sweet *N. E. D.* Suppl., Whereuntil, who is rescued from the horns of the altar, whereunto she was fast bound by the chains of human law.

**Whereunto** (hwɛ:rʊntū, -ntŭ), *adv.* Now *formal or arch* [f. Where 15 + Unto]

**1** Unto what? †to what end? for what purpose? wherefore? = Wherefore 1, 2

1483 Cath. *Angl.* (Lansd. MS.) Whan send I thus, qwhare-unto lyve I longer? 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* liv 149 Alle they that ben here knowe well wherunto the thynge is come 1548 Lindale *Matt.* xi. 16 But whe vnvnto shall y lyken this generacion? — *Acts* v. 24 When the hye prestes herde these thynges they doubted off them, where vnto this worlde growe 1552 Latimer *Serm., St. Andrew's Day* (1562) 119 When Andrew hearde where vnto Christ was come, he forsoke his master Ihon, and came to Christe. 1865 Pusey *Expositor* 374 Which, whereunto it may lead, one had rather not think

**2** *rel* Unto which = Whereto 3.

1490 Caxton *Faytes Armes.* III. The operacy on and wil nesses of helle wherunto she hath subdued and subiectid her-self 1526 Tindale *Acts* xiii. 2 Seperat me Barnabas and Saul for the worke where vnto I have called them *Ibid.* xxvii. 8 A place called Goodis portes. Neye where vnto was a citie called Lasea. 1539 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 50 Decrees whervnto the seid Abbott was neuer parties 1580 *Bible* (Genev.) Deut. iv. 26 I the land, wherevnto ye go ouer Iorden to possesse it 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 24 The Waue of fforth in ane arme of the Sea, and a place quharunto the sey flowis and ebbis 1612 Shake. *Cymb.* III. vi. 13 With three Legions Which I haue spoke of wherevnto your hvsh Must be supplanted 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. ii. 6 The omniscience of God, whereunto there is nothing concealable *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* iv (1690) 36 It is also material to examine, how many of them do get more than they spend and how many less. In order wherevnto it is to be considered, that [etc.] 1760–73 Bedome *Anat. Compend.* (1809) IV. 128 Your family vault, whereunto even my Hurry must finally adjourn 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 231 You may be too sudden variations of temperature where unto the glass would be subjected 1846 Lincoln *Miracl.* xxxiii. (1860) 464 Unlike as was his outward appearance to that wherewith these eyes were accustomed 1871 R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 5) 532 The lower valve of the shell being fixed immediately to the rock wherevnto the animal is attached

**Whereupon** (hwɛ:rɔ·pɔn'), *adv. (conj.) rare.* [f. Where 15 + *Upon prep.*]

**†1** = Whereupon 2, 3 b. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Hy comp doun of be heye roche hueroppe hy sy3en 1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Wher up I pray yow hertyly to take matere in contenance.

**2** Up which, upwards along which.

1880 *Athenæum* 17 Apr. 502/3 The spiral track Whereup flish perfect souls 1916 H. F. G. Jones *Relig. Ancells* 29 Into the high ranks of wine Wherup the purple haze of even climbs

**Whereupon** (hwɛ:rɔpɔ·n), *adv.* Now *arch or formal* exc. in sense 4 [f. Where 15 + Upon]

**1** *Interrogative.* Upon what? = Whereon 1; † in early use = at what? about or concerning what? upon what ground, wherefore?

*a* 1225 *Cursor M.* 18774 (Gott) God men of gralle, Quar apon sun wonder se? 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxxviii. 6 Where wast thou when I layed ye foundacions of the earth? Where vpon couched the pilers of it? 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ.* 183 So that I to him brought from out your campe some certain newes & wherupon you thought Whether you meant to take the way of your tackle stand 1596 Shakes. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 42 The King hath sent to know The nature of your Griefes and whereupon You conuire from the Bed of Ciuill Peace. 1611 Authorized Version *Isa.* xxix. 7 The vision of vp Nezabkin ar Quickly (sayes he) receiue those that are Ciuill, Ere (vpth hee) you vse in an ill Name now hee vsd so, I can tell wherupon 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 1 Having in the first sentence of the nation's extreme necessity makes us to consider wherupon to fasten our resolutions

**II** *Relative* Upon which.

**2** Of local position = Whereon 2 (In first quot. *fig.*)

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 42, I thenke speke of thing [se I ve] wherupon the worlde mot stonde, And hath don sithen it began. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 154 In be myddes es a litell hille, where upon is a chapell. 1560 *Tom. Ieley Myst.* xxiii. 259 God's son base not where upon his hede to rest. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* xvi. 26 The pilers wher vpon the hole stondeth. 1584 Hieron *Sermons' Nemeel.* 51/1 *Omnis virtutum*, in middle ende, wherupon the hen sitteth not. *c* 1600 in *Literary Mem.* (1907) II. 163 A small hill wherupon to built a strong castle 1853 Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Borde* I. 20 The site wherupon stood the Bastle.

**†b.** Over which, as superior *Obs. rare*—1

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Lady* 69 This monastery of Syon, where vpon our lady is chyef lady & quyene.

**3.** Upon which as a basis of action, argument, etc.; and in various constructional uses

1522 Fisher *Serm. agst Luther* 1 Wks. (1876) 313 If great occasion be geuen Martyn Luther a doctour of hold all his articles 1566 in *Mem. Church Misc.* 146 For pryment of the sowme quhareupon the namin [lands] lyis in wad-set 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* (Wks. 1846) I. 55 In this doctrine he found the mercy of his God, whereupon he ever exhorted all men to depend 1586 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 114 [The] Erle of Huntlie, quhairupon he assembled ane armie 1610 Healey *St. Aug. City of God* xvii. iv. 695 The text whereupon all this prof hetesses words haue dependance 1643 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 125, I haue in this bound a note of concerning occasion whereupon to renew my desyre. 1710 in *Nature Peerage Fr.* (1874) 232 We declare that the not delivery hereof shall be no prejudice hereupon to induce quarrell.

**†b.** (with clause as antecedent) On which account, for which reason, wherefore; (of derivation or inference) from which, whence. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Hake *Lawe Armes* (S. T. S.) 80 Force is one of the principall ornamentis of Imaii, quhairupon men sayis wit that wndry folk has the body rycht lyttil, and yit that have the hert and the curage grete 1567 Maitland *Forest* 91 Penteran is a noune of all colours whereupon it is so named. 1618 Sharp. *Want T.* iv. iv. 763 One that will eyther push-on, or pluck back, thy Businesse there where vpon I command thee to open thy Purse. 1689 Makyson *Hist.* III. 337 I vetence a warke hanging in the Ayre, where vp on it is called Stoneheng vulg sly, and is reputed among Miracles. 1694 Playford *Skill Mus.* (ed. 7) II. 46 In the whole Art and Mystery [that knowledge of singing is in that place to be omitted, and not any Passion to be used which answereth of Languishment Whereupon we see how neces sary a certain Legislator is for a Musician

**4** Upon (the occurrence or occasion of) which, immediately after and in consequence of which, and when that happened, or was done or said

The chief current sense, re-sembling 3 b in having a clause or statement as antecedent, but expressing a different shade of meaning

1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 27 The said the Kyng hade wreton to dyvers persones here quyte hade promysed men, querupon I promyse a man. 1598 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. xiv. 7 The daughter of Herodias daunced before them: and pleased Herod Whereupon [Tindale, Wherefor] he promised with an othe, to giue her whatsoeuer she would aske of him 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 121 Sultan Tokonac assailed him whereupon ensued a most bloudy and furious battaile 1727 De Foe *Augl. Tradesm.* II. (ed. 2) 18 I cannot learn from my fortune . . whereupon I have taken a house in one of the principal streets of the town of — 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 269 The lord of the manor sold the lands to John Podger in fee who died two years after, whereupon the estate descended to his son Marmaduke 1885 Swinburne *Misc.* (1886) 232 She assented on condition that the divorce could be lawfully effected without imputation of her son's legitimacy, whereupon Lethington undertook that she should be rid of her husband without any prejudice to the child

**5** Upon the subject of which, about, as to, or concerning which Now *rare*

*a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lii. 4 Then they shewyd hym there conclusyon where a pon they were agreyd 1621 *Bible* (Authorized) *Acts* xxiv. 12, I perceaued them coen vnto strange cities, Whereupon [Tindale, All out the which thynges, R. V. 188: *margin*, On which errand] as I went to Damascus [etc.] 1613 Shakes. *Hen. VIII* II. iv. 201, I did answer Cleeue And made me Mistris to the worlds report Whereupon he meant more to goe Then I obtayn'd

**6** Of motion or direction towards some thing, etc. = Whereto 5, 6

1580 *Bible* (Genev.) Amos iv. 7 One piece was rained vpon and the piece whereupon it rained not withered 1850 Shake Scrip. xx. 6 An ass's Gelding the object where upon it gazeth 1651 *Bible Rock* xxiv. 25 The downe of their eyes, and that wherupon they sit set their mind on it 1878 *Archæol. Journ. of Kent* II. 22 This young Prince took infinite delight in the sport of this picture, whereupon his eyes were incessantly fixed

**Wherever** (hwɛ:rɛ·vəɹ), contr (*poet*) **where'er** (hwɛ:rɛ·ə), *adv., conj* Originally as two words (and so still in sense 1), subsequently often with hyphen, *where-ever* (*where e'er*), etc; now always in contracted spelling *wherever* (*whɛrɛ'ɛr*), the final *e* of *where* coalescing with the initial *e* of *ever* [f. Where + Ever *adv.* 8 d, e]

**1.** *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *where?* implying perplexity or surprise Now *colloq*

More properly without a subject clause: see 8 d [1871 *Blackf. Mon.* 169 Where wylle he aefre on his agze e slan, se he mid pon annum hmæle wes bezyrwed pe of ollenda kæruin awenden wyrd?] [1881 *Quiver* Dec. 1. 1 Where ever he found a sezen, selleth hoem pohten ware esteme anderstonden soch heued were skenned *c* 1435 *Lord Portsyngale* 625 Seyst Mure, seyd he chyld so fre, Where wyngge yentyll sqyre myght be, That I with me to wod browght? 1804 J. A. Hollope *Reffo* II. vi, Where ever am I to find a girl that can pull me up out of my chair in the way you do? 1875 Fanny Sutter *Dial. Sol. Mouth*, Why I soul to know Wherever have you been? 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xvii, Wherever did the cayenne come from?

**2** *rel* At (or to) any place at which.

Occas. introducing a subject clause: see place at which also with correlative *there, thither*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4672 Ioseph, Did gader sarrantz and squier Quar euer pai [*Göttingen MS.* wher euer] him fonden 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xvii. 37 Where euere the body schal be also the egles schulen be gedered to gidere thidur 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 67 Quhair euir we met with vthir in hand I hecht, I to rad thy riualrie with a rowt 1593 Shakes. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 141 Good Vnckle helpe to order seuerall powres To Oxford, or where ere these Traitors are 1728 Swift *Subject* No. xiii. p. 2 Where ever you are Damon appeares also 1736 Burnet *Mem. Metastasio* I. 207 Wherever a great personage happens to be will be one the principal place 1887 Pusey *Real Pres. D. ct. Fathers* I. 225 Wherever our Lord and Saviour is, there He is to be adored 1882 Besant *All Sorts* xxxvii, Wherever there are Englishmen, working, fighting, or spouting, there are some of them families among them

**b.** *ellipt* (with loss of relative force) At any place whatever, at some place or other. Now *rare* or *Obs*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii (*Eugenia*) 741 Send me quhare ewyr pu wil 1378 *Cursor M.* 1154 (Fairf.) Wip al pou sal be leiden vile Quare ewer pou be, pou sal be saf 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 346 Pat ilke brober pat is exiled or in exile *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 32 b Myn arme is roted awey pat was wont to peynte pe ymage of be wherever I went *a* 1568 Ingelby (*Percy Soc.*) Pitsligow 15 Quhair ever he ryid Quhair ever he raid he was conveyit with ane thowsand horsmen 1580 Prior *Odo Innis. Hor.* 2, Where e'er old Rhine has flowed Wher ever I am 1590 Shak. *Com. Err.* *Mother* 2 Apr., I desire you to give my duty to my father, and wherever else it is due 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. 247 Wherever he came, the gentry flocked round him 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* iii, 'I don't you want to go there?' 'Where, sir?' 'Where? Why, wherever you are going,' said the gentleman.

**4** Introducing a qualifying (equivalent to conditional or disjunctive) dependent clause, often with verb in subjunctive: In (or to) whatever place; whether at one place or another; no matter where.

*c* 1430 *Syr Tryamr* 1461 In worlde where ever he be bestedd, And he wyste of thys cruse, Hyddur he wolde take hys pase 1593 Shakspere *Sheph. Cal.* June, Hye to the soyle, where euer that she bee 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 170 Of other Creatures, as him pleases best, Wherever plac't, let him dispose 1793 Earl Orrery *Let. from Italy* II. ii. 28 Wherever they come from, they live perform'd very well. 1872 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 45, I should not chuse to be further removed from that blessed spot, where ere it be. 1884 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxii. 356 England claimed the right of visiting and searching merchant ships, to whatever nation belonging, whatever the cargoes, wherever the destination 1894 Miss Jamieson *Comme il Faut.* 69

Unhappy that nation, wherever it may be, where the question is yet pending between servitude and civil war!

**5.** *gen.* or *fig.* In any case, condition, or circumstances in which (cf. WHERE 10 b).

1600 SHAKE. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 89 *Phe.* Why I am sorry for thee gentle Silvius. *Sil.* Where your excuse is, relieue would be. 1605 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* vi. 246 Wherewher but hath receded from the Mosaick Account of that Earth, he hath... receded from Nature, and Matter of Fact. 1768 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx. For wherever there is genius there is pride. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 221 Wherever the state of the patient's strength is sufficient to undergo the process... it ought frequently to be practised. 1884 FAIRBAIRN in *Contemporary Rev.* Apr. 588 Wherever the laws of mechanics rule, necessity rules; wherever necessity rules, freedom is absent.

**Wherewith** (hwe-ɹwiθ), *adv.* (*sb.*) Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + WITH *prep.*]

**I. 1.** *Interrogative.* With what?

*c* 1200 OSBERN 1278 & tiss me birþ nu shewenn þuw Wham it þuw mann birtæcnenn, & whatwiþþ itt mann fesstenenn þuw Inn þare rihhte lafe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* Prol. 141 Wher with sholdе he make his paiement If he ne vsed his wyf instrument? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ezek. xv. 15 Oh Lord, wher with shall I saue Israel? 1557 *N. T.* (Genev.) Matt. v. 13 But if the salte haue lost his sauour wher with shal one salt? 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. 264 Which with, O with, but with this I passion to say wherewith.

**II.** *Relative.* With which.

**2.** In instrumental and allied senses: By means of which; whereby.

Sometimes followed by *to* and inf. (see To *prep.* B. 16, and cf. b below).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 585 Min handax..3eare wib ich abbe geans & maidman asslawe. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5309 Now haue we noght wherwith to wirk our liue wit fin bis dai. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3835 þe pape þe kays heis, Wharwith he bathe opnes and spers. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 214 Whe..hath ynow wherwith to make Of worldes good whom that hire liste. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. vii, He brake the cord wherwith he was bounden. 1526 TINDALE *Rph.* iv. 14 The greate sleyght wherewith they lye. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vi. 17 Those honors .. Wherewith your Maiestie loades our House. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* x, He gat water in a pan, wherewith he slokend out the fyre. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 29 That royal robe of heroic verse wherewith he had clothed the ungrown limbs of limping...tragedy. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durh. Univ.* 5 Without even a shirt of his own wherewith to cover his body.

**b.** With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative involving antecedent (cf. WHAT C. I.*): That, or something, with which; the means by which. (*a*) with ellipsis of inf. (see also *c*), with *to* and inf.; (*b*) with ellipsis of following clause.

(*a*) *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 As gentille wimmen mest alle ma o worlde þat nabbeð hwerwiþ buggen ham bridgume. *c* 1290 S. *Eng. Leg.* 419/46 He bischet .. þe feste felle were Bote hem hadden þe wombe loye a-rere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 302 And bisily gan for the soules preye Of hem pat yaf hym wher with to scoleye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6710 I wole ..Telle how a man may legge a nede That hath not wherwith hym to fede. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* liv. 181 He had not wherwith to arme him. 1611 *Bible* PROV. xxv. 20 So shall I haue wherwith to answere him that reproacheth me. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lviii. 560 They will have wherewith to purchase the produce of other countries. 1856 MRS. HOWOD *Daisy Chain* v. 70 There is wherewith to build the school. *a* 1891 R. W. BARBOUR *Thoughts* (1900) 80 Where is one to get wherewith to help another if not from the healed scars in himself?

(*b*) 1303 LANGTOFT *Pr. Ch.* C. vii. 317 Robert þe ryfeler on reddite lokede, And for þer was nat wher-with he wepte ful sore. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cev. 99 They ..tarryed.. to refreshe them ..for the most parte they had nothyng wel wherwith. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 81 Holde the candle to them that haue wherewyth, and wyll sette lustily to it.

**c.** = WHEREWITHAL 2 c, which is more usual.

(*a*) 1672 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 200 A least bitling is made as much for cleaving, if it had but a wherewith to be cloven. 1876 SPENCER *Prine. Sociol.* I 15. I. 19 Heavily taxed in providing the wherewith to meet excessive loss by radiation.

(*b*) 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Wherewit*, property estate; money.

**3.** With which as cause or occasion; in consequence of which; on account of or by reason of which, whereat; by the agency or effect of which, whereby.

*c* 1440 *Generydes* 3577 Where with the Sowdon was full wele apayde. 1567 TURBERV. *Bk. Quarrelling* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 67 In my conuersasse affirmit be zou, quharewith that be offendit. 1652 in Fuller *Abel Redivo., Melancthon* 239 He fell into an Ague, wherewith in few dayes he dyed. 1665 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 346 The World will need suit It a good example, to reform the evil wherewith it abounds. 1814 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 313 Every body that I see talks highly of your steady interest with the public, wherewith..I am pleased but not surprised. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxiii, I have far too much wherewith to reproach myself.

**4.** Along with or together with which; against which; in addition to or besides which.

14.. *Ephyphanye in Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 123 Saf among we kneie among the racke Wherewith the son was somtyme thi pleasance. 1611 *Bible* 1 Chron. xxix. 21, I sons not against thee this day, but against the house, wherewith[1] haue warre. 1698 EARL MONM. tr. *Fenelon's Want Cyprus* 82 To boot wherewith, he had secret instructions given him.

**b.** With which occurrence, act, etc.: whereat, whereupon, ‘and with that’. *arch.*

*a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lvii. 193 As sone as the lady saw Geramus she knew him, wherwith she began to chaunge colours. 1875 *Bp. T. Cooper's Reg.* (Linc. Epist. Rec. 1912) 123 He gott her neck under his arme & with his leyshe wouldе have bound her wherwith she cried out. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* iv. 81 Yet after this he wilе his hast, wherewith such speed she makes. 1608 GAGE *West Ind.* 187 We saw the monster site and move, wherewith we made haste from him. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Last Confess.* 133 Then all the blessed maidens..laughed up at once..Wherewith I woke.

**Wherewithal** (hwe-ɹwiðɔ̄·l), *adv.* (*sb.*) [f. WHERE 15 + WITHAL.]

**I. 1.** *Interrogative.* = prec. 1. *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxviii[i], 9 Where withall shall a yonge man cleane his waye? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. M iij b, Where withall I wherche the shall men haue or make prouysion for our eate? 1611 *Bible* Matt. vi. 31 Wherewithall shall wee be clothed? 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 96 He never was so hard run for money. Knew not wherewithal to pay his duties.

**II.** *Relative.*

**2.** = prec. 2. *arch.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxvii. 363 The iuyce of Aloë .. openeth the belly, in purging..humours, especially suche wherewithal the stomacke is burdened. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. i. 55 Northumberland, thou Ladder wherewithall The mounting Bullingbroke ascends my Throne. 1615 WITHER *Sheph. Hunt.* IV. E 5, The rest Wherewithall thy minde is blest. *a* 1673 HOOTON *Exper. Pr. Lviii.* 7 (1675) 300 He is now like the Egyptian Task-masters, which require bricks, and give no straw wherewithal to make it. 1709 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VIII. 88 The..marks of his good-will and gratitude wherewithal they had been honoured. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, Mrs. Miff has heard..that the lady hasn't got a sixpence wherewithal to bless herself. 1870 MORRIS *Jason* III. 114 The love I had thereto was not so much above That wherewithal I loved the silver ring.

**b.** With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative = prec. 2 b. (*a*) followed by inf. with *to*; (*b*) with ellipsis of inf. (See also *c*.) *arch.*

(*a*) 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 93 If he haue not wherewithall to maintaine his estate. 1639 MILTON *Hirc. Image* 32 No people to pray him tithes, but his own children and seruants that he loued wherewithal to pay him, but of his own. 1693 *Mem. Count Teckely* III. 66 Teckely being in the Neighbourhood, without having wherewithal to entertain so great a Guest. 1742 FIELDING *Joseph Andrews* IV. i, When your ladyship's livery was strip off, he had not wherewithal to buy a coat. 1858 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxxix, Those that have had, and hoiled him with every shot...He had not wherewithal to return the compliment.

(*b*) 1649 *Lond. Prodigal* I. ii, The charge is small charge, sir! I thanke God my father left me wherewithal. 1813 SHARP, *Hen. VIII*, I. iii. 59 That Churchman Heares a bountious minde indeed...His dewes fall euen y^e where...*L. San.* He may, my Lord, but where are those that haue wherewithall? 1844 DICKENS *Martin C.* xxiv, With..the means a-nigh wherritted to death wi' trouble.

**Wherrow,** var. WHARROW.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xxiii. 679 The roote is rounde lyke a wherrow or wherle, or rather like a little round apple.

**Wherry** (hwe·ri), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 **whery(e, 6 wherrye, -oy, where, whirie, whyr(i)e, whyrry(e, -ie, whesry, 6–7 wherie, whirr(e)y, -ie, 7 wheery, 9 whurry.** [Etymology obscure; perh. f. WHIRR with suggestion of rapid movement.]

**1.** A light rowing-boat used chiefly on rivers to carry passengers and goods.

1443 *For. Acc. 22 Hen. VI* (Camden) (P. R. O.), Vnius Batelle vocate Wherry. c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 6 Then came suche a winde fro wynchester That blewe those women ouer the ryuer, In wherye. 1530 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1. 24 For murderinge of two straungers in a wherie in the Thames. 1536 *Mem. Dr. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 277 Payd to Mayster Clay with his men in a wherie with my Lady. 1538 *Acts 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 16 Preamble, The Whiries & Boates nowe occupied & vsed in and vpon the Ryuer of Thamis. 1540 *Household Bks.* (Percy Soc. [Thames]). 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 615 He tokе a Whirry, and so escaped to London. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Ser. Serm.* (1592) 83 They trouble for feare, like women that are sicke at sea or ly stir in the whirry. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Sept., My pictures and fine things, that I will bring home in wherrys. 1689 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 320 John Temple ..flung himself over a wherry which was then shooting the bridge. 1702 SWIFT *Judge Bond* 24 Our Boat is now saild to the Stygian Ferry, There to supply old Charon's lenky Wherry. 1750 *Universal Chron.* 14 Oct. 318 The Watermen..whose going up the Isis in a wherry with a sail, were overset by a sudden gust of wind. 1780 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Yawl*, a wherry or small ship's boat, usually rowed by four or six oars. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. ix, Nothing moving on the stream but watermen's wherries and coal-lighters. 1861 *Church. Pr. 1st. Ed.* II. 1918 A Sea wherry, Smaller craft—wherries, steam-launches, tenders, and what not.

**2.** A large boat of the barge kind: see quots. *local.*

*a* 1589 R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 740, I tooke a resolution with my selfe..to enter presently so farre into that River with two double whirries, and fourtie persons one or other. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2672/3 Four large Wherries...which we brought..from Dublin, in which there were put 150 Grandeirs. *a* 1788 in *Orig. Forty-Five* (S. H. S. 1916) 260 They were alarmed by five wherries, the same, as they supposed, that landed the Campbells the night before... The wherries sailed by to the southward without ever stopping. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Wherry, wherrey*, a large boat—a sort of barge or lighter. 1837 WRIGHT *Prov. Dict.* s. v., A wherry ..on the East-Norfolk and East-Suffolk rivers it is a large sailing boat, carrying from 15 to 35 tons of merchandise. 1869 SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wherry*,..a decked vessel used in fishing in different parts of Great Britain and Ireland. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 3/8 A coal wherry belonging to Atkinson, Shields.

**3.** A large four-wheeled dray or cart without sides. *local.*

1881 [see *wherry driver* in 4]. 1886 *Leeds Mercury* 1 Apr., One new light Spring Wherry, carry one ton.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wherry-boat,*

-rower, -slave, -wharf, (sense 2) wherry yacht, (sense 3) wherry-driver. Also WHERRYMAN.

1538 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 134 Passynge the rivers of Thames or Medwaye by barge or *wherybote*. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. v. The Capitoline...escaped to the key, where he tooke a small barge or wherrie-bote. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178 "Wherry driver. c 1515 *Cocks Lorell's B.* 11 Bargemen, *wherry rowers*, and oysers. 1569 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1571) 212 You maie remember, that Iulius the 2...from a wherry slaue, not worthie to be name d became a Pope. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xxiv. We reached the *wherry*-wharf at Kingston. 1896 *Daily News* 3 June 5/6 At Lowestoft...Dr. Jameson...boarded a *wherry* yacht.

Hence **Wherry** *v.* *trans.*, to carry in or as in a wherry; **Wherrying** *vbl. sb.*, the plying of a wherry.

1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Isl.* I. 24 Buoyant shells, On stormless voyages...Wherried their tiny mariners. 1902 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 41, I chucked up th' wheel'yen' and went deck-drawnd'. 1909 *Daily Mirror* 30 Dec. 3/1 [They] are men who have always picked up their living by wild fowling, poaching, wherrying.

**Wher'ry,** *sb.*[2] *dial.* = WHERRET *sb.*

1726 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* I. (1728) 14 Somewhat fetcht me such a wherry a-cross the Shins, that down came I flop o' my Face.

**Wherry,** obs. var. WHIRRY *v.*

**Wherryman** (hwe·rrimĕn). Pl.-men. Forms: see WHERRY *sb.*[1]; also 6 whirriman, 6–7 wherriman. [f. WHERRY *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1] 4 p.] A man employed on a wherry (sense 1 or 2).

1533 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxvii. 28 All whirry men, and all marryners vpon the see. 1544 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) I. 118 John Veers...of the parishe of Sainte Olyff in the Haye of Sowthwerke, wherryman. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 176 There is neuer a whirriman at Westminster bryge, but he can answere to thys. 1593 BACON *Lett. & Life of Bacon* I. 50 Nov., As he shot in an excellent wherryman, who you know looketh towards the bridge when he pulleth towards Westminster. 1661 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Scotland* I. Ser. 2 (1901) 130 The Tracey of Great Yarmouth...wherryman. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 145 The society of watermen and wherrymen. 1909 A. I. SHAND *Days of Peel* 19 They had run the old wherrymen and sculls off the Thames.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178. 1893 P. H. EMERSON (*title*) On English Leagans, being an account of the Voyage of Two Amateur Wherrymen on the Norfolk and Suffolk Rivers and Broads. 1897 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/3 Wherrymen and anglers report the destruction of large numbers of coarse fish in the lower reaches of the Norfolk tidal rivers.

**Whersore,** obs. contr. f. WHERESOEVER.

**Whersh,** variant of WERSH *a.*

**Whert,** var. QUART, QUERT *a.* and *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

**Wherve,** variant of WHARVE.

**Wherville, Whery, Whese, Whesen, Whesille, Whess, Whest, Wheston, Wheston:** see WHIRL, VERY, WHOSE, WHITSUN, WEASEL, WASH *v.*, QUEST *sb.*[1], QUESTION, WHETSTONE.

**Whet** (hwet), *sb.*[1] [f. WHET *v.*]

**1.** An act of sharpening; *transf.* the interval between two sharpenings of a scythe, etc.; also *fig.* an occasion, turn, 'go'. Now *dial.*

a 1628 J. PRYSTON *Saints Daily Exerc.* (1629) 12 The whetting of the sithe, though it be a set up in the work for a time, yet, as our common saying is, a whet is no let. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 32 A good mower will goe the breadth of those broade-lands with a whette. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* XXX. If the affatus comes, give way, Robert; never heed me: I'll bear it this whet (time). 1892 HOSE *Mem. sxi.* (1893) 194 'Well, Booth,' I would say to his sick neighbour, 'thee'd like to get better, wouldn't thee, Booth?' But thee mun dee, this whet.'

**2.** *fig.* something that incites or stimulates desire; an incitement or inducement to action.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 113 *marg.*, The sloth of the Moors a whet to the Banyans. 1720 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 6 Diversion shou'd never be any more than a Whet in order to the better...Pursuit of our Works. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Eur.* 32/2 The carnage at Patræ gave a new whet, which was not at all wanted, to the...revenge of the Greeks. 1846 LOWELL *Hand-ldk. Lowell* (1858) 11 Let us...whet the reverence as a whet for the visitor's curiosity. 1880 J. CAIRD *Univ. Addr.* (1898) 134 For some minds...the whet of society is indispensable in order to the attainment of the right temper and use of their powers. 1882 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* iii. (1892) 123 Solitude: an excellent thing in itself, and a good whet for company.

**b.** Something that whets the appetite; chiefly, light refreshment taken as an appetizer or to stave off hunger till the next meal; *esp.* an appetizer in the form of a small draught of liquor; a dram, a drink (cf. *wet*).

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* II. 21 Let's whet; I bring some Wine. Come on; I love a Whet. 1692 RAY *Dict.* II. 2 (1693) 191 The President of the Council...engaged me to take a Glass of Wormwood Wine as a whet before dinner. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. 209 An Ivy Table is a certain whet; You would not think how heartily he'll eat. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 279 Fruit, Wine, Tobacco, and Salt Bits for a Whet, being placed before them, they continue Drinking till Midnight. 1738 *Fielding's Pasquin* v. 58 I have brought the Colonel to take a Morning's Whet with you. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) III. 360 They whipt out two Bottles of Champaigne instantly, for a Whet, as they called it. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 239 To make a nice Whet before Dinner. Cut some slices of bread...fry them in butter, [etc.]. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* To *Sir W. Phillips* 8 Aug., I have seen turnips make their appearance, not as a dessert, but by way of *hors d'oeuvres*, or whets. 1892 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 477 As he waits out in the morning he takes what is called a small glass (half a gill) of bitters at the first gros-shop he passes; and commonly takes a second whet (another half gill) before he gets to work. 1893 in F. D. Palmer *Diary of C. Y. P.* (1892) 119 The Corporation gave a 'whet' at the Town Hall. 1894 W. JERDAN *Autobiogr.* I. xxiii. 289 He...swallowed his two dozen of green oysters as a whet, and proceeded to dine. 1979 STEVENSON *Treas. Cevennes* 50 Father Michael ... gave me a glass of liqueur to stay me until dinner...The whet administered, I was left alone.

**Whet** (hwet), *v.* Forms: 1 **hwettan,** 4 **quette,** 4–7 **whette,** 5–7 **whett,** 7–8 **wet,** 6– **whet**; *pa. t.* 1 **hwette,** 3 **whette, 3wette,** 4 **wette,** 4–6 **whette,** 6–7 **whet,** 8 *Sc.* **whatt**; *pa. pple.* 3 **iwhet,** 4–5 **ywhet(t,** **whette,** 4–8 **whet**; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4–5 **whettid,** 5– **whetted.** [OE. *hwettan* = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wetten*, OHG. *wezzan* (MHG. *wetzen*, G. *wetzen*), ON. *hvetja* (Sw. *vässa*, Da. *hvæsse*) = Goth. **xwatjan*, f. *xwat-* (whence OE. *hwæt*, etc.; see WHAT *a.* 2).]

**1.** *trans.* To sharpen, put a sharp edge or point upon.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxvi. 286 Swa se hreo grægsih, & stracal, & hyt his seax & hwett [Sw. hwetl. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 159 Swylcum, swylcum wæs Iohannes Lyfr. 14415 He...whette his sarces ahe he scharen wolde. c 1290 *St. George* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 296 Heore wepne huy drowen forth and ywetten hem. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1760 Ofte tymes I rede pat spere with blody strokes...Assayinge how here speres were whette. 1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4306 A swerde, sharpe[e] grounde & whet. 1530 PALSG. 758/2 I have better whettynge of knyves afore a good dyner than whettynge of swordes and bylles. 1594 SHAKS. *R.& J.* III. i. 81, 244 Foole, foole, thou whet'st a Knife to kill thy selfe. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclesiastes* x. 10 If the yron be blunt, and he whet not the edge. 1695 BALON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. 42 b, Like an ill Mower, that mowes on still, and never whets his Syth. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 281 It measures very hot towards the Point, the Edge being whet away to a Wire. *Ibid.* 429, I whet it again strongly in the same manner, and it changed again. 1721 E. WARD *Merry Trav.* (1744) 16 The Butchers...Some wetting Knives upon a Steel. 1726 YOUNG *Love of Fame* II. 221 As in smooth oil the razor best is whet. 1824 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Thou whet'st not my razor to-day. 1870 *Daily News* 31 Dec., Sharpening knives. 1885 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i. 115 You do not think It is my wrath or will that whets this axe Against his neck?

**b.** Of a boar or other animal sharpening its tusks or teeth in preparation for an attack.

c 1000 *Ecl. Inst.* in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 396/6 Of...þam undeadlicum wyrmum þa hwettað hyra blodigan teð to þon þæt hiz...urne ticbonan wundian, 1523 ...*K. Alis.* 6603 (Cotton MS.) In her mouth ben two tuskes whette, Some bores better ywhett. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 178 Pai whettid þer tethe agayns þaim. 1593 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 16 He fleeth and whetteth his horne on a stone. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 387 Boars whet their Tusks: to battel Tygers move. 1747 W. DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor., Sp.* II. ii. A wrath Wolf...Now whetting keen his whole devouring Jaw. 1799 SOUTHEY *God's Judgem. Wicked Bp.* 77 They have whetted their teeth against the stones, And now they pick the Bishop's bones. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xvi, The wolves that beak.

**c.** In allusive and fig. phrases (in which the literal language is freq. retained, e.g. *to whet the teeth, the sword*, etc.) usually expressing preparation for attack; often in echoes of Ps. lxiv. 3, cxl. 3.

c 1000 *Aet. Ps.* (Spelman) CXXXIX. [cxl.] 3 Hi hwettun tungan heora swa nædran. c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 212 Pe sword of sorowe whett with fals plesaunce. 14.. *Twndale's Vis.* (1843) 95 For to skape pe cruel vyolence Of wikked spirites with violence. 1581 *Homilies Wherby Worthy executing Succ.* 1, Therfore (saith Ciprian) when we do ihrise thynges, we nede not to whet our teeth. 1593 G. HARVEY *Hyper-bole, Gaudium* 6 A big preacher to whet them to whet there tunge about. 1681 PETTIT tr. *Gunzo's Circ. Contr.* (1686) 7 They...had not yet whetted their tongues to thunder [with] Anathemas, gaped to shew their teeth in cruelties. 1633 COWLEY *Poet. Blossoms, Constantia & Philetus* 74 Yet hee by chance had hit his heart aright, And on Constantia's eye his Arrow whet. 1674 W. SHERLOCK *Death & Judgm.* (1758) 7 That now we are both looking Justice in the face, and whet our Knife at the Counter door, all our Debts being discharged by Christ. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Nat. Hist.* (1799) VI. 266 Civilized nations, like wits, have whetted their teeth against one another.

**d.** *absol.*; also *fig.* to get ready for an attack (like a boar whetting his tusks).

1598 [see WESTWOOD I.]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 318, I mon whett lyke a bore. 1642 D. ROGERS *Nenunam* 19 Those who cease whetting at Gods secrets...(as not being long lived) have a marke upon them to...such as shall be saved. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. ..I have been whetting all this while. 1682 — *Medall* 240 They...grin and whet like a Croatian hand.

**†2.** *fig.* To incite, instigate, egg or urge *on to* or *to do* something. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 204 Donne sióðast him snotere ceorlas lythwon lofson, ...hwetton hixeforðe. a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 493 Oðer [gast] hwet oðerne. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3197 Þe fend hweted. c 1000 *Malchus* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 41 Þa scheynde hio from me þæt ic hiz hwette to fleanne. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2628 On was þer þat ful euele spak To whette Brenne to reyse contak. 1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1354 Liche a lyoun whetted wip wrooknes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 461 b, Certen bilding libelles...wherin were some thinges to whet the people. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 26 b, By Dauid George his Maisters whetyng him forward...he became the sonne of perdition. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 181 Now that their soules are topfull of offence, ...I will whet on the King. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Clerum* II. (1689) 37 If he would whet them up to the battle. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* Medit. 3 A gloomie night Whets on the morning, to returne more bright. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* XXVII. 214 They...are but whetted and inrag'd by what they suffer'd, against those whom they look upon as the chief that caus'd their sufferings. 1728 HICKES & NELSON *T. Kettlewell* 1. § 8 He would be often discoursing...about Points...of Religion, that he might thereby whet those who sat at Table with him. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 491 When she to mutther whets the tim'rous Thane.

**3.** To sharpen, render (more) acute, keen, or eager (a person's wits, appetite, interest, curiosity, etc.).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3490, I attellyd neuer athens with armes to entre, Bot you questions to enquire to wete (*Add.* qwete] with my wittes. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6197 How high that crane his head he shere With ressoun whetted neuer so kene. 1400 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 243 They that to wommen ben ywhett so kene. 1562 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* III. 262 b Ihe very weight of ye thing is self shal whet our endeuor. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 187 Diuers coulours offende the eyes, yet hauing greene among them, whitte the sight. 1592 SHAKS. *Twel. Nt.* III. iv. 116 Madam, I come to whet your gentle thoughts On his behalfe. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 282 He'l seekes new wayes to whet his dull appetite. 1659 *Whet. Hen. III.* 9 Adversities doe often whet our wits. 1648 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 309 This I confess whets my prayers for your Lordship's health. 1732 HUME *Pol. Disc.* iii. 48 The Romans...could only whetted by so much new gain. 1759—*Hist. Eng., Tudors* II. *Eliz.* iii. 547 Theological controversy daily whetted the animosity of the sects. 1840 BARHAM *Ord C. Shop* xxxii. Efforts to stimulate the popular taste and whet the popular curiosity. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II. iii. 210 The desire of revenge whetted their exertions.

*absol.* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 831 The Cause, why Onions, and Salt, and Pepper, in Baked Meats, move Appetite, it is by Vellication of those Nerues, that are the Motion whetteth.

**†4.** In rendering of Deut. vi. 7 and cognates of it, translating Heb. *shinan* lit. to sharpen, fig. to inculcate. (Const. *on, upon.*) *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* To Rdr. 13 Moyses saith Deutro. vj. Henre Israel ther lesse wordes which I commaunde the in this dayes teche them thy children, whette them on thi childerne. 1548 BECON *Sol. Sout* Wks. 1564 II. 115 b, And euer hee whettynge of that in thy mynde. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xxiii. 288 Let all diligence to apply every piece unto them, to whet it upon them. a 1665 J. GODWIN *Being filled with the Spir it* (1867) 229 Was it thoroughly known, and frequently whetted upon the hearts and minds of men [etc.].

**†5.** Of a bird: To preen (the feathers). *rare.*

a 1678 MARVELL *Garden* 53 There like a Bird it sits, and sings, Then whets, and combs its silver Wings.

**6.** †**a.** *intr.* To take an appetizer. **b.** *trans.* in phr. *to whet one's whistle* (in which *whet* has been substituted for the earlier *wet*): to clear the throat or voice by taking a drink.

1674 FLATMAN *Belly God* 46 First whet thy whistle with some good Meltegin. 1688 [see WET *sb.* 3 b]. 1732 FIELDING *T. Andrevse* II. vi, Give the gentleman a glass to whet his whistle before he begins. 1809 in *Sir G. Jackson's Diaries & Lett.* (1873) II. 50 Punch...served very agreeably to wet, or whet, my whistle. 1837 DISRAELI III. iii. vi, See that they have plenty of Madeira to whet their whistles with.

**7.** *Comb.*: **whetsaw,** a bird allied to the cuckoo, so called from its making a noise like the whetting of a saw; **whet-slate,** a hard slate used for hones; novaculite.

1778 J. CARLEN *Trans. N. Amer.* xviii. 475 The Whetsaw is of the cuckow kind, being like that a solitary bird, and scarcely ever seen,...it makes a noise like the filing of a saw. 1839 USE *Dict. Arts* 1141 *Whet-slate*, or *Turkey hone*, is a slaty rock, containing a great proportion of quartz. 1856 PAGE *Adv. Text-Bk. Geol.* viii. 168 Whet-slate and the minor products may be mentioned whet-slate and ragstone.

**Whet,** obs. f. WAIT *sb.*, WHAT, WHEAT.

**Whetblowe,** obs. f. WHITLOW.

**Whete,** obs. f. WET, WHEAT.

**† Whe'then,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 **wefen, quefen,** 4 **whejin, -yn, whethene, quejen, quijen, quythin, wejen, wejhen, wethen, wythenne,** 4–5 **whepen(e, whethen, quethen,** 5 **whepon, whethyn, wythene, -yne, quethin, qu-, qwethun.** [A. ON. *hvaðan* (MSw. *hwädhan*, MDa. *hvæden*; f. root of WHO + *-dan* as in *hedan, þedan*), with vowel-assimilation to HETHEN, THETHEN.] = WHENCE; and, like that word, often preceded by redundant *fro* (occas. *of*).

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

c 1000 TRIN. *Coll. Hom.* 191 Wa'n is me cumen þæt mi louerdes moder cumeð to me? c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1401 Al he tolde hem fro quefen he cam. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2619 (Gött.) 'Agar,' he said, 'quejen comes þou, & quejward wil þu ga nou?' 13.. *Sir Gr. Knt.* 461 Wytterwyse þen þey wyste fram quejen he was wonnen. c 1400 *Antwrs Arth.* xxvii, Whejene [v.r. whythene] is he comli knizte? c 1450 *Chron. Vilod.* 5235 Pe kynge askede anone what was his name And what mon And whethen þat he wasse.

2. *rel.* = WHENCE 3.

a 1300 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXL. I lifdid myn eghyn In hillis whejen help cum till me. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 5303 Jerusalem...fra whethen he crosse for yhow I bare. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4118 That he was lord of that kyndome Fro whethen alle that riches is come.

**b.** In generalized or indefinite sense: From whatever place, whencesoever.

13.. *Gen. & Ex. Kal.* 87 Whebjen in worlde he were, Hit seamed as he mygt be prynce with-outen pere.

**Hence † whe-thenward** *adv. Obs.*, in phr. *fra whathenward* [cf. -WARD 4, 7], from whence, whence. *c* 1200 Ormin 16668 þu ne makhst nohht witenn.. Fra whebjenwarrd gaut cumebjþ forþ.

**Whether** (hwe-ðər), *pron., adj., conj.* (*sb.*) Forms: see below. [OE. *hwæþer* and *hwæþer*, correspp. to OFris. *hwed(d)er, h(w)alter, ho(e)r* (NFris. *wader*), OS. *hwedar* one of two, whether, OHG. *hwedar, wedar* which of two, neut. whether, either, MHG. *weder*, surviving in G. *weder* neither), ON. *hvaðarr*, nom. pl. *hvðrer* (whence sing. *hvárr*), which of two, each, neut. whether (ON. *hvárr* each, mod. Icel. *hvorr*), Goth. *hwaþar* which of two :—OTeut. **xwaþaras*, **xwe-*, f. *xwa-, xwe-* Who + comp. suffix (Indo-eur. *-tero-*) as in Either (cf. Skr. *katará-*, Gr. πότερος, Lith. *katrâs*). *Either* (OE. *ǽghwæþer*) is a compound of *whether*. With forms of the *y*-type cf. OHG. *diu hwidaru, thohwidaro* Though-whether, early mod.G. *wider* neither; with forms of the *e*-type OFris. *hwader*, and with forms of the *e*-type OFris. *haer, har* (but in ME. north. texts *hwor* may represent ON. *hvárr*).] **A.** Illustration of Forms.

**a.** 1 **hwaðer**, -þer, -der, 1–3 **hwaþer**, 3 **whaðer**, **whaþer**, -der, (**wahðer**), 3–4 **wapor**, 4 **quaper**.

**ß.** In *O. E. Texts* 444 Sug hwaeder suae. *Ibid.* 459 Hwæðer. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 891 (Parker MS.) Di wiss hwaþere eles swa hit þonne fierdleas was. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 33 Hwæðerænix man hiim mete brohte? *c* 1205 Lay. 20877 Whaðer [*c* 1275 wheþer] wes hit walh don oðer elles don oðer ahon. *Ibid.* 23593–5 Whaðer unkere..wahðerþ inkes e. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13596 (Göll.) To mistrou..Quaper forwid blind al had he beins. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 486 Waþer he wil or nel.

**ß.** 1 **hwæðer**, 1–3 **hweðer**, -þer, 3 **weðer**, -þer, **queðer**, (**qweðer**, -ur), *Orm.* **whoþþr**, 4 **wheiþer**, **queþer**, **quedir**, -ur, *Sc.* **quhethyr**, 4–5 **wheper**, **-ire**, **-ur**(**e**, **whethere**, **-ir**(**e**, **-yr**, **wethir**, **quother**, **-þir**, **whedir**, **-ur**, **queder**, 4–6 **wheder**, *Sc.* **quhethir**, **quhedir**, 4–7 **whether**, 5 **whethur**, **wheithir**, **whedere**, **-yr**(**e**, **weidir**, **quethire**, **-ur**, **qweper**, **-ther**, **-pire**, *Sc.* **quhepyr**, **-ir**, **quheythir**, **qwheyr**, **-yar**, 5–6 **whedder**, 6, *9 dial.* **-or**, *Sc.* **quhether**, 4– **whether**.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxviii[ii]. 24 *Et vide si via iniquitatis in me est*, & seoeh hweðer weg unrehtwisnisse in me is. 1299 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 31 *Quem uolitis ex istis duobus*, huelcnre wallas zie le forleto tueh? *a* 1188 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 Loc hweðer þæra gelrodra oðerne ferðode. *c* 1200 Ormin 506 Ille an hird wel wisste inoh, Whebjer itt to sarrlenn shollde [etc.]. *c* 1205 Lay. *Cott. Hom.* 155 On is weðer þe eorðe beo bicumeliche to þe sede, þat oðer weðer hit beo eihi time þat to. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1471 Quether here mist wolden bringe. *c* 1290 *St. Austin* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 95 Are ich habbe more vndersiȝte: swebjur þis Message beo treowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 44 Quedur [*n. rr.* quether, whebjer] þai be worthi or bale or bote. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2098 Betere is i go mi self, and se Hwebjer he sitten non, and wesseyen. 13.. *Gen. & Ex. Kal.* 1109 Sware with trawbje, Quether, nere other better. *c* 1330 *Northern Passion* 1006 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) Wheder he will hym safe or spyll. *c* 1385 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 272 Wheiber beih wolen, or þeih unbi. *c* 1390 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1829 He es uncertayne Whether he sal wend til ioy or payne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 421 Quhedir he A leio þing or a leir be. *c* 1400 Lanfranc's *Ref. Pointe* (1993) 278 Þo iewys kestyn at he dys Qweþer auld han hya cloþis. 1456 Sir G. Hayr *Lawa Armis* (S.T.S.) 5 The ferde questioun is quheythir bataill be lefull to be done. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2186 Qwheyar if yone bea Gaw[ayne], my counsell is we see. 1513 Lb. Berners *Froiss.* I. cxxxiv. 195 b/1 The kynge lende or gaue him I can not tell wheder, a ix. thousande frankes. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxi. 31 Whether of these ii fulfylled there fathers wyll? 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 80 Quhedir he be pape or patriarch. 1585 Jas. I. *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 60 Quhether the lyne be lang or schort.

**γ.** (**1 hwiðer**,) **4 whydyr**, **5 whyder**, **qwydyr**, **5–6** *Sc.* **quhither**, **5–7** *Sc.* **quhidder**, **6** *Sc.* **whidder**, **quhiddir**, **qwhider**, **6–7 whither**, **7** *Sc.* **quither**.

**9.** *Æthelred Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 320 (Cott. MS.) Hwonne hiß sceal, þat hi nyte hwiðer ha maran wiltnise? 13.. *Leg. Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1258 Nonnn wot whydyr he may be worly to hase hate or loue of god. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 91 Hare may we chese, Whyder we suscf wyll ease or lese. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 1. xviii. 48 Whither comest thow to chyrche to slepe or to wake? *c* 1460 Mettham *Wks.* (1908) 146 Qwyder [ti] schuld preue fayr or foule. *c* 1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 1199 (Harl. MS.) Quhidder the schaip suld answer in iugement Before the wolf. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 144 Quhither it was, traitour or nane. 1611 Bible *Num.* xxiii. 13 Whither this bawe be indifferent or not. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* 283 Whidder hir maliasone take effect, Or gif it was the gude wyne sect. 1611 Sir Wm. Muse *Mist. Fauna* iii. (*title*), Axe reply to I cair not quither I get hir or no. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xviii. cix, Yet whither you will bow down your Constant To our meek Doctrines.

**δ.** 4 **wopher**, **wother**.

13.. *Northern Passion* 1984 (Camb. Gg. 1. 1) Ihesus, þad acho suld to Petir gane.. Wother a ben in boure or halle. *a* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 388 Wother of hem tuoye lenger alyue were.

**ε.** *contr.* 3 **wher**, **wer**(**e**, **ware**, 3–5 **whar**, 4 **where**, **hwor**, **war**, **quer**(**e**, 4–7 **wher**, (*9 dial.*) **where**, 5 **where'**, **quar**, **quare**, 7 **wher'**.

Editors of Shakspere have printed *whēr, whe'er*, and *whe'r*, with no authority from the folios or quartos.

*c* 1205 Lay. 13839 Of eou ich wulle twitten.. whar ze wullen beon treowe. *Ibid.* 18545 Ah inuet whare [*c* 1275 ware] heo bine luuede. *c* 1300 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1747 He wole at isclerken, were it to leue were. *Ibid.* 6023 Þe king hire eeste sturmeliche wer heo wolde þe dom do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13431, I the night eat Quere þis was þat ilk ne mat. *Ibid.* 23803 We had us forwit waies tua, þe tan to wel, þat toþer wa, Quer we will frell mai we ta. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1119 Godrich ..seyde, 'Iwor bou wilt be Quen and indeed uuer me?' *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 84 Ony synful wreche, þat wot neuere where he schal be dampnyd or sauyd. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2381 Pat mayde..askede war he bed On his body any wounde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1539 Ne noon eek neuere wher I syinke or fleete. ? 1468 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 363 Where ye wil send to in to Deuenshire to abide other no. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* xv. (1632) Mi liv, I doubtfull stoode where powre or vertue were the best of twaine. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. 7 75 But where I haue begot or no. 1618 Withers *Motto, Nec Habes* 196, I care not wher' they thinke I loue or no. 1660 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 334 The captain.. asked him who where he was willing to shed blood. 1887 Tennyson *Dr. Dial. W. Eng.* 180 I'll him answer an see where I can't help 'em.

**B.** Signification.

**I.** *pron.* and *adj.* Which of the two. *Obs., arch., or dial.*

Occas. used loosely of more than two : cf. Either A. 2 c, 4 c. The pron. is occas. found with the gen. inflexion *-es, -s*.

1. In direct questions. **a.** *pron.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 31 Hwæðer þara twegra dyde þæs fæder willan? 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Hwæðeres ure wule ti beon? *Ibid.* 364 Of vo men, hwæðer is wisure? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14045 Quelper o þir tua aght tune him nare? *Ibid.* 14046 Quelper o þir tua, þe wrang or þe rightwis be, Thei of Grece or Troye Cite? 1526 Make *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 163/2 Whether of them would ye beleue best? 1583 Rushworth *Dial. Scot.* (1880) 73 There is hath a reuling and a preaching ministerie; whether doe you prefer before the other? 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* iv. v. 23 Whether doest thou profer them? 1611 Bible *Matt.* xxi. 31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? 1667 Milton *Paradise Lost* ix. 821 [1712] 78 Whether of them, think you, is the plainer pledge of a knowing and a designing Providence? 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1754) II. iv. 71 Whether more delightful, or unedifying, Harriet, whether? 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 333 Whether would ye yield gold or field?

b. (*elliptical*).

1699 Gaule *Pract. Theories Christ* 115 We know which Sex Fell first; whether can boast of more honour in the Recouerie? 1672 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 544 Whether thing is the better, a Virgin or a Widow?

**2.** In indirect questions, or dependent clauses of similar meaning. (Cf. note s.v. What A. 1**.)

**a.** *pron.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 256 Eif man openað deadkre manna hige eagum, þast ðu hwæðer heoð þara riht manner han, hwæðer þara ðearfan. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 303 Cweð hwæðer þe sciþe þunce. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* (Cleton. MS.) Nieten hweðer hem [*c* 1250 wether] were. R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9580 Nou me noute to weþer hii bicome þe children þat hii bere. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 970 Pus knawes he whether he wolle þe ioy to hafe, or noght. *Minor Papers* (Camden) I. 35 þe processe is ..retourniable at þe ceptes or þe quinzaisme, I not qwelher. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvi. xi. 580 Sir Launcelot was none that knewe them myghte knowe whether was lyke to wynne the batayll. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 82 Now new, now olde, now bothe, now neither, I cannot tell whether. 1577 Harrison *Descr. Brit.* in Holinshed I. 188/2 Whether of them we may iustlie ascribe the glorie. 1611 Bible *Num.* xxii. 13 Whether this bawe be indifferent or not. 1697 R. Gould. (Rolls) 773 He nuste to weþer hiir beome he

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W. Prol.* 499 [487] 'Wo-tow' quod he 'wher this be wif or maide?' 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 4366 She lokkid hym vnder swiche a keye, Pat he wot nat wher to lyuor deye. 1598 More *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 177/2 There was principally in question whither woorshyppyng of ymages.. were lawfull or not. 1935 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Scot. T.) II. 172 The Scottis kirk will wait nocht in that caise, Quhidder to byde or follow on the chace. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 376 If I should be asked you whether in the making of a good lawyde, you were more to bee required, or steele. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* v. I. 123 Whether this be, Or he not, I'le not sweare. 1658 W. Burton *Anton. Itin.* 102 There remain yet two doubts: First, whether this Pratenture, or Wall, was made of Stone, or of Turfs. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 63 He does not remember whether every Grain came up or not. 1819 Shelley *Lett. Posth.* Wks. 1888 II. 292, I am exceedingly interested in the question of whether this attempt of mine will succeed or no. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 464 His neighbours might well doubt whether it were more dangerous to be at war or at peace with him. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* I. 3 More than two generations had almost ceased to care whether there be any moral order or not.

**4.** By suppression of the second alternative, *whether* comes to introduce a simple dependent question, and becomes the ordinary sign of indirect interrogation = If 9.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 25 Cwyst þu, þæreow, hwæðer ic hyt sy? *Ibid.* xxvii. 49 Uton gesion hwæðer helias cume & wylle hyne alysan. a 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xlvi. (1883) 233 Donne se ðe ðæerne tacan wille, þonne .. þeþence [he] hine sylfne, hwæðer hine ne mage ænig man getæcan. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Ældest men cnihten monnes wif beo licche mine sune. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6472 Me ne dar nout esse, wyþer he were kende þo & prout. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 13047 Yee ask him if he be þat gon þis for nan sauuete suld com,.. Or his word he send vs þan Quether we sal bide ansuer mare? c 1386 Chaucer *Squire's T.* 571 Wher me was wo, that is no question. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 383 P 1 A loud clamorous Voice enquiring whether the Philosopher was at Home. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, Uncertainty .. whether her letter had been ever forwarded. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. I. 190 Whether the Londoners flocked..to hear whether there was any news.

**5.** Introducing a disjunctive clause (usually with correlative *or*) having a qualifying or conditional force, and standing in adverbial relation to the main sentence (cf. Whatever 3, Wherever 4): *whether . . or* = whichever of the alternative possibilities or suppositions be the case; in either of the cases mentioned; if one the one hand . . and likewise if on the other hand.

Sometimes repeated with each alternative (occas. with omission of *or*, or substitution of *and*); but most frequently with ellipsis in the second alternative, the *or* connecting two predicates, objects, etc., or the second alternative being reduced to a simple negative or the like (*or not, or otherwise*, etc.; see also No *adv.*1 2, and 6b below).

a 1000 *Gud & Ylfadr.* (1952) 146 (Cott. MS.) Wummon mal þleie under cloþe Weþer [*Jesus MS*, hweþer] heo wile wel þe wrohe & heo mai do hi mine songe Hwaþer [*Jesus MS*, hwaþer] heo wile wel þe wrenge. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6618 Sir, þis watur ber gret likun Drinc, quer be wald or nan. 13.. *Ibid.* 10205 (Göt.) If þai ani child mibt haue, Queþer þat it ware scho or he. c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* I. 321 þat þis world is betrid bi everyþing þat is þerinne, wheþer þat be good or yvel. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. v. 81 Ye shal abyde whether ye will or nyll. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 156 Thou shalt remaine here, whether thou wilt or no. 1611 Bible *Num.* xiv. 8 Whether [Tindale yf] we liue, we liue vnto the Lord; and whether [Tindale yf] we die, we die vnto the Lord: whether [so in Tindale] we liue therefore or die, we are the Lords. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 174 For Loyalty is still the same, Whether it win or lose the Game. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 12 Alike in ignorance, his reason such, Whether he thinks too little, or too much. 1798 Burney *Metastasio* II. 389 Now I am forced to finish my letter, whether I will or no. 1818 Coleridge *Friend* I. 335 That Reason which remains always one and the same, whether it speaks through this or that person. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. vii. 347 Whether it is fair, or whether it is wet, he pursues his labours with equal success.

**b.** with ellipsis in both alternatives: often virtually equivalent to *either*.

c 1205 [see Whether A. a.] 1504 Willoune *Ariste* xxxiii. 11, But what to me? where false or true, Where liue or die, for aye Adue. 1668 Bp. Hall *Balance* I. 8, Whether out of distrust is there in man, whether from his impotencie or faithlesnes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 523 The Stairs were then let down, whether to dare The Fiend by easie ascent, or aggravate His and exclusion from the dores of Bliss. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VII. § 11 This, I say, whether right or wrong. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* IV. iii, I knew he would act a good part whether vanquished or victorious. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 463 All other governments, whether republican or monarchical, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. App. 13. 629 William, whether by no deliberate or by design, was not admitted. 1913 *Daily Graphic* 19 Feb. 8/1 The increase in the number of officials.., which should give pause to every man, whether Liberal or Tory.

**6.** *Whether or no* (No *adv.*1 2), less freq. *not*, a. as *conj. phr.* introducing a dependent interrog. clause, as in 3.

1250 Sanders in *Cranc* (1658) 93 The next enquiry must be, Whether or no the words of the Engagement will reasonably bear such a construction. a 1657 Sir W. Mure *Vo. Reward-Anne* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 220 Not verie certeine whey'r or not brethren y'of at one & the same time, do beare the armes of the paternall coat. 1721 Addison *Spect.* No. 92 P 5 Whether or no they are real Husbands or personated ones I cannot tell. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. ix, What matters whether or no I make my way in life. 1872 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 304 In Protestants. Any advance of so much of Catholicism as they have dropped, whether or no it is true.

**b.** introducing a qualifying clause, as in 5.

1669 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* II. iv. 27 They..help to make the man good, whether or no they make his style be thought so. 1868 Swinburne *Blake* 88 The shape or style of workmanship each artist is bound to look to, whether or no he may ..trouble himself about the moral bearings of his work.

**c.** *elipt.* as *adv. phr.* In any case, at all events. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* I. 220 Whether or no, this coat shall be my favourite coat. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxviii, Was it natural that at that moment, without any previous impulse or design, Kit should kiss Barbara? He did it, whether or no. 1873 Morley *Struggle Nat. Educ.* 73 You may say that this is to degrade the state. Possibly. But whether or no, this is the principle already..acted upon. 1904 Weyman *Abb. Veste* xiii, 'God help us whether or no!' the Vicomte answered in senile anger.

**7.** *Whatever penny*: undecided, uncertain. *dial.* 1872 W. Walker *Patoem.* 28, I am unresolved; I am whether for a penny.

**8.** *ns sb.*, with pl. *whethers*. **a.** In phr. *At whethers*: see quot. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Dial.* s.v. *Whethers*, 'To be at whethers', to be in a state of doubt or uncertainty. 'I stond at whethers'.

**b.** *nonce-use* (from 4).

1827 Hood *Kangaroo* 68 In weighing every why and whether. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, Whether the was engaged, whether she was pretty,..and many other whethers of equal importance.

**+ Whether,** *adv.* Obs. Forms: 1 **hwæp(e)ro,** 2 **hweðer(e, -o, quether, qwhethir, § qwhodyr, queder.** [OE. *hwæþ(e)re*, advb. formation from *hwæþer* Whether *pron.*] Nevertheless, however, and yet, for all that.

*Beowulf* 555 Hwæþre me xyfeloe wearð, þæt ic æghwæm orde gecræfte, hildebille. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 250 No wolde nan man hwæþre þæt he for Godes ege forwandode þone ece. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 He cweð þat him ofþuhte þat he ofre munclnn þescoop to wes hwæðere an mun rich wis ec seolcen. a 1225 *Juliana M.* 40a (Göt.) 'Do quelver,' he said, 'þar-of na strif.' 13.. *S. Eirkenwolde* 13 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Quether mony porer in his hostel, quether richer. c 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 581 Quether þis for mony a quyle hat him kepe. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xxviii. 4791 He said: 'Na hast I qwhedyr perfay Þis fiehe walde fayne hal beyn away'.

**b.** in correl. Though—whether (*=whether*), q.v.

18.. *Moral Ode* 131 (Egerton MS.) Þeh [*r. r.* þeih] hweðer we it iliuest wel. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11009 Pair modres þo quether hem mild, Vnder at nan wit hair child. 1325 Bannockburn *Bruce* I. 312 The quhethir he gluid was and ioly. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xxxix. 6949 Þe qwhepir oft tyȝt walde þai ma To prekk and poynde.

**†** *Neuer þe qwedyr* = app. a confusion of *neverthe-less* and *the-whether*.

a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 715 in *Babees Bk.* 323 The ouer lassyn þay halde neuer þe qwedyr, Quylle þo keruer powle wate ware pedyr.

**c.** app. as *adversative conj.* Although.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2090 Quethire days thre burge-out thinaly we fosten, .. And sit be Lawest at þo last vs limpit ber.

**Whether,** obs. f. Weather, Wether, Whither.

**Whe·thered,** *ppl. a. dial.* So Whethering *vbl. sb.* (See quots.)

1614 Markham *Cheap Husb., Bull* etc. xxxvi. 60 Of a Cow that is whethered. This disease is when a Cow after her calving cannot cast her Cleane, but remaines. Which is called *Whethering*, the retention of the after-birth in cows. *Gardner.*

**† Whethere·ver,** *pron. Obs.* [Whether *pron.* + Ever *adv.* 8 c.] Whichever of the two.

1561 Bp. Hall *Hexv. upon Earth* § 23 Whether euer ouercommeth, is troubled both with resistance and victorie. 1638 Sanderson *Serm.* 33 But whether ever beginneth, he may be sure the other will follow.

**+ Whe·therso,** *pron.* and *conj. Obs.* (Mostly as two words.) [Whether + So *adv.* 17 d. In OE. *swaþ hwæþer swaþ*, reduced to *swaþer* (*swaþ.*)]

1. *pron.* = prec.

c 1200–14 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 113 He handle aȝeines kere to done Swaþer swo he wolde. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 482 Vike man answere for his owne dedys and be dampnyd or sauyd whether-so [*v. r.* whethir-sum] þey haue seruyd. 1389 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 74 To come to be seruice of be lord or of lor fat is deede, whethir-so it be. c 1400 *Cursor M.* 28788 (Cott. Galba) Whether so askes more rightwisly, Sall he herd of god almighty.

2. *conj.* = Whether B. 5 (the addition of *so* emphasizing the idea of indefiniteness).

c 1280 *Bestiary* 357 in *O. E. Misc.* 12 Alle be o8re folcyen, wether so he swimmeð er he wadeð. c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 401 Quether so he wimmed er he wadd. c 1300 *Dame Sirot Gratias* 59 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 126 Wheper so þou beo in hale or bis. c 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 50 Ye shul it lerne wher so ye wole or noon. 1496 Lydg. *Be Guil. Pilgr.* 2560 Wherso he be yong or old. c 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 381 Quhidder so it gang to greif or to gawin.

**Whe·therso·ver,** *pron.* and *conj.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [See Soever.]

1. *pron.* = prec. 1.

1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* v. 1–3 (1538) 70b, So that whether so ever I fele fyrst, the same certifyeth me of the other. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 307 Whether soever or who else besides winne it by conquest. 1613 Day *Ilyall* IX. (1674) 238 Whether soever of you had beene slaine in that quarrell. 1630 Bp. Hall *Occas. Meditt.* 219 What matters it whether I go for a flower, or a weed, here? whatsoever, I must wither. 1699 Chevney *Vind. Oaths* 19 Whethersoever he named, both are included.

2. *conj.* = prec. 2.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 606 Quether-so-euer he dele neoch oþer harde. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1763 Wheder so euer þai sit or stand. 1747 Hodson *Miner's Dict.* R v, Whethersoever the Lids be Stone, Mixt-beds, &c.

**+ Whethersum,** *pron.* and *conj. Obs.* [See Sum *rel. adv.* and *conj.*] = prec.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10015 Quether-sum it war sen or he. *Ibid.* 10503 Quersum i haf, maiden or knaue. 1357 [see Whethereo 1].

**Whetile, Whetned, Whetsaw:** see Whittle, Whetten, Whet *v.* 7.

**Whetstone** (hwe·tstəun). Forms: see Whet *v.* and Stone *sb.*; also 4 **whestoun,** 4–5 **wheston, weston(e,** 4–6 **whestone,** 5 **whestoon, whetstone, quetstone,** 5–6 **whatstane ;** *β.* 6 *St.* **quhitstane,** 7 **whitston,** 8 **whitstone,** [OE. *hwetstān (huetc-, huetistdn)* = M)Du. *wetsteen*, M.LG. *wetsteën* (LG. *wetstein*), OHG. *wez(z)-stein* (MHG. *wetz-(e)stein*, G. *wetzstein*): f. Whet *v.* + Stone *sb.*

**1.** A shaped stone used for giving a smooth edge to cutting tools when they have been ground.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 746 *Cos*, huetestan. c 893 *Ælfred Oros.* iv. xiii. § 5 Hi bip eac geuntlic þæt man headlice gnide þone hnescestan stan mid þæm betstan hwetstane þe hæfe[s] mon þonnan mæge þonn þæt he þence þone seoclestan hwetstan on to geracenanne. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 631 A whestoon [*v. r.* weston] is no kervyng Instrument, And yet it maketh sharpe kervyng tolys. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xcviii. (Tollem. MS.), Ben diuerse maner of whetstones, and some neden water and some neden oyle for-to whette. 1472 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 466 Pro cotis emptis. 1597–8 Turner *Husb.* (1878) 61 Get grindstone and whetstone, for toole that is dull. 1684 Cogan *Haven Health* excii. 250 And, as it is said a good Cooke can make a good meal on a whetstone. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 916/1, I am .. taken suddenlie with a thing about my stomach, that lieth there alone on cold as a whetstone. 1600 Dekker *Shoem. Holid* Wks. (Grosart) II. 99 Some pittifull fellowes (that haue..wittes colde as Whetstones, and more dumbe). 1692 Soutn *Serm., John* xvi. 17 (1697) I. 270 Diligence is to the Understanding, as the Whetstone is to the Razor. 1794 *Sullivan Ident. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 239 Some argillites and sandstones; these last form the coarser whet-stones. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* xi. § 2. (1860) 1. 780 The skins..are carefully smoothed with a whetstone upon a beam. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet St, Ect.* Ser. II. 14 Still and anon The whetstone shrieked against the curving blade.

**β.** 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xi. 69 Sum..on quhitstanis thair axis scharpis at hame. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xv. (S.T.S.) I. 84 Pow sald cut þat quhitstane in þi hand with ane rasoure.

**b.** Any hard fine-grained rock, as novaculite, of which whetstones are made; hone-stone.

1578 T. Procter *Gorg. Gallery* H iij b, Like as what stone, thurdlest is with toole to bee grinde, Doth soonest slip in peeces, then it bendeth. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 111 This shire is well stored with Allstones, Crystal, Alablaster and Whetstone. 1788 Gent. *Mag.* LVIII. 3. 43 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Whetstone*, or *Whetstone-hill*, strata of argillaceous and siliceous hazle-stone in the carboniferous limestone formation.

**c.** *transf.* (See quots.)

1580 T. Newton *Approved Med.* 93 b, A Mole in a womans body, otherwise called a whetston, or a moone Calfe [*i. e.* a false conception]. 1683 Thoresby *Diary* (ed. Hunter) I. 155 A place [Grantham] ..chiefly noted of travellers, for a peculiar sort of thin cake, called Grantham Whetstones. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Whetstun*, .. any hard swelling. 1887 *N. Cheshire Gloss., Whetstone*, a lump in the udder of a cow, consequent upon the ducts having been overcharged.

**2.** Allusive and fig. uses. *a. gen.* with reference to the use of a whetstone.

1587 Thynne *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 341 He..whette he rude soules to goode wil be whetstone of vertues. 1597–8 Hamilton *Mor. Philos.* (Paltr.) 111 Except the sinfull heart of man..be often stoured with the whetstone of adversity. 1589 Nashe *Contention* (Arb.) 20 Gratiano I. 157 Shooting out their venemous shafts, with mischeeuous heads, sharpened vpon Martins most malicious whetstone. 1603 Dekker *Honest. Whore* (Grosart) I. 247 The very name of Londoners being worse then ten whetstones to sharpen the sword of Iustice against them. 1656 Whitlock *Zootomia* 165 Rhetoricall Topicks are such Whetstones, that even the Sword of the Spirit (two-edged Sword) hath often used. 1763 Colman *Jealous Wife* IV. 59 He serves for nothing but a mere Whetstone of your Ill-humour. 1818 Byron *Ch. Harold* IV. xcvii, Italians, whose revenge would allow No strain which shamed his country's creaking lyre, That whetstone of the teeth—monotony in wire! 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, The face of the Sovereign was a whetstone to the soldier's sword.

**b.** in allusion to the former custom of hanging a whetstone round the neck of a liar; esp. in phr. *to lie for the whetstone*, to be a great liar.

[1364 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) IV. 601 Juggement de Pillorie par iij heures, ove un egge pier entour son col, par mensonges controvees.] 1418 *Cal. Let.-Bks. Lond., Let.-Bk. I* (1909) 197 He, as a fals lyere..shal stonde..upon pe pillorye ..wip a Whetstone aboute his necke. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 80 A, good sir, lett hym oone ! he lyes for the quetstone, I gyf hym pe pryce. 1472–3 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 392 Nor that they frohensiurth enfurse eny lure, vppon the peyn to lese at be first defalt, C.s., and at be ijde defalt to haue the whetstone

about- their nekkes. 1570 Fore *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 196/1 Peraduenture he that was the inuentor fyrst of thys tale of the stone, was disposed to lie for the whetstone: Wherfore in my mynde he is worthy to haue fit. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 437 You haue sayd enough, M. Allen, to winne the whetstone, if it were as good as any mountaine in the worlde. 1579— *Confut. Sanders* 556 Of all the lowde lyes that euer I heard, this may goe for the whetstone. 1592 *Nashe Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 267 Were stumbling of whetstones in the darke then, my maisters. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 221 He might ..for his labour challenge to be preferred to the Clarkship of the whetstone. *Ibid.* 235 Our worshipfull Clarke of the whetstone, Doctour Clare [etc.] ..diuers late Historiologers, and..this new Tale-founder himselfe. 1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 98 O intolerable lying villayne, that was neuer begotten without the consent of a whetstone! 1607 Torshell *Fourf. Beasts* 639 They wil presently glue both these Authors mad me the Whet-stone for their trouble. 1636 H. Cogshall *Yellow-hars.* 285 A great Person..had in a frolick set on some wanton wits to lye for the Whetstone. 1709 Mrs. Centlivre *Busie Body* III. iv. If you be not as ready to settle stones of wits, 1583 Greene *Mamillia* II. The court Mamillia, is y⁸ whetstone of lust, the baite of vanity, the call of Cupid. 1588— *Pandosto* (1607) 31 Pretending to winne men, to a whetstone to courage. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Penyless Pilgr.* II ā, Wits whetstone, want. 1657 R. Lilon *Barbadoes* (1673) 17 For a whetstone, to pull on a cup of wine, we have dryed Neats tongues. 1660 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 318 The Wits..made him their Whetstone. 1752 Hume *Fol. Disc.* II. 32 Anger, which is said to be the whetstone of courage. 1821 Shelley *Epipsych.* Whatever etc. too Let them wear Shakespeare's sonnets, taking thence A whetstone for their dull intelligence. a 1827 R. A. Vaughan *Ess. & Rem.* (1858) I. 7 Their wit could content itself with no less royal a whetstone than himself and his son Pius.

**8.** 1697 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 240, I am of opinion that Germany, our late *purchaza*, is a whitston to egg hym on against us.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whetstone-mountain*; *whetstone-shaped* adj.; ¶ **whetstone-leasing** (Leasing sb.): cf. 2 b above.

1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. vi, *Whet-stone leasings of olde Maundeuile.* 1851 B. Tibbie *Northern Mythol.* I. 71 The club was dashed in pieces, of which one portion fell on the earth, whence come all the *whetstone mountains. 1883 *Rocket Brit. Birds* XV I. 680 *Whetstone-shaped crystals. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 114 The mucus..contains whetstone-shaped bodies.

† **Whetstones-park.** *Obs.* (See quot. *a* 1700.) Hence † **Whetstones-shore.**

1688 *News fr. France* 4 You may as soon make those of Whetstones-park among you blush, as put them out of countenance. 1684 Dryden *Orrid's Amours* II. xix. 32 Let him who loves an easie Whore Whom Wine, Pluck leaves from Trees, and drink the Common Shore. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whet-stones-park*, a Lane betwixt Holborn and Lincolns-Inn-fields, fam'd for a Nest of Wenches, now de-park'd.

**Whett**, obs. form of Wheat.

**Whetted** (hwe·ted), *ppl. a.* [f. Whet *v.* + -ed 1.] Sharpened.

1562 *Mirr. Mag., Hastinges* lxx, The whetted tuske, and furrowed forhead hye. 1593 Dryden *Juvenal* x. 365 One, who at sight of Supper open'd wide His Jaws before, and whetted Grinders try'd. 1794 Coleridge *Fall of Robespierre* I. 185 Who from a thousand whetted knives wards the blow Reserves the whetted dagger for his own. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 391 Then light the torch, and draw the whetted sword! 1878 Browning *Dramatic Idyls* II. iv, Every one else, beginning to eat with the whetted appetite that going to church always seems to engender.

**Whet-tell**, dial. form of Wittwall.

† **Whetten**, *v. Obs.* [f. Whet *v.* + -en 5.] *trans.* To whet.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb) 79 My mynd was greedelye whetned Too parle with the Regent. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 22 Italian now whettens his homes.. to goore the more dyscdfully. 1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. 1[1]. iv. (ed. 2) 386 To..make him..more iealous, to whetten his loue.

**Whetter** (hwe·tər). [f. Whet *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** A sharpener of an instrument.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 202/2 A whetter, *acutor, qui instrumenta acuit.* 1612 Cotgr., *Affileur*, a whetter, or sharpener of edg'd tooles. 1727 J. Adams *View Sac. Hist.* II. 363. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Whetter*, a sharpener; as a whetstone, hone. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1884) 43 Blade Whetter.

† **2.** *fig.* One who urges *on. Obs.*

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* xviii. 1096 The blacke bands.. seised as good examples and whetters on of the residue of his armye.

**3.** *fig.* One who or that which sharpens, stimulates, or incites the intellect, desires, appetite, etc.

1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* iv. i, You whetters of my fallies. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* ii. xii. Wks. (1712) 82 Sympathy and Antipathy.. are notable whetters and quickners of the Spirit of Life in all Animals. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* v. 1, The Air upon Banstead Downs is nothing to it for a Whetter. 1750 Fielding *J. Andrews* III. ii, Love, like other sweet things, is no whetter of the stomach. 1830 Scott *Jrnl.* 11 July (1890) II. 348 No whetter of genius is necessity; though said to be the mother of invention.

**b.** *spec.* A habitual drinker of 'whets' (Whet *sb.* 2 b); a dram-drinker. † *Obs.*

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 238 ¶ 4 A sort of Persons commonly known by the Name of Whetters, who drink themselves into an intermediate State of being neither drunk or sober before the Hours of Change. 1725 *View Lond. & Westm.* 38 Here is likewise a religious Ambulatory for the Whetters and Wenchers.

**C.** = Whet *sb.* 2 b. † *Obs.*

1735 *Connoisseur* No. 87 P 1 They frequently have recourse to whetters and provocatives, to anticipate the call of hunger.

1824 in *Sport. Dict. Synthia.* (1825) 201 Fifty guineas we've sunn—and no science can do better, Than to finish our ditty by taking a whetter.

**Whetting** (hwe·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whet *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Whet.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Pe whestone hab bre properteȝ þ[e] serueb anobre binge in whettinge and wastiþ hym silfe some and some. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/1 Whettynge, or schargynge, *acucio.* 1579 W. Bourne *Regim. Sea* vii. (1577) 28 b, I would not wish them to meddle with..whetting of the side of the needle. 1661 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 176 Whetting (viz. of Knives and sithes) is no letting. [Cf. quot. a 1628 s.v. Whet (ed. 2).] 1633 Br. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 2) § 131 Recreation is intended to the minde, as whetting is to the sithe. 1667 *Navy Chr. Pract.* xiv. 344 That we should sacrifice the one [*sc.* the Churches peace]..to the whetting and inflaming of the other [*sc.* curiosity]. 1774 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 9 Sept., Whetting is a necessary operation, and begins to make two quaint notes, like the whetting of a saw. 1852 M. Arnold *Empedocles* II. 164 With one arm over his head, Watching how the whetting sped.

*attrib.* 1598 Minsheu *Dict. Langu., Join.* v. P 26 They wedge the blade of the Saw hard into the *Whetting Block. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1088 It..furnishes shoemakers with..whetting boards to smooth the edges of their knives upon. 1706 Farquhar *Twin Rivals* v. i, I have brought you a Whetting-Glass, the best Old Hock in Europe; I know you're whetting for a Jointing. 1438–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 417 A *qwettenge-ston.

**Whettle**, dial. form of Whittle.

**Whew** (hwiu, hiu, wiū), *sb.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* qwe, whewe, 6 *Sc.* quhew, 7, 9 *dial* whue, 9 wheugh, 7– whew. [Echoic.]

**1.** A musical instrument, a pipe. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. 59 For to vnclose and to wake for wothis of harme, With qwistlis & qwes, & other qwaint gere. c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), A Whewe, *fistula.*

**2.** A sound as of whistling or of something rushing through the air; *spec.* the cry of the plover.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. vii. 46 Than from the nevin dyone quhyland with a quhew Come queyne Juno. c 1610 *Robin Hood & Curtall Fryer* xxxi. (Ritson), The fyers set him fra his wame, And whistled with a whew. 1720 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* II. ii, Whan I hear the whew o' the curlew. 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 441 Ye'll no gang the gate ye came, for the whew o' the whittle. 1821 Jl. Sheepherd *Edinburgh Mag.* X. 22 The shrill whew of the plover.

**3.** An utterance of the interjection *whew!*

1752 Bramston *Man of Taste* xxiii. (1753), He uttered a long and loud whew! which was succeeded by an exclamation of 'Damn my old shoes! a mile by G—!' 1847 Illus *Friends in Council* I. 13, A sound from the old man, like an 'Ah' or a 'whew!' 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xix, At sight of which Yeo gave a long whegh.

**4.** (Also *whew-whistle*) = Whewer.

1804 Bewick *Brit. Birds* II. 332 Wigeon. Whewer, Whim, or Pandled Whew. 1852 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 83 *Marsica Penelope*, The European Wigeon. Common Wigeon. Whew Duck. Pandle-Whew.

**Whew** (hwiu, hiu, wiū), *v.*[1] Also 6 *Sc.* quhew. [Echoic.] *Intr.* To whistle; to make a whistling or rustling noise; to utter the interjection *whew!* Hence **Whew-ing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), To Whewe, *fistulare.* 1500 Dunbar in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1706) II. 32 Evyne Whewing, and Whistlyng, His Bitter Blastis Blawis Bawe. 1600 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 32 Mewe at passionate speeches, blare at merrie,..whewe at the childrens Action, whistle at the singers. 1611 Cotgr., Witte a Witte-whewe, a Witwall. 1620 Venner (Tim Bobbin 2nd) *Plebeian Pol.* 23, I met two pa'sons wch grete prawns on, whewink I th' wind. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* II. 3 I heard them [*sc.* the plovers] as they whewed o'er our heads. 1848 Lord *Bleasing* I. 3 Down all at once a wind came whewing from the hollow of the hill. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 224 Friend: 'Whew—w!' Man in Love (irritably): 'Don't go "whewing" all over the place like that.'

**Whew** (hwiū, wiū), *v.*[2] Also **wheugh, whue, whiew.** [perh. the same as prec.] **8.** *intr.* To move quickly; to hurry away, depart abruptly (*dial.*); to dash into (*U.S.*).

1889 Orway *Atheist* III. 1, Methought indeed the Coach whew'd it away a little faster than ordinary. a 1743 Rider *Misc. Poems* (1747) 17 See how the full the whurlin sunshine whews. 1828 *Craven Dial.* s.v., To whew off, to turn off abruptly, to depart without ceremony. 1893 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* xxxiii. (1896) 427 But Bee had not been brought up in a New England farm-house, and seen her capable stepmother 'whew round,' to be hard put to it now over half a dozen cups and tumblers more or less.

**Whew** (hwiū, hiū, int. Forms: 5 *Sc.* quhewe, 7 whew heu, 7–8 whew, 8 whieu, whu, 8–9 whuh, 9 wheugh, 6– whew. An exclamation of the nature of a whistle uttered by a person as a sign of astonishment, disgust, dismay, etc.

The identity of the word in the mother of invention.

c 1445 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. xxix. 4949 (MS. Auchinl.) Sua þai within set wp a schout And cryit lowde and said Quhewe! [*Pr.r.* Quhow] Now haif we beiret the Montagew'. 1598 Shaks. *A Mer. Wiv.* III. iii. 30 A plague vpon't, when Theeues cannot be true one to another. *They Whistle.* Whew: a plague light vpon you all. 1601 W. Percy *Cook-queanes* (1815) 11. ix. (Rowe) 38 *Dam.*..Come on thy ways *Jol.* I come. *Pic.* When heu, when heu, now goe thy wayes. 1728 Ramsay *Tea Lure* 110 Whieu,—Whieu,—he whistled. 1785 Sir Peter *Verr. Mansfield* VII. xiii, Whiz—w—whew—w—w—whuwd Margarita. 1766 *Ibid.* IX. xxxiii, Wheu—u—u—cried my father; beginning the sentence with an exclamatory whistle. 1770 Cumberland *West Indian* II. viii, Whuh! What's the hurry the man's in? 1800 E. D. Clarke in *Life* (1824) v. 233 And now let the scene change—Whew!—away with inscriptions! 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, 'But how did your joint production look the next morning?' 'Whuuh!' capital—not three words required to be altered.' 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlii, Whew! said the housebreaker, wiping the perspiration from his face. 1898 H. S. Merriman *Roden's Corner* xxxii, 'Whew!' ejaculated Roden, when the danger seemed to be past, and they could breathe again.

**Whew**, obs. form of Hue *sb.*[1]

**Whewellite** (hiū·ĕlait). *Min.* [f. the name of Professor William *Whewell* (1794–1866) + -ite 1.] Calcium oxalate, occurring in colourless or white monoclinic crystals.

1852 Brooke & Miller *Phillips' Elem. Introd. Min.* 627.

**Whewer** (hwiū·ər, wiū·ər). *dial.* [app. f. Whew *v.*[1] + -er 1.] The female wigeon, *Mareca penelope.*

1634 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) II. xxiii, Pockards 3 · broadbills 5—whewers 2. 1668 Charleton *Ornomast.* 100 *Anas*..*Wigeon*, *Whistler*, the Whewer, or whistling Widgeon. 1674 in *Cornw. Ports* (1846) 16, I have put up in a box..a Widgeon and a Whewer. 1734 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 88. 1802 Pegge *Anecd. Eng.* (ed. 2) 2.

**Whewl** (hwiul, wiul), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 whewl, 7, 9 whule, 9 wewl. [Echoic.] *intr.* To cry plaintively, moan, whine, howl. Hence **Whew-ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1560 Phaer *Æneid* X. (1562) Dd 4 b, Whiles whewling sad he sat. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VII. 497 Lamenting for his sonnes mischaunce with his voice in the Aire. 1600 *Hist. Apol. of Herefordsh.* (1816), Twaire-pipe that famous Southren Tabrer..who for whuling hath beene famous through the Globe of the world. 1613 Chapman *Odyss.* III. 135 For here, the whuling Scylla, throwels the hoarse Lybis. *Ibid.* XII. 200 Nor neuer him hir'd to yawle for the whole prison? and whule to the passengers? 1847 Halliwell, *Whule*, to whine; to howl. *Suffolk.* 1893 *E. Anglian Gloss., Wewling*, a plaintive note in crying, commonly with a view to excite charity.

**Whey** (hwē), *sb.* Forms: 1 **hwæg, hwex, hwæix, 3 weje, wei, hwey, 4 qwhey, 4–5 wheye, 5–6 way, 5–7 (9 *dial.*) whay, 6 qway, qwaye, &c. quhay(e, 6–7 whaye, wey, 9 *dial.* whew, 5– whey.** [OE. *hwæg*, *hwæx*, *hwæix*, = OFris. *swāz*, Nl. *wei*, MDu. *wi* (Du. *wei*), MLG. *wī*, *wē*, MDu. *wey* (Du. *weei*, LG. *wei*, *wei*): — OTeut. ***xwaxo-*, of which an ablaut-variant is found in MLG. *huy*, *hoie* (LG. *hui*, *hoi*, Du. *hui*) :— ***xuio-.*]

**1.** The serum or watery part of milk which remains after the separation of the curd by coagulation, esp. in the manufacture of cheese.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) 3 *Serum*, *hwæg*. c 1050 *Rec. Sing. Pers.* § 14 (Liebermann) 452 Sceapbyrdes riht is, þæt he habbe..liðede fulle hweges oððe syringe ealne sumne. 12.. *Solomon & Gloss* (Anecd. Oxon.) I. v. 34 ȝ *Hec serum*, i. wege. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1090 (Cott.) Þu wrenchest (MS. Jes.) þi drinkeȝ milc & wei [*Jesus MS.* hwey] þar to. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 9 *Serum*, *i. quidam liquor*, qwhey. 1400 *Anturs of Arthure* xxxv. 4 Wyth qwhyte wyne and qwhey. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 56 Take croddys of pe deye, & wryng out pe whey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 That maid grit cheir of...cuddis and quhays. 1587 Mascall *Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 100 See that your cheese be well and thoe gathered, in pressing feath clease all the whay. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* v. xiv. 560 The whole way serues for the feeding of the hogs and dogs. 1664 Countryman *Rules of Diet in Ann Eels*, etc. 152 Of all Drinks, Whey is the most relaxing. 1791 Scott *Jrnl. in Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 185 My uncle thinks the whey has sometimes disagreed. I have stood it was brought to his bed-side every morning at six, by a very pretty dairy-maid. 1893 J. P. Sinclair *Brit. Dairying* xv. 169 On dairy farms where no cheese are made, pigs are useful to consume whey and skim-milk.

**b.** with qualification: *whey of butter*, buttermilk; *alum whey*, whey formed in the coagulation of milk by powdered alum; *celery whey*, *mustard whey* (Mustard *sb.* 3 c), *tar whey* (Sack *sb.*[1] 2), *wine whey*, names of beverages or medicinal drinks; *white whey* (see quot. 1837).

1530 Palsgr. 288/1 Whay of butter, *laitasse.* 1733 Chevne *Engl. Malady* II. i. (1734) 268 To drink plentifully of small Sack Whey, or Water-Gruel. 1767 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1960) 80 Drink half a Pint of Celery Whey. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekp.* (1778) 314 To make Wine Whey. Put a pint of skimmed milk, and half a pint of white wine into a bason. 1784 J. Potter *Dialogues* II. 88 Wine and mustard whey. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 474 (Libr. Useful Knowl.), That which is pressed by hand from the curd, is termed 'white whey', and contains a considerable portion of oily matter. 1858 J. Merson *Engl. Traits* xiv. 246 The making a better sick-bed and a better wine-whey for an invalid. 1883 Mrs. G. L. Banks *Forbidden to Marry* viii, To prepare a whey of alum-and-milk.

† **2.** The serum of the blood. *Obs.*

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* v. 8 a The whey of blood ought by the reynes to be strained out. 1615 Crooke *Body of*

*Man.* 9; The whey is then received in a tube entering into the bladder. 1718 Chamberlayne *Ketig. Philos.* I. v. § 4 The aforementioned Food mixes itself with another Humour, Water, or Whey, which the Anatomists call the *Lympha*.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whey-bath*, *-colour*, *-curd*, *-house*, *-lead* (*Lead* 3b.) 5), *-pot*, *-tub*; *whey-ish-tinker*; *whey-colour(ed)*, *-like* adjs.; in reference to the pale colour of whey, as *whey beard*, *countenance*, *face*; *whey-beaded*, *-pale* adjs.; **whey-bosom**, bacon from a *whey-pig*; **whey-beard**, (*a*) a person having a 'whey beard'; (*b*) the whitethroat, *Sylvia cinerea*; **whey-bird**, the woodlark, *Alauda arborea*; also: = *whey-beard* (*b*); † **whey-blooded** *a.*, cowardly; † **whey-brained** *a.*, weak-brained; **whey-brose**, brose made with whey instead of water; **whey-butter**, butter made from whey or from *whey-cream*; **whey-cream**, the cream which remains in the whey after the curd has been removed; **whey-drop**, **-eye**, **-spring**, a hole in an imperfect pressed cheese in which the whey collects; **whey-faced**, a person having a pale face; so **whey-faced** *a.*; **whey-pig**, a pig fed with whey; **whey-porridge**, porridge made with whey instead of water; **whey-whig**, a beverage made of whey flavoured with herbs; **whey-worm**, sce quot. 1828; *fig.* a whim; hence **whey-wormed** *a.*, marked with whey-worms.

a 1721 Leslie *Husb.* (1727) 141 The latter end of November or December, when all the Cheese-season is gone. 1888 Roe *Austrian Health Res.* viii. 169 The spoiled daughters of luxury..indulge in "whey baths. 1614 R. Talbot *Hog hath lost Pearl* iv. F 3b, Farther-more, the Beard. 1847 Jelly *Chr. Astrol.* xv. 84 He is lame, crooked, or beetle-browed, a thin whey Beard. 1831 Reese *Mem. dup's Occult. Dict., Whey beard*, a name for the Whitethroat. 1553 Brinklow *Cicero's Offices* i. (1556) 46 b, As some na be waxed 'whey-berded. 1825 Jamieson, *Whey-bird*, the wood-lark. — Lanarks. 1862 Jones *Birds Berks.* 60 Whey-bird, the Whitethroat. 1675 Duppett *Mock Tempests*, I, The 'Whey-blooded Rogue looks as if his heart were melted into his breeches. 1660 Tatham *Rump* i. 1, A 'Whey-brain'd fellow. 1594 Lodge *Tim. Death* (1810) 128 Be whey-brains as you please. a 1728 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 406 They skimmed the cream off to make 'whey-butter. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 211 The finest whey-butter ever saw is ab out half a pound per week. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angl.* vi. 89 When..the river..looketh of a 'whey colour. 1888 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 412 The whey-coloured river flow is ab out half a pound per week. 1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angl.* vi. 89 When..the river..looketh of a 'whey colour. 1802 *Ann. Agric.* XXXVIII. 177 If the whey-butter be dark or Whey-colour. 1845 Jamieson *Arrah Neil* ii, That indistinct hue which may be called whey-colour. 1602 *Wealth Misery Worst Kind* 3, I think it there is somewhat a weakly mans *And* he has as it were a 'whey coloured beard. a 1738 Arbuthnot *Diet. Dumpling* Misc. Wks. 1751 I. 67 A goodly Whey-colour'd Beard. 1838 Combe *Digestion* i. v, A semi-transparent whey coloured fluid. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* E 1 b, A 'whey countenance, short stoopies, and earthen dampish-voyce. 1756 W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. 1. 170 Whey Butter is wholly made with 'Whey-cream, it is then justly named Whey-butter. 1597 Primrose *Sp. Pleck. Repulsion*, 'whey cruds. 1740 Bayard *Health* (ed. 6) 20 Such a Tormentor as we may 'mong 'Whey-Drinkers in poor cottages. 1811 W. Alton *Agric. Surv. Ayr.* 419 (Jam.) Putrifying holes, which, in the dairy language of Ayrshire, are termed 'whey-pots. 1808 *Jam.* 435 Whey-spring, or 'eyes, are seldom met with in the cheeses of Ayrshire. 1598 Shaks. *Much.* v. iii. 17 *Mach.*..What Soldiers, Patch?.. What Soldiers 'Whey-face? *Seru.* The English Force, so please you. 1753 Jane Collier *Art of Ingenuity* I. ii. 46 If her complexion is fair, call her Whey-face. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* I. *Mrs. Mouse*, A little .. man, with a ferret-like countenance, and pale whey-face. 1649 Jus. Ant *Love & Hon.* iv. iv 20 Marke, sir, that 'whey-fac'd fellow in the red. 1697 Penn *Ep. to Sir F. Sheppard* 49 That sneaking Whey-faced Age. 1733 Fouis *Hist. Wey-fishin. in Paris* i. i, One whey-faced Son of a Bitch..call'd me *Bête*. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xvii, Your tutor, whey-faced Mr. Vining. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 31 June, To the Royal Theatre,..Thence to the 'whiny-house, and drank a great deal of whey. 1892-4 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1895) 164 Against one wall are the 'whey-lead. 1706 Whitney *Brit. Phadra & Hip.* V. 1, A 'whey-like juice. 1822 Good *Study Med.* II. 289 Whey-like urine. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 537 *Porcus teretius*,..a 'whey pig. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wright-Wülcker 624 A 'whey-pot, 'whey potte. 1784 Twamley *Dairying Exempl.* 13 Faults ..in Cheese such as..'Whey Spirits. 1812 [see *whey-eye*]. 1813 Bledoe *Agric. Essays* I. 57 Butter-milk .. is sometimes saved in the 'whey-tub. 1811 Willan in *Archaeologia* XVII. 163 *Whey-Whig*, whey impregnated with mint, balm, and walnut leaves. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. II*, 22 b, The Essex men hauynge wyght 'whaye wormes in their heddes. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Whey-worms*, pimples, from which exudes a whyshie moisture. a 1540 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 553 A sory face 'Wheywormed about.

b. as *adj.* Whey-coloured (cf. *whey beard*).

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 245 His tawny Beard .. The upper part thereof was Whey, The nether Orange mixt with Grey.

† **Whey**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To separate the whey from (milk); hence in *vbl. sb. attrib.*, as *whey-ing cloth*; also, to make (the blood) wheyish or thin.

1660 in *Sir R. Sadler's St. Papers* (1809) III. 358 Two fleetlingdishes, sixteen spoons, and five wheying cloaths. 1661 Feltham *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. xi. 201 It is most true that in matters unjust, Christian Religion wheys the blood and makes a Coward of man. 1708 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 73 The Idolatry of Covetousness .. had so wheyd or congealed all it's Mass of Blood. 1728 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 85 Take the Curd of a gallon of Milk, and whey it well. *Ibid.* 105 Take a gallon of new Milk, set it as for a Cheese, and gently whey it.

**Whey**, north. f. Quey, heifer, Way *int.*

**Wheyey** (hwē·i), *a.* Forms: 6 **whey**, 6 7 **whayey**, 7 **whayie**, **wheyie**, **whaey**, 7–**wheyey**. [f. **Whey** *sb.* + -y 1.] Of the nature of whey; consisting of, containing, or resembling whey.

1547 Recorde *Urinals* (1579) 312 b, Urine is the superfluite or wheye substaunce of the blode in the hollow vaynes. 1598 J. Jones *Bk. of Bathes Benefyte* 18 The whayey, thinne, and subtyle humours. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 95 The watrie or wheyie part of the blood. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 23. 2/1 The more Wheyey Parts of the Chyle. 1778 Pennant *Tour in Wales* (1883) I. 54 Discolored by a wheyey tinge. 1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 81 The surface of which [sc. the bladder] pours forth a cheesy or wheyey fluid. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Or.* 29/1 A separation of the buttery and wheyey parts.

Hence **Wheyiness**, wheyey quality.

1656 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 220 They prefer Asses milk before the rest, by reason of its thin substance, and very much whey incase.

**Wheyish**, (hwē·ĭsh), *a.* Also 6 **whaish**, 6-7 **whayish**. [f. Whey *sb.* + -ish 1.] Having the nature or quality of whey; like or resembling whey in consistence, colour, or other quality; watery, thin; pallish.

1565 Raynalde *Byth Mankynde* 46 b, The wayne..whiche bryngeth the whyssche humour into the left kydney. 1570 Levins *Manipulus Vocum*, *Horibl Ic.* viii, A whey-ish Topaze. 1585 Banister *Tumors* xxxiv. Whys. (1633) 114 A watrish or whayish and unprofitable substance. 1605 B. Jonson *Staple of News* ii. Interlude, If it be fresh and sweet, it lasts; but say it be sower and wheyish? 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 150 Some River-Water will look of a wheyish whitish Colour. 1708 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 90 A cow, lately had the yellow, and the first coming of them to be known was by her milk being wheyish. 1801 Bedoes *Pneum. Pt.* (1802) 43 These birds..must discharge the ill-conditioned, wheyish, and curdy matter. 1807 Jos. Hall *Trav. Scot.* II. 327 The liquid oozing from the roof in a few minutes seems to be formed into a wheyish substance.

Hence **Wheyishness**, wheyish quality; also *fig.*

1837 Markham *Engl. Housew.* II. (ed. 5) 107 To prevent the wheyishness of the Custard. 1803 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 453, I have read Cowper's Odyssey with much pleasure, in spite of its wheyishness.

**Whey(l)e**, obs. forms of Wheel.

**Wheyn**, var. Whyne *Obs.* whence.

**Wheynte**, obs. f. Quaint *a.*

**Wheyte**, north. f. Quit *v.* **Whhi-hhee**: see Wehee. **Whi**: see Wehee, Why, Wie.

**Whib(b)le**, etc., obs. variants of Quibble, etc.

1604 Dekker & Webster *Northward Ho* i. Whibers and prattling pict-hanks, tatlers, and tale-tellars. 1624 Gee *Ark and ot Smore* (ed. 3) 82, I doe not heare, that any of those snarling whibbling Curres doe barke. If they dare open their snapping mouthes, let them doe it whilest men line that may relish them. a 1626 Middleton *Mayor Quinb.* v. i. (1661) 63, a *Cheat*. The whibligig, the whibble, the Cheat? 1709 Stay, stay, what names are these] *a Cheat*. New names of late.

**Whibbobo**, obs. form of Cubeb.

1435-6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 Et in una libra de Whibbobo pro..vij.

† **Whiblin**. *Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh. a slang term denoting 'thingumbob', 'what-d'ye-call-it'; but cf. Whibble and Quiblin.

With quot. 1604 cf. Whibling, Whibling.

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* 2. i. 11 Tess a very mandrake, or else one a these whiblins, and thats worse, and then all the children that he gets lawfully of your body sister, are bastards by his whiblin. 1613 Marston *Insatiate Critic* v. D3 b, A rare whiblin, To be reuerg'd, and yet guine pleasure in't. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 232/2 Projects, of planting the Low Dogs with Whiblins, Corwhichets, Mushrumps and Tobaccos. a 1650 Brome *Lovesick Court* v. i, Come, Sir, let go your whiblin. (*Oth.* snatch his sword away.)

**Whibling**, obs. form of Whirling.

**Which** (hwil), *a.* and *pron.* Forms: see below. [OE. *hwelc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* corresp. to OFris. *hwelik*, *hwel(c)k*, *hwek*, *hulk*, *huk*, *hok* (Fris. *wolk*, *wak*, *huk*, etc.), OS. *hwilic*, MLG. *welik*, *welk*, MDu. *welc*, (LG., Du. *welk*), OHG. **hwalih*, *wualih*, *hwelih*, *welih*, *-ich*, *-eh* (MHG. *welh*, *welch*, G. *welch*). Goth. *hwileiks* :– OTeut. **xwalik-*, *-xwalīk-* (of what form ?, *L xwa-*, *xwi-* (indo-eur. *qʷo-*, *qʷi-* Who, etc.) + **līko-* body, form (cf. Like *a.*). OE. *hwelc* (OWS. and Anglian), *hwæle* (Northumb.) and *hwilc* (chiefly WS.), representative of **hwalīk-* and **hwilīk-* respectively; later OE. has a rounded form *hwylc* of *hwilc*. The three OE. types *hwelc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* gave three ME. types **hwelch*, *hwilch*, *hwilch*, which became, by loss of *l* (cf. Such), *hwech*, *hwich*, *hwich*; the second of these types alone has survived in mod. English, the other two not remaining current after the 15th century. The forms with non-palatalization of the final consonant *whilk* (*qwhilk*), occas. *quhik*, are northern (in ME. also East Anglian); cf. Swilk, Sic. Forms showing the absorption of *w* as in *hulch*, *huch* (cf. such for *swuch*, and OFris. *hulk*) are rare.

Certain continental forms are compounded with other derivatives of the same pronominal stem ; Goth. *hwileiks* with the instrumental *leiks* (cf. *hwileiks* how great) ; ON. *hvilikr* (MSw. *hwilken*, *hwilkin*, *hwilkin*, Sw., Da. *hvilken*) with the locative *leikʀ*; OHG. *hwolīh*, *wolīh* (MHG. *welich*) with the adv. *lengo*, *-ge* (G. *-lich*) how.

For the compounds *g'hwile*, *g'hwile*, see Each.]

**A.** Illustration of Forms.

**1.** 1 **hwelc**, **huelc**, **hwælc**, **hwæle**, **huœlc**, **3 hwælch**, 4–5 **whsche**, **wsche**, 5 **whech**, **qwech(e**, **quoche**, (**qheche**) ; **3 qwel**, **4 quelk**.

[c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* Q 74 *Quæ cunque modo*, kehwelc wæga.] c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xviii. 23 [xix. 13] *Delicta quis intelligit*, scylde hwelc oncnteb? c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iv. 34 *Disputabamur quis esset discipulus maior*,..scelleton hu ser hwelc wære wæron mara. *Ibid.* xii. 19 *Si cuius frater mortuus fuerit*,..gif hwelc *vel* æniz broðer deaþ sie *vel* bid. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 An hwuche wise ic mihte betst sakliin wið mine hatiend Crisste. c 1250 *owl* [see B. 8]. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 9723/2 (Fairf.) Pe prest sal wit quhare..Of men bat ar in religioun Quilk teccheles prelate is. 1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 2 The cheste..wche they haue of myn. 1418 *Invt.* 44 Pe money pe qweche Oliuer hath in his hand. 14.. *Cast. Love* 578 (MS. Bodl. Add. B. 107), Herkeneth wheche loue; wych hucsomnesse, Whiche grace & whiche sweetnesse, That good from bane wych alyde ches I. 1449 Mang. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 82 Alsok of sofyatre..the qheche my seyd brother beheeldi my moder. c 1450 Cargrave *Life St. Aug.* xxxii, Iet þei schuld not denye e tyme whech þei graunted anoþer tyme. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 20, I am enformyd, ye schall recuver of bard and but a part, the qweech schuld be dere of the same.

**2.** a. 1–3 **hwilc**, **wilc**, 3 **hwilch**, **w(h)ilch**, **whilc**, *Orm.* **whillc**, (*gen.* **whillkess**, *pl.* **whillke**), 3–4 **wilk**, 4 **wylk**, 4–5 **whylke**, 4–6 **whilke**, 4–6, 7–9 *dial.* **whilk**, 5 **whilke**, 5–7 *dial.* **whylk**, (6 *Sc.* **vhilk**, *pl.* **vhilks**, 6–8 *Sc. pl.* **whilks**); 3–4 **quilc**, **quilke**, 4 **qwilk**, **quylk**, **quhylk**, (**quil**), 4–5 **quilk**, 4–8 *Sc.* **quhilk** (*pl.* 5–7 **quhilkis**, 6 **quhilke**).

c 950 *Alfred's Boeth.* xxxiv, § 10 Hwile ue magz æzcean medemlice ymes scyppendes willan? c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 24 Ic ek eow sæcge in wlces mæhtiże ic þas do. c 1200 Ormin 471 while [see B. 4]. *Ibid.* 5283 O whillkess kinnes wiss. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Wlch mon sunt þu te hauen of godd? *Ibid.* 125 Sif þu wilt witen wilke fiztene þe hierte muzze habben. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Illisted nu hwat mai þe wilke þeos wordes wes. [see B. 7 *pa.*]. 13.. *Northern Passion* 256 (MS. Camb. Gg. 5. 31), Pai lukyd..Whylke [v. r. wylke] of payne it myght be fall. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 82 Alle the wylke landes I haue aunbeler, and my sone..wylk him likeþ best. 1588 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 14 The vppowrin..Whilks syne in dissolutio is be keiped close and well. 1654 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* iv. 1, Let me whyle away he weighed. 1721 in *Weirne Harvest Songs* (1874) 132 To be..granted to the said deceast Robert lord Nairn and the airs male of his body whilks failzieing to the said Margaret now lady Nairn. 1768 Ramsay *Scott. Leg. Montrose* iii, Their damnable skirlin' pipes, whilk they themselves pretend to understand.

**3.** 1 **hwic**, **wic**, 2–3 **hwich**, (**3wich**), 3–6 **wyche**, **wich**, 4 **hwych**, *pl.* **huiche**, 4–5 **wiche**, 4–6 **whiche**, **whyche**, **wych**, 5 (**wyche**, 6 **wyech**, *Sc.* **vich**, **which**), 4–**which**; 4–5 **quiche**, **quyche**, 5 **quich**, **quych**, **qwiche**, **qwych(e**, 5–6 *Sc.* **quhich** ; 5 *Sc.* **quhik**.

a 1175 *Lofi. Hom.* 238 Wic bieoð þa, wic dreadneose word þer. *Ibid.* 243 Hwic seoluen beon ure sceld, sanctus paulus sæid. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 236 Latest he hit scawe þ hwice hete is þur þa seolo wunede. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 Listeð, wiche wise he him bitahte and hwiche þinges were he hire giuf. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 326 Vor to wite in þwiche stede is wonið þigge were. c 1300 *Relat* (Percy Soc.) 974 In whiche manere. 1340 Ayenb. 32 Vrom wiche he hule he zorȝes and ine huiche perils þou art. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 21136 (Fairf.) Pat folk itkane walde oþer steȝuen Quiche mute come tiitst to beyrune. c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* I. 211 A cortel..hwych ȝe ful of þat bame cler. 1390 which [see B. 7 b]. 1415 in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* 584 On ȝe morou ȝe Fryday ȝe quich he was ȝeldyn. 1470 *Harl. Manuscript* (1901) 138 Wyche mony I pray zow þat [ye] bestowe yt an I wych to zow. a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 215 A mane, quilk at his fantasy has þis propertie to vice. 1551 Cowper *Hours & Prayers* 63 Ye..Wych wythout me had come to nought. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Trav.* 1. vii, 6 The master of my skiffe, whiche pre-ceiu'd, was much troubled. 1600 Monteomerie *Sonn.* lvi. 6 My teiris which so abound.

**3.** a. 1 **hwylc**, 2 **hwulch**, **hulch**, 2–3 **wulc**, 3 **whulc(h**, **wulch**, 5 **whulche**.

**897–899** *Charter in O. E. Texts* 532/30 Swa hwylc mon swa hio wonie & bruce. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 15 Hwuic mon is þet nauet to broken elche dei þas godes laȝe þe ic eou nu cweð. *Ibid.* 27 hulche [see B. 6]. *Ibid.* 40 Nu ȝe habbeð hierd wuic hit is for to hieren godes wordes and heom ethalden. c 1205 Lay. 8303 Þa nost of whulche londe heo com heder liiden. *Ibid.* 20735 For whulches cunnes þinge ligge we þus here. c 1300 *Havelok* (Vernon MS.) 207, I wolde fayn, & i wuste whulche.

**3.** 3 **hwuo**, **hwu(o)eh**, **wuoch**, 3–5 **wuch(e**, **wuoch(e**, **w(uoch**, 4–5 **whuch**, **whoche**, 5 **whooch**, **huch**.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 And to-ȝenes hwuch fo man agh furðien seið he hoil apostle. *Ibid.* 219 For woche binge he nemnede [etc.]. c 1225 hwuc [see B. 2]. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1378 Þo wuch þo bo. c 1300 *Cast. Love* 210 Alle wuch sarue and deol þer wes! c 1400 *Beryn* 176 Huch be Pardoner, & he, peuyely in hir pouchis þey put hem aftir-ward. 1401 *26 Pol. Poems* iii. 56 Whoche party may strengers

be 1484 Yonge tr. *Secr Secr* 143 Wylde beste, amonge woche euery oth hym abow hym to whome he is prere [? pere].

**B.** Substantion.

**I.** Interrogative and allied uses

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative of note a, v WHAT A. I **

**†1.** *adj* Most usually *predicative* Of what kind, quality, or character; also *attrib* what kind of: = L. *qualis*. (The interrogative corresponding to the demonstrative SUCH) *Obs*

In attrib use (in *sing*) sometimes followed by *a*

c 897 Alfred *Gregory's Past C* lxv 467 Ðæer se hæfðe xxtehtt hwelc hiende hiom in sceal. *c*1000 *Ags Gosp* Luke vii 39 He wiste hwant & hwylc he *wæs* *wære*, þæt heo synfull is *c* 1205 Lay 10120 Men talden hun tidende of alle þere fore þe Petrus dude in Rome, and whulcne [*c* 1275 wochne] martirdom Petrus hauede ifonded. *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 69 Hwon Godes prophete make le swuche mone of cien, hwuc mone weneste ti to monn mon kunnen of hore cneo? *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 3918 Ðor he stunden for to sen Quile phraon wið hem an ben 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 1189 Ȝif his mizte fern wieche brutons were *c* 1320 *Cast Love* 53 I-o wuche a Castel he alihte, þe he wolde here to ve ihte 1388 Wyclif *Tenses* 1 Sam 20 Whoon he forȝat which he was *c* 1400 tr *Secr Secr*, *Gov Lordsh* 204 Whiche ȝe by fayth, and by lawe? *a* 1400–50 *Bk Curtasye* 301 in *Babees Bk*, To take his nome, and whuche he is

**2.** As general interrogative. (Mostly *Obs*) †*a. adj* = WHAT A. 13, 14. *Obs* (or merged in 3 a)

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* IV xxiiiv (1890) 348 Hwylc þearf is ðe huslest? *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Luke v 20 Hwæs nis hwelc tacn si þines tocymm? *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 23 Þe engel seowed a wliche wune and þurgh hwam þis blisse cumen shulde *c* 1290 *Beket* 2373 in S. *Eng Leg* 173 In wat nyttnere he was a-lowed and hwich ȝeres he did *c* 1300 *Ind Ire* 101 in *E E* (1862) 210 Sippe te fond me louerd valawe ȝ not in wuche wise *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Cxii 515 He lerȝd him o milk drinkand, and how he sould luf him. 1388 Shaks *L L* IV i 105 *Clo* From my Lord to my Lady? *Ou* From which Lord, to which Lady? 1513 Lyndy *Palladius on Husb* (1749) II 38 Nor ought any one to wonder, which way such vast Quantities of earthen Ware came there 1732 Chesterf *Lett* ccx vi (1779) IV 6 In some congratulatory poem prefixed to some work, I have forgot which

**b** *pron.* = WHAT A 1, 6. Also (OL. and occas. later) = Who *Obs*. exc. as a humorous substitute for *what*

1577 *Bk of Hous* 169 Hwilk nieuwale eow to fleonne fram ðen towrandan Godes vengeaunce? *a* 1586 *Sidney Ps* cxxxix 5 *Eng. Leg* 233 Man mai i seo ȝwuch it is to ȝiuen ohor manne þing with wouh. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vern. MS* 407/38 Affter þis shalten ben We þat eyche i ten þe comaundements ten *c* 1400 *Brut* 22 (*heading*), How ny kynges curteisely helde al Britaignes i and whiche i-teh here names 1568–9 *Bk Comm Prayer, Catech*, I tell me how many (*commandements*) there bee 1 answere, that there bee they *a* 1592 Greene *Jas IV*, i 657 Sake is the world but wilkka is he i-nowe? 1599 Shake *Much Ado* II i 107, I haue manie ill qualities? *Bene* Which is the chiefest? *Dog* Prodigality 1648 & *Sundrys Par Pr. exp* 9 Recoyling Sc is, which [of 1638 which] cause d'your dread?

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, I don't want to go and so he says—some hard name or other 'A wi ch? says the Captain 1892 Kipling *Light that Failed* ix, Who's interfering with which?

**3** In limited sense, expressing a request for selection from a definite number: What one (or ones) of a (stated or implied) set of persons, things, or alternatives. (The current use) *a. adj*

Sometimes, as in *which way*, indistinguishable from 2 a

*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt vii 9 Hwylc man is of eow ȝyf him sunu hyne bit hlafes ryfne þa hine hlafes? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Ass Fet* 7, 158 Whilk way is he went? *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 10653 Þen þai frenyst quoche feke, þat schuld first entre 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* 2 Which wye will ye goe? 1580 J Hewm *on Prov & Eccles* Liv, I know on which syde my freend is buttred 1596 Shake *Merch T* II iv 11 Neuer to vnfold to one from whom I take no leaue 1667 Milton *P L* IV 73 Which way shall I flee? 1770 Lo ve *Lunar Lovers* A wise man should well weigh which party to take for. 1880 Besant *All Sorts* xvii, Bound for some America in port—I don't know which. 1926 R L Gould *The Jesus of Hist* iv 70 When the question is asked, 'Which Jesus the Messiah?' the obvious reply is, Which Messiah?

**b.** *pron* (†accus., in dependent clause, with *the*)

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt vi 7 (*Oxf*) Ne wenaþ hi ðæt hi ðurh hiæ unrethlice ȝurre? *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* John xix 24 Ne sclite we hy ac uton hleotan hwylces urres he sy 1297 R. Gloue (Rolls) 928 Among hem strif ros moȝte ek Woch mest maisters were *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 15075 Bul wel i wat þe quilk o ȝow þe treaun has purtaid 13 *Sir Amadas* 217 (MS Laud 108) Lauch, I wile Wryȝt, and I wate wille 1602 *Jack Upland* 28 Fiere how many ordres be in erþe, and which is the perfitest orde? *c* 1470 *G. & Gaw* 919 Quhilk thai happynnit the lok, Couth na leid say 1526 Tindale *John* vii 46 Which of you can put linke me offy sinne? 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 77 In making or mending as needeth thy ditch, get set to quick sett it leanne cunningly which is 1599 Shake *Much Ado* v iv 72 Which is Beatrice? *Beat* I answer to that name 1601 R Johnson *Kingd & Commw* 2 Of the two I doe not know which to prefer 1861 Shake *Wint I* iv 94, I cannot tell For which of his Vertues it was 1880 Fuller *Wert Contempt* xiii 92 Two young Gentlemen were comparing their revenues together, vying which of them were the best 1792 Cowper *Let to W Bagot* 18 Mar, Indisposed with gout or rheumatism, (for it seems uncertain which) 1897 Rudkin *Pol Econ. Acts* Addenda 107 *note*, The contest between them is not which shall furnish money for himself. 1899 Stevenson *Ballantrae* iii, But which is it to be? Fight or make friends?

**4.** *adj.* and *pron.* Repeated (in sense 3): a. in each of two (or more) separate clauses, usually connected by a conj.

*c* 897 Alfred *Gregory's Past C.* lix 451 He is getwæmede

for hwelcum ðingum we sceolden ure godan weorc helan, & for hwelcum we bi sceolden cyðan *c* 1200 Ormin 4171–2 Prestess & deacness Shifftedenn hemm betweenenn Whille here shollde seerfenn firrst, Whille sibbenn i þe temmple 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 2562 Me muste Woch was on ne woch wes oþer *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) Prol 17 To here whilk were fales, & whilk were wyse 1525 Lvd Barkenye 159 To note the naturall disposition of his Hawkes as, whiche will flee beeing high, and whiche best when he is inuyte lowe wherfore will flee best when she is set most sharpe and eager, and whyche contrary, and whiche in a meane betweene both 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* III 307 Which bells it bones were to be given and which red which balls were to be of gold and which of silver and a hundred other such trifles, were gravely considered 1880 Shorthouse *John Inglesant* xxvii, Trying to make out which was noble and which was ignoble

**b** in the same clause, in abbreviated expressions, esp *which is which* = which is the one and which is the other, *so which goes with which*, etc., also with another interrog, *vs who is to have which*

1 *pron* Variant is contained in the phr *to tell tother from which*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 9320 Wel sal he cunk in quilk ee guilk Fra the sark he gird to a 1398 Trevisa *Barth De L R* xix xii (Bodl MS), Þe fissher-women knewe hyre by-cnowleche here pruue fleinge bridles and be seconde manere haukes knowe by-fore hondes þi sette be one þe grounde And be bridles knowe þe hors and by þe sadel þe knyȝt 1513 *Douglas Æneis* 445 Som tyme, after men myghten lordes knowe By there array, from oþer folke but now A man is hid maistis ly nigh hand to his lord 1594 Shake *Rom & Jul* III v 201 Ay, ay, so fares it Though it grieue vs, yet we know it is, that I which am sworne to beare a true part with you 1884 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* xii, To see which went best with which

**II.** Declamatory use

†**5** *adj.* (in non-collective sing followed by *a*) = What B 5, 5 b. *Obs*

*c* 888 Ælfred *Bo Bk* xvi § 2 Ȝif ge nu eaxnan hwelces mus þæt ware hlaford ofer oðre mys mid hwelce hleahtre ge wolden hine sceawian 1175 [see A 2b] 1275 *Lorde Passion* 29 Nuiste ȝeme hwuche ȝife he us ȝefeð *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 134 Penc hwuch pinen he poledde 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 7337 Hii seye þe sobiesse In wuch lecherie & oþer manne þinges seruede lome messe *c* 1393 *Gower Conf* 62 in *E E P* (1865) 67 Loued, which a cumpaignye of clene mudenes was þere 1397 Lancr *Prol* 3, 27 Whiche bodies hath he maad 1400 *Destr Troy* 1 Of þat Troie and of þe tyme which a wyf was Alexiens. *a* 1400 50 *Alex Alex* 1897 He tellis quyche a hunne of tresoure he hanys *c* 1430 *Pilg Lyf Manh* III iv 57 Of þo Hermys, which þere was I shipe is þis *c* 1440 *Jac's Well* 102 Lo, whiche a worschip scle hidde & whiche a losse

**III** Relative uses * as simple relative

**6** *adj* The ordinary relative adj

Formerly in N. with pl inflexn in 1, 2; see A 2a. For the construction with a prep, cf 2a

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 27 Þesne mon se habbe it iken to mone þenne hæbbe he þene sunnan & se ilke bleoteð wæ, & hælche monna sawl dræhte in his spelle þa he þus cweþ [etc.] *c* 1250 *Ael Serm* in *O E Misc* 30 Ecclesiæ, spusbreche, Þe berne, and alle oðre male deden burch wiche burkes man forueleþ þe ȝeld of helle 13 *Nov Thorm Lesc* 1309 (MS Cumb Gg 1 1) Þe tre of liif On wiche [= whilke] tre þat appil ȝrewe *c* 1400 *Brut* 229 His ffeyth was restore le þat ȝe wiche þat ȝe spekyn ȝe schul ansuere 1526 Tindale God and Sent Thomas 1538 50 *Higden* (Rolls) III 121 The thyrde reuthne was of Lateyce The kynges of whiche place was Lucius, þat sente to Pope Eleutherius 1560 *Chr in* (Rolls) 160 He fond him untrewe le, for whech cause the bischop cursed him 1596 Tindale *Disc* 6 Germacan whichemen were sometymes Lordes which brought in the wrath of god falleth on the chyldren off vnbelefe 1585 Jas I *Bas Do* 52 (Arb) 55 They are figures of Rhetorique and Dialectique, qui alias artes à profess e nichil 1598 Shake *Merry W* I iv 19 Sir Hugh, persuade me not to commit the duello with the rapier and dagger man of Italy, whiche is the very deuil incarnation of a fray 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 72 I found all safe landed on Day, during which time the Ship broke in pieces 1800 Wordsw *Hart Leap Well*, The monuments spoken of in the second Part of the foll wing Poem were the monuments to which reference is there described there 1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* II i Concerning which last indeed 1892 *Holder Ann* II 883 A 55 camera (which sure is now the most popular)

**7** *pron.* The ordinary relative pronoun introducing an additional statement about the ante cedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause, thus sometimes equivalent to 'and that (it, they, etc)'

(Cf *That rel pron* 2 c)

In this and following senses formerly sometimes followed by *that* (*that* strong, *þa* weak) as in (cf *That rel pron* B 27)

**a** As obj of a prep, which usually precedes *which*, but occas. stands at the end of the clause

If the prep depends on some other word (e g as ob or rem) of all, hardly any word can be equally or govern it usually stands immediately before the prep

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 12 Drihten him þi tahte twa stanene tables þreode on hwulche godcundan beafole writen þy ten hes þus. 13 *Cursor M* 9340 (*Cott*) Ilkan gaf he sah stance an, Widuten quhylk on nan manere Mint he in pes hu kingriche sene 1483 Jas I *Kingis Q* iii, A boke Of quhich the name is clept Boece 1551 *Pantin Lett Suppl* (1901) 38 A letter qwych I send sow a copy of 1590 Spenser *F Q* I xi 29 A springing well from which fast trickled forth a siluer flood 1603 in Eyre *Hemyng's* (1870) 32 One paier of little organnes wth a board wh they stand on 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 27 Our Ship stuck a ground, with the noise of which, our Captain awoke 1726 *Adv Capt R Boyle* (1768) 253 Their Beards & Mustachoes which they take a particular Pride in the Length or Largeness of 1848 Carlyle *Irish Ch* II vii 141 The Pope being about a distance the result of which was what we see 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* ii, A Scotsman, who extolled the economy of his race even to the extent of flesh, of which he was sparse

**b** As subject or object of a verb

Formerly sometimes used where as in now idiomatic 23 in quot 1688 cf 10

*a* 1300 *K Alisaunder* IX 16 In þis tre are vl like þai had swa 1390 Gower *Conf* III 132 His herbe proprie is Rosmarine, Which sekepen le for his cowne *c* 1400 *Cursor M* 25391 (Cott Galba) Pe blist of heuin, Which seuyn vertuse vnfillis wone And alle for we seuyn dedly sin 1484 Caxton *Chas Gd* 193 The tooth an hors which tamie st al aduenture *c* 1550 Rolland *Cr Seuyne* Prol 13 Complexiounis Quhilks ar thir four Phlegmatike Sanguin cvne Colerike Melancolie Quhilkis of nature ir wonder different 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4373 I hiv sene marvellous Monarche, Quhilk hes power Impersall Rulis of the E by and the Vsall *a* 1623 Beresewood *Lang & Lit* (1627) 2 The Italian, French, and Spanish 1 which in a large room word haue beene called Romanists 1650 *Bk Carols* Prol 1 All ye He brews measurn g their land by t low sh t which admits of variation 1688 H Hm *Arm* xvii 331/2 The Pitchfork (or what you will) is quickly made 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 61, I spy'd a sort of Fowl, a Rope, which I wonder'd I did not see at first 1883 I Hood *Syntax* ser II *Lesson* 4 *Introc* x III 209 All so good night sayings will probably shock 1 ners 1892 Morley *Voltaire* I 3 Ideas whose forms were oft I at which were full of seemingly inexhaustible novelty 1895 Jevons *Money* xiii 246 Those remedies g vernment tried cumular experiment, which was soon discontinued

**c** Referring to a fact circumstance, or statement

1390 Gower *Conf* I 12 To make pes between the kynges Which be prophecie in olde scriptures ben prestholde 1516 in E Lodge *Illustr* (1838) I 17 He would advise me to get me t s me little house with a few persons with me, which I have done 1521 *Rec Acc Exch* 1 Ric III 1 the shi ll come into Scotl home, which God forfende 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV*, v i 4 You must now speake Sir John Falst affe faire Which gaimnes against your steame of Quality 1669 Lorde Berkeley *Journ Irel* 118 I order'd the Air to be let in very leisurely, upon which we could plainly see (etc) 1699 Bentley *Phal* xii 340 The 1st part of the be ween the Gentiles and Christians, which in the proper definition of 2 Sacrum 1760 Sterne *Tr Shandy* III xxiv I dragged her after me by means of which she fell backwards as we got to the door 1787 Tra *Lith Sc Isl* 31 We have no Meth dists settled among t us which is very fortunate 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz Seven mens* Looking as amiable as they possibly could—which by the by, is not saying much for their amiability 1851 *Brit Arch* 1076 Yellow roun contains some water, which ill k rain does not 1888 [*See H Dickens*] *In sight of Church* iv 65 Observation only shows what is visible, which is not 1914 Ian Hay *Ant on Wheels* xiii § 3 They can f rmed it the rules, observing the spirit rather than the letter of the law Which we just as well

**d.** With a conjunction in the relative clause, usually foll owing *which*, rarely preceding *arch*

In early u e more frequently with pleonastic personal pron s (e 14) For 3rd plural see 15

[1510 see 13b] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VI* 214 b To many hym selfe into some other place, wit out delay which if he did they should burne him, & he should haue neither hors nor life 1548–9 *Compl Scot* (1872) 193 Oliver Herbert was forced to fly p rince, which, that he might do the better I and the said fencer 200 crowns 1552 Huloet *Abecedarium* iii viii, The teares began to ouerflow which when he perceyued, he wept 1598 Barckley *Felic Nature & Art* iii 280 Explanations followed all these positions but which require no recital here 1835 Chapto *Knauli's Northumberland* II 211 Instructions from mulking saw many fumes and loling in the hell le But which were inevitable to her constitutions 1852 Ruskin *Pol Ec* iii 61 Fishing was a business which required only to put agreements between Christians in w ting Which if it were not now, you know we might save a lot of money 1883 R W Dixon *Hist Ch Eng* VI 78 Which as I have saw, thither full for rain le

**e** Introducing a parenthetic qualifying clause inserted in the principal clause (Cf Sense 11, quots 1599 1719)

1500 Rate *Sea* 1 *Sea* (Bull 1 Cl 1) 50 He p rpost quilk was to ly My wife Lady to defore 1611 Bible *Acts Introc* iii Are not you Which as above all y se my constant fre d 1640 L Reynolds *Measures Law* 172 Set ige Simon Canute was by the solemn and for rupion of Natural rie mswell as attractive 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* 20 Primarily which is very remarkable and unique, I observe that most of the luxurious ones among the me nuns of the word rich 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xii Wh n, which happened every day, they forgot their du ies and for a while, they talked and laughed

**8** Introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense Regularly so used after the antecedent *that* (*That dem pron.* 6), or after a prep (see 6), in other cases the more regular relative is *that* (*That rel pron* 1)

In modern printing usually distinguished from 7 by the absence of a comma but retained in reference (in speech by the absence of a pause)

*c* 888 *K Ælfred Bo Bk* xvi § 2 Ȝif ge nu eaxnan hwelces mus þæt ware hlaford ofer oðre mys mid hwelce hleahtre ge wolden hine sceawian 1175 [see A 2b] 1275 *Lorde Passion* 29 Nuiste ȝeme hwuche ȝife he us ȝefeð *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 134 Penc hwuch pinen he poledde 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 7337 Hii seye þe sobiesse In wuch lecherie & oþer manne þinges seruede lome messe *c* 1393 *Gower Conf* 62 in *E E P* (1865) 67 Loued, which a cumpaignye of clene mudenes was þere 1397 Lancr *Prol* 3, 27 Whiche bodies hath he maad 1400 *Destr Troy* 1 Of þat Troie and of þe tyme which a wyf was Alexiens. *a* 1400 50 *Alex Alex* 1897 He tellis quyche a hunne of tresoure he hanys *c* 1430 *Pilg Lyf Manh* III iv 57 Of þo Hermys, which þere was I shipe is þis *c* 1440 *Jac's Well* 102 Lo, whiche a worschip scle hidde & whiche a losse

**III** Relative uses * as simple relative

**6** *adj* The ordinary relative adj

Formerly in N. with pl inflexn in 1, 2; see A 2a. For the construction with a prep, cf 2a

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 27 Þesne mon se habbe it iken to mone þenne hæbbe he þene sunnan & se ilke bleoteð wæ, & hælche monna sawl dræhte in his spelle þa he þus cweþ [etc.] *c* 1250 *Ael Serm* in *O E Misc* 30 Ecclesiæ, spusbreche, Þe berne, and alle oðre male deden burch wiche burkes man forueleþ þe ȝeld of helle 13 *Nov Thorm Lesc* 1309 (MS Cumb Gg 1 1) Þe tre of liif On wiche [= whilke] tre þat appil ȝrewe *c* 1400 *Brut* 229 His ffeyth was restore le þat ȝe wiche þat ȝe spekyn ȝe schul ansuere 1526 Tindale God and Sent Thomas 1538 50 *Higden* (Rolls) III 121 The thyrde reuthne was of Lateyce The kynges of whiche place was Lucius, þat sente to Pope Eleutherius 1560 *Chr in* (Rolls) 160 He fond him untrewe le, for whech cause the bischop cursed him 1596 Tindale *Disc* 6 Germacan whichemen were sometymes Lordes which brought in the wrath of god falleth on the chyldren off vnbelefe 1585 Jas I *Bas Do* 52 (Arb) 55 They are figures of Rhetorique and Dialectique, qui alias artes à profess e nichil 1598 Shake *Merry W* I iv 19 Sir Hugh, persuade me not to commit the duello with the rapier and dagger man of Italy, whiche is the very deuil incarnation of a fray 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 72 I found all safe landed on Day, during which time the Ship broke in pieces 1800 Wordsw *Hart Leap Well*, The monuments spoken of in the second Part of the foll wing Poem were the monuments to which reference is there described there 1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* I i Concerning which last indeed 1892 *Holder Ann* II 883 A 55 camera (which sure is now the most popular)

**7** *pron.* The ordinary relative pronoun introducing an additional statement about the ante cedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause, thus sometimes equivalent to 'and that (it, they, etc)'

(Cf *That rel pron* 2 c)

In this and following senses formerly sometimes followed by *that* (*that* strong, *þa* weak) as in (cf *That rel pron* B 27)

**a** As obj of a prep, which usually precedes *which*, but occas. stands at the end of the clause

If the prep depends on some other word (e g as ob or rem) of all, hardly any word can be equally or govern it usually stands immediately before the prep

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 12 Drihten him þi tahte twa stanene tables þreode on hwulche godcundan beafole writen þy ten hes þus. 13 *Cursor M* 9340 (*Cott*) Ilkan gaf he sah stance an, Widuten quhylk on nan manere Mint he in pes hu kingriche sene 1483 Jas I *Kingis Q* iii, A boke Of quhich the name is clept Boece 1551 *Pantin Lett Suppl* (1901) 38 A letter qwych I send sow a copy of 1590 Spenser *F Q* I xi 29 A springing well from which fast trickled forth a siluer flood 1603 in Eyre *Hemyng's* (1870) 32 One paier of little organnes wth a board wh they stand on 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 27 Our Ship stuck a ground, with the noise of which, our Captain awoke 1726 *Adv Capt R Boyle* (1768) 253 Their Beards & Mustachoes which they take a particular Pride in the Length or Largeness of 1848 Carlyle *Irish Ch* II vii 141 The Pope being about a distance the result of which was what we see 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* ii, A Scotsman, who extolled the economy of his race even to the extent of flesh, of which he was sparse

**b** As subject or object of a verb

Formerly sometimes used where as in now idiomatic 23 in quot 1688 cf 10

*a* 1300 *K Alisaunder* IX 16 In þis tre are vl like þai had swa 1390 Gower *Conf* III 132 His herbe proprie is Rosmarine, Which sekepen le for his cowne *c* 1400 *Cursor M* 25391 (Cott Galba) Pe blist of heuin, Which seuyn vertuse vnfillis wone And alle for we seuyn dedly sin 1484 Caxton *Chas Gd* 193 The tooth an hors which tamie st al aduenture *c* 1550 Rolland *Cr Seuyne* Prol 13 Complexiounis Quhilks ar thir four Phlegmatike Sanguin cvne Colerike Melancolie Quhilkis of nature ir wonder different 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4373 I hiv sene marvellous Monarche, Quhilk hes power Impersall Rulis of the E by and the Vsall *a* 1623 Beresewood *Lang & Lit* (1627) 2 The Italian, French, and Spanish 1 which in a large room word haue beene called Romanists 1650 *Bk Carols* Prol 1 All ye He brews measurn g their land by t low sh t which admits of variation 1688 H Hm *Arm* xvii 331/2 The Pitchfork (or what you will) is quickly made 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 61, I spy'd a sort of Fowl, a Rope, which I wonder'd I did not see at first 1883 I Hood *Syntax* ser II *Lesson* 4 *Introc* x III 209 All so good night sayings will probably shock 1 ners 1892 Morley *Voltaire* I 3 Ideas whose forms were oft I at which were full of seemingly inexhaustible novelty 1895 Jevons *Money* xiii 246 Those remedies g vernment tried cumular experiment, which was soon discontinued

**c** Referring to a fact circumstance, or statement

1390 Gower *Conf* I 12 To make pes between the kynges Which be prophecie in olde scriptures ben prestholde 1516 in E Lodge *Illustr* (1838) I 17 He would advise me to get me t s me little house with a few persons with me, which I have done 1521 *Rec Acc Exch* 1 Ric III 1 the shi ll come into Scotl home, which God forfende 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV*, v i 4 You must now speake Sir John Falst affe faire Which gaimnes against your steame of Quality 1669 Lorde Berkeley *Journ Irel* 118 I order'd the Air to be let in very leisurely, upon which we could plainly see (etc) 1699 Bentley *Phal* xii 340 The 1st part of the be ween the Gentiles and Christians, which in the proper definition of 2 Sacrum 1760 Sterne *Tr Shandy* III xxiv I dragged her after me by means of which she fell backwards as we got to the door 1787 Tra *Lith Sc Isl* 31 We have no Meth dists settled among t us which is very fortunate 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz Seven mens* Looking as amiable as they possibly could—which by the by, is not saying much for their amiability 1851 *Brit Arch* 1076 Yellow roun contains some water, which ill k rain does not 1888 [*See H Dickens*] *In sight of Church* iv 65 Observation only shows what is visible, which is not 1914 Ian Hay *Ant on Wheels* xiii § 3 They can f rmed it the rules, observing the spirit rather than the letter of the law Which we just as well

**d.** With a conjunction in the relative clause, usually foll owing *which*, rarely preceding *arch*

In early u e more frequently with pleonastic personal pron s (e 14) For 3rd plural see 15

[1510 see 13b] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VI* 214 b To many hym selfe into some other place, wit out delay which if he did they should burne him, & he should haue neither hors nor life 1548–9 *Compl Scot* (1872) 193 Oliver Herbert was forced to fly p rince, which, that he might do the better I and the said fencer 200 crowns 1552 Huloet *Abecedarium* iii viii, The teares began to ouerflow which when he perceyued, he wept 1598 Barckley *Felic Nature & Art* iii 280 Explanations followed all these positions but which require no recital here 1835 Chapto *Knauli's Northumberland* II 211 Instructions from mulking saw many fumes and loling in the hell le But which were inevitable to her constitutions 1852 Ruskin *Pol Ec* iii 61 Fishing was a business which required only to put agreements between Christians in w ting Which if it were not now, you know we might save a lot of money 1883 R W Dixon *Hist Ch Eng* VI 78 Which as I have saw, thither full for rain le

**e** Introducing a parenthetic qualifying clause inserted in the principal clause (Cf Sense 11, quots 1599 1719)

1500 Rate *Sea* 1 *Sea* (Bull 1 Cl 1) 50 He p rpost quilk was to ly My wife Lady to defore 1611 Bible *Acts Introc* iii Are not you Which as above all y se my constant fre d 1640 L Reynolds *Measures Law* 172 Set ige Simon Canute was by the solemn and for rupion of Natural rie mswell as attractive 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* 20 Primarily which is very remarkable and unique, I observe that most of the luxurious ones among the me nuns of the word rich 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xii Wh n, which happened every day, they forgot their du ies and for a while, they talked and laughed

**8** Introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense Regularly so used after the antecedent *that* (*That dem pron.* 6), or after a prep (see 6), in other cases the more regular relative is *that* (*That rel pron* 1)

In modern printing usually distinguished from 7 by the absence of a comma but retained in reference (in speech by the absence of a pause)

*c* 888 *K Ælfred Bo Bk* xvi § 2 Ȝif ge nu eaxnan hwelces mus þæt ware hlaford ofer oðre mys mid hwelce hleahtre ge wolden hine sceawian 1175 [see A 2b] 1275 *Lorde Passion* 29 Nuiste ȝeme hwuche ȝife he us ȝefeð *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 134 Penc hwuch pinen he poledde 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 7337 Hii seye þe sobiesse In wuch lecherie & oþer manne þinges seruede lome messe *c* 1393 *Gower Conf* 62 in *E E P* (1865) 67 Loued, which a cumpaignye of clene mudenes was þere 1397 Lancr *Prol* 3, 27 Whiche bodies hath he maad 1400 *Destr Troy* 1 Of þat Troie and of þe tyme which a wyf was Alexiens. *a* 1400 50 *Alex Alex* 1897 He tellis quyche a hunne of tresoure he hanys *c* 1430 *Pilg Lyf Manh* III iv 57 Of þo Hermys, which þere was I shipe is þis *c* 1440 *Jac's Well* 102 Lo, whiche a worschip scle hidde & whiche a losse

**III** Relative uses * as simple relative

**6** *adj* The ordinary relative adj

Formerly in N. with pl inflexn in 1, 2; see A 2a. For the construction with a prep, cf 2a

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 27 Þesne mon se habbe it iken to mone þenne hæbbe he þene sunnan & se ilke bleoteð wæ, & hælche monna sawl dræhte in his spelle þa he þus cweþ [etc.] *c* 1250 *Ael Serm* in *O E Misc* 30 Ecclesiæ, spusbreche, Þe berne, and alle oðre male deden burch wiche burkes man forueleþ þe ȝeld of helle 13 *Nov Thorm Lesc* 1309 (MS Cumb Gg 1 1) Þe tre of liif On wiche [= whilke] tre þat appil ȝrewe *c* 1400 *Brut* 229 His ffeyth was restore le þat ȝe wiche þat ȝe spekyn ȝe schul ansuere 1526 Tindale God and Sent Thomas 1538 50 *Higden* (Rolls) III 121 The thyrde reuthne was of Lateyce The kynges of whiche place was Lucius, þat sente to Pope Eleutherius 1560 *Chr in* (Rolls) 160 He fond him untrewe le, for whech cause the bischop cursed him 1596 Tindale *Disc* 6 Germacan whichemen were sometymes Lordes which brought in the wrath of god falleth on the chyldren off vnbelefe 1585 Jas I *Bas Do* 52 (Arb) 55 They are figures of Rhetorique and Dialectique, qui alias artes à profess e nichil 1598 Shake *Merry W* I iv 19 Sir Hugh, persuade me not to commit the duello with the rapier and dagger man of Italy, whiche is the very deuil incarnation of a fray 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 72 I found all safe landed on Day, during which time the Ship broke in pieces 1800 Wordsw *Hart Leap Well*, The monuments spoken of in the second Part of the foll wing Poem were the monuments to which reference is there described there 1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* I i Concerning which last indeed 1892 *Holder Ann* II 883 A 55 camera (which sure is now the most popular)

**7** *pron.* The ordinary relative pronoun introducing an additional statement about the ante cedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause, thus sometimes equivalent to 'and that (it, they, etc)'

(Cf *That rel pron* 2 c)

In this and following senses formerly sometimes followed by *that* (*that* strong, *þa* weak) as in (cf *That rel pron* B 27)

**a** As obj of a prep, which usually precedes *which*, but occas. stands at the end of the clause

If the prep depends on some other word (e g as ob or rem) of all, hardly any word can be equally or govern it usually stands immediately before the prep

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 12 Drihten him þi tahte twa stanene tables þreode on hwulche godcundan beafole writen þy ten hes þus. 13 *Cursor M* 9340 (*Cott*) Ilkan gaf he sah stance an, Widuten quhylk on nan manere Mint he in pes hu kingriche sene 1483 Jas I *Kingis Q* iii, A boke Of quhich the name is clept Boece 1551 *Pantin Lett Suppl* (1901) 38 A letter qwych I send sow a copy of 1590 Spenser *F Q* I xi 29 A springing well from which fast trickled forth a siluer flood 1603 in Eyre *Hemyng's* (1870) 32 One paier of little organnes wth a board wh they stand on 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I 27 Our Ship stuck a ground, with the noise of which, our Captain awoke 1726 *Adv Capt R Boyle* (1768) 253 Their Beards & Mustachoes which they take a particular Pride in the Length or Largeness of 1848 Carlyle *Irish Ch* II vii 141 The Pope being about a distance the result of which was what we see 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* ii, A Scotsman, who extolled the economy of his race even to the extent of flesh, of which he was sparse

**b** As subject or object of a verb

Formerly sometimes used where as in now idiomatic 23 in quot 1688 cf 10

*a* 1300 *K Alisaunder* IX 16 In þis tre are vl like þai had swa 1390 Gower *Conf* III 132 His herbe proprie is Rosmarine, Which sekepen le for his cowne *c* 1400 *Cursor M* 25391 (Cott Galba) Pe blist of heuin, Which seuyn vertuse vnfillis wone And alle for we seuyn dedly sin 1484 Caxton *Chas Gd* 193 The tooth an hors which tamie st al aduenture *c* 1550 Rolland *Cr Seuyne* Prol 13 Complexiounis Quhilks ar thir four Phlegmatike Sanguin cvne Colerike Melancolie Quhilkis of nature ir wonder different 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4373 I hiv sene marvellous Monarche, Quhilk hes power Impersall Rulis of the E by and the Vsall *a* 1623 Beresewood *Lang & Lit* (1627) 2 The Italian, French, and Spanish 1 which in a large room word haue beene called Romanists 1650 *Bk Carols* Prol 1 All ye He brews measurn g their land by t low sh t which admits of variation 1688 H Hm *Arm* xvii 331/2 The Pitchfork (or what you will) is quickly made 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I (Globe) 61, I spy'd a sort of Fowl, a Rope, which I wonder'd I did not see at first 1883 I Hood *Syntax* ser II *Lesson* 4 *Introc* x III 209 All so good night sayings will probably shock 1 ners 1892 Morley *Voltaire* I 3 Ideas whose forms were oft I at which were full of seemingly inexhaustible novelty 1895 Jevons *Money* xiii 246 Those remedies g vernment tried cumular experiment, which was soon discontinued

**c** Referring to a fact circumstance, or statement

1390 Gower *Conf* I 12 To make pes between the kynges Which be prophecie in olde scriptures ben prestholde 1516 in E Lodge *Illustr* (1838) I 17 He would advise me to get me t s me little house with a few persons with me, which I have done 1521 *Rec Acc Exch* 1 Ric III 1 the shi ll come into Scotl home, which God forfende 1597 Shake *2 Hen IV*, v i 4 You must now speake Sir John Falst affe faire Which gaimnes against your steame of Quality 1669 Lorde Berkeley *Journ Irel* 118 I order'd the Air to be let in very leisurely, upon which we could plainly see (etc) 1699 Bentley *Phal* xii 340 The 1st part of the be ween the Gentiles and Christians, which in the proper definition of 2 Sacrum 1760 Sterne *Tr Shandy* III xxiv I dragged her after me by means of which she fell backwards as we got to the door 1787 Tra *Lith Sc Isl* 31 We have no Meth dists settled among t us which is very fortunate 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz Seven mens* Looking as amiable as they possibly could—which by the by, is not saying much for their amiability 1851 *Brit Arch* 1076 Yellow roun contains some water, which ill k rain does not 1888 [*See H Dickens*] *In sight of Church* iv 65 Observation only shows what is visible, which is not 1914 Ian Hay *Ant on Wheels* xiii § 3 They can f rmed it the rules, observing the spirit rather than the letter of the law Which we just as well

**d.** With a conjunction in the relative clause, usually foll owing *which*, rarely preceding *arch*

In early u e more frequently with pleonastic personal pron s (e 14) For 3rd plural see 15

[1510 see 13b] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron Hen VI* 214 b To many hym selfe into some other place, wit out delay which if he did they should burne him, & he should haue neither hors nor life 1548–9 *Compl Scot* (1872) 193 O

haue chalk'd forth the way Which brought vs hither. 1611 *Bible* Gen. i. 7 God..diuided the waters, which were vnder the firmament, from the waters, which were aboue the firmament. 1619 in *Hakel Gosh. Serm.* ii. (1630) 175 This is all which is done this week. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 135 Requiring the destruction, which they must often suffer, by their quick reproduction. 1844 L. Murray *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 74 After all which can be done, to render the definitions..comprehensive and accurate. 1854 Newman *Fort. Serm.* I. xix. 274 This is the path which leads to death. 1858 Pusey *Parochl. Serm.* I. iv. (1874) 71 All which we are, except sin, He became. 1875 Jevons *Money* vi. 92 Let us suppose that there is a town which is able to support two banks. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 5 § 8 (1), If any person..makes..any statement which is false.

**b.** As obj. of a prep., which usually precedes the relative as in 7 a.

*c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Alle þo sunnen burch wiche me liest þo luue of gode almichti. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 74 Þat friday was our leuedy day On wilk our lord slayn was. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 177, 28 And of the secte of which þat he was born He kepte his lay to which þat he was sworn. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 32, I moste go in to that contre fro which I come be cause to fecche me. 1865 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. ii. (1912) 173 Many more things which the controversy of the Lord is against. 1900 Conscience *Warp of Wicked* xxiii. 178 But the rest with which you would oppose me. 1830 Macaulay *Ess., Moore's Life Byron* (1843) I. 336 They wrote concerning things the thought of which set their hearts on fire. 1839 Dean Buckland *Rep. Geol. Cornw., etc.* 100 Upon the rock upon which the sea breaks occurs at the entrance of the Kingsbridge estuary.

¶ **c.** In anacoluthic construction, as in That *rel. pron.* 8. *rare.*

1770 Law *Serious C. Inv.* ii. 51 Direct your common actions to that end which they did.

**9.** Used of persons. Now only *dial.* except in speaking of people in a body, the ordinary word being *who* (objective *whom*) or (in sense *b*) *that*.

**a.** Introducing an additional statement, as in 7 : thus sometimes = 'and he (they, etc.)'.

*a* 1200 *E.E. Psalter* cxlii[i]. 3 Traitres..in men sones, in whilk hele es nane. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 94 His fiendes whyle pat knewe hir heuy thoght Confoiten hire. — *Shipman's T.* 153 Vow whyl I haue lond myn heritage. 1447 Bokenham *Scyntys, Cecilia* 201 Lord þesu Cryst, wych al thyng knowyst. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 69 The holy man whiche had prest vnto hym, wherfor he yaf vnto his chapell. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 547 Charlemayn toke a messager whiche he sente to reysewarde. 1526 Tyndale *1 Cor.* xv. 57 Thanke be vnto God, which hath geuen vs victory. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* 2nd Collect, O God, which art author of peace, and louer of concorde. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 341, I am all the subiects that you haue, Which was a nine ouer King. 1629 O. Walker *Grk. & Rom. Hist.* ii. 310 He had nine Wives, all which he cast off successively. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 253 The Master-Bricklayer, or else his Foreman (which ought to be an ingenious Workman). *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) I. 200 A couple of women.., one of which..leaned on the other's shoulder. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiv, Had been told it herself by Mrs. Mudberry which kept a mangle, and Mrs. Bunkin which clear-starched. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 118 His mother had ten children, of which he was the oldest.

**b.** Introducing a defining clause, as in 8.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 224 When þei were inowe, on while bei mot stie. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pers. T.* 790 If he be a confessour to which he may shriuen hym. 1483 *Acts Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. introd. 106 Because he marit without his consent quhilk is his ourlord. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* v. 10 Blessed are they which suffre persecucion for rightewesnes sake. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 28 b, Entending to be reuenged on them which he sought for. 1600 Shaks. *As you like it* Epilogue, The reader which is carefull of his health, may learne to make choise of such wine. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 225 Euery one heares that, which breaks implacable sounds. *a* 1792 Burnitt *On N. T.* Luke iv. 24 That Minister which prostitutes his Authority, frustrates the end of his Ministry. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. p. xiv, Those people which, in the Amonians. 1836 Jas. Grant *Random Recoll. Re. Lords* x. 94 Dugald Stewart, one of the greatest men which Scotland has produced. 1841 Alison *Hist. Eur.* IX. lxix. 209 The wounded, which were carried off, never failed to salute the Emperor. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 July 2/1 He is on the high road to get all the men for which he has asked.

**c.** Still regularly used of a person in reference to character, function, or the like, in which case the sense is really 7 or 8.

1645 Howell *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 231 The subject of this Discours were more proper to One of the long-Robe, which I am not. 1797 Br. Watson *Apol. Bible* vi. (ed. 2) 170 He put two maid servants, which were called ministers, to the torture. 1824 Borrow *Bible in Spain* (1843) II. x. 208 He was by no means the profound idiot which the notary had represented him to be. 1885 Newman *Callista* xii. 108 He was not quite the craven..which she thought him.

**10.** Rarely used after an antecedent to which the ordinary correlative is *at*. **a.** after *same* : = That *rel. pron.* 4. **b.** After *so* or *such* : often equivalent to 'that it (he, etc.)'.

1340, etc. [see Same A. 1 a]. *c* 1386 [see Such B. 1 c]. 1550 Veron *Godly Sayings* Ep. Ded. (1846) 19 Who is so dul.. whiche..would not be moued too thankefulnes? 1596 'T. Pope' *Sithoppes Orator* 41 No man ought to haue himselfe veto such covenants which hee cannot..accomplish. 1605 Camden *Rem., Names* 45 *Barrich, Herbe*, the same which Dennet, blessed. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 326 A kind of wilde horsse which hath hornes like a Hart, and therefore I take it to bee the same which is called Hypellaphus. 1709, 1888 [see Such B. 2 a]. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 321 There is not any argument so absurd, which is not daily received.

* **11.** as compound relative (= with ellipsis of antecedent).

†**11.** *pron.* That which, one which, something that : = What C. 1, 3 a; also of a person, One who ; *pl.* Those which or who. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 2167 Al Albanakes fole folden iscohten Buten while þat her ai-wond þurh wode lourp. — 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Rawl. B. 17) He dremed of 3ow which him affrayed. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 341 Na men he tuk but quhilk he hyddar hoopit. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vii. 31 Shoulde he do greater miracles then whiche this man doeth? 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 105 They interprete literally which the doctors did write figuratiuely. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* iv. ii. 83, I am a wise fellow, and which is more, an officer, and which is more, a householder. 1643 Digges *Quintif. Taking up Arms* 8, I shall endeauour one thing especially may be remembred, as which hath great influence vpon all cases. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 16 An ambiguous word is which indistinctly signifieth things that in nature are diuers. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 35, I had the loose Earth to carry out; and which was of more Importance, I had the Cieling to prop up.

**12.** In generalized sense (*adj.* or *pron.*), with or without qualifying adv. (*ever, so*, etc.) : Any (person or thing) that, whatever ; usually, now only, with limitation of reference, as in 3 : = Whichever I ; also (with *whosoever*) = Whichever 2.

OE. *swa hwelc swelc*, ME. *swilch...se, se* (see Which-so), north. *quilk-sum*, were ultimately superseded by *which ever, soever* (see Which-ever, Whatsoever).

*a* 1050 *Voc. Cott.* in *O. E. Texts* 541 Swa hwylc mima feeðemenua swa ænt sio. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 755 (Parker MS.), Þæs ryhtnæs þeonas..þider unnon swa hwelc swa þurfon swæsp. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxlviii[i]. 4 [5] Swahwylce dagas he deorne cúse. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 1 Bi wile wele so he wile. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Ðah he..wolde..wenden ut. 1297 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 1307 Ayf þeut had coniured for to chese of vch creature..Swich.. him likede best. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16373 Ask quilk sum ye will have. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Add. MS.) lxxi. 385 Whosoeuer..owþir manoþir nunne, wilke sum sho cumandis. 1484–5 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1824) XII. 31/1 That persons..sall outher outire pe kingis ward..or thane deliuer ane persone..quhilk sall suffer pe said punitioun. 1593 Lo. Hebdes in *Pericles*, I. cccxli. 217/2 Whiche of them yᵗ euer should breake this peace..shoulde ryenne in the sentence of the popes. 1598 Barckley *Felicity of Man* 214 Whiche of these wayes so euer it came it shall be very good to bathe the chylde. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vii. 13 My Vertue or my Plague, be it either which. 1653 *Holy Table, Name & Thing* 5 Nothing but drought and dearth,..Which way so-e're I look, I see. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 75 Which way I flie is Hell; my self am Hell. 1697 Dryden *Virgil (1806)* 1 Which way soever we turne his thoughts, impassibility and immobility arrise in opposition. 1824 *W. Nicholson's Alch.* (ed. 2) 61 Let a thing about the mane gang whilk gate they will. 1844 S. R. Maitland *Pract. Acct.* xv. 243 The table was so large that, place which a way they would, it could not be prevented from shewing above water. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* ii. ii. 141 But wherefore is the wind, Which way soever the vane-arrow swing, But good to England?

**13. *The* which. *adv.* & *as adj.* = 6.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9434 (Gött.) Þe first law was cald 'of kinde,' ..Þe toþer has þ'positiue' to name; Þe whilk lawe was forbed Adam. Ford etc þat fruit. 1447–8 Bokenham *Lett.* (Camden 1872) 26 The whiche copies all y pray yow aveysly to ouer rede. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* x. 10 By the which wyll we are sanctified. 1600 Fenkle *Pearl, Results* 460 There were diuers whose hard hearts helpes in her den, the which den was obscured by a Beare, the which Beare on a day finding the den vnfortified,..entred..and slew the Lions whelpes. 1600 Shaks. *Hen. V*, *Epil.* 1, 2 (1623) 293/1 Finished copying August..1820; the which copying makes ten times the toil of composing. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Poems* (1870) 274 The which thing I beholden my speak unto her.

**b.** as *pron.* (*a*) = 7.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1127 Wo & wikkede paine, þe which þei haue for-þoght hatere. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 42 Desiering to here of 3our welfar and good prosporite, the qwyche[sic] I pray God encrese. 1510 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 58 The whiche should contynewe..your seid Towne..shall weex empty. 1526 Tindale *Col.* v. 21 The dedes of the flesshe..of the which I tell you before, as I have told you in tyme past. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 36 The worst abolition'd deare, Syne which to sheepe them biddes. 1682 Burnet *Holy War* iii. (1905) 209 He told too, the which I had almost forgot, how Halaricke had put the Romans to the sword in Greece. 1820 Keats *Eve of Agnes* xxii. 146 [This world] o'er the which we stride So fiercely. 1884 Tennyson *Becket* Prol., He help the King find out down our castles, for the which I hate him.

(*b*) = 8.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 146 How god bigan þe law hym gyfe þe quilk the laus in soiil life. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xx. 18 Ye shall hym not se, but yf it be by myracle, quod he. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxvi. 16 To make the..a witnes both of the thynges which thou hast sene and of the thynges in the which I will appeare vnto the. 1611 *Bible* James ii. 7 Doe not they blaspheme that worthy Name, by the which ye are called?

†**c.** as compound relative : = 11. Also qualified by *ever* : = 12. *Obs.*

1593 Lo. Brenzers *Proits.* I. xx. 117/3, I knowe yᵗ the most worthy .. knight of my realme shall acheue for me, the whyche I coulde neuer attayne vnto. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 89 For there is no waye so profytable ..as the whiche hath a shewe and coloure of iustice. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 69 We follow not your fayth or the which we have tweted to bee ..most detestable. 1602 Heylin *Hist. Quinquart.* n. 7 To put his bunting spear amongst them, and the which some should lay hold vpon it, should be..drawn out of the water.

†**d.** Of persons : = 9.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 32 Kmme be quene..of be while was born Alfred & Edward. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 452 This Briton clerk hym asked of relawes The whiche pat he had knowes in olde dawes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* i. xviii 64 Kynge Kynnes of North walys the whiche was a myghty man of men. — 1500 *Lancelot* 184 The meire and the cuning..Quhille I aubmyt to the correccioune Of ysim the quhich that is discret & wys. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 172 Gene Christ, the quhilk hes mercedreit, Be on my syde. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, ii. 3, 28 I here are other Troians that ye dreame it not of, the which (for sport sake) are content to doe the Profession some grace. 1606 G. Wood-cocke] *Hist. Ireton Asses* 85 He the which was Lord of infinit riches to dais, was scarce maister of any to morrow.

**** Peculiar constructions. (See also 7 d, 8 c.)

**14.** (as *pron.* or *adj.*) With pleonastic personal pronoun or equivalent in the latter part of the relative clause, referring to the antecedent, *which* thus serving merely to link the clauses together : (*a*) with the pers. pron. (or the antecedent noun repeated) as subj. or obj. to a verb (principal or subordinate) in the relative clause, which is usually complex ; (*b*) with genitive of pers. pron. (or equivalent, as *thereof*), *which* together with this being equivalent to the genitive of the relative (*whose, of which*) : cf. That *rel. pron.* 9.

(*a*) *c* 1292 Chaucer *Inspir. Wom.* 654 Jhc is he, which þat myn vncle swereth he mot be ded. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 84 Your wurschupfull vsstate, the whyche All myghte God maytayne hyt. 1481 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 493 Which yf it so be, we haue gret cause of displeasaunce. 1496 [Wynkyn de Worde] 21 There are also many other thynges which Jesus did, the which yf they shulde be written every won, I suppose [etc.]. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* (Arb.) 190 Ye Rede these words, *penetrate, penetrable, indignitie*, which I cannot see how we may spare them. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 27. 195 A Scholler in his Chamber, (which what they were may be collected by that which ensueth). 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. v. § 42 (1694) 196 Provisions..which how much they exceed the other in value,..he will then see. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* Pref. p. vii, Scandalous and unjust Aspersions..which, how far I deserve them, I shall leave to the candid opinion of every unprejudiced Reader. 1788 Strabe *Voy. Pacific* (1800) I. *Introduct.* The history of myself, which, I could not die in peace unless I left it as a legacy to the world.

(*b*) *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 318 Ye lyngres dere sone,.. which alwey for to wel is his wone. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. xi. 794 There he is in this Castel a gentylwoman whiche we and thise knyghtes is here, whos Baxeres *Ath. Lyt. Hist.* (1824) 270 To do many thynges, the whyche the burie thereof lyghteth on theyr owne neckes. 1612 Mabbe tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 184 The wrongs..mens credits, and estates..., which lies not afterwards in their power to make restitution thereof. 1782 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks.* 1. 50 Bulbous-rooted Plants, which when the Leaves of them decay, a new famed Root..supplies their Loss.

¶ **b.** Hence, in vulgar use, without any antecedent, as a mere connective or introductory particle. 1725 *Short Many the Cant.* in *Ramsay's Poems* I. 4 Which, and I am sure I have been his servant four years since October. And he never call'd me worse than sweetheart, drunk or sober. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* xxiii, 'That young fellow', says my general..'Which noble his conduct I own it has been. 1870 Bret Harte *Truthful James, Anecdote* to *Let*, viii, Which I have a small lover to ask you, As concerns a ball-pup, which it's the only one,—If the lady would oversleek you,—You would please to procure for me, game. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 4/7 If anything 'appens to you—which God be between you and harm!—I'll be with yer.

¶ **15.** In sylleptic construction, e. g. as obj. of two different verbs, or of a prep. and a verb, or as obj. of one verb and subj. of another ; giving the effect of ellipsis of a personal pronoun (*it, them*).

1687 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 238 Dr. Dolbein, did read much of his sermon before the king,..which he, telling him of, he never after did. *a* 1697 Hobbes *Cl. Law Consid.* v. (1900) 30 To see me roll Sisyphus his Stone, which when I have brought to such a pitch, rolls down again. 1744 *Johnson's Debates* (1787) I. 300 A quality..which, if we could obtain, would add nothing to our honour. 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 271 They still retained an authority over his mind, which, though his pride revolted, his understanding could not conquer. 1818 H. F. Clinton *Lit. Rem.* (1854) 24 These were works which, though I often inspected, I did not accurately study.

**16.** Preceded by *and*. **a.** in regular construction, *and* connecting two relative clauses, or an adjectival phrase and a relative clause, qualifying the same sb.

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Y. Cæsar* (1595) 721 An army vnmeete, & which (only) could not possibly withstand it. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesy* Ess. 1900 I. 78 We have many plays of ours as regular as any of theirs, and which, besides, have more variety of plot and passion. 1729 Johnson *Pr. Addison* (1898) 293 Two books yet celebrated..for purity and elegance, and which, if they are now less read, are neglected only because [etc.]. 1804–5 Wordsw. *Prel.* (1850) 284 The habit of contradicting, into which young men..are apt to fall ; and which is a habit extremely injurious to the powers of the understanding. 1818 Hazlitt *Ess.* (1850) 14 The subject..was one of great difficulty and which required very serious consideration. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxx. VI. 315 If the dog have the good fortune to find a master, he has a possession..better than bones or parchment, indeed, he will..leave, not his meat only, but his life for.

¶ **b.** in erroneous or illogical use, either *and* or *which* being superfluous.

1606 [G. Wood]cocke] *Hist. Iretone* etc. I 3, Galeane.. who had conquered a great part of Italy, and which inheritance descended to his Nephews. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 288 His foreleet being like hands, are forked and twistal very strong, & with which it fighteth and taketh his prey. 1748 G. White in *Jrnl. Sacred Lit.* (1863) July 299 For the proper return to virtue and Good-works is Honour, & Love; this is their Due, and which ought to be rendered to

them by all people. 1796 Mrs Inchbald *Nature & Art* xvi (1820) 42 The dean had just published a pamphlet in his own name, and in which that of his friend the bishop was only mentioned with thanks for hints. 1848 W Templeton *Locomot. Eng.* (ed 2) 71 A recent occurrence seems to have established the fact of steam being highly charged with electricity, and which may be the means of increasing our knowledge [etc.]. 1861 Dasent *Burnt Njal* I p lviii, Every temple must contain a ring of at least two ounces in weight, and which the priest was to bear on his arm.

**Which(ch)e**, var. Whitch *Obs.*, chest.

**Whichever** (hwitʃe'vəɹ), *a* and *pron.* [Orig. two words, Which and Ever *adv.* 8 c.]

**1.** As compound relative: Any or either (of a definite set of persons or things, expressed or implied) that . . ; that one (or those) who or which (with implication that it is unknown or undetermined which). † Formerly also without restriction to a definite set: = Whatever 2.

Often following, and in apposition with, a pair or set of alternatives connected by *or*: the construction is then app. identical with that in 4, but is really different, and distinguished by intonation.

1388 Wyclif *Tr & Wks* 3 Alle thingis which euere [*first vers.* what euere] he schal do schulen haue prosperite. 1418 in *Anct Gilds* 445 Put the bretheren and sustern ȝerely chese on Alderman and Maistres, qwichsuer [hem] thinketh most best. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* iii 111 Ffor ellis alluweth which euer of thilk weies and meenis he take. 1754 in *Nurses Peerage Lond* (1874) 48 Upon their attaining their respective ages of eighteen years compleat or their being lawfully married whichever of these events should first happen. 1802 Maria Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* xi, At a walk, trot, or gallop, whichever you please. 1844 Ath. Smith *Adv. Mr. Fallover* xiii, They were permitted to go whichever way they chose. 1872 Black *Adv Phaeton* x 145 To dinner—or supper, whichever it ought to be called. 1925 *Act 15 & 16 Geo V c.* 61 § 1 (1) Any person shall subject during the life of the author who first dies and for a term of fifty years after his death, or during the life of the author who dies last, whichever period is the longer.

**2** Introducing a qualifying dependent clause: Whether one or another (of a definite set); no matter which.

1690 Locke *Hum Und* ii xvii § 3 Which-ever [*ed* 1724 Whichsoever] of these he will have often power to doubles it, he finds [etc.]. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks* Misc. (1711) 216 Both Sides hang out their Trophies too, which ever comes by the worse. 1765 *Tourn Lett* xxxii (1788) 135 Whichever way he flies, the Hue and Cry of the country pursues him. 1847 De Quincey *Joan of Arc* Wks 1890 V. 290 On whichever side of the border chance had thrown Joanna, the same love of France would have been nurtured. 1856 Merivale *Rome Emp* xlii V. 29 To which sever of the two camps he should repair, his own jealous nature feared to awaken the jealousy of the other. 1882 Hensley *All Sorts* xxvii, In politics you are used as the counters of a game. . . You get nothing, whichever side it is.

† **Which-like**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare*—1. [f. Which + Like *a.*, after *such-like.*] Of which kind.

1648 Sanderson *Sermons* (1682) II 4 By long accustoming themselves to which like outward observances, they had almost lost the vigor and soul of true religion.

**Whi'ch-so**, *pron.* [= Which and So *adv.* 17 d.] † *a.* Whoever, whatever. **b.** Whichever.

*c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 26 Hwuch se wule beon of þe lut of his leoueste freond. *Ibid* 45 Beo he cunnin oðer cruel, beo he hwuch se he cnuet ine sunne. 1297 R. Gloucester (1811) 71 He is knistes echone, Vor coust binome him, bote an vil men one, Wuche so hi were to aerbi him. *a* 1325 *Ms Rawl B* 520 ff 3ª Vche se so is under hys gult, a wel wrimmen leoun. 1890 W Morris in *Lnel. Illustr Mag.* June 695 I et the Hoary One carry me to life or death, which so he will.

**Whichso(e)ver**, *pron. arch.* [f. Which : see Soever 1.]

**1.** = Whichever 1.

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 532 To the said Alexandre and molde his wyf and to ther heires or ther assignes or whom so euer or which so euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth selle or assigne hit. 1795 Washington *Let* Writ. 1892 XIII. 65 To go to whichsoever [side] their interest, convenience, or inclination, might prompt them. *a* 1843 Southey *Cade* iii xiv, Saying that to whichsoever God should give the victory, to him also would he give up the kingdom. 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 335 Hunting for whichsoever article of their diet happens to be in season.

**2.** = Whichever 2.

*a* 1533 Lb Berners *Huon* xxi 64 Whiche so euer way ye take, it shall not be without me. 1892 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Inuent* 5, [The] Proposal of an obvious Remedy to the said Evil, to whichsoever of the supposed Causes the same should be found imputable. 1724 [see quot 1690 s Whichever 2]. 1769 Robertson *Chas V* x. II. 248 Whichsoever of these authors an antiquarian person takes for his guide. . , he must discover [etc.]. 1828 Scott *Tales of Grandfather* Ser. I (ed. 6) II 374 To whichsoever he might attach himself, he was sure to become an object of hatred and suspicion to the other. 1853 Dickens *Repr. Pieces, Noble Savage*, Yielding to which, however of these agreeable eccentricities, he is a savage. 1883 — *Bleak Ho.* ii, With whichsoever of the many tongues of Rumour this frothy report originated, it . . never reached . . the ears of young Snagsby.

**† Whiok**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative] *intr.* To squeak, as a pig.

*a* 1663 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. xxi. 107 The . . whicking of Pigs, gushing of Hogs.

**Whiok(e**, etc. : see Quick, etc.

**Whicker** (hwi·kəɹ), *v.* *dial.* and *U. S.* Also 9 **wicker, whecker, withher.** [Imitative. Cf. *nicker, snicker*, and MHG. *wihern* (G. *wiehern*).]

**1.** *intr.* To utter a half-suppressed laugh; to snigger, titter.

*a* 1676 Usher *Ann.* vi. (1658) 284 Having never seen the like done before, he fell a whickering. 1732 Hawkes *Dorrel. Voc.* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1883) VIII. 45/2 To *whicker*, to laugh. 1848 Jamieson, *Withher*, to titter. 1891 Hardy *Tess* I, The green spangled fairies that 'whickered' at you as you passed

**2.** Of a horse: To whinny; also of a sheep or goat, to bleat, of a dog, to whine, etc.

1828 Jamieson, *Withher*, *v.* *whicker*, to neigh or whinny. 1855 Jennings *Obs Dial W Eng*, To *Whecher*, . . to neigh. 1888 Elworthy *W Somerset Word bk* s v *Wechery*. 1892 Kipling *Many Inventions* 215 The mare whickered. 1912 Masefield *Widow in Bye St.* vi. xxxii, The wall-top grasses whickered in the breeze

So **Whi·cker** *sb.*, a snigger; a whinny.

1892 *Harper's Mag* June 33 The whicker of old Molly at the foot of the lane, and the answer of the colt in the lot. 1909 'O Henry' *Roads of Destiny* ix, Through the intense silence he heard the whicker of a horse.

**Whid** (hwid), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6 **whydd**, 7– **whid**, 9 *Sc.* **whud.** [Origin uncertain. That it is a dial. variant of Obs. *cwide* speech (otherwise not represented in the language) is possible, but the absence of parallels is a serious objection. The sense-development is remarkably similar to that of Yad.]

**1.** A word, usually in *pl.*: *Thieves' cant*

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 84 To cutte bene whydds, to speke ye or gene good wordes, to cutte quyre whyddes, to gene euell wordes or euell language. *Ibid.* 86 Stowe your bene, and quyre whydds. 1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 49 He wary Stow your whids. 1728 [De Foe] *Street Robberies Consider'd* 34 Plant the Whids, take Care what you say. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* x, The swaggering vein will not pass here, you must cut boon whid. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H* iv, I pray Heaven thou mayest prove no pious Trencher-cut without whids.

**2.** A lie, fib, falsehood, an exaggerated story. *Sc.*

1791 Burns *Death & Dr Hornbook* i, Ev'n Ministers, they hae been kenn'd, A rousing whid, at times, to vend, And nail't wi' Scripture. 1813 M. Scott *Early Life* (1909) 33 Your tpoxtov ψευδος, *i. e.* Your fundamental whid. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xiv, Kennedy thinks no more o' tellin' a whud (lie) than I do o' lappin' a clag that nips him on the hench haun.

**3** A dispute, quarrel. *dial.*

1847 Halliwell, *Whid*, a dispute; a quarrel. *East*

**Whid** (hwid), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* Also **whud.** [f. Whid *sb.*[1] *intr.* To talk cant; to lie, fib. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1823 Egan *Grose's Dict Vulgar T*, *Whidding*, talking cant. *Scotch cant.* 1881 Waldon *Dict Netherl'y*, A Gaun Kirrent, whidding Congregator. 1891 H. Haliburton *Orkid Idylls* go Whiddin's an art.

**Whid** (hwid), *v.*[2] *Sc.* Also 9 **whud.** [f. Whid *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To move nimbly without noise.

*c* 1750 Ramsay *Tea-t. Conv. Somerville* 94 You range After the fox or whidding hare. 1790 Burns *Fly on Capt M*—— I'v, Ye mukins whiddin thro' the glade. 1816 Scott *Bl Dwarf* xi, Ye see ye on other light that's gaun whiddin back and forrit.

**Whidah, whydah** (hwi·dă). [Name of a town in Dahomey, West Africa. *Whidah bird* is an alteration of Widow-bird, q v., due to association with this as one of the habitats of these birds.]

**1.** In full *whidah-bird*, etc.: = Widow-bird.

1785 [J. Bryant] *Mem. Synopsis Dravds* I. 158 Whidah (Painting). Rather less than a Hedge Sparrow *Ibid.*, *note*, Whidah Bird. 1872 T. Livingstone *Last Jrnls* 19 June (1874) I. 204 The young whydah birds were kept closely together at night for heat. *Ibid*, Whydahs, though full fledged, still slightly take a feed from their dam. 1896 G. E. Shelley *Fam Finches* 273 The Whydahs form a natural group of finches, closely allied to the Weavers.

**2. Whidah goat, a** West-African species of goat, *Capra reversa*. **W. thrush**, *Pholidauges leucovaster*.

1901 Pennant *First Quadrup* I. 57 Goat Whidaw. 1901 *Encyclop. Britannica* XXXII. 1/2 The Whydah goat. . . is a small kind; the horns short, smooth, and turn a little forwards. 1873 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II i. 58 Whidah Thrush. Sides of the head, or rather less, plumage in general violet, excepting the belly, which is white . . inhabits the kingdom of Whidah, in Africa.

**Whiddelynge**, obs. f. Whittling.

**Whiddler** : see Whittler, Whither *sb.* and *v.*

**Whiddle** (hwi·d'l), *sb.* *slang.* Also 8 **whidle, whidel, widdle.** [f. Whid *sb.*[1]] *intr.* **a.** To divulge a secret, turn informer, 'peach'. **b.** See quot. 1725. Hence **Whi·ddler.**

*c* 1600 *Mary. Argyle's Last Will in Hart Misc* (1746) VIII. 287/1, I understand. he hath made so large a Progress in Discovery, as he can pay it now to himself—This Devil was in me to suffer such a pitiful Fellow to whiddle before me. *a* 1700 H. E. *Def. Cant Crew*, *Whiddler*, a Poacher (or rather Impeacher) of his Gang. 1725 *New Cant Dict.*, *To Whiddle*, to enter into a Parley, to compound with, or take off by a Bribe. 1756 J. Cox *Narr Thief-takers* 66 The Prisoner then swore he wished he had cut off his Head, for then he would not have whiddelled again. 1788 G. Parker *View Soc.* II 133 About Darkey [*i. e.* twilight], or when Oliver don't widdle [*spoin.* the Moon not up]. 1821 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s v., Don't you whiddle about so and so, that is, don't mention it.

**Whider, While, Whileas, whiel, Whiet, Whieu, whiew, Whife** : see Whither, Query, Why, Wheel, Quiet, Whiff, Whew, Wife.

**Whiff** (hwif), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 **whiffe**, 8–9 **whif** [? Partly an alteration of Me. **Weffe** (= offensive odour or taste, vapour, hoisted signal), partly a new onomatopoeic formation. The senses are in part identical with those of **Waff** *sb.* and **Waff** *sb.*[1]]

**I. 1.** A slight puff or gust of wind, a breath.

1596 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I iv 334 The Winde Whirls with a whiff the sails of swelling clout. 1602 Shaks *Ham* II ii 498 With the whiffs and winds of his fell Sword, Th' unnerued Father falls. 1614 Holland *Camden's Brit* I 195 Their enuignes . . Were tost and fet with whiffes of wind. 1786 in *Mem D'Arcy's Diary & Oct.*, A whiff (of wind) from the King's stairs, enough to blow a man's hat a mile off! 1838 Dickens *O Twist* xxxiii, Give her a whiff of fresh air with the bellows, Charley.

**b** *transf.* and *fig.* A 'breath', 'blast', 'burst'.

1644 Milton *Areop* 24 That the whiffe of every new pamphlet should straget them out of the catechism 1649 — *Eikon* xxvii 222 Deny'd and repuls'd by the single whiffe of a negative. 1768 Wesley *Jr. Journ* IX. 19, A whiff of military pride had puffed out his short-at the wrist. 1817 Byron *Beppo* liii, They had their little differences, too The low jealous whiffs, which trouble not the calm of high life. 1881 Rumsey *Fes, Wordsw* (1848) 174 The Quarterly Review issued a mild whiff of qualified approval. 1878 Hardy *Ret Native* v v, Their sentiments can be but a whiff if just felt in either of the bodies. 1883 Stevenson *Treas Isl* xx, This little whiff of temper seemed to cool Silver down. 1912 *Times Lit Suppl* 31 Jan. 45/1 Poetry is brought with them the first whiff of cotton spinning democracy.

**c** A slight attack, 'touch'; = Waff *sb.* 3 b.

1837 Carlyle *New Lett.* (1904) I 58, I have twice had flying whiffs of cold.

**2.** An inhalation of tobacco smoke; smoke so inhaled; in early use also, † the 'taking' of tobacco, smoking (*to take the whiff*, to smoke).

1599 B. Jonson *Ev Man out of Hum* Drum pers., His chiefe exercises are taking the Whiffe squiring a Coentrice, and making pimp seruice to his Mistresse. 1601 — *Poetast* iii, Doe you professe these sleights in Tobacco? *Pount* I cut you cannot bring him to the Whiffe so soone? 1602 Marston, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* (1601) B, I just take a whiffe of Tabacco, no sooner in at the mouth, but out at the nose. 1603–37 Burton *Poste with Lacke Lett* Wks (Grosart) II 362/2 Some will not endure a good commodite, for there is not an Ostler nor a Tapster, but will be at his whiffe or two. 1607 Watkington *Optic Glass* iv 54 Tobacco must needs be very pernicious in regard of the immoderate & too greedy whiffes of the Indians. 1710 *Tatler* (1912) 130 Seven or eight will gather to the smoking of a pipe and each taking two or three whiffs gives it to his neighbour. *a* 1718 Penkethman *Sheep's-head* (1719) 11 Your Pipes after Dinner he constantly smokes, And seasons his Whifs with impertinent Jokes. 1742 Fielding *Joseph Andrews* iv. xiv, Gaffer Andrew complained bitterly that he wanted his pipe, not having had a whiff that morning. 1812 Heyne *Tracts on Indies* (1814) 392 The Malaya roll a little tobacco in a small piece of dried leaf, and after it is lighted, take only a few whiffs, and throw the rest away. 1842 Dickens *Lazy Lodge* 4, He had taken his pipe from his lips, after a very long whiff to keep it alight. 1886 G. R. Sims *Living in Hells* Pref. 1 He took a couple of whiffs at his long churchwarden.

† **b** A sip or draught of liquor. *Obs.*

1605 *Loyall Orl* 120 In a Tauerne, a whiffe or two, for I was passing dry. 1624 Br Hall *True Peacemaker* Wks (1625) 539 In beds of lust chests of Mammon, whiffes and draughts of drunkenness. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I iv 31, I will yet go drink one whiffe more [*orig. encores quelque vngnadee*]

**3.** A wave or waft of (usually unsavoury) odour. 1668 R. L. Estrange *Vis Quev* (1708) 137 The Whiffs and Whiffs she sends from her Toes and Arm Pits. 1731 Swift *Strephon & Chloe* 12 No noisom Whiffs or sweaty Streams . . Could from her tasteless body flow. 1774 — *Dr Amory Tar Wat.* 1738 I rid by him when a single whiff of incense withheld gave much greater pain, than he received delight in the clouds of it. 1784 *Cowper Task* iv. 469 A whiff of stale chicken in the entry. 1791 — *Let* 1 Mar A whiff of rusty leather, too, and all the rows on rows of volumes, neatly ranged within. 1872 Black *Adv Phaeton* xiii 182 A whiff of honeysuckle was borne to us we passed 1884 Mrs C. Praed *Zero* i, Is not the very name Monte Carlo like a whiff of some intoxicating draught?

**b.** *fig.* Flavour, savour.

1839 Morley *Voltaire* vi. 321 Apologising for some whiffs of irreligion which Voltaire scented 1895 Rashdall *Univ Eur II* 514 *note*, There is a whiff of the Renaissance about the very words of the letter.

**4.** A puff of smoke or vapour, esp. of tobacco-smoke.

1724 Addison *Spect* No 568 P 1, I lighted it at a little wax candle and, after having thrown in about three whiffs among them, sat down. 1752 *Lady's Curiosity* 10 He shocks you down with a whiff, or a f—, if you ask for an argument. 1839 Lower *Wreck of Hesperus* 19 The skipper he blew a whiff from his pipe. 1873 Howells *A Foregone Conclus* vii, The heaven, in whose vast blue depths hung light whiffs of pinkish cloud

**b.** *transf.* A cigarette or small cigar.

1891 *Instr. Cousin Clarke* (1895) 60 Chrroot Maker Whiff Maker. 1896 *Daily News* 9 Mar 5/4 The popular form of these daintily-got up cigarettes is a 'whiff' of about two inches in length.

**5.** A puffing or whistling sound, as of a puff or gust of wind through a small opening; a short or gentle whistle; hence freq. = Whew (also as *int*).

1728 Arbuthnot *John Bull* v, Nic pull'd out a Bontemain's Whistle; upon the first Whiff, the Tradesmen came jumping into the Room. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* xxxii, Sir Willoughby made no other reply than a long whiff, and

a 'Well, Russelton, dash my wig but you're a queer fellow.' 1847 Lennyson *Princess* Concl 58 But yonder, whiff! there comes a sudden heat 1894 R S Surtees *Handley Cr.* ix, Now we read the 'Hercules' on the engine, and mark it pulls up with a whiff, a puff, and a whistle. 1859 Lowell *Cathedral* 74 Sunshine, whose propitious shock could charm wiled the bluebird to his whiff a ring 1878 Bascow *Theory & Pract Med* (1878) 387 A like whiff or blowing sound follows each sonorous expiratory shock of cough.

b. A discharge of shot or explosive.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III vii, vii, Six years ago, the Whiff of Grapeshot was promised. 1870 *Routledge's Ir & Boy Ann* Feb 90 He might clear the gang away for the howlers with a 'whiff of this terrible projectile *i.e* grapeshot] 1915 'Ian Hay' *First Hundred Thou.* ii xviii 251 A whiff o' shrapnel

6. *To go to a whiff* in a short time, in a jiffy. *dial.*

1825 Jennings *M C. Glos* 2 v, In a whiff, in a short time. 1888 *Hampshire Mag* Apr 454 All this passed through his mind in a whiff.

II. 7. A flag hoisted as a signal.

Cf. Wapp *sb* 1b, Wav *sb*1 6, Wan *sb*2 2, Weppe, Whipper2 2, Whip *sb* 2

1693 Lady *Retaking Ship* 20, I took a Sash from one of them, and put it out in a Whiff. 1832 Marryat *N Forster* xlviii, The stranger hoisted a whiff, half mast down

III. 8. A light kind of outrigged boat for one sculler, used on the Thames.

1859 *Guardian* 13 Apr 333/1 The accidental upsetting of a pleasure-boat, called a 'whiff', on the river Cherwell 1873 H. R. Robertson *Life Upper Thames* 209 A funny 18 ft. open, outrigged sculling boat, having stem and stern alike, the keel falling away in a sloping curve from either end A whiff resembles a funny in every point, except that the stern is upright, and not sloped away as the bows are. 1880 *Daily News* 2 May 2/5 Every Lionian who has passed an examination in swimming may hoist in skiffs or whiffs, gigs or wherries, outriggers or randans. 1881 *Whiff* [see Length 20' to 23'. Beam. 2' 4" to 2' 6"... Whiff Gigs. 19' to 20'. 2' 8" to 2' 10".

**Whiff**, *sb.*3 [?Same word as prec.] A name for various flat-fishes or flounders, as the sail-fluke or turcy-sole, *Rhombus arcassoma*, the smear-dab, *Pleuronectes microcephalus*

1713 Jago in *Ray's Synopsis Pisc* 163 Passer Cornubiensis asper, magno ore hiatu A Whiff 1836 Yarrell *Brit Fishes* II. 271 The Whiff. The Carter, *Cornwall* 1867 Smith *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Whiff, the *Rhombus unicornis*, a passable fish of the 3 leuronect genus 1873 Cole *Catal. Fishes B Coast N Amer.* 17 Catharichthys microstomus ... Whiff.

**Whiff**, *v*.1 [f. Whiff *sb*.1]

1. *intr.* To blow with a whiff or slight blast; to move with or make the sound of this. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1830 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II 545 When through their green boughs whiffing winds do whirl With wanton puffs their waving locks to curl. 1868 *Hist H. & Schism* 620 A sudden whirl-winde, with a whiffing Hue *Ibid, Decay* 6 The whiffing flashes of this Sword so soune 1645 T. Povey *Help Memor* 11 *Zo no Zeal* (1867) App 11 Their head on neck could not tell did, off chopt with whiffing steele. 1851 Walshe *Dis Lungs* 93 the character of the murmurs is hollow, whiffing, and occasionally metallic. 1866 J. Macgregor *Rob Roy on Baltic* x, The whizzing of the strong wings of the wild goose 1890 *Daily News* 12 Dec 3/1 A raw and biting breeze whiffing about his grey beard.

b. *trans.* To utter with a whiff or puff of air

1705 Stanh. *Tr. Shandy* VIII xxxi, Then whiffing out a sentimental breath, he hoa! 1889 'Mark Twain' *Yankee Cst K. Arth* xxvi, They crossed themselves, and whiffed out a protective prayer or two.

2. *trans.* To drive or carry by or as by a whiff; to puff or blow *away*, etc.

1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuck Ers* 2 (Roxb) 19, I take him by the sleeue, but him looke to himself, Then round as a Iuglers boxe, whiffe his vpper vestment, and away *Ibid* 21 16 Neither keene knife, nor yet Thumbe, May whiffe him out or by numbe 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph* II 3 3 Ill-wits, as Straw be'r the winde, are They. 1711 in the Cliff with Tempest whiff away! 1840 H. Jones *Excurs. Ornith World* Wks (1846) 42 The smoke of a hunt and whiff him up into the Moone 1857 Farinden *Serm* v 3 Thus y which is raised as a Metteour of dung and is whiffed up and down by every wind and breath 1872 W. Hewitt *Annals It* II 80 John Frost ... Whiff off the clouds that the pure blue conceal d. 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I v ii, And then his 'sincere attachment'; how soon it scoundrelism whiffed aside! *Ibid* vi, A rabble to be whiff d with grapeshot 1916 *Blackw Mag.* Jan 150/1 Troops would not always remain in the open to be whiffed out of existence by shrapnel.

b. *intr.* To move with or as with a puff of air.

1688 Good *Celest Bodies* I xvi. 205 The Index hath whiffed round till the points of the Compass 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* x, I have sought to deny myself ... against what looked to be a solid trunk, and the whole thing has whiffed away at my touch like a sheet of paper

3. *trans.* To puff out tobacco smoke from a pipe, etc.; hence, to smoke. (With the smoke or the pipe, etc as object.) Also *fig*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v 221 I very skip rocke now will have his pipe of sin ke, And whiff it bravely till hee's like to choke. 1857 Bradshaw *Tr. Tobacco* etc. 31 The Turkish Vessel of our Age, they whiff no Limejuice in form. 1868 *Mod Prunks & Fin Goodf* (Percy Soc) 34 She whiff her pipe, she drunke her cup 1876 Quarles *Judicium, & Mercy* Medit 26 What pleasure can [a child] in that breath, which draws and whiffs perpetuall fevrs? 1795 Mrs Calder-wood in *Coltness Collect* (Maitland Cl.) 166 He put his pipe in the back of his hand, and whiffed it in his face 1859 Meredith *R Feverel* xxii, Richard found him furtively whiffing tobacco 1869 *Cook's Oracle* 7 These formal toasts having been all drunk, the men whiffed their pipes.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1602 Dekker *Satiromm.* C4 b, Mottow, Captaine Tucca, will you whiffe this morning? 1639 Junius *Sin mistrained* 269 They are bound to be powring in at their mouths, or whiffing out at their noses 1713 Evelyn *Diary* (1873) 88, I found honest Jho Barton very hasty and ffree, but the 2 Walsworths only whiffed. 1714 in *Jonath Tr Prof. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 148 I then they made us all smoke round, and every one of them whiff'd in his Turn 1862 H. A. Kennedy *Waifs & Strays* 205 Luxuriously whiffing away at my after-break-fast cheroot.

†4. *trans.* To imbibe, drink (liquor). Also *fig.*

1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn Bk* iv 18 Hee that would strme to fashion his legges to his silke stockins, and his proud gate to his broad garters, let him whiffe downe these discursations. 1650 Trapp *Comm Num.* vi 20 The most generous wine in Lovsin and Paris, is known by the name of *vnum theo.* Dorcon the divines (those Sorbonists) die so 1678 Whiff, ii. *Oft, a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iv xvii. 141 She whiffed off a good Dy ught.

5. To whistle, sniff; also *intr.* to smell, sniff.

1638 Quarles *Emblt* iv. vii (1718) 213 Let us both retire, And whiff the dainties of the fragrant field 1646— *Sheph. Ora* ix x Who (forsaut) III 231/1 Which like a Sun in this our Globe, Whiffes up the Helpick fumes. 1892 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr* lviii, The park now whiffing with curious nose round the hollies, and now trying up the rides. *Rad. Lexicogr.*, Whiffle, to hurrel until! Can't you whiff it *I*

b *intr.* To emit an unpleasant odour *slang.*

1899 Kipling *Stalky* iii 79 Then she'll whiff. Golly, how she'll whiff!

Hence **Whiff** *ving. vbl. sb* 1 (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **Whi ffer**, one who whiffs.

1591-1866 [see sense 1] c 1614 Tobacco-whiffer [see Tobacco 3] 1632 Lithgow *Trav* x. 435 The Alehouse is their Church ... their singing of Psalmes the whiffing of Tobacco 1654 *Gayton Pleas Notes* xxxviii. 191 Opening his tobacco box, soon commenced his whiffing operation.

**Whiff**, *v*.2 *Angling.* [Perhaps same as prec.] *intr.* To angle for mackerel, etc. from a swiftly moving boat with a hand-line towing the bait near the surface. 1839 Bailey *Festus* (ed 10) 8 (Jackson) 1856 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II 172 Hand lines fishing for Pollacks is called whiffing 1863 Johns *Home Walks* 264 We generally threw out our whiffing lines as we cruised about. 1868 *Globe* 29 July 3/1 When you 'whiff' at Scilly, you whiff for pollack.

**Whiffet** (hwi·fet). *U.S.* Also **whiffit, wiffet.** [f. Whiff *sb* 1 + -et.]

1. (Also *whiffet dog*) A small dog.

1862 Pinch's Life (Thornton) Who heads the Whiffit's bark, when tempests howl? 1879 J. Burroughs *Locusts & Wild Honey* 30 The king-bird will worry the hawk as a whiffet dog will worry a bear

2. *transf.* An insignificant person; a whipper-snapper. *colloq* (Cf. Whiffling)

1839 *Congress Globe* Jan., App. 104/3 There was not a Whig whiffet in the country but could ask [etc.]. 1858 Hodder *Memor Apocal. Apoc.* 253 such a childish trifle or sleight whiffit

2 An act of whiffing; a slight blast of air; a veering *sound*

1861 Goode *Birds Jamaica* (1847) 366 At first two or three whiffets make darkened tracks on the glassy waters. 1870 Miss Alcott *Cool Weather* xxi, Amy keeps me pointing due west most of the time, with only an occasional whiffet round to the south 1909 Beeton *Cage Birds*, The whiffs in the air grew more distinct

**Whiffle** (hwi·f'l), *v*.1 Also 6 **wyffle**, 7 **whifle.** [f. Whiff *v*.1 + -le. Cf. Flem. *weyfelen* 'vacillare' (Kilian).]

1. *intr.* To blow in puffs or slight gusts; hence, to veer or shift *about* (of the wind; hence, of a ship). Often *fig.* or in fig. context To vacillate, to be variable or evasive. Now chiefly *dial.*

1568 [see Whiffling *ppl a* 1]. 1572 R. Bohun *Wind* 56 Near mountainous Islands, or shoares, they [sc. winds] shifte and downe, and shift from one point of the Compasse to another 1597 Dampier *Voy.* I 413 The Wind had been whiffling about from one part of the Compass to another. 1699 *Ibid. Voy.* II. i. 1 The Wind whiffled about to the South 1737 Ozell *Rabelais* III xxxv 236 *note*, A Man who is continually turning and whiffling about to all the Points of the Compass. 1768 Fischer *Life Peter* (1834) I. 155 Were we to give a full latitude to sympathy, we should whiffle about with every wind. 1801 *Spirit Publ. Trans.* IX. 370 She yaws and whiffles about like a weathercock. 1812 *Sporting Magazine* 40 Nov 1/3 If he finally whiffle round to tax foreign food

2 *trans.* To blow or drive with or as with a puff of air. Often *fig.*

1641 Brand *Theol Theol.* viii 338 Whiffled and tossed too and fro with every wind of doctrine 1655 tr *Sorel's Com. Hist Francion* iv 3, I so whiffled him on the face with my Torch (*sorig je lui passe le flambeau par devant le nez*) that I burned off allmost all his beard 1660 S. Pepys *Autiens ad Acad* Wks (1679) 152 Like men in a Ship that are whiffled up and down in a troubled Sea 1664 H. More *Apoc* 7 *Expl* 17 163 Such as would whiffle away all these Truths by resolving them into a mere moral Allegorie. 1684 Howe *Redeemer's Tears Pref*, Swollen with the conceit, that they have whiffled Christianity away, quite off the stage, with their profane breath. 1827 Maria Edgeworth in *Ormond* xxvi, No easy dupe, to be whiffled off and on, the sport of a coquette 1843 Meale in *Monomy* III. 225 The world is not destined to be whiffled out of its own independent reason by a handful of priests and statesmen.

b *fig.* To dismiss by evasion; to say or state evasively.

1654 Vilvain *Theorem. Theol* Suppl 227 This he whiffles off slightly, that 'tis a Parabol 1678 Marvell *Mr Smirke* 43 He whiffles, those were the Jewish Ceremonies

3. *intr.* To move lightly as if blown by a puff of air, to flicker or flutter as if stirred by the wind. Often *fig.*

1662 Hibbert *Body Div* II 26 Any anabaptistical humorist, who hath a company of phanatique toyes whuffling about his understanding. a 1680 Glanville *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 459 A mind that useth to whuffle up and down in the levities of fancy a 1774 Harte *Poems, Eulogius* 546 Just as int'rest whiffled on his mind, He Anatolians left, or Thracians join'd. 1827 J. Gilchrist *Introd. Orient. Lang.* 148 Better chirp with the cricket, or chatter with the sparrow, than whiffle round this eternal monotony of futility 1828 Hazlitt *Lngl Comic Writers* viii (1841) 216 He whiffles about the stage with considerable volubility 1866 Mrs H. Wood *St Martin's Eve* xvi, Suddenly the flame inside began to whiffle. 1870 Julia B. Smith *Widow Goldsmith's Dau.* xxxvi, She would whiffle and whirl up and down like a withered leaf

4. *intr.* To talk idly; to trifle. *dial.* (See also Whiffling *ppl a.*1 3.)

1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *To Whiffle*, to trick one out of a thing, to stand trifling. 1847 Halliwell, *Whiffle*, to talk idly. *North.*

5. *intr.* To make a light whistling sound; *trans.* to utter with such a sound.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* VI 262 The two strangers whiffled and hissed together, in an unknown very rapid tongue. 1863 Cowper Clarke *Shakes. Char.* xvii. 448 Master Silence whiffling his scraps of ballads 1892 *Daily Chronicle* 8 Feb 6/1 Where a keen cold blast whiffles and blusters about the black and sullen monsters. 1909 *Ibid* 14 Sept 3 When a leader comes' whiffling' about your nose but 1913 *Glasgow Herald* 9 Aug. 8 Shells flew 'whiffling' over our heads.

†6. a. *trans.* To smoke (tobacco). b. *absol.* To drink. *Obs.* (Cf. Whiff *v*.1 3, 4)

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 165 The constant and common whiffling it [sc. tobacco] 1684 *Contempl. Radiant Pearl* 51 Those importunate sots who, constrain an easy, good-natured fellow to whiffle, quaff, carouse [*orig. tempere, vous en estes vous*]

Hence Whi ffing *vbl. sb* 1

a 1677 Barrow *Serm* v Wks 1687 I 65 Such as are versatile whifflings and dodgings. 1681 J. Scott *Chr. Life* iv. 367 Too much whiffling up and down in the little leaves of Fancy. 1692 L. I. Strange *Josephus, Antiq.* VII iii. Wks. (1702) 203 In her Course, upon the whiffling of the Air, a winged Bough of a Tree took hold of his Hair 1866 Mrs H. Wood *St Martin's Eve* xvi, The whiffling of the flame was remedied now. 1888 'F. Anstey' *A vis Versa* iv, I have inherited whiffling and snuffing, sir, I will not put up with.

**Whi ffle**, *sb.* [f. prec. formation f. Whiffler 1.]

1. *attrib.* = Whiffling 1, 2

1857 Borrow *Romany Rye* App viii, Nobody can use his fists without being taught the use of them, no more than any one can 'whiffle' without being taught the use of the air The last of the whifflers hanged himself about a fortnight ago there being no demand for whiffling since the all-continuation of Gutenbal banquets let any one take up the old chaps sword and try to do whiffle.

**Whi ffegig**, *a. colloq.* Trifling, 'whiffling'. Also **Whi ffmagig** = Whiffler 1 2.

1830 H. Lee *Mem Manager* I. 1 10 Not one of your puny punsters, or whiffle gig word snappers 1893 Meredith *It Richmond* liv, Plenty of foreign whiffmagigs are to be found, but you won't come upon a fellow like that.

**Whiffler** 1 (hwi·flə). *Obs* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 **viffleur, wyffler, wyff., wiffeler, wyffler, wyffler, 6–8 wiffler, whiffler, 6–7 whyfler, 7–8 whiffler, 6– whiffler.** [f. Whiff javelin, axe + -ler.] The spelling with *wh* is prob. due to association with Whiff and Whiffle *v*.1]

One of a body of attendants armed with a javelin, battle axe, sword, or staff, and wearing a chain, employed to keep the way clear for a procession or at some public spectacle.

Whifflers formed a regular part of the Corporation procession at Norwich till 1835, and at Coventry till late in 21 Sept 1848, when the then Duke of Cambridge attended the triennial musical festival

1530 in *Archæologia* XXXIII. 33 The chamberlayn & councilors of the cyte, & the aldesmens deputyes whuche were assigned to be wyfflers on horsebacke, were all yn cotes of whyte damaske w^t great chaynes abowte theyre neckes, & proper gyrdyns of silke aboute theyre handes. ... The wyfflers on fote were in C proper lyght persones apparelyd yn whyte sylke or buffe jerkyns, every man hauyng a haugh sworde or a javelyn to kepe the people yn arayn, w^t chaynes abowte theyre necks. 1544 in Rymer *Foedera* (1709) XV 33 [At the King's departure from Calais] Furst, the Drommes and Vyffleurs, then the Trumpets, then [etc.] 1544 in *Lett. & Papers Hen VIII*, XIX ii 303 The captain of the Spaniards saketh allowance for the wages of himself, his petty captain, his standard bearer, drum, fife, wyffler, surgeon and priest. 1596 J. Harwood *Spiders & Fl* iii v, Drums, fifles, flags, and wiffers 1596–1 in *Old City Acc Bk* (Archæol. Jrnl. XLIII), Payde for 13 staves for wyfflers 1599 Shaks. *Hen V* v. Chorus 22 The deep-mouth'd Seas, Which like a mightie Whiffler 'fore the King, Seemes to prepare his way 1625 Bacon *Adv. Learn* II xiii. 50 They were scornfull toward particulars, which

their manner was to vse .., as .. Sargeants and Whifflers .., to make way..for their opinions. 1618 Br. HALL *Righteous Hammon* Wks. (1625) 701 Some vaine whiffler, that is proud of a borrowed chaine. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 130 His former transition was in the faire shoos the Jugglers, now he is at the Pageants among the Whifflers. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Poems*, etc. (1677) 122 First as a Whiffler before the show enter Stamford, one that trod the Stage with the first, travers'd his ground, made a Leg and Exit. 1707 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* VI. II. 83 The Colours that their Whifflers wear, And different Ensigns that they bear. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 356 P 5 Our fine young Ladies .. retain in their Service..as great a Number as they can of supernumerary .. Fellows, which they use like Whifflers. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whifflers*, men who make way for the corporation of Norwich, by flourishing their swords.

**b.** *transf.* A swaggerer, braggadocio.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 113 Yet another place of S. Paule out of the whichs this wylde whiffler may rushe upon us with his leader dagger. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Ho* II. i. Your right whiffler..hanges himselfe in Saint Martins, and not in Cheape-side. 1644 FEATLEY *Lenitie Scourge* To Rdr., They fight...rather like whiffers with vizards or faces. 1681 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* *John Inglesant* ix, A motley company of mummers, masquers, fantastic phantoms, whifflers, thieves, rufflers, 1689 'Q' *Splendid Spur* ii. The crow of gipsies, whifflers, mountebanks, fortune-tellers.

¶ The sense 'pipes, fife' found in Dicts. from Kersey's ed. of Phillips (1706) onwards is baseless.

**Whiffler** ᵇ (hwi·flər). [f. WHIFFLE *v.*¹ + -ER 1.]

†**1.** A smoker of tobacco. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIFFER.)

1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarrel* v. i. How likest thou this, whiffler? 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trumph.* 117 So may we allow Vesuvius and Etna to smoke, without conceding that privilege to every spout..in Cheapside.

**2.** A trifler; an insignificant or contemptible fellow (cf. WHIFFLING *ppl. a.*¹ 3); also, a shifty or evasive person.

1599 *Lady Alimony* v. iv, Such Whifflers are below my scope, and beneath my spirit. 1633 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 179 Here are every year abundance of Whifflers in those scraps of learning. 1678 H. MORE in Glanvill *Saducismus Triumph.* (1681) 45 Is the impudent profaneness .. of perverse shufflers and whifflers. a 1745 SWIFT *Public Absurd. Eng.* Wks. 1841 II. 321/1 It is a common topick of satire, which you will hear..from the mouths ..of every whiffler in office. 1809-12 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Absentee* iv, He was not a whiffler to stand upon ceremony about disturbing a gentleman in his last moments. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 'By These metaphysical whifflers drew no blood. 1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 June 935/6 [Giving the Gospel message] requires single-mindedness; no whiffler can succeed.

†**3.** A flag. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. WHIFF *sb.*¹ 7.)

1759 DURAND *Mem. Capt. Thurot* (Percy Soc.) 28 The commodore and second vessel carried white whifflers or pendants forward.

**4.** The whistlewing or golden-eye duck, *Clangula glaucion. local U. S.*

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Manual of Birds* 79.

**Whiffleary** (hwi·flări), *nonce-wd.* [f. prec. : see -ERY.] Action characteristic of a whiffler; trifling.

1835 CARLYLE in Froude *T. C.* (1884) I. 60 Life is no frivolity, or hypothetical coquetry or whiffleery.

**Whiffletree,** U. S. variant of WHIPPLETREE.

1854 BARTLETT in *Camb. Chron.* (Whiffle-tree, the invariable American for splinter-bar. 1866 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 258 A boy can lead a horse, with a suitable chain attached to the whiffletree. 1896 *Century Mag.* Nov. 23 With trace-chains rattling and whiffletrees snapping over the stumps of trees.

**Whi·ffling,** *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIFFL(E ¹ + -ING ¹.] The action of a whiffler in clearing the way; also *attrib.* or as *pl. a.*, with by, or acting as, a whiffler.

1618 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Fromm.* (1866) 183 For 14 doz. of whiffling staves and 1 doz. of truncheons..2 *li.* 5*s.* *o d.* 1675 V. AESOP *Anti-Sozzo* iii. § 2. 156 These whiffling Slanders do but make way for the Show. 1713 J. NORRIS *Theory & Pract. of Knaves* 16 The Rabbles Darling, small Birch-rod Of Loyalty, a Whiffling Blade.

**Whiffling** (hwi·flig), *ppl. a.*¹ [f. WHIFFLE *v.*¹ + -ING ².]

**1.** That whiffles; blowing, or blown, in light puffs; moving lightly as if driven by gusts of wind.

1598 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 68 Vphoyst by wyffling winds. 1680 HICKES *Bentiv. & Ur.* ii. (1682) 205 The whiffling dust which the faces of Travellers. 1685 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 235 No raine fell from the 26 Jan. .., only a little whiffling anow. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* iv. 1, Like a dry leaf, an idle straw, a feather, The Sport of every whiffling Blast that blows. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xvi, Those whiffling vexations which come puffing across a man's cassock. 1787 HUTTON *Fors. Village* 52 The whiffling breeze..among the bents. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* xvii, Where the whiffling winds had left the earth nearly bare [of snow].

**b.** Making or characterized by a light whistling sound.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iv, Some whiffling husky cachinnation. 1891 GALSWORTHY *Patrician* xiv, Rain, which the wind drove horizontally in cold whiffling murmur.

**2.** Inconstant, shifting; evasive.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 109 This puts him upon perpetual Apologies..in a Kind of whiffling Strain. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* ix. (1801) 79 A person of a whiffling and unsteady turn of mind, who cannot keep close to a point of controversy, but wanders from it perpetually. 1800 *Anal. Ann. Reg. Proc. L. Ind. Hist.* 139/1 That it should be got rid of by the whiffling way of an adjournment. 1828 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1859) 343 A whiffling turncoat. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* iv, Has had .. a whiffling double voice, shifting abruptly from a treble to a thorough-bass. 1856 EMERSON *Engl. Traits* viii. 143 The national temper, in the civil history, is not flashy or whiffling. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 323 The whiffling and unsteady frame of mind of the Imperial workman

**3.** Trifling, pettifogging, fiddling, fussy; (passing into) paltry, insignificant, 'piffling'.

1623 Hoby *Counter-snarle* 3 Some vile blurr, and malicious aspersion, from one or other her suborned Pandars and whiffling agents. 1672 Cradock *Zulianus* I. 8 A pitiful whiffling small-beer Duke. 1698 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 847 A meer Whiffling, Evanid, and Phantastick thing. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 7. 3/1 Whiffling, Noisy Whelp spares Barks. 1720 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 297 The whiffling Gallants of the Inns of Court, Do hinder their Studies certainly. 1827 HAZLITT *Times Newsp.* Wks. 1902 III. 171 The low, whiffling, contemptible gratification of their literary jealousy. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whiffing*, slight, slender, insignificant. 'A little whiffling fellow.' 1903 R. HUDDLESTON *To a Socialist in Lond.* 111 The least petty whiffling ephemeral insect.

Hence **Whi·ffingly** *adv.*, in a trifling manner.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 482 All the Articles of our Faith ..might be most frivolously and whiffingly allegorized into a mere.. Fable.

**Whiffling,** *ppl. a.*² : see WHIFFLING *vbl. sb.*

**Whiffmagig:** see WHIFFLEGIG.

**Whiffy** (hwi·fi), *a. slang.* [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -Y ¹.] Having an unpleasant smell.

1901 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xvii. 149 It (*sc.* his tobacco) is a bit whiffy, ain't it?

†**Whiffing.** *Obs.* [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -ING.] An insignificant creature. (Cf. WHIFFLER 2.)

1634 CLAYTON *Fortescue's Foliloquie* 1. 1 Hang him young whiffing, he knowe a Lady,pity of his life first.

**Whift** (hwift), *sb.* obs. exc. *dial.* [var. of WHIFF *sb.*¹ with excrescent *-t.*]

**1.** A whiff or slight blast of wind; a snatch (of song).

1626 GORGES *Lucan* v. 202 So hauing said, the surging whifts The ship ten times together lifts. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 52 A sweep of lute-strings, laughs, and whifts of song.

**2.** A small signal flag. (Cf. WHIFF *sb.*¹ 7.)

1839 BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* xii. 155 Two or three small flags, called 'whifts', which are inserted in the dead whale's flukes, the lines should leave it in chase of others. 1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 359 *Waft*, *Weft*, or *Whift*, a signal (most frequently for a boat) made by hoisting a flag rolled up lengthways and bound together with a few stops.

†**Whift,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WHIFF *v.*¹ (cf. sense 4) + -ED ².] Drunk, intoxicated.

1618 COTGR., *Entrebeu*, halfe drunke, almost whift.

**Whig** (hwig), *sb.*¹ Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 **whyg(ge,** 6–7 **whigge,** 6–7, 8–9 *Sc.* **wigg,** 7, 9 *Sc.* **whig.** [Of unascertained origin, but presumably related to WHEY. (The variation of *whig* and *wig* in Sc. is remarkable.)] Variously applied to (*a*) sour milk or cream, (*b*) whey, (*c*) buttermilk, (*d*) a beverage consisting of whey fermented and flavoured with herbs.

1598 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 100 Lyvynge on mylke, whyg, and whey. 1681 B. GOOCH tr. *Panzani's Zodiac* IV. H 9, My lusty gotes with kid they swel, ne want I whygge, nor whay. 1780 [LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 406 Mistresse Whig, I am a poore man, therefore in good men he is more sower than wig. 1815 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* II. iv. 114 As for the Whey you may keepe it also in a vessell..to that vessell for to that which is called Whigge, and is an excellent coole drinke and a wholsome. 1833 HART *Diet of Dissent* II. xvii. 209 Sowre whey ..is in very great request in many parts of this Land, and in Scotland it is called of some whigge, and of others wigge. 1884 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Ale* Gloss. 114 *Whig* is Clarified Whey, put up with Herbs to drink. 1888 HOGG *Instr. Cookery* II. 173/1 Thick Milk, Butter-milk made thick through the heat of Summer, the bottom part falling to a Whigg. 1790 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XXI. 142 Cream, too long kept, and purified by drawing off the thin part, or whig, for drink, was converted into butter. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 736/1 *Whig*...is the provincial name in the south-west of Scotland for that blue-and-yellowish, thin subacid liquid which gathers on the surface of whey or butter milk.

*fig.* 1661 NEDHAM *Hist. Engl. Rob.* xiii, There lies the Cream of all their Religion is but Whig.

**Whig** (hwig), *sb.*² and *a.* Forms: **7 whige, whigh, whigue,** *Sc.* **uhig, uig,** 7–8 **wig(g,** 8 **quig,** 7–9 **whig,** 7– **uhig.** [Origin unascertained; prob. shortening of *whiggamore*, WHIGGAMORE; the occurrence of sense 1 (if it belongs to this word) some years before the date of the 'whiggamore raid' points to the existence of *whig* in a general sense before that event.

The application of this word is identical with WHIG *sb.*¹ (cf. the following quots.) has no historical foundation.

1797 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* in. (1844) 68/2 The word is said to be taken from a mill. During the poor Men drank in their Wanderings compos'd of Water and sour Milk. 1821 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* II. ii. I. 263 The poor honest People, who were in Ridicule called Whiggs, from a Kind of Milk they were forced to drink in their Wandrings and Straits. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 10 (1740) 321 This fac'd the name Birmingham Protestants! held a considerable Time; but the word was not fluent enough for hasty Repartees; and, after diverse Changes, the Lot fell upon Whig, which was very significative, as well as ready, being vernacular in Scotland, (from whence it was borrowed) for corrupt and sour Whey. Immediately the Train took and, upon the first Touch of the Experiment, it run like wild Fire, and became general. And so the Account of Tory was ballanced, and soon began to run up a sharp Score on the other Side.]

†**1.** A yokel, country bumpkin. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 3 And needs be [*sc.* Leslie] would retreat to Newcastle, till great Barwise set himself first into the water; and the rest, following him, so frighted 'em fresh water countrie whigs, 'a' all of them answered the Motto, *veni, vidi, fugi.* *c* 1655 J. GWYNNE *Mil. Mem. Gt. Civil War* II. (1822) 90 Most of them were no souldiers, but countrey-hamkins, their called Whigs.

**2.** An adherent of the Presbyterian cause in Scotland in the seventeenth century; applied orig. to the Covenanters in the West of Scotland who in 1648 wrested the government from the Royalist party and marched as rebels to Edinburgh; in later years, to the extreme section of the Covenanting party who were regarded as rebels. *Hist.*

**3b** rig·id Episcopalians, it is still given to Presbyterians in general; and, in the West of Scotland, even by the latter, to those who, in a state of separation from the established church, profess to adhere more strictly to Presbyterian principles' (Jamieson, 1808).

1657 in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* (1867) 213 Having fallen in among the Whigs of Kilwinning. 1660 NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 452 The Generall [Dalyell] having marched towards the West, he took and killed sindrie persones, called The Whigs. 1666 *Cal. State Papers, Dom.* 1666-7 (1864) 302 Now not one [*sc.* of the rebels] dares call himself a Whig. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 121/3 We were informed that the Whigs had privately in the night stolen down the heads of 4 of the Rebels that were set up in Glasgow. 1679 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1885) III. 163 The Whiggs horse and foot fell in pell, mell, upon the Dragoons. 1683 CLAVERHOUSE in *Chambers, Domestic Annals Scotland* (1859) xii. 142, I am as sorry to see a man duy, even a whigue, as any of themselfs. 1684 *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1903) II. 196 The bearer will tell you the generous Whigha has for your lordship, which is no ill argument of your lordship's zeal in the King's service. a 1690 KIRKTON *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1817) 46 The first was done at Bothwell Road, as was called. 1708 in Brand *Hist. Nav.* (1786) I. 424 *note*, [In St. Andrew's Register, November 1708, this burying-ground for dissenters is called the Whig's burying-place. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 Those in the west [of Scotland] come in the summer to buy at Leith the stores that come from the west. And from one of these Whigha, used in driving their horses all that drove were called the Whiggamors, and shorter the Whigs. 1895 D. *Rankin's Hist. Eng. Nov.* (1897) 46 The name was borrowed by Scotland Whigs, republican tendencies appeared; for instance, in October 1680, the King and the Duke were excommunicated with due form [*sc.* These were, however, rather Analaptist than Presbyterian views]. These also called Whigs, but 'wild Whigs'. 1888 M. MORRIS *Claverhouse* ix. 159 The men of the hill-sides and moorlands of the West, the wild Western Whigs, who called them the Court House.

**3.** Applied to the Exclusioners (*c* 1679) who opposed the succession of James, Duke of York, to the crown, on the ground of his being a Roman Catholic. *Hist.* (Opposed to TORY A. 2.)

1679 *Woods' Life* (O. H. S.) II. 431 After the breaking out of the popish plot severall of our scholars were tried and at length were discovered to be whiggs, viz.. Georg Reynell & C. C. C. looked upon as alwayes a round-head. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The latter seem to have been called by the former, whigs, fanaticks, covenanteers, bromigham protestants, &c.; and the former are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkish men, &c. from whence sprung the 1688 *Tories Confess.* vi, What pimping Whig shall dare contronle, or check the lawfull Heir. 1683 [J. NORRIS] *Mercurius Knavus* 2 Whig and Cant, Tantivy and Cavalier, Dunian Race, Tother has an Hibernian Face. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 652 In 1678..he closed with the Whigs, supposing that party would carry all before them. 1712 [see etymology above]. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* III. xix. (1876) II. 439. 1905 C. S. TERRY *Scotland Rising* 84 The controversies which cleft the Whigs in 1679, to one capitalist of serious military achievement, were almost as hideous.

**b.** *fig.* A rebel.

1682 DRYDEN *Another Epil. Dk. Guise* 22 When Sighs and Prayers their ladies cannot move, They rail, write Treason, and turn Whigs to love.

**4.** Hence, from 1689, an adherent of one of the two great parliamentary and political parties in England, and (at length) in Great Britain. Opposed to TORY A. 3.

Since the middle of the 19th century mostly superseded (exc. as a historical term) by *Liberal* (see LIBERAL A. 3, II. 1 b), but used occas. since then to express adherence to moderate or antiquated Liberal principles.

1702 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. p. viii, We have lived ..to see the two great Parties, of late known by the Names of Whig and Tory, directly changing their Principles. 1704 LESLIE *The Wolf Stript* 82 A Whig is a State-Enthusiast, as a Dissenter is an Ecclesiastical. 1713 *Guardian* No. 1, P 4, I am, with relation to the great Parties of the Age, a Tory, with regard to the State, a Whig. a 1718 BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 All that opposed the Court came in contempt to be called Whigs. 1732 HUME *Ess., Parties Gt. Brit.* 131 A Whig may be defined to be a Lover of Liberty, tho' without renouncing Monarchy; and a Friend to the Settlement in the Protestant Line. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, And I have always said, the first Whig was the Devil.' *Boswell.* 'He certainly was, Sir. The Devil was impatient of subordination.' 1791 BURKE *Utility of Conscience* vi. iii, 'I look upon an Orangeman,' said Coningsby, 'as a pure Whig.' 1892 LD. J. RUSSELL in S. Walpole *Life* (1889) II. 156 *note*, The term Whig.. has the convenience of expressing in one syllable what Conservative Liberal expresses in seven; and Whiggism, in two syllables, means what Conservative Progress means in other six. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 21 July 69/2 The Gladstonian Moderate, the 'Whig' as he is locally called, has ceased to have a reason for existence in Irish politics. 1911 B. HOSLAND *Spencer Compton* II. 129 Until this moment [1686]

the word 'Whig' was still in common use to denote a member of the party which, under the moderate Liberals, led by the chiefs of certain families of long standing Since 1830, the word has been used in a purely historical sense, while 'Tory' has still a living meaning

5 *Amer. Hist.* a. An American colonist who supported the American Revolution.

1768 *New York Gaz.* 14 Mar., *(title of article)* The American Whig 1768 *Boston Gaz.* 21 Apr. 3/2 On reading, in the American Mercury, an advertisement of a weekly paper to be published, under the title of *A Whip for the American Whig*, I could not help falling into a train of serious reflections, on the prosecuting genius that inspires the high flying Tory party, in the episcopal church 1775 Inquiries *Hist. Tryal Amer. Rev.* (1823) 11 The majority are united in resolutely opposing the wicked attempts of the English Cabinet This class of people have assumed the appellation of Whigs 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* æt Mar., When the Whigs of America are thus multiplied, let the Princes of the earth tremble in their palaces. 1812 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 6 June 240/1 A great battle is said to have been fought about the 1st May, between the 'whigs' of Caracas and 'tories' of Coro, the latter being aided by some 'regulars' from Porto Rico 1884 A Johnston *Hist. Amer. Pol.* (ed 2) 6 As soon as independence was announced, in 1776, to be the final object of the contest the names Whig and Tory lost, in America, whatever of British significance they had ever possessed

b. A member of a party formed in 1834 from a fusion of the National Republicans and other elements opposed to the Democrats; it favoured a protective tariff and a strong national or central government, and was succeeded in 1856 by the Republican party. (See quot 1905.)

1834 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 29 Apr. 101/2 In New York and Connecticut the term Whig is now used by the opponents of the administration when speaking of themselves, and they call the 'Jackson men' by the offensive name of 'tories'. 1839 *Congress. Globe* 3 Jan., App. 105/1 In 1796 Whig was as synonymous with Democrat, or, in the Federal language of the times, was fit for the common people but now for political effect, the same party have taken the term Whig to themselves 1888 *Amer. Commons.* III. lii 1 In the majority an honest and efficient activity of the National government was generally in fact represented by the Federalists of the first period the Whigs of the second Republicans of the third 1905 *Johnston's Amer. Pol. Hist.* II 239 His [ex James Watson Webb's] newspaper, the *Courier and Enquirer*, had originally been Democratic in tendency, and had been driven into the opposition by the President's course In February 1834, he baptized the new party with the name of 'Whig', with the idea that it would implied resistance to executive usurpation, to that of the Crown in England and in the American Revolution, and to that of the President in the United States of 1834

*B. adj.* That is a Whig; of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a Whig or Whigs: holding the opinions or principles of a Whig.

1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 32 (1713) I 205 Oh there's a thick Darkness they say upon Affairs, and indeed you have a pure deal of Whig spectacles, there's no seeing through it 1683 Dryden *Vind. Duke of Guise* 22 As for Knave, and Sycophant and Rascal, and Impudent and Devil, and old Serpent, I take them to be only names of Parties And you'd return Murther and Cheat, and Whig napper. 1683 Lutterell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I 279 Commenting on several proceedings of the Whigs called the whig party 1709 T Gordon *Char Indep. Whig* (ed 2) 19 Let them not give up Whig Principles into Tory Hands, as Esau sold his Birthright to Jacob 1737 Warner *Cases of the Clergy* (1739) II 228 Then they said 'Take up the old damn'd Whig Bitch' 1758 *Boston Gaz.* 21 Mar 3/1 May the best of Heaven's Blessings ever attend the Whig Cause 1818 Scott *Dr. Lamm.* x Free and safe as a whig ballot on the day of his own heroship, or a canting presbyterian minister in his own pulpit 1837 Sir Smith *Pol. Act Sir Singleton* 2 Wks. 1869 II 276/2 Lord John Russell, the Whig leader 1839 Thirlwall *Pr. Wks* (1878) II 121 The late Whig defeat in New York 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw* III. iii 333 The other section, which called itself first the National Republican, ultimately the Whig party 1920 G O Trevelyan *Geo III & Charles Fox* II 209 A rally-ing point for the hardy Whig militiamen of the Carolinas

C. *Comb.*, as *Whig-Radical* sb. and adj., *Whig-defeating*, *-hunting* adjs. and sbs., *Whig-land*, the land of Whigs, esp. Scotland; hence †Whig-lander, a native or inhabitant of 'Whigland'.

1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 65 (1713) II. 2 A Cuckoo sounding, Whig defeating Dispensation 1905 C S Terry *Rise and Progress of the Jacobites* 1 Whig hunting city of Clarendhouse 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 45 (1713) II 39 The Territories of 'Whigland' 1683 [J Vade] *Mene and Tekel* 2 Patron of all Dissenters and The Demon, Genius of Whigland 1700 *Pilt. Dut Cant Crew, Whigland*, Scotland 1828 *Englis, Hoggs Rat Catch Witch Hither*, I Am so Zealous for Whiglanders Crew 11 cure their Distempers with one Turn or two 1820 J Richman *Ecclesiastes* 1 Let us feed as free as the Whiglander 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 45 (1713) II 39 The Territories of 'Whigland' 1683 [J Vade] *Mene and Tekel* 2 Patron of all Dissenters and The Demon, Genius of Whigland 1700 *Pilt. Dut Cant Crew, Whigland*, Scotland 1828 *Englis, Hoggs Rat Catch Witch Hither*, I Am so Zealous for Whiglanders Crew 11 cure their Distempers with one Turn or two 1820 J Richman *Ecclesiastes* 1 Let us feed as free as the Whiglander 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 45 (1713) II 39 The Territories of 'Whigland' 1683 [J Vade] *Mene and Tekel* 2 Patron of all Dissenters and The Demon, Genius of Whigland 1700 *Pilt. Dut Cant Crew, Whigland*, Scotland 1828 *Englis, Hoggs Rat Catch Witch Hither*, I Am so Zealous for Whiglanders Crew 11 cure their Distempers with one Turn or two 1820 J Richman *Ecclesiastes* 1 Let us feed as free as the Whiglander

Hence (mostly *humorous* or *contemptuous nonce-wds*) **Whi ggarchy** (-aiki) [Gr *ἀρχή* rule], government by Whigs, **Whi ggess**, a female Whig; **Whi ggify** *v.*, *trans* to make Whig or whiggish (so **Whi ggification**), **Whiggi sainsi** [jocular f. with L. suffix], extreme or absolute Whigs; **Whi ggize** *v.*, *intr.*, to act like a Whig, play the Whig; **Whiggolo gical** *a.*, relating to Whig principles; **Whi gtet, Whi gling**, a small or petty Whig (also *attrib.*); **Whigocracy** [-cracy], government by Whigs; *concr.* a body of Whig rulers; **Whi gship**, the personality or quality of a Whig, †**Whi gster** [-ster], a contemptuous appellation for a Whig.

1712 13 Swift *Appl to Cond Allies* Wks 1841 I 437/1 It is they will not consquence any other government in Great Britain but *Whiggarchy* only 1776 *Pennsylvania Ev.* *Test* 2 Jan 3/2 A reasonable *Whiggess* scorns all impiety Faith in the articles as well as the church 1892 Lyttel *Chercleys* v, Whigesses always make their debut later than other girls 1832 Wilson in *Blackw Mag.* Sept 389 We were all long against the *whiggification* of the Tory System 1681 Philanax Misopatras *Tory Plot* 11 If he preach up nothing but Hell and Heaven, and a good life, Damne, says he, this Fellow's a *Whigged* 1835 *Fraser's Mag* XI. 564 They may aid in whiggifying some of the propositions of the government 1841 *Tait's Mag* VIII 484 A whiggified Radical is a jobber 1793 Swift *Let to Magistrate* 25 Sept., Bee, since they are above suspicion, as *Whiggissimi* and Unsuspectissimi 1832 J Richman *Extr Life & Lett* 18 Apr 209 Whigs, Whiggissimi, Whiggissimi 1832 J Watson in *Blackw Mag* XXXII 7, 8, I don't like a Whig but I have even less affection for a *Whiggising* Tory 1817 *Q Rev* Oct 135 Mr Bentham will no doubt be thankful for so striking an illustration of his *whiggological* theories 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 36 (1713) I 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whiggista* engag'd themselves in such a Whig affair 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel *Ibid* 3 Leas of joy and gratitude at hearing that the whiglings placed on the Throne Majesty's seat of honour 1834 *Chr Unrw Mag* I 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy 1889 J Wilson *Tales Basque* xvi 289 Of the whole breed of Radicals and Whiglets 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 36 (1713) I 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whigista* engag'd themselves in such a Whig affair 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel *Ibid* 3 Leas of joy and gratitude at hearing that the whiglings placed on the Throne Majesty's seat of honour 1834 *Chr Unrw Mag* I 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy 1889 J Wilson *Tales Basque* xvi 289 Of the whole breed of Radicals and Whiglets 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 36 (1713) I 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whigista* engag'd themselves in such a Whig affair 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel *Ibid* 3 Leas of joy and gratitude at hearing that the whiglings placed on the Throne Majesty's seat of honour 1834 *Chr Unrw Mag* I 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy 1889 J Wilson *Tales Basque* xvi 289 Of the whole breed of Radicals and Whiglets 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 36 (1713) I 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whigista* engag'd themselves in such a Whig affair 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel *Ibid* 3 Leas of joy and gratitude at hearing that the whiglings placed on the Throne Majesty's seat of honour 1834 *Chr Unrw Mag* I 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy 1889 J Wilson *Tales Basque* xvi 289 Of the whole breed of Radicals and Whiglets 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 36 (1713) I 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whigista* engag'd themselves in such a Whig affair 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel *Ibid* 3 Leas of joy and gratitude at hearing that the whiglings placed on the Throne Majesty's seat of honour 1834 *Chr Unrw Mag* I 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy 1889 J Wilson *Tales Basque* xvi 289 Of the whole breed of Radicals and Whiglets

**Whig**, *v.*¹ *Sc.* [Cf. *fig*(*vb.*3), *frag*, *jag*.]

1. *trans* To urge forward, drive briskly.

1866-7 G Peacham *Brief Narr* (1844) § 8 165, I did see the riotous people whigging their mares, to be tymously at the kirk

2. *intr.* To jog along

1890 *Macmillan's Magazine* in C Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 38 The solemn league and covenant, Cam whigging up the hills, man 1701 De Foe *Trueborn Eng.* 1. 222 Scots from the northern frozen banks of Tay, With packs and plods come whigging all away 1710 *Hist. Europ. Mf* xxiv, Just when I was whigging cannily awa hame

**Whig**, *v.*² [f. Whig *sb.*²] *trans.* To behave like a Whig towards; *intr.* to play the Whig.

1712 Swift *Conduct Allies* Wks 1841 I 358 They will Whig us bravely indeed, if by the Pretences of the Fear of Popery and Arbitrary Government, Flanders and Germany should fall into the Scale of France 1692 in J Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 103, we'll not foul, we'll not fear, To come a hunder mile and mair, For to ding out my daddy's heir, And dash him wi' the whig in oft 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxvi, I think he will handily neglect the private of the feudal retainers, or go a-whigging a second time 1832 Lytton *Pelh*, etc. (1873) II viii 1 280 They whipped in every thing as touched [they] gauged and ticketed all the objects of Poetry

**Whig**, *v.*³ *dial.* [f. Whig *sb.*¹] *trans* and *intr.* To turn sour; to curdle.

1756 Hone *Exper. Bleaching* 106 The milk is whigged, and sets and parts 1825 Jamieson *s. v.* Stale churned milk when it throws off a sediment, is said to whig 1835 Dr Quincey *Tory's Acc. Peasants*, etc, Wks 1863 X 92, If you put sour cream, and do not churn it soon enough, it will infallibly as to coagulate the mixture, you are said 'to whig it.'

**Whig** g, variants of Wig *sb.*¹, kind of bun.

**Whiggamore** (hwi gămōr). *Hist.* Forms: 7 **whigmyre, whiggamaire, -mear, whigmuir, wickhamer, wigomer, 7- whigamore, 8 whiggamore, whiggamoor, -gamoore.** [The form *wh(e)ig(g)amers* used by Bp Burnet in the often cited passage given s v Whig *sb.*² 2, and later popularized by Scott, is app. an erratic form (like *whigmuir*, *whigmyre*) of *wiggomer*, *whiggamaire*, which is prob. f. Whig *v.*¹ + *mere*, Mare *sb.*¹ The word *whiggamore* adduced by Lyttel as a term used in driving is not supported by evidence.]

Originally, One of a body of insurgents of the West of Scotland who in 1648 marched on Edinburgh, their expedition being called the 'whiggamore raid, road, or inroad', later (*contemptuous*), = Whig *sb.*² 2. Also *attrib*

1649 Sir Jas Balf in *Hist. Ho* (1825) III 88 Anent the Scots Army in Ireland, the Englishes, with Cromwell and Lambert, their chief coming at the Whiggamore rovie *Ibid* 420 Since July last, 1649, and the Whigamore revid. 1651 *Scots Nation Unite* 3 Wickhamers with one turn or two 1820 J Richman *Extr Life & Lett* 10 Feb 215 The sad resolutions of the Wickhamer Whig Radicals.

Hence (mostly *humorous* or *contemptuous nonce-wds*) **Whi ggarchy** (-aiki) [Gr *ἀρχή* rule], government by Whigs, **Whi gess**, a female Whig; **Whi ggify** *v.*, *trans* to make Whig or whiggish (so **Whi ggification**), **Whiggi sainsi** [jocular f. with L. superl. ending], extreme or absolute Whigs; **Whi ggize** *v.*, *intr.*, to act like a Whig, play the Whig; **Whiggolo gical** *a.*, relating to Whig principles; **Whi gtet, Whi gling**, a small or petty Whig (also *attrib.*); **Whiggocracy** [-cracy], government by Whigs; *concr.* a body of Whig rulers; **Whi gship**, the personality or quality of a Whig, †**Whi gster** [-ster], a contemptuous appellation for a Whig.

frightened 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xi. 77 *note*, Whig or Whigamore was the cant name for those who were loyal to King George [an 1751] 1891 Gardiner *Hist. Civil War* Introd. III. 191 The Whiggamore leaders constituted themselves into a Committee of Estates 1898 W S Douglas *Cromwell's Sc. Campg* 9 It is certain that after the events of 1648 they must have considered the Whiggamores more closely bound to these interests than that body proved to be.

**Whiggery** (hwi gări). [f. Whig *sb.*² + -ery] Whig principles or practice; Whiggism. (Mostly *hostile or contemptuous*)

1682 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 66 (1713) II 161 What other Whiggery have you? 1714 G Lockhart *Mem Scot* (ed 3) 228 The first of these was after the Revolution, raised to the Bench upon Account of his Whiggery and Dukophyny 1824 Scott *Waw.* xxx, That's a' your Whiggery, and your presbytery, ye cut lugged, grazing carles! 1843 R Quirly *Life of W. J. Garrison* 19 Great opposition was made to David Lee Child on account of his hate towards Whiggery 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II. 275 Noisy zealots, whose only claim to promotion was that they were always drinking confusion to Whiggery, and lighting bonfires to burn the Lord Somers in effigy 1878 *Amer. Rev* CXXIII 213 Whiggery meant sound views on the tariff 1885 Courthope *Life Blowm. Engl. Lit.* v 50 Whiggery, in Burke's days, was simply unflinching adherence to the principles of the Revolution of 1688 1908 *Sat Rev* 9 May 586/2 We must congratulate Mr Asquith on disregarding the shrill cries of antiquated whiggery

b. *fig* Rebellion. (Cf Whig *sb.*² 3 b.)

1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* I 3 When the day happened to be wet, the poultry were accustomed to murmur their sullen and ominous whiggery against the same weather

**Whiggish**, *a.*¹ *rare.* In 6 **whighish.** [f. Whig *sb.*² + -ish¹.] Pale as whey.

1590 Pynne *Frutes, Hecuba s Mishaps* Cc 4, Whose whighish skin the muddy mire with filthy spoils had hid.

**Whiggish** (hwi gish), *a.*² 1715-8 **whigish**, 8 **whiggish.** [f. Whig *sb.*² + -ish¹.] = Whig *a.*; also, Having or indicating something of the character of a Whig, inclined to Whiggism. (Usually *hostile or contemptuous*)

1680 *Roch Ball* (1883) IV 657 Great York an favour does remain, In spight of all the Whigish train 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 1 (1713) I 1 Upon the Trade of Lying, if it were for nothing else, but that it makes a Man look so Whiggish 1684 in J Hutchinson *Hist. Mass* (1795) I 308 *note*, I suppose the Whig Undertakers have more whiggish, and your neighbours more torvish, to express it in the language of the time use 1705 E Ward *Hind Easter* 11 so Mack with some High Church Undertakers Appoint false Whiggish Determinations 1779 Burke *Corr* (1844) II 230 Your liberal, wise, and truly whiggish principles. 1790 Burke *Let to Capt. H—n* Wks 1842 V 180 Your whiggish sort, To blame poor Matthew dear, man 1813 Miss Mitford 22 Apr in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I vii 229 If not a Reformer I am nothing; for I have as pretty a contempt for the nimcum-ads as any whiggish man 1815 *Edinburgh Rev.* V. The whiggish and perverse opposition to established rank and privilege

†2 *fig.* Rebellious, fractious. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 D E *Dict Cant. Crew, Whiggish*, Factious, Seditious, Restless, Uneasy

3 *transf.* Liberal, 'broad' cf. Liberal *a.* 4 b

1735 H *Dannes Athen. Rest.* I Pref 19 In the same fourth Century there were many Whiggish Bishops, followed by some Moderate Heathens 1907 P. T Forsyth *Positive Preaching* iv 120 They gave it a gnostics a huge advantage over the whiggish apostolics and their plain humanity

Hence **Whi ggishly** *adv*, **Whi ggishness.**

1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 32 (1713) I 205 That was as Whiggishly objected as ever I heard in my Life. 1684 Lutterell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I 329 There have been commissioners appointed, who have turn'd out those persons in hospitalls and other publick places who are Whiggishly inclined 1708 Swift *Sacr. Test* Wks 1841 I 247 I fancy you may do as me good with the Primate, if you whistle him and talk a little Whiggishly 1818 Hog *Memoirs of Jonathan Oldbuck* xxi, Whiggishly indeed! 1820 *Black Dw* 16 Nov 312/1 Mr Walpole has himself that trait of Whiggishness which peculiarly fits him to paint the portrait of the chief of the Whigs. 1900 *Blackw Mag* Mar 431 [when I would have told you] that Whiggishness as he would have borne with his inveterate Whiggishness

**Whiggism** (hwi gizm). Also 7–8 **Whigism** [f as prec. + -ism.] The principles, tenets, or methods of the Whigs, moderate or antiquated Liberalism. (Opposed to Toryism.)

1666 *Cal. State Papers, Dom.* 1666-7 (1864) 415 Extract of a Scotch letter, by M. L'Estrange, whiggism and treason 1683 Wood *Life* (O H S) III 6 Sept., To expell Mr Parkinson from the University for whiggism 1704 De Foe *Shortest Way with Dissenters* 15 We can never enjoy a settled uninterrupted Union and Tranquility in this Nation, till the Spirit of Whiggism, Faction, and Schism is melted down like the Old-Money 1776 J Adams *Let to Sergeant* 21 July, Wks 1854 IX 425 But when persons came to see there is greater danger in their persons and property from toryism than whiggism, the same avarice and pusillanimity will make them whigs 1813 W Taylor in *Monthly Rev* LXXII 275 An account of the Kit-cat club, throws light on the history of whiggism 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* VI iii, I look upon an Orangeman as the only professor and practiser of unadulterated Whiggism. 1894 *Punch* VI 261/2 The velocity with which Lord Brougham turns round from Whiggism to Toryism 1880 Green *Hist. Eng. People* IV ix. 120 the King (ac Geo. III) still called himself a Whig, yet he was reversing a system of absolutism which Whiggism had long made impossible

b. (with *pl.*) A Whiggish principle or tenet

1830 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc* (1842) I. 222 The whiggisms that are abroad upon this question of representation.

**Whighen**, obs. form of Quicken *sb* 1

**Whighile**, var. f. Whee

**Whight, whigt:** obs. forms of WRIGHT *sb.*[2], WHITE, WIGHT.

**Whigmaleery** (hwi·gmāli·ri). *Sc.* Also -me-, -le. [Origin obscure.] Anything fanciful or whimsical; a fantastic notion, whim; crotchet; a fanciful ornament, contrivance, etc. Also *attrib.*

1730 RAMSAY *Han with Twa Wives* 18 But likes the whig ...look figmalieres, and wald jaunt. 1786 BURNS *Bruges of Ayr* 96 Gin ye be a Brig as auld as me,.. There'll be, if that day come, I'll wad a boddle, Some fewer whigmeleeries in your noddle. 1793 — *Lett. to Mrs. Dunlop* 5 Jan. I had two worthy fellows dining with me the other day, when I produced my whigmaleerie cup. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, It's a brave kirk—nane o' yere whigmaleeries and cutlewuilies and open-steek hems about it. 1878 MRS. OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* vii, A' the whigmaleeries of the auld steeple.

**Whighwam,** variant of WIGWAM.

**Whiht,** obs. form of WIGHT.

**Whik(k, -on,** obs. dial. ff. QUICK, QUICKEN.

**Whil, Whilberow, Whilbow, whilloh, Whilde,** obs. ff. WHILE, WHEELBARROW, WHICH, WILD.

**While** (hwail), *sb.* Forms: 1, 4 hwil, (t huil), 2–5 wil, 3 hwille, (3wyle, 3uile), 3–5, 7 whil, 4 huile, (wyel), 4–5 whyl, whylle, 4–6 whyll, wyle, 4–7 whyle, (chiefly *Sc.*) whill, 4–5 wille, 5 wyl, wyll, (*wyll, wyhyle*), 7 whilles, 6 wylle, will, (*whyell, wyl, Sc.* whyle, vhill), 3– while; 3–4 quil, 3–5 quile, 4 quyl, quyle, quille, 4–6 *Sc.* quhile, qwhil, 4–7 *Sc.* quhil, (9 *arch.*) quhill, 4–8 *Sc.* quhyle, 5 qwille, qwyle, qwil, qwill, *Sc.* qwhile, (qwhiel), qwhill(e, quhille, 5, 6 *Sc.* qwyl, 5–6 *Sc.* quhyl, qwhyl, 6 *Sc.* quhyll. B. 3 hwule, whule, wule. [OE. *hwil* str. fem. = OFris. *hwile, wile* (Fris. *toil*), OS. *hwil, hwila* (Du. *wijl*), OHG. *hwil, (h)wila* point or period of time (MHG. *wile*, G. *weile*), ON. *hvila* bed (Sw. *hvila*, Da. *hvile* repose, refreshment), Goth. *hweila* time :– OTeut. ***xwīlō*, the first syllable of which derives from Indo-eur. *qwī-*, represented by L. *quies* rest, *tranquillus* (= ***-quilnos**) quiet, OSl. *počiti* to rest; cf. the sense of ON. *hvíla* and *hvíld* rest, repose, and of the continental forms of the verb.]

**I. 1.** A portion of time, considered with respect to its duration; = TIME *sb.* 1, 2, rarely 4 or 6. Now almost exclusively in connections (see below), the ordinary word being *time*. Formerly with gen. *while's*. Rarely *pl.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Hwilce hwile hine wille Drihten her on worlde lætan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1591 And swulue longe hire is þe hwile, An ek steape hire punþ a mile. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20116 Alt symon magus in his time Right sua sal he þe folk bigile. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 13060 Holy cherche, despyse and fyle, Pat wyl y hiebply, alle my whyle. 1350 WILL. *Cong'l.* 1. 221 He disepeired for the while. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 89 They shall dwell ther I wot no whylghe. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1958) 81 After a whyle of time. 1552 HUTCH. & MORE *Answ. Poyr. Bk.* Wks. 1053/2 Though ye see euery man dye here for the whyle, yet I shall ..reyse them all vp at the last day. 1549–8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 32 During the whiles thies maskes were a dauncinge. 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 277 Have but that while's patience, you may peuse it drie-foot. 1844 DICBY *Nat. Bodies* xv. ¶ 7. 115 The fire, in all this while of continuall application to the body it thus anatomiseth [etc.]. *a* 1688 OLDHAM *On Mortem* Wks (1686) 75 Thy prudent Conduct had so learnt to measure the different whiles of Toil and Leasure. 1840 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 133, I am now .. meaning whiles of time for the *Colloquies*, which are appreaching to their close. 1844 DISRAELI *Sybil, Novr. and Duke* II. 228 After short whiles, all is again swimming vaguely before them. 1848 CAILLE *N. Amer. Ind.* liv, Filling up the while with nonsensical garrulity. 1894 Milne *Rom. Pavonnat* (1911) 26 W he had at while together.

**b.** with adj. expressing quantity, as *good* (GOOD *a.* 19), *great, little, long, short*; also *any, no, some*: forming esp. advb. phr. = for a (long, etc.) time.

*Beowulf* 146 Wæs sen hwil micel *a* 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 406 Lyfde hwile ælcodlic tó his lifes nitolan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 He wes to sume wile ontalendende. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2393 Shu hafesst wibb hire frend ȝet affterr þatt summ while. *c* 1290 *St Dunstan* 51 in *S. Leg. Leg.* 20 A goode ȝwyle it was a-gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3182 He begon to luf him sua Pat he moght na quil him for-ga. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 613 Whether he lyf lang or short while. *c* 1450 *Merlinl* 574 in *Horæ Engy* 22 Euyrwone þat he in þe vayage, I trow, a fayer wyll I am ryke of yt. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxvii. (1541) 45 To hue leeue whan other men, whiles I lyue. *Erasmus Apophth.* 175 b, Philippus .had slept a great long while together. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 81 The shooter while you stale vpon the discord, the leese offence you glue. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 506 Having enioyed these honors a small while. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 33 ¶ 1, I do not know any thing that has pleased me so much a great while. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 201, I have not written to you a long while. 1836 NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 197, I am not more lonely than I have been a long while. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. 25 A little while since, I was paying a visit in Ireland 1897 FION. MONTGOMERY *Tony* I, The two sat for a little while at the other end of the carriage.

**c.** *A while* (also rarely *one while*): (*a*) as sb. phr., a time, *esp.* a short or moderate time (chiefly with certain preps., viz. *after, for, in, † within*); contextually = a considerable time, some time, as in *quite a while* (colloq.). (*b*) as advb. phr. = for a (short or moderate) time (see also AWHILE).

*Once in a while*: see ONCE 8 c.

(*a*) *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke iv. 5 *Et ostendit illi omnia regna mundi in momento temporis*, & hiuum tidum, ȝ *a* 1000 *Ærenlok* 722 Ne were nenne buit ane hwile Pat it ne gan a wind to rise. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B 1620 Pe burne lyfore baltasar was brost in a while. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4537 Wyþinne a wyle þer wer ydyȝt, Mo þan ten þousant of Sarazins wyt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. x. 226 Within a while they sawe a toure as whyte as ony snowe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iv. 29 Quhen Apollo last leif the fluide Exanthus, for a quhile, Ane vesy Delos. 1526 TINDALE *John* xvi. 16 After a whyle ye shall not se me. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 213 They were within a whyell far fro ȝ^e^ londes of ȝ^e^ ii admyralles saraȝyns. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* iv. (1577) V viij b, After a whiles silence. 1581 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 218 Pleasantly they passed a while together. 1718 HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* xv. (1720) 252 After a while's Pratice. 1847 HALLIWELL s. v., A while's work, work requiring a certain time. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlvi, It is to be forgotten now; to be forgotten for a while. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. YY 700 So Eadwig es apes, at least for one while. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* Mar. 450 She ..rather enjoyed getting over thought once in a while. 1902 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Arcana* 19 It was quite a while before he elected the facts from me.

(*b*) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2352 He sede he moste wende a while þe lyue þat he was in. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2209 Quhen veils a quil had loked in, He sagh ..mikel welth and win. *Havelok* 962 A wyel sco hir vmbithogt. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ii. 1 Ichon of vs to rede apon a quhile. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* II. 97 The auyde leagoue continued but a while. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 918 The warie fiend Stood on the brink of Hell and pausd a while, Pondering his voyage. 1733 FIELDING *Don Quix. in Eng.* II. xiv, My landlord and the coachman won't overtake them one while, I warrant 1781 JOHNSON *L. P., Denton*, He was a while secretary to Charles earl of Carnarvon. 1816 WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii, I will sit down a while. 1873 SPENCER *Study Sacrol.* vii. (1877) 148 The Smallpox epidemic, which a while since so unaccountably spread.

**d.** with demonstr. adj. *that* or *this* (now only with *all* preceding), forming advb. phr.

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 69 Makyne, I hait þame heir thir vpoun hie, Bot I wear ȝoure wyfe þat wilsum all þat while. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iv. Her othis vowes ..Vp all this while were at their wanton rest. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 177, I have this while with leaden thoughts been prest. 1629 T. TAYLOR *Pict. Parl. Prelacy* 255 The Lawes treated Shiloh hitherto with Christ rested that while in his Grave. 1721 STRYPE *Apocr.* No. 51 ¶ 8 His would see he has been mistaken all this while. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 134 All this while, too, the training of the character is in progress.

**e.** with qualifying sb.: The duration of, or time needed for (what is denoted by the sb.). *Obs. or arch.*

*Breathing-while, life-while, minute while, paternoster while*, etc.: see the sbs.

23 [see TRAVELMONTH 3]. 1277, 1291 [see MINUTE *sb.*[1] 3]. *c* 1430 *Chron. Angyn* 26 To speke with hym but a speche while. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 270/1 Ȝyue vs leue to speke a schrt he ronge one *Miserere* whyle at leste, and than the chapyr beelle schal he ronge on *Pater noster* while. 1593 *Shr.* (see BREATHING *vbl. sb.* 2a). 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* iv. 1, Stay but a breathing Water while, (as one may say) and I'll be with you again.

**2. a.** *The while* (OE. *þā hwīle* ACCUS.) · (*a*) as advb. phr.: During the time, in the meantime, meanwhile; (*b*) followed by conj. = *the* or *that*, and like (*a*), chiefly *Sc.* Cf. WHILES *conj.*

b. *All the while* (with constructions as above). During the whole time (that). †**c.** *To while* (with constructions as above): For a time; for the time, meanwhile; for the time that, while. So *per while*, etc.: see THEREWHILE. *Obs.* †**d.** *In the while*: in the mean time, meanwhile. *Obs.* (For *in the mean while* see MEAN WHILE.) †**e.** *Most while* (cf. MOST C.): on most occasions, for the most part. †**f.** *Any while*: on occasion, from time to time. *Obs.* Cf. WHILES *conj.*

**a.** (*a*) *c* 960 *Æthelwold* 908 *Rule St. Benet* (Schuer) ix. 13 Mid þreo medinga rædo and þry reapas, and ælle þa-tobiopra þa healde sit us. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1273 Pe king hy wolde þe while socure. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2 b, 8 What schul we winnen with-owe pe while? *a* 1400–50 *Alex. & Dindimus* 1189 Pe while [*l. pat*, to quibl] holde ȝis a-bidyng, Pe kyng wolde wende wiþ-owte. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 211 He not be by the while 1610 — *Temp* III. i. 24 If you'l sit downe He bearne your Logges the while 1774 MACKLAINE *Hoyle Whist* i. 41, I will not, said the sobbing, 'and pray for him the while' 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xx, Mr. Chuckster telling him he was wanted inside, bade him go in and he would mind the chaise the while. 1897 J. S. STERN *I Would've Walked You* 1, I'll do some lollipops to eat the while?

(*b*) *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boethius* x, Eall hie [sc. eurfoðmesse] wæron þy þeodscype þe hie þa hwile hæfdon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 977 *Rischl. Hom.* 31 Swa we scealan þa hwile þe we lifgab ber on worlde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þes writegede daniel þe þe wisa wes, he sahte mannum þa hwile þe he burde. *c* 1290 *St Cuthbert* 3 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 359 Pe ȝwyle þat he was a yong child. 1297 R. GLOU. (Rolls) 1962 Po was troen al a liuerol þe while þat he was in Osoyr. 1325 *Extra. Cong. Lat.* 15 The while the host was thus in Ossoyr. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i. 4, The while thine eyes attract their sought for loyes. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. ii. 19 Vnsafe the while, that we must laue Our Honors in these flattering streames. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sacrifice* xxxviii, I for both have wept When all my sweet mirth were bloud, the while you slept. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* (1856) 6/1 Not the while I was at home with you nor since. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 68 Beseeching him, the while his hand she wrung, To change his purpose. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 380 The while his right (hand) did shade His eyes from the bright sun.

**b.** *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. v. 49 For al þe while he was so seek, He feled neuere lasse ne lith, þerfore hym bouste better leges 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 109 Hyt was not comen to Bregȝs all the while he was there. 1530 *Rede Me* (1703) 2 Sam xxii. 4 They dwelt wt him all the while that Daniel kepte him selfe in hold 1600 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 485 He remeaint in the town all the while. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 681 All the while I was speaking, I was much concern'd at Statira's looks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 539 All the while Sonorous metal blowing Martial sounds. 1700 HEARNE in *Peyton Papers* etc. (1859) VI. 206 She was shut up all the while we were there. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VIII. vi, The rogue had an eye all the while to quarter-day. *a* 1865 HAWTHORNE *Septimius* (1872) 158 But all the while he was gone there was the mark of a bloody footstep impressed upon the stone doorstep of the Hall.

**c** *c* 1290 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 13 *Qui ad tempus credunt*, þæs to tid ȝet to hui ȝeleafað. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 348 Ponne meaht þu hine betan to hwile. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2102 We aulen it fen, Dat quite ðu wit hire sune ben. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20060 (Kilkenny) Pat to be dignus sagh he wanne, And in þat point him spend faste, To quite a thusande ȝier to laste. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4141 To whyle þe kyng & his sonyne In loue token of per hynes, Ricbesse þey hadde nnow to wille. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 71 To while þat he was fresch þei fond him fulle su-tere

**d.** 1542 UDALL *Erasm Apoph.* 77 Yet in ȝ^e^ while, they would neuer the more folow the steppes of thesame good mennes. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 144, I do beware of them: their strength some ten or twaine, or more Of the mame Pautors. *a* 1637 HAYNE *Lett.* (1634) 11 In the while, wee must labour to keepe a watch over our soules. 1790–92 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 111 Many in the while, being fruitless almost to death.

**e.** *c* 1383 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1911) 740 Nolpit preestis nebir dekens shulden ben occupied in any temporal office in lordis courtis most whil seculer men ben sufficient to do suche seculer office.

**f.** 13 *Orfeo* 8 Sum [haues ben] of happes þat fallen by whyle. *c* 1400 *Apol Loll.* 97 He cessiþ to harme hem, or fendiþ hem euer wil.

**3.** *spec.* The time spent (connoting the trouble taken or labour performed) in doing something. †**a.** In phrases such as *to quit* or *yield* (one) *his while*, to repay (him) for his trouble, also ironically, to 'pay (him) out'; *to lose* or *spill one's while*, to waste one's time or effort. *Obs.*

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Mon sullde his elmesse benne he þeo þeteð sulche meonne þe him dyð wiken and cherreu and benchest mid his elmesse forȝelden him his while. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1020 He mujte bet sitte stille Vor al his wile he sholde spille. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2476 Send after help & schulle hor while quite. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 7. 113 A clerk hadde litherly bisett his wylle But if he koude a Carpenter bugly. 1390 GOWER *Conf* III. 151 The proverbe is, who that is trew schall his while nevere rewe. *c* 1400 *Anom. Rose* 4392 If leloueue doth thee payne, Quyte hym his while thou agayne. *c* 1430 *How Good li ste one, let Dom.* 211 in *Babees Bk.*, And he þat wel doop, þou qwite him wel his while.

**b.** Now only in phr. *worth the while* (now rare or arch.), *worth one's while, worth while*: often merely = worth doing, profitable, advantageous (the notion of time being weakened or lost). *To make it worth* (a person's) *while*, to give (him) sufficient recompense.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 355 The queene beet Iudas ful ofte, but al for nouȝt, ffor it was not worþ þe while. 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. Conn. Relig.* (1651) 122, I would not think my pains worth the while, if they were not worth the while. 1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. 8 It had not been worth while for the soul to have been in the body. 1671 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 166 For it is worth ones while to teach him out of other Authors. 1755 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No 4. 24 In one word, maid'm, make it worth my while. 1848 LEVER *Jack Hinton* xxxii, It is worth while being a soldier in Ireland. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xiv, 'Keep dark upon it, Bethel,' he said; 'I will make it worth your while.' 1877 HUXLEY *Hydrogr.* 33 It may be worth while to explain the kind of information which they give.

†**4.** (without article.) Sufficient or available time, leisure for doing something: = TIME *sb.* 8.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Sif ȝe habbe hwuhe, wigged þeose psalm, Tawai oculi mei. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 67 Whanne he myȝte have while he wrot fables. *c* 1450 *Merl. Festival* 125 On birtydyȝ day myȝt not haue whyll. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. v. 317 Hee had not while to eate his meate as well to follow it. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1646) 231 He can have while to ruminate upon the evil things which Satan and the flesh doe store us with.

†**5. a.** Term or period of office; *transf.* office, function, 'place'. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Mathias*) 351 Schaw quhilk of þine twa it be ches To cumple þe quhyle of Iudas. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 386 Þerfore þis man which now hiȝt þerfore not the deede for his while

¶ **b.** Used in the Wycliffite Bible to render L. *vicissitudo* in senses of *turn*: (*a*) a service rendered (= TURN *sb.* 23); (*b*) *by whiles*, by turns (TURN *sb.* 28). *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam. xxiv.* 20 The Lord ȝelde to thee this while [Vulg. *vicissitudinem hanc*], for þat, þat to day thou hast wrouȝt in me. 1388 — *2 Kings* v. 24 So that in twei mansiouns he whilis þei weren set bi bowe.

**II. 6.** Time at which something happens or is done; occasion; † proper or suitable time; † season: = TIME *sb.* 13–15. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.* (or as in **e** below).

Mostly with qualifying word, either with prep preceding, or with elliptic of prep. forming advb. phr. (cf. 1 b-d, as e.g. *that while* = at that time, on that occasion, then; *another while* = 'another time', on another occasion; *every while* (also as one word, after *everywhere*), † at every time,

always ( /1:3 ) every time, on every occasion (*dial*) See also below, and ÷ OTHERWHILE, SOMEWHILE.

c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt xxvii 55 *In ille hora* .. in ðæm tid ræ in ðære huile c 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 51 þat israelisshe folc was walkende toward Jerusalem, and þo wile was hersum godes hese c 1375 *Cursor M* 13130 (Fai I) Seynt John þe quile in prisun lay c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 2140 Pus wyle was he on huile sittyng with it puple atte meie, Pus com per an hebene kyng rydynge atte þeie c 1400 *Mis Serm* (Tollem M b). We seen not sufficiunt to knowe be tymes or be whiles þat þe fadir of be Iynynge hyb put in his owne power 14118 *Ho* ? *Page Yong Knave in Hist Coll Cal Coud* (Camden) 33 Ihe Prayns seche men in the same wyle ffor the they went with Unsiveyle c 1440 *P'lad on Husb* 111 3 Wheie hevenst now in tempur lond is while here concluded. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* III v 218 Hope ye so that I maye ony whyle stand a troued knyght 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* vi, Thow did pryntj, in Mayis lusty quhyle, For to discryve the Rois. 1528-3 in Feuilleut *Recds Jersey* III (1930) 129 At diuers other tymes betwene those whiles 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 842 The (dreigns) taile on a tume fell lout with the head, and cumpassed a whole quhyle or he did smother it before, & would not alwaies come behind 1648 CRASHAW *Steps, Hymn Lipds* 30 But every where and every while, In one consistent solid smile 1691 H M tr *Erasmus' Colloq* 210 We were those wo nen who encouraged them with thee that while? a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Lircle* 1 (1874) 1 0 What while a lady steals me with her eyes 1884 *Chesshire Clocs, Every while stitch, every now and then*; at times. 1886 STEVENSON & *Unapped* xiii, I here are whiles when ye are altogether too canny and Whigish to be compiny for a gentleman like me

†b *One while* (adv phr) at one time, on one occasion, in one case (usually opp to *another while*, sometimes to *then, again, anon*) Also rarely = on some future occasion, ' some time '. *Obs.*

1470 85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI xxvii 688 Soo we ete they doune wyth in the see, and whyle they hayed another wyle forward 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II iii 21 One whyle his tonge it ran and puttered of a cat Another whyle he stam mered still vppo a rat 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1 *Furies* 450 One while the Boulme thee's the Anorexie, Then the Dog hunger 1664 SOUTH *Serm* 7 *Jn* IV 35 (1717) II 88 Those who are so extreme and obliging, as but within a small time after, to prosecute sharp [etc.] 1744 I LEE HAYWOOD *Female Spect* V (1748) I 262 One while we are transm ysrifie into mile maidenhead into a kind of Amazonium 1825 KIRBY & SP. *Ent mol* III (1828) I 73 One while a milky fluid should be secreted, at another none

†c With qualifying sb. (cf TIME sb 13 b), as *dinner while, mass while, service while, supper while*, etc ; see also the sbs (sometimes including the idea of duration, as in 1 c) *Obs.* (or *rare arch*)

23 [see MASS sb1 7] 1435 MIRYN *Fire of Love* II x, With desire in meet quhiel to perne 1557 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 148 My lord of Ily d n began the daryg, with ys mynstrell on alle the qu e 1597 HEARD *Heathen Ch Judgeim* (1612) 129 The gouernour of Mayeno, a Mogitian, whom the diuell snatched vp in dinnerwhile a 1667 C. HOOK *Ac Science* (1674) 1 *Inter coenandum*, at supper while 1866 BROWNING *Ring & Bk* I 311 Be it but a straw twist work and wheeling while

d. In exclamations of grief : cf. similar use of *day, time*. Chiefly *poet.* *Obs* or *arch.*

c 1400 *Live Compl Bl Nat* 844 Ihis is the cold that wolde the fyr abate Of trewe meninge, alas ! the harde while ! c 1440 *York Myst* xx 34 Ih swe shulde haue alle weilthe in walde, wa worthe while ! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI viii 77 Alace the quhile ! a 1586 MYTONE *Wise Poems* XVI 25 O ! warysit be the while I that euer we wer so, iuenil ! 1596 SPENSER *Faer Q* II ii 24 O cursed spight the while, a bad world I say 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L* II xv, Woe the while That brought such wanderer to our isle! 1884 — *Talisman* 2 He conceives himself, God help the while, ungratefully treated

e Phr. with pl *At whiles*, at times, sometimes, at intervals *Between* (*letwest* obs. or arch) *whiles* : see BETWEEN WHILES.

[c 1449 PECOCK *Repr* II xx 273 Good and profitable to be had at certein while] 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V x 17 Bot sumtyme we sleip and than, or at vi ules that [etc.]. 1647 *Trapp Comm Ants* II 25 Meanwhile, or, Betwixt whiles. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery* II (1746) 61 A sort of dark rung (as it were) of waves and betwen whiles a norse like that of thunder 1802 MRS RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blmt* VIII 1806 Ill be To drive away the gloom, that at times while hung upon his brow 1865 WHITEHURN *Chesterlaid* II 1 66 To think what grievous fear I have twixt whiles Of what may happen

**While** (hwail), *adv.* (*adj* ), *conj* (*prep*) Forms: 1-3 **hwile**, from c 1300 onwards as in WHILE *sb* ; also 4 quel, 5 whele, 8c quhel, 6 whel, 8 wile, 9 *dial.* whell, 6 vhol, 9 *dial.* wol(l. [As adv., OE *hwile*, accus. of *hwil* WHILE *sb* , as conj., abbreviation of OL phr *þā hwile þe*, ME *þe while þat* = ' during the time that ' (see WHILE *sb* 2 a), = OHG, *dia wila* (*unz*) so long as (MHG, *die wile* (*wile*), G *dieweil* while, because), Du. *dewijl* , similar abbreviation has given G. *weil* because, Du. *wijl*, NFris *wil*

In senses A 1 and 2, ME *while* may be in some texts a reduced form of *whilen*, WHILOM ]

**A** *adv* (*adj* )

†1. At a time or times, sometimes, *esp* introducing each of two or more parallel phrases or clauses : At one time .. at another time ; now .. then : = WHILOM 1 *Obs*

a 1000 *Hymns* III 44 5 (Gr) Hwile mid weorce, hwile mid words, hwile mid gebohte þearle ucyldi c 1175 *Lamb Hom* 133 Ure heland sawed ha halse word hwile þurh his agene muðe and hwile þurh here apostlene muðe c 1200 *Trin C ll Hom* 209 Ieien bihelden hat he ne sholden wile edel, wile unnut, wile idel a 1300 *Cursor M* 7433 (Gött) Wil gleu, and quil sit sang, Pu ha serued saul lang 1305 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 338 For knawlage off mony straits May quhile full mony gain c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* (Royal MS) I Prol 32 For Romanys to rede is delytabyle, Suppose that thai be quhyle bot fable c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 601 Quhill wnd I he thank to fulfi hyr our the lauff, And othir quhile he thank me to the contrar 1580 & 1658 A SCOTT *Poems* (S T S) XXII 24 Lufe sall bum bald With the dungeoun of dispair, Quhyle heit, quhyle cald 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas Judith* V 31 While ye be lifts his head, while lets it fall 1638 J HAYWARD tr *Biondi's Eromena* 184 The intellect (fixing it selfe, while on one, and while on another won der of matter and workemanship).

†2 At one time, formerly, once = WHILOM 2 c 1000 *Deor's Concpl* 36 (Gr) Ic he me sylfum secgan wille, þæt ic hwile wæs Heodenings scop. c 1175 *Lamb Hom* 17 Ne do ic þa men noht unrecnin nuet wes me dude hwile 1180 *Owl & Night* 1016 þeş ma god man to hom come, so wile dude sum from rome c 1305 *St Andrew* 29 in *L L* 7 (1869) 99 Pe gywes while nome And slowe him as he wolde was. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 2580 þat god of mige Hwich of maris pat may de brigt while tok flechs & blode. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* I Prol 15 I haf nat set haly bare delicit Gestis or storys for to write, As Gwydo de Calumpas quhile.

†b. *as adv.* That formerly existed, occurred, etc ; former, ' late ' : = UMQUHILE B, WHILOM 2 b

1390 LANGL. *Rich Redeles* III 363 Pey were ydubbed etc ; & nulle ben while wi ll ha stryg & stalke 1400 WYNTOUN *Cron* II viii 756 For honoure of his mody r quhile.

†3. For a or the time, temporarily ; at the same time meanwhile. (See also THEREWHILE.) *Obs. rare.*

1390 *Gower Conf* III 61 Pan Medea, which was wel preve the third penny quhyle he hid, Quhilk for the tyme no fruit n r proff it did. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w Dunbar* 418 Pocas le cpe with a pardoun I call Sarkis, And ordre myche quhyle wt ill thi wyfe to gidder 1648 *Hamilton Lett* I xi x (1090) 210 Youis while J Howell

**B** *conj.* (or in *conj phr*) and *prep*

1. *While (that)* : during the time that. (Now expressed by *while* alone cf. THAT *conj* 7.)

Often used in reference to a more precise time word or phrase, e g *while a while, while it rest, while an instant*.

1154 *O T Chron* (Laud MS) an 1137 Det lastede þa xix wintre wile Stephne was king c 1200 ORMIN 193 Whil wass he cpe cwenn Pa wass he himm att home c 1275 *Lay* 1483 Pat wes wile brute wile þat we libbede [c 22 5 þa while þa we liuuen] 13 *Cursor M* 6088 (Gött) Ne hones nogh quile he stand 1340 *Ayenb* 111 *Wile Palerne* 2532 While men hunted after hem þru hann a was schaped c 1400 *Pilgr Sowle* (Caxton) II lxii (1859) 55 While ih thou and I were coupled togidre in mariage we bende is ful stedefsty fyl 1523 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I v 72 Quhill that of Troy Ilion stude the ting 1599 SHAKS *Hen I* 1 ii 178 While this hive flourish, & doth fight abroad, Thi' adopted heir I defends it selfe at home 1611 SIR W MORE *Misc Poems* II 67 Quhil in this weak estait all menses I soght lo be aweng d on him 1667 MILTON *P L* IV 977 While thus he spake, the fervent Angels stood Intent 1678 *Marvell Poems* 30 P 6 While we were sitting together talking of old stories, John entered 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* V. 666 Cotton, who visited while imprisoned, was on the 1 exchange 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* XV, While he was laughing the door opened

b. With specif reference (*a*) to the extent of the time ; During the whole, or until the end, of the time that, as long as (see also 2 a) ; (*b*) to the limits of the time Within, or before the end of the time that.

(*a*) c 1230 *Hali Meid* 6 He wule cwite for hire hwil ha hit hued hem c 1300 *Havelok* 301 Dyllet hem wit pine bones Hauere more hwil i mai c 1400 *Wars Alex* 2255 I fit worth sall to wy my be world standes. 1480 YONGE tr *S Cr Sec* 161 While an hooke is a yonge spyre, hit may be wonde into a spyre 1500 *Complaynt Scotl* (1872) 13 While whyte þey ben skepyr 1540 *Pr wp Parl* 74/2 Chylde, why le hyr can not spoke, *prefixe* 1599 MORE *Dialogue* I xv 20 b, I shall now but repeate, while I liue, the same 1611 SHAKS *Cymb* III iii. 120 While thou lin st keepe a good tongue in thy head 1706 PHILLIPS *Quote Queen* xix Nought done the Hero doeth, while ought undone remaind 1742 FIELDING *Y Andrews* I xiii, While I have breath in my body 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I 348 Peiiod 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXIII The confidence of this house as not to be shaken while I have eyes and ears

(*b*) c 1230 *Hali Meid* 7 Ne her to buleng, ne her to wunni, Hwil hi hali bodi were on liue 1393 LANGL *P Pl* C XI 287 Whil how art 3ong and 3epi, and by wepne kene, Awreke pe of wronges pat pe were wi3t 1 *Percival* (Weber) V 2570, I will be here makyth amendes for your mys ded ys c 1450 *Mankind* 731 in *Macro Plays* 4 Lett we be mery wyll we be here! c 1550 LYNDSAY *Tragedie* 331 Amend your lyfe now, quhill thair day lestis 1560 DAVIDSON *Lett Geneva* 263 See him betimes to School While yet his youth is flexible and green 1885 J HOOK *Sayings* ser II *Passion & Prose* xx. 241 Let me have a few words to you while step down to the Lower, while you are there, you might just go to the London Docks 1886 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* III 103 While the parliament be [for England] ever had, she won while her fields were green and her fales ruddy

†c Without necessarily implying duration : At the time that ; when *Obs.*

a 1300 *Fragm Pop Sci* (Wright) 62 As me mai the mone i see while heo is nue mid ; c 1330 *Cast Love* (Heil) 423 For in tyme whil he fre was, He hede with him bothe Merci and Pes a 1425 *Cursor M* 15161 (Trin) Whil 3e no me kuse him Leye hondes on him alther 1477 *Revel of Bk Cupar Angus* (1879) I 209 We half grantyt ; to the forsaid Patoun and Jonat the tak of Rechy Jak quhel it ma vake

d. During which time ; and meanwhile.

c 1400 *Warres of the Jewes* in *Wanton Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1774) I x 311 In Tyberyus tyme the trewe emperour Syr Sesar hym self sayssed in Rome Whyle Pylot was provost under that pryme ryche. 1897 DAVIDSON *Prey. Georg* IV. 804 Thus have I sung of Fields, and Flocks, and Trees While mighty Cæsar, thund ring from afar, Seeks on Euphrates Banks the Spoils of War 1906 GEORGE *Water W* vi, Moses sate reading, while I taught the little ones 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I 242 He paus d, while her eyes Follow d his steps 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Among* 79 Mr Monsigmeme said whilst gallant things to me, while the girls looked shocked

2 *transf.* with various connotations a As long as, so long as (implying ' provided that ', ' if only '). 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 60 That myelt succed on female, Quhill foundyn mycht be ony male c 1400 *Apol Lollt* 24 þe kirk may not stonth prue þe comynng of cristun men, nor taking of þe sacraments wyle he is not 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* V xlvii § 4 Neither lodgeth one more nor lesse assurance as long as we see kept vnder with the sense of our owne wretchednes nor, while we trust in the mercie of God through Christ Iesus, feare be able to tyrannize ouer vs 1849 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* I 147 The encroachments of the ecclesiastical power produced much more happiness than misery while the ecclesiastical power was in the hands of the only class that had studied history

b. At the same time that (implying opposition or contrast), *adversatively*, when on the contrary or on the other hand, whereas, *concessively*, it being granted that ; sometimes nearly = although. 1588 SHAKS *L L L* I ii 74 Honesty to exact vpon Bookc, To seeke the light of truth, while truth the while Doth falsely blinde the eye sight of his looke 1697 SIR W HUNT *Misc Poems* XXI 73 With others mine at greatnes bought with blood Not to be purchas d, while they buy be good 1668 STILLINGFL *Orig Sa* VIII 1 § 7 While they deny a Deity, they assert other things on far less reason 1719 WATTS *Pr* XXIII, There would I find a settled Rest, (While others go and come) 1749 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I 1 § 73 While it is diligently thought to be the most uncompounded of all Colours, which it really is, it really contain a certain Proportion of the Seven primary Colours 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz* I x 608 While the object of the people was to free themselves from the yoke, the object of the nobles was merely to find new sources of taxation 1864 BRYCE *Hy Rom Empy* V (1875) 52 In rude and unsettled states of society men respect forms and of ey facts, while careless of rules and principles. 1876 — *Amer Commonw* II 52 While rejecting the sorrow which had fallen upon him Mrs Cuthbert was nevertheless glad that her brother was free

c In modern colourless use : At the same time that, besides that, in addition to the fact that, often = and at the same time, and besides.

[1750 SHENSTONE *Ode Rural Elog* 161 There, while the seeds of future blossoms dwell, 'tis colour d for the sight, perfum d to please the smell ] 1860 I WENTHAL *Morphy's Game Chess* 165 A very good reason for which is, that while the Queen into a more attacking position, it at the same time defends White's Queen's Pawn 1904 *Times* 25 May 3/6 The walls were decorated with white panelling, while the frieze and ceiling are in modelled plaster

3. (+ Also with *that, at*) Up to the time that ; till, until Now *dial* (chiefly *north* )

Often with reference to place, etc ; *while it come to* = as far as, up to

13 *Seuyn Sages* (W) 1644 Dwelle thou, wil ich arisen be 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV 703 Man is in to dreding of things to cum, quhill he Hue and dee 1449 *Mumm de Melros* (Bann Club) 502 pe quhilks li dentours pe forsaid Nychole hns delyuerit till pe said abbot and Convent quhile at pai be fullelik assoylzit of pe said fowrty pund c 1490 *Liber Coc rum* (1862) 46 Fyrst sethe py mustuls quyl shel of lepe In water c 1560 *Battle of Otter burn* liv (Child) *Ballads* VI 190 Quhill I haue twa sonnis I shall thief they swette c 1580 HENRYSON *Idulf Sert* 40 Io fecht with him Quhill ane wer dungin down 1596 SHAKS *Tam Shr* I ii 68 *Padua here I* tarry bid me 1598 *Barckley Felic Married* (1618) 22 Nor can I be perswaded that they swette c 1680

asswage, whilesse his dayes endureth. 1786 *Hart's Rid* (1801) xli, But now whilesa the show'r does last, 'Tis no thought proper they shud fast 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad* xxv 79 Whilesa I speak

**†b** = 2 b *Obs. rare*

1685 Hart *Anat Ur* I ii 13 The chiefe part of Physicke diagnosticke is neglected, while as the ordinary sort of Physitians do onely labour to know the nature of the disease by the indication of the vrine 1846 R Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) 58 To Christ they give but one nature, while as all Divines since his Incarnation give him two

**C** Combinations (*rare*) + **while-being** *a* temporary, or temporal, **while-ever** (**whilever**) *conj.* [see Ever *adv* 8 c, for the abbreviated spelling of *whe'ever*], as long as.

1674 N Fairfax *Bulk & Selv* 40 This time lasting World, and every while being thing in it 1776 *Ann Reg., Hist Anr* 73/1 He solemnly declared, that while ever he sate in that house he would not endure such language 1898 *Jas* Thomson *Pleasure of Love* 19 She had had her husband's love, And would have more whilever she was alive

**While,** *v.* [? While *sb.*

A new formation, having no continuity with early ME I while(n to have) leasure, or communion with the continental forms OHG *wilōn*(MHG *wilen* G *weilen* to stay, linger), ON *hvīla* (*sw hvīla, Dan hvile*) to rest, Goth *hveilan* to pause, cease (cf While *sb.*, while *adv.*)

**†1.** *trans.* To occupy or engage (a person) for a time, or for the time; to fill up the time of. *Obs.*

1606 Dr Hall *Medit & Vows* ii 888 Hee findes not any worthy employment to while himselfe withall 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* iii 81 502 Here still Lebanon, thicke Woods, and vvritsin of the Cuntri ont observations, haue thus long whiled vs. *a* 1659 Osborn *Misc* Pref B 8, The First Cause of these projection: being rather, for the intent to While my Selfe, then Busie others

**†2** with *it.* To keep it up 'stick it out' *Obs.*

*a* 1617 Bayne *Lect* (1634) 119 They are poore not brought up to it, not able to while it, wife and children might beggar, [etc]

**3** To cause (time) to pass without wearisomeness; to pass or get through (a vacant time), esp. by some idle or trivial occupation. Also, to divert the attention from, beguile' (sorrow, pain). Usually, now almost always, with *away*.

Possibly developed from sense 1 by transference of the object from the person to the time Association with such phr as *bear the day, night, hour, time, spend, drive, consume, a trompeur le temps*, has led to the substitution of While for by some modern writers

1638 Quarles *Emblems* iii xii 34 Nor do I beg this slender inch to while like time away, or falsly to beguile My thoughts with joy *a* 1644 — *S f Record* solil ii 36 And like a pain afflicted stripling, play With some new Toy, to while (thy grief away 1706 Hearne *Collect Parthiles* (ed 3) I 1 17 This use who frequent our Religious Assemblies to while away the time in the less useless upon their Hands. 1726 Pope *Let to Bolkeley* Aug Let us while away this life, and (if we can) meet in another 1769 Wesley *Wks* (1872) XII 374 here will be a danger like unto that of whiling away time. 1795 Mrs D Arblay *Camilla* iv 111, such slang-resources as pedigree to while away the hour 1800 Pr Ce *Ancod Ency, Fang* (1814) 229 To while away an hour in the manner of passing this Disquisition 1807 W Irving *Salmag* No 13 (1824) II 75 I have none of the mental gloom which used to while away the cheerful exercise of our pen 1810 Malkin *Gil Blas* xii viii (Rtldg) 434 A delightful residence, where he whiled away three weeks 1811 Byron *Lett* (1899) I 220, I have all my faculties and while the time along 1820 Di kens *Oli C Shop* ix, When she left her own little room to while away the tedious hours 1886 *Mrs Oliphant Sir Tristram* I 1 Nothing was nothing for the young traveller to while the time with

**b** *intr* Of time To pass tediously. Now *dial*

1731 [see Whiling *ppl a*] 1896 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 106 All that year and the next year whiled, And I still went thitherward

**†4** *While off* to put (a person) off for the time

1646 J Lockyer *Sermon* 31 If you cast them off too, when they have spent all for you, or else (as I said) while them off, when they tell you, Sir, this is our last meale in the barrell [etc.]

**While,** obs f Wherl, Whyle

**While-a-** sec. Whyl- *conj* 4

**+ Whileneal,** *adv* In 4 **whilmele.** [f While *sb* + -meal.] Usual to render L *interdum* by turns.

1382 Wyclif *1 Kings* iv 14 Ten thousand bi echis monesh whilmele [1388 bi whiles]

**Whilen,** obs form of Whilom.

**+ Whilend,** *a. Obs* [OE *hwillende*, rare var. of *hwilwende* (cf. Whilwendlic), f. *hwil* While *sb.* + *-wend* to turn, Wend *v*] Temporary.

*a* 1093 *Liber Scintill* ix (1889) 49 Hinna to bonne hwilendre mihtan diedbote becuman *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 7 Peos world is whilende and ontiul and swikle lene *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 182 Vorte beon martirs stinug, burah a wilindle [*v r* hwilende] wo *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 35 For pat hwilende [*v r.* hwilende] lust *a* 1250 *O & Nic* 94 Pis world fareb hwilende hwenne on ufenes an oder gob

**†Whileness** *Obs rare.* [Abnormally f. While *sb* + -ness.] Used to render L. *vacuitstudio* in senses (*a*) = Turn *sb* 23 (cf While *sb* 3 a, 5 b); (*b*) change, variation

1328 Wyclif *Tool* iii 4, Y shal pesible the whileness to you on your hed — *Yanues* i 19 The fulle of lyus, anentus whom is not ouerchaungynge, nether schadewing of while ness, or tyme

**Whilere** (hwɪl,ēə'), *adv arch.* [Orig two words, While *adv* a and Ere, for the abbreviated spelling of *wherere*.] A while before; some time ago = Erewhile.

*a* 1000 *Judith* 214 Þa he hwilu ær eldeodiges ord bolcdon.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Can Yeom Prol* 4 T 775 Helpeth me now as a dede vow ich ere 1 ere 1418 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince* 1317 Whyl er, my sone, tolde I naght to þe What habundance in youth I hadde of good *c* 1460 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 337 Son, take by knyfe as y taught be whilere, Kut brawne fro be dusche 1518 in Bk Institute 1890 Spenser *F Q* I ix 28 That cursed wight, from whom I scapt whylere 1610 Shake *Temp* III ii 137 Will you troule the Catch You taught me but whilere? 1630 Milton *Circumcision* 10 He who with all Heavn s heraldry whilere Entter d the world, now bleeds to give us ease *a* 1632 Brome *Wrestling of Jacob Garden* 1 Marke how he stands as if he had learnt a posture at Knightsbridge spittle as we came along while-eare 1767 Mickle *Concub* 1 11 Melodious Mails ! when, full oft whylere, Thy gliding Murmurs sooth'd the gentle Brest Of hapless Spenser 1808 Scott *Marmion* v Introd 130 My harp, Whose Anglo Norman tones whilere Could win the royal Henry's ear 1884 J Payn *Talk of Town Arabel* I 221 How joyous and how solaceful was life in them whilere!

**Whiles** (hwɪlz), *sb* (advb gen.), *conj* (*prep.*), *adv.* Obs or *arch* forms 3 hwiles, 3–4 wiles, 4–5 whils, whylys, whilis, while, 4–6 whyls, 4–8 whyles, 5 whiles, whilys, whylis, whyllys, wilis, wylys, whilis, (whels), 5–6 whilse, 6 whylse, 4– whiles, 3–4 quiles, 4 quyles, quilis, quylis, qwylys, quils, qwhylles, *Sc.* quhilles, 4–6 *Sc* quhillis, 6 *Sc.* quhillis, quhylis, quhyles, quhyls, 7–8 *Sc.* quhiles [orig. in advb. and conj phr, as *sumewhiles* formerly, *oberwhiles* at times, *perhwiles* while, meanwhile, formed with advb *-s* on *sumwhile, oberwile, perhwile* (see Sobriquet); (cf. Whilom, Whilere); the analogous type were modelled the expressions *þis* or *þat quiles, to quiles, long whiles, a (good) whiles*, etc and the simple conj *whiles*]

I. **+1.** Preceded by a demonstrative adj., indefinite article, or other qualifying word, forming advb phrases e.g *that whiles, at* or during that time, *long whiles*, for a long while, etc *Obs.*

*c* 1230 *Cursor M* 5393 (C 11) Pat quen he bar a new kuing *Ibid* 5721 Pis quilis [*Trin* alle þat quilis] was in israel pe folk ledd in mikil vnweie *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 10298 In pat lond ar scali tea—In pis lond dwelte i wel a-wis In *c* 1400 *Destr of Troy* 1 1 Pat wright it sepe esyli, a good whylys *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 9832 Thanne schal neuere king Arthewr his lond in pes thanne non whyllys [Skeat] 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I *Prol* 47 Quhilis ane ald man 1846) 254 In the meane whiles 1904 R Ashley tr *Loys le Roy* 85 b, It endured but a whiles 1609 J Carpenter *Planet Apology* 233 Ye haue beene as sheepe going a great whiles astray 1633 Prynne *Histrio-m* I 59 All which, if our Actors would but a whiles consider (sec I Pet II 2) Sermon *Amos Mcp* II 91 Where God one whiles inuaunts him elf into the conscience in the language of a familiar Friend, another while reclaims it with the indignation of an incensed Judge 1654 Gayton *Pleas Notes* III 111 233 For what is Wanton'nesse at all this whiles I say, except my selfe, one in those lies

**2** *The whiles*, advb. and conj phr = *the while*, While *sb* 2 a, b + Also (rarely) *in whiles as conj.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1 It at he spek he was nan To hald it pat leue maidun 13 *Hali* 1299 (C 11) Bot euer pe quiles pat he [*C* hi] wright, pe folc to preche forgat he noght 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II 433 The king the quhile Red to Kilmarnock off werthi Fermbrace 14 *Northern Passion* 430 (Comb Ir 4 q) Here 3e schulle me A byde pe qwyles (*v r* to whyls, whyll) I go here be aside 1540 *Ord Crysten Man* (R) 1 b We ought well take vp and downe the whyles 1583 Stocker *Civ Hist es L Mc* C iv 4 b, All suche pointes, as then could iustly finde them selues agreeued, did in whiles le gouerned, diminished 1599 Shakes *F Q* II vii 62 The whiles my hands I washt in purple, The whiles my soule was soyld with foule iniquitie 1603 Knolles *Hist Turks* (1621) 1 xii 21 Paulus all the whiles was the prompter of the e cruell enterludes. 1632 Holland *Cyropædia* 144 Perceiuing draught beasts to draw other things, and feeding the whiles 1795 Coleridge *Lett* (1895) I 111 (1797) 11 Thy Husband is now refulgent with elastic steel The whiles he wins his whistling way 1808 Scott *Marmion* v xiii, Ely feasted Ti e whiles A Northern Earl rude Cheer did united a rhime of deadly feud

**+3.** *To whiles*, advb and conj phr. = 2. Also as conj, to the time that, until *Obs*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1729 At to quils pat [noe] sa wroght he folk to preche for gaste he ought *Ibid* 3889 To quils I be lya in bedd, Pan kith þam all pan rachel wordd *Ibid* 4923 Pan war naa breper praund til pe thrid morn, To quils sent toseph pe seype Man pat he vnnas for to kepe 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1580) 210 Nou schalle I be bestes telle, The whils Sir Edward had seised alle Pueshum 1357 *Lay le Bas Catech* (T) 139 To whiles that he hede las in the grwue, The soule with the godhede went until hell *a* 1400 *R Carmel's Chr in Wace* (Rolls) 2645 Pe while [*Petyt MS* lowhils] per fader was on lyue For þe royalme gon pey to stryue *c* 1400 *Destr of Troy* 4 Pat sorye, I dur sow hight, To lyue hem her or the thrid nyght; Towhils efter yowr kow nayil send

**II 4** *conj.* = While *conj* 1, also with *that, þat*

*c* 1200 *Bestiary* 256 in *O E Misc* 8 Dis se tiled8ar, wiles he time haueb *c* 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 180 in *Hali Meid* and day hwiles pat we libbe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1813 For quils pat godd bam raght his grace, I ittel roght I am of his mani mode *Ibid* 1 Als lang als pou sal wonn in pis world *Morte Arth* 651 Thies ware the cheefe armes Of Arthure quhylles he in erde beganne *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4017 Whels he lengyd in pat royall cyte ne Full long tyme with hir he was *c* 1465 *Chaty Chast* xxxvii, Pyghte ye, my myrry men whyllys ye may 1546 Lindale *Matt v* 25 Agre with thine aduersary at once, whiles thou arte in the waye with him 1551 Turner *Herbal* Pref A 3 b, He that whilse other men feight, standeth in the top of a tre 1592 *Satir Poems Reform* xxviii 108 Thir vertewis all scho had, quhyls scho wauld saw Of Gods Precise 1593 Shakes *3 Hen VI*, i 39 The Tyger will be milde, whiles she doth mourne 1633 Prynne *Histrio-m* i Ep Ded, The pressing importunity drew me whiles I was yet a novice *c* 1648 Dr w *Closet Opened* (1669) 256 No longer then whiles you can say the Mrorere Psalm very leisurely. 1796 Mrs Calderwood in *Colmers Collect* (Maitland Club) 389 Whiles Mr Calderwood went through the colledge with the fathers, Daniel attended me 1898 Morris *Il eland Raver* 230, I pray you, nurse tend me, my knight, Whiles that I have my breath

**+b** *transf.* = While *conj* 2 *Obs*

1551 Turner *Herbal* I Prol A iij b, For now (say they) euery man with out any study will become a Phisician Whiles by occasyon of thys boke, euery man, nye euery old wyfe will presume not with out the mordre of many, to practyse Physick 1580 Lyly *Retentive, Discov Dang Rock* xii 198 Whiles the e sale will vse a prerogatiue of Peter, the other will beare a Bishoplike office in the Apostles 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 1 71 Whiles Gallienus gave himselfe over to riotousnesse the State of Rome lay dis membred as it were. 1662 J Wynne *Let to Sir W Coventry* 2 Oct, Sir William D Osly and my self have near ten thou sand upon our cares whiles there seems t a lin no care of us

**+5** *conj* and *prep.* Till, until While *conj* 3

1398 *Maunde. de Mediev* (Bodleian) ne Cl 189 a, Ne he haldene qwhiles pt satisfactioun und pvyent ent be made *a* 1400 *Pistill of Swete* 177 Whiles pe M rwen to Mudlal and I mare. *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3198 Pare he bade whils he ware deede 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 259 Whyles the neste mityns 1545 Ascham *Toxoph* 1 33 b I chide 1600 as vpside a table of tables that be painted in poetes, as wolde holde vs talking whyles to morowe 1601 Shake *Twel N* iv iii 29 He shall concealе it Whiles you are willing it shall come to note

**6** *adv* + a. Formerly

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxvii (*Venerosus*) 3 Pis name vincentius to sas Is man pat ourcumys as Assuncie vincent quhilis dede 11 rais his sentence 1573 *Satir Poems Reform* xli 94 That Bugill thair the 3e hard blaw, With quhome quhyles 3e wer small content

**b** Sometimes = While *adv* 1 Chiefly *Sc.*

The most use appr rehended in the pl of Whiles and Whyles

*c* 1480 Henryson *Tua Mirs* 9 Quhyls vnder lok quhyls vnder breir, Quhyls in the corne *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* 1 356 Sale thereis ay to euerie kinde no I staid Quhyls I 10, quhyles fra *a* 1568 Pitscottie *Chron Scot* (Arb) 103 Irish inwhines and Scottis pas do ane and know full well 1582 R Bailie in *Laudes tale Inquis* (Camden 1864) 136 My hert whiles is lichtsome 1724 Pour tainhale in M P Brown *Sytes Dict Devon* (1890) II 460 She took whiles fits of distraction 1889 Brockett *N C Glost* (ed 3) 2 Whiles I'm a-bed whiles I'm up 1892 Ellis *Yorks Dar Occas* (1868) 42 Keen regret and tearful yearning. Whiles unfelt, and whiles returning 1886 Stevenson *Kid napped* xxvi, So we lay whiles whispering, whiles lying still

**Whilest,** obs. form of Whilst

**Whiling** (hwai ling), *ppl a* [f While *v.* + ing 2.] Of time Passing tediously, tedious see While 2 3 b

1728 Steele *Spect* No 448 P 1 The whiling time the gathering together, and waiting a little bef re Dinner, is the most awkw idly passed away of any I art in the f and twenty hours *Ibid* 522 P 1 To pass away the whiling Moments and Intervals of Life

**Whilk** (hwilk) [? Local name for the scoter, a species of wild duck

*a* 1703 Ray *Syn Animals* (1713) 138 *Anser nigra minor*, The While dictus meante Brums primum a tveniens (Hence in later books)

**Whilk,** var Which, dial f Which

**Whill,** obs form of While

**Whilleloo** (hwi lalu) *dial* Also 8 whilly loo, 9 whillaluh, whillilu, whillilew, whilla lew [Ir *millelugh* Cf Ulul.] A cry or song of lamentation, an outcry, uproar, hubbub

1700 Jas Fisher *Poems* 40 While keeping now I set wakes in a greeting eye, An whilly lu 1800 Maria Edgworth *Castle Ankerel* I ales 183 I 5 Then such a fine Whillaluh I you might have heard it to the farthest end of the county *Ibid* 184 Such a deelin ya, I ne'r the Ulloloo in Ireland 1820 Hogg *Winter Even Tales* I 160 What a whillaluh is this, The keep sta trilling at? 1841 Lever *O Malley* Introd, And sure I am I shall follow myself

**While, -ll(e)s, -llest, -llom(e, -llon,** obs ff. While, Whiles, Whilst, Whilom

**Whilly** (hwi li) *v Sc* [?Short for Whillywha *v*.] *trans.* — Whillawha *v.*

1721 Ramsay *Addr to Town-Guard Edin* 10 They The honest lieges in bailly wants — *Scr Poems* (1790) 92 Wive men may be whilly d wi wiles 1820 Scott *Abbot* xvi, These baptized ni ls whilled the old women out of their corn and their candle ends

**Whillywha** (hwi lihwā), *sb Sc.* Also -whaw, -whaa, -wa, whilli(e)wha, whullywha [Of obscure origin]

1 A wheedling or insinuating person; a flattering deceiver Also *attrib*

*c* 1680 [? Semple] *Banishm Poverty* in Watson *Coll Sc Poems* (1706) I 22 We live on our Money, Nor Wully-whaa to grip our Gear 1714 Ramsay *Elegy on Cowper* v He gather d Gear and left it a l Miss be to some and Whillywhaw O fremit Blood 1824 Scott *Surf gauntlet* ch xii He's a wully whaa by nature I'm plaus ible tongue of his own 1890 Service *A tund ems* xix, Only wully-wha an Englisher

2 Wheedling speech, flattery, cajolery

1816 Scott *Old Mort* x I wish ye l inna beginning to learn the way of blawing in a w l s lug wi' a your wully wha s 1843 Blackwood *Gherkinetz's Wallet* x. 225 'Gae wa wi' your wullywhaws, said Wandy.

**Willywha,** *v Sc.* [see prec] *trans.* To take in or persuade by flattery, to wheedle, coax, cajole

1816 Scott *Old Mort* xl, He canna whillywha me as he has du se many a one 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, The fower lads tried to whillywha him to be quiet.

**Whilmele, -nesse** : see WHILEMEAL, -NESS.

**Whilom** (hwai ləm), *adv.* (*adj.*), *conj.* Forms: 1 hwilum, -on, -an, -un, wilum, 3 (*Orm.*) whilumm, hwilem, (h)wylem, hwylen, 3wilene, wilen, 3–4 whilen, 4 whylon, (whilhom), 4–5 whilum, 4–6 whylome, 4–7 whylom, 5 whylum, whilene, 6 whilon, (S. whylome), 7 *Sc.* whillome, 8 whillom, 4– whilome, whilom, 3 4 quilum, 4 *Sc.* qwhilom, 4–5 *Sc.* quhilum, 4–6 *Sc.* quhilum, quhylum, 5 *Sc.* qwhilum, qwhylum, qwylum, 6 quilome. [Ob. *hwilum*, later *-on*, *-an*, = OS *hwilon* at times (MDu., MLG *wilen* formerly, Du *weylen* late = decanseel), OHG. *hwîlôm*, *-on* (MHG *wilen*, *wilent*, G. *weilend* formerly) dat. pl. of WHILE *sb.*]

**A** *adv.* (*adj*)

†**1** At times: = WHILE *adv.* 1, WHILES 6 b. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *O. T. Heart-text* 7 July 3 mib twegen dagas, hwilum ymb þry, hwilum efter sahe mucum *a* 1000 *Judith Heliand* xxiii 53 Hwilum ceure's cit on uprodor xibeorhtes lex, le lit lives. 1388 him behindun heiig hrusan del, þenh hit hwilu ær eorðe su ceriche or mane wæs *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25160 Par es resun qui vr bon i a night granted us quilum sun. *c* 1380 *Wyclif Sermons* 1788 Whilum þei went on alle four & whan þei were wex þei went vp vpriȝt. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1245 That tultine to gedere Whilome Arthoure ouer, and other while vndyre ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 353 in *Wallace Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) 243 A ti quhylum he wil still in ane studeying. And quhylum on his buke he was reyding *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* xlii 24 Hie whylome love, and it will folou thee

**2** At some post time, at some time before or ago; once upon a time = WHILE *adv.* 2, WHILES 6a. *arch*

*c* 1200 ORMIN 4808 Ure Laferrd Crist þatt summe kinnessell Usc saff heroffe bisne, Þatt þar he sezzhe hinnm self whilumm Purrh hiss prophetes sawe *c* 1205 LAY. 2863 Þa was hit swa'ne sen þat Merlin se de wlisc *a* 1250 *Ancr. Riwle* (*Nero C. iv*) 27 Hi offrede Stor, þat me offrede whilum þe þridde lagi o to heie godes sacrifise *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 Io a mitle ges do yure right na wiuke, I or quilum war yee seluen alike *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 1 Whilom as olde stories tellen vs Ther was a duc þat highte Theseus. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol 32 As Orosius qwhilum wrate 1513 BRADSHAW *St Werburge* 21 2021 Auncient poetes Whilom flouryng in eloquence fecundious 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* iv 66 Oyntments Thwaru the queene the which whilom she cunning Chyron taught To Esculape 1586 STANIHURST *Æneis* iii (Arb.) 72 Thus Polydor whilom Looking Iericius was sent 1596 EARL MORAY in *Buccleuch's Adair's Journals* II 82 (1650) 213 The whil me powerfull Kingdom of Hungary 1688 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 35 The Lute I whilom strung 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x viii The squire began to roar forth the name of Sophia so lustily as whilome did Hercules that of Hylas 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* x iv xi Whe e oft whilom were captives pent 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 1 10 The wistful eyes which whilom glanced down upon the sweet clover fields

**b** as *adj* That existed, or was such, at a former time; former; † of a person, 'late', deceased (*obs.*): = WHILE *adv.* 2 b *arch.*

1452–10 Tyller *Hist Scot* (1864) II 367 All them that had arte or pute of the Kingis of quhylum Willie, Davie, kyrth of Dundas, my br other 1588 A. HALL *Iliad* iv 70 Thy whilome sire neuer could in mortal wise *a* 1637 SIR W. MURE *Misc Wks* (S. T. S.) II 149 Thus seeing her the wife to whilome Sr Adame Mure 1837 CARLYLE *Fr Rev* III v xii Some of Dupet a whilom Medical man 1868 G. DUFF *Pol Sayer* 151 Hence that wily gentleman the Spanish Crown 1888 DAVIE *Amer Common* lxxvii. III 17 When superstition and the blist of submission have vanished from the whilome subjects.

†**3** At a future time, some time; in future = *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17734 Quilum sal þe ilk barn Be to sum men in uprising, Til oper sum in don falling 1513 BRADSHAW *St Werburge* 1 Herfore I purpose All suche yglerous whylom to refuse

**B** *conj.* = WHILE *conj.* 1, 3. *dial*

1616 R. C. *Tonses' Whistle*, etc 121 A man Wch whom his father held much conversation Whilome he livde 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 51 Whilome the Jews, the King has his Subjects grests, Whilome the Scepter and the Plough staffe meets 1834 MISS BAKER *Northampt Gloss., Whilom*, whilst, during which time = They whilom I come '

¶ A hermit uses. *Of whilom* for some time past. So *this whilom.*

1619 FLETCHER *Mons Thomas* iv 11, This mony I do give ye because of whilom You have been thought my son *c* 1620 ? BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 72, I wot not, what intimes is come to pass, In mes that whilome who m straglerly was.

Hence [with *-s*, after WHILES] †**Whilomes** *adv. Sc. Obs* (5 quhillumys, 6 quhylum(m)is, quhylomis, cf. WFris. *wilmis*), at times, sometimes.

*a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam* 219 Gif quhillumys plesand iocularos, Fenge þe þir fantwy to here *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 508 In þe bark of ane bowrtrie, quhyllumis they bed it 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 1. 69 Whilomis they tested, an' sometimes they plisit.

**Whilse**, obs. form of WHILES

**Whilst** (hwailst), *adv., conj* (*prep*) Forms: 4 quilest, -ist, quylest, -ist, 5 qwhilste, whylst, 5–6 whylest, 6 whillest, whylyst, wylst, *Sc.* quhylest, 6–7 whilest, 7 whil'st, 6– whilst. [f. WHILES + *-t* as in *amongst*, *amidst* ]

**1. a.** In advb phr. *the whilst* (obs. or rare arch.), also (rare) † *to whilst*, *in the whilst*, or as simple adv. *whilst* (obs. exc. dial) During that time, meanwhile Also † *a whilst* for a time.

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 6417 (Fairf) Þe quelest moises helde vp his hende Hit was wele in þe batel kende, for ay to quilest witerly Had godtis folk pe ouer maistri 1595 in *Ellis Orig. Letts* 2nd ser III IV 116, I served a while with the late Erle of Leycester 1601 SHAKS *Twel. N.* IV iii 4 Doe it quickly Ile call sir Toby the whilst 1613 BEAUM & FL. *Coxcomb* Ker. II V, Go run, And tell the Duke: And whilst I sit close her eyes 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Communion Angels* 232 If God would dos all, and men nuj, st keepe the whitest. 1657 H. M. *Jovian Colley* 228 Always, except this in the whilest at the first, I lived four years at Padua *c* 1672 *Rosa Ball* (1868) VI 500 I hough present you be, all the whilst that they stone 1683 *Lord Walpole* (1st ed. 1902) 67 Pray forget not the proposal of Sr. Yours Really whilst F Hice 1829 *Scott Ivanhoe* x, But a small sum ; some thing in hand the whilst 1893 *Jas* PRIOR *Rose* xxi, Why don t you send for the physician whilst ?

**b** *The whilst*, conj phr (also with *that*): During the time that, while, † when *Obs* or *rare arch*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 2966 (Trinf) Þe folk wure ful of pride Þo qui lest he dwelled ham bi side *Ibid* 15461 Þe quilest þat ze ete, ze sal nan lay hande on him. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III (Arb) 79 Thee whilst fayre Phœbus thee yeeres course roundly reuolued 1595 SHAKS. *John* II ii 194, I see the hand of wonder in this thing The whilst Ive Iron did on the Anuile coole 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Ant Will* v 1, Make your mouth, the whilst I bear my misery Shaks. *Merch Ven* N s 2 (1799) II. 237 Each his head Shakes, the whilst his taile is told

**2** *conj.* (†also with *that*) = WHIFF *conj* 1, b, d, WHILES 4

*c* 1375 *Cursor M* 1082 (Fairf) He lused lelly quylst he mon *c* 1400 *Destr Troye* xiii 5496 Quylst I seph regne here His breper in eu pte regrunde were 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II iv 91 Slake frenschip is fenyd, for it may not last but qwhilste hist & profett lydis *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 318 Alle þese ben on the whiche the professoure must lyȝh prouste whylst the letany is in sayngyng after messe 1589 *Rec. Priory Connell Scot* Ser I II 4 The parliament held þerein last 1590 WM. DE LOCHEWY 1879 *Laing Lia thanes* I P 3 b, Whilest that the childe is young, let him be instructed in vertue and hyterture 1598 SHAKS *Merry W.* I i 186 He is wise, and right discreet, well-accompanied, but in honest, ciuill, godly company *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm. Ps xxxii* 6 (1650) 597 Woe unto us, if we seeke him not whilest he affords us these helpes 1635 JACKSON *Creed* viii. 22 During the time of his humiliation here on earth, or whilest hee became hostage for our Redemption 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst Agric* 229 The Trees and Fields whilest they revive Those Lanes whilst I walk in the Country-man sits at home, and enjoys the fruit of his past labours 1703 DR FOE *Hore Ref orm* 12 With lame pretences they revive Those Lanes whilst I walk in Those blush d at whilst shive 1782 FIE I LOWER *Geo Bateman* III 7 All in less time than whilst one could cry—'A good Gentleman 1800 *Br. Critic* XV 1 Whilst I am about a bottle of the Burgundy And I say, I eagle, you may fetch up half a dozen whilst you are about it 1848 THACKERAY *Van Iv* xxvi, But quiet whilst the tempest lasts 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V* c 17 Sched 1 11, Such revocation shall not be made whilst the Bill is pending in either House

†**b** *prep* During *Obs. rare*—1.

1598 SHARP tr *Cattan's Geomancie* 186 Whilest the time that the Parliament Chaules the fift was at Nece .. I was requested to make him a figure.

**3** *transf.* = WHILE *conj* 2 a, b, c.

1548 UDALL, etc *Erasm Par Matt* vi 26 Whilest they include mankinde in regarde here, they be disappointed of that, whiche onelye aught to be desyred 1586 T. B *La Primaud Fr. Acad* I 13 Whilest they [*sc.* the Stoics] granted to mans power such an excellent and divine disposition, they puffed him up in a vain presumption 1590 SHAKS *Com Err* II i 88 His company must do his minions grace, Whil st I at home starue for a merrie looke. *c* 1600 — *Sonn* xxxvii Ile not blame, prouoke, nor dispute, Whilst that this shadow doth such substance giue 1655 FULLER *Ch Hist* I 2 There is a place where thousands of the Elects of God were edified up, whereof the Romanist wondred, whilest the Learned well understood them to be the proper Sacrifices to Diana 1699 GARTH *Dispens* II 90 Purits Tyrants, whilest in place, and Saints when Whilst Iris, his cosmetick Wash, must try, To make her Bloom revive and Lovers dye 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I iii 152 The Knights considered him as the pride and ornament of their order, whilst he, to ingratiate himself the more with them, affected always to boast of that extraction. 1848 THACKERAY *Van Jour xxvii*, Whilst her appearance was an utter failure : Mrs Rawdon Crawley's *debut* was, on the contrary, very brilliant 1890 I. C. DOYLE *Notches* 4 One day the right leg would be disabled, whilst the next day it would be the left that suffered 1907 *Times Newspapers* 2 Aug. 129 2 It is not to be found in the Boston, or the Congress Libraries, whilst the copy at Harvard is imperfect

**4.** *conj.* Till, until : = WHILE *conj.* 3, WHILES 5. *Obs* exc. *dial*

1520 SKELTON *Magnyf* 324 I pray you, Larges, here to remayne, Whylest I knowe what this letter dothe contayne *Ibid* 628 Tary whylyst that I come agayne 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-Glas* 445 My wife might blow whilest she burst 1653 *Gerna & Narcissus* 308 There to remaine, whilst she heard some newes of Narcissus

**Whilt**(e, obs. north ff QUILT *sb.*1

**Whilum**, obs. form of WHILOM.

**†Whilwendlic**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *hwilwendlic*, f. *hwil* WHILE *sb.* + stem of *wendan* to turn, WEND + *-lic* -LY 1 ] Lasting for a time, temporary.

*c* 1000 *Ags Gospel Matt.* xiii 21 Hi ! næfð þone wyrtrum on him ac is hwilwendlic *c* 1200 ORMIN 18825 Patt zerkes isa whilwendlike þing & elde]þ & forzwurrþe]þ

**Whilwh, Whilly**, obs. ff. WILLOW, WILT.

**Whim** (hwim), *sb.*1 Also 8 whym. [See WHIM-WHAM. The transference of meaning from branch I to branch II is similar to that in ENGINE and GIN *sb.*1]

**I. +1.** A pun or play on words; a double meaning. *Obs.*

1641 BROME *Jov Crew* I, (1652) B 2 b, There was the whim, or double meaning on't *Ibid*, One told a Gentleman His son should be a man killer, and hang'd for't, Who, after prov'd a great and rich Physician, And with great Fame ith Universe Hang'd up in Picture for a grave example There was the whim of that Quare contrary ! *Ibid* B 2 b, Shall Squire Oldrent's Daughters Weare old rents in their Garments? (there s a whim too).

**2 +a.** A fanciful or fantastic creation ; a whimsical object. *Obs.*

1678 BUTLER *Hud* III, I 108 When he Had rifled all his Pokes and Fobs Of Gimcracks, Whims and Juggumbobs 1710–13 SWIFT *Jrnl to Stella* 16 Jan, I came home at eleven, and he'g in a little whim, which just came into my head ; and will make a threepenny pamphlet 1731 CHEVY *Last Horse Matches* 89 His Prize is called a Whim or whimsical Prize, because the Conditions of running for the same, are different from all other Prizes. 1752 HUME *Ess & Treat.* (1777) I 275 Were the testimony of history less positive such a circumstance [what of water] would appear a mere philosophical whim or fiction 1882 CLARK *Intell Minstrel* I 112 Some m y praise the grass plat whims, Which the great ones of the world have wasted

**+b.** As whimsical fellow. *Obs.*

1718 ADDISON *Spect* No 371 P 2 That sort of Men who are called Whims and Humourists.

**c** In ombre, the deciding on the trump suit by turning up the top card of the stock

1874 H H. GIBBS *Ombre & 10ste*, Valeria, though known in England (under the name of the Whim), was not appre ciated there

**3** A capricious notion or fancy, a fantastic or fickish idea ; an odd fancy.

1692 VANBRUGH *Prom. Wife* III, Walking pretty late in the Park A Whim took me to sing Chevy Chace 1702 SALMON *Minner's Lesend* 80 Many such like Whims (or perpetual motions) are presented to us by Authors. 1713 HEARNE *Collect* (O. H. S.) IV 254 The New Printing House just erected, will be (it seems, out of a Whim) to be called LINCOLN'S INN-FIELDS 1728 CHAMBERS *Lexicon Techn* 1788 CONNER *Youth* 89 See the sage hermit, Wearing out life in his religious whim, Till his religious whimsey wears out him, 1832 HT MARTINEAU *Ellis Weaver* viii, That scheme was no whim of the moment. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, Mrs Dombey may be in earnest, or she may be pursuing a whim, or she may be opposing me 1899 CONAN DOYLE *Duet, Confessions*, There are all degrees of love, from that the whim of a moment, and others the passion of a lifetime.

**b.** In generalized sense : Capricious humour or disposition of mind.

*a* 1722 PRIOR *Epis. ans. Form'd half t'en. ath*, etc ' ? They [*sc* sheets] serve the poor for use, the rich for whim 1728 POPE *Dunc* III 153 Sneering Goode, half malice and half whim 1829 MARRYAT *Jac Faithful* XIV (Ritchie) 493 I came up to pay my devotions ; but whim, or perhaps revenge determined her to put on the stranger 1884 STEVENSON *Mem & Portraits* xvi (1887) 275 Mr Bennt so genial, with so persuasive and humorous a vein of whim.

**c.** *Comb*

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 25 These whimm' Crown'd shoes, these fashion fansying wits 1786 BURNS *Bard's Epit.* 3, Is there a whim-inspired fool, Owre fast for thought, owre bot for rule, Let him draw near.

**II 4.** A machine, used esp for raising ore or water from a mine, consisting of a vertical shaft carrying a large drum with one or more radiating arms or beams to which a horse or horses, etc. may be yoked and by which it may be turned, the rope being wound on the drum by the horse's motion Also *horse-whim.*

1738 *MSS. Dr Portland* (Hist MSS Comm) VI 177 This Lord has destroyed the old ridiculous water works and whims that were then when made much in vogue. 1759 B. MARTIN *Hist Litt* I *Cornwall* 11 A Wheel and Axle, (which they call a Whim) 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub* 143 A proper working Shaft, upon which a Whym may be erected 1829 H. KINGSLEY *Geoffry Hamlyn* I 7 They always were rigging a rope to an old horse whim 1890 R. BOLDRE WOOD *Robbery Under Arms* II xiv, The whole plant, the whim, the tools, —every mortal thing down to a worn-out hide bucket—was sold

**b.** *attrib. and Comb*, as *whim-driver, -engine, -gin, -horse, -house, -kibble, -rope, -round, -shaft.*

1797 BOSLASE in *Phil Trans* L 504 The whim house shoots so tenderly, that a man there is not run out of it, concluding it to be falling 1778 PRYCE *Min Cornub* 144 A whym Shaft to draw the Deads and Ore from the Sump of the Mine *Ibid* 146 The round upon which the platform named the Whym round *Ibid* 165 In deep Mines, some whym ropes cost fifty or sixty pounds. *Ibid* Gloss s v *Kibbal*, A Whym Kibbal is larger [buckets], which serves to draw water with, or bring up the Ore to grass. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newc* II. 684 In a whim gin the ropes run upon two wheel pullies over the shaft. 1836 *and Kp Cornwall Polytechn.* 320 The Whim or Gin 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 139 Shafts intended for the extraction of ores (called whim shafts where horse-whims are employed for extracting the produce) 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1888) 84 Whim Driver 1896 J. HOCKING *Fields of Fair Renown* 1, The boy who drove the 'whim horse' cracked his whip

¶ In sense 4 a variant *whin* is found.

1838 SIMMS *Publ. Wks Gt Brit* II. 3 Cutting the whin ropes nearly through. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict Mech.* Suppl., *Whim* (Mining), a machine for raising ores and refuse. 1897 *Westm. Gaz* 9 June 3/3 Rolling a large oak tree with a timber whin.

Hence **Whimmed** *a.*, ? possessed with a whim or odd fancy ; **Whimmery**, a piece of whimsicality ; **Whimship**, mock title for a whimsical person.

1894 GARTON *Piscat. Notes* I. viii. 89 Our Don (or if Sancho

had the braines, for the Squires were *whim'd* in the whisks) might very well from that encounter have still'd himself a Knight of Millan. 1699 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 333 Had not Mr. Pugin's attention been too exclusively engrossed by that architectural *whimmery*. 1906 T. Sinton *Poetry of Lochaber* 182 We can imagine the swing of his bow with many a pause and twirl carrying through the whimseries of the rhyme. 1793 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 337 You're sure to find his "Whimship there.

**Whim,** *sb.*[1] [Of unknown origin.] The European pegeon.

a 1795 Ray *Syn. Avium* (1713) 146 *Penelope* Aldrov. An *Anas fistularis?* The Wigeon, or Whewer, or Whim. [Hence in later works.]

**Whim** (hwim), *v.* [f. Whim *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *n. intr.* with *it*: To play the whimsical fellow.

†**b.** *trans.* To put *off* by a whim or fancy. c. To desire capriciously, to have an odd fancy for.

Hence **Whi'mming** *ppl. a.*, whimsical, capricious.

1704 T. Baker *Act at Oxf.* iii. ii. 32 *Bla.* [*Aside*] The Rogue whims it rarely. 1720 R. Ward *Life H. More* 216 He knew not, how he came to be whimm'd off from (as his expression was). 1787 Howie *Plain Reas. Dist.* 215 [The motion] was rejected on the whimming pretence there was no present danger. 1842 Mrs. Trollope *Ida Saint E.* I. 153 While I whimmed to will, that he had power to do. 1860 S. Martin *Westm. Chapel Pulpit* ii. 15 He expects us to do not what we whim.

**2.** *intr.* Of the head: To be giddy, to 'swim'. Now *dial.*

1700 Congreve *Way of World* iv. 62 My head begins to whim it about.—Why dost thou not speak? thou art loath as drunk and as mute as a Fish. 1716-20 *Lett. Hist. Tyrol.* (1721) I. 88 The first Night he retired to his Chamber, his Head whimm'd immediately.

**Whim,** var. Queme *a.*, Whin, Wim *v.*

**Whimberry** (hwi·mbĕri), *local.* Forms: 1 **winberige**, 5 **wynneberie**, 7 **win(ne)berry**, 8 **wind-berry**, **-bery**, **-bimberry**. [Assimilated f. *wōinberge*, alteration of *winberry* (representing, with normal vowel-shortening, OE. *wīnberge*; cf. Winebert) by association with Whin[1].] The bilberry or whortleberry.

a 1100 in Napier *OE. Glosses* 132/5194 *Racciniarum*, winberigena. c 1466 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 98 After mete pecrs, nottys, strawberys, wynneberies, and hartichese. 1610 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 189 Given to a wenche which brought winberries from Burneley woode, iiij*d*. 1611 Cotgr., *Myrtils*, winne-berries, hurtle-berries. 1634-5 Bberton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 131 Winberries made me subject to fainting also, and are churlish things for the stomach. 1776 Withering *Arrang. Brit. Plants* 228 Hirtleworts. . Bilberries [*sic*]. Wind-berry. 1847 Halliwell, *Whimberries*, bilberries. 1857 Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 351 Bilberry, or Whortleberry. . This edible shrub. . is sometimes called also Whinberry. 1880 W. White *Werkin* viii. 74 Bilberries,—whimberries, as the rustics call them. 1886 Kingsley *Water Bab.* 1. This heath was full of bilberries and whimberries. 1888 Ikes & Clutterbuck *Three in Norway* xxi. 177 Four wimberry tarts . . and a venison pie. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 10/1 Bilberry . . is merely the Midland name for the blueberry of the North, the whimberry of the West, and the whinberry of the Welsh Border.

**Whimble:** see Wimble, Wimple.

**Whimbrel** (hwi·mbrĕl). Forms: 6 **whympernell** (?), 7, 9 **wimbrel**, 9 **whimbrell**, 7– **whimbrel**. [f. Whimp or Whimper *v.*, from the bird's cry. Cf. for the ending *pickerel*, *tittrel*.] Applied to various small species of curlew, esp. the European *Numenius phæopus*.

1530-1 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 46, 3 curleus et 1 whympernell 13*d*. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 294 The Whimbrel: Aequata minor, . . Mr. Johnson the Antiquary, in his Papers communicated to me, describes this Bird by the name of a Whimbrel thus. It is less by half than the Curlew, hath a crooked Bill, but shorter by an inch and more. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 997 Curlews something less than our English, tho' bigger than a Wimbrel. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 514 The Whimbrel entirely leaves England in the Spring. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 116 The Whimbrel and golden plover pipe and wail in all directions. 1897 *Spectator* 14 Aug. 210/1 On the fringe of a muddy creek . . were some thirty whimbrel . . with about as four curlews.

†**Whimling.** *Obs.* Also 7 **-len.** [Cf. Whirling and *whinnelling* s.v. Whindle.] A miserable or insignificant creature.

1618 Brahm. & Fl. *Cascoxds* iv. i. Go whimling, and fetch two or three grailing loaves out of the Kitchling. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple. Lone Woman*, Before I would put such properties, alarum came, that some o' the whimlen's had too much.

**Whimmy** (hwi·mi), *a.* Also 9 **whimy.** [f. Whim *sb.*[1] + -y[1].] Of the nature of a whim; full of whims; whimsical, capricious.

1786 *Strother's Jrnl.* (1912) 66 A whimmy thought struck him that Aram was following him for the bone. 1827 Colburn in *Lit. Rem.* (1840) IV. 374 The study of Rabbinical literature either finds a man *wehimmy*, or makes him so. 1880 Anel. Sartoris *Past Hours* I. 162 She is very uncertain and whimmy, and has an immense *amour propre* about it. 1885 Mary E. Carter *Mrs. Severn* II. iv. 7 Perhaps it is only a whim,' said Anna. 'She's not a whimy body'.

**Whimp** (hwimp), *v. local.* In 6 **whymp**, 9 **wimp.** [Echoic.] *intr.* To whimper.

1598 Lavender *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 27 Salote Paula sayed. Theea shall be lamentables, that wil whympe and whine. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Wimp*, to whine; of a dog.

**Whimper** (hwi·mpər), *sb.* [f. next.] A feeble, broken cry; as of a child about to burst into tears; a fretful cry expressive of complaint or grief.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whimper*, a low, or small Cry. a 1732 North *Exam.* III. vii. § 63, (1740) 550 After a few Whimpers and a Wipe, he said . . That . . he knew . . he was in the Wrong. 1830 Carlyle *Ess., Sinking of Vengeur* (1857) IV. 218 Some vague faint murmur or whimper of admission. 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxvii. 256 A whimper in her voice expressive of utter helplessness.

**b.** A similar cry of dogs, etc.

1870 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxiv, The loved caresses of the maid The dog met with crouch and whimper mild. 1892 R. H. Sumners *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxviii. 383 The scent improved a little, and . . a hound or two indulged in a whimper. 1899 Burton *Centr. Africa* in *Trnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 83 The hyena's whimper, and the fox's whining bark. 1906 Ireves *Highways Dorset* xiii. 197 The voice of the preacher is apt to be interrupted by the whimper of circling seagulls.

**c.** *transf.* Of inanimate things.

1895 W. Watson *Hymn to Sea* 6 Braying of arrogant brass, whimper of querulous reeds. 1899 'O. Khoromv.' *White Kaze Arms* xxii, The clank of capstan and the whimper of sheaves.

**Whimper** (hwi·mpər), *v.* Also 6 **whymper**, **wimper**, *Sc.* **quhymper.** [Echoic. Cf. Whimp.]

**1.** *intr.* To utter a feeble, whining, broken cry, as a child about to burst into tears; to make a low complaining sound.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii. 14 The ying childring, and frayit matrounis eik, Stude all on raw, with mony peteous screik. . quhympernand woundir sair. 1530 Palsgr. 787/1 The poore boye whymperith a lyttell, but he dare not weepe for his lyfe. 1589 Nashe *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 284 He whimpered and put finger in the eye. 1624 Quarles *Sheph. Oracles* vii. (1646) 84 We. . compose Strange ruffull faces; whimper in the nose. 1727 Gay *Beggs. Op.* i. xiii, The Boy, thus, when his Sparrow's flown. Whimpers, whimpers, and blubbers. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iii, Get you away now you have said your lesson. You needn't whimper. 1912 Mrs. Allen Harker *Mr. Wycherly's Wards* xiv. 201 Baby began to whimper.

**b.** *fig.* Of a complaint pungingly; to 'whine': esp. *for*, *after*, † *to* something.

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 76 Was there euer yet preachers, but ther were gaynsaiers . . yat whympered ageynst them? 1604 Shakes. *Meas. for M.* III. (1623) 76 Time was, Adelphus, that my wants would whine And whimper in poore rags as well as thine. a 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll* (1878) 43, I. 2 Answer to the Text, though Strong enough To digest meat. 1825 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 191 The great Grecian youth, Who whimper'd for more worlds to conquer. 1868 Scott *R. M. Perth* viii, Proudfute. . began to cry for assistance, and shout in the same breath to whimper for mercy. 1892 Peel in *Croker Papers* 27 July (1888) II. 383 Farmers. . were whimpering over advertisements offering freehold farms for sale. 1899 Pease *Life* lxvii, She is still whimpering after that gaby of a husband—dead. . these fifteen years. 1894 Jessopp *Rand. Roman.* vi. 196 For ever whimpering for the days that are gone.

**c.** *trans.* To utter or express in a whimper.

1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 429 But poverty, with most who whimper forth Their long complaints, is self-inflicted woe. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxviii, 'You deal with me better than your word, noble knight,' whimpered forth poor Wamba. 1820 Hogg *Tales, Allan Gordon* (1837) I. 314 The generous animal whimpered and whimpered her joy. 1900 Barrie *Darbs. & Darvn* lxv, He still kept whimpering, 'Only to think that such an artist as I am must perish!'

**2.** *intr.* Of an animal, esp. a dog: To utter a feeble querulous cry.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* xxxix. 108 He (*sc.* a hound) will strey neand lappyse, or whymper, or sometime call on plainely. 1641 W. Cartwright *Siege* I. iv, Whimpering at The Chamber door. 1678 Butler Hitle Spaniel, 89 I, in *Jonathan* I. 335 The dog stopped; whimpered; looked him in the face. 1898 M. Hewlett *Forest Lovers* xxx, The dogs whimpered and tugged at the leash; they doubted, but knew that a wolf was abroad in her.

**3.** Of running water or the wind: To make a continuous plaintive murmur. Also *trans.*

1799 H. Macneill *Will & Jean* v. 22, In a bowm, wha's bonnie burnie Whimpers down the vessant Glen? 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 358 The little brook that whimpered by his school-house. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 107 The wind moans dripping and the melody bell, And whimpers soothingly a mad accompaniment to.

Hence **Whi·mpered** *ppl. a.* (sense 1 c).

1892 G. Meredith *Teaching of Nude* i. Poet. Wks. (1912) 410 A fairy, fetching whimpered tunes for words.

**Whimperer** (hwi·mpərəɹ). [f. prec. + -er[1].] One who whimpers.

1737 Orell *Rabelais* tr. vii. 66 *note*, *Maximitus*, a Whimperer. a 1739 Jarvis *Don Quix.* I. L (1742) I. 3 No finicnt gentleman, nor such a whimperer as his brother. 1809 Kemble *Ess.* II. 72 We are become timorous, despounding whimperers. 1883 Hoime Lee *A. Warleigh* III. 241 When her wee whimperer would allow any voice but his own to be heard.

**Whimpering** (hwi·mpərĭng), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. vb. + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whimper.

1528 More *De quad. Noviss.* Wks. 89 Yf we. . lie in pulling & whimpering & heuines of hert. 1621 T. Granger *Ecclcs. xii. 4.* 320 The noise of little birds, the whimpering of mice, euery small stirrage waketh them. 1641 Markham *Hungers Prevention* 274 A kinde of whimpering and whining in his [*sc.* the dog's] voice. 1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* x. vii. 509 He will not. . be put off with solemn whimperings, Hypocritical Confessions, ruful faces. 1733 Somerville *Chase* I. 223 Two. . Hounds. . Bounds o'er the Lawn to seize his panting Prey And in imperfect Whimp'rings speaks his Joy. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 102 His wife received him. . with whimperings and replinings. 1852 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* viii. 78 There was no sham whimpering. . But the boy's heart seemed touched. 1900 L. Stevens *Stud. Biogr.* IV. v. 188 Many men of business. . enjoy in strict privacy a little whimpering over a novel.

**Whimpering** (hwi·mpərĭng), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ing[2].] That whimpers, in various senses.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skialh.* (1878) 29 Their whimpring Sonnets, puling Elegies Slumber the Muses. 1608 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. i, Our whimpring Lady and Mistresse sent me. 1648 Herrick *Hesp., To Primroses fill'd with Morning Dew* ii, Speak, whimp'ring Younglings, and make known The reason, why Ye droop, and weep. 1732 R. Savage *Progr. Divine* Wks. 1777 II. 121 Be yours the blubb'ring lip, and whimp'ring eye! 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxiv, With heads erect, and whimpering cry, The hounds behind their passage ply. 1870 Thackeray *Pears Sk.-bk., Mme. Sand*, Any one can see why Rousseau should be such a whimpering reformer. 1879 Browning *Jean Jeanmarie* 205 The whimperingest cub that ever squeezed the teat!

Hence **Whi·mperingly** *adv.*

1878 Stevenson *Inland Voy.* 157 He would suddenly break away and begin whimperingly to commiserate the poor.

**Whimple, Whimsey:** see Wimple, Whimsy.

†**Whimseycado.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Whimsical + *-ado* Sp. suffix = -ate[2].] (?) A whim.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* iv. v. 201 If *Amadis du Gaul* and *Palmerin* lie nice, what whimsey-cados are we in!

†**Whimsic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as next + -ic.] *Whimsic chair* = Whimsy *sb.* 5.

1684 *Ballads illustr. Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 29 Dutch whirling, whimsic chair, Turning more swift than unrestrained air.

**Whimsical** (hwi·mzikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 7 **whym-.** [f. Whims(y + -ical.]

**1.** Of persons, their actions, thoughts, etc.: Full of, subject to, or characterized by a whim or whims; actuated by or depending upon whim or caprice.

1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Rest.* To Rdr. 10 So they fell to words and at last to blows and (which is Whimsical enough) they resolved to kill one another. *Ibid.* 21 Were not they better be . grave, sober, serious, then whymsical, fickle and fantastical? 1690 C. Nesse *Def. & Pan. Trnl.* I. 93 So do the whimsical Enthusiasts . . make long relations of strange dreams. 1723 Earl Orrery *As you find it* II. 35 A Man with a fantastical, whimsical, monstrous nay strange in the midst of Plenty, not for want of Food, but such as he likes. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 201 ¶ 7 One Sir Roger de Coverley, a whimsical Country Knight. 1726 Burnet *Lett. to Apost.* iii. xi. (1729) 208 It has given me to an infinite deal of whimsical theory. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* iv. viii. ¶ 2 One of those old rodgers who have been a little whimsical or so in their youth. 1819 Hazlitt *Lect. Eng. Poets* viii. 8 It would be rather whimsical to deny this to be a principal merit in a comparison. 1872 J. E. T. Rogers *Protests of Lords* I. Pref. p. lvi, Two whimsical dissents from Lords Radnor and Abingdon.

**2.** Characterized by deviation from the ordinary as if determined by mere caprice; fantastic, fanciful; freakish, odd, comical.

1658 E. Wilson *Sphaer. Dancelin.* Pref. B 5 b, Panacea's, Universal Medicines, Secrets, and such like whimsical Remedies. 1687 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 79 The most whimsical scene of confusion behind. 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Nov. 1644, A whimsical chayre, which folded into so many varieties as to turn into a bed, a bolster, a table, or a couch. 1710 Swift *Tatler* (1786) I. 17 Is it not whimsical that the world has never once written to me? 1769 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 165 Matters here are in a situation whimsical enough. 1773 Westley *Trnl.* 29 Nov., Wks. 1830 IV. 5 I went . . to Shepton-Mallet, a very whimsical ferry, where footmen and horses pay nothing. 1826 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* I. 193 The Germans are whimsical animals in their appearance. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, Hesitating between the respect he ought must lie under, who can be thus made sport of rich by an edict. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 291 Poor man! he stands a whimsical chance between us.

**3.** *Sh.* (in *pl.*) A comic dance in a section of the Tories in the reign of Queen Anne: see quots.

1714 Swift *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1841 I. 497/2 That race of politicians, who in the cant phrase are called the whimsicals. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxvii, Many of the High Church party. . affected to express their principles from those of the Jacobites, and, on that account, obtained the denomination of Whimsicals.

**Whimsicality.** [f. prec. adj. + -ity.] The quality or state of being whimsical; whimsicalness; oddity, fantasticalness. Also with *a* and *pl.*

1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxiii, The whimsicality of my father's brain was far from having the whole honour of this. 1800 Maria Edgeworth *Belinda* ii, Lady Delacour . . laughed affectedly at her own whimsicalities. 1844 Hood (*title*) Whimsicalities, a periodical gathering. 1850 L. Hunt

*Autobiogr.* vi. (1860) 127 Lewis was a comedian of the rarest order, for he combined whimsicality with elegance, and levity with heart. **1898** R. HUGHES *Londoners* II. The expression of curious whimsicality that stole into her face.

**Whi·msically**, *adv.* [f. prec. adj. + -LY 2.] In a whimsical manner; capriciously; oddly, fantastically.

**1728** STEELE *Spect.* No. 100 ¶4. I thought it was whimsically valid of a Gentleman, That if a Vanlas had Wit, it would be the best Wit in the World. **1748** FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. xviii, Her passions . were not so whimsically capricious that one man only could lay them. **1775** SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iv, Was ever truant daughter so whimsically circumstanced as I am? **1821** COBBETT in *C. Papers* I. (1824) I. 199 Our supper whimsically served: the first dish being green peas alone. **a 1861** T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 103 The mist, white and delicate where we stood, but thick and black above, opened whimsically and decisively. **1888** BUSCOM *Love as God Sees Him* II. v. 65 HOW whimsically Wilberforce was capable of blending the pathetic and the playful.

**Whi·msicalness.** [f. prec. adj. + -NESS.] The quality of being whimsical; whimsicality.

**1714** tr. *A Kempis' Chr. Examin.* xiv. 259 Lest Meditation should decline . into Melancholy and Whimsicalness. **1747** HOADLY *Suspicious Husb.* v. ii, I cannot sufficiently admire at the Whimsicalness of my good Fortune, in being instrumental to this general Happiness. **1865** Mrs. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxxii, 'Did you think I would?' cried Joanna, lifting up her head suddenly, with something of the old spirit of whimsicalness.

**†Whi·msied**, *pa. pple. or a. Obs. rare.* [f. WHIMSY + -ED.] Filled with whims; made whimsical.

**1624** FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II. i, To have a mans brains whimsied with his wealth. **1628** FORD *Fancies Chast. & Nob.* III. ii, You are but a little staring—there's difference betweene staring and starke mad. You are but whymsied, yet croticheted, conundrumd, &c. **1833** WILLIS *Pencillings* I. xxiii. 262 A whimsied madman.

**Whi·msily, Whi·msiness**: see after WHIMSY.

**Whi·mstone**, variant of WHINSTONE.

**1820** CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol. Eng.* I. 204 Concretions are frequent, as coal-whin-stones or pebbles.

**Whi·msy, whimsey** (hwi·mzi), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: **7 whim-, whymsie, whimsee, 7–8 whimsy, 8 whymsey, 7–9 whimsie, whims(e)y.** [See WHIM-WHAM.]

**1.** †**1.** Dizziness, giddiness, vertigo. *Obs.*

**16..** MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, Tha' got the ecstomy in my head already. **1656** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scotomatical*, that is troubled with such a whimsey in the head.

†**2.** A wench. *Obs. rare.*

**1614** B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. iv, And shall we ha' smocker Vrsla, and good whimsies, ha? **a 1625** FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* IV. ii, You'l pick a bottle open, or a whimsey. As soon as the best of us.

**3.** = WHIM *sb.*1 3.

**1605** B. JONSON *Volpone* III. i, I can feele A whimsey i' my bloud: (I know not how) Successe hath made me wanton. **1628** VENNER *Baths of Bath* (1637) 56 Such as have their pates full of outlandish whimsies. **1646** J. HALL *Hora Vac.* 31 That whimsey of Pythagoras of the transmigration of Soules. **1723** DUMARESQ tr. *Sallust's Jugurth.* i. 7 *note*, Our Inability to live in too rare and light an Air may discourage those vain Attempts of Flying, and Whimsies of passing to the Moon. **1823** JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 328 Plato, who only used the name of Socrates to cover the whimsies of his own brain. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 164 Both had what seemed extravagant whimsies about dress, diversions, and postures. **1851** HUNT *St. Katherine's* I. vi, Why, I was young once, and had my own whimsies like the rest.

**b.** = WHIM *sb.*1 3 *b*. *arch.*

**a 1660** GRANVILL *Sudden Guest* II. (1668) 50 All this is Whimsey and Fiction. **1709** SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) II. 337 In One there are the Marks of Wisdom and Determination; in the other, of Whimsy and Conceit. **1775** WRAXALL *Tour N. Eur.* 121 It may likewise be called an European structure, where whimsy and caprice form the predominant character. **1881** BLACKMORE *Christowell* xlviii, They winnow my gatherings on every wind of whimsy.

**4.** = WHIM *sb.*1 4 *a*.

**1718** *Ill. Moor's Antiq. Ath.* III. iv. § 2. Schol. 169 Engrav'd with 5 characters, and other Magical whimsies of this sort. **1785** J. COLLIER *Mock Treas.* (ed. 4) 62 The Indian whimsies and tweedle-dums, that people played upon in these days. **1797** COWPER *Yardley Oak* 118 They rot. A quarry of stout spurs, and knotted fangs, crook'd into a thousand whimsies. **1860–1** D. COLERIDGE in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 164 The proposed Dictionary..must include many a mere whimsey and many a gross corruption. **1906** W. V. LUCAS *Hand in Land.* ix. 131 A hedge in the garden of the Record Office. This little architectural whimsy might be the abode of an urban fairy or gnome.

**II. + 5.** A merry-go-round, roundabout. *Obs.*

**1684** *Ballads Illustr. Gl. Feast* (Percy Soc.) 4 There were Dutch whimsies turned swiftly round Faster then horses run on level ground.

**6.** = WHIM *sb.*3 4. *local.*

**1789** J. WILLIAMS *Mon. Kingd.* I. 430 This may be done ..with a small horse-gin or whimsy, instead of a windlass, for drawing the water and work in sinking. **1826** *Hull & Selby Railw. Act* 14 To make use of any gins, whimsies, tackling, ropes, machines. **1875** *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 319 In Cornwall, a kibble, in which the ore is raised in the shafts, by machines called whims or whimseys.

**b.** (See quot.)

**1867** SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whimsey*, a small crane for hoisting goods to the upper stories of warehouses.

**7.** *Glass-making.* (See quot.)

**1858** H. CHANCE in *Trans. Soc. Arts* IV. 224/1 Still whirling, the table [of crown glass], as it is now called, is carried off, laid flat upon a support called a whimsey, detached by shears from the pontY, [etc.].

**B.** *adj.* Whimsical.

**1632** SHIRLEY *Hyde Park* II. ii, Ieere on, my whimsy Lady. **1867** LANIER *Strange Joker* 7 Poems (1890) 217 Once in a whimsey mood he sat. **1893** MRS. STRETTON PORTER *Ladies* xiv, Laddie studied the sky, a whimsy smile on his lips.

*C. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whimsy-pate*, *-shaft*; *whimsy-headed* adj.; †**whimsy-board**, ?a board or table used in some game of chance, or on which different objects were carried about for sale.

**a 1704** T. BROWN *Lett. Living to Dead* Wks. 1720 II. 19, I am sometimes a small Retainer to a Billiard-Table, and sometimes, when the Master on't is sick, earn a Penny by a Whimsy-Board. **1708** W. KING *Art of Cookery* (1709) 99 Then Pippins did in Wheel-barrows abound, And Oranges in Whimsy-boards went round. **1710** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4693 3 He frequents the Cock Pits and Gaming Houses, Whimsy Boards. **1898** R. WARD *Lond. Spy* III. (1706) 63 The first Whimsie-headed Wretch of this Lunatick Family. **1682** WINYARD *Mercurius Mechf.* 6 His Whimsie-Meagrim must be an Ecstasie. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 88 What a company .. doth this phantasticall *whimsy-pate gather. **1821** W. FORSTER *Section of Strata* (ed. 2) 331 *Whimsey Shafts may be sunk to the depth of ten..fathoms.

Hence **Whi·msy** *adv.*, **Whi·msiness**.

**1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. iii. 188, I love Toboso, and I know not why, Only I say, I love her (whimsyly). **1909** *Daily Chron.* 14 Sept. 5/3 To..indulge his whimsiness.

**Whimsy-whamsy.** [f. WHIMSY after next.] = next, 2.

**1871** CADDELL *Never Forgotten* ii, Maude always was obstinate when she had one of her religious whimsy whamseys in her head. **1900** 'ARTHUR LOVE' *Outlawed* v, The real reason..why the Dean hasn't risen higher is because he always has some whimsy-whamsy in his head.

**Whim-wham** (hwi·m,hwæm). Also 6–7 **wym wham, 7 whimwhom, 8 whimwham, 9 whim-wham, wim-wom.** [A reduplication with vowel-variation, like *flim-flam*, *jim-jam*, *trim-tram*, all of which are similarly applied to trivial or frivolous things.

The history of the group of words of which WHIM *sb.*1, WHIMSY, and this word are the chief members, is not clear. The evidence for ON. *hvimr* to wander with the senses as with the fugitive look of a frightened or silly person, and *hvimma* to be taken aback or discomfited, suggests the possibility of an ultimate Scand. origin; but, seeing that *whim-wham* is the earliest recorded of the group(contemporaneously with the similar reduplicated forms mentioned above), and no Scand. parallel exists, it seems more likely that which case *whimsy* may be related to *whim-wham* as *flimzy* to *flim-flam*.]

**1.** A fanciful or fantastic object; *fig.* a trifle; in early use chiefly, a trifling ornament of dress, a trinket; a knick-knack (cf. quots.).

**a 1529** SKELTON *F. Ruummyng* 75 After the Saracyns guyse, With a whym wham, Knyt with a trym tram. Vpon her brayne pan. **1600** DEKKER *Satiromm.* F 2, Dost loue that thrise blushlesse Gentry, that flaunts it in that whimwham? **1621** J. TAYLOR (WATER P.) *Superbia Flagellum* C 7 b, Whimwhams & whirligigges to please Baboones. **1629** PRYNNE *Unloveliness Hyberd Locks* 3 Shall you all be cut to pieces, for your whim-whams, Your garters and your gloves. **1642** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Reply as it was at Steel Yard* (1872) 6 Not for the love of flowers . . With the Bead legges he painted To hide his whim wham. **1659** TORRIANO, *Tenuone*, . . a mans whim-wham. **1691** MRS. A'NUFFEE *Academist* 17 The Yat's [=gate's] all hung about with whim-wham's, As Fishes Bones, and other things. **1721** RAMSAY *Scriblers Lash'd* 107 Dealers in small Ware, Clinks, Whim Whams. **1808** HAM. MORE *Coelebs* (1809) II. 61, I have been purposely . . for her to learn music and whim-whams. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xi, Florentine and flame—bacon, wi' reverence, and a'the sweet confections and whim-whams. **a 1824** HAWTHORNE *Twice-Told T.* (1853) I. ix. 163 So much for the commencement of this long whimwham. **1864** MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whim-wom*, bird-bolts, backers for frightening birds from fruit or corn. **1866** *Slang Dicty.*, *Whim-wham*, an alliterative term, synonymous with fiddle-faddle, riff-raff, etc., denoting nonsense, rubbish, etc.

**2.** A fantastic notion, odd fancy; = WHIM *sb.*1 3.

**1580** FLORIO *Stapleton Confut.* II. viii. 117 Voluntarie pouertie in Augustine not found in the first planters of this newe trim tram. A matter worthie to be nunswered with whim wham's. **1824** HAWTHORNE *Twice-Told T.* (1853) I. ix. 163 So much for the commencement of this long whimwham. **1864** MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whim-wom*, bird-bolts, backers for frightening birds from fruit or corn. **1866** *Slang Dicty.*, *Whim-wham*, an alliterative term, synonymous with fiddle-faddle, riff-raff, etc., denoting nonsense, rubbish, etc.

**3.** A fantastic notion, odd fancy; = WHIM *sb.*1 3.

**1580** FLORIO *Stapleton Confut.* II. viii. 117 Voluntarie pouertie in Augustine not found in the first planters of this newe trim tram. A matter worthie to be nunswered with whim wham's. **1824** HAWTHORNE *Twice-Told T.* (1853) I. ix. 163 So much for the commencement of this long whimwham. **1864** MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whim-wom*, bird-bolts, backers for frightening birds from fruit or corn. **1866** *Slang Dicty.*, *Whim-wham*, an alliterative term, synonymous with fiddle-faddle, riff-raff, etc., denoting nonsense, rubbish, etc.

**Whin**, *sb.*1 (hwin). Forms: **5 quyn, qwynne, wyne, 5–7 whyn(ne, 6 whynn**, *Sc.* **quyin, 6–7 whinne, whine**, *Sc.* **quhin(e, 7 win, whimne, 9 (dial.) whim**, *Sc.* (9 (*dial.*) quhin, 8 (9 *dial.*) whinn, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **whun, 6– whin.** [app. orig. northern, and prob. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. *hven*, early Da. *hvine*, *hvinegræs*, *-strå*, Norw. *hvine*, *hvitn*, *kvein*, applied to certain grasses); the evidence goes to show that gorse was formerly of economic importance in the areas of special Scand. influence.

This origin is more probable than that which has been proposed from OWelsh *chwyn* weeds (mod. *chwyn*), cognate with Breton *chouenna* to hue, weed.]

**1.** The common furze or gorse, *Ulex europæus*.

Often *collect. pl.* and *sing.* for a clump or mass of the shrub, or a quantity of it used for fuel, fencing, etc.

*c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 529/2 Whynne, *ulex*. *c 1440 Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 643/32 *Hic ulinca*, wyne. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whynne, *sulinca*. **1538** TURNER *Libellus*, *Iuliaria, uarina habet subspecies, quarum una est Sulvie vlla genus alii*[*que*] a whyn *differt* a furze *nonnunquam*. **1549** *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 352 For fellying and ledyng of xl loades of whynnes . iijs. viijd. **1573–80** TUSSER *Hush.* (1878) 159 With whinnes or with furzes they houell renew. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* VI. ix. 669 The common Whyn, or Gicat Furze. **1606** in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 132 That none..shall cutt any whinne to burne upon paine of vid. **1620** MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xxiv. 258 Rough hay, full of whins [ed. 1636 whinnes, 1649 whins], thistels, or other prickling stuffe. **1658** A. DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees 1869) 178 When all their father was done, they took green whinne, .. stampt them..to bruise all their prieces, and then gave than to their beasts. **1721** RAMSAY *Ode to the Ton* 14, Driving their Baws frae Whins ur Tee, There's no ae Gowfer to be seen. **1825** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 597 Whins or common furze make a valuable fence. **1839** THE LINDSAY *G. Hamilyn* v, Down beyond down, a vast sheet of purple heath and golden whin. **1878** SUSAN PHILLIP *On Seaboard* 254 Between the whin and the workhouse there pulled the old fox down. **1882** *Garden* 13 May 324/3 The double flowering Whin (Furze).

**2.** Applied to other prickly or thorny shrubs, as rest-harrow and bush broom; also to heather.

**1530** PALSGR. 288/1 Whynne, *brusshe*. Whynne or hethe, *bruere*. **1548** TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 13 Anonis called also Ononis is called..in Cambrygye Shyre a whyne. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 133/26 A Whin, *genista*. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Whin* or Petty Whin, a Shrub, otherwise call'd Knee-holm. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whin*, the rest-harrow.

**3.** With distinctive additions, in local names of various prickly shrubs:

**Cammock, Lady-, Land-whin** – petty whin (*a*); **Cat('s) whin** = petty whin; also *dwarf* furze, dog-rose, burnet-rose; **Heather, Ling, Moss, Needle whin** = petty whin (*b*); **Petty whin**, (*a*) Turner's name for the Rest-harrow, *Ononis arvensis*; (*b*) the Needle-furze, *Genista anglica*.

**1548** *MS. Land* 553/46. 18 Reta bouis is an herbe bt me clepp cammock whynne or calketrap. **1552** TURNER *Herbal* I. D 1, Petye Whyne, or grounde Whyne, or lytle Whyne is called in latyn, & Greke ononis, and anonis. . . In Northerye shyre thys herbe is called a whyne, but I putt pety to it, to make difference betwene thys herbe, and a fur: whyche in manye places of Englande is also called a whyne. **1579** LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 527 Restharrow, Cammok, or Petywhin. **1850** [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 45 Genistella.. Rest-Harrow or Petty Whin. **1884** *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 108 (E. D. S.) Our Land is tewgh, and full of..Cat-whins. **1763** *Museum Rust.* I. LXXXV. 377 Such barren sandy heaths where petty-whin, heather, and whins, plentifully grow. **1788** W. MARSHALL *E. Yorksh.* II. Gloss. (E. D. S.) Cat-whin, sb. *rosa spinosissima*, burnet rose. **a 1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Land-whin*, s. the rest-harrow. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Bot. & Zool. Berwick* II. 204 Moss-Whin : Heather-Whin : Moss-Whin. **1878** *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Cat-whin*, the dwarf whin. *Ulex nanus*. **1886** BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Lady-whin, *Ononis arvensis*, . Encyclopædia of Agriculture.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whin-bloom*, *-covert*, *-cow* (Cow *sb.*2), *-fence*, *-flower*, *-hack* (HACK *sb.*1), *-pod*, *-prick*, *-prickle*, *-root*, *-seed*; **whin-kid**, a bundle of whin; hence *whin-kid* vb., to fence or thatch with whin; **whin-locust** (sequoia); **whin-thrush**, a local name for the redwing, = WINNARD; **whin-wrack**, a species of grass (see quot.).

**1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Whin blooms, the yellow blooms of the whin. **1805** ALLINGHAM *50 Mod. Poems, Among the Furzebushes* 3 Mountains like *whin*-covert. When..the whinblom smells like honey. **1843** *Zoologist* I. 80 Walking through a straggling *whin-covert. **1806** *Scots Jrnl.* 28 Feb. in *Lockhart*, If you would have a horse kick, make a cruppet out of a *whin-kid [see *Jamieson*]. **BAILEY & CULLEY** *Agric. Cumberld.* 185 Large tracts . inclosed by *whin-fences. **1897** WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xvii, Making the gold cups round her neck look like dewy *whin-flowers struck by the sunrise. **1585–6** *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 231, iij *whine hackes. **1691** *N. Riding Rec.* V. 90 Six *whin kiddes. **1851** *Trans. Highl. Eng. Min. Prov.* I. 141 The author..has lately been.. warping silt, with whin or gorse kids, laid horizontally. **1876** *Mod. Yorksh. Gloss.*, s.v., The parcels of land [are]..whin-kyddled about. **1891** MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* I. 371 *Linaria cannabina*. The Brown Linnet.. *Whin Linnet. Greater Redpoll. **1802** *Journ. Brit. Birds* 65 Whin Linnet, the Common Linnet. **1874** STEVENSON *Jas. Fowns, On Usipicas. Places* 246 The . . crackling of the *whin-pods in the afternoon sun. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 13 The little white Field-Spider . . imbosst all over with black *Whin-pricks. **1896** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxvi, As if they had been sitting on *whin prickles. **1886** *Dundee Advertiser* (Surtees) 320 My good man's horse feet at a *whinne roote. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Harrows wi' teeth o' whunroots. **1765** A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 192 Every time that the land is turned into tillage, *whin seeds near the surface will vegetate. **1848** *Zoologist* VI. 2290 The redwing is in Gilloucestershire] a * whin thrush'. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Borw.* 222 *Holcus mollis*. . *Whin-wrack,—so called because it is found to occupy places whence Whins have been removed.

**Whin** 2 (hwin). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: **4 quin, 6 Sc. quihin, quhyn(e, 6, 9 whun, 8 whyn(n, 8– whin**, (9 **whinn**, *Sc.* **whunn, fin**). [Origin obscure.] = WHINSTONE.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7331 He tok fiue stanes rond o quin, And put pam in his scrip wit-in. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. vii. 8 Of ane cald hard quhyn, The clekkit that horrible monst, Caucasus hait. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 56 Greit craigis of quhin. 1599 Alex. Hume *Hymnes* iii. 133 The blew paymented with *prime* auni. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 12 If a Whin (which is the hardest sort of Stone…) lye in the way. 1790 Kendal *Geol. Ess.* 310 Carbonated wood is frequently found under trap, whin, or basalt. 1884 A. Miller *Coatbridge* I. 8 Where the limestone comes into conjunction with whin it is…much impregnated with pyrites.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*; as *whin boulder, -dike* (Dike *sb.* 9 b), *-float* (Float *sb.* 20 a), *gravel*; **whin-rock, whinstone**; **whin-sill**, a sill or layer of whin.stone; also as a name for whinstone.

1873 Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* xi. 252 Gravel and stones with large "whin" boulders. 1789 J. Williams *Mem. Kingd.* I. 29 Dykes of basaltes, or other hard stones, which are commonly called "whin dykes. 1884 E. Mackenzie *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 81 The Whin dikes are filled with basalt, which has apparently acted hot from the interior parts of the earth. 1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 619/1 A few faults in the magnesian limestone range of Durham and Yorkshire, along the line of the great whindyke. 1883 Gresley *Glass. Coal-m.*, **Whinstone*, a kind of greenstone, basalt, or trap, occurring in coal measures. 1799 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVII. 246 Clayey loams, limestone gravel, **whin* gravel. 1683 G. Sinclair *Nat. Philos.* 277 An impregnable **Whin*-Rock, or Flinty Stone. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xviii, I might ha' seen a rantin' **whin*-rock. 1808 Fordyth *Beauties Scot.* IV. 58 All the hills are whin-rock. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 748 In Cumberland the metalliferous limestone includes a bed of rock, designated under the name of "whinsill. 1845 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 756/1 The origin of the whin-sill. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* iv. 128 The toadstone in Derbyshire, or the whinsill in Teesdale.

**Whin** : see Whern, Whim *sb.*1 ¶.

**Whinberry** : see Whinberry.

**Whin-bush.** Forms: see Whin 1 and Bush *sb.*1; also 6 wyn-, 7 wine-. A furze-bush.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 Wyn bush, *ulex*, *sentinga*, *vallincula*, *paliurus*. 1565 Foxe *A. & M.* 1728/1 He tost a fagot at his face..and set a wynbushe of thornes vnder his forke. 1604 W. Cavendish (*Life*, ed. 2) 164 (1886) 252 Through some fields of furze and whin bushes. 1721 Ray say *To the Whin-Bush Club* 19 To come beneath your Whin-Bush Shade. 1888 J. Grant *Cameronians* iv. Masses of whin-bush (or gorse as it is called in England). 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* x, The gentle murmur of the breeze among.st the whin-bushes.

**Whinch**, obs. form of Winch.

**Whinchat** (hwin(t)sat). [f. Whin 1 + Chat *sb.*2] A small European bird, *Pratincola rubetra*, closely allied to the stonechat.

Also called locally *furze-chat*, *gorse-chat*.

1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 234 The Whin-chat,..In bigness it scarce exceeds a Thrush. The *Arithon* or *Morus* of Aristotle..differs from our Whin-chat in the colour of its Bill, and in the place where it lives; with our Chat abides especially in heaths, and among Furze-bushes. 1775 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* xli. (1789) 107 How the wheat-ear and whin-chat support themselves in winter cannot be so easily ascertained, since they spend their time on wild heaths and warrens. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 324/1 The flight of the Whinchat is undulating. 1892 R. B. Sharpe *Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 300 As the Whinchat leaves Britain, the Whinchat is a summer visitor to most parts of Europe.

**Whinder**, obs. var. Windek *sb.*, wigeon ; var. Winder *v. Obs.* to wither, etc.

**Whindle** (hwin(d)l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 *whinll*, 7–9 **whinnel**. [app. f. Whine *v.* + -le.] *intr.* To whine, whimper. Hence **Whindling** *vbl. sb.*; **Whindling** *ppl. a.*, weak, pining, puny; *fig.* trifling, petty. So **Whi·ndle** *sb.*, (*a*) a whining creature ; (*b*) a low cry, a whine.

1601 Munday & Chettle *Death Earl of Huntington* i. iii. B 2 b, He keepes a paltry whindling girle, And will not bed, forsooth, before he goes. 1609 [J. Johnson] *Damon & Pithias* (1817) 30 Leave off your whindling. 1611 Cotgr., Vn petit Pleurard, vn petit Whinnel. 1788 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Subscription* Wks. 1812 I. 284 Whindling Whigs, and whining Tories. 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* xii, Ilk wife sent forth a heavy whindle and heart-sair groan. 1808 Jamieson *Scot. Dict.* s.v., Whindle, to whine as a child.

**Whindle**, variant of Windle, the redwing.

**Whine** (hwain), *sb.* [f. next.] An act of whining ; a low somewhat shrill protracted cry, usually expressive of pain or distress ; a suppressed nasal tone, as of feeble, pain, or undignified complaint ; a complaint uttered in this tone. Also *transf.* a sound resembling this.

1633 P. Fletcher *Pisc. Ecl.* i. xxii, The whistling windes Joyn'd with the seas to plain, And o're his boat in whines lamenting creep. 1691 South *Serm., 1 John iii. 21* (1697) II. 470 By a few demure Looks, and affected Whines, set off with some odd, devotional Postures and Grimaces. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 131 P 2 The whine of condolence, or the growl of anger. 1808 Scott *Marm.* iv. Introd. 70 With dejected look and whine, To leave the hearth his dogs repine. 1820 Hazlitt *Table-t. Ser.* II. L (1869) 17 A peevish whine in his voice like a beaten schoolboy. 1893 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 244 The low whine which the ice gives out when we cut it at right angles with a sharp knife. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 603 The child utters a short cry or whine.

**Whine** (hwain), *v.* Forms: 1 **hwinan**, 4–7 **whyne**, 5–6 **wyne**, 6 *Sc.* **quhyn**, (7 **wheen**), 8 **wine**, 4– **whine**. [OE. *hwīnan* (only in *Wīdsīð* 128, of the whizzing of an arrow) = ON. *hvína* (Sw. *hvina*, Da. *hvine*) to whiz, whistle in the air ; the weak grade of the stem is represented in ON. *hvinr* white, late OE. *hwinsian* (of dogs) to whine (see Whinge).]

1. *intr.* To utter a low somewhat shrill protracted sound or cry, usually expressive of pain or distress ; to cry in a subdued plaintive tone : also occasionally merely referring to the tone. a. of persons.

*c* 1175 *Ninners Beware* 310 In *O. E. Misc.* 82 For chele hy gunne hwyne. For hunger hi hedde pyne. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 245 Ich rede tha come nuzt to me, ansueter last ha whyne. 1296 *Pligr. Parf.* (W. de W. 1531) 258 Not chaunt-yng nor brekyng your notes, nor whynynge in ye nose as many women done. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1182/2 Yet canne thys peuysshe gyrl neuer cease whining and pulyng for fear. *c* 1560 J. Sywart *Poems* (S.T. S.) II. 54 Scho quhyns, Scho schrikis, Scho wreyis, Scho vtheris for vo. 1606 Shak. *Lear* iv. vi. 191 Whining mammet, fill fiue o Boy you see him crindge his face, And whine aloud for mercy. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 92 If a Man should make love to Cordelia, and Tome his Mistress should be accused him ; and therefore he must whine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *To Whine*, to cry (squeekingly, as at Conventicles. 1729 Gay *Beggar's Op.* i. viii, The Boy thus, when his Sparrow's flown,..Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xiii, The crowd of beggars..whining for alms. 1868 Lowell *M. Agassiz Little Classics* viii. You can't go, Amy! so don't be a baby and whine about it.

b. of animals, esp. dogs ; also formerly, to whinny as a horse, or to cry as an otter.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1336 Pe leilmes pai seyen brigt & schire, Pe hundes whyne, and yeiden schire. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Hawking, Of a dogge that whyneth. 1591 Shak. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 250 Launce. Nay, 'twill make me laugh to see her whine. 1598 Florio *Montanine* s.v., Whine, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xiii, The crowd of beggars..whining for alms. 1868 Lowell *M. Agassiz Little Classics* viii. You can't go, Amy! so don't be a baby and whine about it.

b. of animals, esp. dogs ; also formerly, to whinny as a horse, or to cry as an otter.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1336 Pe leilmes pai seyen brigt & schire, Pe hundes whyne, and yeiden schire. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Hawking, Of a dogge that whyneth. 1591 Shak. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 250 Launce. Nay, 'twill make me laugh to see her whine. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Du Bartas*, *Handy-crafts* 1049 Whose whelps, whose hounds, whose bitches whine. 1633 P. Fletcher *Pisc. Ecl.* i. xxii, The whistling windes Joyn'd with the seas to plain, And o're his boat in whines lamenting creep. 1691 South *Serm., 1 John iii. 21* (1697) II. 470 By a few demure Looks, and affected Whines, set off with some odd, devotional Postures and Grimaces. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 131 P 2 The whine of condolence, or the growl of anger. 1808 Scott *Marm.* iv. Introd. 70 With dejected look and whine, To leave the hearth his dogs repine. 1820 Hazlitt *Table-t. Ser.* II. L (1869) 17 A peevish whine in his voice like a beaten schoolboy. 1893 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 244 The low whine which the ice gives out when we cut it at right angles with a sharp knife. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 603 The child utters a short cry or whine.

**Whine** (hwain), *v.* Forms: 1 **hwinan**, 4–7 **whyne**, 5–6 **wyne**, 6 *Sc.* **quhyn**, (7 **wheen**), 8 **wine**, 4– **whine**. [OE. *hwīnan* (only in *Wīdsīð* 128, of the whizzing of an arrow) = ON. *hvína* (Sw. *hvina*, Da. *hvine*) to whiz, whistle in the air ; the weak grade of the stem is represented in ON. *hvinr* white, late OE. *hwinsian* (of dogs) to whine (see Whinge).]

1. *intr.* To utter a low somewhat shrill protracted sound or cry, usually expressive of pain or distress ; to cry in a subdued plaintive tone : also occasionally merely referring to the tone. a. of persons.

*c* 1175 *Ninners Beware* 310 In *O. E. Misc.* 82 For chele hy gunne hwyne. For hunger hi hedde pyne. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 245 Ich rede tha come nuzt to me, ansueter last ha whyne. 1296 *Pligr. Parf.* (W. de W. 1531) 258 Not chauntyng nor brekyng your notes, nor whynynge in ye nose as many women done. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1182/2 Yet canne thys peuysshe gyrl neuer cease whining and pulyng for fear. *c* 1560 J. Sywart *Poems* (S.T. S.) II. 54 Scho quhyns, Scho schrikis, Scho wreyis, Scho vtheris for vo. 1606 Shak. *Lear* iv. vi. 191 Whining mammet, fill fiue o Boy you see him crindge his face, And whine aloud for mercy. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 92 If a Man should make love to Cordelia, and Tome his Mistress should be accused him ; and therefore he must whine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *To Whine*, to cry (squeekingly, as at Conventicles. 1729 Gay *Beggar's Op.* i. viii, The Boy thus, when his Sparrow's flown,..Whines

1648 Howell *Serm., John xi. 27* (1640) 820 For the railing of a Coach, for the whining of a doore. 1663 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xliii. 109 The ...whenning of Whelps. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess., Eng. Clergy*, I am not for allowing the depravity of the times. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xliii. (1856) 386 A whining is made by Esquimaux. 1859 Jerrold *Brittany* vii. 86 The unmanly whining of disappointed vanity or morbid sentiment. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 908 The voice is enfeebled to whinings and fretful pulings.

**b.** *attrib. Whining cross* = Whipping cross.

1602 Barton *Wonders worth Hearing* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12 'i These yong men ..will ..leaue vs to make our prayers at whining crosse.

**Whining,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That whines; characterized by whining. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

In some technical uses (quots 1625, 1679) = Wheeping *ppl.a.* 15. Coonawitch in Farr *S. P. Edin.* (1845) II. 406 This did my whynging life endure awhile. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. x. (1912) 60 The whining Accent craving libertie. 1600 Shake *A. V. L.* II. vii. 148 The whining Schoolboy with his Satchell. 1625 Markham *Jurichm. World of Kent* 9 Whining passages, or teares of water (for, which some call such, A whining or weeping ground). 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 254 A whining puritanicall tubb preacher. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* II. 3 To have us two such whining crop-sick Lovers. 1679 Evelyn *Sylva* xx. (ed. 3) 87 Whyning, or shrivell'd Gelsier. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 142 P 2 A Man of Honour, not a Romantick Hero or a Whining Coxcomb. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v, The whining end of a modern novel. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* I. ii. iv. 278 The whining, canting tones peculiar to the Gypsies. 1888 *Times* 2 Oct. 7/4 The English mouse... cannot be got to take much interest in a whining policeman. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courr.* v, The whining wheel.

Hence **Whiningly** *adv.*

1660 Ingelo *Bentivi. & Ur.* II. (1682) 21 [They] talk whiningly. 1689 T. Plunket *Chirr. Gd. Comm.* Prol., Making those sweeters (whiningly) to yield. 1814 Byron *Let. to Moore* 3 May, I entreat you will not write whiningly neither hopes, nor pen-pects. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* xx, The dog becomes so fearfully restless and whiningly uneasy.

† **Whinion,** obscure obs. var. Whinyard.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* v. iii. 32 Be not afraid To gird thy whinion to thy trusty Thigh.

**Whinling, Whinnel**: see Whindle.

**Whinner** (hwi·nəɹ), *v. local.* [Frequentative of Whine *v.*: see -er 5.] *intr.* To whine (feebly). Hence **Whi·nnering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Whi·nner** *sb.*, a feeble whine.

c 1700 Kennett *MS. Lamd. 1033*, 1840 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 121 Lying on the floor insensible, or occasionally sitting up ...executing a sort of whinner. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xii. (1886) 223 To merely saw the resonant trees in the woods,...and ..heard their whinnering at night. 1866 Carlyle *Reminin.* (1881) II. 222 Poor whinnering old moneyed women. 1888 *Lippincott's Mag.* XLII. 453 A fitful, whinnering gust.

**Whinnock**[1] (hwi·nək). *dial.* Also 6 **qwenock, whinook.** [Celtic (Gael. *cuin(n)eag*, Ir. *cuinneog*, W. *cunnog*).] A pail, *esp.* a milk-pail.

1555 *Inv. R. Robinson, Kendal* (Somerset Hse.) A Qwenock & a skyll. 1594 *Inv. Cowper, Kendal* (ibid.) 1 Reck whinnocks. 1867 Ray *Coll. Words* 138 *A Whinnock* or Kit, a Pail to carry Milk in. 1879 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*

**Whi·nnock**[2], *dial.* Also 9 **whinock, winnick.** [? f. the root of Whine *v.* + -ock.] The smallest pig in a litter.

1791 Bay *S. & E. Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 92 A *Codnon*, the least of the Pigs which a Sow hath at one farg; it is also called the Whinnock. 1864 Webster, *Whinock*, the small pig of a litter. *Local U. S.*) 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Winnick*... 2. The smallest pig of a farrow. Will.

**Whinny** (hwi·ni), *sb.*[1] [f. Whinny *v.*] An act of whinnying; a (low or gentle) neigh, or similar sound.

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Whinny*, the half neigh, half bigger, of a horse, mare, or colt. 1847 Emerson *Poems* v. 442 The gray mare Is ill to live with, when her whinny shrill From tile to scullery. 1879 Meredith *Let. to T. Hardy* 17 Jan., One thinks of the big girl with a whinny. Fire 'Fire! 1891 White-Melville *Sarchedon* II, A troop of wild asses standing at gaze for a moment, to disappear with snort and whinny. 1894 *Crockett Raiders* xxxvii, I set my hands to my mouth,..and made the whinny of the heatherbleat [= snipe] palpitate across the moor.

**Whinny**, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. Whin[1], ? after *spinney*.] A thicket of whins or furze-bushes.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Nov. 1/1 Patches of the common ..retain the thick covering of gorse whinnies.

**Whinny** (hwi·ni), *a.*[1] [f. Whin[1] + -y[1].] Covered or abounding with whins or furze-bushes.

1482 *Durham Acc. Roll* (Surtees) 648 *Circa monuram de le Whynnyclose.* 1607 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 919 Any whin growing in whinnie grounds is full of sharp prickes and stumpes. 1768 Stebbing *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxxi, The Oxmoor ..was a fine, large, whinny, undrained, unimproved common. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xliv, The whinny braes of his native land. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxxv. 370 I've had a notion, that there's a mine o' copper ore aneath the whinny knowes.

**Whinny** (hwi·ni), *a.*[2] [f. Whin[2] + -y[1].] Of the nature of or containing whin or whinstone.

1789 J. Williams *Mtn. Rhymed* II. 6 The whinny and the argillaceous regularly stratified mountain rock.

**Whinny** (hwi·ni), *v.* Forms: 6 **whyn(n)ye, whiny, wynny.** -ie, 7–9 **whinney,** 9 **winny,** 6– **whinny.** [Imitative; cf. the earlier *whine* (14th cent.), *whrinny* (15th cent.), and L. *hinnire*.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: To neigh, esp. in a low or gentle way; also occasionally of other animals, as calves or certain birds, or of inanimate objects making a similar noise.

1530 Palsgr. 761/1 My horse whynyeth cherfully this morninge. *Ibid.* 762/2, I wynny, as a horse dothe. 1590 [Greene] *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 19 After an amorous wake or two, as old Jades wynnie when they cannot wagge the tayle. 1676 Hubbes *Iliad* xii. (1686) 173 The Horses when upon the Brink they were, Boggl'd and whinny'd, and refus'd to pass. 1683 Shake *Anat. Horse* II. ix. (1686) 93 Does the horse neigh, or whinney as they call it in some Countrys? 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiii, Dunpline..walked to his own stable-door, and there paused and whinnied for admission. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* vii, The colts in the horse-park..whinnied as they played together. 1898 O.W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii, French horses whinnied. 1885 Mrs. C. Praed *Rival Station* xiv, The calves whinnied in their pen as she approached. 1893 Kipling *Many Inventions, Finest Story* 124 The gaslight patted and whinnied. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxxvii, Again the bird [sc. snipe] whinnied in the air.

2. *trans.* To utter with a whinnying sound; to express by whinnying.

1815 Scott *Guy M.* II. 'He who shot young Hazlewood—ha, ha, ha!' burst forth the Dominie,'with a laugh that sounded like neighing...'Accidental! ho, ho, ha!' again whinnied Sampson. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxiv. 'I can't move.' Benson made a resolute halt. 'I must be fetched', he whinnied. 1888 Gunter *Mr. Potter* iv. 45 The donkeys ..whinny their pleasure as they drink.

Hence **Whi·nnying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (†also quasi-*adv.*).

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 358/2 *Hinnitus*,..the neying or whynying of an horse or mare. 1595 North *Plutarch*, *Lives* (1612) 1000 Like a horse that hath a whinnying nose, or whynnying of a goate. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. xvi. 63 Where they may neither heare the noyse of their dams, nor their dams heare their whinnying. 1655 Gurnall *Christian upon Ph.* 4, 7 ...run whynnying mad, For every woman that I see. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* viii, His low whinnying neigh, his pricked ears [etc.]. 1837 W. Irving *Bonneville* III. 179 At the sight a fantastic whinnying and squealing. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxx, Several small, whinnying laughs. 1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* xvi, There was no whinnying of the horse [= mare] and colt. 1885 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxv, The whinnying of swords as they whistled through the air.

+ **Whinny-whanny.** *Obs.* [Cf. Whim-wham, Whimsy-whamsy.] ? A trivial thing, trifle.

1673 Ray *N. Words* 39 Many such are in ingenious Play with the rest of your Whinny-whannyes' but where's the Plot?

**Whinse,** obs. form of Winge.

**Whinstone** (hwinstəun). Also Whinstone. [f. Whin[2] + Stone *sb.*] A name for various very hard dark-coloured rocks or stones, as greenstone, basalt, chert, or quartzose sandstone.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 39 On raggit tolkis of hard harsk quhyne stanis. 1763 W. Lewis *Phil. Comm. Techn.* 47 The Streets of whyn stone, which are the best of the streets of London have been lately paved. 1791 Bedford in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 65 Whether the basaltes proceeds southward...till it join the Elvin or whinstone, and granite of Devonshire and Cornwall. 1820 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Th.* 66 The strata are intersected by veins of whinstone, porphyry and granite. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder*, 279 In Scotland, where are built of whin-stone. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xxi, Granite red and grey, blue whinstone, yellow ironstone, were all mingled.

**b.** Whinstone or sleb of this rock. Often used *fig.* or *allusively*.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 744 Except I wer to force the with quhin staneis. 1803 *Gauttser Sc. at.* s.v. *Girnan*, The cook is generally flat and sandy, interspersed with large whinstones, with which most of the houses are built. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xi, The despair he felt...was ..such as would have melted the heart of a whinstone. 1897 — *Jrnl. 4 Aug.* in *Lockhart*, You might have been as well employed in battering a whin-stone. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xiv, He's a blue whinstane that's hard to dress. 1899 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 674 *Concerning* xiv, An author that you told me was breaking whin stones on the roadside.

c. *attrib.* Pertaining to or consisting of whinstone; also *fig.* hard, tough.

1818 E. Mellyn *Scenes 4 Leg.* xi. (1837) 167 The castle—a grey whin-stone building. 1879 Green *Short Hist.* ii. § 2. 25 The scant herbage scarce veils the whinstone rock. 1910 Buchan *Prester John* v, I haven't your whinstone nerves.

**Whinta(l)ne,** obs. forms of Quintain[1].

**Whiny** (hwai·ni), *a.* Also **whiney.** [f. Whine *sb.* or *v.* + -y[1].] Characterized by whining; disposed to whine, fretful. Also *whin(e)y pin(e)y*.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Glass., Whiny piny*, fretful, complaining. 1889 T. Mozley *Remin., Towns*, etc. I. 377 The sweet but rather whiny-ing-song of Northamptonshire. 1897 Sharp *Fiona Macleod Beth Bk.* iv. (1898) 90 No, you really are a whiny child, you always have a grievance.

**Whinyard** (hwinyaɹd). Now *Hist.* Forms: 5 **wynyeherd, whyneard,** 6 **whynarde, whinyeard, winniard,** 7 **whineyard, whyneard, whyniard, whinniard,** 7–8 **whinard,** 6– **whinyard.** [Of obscure origin; cf. Whinger *sb.*[1]]

A short-sword, a hanger.

1478 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 296 *Cum quadam armicudia vulgariter nuncupata Angelice* 'a whyneherd'. 1499 *Will of Lane* (Somerset Hse.) A whyneard with a chape of silver. a 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 261 And by his syde his whynarde and his pouche. 1563 Gatakker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 136 We shall not need to borrow great Alexanders whinard to cut this Gordian knot. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 480 His Pistol next he cocket anew, And out his nutbrown Whiniard drew. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 300 Who wear'd his Whinyard over her Loyn, as if he'd gone to Knight him. 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I. viii, The hunter... For the death-wound...Muster'd his breath, his whinyard drew. 1896-9 R. Buchanan *Trag. Dramas, Wallace* I. viii, I'd liefer Plunge this Scots whinyard in thy felon breast, Than in the heart of Turk or Saracen.

† **b.** ? A subtle 'blade'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1611 Chapman *May-Day* I. i, *Lor.* It is not Hector but Paris, not the full armefull, but the sweet handfull that Ladies delight in. *Aug.* O notable old whyniard.

**Whip** (hwip), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 **wippe, quippe,** 4–7 **whippe,** 5–6 **wyppe, whyppe, whyp,** *Sc.* **quhippe,** (4 **quyppe,** 5 **whipp, Sc. qwype, quhipe,** 6 *Sc.* **quhyp, quhipp, whupe),** 5–7 *Sc.* **quhip,** 6–7 **whipp,** (9 *Sc.* **whup**). 5– **whip.** [Partly f. Whip *v.*, q.v.; partly a. (M)LG. *wippe, wip* quick movement, leap, moment of time, lift for raising a well-bucket or hoisting cargo, lever, = Du. *wip* sce-saw, strappado, swipe, skip (*in een wip* in an instant, *met een wip* at one swecp), OHG. *wipph* (MHG. *wipf, wif*) quick movement. Fris. *wip, wipp*, in some of these senses, also = mousetrap, Sw. *vipp* pump-gear, early Da. *vip, vippe*, also *hvip* leap, skip, short distance, moment, swipe, flap, lappet, Da. *vippe* swipe, G. *wippe* see-saw, crane, swipe, windlass, pliable pole, etc. are from LG. (Early Flem. *wippe* whip, in Kilian, is dubious.)]

I. The instrument of flagellation, and connected senses.

1. An instrument for flogging or beating, consisting either of a rigid rod or stick with a lash of cord, leather, etc. attached, or of a flexible switch with or without a lash, used for driving horses, chastising human beings, and other purposes.

c 1325 *Glos. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 154 Ses chivaus deyt le charetier De as fowette (*gloss* a quippe) ou de sa route ger (*gloss* whippe). c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 686 *Charetter ad as fowette* (*gloss* whippe). c 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 406 For which Almachius dide hym to bete With whippes, til the fleesh hym fil of gan lete. c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 325 Hynde hym to a pelere,..Than skorge hym with qwyppys. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxvi. 3 Vnto the horse belongeth a whippe, vnto the asse a brydle, and a rodde vnto the backe of fooles. 1567 *Edinburgh Rec. in N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/2 Pt to Sporer for his attendans at 3^e^ chuche wh^t^ ye whyppe..2^d^. 1597 in T. *Atkinson's Archb. A Diary* (Surtees Soc.) 432 Irish thy youthe, rejoice to tholl the whupe. 1632 *Maldon, Essex, Burgh Deeds* Bundle 82 No. 2 (MS.), xiiid. paid Samuell Sturgeon for punishing of three persons by the whipp. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 122 The clust'ring Pack..hear with respect thy Whip Loud-clanging. 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* II. 48 The coachman snatched his whip. 1868 F. E. Paget *Lucretia* 173 Pack, fling, flick, flick, went the whip.

**b.** In fig. or allusive use: cf. Scourge *sb.* 2, 3.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 427 She may be youre purgatorie She may be youre hevene and youre whippe. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 118 Sterkenesse, y meene, riotoures whippe. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 234 This act established chiefly six articles, whereof...of some it was named the whip with six strynges. 1598 Shak. *L. L. L.* III. i. 176 And I forsooth in love, I that haue beene loues whip! 1685 Dekker *Rod for Run-awayes* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 278 Jehosh, when he is angry, holds three Whips...the Sword, Pestilence, and famine. 1647 (*title*) A Fresh Whip for all scandalous Lyers. 1700 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* II. iii, Revenge shall ..with her fiery whip Lash forth this lazy Ague from my Blood. 1817 D'Israeli *Curr. Lit.* III. 310 Fanatics, who had...smarted under the satirical whips of the Dramatists. 1881 Standard *Daily Chronicle* 17/3 Artificial manures act as ' whips ' or stimulants.

c. *transf.* The occupation or art of driving horses; coachmanship.

1798 Holcroft *Road to Ruin* II. 25 You may challenge the whole fraternity of the whip to produce such a Driver. 1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 81 The coachman of the Marquis,..observing the rival charioteer was mending his pace, resolved, like a true brother of the whip, to vindicate his right of precedence. 1851 Appleby *On the Road* 58 The take for the whip has undoubtedly declined.

d. Phrases. † *To drink or lick (up) on the whip*: to have a 'taste' of the whip, to get a flogging. † *A whip and a half*: a thrashing. *To take the whip hand from one's comfort or pleasure* (in allusion to the ancient Roman custom of attaching a whip and a bell to the chariot of a triumphing general, to drive away evil). *Whip and spur* (advb., usually with *ride*): using both the whip and the spur to urge the horse on; at one's utmost speed, at a furious pace: cf. Spur *sb.*[1] 2 a. *Whip behind!*, a cry to the driver of a horse vehicle calling his attention to the presence of some one riding on the back of the vehicle without his knowledge.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 378 If ye youre long tarryyng Ye shal hit on the whyp. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 688 He shal be sure, to drinke vpon the whippe. 1644 Cleveland *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 4 In all this Triumph there is a whip and a Bell. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I. 107 Care and the complent Character-Man are riding Whip and Spur who shall be the first Vacancy in Bedlam. 1884 Oliphant *Athelst.* i, To get rid of that Whip and a Bell, call'd my Wife. 1748 *Jrnl. to Dunc.* iv. 197 Each fierce Logician..Came whip and spur, and dash'd thro' thin and thick. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxvi, I rode whip and spur to fetch the Chevalier. 1835 Carrick etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 307 Some wandeidy weans cried 'whip behind! whip behind!'

**2.** An object resembling a whip: a slender flexible branch of a plant; a twig, sprig, switch; a collection or growth of such branches.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 1465/2 *Flagellum*,..the whip or smal topwig of the vine. 1881 E. Ingersoll

*Oyster-Industry* 250 *Whips*, slender branches used to mark the bounds of oyster-beds. (Connecticut.) 1908 S. E. White *Riverman* xv, What, in the early days, had been merely a whip of brush, now had become a screen.

3. A blow or stroke with, or as with, a whip; a lash, stripe; *pl.* a flogging. Now only *Sc.*

*c* 1445 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. ii. 894 Wipe a cheik bane of ane ass. . . He let about hym qwype for qwype. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 He will gyue hym a whip. 1567 *Satyr. Poems Reform.* v. 38 It war weill wairit he gat his quhippis. 1600 Shaks. *Hamt.* III. i. 70 For who would beare the whips and Scornes of time? 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xxi, He's a coorse cratur, an' maun hae's whups.

b. *fig.* An attack, access (of illness or calamity). *Sc.* (Cf. Whiff *sb.*1 1 c.)

1891 'H. Haliburton' *Occult Idylls* 89 Ye chose me—at a whip o' dearth—To represent ye. 1894 'Ian Maclaren' *Bonnie Brier Bush, Lachlan Campbell* iii, He's body hes a bit whup o' illnes.

c. *pl.* Abundance, 'lots'. *dial.* (Cf. Lashing *vbl. sb.* b.)

1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 558/2, I must have lost 'whips' of blood.

4. One who wields a driving-whip; a driver of horses, a coachman. (Usually with descriptive adj. or phr. expressing skill or style.)

1779 Sheridan *Rivals* I. ii, None of the London whips of any degree of *ton* wear wigs now. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiii, You're a very good whip, and can do what you like with your horses. 1855 Surtees *H. Coverdale* v, The old boy is nothing of a whip. 1884 Earl Malmesbury *Mem.* I. 16 He..drove four-in-hand better than any whip between Windsor and London.

5. *Hunting*. = Whipper-in I.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlv, The two whips..possessing marvellous dexterity in casting the points of their long heavy whips at the thinnest part of any dog's skin who dares to straggle. 1860 Ld. Lyttelton *Lect. Sporting Life* I. 197 Gentlemen, I have been with you thirty-two years—one year as second whip, five as first whip, and twenty-six as huntsman.

6. A member of a particular party in Parliament whose duty it is to secure the attendance of members of that party on the occasion of an important division. Originally called *whipper-in* (Whipper-in 2).

There are now four government whips, who receive salaries paid out of public money; the chief of them is Parliamentary Secretary (or Patronage Secretary) to the Treasury, the other three are Junior Lords of the Treasury.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* lviii, The Whip for his party handed it about..to keep it together who want to be off. 1855 Ln. Lonsdale in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. 373 There never was a division where the calculators and whips were more out of their reckonings. 1884 D. Anderson *Scenes in Commons* 214 Mr. Sheil, a Parnellite Whip. 1888 Hevle *Amer. Commw.* I. xiv. 308 There is neither Government nor Opposition; neither leaders nor whips.

7. a. The action of 'whipping up'; the members of a party for a Parliamentary division, or any body of persons for some united action.

1826 Ellenborough *Diary* (1881) I. 42, I hear Planta did not send out the notes for the division to-night till yesterday evening, so that there was a good deal of [*sic*] it was not to be made a Government question. . . On the other side there is a perfect whip. 1832 Lit. Lyttelton in *Corr. Sarah Lady L.* (1912) 301 *The* latter was a *put out*, consequently there would have been 152. There must have been a great *Whip*. 1862 Stanhope *Pitt* IV. 157 An anxious *whip* was made by *both* parties. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 2/2 As a demonstration of Parnellism..it was mainly drawn from Dublin. The whip-up from the country was even less successful than formerly.

b. A call or appeal to a number of persons for contributions to a sum or fund; now esp. *whip-round* (for some object of charity).

1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, If they would stand a whip of ten shillings a man, they might have a new boat. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 178, After the usual allowance of wine is drunk at mess, those who wish for more put a shilling each into a glass handed round to procure a further supply. 1874 Jefferies *Toilers of the Field* 96 Wine 'whips' are soon formed, and the sherry circulates freely. 1888 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 3/3 A 'whip round'..for the Robin Dinner Fund for poor children in London.

c. The written appeal or circular letter issued by a Parliament 'whip' to summon the members of his party.

1879 T. H. S. Escott *England* II. 149 Having issued the whip, the great thing for the whip himself is to see that members do not slip through his fingers. 1884 *Lpool. Mercury* 28 Feb. 5/6 The following five-lined whip, headed 'Most important,' has been issued to members of the Opposition.

8. A preparation of whipped cream, eggs, or the like.

1796 *World* No. 201. P 3 If he will not be satisfied with whips and creams, he may carry his voraciousness to more lasting cates. 1813 *Sk. Chert.* (ed. 2) I. 86 There's cold meat for the men, soups for the married ladies, and puffs and whips for the girls. 1883 *Amer. Dishes* 157 Chocolate Whips.

9. (associated or identified with sense 3.) A movement as of a whip or switch; a lashing motion; *spec.* a slight bending movement produced by sudden strain, as in a piece of mechanism, or in the barrel of a gun when fired.

1869 Mrs. E. Kennard *Landing a Prize* xv. (1892) 113 Hasty gave one backward whip of the [fishing] rod. 1898 *Jrnl. R. U. S. Instit.* Oct. 1140 The whip of the barrel when fired. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 4/2 The..frame [of a motor-car] is deepened in the centre to prevent whip.

II. A movement, and connected senses.

†10. A sudden, brisk, or hasty movement; a start; *occas.* a sudden gust. *Obs.* (Cf. Whip *int.*)

† *With a whip Sir John*: 'before you can say Jack Robinson'.

*a* 1552 Hall *Reynter D.* t. iii. (Arb.) 20 No haste but good, Madge Mumblecrust, for whip and whurre The olde prouerbe doth say, neuer made good furre. 1596 J. Heywood *Epigr. Epigr.* (1867) 69 Some hare in pinche turnth from him at a whip. *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 259 This man..wanischit away as he had beine..ane quhipe of the whirle wind. 1683 H. Howard *Defensative* E 4 b, The sodaine whippes of the wheele of fortune. 1832 Marbe *Celestina* III. 39 With a whip-Sir John, e'r you could scarce say this, she was here—here.

b. *Fencing*. A thrust in which the blade slides along the adversary's blade.

1771 Lonmergan *Fencer's Guide* 86.

11. The brief time taken by a sudden movement; a moment, instant. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

*c* 1450 *Sir Cleges* (Camden Soc.) 1537 Thre wawes..De whille in to rede lede Jan War turnel with'in a whipp. 1868 Jamieson s.v., *In a twhip*, in a moment. 1876 M. Mackintosh *Cottager's Day.* 65 Syne in a whip she let him in.

III. Something moved briskly.

†12. A 'spring trap' for catching vermin, etc.

1590 [Mascall] *Bk. Fishing*, etc. 63 The whippe or spring trappe. This Engine, is called the whip or springe. *Ibid.* 85 A whippe springe, made to take Bunnies and Kidds, etc.

†13. *Naut.* A handle attached to the tiller, formerly used in small ships: = Whipstaff 2. *Obs.*

1621 Cotgr. s.v. *Barre*, *La barre du timon*, the whip of the Rudder of a ship). *Ibid.*, *Molinet*, ..the roll wherein the whip of a Rudder-staffe goes. *a* 1624 *Northcotian Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), The Whippe is that staff which the Steeres-man dooth houlde in his hand, whereby he directes the ship. . . In greate shippes they are not vsed.

14. Each of the arms or radii carrying the sails in a windmill.

1759 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 149 *note*, The extreme bar is 2-3d of the radius (or whip, as it is called by the workmen), and is divided by the whip in the proportion of 3 to 5. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/1 In all the older windmills a shaft..carried four to six arms or whips on which the requisite narrow sails were spread.

15. A simple kind of tackle or pulley, consisting of a single block with a rope rove through it (*single whip*); used on board ship, and in mining, etc. for hoisting, esp. light objects.

A *double whip*, *whip on whip*, or *whip and runner* consists of a single block and a running block, the 'fall' or rope of the former being attached to the latter. *Whip and derry* = Whipsy-derry.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine*, *Whip*, a sort of small tackle,..generally used to hoist up light bodies, as empty casks, &c. out of a ship's hold, which is accordingly called whipping them up. 1778 Pryse *Min. Cornub.* 179 In this winding by the whip, a strict attention should be paid to the filling the kibbals to the brim. 1836 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxviii, He..made a whip, and lowered me on deck. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 367 *Whip-upon-whip*, or a double Whip, is one whip applied to the fall of another. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip and Derry*, an arrangement for raising the kibbal, by means of a rope men by passing over a pulley and attached to horse. 1904 Fitchett *Commander of 'Hirondelle'* xvii. 191 A whip was being rigged from the mainyard to hoist in the wounded.

b. (See quot.)

1808 Jamieson, *Whoops*, the name given to the instrument used for raising, what are called the bridgeheads of a mill.

IV. *Needlework*, *&c.* 16. A stitch of the kind described s.v. Whip *v.* 18; an overcast stitch; the projecting portion of the stuff between such stitches.

1592 Greene *Greene's Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 226 A Stomacher of Tufs Mockado, and a Partlet cast ouer with a prittie whippe. 1598 Florio, *Punto*, ..a point, a stitch, a round sort of a Stitch in Sowing. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 519 Take up every Whip, or portion of the roll, between the stitches.

17. *Weaving*. See quot.

1845 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 415 In the weaving of ribands and other ornamental works, many extraneous substances, totally unconnected with the warp or weft, are thrown in. These substances are made to adhere in the fabric by the intersection of the warp and the weft, and are by the weavers denominated whips. 1863 J. Watson *Weaving* 76, 208 Whips is the name given to a kind of gauze which is used for making the figures in lappet weaving, and it is made by twisting together so many ends of common yarn.

V. † 18. A bandage. *Sc. Obs.*

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 465 For claith to be wippes to Johne Balfouris sair leg. 1507 *Ibid.* IV. 15 For iiij elne Holland claith quhilk wes wippes to the Kingis arm that wes broik.

†19. A wreath, garland. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. iii. 19 Thar hedis dycht In wyppis of the haly herb vervane.

**Whip**, *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **whipped** (hwipt), **whipt**. Forms: 3 *wippen*, *hwippen*, 4 *wippe*, *wyppe*, 4–6 *wippe*, *whippe*, 5 *whype*, 5–6 *whyppe*, 6 *quip*, *wyp*, *Sc.* *quhip(pe*, *quhyppe*, 8–9 *Sc.* *whup*, *whoop*, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* *wip*, 6– **whip**. [The early history of this verb and its related sb. is uncertain. The senses of both no doubt represent several independent adoptions or formations. With the earliest uses of the vb. cf. (M)LG., Du. *wippen* to move up and down or to and fro, swing, oscillate, leap, dance, = MHG. *wipfen* to dance; from LG. are app. derived early Da. *wippe* to raise with a swipe, clip coin, also † *hwippe* to move quickly, leap, beat with a whip (?), Da. *wippe* to toss, sec-saw, Sw. *vippa*, G. *wippen* to rock, tilt, see-saw, strappado, Wris. *wuppe*, *wipfe* to move quickly. The base *wip-* is also represented by forms cited s.v. Whip *adv.*, and by several compounds, as (M)LG. *wipgalge*, Du. *wipgalg*, early Da. *wippegalge* strappado, Da. *wipbrøst*, early Da. *wippebrystgrue* bird-trap, Da. *wipplank* see-saw, *wipstaart* wagtail, *wipsnipe* flying visit, (M)LG. (G.) *wipper* money-clipper, LG. *wipwap* see-saw; and prob. G. *wipfel* tree-top, summit; Goth. *wifjia* 'crown' represents a sense-development ('wind or bind round', branch III below) which is more extensively exemplified by the form derived from the variants *weip-*, *waip-* (Goth. *waips* wreath, crown, *weipan* to crown, ON. *veifr* head-dress, (OHG. *weif* bandage; cf. Wire). Cf. the parallel ɜm-formations s.v. Swepe *sb.*1, Swip *v.*, Swore. The spelling with *wh* was presumably adopted as being symbolic.]

I. To move briskly, etc.

1. *intr.* †a. To flap violently with the wings.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1060 (Cotton MS.) Þi song mal bo so longe gengæ þat þu sinke wyppen [= *wippen*] in a sponge. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8107 When þey hadde longe to-gyder smyten,..Wyppyng wyp wenges,..Crachyng wip clawes.

b. *gen.* (†occas. *refl.*) To make a sudden brisk movement; to move hastily or nimbly; to slip or shift quickly; almost always with adverbial extension (*about*, *in*, *off*, *out*, etc.).

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 363 Sho..saw pe dure was oppyn, & whippid in & lokkid pe dure faste. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 109 b, When he by chaunce saw a man runnyng and whippyng about from place to place. 1548 — etc. *Erasm. Par. Matth.* ii. 24–17 The sicke of the palsey, when he whipt out of his bed, and went home with ease. 1592 Shaks. *Comm. Disput.* B 4, Why then quoth shee, steppe into this Closet, hee whipt in hastily. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. iii. 63 I whipt [Qo. whipt me] behinde her. 1604 Hawkins *Chron. Ired.* (1633) 289 The Bishop seeing..the imminent danger, whipt out at a backe doore. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 261, Ladies in a hurry to dress; whip over before they can get a passage back, [etc.]. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v. iii, If your own horses be ready, you may whip off with credit. 1786 Burn *Jacobiana* 1. 1 Not farre I to see our shucks keep, And a' like lamb-tails flyin. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxix, We'll whip in at the back door. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 19 The hare then whipped down hill. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arr.* xii, He whipped out of sight in a moment. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xvii. 186 The moment he [*sc.* a rhinoceros] got wind of me, he whipped round in his track like a cat and came for me.

†c. with *it*, in same sense (see also Whippet *v.*); also fig. in phr. *to whip it in with*, ? to ingratiate oneself with. *Obs.*

1590 Lodge *Acolastus* II. 1 M iv b, Whipping it aboute for ioye. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. iv. 216 Let's whip it away. *a* 1709 T. Brown *Amusem.* III. (1709) 46, I found my Neighbour K—..was made a Commission-Officer by the Name of Captain Whip 'em, Jingle: he had been Whipping it in with the Gentlewomen before mention'd.

2. *trans.* To move (something) in some way suddenly or briskly; to take, put, pull, push, strike, cut, flourish, etc. with a sudden vigorous movement or action; *freq.* to come *out* with; utter suddenly. Almost always with adverbial extension (*away*, *off*, *out*, *up*, etc.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr.-Kn.* 2049 When bow wypped of my hede at a wap one. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 1617 Wyþ þat stroke A sparcle of his brond. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 362 *Hanap Playe* 20, I wyppe yt in þi cote; a-non yt wer don. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. viii. 128 With hys brycht brand his tyght hand he of quhyppis. *c* 1540 *Rec. Aberdeen* (1844) I. 302 He..leaped his horse, whippet out his purse, & gaif Lord's Chaplain, they immediately whip on a long Scarf. 1746 Richardson *Pamela* I. 165, I popt down, and whipt my fingers under the upper Flap. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (ed. 2) 68, I'll engage to whip her off to France. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 98, I wheep't out my chive. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* III. 74, I'll come, Grimsby, I'll come, cried the new another opportunity of whipping in a pun. 1829 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 6 When the Protestants found themselves in danger of being oppressed..they whipt another king upon the throne, and kept him there. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. v, Whipping a dozen into prison or into the pillory. 1889 W. Clark Russell *Marooned* II. (1891) 6 These considerations..made me whip out, 'Miss Grant, it is settled. We'll sail together.'

b. *slang*. To drink quickly, 'toss off'. Usually with *off* or *up*. Hence *fig.* (see quot. 1687).

*a* 1600 Irish *Gentle Craft* Wks. (1912) 184 When they had whips off two or three cans of wine. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. v. 24 Whip me off this glasse neatly [1. *Jouette moy ce verre gualantement*]. 1687 Merge *Cr. Pr. Dict.* 11, To whip off a Thing, to make short work with it, *expedier depescher promptement*), *quelque Chose*. 1692 L'Estrange *Fables, Life Æsop* 11 The Fellow Whips up the Drink, and gives Xanthus the Pott again Empty. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 188 Two honest quarts..down gullet whips he.

c. To make *up* quickly or hastily.

1881 Cotgr., *Peste-bleu-larine*, a Priest that quickly whips over, or mumbles vp, his Breuiarie. 1697 Vanbrugh and *Pr.*

*King* 6 Fix upon the place of Treaty, . and whip up the Peace Like an Oyster. 1721 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 133 The Declination to the Master was whipp'd up. 1801 Tom. Nicholas *Nursing* 48 [The clever nurse] will not bring in the bad article, but not to disappoint the patient, she will whip up something else in a few minutes.

†3. To pierce with a sword-thrust; to run *through*. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipt through the Lungs*, run through the Body with a Sword. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 256 P 1 To make the sun shine through the criminal, or, . to whip him through the lungs. 1842 C. Whitehead *R. Savage* xx, Why, you're not going there?.. This fellow.. would make nothing of whipping you through the body.

4. *Fencing. intr.* To make a thrust in which the blade slides along the opponent's blade. Also *trans.* with the blade as obj.

1771 Lonsdean *Fencer's Guide* 90 By disengaging after you whip, you have Quarte-over-the-arm. 1861 G. Chapman *Foil Practice* 13 Some fencers .. perform the Parries of Quarte and Tierce by whipping the blade, with a forward action, along that of the adversary's. 1889 W. H. Pollock *Fencing* iv. (Badm. Libr.) 82 The point must be raised towards the left shoulder, the hand drawn back a little towards the fencer's left breast, so that he may whip his blade neatly over the adversary's point.

5. *Naut., etc. Trans.* To hoist or lower with a whip (Whip *sb.* 15).

1769 [see Whip *sb.* 15]. 1835 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 3c]. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 336 The chair was 'whipped' up again in instantly.

II. To use a whip, strike with a whip.

6. *trans.* To strike or beat with or as with a whip. a. To punish or chastise with a whip or rod; to scourge, flog. Also *loosely*, to beat (esp. a child) with the hand or otherwise, to spank.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 716 Eek David seith: that .. they shul not been whipped with rodes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 To whippe, *flagellare*. 1583 *Alchemy's Rec. in N. & Q.* 7th Ser. V. 11. 367/2 I'd for a tart the gromes maide was whipte at vi^d. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 210 Come thou chide, fie whip them with a rod. 1602 — *Lear* I. iv. 199 And you lie sirrah, wee'l haue you whipt. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 85 The pictures of Christ whipped, of Christ carrying his crosse, and of Christ paynting the garden. 1624 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1. i. (ed. 2) 356 She..whipped him [sc. Cupid]..on the bare buttocks with her pantophle. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 214 If the Whyps meddle with my Sheepe, they must be tied to any Dead she-pes, and whipped soundly'. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 76 P 3, I must whip my children for going into bad company. 1726-31 Wallington *Derw. Isle of Man* (1865) 30 Two or three of them seized her, and pulling up her clothes, whipped her heartily; ..she ran home.., telling what had befallen her, and showing her buttocks on which were the prints of several small lashes. 1758 Chesterf. *Let. to Dayrolles* 18 Oct., If a poor child is to be whipped equally for telling a lie, or for a snotty nose, he must of course think himself equally criminal. 1813 E. S. Barrett *Heroine* III. (1909) 17 Master Bobby..mewed like a cat, when he was whipt. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxii, She deserves to be whipped, and sent to bed. 1868 Rawlinson *King & Rk.* ii. 1243 Ah, being young and pretty, 't were a shame To have her whipped in public.

b. To drive *away*, *out*, etc. with a whip. Also *fig.* 1565 *Stanford Churchw. Acc. in Archæology* XVII. 169 For whipping dogges from y^e churche. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V* v. i. 29 Consideration like an Angell came, And whipt th' offending Adam out of him. 1611 Cotgr., *Fouetter*, to whip, *Fr. Baptist* (1723) 100 Tho' he whipt some out of the Temple, yet he never whipt any into his Church. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 157 P 1 We have so many Hundred unaccountable Creatures every Age whipped into great Scholars. 1727 — *Ibid.* No. 509 P 2 The..boys, were whipped away by a beadle. 1821–8 Shelley *Chas. I*, ii. 58 If all turncoats were whipped out of palaces, poor Archy would be disgraced in good company. 1878 Robt. Dick in Smiles *R. D.* viii. 82 The storm fairly whipped six vessels out of Scrabster Roads.

c. To drive or urge on (a horse, etc.) with strokes of a whip. Also (occas.) *absol.*

1587 Marcall *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 118 Let him neuer vse to beat them [sc. horses] with the stock of the whip, but to whip them with the lash. 1598 Chapman *Iliad* IV. (1611) 70 Saturnia whipt her horse, her golden gates pursued by Howres, opte by their proper force. *c* 1661 *Ibid.* xv. 319 All their whipt chariots on. 1704 Nies. Radcliffe *Myst. Iniquity* VI, The man whipped his mules till they went as fast as possible. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xiii, The coach, and the coachman, and the horses, rattled and jangled and whipped. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. xiii, Your lordship will upset the carriage if you whip so hotly. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiii, So, whipping up his horse, he drove there. 1889 Guinter *That Frenchman* xiii. 164 The driver..sees a chance to get an opening in the crowded street, and suddenly whips up for the effort.

d. Hunting. *Whip in*: to drive (hounds) with the whip back into the pack so as to prevent them from straying; *absol.* to act as whipper-in. *Whip off*: to drive (the hounds) with the whip away from the chase; *absol.* to give over the chase.

1730 [implied in Whipper-in 1]. 1890 *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 80 The hounds were whipped off, as the evening was closing on us. 1892 *Field. Dec.* 458 James Stacey..formerly whipped in to the late Lord Fitzhardinge's hounds. 1897 *Field* 19 Feb. 231/1 Morris Hills, who whipped in to the Queen's Staghounds under Davis and King.

e. To spin (a top) by striking it with a whip.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 69 Thou disputes like an Infant: goe whip thy Gigge. 1598 — *Merry W.* v. i. 27 Shun I..plaide Trewant, and whipt Top. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII. 528 As young Striplings whip the Top for sport. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xxxvii. (1896) II. 273 A nice little girl whipping a top on the pavement.

7. *Confectionery, etc.* To beat up into a froth (cream, eggs, etc.) with a fork, spoon, or other instrument; to prepare (a fancy dish) in this way; also *fig.* See also quot. 1845.

1673, 1691 [see Whipped *ppl. a.* 3]. 1769 Eliza Moxon *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 123 Whip it with a whisk, take off the froth as it rises. 1845 C. E. Hart in *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 177 If the blood be whipt with due care, the fibrin is obtained in a thick..mass, surrounding the twigs of the rod. 1890 C. Bigge *Shirley* xxxvi, When did I whip up syllabub sonnets? 1895 Montrésor *One who looked on* 7, I went to the kitchen to whip a straw berry cream.

8. *Angling.* To cast the line upon the water with a movement like the stroke of a whip; to draw a fly or other bait along the surface by such a movement; *intr.*, or *trans.* with the bait or (usually) the water as obj.

1653 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 1 d]. 1832 Lytton *Eugene Aram* I. ix, Now he whipped it [sc. the fly] lightly on the water; now he slid it capriciously along the surface. 1838 James *Robberis*, He prepared to ascend the stream, whipping it as he went with the light fly. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* xxix, He worked away, whipping industriously and mechanically. 1904 Bindloss *League of Leopard* ii, [He] whipped several pools unsuccessfully.

9. *trans.* To strike like a whip, lash; to move or drive in this way.

1591 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 69 The Wind..blew so violently ..that the Boughs of the Trees whipt them, .before they got thither. 1706 [see Whipping *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1799 W. Nicol. *Dyer's Comp.* 319 Suffer the yarn to whip from one pin to another; keep the extremities of all side branches just touching one another. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxiii, One gusty, wet day, .. when whipping the pavements 1869 Jn. Lytton *Cyprat* 67 On the wind That whips one through this wither'd waste. 1880 *Garden* 24 Jan. 25/3 The foliage..whipped by the branches of other trees. 1884 Mabinglish *Sporting* 30 The primitive method of whipping the cotton with willow wands.

b. *intr.* To lash, swish; also, to bend or spring like a whip or switch.

1870 *Rep. Insp. Mines* 140 *Iron.* 44/1. Lest the twigs should whip back into my face. 1893 H. M. Doughty *Our Wherry* 76 We could see the mast .. whip with the weight. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* iii, The chill wind whipping about my shanks.

10. *trans.* To bring, get, render, make, or produce by whipping (*lit.* or *fig.*).

1635 J. Taylor (Water I.) *Old, Old Man* D 3, Those Kings *Jesse, Iroath* & *Hezekiah* Having had *Life* whip'd from them at School. 1842 Hone *Every-Day Bk.* I. 1192 A clown going round and whipping a ring: that is, making a circular space amongst the spectators with a whip. 1884 Hawkis *My Musical Life* 11 I taught me how to whip Instead of scraping the sound out [of the violin]. 1889 *Cornhill Mag.* Apr. 356 The cold has whipped red roses on her cheeks.

11. *fig.* To urge, incite, torment; to punish, chastise; to administer severe satire or reproof to. 'lash', 'castigate'.

1530 Palsgr. 781/1, I whyppe with a shrode tourne, *je baille belle.* a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 178 b, With what great torment & inflictions God hath whipped & scourged this miserable Isle. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 231 Now step I forth to whip hypocrisie. 1651 H. More *Antidote, Pref.* (1656) 82 So unmercifully to whip his poor Aristotle. 1831 James *Philip Augustus* (1832) I. 49 Who is likely .. that would little unforeseen accident ..should prove our best executioners false, and whip us with our own policy! 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* iii, I've guessed the girl more closely to himself because the pain whipped him.

†b. esp. *impers.* as a mild execration: = 'confound', 'hang'. *Obs.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 49 Whip me such honest knaues. 1608 — *Per.* IV. ii. 91 Marie whip the Gosseling. 1750 *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 221 And yet, whip it, there is a satisfaction in reflecting (etc.). 1872 Spilling *Gilst's Trip* ix. (1900) 109 Whip me, if you'll be whipped if the same mischievous brute han't managed to get it throw them wires.

12. To overcome, vanquish, defeat; to surpass, outdo: = Beat *v.*[1] 10. Now *U.S. colloq.*

1591 Spenser *Virg. Gnat* 549 Whip me such honest knaues. 1608 — *Per.* IV. ii. 91 Marie whip the Gosseling. 1750 *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 221 And yet, whip it, there is a satisfaction in reflecting (etc.). 1872 Spilling *Gilst's Trip* ix. (1900) 109 Whip me, if you'll be whipped if the same mischievous brute han't managed to get it throw them wires.

13. To overcome, vanquish, defeat; to surpass, outdo: = Beat *v.*[1] 10. Now *U.S. colloq.*

1638 — *Comedies, Trag.*, Poems 149 Whip me such honest knaues. 1668 — *Per.* IV. ii. 91 Marie whip the Gosseling. 1750 *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 221 And yet, whip it, there is a satisfaction in reflecting (etc.). 1872 Spilling *Gilst's Trip* ix. (1900) 109 Whip me, if you'll be whipped if the same mischievous brute han't managed to get it throw them wires.

14. (orig. *fig.* from 6d.) To summon to attend, as the members of a party for a division in Parliament, or any body of persons for some united action. Const. *in*, *up*; also simply or *absol.* Cf. Whip *sb.* 6.

1769 (May 8) Burke in Sir H. Cavendish *Debates Ho. Comm.* (1841) I. 406/1 [Here Mr. Burke mentioned the ministry's sending for their friends to the north and to Paris.] whipping them in [than which, he said, there could not be a better phrase]. 1809 M. Cutler in *Life, etc.* (1888) II. 192 On the question of the Georgia claims..he undertook to whip in his party. 1833 Macaulay *Let.* 28 Oct. in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1876) I. v. 336 Lord Essex was there,..whipping up for a dinner-party. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 62 With no room for trickery or cajolery, or whipping-up uninformed voters. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Sept. 9/1 The Liberals will probably support it and whip for it. 1898 J. Hollingshead *Gaiety Chron.* I. 23 A literary friend .. whipped up a small syndicate of companions to support me.

†15. *fig. phr.* Streaked, striped. (After F. *fouetté.*) *Obs.*

1823 Lowndes *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 237 Another sort [of fig]..is pretty black, having only its Skin a little whipt with gray. 1699 L. Meagre *Art of Gardening* 239 It hath white Leaves edged and whiped about, and feathered in the middle with a deep green whipped stem. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 241 [Tulip] of a sad Red-colour about the Edges, whipped with Crimson.

16. Phrases. a. *To whip the cat*: used (chiefly *dial.* or *techn. colleq.*) in various senses, some of which are not satisfactorily explained.

† (*a*) To get drunk; ? = 'to shout the cat'. (*b*) ? To lay the blame of one's offences on some one else. (*c*) To work as an itinerant tailor, carpenter, etc. at private houses by the day. (*d*) To play a practical joke, for deception of which the cat *sb.*[1] 14. (*e*) To practise extreme parsimony. (*f*) To shirk work on Monday. (*g*) *Cards.* (See quot. 1854.) Cf. *whip-cat* (under Whip- 2).

1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Arrant Thiefe* (1625) C 2 b, To be a Drunkard, and the cat to whip, is call'd the king of all good Fellowship. 1793 *Gentl. Mag.* 1107/2 Jane in *Daily Chron.* (1902) 5 July 5/2 'Whipping the Cat!'— 'Murderous' ashes were dispersed as belonging to a traitor, by the patriot Bristol, who he says is a villain by the patriot Equality[, etc.]. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *To whip the cat*, to practise the most pinching parsimony, grudging even shreds and scraps to the cat. In Suffolk the phrase..is applied to a practice..of the village tailor going from house to house to work. 1842 S. Judd *Margaret* iii, Made shoes, a trade he prosecuted in an itinerating manner from house to house—'whipping the cat,' as it was termed. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., When one of the players at the game of whist wins all the tricks in one deal, he is said to whip the cat. 1859–[1902] *Slang Dict., Whipping Dict.*, where an operative works at a private house by the day,—term amongst tailors and carpenters. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang*, To *whip the cat* is modern working-men's slang for shirking work and enjoying oneself.

b. *To whip the devil round the post* (U.S. *around the stump*): see Devil *sb.* 22 n.

1786 *Belknap Papers* I. (1877) 427 What the Virginians call 'whipping the devil round a stump'. 1841 *Penny Cyclop.* 7 July 132/3 Many men in the State Legislatures.. have run their constituents so deep in debt, that now they want to whip the devil around the stump, and get somebody else to tax them. 1887 *Yazoo Mail* in J. M. Dixon *Fifti. Ann. Phr.* s. v. *Devil*, It is asserted..that the devil might be whipped round the Tientsin Convention.

III. To bind round.

This group of senses is prob. represented earlier in the compound Whipcord, which appears 1318–19.)

17. *trans.* To overlay (a rope, string, or other object) with cord, thread, or the like wound closely and regularly round and round; to bind round or 'serve' (Serve *v.*[1] 54 a) with cord, etc. Also, to bind (cord, etc.) in this way round something.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyppyn, as aylke womene (*K.*, *P.* whippyn or clappyn theyr sylke), *retorqueo*. 1561 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 100 For whippinge the seconde belle rope..ij d. 1582 Styward *Mart. Disciplı.* i. 49 They must haue..their lines whipped & trymmed ouer with glew. 1626 Sharp. & Marsh. *Country Farm* iv. xvi. 512 Then with a silke thred, of the colour of your line, whip and wraye the hooke round about. 1652 T. Barker *Art of Angling* (1820) 15 Lay..the poynt of the feather towards the shank of the hook, then whip it three or four time[s] about the hook with the..silk. 1676 Cotton *Angler* ii. v. 39 Take a strong small Hair, and whip it on twice or thrice about the bare hook. 1682 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* I. § 2. (1689) 9 Whale-bone made round & taper, & whip'd with Shoemaker's Wax and Silk. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine*, *To Whip*,..to tie a piece of pack-thread, spun-yarn, &c. about the end of a rope, to prevent it from being untwisted. 1793 *Encycl. Brit.*, *Angling* 536 He begin[s] at the opposite..corner of the Plattin, and lashes and whips that. 1856 Ronalds *Fly-Fisher's Entom.* 28 Holding a fine thread well waxed..in one hand, whip a part of it three or four times round the shank and the bend of the hook. 1887 Rider Haggard *Allan Quatermain* iv, It was whipped round at intervals..with copper wire.

b. To fasten or 'seize' (Seize *v.* 10 b) by binding in this way.

1760 Sir J. Hawkins *Walton's Angler* 254 *note*, For whipping on a Hook take the following directions. 1787 Hunt *Angling* (ed. 2) 20 Cut about six inches of the end of the rod, and in its place whip on a smooth round and taper piece of whalebone. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 June 6/2 The old method of whipping on the wings..is objectionable for wet-fly fishing. 1888 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 69 The side linings [of a Wellington] are whipped or hemmed on with either awl or needle.

18. *Needlework.* †a. ? To trim or ornament with embroidery (*obs.*).

1598 [see Whipped *ppl. a.* 1]. 1598 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 221 Vnlesse..Dromio..draw on ouer with the best Spanish Satine, and..curiously ouer whip with gold twist. 1612 Webster *White Devil* K 2, A Lawyer In a gowne whipt with veluet. 17.. Drury *Rival Milliners* I. ii, All the Day We're forc'd to whip and stitch the Time away. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* II. *Aunt Fanny* 61 Whipping the Frill. 1843 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xivi. (1856) 493 They have been busy..whipping and stitching the seal-skins with reindeer tendon thread.

†**19.** *trans.* To bind about, wreathe, entwine. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1500 *Knowledge of Christ* 8 Hnill, in my Hert with I.ufe wippit Intern I 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* vii. Thair brycht hairis . . In tressis clere, wyppit [*Bodl.* 1630 wypit] wyth goldyn thredis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vii. 114 To the, Bacchus, scho raisit . . Gret lang sperja, . . With wyne tre branchis wyppit. [1801 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. *Gloss.*, *Quhip, Wipp, Wipe*, to bind about.]

†**Whip,** *int.* and *adv. Obs.* [The vb. stem used as int. and adv.; cf. Du. *wip* (e. g. in *en twip vast hij weg !*), and LG. *wip*(*p*)*s.*] Suddenly, forthwith, instantly, in a trice; quick ! presto ! Also in comb., as *whip-dash*, *-slap*.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 518 in *Macro Plays* 50 'Farewell', quod I; 'be deuyll ye wppe !' *Ibid.* 554 Wyppe wyrre & care a-wey ! [*Cf.* quot. a 1553 *s. v.* WHIP *sb.* 21.] 1545 W. SMITH *Weddinge Edyth* (1573) F j, Whip quod Thomas and got him down ward And commeth agayne with the cup full. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 309 Whip to our Tents. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 19 You should see how I would shew my parts, Whip, dash. *Ibid.* 26 With a helter-skelter, whip-dash. 1699 A. ROBERTS *Voy. Levant* 5 If any one happen to say anything amiss, whip 'tis at the Capitaines ears. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 341 When I came, whip, was the key turned upon their girls. 1806 *Simple Narr. I.* 167 But, before I could say Jack Robinson, he sprung into the chaise.

**Whip-** In combination.

**1.** Combinations of the sb. **a.** General attrib., as *whip-crack*, *-leather*, *-mark*, *-thong*. **b.** Instrumental, objective, similative, etc., as *whip-cracking*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-smacking* ; *whip-corrected*, *-like*, *-shaped*, *-wielding* adjs. **c.** Special combs. : **whip-beam,** the white-beam (cf. *whip-crop* below) ; **whip-bird,** an Australian bird (*Psolophes crepitans*) with a note resembling the crack of a whip; also called *coach-whip bird*; **whip-bush** (*ob. humorous nonce-wd.*), ? taste of the whip ; a flogging ; †**whip-cart** (see quot. ; cf. LG. *? wipkarre*) ; **whip-club,** a driving-club (also *attrib.*) ; hence **whip-clubbist,** a member of a whip-club ; **whip-craft,** the art of, or skill in, driving ; **whip-crane,** a crane with a †'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15) for hoisting ; **whip-crop,** a local name for several shrubs or trees whose stems are used for whip-stocks, as the white-beam (*Pyrus Aria*) and the wayfaring tree (*Viburnum Lantana*) ; **whip-fish,** a chætodont fish, *Heniochus macrolepidotus*, having a dorsal spine elongated into a filament like a whip-lash; **whip gin** = WHIP *sb.* 15; **whip-grass,** a species of *Scleria* (see quot. 1858) ; **whip-handle,** the handle of a whip, a whipstock ; also *fig.* (see quot. 1653 ; with quot. 1861 cf. WHIP-HAND 3) ; **whip-hangor** = *whip-rack* ; **whip-hen,** *Needlework*, a hem formed by 'whipping' or overcasting (see WHIP *sb.* 16, *v.* 18 b) ; **whip-hold,** control (WHIP *sb.* 2) ; **whip-horse,** a horse employed in hoisting by means of a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15) ; †**whip-lads** [? LADE *sb.*?] = *whip-cart* ; **whip-land** (*local*) : see quot. ; **whip line,** (*a*) = WHIPCORD 1 ; (*b*) the line or rope of a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15) ; **whip-net,** technical name of a simple kind of network ; **whip-rack,** a rack with notches for hanging whips upon ; **whip-ray,** a fish of the family *Trygonidæ*, having a long slender flexible tail resembling the lash of a whip, and armed with a serrated spine ; a sting-ray ; **whip-roll,** *Weaving* (see quot. 1875) ; **whip-scorpion,** an arachnid of the genus *Thelyphonus* or some allied genus, related to the scorpions, and having a long slender abdomen like a whip-lash ; **whip-shaft** = WHIPSTOCK 1 ; †**whip-sloven,** ? a sloven who deserves whipping ; **whip-socket,** a socket fixed to the dash-board of a vehicle to hold the butt-end of the whip ; **whip-stick,** (*a*) a whipstock, or a pliant stick used as a whip ; (*b*) applied in Australia to a dwarf species of *Eucalyptus* ; **whip tail,** a (dog's or horse's) tail resembling a whip (see also WHIPTAIL) ; **whip-thread,** †**whip-wood** (see quots.) ; **whip-worm,** a parasitic nematoid worm of the genus *Trichocephalus*, consisting of a stout posterior and slender anterior part, like a whipstock with a lash.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 180 A Sallow Hedge was the first Advantage of . . others, . . because it may be thickned at Pleasure . . ; Beech and Hornbean [*sic*] will grow after this manner; . . Ash worse, Maple and †Whip-bean [*sic*] not at all. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 177 The 'whip-bird, which surprised I hear. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* XXV, The bell-bird rang its silvery peal, and the whip-bird gave its coachman's click. 1815 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylors Rev.* Wks. 1630 II. 143 Where I was ill thought of, . . and . . in a greater pizzell then the blinde Beare in the midst of all her †whip-bushes. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 257 A sort of Cart they call a Whip-lade, or †Whip-cart, whose hinder part is made up with boards after the manner of a Dung-cart, having also a head of boards. . ; which head being made so as to be taken out or left in, the Cart may be indifferently used to carry . . dung, when the head is in, and Corn, etc. when taken out. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 94 The †'Whip-club-blade' with four in hand ; beaded ribbons grey'. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 433 They belonged to a Spanish whip-club. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* III. 39 If the nobility of France had not degenerated into †whip-clubbists, . . and opera-house commides-men. 1850 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. XXI. As an unruly charger †whip-corrected. 1893 *T. Adams New Egypt* 130 With . . a cascade of †whip-cracks, the two light-footed Arab horses are at once *en route*. 1775 J. [SKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 69 An English-man at Tours who took a lesson of †whip-cracking every day from a postillion. 1835 W. S. HAY *Sailor's Life & Sailor's World* II. The whip-cracklings, and shouts of the whips as they encouraged . . the hounds. 1865 *Athenæum* 4 Feb. 171/3 Divers turnings and †whipcraft feats. 1883 *19th Cent.* July 151 Half a dozen †whip-cranes . . would . . pull up these boxes with great rapidity. a 1850 BROMFIELD *Flora Vectensis* (1856) 169 *Tyrtæi Aria*, . . White Beam-tree. Vect. †Whipcrop. In the long, straight and very tough shoots are cut for whip-handles by waggoners. *Ibid.* 235 The slender stems [of *Viburnum Lantana*] are used . . for whip-handles, . . as might be inferred from the vernacular name of †Whip-crop. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., †*Whip Gin*, a simple tackle-block, over which a hunting-rope runs. 1818 T. NEVILL *Remains of Lower Orders* 111 Sussex Gazetteer (Whip-grass). [*Cf.* 1858 HOOG *Veg. Kingd.* 808 The long, straight leaves of *Scleria*] *Agellum* are armed with fine, sharp, cutting teeth, and are much in request for flogging negro slaves in the West Indies.] 1653 UNQUHART *Rabelais* II. XXVII. 176 These little ends of men and dandiprats, whom in Scotland they call †whiphandles [orig. *manches à fouetter*]. 1861 in *Country Mag.* (1880) I. 932/2 They know that we shall keep the whip-handle. 1911 *Bram 'Dreadnought' of Darling* XXXV, Joe Fagan . . had taught him to make whip-handles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, †*Whip-hanger*, an annular rim or bracket provided with notches, into which the ends of the suspended whips fit. 1866 ROCK *Church of Our Fathers* III. 3 The lists of ruffling . . with their edges in almost invisible †whip-hems. 1895 ANNA M. STODDART *T. S. Blachie* I. 211 He had recourse to . . those heavily imposed, and too kept moderate †whip-hold of the team. 1891 R. E. HOLDERNESS *Hereto Right* viii, Wa . . bought a †'whip horse', which staunch and well-trained animal drew up the precious gravel. 1677 †Whip-house [see WHIP *sb.* 15] DAVIES *Agric. Virgins* 159 †*Whip Land*, land . . measured out (when ploughed) by the whip's length. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 138 They quickly . . lose their †whip-leather. 1891 *Nat. Sporting Cycl. Anat.* IV. 8/2 A †'whip-like moveable proboscis. 1883 SAVILLE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 40 The whipliks inpenalgues or flagella of the cells. 1581 in Feuilleret *Recrts Q. Eliz.* (1908) 353 For †whip lyne. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 91/3 The whip line of the apparatus [*sc.* breeches buoy] . . got round the neck of the seaman. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2579/4 With the Whip-line, Stirrup and Iron. 1875 KNIGHT *G. Hamlyn* XXXIX, The most accomplished whipmaker. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 947/2 The main items of expense in 'whip' material are ratlins, whip-cord, and whip-line. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* I. XVI, With the cabman's †whip-marks red across his face and hands. 1839 *Usef. Arts* I. 238 The mail-net . . is a contrivance . . to prevent game and the †whip-net in the same fabric. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, †*Whip-rack*. 1899 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 73 The Whipray differs from the other two sorts, in having a longer Tail and ending with a Knob, shaped like a Harpoon. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 34 *Trygon centrurus*. . . Sting-ray ; whip-ray ; stingaree. 1883 J. WATSON *Australia* II. 219 Below the yarn beam, on each side of the loom, the brackets are fixed for the gudgeons of the †whip rolls to run in. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-roll* (*Weaving*), a roller or bar over which the warp passes from the yarn-beam to the reed. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv, The masts trembled, and the spars aloft bent like †whip-saplings. 1858 HOOG *Veg. Kingd.* 808 †*Whip-shaped*, lyriform. a 1549 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 38 Thes tawyne †whip-slouens. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Boërland* 259 He . . set upon infernal †whip-smacking. 1895 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, †*Whip-socket*. 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle Unrest* xvii, He twisted the reins round the whip-socket. 1782 J. ADAMS *Diary* 26 July, Wks. 1851 III. 297 One of the grooms ran out to fix the wheel into †whip-sticks. 1892 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* XXX. II. 278, I resolved to have some fishing!...and sallied forth with one of the waggon whipsticks for a rod, and some string for a line. 1879 *N. C. Explorers* 123 (Morris) A patch of whip-stick scrub. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4523/4 When taken away he had a †whip Tail. 1893 *Bazaar* 8 Jan. 118/1 Buy the best †*whip-thread* of . . whip tail. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 252/2 If your †whip thong gets caught in the harness. 1883 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 168 †*Whip-thread*, the crossing thread in gauze. 1898 J. ENNIS *Another Co.* I. XXVI, An . . Irish car with the †whip-wielding [ed. 1812 whip-cracking] rider on his back. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Opera 1760 II. 305 Xylomastix dicor ab instrumento vulsorio. 1893 T. S. CORNFORD *Tyke-worms* (ed. 3) 70 My treatment not only expelled an ordinary tapeworm but also a solitary †whipworm.

**2.** Combinations of the vb. **a.** with second element in objective relation : †**whip-arse,** a schoolmaster (1611 R. V. ARSE 1 b) ; **whip-belly** (**-vengeance**), *slang*, weak thin beer or other liquor ; †**whip-on** [see WHIP *v.* 2 b], a toper, tippler, 'toss-pot' ; **whip-cat,** †*adj.* drunken [see WHIP *v.* 16 *a* (*a*)] ; *sb.* (also *whip-the-cat*), a tailor or other workman who 'whips the cat' [see WHIP *v.* 16 *a* (*c*)] ; †**whip-king,** one who drives or controls kings (as one does horses with a whip), a 'king-maker'. **b.** in attributive relation to second element : (*a*) **whipping-** ; **whip-boy** (*rare*—1) = WHIPPING-BOY ; **whip-gig** = *whip-top* ; **whip-post** = WHIPPING-*post* ; **whip-top** = WHIPPING-*top* (also *fig.*) ; (*b*) = *whipped* : **whip-rod,** a fishing-rod 'whipped' or wound round with twine [WHIP *v.* 17] ; **whip-sillabub,** whipped sillabub [WHIPPED *ppl. a.* 3] ; also *fig.*

1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* II. 166 Faith, it is mere †Whip-Belly-Vengeance. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whip-belly*, thin weak liquor. 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* III. He had been . . 'whip-boy' to the young heir. 1811 COTGR., *Bourrachon*, a tipler, quaffer, tunepot, †whip-canne. 1653 UNQUHART *Rabelais* v. vii. 40 He would prove an especial good fellow, and singular whip-can [orig. *fesse-pinte*!]. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 936 Tapers, Quaffers, Whipcans, Tosspots. 1598 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 81 With †whip cat bowling they kept o. nyrvy carousing. 1611 FLORIO, *Parlare briaustico*, to speake tipple, drunken or whip-cat language. 1857 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 366 A tailor who 'whipped the cat', i.e. 'whip-cat's' meals. 1918 R. M. FERGUSSON *Ochil Fairy T.* 34 He plied his trade as a 'whip-the-cat' for fivepence a day and 'his meat'. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 190 The puny tyrant learns to subjugate The free republic of the †whip-gig state. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 370 Richard Nevil, that †whipking (as some termed him). 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 6 Or rather Freshilly or our English solidity into froth and †whip-syllabub. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 2 His snowy beard foaming on his bosom like whip syllabub. 1802 SHUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. to. § 6. 288 We have hitherto been speaking of the †whip-top (under the name of 'top') for the peg-top...must be ranked among the modern inventions. 1889 Sravenger *Handbook*, *T. Nickelson* IV, A man who was a mere whiptop for calamity.

**Whipcord** (hwi·pkɑ̄d), *sb.* [? f. WHIP *v.* III, with later association of WHIP *sb.* I + CORD *sb.*?]

**1.** A thin tough kind of hempen cord, of which whip-lashes or the ends of them are made ; in additive use, the material of whip-lashes.

Perh. orig. fine cord or twine for 'whipping' or binding closely round something.

1318–19 in G. Oliver *Lives Bps. Exeter* etc. (1861) 387 Wyppe-cord, xd. 1580 *Inv. Goods Sir T. Sutton* (Surtees Soc.) 363 In xij peciis de Qwypcord empt. pro carectar. iiij*d*. 1646 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 215 Ther . . bownde his armes he bynde hym with whippe cord. 1683 *Wills & Inv. N. Country Wills* (Surtees Soc.) 363 In xij peciis de Qwypcord empt. pro carectar. iiij*d*. 1686 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 215 Ther . . bownde his armes he bynde hym with whippe cord. 1688 *Wills & Inv. Ct. St. Mary at Hill* (1895) 132 For lyne and whippcorde to serve the same clothe, ij*d*. 1548 in *Essex Rec.* XXI. 145 Payd for whipcorde for the pascall, ij *d*. 1626 FLETCHER *Thierry & Theod.* v. i, Is there no hemp and knaves Constables waking, wear out stocks and whipcord. 1673 *Three Inhumane Murthers* 6 The Judge Caus'd his Thumbs to be ty'd fast together with whipcord. 1824 *Sporting Magazine* ch. xix, He will neither spare whipcord nor spur-rowel. 1862 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* XXXII, He looks as hard as iron, and tough as whipcord.

**b.** A piece of this material, as a whip-lash or its extremity.

7*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) xvi. 430 Takes him here bounden fast, While a whippcord here will last. 1598 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 17 As far as his whipcord will stretch. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr. 1645, Dashing the knotted and ravell'd whipcord over their shoulders. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 61 One . . is to be a whip-cord . . with one's hand . . by bringing one part of the rope to cut the other. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vi. 58 Our eight-inch hawser parted like a whipcord.

**c.** *attrib.* Tough as whipcord.

1899 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 27 One whipcord nerve in the muscly mass from neck to shoulder-blade.

**2.** *Transf.* & *fig.* A kind of catgut.

1880 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* II. 609 To produce a cord—known as ' whipcord '—from these intestines.

**b.** A close-woven ribbed worsted material used for dresses, riding breeches, etc. Also *attrib.*

1897 *Daily News* 9 Jan. 6/6 Whipcord tweeds, bengalines in silk and wool. 1900 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 7/3, 80,000 pairs of whip-cord riding trousers. 1915 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen & Worsted* 305 Warp Twills. Fancy Twills.—Included in the former are the standard makes of Serge, Whipcord, and Cavalry.

**3.** Applied (simply or attrib.) to a. species of willow with very flexible shoots, as *Salix purpurea* or *S. vitellina* ; **b.** species of seaweed with long slender fronds, as *Chorda filum* or *Chordaria flagelliformis*.

1812 J. WALKER *Hebrides* II. 273 *Salix vitellina* . . is called . . the whip-cord willow because its shoots are so tough and flexible, that they can be wrapt round the finger like a whip-cord. 1850 MRS HIBBERT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* II. 125 The Whipcord Fucus (*Chorda filum*).

Hence **Whi·pcord** *v.*, *(nonce-wd.) trans.* to furnish with whipcord ; **Whi·pcord-by** *a.*, resembling whipcord, sinewy.

1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 33 'Whipcorded the boys' plough whips. 1898 S. BARING-GOULD *Pennycomequick* II. 236 The Bishop (Exeter) wonderfully hale and 'whipcordy.'

**Whi·p-gra·fting.** *Hort.* Also †-**grafting.** [f. WHIP *v.* 2.] (See quot. 1878.) Hence **Whip-graft** *vb.*, *trans.* to graft in this way.

1850 R. ALTON *Fruit-Trees* (ed. 2) 47 *marg.*, Second Way of Grafting, called whip Grafting. 1880 SHARPOCK *Vegetables* 63 The one of these wayes is called shoulder-grafting...The other Whip-grafting, because the operator only makes his streight-down right cut and tarryes not to indent it at all. 1878 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 115 Taking a Graft or Sprig of the Tree you designe to propagate, and a small piece of the Root of another Tree of the same kinde,...Whip-graft them together. 1719 (see *tongue-grafting* s. v. TONGUE *sb.* 16). 1815, 1841 [see *splice-grafting* s. v. SPLICE *sb.* 3]. 1878 BAILEY *Grafting* etc. 112 The old-fashioned system of 'whip-grafting' employed in England in the case of some kinds of trees in preference to budding, on account of the inclemency of the climate. The stock is headed down and cut on one side only to receive the scion, which is cut with a long splice-cut and partially cleft or notched.

**Whip-hand** (hwi·phe·nd), [f. WHIP *sb.* 1.]

**1.** The hand in which the whip is held in driving or riding ; the driver's or rider's right hand.

1809 *Christian Blackstone's Comm.* I. 74 The law of the road, viz. that horses and carriages should . . keep the left side of the road, and consequently . . pass each other on the whip-hand. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 601 A thick gold ring on

the little finger of his whip-hand. 1887 R. H. Roberts *In the Shires* II. 27 Raising his whip-hand, which brings the cavalcade to a halt.

**2.** fig. phr. *To have the whip-hand of*: to have the advantage or upper hand of, control. Hence in similar phr.

1680 Aesop *Mischief Impos.* ii. 8 When once they are got into the Saddle, and have the whip hand of the poor Lady; 1690 Child *Wks. Trade* Pref. C4. Before the Dutch get too much the whip hand of us. 1694 Richard *Plautus* 304 A silent Woman has always the whip Hand of a Talker. 1818 Jas Quincey *Cynic Mock'd* Wks. 1890 XIII. 307 In the art of conversation,..he admitted that I had the whip-hand of him. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shakes. Char.* viii. 290 He has a secret of her own, and this gives him the whip hand of her. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* viii. For the sake of my own safety, I dare not abandon the whip hand I have of you.

**Whip-her-ginny, -jenny**: see Whiffer-ginnie.

**†Whip-jack** (hwi·pdʒæk). *Obs.* [app. f. Whip *v.* 6 + Jack *sb.*[1]] A vagabond or beggar who pretends to be a distressed sailor. Also *gen.*

a 1556 Ponet in *Maitland's Ess. Ref.* (1849) 74 One Rouse (a bare whippe Iacke) hath here of money toke vpon him to be thy father. 1561 Awdelay *Frat. Vocab.* (1869) A Whypiacke is one that by coulor of a counterfaite Licence doth use to beg lyke a Maryner. 1608 Dekker *Belman of London* Wks. (Grosart) III. 120 Another sort of Vnions are called Whipiacks: who talke of nothing but fights at Sea, piracies, drownings and shipwracks. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* IV. xxv. 141 Sir Charles Grandison is none of your gew-gaw whip-jacks. [1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v, 'And a rum'un he be',..returned the whip-jack, or sham sailor.]

b. Humorously applied to a book in blue binding. *nonce-use.*

1624 in *Costin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 33 He also sent me a little whipjack in a blew jackett, called A Gagg for the newe Gospell.

**Whip-lash.** [f. Whip *sb.* 1 + Lash *sb.*[1] 2.]

**1.** The lash of a whip. Also *allusively* and *fig.*

1573-80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 36 Whiplash wel knotted, and cartrope ynough. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Bills which..have..the whip-lash of ridicule. He let out his whip-lash and touched up a little boy on the calves of his legs. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* iv, 'He wants the whip-lash.' I say it on with science, then.' 1894 *Athenæum* 11 Aug. 191/2 Nothing escapes the whip-lash of the 'college wit'. 1915 M. Baillie Saunders *Confession the Cord* v, Hadn't he got to wait to the sharp whip-lash of furious voices in the room below.

**2.** *transf.* An object resembling the lash of a whip, as the *vibriculum* of certain polyzoans; *spec.* a species of seaweed with long narrow fronds.

1852 Miss Pratt *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 124 The two species of Sea Whips in Court 347 There is a whyspring and a whipling, He shulde be hyder brought.

**Whipman** (hwi·pmăn). Pl. **-men.** Now *rare.* [f. Whip *sb.* 1.] A man who wields a whip; a driver of horses; *dial.* a carter. Hence **whip-manship,** the character or skill of a 'whipman', the art of driving.

1797 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 50 The school of whipmanship, for the young nobility and gentry. *Ibid.* X. 288 No sooner were the whippmen passed than the void part was filled. a 1825 *Dorr Poems, Old Country* (Jam.) Routhless whipmen, scaunt o' grace. 1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 45 The whip-men (carters) bought it.

**Whip·mas·ter.** [f. Whip *sb.* 1.] A master who uses the whip; a flogger.

1792 Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 103 Woto our Backsides, he's a greater Whip-Master [L. *flagellator*] than Busby himself. 1893 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* 96 These whipmasters of oars.

**Whippable** (hwi·păb'l), *a.* [f. Whip *v.* 6 + -able.] Liable to be whipped.

1853 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 641 Two sorrowful, whippable *alumni* stood each beside a tree of knowledge. 1881 Phil. Robinson *Under the Punkah* 216 The distinctive feature of this period of life [*sc.* boyhood], is popularly supposed to be that it is a whippable age.

**Whippant,** *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. pa. piecc., after heraldic terms in -ant.] That is frequently whipped. 1654 [see Stockant].

**Whipped, whipt** (hwipt), *ppl. a.* [f. Whip *v.* + -ed.]

**1.** *Needlework.* (See Whip *v.* 18.)

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 207 b, Frettes of whipped gold of damaske very riche. 1728 Gay *Trivia* II. 339 'n half-thigh Muslin Needles useless lye.

**†2.** (See quot.) *Obs. nonce-use.*

1596 Y. Leigh *Survey.* (1588) O iij, I call it..the whipped line, because I haue formed it..like a little whipcorde. 1619 H. Lyte *Art of Tens* 20 In the table on the left hand of the whipped line.

**b.** Bound with cord closely wound round: see Whip *v.* 17.

1886 J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* 130 Twisting a hackle ..round the shank of a whipped hook.

**3.** *Confectionery*, etc. Beaten into a froth: see Whip *v.* 7. Hence in figurative expressions denoting something 'frothy', flimsy, or unsubstantial.

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* IV. iii, The dull French Poetry,..so thin, that it is the very Leaf-gold of Wit, the very Wafers and whipt'd Cream of sense. 1691 Shadwell *Scowrers* II. 1, To make clouted cream, and whipt Sillabubs. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sugar*, The White of a whipt Egg. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* Ix. 186 VII. 127 To distinguish the fruth and whipt syllabub in them [*sc.* letters] from the cream. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 551 Summoning the Muse to such a theme, The fruit of all her labour is whipped cream. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 23 Apr. in *Lockhart*, Who cares for the whipp'd cream of London society? 1846 Sovan *Cookery* 209 Add a gill of whipped cream.

**4.** Beaten with or as with a whip; scourged, flogged, lashed.

1713 *Guardian* No. 8 P 4 Saying, That it became not the Condition of a whipt Rascal to travel on Horseback. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xiii. 138 The two nationals, who sneaked away like whipped hounds. 1848 *Conger. Globe* 19 Jan. 183/2 A whipped cur was ever the most fawning dog.

**b.** *Farriery.* Of a horse: set quot.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) Pref. p. xi, You shall hear many a Horse praised for being a throw-winded one, and a brave whipt-horse. *Ibid.* II. 129 He is a good whip'd Horse, that is, he knows the Whip well.

**5.** *Fencing.* (See Whip *v.* 4.)

1771 Lonnergan *Fencer's Guide* 90 If I whip along your Fierce-side, parry round with a whipped Quarte.

**6.** With *sb.*: Built up artificially; factitious.

1900 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 3/4 The recent agitation was a whipped-up thing. 1902 J. H. Rose *Napoleon I*, I. xii. 274 His keen instinct for reality, which led him to scorn such whipped-up creeds as Robespierre's Supreme Being.

**¶ 7.** Used for Whip-.

1860 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 17615/4 Two Mares, one of them,.. whipt Tail'd, and Gridled. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 99/2 Lions head, hoop whipt-stitched about.

**Whippence**: see Whippin.

**Whipper** (hwi·pəɹ). [f. Whip *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which whips, in various senses.

**1.** One who beats or chastises with (or as with) a whip; a scourger, flogger; *spec.* an official who inflicts whipping as a legal punishment. Also *fig.*

1552 Huloet, Whypper who whyppeth beggers and vacabounders, or others, *flagiarius.* 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, Ambitiously, affecting the title of the insuruent whippers of the times. 1608 Heywood *Apology for Actors* II. [t.] I. 147 It is the basest Office Man can fall into, to make his tongue the Whipper of the Worthy man. 1697 J. Partridge *Solid Physick* 110 Helluo Bibliarum (Fuglerius) or the Whipper whip'd. 1823 F. S. Barrett *Heroine* xvii. (1909) 88 At last, marrying some honest gentleman,..the degenerates into a dangler of keys and whipper of children. 1844 Emerson *Prudence* in *Ess.* 96 The lurid hand of the mercenary whipper. 1886 *8th Rep. Prison Comm. Scot.* 6 The case against the boy was accordingly delayed,..because a whipper could not be found.

**b.** = Flagellant A. 1.

a 1656 Br. Hall *Serm. 1 Cor. xi. 10* Wks. 1808 V. 489 A brood of mad heretics,..whom they called Flagellantes, the whippers; which went about, lashing themselves to blood. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 213 The whippers,..ran about in promiscuous multitudes.

**c.** In Shipping. = Whipper-in, 2. *? Obs.*

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XVII. 366 John Roberts the huntsman, and Will Veale the whipper. 1884 Gladstone in *Nineteenth Cent.* 22 July 8/1 The authority, for every loyal ship, of the whipper.

**d.** A kind of fishing-rod: see quot., and cf. Whip *v.* 8.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 103/1 A Whipper, or Whipping Rod is a slender top Rod, that is weak in the middle and strong at the butt, but slender and fine.

**2.** A person or thing that surpasses others. (Cf. Whip *v.* 12.) *? Obs.* exc. *dial.* applied to a big active person.

c 1540 *Boke of Maysd Emlyn* 356 in Hazlitt *Early Pop. Poetry* I. 94 Bycause he coude clepe best, She called hym a whypper. 1540 J. Heywood *Four P.P.* C i b, This relyke, her is a whipper..here is a shypper Of one of the seuen hypers.

**3.** A workman who hoists coal with a 'whip': = Coal-whipper. (Cf. Whip *v.* 5.)

1835-6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 87/1 The four whippers now run up a sort of step-ladder. 1858-9 etc. (see Whipping, 3). 1887 R. Newman in *Charity Org. Rev.* July 275 Coal-whipping..has now all but ceased; but a similar class of men..are probably as numerous as ever the whippers were twenty years ago.

**4.** One who runs the coloured thread along the edge of a blanket. (Cf. Whip *v.* 18.)

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 66 Blanket Manufacture; ..Tucker. Whipper. Binder.

**Whipper-in** (hwi·pəɹ-i·n). *U. S.* Corrupt form of *whip-ray* (see Whip- 1 c); cf. Stingaree.

**+Whippernie.** *Obs. slang.* Also 6 **whip-per-ienny, 7 whip her Ginny, whip-her-ginny, 8 whip-her-jenny.** [Of obscure origin.]

**1.** A term of reprobation or abuse applied to a woman.

1593 *Tell-trothe's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 13 Shee fals so hot to scoulding with the whippergiinne her ostice. *Ibid.* 21 That fornicators(after they had obtained their desires..) should.. seeking other wenches, meet with whipper ginnies. 1599 Porter *Angry Woman. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 103 What needst thou to care, whipper-ienny, tripe-cheeke?

**2.** *The land of whippergrinnie*, app. a nickname for purgatory.

1594 Nashe (*Unfort. Trav.* C 3 b, What newes from heauen, hell, and the land of whippergrianie.

**3.** Name of an old game at cards.

1628 J. Taylor (Water P.) *O'Toole* Wks. (1630) II. 191/2 Thou fold'st it Valours ignominy, To spend thy dayes in new-found whip her Ginny. 1629 — *Wit & Mirth* 181, 182/2 An vnhappy boy..would fall to Cards at the Cambrian game of whip-her-ginny, or English one and thirty. 1737 *Poor Robin* Dec. B 3 b, Maw, Whip-her-jenny, Poor and Rich, With other fruitless Pastimes.

**Whip·per-in.** [f. the phr. *to whip in*: see Whip *v.* 6 d.]

**1.** A huntsman's assistant who keeps the hounds from straying by driving them back with the whip into the main body of the pack. Also called shortly a *whip* (Whip *sb.* 5), or formerly occas. a *whipper* (Whipper 1 c).

1739 *Rst. Better Regul. Prov. Thinking* 7 Should..the Postillon turn Cook, and the Whipper in resolve to be nothing less than Steward or Butler. 1798 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. ii, He was soon transplanted from the Fields into the Dog-kennel, where he was placed under the Huntsman, and made what Sportsmen call a Whipper-in. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* I, The brothers..ordered their whipper-in..to unkennel the hounds.

*fig.* 1798 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lyric Odes* iv. Wks. 1812 I. 87 My Muse is whipper-in. 1836 F. Howard *R. Keefes* xxxv, One of the two..brigs that was to accompany us as whippers-in to the convoy.

**b.** In the game of hare and hounds, a runner whose business it is to keep the hounds in order.

1855 'G. Forrest' *Every Boy's Bk.* 11 The Hare should not be the best runner, but should be daring, and..prudent. ..A Huntsman and Whipper-in are then chosen...The Hare then starts, and has about seven minutes' grace, at the expiration of which time the Huntsman blows a horn, and sets off, the Hounds keeping nearly in Indian file, the Whipper-in bringing up the rear. 1892 R. S. Warren Bell *Tales of Greyhouse* 47 The two impetuous hounds had to be curbed by the whippers-in.

**c.** *Racing slang.* The horse last in a race or at any given moment of a race.

1892 *Daily News* 8 Sept. 3/5 The field began to break up, and the whippers in became Curio and El Diablo.

**2.** In parliamentary use, = Whip *sb.* 6. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1771 *Ann. Reg., Misc. Ess.* 196/1 He was first a whipper-in to the Premier, and then became Premier himself. 1792 *J. Fearson's Pol. Dict., Whipper-in*, a fellow that sends for members to carry a question when a Minister is hard run. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, He..will tell you how Sir Somebody Something, when he was whipper-in for the Government, brought four out of their beds to vote in the majority. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 2/1 At the beginning of the Canadian 'Parliamentary Companion' a whole page is headed in large capitals, 'Whippers in.' Then follow the names of the various party 'Whips,' as we would call them.

**Whip·per-sna·pper.** [? A jingling extension of *'whip-snapper*, a cracker of whips (see Whip *sb.* 1, Snap *v.* 12), on the model of the earlier *snipper-snapper.*] A diminutive or insignificant person, *esp.* a sprightly or impertinent young fellow. Also rarely applied to a thing.

† In quot. 1674 app. A violent or dangerous person, a 'rough': cf. quot. 1589 s.v. Whyrrie i a.

1589 Heid *Ya-hain's Descant* (1815) Have a care of Marlbrough Downs, there are a parcel of whipper Snappers have been very busie there of late. a 1700 B. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipper-snapper*, a very small but sprightly Boy. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem.* iii. 38 A Whipper-snapper Gentleman..thus remprimanded our Saucy Whipper-Snapper. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dan.* ii, A whipper-snapper of an attorney's apprentice, ..I'll teach him to speak with the reverence of the learned professions. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 15 Not that he feared such fellows as the-e—little whipper-snappers—our men would eat them. 1844 Carlyle *Lett. & Speech. Cromwell* I. xxii, A little whipper-snapper of a French watch. 1876 Black *Madcap Violet* xxxviii, It is only the whippersnapper in criticism who is always crying out for a grand and tremendous motive.

*attrib.* 1748 Fielding *J. Andrews* iv. vi, A Parcel of Whipper-snapper Sparks. 1898 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* v. xxiii, A whipper-snapper boy.

**Whippet** (hwi·pĕt), *sb.* Also 6 **wepit, whippett, 9 whippit, whippet.** [? partly f. Whip *sb.* or *v.* + -et, partly f. Whipper 2.]

**+1.** ? Some light wine. *Obs.*

c 1520 *Blendon's Test.* 50 (MS. Rawl. C. 86 If. 109 b) Good drynke he loued better than he did wepit. *Ibid.* 53 b, 114 Malmasyes, Tires, and Rumneys,.. Whippett and Pyngmedo.

**2.** A lively young woman; a light wench; now *dial.* a nimble, diminutive, or puny person.

1590 Cowley *Elegy*, 131 All modest matrons I truste wyll take my parte, As for nice whippets, wordes Shall not come nye my hert. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 158 Those wanton whippets Kate and Jack Strawes hee could get, he would seeme to enable and compare with the highest. 1597 Breton *Wit's Trenchmoue* Wks. (Grosart) II. 25/1 Why, quoth this Whippet, if I should tell you I knew you (etc.).

**+3.** A sudden brisk movement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 431 As soone as ever [the dog] seeth [the hare] taken from the fire, he giveth a whippet from his wheele.

**4.** A small breed of dog; now *spec.* a cross between a greyhound and a terrier or spaniel, used for coursing and racing, esp. in the north of England.

With the earliest examples cf. Whappet.

a 1620 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 73 If a little dog or whippet of his dye, 9 bee makes him a tombe. c 1623 W. Goddard *Mastiff Whelp* C 3, Too loude thou barkest Whelpe, I must haue whippets now, that doe but yelpe.

1830 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Dogs of Wars* Wks. II. 232 The little Curre, Whippet, or House-dogge. 1648 MILTON *Colasterion* 26 If a man cannot peaceably walk into the world, but must bee infested with hauling whippets, and other barkers. 1865 in *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 10 To seize...all such greyhounds, beagles, or whippets [*sic*]. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* 614 *Whippet*, a dog bred betwixt a greyhound and a spaniel. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 18 Oct. 6/2 I found a man training a wiry racing-dog. ‘The ‘whippet’ stands along with great earnestness.

*attrib.* and *Comb.* 1885 *Bazaar* 30 May. 1060/3 Fawn whippet bitch for sale. 1894 F. LLOYD *Whippet & Race-Dog* title, 43 The National Whippet-racing Club. *Ibid.* 11, 73 A most important personage on the Whippet-track is the clerk of the scales.

b. *transf. Mil.* The Medium Mark A ‘tank’, a light kind of ‘tank’ used in the war of 1914–18. Also called *chaser*.

1918 *Times* 13 Aug. 7/6 The...capture of Morlancourt, where light tanks or whippets were used.

†**8.** A little light petticoat. *Obs.*

1618 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 138 He shall not vse anie thing else to ride him [*sc.* horse] with, saue onely his whippet and trench.

†**9.** ‘A short light petticoat’ (Forby). *dial. Obs.*

Hence **Whippeteer**, **Whippeter**, a person who keeps a whippet (sense 4); **whippeting**, *sb.* the breeding, training, etc. of whippets; *a.* engaged in this.

1894 SIR J. ALLERTON *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 337 The principal whippeteers are colliers in Lancashire. 1894 F. LLOYD *Whippet & Race-Dog* vii. 44, I recently connected with Whippeting. *Ibid.* 58 Some Whippeting people. *Ibid.* xxiv. 174 Common names have been given by Whippeters to the dogs.

†**Whippet**, *v. Obs.* Also 6–7*t*. [app. the phr. *whip it* written as one word: see WHIP *v.* 1 *c.*] *intr.* To move briskly, bestir oneself, frisk.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. I N iv, Lest he a camell shulde not skyp or whippyt about. *c*1550 *Pryde & Abuse* *Wom.* 17 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* I. 93 With whippet a whyle, Sythe pretyens Prancke it, and hagge it well. *a*1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. ii (Arb.) 22 Nowe whippet apace for the mayster. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 170 Whippet, turne to a new leaue, and strike wee vp lohn for the King.

**Whippin** (hwi·pin). *dial.* Also 7 **wippin**, 8 **whipping**, 9 **w(h)ippon**, **whippenoe**. [Origin obscure.] = WHIPPING *sb.*<sup>1</sup> Also in *whip-jiggeries*.

1697 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 193 One wagon Ready to Runn..Six yonkes . Five wippins. *a*1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 72 The plough-beam, sprinter, whippinga, and traces must often break when they come against a great stone. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 29 July 1775, I..intend that he..shall attend to the spread hats and whippins. *Ibid.* 26 Dec., 1 iron trace whippin, 2 bolts of hempen trace ditto. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 263 Whippence, viz. the weigh beam and bodkins, the fore carriage of a plough, as also the harrow and all its gear. *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. i. 133 They [*sc.* horses drawing a plough] should be worked abreast (the attachment being by means of ‘whippons’). 1884 *West Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., To sets of drag and small harrows, whippons and traces. 1919 R. P. CHOPE *Some Old Farm Implements* 13 The modern harrows are made entirely of iron, and the parts are not hinged together, but to a wooden cross-beam which is connected to the whippintree.

†**Whippinorust**. *Obs. rare*<sup>−1</sup>. Some kind of wine; ? a perversion of HIPPOCRAS.

1636 *Marlowe's Faustus* Wks. (1910) 197 *Rob.* [the cutler]. I thort ye bot to the Tauern with me, I'le giue thee.. Sacke, Muskadine, Malmesey and Whippinorust.

**Whipping** (hwi·ping), *vbl. sb.* Also (sense 2) *Sc.* **wippen**. [f. WHIP *v.* + -ING<sup>1</sup>.]

1. The action of striking with or as with a whip.

**a.** The, or an, infliction of corporal punishment by strokes of a whip; scourging, flogging, flagellation; *lawcly*, beating with the hand or otherwise, slapping, spanking. Also *fig.* chastisement, disciplinary correction; defeat, ‘beating’ (*U.S. colloq.*).

1366 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 242/1 Pd for whippynge of a mare 1*d*. 1567 *Gude & Godly Ball.* (1868) 116 Yee cruell man after his desart, and who should scape whipping. 1630 DONNE *Serm., Matt. iv. 18–20* (1640) 733, I am not bound ..to teare my flesh by inhumane whippings, and flagellations. 1642 LUTHER *Holy & Pr. Exercises* xvi. 110 To such a lad a frown may be a whipping. 1720 *Swift Mod. Educ.* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 34 Whipping breaks the spirits of lads well born. 1720 CENTLIVRE *Lett. to Dep. rolls* 18 Oct., Pray let my godson never know what a blow or a whipping is, unless for those things for which, were he a man, he would deserve them. 1868 MRS. H. WOOD *Johnny's Folly* xxviii, She put him across her knee, pulled off an old slipper she was wearing, and gave him a sound whipping with its fat sole. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* xii, If a letter had been withheld by her father it was a part of her whipping. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 623 The savage whippings of criminals.

**b.** *gen.* or in other connexions, e. g. the driving of a horse, or spinning of a top, with a whip.

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 119 b, It must be seene to, that they [*sc.* horses drawing together] be euen matched, least the stronger spoyle the weaker, and he shrediedth the rating, and whipping. *a*1628 F. GREVILLE *Lett. Hon. Lady* iv, Our flesh being like a toppe which only goes vpright with whipping. 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 150 The plants..will..become liable to lash each other's tops with every blast of wind. This evil is called whipping of tops. 1857 JOHN OXENHAM *Leaning Lion's Whelps* 21 Faces.. bleached and sodden with the whipping of the wind.

**c** *Confectionery*, etc. (See WHIP *v.* 7.)

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Annu. Chem.* I. 156 The blood contains a certain amount of fibrin,..which on whipping is separated in..stringy masses. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iv, The whipping of cream, the stiffening of jellies, (etc.).

**d.** *Angling.* (See WHIP *v.* 8.)

1653 WALTON *Angler* xi. 205 I here is no better sport then whipping for Bleaks in a boat in a Summers evening. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 60 To initiate a young angler..by his whipping for them in a hot summer's evening. 1844 J. T. HEWLEY *Parsons & Widows* v, What state is the river in? ..Will it do for whipping?

**e.** (See WHIP *v.* 6 *d*, 14.)

1834 in Dic. Buckingham *Cents. Will. IV. & Vict.* (1861) II. 125, I rather think the Government, as they know they would be weak, considered it..best..to take no pains in whipping. 1880 TREVELYAN *C. J. Fox* v. 196 It was an allusion which Burke made in the course of the evening to the industry of the Treasury officials that first rendered the term ‘whipping in’ classical. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 June 6/2 The Government is entitled to whatever credit is due to a good piece of whipping. 1901 R. S. WARREN BELL *Tales of Greyhounds* 48 Wardour, a trifle weary of the arduous task of whipping-in, had forged ahead. 1903 *Times* 30 Mar. 7/6 Extra zeal in the whipping-in of audiences.

**2.** The action of overlaying or binding with cord or the like wound closely round and round; *concr.* the cord, etc. so wound around something (or each turn of it).

1540 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 4 Payd for whyppyng of roopes vijd. 1673 *Wedderburn's Vocab.* 38 (Jam.) *Bocch*, a whipping the club shaft. *Bacnis mawnis*, the handle where the whippen is. *Bacnis fithan*, the whippen. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 3 (He) whips the Cord again about the Page..; which Cord is the first of the several whippings he parallel. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roan) 123/2 The whipping of the string, is that part where the Bow is set on. 1772 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 330 The lashings will yield no longer to his whipping and pulling. *c*1800 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 28 For splicing, to put on a good whipping. 1882 *Amateur Mechanic's for Boys* 170 To whip the end of a rope..The turns of the whipping are always passed up towards the end of the rope. 1887 J. H. KENYON *Fishing Tackle* 90 The whipping of hooks to gimps.

**b.** *Needlework.* (See WHIP *v.* 18.)

1814 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 274 Tell Mrs. Haw..to prepare for plenty of hemming and whipping. 1862 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* vii. 88 Knitting, and all the stitches—embroidery and plain over-and-over, and whipping, and darns. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 511 *Whipping*, a kind of overcasting. 1893 *Lady's Realm* I. 384 Instead of drawing up a piece of trilling..into gathers, by..sewing loosely over a delicately rolled edge of the same.

**3.** A whip with its appurtenances.

1869 PARKINSON *Parrad.* III. vi. 547 For whipping, the time is somewhat later then grafting in the stocke.

**b.** Hoisting with a ‘whip’ (WHIP *sb.* 15).

1835 *Rep. Lit. Hospit.* (1845) 11 By this means no occasion in the case, in unloading a vessel of coals, to be confined to..what is called whipping. 1861, 1897 [see COAL-WHIPPING].

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** in sense 1, as *whipping-audit* (AUDIT *sb.* 3), *-bout*, *-day*, etc.; **whipping-bench**, a bench on which offenders are laid to be whipped; **whipping-chair** (*Australasia*), flogging, flagellation; **whipping-girl** (cf. WHIPPING-BOY); **whipping-hand** = WHIP-HAND; **whipping-place**, a place at which offenders are or were publicly whipped; **whipping-pole** = next; **whipping-post**, a post set up, usually in a public place, to which offenders are or were tied to be whipped; **whipping-stock**, (*a*) = prec.; (*b*) a person who is frequently whipped (*cf. laughing-stock*); **whipping-top**, a top spun by whipping; also *fig.*; **whipping-trade** (*slang*), the occupation of a schoolmaster.

*a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Char. Country-Comm-man* Wks. (1687) 77 His Fate is a *whipping Audit*, when he is wrung in the Withers by a Committee of Examinations. 1906 LOUISE MACK *Human Nature* xxi, Whipping-bench and a good dozen spare rods are what they want. 1778 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 160 Her husband had still the more dangerous *whipping-bout*. 1908 WESTERMARCK *Pagan. & Taboo* 11. 1 A She female of late, of whipping cheere to smell. 1897 HERRICK *Noble Numbers, Hell*, Hell is a house Built to a world's proportion for a *Whipping-post*. 1906 *Thanmaster's Advice to Painter* 40 For his Cheat, the Man will pay full dear, Condemned by my Lord to Whipping Cheer. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Dec. 5/2 To-morrow..is his [*sc.* the Lord Treasurer's] day when all the executioners dine with him. He calls it ‘whipping-day. ..we do indeed usually rally him about his faults on that day. 1896 *Daily News* 31 Dec. There will always be a devotee ready to stand as ‘whipping-girl between him and the strokes of fate. 1906 MRS. CROKER *Youngest Miss Mowbray* viii, Ella did not speak; she did not even cry, while she acted as the whipping-girl of her enemy. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Postscr. V, You have got the ‘whipping hand of him. 1901 *Encycl. Sport* II. 70/2 In N. Q. Lath Ser. VIII. 497/2 The ‘whipping place in the Market. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Crim. Cts.*, Often have we strayed here, in sessions time, to witness a glorious day's whipping-place. 1861 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 360 *note*, In after times the Kaken or ‘whipping pole, stood on the Stortorg; these *Vetenskaps Akademien* (Naves) be brought to the ‘whipping post. 1818 *Scots Mag.* II. 1 A rogue stands ready to whip. 1794 TAYLOR etc. *Narr. Georgia* 37 Irons, Whipping Posts, Gibbets, &c. were provided. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. xxvi, He never was flogged, but it was a wonder how he escaped the whipping post. 1854 — *Newcomes* II, No whipping post ..could have been leaner than Mrs. Newcome. 1703 DE FOE *Hymn to Pillory* 150 In vain he struggl'd, he harangu'd in vain, To bring in Whipping Sentences again. 1845 BRAITHWAITE *Strongbows* (1858) 174 Send them to th' ‘whipping-stocke. 1658 PENNINGTON *Life*, Wks. 1681 I. p. lxii, We have been as the wool-sacks, and common whipping-stock of the kingdom. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i (Rtldg.) 246, I am born to be the mere ‘whipping-top of fortune. 1885 MOSLEY *Reunin. Towns* etc. II. 249 A boy a whipping-top. *a* 1700 *J. Bruno's Wks.* (1711) IV. 185 By Nature meant, by Want a Pedant made, Bl——re at first profess'd the ‘Whipping-trade.

**b.** in sense 2, as *whipping cotton, silk, twine.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Ficelle*, or *Faxille*, whipping-twine. 1887 J. H. KENYON *Fishing Tackle* 102 A piece of gold tinsel is secured by one turn of the loose whipping silk. 1893 ROSEVEAR *Text Bk. Needlework* 208 Whipping cotton must be very strong and yet fine.

**c.** in sense 3 *c*, as *whipping-hoist*, *-jigger*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Whipping-hoist*, a steam hoisting-device for use in buildings. 1898 *Daily News* 13 July 5/4 A crane lifting eight tons, fitted with ‘whipping jigger’.

**Whipping**, *ppl. a.* [f. WHIP *v.* + -ING<sup>2</sup>.] That whips, in various senses.

1. Moving briskly or nimbly; acting vigorously or violently; characterized by such movement or action. (See senses of WHIP *v.* 1.)

1530 : see WHIPTHRIFT below] 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 17 A whipping Mistresse. H (whose toung goeth like the clacke of a Mill) 1656 (title) Divine Fireworks..hinting what the Almighty Ben amuels is doing in these whipping times. 1700 R. KING *Agric. Advert. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 170 A whippinge sneezing cold 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* xxxiii, III, 323, I have a whipping Stomach, and were there fifty Dishes, I believe I could eat of them. 1805 MERRIDETH *Amusing Marr.* xviii, At a whipping pace.

**2.** Beating with or as with a whip; flogging, lashing; also *fig.*

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andrian* I. The master of the rogues, a whipping Bedle 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. (1) xxvi. 84 The whipping Satyrist 1904 R. CULLUM *Hound from North* II, The whip ping snow lashed their faces. 1919 *19th Cent.* Nov. 968 To be under the drilling and whipping masters of the despised soldiery.

**b.** *Whipping Tom*: a man who whips others or flagellates himself (see QUOTS. for various uses).

1681 HICKERINGILL *Jud. and Truth* 11. 3 Those two chastizing Pædagogue, another Whipping-Tom, that took pleasure to lash and slash. 1725 N. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 21 A Detachment of the same Crusade, or Holy War, called *Flagellants* or Whipping-Tom's. 1728 W. KENNETT in *Aubrey's Rem. Gentilisme* (1881) 59 A Whipping Tom in Kent who disciplined the wandring Maids and Women till they were all weary. 1733 *Gentl. Magazine* 1737 *Lancaster* 356 I have these whip men, called Whipping-Toms, are preceded by a bell-man [etc.]. 1846 *Local Act* (Leicester) 9 *Vict.* c. 70 § 41. 1903 S. H. *Leicester Life & Labour*, Early on Shrove Tuesday a crowd assembled in the Newarke, Leicester. At the sound of the ‘Pancake Bell’ a number of men and youths began a game of hockey, known..as ‘Whipping Tom’. About o'clock the ‘Whipping Toms’, three men in blue smocks with very long wagon whips, began to try to drive the shinny players out of the whipping place. The game was suppressed by Parliament in 1846.

Hence **Whippingly** *adv.*

1530 PALSGR. 644/1 Whyppyngly, hastely, *hastivement* Whippingly, *gorgyasly, exorgyasement.*

**Whipping-boy.** A boy educated together with a young prince or royal personage, and flogged in his stead when he committed a fault that was considered to deserve flogging. Hence *allusively.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Tim.* v. 20 Rebuke before all yet not as if they were whipping Boyes. 1727 *Gulliver Lem. Time* I. (1794) I 59 William Murray of the bed-chamber, that had been whipping boy to King Charles the first. 1820 SCOTT *Nigel* vi, Sir Mungo had been a whipping boy in the capacity of whipping-boy to King James the Sixth. 1841 HELPS *Ess., On Choice of Agents*, The choice of agents is a difficult matter,..how to choose a person for whose faults you are to be punished; to whom you are to be the whipping-boy. 1914 PATRIE in *Anc. Egypt* 31 With some writers Manetho is the whipping boy, who must always be flogged whenever anything is not understood.

**Whipping-ma nping**, *a. nonce-wd.* [Fanciful f. WHIPPER-SNAPPER.] Diminutive, insignificant.

1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Ogres*, I hough they had seen leagued boots,..all sorts of little whipping-snapping Tomb [*sic*] thumbs used to elude and cut run them.

†**Whippletree**<sup>1</sup>. *Obs.* Of uncertain origin and meaning.

Usually glossed ‘cornel-tree’ and compared with MLG. *wipholder*, which, with its variants *wipbom*, *-boom*, *-bloes* ), *cornus*. (In the absence of a French gloss in quot. 1530 the identity of the word intended is doubtful.)

1530 CALDER *Acts* (1852) 48 Item, a long beche, hasel, ew, whippeltre [*orig.* Whippul, il whipul, a wppul.] 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whyppile tree.

**Whippletree**<sup>2</sup> (hwi·pltri). [The first element is app. WHIP; cf. WHIPPER.] = SWINGLETREE 2.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & V. Gloc. Farm* 329 Two Whippletrees of two foot sixteen Inches each, that the Horses draw by. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 244 A Spring and Index fixed to a Whipple-tree for ascertaining the Force exerted in the Draught of Carriages. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 165 These carts are capable of being drawn either by two horses abreast, or by the same number at length; for which purpose there are suitable staples and hooks for the main whipple-tree upon. 1893 MALDEN *Village* 110 Iron Whipp letrees for Two Horses Abreast.

**Whip-poor-will.** Also 8 **whipper-**, 9 **whip-per-**, **-will**, **whippo-**. [Echoic, from the bird's note.] Popular name in U S. and Canada for a species of Goatsucker, *Antrostomus* (*Caprimulgus*) *vociferus*.

1747 G. EDWARDS *Nat Hist Birds* II. 63 The Whip Poor-Will, or lesser Goat-Sucker. It is called in Virginia, Whip-Poor-Will, from its Cry. 1778 J. CARVER *Trans. N. Amer.* xviii. 268 The Whippers-will, or as it is termed by the Indians, the Muckawiss acquires its name by the noise it makes. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. iv. (1861) 198 The melancholy plaint of the Whip-poor will, who, perched on some lone tree, wearied the ear of night with his incessant moanings 1822

J. Woon *Tru Lvs Lovel Hionus* 197 Wipperwill, or whip-poor-will, or wippervill,—a bird so named from its generally heard of in evening in spring and summer. 1884 MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* x. I heard a Whippowill and a dog crying about somebody that was going to die.

**Whippy** (hwi·pi), *a.* [f. WHIP *sb.* + -Y¹.] Resembling a whip, *esp* bending like a whip, flexible, springy.

1857 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* iv. 277 The Irish spliced rods are rather too whippy or flexible. 1898 *Cycling* 25 An unduly whippy machine should be let alone.

**Whip-saw** (hwi·psɔ̄) *sb.* [f. WHIP *sb.* or *v.* + SAW *sb.*] A frame saw with a narrow blade, used esp. for curved work.

1538 ELYOT *Image* 1. v. A whypsawe, wherwith tymber is sawen. 1552 in P. H. HOSE *Hereford* (1901) 43 In the stockehouse at the Mynes 2 whypp sawe. 1556 *Inclosure Irelde* (Surtees) 100 In Rani's chamber 11 olde sawe blades and 1 whippe sawe. 1657 R. HOOK *Lecture* (1679) 107 Three whip sawes, going all at once in a frame or Pit. 1678 NORTH *Mech. Exerc.* (1759) 99 The Whip-saw is used to saw such greater pieces of Stuff that the Hand Saw will not easily reach through: two men takes each an handle of the saw. 1846 HOUTZAGER *Journeyman* II. 301 The long saw, or whip saw, *Fig.* 701. The blade (of the 3 ft. frame saw) is usually five or six feet long and thinner than that of the whip saw. 1903 NANCE *Hunt Among Ants & Bees* II. The rock dust of all the walls and floor—all rudely smoothed with the broad axe and the whip saw.

Hence **Whip-saw** *v.*, *intr.* to work a whip saw *trans.* to cut with a whip-saw, *fig.* (*U. S. slang*) to have or get the advantage of thoroughly, to overcome completely, 'cut up'. **Whip-sawyer**, a man who works a whip saw.

1881 *Lumber World* (U. S.) Mar., Some of the first saw mills built in England were destroyed on the ground that it would ruin the occupation of the whip sawyers. 1884 *Harper's Bazar* (Conn.) 17 Apr., Hal Braddock beats half as prudent as he was brave, he could have whipsawed the French and Indians in that campaign. 1904 ELIZ. ROBINS *Magnetic North* II. 168 He knows how to work it. 1918 R. DOUGLAS *Item* VI. 63 Those [trees] are hewn in the woods either on two or four sides, and are then whip-sawn by the natives at the place of consumption.

**Whipsey-, -sider(r)y** see WHIPSY-DERRY.

**Whipship** (hwi·pʃip). *nonce wd.* [f. WHIP *sb.* + SHIP.] as. (with poss pron.) Humorous title for a coachman. b. The post of a parliamentary 'whip'.

1857 KEATS *Let to Fanny Keats* 10 Sept., I disembark'd from his Whipship's Coach 1907 *Nat. Rev.* 1 June 673/2 Lord Ribblesdale has flung up the whipship of his party.

**Whip-snake.** Name for various serpents of long slender form like a whip-lash, as *Masticophis flagelliformis* of N. America, *Philodryas trinitensis* of Brazil, *Hoplocephalus flagellum* of Australia.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 293 In the tropical climates, the rattle snake, the whip snake, and the cobra di capello, are the most formidable. 1823 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 199 The Cancan abounds with serpents: one of the most dangerous is a long snake of a bright green, in form resembling the lash of a coach whip, from whence it is called the whip snake. 1835 WILLIS *Pencil. Sketches* I. (1959) 9 The whip-snake of a beautiful changing green, may be handled with safety. 1887 R. M. PRASD *Dooj. at Koorahs* 122 A whip snake made a dart at Mr. Barrington's arm. 1898 E. D. CUMING *Cresswell's N. Amer.* (1900) 780 The species of this genus [*Z. Zamenis*] are elongate in form and active in movement so that the popular names of whip snake and racer are appropriate.

**Whipstaff** (hwi·pstaf). [STAFF *sb.*]

**1** = WHIPSTOCK 1.

1509 MIDDLETON *Mo's-ocyncon* B 4 b, With nailed shooes, and whipstaffe in his hand.

†**2** *Naut.* = WHIP *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grammar* 11. 12 The Whip staffe is that peece of wood like a stro g staffe the Helmesman hath alwaies in his hand made fast to the Tiller with a string. 1706 STANHOPE *Gospel Worship* 305 Magistrates and Gentlemen were now forced to learn to steer, and take their turns at the Whipstaff. 1709 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Manuelle*, the whip staff of a helm, now entirely disused.

**Whipstalk** (hwi·pstɔ̄k) *dial.* WHIPSTOCK 1.

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. (1600) G, Bought you a whistle and a whipstalke too? 1895 DARLINGTON *Ballad Stories* 299 He tried belaboring of the poor horses backs, with the butt-end of a hickory whip stalk.

**†Whipstart** *Obs.* *rare*—¹ [*If* WHIP *v.* Cf. UPSTART.] app. = next, 1 c.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor* 437 b, Whiles this whipstart [sc. a priest] alone have played all the parts of the Pageaunt.

**Whipster** (hwi·pstəɹ) [app. f. WHIP *v.* + -STER. Cf. prec. and WHIPPING *ppl. a.* 1.]

**1.** A vague term of reproach, contempt, or the like, with various shades of meaning. **a.** A lively, smart, reckless, violent, or mischievous person. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 3 I leve had neede to large for Spon ne if I come to contend with such whipsters. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pi rce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 63 You that intende to be fine compaynonable gentlemen, smirkinge writes, and whipsters in the world. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 18 Cupid feigned as a boy, because he is an unbridled whipster (*sorgr* nugator), that neither acts nor thinks any thing with discretion. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipsters*, a sharp, or subtil Fellow. 1820 W. IRVING *Broeck Hall* (1848) 223 The whipsters roam in truant bands about the neighbourhood. 1906 SINTON *Poetry of Hadrian* 432 Like a whipster from school.

**b.** A wanton, lascivious, or licentious person, a debauchee. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 81, I should quite fray away many of M. Anthonies companions from bestowing their affections on so liberall whipsters. 1669 DRYDEN & DE NEUCASTLE *Sir Mart-all* IV. 1, There were Whip sters abroad, i'faith, Padders of Maiden-heads. 1697 VAN BRUGH *Prov. Wife* V. 10, To deliver up her fair Body, to be tumbled and mumbled, by that young Liquorish Whipster. 1858 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit etc. N. Riding Yorkshire* Gloss., *Whipster*, a doubtful character.

**c.** A slight, insignificant, or contemptible person. (The current literary sense, often with the epithet *puny*, after Shaks.)

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* V. ii. 244, I am not valiant neither But every Puisne whipster gets my sword. 1680 D. UREKY *Ep. Prince* 10 A plague little Whipster thou. 1708 ROWE *Ambit. Court.* Prol., Each puny Whipster here, as Will cries. 1858 DICKENS *Autobiog. MS.* & ANSW. When I first saw this whipster. 1890 HAWTHORNE *Fanshawe & Tales* (1886) 42 Every little whipster of a French poet. 1888 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* III. (1892) 141 No tearful whipster.

**2** One who wields a whip: **a.** a driver of horses; b. one solicited to whipping or flogging, a scourger, lasher (also *fig.*). *Obs.*

1651 CLEVELAND *Newes from Neuter* 29 He'd leave the trotting Whipster and prefer Our profound Vulcan to be that Wagoner. 1670 *Commons Journ. Ling.* 8 § 2 132 A school-master should take care to whip his scholars himself. 1707 J. STEPHENS tr. *Que tdas Com. Wks.* (1709) R 2 The Whipsters had made their Disciplines. 1825 LANE *Mod. Egyptians* I. 304 I see one of those referers in discipline hi self in the cart's tail, with just such a convenient spot for him to be tender mercies of the whipster.

**Whip-stitch** (hwi·pstiʧ), *sb.* (*adv.*) [f. WHIP *sb.* 16, 18 + STITCH *sb.*]

**1** *Needlework* A stitch of the kind described s. v. WHIP *v.* 18, an overcast stitch. = WHIP *sb.* 16.

1640 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Prvise Needle A.* 2, The smart ing Whip stitch, Back stitch, & the Cross stitch. 1882 *Ladies Treasury* Feb. 202 The whip stitch . . . should be formed of every neat tight roll the raw edge being completely rolled in. 1885 LANG *Book of Shemmings* 88 When twisted, the upper end is bound with a small thread with a whip-stitch. 1893 ROSLYEAR *Text Th. Nillework* 204 The stitch makes the roll on the material look like a whip cord, and this is probably the origin of the name of wh ip stitch.

**2.** Phr. *every whip stitch* at short or frequent intervals. *dial.* and *U. S.*

1890 J. D. ROBERTSON *Glos. Glouc.* s. v., 'He was in and out every whip stitch, meaning 'every now and then.' 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 757 2 I had days occur at every whipstitch.

†**3** as *adv.* or *int.* expressing sudden movement or action. *Obs. slang* or *colloq.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 74, I'll slide down from the window and Whip-stitch, your Nose in my Breech, sir Nicholas. I'll leave my Cloaths behind me. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 80 He shall cast ye a Knot whip stitch into a Halter, and dangle ye at the Gordian one.

**Whip-stitch,** *v. Needlework* [f. prec.] *trans.* To sew with a whip-stitch: = WHIP *v.* 18.

1592 GREENE *Upstart Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 240 Silke lace, lawne, cambricke, of colour and such costly stuffe to welte, garde, whippestitch, edge, face, and draw out. 1687 *Harper's Mag.* July 179/2 If inserts' or 'plates' of single sheets are to form part of the book, these are usually pasted or 'whip-stitched' on to the next sheet within the folded sheet.

**Whipstock** (hwi·pstɔ̄k). [STOCK *sb.*¹]

**1** The stick or staff to which the lash of a whip is attached, the handle of a whip.

1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whypstocke, *manche dung fouet* 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. iii. 71 Happiness is bounc to it. More the Whipstocke, then the Lash is. 1655 [G. HALE] *Pr. Knows* xi. 75 The Baalites spared their flesh lease then her cruellest whip stocks. 1850 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* iv. 55 Beating out the brains of one ruffian with a whip stock he also was carried. 1885 BRYANT & RICE *Chapt. Text* 1. 11, Setting the beginning his thumb upon his whip stock. 1892 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath from Veldt* 182 Having fishing material with us I soon had the two whipstocks rigged up.

*b. transf.* A man who drives horses. *contemptuous*

1824 THOMAS *Alhumasar* IV. iv, Out Carter Hence durtie whipstocke

†**2** A whipping-post (= *whipping-stock* (*a*), WHIPPING *vbl. sb.* 4*a*). *Obs.*

1629 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat* B 4 1, The beggers whip stock, or the Gallowes here. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrn.* II. (1818) 113 Suspected for a pickiock Th' beadle led me to the whip stock.

†**3.** A person who is frequently whipped (= *whipping-stock* (*b*), WHIPPING *vbl. sb.* 4*a*); in quot = FLAGELLANT *sb. Obs.*

1640 Br. HALL *Chr. Moder.* 1 iii. 24 Such were the famous whip stocks in the time of Gregory the tenth

†**4.** *Naut.* = WHIPSTAFF 2, WHIP *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1680 WOOD *Journ. to Canada* 286 In this Storm we broke the Whip stock, and split the Stern

*5 attrib.*: **whipstock wise** *adv. phr.*, in the manner of a whipstock: in quot. applied to WHIP GRAFTING.

1668 [TRAHERON] *Garden of Eden* (1653) 117 Grafting whipstock wise, and letting in the cions into the stock by a slit, is good for young trees

**Whipstress** (hwi·pstres). *rare*—¹. [f. WHIPSTER 2 by SEX-STRESS.] A female flogger.

1707 tr. *Wks C'esn D'Aunois* (1713) 366 The Whipstresses [orig. *fouettieuses*] had so tir'd themselves, that they could no longer stir their Arms

**Whipsy-derry.** Also **whipsider'y, whipsey derry.** [app. connected with WHIP *sb.* 15 and DERRICK *sb.*] A contrivance for hoisting (esp. ore in shallow mines), consisting of a derrick with a 'whip' or simple pulley attached, and worked by a horse or horses. Also simply *whipsy* and *whip and derry* (WHIP *sb.* 15).

1805 J. HOGG *Tales* 146 (E. D. D.) 'What is a whipsiderry, sir?' said I. 'A whipsiderry, said he, 'is a thing for rising trauds, 'tes a sort of whem. 1866 J. HORNSBURY *Greathheart* xxxiv, Two waggons, laden with whipsidery pulleys, disjointed fragments of steam engines, and miners gads and crowbars. 1866 R. P. WHITWORTH *Builders's Assistal Gazetteer* 116 There are 2 double whipsidery, and several single whipseys. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 76 With the 'derrick' or 'whipsey derry' the cost will be a little more than with the horse-whim.

**Whiptail** (hwi·ptēil). [f. WHIP *sb.* 1 + TAIL *sb.*1] Name used (simply or attrib.) for any one of various animals having a long slender tail like a whip-lash. See quots.

1771 J. ROBERTS *Flora Amer. Septent.* To Rdi. p. vii. Whiptail forked Lizard, Lacerta tabacenta (tobacco pipe fish) 1889 LAWRENCE *Ac. Chaos Quadrupeds* Introd. 143 (Morris) A sugar-son of different kinds, the smaller kind, known as pretty faces or whip tails. 1895 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sect.* V. 748/2 The genus *Thelyphonus* (Whip tail, Sugger Killer, Mule Killer [= whip-scorpion]). 1898 MORRIS *Austral. Eng.* 1 *Tasmanian Whiptail, Cos phynoides tasmanica* an altogether different fish from *Mylodaitis aquila*, the Eagle or Whiptail Ray [= EAGLE-RAY].

**Whip-tom-kelly.** [Imitative, from the bird's note cf. WHIP-POOR-WILL.] Popular name for the Red eyed Greenlet or 'Elycatcher' (*Vireo olivaceus* or *Vireosylva olivacea*) of eastern N. America, and the Black-whiskered Greenlet (*Vireo barbatulus* or *Vireosylvia calidris*) of the W. Indies, Bahamas, and Florida.

1796 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 476 Whip tom kelly I believe this to be a bird of passage. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* III. 247 The Red Eyed Flycatcher (Muscicapa olivacea) popularly known as 'Whip-Tom-Kelly,' from its peculiar articulate cry. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 130 *Vireo olivaceus* var. *barbatulus* Black whiskered Vireo. Whip-tom-kelly.

**Whir,** *sb* and *v* see WHIRR.

**Whirohe,** obs. var. WROHE *v.*

**Whirken,** obs. f. QUERKEN *v.*, to suffocate.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 201 Pat war bothe pe whirkend per-with & dede

**Whirl** (hwaɹl), *sb.* Forms: 5 **qwherel, qwerle, wherwille,** ⅋c **quhrl(l,** 6 **whrurel(l, wherle, whyrle, whrroll,** 6–7 **whurle,** 6–8 **whirle,** 7 **wervell, whurl,** 6– **whirl.** [Partly a. MLG., MDu. *wervel* or ON. *hvirfill* (see WHIRL *v.*), partly f. the verb itself. Cf. WHORL.]

**I.** Denoting a material object

**1** The fly-wheel or pulley of a spindle. = WHORL *sb.* 1.

1418 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, x qwerles, 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 270, vj. sokettes, with branches to remeve ij. whrwilles to the same. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 298/2 A Qwherel of a spynnyng wele (*A.* A Qwerle of a wele), *rotulum, nec pellum, turbibrum.* 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C j b, *Verticellum*, a wherle [1525, a whorle] 1553 URRY *Chaucer* D. 1 (Arb.) 20 Nouther medle you with your spynndle and your wherle. 1580 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 35/1 A whirwell, *verticillum, verticulus, spondilus.* 1585 W. WHITAKER *Answ. to Kamnbis* 160 Among the other prayses of a worthy wife, he saith that she putteth hir hande to the wherle. 1598 FLORIO, *Aspo*, a wh rroll. 1859 JAMIESON *Cleca*, the wervell or button of a spindle. 1885 J. NICHOLSON *Textile Fabrics* 58 The revolution of the wheel conveyed by a band to the whirl, or pulley on the spindle

*b. transf.* A skein of thread sufficient to fill a spindle. *Obs.*

1580 W. BALDWIN *Funerralles Edw. VI, D. ath playnt* iii, Atropos did knip in two the string, Before her sisters sixteene whurles had spun.

*c. Rope making.* A cylindrical piece of wood furnished with a hook on which the ends of the fibre are hung in spinning.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 58 Whirls are of beech or ash, cylindrically formed, and fixed on iron spindles in the heads of wheels, with a hook at one end for the spinner to hang his hemp on. They are likewise used to hang the yarn on for hardening and laying ropes. 1797 [see *whirl-hook* under WHIRL.] 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 840/1 The point of the prolonged axis of the whirl is bent into a hook.

†**2.** = WHIRL-WORK I. *Obs.*

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1042 A Whurl or little hairy Worm with many feet *Ibid.*, I collect that there is a house Whirl like to *Sulphens.*

**3.** *Bot* and *Zool* = WHORL *sb.* 2.

1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 294 The upper Whirls are guarded with round pointed Leaves. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 289 Whirls of leaves often so thickly set as partly to tile the stems. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/1 The numberless animals of the colony are grouped in whirls.

**4.** *Conch.* = WHORL. *sb.* 3.

1682 GREW *Museum* I. xi. § 195 A Shell with a Knobed Turban or Whirle. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 15 The whirls of spiral shells are sometimes separated by the interference of foreign substances. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 186 In *Triforis*, the whirls turn the wrong way.

**b.** = TOP *sb.*² 2.

1708 *Phil. Trans* XXVI. 79 Trochites, The Whirle, or Top shell

**5.** A convolution, curl, spiral = WHORL *sb.* 4.

1862 Burton *Bk Hunter* (1864) 399 The noses, the tails the feet of the characteristic monster of the sculptured stones, all end in a whirl. 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 7 June 418 The reduction of friction and of whirls in the wheel.

**6.** *Angling.* A spinning bait

1888 Goode *Amer Fishes* 71 Using two lines with spoon-baits or 'whirls'.

*T. Ekete* (See quots)

1842 Francis *Dict Arts, Manuf Electrical* (See *Flyer*) 1862 *Catal. Internat Exhib., Lond* II. No 5398, Series of apparatus including Leyden jars, swan, spider, whirl or fly. 1893 Sloane *Life & Dict* 577 A conductor carrying an electric current is surrounded by circular lines of force, which are sometimes termed an electric whirl.

**II.** Denoting a movement (and derived senses)

**8.** The action, or an act, of whirling; (swift) rotatory or circling movement, rotation, circumvolution, gyration, a (rapid) turn, as of a wheel, around an axis or centre

*spr e mencing* c1 quot 1571 sb Whirl 3 In *Aviomedica*, a mind can conceive and think about fixed axes. c1680 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 370 Worldly mens sum tyme are castin in be Aip o the quhele, in grete prosperitee, And wyth a quhirl, sowarly, or thai witte, Ar throwin doun to pure & law estate 1727 Bradley & Martyn *Sex Villanie* iii v. II 3. The whirle on toe, The turne above ground 1809 *Malkin* (Douay) 1 Kgs xiv 29 In violence, and whirle of sailing 1821 Tuttepenny *Agricult* III. 1. Whirl flaws, and whirles of weather. 1748 Young *Nt Th* iv 562 The sun must undo each world, nor feels her idle wheel 1771 Lonergan *Lancet* I. 1. This term hurl differs from whirling; because you limit it not to any to do the whirl to get a 3,000 Rep. 1829 C. Kent *Four Lett Asiat* 146 A wild kind of dance, the principal motion of which was a whirl 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor* I. xxxi 286 The whirling of the wind and the whirl of the snow drift 1878 W. S. Gilpeian *Automatic* 148 Suppose next that the curved lines of flow are circles having their centres on a fixed axis, and their planes perpendicular to it and the fluid to have spun except at the axis, a rotation in which there 1892 *Nat Hist Trans Northumb & Durh* IX. 282 In an undisturbed shaft, the period of whirl is according with the natural period of lateral vibration 1908 S. E. White *Arrowsmith* xxvi, A whirl of the wheel to the right, a turn to the left.

**b.** Something, as a body of water or air, in (rapid) circling motion, or the part at which this takes place; an eddy, a vortex.

a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II 531 As with a whirlwinde out of dispersed whirl I rap *wyth* [*v.r.* wyrl] Ilion thorowe. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit* II 118 These whirls called eddies in a River have the nature and force of a screw 1733 Lansdale *Lett* Wks (1755) II 155 Still the tail or whirl of air may remain entire. 1798 Coleridge *Ode Mass* viii 8, Upon the whirl, where sunk the ship, The boat spun round and round 1847 Longfellow *Kavanagh* x 140 Trout are found close below banks among sedge, rushes and small whirls 1908 *Words of Hunt Officers* 101 A whirl of rifle bullets beat upon the wire entanglements.

**9** In extended use: Swift or violent movement, as of something hurled or flung, or of a wheeled vehicle, etc.; rapid course; rush, hurry Also *fig.*

1649 G Daniel *Panarch, Rich II* cix The Noble Vere springs at a double whirle Marquis to a Duke 1705 Pope *Odyss* x 52 Swift he whirl'd the lingering reins to flew 1842 Dickens *Amer Notes* vi, The lively whirl of carriages is exchanged for the deep rumble of carts and waggons 1880 I. G. Reid *Travels & Talisman* 97 Such a wretched device for filling them holidays as a whirl from one place to another, and a tail at back

**10** *fig.* Confused and hurried activity of any kind, disturbance, commotion; tumult, bustle.

1598 Hexham, Whyrle or rage as in a whyrle 1600 I. C. *Five Merry Melt-mates* I iii Cab What whirle's this? 1780 Miss Cowley *Belle's Stratagem* II 3, The feelings of Wife, and M'Shee, are in a whirl of dreadful confusion 1807 Rabbe *Chr* I, *What Sunday is*, A giddy whirl of sun falls ear and foam 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxix I'm morrow was to be a half holiday devoted to a whirl of entertainments 1889 J. S. Winter's *Mrs. Bob* vi, Those who live in the whirl of London Society.

**b** A confused, disturbed, distracted, or dizzy state of mind or feeling

1707 Addison *Ascan & Mir* iii, My cousin in the whirle of passion lost 1848 Thackeray *I an Inter* iv, In a whirl of wonder at the the true 1854 R. S. Surtees *Hawbuck Gr* lxvi, The lie of it was in a confused whirl 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* iii ii 80 He depicted in a whirl, to secure a copy of every morning paper

**Whirl** (hwəl), *v.* 1 forms: 3 **ywirle**, 4 **wyrle**, 4–6 **whyrle**, 4–7 **whirle**, 5 **quirle**, 6 **whyrl**, 5– **quhirle**, **quhirl(l)e**, **whirle**, 6– **whorle**, **whurl(e**, 6– **whirl**. [prob. a. ON *hvirfla* to turn about), whirl (Sw *virfla*, obs. Da. *hvirle*, Da. *hvirle*), related to ON *hvirfill* circle, ring, cap, crown of the head, top, summit, pole of the heavens (MSw. *hvirvil* crown of the head, Sw. *virvel*, obs Da *hvirrel*, Da *hvirvel* eddy, etc.) = (M)Du., (M) G. *wervel* †whirlpool, †spindle, vertebra, swivel, bolt, OHG. *wirbil*, *wirvil* whirlwind (MHG., G. *wirbel* whirlpool, whirlpool, giddiness, vertebra, swivel, sheave, tumult; cf. *wirbeln* to whirl, trill, *wirblig* rotatory, giddy) ~ OTeut. **ɣwerbil-*, f. *ɣwerb-* to rotate: see Wharla *v.*, -el¹, -le 1, 3

OE. *hwearfian*, *hwearflian* 'errare' (Northumb *hwerflung*, error, 'vicissitudo') and **hwearflian*, *hwyrflian* to rotate, do not appear to have survived, they are app based on the variant *hwearf*, which is otherwise widely represented (cf late Northumb *hwarf* 'error', OE **hwearfel*, *-yrfel* in place names, OHG *werbal* 'saltrum, plectrum', *carbalon* 'rotari, versari', *warbal* 'vertibile', and forms s.v. Wharve).

Contamination with *hurl* is seen in sense 6 as also in the variants Hurl pool, Hurlwind of Whirlpool, Whirlwind Cf. similarly Hurlpool (association with Thirl, Thrill.)

1 *intr.* To move in a circle or similar curve, circle, circulate; more vaguely, to move about in various directions, esp with rapidity or force, to go (wander, fly, etc.) *about*, to be in commotion

c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 211/287 Pe knist swirlede op in pis flast, ase speldene doth, wi[t]hute ani fyr. *Chevalier Assyr* 1873 As he blue whisleth of a fle, So to and fro pei flem c1440 *Promp Parv* 535/1 Whyrlyn or wate 30 ȝ lyquesse *Legend* a 1450 Anne *Dicta Salust* 259 This world is not certeine ne stidfast, But whirling a bowte and mutable 1563 (*Good*) *Eclogue, Cupido* 648 That vyle deformed Cherub Whose foggy Mistes do this cliche about him whirle. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* v, I then will I dance and whirle about the aire 1676 Mace *Musick's Mon* 53 Let the strings have scope enough to whirle about with clearness of Sound. 1729 De Foe *Memoirs* (1840) 332 His Spirits will lead about faster than the Vessels could convey them 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp* v (1856) 36 R ska, about which the waves do flow and billows were whirling in endless rounds 1886 Tyndall *Polar Y* xxvii 210 Dense clouds of snow rose, whirling in the air

**b** *fig.*

1598 Shakespeare *Mon Mistresses* II 3 His spirit whirling in my heart, greater than I can declare 1834 Whittier *Mogg Megone* I 426 What thoughts of horror and sadness whirl in his brain! 1844 Longfellow *Spanish Student* II. iii 2 Scarcely so was to become bent by the centrifugal force see quot 1854 *Sw* Whittier *Tent of*

In *Mem* xxxvi 9 The winds begin to rise, The last red leaf is whirled away 1884 G. W. Curtis *Prue & I Inquest* in 1800 176 He whirled her off to the altar 1887 Black *Yr Thule* ii, The gallant little horses that whirled them into the open country 1889 Frost *Cruise* xxiii 398 He was borne as a leaf whirled in winter 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man Eaters of Tsavo* xiii The rescue party came hurrying current feaming up trees by the roots and whirling them along like straws

**b** *fig.*

1578 Whitstone *Decay of Christ* ii 11, Such dunghill churles, Such fellows as in a market times about the country whirles. 1596 Lodge *Wounds Civil War* Wks (1883) I 41 Invent (1874) 114 The fetches, by which unhappy mankind is with such publick calamity whirled about. 1837 Hallam *Const Hist* III xvii 48 Pitt, whose measures in 1792 had nearly whirled the loved whirlwind 1853 the little reason she may have possessed

**6.** To throw or cast with violence, fling, hurl esp with rotatory movement, as from a sling Also *absol.*

I formerly app sometimes used by confusion for *hurl* (cf *pere's tha* Hurtle pool wind)

c1440 *Jly Life Bille & Sim.* xxix 49 (MS Bodl 257) Pan pei token a stone, and sette it in a whirdil, and in the skyue 1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 79b He taught them to whirle with a sling, and to set a darte 1598 Florio *Worlde of Words*, Fromba, a sling to whirle with 1718 Pope *Iliad* xxi 582, Serpedon whirl'd his weighty Lance. 1742 Gray *Long Sr* Whirl the wheel from high

†**b** *Gunning.* To cast (the dice) Also *absol* 1579 Rich *In cet Lucell* 9 Ye plaie naughtelely, whoire t'ke up, the tricke is mine shamfully caste 1772 Foote *Nabob* II (1778) 7 When you want to throw six and four, you must whirl the dice to the end of the table *Life* 27, I shall be like to rap, stamp, dribble, and whirl, with my man in the club

7 *intr.* To be affected with giddiness, to reel usually (now only of the head or brain).

1581 Hollyband *Treas Apoth* 58 Many are whom the heade whyrleth so sore ȝt he the heth to the earth turneth vp-side-down 1611 *Bible* 1 Sam xxv 36 Nabal was very drunke and he did whyrle and he dissembled 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl* v, The dim brain whirls dizzy with delight 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* vi You make my head whirl.

**b.** *trans* To affect with giddiness; to put in a whirl or tumult *t Obs*

1593 Q. Eliz *Poetth* iv met 1 90 Hydden causes which yrls 30 mynd 1606 Shaks *Tr & Cr* iii 11 I am giddy; expectation whirls me round 1665 Boyle *Occas Reflect Medicus* 450 If he had not been whirl'd with a crotchet to buy a house 1756 Bacon *Metaph* iii 6 7 Nor let thus touch from whirl my brain 1855 Cooke *Simony Mr* (ed 3) IV 540 Precipices, the sight of which has whirled all his brains while awake

**Whirl-**, the sb. or sb-stem in Combination: **whirl-brain**, a giddy-headed person (cf. *t.* **wrythebrained** *s.v.* Writhe) 1 **whirl-brained** *a*, giddy-brained, + **whirl fire**, a poetic or rhetorical name for lightning (as associated with violent storms or whirlwinds), + **whirl gate**, a turnstile, **whirlhook**, in *Rope-making*, each of the hooks of a 'whirl' (see Whirl *sb* 10c); + **whirl-jack** = Whirligig 1(c), + **whirl-mint**, ? = whorled water-mint; **whirl-pillar**, **spout**, a rotating

column of water or dust, a waterspout or dust-whirl; **whirl-ahaped** *a.*, whorled; † **whirl-anail**, † **whirl-atone** (see quots.); † **whirl-whale**, some kind of whale (cf. WHIRL-ABOUT 1, WHIRLPOOL 1); **whirl-wheel** (tr. Fr. *rouet volant*), a kind of water-wheel (see quot.).

1827 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 177 He is a † whirl-brain that talks whatever comes uppermost. 1648 N. WARD *Doth. Eastern Assoc.* 30 Many whirle-crown'd, and braggi-brain'd Opinionists. 1605 STVMP *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Lawe* 1011 The smoaking storms, the †whirl-fire's crackling clash. 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 104 The whirle fire shall flash. 1550 *Ludlow Churches, &c.* (Camden) 44 The †whirle yate nount the colege dore. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 485/2 This second spinner attaches his own hemp to the †whirl hook. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xl. 57 That he [sc. Gargantua] might play...after the manner of the other little children, they made him a faire weather †whirljack [1694 white gig], of the wings of the windmill. *c* 1730 PETIVER *Cat. Rept's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxxi, Water †Whirl-mint. Cross Whirl-mint. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Mineral.* (Weale) 8) In some parts of the ocean the waterspout or †whirl-pillar is occasionally met with. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 359 Each series is of equal length, and placed in a wheel or whirl-shaped fort like the equestrian or horse-tail plant. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. vi. i. 132 The †Whirle-Snail. *Turbo cochlea.* 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. del Land's Mem.* (1738) 93 We saw...Ten Thousand little †Whirl-spouts of Sand. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. i. 262 The Short †Whirle-Stone. *Trochites.* 1605 STVMP *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Lawe* 732 Another is swallowed in a †Whirl-Whale's womb, In laid-a-live within a living Toomb. 1833 GLYNN *Treat. Power Water* 37 An elaborate series of experiments and an excellent report on the useful effect of the ordinary horizontal water-wheel at present used in France. ...those on which the experiments were made are at Toulouse.... These wheels are of two kinds: those situate on the rivers are called bucket-wheels (*à cuve*)...; those which are placed on the canal are called †whirl-wheels (*roues volantes*),...and are turned by the percussion of the water upon curved floats.

**Whirl(e**, obs. var. HARL *sb.*1, HERL.

1676 COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 64 A fish call'd the Peacock-flie: the body made of a whirl of a Peacock's feather.

**Whirl-about.**

† **1.** A name for some kind of whale: cf. *whirl-whale* (WHIRL- in Comb.), WHIRLPOOL 3. *rare*—1.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 98 The monstrous Whirl-ab out [*F. Hmorme Semicheb.*], Which in the Sea another Sea doth spout.

**2.** The action of whirling about; something that whirls about, or is in a whirl; *attrib.* or *adj.* characterized by whirling about.

1786 C. MORRIS *Songs* (1798) 8 While thro' this whirl-about Journey [*sc.* life] we travel. 1857 FALCONER *Norw. & Kng.* II. 70 There is such a whirlabout amongst the parties in these transactions, always changing sides. 1863 KINGSLEY *Hereto Hab.* viii, His little whirl-about of a hand.

**Whirlary**: see WHIRLERY.

† **Whirlbat, whorlbat.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 6–7 **whorle-**, 7 **whoorl-**, 7–8 **whorlbat.** *β.* 7–8 **whirl(e)bat.** [Alteration of HURLBAT by substitution of WHIRL for the first syllable.]

**1.** Used in the 16th and 17th c. to render L. *cestus*, which was defined as 'a weapon with plummettes of leade, vsed in games for exercise' (Cooper's *Thesaurus*) and 'a certain game among the ancients, wherein they whirled leaden plummets at one another' (Phillips, 1658); also in renderings of Gr. πύξ.

*a.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Cestus*, *Rellare cestu*, to play as it were at the whorle bat. 1574 *Hitbab' Dis.* 51/2 *Cestus*, an whorle batte, an instrument of leather couered with leade, to buffet one another. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xxxvii. I. 331 All the sort of Rims be armed with crooked hornes, as if they were purposely ordained [*cornua*] and given them by Nature to thumpe and jurre withall. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 378 Your shoulders must not undergo the churlish whorlbats [*Il.* πυγμὴ καὶ πὺξ ἀναγωνίη]. 1624 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xiii. § 6 He...compelled all strangers to fight with him, or shorlebattes. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Pythic* III. 285 At wrestling, buffets, whirlbat, speed of race [ἢ πὺξ ἢ κραι πάλαι]. *Ibid.* xi. 406 Pollux, that excell'd, in whirlbat fight [πὺξ ἀγαθὸν ἰδιαθέντα]. 1817 MIDDLETON *Doctor* 371 A Plummet, or whirle-bat, that vsuallie Boxers and dauntars vse. HORN & ROE *Gale Lang. Cult., Foundation* C. § 3 Slain by thee with the whirlbat [*a te certus ictus*]. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. xxiii. (1711) 130 Fencers, how'r'd to beating, when bang'd almost to Pulp with Clubs and Whirl-bats [tr. Cicero *pugiles certibus contusi*]. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. ¶3 a, He rejected them as Dares did the Whirl-bats of Eryx.

**2.** A club.

1591 COWPER *Iliad* VII. 267 Where him his iron whirlbat [ἐσσύνο] nought avail'd.

**Whirl-blast.** [f. WHIRL- + BLAST *sb.*; app. a word of the Cumberland dialect, for which Wordsworth is the earliest literary authority.] A whirlwind, hurricane. Also *fig.*

1798 WORDSW. *Poems of Fancy* iii, A whirl-blast from behind the hill Rushed o'er the wood. 1807 STAGG *Misc. Poems, Return* 211, Hark, the whurlblast loudly blusters. 1813 COLERIDGE *Nit-Scene* 77 The whirl-blast comes, the desert-sands rise up. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Alt.* xlviii, Which rain could never bend, or whirl-blast shake. 1821 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xi, Vast towers of sand, borne up by the whirlblast, rise vertically. 1904 DOWDEN *Bronwyn* 246 There is a fixity of grief which is more appalling than this whirl-blast.

**Whirl-bone** (hwɜ·lbōn). *Obs. or dial.* Forms: 4–8 **whirlebone**, 5 **whirle-**, **wherle-**, **wyrlebon**, **wherl-**, **werel-**, (**qwhirl-**, **qwerle-**, **qvyrlebone**, 5–6 **whyrl-**, **whorlebone**, 5–7 **whyrlebone**, 6 **whurle bone**, (7 **whall-bone**), 8 **hurle bone**, *dial.* **whirly boaan**, 9 *Sc.* **whorle-bane**, 6- **whirlbone**. (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [Replacing OE. *hweorf-*, *hwyrfoðn*, *hwe(o)rbán* knee-cap, by substitution of WHIRL for the first element; cf. MLG. *wervel(bên)*, G. *wirbelbein* vertebra.]

**1.** The round head of a bone turning in the socket of another bone; *spec.* that of the thigh-bone at the hip-joint (in later use esp. in the horse).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. xxxii. (Bodl. MS.), Pei [i. bones of the arms] be ykeuered with ioyntes wherlebones and sowdelis. [Marginalium] *c* 1480 *Pryv. Prompt.* 524/2 Whyrlebone, or hole of a ioynt (N. whylbone), *anca*, *vertibulum*, *vertibulum*, *cardulus*. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* ix. (1888) 75 Fyfe of these sinnes bones...haith a great rounde hole, into the whiche is receyued the bone called *Vertebra*, or The whirle bone. *Ibid.* x. 84 *Vertebrum*, or Whirle bone,...and is receyued into the hoore or hole of the hanche bone, called *Acetabulum*. No. 2046/4 A Black brown Gelding ...a Strain in his Whirlebone. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Hurle Bone*, in an Horse, is a Bone near the Middle of the Buttock; very apt to get out of its Sockets with a Slip or Strain. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* xxix. (1754) 240 A lameness in the whirle bone and hip, is discovered by the horse's dragging his leg after him. 1814 J. WHITE *Fort. Hibd.* (ed. 2) III. 192 Injury of the Hip Joint, commonly called Whill, or Hurdle Bone, or Round Bone. 1895 LYDEKKER *Horse & Ox* 14 The hip-bone or joint, Fife.

**2.** The round bone of the knee; the knee-pan, patella.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 599/19 *Internotilium*,...the knee-panne, or whirlebon. 1530 PALSGR. 238/1 Whyrlbone of the knee, *rondelle du genouil*. 1598 FLORIO *Worlde Englond* v. v. 11 *Rotilinebed*, When the bodie of Aiax was found, the whirlebone of his knee was adiudged so broad as a pretie bath. 1616 *Surfl. & Markh. Countr. Farme* 1. 1. 6 The knee bone, or whirle-bone, of the knee. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Paray's Chirurg.* XV. xxii. (1678) 340 The Patella, or Whirl-bone of the Knee...is oft-times contus'd. 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 32 He geete fo his Whirly boanes, and sed...while his Heart burnes his Blood sarclates there's Hopes. 1828 *Craven Glost., Whirl-bonan*, the cap of the knee.

† **3.** A vertebra of the spine. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 3 Cap. vi. of woundis of pe rigg-bon & þe whirlebonis [*sc.* whirle bonys] of pe rigge. *Ibid.* 204 Make smale cauteries...betweene ech whirlebon of pe necke. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. iv. xiv. 249 Of the Vertebræ or Whirle-bones of the Spina.

**Whirled** (hwɜ·ld), *a.*

† **1.** Cf. WHIRL *v.* 7.] Fuddled.

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Well whyrled, nere dronken, *beayn*, or *hebeté*.

**2.** [f. WHIRL *sb.* + -ED 2. Cf. OE. *hwyrfted* rounded.] = WHORLED.

1718 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 307 Shells, whirled and single. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 82/3 Leaves...somewhat whirled. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 163 Imperforate, globose-conical, close-whirled.

**3.** [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ED 1.] Rotated rapidly, etc.: see the vb.

1875 FARRAR *Silence & Voices* iv. 76 The...sun...glaring luridly through the whirled sands of the deserts. 1883 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xlv, The fumes of the whirled silver censer-balls.

**Whirler** (hwɜ·rlə). [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ER 1.]

**1.** A person who whirls.

1. One who turns or spins rapidly round; † one who wanders about (*obs.*); a 'whirling' dervish.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyrlare a-bowte, or goare a-bowte in sydynesse, *giragus*. 1815 *Tweddell's Rem.* 320 *Mevlevi*, Dervish of the Order of Whirlers. 1832 LD. LYTTON *Let. to Bulw. Rutherford* 1 Apr., The only chance is for one pair to cling close, like waltzers, and whirl lovingly among the whirlers. 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor, &c.* Ded. Ser. II. (1856) 10 A SET of dancers and whirlers. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 201 He promenaded around the performers, and taking his place in the ring began to spin—for there were during the entire performance one or two whirlers at work.

**2.** One who whirls something; † one who hurls or flings something, a hurler (*obs.*); one who turns a wheel or other revolving piece of mechanism.

1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 77 The whorlers of darts. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 466 For wash-bowls, dishes, or plates, the workman, called the whirler, uses a vessel and handle. 1889 LINCOLN in *Lond. Agent's Rec.* 6 Apr. 316 When flails were whirling for six months...in the tithe barns, while the whirlers and their families ate barley bread.

**II.** A thing that whirls.

† **3.** ? A whirlwind. *Obs. rare*—1.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 306 What boystrous lungs the roaring whirlers blown; What burning wings the Lightning rides upon.

**4.** A revolving piece of mechanism.

*spec.* **a.** A potter's whirling-table. **b.** An apparatus invented by Troughton to serve as an artificial horizon at sea, consisting of a rapidly rotating top with a mirror attached: also called *Troughton's top*. **c.** A device by which the strands are twisted together in spinning: in *Rope-making*, each of the rotating hooks by which the hemp or other fibre is twisted into yarn.

1886 W. WHITE *Werkin* xxxi. 377 A revolving pedestal of 'whirler', on which the article to be ornamented is placed. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Whirler, or Troughton's Top. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Nov. 4/3 The females busy with a bunch of camel's hair and a 'whirler', making...the coarse...thread with which most of their rough sewing is done. 1898 HAWIS *Story of Potter* 138 The wheel...at which he [sc. potter] stands is called, when revolved by some other power than himself a 'jigger', that which he turns with his own hand...is a 'whirler'. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/3 Lithographic plate whirler.

† **Whirlery.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **-ary**. [f. WHIRL *v.* + -ERY.] Whirling, circling flight (or ? roaring noise: cf. WHURL *v.*). In first quot. as part of a jingling refrain.

*c* 1580 *Doctour Doubble-ale* 436 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 341 Faie well and a dewe: With a whirlary whewe, And a hirlary typpe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 77 With gagling whirlerye flapping Theyr wings.

**Whirley**, var. HURLEY 2, influenced by WHIRL.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Whirley*, a hutch, hurley, or hutch. 1886 HODDS & *Life 7th Ennt Shaftsnk.* I. x. 413 A little child,...whose duty it was, on hearing the approach of a whirley, or coal-carriage, to pull open the door.

**Whirley** : see WHIRLY.

**Whirlicote.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 **whirlecote**, **whirlecote**, **wherlecote**, 6 **wherlil-**, **whirlicote**, 8–9 **whirlicot**. [Form doubtful; app. orig. *whirlecote*.] 1. *gen.* A whirlwind. *rare.*

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* (Surtees) 1. 68 Lo, how the wynd is wakyn, & the whirlecote [*ed. MSS. Camb. and Reg.*, *MS. B. Mus. Add.* whirlecote; *ed. Caxton* (1460) wherlecote].

1598 STOW *Surv.* 65 Of old time cnatches were not knowne in this Iland, but chariots, or Whirlicotes. ... I reade that Rychard the second being threatened by the rebelles of Kent, rode from the Tower of London to the Mayor of London with his hat mother in a Whirlicote. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Curialia Misc.* (1818) 290. 1880 *Our Engl. Home* 75 The wheels of my lady's whirlicot or the fragile plough were prepared in the kitchen. 1888 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. x. 385, I can't do much walking, but I go about in a whirlicot. It is not that the oldest man can't be found fault.

**Whirligig** (hwɜ·rligig), *sb.* Forms: 5 **whyrlegyge**, (**whyrlegogge**), 5–7 **whirlegigg**, 6 **whirlygigge**, **whirlegygge**, **worlegyg(g**, 6–7 **whirligig**, 6–8 **whirlegig**, 7 **whirlegigg(e**, **whirligig(e)**, **whirlie-gig**, 7–8 **whirly(-)gig**, (8 **whirlagig**, 9 **whirligig**). 6– **whirligig**. [orig. (and still to some extent dial.) two words, I. WHIRL- and WHIRLY- + GIG *sb.*1]

**I.** Name of various toys that are whirled, twirled, or spun round; *spec.* † (*a*) a top or teetotum (*cf.* GIG *sb.*1 1); (*b*) a toy consisting of a small spindle turned by means of a string; (*c*) a toy with four arms like miniature windmill-sails, which whirl round when it is moved through the air.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlegyge, chyldys game, *turbo*. 1530 PALSGR. 238 b Whyrlygygge for a chylde with, *pyrouette*. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 791 As a turning Whirligig goes round [Fr. *Comme la pirouette autour se tournoye*] 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Ecclus. xxvii. 13 Gnomon must appear on both sides like the stick in a Whirligig, which children use. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 148 Pulling the Line you may make the Fishing-Chain play in and out as Children do a Whirlegig...Keep it turning that the twinkling of the Glass against the Sun may provoke the Larks to come to view it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 43 The Pummel (of the sword) is neither Round nor Oval, but is flat above and below like a Whirligig. 1708 POPE *Dunc.* III. 57 As...whirligigs, twirl'd round by skilful swain, Stuck the thread in, then yield it out again. 1800 BEWICK *Sports & Past.* iv. iv. § 6. 288 The peg-top...probably originated from the te-totums and whirligigs. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 200 Some of the children were right busy in the middle, and so go round like whirligigs. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Helen, Tweed & Anchoiney* 77 A...figure of The Christ-Child playing with a † 'Whirligig'.

*b.* *fig.* ' Plaything'; ' sport'.

1661 *Boston Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1. (ed. 2) 356 Thou art Cupids whirlegigge. *c* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. 12 Turning him into...a whirligig of fate or chance.

**2.** Applied to various mechanical contrivances having a whirling or rotatory movement; *spec.* † (*a*) an instrument of punishment formerly used, consisting of a large cage suspended so as to turn on a pivot; (*b*) a roundabout or merry-go-round.

In quot. 1601 ? = OE. *scēl* 2? in quot. 1023 ? allusively applied to a carriage; in quot. 1820 to a clock.

1477–8 In Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 29 Pro vna pecia mesremli de nouo empta pro le Whirlegigg'. *Ibid.* 23 For a pece of Tymber to the Whirlegogge. 1559 in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long Melford* (1873) 365 Payde to Newman for mendinge of Hall Myll Bridge, and makyng of a worlegyg, 22*d*. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 230 The silly poore birdes are taken in, and playing with the whirligig. [*Cf.* quot. 1666 in 1.] 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* E 2, It is hanged on a turning Gybbet, like a Crane...It is bigge enough to hold two men, and...if any one or more doe rob gardens...he or they are put into this same whirligigge, or kickumbob, and the gybbet being turned, the offender hangs in this Cage...some 3 or 4 foot from the water,...and with a tricke...the bottome of the cage drops out, and the thiefe fals sodenly into the water. 1823 — *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 238/2 The last Proclamations concerning the retiring of the Gentry out of the City into their

Countries ..how it cleared the Streetes of these way-stopping Whirligigges! 1788 Grose *Milit. Antiq.* II. 204 One (punishment) formerly very common, for trifling offences, ..was the whirligig:..a kind of circular wooden cage, which turn'd on a pivot; and..whirled round with such an amazing velocity, that the deliquent became extremely sick. 1822 Scott *Nigel* v, Yonder ball-clock at Theobald's, and that other whirligig that you made for the Duke of Buckingham. 1830-41 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 71 In the outskirts of the cemeteries, swings and whirligigs are erected. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* II. viii, One of those rotatory entertainments commonly seen in fairs, and known by the name of 'whirligig' or 'roundabouts'.

**3.** *gen.* and *fig.*, in various applications: (*a*) Something that is continually whirling, or in constant movement or activity of any kind; + (*b*) a fantastic notion, a crotchet (*obs.*); (*c*) circling course, revolution (of time or events); (*d*) a lively or irregular proceeding, an antic; (*e*) a circling movement, or condition figured as such, a whirl.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* It is a Misery one that had a whirligig in his braine, would haue his own conceit to goe currant. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 237 *Quot capita tot sententiæ*, so many heads, so many whirligigs. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. 91 Some haue whirligigs of time brings in his reuenges. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 11 The heathen gods and goddesses, with all their whirligigges. 1635 Swan *Speculum Mundi* (1643) E 2, *Vid.* Tis a strange tune. *Lisa.* The whirligigs of women. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 73 His braines..being as vertiginous as a whirlewind, or inuented ten thousand whirlygigs, Windmils, and Turne-pikes to his errantick soule. 1660 Hexham, *De Key Lateert heen*, he hath a Whirligigg in his head. 1670 Hunter *Afp. Whitehall* 1. (1673) 181 The Whirly-Gig of the Dispensation, which ran round from Pope to Pope, and never could be said to settle. 1704 Prior *Ladle* 6 Since they (*sc.* the gods) gave Things their Beginning; And set this Whirligig a Spinning. 1786 Johnson in *Boswell* 1 Apr., She is the first woman in the world, could she but restrain that wicked tongue of hers;.. could she but command that little whirligig. 1797 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* VII. xiii, You'll put my poor head quite into a whirligig. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. xvi. P 2 This ridiculous baboon ..got again to his old tricks and whirligigs. 1862 Huxley in *Life* (1900) I. xv. 198, I was.. glad to get your letter at that whirligig of an association meeting. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. iv. 186 The whirligig of events restored Francesco Sforza to his duchy. 1897 Mrs. Ravnes *Tyke-writer Girl* xviii, Water-beetles who dart and dance..in interlacing whirligigs. 1911 Manners *Anthropol.* vii. 186 Were the whirligig of social change brings the uneducated temporarily to the fore.

**b.** A fickle, inconstant, giddy, or flighty person (cf. Gr. *ἰξίων* 4); also, one who turns round or moves about actively, as in a dance.

1602 Dekker *Satiromast.* Ep. Dost be nere whirligig, one of his faithfull fighters. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* I. i. 281 To maintaine a wanton whirly-gig, Worth nothing more then she brings on her back. a 1704 T. Brown tr. *Amusa Veteres Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. 1709 III. ii. 81 Woman is the Whirly-Gig of Nature; she changes so often and swiftly. 1721 Hudibras *Spect.* No. 67 P 9 An impudent young Dog, one to his Partner [in a dance]..and whisked her round..; just as my Girl was going to be made a Whirligig, I ran in, seized on the Child, and carried her home. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. iii, Knowing you to be a very merry little whirligig. 1822 T. Mitchell *Com. Aristoph.* II. 317 Give way, and make room for their play...We'll sit here..and mark how these whirligigs whisk it!

**4.** A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidæ*, esp. the common species *Gyrinus natator*, found in large numbers circling rapidly over the surface of the water in pools and ditches. Also *w. beetle*.

1723 Pettiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab iv, *Tredus pyramidalis Indicus*..the Whirligig. 1825 *Mechanics' Oracle* III. 378 The Gyrinidæ, or whirligig beetles. 1874 Wood *Insects Abr.* 69 The Gyrinidæ, or Whirligig Beetles, of foreign countries..have scarcely larger than our familiar British species. 1877 F. P. Pascoe *Zool. Classif.* 110 Gyrinus (Whirligig).

**5.** *adob.* Like a whirligig; with rapid circling movement.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skiad.* (1878) 51 His head..Wherein ten thousand thoughts runne whirligigge. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 16 June, To dress my sails to every wind;..and spin round, whirligig.

**6.** *attrib.* Resembling a whirligig; characterized by a whirling movement (*lit.* and *fig.*). See also 4.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 120 With whirligig eyesight Vo to the sky staring. 1614 Puncher *Pilgrimage* iv. xiii. (ed. 2) 307 Concerning their whirligigg-deuotions with continuall turnings (fitly agreeing to so giddie and brainelesse a Religion). 1648 Holme *Armoury* IV. xiii. (Roxb.) 324/1 The memory of the Heathen gods and Goddesses, with all their whirligig fancies. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* No. 13 (1811) II. 74 That intoxicating, inflammatory, and whirligig dance, the waltz. 1810 Scott *Ashby*, xiii, The changes of this trumpery whirligig world. 1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Fancy Ball* xxx, She finished off with a whirligig bout. 1879 *Punch* 31 May 256 The whirligig whims of the moment.

Hence **Whi·rligig** *v.*, *intr.* (also with *it*), to turn like a whirligig, to whirl or spin round (whence **Whirligigging** *ppl. a.*).

1598 E. Guilpin *Skiad.* (1878) 35 This mad-cap world, this whirlygigging age. 1687 A. Lovell *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 57 These..have been constrained to whirligig it. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 188 Half a score of bouncing girls, ballad singing, and,whirligigging. 1879 'Alice Cheer' (Veldham) *Leys of Ind* (1876) 6 The dancers..postured, bobbed, whirligigged, wriggled.

**Whirligroundal** : see Whirly-.

**Whirling** (hwɜ·rlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whirl *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Whirl.

**1.** A turning (swiftly) round; (rapid) rotation, revolution, or circling movement: *spec.* of air or water, as in a whirlwind or eddy; also of persons in a dance, etc.

*spec.* in *Mech.* (quot. 1894): see Whirl *v.* 2.

a 1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 11 So mochel hath yit thy whirlynge vp and down I-twist me. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxv, Sum were slungin, Be quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto the ground. 1490 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* b v, Yf that there be a manere whyrlynge of water. 1588 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* II. 3 This the same vnknowne gift or whirling in my hast, doth bring vnee a new desire. 1616 Holyday *Persius, Sat.* v. 138 A base horse-keeper..whom if's Master turne about, I' th' moment of the Whirling he goes out. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 9 We came amongst the most strangest whirlings of the sea. 1656 in *Anc. Inducem.* 11 By 7 The countrie Wakes, and whirlings have appeer'd ..like forraine pastimes. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 170 The Sholes probably caused some whirling about of the Tide. 1825 T. Hood *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince.* vii. III. 89 The rapid, and as he thought perilous, whirling of the..vehicle. 1835 Hood *Lwelled Walk* ix, We none of us that whirling [*sc.* the waltz] love, Which both our parents disapprove. 1838 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 187 Where the whirlings of the stream had left the marks of its eddies in the solid marble. 1847 Emerson *Poems* CLXXXV. I. 279 The Whirling and Vibration of Shafts.

**2.** Giddiness, vertigo.

1561 Hollyngsh *Hom. Apoth.* 42 The same drinketh away the whirlinge and dimnesse of the head. 1630 Meurdeth *Poems Empty Purse* 107 A whirling seized thy head.

**3.** Hurling, flinging.

1579 Rich *Interest. Pieces* B iij, The whorlyng of the Potter about his wheele. 1611 Cotgr., *Fleau*, CLXXXV. I. 279 The Whirling and Vibration of Shafts.

¶ Misused for Hurling *vbl. sb.* 2 a.

a 1726 Prior *Ess. Opin.* Wks. 1907 II. 901 Bodmin or Truro shal break more Bones at a Whirling in Cornwa' than the shins Surgeon in London shal be able to set.

**Whirling,** *ppl. a.* and prec. + -ing 2.] That whirls, in various senses of the verb; turning (rapidly) round, rotating, revolving, circling (swiftly); eddying; moving impetuously, etc.

1382 Wyclif *2 Peter* ii. 17 Cloudis..driuen with whirlinge wijndis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 55 Woodnesse of whirlinge wyndes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. prol. 53 Quhen *Mirk's Festial* 238 What by pondyr and by hayte, by whyrlyng-wynde, by mystes. 1545 [see Play 2b.] 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 90 b, The blinde goddesse Fortune, with her whirling imagery. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xiv. (1888) 80 Children when they had their whirling gigges vnder the deuotion of their scourges. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sculler's Voyage to Ark* 5 b The whirling wheele of fickle Fate. 1630 Br. Hall *Occas. Medit.* § 13 That whirling Globe of earth. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VI. 1145 Whirling Dart he sent. 1762 Mrs. Cowley *Miss Macartney* 34 Some Alpine mountain .. Thus braves the whirling blast. 1839 Usk *Dict. & Arts* 1206 The whirling motion so blindly followed by the Persians in the choice of a carriage. 1851 Lyall *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 273 The whirling and complicated machinery. 1883 T. P. Hughes *Dict. Islam* 118 † [The Maulawiyah] are called by Europeans, the 'dancing', or 'whirling' dervishes.

*b. fig.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 133 (Qo. 1) These are but wild and whirling [1603 hurling] words, my Lord. 1633 Br. Hall *Contempl. Moses* I. 140 Those hurrying and whirling indigestions of God. 1684 Cheyne *Obs Hor.* iii. xxx, Nor whirling Time, nor flight of Years. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxvi, I cannot say what was in my whirling thoughts. 1855 Milman in *Mem.* (1900) 189 Quiet, though in the midst of the whirling city.

**c.** Special collocations: **whirling blue,** whirling dun, names of artificial flies used in angling; **whirling-board** = *whirling-table* (*a*); **whirling chair,** a chair revolving horizontally, used in the treatment of insane patients; **whirling-machine** = *whirling-table* (*a*); **whirling plant,** the 'telegraph-plant', *Desmodium gyrans* (see Telegraph *sb.* 8); **whirling-table,** (*a*) a machine consisting essentially of a table contrived to revolve rapidly, used for experiments or demonstrations in dynamics or other branches of science; (*b*) a horizontally rotating disk in a potter's lathe, carrying a mould which shapes the inside of a plate, cup, or other circular piece of ware, while the outside is shaped by a templet above it.

1747 Bowlker *Art Angling* 72 The little *Whirling Blue*. ..This Fly is only to be Fish'd with..in warm Weather. 1766 J. Ferguson *Lect.* ii. 19 Which weight ..will draw the ball down quick to the whirling-board to its center. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 90 Exciting vertigo by placing the patient in a 'whirling chair. 1870 Ogston *Lect. Surg.* 61 About the twelfth of the Month [Apr.] comes in the Flie call'd the 'whirling Dun. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 326/2 **Whirling-machine** is an apparatus for the purpose of determining the resistance of the air. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1230/1 *Whirling Plant, Desmodium gyrans.* 1704 J. Ferguson *Lect.* ii. 18 The whirling illustrations of the Laws of centrifugal force. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 473/1 The workman stands at a bench provided with a whirling-table..; which has its motion given by a horizontal pulley or jigger. 1879 Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 262 An attachment to the whirling-table for projecting sound-curves upon a screen.

Hence **Whi·rlingly** *adv.*, with whirling movement (also *fig.*).

1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* II. iii, As they trip it whirlingly. 1900 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* viii, The forces of nature..so whirlingly unappreciative of puny human effort.

**+ Whirling-bone.** *Obs.* = Whirl-bone.

1615 *Voc. Lat.-Angl. in MS. Harl. 3002* (Varnhagen) *3/172 Vertebra*, be whyrlyngbone of the kne.

**† Whi·rlpit.** *Obs.* [f. Whirl- + Pit *sb.*]1] = Whirlpool 2 1.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 94/2 [He] ranne into a whirlepyt, where he was drowned. 1599 B. Jonson *Ed. Man out of Hum.* II. iii. (1600) G, The deepest whirlpit of the rauinous Seas. a 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* I. i. ix. (1642) 22 To escape the hands of his enemies, he ran into a whirlpit and his body was never found. 1794 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 92 As if the Water had at once ingulph'd itself in a Cleam of the Earth, or sunk in a Whirlpit.

**Whirlpool** 1. *Obs.* Also 6 **wherpole, w(h)orpoul,** etc. [app. an alteration, by popular etymology, of Thirlepoll, q.v.] The large blowing whale.

c 1450 *Bret* II. 603 Thier wer sene in be Temys at London, many whyrlepolys, & anoper tyme at Wynchelse. 1598 Stanihurst *Descr. Ireland* (W. de W.) iij, *Balæna*, a whyrlepole. 1641 J. Jackson *Chapter Acts* II. 49 (Linc. Rec. Soc. XII.), Sturgion, seale, porpoise, whirlepoe, and such like. 1658 Osiander's *Hist. Amer.* in Ogilby, *Amer.* 160/1 Of the Whirlpool. 1665 The Whales and Whirlepooles called Balænæ. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 301 At Quinborough three great dolphin were taken, and a while after three other fishes, called whirlpools were taken at Gravesend. 1692 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxxiii. 132 A huge monstrous Physeter, a sort of a Whale (which some call a Whirlpool).

**Whirlpool** 2 (hwɜ·lpūl). Also 6 **whirpole, whoorlpool,** etc. [f. Whirl- + Pool *sb.*1 Cf. late OE. *hwyrfepōl* and *wirfelmere.*]

**1.** A place in, or part of, a river or the sea, where the water is in constant (and usually rapid) circular movement, due to the configuration of the channel or bottom, to some obstruction, or to the meeting of adverse currents or wind and tide; a (large and violent) eddy or whirlpool.

1538 Palsgr. 288/1 Whirpole a depe place in a ryver, where the water tourneth rounde. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 75 Many whoolepooles and shelfes. 1613 J. Sanis *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 82 Many whirlepooles. 1624 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xi. 94 A guilty conscience is like a whirlpool, drawing in all to it self which otherwise would passe by. 1774 Pennant *Zool.* III. 77 Eddies and whirlpools rising..with furious boilings. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 130 The river of Caubul ..forms numerous rapids and whirlpools. 1820 Keats *Poems* 151 When the tide is thrown from side to side against sunken rocks, or where two opposing currents meet .., the water forms whirlpools.

1709 Berkeley *Theory of Sight* 30 The whirlpool of the spirits in the blood. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russ. Emp.* I. 65 Which..buries both men and cattle in whirlpools. 1809 Agnes M. Clerke *Concise Knowl. Prob. Astrophysics* 446 Those cosmic 'whirlpools', every trait of which testifies to the counterplay of multiple activities.

**b.** *fig.* in various applications: *esp.* a destructive or absorbing agency by which something is figured as engulfed or swallowed up; a scene of confused and turbulent activity.

1598 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* to Howe all the substaunce of your Realme .. ryneth headlong vnto the insatiabill whyrlepoole of these greit gulphis. 1598 Stow *Decades* (Arb.) 63 Drowned in the whirlepoole of oblivion. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 4 In ye deepest whoolpools of adversities, faith may hold vs vp. 1640 Milton *Apol. Smect.* 2 Wks. 1851 III. 297 The more-needed..Infants, the pulpits and whirle pooles of benefices, but the dry pits of all sound doctrine. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 413 In the middest of the Whirl-pooles of Change. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 230 ¶ 2 *Round Lond., Coffee-Houses* (1709) 36 The Whirl-pool of Poetry suck'd me in, and I fell a Rhiming. 1831 James *Philip Aug.* xviii, What a whirlpool of contending passions! 1883 Trevelyan *Unionism. Trav.* xxii, You may involve in a whirlpool of red shirts, shaggy heads [etc.]. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xxvii. III. 360 Europeans, ..whose..chief pastime is to draw..enough of the highest ability into its whirlpool.

**2.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. ii, They have..sunke the tuned gallowse in depth Of whirlepoole misery. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* iv. *Oracle* 34 Bitter wave of troubled flesh, And whirl-pool-turnings of the lower spright. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 159 To recoyl by a double whirl-pool-motion. 1902 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Mar. 6 a The whirl-pool rapids [of the Niagara].

Hence **Whi·rlpooling** *ppl. a.*, circling or eddying like a whirlpool.

a 1661 T. Winthop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 48 A bich (canoe)..lies, light as a leaf, on whirlpooling surfaces.

**Whi·rl-puff.** *Obs. exc. dial.* (also **whirl-puff**). [f. Whirl- + Puff *sb.* after Whirlwind.] A puff or gust of wind such as raises dust in a whirl or eddy; also + a whirlwind. Also *fig.*

1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* v. 24 As a white puff of wynd. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xviii. 124 A whirlepuffe or gust called Typhon. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 41 Whiles some..pestiferous whirle-puffe raiseth up still these miseries of common mischiefes in the State. 1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 116 A shuffling whirle-puffe roar'd amongst the trees. 1640 G. Abbot *Job Paraphr.* 183 As the whirlepuffe [*sic*] lifts up the dust. 1894 Miss Bakes *Northampt. Glass, Whirl-puff*, a sudden gust of wind driving the dust into an eddy. 1899 Dickinson & Prevost *Cumbld. Glass., Whirl-puff*, a small whirl-wind such as will form dust spirals on a dusty road in summer.

**†Whirlwater.** *Obs.* [f. WHIRL- + WATER *sb.*] A waterspout.

1526 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I.* (1848) I. 114. I hear of a whirlwater upon the Thames. *Ibid.* The breaking..of the whirlwater, or, as some call it, the water-pillar.

**Whirlwig** (hwə̄·lwig). + WHIRLIGIG 4.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvi. (1841) II. 4 The little beetles called whirligigs (*Gyrinus*, L.), ..seem to..form their assemblies, to enjoy together..the mazy dance. 1846 *Ibid* xxix. III. 85 The whirlwig-beetle (*Gyrinus natator*). 1879 Wood *Nature's Teach., Nantucket* II. 22 The common Whirlwig-beetle may be found in nearly every puddle.

**Whirlwind** (hwə̄·lwind), *sb.* [f. WHIRL- + WIND *sb.*, prob. after ON. *hvirfilvindr* (obs. Da. *hvervelwind*, Du. *hvirvelwind*, Sw. *virvelvind*), whence Du. *wervelwind*, G. *wirbelwind.*]

**1.** A whirling or rotating wind; an atmospheric eddy or vortex; a body of air moving rapidly in a circular or upward spiral course around a vertical or slightly inclined axis which has also a progressive motion over the surface of land or water.

In its larger forms it constitutes a violent and destructive storm, as a cyclone or tornado; over a body of water it sometimes causes a waterspout, over a sandy or dusty region a sandpillar or dust-whirl.

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 521 Cumand as whirlwynd to Scottire me. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 159 Suddenly a whirlwynd gadered out of the coostes. 1400 *Gloss. in Reg. Aur. I* 66: *Turbo*, the qwyrlwynde. 1440 *Ipomadon of Thebes* 331 Pe kynd flow away in likes of a whirlwynde. 1585 LODGE *Alarm.* (NS. Adam. 208, ll. 19 b) Lyas was taken up Within a whorlelwhe. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. 6, As when a whirle-winde takes the Summer dust and dasheth it, ..so..Edward..Hath..vanish. 1600 The Lord answered Iob out of the whirlewinde. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Giddiness* iv, As if a whirlwinde blew And crusht the building. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* xii, Swift as the Whirlwind drives Arabia's scattered Sands. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 207 The loud torrent, and the whirlwind's roar. 1848 MARY PHYS. *Geog. Sea* II § 94 All less are familiar with miniature whirlwinds in short, ..sweeping along the roads ..., raising columns of dust, leaves, etc., which ..create about the axis of the storm. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* viii, Herds of buffaloes..rushed, like a whirlwind them-selves,..towards the shelter of the thickets.

**2.** *transf.* and *fig.* Something rushing impetuously like a whirlwind; a violent or destructive agency; a confused and tumultuous process or condition.

*To sow the wind and reap the whirlwind* (Hos. viii. 7): to indulge in reckless wickedness or folly, and suffer the disastrous consequence.

1380 WYCLIF *Hosea* viii. 7 Thei shulin sowe wynd, and reepe whirlwynd. 1590 *Mirr. Mag., Jack Wintons Prosperitie* Either a mans soule must in post haste goe presently to God, or else with a whirlewind and a vengeance goe to the diuell. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XV. iv. 35 A tempestuous whirlewind of new calamities. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 77 O'reshelm'd With Floods and Whirlwinds of tempestuous fire. 1784 [implied in *Feast Aberdeen*] II. 28 What my Landlady put into her Soup, I can't tell; but..I had a Whirlwind in my Belly. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xviii, It is sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiii, Mr. Pickwick's..bald head sustained a whirlwind of applause. 1840 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* lxii. VIII. 35. The foot soldiers in the rear..were instantly enveloped by a whirlwind of horse. 1845 KOSSUTH *Odon to Nat.* 3 Free from the cares of town business, and the whirlwind of town pleasure. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xii. 699 To see whether they who had raised the tempest could rule the whirlwind. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar. 1 1/1 The verbal whirlwind of his [sc. swinburne's] later utterance.

**3.** *attrib.* Of or pertaining to a whirlwind; resembling a whirlwind, violent, impetuous.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 139 Rockes..overturn'd with whirle wind shocks. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 60 Upstairs in a whirlwind rattle. 1808 CARLYLE *Mem.* (1837) I. 220 With a whirlwind impetuosity he rides Earth. 1824 PARK. *Hist. Huguenots* iv. (1855) 157 A whirlwind visitation—to ravage, ruin, and vanish.

**4.** *Comb.*, as *whirlwind-footed*, *-peopled*, *-rifted* adjs.; *whirlwind-like* adj. and adv.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 77 Whirlwind-footed coursers. 1878 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 433 A whirlwind-footed bridegroom. 1598 SKELTON *Ira Iustus* ix. 1, *Hands-raysa* 148 The flying spirit he catches, Born 'whirle wynde-like. 1670 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* v. 1, Who ..Whirlwind-like, mound him drove the Air. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii. Dumb-eyed pronouncing, that she is born, and whirlwind-like, will envelope the whole world. 1840 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 18 Apr. 104/2 He had heard a whirlwind-like noise. 1850 SHELLEY *Prometheus Unb.* I. 204 Mid 'whirlwind-peopled mountains. 1918 *—Rosal. & Helen* 1158 Whirlwind rifted clouds.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Whi·rlwind** *v.*, *intr.* to rush impetuously like a whirlwind; **whi·rlwindish**, **Whirlwindy** *adjs.*, resembling a whirlwind.

1892 BLACK *Wolfenberg* xxxvi, Then his heart of her usual whirlwindish activity. 1895 HOLMAN HUNT in *Daily News* 24 Aug. 6/5 Paris, where young professors go whirlwinding in what they call study for a time. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 473/1 Its whirlwindy approach.

**Whirl-worm** (hwə̄·lwɔ̄m). Also ? **whurl(e-**. [f. WHIRL- + WORM *sb.*]

**†1.** An insect larva destructive to plants. *Obs.*

In quot. 1643 lr. L. *convolvulus* a caterpillar that rolls itself up in a leaf in quot. 1658 lr. mod. L. *verticillus*, Gr. σφενδόνη.

1643 HORN & RON. *Gate Lang. Unl.* (1650) xix. § 217 Earthworms gnaw upon muck-hils ..; moths on garments ..; whirlworms (*margin*, The divels gold-ring) on vines. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1092 The Northern English call it Andeter; the Southern, Whurlworm, that is, a Whirl or little hairy Worm with many feet: ..I..collect that there are two kinds of Whurlworms; one about houses, another in the fields.

**2.** A tuthellarian worm. *rare*—0. (? An error.)

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

**Whirly** (hwə̄·li), *a.* *rare*. Also **-ey.** [f. WHIRL *sb.* or *v.* + -Y 1.] Characterized by whirling or rotatory movement.

1805 *Spirit Publ. Journ.* X. 170 Thames, in whirly dimples flowing. 1887 MEREDITH *Poems, Last Contention* xii, A whirly tune. These winds will pipe. 1895 *Academy* 14 Dec. 472/1, A skimming sense of a drop upon a funny, whirly world.

**Whirly-**, obs. or dial. var. of *whirl-* in comb., as **†whirly-bat**, **†whirly-pool**, **whirly-wind** = WHIRLBAT, -POOL, -WIND (cf. *schirligig* and *whirligig*); also **whirly-go-round** (*whirligoround*), a merry-go-round; **†whirly-hole** (see quot.); **†whirly-rock**, a spiral or turbinate fossil shell.

1725 BUCKLY *Immort. Soldier.* (1731) 42 The fighting with Whirly-bats. 1805 MEMBURY *Rhoda Lovings* xliii, He was a faithful servant, till one day he got up on a regular whirly go-round, and ever since . . . such a little boy! 1872 *Harry Richmond* xlvi, Like one who has been going on the whirligoround, he saw the whole of women running or ..waiting ..to run the giddy ring to perdition. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 172 At Kinfare Towne, ..there goes down into the River a Hole ..call'd Whirly-hole, from the eddy of water the River makes at the mouth of it. 1707 BAILEY (Vol. II.), Whirly-pool. 1892 MEMBURY *Oak, Pit & Fen* 45 A piece of Whirly Rock. *Twinkler Terms Gram.* 14 *Turbo*: *Barth. De P. R.* v. xv. (Bodl. MS.), Whirly winde and a rayne cloude.

**Whirne**, obs. form of QUERN *sb.*1

1588 in *Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 328, j paire of peper whirnes.

**Whirr, whir** (hwə̄r), *sb.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* **qwirre**, 6 *Sc.* **quhir**, 6–7 **whurre**, 7 **whirre**, 7–8 **whur**, 8–9 **whurr**, 9 **whirr, whir.** [See next.]

**†1.** Violent or rapid movement, rush, hurry; the force or impetus of such movement. *Obs.*

Sometimes approaching sense 2 but in early use the stress is on movement rather than the sound.

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 560 All flames þe flode as it fire were, And þan our-qwelmys in a qwirre. *Ibid.* 1854 In a quirre [sc. *r.* whirre] as he quelle hinnes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 114 The swift schaft flaw quhirland with a quhir. *a* 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 20 No lyste but goodly..for whip and whurre The olde prouerbe doth say, neuer made good furre.

**†b.** *fig.* Commotion of mind or feeling; a mental or nervous shock. *Obs.*

1618 BOLTON *Resolves* II. (O.) 81 Knowing himselfe chollerick, ..at that whirr of the mind, apt to runne into foule transgression. 1708 VANBRUGH *False Friend* v. 1, I'm mightily muddled with a Whur—round about in my head. 1728 VANB. & CIB. *Esop, Prol. Theft* 1, I..They shut the Door full in my Face, and gave me such a whurr here—I thought they had beaten my brains out!

**2.** A continuous vibratory sound, such as that made by the rapid fluttering of a bird's or insect's wings, by a wheel turning swiftly, or by a body rushing through the air.

1677 N. COX *Gentl. Rec.* II. 168 Whur is the rising and fluttering of Partridge or Pheasant. 1774 GOLDSM. *Anim. Nat.* (1776) II. 3 The Goatsucker ..has a loud and singular noise, like the whurr of a spinning-wheel. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* II. 9 A whirr of unseen wings he heard. 1832 TENNYSON *Lucr.* II. iii, The wide air made tumultuous whirr of shoulder-red muscles. 1847 LOWELL *Lett.* I. 24 Shuttles..Mingled their sound with the whir of the wheels. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. v, Between the hubs of the wheel he heard the tinkle of the signal bell. 1893 TOUT *Adv. I*, xi. (1896) 106 The king's horse took flight at the whirr of the sails of a windmill.

*fig.* 1874 MORLEY *Crit. Comp., Marr.* v. 5 And, I do not see my way out of the encircling whirr of work.

**Whirr, whir,** *v.* (*adv., int.*) Forms: 5 *Sc.* **quirr(e, quir, quhir**, 5–7 **whirre**, 6 *Sc.* **quhirr, e, quhyrr(e**, 7 **whurre**, 7, 9 **whurr**, 8 **whur**, 7– **whirr, whir.** [The early occurrence of this vb. and the related sb. in northern texts makes a Scandinavian origin probable; cf. Da. *hvirre* — **hjarre*, Norw. *kvirra*, Sw. dial. *hvirra*, app. assimilated forms of a verb **hwirfa* (cf. ON. *hverfa* WHARVE *v.*), related to *hvirfill*, *hvirfla* WHIRL. In later use the Eng. verb has been reinforced by onomatopœia.]

**1.** *trans.* + **a.** To throw or cast with violence and noise; to fling, hurl. *Obs.*

1400–50 *Alex. & Dind. Rec.* 1108 Ottire athils of armes Albastis bendis, Quirrys [*r.* whirres] out-qwarrels. 1565 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. iii, *Captains* 516 The formost Ranks it [*sc.* hailshot] whirl'd Upon the next, the second on the third.

**b.** To cause to hurry along, to move or stir, with a rushing or vibratory sound. (In mod. use *causal* from 2.)

1608 SHARP. *Per.* IV. 4. 21 A lasting storme, whirring me from my friends 1609 *Autius* 27 Nov. 363/1 They whirred their wings. 1901 A. F. ROBERTSON, *Story of Pau* 12, As he was 'whirred' through the night.

**2.** *intr.* To move swiftly in some way (rush, fly, dart, flutter, turn, etc.) with a continuous vibratory sound, as various birds, rapidly revolving wheels, bodies flying quickly through the air, etc.

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1746 All þe cite felonli him etih. Quirris [*r.* r. whirres] furth all in quite. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 96 Furth thaw the schaft..And quhirrand amant him throw the thee. 1565 STANYHURST *Dn Bartas* II. iii. 111, *Law* 779 As the poor Partridge, cower'd with thee nel, In vain doth strive,..For, the close meshes..Suffer the same no more to whurre aloft. 1806 CHAPMAN *Gentl Usher* III. ii. 14 The great wheels..Turning but softly, make the leave to whirre About their businesse. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 592 With stealthy wings,..Amid a neighbouring bush they silent drop. And quiting theirs, discover the unfeeling school-boy. 1830 LYTTON *Paul Clifford* xii, The distant wheel of a carriage whirred on the ear. 1899 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxvii, Through the grassy flat, where the quail whirred before them. 1884 SHEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 356 Hark! arrows are whirring, swords clash in the fray. 1899 WEBSTER *Captain of Locusts* 25 The locusts whirred up round his horse's hoofs.

**3.** Without implication of onward movement: To make or emit a vibratory sound.

1804 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lib. Prose* (1876) II. 359 The spurrel chipped, the tree frog whirred. 1866 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxii, Grasshoppers whirring in the grass. 1899 J. L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story* xxx. 134 The telephone bell whirred. 1903 A. C. BENSON *Upton Lett.* 83 The easements whirr, the organ speaks.

**b.** *dial.* To snarl or growl; to purr.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whurr*, to snarl, as a Dog does. 1847 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 202 At your feet ..Whurrs your wee catty. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whurr*, to growl, as a dog.

**c.** To express oneself as *int.* or *adv.*, expressing a sudden or rapid movement with vibratory sound.

1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* III. ii. Whirr, I have no more strokes him under the shorte ribs. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Fair Maid Inn* v, I, You demand it I am guilty, whir says my cloak by the tuck of I get demands, now I am not guilty, whir. 1708 DURFEY *Pr. Giry* v. i, Whirr! the exploded cork whizzed through the air. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* v. (1850) I. by Whurr went the pheasants—bang went the guns. 1839 *Bentley's Misc.* VI. 5 Whirr! whirr! all by wheels!—whir! whir! all by steam! 1858 THACKERAY *Virginn.* xxxix, Whirr came the wheels—the carriage stopped at the very door.

**Whirra,** -**oo, Whirree:** see WIRRA, WHERRET.

**Whirrick**, variant of WHERRET.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. iii. 17 Harry.. gave master such a whirrick, that his cries instantly summoned the *ex officio* to the rescue. 1824 *Sporting Mag.* XIII. 201.

**Whirring** (hwə̄·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIRR *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb WHIRR; a continuous vibratory sound, or movement with such a sound.

1581 A. HALE *Hand* II. 30 This speech, ..doth greatly loy the Crekes, They much regard such whirring noise. 1598 SYLVESTER *Dn Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 115 The first-mov'd heav'n (in's self it self sol stirring) Rapts with his course (quicker then windes swift whirring) All th' other Spheres. 1822 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* II. iv. Who, 1888 I. 190 Save by the whirrings of the bats, the stillness..was uninterrupted. 1840 THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* (1869) 305 What a pious whirring of bible leaves must there be all over the church. 1863 HAIN *Nat. Amazons* I. i. 9 The whirring of cicadas. 1918 H. HINDOUS *Agatha's Fortune* II An electric fan made an unpleasant whirring.

**Whirring,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That whirrs; moving with or making a vibratory sound; also said of the sound.

1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 116 The quhissand [*r. r.* quhyrsand] quhirr-cok, with the quhirland wane. 1580 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVII. 399 The whirring chariots. 1612 CORYAT, *Kones*, buried; or making a whurring noise, as a stone, &c., past with violence. 1704 HEARNE *Itinerar* 111 From the brake the whirring pheasants springs. 1805 SCOTT *Nonv westlin winds* 'i, The moon-cock springs, on whirring wings, Among the blooming heather. 1830 TENNYSON *Oen'* I The whirring sail goes round. 1844 THOREAU *Corse de Leon* iii, The whirring scream of the night hawk.

**Whirrit, Whirroll,** obs. ff. WHERRET, WHIRLAB.

**Whirry,** *sb.* ? *Obs.* In ? **wherry, whurrie.** [Cf. next.] **a.** A rapid or sudden movement. **b.** Activity.

1611 COTGR., *Bandé*, a square, and heauie dore ..let fal (as a Portcullis) in a trice, with a whurrie. 1680 MARSH tr. *Heman's Un man Life* 1. 229 A company of beetle-heads, dull-spirited fellows, that had no whirry in them. 1675 COKER in *Early Voy. Orient* (Hak.) Soc.) 214 At last, with a merry whirry of their muscle, they turn round (as the Dervises) a long time.

**Whirry** (hwi·ri), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 6 **whirrye**, -**ie**, 7 **whurry**, **wherry**, 7, 9 *Sc.* **whurry.** [? f. WHERR + -Y, after *hurry*.]

**1.** *trans.* To carry or drive swiftly; to hurry along. Also *fig.*

1580 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Hoyse me hence.. toosum outher countrye me whirrye. 1611 T. BEDINGFIELD *tr. Cassandra* 1. 1. 1.

Scott *Hrt. Mldt.* xviii, Her and the gudeman will be whirrying through the blue bit on a broom-shank.

**Whirry,** obs. form of QUARRY *sb.*[1]

**Whirtle,** variant of WORTLE.

**Whirtul**[1], obs. forms of WHIRL *sb.*

**Whish** (hwiʃ), *sb.* [Imitative.] A soft sibilant sound, as that of something moving rapidly through the air or over the surface of water. Cf. SWISH *sb.*[1] 1.

1808 JAMIESON, *Whish, whush*, a rushing or whizzing sound. 1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. viii. 103 The 'whish' of a rocket attracted our attention. 1883 POWER *Arab. Days & Nts.* 25 The noises on deck, and the whish of the water through which we were rapidly ...cutting our way. 1890 HALLETT *Thous. Miles* 153 The howls of these poor creatures, together with the whish of the cane, is heard through the city.

**Whish,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Cf. WHISHT and WHUSH.] **Hushed,** silent: = WHISHT *a.*[1], WHIST *a.*[1]

*a* 1614 HARINGTON *Epigr.* I. xxvii. (1618) B2, You tooke my answer well, and all was whish.

**Whish,** *a.*[2] (*dial.*) : see WISHT.

**Whish** (hwiʃ), *v.*[1] Also 6 **whysshe.** [Imitative.] Hence **Whishing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1. *intr.* To utter the syllable 'whish' or a sound resembling it; *trans.* to drive or chase by crying 'whish!'

1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 133 [He] whysshyd them hoob nowe of the churche. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* B iij b, With whysperynges and whysshynges. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 243/1 He [sc. an owler] last relieved the process of whish-whishing at the hooses, in imparting [etc.]. 1897 J. HOCKING *Birthright* ii, We heard them 'whishing' up the sheep.

2. To make a soft sibilant sound of this kind, as a body rushing through air or water, or the wind among trees, etc.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Aa iv b, What a whisbyng of the wynde is yonder. 1564 COOPER *Thesaurus, Bruma afferunt* ...whishyng with winde. 1856 St. ROBERT *Table-Talk* 11 You could hear the whishing sound of the ladies' trains. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* vi, The lightning-express train whishes by a station.

**Whish,** *v.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 6 **whysh.** [f. WHISH *int.*[1]; cf. WHIST *v.*, WHIST *v.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To silence, put to silence, hush.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287 b, Pompeius cooled & whysshed hym in his wyse. 1684 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) III. 211 Sir Jo. Kay silenced and whisht him.

2. *intr* To be silent or quiet.

1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* IV. viii. Why do you whish thus? Iove's none to heare you. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xlix, Whish I—can't 'ee whish, with coming so pat?

**Whish,** *int.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc.* **wheesh.** [Cf. HUSH *int.*, WHISHT *int.*] An exclamation to command silence: Hush!

1535 QUARLES *Emblems* II. viii. 9 Whish, lullaby, .. What eyles my Babe to cry? 1675 CODRINGTON *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 194 All the watches cry'd: Whish, whish, etc. in token of silence. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xix, 'A good dinner now and the is a very good thing.' 'Yes; but I don't like eating it with tears.' 'Whish-h-softly, softly, Mr. Gresham, or you'll disturb Mr. Apjohn's digestion. 1876 [see prec. 2].

**Whish,** *int.*[2] Also 6 *Sc.* **quhisch.** Imitation of a soft sibilant or rushing sound, as of something moving rapidly through the air, etc.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 1900 Gif that your mawkine cryis quhisch. 1692 D. LAWSON in G. L. Burr *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 193 Making as if she would fly, stretching up her arms as high as she could, and crying 'Whish, Whish, Whish!' 1839 HOOD *Sonn. to Vauxhall* 9 Whish—hh—Ugh The rocket rushes. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* viii, Whish! rush the rain in sheets and bucketfuls. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* xxiii, Whish, whirr, came a peculiar sound.

**Whishin,** obs. form of CUSHION.

**Whisht** (hwiʃt), *sb.* Also 9 *Sc.* **wheesht, whesht.** [f. WHISHT *int.*]

1. An utterance of 'whisht!' to enjoin silence: cf. WHIST *sb.*[2] 1.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 106 A Whisht is when we bid them holde their peace that haue least cause to speake. 1908 WYMAN *Hill Cottage* viii, What do you mean with your 'whishts' and your nods?

2. Silence; in phr. *to hold one's whisht*, to keep silence. *Sc.*

1785 BURNS *Vision* I. 43, I held my whisht; The infant aith, half-formed, was smoor'd i' the bud. 1864 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl. Sv. Wheesht*, Haud your wheesht, be silent. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxv, You ken naught about it. You had better hold your wheesht.

3. A whisper; with negative = 'not a whisper', not the least utterance. *Sc.*

*a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Ecl.* Poet. Wks. (1800) 89 Be you as calm's a mouse, Nor let your whisht be heard. 1881 WALPOLE *Dick Netherby* v, There is na a wheesht against him.

**Whisht** (hwiʃt), *a.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 6 **whysht, 9** *Sc.* **wheesht.** [A variant of WHIST *a.*[1]; cf. WHISHT *int.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed.

1570 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat., Life* 117 He desired.. to tell them a merie tale. Where vpon when euery man was whisht and still, he suyde thus. 1615 BRIGHTMAN *Rev.* 243 Reprehensions are whisht, wickednes raigneth. 1800 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1820) 5 As whisht as a mouse. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, Nights.. when he was here on sentry, the place n' wheesht.

Hence **Whishtly** *adv.*, silently, quietly.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xvi. 23–28, I shall than speake vnto you whishtlye and without woordes.

**Whisht,** *a.*[2] (*dial.*) : see WISHT.

**Whisht,** *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc.* **wheesht.** [f. WHISHT *int.*, cf. WHISH *v.*[2], WHIST *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To be silent, keep silence.

1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, Wasp—Wasp, whisht, hinny.. and let's hear what they're doing.—Dod's in ye, will ye whisht? 1894 J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 50 Whisht, woman, whisht, interposed Trueman .. 'No, I just won't whisht, William Trueman.'

2. *trans.* To put to silence, silence, hush.

1824 R. COWDY *Poetry* II. 21 (Eng. Dial. Dict.) A weel-clad'd loff whisht his harangue. 1897 C. M. CAMPBELL *Delitz Jock* iv, Wheesht your gab.

**Whisht** (hwiʃt), *int.* Now *dial.* Also 5 **whisoht, 7–9 wheesht.** [A natural utterance, nearly identical with the 16th c. *hisssht* (see HUSHT *int.*), and with WHISHT *int.*[1]] An exclamation enjoining silence: Hush!

14 . Whisht, whisoht [see quot. 1382 s.v. WHIST *int.*[1]]. 1684 [MORTON] *Verkish. Dial.* 53 Wheesht, wheesht, my Mother's coming up. 1785 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. i. Peol. Pat, pat, whisht! it is the Knight in Masquerade, That comes. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, But whisht, I hear the keeper coming. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxv, 'Wheesht! said he, 'mind my affairs'.

**Whisk** (hwisk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 *Sc.* **wysk,** 5–6 *Sc.* **quhisk,** 5–9 **wisk,** 6 **whysk,** 6–7 **whiske,** 7 **wiske,** 6– **whisk.** [orig. *wisk, wysk*, and first in Sc. texts; partly f. WHISK *v.*, partly ad. Scandinavian sb. represented by ON. *visk* wisp, Sw. *viska* besom, wisp, swab, Norw. *visk* wisp, cluster, pull, tug = OHG. *wisc* (MHG., G. *wisch*) wisp of hay, dish-cleut, (M)Du. *wisch* wisp, LG. *wisk* quick movement, moment of time: see WHISK *v.*]

**I.** 1. A brief rapid sweeping movement; a sudden light stroke, rush, dart, etc.; a light stroke of a brush or other sweeping implement. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

In later use regarded as noun of action from the verb (*quasi* an act of whisking) but evidenced in quots. earlier than the verb.

*With a whisk* becomes phrasal = in an instant, in a flash; similarly *to a whisk.*

1378 HARDYNG *Hrtyr* v. 641 The king.. Vatit the sper.. And with a wysk the hed of-strak. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Poddock & Mouss* 132 With ane wisk.. He claucht his cluik betwix thame. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* i. 103 Fresche Bewte with ane wisk come vp belyve. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 18/1 in *Holinshed*, Sodaynly it [sc. a salmon] fetcheth such a round Whiske, that at a trice it skippeth to the top of the toote. 1586 BYRDSONGHE *Mirr. Passus Iste* 28 Quhen with a quhisk sho [sc. Fortune] quhirlis about hir quheill. 1589 [P. LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* To Rdr., To giue them a whisk with their owne wand. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* v. i, This first sad whisk [of the sword] Takes off thy Dukedom. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 94 [He] brings in Cæsar in the whisk of one of his Epigrams. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 Three Whisks of a Broom Besom. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxi, Come and gae like a glane o' the sun, or the whisk of a whirlwind. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. iii. The maid [mean], giving a pertinent whisk of her tail. 1863 LOWELL *Two Scenes from Life of Blondel* iv. v, If a whisk of Fate's broom snap your cobweb asunder. 1893 *Leader Scott.* His [= hare's] tail bobbed as if it had a wisk in it still. 1899 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxxiv, (1870) 407 Three wild, sudden whisks of gaiety. 1900 CORAM *Bushey Stone* xiii, He walked up and down in the room .. turning with a whisk upon his heel every now and then. 1900 ZANGWILL *Mantle of Elijah* II. xv, You see it all in a whisk.

**II.** 2. A neckerchief worn by women in the latter half of the 17th century. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1654 in Jeaffreson *Middx. County Rec.* (1888) III. 225 Six Corlo Whiskes woath seventeen shillings, six Corlo Gorgetts woath fourteen shillings, [etc.]. 1658 CLEVELAND *Zealous Diss.* Wks. (1687) 384 Pray rectifie my Gorget, smooth my Whisk. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Nov., My wife.. bought her a white whisk and put it on. 1663 HOLME *Armoury* II. 301/2 The Romans Neck Whisk.. is used both Plain and Laced, and is called of most a Gorgett or a falling Whisk. 1706 E. WARD *Hind. Reddiv.* (Nares) With whisks of lawn, with ruffles.

3. An instrument, now freq. a bundle of wires, for beating up eggs, cream, or the like.

1664 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 111 By beating the White of an Egge well with a Whisk, you may reduce it from a somewhat Tenacious into a Fluid Body. 1747 Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 140 First beat the Whites of the Eggs up well with a Whisk. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 38 Egg whisks for confectioners.

4. A bundle or tuft of twigs, hair, feathers, etc. fixed on a handle, used for brushing or dusting; also, a water-sprinkler.

1709 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii. (1745) 75 If you happen to break any China with the Tongs of the Whisk. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 18 With a whisk, sprinkle the corn .. with it. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Father M'Grath seized hold of the pot of holy water, and dipping in the little whisk, began to sprinkle the room. 1842 G. DON *Textile Manuf.* vi. 176 The reeler then takes a whisk of fine twigs bound together.

b. A slender hair-like or bristle-like part or appendage, as those on the tails of certain insects. (In first quot. app. used for 'sting'.)

*a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 290 The..piercing Poyson of a Dragon's Whisk, Or deadly Eye-shot of a Basilisk. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. viii. 72 This..Stone-Flie.. has two or three whisks..at the tag of his tail. 1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 64 The May Fly...with a long forked Tail made with the Hair or Whisks of a Fitchow's Tail. 1859 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 4) 198 The Ephemeræ.. throwing off the whole of their skins (even..to the skin of the eyes and wings, and the delicate 'whisks' at their tail). 1886 F. M. HALFORD *Floating Flies* 38 If the fly to be imitated has setæ or whisks. 1887 J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 181 Two whisks from a long fibre hackle, or two rabbit's whiskers.

c. The panicle or other part of certain plants used for making into brushes or brooms; *esp.* the panicle of the common millet or broom-corn' (*Sorghum vulgare*'); hence, the plant itself.

1727 [see *whisk tree* in 7]. 1805 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXIII. 258 Whisk, the article of which carpet brushes are formed. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Whisk*, a trade name for the flower-spikes of *Sorghum vulgare*. 1893 *Lit. to Editor from Director of Kew Gards.*, The fibrous root received for identification is that of *Chrysopogon Gryllus*, Trin. known as the Venetian or French Whisk. 1900 HANDAM *Textile Fibres* 157 Whisk, Mexican (*Epicampes macrourc*). *Irish.* 160 Whisk, Italian (*Sorghum*).

d. A small bunch, tuft, wisp.

1895 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. xii, The ceiling was divided by whisks of flowers. 1896 SADLER *Engineers* III. 318 Holding over them work large whisks of straw..to protect the bricks and cement.

e. A swarm of insects whisking or moving briskly about. *rare*[—1].

1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. 209 The Foetid Brown, or mushroom fly..may be seen in small whisks or swarms, skipping up and down over the water.

**5.** A name for various mechanical appliances having a whisking movement. **a.** A kind of winnowing-machine. **b.** A machine for winding yarn. **c.** A cooper's plane for levelling the chimes of casks.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 127 Few winnowing-machines, saving a common wheel or fly, are used in this county. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whisky*, a machine for winding yarn on a quill or clue. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* ii. 57 In winding warp from the bobbins no whisks are used. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whisk*, a cooper's plane.

**III.** †**6.** A whipper-snapper. *Obs. slang.*

1608 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. i, No quarrels, good'ee Whiske. *a* 1652 BROME *Novella* iv. ii. L 7 b, *Nic.* This is the Gentleman. *Fr.* Tis the whisk! *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whisk*, a little inconsiderable, impertinent Fellow.

**IV. 7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Some of these may be regarded as attrib. uses of the stems of WHISK *v.*) **Whisk broom** = sense 4; † **whisk-oomb** = (see quot.); † **whisk rod,** a rod consisting of twigs or the like (cf. WHISK *v.* 4); **whisk seed,** millet-seed (see 4 c); **whisk tail,** a tail that is or may be whisked; hence **whisk-tailed** *a.*, having a whisk tail.

1857 *Local Act 20 & 21 Vict. c.* cxlii. Sched. (B) 'Whisk Brooms, loose, per 1,000 .. 0 .. 6'. 1897 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc., List* No. 4 Dept. Special List 193 Whisk Broom, Leather bound with handle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 131 The 'Whisk combe, haue teeth on one side, and are wide and wanting on the other. 1 He 'Whisk Rod is used to correct Rebellious Youths. 1757 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 404, I enclose you some whisk seed; it is a kind of millet. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 976/4 One Bay Mare,..with a 'whisk Tayl. 1697 *Dying Post* 19–21 Oct. 2 A small Spaniel Lap-Dog, ..short whisk Tail. 1901 *Local Gov. Jrn.* 58/1 A well spread Mare,..with a short whisk Tail. 1675 *Ibid.* No. 952/4 Two Geldings,..both 'whisk Tail'd. 1859 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Goblin Market* 107 The whisk-tailed merchant bade her taste.

**Whisk,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [? f. WHISK *v.*] The earlier name of the card game now called whist (WHIST *sb.*[3]). Also *attrib.* Hence † **whisk-ier (wisker)** *nonce-wd.*, a whist-player.

1661 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* D 4, He flings his money free ..At One and thirty, at the Point and 9, Ruffle, slam, Trump, nody, whisk. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* v. (1680) 61 The elder begins and younger follows in suit as at Whisk. 1681 *Etherege to Lady Rich* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1650/4 At *A at One*. 1711 R. SEYER *Memoirs Grand-Fathers* (1759) II. 278 I he wishers have promised me a Dividend. *Ibid.* 287, I reign Queen of the whisk party. *Ibid.* 291 He will be mined .. as a whisk player. 1728 [see SWABBER 2]. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 75 Played at whisk in an obscure village, in the Christmas holidays. 1869 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whisk*, a vulgar pronunciation of whist. 1874 MISS BAKER *Northumb. Gloss.*, *Whisk*, whist, a game at cards. 1880 [see SWABBER 2].

**Whisk,** *v.* (*adv., int.*) Forms: see WHISK *sb.*[1] [In early use Sc.; prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. *viska* to whisk (off), sponge, Da. *viske* to wipe, whisk, rub, sponge (a gun), Norw. *viska* to put straw, etc. together in a bundle = OHG. *wischen* (MHG., G. *wischen*) to wipe, † intr. to move lightly or briskly, LG. *wiskn* to move quickly, wipe off, etc.: cf. WHISK *sb.*[1] The spelling with *wh* was adopted as being symbolic (cf. *whisp*).]

1. *intr.* To move with a light rapid sweeping motion; to make a single sudden movement of this kind, to rush or dart nimbly; to move about or travel swiftly or briskly (occas. with *it*).

*c* 1480 HENRYSON *Sweilfine* xliii, Like to the mow before the face of wind Quhisklis away. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 68 Suddanlie away thai [sc. harpies] wisk ilk ane, Furth of our sicht, heich up in the sky. *Ibid.* XII. xii. 172 Lyk as befor the hond wyskis the hair. 1549 COVERDALE, etc.

*Frasm Jar James* v. 7-17 You whyske about by seacks and by bunde, to get pelfe 1592 R D *Hippametomachia* 12 b, Their vestures whisking up and flying abroad 1623 Johnson *Golden Grande* 15 Beasts will wrike with their tayles to annoy or fright them [*sc.* flies]. **a 1699** J. Beaumont *Psyche* xx. calvin, Sweats which each silly Wand that whisketh by on cheeke, and so afterrath 1710 Shelvocke *Voy. E. Sea* 192 We . . watch'd an Opportunity to whip across in a smart gale, very thankful that we are not run over 1779 D'Urfey *Wills* I. 172 Crickets from thickets, Come whisk it and frisk it 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* III. 272 In whisking round a sharp angle, they overset the carriage 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* II. 133 The beavers chewing, each other's tails, whisking, and whisking about on the surface 1868 Trollope *Small Accots. Little Wonder* I. iv. Meg appeared, with a tall, [the pet cat] whisked into his hole. 1870 Daudet *Le Petit Chose* 204 We were led through Mughall village.

**b** The vb.-stem used as *adv.* or *int.* With a whisk, or sudden light movement

1750 Gray *Long Story* 70 Out of the wood we whisk, they flew 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xliii, He hurried in his pocket . . for the box of mysterious construction, and as sure as ever he's mother closed her eyes, so surely—whisk, went his fist—there was the single gentleman considering his watch by a flame of fire

**2** *trans.* To move (something) *about, away, back*, etc. with a light sweeping motion

1573 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 167 Quhat I walkyntit all that watith was wyskyt away 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. C2b, He whisk'his sword al'out. 1673 Hobbes *Odyssey* v. 376 A sudden winde . . which at away the Twigs. 1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 118 P1 Having this Paper . . and whisked her round cleverly shower'd . . 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 83 I turn'd round all sick at the end . . and whisking it round to the solid I was so pleased at . . 1864 Cowper *Task* II. 327 The squirrel there whisks his bush, And peeks his ears 1887 D. Kane *Lucky Lo* iv, The horses whisked their tails about 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Nov. 6/3 One cannot always guard against a whirlpool catching the rudder and whisking the boat round 1916 A. H. Reade *Post Lou* iii, I forgot about it as I was whisked up in the elevator

**b** In reference to rapid transl.: *cf. whirl.*

1694 N. H. *Nature Dict* 46 They whisk her to Bath, to Bristol 1801 G. Colman *Poor Gentl.* I. 53 I hereabout four spanking greys that shall whisk you to town in a minute 1817 W. T. Moncrieff *Giovanni in Lond.* I. ii, Pity your ears, and whisk me over to the other side 1830 Blackw. *Ady Phantom* II. A solitary omnibus, which daily whisks a few country people down to Uxbridge

**3.** To brush or sweep lightly and rapidly from a surface, esp. with a light instrument, as a feather or small brush.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* x (1626) 214 Their tufted tailes Whiske vp the dust *c* 1790 *Imitator's Sch. Arts* II. 26 Having drawn the outline . . finly with charcoal wh. whisk out the faults, part with a feather 1822 W. Irving *Tales of Hall* II. 293 His horse stood stamping and whisking off the flies. 1858 Dickens *Dr. Thorne* xxiii, The bustle finished . . a piece of frosty whisked the counterpane off his feet [etc.] 1881 Walford *Dr. & Netherby* v, 'An shame on you for thinkin' sae.' Mrs. M. Clintock whisked her apron from her eyes

**4.** To beat or whip with a rod of twigs or the like. *Obs.* in *gen.* sense: in later use, To stir or beat up (eggs, cream, etc.) with a light rapid movement (= Whip v. 7), esp. by means of a whisk (see Whisk *sb.*1 2).

1530 R. Whytford *Werke for Householders* I. v, I say chyldē be nothynge . . be whysked with a rod or roddē 1703 [implied in Whisking *vbl. sb.*] 1710 J. Fuller *Pharmacopœia* 323 Whites of Eggs beat up and whisk'd till it stand still 1836 Mollard *Art of Cookery* 263 A tea spoonful of best Jamaica to be beat to a solid froth 1846 Sover *Cookery* 43 Using three whole and three yolks of eggs, but omitting the whisked whites. 1904 *Cassell's Mod. Cookery* V. v. *Cream, Whipped.* Double cream may be simply whipped by whisking it with a wire whisk until it thickens

**†5.** *for* Whip v. 4 *b*) (Cf Frisk v. 4 *b*)

1674 J. Howard *Lnel Monsieur* v. iv, Hark ye Mr Frenchlove, I believe you and I are wise kt with a couple of Wives, for Mr Welbred, and Mr Comely pretended to be in love with them, and the Devil a but there's any such thing

**Whisker** (hwi·skəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 5–7 **wiske**r, 6 **whysker**, (7 **whisquer**, 9 **whisoar**), 7–**whisker** [f. Whisk *v.* + -er1. Cf. Sw. *viskare* sponge, swab, LG. *wisker* a rubber, duster, G. *wischer* rubber, clout, (fig.) reprimand.]

**1** Something that whisks or is used for whisking: applied to various objects, as a fan; a rod or switch, a bunch of feathers used as a brush (cf. Whisk *sb.*1 4), etc *Obs* or *dial*

*c* 1425 *St Mary of Oignies* in *Anglia* VIII. 295 She swore oure body . . was no wysker with whych we lye wyp 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 89 A whyp is a whysker that will wrest out blood 1611 Cotgr., *Il vesme*, a Switch, or Whisker. 1825 Jamieson, *Wisker, whis as*, a bunch of feathers for sweeping anything

**†2.** A person who whisks or moves briskly about, a lively young gallant: *cf.* Whisking *ppl. a.* 1 *c*

1595 Gosson *Pleas Quippes* vii, When young wiskers in no good sort will spend the day, that be proud haire, more then a Turke.

**3** *slang* or *colloq.* Something great or excessive, a 'whopper' (*cf.* Whisking *ppl. a* 2), esp a great lie, a 'bang'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char* 92 Relations belonging to Quantity (Greatness, Magnitude, ample, large, vast, huge, whisker, magnifie, aggravate, exaggerate. 1892 Rachaus *Hobbit's Stake Not., Lett.* 35 It may be convenient for you to all the a flam, a whisker, a caprice 1894 Edland *Planting* 9 Suppose I tell here some damn'd Whisker. [1898 Wright *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Engl.* s.v., 'I he dam of that was a whisker', a phrase used when a great falsehood was uttered.]

**†b** A 'whisking' or blustering wind: see Whisking *ppl. a* 1 *b. Obs*

1670 *Ray Pro.* 288 March whisquer was never a good fisher

**4.** The hair that grows on an adult man's face; formerly commonly applied to that on the upper lip, now called *moustache*, and sometimes to (or including) that on the chin (*beard*), now restricted to that on the cheeks or sides of the face. **a.** *pl* usually collective, sometimes distributive, as *a pair of whiskers*, descending from the hair on the two sides

*c* 1600 *Timon* II. iii (1842) 27 My wiskers hanging o'er the coniliop 1620 Massinger *Renegado Constantia & Alp* II. 219 Some sprucie yonker, with a starcht beard, and his whiskers turn'd up 1650 Butler *Anthropom. & Phyt.* The rank Muscadine unto whiskers grown 1658 Rowland *Moufet's Theat. of Insects* 1090 His [*sc.* Pan's] Beard is Cut neatly, and the Whisker encouraged from one Ear to the other, in fashion of an Half Moon on the upper Lip, with only a decent Peak on the under. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 152 What grew on my upper Lip I had trimm'd into a large Pair of Mahometan Whiskers 1808 W. Wilson *Life P. Peploe* 141 The men members were struck upon their upper lip with 1823 J. Moon *Stuff & Nonsense*, *Whiskers*, the hair on the upper lip under the nose; I believe all over England. Now, the hair under the ears, sometimes under the eyes also, bears this name; and the beard comes are called mouschaches. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xli, A tall fellow, with very black bushy whiskers meeting under his chin 1854 R. S. Surtees *Mr Sponge's Sp. Tour* (Globe) 152 What a man who has whiskers; **Whiskered**-ness, a small whisker; a curl at the side of a girl's face (*cf.* sense 4 *c* above); **Whi·skerless** *a.*, destitute of whiskers; **Whi·skery** *a.*, having large whiskers.

1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 632/2 Deliberating how still further to Germanize and to "whisker out British soldiers 1858 Carlyle *Frederick* IV. xi. (1872) I. 6 Fellows with such a breadth of sabre, extent of "whiskerage [etc.]. 1859 Mrs. Riddell *R. Derwent* xxxvi. The trim of their whiskerage. 1727 *Entertainer* No. 2 4 We are no "Whiskerers of the Order of St. Jacobs 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Oct. 440 Her hair is trimly curled in "whiskerettes'. 1856 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 23 Sept., A man wearing whiskers, has chin shaven and allowing two distinct whiskerettes to be plainly discerned. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxii, Mr. Towlinson is "whiskerless 1848 Thackeray *Bk Snobs* xxxiv, The old lady is an tall and "whiskery as a grenadier

**Whisker,** *sb.*2, whisk-player: see Whisk *sb.*4

**Whiskerandos** (hwiskəɹæ·ndɒs). *humorous.* [f. Whisker, with endang in imitation of Spanish words.] Name of a character (*Don Ferolo Whiskerandos*) in Sheridan's play 'The Critic' (1779) hence *allusively* (more commonly in the form **Whiskerando**, the *-s* being taken as sign of pl.), a (heavily) whiskered man. Hence **Whiskerandoed** (-dōed) *a.*, whiskered.

1897 *Yorkshire Mag.* XXIX. 179 The mustachio salute is not only sanctioned now by the dowagers of the whiskerando tribe, but is even voted by the young smooth lipped belles, to be 'funny enough' 1832 Jerrold *Corr.* (1894) 287 To the great dismay of a whiskerandoed, second brother of my lord 1838 Southey *Doctor* cliv. V. 227 To what extravagances would the whiskerandoed mesdames of Bond Street proceed, if the hand were to make the man! 1894 Steven son *St. Ives* ii Some of these old whiskerandos, originally peasants trained once boyhood in victorious armies, could ill brook their change of circumstance.

**Whiskered** (hwi·skəɹd), *a.* [f Whisker *sb.*1 + -ed2.]

1. Having whiskers **a** Of men: see Whisker *sb.*1 4.

1784 Cowper *Task* III. 768 Our forefathers—a grave whisker'd race 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* v. vi, To have seen him in martial array—booted to the middle—sashed to the chin—collared to the ears whiskered to the teeth 1850 Thackeray *Mag. Gardner Story* viii, A tall whiskered man, who looked like a field marshal

**b.** Of animals: see Whisker *sb.*1 5; *spec.* as a descriptive appellation of particular species, as *whiskered auk, fly catcher, shrike, tern.*

1765 Graelinus *Super Cornu* iii. The whisker'd vermin race 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 1. 364 Whiskered Flycatcher] 1788 Lowndes *Bk. of Mics Thrushes* 100 *Bullfinch* 1. 3 beast . . Long back'd, long tail'd, with whisker'd snout 1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool* VII. 398 Whiskered Shrike. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol* xiv. 309 Whiskered (*Myotannoni*), when the upper lip is furnished with whiskers (*Myotis*), &c. 1874 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 342 Whiskered Auk two series of filamentous white feathers on each side of head 1897 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* IV. 47 The Whiskered Tern is an accidental visitor to the British Islands

**2.** Formed into or constituting whiskers. *rare*—1.

1737 M. Green *Spleen* 761 Preferring sense, from chin t'that's bare, To nonsense stuck on in whisker'd hair.

**Whisket,** var. Wisket *dial.*, a basket.

**Whiskey:** see Whisky.

**Whiskful** (hwi·skful). [f Whisk *sb.*1 + -ful 2] As much as a whisk will carry: see Whisk *sb.*1 4.

1849 *Diary of a Lon. Lawyer* I. xvi. 200 As the animals are brought up to be blessed, the priest mutters a few Latin words, and dashes a whiskful of water in their faces.

**Whiskied** (hwi·skid), *a rare* Also **-keyed** [f Whisky *sb.*1 + -ed.] Saturated or tainted with whisky.

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, In his whiskeyed blood there was not a brick drop, nor in his muddled brains a bitter feeling 1919 *Blackw Mag* Dec 767/2 He breathed whiskied breath at me

**Whiskified** (hwi·skifəid), *a.* Also **-k(e)y-**, *Sc.* **whus-** [f. Whisky *sb.*1 + *-fied*, pa. ppl. ending corresp to *-fy.*] Affected by excessive drinking of whisky

1800 H. Martin *Helen of Glamrose* III. 128 Paddy was only a little whiskified 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* v. Fact and fiction reeled together in his muzzy, whiskified brain 1864 Lavto *Tam. Bothie* xiii. 126 'I shy—hic—open the door, will I?' quoth the whiskified vocalist. 1894 *Harland's Weird Tow n.* viii, That poor, whiskyfied, Irish tatter demolition

**Whiskijack, John,** var Whisky Jack, etc.

**†Whi·skin1.** *north. dial Obs.* [Of unascertained origin.] A shallow kind of drinking-vessel.

1635 Heywood *Philocoth* 45 Noggins, Whiskins, Piggins 1640 Brathwait *Two Lim. Lovers* 19 Wee will han a convenient whiskin, That hold's a quart, for drinke 1660 H. Mill *Nights Search* 145 To make him whiskin

**Whisking** (hwi·skiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f Whisk v. + -ing1.] The action of the verb Whisk, in various senses.

*a* 1555 Ursel *Royster D.* II. iv (Arb.) 37 Is all your delite and ioy in whuskyng and ramping abrode like a Tom boy? 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. C3, The crye of beasts, the rushing of the windes, Or whusking of these leaues 1604 F. Fletcher *Noble Gent* v. i, With the whisking of my sword about 1668 Dryden *Wrens Ivan* i. 1, The whisking of a Silk Gown, and the rush of a Tabby Petticoat 1703 T. Brown *Let to Ray* (R. D'U.) *Whisking*, is also writhing, 'there will be whisking for't' 1797 Mrs. Inchbald *Wives as they were* II. 30 The whisking of a woman's gown made me give a sudden start! 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlix, A rattling of tin mugs, a whisking of broom 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* I. A herd of deer trooping from one glade to another, with a to-sing of great horns and whisking of tiny tails

**Whi·sking**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That whisks, in various senses: see the verb.

1588 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1161. I suppose that he is Of Sremy the whyskynge rod, The flayle, the scourge of almighty God. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 637 With whisking broom they brush and sweep. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* 1. 268 This whisking tail of the dragon…may cast down some doctors of the church.

† b. Of the wind: Blowing briskly, forcibly, or freshly. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 156 A litle windе in a mysyte day, stoppeth a shafte more than a goode whiskynge wynde in a clere dayе. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 637 As swiftly whisking as the whisking winde. 1635 SWAN *Spec. Mundi* v. § 2. (1643) 171 If the exhalation be little, tenuous or thin, then we have onely a pleasant whisking wind,… by which the aire is gently moved. 1697 in *Nat. Hist. Irel.* (1726) 113 The air was somewhat troubled with little whisking winds, seeming to meet contrary ways.

c. Of a person: Moving actively, brisk, lively, smart. *slang or colloq. ? Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I 1, What are your whisking gallants, your husbands. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 40. (1713) II. 2 If you talk of Rubbers and Whiskers, …he's a whisking Rubber for you;… he can rub one Man into two. 1824 CARLYLE *Let. to Miss Welsh* 23 June, Captain Smith was…brisk,…whisking, smart of speech.

2. Great, excessive, 'bouncing', 'whopping'. *slang or colloq.* (now only *dial.*).

1653 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* (1673) 8 They have whisking water-works for evacuation. 1681 HICKS-BINGELL *News fr. Colchester* Wks. 1704 I. 396 With what astonishment the People…were struck, when…this Whisking Lye… 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Rousing Lie*, a whisking great one. 1792 BURNS *Willie's Wife* II. [A whiskin' beard about her mou'.

† **Whi·skish**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. WHISK *sb.*1 or *v.* + -ISH 1.] Lively, frisky.

1599 *Sir Clyom.* xv. in *Peele's Wks.* (1888) II. 172 The whorea be so whiskish.

**Whisky, whiskey** (hwi·ski), *sb.*1 Also 8 **-kie**. [Short for WHISKYBAE, etc. (Gael. *uisgebeatha* lit. 'water of life'), though this is not actually evidenced so early (but Ramsay has *usque* for USQUEBAUGH, q.v., in 1728). In modern trade usage, Scotch *whisky* and Irish *whiskey* are thus distinguished in spelling.] A spirituous liquor distilled originally in Ireland and Scotland, and in the British Islands still chiefly, from malted barley (with or without unmalted barley or other cereals), in U.S. chiefly from maize or rye. With *a* and *pl.*, a drink of whisky.

Also in *whisky-and-milk*, *-soda*, *-water* (often so hyphened), denoting mixed or diluted drinks.

1715 in Maidment *Bk. Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 404 Whisky shall put our brains in rage. 1736 ARMSTRONG *Tyml. Lad Kel.* 46 A double Portion of Oatmeal and Whisky. *note*, Whisky is a hot Malt Spirit. 1753 *Gray's Jun Jrnl.* No. 48 Whisker—Do—Give me a Glass of that Rhenish. 1753 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 391 2 In one dram shop only in this town [sc. Dublin], there are 120 gallons of that accursed spirit, whiskey, sold…in a week. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* Then mixed himself a glass of whiskey and water in equal portions. 1825 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sks.*, He…went home…for his whiskey-and-water. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* xvi, 'I think I'll have a whisky.' 'Scotch or Irish?' asked the barman. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 176 Those of us who were left being assembled to drink a parting whisky-and-soda. 1895 *Times* 31 July 13/6 In less than an hour he sold 22 whiskies.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whisky-brose* (cf. Brose b), *-can*, *-cocktail*, *-drinker*, *-drinking* sb. and adj., *-gill*, *-jug* (Pea *sb.*1 6), *-punch*, *-shop*, *-still*, *-toddy*; *whisky-toddies* adj.; **whisky insurrection** or **rebellion** *U. S. Hist.*, an outbreak in Pennsylvania in 1794 against an excise duty on spirits imposed by Congress in 1791; **whisky-poker** (see quot.); **whisky ring** *U. S. Hist.*, a combination of distillers and revenue officers formed in 1873 to defraud the government of part of the tax on spirits; **whisky-straight** *U. S. slang*, whisky without water.

1811 S. CUNNINGHAM *Trav. Italy, Allan-a-Dale* (1887) 136 'Whisky-brose shall be my breakfast, and my supper shall be the untaken-down spirit. 1845 ELIZA COOK *Poems, Fisher Boat* 12 Jolly mates, a 'whisky-can, and trusty nets for me! 1882 ? JOHN THOMAS *Hints to 1082 Dainty* Contents, 'Whiskey Cobbler, Cocktail. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 18 June (1827) III. 424 The house…was filled with 'whisky drinkers. 1900 ROLLESTON *Diss. Liver* 178 Hobnailed, Irish, or Whiskey-drinker's liver. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 74 The row was the outcome of 'whiskey drinking. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* xiii, Be't 'whisky gill, or penny wheep, Or any stronger potion. 1824 *Blast. Sky* 88 July Thornton *Amer. Gleas.*), Tinctured with the duelling or 'whiskey-inspection mania. 1889 THOMAS DOUGE *Signs of Power* 15 There he sat…drinking 'whisky-pegs and smoking cheroots. 1876 J. S. CAMPION *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 25 'Whisky-poker, a harmless non-gambling game which the winner gets a drink and the loser a smell at the cork of the bottle. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xvii, A glass o' 'Whisky-punch. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xliii, His…utterance began to fall him, over his sixth tumbler of whisky-punch. 1865 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s.v. The 'whisky rebellion of Pennsylvania. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 25 Sept., The candidate of the 'whisky ring. 1880 A. K. H. BOYD *Lees. Middle Age* 99 The sight of a 'whisky-shop or a gin-palace is to such an overwhelming temptation. 1892 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 108 You 'whisky-sodden old miscreant. 1786 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xx, Thae curst horse-leeches o' th' Excise, Wha mak the 'Whisky Stills their prize! 1872 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* xv. 106 We will take a 'whisky-straight. 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 59, I sat down with some 'whisky toddy.

Hence **Whisky** *v.*, *trans.* to supply with whisky, to give a drink of whisky to.

1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 120 The horses were changed, and the passengers whiskied. 1882 [LEE & CHUTTERBUCK] *There in Norway* IX. (1888) 65 We 'whisky' every one who turns up at camp.

**Whisky, whiskey,** *sb.*2 [app. f. WHISK *v.* + -Y 1, from its swift movement.] A kind of light two-wheeled one-horse carriage, used in England and America in the late 18th and early 19th c. Also called TIMBERNEY.

1789 *Lloyd's Even. Post* 3–5 July 25 As a Gentleman was returning to Batter-sea, in his whisky, his horse took fright, and ran away. 1794 ELIZ. CARTER *Let. to Mrs. Vesey* 30 July, Travelling over hill and dale in a whisky. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 58 The gig from the whiskey also differs materially, the whiskey being constructed on the most simple plan, with little or no ornament to the carriage. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xiv, It was a two-wheeled vehicle, which…aspired only to the humble name of that almost forgotten accommodation, a whiskey. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 245 The old One-horse Chaise, or Whiskey, was as heavy as the modern Cabriolet, without its grace of form. 1844 T. WRIGHT *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* § 6672 A whiskey or chair is a small carriage, hung by braces, but placed on the shafts; having springs of some kind interposed between them and the axles.…It is made low, and very light. 1879 LOUISA STOTTER *Old Coaches* [She] but rarely went out of her own grounds except to church, in a machine which ninety years ago was called a 'whiskey'.

**Whi·skyj**, *a.* and *sb.* [f. WHISK *v.* + -Y 1 : cf. prec.] Light and lively, flighty.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, Talking in such a whisky frisky manner that nobody can understand him.

b. *Comb.* **whisky-bobby**, angler's name for some kind of artificial bait.

1904 F. WHYMPER *Lovers at Fault* vi, Flies, minnows or whisky-bobbies might be used.

**Whiskybne, whisquy-beath**, var. USQUEBAUGH. (Cf. 16th cent. *vitisbene*.)

1792 GALLOWAY *Poems* 72, I wish I ne'er drank no Whiskybae. 1798 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* III. 525 A refreshment …consisting generally of whisquy-beath, or some foreign liquor, butter and cheese.

**Whisky John** (hwiskiʤɔ·n). In 8 **whiski-Jack**, **-y whiskyjack**; also with hyphen. [Altered form of next by substitution of *jack* for *John* (cf. JACK *sb.*1).] A popular name for the common grey jay of Canada, *Perisoreus canadensis*.

1772 WHISKYJACK [see next]. 1873 *Forest & Stream* 12 Dec. 373/1 The whisky-jack is a bird into camp, and now sit on the palisades over the fire. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxviii. (1892) 320 Tho-de delightful birds known as the Camp Robbers or Whisky Jacks.

**Whisky John** (hwiskiʤɔ·n). In 8 **whiski-**[Corruption of the American Indian name (Cree *wiskatjan*, Montagnais *wishkutshau*).] = prec.

1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 386 *Lanius…Ferruginus*…Great butcher-bird,…Cinereous Shrike,…White Whiskijohn at Hudson's Bay. 1776 PENNANT *Arctic Zoology* II. 2 *Lanius canadensis*…These birds are called Whiskijohn and Whiskijack at the Hudson's Bay. 1856 BALLANTYNE *Fur Traders* xi, Whisky-johns are the most impudent, puffy, conceited, little birds that exist.

**Whisle, -ler, -ling**, obs. ff. WHISTLE, etc.

**Whisp**, *sb. rare.* [Echoic: cf. WHIMPER.] A slight blast or puff (of wind) or sprinkle (of rain).

1670 WHISP in implied in **Whisping** *vbl. n.*, used of a slight blast of wind, a low rustling sound: see quots.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS. 19. No. I.* f. iii. M. 5 b, The era hole by egestion..i. schityng Crackynge & Whyspynge by nethe is purgynge propitly of the guttys. 1884 *19th C. Ant.* Feb. 241 A whisp of wind. 1908 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 5/5 Nothing broke the stillness but the whisping of the waters. 1923 *Times* 27 Apr. 12/1 A whisp of rain,…too light to be called a storm, touched us several here and there.

**Whisp**, variant of WISP.

**Whisper** (hwi·spəɹ), *sb.* [f. WHISPER *v.*]

1. An act, or the action, of whispering, or speaking 'under one's breath'; the low non-resonant quality of voice which characterizes this (esp. in phr. *in a whisper*).

In *Phonetics* (equivalently), Speech or vocal sound without the musical or resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; a 'breath' sound, as distinguished from 'voice' (see BRETH 10, VOICE *A.* 14); in strict use implying also contraction of the glottis: see also 4.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 9 The sea-mans Whistle Is as a whisper in the eares of death, Vnheard. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 174 The Inward Voice or Whisper can never giue a Tone. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 20 ¶ 9 Secrets which he always communicates in a whisper. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. 108 Sir Clement…said in an audible whisper,—which is a mode of speech very distressing and disagreeable to by-standers [*etc.*]. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Cent. Comp.* I. 1 Whispers and whispers. 1837 — *Pickw. Handbk. Phonetics* 5 Whisper in popular language simply means speech without voice. Phonetically whisper implies not merely absence of voice, but a definite contraction of the glottis. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, 'Mind, it's a secret.' He lowered his voice to a whisper.

b. A whispered word, phrase, remark, or speech.

1709 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 71 ¶ 1, Chor. 3 From Camp to Camp, …The Humme of eyther Army stilly sounds: That the fist Centinels almost receiue The secret Whispers of each others Watch. 1844 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* v. i, She has put The judges to their whisper. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 203 Full well the busy whisper, circling round, Convey'd the dismal tidings when he frown'd. 1822 BYRON *Sardanap.* III. i. 424 What, at whispers With my stern brother? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xi, The sage Persian comforted him by a long whisper, of which the last part only was heard. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* xi, Some relaxation of discipline allowed them to exchange a whisper from time to time.

c. *Pig's whisper* = *Sow* PIG *sb.*1 13 c. *Stage whisper*: see STAGE *sb.* 13.

2. A secret or slight utterance, mention, or report; a suggestion, insinuation, hint, light rumour (communicated in a whispering voice, or *fig.* by a soft rustling sound (cf. 3) or mentally); with negative, the slightest mention, the 'least word'.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 178 Not a word, nor quhisper in thame dowbtfull. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 80 At least the whisper goes so. *Ibid.* IV. v. 82 The people…vnwholsome in their thoughts, and whispers For good Polonius death. 1664 in *Extr. St. Pap. rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 291 Some whispers that the Judges would not proceede against any of the Quakers. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narr. N. New Eng.* 43 The bullets passing through his own hair, by that whisper telling him that death was very near. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 61 ¶ 1 He [*sc.* a Courtier] deals much in Whispers, and puts many out of Countenance according to the Secret Intelligence. 1781 BENTHAM *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xvii. § 11 (1789) 313 If the chunders of the law prove impotent, the whispers of simple morality can have but little influence. 1823 SOUTHEY *Quarterly D.* vi. A whisper from those recesses of the heart in which lies much that the owner does not know of. 1829 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 17 Apr. (1884) I. 374 No one pursues even a whisper of reproach against Peel. 1868 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxviii, He rejected the pleadings of pity—the whispers of conscience. 1872 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxii. 21 There were whispers that he was to be put to death without trial.

3. *fig.* A soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting that of a whispering voice.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 136 The milde whispers Of shades and wanton winds, and gushing brooks. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* iii. xiii, With fair-heard whisper, o'er the sea, Off shot the spectre-bark. 1814 TENNYSON *Gard. Dan.* 248 Whispers, like the whisper of the leaves That trip with sound a nightingale. 1898 H. S. MERRIMAN *Roden's Corner* v, A silence, broken only by the whisper of the wind through the rigging.

4. *attrib.* Uttered in a whisper; in *Phonetics*, uttered without the vocal murmur, 'breath' (see BREATH 10); **whisper-shot** *nonce-wd.* [after *carshot*], the distance within which a whisper can be heard.

1626 BARTON *Fountaskirks* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 The leaues of the trees are in a whisper-tune. 1838 R. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 9 It is…doubtful if there ever was a language which had its whisper letters perfect. *Ibid.* 10 The whisper sounds of the two liquids *l*, *r*, constitute two distinct letters in Welsh. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 4 The sound of *th*, whether whisper or vocal. 1876 LANIER in *Atlantic Monthly* (1880) XXXVII. 599/1. *th* inserted a whisper chorus…to prepare by its stunning quiescence for the outburst of jubilation. 1890 W. S. GILBERT *Faggett's Fairy* etc. 152 Informing everybody within whisper-shot… that this was my first bride.

Hence **Whi·sperhood** *nonce-wd.*, the condition of being a whisper (in sense 2); **Whi·sperless** *a.*, not uttering a whisper, or in which no whisper is heard; absolutely silent; **Whi·sperous** (whence **Whi·sperously** *adv.*), **Whi·spery** *adj.*, full of or characterized by whispers; resembling a whisper.

1710 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 15 ¶ 6, I know a Lie that now disturbs half the Kingdom with its Noise, which…I can remember in its Whisper-hood. 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 19 Crouching 'whisperless. 1911 R. BROOKE *Coll. Poems* (1918) 74 The secret deeps are whisperless. 1884 LD. LYTTON *19th Cent.* Dec. 898 The whisperous, awe-struck tone of the voice. 1892 — *Lucile* IV. viii. 88 Eyes that hid in whisperous shadows, heaved. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do?* v. viii, The Duchess…sinks her voice, and gabbles on—whisperously. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Spirit's Mission* Wks. 1843 VII. 25 In the 'whispery elfin shade. 1844 LOWELL *Columbus* 5 The reeling sea…falling Crumbled to whispery foam. 1866 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 224 The whispery, hissing sound of smoothly sliding waters.

**Whi·sper**, *v.* Forms: 1 **hwispran**, 5 **qu-, qwysper**, 5–6 **whysper**, 6 *Sc.* **quhisper**, — **wisper**, 6– **whisper**. [OE. *hwispran* (only Northumb.) = Early Flem. *twisperen* (Kilian), G. *wispern*; cf. MLG., MDu. *wispelen*, OHG. (*h*)*wispalôn* (MHG. *wispeln*). ON. has *hvíslra*, Da. *hvisle*, Sw. *viska* to whisper.]

1. *intr.* To speak softly 'under one's breath', i.e. without the resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; to talk or converse in this way, esp. in the ear of another, for the sake of secrecy. (See also 4 *a.*)

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John p. 4 *Marmuranlic*, hwispendo. c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* (Skeat) Luke xix. 7 And mid him hwispredon hwilge. *mmormoredon*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Qwysperon …. *wussito*. *Ibid.* 525 1 Whysperyn, or whysprun. 1530 R. HUNDON *Bk. Nurture* 173 in *Babees Bk.* B Whysper not thou with thy fellowes ore. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 299 He whisper with the Generall, and knows his pleasure. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 125 Iuno and Ceres whisper seriously. 1676 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 136 I.ª Wharton, and I.ª Mohun sat…wispring together. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 38 ¶ 8 He immediately runs into Secrets, and falls a whispering. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlviii, Many ladies round about received it and talked, and many gentlemen nodded and whispered.

b *trans.* with *at* To bring by whispering
1692 Dryden *Hind & Panth* 318 Her Sons all was whisper'd out, with Gods still Voice 1855 Kingsley *Westw Ho!* xxiv, Cary returned, and whispered Amyas away

2 *trans.* To say, tell, communicate, utter, or express by whispering (With simple obj or obj clause, often with the actual words uttered as obj) See also 4 b

1588 Shake *L L L* v ii 476 What did I in whisper to you? I desire you? 1600—*Twel N* iii 150 If Cesario himself shall thee no wth spet I'm Cesario uffraid? *a*1638 Mabbett *Last Instr Institer* 97 His Fathers Ghost soon whisper'd him the Note That who does cut his Purse will cut his Throat 1697 Dryden *Æneis* viii 324 Rising Envy we whisper'd thro' the Crowd 1712 Mrs Centlivre *Perfid Favorite* i, She whispers cut her wo ds, first I shou'd hear her 1827 Lytton *Pelham* xvi I took the opportunity to app oach Lady Roseville and whisper my adieu 1891 ? C Wicker *I may tell* What first I'll be asked in a fo id whisper 'C ockery', she whispered back —'come and sit here by me

b. *intr.* for *passive voice*
1850 Tennyson *In Mem* iii, O Sorrow What whispers from thy lying lip?

3 With the person, etc as obj To address in a whisper, (with following clause or inf) to tell, inform, bid, or ask in a whisper
1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* 1 v Dijb, He hath whyspered me in the eare of trughth to be my lessou in connyng 1598 H Smith *Serm., Satan's Compass* (1592) 588 He will whisper the poo re howe they shall come by riche 1599 Shake *Much Ado* iii 114 A Whisper her ears, and tell her I and Vrsula Walke in the Orchard 1611— *Wint T* iv ii 827 He whisper I im in 3 our behalfes 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 916 He did first whisper the Man in the Eare that such a Man should make a Lord 1721 Addison *Spect* No 217 ¶ 5 He whispered me in the Ear to take notice of a Tabby Cat 1758 Goldsm *Mem Prot* (1805) I 34, I whispered my Companion softly, that as the Night was very dark we might give him the Slip 1777 Sheridan *Sch Scand* iii 1 In the ear Servant and whispers Joseph Surface 1796 Monk Lewis *Crey* II 35 He whispering the Lieutenant in the ear, they know the place of their destination 1840 Barham *Ingol Leg*, Miss Jane whispered her sister to receive Jone dun Mr Cheggs was 1858 Bradley *Oue'ge Girl* iv xxi, The Lord Mayor whis pered the Judge again

4 With special connotations **a.** *intr* To speak or converse quietly or secretly about something (usually implying hostility, malice, conspiracy, etc), also (with speak, etc, ever so slightly, to say 'the lest thing' about something.
1525 Barclay *Eclogues* vi (1570) Ryse I that when other talke and speake what they will I dare not whisper 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps xli 7 All they that envyes vs per I gether against me 1555 Eden *Decades* 115 The Frenche Company is whysperyd and muttered ageynste him 1667 Pepys *Diary* 28 June, And there a prince dare whisper 1711 Steele Mrs Manley and Mrs Masterman whispers every where about your wife's cantenuance

b *trans.* To say, report, communicate, or utter quietly, secretly, or confidentially; also (with negative) to utter ever so slightly, to say the lesst word of (With simple obj or obj. clause, often in passive)
1580 *Rec Privy Council Scot* I 209 It is quhispeirit and rumourit that sum suld f spett I or devoyr 1593 Shake *Rich II*, iii 131 I will be bold to whisper forth a general change 1628 in Foster *Inq Worcest Indict* (1909) III 204 This news was first whispered I here the 29th November *a*1708 I Ward *Hist* (1718) 138 Matter to be whispered up and down Was quickly spread thro' all the Town 1825 Scott *Guy M* iii, It is well spread about that there is such a plan 1840 Dickens *O Twist* xlix, Some vague rumour which had been whispered abroad 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* iv xii, Whisper'd oblings that sound like something 1887 W H Russell *Atlantic* 246 It was whispered that a man answering to his description was keeping a very lu rative gambling house in San Francisco

c *trans* with *adv.* or *adv phr* To bring *into* or *out of* something, or to take *away*, by secret (esp malicious or slanderous) speech
1633 *Star Chamber Decrees* (Camden) 24 He is to be admonished not to whisper away the fame and credit of Deputies as all governors 1783 Burke *Sp for Restit Indian Bills* 39 They cannot be whispered out of their duty, their public conduct cannot be censured with out a public discussion 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* Iviii, Are characters to be whispered away like this? Pursuits to serve *Living Self* xiii 237 The great majority are led drawn, beckoned, whispered into their calling

5 *intr* (*fig* from 1.) To make a soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting a whisper
1633 Wats *Wanderers* 175 There will the River whispering run 1697 Dryden *Æneis* iv 753 The Winds no longer whisper through the Woods 1766 *Gray Incipients* xo No tree is heard to whisper 'I will sing' 1848 Mrs A Marsh *Ivy Darcy* xxxiv, The autumn wind whispered low among the branches.

6 *trans.* (*fig* from 2.) To suggest secretly to the mind; also, to express or communicate by a soft rustling sound (cf. 5).
1640 S Harding *Sicily & Naples* iii 33 This day (There is something whispers to me) will prove full all 1667 Milton *P L* iv 258 Gentle gales dispense Native perfumes, and whisper whence they stole Those balmy spoils 1725 *Gray Spring* 8 Whisp ring pleasure as they fly, Cool rphyrs Hear gather'd fragrance fling. 1803 Lamb *Elia Sec n Old Margate hoy*, The waves to him whispered more pleasant stories 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* ii 1, A strange sympathy which whispers convictions that no evil deeds can authorise 1898 Browning *Parleyings* 150 Truth is truth in each degree Thunderpealed by God to Nature, whispered by my soul to me

**Whisperation** (hwi·sperēi), *sb.* [f. as prec + -ation.] = Whispering, 1, 2.
1656 Shake *Much Ado* iii 111 1070 true sorrow words The grafts that do put to the stake, Whispers the o're fraught heart, and lids it breake 1713 Addison *Cato* ii 1, Something whispers me All is not right 1761 A Murphy *All in Wrong* i 1 What devil whispered thee to marry such a w m n? 1771 Goldsm *Hist Eng* II 304 Adultion had whispered the lo k with such an opinion of his own ability 1832 Tennant *Conf Looning* v, Nature seemed to whisper me the folly of learning words instead of ideas. 1849 J. Wilson *Why Beautiful Lads*, Now is, Western wind Whispers soft truly the trembling flowers

Hence (*nonce wds*) **Whi·sperable** *a*, that can be whispered, **Whispera·tion**, whispering
1830 *Blackw Mag* XXVIII 833 All speak—talk—whisper—or smile—all the speakable talkible, whispered le, and unutterable 1871 C Mathetes *Our Quarter Deal* iii 37 Cousin Ah—when the Captain and Purser whispera, o it Guts ought to grumble *Golden Ass*, Cause I whose Whispera ions are many an Ounce of Butter and Cheese out of our Way

**Whispered** (hwi·spərd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed.]
1 Uttered, said, or told in a whisper
1567 *Gude & Godly B* (S T S) 2 1 The quhispeirit sinnis callit ear Confessioun 1746 Lanthorn *Poems* (1771) 59 The whisper'd tale 1821 J W Hett *Sel Papers* (1860) 26 Making the whispered s erve for an unwhispered 1848 Mrs Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxvi, A whispered request to sult it to took place 1890 Sweet *Primer Spoken Engl* 2 In whispered sounds [the vocal chords] are brought closer together, but without vibration

2. Said or reported quietly or secretly, (with negative) uttered ever so slightly
1605 Shake *Lear* iii 1 8 Sou hnue heard of the newes abroad, I mean the whispered ones 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) V xi 184 A whispered scandal, it passed through several ears 1897 *Daily News* 4 June 5 6 There is not even a whispered suggestion of repe ting it

**Whisperedly** (hwi·sperədli) [f as prec + -ly.] One who whispers.
1 One who speaks in a whisper.
1567 Maplet *Gr Forest* 79 b, The Crane by proper name should be called whysperer, or Backeer 1721 Strele *Spect* No 428 ¶ 2 Whisperers of those kind are a loathsome fraternity who comes with the Air of your Intimate, and that is your Whisperer 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1811) II 272 As we walked up the Church, we had abundance of Gaping and Whisp rers 1832 Lewister *Rat Magazine* 225 Where the whisperer is in the focus of o e selfe ing surfe e, and the hearer in the f ocus of another 1876 L Sabine *Journal Path*, 'Hush', exclaims one of the whisperers to his neighbour

b An appellation for certain celebrated horse-breakers, said to have obtained obedience by whispering to the horses.
1819 Pocock *Post Chaise Co Cork* 439 He was an awkward, ignorant fo lo, His name James Sullivan, but better known by the appellation of the whisperer, fro n a habit he has of his being able to communicate to the animal what he wished, by means of a whisper 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xv, One who is an expert whisperer and horse-tamer

2 One who communicates something quietly or secretly, *esp* a secret slanderer or tale bearer
1547-50 Baldwin *Mir Magistr* 61 Cruel whysperers and vile Tale tellers, out of the company 1611 *Bible Prov* xvi 28 Whisperers separateth chiefe friends 1633 Temple *Let to Lord Orrery* 1721 II 148 The Whisperers of this Sort 1707 Nash in Coll *Jests* (1760) 33 Whisperers of lies and tales are the vilest of mankind 1818 *Scott Rob Roy* xxxii, The most officious of the whisperers of greatness 1819 Keats *Otho* ii 1, Whisperers Hungry for evidence to ruin me 1879 Black *Shandon Bells* xxxvii, To be a Great Man's whisperer is a position coveted by many

**Whisperhood**: see after WHISPER *sb.*

**Whispering** (hwi·spərin), *vbl sb* [f. as prec + -ing 1.] The action of the verb WHISPER
1 The action of speaking in a whisper; speech without vibration of the vocal cords; whispered talk or conversation.
a 1575 *Knoxs Lady* John vii 12 Huspringe micle [Vulg *murmur multum*] was in Breote 1412 20 Lydg *Chron Troy* 2085 When she beryth wepyng eys where 1526 *Pilgr* (W de W 1531) xvii, Ye shall here whysperyng with the lyppes 1611 Shake *Wint T* i 2 In whispering nothing? Is leaning Cheeke to Cheeke? 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1755) I 195 I was much less concerned at the Gaming and Whisperings of the Ladies and Gentlemen 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxxiii, After a little whispering with the other young ladies 1863 A W Hall *Prime Speech* 48 His whispering of the Voice Articulations is a remarkable characteristic of Gaelic, Welsh, and Irish speakers.

2. The action of saying or reporting something quietly or secretly; suggestion or insinuation (by whispered speech), faint mention or rumour; *esp.* (*obs* or *arch*) malicious insinuation, secret slander or detraction, backbiting.
1384 Chaucer *H Fame* iii. 868 That place...filde ful of tydynges Other lovde or of wispryynges *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 279 Now hit ys made an hous of whispering and rownyng 1526 Tindale 2 *Cor* xii. 20, I feare lest there be founde amonge you whisperynges, swellynges and debate 1548 W Thomas *Peregrynacyon* Wks 1774 I. 115 He had herd a whysperyng amonge the soulderes how the sayde Earle had gotten pro nes of ayde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich III* 53 Seking after his compaynyne and yet not once herynge any noyse or whysperynges of theim *a* 1586 [see Whispering-ingness] 1605 Shake *Macb* v 1 79 Foule whisp'rings are abroad 1734 tr *Rollin's Anc. Hist* IV 307 By false reports, whispering and calumny 1828-43 Tytler *Hist. Scot* (1864) IV 33 Rumours of war, and whisperings of the intrigues and conspiracies

3. *fig.* a. Soft rustling sound resembling or sug gesting whispered speech
1612 Holland *Camden's Brit* 3 564 The river making a gentle whispering 1821 Scott *Kenilw* xxvii The garden was silent but for the whispering of the leaves, and the plashing of the fountains 1849 Tennyson *My Beautiful Lady Night* viii, The hushed whispering of the vines 1900 Bicknell *Commander of Herondelle* xx 230 Her voice fell into the key of the whispering of the sea

b Mental suggestion or intimation figured as whispered speech
1692 Sir I Browne *Let Friend* § 2 Some secret sense or intimation thereof by dreams thoughtful whisperings [etc] 1812 Shelley *Poems* I. 80 Your whispering is low, noiseless whispering spoke 1848 Mrs Gaskell *Mary Barton* xv The whisperings of her womanly nature caused her to shrink from any such unkindly action

4 *attrib* **whispering-closet**, satirically for a private consulting-room, **whispering-gallery**, a gallery or dome, usually of circular or elliptical plan, in which a whisper or other faint sound at some point can be heard by reflexion at a distant point where the direct sound is inaudible; **whispering-hole**, a hole through which one whispers, **whispering-office**, nickname for a confessional, † **whispering-place**, = *whispering-gallery*, † **whispering-room**, a room for private interviews or consultations, † **whispering-trumpet** (*obs*), **whispering-tube** = Speaking Tube 1
1668 Benjham Sc *Reform* 80 The Judge's whispering closet from which all who have any interest in the discovery of the truth are excluded *a* 1700 J Evelyn *Diary* 31 July 1654 The Minster is indeede a noble fabric. The whispering gallery is rare, being thro' a passage of 25 yards in an vnvaulted cloister. 1712 *Spectator* 28 Dec 1877 2 The whispering gallery in St Pauls 1665 Hooker *Micrd* II 218 Spiders As through a Trunk, or Whispring Hole 1728 Addison *Spect* No. 457 ¶ 3 Peter Huah has a whispering Hole in one of the Pillars in Coffee-house about Town 1704 Swift *T Tub* iv, The erecting of a Whispering Office 1635 Brereton *Trav* (Chetham Soc) I 180 This whispering place is in a vault or gallery. 1682 Sir T Browne *Chr Mor* iii § 2 (1716) 97 The voice of Prophecies is like that of Whispering places They who are near or at a little distance hear nothing, but they at the farthest may well understand it all 1749 *Hist Jenny* XLIV 229 As for whispering Places, the best I ever saw was that at Gloucester But in Italy I saw, in an Inn in Rome with a square Yard, where whispering you could e vily hear it at the opposite Corner 1663 Wagner *Duchess Malfi* i ii, A Vizor and a Masque are whispering rooms That were ne'r built for goodness *Ibid* iii, In this Inn was fill'd with all perfe tion And yet it seem'd a private whispering r oom He made so little noyse o t 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xxv (Roll) 75 2 In the Type of Cupid running with the heart, is a Whispering Trumpett a long straight hollow pipe 1887 Dutferin *Irish Hist Lect* xi (ed 3) 85 The voices became thin and low, as though they reached me through a whispering tube

**Whi spering**, *ppl a* [f as prec + -ing 2.]
1. That whispers; speaking in a whisper
1596 Shake *Merch I* iii 105 With baited breath and whispring humblenesse 1598 Lane *Tom Tell-Troths Mess* 46 Her Face may be at the Peach-Bloom, but does her never whisp'ring Breath perfume? 1770 Goldsm *Des Vill* 24 The lonely mansion lifts its head, while the slow Lor t talking age and whispering lovers made it grow 1802 Bloomfield *Cot Autumn* xx, A dozen smiling and whispering girls

b Uttered in, or of the nature of, a whisper
1592 Shake *Rom & Jul* v v 25, I could tell A whisper in e tale in a fure I shies eare 1849 J Taylor (Water P) *Wand Wanderers* iii 73 I spoke to him in low whispering voice 1780 tr *Bp Geddes's Apol Conf Cath* II 8 He held with them a long and whispering kind of conversation 1846 Mrs A Marsh *Ivy Darcy* xxxiv, In a low, whispering voice rendered following by their emotions

2. Reporting something secretly or confidentially, *esp.* secretly slanderous, tale-bearing, backbiting.
1581 Mulcaster (*title*) An Advertisement and defence for Truth against her Backbiters, and specially again t the whispring Fauourers of Courtes sauors 1611 Speed *Scotland* ix 1 Wks (1616) 378 Whispring fame Knowledge, and proofe doth to the seuen te gne 1800 Columbick *Christabel* 409 Whispering tongues can poison truth

3. Making a soft rustling sound like a whisper. Also said of the sound
a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* ii 963 Eche whispring wind hath power now to fyre my doutfull mind 1575 A Hall *Trve Ancel* vii 20 Vnder the wyndes whysperynge blastes *P R* ix 250 There Thusus roufs His whispering stream 1770 Goldsm *Des Vill* 121 The watch dog's voice that bayed the whispering wind 1798 Cowper *Odyssey* v 464 The whispering sound of the cool colonnade. 1795-1814 Wordsw *Excurs* iv 1170 The whispering air Sends langua tion from the shad'wy heights 1851 Longf *Kav* i 137 She heard the whispering rain fall 1890 Tennyson *In Mem* ci, Low moans and whispering reed 1890 R Bolder wood *Col Reiney* xxiii, The sighing, whispering, sad voiced water oaks

Hence **Whi·speringly** *adv.*, with a whispering voice or sound, in a whisper; † **Whi·speringness**, whispering quality or character (in spout in sense 2)
1580 in *Hargrave Reign & Abs* (Parker Soc 1847) 370 Their speaking is not softly and whisperingly 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii vii (1912) 385 Bold onely in basse whisperings and even in that whisperingnes rather indeed confident in his cunning, that it should not be bewraied *a* 1603 J Cartwright *Confut Rhem N T* (1618) 247 A man is bound to discharge all his sinnes whisperingly or secretly into the eare of a Priest 1747 Richardson *Clarissa*

(1748) I. 308 Thus she ran on,.. but whisperingly, that my aunt might not hear her. **1870** GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xii, The pool.., where the trees leaned whisperingly. **1874** LESLIE CAIRD *Ind. Guynne* I. vi. 174 As the last words fell whisperingly from her lips. **1915** KIPLING *New Army* ii, Squad after squad.., gathered up their target cards, and whisperingly compared them.

**Whisperless** to **Whispery** : see after WHISPER *sb.*

**Whispy**, variant of WISPY.

**Whisquy-beath** : see WHISKYBEAK.

**†Whiss**, *v.* Obs. Also 5 **quysse**, 6 **wisse**, **whysse(n, wiss(e**, *Sc.* **quheise**. [Echoic. Cf. Icel. *hvissa* to whizz.]

**1.** *intr.* To make a sibilant sound of some kind; to whistle, hiss, whizz, or wheeze ; *trans.* to whistle to. Hence **†Whi'ssing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*a* 1400 *Parth. 2 Ages* 234 He [*sc.* falconer] quysse thaym [*sc.* hawks] and quotes thaym, quyppeys full lowde. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 285 [They] whisse like swannes. **1566** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Auster*, *Sibilus Austri*, the whissyng of the winde. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T iij b, Like the sea which maketh a noyse with whissling noyse doeth moue, when with a little blast of winde it is but touched. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 24 (Qo. 2) Whissling lungs. **1649** G. DANIEL *Trium ph. Albion* (1878) 5 Their fleshi Tromps, met whissing in the Bound, Gaue their owne Tenor, in a Treble Sound. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* n. iv. 49 Such a Nose is worth a double tost in a pot of Ale, and will make it whisse as well as a hot steele. **1847** HALLIWELL *Whizz*, to whistle.

**2.** *trans.* ? To strike with something pliant, to flog : cf. quot. *c* 1500 in sb. below.

*c* 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 2 Some whysse hym, some whype hym.

Hence **†Whiss** *sb.*, a blow with something pliant, a lash.

*c* 1550 J. STEWART *Poems* (S. T. S.) II. 235 Tak thair ane quheise sit with my sculdon cloid.

**Whiss, whissle**, obs. ff. WHIS, WHISTLE.

**Whissall, -el(l, -il(l**, obs. ff. WHISTLE.

**Whisse**, obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*

**Whissle** : see WHISTLE, WISSEL.

**Whisson**, dial. f. WHITSUN.

**†Whist**, *sb.*1 *Obs. rare*—1. [Imitative.] A whistling sound, a whistle.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 168/1 If a sheepeherd ..giue a whist with his mouth to gather his sheepe together.

**Whist** (hwist), *sb.*2 [f. WHIST *int.*1 or *v.*1]

**†1.** An utterance of the interjection 'whist!' as a command for silence. *Obs.*

**1601** W. PERY *Conueyances & Cuckolds Errants* i. iii. (Rod.) 15 With a whist and with a Hush Hast wee both Two to the Bush.

**2.** Silence : in phr. *to hold one's whist*, to keep silence. Hence **†Whi'stful**. (Cf. WHIST *adv.* 2.)

**1837** BARHAM & LEMON *Hist. Mauge* x. 71 'Hold your whist,' *i.e.*, hold your tongue, is an Irishism which has passed into English slang. **1898** MACDONALD *Irish Life* 237 'Tis yer brother that's spakin' to ye, and askin' yez to hould yer whist!

**Whist**, *sb.*3 [Altered f. WHISK *sb.*2 explained as in quot. 1680.] A game of cards played (ordinarily) by four persons, of whom each two sitting opposite each other are partners, with a pack of 52 cards, which are dealt face downwards to the players in rotation, so that each has a *hand* of 13 cards ; one of the suits (usually) is determined by the last card dealt, which is then turned face upwards) is *trumps* (see TRUMP *sb.*2 1) ; the players play in rotation, each four successive cards so played constituting a *trick* (THICK *sb.* 11), in which each player after the leader must follow suit if he holds a card of the suit led, otherwise may either discard or trump ; the winner of a trick becomes the leader of the next trick ; points are scored according to the number of tricks won, and in some forms of the game also by the honour or highest trumps (HONOUR *sb.* 8 a) held by each pair of partners.

*Dummy whist* : see DUMMY *sb.* 2. *Duplicate whist*, a form of the game in which the hands played are pre-served and played again by the opposing partners. *Long whist*, a form of the game in which the score is ten points with honours counting. *Short whist*, the form now usual in England, in which the score is five points with honours counting.

**1663** (spurious ed.) BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 105 But what was this? A Game at Whist, Unto our Plowden-Canonist. **1680** CotTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 83 Whist is a Game not much differing from [Ruff and Honours], only they put out the Deuces and take in no stock ; and is called Whist from the silence that is to be observed in the play ; they deal as before, playing four, two of a side, (some play at two handed, or three handed Whist). **1748** WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 225 Whist has spread an universal opium over the whole nation. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 31 P 22 We sat late at whist. **1827** LYTTON *Pelham* iii, Elderly ladies, who, like long whist. **1842** LEVER *T. Hinton* ix, My little gains at short-whist. **1861** E. DUTTON COOK *Paul Potter's Dau.* vii, I should like ..a good rubber of long whist. **1885** R. A. PROCTOR *Whist* Introd. 1 Whist, properly played, is the finest of all card games. **1891** J. T. MACHELL (*title*) Duplicate-Whist.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whist club*, *-like* adj., *memory*, *party*, *-play*, *-player*, *-playing* sb. and adj., *-table* ; **whist-drive**, a party of progressive whist (see PROGRESSIVE *a.* 2 b) played for prizes.

**1799** E. D. CLARKE in *Life* (1824) 340, I shall..ask him, if he will..belong to our "whist club. **1903** JAN *Finger & Mist* 6 A 'Whist Drive is a modification of Progressive Whist.

**1827** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Two other ladies of an ancient and "whist-like appearance. **1886** CAVENDISH *Whist* 136 With practice, you will acquire what may be termed "whist memory". **1828** SIR R. PEEL *Peels Lett.* (1920) 104 "whist party consisting of the Duke of Wellington, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Lord Westmorland, Lady A. Beckett. **1861** LEVER *One of them* xxvii, His notion is, that life, like a whist-party, requires an accomplice. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 544/2 All rules of "whist-play depend upon ..general principles. **1797** *Mrs. Arden Carwitle's Autobiog.* (1910) 360 He makes a very good levelheaded ..by betting on the "whist-players. **1824** Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. ii, *Country Cricket-Match*, Feeling what a whist-player feels when he takes up four honours, seven trumps! **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, The whist-players were Mr. Pickwick and the old lady ; Mr. Miller and the fat gentleman. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* IV. i. 7 A few "whist-playing brother officers, that met for an evening rubber at Fortune's tavern. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, There was less whist-playing than might have been expected. **1753** *Scots Mag.* XV. 198/1 Fit utterance rendered our whist-table useless. **1877** Mrs. FORRESTER *Mignon* i, There were whist tables in the library if any one cared to play.

Hence (*nonce-uses*) **Whist** *sv.* (*a*) *trans.* to play *out* (a card) at whist ; (*b*) *intr.* to play whist ; **Whi'ster**, a whist-player ; **Whi'sthood**, age or state of ability to play whist ; **Whi'sty** *a.*, addicted to whist.

**1810** *Splendid Follies* III. 6 She generally whisted out Kings Castles and Queens, and received very little. **1827** LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 433 Talking, singing, whisting. **1854** *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Dec. 353/2 Young ladies, usually arrived at whisthood. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 47. 48/2 Your retiring mortal, your whister, ..ends with his acres, and a niggard of some leggarly small trump. **1884** JEAN MIDDLEMASS *Polit. Arrows* ix, The whisty old colonel. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reginbald* xxii, Hardened, inveterate force.., musical bankers, and bankers that danced, bankers that billiarded and whisted.

**Whist** (hwist), *a.*1 *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6 **whyste**, **wyhiste**. [f. WHIST *int.*1 Cf. HUSH, WHISHT, WHUSHT *adjs.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed, making no sound ; free from noise or disturbance ; (Usually *predicative.*)

Also *adv.* = silently, quietly, without noise.

**14..** *Chaucer's Boeth.* n. met. v (MS. R. Mus.) By weren he ceuel clustres ful whist [*Add. Camb.* ful stoon] and ful stille. **1513** *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* I. viii. E j b, Thus Pelleus whan al was whyste [*MS.S.* huscht, hust, hushte] and stylly. Begynneth thus. **1590** *Mirr. Mag. Jack Wilton* 65 Keepe them silence and be whyst. For a lyttell season. **1588** GREENE *Pandosto* C i b, The Noblemen seeing the King in choler, were all whist. **1590** *Mirr. Mag. Jack* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 348 The blythe and wanton windes are whist & still. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 379 Cut'sied when you haue, and kist the wilde waues whist. **1614** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 507 In the nights whilest. **1629** MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* v, The Windes, with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters kist. **1680** FLAMAN *Heroicilus Ridens* No. 70 (1733) II. 170 Some few Persons, stand whist and silent, and during the minute when she should depart. **1700** J. BROME *Trav. Eng., Sc. & Ir.* (1707) 83 All was very whist and still. **1829** J. R. *Dekar Jolly Fop* ii, The winds are whist, and the sea is still. **1890** BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. xxviii. v, The huge unclouded sun, Surprising the world whist, Is all upriseen Heroon. *Temple Chron.* 8 Apr. 4/6 The wind is whist ; has still its signification of silence in Kent, though it is pronounced 'wist.' 'His writer, not long ago, was threatening to come in the..to a country cottage lodging. 'You'll come in wist,' said the lady of the house.

**b.** Keeping silence in relation to something ; saying nothing about the matter.

**1577** STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 6/1 in *Holinshed*, If he heard them speak, he was so whist that he durst bestow no whist in hearing God so far blaspheamed ? **1609** J. DAVIES *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/1 The heauens are whist, whilst I with tongue sing. **1630** in *York Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 149 Yet they can silent be, though, when they list, On Charles his Martyrdome they are all whist. **1680** MAS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even* ii. vii. 59 The Heyboooks were whist about their concerns.

**c.** *transf.* Attentive. *nonce-use.*

**[1580** LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 283 All were whist to heare my lamentation.] **1890** BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. ii. iv, My jealousies grow whist.

**Whist**, *a.*2 (*dial.*) : see WISHT.

**Whist**, *v.*1 Also 6 **whyst**. Pa. t. and pple. **whisted**, **whist**. [f. WHIST *int.*1]

**1.** *intr.* To become or be silent, cease or refrain from speaking, hold one's peace, keep silence. *arch.* and *dial.*

In the imperative coinciding with WHIST *int.*1, q. v.

*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 1 They whisted all with fixed face attent. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 317 Why keep pens, and not be admired how that presumes above the highest pitch of thy possibility. **1856** P. KENNEDY *Banks of Boro* xii. (1867) 3, 6 Can't you whist ? *a* 1859 L. HUNT *Stories Parr Seeming* x, They whist, and still'd their joyous crowd.

**†b.** *trans.* To be silent about, pass over in silence, keep secret. *Obs.*

**1570** T. WILSON *Pervasthenes* 35 All these matters are now whist and kept in. **1573–80** TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 150 What ere he doth none ought dare say, but whist. **1594** O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 31 b, It seemed better vnto him to let full his hand, and to whist the matter.

**†2.** *trans.* To put to silence, to hush. Hence **Whisted** *ppl. a.*, hushed, silent. *Obs.*

*a* 1541 WYATT *Poems, Compl. when Love to Reason* 145 Dere Lady ; now we waite thyne owely sentence. Sho smiling, at the whisted audience : It likeith me (quod she) (etc.). **1596** SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 59 So was the Titaness put downe and whist. **1602** MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. ii b, The breath of darknesse, fatall when his whist lin creatures stomacke ; this same smoake, call'd pride.

**†Whist**, *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [Imitative. (Perh. error for WHISTER.)] *intr.* To whisper, murmur.

**1555** BRADFORD in Coverdale *Cert. Godly Lett.* (1564) 478 No man may be admitted once to whist against them.

**Whist** (hwist), *int.* Now *dial.* Also 6 **wh-yst**, **whuist, quist**, 9 *Sc.* **wheest**. [A natural utterance enjoining silence : cf. HIST, HUST, IST, SH, also HUSHT, WHISHT.] An exclamation to command silence : Hush! (Coinciding with the imperative of WHIST *v.*1 1.)

**1380** WYCLIF *Judges* xviii. 19 Thei answerden, Whist (*vere*, Whisti, Whist hit ; 1388 He shut stille), and put fynger vpon thi mouth. **1575** *A. E. Virg. Bucol.* v. 14 Leaue of, wi'yst, say no more. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 89 If..your tongue [be] too hastiue,..whuist a while. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelphoe* iii. ii, Quist, quist, what man, art thou well in thy wits? **1622** J. DAVIES *Worthy Person* Wks. (Grosart) II. 58/2 Whist, and me attend. **1821** COLER, *Heinichen*, ..hushi, whisti, hi, ne a word for your life. **1768** SIBBNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i, Whist! — cried one—sh, sh,—said a second—hush, quoth a third—pox, poo, replied a fourth. **1824** SCOTT *Redg.* Lady Carnavalette. **1834** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Whist—hold your tongue—you've not heard the end of it. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxiii, Whist, I came to the door Donovan took me by the arm, and saying 'whist', led me into the sitting-room. **1898** ALEX. GUDDON *Rolls o' Carglen* 24 'Whist, whist,' cried Mrs. Kewley. **1894** *Barty Gray* iii, Wheest, man, or ye'll wauken up the waen!

**Whist**, *int.*2 Imitation of the sound of a whistle.

**1861** LD. HADDO in *Mem. xv.* (1879) 212 It was puff, puff,—whist, whist—and we were under way. **1890** in *Pall Mall Lett. to Millais* (1899) II. 408, I said to a beautiful young person in the bar, 'I want a bedroom with a fire in it.' Off she went to a pipe, and said, 'I Whist! No. 238 and a fire.'

**Whistle**, obs. f. WISSEL, pp. t. of WIT *v.*, to know.

**Whistel**, obs. form of WHISTLE.

**Whi'ster**, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5–6 **whyster**. [app. identical with OE. *hwistrian* 'susurrare', 'murmurare', with root-vowel raised (from **whester*), partly by assimilation to *whisper.*] = WHISPER *v.* Hence **Whi'stering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

**Whi'sterer** = WHISPERER.

**1382** WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xli. 19 Gruchchaldi whistrende. *Ibid.* xxviii. 15 The whistrende grutchere. **14..** *Chaucer's Troylus* II. 1753 (Harl. MS. 3943) Was Troilus not in a louelande, Iat lay & wiped his mouth, & lyst nought to whysperynge of hem here. **c1500** MELUSINE *Roinert* (Brandl) I. 1087 Reason wyll whyster hym in the ere. **1519** HORMAN *Vulg.* 162 b, I hate whisterers. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Pero. & Fedge* (1867) 97 Vnto them this lesson he whisters. **1565** T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 93 Peter Martyr ..whistered to him in the eare that he should plainly denie that any laying on of handes..was required. **1582** STANYHURST *Aeneis* (Arb.) 75 Oft fine whistring noise, shall bring sweete sleepe to thy sences. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 147 She..whistereth a certain odde matter with a Peter Pratler into his eare. **1746** *Exmoor Courtship* (E. D. S.) 624 Chell tell tha something—Zart I whistery ! **1888** DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 506 Whistering or sounding sand in the Arabic countries ! where it would be taken for one's whistering to the jan.

**Whi'ster-olister**. *dial.* or *slang.* A smart blow or cuff on the ear or the side of the head. So (in same sense) **Whi'sterpop, Whi'sterindy, †Whi'stersnivet, Whi'sterwhister.**

**1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *'Il whisterclister*, a stroke or blow under the ear. **1866** THORNTON *Greatheart* ii, I thought.. he was going to give me a 'whister-clister' (Devonshire for a blow on the ear). **1865** *Cornh. Magazine Prodigal* i. 68 Chee would a given thee zutch a 'whisterpoope vnder the eare. **1778** *Exmoor Scolding Gloss.*, *A'll whisterpop*, a Sort of whistling, or rather whooping Pop.—a Blow on the Ear. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xxxii, Keep hand off her, or I'se lend thee a whister-poop. **1883** *Hampsh. Gloss.*, *'A Willer-snift*, a heavy blow. **1592** DELONEY *Gentlemen* (Wright) 70 You shall heare me rone 'whysterssnivet, or geste on the bare buttoke. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 99 b, A good whysterfist timely poied on his eare. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Engl.*, *'Il whister-lis-ten*, a smart blow on the side of the head.

**†Whistle** (hwi·sl), *sb.* Forms: 1–2 **hwistle**, **wistle**, 4–7 **whistel(l**, etc. (see the vb.), 4–**whistle**; also 4 *Sc.* **quyschile**, 5 **whystyl**, *Sc.* **qwistle**, **quhissle**, 6 **whistill**, **whistyll**, **whissel**, **whissoll**, *Sc.* **whissille**, **whissall**, **whisle**, (8 *Sc. dial.* **fusle**), 9 *Sc.* and *north.* **whustle**, **whussel**. [OE. *hwistle* (also *wuduhwistle*), with a variant *wistle*, related to *hwistlian*, *wistlian* (see next). Sense 3 is prob. a new formation on the vb.]

**1.** A tubular wind instrument of wood, metal, or other hard substance, having a more or less shrill tone, which is produced by impact of air upon a sharp edge ; a shrill-toned pipe. Formerly also = pipe or flute.

Used in various forms and sizes for many different purposes : esp. (blown by the mouth) by boatswains, policemen, etc., for calling dogs or horses, or the like, or (blown by steam) on railway engines, steam-ships, etc., for giving a signal or alarm ; also as a musical toy, usually of tin and pierced with six holes (commonly called *penny whistle*, *tin whistle*). ¶ Also in OE *hwistle* (*wudu-*), a flic.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 25 We zesungun iuh mid hwistlum. *c* 1000 *Ælc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 321. 22, 27 *Musa*, pipe, oððe hwistle. ... *Fistula*, hwistle. ... *Ibid.* 530/24 *Musa*, pipe, *uel* hwistle. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cl. 4 Orgyns þat is made as a taune of sere whistils. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Thomas*) 70 A maistre com..bafand a quyschile in-to hand. **1389–8** T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) 55 The bird is begyled with the mery voice of the foulers whistel.

*c* 1400 *Pistr. Troy* 6051 With qwistils, & qwes, & otherqwaint geer. 1497 *Nav. Acc.* 61 (P.R.O.) 'vj par' corn voc' whistules. 1483 *Pr. Wylle* (Camden) 41 My whistel of silver. 1513 in *Lett. 4 Papers War Venice* (1919) 148 The boy..saws hym [*sc.* the Admiral] take his whistill from aboute his nek, ..and hurld [it] in to the sea. 1538–9 *Act 31 Hen. VIII c.* 13 § 1 It shalbe lefull for..maisters of the Shippe..and marryners to weare whistells of Silver. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* Epist. 19 The yonger sorte, come pyping..In whistles made of fine emmitting wood. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 56 (1) Mercurie,..after Pan had found the quhistil, syne Thou did perfyte, that quhilk he lost espyit. 1610 Heywood & Rowley *Fortune by Land & Sea* v. i. (1655) 36 Boatswain with your whistle command the Saylors to the upper deck. 1661 Boyle *Style Script.* 190 A Child, with a Whistle; a Trefs that onely pleases with a transient and empty sound. 1670–1 Jas. Turner *Pallas Armata* III. xi. (1683) 219 The Bag-pipe..is not so go od as the Almain Whistle. *c* 1770 Beattie *To Alex. Ross* ix, Where .. shepherd lads on sunny knows Play the blythe day. 1814 Scott *Leg. Montrose* iii, They havena sae mickle as a German whistle, or a drum, to bent a march, an alarm, ..or any other point of war. 1818 Hawkins *Silver Sun* 3, xxxvii. Dangling like a baby's whistle, The Siller Gun..Cleans'd in the sun! 1840 R. H. Dana *Jnl. Mast* xxvii, Everything must of-war fashion, except that there was no boatswain's whistle. 1868 Fitch. Montgomery *Tony* i. The whistle sounded, and the train began slowly to glide out of the station.

b. Phrases, etc. †(*a*) *Jinx* or (Sc.) *kist of whistles*, a contemptuous appellation for a church organ. (Cf. *a* 1340 above.) (*b*) In comparisons, e.g. *as clean, clear, dry as a whistle* (often with play on other senses of the adjs.: see quots.). (*c*) *To pay (too dear) for one's whistle* (and similar phrases), to pay much more for something than it is worth: in allusion to a story of Benjamin Franklin (*Works* 1840 II. 182).

(*a*) 1678 *Ascop Mistake Eng. t.* ii. 90 Pope Vitalian..first .. taught Mankind the Art of Worshipping God with a Box of Whistles. 1866 [see Kist (*b*) 1].

(*b*) 1586 Hoskyns *Author's Journal Cey* vii, Her mutchkin stoup as toom's a whistle. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'As clean as a whistle', a proverbial simile, signifying completely, entirely. 1842 *Nat. Hist. Chr. North* I. 84 By the time we reach the manse we are as dry as a whistle. 1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 41 A first rate shot!—head taken off as clean as a whistle. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, You're as clean as a whistle. 1880 A. Grey *Left.* (1893) II. 210 My throat was as clear as a whistle.

(*c*) 1851 Thorson *Life, Lett. & Tools.* (1876) II. xiii. 251 To-o much, he thought, for the price of such a whistle. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* viii, I should not like to pay too dear for my whistle. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, If a man likes to ride, he must pay for his whistle.

†**c.** *fig.* A person who speaks on behalf of another, an 'instrument', 'mouth-piece'; one who gives a secret signal (cf. Whistle *v.* 10). *Obs.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 2 Crist cride in desert, bi Baptist pat was his whistle. *Ibid.* 249 Poul whom God hab made his whistil. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* (1665) 51 Your neighbour, Your whistle, agent, parasite..Should be within Call, when you hem.

**2.** *collog.* A peculiar name for the mouth or throat as used in speaking or singing; chiefly in phr. *to wet* (etron, *whet*) *one's whistle*, to take a drink.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 216 So was his ioly whistle wel ywet. 1532 *Rastell Pastime* 760, I were my whystell, as good dimbers do, *pe exercyse ys hote.* 1612 Brathw. & Fl. *Cocxcomb* ii. (1654) 18 Let's have no pitying, but a health that shall cut your whistle. 1653 Walton *Angler* iii. 75 Let's..drink the other cup to wet our whistles, and so sing away all sad thoughts. 1674 [see Wet *v.* 6]. 1680 Butler *Ps.* (1759) I. 216 He, that laugh'd, until he choak'd his Whistle. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Hom. Things* I. i. xl. 28 They did not only moisten their Pates, but their Whistles too. 1787 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 417 Nor damn thy precious soul to wet thy whistle. 1836 [Hudson] *Bibl. Every Husband* II. 8 Let's have another drop to keep my whistle wet. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xiii, Wet your whistle, Jim.

**3.** An act of whistling; a clear shrill sound produced by forcing the breath through the narrow opening made by contracting the lips; esp. as a call or signal to a person or animal; also as an expression of surprise or astonishment; *rarely*, the action of whistling a tune. Also, the act of sounding, or the sound made by, a whistle or pipe.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 151 Whan Marcurys why sty thym bi de sayre yne To hys deed slepe. 1586 [J. Case] *Praise Mus.* 111 43 The ploughmans and carters, are..compelled to frame their breath into a whistle. 1607 Topsell. *Fourf. Beasts* 628 He requiteth of a skilfull shepheard a voyce or whistell intelligable to the sheepe, whereby to call them together. 1634 Milton *Comus* 346 The..sound of pastoral reed.., Or whistle from the Lodge. 1672 Trevisa-field *Cur Cray Heirs* (1688) 7 When Dogs or Horses shew their ready motion at our Whistle or Clutching. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* vi. ii, She took an Opportunity..to interrupt one of his Whistles in the following Manner. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvii, Now that the Piper knows my whistle, and follows me as truly as a hound. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, There was nothing but a whistle emphatic enough for the conclusion of the sentence. 1856 *Froude Carlton* 13 The engine gave its warning yell, as Amy called the whistle. 1896 Conan Doyle *Exploits Brig. Gerard* vi, The dry rattle of the drums and the shrill whistle of the fifes.

**b.** *fig.* or in figurative phrases: Call, summons. Formerly often in phr. *not worth a whistle*: hence as a type of something worthless. Rarely with other implications: † A moment, instant (in phr. *in a whistle*): a 'whisper', slight mention (cf. Whistle *v.* 10).

*a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Clout* 238 They..woteth neuer what thei rede, Paternoster, Ave, nor Crede; Construe not worth a whistle Nother Gospell nor Pysale. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* i. iv. (Arb.) 26 Kocks nownes what ingaanest thou man, tut a whistle. *c* 1580 *Bagharas* iii. ii. He red me a pistle and told a long round about nut worth a whistle. 1583 Stockes *Cic. Warres Lane C.* ii. 67 That hee shoulde be brought to the whistle, or daunce after their pipe. 1605 Shake. *Lear* iv. ii. 29, I haue beene worth the whistle. 1639 J. Clarke *Parœm.* 232 Ready to run at every mans whistle. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* 57 Those drossy spirits that need the lure and whistle of earthly preferment. 1653 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* vi. 3 It bloweth where it listeth, and will not be at your whistle. 1784 Bage *Barham Downs* II. 233 He could do it in a whistle. 1835 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 337 All his followers..were ready at his whistle to array themselves round him. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* i, Can you forget .. old friends at the mere whistle of a name?

**c.** The clear shrill voice or note of a bird, or of certain other animals.

1784 Cowper *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bullfinch* 10 With a whistle blest, Well-taught, he all the sounds express'd Of flageolet or flute. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxxvii, A miserable linnet..began to greet them with his whistle. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 323/1 They [*sc.* Marmots]..when angry or before a storm pierce the ear with their shrill whistle. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xv. 103 To this [*sc.* a chamois's] whistle our guide whistled in reply. 1882 Jefferies *Toilers of Field* (1892) 18 The blackbird's whistle is very human, like a human being playing the flute.

**d.** Any similar sound, as of wind blowing through trees or rigging, of a missile flying through the air, etc.

*a* 1648 Lo. Herbert *Occas. Poems, Ode whether I may shut the door for cold* 17 Soft whistles of the wind, And warbling murmurs of a brook. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xx, We..are already nearly out of whistle of a bullet. 1867 Rhoda Broughton *Cometh up as Flower* I., writhe beneath the whistle of the whip. 1888 Bottone *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 3) 3 To a practised ear the difference whistle tells when the glass is being cut, and when only scratched.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whistle-call*; **whistle-belly-vengeance** (*slang*), bad liquor, such as causes rumbling in the bowels (cf. *whip-belly-vengeance* under Whip- 2 *a*); **whistle-fish** [see quot. 1836], a name for different species of rockling or sea-loach; **whistle-grinder**, a contemptuous appellation for a church organist (cf. *a* 1670); **whistle-insect** (see quot.); **whistle-kist**, *Sc.*: see 1 *b*(*a*); **whistle-line, -pull**, a line or cord by pulling which the whistle of a steamer is sounded; †**whistle-pipe**, a whistle for decoying birds; **whistle-ring**, a ring constructed to be sounded as a whistle; †**whistle-stalk**, a stalk made into a whistle or pipe, a 'reed'; **whistle-tankard**, a drinking-vessel fitted with a whistle, which sounds when it is emptied; **whistle-wing**, a name for the golden-eyed duck (GOLDEN-EYE 1 *a*), from the shrill sound made by its wings in flying; **whistle-wood**, a name for various trees whose bark is easily peeled off, used by boys to make whistles, as the alder, bass-wood, mountain-ash, and various species of maple.

1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, I thought you wouldn't appreciate the whistle's fate..Regular whistle-belly vengeance, and no mistake. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* x. 303 Mariners conceive they hear the 'whistle-call. *a* 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* (1682) iv. 188 Such Whistle-Insects as Ants, a Sea Loche Cestrius. 'Whistle-fish in Cornubia. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 128 The Irish have their song at the taking of the razor shell; and the Cornish Britons, at the taking of the whistle-fish. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 198, I believe..that..the term has been changed,..and that for Whistle-fish we ought to read Weasel-fish. Both the Three and Five Bearded Rockings were called *mustela* from the days of Pliny..to the present time. 1843 Ballantine *Caberlunzie's Wallet* 237 Doors were shut against the 'whistling tinker. 1876 G. Edwards *Gleanings Bk.* 161 The head is made like that of a locust: the..thorax is surrounded with many sharp points;..I have called it the 'whistling or whistle-fish. 1898 Yarrell-*Saint Hist. Birds* II. 118

times used to summon domestics. 1849 Thackeray *Contrib. Punch, Paris Revisited* P 5 The engine whistled—the train set forth. 1898 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 614/2 The engine driver began to whistle about ten seconds before the train passed over the crossing.

5. *trans.* To produce or utter by whistling (in sense 1, 2, or 4), as a tune or melody; to express by whistling.

1596 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 88 To play platlute, and quhissill fute before. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol. x.* 31 If that your pipe would whistle vp my loue, which boyles in brest (L. *Vetera mea olim si fistula dicat amores*). 1597 Shakes. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 349 (1600) I hose tunes..that he heard the Car-men whistle. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mozmick Syst.* 89 They (*sc.* God's creatures) have all their several ways of Pleasure and Diversion, some by dancing around in the open Air,..others by singing, or whistling out their chearful Notes. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 345 The linnet and thrush-finch may be taught..to whistle a long and regular tune. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii. The officer whistled a lively air. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* xi, Miss Benson had some wonderful tunes, and one was whistling a long, low whistle when surprised or displeased.

6. To shoot or drive with a whistling sound.

1597 Daniel *Def. ynand Worlde* (1599) 116 The Spaniards ..began to whistle now and then a shot among them. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* xiii, Sturdy young giants as ever climbed cliff, or carried bolt to whistle at a chamois. 1853 Frost *Mornings at Home* xv. (1856) 298 The wind..whistled the dust around us in clouds.

b. With *down*, *off*: To put on, or take off (the brakes of a railway engine).

1889 Rudy Harte *What Engines said* iii. Wks. (1897) 491 Said the Engine from the East:..'Spare you whistle down your brakes. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 172 The engineer whistled the brakes off.

c. To make (one's way) with whistling.

1853 Mrs. Gore *Drake's Drag.* xxxvi, The steamer thumped and whistled its way athwart Cowes Roads. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xvi, He..whistled his way to the main front-door.

II. Extended, allusive, and figurative senses.

7. *trans.* a. To call, summon, bring, or get by or as by whistling; †*fig.* to entice, allure.

1485 *Ilk. St. Albans* biv b, Stonde still and chekke hir, and whistyll hir. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 107 If Argus with his hundred eyes went aspying to vndermine Iupiter, yet met he with Mercurie, who whistelled all his eyes out. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 When I lead a horse to the water, if he will not drinke, what can I doo, but whistle him. 1623 Sanderson *Serm., Job xxiv. 13-17* (1674) I. 98 Whether it be through his own cowardise or inconstancy, that he runs away, or that a fair word whistleth him off. 1623 Middleton & Rowley *Sp. Gipsy* iv. (1653) H 3, If you can whistle her To come to Twi, make tryall, play the young Falconer. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* 4 Whistling their ignorant Proselytes to precipices. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. xxvi. 338 *Hyl.* If you fall a-drinking, I may well fall a-whistling on my Flagg-list. *Cyph.* What, do you mean to whistle Horse, to whistle us while we are a-drinking? *Ibid. exix.* 349 No Hags of Thessaly could ever whistle the celestial Dog out of the Sky. 1728 Anstis *Pre-holder* No. 22 P 2 He..exhanced to miss his dog...We stood still till he had whistled him up. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xvi, Had he been whistled up to London, upon Tom Fool's errand. 1774 Goldsm. *Retal.* 108 He call'd off his friends, as a huntsman his pack, For he knew when he pleased he could whistle them back. 1836 [Haynes] *Bibbery Thurland* III. 3 A young man..came..and whistled us through the salt-sailings of the seas. 1856 *Field* 13 Feb. 156/2 The driver's whistle, as he tried to whistle the opposing signal down, would soon show to the man in the signal-box what was amiss. 1889 Mrs. Alexander *Crooked Path* iv, The polite man..whistled up a hansom for the two gentlemen.

b. With *away*, *off*, etc.) To send or dismiss by whistling (esp. as a term of falconry); also *fig.* to dismiss, cast off, or abandon lightly; so *to whistle down the wind* (the hawk being usually cast off against the wind in pursuit of prey, but with the wind when turned loose).

*c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 121 The which John Bacon was whistled and clapped out of Rome. 1604 Shakes. *Oth.* III. iii. 261 Fly to the Turkes, Hyperion. Though that her Iesses were my deere heart-strings, I'd whistle her off, and let her downe the winde To prey at Fortune. a 1618 Beaum. & Fl. *Mistress* IV. iv, Be it known..that basely Whistled his honour off to th' wind. 1622 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. 317 As a long-winged Hawke soon he is first whistled off the fist, mounts aloft. 1721 Shebbeare (Dk. Backhm.) *Jul. C.* i. ii, Those lofty Thoughts ..now are whistled off With every Pageant Pomp, and gaudy Show. 1759 Franklin *Exr.* Wks. 1840 III. 369 He first acknowledges his debts, and then whistles it away. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 83 The Dean of Gloucester has proposed..that we should release our claims, declare them matters of themselves, and whistle them down the wind. 1792 Holcroft *Road to Ruin* i. 14 Poverty is a trifle; we can whistle it off. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xlvi, To the winds have I whistled her last shilling. 1860 Tennyson *Richmond* xiv, Having accepted my love, you cannot whistle me down the wind as though I were of no account. 1871 Meredith *H. Richmond* liii, You're going, are you? ..Then I whistle you off my fingers!

8. *intr.* To issue a call or summons, to call; *whistle for*, to summon. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (exc. as implied in sense 1 or 4).

1562 Pilkington *Aggeus* (1562) 158 Drought, hunger, plage, sworde, do tarye, for God's callinge: and as soone as he whystles, they come straighte. a 1626 Bacon *Adv. King Sutton's Ret.* Wks. 1826 V. 381 The greatness of the reward doth suffice for the ablest men..to supply the chair.

b. *Whistle off*: to go off, go away (suddenly or lightly). *colloq.* † *Obs.*

1589 Shadwell *Bury F.* II. 22 *Wild.* So, Madam, you have my Heart...*Gert.* 'Tis a light one, and always ready to whistle off at any Game. 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* VII. viii, [He] whistled off to his appointed chamber.

9. *To go whistle*: to go and do what one will, to occupy oneself idly or to no purpose (esp. in phrases expressing unceremonious or contemptuous dismissal or refusal, as *to bid one go whistle*; also without *go*). *To whistle for*: to seek, await, or expect in vain, to fail to get or go without (cf. note under sense 1). *colloq.*

1513 More in Hall *Chron., Edw. V.* (1548) 9 b, There they spende and byd their creditours goo whystle. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* II. iv. 173 The Deuen-shyre man shall whistle for wife. 1611 Shakes. *Temp.* IV. iv. 175 This lasting Inne, let the Law goe whistle. 1648 Phynne *Pleas. Purge* 137 There is no Altar, Table in the Text. You may goe whistle then. 1650 *Quest. Resolv.* 271 Men are apt to promise any thing in danger, and to perform nothing when out of it, according to the Proverb of their Countrey:..When the danger's past, the Saint may go whistle. 1742 Shenstone *Poet & Pug* 24 Your fame is secure—bid the critics go whistle. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* II. ii. xiv, 'Do not you desire to be free?'..'aye! that I do! but I may whistle for that wind long enough, before it will blow.' 1812 Colman *Br. Grins, &c., Love Ambit.* ii, You may as well go whistle as go think Of mending the confusion. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxiii, Ye'll hear Mr. Saddletree bid him to whistle on his thumb. 1882 Lady G. Bloomfield *Kemin.* I. i. 14 She..rode off, telling him he might whistle for his money.

10. *intr.* and *trans.* To speak, tell, or utter secretly, to whisper'; to give secret information, turn informer. † *Obs.*

1509 Sir J. Hayward *Hen. IV*, I. 27 Some of the secrete counsailers, or corrupters rather, and abusers of the King, whistled him in the eare, that his going to Westminster was altogether for feare of the Duke of Yorke. 1611 Shakes. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 248 Is there not milking-time? When you are going to bed? Or kill-hole? To whistle of these secrets? 1647 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Arrandus* B 3, They dare speake fellony, thinke treason. 1681 Flavel *Right, Man's Ref.* 195 The bird of the air that carries tidings, and whistles deeds of darkness. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvii, I keep my betters him and her, for fear she had whistled. *Ibid.* I wadna like..to gang about whistling and raising the rent on my neighbours.

**Whistle**, change, exchange: see Wissel.

**Whistle-ation**: see -ation.

**Whistled** (hwis'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. Whistle *v.* + -ed.]

1. Uttered by whistling.

1864 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 195 In obedience to his whistled signal. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A shrill whistled chorus of 'Jack's the Boy'.

2. Sounded by whistling.

1922 *World* 7 May 649/2 As they waited for the whistled cab to come.

¶ *Whistled drunk*: see quot.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, Whistled, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

**Whistler** (hwis'lə1). Forms: see Whistle *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* **quhuslar**, **7 whister**. [OE. *hwistlere*, f. *hwistlian*, Whistle *v.*: see -er1.]

1. a. One who sounds, or plays upon, a whistle or pipe; a flute-player, piper, or fifer. Now *rare*.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xv. (Z.) 31 Hi, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

1. Uttered by whistling.

1864 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 195 In obedience to his whistled signal. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A shrill whistled chorus of 'Jack's the Boy'.

2. Sounded by whistling.

1922 *World* 7 May 649/2 As they waited for the whistled cab to come.

¶ *Whistled drunk*: see quot.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, Whistled, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

**Whistler** (hwis'lə1). Forms: see Whistle *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* **quhuslar**, **7 whister**. [OE. *hwistlere*, f. *hwistlian*, Whistle *v.*: see -er1.]

1. a. One who sounds, or plays upon, a whistle or pipe; a flute-player, piper, or fifer. Now *rare*.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xv. (Z.) 31 Hi, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiv. (Bodl. MS.) If. 256 b/2 An oxe herde..pleyed hym (*sc.* the oxen) wip whistelinge and wip songe. 1577 Lyte *Dodoens' Herbal* 8 Wyld Vnmanned Haukes forsake the lure, all whistlyng brings them not to fiste. 1663 Cowley *Ess., Agric.* Wks. (1672) 116 Some swell up their sleight Soils with popular fame, Chound with the foolish whistlings of a Name. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Suppl. etc.* 60 Whistling at sea is supposed to occasion an increase of wind, if not a storm. 1845 Ford *Handbk., Spain* I. 44 The same absence of thought which is shewn in England by whistling is displayed in Spain by singing. 1891 Kipling *Light. That.* (1900) 65 He continued an interrupted whistling of 'Bonny Dundee' and 'Auld Lang Syne'.

b. The action of sounding a whistle or pipe; piping.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 25 Wæs ða sunu his eldra on ful & mihty sange & hlyde. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xv. 25 He herde pipe & tabre, & seyde a lud [*Vulg. symphoniam*] & ȝet song. 1578 C. Untwin *Two Serm.* B vi b, The shepheards needeth a Whistle, and a Dog and an hooke, that suche Sheep as will not come in with whistling may be rather knitted in with a Hooke, or drawen in with a Hook. 1679 Oates *Myst. Iniq.* 14 The Master of a Galley ..with once whistling makes all the Galley Slaves fall to their Oars. 1840 *Dumb. Examr.* 6 Oct. 5/6 The occasional whistling of an engine.

c. In phrases alluding to the act of whistling by way of a call or summons, as *for the whistling* (= quite easily, without any trouble), *worth the whistling*, etc.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 35 It is a poore dogge, that is not worth the whystling. 1601 W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. iii. (1616) 334 Magnanimitie, state, absolutenes are qualities worth the whistling. 1610 J. Rawlinson *Spirit. Serp.* 152 In England a man may have a Priest for the whistling. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 287 He may be had for whistling.

2. The utterance of a clear shrill note or notes, as the natural call of a bird or other animal; † also formerly, the hissing of serpents.

In quots. 1375 app. an error for *questing* = baying (of dogs).

*c* 950 *Cuthlac* (Prose) viii. (1909) 139 Mid ðære fuzela hwistlunge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5247 (Laud 622) Gent Aelis ouercom flynge And scorpions wip vile whistlynge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi. 87 He herd..A hundis quhistlyng [*ref. Hart* whistling, *MS. Edinb.* quest-ioning] vpon fer. *Ibid.* 91 A hundis quhestlyng. 1426 Lydg. *Pecunl. Filer.* 14140 When I here ther .. whystlynges, For verray loy I hoppe and daunce. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 156 Each Cygnet sweet,..Whose tuneful whistling makes the waters gaze. 1847 Longfellow *Evang.* xiii. 461 The leatherhead with its constantly changing call and whistling. 1853 C. E. Norton *Lett. to Lowell* 6 Apr., There is scarcely a sound in the whistling of the frogs.

b. A form of broken wind in horses: *cf.* Whistler 2 d.

1856 † Stonehenge *Brit. Sports* II. ii. § 1. 403 Roaring, whistling, and all defects of the wind, are easily discovered on the first smart gallop.

3. The production of any shrill sound of this kind, as by the wind, a missile, etc.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. ii. 6 Quhair Eolus ..the wyndis lowde quhissling ..by his power refreynis. 1596 Shakes. *1 Hen.*

*Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 704 *Clangula glaucium*. Golden-eye. Whistler. Garrot.

b. (tr. Canadian Fr. *siffleur*.) A large species of marmot (*Arctomys pruinosus*) found in mountainous parts of N. America.

1820 Harmon *Jrnl.* 427 A small animal, found only on the Rocky Mountain, denominated, by the Natives, Quis-qui-su, or whistlers, from the noise which they frequently make, and always when surprised. 1829 J. Richardson *Fauna Boreali-Amer.* I. 150 The Whistler inhabits the Rocky Mountains from latitude 45° to 60°.

c. = *whistle-fish* : see Whistle *sb.* 4.

1864 Couch *Brit. Fishes* III. 105 Three-bearded Rockling, Whistler. Whistle-fish...*Motella vulgaris*.

d. A broken-winded horse that breathes hard with a shrill sound.

1824 Percivall *Vet. Art* xxxiv. 11. 243 We hear of pipers, wheezers, whistlers, high-blowers, and grunters: a cant in common use among our horse-dealers and horse-men, of the vulgar meaning of which no professional man should show ignorance. 1889 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXIII. 314 It is very common to hear a person say 'my horse is a bit of a whistler', when he means to imply he is not an absolute roarer. 1895 W. C. Spooner *Vet. Art* (1850) 46 We have the names, whistlers, wheezers, and high-blowers, given by horse-dealers to horses that roar.

3. Something that makes a whistling sound.

1811 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Screens* and *Whistlers*, bad halfpence and farthings: (a term used by coiners). 1822 R. G. Wallace *Letters Pen. India* 118 The quarter-master still transport with the corps forty thousand rounds of spare ammunition, after completing each pouch with sixty whistlers. 1896 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 5/5 A breezy norther from the frozen steppes—a real Arctic whistler which makes one's face tingle.

**Whistling** (hwis'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see Whistle *v.*; also 5 *Sc.* **quhestlyng**, 6 *Sc.* **quhislingg**, **7 whisling**. [OE. (*h*)*wistlung*, f. (*h*)*wistlian*, Whistle *v.*: see -ing 1.]

1. Uttered by whistling.

1864 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 195 In obedience to his whistled signal. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A shrill whistled chorus of 'Jack's the Boy'.

2. Sounded by whistling.

1922 *World* 7 May 649/2 As they waited for the whistled cab to come.

¶ *Whistled drunk*: see quot.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue*, Whistled, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

**Whistler** (hwis'lə1). Forms: see Whistle *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* **quhuslar**, **7 whister**. [OE. *hwistlere*, f. *hwistlian*, Whistle *v.*: see -er1.]

1. a. One who sounds, or plays upon, a whistle or pipe; a flute-player, piper, or fifer. Now *rare*.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xv. (Z.) 31 Hi, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiv. (Bodl. MS.) If. 256 b/2 An oxe herde..pleyed hym (*sc.* the oxen) wip whistelinge and wip songe. 1577 Lyte *Dodoens' Herbal* 8 Wyld Vnmanned Haukes forsake the lure, all whistlyng brings them not to fiste. 1663 Cowley *Ess., Agric.* Wks. (1672) 116 Some swell up their sleight Soils with popular fame, Chound with the foolish whistlings of a Name. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Suppl. etc.* 60 Whistling at sea is supposed to occasion an increase of wind, if not a storm. 1845 Ford *Handbk., Spain* I. 44 The same absence of thought which is shewn in England by whistling is displayed in Spain by singing. 1891 Kipling *Light. That.* (1900) 65 He continued an interrupted whistling of 'Bonny Dundee' and 'Auld Lang Syne'.

b. The action of sounding a whistle or pipe; piping.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 25 Wæs ða sunu his eldra on ful & mihty sange & hlyde. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xv. 25 He herde pipe & tabre, & seyde a lud [*Vulg. symphoniam*] & ȝet song. 1578 C. Untwin *Two Serm.* B vi b, The shepheards needeth a Whistle, and a Dog and an hooke, that suche Sheep as will not come in with whistling may be rather knitted in with a Hooke, or drawen in with a Hook. 1679 Oates *Myst. Iniq.* 14 The Master of a Galley ..with once whistling makes all the Galley Slaves fall to their Oars. 1840 *Dumb. Examr.* 6 Oct. 5/6 The occasional whistling of an engine.

c. In phrases alluding to the act of whistling by way of a call or summons, as *for the whistling* (= quite easily, without any trouble), *worth the whistling*, etc.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 35 It is a poore dogge, that is not worth the whystling. 1601 W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. iii. (1616) 334 Magnanimitie, state, absolutenes are qualities worth the whistling. 1610 J. Rawlinson *Spirit. Serp.* 152 In England a man may have a Priest for the whistling. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 287 He may be had for whistling.

2. The utterance of a clear shrill note or notes, as the natural call of a bird or other animal; † also formerly, the hissing of serpents.

In quots. 1375 app. an error for *questing* = baying (of dogs).

*c* 950 *Cuthlac* (Prose) viii. (1909) 139 Mid ðære fuzela hwistlunge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5247 (Laud 622) Gent Aelis ouercom flynge And scorpions wip vile whistlynge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi. 87 He herd..A hundis quhistlyng [*ref. Hart* whistling, *MS. Edinb.* quest-ioning] vpon fer. *Ibid.* 91 A hundis quhestlyng. 1426 Lydg. *Pecunl. Filer.* 14140 When I here ther .. whystlynges, For verray loy I hoppe and daunce. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* II. 156 Each Cygnet sweet,..Whose tuneful whistling makes the waters gaze. 1847 Longfellow *Evang.* xiii. 461 The leatherhead with its constantly changing call and whistling. 1853 C. E. Norton *Lett. to Lowell* 6 Apr., There is scarcely a sound in the whistling of the frogs.

b. A form of broken wind in horses: *cf.* Whistler 2 d.

1856 † Stonehenge *Brit. Sports* II. ii. § 1. 403 Roaring, whistling, and all defects of the wind, are easily discovered on the first smart gallop.

3. The production of any shrill sound of this kind, as by the wind, a missile, etc.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. ii. 6 Quhair Eolus ..the wyndis lowde quhissling ..by his power refreynis. 1596 Shakes. *1 Hen.*

*ii*, v. i. 5 The Southerne winde..by his hollow whistling in the Leaues, Fortels a Tempest. **1608** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iv. *Schism* 932 Sea's angry noise, loud bellowing of the Winde, the tackles whistelling. **1609** *Bible* (Douay) King's xix. 12 And after the fire a whistling of a gentle winde. **1681–6** J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 9 We regard what he saith no more than we do the whistling of the Wind. **1801** STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 58 The arrows made a loud whistling in their flight. **1841** J. F. COOPER *Pathfinder* iii, At the report of the rifle and the whistling of the bullet. **1844** DICKENS *Pearl.* 77 If there is mucus, then various kinds of gurgling and whistling will be evident. **1899** J. G. MCLEAN *Breath & Voice* 353 Subduing the voice to a whistling, with such violence that the whistling caused by this movement can be heard nearly a quarter of a mile away.

**4.** *attrib.*, as *whistling match, pipe*; **whistling-post**, a post beside a railway-line, on passing which the engine-whistle is sounded; **whistling-shop** *slang*, a room in a prison in which spirits were secretly sold without a licence (a signal being given by whistling to escape detection).

**1837** D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 344 *Whistling Match. A match of this kind is recorded in a paper of Addison's. **1786** [J. CAWS] *Tricks Mor.* I. 18 The *whistling pipes which were made for the most part, of reedes. **1898** HANNEN *Gen. Manager's Story* x. 140, I managed to see most of the *whistling-posts..and..I blew the crossing signal anyway. **1796** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3). **Whistling shop*, rooms in the King's Bench prison where drams are privately sold. **1811** W. H. NORMAN *Every Night* 72 Scene V.—Interior of Whistling Shop. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, A whistling shop, sir, is where they sell spirits.

**Whi·stling**, *ppl. a.* Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also ✠ **whislyng.** [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whistles, in various senses.

**1.** Of inanimate things: see WHISTLE *v.* 3.

*Whistling arrow*, a toy arrow formerly in use, with a hollow head so constructed as to make a whistling sound in flying. *Whistling buoy*, a buoy fitted with a whistle which is automatically sounded by the movement of the waves.

*c* **1386** CHAUCER *Pard.* 170 Men myghte his brydel heere Gynglen in a whistlyng wynd. *a* **1547** SURREY *Aneis* iv. 180 The whistling syre rumbles up the braunches rounde. SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 86 To dance our ringlets to the whistling Winde. *a* **1593** MARLOWE *Lucan* I. 240 Shrill cornets, whistling fifes. **1653** J. *Saint Enlord* (1673) 73 To a guilty Conscience, the whistling leaves are Drums and Trumpets. *a* **1718** PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 333 Winged Deaths in whistling Air. **1789** COWPER *Task* III. 804 The whistling ball Sent through the traviller's temples! *Ibid.* vi. 941 The .. haughty world .. sweeps him with her whistling silks. **1842** TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 59 Blessed forms in whistling storms I fly to waste fens. **1886** *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* 134/2 The Courtenay automatic whistling buoy. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xviii, The whistling strokes of the scourge. **1897** KIPLING *Light that Lower*, viii, The *Hirst Here* crawled in on half-flood, and the whistling-buoy moaned and mourned behind her.

**b.** *transf.* of a time or place: Characterized by or full of whistling.

**1603** WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 275/1 A Whistling March, that makes the Plough Man blithe. **1638** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 169 Our..journey, through whistling dales; in..which we were..sometimes with a raging storme. **1805** FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.*, III. 227 The English Chapel (in Glasgow)..the common people, ..on account of its organ, stigmatize it with the contemptuous epithet of the whistling kirk.

**2.** Of a sound: Of the nature of a whistle; such as is produced by a whistle or shrill pipe.

**1662** BOYLE *Exper., Hydrast* iii. 56 The external Air rushing in with a whistling noise at the Orifice. **1668** WILKINS *Real Char.* 363 The *u* Gallicum, or whistling *u*,.. cannot be denied to be a distinct simple vowel. **1750** G. HUGHES *Barb. Indies* iv. 119 The Wind, blowing into the Cavities of these Husks, makes a very sonorous whistling Noise. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* ii, They..beheld the barbarian..brandish high his formidable weapon, the whistling Sword of which made the old arching. **1851** W. H. WHITE *Dis. Lungs* 97 Sibilant rhonchus..two varieties, the short and the prolonged, or the clicking and the whistling.

**3.** Of a person: see WHISTLE *v.* 1, 4.

**1630** B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, I must ha't..whistling boyes to bring my haruest home. **1721** KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 31 A crooning Cow, a crowing Hen, and a whistling Maid boiled never luck to a House. **1741** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xii. 250 Jackey..was the most thoughtless, whistling, sauntering fellow. **1802** WORDSW. *Poems, To Tantallon Castle* 2 Whether the whistling Rustic tend his cattle Within thy bearing. **1850** *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 161/1 A whistling woman and a crowing hen Is neither fit for God nor men.

**b.** That keeps a 'whistling-shop' (see prec. 4).

**1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, 'Any more?' said the whistling gentleman.

**4.** Of a bird or other animal: see WHISTLE *v.* 2.

Chiefly as a descriptive epithet of particular species, as in **whistling dick**, a name for various species of thrush, esp. of the Australian genus *Colluricincla*; **whistling duck**, various species of duck, as the golden-eye and the widgeon (cf. WHISTLER 2a); **whistling eagle or hawk**, a small eagle or large hawk (*Haliastur sphenurus*) of Australia and New Caledonia; **whistling field bird** or **w. f. plover**, the grey plover (*Squatarola helvetica*); **whistling fish**, *whistle-fish* (see WHISTLE *sb.* 4); **whistling marmot** = WHISTLER 2 b; **whistling moth** (see quot.); **whistling plover, swan** (see PLOVER 2, SWAN *sb.* 11); **whistling thrush**, a local name for the song-thrush.

**1848** GOULD *Birds Australia* II. pl. 77 *Colluricincla Sellii*,.. "Whistling Dick, of the Colonists of Van Diemen's Land. **1699** DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 69 *Whistling Ducks are somewhat less than our Common Duck. ..In flying, their Wings make a pretty sort of loud whistling Noise. **1865** HAYES *Nat. Amazons* vii (1864) 165 Flocks of whistling ducks (*Anat Autumnalis*), parrots, and .. macaws .. flew over. **1819** STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 467 [The Alwargrim Plover] is called in America the Large *Whistling Field Bird, from its note, which is very shrill. **1874** COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 249 Whistling Field Plover. Bull-head. *Ox-eye.* **1903** in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 143 The seals..are seen searching for their prey near shore, where the *whistling fish, wrasse, and polacks resort. **1907** *Nature* 19 Sept. 516/1 The *whistling (turtidulating) moths' of the genus Hecatesia..eqpit sounds like the call of a Cicada. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 109 *Pluvialis Hiaticus vivescens*, the green Plover, & whistling Plover. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 145 We..found..a great many of the whistling plover, the same with ours. **1789** PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 454 The *Whistling Swan carries its neck quite erect. **1802** HINGSTON *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 319 The hooper, or whistling swan..is an inhabitant of the northern regions. **1896** R. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* II. 246 The Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) and the Whistling Swan (*C. americanus*). **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast. 109 Batax*, alias *Anas Fistularis*,..the Whewer, or *Whistling Widgeon.

Hence **Whi·stlingly** *adv.*, with a whistle or whistling.

**1850** H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xlii. 285 Stubb whistlingly gathers up the coil of the warp. **1892** *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* Christmas No., 36/2 A wind got up, suddenly, whistlingly.

**.Whistly** (hwi·sli), *a. rare.* [f. WHISTLE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.] Resembling a whistle.

**1907** *Pall Mall Mag.* Dec. 746 Make a whistly noise in his speech—do he like a stit bellows?

**Whistly** (hwist,li), *adv. arch.* [f. WHIST *a.*¹ + -LY².] Silently, quietly, softly, without noise.

*a* **1400–50** *Wars Alex.* 1851 Off be whele of forton & be whete bat whistly changes / Is ofte wele wroght. *Ywaine & Gawin* iii. 88, I yppon a litle rysing hill Stoode whistly watching for the lords approch. **1854** S. DOBELL *Balder* xxviii. 193 Whistly, whistly said the!..The mist mak woke.

**†Whistness.** *Obs.* [f. WHIST *a.*¹ + -NESS.] Silence, stillness.

**1609** W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 2 Whistness-e had taken possession of the woods. **1624** HEYWOOD *Hist. Women* 116 This stately Whistness; where none come But Taciturnite and Silence dombe.

**Whit** (hwit), *sb.*¹ Now *arch.* or *literary.* Also 5–6 **wht**, 6 **whytt(e, wyt**, *Sc.* **quhit, quheet, quheit, wheet**, 6–7 **whitt**, 6–8 **whitt**, 7–8 **wit.** [Early mod.E. *whyt, wyt, whit(t*, app. an alteration of *wight, wite*, in any *wight, no wight, little wight* (see WIGHT *sb.*).]

**1.** A very small or the least, portion or amount; a particle, jot, 'bit'. **a.** without negative: esp. in *every whit* = the whole.

*c* **1580** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1271 What he sayth and she sayth to by good ere, And tell to his auffrayne every whyt. **1598** *Rolls Parl.* V. 508/1 The Clerys shall have the whyt that he was soreye therfore. **1598** ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 65, I trowe thou arte a synggynge man?..The devill of the whit that I can. **1530**, etc. [see WIGHT *sb.*¹ 3]. HEYWOOD *Johan, Johan, & Syr Than* A j, Thynke ye that she wyll amende yet? Nay by our lady the deuyll spede whyt. **1538** STARKEY *England* i. iii. (1878) 92 Some haue to much, some to lytyl, and some haue nowt at all. **1570** ADAM GUILLE *Serm. Lord's Supper* 713 It can shew scarce any whit of the ancient state it had. **1631** [MABBE] *Celestina* xviii. 183 The divell awhit shall I be able to make him worse. R. N. (t. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* 284 Having backed the Towne, they found not a whit of gold. **1678** R. Ligon *Hist. Quakers* iv. § 2. 97 We do not marry for Money, as Adam's Guilt to Eve's Son-*Sov'd in it*, Not a whit of thy tawhoo, Thee to woo to thy Tawhit. **1870** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. B. 545 It was not their policy to destroy or to change one whit more than was absolutely necessary. **1874** C. E. NORTON *Let. to Ruskin* 10 Jan., No whit of faith in the good as good ..has vanished from my soul.

**b.** Most commonly in phrases used adverbially: **a.** without negative: *a whit* = to a very small extent, a very little; *any whit, one whit* = to the least amount, in the least degree, at all; *every* (✠*each*) *whit* = to the full amount, completely, altogether, thoroughly, quite (in later use almost always with *as* in comparisons of equality).

**1526** TINDALE *John* vii. 23 Disdayne ye at me: because I made a man every whit whoale on the sabaoth daye? *Ibid.* xiii. 10 He that is washed needeth not but to washe his fete, but is clene every whit. *a* **1529** SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 411 Yonge women and old, For good ale they wold. **1552** in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. I. 161 Every Child..that can any whit speak. **1568** *Hist. Jacob & Esau* ii. iv, He sent it vp euen whit. **1574** WHITGIFT *Def. Answere*, ii. 103 Master Zuinglius (who would haue beene lothe one whit to strengthen the Papistes). **1618** in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 49 If they be suffred but a whit longer, they will make cleane sweepe in the whole Indies. **1672** VILLIERS (Duke Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* ii. ii, I have written..a whole cart-load of things, every whit as good as this. *a* **1715** BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 384 Every whit as wild and extravagant. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiii, Were my situation one whit less perilous. **1869** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 911 The narrative of this campaign ..is every whit as puzzling. **1903** ZANGWILL *Grey Wig*, etc. vi. 110 Mrs. Drabdump felt a whit uneasy.

**b.** with negative expressed or implied: *never, not* (etc.) *a whit* (✠*awhit, a-whit*), *any whit, one whit*; also *no whit* = not in the least, not at all.

**1529** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. excelente, 219 b/2 He loued hym nat one whyt the better. **1598** WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 7 Leaue the water vpon the fyreworke, without mouing it any whit. **1564** *Brief Examen.* ***iij, You helpe your selues neuer awhyt. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 203 Be na quhit of thame agane. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. ii. § 6 Not is the freedom of the wil of God any whit abated.. by meanes of this. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, ii. iv. 408 *Falst.* Art not thou horrible afraid?..*Prin.* Not a whit. **1607** *Puritan* I. i. 23 Shes as wise and more a whitte as all. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 774 Natures full blessings would be well dispenc't.., And she no whit encumber'd with her store. **1640** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 87 It never troubles you a whit! **1773** *Cock's Voy.* II. ix. in Hawkesworth III, Not a whit behind them in cheerfulness and vivacity. **1775** SHERIDAN *Rivals* iv. iii, You don't seem one whit the happier at this. **1809–10** COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 175 He..is not a whit the better Christian for being a bad patriot. **1873** SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* v. 135 Grief will profit us no whit. **1893** MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* ii, The novelty..did not surprise me one whit.

**†3.** As a term of contempt or abuse. *Obs. rare*—¹.

**1610** B. JONSON *Alch.* iv. vii, Then you are an Otter, and a Shad, a Whit, A very Tim.

**Whit,** *int.* (*adv.*), *sb.*², *v.* [Imitative. Cf. TU-WHIT.] A word expressing a shrill abrupt sound, as of a bird's chirp, a bullet striking something hard, etc.; also *sb.* and *vb.* (Also repeated.)

**1833** M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, The musket-balls were.. plumping into the timber with—Whit—Whit—Whit. **1844** *Blackwood's Magazine* Cr. v., 'Whit' cries the coachman to his horses, off they go. **1859** TENNYSON *Grandmother* x, And whit, whit, whit, in the hush beside me chirrupt the nightingale. **1888** KIPLING *Ball. Bah Du Thome* 134 Where the whit of the bullet, the wounded man's scream Are mixed. **1900** *Longman's Mag.* Jan. 230 Whit-whit of the scraping knives. **1902** *Words of Eye-witness* 97 A storm of bullets..whit viciously upon the woodwork.

**Whit** in *Whit Monday*, etc. : see WHIT SUNDAY.

**Whit,** obs. f. QUITE, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH.

**+Whitage.** *Obs.* (?)

**1553** *Will of Jn. Aspot* (Somerset Ho.), The whitage of their kyne that was dewe unto me at Ester. **1618** DALTON *Countrey Justice* 289 The Master, or Mariners, transporting coine, fleece, fleering, Whitage, or Wood without license.

**Whitaewer,** variant of WHITTAWER.

**Whitblow(e,** obs. forms of WHITLOW.

**Whitbre(a)d** : see WHITE BREAD.

**+Whitch.** *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 1 **hwicse**, 4 **whichoe, whuche, whucche**, 4–6 **whiche, wyche**, 5 **whyche, whecche, whuche, wucche**, 6 **whytch(e, whithe**, (9 *dial.* **wytch**). [OE. *hwicse* (also in *cornhwycse*), cognate with the synonymous *hwæcce*.] A chest, coffer, ark; = HUTCH 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; a coffin.

*a* **1100** *Aldhelm Gloss* xxviii, 11 (Napier 186/1) *Clustella*, hwicse. 13.. *Mir. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 254/1 When his corn to his kuilt was solde He dude hit in a whuche of tre. **1440** *Alphab. Tales* P. II. 362 Alle woned in þe whichoe [*sc.* Noah's ark] be wylde & þe tame. **1587–8** T. UNK *Test. Love* ii. ii. (Skeat) I. 29 Pawnes mouted in a whiche [var. wyche] of yren. **1415** *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 401 And nether whicche, ne feede to be layde in, bote a grete clothe to hely my foule caryn. *c* **1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 11 Þi wombe was a whuche of gold, þat bare þe kyng of blis. **1541** *Will of John Heper of Kynsham* 19 Jan. (MS.), ij coffers & ij whytchys. **1596** *Inton Inv.* (1840) 2, j olde whiche, and one mustard mill. **1856** MILTON *Cyd. Agric.* II. 297 *Whitch*, (Herefords.), name as *hutch* (a body of a waggon).]

**Whitch,** variant of WITCH, flat fish.

**Whitche, Whitchen,** obs. ff. WITCH, WITCHEN.

**White** (hwait), *sb.* Forms: see WHITE *a.* [Various absolute uses of WHITE *a.* Cf. *l., album*, F. *blanc* BLANK *sb.*]

**1.** The translucent viscous fluid surrounding the yolk of an egg, which becomes white when coagulated; = ALBUMEN 1. Usually in full, *the white of an egg* (or, as a substance, *white* or *the white of egg*), pl. *whites of eggs.*

*c* **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 342 Ȝeda ægles hwit to. *c* **1000** *Ælfric Hom.* I. 40 On anum æge..þæt hwite ne bið nawiht mengeld to þam geolcan. **1398** TREVISA *Barth.* (Wright) 240 As the white goth aboute the yolke. **14..** *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 422 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 With eyes qwytys do cleryn es clene. *c* **1440** *Alphab. Tales Cocorum* (1880) 24 Take whyte of eyren hande sufpun. *a* **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Putte þerto als miche of whites of eiren, wele y-bete and scumed. **1528** PAYNELL *Salerne's Regym.* (1540) o b, The yolke is temperately hote: The whyte is colde and clammye. **1535** COVERDALE *Job* vi. 6 What taist hath yᵉ whyte within the yolke an egge? **1562** TURNER tr. vii. *ord* (1562) He fetch some fine and whites of eggen to apply to his bleeding face. **1699** Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 701 Like a squissed egge, whose yolke is mingled with its white. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 462 It contains, like the white of an egg. **1883** *Hardwicke's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 9) 31 The white of egg, which is a very pure form of Albumen.

**2.** The white part (sclerotic coat) of the eyeball, surrounding the coloured iris. Usually in full, *the white of the eye*, pl. *the whites of the eyes.*

Often in *to turn up the whites of one's eyes* and similar phrases (usually, in affected devotion, but also in death, in astonishment, horror, etc.).

*c* **1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 19 A watir þat comeþ bitwene be white of þe yȝen & be apple. *c* **1425** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 634/5 *Hec albugo*, wyte of the ee. **1448–9** MEDIAM *Ancy Ayr & Cl.* 1739 Amorȝus vpward had turnyd the qwyght Of hys eyen:..whan sche wyn hym ded Her clokys sche gan tere. **1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 103 Their

quisite he turnt up of his one two'y 1843 Fitzgerd *Hush* § 55 If he [*sc.* a sheep] have reed strynges in the white of t se eye, then he is sounde 1904 Nasmr *Farmer's Ref* Who (Grosvert) III 280 Enthronizing grace and religion on the cleanest whites of their eyes 1600 *Grim the Collier of Croydon* III. He poor Heart, no sooner heard my newes, But turns me up his Whites and falls flat down. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi xxxvii I 334 The bill or apple in the middest [of the eye] is ordinarily of another colour than the wit to about it. 1657 Hevlin *Ecclesiast* I xxi 349 Lifting up both his hands, and whites to heaven. 1793 *Bendy's Spain Diet* s.v. *Signs of Sick ess*, When a sick Horse turns up the Whites of his Eyes above, you may conclude that he is in Pain. 1775 Sheridan *Humphry Cl.* ii June, Mrs Labilla

threw up the whites of her eyes as if in the act of ejaculation 1796 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Sat.* Wks 1812 III 449 Heavy type to surprise And raise the whites of Country Members' eyes. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf T.* xi 208 The Professor showed the whites of his eyes devoutly 1889 Kipling *Soldiers Three & Wirtt* 58 An' when he could spy the white of his [*sc.* the mare's] eye he made the pistol crack.

*Phr.* [Cf. Black a 23] 1706 *Covent Dict Unlucky F.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Black Eye*, He cannot say black is the white of my eye; he cannot paint out a blot in my character 1821 C. Sheraton *Design in London* 85 As Mother Cole said, 'no one could say black was the white of her I'ye.

3. The white or light-coloured part of some substance or structure, as flesh, wood, etc.

*c* 1430 *Pro Cookery bks* 14 Take pe Whyte of the lekys *c* 1478 *Pict Voc* in Wr Wülcker 703 11 *Hec unctuum* the wyte of botyr 1552 Huloet s.v. *Dottre*, The white under the fyrth clenynge to the bottome 1665 *Phil Trans* I 128 White like the white of a Custard *a* 1756 Eliza Haywood *Anon Pr rent* (1771) 159 Since the white of a chicken 1815 J. Smith *Panorama* II 95 The wood next the bark of a tree called the white, or albumun 1854 Mrs. Baker *Northanpt Clos.*, *White*, the time given by butchers to that piece of beef which joins the round to the flank

†4. A white spot or mark. *Obs*

1552 *Amarsh Wills* (Surtees) I 57 One cave strke with a white in his forhede 1581 Hy. Sy. *Famous Newcastle* 38/1 *Trevitus*, the white growing in the nayle 1623 Cockeram III, *Selenti*, a stone wherein is a white, that decrea eth and encreaseth as the Moone groweth 1687 *Lond Gaz* No 2280 A big Dog, a white mone of his Face

5. *Archery* a. The white target usually placed on the butt *arch.* or *Hist*

[1466 *a* 1533 see 6 b] 1577 Hollyband (*Guevara's Chron Arb*) They believed themselues no more nor no lesse with the Germanes, then an Archer with a white at a Butt 1583 Greene *Mamillia* 16 b, When the strig g is broken, it is hard to hit the white 1618 Bolton *Florus* III viii (1636) 158 A boy gets no mony at the Mothers hands, but that of which she makes a white, and which himselfe must hit 1654 Gataker *Disc Apol* 32 An Archer, when he hath hit the white or eleven the point 1713 Warn *Field Sp.* v I turn'd my Herd to see the doughty Knight stand ready drawn to hit the distant White 1832 *Sport Cast Dra.* viii, A good archer will seldom miss a hundred yards of the white 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I vi, No marksman had hit the white

b In modern practice, a circular band of white on the target, or each of two such bands (*inner* and *outer white*); hence, a shot that hits this white.

1688 in *Grant Mag* (1815) II 2 Ye Gentlemen of this conference, being usually knowne by the name of the inner white The fifth circle, be it white and usually called the outer white 1865 *Field* 25 Feb 164/1 Mr. Pyne Miss Botham (less 13 *f.r* blacks and whites), 558

6 *fig* (or in fig context) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1456 *Sir G Haye Gov Princes* (S. T. S.) II 149 He thit touchis nerest the quhite and best gois nere the merche *a* 1533 Lo Berners *Gold Bk M. Aurel* (1546) Ij b, Yf he of the prince is but a whyte for al other to shote at 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 If the eye of man be the rule, and I write the white 1598 Shaks. *Love's L.* v ii 186 Now I wonne the wager, though you hit the white 1607 H. Fitch *Anat conite Iahore* Wks (Grosart) II 11 1 Here thou the note of my voice, the white of my speech, and the light of my life 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olympique* v, I set Argument in the butt And Thou to be the White 1658 Rosweyd *Vit Patr* (1703) IV 166 No the marque of the following Discourse may be the more distinct, and we may have a clearer White for our mark 1861 B. Taylor *At Home & Abr* Sir II 411 His fine Browning of Faculty of Faith is the target of express on but it is the white, by a single arrowy word 1864 Tabet *Ess. Side Lam* 294 Byron hit the white, which he often shot very wide of, when he called Rome 'my country'.

7 a. *Painting* The blank space in certain letters or types, a space left blank between words or lines (= White line 2).

1594 Plat *Jewell-h* iii 142 If the whites of certaine letters bee made of one equall bignesse with the o 1683 Moxon *Mech Exerc., Printing* xxv 384 In Marginal Notes, the White between Words is often greater than between Line and Line 1808 Sydney *Print ers Grant* 263 To a solid page, two leads make the white of a line after the head 1885 Cook *Workshop Rec* ii 213/1 (Electro typing) It will be found that the 'whites' have been almost sufficiently raised

b. *Drawing*, etc. *pl* White or blank parts

1850 *Phot go Ann* II 1511 If a print is over exposed the image will come up quickly, the whites will be muddy and the blacks lacking in richness 1894 *Daily News* 26 June 6/3 The Houses of Parliament as an ambitious picture of large size painted by Mr Hamilton Bird, A.R.C.A., the scheme of whites appears to be well managed

8 White cloth or textile fabric applied *spec*, with or without defining word, to various particular kinds; often in *pl.*

1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 12923 Cope & oþer clopes, hii lete make of wit 1466 *Paston Lett* II 206 For xxiiij yerdes of brod whyttys for gowns 1503 *Percy Purse Exp Eliz York* (1853) 104 For v yerdes of Streyt white 1594 Nowden *Spec Brit., Tax x* (Camden) 9 Cogshull, wher are made the best whites in Englande 1601 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 45/1 Exceptis mantellis lie plaidis et lie Galloway quhyte 1748 *Dr Lee's Lone Gt Instr* (ed. 3) III 134 Cloth in Imitation of Gloucester Whites 1754 Pococke *Trav* (Camden) II 138 They make cloths called bali bury whites for the Turkey trade

9 White clothing, apparel, or array usually in *pl.* *in white.*

[*c* 1000 *Sax Leech* III 198 Hwite o'ðe beorhte he e gewrydan wy mannyssæ ætacræ8 ] *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 18772 Bi side lam stode tua men in quite 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV 322 When I hatus sente Iesus i cloped in white 1 Hendyng *c* 1425 *Cast Pery* in *Macro Play* 76 Pe my dowries a hul le clad in meneliy Mertt in wyth Rythwyssnesse in red [etc.] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen I* 111 228 On the Assencion day following, the king were white for mourning 1580 C. Newse *Ch Hist* 272 Having decked her self with the White of Simplicity 1768 Goldsm *Good-n Man* ii It is the white used in the world (to be worrted) in anything but white 1815 *Ann Reg., Chron* 40/2 The pall is supported by six young females attired in white 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1152 She herself in white

b. *pl.* White garments or vestments, chiefly in specific uses, *esp.* (*a*) surplices worn by clergymen, choristers, etc. (now chiefly *Hist*), (*b*) white trousers or breeches.

1600 S Ward *Life of Faith in Death* 124 If we throughly believed this to bee the state of our dead frie ds, could we in course for them in blacks, whilst they are in whites? 1633 Laus *Iu bsolutica* (1850) 122 I hat the Dean of our Chapel come thither to Prayers upon Sundaies in his Whites 1780 A Young *Tour Ire* I 283 The girls in their striped linens and whites 1818 Jane Morgan *Autob gr* (1859) 184 His tight whites and tight silk stockings showed his colossal legs to great advantage 1828 *Jamie Sawyer Sermons* (1829) 111 (The newly baptized) appeared at church in their whites 1840 Thackeray *Barber's C.* I kept I felt myself suddenly jerked by the swishing of my white gown 1840 *H Hone Year Perpetual* xv, Having his immaculate whites spotted and splashed by the spirits of Stephen, who pulled stroke 1882 Clara Lyall *Donovan* If they say the [choir boys in their white surplices

†c A white badge *Obs.*

1847 in *Clarendon's State Papers* (1773) II App p xlii, Perceiving Lieutenant-Colonel Copp's regiment with Whites on their hats 1651 *Lane Tenth Conf Mar* (Chetham Soc.) 307 The enemies word was 'Jesu', and their signal a White about their Arme

10 *fig* money, 'silver' collectively, as distinguished from *red* or *yellow* = gold (*obs.*), also (with *pl.*) a silver coin (*slang*)

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii 1384 They shul for go pe white and eke pe rede 1390 [see Red a 31] *c* 1670 *Hist Jas the Sext* (S. T. S.) 1 Warit *Field Sp.* v I turn'd my Herd to see the doughty Knight stand ready drawn to hit the distant White 1832 *Sport Cast Dra.* viii, A good archer will seldom miss a hundred yards of the white 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I vi, No marksman had hit the white

b In modern practice, a circular band of white on the target, or each of two such bands (*inner* and *outer white*); hence, a shot that hits this white.

1688 in *Grant Mag* (1815) II 2 Ye Gentlemen of this conference, being usually knowne by the name of the inner white The fifth circle, be it white and usually called the outer white 1865 *Field* 25 Feb 164/1 Mr. Pyne Miss Botham (less 13 *f.r* blacks and whites), 558

6 *fig* (or in fig context) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1456 *Sir G Haye Gov Princes* (S. T. S.) II 149 He thit touchis nerest the quhite and best gois nere the merche *a* 1533 Lo Berners *Gold Bk M. Aurel* (1546) Ij b, Yf he of the prince is but a whyte for al other to shote at 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 If the eye of man be the rule, and I write the white 1598 Shaks. *Love's L.* v ii 186 I wonne the wager, though you hit the white 1607 H. Fitch *Anat conite Iahore* Wks (Grosart) II 11 1 Here thou the note of my voice, the white of my speech, and the light of my life 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olympique* v, I set Argument in the butt And Thou to be the White 1658 Rosweyd *Vit Patr* (1703) IV 166 No the marque of the following Discourse may be the more distinct, and we may have a clearer White for our mark 1861 B. Taylor *At Home & Abr* Sir II 411 His fine Browning of Faculty of Faith is the target of express on but it is the white, by a single arrowy word 1864 Tabet *Ess. Side Lam* 294 Byron hit the white, which he often shot very wide of, when he called Rome 'my country'.

7 a. *Painting* The blank space in certain letters or types, a space left blank between words or lines (= White line 2).

1594 Plat *Jewell-h* iii 142 If the whites of certaine letters bee made of one equall bignesse with the o 1683 Moxon *Mech Exerc., Printing* xxv 384 In Marginal Notes, the White between Words is often greater than between Line and Line 1808 Sydney *Print ers Grant* 263 To a solid page, two leads make the white of a line after the head 1885 Cook *Workshop Rec* ii 213/1 (Electro typing) It will be found that the 'whites' have been almost sufficiently raised

b. *Drawing*, etc. *pl* White or blank parts

1850 *Phot go Ann* II 1511 If a print is over exposed the image will come up quickly, the whites will be muddy and the blacks lacking in richness 1894 *Daily News* 26 June 6/3 The Houses of Parliament as an ambitious picture of large size painted by Mr Hamilton Bird, A.R.C.A., the scheme of whites appears to be well managed

8 White cloth or textile fabric applied *spec*, with or without defining word, to various particular kinds; often in *pl.*

1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 12923 Cope & oþer clopes, hii lete make of wit 1466 *Paston Lett* II 206 For xxiiij yerdes of brod whyttys for gowns 1503 *Percy Purse Exp Eliz York* (1853) 104 For v yerdes of Streyt white 1594 Nowden *Spec Brit., Tax x* (Camden) 9 Cogshull, wher are made the best whites in Englande 1601 *Reg Mag Sig Scot* 45/1 Exceptis mantellis lie plaidis et lie Galloway quhyte 1748 *Dr Lee's Lone Gt Instr* (ed. 3) III 134 Cloth in Imitation of Gloucester Whites 1754 Pococke *Trav* (Camden) II 138 They make cloths called bali bury whites for the Turkey trade

9 White clothing, apparel, or array usually in *pl.* *in white.*

[*c* 1000 *Sax Leech* III 198 Hwite o'ðe beorhte he e gewrydan wy mannyssæ ætacræ8 ] *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 18772 Bi side lam stode tua men in quite 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV 322 When I hatus sente Iesus i cloped in white 1 Hendyng *c* 1425 *Cast Pery* in *Macro Play* 76 Pe my dowries a hul le clad in meneliy Mertt in wyth Rythwyssnesse in red [etc.] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen I* 111 228 On the Assencion day following, the king were white for mourning 1580 C. Newse *Ch Hist* 272 Having decked her self with the White of Simplicity 1768 Goldsm *Good-n Man* ii It is the white used in the world (to be worrted) in anything but white 1815 *Ann Reg., Chron* 40/2 The pall is supported by six young females attired in white 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1152 She herself in white

b. *pl.* White garments or vestments, chiefly in specific uses, *esp.* (*a*) surplices worn by clergymen, choristers, etc. (now chiefly *Hist*), (*b*) white trousers or breeches.

1600 S Ward *Life of Faith in Death* 124 If we throughly believed this to bee the state of our dead frie ds, could we in course for them in blacks, whilst they are in whites? 1633 Laus *Iu bsolutica* (1850) 122 I hat the Dean of our Chapel come thither to Prayers upon Sundaies in his Whites 1780 A Young *Tour Ire* I 283 The girls in their striped linens and whites 1818 Jane Morgan *Autob gr* (1859) 184 His tight whites and tight silk stockings showed his colossal legs to great advantage 1828 *Jamie Sawyer Sermons* (1829) 111 (The newly baptized) appeared at church in their whites 1840 Thackeray *Barber's C.* I kept I felt myself suddenly jerked by the swishing of my white gown 1840 *H Hone Year Perpetual* xv, Having his immaculate whites spotted and splashed by the spirits of Stephen, who pulled stroke 1882 Clara Lyall *Donovan* If they say the [choir boys in their white surplices

†c A white badge *Obs.*

1847 in *Clarendon's State Papers* (1773) II App p xlii, Perceiving Lieutenant-Colonel Copp's regiment with Whites on their hats 1651 *Lane Tenth Conf Mar* (Chetham Soc.) 307 The enemies word was 'Jesu', and their signal a White about their Arme

10 *fig* money, 'silver' collectively, as distinguished from *red* or *yellow* = gold (*obs.*), also (with *pl.*) a silver coin (*slang*)

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii 1384 They shul for go pe white and eke pe rede 1390 [see Red a 31] *c* 1670 *Hist Jas the Sext* (S. T. S.) 1 Warit *Field Sp.* v I turn'd my Herd to see the doughty Knight stand ready drawn to hit the distant White 1832 *Sport Cast Dra.* viii, A good archer will seldom miss a hundred yards of the white 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I vi, No marksman had hit the white

b Blank *sb* 1 *Hist*

1716 M Davies *Athen Brit* III 79 Twas made Felony to pay or receive a certain base Coyn called Blinkers or Whites 1719 Stevens *Span Acct* II 2, 4 Whereas by Act, Two of the small coins that went by the name of Whites

11 = White wine

*c* 1386 [see Red *a* 3b] 1620 J. Cocks *Diary* (1901) 95 A quart of wine, he make us drinke 3 quarts a peece drincke *c* 1640 *Capt Underhill* 1 in Bullen *O Pl* II 276 The Stully rds Rosolis and the daily drinke 1700 T. Ward *Dulcissima* 18 Here's to you one that does love Claret, May he relieve it by Whites or Clarets 1894 [see Red *a* 3b]

12. An animal of a species, breed, or variety distinguished by white colour, a white horse (*obs.*), butterfly, pigeon, pig, dog, cat, etc. (Chiefly in a fanciers' abbreviation)

1530 Palsgr 288 a White, a horse of white colour, *cheual blanc, liart.* 1834 *Loc. horse Nat Club* I No 2 ct This 6 h I consider to be the 5 *albini* of Flemin, the Herb e of the Scotch sule of the Solway Firth, the *White or Isle of Man* of Yorkshire, and the *Norfolk Ongulat* 1. 39 We never find the eggs of the Peacock Butterfly adhering to the leaf of a cabbage, nor that of the Garden White to the leaf of a nettle 1898 *Daily News* 5 Dec 8 5 Fancy rats are usually bred together 1898 *Daily News* 5 Dec 8 5 Fancy ... mi dle whites and large whites 1907 *A Knight in Kent* 249 We have also a number of rabbits, some whole coloured blacks, and some whole coloured white

13 A white man, a person of a race distinguished by light complexion: see White *a* 4

1830 *Tales N. Y.* 1 Indeed, I have *Lafitte* in two After him signed his Br ther Muley Hyaly, who was a White, his Mother a Spani h Moor 1876 *Ash Capt A Ir sfe* (1946) 11 Some of the Negroes were Whites for I should say Portuguese, for they are one of the whitest, and about treble that Number of blacks 1886 J. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* 11 Red skins and whites 1899 Sir C. Lucas *Hist Brit Black* I 1 A large number of very inferior whites, known as 'mean whites', 'white trash', and so on 1888 Churchman *Lickbirding* 7 Having been longer in Samoa than any other white

14 †(*a*) A white square on a chessboard (*b*) with the Either of the white balls in billiards

*c* 1440 *Castn Rom* xxi, Je quene, that goth fro blak to blak, or fro white to white 1562 Rowbotham *Chesse Play* b, Because of his [*sc.* the knight's] marching forth, whiche is made from three into three places, to witte, from whyte into blacke, and from blacke into whyte 1624 Saul *Chesse-play* 3 b Rel., The Bishop blacke in blacke must march For to the white he may not come. 1750 Philidor *Chess Anal* (1793) 7 *note*, When your Bishop runs upon White, you must strive to put your Pawn always upon Black. 1898 'Cravley' *Billiards* (1898) 29, I attempted a difficult cannon off the white 1873 Bennett & Cavendish *Billiards* 213 The white will travel slowly on to the spot white

15. a Applied variously to any white body or substance see quots.

1540 Paleph *Acolastus* II m Lvij b, That thou mayste have a place worthy for the in our whyte (Lyke as the prelouts of Rome dyd set those mens names in a table hyghest, whose cruses shulde first be pleased, whiche table was called *Album pretorii* i the white or table of the pretori) 1598 Florio *Worlde* II 121 Hauing to their extremities certi yne whites fashioned like paper or claws 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 231 Like as the snakes drue whites from top of thistle (vulg.) 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas Khyne Three Sealers*, They groped through the whirling white [*c* mist]

†(*b*) *To spit white* to eject frothy-white sputum from a dry mouth (Cf *to spit sixpences* s.v. Sixpence 2 c) *Obs*

[1594 I vie *Mother Lond* 1 m in Ar. We dyd but a little trouble our hueis, they have sod theyrs in sacke these forte yeares *Hist* That makes them spit white broth as they doo.]

1597 Shaks *2 Hen IV*, I i 237 If it bee a hot day if I brandish any thing but my Bottle, would I might never spit white again. 1620 Massinger & Dekker *Virg Martyr* III iii, Had I but a Peg in it I could not haue spit white for want of drinke

b As a specific name (chiefly in *pl.*) for various manufactured articles and products of a white colour, e g. pins, sugar, flour, etc.

1660 *Pennimens Case in reples to Killigrew's Bill* (Broadside, Brit Mus.), Double long whites *alias* Callons 1826 *Haberdasher's Guide* 29 Short Whites a smaller pin 1844 H Stephens *Bk of Farm* I 14 The same mode of sowing a quantity is followed in regard to them as with the whites [*sc.* turnips] 1883 N D Davis *Cavaliers & Roundh in Barbadoes* 34 Not only was sugar made, but with the manufacture of whites was accomplished 1896 *Daily News* 8 Dec 11 5 At a meeting of the London Flour Millers Association, the following prices were fixed —Town household 2os., whites, 19s

16 *pl.* A popular name for leucorrhœa or 'white flux' (White *a* 11 c)

1578 J Jones *Bathes Brickstones* 6 Such as have their whites too abundant 1589 Langham *Garden Health* 147 Barren women and such as are troubled with the whites 1683 Digby (*Chym Sr* ii 264 It cures the Whites in Women 1728 J. S. *Dr Quincy Lang* (1721) But Cc. *Erasm Ep*, the Flour Albus, or Whites in Women 1810 *Good Stud's Med* V 68 Among diseases there is some difficulty in distinguishing the discharge of whites from that of blenorrhœa

17. White colour or hue, white coloration or appearance, whiteness Sometimes semi-concr

*c* 1000 in *Anglia* I 285 Hwit is leh, *niter squalescit* *a* 1225 [see Black *a* 13] 1340 *Ayenb* 30 Pe ueo þe þyng is þe wyte, and þet leo is yzede blak 1340 Hampole *Pr Conse* 6 Pe wyte hyȝ be nayzer mykel 1390 Gower *Conf* II 46 Ti kerries vnd in L. ys vniche I hen were clothed, alle blak, Deyerued avene of whyt and blew 1400 *Destr Troy* 1097 All þaire col ours were of clesche white *a* 1461 *Lett of Ms* (Rolls) II 242 Whyte is no white if yt be not blak 1548 Hall *Chron Hen IV* 38 So deepe a Snowe, that all the ground was covered with white 1592 Shaks *Lr* 4 *Al* 328 Leeching the sheets in white new linen white 1592 G Harvey *Lett* xxvi Span 44 Ah, I pray, what whitest white on Earth 1704 Newton *Opt* i (1721) 133 He that told him what the Colour was, asked him Which of the two Whites was the finer 1819 *Pantologia* s.v. *Red* It fills the Dutch with enthusiasm when they call it [*sc.* rum or snow] 1877 Robertson *Hist Assist* I I got their skins covered with a fine hairy down of a pretty white 1882 Miller *Fl Dr ing*, etc. in 275 We must take black and white into our list as colours with the painter though not with the optician 1847 W. C. Bryant *Death of Flowers* Is of white along the back 1859 A. Swinton *Fr ench* The curld white of the coming wave 1868 W. B. Mabie *Fleet Christ* Introd p xxii In the recent world white was regarded as the color suitable to the divine

b Whiteness or fairness of complexion

In first quot perh connected with White *a* 4

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon A wele mon iunge wimmen, A lasse, a leodlicre, a luflicre, þe þet mon mo3 nute lere oðer norberned þe sunne *Hist* 98 þe hef e is me wete, & þi hwite scheone wox tun þulles & lacches 1514 J. Barclay *Ship Fools* (1570) Walkar 2 b, Some of pese face *albicies* 1570 H Wotton *Courtlie Contr* 225 The princes e flushing with a small shame while she beautified her rud white 1611 Shaks *Wint T* IV iv 220 Laying her Cheeks by fur's with white and red 1826 Byron *Faustus* v, The amorous white That ever did subsist kiss mate.

c *fig* (or in fig context) as a symbol of purity, goodness, truth, joy, etc.

[1394 *P Ll Creede* 634 Whyt i sytoknep clennes in soule] 1637 Rutherford *Lett to Ld Craigh ill* 10 Aug., Your sorrows will bring on all your joy: our blacks and whites before our Judge 1649 J. Ford *Trans Isott* 46 Our life is chequerd with the whites of pleasure and dulcit and the black of sorrow and pain 1680 *Baxter's Hist* I 160 To God Christ and the Holy Ghost in the Book of Misery, and with the White of Mercy 1828 *Kay's Judges* III 432, I loved her to the very white of truth

d Proverbial phr. *To put black upon white into black* (and vice versâ). Cf White *a* 14

1334 More *Comf spst Trib* i x (1553) B iij l M re comfort may he have in his heart that when white is called blacke shyeleth he the truth that when White *Parum* 13 They turn black into white and white into black *Anim in conflict ver ant* Juv 1829 Southey *Vill for Life* ix xxix To praise That right is wrong, and wrong is right, And white is black and black is white

18 A white pigment, often with defining word denoting a particular kind, as *Chinese, flake, Paris, pearl, Spanish, Venice white*, etc. see these words

1546 [see Spanish *a* 7] 1650 Dongate *Mountebank* (1919) 92 White lead ground with Nutt oyle maketh a perfect

Whyte 1731 *Art of Drawing & Paint* 20 These Colours to shade the Whites. 1847 TRESTON *Builder's Man.* 139 The first white that was discovered was extracted from the calx of lead. 1859 GULLICK & TIMMS *Painting* 293 The terrene whites, from their alkaline nature, are injurious to many colours in water

*b Her.* Used by some modern writers for a white tincture reckoned among the furs, as distinct from *argent*.

1577 PENNY *Herr* (ed 3) 25 White, the natural colour of a little beast called Ermine, is only to be termed so, when it is used for the doubling of Mantles

**10** A designation for a member of any one of certain political parties (from the colour of the livery worn), *esp* an Irish Unionist, Orangeman, or a Spanish Legitimist

1680 C NEVILLE *Ch Hist* 48 The Guelphs and the Ghibilines . . the Black and the White (in the 2 Low Countries were called) 1829 J A CARLYLE *Dante's Inferno* Introduce. 11 ence was divided by two factions, the *Bianchi* and *Neri*, or Blacks and Whites 1880 *Daily Tel* 4 Oct 5 A true white—which is of an infinitely more intense shade of Conservatism than the tint of blue 1892 *Ann Reg* (N S) 358 1877 The party of the Whites of Spain had been thrown into disorder 1918 *Times* 9 Apr 6/2 From 1830 to 1900 the Whites [of Ireland] with some small food

**20.** Short for *white standpoint* SEE WHITE *a* 11 c

[16 in Maggione *Lings* (1881) c] The Lord Harley was Rear Admirall being a white flag in the main top'n, and was Admirall of y^e squadron of white (Sharp)

1704 J CHAMBERLAYNE *St Gt Brit* (ed 21) 572 Admirals of the Fleet. White, or Cloudesly Shovel, Admiral . . Thomas Wishart, Esq Vice Admiral . . Sir *Cloudesly Shovel* 1 A List of the Admirals of the Royal Navy (For the Entrance Admirals of the White 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxxiii Mr Elton was admiral of the white

**21.** The player who holds the white pieces at chess or any similar game

1750 PHILIDOR *Chess Analysed* (1777) 19 I have tried 153 Further in this Game, since it is evident that the White must win 1808 *Hoyle's Games Improved* White has the best of the game 1867 *Bohn's Handbk Games* 460 (*Draughts*) White to move and win

**22** Phrases. *In black and white.* SEE BLACK *a* 15, 15 c. *In the white* (of cloth) in an undyed state, hence of manufactured articles generally in an unfinished state (Cf quot 1546 in WHITE *a* 2) † *White and black*, name of some game.

1555 *Acts & Ords K & Q* Lowlyng Jenyse Dysyng White & Blacke Making & Marrying & other unlawfull Games 1810 *Sinclair Diet* 20 xxvi The cloth is . . then merely manufactured here, and sent in the white to London, where they are dyed 1876 S WILLIAMS *Hill Ranges* 156 Furniture is dear in London, but unfurnished,—in the white' is very cheap

**23.** *Comb* white exceeding *a* (*pale*), exceeding or surpassing white, 'whiter than white'

a1618 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas Colonies* (LONDON) II 50 2 The white exceeding skin Of th' yvorie, and dimpled chin

**White** (hwait, *a.* Forms 1–3 hwit, (*t* hwit, 3 hwit, 3wijt), 1, 4 wit, wyt, 3 6 (7–9 *dial*) whit, (4 whyt, whijt(e, huyt, with, wythe, wyht, quht, quitte) 4–5 wyte, quyt(e, quite, (wyth) 4–6 qwyt e, 5 quhit, 4, 5 7 *Sc* quhito, 4–6, 7 *Sc* whyt, whyte, 4–5 *Sc* quhyt (5 hwyte, whirt, whyght, 5 qwhite, wyghte, wyght, wytte, qwhyt(t)e, qwhite, qwhyet, qwyght, *Sc* qwhit), 5 6 whitt,e, (whight whyght(e, *Sc* quhytt) 6 7 *Sc.* quhyto, 6 whytt e, (whith, whyth, whiet, wyet, wyzht, wight, whnit, weit, weyte, *Sc.* vhyt, quhet), 6–7 wheat, 3– white Comp whitter (hwai tə), sup whitest (hwai təst), also, with shortened vowel, 3 hwittere, -ere, -ire, 4 5 quittest, 4–5 whittest, (4 quper, 5 qwhittest., 5 whytest [Obs. *hwit* — OTun's Os *hwat*, OHG (*hw*)*ʒ* (MHG *wiz*, G. *weiss*), ON. *hvitr* (Sw *vit*, Da *hvid*), Goth. *hweits* — O Celt **xveitas*.

The shortened form *whit* (now dial) was presumably generalized from the comp *whitter* from compounds like *whitleaf*, *whitthorn*, where shortening was normal.

The grade *x ei* is represented by OFris *Awit*, (MDu., (Mid Du *wit* (*t*) — **xeitas*, prob —Indo eur **xeidos*, **xeitos* the root of which is found also in Skr *ʃvétayati* (*ʃ*, *t*) to be white, Lith *szvitis* to dawn and Skr *ʃvétas* to be bright or white, *ʃvéta* which is white *Zend spa ta* white Lith *szwintu* to be bright, Old *ʃvétha* light, *s* *ʃtti* to dawn]

**1** Of the colour of snow or milk, having that colour produced by reflection, transmission, or emission of all kinds of light in the proportion in which they exist in the complete visible spectrum, without sensible absorption, being thus fully luminous and devoid of any distinctive hue.

c900 *Lindisf Gosp* John xx. 12 Fuoere engles in huitum hæzerelum. c1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt v 36 þu ne miht wiin þæc zeðon hwæne oððe blacne c1200 *Trin Coll H* 10 57 Sume bereð clene clo3es to watere to blechen hun, þat hit beo wit *Ibid* 163 Hire chemi e is smal and hwit c1250 *Gen & Ex* 2810 In hire bowum he dede his hond, Quit as al unfer he it fond 1297 R GLOUC. (Rolls) 2786 Tueye greie dragons Pe on is red þe oþer wyt a1300 *Cursor M* 17288 a16 I wo aungels Clad i white clothes c1300 *Havelok* 1146 An hold with couht. 13.. *E Allit P A.* 220 I cornyste quyte was hyr ueasture. 1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 719 A swan swipe whit 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 157 Ȝe cost sweni, whyt & round 1423 JAS I *Kingis Q* xlvi, Hir goldin lace and rich atyre couchit were with perllis quite 1472 CAXTON *Reynard* (Sommer) 201 Myn eyen [are] dimmed with ouermuche lukyng on the whit paper 1514 *Acc St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 50 Oon hole suite of vestymentes, Whight or Blake. 1542 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) VI 235 A gowne the one side blake and the other side whitt 1558 J HEYWOOD *Spider & F* lx 5 With wheat tuskes fo[r]nide like a bore 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* xxx 3 The tender snaw, of grana nefe & quhyt [*rime* delyte]. 1590 SPENSER *F Q* II iii, 26 She was ycladd All in a silken Camus lylly whight 1650 NORGATE *Mem Anne* (1919) 3 Instead of sheepe parchment by some called Guilding Vellum make use of your pure white velum 1733 BOUGHEY *Bee* II 9 4 It proving a Maiden Assizes, the Sheriffs according to Custom, presented the Judges with white Gloves. 1806 SCOTT *Palmer* i, The glen is white with the drifted snow 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau* 130 The lawns were white with may 1880 *Nature* 21 Oct 1 527 White light is made up of an infinite number of coloured rays. 1912 C N & A M WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, A round white moon that flooded the night with silver.

**b.** Of the colour of the hair or beard in old age, also *transf* of the person, white haired, hoary

c1250 *Sag Leg* 26, 143 Hire her was hit and swipe swuit, as hit were wolle 1300 GOWER *Conf* I 111 Hoste ladies weren there of white wede 1450 *Merlinpole* 1 Knyghte, he wyche hyte Nestor, Wyche for age was whyte and hore 1468 9 MEDIAN *Ann Arm* xvi C 1097 The chapell boys Of Augustyn 1598 SHAKS *2 Hen IV* i iii 52 And that here is olde his white haires doe witnesse it 1684 ROMAN *Hist* II Introd, Old Hermit. With his white hairs round it the Palace 1711 *Spect* No 151 ¶ 2 His quiet head 1887 T M CRAWFORD *Sara Sinclair* III, His white hair and beard bundled about his dark face

**c** In comprisons usually hyperbolic, as white as (*the*) *driven snow*, *milk* (cf SNOW WHITE, MILK WHITE), *as white as lily flowers glass*, *as swan* (cf SWAN WHITE), *whales bone*, *flour*, *a sheep*, *wool*, *curds*, and (in proverb) *a Yolk shell*, *Ash*

c1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xvii 2 Hys reaf wæron swylce seo sunne 1200 *Lay* 1 *etmet* 8 Damne wa þe sclæweð of ille mine tunge, so is *snou of hwit* 3ho wes 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2 8/8 Ȝe cluere sayweð so milk 1300 *Cursor M* 1380 Ian lambes, quittir als milk 1300 *A Horn* 15 Hwit so eny *milk* was he þa 1377 LANGL *Pol* 300 white as lilie I-lult 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 181 Hire lockes were white as *flour* 1 Elcanage had A doughter is whight as whales I-me 1530 JA BARCLAY *Church Manse* (Roll) 2681 Sch o hulde a mayden childe Sodden but bughts, Whilk was als white as *wallis bone* (W 378 *bone*) cheire and white is swa 1575 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII 2 2 Hawirkeris, that wrocht as flour 1580 HOLINSH *Chron Hist Engl* 1806 Q hyte as ane Mylp, and round als ane schell 1598 DUNBAR *Gold Targe* 51 A vsall, als I lute vis bin sum spon spray 1633 GAU *Anal Lady* 63 Giff it sy be teeth as pearle, marriblies ȝe will be quhit as ane swan 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I i 4 Vpon a lowly Asse more white Then snow, yet she much whiter *a* 1732 *Songs Ane o Scot Ac Ane* 1 Her skin is white as *Ivory* 1785 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut* iii, Auld Mungo's mare, Her *hide* so white as driven snow compared to some blackguards.

**d** In allusive or proverbial phr, chiefly in collocation with *black* cf. WHITE *sb* 17 *d*.

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 6 And whether ye temen whether is whyte ar alle þinge blake werof 1403 LYDG *Temple of Glas* 1230 White is whitter if it be set in blak 1546 J HEYWOOD *Prov* (1867) 56 Were not your ey as good thus to iij, the iij were as white 1582, 1604 [see ITE RANDOM 2] 1668 SPRATT-SPRAT *Orig Society* V § 5 I think they have strained it to make an Antipathy where there is not, yet an Antipathy as opposite to Loving like as Country to Country

**2** In looser or wider senses. **a.** Of a light or pale colour: applied to things of various indefinite hues approaching white, esp. dull or pale shades of yellow. (See also following senses, and WHITE BREAD, WINE, etc.)

c950 *Lindisf Gosp* John ix 25 *ic witanes ꝼæs all a sunt ic wæs blind*, xxxvii 34 lond forðon hunto sint zeo to hripe c1300 *Havelok* 1276 Wiþ hwit and red, ful 3a hi plente 1400–50 *Alexander* 3101 *Whitte Rose* A white coppe of Cristall 1430 TWO C *Secrees* 29 Hwyte Hony or Sugre 1523–34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 13 Sprout barley hath a flat eare and the corne be very great and white 1618 HOLME *Yorks Rec* 1 Water of the bore to[o]th Blacker when it is moued, and Whiter when it is steeth 1664 LYLLAN *Sylva* xiv 42 Such [oaks] as are for White work (as they call it) 1675 *Trade* 20 1 1685, 1 lb 1 oz Sweet Powder of white Lilly roots, the one fed with a black running water 1769 BALTHOUSE *Dict Marine* (1780), *Coral or Thorn*, the root of which is of a deep red and the *Wood* Hay or Sugre 1523–34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 13 Sprout barley hath a flat eare and the corne be very great and white 1868 HOLME *Yorks Rec* 1 Water of the bore to[o]th Blacker when it is moued, and Whiter when it is steeth 1664 LYLLAN *Sylva* xiv 42 Such [oaks] as are for White work (as they call it) 1675 *Trade* 20 1 1685, 1 lb 1 oz Sweet Powder of white Lilly roots, the one fed with a black running water 1769 BALTHOUSE *Dict Marine* (1780), *Coral or Thorn*, the root of which is of a deep red and the *Wood* *Manuf* VI 166 When a rope is to be used in the open air but under cover, it is left in the 'white' state, that is, it is not coated with any substance whatever.

(*b*) *spec* applied to crops of corn or grain, formerly called *white corn* (cf CORN *sb* 13), which turn 'white' or light-coloured in ripening, as distinguished from *black* and *green* crops: see CROP *sb* 9. Hence *transf.* of land or soil adapted for such crops.

1523–34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 27 The sheares of all manner of white corne 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh* 240 If it be of that poorest sort they call white-land, nothing is so proper as rye, draw mixt with Non such, or Melilot Trefoil 1780 WOMBWELL *Lett* 8 Sept Peace returns, the refreshment, and enables them to have one or two crops of white corn. 1799 J ROBERTSON *Agric Perth* 451 By the alternate changes of white and green crops 1805 *Trans Highland Soc* I 18 The lands under tillage are commonly arranged into two kinds, light and clayey The former is called turnip or green soil, and the latter, white soil, because it is best adapted for growing oats, wheat, and other white grains c1850 *Glouc. Farm Rep* 4 in *Trav Unif. Assoc*, *Husb* III, No white or corn crop should be repeated in too rapid succe sion.

**b.** Of metal, or objects made of metal, of a light grey colour and lustrous appearance. † Frequent in early use as an epithet of silver; hence = made of or consisting of silver; also (of iron or steel armour) burnished and shining, without colouring or stain. See also *white metal*, *money* (in 11 c), *vent* (in 11 e), WHITE IRON.

Also technically applied to silver ware chased or roughened with the tool, as distinguished from burnished silver

c1000 *Ælfric Josh* xxiv 32 Iwahund seteene hwites seolifres *a* 1205 *Ancr A* 158 Read gold & hwit seolver *a* 1400–50 *Alex Ales* 1203 Quadrentis coruen all of quite sylvyre 1419 *Mem Ayton* (Surtees) III 145 Et in D de quyttayles empt eod tempe 1508 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 44 A whyte veste with a coverying 1530 PALSGR 288/2 White harnesse, *harnoys blanc* 1542 *Inv Royal Wardr* (1815) 74 Quhyt Werk Item ane gret basing for fast weschyng *a* 1607 MIDDLETON, etc *Widow* II ii, A white thimble that I found in your light 1667 DRYDEN *The Native She Mr Mar all* 31, Hang your white pelf 1761 *Ann Reg*, *Chron* 23 One of his dining service best suits of white armour 1816 SCOTT *Antiq* xi, Four white shillings and sixpence 1856 MILLER *Elem Chem*, *Inorg* xv 864 Iron is a white metal with a tinge of yellow

**c.** Colourless, uncoloured, as glass or other transparent substance.

c888 *Ælfred's tr Boeth* xxxvii § 2 Ȝe habbe ymmaze reade 1398 TREVISA *Barth I* xvi 11 (1495) Mirhe is like to *ice* [*de Aineth* stones] that ben whyttest ben not so precyous 1428 in *Archæologia* (1848) XXXII 320 Twelve of white silver 1668 MARRIOTT *Mem Art of Glass* 147 If you observe in Emmels a rare side must be glassed with white glass and I call it the 1738 DESAGULIERS *Canal Navig* 128 In inside of locks white Bubbles filled with Water 1890 C H MOORE *Fine Art* x 303 White glass is introduced from without (as a stained glass window) to heighten the effect

**d** Blank, not written or printed upon; † (of a document) unendorsed (cf *white leaved* in 12 c)

1466 *Stonor Lett* (Camden) II 89 Ye seyn þat ye have sent me a mony bylle, but I can se no bylle write with-in a 1550 *Jane* 94 *Lisle's Lett* (P S) 321 Cuf hath sent a bille to me writing, Betuix us both, to peruse the effect of *the blanke bylle* 1611 COTGR *Bille* . . the word written vpon a white, and not vpon a blacke bill 1704 *Lond Gaz* No 4019/4 Whereas a white Bill, or Bond, was lately lost 1880 *Athenæum* 28 Aug 265/1 Lot 1 . . 8–8½ Vellum 1 white 1 note 1300 *Cursor M* 1380 Ian lambes, quittir als milk 1300 *A Horn* 15 Hwit so eny *milk* was he þa 1377 LANGL *Pol* 300 white as lilie I-lult 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 181 Hire lockes were white as *flour* 1 Elcanage had A doughter is whight as whales I-me 1530 JA BARCLAY *Church Manse* (Roll) 2681 Sch o hulde a mayden childe Sodden but bughts, Whilk was als white as *wallis bone* (W 378 *bone*) cheire and white is swa 1575 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII 2 2 Hawirkeris, that wrocht as flour 1580 HOLINSH *Chron Hist Engl* 1806 Q hyte as ane Mylp, and round als ane schell 1598 DUNBAR *Gold Targe* 51 A vsall, als I lute vis bin sum spon spray 1633 GAU *Anal Lady* 63 Giff it sy be teeth as pearle, marriblies ȝe will be quhit as ane swan 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I i 4 Vpon a lowly Asse more white Then snow, yet she much whiter *a* 1732 *Songs Ane o Scot Ac Ane* 1 Her skin is white as *Ivory* 1785 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut* iii, Auld Mungo's mare, Her *hide* so white as driven snow compared to some blackguards.

**d** In allusive or proverbial phr, chiefly in collocation with *black* cf. WHITE *sb* 17 *d*.

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 6 And whether ye temen whether is whyte ar alle þinge blake werof 1403 LYDG *Temple of Glas* 1230 White is whitter if it be set in blak 1546 J HEYWOOD *Prov* (1867) 56 Were not your ey as good thus to iij, the iij were as white 1582, 1604 [see ITE RANDOM 2] 1668 SPRATT-SPRAT *Orig Society* V § 5 I think they have strained it to make an Antipathy where there is not, yet an Antipathy as opposite to Loving like as Country to Country

**2** In looser or wider senses **a.** Of a light or pale colour: applied to things of various indefinite hues approaching white, esp. dull or pale shades of yellow. (See also following senses, and WHITE BREAD, WINE, etc.)

c950 *Lindisf Gosp* John ix 25 *ic witanes ꝼæs all a sunt ic wæs blind*, xxxvii 34 lond forðon hunto sint zeo to hripe c1300 *Havelok* 1276 Wiþ hwit and red, ful 3a hi plente 1400–50 *Alexander* 3101 *Whitte Rose* A white coppe of Cristall 1430 TWO C *Secrees* 29 Hwyte Hony or Sugre 1523–34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 13 Sprout barley hath a flat eare and the corne be very great and white 1868 HOLME *Yorks Rec* 1 Water of the bore to[o]th Blacker when it is moued, and Whiter when it is steeth 1664 LYLLAN *Sylva* xiv 42 Such [oaks] as are for White work (as they call it) 1675 *Trade* 20 1 1685, 1 lb 1 oz Sweet Powder of white Lilly roots, the one fed with a black running water 1769 BALTHOUSE *Dict Marine* (1780), *Coral or Thorn*, the root of which is of a deep red and the *Wood* *Manuf* VI 166 When a rope is to be used in the open air but under cover, it is left in the 'white' state, that is, it is not coated with any substance whatever.

(*b*) *spec* applied to crops of corn or grain, formerly called *white corn* (cf CORN *sb* 13), which turn 'white' or light-coloured in ripening, as distinguished from *black* and *green* crops: see CROP *sb* 9. Hence *transf.* of land or soil adapted for such crops.

1523–34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 27 The sheares of all manner of white corne 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh* 240 If it be of that poorest sort they call white-land, nothing is so proper as rye, draw mixt with Non such, or Melilot Trefoil 1780 WOMBWELL *Lett* 8 Sept Peace returns, the refreshment, and enables them to have one or two crops of white corn. 1799 J ROBERTSON *Agric Perth* 451 By the alternate changes of white and green crops 1805 *Trans Highland Soc* I 18 The lands under tillage are commonly arranged into two kinds, light and clayey The former is called turnip or green soil, and the latter, white soil, because it is best adapted for growing oats, wheat, and other white grains c1850 *Glouc. Farm Rep* 4 in *Trav Unif. Assoc*, *Husb* III, No white or corn crop should be repeated in too rapid succe sion.

**b.** Of metal, or objects made of metal, of a light grey colour and lustrous appearance. † Frequent

2812–20 Lyde. *Chron. Troy* iv. 2369 While he laie þus in his prowes white. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Twa Maryit Wemen* 426 Than lay I furigh my bright buke on breid on my knee.. And drawis my clok forthwart our my face quhit. 1598 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 643 Didst thou not marke my face, was it not white? Sawest thou not signes of feare lurke in mine eye? 1596 *Merch. V.* III. ii. 86 How manie cowards.. weare.. The learde of Hercules and frowning Mars, Who inward searcht, haue livers white as milke. 1605 — *Macb.* II. iii. 65, I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1626 Hr. Hall *Contempt.* xiii. *David & Gol.*, Now we see.. those, which haue giuen good proofes of magnanimitie, at other times, haue bewrayed white liuers. 1753 Jane Collier *Art Torment.*, I. ii. 46 She..looks as white as a cloth. 1799 Southey *Bp. Hatto* 35 He had a countenance white with alarm. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.*, I. x, He hurried down.., white with rage. 1849 Jerrold *Hard T.*, II. iii. His skin was so unwholesomely deficient in the natural tinge, that he looked as though, if he were cut, he would bleed white. 1860 Shirley Brooks *Gordian Knot* II. The most gentlemanly millionaire of them all has since been transported, and another is in white terror of a similar destiny. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, She is as white as a sheet. 1889 *T. P.'s Journal Town* vi. He was in a white rage. 1897 Hall Caine *Christian* iii. xiii, The man..turned white as a ghost.

**6.** a. Clothed or mainly clothed in white; *spec.* belonging to an ecclesiastical order distinguished by wearing a white habit (see also *White Canons* s.v. Canon 2 1, and White friar, White monk).

*White hall*; a hall at which all the ladies are dressed in white.

*a* 1483 *Lyc. Kath.* 1576 Ha seih sitten þa meiden mid monie hwite wurðliche men. *a* 1400 *Peymer* (1891) 22 The white [L. *candidatus*] cost of martires. *c* 1400 *Brut* 324 þere arost anoþer compayne of cliuerus maydens but was called þe white compayne, þe whicche, in be parties & contre of Lumbardye, dede‧e myche sorwe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxviii, Quod the quite knyȝt 'Quat man is this?' 1440 Holland *Howlat* 178 The Sse Mawis war monkis, the blak and the quhyte. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xiii. ix. 623 He came to a white Abbay. 1530 Palsgr. *Lesclarc.* v. 11 Fayires blacke, gray, greene, and white. 1699 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Yorkf.* (1872) i. vii. 316 Seventy-two .. were Nuns of the Clerie, the rest White Sisters and Lay-sisters. 1893 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 249 A month after Mamie's arrival Lidian gave a 'white ball' in her honour. 1903 Chandler *Eliger. Walks Rome* (1908) 128 The Olivetans or white Benedictines.

b. From the 17th century white has been specially associated with royalist and legitimist causes (e.g. the white flag of the Bourbons), and hence in recent times *white* has been applied to certain constitutional or anti-revolutionary parties and the policy for which they stand. (See White *sb.* 19, and cf. Red *a.* 9 b.).

1749 J. Ray *Compl. Hist. Rob.* 331 She got together all her Clan, and marched at their Head (with a white Cockade, &c.) and presented them to the Mock Prince. *Ibid.* 341 The Rebel Army were assembled in the White Hills & displayed. *a* 1784 Johnson in *Boswell* an. 1763 *note*, Boswell, in the year 1745,..wore a white cockade, and prayed for King James. 1848 Rogers *Italy* (1859) 190 Suppose.. the tricolour, and substituting in its stead the white flag. 1849 W. C. Taylor *House of Orleans* III. 222 He had been one of the first to raise the White Flag in 1814; he had levied a requisition of Royalists during the hundred days. *a* 1879 J. Macdonell *France since 1st Empire* 117 The French ministers could have sovereignty in Paris, but they were not so well able to keep down the fury of the Royalists in the provinces. Thus was the Red Terror succeeded by the White. 1893 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 3 His position is that known in Italy as 'White', or constitutional, as compared with the clerical 'Blacks' and the republican 'Reds'. 1918 *Times* 9 Apr. 6/4 (Finland) Germany has secured a strong hold of the greater part of 'White' public opinion. *Ibid.*, The White Army..is overwhelmingly pro-German.

7. *fig.* Morally or spiritually pure or stainless; spotless, unstained, innocent.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 147 Eala hwæt is of us Drihten þæt halende ewa hwite snawa þeos halige Marie? *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Vor euere so heo [sc. the soul] is hwitture, so þe fuhle is schenre. *c* 1250 Creed in *Leg. Kath.* 49 Whech seo inanneþ our Lord God hud hi to þe grete blakne of synne on-to þe fair white vertuous lyuyng. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 198 Black wounding calumnie The whitest vertue strikes. 1608 Bp. Hall *Char.*, 1. xi Hers hath white hands, and a cleane soule. 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xciii, I that doe know a white soule. 1645 G. Daniel *Admired Prancies* xxxvii, Thou gentle spirit attends I bring White Thoughts. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 216 In our own [days]..No whiter page than Addison remains. 1859 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxiii, There can be no harm to my white Hilda in one parting kiss. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* xxxvi, It is I whose duty it is to see that your name be made white again.

b. Free from malignity or evil intent; beneficent, innocent, harmless, esp. as opposed to something characterized as *black* (cf. Black *a.* 8, g): chiefly in phr. *white lie* (see Lie *sb.*1 1 b), *white magic* (Magic *sb.* 1 b; cf. Black art); see also *white paternoster* s.v. Paternoster 2, and White witch.

1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* iii. 56 He did not know whether his admonition were black or white.. as will on a good spirit. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 12 He made his Harp .. make musick of it self; which no White Art could perform. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* ii. 26 A Teacher of the White Magic, that pretends to deal only with Good Angels. 1749–90 Richardson in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr.* (1804) IV. 316 Don't you think..that I have reason to exclaim against white sins? 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Admiral on Shore*, Julia..asserted her female privilege of white-lying, and declared [etc.]. 1853 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iv, They be mortal feared of witches, ..and mortal hard on 'em, even on a pure body like me, that doth a bit in the white way. 1914 Sir E. Shackleton in *Scotsman* 29 Oct. 3/8, I send you my last cable as we start for the Antarctic. We are leaving now to carry on our white warfare.

**8.** (Chiefly of times and seasons) Propitious, favourable; auspicious, fortunate, happy. Now *rare*.

1609 Shirley *Gratefull Serv.* II. i, Till this white houre, those walles were neuer proud, T'inclose a guest. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* II. 830 Thy Foes's all white. 1660 Davden *Astræa Redux* 299 And now times white Series is begun. 1708 Ransay *Bonny Christy* iv, He wisely thus white Minutes took, And flung his Arms about her. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, What is called by Schoolboys Black Monday, was to me the whitest in the whole Year. 1830 Lytton *P. Clifford* xxix, I will not even press you to appoint that day, which to me will be the whitest of my life. 1852 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 2 That was one of the few white days of a life, beneficent indeed .. but far from happy.

†**9.** Highly prized, precious; dear, beloved, favourite, 'pet', 'darling'. Often as a vague term of endearment. (See also *white son* in 11 e, and White Boy.) *Obs.*

*c* 1449 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 43 Take vp Isaac, þi son so white. *c* 1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 111. 126 Master Pole..entred secretly in to a Monasterye..called Sayne Jusstyns, wherea hes is ther wyte God and they his blacke angells. 1600 *And Pr. Returns fr. Parnass.* II. vi, I shall bee his little ragge, and his white villaine for a while weeke after. 1634 Heywood *Lanc. Witches* I. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 184 A merry song now mother, and thou shalt be my white gitle. 1646 *Extr. Kirk-Session Rec. Dunfermline* (1865) 17 Janet Hewly..had slandered grissell walwood spouse to Jo‧ allysone, wryght, calling her white bird. 1647 *Trotr Comm. Matt.* xiv. 3 If John touch Herods white sin.. John must to prison.

†**10.** Fair-seeming, specious, plausible. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 901, I..feffe hym with a fewe wordes whyte. *Ibid.* 1567 For alle youre wordes whyte. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 4272 Hir wordis white, softe, & blaundysshe, Wer ouerspi with feynyng & with flaterie. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 205 Flatterars with pleasand wordis quhyte. 1523 Douglas *Æneis* I. xi. 34 The sklyving wesage of the gud Cympre, Ouir thik dissemblit slicht wordis quhyte. 1611 Sir J. Davies *Why Ireland.* etc. 93 The Lure and white promises of Lewes the 11. 1613 Chapman *Rev. Bussy d'Amb.* v. i, This blood I shed, it is to saue the blood Of many thousands. *Guise.* That's your white pretext. 1702 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 158 The Scots call Flatteries Whitings, and Flatterers white People. 1825 Jamieson, *White*, *Tried*, flattery, wheedling; as, quhyt wordis.

**11.** Special collocations. a. In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their white colour or colouring: as *white ant, bear, fox, heron, herring, pelican, perch, shark, stork, trout, wagtail, whale*, for which see the sbs.; also **white-bird**, (*a*) a name for the spotted flycatcher; (*b*) see quot. 1875; **white game** [Game *sb.* 11], grouse; **white grub**, the larva of the cockchafer or other scarabæid; **white mouse** (see e below); **white partridge** ? *Obs.*, the ptarmigan; **white slipper** (*limpet*), **snail** (see quots.): **white worm** = *white grub*; see also Whitebait, Whitefish, etc. b. In names of plants distinguished by white flowers or other parts, light-coloured bark, wood, root, fruit, seed, etc.; also applied to such flowers, wood, etc.: as *white beech, beet, bind, bine, birch, bryony, cedar, clover, currrant, deadnettle, elm, grape, hellebore, honeysuckle, horehound, jasmine, lilac, mustard, oak, oats, peat, pepper, pine, poplar, raspberry, rot, rye, sanders, willow* (see the sbs.); also **white ash**, (*a*) a species or variety of ash with light-coloured wood; hence (*collog.*) an oar; also *attrib.* (jocular) *white-ash breeze*, the impetus of the oar; (*b*) a S. African ornamental tree with white flowers, *Platylophus trifoliatus*, the white alder (Burtt Davy *loc. cit.*); **white-ash** = Whitebeam; **white corn** (see 2 a, b); **white grass**, (*a*) *Holcus lanatus*; (*b*) American species of *Leersia*, esp. *L. virginica*; † **white plum**, (*a*) = Wheat-plum; (*b*) a plum of Barbados having whitish bark; **white-tree**, a name for different trees having light-coloured wood; esp. *Melaleuca Leucodendron* of Australia and the Malay archipelago; **white vine**, (*a*) the common hop, *Bryonia alba*; (*b*) traveller's-joy, *Clematis Vitalba*; **white wheat**, wheat with white or light-coloured grain; **white wood**, (*a*) the alburnum, or lighter-coloured outer wood of a tree; (*b*) any non-resinous wood. c. In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a white colour: as *white amber, antimony, arsenic, copper, dammar, enamel, feldspar, (iron) pyrites, precipitate, salt, scharl, soap, tellurium, tin, tombac, vitriol, wax*, for which see the sbs.; also **white ash**, refined potash, as distinct from the crude *black ash* (Ash *sb.*2 2); **white brass**, an alloy of copper and zinc, containing a large proportion of the latter; **white brick**, app. Bath brick; **white bronze**, any light-coloured bronze; **white damp** [Damp *sb.*1 1 b], carbonic oxide as occurring in coal-mines; **white leather** (see Leather *sb.*1 and Whitleather); **white light** *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, candles; **white metal**, a name for various alloys of a light grey colour (also *attrib.*); **white money**, silver money, silver coins; **white nickel**, a name for Cloanthite or other nickel arsenide; † **white powder**, a supposed kind of gunpowder exploding without noise; **white rock**, a name applied to intrusive basaltic rocks, altered to a light colour, occurring in coal-measures; **white-saw** (see quot.); **white rubber**, (*a*) caoutchouc whitened by admixture of a pigment; (*b*) the light-coloured caoutchouc obtained from the *white-rubber vine* (*Landolphia owariensis*); † **white straits** (see quots. and Strait *sb.* 9); **white trap** = *white rock*; † **white wire**, iron wire coated with tin. d. In names of bodily parts or structures, and of diseases or abnormal bodily conditions, characterized by white colour: as **white blood**, blood with an excess of white corpuscles, as in leuchæmia; † **white bone**, *app.* the costal cartilages; **white corpuscle**, a colourless blood-corpuscle, a leucocyte; **white flood**, leucorrhœa; **white flux** (see c below); **white gangrene**, a form of gangrene in which the affected parts become whitish; **white haw**, an affection of the eye (see Haw *sb.*3); **white jaundice** (see Jaundice *sb.* 1 b); **white matter**, the fibrous matter of the brain and spinal cord, as distinct from the *grey matter*; **white softening**, a variety of softening of the brain (see quot. 1873); **white swelling** (see Swelling *vbl. sb.* 2); **white (fibrous) tissue**, white connective tissue, as distinct from *yellow tissue* (Yellow *a.* C. 1 e).

1699 Dampier *Voy.* 127 Abundance of Ants of several sorts, and Woodlice, called by the English in the East Indies White Ants. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (Index) 86 The neverto-sufficiently execrated white ants, who, if they had their will, would reduce all created things to impalpable dust. 1861 Smiles *Lives Engin.* (1862) III. 66 White Antelope. 1880 T. Green *Univ. Herbal* II. 850/2 *Fraxinus Americana*, American Ash-tree.—There are several varieties of this, "White Ash, Red Ash, Blue Ash." 1884 H. Melville *Whale* lxxxi, This clumsy lubber was striving to free his white ash. 1885 Raymond *Mining Gloss., White-ash* (Penn.). See *Coal.* 1886 *Cent. Dict.*, White ash of the United States may be taken as the type of most of the American kinds. 1906 Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill* 201 We must wake the white-ash breeze,..And pull for Stowanger! 1892 *Lady Lever's Committees Minutes*, † *White Ash Finishers*, men in the chemical industry .. engaged upon the manufacture of soda ash..from salts derived from herrings. 1611 Cotgr., Pucelage viii. iii. 630 There were 'white Beares, and stagges farre greater then ours. 1852 *Sanit. Organ* 169 The fever by which the tongue..are kept upon the brake are generally made of 'white beer. 1863 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 744 There is only one species of this plant [sc. hop] in cultivation, but which has several varieties, as the white bind, the grey bind, the white-bind, etc. 1875 Mellish *St. Helena* 98 *Gygis candida*, Wagl.- 'White-bird. One of the most abundant seabirds in the Island. 1893 M. J. Graves *Syst. Gen. Med.* VII. 85 Abstracting by blistering a considerable portion of white blood from the system. 1863 Aitken *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 270 White-cell blood, or White blood—*Leucocythæmia*. 1911 *Merc. Marine* 374 Sportsman Dan. N. Walter fell-nice percussit cum uno *le dacre* in rectum super le "*systhone*. 1538 *Turp. Wills* (Camden) 156 One lytle pot of "white lead. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1538 Elyot *Dict., Leucantha*, "white bryer. a 1756 Eliza Haywood *New Present* (1771) 252 Rubbing ..with scouring paper, rotten-stone, or "white-brick. 1884 Lock in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 28/1 This new kind of "white bronze 'is not to be confounded with the alloy used in America under the same name, which consists principally of zinc. 1882 *Garden* 17 June 384/1 The "white broom and a sulphur-coloured Cytisus. 1676 M. Coxe *Forest-Trees* xxxii. 97 If you would make a Fence of one particular sort of Wood, the very best is your "White-bush, or White-thistles. 1781–2 T. Jefferson *Notes Virginia* (1787) 62 "White cedar, *Cupressus Thyoides*. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* iii. 60 The white cedar (*Melia Australis*). 1666 *Phil. Trans.* No. 16 p. 318 Which they so called it seems though of a blewish colour, and used for making yellow-colour'd ware. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *White Copper*, an alloy of nickel

(1821) I. 77 The 'white-grub has ..extensively injured meadows and pastures. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. 1 γ, The leues also broken in wyne are good for the 'whyte hawe, or the perle in the eye. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) I. § 3. 61 Blue indigo, under the combined action of protoxide of iron and alkalies, becomes converted into 'white indigo. 1896 Cornish *Dict. Names Mins.*, *'White iron ore*, an early name for siderite. *Ibid.*, *White iron pyrites*, a popular name for marcasite. 1586 in *Hounsh. Ord.* (1790) 162 One hatch, one picked, two skies, one pound of 'white lights, ten talshides, eight faggotts. 1610 *Ibid.* 45 Halfe a pounde of white lightes .. per diem. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* Ed. 4 Pinus, The 'White Lime, or Pipe-Tree. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 317/2 A large bunch of white Lilac. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 'White marbulle, *carnium*. 1849 Bunce *Landed Gentry* III. 272 The splendid mausoleum ..was magnificently sculptured in white marble. 1839 *Y. Lady's Cycl. Anat.* III. 695 A convolution [of the brain] consists of a fold of grey matter, enclosing a process of white or fibrous matter. 1869 Harley *Exper. Physiol.* (ed. 3) vi. 299 In the medulla oblongata, [as] in the spinal cord, the white matter is external, and the grey internal. But, in the cerebellum and cerebral hemispheres, the grey matter is external and the white internal. 1613 in *Papers rel. Scots in Poland* (1915) 72 A 'white metal cup. 1710 N. Bp. Burnet *Pastor.* (1852) 86 We were to be in a White-Metitle Mugge. 1879 H. Phillips *Addit. Notes upon Cuvier* 8 A number of medals in white metal and copper. 1884 Lace *Yorkshire Lace*, Set. 340 The term 'white metal' is applied to all alloys in which zinc, tin, or lead is in sufficient proportion to impart a white colour. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 116 The goblys and 'whyte money, as they were corrant. 1593 *Strype Ann. Church Catechizing* 1. 18 There was seuen pound in Golde, beside thirty shillings and eight white money. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Blanc*, *Monnoye blanche*, white money of brasse, or copper, current in our coines. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3328/4 Where all Persons may be Accommodated with any of their sorts for white Money, either Half-Crowns, Shillings, Sixpences, or Groats. 1709 *Diary* 9 Mar. 1664, The fine new mill'd coin both of white money and guineas. 1809 Bawtree *Doncaster Bk.* 405 Rutland pays to the King one hundred and fifty pounds white money. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* V. 87 My hand has nae been crowed with white money but once the-se seven blessed days. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 70 Chloanthite: ..'White Nickel. 1896 Cornish *Dict. Names Mins.* 11 *White nickel*. A syn. of both rammelsbergite and chloanthite. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 61 *Quercus alba*, the 'white oak. 1882 Barlow tr. *Reichenbach*, a sort of Yew or Flax to drive into the Seams of ships. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 138 No bird abounds there more than the 'white ptarmigan [see COCK of the *game*]. 1747 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 72. 1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 48 *Labrax immaculatus*, Cuv., White Perch. 1530 Palsgr. 58/2 *'White plome*, *prune blanche*. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) *Pomarium* Opera 1709 I. 60 Prunus Sylvestris cerifa e albicante, .. White Plum or Barbadensibus dicta. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. 3 That you were kill'd with a Small charge'd with White Powder. 1689 N. Lee *Princess of Cleve* II. ii, A Secret Lover's like a Gun charg'd with White Powder, dost Expiration but makes noise. 1847 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 743 2 Mercurammonic Chloride, $NH_2Hg Cl$. This salt, commonly known as 'white precipitate, is officinal in the U.S. 1769 Mrs. Rolfad *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 241 To make 'White Raspberry Jam. 1885 Mrs. Beeton *Treas. Cook. &c.* iv. viii. § 2. 560 Microscopical examination shows that this ''white-rock' or 'white-trap' is merely an altered form of some dolomitic or basaltic rock. 1718 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 542 A blewish Bat, in which the following Iron-Stone lyes, called the 'White-Rose. *Ibid.*, A hard blackish Iron Oar, lying in small Nodules, when we find them in a White Spar-stone; and from thence by the Miners called the White-Rose-Grains. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *'White-rubber*, a name hence misled, when white pigment [so] as to give a dead white color to it. 1887 Mohun *Forestry W. Afr.* 50 The white-rubber vine, grows in profusion in this part of the country. 1899 H. F. Carey tr. *Kp. Smithsonian Inst.* (1850) 203 The 'White Upper Plimpet] is known. .. It hits shaggy light-green skin. 1593 *St Fletcher. Husb.* § 54 'White smallee be yll for shepe: ne pastures. 1881 E. Ingpen. *Soc. Oyster-Industry* 30 *Whitesmelts*, small species of mollusks noxious to the oyster-bed, particularly Donaldina and Natica. 1854 'White softening [see SOFTENING *vbl. sb.* 1b]. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* 144 White Softening .. is [mostly] a chronic condition, dependent upon disease of the capillaries and small arteries, which interferes with the circulation. .. There is no hyperæmia, and the colour either remains that of healthy brain tissue, or is an opaque dirty white. 1792 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* II. 157 'White Stork.. primaries black: the rest of the plumage white. 1598 *Florio*, *Spino bianco*, the white or blanke white. 1882 E. Irwin *Sunk Rocks* 1. 1 Whitestraytes be, made of the best Countie [of Devon]. 1672 Marlay *Cowell's Interpr.*, *White Street*, a kind of course Cloth made in Herefordshire, about a yard and half a quarter broad, raw. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Take 'whyte sugre an caste per-to. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 106 Take the iuce of fruit white sugar vnto it. 1778 D. Macquin *Meth. Introd. Physic* 194 Watery humour of a joint, usually termed 'White-swelling. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 1. 185 'White tinne, that is molten into metall. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 381 The vitality of the 'white tissues is low. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazons* II. (1864) 38 Other grand forest-trees, were the Mora-tinga (the 'White-wood tree)—probably the same, or allied to, the Mora Excelsa, in British Guiana [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, White-tree, *Melaleuca Leucadendron*. c 1840 J. Smith *Hand. Forest Botany* 349 The Salix, or 'wheat trout or swim. 1542 Elyot *Dict.*, *Ammomum*, ..the leaues be lyke to the leaues of Withwynde or 'whyte vyne. 1598 [see Howard]. 1857 Fennell *Bourn. Beauty* 18 Burne them with twigs of white vines. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1217/1 Vine, White, *Clematis Vitalba*. 1545 'White wax [see Wax *sb.*1 2 c]. 1589 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 176 With bulla of leid, quhyte wax and reid, And vther quhyis with grene. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 329 The wax (called *Pe-la*, white wax, because so by nature) begins to appear about the middle of June. 1523–8 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 34 'Whyte wheate is lyke polerde wheate but it hath ansis, and ..wyll make white bread; and in Essex they call Essex wheate whyte wheate. 1809 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 540 Among the numerous varieties of.. wheat, the white and the red are the most esteemed in general. 1463–4 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 507/1 Cardes for Wolle, or eltwhitewyre. 1587 Marcall *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 272 Some doe ring them [sc. hogs] with red wyar .. Others doe put rings of yron, some with horse nailes or strong white wyar, in the grayne of their nostrils. 1578 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1302/1 It is Enacted..That no Iron Thread (commonly called White Wyre) nor Cards for Wooll, nor Card-Wyre, nor Iron-Wyre for making of Wooll-Cards, shall be Imported. 1765 *Newton* (Lincs.) *Enclosure Act* 13 Cards or other 'white wood rails. 1812 P. Graham *Agric. Surv. Stirling*. 40 The oaks are almost entire; the white wood, as it is called, or the outermost circles of the tree, only are decayed. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 348 The workman breaks these pieces of pots on his anvil, and mixes the pieces with charcoal of white wood. 1883 J. G. Wood in *Longman's Mag.* Dec. 163 The terrible larva of the cockchafer, called, *par excellence*, the Grub, and sometimes known as the 'White Worm.

e. Miscellaneous: **white ale**, a Devonshire drink made of ale with flour, milk, and other ingredients see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **white baker**, † (*a*) a baker of white bread (also as one word); (*b*) a name for the spotted flycatcher; **white bath**, (*a*) an emulsion of oil and alkaline carbonates used in dyeing; (*b*) a name for white-flowered species of *Trifolium*; **white bidder**, (*a*) [BIDDER 1], a fictitious bidder at an auction; **white book** [tr. med.L. *liber albus*; cf. ALBUM], a book of official records or reports bound in white; † **white broth**, some kind of broth of a white or light colour (see also BROTH *sb.* 3); **white coal** (see quot. 1913); † **white colours** = *white flag* (*a*); **white cooper** (see COOPER *sb.*1 1); **white death** [after *black death*], a name for tuberculosis (? as specially a disease of white men); **white ensign** (see ENSIGN *sb.* 5); **whitefellow**, applied by Australian natives to a white man, in contradistinction to *blackfellow*; **white flag**, (*a*) a flag of a white colour displayed in token of peaceful or friendly intention, desire for parley (= *flag of truce*, FLAG *sb.*8 1 b), or surrender; (*b*) the national flag of France before the Revolution (see 6 b); **white flux**, (*a*) leucorrhœa; (*b*) see FLUX *sb.* 11, quot. 1826; † **white-folding**, some kind of cloth; **whitehass, hawse**, *Sc.* = *white paddock* (*a*); **white fox**, *fig.* in proverbs; **white fur**, *white fox*, etc. subdued to a fortunate person or thing (cf. sense 8); **White House**, popular name for the official residence of the President of the United States at Washington; **white joint** (see quot.); † **white joke**, name of some dance; **white loach** (see LOACH *sb.*1 2); **white letter**, *Printing* [LETTER *sb.* 1 2 b], an occasional name for the (now) ordinary or 'roman' style of type, as distinct from BLACK-LETTER; **white lie**, (*a*) see *y* LIE *sb.*1 1 b; (*b*) see *white* 8; **white-loose** (see quot.); † **white mark** = WHITE *sb.* 6; **white mass** (see quot.); † **White Moors**, a nickname for the Genoese; **white mouse**, (*a*) an albino variety of fancy breed of the common house mouse; (*b*) a name for the collared lemming, *Cuniculus torquatus*, also called *snow-mouse*; (*c*) *fig.* applied to a person of mean or despicable character; **white night** (tr. F. *nuit blanche*), a sleepless night; **white note**, *Music*, a note with an open head, as a semibreve or minim (opp. to *black note*); **white paper**, (*a*) paper of a white colour (also *fig.*); (*b*) *techn.* blank paper, not written or printed upon; (*c*) an official document printed on white paper; **white post** (*Paper-making*), see POST *sb.*6 1; **white pudding**, (*a*) a kind of sausage made of oatmeal and suet (cf. BLACK PUDDING and PUDDING *sb.* 1); (*b*) ? a pudding made of milk, eggs, flour, and butter ? *Cent. Dict.*); **white rent** (*obs. exc. Hist.*), rent payable in silver money (see sense 2 b, and cf. BLACK MAIL 3); *spec.* in Devon and Cornwall, a rent or duty of eight pence a year payable by every tinner to the Duke of Cornwall; **white rod** = WHITE STAFF; **white rose**, the emblem, and hence (with capitals) a designation, of the House of York in the Wars of the Roses (see ROSE *sb.* 6); also adopted by the Jacobites in the 18th c.; **White Russian**, (*a*) a member of that branch of the Russian stock inhabiting the western part of Russia; (*b*) the dialect of Russian used by these; **white scourge**, tuberculosis (cf. *white death* above); **white-sewing** = *white-seam* (SEAM *sb.*1 9); **white sheet** (see SHEET *sb.*1 1 b); **white slave**, a white person (sense 4) who is, or is treated like, a slave (cf. SLAVE *sb.* 3); **so white slaver, white slavery** (*spec.* in reference to prostitution); † **white son**, a beloved or favourite son; a boy or man who is specially favoured or petted (see 9); **white squadron**, one of the three squadrons into which the Royal Navy was formerly divided; **white squall** (see SQUALL *sb.*3 1 c); **white steep**, a process, or liquor, used in bleaching (see STEEP *sb.*1 1, 4, and cf. *grey steep* s.v. GREY *a.* 8); **white stone**, in prov. phr. *to mark with a white stone*, to reckon as specially fortunate or happy (in allusion to the use of a white stone among the ancients as a memorial of a fortunate event); **White Sunday**, an etymologizing modification of WHIT SUNDAY; **white ware**, white goods or stuff, *esp.* white earthenware; **white window**, a stained-glass window in grisaille (see GRISAILLE); **white wings** *fig.*, sails; † **white woman**, name for a 'female' ingredient in alchemy.

1743 *Landon & Country Brewer* III. 195 Devonshire 'White-Ale. About 60 years ago this Drink was invented at or near Plymouth. It is brewed from pale Malt. 1806 Worlidge (P. Pindar) *Treatise* Wks. 1812 V. 341 Your birthplace Dodbrook design'd to bless Famed for white ale. 1823 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 290 The brewing of a liquor called white ale, is almost exclusively confined to the neighbourhood of Kingsbridge. 1879 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XI. 103/2. 1568 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 295 No baker, nor he 'white baker or brewne baker. 1633 *Stow's Surv.* 624 The Company of White-Bakers, were a Company of this City in the first yeere of Edward the second. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4399/5 Samuel Fryer,.. Whitebaker. 1880 Jones *Hall. Bk.* 185 White Bath. The Spotted Flycatcher. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xi. § 2. 775 In this condition it [sc. the skin] is ready for the operation of tawing, or passing through the 'white bath. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Trifolium*, [the white species [are known] as *wake-robin*, *white bath*, *birthroot*. 1735 in R. Bell *Pyrat. Conveyancer* (1878) 68 This is the common practice of employing 'white bonnets at runs was a manifest cheat. 1825 *Ibid.*, What is commonly called a white bonnet, that is, a person employed by the seller to raise the price, without any intention of buying for himself. 1808 Carlyle *Komin.* (1883) I. 205 Hazlitt, was at the Fonthill Abbey sale, 'hired to attend as a white bonnet there', said he with a laugh. 1437 *Cal. Pat. Rolls, Dublin* 218/2 m. 39 All 'White Bukes. 1897 *Times* 4 Feb. 5/3 Another Whitebook on East African affairs has been prescribed to the Reichstag. 1892 *Law Times* C. 5/1 Mr. Nightingale and Master Kekewich hunted through the White Book, and unearthed a rule sufficiently elastic. 1911 B. Nightingale *Epistles of Bridg.* II. 1097 The White Book of Bridgnorth was given to Bridg. 1660 Tarleton *Seven Deadly Sins* D, Here and there like a Prune in 'White-broth) is stucke a spruice, but a meere prating vnpatched Lawyers Clarke all in blacke. 1892 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academy Notions* 11 In White booth, and Canary steps him. 1913 Wilson & Carr *Putnam's Dict. Lon. & Banking Terms* 149 *'White Coal*, a fanciful name given to a glacier in so far as it is a source of water-power. 1916 *Fam. Key.* Oct. 307 Enjoying the Italians the clear atmosphere their towns..enjoy through the use of 'white coal' in place of black. 1588 *Holinshed Chron.* III. 1365/1 *Liues* 84 Sebastian..commanded one of his Souldiers to hold up the 'white colours at his Speare-end, in token of his surrendring. 1688 *Horne Almanry* III. ii. 317/4 The White Cooper and Hoop-maker, are two distinct Trades. 1837 Whitlock, etc. *Bk. Trades* (ed.2) 168 (*Cooper*) The White-cooper makes all the wooden vessels required in household concerns, dairies, private brewing, etc. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 613/2 The ''white death', as this most fatal disease is called, does not seem to hastily us as it should. 1892 *Pall Mall Budget* 25 Apr. 15/1 By all Her Majesty's Ships of War in Commission shall bear a 'White Ensign. 1870 J. O. Tucker *Mute* 52 The natives, believing him to be the Spirit of their deceased King, welcomed him with every demonstration of joy; hence the well known expression 'Go down backwards, come up 'whitefellow'. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxx. 765 There met him a ship of his owne, garnished with .. 'white flags of peace. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3101/2 The Enemy hung out a White Flag, and desired a Parley. 1885 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 129 A white flag was hoisted as a signal that the troops..had surrendered. 1607 Torshl. *Four-f. Beasts* 83 If a woman be troubled with the 'white flux. 1897 Allbutt's *Syst. Med.* III. 302 White flux is made by deflagrating a mixture of equal parts of nitre and cream of tartar. c 1423 in Raine *Ch. York. & Abps.* (Rolls) III. 307 Pro xii. virgis de panno vocato 'whytefaldyng. 1818 Scott *Dr. Examin.* xiii, There is black pudding and 'white-hass—by which he calls Sc like best. 1824 Mackaurgr *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *White House*, a favourite pudding. 1840 Barham *Ingoldsby* I. 241 Lady May not I..be esteemed the sonne of a 'whyte henne .. may we not men.., think, that I was borne in a good howse. 1630 R. Jonson *New Inn* I. iii, Call me the 'white hen of the white Hen. 1716 *Poor Robin* Feb. A 6, Money is a Chick of the white hen, he that hath it, hath fortune by the fore-lock. 1833 T. Hamilton *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 300 The President..having politely intimated that he received company every evening, I ventured..to present myself..at the 'White House'. 1882 W. J. Conroy *Points* 32 'White Joint.—One formed on opposite sides of the distinguished from blue mortar. Or it is made by pointing with white putty. 1704 Fielding *Tumble-Down Dick* Wks. 1766 IV. 250 That all the earth was one continued smoke, 'Twould not prevent my dancing the 'White Joke. c 1450 *Brut* 447 A leyche called 'whyte leyche'. 1573, 1750 [see LEECH *sb.*1 1]. 1790 Penn *Hints Egyptian Catch.* (1922) Pref. p. vii, The Form..of the Black Letter with Picture, seems (for cheapness sake) wholly laid aside, for that of the 'White Letter without Pictures. 1917 Heaven *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 15 It is printing in the white Letter, contrary to Mr. Urry's mind, who was resolved upon the black Letter and would not hear of the white. 1879 Chappell *Rom. Song* II. 2 Two of the above [songs] were issued by Whitwood.., one by Norris in white letter. 1899 J. Hutchinson in *Archives Surg.* X. 146 The pail..exhibits white spots in consequence [of injury]..'white lies'. 1897 J. Scoffern *Etc. Useful Metals* 344 Parts which were unsound, occasioned, apparently, by a white powder embedded in the steel: to distinguish this from the effects of imperfect welding, it was called 'white-loose. *Ibid.*, The files were without white-loose. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9 Thou blessed lie, 'white Marke for Envie's aime. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 333 His 'white mass,—

the first mass of a young priest. 1640 Howell *Inst to Trav* (Arb) 42 As it is proverbially said, there are in Genoa, Mountaines without wood, Sea without fish, Women without shame, and Men without conscience, which makes them to be termed the 'white Moores 1850 H. Melville *White Jacket* II. xxv. 167 A set of sly, knavish foxes among the cubs. In man-of-war parlance, they (are called) fancy-men and 'white-mice 1900 *Daily News* 10 Mar 8/2 The miserable, anaemic, shifty, human white-mice 1870 Browning *Ixion* xxviii, O the knotty point—'white night's work to revolve. 1908 Mrs Belloc Lowndes *Chantrys* vii, The almost entirely white night she had just passed. 1569 *Aldeburg's Rec. in N* 9 (2, 12th Ser. VII. 184/2, 1) quires of 'white paper. 1880 *Debates on Part* (1681) 166 These Bills will make your Banishing Bill, and Association Bill too, as ineffectual as White Paper. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 392 Although the Sheet be Printed Coal, yet the Press-men call that Heap White Paper, till the Reteration be Printed. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No 2194/4 Linen Rags, and other Materials for the making of White Paper. 1772 *Lunar. Mag.* Apr. 192/2 She 's fair White Paper, an unwilly'd sheet 1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* 47 Printing papers, sometimes spoken of in a trade sense, as 'White papers.' 1899 *Daily News* 13 Mar 5/4 An interesting White Paper has been published giving reports from our Ambassadors and Consular officers abroad on the telephone services in the countries to which they are stationed. 1687 *Get up and Save the Door* (1) in Herd *Sel. Songs* (1776) II. 159 And first they ate the 'white puddings, And that they ate the black. 1693 *Diary Wells* (Camden) 93 Dined on 'white meat. 1830 Bridder *Pitchy of Cornwall* 93 White rent is a duke payable yearly by every Lynner in the County of Devon, ... that is, of every Tynner 1664 Sherman *Collection of Statutes redditus* Vulgo Quit rente, qui & alius White rente nuncupatur, quod in denariis & argent' penditur. 1727 *Northumberland Duke* (Surtees Soc.) II. 97 Ye Gd. Rent of two or three freeholds in Woodburne 17 *Song* in Farquhar *Beaux Stratt* III. iii, 'White tods are no trifles, I'm sure, Whatever their learned may say. 1. Hawkwood *Whistle* (1815) I. v. 347 A chancery court and a court leet, sergeants and white rods 1558 G. Cavendish *Poems, etc* (1825) II. 56 Adieu, my sonne Edmond, adieu the royall mace! Of the 'wight rose and the red 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII* 4 The People, who had been fully made capable of the cleanness of the Title of the 'White Rose, or House of York. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 230 Divers were destroyed by the Georgian Party, only for having white Roses, a way by which the Cavaliers distinguished themselves. 1887 F. M. Crawford *Saracinesca* II. 'Italy is to the standards of the White Rose of York. 1912 D. M. Wallace *Russia* xxxix. 726 [The first Duma] was composed of many nationalities clustering round the dominant Russian. Intelligent graphical groups were the Great Russians (46%), the Little-Russians (62), the 'White-Russians (12), the Poles (52), the Lithuanians (10), and the Jews (5). Only 69 out of 442 in Kloba *Introd* xx 7 Throughout the world the most intense interest has been stimulated in the fight against the 'white scourge 1900 Conan Doyle *Adv. Gerard* iii, She learned 'white-sewing from an aunt 1596 *Zepheria* xxxvi F 2 b, I by fee being vaild, this penuance I award, Clad in 'white sheet, thou stand in Pauls Church-yard. 1900 Rhys *Celtic Folklore* I. v. 351 Old people still living remember men and women clad in white sheets doing penance publicly in the churches of Man. c1833 M. J. Sadler in *Mirr.* (1840) 405 I hear tender hearts were sighing As negro wrongs were told, While the 'white slave lay dying Who e'er turned their backs for gold? 1840 T. Carlyle tr. *Mr. Nimrod's Ger. Int.* IV. 87 Assume like many thousands of 'white slaves', that is, German subjects, who were then sold by their princes to the Dutch or English, had been shipped for the West Indies. 1889 [see Sense 1a]. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Apr 278/2 The villain of the piece is a 'white slaver [= procurer] 1882 C. Sheaton *Dawgs in London* 83 It is, indeed, the British White slavery [i.e. of dressmakers], only, with this difference, that their more fortunate sufferers [are] in the West Indies have regular food and opportunities of work 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* July 46 I have experiences of the ruinous effects of what has been called white slavery.. were embodied in Mr Sadler's famous Factory Report 1837 St. Antoni *Frostbitten* 94 The natural question, 'Why does not the woman escape from this white slavery?' is best answered by other queries —Whither can she fly? Which way can she find escape? 1591 Greene *Conjur Standish* (1592) I b, Marry will not though (what I see you followe you wholly mother) I call you her owne 'whyte soune *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. ii, Be his nowne white soune. 1577 Harrison *Crop Lamentl Engl.* in. vi. G 4 b, Young Allenso your white homne sonne *a* 1613 Overbury *A Wife* (1630) P 8 b, The Denni calls him his white sonne 1566 *Lamentac. Sir* 8 b, To steer after the Enemy, with the 'White Squndon on the Van, and the Blew in the Rear. 1840 [see Blue a 5 b]. 1893 [see Red *c* 16 d]. 1885 J. Payn *Confidences* vii, Act 5 of *The 'White Sheep* ... This part of the process is precisely the same with the last [sc. grey steep], except that the sheep's dung is omitted in the composition of the steep. *a* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. xiii (1890) 38 You are one whose Name I have mark'd with the 'whitest Stone 1748 Smollett *Rod. Random* liii, 'God be praised! a white stone!' he alluded to the *Dies fastis* of the Romans, *alio lapide notati* 1888 Hubnaday *Two Yrs in Jungle* xxvi 318, I have marked that day with a white stone as being the one on which I ate my first durian 1685 Vaughan *Silex Scint* II (title) 'White Sunday. 1577 in Eliis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 26 I here canvas and 'whitewash 1843 *Botfield Hingest* II. 32 A new and unecclesiastical composition Font, containing a white-ware hand basin. 1913 Kirby *Anc. Glass* 45 A small 'white window, made up of quarries (panes) decorated in brown enamel and in a white and coloured border. 1823 Brande *Cossart* I. ii, How gloriously her gallant course she [sc the ship] ran! Her 'white wings flying. 1882 Blake (title) White Wings: a Yachting Romance. 1820 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Your red man, and your 'white woman, With all your brothe, your menstrues, and mineralls.

**12. Combinations.**

**a.** with other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= whitish, light), as *white blue, -brown, -green, -grey,* †*-hair, -lyard* (*q.v.*), *-red, -russet.* Also with other adjs., as White-hot, q.v.; **white-sick** (see quot.).

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Whoredom* 935 The Eastern winde driven on the roaring train Of 'white-blew billows. 1643 Baker *Chron., James* (1653) 615 Course paper, commonly called "white brown paper. 1884 J. Hook *Sayings & Ser.* II. *Passion & Prose*, v, A small packet of white brown paper. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* V. xii. 561 The white garden Sorrone hath.. whitegreene leasse *c* 1533 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. 32 Some faire white, nor 'white gray paffrein. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 28 The gray freeres chaunged their habietts from London rossette unto white grey. 1814 J. Smith *Panor. Science* (1882) 128 The hair of the wild Cat is very long, and of a fine white grey. 14 *Gay Wards* (Lond.) 4725 Hys fadur sa olde and 'whytehorn. 1577 Googk *Heresbach's Husb* 116 The best colours [for a horse] the rone, the 'white lyard, the bay, the vorell 1607 [see Lyard]. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Woodman's Bear* xliv, Red white bulls, and 'whitefaced plumes 1600 Haydn *Plimy* xxvii. x II 446 A piece of cloth of a white russet colour 1797 *Lincol. Brit* (ed 3) XIII 538/2 The female (oyster) is white sick (as they term it), having a milky substance in the fin

**b.** with vbs and pples, usually in instrumental sense = 'with white', 'in white (clothing or covering)', or with complemental force = 'so as to be, become, or appear white': as *white-paint* vb.; *white-bleached, -boiled, -clad, -clothed, -faced, -flecked, -marked, -pointed, -salted* (see Herring 1 b), *-set* (*Bot. ppl. a.* 6a), *-spotted, -tanned, whitehoofing, -whitening, -looking, -wearing* adjs

1830 *Wethering's Instr. Pl.* (ed 7) IV 303 'White b. rdered Cupping Perim 1823 *Coll. Poems* (ed. Joanna Baillie) 459 The 'white-bleached waters. 1880 *Ash. Mag.* Sept. 243 'White-clad Arabs 1896 A. Hoy *Phrase* II, Groups of 'white clothed women. 1900 Mary E. Wilkins *Parson Lord* 160 Her 'white-faced black gown. 1908 *Athenæum* 18 May 618/2 'White-flecked with winged seeds of paved flowers 1827 G. Darley *Sylvia* 3 Beautiful Glen of the 'white flowing Torrent! 1795 Savage *Wanderings* 27 'White glittering ice, chung'd like the topaz, gleams, Reflecting vitrion lustre from his beams 1870 P. M. Duncan *Manchurian Transf Insects* 24 A flashy, 'white-looking grub 1888 *Nat. Hist. Naturalist* XXI. 58 The 'white marked tussock-moth 1897 *Mag of Art* Sept. 568 He whitewashed and 'whitehoofed Mr Gladstone 1828 P. Cunningham *Hist. Walcot* (ed 3) II 257 four 'white-panned tarpaulings. 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxvii, The pile of bodies with their twisted limbs and 'white set faces 1778 Wesley *New Hymns* 1. 'White spotted Willow Lady, how 1903 Conrad & Hueffer *Romance* I. iv, A red, white-spotted handkerchief. 1921-2 *Rev. W. Mary at Hill* (1904) 313 A lamb was left to be killed that it had a 'white tail tipped 1822 Campbell *Song of Greeks* 47 Our maidens shall dance with their 'white waving arms

**c.** Parasynthetic combinations, chiefly adjectives in -ed, formed on numerous compounds occurring in specific designations of animals or plants, as *white armed, -barred, -beaked, -bearded, -bellied, -billed, -bosomed, -breasted, -cheeked, coated, -crested, -faced, -flanncllled, -flowered, -frilled, -fronted, -glowed, -handed, -hatted, -hoofed* (*-hooved*), *-horned, -leaved, -legged, -lipped, -tailed* (List 2b.) *-winged, -mantled, -plumed, -railed, -ribbed, -ribboned, -rimmed, -robed, -rooted, -rumped, -shafted* (Shaft 12 a), *-shanked, -shouldered, -skinned, -sleeved, -stained, -stockinged, -streaked, -tailed, -throated, -tipped, -toed, -tooth, -topped, -tufted, -tusked, -veined, -waistcoated, -walled, -wanded, -whiskered, -wristed*, etc.; etc., **white-backed**, having a white back; † in early use (of a document), blank on the back, unendorsed; **white-blooded**, having light coloured or colourless blood, without red corpuscles, as most invertebrate animals; **white-crossed**, having the figure of a white cross; **white-eyed**, having white eyes; having the iris of the eye white, or having white plumage around the eyes; **white-favoured**, wearing white favours (Favour 1b 7b); **white-hearted**, (*a*) faint-hearted, timid, cowardly (cf. sense 5 and White-livered); (*b*) pure-hearted, saintly (cf. sense 7); **white horsed**, (*a*) bearing the figure of a white horse; (*b*) having or driving a white horse or horses; **white-loaded**, having a white or pale look or aspect; **white-mouthed**, (*a*) having the mouth white with foam, foaming; (*b*) having a white mouth or lip, as a shell; † **white rigged** (*whyt regged*), white-backed (see Rigged a.1); see also White-haired, etc.; also **white-flesher**, a name for the ruffed grouse, from its light-coloured flesh or meat.

1908 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 31 Jul 258 The white-armed Goddess 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 87 As must gete lenger day of his parte, and her for y sende yow be write 'white lorked. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 81 Bs White-backed Thrush. 1869 Newman *Brit. Moths* 16 The 'White bunred Clearwing (*Sesia Sphegiformis*). 1811 Shaw *Gen Zool.* VIII. 1 White-bellied Woodpecker 1820 *Sportsman's Dict. IV.* 20 Palisaffle, that old 'white bearded Sathan. 1611 Cotgr., *Carpion*, a kind of .. 'white-billed Trout. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 1 The *hounds mufne*, or great white-billed Swift of Gibraltar 1892 Coues *Key N. Amer Birds* 82 White-bellied Nuthatch. 1782 Latham *Gen Syn Birds* I. ii. 253 'White billed Woodpecker. 1822 'White-blooded [see *red-blooded*, Red a. 14 a]. 1838-8 *Todd's Cyel. Anat* I. 165/1 The natural position of the white-blooded worms is by the side of those with red blood. 1793 Columbian *Centin Nonathonn* 8 They blessed the 'white-bosom'd Maid 1736 P Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 470 The 'white breasted Guinea-Hen 1593 Marlowe *Dido's Elegies* II. xviii, 'White-cheekt Penelope knewe Vlisses vgnie. 1787 Pennant *Hist Quadrup.* 331 White cheeked Weasel. 1838 Dickens *Oliver Twist* xv, A 'white coated, red eyed dog 1866 Howells *Venetian Life* xii 168 The white coated sentinels 1676 Ray *Willughby's Ornith* 122 'White crested Parrot 1848 C. C. Clifford & *Birds of Aristophanes* 34 Whitecrested motions. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* lviii, The windshaken foliage and the white crested waves 1634 Lithgow *Trav.* vii. 329 'White crowned. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn Birds* II. ii 478 'White eyed Warbler 1832 Audubon *Ornith. Biogr.* I. 328 The White eyed Flycatcher, .. *Vireo Noveboracensis.* 1833 Jennyon *Nat. Hist* IX. White-eyed phantasms weeping tears of blood 1595 Shake. *Jn. Abr* II. i. 21 That 'white-faced shore 1781 Pennant *Hist Quadrup.* 82 White faced Antelope. 1898 Stanley *Sioux & Pal* II. 235 The white faced bill .. is the 'Blanche Garde' of the Canadian chronicles. 1898 H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* I, The children, white faced and melancholy. 1850 Jennyson *In Mem* Conel 20 I the time drave on, And found those 'white-favour'd troops at last 1889 *Harper's Mag.* July 290/2 'White flannelled cricketers. 1832 Sir J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer* II 349 *Istiophorus nobilianus.* Ruffed Grouse; .. White Flesher 1634 J. Johnson *Hers Jest* 40 'White flowred Rush grasse 1848 Jennyson *Godiva* 63 The white flower'd elder-thicket 1887 Carlyle *Fr. Rev* I. iv, Gilt-edged 'white-frilled multitudinals 1892 Harry *Anc. Inns* II. 1. 1. Vaulted maids 1768 Pennant *Brit Zool.* II. 490 'White Fronted Wild Goose. 1712 *Post Boy, Arch* 13 Why round our coaches crowd the 'white-gloved Beaux! 1892 Harry *Hart and Episodes* 318 The big, white-gloved policeman at the door 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 230 'White handed Mistris, .. a sweet touch 1900 Conan Doyle *Adv. Gerard* 213 O welcom pure-eyd Faith, white handed Hope 1828 Stark *Elem Nat. Hist.* I. 60 White handed Lemur — White Handed Mad-goose 1834 *Mech. Mag.* XXI. 385 *Anas discors*, A brown-whiskered, 'white hatted, no crested cuckman 1617 Barne *On Eph* 1. (1643) 8 Such 'white-hearted Christians as are not Mamalukes. 1892 Harry *Hart and Heath & to Land's End* 407 If the printer were a devout, white hearted man 1832 Jennyson *Oenone* 50 A jet black bull with 'white hoofs, milk-horned. 1892 Harry *Hart's Tale* 5 War .. her 'white horsed banner furls. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves, Morning* 1, The hour when white-horsed Day Chases Night her mates away 1820 *Horti Anglicani* II. 465 Chinese White-leaved Nettle 1892 Harry *Up to Yart Burlington* 16 Prentford, For dutty streets and 'white legg'd chickens know 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvii, As he rode away with his head bent forward 1892 *Field Florist's Text* (1896) II. 78 *Oncidium leucochilum*, ('white-lipped); 1900 W. J. Locke *Heart of Baltazar* xiii, She replied, white lipped 1892 Harry *Love you till I die* 1859 Jennyson *Merlin & V.* 788 The tree that shone 'white-limbed thro' the gloom 1690 *Lond Gaz.* No 2596/4 He is a short thin faced 'white Boy 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. *Hirundo* (1830) 53 Are fore mair, 'quhyt mainet and quhyt taillet 1895 Scott *Betrothed* iv, The 'white mantled Welshmen 1892 Charles & Mary Lamb *Lett.* II. 283 I Whereat the angry Knight, forsooke His 'white-mouth'd Steed. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclog* xiii 64 The white-mouth'd Billowes of y Sea 1815 Blomfield *Hom. Conchol.* 200 *Volvata Alpicpica*, white mouth'd Melon. 1647 P Fletcher *Locusts* II. iv, As when the angry winds with seas conspire, The 'white plum'd hulles marching in set array Invade the eastern Sea. 1597 *Locrine Shakesp* xi 235 A white plumed helmet 1909 H. Belloc *Cautious*, 'White rail'd cattle pens 1791 Peter *Gaugh*, I. viii 80 Sm'th 'white rib'd Bandicoot 1892 Harry *Hart* 8 Purfle & *Pyes & Psyche* Now 21, Taking his fair 'white ribbon'd Lord's wand. 1768 *Ill. of Arts & Sc.* C. (Sutres 1893) 19 One 'white ringed Ox 1892 Harry *Hart Heath* I 214 Under a 'white-tinded birch 1625 Milton *Death Lart Infant* I 54 That crown'd Mation sage 'white rohbed Truth. 1816 Wordsw. *Waggoner* I. *Invocation* 'Tis time to content' 76 I the white robed choir 1893 W. Sharp in *Mem* (1912) 214 A white robed Dedoun herding goats. 1893 Miss Thurston *Flower of Forest* I. The fruitful orchards and 'white-roofed cottages 1824 Latham *Gen. Syn Birds* I. ii 244 'White Rumped Black Cuckow. 1892 *Rennie Butterfl & M.* 240 The 'White Sh ded Hume [Shield] (*Peteresthusa alcesta by.bus*) 1881 L. F Poynter *Among the Hills* II. 217 The still, 'white shrouded meadows. 1892 R. Rennie *Butterfl and Moths* 200 We found the valley blocked up with white sheeted figures. 1900 Mary E. Wilkins *Parson Lord* 160 Her 'white-sleeved arms. 1768 Latham *Gen Syn Birds* I. i. 190 'White Shouldered Shrike 1787 Bryant *Hymnet* I. v. 9 Join the white shouldered smiled 1588 *Il ills s Sir Dinh*, (Surtees) II. 33 One 'white sided why 1824-9 Wood *Horses without H.* xxi 234 That [tree] which is made by the 'white skinned Birch 1892 Harry *Hart Heath* 8 If A white nose, so that he be not a' white skynned aboute the mouthe 1579-80 North *Plutarch, Agesilaus* (1595) 1 Agesilaus had very small eares, because they saw them white skinned, soft, and delicate. 1852 School Craft *Amer. Indians* 184 I have white-skinned, sunken haired, and the very reverse 1900 Mary E. Wilkins *Valley near Dover* 4 Boys. In 'white-sleeved shirts 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Lousiad for Oliver* etc. 30 To close with kisses sweet his 'white-smeared mouth 1892 R. W Dickson *Pract. Agric* I. 130 The 'white-strawed wheat takes its name from the colour of its ear 1642 'Quhyt taillet [see *white-breasted* above] 1882 J. M. *Leith's Ramblings of 45* 43 Thus is the fine wild animal I've seen except antelope and white-tailed deer 1776 Pennant *Brit Zool* II. pl. xxxvi, 'White throated duck? 1899 Allen *Adam Lindsay* xxiv, A white bird that flew out and ran across the path. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer Birds* 184 the outer feathers 'white-tipped 1837 Richardson *Fauna Boreali-Americana* 13 July, A beautiful white hair and 'white tongued flatterer. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-b.* Prose 5 The 'whitest tooth'd blackamoore in all Africa. 1892 Harry *Hart Heath* 8 Ye 315 As when a hundred 'white toothed dogs against some hounds. 1805 R. W Dickson *Instr Agric* II 619 The.. 'white topped, and the Dutch turnup. 1867 Morris *Trans* II. 624 The white-topped billows. 1650 W How *Phytol. Brit.* I 'White Ruffled Wormwood 1872 Coues *Key N Amer Birds* 209 White-tufted Communal. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Mercury* vii, The wild 'White tusked boars. 1896 Mrs. Browning *Aur Leigh* I. 81 The 'white veiled, rose crowned maidens. c1250 Peither *Gesythi* (ed. 2) Common 'white-veined

Butterfly 1868 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. iii *Lost & Found*, A rich trail of the white-veined ivy which crept over the ground 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* ii, The white waistcoated gentleman 1826 Byron *Poet Chidlon* 339, I saw the *white* wall'd distant town 1822 J. Hunt *Indicator* 25 May 321 2 Any *White* wainscoted Lord at eleven 1829 Stephens *Shirley Gen Zool* XI 16 *White* whiskered Pigeon 1916 Cutting *Man who wrought it* x, The white-whiskered face of his host 1761 Chapman *Hind* xv 130 *White* wrinkled Sumac

**d** with sbs, forming sbs (or phrases used attrib) in senses (*a*) 'of, pertaining to, or consisting of (a) white ——', as *white brick, fleece, -linen*, (*b*) resembling (a) white ——', as *white-dough, -loaf, rag, -sand, -satin*, (*c*) 'having or characterized by (a) white ——' (equivalent to parasynthetic adjs. in *ed* see c), as *white-lerry, -tailed, -toze, -underwing* (see Underwing 2), **white bead** *bandstring*, name for a species of coral resembling a string of white beads, **white-blood** *disease* (cf. *white blood* in II d) = Leuchæmia, **white hart** *tuzee* (see quot. 1658), **white leaf**, applied to a species of frog with white spots (see also White-Fat, -Line, skin *adjs.*

1696 Pulkeney *Almagestum Bot* Wks 1769 II 118 *Cotiledon fistulosa Tanacetifolia, Asphodelifolia* 'White Lead Plantain' *g dn* 1814 Lewis & Clark *Trav Miss rivers* xxvi (1815) III 194 'Whiteberry huckuckle 1866 Virgin *Fract Med* II 69 Thrush is a 'white blood' disease proceeded from a primary affection of the spleen and lymphatic glands 1909 H. Belbir *Cage* i, A little 'white-back' cottage 1888 *Chamb Jrnl* 18 Mar 344 III 97 *Ia Agrostis canina*, White d ugh mu hroom 1781 Pennant *Brit Quadrup* I 189 'White Eyed Monkey. The upper eyelids of a pure white 1818 Keats *Endym* iv 669 Honey cells, Made delicate from all white flower bells 1731 Camden *Instamnia* (ed 4) 250 Ipsa prædia quæ illi tenuerunt a Rege, unque dieri quotannis multæ nomine pecuniam in locum reginæ pendendam, qui *White hart Silver* appellatur 1658 Phillips, *Bla kbird Forest*, Called The Forrest of Whitehart from a very beautifull White hart, which King Henry the third taking great delight to spare, was killed by Fulke Lande, which so incensed the King, that he set a perpetual Fine upon the Land, which at this day is called Whitehart silver 1802 Shaw *Gen Zo* I III 127 'White leaf Frog' Its colour is rufous above, variegated with milk white spots 1756 F. Home *Exper Inquiry* 26 Ice which has been used to white linen, called 'white linen' by the 1813 Vancouver *Agric Devon* 161 The land sown with the turnford and early 'white leaf turnip 1781 Pennant *Hist Quadrup* I 230 'White Nose Monkey 1882 in 'White' Nat Hist 1888 *Good Study Med* (1889) I 326 Earthy or 'white sand' calculi 1749 H. Walpole *Lett* II 161 The 'white satin moth' *Hind* 23 Its spotted and 'white underwing moth' 1909 *Westm Gaz.* 9 Dec 4 2 The common 'white underwing' moths

**e** sbs in which the second element denotes a distinctive part or attribute of that which is denoted by the whole word **white-back**, local name for (*a*) the canvas-back duck, (*b*) the white poplar (from the colour of the under side of the leaves), (*c*) collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot. 1832), **white-bark**, local name for various trees with white bark (see quots.), **white-breech, tr. L** *pygargus*, Pygarg 1; † **white-cloak**, ? = White monk, **white-comb**, a form of favus attacking the combs of fowls; **white eye**, name for various birds, either having a white iris, as the white-eyed pochard (*Nyroca ferruginea*) and the white-eyed fly-catcher (*Vireo noveboracensis*), or having white plumage around the eyes, as the species of the genus *Zosterops*, also called *silver-eye*, **white face**, a name for Hereford cattle; **white-front**, the white-frontel goose, *Anser albifrons*, **white hat**, one who wears a white hat (in quot, as *quasi* proper name), **white-hood**, a regent member of the senate of the University of Cambridge (*obs* exc. *Hist*), **white leg**, the disease *phlegmasia dolens* (see Phlegmasia), **white-nose** = *white-nose monkey* see 12 d (*c*), **white point**, collectors' name for a moth (*Leucania albipuncta*) having a white dot on each of the fore wings, white-root, the herb 'solomon's seal, from its white creeping rootstock, **white rump**, (*a*) the wheatear, *Saxicola œnanthe*, (*b*) the Hudsonian godwit, *Limosa hæmastica*, **white sides, white spot**, collectors' names for species of moths (see quots), **white spur**, title of a class of esquires who wore silvered spurs, **white stocking**, one who wears white stockings; in quot applied to a horse with white legs, **white straw**, name for a variety of wheat; **white-tip**, an artificial fly; **white-top**, (*a*) a N. American species of bent-grass, *Agrostis alba* (cf. Red top 2); (*b*) an Australian tree, the Flintwood (*Eucalyptus pluvialis*), **white-wig**, one who wears a white wig

See also Whitebard, -feather, etc.

1814 Alex Wilson *Amer Ornith* (1832) III 128 Canvas-back duck on the Potowmac [they are called] 'white-backs' 1825 Forby *Voc. E Anglia, White-back*, the white poplar, *Populus alba* So called from the whiteness of the under side of the leaves 1832 Rennie *Butterfl & M* 199 The White back (*Hypomenesis pennicilla*) 1700 Pluknett *Mantissa* Opera 1769 III 213 Lappula Alsinoides Americana 'White Parke Barbadensibus vulgo 1889 Maiden *Useful Pl Australia* 411 *Cupania semiglauca*, White Tuck (*Bot 491 Heterophragma quinatum*, White Bark 1661 Hickeringill *Jotcraft* (1693) 216 Tripheras Canes the Hares Hair the 'White Breech too, the Scythian Phesant, And the Grecian Goat 1620 Lodge *Summary of Du Bartas* ii 22 The white Cloakes, the Larmes, the Augustines, the Fernandines, the Iacobins, the Cordeliers. 1856 *Poultry Chr* II 40 A list of diseases Apoplexy, 'white comb', cramp, [etc.] 1898 Gould *Birds Australia* IV *Bi Eclectus Pectoralis*, Grey backed Zosterops] 'White eye 1882 Jones *Brit Birds* 625 White eye, the Nyroca Pochard 1860 W. Baker *Naturalist* 93 I surveyed down into the fertile champaign of the 'white faces 1918 E. I. Sinot *Incin. Praises* 277 Honkers, 'White fronts and Ducks 1893 C. Mather in G. L. Burr *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 285 that spirit by them [ac the Newfoundlanders] called 'White Hat, who ordinarily appears on the Shore, in a White hat a little before some dangerous Tempest 1764 *Amer Acct Chron* 58 Unbridled Liberty appeared among the black heads places, 103 Among the 'white heads the proctors accounts differed 1880 Mayne *Exp* I *Pt* I, 138 *Rhynchops*, The Cheese Cutter 1776 Goldsm *Nat Hist.* (1824) II ix 157 The seventh [monkey] is the Moonge, or 'White Nose 1869 Newman *Hist Brit Moths* 135 White point (*Leucania Phragmitidis*) 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I lxxx 1 White route or Salomons seale is of two sortes 1797 Bewick *Brit Birds* I 2 The White rump Sandpiper 1829 Shaw *Gen Zool* XI 168 The White rump has a very slight tinge 1888 G. Dallas *Natural Birds* 9 *Limosa hæmastica* [called] at West Boxville, White rump 1832 Rennie *Butterfl & M* 197 The 'White spot (*Hypomenis alba, Anomis*) 166 The White Spot (*Scythophanes albimacula*) *Ibid* 244 The White Spot (*Mamestra unipuncta*) *Ibid.* 246 Impolita The 'White spot (*Hypomenis punctivitata*) 1600 Camden *Britannia* (ed 3) 140 Rex armiferos cientes illis temporis Scotis seligum unum ingredi, secundis, & augentibus Anglis, ut ex tribus unus de tribus evaderet, qui ceteris patibus occantur *White spurres* ad discrimen Equitum auratorum qui auratis calcaribus ut solent 1706 *Lond Gaz.* No 4193 4/4 Whereas Thomas Hall of Ipswich, Gentleman, stands and hath stood indicted for Felony, for stealing certain Sheep, marked on the Buttock with a 'White straw & so sting 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract Agric* II 145 Of the several sorts of wheat, in other countries bearing the appellation of the Kentish white straw 1867 J. Francis *Bk Angling* xii 373 The 'White Tip is to have a length of three inches 1828 *Sporting Mag* XXII 8 The grasses are 'White clover, 'white top and red top 1889 Maiden *Useful Pl Australia* 102 *Eucalyptus pulverulenta*, 'White Top of Hawkesbury 1832 Rennie *White Tip* (New South Wales) 1673 Dryden *Marr à la Mode* Prol, 'White Wig and Visard must no longer par 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* I 470 The Pettoquam which is S and in Italy is a white like Spirit of Turpentine 1893 Spenser *Cattarina* xxii, She looked white like as she beheld the lightning of the sword

**White**, *v.*1 (Also 4–6 whit, whytt-) [OE *hwitan*, I, *hwit* White *a.* Cf OHG., MHG. *wîzen*, (G. *weissen*), Goth *hweitjan*]

† **1.** *intr* To become white = Whiten *v* 2 *Obs*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxiii 123 Hwæs hod wendals on ham gelicnesse, and hyra hiwung wæs gelic on him æxternysse ... *a* 1225 *Ancr A* 150 Pe bouh liown he adunde'h, he hwite'h wi'hten *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* v 901 Ful many a word ther was pe mercy of Alcione shal Ossinde shene Al Estwind 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* xviii vi (Bodl MS), Conle bildeþ dry substaunce & whitiþ in natt sul substaunce 1538 Starkey *Just Peas* 118 b, Euerie person that vseth the contynyeall of making of lyes, shall make them good and alde and throughout hys life 1581 Rich *Farewell* xvi 28 They haue washed and whited their garmentes in the bloud of the Lambe 1588 Hackett *Hackett's New found Worlde* 11 Mylke is but blood whitted in y^e vdder 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev* iii. v, Your Passion hath sufficiently whited your face 1649 *Lawe. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc) 234 Who can white a blackmore? 1721 *Lond Mercury* 1 (1720) 16 For a yellow how, or stale one green, Can ever in his Shop be seen, Because he puts in use a strange Device, to white 'em when they please

*b spec.* To cover or coat with white, to whitewash; also *fig* = Whiten *v* 1 *b*, d. Now *rare*.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 15 Mannes þuh, he is wi'hten liwetted, he wi'hinne stinkende *c* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* II 111. 61, I shal keure þowre kirke Wowes do whiten *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* ii. cxxii. (1869) 121 As the snow embelisheth and whiteth a dong hep with oute 1534–8 *MS Rawl D* 777 *ff* 32 b, Purgyeying and whytying the Sepvlcres. 1572 *Ludlow Chwrch. Acc* (Camden) 149 For lyme, to make an end of whitinge the churche 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 23 A farthing worth of flower to white him ouer and wamble him in *a* 1688 Fletcher *Bloody Brother* iv 3, Thou White'st over all his vices. 1632 Widdowls *Nat Philos* 25 As it were Lead whited with silver 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq* 270 *note*, At Oxford, at this Time, the little Crosses cut in the Stones of Buildings, to denote the Division of the Parishes, are whited with Chalk 1883 Scott *Quentin D* xxvii, When he had thus cleared his conscience, or rather whited it over like a sepulchre 1833 Loudon *Angel Arcist.* § 235 the ceilings ... as well as the pediment in front of the house, to be lath laid, set, and whited.

*transferr* 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* II. 373 That at anes, as vses to be said, tha wil quhite tuo walis 1689 H. Burton *Bank no Bedrel Pref* 22 b, I doe in the Booke as the Proverbe is, white two walls with one brush.

† **c.** To blanch; = Whiten *v* 1 *c*

1530 Palsgr. 457/1, I bleche, I whyte clothe 1541 *Act 32 Hen. VIII. c.* 15 § 1 The said lynnen yarne must lye vnwhite for one halfe yere to be whyted 1822 *Imble Mackie* 3 His raiment became exceeding white as snow so as no Fuller on earth can white them 1898 Sweyn *Jr Guard* (1675) 208 The manner of whiting it [ac lettuce] under cauthen pote 1914 *Jr Pk Chaste* 128 Wax, bleached or whited in Foreign Parts, imported

**d.** *pa pple* Of a horse: see quot. 1737.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr* (1757) II 5 He is called well Whited if his Under Feet be both White 1760 Hinde *Horse Matches* 12 He is a compleat strawing horse, well whited 1870 *Daily News* 6 June, Mr. Rose's and His Majesty's, in addition to being finely whited, had a pleasing action

**e.** *Intrans.* To space *out* (matter) with 'white'.

1892 A. Oldfield *Man Magic* 115 Rights for whiting out bills and placards are made of wood

**White**, *v.*2 *Sc.* and *n. dial* Also 6 t. quhite, 7 whyt, 9 *dial* whit [north. variant of Thwite. Cf. Whang.] *trans.* To cut slices off (a stick, etc.) with a knife or other sharp instrument, to pare, to whittle,

1567 *Gude & Godlie B* (S. T. S.) 77 Stock and stane .. Quhik man may cuthe or quhite 1662 in W. Hunter *Lazar & Leper Hosp* (1864) 4 Item, the wheelbars and dykelitts thane [ac arrow heads] with a sharp hing lyke a paking needle 1799 J. R. Bertson *Agric. Perth* 267 Boys, who white a stick until it be fit for a whistle 1808 Jamieson *Etymol Dict* s.v. 1890 Service *Notandis* 111 62 Ye can be whittin a stick

**White** see Quil, Wiggil, Wigil, Wil, Wite.

**White acre.** Also with † *baker*, *wiseacre*

† **1.** *Law* An arbitrary name for a particular parcel of ground, distinguished from another called Plack acre, q. v. *Obs*

1642 in *Jenkins Prof Ch* viii § 96 If a man seised in fee of white acre and Black acre devisable and deviseth white acre unto A. [etc.] 1658 [see Black acre]

**2** A local name for white quartz

1796 Marshall *Rural Econ Berking* I 16 A species of crystal, or quartz,—grown chalky whitish, which in colour, is nearly white, sometimes tinged with red. 1839 De la Peche *Rep Geol Cornw*, etc. xv 473 *note*, Quartz is comm only known as whiteacre in eastern Cornwall and part of Devon

**Whitebait** (hwaitbeit). Formerly **white bait, white bait** [f White *a.* + Bait *sb*, so called from its former use as a small silvery-white fish, caught in large numbers in the estuary of the Thames and elsewhere, and esteemed as a delicacy

Formerly reckoned by some as a distinct species but now proved to consist of the fry of various fishes, chiefly the herring and sprat

1758 *Descr Thames* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Weelin or a Whitebait 1798 *Lond Gaz* 15 *Maimesbury* (1870) I 93 We got back to Greenwich to dine We had the smallest fish I ever saw, called whitebait, they are only to be eat at Greenwich and are held in high estimation by the epicures 1832 Peacock *Crotchet Castle* xii, As delicate as whitebait in July. 1836 Mollard *Cookery* 38 To dre s White Bait. This is a fish peculiar to Greenwich and Blackwall 1862 Mrs. Beeton *Bk Household Manag* 1 There are people who dislike salmon and whitebait, and spring ducklings, and all manner of old established delicacies

**b.** *attrib.*

*If luncheon dinner* a dinner at which whitebait was eaten, held annually at Greenwich and attended by cabinet ministers from early in the 19th century till 1874 For the origin of the dinner see *Notes & Queries* 3rd Ser I 201 1836 Disraeli *Let to Lord Glenelg* 19 Mar, His Majesty's Ministers may then hold Cabinet Councils to arrange a white-bait dinner at Blackwall *Lond Encycl Rural Pursuit* xiii, Whitebait parties at the Ship (1859) *Lewis Piet Dunn* xxxvi, The freshman that has sorrel to the realm of white bait with a Minister] 1906 L. T. Cribbin *Antler to Chanter* 201 White bait shoals swarmed in the Lower Thames and the Medway.

**c** Applied to other small fishes in different parts of the world resembling this and used as food.

e g. the Chinese and Japanese species of family *Salangidæ*, various N American species of silversides, and various fishes of Australia and New Zealand (see quots)

1882 Tenison-Woods *Fish N S Wales* 58 Dr. Castelnau states that the [*Argyrosomus antarcticus*] is very common in the Melbourne market and goes by the name of 'White-bait 1883 *Royal Comm on Fisheries of Tasmania* 191, Ketopunna Richardsonii, which we smelt ... Captured in great abundance in the river Tamar, in the prawn nets. 1886 Stevens *Handbk Fishes N Z* 141 Together with the young of *Retropinna Richardsonii*, they [ac *Galaxias attenuatus*] are called whitebait

**Whitebeam** (hwai tbi:m). Also white beam, **white-beam.** [Of uncertain origin. Perhaps an alteration of Whitten on the analogy of *quaken* and *quickbeam*.] A small tree, *Pyrus Aria*, having large leaves with white silky hairs on the under side. Also *whitebeam tree* (incorrectly *white beam-tree*. See Beam-tree).

1705 S. Dale *Pharmacol.* Suppl., Index, The White-Beam-Tree, Aria. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 388 Of all soils this is the most favourable to beech, white-beam, [etc.]. 1800 [see Beam-tree]. 1908 C. J. Cornish *Nature. in Thames* 152 The hawfinch is seen..picking up white-beam kernels.

**Whitebeard** (hwaitbīərd). ▪

**1.** An old man with a white beard.

▪ Also as *quasi-proper* name: in quot. 1450 probably in allusion to the representation of God the Father as an aged man.

1450 Sir J. Fastolf in *Paston Lett.* I. 131 They shall be quyt by Blackberd or Whyteberd; that ys to sey, by God or the Devyll. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 112 Whitebeards (*misprr.* White Hearse) haue arm'd their thin and hairelesse Scalpe Against thy Maiestie. 1849 Scott *Anne of G.* xii. ▪ If she were worth twenty crowns,'..said the old whitebeard.

**2.** Name in Australia for the plant *Stypheliа tricoidеs*, from the white hairs on the corolla.

1898 Morris *Austral. Engl.*

**Whitebloweꝛ,** obs. var. Whitlow.

**White-bottle.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See Bottle *sb.*¹] ▪a. The ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*. ▪b. The bladder campion, *Silene inflata* (Treas. Bot.).

a 1400 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 45 *Consolida media*,..habet ..flores album luteum..et purum, similem camomille sed maiorem..ac⁹. white-bottel uel seynt Mary maythe. 1655 French *Distill.* ii. 36 Take..White-bottles, Scabius, Dandelyons, of each one handful.

**White boy, whi·teboy.** Also ⁊ white-boy.

†**1.** A favourite, pet, or darling boy: a term of endearment for a boy or (usually) man. *Obs.*

Cf. White *a.* 9, and *white son* in 11 c.

1590 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 69 Whose white boy is that same? 1600 *Timon* v. iii. (1842) 10 *Gelas.*..What speake the virgines of me?..*Fed.* They terme you delight of men, white boye, Noble without comparison. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* v. xiii. 241 The Pope was loth to adventure his darlings into danger; those white-boyes were to stay at home with his Holiness their tender father. 1650 Naseb *Q. & A. Treat.* 277 Joseph..was not only his earthly fathers white-boy, but his heavenly's also. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi, Were war at the gates, I should be one of her Ice Q. Elizabeth's white boys.

†**2.** A surpliced choir-boy. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1691 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 32 The Organs set up with a ding, The White-men roar, and White-Boys sing.

**3.** (usually with capital.) A name adopted by or applied to the members of various illegal, rebellious, or riotous associations. ▪a. *Eng. Hist.*

1644 (*title*) The Devills White Boyes: or, A mixture of malicious Malignants. 1684 Dryden tr. *Maimbourg's Hist. League* Postscr. 47 When a Body of white Boys was altered appearing in the West. [*Footnote by Sir W. Scott*, White was the dress affected by those who crowded to see Monmouth in his western tour.]

▪b. *Irish Hist.* A member of a secret agrarian association formed in 1761: for the reason of the name see quot. 1762. Also *attrib.*

1762 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 84 Rioters..called Levellers.. likewise called White Boys, from their wearing shirts over their other cloaths, the better to distinguish each other by night. 1808- [see Right boys]. 1842 Madden *United Irishmen* I. 25 The Whiteboy disturbances..had no more connexion with religious controversy than with the disputes between the Scotists and Thomists. Whiteboyism was an association against high rents and tithes. 1844 S. C. Hall *Ireland* II. 59 Ambrose Power Esqre. was murdered on his own herald by a party of Whiteboys. 1881 Dillon in *Standard* 25 Jan., It was..a relic of the Whiteboy days.

▪c. *transf.*

1768 H. Walpole *Let. to Strafford* 25 June, Those black dogs, the whiteboys or coal-heavers, are dispersed or taken. 1803 J. Neal *Brn. Jonathan* II. 290 Who knows but you are one of the tories yourself; or one o' the whiteboys—as cow boys—or skinners.

Hence **Whiteboyism,** the principles or practices of the Irish Whiteboys (see 3 b).

1778 *Phil. Surv. Sc.* VII. 313 Till some step is taken in favour of tillage and the poor Whiteboyism will probably remain. 1842 [see 3 b]. 1893 *Times* 9 Oct. 3/6 Five men who had been sentenced at the Kerry Assizes in 1888,—for moonlighting and whiteboyism.

**White bread.** [Cf. MHG. *wîzbrôt*, G. *weissbrot*, LG. *witbrôd*, Du. *witbrood*.] Bread of a light colour, made from fine wheaten flour, as distinguished from Brown bread.

1383.. in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 354 Euerych bakere of be town.. shulde make whitebred, e⁊ *ageyn Cuthbert Mallyn in Engyl. Misc.* (Surtees) 60 Na bakar yᵗ bakys qwhyte brede schall bake brown brede..nor be yᵗ bakys brown breide schall bake no qwhyte breide. 1583-34 Stubbes *Anat.* ⁋ 94 Polerde wheate..is greatter corne, and wyll make whyte breed. 1598 *Epulario* D j b, Putting vnto it crums of Whitebread. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 816 Thou, that from Heav'n thy daily White-bread hast. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* (1813) II. xxv. 248 The white bread, fruit, and Spanish wines..I received as a present.

**Whitecap, white-cap** (hwaitkæp). [Cap *sb.*¹]

**1.** Name for several birds having a white or light-coloured patch on the head (see quots.).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 78 *Passeres*..*Montanus*..the White-Cap. 1874 T. Belt *Nat. Nicaragua* 238 The white-cap (*Microchæra parvirostris*, Law.), the smallest of thirteen different kinds of humming-birds that I noticed around Santo Domingo. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 31 Redstart..The male called 'whitecap' in Shropshire, from its white forehead. *Ibid.* 22 Whitethroat.. (from its grey head)..Whitecap.

**2.** *pl.* Local name for species of mushroom.

1818 *Withering's Brit. Pl.* (ed. 6) IV. 282 *Agaricus Georgii*..Gathered in abundance for the London markets, where they are sold as Mushrooms, but by the more discriminating country people called White caps. 1866 *Treas. Bot., White-caps*,..*Agaricus arvensis*..Horse Mushroom.

**3.** A white-capped or crested wave; a breaker.

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 438 None, or very few white-caps (or waves whose tops were torn off from the sea by the wind..; the surface of the lake was covered with white-caps. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 375/1 Numerous reefs.. marked by white-caps where the ebb tide rushed over them.

**4.** A person wearing a white cap; *spec.* one of a self-constituted body in the United States who commit outrages upon persons under the pretence of regulating public morals.

1891 *Tablet* 13 June 941 The Lynchers in such cases are usually called white-caps, regulators, &c. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 May/2 A White Cap..disguises himself and performs his errands at night.

So **Whi·te-capped** (-kæpt) *a.*, wearing a white cap or caps; capped with foam, covered with white-crested waves.

1800 Quinn *Mary* iii, White-capped old women looked on. 1804 *Whitehaven* (Ul. Ty.) XXVI. 447/2 A white-capped sea. 1899 *Stribner's Mag.* XXV. 75 The whitecapped cavalry were caught unaware by French's brigade.

**Whitechapel** (hwi·tʃæpĕl). [Name of a district of London, inhabited chiefly by persons of low character.]

**1.** *a.* In various slang uses, mostly *attrib.* (see quots.).

1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *White-chapel-portion*, two Yoaks, and what Nature gave. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whitechapel bread*, fat, ragged, and saucy. *Whitechapel beau*, who dresses with a needle and thread, and undresses with a knife. 1860 *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel*, a costermonger. *Whitechapel mail*, a cart. *Whitechapel's* donkey-barrow. 1869 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xxv(ii), What is termed in Albion a 'Whitechapel shave' (and which is, in fact, the razor, judiciously applied to the jaws with the palm of the hand). 1885 *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel fortune*, a clean gown and a pair of pattens.

▪**b.** *absol.* or *subst.* Applied to certain irregular or unskilful methods of play in whist and billiards: see quots. *colloq.*

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 60 ₱ 5 They know no more of the game [*sc.* whist] than what is called White-Chapel play. 1849 [see Chapel]. 1862 *Whitehall Rev.* 29 Aug. 11/1 A simple straightforward way of playing the game of whist, by leading all the winning cards in succession, without endeavouring to make the best of the hand. 1866 *H. & Q.* 3rd Ser. V. 12/2 In Saying at Whist, when you play ace and king of a suit—'That is Whitechapel play'. *Ibid.* 440 All brilliant players know, that when an adversary pockets his stake, he is called 'White hand'. 1870 *Ibid.* 2nd Ser. I. 64 Whitechapel is the act of doing so being considered anything but etiquette. 1899 A. Mainwaring *Cut Cavendish* 12 Avoid the hateful 'Whitechapel', *i.e.* the lead from a single card.

**2.** *Whitechapel needle*: some particular make of needle; in quot. 1828 allusively. *U. S.*

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 2/1 Whitechapel and Glovers needles. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 188 He had pricked his fingers with 'Gammer Gurton's needle', in buying a Whitechapel one. *Note*, A cant phrase for a counterfeit copy of this old play.

**3.** In full *Whitechapel cart*, a kind of light two-wheeled spring cart.

1840 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 122 For a minister with a family, a white-chapel is, upon the whole, the best of the open conveyances. 1859 *Carriage Builder's Art Treat.* 2 1862 A light Whitechapel Cart, available to the use of a country gentleman. 1875 *Hints to Vng. Taxiders* 6 Whitechapels (from the fact that the passengers sit *back to back*, and *outside*) are dangerous to get up of in any emergency. 1900 Gunton *Patent Specif.* No. 1332 Improved seat-shifting fittings for Dogcarts, Whitechapels or any other vehicles.

**4.** as *adj.* Low, vulgar.

1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 7/5 The humiliation of the party by the Whitechapel scene of Tuesday.

**Whitecoat** (hwai·tkōut). Also **white-coat,** ⁊ **white coat.**

**1.** A soldier wearing a white or light-coloured coat: cf. Buff-coat 2. (Also *attrib.*) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* ▪b. In modern times, an Austrian soldier.

1555 in Arb. *Garner* VIII. 60 A certain Band of White coats, sent unto them from London. 1562 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 221 VI spearesh a greate differens..betwene the exercised souldior and the rawe white coat. 1571 R. Hannatyne *Mem.* (Bann. Club) 92 There began flyting,.. 'Awaye blewcoate!' 'I defy the whytcoate!' 1625 *Hoby Woord If you know not me* C2, Enter three white-cote souldiers. 1632 — *Engl. Eliz.* 113 For her guard two hundred Northern White Coates were appointed..to watch about her lodging. 1644 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. 631 The Marquess of Newcastle's Regiment of White Coats were almost wholly cut off for they scorned to fly. 1662 A. Cooper *Strabologia* 71, 115 In the main battail do our white Coats stand. 1840 How. Smith *Oliver Cromwell* II. 129 Newcastle with all his whitecoats.

▪**b.** 1861 Mereditн *Let. to Bey. T. Rees* 19 Nov., Verona.. is now less a City than a fortress. You see nothing but white coats—who form the majority of the inhabitants.

**2.** A young seal, having a coat of white fur; also the fur itself.

1798 G. Cartwright *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitecoat*, a young seal, before it has cast its first coat, which is white and long. 1850 *Daily News* 28 May, 6/4 The skin of the small pup seal..is of small value, being known as 'Whitecoat'.

**Whitefish.**

**Whited** (hwaitĕd), *ppl. a.* Now *rare* or *arch.*

**I.** [f. White *n.*¹ + -ed¹.]

**1.** Covered or coated with white; *spec.* (*a*) plastered over with white, whitewashed, as a wall, building, etc.; now chiefly in the biblical phr. *whited sepulchre* (Matt. xxiii. 27) used allusively; ▪(*b*) of metal, tinned or silvered; also occas. *gen.*, c. g. of land covered with snow.

1340 *Ayenb.* 228 Huo bet is yhol of lodie and ueul ine herte is ase be berieles yhuited. 1388 Wyclif *Acts* xxiii. 3 Thanne Poul seide to hym, Thou whited wal, God smyte thee. 1552 Huloet, Whyghted or paynted with white leade, *cerustatus*. 1645 Milton *Hor. Ep. i. xvi. 40* in *Tetrach.* 39 But his owne house, and the whole neighbourhood Sees his foule minde through his whited skin. 1660 Stirmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 2 Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeited if any such be Imported. 1733 Pope *Donne's Sat.* iv. 151 He tells..What Lady's face is not a whited wall. 1764 Dodsley *Leasowes* in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1777) II. 308 A whited village among trees. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* iv, Thin old whited sepulchre, society. 1857 Emerson *May-day* 109 The whited desert knew me not, Snow-ridges masked each darling spot.

**2.** Whitened by deprivation of colour; *spec.* bleached, as cloth; also, peeled so as to expose the white interior.

1509 *Dunmow Churches. MS.* ll. 10 b, xxv. ells of whytyd normundy at vid the ell. 1652 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 284/4 A considerable quantity of Whited Linen. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 139 About a load and half of whited bark. 1897 P. Warung *Tales Old Regime* 205 John Donnell,..brown complexion,..whited raised spot on lower part of right eye.

†**3.** *Whited brown* (of paper); whitish brown, whity-brown. *Obs.*

1700 *Lett. Land. Jrnl.* (1721) 11 Having put up my Books [etc.] in a Sheet of whited-brown Paper. 1846 Dodd *Brit. Manuf. Ser.* vi. 18.

**II.** [f. White *v.* + -ed².]

**4.** Of an egg: Having white or albumen (of a specified kind). *rare*—¹.

1599 T. M[offet] *Silkewormes* 66 Whited alike, and yellow yolked all.

**White-ear,** *sb.* and *a.* [Ear *sb.*¹] ▪**a.** *sb.* A gastropod resembling, or having some part resembling, a white ear; e.g. one of the family *Vanicoridæ*, having a white-ribbed shell with a wide opening. ▪b. *adj.* White-eared.

1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Haliotoidea*, White-ear Snail; Venus's Ear. 1826 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIII. ii. 57 White-ear, Haliotis. 1840 Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 131 White-Ears (*Auriconidæ*).

So **Whi·te-eared** (-iərd) *a.*, having white ears; (of a bird) having white feathers around the ears.

1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 84 White-Eared Thrush.

**White feather,** in phr. *to show the white feather*, etc.: see Feather *sb.* 11 b. Hence **White-feather,** one who 'shows the white feather', a coward; **White-feathered** *a.*, *lit.* having white feathers; *fig.* 'showing the white feather', cowardly; **White-featherism** (*nonce-wd.*), cowardice.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *White feather*, he has a white feather, he is a coward, an allusion to a game cock, where having a white feather, in a proof he is not of the true game breed. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 70 According to the boxing phrase, shewed the white feather. 1826 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* iv, 'He has a white feather in his wing', said Simon,..somewhat scandalized by his ready surrender. 1883-[see Feather *sb.* 13 b]. 1887 Borrow *Romano Lav.* xliii, Jack is a gentleman,..whilst Luther, though bred a lord, is a screw, and a 'whitefeather'. 1888 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 4 He was one of the 'white-feathered sort'. 1894 *Fowl-ry Chron.* I. 49 All white-feathered poultry are tender, save Aylesbury ducks. 1893 [James] *Commissioners* iv, 37 But he might show as little white feathism as possible.

**Whitefieldian, Whitfieldian** (hwaitfi·ldiăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. proper name *Whitefield* or *Whitfield* + -ian.] ▪**a.** *sb.* A follower of George Whitefield; a Calvinistic Methodist. ▪b. *adj.* Of or belonging to George Whitefield or the Whitefieldians. So **Whit(e)fi·ldianism, Whit(e)fi·ldism,** the system or doctrines of the Whitefieldians; **Whit(e)fi·ldite,** a Whitefieldian.

1744 in G. T. S. Farquhar *Three Eps. Dunkeld* (1915) I. xl. 94 He is looked upon by Lyon at Perth..as a Whitefieldian. 1748 *St. James' Even. Post* Oct., Hamburg..A new set of Methodists (much like our Whitefieldites). 1785 *Town Eccl.* 87, I treated him with ridicule and contempt, he being a Whitfieldite. 1879 Gladstone *Glean.* VII. 254 Whitefieldism on the one hand, and the clericalism of the eighteenth century on the other. 1885 *Scribner's Mag.* XXX. 390/1 Puritanism, quakerism, and what may be comprehensively called Whitefieldism. 1915 G. T. S. Farquhar *Three Eps. Dunkeld* I. xl. 94 A discourse..upon the Christian doctrine of Justification (evidently intended to test his Whitefieldianism).

**Whitefish** (hwaitfiʃ). Also **white-fish, white fish.** [Cf. Du. *witvisch* bleak, LG. *witfisk*, mod. *l.*.. *albus piscis*.]

**1.** A general name for fishes of a white or light colour (esp. those having silvery scales without spots or ornamental colours), as cod, haddock, whiting, etc.

1486-8 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 Samon, herings, hake, whitefishe. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxvii, This fisch is richt plentuous of codlis, oisteris [etc.]..with grit plente of quhit fische. 1611

Drayton *Polyolb.* ix. 131 Those White-fish that in her [R. Lin] doe so obound-ly abound, Are never seene in him [R. Dee]: nor are his Salmons found At any time in her. 1701 [W. Hallaway] *Comm. Trade* (1750) 28 The vast numbers of herring and white-fish in all our channels, inlets and lakes. 1789 Bp. *Augstus* (ed. 3) 131 Carshalton-river, abounding with trouts and other white-fishes. 1805 Kingsley *Heroes.* xxvi, The great lake...seeming the white-fish flying in shoals.

**2.** The Great Sturgeon (= Beluga 1); the White Whale (= Beluga 2).

1662 J. Davis tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 165 A Fisherman...took a *Sterlegen* or white-fish, which was about eight foot long, and above four broad. 1698 A. Brand *Ibid. fr. Muscovy* 31 The Oby...abounds in...Sturgeon, Whitefish or Belluga's, and others. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 611 The White-fish are likewise in these Seas, like a Whale, but without Fins on the Back. 1792 G. Carswright *Trad. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitefish*, a fish of the Purpoise kind.

**3.** A common name for the fishes of the genus *Coregonus*, of the family *Salmonidæ*, found in the lakes of North America, and valued as food.

1748 [see Tittyard]. 1778 T. Hutchins *Top. Descr. Virginia* 43 Lake Erie has a great variety of fine fish, such as Sturgeon, Eel, White Fish. 1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 29 *Pomotomus saltatrix*...Blue-fish; ; white-fish and snapper-skate (herring). *Ibid.* 33 *Brevoortia menhaden*...white-fish (Saybrook to Milford, Connecticut). 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 160A The famous *Coregonus albus*, or White Fish, of Canadian lakes.

Hence **White fisher**, one who catches white fish (sense 1); **White fishery, fishing**, the occupation of catching white fish.

1528 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 121 All the *quhit fischaris...covenyt to gif to thair chaplane...xxiid. in the yer. 1602 *Ibid.* (1848) II. 229 William Greme Brabner, Patrik Hochoun, and James Symsoun, quhytfischeris in Futtie. 1772 *Newspaper Cutting* (Doune Printed S. 109) Died at Montrose, ...Thomas Milne, white fisher, aged 110 years. 1802 *Edinburgh Daily News* 26 Mar. p. 1 The Committee have devised a *modus vivendi* by which the rights of the salmon fishers have been protected, and at the same time the rights of the white fishers have been established. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 163 Small vessels [employed] in the ‘White Fisheries. 1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rur. Sports* viii. 935 The British fisheries, which, besides the herring, embrace the cod, ling, haddock, skate, halibut, turbot, &c. are collectively termed the white fishery. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* xi. 171 Cum *lie stellaare*, halecare et salmunum pischcapiendum et *le Quhite-fischingis*. 1703 J. Brand *Descr. Orkney*, etc. 79 Excelling any other place of the King of Britain's Dominions for Herring, White and Cod-fishing. 1892 *Rep. National White Fish. Comm.*, The white-fishing industry...on the Scottish shores of the Solway Firth.

**Whiteflaw,** obs. var. Whitflow.

**Whitefoot** (hwəi·tfut), *sb. sc.*) [O.E. *hwīt-fōt* adj.]

**1.** *Farriery.* A white marking on a horse's foot (see quot.); also, a horse with such a mark.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl., White-foot*...called in French *Balzane*, is a white mark that happens in the feet of a great many horses, both before and behind, from the fetlock to the coffin.

**2.** Collectors' name for a species of moth.

1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 110 The Whitefoot (*Spilosoma*, *Gene. Syn.*)...Wings dusky brown,...with a large median hook-shaped white band.

**3.** *Hist.* A member of a secret society in Ireland who committed murders and outrages about 1832.

Pl. **whitefeet** (also ineg. used *attrib.*).

1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 107, I find that the Whiteboy system has for the last sixty years continued under different names; as, Peep-o'-day-boys,...Ribbon men, the Lady Clares, the Fairy Alts. Now we have the Whitefeet and Blackfeet. 1832 *Boston Herald* 9 May 2 An armed party of Whitefeet paid the third visit to the house of the long threatened Jeremiah Farrell. 1833 *Ibid.* 12 Mar. 3/6 James Jarlan, a Whitefoot, for attacking the house of one Roche, and killing him, is to be hanged on Monday. 1886 *Irish Rev. Gaz.* 4 Sept., The massacre of whitefeet men in the last days of that unfortunate secret society in the Queen's County.

**B.** *adj.* White-footed. *poet.*

1807 Morris *Jason* II. 329 White-foot fno smiling, sat alone.

So **Whi·te-footed** *a.*, having white feet; **Whi·te-footism,** the practices of Irish whitefeet.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wulcker 604/14 *Petulus*,...whyt foted *i. dicitur ita equo.* 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp. s.v. Chausse Whitefoot*, A white-footed horse. 1832 in *Illus. Curele's Lett.* 49 (1809) II. 211 One of the prettiest little white-footed black rats you ever saw. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* 91 The white-fo ted Antelope of Nilgihar. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* x, His white-footed nag. 1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 77 If they continue suffering under hardships,...Whitefootism will revive again.

**White friar.** [White *a.* 6 a.]

**1.** A Carmelite friar (whose habit is distinguished by a white cloak and scapular). Also, loosely, a Premonstratensian or White Canon.

1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 Willyam Colar, than lesnde prouinciall of the Quite Freris of Scotlande. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iii. ii. (1883) 83, I haue my self ben conuersant in a religious hous of white freris at gaunt which haue all thynge in comyn. a 1550 *Lyon Chron.* in *Scot Iowis Chron.* (1911) 193 In this yere one William chyslarow and a whyght fryere was hanged drawen and quartered. 1603 Stow *Surv.* 312 The white Fryers church in Fleetstreet. 1760 Br. Forbes *Jrnl.* (1886) 170 An Abbacy if *Premonstratenses*, or White Friars. 1766 [see Carmelite].

**2.** *pl.* The Carmelite convent in Fleet Street, London; hence, the district or neighbourhood in which it was.

"Having been formerly a sanctuary, it long retained the privilege of protecting persons liable to arrest, and thus became the resort of debtors...and profligates" (Nares). Hone *attrib.*

1561 Awdelay *Fraat. Vocab.* (1869) 51 There came...a Counterfet Cranke vnder my lodgynge at the white Fryares. 1609 B. Jonson *Silent Wom.* Prol., Cates...fit for Ladies;...Some for your waiting-wench, and city-wives: Some for your men, and daughters of White-Fryars. 1620 Melton *Astrologaster* 36 Some of his White-Fryer Mistresses.

**3.** *colloq.* or *dial.* A flake or particle of white snow or froth floating on liquid.

1729 Swift *Direct. Serv.* i. (1745) 72 If the Cork be musty, or White Fryers in your Liquor. 1856 P. Kennedy *Banks Boro* xxv. 191 The white-friars came at last on the potatoes in the big pot: they then proceeded to boil.

**White-gum** 1. [after Red gum 1, q.v.] An eruption of whitish spots with a red border (*Strophulus albidus*) incident to young children.

1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 81 Another species [of Red-gum]...often of a pearl colour and opake, which has generally been accounted a kind of red gum, but it has of late been suggested might...be termed the white-gum.

**White-gum** 2. [Gum *sb.*2 5.] Any species of *Eucalyptus* with white or light-coloured bark. Also **White gum-tree.**

1827 P. Cunningham *Two Years in N. S. Wales* I. xii. 180 The red and white gums (so named) from their wood. 1827 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* XV. 278 [the ground-parrot] chiefly breeds in a stump of a small White Gum-tree. 1892 *Argus* (Melbourne) 13 May, On the lower slopes [of the range] the blue-gum trees become first commingled with trees locally designated whitegum and black butt.

**White-haired,** *a.* [Cf. ON. *hvíthærr*, *-hærðr.*] Having white or hoary hair, esp. from age. Also, covered with white hairs or down, as a plant.

c 1400 *Sir Harbel.* c 1450 *Alphabet of Tales* 519 Now I am olde & white-haired. 1530 Palsgr. 299/1 Whyte haered, *chenun.* 1726 *Papers rel. Scots in Poland* (S.H.S. 1919) 10 In the white-haired people. 1784 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 825 *Bryum cuspidatum*...leaves...white haired at the ends. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lxii, The white-haired gentleman's affection for the girl. 1884 Miss Braddon *Vixen* I. viii. A sweet gravity about her...as charming in her white-haired age as in her fair youth!

**Whitehead** 1 (hwəi·thed), *a.* and *sb.* (In earlier use as a personal name, e.g. *Jon Hwitheaved* (1332) in *Lit. Cantuar.*, Rolls, I. 458.)

**A.** *adj.* = White-headed, *rare.*

1557 Thynne *Animadv.* (1865) 11 Graue and whyte-headde Fathers. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 162 White-head waves.

**B.** *sb.* †**1.** app. A white head-dress. *Obs.*

1577 [see *Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 31 Partye headeswhiteheades for gentlewomen attendaunte vppon the mourners.

**2.** A name for various species of birds having the head (wholly or partly) white: see quots.

1686 Blome *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 174 Partridges; the first, when newly hatched, are called White-heads. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 542/2 Two other small birds from New Zealand, the latter of which is known as the ‘Whitehead’ and ‘Yellowhead’, were referred to the genus; under the names of *Œothmas*[1] *albicapilla* and *O. ochrocephala*.

**3.** A West Indian feverfew, *Pathenium Hysterophorus*.

1864 Griesbach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 388.

**Whitehead** 2. A kind of torpedo, invented by Robert Whitehead.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Nov 5/2 A blow with even an ordinary Whitehead, let alone the improved Whitehead of the German navy, would practically rip the bottom out of the strongest ship afloat. 1898 Kipling *Fleet in Being* v. 54 Fancy a Whitehead smitten on the nose by one little shell. You'd go down.

**White-headed** (hwəi·theded), *a.*

1. Of an animal: Having the head (wholly or partly) white; having white hair, plumage, etc. on the head.

(Freq. in specific designations of various birds.)

1674 Ray *Willughby's Ornithol.* VI. 11 On white whiteheaded. 1547 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 53 One whitheaded calff. 1785 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* II. 196. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 286 White-headed Woodpecker.

**2.** Of a person: White-haired, esp. from age; also, having very light or fair hair, flaxen-haired.

1815 Scott *Guy M.* i, A great white-headed, beer-legged, lubberly boy of twelve years old. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxv, A small white-headed boy with a sunburnt face. 1886 Tennyson *Locksley Hall 60 Yrs. after* 38 This old white-headed dreamer.

**b.** In Irish colloq. use, with *boy*. Favourite, darling cf. White *a.* 9 and White boy 1.

1820 Matthew *Melmoth* I, He was always her 'white-headed boy', she said,—*timpirinis*, his hair was as black as jet. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* ii. 23, He was always my white headed boy, and I stuck to him with life.

**3.** Of a wave: White-capped, white-crested; also of a sea covered with such waves.

1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* viii, An angry, white-headed sea. 1900 E. Pauncefote in *R. F. A. Ann.* (1910) 10 The tri ous march of mad, white-headed waves.

**White-heart,** *sb.* and *a.*

1. *sb.* In full *white-heart cherry* (or *white heart-cherry*; cf. *black-heart* s.v. Black *a.* 19): A light-coloured variety of cultivated cherry.

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 143 The Maw-duke, white-heart, Black-Orleance and the Morella. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* xxvi, The blackbirds eating our white-heart cherries.

**2.** *adj.* Having a white or light-coloured ‘heart’. 1900 *Daily Express* 25 Apr. 6 4 Pine white-heart lettuces.

**White heat.** [Heat *sb.* 1 c.] That degree of heat or temperature (higher than *red heat*) at which metals and some other bodies radiate white light; the state of being white hot.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *White* or *Flame Heat*; is a Degree of Heat given by Smith-to their Iron...: This is a less Heat than a Welding Heat. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 357 If a bar of iron or steel, at a white heat, be rubbed with a roll of sulphur, the two bodies combine,...forming sulphuret of iron. c 1865 Lethery in *Circ. Sci.* I. 89/2, 2000° [or an incipient white heat].

**b.** *fig.* A state of intense or extreme emotion.

1839 Syd. Smith *Ballot* 8 There are politicians always at a white heat. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 248 Carlyle is one of the natures, rare in these latter centuries, capable of rising to a white heat. 1883 W. H. Bishop *Ho. Merch. Pr.* xix. (1885) 292 There was a vixenish quality in her anger when at white heat.

**White horse.**

**1.** The figure of a white horse: see Horse *sb.* 23. Also as the sign, and hence the name, of an inn.

1647 in Nightingale *Ejected of 1660* (1911) II. 909 Send one of Yor servants to the White horse without Creeple gate.

**2.** A creature with a white horse: see Horse *sb.* 11.

1849 Kingsley *Let. in Life* vii. (1879) I. 168 The bay is now curling and writhing in white horses under a smoking south-wester. 1888 Rider Haggard *Mr. Meeson's Will* v, Looking at the ‘white horses’ chasing each other across the watery plain.

**3.** Local name for a species of ray (fish).

1710 Sibbald *Hist. Fife & Kinr. Addenda*, The white Hove. **4.** The West Indian shrub *Ipomœa grandiflora* (N. O. *Rubiaceæ*), with large white flowers, cultivated in hot-houses.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1230/1.

**5.** A tough sinewy substance lying between the upper jaw and junk of a sperm-whale.

1874 C. M. Scammon *Marine Mammals* 372.

**6.** *Mining.* (*local.*) See quots. and Horse *sb.* 11.

1886 J. Harbonan *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *White horse*, intruded white trap in a coal seam.

**White-hot,** *a.* Also **white hot** (now *rare*). Heated to such a degree as to radiate white light; at white heat.

1820 Shelley (*Ed. Tyr.* ii. i. 172 Innocent Queens o'er white-hot ploughshares tread. Unsinged. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 299 Even bright red hot fuel will cool a white hot crucible. 1879 *Encycl. Sanit.* (1879) I. ii. 30 To display all these colours at the same time the...wire must be white-hot.

**b.** *transf.* (rhetorically): Very bright and hot. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 38 Cool and dim, after the white-hot sunshine.

**c.** *fig.*: cf. White heat b and Red-hot 2.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 552/1 You occasionally turn white hot. 1890 Le Gallienne *Meredith* 13 Carefully he himself had a more white-hot hatred of ‘simulacra’.

**White iron.** [= med.L. *album ferrum*, F. *fer-blanc* tin-plate.] **a.** Tinned iron, tin-plate. **b.** Cast iron of a silvery colour containing a large proportion of carbon in combination.

1832 *Ure. Ind. High Trees. Scot.* VI. 155, vj mesouris of quhite tyne for the haghstiv charge. 1628, 1745, 1881 [see Iron *sb.*1 2]. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1252 The only alloy of iron interesting to the arts, is that with tin, in the formation of tin-plate, or white iron.

**c.** *attrib.* †**white-iron man, smith,** a tinsmith.

1733 in *Rec. Convent. Burgh. Scot.* (1886) V. 528 Spurriers, gunsmyths, whiteiron smyths. 1765 Phil. Thicknesse *Inwent. Walt* (1854) I. 73 My old white-iron man [*Scotus, Anglicè*, tin-man] is dead. 1785 Boswell *Hebrides* 19 Aug., James Hood, White Iron Smith. 1814 Scott *Waw.* lxiii, Deacon Clank, the white-iron smith.

**White lead,** *sb.* [Lead *sb.*1 Cf. L. *plumbum album* (in class. L. = tin), OF. *blanc plomb.*] A compound of lead carbonate and hydrated oxide of lead, much used as a white pigment; also called Cerube.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 508 2 Whyte led, or blanke plumbe. c 1450–1864 [see Lead *sb.*1 2]. 1634 Peachan *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1906) 131 Your flesh-colour is commonly compounded of white lead, lake, and vermilion. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 210 White Lead, is the principal ingredient used in house-painting. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 487 White lead ground up with oil, when spread upon ships of cloth, is very useful for making joints tight.

**b.** *attrib.*: **white lead ore,** native carbonate of lead, cerussite.

1706 *Land. Gaz.* No. 4216/4 The White Lead-House at Rotherhith. 1778 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 202 White Lead ore. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 179 The box...is put together with white-lead joints, as these are perfectly water-tight.

Hence **White-lead** *v.*, *trans.* to cover or impregnate with white lead.

1863 W. C. Haldwin *Afr. Hunting* i. 12 White-leaded and varnished the boat. 1882 Nelson & Kemp *Pract. Boat Build.* v. 53 A piece of Stockholm tarred or white-leaded paper.

†**Whitelewe,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. White *a.* + -lewe.] = Whitely *a.*

1465, etc. [see quot. 1308 2 s.v. Whitely *a.*].

**White lime, white-lime,** *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Lime *sb.*1] Lime mixed with water as a coating for walls, etc.; whitewash. Also *attrib.*

1508 Pannell *Sulerne's Regim.* c j b, A playster made of Auripigmentum, Brymstoone, whyte lyme, and Sope, mynggled to gether. *a* 1658 Cleveland *Plaid. Law* iv. Wks. (1687) 112 Pictures might court each other and exchange Their white-lime Looks. 1824 Southey *Sir T. More* I. 173 The old cottages...Substantially built of the native stone... divided with no white-lime

So **White-lime** *v. Obs.* or *dial., trans.* to coat or cover with white lime; to whitewash; hence **White-limed** (-lɑimd) *ppl. a.*, **White-liming** *vbl. sb.*; also **White-limer**, one who white-lines, a whitewasher.

1. *Life of Teare* (Horstm.) 122 Je roten pat leoth with-oute *i*-whitlimede and bispaken Jay... And withlime tulle of caroyne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 111 Ypocrysie... is lyknod...to a wal pat were whitlymed and were foule with-inne. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Suche medleynge is...nede-ful...to pargetie and whitelyme walles. 1562 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 54 Alle chuches new whyte-lymed, with the commaundmentes wrytyne on the walles. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxvii. 2 The Iewes are commanded, To gather great stones, & to whitelime them ouer. 1602 *Ballad Coll. O. & Soc.* (MS.) Item for lyme, and the laborers worck, to whytlym the Hall, xvi*s*. 1634 Bedderton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 13 The great church... most daintily...whitelimed. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 98 I've...shallow hatred boyes, Ye' white-limb'd [*sic*] walls. 1624 Donne *Serm., Matt.* iii. 27 (1640) 426 If we be not onely *Deathbait Christians*, (as S. Augustine speaks) White-lim'd Christians, Christians on the outside. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* i. ii. § 13 As white-lined houses exceed those which are only rough-cast. 1611 Cotgr., *Pimenar...*a Whitelimers brush. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 121 Hayre, such as the whitelymers use. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Whytylymynge, *calcificacio*. 1547-8 in Swayne *Churchiw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 235 To Lytchefelde for whitelymynge of the same. 1611 Cotgr., *Blanchir*,...whiting or whitelining.

**White line, white-line,** *sb.*

1. *Anat.* a. (tr. L. *linea alba*.) A longitudinal band of tendinous tissue extending from the sternum to the pubis. b. A whitish band in the pelvic fascia extending from the symphysis pubis to the spine of the ischium.

1598 Florio, *Linea alba* [*sic*], the line or hollow tying from the nauell, the white line, the vmbelicall veine. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. ii. (1722) 6 The white Line... is a tendinous Substance, form'd by the mingling each of those Muscles as meet...in it. 1874 Heath *Anat.* (ed. 3) 286 'White line' of pelvic fascia.

2. *Printing.* A line left blank between two lines of type.

1583 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. 87 That no Letters or Spaces lye in the White-lines of the Form. 1770 Lucombe *Hist. Printing* 250 Open matter, with leads and white-lines between.

3. a. = Robbin *sb.*1 2. b. An untarred 'line' or rope (cf. White *a.* 2 a, quots. 1769, 1846).

1804 J. F. Cooper *Pilot* xxvi. III. 35 'Robbin, or white-line; they are the same thing, indeed the young reader.' 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Line, White-line*, that which has not been tarred.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (with hyphen) = *white-lined* (see below).

1869 Newman *Brit. Moths* 30 The White-line Dart (*Agrotis Tritici*)....There is generally a sinuous line or interrupted series of linear spots parallel with the hind margin.

So **White-line** *v., trans.* to mark with white lines; so **White-lined** *a.*

1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* Index 285/1 White-lined Black. 1916 *Bks. Bus. Dep.* Oct. 498/1 Rolled and white-lined for the game [of tennis].

**White-liver.** *Obs.* [White *a.* 5.] A 'white-livered' person, coward, dastard; 'a flatterer' (Jam. 1825).

1615 Br. Hall *Contempt. ix. Gideon's Prep.* 103 Oh thou white liver! doth but a foggy word, or a frowne scare thee from Christ? 1623 Hickeringill *Greg. Fr. Greyb.* 207 Milk-sops, dastards and white-livers.

**White-livered** (-ɑivd), *a.* Having (according to an old notion, still surviving locally) a light-coloured liver, supposed to be due to a deficiency of bile or 'choler'; and hence of vigour, spirit, or courage; feeble-spirited, cowardly, dastardly.

1549 Chekе *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) F j b, What white liuered Cities hath not only not withstande them, but also with shame flouted them. 1589 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iii. ii. 34 For Bardolph, her is white-liuer'd red-face'd; by the meanes whereof a' faces it out, but fights not. 1640 Harsnet *Gods Summons* 154 Assurance of victory puts courage ...into the most white-liuered, and fearfull soulder. 1721 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 21 A white liver'd, sneaking, mean-spirited...Fellow. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ii, A double-faced, white-livered, sneaking spy. 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *Robt. Elsmere* xviii, No need to be white-livered, but every need...to take no hasty needless offence.

**Whitelow,** obs. form of Whitflow.

**Whitly** (hwi·tli), *a.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: **4 whitlohe, 4, 7 whitly, 6 whitlie, whytley, whytely, 5–whitely**; *Sc.* **5 quhitlie, 6 quhitly, quhytly, quhittlie.** [f. White *a.* + -ly 1.] Whitish; pale; light-complexioned, 'fair'.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. ix. (Tollem. MS.) (A phlegmatic man is] whitly in face, ferful of herte. *Ibid.* xi. vi, Ravene bridles white þey ben whitliche [*ed.* 1495 whitelew, 1535 whitelewe, 1582 whitlewe] in feperis, or þey ben blake. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, A Bucke is a diuerse beste; he hath nought his heer as an hert, for he is more whitely. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 214 Four lokkit steidis full different of hew...The second steid.. Quhilile and paill. 1598 Record *Urin. Physick* x. (1651) 82 If...the colour of the garland [of the urine] be white, or whitely, it is a token full of good hope. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 17 He was fair and quhittlie. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iii. i. 198 A whitly wanton, with a velure brow, With two pitch balls...for eyes. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. xxii. (1890) 414 Those whitely Stars... Which make the Milky-Way. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* ii. 141 You have his whitely Look. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 112 Whitely things are ay tender. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* May 62 ...how like to his whitely eyes.

*Comb.* 1508 Pannell *Sulerne's Regim.* (1541) c iij, A flematike person is whytly coloured: the colerike is browne and hasty. 1588 *Cert. Scottish Writers* II. 83, The Prince of Ascule was a slender made man, whitely facad. 1656 *Mercurius Politicus* No. 330 Flaxen haired, whitely faced.

**Whitely** (hwai·tli), *adv.* [f. White *a.* + -ly 2.] So as to be or appear white; with a white colour or aspect.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxvi. (Tollem. MS.), Amonge all sterres Venus schineþ most comfortably and whitly. 1611 Cotgr., *Candidement*, whitely, fairely, in white. 1828 *Jrl. Horticult.* 1. 620 See her blooming first. More lilialy veri'd,...more whitely sweet Than those of sea-born Venus. 1844 Browning *Laboratory* i, These faint smokes curling whitely. 1856 Hardy *Ethelbirta* i, A whitely shining oval of still water.

**Whitely,** var. Quitely *adv.*

**White man.** Also †**white-man**, **whiteman.** †1. A man clothed in white: cf. White *a.* 6. In quot. 1691, a surpliced christener. *Obs. rare.*

1691 [see Peters]. 1693 *D'Ortleans's Hist. Mounsr. Ordere* xix. 216 Of the Order of the White Men. In the year 1309...a certain Priest, came down from the Alpes into Italy,...Cloathed all in White,...great crouds both of Men and Women ranne vnto him, and took White Cloaths like-wise on their Backs.

2. A man belonging to a race having naturally light-coloured skin or complexion: chiefly applied to those of European extraction: see White *a.* 4.

1695 Dapper's tr. *Ogilby's Africa* 3 [The Moors of Tetuan] are White-men, pretty well Civilized. 1791 W. Bartram *Cardinal* 96 The continels...perceiving that I was a whiteman, ventured to hail me. 1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in West* I. 164 We white men have been spoiled by education; we have been taught to think many things which the savage knows nothing about. 1904 Hazeldine (*title*) The White Man in Nigeria.

b. orig. *U. S. slang.* A man of honourable character such as one associates with a European (as distinguished from a negro): see White *a.* 4 b.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 913/1 You've behaved to me like a white man from the start. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 5 Triconpis the President is a white man—an extremely white man.

**White, whitemeat.** *Obs. exc. dial.* (Also with hyphen.) [White *a.* 2, Meat *sb.* 2. Cf. MSw. *hwitmatar* pl. (Sw. *vitmat*:).] a. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Foods prepared from milk; dairy produce (occas. including eggs).

*c* 1405 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 681/11 *Hoc lactichinium*, *whitmete*. 1450 *Myrc Parvipul* 84 So most fasting all manner flesch mete and whyt-mete. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 149/1 Without etyng fyssh ne mylke egges or whyte mete. 1538 Fitzherbert in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 216 Concerninge fryinge dayes...of whytmeates in Lente. 1577 Goode *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 148 The olde wyfes doo teache the making of a kinde of white meate, not much vnlike to Butter. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cap. lii. 150 A thirde kinde of meats, which is neither flshe nor flesshe, commonly called white meates, as egges, milke, butter, cheese. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 128 The Cowes... with large vdders, yeelding plenty of whitmeates. 1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* v. 4 Giuing...power to eate egges and whitmeats on fasting dayes. 1796 Br. G. Harvey in *Cabinet Mag.* (Belfast) I. 28 In those countries the people have nothing else to eat with their bread but whitemeats; these are more or less permitted in Lent itself: and in some places all the year. 1886 Ennosthy *W. Somerton.*

b. *pl.* Certain white or light-coloured flesh foods (see quot. 1877).

1750 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) II. 233 Pray leave off...your ...pastry, fat creams, and...dumpling; and then you need not confine yourself to white meats, which I do not take to be one jot wholesomer than beef, mutton, and partridge. 1877 *N. W. Line. Gloss., White meats*, the flesh of lamb, veal, rabbits, chickens, pheasants, and partridges.

c. *attrib.*

1721 N. Bundrel *Diary* (1890) 175 April 29th. It being a White-Meat day I dined at a Table by myself at the Swan.

d. *adv.* (*fig.*) = Mealy-mouthedly.

?*a* 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Four Plays* (1647) 43/2 Sicilia, sicilia, this whitemeat-spirit's not yours.

**White monk.** [White *a.* 6 a: cf. White Friar.] A Cistercian monk: so called from the colour of the habit of undyed wool.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 311 He made Baldewyn pe white monk archbishop of Canterbury. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6695 These chanoun regulers Or white monkes or these blake. 1537 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 7 Seynt Elyn... lith in a flayer, place of religion of whith monkes. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 136. (1811) 152 Duke Alfr. d ers ted ha fair abbey for white monks of the order of Cistercians. 1795 J. Rogers *Agric. Perth* 566.

**Whiten** (hwai·tn), *v.* Also 5 **qwhittyn**, 5, 9 *dial.* **whitten**, 6 **whyten, whyghten.** [f. White *a.* + -en 5. Cf. ON. *hvítna* to become white.]

1. *trans.* To make or render white; to impart a white colour or appearance to. a. *gen.*

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* I. 9 (R. 7) Pou...salt wasche me,... And ouer anawe sal I whiten be. 1552 Huloet, Whyghten, *albo*,...*candefacio*. 1824 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xv, Whiten'd with foam a thousand streamers flew From the mountain's crown. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxxiv, Take care, while you are young, that you can think in those days, 'I never whitened a hair of her dear head.' 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* I. The sea whitened by the rushing of the wind.

b. To cover, coat, or overspread with something white; *spec.* to whitewash; to coat (metal) with tin, to tin.

Also said chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.* of a white substance or a number of white objects covering or spread over a surface.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* iii. 93 Of whome sum per fawtes to hyde or per lewte þa study to increse with purayge of begilfyage avoyde per blak, be color & qwhittyn. 1664 in W. O. Blunt *Ch. Chester-le-Street* (1884) 96 For whitning the church foor pound ten shillings. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 88 In this Countrey of Persia,...they whiten, or if you will, tin, brass and copper otherwise than with us. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. i. 1. 6 To put it for a pun-basin, in a peculiar business, to whiten the pins is another. 1874 J. Birch *Country Archit.* 44 Lath, plaster, float, set and twice whiten all ceilings through-out. 1892 Hardy *Tess* ii, It shall get the house swept out and whitened to-morrow morning.

1703 Pork *Thebais* 391 Where...human bones yet whiten all the ground. 1719 Young *Busiris* i. i, Suits unnumber'd whiten all the streets. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxv, Meadows...whitened with the numerous tents of the Duke of Burgundy's army. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxii. 355 The mountains, whitened with snow, were swept by the bleak winds of winter.

c. To make white by depriving of the natural colour; to blanch; to bleach; to make pale.

1693 Lucas *Pract. Improv. Land* 168 Let it [sc. Lettuce] ...the tops of the Leaves of long Lettuce, to make them Cabbage, or at least to whiten them. 1726-33 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 15 A good air to whiten cloth. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xxiii. 90 Fear whitened every cheek. 1791 Hamilton *Bentholet's Dyeing* I. 1. 11. 51 Oxygen is the agent of whitening...the colouring matter. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts &c.* (*Leather*) The effects of the sun's rays are to whiten the skins, to soften them, and to protect them from the hardening influence of the atmosphere. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* II. v. 318, I've got cloth as has been whitened in the sun.

d. *fig.* To free or clear from evil, guilt, or the like; also, to cause to seem right, good, pure, etc.; to give a specious appearance to.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 124 He went & shrafe hym of all his synys...And onone as he had...shrafe hym, he said: 'A! whitten, frend! cum ne, for þou have wele whitened þe.' [1667 *Observ. Burning Lond.* to And which are never true but by a supposition that if they can whiten no impiety in our Country, they may happen to collect, which (Cobb'd to Whiten Black.) 1679 Burnet *Hist. Ref.* I. Pref. (c) 2 b, Such remarkable blemishes, that...no man...can go about the whitening them. 1681 Dryden *Hind & P.* i. 44 The Infold'd Papist Boast, impure as He, (But whitn'd with the froth of sanctity). 1823 H. Nicholas *Modus Assid.* ix. (1837) 220 By selecting the evidence may be so easily made positively blackened, and any other society relatively whitened.

2. *intr.* To become or turn white; to assume a white colour or aspect; *vaguely*, to appear white.

*a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 543 Thomas whiten yet thou nothing. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 44 The Cardons Spanish] whiten in about three Weeks and are fit to eat. 1720 Pope *Iliad* xxi. 362 A Train whitens on the purple Waves. 1795 — *Odyss.* xi. 39 Our bones whiten in the rising gale. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Miner.* (ed. 2) I. 152 When heated, it hardens and whitens. 1832 James *Rydal Page*, xvi, Let his corpse remain unburied, and his bones whiten in the wind! 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* i. ii, Willows whiten, aspens quiver, By the island in the river. 1853 Longf. tr. *Dante, Purgat.* xxi. 143, Behold the sun now... Already whitening. 1914 Ian Hay *Knt. on Il Iseeb* xxv, His hair was whitening.

b. To turn pale, esp. from fear or other emotion. (Cf. Redden 2, 2 b.)

1798 Jerdmond tr. *Reynard's Hist. Indocs* V. 132 All the human species, in general, whitens in the snow, and is tanned in the sun. 1821 Shelley *Genevra* 66 The cheek that whitens. 1880 Edmund Bertrand *Second Life* xxvi, 'I am very glad to hear it,' he says almost inaudibly, and whitening.

c. *fig.*; cf. 1 d.

1798 H. Walker *Catal. Rev. Authors* (1759) I. 172 What character that he has censured, has whitened by examination. 1801 S. & H. Lee *Cant. J.* V. 96 It...bids us whiten by a comparison with the imperfections of others.

Hence **Whitened** (hwai·tnd) *ppl. a.*

*a* 1721 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 4 Patin and Chalice were of whiten'd Clay. 1860 Froude *Hist. Eng.* xxxv. V. 38 The sunlight stared on white and ashen faces upon the whitened aisles; the churches were now whitened. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* ix. (1889) 18 That particular whitened appearance left when water has passed over vegetation. 1881 — *Wood Magic* II. iv. 99 In his rage and fear, with whitened face.

**Whiten,** obs. or dial. f. Whiting *sb.* and *vbl. sb.*

**Whitener** (hwai·tnəɹ). [f. Whiten *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who whitens, in any sense; *spec.* a person employed in bleaching or other whitening process.

1611 Cotgr., *Blanchisseur*, a whitener of clothes. 1637 *Crompton's Jurisd.* 279 No tawer or whitener of skins shall remain in the forests. *c* 1700 Kennett *MS. Lansd.* 1033 *Rlen. &c.*, a whitener or whitester of linnen. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VII. lxxiv. 291 A partial whitener of his own cause, or blackener of another's. 1881 *Instr. Consuls Cards* (Foreign Office) 20 Pin Maker, Whitener. 1895 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 7/1 Walter Wells, a silver-plater, in the employment of Messrs. Elkington,...Frank Naylor, whitener and repairer, employed by Messrs. Elkington.

2. A thing that whitens; *spec.* a substance or agent used for whitening, bleaching, etc.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. ii. 6 Wind is a Dryer,...Frost a Cooler, Dryer, a Whitener.

**Whiteness** (hwai·tnės). Also (with shortened root-vowel) 5 **whitt-, whytnesse**, 5–6 **whitnesse.**

[OE. *hwitnes*: see WHITE *a.* and -NESS.] The quality or condition of being white; white colour or appearance.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Seo readnes þære rosan lixeþ on þe, & seo hwitnes þære lilian scineþ on þe. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. iv. 60 The fayre blossme.. whos whytnes passyd the snowe. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 47 Þe wondes hab hardnet wiþ whitenes and redenes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416 a Whitenesse, *albedo*. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 39 The white is layde out in the lynte whyte.. whereby it is brought to a passing whitenesse. 1598 GRENE *Grene's Tu. Wks.* (Grosart) XII. 209 The whitenesse of their haires bewrayed the number of their dayes. 1603 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* viii. iii. 643 The brightnesse of the Starres and whitenesse of the snow, not suffering them to be quite forlorne in darknesse. *a* 1650 ROGERS *Mansoul* (1919) 98 Temper them with white lead to what whytnes you please. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 52 Salts of different degrees of purity and whitness. 1807 PARADISE *Chem. Monit. Arts.* (1824) 648 Heat a little chloride of silver..to whiteness. 1887 F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* iii, His very dark eyes and complexion made more noticeable by the dazzling whiteness of his hair.

**b.** Of the human skin or face: †(*a*) Lightness or fairness of complexion, (*b*) Paleness, pallor.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Galia.. hab fair hede.. of whitenesse for Galilia is grewe and is to manynge mylke. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. viii. 119 Their beautie, whitenesse, .. and shamefast grace. 1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, i. 168 The whitenesse in thy Cheeke is then thy Crime, to tell thy Errand. 1704 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 389 The white men.. lose their whiteness and become brown or red. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. ii. *Old Benchers*, His cheeks were coxcombiferously set to whiteness. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* vii, It was no blush now, but a dead WARDE whiteness, that came over the beautiful face.

**c.** quasi-*concr.* A white substance or part of something.

1586 *Bible* (Geneva) Tobit ii. 10 A whitenes came in mine eies, & I went to the physicio who helped me not. 1598 SHAKS. *Tw. Ad. Adr.* 1179 A purple flowre..checkred with white, Resembling well his pale cheekes, and the blood, Which..vpon their whitenesse stood. 1850 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* iv. § 10. 52 Those Creatures that live among the snowes..turne white with their..conversation with such perpetuall whitenesses. 1851 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 34 These Kinds must be first ground, and the inward whiteness being separated) be bruised. 1859 F. ASSISY' *Tinted Venus* v, [To a barber] Do you not swathe them in the garbof humiliation, and daub their countenances with whiteness? 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* iv. 79 The water-lilies lifted their pure whiteness to the..sunbeams.

**d.** *fig.* Purity, stainless character or quality.

1555 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 235 Sope, though it be blacke, yet doth not the clothe,.. so doth the blacke crosse helpe vs to more whitenes. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 71 To vindicat the whitenes and the innocence of this divine Law, from the calumny it lindes. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Horace* iii. 1, To Virgin Mindes, which yet their first whiteness hold, .. these truths I tell. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. lvii, He had kept The whiteness of his soul. 1884 HARPER *Bolingbroke* i. 44 Such .. was the whiteness of a record in this respect.

**Whitening** (hwəi·tnĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITEN *v.* + -ING¹.]

**1.** The action, or a process, of making white; bleaching, whitewashing, tinning, etc.; also *fig.* Also, the fact or process of becoming white.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. xl. II. 427 An artificiall device to make spunglet holes without any..if the surface.. be..hutched.. in the forme of salt; after which it they ought to be laid abroad in the moon-shine, .. that thereby they may take their whitening. 1799 ADDISON *Punch.* 59 Yet they have great care and whitening [= bleaching]. 1723 *Gentleman* No. 109 P 6 Our Faces dolue us from all artificial Whitenings. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1. 1. 1. 9 Whitening or tinning. 1854 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1856) 34 Whitening of the seams—a disagreeable vestiarian phenomenon produced by the use of pipe-clay. 1861 in Hislop *Jubbulpore* 38 The whitening of the walls of the Sanitarium is being rubbed off. 1897 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1869) xi. § 2. 273 After another scraping on the flesh side, or whitening, it [*sc.* the skin] is ready to be stored away. 1897 *Paper Bangor* etc. 69 If the ceiling is to be one prime with water, soft soap, and a little lime before whitening. 1876 SEELEY *Stein* II. 301 That popular agitation, that first whitening of the waves for the storm of the Anti-Napoleonic Revolution. 1893 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 870 2 It goes too far in its blackening of Macbeth and in its whitening of Lady Macbeth.

**2.** *concr.* = WHITING *vbl. sb.* 4.

1710 LADY G. BERLIE *Housek. Bk.* (S.H.S. 1911) 84 For whittining to the wals 1*s.* 3*d.* 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 29 Derbyshire stone, whitening and plaister of Paris. 1905 (*G. Tweedie*) *Gosudrk.* 5 The smell of moisture and bathkick and whitening.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1707 MRS. D'ANVAIR *Savoy, Let. to Mrs. Frewin's* 16 Now, The silver of our plated [spoons] having fortunately made off under cover of the whitening-brush. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 3/3 The warehouses, whitening-house, ..whitening and painting mills. 1825 *Last Lord of Lauriel* xxxiv. 309 Jenny.. was..whitewashing the lintels of the lower windows with an old hearth-brush; her whitening-pot was a handless and cripple tureen. 1873 TRIPP *Dict. Mech., Whitening machine*, a machine for removing the red skin or cuticle from the grain of rice.

**Whi·tening**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whitens; making or becoming white.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 143 The bleaching, whitening, .. cleansing quality of Christs blood. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. lv, Made not by scorching but by whitening light. 1704 POPE *Spring* 19 Two Swains..Pour'd o'er the whitening vale their fleecy care. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvii, My whitening bones will swing in the gibbet-irons. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Sketchbk.* (1874) II. 272 Market of..coming age in many a whitening hair. 1908 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold*, etc. 88 My whitening face must have told them a tale.

**Whi·te-pot, whi·tepot.** Also 6–7 **whitpot.** [Pot *sb.*¹ 1 b.] A dish made (chiefly in Devonshire) of milk or cream boiled with various ingredients, as eggs, flour, raisins, sugar, spices, etc.; a kind of custard or milk-pudding. Also *attrib.*

1597 *Household Bk. Leathes Guild* 30 Here is caried on the flackes of foure Deacons, after the maner of carying Whytepot Queenes, in Westres Maygames. 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xlv. 468 The meate of Rockehewse is vsed..to make pappe, whitpottes and..cakes of light digestion. 1599 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) A ij b, Some auncient familiaritie betweene a western virgin, and a whitpot. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Ch. Water Mont* Wks. I. 146 The Norfolk Dumplin, and the Deuonshire White-pot. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* v. viii, Ha' you any Whitpots? 1633 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. iv. 79 They served in this whitepotmeat to him in a huge great Bell. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1709) 73 Cornwal Squab-Pye, and Devon White-Pot brings. And Lemon, and Quince and Bacon. 1747 Mrs. GLASSE *Cookery* Ix. 79 A Rice White-Pot. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* xvi, Seventy rings of black-pot, a dozen of white-pot, and twenty-four loads of tinder..and thirteenrings.

**Whiteret**, var. WHITRET, weasel.

**White-skin**, *a.* and *sb.*

**A.** *adj.* †Having or resembling a white skin.

1634 QUARLES *Hildebrandus* xv, The coorsegrain'd Lockrom, and the white-skin'd Lawrin Are both subjected to the same Fate. 1883 J. SHERMAN *Poems* II. (E.D.D.) Wankling some wife's white skin blankets, Or some flannel for her dear.

**B.** *sb.* A white-skinned man, a white man. (Cf. *redskin.*)

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiv, 'Twould have been..an inhuman act for a white-skin; but 'tis the..natur' of an Injin. 1899 Ruby Blake in *Folklore* (1919) XXX. 155 The red Bushman looks down upon the black-man quite as much as my orthodox white skin does.

**Whitesmith** (hwəi·t,smiþ). [Cf. WHITE *a.*, 2 b, and BLACKSMITH.] **a.** A worker in 'white iron'; a tinsmith. **b.** One who polishes or finishes metal goods, as distinguished from one who forges them; also, more widely, a worker in metals.

1302 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 50 John son of John le Whytesmith. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1735/4 Joseph Carles of Birmingham in the County of Warwick White-Smith, having ..received several Edge-Tools to be mended. a 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* III. (1710) 2 For not a White-Smith nor a Black-Smith, such things as he would lack. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Swindon, Staff.*..is one of those places which have blade-mills, where scythes, axes, teaping-hooks, &c. for hedge prepared for it by the white-smiths, are ground to a fine edge. 1826 SCOTT *Prov. Antiq.* 102 He was a white-smith, and published various incubrations under that title, Englishman Doctor. 1833 [see BOILER]. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 603 The brass was sometimes served out to the whitesmith to be manufactured. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Oct. 11/1 Mr. Morrison..was found about the white-thorn shed Sweet fragrance. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The Bushbilas, like tall and ancient whitethorns, which shade the river.

*attrib.* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 73 Matthiolus boldeth y' our haw tre or whyte thorne tre is Oxyacantha. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xvi. 241 Whitesmiths will find proper set in the tops of a White-Thorn Hedge. 1823 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 74 He struck her so violently with a white-thorn stick, that she fell to the ground. 1837 LADY *Shepherd. Cal.* 45 Or short note of the clanging brush Above him in the white-thorn bush. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 105 The caterpillars of the white-thorn butterfly (*Papilio crataegi*).. had..stripped all the hedges. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. xiv. 248 The torch of white-thorn-wood.

**Whitethroat** (hwəi·tþrōt), *sb.* (*a.*) (Also with hyphen, and formerly as two words.) Name of several birds characterized by white throat.

**1.** Any one of several species of warbler (*Sylvia*), esp. the common whitethroat, *S. cinerea*, and the lesser whitethroat, *S. curruca*.

1676 GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 38 The White-Throat hath no small Gut. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* iii. 292/2 The White Throat, Bird of the Body red. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The note of the whitethroat, which is continually repeated, and often attended with odd gesticulations of the wing, is harsh and displeasing.—In July and August they..make great havoc among the summer fruits. 1885 W. Gosset *Rep. Kites* (1885) II. 230 The largest and best nests of the white-throat. 1890 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 315 *Sylvia horlensis*. The Garden Warbler or Pettychaps. . Hilly Whitethroat. *Ibid.* 337 *Sylvia garrula*. The White-breasted Warbler. Lesser White-throat. 1895 Bowring *House-thoughts from Abr.* ii, And after April, when May follows, And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!

**2.** The white-throated sparrow of N. America, *Zonotrichia albicollis*.

1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146 White-throated sparrows sing insignificantly all winter long.. Here..concerted action makes the charm. A single white-throat would prove a trifle monotonous. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, The notes of the white-throat—the nightingale of the North.

**3.** *attrib.* White-throated. *Whitethroat warbler* = sense 1 above.

1876 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 265 The White-throat Warbler..Common everywhere. 1884 W. C. SMITH

**White stick.** [STICK *sb.*¹]

†**1.** A piece of white wood used as a tally. *Obs.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 233 Lordis many tymes..taken pore mennus goodis & paien not þerfore but white sticke. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* iv. xxxviii. (1859) 64 The king hath nought wherof to paye for his mete, but of white stickes that no thyng auaileth.

**2.** = WHITE STAFF 1, 2.

1597 EARL MARCH in Jessop *Sidney & Contemp.* (1844) III. 250 Lord Onslow [as Comptroller of the Household] has Sir W. Meredith's White Stick. 1798 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condol.* 1. xi. Wks. 1812 III. 86 Then would they cower on the white-stick row Of Uxbridge, Grey de Wilton, Leeds, and Co. 1812 BYRON *Waltz* xiii, New white-sticks, goldsticks, broom-sticks, all new sticks! 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, Lords and ladies in waiting, white sticks or black rods.

**White-tail** (hwəi·t,tēl). Also 7 **whittaile.** [TAIL *sb.*¹]

**1.** = WHEATEAR 2 (q.v. for foreign equivalents). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Cul blanc*, the bird called a Whittaile. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 178 *Oenanthe*, the Wheat ear, or White tail...*In agro Hertfordensi* Pallow Smiters. 1735 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 56 *Oenanthe*... Albi ab Uropygii colore White Tail dicitur ut Italis *Culo bianco*.

**2.** The white-tailed deer (*Cariacus virginianus*), a common N. American species, having the under side of the tail white. Also *white-tail deer.*

1888 LEES & CUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxix. (1892) 323 Mule-deer and caribou were numerous here, but the white-tail..was conspicuous by its absence. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 43 The white-tail is especially prized as food.

**White-tawer**: see WHITTAWER.

**Whitethorn** (hwəi·tþŏ·n). Also with hyphen, or (now rarely) as two words. [WHITE *a.* and THORN *sb.*, after L. *alba spina* (whence F. *aubépine*); so MHG. *wîdorn* (G. *weissdorn*).] The common hawthorn, *Crataegus Oxyacantha*: so called from the lighter hue of its bark as compared with that of the BLACKTHORN.

In U.S. applied to *C. coccinea*, a species or variety with scarlet fruit.

*c* 1465 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/25 *Bedegrege, i. spina alba, i.* whitorn. 1580 WYLDE *Bartuch* vi. 70 A whijt thorn, vppon whiche eche bridde sitiith. 1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Þese treen.. haue prickes as a white þorne. 1664 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 3) 324 Gette thy quyckesetties in the woode-countrey, and let theym be of whyte-thorne and crabtree. 1697 MILTON *Epistles* 48 When first the White-Thorn gems the Sprays. 1731 ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 150 To be more sure of a strong Fence, White-thorn may be made every second Plant. 1850 MUDIE *Feathered Trib.* II. 111 He..was found about the white-thorn shed Sweet fragrance. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The Bushbilas, like tall and ancient whitethorns, which shade the river.

*attrib.* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 73 Matthiolus boldeth y' our haw tre or whyte thorne tre is Oxyacantha. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xvi. 241 White-Thorn will find proper set in the tops of a White-Thorn Hedge. 1823 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 74 He struck her so violently with a white-thorn stick, that she fell to the ground. 1837 LADY *Shepherd. Cal.* 45 Or short note of the clanging brush Above him in the white-thorn bush. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 105 The caterpillars of the white-thorn butterfly (*Papilio crataegi*).. had..stripped all the hedges. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. xiv. 248 The torch of white-thorn-wood.

**Whitethroat** (hwəi·tþrōt), *sb.* (*a.*) (Also with hyphen, and formerly as two words.) Name of several birds characterized by white throat.

**1.** Any one of several species of warbler (*Sylvia*), esp. the common whitethroat, *S. cinerea*, and the lesser whitethroat, *S. curruca*.

1676 GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 38 The White-Throat hath no small Gut. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* iii. 292/2 The White Throat, Bird of the Body red. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The note of the whitethroat, which is continually repeated, and often attended with odd gesticulations of the wing, is harsh and displeasing...In July and August they..make great havoc among the summer fruits. 1885 W. Gosset *Rep. Kites* (1885) II. 230 The largest and best nests of the white-throat. 1890 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 315 *Sylvia horlensis*. The Garden Warbler or Pettychaps. . Hilly Whitethroat. *Ibid.* 337 *Sylvia garrula*. The White-breasted Warbler. Lesser White-throat. 1895 Bowring *House-thoughts from Abr.* ii, And after April, when May follows, And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!

**2.** The white-throated sparrow of N. America, *Zonotrichia albicollis*.

1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146 White-throated sparrows sing insignificantly all winter long.. Here..concerted action makes the charm. A single white-throat would prove a trifle monotonous. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, The notes of the white-throat—the nightingale of the North.

**3.** *attrib.* White-throated. *Whitethroat warbler* = sense 1 above.

1876 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 265 The White-throat Warbler...Common everywhere. 1884 W. C. SMITH

**3.** *attrib.* **white staff officer** = 2.

1672 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 2) 162 The Lord Steward is a White-staff Officer; for he in the Kings Presence, carrieth a White-staff,..This White-staff is taken for a Commission; as the death of the King, over the head whereof the Kings Body, be breaketh this Staff, and thereby dischargeth all the Officers. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Jan. 1687, Much discourse that all the White Staff Officers.. should be dismiss'd for adhering to their Religion. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4488/2 Garter King of Arms proclaimed his Royal Highness's Style, and the white Staff Officers broke their Staves, and threw them into the Vault.

**White stick.** [STICK *sb.*¹]

†**1.** A piece of white wood used as a tally. *Obs.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 233 Lordis many tymes..taken pore mennus goodis & paien not þerfore but white sticke. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* iv. xxxviii. (1859) 64 The king hath nought wherof to paye for his mete, but of white stickes that no thyng auaileth.

**2.** = WHITE STAFF 1, 2.

1597 EARL MARCH in Jessop *Sidney & Contemp.* (1844) III. 250 Lord Onslow [as Comptroller of the Household] has Sir W. Meredith's White Stick. 1798 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condol.* 1. xi. Wks. 1812 III. 86 Then would they cower on the white-stick row Of Uxbridge, Grey de Wilton, Leeds, and Co. 1812 BYRON *Waltz* xiii, New white-sticks, gold-sticks, broom-sticks, all new sticks! 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, Lords and ladies in waiting, white sticks or black rods.

**White-tail** (hwəi·t,tēl). Also 7 **whittaile.** [TAIL *sb.*¹]

**1.** = WHEATEAR 2 (q.v. for foreign equivalents). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Cul blanc*, the bird called a Whittaile. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 178 *Oenanthe*, the Wheat ear, or White tail...*In agro Hertfordensi* Pallow Smiters. 1735 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 56 *Oenanthe*... Albi ab Uropygii colore White Tail dicitur ut Italis *Culo bianco*.

**2.** The white-tailed deer (*Cariacus virginianus*), a common N. American species, having the under side of the tail white. Also *white-tail deer.*

1888 LEES & CUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxix. (1892) 323 Mule-deer and caribou were numerous here, but the white-tail..was conspicuous by its absence. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 43 The white-tail is especially prized as food.

**White-tawer**: see WHITTAWER.

**Whitethorn** (hwəi·tþŏ·n). Also with hyphen, or (now rarely) as two words. [WHITE *a.* and THORN *sb.*, after L. *alba spina* (whence F. *aubépine*); so MHG. *wîdorn* (G. *weissdorn*).] The common hawthorn, *Crataegus Oxyacantha*: so called from the lighter hue of its bark as compared with that of the BLACKTHORN.

In U.S. applied to *C. coccinea*, a species or variety with scarlet fruit.

*c* 1465 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/25 *Bedegrege, i. spina alba, i.* whitorn. 1580 WYLDE *Bartuch* vi. 70 A whijt thorn, vppon whiche eche bridde sitiith. 1598 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Þese treen.. haue prickes as a white þorne. 1664 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 3) 324 Gette thy quyckesetties in the woode-countrey, and let theym be of whyte-thorne and crabtree. 1697 MILTON *Epistles* 48 When first the White-Thorn gems the Sprays. 1731 ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 150 To be more sure of a strong Fence, White-thorn may be made every second Plant. 1850 MUDIE *Feathered Trib.* II. 111 He..was found about the white-thorn shed Sweet fragrance. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The Bushbilas, like tall and ancient whitethorns, which shade the river.

*attrib.* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 73 Matthiolus boldeth y' our haw tre or whyte thorne tre is Oxyacantha. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xvi. 241 White-Thorn will find proper set in the tops of a White-Thorn Hedge. 1823 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 74 He struck her so violently with a white-thorn stick, that she fell to the ground. 1837 LADY *Shepherd. Cal.* 45 Or short note of the clanging brush Above him in the white-thorn bush. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 105 The caterpillars of the white-thorn butterfly (*Papilio crataegi*).. had..stripped all the hedges. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. xiv. 248 The torch of white-thorn-wood.

**Whitethroat** (hwəi·tþrōt), *sb.* (*a.*) (Also with hyphen, and formerly as two words.) Name of several birds characterized by white throat.

**1.** Any one of several species of warbler (*Sylvia*), esp. the common whitethroat, *S. cinerea*, and the lesser whitethroat, *S. curruca*.

1676 GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 38 The White-Throat hath no small Gut. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* iii. 292/2 The White Throat, Bird of the Body red. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The note of the whitethroat, which is continually repeated, and often attended with odd gesticulations of the wing, is harsh and displeasing...In July and August they..make great havoc among the summer fruits. 1885 W. Gosset *Rep. Kites* (1885) II. 230 The largest and best nests of the white-throat. 1890 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 315 *Sylvia horlensis*. The Garden Warbler or Pettychaps. . Hilly Whitethroat. *Ibid.* 337 *Sylvia garrula*. The White-breasted Warbler. Lesser White-throat. 1895 Bowring *House-thoughts from Abr.* ii, And after April, when May follows, And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!

**2.** The white-throated sparrow of N. America, *Zonotrichia albicollis*.

1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146 White-throated sparrows sing insignificantly all winter long.. Here..concerted action makes the charm. A single white-throat would prove a trifle monotonous. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, The notes of the white-throat—the nightingale of the North.

**3.** *attrib.* White-throated. *Whitethroat warbler* = sense 1 above.

1876 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 265 The White-throat Warbler...Common everywhere. 1884 W. C. SMITH

*Kelderston* 61 O white throat swallow flicking The loch with long wing tips.

**Whitewash** (hwəɪtˌwɒʃ), *sb.* [prob. f the verb; cf. WASH *sb.* 4 d.]

†**1.** A cosmetic wash formerly used for imparting a light colour to the skin. *Obs*

1589 *Several Disc Vanities Modish Women* 175 Her Bottles of White washes, or Cosmeticks. 1723 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 116 P 1, I have heard a whole sermon against a White-wash 1764 GRANT *Texts & Twitcher* 2 When sly Jemmy Twitcher had smuggl'd up his face, With a lick of court whitewash, A wooing he went

**2.** A liquid composition of lime and water, or of whiting, size, and water, for whitening walls, ceilings, etc

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, A little Glaring Painting, Whitewash, and Plaister, will make it [sc the house] last thy time 1795 Jouvenal *Gent Tradesm* No 161 P 4 The Plaisterer having obliterated by his White wash, all the smoky Memorials which former Tenants had left upon the Ceiling 1796 C STUART *Buildings Wales* 89 A Peck of Kentish lime was slacked into White-wash 1853 MRS GASKELL *Cranford* xv, A wholesome smell of plaster and whitewash pervaded the apartment 1858 H. SWINBURNE *Trav & Vac Nole Ms* (1892) I 48 Before the whitewash of Cromwell's time had overlaid the marble pillars.

1871 and *Comb* 1884 *Century Mag* XXIII 128 2 With whitewash brush in hand 1887 HENRY *Holiday on Rack* 26 Art ignoring, whitewash loving churchwardens.

**3** *fig.* Something that conceals faults or gives a fair appearance: cf. next, 2

1864 W G PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 31 Such liberal semblance is merely a surface whitewash 1883 *Law to Rev* Feb 284 Washed white with the whitewash of diplomacy 1898 J. S. MILLARD *Rodney Lucas* 110 A few dollars to whitewash uncle's reputation—the past one, I mean, not the whitewash.

**4.** An act of 'whitewashing', as of a bankrupt; also (*U. S. colloq.*) a victory at baseball or other game in which the opponents fail to score

1854 J HENDERSON *Excurs N. S Wales* I 64 When once in a twelvemonth your agent goes smash, And bolts to New Zealand, or gets a whitewash 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl* 13 Sept. The Bostons gave the Lawrence Team a White wash 18 th 1900 *Weekly Gaz* 31 May 2 The Report is a fairly comprehensive whitewash of everybody concerned.

**Whitewash,** *v.* [f. WHITE *sb* 18 + WASH *v.* 9 b.]

**1.** *trans.* To plaster over (a wall, etc.) with a white composition, to cover or coat with whitewash Also *absol*

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp Dict Encabeçar*, to whitewash a house 1707 J SERJEANT *Quicksilv Salv* II 82 (1709) 329 She that White washes her House has a Mind to let it 1780 COKE *Rural Discur* 116 The houses are plastered and white washed 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* xiii, I here were workmen altering, repairing, scrubbing painting, and white washing 1834 J. KITCHING *Parish Priest* 124 I whitewash a church in my eyes, a profanity 1877 C GRIBBLE *Christ xxiii* I 285 The other [tomb] whitewashed, to warn passers by not to defile themselves by too near an approach to the dead

**b** To apply a cosmetic 'whitewash' to

1912 C. N & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, She whitewashed her face and used orange-pips

**c** *intr.* To become coated with a white efflorescence: see WHITEWASHING *vbl. sb.* 1 b

1889 C I DAVIS *Birds, Isles*, etc (ed 2) 90 The bricks made from them [sc clays on the Hindsan River] usually 'whitewash' or vitrify upon exposure to the weather

**2** *fig.* To give a fair appearance to, to free, or attempt to free, from blame or taint; to cover up, conceal, or gloss over the faults or blemishes of

With various shades of meaning, now usually somewhat contemptuous, and implying a false appearance of good

1760 COLMAN *Prose New Occas* (1787) II 34 Such as are blackened in the *North Briton* are white washed in the *Auditor* 1764 HON WALPOLE *Reign of Geo III* (1845) II 35 A poet and an author will go as far in whitewashing a munificent tyrant 1809 SIR G JACKSON *Diaries & Lett* (1879) I 56 To be entirely cleared from all blame, or in the familiar language of the day—to be whitewashed 1833 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxi, A quadroon and white make the *mustee*, or one eighth black to whitewash the mustee and white the mustafina, or one sixteenth black. After this, they are whitewashed and considered as Europeans *a* 1845 HANNAH *Stand Lect* Ser III *House Baron* x Snore Hill (which we have since whitewashed in the Show) 1856 *N Brit Rev* XXVI 87 Mr Froude makes no attempt to white wash Henry, all that he does is, to remove as far as he can, the modern layers of black 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron Barset* I vii 58 She would have given a finger to white wash Mr Crawley in the major's estimation 1904 SELBIE *Lect Law Hist* iii 102 Charles had whitewashed the cruel persecutions of Philip himself

**b** *spec.* To clear (a bankrupt or insolvent) by judicial process from liability for his debts. Also with the debts, etc. as obj, and *intr.* for *pass* to go through the bankruptcy court.

1780 *Boston Eng Post* 2 Aug (Thornton *Amer Glass*) 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* ii. (1778) 37 Pass'd a few necessary notes to get him number and value white wash'd him, and sent him home. 1819 *Sporting Mag* (N S) IV 30 Two baronets sons pleading to be white-washed, but remanded for fraud towards their creditors 1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 93/2 The unthinking dashing sparks who squander their long accounts for tweels, tapes, and buckram 1837 HARKNESS *Rawnesung* 4, If I'm dunned, I whitewash. 1881 E. J WORBOISE *Stone* xxvii, I am by no means sure that your father would not prefer to be made a bankrupt! he would be 'whitewashed', in vulgar parlance

**3.** In *Baseball* and other games: To beat (the opponents) so that they fail to score. *U. S. colloq.*

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl* 2 Oct 4 Buffalo Whitewashes Providence, and Philadelphia Detroit

**Whitewashed** (hwəɪtˌwɒʃt), *ppl. a.* [f prec + -ED1.]

**1.** Covered, coated, or marked with whitewash

1770 GOLDSM *Des Vill* 227 The white-washed wall, the nicely sanded floor 1850 HACKPRAY *Pendennis* lii, A flaring new whitewashed mansion 1886 HOWELLS in *Long mans Mag* I 56 I do chase the flying tennis ball on the whitewashed lawn.

**2.** *fig.* Freed from blame or taint; glossed over with a fair appearance see prec. 2.

1797 J WILSON *Dun Ridge* (1868) 155 The white washed officer will declare that he trusts he is moved by the Holy Ghost 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* viii, A white washed Jacobite, that is, one who having been long a suspicious bad lately qualified himself to act as a justice, by taking the oaths to government 1859 HALFS *Friends in C* Ser II x 230 The whitewashed triumphs of despotism

**Whitewasher** (hwəɪtˌwɒʃəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER1.] One who or that which whitewashes.

**1.** One who lays on a coat of whitewash

In quot 1752 contemptuously for a clumsy artist

1758 FOOTE *Taste* i, Thou Dauber, thou execrable White washer 1866 MRS GARRETT *Watts & Dun* 229, The ladders of whitewashers and painters were sadly in the way of the ladies.

**2.** *fig.* One who (or something that) frees from blame, conceals faults, or imparts a fair appearance

1862 M NAPIER *Lect Dundee* II 228 *note*, A devoted and skilful white washer of Scotch fanatics 1889 MONA CAIRD *Wing of Azrael* xxxi, Death is the great whitewasher

**3** *attrib.* or *collog.* A final glass of white wine taken after dinner.

1881 J GRANT *Cameronsmuir* iii, The General insisted on one more glass of dry sherry, "just as a white wash-er"

**Whitewashing** (hwəɪtˌwɒʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f WHITEWASH *v.* + -ING1.]

**1.** The action or process of coating with white wash

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 80 White-washing and stopping, at three pence a yard. 1758 *Phil Trans* XXXVII 234 They use Glue made very thin instead of Size, for White washing 1814 J. DICKINSON *Sch Boy, Boarding ho* 1, The area and the area steps, and the street door and the street door steps were all as clean as indefatigable white washing, and harsh scouring, and rubbing, could make them

**b.** The production of a white efflorescence (saltpetre rot: see SALTPETRE 2) on a brick wall.

1889 C T DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc (ed 2) 97 In damp positions walls are often covered with a white mealy substance of a white fleecy appearance, suggestive of hoar frost which absorbs the humidity of the atmosphere and evaporates in the form of steam, and the process is called by the English workmen 'saltpetring', and sometimes in this country it is termed 'whitewashing'

**2** *fig.* = see WHITEWASH *v.* 2, 2 b

1801 *Monthly Mag* XI 320 I see at defiance the wholesome restrictions imposed upon society, by countenancing Mrs Smeddy's white washing [by marriage after an immoral connexion] 1823 *Blackw Mag* XIV 101, I have learnt white-washing by the fossilient Court 1826 All my sins go with that white washing 1855 KINGSLEY *Misc* (1859) I 7, I think the book an altogether foolish book, having but one object, the whitewashing of James.

**3.** *attrib.* (in *sbt* or *fig.* sense).

1817 W T MONCRIEFF *Gen mania in London* 31, With your tailor debts comfort'y, In the Bench for three months pack'd, Get out the white washing act, And be as clean as ever 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech*, *White washing apparatus* for whitening walls and ceilings. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Feb 7/2 (Court of Chancery) We allege that the assets have been recovered, and that this is a whitewashing case

So **Whi tewashing** *ppl. a.*

1883 *Harper's Mag* N. 809/2 The reaction against whitewashing Generals and other Gods and Landals.

**White water,** *sb.* (Also with hyphen.)

**1.** Shallow or shoal water, water with breakers or foam, as in shallows or rapids on the sea or a river Also *attrib.*

1586 HARRISON *England* ii xi 49 in *Holinshed*, The more that this river is put out of his right course the more the water must of necessitie swell with the white waters which run downe from the land 1729 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Stewards* 70 Rivers, which by the Tide flow, and in the Rivers aught receive by Goods found with Freshes and White water. 1803 *Naval Chron* IX 440 The Bahama pilots make a distinction between *white water* and *ocean water*, applying the former term to the shallow banks contiguous to many of the islands 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. ii, Up on the white water by the [sc the whale's] progress being somewhat disturbed as known by the whites under the name of 'White water' 1882 H COTTINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* xi, Keep a cool head, for it seems to me that we are in white water all round you, whichever way you shape a course 1900 S. E WHITE *Blazed Trail* xlvii, Men with a reputation as' white water birlers'—men afraid of nothing 1901 *Nature* 4 June 109/1 Why won't he make a good riverman?' 'A good whitewater man has to start younger

**2.** Water mixed with oatmeal or bran, as a medicinal drink for horses.

1721 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr* (1757) II 202 Let him drink warm Water with Oat-meal, or what we term White water

**3** A name for dropsy in sheep

1802 *Farmer's Mag* Nov. 372 The disorder which in some places is called the blood or white water

Hence **White-water** *v. intr.* (*Naut. colloq.*), of a whale, to splash with the flukes so as to make the water white with foam.

1891 *Cent Dict* s.v., There she white waters!

**Whitewood** (hwəɪtˌwʊd). Name in N. America for the Ox-eye Daisy (*Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*).

1846–50 A WOOD *Class bk Bot* 343 *Leucanthemum Vulgare* White weed Ox eye Daisy 1869 B TAYLOR in *Life & Lett* (1884) II 512 Thick as the white weeds in my strawberry patch

**White wine.** [WHITE *a* 2 n. Cf. L *vinum album*, F. *vin blanc*, G. *weisswein*.] Any light-coloured transparent wine: a general designation for wines of various colours from pale yellow to amber, in contradistinction to *red wine*

[a 1300 see RED *a* 16] 1377 LANGL *P Pl* B Prol 208 White wyn of Oseye and red wyn of Gascoigne. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks* 35 Draw vppe bown a strayneure with a lyryd white Wyne & Sugre. c 1435 *Lerr Portingale* 192 Sche byrlyd whyt wyne and Rede 1598 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim* F iij, White wyne enflameth or heteth leest of all wines 1627 MOUNTAIN *Diatribe* 113 France yeelds great plenty of red and white wines 1709 R JAMES *Diss Pestes* (ed 2) 32 She set forward for London, and upon the Road drunk near a Bottle of White Wine 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* xlvi Even white wine and claret were got for nothing, since the Duke's rights of admiralty gave him a title to all the wine in cask which is drifted ashore 1857 MILLER *Elem Chem, Org* (1862) III 120 Red grapes may be made to yield a white wine.

**b.** *attrib.*, as *white wine cask*, **white wine vinegar**, vinegar made from white wine; **white wine whey**, a mixture consisting of milk curdled with white wine and whey (cf. WHEY *sb* 1 b).

1587–8 in Swayne *Churchw Acc Sarum* (1896) 113 A white wyne caske 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. 97 White wine Vinegar is generally to be preferred 1755 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl Housekpr* (1778) 87 Add to it a spoonful of white wine vinegar 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let to Shenstone* 8 Sept, Since blankets and white wine whey have not cured you 1804 MRS. MARTIN *Village Curate* (*Old Bach*), Andrews, regular as the chimes at midnight, prepared his white wine whey 1890 R C LEHMANN *Harry Fludyer* 6 Blathers is giving him some white wine whey cook has just sent up

**Whitewing** (hwəɪtˌwiŋ) Local name for birds having white (or partly white) wings. **a.** The chaffinch. **b.** *U. S.* The white-winged scoter or surf duck, *Oidemia fusca deglandi* **c** *Whitewing dove*, a dove of the genus *Melopelia*.

1892 MRS. DARBY *Northumberland White wing*, the chaffinch 1894 COUES *Key N Amer Birds* (ed 2) 569 *Melopelia leucoptera* White wing Dove 1901 *Shooting Times* 29 June 215/2 In Ireland, the chaffinch is commonly called the 'whitewing', owing to the white patches conspicuous on the wings of the male bird when in flight

**White-winged** (hwəɪtˌwɪndˌ also *poet* -wɪn'dɪd), *a.* Having white wings often in specific names of birds which have the wings wholly or partly white, also *fig.*

1594 *Selimus* K1, White wing'd victorie sits on our swordes 1788 HUDSON *Spring* 645 Around the Head Of Iriveiler, the white wing'd Pair wheels Her sounding Flight 1797 *Encycl Brit Suppl* I 157 White winged sea gull, cloud, and pearly rain 1821 LATHAM *Gen Hist Birds* I 8 Vulture White winged , some of the larger wing coverts, white, with black ends 1866 CAMPBELL *Poems Miscell* 1 If any white winged pair will owe My joys and griefs survives 1872 COUES *Key N Amer Birds* (ed 2) 294 Velvet Scoter White winged Surf duck

**White witch,** *sb* (Also with hyphen.) [WHITE *a* 7 b.] A witch (or wizard) of a good disposition, one who uses witchcraft for beneficent purposes, one who practises 'white magic'.

1621 HUDSON *Anat Mel* II ii. 1. 289 Sorcerers are too common, Cunning men, Wizards, & white witches, as they call them, in every village 1685 C MATHER *Illum Provid* (1691) 9, Creatures that they call White Witches which do undo Good Turns for their Neighbours 1711 ADDISON *Spectator* iii, The common people call him a wizard a white witch 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (D D'S) 440 Tha Whit Witch 1806 J CARR *Stranger in Ire* 265 The white witch at Keswick, who has female agents to do in the box imparted a portion of her magic, in almost every village who have the property of discovering pilferers and stopping blood 1824 KINGSLEY *Westw Ho* II. 171, Well, Mrs. Salvin, he went to the white witch at Northam to charm them away

Hence **White-witch** *v.* (*nonce wd.*), *trans.* to bewitch by 'white magic', or in a beneficent way

1917 *Contemp Rev* Dec. 690 The cure was that the witched Milk cures in such abundance as no memory records

**Whitewood** (hwəɪtˌwʊd) (Also with hyphen, formerly sometimes as two words.) Name of various trees with white or light-coloured wood; also, the wood of any of these. (Also *attrib.*)

Among these are the N American tulip tree *Liriodendron Tulipifera* and basswood *Tilia americana*), the W Indian wild cinnamon (*Canella alba*), which furnishes white cinnamon or **whitewood bark**, *Acacia* or *Calesia Leucoxylon* (**whitewood cedar**, and *P pentaphylla* lobelly sweetwood (*Dryodaphne* or *Ocotea Leucoxylon*) and white sweetwood (*Nectandra leucantha* or *Antillana*), the Australian cheesewood (*Alstonia constricta*), *Canarium Pattersonii*, and *Panax elegans* (**mowbulan whitewood**) Also locally applied in England to the lime tree (*Tilia europæa*) and the wayfaring tree (*Viburnum Lantana*). In quot 1733, The white poplar (*Populus alba*) See also *White wood* s.v. WHITE *a* 11 b

1683 POWEL *Lobel's Ic* 99 The White wood is a Tree of that singular nature, the worm will seldom touch it 1696 PHILLIPS *Hesperides* Opuntia 1706 II 218 Leucoxylon Barbadensium ostruthus White-wood, Tulip-flower & aliquando Trumpet flower nuncupatur 1732 W ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 183 On the level Ground of this Farm grows several of these Wood-Trees [viz. 11

poplars, etc.]. *Ibid.* 184 The low Country-men sometimes call it Dutch Arbel, but the common Name among them is White-wood. 1730 G. HUGHES *Nat. Hist. Barbados* v. 124 Where-ever a Manchineel-tree grows, there is found a White-wood, or a Fig-tree, near it. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xiv. 197 The Wax or White Wood is a tree of a middling size, and the whitest and softest wood that grows. 1847 HALLIWELL, *White-wood*, the lime-tree. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Dracut's Masterpiece* v. The panels of white-wood, that cuts like cheese. 1864 GISBORNE *Poems W. Ind.* 76 White-wood, *Dendrophax Leucophlœus*, *Nectandra leucantha*, *Tecoma Leucoxylon* and *pentaphylla*. *Ibid.*, White-wood-bark, *Canella alba*. Whitewood-cedar, *Tecoma Leucoxylon*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Tapesnea Paterson*, White-wood, of Australia, Cow-itch-tree, or White Oak, of Norfolk Island. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 173 The land, the apples, the butter, and the cheese, in beautiful whitewood barrels.

**Whitewort.** *rare.* ? *Obs.* [f. WHITE *a.* + WORT *sb.*, after Du. *witwortel* (G. *weisswurz*.)] A name for several plants with white flowers or roots: **a.** Feverfew; **b.** Solomon's seal; **c.** a species of camomile.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xi. 19 It [sc. Parthenium] is called.. in English, Feuerfew, & of some Whitewurte. *Ibid.* I. lxix. 103 Salomons seale is called.. in English.. White roote, or white wurte. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Whitewort, *Matricaria Chamomilla*.

**Whitey:** see WHITY.

**Whitfieldian,** etc.: see WHITEFIELDIAN.

**Whitflaw, -flow,** obs. var. WHITFLOW.

**Whith,** obs. form of WHITE, WITH.

**Whither** (hwi·ðəɹ), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. WHITHER *v.*] The violent or impetuous movement, rush; an attack, onset; a smart blow or stroke; a blast or gust of wind; a quivering movement, a tremble; a rushing or whizzing sound; *fig.* an access or attack of illness. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Priest. Medecyne* 55 Put 3e tak sevin soblis of ane selche, the quhidder of ane quhailk. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xi. 70 Than ran that stanmyn in parts with a quhidder. *Ibid.* XI. v. 85 Quham.. Saland from Troy.. The sleidlie storm ourquhelmit with a quhiddir. 1791 LEAS *Poems* 82 *Ilk* D. (*Ilk*) His dait His[t] ane a whither. 1808 JAMIESON *s. v. Quhidder*, A quhither of the cauld, a sliaht cold. 1825 JENNINGS *N. C. Gloss. s. v. Whidder*, A whither of cold, a gust, a blast. 'All in a whither' = all in a tremble. 1887 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda, Running Free* vii, 'Tak' pace till the whidders dill awa' [the storm is past, the gusts of wind cease].

**Whither,** *sb.*[2]: see WHITHER *adv.* 6.

**Whi·ther,** *v. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 quhedir-, -thir, qwedyr, 5–6 quhidder, 6 -ir; 6–7, 9 whidder, 8–9 whedder, whuther, 9 whudder, wuther, 8– whither. [n. ON. **hviðra* (cf. Norw. *kvidra* to go to and fro with short quick movements), related to *hviða* squall of wind (see WHID *sb.*[2]), fit (of coughing), OE. *hwiþa*, *hwiþa* (*hweoþa*) 'auna': see WHYTH.]

**1.** *intr.* To move with force or impetus, to rush; to make a rushing sound, to whizz; to bluster or rage, as the wind.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 681 The stane flaw out quhedirand [MS. *Edin.* quhettirand, *ed.* 1616 whiddirand]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vi. 61 Bourys, quhiddirand in his bak fute hate. *Ibid.* XII. viii. 86 Neuer sa swiftly quhiddirand the stane flaw. 15.. *Outlaw Murray* xvi. in *Child Ballads* (1894) VIII. 199/1 And the wind whe.. nirrove whiddirand near him by. *a* 1736 WHITFELD *Saxoney Oeithy's Duel* iv. Poet. Wks. (1815) 177 She whirled it about, and dang down all the gear. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Yks. Whidder*, to whirl rapidly with a humming sound. *Ibid.* To *Whudder*, to make a whirring or rushing sort of noise.

**2.** To tremble, shake, quiver.

*c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 122 For joy I qwedyr and qwake. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whedder*, to tremble. *Ibid.*, *Wither*, to quake or shake.

**3.** *trans.* To strike or beat forcibly; to throw violently.

1825 JENNINGS, To *Whither*, to beat, to belabour, Rosh. 1868 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wither*, to throw with violence.

Hence **Whi·thering,** a vigorous person or thing (cf. *thumper*, *whopper*); **Whi·thering** *vbl. sb.*, n rushing, whizzing, blustering; **Whi·thering** *ppl. a.*, rushing, whizzing, etc.; also, very large or vigorous (cf. *thumping*, *whopping*).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. ix. 79 Jonng Hippocoon .. A quhiddirand arrow leit spang fra the string. 1585 JAS. I, *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 15 They heare the whiddering Horeas loshe. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Glosts.*, *Whithering*, a sudden great sound. 1790 *Ibid.* (ed. 2), *Whitherer*, a lusty, strong, or stout person, or thing. 1868 *Craven Gloss. s. v.*, He's a gay withering like. 1847 E. BRONTË *Wuthering Heights* i, Wuthering Heights is the name of Mr. Heathcliff's dwelling. 'Wuthering' being a significant provincial adjective, descriptive of the atmospheric tumult to which its station is exposed, in stormy weather.

**Whither** (hwi·ðəɹ), *adv.* (*sb.*) Forms: see below. [OE. *hwiðer*, earlier (Northumbh.) *huiðir*, later *huyder*, f. Teut. *xwi-* (cf. WHICH); the synonymous Goth. *hwaðrē* is f. Teut. *xwa-* (see WHO). Late and occasional OE. *hwiðer* (see A. 7) is prob. due to the analogy of *þider* THITHER.]

**A. Illustration of Forms.**

**a.** 1–3 **hwider,** (1 **hw-, huid(d)ir, hwidder, huid(d)er,** 3 *Orm.* **whiderr**), 3–4 **wider, guider,** 4–6 **whider, whyder,** (4 **huider, huyder, whidur, whydre, wydur, wyddere, guidder,** 4–5 **whidere, whidir, wyder,** 5 **whidyr, whydyr, widir, wydyr, whiddir, whydder, -ur, whidre, widere**), 5–6 *Sc.* **quhidder,** (6 **-ir**); 4 **whithir, quiper,** 5 **whiper, whythyr,** 5–6 **whythyer,** *Sc.* **quhither,** 6–7 **wither,** 6– **whither.**

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXXXVIII[I]. 7 From ansiene ðinre hwiðer þonne ic fleo? 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke I. 76 *Ezeth in Cuiatis*, hudirryne. 9.. *Ælfred Boeth.* xxii. (MS. Cott.) As. Ðær þu ongeate hwiðic ic he nu tiohige to leedenne. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Deuteron.* (Bosw.) 55 Swa swa hwidder. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xvi. 8 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, ff. 12) Hu fæsst þu oþþe hwider wilt þu? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3600 Ta loken quiðer it valde ben went. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 84 Wydur I go, *Gött.* quiper, *c* 1375 *Fairf.* quidder) to wende ne wat he noght. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (L.) 118 Y ne recche whyder y go. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 586 He no wist whider to go. *c* 1420 *Pol. Poems* II. 129 Loone hlynd gop, and not neuere whidre. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 Whydur þat þay ledyn he wayne. *a* 1483 Whythyr [see WHITHERSOMEVER]. *a* 1500 *Cov. Leger*, *Christi* 1. 230 Then forbar gow wyt I nott whydyr. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iii. 80 Behaldandi.. quhat singenis thai sehaw, Or quhiddir that mark. 1523 Whyder þeet H.a.[8] 1526 *Pilgr. Perf. (Wynk.)* 128 No whither elles. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 254 They let their ship saile.. whither as fortune did carry them. *a* 1700 EVELYN (*D.*) Any Coaches. Jan. 1645, The towne Aversa, wither came 3 or 4 coaches.

*b.* 1 **hwyder,** 3 **hwuder, whuder(e, wuder.**

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Hwyder xewiton..þa idlan bliss? *c* 1205 LAY. 1200 Wise mi.. whuder ich mæi liðan. *Ibid.* 12109 Liðen wuder swa þu wilt.

γ. 1 **hwæder,** 4 **whader** (?).

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxxii. 17 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, ff. 23) Ælc ðe eowra mete hwæder he wille þe gæst, hwyder he wille. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 30 (ib. ff. 25 b) Nys se cnapa her; hwæder ga ic? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 Ic fylige þe, swa hwæder þu. A. hwyder swa þu fare. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1914 (Glasgow MS.) I nought of deth ne of lyf Whader that Iune wolde me dryf.

**δ.** 3 **weder,** 4–5 **wheder, -yr, queder,** 5 **whedir, -ire, -ur, -yre, whedder, qweder, quedir, -ire, -yr, qwhedir, -yre, qwedyr, -ire, wheper, -yr, whethyr, whether,** *Sc.* **quhether, qw(h)epir,** 5–6 **wether,** 5–8 **whether,** 6 *Sc.* **quhethyr, -yr.**

*a* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (O.) 210, I ne recche weder I go. *a* 1300 Queder [see WHITHERSO M.]. 13.. *Northern Passion* (Harl.) 130 He spirid, Wheder bai went. *c* 1400–20 *Maundev.* (*Titus A.iv.*) 3409 Pat quedire as him pleese. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 81 I wote not.. whether to go. 1472 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* (1904) III. 21 I wot not yower wyll whether. 1500–20 *Dunbar*, *Wolf & Husb.* 29 The Wolf said, 'quhether dryuis thow this, Pray?' 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 Whether euery way leadeth. 1639 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 95, I am newly come out of Scotland, whether I am instantly returning again. 1697 DAVDEN *Æneis* X. 514 Whether would you run? 1702 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 200 In which Whether, I hope we may now say.

**γ.** 3 **wyndere,** 3–5 **woder,** 4–5 **whoder, -ir, -ur,** 5 **whodere, -yr, whooder, hoder(e, ő whothor.**

*c* 1275 Wider [see B. 4]. *c* 1290 *St. Christopher* 38 in *Sc. Leg.* (1asgow) 1. 3 Pat I ne may nouȝt wyte Wyder he wende. 1298 *Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) VI. 365 Whoder he wolde go. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1360 Whether he come & hodere he went, knewe nonone. *c* 1425 Whodyr [see WHITHERSO]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 58 Whether wil pou, pou schalle ȝit pou hem. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2764 Of your wif enquere..at ny day..To what place she torn ne hoder wyll go. 1535 Whother [see B. 3 a].

**B. Signification.**

Now, in all senses, only archaic or literary; replaced in ordinary use by *where*, or colloq. *where . . to*: see WHERE 3, 1 c. (Cf. WHENCE I.)

I. Interrogative uses.

**1.** To what place? **a.** in direct questions.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Deut.* i. 28 Hwider fare we? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 229 Hwider wulle we þonne fleo? 13.. *Beues of Hamtoun* 3955 Whiderward he wolde? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. 945 Whennes am I socht, and whither am I born? 1728 in *Pol. Ballads* (1893) I. 193 Whither will you go? what can you do? 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Bos.*, *Gt. Winglebury Duel*, 'Whither are we going?' inquired the lady tragically. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, Who was the son of cavalry in a time of profound peace?—and whither the deuce should the hussars ride? 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 202 South do not transmigrate, where do they come from at birth, whither do they go at death?

† *Humorous phr.* (as *sb.*). 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 346 How shall your whither goe you? (*your wife*). 1721 E. WARD *Northern Cuckold* 7 Not that our Northern Cuckold's *Whither D'ye go*, is such a Doxy neither. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Whither-D'ye go*, an insolent prescribing Wife.

**b.** In dependent questions and similar clauses.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 Hie..nyston hwyder hie nolan. *Ibid.* 229 Hie sendon hiut him betweonum hwider hyrn zehwyle faran scolde to lacranne. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 Þe þrudde is þæt he is in þan hierte þe ne wile forsceawin hwider he scal ðanne he henen farð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 229 Iustes þu..hwo hire leoke, and wu and hwider. *c* 1300 *St. Matthew* 140 In *S. Eng. Leg.* II. 80 Ich god it wot and seint Matheu ȝwodere is soule wende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2144 Hii nuste wuder drawe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 701 It is a selcouþe, me þinkes, whider þat lady is went. *c* 1440 *Arrow. Arth.* 2217 Thu blenkes him a-boute bore, Wiste he neuyr quedur! 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXIV. (Percy Soc.) 170 She .. did take me whether That I so rode, and what I would have? 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 Wee dayly consider, whether euery way leadeth. 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 216 Intimating that Alison was now gonne bee knew not whither. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 65 If he knew whether to go. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, Wandering they knew not whither. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, What he did, whither he went, where he died, might be left to conjecture.

**2.** *gen.* or *fig.* with various shades of meaning: To what result, condition, action, subject, cause, etc. ? † to what extent, how far?

971 *Blickl. Hom.* xl. (MS. Cott.), Hwæðer ðu nu ongite hwider þios spræce wille? *a* 1205 *Leg. Kath.* 1259 Hwider is uwer wit & uower wisdom went? *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 210 Whedir schal þi soule in þin ende, to peyne or ioye? *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 12 Wheder is all this become? 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. (1878) 215 Wel, Master Lupset, I perceyve wether you go [= what you are driving at]. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* XIII. 11 Whither I go, ye cannot come. 1631 GATAKER *Jer. Tithes* 31 Suspecting whether he may be drawne by yeelding that to be a Due. 1652 BP. HALL *Paneg. Works* I. 84 If there fall out..any direfull prodigie..whither should they be imputed but to these mighty angels? *a* 1670 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 102 If they had known whether to have addressed their complaints. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vii. 29 Thou tedious varlet, whither tends This putrid stuff? 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 129 Whither has wandered now my partial tongue? 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* x, Oh, Lancelot, Lancelot, whither are you forcing me?

**II.** Relative uses.

**3. a.** as componnd relative: To the place to (or in) which. Also with correlative *thither*. Also *fig.* *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xxi. 18 *Ambulabas ubi uolebas*, Du wiliæs ȝeonga huiðir ðu wildes. 1388 WYCLIF *John* viii. 21 Whidur I go, ȝe mown not come. 1491 CAXTON *Recuyell* 083 To goo whyther the goddes wold consente that they should dwelle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 Peraydre suche money ye may bynge hym whether he entendeth. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 18 And whether the head went thither must the bodye folow. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* XXXVII. 378 Away with them & their sophistrie, whither they are worthie. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 79 Then whether Honour calls thee, bravely follow. 1836 J. GUEST *Sir. Atonem.* (1852) 343, I must go whither truth conducts me.

**b.** as simple relative: To which place; after a noun of place = to which; also with ellipsis = a place to which.

*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3231, I ne wiste no weye whedire þat I schulde. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 31 Heaxsigni seuenty and two disciplis, and sent hem..to ilk place and cite widir he was to com. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. Sun. after Ascension*, Exalte us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christe is gone before. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Deut. xix. 3 He which.. is a fugitive, may have..whither to escape. 1827 MOORSOM *Hist.* I. 42 We landed..Village Moron, ..whether wee hired a sledge..and were drawne thither ouer the yce and snow. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 68 The sense and motion of that vibration, whither that Nerve was propogated. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 1 The Plague.. had been very violent..at Amsterdam and Roterdam,.. whether they say, it was brought, some said from Italy, others from the Levant. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. Come Thence whither thou must go! 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Nov., Dined at Melville Castle, whither I went through a snowstorm. 1893 MRS. FEMINGTON-CLARKE *Yachting* I. 4 Cowes, whither I had taken my yacht..for the Regatta Week.

**4.** In generalized or indef. sense: To (or in) any place to which; to whatever place; whithersoever. For, with addition of † *as*, † *that*, † *ever*, *soever*): see also WHITHERSO, -SOEVER, -SOMEVER.

*c* 1275 LAY. 12169 Ich wolle..wende wider þat þou wolt. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10812 Porto help hir in his nede, Quider þat I[a]nnd Whether þai go. *Gött.* quiper-sua. 1535 Whether so[e] sco rade or ȝede. 13.. tr. *Æthred in Engl. Stud.* VII. 324 ȝif þu folwe þis blessed mayde whider-þat-euer sche ġoð. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Ure to nolby be lamb of mildernesse huyder hit geð o huam hi byeþ ȝ-spoused. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 71 ȝe Holi Gost ledde Jesu whidir ever he wente, and what dedis evere he dide. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Legende* 161/1 Whider as euer he went, or what thyng som evur he did, he was evur sauyed Ave Maria. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Cary him whedyr euer þou wolt. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxlvi. 318 b/a, I haue geuen this aduyse, to take whyder as me lyst. 1595 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 22 Go with thy sonne whether it goes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. cxxi. 348 Whether he be in euery sphere He to th' inquisitive Spirits iourneth forth. *a* 1670 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* i. xvii. (1675) 241 We should..follow whither ever he shall lead us. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 241 They were at Liberty to travel whither they pleased. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iii. 192 A spark From Paris, answered by a snap at Caen Or whither reached the telegraphic wire.

**III.** Indefinite and substantival uses.

**5.** With preceding qualifying words, forming compounds: see ANYWHITHER, EVERYWHITHER, NOWHITHER, OWHITHER, SOMEWHITHER.

**6.** as *sb.* (*nonce-use.*) Place or state to which a person or thing moves or tends. (Cf. WHENCE 5.)

1875 [see WHENCE 5]. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* i. 1, He roams abroad..Spying the where and whither of his foes.

**Whither,** obs. form of WHETHER.

† **Whither-out,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + OUT *adv.*; cf. WHEREOUT.] *a. interrog.* (*irreg.*) Out of what, from what source, whence. *b. rel.* In the direction in which; nearly = whereabouts.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 12 If any wiste wyte whider-oute it gruweth? 1393 *Ibid.* C. viii. 178 Couthest þow wisuen oure þe way whyder out treuthe wonyeþ? *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1090 [They] seten redy markys there Wydyr-out the coffyns were.

**Whi·thersо,** *adv. arch.* [ME. *whiderso*, repr. OE. *swá hwider swá*: see So *adv.* 17 d.] = next.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 *Quocunque ieris*, sua huider bu faeres [*Rushw.* hwider swa]. c 1205 LAY. 18969 Faren þu scalt bi rarde wuder awn ich be læde. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Ha gað sauer nest godd, hwiderse he turneð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4163 Hii ne mighte nost aȝen hym do no wyþer so hii wende. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 6359 (Fairf.) Quiddes-na he welk here ne þare þe wandis wam wiþ him be bare. c 1405 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 40 Al the englyssshe-men.. shold ben..frely let goo whodyso-ev they wold. c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 381 That I have bechi I nail baid, ..Quhidder sa it gang to greif or to gawin.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* i. (1874) 118 Whereso I be or whitherso I turn. 1882 W. MORRIS *Prince's Quest* IX. 21 Going whitherso the wild path went.

**Whithersoever** (hwi:ðəsōwe·vəɹ), *adv.* Forms: see WHITHER *adv.*, So, and EVER *adv.*; also ✝ *contr.* **whidur-sever.** (In early use as two or as three words.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 c; cf. SOEVER.] To whatever place. a. To (or in) any place to which: = WHEREVER 3.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 Folhen goiid almihti, hwider se he euer wende. c 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall) 1785 Thei shull be so lyght and swyft, That whitsiðe-ever they þenk they may be lyft. 1484 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 567/2 Over the Sees, or whether sho ever it please theym. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* viii. 6 Vr Lorde helped Dauid whither so euer he went. 1622 R. HAMMOND *Pract. Catech.* § 45. 111 The Marichant having bought the goods, hee might presently transport them whether-soever he would. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 227, I will...attend you whithersoever you please. 1865 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Leam. Spa*, He has a right to go whithersoever they lead him. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 703/1 Wh. Whitherso Father Gerard's solid in his thick shoes, whithersoever bound. 1913 *Athenæum* 23 Aug. 181/3 Whatsoever you may be doing, or whithersoever you may turn.

So ✝ **Wha·therssoever, ✝ whithersome·ver** *advbs.* [see SOM *rel. adv.* 2, SOMEVER], in same senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6359 Quedir-sum he welk her or þare, þis wandes euer he will bere. *Ibid.* 6647 Till ilk wiht Quidersum he þat folk ledd. a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord* (1790) 19 Clerkes and yeomen..to precede the King whythyr somever the King go. 1485 CAXTON *St. Winefryde* 16 Euery man myght goo..whydersomever hym wold. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* viii. 19 Whythersomever thou goest.

**Whitherto** (hwiðəɹtū·), *adv.* Now *rare or Obs.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + To *prep.*; cf. HITHERTO.] To what place, state, result, etc.? to what? whither? whereto?

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xii. 1-6 Whitherto come he? By despisyng of this lyfe, he attained immortalitie. 1582 RHEIMS *Test Pembroke's Love* Wks. (Grosart) I. 27/2 All the world must depart whence we came, but whitherto we must. 1624 BP. HALL *Art Medit., Medit. Death* Wks. (1625) 729 Whitherto haue tended all thy serious meditations? 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 145 Whitherto shall we refer that verb? 1758 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 252 Hearing whitherto it might grow.

**Whitherward** (hwi·ðəɹwəɹd), *adv.* *sb.*) *arch.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + -WARD.]

1. *interrog.* Towards or to what place? in what direction? whither? ✝ Also with reference to situation (nearly = whereabouts?). Also *fig.* or *gen.* Towards what?

c 1200 *Ormin* 17205 Þu ne makhtt nohht .. sen .. Fra whiþennwarrd .. he comm, ne whiderwarrdess he wendeþþ. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Dan þe asfarinde men seh þe sa sterre, hie wuiten sone wuderward hie sullen weie holden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 207 Hii ne wende fram al hire kun, .. Ne nowiht ne yspeyed, iseie ne þe wind blewe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Pou must now ga To paradis..' 'Yai, sir, wist i wyderward Þat tat veuch contre wase.' 1393 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9218 Þe gentyl man, Whederward þat Pers ȝe went. c 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 782 He.. asked of hire whiderward she wente. c 1445 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xviii. 208 Þat fra þat tyme þe thayne of Fyff be tyme past. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xiii. 232 Whether ward ar ye way ledyng this knyghte? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. v. Aa iij b, Whyderwarde lyeth thy iourney? De thayne of Fyff be tyme past. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xiii. 232 Whether ward ar ye way ledyng this knyghte? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. v. Aa iij b, Whyderwarde lyeth thy iourney? 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* i. 510 Forth of auenture his way is went, but whitherward he draw, he conceiues no way. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. xiii, Unknowing whitherward to bend his way. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* i. xi, Whitherward to turn for a good course of life, was by no means apparent. 1880 TROLLOPE *Bramley P.* xiii, As one goes on pleasantly running down the path—whitherward?

2. *rel.* a. as compound relative: Towards the place that; usually in generalized or indefinite sense: Towards any place that, whithersoever.

c 1205 LAY. 9994 Whudereward þa ferde heore flem sunkedden, þe eorles heom sigen to. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Uotte.. uuliwen þe hwuderward so þu euer wendest. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21228 O dant maiden þe gospel-bok Quider-ward man euer he sok, .. wit him he bar. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2830 Whiderward as þei went al wiat þei it founde. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23353 (Fairf.) Quidder-ward [*Trin.* Whiderward] so þan will loke þai loke al. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. cxxix. (1495) 811 b/1 A way by the whyche a man maye goo whyderwarde that he will. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. 204 Shall he..conduct the King whitherward his Majesty wishes?

b. as simple relative: Towards which.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. iii. (Rodl. MS.), þe wel spynge and be fynalle ende whederward bit [*sc.* the river] rennep. 1828 ALLEN *Martyrdom Cauphon* (1908) 7 Whitherwarde by longe and great travail he came, going about by Rome .. and by Remes. 1907 Beard *Thwarte God's Judgem.* xix. (1612) 353 Bombadilla..was called home againe into Spaine: whitherward,..as hee imbarked himselfe ..there arose..a horrible..tempest. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Sept. 374/1 Four guns are sent..to advanced posts up the nullah, whitherward they make their way by forest routes.

3. *sb.* (*nonce-use*). Place towards which one goes.

1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 325 Athens hath no clew To track his whitherward.

So **Wha·therwards** *adv.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 955 (Laud MS.), Who so wolde, he might ryde..Whiderwardes so he wolde. c 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2037 Ar he knist he askede þo 'Whider-wardes is Monsoudoun?' 1908–10 SIR W. BUTLER *Autobiog.* xii. (1911) 186 Signs..indicating the whitherwards of coming events.

**Whiting** (hwai·tiŋ), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 **whytynge, whitynge,** (5 **wytonge, -yng**), 6 **whytling, -yng, whityng, -inge,** 7 **whyting, Sc. whitin, quhiting, quhitine,** 8 **whitting, Sc. whin,** 8–9 **Sc. whitten,** 6– **whiting.** [ad. (M)Du. *witting*; also ✝ *wuttingh*, MLG. *witting* 'aculeja', 'amia', 'asellus'; app. f. WHITE *a.* + -ING 3. (The formal analogue ON. *hvitingr* = a kind of whale, etc.) Cf. WHITEFISH.]

1. A gadoid fish of the genus *Merlangus*, esp. *M. vulgaris*, a small fish with pearly white flesh, abundant off the coast of Great Britain, and highly esteemed as food.

a 1425 *Prompt. Parv.* 505/2 *Witynge, or whytynge*, *Merlangus*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* sig. f–8–g v. *whitten*, [= **whiting**,

**Whitleather** (hwɪtlɛ̜ðəɹ) Forms 4 witlegðr, 5 whittlether, 5–7 whit(-)lether, 7–9 whit leather, 6– whitleather (WHITE *a.* 2 (with normal shortening in comb.) and LEATHER *sb.* For illustration of **white leather see** 1 *b.*]

1 Leather of a white or light colour and soft plant consistence, prepared by tawing, i.e. dressing with alum and salt, so as to retain the natural colour. Also *attrib.*

1366–7 *Privy of Ivychale* (Surtees) p lxxii Cum ferrura cingule, capestris, witlegth' scutels [etc.] 1487 8 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 417 Pro whitlether pro lez brawdrick, vjd 1573–80 ALDEN *Reads* (1878) 36 Hole bridle and saddle whit lether and reall 1603 *Tarlton's Cheat Hunt* sig. 58 A large strong thong or strap of what leather 1706 TRAHERN *Diarying & Journ.* 43 I have seen one part of a Skin of 5 well coloured sound nature, another Part that had somewhat the look of rough Parchment, or hard White-leather 1877 *N. W. Line Circ., Whittlethorn*, sheepskins, prepared for thongs of flails, repairing harness &c Formerly used for laldocks of church bells

*β* c1440 1519 (see I WHITE *a.* 1) 1500 *Lords Church Acc in N. W. Line Circ.* (1880) 31 W. [for] horskyn & di skyn whitelt leder 1556 *Chorl. Rec. Manchinhampton in Archæol. Cant.* (1853) XXXV 423 For wyet lether and making off bawgeses, xvjsjd 1595 COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. B 2, bubulci utriculi*, thonges of white leathes 1885 *Wilts Leather Manuf* 39 When tawed or prepare[d] with alum and salt they [sc. sheepskins] form what is termed white leather

*attrib.* and *Comb.* ?a 1600 *MS. Lansd 241* (Halliw.) Thy gredil made of the whitelether whange 1634 [COMUS *Virgamachus* C 1, Then from thy flesh I le driw thy hide, And have it throughly tand, and dry'd What lether like 1856 MISS BAKER *Northumb St. Gl.* s.v. White leather thonga.

**b.** In comprisings, or as a type of toughness, elasticity, softness, etc.; hence *fig.* Also *attrib.*

1603 BRETON *I pray you let me not angree* B 4, I am thus handled with this wicked olde peece of Whit leather 1612 BRAIN & FL. *Scorn'd Lady* v 1 Hast thou so much nouriture in the Wi tchaft to eat that thou canst cry? 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Lying Mart* iv ii 12, The guts of my conscience begunne to be of whit leather 1697 VAN BRUGH *Relapse* iv *Verse* 171 soon bring his Nose to the Grind stone *(Coupler) aside* Well said, old White leather! *a* 1723 LUDLOW *Mem Life* (1894) 316 My Soules are not of Iron neither Are my Harts made of What leather 1839 JAMES *Darnley* v Pray God to make all your bones as soft as what leather 1839 MISS KIRKLAND *New Home* xxxiv 225 Her eyes grew preternaturally pale, and her lips was as white leather

**2** The tough ligament in the neck of an ox or other grazing animal also called *pin's ear*

1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol* v ii 10 362 Their Ligament—Called the Whitleather, Jaxwax and Fenfax

**Whitling** hwɪtlɪŋ) *S.* and *north.* Also 6 **whiddelyngs**, 9 **whitlin** [f WHITE *a.* + -LING. Cf *G. wessling* whiting.

Late OE. *hwitling*, glaucus (a perch the whiting)

A fish of the salmon family, not certainly identified, app the young of the bull-trout, *Salmo eriox.* Also *whitling trout.* Cf. WHITING *sb.* 1 *b* (*a*

1597 *Statutes-roll* 1 (Chesham Soc.) 121 For flookes and eels, hit whiddelyngs, xxiijd 1769 WALLIS *Nat. Hist. Northumbld* I 389 The White or trout is taken in the Esk and Tweed from the sea upwards 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot* VIII 488 In some parts of the Lin, there are great numbers of sea trouts The fishermen call them whitlings 1830 in *Doubleday Comet Date Lifting Sonds* (1852) 84 The Tweed, he says, has its swarm An like it of his whitlins the Esk 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk Angling* ix 207 There is a disputed point as regards the bull trout, whether or no he is the veritable whitling'

*attrib* 1769 [see above] 1834 JARDINE in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I No 2 52 They are taken with whitling flies 1847 STODDART *Angler's Compan.* 127 Others, like the Tweed or Tay, I recommend the use of a whitling hook

**Whitlow** (hwɪtlo) Forms *a* 4–7 **whitflawe**, 5 **whytiflowe**, 5–6 **whitflowe**, 6 **whyte flaw**, **white flaw**, 6–7 **whiteflaw(e)**, 7–8 **whit(-)flaw**, **whit(-)flow**, (8 *dial* **whick**, 8–9 **quickflaw**) *B* 5 **whytflowe**, **whyte lowe**, 6 **whitlowe**, 7 **whitelow**, (**whitloaf**), 7–9 **whitloe**, 6– **whitlow**; 6 **whitblowe**, **whitblowe**, (**whitblowe**), **whitebowe**, 6–7 **whitblaw** [pp. orig *whitflaw, flow* WHITE *a.* + FLAW *sb.*1 (q v. sense 4), but the similarity of the first syllable to early mod Du *wijt, fijt*, LG *fit* 'whitlow' is remarkable and suggests the possibility of alien origin The alterations to *whitblow, whitlow* are difficult to account for. The supposition that the original form was *whick-flaw*, dial var of *quickflaw* (Skeat), is not supported by the evidence.]

A suppurative inflammatory sore or swelling on a finger or thumb, usually in the tertninal joint; = PARONYCHIA 1 (cf PANARICIUM)

*a* a1400 *Alphita* (Anecd Oxon.) 138 *Panaricium uel paranchium, i. apostema inter digitos, a°* a. whitflawe a 1425 in *Archæol's Travel Festivale*, etc 42 Pe fistule bred ying in be extremite of be fyngur deceyued sodnier be pacient han in oper places for vnknunyng wolp bat it is be whit flowe, whiche bou schalt knowe pus. 1526 WITHALS *Dict* (1562) 77 A whiteflaw, *redinus* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II 95 b The asshes [of wild grapes] are good for medicines for the eyes, and with hony it healeth whit flawes, agnayles or goomes bledinge 1598 HERRICK *Hesper., Obsequies to Memorie* The nails fain off by Whit flawes 1707 J. STEPHEN tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks* (1709) 340 A gold Ring does not cure a Whitflaw 1746 *Hist Trans* XLIV 218 Much used in Cataplasms for the Pellon, or worst Kind of Whitflow *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd. Gross*, Whick flaw

*B* c 1440 *Promp Parv* 525/2 Whyrlowe (*P.* whyrflowe sore, *pamonicium*) 1603 BRETON *Mad World* (1633) H 8 b, Hesking but a Whitloe on a Lords thumbe 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat Ins* 1049 A hive Chislep laid to a what loaf, cures it 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol Chym* 206 I hey are not certainly able to perform the cure of so much as a paronychia or whitlow 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII xxvi, A hand of the eminent Jew had been troubled with a whitlow in her middle finger 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect Inflam* 337 Where the matter is lodged so in some cases of whitlow in the sheaths of the tendons. 1823 R. LEWINS *Syst Clin Med* xxiii 371 A suppurating tumor resembling a whitlow 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 573 Painless whitlow affects the fingers of patients suffering from peripheral nerve disease of the upper extremities

γ 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lvi 17 A white blowe or a whyte flaw, the whiche doth grow about the rote of the nayle 1552 HULOET *Whitblow*, *Panaricium*, a whitblowe, 1598 FLORIO, *Panaricio*, a fellon, a whitblowe, that comes on ones finger tops

**b.** *Attrib.* **whitlow-grass**, book name of two early flowering plants with white blossoms, formerly reputed to cure whitlows (cf NAILWORT) *Saxifraga tridactylites*, Rue leaved Whitlow grass, and *Draba* (*Erophila*) *verna* (hence in mod use extended to the whole genus *Draba*), whitlowwort, a plant of the genus *Paronychia*, formerly reputed to cure whitlows

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II clxxxvi 498 Of Whitel lowe, or Whitlow grasse 1640 Rose leafed Whitlowe grasse Jagged Whitlowe grasse 1664 J. JOHNSON *Merc Rol* 57 Rue Whitlow grasse 1670 [W. HOWE] *Hybtol Brit* 58 *Paronychia* Rue Whitlow grasse 1707 PETIVER *Paronich.* 2 *supra* Whitlow wort *Paronychia vulgaris*, Chick weed Whitlow grasse 1785 MARTYN *Lett Rot* II (1794) 32 Those whose feet are subject to whitlow grass 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II 143 D[raba] *verna* *Common Whitlow Grass* D Aizoides *See Screen or Upine Whitlow Grass* Pyrenaica *Pyrenean Whitlow Grass*

**Whitlowtide**, obs. form of WHITSUNTIDE

**Whit Monday** see after WHIT SUNDAY

**Whitner**, obs form of WHITENER.

**Whitness, -nesse**, obs ff WHITENESS, WITNESS.

**Whitney**, erron spelling of WITNEY

**Whitneyite** hwɪtnɪəɪt) *Min.* [f the name of J. D. *Whitney*, an American geologist see -ITE 1] A native arsenide of copper, of a reddish-white colour, found near Lake Superior and elsewhere in America.

1861 *Boston Gloss Min*

**Whitour**, obs form of QUITTER *sb.*1

**Whitpot**, obs form of WHITE POT

**Whitret** (hwɪtrɛt), **whitterick** (hwɪtərɪk) *S.* and *dial* Forms *a* 5 **whytrate**, (-**ratche**), **whitrast**, **whytras**, *Sc.* **quhitras**, 5, 9 **whitrat**, 6 *Sc.* **quhittrat**, **quhitred**, **fitret**, **quhittret**, 7–8 **whitred**, 7, 9 **whitret**, 8–9 **whitterat**, **whitteret**, **whitrit**, (**whutthrost**), 8– **whitret** *B* 8–9 **whitrock** 9 **whitrack**, (**wh**(**h**)**utterick**, -**cok**, **whuttorock**), **whittrick**, **whitterick** (see also *Eng Dial Dict*) [The earliest known forms suggest a compound of WHITE *a* and RAT *sb*, the types *whitret*, *whitried*, -*whitrick* exemplify Sc tendency to modify the sounds of final syllables.] A weasel, also, a stoat

*a* c1440 *Promp Parv* 525 n Whytrate (*A.* whitratt *P.* whytruche) c1480 HENRYSON *Testatt of Fox* 116 (Harl MS) Ane quhitrand quhirrel with the quhasill wer t 1486 *Bk St Albans*, *Hunting* I hab The Graye, the Fox, the Squyrrell, the Martron, and the Pulcate 1535 BELLENDEN *Cron Scot* (1821) I p xxxiii, Martrikis, bevers, quhitredis, and toddis 1590 BRETON in Watson *Coll Sc. Poems* (1706) II 134 The humant the Fitret and the Fox deep and howest hole to huse *Ibid* 22 Out come the Quhitrét 1629 SIR R. GORDON *General Hist Earll Sutherland* 13 Sables, Squyrrells, whittrets, weasells, otters 1681 COLVILL *Whig's Supplic.* (1751) p xi As harmless as a whitred without teeth 1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr* II iii 18 Mustelæ Sylvestres, the Martrik, Fitret, Weasel, dicitur 1790 AIKEN Wilson *Dict not in the Work* Poet Wks. (1846) 96 Ony whitret a shrefu' jaws 1815 SCOTT *Guy M* xxxii, We many of the whittrets before the whole clanjamfray be down upon us 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid Encycl* 275 The what throut or weazle, and the hoodie, have often bloody wars with other 1880 *Trans Edin Antiq Soc* 646 When a whitret or a fox came prowling past

*B* c1800 *R. Jamieson's Pop Ball* (1806) I 294 Her mantle had bund the wark, And the whitrack skin had mouth 1820 G. W. SIMPSON *Whitrat Yarr Tarbuddery* 455 The weasle (provincially *whitrick* 1861 QUEEN *Heather Flowrs* (1865) 145 He spokes him fairly wi his teeth An' fought like Eydder Whitrat sour

**Whitsour** (hwɪtsʊəɹ). [? f. WHITE *a.* + SOUR *a.*] A variety of apple

1733 MILLER *Gard Dict* 3 *sv. Apple*, The Whitsour 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gardener's Daily Assist* p xi, Apples valued principally for Cyder Whitsour

**Whitster** (hwɪtstəɹ) Now *local* Forms 1 5 **whystar**, **wytstare**, **whystarre**, **qwytstare**, **qwyster**, **quister**, 6 **whitstarre**, 6– **whitster** [f WHITE *v.* + -STER. Cf Du *witster* 'a Woman that whitens the wills' (Sewel.)]

1. A bleacher

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 39/1 Bleystare, or wytstare (*K* bleyster, *H* bleystare or qwytstare, *P* bleykester or whytster), *candidarius* 1530 PALSGR 288 2 Whitstarre, *blanchisseur* 1552 HULOET *Whyte* 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho* ii 58 The whitsters, and dutch laundreyes 1598 SHAKE *Merry W.* III iii 11 Take this basket, and carry it among the Whitsters in Datchet Mead 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 12 Aug., My wife and maids being gone over the water to the whitsters with their clothes 1700 J. HOUGHTON *Collect Improv Husb* No 493 p 3 the Whitsters do use there Pot Ashes, in the whitening of their Yarn and Cloth 1881 *Exeter Census Clerks* (1883) 72 Scourer, Bleacher French Cleaner, Whitster

2. A whitesmith

1823 E. MOSS *Suffolk Wds*

Hence † **Whit tetered** (adj) *a*, Bleached

1767 *Specif Thos Long's Patent* No 869 A machine for printing whitestered linen'

**Whitstone**, obs. variant of WHETSTONE.

**† Whitsull.** *Cornish dial* [f WHITE *a.* + SOUL] — WHITE MEAT *n.*

1600 CAREW *Cornw* iii 66 Their meat, Whitsull, as they call it, namely milke sowre milke, cheese, curds, butter, and such like as came from the cow and ewe

**Whitsun** (hwɪtsŏn). Forms 3 **witsonen**, **witsone**, 4 **witsone**, 4–6 **Wytson**, 5 **wyte**, **Wytt**, **White**, **Whyght**, (*Sc.* **Wit-**), 5–6 **Whyt-**, 5–7 **Whit-**, 5–8 **Whitson**, 6 **Wyt-sone**, **-son**, **Witteson**, (*Sc* **Wytson**), 7–8 **Whitsund**, **Whit-sun**, 7– **Whitsun** *B* 5 *Sc* **quysson**, 5, 9 *dial* **Whissen**, 7 **Whesen** (See also following words.) [ME *wh(i)tsone(n*, the first two elements of WHIT SUNDAY, WHITSUNDAY, analysed as *Whitsun Day* Cf ON *hvitasunna* Whitsunday, *hvitasunnunótt* Whitsun week, *hvitasunnuaptann* Whitsun eve]

1. Used *attrib* to denote something belonging to, connected with, occurring at the season of Whit Sunday or Whitsuntide as *Whitsun ale*, *contribution*, *fair*, *holiday*, *market*, *morris-dance*, *pastoral*, **Whitsun ale** *Hist.* [ALE 3], a parish festival formerly held at Whitsuntide, marked by feasting, sports, and merry making; † **Whitsun eve, even** [*Eve sb.*1 2, EVEN *sb.*2], the day before Whit Sunday, † **Whitsun fatching** PENTECOSTAL *sb.*, **Whitsun giltyflower**, local name for a double flowered variety of rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*), **Whitsun lady**, lord, titles of the leading or presiding personages at a *Whitsun ale*, **Whitsun week**, the week beginning with Whit Sunday, Whit week Also occas in names of the days of Whit week, as **Whitsun Sunday** (*obs* or *dial*) = WHIT SUNDAY, **Whitsun Monday**, etc = Whit Monday, etc (see after WHIT SUNDAY) See also WHITSUNTIDE

1846 APPLE *Lyra Innoc* xx xii, Thy dread Hours, that awful Trinity, Are but the Whitsun stars, new set on high 1614 W BROWNE *Sheph Pipe* I 66, This is a Jule Would beit our Whitsun ale 1619 *Inquisit Finan* 113, Happy the age, When every village had a May pole, and kept Whitson ales, and May games did abound 1633 CRASH *Dest cons Sports* 11 That after the end of Divine Service, Our good youth be not discouraged from hauing of May-Games Whitson Ales and Morrice-dances 1698 WALLIS in *Phil Trans* XX 301 When they flock about a Bridal Bunquet, or Whitsun Ale 1727 DEFOE *Hist Duncan* 32 At Whitsun ale King of the May He trip it on each holyday 1849 J. AITON *Dom Econ* (1857) 93 Such proclamations had failed to prevent Whitsun ales, May games, and Morris dancers People will not be merry by rule 1895 KENNETT *Par Antiq* IX 397 The Pentecostals or Whitsun contributions 1897 R. COCK in *Trans Lancs & Ches Antiq Soc* XV 1 Whitsun eve his come per 1447 *Paston Lett* (1904) V 238 Wretyn at Wiweby, on Wytsonn eve 1533–4 in Swayne *Churchw Acc Sarum* (1896) 96 Kepyng mete on Whytson yeve 1 d 1684 LAUD *Diary* 15 May, Saturday, Whitsun eve, the Bill passed in Parliament 1706 *Brief Particulars of Truth* (1901) 243 The day called Whit-sunne eve 1448 in *Rep MSS Ld Middleton* (Hist MSS Comm 1911) 109 On Qwysson even everilke man breke his severall gieves, or elyn lykes 1533 *Gough, Camb.*, etc (R. & L.) 255 On Wyt on Lwyne was at Grant Cambr at Sudon 1620 *Acc Mag Soc Sect* 26 1 Die Sabbati ante festum Pente costes in Whitson even et 12 Nov 1807 CRABBE *Par Reg* I 427 Loitering at the Whitsun Ale 1822 *Gent Mag* XCII 1 Pentecostals or Whitsund Farthings. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 852 1 Whitsun Farthings, otherwise called Smoke Farthings, a composition for offerings anciently made in Whitsun week by every man in England, who occupied a house with a chimney, to the cathedral church of the diocese 1898 W. CRAIK *Age of Vaughan* II 33 May brings Roses, Pinks, 'Whitsunglift flowers 1886 BARTER & HOLLAND *Flatt n Gilliflower, Whitsun* The d ible flowered variety of *Hesperis matronalis*, now (Whitsun Gillyflower), 1833 SOUTHEY *Colloq. etc* (E E 1 S) 163 Justis at Westefinjnster all je 'Wytson halydas 1609 B. JONSON *Sejanus Wom* III 1, Were you ever so much as look'd upon by a Lord, or the Master, or Whitsonholydayes? 1725 *Lond Gaz* No 5356/1 Their Majesties intend to go after the Whitsun Holidays to Marlborough 1861 HAVERGAL *Poems* 41 A Kitchen wench, now so tricked up with scarfs, rings, and cross garters, that you never saw a 'Whitsun f. ady better rigged 1622 *Metamorpha* b b, Ich haue beene twise our 'Whitson Lord 1853 B. JOWETT *Acts of The Post* I Old records Of antique proverbs drawn from Whitson lords 1495 HALL-BURTON *Ledger* (1867) 108 At the 'Vitson merkat 1501 *J Houghton Corr* (Camden) 154 From Lyncolns Inne, this 'Whitsonemunday 1628 in *Cal & Lomas Par. Chas.* I (1848) II 315 The new Venetian ambassador had his first audience on Whitsun Monday 1687 *MSS. Dk Rutland* (Hist

MSS. Comm.) II. 213 Whesen Monday. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 9). *Linton*, ..10 miles from Cambridge. ..has a market on Thursday, and fairs on Whitsun-Monday, and August 4. 1838 STARKEY *Let. in England* (1871) p. xxii, Your Whitsun-days ..were receyuyd upon *Wyt-son morn. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, ii. iv. 25 Russell with a *Whitson Morris-dance. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 134 I play as I have seene them do In *Whitson-Pastorals. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 36 On *Whytsonesday, which was the xxxj. of May, was the coronacion. 1825 BECKETT *N. C. Gloss., Whitson-Sunday*, Whitsunday. 1612 HORTON *Concord. Years* 173 *Whitsunthursday. 1599 *Min. Archdeaconry of Colchester* II. 248 (MS.) In the afternoone on Whitson munday and *Whitson tuesdaye all daye. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* N 3, Whitson Tuesday. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 403/1. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 168 *Vytson veddyinsday. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10542 Pe burthoni þa *witsonewerke to londone iwis com. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 734 Of witsone owke þe twysday. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 147 Apon a Seterday in Whitson weke. 1498 *Paston Lett.* III. 224 Wrytyn at London, the Wednysdays in Whyghtsonweke. 1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 3 Monday and Tewisdaye in Witeson weike. 1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, ii. 3. 58 On Wednesday in Whitsun week. 1634 *Bk. Com. Prayer* H 5, Munday in Whitsun weeke. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* v, The great annual town-holiday of Whitsun-week.

**2.** *ib.* Short for WHITSUN-TIDE. *rare*.

1849 DISRAELI in Monypenny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. viii. 204 There will be a hot and perhaps eventful campaign between this and Whitsun. 1896 *Ibid.* (1916) IV. iii. 45 Between Easter and Whitsun.

**Whit Sunday, Whitsunday** (hwit *sundi*, hwitsŭnde). Forms (see also DAY and SUNDAY): 1 *obl.*) **Hwitan Sunnandæg**, 2 **wit(te)-sunnedei**, 3 **White(n)sune(n)dæi, hwitesune-, Witeson(ne)-, wit-sune-, wit(e)sone-**, 4 **wit sonday, wijt sundai, Wittsunday, whytsonen-, wit(te)-sone-**, 4–6 **Witsonday(e, 5 Whytesonday, witsonen, -on-, witsun-, wyt-, wyth so(u)nday, wytsson-, Gwytsson-, qwytesson-**(e)-, 6 **Whit sonday, Whit(e)son-, Whysonday, Witsounday, whitson, Witson daye, Sr. Witsunda, Vyt-, Vitso(u)nday, 6– Whitsunday, 7– Whit Sunday, (Whit-Sunday, 9 Whitsun-Day).** *β.* 4 *Sr.* **Qwhyssonday**, 4–5 **qvhissonday, 5 w(h)issonday, whysunday, 9** *dial.* **Whussenday.** [late OE. *Hwita Sunnandæg* lit. 'white Sunday' (found once only and in oblique form *Hwitan S.*); whence app. ON. *hvítasunnudagr* in the same sense, also *hvítasunnuhátíðarnótt, -aptr, -vika* (ON. *hvítadagr* 'white day', *hvítaðrtíðinsdagr* 'white Lord's-day', *hvítalagavikha* Whitsun week, cannot be taken as evidence of an independent Norse origin; they are prob. due to Icelandic attempts to obliterate heathen traces from the name of the festival). The epithet 'white' is generally taken to refer to the ancient custom of the wearing of white baptismal robes by the newly-baptized at the feast of Pentecost (cf. *Dominica in albis*, the name of the First Sunday after Easter, Low Sunday, given for the same reason).

The formal analogues of *Whitsun-day* current on the Continent in Low German and neighbouring areas are mostly applied to the First Sunday after Easter (cf. above), or the First Sunday in Lent (prob. from the white church-hangings then used; cf. OFris. *hwita torsdey*, Du. *Witte Donderdag* Maundy Thursday), e.g. MLG. *witsondach*, MDu. *wittesonnendach*, from LG.) MLG. *witsundes*(*sen*), MSw. *hvita sunnadaghar*. (No confirmation has been found of Kilian's *'witten-son-dagh*, velus Fland. Dominica Pentecostes,' and Colgrave's *Diuinendaeghen*, Du. *Driemenschen Sunday* 'and Hexham's *'Witten Sondagh*, Palme-Sunday' are prob. blunders.)

In earlier OE. the name of Whitsunday was *pentecosten* (gen. *-esnes*), the Græco-Latin name (see PENTECOST and cf. Goth. *paintekusten* acc.), which was adopted in other Teut. languages, e.g. OS. *dri pincostin*, MDu. *pinxteren*, Du. *pinkster*, OHG. (as) *pfingistun* (*Pfingstdienstag*), MHG. *pfingesten*, G. *Pfingsten*, (M)LG. *pinksten*, Sw. *Pingst*, Da. *Pinsedag*); see PINKSTER.

As the name of a Scottish term-day, *Whitsunday* (stressed on the final syllable) has been long dissociated from the church festival.

According to a different apprehension of the composition of the word (the origin of which was obscured by the shortening of the first syllable), it has been divided either as *Whitsun day* or as *Whit Sunday*, and the first elements of both of these have been used attributively in the same sense: see WHITSUN and *Whit Monday*, etc. below.]

1. The seventh Sunday after Easter, observed as a festival of the Christian Church in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost: = PENTECOST 2.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Homm.* xx. 1066 (MS. D.) On þisan Eastron com se kyng to Wincestre, & þa wæron Eastra on x kal. April, & sona æfter þam com Midsumor mæsse hlæfdie hider to lande, & Eadred æscbiscop to cwene ..on *Hwitan Sunnandæg*. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Munezieng of þam hali gast þe he sende in his apostles on þon dei þe is icleped witsunnedei. *c* 1290 LAY. 17481 Pis al bi his folc.. come to Aubenes-buri .. to White-sunedæie. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 151 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 224 Per se schulle bi-ester beo & þis wit-sonedai also. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 445 In a Whitsonday he mayde was i-cristened. 1398 *Maundev. de Mebrez* (Hann.) 288 At þe fest of qwhytsonday. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2978 Haue hatte of floures as fresh as may Chapelett of Roses of witsonday. *c* 1400 *Treatise* & *Conc.* 16 He made a feste, the soth to say, Open the Witsonenday, At Kerdyf, that es in Wales. 1480 *Mouk of Kirkham* (Arb.) 93 On ascensyon day and wythsonday he put no lyght to hym, the whiche yn þose festis specialy were wonte to brenne. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxxxi. 731 On a witsonday themperour and thempresse helde estate royall at there palayes for y^e solempnyte of that day. 1634 HERACLITUS *Towne.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 The next morning early, being Whit Sunday, was discovered land. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year* (heading of poem) Whitsunday. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 188 The coronation took place at Westminster on Whitsun-Day.

† b. Used for the actual day of Pentecost on which the event took place: see PENTECOST 1. *Obs.*

*a* 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Pe þeoue of þe holi goste þet þu on hwite sune dai sendest þine deorewurðe deciples. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 655 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 At hun heye vndarun, a wit-sonedæi, þe holy gost heuen com vp-on in fuy tunge. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Petrus*) 40 Petir broucht to cristis fay Pe thowsand men on witsonday. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 351 Bytwene þe ascencioun, þat is holy Pursday, and Witsonday, Mathias was i-chose.

**2.** (In form *Whitsunday* or *Whitsun Day*.) One of the Scottish quarter-days or term-days (see TERM-DAY b), ordinarily May 15, but in certain cases May 26 (= May 15 Old Style) or May 28.

1680 *Rec. Mag. Soc. Scot.* 84/1 Full pone ..my malis ..to raise & reassave, my Witsondais to set and to halde. 1839 *Encyc. Brit. Supp.* (1824) I. 264 Mertimes and Vytsonday. 1841 *Edin. Rev.* LXXIII. 108 The malis of the annuyrentis of wark at Vitsounday and Mertimess be equall portionis. 1693 *Sc. Acts Will. & Mary* c. 40 (1822) IX. 304/2 Our Soveraigne Lord and Lady The King and Queens Majesties ..Declare that the Fifteenth day of May was since the date of the forsaid Act, and shall be in all time comeing in place of the former Terme of Whitsunday, to all effects whatsoever. 1705 [*implied in Herald* 10 June 1].

**3.** *attrib.* in senses 1 and 2.

1451 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 93 The Wendslaue of Wytsondaye tyme. 1483 *Acta Audit. in Adam Loutar* (1854) 108 The malis of the annuyrentis of landis of the Witsonday terme last bipast. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 544 On wytsondaye eyen. 1503 *Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 243/2 Apon thurisday in witsonday weik. *c* 1557 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) 18/35 I. 153 Beleves to my lorde of durhim for whitson daye rent of thuld p^re xl^s.

So **Whit Monday, Whit Tuesday**, the Monday and Tuesday following Whit Sunday; also † *Whit Wednesday, Thursday*, formerly called *Whitsun Monday, etc.*, see WHITSUN 1. (*Whit Saturday* is in use, recent use for the day before Whit Sunday, formerly called *Whitsun eve.*) So **Whit-week**, the week beginning with Whit Sunday.

1557 Q. MARY in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 31 Untill the viith daye of this present moneth whiche shall be Whitsonday next. 1565 *Orders of Free Masons* in *Halliwell* 5, I went up thither .. on White-munday. 1578 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Rye*, The market is on Saturday, the Fair on Whitsunday, *Hist. Litt. Oxford*, with 4 fairs, on May 6, on Whit-Tuesday, and on October 28. *Ibid., Llanfeder*, Cardigunshire.. has .. fairs on Whit-Wednesday, July 7, (etc.). 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 403/1 *Whit-Thursday*. 1867 *Ch. Ch. Hants-Hales & Pathey of Desert* 365 The night between Whitsunday and Whitmonday. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxxiv, It was now Whit-Tuesday, and the Whitsun-week was the great time of the year. Whit-week would be a very good time to close the schools.

**Whitsuntide** (hwitsŭntaid). Forms (see also TIDE *sb.*): 3 **White-sune tide, wit sountid**, 3–4 **witsonen(e)-**, 3–6 **Witson-**, 4 **whitson(e)-**, 4–5 **Witsone-, Witso-, Witte-**, 5 **Qhytson-**, 5–6 **Whytsone-** (**Whitsonstyde**), 5–8 **Whitson-**, 7– **Whitsuntide.** *β.* 4 **Wissen-**, 5 **whissone-**, 5–6 **Whysson(e-, Whyssen-**, 6 **Whyson-**. *γ dial.* **Whissontide.** [f. WHITSUN + TIDE *sb.*] The season of Whit Sunday; Whit Sunday and the days immediately following.

*c* 1205 LAY. 31524 Hit þiomp an ane time to þan Witesune tide (*c* 1275 witsontime) þat þe king hefde ut iladet. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5404 Ayþe he þeste of witsontyd. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* (Abbotsf. Club) 16 At Estre, at Wissentide, And at sexyn Ianues day.... And in Yole, And at Witsontide. 1340 *Ayenb.* 261 Þis is þe tyme þet þe Emperour Henrie .. held his whitsun-tyde. 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 70 Harry Gowdi hath bowth to me xix.. and he seyth I sal have more or Qhytsun tyd. 1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* v. 52 To make and adoube a knyȝt it appertey*n*eth the day of some grete feste as Cry*s*temas, Ester, Whitsontyd. 1493 in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long Melford* (1873) 97 At Witsenstyde. 1600 MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) A j b, Tis Whitson-tyde, and we must frolick it. 1719 STRYPE *Life* (*Parker*) IV. 278 I .. We wish .. all our Customers a merry Whitsuntide. 1859 TENNYSON *Pelleas, Lancelot* 145 Arthur on the Whitsuntide before Held court at old Caerleon upon Usk. 1916 G. E. BUCKLE *Life of Disraeli* IV. i. 9 After Whitsuntide the general debate was resumed.

† b. Used in early versions of N. T. for PENTECOST 1. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIT SUNDAY 1 b.)

1382 WYCLIF *1 Cor.* xvi. 8, I schal dwelle at Effesy, til to Witsuntide [TINDALE, vntill witsuntyde; 1551 wytsontyde].

**3.** *attrib.*

1609 B. JONSON *Silent Woman*. III. i, I would haue you get your Whitsuntide-velvet-cap. 1612 CORYAT *Crudities* 9 A Whitsuntide foole .. wearing a long coate, wherein there were many seuerall peeces of cloth of diuers colours. 1687 in *Trans. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1915) Oct. 182 Shee is willinge to sett out .. after whitsuntide weeke soe called is ouer. *c* 1755 in R. Ward *Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) 303 On all working days in ye Xmas and Whitsuntide Vacations. 1916 G. E. BUCKLE *Life of Disraeli* IV. i. 7 The Whitsuntide recess [of Parliament] was approaching.

**Whist**, obs. dial. f. *Quick a.*; f. obs. .. WHITE.

**Whittawer** (hwi·tǭər). Now only *Hist.* or *dial.* Forms: 4 **whitetawer, white-tawyer, whit(t)awyer**, 5 **whytetawyer**, 5–7 **white tawyer**, (7 **whitaw**), 5– **whittawer**, 6–8 **white tawer**, 7–8 **white-tawer**, 9 **whitawer**. *dial.* **w(h)ittor, whittaw**, etc. [f. WHITE *a.* + TAWER1. (Cf. the synonymous MDu. *witgarwer*, MHG. *weizgerwer*, G. *weissgerber*.)] One who taws skins into WHITLEATHER: = TAWER 1. In mod. dial., a saddler, harness-maker.

1284 *12 Edw. I. Stat. Wallie* c. 4 De Whitawariis [*v.r.* Whitawyariis, Whytawyariis], scilicet qui coria bovina & equina furata sciente aliificant ut sic non agnoscantur. *a* 1300 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) III. 432 Galfridus le Whitetawer, 1321 *Letter Bk. D. Lond.* H. 127 Walterus le Whitawyer, John's le Megucer. 1346 *Ibid. F.* ff. 126 b, Les leons gentz appellez Whittawyers. 1411 *Close Roll 12 Hen. IV*, John Wilschuns Pratte, White tawyer. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 401 The sise of a whittawer is that he make nor tawe no maner of lether but shepis lether, Gettes lether, horse-lether, bocke-lether, or houndes-lether. 1615 *Manch. Ct. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 303 Robert Hilton, whitetaw. 1625 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxv. 190 b, If any white Tawer doe dwell in the Forest, he shall be remoued, and make fine: for they are the common dressers of skins of stolne Deere. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetable* 88 Lime, which the Tanner and White-Tawer take out of their lime-pits. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5882/8 William Welden, .. Whitawer. *a* 1790 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 45 Few harnessmakers, that are white tawers, understand how to dress their hides. 1854 MRS BARRAS *Northumberland Words*, *Whittawer*, a collar-maker, or maker of husbandry harness. 1859 (GEO. ELIOT) *Adam Bede* vi, Men are busy there mending the harness, under the superintendence of Mr. Goby the 'whittaw', otherwise saddler.

Hence † **Whittawing** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of whittawers.

1581 KITCHIN *Le Ct. Leete* 13 Aussi il accum per accun vore corrupt les common vews per whittawing per lyme ou per line.

**Whitte**, obs. form of WHIT, WHITE, WIT.

**Whitten** (hwi·tn). *dial.* Also 6 *Sr.* **veyton, 7 whitling, whiting, 9 witten.** [Usually *whitten-tree*, repr. OE. *hwitingtréow*, f. *hwiting* (of identical formation with *whitling sb.*) + *tréow* TREE.] A name for the water elder or wild guelder-rose (*Viburnum Opulus*), and the wayfaring-tree (*V. Lantana*). Also (by confusion with *whin-ken*, QUICKEN *sb.*1), the mountain-ash or rowan (*Pyrus aucuparia*), and some allied plants.

*Whitten pear-tree*, the service-tree (*Pyrus Aria*): see quot. 1832 in WHITTY.

*c* 1100 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/1 *Cuscubra*, hwitingtreow. [Identified by Cockayne as *Pyrus Aria*, White-Beam-tree.] 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I saw veyton, the decoctione of it is meruell dur and sair losile. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. Ixxx. 761 Of Marris Elder, Ople, or Dwarffe-Plane tree.. I take this to be a shrub that is called in Englishe, Whittentree, whereof are two kindes. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. lxxii. 1257 The water Elder is called.. in English Marish Elder, and Whitten tree, Ople tree, and Dwarfe Plane tree. 1625 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Whicken tree, i. wilde Ash.. Whitten tree, i. water Elder, or wilde Ash. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 857 The Whitling or Quicking-tree. 1847 *Halliwell, Witten*, and by some *Fraxinus Cambro-Britannica*. *a* 1867 AUBREY (Royal Soc. MS. ff. 137) in Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, About Cranbourn chace grows.. a tree which they call Witten, no bigger than a cherry tree, the berry call'd Whiting or Whitewood. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whitten*, the wayfaring tree. *Kent.* 1868 *Archæologia* XLII. 125 The Rowan or Quick-beam,.. popularly termed the Mountain Ash.., and, in some counties, the Whitten-tree and the Witty.

**Whitter** (hwi·tər), *sb.*1 *Sc.* Also 6–7 **qu(h)-, -our**. [Imitative.] **a.** A talkative person, a chatterer. b. Chatter, 'loquacity, prattle' (Jam.). So **Whitter-whatter** in same senses.

*a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* xxxiv. Rank ruittour, sculliquitour [*v.r.* scurlie whittour, scurliquhittor], and Juittour. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 47 What need we heed sic whitterwhatter? 1825 JAMIESON s.v., A woman when very attentious is said to be 'a perfect whitter-whatter'. 1897 E. HAMILTON *Outlaws Marches* iii, I would counsel you..to haud your whitter the night.

**Whitter**, *sb.*2 *Sc.* Also 6–7 **qu(h)-, -our**. [Imitative.] **a.** A tall active person, a chatterer. b. Chatter, 'loquacity, prattle' (Jam.). So

**Whitter-whatter** in same senses.

*a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* xxxiv. Rank ruittour, sculliquitour [*v.r.* scurlie whittour, scurliquhittor], and Juittour. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 47 What need we heed sic whitterwhatter? 1825 JAMIESON s.v., A woman when very attentious is said to be 'a perfect whitter-whatter'. 1897 E. HAMILTON *Outlaws Marches* iii, I would counsel you..to haud your whitter the night.

**Whitter**, *sb.*3 *Sc.* [Cf. WHITTLE *v.*1] A draught of liquor, a drink.

1785 BURNS *1st Ep. T. L****k* xix, We'll sit down an' tak our whitter, To cheer our heart.

**Whitter**, *v. Sc.* [Later form of QUITTER *v.*2]

1. *intr.* To warble, twitter.

1513 [see QUITTER *v.*2]. *c* 1800 *Hyr Hall* 24 in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 226 The sma' fowls in the shaw began To whitter in the dale.

2. To move lightly and briskly; to quiver, flutter, scamper, etc.

1513 [see QUITTER *v.*2]. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 7 The dows and dawis..Out-whirl'd and whitter'd. 1894 FIONA A. SHARP *Father's Throne* xii A 'whittering heart.' *Whitter I Whitter I*, under the bed behind the boxes. That was the worst of a mouse-trap; no one could possibly tell where it would 'whitter' next.

**Whitter**, var. QUITTER *sb.*1 (sense 2).

1833 ST. C. BELL *Hand* (1834) 296 Sandi racks, whitters, inflammations, and other diseases of the horse's foot.

**Whitteret, -ick**, var. WHITRET.

**Whitterish** (hwi·tərĭʃ), *a. dial.* [? Variant of QUITTERISH.] Pale, faded.

1879 *Hist. Jetser* 14 A pallid whitterish colour. 1894 MISS BARKER *Northampt. Gloss., Whitterish*, faded. Applied

to clothes which have lost their colour from the effect of the sun or frequent washing

**Whittie-whattie** (hwɪtɪhwɒtɪ), *sb Sc.* and *north dial.* Also 7 **whytie whatie, 8 whity-whaty, 9 whittee-whattee.** [Reduplicated ? on WHAT *int. pron.*] Vague or undecided talk or statement, indecision, shilly-shallying; a frivolous excuse. So **Whittie-whattie** *vb. intr.*, to be undecided, to shilly-shally; also, to speak low or secretly, to mutter, whisper.

*c* 1680 R MACWARD *Contend* (1723) 16 The sense and substance of all this whittie whattie will be only 'O be quiet [etc.] 1692 J. CLEVE *Prophet Day* 110 Crunches with them from frome and whytie whaties, may imagine a hundred reasons. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whittie whattie*, silly pretences, frivolous excuses. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* vi, 'What are ye whittie-whattieing about, ye gowk? said his gentle sister, who suspected the tenor of his murmurs.

**Whitting,** obs. var WHITING.

**Whittle** (hwɪt'l), *sb.*[1] Now *dial* Forms 1–3 **hwitel, 4 whitel, whytel, 5 wytele, 6 whittel, 7– whittle.** [OE. *hwitel*, corresp. to ON *hvitill* white bed cover (Norw. *kvitel* blanket), f. *hwit* WHITE *a.* + -EL[1], LE.] †**a.** A cloak, mantle. †**b** A blanket. **c.** A baby's woollen napkin or flannel petticoat. **d** A shawl or wrap.

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* iv xxxi. [A noble lyre broder sume deore hat he wolde leon on his hwitla [*gl.* or wæscan . . . hose] A LFRIC *Gen* iii 21 Soon and Fæderh dydon sume hwitel [*pa tunu*] on hira sculdra *a* 1225 *Juliana* K 14 Hoðe sahulen beoð f warmes hwitel [? hwitel] A. his kertruue *a* 1300 *Cursor M. Heroes* 1 *Hirde* 1 Hirde Wo þat strecher forberne þan his wytel wyle recche in þe straue his fet he mot strecche 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C xxii 76 When he sleep[e]þ hym wrieth, he wrappe[þ] hym whitel 1422 *Wills of Oxney* (Camer. et Hist.) 3 wytele & j chete. 1585 COGAN *Thesaurus, cephalis*, the first apparyle of children, as, swaddels, bands, and whittels. 1598 FLORIO, 1668 in Misc. H. Turle *Costume Cotsw. Times* (1834) 2 7 A whittle that was fringed. 1697 in C. Worth *Devon Wills* (1896) 249 To sister, Rodd 1 white whittle. 1700 J. BROOME *Trav. Eng.* 214 The [Devonshire] Women have a peculiar sort of Garment, which they wear upon their Shoulders, called Whittles, they are like Mantles, with fringes about the edges 1758 *Gentleman* No 80 P 7 As great a store of caps, cloaks, huggers, belly bands, whittles, and all kinds of childbed linnen as could set up a Lying in Hospital 1859 SMITH *Dairy Maid* 2 I sought out the old lady, whose shawl I had so unceremoniously made use of [to extinguish fire]. I believe she considered Miss Neville's safety dearly purchased at the expense of her favourite whittle 1871 Mrs. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxiv, In a coarse red shawl—or, as it was called then, 'whittle,' Emma Gaisb sat tied

**Whittle** (hwɪrt'l), *sb.*[2] Now *dial* Forms 4 **qwetyll, 5 whyttel, 6 whittell,** *Sc* **quhittil, 7 whittle, 6– whittle.** [Variant of THWITTLE; cf. *whack, whang.*] A knife, esp one of a large size, as a carving knife, a butcher's knife, or one carried as a weapon; also, a clasp-knife.

1404 *Nottingham Rec.* II 22 3 whyttel,[id] 14 *Mysc. Inform. Med. MS* 1 446 *in Anglia* XIII 208 Schrape of be vtterest bark with a qwetyll 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* iii (1570) B 5 v, The scullion . Came some with whittels, some there with fleshhookes 1530 PALSGR. 300/1 Whyttell or a whyttle 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii (1912) 431 He thought best with a great whittle he had to cut his throate, which he had used to with Cuius, who had vnwillingly determine in it 1598 GREENE *Greene's Tu Quoque* (Grosart) XII 209 A whittell by his belt he bare 1608 WILLOBIE *Diuc Virg. in Arber Amer* IV 93 Her pesants were armed, not with one but a knife whereof I had none to spare 1633 IAIKE *Iosiah and Amnon Sec* 136 We shall not need to borrow Gen. Alcon's shop-whittle, or his Gardian host scrabbe, any sory whittle will serve the turn 1668 DRYDEN *Sceu. Love* iv (1673) 70 Here's the sixpenny whittle you gave me, with the Mutton haft: I can spare it, for knives are of little use in Spain 1704 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc* (1733) II 181 A rousty whittle to sheer the kail 1806 *Gazettees* 5 *et* (ed 2) 194 The knives [of kilmurs] were so much famed, that a Schimitare [*sic*] whittle was proverbial 1811 SIR W. *Kenilw* xxvii Peshrew me, but thou art sharper than a Sheffield whittle! (Cf quot c 1386 in THWITTLE *sb.*) 1841 I. PARNELL *Coll & Ess* III 183 1817 He stared at the word-it, and a coat of English cloth, and has a Birmingham whittle, and a watch in his pocket 1853 G. J. CAMPEY *Fac. All year* 61 In the hunger of his night hood was a coarse whittle with which in the basketfuls arrived, he would nick the sore upon notch sticks

**b.** *Comb.* **whittle-gait(-gate),** see quot. 1804; **whittle knife,** a whittle.

1804 R. A. DAVENPORT *Coal. Hall* (1900) 144 In some parts of Cumberland he is not only receives quarter pence, but is provided with victuals at the houses of his subjects, which he visits in his custom. This latter custom is called whittle gaits from however to the toll of travelling 1825 BRO. KELLY *N. C. Gloss* s.v., 'An hurden sark, a pose grossing, and a whittle gait,' were all the salary of a clergyman in many years ago, in Cumberland 1735 *Phil. Trans* XXXIX 76 The 'Whittle Knife, with the Box Handle 1881 IRVING *Malay Annals* (1921) 54 In his hand was a whittle knife with not the hilt.

**Whittle,** *sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *north dial* Also 6– **whittell, 9** *Sc.* **whuttle** Reduced form of WHITTLOW Also **+whittle-flaw** = *whitflaw* (see WHITTLOW), **whittle-grass,** mcllot (cf. *whitlow-grass*).

1596 J. MELVILL *Autob & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 366 We fell mair a whittell in our finger nor the bribbe of the haill 1d 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess Waters* II 66 Sea-water relieves whittle flaws before they exulcerate. 1774 MACLAGAN *Scots & Doric* 94 A distemper incident to the thumb, vulgarly called the whittle. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whittle-grass*.

**†Whittle,** *v*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **whittel, whytel(l, whityll,** 6–7 **whitle.** [Usually taken to be a fig. use of next (cf. WHET *v.* 6), but evidence is wanting.] *trans* To ply with drink, to make drunk, intoxicate; in *pa. pple.* exalted by drink, drunk, intoxicated. Hence **Whittled** *ppl. a.*, **Whittling** *vbl. sb*

1530 PALSGR. 300 Whitle he is well whyttelled, he wyll crake goodly of his manhode, *agenst it a Turke but* [etc.] *Hist* 844 Well whytled, mere drunken. 1543 BECON *Invective agst Swearing* 24 When they see once set vpon it the ale benche, and well whytled in their brayne thoose the many cuppes that haue been fylled in 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in Wks 1843 I 9 Iust, Skelton did fill all the cuppes, and whitled the freere 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super* 44 Whit? gorge vpon gorge, egges vpon egges, & stale vpon stale? such egging and whiting may happen bring you acquainted with the triumphant chiert of rotten egges 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* xiv xxii I 437 When they be throughly whitled, then the secrets of the heart are opened 1652 ORQUHART *Rabelais* (1708) 216 Drinking he ditto, whitling themselves with September's juice 1894 MONTEUX *Rabelais* v, Prognost v 236 Whitled, Mellow, Cupsh stien Swillers.

**Whittle,** *v.*[2] Also 6–7 **whittle.** [f. WHITTLE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans* To cut thin slices or shavings from the surface of (a stick, etc.); to dress or pare with a knife, to reduce or sharpen by doing this.

1552 HUDSON, Whittle a thinge small, or sharpe like a shafte, *exacuo* 1590 *Lenvo Pandec* Dial The Persians vse commonly to whittle small twigs of birch, to keepe them selves from idle cogitations 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1617) 628 2) 25, Cudgyses whitling a stike to pawe away the time 1627 DRAYTON *Poly-Olb* xxi 80 Sell it to him and che to a hut her[s] packe 1658 OSBORN *Mem. King James* Ix Rde, A huge blame is due to such as mainly set their pens to whittle down the reputation of them knives and hatchets, with which they deface and whittle the stated graves of great persons 1660 ATWATT *Faithful Sec. Friend* 1 You must have ten sticks aland a foot long against whittled and sharpned at the great end 1724 E. WARD *Hum. ing Decoits* 23 As lawyers Clerks, instead of mending Pens to Case, but whittling useless Stubs to pieces 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge Notes* xiv, The captain seated himself astride of one of these barrels, and pulling a great clasp knife out of his pocket, began to whittle it by paring thin slices off the edge. 1913 JANE H. HARRISON *Prol. & Retrosp.* 94 These wands are whittled at the top into spual shavings.

**b.** *Comb.* To wear away or reduce by a process analogous to paring: see quots.

1736 *Gentl. Mag* Aug 457/1, I am told they'll whittle you down twenty or thirty lbs of Mutton into one sorry Dish. 1837 WHITTLE *Ladder Amer* Veiled Widow (Philad.) II 181 Like those savoyards who getting their livelihood by carving shepherds [etc] went out one day to the mountain to find stock, and discovered that they had whittled up the last of their game. 1854 MRS. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss* s.v., A saddle which pinches at ewes shoulder whittles the skin 1860 GOULD *Imperial Dictionary* 213 The operator unscrews the cap, cut off a small piece of something which is rescribed two or three inches of a large dew warm 1860 SALA *Rudd. Peer* I xxxii 332 An American gentleman . . . had whittled away the superior interest of his property by a succession of judges, had resorted to whittling the 'Liverpool Albion' up into line shreds

**c.** *absol or intr.*

1611 [see WHITTLING *vbl. sb.*, below] 1825 J. NEAL *Br. Jonathan* I 144 A fellow who was whittling in the corner 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer* ser. I. II 325 She was the best and kindest of women . . . I used to like to whittle 1880 MARY FITZGERALD *Trip to Manitoba* 133 He whittled away at a stick.

2. *fig.* To reduce or make smaller by successive abstractions, to diminish the amount, force, or importance of, to 'cut *down*'; to take *away* by degrees, so as to reduce to nothing.

1746 WALPOLE *Lett to Mann* (1834) II 16 We have whittled down our fees extremely 1780 M. MADAN *tr. Chiffinch's Confess* 16 Whittling away by degrees, and finally sense of scripture, into theirs idiots whims and fancies of visionaries 1862 *Magaz Task Dunning* (1897) 74 You stem tied the receipts from land sales . in July, at £300,000, you cut it down in December to £2,300,000, and now Congress by passing the Homestead bill, will whittle it all off 1884 *Times* (weekly ed) 17 Oct 4 The Parliament in which you cut down the Conservative majority of 116 to that of Commons 1888 M. BURRAGE *Cinque Ports* xii 171 The Ports were annually reminded of the extent to which their ancient supremacy had been whittled away.

3. To make or shape by whittling, to carve. Also *fig.*

1848 LOWELL *Let to A. Hill Comp* 5 May, I have contrived to whittle out something for you in time for the mail. 1850 *Spectator* 13 May 302/1 Let us have no whitey-brown men 1895 *Westm Gaz* 28 Dec 8/2 The whitey brown men, a political tribe of undecided colour, who suit with any party

**Whittler** (hwɪt'lə), obs. or dial f QUIFLER *v.*[2]

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ Osor* 37 It is not a whittering voyce of a vow that can quenche those flames of naturall corruption 1606 HOLLAND *Ward Bonduca* (1833) to Stately standerds and pannicall pinsels, displayed for whirwing in the winde 1895 JENNINGS *Obs Dial W. Sussex*, To *Whirr*, to hover.

**Whizgig** (hwɪ'zgɪg). [f WHIZ(*z* + GIG *sb.*[1]] An object that whizzes round, as a revolving humming toy: cf. WHIZZER a, FIRKIN 2. Also *attrib.*

So **Whiz-jig** [cf. *Jig sb.* 6], in quot applied (*? allusively*) to a pumping apparatus.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk Snobs* xxxv, A bed about the size of one of those whizgig temples in which the Genius appears in a pantomime. 1892 *Cent Dict*, *Whizgig*, a mechanical

toy. 1892 *Century Mag.* Dec. 248 A labor-saving whiz-jig was now devised.

**Whiz, whiz** (hwiz), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An act, or the action, of whizzing; a sibilant sound somewhat less shrill than a hiss, and having a trace of musical tone like a buzz; a swift movement producing such a sound.

1600 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 201 Through skies by night shee flingeth, and like whizze earth's darknesse teares. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 74 Their shot would go by their ears with a Whizz. 1713 *Guardian* No. 92 ¶ 5 He never once Duck'd at the whizz of a Cannon Ball. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* iii. xvii, Like the whizz of my cross-bow. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxvi, The . . whiz and scream of the arriving trains. . . 1890 'Dow jr.' in Jerilderie *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 78 Shall we lumber along the road, and allow other nations to pass us with a whiz? 1897 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* ix, Amid a whizz of scythe-blades.

**2.** *U.S. slang.* An agreement, 'bargain'.

The relation to sense 1 is not clear.

1869 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* xl, They said each to his fellow, Let us sleep here . . And each . . said, It is a whiz. 1878 *Tom Sawyer* xxvii, "If we don't find it, I'll agree to give you my drum and everything I've got." . . "All right —it's a whiz." 1888 *New York Times* 30 Dec., 'You will have to play that you are a boy, that I am master . . Is it a whizz?' he asked.

**Whizz, whiz,** *v.* Also 6 whize, 7 whisze, 6, 9 *dial.* whus(s. [Echoic. Cf. Hizz.]

1. *intr.* To make a sound as of a body rushing through the air (see Whizz *sb.*); (of trees) to rustle; (of a burning or hot object) to hiss, sizzle. Now *dial.*

a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* II. 535 As wrastling windes . . Bright themselves, . . The woods do whiz. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 69 Thee Rumo saturn-scanning lightnesse doo whize to the skyward. 1589 [see Whizzing *ppl. a.*]. 1607 May *Lucan* vi. 199 The fire whizzes in burning eyes. 1675 Dryden *Aurengz.* v. (1676) 63 'Tis dry—will burn—Hah, ha! how my old Husband crackles there! . . I know him's hell but whiz, and strait go out. 1721 Swift *Tyrd. to Stella* 10 Apr., I'll dilly gone to the Bath! His face will whize in the water. 1781 Duncan *Terror-Fiction* No. 1, p. 4 Some queer old Gentleman may be alarmed at the Crackers bouncing about his Ears, . . or a Squib whizzing in his Periwig. 1787 Uniuc *Prov. Gloss., Whis*, to hiss like hot iron in water. 1841 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* i, The sound of his tea-kettle, hissing, whizzing, sputtering in the agonies of boiling over.

† **b.** To wheeze. *Obs.*

1607 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*]. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Pigeonneau*, Un *mangeür de pigeonneaux*, said of a man that whizes, or speakes hoarse. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Whizze, to speak as a Baboon Whizzeth, hath a Shrill Whizzing. 1748 [see Whizzing *ppl. a.* b].

2. To move swiftly with or as with such a sound.

1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* ix. lxix, The shot, gainst which no armour can suffice, . . Doth whiz, and sing. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* ii. i. 44 The exhalations, whizzing in the ayre, Give so much light, that I may read by them. 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxii. 123 The Hauke comes whizzing on. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xi. 1169 When the Javlin whiz'd along the Skies. a 1721 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* 1723 II. 8 Both of us sitting together on the quarter-deck, heard a bullet whizzing over our heads. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* viii. 741 How the quoit whizzed from the Stripling's sinewy arm! 1853 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1883) I. 123 The small, black steamers, whizzing industriously along. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knit. on Wheels* xiii, I . . Whizzing for the motors that whizzed . . along the straight white road.

*b. fig.* To have a sensation of such a sound.

1797, 1854 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*]. 1865 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 14 Nodding makes my head whiz. 1898 [see Whizzing *vbl. sb.*].

3. *trans.* To cause to whizz; to hurl, shoot, or convey swiftly with a whizz; *spec.* in technical use, to dry by centrifugal force in a rapidly revolving apparatus (cf. Whizzer b).

1856 W. Irving *Astoria* xlv, He was on the point of whizzing a bullet into the target. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* vii, A Baleario slinger about to whize the stone. 1882 Crookes *Dyeing & Calico-printing* 228 Enter . . 112° F., raise to a boil in three turns, wash well, whiz, and dry. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 39 Most of the wool is 'whizzed' after drying.

**Whizz, whiz,** *int.* and *adv.* An exclamation imitating the sound described under Whizz *sb.* and *v.*; as *adv.* = with a whizz.

1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., Fire & Ale*, The water . . bubbled and simmer'd and started off, whiz! 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, Whiz went the ball. 1869 Browning *King & Bk.* xii. 347 When whiz and thump went axe.

**b.** *Comb.* **whiz-ba-bang** *colloq.* the shell of a small-calibre high-velocity German gun, so called from the noise it makes; also as *int.*

1915 'Ian Hay' *1st Hundr. Thous.* xviii, A whizz-bang is a particularly offensive form of shell which bursts two or three times over, like a Chinese cracker. 1920 Lipscomb *Sep of Scribbling* 99 Whizz-bang's bursting grazes parapet.

**Whizzer** (hwi·zəɹ). [f. Whizz *v.* + -er 1.] Something that whizzes; *spec.* **a.** a toy that makes a whizzing noise when whirled round; **b.** a machine for drying various articles by the centrifugal force of rapid revolution; a hydro-extractor.

1881 Tylor in *Academy* 9 Apr. 265 A toy mechanically curious and called in England a 'whizzer' or 'bull-roarer'. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 July 1/1 The whizzer . . dries clothes in 1,000 revolutions a minute. 1888 *Sci. Amer.* (N. S.) LVIII. 178 (Cent. Dict.) Ritchie's Steam Whizzer.—A machine for treating musty grain.

**Whizziness:** see after Whizzy *a.*

**Whizzing** (hwi·zing), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whizz *v.* + -ing 1.] The action or sound denoted by Whizz.

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 110 Of the Cynocephale or Baboun. . . Their voyce is a shrill whizzing. 1631 Anchoran *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 110 For feare the hinges should make some noyse (or whizzing). 1700 Lister in *Phil. Trans.* (1887) VI. 623 His horse, being frighted by the whizzing of a cannon ball, threw him. 1797 T. Morton *Cure for Heartaches* i. 8, Such a whizzing and spinning in my head. 1832 Mr. Martineau *Branch Stricke* vi. 63 The incessant whizzing and whirling of the wheels. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, She complain'd of such a whurzing in her ears. 1864 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 49 The whizzing in the hydro-extractor is sufficient. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 818 Whizzings in the head . are complained of.

**b.** *attrib.* **Whizzing-stick** = Whizzer b.

1820 *Amer. Anthrop.* III. 238 The 'whizzing-stick' or 'bull-roarer' on the West Coast of Africa.

**Whizzing,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That whizzes: see the verb.

1589 R. Greene *Pandosto* vii. 1 Daphnis . . sat him downe vnder a whizzing holme. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* (1890) 3 A stopping hinderance to their current and whizzing fall. 1624 Drayton *Polyolb.* xx. 231 When the whizzing Bels the silent ayre doe cleave. 1638 W. Lisle *Heliodorus* ix. 152 A whizzing cloud of arrowes dimd the Sun. a 1659 Fuller *Abp. Whitgift* iii. 73 My stand'd ear tingles to the whizzing blast. 1821 R. J. Smith *Leg. of Addre. Vale Derwent Lane* 165 Still o'er his head, while Fate he braved, His whizzing water-pipe he waived. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 84 A whizzing, screaming steam engine. 1870 Thornbury *Tour rd. Eng.* I. ii. 27 [We] sweep on with whizzing wheels past ironed nursery gardens.

**b.** *fig.* or *spec.* (cf. Whizz *v.* 2).

1821 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 183 The hemens shall pass away, with a whizzing tempestuous noyse. 1664 S. Tayton in *Evelyn's Pomona* 50 Which evaporates with crackling and whizzing noise. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distempers Horses* 183 He makes a whizzing Noise in his Breast. 1829 Good *Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 565 Respiration . . is . . twice accompanied with a whizzing or hissing sound. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 930/2 A peculiar whizzing sound, . . perceptible on applying the stethoscope to the tumour. 1891 Miles *Hom. Y. Murray* xx. II. 3 A whizzing sound in his ears.

Hence **Whi·zzingly** *adv.* In recent Dicts.

**Whi·zzle,** *v. dial.* Also 6 **whisle, whysle.** [f. Whizz *v.* + -le.]

1. *intr.* To whizz or whistle.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. 93 Rush do the winds forward through perst chinck narrolye whizling. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/4 The nagaikas whizzled, and the students were falling to the ground in all directions.

2. *trans.* To obtain slily.

1767 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Whizzle*, to get any thing away slily. 1847 Halliwell, *Whizzle*, to obtain anything slily. 1894 Dialect *Notes* II. ii. 319, 'I would be guessed whence I whizzled it.

**Whizzy** (hwi·zi), *a. rare.* [f. Whizz *sb.* or *v.* + -y 1.] Characterized by whizzing; *fig.* (*dial.*) dizzy, giddy. Hence **Whi·ziness,** quality of state of whizzing.

1850 Tennyson *In Mem. St. Sophia of Kieff* xxiii. 42 The swift arrow's whiziness causing a dizziness. 1866 Thornbury *Haunted Lond.* 1 I felt all whizzy and sleepy like.

**Who** (hū, *unemph.* hu), *pron.* (*sb.*) Forms: 1–3 **hwa,** (3 hwo, hwon, 3–4 hwa, 4 hwe, **wa, wo, 3 whe, we, wea, wah, hwoo,** 3wo), 3–5 **hoo,** 3–6 **wo,** 3–5, 6–*Sc.* **wha,** (4 huo), 4–6 **ho, whoo,** 4, 9 *dial.* **who,** 5 **woo** (*Sc.* **vho,** 5–9 *dial.* **how,** 6 **hou,** *Sc.* **vha**), 6–7 **whoe,** (9 *Sc.* **whae**). 3–**who**; 3–5 **quo,** (3 quuo), 4 **qwo, qwa,** 4–5, 6 *Sc.* **qua,** 4–8 *Sc.* **quha,** 5–6 *Sc.* **quhay,** 5–7 *Sc.* **quhae.** 6 *Sc.* **qwha, quhe.** [OE. *hwā* = Oz. *hwās, hwāt*, S. *hwa, hwæ* (M.), Du. *wie*, (HIG. *hwer*, (M)HG. *wer*, (M)Sw., ODa. *hwa* (Da. *hvo*), Goth. *hwas*, fem. *hwo*:—OTeut. ***xwas, *xwæs** :—Indo-eur. ***q°as, *q°es.** For oblique forms see Whom, Whose. For the vocalism cf. Two.

Indo-eur. ***q°o-, q°e-, q°i-** are represented outside Germanic by Skr. *ka*, fem. *kā* neut. *kat*; Gr. *πός, ποῖος, τίς, ἵππος, ἵστημι*, Lat. *quis, quī, quod*, Umbrian *pis* who, Oscan *pod* what, Olr. *cia, cid, cach* any one, *ca-te, ce-te* what is, *W. pwy* who, *pa* what, *pawb* any one, Gael. *ce* how? the various **q°-** is represented by Skr. *ka* interrog. particle, *cid* indef. particle, *kim* what, how, why, etc., Zend *čiš*, Gr. *τις, τι*:—*-*tyo*, L. *quis, quid*, Umbrian *pre-pis* if any one, Oscan *pis* pid, Olr. *cia, cid, cach* any one, *ca-te, ce-te* what is, Gael. *ce* how? For the stem-types as represented in derivative formations in English see Which, Whiles, Whether, Which, Whether, Whom, Whit, and How *adv.*]

**I.** Interrogative and allied uses.

**1.** As the ordinary interrogative pronoun, in the nominative singular or plural, used of a person or persons: corresponding to *what* of things (What A. 1).

Formerly sometimes with partitive *of*, where *which* is ordinarily used (Which 3 b).

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xviii. (Z.) 213 *Quis hoc fecit?* hwa dyde ðis? *c* 1200 Ormin 9755 Wha iahhte ȝuw To fleon & to forwhanenn Þatt ȝee þritt to cumenn ber? 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 359 Quo seide ðe ðat ðu wer naked? *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1118 (Cl.) Wo yn þat ych here bore? *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3725 (Fairf.) His fader asked him qua art þou, And he cnoȝaned þi sone esau. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* lx. (* Decollatio Johannis*) 40 Quha is þat, we pray þe. 1381 Wyclif *Gen.* xlviii. 8 Who ben thes?.. My sonnes thei ben. *c* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5142 (Dubl. MS.) Whyne ert þou & who & what makys þou here? 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xii. 48 Who is my mother? or who are my brethren? 1600 Shake. *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 198 Nay, but who is it? 1663 Killigrew *Parson's Wedd.* iii. v, *Carel.* How can that be? *Toll.* It is the Scrivener at the Corner. 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 33 Who first seduc'd them to that foul revolt? Th' infernal Serpent. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* iv. i. G 2 b, Who of my Servants wait there? *c* 1800 *Jack o' the Side* xvi. in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Ballads* (1857) 380 'Whaes this kens my name sae weil..' 1865 Miss Braddon *Aurora Floyd* xxx, 'Who can it be, dear?', 'at such a time too.' 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* x, 'And he killed?' 'Who? Hereward?' 1906 Wyman *Abb. Unpriv.* And who—whodites she say dared to commit this outrage?

**b.** With intensive additions, as *who the devil, who on earth,* etc.

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 743 Quha dewill tinim maid so galy for to ryd? 1595 Lr. Frenses *Feinit.* II. iii. A iij, Some therat dide murmure and . . sayd: Who the deuyll hath sent for theym? 1742 Richardson *Pamela* xxv. v, Why, who the Devil are you? *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) I. 255 Who upon earth could ever paint the lure sea?

**c.** In pregnant or emphatic sense, referring to a person's origin, character, position, or the like; cf. What A. 2a.

In rhetorical questions often approaching or merging with 2.

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xiv. 4 Who art thou, that demest another [v.r. anothris] seruaunt? 1526 Tindale *Acts* xix. 15 Jesus I knowe, and Paul I knowe: but who are ye? 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xv. 16 Who saye ye that I am? 1611 *Bible* Ezek. xxxiv. 2 Woe be vnto Shepheards that feede themselues? should not the Shepheards feede the flocke? 1611 *Bible* Isa. lxiii. 1 Who is this that commeth from Edom? 1840 Browning *Sordello* ii. 635 Who were The Manituans, after all, that they should question their recognition? 1898 *Beg'arman* Aug. 462 'Who is he?' 'Mr. Legge—Eustace Legge.' 'Yes. But *who* is he?' 'I don't know.'

**d.** Substituted for the name of a person in asking for explanation: cf. What A. 4 b.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xvi. ii, 'I am come.. by the Command of my Lord Fellamar.' 'My Lord who?' 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xx, 'I've been laughing and saying how they'd done old Fireworks.' 'Old who?' said Mr. Pickwick. 1844 S. Warren *Ten Thou.* i. ii, 'What's your name?' 'Mr. Titlebat.' 'I understood that gentleman..' Mr. *who?*' exclaimed the old woman.

**2.** In a rhetorical question, suggesting or implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxii. 7 Hwa wolde..! *Who would not..?* = Any one would..; *Who knows..?* = No one knows..; *Who but..?* = No one but, no one else than..; e.g. *Who but who not* in 3 b. (Cf. What A. 2 b.)

*a* 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* xxviii. 5 Hwa is manniynes þæt ne wundrie? *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxi. 7 Hwa wolde ȝelyfan, þæt Sarra sceolde leccan cild to byre leoðe..on ylde? 1300 *Cursor M.* 454 Quu bend bow þat wate nanne? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 427 Pe comne fro hyr [sc. Mary] quo myst remwe, Bot ho hir passed in vuis fasoun? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 60 Wha kouthe rym in englysh proprely His matirdom? for sothe it am nat I. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* viii. 35 Who shall seperate vs from the loue of Christ? 1623 G. Harvey *Fourfc. Cudg.* (1884) 13 Then come they vnto puffing Ivy, In silks that whistled, who but he! 1735 Pope *Ep. to Arbuthnot* 213–14 Who but must laugh, if such a man there be? Who would not weep if Atticus were he? 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 113 Away went Gilpin—who but he? 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, Of course he married, and who should he be but his wife had Barbara? 1855 Dickens *Bleak H.* xii. ii, Where was Maud? in our room; And I, who else, was with her. 1914 Kipling *For all we have and are* 30 Who stands if freedom fall?

**3.** In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. + In early use also with *that* (That *conj.* 6).

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative, cf. note s.v. What A. I.**.

*Beowulf* 52 Men ne cunnon under roderum hwæm hælæþe onfeng! *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 211 To understele we an alle his cynerice him were fremd oðer fend. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 199 Iustes nu mikele muchel mannes wit, hwa wel fet and hwa hie ledde and wa and hwider. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Ich..nabbe hwan me fonne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1195 Ne wot hwo sal hen anhonge. 1297 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 985 Wot ich wo hi were, & war, & mo? in doute were Wo were je fader. 13.. *Northern Passion* 601 (Cmnb. Gg. 5. 32), Tell us now who ware pise pre men. 1362 *Piers Pl.* (A) vii. 300 Ich wot wel ner-to-to wite ho were here. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucr. Chron.* (1724) 40 (MS. B.) Among hem..ariȝ[t] me myȝte se, Whiche neest ministres were. 1440 *Sir Gawayne* 883 Jas. I *King's Q.* lxiii, Maist thou noght se Quho commyth zond? *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 47 That ladyes..might se Who that beste were of deide. 1500 *Pastime Coll.* Suppl. (1901) 129 If he happed to dye, how should come after hym ye wote never. 1563–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andras* Wks. (1892) II. 13 The examinatouris sall declair to the rectour..quha ar worthy of promotion. 1595 Shaks. *John* iv. i. 100 Shall we..lay this Angiers euen with the ground, Then after fight who shall be king of it? 1611 *Bible* 1 Cor. iv. iv. 612 They throng who should buy first. 1627 S. Collins *Epphata to F. T.* 374 It might put him in minde of who had beene there sometime. 1677 Ravenscroft *Wrangling Lovers* v. i. 67 Did he know it was? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Highjinks*, a Play at Dice who Drinks. 1820 Lytton *Dark & Day* v. i, Tell the young gentleman..a gentleman wishes to see him immediately; don't say who, but bring him hither directly. 1863 G. Ross *Diaries* (1860) II. 56 Not having a guess of who he was. 1880 Besant *All Sorts* xxiv. (1898) 169 What her obligations were, and who this lady was, belongs in no way to this history.

**4.** Phrases. **a.** *Who is who* (chiefly in dependent clause): = who is one and who is the other; who each of a number of persons is, or what position each holds. (Cf. What A. 8 a, Which 4 b.)

† *Who and who are* (or *who's*) *together*: who is allied

with or engaged to whom. *Who's Who*, the title of a reference manual of contemporary biography, issued first in 1849, and in a new and enlarged form in 1897: also *transf.*

c1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 380 She saugh hem loshe two but sikerly she nyste who was who. *a* 1500 (see What A, Eni). 1700 T. Brown tr. *Pecquy's Amours*. 70 Let's take a Trip into the Land of Intrigue, and see Who and Who are together. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 35 P 3 A general Knowledge of who and who's together. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 Jan., I shewed the Duke of Ormond, who was who. 1720 Mrs. Bradshaigh in *Corr. Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 50 Pray let me hear a little how your court goes, who and who are together. 1860 Emily Eden *Semi-attached Couple* ii. Though she could not distinguish who was who, yet she had a right to say she had seen 'the marquess'. 1900 Eliz. L. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 56 With the exception of those persons of title whose names were called in their own country as well as in England, I knew nothing of 'Who was who' in London. 1918 *Nat. Geogr. Mag.* XXXIV. 64 How whose names would be in history's 'Who's Who'.

b. Phrases used as sbs., etc.

*I know not* (mod. *I don't know*) *who, Lord knows who*, etc.: some person or persons unknown, or of unknown origin, status, etc. (cf. *a*). *so and I don't know who all* (colloq.): see What A, 8 b). = 'and various other persons unspecified'; *who-do-you-think* (? *who-d'you-think*), substituted for the name of a person to be guessed. *What not* (1, 2 above and What-not 1): any one whatever, any one and every one, all kinds of people (now rare or obs.). *Who-say* (now *Hall*): a vague report, a rumour; in quot. 1582, pretended excuse. Also with *adjectival* adj. phr., defiant, swaggering

1583 *Leg. St. Andrew* 289 Half way this homeward to the calsay, [He] Said to his servands for a quha say: 'Abide I the porter is forvert'. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (1595) D 2, Innumerable examples, as Brutus, Alphonsus, and Who not. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 132 Heere stood I musing . Till Jockie who that drinke speard vp to me. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 18 He was great with . . Examens, Gueryes, Latitats, Tom Hall, and who not. 1706 M. Bisaoe *Life* 79 To throw herself away upon the Lord knows who. 1823 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* I. v. 249 *note*, St. Antonio on one side, and St. I know not who on the other. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Engl., Whoaay, Hooaay*, a wandering repair; an observation of no weight. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xli, A vagabondish who's-afraid sort of bearing. 1844 Haliburton *Sam Slick in Engl.* xlvii. (1858) 304 And then he'd go over a whole string—Mason, Mickle, Burns, and I don't know who all. 1905 Eliz. Glyn *Visits Aunt*. 5 Mamma's father was a lord, and her mother I don't know who.

¶ 5. Used ungrammatically for the objective Whom, in senses corresponding to any of the above.

Common in colloquial use as obj. of a verb, or of a preposition following at the end of the clause; formerly also of a preposition preceding (now only when substituted for a noun or pronoun as in 1 d).

1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 112, I rehersyd no name, but me thowt be hem that thei wost ho I ment. 1540 Cranmer *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 401 Who shall your grace trust hereafter, if you might not trust him? 1596 *Jrnl. Househ. Proc.* (1874) 32 At sight of me he asked, who have we there? 1598 Shaks. *L. L. L.*, iv. 1, 74 To whom came he? What saw he?..Who to overcame he? 1591 — *1 Hen. IV*, iv. iii. 64 Who (quoth you) with him? 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 258 Who have we to thank . but the Whigs? 1753 Foote *Englishmn. in Paris* ii, *Touch.* Why, have you observ'd Mrs. Kitty Ann? 1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) III. 68 This leads to a discussion . who she was married, whether the daughter died single [etc.]. 1874 *Hunt. Fair Paten. Mod. Crit. and Sat.* Who are you speaking of? 1888 Mallock *Rom. 19th Cent.* II. 154, I know . who it comes from.

II. Relative uses formerly often with *that*, THAT *conj.* 6, rarely with *as*.

**6.** As compound relative in the nominative in general or indefinite sense: Any one that; = Whoever 1. *arch.* or *literary*. a. with pronominal correlative in following clause.

c1230 *Hali Meid.* 23 ȝiȝ Hwa þat sehe benne hu þe engles beoð iweamed . sittand were his hearte ȝif ha ne mealte i teares. c1315 Shoreham 115 Who hat entreþ her He his sauff euere more. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) Iwis, Who that is in such offys, Ne come he ner so pore, He fareth with a while As he had seter in bisshopes dore. c1330 *Arth. of Tars* 900 Ho that nolde do bi heore red, Cristen men tak of heore hed. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 6981 (Fairf.) Who dose... Bot wretched plit He suffis to dede. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xix, But ho his bidding brekes, bare þei bene of blys. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 71 in *Macro Plays* 38 To yowur loue wo dothe repeyer, All relyȝyse yn þat creatur ys. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. vii. 41 Who that holdeth ageynst it we wille slee hym. *c* 1480 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 453 Who that had be there than, he shulde have seen grete faytes of armes. *c* 1500 Lydgate *Assht Man & Wife* 190 Who. 1879 H. 137 Quha wald haif weir, God send thame litill rest. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 47 Who soweth in rainie, he shall reape it with teares. 1607 Bp. Hall *Pt.* I. 1 Who hath not walkt natray, . Oh, how that man Thrice blessed is! 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballt., East & West* 24 Who rides at the tail of a Border thief, he sits not long at his meat.

b. without correlative.

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2370 Ho wol winne his wareson, now wistily him spede Forto saue my sonne, or for sorwe i deye. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Peter*) 211 Pat, quha is in ferme treuth gafe, He suld euire luf oure pe lafe. 1400 *20 Pol. Poems* I. 145 Who that takeþ fro pore to eke with his, flor that wrong is worthy wo. *c* 1450 Henry *Wallace* I. 33 Quha likis till half mar knawing in that part, ho reid. 1543 tr. *Act 6 Edw. I*, c. 5 Who that is attaynted of wast, shal lese the thing wasted. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) not *marg.*, Let who as list be blinded with these patches. *Ibid.* 186 To lie open to the spoile of who that first can catch it. 1600 Marston etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* i. (1601) B, Let who will clinche ambitious glibbery rowndes. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* i. 3 ii. 80 *Cash.* 'Tis Cassar that you meane: Is it not, Cassius? *Cassi.* Let it be who it is. 1604 — *Oth.* iii. iii. 156 Who steales my purse, steales trash.

1690 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 25 Visible to the Eyes of who shall consider them. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxx, When a young man, he has what he will, . promises marriage, he has no business to fly off from his word. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* v, Each shall slay his man, catch who catch can. 1896 — *Poems, Farrar.* 9 Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever. 1897 Browning *Balaust.* 729, I passionately cried to who would hear. 1898 A. Austin *England's Darling* ii. iv, Who holds the sea, perforce holds the land, And who lose that must lose the other too.

†c. In a dependent qualifying clause with loose construction (without correlative) and with conditional force: If any one: = Whoever 2. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 35 Imolde nagt abbe noman pat lond, wo me adde þrogt berto. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 42 þis fruit bitakres alle oure dedis, both gode and ille qua rightly redis. *Ibid.* 1969 Qua pat slas or man or wijf, þar gas na ransun bot liue for þijf. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 445 Quha in battaill mycht him se, All other contenance had he. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 298 Hit is tolde..wo pat trawe lyst.. he laghys vnto hem bylyue. 1400–8 Dinoo. *Troke* 117 And in despit, who that was lief or loth A sterne pas thorgh the halle he goth. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 285, I were not so joyous who that lord were not a thousand besaunt of gold, as I am to have found the. *c* 1536 Wyatt *Poems, To cause accord or to aggrie* 16 'Twixt lyff and deth say what who sayth 'Here lyveth no lyff that draweth lieth. 1548 Laird *Tractate of Kynges* 14 Who that lyues, acheyp, also quha vnderstude. Als grat abundance of his bluide For the pure sely nakit thyng As he suffrit for the Poleris kyng.

†d. Introducing a clause expressing comparison, with idiomatic superlative. *Obs.*

*c* 1500 *Melusine* 170 Thenne was the oost grettly mevyd, & came to the port who best coude. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 347, I cure detesting (heresy) as much as who cure. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Prol. Sig. A, verse 14, vii. ¶ 4 Elijah, who did as great wonders . by prayer, as who greatest? *Ibid.* 15, xviii. ¶ 2 There was a time, when Paul lived the worst in the world as well as who most.

**7.** As who (freq. followed by *would* or *should*): as or like one who; hence (with loss of relative force), as if one. *arch.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 40 Al þis shal be bousi, as who beþ an oxe or a cow. *Ibid.* III. 123 Pei sellen Gods word, as who selle an horse. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1. 1. 4049 We erd nojt in elementis as euirraste to dwell, Bot as qui pas a pilgrymage fra Parysch to rome. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 220/2 Thenne the deuyll . . ran there fourth as fyre stones as who should presse ofyres. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. viii. 60 Sic wys as quha throw cluddy skyis sew. 1596 Lee & Kirkall tr. *Fuller Appeal Inj. Innoc.* 1. iii. 8 The Tanner was the Worst of all Masters to his Cattle, as who would not onely load them soundly whilest living, but Tan their Hides when dead. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 23 Every man gladly would be neighbour to a quiet person, as who . doth afford all the pleasure of conversation, without any . . trouble. 1873 Morley *Rousseau* I. vi. 210 Such speech . was spoken . as a cook of high pretensions, as who should go to a masked ball in guise of Mephistopheles. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 608 With his bow . in his hand and the arrow laid on the string, And peering round about him as who would loose at a thing.

b. Most commonly with the vb. *say*: (*a*) *+ as who saith* or *say*, as they say, as is commonly said, as the saying is; also = next; (*b*) *as who should say* (arch.), *+* (*c*) *as who would* (occas. *might*) *say*, as if saying, as if one should say, as one may say, as much as to say.

(*a*) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 24 Severne & temese; homber is pet bridde; & panne is, as þwo seiþ, pat pur lond amidde. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7046 Alle pat spake of syre Thop & Wat, As who seip he coyȝe or a knawe. 1547 *Homilies* I. xxiii. 6 Lorde beide þi leuenes and descend.. Awhisang, we ere in feghtyuge [etc.]. *c* 1580 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 127 Hit were wonder, þei I have writun, I not writun; as who seiþ, þis writing shal schende. 1613 Jas. I *Kings* O. lxxvii, Sodaynly, as quho sais at a thoght, I oppyt. 1638 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 438 This is worthe litle, grete hurte, wil for the wages of hym and his retenue, as who say lest. 1659 *Mirr. Mag., Sir Thomas of Woodstock* xiv, To bridle the prince of a realme, is euen as much as to fight with the sea-waues. 1818 W. Sclater *Key* (1699) 14 Papists hence inferre [that the Scriptures are] not to be permitted to lay-people, in their Mother-tongue: alluding to their purpose the saying of Christ, *Mat.* 7. 6. as who say all Gods people were Dogges.

(*b*) *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8611 (Fairf.) Ho turned hir ouer.. As qui suille sai, I knaw na harme. 1597 Tindale *Wicked Mammon* (1548) 38 If I preache the (saynth he) thou oughtest to reioyse in, for necessayre is put vnto me, as who should say, god hathe made me so. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. ii. 50 He doth nothing but frowne (as who should say, and you will not haue me, choose). 1661 R. L'Estrange *Interest Mistaken* 127 This is but another Alarm, as who should say, Mr. Dennis coughed and shook his head. 1678 *Bold Stroke for Wife* i. ii, They command Regard, as who should say, We are your Defenders. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xlvi, Mr. Dennis coughed and shook his head, as who should say, 'A mystery indeed!' 1900 Wells *Kipps* II. ix. 8 Sid beamed at Kipps, as who should say, 'You don't meet a character like *this* every dinner-time'.

(*c*) 1396 *Piers Pl. (C)* (W. de W. 1531) B ii was ne mayde (sayd he) the kynges parte of god that they sawe. 1539 Tindale *Expos. Matt. v.* (1550) 32 b, They sayed to the Apostles: ye wolde not haue vs to speake vpon ye, as who wolde saye, we yluse him not. 1664 J. Wilson *A. Commentus* i. 1, They all lookt wistly one on t'other, As who would say, 'twas true enough, but yet [etc.]. 1695 Burthogge *Causa Dei* 19 He shall come..in Divine Majesty, as who would say, that when he Judges . He will show himself like God.

**8.** As compound relative in the nominative, of persons (less freq. a person): The persons (or person) that. *arch.* (Chiefly a latinism; esp. in 'There are who . . .' = L. *Sunt qui* . . .)

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* viii. (S.T.S.) II. 90 *marg.*, Quha pape was in thir dayes, allowit al at the kings requeist. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* i. iii. 109 *Mach.* The Thane of Cawdor liues; why doe you dresse me In borrowed Robes? *Ang.* Who the Thane, liues yet. 1627 J. Doughty *Disc. Dis. Myst.* (1628) 10 There are who hold no art or science to be vnlawfull, which [etc.]. 1644 Milton *Judgem. Bucer* To Parl. B 4 b, If thir own works be not thought sufficient to defend them, there lyes yet who will be ready . to debate . this matter. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxiv, 262 Through the ingratitude of who commands [Ii. *di chi domanda*]. 1723 Terrill *Poems, To Addison, on Cato* 36 Who think like Romans, could like Romans fight. 1803 Wordsw. *Ode to Duty* ii, There are who ask not if thine eye Be on them. 1877 Bunsewse *Pr. Hohenstiel-Schwangau* 107 He should know, sitting on the throne, how tastes Life to who sweeps the doorway. 1903 F. W. Maitland in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 569 There were who held that the Queen was Supreme Head *jure ecclesiæ*.

†b. In the phrase *but who* = 'except (one, those) who', 'who . . not': now replaced by *but what* (W.C. 5).

1575 Burthogge *Causa Dei* 158 Should none arrive at Heaven but who had first arrived to a State of Perfection . Heaven would be empty. 1757 Warburton *Lett. to Hurd* (1809) 249, I don't meet with one but who singly says yes. 1774 Garth *Sketches* I. i. 1, There is scarce a peasant but who has a chess-board and men.

**9.** As simple relative (of a person or persons), introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense: = That *rel. pron.* 1.

In modern printing usually distinguished from it by the absence of a comma before the relative: cf. Which B. 8.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1977 He baldde bote an duzter wo hizte Emme be. 13.. *Northern Prose Ps. Lxxj*[*i*]. 8 Als men may here wha taken entent. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 445 Lordingis quha likis for till her, The romanys now begynnys her. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* iii. iii. 68 A man who hath ane honestie in him. 1632 Sherwood *Eng. Dict. s. Teach*, A verse may finde him, who a sermon flies. 1709 *St. Charters Trad. Comp.* (Selden Soc.) 257 All and every other person and persons who shall refuse to contribute . shall be subject to the fund. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 363 As those move easiest who have learn'd to dance. 1768 Goldsm. *Good. Man* iv, I must disclaim friendship with any who shall be a friend to himself. 1819 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 21 The first who exported this metal .. were certain Phenician adventurers from Cadiz. 1847 W. Howitt *Rural Life* 749 The men who had driven me from Oxford were distinctly the Liberals. 1893 Max Pemberton *Iron Pirate* i, One who..can command and be obeyed in ten cities.

†b. Used as compl. referring to *such*, *where as is* now idiomatic: cf. Which B. 10 b. *Obs.*

1584 J. Melville *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 174 To.. mak his eares patient to sic who could alleint his mynd from the guid cause. 1604 [see Such B. 1]. 1737 *Whiston tr. Josephus* No. 3 P 1 And instruct such who are not as wise as himself.

**10.** As simple relative introducing an additional statement about the antecedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause; thus sometimes equivalent to 'and he (she, they)': cf. Which B. 7, 9 a.

Formerly often placed at a distance from the antecedent (one or more sbs. intervening), with consequent obscurity or ambiguity: see quots. 1534, 1655.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 192 Be the grace of God, he amend zower deeþ-zeyn. 1533 More *Answ. Poys. Bk. Wks.* 1037/1 As for Tyndal.. who before he fel to these frantyes, men had wont had hadde some wyt. 1534 — *Treat. Passion* Ibid. 1291/1 And he sayd, I wyll not, but what will ȝe gyue me and I shall delyuer hym to you, whose whom they bestd hym, were well apaid. 1556 Lauder *Tractate of Kyngis* 215 Thay ar ane kynd of kyngis abone, Quha heiris, and sels all that is wrocht. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iii. ii. 229, I should do Brutus wrong, and Cassius wrong, Who (you all know) are honourable men. 1611 *Bible* Ps. lxv. 5 O God of our saluation: who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth. — Mat. x. 4 Iudas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 40. 180 As for her Son King of Scots, from whom they expected a settlement of Popery in that land, their hopes were lately turned into despairs, who had his education on contrary principles. 1678 Andrew Marvell *Corr.* 119 ¶ 4 Honest Will Wimble, who I should have thought had been altogether uninfected with Ceremony. 1750 Johnson *Idler* No. 92 P 3 How different is the condition, when art doomed to the perpetual torments of unsatisfied desire. 1783 Burns *Bruce's Addr.* i, Scots, who hae wi' Wallace bled. 1882 Blackie *Self-Culture* (1887) 2, A child, my cousin Dick, who's a clever fellow and a devil for fireworks.

**11. a.** With antecedent denoting or connoting a number of persons collectively: usually with plural concord.

1393 Shaks. *Rich. II*, i. iii. 7 Put we our quarrell to the will of heauen, Who when they see the hours ripe on earth, Will raigne hot vengeance on offenders heads. 1604 — *Ham.* iv. iii. 5 Hee's loued of the distracted multitude, Who like not in their iudgement, but their eyes. 1609 Bentley *Rep. Maj., Stat. Alex. II*, 14 Except in Galloway, quha lies their awne speciall and proper Lawes. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 122 P 4 This authority of the kings . . has very good effect upon the parish, who are not polite enough to see any thing ridiculous in his behaviour. 1772 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 238 The Hanse-towns, who were then at war with both France and England. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Jan. 12/2 The Midland, who first introduced American railway notions in their Pullman cars.

b. Used in reference to an animal or animals: usually with implication of personality, but sometimes merely a substitute for *which*.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 16, I sawe the Hurchone and the Haire, Quha fed amang the flowers faire. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* i. iii. 21 Against the Capitoll I met

a lyon Who glad'd vpon me, and went surly by. **1607** — *Cor.* iv. vii. 34 As is the Aspray to the Fish, who takes it By Soutreignty of Nature. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xl. Like wily fox who roosted cock doth spy. **a 1774** GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 163 He...lost his horse,...who was killed with the thrust of a sword. **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x. Two honest dogs,—who put them in Punch's shows. **1884** PHILLIPS BROOKS *New Starts in Life* xviii. 306 Even the lowest creature who floats on the pool's surface...feels...some ...half-conscious pleasure in the mere act of living.

α. Used instead of *which* in reference to an inanimate thing or things; chiefly with personification (also with suggestion of personality, *e.g.* of a life-like statue); sometimes, as of a ship, approaching sense a.

**1508** [see 23]. **1600** G. ABBOT *Expos. Jonah* xix. 402 The snow and raine, who come downe from aboue. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 7 A braue vessell (Who had no doubt some noble creature in her) Dash'd all to peeces. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Synod. Answ.* 18 The winds, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 95, 3 Spanish men of warre...who...came vp with vs and fired at vs. **a 1774** GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 263 The sun, who is the great fountain of both [light and heat]. **1822** J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 8 Some wandering Ship who hath lost her way. **1907** MRS M. P. JACKSON *Manual* II. 32 The Venus de Milo, who has stood for so many years...in the Louvre.

¶ 12. In irregular constructions: **a.** with pleonastic personal pronoun in the latter part of the relative clause, *who* thus becoming a mere link between the clauses (cf. WHICH 14); **b.** preceded by redundant *and* (cf. WHICH 16 b).

**1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxiv. 43 b/1 Now let vs returne to sir Loyes of Spayne, who whan he was at the porte of Guerrande,...he and his company tayried forth. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 33 I tell my sorrowes to the stones, Who though they cannot answere my distresse, Yet in some sort they are better then the Tribunes. **1619** MARSTON in *Bankside Shakespeare* (1905) 195 He is well knowen to diuers others, who if they should see him about the Court, it would make him incapable to do the service. **1831** SCOTT *Castl. Dang.* xxiii. Some days since in which Sir Aymer de Valence held an interview with the old sexton; and who now, drawing into a separate corner some of the valuables which had been secured, kept on the alert.

¶ 13. Used ungrammatically for the objective WHOM, in senses corresponding to those above.

Still common colloquially in the indefinite sense (*= whomsoever*), otherwise now *rare* or *obs.* as a relative: cf. c.

13 .. *Cursor M.* 4095 (Cott.) Wit-vten wit-vten wil all, Trastli may he wend ouer-all. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 5313 Mony [he] dange to the dede with dynt of his hond Who happit hym to hitte hardyly nomo. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccv. 109 b/1 The kynge of Englande...had great prouision for his oost, by the meanes of John Atenson, who he founde at Flaugny. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 14 The wel Brianæ...Who countenaunce doth yet full of late affray, yet Calidore vpheard. **1641** EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* iv. 43 A great Prince who I forbeare to name. **1705** Dr. FOX *Voy. round World* 30 Surgeons, who we all call Doctors at Sea. *a* **1774** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 442 Persons who in his last judgment he sees reason to confide in. **1849** EMERSON, *New Poetry* 18 He has a right...to show who he will have for a teacher. **1858** R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxi. Not being able to ask exactly to whom he liked.

III. Substantival nonce-uses.

**14.** †**a.** *Old who* : the plague man. *Obs.*

**1594** NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* F 2, He must haue requisite courtship in him or else he is not old who.

**b.** A person, indefinitely or abstractly; a 'some one'.

**1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittifull who's, and the slender whats are against modest Learning. **1904** *Stevn'l Mag.* May 3167/1 'What ever made you think of it?' 'It wasn't a who, it was a who'.

**c.** with *the*: The question 'who?'

**1771** GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 26, I was puzzled again, With the how, and the who, and the where, and the when.

**Who** (*wōō*), *int.* (*sb.*) Forms: **5** *who*, **5–7,** *q dial.* **who, 7** *whoa*, **8 whoh, 9 whoo.** [Variant of Ho *int.*[2] = stop!] Stop! esp. as a call to a horse: = WHOA 2 (cf. Wo). †Also as *sb.*

*c* **1450** [see WHOT *int.* b]. **1467** in S. Bentley *Excerpta Historica* (1831) 221 Then the King percey*n*yng the cruell assay, cast his staff, and with a lowde voice cried, Whoo! **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 Thou art one of them, to whom god bad who, God tooke the for a cattle horse, whom god bad no. **1599** CHAPMAN *Hum. dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 107 Who be you bird, how much you are deceiued. *c* **1603** HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land* II. i, Come, I le go teach ye hayte and ree, gee and whoe, and which is to whom. **1606** *Chalce. Chance*, Plays 1873 I. 15 The ploughman...with haye Ree, & Who to his horse. **1681** DUDEON *Anat. Met.* I. iii. xiv. 165 He is made, maddy, he whoa's with him. **1797** T. MORTIMER *Cure for Heart-ache* I, Scene I. A Farm Yard...The Bells of a Team jingling. *Prunk* (*without*) Woyh! Whoh! Smiler! **1814** *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 146 Come hither, who-o. **1824** *Punch* 13 July 5/2 *Coachman*,—Whoo up!—d—n you! **1899** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xii, There was a great deal of strong language, mingled with soothing 'who-ha's' while the leg was examined.

**Who,** obs. f. Ho *int.*[1], How *adv.*, Woe.

**Whoa** (*wōā*), *int.* [Variant of WHO *int.*]

†**1.** *Whoa ha ho*, used to call attention from a distance. *Obs.*

**1603** *Shakes. Merry W.* v. v. 187 Whoa hoe, hoe, Father Page. **1623** — *Wint. T.* III. iii 79 He hallow'd but euen now. Whoa-ho-hoa.

**2.** A word of command to a horse or other draught-animal to stop or stand still; also used otherwise in conjunction with other words, as *come hither whoa, gee-whoa, hait-whoa, whoa back.* Hence used jocularly to a person as a command to stop or desist. (Cf. WOA.)

**1849** W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* III. (1850) 32 'Soh! whow!' to his restive horses. 'Whow! I tell you...Whoa! I tell you.' **1862** THOREAU *Ess., Walking* (1893) 20 Who but the Evil One has cried 'Whoa!' to mankind? **1865** EMILY DICKINSON *Lett.* (1894) II. 256 Life...will run away, notwithstanding our sweetest whoa. **1887** W. S. S. TYRWHITT *New Chum* ix. 193 Men shouting...: 'Whoa back! Whoa back!' **1898** HAMILTON *Gen. Manager's Story* ix. 123 We were three minutes late, and as I shouted 'whoa' to Jack [the engine-driver], I could see that he was mad [*i.e.* angry].

Hence **Whoa** *v., intr.* to shout 'whoa!'

**1841** S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. 5 The Englishman...after 'who-ning' to his horse, looks over the hedge.

**Whoar, Whoat,** obs. ff. WHORE, HOT, VOTE *v.*

**Whoave,** var. WHAUVE *v. dial.*

**Whobble,** var. WOBBLE.

**Whobub, Whoch, whoche,** obs. ff. WHICH.

**Whoche,** var. WHITCH, chest, coffer. **Whoche-safe,** obs. f. VOUCHSAFE. **Whod(de,** obs. ff. HOOD. **Whode,** obs. f. HOOD, WOOD. **Whoder, -ir, -ur, -yre,** obs. ff. WHITHER. **Whoe:** see HOW, WHO. **Whoes,** obs. f. WHOSE.

**Whoever** (*hwēvəɹ*), *pron.*; contr. (*poet.*) **whoe'er** (*hwēə·ɹ*). [Orig. two words, WHO *pron.* and EVER *adv.* 8 e.]

**1.** As compound relative, or with correlative in principal clause, which usually follows but occas. precedes; in generalized or indefinite sense: Whatever person or persons; any one who, or any who.

† Formerly also followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

*c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Hwa eфe þenne nolde wel þene time þet hes God ileanet þer to, he ne mihte bliðe beon. *c* **1380** *Wyclif Wks.* (1880) 45 Who euere of freris...wilen goon among seculeris..., ne þei leue þerof of here myn*y*stris prou*y*ncyal. **1382** — *Matt.* xii. 50 Who euere shal seie a word aȝens mannes sone, it shal be forgeuen to hym. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) S iv b, In case a graue Philosopher should come before any of our Princes, or who euer he be, that would haue him sit by him. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 213 Heere she stands, touch her who euer dare. *c* **1600** — *Sonn.* CXXIII. 11 Who euer keepes me, let my heart be his garde. **1655** *Theophilanct* 171 Whoeuer haue opposed their proceedings,...instead of punishment haue been rewarded. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. (1871) 30 Who euer is in pain, wishes for ease. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xxvi, Whoever finds him, shoot him dead! **1833** J. TAYLOR *Fanat.* I. i Mental disorders which...demand, in whomsoever they appear, the most ample forbearance. **1906** E. V. LUCAS *Wand. in Lond.* i. 14 Whoever lives there believes nobly in heat, for the chimney is immense.

**2.** Introducing a qualifying clause with conditional or disjunctive force = If any one at all; whether one person or another; no matter who. (Sometimes with verb in subjunctive.)

Often implying opposition: = notwithstanding any one who', or 'notwithstanding that any one'; cf. WHATEVER 3.

**1590–91** DUNBAR *Tweme Sark.* 72 Ȝe it be my pursell ay fra the Feynd thay [*sc.* coins] be, Quha euir tyne, quha euir win. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 7 Who ere he be, you may not be let in. **1595** — *John* V. v. 19 Who euer speake it, it is true, by heauen. **1611** — *Lr.* I. i. 247 Upon these eyes-lucknes. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* X. 14 Not to taste that Fruit, Whoever tempted. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 32 P 7, I must beg the reader to thank A. B. whoever it is that conceals himself under those two Letters. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 501 If he guard thee ,Whoe'er assails thee, thy success Is sure. **1785** PALEY *Evid.* II. vi. (1817) 228 The sure knocker. **1867

1476 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) II. 4, I haue ressayved your wolly- as flayer and as hole as my mannys. 1500 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 37 Pistoll. hath a killing Tongue, and a quiet Sword; by the meanes whereof, a breaches Words, and keepes whole Weapons. 1611 tr. *Serlio's Archit.* III. 27 b, Trajans Columne is the whole. 1648 Pitt. Lee *Holy & Prof. State* III. 121 His cordes whole but his clothes. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inq. & Ab. Physic* 205 This is worse than what Tinkers do, to make a Hole in a whole Vessel. a 1700 B. Jonson *Discr.* Sept. 1626, And, in New-cloth, very whole and warme. 1718 Rae *Hist. Reb.* 287 Bringing the whole Route they found in their Way. 1889 *Chapters Phys. Sc.* 185 When the pipe is quite whole and sound. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xiii. 405 Whole ground, as the tin-streamers term the stanniferous gravel and superincumbent beds which have not been previously disturbed by the old men. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 9 She is just as whole as when she left the hands of the sculptor.

† **b.** Of immaterial things: Intact, unimpaired, complete. Obs. *a* 1450 *Brut* II. 337 It was ordeyned in pe parlement pat all Cathedrall cherches shold kep and haue her elections hool; & pat he King . . shold not wrate agens hem but wee ychosen. *a* 1500 in *Archæologia* (1811) 15 That the citezens . haue alle her franchyses and free customes holl and vnblemyshed as they before this tyme hadden hem. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel. Prol.* (1535) A iv, There is nothynge so entier, but it diminisheth, nor nothyng so hole, but that is wery.

**3.** In good health; free from disease; healthy, 'well'; (contextually) restored to health, recovered from disease, 'well again'. *arch.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. 1 Du neyt na git swiðe xesælig, no ðu git hiofost & eart hal. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 114 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 167 Wa se seið þet he ho hal, hin self wat best his sunne. *c* 1290 *St. Barbara* 80 in *S. Kath. Leg.* 56 He bi-cam anon hol and sound. *c* 1300 *Palate* 142 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 115 Anon þo he þe ymage ise he was al anon. Te 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1097 Anon so, vertuous, That hole a man it koude make Of palasye, and toth-ake. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 52 To axe . yef this seke shall euer be holl of this sekenesse. 1526 Tyndale *Matth.* v. 34 Thy fayth hath saved the [1611 made thee whole], go in peace, and be whole of thy plage. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII, c.* 12 § 3 Vf any person . . beyng hole & myghtie in body & able to labourre, be taken in begging. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xxxiv. (1535) 49, I repute it a very perilous thinge for a hole man to wrate and be idell. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xvi. ix. (1886) 285 Rosdrot will make a whole, sound, healthie, liuelie man. 1609 *Dekker Witch Trial* in *County Folk Lore* III. (1903) 103 Quha being quhyll then deit within thrie dayes he yumt witchcraft. 1720 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 160 We see all whole and sound People, and we would not have you bring the Plague among us. 1816 Cary *Dante, Parad.* IV. 49 Him who made Tobias whole.

*absol. c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 292 Ne ðu hal, buf, lufeliere leode cyning. *c* 1205 Lay. 14930 Hal wes! þu lauerd king. 1583 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 85 Thee I beseech with a lustie courage, All whole noble mates all whole!

**c.** *fig.* in biblical translation or reminiscence of biblical uses.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxiii[i]. 8 Doð cuwe heortan . hale and clæne. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xxxviii. 2 His lif shal ben hool and lyuynge. 1583–34 Fitzherbs. *Husb.* § 149 Hole in body, holer in soule, and rycher in goodes. 1535 Coverdale *2 Sam.* 5 a My life is yet whole within me. 1538 Wisdom *Ps.* vi. ii. O Lord, saue my Soul, And for thy Mercy sake make whole. 1833 Tennyson *Miller's Daus.* ii, A soul . So healthy, sound, and clear and whole. 1866 Whittier *Tent on Master-sky*, We touch Him in life's throng and press, And we are whole again.

† **d.** In reference to the mental faculties: Sound, sane. *Obs.*

In the language of wills *whole* = L. *sanus*, as in *sanus mente, sana memoria*.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark v. 15 Halesmoles . *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 38 Þou seche mast myȝte þou hool & soun bodi & wittis. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 30, I, John Chelmys-wyk squier of Shropshire, hole of mynde & in my gode memoire beyng. 1483 *Cal. Scott. Rec. Publ. Off.* 1. 13 Enp persone . beyng of hole mynde at large and not in durese. 1506 *Linc. Wills* (1914) I. 12 Of a hole mynde and hoill mi mynde. 1582 Stanyhurst *Conq. Ireland* (1880) 4 If I flatter not my selfe, I haue a whole minde within my crasie bodie.

† **5.** As a rendering (direct or indirect) of L. *solutus* in the sense: Sound, wholesome. *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Ne nouen hen neuer ȝete hwat was hol, hwat was unhol to eten ne to drincken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Ase mochie ase þe welle yuelþ leose of be eyhe, þuo mochie hi is bo holer and be eyhe more blynde. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 228 Sif ony man . accordip not to be hoole wordis [*Tim.* vi. 3 sanis sermonibus] of oure lord Jhesu crist. *Ibid.* 428 He leddi his clergy wel in hool pasture þat wole not rote. Þa 1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 2 he schal ȝhif trewe and hole counsell to the Mair. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 21 First biholde aboute, and se hym eure: If bit be clene and hool, stonde out of fere. 1530 *Ord. Cryston Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. iv. Priv b, After the moost hole opynyon [orig. *selom-la plus saine opinion*].

**II.** Complete, total (and allied senses).

**6.** Having all its parts or elements; having no part or element wanting; having its complete or entire extent or magnitude; full, perfect.

Chiefly of abstract things; when used of material objects, this sense is coincident with 2.

[c 890 Wenerich tr. *Gregory's Dial.* II. x. (1850) 124/14 Þære kitenan ætrimbrung stod xehal & xesund. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* Pref., Se ilæl scealde beon xehal . on ðam nytene ær ðære offrunge. *c* 1325 Shoreham I. 290 Per he hys. he hys al yhol. 1377 *Langland Piers Pl.* (A) I. 68 Þei wurþ ȝyfte he wolde wib þe lete, Hym self al hole vn to þy mete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 11 The clennesse hool of sapience. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 6 With hul trust and with hol beleve. *c* 1400 Maundev. xxvi. [xxii.] (1919) I. 158 The nombre schall euermore ben hool. 1457 Harding *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 728 His vertue dygne so hole were and plenere. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 127 b, He permitteth . the whole pouper of the Lordelike lande vnto his kindel. 1581 Petyt tr. *Lazarus's Com. Gr.* III. 1256) 241 b, Seeing these women will not be the whole mothers of their children, they ought at least to be carefull to chuse good Nurses. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Lyon.* 20 All rych & hole harnessed, with a horse decked with the whole skinne of a great Lion. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 46 Either place required a whole man. 1701 Stanhope *Paneg. Boethius* IV. viii. (1712) 293 They hurt the Bread of Life, every day eaten, yet still whole and never consumed. 1743 Bucklaew & Cumins *Inq. S. Scots* 103 At whole Assemblies. 1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXX. 208 Whole Volumes! The pit was but moderately filled at whole price. 1818 *Art Beheading* 4 Quarto whole-sheets, consist of eight printed pages. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 248 A fine Turkish

Commission. 1540–2 ELYOT *Image Gov.* iii. 3 b, By the hole consent of the S.nate and people. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 185 To whome they, with a whole voyce, answered nay, nay.

**d.** *Math.* Of a number: Denoting a complete and undivided thing, or a set of such things (not a part of a thing); integral, not fractional.

† In first quot., Composed of three prime factors: = SOLID *a.*, 2 *b* (obs.).

*c* 1430 *Art of Nombrynge* iv. (1902) 46 Of nombres one is hyght, another superficiale, another quadrat, another cubike or hoole. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst. A* ij, Some are whole numbers. ...Other are broken nombers, and are commonly called fractions. 1608 R. NORTON *Sterin's Disme* A 3 b, A Whole number is either a vnitie, or a compounded multitude of vnities. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 229 A product...is generated by the multiplication of two or more numbers...All whole numbers cannot result from such multiplication.

**e.** *Coal-mining.* Applied to a portion of a coal seam which has not yet been worked, or is in the earlier stage of working: see quots.

1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 67 *Whole*, where the coal has not been previously worked. 1880 GIBNEY *Glass Coal-m., Whole or Whole Mine* (North of England), that portion of a coal seam being worked by driving *headings* into it only, or the state of the mine before *bringing back the pillars*, or what is called working *the broken*, commences...*Whole Stalls* (South) Wales), two or more stalls having their faces in line or on a thread with one another.

**9.** Constituting the total amount, without admixture of anything different; full, unmixed, pure. In various connexions: often opposed to *half*.

**a.** *Whole blood*: see BLOOD *sb.* 9. So *whole brother* or *sister*, a brother or sister of the whole blood, i. e. a son or daughter of both the same parents (as distinguished from a HALF-BROTHER or HALF-SISTER).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 375 Ac alle þat beth myne hole bredren in blode & in baptesme. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 711 Twey sones he had...Edwyne and Edgar, his hole brother. 1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 109/2 No maner Welsh man of hole bodie, ne half bodie on the fader side. 1544 TH. *Littleton's Tenures* 1 Hys next cosyn collateralll of the hole blode. 1697, 1810 [see BLOOD *sb.* 9]. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* viii, As for me, who am of the whole blood of the whites.

† **b.** Said of a person who has the whole of some possession, charge, or function, not sharing it with any one else: = SOLE *a.* 5 b. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 3998 Wo made hole kyng of alle Englonde. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 310/2 Hole heire in the tayle to the said Thomas. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* i. xv, One hyle hole confessyon. 1540 HARVEL in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1109/2 His grace is made a whole kyng, and obeyed in his Realme as a kyng. 1608 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1908) Jan. 58 Wee the whole Thomas...whom I make my whole and onely Executor.

**c.** *Bookbinding.* Forming the whole of the cover: opp. to HALF- II. 3.

1839 *J. R. Smith's Catal. Second-hand Bks.* Dec. 8/1 Whole calf. 1879 in *Gentlemen's Techn. Educ. IV.* 87 The whole-binding...means that the whole of the cover of the book is covered with the same leather.

**d.** *Whole holiday*: a day the whole of which is observed as a holiday; opp. to HALF-HOLIDAY 2 c).

1839 I.D. HOUGHTON *Barren Hill* iii. Poet. Wks. 1876 II. 109 Whole-holidays of joy. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 8 With us it was a whole holiday; the occasion a birthday.

**e.** Of a team of horses: All of the same colour, 'whole-coloured'.

1892 *Daily News* 31 May 6/1 Sir John, who used always to have a whole team, now has got one brown horse as wheeler.

**B.** *sb.* **1.** The full, complete, or total amount; the assemblage of all the parts, elements, or individuals (*of*). With def. art. (rarely with possessive); *the whole of* - all.

† In early use occas. (as in A. 7) qualified by *all*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. 1. (Dod. MS.), A tree...hap no mesure of vttir wip-inne pe hole mater parties pereof. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 201 3yf þou 3yue counseyl to takyn...wrongfully oþeres good...& be þi counseyl þat wrong is don inwardes, þou art bounde to restore þe hole. 1582 *N. T.* (Rheim.) Matt. xiii. 33 Leauen, which a woman tooke and hid in three measures of meale, vntil the whole was leauened. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 9 Quhy sould the hoill, for thair offence, That faine wald haue thair fact withstand,...beir the blame? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1159 They that loose halfe with greater patience beare it, Then they whose whole is swallowed in confusion. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* cxxxiv. 14 He pales the whole, and yet am I not free. 1615 E. S. *Brit. Russ* in Arber *Engl. Garner* III. 636 The very First Year's herrings only, bring in to the Advantage of the Owner; all his whole both of Stock and Charges of £934 3s. 8d. aforesaid. 1709–89 V. MAHONY *Spect. Math., Arith.* 6 A number that measures the whole, and that which is taken away, will also measure the remainder. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxviii(1), The good of the whole, says Rasselas, is the same with the good of all its parts. 1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 273 In the whole of my ride, I have not seen much finer fields of wheat. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Mar., The whole of the gentlemen of the hunt. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 185 Thicken with flour, and pour the whole on the deer when roasted. 1889 H. W. PICTOR *Story of Chem.* 306 We now define a salt as acid having the whole or part of its hydrogen replaced by a metal.

**b.** U. S. *The Whole* = the Whole House (see COMMITTEE 3).

1840 *Congressional Globe* 5 May 364/3 The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

**c.** In a chiefly *my whole* denotes the complete word of which the syllables, called *my first* and *my second*, are the parts.

*c* 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) IV. 341/1 *My first* is equally friendly to the thief and the lover...*My second* is light's opposite...*My whole* is tempting to the touch, grateful to the sight, fatal to the taste. *Knickknack.* 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 489/1 My first makes use of my second to eat my whole (French *chiendent*). 1844 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 262 If in the process, the total Disyllable itself, in that species of amusement technically called *my whole*, should evaporate into thin air.

**2.** Something made up of parts in combination or mutual connexion; an assemblage of things united so as to constitute one greater thing; a complex unity or system. Usually with indef. art.; also in *pl.*

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* i. xiv. 43 A Whole is that which consists in the Union of any things, or Parts. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. 8 7 All Parts have a Reference to some Whole. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* i. 267 All are but parts of one stupendous whole. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 62 All together the view is picturesque. It is what the painter properly calls a whole. There is a fore-ground, a middle-ground and distance—all harmoniously united. 1822 SHELLEY *Letter* 276 This Whole Of suns, and worlds, and men, and beasts, and flowers,...Is but a vision. 1833 TENNYSON *Poet. of Art* 58 Full of great rooms and small...All unalike, each a perfect whole. 1861 J. BROWN *Spare Hours* 3rd Ser. ii. (1861) 229 A child begins by seeing bits of everything; it makes up its wholes out of its own littles. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* i. 1 The complex whole which we call Civilization.

**3.** Phrases in senses 1 and 2. **a. As a whole** (sense 2): as a complete thing (not in separate parts); as a unity; in its entirety, all together. So, in reference to a pl. sb., *as wholes*.

1808 COLERIDGE *Miscr. Goethe* (1859) I. 192 The beauty of the Poem as a Whole. 1858 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv, I must sustain his administration as a whole, even if there are, now and then, things that are exceptional. 1865 LUCKY *Reform.* (1878) II. vi. 110 The generality was considered as wholes, always yield to the spirit of the time. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 697 A close division in the committee might be reversed on appeal by the committee as a whole.

† **b. By the whole**: = WHOLESALE I. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Upstart Courtier* Eivb, If the Curtier bought not Lether by the whole of the Tanner, the shoomaker might haue it a more reasonable price.

**c. In (the) whole.** (*a*) To the full amount, in full, entirely, completely, wholly. (Usually, now always, without *the*: opp. to *in part*.)

*c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 202 þou art bounde to restore þat þerfor in þe hole. 1540 BARNES *Supplic. Germ. Divines* (1573) C v, They...which...all prate, our merites or workes to satisfy for our synn in part or in whole. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Reform. Parl.* (1817) II. 18 Many may have been spurious in the whole, or incorrect in every part. 1826 SOUTHEY *Let. to H. Taylor* 31 Aug. in *Life* (1850) V. 206 Collecting my stray letters, and selecting such, in whole or in part, as may not unfitly be published. 1855 MRS. *Bayle's Lion's Flowers* Introd. 8 This Work ought to be printed in whole. 1923 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V, c.* 20 § 13 Any creditors whose claim is not paid in full in whole or in part.

(*b*) In total amount, all together, all told, in all. (Almost always with *the*.) Now *rare*.

1551 SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompte* (Abbott. Club 1836) 24 White salpetre, of coorse broken silinge...or mo amongis in thole. 1552–3 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 208 Mowldes for the feltmakers to mowlde hattes vpon at xxjs the pere in the hole iij^li^. 1600 *Southampton Corp. Lett Bk.* (1916) 9 The expence of a powder...a 20^th^ charge in the whole cannott amount vnto lesse then...fyfty pownds yerely. *c* 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 255 They were...but our number in the whole. 1730 *Mem. & Peerage Revid.* (1824) 48 Making up in whole...the sum of nine thousand nerks. 1816 COLERIDGE *Let. to Lady Beaumont* 3 Mar., Three poems, containing 500 lines in the whole. 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V, c.* 27 § 1 Any...sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of one million pounds.

**d. In or upon the whole**: on the basis of the affair as a whole; considering the whole of the facts or circumstances; all things considered; 'taking it all together'. Hence + (*b*) as the upshot, or summing up, of the whole matter; as a final result, ultimately, in conclusion, in fine, in sum; (*c*) in respect of the whole, notwithstanding exceptions in detail; in general, for the most part.

The construction with *of* (quot. 1772) is *rare* and *obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 297 Sigh no more, ladies, sigh no more, Men were deceivers ever, One foot in sea and one on shore, To one thing constant never: Then sigh not so, But let them go, And be you blithe and bonny, Converting all your sounds of woe Into Hey nonny, nonny. Sing no more ditties, sing no moe Of dumps so dull and heavy, The fraud of men was ever so, And only in this vary. Then sigh not so, But let them go, And be you blithe and bonny, Converting all your sounds of woe Into Hey nonny, nonny. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 87 Then is there mirth in heaven, When earthly things made even Atone together. Good Duke, receive thy daughter, Hymen from heaven brought her, Yea, brought her hither, That thou might'st join her hand with his Whose heart within his bosom is. 1604 — *Oth.* ii. iii. 287 Cassio, I love thee, But nevermore be officer of mine. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 425 Posthumus anchors upon Imogen: And the first he finds She lies among the woes, in a wild grief asleep, Upon his neck a bloody napkin; the other, A prattling boy, but weeping; both Passing fond of her. 1772 FOOTE *Maid of Bath* ii. Wks. 1799 II. 39 Upon the whole of the matter, I am not sorry for what has happened. 1776 ADAM SMITH *Wealth of Nations* I. iii. 31 Upon the whole, however, the number of those who have been successful in the pursuit of learning, is much greater than the world commonly imagines. 1781 COWPER *Let.* 15 Feb., Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1818 JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abbey* (1833) 31 Upon the whole, I am glad you have seen it. 1819 — *Mansfield Park* (1833) 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* (1832) I. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1832 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1843) I. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1849 — *Hist. Eng.* I. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1859 DARWIN *Origin Species* 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1871 TYLOR *Primitive Culture* I. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist. Eng. People* 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1876 FREEMAN *Norman Conquest* I. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1879 — *William Rufus* I. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1881 — *Historical Essays* 1st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1883 — *Historical Essays* 2nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1884 — *Historical Essays* 3rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1886 — *Historical Essays* 4th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1887 — *Historical Essays* 5th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1888 — *Historical Essays* 6th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1889 — *Historical Essays* 7th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1890 — *Historical Essays* 8th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1891 — *Historical Essays* 9th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1892 — *Historical Essays* 10th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1893 — *Historical Essays* 11th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1894 — *Historical Essays* 12th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1895 — *Historical Essays* 13th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1896 — *Historical Essays* 14th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1897 — *Historical Essays* 15th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1898 — *Historical Essays* 16th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1899 — *Historical Essays* 17th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1900 — *Historical Essays* 18th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1901 — *Historical Essays* 19th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1902 — *Historical Essays* 20th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1903 — *Historical Essays* 21st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1904 — *Historical Essays* 22nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1905 — *Historical Essays* 23rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1906 — *Historical Essays* 24th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1907 — *Historical Essays* 25th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1908 — *Historical Essays* 26th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1909 — *Historical Essays* 27th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1910 — *Historical Essays* 28th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1911 — *Historical Essays* 29th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1912 — *Historical Essays* 30th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1913 — *Historical Essays* 31st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1914 — *Historical Essays* 32nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1915 — *Historical Essays* 33rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1916 — *Historical Essays* 34th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1917 — *Historical Essays* 35th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1918 — *Historical Essays* 36th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1919 — *Historical Essays* 37th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1920 — *Historical Essays* 38th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1921 — *Historical Essays* 39th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1922 — *Historical Essays* 40th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1923 — *Historical Essays* 41st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1924 — *Historical Essays* 42nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1925 — *Historical Essays* 43rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1926 — *Historical Essays* 44th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1927 — *Historical Essays* 45th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1928 — *Historical Essays* 46th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1929 — *Historical Essays* 47th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1930 — *Historical Essays* 48th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1931 — *Historical Essays* 49th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1932 — *Historical Essays* 50th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1933 — *Historical Essays* 51st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1934 — *Historical Essays* 52nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1935 — *Historical Essays* 53rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1936 — *Historical Essays* 54th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1937 — *Historical Essays* 55th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1938 — *Historical Essays* 56th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1939 — *Historical Essays* 57th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1940 — *Historical Essays* 58th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1941 — *Historical Essays* 59th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1942 — *Historical Essays* 60th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1943 — *Historical Essays* 61st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1944 — *Historical Essays* 62nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1945 — *Historical Essays* 63rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1946 — *Historical Essays* 64th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1947 — *Historical Essays* 65th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1948 — *Historical Essays* 66th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1949 — *Historical Essays* 67th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1950 — *Historical Essays* 68th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1951 — *Historical Essays* 69th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1952 — *Historical Essays* 70th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1953 — *Historical Essays* 71st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1954 — *Historical Essays* 72nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1955 — *Historical Essays* 73rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1956 — *Historical Essays* 74th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1957 — *Historical Essays* 75th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1958 — *Historical Essays* 76th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1959 — *Historical Essays* 77th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1960 — *Historical Essays* 78th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1961 — *Historical Essays* 79th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1962 — *Historical Essays* 80th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1963 — *Historical Essays* 81st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1964 — *Historical Essays* 82nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1965 — *Historical Essays* 83rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1966 — *Historical Essays* 84th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1967 — *Historical Essays* 85th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1968 — *Historical Essays* 86th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1969 — *Historical Essays* 87th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1970 — *Historical Essays* 88th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1971 — *Historical Essays* 89th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1972 — *Historical Essays* 90th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1973 — *Historical Essays* 91st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1974 — *Historical Essays* 92nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1975 — *Historical Essays* 93rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1976 — *Historical Essays* 94th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1977 — *Historical Essays* 95th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1978 — *Historical Essays* 96th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1979 — *Historical Essays* 97th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1980 — *Historical Essays* 98th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1981 — *Historical Essays* 99th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1982 — *Historical Essays* 100th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1983 — *Historical Essays* 101st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1984 — *Historical Essays* 102nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1985 — *Historical Essays* 103rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1986 — *Historical Essays* 104th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1987 — *Historical Essays* 105th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1988 — *Historical Essays* 106th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1989 — *Historical Essays* 107th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1990 — *Historical Essays* 108th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1991 — *Historical Essays* 109th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1992 — *Historical Essays* 110th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1993 — *Historical Essays* 111th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1994 — *Historical Essays* 112th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1995 — *Historical Essays* 113th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1996 — *Historical Essays* 114th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1997 — *Historical Essays* 115th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 1998 — *Historical Essays* 116th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 1999 — *Historical Essays* 117th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2000 — *Historical Essays* 118th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2001 — *Historical Essays* 119th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2002 — *Historical Essays* 120th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2003 — *Historical Essays* 121st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2004 — *Historical Essays* 122nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2005 — *Historical Essays* 123rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2006 — *Historical Essays* 124th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2007 — *Historical Essays* 125th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2008 — *Historical Essays* 126th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2009 — *Historical Essays* 127th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2010 — *Historical Essays* 128th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2011 — *Historical Essays* 129th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2012 — *Historical Essays* 130th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2013 — *Historical Essays* 131st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2014 — *Historical Essays* 132nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2015 — *Historical Essays* 133rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2016 — *Historical Essays* 134th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2017 — *Historical Essays* 135th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2018 — *Historical Essays* 136th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2019 — *Historical Essays* 137th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2020 — *Historical Essays* 138th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2021 — *Historical Essays* 139th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2022 — *Historical Essays* 140th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2023 — *Historical Essays* 141st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2024 — *Historical Essays* 142nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2025 — *Historical Essays* 143rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2026 — *Historical Essays* 144th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2027 — *Historical Essays* 145th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2028 — *Historical Essays* 146th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2029 — *Historical Essays* 147th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2030 — *Historical Essays* 148th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2031 — *Historical Essays* 149th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2032 — *Historical Essays* 150th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2033 — *Historical Essays* 151st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2034 — *Historical Essays* 152nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2035 — *Historical Essays* 153rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2036 — *Historical Essays* 154th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2037 — *Historical Essays* 155th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2038 — *Historical Essays* 156th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2039 — *Historical Essays* 157th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2040 — *Historical Essays* 158th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2041 — *Historical Essays* 159th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2042 — *Historical Essays* 160th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2043 — *Historical Essays* 161st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2044 — *Historical Essays* 162nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2045 — *Historical Essays* 163rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2046 — *Historical Essays* 164th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2047 — *Historical Essays* 165th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2048 — *Historical Essays* 166th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2049 — *Historical Essays* 167th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2050 — *Historical Essays* 168th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2051 — *Historical Essays* 169th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2052 — *Historical Essays* 170th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2053 — *Historical Essays* 171st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2054 — *Historical Essays* 172nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2055 — *Historical Essays* 173rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2056 — *Historical Essays* 174th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2057 — *Historical Essays* 175th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2058 — *Historical Essays* 176th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2059 — *Historical Essays* 177th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2060 — *Historical Essays* 178th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2061 — *Historical Essays* 179th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2062 — *Historical Essays* 180th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2063 — *Historical Essays* 181st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2064 — *Historical Essays* 182nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2065 — *Historical Essays* 183rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2066 — *Historical Essays* 184th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2067 — *Historical Essays* 185th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2068 — *Historical Essays* 186th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2069 — *Historical Essays* 187th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2070 — *Historical Essays* 188th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2071 — *Historical Essays* 189th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2072 — *Historical Essays* 190th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2073 — *Historical Essays* 191st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2074 — *Historical Essays* 192nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2075 — *Historical Essays* 193rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2076 — *Historical Essays* 194th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2077 — *Historical Essays* 195th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2078 — *Historical Essays* 196th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2079 — *Historical Essays* 197th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2080 — *Historical Essays* 198th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2081 — *Historical Essays* 199th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2082 — *Historical Essays* 200th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2083 — *Historical Essays* 201st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2084 — *Historical Essays* 202nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2085 — *Historical Essays* 203rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2086 — *Historical Essays* 204th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2087 — *Historical Essays* 205th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2088 — *Historical Essays* 206th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2089 — *Historical Essays* 207th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2090 — *Historical Essays* 208th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2091 — *Historical Essays* 209th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2092 — *Historical Essays* 210th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2093 — *Historical Essays* 211th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2094 — *Historical Essays* 212th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2095 — *Historical Essays* 213th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2096 — *Historical Essays* 214th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2097 — *Historical Essays* 215th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2098 — *Historical Essays* 216th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2099 — *Historical Essays* 217th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2100 — *Historical Essays* 218th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2101 — *Historical Essays* 219th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2102 — *Historical Essays* 220th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2103 — *Historical Essays* 221st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2104 — *Historical Essays* 222nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2105 — *Historical Essays* 223rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2106 — *Historical Essays* 224th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2107 — *Historical Essays* 225th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2108 — *Historical Essays* 226th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2109 — *Historical Essays* 227th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2110 — *Historical Essays* 228th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2111 — *Historical Essays* 229th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2112 — *Historical Essays* 230th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2113 — *Historical Essays* 231st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2114 — *Historical Essays* 232nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2115 — *Historical Essays* 233rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2116 — *Historical Essays* 234th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2117 — *Historical Essays* 235th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2118 — *Historical Essays* 236th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2119 — *Historical Essays* 237th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2120 — *Historical Essays* 238th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2121 — *Historical Essays* 239th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2122 — *Historical Essays* 240th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2123 — *Historical Essays* 241st Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2124 — *Historical Essays* 242nd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2125 — *Historical Essays* 243rd Ser. 1 Upon the whole, however, they were very fortunate in their children. 2126 — *Historical Essays* 244th Ser. 1 Upon the whole, I am glad that I have written it. 2127 — *Histor

av 21s. Neat little brown wholemeal loaves. 1904-5 *Civil Serv. Supply Price list* 60 Whole Meal per 7 lb. bag, 1/4. *Ibid.* 128 Biscuits, Cabin, Navy, and Whole Meal. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 4091/1 Of the Method of Wholemoulding used by the ancients, and which still continues in use among those unacquainted with the more proper methods. c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 159 By whole moulding, no more is narrowed at the floor than at the main breadth. 1897 T. Morley *Jottings. Mus. Annot.* 8/b, A 'whole note is that which the Latinists call *Integer longus*, and is that distance which is betwixt any two notes except *mi* & *fa*. 1898 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 250 The Difference of la Fourth and Fifth] they agreed to call a Tone; which we now call a Whole note. 1899 *Sisters Gossip* XXVI. 283 Printing from 'whole plate negatives. 1876 Rock *Text. Fabr.* 2 The first entry for what were 'whole silk for clothing. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*, *Whole Stitch*, a name sometimes applied to the Cloth Stitch of Pillow Lace.

**2.** a. Combinations formed of phrases like those in I used *attrib.* or as adjs., in sense 'Consisting of, made with, relating to, comprising, or occupying the or a whole . . .', as *whole aim*, *-aunt*, *-day*, *-fruit*, *-grain*, *-width*, *-world*; 'in sense 9 *wholeleather*, *-worsted*. See also **whole colour**, etc. in d.)

1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 619/2 I-spuelles sount appellez en Inglois wholed bel. 1841 *Myth. & Myst. Christ. Primitial*, The haunting memory of those whole-day leaves. 1866 Howitts *Visit. Life* xii 276 A grand, whole-arm movement. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.*, 9 Oct. 5/4 A white leather waist belt not be bought unless purchased under 7s. 1901 *Civil Service Supply Price-list* Index p. iii, Whole Fruit Jam 1910 *Engl. Brit.* II. 28 (*Angling*), A light wholegut test of stiff hackle. *Ibid.* 30 *Salt-water*, quasi-189, 5 s. White *ppl. a.* 2.] 1920 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 5 A whole-day tramp across country.

b. Parasynthetic comb., in various senses of the adj., as *whole-backed*, *-bodied*, *-headed*, *-minded*, *-skinned*, *-skirted* adjs. (See also **whole-chested**, etc. in d.)

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 88 The Italian Horses are of good able feete, very straight, 'whole backt, and hollow. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xii. 211/2 In *Holmland*, Fyen, whether they be vnbelled, or 'whole bodied, are voyde of poyson. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 66 If the coats are wholed-bodied, the steward proceeds after the back-board is removed, to hawk out the whole of the lower part of the rough-casts [etc.]. 1811 Cobbe, *All made*, the 'Whole headed Gaelicke. 1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem.* 303 Wholeleaved Water-hemp Agrimony. 1885 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 25619/1 A bright bay Gelding 'whole maned unless cut since. 1593-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 36 If thou haye kye or oxen to feede, . . loke well that he be 'whole mouthed, and not broken. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conchol.* 209 (Iod.) The first genus, which he calls 'wholemouthed '. . is my genus of 'turbo' among the snails. 1824 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* i. 1, He is 'whole skin'd, has no hurt yet. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1910/4 A new 'whole skirted Black Saddle having the Seat of Velvet and the Skirts of Hogs skin.

c. Advb. comb., as **whole-bred**, see d'; see also C. d. Special Combs.: **whole-bred** *a.* [cf. A. 9 a], of pure breed (opp. to HALF-BRED 1); + **whole-chase boot** see quot.); + **whole-chested** *a.* having a sound chest or breast; *fig.* loyal-hearted; **whole-colour**, **-coloured** *adjs.* [A. 9], of the same colour throughout, concolor; **whole-eared** (-i-ard) *a.*, (*a*) having the ears whole, i.e. not cut; (*b*) listening 'with all one's ears', i.e. intently; so **whole-eyed** (-aid) *a.*, gazing intently; **wholefeather** [A. 9], a variety of pigeon having all the feathers of one colour; so **whole-feathered** (-ed) *a.*; **whole-hearted** *a.*, (of a person) having one's whole heart in something completely devoted (orig. and chiefly *U.S.*); (of an action, etc.) done with one's whole heart, thoroughly earnest or sincere; hence *whole-heartedly* adv., *whole-heartedness*; **whole-hoofed** (-hŭft) *a.* [A. 8], having undivided hoofs, solidungulate; **whole-length** *a.*, (*a*) of a portrait, etc. representing the whole human figure, usually standing; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* a whole-length portrait or statue; (*b*) *gen.* extending through the whole length; calculated to lengthen; **whole-minded** *a.*, giving one's whole mind to something, completely interested; hence *whole-mindedness*; **whole-moulded** *a.* *Ship-building*, see quot. *c* 1850, and cf. *whole moulding* in 1; **whole-pull** *Changeringing*, see quots. (opp. to *half-pull*, Half- II. 1); **whole sail** *a.*, said of a wind in which a ship (esp. a yacht) can carry full sail; **whole-seas** *humorous nonce-wd.*, quite drunk (after *half-seas*, short for Half-seas-over 2); **whole-souled** (-sōuld) *a.* orig. *U.S.* = *whole-hearted*; + **wholesteal** *nonce-wds.*, 'wholesale' theft; + **whole-stone** *a.*, of lime; unslaked; **whole time** *a.*, occupying the whole of some particular time, esp. of the working time; (of a person) employed during the whole time; **whole-timer**, = Full-timer; **whole-working** *Coal-mining*, see quot., and cf. A. 8 e, B. 4.

1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. xxi, A 'wholebred Southdown Tat weather. 1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Whole-chase Boots*, are whole hunting, or large riding Boots. 1893 J. Davies *Micro-atomos* 37 We are 'whole chested, and our Breasts doe hold A single Heart, that is as good, as great. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* iv. 1, A well timbred youth, he's whole chested too. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 1/1 The collection includes a series of 'whole-colour porcelain and soft paste blue and white. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 42 Scales 'whole-coloured or indistinctly two-coloured. 1907 *R. Leighton's New Bk. Dog* 49 The latter will consist of some whole-coloured blacks, and some whole-coloured whites. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1633/4 A large light Brindle Mastiff Dog, 'whole-Eard. 1748 W. J. *Lucas Rural Sports* 183 The village turned out to listen to them in 'whole-eyed and whole-eared wonder. 1. Wright *Pigeon Keeper* 128 A Splash may often be muted to advantage with a 'Whole-feather. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1790/4 A large black Mastiff, 'whole Feathered, and thorough mewed Falcon. 1840 Channing *Let. to Wm. Ashton* 11 July, What a 'whole hearted man! says we Yankees say. 1855 Percy *Dicts. Real Presence* Notes 366 The most perfect and whole-hearted repentance. 1901 *Statesman* 14 Mar. 6/4 The whole-hearted support of British policy by the Canadian people. 1897 in Barrows *World's Parl. Relig. Congr.* I. 534 Socially, we unite 'whole-heartedly and without reservation with our non-Jewish fellow-citizens. 1854 *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Low) 62 The great lesson of Christ is 'whole heart-liness with God. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. xxii. 11 43 A wavering disposition, . . want of wholehearted purpose, a dualism of life and mind. 1811 Holland *Pinxy* viii. 241 I, 206 In India, there be found beaſes 'whole hoofed, with single horines. *Ibid.* xv. 451 In some parts of Sclavonia, the Swine are 'wholehoofed. 1901 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 457 *Lost Ogyrdah.* 187 The Quadrupeds, whereof some are *pouwoya*, whole-hoofs such as Asses, Mules, Horses. 1835 [see Sound n.2 2]. 1878 Richardson *Cornwall* (1768) III. 259 Your little weeds are all taken down; as is also your own 'whole-length picture. 1758 Cibber *Let. to Sam* 28 Nov., Undoubted originals, whether 'whole-length, or whole-lengths, no matter, of Cardinals Richelieu, Mazarin, and Retz. 1827 T. F. Dibdin *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 434 *note*, A small whole length of Joseph with the angel above. 1824 Hall *Engl. Synt.* iv. 139 The faithless whole-length mirror that reflected his own person. 1856 Faris El-Shidiac *Pract. Gramm. Arabic* 16 Swelling the grammar unnecessarily with a great number of 'whole-length sentences. 1865 C. R. Lesley & T. Taylor *Sir Joshua Reynolds* I. 104 The portrait which tended most to establish his reputation was a whole-length of Captain Keppel, on a sandy beach. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 302 2 Whilst admitting . the great spirit and immense intellectuality of the woman, he cannot but feel . lack of 'whole-mindedness. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Nov. 2/1 *Observ. Forty-f. Beasts* 91 XVII. *cobfs* Fixing a point for the aftermost timber that is 'whole moulded. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 159 *Whole-moulded*, a term applied to the bodies of those ships which have been constructed that one mould made to the midship bend, with the addition of a floor hollow, will mould all the timbers, below the main breadth, in the vessel's body. 1668 [Wilkins] *Mathematicks* (1671) 54 'Whole-pulls, is to Ring two Rounds in one change, that is, bone-stroke and back-stroke, so that every time you pull down a Rope, suddenly, you make a new change differing from that at the Back-stroke next before: this Whole-pulls was altogether practised in former time. 1872 Belcombe *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Oxf.* 328 A Whole pull includes swinging the bell round twice, off from the balance, and round up to the balance again. . In whole-pull ringing each bell makes a whole pull to every change. 1885 *Nat. Observ.* 3 Jan. 1/1 The heeling of vessels by strong 'wholesail winds. 1821 *Joseph the Book-man* 85 Some, half-seas, like fools do swagger, While other some, 'whole seas, do stagger. 1849 *Kraken in Town's Tale* 1. 192 (Bartlett) [The New-Yorkers] are a 'whole-souled people. 1863 H. Warner *Our Old Home, Haunts of Burns* II. 72 A bust of Burns, . . looking . . so warm and 'whole-souled in the pictures usually do. 1893 F. Adams *New Lucifer* 209 A most vigorous and whole-souled resentment. 1849 Lightfoot *Battle with Time's Rest* Wks. 1895 I. 423 Man's sou have so miserably turned to vassal his instrument by 'wholesteal. 1703 *Burchm. Acc. Bucknall, Inmate* (MS.), 3 Chalden of 'wholestone Lime. 1906 *Athenæum* 13 Oct. 451/1 The Rev. Dr. Fortescue . will be a 'whole-time officer of the University. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V*, c. 5 Sched. I. § 4 Engaged in whole-time work . of national importance. 1869 *Daily Telegraph* 5 Dec., That all the children of a district attend some school either as 'whole-timers or half-timers. 1881 *Raymond Mining Gloss.*, *Whole-working*, *None*, working where the ground is still whole, i.e. has not been penetrated as yet with breasts. Opposed to *pillar-work*, or the extraction of pillars left to support previous work.

+ **Whole**, *v. Obs.* Also 5 hoole, 5–6 hole. [f. Whole *a.*]

**1.** *trans.* To make whole, heal, cure.

14 . *Stockholm Med. MS.* v. 213 in *Anglia* XVIII. 301 Pe cold featre sal be holyd with hete. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Audrey* v. 1292 With which cyle of sorwe alle grevaunce Whiche men suffre, it will be hoolid anoon. *c* 1450 — *Life St. Gilbert* xxxiv. 119 Summe wer holed fro ceriteyn sek-nesse be be merites of his Seynt.

**2.** To become whole; to recover from sickness; to be ill, as a wound.

14 . *Stockholm Med. MS.* v. 241 in *Anglia* XVIII. 301 Of clee bony and eye-flour late bake a lake, . . And ley't to be hole pe fleysche ouer-al. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 189/2 To hole, *Pè quide Essence* 25 Pe sable feble man schal eve pis dreynk, and wibinne a fewe dayes he schal so hool pat he schal fele him alif of be sauit and be strenkbe of al zeer. 1599 W. Walker *Edmund, conglo-Lat.* 517 The wounds whole not.

**II. 3.** *trans.* To make into a whole; to assemble or unite.

1529 Prior *Donet* xvii. (1910) 186 Jesus vpechis hoolid and maad of be ij wnd manners. *c* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng* (1609) 18 The Captaine whoſe a multitude of people gathered, of diuers Nations . . and beginneth a Commonwealth after this manner.

+ **Whole** = *who will* (cf. Ile).

1608 Marston *Parasit.* v. II 4, While kisse thee now? while count thee now? while bis thee now?

**Whole**, obs. form of Hole *sb.*

**Whole cloth.** A piece of cloth of the full size as manufactured, as distinguished from a piece that may be cut off or out of it for a garment, etc.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 451/2 Hole Clothes, called brode Clothes. 1598 *Wyclyns Repth* in Heal. *Shaksp. Libr.* (1864) 58 Might I be so bolde as of your hole cloth To desire you for to deliuer vnto me As much as will suffyse. . To make a large Gowne and a Kyrtell. 1784 *Act 24 Geo. I* c. 24 § 1 Every Woollen Broad Cloth, whether called an End or Half Cloth, or a Long or Whole Cloth.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context, esp. in phr. *cut* (etc.) *out of* (*the*) *whole cloth*, used in various senses; now esp. (*U. S. colloq.* or *slang*) of a statement wholly fabricated or false.

1579 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 77, I shalle contente. to lende you the choyce of as many gentle wordes and loouely termes as we. use to deliuer owre thankes in. Choose whether you will have them giuen or yeeldid. knit owte of the whole cloathe, or otherwise powrid owte. 1594 Nashe *Christ's T.* 46 Two or three thousand pound. . When lees hath it all in his handes, for a month or two he resolues it, and cuts it out in the whole cloth. 1630 *Times Whistle* *Engl. Gent.* 333 They cut it out of the whole cloth, and divide their acres pecce-meale into shreds. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* x. (1906) 2 The valiant Souldier . measureth out of the whole cloath his Honour with his sword. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. vi. 177 This rent (not in the seam but whole cloth) betwixt these Two Nations. 1657 H. Hammond *Pract. N. Non-Leag* ii. 2 The Line or Border here being known to be more worth then the whole Cloth; That whole Tract of Land, being of little worth, unless the Line or Borders thereof upon the Sea-coast. 1843 C. Mathews *Writ.* 68 (Thornton) Isn't this entire story. made out of whole cloth? 1897 *Forum*, Dec. 462 July 1st Absolutely untruthful telegrams were manufactured out of whole cloth. 1905 Lincoln Hall xii, That Eton captain is cut out of whole cloth; no shoddy there.

**Whole-footed** (-futed), *a.*

+ **1.** Having 'whole' or undivided feet, i.e. with the toes united; web-footed, as a bird; *rarely*, solid-hoofed, as a quadruped. *Obs.*

13 . *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 538 Pe hole-foted fowle to be flod hi3te. 1813 *Bk Kerrayne* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 279 All maner hole foted fowles. That haue bees flyyng vpon the water. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 34 The Asses of India . differ from all other whole-footed beasts. 1656 Jer. Taylor *Dissuasive. Feast. God* 193 (Waterhouse) are generally whole-footed. 1720 *Ozell Rapin Gallon* (ed. 4) 147 Such Creatures as are whole footed or fin'ted.

**2.** Treading with the whole foot on the ground, not lightly or on tip-toe.

a 1734 Fowler *Vac. Ex. Anglia*, *Whole-footed*, t. Treading flat and heavy, as if there were no joints in the feet. 1896 Wherry *Alpine Notes* 119 It has often been noticed in mountaineering that a guide can go face forward and whole-footed up a slope.

**3.** *fig.* Unreserved, frank, free and easy. *colloq.* or *slang.*

a 1734 North *Life Dr. Y. North* (1744) 278 His chief Remissions were when some of his nearest Relations were with him, and then, as they say, he was whole-footed. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Whole-footed* 2. Very intimate; closely confederate.

+ **Who'le-ful**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 5–6 hol(e)ful. [f. Whole *n.* + -ful.] Health-giving, wholesome. Hence + **wholefully**, *adv.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxviii. (W. de W.) 311 b A Juys of Caprifoli Opinius Reuse [etc.]. with synegre and bony ben holifuly [*Bodl. MS.* holefelilike] layed to auoyde lyppynes. *c* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 306 Drawe ye . holdfull water of lore of my wellys.

+ **Wholehead**. *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 **holehede**. [f. Whole *a.* + -head.] Completeness.

1440 *Jacob's Well* 171 Pu iij spunne lengthe muste be holehede, but pe sarwe he hole of alle pe iij spunes to gedere.

**Wholely**, obs. form of Wholly.

**Wholeness** (hōle-lnés). [f. Whole *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being whole.

**1.** Soundness, freedom from injury; unimpaired state, integrity. Now *rare* and associated with other senses.

*c* 1000 in *Archiv für das Stud. d. neu. Spr.* CXXI. 46 Wullende & nellende, on gesundfulnysse & on pan halnesse. [1526: see Wholesome.] *c* 1376 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. 127 (Camb. MS.) Pou ne3test nat be diuerse for the hoolnesse of science, pat any man muste denne a thing to ben oother weys thanne it is it self. 1435 Mirk *Fest of Lowe* II. xii. 103 Holnes of myude, redynes of wyll,. in holy saules, suffrys pame not dedly to synne. 1443-9 Pecock *Donet* x. (1921) 254 Pilk hool [3rd] commandement in his ful hoolnes is reuokid, pe, and forbidden. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 229 Neyther the godhede was myngled in the sonne ne the holenesse of the mayden hod in the mother. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 30 To be halde and to be had, . . with all the integrite or hoolenesse of the whole William of Saynte John. . all pe foresaide thynges had and holde.

1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 326 Holiness, that is, *wholeness*. 1885 *Nation* (N. Y.) 29 Jan. 86 Rosa has too much regard for the wholeness of his skin to run that kind of a risk.

**2.** The character of having nothing wanting, or of having all its parts in due connexion; completeness, perfection; unbroken or undivided state; the quality of constituting a complex unity.

(Mfk. *all holeness* is f. *all hool* + -*nesse*.)

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxvi. (1495) 1011 b/1 All hoolenesse forig. *totalitas*] and perfightnesse longyth to one & vnite. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 279 The thynges sende . be seyde by anticipacion, that the holenesse of the story may be conserveide. 1550 Veron *Godly Sayings* D iij, He dydde both geue vnto vs an wholenesse of the true

body, and of his blood, and al o did breathe asoul that hard question of his wholnes. 1581 Marbeck *Bk Notes* 95 The wholeness and substance of Baptime doth consist in two things, the Word and the Element. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 108 Those delightings or affections that belong to it, as having parts of which the wholeness were one. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* 11 (1765) 60 *note*, As far as Perplexity and Confusion may be avoided, and the Wholeness of the Piece may be preserved clear and intelligible. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I 265 A book of tales, with out drift or wholeness of design all is episode. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* I. iii. 246 The unbroken wholeness of this whole was a symbol of the unbrokenness of the Church. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* I. iii. 114 Peace lover is our Harold for the sake Of England's wholeness. 1886 *La Isley Hall* 60 *Yr after* to sweet St Francis of Assisi. He that in his Catholic wholeness used to call the very flowers Sisters, brothers.

**b** The totality or total amount *of* something (*obs.*); something complete or unified (*rare*).

Wholly *sb.*, 1, 2.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxvi. 8 Of per R mle is pe hoh olnes (MS. 105). 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* Pref. 4 4, These Three taken all together, make up the Wholeness and Entireness of The True Intellectual System of the Universe. 1856 Hawthorne *Lnyl Note Bks.* (1872) II. 131 What shall spleen and jagged utterances I publishers are content to put forth, without attempting auything like a wholeness?

**Wholer** (hōʊlə) *local.* [f. Whole *a.* or *sb* + -er 1.] (See quot.)

1633 *Perrase of Scanton in* W. & Q. 6th Ser. (1885) XI. 366/1 The inhabit ants of Newton in this parish are partly Wholers and partly Halfers to the Churches or Parsonages of Wath and Mexbo ough. Wholers are they that pay their Tithes wholy, bothe predial and personal, to one of the Forsaid Churches o ely, viz. to Wath only or Mexbo ough only.

**Wholesale** (hōʊlsēl), *sb., a., adv.*

**I.** 1 Orig. two words, Whole *a.* and Sale *sb.*2, in phr. *by whole sale* (also † *by the or † in whole sale*), now usually ellipt. as adv., qualifying *sell, buy*, or words of similar meaning. In large quantities, in gross; as opposed to *by retail*).

a 1417 *York Memorandum Bk* (Surtees) I. 183 To sell any gudeles by retaile or holesale. 1579 Wilkinson *Confut. Famy Love* 41 Those men which sell by whole sale I mean as chapter drap ers. 1583 *Acts P. C.* 13 51 If leather of theirs were to be sold for so many, we have them amongst us that would buy them up by the whole sale. 1647 Morrison *Itin.* III. 95 Great Wax Candles to sell, whereof then by whole sale. 1731–8 *Norwich Mer.* 19–26 Feb. 2 2 William Steele selleth the following Goods either by Wholesale or Retail. 1788 *New Ld. Mayor* (ed. 2) II. 195 Purchasing articles for the community in wholesale. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 601 2 Those jagged gowns for shows are disposed of wholesale in Lyons. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* 9 Jan. 727/1 Inviting the public to come and buy both wholesale and retail.

**2.** *fig.* (with construction as in 1). In a large way, in large numbers or amount, in abundance, profusely, extensively, indiscriminately.

1601 W. Cornwallis *Ess.* Q 7, W. whose barrow roomes are not able to trafficke with vertue by the wholesale but by retayle. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 2) 483 Mercatus, from whence Store husbands (whom I call his Chronicles, almost by wholesale. a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 43 St. Cyprian who was liberal by wholesale, bestowing all at once, a fair estate on God and the poor. 1740 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. (1798) 208 They expose a valuable Jewel for little contempt up on it by wholesale. 1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 122 The wild Bashkirs slaughtered them by wholesale. 1859 Geo. Sm. *Assyria* iii. 104 Homer never all was distinguished Greeks to fall wholesale by the Trojan sword. 1874 Leveson *Norm. Conq.* IV. xx. 63 The Norman version makes Him overthrow Welsh Kings by wholesale.

**†3** Sale in gross; *fig.* dealing in a large way or in big quantities; indiscriminate or unlimited disposal (opp. to *retail*). *Obs.*

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 176 To take them out of their tu ks, put them from their wholesale, and tume them to retayle. I will not giue a button for the best of them. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* I. 46 To which his sweet saith *au sauoir* will also well agree. I have (could he make such a whole sale) can bear no proportion. 1688 Pickin *Joseph* 97 Merchants shops, For holesale or retail.

**II.** *attrib.* or *adj.* **4** a. Selling a commodity by wholesale.

1645 in *Archaeologia* LII. 13 A hoxer & whole sale man for nurrow wares. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 61 P 1 A wholesale Dealer in Silks and Ribbons. 1784 De Foe *Tour of Gt. I.* 1. 24 Ill used by the agent for the London Whole ale Men to carry Dark Orders from their Deale s. 1793 *Life N. Jones* 5 Mr. John Neville, a Wholesale ironmonger. 1812 *Sir T. Wyatt & Dark Scot* II. 1 The farmer at a distance from markets may be compared to a wholesale merchant. 1876 Williams *Midl. Antiq.* 637 Drugs from the whole ale houses for country druggists.

**b** Pertaining to sale in gross; used for a commodity sold by wholesale.

1794 De Foe *Tour of Brit.* I. 135 When the great Hurry of Wholesale Business is found to be over. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* iv. Pr. Black in great wholesale jars. 1867 J. Laing *Theory of Business* 11 The retail price of 'tea' we take to mean that shopkeepers have mixed this amount of money for their stocks; and the wholesale price of 'tea' shows that they pay to wholesalers 'tea' less than they received. 1898 J. Penn *Mystery* I. 274 Greater friction prevails in the retail than in the wholesale market. 1908 *Bradford & Ilkley Dist. Gaz.* 8 Apr. p. 8/8, Clerk and Traveller required for a Wholesale Country Business.

**5.** *fig.* Having an extensive application; unlimited or indiscriminate in range; doing something, or done, largely, profusely, or in great quantities.

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvii. 116 But how long shall I be retailing out rules to this Merchant? Take our bevours wholesale rules. Whatsoever ye would have men do unto you, do you unto them. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 709 Those whole sale Criticks, that lay down all Philosophy. 1858 Lytton *Odin* I. 79 The Moors had treated this unhappy people with a wholesale and relentless barbarity. 1892 Lever *Handy Andy* xlvii. Slaughtering lions in a wholesale way like jobbers. 1892 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii. I am by no means a wholesale admirer of our leg islators mimics. 1843 Sedgwick *Greifenberg* 27 It is a sort of whole. sale Tyranny, and equally serious for all persons and for every known disorder. 1863 H. Cox *Institutes* I. iii. 74 A wholesale creation of peers for the purpose of obtaining a majority. 1880 Miss Thackeray *Rebel of Family* xxxi. 'Would you go to the colonies with them as you loved?' 'I would go into the desert!' she answered in her passion ate wholes ale way.

Hence **Who lesale** *v. trans.*, to sell wholesale (in quot. *tntr.* for *pass.*), **Who lesaling** *adv.*, in a wholesale way, extensively, profusely, **Who lesaler**, one who sells goods wholesale (to retailers), a wholesale dealer, **Who lesalesman**, wholesale quality, profuseness, indiscriminateness.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 289/1 English ladies' sh es, "wholes aling at $1 50 per pair. 1887 J. D. Hooker in *Life* (1918) II. 295 The supposed facts are "wholesale ly misrepresented. 1888 *Graphic* 24 Dec. 728/2 The wholesale staleness of the present charges of corruption. 1857 Looke & Newman *Half Prices* 37, Nor is it necessary that this wholesale quality should be in the hands, or even the "wholesalers or the retailers. 1888 F. Bretany *Losing Battle* xvii. 146 The manufacturer sold 13 the wholesaler, 1907 *Times* 2 Apr. 3/6 In the United States they name the wholesaler and retailer the expression 'busbel' was a measure of weight.

**† Wholeship.** *Obs* In 3 hal-, hoise(h)ipe. [? Whole *a.* + -ship 1.] = Wholeness 1.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 Ich him in hope, purh mund as he is. a 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom.* I. 183 O muchele mensse to ia in moder of swiche sone and holsaipe [*C. tr.* 1. 19 hulschipe seo ] Holscipi of maidene.

**Wholesome** (hōʊlsəm), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms see Whole, also 4–6 (with normal shortening) holsum, -som, 6–8 wholsom e. (1 o north. dial. and Sc. forms see Halesome.) [Obs. **hālsum*, corresp. to Ofris. **hēlsam* (implied in adv. *hēlsamo*), MLG. *hēilsam*, Du. *heilzaam* salutary (dial. = healthy), OHG. (MHG., G.) *heilsam*, ON. *heilsamr*: see Whole *a.* and -some suffix 1. The northern form (reinforced from ON.) is represented by Hal(e)some.]

**1** Conducive to well-being in general, esp. of mind or character; mentally or morally healthful; tending or calculated to do good; beneficial, salutary.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 231 Sif þu luuest sine ayene wille þat mid þine te ʒe swinke holsum þat þu lis ofte þine ti nedes gif i. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Penne reoch me helond on his hexte, and teched him hi holsum lore. 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* II. 3 The holsum wordis of oure l ord Jhesu Crist. 1382 — *Prol. Bible* 20 Holsum lore. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* 23 It is not holsum with ʒ dilis to pleie. 1535 Stanley *Exh. in Lu. Lond* (1898) p. xxii, Holsome ceremonys of the Church. 1566 Stallion *Art. Cath. Treat.* 12 It is moste meete that we do celebrate the mem mall of that One and holsome Sacrifice. 1600 Maston, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* iv. (1601) A 4 b, So great a mesee of coyne might in such holsome sort thrift. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 66 You'l mature ill Play you speake to em. In wholsome man ner. 1810 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 615 A good example of which, most holsome counsell. 1832 Howitt *North. Heights* I. They are wholsomer company. 1721 Addison *Spect.* No. 10 P 5, I will daily instil into them such sound and wholsome Sentiments. 1740 Butler *Sermons* (1874) 18 Their constant observation. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. vi, Wholesome Admonitions and Reproof. 1884 Southey *Lett. to C. Bedford* (1912) 204, I envy no better air, keep better hours, and enjoy myself in more wholesome ways than I formerly. 1839 Sewell *Exper.* xlvii. VI. 117 Riches was destroyed that the example of its fate might strike the rest of Greece with a wholesome awe. 1859 Jephson *Sanat. Resort* 2 The sweet and wholesome charm of life among the early Romans has not given them vig nous minds in vigorous bodies. 1892 Ruskin *Lett. Lect.* (1920) 2. It is wholesome and human, to observe the powerlessness of man in the face of those little accidents.

**2** Promoting or conducive to health; favourable to or good for health; health giving or healthpr oving; salubrious.

c 1376 Chaucer *Prologue* 520 Pilles ygroun pat bereth ful holsom pynes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. (1495) Thyme is wholsome & hoot & drye. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. ii. 58 No h some ne lusty fruyte, but bytter and vnwomony. c 1430 Lydg. *Compl. to Ami* 14 To take the holsome brue of pacyence. 1543 Traheron *Vigon of Of fair Phlebotus*, quhare is thy holsum help? 1568 Turner *Herbal* 48 b Alhreakokes are lesse then the other pickes and are holsummer for the stomack. 1623 Penicuik *Pol. grimage* v. xxii. 457 The Ayre is not very holsome by reason of the situation under the Line, and the multitude of Lakes and Rivers. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 849 The still Night, not now Wholsom and cool, and mild. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 103 1 Hat cattima ire wholesom r. 1775 Ainsie *Amer. Ind.* 120 Wholsome weeds that thrive in fields abound with. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Mark* 3 The city streets were clean and fair From wholesome drench of April rains. 1849 Clarissa *Cold Water Cure* 63 It is this means the stable was rendered wholesome, and the horses continued healthy. 1891 *Leeds Merc.* 2 May 6 3 Old sports are more wholesome than the new, which are far more irritating to the stomach.

**† b.** Having the property of restoring health; remedial, curative, medicinal. *Obs.* (or merged in prec. sense)

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 27 Resseyuynge holsum medicyns of her heuenly leche. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Esope* iii. That fayr volume which is so holsom to shalle make hit to be bound vpon your belly, and hit shalle vnder you as good bedde as euer ye were. 1557 Turner *Herbal* A. Booke of the Bath of Bath with diverse other bathes moste holsom and effectual. 1590 Shake. *Com. Err.* v. 104. 1625 Hobbes *Tr. Iliad* in Arber. 133 Wholsome pulse for the sick.

**3.** Sound in (physical or moral) condition or constitution; free from disease or taint; healthy. Now *rare*, or associated with other senses.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* x. (1535) K ij b, He hated delicate and gay nurses, and they that were labourers homely and holsome he loued. 1602 Shak. *Hamlet* I. v. 70 It doth cost The thin and wholesome blood. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 271 1624 B. Jonson *Devil is an Ass* I. 3 Is it modern, no holsome phrase, suffi ient to make shes fancy and wholesome. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* iii. (1) It is not to be expected that a diseased father shall beget wholesome children. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 1. He has not a han mich wholesome fat Upon his ranis ribs. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* ii. A plump rosy-cheeked wholesome apple-faced young woman. 1851 Hawthorne *No Secret Like* ix. The purity and wholesomeness evinced by the presence of one youthful, fre h and the ughly wholesome beast. 1896 Housman *Sheep & Lad* xxx. The the wholesome flesh she got.

c 1906 Stables *Physic, the Gamester* ii. An unusually wholesome-looking tured woman.

**b.** *transf.* of a quality condition, place, etc (often approaching sense 1)

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. 3 43 In whole me We mourne He might not but refuse you. 1605 — *Macb.* I. iii. 105 O Nation miserable! When shall thou see thy wholsome dayes again? 1611 — *Winter's Tale* IV. iii. 583 Such as shall disturb wholesom e order. 1871 R. Heiton *Life* II. 63 A wholesome busy city like Mu chester.

c *Anat* Of a ship (see quots.), *transf.* of the sea.

1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Grammar* 32 A Ship that will try hull, and ride well at Anchor we call a wholesome Ship *Met.* This makes him wholesome in the Sea and out of doors. 1665 Sterny *Mariner's Mag.* 11 The Top must lying aft the Ship is the holsomer, and maketh better way through the Sea. 1762 *Falconer's Marr* (1815) The long continuance of the Ship's wholesome mountainous sea, But it was remarkably long and wholsome.

**B** as *sb.* in *pl.* Wholesome things.

In first quot. in a casting use (suggested by *folsome*).

1732–8 Naish *Fr. Cookery* 108 Bring in a Dram after my Goose 'tis very good for the Wh l ems. 1858 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVI. 28 To provide tables of the wholesomes and unwholesomes. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* II. 10, Sweet clear of novels be it. Miss Austen and Scott if you would like me to make you out a list of amusing wholesomes, I will do it.

**Wholesomely** (hōʊlsəmli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a wholesome manner.

**1.** In a way conducive to well being in general; with good tendency or effect, beneficially, salutarily.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Pe gume of ecche lif pe gume[ mid pe holi boc] bisemeð, and unbisemeð þ uhilche and holsumliche. 1549 Coverdale etc. *Erasm. Lam. Sermon* 107 This lodge of Sinne is then in vs effectually & holsomely slaine. 1602 Shak. *Ham.* III. ii. 236 Effects vn happen'd even as wholsomely. 1650 B. Carlile *Ecst. Hist.* 1 (1654) 47 What was wholsomly advised & if he willing, assented to. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 620 *note*, He was a good man, and whatever he said or did he publish committed to him. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess. Democracy* 24 That which operates unseasonably in the one, may operate wholes mely in the other.

**2.** So as to promote health, in a way favourable to health, † remedially, medicinally (*obs.*, healthily (*rare*).

a 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxxiii. 1 (MS.) Auctours commende Kepyr & vse wel it in mete & drynke wonderes bitinge of bounches. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 9 He meate & d and & sence and his phisicke is best. 1557 *Order of Hus bandrie* 93 That that is in a mild somly and clenly wyked. 1614 Napier *Hart of Gt Brit.* 208, This Citty standeth holsomly and sweetly, as it were vpon a hill. 1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* IX. (1678) 222 Those things which do wholsomly and moderately nourish. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 20. 147 Paraguay tea adulterates the real soothing whole omely. 1870 *Rep.* to No. A suffi ient of wholesome, and wholesomely cooked food

**Wholesomeness** (hōʊlsəmnĕs). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or condition of being wholesome, in any sense.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Oh hat wise li ue hole sale his hexte also on sunedæi, and swa oh-fli l unes. The toteues him, farte hat on pen priddle dei, hat hi e sæte li ui. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 59 Sif hat lu duh treuhe & good as muche as pou louest hellis of heuy holynes & wholesomenesse of hire bodily mete. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xxxi (B. dl. MS.), Water hat ren with spec cleere stones oper gravel hab be, as vnde is bounes. 1597 Gl. Lincoln's Inn *Rhet.* (Publ.) 104 b, In meats the wholesomnesse see is as much to be required as the pleasantnesse. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 108 The holsomnesse of the ayer much t sounte. 1616 Surflet *Pagitonius* v. xvi. (ed. 2) 582 This yeelded not to any Indian Region, in g l fluesse and wh l ssomenesse. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 374 Malt liquor is not so frequently used, as its wholesomeness deserves. 1807 *Phil.*

*Let. to G. C. Bedford* 4 Oct, The bitterness of the cup will have passed away, and you will then perceive its wholesomeness 1857 JOHN MIN SMITH *Parish* 333 Not only to the repair of the roads themselves, but to...the safety, wholesomeness, and comfort of the passage along them. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov 437/2 The general wholesomeness of Dr. Gladden's position is beyond cavil.

**Wholewise** (*hōlwaiz , adv. nonce wd.* [f. WHOLE *a.* or *sb.* + -WISE.] As a whole, completely, all at once.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 107 If you ask,...Whether it touches *secundum se totum* or not? Whether wholewise or piecewise? 1880 JAMES *Hyknos of Marsher* I. 147 The...sea-rim sinks...wholewise.

**Wholey, wholie,** obs. forms of WHOLLY.

**Wholl, wholle,** obs. forms of WHOLE.

**Whollop,** var. WALLOP *sb.* and *v.*

**Wholly** (hōu·lli, hōlli), *adv.*

Forms: *a.* see HALELY. *β.* 4-5 **hollich(e**, 4-6 **hoolly, holy**, 5-6 **holy**, 6-8 **wholy**, 6 **hoolliche, holiche, holilich, holi, hool**, 5 **hoolich, holych, holli, holyly, hoyly**, 6 **hol(l** *ys*, **hoolye, holie, whol(l)ys, whol(l)ie**, 7 **wholelye, whollily**), 7-8 **wholey**, 7-9 **wholey**, 6- **wholly**. [ME. *holl(i)che, thollliche*, repr. OE. type **(ge)hāllice*: see WHOLE *a.* and -LY 2. For the northern form see HALELY.

The normal development of OE. **(ge)hāllice* was **(ge)hillic* (14th-15th c.), giving ultimately *holly* (hō·li), which survives dialectally. But, by the influence of the adj. *hāl* WHOLE, a type with a long vowel was differentiated, *hālliche*, of this type, with *ll* retained or with simplification to *l* which appears to have taken place as early as the 13th cent.), is represented by the modern pronunciations (hōu·lli and hōlli). The current spelling *wholly* descends in part from ME. *hollîche*, and has ultimately prevailed over the once common *wholely* and *wholy*, which would more normally denote the resultant standard pronunciations. (For the simplification of *ll* to *l* cf. early forms of FOOLY, *fu'l, foulȝ, fawlye*, and SOLELY, *so'ly, sol·y*.)

In all senses formerly sometimes pleonastically joined with *all, full, so fully*: cf. WHOLE A. 7.

**1.** As a whole, in its entirety, in full, throughout, all of it; †formerly also (in ref. to a pl. or collect. sb.), all of them, all together, in a body. Now *rare*.

*a* 1300 [see HALELY]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1757 Al holyche [*v. r.* Alholyly or ber floe in Deutemuthe. *Ibid.* 14537 Pe Normans...Al holyche hem slowe. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 34 Alle be regne holy was bat tyme in his hand. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVII. 26 Abraham...sleigh holy [*v. r.* hoolly] be Iewes pees wymes in partyes departable fro bothe. 1395 *F. C. Wills* (1882) 8 To parfourne holely his and trewly his...testament. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1568 They heldede to hir Spesse alle holly at ones. *c* 1450 *Tr. De Imitatione* III. xxxv. 101 To restore all binges, not only holy, but also abundantly & ouerheipi. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 28 § 1 As yf all the...purporte of the same Commission were in this present acte holly and particularly rehersed. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. § 7 That infinite word...could not in part but must needes be whole in estate. 1611 *Bible* Lev. xi 23 Euery creeping thing, for the Priest shal be wholy burnt: it shall not be eaten. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxvi 516 *Non omnis moriar*, I shall not wholly dye there is a life I live, which cannot touch. 1721 SPEED *Spr. t. No.* 158 P 4, I would have a Spectator wholly writ upon Goodbreeding. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* lv. xi, He...took off the laundry wholly in two draughts. 1848 ROBERT *Mod. Paint.* III. iv vii § 3 A man who can see truth at all, sees it wholly, and neither desires nor dares to mutilate it.

**2.** Completely, entirely, to the full extent (so that there is no deficiency); altogether, totally, thoroughly, quite.

[*a* 1300, etc.: see HALELY. *c* 1315, 1340: see VISITATION.] *a* 1325 *Mins. Rastell. B.* 520 If. 56 And yif any hit ioynt out of vnn be entre, sal be recouered his seisine of him pleinliche ant holliche ase he he ofore ches? 13.. *E. E. Misc. P.* B. 20 Pat my hous may holy by halkes be fylled. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4,5 Nis he holly at my best in hard & in newe, 1370 GOWER *Conf.* II. 4 Schal nought he holy ne hol. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 105 Y desire welfare, helth, strenght and goodnesse, all holy to come to vche man. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 38 Pat I may be wedde holyly, hyde and hewe. 1450 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 551 To thy wife wholly addres To walke in thy vocation. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 1239 The Archives of England...was wholy together, that the Frenche men were faine to geue place. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 355 *Amor à deterra* (both loue in English) were the words meek, & all wholy in request. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. ii, to Sleepe hath seiz'd me wholly. 1630 PAYNE *Anti-Armin.* 131 Mr. Bradford maketh wholly for our present Tenet. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) I. 8 As he [sc. God] is not divided...in Himself, so neither let him be in your Affections: but love Him wholly, and wholly Him. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* I. 1 We were wholly at a loss what to do. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 338 The great majority of the houses...have been wholly, or in great part, rebuilt. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 636 His words...were wholly admirable and true.

**b.** Entirely, so as to exclude everything else; hence practically equivalent to 'exclusively, solely, only, without exception'.

*c* 1425 *Cast. Perser.* 506 in *Macro Plays* 91 Goddys seruyce bou must forsake, & holy to be werld bee take. 1551 URSULE *Erasm. Par. Luke* xiii 24-30 Neither shall he take the laude and praise vnto himselfe, but referre the same entierly and wholly vnto God. 1603 G. DOBE *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 47 Inhabited wholely by Welshmen. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx 180 The Instruction of the people, dependeth wholly, on the right teaching of Youth. *a* 1708 [see 2]. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 67 They shall give up themselves wholy hereto without entangling themselves with the World. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xvii. My ear was wholly intent on analyzing the mingled sounds. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 441 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine.

**Wholve,** *sb. dial.* Also 5 **wolve, whulve,** (7 **hulve, hull**), 8 **whoulve.** [Variant of WHA(U)VE.] A short arched or covered drain under a path.

1395 (4 June) *View of Frankpledge Gt. Waltham* (MS.), Johannes Hereward de jure reparat quendam Wolve juxta Stenfeld. 1466 *Aberdeenshire Court Roll*, Vnam wolve ante scurarium apud Grouchemede. 1469 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* fol. 18 (MS.) Le wlwlve ante crosse. 1637 *Maldon, Essex, Court. Rolls* 181. No. 3 (MS.) We present Abell Hawkes...for...not laying of a hull against his gate for the passing of the watter. 1728 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds*, Bundle 114, No. 7 (MS.) We present Mr. Kemp for not laying a wlwulve at y^e great wringnill-well mead. 1903 (Essex dial.) I've been opening a wolve.

**†Wholve,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Variant of WHA(U)VE.] = WHELVE *v.* 1.

*a* 1400 *Yorks. in* WY. Wicker 614/42 *Supinus*, wholuyd [*printed* wholuyd].

**Wholy,** obs. form of HOOLEE.

1622 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.*(1908) II. 76 Eighteen rupp[e]s is once given in pane to certayne banyans at the Head of Velye.

**Wholy,** obs. form of HOLY, WHOLLY.

**Whom** (hŭm), *pron.* Forms: *a.* 1 **hwæm**, 1–3 **hwam**, 3 5 **wam**, 3–5, 8–9 *Sc.* **wham**, 4–5 **whame, whaym** *n.* **wom**, 4–7 **whome**, (3 **zwam**, **whamm**, *O m.* **whamm**, 4 **huam, vham, whaim**, 5 **wome, hoem**, (= **whom**, **wham**, 6 **boom**, *Sc.* **whom**) 3– **whom**; *north.* and *Sc.* 3–4 **quam**, 4–6 **quham**, 4–6, 8 **quhome**, 4–7 **quhom**, (3 **quuam**, 4 **quaym, quem, quhowm**, 5 **qwhom(e, qwom(e, qhom**). *β.* 1 **hwone, hwane, hwene**, 2 **hwen**, 2–3 **hwan**, 3 **whæn, wan, zwan, wanne**, 3–4 **whan**. [*Whom* represents formally OE. *hwām*, later variant of *hwām* (:– **qwainī*), dat. of *hwā* WHO, *hwæt* WHAT, corresp. (with variation of inflexion) to OFris. *hwām* (WFris. *wam, waam*, NFris. *hoom*), OS. *hwemu*(*m*), OHG. (*Alysaan, -o* (MHG., G. *wem*), ON. *hveim* (MSw. *hwem* used as dat. and acc., early Da. also *hwam*), Goth. *hwammu*. In its usage *whom* combines the functions of OE. *hwām* and OE. *hwone, hwæne, hwæne*, acc. masc. of *hwā*, corresp. to OFris. *hwane, hwene*, OS. *hwena* (MDu., Du. *wien*), OHG. (*Alxwenan, wen(en* (MHG., G. *wen*), ON. (eastern) *hvan*, Goth. *hwana*. The history of OE. *hwone, hwæne*, ME. (*h*)*wan* is therefore illustrated under this heading in order to exhibit the merging of the original acc. and dat. under the forms of the latter. (The form-history is complicated in the 12th and 13th centuries by the fact that in weak positions (*h*)*wam* often became (*h*)*wan*, and the latter when neuter is indistinguishable from WHOM.)

The earliest instance here recorded of the use of the dat. form as an acc. or object object is in the indef. relative *swa hwam swa swa* = whomsoever (Lamb Chron. an. 13): see sense 6. By a thoroughly established tendency the relative and dependent interrogative uses, but examples of the independent interrogative use are hardly earlier than 1300: see sense 1 b.] The objective case of WHO: no longer current in natural colloquial speech.

**1.** In an independent question. **a.** as indirect object (dative) or as object of a preposition (or after *than*).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vi. 68 Drihten to hwam ga we? [1160 *Hatton Gosp.* hwæs.] O mi lingrike mani reden þoht? Quam sal i giue it fur to held? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 463 To quam has þou þe tane till, tell me þe sothe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxvii. 1 Whom shall I be like in thy greatnesse? — *Isa.* xl 18 To whom then will ye liken God? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xxviii. 9 Whom then shal such one teach knolege? 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas, Second Week* 1. 513 *Speed*. To be a Spoile-man from Madam Siluia. *Val.* To whom? 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisell* iv. 1, (Shaks. Soc.) 52 Seek'st thou a better nurse? A better nurse than whom? 1780 COWPER in *Jesse. Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 379 For whom in the world do you think that I was kept so long kicking my heels? 1842 ROBERT *Lett. to a College Friend* (1894) 129 To whom should I write if not to the only one of my friends whom I cannot see? 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* viii, I played to-day ..two rubbers of five's with whom do you think?

**b.** as direct object (accusative).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Hwanne manah God maran gafoles þonne þone biscop? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 4 Hwanne we cę?

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxvi[i]. 1 Wham sal I dredc? *c* 1390 *Cast. Love* 206 Whom mai he to helpe cumen? 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxxiv. 1 Whom he loueth he chastyseth. 1611 *Bible* xxvii. 21 Whom of the two wolen yee to be left? *c* 1650 HOWELL *Lond. Lyndief. Gog.* Quhom sall I blame? 1813 DOUGLAS *Horace* I. xvi. 38 But, O thou virgine, quham sall I call the? 1835 COVERDALE *Isa.* xl. 8 Whom shall I sende, and who wilbe oure messaunger? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. lxviii. 25 Whom haue I in heauen but the? 1704 TATERSON *Faithf. Bride* iii. 27 Whom would ye thus injure with a Villains Name? 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. vi. 11 Whom but Maud should I meet? 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 489 Whom think you she has seen?

**2.** In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. **a.** as indirect object or as object of a preposition.

The prep. regularly precedes, but often followed in obs. Sc. use (cf. 1c); in mod. use it occas. appears at the end of the clause, but in such cases in colloq. speech *who* is commonly substituted (see WHO 5).

*a. Beowulf* 1496 Sum wæs...gemæcred...hwam þæt sweord zewohte...mest were. *c* 893 *Oros. Orp. Pr.* xxxviii[i]. 7 [6] *Þa sunniest ei ignorat cui congregat eu*, goldhordað & nat hwæm zesomnað ða. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 Þe bolt geat þe him dide...to understonden þat ure drihten wolde man bicumen and wære and wanne and of wam ben horen. *c* 1200 OWNE 12612, I sahh cumenn Godess Gast Inn aness cullfress like, & I sahh uppo whamm he cumenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 11404 Þe king...bad hemen ræden him red whæm [*c* 1275 wan] he mihte bi-teche al his kine-riche. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10718 (Gött.) Thorn þis prophete wil ze se Til quham þe may sal spousid be. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 97 Ne he ne wist to wham þat he mot mak his mone. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 43 Tel me to whom þat I resonne appendeþ! *Ibid.* 47 He asked ..whom þe ymage was ywro. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 222, I wat nocht for quhat encheson, Na quham with he maid the cowyne. 1448 MAGD. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 69, I fell hym so mi-myself that he wold...assett to morgage all that he hath, he had nowth rowth to ofum. *c* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 219 Quha is lord of yone land,...Or quham of is he haldand, Fayne wald I wit. 1535 COVERDALE Richmond tr. *De Imitatione* IV. v. (1893) 267 See from whom this mysteryе is gyuen vnto the. 1543 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xiii. 133 That sall I thou know rehone, Quhomto this wyndy gloss, vnsel, or anerdis, Or quhen, or with pane, the loving grantis. *c* 1580 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxiii. 42 Tak heid Quhomefor thow suffer pane. 1600 RAMPAY tr. *Tasso* viii. lii, To speir at him to ask ane Eared tound. 1672 MILTON *Samson* 1088, I ... am come to see of whom such noise Hath walk'd about. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) VIII. 269 They bid me go ...They little thought with whom. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Not that he cared to whom his daughter turned, or from whom turned away. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 9 When the hound army knocked down to him the knew not whom for. 1905 ELIZ. GWYN *Electr. Evang.* 209 Getting a note, she did not tell me whom it was from, or what it was about.

**b.** *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 332 Ac hi sindst wit hwone hi meaht ðitan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 326 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 179 We scolden...us bi-þenche...hwet we hefd, and to wan we scolle and of wan we comen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1509 Se he bipenchi hi hwan he, hwam he his, Al mai he liue gan a-wai. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XIV. 138 Ich baddle wonder at whom [*v. r.* wham] and whe þat þe pye Lemede legge styckes þat leyen in here neste.

**3.** as direct object.

*a.* 1205 LAY. 9748 Þeonat þan laste neste nan ne wope Whom [*Oth.* wan] he wolde habben. 1275 WARR. in Wr.-Wülcker 1764/2 Ich wile þe holde smiþ and wham [*MS.* wha; *c* 1275 wan] he wolle spaken. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6417 Þo bed he þe court...riȝt ouerstonde Wat vorse oþer he were þat wolde ani wiȝt wiþ-stonde ...& wan [*v. r.* wham] edmond made is eir. *a* 1350 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 4 Haue mirthe of it man, þou whome wham I mene. 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 348 I rist wole his disciplis whom þei seiden him to be. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 5, I will shewe you whom ye shall feare. — *John* xiii. 18, I knowe whom I haue chosen. 1535 COVERDALE *Jos.* xxiv. 15 Chose you this daye whom ye wyll serue. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iv. 93 b, He...coulde not tell whom he might trust. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 80 Remember whom thou hast aym'd. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* v. xv, I suppose you know whom I have got now. 1737 POPE *Hor., Epist.* I. vi 102 Hire a shave, ...To sell an estate, or win a groat, Whom take into your Coach, *Mead*. I don't know whom to ask.

**4.** 1573 *Lanch. Hom.* 197 Pe deofel...geb abutan...seching whom he mage fordon. *c* 1275 [see *c* 1205 in 3].

¶ **3.** Used ungrammatically for the nominative WHO, esp. as predicate in a dependent clause (being erroneously taken as object of the verb in the principal clause; sometimes app. from confusion with the Latin acc. and inf.).

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 13 Hwæne secgeaþ menn þæt ys mannes sunu?] 1526 TINDALE *Matth.* XVI. 13 Whom do men saye that I the sonne of man am? *Ibid.* 15 But whom saye ye that I am? 1611 *Bible* Matt. xvi. 13 Whom do men say that I the sonne of man am? 1633 LD. HERBERT *Arth. Lyt. Holt.* (1814) 20 A cannot thinke whome it should be. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 205 (Qo. 1) Tel me in sadnes whome she is you loue. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthenissa* (1676) I. 1 I am resolved to know whom 'twas he carried. 1817 BYRON *Beaugenarian* II. 227 Whom is it you mean? 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* II. 38 Not having the least idea of whom Afy might be.

**II.** Indefinite (non-relative) use.

**†4.** The indefinite use of OE. *hwā* (*hwām*, etc.) 'some one' did not survive, but, on the analogy of OTHERWHAT, SOMEWHAT, ME. has *sum oþer wham* = some one else. (Cf. SOMEWHO.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6694 Pan preyde þe eyche man Abraham, Pat he wolde sende Lazare, or sum oþer wham, To hys brebryn.

**III.** Relative uses.

Also formerly with *that* following (see THAT *conj.* 6).

**5.** As compound relative, with ellipsis of antecedent (= he, him, those, etc. whom), of a person or persons: as direct object, or object of a preposition. *arch.* (Cf. WHO 8.) Often approaching the indefinite sense 6.

[*c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 22 *Filius et cui voluerit filius revelare*, se sunu & huem wille se sunu aneleuu.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 12888 Nis þærrf þatt nohht nu fulhhenn me, Ifre ies whamm þatt birþ fulhhenn. 13.. *Enfrynne* 494 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 170/1 Whom he loueþ, he wol chastise. *c* 1300 *Apol. Loll.* 70 Wham þat he bynd, schal he bound, and wam þat he bring out of synne, he þeyn schal he forȝeuen hem. 1507 *Regist. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 352 And shuld present rain thretu bot quhom that pleis the

said Mr. Alexander. 1526 Tindale *John* xvii. 3 That they myght knowe the that only very God: and whom thou hast sent Iesus Christ. 1579 Fulke *Heshins' Parl.* 347 There were there, to whom Christe annouced better in their heart, then Manna in their mouth. a 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* vi. iii. § 1 We are by repentance to appease whom we offend by sinne. 1723 Addison Cato ii. 1 I've offer'd to...gain you whom you love at any price. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* iii, A common bounty may relieve distress, But whom the vulgar succour, they oppress. 1820 Shelley *Prom. Unb.* iii, Whom the gods love die young 'was said of yore. 1849 Tennyson *Sir Galahad* ii, How sweet are looks that ladies bend On whom their favours fall! 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 1313 Shall the sea give death whom the land gave birth?

**b.** with correlative in following clause. Cf. Who 6 a. *arch.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1631 Dat is min red, Wib quam ðu is findes, bat he be dead. c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 103 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 Hwam ich bitechie bat bred.. He me schal bitraye. 1380 Wyclif *Matt.* xxi. 44 Vpon whom it shal falle, it shal togidre poune hym. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 770 Whaynne that he vnnethe he was lyst for euer! c 1400 (see 5 above). 1526 Tindale *Luke* vii. 47 To whom lesse is forgiuen, the same doeth lesse loue. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Rom. viii. 29 Whom he appoynted before, them also he called [1611 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**6.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**7.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**8.** In regional or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**9.** As to what is commonly termed the nom. Who. Wyclif 1382 *Matt.* xvi. 13 Whom seien men that I the sone of man am? 1526 Tindale *Luke* vii. 47 To whom lesse is forgiuen, the same doeth lesse loue. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Rom. viii. 29 Whom he appoynted before, them also he called [1611 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**10.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**11.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**12.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**13.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**14.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**15.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**16.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**17.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**18.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**19.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**20.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**21.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**22.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**23.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**24.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**25.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**26.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**27.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**28.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**29.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**30.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**31.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**32.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**33.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

†Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also Whomever.

a 1250 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 Pat bi moiten ceven of clerchades man swa hwam swa-wa hi wolden to ercebiscop. c 1275 *Lay.* 9081 Þe boli gost..hine deaðes to wam hiun leop lofore. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde elf ne songe.. Pat he ne slou wanne [v. r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 611 God myghty is .. al temporale thinge to gyf & take to whamme he wil. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 171/1 No persone.. shal conceyve indignation..azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayng his advyse..to any request.. that shal be spoken in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (1901) 1 Whom that ever it vouchesafe to take this knyghthode.. he shall be ordeyned. 1470 *Harding Chron.* cxxiii. vii, Whom he appointed before, them also he called [1812 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom.. Thou shalt be friend, thou art to him.

**34.** In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. Who 6. *arch.*

will. *c* 1375 *Ilird. Mod.* 4009 (Fairf.) Quam so god helpis. **1596** SHAKSPER *1 & 2 Hen. IV*, Induct. 36 Her cursed tongue.. Appeas'd like Aqua-vitæ, that hotely kils, Or cruelly does wound whom so she wils. **1638** BRINSLOW *Treat.* iv. 169 His Daughters .. are gyuen in marriage to any Bawa, whom so they affect. **1839** CHESTER *Yrs. Rev.* II. v. V. They say to whom-so they meet, Dog and he must fight it. **a 1850** ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* (1874) 61 Whom-so thou meetest, say thou thus to each.

**Whomsoever** (hŭmsōwe·vəɹ), *pron.*; also *pact.* **whomso·er** (-sō-). *literary.* The objective case of WHOSOEVER. (More freq. than WHOMEVER.)

1. = WHOMEVER a (with or without correlative). *cf.* WHOSOEVER 1.

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 6 6 þe seyde Roger & hys wyfe & hys heyrys shulle haue power to gyfe þe seyde londe to whomso euery pere wolden. **1593** LD. BURGHLEY *Jointe.* L. CLXXXV. 1067 Wh no so euer he hyrite full, wente to the entho. **1539** *Bible* (Great, Gen. xxxi. 32 With whome soeuer thou fyndest thy goddis, let hym dye. **1611** DOUAY *O. Test. 1 Kings* 1. 1 Whomsoeuer all the Iudah you meet Beats in his cap the badge of crimson hue. **1856** R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. iii. 111 Whomsoever the electors choose they will have a knowledge of rightful emperor. **1867** tr. *Oper. Hahn. Hahn's Fathers of Desert* 62 Whomsoever men serve, by him will they be guided.

**2.** = WHOMEVER b; cf. WHOSOEVER 2.

*a* 1632 DONNE *Serm. Lxxxviii.* (1640) II. 64 Whomsoever he washed first of his Apostles, he washed them all. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* IV. 768 O Hell! for in evil hour thou didst give Law to that false Worm, of whomsoever taught to live, Set Mans worse. **1799** COWPER *Let. to V. Knox* 30 Now, The zeal and firmness of your friendship to whomsoever prosperous. **1832** LORD GREY *Addr. Electors*, 117 A radical government is when the sovereign power, by whomsoever exercised, extends over the whole country.

**3.** With loss of relative force: Any one at all (now *rare or obs.*); also qualifying the preceding word (now usually replaced by *whatever*): *cf.* WHOSOEVER 3 a, b.

**1584** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V 87 To take parte with the Catholike Church against whomsoever. **1600** SIR E. HOBY *Tel. to T. H.* 6 To answere you, or any Libeller Knuffed Rensgoth whomsoever. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* I. II He omits it lawfull in the bookes of whomsoever to reject that which hee finds otherwise then true. **1656** HOBBES *Elem. Philos.* (1839) II. 114 Obstrepyel at vexing anybody whomsoever. **1681** SPENCER *Prov. with Ref.* I. 149 A true soldier, prepared to defend his position against whomsoever, friend or enemy.

¶ Used ungrammatically for WHOSOEVER, chiefly by attraction to the case of the unexpressed antecedent *him*, etc.)

**1580** WHITGIFT in *Strype Whitgiffe's Life of Whitg.* 84 Their punishe I with death, whom soeuer obserued not the same order. **1601** Bp. MORTON *Direct. Disc.* (1608) To him, whomsoeuer he be that shall abet, maintaine, or breach them. **1631** HEYLIN *Sr. Georg.* 210 A man that saw in clearely, as any whomsoever. **1768** BLACKST. *Comm.* (1783) II. 237 All the real estate ought not to be cantenanced,.. in whom-ever it may reside of the other. **1877** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* Invit. VII. 1 They shall be the slaves of whomsoever it may be.

† **Who·msome**, *pron. Obs. rare*—1. In 4 quam sum. [See -SOME.] The objective case of WHOSOME: = prec. So † **Whomsome·ver**.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7 79 Gose it to quam sum þou will. **1502** ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 89 The childe of whom summers or hauenger, wher f they knowen not who is faier nor moder.

† **Whon**, *interrog. and rel. pron. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 hwon, hwan, 3 whan, wan. [OE. *hwon*, used as instrumental case of *hwā* WHAT.] In dependence on a prep., = What, which; *on whon* = *on what*, *on which*, *for whon* = because of what or which, why, wherefore.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 31 *Quo operemur*, of hwon we bidon wirken. *c* 1000 *Gutblac* 244 Þi hwon is seolh þu licgan? *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1104 Hi wolde þæt eyng sceawhte, for hon hine se eyng calles he cuede. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 Þe ne hauen mid hwan hie hem werien. *c* 1250 *Lay* 2679 Maldene castel he was ikoped, vat ich for wan it was ywraken. *Owl & Nightt.* 1787 Wi stu to hwan man wes bloue? To bare blisse of heuenliche. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 49 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Mi wel suik hym sulde, wyte ȝe for hwon.

† **Whon** *s*, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 hwon, huon, 3 whon, wan, 4 qu(h)on(e, 4–6 quhoyn(e. [OE. *hwōn*, the instrumental case of which, *hwēne*, is represented by WHERE. After *c* 1200 the word is exclusively northern.] Few, *a* few.

Contrasted in OE (*a*) as *sb.* or an adv. with dependent genitive, (*b*) as an adj. independent; in ME. as an adj. and absol. (but as an adv. to a little, a little while (see b, c).

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark p. 18 *De septem panibus et paucos piscis*, of-sefan hlafum & hwon lytle fiscum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 42 Genim pipor & hwon sealt. *Ibid.* Do hunges hw n to. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17985 Þan quon þat heild not be baire-silk. **1375** LYNDS. *Quenyee Jan to Inter. Mat na bise*, p sacrid le. 13.. *Ilyd.* 17982 (Gött.) He bad þa men le all vte-done, Þat in þat hus left bot a quone (*Cott. a. fon*). *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Alexis*) 265 Certis, now are funding quhon þat in þat menere wald baf done. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 49 We ar quhoyne agayne ȝe fele **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. i. 38 A few wordis on this wys Jupiter said. But nocht in quhoyn wordis him answer mald: I the fres fr goldyn Venus.

**b.** *Na whon* (= OE. *nāhteshwōn*, *nā tō þæs hwōn*), not at all.

**1295** LAY. 13203 Nusten þa Brutten na whon wheat Vortiger hafde idon.

**c.** *A litel whan* (= OE. *lȳthwōn*) : a little while.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll. Hom.* 69 Þole me louerd alitelwan þat ich bimurne mi sor, er ich wite to þe bestere wunienge.

**Whon**, obs. form of WHEN, var. WONE.

**Whon, whone**, obs. forms of ONE.

**1480** (*cir. Paston*) (Camden) 103 He sent whon of hys clarkys **1530** TINDALE *Lev.* xv. 18 Yf a woman lye with hor he a whone.

**Whonde**, var. WOND *v. Obs*, to hesitate.

**Whone, whon(n)ene**, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence. **Whonne**, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*

**Whoo** (*hwi*, *v.* [Cf. next.]

†**1.** *trans.* and *intr.* To hoot. *Obs.*

**1599** PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* II. 4 He is gone vp and downe, whooing like an Owle for thee. **1614** BRETON *I would & I would not* xv, All the Beggers in the streets would whoo me.

**2.** *intr.* To utter the sound denoted by *whoo*.

**1872** DARWIN *Emotions* iv. 232 A hissing or whooing noise. **1891** HARDY *Tess* ix. Pouting up that pretty red mouth to whistling shape, and whooing and whooing,...and never being able to produce a note.

**Whoo** (*hwū*), *int.* Also **whoob**. [Variant of Hoo *int.*] An exclamation of surprise, grief, or other emotion; *occas.* an imitation of an owl's hoot (*cf.* TU-WHOO). Also repeated and in WHOO-WHOOP.

**1608** MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. ii. E 2, *Wife.* Will you but hearken to him once more? *Courtes.* Whoob. **1683** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckham.) *Rehearsal* v. i. (ed. 4) 45 *Smi.* I had rather be bound to Fight your Battel, I assure you, Sir. *Mayor.* Whoo! why, what now? fight a Battel? there's the common cry. **1709** J. COTTER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* (1860) 365 On hearing the news of his landlord's death, [Abraham] only cry'd out, *Whoo-whoo, whoo-whoo, whoo—.* **1789** Gentl. *Mag. Glos. Whoo, whoo*, an interjection, marking great surprize. **1796** MRS. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. v. 'Pray,' cried he really ready? 'Whoo!' says I, 'why he does nothing else' **1908** WYNDAM *Wild Geese* xviii. 282 He heard the 'Whoo! hoo! hoo!' of owls beginning to move beside the lake. **1915** MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *St. O'Halloran* xx, Whooing in his good, jolly voice.

So **Whoo** *sb.*, an utterance of this exclamation, or a similar sound, a hoot.

**1845** C. WILKES *Narr. U. S. Expl. Expd.* II. 199 At the end of each dance they finished with a loud whoo, or screech. **1853** BRONTË *Hoard* (Ash L. vii. 227 Down came the gale with a whoo.

**Whoo**, obs. dial. f. *how*, HOO, she.

**1808** SHADWELL *Syr. Absalin* III. i, Whoo kisses daintily? And whoo's the best man like a Cow.

**Whoo** : see WHO *prom.*, WHO *int.* and *sb.*, WHOA, WOE.

**Whoobub, Whood(e, Whoof**, obs. ff. HURRUB, HOOD, WOOF.

**Whoof** (*hwūf*, hwuf), *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*. Also 8 **whuph**. Imitation of a gruff abrupt cry or noise; as *sb.* in utter such a cry. So **Whoogh** (also as exclamation). To utter vociferations, etc.

*a* 1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Biddulph* IV. 75 Whuph! it is past two o'clock in the morning. **1785** PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 513 [tr. a seal's] sound is, *whoogh, whoogh*, very loud and harsh, and disagreeable. **1815** G. BERARD *John o Arnha'* (1820) 58 At ilka thud and sough, they cried 'weel done!—hey! hillos!!! whoogh!!' **1893** PARKER *Dutch Pioneers* I. plaudited a ball in the larger one [a rhinoceros], and brought him round with a roar and whoof-whoof. *Ibid.* 229 A large fen ale [rhinoceros]..came straight down whoof-whooffing upon me. **1921** A. S. M. HUTCHINSON *If Winter Comes* III. ii. § 3 Whoof! He blew a cyclonic blast down the speaking tube.

**Whook't**, obs. north. pa. t. of QUAKE *v.*[1]

**Whool**, dial. var. WERVIL; obs. f. WOOL.

**Whoop** (*hūp*, *sb.* Also 6 **whoope, whoup.** [f. WHOOP *int.*, cf. HOOP *sb.*[2]]

**1.** An act of whooping; a cry of 'whoop!', or a shout or call resembling this; *spec.* as used in hunting, esp. at the death of the game, or by N. American Indians, etc. as a signal or war-cry (see also WAR-WHOOP); *occas.* the hoot of an owl.

**1600** W. WATSON *Decas. whoo* (1602) 3 All with one voyce, with whoopes, with loud hoobubs, would thrust them out. **1620** QUARLES *Feast for Worms* 86 When all thy laughter shall be turn'd to Doole; Thy whoops of Joy, to howles of sad lamenting. **1622** FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* v. 1 I'll not be My Whoop with a bulls. **1675** in I. Mather *K. Philip's War* (1862) 246 They signified their sense of his approach by their whoops or watchwords. *a* 1700 in W. King *Orig. Amours Philos.* (1708) 144, I must acknowledge my Happiness, who in a Manuscript found the following Verses. Boys, Boys, come out to play, The Moon doth shine as bright as the Day. Within a Whoop, come with a Call, Come with a good will or not at all. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 276, I put up the shrill whoop of friendship. *Ibid.* 277 Instead of sounding the usual whoop of defiance, they sung a song. **1808** SOUTHEY *Roderick* III. 9 O'er hedge and ditch we fly, Till the loud whoop proclaims the ended chase. **1815** SCOTT *Lett.* 19 Jan. in *Lockhart*, We are much troubled with the Radical whoop and a bustle. **1832** — *Cast. Dang* xi, Something resembling the whoop of the night-owl. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxv, With a joyous whoop the whole cluster took to their heels.

**b.** The characteristic sonorous inspiration following a fit of coughing in whooping-cough.

Also applied to similar sounds (see quot. 1899)

**1873** A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (ed. 4) 940 A long and labored inspiration then takes place, giving rise to a crowing sound evidently due to spasm of the glottis; this is the whoop which enters into the name of the affection. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 329 When the whoop appears his power of communicating the disease begins to decline. **1899** *Ibid.* VII. 452 Occasionally the impediment is aggravated by the occurrence of associated sounds with the stutter, the patient emitting unpleasant little whoops, grunts, or whimpering sounds during his efforts to speak.

**2.** A form of the game of hide-and-seek. Also *whoop-hide*. (In first quot. *allusively*.)

**1708** in *Windham Papers* (1913) II. 77 He will not now be dodging with the world and playing at whoop with all his friends. **1881** MISS YONGE *Stokesley Sec.* II, I thought they were to have a great game at whoop-hide. **1885** *Lakes' News* 26 Sept. 16 He was playing at whoop, and to avoid being discovered by a companion he got upon some new coping, which gave way.

**Whoop** (*hūp*), v. Forms: 4–7 **whope**, 5 **whoupe**, 5–6 **whoupe**, 6 **whoup, whoppe**, 6–7 **whoope**, 6 **whoup, whoppe**, 7 **whoop**. [Parallel with WHOOP *int.*; cf. HOOP *v.*[2]]

**1.** *intr.* To utter a cry of 'whoop!' or a loud vocal sound resembling this; to shout, hollo (as in incitement, summons, exultation, defiance, intimidation, or mere excitement).

*a* 1400 *Jacob's Joseph* 233 (Trent B) And [the falconer] whope hem [sc. the hawks] to whery. He whoupis & whotes hem & whopes ful lowde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xi. 168 Whan he com nygh the loges he sleithe a-nother bolte; and whowped to the kyng of Arthur. **1530** PALSGR. 611/1 I whoope, I call, *je huppe*. *Ibid.*, Whoppe a lowde, and thou shalte here hym blowe his horne. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* G j b, With hue & crie the Frankes ride, I hallowe, and I whoupe, I shake my foste, I whistle shrill, but nought will make hir stoupe. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philo-Ponus* K ij b, I no sadde ayre whoupinge all the day vnder a hill. **1602** R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 182 They go no round.. but one sentinel whoppeth vnto another. **1605** DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past.* Eglog iv. E 3, With that the shepheard whoopid for ioy. **1655** LITHGOW, etc. *Rowrins* III. ii. 96 Others cannot hear, except the speakers whoop and hallow in their Ears. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 160 To whoop for the warriors to come and join him. **1802** WORDSW. 'The Cock is crowing' 15 The Ploughboy is whooping. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, The hunters whooping and hallooing, or dead-silent. **1844** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* viii (1901) 57 Then if they killed him — How they hulloaed! How they whooped! **1883** *Good Words* Aug. 544/2 They are careful to whoop out before letting go with their shot-guns or duck-guns.

**b.** *trans.* with obj. of cognate meaning either a sb. or the actual words), or indef. *it*: To utter with a whoop; to express by whooping.

**1576** TURBERV. *Venerie* 127 When the hatte is kylled, then all the huntesmen shall blowe a note and whoope also a deade note. **1596** NASH. *Saffron Walden* F 2 b, I thought to haue said in a Couper. and bid him hoope it about, but when I remembred me the boyes had whoopt it sufficiently about the streetes. **1727** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* iii. viii. 62 The attornies and their clerks, whooping (*cf.* 1712 hooping) and hollowing, Long live John Bull. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 144 Whooping and exulting all round. **1840** THACKERAY *Bedford-Row Conspir.* ii, Six lawyers' clerks might whoop a tipsy song but beyond this all was silence. **1865** PARKMAN *Huguenots* iv. (1879) 44 An Indian chief.. ran to meet them, whooping and clamoring welcome.

**c.** *trans.* with adv. or advb. phr.: To bring, summon, or urge by or with whooping.

*a* 1400 see 1. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* (Arb.) 63 Iuno .. furth from the mists the Greek foas Douth whoop. **1610** A. COOKE *Pope Joan* A 3 boy, who should haue whoopt him out of his bed. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* x, There he stood.. with his two fingers in grim death in one hand whooping and halloaing the pack up to him. **1893** CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* xxviii, The English colonists were whooping on the clemons who attacked them.

**2.** *trans.* To shout at, hoot (a person).

**1650** DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. i, I should be hiss'd And whoop'd in Hell for that Ingratitude. **1900** *Ascot Weekly News* 24 Jan. 5/6 When we charged down on the Boers we shouted and whooped them like heathens.

**c.** *Whoop it up* (U. S. slang) : to create a disturbance; to keep up an excitement or revel; to act or work in a stirring or rousing way.

**1884** *Harper's Mag.* LXIX. 370 He is known it up with the plain people. **1887** T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* I. 11 They simply, in the language of the gold fields, 'turned themselves loose', 'made things hum', and 'whooped 'em up' around the floors of their wigwams for three days.

**2.** *intr.* To hoot, as an owl. *trans.* as in 1 b, c, d.

**1658** WILLSFORD *Nature's Secr.* 134 Owls whooping after Sunset, and in the night, foreshews a fair day to ensue. **1677** TATE *Poems* 96 Madge has whoopt me twice from her Ivy-bound Oak. **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. v, The owlet whoops to the wolf below. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 33 The owl .. whoop'd a 'goud-night'. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 110 Bats wheel'd, and owls whoop'd. **1861** FANE & LEITON *Tannhauser* 52 Let the owl Whoop the high glories of the noon.

**3.** *intr.* To utter the 'whoop' in whooping-cough : see prec. sb. 1 b. Also *trans.* as in 1 c.

**1887** R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* xviii. 144 Whooping-cough,—why, he nearly whooped himself to death. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 324 Young infants whoop seldom.

**Whoop** (*hūp*), *int.* Also 5 **whoppe**, 5–6 **whope**, 6 **whoup, whup**, 6–7 **whop**, 7 **whoope**. [A natural exclamation consisting of a voiceless *w* followed by an *o* or *u* sound, concluded by closure of the lips. The phonetic significance of some early forms is uncertain.] An exclamation, or representation of a shout or cry, expressing excitement, surprise, derision, exultation, incitement, etc.

**1598** *Hist. Jacob & Esau* i. A iij b, Whoope. Now a mischief on all mopyng fooles for mee. **1589** *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 53 Whope papist, say the puritans, is that become scripture with you? **1596** HARINGTON *Apol.* Bb 8 b,

Sir Raph Horsey, nine, Sir Hugh Portman, ten. Whop, why howe nowe Master K. Shirffes man? Here it but ten. 1599 Chettwode *Caltha Poet.* clxxx. E 7. The scantlin won, the winners must cry whup. The goale is got, and now the game is vp. 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Gressil* iv. ii. 2128 Whoope whether is my brother basket-maker gone? 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* iv. i. *Dor.* Whisper but to mine eare, and you shall furnish them. *Hir.* Whisper, nay, Lady, for my part lle cry whoope. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* iii. (1876) 87 Whop (Fanshaw) all drew my thee That doe love thee. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* iii. iii. 94 Joceline tells, that St. Patrick did...fast... a whole Lent together...Whoop! but St. Ardan, (as Capgrave tells us) fasted full fifty days. 1692 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academists* 29 Whop Sir, thought I, and what ado's here? 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* vi. v. Yet whoop, Jack! kinsfellan the bricker. 1826 Kean *Cook & Bell's Inn*, she clapped her hands three times and cried out 'Whoop!' 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lv. 'Halloa! whoop! Halloa! Ill!' Away, at a gallop. 1896 H. G. Wells *Wheels of Chance* iv. Whoop for Freedom and Adventure!

b. Coupled with another interjection or with a vocative in an allusive phrase.

*c* 1440 *Mankind* 600 in *Macro Plays* 22 Whope! who! Mercy hath brokyn hys neke-kyr here a-nows. *Ibid.* 713 26 Hay, dong! hay, whoppe! whoo! go yowur wey lyghly! 1592 Nashe *Strange Newes Pref.* Whoop, hoe, holloa, kinsfellan, with whup hoo, there goes the Ape of Tully. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 178 The whoop-hone of good boyes in London streetes. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* X 3 b, Who would hee haue write Harueys whoope diddle, or the nonsuting, or vncasing of the animaduertiser. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Andria* iii. i. Whup, holda: what, in all hast? 1605 Shaks. *Lear* i. iv. 245 Whoop Jugge I loue thee. 1621 B. Jonson *Masque Gypsies* Wks. (1640) 68 The ballet of Whoope Barnbie. 1634 Heywood & Brome *Lanc. Witches* iv. (1658) 43 Whoope, whoope, heres a whoop indeed. 1637 *Limberham* v. i, Whoop Holiday! our trusty and wellbeloved Giles, most welcome! 1688 Holme *Armoury* ii. 296/1 *Whoop, Whoop*, is the Spectators call or cry, to call the Sheep together.

**Whoop(e** : see Hoop *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3] Also in comb.

**+Whoopcat**, Whoophound: see Hoop *sb.*[1]

**Whoopee** (hwī·pi), *int.* [Cf. Whoop *sb.*[1] and see Hoopee] = Hoop *sb.*[3] 1.

1894 Mottoe *Rabagas* v. ix. 41 O' my word this is a filthy Whoophooper. Tush, speak softly, said Ædituus,... he has a pair of Ears,...What then, return'd Panurge, so has a pair of Asses.

**Whooper** (hwī·pəɹ). Also 7 **whopper.** [f. Whoop *v.* + -er[1].] A person or animal that whoops. a. *gen.* (See also Hooper[2] 1.)

1826 Southey *Let. to W. White* 11 Feb., Two of my whoopers still favour us with a little kennel-music. 1908 *Academy* 27 June 636/2 The whoopers and the screamers and the female stump-orators.

b. *spec.* The wild or whistling swan, *Cygnus musicus (ferus)* : also *whooper swan.* (See also Hooper[2] 2.)

1662 Mar *Accompl. Cook* (1665) 227 Turkey, Swan, Goose, Bustard, Crane, Whopper, wilde Geese, Brand-Geese,...and many more. 1880 Harting-Gould *Herbalist* 1, Occasionally the whooper swan sounds his loud trumpet. 1889 *Black's Mag.* Dec. 828 The whooper is the largest of our wild swans. 1902 H. W. Tompkins *Highways Herefordsh.* v. 104 A pair of whooper swans frequented Water End near Great Gaddesden.

**Whooping** (hwī·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Whoop *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whoop. (Cf. Hooping *vbl. sb.*[2])

1604 Drayton *Pastor. 4 Pact., Man in Moone* I 3, With guilty conscience ...That oft they start at whooping of an owle. 1657 G. Thorneley *Iosephinis & Chloe* 133 The clattering of the Oares, the whooping of the Sea-men. 1848 Tennyson *St. Sim. Styl.* 32 The whoopings of the owl. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* ii, The whooping of boys, the barking of dogs.

**Whooping,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].]

**a.** That whoops; esp. in **whooping crane**, the large white crane of N. America, *Grus americana*; **whooping swan** = Whooper b. b. Of a sound or cry: Of the nature of a whoop. (Cf. Hooping *ppl. a.*[2])

1757 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 78 An hideous whooping noise, like that of a child in a chincough. 1773 *Adam Amer. Indt.* 293 Suspicion, that he was sent to shout me...as soon as he heard the whooping death-signal. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 413 The great and beautiful whooping crane. 1805 Long. *Wreck of Hesperus* xvii, A whooping billow swept the crew like icicles from her deck. 1852 Magellivray *Brit. Birds* IV. 658 *Cygnus musicus*. The Whooping Swan. 1855 Jas. Paton *Recess* xix, A band of whistling whooping lads playing at stalky.

**Whooping-cough**(hwī·piŋ,kɒf), the now prevalent spelling of Hooping-cough.

1759 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 37 One little boy had whooping cough. 1795 Johnson, *Hooping-cough*,...for whooping cough, from *hoop*, to shout). 1873 Spencer *Study Sociol.* iii. 55 Will it...be carried off by scarlet fever or whooping-cough?

**Whoopubb,** obs. form of Hubbub.

**Whoor(e, Whoorish**: see Whore, Whorish.

**Whoorlbat,** var. Whirlbat *Obs.*

**Whoos,** obs. *f.* Whose.

**+Whoosh** (hwuʃ, hwɛʃ), *v.* [Imitative; the vowel expressing a duller sound than that of Whish.] *intr.* To utter or emit a dull soft sibilant sound, like that of something rushing through the air. So **Whoosh** *sb.*, a sound of this nature (also reduplicated).

1856 Dickens *Let. to Wilkie Collins* 13 July, The boys... whooshing and crying (after tigerish cat No. 2): 'French!' Vol. X.

'Here she comes!' 1906 'Q' *Mayor of Troy* vii, With a whoo-sh a rocket leapt into the air. 1925 — *Nicky-Nan* ix, Whenever her brush intensified its harsh whoosh-whoosh. 1929 *Blackw. Mag.* July 41/2 Huge projectiles whooshed noisily through the air.

**Whooshar,** obs. var. *husher*: see Hush *v.*[1]

**Whooshit,** obs. var. Hushit: see Whoosht.

**+Whook.** Also 5 **whwte, 6 whought.** Obs. variant of Hoot *sb.* and *v.*

*c* 1485 *Cast. Perseu.* 1939 in *Macro Plays* 135, I here an hydowse whwtyng on hyt [*cf.* howte *L.* 1927]. 1540 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 97 lb., heardle all the whole cite whoughtyng and shoughtyng...with ioy and solace. *a* 1610–1750 [see Hoot *sb.* and *v.*].

**Whoot(e,** obs. forms of Hoot *a.*

**Whoo-whoop, whoo-whoop** (hwūwīp), *int.* and *sb.* Also 7 **whoo-whup,** 8–9 **whooup,** 9 **who-oop, who(o)-hoop.** The shout of huntsmen at the death of the game; hence allusively in phr. *to be whoo-whoop with*, to be ' all up with'. Hence **Whoo-whoop** *v.* (in quot. *trans.* to kill with a shout of ' whoo-whoop !').

1621 Cotgr., *Forhu*, a whoo-whup; or, the call, or whooping of huntsmen at the death of their chace. 1672 N. Cox *Gentl. Recr.* 1. (ed. 2) 81 If a Buck a double, if a Stag a treble Mort blown by one, and then a whole Recheat by the Consort by all that have Hounds; and that finished, immediately a general Whoo whoop. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) p. xxxv, You be hunted or some Mischief on then and lle whooup with o' cleath ! 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 3 At the very moment of ' Who ! Whoop ! ' a view halloo was given by a third. 1824 *Ibid.* XXIV. 56 They who-oopped him [sc. a fox] without a hound missing. 1825 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) XV. 257 It will sooner or later be whoo-hoop with us all. 1888 *Rider's Sporting Notes* III. 125 A loud, clear 'Who-whoop!' from Jack, who had evidently dropped from the skies just in time to take the cub from the hounds.

**Whop** (hwɒp), *sb. colloq.* or *vulgar.* Also 5 **whapp,** 9 **whap.** [f. next. Cf. Wap *sb.*[1]] An act of whopping; a heavy blow or impact; a thump.

1464 Mirk *Festial* 140 Ellis he wyl for a whapp be whypped and whesid And zit nto lassshe to be lurdan was lente.

*a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Whap, Whop*, a heavy blow. 1902 G. Wyndham *Poems* I. lv. 8 I 'was coming downhill; ..explained the bicyclist...' I came rather a whop.'

**Whop** (hwɒp), *v.* (*adv.*) Forms: 5 **whappe,** 6, 9 **whap,** 8– **whop,** (9 **wap, wop**). [Variant of Wap *v.*[1]: see Wh.]

1. *trans.* To cast, pull out, etc. violently; to take or put suddenly. *dial.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4713 The geekes...With alblasticis also amyt full streght, Whappet in whaules, whelle the peplt. 14.. *Sir Beues* (N.) 1899 Beues is sword anon[on] whappe. 1721 Kelham *Gle to the Pk*— 54 Draw her fair Ringer whop a Ring. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* iii, He... whops out a Book. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whap*, *Whop*, to pluck, to snatch suddenly. 1894 Crockett *Lilac Sunbon.* xxxv, 'He whopt his foot on't.' 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Nov. 5/2 He just whopped up the papers out of my hon' an' away wi' him.

+**b.** *intr.* To fall, throb; = Wap *v.* *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Partonope* 6446 (Univ. Coll. MS.) His hert so sore ganne whappe tho.

2. *trans.* To strike with heavy blows; to beat soundly, flog, thrash, belabour (a person or animal); *rarely*, an inanimate object). *colloq.* or *vulgar.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* (Surtees) 59 'Tib', quoth he, 'gaue you cyntyewed in his taidge, bragging and sweryngs, and said that he wold whap his coat.' *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Whop*, *Whap*, to beat severely. 1832 Dickens *Sk. Boz* xxxv, 'Ain't nobody to be whopped for takin' this here liberty, sir?' said Mr. Weller. 1841 Lover *Handy Andy* xviii, Half-a-dozen whopping fellows came in, two trays which they whopped after the manner of a Chinese gong. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxvii, 'If you'll come across,... and take a turn at it, I'll give you such a whopping as you've never had since the last time I did it.' 'Whop one of your own weight,' Mr. Savage said. 1869 W. S. Gilbert *Pooh Bah, Prince Agib* iv, I was fast-tied to the floor, While a nigger whopped me with a will! 1890 Hardy *With Lee in Virg.* xviii, Mother would whop me if I came back without the basket.

**Whop,** obs. variant of Whoop.

**Whopper** (hwɒ·pəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1–6 here, 2–3 heore, 4–6 hoore, houre, 5–6 hour, 6 howr'e, howir, houre, 6–7 whoor'e, whoar, 6– whore; *Sc.* 4–6 huir, 4–7 (9 *arch.*) hure, (6 hwr, hurre); in comb. 2–7 hoor-, 3 hoore-, whure-, wor-, 6–7 whor-; 6–7 whoo-; 6–7 hwr-, hwyr-. [Late OE. *hóre*, corresp. to (M)LG. *hôre*, MDu. *hoere* (Du. *hoer*), OHG. *huora* (MHG. *huere*, G. *hure*), ON. *hóra* :— OTeut. **χōrōn-*, f. root represented also by ON. *hórr*, Goth. *hōs* adulterer, OFris. *hôr* (also *overhôr, urhôr*), OHG. *huor*, ON. *hôr* adultery, MLG. *hore*, MDu. *huerre*, OHG. *huorra* adulterer (— **χōrjan-*), and OFris. (*over*)-*hôra* to fornicate, MDu. *hoeren*, OHG. *huoren* (G. *huren*), ON. *hóra*, Goth. *hōrinōn* ; Indo-Eur. *gōr*- appears in L. *cārus* dear, Olr. *cara* friend, *cairim* I love, Lettish *kārs* lascivious.

From the late occurrence of OE. *hóre*, it may be inferred that it was a. ON. *hóra*, together with *hór* adultery, *hórverne* ON. *hórkona* adulteress, *hórdóm* Whoredom, *hóring* whoremonger being in that case an English formation from it with -ing[3].

The pronunciation (hōəɹ), now dialectal, is the normal phonetic representative of OE. *hóre* ; it was widespread in the 17th and 18th centuries, and continued into the 19th century ; Smart states that it 'is by no means universal or even common, yet it is sanctioned by good authority, and may be adopted, as Walker says, when we wish to soften the coarse effect of a coarse word'. The variation of (hūəɹ) and (hōəɹ) is due to the presence of *r*; cf. *moor* (mūəɹ, mōəɹ) and the modern tendency to substitute (ōə) for (ūə) in *pure, poor*, and the like.

For the spelling with *wh*, which became current in the 16th century, see Wh.

*Whore* is now confined to coarse and abusive speech, except in occas. echoes of historical expressions, as *the whore of Babylon*. The compounds are for the most part obs. or arch.]

1. A woman who prostitutes herself for hire ; a prostitute, harlot.

*a* 1100 *Aldhelm Glos* 1 2940 (Napier 79/2) *Prostituta pellax*, i. *meretrix quæ prodat*, i. *mendax*, leas fyrnhicge,



a'thumper. 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxv, We had to pass some whoppers,...but nothing would suit Nelson but this four-decked ship. 1851 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xv, We killed the fox—my eyes, such a whopper!

b. *spec.* A great lie, a monstrous falsehood.

1791 Nairne *Poems* 93 Some do affirm—sure 'tis a Whopper— That I have silver plated upon copper. 1870 'A. R. Hope' *My Schooldays &c.* xiv, He thinks it's a better to get a licking than to tell a whopper.

2. One who whops. (In mod. Dicts.)

**Whopper-jawed,** erron. spelling of *wapper-jawed* adj. (see Wapper-jaw *sb.*).

1866 T. Parkes in *Life & Corr.* (1869) II. 298 This sheet is ruled as whopper-jawed as some women cut their head.

**Whopping** (hwɒ·piŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq.* or *vulgar.* [f. Whop *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Whop; a severe beating or flogging; hence, an overwhelming defeat. Also *attrib.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 290 An athletic Nottinghamshire man, who gave very unfavourable specimens of wapping talent. 1818 *Ibid.* (N. S.) II. 189 He wanted a good wapping and he had got it. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlii, I should like to have the whopping of 'em. 1885 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Stat.* xvii, Bluecyed fair-haired little gals who never fell into tantrums or wanted whopping.

**Whopping,** *ppl. a. colloq.* or *vulgar.* [f. as prec. + -ing[2].] That whops; almost always *fig.* that is a ' whopper '; abnormally large or great ; ' whacking ', ' thumping '.

Rarely *spec.* (*a*) monstrously false; (*b*) of surpassing excellence, uncommonly good, first-rate. Also quasi-*adv.* = hugely, immensely.

*a* 1825 R. G. in *Stanley Papers* I. (Chetham Soc.) 50 Our Chronicler...stowed their volumes with wapping Tales of my Lord Mayor's Horse. 1908 E. Ward *Follow World Dist.* (1928) 98 See him in bad Weather, in his Fur-Cap and wapping large Wat-le-Coat. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xvii, A wapping weaver he was, and wrought my first pair o' hose. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. 1. xvii. (1839) 61 What a wappin large place that would make. 1852 *Answ. Magr. Nov.* 113 A couple of whopping pumpkin mares. 1869 *Punch* 31 July 34/1 That's a whopping majority against us. 1881 Freeman in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II 224 The Turk comes down with a whopping fine of impression now and then, but leaves you alone between whiles.

**Whopstraw** (hwɒpstrɑ̄). *dial.* [f. Whop *v.* (*dial.* 'to make up straw into bundles' E.D.D.) + Straw *sb.*] A country bumpkin.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I xvii, The bumptious serjeant struts before his men, And 'fore the ranks young whopstraws!' will he say. 1850 'H Hibuck' *Pract. Horsem.* iii. 42 'Here comes a flyer'—cries some whopstraw.

**Whor,** obs. form of Hoar *sb.*[1]

**Whorage** (hō·rɪdʒ). *dial.* [f. Whore *sb.* + -age.] A company of whores or low women.

1892 Hardy *Tess* x. If I had known you was of that sort, I wouldn't have so let myself down as to come with such a whorage as this is!

**Whorecop :** see Whorecup.

**Whord,** obs. form of Hoard.

**Whore** (hōəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1–6 here, 2–3 heore, 4–6 hoore, houre, 5–6 hour, 6 howr'e, howir, houre, 6–7 whoor'e, whoar, 6– whore; *Sc.* 4–6 huir, 4–7 (9 *arch.*) hure, (6 hwr, hurre); in comb. 2–7 hoor-, 3 hoore-, whure-, wor-, 6–7 whor-; 6–7 whoo-; 6–7 hwr-, hwyr-. [Late OE. *hóre*, corresp. to (M)LG. *hôre*, MDu. *hoere* (Du. *hoer*), OHG. *huora* (MHG. *huere*, G. *hure*), ON. *hóra* :— OTeut. **χōrōn-*, f. root represented also by ON. *hórr*, Goth. *hōs* adulterer, OFris. *hôr* (also *overhôr, urhôr*), OHG. *huor*, ON. *hór* adultery, MLG. *hore*, MDu. *huerre*, OHG. *huorra* adulterer (— **χōrjan-*), and OFris. (*over*)-*hôra* to fornicate, MDu. *hoeren*, OHG. *huoren* (G. *huren*), ON. *hóra*, Goth. *hōrinōn* ; Indo-Eur. *gōr*- appears in L. *cārus* dear, Olr. *cara* friend, *cairim* I love, Lettish *kārs* lascivious.

From the late occurrence of OE. *hóre*, it may be inferred that it was a. ON. *hóra*, together with *hór* adultery, *hórverne* ON. *hórkona* adulteress, *hórdóm* Whoredom, *hóring* whoremonger being in that case an English formation from it with -ing[3].

The pronunciation (hōəɹ), now dialectal, is the normal phonetic representative of OE. *hóre* ; it was widespread in the 17th and 18th centuries, and continued into the 19th century ; Smart states that it 'is by no means universal or even common, yet it is sanctioned by good authority, and may be adopted, as Walker says, when we wish to soften the coarse effect of a coarse word'. The variation of (hūəɹ) and (hōəɹ) is due to the presence of *r*; cf. *moor* (mūəɹ, mōəɹ) and the modern tendency to substitute (ōə) for (ūə) in *pure, poor*, and the like.

For the spelling with *wh*, which became current in the 16th century, see Wh.

*Whore* is now confined to coarse and abusive speech, except in occas. echoes of historical expressions, as *the whore of Babylon*. The compounds are for the most part obs. or arch.]

1. A woman who prostitutes herself for hire ; a prostitute, harlot.

*a* 1100 *Aldhelm Glos* 1 2940 (Napier 79/2) *Prostituta pellax*, i. *meretrix quæ prodat*, i. *mendax*, leas fyrnhicge,

hore. *Ibid.* 3229 80 ȝ *Meretrum*, horena. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 He .. mæreð of cristes leoman heorunna leoman. [*Ff. 1* Cot. 61, 15 *Iohans Christi membra, fuisum membra meretricis?*] *c*1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Sæl þu .. besat rumhanded to glewmen and to hores. *a*1300 *Cursor M.* 26855 Hore or ockerer, or logeolour, þat þai hair mister wille forsak, For fals-pannaris-men and lurdans, and alle þir maner of folk. *c*1386 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 320 Whanne two ȝe horis stryvele whos was he child þat lyvede. 1388 — *Luke* xv. 30 Thi sone, which deuouride his substaunce with horis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 192 A Hore, *vbi* a common woman. 1548 J. HEYWOOD *Pvere.* ii. vii (1867) 73 Hop horse, pipe thee fle. 1595 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 71 Ane assyse of huirs and harlotis in her hous. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 238 (Qo.) The whores call him mandrake. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 68 Let men take heed of Lais, Corinths whore. 1708 Young *Love Pame* i. 67 The whore is proud her beauties are the dread Of persons virtue, and the marriage-bed. 1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas*, *The Mary Gloster* 30 Your rooms at college was beastly— more like a whore's than mine's.

**b.** More generally: An unchaste or lawd woman; a fornicatress or adulteress. *To play the whore* (of a woman), to commit fornication or adultery.

In early use often as a coarse term of abuse. Occas. (esp. with possessive) applied humorously to a courtesan or kept mistress; also with distinguishing epithet to a catamite.

*c*1205 LAY. 7028 Nes nan wa god wif i þon londe þe he wille .. þet he no hæfde whore. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2456 He slo Zabri, Hise here hunesse and hun alsamen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 562 A fol wommun in spousbruche he huld : eiher is wel. Wiþþ vair dunstor i him wule wel þat it was a luber life. Wiþþ wam he lyng & lurk : þat he hur bur he hur wilpede. *c*1440 *Gest. Rom.* I. 2, I knowe well but my wif is an hore. 1535 in *Lett. Supp. Monast.* (Camden) 18 The pope gave hym leve to put away his hore. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvi. 28 Thou hast played the whore also with the Assirians. 1547 *Boorde Ke. Nose Compendyous* (1587) 1 48 Morision Kay maye chuse for nothing but whores, for they be common for hire and theft. 1561 *Child-Marriages* 78 Bynge dromunded why she did, contrary to the lawe of wedlocke, play the hoore. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 137 Goose, if I had thee vpon Sarum plaine, I'd driue ye cackling home to Camelot. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. 2 Thersites. Thou art thought to be Achilles male varlet. *Patro.* Male varlet, you rogue? what's that? *Ther.* Why, his masculine whore. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. *Pantagr. Prognost* 237 Ingles, Frisons, Switzers, Hollanders. 1707 GAY *Beg. Op.* i. ii, Gamesters and Highwaymen are generally very good to their Whores, but they are very Hectors to their Wives. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 7 Feb., Achilles...had so little regard for his country, that he would not act in defence of it, because he had quarrelled with Agamemnon, a—— whore-master. 1817 SYDNEY *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1160 Calling a married woman or a single one a whore is a actionable, because fornication and adultery are subject to a spiritual not temporal punishment. [Referring to cases, an. 1708, in Raymond's *Rep.* (1743) 104.]

*transf.* 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iii, Gyb, our cat, in the milke-pan she spied. Vah, dowel, dowel, dowel! she cryed aloud. 1607 TOPSELL *Fowle & Beasts* 745 Their Epithetes ar thunited to them [*sc.* wolves] among several Authors are ..demonstrations of their disposition; as sowre, wilde,.. fierce, bold, greedy, whore, bedchester.

**2.** *fig.*; *spec.* in biblical use, applied to a corrupt or idolatrous community (cf. WHOREDOM 2), and hence in controversial use, esp. in phr. *the whore of Babylon*, to the Church of Rome (in allusion to Rev. xvii. 1, 5, etc.).

1382 WYCLIF *Nahum* iii. 4 The hoore fair and able [1611 well-fauoured harlot], . whiche solde folkis in her fornycacions. — *Rev.* xvii. 1 The dampnacion of the greet hore [1611 Whore] R. 2 þat sitteþ. with whiche kynges of erthe diden fornycacion. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Prelates* F vi b, The greate lauds the hore of babylon [&c. the Pope]. *Doctr. Perf.* C 1443 *Decorador* (1878) 86 Of þis auri bretes fall I wol .something tell; & of þis hore, þis leyder to hell. ? 1545 BERGSTOW *Compl. xiii.* (1874) 30 That abhomynable whore of babylon (Rome I meane). 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 139 A way of Constantinople .. I painted Whoore. — 1640 in Maidment *Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 132 So you to Christ in Kings shall break the ground, To bath the scarlet whore. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Fornex Consc.* ȝ Because you have thrown of your Prelate Loud, . To serve the wilful whore Pluralitie. 1684 SOUTHERN *Disappointm.* iv. 5, But their daughters run foul, her mother a Whore. 1704 C. LESLIE *Wolf Stript* (ed. 4) 31 They call her Episcopacy a Rag of the Whore. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Lett. Mann* 3 Oct., Clement had have pained himself for calling the Pope the w—— of Babylon. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, Image worship, and surplices, and sic like rags o' the muckle hure that stiteth on seven hills.

**3.** *attrib.* and *quasi adj.* = WHORESON. *Whore's bird* (also as one word, and dial. *worbird*): properly, the child [see BIRD 1 c] of a whore, a bastard; but usually as a mere vulgar term of abuse or reprobation. So *whore's killing*.

*c*1500 *Melusine* 300 He cryed with a hye voys, 'thourȝ some & falx geaunt, come forth with me !' 1609 [C. WADE] *Vinegar & Mustard* (1871) 17 Thou was a huse whore's bird. 1675 *Chas. of Fo-Gallant* 5 He admires the Exquisite end, Son of a Whore, and therefore employes it to every thing: So that of his Pipe he faultly, 'Tis a Son of a Whore Pipe. 1694 in *Anal. Plautina* 3 They'd set some starving Whore's brat to beat out half a dozen of my Teeth. *a*1700 B. E. *Dict. Canl. Crew*, *Whore's-killing*, a Bastard. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Erasm's Amuseм.* 21 Another Son of a Whore yells louder than Homer's Stentor. 1701 SPILEY *Cromwell* v. 1, I will first let you see how I am served by this whoreshird. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* iv. ix, D—mn you all together, for a pack of whores-birds as you are! 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, 'I'm dem'd old wombat !' says he, 'I'll break the bald head on un.' 1892 HARDY *Tess* xxi, Jack Dollop, a 'hor's-bird if a fellow.

**4.** *Comb.*, as *whore-call*, *-haunter*; *whore-like* adj.; **whore-hunt** *v.*, *intr.* to go after whores, practise fornication: so *whore-hunter*, *-hunting* (also *fig.*: in quot. 1714, spying after whores to extort hush-money); **†whore-keeper**, one who keeps company with whores, a fornicator; **†whore-man**, a fornicator; † **whore-play** [PLAY *sb.* 6 c], intercourse with whores, fornication; **whore-stg** (*nonce-wd.*), a brothel; † **whore-toll**, a payment made by way of compounding for fornication or concubinage.

*a*1692 STILLINGFL. *Volunteers* v. i, These Fiddles are Fop-Calls, and Whore-Calls. 1580 *Orders for Orphanes* A 10, If any man hilde be a Theife, or a Felon, or a common whore-haunter. 1597 HEAD *Theatre God's Judgem.* II. xx. (1964) 151 He went apart into Anagnum, and there waited of purpose to doe nothing but whore-hunt. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 164 He Whore-hunting among groves o' myrtles. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 660 1 *Scortatores*, which signifieth in englishe whoore hunters. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 81 A notorious drunkard, whorehunter, cousiner, swerer, &c. 1532 FRITH *Mirrour* (1533) A vij b, If any man hilde be a Theife, or a Felon, or a common whore h

sometimes even of jocular familiarity. (Cf BUGGER 2 b.) Also rarely applied to a thing.

13 *K Alis* 880 (Laud MS.) Fy vyle aleynt hores sone! To mydon was ay ȝe wone 13.. *Sir Beues* (A) 4410 An houre sone for sulh wh[o]re 1380 *Sir Ferumbr* 2018 Pere gadelyng horesone, lecher, & stronge pef 1400 *Brut* 1 207 He despusede pe grettest lordes, and calleede hir Robert Clare Erl of Gloucestre, ' Horesone ' 1440 *Cursor M* 11879 (Trin) Horesone (*Cott* Ha quitaunt). be sende ' what a ȝe ?' ' Leches ber sende ' to leche be. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb) 51, I trusted to mache the fals horeson the foxe 1483 *Liber Pigor* in *Hunter. Ord* (1790) 68 Of what estate soever he be, usyng to swere customably by Goddes body, unreverently, that they charge the Butler to geve him no wyne at the meles. There was a lyke mation to be made for the custom ble word of horeson 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss* I cxxxvii 139 b/1 Kyng Dampster was greatly chafed and moche desyred to mete with the bastarde his brother, and sayd, where is yll horeson that calleth hym selfe kynge of Castell 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet* 79 b, The mother mercyfye beynge disposed, wyll saye to her awete Sonne Ah you lytle horeson, wyll you serue me so? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm* 135 Do they not grante them selues to be whores sonnes all the packe of them? [orig *nonne meretricum sese filios esse fatentur?*] 1598 SHAKS *Asm v Ihal* IV iv 19 Mowe, and well said, a mutie horeson, full 1603 *Jon Hall* IV iii 39 The slye whoresons Haue got a speeding trucke to lay downe Ludlea. 1609 DAVIES *Ant Concrytip* 83 Nuns are dry whoresons 1693 *Mock Astrol* (1889) IV 624 Beware of those that tamper with thy Foolish whoreson, And by false arguments ensnare the youth to think he is thy heir 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I, v, Nic. Frog was a cunning sly Whorson 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvii, I beg I beg I beg some round dozen of curses on them, in lusty knaves and blind whoresons 1826 SOUTHEY *Doctor's Walk-in*, Whoever shall say that to Porson I bese best of all verses belong, He is an untruth-telling whoreson.

**b.** *attrib.*: commonly as a coarsely abusive epithet, applied to a person or thing: Vile, abominable, execrable, detestable, ' wretched ', ' scurvy ', ' bloody '; also sometimes expressing humorous familiarity or commendation.

c 1440 *York Myst* xxxi 60 Why, ȝe whyte, horesonne boy, when I bidde pe. 1533 GAU *Acchit Arg* 15 Schey meth oppine the lowne horsone theiff 1534 in *Suss Vicar Chamber Frac* (1913) 40 How I wrought yett yff thow ans owyne thare shalt dye 1577-8 BARTON *Disc of an Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I 39 I'll sith, she will say, you whorson Page, He pure brue you no heritage. 1597 SHAKS *2 Hen IV* II iv 225 Ah, you whorson little valiant Villaine, you! *Hen* III iv 194 *ha!* What dine ne last thou? *But* A whoreson cold sir, a whoreson tedious fellow. 1598 *Pilgrimage* 1, 58 The same whoreson Conclusion, how it prides us! 1646 TRAPP *Comm John* x 8 All whoreson thieves, rob God of his glory! and II Lay for 1739 *Tw Mother's Tears* 39 Thou Whore in Rocket 1786 WOLCOT *Tr Mouse* III 120, Ambition and pride, an I envy, and lechery and other whoreson passions 1793 SHENSTONE *Fee* IV Wks 1777 II 16 The Ingrompats, for which I was actually acquitted by a whoreson mal whimsey of apprehension 1816 KEATS *Let* Wks 1889 III 47 It was so whoreson a Night that I stopped there all the next day 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw*, xxiv, Some of his whoreson sort pottry (I crave your Grace's pardon for such a phrase) hes rung in mine ears

**Whorey,** variant of WHORY.

**Whoring** (hōe·rin), *vbl sb.* [f. WHORE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of WHORE *v.*; fornication; also *fig.* spec in biblical use, applied to idolatry, as an act of unfaithfulness to the true God (cf. WHOREDOM 2) chiefly in phr. *to go a whoring.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek* xxiii 15 What they gon whorings after their goddes *Pr.* (ed.) 18 Thus were they stayned with their owne workes, and went a whorings with their owne inventions 1609 SHAKS. *Oth* v i 216 This is the fruits of whoring 1619 in *Foster Inq 1 Cromw Inform* (1858) 153 I heir prevent all drunkinnesse and suche like fy-ries 1638 MEDE *Wks* (1677) 453 All the Visions contemplations with Babylon mention not be expounded of such things only as belong to the times of the Whoredom 1668 SOUTH *Serm, Ink* (1717) IV 410 When with Whoring and Gaming, and Revelling they have enervated themselves from Action, their Bodies 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 61 ¶ 4 The e num 1 Diversion of Men of Mode, that is to say, in Whoring Drinking, and Gaming 1815 [D. D. BURN] *Infid sc Impr Ir* (1816) 71 The whole Plan was contrived to end in fighting, whoring, and roguery!

So **Whoring** *ppl a*

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II x 185 That either we must have a Married or a Whoring Clergy.

**Whorish** (hōe·rif), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WHORE *sb.* + -ISH 1.]

**1.** Having the character of a whore, addicted to whoredom, lewd, unchaste (of a woman, rarely of a man).

1560 *Bible* (Gen xx) Pro xi 16 Because of the whorish woman a man is brought to a morsel of bread — Eccl xxv 30 Ye wife of a presumptuous whorish woman 1611 *Cotgr s.v Courtisane* Prou xxv 20, He knew and felt the whorish, yet was not whorish 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* I, i What plague can transcend A whorish wife, and a perhaps friend! 1632 J. HOWELL *Parr* IX 382 Whorish boys 1693 in *Ashmole Diary* (1717) I 59 Joseph, a poor Stranger, languishing in Durance up to the false accusations of a lying, insolent whorish Woman!

**b.** Belonging to or characteristic of a whore; meretricious; lewd, unchaste (of action, etc.).

1552 HUTCHT, *Robert*, or perteynyng to a hoore, *meritorius* 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 203 Men geuen to their pastime and lourishe liuinge 1606 SHAKS *Tr & Cr* IV ii 93 You like a lackey, out of whorish loues, Are pleas'd to breede out your inheritors 1761 *Rec Elgin* (New Spald Club 1903) I. 198 Barbara Reid for whorish practices expelled the burgh.

**2.** *fig.*; esp in religious and controversial use (often = idolatrous): cf. WHORE *sb* 2.

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek* xvi 9 That whorish and vnfaithfull herte of theirs, wherwith they runne awaye fro me 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* C iii b, Regarde not the pope, nor yet his whorysh kyngedom 1586 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Levinus Lemnius' Touchst Complexions* 1 iv 31 Whereby all shall be vnd ine, Who leauing thee to whorish idolls run 1680 R. I. *Strange Cett & Bumphin* (ed. 3) 16 The Church of England, as not altogether the Whore of Babylon, though a good deal Whorish. 1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Opened* 47 The Bible has a Husband sufficient to maintain her against all Whorish, Beastly or Satanical Usurpations 1721 WESLEY *Speech* No 82 ¶ 3 Jack Ives is a whorish unresisting Good nature, which makes him incapable of having a Property in any thing.

Hence **Whorishly** *adv.*, **Whorishness.**

1638 LYDIAT *Disc, Resurrection*, Shamefully 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks (Grosart) I 102 Howe whorishlie Scriptures are allenged by them, I will discouer in another new worke 16.. MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* III, Ars. You so whorishly provided! 1758 JOHNSON, *Misc Observ* whorishly, after the manner of whores 1546 BALE *Pryn Idolatr* 1 iii b, Of this how abhominable whorishnesse is announced of that whorysh Rome churche, to the great displeasyng of Godly in ayrage. 1651 WOOD *Ath Oxon* II 30 Ann Wood was for her whorishness lawfully divorced 1727 BAILEY vol II, *Meretriciousness*, whorishness

† **Whorism.** *Obs rare* [f. WHORE *sb.* or *v.* + -ISM.] Whoredom, fornication.

1598 FLORIO, *Puttaneggio*, whorisme, whoredome 1611 COTGR. *s.v Paillardise*, to giue himselfe wholly to whorisme; to turne leacher.

**Whorl** (hwŭl, hwûl), *sb* Forms: α. 5 **wharwyl**, 5 9 **wharle**, 8–9 **wharl**. β. 5 **whorwhil**, **(whorlwyl)**, **qworle**, 5–9 **whorle**, 6 **whorille**, **whorelle**, 3c. **quhorle**, 8– **whorl**. [late ME., *wharwyl*, *whorwhil*, app variants of WHIRL (cf. towns disyllabic, e g. *whirwille*, *quhirril*) influenced by WHARVE *sb.*, WHIRL *sb.*, and WHORL *sb.*] Diminutives cf. early mod.Du. *worvel*, var. of *wervel* (Kilian).]

**1** A small fly-wheel fixed on the spindle of a spinning-wheel to maintain or regulate the speed; a small pulley by which the spindle is driven in a spinning-machine. Also locally applied to small wheels or pulleys for other purposes.

a c 1460 *Promp Parv* 526/2 (Winch. MS.) Wharwyl of a spynnyl, *fusorium* 1483 *Cath Angl* 428 A Wharle, *girgillum*, *neophillum*, *verticillum*. 1530 MORE *Comf Tribulac* Wks 1268/2 I be out thy spindle & byrgy me hither to thy whorle 1596 in Pershore Churchw. *Acct* (1866) 170 One erwet of lace I wheard was made whorles for spindels. 1589 *Shuttlecocke* &c (Chetham S.c.) 55 spindles and whorles 1688 *Pantalogia* (1813) 1 Whirle 1884 W. S. LINDSAY *Spinning* (ed. 2) 30 (They) drive this spindle by the friction of a very heavy collar on it against a large leather wheel, which rests in the wharl

*b.* c 1440 *Promp Parv* 526/1 *Whorle* of a spyndyl (A' wharwyl, *P* whorle, *Prompt* 1485 *Cath Angl* 428 A Qworle (A take 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Bastes Bk.* (Arb.) The bottom of the (common) spindle, which is round, taken up is reckoned by a Base rod since 1773 PENNANT *Lond. Brit* (ed. 3) I 31 Let it be a spinning wheel, whirl the spindle with a twirtle, the thread 1808 JAMIESON, *Whorle*, a very small wheel, as that in a child's cart. 1865 LUBOCK *Prehist. Times* xiii 321 Small whorls of rude earthenware were abundant at some of the Lake-villages even of the Stone age. 1886 J. HARRISON *Sc Mines & Farms* 73 *Whorls*, pitheal pulleys.

**2** *fig.* A set of members, as leaves, flowers or parts of the flower, springing from the stem or axis at the same level and encircling it, A VERTICIL. Also in *Zool.* a set of parts or structures, as scales or tentacles, similarly arranged.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I Gvj, The stalkes is foure square, where about ech grow in equal order, certayne knoppes lyke whorles 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III xxxiv 310 The flowres (of Pennyroyall) growe about the stemmes like vnto whorles or garlandes) 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II 98 2 R. serrurs, bulh Whorles 1707 PETIVER *Gazophyl* 8 Set with whorles or stalk *Ibid* 16 & 21 Flowers together in a Whirle or Coronet 1713 PETIVER in *Phil Trans* XXVIII 45 Its Flowers of Herbe Paris the 5 or 6 Leaves in the 1st Whorl 1837 *Penny Cycl* VII 211 An orange consists of one whorl of carpels, which are consolidated into a round fruit 1860 WOOD *Nat Hist Mollusca* 91 Mantle. The 1st Whorl (organ, a body of 24 by whorls 1861 BENTLEY & *Bot* 158 A flower is said to be complete when the four whorls, calyx, corolla, stamens and pistil are present 1872 H. N. MOSELEY *Notes on Zool* 1 The stem terminates in a single polypite the mouth of which is surrounded by a single whorl of slender processes or tentacles.

**3** *Conch.* and *Anat.* Each of the turns, coils or convolutions of a spiral shell, or of any spiral structure

1828 STARK *Elem Nat. Hist* II 63 Shell conical, with the whorls rounded or convex 1855 HUNTER *Man* II iii 6 The whorls are lovely shell, smell and pure as a pearl. Such delicate spun and shell 1890 BUTLER *Life & Habit of Exhark*, vortex of hair. [*Ibid. Unconsc Mem*, the spiral arrangement of fibres which build up the spicu]

**4.** *gen.* A convolution, coil, curl, 'a twirl' (esp of something whirling, or suggesting a whirling movement).

1598 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 81 The head of Storke, with her beake against the open mouth of a Monster, and contrarie Whorles or Roundes hanging vp betwixt his mouth and her beake 1851 MELVILLE *Archit Hea* (ed 2) 99 Intervals between successive whorls if the starry stream

1863 RAPING GOULD *Iceland* 211 An 810 Vast clouds of steam . roll in heavy whorls before the wind.

**5.** *Comb.*, as *whorl-flowered*, *-leaved*, *-shaped* adjs. **whorl-flower**, a plant of the genus *Morina* (N.O. *Dipsacaceæ*), having the flowers in dense whorls; **whorl-grass**, a grass of the genus *Catabrosa*.

1820 *Hortus Angl* II 204 M[alva] Verticillata, Whorl-flowered Mallow *Ibid* 423 C[reopsis] Verticillata, Whorl-leaved Creopsis 1892 DALBEY *Botan Ala* 211 (ed 2) 423 The parts of the pistils are disposed in a whorl shaped manner around an axis 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl* (1906) IV 69 Whorl grass (*Catabrosa*) Water Whorl grass (*C. aquatica*) Pinicle with bluff whorls of spreading branches. 1884 MILLER *Plant n* 220 *Morina longifolia*, Long leaved Whorl flower — *persica*, Persian Whorl flower.

Hence **Whorl** *v. trans* (*a*) to draw up by means of a ' whorl ' or pulley (*local*); (*b*) to arrange in whorls or convolutions.

1886 J. HARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 The engine is said to be whorled when it draws the cage over the pulleys 1904 *Daily Chron* 6 Aug 4/5 The stars, braided and whorled in patterns too intricate for our eyes.

**Whorl(e** see WHIRL *v.*, WHURL.

**Whorlbat, -bone,** etc. : see WHIRLBAT, etc.

**Whorle borle, whorle-bourle,** obs. ff. HURTLE-BERRY.

c 1440 J. SHIRLEY in *Scot Hist Rev* (1904) Oct 58 During the whorle bourle in Scotland the olde King Robert died

**Whorled** (hwęild, hwâld), *a.* [f. WHORL *sb* + -ED 2.] Having an arrangement, a whorl or whorls (of leaves, flowers, etc.) verticillate; (of a shell, etc.) convoluted, turbinate.

1776 J. LEE *Introd Bot* Explan Terms 392 *Verticillat(us)*, whorled, may be flowers growing round the stalk in a circle 1828 J. L. SMITH *Pract Pomol* 11 99 *Strawberry Indian*, Whorled Water parsnip Leaflets in numerous, linear, whorled segments 1861 BENTLEY *Man Bot* 572 The character as distinguished by their whorled extipulate leaves. 1867 MACILWAIN *Nature* xiii (ed. 4) 164 The large Whorled Shell has proved to be a true Tower Spiraan Muricina 1873 RALFE *Phys Chem* 17 Crystals which arrange themselves in whorled forms.

So † **Whorling,** † **Whorlish** *adjs*, *rare*, forming or constituting a whorl.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II 55 Comen rede fish myrte with whorlish circles growing about the stalke. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II lxxxi 256 The flowres growing in whorling large rounde about the stalkes

**Whorlwyl,** obs form of WHORL.

† **Whort,** *sb. Obs.* Also **whor(r)e.** [Echoic] *Intr* to coo, as a dove.

1598 FLORIO, *Geure*, To whort as it dues do. *Gemire*. To whoore or cry as turtle doues.

**Whorrowe,** var WHARROW, cf. s.w dial *worra* 1898 LYTE *Dodoens* II lxxxvii 63 The flowres be of a light blewe compassing the stalke by certaine spaces like to garlandes or whorrowes

**Whorry,** obs. form of HURRY *v.*

1613 DRAYTON *Strange Horse & Sp* 81 b, A Race after the Roman fashion in their thundring velocity lightning, like vs fleme, and earth quaking, whirrying *Ibid*, 24 From his Crowne to the whirrie.

**Whorse** *Obs rare*—1. [f. WHORE *sb.* + -STER] = WHORER.

1654 VILVAIN *Theatre Epi*, vi, Iviii No Murderer be Whipster Theef fals Tester

**Whort** (hwōrt). *dial.* Also 6–7 **whorte**, 7 **whurt**, 9 **wort** [South-western dial form of HURT *sb* 2 (cf *whoam* for *home*, *whoe* for earlier *hoh*, and WHORTLEBERRY)] = WHORTLEBERRY. Also *attrib.* Hence **Whorting** *vbl sb*, gathering whortleberries.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II xl, 170 There be two sortes of Whortes, and whyte and blewe, whereof the common is the blacke, and the other more rare 1597 GERARD *Herbal* III lxxii 1232 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* 202, Black Whorts, or Bull Berries 1681 [CHAMBERS] *Brit Gazetteer* 32 For Fruits, they [not] have any but Whortleberries 1746 J. *Exm Lang* II Dev[on] And wed thee than, tell me Isteddy o' Cwm, my bewden Hut in the Rea bush, cut 'n whortle 1787 GROSE *Provinc Gloss* (ed. 2) Whortleberries [*misprint* (ed. 3) whortle berries] 1788 WILLAN *Hist Introd Whitby* 281 Black whortle berries 1825 J. *Nicholson's Poems* 1 The *whortle* berry, which we have likewise picked stuff the pudding cloth up

*Comb.* 1857 MISS PRATT *Flow Pl* IV 108 *Stellaria uliginosa* (Green Whorls) leaved Wh wl

**Whortleberry** (hwō·rtlbĕrı). Also (8 whirtle-), 9 **wortleberry.** [South-western dial form of HURTLEBERRY cf. WHORT. Used by Lyte,

a Somerset man, in his translation of Dodoens' Herbal, whence app. by later writers on plants, so as to have become at length the usual 'book-name'.] The blue-black fruit of the dwarf shrub *Vaccinium Myrtillus*, or the plant itself; otherwise called BILBERRY or BLAEBERRY. Also extended to the genus *Vaccinium* as a whole (excepting the species called CRANBERRY, *V. Oxycoccos* and *V. macrocarpon*).

**Bear's Whortleberry**, a name for the Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos Uva ursi*. **Bog Whortleberry**, *Vaccinium uliginosum*. **Red Whortleberry**, *V. Vitis-Idæa*. **Victorian Whortleberry**, *V. ntettinia vaccinacea*, a shrub allied to *Vaccinium* found in Victoria.

1578 [see WHORT]. 1693 SAUMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 428. 1702 C. MATHER *Magnalia* II. 24 Sometimes we liv'd on Wortle berries, sometimes on a kind of Wild Cherry. 1764 *Ann. Reg., Char.* 9 The hair... is dyed with the juice of the red whortleberry. 1778 J. CRANZ *Trans. N. Amer.* xiii. 504 The Whittle Berry. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xiii, A terrific... which, since the days of Adam, had borne nothing but ling and whortle berries. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* v, [They] laid him softly on a bank of whortleberries.

*attrib.* 1770 J. R. FORSTER in *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 76 A species of whortleberry shrub. 1825 J. NEAL *Brother Jonathan* II. 340 A... whortleberry bush. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 178 Hot mutton flavoured with whortleberry jam. 1884 MILLER *Plant n.*, Whortle-berry-bush, Victorian, *Vitis Idæa vaccinacea*.

**Whorwhil**, obs. form of WHORL.

**Whory** (hōˑri), *a. rare.* Also **-ey**. [f. WHORE *sb.* + *-y* 1.] = WHOREISH. (In and quot. with play upon *hoary*.)

1682 BROKESBINGHAM *Hist. Whippeism* 12 The Papists, and the whory, roury, swory, scory, Tories. 1684 T. RAYNOLDS' *New News from Bedlam* 84 And should it light upon Your whorey Head, The Whigs would say, You're sweetly bought to Bed.

**Whos**, obs. form of WHOSE, WHOSO.

**Whose** (hūz), *pron.* Forms: 1 hwæs, 2–3 hwas, 3 hwos, (wuas), 3was, hwes, 3–4 whes, 3–5 whas, was, wos, 4 huas, wais, hoes, woise, 4–5 whoos, hos, 4–6 whos, whois, 5 whayse, whoys, hoys, (hoose), wose, 5–9 *Sc.* and *north.* whase, 6 whoes, woos, wois, hose, *Sc.* vhais, vhois, 7–8 who's, 5– whose: 3–5 quaas, 4 quos, quoos, 4–5 quas, *Sc.* 4 8 quhas, (quhoo, qwose), 5–7 quhois, 6 quhas, (qwhois), 6–7 quhose, 6–8 quhaso, 7 quhaes, quhoise. [ME. *hwæs*, later *hwēs*, *whēs*, altered form of *hwar*, *hwes*, OE. *hwæs* (:—**hwæzæ*) genitive of *hwā* and *hwæt*, through the influence of *hwā*, *hwē* WHO, *hwām*, *hwēm* WHOM. (Later ME. *whas* prob. represents an unstressed variant.) Cf. OS. *hwes*, MLG., MDu., OHG., G. *wes*, ON. *hvers*, (NSw. *hvars*, *hvas*, Da. *hvis*), Goth. *hvis* (:—**hwesz*, Indo-Eur. **qwesyo*, represented also by Gr. (Homeric) *τέο* for **τέσιο*, OSl. *tese*.]

The genitive case of WHO (and in OE. of the neuter WHAT: cf. 3 below). Used, in all senses, either before a sb., as a possessive adj. (like *his*, *her*, *my*, etc.), or absolutely (like *his*, *hers*, *mine*, etc.): in the latter case chiefly in the interrogative sense as predicate.

**I.** Interrogative uses (direct and dependent).

1. Of whom; belonging to whom; what person's. *c*897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past.* xxiii. 301 Hwæt hie ærdenen hwæs folgeras hie sindon. *a* 1000 *Coll. q. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülker 92 Hunta is eom. hwæt? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 42 Hwæt þinc þe ys be crist, hwes sunu he? *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Ich habbe ihurd þet hit [sc. baltes] cumeð from manne, hit [sc. sceomesse] cumð hwadhlike undeðuldi o, an hwos half he is kunnen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1711 Nou ne wot nouþer þat auere wuste here whes tune he wore. *a* 1240 *Orisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Maiden moder, maiden: and hwas mader? his hwas dohter þu art. *c*1275 *Passion of our Lord* 467 in *O. E. Misc.* Ne cauerne nout lot hwes he wolde beo. 13 . *Cursor M.* 12214 (Gött.) Quat wauld him bar..., And wid wat poppis was he fedd? 1340 *Hyndl.* 38 Þo þei oftyraddyd hy þat hi wil be a dell wyth þe wyf þat hiuas þet hi hyeþ. 13 . *Guy Warw.* (A) 6540 Telle þou me, þis feir castel won it be. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1726 Was men leuth þet ? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 93 Who is that faire child that stondeth yonder? *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 He fond a dead mans head, and he had gerte mervayll whose it was. 1580 LAMBDE *Prurtaxe* Contents, And, last of all, vnto whose actions, could Kynges gaine rathest attendence. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1077 Whose tongue is musit know? 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northward Ho* i. ii. A ah, Arent me? no whose vsire? 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, i. iv. 43 Whose fault is this? 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xxiii. 1 A warm dispute Whose temper was the best. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* vii, 'I'm sure of the voice...' 'Whose is it?' 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxvii, I cheer a dead man's sweetheart, Never ask me whose.

1908 R. HAGG *A Cuthbert* vi 38 Your offensive abuse of his poor father, and forgetfulness of Whose minister he was.

**II.** Relative uses. *as simple relative.

**2.** In reference to a person or persons (or to an animal or animals): Of whom. **a.** Introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense: cf. WHO 9.

*c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Þe deuel...on ech of hise deden is refued to þe deure wuas geres he forðeo\ . *a* 1240 [see 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2155 Of him o quas ordc Was he born bat lest our rede. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl B.* 520 If ȝe ssȝ h, After be wille of him hoo he werkes bey [: beh]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 81 It ys meruaill of a man how he may be ryke or dye, whos mete ys bred of good whete. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 27 A virgin spoused to a man, whose name was Ioseph. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xxxii. 1 Blessed is he, whose vnrighteousnesse is forgeuen. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 27 Of heires of quhais age their is nae doubt. 1611 *Bible* Gen. xxxviii. 25 The man whose these are. *Ibid.* xliv. 17 The man in whose hand the cup is found. 1890 tr. *T. Le Clerc's Pere Lett. Inspir.* 58 The Apostles did not pass in their own time for Persons, whose every word was an Oracle. 1723 RAMSAY *Fair Assembly* viii, A wife...Whase charms can scarce dumbcs...1790 BURNS *Pr. Bess.* 20 Persons whu...smoothed their ambition by advancing the dignity of the people whose peace they troubled. 1856 W. IRVING *Astoria* xli, To feast upon the horses whose blood they had so ravagingly drunk. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* ii, Men whose laugh was a horrid growl.

**b.** Introducing an additional statement: thus sometimes equivalent to 'and his (them, etc.)': cf. WHO 10.

In early use occas. preceded by *tha*: cf. WHICH B. 13, WHOM 8.

Formerly also separated from the antecedent, sometimes with resumptive pronoun (cf. WHO 10): occas. preceded by superfluous *and* (cf. WHO 12 b).

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 151 Þe leuuid M[atheuc] hwas dei hit is to dei. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 Þis Dei, Wos kinde we lauuen told ær her. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4105 Eleyne þat noble mayde...was nonice i-be wux. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1490 Noe, in quas time he flod gan be. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 210 Into þe name of criste Ihesu, Fore quhais cause I am led now. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 103 Morpheus, the whos nature is forto take the figure of what persone that him liketh. *a* 1400 *Pearl in Eng. Poets* I. 292 Vpon in woise deb we ar bapti3ed. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 95 To perfourne my Noukilles wyll, hoys sowle God pardon. 1469 *Ibid.* 103 Yowr modyr, hoose sowle God haue mercy. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. viii, A wulf...devoured a sheep of whos bones he had one in his throte. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 5 My brethren, whose kyngdome...who e also are the fathers. — *1 Pet.* ii. 24 Christ also suffered for our sakes...By whose stryppes ye were healed. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo* III. 181 b, The young man...at last married her, to whose wedding amongst other guests came Apollonius. 1750 T. COOKE *Plautus* I. pr. xxv, This Comedy is called *Bacchides* from two Sisters, Courtesans, who are the chief Characters in the Play; both whose Names are *Bacchis*. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* 1775 (1) 170 A hamlet, inhabited by fishermen, whos humanity I can never forget to remember. 1791 BURNS *Sc. Drink* 18 It does not arise out of the inherent rights of the people, as the national assembly does in France, and whose name therefore is original. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 279 The Gods, whose dreadful images Here represent their shadowy presences. 1864 J. HUNT tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* ii. 56 Vegetable feeders, such as ruminants, whose lower jaw acts like a millstone.

**3.** In reference to a thing or things (inanimate or abstract). Originally the genitive of the neuter WHAT (sense 7); in later use serving as the genitive of WHICH (senses 7 and 8), and usually replaced by *of which*, except where the latter would produce an intolerably clumsy form.

1382 WYCLIF *Pent.* viii. 9 The hool bowl of cyle and of hony: ...whos stones ben yren, and of the hillis of it ben doluen metallis of brasse. 1442 BRACKINTON *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 213 Ich hath...in the townes and castelle and forteresses...whose names be specified. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* lv. (Arb.) 109 A ful glorious walle of crystal hoys heythe no man may attayne. 1548 HALL *Chron. Chas. Man* 130 Lake yer thou lepe, whose literall sense is, doo nothyng yt is vnhonest or without assurance. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ii. [c.] (1877) I. 46 Of trees, whose use was sometime in Wales. 1608 DEKKER *Hon. Whore* I. v. 71 A lady of a high wild, whose lightest word Would harrow vp thy soule. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 73 Mountains on whose barren brest The labouring clouds do often rest. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Dec. *Lett.* 65 A Disposition...whose affability may sweeten life. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 74 A maxim of his whose memory I shall ever honour. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1814) II. 10 The clock, whose huge bell...may be heard five leagues over the hamlets. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii. 78 The nerve man had prescribed as a medicine...whose effect on the nerves was nil. 1896 POLLOCK *1st Bk. of Jurisp.* vii. 179 Processes extending over two or three centuries, and whose fundamental principles are disguised in almost every possible way.

**4.** As objective genitive, in reference to a person (or animal) or a thing. Now *rare*: commonly replaced by *of whom or of which*. (Cf. note s.v. His *poss. pron.* 2.)

1382 WYCLIF *Ter.* xxii. 5 He...that shal ioun he...eny vnclenes, whos enchaynyng is hoxy [: dib foul]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 191 Dredlu whos forbenngis schuldien make him the more sure it kepen hy-m for lesching of Goddis lawe. 1553 HUGH *Rem. Anat.* 118 Our the dulle bank fal swiftlie sprent, Quhais passage is vnretrumable went. 1581 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* Ded., The pore of thy realme, whoes oppression thou diddest wisely eye vnto the Lorde for vengeaunce. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. lxxxviii. 391 The Hart or Stag, in whose chase great Lords take much pleasure. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. i. 55, I will put that Businesse in your Bosomes, Whose execution takes your Enemie off. 1720 *Chamberlayne's Relig. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. xxii. 8 Things, whose particular Discussion would...exceed the Design of this Book. 1754 CHAMBERS in *Hearne Collect.* Nov. 1 A play-thing whose loss they can so easily supply. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett. to John Hoy* 7 Apr., This deplorable old man, whose sight... is attended with a mental feeling of horror and disgust.

** **5.** As compound relative, or with ellipsis of antecedent = he (him, etc.) whose. Often in generalized sense = whosesoever. Now *rare* or *arch.*: cf. WHO 6, 8, WHOM 5, 6.

Sometimes with the generalized sense indicated by *soever* or *so ever* following the sb. (Cf. WHOSOEVER 2.)

13 . *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1640 & quoo deth so be deyre he dreped als fuele. *a* 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 352 Sif obere chalouns hely y-founde þat ne holdeþ þeilke a-syse, in was hond hij beþ y-founde, be forfeted. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1,99 Here whos eȝ ye wol...with your myst. 1452–50 [see WHOSOEVER]. 1460 *Knights of Garter*, 584/1 In whos handes so ever they bee. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 77 Quhais Sinnis 3e forgeue, ar forgeuin vnto thame. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* 1092 Speake to my wish, whose wil so ere sayes no. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 196 Whose house is of glasse, must not throw stones at another. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 647 Heavenly Guests,...Sent from whose sovran goodness I adore.

† **Whose**, for *who's* = who is: see WHO.

1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, i. iv. 50 (Qq.) Whose within there!

**Whose**, obs. form of WHOSO.

† **Whoself**, *pron. Obs. rare*—1. [Cf. SELF A. 2.] Who himself.

1530 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 174 The said Burgatus came terrible of her proportion, countenaunce and beautie, Whoself hath seen her.

**Whose'n** (hūzˑn), *pron. dial.* [f. WHOSE: cf. HISN.] = WHOSE.

*a* 1300 SIDNEY *Virg. Past.* v. Wks. 1912 I. 289 Tell Damætas! whose'n sheep these are?

**Whosere**, obs. contr. f. WHOSOEVER.

**Whosesoever** (hūzsōeˑvă), *pron. arch.* The genitive of WHOSOEVER: Whatever person's; of whomsoever.

1611 *Bible* John xx. 23 Whose soeuer sinnes yee remit, they are remitted vnto them, and whose soeuer sinnes yee retaine, they are retained. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Whosesoever be the spoil, it is the thought of ninety-nine out of an hundred. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 798, I Whosesoever the fault there has been no effective cooperation.

**Whosever** (hūzeˑvăr), *pron. rare.* [f. WHOSE + EVER *adv.* Res for the spelling cf. WHEREVER.] The genitive of WHOSOEVER: = prec.

1739 K. BULTER, *Deutchinlus' Grobianus* 133 Whos'ever Knife upon the Table lies. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 19 Whosever the footprint may be, the story is gospel among Mahometans.

**Whosh**, obs. var. HUSH *v.*1

**Whosht** (whoxaht), obs. var. HUSHT *int.*1, *a.*, *v.*

1598 FLORIO, *Quetare*, to quiet,...to whosht. *Ibid.*, *Zitto*, an adiuerbe to commaund silence, as we say hus, whosht or st. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Quattero*...let vs whosht and be close, to hurke. *Ibid.*, *Quatto quatto*, very quat, very whoosht.

**Whosshe**, obs. form of WASH *v.*

**Whoso** (hūˑsō, *pron.* arch. Forms: see WHO and So: also 2–3 hwa se, hwase, (4 wa se), 3 hwo, o se, *Orm.* hwasa, 3–5 hwa so, *Sc.* quhasa se, (woya), 4–5 whos, 4–6 whose, hose, 5 *Sc.* quhais, (9 *dial.* whos'). [ME. *wha swa*, *hwa se*, reduced form of OE. *swā hwā swā*, generalized form of *hwā* WHO: see *So adv.* 17 a.]

**1.** = WHOEVER 1: Any (one) who.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Wha sun lare his byrlmen, and ȝe sylues, þat ic ne mon nan of him habbe god. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 677 Whas itt þis batt warrpeldd iss wiþ þe fulle mawȝe o Cristc. *c* 1205 LAY. 3657 Wha swa wulle libbe, talde he alsliðe [c 1275 Wo so wile libbe his alsliðe]. *Ibid.* 23267 Wha swa [c 1275 woe]se me ghuldliche be ȝeldeð wulde riche. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conscience* 6 Ho so hit hee Set his my dede in obere wise hit hatterne oðer ȝeweyze. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 48 Þis beoð þe hali wordes þet wo se cum Domine labia mea. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9263 Ofte wo so con help al, al he sek. 13 . *Cursor M.* 5809 (Gött.) Qua sua wil baght mon I be first, I be last, I be mast. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 164 And hose nil not cristned be Hung ben heighe upon a tre. *c* 1400 MANDEV. (Roxb.) lii. 80 Who so wolde ofer fan ȝat, bote childer of lasadore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5551 Wo so storis on his story, or stydis þerin, Take hede ȝe be hapnys & the hard hures! 1498 in J. Bullock *Pynnes* (1887) 57 And quhais wyfis is in the contre... saille punist. 1522 BALDWIN *Canvs. Werkis* 73 Now whoso seeth not, that his laughter is more maddie than the laughter of the most man, I hold him madder than they both. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xci. 1 Whoso sitteth in my fesshe & dryncketh my bloude, hath eternall lyfe. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. 2. 27 Who so please To stop Affliction, let him take his house. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 734 This Tree, That whoso eats thereof, forthwith attains Wisdom. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 118 Whose loath his y face hath forfeited his share of Fame. 1789 BURNS *Wee, Wee German Lairdie* 7 Now whoso seeth not, that his laughter is more maddie than the laughter of the most man, I hold him madder than they both. 1839 *Jolie* (Grant) II. 1 Whoso sitteth in my fesshe & dryncketh my bloude, hath eternall lyfe. 1907 SHAKS. *Timon* v. 2. 27 Who so please To stop Affliction, let him take his house. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 734 This Tree, That whoso eats thereof, forthwith attains Wisdom. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 118 Whose loath his y face hath forfeited his share of Fame. 1789 BURNS *Wee, Wee German Lairdie* 7 Now whoso seeth not, that his laughter is more maddie than the laughter of the most man, I hold him madder than they both. 1839 WHITTIER *On a Prayer-Book* 12 Let whoso can before such praying-books Kneel on his wife's dear shrine. 1883 WARNER *Sophocles, Antigone* 18 Whose does this, dead is the dreadful death by stoning is his doom. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xxxvii, The last stern welcome to whoso should join with them.

**2.** = WHOEVER 2: No matter who; † in early use often with mere emphatic conditional force: If any one, if one.

*c* 1300 *Pelet* (Percy Soc.) 35 Woldestou, ho so it wolde bede the, Thilke deth he wolde leue? 1340 HAMPOLE *E. Allit. P.* C. 5 For quo-so suffer cowbe syt, sele wolde folye. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 675 With Dondonis to the duris dicht, quha so wolde denne. 1896 MORRIS *Æneids* VII. 122 Come forth, he said, 'whoso ye be'.

**Whosoever** (hūsōeˑvăr), *pron.* Forms: see prec.; also *poet.* whosoe'er (-ēˑă) 5 hosere, who-sere, 7 whosoeuer). In early use often as three words, occas. as two. [f. WHOSO + EVER *adv.* 8 c: cf. SOEVER.]

Formerly occas. with gen. *whosoever's* = WHOSEVER'S.

**1.** = WHOEVER 1: Any (one) who.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 286 Hwo so euer on him sulf nimeð ouðer of þeos two, he robbeð God. *a* 1240 *Orisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Hwa se euer wule habbe lut wiþ þe of þi bilue, is mot denie wiþ þe of bine pine on euere. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 593 Pat quha-se-euire vald almus crafe For luf of sanctc Johne suld lafe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xix.

[av.] (1919) 113 Hem semeth þat whosoeuere he meke & pecyent he is holy & profitable. *c* 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3685 For pore and ryche & also for hosere wolle conn beffor. *c* 1450 *Merk's Festival* 121 Whosoeuer 72 of God, heryth Godys worde. 1526 TINDALE *John* xv. 23 Whosoeuers synnes ye remyt, they are remitted vnto them. — *Rev.* xxii. 17 Let whosoeuer wyll, take of the water of lyfe fre. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vii. 74 And whose're gainsayes King Edwards right, By this I challenge him to single fight. 1611 *Bible* Rev. xxii. 17 Whosoeuer will, let him take the water of life freely. 1682 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 72 Whosoeve shall happen to come there, Will not reprove what I've deliver'd here. 1897 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, Christie regarded me as...a predestinated child of perdition, who was sure to...drag downwards whosoever might attempt to afford me support. 1888 BESANT *All Sorts* ii, We shall present our Case to Parliament, or the Queen, or the House of Lords, or the Court of Chancery, or whosoever is the right person.

**2.** = WHOEVER 2; also formerly = 'if any one' (cf. prec. 2).

*c* 1325 *Cursor M.* 4275 (Gött.) For qua-sua euer es glad or blith, Prine loue at end wil kith. *Ta* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xiv. 71 This like Boyst might haue bene sould For three hundreth pennyes told. And dere bought, whosoeuer wolde, And whoosere had bene wyse. *c* 1580 NISBET *N. T.* Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 5 Quha saeuir thow be, ...yit thow be diligent in the estait that God has callid the vnto, ..than nit thow saeuirlie vse. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xviii. 26 Ye saye; whosoever sweare by the temple, yet ys nothinge: but whosoever sweare by the golde of the temple, he is bounde. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 32 Margaret my name, and daughter to a King, ..who so ere thou art. 1640 BP. H. KING *Serm.* 31 Whosoevers Midnight is interrupted by the newes, Ours can complaine of no disturbance. *Antiloge* (1644) 88 Having as clear a Reputation for my Courage as whosoever of my time.

**b.** qualifying a preceding sb. or *any*: now usually replaced by WHATEVER 4 *a* (*b*).

1586 *Marlowe's Tamburl.* To Rdr., Gentlemen, and curteous Readers whosoeuer. 1621 BP. MOUNTAIGU *Diatribe* 203 By the vniuersall consent of all Writers whosoeuer, except...perchance two. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Being capable, as much as any whosoever, of defending your Country.

* Used for the objective WHOMSOEVER.

Also qualifying the prec. word, in which case the construction may be regarded as elliptical = 'whosoever he (they, etc.) be': see 3 *b*, quot. 1622.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xcviii. 230/2 Whosoeuer they hyt he dyed of the stroke. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 41 Whosoever I do kisse, he it is.

**†Whosome,** *pron. Obs.* [Who and SUM *rel. advbl.*] = WHOEVER 1, 2, WHOSO 1, 2.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 5864 An rihht god reouwwsumnge batt Godess Jeoww, whasumm itt iss, Ther bercþþ inn hiss heorrte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1053 Qua-sum o fless will grait þair fode, ..bat cast a way þe bode. *Hind. Horn* (Cmb. Fr.) 1 Þat is quoseuer wil it tru. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 685 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 403, I come, wha soon takes hede, Als witnes and warand. *c* 1450 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Wha sum hasis yu, þat haris me.

**Whosomever** (*hūsŏmˌe·vəɹ*), *pron. Obs.* or *? dial.* (In early use often as three words, occas. as two.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 c.] = WHOEVER, WHOSOEVER.

*c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* in *Cursor M.* App. iv. 91 Qua-sum-euer bou be þat wille þi-self safe se. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3362 Qua-sum-euire in þat ilk his ymage behaldis, Pe face is to be fold-word, þe fete to be firmeste. 1489 in 15th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 9/1 Whosomever Tyll, the for said lorde of Drumlanryge, or tyll hys assygneis or speciale deputis qwa sumwever. *c* 1460 MIDDLETON *Wks.* (1916) I. 60 Whosomever yt be that may see this figure, he be hys dyspuycion ys a heedeman man. 1508 Husumener [see WHOSOMEVER]. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xiii. 12 Whosomever hath to him shall he geuen, and he shall haue aboundance. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. 133 Nere to vnfold the secrets of my heart To any man or woman, who some ere Dwels vndirneath the circle of the skie. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 72 Who some euer you take him to be, he is Ajax.

**Whosshe,** obs. f. WASH *v.* **Whost,** var. WHIST *v.* **Obs.** **Whot(e, whott(e,** obs. ff. HOR. **Whot(ə:** see WIT *v.*

**Whou, whough(e, whouh, whow(e,** variants of HOW, HOWE *int.*

[*c* 1425 Quhow: see WHOW *int.*] 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 314 Whough, saieth he, hard by brothers bodye is more than the whole. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* iii. iii, How much money need you? speake. But thirtie pounder. Thirtie! Whow, 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 230 Whou billie whou, what faire has thou bin at? 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* ii. iv. 33 He answered me nothing but hough, pugh. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, 'Eh whow! Eh whow!' ejaculated the honest farmer, as he looked round upon his friend's miserable apartment.

So **+Whowb(e** (in quots. as *sb.*; cf. *howbub*, HUBBUB).

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* VII. x. (1602) 217 They hissed him out with whoubs & hoo-bubs. *Ibid.* IX. viii. 327 [see HOW, HOWE *int.*].

**Whou(ȝ, whough, whow(e,** obs. ff. HOW *adv.*

**Whoule, whowl(e,** obs. ff. HOWL.

**Whourlburly,** obs. f. HURLY-BURLE.

**Who-whoop:** see WHOO-WHOOP.

**+Whowball.** *Obs.* [f. *Who*(*w*), variant of Ho *int.*[2] + HALL *sb.*[2] 2, a typical proper name of a horse (see *Plowman's T.* 402 my hors Ball, and quot. *a* 1697 below), of a sheep (*Promp. Parv.* 22/1), of a dog (*Privy Purse Exp. Henry VIII* 43), and of a cow (see quot. 1785).

*a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Westwood* (1898) I. 253 [Highwaymen] brought him under the gallowes, fastned the rope about his neck and on the tree, ..and then left him to the mercy of his horse, which he called *Ball*. So he cryed 'Ho, Ball! Ho, Ball!' and it pleased God that his horse stood still.] (See quots.) *John Whoball's* : app. a typical name for a yokel.

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* 37 *Se deindi facile haud patiar*, You cannot easily make him a foole. He is none of John whoballs children. *c* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whow-ball*, a Milk-maid. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Wham-ball*, a milkmaid, from their frequent use of the word whoa, to make the cow stand still in milking; Ball is the supposed name of the cow.

**+Whowse,** *v. Obs.* [Echoic. Cf. WHUSH *v.*] *intr.* To make a rushing noise.

1598 R. STANIHURST *Æneis* iv. 156 The sea roareth, the winds whowse.

**Whoys,** obs. form of WHOSE.

**Whr-:** see words in WH-.

**+Whrine,** *v. Sc. Obs.* In 6 quhryn (o, **whryne.** [a. OScand. ***hwrina* (ON. *hrina*, NORW. *rine*; ENorw. and Swed. dial. *vrina*; with normal dissimilative absence of *w* in West and *h* in East Scand.).] *intr.* To whine; to squeak.

1508 DUNBAR *Testament* 87 War I a dog and he a swyne, ..I suld ger that lurdane quhryne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. Prol. 32 Thairon nocht na man bik, complene, nor quhryne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 59 The suyne began to quhryne. 16.. *Montgomerie's Flyting* 440 (Harl. MS.) As they could they maid it whryne.

Hence **+Whrining** *sb.*, whining, querulous cry.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. x. 36 The horsis hairis and beris in thair styis Rosing all wod with quhrynis and wyld cryis.

**+Whrinny,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative. But cf. prec.] *intr.* = WHINNY *v.*

1430–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 279 Whose horse made noyce histe, or did whrynny, he schulde be cleste in to theire kynge.

**Whuche,** var. WHICH, chest, coffer.

**Whuch,** obs. ff. WHICH.

**Whudder,** var. WHITHER *sb.*[1] and *v. dial.*

**Whuff** (hwf), *v.* [Imitative; cf. *whiff*, dial. var. WHIFF (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).] *intr.* To make a sound as of a forcible blast of breath or wind; *trans.* to utter with such a sound. Also as *int.*, imitating such a sound. Hence **Whuffing** *vbl. sb.* So **Whuffle** (hwfˈl) *v.*, *intr.* in same sense; *trans.* to drive by blowing forcibly.

1868 H. S. HOLLAND *Memoir of Canon Kay.* He whuffed a contemptuous laugh. 1906 'JOHN OXENHAM' *Giant Circumstance* ii, One of the horses...woke up enough to whuffle the flies out of its nose. 1907 — *Castle* xxviii, He was better begun whuffling against the rock walls. 1919 J. J. BENNETT *Dower Patrol* 172 'Whing! Whuff!' and another muffled burst comes a minute or so later.

**Whuist,** obs. f. WHIST *int.* **Whule, whulch,** obs. ff. WHEEL, WHELK. **Whule, obs.** f. WHEVIL, WHEWL, WHILE. **Whum(m)el, whummle,** var. WHIRMEL. **Whun,-stane:** see WHIN 1, 2, WHINSTONE.

**Whunt,** obs. dial. f. QUAINT *a.*

*c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 23 She is both whunt and slee.

**Whup, Whuph, Whur:** see WHIP, WHOOP, WHOOF, WHIRR.

**+Whurl,** *v. Obs.* Also 5–6 **whorle, 6 whyrle, 7 wherl.** [Imitative.] *intr.* To make a roaring or rumbling noise; to purr, as a cat; to snarl or growl, as a dog. (Cf. WHARL *v.*, WHIRR *v.* 3, 3 *b.*) Hence **+Whurling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **+Whurl** *sb.* = WHARL *sb.*

1495 *Treatise's Parth. De P. R.* xi. 21 (W. de W.) In 15 seres vp-on a whyrle whirlyng and whurlinge [*Bodl. MS.* trongelinge] and ryngynge. 1530 PALSGR. 781 2 This wyode whorleth so I can not here. 1553 BRENDE (*Q. Curtius* v. 8 b), Ye vse of the eares could not serue for one to receine counsel...at an other, the wynd whyrlid so amonges the leaues. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 112 The sea raged and swel, with a horrible noise whurlinge. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* iv. ii. G 3, He whurles and tosses in the throate. 1608 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 101 How [the cat] whurleth with her voyce. 1612 CHAPM. *Gerodot.* 10 whurle, whurre, yarre, like a dog that is angrie. 1625 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 51 The flying shoot...macking such a whirling noise in the ayre. 1707 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 1171/1 The communicative...distinguished by a kind of shibboleth or whurle, being a particular way of pronouncing the letter R, as if they hawked it up from the wind-pipe with a hawking of rattle.

**Whurl(e, Whurr, Whurry:** see WHIRL, WHIRR, HURRAH, WHIRRY.

**Whurt,** obs. form of WHORT.

**Whush,** *v.* Now *dial.* [Imitative: cf. WHISH *v.*1] *intr.* To make a soft rushing sound, as wind, flowing water, waves, etc.; to move with such a sound. (Cf. HUSH *v.*2) Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1582 A. HALL *Iliad* 13 When as the westerne winde doth meete a field of graine, ..& cause the eares to whush. *Ibid.* IV. 72 As the waues within the sea...yeelds whushing noise. 1896 DICKENS *An Ordeal* iv. in *Household Words* 12 Apr. 296/2 A 'whushing' music, as of distant waves. 1861 'HOLME LEE' *Adv. Tuffongbo* i. 3 The whushing and whispering amongst the trees.

**Whush,** Sc. var. HUSH *sb.*[2]

**Whush,** obs. or n. dial. var. HUSH *a.* and *v.*[1]

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xxi. 12–15 The disciples sate downe, but all whushit and spake no wordes.

**Whusht,** obs. var. HUSHT *int.*[1] and *a.* (cf. WHISHT); pa. t. and pple. of *whush*, obs. var. HUSH *v.*[1] (see under WHUSH).

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 202 The audience ceased...and euery thing was whusht. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 101 All for dread are whusht. 1598 FLORIO, *Citto*, a word to bid children holde their peace, as we say whusht, husht.

**Whussle, whustle,** Sc. and dial. ff. WHISTLE.

**† Whust,** *sb., a., v.* (Also 7 whost.) Variant of WHIST *sb.*[2], *a.*[1], *v.*[1]

1535 PRAER *Æneid* IX. (1558) C iij b, They whusted all, and lyst with eyes ententiue diddehold. 1568 *Ibid.* IV. (1558) Lj, Than was it night...When whust is euery felde. 1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. (1584) K ij, When whust was once proclaimed, & men were had put silence breake. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 Thee murther he whusted. *Ibid.* II. 51 Thee Greeks ..al softlye he whusted. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* E ij b, It were good for me to be whust in these matters. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 81 All should be related, and nothing whusted. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marf.* 26 Seeing Martins matters begin to be whust. 1611 FLORIO, *Sestiere*, so quiet, to whust. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 193 The whusted guards.

**+ Whute,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative.] To whistle. Hence **+Whuting** *ppl. a.* So **+Whute** *sb.*

*c* 1600 in *W. Fowler's Trag.* (1815) 16 Robin Redbrest, Wrainе, & whutinge quaill. *a* 1663 *Robin Hood & Curtal Friar* xxix. in Child *Ballads* (1858) v. 125 Give me leave to set my fist to my mouth And to whute whutes three. *Ibid.* xxx. xxxi.

**Whuther,** var. WHITHER *sb.*[1] and *v. dial.*

**Whutter** (hwtəɹ), *sb.* [Imitative; cf. *flutter.*] The sound of the flapping of the wings of a large bird or a flight of birds. So **Whutter** *v.*, whence **Whuttering** *ppl. a.*

1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 4 A sound like the whutter of wild-fowl on the pool along a mud-bank. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Aug. 10 The shutting of the wary rock, whose whuttering pinions will summon out of reach pack after pack of birds.

**Whutterick, whutthroat, whuttorock,** var. WHITRET. **Whuz,** obs. or dial. var. WHIZZ *v.*

**+ Whusuh.** *Obs. rare*[—1]. ? = HUSH *sb.*[2] 2.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* VII. vi. (1602) 211 [The Jesuits] lull babies a sleepe with a blacke Sanctus in a whusuh of whispering foolish noyse.

**Whwte,** variant of WHOOT.

**Why** (hwəi), *adv.* (*sb., int.*) Forms: 1–3 hwy, (1 hwiz, hwis), 1–4 hwi, (3 hwui, wee, 3wi), 3–4 wi, 3–6 whi, wy, (4 *west.* huy, 4–6 whye, 5 whyghe, 6–7 whie, 4–why; 3–5 qui, 4–5 quy, qwy, quhi, 5 qwi, *Sc.* qwhy, 5–6 (*Sarch.*) *Sc.* quhy. [OE. *hwī*, *hwȳ* instr. case of *hwæt* WHAT, governed by *to* or *for* (see FORWHY) or used simply as adv., corresp. to OS. *hwī* used with preps. *thi hwī, te hwī*) and simply = *why*, wherefore, ON. *hvī* used as that of *hvat*, and as adv. = why (MSw., Da. *hvi*; — OTeut. **xwī* — Indo-Eur. **qʷei*, locative of **qʷo*- WHO; cf. GR. (DORIC) πεῖ WHERE.]

**I.** In a direct question: For what reason? from what cause or motive? for what purpose? wherefore?

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 19 Hwi ne mihte we hyne ut-adrifan? *c* 1000 *Ælfrician* (title) 2 Hwi ealra þa...swa gedrefedes modes? *a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 Hwi wes God ..him forwenne? *c* 1200 ORMIN 24.7 Whi þatt þu swille anndwsere ennglenn, þa Godess hallzze spelle þatt þu wibb childe shollde ben? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2 Whi nere ..3e Wib-uten hele? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2757 Sire king wi lete ȝe mi moder & me liuore þe lede? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1128 Sir cayn, Wy has þou þi broþer slain? *Ibid.* 16295 Quy-for wrang has þou me slain? 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 And huanne schal dede zeiþe hit is kendelich? 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 63 Whi wolde God...suffre such a wonne, þe womman to bispille? *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7122 And how, why, dost thow nesh pretȝ? 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 25 He wyll saye vnto vs: why dyd ye not than beleve hym? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 31 Patrocles is dead? 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 107 Why am I a foole? 1683 PENN *Pastoral to Dr. Turner* 3 Why dost thou sigh, why strike thy panting breast? 1776 *Trial of Pendarves & Sola* When you came from Patria, why did you bring this paper with you? 1827 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. iii. 37 Why was Saul thus marked for vengeance from the beginning? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* ix, Why don't you learn Italian?

**b.** Implying or suggesting a negative assertion (= 'there is no reason why . .'); hence often expressing a protest or objection (esp. with *should*).

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 256 Ful he sann zehiersumun mannum and ælcre hadbadlan bec zeʒelt wellunge, hwy þe, *v.* hwæt wolde he mid ænigum unzetæsan bearne? *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 282 Hwy sceal ic after his hyldo beowian?...ic mæg wesan god swa he. *c* 1200 * Orl. Furious* 13 Ic...kride: Hui ne scolle cumen scilche unleuinges? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Wi list þu turned on þe eorðe? ariss þat is to seien hui buest þu þise false sunnes? folket hem. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1390 Hwi ne lihte we for to beon ifulhet? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1234 Þat eni man beo falle in ulwite, Wi schal he ne his sor awite? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 661 Quí sold I him seruis yeild? *a* 1300 *Fitzed. & Sultan* 284 Wil spille ȝe Innocens blode? *c* 1400 *Arthur.* 4018, Quí schold I lyue? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 108 Entertenyt God, quhy sald I thus wayis de? 1562 WINJET

*Cert. Treat.* 151 Why (S. L. S.) I 28 Qu. shoulness he [illegible] so his sou[illegible] 1608 *Lusiad. Jonson* 113 Why should our faults in time be spied abroad? 1706 *Quixote* I. 20 II. 113 The poor live pleasantly without one help, why then should not we learn to live without theirs? 1839 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxiv. Heb. I can't mention, about it, as why should I? *Ibid.* Adv. Why, why were I born to undergo such unmerited misfortunes?

c With ellipsis of the remainder of the sentence, or of all except the principal word or words (esp. when emphatic), also with simple inf. (*why* should one, etc.). See also 4 b

a 1586 *Sidney* Ps. cxxi. Hunter *Athenæ Trev.* (1678) 61/1 Saint Austin was much mov'd at first at Faustus's craft of fame: Why? first I'm as clear as of disgust. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* (1900) 144/1 Why not in holy water & holy wyn? why is not holy water as vertuous or as gode as holy wyn? 1580 *Sir Eglamour* (Percy Soc.) 1. 1. 15 Blest with such a boy, why wish I more? 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* Introd. 196 Why not, indeed, small one?' 'Why' 'Why' 1843 Watson *Grace Darling* 71 But why prolong the tale? 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xii. Berry says I'm fond of you, and she's right.' 'Paul once asked Pipchin. 'Yes,' said Mrs. Pipchin. 'Why?' asked Paul. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Sept. 271 Why he has, why objections, why titles, why any argument at all they queried

¶ *Intricately* is used in some early biblical versions, and hence in the Prayer-book Psalter, to render Heb. יָדַע *to be* cause, since, for: app. an imitation of *forwhy* after this was apprehended as interrogative (cf. FORWHY B 2, A. 1 b)

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxxiii. 7 For he thou shalt make him glad with the spirit of his countenance. And why? because [1539 Bp. Bible, 1572 Gen. Conf. 1578 (Bish.) Because, 1611 for] the kinge putteth his trust in the Lorde. *Ibid.* xxxiii. [xxxiv.] 10 O let them not triumphe over me. And why? for [1539 *because*] *I also am Lorder* etc. For] their enuyenge is not for ieese.

**2** In an indirect question or a dependent clause of similar meaning, with sense and const. as in 1.

It minerlys mennes I lowed by *that* (That *conj.* 6).

a 888 Bede's *Hist.* (Sweet) I. 1. 14 Se fultumwa ða him se mandan wolde . . *ys hæfeth's Hanilcon in Angle's* VIII 308 Utto with him wæt he [= the moon] sy, with hwy he sy wæt sy[illegible] 1340 *Ayenb.* 111 Stif mun wile wetten wel hi[illegible] 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4274 Þe wysest me. Hatt[illegible] wyter sinne[illegible] 1393 *Pl. Crede* (Skeat) 378 Þei reden me nouȝt whi, ne why, he hadde a grete hatter on his 1393 *Lang. P. Pl. C.* xx. 245 Ac while þow rideste a-bout holy writ telleþ I nouȝt *Lang. Prop. Pol.* 1. 198 Wherto we ar, & whi & whan grace stant in genesse, y merueille why. 1538 Starkey *England* II. (1871) 74 I can not, why we schuld lay any grete faute in the lake of people. 1581 *Sir T. Smith Pol.* 188 If there gave him no cause why, why should he not? 1611 *Bible* Father is it I know what it was, and why it was. 1784 Ramsay *Investig.* 295 How, and what manner, and why. 1836 Lever *Harry L.* xxxvi. I can't inquire. By-and-by we'll see some vague hint of it myself. He knew not why. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* II. 71 It is easy to explain why the Roman Catholic religion created with less indulgence.

**3** With intensive additions (in direct or dependent questions): see Devil 5b 20, Dickens 2, Lord 5 b 9 c, Name 3 b, etc.

c 1475 *Sir Degrev.* 1505 Quhy Dauid makes thow no dule for the emil day? 1762 C. Cibber *Lives Poets* 4 N. 3 Why (good sir) I here assent to those opinions in fault, but can find no excuse for another. Then why the deuce must I be answering me? 1800 W. Roscoe *Leo X* II. 80 Why then, in the name of wonder should you wish to be [etc.]? 1887 Darwin *Life & Lett.* I. 488 Give [the E. glish names] by all means, but why on earth write that an unintelligible word also. 1895 *Nature* 17 Dec. (1900) 153 Why, in the name of Reason, should we secure lives?

**4** With negative particle immediately following.

**a** †**a** *Why* n. (usually as one word: *whine, whyne* (see Note 3 (b))) why not used in exclamations of desire or longing (cf. *how* *man* 1 b).

'Twas am I not a[illegible] that I were . . .'), an Oh! (emphatic protest) (cf. 1 b). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* (1874) 105 Eala þæt ic mann swa store mete . . gefrætwod hæfde & þa þyhtfull 4 Hatine ȝyt swa mycel! 'Eala þæt ic *Tyrfer* swa mine mihtes mæȝen . . 11 mid þæt 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conc.* 1537 O! what did he say? 'Whyne myght I de þis day in þat sinnes?' *Ibid.* 4177 Qwathus, þan = why then me[illegible] Deyghtyne desyrandes at this day walle. Þat he hade denyd me to dayes to-day for awhile.

**b** *Why not* is used elliptically as an interrog. (Hence as *sb.*: see Why not.)

a 1580 *Sir Aug.* 9000 in Horstm. *Alt. u. Neue* (1878) 77 And why is it of so litel beg, Whan it mai[illegible] 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prin.* 4 . . Why nought, my gode lordis? what shulle I weyle? I entende nought so, where I merueyle 1558 Heliot, Why not? *quid non* 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Epist.* I. 44 Yet why not cure the gout's decrepit pain?

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi. Yet wherefore, if guilty, should she have petitioned herself by coming hither? Why not rather have fled to her father's or elsewhere? 1822 Bysant *All's Sets xxx.* You will marry me? Why not? Which father you a fortune? *Ibid.* xxxvii. They say, 'Here is the Fourth Commandment. All the rest you continue to observe Why not this? *Ibid.* I can't tell you why not

**II. 5** As relative: On account of which, because of which, for which. Usually, now almost always, after *reason* (formerly also *cause*, etc.) Also *illegit.* (See also C. 11 & 18, 3.)

Formerly also with *that* (That *conj.* 6).

a 1225 *Juliana* 8 332 Monne ofte is muneȝ þet hwil man mei fon bitterliche sum mur his sunnen . . a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17 88 (161 Þis ilke[illegible] neuend peter ly name, a skill I tel yow why) . . 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1170 Horsen *Alfred's Metr. Boeth.* Pref. Here asked hire þe cause why þat heo was so wo[illegible] 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 148 So he sih his fader wepe and why, And wiste it nought the cause why . . 1483 *Cath. Angl. Acts Privy Council* II. Introd. 131 Quhill the said William schew vnto the kingis counsell why he had not bene at the said day . . 1561 *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1814) XII. 39 Ane vther cause quhy ane quyte gaist beiris nocht . . 1598 Barckley *Felicity Man* 1. 1. 4 What hath this man committed? wherefore he should die? 1598 Parsons *Three Conv.* Ep. Ded. 2 Wherefore I do . . 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 33 If I demand what Impediment there is, why that the invited, do re, and mingled Seem friendly sorts, . . but vp her lusty Spirit Crowes [*Qq* 1, 2 *Crowe*] . . 1611 Bible *Num.* xxxv. 20 My sword is drawne . . And then let it die at once for this thing, why thou hast drawne it a-gainst [1572 *Gen. Conf.* to] thy brother. 1677 Gale *Court Gent.* I. 1. 1. 1

the payne..that she was maile to suffie.., the cause why for he sawe perfitly, how a deuelle helde her bi...the heye of her hede.

**† 2.** *conj.* = FOR 3, 2, FORWHY B. 2. *Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Cav. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 254 Many of yow be dome; why? for ze wole not redresse, ile mowthe your dedys mortal. *c* 1480 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 541 Ye have lerned a fowle crafte, that ye can speke shrewdly wythoute a cause lawfull. Why for I have herde that ye have called me & my broder the sones of a traytour.

**3.** as *dependent interrog. advb.*; = FORWHY A. 2, WHEREFORE 2, WHY 2. *Obs.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Glass., Why-store, or For why-store*, wherefore. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 9:2 Some folks call't Crazy Castle, but I never could larn whyfore.

**Whyge, Whyght(e, Whyghte, whygth(e, whyht, Whyghtson,** obs. ff. WHIG *sb.*[1], WHY, WHITE, WIGHT, WHITSUN.

**† Whyst.** *Obs. rare.* [for ***whith**, OE. *hwiþa* = ON. *hviða.*] A wind, breeze.

*c* 1300 *K. Horn* 784 (Laud) Þe whyst [*MS. L.* wynd] him gan stonde And dref vp hirelonde.

**Whyk, Whykyn,** obs. dial. ff. QUICK *a.*, *sv.*[1]

**Whyl, whylghe,** obs. ff. WHILE. **Whyle, Whyles, -is, Whylest,** obs. ff. WHEEL, WHILE, WILE, WHILES, WHILST. **Whylk(e, Whyll(e, Whyllys,** obs. ff. WHICH, WEEL 2, WHEEL, WHILE, WHILES. **Whylom(e, -on, -um, Whyls(e, Whylst, whylyst,** obs. ff. WHILOM, WHILES, WHILST. **Whylte,** obs. f. *will*: see WILL *v.* **Whyly,** obs. f. WILY.

**Whym, Whympel, Whympernell,** obs. ff. WHIM, WIMPLE, WHIMBREL.

**Whyn, Whynde,** obs. ff. WHIN, WIN, WIND.

**Whyn(e** = why not: see WHY 4 a.

**† Whyne,** *adv. Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 **quein, quheyne, qwyne, quhene,** 4–5 **wheyn,** 4–6 **quhyne,** 5 **whyne,** 6 **quhyn.** [Contraction of WHITHNE; cf. SYNE.] = WHITHER.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17798 (Cotton) cums þou? 23.. *Sir Gowan Anger* (W.) 3271 The erl said,..' Whwym [*read* Wheyn] es this faire lady?' The knight said, 'Sir,..þhoues cumen from myrnie swyn cuntre'. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vii. 240 Scho ask-it hym ,quhat he wes; And quhyne he com, and quhar he gais. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3503 'Fro qwyne come þou', ..quod he kynge thane, 'I knowe kynge Arthure, and his kynghtes alsa!' *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 196 He askid hym whyne he was, & who was his fadur & his moder. *c* 1520 NIMUE *John* vii. 27 Quhen Crist sal cum, na man wote of quhyn he is.

**Whyne,** obs. form of WHIN, WHINE, WINE.

**Whyng(e,** obs. forms of WING.

**Why-not** (hwəi·nɒt). [The phrase *why not?* (WHY 4 b) used as a sb.] **a.** An argument of the form 'Why not?', which attempts to leave the opponent without a reply. **b.** In *Backgammon*: see quot. 1680; hence allusively, esp. in phr. *to take* (*have*, etc.) *at a why-not*, i.e. at an advantage or in a dilemma.

1611 W. SCLATER *Key* 123 That is answere sufficient to all such plausible why-nots. *a* 1620 HAMMOND in *Negot. Antiq.* (1658) II. 144 This done, the bones play between the Governour a Protector and a Bishop, (I suppose it was at Tick-take), was like to have been lost with a *why not?* 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 530 Or else to fight your Rubbers of the Synod And anap'd their Cannons with a Why-not. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* 113 This is the plain Game of Tick-Tack, which is called so from *Tricks* and *Cafe*, for if you took in many you may play him through to your loss; and if you hit your Adversary and neglect the advantage, you are taken with a Why-not, which is the loss of one. *c* 1686 in *Harleian Misc.* (1809) II. 338 You catch me with a why-not still: Indeed my memory grows bad..., and things go out as fast as they come into my head now. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 28 I have got out at a why not I indeed, without Cloaths and Weapons. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) VI. 142 Now, Dame Selby, I have you at a why-not.

**Whyon,** variant of WHEN *int.*

**1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, He knew the old gentleman's character well; and a more unscrupulous old—why on—he did not come inside the sentence.

**Whyp, whype, whyppe:** see WHIP, WIPE.

**† Whyr,** *int. Obs. rare*—[1]. A call used in driving sheep.

*c* 1460 [see TYR].

**Whyre, whyr(e,** etc., obs. ff. WHERRY *sb.*[1]

**Whyrl(e,** obs. f. WHIRL; var. WHIRL *v. Obs.*

**Whysh, Whyshly, Whysht(e, Whys(e)ontyd(e, Whysshe, Whysshyne, -asyne,** obs. ff. WHISH *a.*[2] WISTLY, WHISHT *a.*[1], WHITSUNTIDE, WHISH *v.*[1], WISH, CUSHION.

**Whyst(e, Whystare, Whystel(d, -tle, -ty(l)e, Whystelare, -er:** see WHIST, WHISTER, WHISTLE, WISSEL, WHISTLER, WISSELER.

**Whyt,** obs. f. QUICK *a.*, WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH. **Whytch(e,** var. WHITCH. **Whyte,** obs. f. QUIT, WHITE, WIT. **Whyten,** obs. f. WHITEN *v.*, WHITING *sb.* **Whyth(e, Whythene, Whythy:** see WHITE, WITH, WHETHEN, WITHY. **Whytowre, Whytrat, -ratohe, -rate, Whyt rent, Whytsafe,** obs. ff. QUITTER, WHITRET, QUITRENT, VOUCHSAFE. **Whytt(e, Whytting,** obs. ff. QUIT *v.*, WHITE, WIT, WHITING.

**Whyver, whywer,** obs. ff. QUIVER *sb.*[1]

**† Wi,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wi**s, 3 **wij, wyj, wi.** [OE. *wiġ* str. n. = OFris. *wîch*, OS. *wîg* (MLG. *wich*), OHG., MHG. *wîc*, ON. *víg* :—OTeut. **wigiz*, f. pre-Teut. *weig-* (: *waig-* : *wig-*) to fight :—Indo-Eur. *wīk-* to be strong.

The form *wege-* is represented by OE. *wiġan* to fight, OS., OFris. *wegand*, OHG. *wigant* pr. pple. used as sb. warrior, ON. *vígr* brave in war, neut. *vígt* WIGHT *a.* 1 *twiġa* by OE. *twiġan*, OHG. *zwigen* (: **zwigjan*) to afflict, ON. *tvíg* strength, strong drink, drinking glass (cf. OS. *wegi*, OE. *twēġe* cup): *wēge* by OE. *wiġa* warrior, WY, God. *wigana* dat. sing., *waihþ* battle. The Indo-Eur. *wīk-* is represented by L. *vincere*, perf. t. *vīci* to conquer, OIr. *fichim* to fight.]

Battle, conflict; *transf.* a military force or troop. Also *attrib.* as in *wi-ax*, a battle-axe.

*Beowulf* 1080 Wiġ ealle forniam þinnes þegnas nenne feorum unsum. *c* 897 *K.* ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. 1 Hu him þa speow ærgher ze mid wize ze mid wiwdome. *c* 1205 LAY. 1567 Þe hearn..igrapp ana wiues swiðe stronge. *Ibid.* 25 195 Þer com mid muchle wige [*c* 1275 wiȝe] Irlas king of Turckee. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1854 Emor his fader,..And his burge-folc fellen in wi.

**† Wi,** *int. Obs.* [Cf. WE *int.*] An exclamation used to introduce an anxious question or a statement of something regrettable.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 90 He þurþ-siehð uches monnes þonc: wi hwat scal us to rede? *Ibid.* 206 Wi hwi weren ho bipeten to hwon warren ho iborene þet sculen bon to delie idemet? *c* 1200 *Ibid.* 304 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Wi seo fele lech ileȝnid, seo fewe beoþ icorene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3757 'Cumsail me, fader, how to liue.' 'Wi, quatkin consail mai i be gine?' *Ibid.* 3023 'Hind sal deliuer your yongest child.' 'Wi how sal he[n]anin come þare?' *Ibid.* 23845 Wi qui þan mak we us sa kene?

**Wi,** obs. form of WHY.

**Wi** (wi), int. and dial. abbrev. f. WITH *prep.*

**Wiage, Wiar,** obs. ff. VOYAGE, WIRE.

**Wibble-wobble** (wi·b'lwɒb'l), *colloq.*, reduplication of WOBBLE (with vowel-variation symbolizing alternation of movement: cf. *zigzag*); hence **Wibble as a** simple word (conjoined with *wobble*). So **Wi·bbly-wo·bbly** (also simply **Wibbly**), **Wibblety-wobblety** *adjs.*, characterized by 'wibbling and wobbling', unsteady.

1847 in HALLIWELL. *Wibble-wobble*, unsteadily. 1871 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Fair to see* iv, The ample round red face, which wibbled and wobbled in its billowy fatness. 1877 *Holiness to Glass., Wibbley-wobbley*, shaky; tottering; insecure. *Wibble-wobble*, to totter; to waver; to oscillate. 1901 *Whom Daily Post* 26 Dec. (E.D.D.) His wibbly-wobbly speeches. 1905 *Motor-Car Jrnl.* 23 Sept. 6/2/1 The gait [of a motor] was simply the ordinary one of the wibbly-wobbly nature of a rear wheel. 1914 *Daily News* 5 June 6, 1... hauled myself up again, and with wibbly knees crossed to the bushes south of the track.

**Wibel, -ill,** obs. forms of WEEVIL.

**Wic,** obs. f. WICK *sb.*[2] and *a.*

**Wicar, -age,** obs. Sc. ff. VICAR, -AGE.

**Wicoamical:** see WYKEHAMICAL.

**Wicche,** obs. form of WITCH.

**Wicciflise:** see WYCLIFITE.

**Wice,** obs. f. VICE *sb.*[1] and [4]; obs. f. WISE *sb.*

**Wich, wych** (wɪtʃ, *locally* wəitʃ). *local.* Also **† wiche.** [app. a differentiated variant of WICK *sb.*[2], *cf. ditch* and *dike* (OE. *dīċ*), *lich* and *lyke* (OE. *līċ*). The orig. meaning may have been the group of buildings connected with a salt-pit. The chief names of salt-making towns in which the word occurs are *Droitwich* (formerly *Wich*) in Worcestershire, *Middlewich*, *Nantwich*, and *Northwich* in Cheshire.] A salt-works, salt-pit, or brine-spring; in the salt-manufacturing district of Cheshire and neighbouring parts; *pl.* the salt-making towns of these parts.

716–17 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 203 Aliquam agelli partem in qua sal conficitur ad meridianam plagam fluminis quod dicunt Wich Wich. 1086 *Domesday Bk., Cheshire* 268 In eodem Mildestvic Hundredo erat tercium Wich quod uocatur Norwich, ..Ipse locus & consuetudines erant ibi quæ erant in aliis Wichis. 1119 Grant in his Wi his sunt wichis, & in ea (spurious charter) in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 703 Wich. Unam portionem mansionis in Wico emptorio salis quem nos Salt-Wich vocamus. 1181 *Pipe R.* Paris (Cheshire) 1245 (Rolls) IV. 426 Rex insuper puteos fecerat salinarum de Wiz obturari et everti.

**b.** 1181 *Pipe R.* (Cheshire) xxi. vii. II. 41 In Chaonia thi to be certaine springes of saltish water, which the people of that country doe boile, and when it is cooled againe, it turneth into salt. *mesrgin.* This is the order of salt worke in our Wiches here in England. 1620 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 6. 7 These are verie famous Salt-wiches [Camden *salinæ*], where brine or salt water is drawne out of pittes. *Ibid.* 6.8 The Britans call it *Hellath wen*, that is, The white Well or Salt pitte. 1818 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iii. 265 But that which next her most was, that..th' Wyches for their Salts such state on every hand did raise. 1823 A. STRATFORD *New Direct.* 15 In Cheshire there were two the Wiches (where Salt is made..). 1882 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fish.* 2 At Nantwich they have only Pit within the Town, and two without...the Bryne being of a weaker kind than those of the other Wyches. 1810 LYSONS *Magna Brit.* II. 629. 1860 W. WHITE *All round Yorkshire* 88 There lies the region of salt-mines, and of the wyches or brine springs which began to flow long before Henry III stopped the works at Nantwich.

**c.** *Comb.*: **wich-(wych-)house,** a building in which brine is evaporated for making salt; **wichman,** a man employed in salt-making; **wich-waller,** a salt-boiler; † **wich-work** = *wich-house.*

1534 (22 May) *Ancient Deeds* C. 7583 (P. R. O.) Rauff Maynwaryng of Mydlewiche sendeth greteyng .. that where Richard Leftwiche the younger and Margret his wyff have giffen .. all their meses *wiche houses landes .. to Richard Maynwaryng (etc.). 1559 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 125 My hole estate of laiffe a wyche house in the Northe-wyche with the comitye of Chester. 1622 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 668 I roughes..by which it [sc. brine] is carried into the wich houses. 1726 C. LUCAS *Rev. Waters* II. 35 The houses in which the salt works are carried on are called the wich-houses. 1818 J. W. PLATT *Hist. Nantwich* 78 Karl Edwin had a wych-house upon his estate at Aughton. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 161 2 A Saltier, or Salt-Man, or *Wych-Man. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 208 To scold like a *wych-waller. 1898 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xiii. 456 [The tavern in which the brine was evaporated is called a] *wychwerke.

**Wich, wiche,** obs. ff. WHICH, WITCH.

**Wichauf, wich(e,safe, -saif, -sauf,** obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE.

**Wicht,** obs. Sc. form of WIGHT.

**Wick** (wik), *sb.*[1] Forms: **α.** 1 **weoce, 3 wueke,** 4–6 **weke, weyke, wyke,** 5–7 **wike, weeke,** (–9 *dial.*) **week,** 6 **weyk,** (**weack**), 6–7 **weik, wieke,** (6, 8 **weak**), 7 **wiek, wieck.** **β.** 4–7 **wicke,** 5 **wyk,** 6 **wycke,** 7– **wick.** [OE. *weoce* wk. fem., also *wēce* str. fem. (in *cassethēce*), corresp. to MDu. *wieke* (Du. *wiek*), MLG. *wēke*, *weike* (LG. *wecke*) but whence Sw. *veke*, Da. *vege*, Norw. dial. *veik*), OHG. *wioh* str. m. or n. 'lucubrum' (MHG., G. *wiche* wick-yarn), MG. *wieke*, *wike*, *wuke* (G. *wieke* but, dial. *wicke*). For the phonology cf. SICK *a.*

No certain cognates are known. It has been suggested that the base is an Indo-Eur. root **weig-* (: **wig-*) to weave, spin, i.e. *vēbum* Lat., Skr. *vāgwa*. There is no evidence for the alleged OE. *wicce*.]

The bundle of fibre, now usually loosely twisted or woven cotton (formerly tow, flax, etc.) in a lamp, candle, or taper (formerly also in a torch), immersed or inclosed except at one end in the oil or grease, which it absorbs and draws up on being kindled at the free end, so as to maintain the flame.

*a. c* 1000 in *Techmer's Internat. Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 126 Wæt mid linnum scyfelinge þæt weoce sy. 1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xlii. 3 A weyk of smokynge flex he schal not quenche. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Oñ ure heielades hehame wuldren seine, þe holie saule wuldrene unsere, and te mon hehe wuldren on þe eorðe, and þe wike þe ne mei beon acwike wiðinnen unsene, and þe fur on bolde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVII. 2 A wex and a weke were twyned togideres. 1393 *Ibid. C.* XXI. 278 Of a touche þe blase þere blowen out þat mennes lye weke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weyke, of a candel, *licinium*. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxxxii. (1484) M iij b, The waxe lyȝtnesseth his manhode, The weke [MS. *Addit.* 34, 193 wyke] his sowle, the fyre his godhede. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* i. 490 In þyn e tapir þat the thing ys, wax, week and light. 1513 *State Papers Hen. VIII* IV. 494 (P. R. O.) Item in x lb. of weke for the taper weke iijs.[d]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 208 45 To weak of a candle, *lichnus*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 30 When the oyle is spent, The light goes out, and wick is throwne away. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiii. 99 In candles of tallow or waxe, if the wicke be great, it melts the tallow or the waxe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 370 Trialls was...made of seuerall Wickes; As of Dolly vary Cotton; Sowing Thred. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 247 The smoak that issues out of the Wick of a Candle newly blown out. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI. 1054 Then Mr. Plumb tryed his Lamp with two Weaks. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 1. 76 A small Piece of English tale[..serves very well for a Weak in a Lamp. 1875 *Lanc. Gloss., Week* the wick of a candle or lamp.

*b.* 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XX. 215 As þe wicke and þe wastel beþ wroȝt in o cake. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 *Wycke* (*Chaucer*, Oxon) 99 *Lichnum*,..smeche uel wyk. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 230 The wycke or twyste of hempe. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 80 As for the wicke, within them [sc. the candles], they are of burdis, tope ends, and such other good stuffe. 1784 COWPER *Task* iii. 154 The little wick of life's poor shallow lamp. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 444 The candle of Lamp vsed with the blowpipe should have a thick wick, which should be snuffed clean. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* iii, The candles were burning dim, with great long wicks. 1903 RICHARDSON *Circle* I. xiv, She...raised the wick of the lamp.

**b.** Collectively, without article, as the name of a substance: = WICKING.

1391 *Rent Derby* 1 *Hen.* (Camden) by Clerico speciarie.. iij wike per iiijcum emptis. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Wyke, or lynsom. 1494 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 395, 53 Item de weke pro torgis. 1529 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 That ma[n] thair candell of gud and sufficient stuff baith weyk and tallone. 1572 *Chamberlain Ct. Lect. Rec.* (1909) 76 The Chamberlen..dois mak the irn candels with grat torch weake and yll tallowe. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. IV*, IV. vii. 116 (Qo. 2) There lines within the very flame of love A kind of wicke or snuffe that will abate it. 1883 *Century Mag.* Feb. 523/2 He carried too much wick for his candle.

**c.** Used as a test or dressing in surgery. (Cf. G. *wieke*, etc.)

1598 A. FERN *Worth Surg.* I. iii. 9 Some take grosse strong weeks, and thrust them to the bottom of the wounds. *Ibid.* vii. 87 Of the abuses which are committed with wicks, tents, liints, mullipods, &c. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 23 Jan. 72/1 ...glass drainage tube was placed in the pelvis, another in the right loin, and gauze wicks were placed in the tubes.

**d.** *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *wick-holder*, *-screw*, *-spout*, *trimmer*, *-yarn*.

1898 A. FOX *Worth Surg.* I. iii. 9 Some take grosse strong weeks, and thrust them to the bottom of the wounds. *Ibid.* vii. 87 Of the abuses which are committed with wicks, tents, liints, mullipods, &c. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 23 Jan. 72/1 ...glass drainage tube was placed in the pelvis, another in the right loin, and gauze wicks were placed in the tubes.

**d.** *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *wick-holder*, *-screw*, *-spout*, *trimmer*, *-yarn*.

1898 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's Winch.* (1892) 388 In xij lb. Wekeyourne...iij *s.* 1796 *W. Own's Bk Fairs* (1788) 54 Bridgenorth ..horned cattle, horses, sheep, hops, cheese, wick-yarn. 1840 *Civil Eng.* &

*Arch. Jrnl.* III. 175 'A sudden blaze as if the wick-screw had been raised a turn. c1865 J. Wilson in *Circ. Sci.* I. 304/1 A rap ... fits over the wick-holder. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wick-trimmer*, a shears for trimming wicks. 1911 J. Ward *Roman Era in Brit.* xii. 310 The typical Roman lamp ..has ..a covered wick-spout or nozzle (*nasus, rostrum*).

**Wick** (wik), *sb.*2 Now only *local.* Forms: 1–3 wic, 3–4, 7 wike, 4 wik, 4–5 wyk, 4–5, 8–9 wyke. 6–7 wicke, 7 week, 7– wick. [OE. *wic* m., f. = OFris. *wik* f., OS. *wīc* m. dwelling-place, house, MLG. *wīk* f., n. town, place, MDu. *wijc* m. district, (Du. *wijk* f. quarter, district, ward, WFris. *wyk*), OHG. *wīch* str. m. dwelling-place, town, MHG. *wich* in *wichbilde* the civic rights, *wichbilde* (G. *wichbild*) precinct and jurisdiction of a town, *wichgrave* recorder; app. ad. L. *vicus* row of houses, quarter of a city, street, village (cognate with Gr. *οἶκος* house, etc., Goth. *weihs* village.]

†**1.** An abode, dwelling, dwelling-place (in general). *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 1125 Jewiton him ða wixend wic neosian. c900tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. Þa gelomp sume dæge, þæt he wes in þam forn-gecwædum wice æt mete, þæder wuniende, þes nama wes Owine. a1000 *Colman's Gen.* 2822 Dær ræs bora þrace wiðdan wicum wunnde & wilna hreac. c1200 Ormin 8512 Þohh þu hærenn ure Laferrd Crist..Þin land to þissre fra tun to tun, Era wic to wic i tune. c1205 Lay. 27576 In to France he wende & sette his wike. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 624 Ich an loki monne wike & mine wike leoþ wel gode. a1300 *Cursor M.* 2049 Þai sulde turn hom till þair wike, To Ireland, europ, þat wild wike. c1300 *Harrowe. Hell* 177 Louerd ȝe, tel vs leue,..To faren of þis lobe wyke To þe blisse of heuenes ke.

**2.** A town, village, or hamlet. *Obs.* or *dial.* (Survives as an element of place-names in both forms, *-wi k* and *-wick*, the local distribution of which presents difficulties.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 77 He cwæþ: 'Gaþ on þa wic þe þeforan ligc standeþ.' c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark viii 23 & þa ætfeng he þæs blindan hand & lædde hine butan þa wic. c1205 Lay. 21760 His bundesliue wif wrore on þeire like wike. a1300 *Cursor M.* 7917 Þar was wonand wikin a wike, Tua men, a poure and a rike. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1. 2 Þe Tour Off Caunty there, þat is ble wike.

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. xxii. 870 The rest abandoned the wasts, and slipt..into their townes and wikes and villages. [1885 K. Law *Hampton Uri. Pal.* 12 *note*, As a popular equivalent for the word village, the expressions 'going to the Wick' [*i.e.* Hampton Wick], and 'living at the Wick', being constantly heard among the older inhabitants.]

**3.** A farm; *spec.* a dairy farm. Now *local.*

1086 *Domesday Bk., Berks.* 58 b, Wica de .x. pensis casatum inlatere Axam. 1181–5 *Rolls of Pipe Roll of Furth.* V. 52/1 A dayery, otherwise called a Wyk, called Dangebrige. 1504 (see Dairy *sb.* 3). 1598 Stow *Surv.* 171 In diuers countries, Dayrie houses or cottages, where men buy meate butter and cheese, are vsually called Wikes. 1600 Camden *Britt.* 238 Cæsars nullus conficere in casearis illis tugurnidis quæ ille (*i.e.* in Essex) *Tricherdis*, locant, vidimus, 1688 Coke *De Lucy*, 4 A Farm in the North parts vsually called a Tacke, in Lancashire a Fermehold, in Essex a Wike. 1691 *Surv. Pleshey in Survey Manor, Essex* fol. 2 (MS.) Berwicks *quasi* Berry wick, for it is supposed that auntre city it was a dairy wick or ferme to High Ester Bury. 1702 Kennett *Cowel's Interpr., Wick*, a Country House or Farm, of which many Places now called the Wick, and the Wicks. a1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wick.* A few instances may be produced in which it means a farm. There is one at a short distance from the town of Watton, commonly called Watton wick, but by the inhabitants, simply the *Wick.* 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 226 Wick Farm ..almost every village has its outlying wick ..stands alone in the fields.

†**4.** An enclosed piece of ground; a close. *local.*

1301 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 250/2 Apud Lesfeden] in Wyka que vocatur Ainolynes Wyk. 1461 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 Se have yn Byschoppiston the iij part of a close callyt Bondmannys Wyk, and iij ou on other callyd Hankets Wyke. 1631 *Terrier of Mainworth R., Surv.* (MS.) A close of pasture ground called ye Parsonidge Wick. 1635 *Survey of Mainworth Parish* (MS.) The close called Three Wicks. 1680 *Terrier of Mainworth Vicarage* (MS.) One other close or wick ..called Blockwicks. a wick called Round Wick. 1822 *Manors & Fee-houses Awards* (MS.) An old enclosure called Meadow Wick.

†**5.** *Comb.*: **wick-master**, ?a mayor or burgomaster; **wic-reeve**, modernization of OE. *wīcgerefa*, a town-reeve.

1295 *Liber Custum. Hetlesheal* III. 133/2 Behind them went the bodie of the citie, that is to wit, the twie kemasters, the wardens, the ancient magistrate, the masters of the wardes, the borroughmasters [etc.]. 1853 J. Stevenson *Ch. Hist. Eng.* I. 233 Bicorred, Wic-reeve of Winchester.

**Wick, wike,** *sb.*3 Now only *dial.* Forms: 4–5 ? wyke, 6, 8–9 wike, 7 weeke, 8– week, 9 wick, *Sc.* wick. [a. ON. *vik*, as in *munnvik* (Da. *mundvig*) corner of the mouth; f. *wik-* to bend (cf. Week *sb.*, Wick *sb.*4, Woke).]

**1.** A corner of the mouth or eye.

13 *Cursor M. Gott.* 1040 Þe lippe he temed at his mouth vnfayre bi he wykez. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1690 Fase fyltered, & felt flowed hym vmbe, Þat schud fro his schuldereȝ to his schyre wykes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 A Wyke of a þe eghe.., *hirquus.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 122/24 Yᵉ Wike of the eye, *hirquus.* 1607 Markham *Cavel.* 1. 82 To make some expert Horse farrier, to slit vp the weekes of your Horses mouth, equalle on both sides, with a sharpe rayser. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 14 A greate parte of theire meat, while that they are chewinge of it, workes forth of the wykes of their mouthe. 1709 St. Bruce *Soul-Confirm.* 13 (Jam.) We will let them ken that we will hing by the wikes of the mouth for the least point of truth. 1721 W. Gibson *Distemp Horses* viii. (1726) 128 If the Bit be too long or too short, it will injure the Horse's Mouth, and cut his Weeke. c1730 Ramsay *Fables* xviii. 14 To weed out ilka sklale hair ..Frae crown of head to weeks of mouth. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Wikes* or *Wickers* (of the mouth), corners of the mouth. a1825 Hogg *Tales, Hunt of Eildon* (1837) III. 15 [He] now and then cast a sly look-out at the wick of his eye.

**2.** In full *wick-tooth* : see quot. 1726.

1726 A. Mortimer *Anat. Bones* 171 The Two inferior [*Canini*] are named angular or Wike-teeth, because they support the Angles of the Mouth. 1759 H. Walpole *Let. to Earl of Strafford* 11 Sept., This noble summer is not yet over with us—it seems to have cut a colt's week [cf. Colt *sb.* 8b].

Hence **Wicking** (**wyking**), corner of the mouth.

1604 *Meun. in Ar.* 6 Q. 3rd Ser. III. 445 a Her eyes stood in the wykinges of her mouth. 1886 *Scott. Linc. Gloss.*, *wicks*, the corner of the mouth.

**Wick,** *sb.*4 *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 7 **weoke**, 8 **wike**, 9 **wick, wik, wyck, wyke.** [a. ON. *vik* fem. (occurring in place-names, but not usually distinguishable in form from Wick *sb.*2), whence app. also MLG. *wīk* (LG. *wiek, wieke*), MDu. *wijck*, Fris. *wik* bay; f. OTeut. *wīk-* to bend, as if = a bend.] A creek, inlet, or small bay.

[1622 Camden *Brit.* 1. 536 From hence the Tamis goeth to Greenwich, which, that the Queen Greeke, for the nearenesse of a river in the old English tongue was called *Wic*, a place in times past famous for the Danish fleet that lay there often to Winter.] 1684–5 *Royal Roll to Chas. II.* (MS.) (Charter of the Royal Fishing Company) The greate Plentie of Fish wherewith the Seas Estuaries, or Inletts Creekes Armes of the Sea Pubbok Rivers Weekes and Lakes of Our Dominions..doe abound. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 417/1 We have as many [herrings] come into our wike as would fill 500 barrels. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xiii, By bends and by wykes. 1824 Galt and Wilson *Lawrie Todd* (ed. 3) II. 184 Wyck, or *Wyke*, a creek or corner, as in a river or the sea shore. 1878 R. Dick *Geol. & Bot.* viii. 85 Between this and Rough Head is a wik or bay.

**Wick,** *sb.*5 *Sc. Curling* and *Bowls.* [? Wick *v.*2] **1.** An act of wicking; see Wick *v.*2, and cf. Inwick *sb.*

1823 Jas. Kennedy *Poems* 27 (E. D. D.). 1824 *Chambers's Edinburgh Journ.* No. 53 A player stepping aside to take a little (or wick), or other shot, shall forfeit his stone for that end.

**2.** = Port *sb.*3 3 b.

1824 [see Inwick *v.*].

**Wick,** *sb.*6 *Obs.* [Related to Wicker.] Wicker; a wicker basket or creel.

1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.*, s.v. *Calote*, Calotes are usually made of iron, wick, or dressed leather. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 17 Give fish still lives the anglers eyes, And willow-wicks lie ready for the prize.

**Wick,** *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: [? wicci], 3–5 wicke, wikke, wik, 4 wio, wyc, 4–5 wycke, wykke, wyk, 5 wyke, (wokke), 4–8, 8 *dial.* weak, weke, wikke, apph. also 3 *Vices & Virt.* 1 OE. *wicca* wizard (of which the fem. is *wicce* Witch); but perhaps an alteration of early ME. *wicci* (?:— **wiccig*, f. *wicca*), of which the following is the only known instance :—

1154 *O. K. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140 Þe king him sithen nam in Hantsun þarbe wiccicæd.]

**1.** = Wicked *a.*1 1 a, b.

c1200 Ormin 6285 Siff þatt ȝe batt ȝho lies all wittnes, & wac, & wikke. c1220 *Bestiary* 503 He specken gode wimbren, þe wicke ne here þeode. c1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 þeo wicke þe feondes lihere and wicke. c1325 *Metr. Hom.* 28 Þair wikednedes. *Ibid.* 51 sin and wik dedis. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5777 (Cott.) Þe foule felons wid vre entent. c1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 1. 660 (Ellesmere 376) The feendes seith I wol chace and pursue man by wyk suggestion. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 202 Was ther neuer man so wyk bot he Wold haue wrought þe same. *Hick. Corner's Apol.* (1870) 13 A sowle synful and wycke Is also like as any pycke. 1901 St. Audrey *Misc. Barbara Cunitia*, 1, She's just her master or mistress—same wicked side of th' devil about her.

**2.** a. = Wicked *a.*1 2 a, b, c.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 104 (MS. T.) Of swart hatter oðer of wikke air. a1300 *Cursor M.* 25777 (Gtotori and o drunke mesele Þe wick man.Þe vnwis spac. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 537 Tricherous þe helle-hound.. Hope wakening & wike, a1350 *S. Stephen* 421 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 33 Þai rayned be wynd with wrethe & wik. c1374 Chaucer *Troylus* 1. 946 For þilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke Bereth eke ȝese boisene herbes. c1374 — *Boeth.* III. met. 1. (1868) 64 Many is he more wete yit mouþes han frute tastid sauoures þat ben wikke. c1386 — *Sir Thopas*, 272 In helle halle he pynes wycke. c1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1242 *Dido* (fig. 4. 27) The wikke fame arose, How Eneas hath with the queen Dido, etc. 1386 — *Pard. T.* 409 Som wikke aspect or disposicioun Of Saturne. c1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 1536 That he be schayn..That he no wyse passe oþyk, For that were þam to wo & wik. *Ibid.* 1673 The fyght was sterne and wyk. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 973 Al the lond that thou hast goon aboute Fro cloudis wik ie vsaat. a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3368 Þe dampte neuer blame To clothe woundys wykke and wyde. 1736 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. XI. 99/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead—be they imps, wraithspells, wick things & the like kat.

†**b.** = Wicked *a.*1 2 d; in quot. 1483, feeble, lacking in force. Also as the equivalent of a negative prefix = *un-, dis-* (e. g. *wiklose* = dispraise). *Obs.*

c1200 Ormin 16515 Jesu Crist wel underrsteod all þeyre wicke trowwþe. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 358 Nis he a kang [*MS. T* wicke] knit þet seched reste þe wikkede. c1250 *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 259 Wicke is here ure fare & ure wunlinge. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4228 Þe scolle [was so] hard & þikke, ȝeruore, þei it ne-some nou3 þore, þe dunt nas nou3t wikke. c1300 *Havelok* 2457 With poure neste, and feble drink, And with swiþe wikke clopes. a1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxviii. 33 And swa it bifalles þat þai out close þaim fra baire wiklose þat are proued in sylluere [*L. ut excludant eos, qui probati sunt argenti*]. c1398 Chaucer *Fortune* 55 Wiklose appetyt comth ay before sykenesse. c1400 *Lanfr. Cirurg.* 1 (1871) 153 My wounynge is wel wykke. c1500 *Hist. K. Bocchus & Sydracke* (1510) Q ij b, As foly among wysmen is wyke Wysdome among folys is lyke.

†**c.** = Wicked *a.*1 2 i. *Obs.*

c1300 *Sir Tristr.* 775 Morgan is wick to slow. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 938 Panne wol he [sc. man]..wexe wilde of his wil & wikke to stauncke.

†**d.** *absol.* or *sb. Obs.* = Wicked *a.*1 4 a, b.

1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 4650 So þat nere nas nou3t bileued bote he þene & wikke. a1300 *Cursor M.* 2752 It semes not to be ȝe will Þat ȝe wik be dogtti spill. *Ibid.* 8631 Þou wikk, soo said, 'al be ȝe wan, Qui ima bua pne me blesuiken sua?' c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 177 Ger do þis wik away, And heid hym but mare delay. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 295 O wrecche of alle wikkes, wo! 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 Wyke, *nequam*.

†**e.** In abstract sense : Evil, ill; wickedness.

c1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2432 Fro wycke wiȝt wonȝ nam. c1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1074 How is wykke Lorned vnto wyse. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xii. 272 No wyght Wot ho is worthi for wele oþer for wikke. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 85 Lyk amal infauntys wyck kan no wykke.

†**4.** as *adv.* = Wicked *a.*1 5. *Obs.*

c1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10014 For..ageyns þer lord do so wyk. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 882 Pan laid he on þe Saisyns wykke. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 177 At my lykynge chese, To do wel oþer wikke.

Hence † **Wickdom, † Wickhede, † Wickness,** wickedness, iniquity; † **Wikly** *adv.*, wickedly.

c1440 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 2300 Princes queral., Speke him wel & hated him vor his wikdom. [*Ibid.* 8 Wyckednesse.] *Ibid.* 4822, 7278. c1305 *11,000 Virg.* 34 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 66 To cheose þe ten maidenes wiþoute eni wiþkede. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron. Langtoft* (1725) 124 Tiessor 'wikly women. a1300 *E. E. Psalter* v. 7 [6] Þou hated al þat wirkes þe wikenesse. 1380 Wyclif *Prov.* v. 22 His wickednesses taken the vnpitous.

†**Wick, wike,** *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wician, wikian,** 3 **wikie(n,** 3–4 **wick,** 4 **wike, wyk.** [OE. *wician, f. wīc* Wick *sb.*2] *intr.* To take up one's abode; to encamp; to lodge, dwell.

c897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xiii. 304 Di cuni sal ðis weoxen, & wuoh hwæ se wiciað. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (Auch.) 4000 *Colleg. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 99 Eallum us leofre ys wikian [L. *hospitari*] mid ðe yrþlingce þonne mid þe. c1205 Lay. 1800 Wikien ȝe scullen here. a1300 *Cursor M.* 25923 Pat in his wreche wild we wike.

**b.** *trans.* To pitch (a tent).

c1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12952 His paulons, his poiecles, þykke Noagh for to þenne had þey don wyk.

Hence † **Wicking** *vbl. sb.*1, lodging, dwelling.

c1205 Lay. 30451 He underfeng Cadwallan : and þar him wickinge [1.1275 wikeninge] ȝeond Irlonde. *Ibid.* 31801 He nom þe wikinge alsa þa Saisne here.

**Wick,** *v.*2 *Curling.* [Origin unknown.] **a.** *intr.* = Inwick *v.* **b.** *trans.* in phr. *to wick a bore*, 'to drive a stone dexterously through an opening between two guards' (Jam.). Cf. Wick *sb.*5 Hence **Wicking** *vbl. sb.*2

1786 [see Guard *v.* 9]. 1811 *Acc. Caims Curling* 9 It then becomes necessary to wick the stone lying at the side, in an oblique direction. This is called wicking. *Ibid.* 10 Whether they have to draw, strike, wick, or enter a port, they will seldom miss the mark from their aim. 1831 [see Inbringing]. 1868 [see Inwick *v.*].

**Wick,** *Sc.* and north. f. Quick *a.*, *sb.*2, *v.*3; obs. and dial. f. Week.

**-wick,** *suffix*, shortened form of Wike (Office) *sense*, function of an official, as in Bailiffwick, Bailiwick, Shrieffwick. A secondary sense of 'jurisdiction of the official', passing into 'district over which the official's jurisdiction extends', is found with some words containing this suffix, the development of the latter sense being no doubt furthered by the sense 'district' of Wick *sb.*2 An example of a compound in occasional or local use is † *warden-wick* :—

1499 *Pilton Churches. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 67 Yn hys yet of ye wardeyn wyck.

In Herdwicke (first in *Domesday Book*), *wick* appears to be Wick *sb.*2

**Wickaby,** var. of Wicopy.

**Wickar,** obs. Sc. form of Vicar.

**Wicked** (wi·kĕd), *a.*1 (*sb., adv.*) Forms: 3– **wicked**; also 4–6 **wyck-, wikk-, wykk-,** (chiefly *Sc.* **wick-, wikk-**); 3–5 **ed-e,** (4 **-ud**), 4–5 **id-e, -yd-e,** 4–6 *Sc.* **-it, -yt**; (4 **wikoud, wekked, wikket,** 5 **weokid,** 5–6, 9 *Sc.* **wiokot,** 6 *Sc.* **weokit**); 4 **wikid-e,** (**-ud, wikede,** *Sc.* **wikit, -yt**), 4–5 **wiked, Sc. wikyt, wykit,** 4–6 *Sc.* **wikit,** 5 **wyked, -yd**; 4 *Sc.* **wikit, (wekyt),** 4–5 **wekyd,** 4–6 **wicked-e,** 5 **-ede, -id,** 6 *Sc.* **weikit.** [ME. (13th cent.) *wicched, wikked*, app. f. Wick *a.*, as *wretched* from *wreeche* Wretch. The later *wiked* appears to be merely a graphic variant; forms with the lowered stem-vowel are of both types, *wekked, weked.*]

**I. 1.** Bad in moral character, disposition, or conduct; inclined or addicted to wilful wrongdoing; practising or disposed to practise evil; morally depraved. (A term of wide application, but always of strong reprobation, implying a high degree of evil quality.) **a.** of a person (or a community of persons).

*The Wicked One*, the Devil, Satan.

*c* 1275 Lay. 14983 Herene ou 3e*r* took an, þes wickede (*earlier text* swiceſulle) wilman. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Ich bidde þe hit by my sscele auereyn þe wyckede mend. 13.. *Cursor M.* 170 (Gött.) Iesu wan he lounge hade fast Was temped wid þe wicked (*t. r.* wikked) gast. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saintes x.* (*Thedhon*) 73 Mare reuerens is gyffyn vnto þe wyckyt men þan dred .. Pane to gudmen for luf. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 76 Of siche wickede men seiþ god bi his prophete (etc.). *c* 1386 *Sir Fernumb.* 2287 In helpeþ ys no Sarsyn wikked-ryþan is he. *a* 1400–30 *Wars Alex.* 2425 3e at wickid ere within ay wickidly 3e thinke. *c* 1450 *Merl's Festial* 222 All wykyd spyrytys schull be feid fe away from pe. 1456 Sir G. Hare *Lans Arms* (S. T. S.) 32 Wikkit tyrane Emperouris. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 214 My wreckit kyn, that me away cast. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S. T. S.) 60 Thow wikkit seruand I forgaiff ye al thy det. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xiii. 13 Ye men of Sodome were wicked, and synned exceadingly agaynst the Lorde. 1561 Wisdom *Cert. Crafts Wks.* (S. T. S.) 1. 5 Wes not the sacramentis ..prophant be ignorantis and wikit personis? 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 109 O wickit women, venomous of nature! 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. xiii. 19 There cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sowen in his hart. — 1 John iii. 3 You haue ouercome the wicked one. 1610 Shake. *Temp.* v. i. 291 You elues, wicked Sir) whom to call brother Would euen infect my mouth. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* iii. Wks. 1851. V. 130 Looking on the poor Christian with .. scorn, but they fawning on the wickedest rich men. 1676 Whitlock *Thr. Eorth* iii. iv. 207 This Deluge, .was a signal Instance of the Divine Vengeance on a Wicked World. 1737 Whiston *Jos. Antiq. Hebr.* ii. iii. 'Tis very strange Men should be so fond of being thought wickeder than they are. 1739 Berkeley *Alciphr.* v. § 7 Vice increases, and men grow daily more and more wicked. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xv, 'Then you are the wicked cause of my sister's ruin?' said Jeanie, with a natural touch of indignation. 1820 Coleridge *In Lit. Remi.* (1836) III. 399 Burgess was never, in any high sense of the word, wicked. He was chaste, sober, honest; but he was a bitter blackguard .. and was fond of a row. 1873 Ireland *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 195 However wicked a man may be, he is use to find a wickeder.

**b.** of action, speech, thought, or other personal attribute; also *transf.* of a thing connected in some way with such action, etc.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1227 þis him warryd wit wicked dudis. *Ibid.* 12991 Na langer Mai i nu þi wicked wordes ber. 13.. *Northern Passion* (A) 5-6 [Satan] wyt the deyȝ in wicked boughte. 1382 Lamb. *Prol. Pl. A.* v. 217 Penne was he a-schamed, ..And gon .. gret deal to make For his wikkede lyf þat he I-lued hedde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Petrus*) 474 Throw his wirkit werkis. *Ibid.* xvi. (*Philippus*) 66 Wikit heresy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 37 Wickid lewis & wrong executions of hem. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7421 They to Wicked Tonge conuent Out at his gate was sythyng. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* viii. 9 Wicked abhominacions that they do. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Chron. vii. 14 Yf they .. do humble them selues .. and turne from their wycked wayes, 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 176 Doggis could bir wicked bainis gnaw. 1602 Shake. *Ham.* iii. iii. 59 Offences gilded hand may shoue by Iustice, And oft 'tis seene, the wicked prize it scelfe buyes out the law. 1611 Bible *Ps. Lv.* 10 Yet not for thy aduise or threats I fly These wicked Tents deuoted. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* i. ii. 48 All the wicked things, which haue .. made the black Character to the very Name of a Magician; for under the shelter of Religion, the worst and most Diabolical things were practis'd. 1848 Thackeray *Fam. Fortunes* iii. 176 Doggies could bir wicked bains

*I'z Am ass* 54 Ladies may wickedly be-painted 1762 SIDNEY *To Stanly* A ax Dy'n mi know whether my fiddle is true or not? It was wickedly strung 1858 HAWTHORNE *Septimius Felton* (1872) I 4 The night was now setting in wickedly dark and dreary

**3** Mischievously, maliciously, roguishly.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiii Ask Miss Georgiana what is that big girl I was bully 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* x His cat looked so wickedly at me as if I were a fit subject of the kindest tortures 1880 Mrs. FORRESTER *Roy* v I, no, I think I would be tremendously obliged to me, whatever I've been wicked lly

**Wickedness** wi·kednes) [f. as prec. + -NESS]

**1** The quality of being wicked; wicked character or disposition; depravity, iniquity, immorality

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxvi. 1 Fyll wele with fulnes of wickednes 1509 SKELTON *Magnyf.* (R.) 1130 Prosperyte full of wickednesse 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 133 Out with it, and rid the world of this canker! But first egge these wicked spirits on, that the wickedness of their conjunction may make them the more deformed 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 212 As all this arose from the impurity of Wickedness, they must with us easy Parties 1834 DE LISLE & DUDLEY *Mem. Viscount Sidmouth* I. 1. 1 The unfortunate little girl, after receiving sundry thumps for having the whole house set on fire by her wickedness, was sent to bed 1873 OUIDA *Pascarel* II. 8 Such was not in the wickedness of her heart.

**2.** Wicked action or conduct; iniquity as contrasted with or perpetrated; *concr.* wicked speech or statement.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7193 Mistrauing I schad he soon, Pat he sum wikednes bede don *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Cath.* 1057) Pat lede was ouercum Wit hir wickednes and hir gyles 1393 CHAUCER *Mariage* 5 For not written of hys foo wikk lnesse *c* 1450 HOLME *Hill Rule* 44 Cum ord wer wikkar fwghtinis, & wikkednes *Wisdom Cowpar* 1 Cumerand I the the Heuins sairedly condemnid, and all thewis erd nocht greatwikkednes 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ballatis* (S.T.S.) 11 Ane wicked wyfe ane wicked wedlok. I the vnder wardlie aw[e]tyte 1605 SHAKS. *Macbeth* IV. iii. 98 (Qq.) He reapt the vilest wickednes That is, most meet to grow 1651 HOBBES *Lev.* xlvii. 1. 1 Wickedness of Life, and Error from great wickedness, the least men have the least Pitty 1827 SELBY *Hist. Entom.* II. 65 His sense of an action is famous to the world for its wickedness, whether we wish with which they abused their victory 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 567 Persons who think that there is no excuse for the basest and most unpardonable of human wickedness 1901 FRANCE *Jean d'Arc* 1. 1. 1 I suggested to wickedness that any man could commit, in his eyes, was not to pay his debts

**b** (with *a* and *pl.*) A piece of wickedness; a wicked act or proceeding

*a* 1325 *Prov. Alfred* (Kölbing) 348 I shal unsie in chastening her wickednesse *c* 1430 LYD. *Min. Poems, Pr. Pol.* 92 Ther wold be no staff in wo do wisenesse Only be thy doom yt were to hard 1532 MORE *Answ. Poysned Book* Wks. 1118/1 The wickednesse of whiche I dare not spurne him 1641 J. JACKSON *True Relig.* I. 1. 26 He fell into sinne, by doing what in his conscience, which is not only common and to be done 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 47 So prepared to do I feel this wicked loss 1817 COBBETT *Let. to Luttrell* 17 Many wicked things might be published, at which surprise only at my future time was a wicked loss if such I never dreamt 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* II. 1 Those wicked things which I could neither freely myself describe to you, nor ought you to desire to hear

**†3** Toorness of spirit: cf. WICKED *a.*1 2 *d. Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 280 Gif she let cowardis And wikkidnes ay be hyrmaistres

**†4** In physical sense. Malignancy, corruption: cf. WICKED *a.*1 2 *c. Obs. rare.*

*c* 1400 *Lan'frank's Cirurgie* 78 Whanne þ boll is purged fro wicke humouris, þe wickednes of þe matter ranneþ fro þe wounde

**Wicken,** variant of QUICKEN *sb.*1, *sb.*2

**Wicker** (wi·kəɹ), *sb* Forms: 4–5 **wyker,** 4–6 **wiker,** 6–7 **wycker,** (5 **wikro, wikir, wykyr, qwykyr, wekker,** 6 **wycro, wykir, ur, wiker, wikker, wykkyr, wickar, ir,** 7 **wykker**), 5– **wicker** [Last Scandinavian (Norw. and Sw. dial. *vikel*, early Da. *viger*, Da. dial. *vigge* willow, osier, branch of willow), f. root of *vik-a* to bend (cf. OE *wican* to give way, collapse, and WEIK *a.*, WOKE ]

**1** A pliant twig or small rod, usually of willow, esp. as used for making baskets and various other objects, an osier; a withe Chiefly in *pl* (= 2).

1388 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxxvii (1495), Suche wexen wyl sprede fro a wykers to pryes, and make baskettes 1426 LYDG. *Dr. Conf. Lover* 23385 When the smale wikkes be like The hopes weren set to wrak 14 *Wom. in Wr.* (Skeat) 72 *Jos. Arim. ms.* qwykyr, 1508 DUNBAR *Tretis* 43 Myd bent that is nor wes wicker, I thought I wald by it with a wikkir 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 31 The sayles were made of gresse rushes or of wykers, and in some places of lether 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 861/2 Great images of wickers made like great men of diuerse strange nations 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pal. Pilgrim.* 581 In our Country, the Ilives principally in use, are either made of wickers, or of straw 1807 CRABBE *Par. Register Grey* 247 And stones erect their shoulders like Of humble graves, with wickers bound. 1811 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1853) I. 33 The wickers of the [fish-boat] pipe 1899 KROPOTKIN *Mem. Rev.* IV. IX. II. 70 To ply the wickers and to shape them into an elegant basket

**b.** Such a twig or small branch, as part of the living plant: *Obs*

1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 14 As with the wynd wavis the wikkir 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Espato,* wicker, a kinde of tree whereof they make frailes 1796 BURNS *Poem on Life* iii, Th' keeking, feeble, and unsicker Aye wave in like the willow wicker

**c** A twig or small branch used as a mark, *lo al.*

1859 PROCTER *N. C. Celtic, Wike, Wyke,* a mark used in setting out tithes generally a small branch of a tree

**2** (without *pl*) Wickers collectively, or as plaited together; wickerwork

1336 *Cal. Doc. ann. Scot.* (1887) III. 356 I returnen, 'wikir' et fen al [1320 *Ib.* 'virrui' et mirrui *Hist. Hiemingford* de 'wicker' et 'empil' per vic vayd 1491 CAXTON *Fables Alan* (W. D.) 1295/1 Thys se sell wherin he wetes his wicker & riddes Ther is make wikvil pannyers mandes & baskettes 1552 3 in Feuillerat *Rec. Eliz. I* (1910) 111 my Flampers of wicker to put in thappparell 1660 *Act to Charles II* c. 4 Sched. xv *Baskets, Hampers, Cradles* covered with Wicker 1787 COWPER *Hist. Man* 7 9 Within and without lathe in frails of wicker I tie the bunches 1858 THORNBURY *Haunted Lond.* 19 Shields of wood or wicker whitened over, were substituted by some for metal armour.

**3** A basket, cradle, chair, etc of wicker

1646 Comm. Jrnl. *Jas of Scots* 12 Item the presents of the prisoners of Musselburgh who rcked his Cradle. I will not say that in that young wicker like mother Her also] her struggled to reach land the two invading Dens, one Irish-ruining Peter Plunket and Supperstone 1699 BEAL in *Ch. Ho. Act Garden* 49 The Orange trees are so tender, that they must be planted in Pots Wicker, or Wooden Troughs 1790 SWINTON *Travels* 181 By the illustrious Wicker, whose they sate In comely Pride 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 237 Each bird grew wicker over I round With Appetites tend i y sounds and sights 1861 THOMSON *Bell Fr.* II. 116 43 I like wicker of eggs.

**4** *attrib.* and Of or consisting of wicker, as a basket, chair, etc.; also, covered with or encased in wicker, as a bottle. See also WICKERWORK.

1500 *Pry Purse Exp. Hus. Book* (1830) 84 Two wycre bottles 1534 *Boke of St. Alban* II. (1540) 32 b Of wykir werk 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 38 The valiantest warriours, was once wrapped in swathing clowtes, & in cradles of wicker twigges 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron. Hist. Ireland* III. 125/2 Perdons maile for wicker 1598 STOW *Surv. Dial.* II. A Pike ke of Nymphes [in] a bird cage, a little wicker cage, made of wier twigs. 1603 *Flo. Mac. Sig. S* 5 1/2 Six hundreth wykker speires & pennons 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. 2 A wicker cage tamed as wild as a Parrot 1789 *Ib. 2. bk. Acad. Exerc. Celeb.* II. 98 (N.S.) We found it a soft resting stile sitting in a wicker chayer by the fyer side 1676 SANDYS *Pr. Uniting Thistle* 1. 105 Two striking E Men for the Wicker Image 1707 M. STEPHEN *Hind* 201 Wicker hives made of Twigs, Willow, or Hurl 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* II. (Globe) 173 I wipe what should be in a wicker Bottle of Rum to my Mouth 1827 *Diet. Useful Arts*, Gabriel Grub blew forth his wicker bottle 1892 HARDY *Tess* II. 10 The scruffy old basket-chaise

**b.** *Wicker work,* attributed to various sinister creatures.

The source of the allusion is uncertained; comparison with the passage translated in quot. 1 2 in c below is not impossible.

1637 [? JASON] *Self Shepherd* 1 v, Hurke, hurke, hurke the Dogs bid fier the screech owle[ how shee flutters with her wicker wings] ANON. *Dragon Treatise* 1678 Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, Hurry through the night, She to the Elvish Palace makes her Flight *a* 1729 CONGREVE *Impost Thing* 84 Hee's Elvish, his eyes are wicker wings

*Adj.* 1 *Obs.* *rare.* *wicker-elephant, -mouse, -serpent,* *-stirrup, -winged, -women* adjs.; *wicker wire* adj.

1869 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xx, In the large wicker-bottomed armchair sat old Martin Poyser 1870 DICKENS *Edwin Drood* xxii, A wicker-covered little flask 1880 IRA KERBY *Last Lair* xx, A wicker covered flask 1920 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Feb. 2 5 2 A wicker weaving firm 1837 WHITTIER *Stanzas for Arastph.* *Birds* 248 Wicker-winged Distrephes [Antiphates *vespertilio* *nervosa* Stoll] 1802 H. HEATH *Pilgrim* xiv. 147 A quiet-mannered Dutchess, two wags, a timid and wound one within another wicker cage 1899 HALL *Sacred Country Parson* v. 168 The wicker women too.

**Wicker,** *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans* To furnish, fit, cover, or inclose with wicker. (Chiefly in pa. pple. or see also WICKERED.)

1599 B. JONSON *Every Man out of Humour* I. ii, A mustie bottle, newe wickered 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 49 The ships of light timber wickered with Oyster bateeene, and covered over with Leather 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 252/1 Upon this face a surface of dry moss, hurdles wickered with heath, were laid 1882 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* xii, High frames made by planting four bamboos in a square and weaving the top.

**Wicker,** variant of WHICKER *v.*, to whinny.

**Wickered** (wi·kəɹd), *a.* [f. WICKER *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

**1** Encased in wicker; inclosed or surrounded by wickerwork

1725 [? FOY] *Voy round World* 6 French Wine in Wicker'd Bottles 1733 *Gentleman* No. 73 P 4 A painted board stuck up at the end of his wicker'd turf 1880 *All Year Round* No. 53 60 Near which you always find some sherbet-seller, resting his wickered bottles

**2.** Made like wicker: see WICKER *sb* 4 a.

1751 DYER *Nottingham* 73 An old wickered Chair 1858 *Cent. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl* I. 273/2 The hurdles, or wickered foundation 1919 *Chamb. Jrnl* 25 Oct. 743/1 Wickered furniture predominated

**Wickerwork** (wi·kəɹwɔk). [f. WICKER *sb.* + WORK *sb.*] Work consisting of wickers; a structure of flexible twigs, osiers, or the like plaited together; basket work.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 252 We fell to work to make more Wicker Work 1786 COWPER *A Task* 3 A raven on her wicker work high mounted Her chickens prematurely counted 1836 IRBY & MANGLES *Greece* xiv II 274 The houses of Nardin were chiefly of wicker work 1840 DE HAVILLAND *Notes* II, I very drink and timber crooked, as if the ship were made of wicker-work 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi III. 620 The saddle was of wicker-work, covered with the skins of horses, in which the Celtic peasantry fished for trout and salm on

*attrib.* 1848 SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* xi 376 Ceylon had often been reached from Africa in wickerwork boats made of papyrus 1872 I. SPENCE *Hawks' Eyes* (1893) xiii 363 A hut with open wickerwork sides.

Hence **Wi·ckerworked** (-wəɹkt) *a.*, made of or inclosed in wickerwork, **Wi·ckerworker,** one who makes wickerwork.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1886) 80 Basket-maker Wicker Worker 1900 H. JAMSON *Over Sixpence* 16 A big old wicker-worked demijohn

**Wicket** (wi·kĕt) Forms: [3 **wiket,** 3–5 **wykett(e,** 3–6 **wyket, wiket,** 4 5 **wikett, wek-ett,** 4–6 **wykket, t, wyckot, wickett,** 5 **wickette, wokyt, (wigate),** 5 6 **weket,** 6 **weiket,** 5– **wicket.** [A. AF – ONF *wiket* (Norman *viquet,* Walloon *wiquet*) = OI. (mod. *ò*) *uncket,* usually referred to the Teut. root appearing in Du. *wiken* to move, turn (Sw. *vika*, Da. *vige*), but the forms OF *quiquet, wiket, Pr. qui quet* indicate the possibility of another source.]

**1** A small door or gate made in, or placed beside, a large one, for ingress and egress when the large one is closed; also, any small gate for foot passengers, as at the entrance of a field or other enclosure.

[a. 1138 M Thompson *Cust St Aug Cant* (1904) II 256 Serjeantes warnire tenentiæ esse introitū Cestrefol', tunc defentur clives ad sectam tam 'wicet quam magne porte cuntenti] *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1094 (Camb. MS.) Hom a-mis to le gate turne Pat wiket wingeþ wrange *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom Rose* 528, I finde a wiket in all, so shet that I ne might in *a.* 1400–50 *Alex.* & *Dind.* 554/1 In a wiket he went *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* (1790) I 56 wykett 1485 in *Camp. Rolls Oford St Anthony's, Wint.* (1889) 384 Super magnum portam et le Wigat. quo dem porte *a* 1489 CAXTON *Jason* 2 Ayamon the wiket Mwgys cam nere to the wicket of the gate *a* 1533 LD. FERNERS *Huon* xxxiv 136 He came to the abbes gate & cally[e]d to porter, the ouyer[e] of the wiket came 1545 RAYNALD *Birth Mankynde* 255 b Whan any thing entereth into a house by the wicket 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Num.* xxii. 24 A Now Saint Peter at Heaven Wicket seems to watch at them with his Keys 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* 21 The wicket opening with a click, bestowed the homeless pair 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 431 n To see a little old man [in] a two sided open ing with bet 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xv, He who would enter the Court must know the private wicket, and not be misled by the great portal 1853 DICKENS *Bleak H.* xv, A boy came out of a tent of office, and looked at us over a gated wicket 1859 GEORGE *Denis.* I. 54 But the gates of the house were shut up in the dignified envoys, but, after some stay, they were let in by the wicket

**b.** *fig.* or in fig. context

*a* 1200 *Ivory Tower* (1638) 58 Ich am nut wicket of Je hu king, & je steet zate of liyt þut a luveþ liyt *c* 1400–50 *Pol. Poems* I. 204 Now wynne ye wykett of Spine *a* 1586 *Liber Fest* (W. & W.) 153/1 Strayt to entre by the wyket gate 1573 BP. JEWEL *Repl.* (1599) II. 1 With in that wicket make daunger to be, I trust quickly her wicket is moued) seeme easie to cope 1663 G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoics* xii (1711) 68 Seeing a thing is a mean in our government and apprehension, but what is not entred by the wicket of sense 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. ii 72 I'll not be the Wicket to thy Mistresses Gate, to be tempted 1879 R. SHERR *Poems, Love & Nocturns* 1, At death's wicket

**†2.** A small opening, esp. one through which to look out or communicate with the outside, a hole-hole, grill, or the like *Obs.*

1396 *Ace Finch Ac. K. Accts.* 1 *ad* 510 (PRO) In vnus annulis ad Hercli, triduo tantum gemell' ad Wykett Pagin. xij Kenillis ferri ad Custum xvjd *c* 1430 *Syr Gener* (Roxb.) 4412 Ayenst the Inne A postern ther is, Ther is right A privey wiket, I trowe ywisse That fast bendes may se vs withinne *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Wyket, or lytille wyndowe, *fenestra* 1449 *Lantern Pol.* I 83 they haue made wykets on euery mans dore in the whole owte wille 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxiii 136 For of them shal none a litel wiket open for to shote a game 1616 *Rec. Admin. Acts* (1858) II 38 With one wicket to look in to the pawne 1676 COMPL. *Duel. Wicket,* a casement 1677 *L. ad. Can.* No 1181/4 Having seized the Wicket or Wally port, they got in the Ramparts 1828 *Encycl. Domest. Wicket,* a casement, also, a little door 1797 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 843/2 *Wicket,* a small door in the gate of a fortified place, &c or a hole in a door through which to view what passes without

**3.** *Cricket.* A set of three sticks called *stumps,* fixed upright in the ground, and surmounted by two small pieces of wood called *bails* (*Hall* 16.4 2), forming the structure (27 × 8 in.) at which the bowler aims the ball, and at which (in front and a little to one side of it) the batsman stands to defend it with the bat. The wicket formerly consisted of two stumps and one long bail, forming a structure one foot high by two feet wide.)

*Single wicket,* a form of the game in which there is only one wicket, and therefore only one batsman in at a time (Also *attrib.*) *Double wicket,* the ordinary form, in which there are two wickets placed 22 yards apart, between which the two batsmen run *To keep wicket,* to act as WICKET-KEEPER

1733 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 6 The wickets are to be pitched by twelve o'clock. *c* 1750 in 'Bat' *Crick. Mem.* (1850) 30 [Cricket] is performed by a person who, with a clumsy wooden bat, defends a wicket raised of two slender sticks, with one across. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 6 The Bowler...shall bowl four balls before he changes wickets. 1827 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, Placed a match once—single wicket. 1849 *Laws of Cricket* in 'Bat' *Crick. Man.* (1850) 60 The bowler is subject to the same laws as at double wicket. 1850 'Bat' *Crick. Match*, A single wicket player. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 23. 356 Serjeant-Major M'Jug, ...one of our best bats, went to the wicket first with Winterburn. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 10 Tylecote kept wicket well. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 May 11/1 When the wickets were drawn Gloucestershire had made 361.

**b.** In various expressions referring to a batsman's tenure of the wicket, or that part of an innings during which some particular batsman is (or might be) 'in', i.e. at the wicket:

e. g. *to take four wickets* (said of a bowler), to put four batsmen 'out'; *three wickets* (*or third wicket*) *down*, three men having been put out: *the sixth wicket fell for 75* = the sixth batsman was put out after 75 runs had been made in the innings; *to win by eight wickets*, i. e. by exceeding the opponents' full score of runs, with eight wickets yet to 'fall' (= with two men 'not out' and seven not having been 'in' in the innings).

1738 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 21 Batts: Ric Knibourne 43 to get, which [he] did with ease, leaving four wickets to be put up when Battle was beat. 1749 *Ibid.* 44 They...had two wickets to go down. 1877 Bickerton *Cripps* iv, [They] had beaten the dalesmen by ten wickets. 1881 *Standard* 28 June 3/1 Another wicket now fell, ...six for 56. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/3 Full score, six wickets for 72 runs. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 2 Dec 8/2 The first-wicket partnership of MacLaren and Hayward. 1902 *Ibid.* 4 June 6/7 Jackson took four wickets with five consecutive balls.

**c.** *Transf.* The ground between and about the wickets, esp. in respect of its condition; the pitch.

1829 *Sporting Life* 4 June, Nottinghamshire ...sent C. Daft and Bramjton to two as fine wickets as the Surrey[s] or any other ground' in England could furnish. 1881 *Standard* 14 June 3 The confusion of the wicket, on which the first bowling bumped and the slows popped about. 1882 *Daily News* 9 July 2 The wicket did not seem to play particularly well. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 3 The English eleven commenced batting on a perfect wicket. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 17 Apr 6/1 The wickets were all matting, there being not a single turf wicket in the Cape colony.

**d.** *U. S. Croquet.* A hoop.

1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xii, Jo was through the last wicket, and had missed the stroke. Fred gave a stroke, his ball hit the wicket, rebounded an inch, and the wrong side. 1890 *Century Dict.*, s. v. *Croquet*, Each person in turn strikes his own ball once; if his ball passes through a wicket, he is allowed another stroke.

**5.** In various technical senses.

**a.** A small gate or valve for emptying the chamber of a canal-lock, or in the chute of a water-wheel for regulating the passage of water. In Scotland, a very wide hurdling or stall, usually with two road-ways, in a variety of pillar-and-stall work (called *two-bet-mak*) in use in North Wales. **c.** One of a set of openings in the form of which the lead is made up in the manufacture of white lead.

1825 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wicket*, a gate formed like a butterfly-valve, in the sluice of a water-wheel, to graduate the amount of water passing to the wheel. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, 1893 *Times* 16 Dec. 9/5 The dangers to health begin with the second process, the conversion of the 'wickets' by the corrosion of an acid into white lead.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wicket-door* (= sense 1), *-gate*, *-window*. See also Wicket-gate, -keeper.

1823 Scott *Peveril*, iii. xiv, An arch'd portal door, in whose broad folding leaves, wrought and set with windows-grate,...The gallant Knight took earnest view The grated wicket-window through. 1824 — *Waw.* ix, A little taken wicket door. 1842 Browne *Hyp. Spasm* xxxix, A dusky passage, at the end of which was a wicket door.

**Wicket**, obs. form of Wicked.

**Wi·cket-gate.** [Gate *sb.*1] = Wicket 1.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 92 To wynne vp he wiket-gat but he wey schutte. 1678 Ray *S. & E. Words*, Wicket-gate, at the Shoal, that was...next to the Wicket-gate. 1833 Lough *Encycl. Archit.* § 316 A wicket gate, separating the yard from the passage. 1858 Dickens *Lett. Twice Ward.* v, A garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* x, She opened the little wicket-gate which led to the vicarage garden, and passed in. *fig.* 1851 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, So Nero deliberately chose the evil and refused the good, and the narrow wicket-gate of repentance was closed behind him.

**Wicket-keep**, colloq. abbrev. of next.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 1/1 One of these days the will be as good a batsman as he is a wicket-keep. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 13 June 730/1 Held the best-state wicket-keep.

**Wi·cket-kee per.** *Cricket.* A player stationed behind the wicket to stop the ball if it passes it, and if possible to put the batsman 'out' by 'stumping' or 'catching': see Stump *v.*1 8, Catch *v.* 24 c).

1737 *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 15 The Wicket Keeper shall stand at a reasonable distance behind the Wicket, and shall not move till the Ball is out of the Bowler's Hands. 1875 'Stonewall' *Brit. Sports* II. i. 4 § 671 The office of Wicket-keeper is second only to that of the bowler. 1902 *Field* 5 Feb. 245/1 David Hunter ...is retiring after having been 21 years wicket-keeper for Yorkshire.

So **Wi·cket-kee ping**, the occupation of a wicket-keeper (also *attrib.*).

1856 Jasper *Austen's Rambles* 207 One or two prided themselves on their wicket-keeping. 1891 Lillywhite *Guide Cricketers* 62 Box has improved very much upon the wicket-keeping glove. 1895 Dickens *Cr. Cricket.* xviii, It demanded...a constant attention, and a quickness of eye and hand, very like that exacted by wicket-keeping.

**Wickeyberry, Wickey-up**: see Wicky, Wickyup.

**+Wickhals.** *Obs.* [app. f. Wick *a.* 4 Halse *sb.*1, neck.] app. A gallows-bird, rogue.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 267 To while bise cardinals transaid for be pes, Here of a wikhals how he bigan a res. *c* 1400 *Land. Troy Bk.* 10086 Let him nouere dye of no wyk-hals!

**Wickham** (wikăm). *Angling.* Colloq. shortening of *Wickham's Fancy*, an artificial trout-fly.

1876 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* vi. (ed. 4) 241 The Wickham's Fancy...enjoys a wide reputation. 1911 *Comet of Harley Street* I. 9 Snatching his joy as one of your animal and *wickhedam* ('demonium' (also *phr. on wickdum dreame* in delirium, lit. in mad joy: see Wood *n.*, Dream *sb.*1). For its survival in Sc. cf. Wedderopa*.

For the phonology of the first syllable cf. Sc. *widcok* woodcock, *widbin* woodbine, and for the survival of the medial syllable, southern Sc. *Munonday* (OE, *mōnandæg*) Monday.] A state of mental disturbance or confusion; a wild fit. Chiefly in *phr. in a widdenditeam* or *widrim*, usu. as in a 'furious' hurry, fit of a sudden.

In 893 Ælfred *Oros.* (Bosw.) Hi wæron wode unwearnum dreame, þæt hie woldon mikle mon, mid mare acwellan, & hit on mete oþþe on dryncc to gebrigenne gesliun. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 249, 19 *Lunar insanus, lunaticus, vel genuine est quam ira, rapiens, woldendream* c 1000 Ælfric *Homil.* II. 110 Seo dohtor, þe on wodum dreame hæg dwelisnesse.]

1755 R. Forbes *Ajax's Sp.* etc. 31 At last we, like fierdy fellows, flew to't flaught-hied, thinkin to raise it in a wid'endream. 1893 Jamieson *Hunt & Antiq.* 144 In truth, the par, now here, now there, As in a widdrim lange. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 45 Sae fiercelins had his wildfreme stood at him. 1827 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxxix, [He] should in a fit of reckless 'wudden dream' determine that [etc.].

**Widder**, obs. f. Wether, Wither; dial. or vulgar f. Widow. **Widderschine, -shine, -sine**, etc., Sc. var. Witherstone.

**Widdiful** (wi·diful), *sb.* [a) *Sc.* Forms: 6 widdi-, -o-, -iefow, widdy fow, widdeful(), 8 widdy-fou', 8–9 widdiefu', 9 wuddiefu', (widi-, woodiefu), widdiful (-fu''. [f. Widdi + -ful 2: — one who would fill a 'widdy' or halter.] One who deserves hanging, a gallows-bird; a scamp, rascal. (Cf. Illmet.) Also *attrib.* or *adj.* But for a halter, deserving to be hanged: scampish, rascally.

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 190 Fy on the, fals tratour of thy wit gane wild. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 2650 My Lords, for Gods sak let not hang me, How[e]ir that widdifows wald wring me. *Ibid.* 3080 Ane widdy widdifow wald wyng me. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 42 Vidde-fullis al, viddefullis al grit and smal. 1737 Ramsay *Ne. Tale* iii. 50 Ay'e'e a widdy fou' gaunt a hanging time. 1793 Burns *Meg o' the Mill* ii. The laird was in widdin', liberal kind. 1822 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*, *Widdifow*...a mutual curse, spiteful person, of small stature. 1906 G. Aird *Wyant Jane my Maddie* 15 The laddie born, that widdiefu' Fates seis me at the kye.

**Widdle** (wi·d'l, *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also widdil, wuddle. [app. f. next.] Commotion, bustle; disturbance, trouble; strife, contention.

1786 Burns *Ep. to Major Logan* iii, To steer you through the worry widdle O' this auld warl'. 1825 Jamieson *Sc. Dict.* Wuddle, Widdle, the same. 1847 J. Halliday *Rural Antiq.* 26 This worldly world is a wuddle o' care.

**+Widdle,** *v.*1 *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wid,d)ill, widle, 7 widdle. [Origin obscure.]

1. *trans.* To invoke or inflict a curse upon: = Curse *v.* 2, 5.

1552 Abp. Hamilton *Cate.* (1884) 63 Quha breikis the second commandiT, thai sall nocht be haldin, bannis and widdills thair saule. for ony vaine mater. *Ibid.*, Thai that will nocht chastes...thair bannis fra knagis, swaird or, banning and willing. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 585 29 The bennis of Hadingtoun ressoun sald nocht lay, For this wyld wiboun with thame widill vs and warrit. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 240 Like Pigs to Puddock wallit and warye.

**2.** To beguile, to lead astray.

1597 Cleland *Poems* to Th's Amiable his Plus Ultra, 1. 1. 1.

**Widdy** (wi'di), *Chiefly N.* Forms: **1** widdle, weddle, *pl.* weddeis, -ys, wyddis, **6** wedy, widdy, -ie, weddie, *pl.* widdeis, weddeis, weddeis, **6–9** widdie, **7** wyddle, **8–9** woddie, woody, **9** widdey, wuddy -ie, **5–** widdy. [Sc. and north. dial. variant of WITHY.]

**1.** A hand or rope, properly one made of intertwined osiers or the like.

*c* 1470 Harry *Wallace* iii. 215 Thai band tham fast with weddys[,] *c* 1570 *Wallace* [1648] Soul and sac. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* i xii. Out thir on the wod come tydand cathes twane, Ane on ane asse, a widdie alhair his mone. 1513 *Acc. Rough Treasurer* (Cluny) 45 For cuttyn of the widdyis of be dur. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. S.C.* (S.T.S.) II. 99 Whilk widdeis [were windasst] and twis *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) I. 87 Instead of R pes for Fillers and Harness, they generally make use of Sticks of Birch twisted and knotted together; these are called *Weedies*. 1785 Burns *To Dr. J. Blacklock* vi. I have a wife and twa wee laddies, They maun hae brose and bannocks o' duddies; But I'll speel beens—thraw saugh woodies Before they want. 1824 Carr *Craven Dialect, Widdy*, twigs of willows or hazles dried partially in the fire, and then twisted into wreaths for many agricultural purposes.

**2.** A rope for hanging, a halter; used (like *halter* and *gallows*) in various allusive expressions referring to hanging.

In later use sometimes app understood as = gallows (in forms *woddi*, *woodie* prob. by association with *wood*).

*c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 813 Callit him thryss threvisch, to thrawe in a widdy. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 48 He had purgatioun to mak a theif To dee without a widdy. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 65 Than haa a wedy tenich ...about thy craig to rax. *c* 1535 Lyndesay *Complt. Ratcher* 151 This Prouerb, it is of verite, ...Hirst in Court, nixt the weddie. *a* 1568 in *Bann. Assoc. Mx.* (Hunter. Club) 204/40 All I mes in their lessone, Is wod, wattir and woddie, Or ane of thir infirmeteis. 1577 Woddrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 221 In short, I think what the wooddie leaves the water gets. 1786 Rr Fergusson *Elegy on Geordie* 3 God sain the Lairds gran I the Widdy. 1785 Burns *Twa Herds* xvi, Then Orthodoxy get may prance, And Learning in a woody dance. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiii, There is much to be done between the crack and the woodie as there is between the cup and the lip. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* iii, There's the shadow of the woddy...that lies braid across your path.

†**3.** A certain quantity of corn: perh. orig. a bundle bound with a 'widdy'. *Obs.*

1480 in *Chartrev*, etc *Edin.* (1871) 168 The hundreth widde of Dismond ine...cumand to Leith. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. (1839) 114 Ilkane xl wedein of ane, price of the wedde iijs. 1484 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 219, xx wethys ferti..xx wyddis ferti. 1539 in Sir W. Fraser *Northerdean Bk.* (1859) III. 79 Ane wedde to Godsman the Laird grun I the Widdy. 1785 Burns *Twa Herds* xvi, Then Orthodoxy get may prance, And Learning in a woody dance. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiii, There is much to be done between the crack and the woodie as there is between the cup and the lip. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* iii, There's the shadow of the woddy...that lies braid across your path.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 2) : †**widdy-neck**, one deserving or destined to be hanged. (See also WITHYPOLL.)

*c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 643 In dreid and schame our dayis we indure; Syne wikkitnek and crakraip callit als, A cald tift mure hire hangit vp be the hals. *a* 1563 Montgomerie *Flyting* 563 Wedy-neck, widdie neck!

**Widdy**, dial. or vulgar var. WIDOW.

**Wide** (wəid), *sb.* [absol. use of WIDE *a.* (OE. *wīd* did not survive.) Cf. ON. *víddi* width, widening, *víðir* the wide sea, the main, f. *víðr* WIDE *a.*]

†**1.** Width, breadth. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1646 (Cott.) Wit, hordan, envie, and pride Has spred his werld on lenth and wide. *Ibid.* 1676 A shippe...Seuen score elen long and ten, Thrys aght on wyde, on heght fusten.

†**b.** *On wide* : abroad, all around. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* II. 1423 He wayted onwyde, his wyschen he hy3tides.

**2.** †**a.** The open sea. **b.** A wide, extensive, or open space. Now only *poet.*

[*Cf. c* 1000 *Ags. Ps. Vesp.* cxxiii. 4 Fram waterestefnum wilra manigra: Vulg. *a vocibus aquarum multarum.*]

*a* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 1211 Pai sayden in to be wide. 1833 Tennyson *Two Voices* 48 The wide sea is full of that abyss.

**3.** *Cricket.* [Short for *wide ball*, WIDE *a.* 10 a.] A ball bowled wide of the wicket, counting one against the bowler's side.

1850 Bell's *Life*, *Mar.* 26 Rule the [scoring] sheet, with three additional lines for wides, byes, and no-balls.

**Wide** (wəid), *a.* Forms: 1–4 wid, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) wyd, 4–6 wyde (4 *Sc.* vyde, 5 wyyd, wijd, 7 weed(e)), 3– wide. Comp. **wider** (wəi·dəɹ), also, with shortened vowel, **1** widra, **4** wydder, **4–6** widdor (5 -ir, -ur); sup. **widest** (wəi·dəst). [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *wīd* = OFris., Ons. *wīd*: MLG. *wīd*, MDu. *wijt*, Du. *wijd*, etc.), OHG., MHG. *wīt* (G. *weit*), ON. *víðr* (Sw., Da. *vid*).:— OTeut. **wīdaz*; further relations obscure.]

**I.** **1.** Having great extent (esp. horizontally); vast, spacious, ample, extensive, roomy. *Obs.* exc. as generalized use of sense 5.

*Beowulf* 1839 Penden ic wealde widan rices. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 9 Wes his rice brad, wid & wordlic. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* 28 The chambres and the stables weren wyde. *Ibid.* 431 Wyd was his parisshe and houses fer a sonder. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 15 Cri-tenedom was nyh widder þan be empere of Rome *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9382 He wandit þat worthy in his wide brote. 1535 Coverdale *Percv.* xxi. 9 It is better to dwell in a corner vnder ye house toppe, then with a braulinge woman in a wyde house. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 137 This wide and vniuersall Theatre Presents more wofull Pageants then the Scene Wherein we play in. 1600 *1st Pt Sir J. Oldcastle* viii. The wide horizon. 1696 Phillips *Ac. E. India & Ch.* 63/2 In wide open Places under the Shed lie those of their Buzzars. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* xvii, A wyde and splendit hall 1847 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* viii. 84 At Iona, or Icolmkill, in the midst of wide waters. 1877 Macdonald *Wke, Fancy & Imag., Longing* ii, O all wide places, far from feverous towns! ...Room! give me room!

**b.** as a conventional epithet of worlds denoting an extensive area, esp. the earth and the sea (*poet.* and *arch.*). The wide epithet of *world* has later use sometimes implying contrast to the privacy or security of one's own home or country.

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 104 Ac þes wida grund stod deop & dim. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 542 Sume hi særon...on widne sæ bysnode. *c* 1200 Orrm 12117 Off all þess wide middelgerd þe kinedomess alle. *c* 1205 Lay. 112 Eneas þe duc mid his dribt fol ke Widen iwalken 'prud þi wide water. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2 Ne was ðe firme morgen tid, Dat eauer sprong in werld[e] wid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13702 Pair bigh wid aboute þat hill Was bigged his temple wide. 13.. *E. Allit.* 641 (Hunt.) Þe kyng rod on burlepe to be wyde wode. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conscr.* 934 Alle þe world go wyde and brade, Our Lord specials for man made. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 179 Al the wide worldes lome Spak wordes of his worthinesse. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 41 Quhen thay fellis wyde. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxiii[i]. 25 Yee the earth is full of thy riches. So is this greate and wyde see also. 1591 Shakes. *2 Hen. VI*, *Induction* 2 As we last enter'd the world so wide. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heecyra* iv. iv, Shall we rather leaue him to the wide world? 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xv. 91 Further then to ride the wide world with a little money in their purses. 1652 Nedham *Selden's Mare Cl.* 57 The wide Ocean. 1658 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 69 The world being wyde he would not venture her conscience upon a disputable point. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. i. § 3 These were so fully known to him...that he needed not to go to School to the wide world for them. 1728 Van Effen *Mispr.* (1736) I. 1 I shall be tossed a drift to the wide World. 1840 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, The course and bhasted faces...hive counterparts...all the wide world round. 1843 Kingsley *Saint's Tragedy* iv, I should like to see the wide air into tatters. 1847 Buckstone *Flowers of Forest* iii. vii, No, no—not for the wide wide world. 1865 Dickens *Our Mutual Friend* iii. iv, Then thoughtfully about what the river was like. All his fancy was, to get down to the wide wide sea.

**c.** A garment or piece of dress: Capacious; large and loose. *Obs.* as a specific sense, exc. *dial.* in *wide coat*, a great-coat, overcoat.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon, & halt hin þoth brihtliche, if he haued enne wide hod & one side hakelene. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knight's T.* 1 Whan he was war so wyd a Cope! 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 271 Thenne hadde i-ly wonder of his wordes and of hus wide clopes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Wyde clothes were tumpart, and scho wold leue aneuche hom, but scho nyght not, for hur wern so wyde. 1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 197 To be the King ane wyd doubleto fra Maistir Johne of Murray. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* N. iii. b, 196 And the snake throwes her enammel'd skinne, Weed wide enough to clap a Fairy in. 1609 J. Davies *Humour's Heaven* i. iv, Whipping a satten wast, With a wide side and wide sleeue. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wide-coat*, an upper or great coat.

**2.** *transf.* Extending over or affecting a large space or region; far-reaching, extensive. Chiefly *poet.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 189 Þæt ðe is þeþohte adrifan dihten of selde,...sceal [ic] nu wres lastas settan sorhfcearik sibes wide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24992 He es told alsua o sight wide, Þat sua fele sal him nanan help. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 23 They [sc. the winds]...tosse the deepes, and teare the firmament, And all the world confound with wide spred wings. 1597 Daniel *Civ. Wars* viii. 66 He [sc. a snake] rages in the Fields, and wide Destruction th eats. 1818 Keats *Endym.* ii. 307 O woodland Queen,... Where shall I find the wide dominion Of thy full-handed nymphs? 1841 Jamie's *Corse de Leon* i, A turn where they could obtain a wider view. 1859 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxxiii, After wide wanderings through the valley for].

**3.** *Far-missing.* (See quot. 1883, and cf. WIDE *adv.* 1 c.)

1883 Gaskell *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wide Work.* A South Yorkshire system (now nearly obsolete) of working coal. Sets of short *stalls* or *banks*, 7 or 8 yards in width, forming a line of *faces* about 60 yards in length, with a *gate* or *level*, about 3 or 4 feet of coal being left between each *bank*, the main road pillars being subsequently extracted. 1904 *Times Weekly* 15 Mar. 354/3 Engaged on 'wide' work were paid yardage to which they were not entitled.

†**3.** Great (in various non-physical senses). *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2200 His temlest wit his mikel pride Wend to wyth wordes wide. *Ibid.* 13230 For þat mar I ought to sai, þe widder sold i find be wal. *Ibid.* 23104 Who bes stad in wa ful wide. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxii. 9 Ne wolde he nat for wyde wynnynge ywyue ayein wydder. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1970 For wella wide ware þe weile, Bathe bi glorie & bi prace, bi gladnes in mithe, Mijt þou fynde inches of Mesedenge wynnynge Israelle *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* xxxvi. 62 Lowse thow my lippis, that tyme and tyd I may gif to the lovingis wyd.

**4.** *fig.* Having a large range; comprising, affecting, applying or relating to a great number or variety of persons, events, subjects, points, etc.; extensive, largely inclusive. (*Of a word or term*) having a large extent of meaning: = Broad *a.* 10. Common since 18 c.

1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* I. D 4 Therfore ryseth the large and wyde praise by rhetoryk[e] of Marathon [*orig. Hinc rhetorum campus de Marathone*]. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlii. 15 So wyd thy word does waire That the immortall makes. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. 77 These perpetuall exploits obtain'd won him wide fame 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* iii. iv, I fear the misfortunes of Mr. Belfield have spread a ruin wider than his own. 1797 Mathon *Sir J. Reynolds' 11 ths.* I. p. xxxv, In the historical department [of pictures], he took a wider range. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci & Art* II. 406 There is yet a wide field for useful experiment. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. i. 1. ii, I want a definition of art wide enough to include all its varieties of aim. 1856 Miss Mulock *John Halifax* xxxvi, 'The boy—to whose destitution we had no clue but the wide world, America. 1858 Mrs. Pat. *Uncle Ralph* xvii, 'Never is a wide word, Miriam,' said Allie. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man* ix. 134 *notr*, His wide knowledge of ethnography. 1868 Nettleship *Rss. Browning* i. 54 How to use such his own and his mistresses' attributes for the widest good. 1868 M. Pattison *Academy. Org.* 2 The ideas of the wider public. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 15 (Ills) wide experience as a teacher ...and an inspector of schools.

**b.** Of views or opinions, or *transf.* of the person holding them: = Liberal *a.* 13.

1844 Macaulay *Athen. Oration* 8 20 States have always been best governed by men who have taken a wide view of public affairs. 1853 Tennyson *Two Voices* xlii, When wide in soul and bold of speech, I read the Future's dawning hope. 1884 *Spectator* 19 Apr. 513/2 Both the High Churchman and the Wide Churchman. *Ibid.*, The Wide Churcher High-Church circles.

†**c.** Vague. *Obs. rare.*

1598 Fryer *Ac. E. India & P.* 208 Though his Verses are most Elegant...yet the description is very wide.

**II.** **5.** Having great extent from side to side; large across, or in transverse measurement. (Opp. to *narrow*.)

Now distinguished from *broad* in so far as it tends to be restricted to applications in which actual mensuration from point to point is possible or contemplated, and to which there is no implication of superficial extent; hence in certain technical uses (see quots.).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 13 Þæt seat is swyþe wid, & se weg is swiþe rum, þæt is forspillendnesse ǽcelast. 1825 in Birch *Cartul.* (1887) III. 209 Dutton to widan zeates; fionon to cadulles mere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1682 Þu sal[.] Make a dor wit mesure wide. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 228/1 Their ein brade, Wyth vellum was pair face made. 1878 Barnour *Bruce* iii. 23 Till sum gaiff thai woundis wid. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Jacobus*) 88 Þai fand a wide way & a large. Out a watyr, depe and wyd. *c* 1386 Chaucer *H. Fame* ii. 285 Euery secle cauysyge oþir Wyder than hym self was. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 516/1 Wyde, or brode. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 22 Christis woundis wyde. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 76 Shallow Brooks, and Riuers wide. 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Ess. Sex. Lett.* 139 (1840) 135 Those Men when they walked made very wide paces. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xii. 463 Wide was the wound, But suddenly with flesh fill'd up & heal'd. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 173 A purple carpet spread, the pavement wide. 1727 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 256/2 One of the great recommendations of a wide gauge. 1808 *Repr. E. N. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 416 Making experiments in the width of the furrow, wide drilling and thin seeding. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Wide Spade* (Whaling), used to cut the blubber in the rough, before mincing. 1888 Jas. Watson *Practical Turn, Wide measures*, long and wide measures of type, distinct from narrow or short ones.

**b.** *transf.* of the lateral boundaries: Having a wide space between, far apart. (Cf. 7 and 8.)

1840 Dickens *Old Curios. Shop* i, It turns between green banks which grow wider and wider until at last it joins the broad vast sea.

**6.** Having a specified or particular transverse measurement indicated by a numerical quantity or by a comparison; (so much) across.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Hwene widere þonne hydenfæt. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1307 Fæt geweorc fiftiges wid, hnitiges heah, þreohund ling ehtenteða. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 565 Þat arche was...[L]il eine wid, and xxx. Wore hire heȝe. 1311 Bibl. Xar *Chron. Vare* (Rolls) 7503 Grantie me ... Manore land, wyd ne syd, Jan y may sprede a boles hyd. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iii. 40 A temple was goonne of twelue ȝerdes wyde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1324 þuise Joint he ȝsmes, And makis a wal wyde enoȝ wayues to mete. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* 1. xiii. 72 That thing is not to be notabli wridde than the meetnes of hem wolde aske. *Ibid.*, These schoon to be no wijdir than euen meete to hise wiked partie. 1599 Shakes. *Much Ado* iii. Sept. 20 Hee is wound here a little wider. 1611 Bible Num. Introduced both bidder and shidder. 1792 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 100 'Tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore. 1865 Grosart *Lismore* 11 A Bridle-road 4 feet wide. 1871 Ib. 19 Windowes... must be higher then wide. 1892 Lounsbury *Salvation Hunt.* 617 Take half-inch and two inch wide nails or laths. *Engl. Dial. Dict.* 1900 Yks. Wpr., 1'st The island is small, and at its widest part about a mile and a half in width.

**7.** Opened widely, expanded; of the arms, stretched widely apart. Now superseded in general use by *wide open* (see WIDE *adv.*).

1598 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 335 3it tuk I neuir the wosp clene out of my wyde throte. 1600 Dausy tr. *Sheldone's Quixo.* 449/1, That a wyder entrie he not open to y^e Turkes to inuade in. 1607 Dekker *Whore* iv. 96 Spread no Gossips Prison Rattes haue wider cares then those in Malt-lofts. 1611 *Bible* Ian. lvii. 4 Against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? 1667 Milton *Par. L.* ii. 762 All access was throng'd, the Gates And Porches wide. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 4, 1 The Mares...with wide Nostrils snuff the Western Air. 1797 *Encycl. Perthen.* s.v. *Hipp.* 1. 1 She from his side, deceiv'd, desiring Arms Flew toutless 1820 Keats *St. Agnes* iv, Many a door was wide. 1821 Galt *Provost* xxxvii. With wide and wild arms, like a witch in a whirlwind. 1867 Morris *Jason* xv. 839 The three...gazed at him with wide eyes wondering.

(*b*) *esp.* as quasi-*sb.* in phr. *at wide(st)*.

1820 Shirley *Teseph.* i. i. 63 Though many drop of water swerue against it, And gape at wide to glut him.

**b.** *Phonetics.* Of a vowel-sound: Pronounced with the tongue relaxed, or with a wider opening

between it and some other part of the mouth than the corresponding *narrow* vowel.

1867 A. M. Bell *Visible Speech* 72 The vowels—whether 'Primary,' 'Wide,' or 'Rounded'—are divided into three classes of palato-lingual formations. 1890 [see Narrow *a.* 2d].

**III. 8.** Extending far between limits; existing between two things which are far apart, literally or figuratively, as a distance or interval, a distinction or difference.

*To give a wide berth to*: see Berth *sb.* 1.

1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* II. ix. (Arb.) 96 Because your concordes containe the chiefe part of Musicke in your mettre, their distaunce may not be too wide or farre a sunder. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 194 The wide difference 'Twixt Amorous and Villanous. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* II. ii. 293 The wide Distinction, Between an open, hospitable Man, And Prodigal the Prejudice secure, And Miser, pinch'd with Penury. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1867) I. § 2. 49 The wider is the interval between the respective places in the series. 1864 Robson *Scamen's Jrl.* 175 There is a wide difference between elementary knowledge and superficial knowledge. 1918 *Daily Tel.* 19 Dec. 2 3 Among foreign railways, also, some wide fluctuations San Paulo finished at a substantial improvement.

†**9.** Situated a great way off, distant, far; in quot. 1590, held at a distance, not close. Also, situated at a specified distance (cont. *of* = from). *Obs.*

Only predicative, or following the sb.; thus nearly approaching Wide *adv.* 4.

1*a*1400 *Arthur* 552 [He] stroghthed hym on eche syde With Men of contreys fern & wyde. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ciii[i]. 12 Look how wyde the east is from the west, so farre hath he set oure synnes from vs. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 36 His pointed speare he shot...As pound Cyclopes, whilles his shield was wyde. 1597 J. Dee *Diary* (Camden) 59 Calcot in Chessh[ire], about six myles wide of Chester. 1622 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1882) IV. 76 A place, 4 miles wide of St. Alban. 1779 Swift *Hist. and Solomon* Wks. 1841 II. 330 He was to set out to another part of the kingdom, thirty miles wide of the place appointed. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxvii. 317 Unsuitable put him on a line as wide of his own wheat as he could.

**b.** *fig.* Far, far apart (in nature, character, views, statements, etc.); not in accordance, disagreeing, different; foreign, alien; far *from* (doing something). Const. *from, of.* (Often approaching or coinciding with to **b**.) Now *rare*.

c 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. * v b, Valerius Maximus and Plinius, in the reporting of a certain alter[a]cion 3t was betwene Cn. Domitius & Lucius Crassus,.., how wyde been thei the one from the other. 1595 Barrough *Conf.* 11 What a cruell lawe is this! how farre wyde from the Gospel, yea from the lawe of nature also. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1577) Gij b, It seemeth a matter very wide from reason. 1596 W. P. tr. *Currie's Panyine in Tramed* 9b, The which things..were al farre wide..from that true & most pure virgin the Lords mother. 1600 Marston, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* i. (1601) C 3 b, Those that are farre more yong and witte, Are wide from singing such a Ditte. 1630 Harwood *Apol.* (ed. 2) Advts. Ez 2 b, How farre wide the Romanists are disclosed out of the Word of the Church..were in the exposition of many passages of holy Scripture. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Nov. (1901), The relation he gave..was very wide from what we fancied. 1734 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. *Chas. I* iii. 199 That rustic contempt of the fair sex, which James affected..was very wide of the dispositon of this monarch. 1807 Robinson *Hem. & Corr.* Wks. 1883 X. 473 My own notions..were too wide of the notions prevalent among lawyers. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* viii. 136 Hence befals Thou Esau is set wide of Jacob. 1871 Earle *Philol. Engl. Tongue* § 1 A language whose development has been wide of ours, as the Hebrew.

**c.** Situated far apart in a series: *spec.* in *Cards* (see quot.).

1897 R. F. Foster *Complete Hoyle* 444 Cards which are likely to form parts of sequences are called close cards, and those which are too widely separated to do so are called wide cards.

**10.** Deviating from the aim, or from the direct or proper course; missing the mark or the way; going astray. Also const. *of* (†*from*). (Most commonly predicative, approaching or coinciding with Wide *adv.* 5.) **a.** *lit.*; *spec.* in *Cricket*, of a ball bowled too far aside from the wicket for the batsman to strike it (now usually *elliptical*: see Wide *sb.* 3).

1598 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. i. 135 Wide a'th' bow hand, i'faith your hand is out. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 70 If the Shot be both wide and too low. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wide*, when the Blast of the Bowl holds not enough. 1851 Illustrated *Guide Cricket* 13 The Umpire must take especial care to call..' Wide Ball' as soon as it shall pass the Striker. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. xi. 114 Ere ball was 'wide'. 1854 Lever *Ned Poynter Corrow* xi, His guards were all wide, and his eyes unsteady.

**b.** *fig.* (*a*) without prep. (now *rare*): in early use often = Astray in opinion or belief, mistaken (now expressed by the full phr. *wide of the mark*). In quot. 1605, perh. Wandering in mind, delirious.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ii. (1577) K v b, Whose heareth him, may..thinke ye be also with very little a do, might attaine to yᵉ perfection, but when he commeth to yᵉ proufe, shall finde himselfe farre wide. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 140/2 Let vs see if this be well prayctised, alas, the matter is farre wide [orig. *Helas il ien faut beaucoup*]. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iii. 31, I'm neither as you thinke, nor as you thinke, Nor as you thinke: you're wide all. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iv. vii. 52 *Lear.* You are a spirit I know, when did you dye? *Cor.* Still, still, farre wide. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Godeau's Hist. Vita Christi* 197 To them that are wide, and strangers to the true light. 1632 Massinger *Maid Hon.* II. ii. You are wide, the whole field wide. I in my understanding Pitty your ignorance. *a* 1656 Hause *City Wit* v. v. *Py.* I know your purpose: you come after the Marriage to forbid the banes...*Lin.* Good Mrs. Sneakup, you are wide. I come to wish joy to the match. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 83 He was a little wide there.

(*b*) Const. *from* (now rare or obs.), *of*: esp. in phr. *wide of the mark*.

Sometimes scarcely distinguishable from 9 b.

1566 W. *Pet. Pleas. Pasquine in Traunce* 74 b, They are so farre wyde from the institution of Christ, & from the truth. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Stukeley* i. Of which all reason reckeneth and wittie, That tooke so vppon vs to rule all the land. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 115 Though I should talke of halfe as manie more, I should not be farre wide of the truth. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* v. viii. 278 How wide he is from truth. 1672 W. Walker *Paræm.* 29 You are quite out of the way; wide of the marke; clearly mistaken; *Toto errat via*. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1301 He is wide of the cushion; *errat longè*. 1718 in 10th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 112 A lasting happiness, of which they are wide, thro' want of religion. 1725 Berkeley *Def. Free-thinking* § 46 Your Comment must be wide of the Author's meaning. 1747 *Mem. Notre-Dame Cr.* II. 95 Sentiments..you think so wide from the duty I should pay. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. iv. *Comm.* p. xv, In his solar images he is not quite so wide from the fact. 1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. iv. (1840) 339 Mr. Jones then, from whom he quotes, is wide Calvinist. 1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* iii, You had best not interrupt me...till you understand me; and you're wide of doing so. 1848 *Dombey* xl, I have questions..are all wide of the purpose. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Oct. 442/2 This belief of the French critic is not so very wide of the mark.

†**c.** Amiss. *Obs. rare.*

1604 Jb. Hall *Contempl., Aaron & Miriam*, It were wide far vs, if our suites should be euer heard. *Ibid., Rahab*, It would bee wide with the best of vs, if the eye of God should looke back vpon vs our former estate.

**11.** Going beyond bounds of restraint, propriety, or virtue; †unrestrained, violent (*obs.*); lax, loose, immoral (now *colloq.* or *slang*). (Cf. Broad *a.* 6, R.)

1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 395 The Courteour, with wordis wyde, Said 'I hear nathing but prouyde, And get now litle, and ete neir ane thyng'. **b.** Collier *Aurel. 15 Quest.* Pref., Any man that hath not a weak head and a wide conscience. 1900 Wister *Virginian* xiii, Wide females is pink. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 3 4 Madrid was full of 'wide' characters.

**b.** Going beyond bounds of moderation; excessive, immoderate. (Cf. slang *tall, steep.*)

1858 Greener *Gunnery* Advts. 2 Producing...guns equal, if not superior, in anything yet produced by any maker whatever. This may be considered a wide assertion, but to prove he does not make it rashly he is prepared to test the fact by a competition with any maker. 1895 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 7/5 Prices asked are very wide, and are beyond the values that merchants are disposed to give.

**c.** *slang.* With swallow, cube, etc.

1887 Hindley *Tottings from Tail* 9, I got in company with some of the widest (cleverest) people in London. 1892 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 1/1 Well, she was tipsy; but she was very wide tipsy.

**IV. 12.** *Comb.* **a.** Parasynthetic, forming adjs. in -ED ³ (unlimited in number), as *wide-arched, -armed, -banked, -branched, -brimmed, -chapped* (†*-chopt*), *-handed, -hearted, -jointed, -lipped, -minded, -necked, -realmed, -skirted, -sleeved, -spaced, -spanned, -streeted, -throated, -trayed*, etc.

**b.** Rarely with simple sbs., forming adjs. in sense having, involving, pertaining or relating to a (or the) wide *-arch, -bed, -bench, -room, -world*.

Special Combs. **wide-angle** *a.*, applied to a lens of short focus, the field of which extends through a wide angle, used for photographing at short range; **wide-eared** *a.*, having wide ears; also in sense 7, having the ears wide open, listening intently; **wide-eyed** *a.*, having wide eyes; usually in sense 7, having the eyes wide open, gazing intently; also *fig.*; **wide-gab**, loan Sc. name for the fishing-frog or frog-fish; **wide-leafed, -leaved** [-ing] *a.* = *broad-leaf* or *-leaved*; *Comyns' Dig.* Bar, broad-brimmed; †**wide-side** *a.* [Side *a.*¹], wide and long, capacious; **wide-winged** *a.*, having wide wings; flying through a wide space or region (chiefly *poet.*). See also Wide-mouthed, -watered.

1878 *Amer. Photogr.* (1881) 294 The next lens is what is known as a 'wide angle' doublet, in which the separation between the lenses is small, and their focal length considerably shorter. Some of these combinations are made so as to cover a circle whose diameter subtends an angle of 90° from the optical centre. 1900 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 5/3 Among banquet-room shone with 'wide-arched grace. 1898 Meredith *Odes to Fr. Hist.* 27 With view of 'wide-aimed heaven. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 73 Beside 'wide-banked Thames. 1819 Keats *Lamia* i. Wide-breasted, fierce-mouthed boa. 1918 J. W. Gerard *Face to face with Kaiser* i. xv. 256 An attress who wore a 'wide-brimmed hat. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 60 Their 'wide-chopp'd ale. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1976/4 A black Coach Mare..a little 'wide Eared. 1865 Kingsley *Heroes*, iv, The boys listened, wide-eyed and wide-eared. 1788 Cowper *Gratitude* 11 This wheel-footed studying chair,..'Wide-elbow'd, and waddled with hair. 1853 Tennyson in Ld. T. *Mem.* (1897) I. 304 The 'wide-eyed wonder of a babe has a grandeur in it. 1854 Kingsley *Hypatia, Argon* i. 80 The boy listened wide-eyed. 1894 *Forum* (N.Y.) Feb. 717 Madison's 'wide-eyed prudence in counsel. 1808 Nares in *Mem. Werneriun Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1821) I. 518 *Lophius piscatorius*..Frog-fish...In the North Isles of Scotland, it is termed the 'Wide-gab, the mouth being hideously large. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 209 The Fishing Frog, Angler, or Sea Devil. Wide Gab, Scotland. 1600 Bilton tr. *Tasgaut's Foole's-cappe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70/2 In the nine of Windesores, yᵉ 'wide handed Wats will cure shoote awry. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. ii. 371 The 'wide-head oaks. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* viii, The old Anglo-Norman leechableness and 'wide-heartedness. 1917 *Modern. Mag. Nov.* 139 I have narrow in their interests,..but wide-hearted. 1874 J. H. Parker *Introd. Gothic Arch. Brit.* i. I. (ed. 4) 12 'Wide-jointed masonry is a usual characteristic of the twelfth century in England and Normandy. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1547 4 Open 'wide-laced Breeches. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* v. vii. (1860) 894 He wears a 'wide-lipped, flat, cork felt. 1894 Weyman *Man in Black* ix, A dark, sallow man, ..with a wide leafed hat. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxvii, Those 'wide-lipped crystal vessels..in which damsels measure out their liquid drinks. 1883 *A. Barr and's Phys. Metemp.* Pref. p. xx, In politics his sympathies were liberal and 'wide-minded. 1914 Tollinton *Clement of Alex.* II. xx. 273 Wide-minded Christians, who have the power to discern affinities and to greet the ally in disguise. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Paperhanger* 59 A 'wide-necked glass stopped bottle. 1730 *Hist. Oxfordshire* 81 At his wide-open wretched scrip was hung, 'Wide-patch'd, and knitted to a twisted thong. 1838 Mrs. Browning *Island* ix, 'Wide-petal'd plants. 1820 Combe tr. *Gall* I. (1615) I. 28 The advantages of the 'wide-row culture. 1866 Smyth *Sabine Du Bartas* II. iv. 11, *Magnificence* 316 Glory..Her 'wide-side Robes..All Story wrought with bloudy Victories. 1905 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 66 Those pelicon dames That claim shares with me in my fairest Moiles, and 'wide-skirted Meades. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxii, The coat was wide-skirted. †1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* xi. 129 A 'wide sleeued Gowne. 1845 Hazlehurst *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 62 She was gap-toothed, or 'wide-spaced. 1889 *Fall Mall Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/2 Wide-seated horses, beautiful action, and 'wide-spanned. 1611 *Valiant Welsh.* (1879) I. 65 'Wide-spanned arches. 1868 M. Collins *Street Jane Page* III. 227 'Wide-streeted Troy. 1593 Percivall *Span. Dict., Espiado*, 'wide throated. 1897 Thomson *Manley of Queen's.* v. i, Will this wide-throated Bowl, the multitude, Never leave hallowing? 1791 Cowper *Iliad* x. 8 Wide-throated war calamitous. 1849 Buckley *Iliad* 2 The 'wide-wayed city of the Trojans. 1828 Shirley *Edw. Morton* 3 Muses..Sing the 'wide-winged Moon! 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 250 The wide-winged wind. 1872 Jenkins *Last Tourn.* 433 The wide-wing'd sentinel of the misty marsh. 1884 J. G. Wood in *Sunday Mag.* May 307/2 Wide-winged as they are, the Locusts are very feeble in the air. 1895 Rankin *Sports of Prince Edward Island* 11 The [sea-fowl] has neither cloister breeding nor lordly breeding,..but he has an open sky and 'wide-world breeding in him.

**Wide,** *adv.* Forms: 1 - **wide**, (3 **wide**), 3–4 **wid**, 4–6 **wyde**, (4 *Sc.* **wyde**), 5 (6 *Sc.*) **wyd**. [OE. *wide* = OS. *wīda* (MLG., MDu. *wide*, Du. *wijd*), OHG. *wīta* (MHG. *wīte*, G. *weit*), ON. *víða* (Sw., Norw. *vida*): adverb. f. OE. *wīd*, etc. Wide *a.*] = Widely, in various senses.

In modern texts freq. illogically hyphened to a pple.

**1.** Over or through a large space or region; so as to reach or affect many or various places or persons; far abroad. Chiefly *poet.* (superseded in prose by *far and wide*: see b).

*Beowulf* 1203 Hafast þu gefered þine waldwanpum wide ferhþ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 7 Manncwealmas beoð & hungras wide ȝeond land. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 He wandrede wide, wreiðen he sohte, ne funde he neuer stede. *c* 1205 Lay. 26962 Þet lond he weste wide. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 521 We hen ben wide idrit e abeate From contreie to contreie. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2118 Land he hath, I-wis, Marshal I-hulmen pray. Prince wyde knowe. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 46, I wiste neuere Man þat with hym spak, ne spares was as I haue yussed: 3if I wide shal be Ryghte (Rolls) VI. 399 He..spuld I-nouȝ þat he wyde walde þan dede his fader. *c* 1400 *Pater Noster* 1830 in *Pol. Poems* I. 248 In salt see I seyled well wyde. 1566 Drant tr. *Horace's Epist. Sat.* (1567) I. Sij b, Quhair ane man is mare irate it spredis the selfe sa braid and wyde, that [etc.]. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* iv. 247 Those hot-spirits that feed, diffus'd far wider their outrages to incursions. 1728 Thomson *Winter* 810 There, The Russian exile. 1740 Akenside *Ode, On Winter-solstice* v, Such the lasting tempest..Which now wide thro' the living lands the sky. 1832 Wordsw. *Yarrow Revisited* xxvi, The mighty stream is wide on that sweet day. 1889 Swinburne *Poems & Ball. Sec. ser. Jubilee's Laureate*, On Keddon-side the wind blaws wide.

**b.** In phr. *far and wide* (rarely *wide and far*); *near and wide* (see Near *adv.* 11 b).

*c* 1000 *O. E. Martyrol.* 10 June 64 He..fode feor and wide ȝeond middaneard. *c* 1300 tr. *Bædas Hist.* iii. 8, Watson þa wundes feorr & wide ȝemærcode. *a* 1000 *Ambros.* 1697 Þa ȝe-monadon wera, wære & wide. *c* 1200 See Sone *Ayenbi.* 14. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 700 Quoso MS.] iu nest me. Hi[e]h can ny cheo ende Buite syngen in mine wide & hunge hisse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) I. 48 Þo he riche feld cultuite, Wolland eer to be rede se. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 161 (Cotton MS.) Hys Faderand hold for-oute wyde Messengers on euery syde. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen & Wedow* 146 They destroyit the cuntre rycht wyde. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 91 Hath wide, broad, added to the Goose, proues thee far and wide a broad Goose. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 1048 Hell-scouts Scout far and wide into the Realm of night. 1761 Gray *Fatal Sisters* 69 Far and wide the notes prolong. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. x, Their sword's wanton wrath is wide and far. 1828 Southey *Life* (1850) II. 221 Mountedeer are only coming from far and wide. 1862 H. Kingsley *Austin Elliot* xiv, Though they scoured the country far and wide

*c* *Cockfighting*. (Cited without *c*. 2 b.)

1904 *Times* 23 May 7 0 Payment was by no means mixed when working 'wide'—i.e., on the face of the seam.

**2.** With a large space or spaces between; at a wide interval or intervals; far apart or asunder; in quot. 1481, with 'wide' or long steps. (Cf. 4.)

a1000 *Hyf i Cwmf* 13 pat by todkilden unc pat wt Rewid st in word brick. hild *a* 1220 *O l Chron* (Laud) iii 1012 Pe 13 lerde se here wide swa he ær xeg dered we *a* 1440 *Promp Parvum* in *O E Hom* i. 301 Her in wolpe ich me bi-tweonen pe ic ihere ermes bi swiðe wide to-spredde i do pe ned? 1481 CAXTON *Aymon* 4 *Aymon* (Arb) 105 The wulf stode vyder than my hand thyde and offe cruttiske hym. 1688 HORNECK *More's Utopia* 68 Where the Towns lie wider, they have much more Ground 1797 E. HAMILTON *Wise & Inf* I. 116 The Churches long built wide from one another 1820 KEATS *Poems* 178 A sacred tripod White slender feet wide swerved upon the soft carpets 1861 READE *Cloister* x. But when Mrs. whispered 'Not wide!' says she, 'Ay! the table will soon be a thing o' the children 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 June 7/1 Then kicks of activity are so wide apart

**b.** Of a horse. With the legs apart: opp. to NEAR *adv.* 2 11.

1680 *Last Gaz* No 1574/4 A Bright Bay Gelding Walks and Gallops well but lolling 1737 BRADLEY *Country Gentl* (1757) II. 4 A Horse that is very wide before, and near behind *Ibid* 63 He should stand pretty wide behind, and not be near

**c.** Loosely asunder, so as not to remain close or in contact.

1784 COWPER *Task* i. 167 The sportive wind blows wide Their fluttering rags, and shows the shiv'ring skin 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* iv. 560 Shaking, wide thy yellow hair 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* iii, Wide flew the folds of her robe behind, and wide 1841 —

**3.** With a wide or broad opening; esp. with *open* vb. or adj. = fully; to the full extent; with *flings, fly, set,* etc. (in ref. to a door, gate, or the like) = *wide open* (coinciding with the predicative use of WIDE *a.* 7 c).

With *verbs of opening.* Ps. *cxviii* (*cxix*). 131 *wide, on Mw hpeorode* (Thr hdl) *Hi!* *a* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Lib) cxxxviii[i] 11 Mu[ð] is ontyn le minne wide *a* 1220 *Bestiary* 356 Danne hun hungreð he gapeð wid *a* 1400 50 *Maid Quene* 1 *Ant* 28 Wyde hy gapede wyde pen eiðes *a* 1400 *Siege Troye* (E. E. T. S.) 22 Þay A cete, on Wyde speculeþ, & muto swelwe *a* 1450 *Cursor M* (Trin. Coll. MS.) 13 pat yalow 30 pam ewyde 1535 COVERDALE *Ps* lxxxi[i] 10 Open thy mouth wyde & I shall fill it 1610 SHAKES. *Temp* II. i. 124 This is a strange thing as e'er I look'd on. Pah! what a wide mouth you have! 1718 PRIOR *Turtle & Pig* The scene wide opening to the blaze I light 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1135 Wide rent, the clouds Pour a wild flood 1798 COLERIDGE *Ancient Mar.* i. 11 The Bridegroom's doors are wide open 1804 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* xii. 13 Wide open was the gate 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. i. Wide open was the door 1854 PATMORE *Angel in H., Victories* The windows, all wide open in the sun 1895 HARDY *Well-Beloved* III. xiii. Wide doors were flung wide 1909 STEVENSON *Pirate of Silver Cove* [Elephant] with trunks swung up ears spread wide

**†b.** *Wide open* (in a person). Stretched at full length, esp. on the back. *Obs.*

13 *Northern Prose* (Cotton. MS.) 167/1604 A Man shall be slain with his head turned back 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 565 He fell adowne in a swoune, Wyd open ore here I-fare 1460 *Towneley Mysteries* (Surtees) 183 He lies wide open 1526 *Pilgr. Perf* (We W 1531) 81 He thus lyenge wyde open & voyd of sense ne hym & lestardyenge he hym 1551 T. WILSON *Rule Reason* (1580) 81 b, Which is easy to be gheued vnto the eare, to stande spright, to stirre, to leape, to lye greuelyng, to lye wyde open

**4.** At (to, from) a great, or specified) distance; far, far away, far off, (so far) away or off. Now only *dial.*

*Te calf* 1450 Hia wide spring *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 288 I hw se from me in wide *a* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 81 White rokkes appeareþ a fer wide of þe see 1400 *Destr Troy* 1. 1. 1.

'R. Holderwood' *Col. Reformar* xviii, Through the widely-opened gateways.

**4.** *fig.* To a large extent, greatly, very much, extremely, 'far'; *esp.* +(*a*) so as to be 'wide of the mark', with large deviation from accuracy, as in *widely mistaken*; (*b*) so as to be far apart in nature, character, amount, etc., as in *widely different, to differ widely*.

1688 Bunyan *Heavenly Footman* (1886) 154 Alas, thou art widely mistaken! 1705 Berkeley *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 459 Malbranch ..differs widely from me. 1802 Maria Edgeworth *Moral Tr., Forester* viii, Negligence and inhumanity are widely different. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* viii, She must indeed be widely changed from what she once was. 1882 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 392 The proportion of mineral matter ..differs widely in different springs.

†**5.** With 'latitude' of conduct, beyond the bounds of propriety, uncivilly: *cf.* Wide *a.* 11 a. *Obs. rare*—1.

1666 Pepys *Diary* 6 Aug., My Lord ..did treat her..very widely and ungenteely.

**Wide-mouth** (wəi·dˌmouth), *a. rare.* = next.

1596 Sir J. Davies *Epigr.* xl, The wide-mouth slave Will eate as fast as he will suffer lies. 1822 *Auction Catal. Fonthill Abbey* 74 A fine wide-mouth Jar.

**Wide-mouthed** (wəi·dˌmouðd, -mouþt), *a.*

**1. a.** Of a person or animal: Having a wide mouth.

1611 Cotgr., *Dinble de mer*, a wide-mouthed fish, called, the sea Frog. *Ibid.*, s. v. *Pendu, Rien fendu de guenle*, wide-mouthed, sparrow-mouthed. 1843 Tennyson *Godiva* 36 The little wide-mouthed heads upon the spout. 1854 A. Adams etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 86 Wide-mouthed Fishes (Plagiostomi).

**b.** Of a vessel or receptacle: Having a wide mouth or opening.

1611 Cotgr., *Mortier*, the short, and wide-mouthed peece of Ordnance called a Morter. *a* 1721 Kent *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 92 Two wide-mouth'd Quivers fill'd with Store, Of deadly Shafts. 1765 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 361 Put your gooseberries into wide-mouthed bottles. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* I. ii. 52 The wide-mouthed fireplace. 1888 Mincaill *Gard. Tables* 61 Another of these sea-bottom fishes hangs like an open wide-mouthed meal-bag.

**2.** Having the mouth wide open, or opening the mouth wide: a. for utterance, etc.; also *transf.* of the utterance; also *fig.* speaking, or spoken, loudly or without restraint.

1593 Chubb in *G. Harvey's Fierces Super.* Gg 2 b, Thy wydemouthd ..phrase ..Aptly hath knowne thine Armory to blase In termes peculiar vnto none but thee. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* I. 4 b, Murder is wide-mouthd, and will not let God rest till he grant reuenge. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xiii. xcv, His wide-mouth'd Blasphemies. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 833 Sonnets charm'd th' attentive Crowd, By wide-mouth'd Mortal mouth'd aloud. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 699 Those wide-mouthed Languages, which do remarkably expose to the Eye the Motion of the Tongue, Lips, Throat, &c. 1745 Cibber in Ayre *Mem. Pope* II. 85 This ..is a Scent, that those wide-mouth'd Hounds the Daily-Paper Criticks could never hit off! 1903 *M. A. P.* XI. 127 I His face wide-eyed and wide-mouthed in a voiceless panic.

**b.** for swallowing: Voracious, devouring, destructive.

1596 R. Linche] *Diella* etc. F 1 b, That wide-mouth'd time ..shall shut his iawes, & nere denoune thy name. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* iv. lv, Where wide-mouth'd Luxury Might gormandize her fill. 1887 Mahaffy *Rambles in Sailads & P.* 156 The rage of the hawse wide-mouthed.

**Widen** (wəi·dn), *v.* [f. Wide *a.* + -en 5.]

†**1.** *trans.* To open wide, set wide open. (*Cf.* Wide *a.* 7.) *Obs. rare.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. v. 3, Now, now the gates are ope: ..'Tis for the followers Fortune widens them, Not for the fliers. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* cvi, The gates thus widen'd.. Their ample entrance to the English gaine.

**2.** To make wide or wider: Broaden 2. **a.** *lit.* To increase the width or spatial extent of.

1669 Stayneru *Fortif.* 8 You may ..widen the Necks of the Gorges. 1694 tr. *Martini's Voy. Spitzbergen in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 192 A piece of board, wherein the Dyer widen or stretch their Stocking. 1785 J. Phillips *Treat. Inland Navr.* 45, I would cleanse, widen, and deepen the river Stort. 1818 [S. Waxe] *La Scarz* 3 Under the pavement, we found foundations of a house that had been probably thrown down to widen the road. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xlv. 348 The split-off lines of ice were evidently in motion..widening their fissures. 1919 *Engl. Rev.* July 56 An outsweep of the left flanking hedge, widening the path for a few feet.

**b.** *fig.* To increase the magnitude or range of; to extend.

1671 Shillingfl., *Serm. Matt. xxi.* 43 Wks. 1710 I. 119, I speak not these things to widen our differences, or increase our animosities. 1673 *Rites & Prayers* (Camden 1923) 22 Parliament is like to sit longer..for ye differences between ye houses are so widened. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 44 Ought I to widen my error by obstinacy and resentment? 1818 Landor *Cl. Tullian* i. 1, To..Widen the solitude of lonely sighs. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 138 The thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns. 1879 Rogg *Tract. Fabr.* iv. (1876) 31 The wood dumper became widened in its meaning. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 July 5/3 The society is widening its scheme of operations.

**3.** *intr.* To become wide or wider: = Broaden *v.* 1. **a.** *lit.*

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 118 P 10 An Extinguisher, with a little Knob at the upper End, and widening downward. 1800 Playfair *Illustr. Huttton. Th.* 404 Of a very uniform breadth except that at each end it widens considerably. 1819 Kane *Grinnell Expl.* xii. (1856) 89 The Aperture, at first a mere crack, widened to a couple of feet. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* xi. 174 The current widens, and its speed is slackened. 1900 *Sat. Festm. Gna.* 22 May 9 1 The stream-let widens into a pond.

**b.** *fig.*

1650 E. Williams *Virgo Triumphans* B 2 b, A veall quarrell widening. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. 8 If That ..difference [between knowledge and ..which at last widens to so vast a distance. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xcii, His wishes now rise one step above his station; ..his prospects widen as he ascends. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xliii, Florence..observed the estrangement between her father and Edith, and saw it widen more and more. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 109 These questions deepen and widen under our hand.

**Hence Widened** (-dˈnd) *ppl. a.*, **Widening** *vbl. sb.* (also *concr.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **Widener**, one who or that which widens; an apparatus for widening something, *spec.* a drill constructed to bore a hole of greater diameter than its own.

1759 R. Smith *Harmonics* (ed. 2) 281 If any slider be drawn back again, which the 'widened holes will permit. 1822 *Philos. Mag.* LIX. 6 Apr. 273 Good dividends paid ..widened nearer for the shillings. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/1 When we have our widened line system completed, it will be possible..to run express electric trains to and from Brighton. 1902 *Anat. Anz.* XXI. 161 (1902) 172 The 'Wideners or Dilaters of the Chest [sc. muscles]. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 22 Oct. 7 Then ..it [sc. the glove] is ready for the widener, which puts it into shape by means of sticks and wideners. 1369 in *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (1913) 22 To the 'wydynyge of the Mouth of the brydge there one foote and a halfe. 1564 *Borders Laws* (1888) 18 Euery bone body politic be mishapen at the making, the widening or straightening of it will not help it. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 141 The widening of their capacities. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 22 Respiration being chiefly performed..by the widening of the chest. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Sept. 5/3 The deepening, widening, and straightening of the river Mersey and Irwell. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Afr.* 382 We..pass by a widening in the path. 1792 Mackintosh *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 91 'Widening prospects of human happiness. 1890 Watson *Prose* 30 Making a series of widening rings on the surface [of the water]. 1884 Church *Bacon* ix. 272 New ideas and widening thoughts. 1894 Mrs. M. Kenny *Teaching of Paul* xxiii. 133 The widening gap that intervenes.

†**Widen,** *adv. Obs.* Also 3 **widene,** 4 **wydene.** [OE. *wīdan, f. wīd* Wide *a.* Cf. OHG. *wītenо*, MHG. *wīten(e*, also *witeman*.] In OE., from far; in ME., widely, far and wide.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 29 Ne wæs in Semtle *Cod. Dipl.* (1885) III. 315 He his witan widan gesomnod hæfde. *c* 1205 Lay. 512 Kneas he duc mid his dishi dubt kecke widen iwalken þeod þi wide þeoden. *Ibid.* 1716 Þe hæfd. Þ was widene spuh. 1562 Lyndes. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 4 In Habite of an Hermite..Wende I widene in þis world wondres to here.

**Wideness** (wəi·dnės). Forms: see Wide *a.*; also (with normal shortening of the stem-vowel) 6– wydnesse, 7 wydnes. [f. Wide *a.* + -nesse.] The quality or state of being wide, in various senses: and derived uses. Now generally replaced by Width.

**1.** Large extension, vastness, spaciousness.

In late use only as transf. from 2.

1552 Huloet 17 In wydnesse of þe world. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Halliw.) 1764 Of hevyn he may lye be wydnes, The feyre hope & þe heynes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xv. (1495) 611, By cause of wydnesse therof it is a cause of the fayre place to abyde in. 1586 Nyssen *State Irel.* 94 Though otherwise the wideness of the mountaine pasturage doe recompence the badnes of the soyle. 1590 Lyly *Mother Bombie* I. 243 The immoderate wideness of their house. 1862 [see 3]. 1883 *American* VII. 25 He will probably..muse on the wideness of this world.

†**2.** Extent from side to side, transverse measurement (of any amount); diameter, breadth; *spec.* extent of opening, distance apart. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (replaced by Width 1).

*c* 1000 in *Anglia* XI. 9 27 þæs temples lenge wæs syxtiġ fæðma, & xxx widnes wæs twentiġ fæðma, & his heahnys wæs hundseofontiġ fæðma. 1570 *Levins Manip.* 178 Latitudo, wydnesse. 1580 *Nicol. Wks.* II. 62 Pet miken per altitis myche be lopge in widnesse and sidnesse. 1663 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 39 The said dore to be maid as large of widnesse as may be. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xli. 11 He measured the ..wydenesse of the dore: which was x cubites, & the heyth of the dore xiij cubites. 1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. v, Open your eyelyddes, & the wydenes of those two new pricked. 1618 M. Barey *Hippan.* 20 His legges must carry such an equidistance in widenesse that they may describe two parallell lines in their motions. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Ess.* I. 604 To every Vowel belongs a peculiar dimension of Wideness in the Mouth. 1869 Stubbs *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 59 The difference in the just wideness of the Chamber. 1888 Holme *Armoury* iii. vii. 300 1 They are of severall widenesses. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iii. 5, A small creek about three leagues from the wideness of my canoe. 1728 *Anson's Voy.* iii. viii. 379 By the great wideness of his parts he could traverse almost all his guns upon the enemy. 1756 Mrs. Calver-wood in *Colinton Collect.* (Maitland Club) 132 A long-bodied narrow cart, that just holds two to sit in the wideness. 1795 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 195 The furrow that the plough makes, will be, below, equal in wideness to BC, and, above, to D.

†**b.** Size or amount generally (of spatial measurement, or of time). *Obs. rare.*

1857 W. Rand tr. *Gaussendi's Life Peiresc* I. 134 The Romans ..ordained that their Congius (or Gallon) should be in widnesse half a Cubick foot. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 211 It still leaves his Age undetermined, within the wideness of xxxx years.

**3.** Great extent from side to side; large transverse measurement: opp. to *narrowness*.

*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 48 b, Therfore was erected an Arche of widnes at the ourrelles beside the strete. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 46 Quhais Wydnes of his lannes and greatnes trieches that he was unfit. fute lang. 1622 Lucas *Virtue Reward* (1847) 82 Wideness and shallowness of the ..Streams. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* to July 1656, The stair-case of extraordinary wideness. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxxvi. 430 The wideness or narrowness of the pump. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Wideness, width.* 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrn.* IV. 195/1 The wideness of their mouths gives them a firm seat in the gullery.

†**4.** In *quasi*-concrete uses. **a.** (from 1.) A wide space or region; (large) extent, (vast) expanse: = Width 3.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* viii. 8 He shal fyl also the wydenesse of thy londe with his londe wynges. 1585 Parsons tr. *Guzman de Alfarche* Acc. xxvi. 6 In that confused wideneesse God lay kenned vnto him..how far he would haue him goe, or whither. *c* 1586 Cyril Jerusalem *Cat. Lect.* vi, Sea and all thy wideneesse yeildeth. 1681 *Whole Duty of Nations* 14 A Nation..is a part of Mankind cantond..from the whole world, and the wideness of it. 1691 Englands *Remembr.* xvii, To stand thus alone in the wideness of Asia. 1849 Lytton K. *Arthur* xi. cxxvii, Lost in the wideness of the weltering sea. 1918 A. Mervyn *Cairn* 88 To get a view far out over the 'wideness of the sea'.

**b.** (from 2 or 3.) Opening, aperture. *Obs.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 217/2 *Hypothyrum*, ..the wide opening or open window of the pump. 1598 Florio *Worlde of wo.*, the mouth, opening, or wideness of a wound. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xiii. 215 To close the wideness of a wound.

**5.** *fig.* Largeness of range, extensiveness; relation to a great number of persons, things, cases, etc.; wide reach or applicability. In quot. 1551, Extent of meaning, 'extension'.

1551 T. Wilson *Logicke* Ir iij b, The division..ought to be made with two contrary differences, that nothing in the self the whole compasse or wideness of the generall worde. 1649 E. Reynolds *Hosea* ii. 87 The purite, spirituallnesse, and wideness of this Law with whom they have worne unto. 1801 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 325 A wideness of compass without solidity and exactness. 1862 Faber *Hymns, 'Souls of men! why will ye scatter'* iv, There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xii, The merest varnish of Roman culture had given..a wideness of range to their thoughts.

**Wider,** comp. of Wide *a.* and *adv.*; obs. f. Whither, Wither.

**Wide-spread** (wəi·dˌspre·d : stress var., *a.* (Also as one word, without hyphen.) [f. Wide *adv.* + *spread*, pa. pple. of Spread *v.*] Spread widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extended over or occupying a wide space; broad in spatial extent.

1738 Shorter *Bee Chest* 150 Strait Hams, and wide spread Thighs. 1816 Wordsw. *Ode, 'If these rocks on the banks of Seine'* 4 How sweet to rest her wide-spread wings beneath! 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* 124 On the western part of the Weald, ..there are some very wide-spread beds. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* I. iii, A wide spread woman whose stays creaked like shoes whenever she stooped or turned.

2. Distributed over a wide region; occurring in many places or among many persons; extensively or generally diffused.

1705 Berkeley *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 434 The vast, wide-spread, universal cause of our mistakes. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. i. 8, The general unanimity of the wide-spread malady. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. 11 The Danish and Saxon tongues, both dialects of one widespread language. 1880 Wyclif *New Test. Pref.* 23 The rules of pese widespread types. 1913 R. T. Cass *Lit. North* II. 112 The demand for economical reform was..widespread.

So (irreg.) **Wide-spreaded** *a. rare.*

1821 Keats *Lamia* I. 351 The wide-spreaded night above her towers.

**Wide-spreading** (wəi·dˌspre·diŋ) : stress var.), *a.* [f. Wide *adv.* + Spreading *ppl. a.*] Spreading widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extending over or occupying a wide space; nearly = prec. 1.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 222 Wide-spreading Plains, open and spacious Fields. 1743 Francis tr. *Horace, Odes* I. xxii. 5 The shes, wide-wandering, trod the shining hills. 1809–11 Combe *Syntax* XVII. 184 Beneath an oak's wide-spreading shade. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life in Afr.* (1902) 57/2 A number of cattle..came to drink at the pit. Some of these carried enormous wide-spreading horns. 1882 Spencer *First Princ.* II. xvi. § 132 (1887) 367 Wide-spreading marine currents. 1909 F. H. Burton *Fr. Challenger* II. 278 One old wide-spreading cedar.

2. Extending to, reaching, or affecting many places or persons; extensive in effect; far-reaching; nearly = prec. 2.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Thistle* 7 Kafr To prevent the wide-spreading mischief, as caused by the seeding of this pernicious weed. 1833 Newman *Arians* iii. i. (1876) 241 That wide-spreading Association, of which he the faith of the Gospel was the uniting and animating principle. 1842 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1903) 1 July 2/1 The wide-spreading distress of the working-classes. 1902 *Words of Ep. witness* 330 Kindliness, not little but vast, wide-spreading.

**Wide-watered** (wəi·dˌwɑ·tərd : stress var.), *a.* [Parasynthetic f. *wide water* (Wide *a.* + Water *sb.*) + -ed 2, or f. Wide *adv.* + Watered *ppl. a.*]

Having a wide expanse of water; watered over a wide extent, bordered or traversed by wide waters.

1632 Milton *Lycidas* 172, I hear the fair off Curfeu sound, Over som wide watered shore. 1718 Pope *Iliad* xx. 761 Amid the Plain he now his watry Pen Spreads to the West in *Perkin, Python* I det scan, Or fair Hamus's wide-watered shores. By sounds, Dimonices, my lyre do mind 1900 Rennie *Heptarchia* I. 8 Long, wide-watered Halls.

**Widowe, Widowher,** obs. ff. Widow, Widower.

† **Wide-where,** *adv.* (also as two words. *Obs. or rare arch.* Also 4 **wyden where.** [If Wide (Widen) *adv.* + Where *adv.* Cf. ON. *víðast hvar* in most places, mostly.] In or to various places, over a wide region, widely, far and wide; in or to a distant place, far away.

1128 *O. E. Chr.* an. (and MS.), Per efter comen he to tune & delecsar and Ingelric & Radulf & Witt bafonn & slit te widewhar & & fulere habe. 13 *North-en Lawcon* (1858) I. 1 & 2 & pilate send he him there His pund was fulwat where. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A* IX. 51 Thus I went wyden where [v.r. wide where, wide whare] Dowel to se he. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Philippus*) 5 Quhen he hid godis worde wyde spred quhare. c1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 38 In surveye what in dwelte a kyng espeyne Of chapmen That wyde were sesten his spicerye. c 1450 *Merlin* 2nd ed. 1865 I. 298 The Duk of Burgoyne lord cast preddo wyde-where day by day. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* II. ii. 340 My name is Sir Kay the seneschal that wyde where is knowen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. iii. 5 The fame thrist of wilsum fulfillyt Of Troy the wicis of Libye wyde spalme. 16 *Sir Lambewell* 6 in *Percy Folio MS.* (1867) I. 144 With him he had many an hoore knight & many a white where. Of Ther mild Ardeine 1864 in Knight Ady. 1906 C. M. Doughty in *Athenæum* 5 May 4 52 Fair champaign Which I saw well from hills wicwhere

† **Widge.** *dial. Obs.* Also 3 irreg. wig. [Of. *wicg* Os *ren.*, 5 ON. *vigg* = O Icel. **vegr*, *vegg*, E. *way*] to carry one's self, walk, march, etc. In Ob. (poetical) a steed; later, a beast of burden; in quot 1523, a mare.

For the specialization of meaning, cf. F. *jument* mare, f. ml. *jumentum* beast of burden

*In se milfra* Sweat him to wiga wæs se ge riddan þeim Hrodgares. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 [He] led hem bitugen a wig mete i midden, nober stille, ne pidcliche, ne fur mukl. he sende after þe ane unwarpeste wig one to raiden, and [he] it wes. 1553 *Respublica* iv. iii. 1043 That tyme chad a wight, and hir wife.

**Widgeon, wigeon** (wi·dʒən), *sb.* Forms: 6 **weyyon, -lon, wygeon, wigion,** 6–7 **wigen, widgen, -in,** 7 **-ine, widg(e)in, widgion,** 6– **wigeon,** 7 **widgeon.** [Of difficult etymology.

The form *wiga* as a name of the bird, *Fulica atra*, has no appropriate history and is evidenced as early as the English word with the required meaning. (Cleasby on a Wood Iceland duck (1609) *Du Jardin Voy. to Gen. of Indies* II. 1772) of which there is a tinted red form *=wigeon* (1) widgeon in Western dial., (2) a duck of Madagascar (1772 *Phil. de Commers.*) beside which there is a white variety, and "sorte de canard cul'n noire dans les grandes Antilles" (1832 Raymond *Hist. Gen.*), and Anglo-Indian *dial.* a widgeon.

Perhaps 2 and 3 (*Fulica*) will duck have been referred to *Anas* by kind of reason, but this derivation is very dubious. The various extant forms suggest the possibility of a series of mutations with suffix *-ion* (as in parallel onomatopoeic words *pigeon, partridge*, etc.) and *-in* (as in Wigeon Eng.).

1. A wild duck of the genus *Mareca*, esp. *M. penelope* of Europe and northern Asia; other species are *M. americana* of N. America and *M. sibilatrix* of southern S. America. (Collective pl. in later use usually *widgeon*: cf. *teal*.)

1513 *St. Remigius Relics* 29 In the second course the kepe prouyde swannes, crebes, wygeons, mallardes. 1544 Turner *Names of Herbes* 45 Quum multæ sint anates quotidie ante oculos versantes, vel nunquam, vel raro, de nocticæ, ab Anglis Wyg dicti, fugiunt. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xli. 71, At first I red Mallards diner they say he would put vp a widgen of this sort, etc. 1604 [J. Dod] in Spec. *D. Occult. Hist. Introd.* 111 xvi. 170 Great numbers of wilde fowle as 1 wige 5. 1655 Muffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* 201 Teals and Wid nns commonly are very fat and sweet of taste. 1793 Holcroft *Travels* II. 75 Wigeon and Teal also are said to be in great plenty here. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 213 The Lin lushire decoys principally entitled me to supply the markets of London with wild-fowl. The number of these, which, and, that are sent thither is astonishing. 1788 *Impl. Brit.* I. 662 s. The American widgeon is rather bigger than our wigeon. 1827 Hone *Every Day Bk.* I. 1180 In this beautiful and benefic ent land, flowing over with fruits, blueish, Carolina widgeon, [et] 3. 1886 Payne-Gallwey *Fowl. Duck Decoys* 13 A decoy by means of which wild fowl, such as Wigeon, Mallard, and Teal, are caught alive. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 Jan. 51 a On Loch Naclagh the wigeon is known as the "grass wigeon" to the "duck shooter." This may be due to its habit of feeding on the grassy sward along the shores.

b. Locally applied to various wild ducks of other genera: see quots.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 98 *Anas Tadorna* the Red-headed Widgeon. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 111. 278 The Pochard or great red headed Wigeon. 1888 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 255 In Shropshire every species of wild duck, with the exception of *Anas boscas*, is called wigeon. 1898 Morris *Austral Engl., Widgeon*, the common English name for a Duck of the genus *Mareca*, extended generally by sportsmen to any wild duck. 1901 *Shooting Times* 12 June 21 The pochard is distinguished by the name of the "red-headed wigeon" or "stone wigeon".

† 2. Applied to a person, in allusion to the supposed stupidity of the bird: a fool, simpleton, ninny. (Cf. *goose, gull*, etc.) *Obs.*

1618 Chapman *Widow's T.* v. i. I E 3 b, Come y'are a widgine. 1639 [J. Taylor (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 122, I [said the Poulterer's wife] call him Goose, and Widgine, and Dotrell, and Woodcock. 1649 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* xxxvii. 582 The Native will prove a very Asse or Widgion. 1693 *Humorous Lovers* 93 'Till the Widgeon is Caught, and the Pocket emptyed. 1742 Laval *Hist Reg.* IV. 201 Those poor silly Widgeons, which they could convert.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *widgeon lord* (see 2); **widgeon grass, -wood,** local names for the grass-wrack, *Zostera marina*.

1662 Ray *Willughby's Ornithology* 320 Herba Anglis Widgin Lord dicta. 1878 Britten & Holland *Plant n.*, Widgeon-grass *Zostera marina*, L. 1912 Gray *Thomas Of Acrelance* x, The 'mud' was covered with the marsh-weed, or widg-wood.

Hence † **Widgeon** *v. trans.* to make a 'widgeon' of, befool, cheat.

1656 *Sir T. More* 1. ii (Malone Soc.) 246 I let him gull me, widgen me, rook me, fop me

**Widhe,** see Withhe.

**Widir,** obs. f. Whither.

**Widish** (wordi̯ʃ), *a.* [f. Wide *a.* + -ish 1] Somewhat wide (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first two quots. used *ad lib.*

1892 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Jan. 73/2 Consider the *Daily News* 27 Oct. 6/5 His hair flattish at top—*Inverted* nut which on each side 1898 *Lord of W. & Y. Dyn* 20 The man wilked which said turned him his coat out. 1845 Lord *Handb. pain* 1 931 A widish wound requires the use of much attention 1849 R. Cobden, in *Life Manst.* 298 The rock is separated from the end of a jutting ridge of mountains by a widish interval. 1864 Athen. *Brief Or.* xxi. 2. (1872) VI. 251 Kind (Mammoth) Newspaper, which seems to have had a widish circulation.

**Widish:** see Widhe *v.*!

**Widness,** obs. or dial. f. Wideness; Sc. var. Woodness *Obs.*

**Widou, -ed:** see Widow, Widowhead.

**Widow** (wi·dou), *sb.*! Forms: *a.* 1 **widuwe,** 1–5 **widewe, wydewe,** 1, 4 **widwe,** 3 (*Orm.*) **widdwo,** 3–6 **widue,** 4 **widu** (*pl.* **widuen, -uus, -ua**), **wydw,** *pl.* **widos,** 4–5 **wydus, wydwe,** 4–6 **wydow(e,** *Sc.* **widou,** 4, 7 **widowe,** 5 **wydew, wydo, widw,** 5–6 **wydo,** 5 (6 *Sc.*) **vidue,** 6 **wydow(e, (vidoy),** *Sc.* **vidow, -ou(e,** 6–7 **widdo, -ow,** 7 **-dowe,** *dial.* or *vulgar* **widda, widder, widdy,** 4– **widow.** *B.* **weodewe,** 4 *Sc.* **wedoue, wedo,** 4–5 **wedewe, wedu,** 4–6 **wedew, wedow, wedou,** 5 **wedw(e, wedue,** *Sc* **wedeu, wedaw,** 5 (6 *Sc.*) **wedo,** 5–6 **wedowe, weddow(e,** (6 **wedoo,** *Sc.* **vedou, weido, gen. wedvis**). 7. 1 **wudewe, -uwe,** 4 **wodow,** 4–5 **wodewe** (4 *pl.* **-en, -on**). [Ob. *wudewe, widuwe, widdwe* wk. fem. = Offris **widwe** (Rtt. *wudewe, widewe*), Oldfris. **widowa**, (MLG. **wedewe**, **-uwe**, MDu. **wedauwe, ewe**, Du **wedauw(e, weeuwe**), OHG. **wituwa, -awa**, (MHG. **witewe, G. wittwe**), Goth. **widuwô**. orig. an Indo-European adj. formation ***widhewo-**, -*wa* on the base *widh* to be empty, to be separated (Skr. *vidh* to be destitute, lack, cf. L. *dividere* to divide); cf. Skr. *vidhavâ* widow, Pers. *bêwa*, Gr. *ἠθεος* unmarried man, L. *viduus* bereft, void, widowed (fem. *vidua* widow, whence F. *veuve*), It. *vedova*, Sp. *viuda*, Pg. *viuva*), Oprus. *weddowa*, Osl. *vudova* (Russ. *vdova*), W. *gweddw*, Olr. *fedb*, Gomish *guedan*.]

1. A woman whose husband is dead (and who has not married again); a wife bereaved of her husband

*Hempton widow* see Hempton a. 1b.

a. c825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxviii[i]. 9 Sum hæfdon his asteaðe & sitt his widwe. c1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Sal.) cxlv. 9 Þa ne. 175 [He] wydwe & þa steppan eorfæ & seldone. c1175 *Lamb Hom.* 115 He scal hawian widewan an[d] steophien. c1200 Ormin 938 Þa wass þatt wimmann wass [c1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 to] liffpen wi hewen & federlease children. c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 332 Ase Jone hulde wydewe. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6787 Widues [*Gött.* Wydwes] *Cotton.* c1300 *Havelok* 2 þat hadde fader-lese, Dyner[n] wrang, *Hatt.* 693 Widues sittinge your wifes. 1323 *Rec. St Mary at Hill* (1904) I. 1, Rose Wrytell, widue, sumtyme the wyf of William flaystrede, Clerk. c1380 *Sir Firumb.* 1 Many a wydowe was mad, And many a child faderles. c1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 323 Al be she maydo or wydwe or elles wyf. c1440 *York Myst.* xii. 61, I have loste a wydo this fifteen yere. 1480 *Alcock's Festial* 39 A wydow hat het Drusyan, hay died on here. 1519–29 *Trevisa Hills* (1904) I. 81, I Jane scheffelde of Cowley Cowley 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 14 Ye devoure widdowes houses. — *Mark* xii. 43 This powre widowe hath cast moare in, then all they which have caste into the treasury. 1533 *Gau Richt Exp* (S. T. S.) 68 Christ rasit vp ane widdow sone. 1550 *Lett. Poor*, (Surtees) VI. 192 If she keepe her widue or if she forton to marie. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot* (S. T. S.) I. 229 Nathir soulde a Vidue be compellit to marie. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* liv. 4 Thou shalt not be confounded, neither be thou confounded: for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more. 1667–70 Milton *P. L.* x. 906 Thy Husband, hee to thee A wife, the rest forgoing, to thee alone. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 379 Constantia remained the widow of the vanquished Lucrine. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xx, Take example by your father, my boy, and be very careful o' widders. 1877 Gilbert *Yeoman of G.* iii, No saucy mirth and giddy fun a clean and tidy widdy 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 166 In Calabar all the widows of a dead man are subjected to ordeal.

β c1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Tha.) cxlv[i]. 8 [9] Pa eldcodigan ealle Þridsen lustum healdeð, and hi[ Þ]cofen woedewum wendeliim, þe hiam wi[ unfeh·. c 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 220 Þat vede can he him name *Ibid.* xxi. (*Clemens*) 112 Þis wedou c1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 433 Wedowis & nedy men. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3281 Wynes made wedowes, & waylyng for euer. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxx, Maydenes and wedues 1476 *Rich. Redfe Sevil.* VIII. 344 *mob.*, Til oure pure weduw and laadwe man Marioun of Colye. 1900–10 Banham *Pleasure* xxvii 34 Joint the wedow. a 1533 Ld. Berners *Hun* xlix 210 He dyd sticyth weduus & orphelyns 1562 Winjet *Cruel Practices* 8 Wks (S. T. S.) I. 112 Young widowes quha had vowed continence. 1583 *Leg. Ish. St. Andrews* 281 The nithe wedew

γ. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 37 Heo was wudewe oð feower & hundseofontig geara. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Pe pridde [kind of adultery] is of a wyf wenple mid wodewe oðer ayeward. *Ibid.* 205 Wodewehad is a stat Þet zet ssolde zuni preyzeb moche þet zeyþ to wodewan [etc.] c 1440 *Prom. Parv.* 529 (Harl. MS.), In wodewis wer I left blun gle.

b. Law. *King's widow*: see quot. 1607.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII*, c. 28 § 3 The said minister . . shall take and receive by this acte to survey all the Kinges widowes that have married them selfes without the Kinges licence for their re-cetal & fynes to be made to the Kinges use 1607 Cowell *Interpr. s.v.*, The widow of the King, or the Kings wid w is that widow, which after her husbands death being the Kings tenant *in capite*, is driuen to recouer her Dower by a writ of *Dum fuit sola*. It appeareth that other common Lords have the same power ouer their widowes, to cling their consent, in their marriage, that the King hath

c. Prefixed as a title to the name. Now chiefly *dial.* or *vulgar*.

1576 Pike *A. M.* (ed. 3) 158 1 Widowe Swayne 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 72 Not since widow Dido's time. 1638 in *Fourth Bk. of Indian Laws* (1915) 220 (Jas.) Received for a Restall of Widow Crosse 6 8 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The Lord was ashamed to tax too highly the miserable means of support which remained to the widow Butler 1825 J. Poole *Vic. & Recoll* I. 82 The cold and hot baths kept by Widow Suggerston, No. 14, Market Square 1882 Mrs. Riddell *Fr. Widow's Fortune* I. ii, Once, when overtaken by a thunder-storm, she sought refuge in widow Harting's cottage.

d. In extended sense: A wife separated from or deserted by her husband; esp. in colloq or dial. phr. *a widow bewitched*. Also in other allusive uses: see quot. 1908, *college widow* s.v. College 2b, Grass widow.

1461 *Paston Lett.* Supp1 (1901) 74, I pray you secour my wif, for she is widow yet for me. 1789 Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I 259 Indeed, Sir, I am much more a Widow, nay, to live, a Widow I wouldn't, were than a Widow. 1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's Lovers* xxxix, Who'd ha' thought of your husband, him as was so handy and sure, making a moonlight flitting, and leaving you to be a widow bewitched! 1901 'Jack' *Dunstable Hero* 283 Martha Barnaby was a widdy by will, but man fetched dooally to forren parts. 1908 *Hutton Cott.* 29 June 5/5 Has Mr. Balfour never heard of the Golf Widow? The husband who goes away for a week end to play golf may improve his health, but conceivably the wife may feel it rather dull and lonely.

e. *Eccl.* One of a class or order of devout or consecrated widows in the Early Church (see *Acts* IX. 39, 41).

Cf. *Nonna*, arwur] e widwe (*MS. Pepys* 2340, 146 b, c1200 Trin. *Coll. Hom.* 231 Ne mahe nan wimmon ben i þe circe nut so gret vse of these widowen with vs, as there was in þose places where the churches were fer i founded, 3et I conclude that of so many as there were in the world, I hope that order of widowes in the church still 1587 see Widower 2]. 1708 Bingham *Orig. Eccles.* II. xxiii. 321 The Council of Laodicea in the 11 canon forbids that Widows then (Deaconesses) under the Name of Widows, or Ancient Women. 1709 Johnson *Clergy-Man's Vade M.* II. 241 A Will w or Deaconess, must accordin g to St Paul, be sixty. 1861 Bp. Wordsworth *Hist. Mem. Hand-bk.* 1. 1. 18 Holy Orders in Sainthy Maiden, godly Matron, Widow who have watched to prayer 1884 *Catholic Dict* 607/1. The Church recognised several classes of widows in the time, such as widows, deaconnesses, hospitallers, Confessoresses

f. *transf.* A female animal, esp. a hen bird, that has lost its mate.

c 1200 *Bestiary* 906 If [the male were died, and] he widue were, 1821 J. Clare *Village Minstrel* II. 241 [see *Widow-bird* 1] 1878 *Daily News* 16 Sept 3 2 'Widows', alias old hens, are to be bought at a shilling each

g. *fig.*

c1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks* II. 187 Pe Chirche, þat is wydowe for þis tyme c1480 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 455 For than gois bakwart to the syn agayn Oure appetite . And maks vs soon wedow for to be. 1895 Sylvester *Poems, Monodies* Wks (Grosart) II. 330 1 Soon as ever the bright zenion-mistress Hath left her widow of her wonted rayes. 1897 Lewis *Brit. Theatre* (ed. 3) II. 98 Bronte was then called Oxford the widow of sound learning—'tis vedova di buone lettere'.

2. a. A bird of the subfamily *Viduinæ*: = Widow-bird. *Mourning widow*, a bird of the genus *Colaspastes* belonging to the same subfamily. b. Collectors' name for a geometrid moth, *Cidaria luctuata*: also *mourning widow*. c. *Mournful* or *mourning widow*, popular names of certain plants with dusky flowers: see Mourn ul s, Mourning *ppl. a.* 3.

1747 Edwards *Nat. Hist Birds* II. 86 The Red-Breasted Long Tailed Finch from Angola in Africa A Gentleman, who lately arrived from Lisbon, tells me that Portuguese call this Bird the Widow, from its Colour, and long Train 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 287 In the feathery race, the widow, the cardinal, &c. exhibit much more brilliant colouring, when the Sun approaches the Line 1869–73 T. R. Jones (*Cassell's*) *Bk. Birds* I. 179 The Mourning Widows (*Colinpsaces*)

**3.** Miscellaneous collog. or slang uses. **a.** (See quot. 1710, and cf. *widow's fire* in 5.) **b.** An extra hand dealt to the table in certain card-games. **c.** *The widow*: champagne. [From 'Veuve Clicquot', the name of a firm of wine merchants.] 1910 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 91. 3/1 Five expiring's call'd a Widow. 1891 *Hoffman's Cyc. Card Games* 204 Whiskey Poker.... Five cards are...dealt to each player, with an extra hand, known as 'the widow'. The elder hand may either play his own hand, pass, or take the widow. 1899 Gist Thornton *Red Rat's Pow.* xvii. A good luncheon and a pint of the Widow to wash it down.

**4.** Combinations. **a.** appositive (= that is a widow), as *widow child, duchess, lady, mother, queen, woman* (the last now usually arch. or dial.); (in sense 2 f) *widow bird, turtle.* **b.** attrib. Of or pertaining to a widow or widowhood, as *widow bed, comfort, dower, life, night, state*; consisting of widows, as *widow-club.* **c.** objective, instrumental, etc., as *widow-burning* (= SUTTEE 2), *-hunter, -hunting, -maker, -making; widow-cursed* adj.; *widow-like* adj. and adv. Special Combs.: **widow church,** a church without a bishop; a pastor; **widow-duck,** a species of tree-duck, *Dendrocygna viduata*; **widow-finch** = WIDOW-BIRD; **widow flower** = Mourning widow (*b*) (MOURNING *ppl. a.* 3): cf. 2 c; **widow moth** = 2 b; **widow right,** that part of a deceased husband's estate to which a widow has a right. See also WIDOW-BIRD, -WAIL.

1650 HOWELL *Gerard's Rem. Naples* 1. 129 He commanded the House of a Widow-Baker to be burnt. 1660 MARRIOTT *Antonia's Ren.* iii. iv, O thou cold *widowe bed, sometime thou blest, By the warme pressure of my sleeping lord. 1821-2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, v. A *widow bird sat mourning Upon a wintry bough. 1896 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1868) II. 34 The custom of *widow-burning. 1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. 2, To claim the hand of Scotland's Queen, The *widow'd child of France. *a* 1759 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints* (1836) I. 129 He...recommends himself and his *widow-church of Aniane to their prayers. 1714 *Mourning Spect.* No. 561 A certain Female Cabal...who call themselves the *Widow-Club. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 105 My fate sunne,...My *widow comfort, and my sorrowes cure. 1614 SYLVESTER *Part. Vertues Royall* 767 Hundred Laurels never *widow-curst. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 65 Our fatherless distresse was left vnmou'd, Our *widow-dolour, like an vnwept. 1712 SWIFT *Inf. to Stella* 8 Nov., The *widow Duchess will not stand to the will. 1889 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 512 The *widow-finches, often called 'whydahs' finches. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 155/1 The purple Scabious...is known in some place by the name of the *Widow Flower. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 578 These unhappy gentlemen, who are commonly distinguished by the name of *widow-hunters. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Ajunge's Sp. Tour* v. (1893) 8 With this popular sport he combined the diversion of 'widow-hunting' 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 78 How may we contein This *widow Lady? 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor., My Farm of Edgewood* 17 Another letter, from a widow lady, 1605 in Hallw. *Lett. Kings, Etc.* (1846) II. 238, I had rather live banished...with you, than live a sorrowful *widow-life without you. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 22 She had layd her mournefull stole aside, And *widow-like sad wimple throwne away. 1706 GARDINER tr. *Rapin's Gardens* I. 331 Or Widow-like beneath a sable Veil, Her purest Lawn may artfully conceal. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 120 She wrote such a widow-like refusal. 1839-58 BAILEY *Festus* 439 This bosom...is burning for thee, though thy love be dead, Widow-like, on love's death-bier. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 77 It grieues my soule, That I must draw this meetie from my side To be a *widdow-maker. 1906 KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 6 What is a woman that you forsake her,...To go with the old Widow-maker (*Ld.*, the sea)? 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp. 367* Mezereon is as much as vidnifical, or *widow-making Plant. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Encomiast. Compend.* 363 *Widow-maids. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 93 The Son for whom his *Widow-Mother groan'd. 1841 R. POLLOK in D. Pollok *Life* iv. (1843) 87 A small house, inhabited by a widow-mother and an only daughter. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. v. (1912) 379 O *widow-nights, leaue wines with me of the difference. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. 123 Who has the paternal power while the *widow queen is with child? 1869 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees. 1912) II. 55 After the *widowright of my wief. 1637-8 *Ashmolean MSS* (Surtees) II. 19 On third of my goods, which is her widow right. 1788 JOHNSON, *To Widow, e. a.* . . To endow with a widow-right. 1591-5 CYTHO PRIMROSE *Aristophil* II. 27 All others do waile their *widow estate. 1618 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 318 So, on the wither'd Spray The *Widow-Turtle sighes her mournfull Lay. 1669 LOVELACE *Lucasia* etc. 97 Peason, Chickens, sawce high, Pig and the *Widow-Venison-pye. 1580 WILLIS *2 Sam.* xiv. 5 A woman widowe I am [1611 a widow woman; Vulg. *mulier vidua*]. — *1 Kings* vii. 14 YIAM, the sone of the *widowe woman [1611 a widowes sonne; Vulg. *mulieris viduae*]. *Ibid.* xvii. 9 A woman widowe [*Douay* 1609 a wydow woman]. 1721 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 101 ¶ He lived as a Lodger at the House of a Widow-Woman. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxiii, 'Not hu, sir. Never meant to,' replied the dairyman. 'As I say, 'tis a widow-woman, and she had money, it seems—fifty pound a year or so.' 1889 J. S. WINTER *Mrs. Bob* iii. (1891) 42 Shy little widow woman that she was.

**5.** Special collocations with the genitive: **widow's bench** = FEME BANCH; **widow's chamber,** the furniture of the bed-chamber, to which the widow of a freeman of the city of London was formerly entitled; **widow's cross,** a name for a purple-flowered N. American species of stonecrop, *Sedum pulchellum*; **widow's fire** (see quot., and cf. 3 a); **widow's look,** a look or tuft of hair growing apart from the rest, supposed to presage early widowhood; **widow's man,** (*a*) a man such as to attract widows; (*b*) *Naut.* one of a number of fictitious seamen whose names were formerly entered in the books of a ship's company, their pay being set apart for pensions; **widow's mite,** a small money contribution (in allusion to Mark xii. 43; see MITE 1 c); **widow's peak** (see PEAK *sb.*2 1 f, and cf. *widow's look*); **widow's tears** (see TEAR 2); **widow's weeds,** the mourning apparel of a widow (see WEED *sb.*2 6 b).

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 468 **Widdows-bench* [misprint *-bench*]...Sh. [= Sussex] a share of their Husbands Estate, which they enjoy beside their joynture. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 136 Deducting the widow's apparel and furniture of her bed-chamber, which in London is called the widow's chamber. 1919 *26th Cent. Dec.* 1049 *Widow's fire"—from one side of the grate only. — 1590 J. LONDON in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 139 Suche as...lindle any slotliche wydowes lockes, viz. here growen to gether in a tufte. 1898 NESBITT-HARDY, *Wardella, Widow's Ed.* A small lock or fringe growing apart from the hair above the forehead. Credulous persons believe that a girl so distinguished will become a widow soon after marriage. 1729 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. vi, As to Square, who was...what is called a jolly Widow, or a *Widow's Man, he easily reconciled his Conscience to the eternal Fitness of Things. 1730 *Jackson's Oxf. Journ.* 2 Oct., Fictitious Seamen called Widow's Men. 1867 SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk., Widows' men*, imaginary sailors, formerly borne on the books as A.B.'s, but waged on very ship in commission they ceased with the consolidated pay at the close of the war. 1595 GOWER *Blanch-herita* Ded., Craving your acceptance of this poor *widow's mite. 1899 *Widow's peak [see PEAK *sb.*2 1 f]. 1858 BIRT *Dict. Law Acct.* 985 Where a husband has disposed property in which he stands indebt, but dies before the disposee has paid the purchase money, the *widow is not liable to a burden on the property so disposed. 1715, 1836 *Widow's weeds [see WEED *sb.*2 6 b].

Hence **†Widowean** (*Obs. rare*—1), a widow (*sense* 1); **widowish** *a.* = *widowly* adj.; **†Widowist** [1st used Grieg] a sense 1e; **†Widowitty** *Obs.* [hybrid alteration of VIDUITY], widowhood; **Wi'dowly** *a.* [-LY1], pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a widow (in quot. 1884, widowed, or having the character of a widow); **Wi'dowly** *adv.* [-LY2], in a way befitting a widow, like a widow; **Wi'dow-wise** *adv.* (*nonce-wd.*), in the manner of a widow, like a widow; **Wi'dowy** (†-ie) *a.* = *widowly* adj.

1596 CHAPMAN *Iliad Briefe Bible* II. 126[She] had bene 84 yeares *Widowesse. 1867 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 60 b, My *widowish couch. 1578 H. WOTTON *Counsaile Contrary* 280 Turning and tossing...in his widowishe bed. 1593 BARCLAY *Icon.* 222 There is a second vnite of Discipliuary *Widdowistes, that are very farre greuen past Cutwright's *Ifs.* [CF. sense 1 e, quot. 1572.] 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 39 Suppose his wife...widow-like...widowitie. 1866 in Jerviese *Mem. Angot* (1885) II. 25 Earl George...left her "the use of all his movables in all his houses during her widowty". 1790-2 MACLAINE *Le Gentil Cath.* (S.H.S. 1900) II. 465 She calls her Self when in her widowity Relicta Norman de Lesaly. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 53 The poor disconsolate lady, who is weeps over her own widowity. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 494/1 Virginitie, & *widdely chastitie. 1634 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Romanes* 1. 11 Which...she...continued in a widowly manner into fresh teares of conjugall affection. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 541 This charming young person, the daughter of a widow, and herself widowed...by her very *Beggar Heart* 285 She conducted herself most *widowly. 1904 MADISON *Folk Songs Fr. Sou.* Introd. p. xxi, Sung is not worn "widowhow," by brisk mouth and jesting one but rather must be moved by slow tapnacles, like a maid. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Bocalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 The very Muses...did assist at the Obsequies in Widow's weeds.

**Widow,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [O.E. *widewa*, masc. corresp. to *widewe* WIDOW *sb.*1] = WIDOW 1. + Also of common gender.

*c* 1000 *Ixxiii. Psalty* xxii. in Thorpe *Lawes* (1840) II. 338 Het he hannrd for widewa and for þarfwanegan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 193 And alenwey me wel han bleþelicke ȝyne, and namelicke to be poure seamneste, and to be uadelinge, an to wyfmen ine widewe stonde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 307 Stad of wedewhod...bot myntu paul prayzeb muche, þet zayb to widewon, 'bot þet good is, he him hyeldis ine þet stat'. 1596 SPENSER (*Ophira & Cassyria say*) *Faerie Queene* IV. xii. 27 Nameward is he went. 1598 H. WATSON *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) II. 4 Syng that bothe paityes were wydowes,...it were moost conuenyent that he came thether for to wedde her. 1599 THOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 257/2 He abstened from marriage: whether hee neuer had a wife, or was a widowe, and kepte himself without one. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1765) 31 Our little grown is cannot want a wife: can he live a widow? 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 93 He still lived a widow, on his estate in Jamaica. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xvii, I had been a widow three years when I began to gang about Paiton House to see her.

*attrib.* c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 34 Wedow men but wantis I ane still a pair of swyvis. *c* 1570 *Directions for Distrib. Estate T. Rawlins & Barrow-on-Soar* (MS.), Those poor Widdow men and Widdow women that have a charge of children to keep. 1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. 1 Her father came here soon after she was born, a widow-man with only her.

**Widow,** *v.* [f. WIDOW *sb.*1 or 2.]

1. *trans.* To make a widow (or, *rarely*, widower) of; to reduce to widowhood; to bereave of one's husband (or wife). Most commonly in *pa. pple.*: see also WIDOWED *ppl. a.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 24197 (Edinb.) Ik am nu widuit of mi spus. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 153 In this City bee Hath widdowed and vnchilded many a one. 1708 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 84 The Royal butchers, who ...widow ten thousand at a breath, and make twice as many fatherless. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* ix. 290 One hour hath orphaned me and widowed me. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Dorothea Kirke* x, Be careful of yourself—for Dorothea's sake. I would not like to see her early widowed. 1887 HATTON *Gay World* xv, When he widowed her, as he must do, being so much her senior.

*b. fig.* To deprive of a valuable or highly prized possession (person, thing, or quality); to bereave. Usually in *pa. pple.* Deprived, bereft.

1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* xxv, Beeing...widow'd of her comly shape. 1609 C. WARE *Sophocles, Electra* 53 The House Widow'd of Friends, and seat'd upon by Fiends! 1677 BAKER in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 18 The second equation is widowed of its geometrical construction. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1264 Wit, widow'd of good-sense, is worse than nought. 1792 COWPER *Iliad* v. 785 He...Lay'd Troy in dust, and widow'd all her streets. 1817 JANE *T. O'Brien* 303 Odd stitches and thicknesses widowed of the clocks and presses. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* I. Prf. 8 France, widowed of Henry and waiting for Richelieu.

**†2.** To survive as a widow, become the widow of. *Obs. rare*—1.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 56 Let mee be married to three Kings in a forenoone, and widow them all.

†**3.** To endow with a widow's right. *Obs. rare*—1.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 429 For his Possessions,...We doe ensnate, and widow you with all, To buy you a better husband.

Hence **Widowing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in first quot. app. vaguely used for 'funereal').

?1605 DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Pastoral* Eglog vi. 105 Nor mournfull Epitaphes nor sad widowing yew. 1868 *Alabaman* 17 Nov. 614/3 The widowing of the hero by a valueless shadow upon a vigorously improbable...story. 1921 *Public Opin.*, 16 Feb. 157 a She had earned her widowing by eight years' happiness.

**Wi'dow-bird.** [Representing L. generic name *Vidua*. *F. veuve* (Buffon *Ornithol.* 1760).] *sb.* (Also Altered to WHIDAH-*bird.*)] A bird of the genus *Vidua* or subfamily *Viduinae* of the family *Ploceidae* (Weaver-birds), found in various parts of Africa: so called from the peculiarly black plumage of the males, which are also distinguished by an immensely elongated train of tail-feathers.

[1747: see WIDOW *sb.*1 2 a.] 1772 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 282 *note*, These long feathers would be very inconvenient to the bird in its undulations: and they are likewise confined to the cock widow-bird. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 179 Whidah Bunting... This pretty common at Angola, and other parts of Africa, is called in Verse, or Widow Bird, from the colour. 1807 [MRS. DORAT] *Peacock 'at Home'* (1828) 10 The Widow-bird came, though she still wore her weeds. 1869-73 L. H. JESSE *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 270 The Long-tailed Widow Bird (*Chera cenfra*) the largest of all the South African species. *Ibid.* 280 The Cock-tailed Widow Bird (*Steganura*) are found throughout the whole of Central Africa. *Ibid.*, The Paradise Widow Bird (*Vidua paradisea*)...found principally in the thinly-wooded forests of Africa. 1871 DARWIN *Descr. Man* II. viii. 269 The male widow-bird, remarkable for his caudal plumes. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1060 The females of all the Widow birds differ greatly in appearance from the males, and are generally clothed in a plumage of mottled brown.

**Widowed** (wi·dowd), *ppl. a.* [f. WIDOW *sb.*1 or 2 or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Made or become a widow (or widower); bereaved of one's husband (or wife). Also of an animal, esp. a bird: Bereaved of its mate.

1606 WARNER *2 Alb. Eng.* xxxvi. (1612) 180 Pitifull Storie of King Eugenes widowed wife. 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 103 A widow'd Daughter. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 974 Some widowed songster pours his lonely plaint. 1818 KEATS *Isabella* v. Constant and true as the widow'd dove. 1823 – *Otho the G.* Introd. He was a widowed husband and childless father. 1825 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. I. 818 He had married his widowed mother's niece. 1885 *Macmillan's Mag.* LII. 28 An acquaintance of mine...a twice widowed wife. 1893 TOUT *Edw. I* (1896) 182 There was talk of a marriage between the widowed Edward and the French king's sister.

b. *transf.*

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xcvii. 8 The teeming Autumne big with rich increase, Bearing the wanton burthen of the Spring, Was dull and barren, like the widowed earth, Whose husband leaues it. 1697 MAY *Lucan* v. 928 Sheepsleese she spent in her now widow'd bed...the night that followed. 1634 HAYWOOD *Maidenh. well lost* I. 138 But is't so not? Is't not a widowed life, you haue? 1788 COWPER *Odyss.* I. 455 Your widow'd hours, with female toil And various labours of the loom, beguile. 1798 C. SHAW *Miscellany.* (1969) 12 How shall I find repose on a sad widow'd bed? 1820 COWPER *Doves* 36 Denied th' enchantments of thine eye, This widow'd heart would break. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* 3rd. ii. 72 *Prince*, Ha, ha!...and twenty years had the veteran lover...solaced himself in widowed singleness. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 279 She tripped out of doors to solace with her neighbours the joys of a second husband. 1894 DEAN *Man's Keeping* xviii, He could only hold the poor widowed hand tenderly in his while he told her the tiny details of those last days.

**2.** *fig.* Deprived of a partner, friend, companion, or mate; bereaved; hence, deserted, desolate, solitary.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* iv. 14, Straight from the ashes...A new-born Phœnix flies, & widow'd place resumes. 1763 CHURCHILL *Prophecy* 408 What if we seize'd, like a destroying flood, Their widow'd plains. 1820 SHELLEY *Naples* 108 Widowed Genoa wan By moonlight spells

ancestral epitaphs. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxiv. 113 My heart, tho' widow'd, may not rent Quite on the love of what it gone. 1908 E. V. Lucas *Over Remurion's* x, He sees far more with his widowed orb than the ordinary observer does with two.

**b.** Of an elm: Not 'mated' with a vine; conversely of the vine; also of a branch. (After L. *ulmus* and *vitis vidua, ramus viduus.*)

1743 Francis tr. *Hor. Odes* iv. v. 44 The hind Weds to the widow'd elm his vine. 1798 Mason *Obs. to Evelyn.* vii, When pining Care...sees thee, like the weak, and widow'd Vine, Winding thy blasted tendrils o'er the plain. 1763 Mills *Pract. Hush.* IV. 357 No shoots should be suffered to grow out of the firm wood, unless they are wanted in order to marry them to a widowed branch.

**Widower**[1] (wi·dəuəɹ). Forms: 4 wid,e)wer, wydewer, 4–5 wedewer, 5 wyduare, 5–6 wydower, (wydwarde), 6 wedowar, wydoer, 7 widdower, 9 *dial.* widyer, ?– widower. [A new formation with -ER[1] on Widow *sb.*[1], appearing in late ME. and substituted as an unequivocal form for Widow *sb.*[2] Cf. MHG. *witewære*, G. *wittwer*, MDu. *wedewâre.*]

**1.** A man whose wife is dead (and who has not married again); a husband bereaved of his wife.

1361 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 194 Wydewers and wydewes [1377 B. ix. 174 Widwes and widwers]. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xi. 282 Wydewers and wydewes, weddeth ayther othere. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 178 Sir T. Greye is a wydower now late. c1488 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 75 His wyfe dide afore him ..after hoys dethe he leuyd continent and chaste, in a wydwardis hyde. 1500 *Melusine* 187 That pucelle refused hym because he had a wedded lofore, & of late he was widower. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 70 Heere wee'l stay To see our widdowers second marriage day. 1633 J. Taylor (Water) *Old, Old Man* (1878) She dead, he ten pence did a Widdower say. 1694 *Act & 4 Will. & Mary* c. 6. § 4 6 The several duties ..upon Batchelors and Widowers by this Act granted. 1778 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) II. 164 He was not content as a widower; for he married again. 1846 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xi. 119 He must have come together with Esquimaux bawl, while the widower recited his sorrows and her praise. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 14 Apr. 3/6 Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, widower of the late Jenny Lind.

**b.** *Widower bewitched*: a husband separated from or deserted by his wife. *colloq.* Cf. Widow *sb.*[1] 1 d.)

1705 Dunton *Life & Err.* (1818) I. 405 If my marrying an fortune has made me a scoundrel, ..it is but while I continue a Widower bewitched.

**† 2.** One of an ecclesiastical class or order of men corresponding to the order of 'widows'. *Obs.*

1587 D. Fenner *Def. Ministery* 141 As they had their Levitical dispensers, so the order of the holy Ministrie..So we haue as members of the Church, as set of God as helpers, the Deacons, Church-seruantes, Widowers and widowes. 1612 Br. Hall *Apol. Brownists* § 13 I neither let Widdowers (which you call relieuers) appointed euery where to the Church seruice. Let certaine discreete and able men which are not Ministers be appointed to preach Gospell.

Hence **Wi·dowered** (-ed) *a.* *rare* [after Widowed], made or become a widower, bereaved of one's wife; **Wi·dowerhood** & [after Widowhood], the condition of a widower, or the time during which a man is a widower; so **Wi·dowership**, **Wi·dowery** (*rare*) in same sense; in quot. 1886 *humif.* the condition of being absent from one's wife.

1829 Rose *Ch. Fathers* III. i. viii. 31 The splendid signet of gold..which a weeping husband had drawn from off his widowered finger. 1886 M. Phan-Edwards *Forestalled* II. xviii, Norland..felt more than widowered, unplumed, and forlorn. a1706 Burns *Lett. (Pearson's 70th Catal.* (1894)) 2 Hired a zealous Antiburgher; but during his 'widowerhood, he has found the first mentioned incompatible with certain compromises he is often obliged to make. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 829 She makes an attempt ..on the widowerhood of the Centenarian. 1883 Mrs Lynn Linton *Fone* xv, Pledged to eternal widowerhood and constancy. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Oct. 1/1 His first year of his widowerhood. 1642 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* 1. 29 And Fortune had conspired to make all the Princes of the blood accompany the King in his 'widowership. 1886 Stevenson *Lett.* 13 Feb., My wife is at Bath with my father and mother and the interval of 'widowership may be lengthy.

**Widower**[2]. *rare.* [f. Widow *v.* + -er[1].] One who or that which widows, or bereaves (a woman) of her husband.

1818 Murray *Answer* xi. 360 Hengist begirt with that fam'd falchion call'd The 'Widower of Women'.

**† Wi·dowhead.** *Obs.* Forms: see Widow *sb.*[1]: 4–5 -hede, 4–6 -hed, 6 -heade, *Sc.* -heid(e, 6–7 -head; also 4 viduld, widould, 5 weddewede, wydewede, wedowed, wedost, 6 wydowed, widuede, 7 widdowed. [f. Widow *sb.*[1] or [2] + -head.]

**a.** = next, 1 a.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 11346 Anna, ..pat lined hal fourti-tuentiyeier In viduid [*Gött.* widowhede, *Trin.* wodewehode]. c1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 295 Alle kepid they here maydynhed Or elles wedlok or here wedewehed. 1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1424–1513 No 1 Cristiane has set and to him latyn in her put wedowhed to the said Alex...hir landis of Stratoque. 1563 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1891) II. 29 That mistres Margarete Handcocke, ..shalbe free of all...taxis, ..during her widuede and living sole. 1591 Spenser *Teares' Muses* 290 During the time of that her widowhead. c1810 *Women Sainteds* 28 As true widowed..is of rare dignitie and power,..so false widowed, .. which liueth so more freelie to take her pleasure..is likewise more dishonorable. 1662 Hickeringill *Apol. Distressed Jesus.* Wks. 1710 I. 298 Tamar after she had plaid her wicked prank, resumed the garment of her Widowhead.

*attrib.* a1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. iii. (1912) 160 The comfort of her widowhead liue.

**b.** *gen.* = next, 1 b.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 41 Symeone, þat in weddude-hed þat lang tyme þat his lyf can led. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* 172 Alas, when hay wyf was dede, And ledde hym lyf in weddewede. 1530 Tindale *Answ. More* iii. xiii. Wks. (1573) 311 a Virginitie, wedlocke and widowed are none better then other to be saued by. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 10 Of the chastitie of mariage vpholded & virginitie. 1601 Holland *Pliny* x. xxxiv. I. 290 They [*sc.* doves] alandon not their owne nests, vnlesse they be in state of single life or widowhead by the death of their fellow. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 6 Where the Apostle affirmeth it to be good to abide single, either in virginitie or widowhead, .. shall no time afford lawfulnes for some sort of men to marrie?

**c.** *fig.* = next, 1 c.

1624 Donne *Lett.* (1651) 10 Upon you, who are a member of the spouse of Christ the Church, there can fall no widowhood. 1697 G. Keith *and Narr. Proc. Turner's Hall* 31 The words of G. W. and W. Penn about the Souls of the Deceased Saints being in a state of Purgatory or Widowhead, if they look for the Resurrection of their bodies.

**Widowhood** (wi·dəuhud). Forms: see Widow *sb.*[1] and -hood; also 5 wedewehode, 5–6 (*Orm.*) widdewashad. [OE. *widewanhād*, f. gen. of Widow *sb.*[1] or [2] + *-hād* -hood.]

**1.** The state or condition of a widow or widower, or (contextually) the time during which one is a widow or widower; the condition of a wife bereaved of her husband, or of a husband bereaved of his wife. **a.** of a woman.

c1000 *Sax. Leech.* (Assmann) 114 Judith ..þurhwunode on hire wedewanhade. c1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Meaden þet hire maidenhad wulleð halde, and wideue of hire wedewehade. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 320 Annys, þat was þe wyfe of henry schatter of Fyxyngton, in her þur wedehod & lauful power beynge, ..hath graunted, & confermyd [etc.]. c1450–1500 *Ars de la Tour* cxiv. 163 Them that worshipfully and perfitly kepe thaire wedehode. 1523 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* 1. 2119 He cure for her husbande...Remayned in wydohode and mournynge vesture. 1535 Coverdale *Judith* x. 3 She..put of the garmentes of hir widdowhode. 1893 Vaux tr. *Godescard's Lives* II. 184 He exhorts Widows to continue in their widow-hood. 1723 *Scots Mag.* XV. 51 In the 90th year of her age, and 31st of her widowhood. 1807 Jarman *Powell's Devises* II. 381 An annuity during widowhood ..for good. 1841 James *Corse de Leon* iv, I little dreamed that my mother, in her widowhood, would willingly wed a stranger. 1846 Lytton *Last Bar.* xxvii, Lu retia...wed in the weeds of widowhood. 1882 Mrs Braddon *Mt. Royston*, Mrs. Treguell had never been to London since her widowhood.

**b.** of either sex, or of a man (= Widowerhood). Also *transf.* of an animal, etc.

c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 558 Þa gemanode so Wuldorhad is, þet man wunize on cleanysse for godes lufon ..after his gemæcan..þeȝðer ȝe wenn ȝe wif. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Þre hades ure halde mete, on is wedlac, þe oþer widewehad, þe þridde wilnehode. c1200 Ormin 1624 Forr maȝdennhad & widdewesshad & weddlac birrþ hen clene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Of vnne wyf ne þenchþ þe husbonde þenne þet he is in þe weedes of widowehood. 1882 Mrs Braddon *Mt. Royston*, Mrs. Treguell had never been to London since her widowhood.

**c.** *fig.* = next, 1 c.

c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 558 Þa gemanode so Wuldorhad is, þet man wunize on cleanysse for godes lufon ..after his gemæcan..þeȝðer ȝe wenn ȝe wif. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Þre hades ure halde mete, on is wedlac, þe oþer widewehad, þe þridde wilnehode. c1200 Ormin 1624 Forr maȝdennhad & widdewesshad & weddlac birrþ hen clene. 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Of vnne wyf ne þenchþ þe husbonde þenne þet he is in þe weedes of widowehood. 1882 Mrs Braddon *Mt. Royston*, Mrs. Treguell had never been to London since her widowhood.

**2.** Age at which a woman becomes a widow, or (contextually) the time during which one is a widow.

1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Of vnne wyf ne þenchþ þe husbonde þenne þet he is in þe weedes of widowehood. 1882 Mrs Braddon *Mt. Royston*, Mrs. Treguell had never been to London since her widowhood.

**3.** quasi-*concr.* Opening: = Widower 2 b.

1849 Dayton *Agincourt* cxlii, Whence from the width of many a gaping wound, There's many a soule into the Ayre must flye. 1878 Maxon *Mech. Assoc.* v. 82 For the width of the Mortese Cage this side, then for the Tennant, Gage on that end of the Quarter you intend the Tennant shall be made. 1731 W. Halfenny *Perspective* 20 The Perspective Widths of the Squares, parallel to E.F. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, A child..with very large round eyes, opened to their utmost width. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xliv, The river was here a rapid stream four hundred yards in width. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 264 The two remain'd Apart by all the chamber's width. 1871 A. Meadows *Hum. Mechanism* (ed. 2) 186 The power of the forceps increases with the length of its blades,..the compressing power..is dependent first upon the character of the lock...and secondly upon the width or divergence of the blades. 1902 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* 120 Wide, flexible cedar strips of certain arbitrary lengths and widths.

**2.** Large extent across, or in general: = Wideness 1, 2. Also *fig.* (cf. Breadth 1, Widenness 5).

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 388 Let the Vines in intervals be set,..Indulge their Width, and add a roomy Space, That their extrearmost Lines may scarce embrace. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir B. Riker* (1890) 249 The great width of his manners if I may so call it. 1841 — *Seer* (1864) 54 Milton..was never weak in his creed..; he forced it into width enough to embrace all place and time.

**3.** quasi-*concr.* A wide region or expanse: cf. Breadth 2 b.

1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 39 Mild funeral zenith-mounds, skirting widths of plain.

**4.** *concr.* = Breadth 4.

1856 'Olida' *Winter City* iii, In the back widths of her skirt. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework, Width*, a term employed in dressmaking, synonymously with that of Breadth; meaning the several lengths of material employed in making a skirt, which– according to the fashion of the day–is composed of a certain number, gored or otherwise. The term Breadth is more generally in use. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 242 She mounted the steps, and I watched her go on her knees right up to the altar... I am sure she would need a new width in the front of her dress.

Hence **Wi·dthless** *a.*, having no (great) width, narrow; **Wi·dthways, -wise** *adv.*, in the direction of the width, transversely.

1892 *Handwringe of Hem.* I. 98 The 'widthless road. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 316 When applied to uses which require plaiting 'width ways. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 83 If they are to be used lengthways, or widthways. 1897 Blades *Caxton* 115 The mould..was capable of a sliding adjustment, 'widthwise to the width of the various letters. 1900 Q. Oswell *Compl. Bach.* 3, We looked me up, down, widthwise, and through, and found no speech.

**Widu(e, Widual, Widuede** : see Widow, Widual, Widowhead.

**Wid-uten** (-yn), var. Without *Obs.*

**Widw(e, Widwer**, obs. ff. Widow, Widower.

**Wie**, obs. f. Why; var. of Wy *adv.*, *sb.*, man.

**Wiech, Wiech(e, Wied, Wief(f**, obs. ff. Witch *sb.*[2], Wick, Weed *sb.*[1], Wife.

**† Wiel.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wiȝ(e)l-, wiȝul-, wil-, 3 wiȝel, whiel, wiel. [OE. *wiȝ(e)l* str. n. (also in *steorwiȝl* astrology), whence *wiȝlan* vb. (cf. ME. *biwiȝelen*), *wiȝlere* agent-n., *wiȝlung* n. of action, corresp. to MLG., MDu. *wichelen*, †*wilgelen*, MDu. *wijf-heldre, wich-*, MLG. *wicheler*; of obscure origin.] Sorcery, magic; a piece of magic; a deceit, delusion.

a1100 *Aldhelm Glass.* vii. 165 (Napier 159/2), *Divinationis*, wiȝles. — in *Anglia* XIII. 33/162 *Ceremoniae*, wiglum. c1200 *Trin Coll. Hom.* 11 He [*sc.* a devil] makeð þe unbileafule men ȝeomen swikles, and þe ȝeomen unbileafule spac. c1205 Lay. 19250 Ygærne wes mid childe:..al þurh Merlines wiel. a1225 *Auer. R.* 92 Þurh þet sliðhe ȝe schulen iseon alle þes deoflus wiles. *Ibid.* 160 [*sc.* the devil's] wiȝles & his wrenches. a1225 *St. Marher.* 13 9 Wið sume of mine wiheles ich wrenchte ham adun hwen ha leas wenden.

So **† Wielare,** a sorcerer, magician; a deceiver; **† Wiele** (**wyle**) [OE. type **wiȝela*], a sorcerer, wizard; **† Wiȝelful** *a.*, magical; deceitful; **† Wiȝeling,** sorcery, magic.

c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 330 Drymen..and..wiccan and oðre 'wiȝelaras, beoð to helle bescofene. *Ps. Cant. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) *Augur*, wielare. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 Þe wielare, of sum derne þing .. makeð a swote smel cumen. a1250 in Wright *Lyric. P.* x. 38 Nes ȝe wrenne ne 'wiele. c1205 Lay. 2880 Mid 'wiȝeful his fluhte. *Ibid.* 21140 His sweorð .. wes iworht mid wiȝele-fulle crafften. *Ibid.* 31649 Heo weoren wiȝel-fulle. a1000 *Exon. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 713 *Divinatio*, 'wiliung. c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 102 Nu ȝe cepað dagas and monðas mid ydelum wiȝlungum. c1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 He scal wiȝche creft alegȝen and wiȝlunge ne þenan. c1205 Lay. 13791 Monies godes monnes child heo bicharreð þurh wiȝeling.

**Wiel,** var. Weel[1]; obs. f. Well *adv.*

**† Wield,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: a. 1–3 **weald,** 1 **-wild, -wyld,** *North.* **weld,** 3–4 **weld, 4 welde,**

**Width** (**widþ**). [A literary formation of the 17th century, taking the place of *wideness* Wideness (which is the usual word in modern dialects), the short vowel of *breadth* (6–7 *bredth*) providing an analogy. Johnson 1755 calls it 'a low word'.]

**1.** Extent across, or from side to side; transverse dimension: = Breadth 1; *occas.* extent of opening, distance apart (of the two parts of something, as a pair of compasses).

In first quot. *quasi-concr.* Opening: = Widower 2 b.

1849 Dayton *Agincourt* cxlii, Whence from the width of many a gaping wound, There's many a soule into the Ayre must flye. 1878 Maxon *Mech. Assoc.* v. 82 For the width of the Mortese Cage this side, then for the Tennant, Gage on that end of the Quarter you intend the Tennant shall be made. 1731 W. Halfenny *Perspective* 20 The Perspective Widths of the Squares, parallel to E.F. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, A child..with very large round eyes, opened to their utmost width. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xliv, The river was here a rapid stream four hundred yards in width. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 264 The two remain'd Apart by all the chamber's width. 1871 A. Meadows *Hum. Mechanism* (ed. 2) 186 The power of the forceps increases with the length of its blades,..the compressing power..is dependent first upon the character of the lock...and secondly upon the width or divergence of the blades. 1902 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* 120 Wide, flexible cedar strips of certain arbitrary lengths and widths.

**2.** Large extent across, or in general: = Wideness 1, 2. Also *fig.* (cf. Breadth 1, Widenness 5).

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 388 Let the Vines in intervals be set,..Indulge their Width, and add a roomy Space, That their extrearmost Lines may scarce embrace. 1832 L. Hunt *Sir B. Riker* (1890) 249 The great width of his manners if I may so call it. 1841 — *Seer* (1864) 54 Milton..was never weak in his creed..; he forced it into width enough to embrace all place and time.

**3.** quasi-*concr.* A wide region or expanse: cf. Breadth 2 b.

1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 39 Mild funeral zenith-mounds, skirting widths of plain.

**4.** *concr.* = Breadth 4.

1856 'Olida' *Winter City* iii, In the back widths of her skirt. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework, Width*, a term employed in dressmaking, synonymously with that of Breadth; meaning the several lengths of material employed in making a skirt, which– according to the fashion of the day–is composed of a certain number, gored or otherwise. The term Breadth is more generally in use. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 242 She mounted the steps, and I watched her go on her knees right up to the altar... I am sure she would need a new width in the front of her dress.

Hence **Wi·dthless** *a.*, having no (great) width, narrow; **Wi·dthways, -wise** *adv.*, in the direction of the width, transversely.

1892 *Handwringe of Hem.* I. 98 The 'widthless road. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 316 When applied to uses which require plaiting 'width ways. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 83 If they are to be used lengthways, or widthways. 1897 Blades *Caxton* 115 The mould..was capable of a sliding adjustment, 'widthwise to the width of the various letters. 1900 Q. Oswell *Compl. Bach.* 3, We looked me up, down, widthwise, and through, and found no speech.

**Widu(e, Widual, Widuede** : see Widow, Widual, Widowhead.

**Wid-uten** (-yn), var. Without *Obs.*

**Widw(e, Widwer**, obs. ff. Widow, Widower.

**Wie**, obs. f. Why; var. of Wy *adv.*, *sb.*, man.

**Wiech, Wiech(e, Wied, Wief(f**, obs. ff. Witch *sb.*[2], Wick, Weed *sb.*[1], Wife.

**† Wiel.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wiȝ(e)l-, wiȝul-, wil-, 3 wiȝel, whiel, wiel. [OE. *wiȝ(e)l* str. n. (also in *steorwiȝl* astrology), whence *wiȝlan* vb. (cf. ME. *biwiȝelen*), *wiȝlere* agent-n., *wiȝlung* n. of action, corresp. to MLG., MDu. *wichelen*, †*wilgelen*, MDu. *wijf-heldre, wich-*, MLG. *wicheler*; of obscure origin.] Sorcery, magic; a piece of magic; a deceit, delusion.

a1100 *Aldhelm Glass.* vii. 165 (Napier 159/2), *Divinationis*, wiȝles. — in *Anglia* XIII. 33/162 *Ceremoniae*, wiglum. c1200 *Trin Coll. Hom.* 11 He [*sc.* a devil] makeð þe unbileafule men ȝeomen swikles, and þe ȝeomen unbileafule spac. c1205 Lay. 19250 Ygærne wes mid childe:..al þurh Merlines wiel. a1225 *Auer. R.* 92 Þurh þet sliðhe ȝe schulen iseon alle þes deoflus wiles. *Ibid.* 160 [*sc.* the devil's] wiȝles & his wrenches. a1225 *St. Marher.* 13 9 Wið sume of mine wiheles ich wrenchte ham adun hwen ha leas wenden.

So **† Wielare,** a sorcerer, magician; a deceiver; **† Wiele** (**wyle**) [OE. type **wiȝela*], a sorcerer, wizard; **† Wiȝelful** *a.*, magical; deceitful; **† Wiȝeling,** sorcery, magic.

c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 330 Drymen..and..wiccan and oðre 'wiȝelaras, beoð to helle bescofene. *Ps. Cant. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) *Augur*, wielare. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 Þe wielare, of sum derne þing .. makeð a swote smel cumen. a1250 in Wright *Lyric. P.* x. 38 Nes ȝe wrenne ne 'wiele. c1205 Lay. 2880 Mid 'wiȝeful his fluhte. *Ibid.* 21140 His sweorð .. wes iworht mid wiȝele-fulle crafften. *Ibid.* 31649 Heo weoren wiȝel-fulle. a1000 *Exon. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 713 *Divinatio*, 'wiliung. c1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 102 Nu ȝe cepað dagas and monðas mid ydelum wiȝlungum. c1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 He scal wiȝche creft alegȝen and wiȝlunge ne þenan. c1205 Lay. 13791 Monies godes monnes child heo bicharreð þurh wiȝeling.

**Wiel,** var. Weel[1]; obs. f. Well *adv.*

**† Wield,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: a. 1–3 **weald,** 1 **-wild, -wyld,** *North.* **weld,** 3–4 **weld, 4 welde,**

4–5 **welde, weild,** 5 **weelde, wielde, wielde.** *B.* 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) **wald,** 3–5 **walde,** 5 *Sc.* **wauld.** γ. 3–5 **wold,** 3–6 **wolde.** [(1) OE. *weald* (rare), usually *gewald,* Anglian *geweald* = OS. *giwald,* OHG. *giwalt* (MHG., G. *gewalt*); (2) OE. *(*ge*-)*weld, -wild, -wyld, *-weld* : see V- and WIELD *v.*]

**1.** Command, control; possession, keeping; *esse, hold,* grasp: chiefly in phr. *at, in, on* (one's) *w.*; *to have in to, to have* command or control of, to possess, have; *to w.,* in or into one's possession. (See also 4 a.)

a. c893 *Ælfred Oros.* ii. iv. § 10 Hie . þæt wín drincende wæron oð hi heora selfra lyfel ȝeweald hæfdon. *Ibid.* iii. iv. § 10 Æfter þæm þe Alexander hælfe calle Indie him to ȝewildon gedon. *Ibid.* iv. xi. § 4 Þa bæd he Scipian frýþes, & him his sunu hæm onsende, se wæs on his ȝeweálde (*cott. MS.* wealde). a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4562 Quat wald I him anuis yeild? At sal he at mym auen weild. *Ibid.* 788 Sone quen sco þis frutte bihild, Sco desirred it to haue in weild. *Ibid.* 15445 Þou þat has his werld to weld. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 160 Vitaile inouh at weld. ?a 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 395 The tyme, that hath al in welde To elden folk, had maad his reuerence. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3710 Þat hy muste be seo, On cryynge þat mihte welde. a 1400 *Pearl Alex.* 2994 An ymage . Of Seseres pat sum-quyle þat cite had to welde. c 1400 *Rolland & Otuel* 828 Thaire saules went alle to lucyfere, Þat hade þe Emperour in welde. c 1440 *York Myst.* i. 67 All welth in my weelde ea. a 1500 *Hist. K. Bocus & Sydrake* (1510) G ij b, When the colers haue al in welde A great kerefull is than they selde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 166 All this werld to weild thow had. B. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Hi habbaþ maneȝa saula on heora ȝeweáldum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Ne mei na Mon ne feðen, bute he forlete al þet he iwald ah. c 1200 Ormin Ded. 204 To lesenn manninnkin þurrh his ded Ut off þe defless walde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4562 (Cott.) Wu him wit-stoden in wald. 13.. *Ibid.* 21917 (Edin.) Alle sal we die lauth ginge and ride, [= 24] nan havis of him selvin walde. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (Ursinus) 90 Wesbyr & wynd he has in wald. c 1420 Henry *Wallace* v. 579 God, þat has the warld in wauld.

γ. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1958 Þei wast bettre he ðus was old, Don he ðor storde in here wold. *Ibid.* 3216 Wold, quoð god, ' wile ðer-of craues '. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6716 (Laud MS.) Þou shalt habbe . my londe al to wolde. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3215 Þou hast nomo breþren in wold ; by fader ys ded, by moder ys old. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 273 We wille it noght welde with-in oure wolde. a 1450 *La Mort Arthure.* 3233 Dose þam þy kyngdam & þy landes, Thay wyse wordys haste in wolde. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vii. 32 God that has alle in wold. *Ibid.* xxviii. 137 When I gof myself to wold to yond tre. a 1500 *Hist. K. Bocus & Sydrake* (1510) *Fij* b, The payne that he had fyrst in wold Shal than be encresed thre fold.

**b.** In gen. case in advb. phr. *Willes and waldes* : intentionally and purposely.

c 1380 *Lewis of Beréférences* vi. 181 Sif hit ȝeweorþeð þet man unwilles oþþe unȝeweáldes senig þing misdeð, na hið þet na ȝelic þam þe willes & ȝeweáldes sylfwilles misdeð. a 1425 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxiii. Heo . sunegeð deadliche ilk bruche, Sif heo hit breked willes & woldes. c 1430 *Hali Meid.* 37 Þat forschuppes te self willes & waldes into hare cumde.

**2.** Power, might, force, strength.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2000 To don swilc dede adde he no wold. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 Til viweth windes al his wald. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2689 Þolle my schouldere be to bende, and my schelde þerwith. And þat wolde a dynte arme werkkes a littille. a 1510 Douglas *K. Hart* ii. 220 All thing ȝe haue wrocht With help of Wisdome, and his wilis wald.

**3.** Meaning, significance (cf. 4 c).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2120 If he can reclæn þis dremes wold.

**4.** In phr. *aȝen (owen) awold,* also *aȝen* or *hiren wold* (*wald, weld*), representing OE. *on (ge-)wealde habbem,* and *geweald ágan* or *habban* with genitive (cf. A. *prep.**, O *prep.** 1, Own *v.* B. 1) : **a.** To have in control or possession, possess.

(*Beowulf* 1727 He ahealra geweald. c 1000 *Dream of the Rood* 107 On domdæȝe dý siteð...ah domes ȝeweald.) c 1000 in *Anglia* I. 31 Hine...þæt he þing þæs on walde. c 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 Swa holie mihte is þolebandnesse þat he þe hit kiȝ, þer þuh hauen his soule weald. *Ibid.,* He.. bermide ourcumeð þe unfele and his soule lukeð, and hauen3 swo wald. *Ibid.* 203 Hwa he forsake alle þe worelde mune þat he weld sh3. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3412 Al bi shusenu þis folc was told, He shusent aðle a meister wold. a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 181 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Sif þu hauast welþe a wold. a 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 232 (Digby MS.) Ich am moises. Ich dude þe lawen þat þou astolde Wor to ben owin [*JES.* ofin] on wolde.

**b.** To be the cause of, be responsible for : = WIELD *v.* B. 3 a.

c 1200 Ormin 11815, I me selff all ah itt wald þatt deofell maȝ me scrennkenn. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2054 He herde hem murnen, . Harde dremes ȝein awold ðat.

**c.** To mean, signify, denote, imply.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 324 Quat oget nu þat for-hode o wold, Þat a tre þa forbuden is...? *Ibid.* 1651 Tuae wel michil it aute a wold, Swile seruise and so longe told. *Ibid.* 1904 Quat-so his dremes owen a-wold. a 1300 *Havelok* 1912 Hetere is...it se Wat sua buret hauuth on wold [*MS.* Pat þis buret on hwat is wold].

† **Wield,** *a. Obs.* Forms : 1 **wielde, wylde,** 2–3 **welde,** 3 **wilde.** [OE. *wielde,* also *gewielde,* f. root of WIELD *sb.*] Strong, powerful, mighty.

c 890 Werferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* iv. xxxvii. 320 Ac þæt is bedeohlad us...hwæþer þa wyldre were in Stephano & þone ungan alite. c 893 *Ælfred Oros.* iv. i. 146 Hit urse þæs w on þam tídum þæt mon ænix wel on þa healfe timde þe þonne wieldre wæs. c 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xvi. 336 Þæt se mann bec gebyldiȝe,...and hete eáfe his ȝewit ȝe-wyldre þonne his yrre. [c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Welðre þenne his wreððe.] a 1272 *Lune Ros* 94 in *O. E. Misc.* 96 He is...freo of heorte, of wisdom wilde. c 1275 Lay. 3397 Po we[n]de þe welde-king þat his were for gyle.

**Wield** (weild), *v.* Forms : see below. [Two OE. verbs are here represented : (1) a Com. Teut. reduplicating strong verb, OE. (WS.) *wealdan,* (Anglian) *waldan,* pa. t. *wéold,* pa. pple. *ge-wealden* (see WALDEN) = OFris. *walda,* OS. *gi-waldan,* pa. t. *giwéld,* OHG. *waltan,* pa. t. *wialt* (MHG. *walten,* pa. t. *wielt,* G. *walten* wk.), ON. *valda,* pres. *veld,* pa. t. (wk.) *olla,* pa. pple. neut. *valdet* (Sw. *vålla,* Da. *volde*) to cause, occasion), Goth. *waldan* (2) a weak verb, OE. (WS.) *ge-wieldan, wildan, wyldan,* (Anglian) *weldan,* containing a mutated form of the same stem *wald-* (see also WIELD *sb.* and *a.*), = Balto-Slavic *wald-* (: *weld-*) in OSl. *vladǫ* to rule, *vlastĭ* power, Lith. *veldu* to rule, possess, iterative *valdaĭ,* O'Prussian *weldīsnan* acc., inheritance, *waldsikans* acc. pl., kings; another grade is in Goth. *waldþus* glory.

The above forms are generally held to contain an extended form of the root of L. *valēre* to be strong, *validus* strong, Celtic *voalo-* in many proper names, and in **uo-latros* (whence MWelsh *gwaniadr* chief), ON. pa. t. *ólo* (: **uol-bo*).

The unrelated OE. *wealcð* (cognate with *wealdan*) = OS. *walkan* (see A. 1 e) as representing OE. (non-WS.) **wealdan,* variant of WS. *wieldan,* not as representing WS. *wealdan,* the Anglian form of which gave ME. *wilde, wilde* (A. 1 *B*, γ).

The pa. t. and pa. pple. in *-ed* are new formations dating from the 14th century. (The OE. and early ME. contracted forms of the 2nd and 3rd pres. indic. sing. of OE. *wealdan* and *wieldan* (2 a) are identical.)]

**A. Illustration of Forms.**

**1.** *Infin. and Present Stem.* **a.** 1 **wealdan,** 2–3 **wealden.**

c888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 8 Summ...secgaþ þ sio wyrd wealde oðþæt se æcesiha se ungecneáha. c 1000 *Beowulf* 1038 Þæt he bealdlicor bryttian wolde. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 On ȝiwer þolebundnesse ȝe sholen wealdenn ȝiwer saule. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 577 Wið him þu schalt wealdenn...monnliche cunnenn.

**b.** 1 **waldan, weldan,** 3–4 **walde(n** (3 **welden**), 4 *Sc.* **walde,** 4–5 *Sc.* **weelde,** 4–5 (9 *Sc.*) **weld.**

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxxviii[i]. 10 [9] Ða waldes maeȝtie ásce. c850 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 42 Witaas þie forðon ðaa þaðe þeosne weald ne habbaþ hiora hlaforduum [*Rushworth* ȝe-wealdes ðaem. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 35 Ne ðe walded...ealra ðára eorðan cyninga. c 1205 Lay. 1250, & scal þin mære kun walden þus landes. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* i. 93/2 Þat wes to walden kinerichen? 12.. *Moral Ode* 2 (Egerton MS.), Ic wielde mare þanne ic dude. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9058 Þan was þat neuer walk þerafter, Ne nan weldar in werld to wald. c 1375 *Sc. Saints* xl. (*Minian*) 1178 To wauld soure lymmys at your wil. c 1425 waulde [see B. 5]. a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* i. 35r Quham god of myght bade wald and rule, Þat he *Wallace, Wald,* walde, to weld, to manage, to govern, to possess. 1915 wald [see B. 2 b].

γ. 3–5 **wolde, 4 wold.**

c 1205 *K. Horn* 308 (Camb. MS.) Meto spuse holde, & ich be lord to wolde. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. MS.) Mighty god þat al wolde. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 1 Pearse, I warne you, woldys in wyll!

**δ.** 1 **wildan, wyldan,** 4–5 **wilde, wylde,** 6–7 **wild.**

c960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (1885) 11 He sceal mid twyfealdre lare þa wyldan and tyn, þe him underþeodde syn. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6931 (Gött.) And na keping did him in vilde, Ful fer ouer þan sal he vilde. 1387 wilde [see B. 2a]. c 1480 wilde [see B. 3]. c 1485 wyldyng [see Wielding *pple.*a.]. 1563, 1603 wild [see B. 5].

**ε.** 2–3 **weelden** [5 *Sc.* **wiel**]. 3–4 **weld(e,** 4 *Sc.* **velde**; 4–8 **weild,** 5–6 **weilde,** 6 **weyld,** *Sc.* **veild**; 4–6 **weelde,** 5–7 **weeld**; 6–7 **weild**; 6 **wielde, wyelde,** 6– **wield.**

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 þa awarieede gastes þet welded þostenesse [*textores tenebrarum*]. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 2 (Lamb. MS.) Ic mæi mare þanne ich dede. c 1205 Lay. 1140 þe wrse hit hafde to welden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22851 Þe land he dis þat al welded. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 360 Þei weelden þe kyngdom of þe world. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1881 For to wirke with my wille, & weld as myn owne.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 586 Adam was mad of mans eild, Als he mught best him self weild. c 1400 *Sc. Troyan War* (Herstm.) n. 1025 Gewin...To king Teuteus, to kepe and weild. 1500 in Dunbar *Poems* xxi. 61 O! quha sall weild the wrang possessioun. 1579 wyld [see B. 2 b]. 1581 W. Stafford *Exam. Compl.* (1876) 77 Haunting much land in their hand, and not being able to weilde all. 1656 Phillips (ed. 5), To *weild,* to manage, to govern: Thus we say to weild a Sword, a Pen, a Staff.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Wks.* III. 22 Þei ben enduriid in her unskilful errour til cendeles deep weelde hem. c 1425 weeld [see B. 5]. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. MS.) Whoeuer not weelde eny thing in the loud of hem. 1603 Drayton *Odes* i. 49 That sturdy Glebes, And massie Oakes could weeld. 1633 weild [see B. 2].

1593 Churchyard *Challenge* 22 Why doe wee wish, to weald a world at will? 1600 weald [see B. 5].

1550 Wilde [see B. 4]. c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Engr.* (1893) 100 Havinge muche landes in theire handes, and not being able to welde all. 1591 Spenser *Ruines of Time* 14 A broken rod she held, Which towards heauen shee seemd on high to weld. 1594 Willobie *Avisa* xxv. iii, You see the sore, whence springs my griefe, You weld the sterne of my reliefe. a 1618 F. Greville *Mustapha* i. i, Strength knowes what strength can weld. 1647 weild [see B. 4 b].

**η.** *2nd and 3rd sing. pres. contr.* 1 **weltae, wylst, wylt, wilt,** 1–3 **wealt,** 1–4 **welt,** 3–5 **wilt.**

c888 weltes, welt [see B. 1, 4]. c897 wilt [see B. 3 a]. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) ii. 9 Þu heora wylst. c 1000 wealt [see B. 3 a]. c 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 We ne sholen awlenchi alle þe hunde-limen, and welt þe sowle. c 1200 Lay. 22049 Ure drihten þe walt alle deden. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1798 He...wisest & wealt—þe heouene & te eorðe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 54 Hali fronre welt oc þat mist. c 1275 *Moral Ode* 83 in *O. E. Misc.* 61 He wit and wald [*rrr.* walde], walt, wealde[s] alle þing. 13.. *Gaw. & Gol.* (Ashm. 3896) 1 Lord þou wonyd in heye, Pat al þing walt fer & neye. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* x. 83 Je more ne wynneth and welt welthes & ricchesse,...þe lasse good he deleth. c 1425 *Cursor M.* 23105 (Trin.) Pe lord of myst þat al walt.

**2.** *Pa. t.* **a.** 1 **weold, wieold,** 3 **wield,** 3–5 **weld(e.**

*Beowulf* 465 weold [see B. 1]. c897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* l. 391 Manige folca ȝestreonum he wieold. c 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1036, Þæt ne ȝebafodon þa þe micel wealdon on þisan lande. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 On alle þe sinne þe he eure weld. c 1205 Lay. 18 He wes king & heo quen & kinelond heo weldan. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Riches þat þey welde [*Caxton* welded] while þey were alyue.

**b.** 1 **wylde,** 2 (3*e*) **welde, -welt, 3–4 welt(e, welde.**

a 1000 *Vsr.* in Wr.-Wülcker 295/1 *Dominii, i. wicit, utilitati, wylde.* c 1175 *E. E. Psalt.*) *Hom. xcii.* 5 ȝe weldæ & ȝewaun feola ðeaða. [Ps. lxxxviii. 10 Þu waldes ofer þe sæ ȝewelt. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 Wimmen welden wikes meister. c 1350 welt [see B. 2].

**γ.** 3 **wald(e, welde,** 4–5 **walt; 3–5 wolde, 4 wold.**

c 1205 Lay. 8076 Androgeus walde *Ilater test* wilde] al þat he wolde. *Ibid.* 24134 Na lengere þat lond he ne walde *Ilater test* wolde]. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 389 in *O. E. Misc.* 166 Þeyh a mon wolde al þe world wald. 13.. *Gaw. & Gol.* 931 He stemmed & con studie, Quo walt þer most renoun. *Ibid.* 485 Wyth wele walt þay þat day. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3893 Þat neuer non man vpon molde Ne walde swiche mist walk. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 10181 (Trin.) Pe secounde party þat he walt Was among pe prestes dait.

**δ.** 3–7 **welded** (-*ed* -id), 5–6 *Sc.* **weldet, 6 weelded, 7 -welded.**

1338 welded [see B. 5]. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lxiii. 18 As nost thei weldeden thin holi puple. c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 578 The wy that weildit the wane. 1602 welded [see B. 5 d]. 1838 *James Lewis Arf.*, III. iii. 89 Boileau too wielded his satirical pen.

**3.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **ȝewealden,** 3 **iwalde, iwald, wold, 5 walde(n, weld; 1 wyld(d; 4 welded, -ed(d; 5 welded, 7– welded.**

*Beowulf* 1731 [He] ȝeweálden worolde dæles. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) xviii. 14 [xix. 13] Sif min hine þeoh wylde. c 1200 [see B. 2]. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 189 Al se wielde mon þurh his wisdome. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3413 Þat he iwalde þerin his wissage. a 1300 Havelok *Fragment* xv. 7 Thurgh þe wlike þe heritage of heuen may be sene and welde. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13801 (Trin.) Kinge & pritty yeer in hande Hase I not welde on foot ny honde. c 1450 Merlinde *Rolls* cxix. 111, Ich am þe duke of Bargoyn wold haue weld. *Ibid.* lxxxxii. iii, So was the famile of Frenchmen wonne & welde. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. vii. 321/2 The Head of the Battle-Axe is called . . with one hand. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 82 P 10 A Seymitar once wielded by a Soldier. 1891 welded [see B. 4].

**B. Signification.**

† **1.** *trans.* To rule or reign over, govern, rule, command. *Obs. exc.* as merged in 5.

*Beowulf* 465 Ic...weold folce Denīga. c888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 5 Dryhten, þu ðe ealle...ȝeweálda...ȝe-eorþe & heora weliȝa. c 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Þe þe wes þurhut þa awaried gastes þet weldeð þostemesse [*textores tenebrarum*]. c 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 820 Þe kinges welen þurges ðon. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9800 God almyty, þat al þyng weldes. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 65, I take the kepare, sir knyghte, of kyngrykes manye,...to weilde al my landes. c 1420 *Pryne Lyfe Alexr.* 37 So sail ȝe wele & ioyfully weilde your empire. 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 206 Welchyage s^r countre at his wyll. 1575 Gascoigne *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 115 Though she finde the skill A kingdome for to weelde. 1596 *Spenser Faerie Q.* vi. 1. 14, I, and my familie haue not taken that allowance which was appointed for the governour, so as, though I wielded the place, yet I forbore to take the maintenance allotted vnto it.

**b.** *intr.* To rule, have the command ; *fig.* to prevail. *Obs. exc. Sc. dial.*

a 1250 *Kattr Kaering* 2270 Vilfulnes and mysknawes Ay wodly weildand. ?a 1300 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 112 As was from the beginninge, And never shall have endinge, From worlde to worlde ayre weildinge, Amen ! God of mighte moste. 1919 G. Sinclair *Poems* 83 My...love an' friendship freely wald Around her ingle.

† **c.** *trans.* To overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

a 1000 [see A. 2 b]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 421 Abel an hundred yer was hold, Don he was al wroþer wold. *Ibid.* 2591 Sco is writen quat ysaie said, Bat sis weld was [of?] water wold.

† **2.** To have at command or disposal, have as one's own or in one's keeping, hold, own, possess; to have the advantage of, enjoy; sometimes (contextually), to get possession of, gain, win, obtain.

*Beowulf* 2051 Hi weoldon wiðstowe. a 1000 *Cædmon* 219 Oft we oferseȝon...þeoda þeawas, þræce modiȝra, þara þe in gelimpe life weoldon. 12.. in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 200 And ic cyþe eow ðæt Oþdric alsdeal and eal ðæt hired on Abbendunes mynstre be minre unne anre ȝife frixlelice habban and wealdan Horneneres hutred on hyra ȝæenie andwealdæ. c 1200 *Bestiary* 176 If þu hauest is broken, Al þu forlezes, forwiðer and forgelues, Eche lif to wolden. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 (Christ) wrot mid his owune

bilade salur to his leofmon, of bine gretunge · forte welden hire loue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10325 Oft sith lates he be left Man wit woman child to gett, Bituix and bair forber gilt, And I an pam sendes child to weld. *Ibid.* 24188 Moght i pe ans weld in arm, Hale me think of all mi harm. 13.. Sve A. 293. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 835 Se ar welcum to welde ay yowr lyker pat here is; al is yowre awen, to haue at yowre wylle. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 76 Pai seide pe child schuld weld al pese goddis. *Ibid.* 144 He wex to a wer-wulf. a, his wit welt he eiper to wel or to fere. *Ibid.* 1926, I not where he schal 3ou to wiue welde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 20 Adam . welte all Paradys sauynge o tree. 1390–8? Malory *Arthur* v. vii. 172 Ye be worthy to welde all your honour and worship. *c* 1480 *Childe of Brittowe* 542 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 327, I vnne no childe, Myn heritage for to welde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. vi. 127 Lat neuir his fens weild Ane fair braid of Italiane ground nor feyld. 1586 [see A. 1. e]. 1593 Churchyard *Challenge* 116 What cunning headsand hands can catch in hold, That covetous mindes, doth seek to weld alone. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 510 They . would never be able with wisdom and moderation to weld any great prosperitie [*vice versa*, *etc.*, *deprive*].

†**b.** To have in oneself, experience, feel; to have as one's lot or fate, suffer, undergo; to suffer patiently, endure, tolerate. *Obs.*

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2990 So gret wonder walt pe quen of pe werd besides. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. (1871) 143 Wrapping and wo I welt. *a* 1400 *Pistel of Swete Susan* 80 (1904) 88 Wele or wa, ane of pase two, To weide with-outten ende. 1533 More *Confut. Tindals* Wks. 594/2 God . . maketh with the temptacion a good out also that ye may well weild it. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* N ij, At the first the One weyeldeth not the yoke, nor the Colt the snaffle,...yet time causeth the one to beeld the mayde to bridle.

†**3. a.** To decide, determine, ordain; to be the author or cause of; to bring about; to carry out, execute, perform. *Obs.*

In OE. chiefly const. gen. In later use prob. transf. from 4. *Beowulf* 2574 Dær he þy fyrste forman dogore weoldan mosten. *c* 897 Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* 371 Sif hwelc folc hi mid hungre xewenced, & hwa his hwæte xehyt & oðhield, hu ne wult he . hiera deades? *a* 900 Cædmon *Hexe* 760 Þæs þu . wealdest, *Institut. Pol.* xxv. 1. Thorpe *Anc. Laws* II. 340/24 Syndon . . cyrean . . wace xeqwidde . . wa ham ] be3 wealdt. *c* 1000 *Ælfr. Coll. Hom.* 45 Þurh meanes gemeltunge he weld his scinne wel . . dead him wes vnsceadu. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 101 Bidde we alle þen heye kyng Þat welde schal þe laste dom. 13.. *K. C. Alisaunder* 1. 6 Þe kyng, he set hymself in rayn, That neure haile non hymself to wolde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 419 He may no werk soche wilde. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 22 All is wele done, God wait, weild be his will.

†**b.** *intr.* (for *refl.*) To occupy oneself, be doing; to act, do, fare (well, etc.); to 'manage'.

This use does not seem to be continuous with the intr. sense of OE. *wealdan* 'to continue or manage to do something expressed or implied'.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1803 Howe shuld o sely lombe, a-mong wolvis weld, And a-geyn wel-harmyd? *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 339 Now lyche, now sadly I can hald, now can I baill; . . Now weildand weyle now cadis weidlyn, now helt. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de Cura rei fam.* 1. 351 Quham-kynd of myght haile weild and vtike & lefte. In sondrie of ailame and of sore. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 407 Rather giues whollie to weld wth the swoird, Then worke that wisdome have fra me affeird. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* xv. 77 Although he weeldeth a long in fight. 1613 P. Fobbes *Comm. Rev.* Ep. Ded., The inexpert student, in search of letters wielding amidst infinite variety, is cast in such doubt of choise.

†**4.** *trans.* To direct the movement or action of, to control; to use, have the use of, as a bodily member or a faculty; to lead, guide, direct; *occas.* to hold in check; *gen.* to deal with, have to do with; to deal with successfully, manage. *Obs.* or *dial.* exc. as in 5.

Here are included various shades of meaning, *lit.* and *fig.*; see also below. In quot. 1530, to inflect grammatically. In OE. const. gen.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 8 Sin eax welt ealles þara wænes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1903 Hi ne vvolleþ ahbe þe leste vuon be wule ich ne mai weld [*v. r.* wolde] min hond. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 239 In our Chapitre praye we . . To crist hat he thre smale heele and wyght Thy body for to weelde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 142 Then callyd he norys to be meryf, and bade hur helpe hur forte folde pe chyldys clopis; for who was to woke, and myght not wolde hom. *c* 1500 *Lol. v. Gam.* 453 Quhill I may my wit weild, I think my fredome to hald. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritit Wemen* 72 Than sald I waill ane, That suld my womanheid weild. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. xii. 129 The word turrys Knaw sum deyll . To weild bys kne maid sum impedyment. 1530 Palsgr. Ded. A iij b, How to welde hym [sc. a frenche worde], in his cases, genders, nombres, modes, tenses, and persones. 1552 Huloet *Bridel* ii. 39/2 To say and she, and gar to welde Hym a meed man, and in the sacred seat hym set and helde. 1581 T. Howell *Deuices* G iij b, Let wisedome weilde your wit. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 130 Loue will not be drawne, but must be ledde, And Bregog did so well her fancie weild, That her good will he got her first to wedde. 1596 – *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 663/1 According to the quantitye of such land, as euerye man . shalbe founde able to weelde. 1601 Holland *Pliny* x. iii. I. 272 The very *Reiles*, not able to weild the prey that they have seazed upon, are together with it drawne under the water. 1622 Drayton *Polyolb.* ii. 131 Her new-beginning banke her water scarcely weilds. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* vii. xli, Her daughters.. Much pain'd themselves her stumbling feet to weild. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* iii. v. 396 It is no shame for one to admit a partner in that weighty work, which he cannot weild by himself. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* ii. 449 Whose mind was . strong to weild all science. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss.*, Suppl., A farmer living at Ashover, in Derbyshire, said to me, "I here's no farm I could ha' liked better if I could only ha' welded it."

†**b.** *refl.* in various senses (see above); *occas.* to conduct oneself, behave. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 51 He lai alswa ðat child ðe nan god ne cann, ne speken ne mai, ne isien, ne him seluen wealden. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 368 Whan pow ert of swich elde, Pat pow mist pe self welde, And ert of age. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 24258 (Fairf.) Þorou mi hert I felde fit stange Myself I mught nogt weelde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8635 His sheld on his shulders shot was twelvyd, And his brest felt bare,..To weld hym more wisly pat worthy to lede. 1426 Lydg. *Pilgr. Sowle* iii. 2058 Somme be lame, and feble.. And somme strong, and gon vpryght, And many welde hem sylff ryht wel. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 56 So wisely thee weelde That by frendys haue ioy of thee. 1545 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* ii. ii. (1552) 60 b, Nether can it welde, or helpe it selfe to come forthe. 1697 Harvey *Sch. of Heart* vi. ii. The limbs unable are themselves to weild [*error* weeld].

†**c.** To carry (something heavy or requiring effort). *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 1232 Þa Troiniese men..duden of þan wilden ut heore wepnen, & seoðþen weolden [*Otho* MS. *wealden*] to ham ladden to moche so wiðinnen]. *Ibid.* 21874 Heo..heore unc3æne weolden to volde [*Later text* hire here faire al hit toteri].

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knight's T.* 972 She wolde Lette hem gon, gardes and Bleu, And in hir armes wolde bathen al hir wille. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 813 Þan Alexander . Wynnes him vp a wardrove he walt in his handis. 1598 Kyd *Sp. Tragt.* iv. 1. Whose hand-writing and wound him in mine armes? And welding him unto my priuate tent, There laid him downe.

†**d.** To express, utter. *Obs. rare.*

1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 77 To the Gods . he wold not weeld his thought. 1589 A. Day *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 121 The best are mute, And may not weld the greatnes of her praise.

†**5.** To govern, rule. 1 Sc. Jur. Inuit pro parte weild vnto can weild ye matter. *a* 1638 Corbet *Poems* (1672) 08 Outwent the Townsmen all in Starch, . . into the Field, Where one a Speech could hardly weild.

**6.** To use or handle with skill and effect; to manage, actuate, ply (a weapon, tool, or instrument, now always one held or carried in the hand). (The current sense.)

In OK. const. gen., also *intr.* (*instrumental*).

*Beowulf* 1028 Hæfde him þara wæpnum wealdan mosten. *a* 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 83 Þa hwile ðe he wæpna wealdan moston. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1436 Nou ich am up to pat helde Cumen, pat ich may wepne welde. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 4 Sex score pousand of hem pat wepen couþe bere, Þat weelde Arthour bi-fore. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 97 He left nane myght wapnys welde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2000 *Ariadne*, He..hath Rauysshed me..With axe or swerde or staffe or knyffe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 651 Wele & wigtly in were to welden a spire. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* vii. viii. 1304 A childe..Pat weildyt wapnys full wichtly wndale. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (*Percy Soc.*) 9322 He wolde haue gon to work and weld. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* ix. ii. 340 Is there ony of you pe re pat wille take vpon hym to welde pis shelde? 1567 Whitstone *Orchard. Pleasure*, 74 Much lesse the shingles can wild their slinges . : being hindered of the Soudiers. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* i. iii. 74 Those hungarian wights, wil yt the valour of a woman, Gi. Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 275 Monstrouse cudgells . as bigge as the pattie is well able to wild. 1689 H. Burton *Truth's Tri.* 251 We can tell better how to weild some weapons. 1736 Gray *Statius* i. 1 Whose the quoit can wield, And furthest send its weight. 1784 Cowper *Task* iii. 646 Strength may wield the pond'rous axe, Or drive the share. 1791 Hamilton *Voltaire* (1794) I. 4 A potent wand doth Sorrow weild. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xviii. 159 Never wielding my hatchet until my balance was secured.

**b.** *To wield a or the sceptre* (and similar phrases): to exercise supreme authority, to reign or rule (also *fig.*). Cf. Sway *v.* 8.

1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, iv. vi. 71 His Head by nature fram'd to weare a Crowne, His Hand to wield a Scepter. 1595 Daniel *Civil Wars* I. xxix, Edward the third long dead, had left this child..The crowne and Scepter of this Realme to wield. 1635 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Old, Old Man's Lov.* How he..son sh' exploits here, Since did wield The Scepter. 1809 Sir. Smith *Serm.* I. 64 Providence ..gives to many a man a soul far better than his birth, compelling him to wield a sceptre, who had never been schooled to a sceptre. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, The late prime favourite of England, who wielded her general's staff and controlled her parliaments. 1858 Max Müller *Chips* III. i. 28 The intellectual sceptre of Germany was wielded by a new nobility.

**c.** To exercise (power, authority, influence).

1622 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 9 He forbiddeth them not to exercise rule . . authority, but commands them to teach them after what manner to weild their authoritie. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* III. xxii. (R.) To weild power innocently, . . to the maintenance of right, for the benefit of mankind, . . is a matter of no small skill. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 97 Physical power wielded by an omnipotent Being . . must overcome every power elsewhere. 1861 Buckle *Civiliz.* II. vi. 412 Over the inferior order of minds they still wield great influence. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 150 Wielding . an authority which he had no just right to wield. 1876 J. Green *Short Hist.* i. § 6, St. Dunstan . wielded for sixteen years . the secular and ecclesiastical powers.

**d.** To exert the fashion of a tool or weapon for the performance of something.

1600 W. Cornwallis *Ess.* ii. xliii. No 3 b, I am the veriest bungler..that euer welded tongue. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 154 Wielding the strength and resentment of the dignity of the city of London. 1857 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. vii. § 13. 343 Wield ng the learning of the old times with incomparable facility. 1872 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) 255 The dorsal tube [of serpents] wielded . by powerful muscles . perform the office of internal legs. 1882 Pebody *Engl. Journalism* xxiii. 283 A trained soldier wielding a graphic and powerful pen. 1886 A. Weir *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 588 [The] increasing importance

# WIELDY

of the middle classes, as they wielded more efficiently capital and machinery. 1918 A. Menzies *Calvin* 396 Who could wield such scathing invective?

Hence **Wie·lded** *ppl. a.*; also (*nonce-wds.*) **Wie·ldable** *a.*, capable of being wielded; †**Wie·ldance**, the action of wielding.

1800 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* I. 305 As easy and as wieldable as blank verse. *c* 1804 Hr. Hall. *St. Paul's Combat* in Wks. 1634 II. 451 This spirituall edge shall either turne againe, or (through our weake 'weildance) not enter the stubburne and thick hide of obdured hearts. 1842 Tennyson *Talking Oak* last, May never saw dismember thee, Nor 'wielded axe disjoint.

**Wielder** (wī·ldəɹ). Forms: see Wield *v.*; 4 **-ere**, 5 **-are**, **-ire** 5–6 **-er**, 5– **-er**. [f. Wield *v.* + **-er**1.] One who wields, in various senses.

†**1.** A ruler, governor, master; sometimes applied to God: *loosely*, a manager (?). *Obs.*

13 . *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 129 Þe welder of wyt, bat wot alle iynges. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* i. 3 The oxe knoȝ his weldere, and the asse the crachc of his lord. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1608 Pe lege Emperoure, pe wildire [*v. r.* welder] of alle pe werde. 1402 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 78 As that we were welders and lordes of alle. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* i. met. v. 49 O welder, appeaser the flowing flouddes. 1600 Burton *Melancholie Humours* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9/1 They, like the welders of the world, command, and haue their will. 1793 Swift *Gulliver's Travels*, Voy. iii. 41 [Kings] Such. tenants, generally speaking, have others under them, and so a third and fourth in subordination, till it comes to the welder last, they call him, who sits at the bottom. 1825–49 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* (1855) I. ii. 92/1 The title..of Brotwalda, the welder or sovereign of Britain.

†**2.** The author or cause *of* something. *Obs. rare* 1550 *Satir. Poems Reformation* xxxiii. 58 Welderis of this greif.

**3.** One who uses or actuates skilfully: const. *of* (a weapon, instrument, etc.); also *fig.*

1780–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 57 He is the first welder of all the powers of a free-people. 1855 Reimbay *Rail. Hi'story* (1858) 203 These are the high aims of fiction in the hands of its master welders. 1862 R. W. Procter *Our Twif. Stage & Ring* 81 The roughhewn welder. 1886 Whitby *Ann. Parliament* 438 Blak welder of the birch and rule, The master of the district school. 1884 R. F. Burton *Bh. Sword* viii. 166 The Zanzibari's sword is . dangerous in the wieldy hands. 1908 *Spectator* 21 Apr. 564/2 Some able welder of autocratic power.

**Wielding** (wī·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wield *v.* + **-ing**1.] The action of the verb Wield, in various senses.

†**1.** Government, power, command; possession, keeping: see Wield *v.* B. 1, 2. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 19011 Þa hadden heo .. Vðer þene king wiðinne heore walding [*c* 1275 weldyng]. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* i. 81 ve loken in ði welding, Thou art Lauerd..That al oplokes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 96 Ye haue hem in youre myght and in youre weeldynge. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* i. 39 And haue al welth in youre weeldyng. *c* 1460 *Play Sacr.* am. 35 In pe kirkdom of Oyon mon he haue I in weldyng. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 59 Thys castell..is at my wyldyng.

**2.** Control, (power of) using, management, etc.: see Wield *v.* B. 4, 5.

*a* 1225 *Cursor M.* 13781 (Trin.) His lymmes had he so forgone þat of hem weldyng had he none. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. iv. (1895) 140 Their garmentes..[are] no let to the mouynge and weldynge of the bodie. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 125 Ariethoan the mansie chiefe, And..got such praise by force and weelding good. 1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. i. *Southsea House*, He was equal to the wielding of any of the more ponderous weapons. 1878 Keble in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 223 Behold your armoury!—sword and lightning shaft, .. And in your wielding left! 1880 Tennyson *Rememberest* xi, The wielding of the pen.

**Wielding,** *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + **-ing**2.] That wields; †ruling, governing; as *sb.* a ruler, governor (see Waldend); in quot. 1622, ? fasting, 'doing' (well). (See also All-wielding.)

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1015 Mihtig god,..wealdend eall, *Riddle* xxvi. 1 Ic wiht cwice wrætlicu wealdende hæbbem. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5206 Of egypti..Fis he hunand and maister weldand. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1837, I beleve in pe father, pat is of alle wyldyng. 1620 Wither *Faire-Virtue* B 2, A noble wielding mind.

†**Wie·ldless,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wield *v.* + **-less**.] That cannot be wielded; unmanageable, uncontrollable, unwieldy.

1580 Phaer *Æneid.* ix. 740 Down sinks the weldlesse weight. 1593 G. Fletcher *Licia* (1856) 56 The weldie Mars, can weildles weapons guide. 1596 Nenshaw *F. Q* iv. iii. 19 With the weight of his owne weeldlesse might, He falleth nigh to ground.

†**Wieldly,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **weldely**. [f. Wield *v.* + **-ly**1. Cf. *unwieldly*.] = Wieldy 1 (quot. *c* 1440).

†**Wie·ldness.** *Obs.* In 4 **weld-**, **weildr-es**. [f. Wield *a.* + **-ness**. Cf. OE. *waldnis* 'dominatio'.] Command, control, possession.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13736 Sua bond him was his limes Jan pat he o bain had weldines man. *Ibid.* 23621 [he gode] bi sal haf weldines of all wale, [he wicked] bai sal vaweldid be wit bale.

†**Wie·ldsome,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wield *v.* + **-some**.] = Wieldy 3.

1586 Golding *Cæsar* 99 b, The Galleyes wherof the facion was more straunge to the saunge Britons, and the mouing more redy and wieldesome [*et motus ad usum expeditior*].

**Wieldy** (wī·ldi), *a.* Forms: 4–6 **weldy** (6 **-le**), 5 **weeldy**, 6 **wyldy**, 7 **wieldie**, **weildy**, 7– **wieldy**. [f. Wield *v.* + **-y**1. Cf. M.LG. *weldich* etc., and Unwieldy.]

**1.** Capable of easily 'wielding' one's body or limbs, or a weapon, etc.; vigorous, active, agile, nimble. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 6 *&* So fressh so yong so wely semed he. 1388 Wyclif *Ecc. Sacr.* xxiii. 154 Where han the Weldy Werriours? c1450 Lovelich *Grail* xii. 57 Eche man .. That weren weldy Armes to bere. 1508 More *Dyalogue* i. Wks. 153 The lude body is the more weldy and lusty by some kynde of exercise. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 75 Armd like youthfull Troyius And fresh as he .., As stirring, weldie, and as chearefous As Chaucer makes him. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 79 By reason of our burden we are less weekly and more unapt to make any resistance.

†**2.** Requiring strength to wield, heavy or bulky; wielded with force, powerful. *Obs.*

c1440 *Partenay* 3876 (Univ. Coll. MS.) A-bouthe hys sheld heng a sheelde .. And hit was full weekly [*v.r.* weldyel]. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 57 [He] did stand To his defance, when slaine was eurie male With weldie axe.

**3.** Easily wielded, controlled, or handled; manageable; handy. [In later use a back-formation from *unwieldy*.]

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* H iv, When you breake a colte, you first beate him with wilines, and afterward being welly do cherish your hobby. 1656 Hevlin *Surv. France* 183 The boat..wieldie and fit for speed. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Morals* v. iii. 78 In the Choice of a Sword, we take care that it be weildy. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* x. 286 Their javelins lesevell'd to a weildy length. 1839 J. Rodger *Antiphopos* I. 82 Yon one mighty league, in one holy weildy, tractable, governable, mass? 1851 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 19 June 389/1 For its bulk it is admirably weildy and light in hand.

¶ Incorrectly used for *unwieldy*.

1687 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 227 [He] being fat and weildy, could not ride or walk as the others could.

**Wiele, Wier, Wierange(l-ge, Wierd, Wiery, Wiese, Wieselle, Wiet, Wietch, Wieth**, obs. ff. Wile, Wir, Wire, Warilangil, Weird, Wirt, Wise, Wish *n.*, Wit *n.*, Wich, Withe.

**Wife** (waif), *sb.* Pl. **wives** (waivz). Forms: *Sing.* a. 1–5 (6 *Sc.*) wif, 3–5 wiif, 3–6 wyf, 4–6 wyff(e, wyfe, (chiefly *Sc.*) vif, vyf(e, 5–6 wiff(e, 6 *Sc.* vyff, (1, 4 wiif, 4 vyffe, whiffe, wieffe, wyefe, weyffe, 4–5 weife, wiue, wyue, 5 wyif, wyyfe, wyȝffe, whyf(f)e, 5–7 wiefe, 6 wieff, 6–7 wief), 4- wife. *Gen.* 1–7 wives, 3–7 wiues, (4 wiuis, wyuys), 4–5 wifes, wyues, 4–6 wyfes, 5–6 *Sc.* wyffis, (6 wive's, 8– wife's. *unin fected* 4 wijf, 4–5 wife. *Pl.* 1–3 wif; 2–7 wifes, 3–7 wiues, 4–5 *Sc.* wyffis, 4–6 wyfes, wyues, wiffis, *Sc.* wiffis, 5 *Sc.* wyffis, (4 wijf(e)s, vijfes, wiuis, wiuus, wiues, *Sc.* vifis, 5 wifs, wifys, wyuys, 5–6 -is, 6 *Sc.* vyffis, vyfues, vyuis, 7 wiefs), 7– wives. *Gen.* 1 wi(i)fa, 3 wife, wiue; 3 wiuene; 4–7 wives, 8– wives'. [OE. *wif* str. n. = Offris., OS. *wif*, (*Gr.*) *wîf*, Du. *wijf*, OHG. *wîb*, mod.G. *weib*, ON. *vif* (Sw. *wif*, Da. *viv*); not in Gothic (which uses *qinô* 'mulier' Quran and *gêns* 'uxor' Queen *sb.*); of obscure origin.]

**1.** A woman: formerly in general sense; in later use restricted to a woman of humble rank or 'of low employment' (J.), esp. one engaged in the sale of some commodity. Now *dial.*, exc. with prefixed descriptive word, esp. in compounds such as Ale-wife 1, Apple-*wife*, Fishwife, Old wife, Oyster-*wife*, etc.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 646 *Anus*, aldwif. c900 tr. *Bede's Hist. iv.* xxiii, Seo æresta wiflic [L. *feminarum*]. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 7 Cuom uif of þer byrig to ladanne ueter. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 Se synna þas wæron ærest wifes. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom birieð weran and cleneasse biiuuð wifen. c1205 Lay. 1507 Þa scipen to-dragen & þa wif ireuenen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Seinte Johan þatistre, hi hwam ure Louerd seið, bet among wiuene nanes ne aros neuer betere. a1300 *Cursor M.* 17905 Among all wine [13.. *Gött.* wifes] nan.. A holer barn was neuer nan. a1300 *Havelok* 1731 Hir god helpen he O mani wise wif and man. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Eufrosyne*) 1097, I comiune þe, þat it, þat þu has hard of me, þat þu tel nothyng to no wyf. c1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 135 The wyues of the parisshe. — *Doctor's T.* 72 Whan she woxen is a wyf. c1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. xviii. 2255 Put man in vnweld born of wif Of powar to reif me my lif. c1470 Henry *Wallace* i. 94 Edward .. gert sla .. Off man and wiff, vij thousand and fyfty. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 97 The wyf of Hutoun. 1513 *Douglas Æneis* xvii. 6, I sawe the wyfe dronke with the bloud of sayuctes. c1565 *Jack Juggler* C iij, Then came I by a wife that did custerds sell. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 118 The wyfe that fostred how. 1585 Bacon *Alphabethgest* B [19] Strawberrie wiues, that laid two or three great strawberries at the mouth of their pot, and all the rest were little ones. 1633 in *Dodge Chron.* (1908) 11 Mar. 6/3 Oysterwives, hen b wives, tripe wives. 1818 Keats *Dunlish Fair* 3 Where ginger-bread wives have a sanity sale. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Glass., Wife*, a woman, whether married or not. "An apple wife", "a fish wife", "a tripe wife". 1859 Tennyson *Gumm.* 55 She..shuddered, as the village wife who cries 'I shudder, some one steps across my grave.'

**b.** Qualified by *old*, esp. in the phr. *old wives' fable, story, tale*: see Old wife 1.

c725 [see above]. 1340, etc. [see Old wife 1]. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 220 An old wiues request. 1696 Mennis & J. Smith *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 2 An old wifes-Tale.

**2.** A woman joined to a man by marriage; a married woman. Correlative of Husband 2*b*. 2. (The ordinary current sense.)

c888 Ælfred *Boeth.* x, Hu ne liofaþ þin wif eac, þæs ilcan Simaches dohtor? c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. i. 24 *Accepit coniugem suam*, fenge wiue his. c1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxviii. 25 Hyne het hys hlaford gesyllan, & hys wif & hys cild. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Sum cham iafet and hare þreo wif. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Riche men .. þe habbeð .. feire wiues and feire children. *Ibid.* 129 He forsek his scuppend þurh his wifes red. c1205 Lay. 25 Noe & Sem Japhet & Cham & heore fiue wiues [c1275 wifen]. *Ibid.* 12432 Ich wulle .. senden after mine wiue. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1219 God him bad ki wiues tale listen. c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 30/26 To take is broþer wif. c1300 *Cursor M.* 918 Þou, man.. has vnder-taken þi wijf red [*Gött.* þi wiues rede]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 785 Þe lambes vyues in blysse we bene. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 242 My menskful moder is he mete wiue. 1440 Yonge *Gesta Rom. Sloane* MS. 1201 He bade that a wife schuld haue to hir spous. c1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 114 Thair wyfes and childeren. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 451/1 A Wife modir, *uxor*. 1509 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 24 Thou sal spouse ane vyfe, bot ane vthir sal tak hyr fra the. 1580 J. Hewood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 A good wife maketh a good husbande, (they saie). 1581 in *Cath. Recusates* (S. T. S.) 58 Ane of Jacobs vyffues. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 16 Slaves unto their wives goods. 1608 Conf. *Ch. Scot. Scer. xxxvi.* 192 The lone that a wi should haue to hir spous. c1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 114 Thair wyfes and childeren. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 451/1 A Wife modir, *uxorius

state (of a woman); the character or qualities of a wife : — Wifehood 1, 2.

1848 *Twin's Mag.* XV. 114 Joy and merriness are not for me,..nor wedded wifehood. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 114 This essential for good wifedom is also an essential for good womanhood. 1898 *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug. 7/6 Unfettered by the cares of wifedom and motherhood.

**2.** Wives collectively, married women as a class.

1851 Emmonth *Rosch. Ball.* VII. 489 The new race of Wifedom is sadly degenerating. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* III. ii, A circle of official wifedom.

**† Wifehead.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wife *sb.* + -head.] = next.

14.. *Chaucer's L. G. W.* Prol. 253 (Selden MS.), Penolope and Marcia Catoun, Make of your wyfhede no comparison. *Ibid.* 545, 691, 2687.

**Wifehood** (wai·fhud), Forms : see Wife *sb.* and -hood ; also 6 wiue-, 7 wivehood. [f. Wife *sb.* + -hood. (OE. had *wīfhād* womanhood.)]

**1.** The position or condition of a wife; married state (of a woman).

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 51 Fro ferst thatsche wifhode tok. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyfhood, *uxoratus*. 1548 Richardson *Chorizus* (1568) IV. 305 To restore her to her Virgin State by my confession, after her Wifehood had been reported to her Uncle. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* II. 358, I ask for love..For wifehood. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 30 Apr. 4/5 Her daughter's..now grown to womanhood, and to-day enters upon the sacred duties of wifehood.

**2.** The character of, or befitting, a wife; 'behaviour becoming to a wife' (J.); wifeliness.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 253 Penolope & Marcia catoun Mak of youre wyfhod no comparisoun. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 74 Wifhode is loe lim me, which a shilom was honeste. 1598 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. v. 3 The vertue of chast loue, And wifehood true. 1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* I. vi, Thou, onely art to heare, not speake a word...on your wiue-hood, wife. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* II. iv, She hath neither manners, honesty, wifehood, nor womanhood. 1830 Tennyson *Isabel* 12 The stately flower..Of perfect wifehood. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* iv. 107 Plutarch's Life of Clouenions contains two historical pictures of heroic wifehood.

**Wifekin** : see after Wife *sb.*

**Wifeless** (wai·fles), *a.* Forms : see Wife *sb.* ; also 5-6 wyue-, 5-7 wiue-, **wiveles**, **-less(e.** [OE. *wīflēas*, f. *wīf* Wife *sb.* + *-lēas* -less.] Having no wife ; unmarried, celibate ; *rarely*, deprived or bereaved of, or not accompanied by, one's wife. **a.** of a man.

*a* 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 190 Wunige he a sydðan wifleas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26681 He bat slas his aun wijf, He agh be wifeles al his liif. c 1382 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 364 Pei ben dowid and wyfless agens Goddis autorite. c 1386 Chaucer *March. T.* 4 Sixty yeer a wyflees man was hee. c 1400 *Rerum* 1090 Agen was entred, And fillewus lyvid wyfles. 1480 *Rolls. Deryll* 25 in Had. *E. P. P.* I. 219 Wyueles bnige .. haue I tarved, And lynnd sole, without any mate. 1574 T. Newton *Health Mag.* VIII b, Wiuelesse Bachelers and husbandlesse maydens. 1613 *Purch. Pilgrimage* v. vii. 410 They liue on almes..They are wiuelesse. *a* 1623 H. Swinburne *Spousals* (1686) 269 He was then Widdow. 1841 D. Masterman *Savage* xxiii, Many of the married fellows do not appear to be a whit happier than your wifeless men. *a* 1849 J. C. Mangan *Poems* (1859) 459 Wifeless, friendless, fatherless, Not quite houseless though. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1362 A lonely man Wifeless and heirless.

**b.** of life, state, etc.

1596 Bale *Engl. Votaries* Pref. 4 Their vowed wyuelesse and husbandelesse chastyte. 1598 Crowley *Confut. Shaxton* H vj b, The gyft of wyfeles lyfe. 1665 Hunter tr. *Matrimonia* Tit. ij, They liv'd in wiveless state run into open abominations. 1840 Hood *Our Lady's Chapel* 13 Whose mouldy, wifeless husbandry but yields Beans, peas, potatoes, mangel-wurzel, rye.

¶ Catachrestically used of a woman : That is not a wife ; unmarried.

1804 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxii, A wifeless mother.

Hence **Wifelessness**, wifeless condition.

1886 M. Gray *Silence of Dean Maitland* III. ii, His six years' wifelessness had wrought sorely upon him.

**Wifelet**, **Wifelie** : see after Wife *sb.*

**Wifelike** (wai·flaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Wife *sb.* + -like.]

**A.** *adj.* Resembling, or having the character of, a wife ; characteristic of or befitting a wife.

1823 Shirr. *Hen. VIII's Ct.* iv. 138 They have wifelike qualities. They meekneeve Saint-like, Wife-like Government. 1796 *Plain Scout* (ed. 2) II. 190 With a kind of bitter raillery he treated her wife-like fears. 1856 Mehvale *Rom. Lmp.* xlii. V. 37 Her heart swelling with wifelike pride.

**B.** *adv.* In the manner of a wife.

1598 Chapman *Iliad* IV. (Vill.) 138 Nor canst thou steale our secrets tops our Bed in the wines to Floris Of valiant men ; that wifelike fear'st my adiuerse charge to meete. 1612 Shake. *Cymb.* III. ii. 8 She..vndergoes More Goddesse-like, then Wife-like ; such Assaults As would take in some Vertue. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 808 When she laid, Wifelike, her hand in one of his.

**Wifely** (wai·fli), *a.* Forms : see Wife *sb.* ; also 6 wyue-, 6-7 wiue-; 7 wively. [OE. *wīfliċ* : see Wife *sb.* and -ly 1. Cf. OHG. *wīblīch* (MHG. *wīplich*, G. *weiblich*), Du. *wijfelijk*.]

†**1.** Of or pertaining to a woman or women ; womanly, feminine. *Obs.* (exc. OE.).

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. ii. § 2 Ac hio mid wiflice milde was freohtende on þæt underiende folc Æthiopiam. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xx. § 2 Þæt he ne furhum wiflice bade.. a rede. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. viii. 7 All inflambit in ire and wyfly thochtis [L. *feminæ cumque iracundæ*]. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xxii. (S.T.S.) I. 123 The victorie..of þis wyfelie contencioun [L. *muliebris certaminis*] was gevin to lucres.

**2.** Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a wife.

c 1000 *Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 505 *Matronalis*, wiflicre. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1737 *Lucrece*, Hire wyflyche herte. *Ibid.* 2823 His hert was so wyfely and so trewe. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* vii. 12–16 How knowest thou..whether thou shalt..by wyuely loue, cause thy husbands to amende? 1595 Harington tr. *Orl. Fur.* XXI. xiii, Against all wiuely care..she lets her raging loue to raunge. 1739 G. Ogle *Gualth. & Griz.* 1313 Wively Patience. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Duchess May* lxv, Wifely prayer meets deathly need. 1863 Miss Yonge *Chr. Names* II. iv. 142 A picture of wifely patience. 1872 Jeaffreson *Brides & Bridals* I. ii. 21 The duty of wifely submissiveness to married authority was impressively inculcated.

**3.** Having the character befitting a wife ; such as a wife should be.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* x. xl, Where she a maiden wife might live, and wifely maid. 1823 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* xvii, A wifely wife, a motherly mother, and above all, a lady. 1872 H. B. Forman *Living Poets* 231 Lest our wives and daughters should lose delicacy or refinement, become unwifely and unmaidenly.

Hence †**Wifelyhede** (**wive-**), wifeliness, wifely character or quality.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 204 Whose perfect vertues...So full of time that humble twinelyhed. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* v. 624 With a wife I look to find all "wifeliness. 1896 Mrs. Caffyn *Quaker Grandmother* xxii, Mossy beamed with gentleness and truth, as needn't tell me how to appreciate my husband, Mr. Royds.'

†**Wi·fely**, *adv. Obs. rare.* In 5 wyuly. [f. Wife *sb.* + -ly 2. (OE. had *wīflīce* 'mulierbiter'.)] As a wife.

c 1400 *Pistyl Trey* 1359 Thou shalt haue..thee..wyuly to wedd ; & I the wed shall.

**Wifeship, Wifeward** : see after Wife *sb.*

**Wiff**, *e*, obs. forms of Wife.

**Wiffin**, obs. Sc. pa. ppple. of Weave *v.*

**Wiffle** (wi·fl). Also **wifey**, **wify**. [f. Wife *sb.* + -le, -ie.] Little wife: used as a term of endearment.

1825 Jamieson, *Wiffie*, a diminutive from *wife*; generally expressive of smallness of size, but sometimes merely a fondling term. S. *wyfie*. [The accompanying quot. for *wyfie* is dubious.] 1894 Crockett *Twinx* vi, Tam bachelor again!..I leave wifey at home. 1896 K. B. Ramsay *Reminn.* I. i. 13 Whan's the auld wife ? 1898 Mrs. H. Ward *Robt. Elsmere* xix, I know you have worries of your own, wiffie.

**Wiffish** (wi·fiʃ), *a.* Forms : 6 wyuysh, -ish, 7 wiuish, wivish, 8- wiffish, (9 *erron.* wiffeish). [f. Wife *sb.* + -ish 1. Earlier *wivish* ; cf. *thievish* from *thief*.]

†**1.** Belonging to or characteristic of a woman ; womanly ; in depreciatory sense, womanish. *Obs.*

1535 Lyndesay *Test. Papyn.* 1161 She strotted..then..boldly and stedfastly,..wayit nocht quhat wyuysh thought with a manly stomacke. ? 1560 — *Treat. Death* iii. v. 264 To wayte stil till heauinesse forget itselfe, is a wyuish thinge : ..to lyue by my tiinis, becometh the..vnbeseene of a man. 1592 West *Symbol.* C, Wiuish pitie. 1598 Florio, Femineo, wiuish.

**2.** Belonging to or characteristic of, or having the character of, a wife. (Usually in more or less depreciatory sense : see -ish 1 2.) † In quot. 1616, ? Too devoted or submissive to one's wife.

1616 *Soc. Scot. Martyrol. Pol.* 17 The Prophet would not haue any wise man to be so wiuish, and so wedded to the loue of his wife. 1664 N. B. *St. Athanasius* 213 [She] by her wivish and womanish solicitations..procured Valentinian, &c. 1818 in *Essay Dinn. Fr. Burney* (1889) I. 192 We used to wonder at Hetty's being so stiff. 1797 in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) I. 245 With a true wifish submission to your judgment. 1891 Merriman *Sowers* xxxvi, The mother's wifish lines would, perhaps, have been tested in a furnace.

**Wi·fkin**. *Obs.* [OE. *wīfcynn* (= see Wife *sb.* and -kin 2.)] Womankind, women collectively.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i, Þæt hi..of þam wifcynne hin cyning curan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 143 Þu cart ærfeltsod betuh ealle wifcyn. c 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 636 Wið-uten wifkin and childes smale. *Ibid.* 1177 Noyt wif-kinnes nan biside ne nam.

**† Wifle.** *Obs.* Also 4 **wofle**, 4–5 **wyfle**, 5 **wyfel**. [OE. *wifel*, f. OTeut. stem *wib-* (cf. ON. *vifr* sword) :— Indo-eur. *wip-* to wave, swing, shake (cf. Skr. *vip* switch, rod, shaft of an arrow) : see Waive *v.*²]

Parallels to the formation with the suffix *-il-* are found in Mdu., M.L.G. *weifelen* to sway, wobble, waver, early mod.G. *weibeln*, OHG. *weibil* (MHG. *weibel*) appurtior, summoner, ON. *vifil* cudgel, lash.]

A dart, javelin, spear ; a battle-axe.

c 1000 *Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 532 *Spiculo*, gare uel wifele. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4383 Wyth wyfles wiflen, wyth axes bowes. 1356 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1906) I. 396 Roger servant of William de . . . sword, coutel, wefle. c 1400 *Sowdone* 2697 With Wiflen, Faucheons, Longbilles and Partes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wyfle, wepene..*hipennis*. 1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 124 That she shuld make here men to leue here wyfelis and here jackes. c 1460 *Ismeal. Sir T. Fastolfe* in *Archæologia* XXI. 272 Item, j Boresperc. Item, vj Wifles.

**Wifman** (**n**, **-mon**, obs. ff. Woman.

**Wift**, *sb.*, variant of Whiff *sb.*

1864 *Tyne Mercury Selga Hymenath* 5 Having..given a signe ..by hanging out a Wift, that he was in distresse. 1901 W. Clark Russell *Ship's Adv.* vii, There's the barque that fooled us last night, sir. She's got a wift at her mizzen-peak. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 2/2 A wift of white foam.

**Wift**, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 **wyft**. [Onomatopœic.] *intr.* † **a.** To turn aside or go astray (*obs.*). **b.** To move lightly to and fro, or along ; to waver ; to drift.

1552–8 in *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 To walke the wurthy wayes, and frame them not to wyft. 1690 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XVI. v. 63 Dragons, wrought with woufe of purple thred, ..hauing their winding tailes to wift in the wind. 1866 *Harleian's Lane. Lyrics* (1866) 234 An' tell me, while thae 'rt within' on, Heaw things are deawn i' Howden Dale.

†**Wifthing.** *Obs.* [OE. *wifþing*, f. Wife *sb.* + Thing *sb.*] An affair connected with a woman or wife. **a.** Sexual intercourse. b. A wedding, nuptial ceremony.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 340 Þæt þis sy to wif þingum on bysmer [*fornicationem aut coitum*]. c 900 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 180 He þam men be gelicnisse wif-þing begað [*de hominibus qui ritibus nuptiæ conciliat*]. c 1205 Lay. 14444 Belin þuerde..of his broðer wifþinge. *Ibid.* 31208 Þe wes wif-þinge iche.

**Wig** (wig), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms : 4–6 **wigge**, 5–8 **wigg**, 6–7 **wigge**, (8 **whigg**, 8–9 **whig**), 7– **wig**. [a. M.L.G., MDu. *wigge* (Westphalian *wigge*, Du. *wig*) wedge, wedge-shaped cake, bv-form of M.L.G. etc. *wegge* (see Wedge *sb.*).] A kind of bun or small cake made of fine flour.

1376 *Munim. Gildh. Lond.* (Rolls) III. 424 Cum une pane de oblolo, vocato 'wygge'. 1413 *Maldon, Essex, Ct.-rolls* Bundle 8 No. 1 (MS.) Pondereatses panis presentant quod.. panis wastell panis de Wiffe in defectu ex. liris, in wigg ejusdem in defectu, xx. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wygge, bredc (*P.* or bunne bredc). 1598 More *Dyalogue* II. xi. (1529) 63 b/2 Some wax drunke in lant of wygges & crakenels. 1600 Scottish *Country Farm* v. 370 The workes in Aprile do vse the rising of beere to make their wigs withall. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* C ij b, His round halfpenny loaues are transformed into sugloaues wigge, which wigges like drunkards are drowned in their Ale). 1664 Pepys *Diary* 8 Apr., Home to the only Lenten supper I have had of wiggs and ale. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 280/2 A.. Wigg is White Bread moulded long ways, and thick in the middle. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Engl. Housekeeper.* (1778) 285 Toast a light wig. 1810 A. Boswell *Edin. Rev.* Rich Wiggs and Cookies smoke upon the board. 1886 Mrs. H. Ward *Robt. Elsmere* II. An exasperating belief in the sufficiency of buttered 'whigs' and home-made marmalade for all requirements.

**Wig**, *sb.*² *Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 **wigge**, 9 **wyg**. [a. ON. *vegr* wall (cf. Ric *sb.*² = ON. *hregg*). Cf. Wig-louse.] Only in phr. *from wig to wall*, backwards and forwards, from pillar to post.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) Tossed from poste to piller, from wigge to wall, by a restles course of miseries. 1768 Ross *Helenore* II. 99 Mind what this lass has suffer'd now for you,..How she is carried frae you frae wigg to wa. 1808 Jamieson v. A thing is said to gang frae wig to wa', when it is moved backwards and forwards from the one wall of a house to the other.

**Wig**, *sb.*³ Also 8 **wigg**. [Shortened form of Periwig, as *winkle* of *periwinkle*.]

**1.** An artificial covering of hair for the head, worn to conceal baldness or to cover the inadequacy of the natural hair, as a part of professional, ceremonial, or formerly of fashionable, costume (as still by judges and barristers, formerly also by bishops and other clergymen), or as a disguise (as by actors on the stage) : = Periwig 1, Perukk 2. (See also Hag-wig, *bob-wig* (Bob *sb.*¹ 4 b), Full-bottomed *wig*, Tie-wig.)

1675 *Char. Town-Gallant* 4 He..looks down with Contempt on every body, whose Wig is not right Flaxen. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bar-wig*, between a bob and a long one. 1720 Swift *City-Shower* 3 Triumphant Beaus, and desponding Whigs, Forget their feuds, and join to save their wigs. 1726 Gay *Fables* II. 55 Nor is thy Flaxen Wig with Safety worn. 1782 Cowper *John Gilpin* xiii, Away went Gilpin, neck or nought, Away went hat and wig! 1835 Gladstone in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 127 The disappearance of the bishops' wigs, which I hope to see followed by those in the church than anything else! 1845 J. T. Smith *Bk for Rainy Day* 93 He was a spare man, and wore a powdered club-wig, similar to that worn by Tom Davies the bookseller and biographer of Garrick. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* I, There is the registrar below the Judge, in wig and gown. 1879 Tennyson *Nat. Hymn* 44 Neither Peer nor Peeress byte—Dashing the wig oblique as he snapped his oily pate.

**b.** Phrases. *Bash my wig!* (colloq.), a mild imprecation (see Dash *v.*¹ 11). *My wig's!* (colloq.) a meaningless expression of surprise, etc. *Wigs on the green*, a colloquial expression (orig. Irish) for coming to blows or sharp altercation (wigs being liable to fall or be pulled off in a fray). 1799 Mme. M. Robinson *Watlingham* IV. 75 Dash my wig, if Aminta is not as well-looking as your beautiful Welsh baronet. 1812 Dash my wigs [see Dash *v.*¹ 11]. 1896 *Chamb. Trad.* 1 Man, 1901 If a quarrel is foreseen as a probable contingency, it is predicted that 'there'll be wigs on the green'. 1897 Hoppe *Engl.-Deutsch. Suppl. Lex., Wig*, a. my wigs! 1897 Morris in *Macbell Life* (1899) II. 257, I am writing a short narrative poem. My wig! but it is garrulous. 1903 M. G. Gerard *Leaves fr. Diaries* I. 92 Whenever they saw them advancing, they felt there would be wigs on the green.

**c.** Jocularly applied to a (natural) head of hair, esp. of a child ; hence *curly-wig*, a jocular appellation for a child with curly hair.

d. *transf.*

1823 Corbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 226 Those white, curled clouds, that we call Judges' Wigs. 1843 *Tait's Edin. Mag.* X. 444 Plunging his nose amidst such an enormous wig of yeast as o'ertopped his cannikin.

**2.** *transf.* A person who wears a wig (professionally); a dignitary. *colloq.* (Cf. Bigwig.)

1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXI. 321 The horrid systematic opposition to hunting, which has justly caused so great odium against the Wigs. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 18 April (1891) 576 Dined with the Dean of Chester... There were the amiable Bishop of London,...Bishop of Llandaff, the Dean of St. Paul's, and other dignitaries... It was a very pleasant day—the wigs against the wits for a guinea in point of conversation. 1858 Carlyle *Frdk. Gt.* IX. iv. II. 436 So the birthslip fell to us, as the biggest wig in the most benighted Chancery would have to grant.

**3.** Technical name for the coarse hair on the shoulders of a full-grown male fur-seal, and hence for the seal itself when bearing this.

1850 N. Dana *Mariner's Sk.* 145 (Thornton) These old wigs are more than twice as large as the female seal. 1852 C. M. Goodrich *Voy. S. Seas* 29 The dog seals are named by South Seamen Wigs. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 449 At five years...what is called the "wig"—a mass of coarse hair on the shoulders—appears,...so that it does not pay to kill an animal of this age. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/2 The largest skins, known in the trade as 'wigs', which range up to 8 ft. in length, are uneven and weak in the fur.

**4.** [Cf. Wig *v.*2 2.] A severe rebuke or scolding, ? orig. from a 'bigwig'; an act of Wigging. *slang* or *colloq.*

1804 Sir J. Malcolm in *Life* (1856) I. 267 If you got a private wig about Gwalior, I shall get a dozen. 1813 Moore *Twopenny Post Bag* ii. 52 Else, though the Prince be long in wigging, 'Twould take, at least, a fortnight's wigging.—Two wigs to every letter!—Before he well could get through half. 1832 Doveton *Burmese War* iii. 76 At the risk of a wig in C. O., or even a court-martial. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 3/3 As often as not a 'wig' ended by the offer of a chee rot.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wig-box*, *-dresser*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-puffer*, *-tie*, *-wearer*, *-wearing*, *-weaver*, *-weaving*; *wig-like* adj. ; **wig-block**, a rounded block for placing a wig upon when being made or not in use; **wig-stall**, *sb.* a name for a trophy-shrine, from its long tail-feathers; (*b*) the tail of a wig; **wig-sumach**, *-tree*, a name for the Venetian sumach (*Rhus Cotinus*), from its hairy inflorescence.

a 1745 *Spirit Country Life* 121 Nim lost his *wig*-block, Dan his jordan. 1808 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, He...had indeed a son...with no other companions than his wig-blocks and a tame starling. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 144 P 4, I take the Liberty of enclosing it to you in my *Wig-Box*. 1755 *Jefferies Answer. H.M.S. Winger* 18 These odd Creatures [sc. armadillos] are cased with a covering in Shape somewhat...resembling that of a travelling Wig Box. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* III. Scarce anything told of the lawyer but the wig-box beside the Venus upon the middle shelf of the book-case. 1808 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, Appointed his shaver, "wig-letter, and wig-maker." 1893 Hutchinson *Golf-coll. Man.* I. xii. 241 Rows of stiff "wiglike curls. 1755 Johnson, *Rambler*, a 'wigmaker. 1808 [see *wig-dresser*]. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. IV. 247 [He] should keep no Company, but that of Tailors, *Wig*-puffers, and Milleners. 1857 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 203 a Venetian S[umach]...known also as "Wig S[umach]" or "Wig Tree. 1888 *Amer. Nature*. Oct. 862 The "wig-tail, a white bird about the size of a pigeon, having two long, flexible, streamer-like tail feathers. 1905 A. F. Shepherd *Red Cornet* iii. ii. 242 The powdered wig-tail peeked out modishly above the red collar. 1878 Browning *Poets of Croisic*. cxxxvii, Flounce Of "wig-ties and of coat-tails. 1892 S. R. Maitland *Knight Err.* x. 76 The cap was of velvet, and the wig-tresses were wont to use. 1764 Cowper *Truth* iv. 543 Her head...Indebted to some smart wig-weaver's hand For more than half the tresses it sustains. 1808 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. *Country Barber*, His dexterity in 'wig-weaving.'

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Wi'gdom**, judges or lawyers as a body; **Wi'gful**, as much as fills a wig; **Wi'ggish** *a.*, having the character of a wig (whence **Wi'ggishness**); **Wi'ggism**, the practice of wearing wigs; **Wi'gless** *a.*, destitute of a wig, not wearing a wig; **Wi'glet**, a little wig; **Wiglomeration** [after *conglomeration*], humorously for 'ceremonious fuss' (in legal proceedings).

1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Nov. 588 3 "Wigdom', preparing for its most dignified exhibition on the Bench of the High Court of Justice. 1858 J. Hogarth *D. Kemp's* viii. I was told to...get a "wigful of potatoes... the...pedagogue coolly taking off his wig. 1866 Trollope *Clavering* iii. An effort...to hide the "wiggishness of his wig. 1841 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 573 The history of "wiggism in this country from its origin down to its decline and fall. 1845 *Ibid.* XIV. 256. 1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Pann. Bing.* I. 224 Thrusting his "wigless head out of the window. 1813 Colman *Br. Grins, Vagaries Vind.* xlix, Wigless, with his cawsock torn. 1906 Cautious *Engl. Costume* III. 133 In the days when to be wigless was to be unlicensed. 1872 *Examiner* 660/1 Disarray'd and bare Of cassock, shovelhat, and "wiglet fair. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii. He is a ward in Chancery...The whole thing will be vastly ceremonious, wordy, unsatisfactory, and expensive, and I call it, in general, "Wiglomeration.

**Wig** (wig), *v.*1 *dial.* Also 6 **wygge**. [See Wiggle *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To move lightly from side to side; to wag, waggle.

a 1599 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 137 It wyggeth and it wagges, I-lyke tawny saffron bagges. 1866 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wig*, move off, go away. 1882 *Jamieson's Scott. Dict.*, *Wig*, *twigg*, *v.* 1. To move, shake, wag. Sheil.

**Wig**, *v.*2

**1.** [f. Wig *sb.*3 1, or back-formation on Wigged.] *trans.* To supply with a wig; to put a wig upon; *spec.* to provide with wigs in preparation for a theatrical performance (with the actors or the performance as obj.).

1806 *Examiner* 129/2 Cooper performed the husband, and had to wig himself into age for the purpose. 1872 E. Yates *Castaway* ii. i, It was Mr. Samuel's boast that he had 'wigged and painted' more 'stars' than any other man out of London. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 July 2/2, I...have the pleasure of congratulating Mr. Clarkson on having 'wigged' three operas in one evening.

**2.** [f. Wig *sb.*3 4, or back-formation on Wigging.] To rebuke or censure severely, scold, rate. Also *transf.* *intr.* with *it*. *slang* or *colloq.*

1809 *Examiner* 595/1 The *Chronicle* discovers too much disposition to what is vulgarly but expressively called, wigging us. 1831 Capt. B. Hall *Fgn. & Trav.* I. iii. 73, I had ...from the first day I went afloat—a great horror at being reproached, or 'wigged', as we called it. 1908 W. de Morgan *Somehow Good* xxv, What are you wigging at her for? 1911 *Times* 13 Apr. 9/4 A schoolmistress who presumably has been severely 'wigged' by his chief.

**Wig**, var. Whig *sb.*1; obs. f. Whig *sb.*2; var. Widge *dial.*, beast of burden.

**Wigan** (wi'gən). A stout make of calico, originally manufactured at Wigan in Lancashire.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework*.

**Wigen, wigeon** : see Widgeon.

**Wigg**, obs. f. Whig, Wig.

**Wigged** (wigd), *a.* [f. Wig *sb.*3 + -ed 2.] Furnished with or wearing a wig.

1777 Mrs. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) II. 103 Dr. Wall was so dilapidated, that I really did not know him. 1822 Syd. Smith *Peter* Wks. 1859 I. 367/2 The judge, wigged and robed as he is, is often very inferior in acuteness to one of the persons who are pleading under him. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii. (1885) 235 Wigged heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were handed to and fro. [*Ibid.*

**Wigen, -in**, dial. var. Quicken *sb.*1

**Wigger**, obs. dial. form of Wicker.

**Wiggery** (wi'gəri). [f. Wig *sb.*3 + -ery.]

**1.** Wigs or false hair collectively; the practice of wearing a wig.

1777 Sturges in *Lett. J. Granger* (1805) 168 Dr Lowdny shewed me some waggery upon wiggery. 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IV. 59 When I contemplate the Female wiggery, whether it be Roman or Athenian. 1866 Trollope *Clavering* iii. He had lost the hair from the crown of his head, and had preferred wiggery to baldness.

**2.** Used by Carlyle for: Empty formality (in legal proceedings), 'red tape'.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, There is yet in venerable wigged Justice some wisdom amid such mountains of wiggeries and follies. 1858 — *Frdk. Gt.* IX. iv. II. 131 Long lawsuit,...lengthy law-pleadings, and much parchment and wiggery.

**Wigging** (wi'gin), *vbl. sb. slang* or *colloq.* [f. Wig *sb.*3 4 + -ing 1.] A severe rebuke, reproof, or reprimand; a scolding.

1813 [see Wig *sb.*3 4]. 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* i. iv, I have no idea, that I shall have a comfortable wigging and be sent on board. 1859 *Times Law Rep.* XI. 204 The clerk of the board gave these religious people a fine wigging, pointing out that in spite of their religious professions they were confirmed liars.

**Wiggish, Wiggism** : see after Wig *sb.*3

**Wiggle** (wi'g'l), *v.* Now *colloq.* or *dial.* Forms: 3–4 **wigel(en**, 4 **wygle**, **-el**, 7 **wigle**, 9 **wiggle**, (6– **woegle**). [Cognate with or a. (M)LG. *wiggelen*, MDu. *wighelen* (Du. *wiggelen*), frequentative f. *wig-* (cf. LG. *wiggen*, Norw. dial. *vigge*, Wig *v.*1). Cf. the parallel Mag *v.*, Waggle *v.*

Some compound OE. *wicbelian* in *Zeitschrift* IX. 459/6 glossing *nutabundum*, but this is prob. an error for *cwicelu nde* (Napier *O. E. Glosses* l. 2234).]

**1.** *intr.* To move to and fro or from side to side irregularly and lightly; to waggle; to walk with such a movement, to stagger, reel, also to waddle (now *dial.*); to go or move sinuously, to wriggle. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Þe skire glutun...wigelеð (*Corpus MS.* wiglеð) ase wurdruken mon. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxiii. (Add. MS. 27944) Certain ingredyente þat lendiþ nouȝhte nouþer wigeleþ but holdeþ alway forþ right. 1611 *Ire wiggling* ppl. adj., below. 1830 in F. W. Maitland *Life & Lett. Leslie Stephen*. He wished I would not read that kind of book that went wiggling from one subject to another. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* iv. ii, To pass the morning, to use his own quaint language, "in making dodging calls, and wiggling round among the ladies !" 1864 Lytton *Tann. Boddin* xiv. 133, I waxelled an' waggled, an' kickit, an' flang. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 340/1 He wiggled over the grass towards the wounded Seminole. 1913 Mrs. Stratton-Porter *Laddie* vii. (1917) 109 Father...pulled his lower lip until his ears almost wiggled.

**2.** *trans.* To move (something) in this way; *refl.* = 1. Also *fig.*

1685 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 343 A hare shift or pretence to wigle myself out of danger. c 1850 'Jon Jo' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 86 Wiggle yourselves...among the three, and make headway the best way you can. 1897 Violet Hunt *Unkist, Unkind* v xii, He unhooked a Malay kris...and wiggled it about in the crack of the door.

Hence **Wi'ggling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Wi'ggle**, *sb.* an act of 'wiggling', a light wagging or wriggling movement (*to get a wiggle on*, U. S. slang, to hurry, bustle); *adj.* 'wiggling', wagging swiftly and lightly; **Wi'ggler**, something that 'wiggles'; **Wi'gglet**ail, name for the larva of a gnat or mosquito.

1894 *Education* (Philad.) Feb. 370 Every fleeting expression of their faces or "wiggle of their bodies. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* iv, Hasn't the boss got a wiggle on himself today! 1904 E. Robins *Magnetic North* xvii. 208 You can hustle early and get a fox-am. wiggle on. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 324 Hutting under the mothers' teats, with their "wiggle-tails. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 375, 2 We...took...a box of worms,...for without one squirming "wiggler the Madame would not have secured her bass. 1884 J. C. Harris *Mr. Uncle Remus* 172 Water too full of "wigglers. 1898 Westcott *David Har. P. E.* xvii. ix. (Bodl. MS.), Serpentes swimmeth in water bi "wiglinge and foldinge of þe bodie (orig. *per corporis inflexionem*). 1894 *Education* (Philad.) Mar., The ceaseless motion—the wiggling of the child. 1611 Cotgr., *Serpentant ...*, wriglinq, "wigling, crooking, winding. 1849 Alx. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* (1850) 51 In one of those little wiggling dogs. 1865 *Century Mag.* Aug. 541/2 A small, wiggling bulk.

**Wiggle-waggle** (wi'g'l,wæg'l), *v. colloq.* Reduplicated form combining Wiggle *v.* and Waggle *v.* (cf. LG. *wigel-wagelн* vb.), emphasizing the alternation of movement: used *intr.* or *trans.* So **Wiggle-waggle** *sb.*, the act of 'wiggle-waggling'; also, a children's game in which the players waggle their thumbs at a word of command; **Wiggle-waggle** *a.*, that 'wiggle-waggles'; *fig.* vacillating.

1825 Brockett *N. Cclass., Wiggle-waggle*, a tremulous undulating motion. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 425/2 Brisk holding up of fingers and turning down of thumbs, like the children's game of 'wiggle-waggle'. 1900 Lucas *tr. Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* Sept., Poll is a stupid slut;...she was "wiggle-waggle, and I could never persuade her to be categorical. 1908 *Country Life* 14 Nov. 722/2 Wiggle-waggle, vibrating. 1887 *Good Words* 673 Wiggle-waggle dressimprovers. 18.. *Scotch Haggis* 95 (E.D.D.) "Wiggle-waggling his walking-stick over his fellows. 1911 *Daily Mail*, *Wiggle-waggle*, to wriggle. *East.* 1848 *Punch* XV. 14 The parachute...would keep wiggle-waggle itself into annihilation. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 274 1 It (a bill) is gently removed from the book, and suffered to go wiggle-waggling back to its green retreats.

**Wiggly** (wi'gli), *a. colloq.* [f. Wiggle *v.* or *sb.* + -y1: cf. Waggly.] Characterized by or suggestive of 'wiggling'; (in reference to form) having small irregular undulations. Also in complicated forms **Wiggly-waggly** (cf. prec.), **-woggly**.

1903 G. H. Lorimer *Lett. Self-made Merch.* vii. 84 A mule ...with...droopy, wiggly-waggly ears that swung in a circle as easy as if they ran on ball-bearings. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 2 3 His [i.e. a dog's] legs are wiggly. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 459 1 Black 'Arscot' tie with a white wiggly bacterial pattern. 1913 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 8 The wigglywoggly movement of the seal-body. 1919 Compton Mackenzie *Various Thing* iv, That wiggly seam down the front.

**Wiggy** (wi'gi), *a.* [f. Wig *sb.*3 + -y 1.] Wearing, or distinguished by, a wig, bewigged; sometimes implying 'extremely grave, formal, or ceremonious'.

1817 Music Egeria *Sentim. Sk.* 19 Wiggy, and there's our old apothecary...has taken such a fancy to her! But he's too old and wiggy. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 198 Those of the wisest and weightiest wiggy heads. 1850 Mrs. Gore in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 51 Powdered footmen and wiggy body-coachmen. 1884 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 473/3 Mr. Kendal, though his get-up is a little "wiggy', remains excellent as Phillipe Derblay.

**Wigol**, var. Wiel *Obs.*, sorcery, etc.

**Wighee, wigh-hie, wighie, -y**, var. Whiffy.

**Wigher**, var. *wicker*, Whicker *v.*, to neigh.

1660 *Pastor. Friends* in *It*, I cut it [sc. a tail] from a dead horse that can now Neither wigher nor wag tail.

**Wight** (wait), *sb. arch.* Forms: 1–5 wiht, 1, 3–5 wyht, (1 wuht), 3 (*Orm.*) wihht, (wipt, wid), 3–4 wiht, wi3t(e, 4 wy3t, wyghte, whi3t, why3te, whyt, (wi3th, wi3st, wieth, whot, with, weht, weith), 4 6 wyght, wighte, wite, *Sc.* wycht, (8 *arch.*) wicht, 5 why3t, whitt, wyt, (whith, wyth, wythe), 5–6 wyte, (5–7 weight, 6 white, *Sc.* weycht), 4–wight. [OE. *wiht* m., f., n. = OS. *wiht* m. thing, pl. demons (MLG. *wicht* m., n. thing, being, creature, demon, LG. *wicht* n. girl, MDu., Du. *wicht* little child), OHG., MHG. *wiht* m., n. creature, being, thing, esp. of elves and dwarfs, G. *wicht* m. creature, being, infant), ON. *vættr*, *vétr* f. living creature, thing (also in idiomatic uses and phr. *ekki vættis*, *vættki*, *væth* not a whit, naught, not anything, nothing, *hvatvetna* anything whatever), Goth. *waíht* n. (only in *ni ... waihtais* nothing), *waihts* f. *ains*, *wopyns* (*ni ... waihtais* or *waihti* nothing); ulterior connexions uncertain. For compounds in English see Aught *sb.*8, Naught, Nought, Unwight.]

†**1.** A living being in general; a creature. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 120 Wiht unhelo, grim and graedig. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Nanre wihte lichoma ne beoð þonne tederra þonne þes monnes. c 1000 Ælfr. *Lecchd.* I. 224 Swa lange swa ðu hy mid be þam wihta fylest þe oregan cyméð. c 1200 Ormin *Ded.* 273 Þatt nan wihht, nan engell, nan mann,..Ne mihhte purrh himm selfremn þa

Seffne godnesses shewenn ti manukinn. *c1200 Moral Ode* 58 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He was hwat benched8 swa hwat don alle quike wihte. *c1205* Lay. 25869 Whaet aert þu faete whit? eaert þu angel? eaert cnih? *a1250 Owl & Night.* 85 Smalles mais & fale wipe [*cr.* white]. *Northern Passion* (1913) l. 151 A maiden sampande, a lothely wyghte. *14.. Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 43/20 God saue þis place fro alle oþer wykked wyres hoþe be dayes & be nyres! *c1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2416 Bestes of þe se and oþire wyght. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 142 Vnto man, beast & euery liuinge wite. 1586 B. Young *Champ's Chr. Conv.* iv. 177 Man is the onelie white whereat infinit ...infortunes doe ayme at. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. 15 We reduce... All men vnder the terme of Wight; all wights vnder the terme of liuing things.

**b.** orig. and chiefly with (good or bad) epithet, applied to supernatural, preternatural, or unearthly beings. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

In the 13th c. *exp.* of the four beasts of the Apocalypse.

*c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xi. 49 *Phantasmas*, yfel wiht. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Þæt manfulle wiht wolde þæt he hine weorfode. *c1000 Prayer* iv. 57 (Gr.) Reluzon hy him æt hum xeleafan, forþon hy longe seolon Wergæ wihta se mæste þrowian. *c1200 Ghost.* in Wr.-Wülcker 208 *23 Satiri, ut fauni...uel fauni ficarii*, unfaele men, wudewasin, unfaele wihte. *c1200 Moral Ode* (Trin. Coll. MS.) Þat luþ3 metliche fiend and Fiselh he wiþuten Þo-sulle be meoche sowle risen þe sinegieden þurh sihte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2750 Per he þe ȝyt an hey3... As a maner goster, wiþte as it be. *c1386* Chaucer *Merchant's T.* 243 That thise were the Elues and fro wightes. *c1400 Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) i. iii. 4 The angel vpon my right syde and the fowle wyght vpp on the other syde. *1610* Holland *Camden's Britt.* i. 13 The gods above And heauenly wights. *a1638* Mede *Wks.* (1672) 91 The Wights, the Elders, and every creature in Heaven. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichristianism* 48 Those 4 living wights and 24 elders. 1816 W. Irving *Sahylon* II. vi. 124 Those four wights upon the white, red, black, and pale horses. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* (1887) 247 That these were the good wights (fairies) dwelling in the coast of Elfland. 1894 Morris *Wood beyond World* xxx. 230 Our protection against uncouth wights.

**c.** A local name for the shrew-mouse.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 317 A small species of mice, commonly called he-ie [*sc.* Orkney] wights.

**2.** A human being, man or woman, person. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (often implying some contempt or commiseration).

*c1000* Ormin 1761 Unnsæȝnndlike mare hioh þann anij wihht mann þennkenn. *a1175 Prov. Alfred* 611 Wel worþe þe wid, þad þe wiht laete. *c1200 K. Horn* 1397 (Laud) Of þat fayre wiþere Al þe halle gan lie3e. *a1225 Juliana & Gr. Kut.* 1792 Þat is a worde', quad þat wyht, 'þat wost is of alle'. *1240–70 Alex. & Dind.* 30 Neuere wereche we wih wiþih ipaxed! *P. Pl. Crede* l. 1164 Ȝif any wit wiste, where do wel was at liue. *c1386* Chaucer *Prol.* 72 He neuere yet no vileynye ne sayde In al his lyf vn to no manner wight. *c1440 Gesta Romanorum* 258 in *Mediæv. Plays* 106 In wo & in wrake, wyckyd wyfys schal wepe. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* xi. 135 Gret ȝyn it war you walkess wicht to sla. *1500–20* Dunbar *Poems* lxv. 17 Neuir wowit weycht bot 3ow. *1550* Crowley *Last Trumpet* 614 Thou leamed man, do not disdayne, To learne at me, a wyght simple wyght. 1567 Trimmer *Nat. Hist.*, etc. 34 Wee went a wofull wretched Wight. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 41 Of fayre Elisa be your siluer song, that shee-sweet wight. 1584 Spenser *Oth. to Lr.* 1 Sir, where is the wight, of euery such wightes wont, To suckle Pan or Bacchus with their childe? Where. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 90 The heauenly gift of God granted vnto deuout and happie wights. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iii. 613 And left off the water flies All wights of living wight, as once it fled The lip of Tantalus. 1784 Ramsay *Poems* ii. Bonnie leanghe, like a drunken wicht. 1788 Burr *Prod. Sat.* 18 The Wight who treads not, and but scans and spells. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* i. i. No living wight, save the Ladye alone, Had dared to cross the threshold stone. 1887 Yorksh. *Dialect Dreams That came true* xxiv, She is a broken-down, poor, friendless wight. 1889 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 308 The unlucky wight...is doomed to speedy death.

**b.** Applied to a thing personified. *rare. arch.*

*c1399* Chaucer *Purse* 1 To yow, my purse, and to noon other wight Complayn I, for ye be my lady deere. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 77 Cannot the tender hen by any meanes swallow the bayte which will breede thy bane?...To desire the wight that will worke thy death? 1880 Warner, *To the Daisy* i. Autumn, melancholy Wight! 1887 Bunbury *Graves* 6 The Red Flag [is] the worm's] place has been occupied by on- Sipunculus Bernhardi; a wight of low degree.

**†3.** In advb. phrases, qualified by *no, any* (OE. *nowiht, nán wiht*, *a little*, or the like: (A certain) amount; for (any, a little, etc.) time or distance. (See *Wht sb.*[1] 1, 2.) *Obs.*

*c888* Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvii. § 3 Þær hi ænize wiht axnes ǽhte secg ndeliues godes an heora anwealde hæfdon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 235 Andreas, se gefreondost þa nan wiht ne *c1200 Bestiary* 657 [The elephant] Fiked and fondeð al his iniȝt, ne mai he it forden no wiht. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 72 Hwan ȝe neode soþen speken a litel wiht. *a1300 St. Gregory* 703 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 67 A litel wiht after þe a-rise. *Ibid.* 1152 Ich wene on lyue nys he no wiht. *a1300 K. Horn* 503 (Camb.) He smot him a litel wiht & bed him beon a god knyȝt. *c1320 Cast. Love* 638 Þat monnes knyhte bedde al aright, Þat ni neore to luite ne to muche wiht. *1340–50 Alex. & Dind.* 354 Þat we no wante no wite of worldliche fode. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 293 Yif þou me lovest ani wiht, Let me of him han a sight! *c1374* Chaucer *Boeth.* iii pr. i. (1868) 63 Whan they ben remeuyued with-inne a whyght than ben they sweete. *c1386 — Reeve's T.* 363 She was falle anlepe a litte wight. *c1420 Chron. Vilod.* 4701 Þo he leyde hurre doune here to slepe a litulle whyȝt. *a1450 Le Morte Arth.* 472 Ecire ne likked þat no wight. *a1578* Henry *Wallace* iv. 151 Thai wyst no wyt quhar that thai suld him get.

**†b.** *A little wight* (adj. phr.): a small. *Obs.*

*c1205* Lay. 21991 Þer þis water wendeð, is an lutel whit mære.

**Wight** (wait), *a.* (*adv.*) *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 3–4 wiht, 3–5 wyht, (4 wieth, with, wigth, wit, 5 vicht, wycht), 4–5 wyht(e, wytte, wyȝt(e, (wight), 4–6 wyght(e, wighte, *Sc.* wycht, 5 whight, whyght, wyt(e, whyt, white, (wygth, wyth, wythȝ, wyhȝt, weight), 5–6 *Sc.* wichte, 4– wight, *Sc.* wicht. [a. ON. *vígt* used in phrase = in self-defence; neut. of *vígr* of fighting age, skilled in arms; f. OTeut. *wig-* (*waig-*, *wig-*), for other derivatives of which see Wt *sb.* Other adoptions of ON. adjs. in the neuter form are *quaert, scant, thraett, vaand.*]

**1.** Strong and courageous, esp. in warfare; having or showing prowess; valiant, doughty, brave, bold, 'stout'. **a.** of a person, esp. a warrior.

*c1205* Lay. 777 Wihte wal-kenpen on heora wiðer-winnan. *Ibid.* 20375 Seoue þusen monnen, ohte men and wihte. *Ibid.* 21359 Fif and twenti þusend wihtere monnen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 456 Mid six þousend wyhtemen. *a1300 Cursor M.* 6499 Cleues þe', he said, 'wit man an freck And ȝe fight wit-pan smales'. *c1330 Will. Palerne* 3083 He wist him wight of dede. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 610 In England þat tym ves a knycht, In ded of armys þai kend wycht. 1375 Wyntoun *Cron.* iii. 11. 569 Þe thrid sonde wicht men of Iuda. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* v. 1057 Schyr Jhon the Graysme, with Wallace that was wycht. *a1510 Spirit of Kelpie* (Jam.) 17 May me nane wyght synge mair What is now thy name? 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 141 Of ane inuincible mynd, and a wichte weirioun. 1601 Munday & Chettle *Death Robt. Earl of Huntington* i. Where is Robin Hood, And ye wight Scarlet? 1775 *Hobie Noble* xxiii. in Child *Ballads* vii. 370 Had he been as wight as Wallace was. 1808 Scott *Marmion*, Intro. O for one hour of Wallace wight. 1858 Morris *Pol. Umeneer*, etc. 108 They ought to sing of him who was as wight As Launcelot or Wade.

**b.** of actions or personal attributes.

*c1330 R. Brunne Chron.* (Rolls) 9206 Knyght Pat lowet was of dedes wight. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 512 For warldis wa oþir is licht, And may be blisit with hart wycht. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 1098 The worde of your werkes & your wight dedis...passes þe fe! 1509 Dunbar *Poems* viii. 12 That many ane for to feild hes put to flycht, In weirin wicht. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 139 Ane Scottis knycht had won sa wycht a victorie.

**2.** Strong, vigorous, robust, stalwart, mighty; exercising strength, energetic (passing into 3).

*a1300 Cursor M.* 9003 Samson þat wightest was in liif. *c1300 K. Alis.* 5195 (Laud MS.) Wiþ sueord & wiþ wight hond. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* iv. 72 Nise warchen-wel-wyth-pine-hande, a wiste man of strengthe. *a1400 Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 57 In þe wyghte wittyng of my Lorde Jesu! Jam hole, and felyfil pan wichte. *c1440 York Myst.* xviii. 219 Are was I wayke, nowe am I wight. *1486 Bk. St. Albans.* e3b, It is gode to make her to mewe, but specialli it shall make hir wyght & lyuely & of good corage. *c1580 A. Hart Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 33 William wi hittar wes of corss Nor Sym, and bettir knittin. *a1600 Hoddom P.* vii. (1604) 62 And of þy hands hardy and wight. 1796 *Jennings's Frightful Script.* (ed. 9) Table Scots Phr., *Wight*, strong or clever.

**†b.** Powerful, forcible, violent; powerful in effect, strong. (Also *adverb.*) *Obs.*

*c1300 Cursor M.* 1191 In þe wex-est of þe water, þe wiste lond þat oþer. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* vi. 659 The Scottis all as sowne lys drunkyn thar, Off our wycht wyne. *c1475 Rauf Coilzear* 36 In wicht wedderis and wicht. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrew* 786 Watching the wynn, for it was wicht.

**†c.** Strong to resist force; strongly built or constructed; stout. *Obs.*

*c1300 Cursor M.* 1209 Swiche melting was neuer non made Wiþ wurþli wepen wiȝt. *c1405* Wyntoun *Cron.* clxxiii. 5041 The wardane has put castell tane, And saw it wycht of lyme and stane. *c1440 Generydes* 2934, I must haue a hors wyght & good and wight, And þat is he right swift under a saile. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) II. 318 Though the haukes be strange and wight. *a1533* Ld. Berners *Huon* xxxii. 96 He had bro ne he passe stand a wyght harnes. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 930 Sayand, he wald ride furth a whyle, To wey how that was santhing wycht. *a1586* Sidney *Arcad.* (1590) 1. *Poems* 81 As the freikis on feildis That wight wapins weildis.

**3.** Moving briskly or rapidly; active, agile, nimble, quick; swift, fleet.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 120 Thar na hors is in this land Wycht, hardy, ne swift to ga, Mare þan þe hors þat I ma Ryd. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 105 Gretlie they take pleasure in the wichtnes of thair horse. *Ibid.* 188 The strong defence of the Clergie of Scotland, and his wichtnes conterfeate the aduersar. 1742 R. Forbes *Ajax's Sp.* (1755) 8 Tho my wightness doubted war, I wat my gentle breid... Right sickerly does plead.

**Wighty** (wəi·ti), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Wight *a.* + -y[1] 2.] = Wight *a.*

14.. Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 192 (MS. E) Al be wyti of his worlde ne wyȝty menues strengþe Can noȝt performe a pes of be poȝte. *c1475 Partenay* 4 Ryght wyghty of armes. Anon releuing in wighty manere. 16.. *Adam O Gordon* 124 in Pinkerton *Scot. Trag. Ball.* (1781) 48 O man, put on, my wichty man, Sae fast as ye can ride. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wighty*, strong and active.

Hence **†Wightily** *adv.* = Wightly.

*c1480* Henryson *Cock & Fox* xxiii, Full wichtilie (*v. r.* wichtlie) thay throw out and in gaif mony ane.

**Wighy, var. Wheer. Wigion, Wigle,** obs. ff. **Wigeon, Wiggle. Wigless, Wiglet, Wigl-lomeration** : see after Wig *sb.*[3]

**†Wigloose.** *Obs.* Pl. **wiglice.** [a. ON. *veggálaus*, f. *veggr* Wge *sb.*[2] + *lás* Louse *sb.*[1]] The bed-bug : = *wall-louse* (a) (Wall *sb.*[2] 22 b).

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1046 They are enemies to Wiglice, that are most stinking Creatures. 1660 R. Read *Wecker's Secr. Art & Nat.* 129 To Wiglice, Make a smoke with Ox dung and it will drive away the Wiglice.

**Wigsby** (wi·gzbi). *slang* or *colloq.* ? *Obs.* [f. Wig *sb.*[3] : see -by 2.] A jocular appellation for a person wearing a wig. So **Wigster** in same sense.

1789 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Dr. Wigsby*, a man wearing a wig. 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* III. 357 The old wigsby a twitch of the heart, in return for his golden padlock. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) VII. 267 He was answered by the aforesaid wigsters, that it was '*Impossible separer les deux*'. 1830 H. Ingelo *Remin.* II. 119, I left

these two wigsbys, puffed up with pride and self-confidence. 1840 Lover *Handy Andy* xxi, The.. forms..were borrowed from the chapel: the old wigsby, who had the care of them.. doubted the propriety.

**Wig-wag** (wɪg-wæg), *v. colloq.* or *techn.* [Reduplicated formation combining Wig *v.*[1] and Wag *v.*, the vowel-change symbolizing the alternation of movement: cf. *wiggle-waggle, wig-wag.*] To move lightly to and fro, to wag; *esp.* to wave a flag or other object to and fro in signalling; to signal in this way (*intr.*, or *trans.* with the flag, etc. or the signal as obj.). Also as *adv.* = with a to-and-fro movement. So **Wig-wag** *sb.*, (*a*) an act of 'wig-wagging'; also *attrib.* (in quot. 1582 expressing a tortuous or writhing movement); (*b*) in *Watch-making*, a polishing instrument to which a reciprocating motion is imparted by a crank attached to a wheel of the lathe. Hence **Wig-wagger**, one who 'wig-wags'; **Wig-wag-gery** *n.*, characteristic 'wig-wagging', or by a form suggestive of this; tortuous, winding.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 50 His midil embracing with wig wag circulari hooping. 1846 *Congress. Globe* 16 Jan. 108/1 Wig-wag went her tail. 1853 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wigwag* (Watch-making), a rubbing-instrument, driven by the lathe. 1884 British *Watch & Clockm.* 203 Where pinions are made in large quantities the polisher is actuated by a 'Wig Wag.' 1886 *Sci. Amer. Suppl.* 21 Jan. 6/1 In the army wig-wag system, a flag moved to right and left [etc.]. 1892 *Lippincott's Mag.* Dec. 764, I requested Lieutenant Marix to 'wig-wag a signal' to Captain Whiting. 1893 C. King *Foes in Ambush* to It's ten minutes since I got the last wig-wag of the signal-flag. 1899 R. H. Davis *Cuban & Porto Rican Campaigns* 3 Wig-waggers last the air from the bridges. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* xx. 313 Some one in the lead wig-wagged his lantern. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* July 96/2 The path is beastly wig-waggy.

**Wigwam** (wɪ·gwæm, -wɑm), *sb.* Also 7 **wigg-wamme**, 8 **wigwag, wigg-wham, whigwham, wigwaum, 9 weekwam.** [a. Ojibwa *wigwaum, wigiwam*, var. of Algonkin *weekwom, wikiwam* (Delaware *wiquoam*) lit. their house (cf. *week* my house, *keek* thy house, *week* his house).] A lodge, cabin, tent, or hut of the North American Indian tribes of the region of the Great Lakes and eastward, formed of bark, matting, or hides stretched over a frame of poles converging at the top: corresponding to the Tepee of other tribes.

1628 C. Levett *Voy. N. Eng.* i. in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VIII. 166 We built us our wigwam, or house, in one hour's space. 1629 Gorges *America Painted to the Life* 4 This Sachem passing from one Wigwam to another, was shot through the arm with an arrow. 1788 Beverley *Hist. Virginia* (ed. 2) 248 When they would erect a Wigwam..they stick Saplins into the Ground. 1791 *Amer. Trans.* I. 117 They called a house *weekwam*, pronounced by their successors *wigwam*. 1859 Longf. *Hiaw.* Introd. 5 The curling smoke of wigwams. 1865 Lindsay *Birch. Times* xii. 491 The huts or wigwams are ..of two kinds, one for summer, and the other for winter. 1893 Conan Doyle *Refugees* xxiii, The great wigwams where the wooden wigwam gave place to the hide tee pee.

**b.** Extended to similar structures among native tribes in other parts of the world.

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 7 They hauld their Canoes up, and built four Wigg-whams. 1793 W. Hodges *Trav. India* 66 The wigwams of the torpid, wretched, unsettled Pecherais on the frozen coast of Terra del Fuego. 1814 Scott *Wav.* viii, My miserable wigwam, compiled of earth, loose stones, and turf. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* viii. 228 The wigwam of the recent Mandan consisted of an outer layer of earth supported on a wooden framework.

**c.** Humorously applied to a house or dwelling in general; in *U.S. slang* to a large building (formerly often a temporary structure) used for political gatherings.

1851 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiv, They..bore me..towards Miss MacAlpine's. On arrival before her hospitable wigwam I found (etc.). 1894 Hall-Pillips *Hand-list Drury-ana Shakes.* title-p., Pertaining to the Gillingbury Coose, near Brighton. That quaint wigwam on the Sussex Downs.

Hence **Wi·gwam** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *intr.* to erect wigwams or huts.

1908 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 729 Having seen..that the fur traders were really wigwamming on the bay.

**Wihe, Wihee, -ie, -y, Wihel, Wiht**: see Wye, Wehee, Wiel, Wight, With.

**Wiif, Wiis, obs.** ff. Wife, Wise.

**Wijf, Wijnd, Wijs, Wijt, Wijte**: see Wife, Wind, Vice *sb.*[3], Wis *v.*, Wise, Wit, Wite.

**Wik**, obs. form of Wick.

**† Wike.** *Obs.* Also **4 wyke.** [OE. *wíce* wk. fem. = OTeut. **wikōn-*, f. *wik-*: *waik-* = soften, to bend, turn, change, represented also in ON. *vík* Wick *sb.*[4], OE. *wícu* Week *sb.*, OE. *wic*, ON. *veikr* Woke, Weak; cf. l. *vicēs* change, turn, office, duty, Gr. *eikein* to yield, f. Indo-Eur. *weiǵ-*. (See also **-wick** *suffix.*)] An office, duty, function.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 505 Hu deaz ænix læwede man him to ȝeteonn þurh ricceteny. Cristes wicane? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Oðer don scal wiken and cherres. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Betfage .. bitocnede holie chirche þat men noten inne here mubes wike þanne hi seinn here sinnes. *c* 1205 Lay. 29752 Austin .. hauеð his cantel-rape on of Gregorie þan pape, and mid wurðscipe mucle haldeð his wike. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 24 He me walde warpen ut of mine wike ant demen me to deaðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 605 Mine wike beoþ wel gode. *Ibid.* 1179 Wel, quaþ he, hariu ihoded ?. For prestes wike ich wot ful wel. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 316 in *O. E. Misc.* 121 Wlanc on werȝe, and unwurþ on wike | *Jesus MS.* wlonk bi þe glade, and wuel at bare neode]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4592 (Laud MS.), Perfore ne shulde no gentil knizth..beggers blood bringe in heize wyke. *c* 1315 Shoreham 1. 660 Ase beryzte bodyes lemes Habbeþ dyuerse wyke, So habbeþ ryzt membrys eke Of þe body ine mystyke.

**b.** *Comb.* **wike-tun**, ? a place for divine service. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 733 Clerckes Munekes & canunes, Þat heoþ þes gode wike tunes, Aziseþ vp to middeniȝtes.

**Wike, Wiked**, obs. ff. Week, Wick, Wicked.

**† Wiken.** *Obs.* [Peculiar to Ormin. ? Back-formation f. Wickner or OE. *wícnian.*] = Wike.

*c* 1200 Ormin 7217 Forþi þatt teȝre wikenn wass To writenn laȝhcheann. *Ibid.* 10168.

**Wikenare,** obs. form of Wickner.

**Wiker, -ir, Wiket(t, Wikid, -it, Wiking,** obs. ff. Wicker, Wicket, Wicked, Viking.

**Wikke, Wikked, -et, -it, -yd, -yt, Wikker,** obs. ff. Wick *a.*, Wicked, Wicker.

**Wikop,** variant of Wicopy.

**Wikre, Wiket, -yt,** obs. ff. Wicker, Wicked.

**† Wil.** *Obs. rare*[—1]. [? a. ON. *vil.*] Misery, ill.

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 28 Þat nane be costine, ne nane oþir wil, þurȝ saufait o mete. *Ibid.*, Þat we alle wils o bodi & saul mai fle.

**Wil-,** adv. use of Will *sb.*[1] (as in *OE. wil-cuma*, Welcome); only in OE. and early ME. compounds = (*a*) pleasant, welcome, (*b*) voluntary: **wil-dæȝe,** a welcome day; **wil-ȝeoue** [Give *sb.*[1]], a voluntary or free gift; **wil-gomen** [Game *sb.*], pleasant sport; **wil-shrift,** voluntary confession; **wil-spell, wil-tidende** [Tiding], welcome news.

*c* 900 *O. E. Chron. Cott. Geist* 459 Hy þæs hereweer on Wiht ȝewicodre word ne ȝehyrdon þra-ȝingelan. *c* 1205 Lay. 1758 Þat heo heora wil-dæȝes wælden weoren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 ' Me Sire,' þu onsweres me, ' sulle ȝ God his grace? Nis grace bimone! ' *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Hwet so ich am burh godes grace ich hit do nat am wilȝeoue unoferseut. *c* 1205 Lay. 29944 Castles bliwinnen & wilgomen wurchen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 240 Wel seiðhe, 'is ifured ; vorte bicchen ȝwil-shrift. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 993 Wes him frofra mæst ȝeworden in worlde set Sam ' wilspelle. *c* 1205 Lay. 3150 Ich wulle þe nan luðer tidde wilspel. *Ibid.* 17990 Komen to þan kinge ' wil-tidende.

**Wil,** obs. f. Vile, While, Wile, Will.

**Wilan(ie,** obs. ff. Villain. **Wilayet,** variant of Vilayet. **Wilbe, -bie:** see Will *v.*[2]

**Wilch,** obs. ff. Which. **Wilcht,** Sc. f. Wild Cat.

**Wild** (wɑild), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1–7 **wilde,** (3 **wuilde**), 3–7 **wylde**, 4–7 **wyld**, (4 **wylde, whilde, wyled**, 4–6 **wield**(**e**, 4–7 *Sc.* **wylde, 5 wilde, wyeldе, wyyld**(**e**, *Sc.* **wulde,** 6 **wyild**, *Sc.* **vild, vyld, vyild, wyild, 7 weild**), 3– **wild.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *wilde* = OFris. *wilde*, MDu. *wilde, wilt*, (I.G., Du. *wild*[1]), OHG. *wildi* (MHG. *wilde, wild*, G. *wild*), ON. *villr* bewildered, astray, whence Will *a.* (Norw. *still* wild, bewildered), guildy, Sw., Da. *vild* wild), Goth. *wilþeis* :— OTeut. ***wilþijas.** The sb., OE. ***wild**, ***wildor** (*cf. wildorlic* adj.), pl. *wildru* (later *wildfor, wildeðfor* Wild deer), OHG. *wild*, pl. *wildir* wild beast, is app. a derivative (***wilþas-, -ia-**) with *s*-stem from the same root (*cf. lamb*).

The problem of the ulterior relations of this word is complicated by its history as to its primary meaning. The possible analogy of sense-development in l. *silv-estris, sil-vaticus* (whence F. *sauvage* wild, etc.), f. *silva* wood, has suggested a connexion with OTeut. ***wealdaz** forest (OE. *weald, wald* Wold). But it is more probable that OTeut. ***wilþijas** represents a pre-Teut. ***chwelt-ijos**, the root of which is found in l. (with *gespitl, le, geist* wild, and may have a parallel form in *gemēr-*, the base of l. *gemere*, Gr. *χήν*, Irish. *srēth*, OSl. *zvěrь* wild beast (for a similar phonological development of *ghw-* cf. Warm *a.*).

**A.** *adj.*

**I.** Of an animal : Living in a state of nature; not tame, not domesticated : opp. to Tame *a.* 1.

Freq. in names of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs.; see also Special Collocations (16), and Wild ass, wolves, in the main articles.

In later use often hyphened to the following sb., esp. in names of particular species, or in verse to indicate rhythmic stress on the sb.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) 1 427 *Indomitus*, wilde-ras. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cii[b]. 11 Drencað ȝa alle wildeor wuda : wilde assan to sceaðan in ðurſȝ heara. *c* 893 Alfred *Oros.* v. i. § 17 Da bescē wyðre ðyre mid Finnum; for ðem hy fōð þa wildan hranas mid. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 180 On ær, wiltne monan hys god to fixianne & huntum hwetras on secenne, wilde hors to fōnne & to ȝewinnenne. *c* 1200 *Morte Arth.* 3912 Wolues, and wilde swynne, and wyldeyde be-tes. 1299 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 9 Ony manner of wyld foule or tayme. 1338 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 378 He kyllyd ij. wyld duckes with a crosbow. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 183 Eight Wilde-Boares rosted whole. 1696 Crew *Measures, Amat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 33 The Wilde-Duck and Teal also, I suppose all of this kind, and most other Birds, are without a Crop. 1776 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 447 The goose, in its wild state always retains the same marks. 1793 Coleridge *Songs of Pixies* iv, The murmuring throng Of wild-bees hum their drowsy song. 1808 Scott *Marm.* ii. Introd., And mark the wild swans *flutter ead.* wild-swans] mount the gale. 1827 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* xviii. I. 321 Our wild turkeys. 1828 *Craven Dialect* 11 The sunshine, the dusky and the blue-feathered. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 414 The leader wildswan. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 332 Wild animals of large size were then far more numerous than at present.

*fig. c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. v. xxvii. Twas a tough task believe it, thus to tame A wilde and wealthy language. *absol. c* 1899 Lay. 1212 Hwa wenden ut i wilde se, þa wilde wurðen itemede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*St Ignatius*) 1037 To lis day saw I nane, Of wylde, na tame, na kind lesne. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* 192 He..slew baith tayme and wyld.

**2.** Of a plant (or flower): Growing in a state of nature; not cultivated.

Freq. in names (unlimited in number) of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs. *To sow one's wild oats* (fig.): see Oat *sb.* 4.

Often hyphened as in 1 (and regularly in phrases used attrib.) or (chiefly in early use) combined with the following sb. as one word.

*a* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 356 *Agrestilis*, wilde. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 90 *Oleum wilum* [= wild] is wilde elebeam. 1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xi. 24 The kyndely sylde [*later tree*, wielde] olyue tre. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569/2 *Virsenia*, wyldenepe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/1 Wylde malowe, or holy-hokke. *c* 1485 Caxton *Aymon of Dordone* xviii, All Suche wylde herbes as grewe in the woode. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* x. 80 All the grond..in sourgarne vbyth gyrse and wild sa rroggis. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 249, I know a bank where the wild time blowes. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* i. 63 The Husbandman uses onely to prune the Trees of his Garden, not those that grow wild in his Woods. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. 1. 40 Her hedge-row shrubs .. With woodbine and wild roses mantled over. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xiii, Cold dews and wild flowers lave *later* refl. bend. 1852 Longfellow *Nuremberg* 1 Wild flowers in the wall. 1852 Tennyson *Maud* II. v. 3 Plucking the harmless wild-flower on the hill.

1799 De Foe *Tom Jolly* ii, Wild-flower wreaths for Beauty's hair. 1820 — *Lady of L.* iv. ii, The wild-rose sprays. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxii, A young lady with a wild-rose complexion.

**3.** Produced or yielded by wild animals or plants; produced naturally without cultivation; sometimes, having the characteristic (usually inferior) quality of such productions (cf. b).

With 'wild meat' cf. OS. *wildfleſc*, etc.; with 'wild leather' cf. MSw. *wildläþer*, Icel. *villiskinn*.

*c* 1200 Ormin 3213 Hiss drinnch was watterr..Hiss mete wilde rotess. *c* 1200 [see Honey *sb.* 3 b]. 1519 *Registr. Aberdeen.* (Maitland) II. 137 The wild honye of the woddis of taxis. Item iij spottis ane gird ane less and ane fot wild mot. 1548 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 3 All maner of personis that takis wylde meitt. 1548 Patmure *Accounts Regem.* (1542) R 18 b, There is ane prune called wylde prunes, y^e^ wilche growe in the woddes. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. v. 2 He loked y^t^ it shulde bring forthe grapes: but it brought forthe wilde grapes. 1582 R. Lea *Triumphs Accomplished's Cong. E. Ind.* 75 These ships..are sowed together with ropes made of Cotto, & pitched ouer with wild incense. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* iii. 240 There bush is but wild vnsauorie, and hath a wilde taste. 1612 Sc. *Bk. Rates* in *Taxbuchan's Ledger* (1867) 338 Leather called wyld lether the dakar, xxs. 1624 in *Add. Comm. Appr.* I. 43 Left not my leadie our mother trubill hirself in tyeing much vylde meitt to your boss supper-time 1777 Anderby *Prov.* (1780) I. 214, A dinner of herbs is better than wild-fowl. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. 2 viii. 418 It is very rare in the present day that honey is found wild. 1882 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 49/1 The wild or bush silk.

**b.** *Mining.* Applied to impure or inferior minerals or ores. (Cf. G. *wilderz.*)

1778 Price *Min. Cornub.* 93 A Black-jack or Mock-lead Lode..This Wild-lead is commonly found with Stones of Copper and Lead intermixed with it. 1805 *Monthly Mag. Lead in*, Wild Ground, Wild Measures, Wild Stuff. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms*, *Wild-coal*, a thin seam of inferior coal.

**4.** Of a place or region : Uncultivated or uninhabited; hence, waste, desert, desolate. (Often with special reference to the character or aspect of such places.)

*c* 893 Alfred *Oros.* I. i. § 18 Likgaþ wilde moras emtlange þorn hymen lande. *a* 1128 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 On þa wilden fennen. 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 208 A wilde wesste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7351 Me may hem ofte an erbe in wilde studes yse. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Thomas*) 430 Quhare now be scottis is wyld, þar was wild forest. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2163 *Armelne*, In an yle amyd the wilde se. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K 5 b, The cytie that is vnty lled, and waste wyld. 1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, II. iii. 4 These high wilde hilles, and rough vneuen waies. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 36 Fenny and woody wild grounds. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 85 A wild Roade, is a Roade where there is little Land on any side, but lies all open to the sea. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* II. i, Some fair field..Left unhedged, like a barren Moor, Lies fenceless, wild, uncultivate, and waste. 1817 Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 297 They are well aware that, by undertaking to bring wild land into a state of cultivation, they must undergo some hardships. 1849 Jevne *Cowl region* xxv. The scenery was wild without being grand. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* I. (1852) 7 The wild mesa. 1883 *Harper's Electric. Mag.* No. 399. 71 The wild beauty of Wicken Fen is in striking contrast with the cultivated land lying around it. 1885 W. H. White *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* III. The garden was large and half-wild.

**b.** *transf.* Belonging to or characteristic of a wild region; of or in a wilderness.

1690 C. Nesbit *O. & N. Test.* I. 308 Neither God nor good men take any pleasure in a ..wild retiredness. 1817 Moore *Lalla Rookh* 131 The glorious view of the current and far, fragant isles, playing freshly over the current of youthful spirits.

**b.** Of persons (or their attributes): Uncivilized, savage; uncultured, rude; also, not accepting, or resisting, the constituted government; rebellious. (Sometimes with implication of sense 8.) See also *wild Irish* in 16.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24747 For þofoil [*MS* in] wit war neuer sa wild. Pat gines me last of hir to rede. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (Ed. Hall) I. 60 Pare was crakked many a crowne Of wild Scottes and alls of tame. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 616 The rouch Wadwyse wild. 1451 CAXTON *Reynard* (Sommer) 59 She was cayf clothid and half wilde and sauage. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* I. 95 Was never vyld Rubeine wnder bench,.. So bauld a bairne as he. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 23 The prince..had tamed the furious rage of the wild and sauage Welshemen. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. M iijb, A man at armes in fourm of a wield shepehearde. 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron. I. Hist. Scot.* 38/2 After the example of one.. Robert Hood a wild or vplandish man. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* I. (1672) 7 When wild in woods the noble Sauage ran. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* xxxvii, Nations yet wild by Precept to reclaim, And teach 'em Arms, and Letters. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) 303 A Party of the Goths and wild Russes. 1820 SCOTT *Nigel* v, It's ill taking the breeks aff a wild Highlandman. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi. 15 Those wild eyes that watch the wave In rearings round the coral reefs. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Nov. 8/2 These men..are up to all the 'slim' ways of the wild Boer.

**II. 6.** Not under, or not submitting to, control or restraint; taking, or disposed to take, one's own way; uncontrolled. Primarily of animals (cf. 1), and hence of persons (see also 7) and things, with various shades of meaning. Aiming or moving freely without restraint; going at one's own will; unconfined, unrestricted.

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1465 Da was culufre eft of cofan sendeð wilde seo wide fleah. *c* 1000 SAX. *Leechd.* III. 202 Hors wilde ymacu. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 48 Thar er wes wilde ase the ro, Nou y awyke. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* ii. 71 A wilde and wanton herd ..of youthful and vnhandled colts. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 8 Youth is wild, and Age is time. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 974 In his wild rustic flight. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III, That the wild little Thing should take Wing, and fly away the Lord knows whither! 1827 BYRON *Morgante Maggiore* II. I have found our thoughts take wildest flight Even at the moment when they should most annoy Themselves in pensive order. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 136 The dark linked ivy tangling wild. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Medit. Monmouth-st*, The children wild in the streets, the mother a destitute widow. 1865 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* (1884) 100 Victoria is very wild, and speaks more German than English.

**b.** Resisting control or restraint, unruly, restive; flighty, thoughtless; reckless, careless; *fig.* not according to rule, irregular; erratic; unsteady. (Cf. 15.)

*c* 1250 *Lifeaunt Decc.* (Kalend.) 188 A child þat is wildes and wilde. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 253 But if the day of the oyer and terminyer stonde, it wole be full harde, by cause the people is so wylde. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 1 b, Like the trattale wherin smithes put white loaues when they shoo them. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 82 Your fifi, sixt, and seuenth notes be wilde and vnformall. 1608 SHARP *Welfy Late Out-v.* 8 Men are too wild and wary to be constant to that affection. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Lett* (1846) II. 256, I meant nothing in the world by wild, but the thoughtlessness of a boy of nineteen. 1832 SCOTT *Cl. Dur.* xviii, Depriving Cupid's wing of some wild feathers. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Johnson the young bowler is getting wild, and bowls a ball or two wide to the off. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wordbk., Wild*, a ship's motion when she steers badly, or is badly steered. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii. 22 The tree lashes sometimes like a wrong direction, and turn their points against the eyeball. They are then popularly called wild hairs.

**c.** Shy; *esp.* of game, afraid of or avoiding the pursuer (opp. to TAME *a.* 3); *transf.* having a timid expression like a wild animal.

1594 WILKINS *Arcana Amoris*, Though coy at first she seeme and wielde. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 35 She is too disdainfull, I know her spirits are as coy and wilde. As Haggerds of the rocke. 1611 COTGR., Farouche, wild, coy, skittish. 1676 The birds were so extremely wild that it was almost impossible to get near them. 1877 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Trad.* (1891) 302 They will not bring back a great deal if the birds were so wild. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* xi, The woman had a sweet face, wild and shy.

**d.** Phr. *to run wild*: (*a*) of an animal or plant (combining senses 1 or 2 and 6), to live in, or revert to, a state of nature, without domestication or cultivation; (*b*) of a person (or thing personified), with various shades of meaning (see above), sometimes passing into other senses (e. g. 7, 11, 12).

1549–60 [see RUN *v.* 2 b] 1574 GOLDING *Nat. Hist.* (1576) II. 347 Of all countries, where the horse runs wild, Arabia produces the most beautiful breed. 1798 WORDSW. *Matthew* 3 That every hour thy heart runs wild, Yet never once doth go astray. 1858 [see RUN *v.* 2 b]. 1863 DICKENS *Hunt. Ho.* iv, He had a bold spirit, and he ran a little wild, and went for a soldier. 1870 *Longman's Mag.* XIX. 614 The boy had run wild since his young mother's death.

**7.** *spec.* Not submitting to moral control; taking one's own way in defiance of moral obligation or authority; unruly, insubordinate; wayward, self-willed.

Often scarcely distinguishable from 6 *a* or *b*, but implying blame or reproach.

*c* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 377 He ȝeong fareð, haſað wilde mod. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu þereuore prud ne wilde ne stere. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8192 Siff batt þho ne gasteless & eȝeless & wilde. *c* 1205 LAY. 785 Pat man nie beu so wilde nan swa unwitti, Pat word talie..ner be there minne horn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9307 Quarfor er yee o will na wild? *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 431 Sonume men ben beteriid bi bynding to bise charges, þat elles wolden be wylde. 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 67 Manuys fle-che ys so wyld and lusty to synne. 1585 COVERDALE *2 Macc.* xi. 4 Not consideringe the power of God, but was wylde in his myndes. 1967 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 251 Man was aa wylde and nyce, And rageing in all vyce. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* R iv b, The wildest child is as easie corrected with a word as with a wiselash. 1700 POPE *Carmen Sec.* 66 Valour grown wild by Pride, and Pow'r by Rage. 1797–1812 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'He is now gone into the army', she added, 'but I am afraid he has turned out very wild.' 1856 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxvii, When a curate, he had had an only son, very wild who would go to sea in spite of his remonstrances. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roderick Corcoran* xii. 128 It was about that time that I took seriously to my work. Before, I had been a little wild.

**8.** Giving way to sexual passion; also, more widely, licentious, dissolute, loose.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2013 His wif wurð wilde, and nam in ðoȝt Vuerigt-wis luue. 13.. *St. Paula* 87 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 5 Whon þe ȝonge in hote blood Bigonne to waxe wylde of mod. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (Percy Soc.) 98 His mod was waxen to wyld Pat hedde ageten him such a child. 13.. *Guy. & Gy. Ant.* 2567 Hot bat was for to wylyde werke, in song bat is myrbe. 1598 GROSLAN *Lowth's Triumphs* 1 Why if thou ar'he wanton and wilde. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 74 Hee kept companie with the wilde Prince, and Poinz. 1614 D. DYKE (title) *Myself, Iacob*, 308 Wild and wanton widowes. 1618 (13 May) JOHNSON in *Boswell*, If a young man is wild, and must run after women and bad company. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 50 The wildest of libertines.

**9.** Savage, ferocious, cruel; furious, violent; destructive, cruel. (In later use passing into other senses: cf. 5, 9, 11. See also *wild beast, wild horse*, in 16.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1322 Pe prince..þat in time of worre as a lomb is bolde mek & softe & in time of pes as a lyon bope wode & wilde. 1340–5 *Ayenb.* 161 (Harl. MS.), Vyolnesse..from brudale wylde of maide remenylde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13796 Was neuere..wilde werre pat lasted so long. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Consc.* 6744 Pe wer was Romayns to smyte. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W. Boy Thisbe*, Allas there comyth a wilde lyoness. *c* 1400 *Beste Story* 1. 1. 1.

dance the Almas to wild minstrelsy 1859 *Jerusalem Brittany* xvii. 284 A wild ballad, still sung in Cornouaille, to an equally wild tune. a 1884 Bryant *Stella* 4 When man to man gave willing food, and loved A tale the better that 'twas wild and strange. 1891 Rider Haggard *Nada* Pref., The setting out of a wild tale of savage life.

b. Of strange aspect; fantastic in appearance.

1609 Shaks. *Mach.* i. iii. 40 These, .. so wilde in their attyre, That looke not like th' Inhabitants o' th' Earth. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 68 There, embossed and frostwork'd, The growing wonder takes a thousand shapes Capricious. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lay of Brown Rosary* i. iv, To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

**15.** (*fig.* from 6.) Aimed wide of the mark, or at random; random: usually *adv.* at random, astray.

a 1820 Shelley *M. Nicholson Enquiry*, 14 Wild flew the meteors o'er the maddened main. 1832 James *Phil. Aug.* xxvii, The soldier who fronted him, struck wild, reeled, and fell. 1890 W. Camp in *N. Nicholas Aug.* 831/1 The catcher ..must begin by a resolution..to consider no ball beyond his reach, no matter how wild. 1895 *Field* 16 Aug. 219 The Chinese shells found in the abandoned forts 'went wild' when the Japanese gunners tried to fire them.

**III. 16.** Special Collocations (sometimes hyphened as in 1 and 2, esp. in verse to indicate stress, and regularly in attrib. use): **wild beast**, orig. in sense 1, now always with mixture of sense 8 (see Beast *sb.* 2 c); also *fig.* (cf. Beast *sb.* 1c, 5); **wild berry**, the berry of a wild plant; app. applied locally to particular kinds; **wild boar** (in early use also as one word): see Boar *sb.* 1 c; **wild dog**, any wild species of dog, or of the dog tribe, as the Hyena-dog of Africa (Hunterian 1793 2 a), the Dhole of India (Hunterian 1793 2 b), the Dingo of Australia, etc.; **wild goat**, any wild species of goat, as the ibex, or (*loosely*) a goat-like antelope, as the chamois; **wild horse**, a horse not domesticated or broken in; esp. in phrases referring to a mode of punishment or torture (cf. quots. s.v. Draw *v.* 5), and hence humorously with negative (see quots.); in quot. 1834 (with hyphen) rendering Du. *wildepaard* as a name for the zebra; **Wild Huntsman**, a phantom huntsman of Teutonic legend, fabled to ride at night through the fields and woods with shouts and baying of hounds; **wild Irish** (see Irish B. 1 a); **wild Irishman** (see Irishman b); also a name for a spiny rhamnaceous shrub of New Zealand and Australia, of the genus *Discaria*; **wild mare**: see Mare 1 2 b; also *attrib.* in *wild mare hunch* (*hinch*, *hitch*), a name for string-halt; **wild wind**, a violent wind, whirlwind, hurricane (*obs.* or *dial.*); † **wild worm**, a fantastic notion, whim. See also Wild cat, Wildfire, etc.

1907–1833 'Wild beast [see Beast *sb.* 2c]. *fig.* 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 256, I .. when first I heard War-music, felt the blind wildbeast of the battle in me. 1886 Gilmore *Hunter's Arcadia* p. vii, Some bastard descendants of Europeans..this weapon is better than argument with such wild beasts. *Attrib.* 1820 *Sporting Lore-Story* II. 108 Knee-shown, and wild-beast exhibitions. 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* i. iii, When in our next wild-beast fight? 1879 Browning *Halbert & Hob* 19 The genuine wild-beast breed. 1859 Jephson *Colonial Trees* 20 Such are only Furze and "wild-berries. 1918 H. Bindloss *Agatha's Fortune* xxi, She liked the acid wild-berries he brought on a bark tray. *attrib.* 1850 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Windows* ii. 87 At least, have the Human shared with thee their wild berry-wine? 1918 H. Bindloss *Agatha's Fortune* xxvii, He .. fell among a clump of wild-berry bushes. 1905–1883 "Wild boar [see Boar *sb.* 1 c]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* i. xvi, A wyldbore..with his teeth rent..a grete pyece of his body. 1823 Scott *Rokeby* iv. xix, Now the grim wild-boar fought and fell. 1871–1876 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* iii. 89 Dextrous in the wild boar chace. 1818 Keats *Teignmouth* 1, No wild-boar rushes and no Mermaid's tree. 1840 *Dunyf ice Herald* Oct., The wild-boar..in the wild-boar ham. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Wild-boar's tree*, a San Domingo name for *Hedwigia balsamifera*. 1786 tr. *Sparrman's Voy.* I. 137 These "wild dogs are some of the most formidable beasts of prey. 1818 Byron *Siege of Corinth* xvi, The scalps were in the wild dog's maw. 1844 F. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* v, A dispute devouring his crust, but religiously leaving a portion of it in some clean spot for the wild dogs. 1879 *Scribner's Monthly* VII. 324/2 The wild dog of the Falkland Islands [*Canis antarcticus*]. 1598 Tarlton's *Jests*, *Dr. P. R.* xviii. xxiii. (1629) bb iiij, The "wylde gote hyghte Caprea. 1530 Palsgr. 280/1 Wylde goote, *chevureul*. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 162/2 The Aspian wild Goat, .. some term it a Shamois. 1704 Mason *Measure* 23 Nor did the wild goat bruise the shrubby rocks. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* iv. xix, Now, like the wild goat, must he dare An unsupported leap in air. c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past.* xl. xli. 303 Swa swa "wildu hors, ðonne we hie æresð gefongniað habbað, we hie ðæccinð & straciað. c 995 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 133 Hio becwið Cyneluthe hyre dæl þera wilderra horsa ðe mid Eadmere synt. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1062 Þu naddest non oðer dom ne lage, Bute mid wilde horse were todrage. 1573 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 318 Wyld hors & teyme. a 1400–50 (see Horse *sb.* 1 e). c 1400 *Mélayne* 57 He sall be hangede or oþer morne And with wylde horse be drawen. 1446–16 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 71, iiij Wildehorses, ad tunc nuper tractos vel in stabulo. c 1546 in *Stats. Star Chamber Proc.* (1913) 36 Or ells they wolde draw hym fourth with wylde horses. 1834 Prince *Afr. Sk.* 14 The buffalo bendeth to my yoke, The wild-horse to my rein. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xii, After that wild horses would not have drawn him to an exculpation of himself. 1890 (see Horse *sb.* 1 e). 1798 Scott (*title of poem*) The "Wild Huntsman. 1809 — *Anne of G.* xxii, Sailed to the mountains of the Brockenberg, where witches hold their sabbath, or gone on a hunting-party with the Wild Huntsman. 1598 Lambe, *Rich. Kneeles* Prol. to Whyle he wereld lie went on by "wilde yrishe. 1597 Bodinus *Instruct. Juvenil.* xii. (1890) 130 Irland..is deuyded in ix. partes, one is the Englysh pale, & the other, the wyld Irysh. 1620 Bacon *Hen. VII* 118 The Wild-Irish fled into the Woods and Bogges. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. Introd., Highlanders, and Wild-Irish can agree My Pilgrim should familiar with them be. 1837 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Liv.* iv, The low-browed rooms where the wild Irish sat howling and wrangling over their liquor. 1401 *Close Roll 2 Hen. IV*, tt. m. 6 (P.R.O.) Si Nicholaus Hoggeson capellanus ..suggessum quod ipse fuit "Wildehrishshman Hibernicus et inimicus nostre in prisona .. detentus existat. c 1450 *Brut* II. 357 Pese rebellis of Ireland bith called "white Irisch men". 1608 Dekker *Lanth & Candle-light* iii. D, No wild-Irishman could out-runne him. 1880 J. Von Haast *Geol. Westland* 25 (*Morris Discoveries Innovation*, the Wild Irishmen of the settlers. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 268 Hee playes at Quoits well, and hee throwes at the valide-Mare with the Boyes. 1822 Witherr *Faire Virtue*, etc. O a b, The Hoyres are come to catch the Owles, The Wildmare in is ringing. c 1600 M. Sepvvirson *Twelve Monethis* 4 And the ventrous youth show their agility in shooing the Wild-Mare. *attrib.* 1903 *York Gen. Mts.* 5/2 Stobbs and strayndis .. with Mares, one a whyte grey, .. has the "Wild Mare Hunch with the far hind Leg. 1884 *Cash Craven Glass., Wild-mare-hinch or hitch*, strain in the hock. 1856 Fuller *Worthies, Kent* (1840) 319 In the year of our Lord 1639 in November here happened an Hirecano or "wild wind. 1881 Clark *Trill. Montrel* (1884) I. 9 The lightest wild-wind trembles to a leaf. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 42 The "wilde worme of vengeance waueryng in his hed. *Ibid., Hen. V* 44 Some priuate Scorpion in your heartes, or some wild worme in your bulkes.

**17.** Combinations. **a.** with pples., in adverbial relation (= "wildly"), as *wild-billowing*, *-booming*, *-flying*, *-fought*, *-made*, *-staring*, *-warring*, *-woven* adjs.: or in complemental relation, as *wild-born*, *-bred*, *-grown*, *-looking* adjs. b. parasynthetic, as *wild-headed*, *-brained*, *-eyed*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-spirited*, *-winged*, *-witted* adjs. with -ness, forming descriptive appellations corresponding to the adjs. in b, as *wild-blood* (a wild-blooded person), *wild-brain*, *wild-head* (a wild-brained or wild-headed person, a harebrain).

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. viii, One red sea of Fire, "wild-billowing, enwraps the World. 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxx, Even in the Castle of Acre'all men were a "wild-blood enough. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. v. ii, No..whirls and spins this immeasurable *tarmentum* of a Revolution; "wild-booming. 1818 Byron *Ch. Harold* IV. xlvi, A "wild-brain boy with clipt wing. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Testu*, a headstrong fellow, a "wilde-brayne. 1608 Middleton *Mad Cap.* Prol., Some wilde-braine, lay my wits upo' th' Tenters. 1885 Rider Haggard *K. Sol. Mines* vi, We knew what a wonderful instinct these "wild-bred men possess. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxi, Sea Sprites, .. "wild-bred pheasants appear to have done fairly well. 1827 Shelley *Rev. Islam* iv. xx, The "wild-eyed women. 1850 'R. Bedell-wood' *Cel. Reformer* xx, The fierce and wild-eyed bullocks. 1587 Fletcher *Valentinian* i. ii, His "wild flying courses. 1900 S. Phillips *Ulysses* i. ii, The wild-flying cloud. 1795 Fawcett *Art of War* 18 Their "wild-fought field. 1894 Mrs. Parker *Australian Cameos* 153 The petty wild-fought battle. 1892 *Nature* 15 Dec. 171/1 The "wild-growth of the Pacific, consisting together. c 1590 *Trag. Rich. II* (1870) 13 A wild-head, you know, Proues, as growen, most rebellious. 1710 Shaft. — but see "wild-headed. 1598 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 1 If they that neuer were taught Gods truth be wildeheaded. 1617 Hopkinson *Hin.* 1. 259 A wild-headed Turke. 1887 Bowen *Virgil in Eng.* 1. 1 *Wild-headed Bridgen. Baxter's Life* vi. 108 Wild-headed Sectaries. 1814 Scott *Diary* 16 Aug. in *Lockhart*, The hogs are..queer "wild-looking creatures. 1591 *Shakespeare's Sonnets* xvii, In verse of mine, the beauty Before He leave off my seeing God, My "wild made oeth may broken be. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xxvii, His wonderful beauty, "wild-haired face. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Bastas* II. iv. iii. *Achium* 863 "Wilde-staring Hag. 1727 Somervile-Hervey *Poems, Offic. Misdemeanor* 262 Wild-staring, Thunder-struck, Pale, Ghastly, Horrible, Dismal, Direful, Hellish, Wild-washing nature. 1777 Potter *Æschylus* 64 With wollied thunders and "wild-winged gales. 1612 Chapman *Iliad* xvii. 657 Thy "wild-witted counsels. 1614 — *Odyssey* xv. 83 Thou art a "wild-witted Boy. 1611 Florio, Scapestrone, a wild-witted boy. 1800 Campbell *Exile of Erin* ii, The "wild-woven flowers.

**B.** *sb.*

**†1.** A wild animal, or wild animals collectively; *spec.* a beast, or beasts, of the chase; a hunted animal or animals; game. *Obs.*

OE. "*wild* (see ætym. above) is recorded only in gen. sing. without num. pl. or pl. in -as, -an, -u, -e, -o.

c 1005 Ælf. Hom. I 190 þa Treinisce men tuhten to þon deoren & duden of þan wilden al heora swilk. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1150 At be fyrst quelle of be quest quaked be wylde. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. (l.) 11 All be wilde of wodis. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 657 That nane werreye my wylde, botte Way. nour hir seluene. c 1485 *Chevy Chace* vi, Then the wyld beestes ran on every syde. 1530 Palsgr. 280/1 Wylde, *sauvage*. 1611 *Isa. Lion & Mouse* xxviii, The lioun slew baith tayme and wyld. 1599 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* ii. 181 All reuenous, and wilder vthers serue him at he nicl.

**†2.** *Phr. at wild*: indefinitely, distracted. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 801 Some were wery and on wylde. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 170 Trust hym never the more for the bylle that I sent yow by hym, but as a man at wylde, for every thyng that he told me is not trewe.

**†3.** A wild or waste place; a region or tract of uncultivated and uninhabited land; a waste, a wilderness. Now mostly *rhet.* or *poet.*

1627 Heylin *Anstv. Burton* 191 As if wee lived in the wild of Africke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 407 The wild Of Southmost Indian Shore. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 393 Nor, nor Deep our common Way divide. 1722 Ickell *Rem. Garden* 1 A snow of blowsoms, and a wilde of flowers. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 7 A wild, where weeds and flow'rs promiscuous shoot. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 230 You young savage of the Northern wild! 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 321 Turned from a wild into a garden. 1905 D. Wallace *Labrador Wild* iv. 55 The plunge into the wild.

(*b*) *pl.* (Chiefly in *the wilds* of a specified region.)

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 41 The Hircanian deserts, and the vaste wildes Of wide Arabia. 1822 Imayen *Palyolb.* v. 312 The sandie Wyldes of spice-full Barbarie. 1634 Milton *Comus* 424 Huge Forests, and sandy perilous wildes. 1798–32 Wolcot (Pinar) *Epistle, Isle of Man* (1794) 13 They call them the good People, and say they live in Wilds and Forests. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* II. ix, The resolute forester who first penetrated the wilds. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* viii, Among the wilds and forests of the west. 1868 Nettleship *Ess. Browning* ii. 63 A northern principality ..which kept its rough simple traditions in its own wilds.

**b.** *Irrigtf.* of sur., water, etc.

1728 Pope *Dunc* I. 108 To the tempest of a tide. 1793 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Progmora Flits* Wks. 1810 III. 308 As soon might lift old Ocean from his bed And dash his wild of waters to the skies. 1815 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 57 A lighthouse o'er the wild of dreary waves.

**c.** *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. iii. 18 Where euery something being blent together, Turnes to a wilde of nothing, saue of ioy Expressd, and not expresst. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* 66 To this wild of sorrowes and excruciament she was confined. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 3, [to] confine themselues to a mediocrity in opinioning, and not ramble without the whole wild of Fancy. a 1704 T. Brown *1st Sat. Persius Invit.* Wks. 1720 I. 52 His taste is mixed nonsense, a wild of weeds. a 1832 Bentham *Prim. Legist.* xviii. 827 *note* Striving to cut a new road through the wilds of jurisprudence 1853 Tennyson *Maud* I. xvi. 1, To save My youth from the wilds of life in the wastes of time.

**Wild** (wāild), *v.* *rare*. [f. Wild *a.* Cf. Awilden (OE. *dwildian*), MHG. *wilden.*]

**1.** *intr.* Of an animal or plant: To be or become wild; to run wild, grow wild.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Vet kelf & wilde is lei flesches bet weilgeð [MS. *T.* wildes] ase þe wilde eure deð. 1398–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 45 Heerdes gonne to wilde. 1880 Earle *Engl. Plant Names* 86 This is held by botanists to be an old garden-plant escaped and wilded.

**2.** *trans.* To make wild, in various senses; *† esp.* to affect with frenzy, to madden (*obs.*).

1492 Hocclève *Compl.* 235 This grevous venyme that had enfected and wildyd my brayne. 1608 Fletcher *Reuelers* II. (1.) xxiij, The Mad-seame hath wilded all Hainaine. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* 1. *Misery* 81 Thus wilded by a prevish heart..I storm at thee.

**Wild(e,** obs. ff. Weald, Wield *v.*; obs. pa. t. of Will *v.*

**Wildbore.** *local.* [?] A stout and closely woven unglazed tammy.

1784 *Salem Gaz.* in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colonial Times* (1894) 257 Mariane Ribb'd Wildbores. 1788 *Massachusetts Spy* 23 Oct. 3, Wildbore and Wildbore Shags. 1798 *Laws* 20 June 4. 2 Durants, Calimancoes, Wildbores, &c. 1892 in A. Holroyd *Collect. Hersif.* (1873) 179 About 1815, Messrs. James Akroyd and Son, of Halifax, .. produced the articles known by the names of wildbores and plainbacks, from which sprung the single-twilled merinoes. 1897 J. James *Worsted Manuf.* 374 A doubly piece was..nothing more than a figured wildbore. 1900 *Daily News* 16 Oct. 8/3, Hard wear [cr. Leeds ramblets]..began to decline, and the stuff makers at Leeds commenced making wildbores. 1896 Cudworth *Round about Bradford* 349 The woollen business, .. the principal make being shalloons and wildbores.

**+Wild bred.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. ON. *villbráðr*, corresp. to MLG. *villbrâde*, *-brât*, also *-brât* (I.G. *wild(d)brat*, *-prât*), MHG. *wildbræte*, *-bræt* (G. *wildbret*), etc.: see Wild *a.* and Bride *sb.*!] Game, venison.

c 1378 *Cursor M.* 13373 (Fairfax) Pat folk..was fed Wip soiben & rosted & wilde bred [*Cott.* O bred and fleks bath soiben and bredd].

**Wild(e,** *sb.* (Also with hyphen, or, esp. in early use, as one word.) Forms: see Wild *a.* and Cat *sb.*!; also *8.* (*Sc.*) 6 wilkatt, 8 wilcat, wil'-cat, 9 wull-cat. [Cf. MLG. *wildkatte*, MHG. *wilde katze* (G. *wildkatze*), Sw. *vildkatt*, Da. *-kat.*]

**1.** The European wild species of cat, *Felis catus* (see Cat *sb.*! 1 c); also applied to other wild animals of the cat tribe, esp. in U. S. to species of lynx. + Also *pl.*, the skins of these used as fur.

1918 *F. R. Wildlife* (1888) 37 A grow of grey mixed furred wit lonelis and wylde Catis. 1495 *Trev. in* Wr.-Wülcker 592 *16 Lacus, stomis, est quoddam animal pilosum ut cuniculus secundum alios*, a wylde cat. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* 48 He sleepes like the wilde-cat. 1688 T. A. *Carolina* 20 The Tyger, Wolf, and wild Cat. 1805 Scott *Lett. in Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 81 We have a curious breed of wild-cats who have eaten all Charlotte's chickens. 1883 Macaulay *Herodotus* xiv, Then, like a wild cat mad with wounds, Sprang right at Astor's face. 1884 *Harper's Yearbk. Mem. Vol.* 127 How many nights..have I listened to the skirr of the wild cats. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 31 Mar. 7/4 A terrible struggle between a man and a monstrous wildcat.

**8.** 1598 Du Warte tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) 10 hunte the hair and the fox, .. the Wolfe, or the Wilkatt. c 1730 Ramsay *Fables* xix. 44 The tyger, bair, and ev'ry

powerful fur, Down to the wildcat and the snarling cur. **1818** Scott *Hrt. Midl.* x. I never took a bit bridge the Laird of Dumbiedikes glowering here like a wull-cat' day after day. **1887** P. M'Neill *Blanwarris* 153 Still haudin' on till its tail wi' the determination of a wull-cat.

**2.** *fig.* Applied to a savage, ill-tempered, or spiteful person, esp. a woman: cf. Cat *sb.*1 2.

† *To run wild-cat* (*quot.* a 1692): to 'run mad', become demented: cf. Wild *a.* 19, and the *attrib.* use in 4 b below. **1673–80** Temple *Unch. Hist.* (1858) 168 Where window is open, cat maketh a fray, Yet wilde cat with two legs is worse by my fay. **1596** Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 197 But will you woo this Wilde-cat? **1612** N. Field *A woman is a Weathercock* I. ii, Like a Wilde-Cat of Pickt-hatch. **a 1692** Brome. *Damoiselle* I. i, The care of Children's such a staitle-braine, That had I more then one, I should run Wild-cat. **1771** Smollett *Humphry C.* 17 Apr. (1815) 14 That wild-cat my sister Tabby. **1894** Crockett *Raiders* xiii, 'Come back to your post, ye wull cat,' I shouted.

**3.** *fig.* a. One who forms a rash project, or engages in a risky or unsafe enterprise. b. An unsound business undertaking, as a 'wild-cat bank' (see 4 b); also, a note, or notes collectively, of a 'wild-cat bank'. (Orig. and chiefly *U. S. colloq.*)

**1812** *Columbian Sentinel* 6 June 2/3 Some of the Wildcats of Congress. **1839** Miss. Kirkland *New Home* xxii. 204 The celebrated term 'Wild Cat,' justified fully by the course of these cunning and stealthy bloodsuckers **1883** F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* x. Speculators holders of preferred, and scatter-brained speculators in wild-cat. **1896** *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Dec. 437/2 Whether this feature of our banking system can be amended without giving the field to wildcats. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Aug. 9/1 The market has been crowded with 'wild cats'.

**4.** *attrib.* (usually with hyphen). a. *lit.* in sense 1: cf. a wild cat.

**1824** Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* I. 17 Some...wilde Catte skinnes. **1853** W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 421 Jackal and wild-cat skins.

b. *fig.* Applied to banks in the western United States which, before the passing of the National Bank Act of 1863, fraudulently issued notes with little or no capital, or to their notes or transactions; hence extended to unsound or risky business enterprises generally; also to illicit businesses or their products (e.g. *wild-cat whisky*); and more widely to reckless, rash, or extravagant undertakings, statements, etc. (cf. Wild *a.* 13). *colloq.*

This application is said to have arisen the fact that the notes of a bank in Michigan bore the device of a panther, locally known by the name 'wild cat'.

**1838** *The Jeffersonian* (Albany) 1 Apr. 72 3 About 500 Irishmen working on the canal, took offence at being paid in 'Wild Cat' money, instead of Illinois. **1839** Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xxii. 205 Once in the grasp of the wild cat bank, his struggles were unavailing. **a 1854** W. North *State of Lamp* 38 (Bartlett) Much bogus coin and wild-cat, red dog bills are in circulation. **1862** Hughes *Rugby, Tennessee* ii. v, Wild-cat whiskey—or 'moonshine' as the favourite illicit beverage of the mountains is called. **1883** *Century Mag.* July 331/2 When he begins to put down a wild-cat well, he usually passes all the land in the vicinity. **1890** *Daily News* 12 Nov. 6 2 In no way did I undertake to uphold Major Bartleot in any wild-cat expedition.

Hence **Wild-catter**, **wild-catting**, one who engages, the action of engaging, in a 'wild-cat' business or enterprise: see 4 b above. *U. S. colloq.*

**1883** *Century Mag.* July 331/2 The 'wild-catters,' as the prospectors are called who take the risks of sinking wells in unknown territory. *Ibid.* 331/1 'Wild-catting' in the sense applied to the venturesome business of drilling [oil] wells on territory not known to contain oil. **1893** *Nation* (N. Y.) 2 Feb 76 3 The kind of wild-catting and red-dogging that was rife before the war.

**Wild deer.** [In sense 1, OE. *wil d)dor*, *wilde-dĕor*, alteration (after *wilde* adj. Wild and *dĕor* Deer) of **wildor*, pl. *wildru*: see Wild *a.* etym. (Cf. ON. *villidýr*, OSw. *vil ld)diur*, Da. *vildtdyr*.)

In sense 2, f. Wild *a.* + Deer.]

† **1** A wild animal. Chiefly *collect. Obs.*

**c 1175** [see Wild *a.* 1]. **c 888** Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Swa wa wilde deor wilnan oðer to acwellenne. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Ac hi þ̄ bonne rebra & þearlwisa bonne xnix wilde deor. **c 1175** *c 1200* [see Deer 1]. **1205** Lay. Ah swa monie þar waren wilde deor. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 169 De weste dais lit, So made god . Al erue, and wrim, and wilde der. **1338** R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 110 Pe kyng no man sald deme in courte for wilde dere.

**2.** Deer in a wild state.

**1748** Thomson *Cast. Indol.* ii. xvii, The wild-deer bounding thro' the glade. **1827** Shelley *Witch of Atlas* x iv, The roaring Of fire, whose floods the wild deer circumvent In the scorched pastures of the South. **1896** Vis t. Errington in *Red Deer* 245 Wild deer in their extremity do get into as curious places as carted ones.

**Wilde**: see Wield, Wild, Will *v.*

‖ **Wildebeest** (wildəbēst). [S. African Du., f. *wild* Wild *a.* + *beest* Beast *sb.*] The gnu.

**1838** W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 38 (*Catoblepas Gnou.* The Gnoo. Wilde Beest of the Cape Colonists. **1850** R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* iv. 84 Having inspected the wildebeest bull, which was a noble specimen. **1889** Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* iii, Here to the right might be a herd of wildebeeste that could not number less than two thousand. **1895** Millais *Breath from Veldt* x. 178 The white-tailed gnu or black wildebeest.

**Wilder** (wi·ldəɹ), *v. arch.* (now chiefly *poet.*) [Of uncertain origin: prob. (by an unusual process) extracted from Wilderness on the analogy of the form of *Wander*; but cf. MDu. *verwilderen*, frequent. of *verwilden* (f. *ver-* For- *prefix*1 + *wilde*, *will* Wild *a.*), and G. *wildern*. It has been frequently apprehended as an aphetic f. Bewilder (which is later in appearance), and occas. spelt '*wilder.*]

**1.** *trans.* To cause to lose one's way, as in a wild or unknown place; to lead or drive astray; *refl.* to lose one's way, go astray.

**1613** Purchas *Pilgrimage* viii. ix. 653 Unknowne lands, where we have wildered our selves. **a 1620** J. Hoke *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 138 They had been in danger of being wildred, of losing their way. **1687** Dryden *Hind & P.* ii. 682 Thus she dessir'd her to accept and stay, For fear she might be wilder'd in her way. **1727** Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* iii. 236 Young Acteon, wilder'd in the wood. **1796** Southey *Hymn to the Penates* 96 O ye whom Youth has wilder'd on your way. **1819** Shelley *Revt. Nat. Anthem* iv, 'Wilder her enemies In their own dark disguise.

**b.** *fig.*; *esp.* to render at a loss how to act, or what to think; to perplex, bewilder.

**1** d. Rogers *Naaman* 55 Having himself sent for him to his house, when he was wilder'd. **1648** in *Eikon Bas.* xv. 131 Extravagances wherewith some men have now even wilder'd both Church and State. **1654** R. Johnson *Wonder-working Providd.* II. 4 You shall be left wilder'd with strange Revelations. **1701** Collier *Mr. Aurel.* 259 His Understanding, being misty and misled, he was wilder'd in the Qualities of Things, and mistook the Nature of Good and Evil. **1812** Shelley *St. Irvyne* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 218 Wolfstein,...wilder'd by the associated energies of his soul almost to madness. **1818** — *Julian* I. 139 To her cold home Wilder'd, and wan, and panting, she returned. **1887** Bowen *Virg. Æneid* iv. 69 Over the city she wanders, the sad Queen, wilder'd of thought.

**2.** *intr.* To lose one's way, go astray, stray, wander; to be bewildered; to move or extend in a confused way.

**1658** Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* ii. 39 A heavy curse, did we rightly judge of it, to wander and wilder in a maze of error. **1726** Wodrow *Life Dudley North* (1744) 200 He used the Room above to wilder in his Accounts. **1805** Scott *Last Minstr.* i. Introd. iv, And scenes long past of joy and pain, Came wilder'd o'er his aged brain. **1828** S. Bellamy *Betrayal* v. 166 A forest vast, that rangeless from the eye Ran wildering. **1854** Lowell *Cambr. 30 Yrs. Ago* Writ. 1890 I. 48 The snow-storm wildering in the air.

**b.** *trans.* with adv. To spend or waste in 'wildering'.

† **3.** *trans.* and *intr.* To render, or become, wild or uncivilized. *Obs. rare.*

**1798** W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 550 The yoke of the Spirit has degraded the Hebrews into the rudest and worst of nations. **1804** — in *Cri. Rev.* I. 20 Her dole-lands will again be suffered to wilder into sheep walks. **1806** — in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 121 Brown Bears, Wolves transported to Canada must wilder in a generation or two.

**Wildered** (wi·ldəɹd), *ppl. a.* Also ? **wildred.** [f. prec. + -ED1.]

**1.** That has lost one's way; straying, 'lost'.

**1656** in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xv. § 112 Like poor wilder'd Travellers, perceiving that We have lost our way. **1748** Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1703 Ye, who guide the wilder'd in the wave, Or thro' the Desart. **1819** Shelley *Peter Bell* iii. 225 The wildered stranger. **1870** Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 46 A sound as of a wildered wind, Half moan, half sigh.

**b.** *fig.* At a loss, perplexed, bewildered.

**1642** [R.] Rogers *Naaman* 59 See Naaman here, in what a wildred case he is! **1659** J. O. tr. *Conley's Plants* 1. *Scurvy Grass* 31 Nor does it to your wilder'd Sense appear, Where 'tis that I Cause it is every where. **1789** W. Blake *Songs Innoc., Dream* 5 Trouble'd, wilder'd, and forlorn. **1823** Scott *Kokeby* iv. xxix, In secret, doubtless, to puzzle us, Immerse his wilder'd fancy drew. **1881** Kinglake *Departm. Dittier, Sinai a Dancer* iv, And murmurs of past merriment pursue Your 'wildered clerks that they inhite in vain.

**2.** Of a place or region: In which one may lose one's way; pathless, wild.

**a 1810** Shelley *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 26 Our ghosts, whilst raves the maddened storm, Will sweep at midnight Where Thine has been, thro' the wilder'd fancy drew. **1811** Keightley *Departm. Dittier, Sinai a Dancer* iv, And murmurs of past merriment pursue Your 'wildered clerks that they inhite in vain.

**Wilder** (wi·ldəɹ), *sb.* [f. Wild *a.* + -ER1.]

**1.** Leading or driving one astray; *esp.* of a place, In which one loses or may lose one's way.

**1740** Shenstone *Jrnl. Ode* 83 And some had lent the wild'ring maze in vain. **1753** Columba *Poet. Entertainer. Fren.* 77 Tow'd by storms along Life's wild'ring way. **1804** W. L. Bowles *Spir. Discov.* iv. 64 Safe in the wildering storm. **1808** — *Bible Teach.* vi. (1850) 126 Their wildering mazes of exquisite flowers.

**b.** *fig.* Producing mental confusion or aberration; perplexing, bewildering.

**1728** Collins *Ecl.* iv. 8 Where wild'ring fear and desperate sorrow led. **1812** J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* i. 223 In wakeing thoughts she still retains The memory of these wildering pains. **a 1850** Rossetti *Dante & Circle* i. (1874) 74 These wildering phantasies Then carried me to see my Lady dead. **1870** Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 190 The clash Of rain-beat boughs and wildering lightning-flash.

**2.** Going astray, straying, wandering.

**1827** Keble *Chr. Y. Septuagesima Sunday* ii, Ruin below and wrath above Are all that now the wildering fancy meets.

*third...5th Sunday in Lent* iv, Ye too, who tend Christ's wildering flock **1877** B. Taylor *Beauté* (1879) II. i. iii, Lamps are gleaming, Through the festal's wildering train.

**Wilderment** (wi·ldəɹmĕnt). *poet. rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] Bewilderment.

**1850** *Fraser's Mag.* I. 524 Music's gush, With all its moving wilderment. **1894** Mas. Browning *Last Bower* viii, So, in wilderment of gazing, I looked up and I looked down.

† **Wildern,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wilddeoren**, 3–5 **wilderne**, (3 **wulderne**), 4 **wildern**, 5 **wylderne**; 3–4 **wildren**, 4 **wildrin**, **wyldren**, [OE. *wilddeoren*, *i. wilddĕor* Wild deer + -EN.1]

**A.** *adj.* Wild, savage, desert.

**a 1050** *Liber Scintill.* xxv. (1889) 99 *Cum feralibus dentibus*, mid wilddeorenum tobum. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 3681 (Vsmael) wond als a wildren man. *Ibid.* 4086 His breber in þe wildrin land. *Ibid.* 5722 (Gött.) Wit þe wilderne folc. **1375** *Barb.* iv. 297 Ande euer waltetes þis whal bi wyldern depe.

**B.** *sb.* = Wilderness.

The genitive of this word is indistinguishable in form from next.

**c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 137 Þo þe he faste foweрti daȝes on ðā wilderne. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 He makede his wununge in þe wilderne. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 160 He... wende into oðliche stude ihe wildernesse [*MS. C.* wildernæ]. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 5850 (Gött.) To worschip god in wildrines land. **c 1375** *Ibid.* 5734 (Vsmael) His folc he ledes a-pon a side Bi a wilderne side. **a 1400** *Sir Orfeo* 219 (*MS.* Ashm. 61, ll. 253) To wylderne I wyll gone...And lyve þer in holtys hore.

**Wilderness** (wi·ldəɹnĕs). Forms: 3–6 **wylderneese**, 3–7 **wilderneese**, 4–6 **wil-**, **wyl-**, **-der-**, **-dir-**, **-dre-**, **(-dur-)**, **-dyr-**, **-nes**, **-ness(e)**, (**-nyss**), (4 *Sc.* **wildirnes**, 5 **wyrderneese**), 4– **wilderness**. [OE. **wildĕ d)dornes* (Sweet's A.-S. Dict.) = MLG., MDu. *wildernisse* Du. *wildernis*, G. *wildernis*); f. *wilder*, *wild d)dor* (see Wild *a.*, Wild deer) or, perh. more probably, *wilddĕoren* Wildern *a.* + *-nes* -ness (for the concrete sense *cf. hēahnes* summit, *smēþnes* 'planities').

The other types of derivatives of *wild* meaning 'wilderness' in the Teutonic languages are represented by (1) MHG., G. *wilde* fem. (cf. Wild *sb.*), (2) MLG., MHG. *wiltnisse*, G. *wildnis* (cf. Wildness 2), (3) G. (now dial.) *wildenis*, *wildnis*, (4) M.E. Wildern.]

**1.** a. (without article) Wild or uncultivated land. Distinguished from *desert*, in that the latter denotes an uninhabitable and uncultivable region, and implies entire lack of vegetation.

**c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Weste is cleped lut ſonde, þat is longe tilde uttren, and wildernesse, þef þare monie totes onne waxseb. **c 1205** Lay. 3935 Þa wes Habloun þaþes weste and wildernesse inore. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 2617 In wildernes al bi a well. **13..** *Sir Beues* (A.) 3867 Pe greaunt...In a castel hire hadde he kept, In wildernesse al be selue. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. 52 Als he trewyt on man was In schaw, na in wildirnes, þat mocht do mare bone he had done. **c 1400** Maundev. (Roxb.) 98 Pe grete party of þis cuntree es waste and wilderness and noȝt inhabitid. **c 1450** Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xiv. 90 Holy hermytes dwelled in wildernesse. **1535** Coverdale *Isa.* xxxv. 1 Pe wildernesse & the drye grounde shal be glad. **1555** Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 11 Ye shall finde in the wildernesse of Arabia, and other wyldernesses. **1613** Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. v. 404 The Countrey of Gouren, where we found but few villages, and almost all wilderneae. **1835** W. Irving *Astoria* xxxi. 343 Journeying through tracts of wilderness which they have never before traversed. **1847** Tennyson *Princess* i. 220 By filth and grunge,...and blowing locks of wilderness.

**b.** (with article or other defining word) A wild or uncultivated region or tract of land, uninhabited, or inhabited only by wild animals; 'a tract of solitude and savageness' (J.).

**a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 160 He...feste þer as he was one þe wildernesse [*MS. C.* wildernæ]. **1561** Pilkington in W. Whitaker *Life* (1572) ix. v. 137 O my poure Kyngdome, thou wilt be a Wildernesse againe, Peopled with Wolues (thy old Inhabitants). **1648** Milton *Tetrach.* 20 By forcing that upon us as the remedy of solitude, which was wholly upon us in a ninety years wilderness. **1784** Cowper *Task* ii. 1 Oh for a lodge in some vast wilderness. **1832** Scott *Cast. Dang.* xv. Finding only boundless wilderneases, and varied complications of the sandy wastes. **1855** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 368 Temple had made a retreat for himself at a place called Moor Park, ...The country round his dwelling was almost a wilderness.

**c.** A piece of ground in a large garden or park, planted with trees, and laid out in an ornamental or fantastic style, often in the form of a maze or labyrinth.

**a 1644** Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ch. ii. 6, I cut me Aquiducts, whose current flees And waters all my wilderneaae of trees. **1668** Dryden *Rwon. Love* v, Disperse your selves, some into the Wilderness, some into the Allies, and some into the Parterre. **1720** H. Chamberlain *Hist. A Norw. London* 64/2 In one part of it [sc. the park] is a pretty wilderness laid out in walks, and planted with a variety of ever-green trees. **1784** Cowper *Task* iv. 351 **1839** E. Jesse *Summer's Day Hampton Crt.* 77 On the opposite side of the palace there is a large space of ground called the Wilderness, planted and laid out by William III. **1883** Miss Braddon *My Lord's Wife* I, Manfield is were the cares of the hothouses and ferneries and wildernesses.

**2.** *transf.* or *fig.* A waste or desolate region of any kind, e. g. of open sea, of air.

1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* III. i. 94. I stand as one vpon a Rocke, Inuiron'd with a wildernesse of Sea. 1629 *Drayton Cond.* (1637) B 2. The difference betwen a Wilderneese of waues and a goodly green Meadow. 1665 Waller *Instr. Painter* 78 But who can always on the Billows ly? The watry Wilderness yields no supply. 1821 Byron *Cain* II. i. This blue wilderness of interminable Air. 1865 Parkman *Huguenots* iii. (1875) 30 They...saw the long, low line where the wilderness of waves met the wilderness of woods.

**3.** *fig.* Something figured as a region of a wild or desolate character, or in which one wanders or loses one's way; in religious use applied to the present world or life as contrasted with heaven or the future life (cf. 6 b).

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxlvii. 4 He forsakis ve noght in his wildirnes. *c* 1390 Chaucer *Troylus* v. Here is non home, here nys but wyldernesse. *c* 1480 Henryson *Trial of Fox* 317 The Meir is Men of gude conditioun, As Pilgrymes walkand in this wyldernes. 1640 Boorde *Introduct.* iii, But sure his mind Is in a wildernesse: For there he sayes Are Geese that have two heads a peece. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 32 Thus discursive Argumentation and Rational probabilities mislead men in the Wilderness of Enquiry. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 2 As I walk'd through the wilderness of this world. *a* 1708 T. Ward *Eng. Refin.* (1751) 46 All they can do's to bid you quench your Oil (like wise) your Eyes are sore, And in that Wilderness of Letter Hunt for your Faiths. 1813 Byron *Giaour* 939 The vacant bosom's wilderness. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* iv, The cosy chairs, the globes, and best of all, the wilderness of books, in which she could wander where she liked.

**b.** Rhetorically applied to a place (e.g. a building or town) which one finds 'desolate', or in which one is lonely or 'lost'.

1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, Passing this wild-mess of an hotel with stores about its base. 1848 — *Dombey* xxiii, So Florence lived in her wilderness of a home. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xi, It Heatherlie Mobile was alone in London...And the packed wilderness was very full of danger.

**4.** A mingled, confused, or vast assemblage or collection *of* persons or things. (Usually coloured by other senses; in reference to a growth of plants, nearly coinciding with 2 b; in reference to buildings, etc., often approaching 3 b.)

1588 Shake. *Tit. A.* III. i. 53 Not thou not perceiue That Rome is but a wilderne of Tigers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. i. 128, I would not haue giuen it for a wilderneese of Monkies. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 418 Hee was called Madera, of the wildernesses of Trees there growing. *a* 1626 Bradf. & Fl. *Bonduca* v. i, The Land thou hast left a wilderness of wretches. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 294 Through Groves of Myrrhe, And flouring Odours, Cassia, Nard, and Balme; A Wilderness of sweets. 1678 R. Howard *Man of Newmarket* I. i. 1 This Metropolitan Wilderness of Houses, call'd London. 1773 Shenstone *Deserted V.* ii, A wilderness of faults and follies. 1824 Byron *Juan* XVI. iii, This epic will contain A wilderness of the most rare conceits. 1857 Dr. Anne *Dorrit* i. 10, The wilderness of masts on the river, and the wilderness of steeples on the shore.

**†5.** Wildness, uncultivated condition. *Obs.*

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xiv. 390 The tenementis...which the clergie...holden in lordship...falling into more nought and into wildirnes, than if tho same tenementis...weren in the hondis of grete lordis. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 245 These paths and Bowers doubt not but our joynt hands Will keep from Wilderness with ease.

**†b.** *fig.* Wildness of character, licentiousness. *Obs. nonce-wds.*

1603 Shake. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 149 For such a warped slip of wilderneese Nere lisu'd from his blood.

**6.** *attrib.* **a.** *lit.* (in port. 1670 in sense 1 *c*).

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xvii. (1912) 112 Being one of that little wilderneese-company. 1670 Meager *English Gardener* Title 31, The ordering of the Nurseries of Pleasure, with variety of Knots, and Wilderness-work. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 297, 14 acres of wilderness land converted into grass. *c* 1875 E. Thring in Skrine *Mem.* 308 The poor beggars find tightish work with all that wilderness life before them.

**b.** *fig.*; *esp.* in former religious use, Belonging to the present world or life (cf. 3).

1582 Baxter *Saints' Rest* II. ix. § 1 (ed. 2) 290 If they had not left their Wilderness-condition, God should not have exercised his Wilderness-providences and mercies. 1675 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 473 A wilderness-condition is a condition of straits, wants, deep distresses, and many deadly dangers. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 208 Tainted both with Egypts pollutry, and wilderness-sins. 1719 J. T. Philips tr. *Thirty Years Conflict.* 79 The Progress that this Wilderness-World, towards a better Life. 1858 Mackintosh *Odes Fr. Hist.* 16 Her soul On eddies of wild water cast, In wilderness division.

**Wild-fire, wildfire** (wai·ldfāiə). [Cf. G. *wildfeuer* lightning, will o' the wisp, erysipelas, etc.]

**†1.** Furious or destructive fire; a conflagration (in early quots. app. one caused by lightning; cf. 2 d). *Obs.* (as a specific use).

*a* 1220 *O. K. Chron.* (Laud MS.)an. 1039 On þisum geare atywde þæt wildefyr, de man mann nrror nan swyle ne wemunde. *c* 1386 *Chronicon Horvise* an. 1097 in *Eulogium Hist.* (Rolls) III. 304 Mostalitas in Anglia et ignis aereus, quæ dicitur wildfire, hlada combussit in pago Dereliæ. *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 707 He lode weryede the werme by wyghtnesse of strenghte, Ne were it fore the wylde fyre that he hyune wyth defendes. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1870 How wild fyre was stekin sall be sene. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* III. B b, Wilde fyre and brymstone shall lyght vpon them all. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* iv. i. C 4 b, You to quench a wild fire, Cast oyle upon it.

**2.** In various specific uses (*wild* often implying 'natural, not artificially produced', or 'out of doors, not domestic': cf. Wild *a.* 1–4). **+a.** The flames of spirituous liquor burning on some dishes, as plum-pudding, when served up. *Obs. rare*—1.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 572 Swiche manere bake metes and dish metes brennynge of wilde fir.

**†b.** A fire kindled out of doors for warmth. *Obs. rare*—1.

*a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 855 Than wist Percyvelle by that, It servede hym of somwhatt The wylde fyre that he gatt.

**c.** Will-o'-the-wisp, *ignis fatuus*; also *fig.*

Also dialectally applied to other phosphorescent appearances: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1663 G. Wharton *Cal. Cæsar.* A 3 b, [They] wonder by what Wild fires they were led To feed on Thistles 'stead of wholsome Bread. 1683 [see 2 e]. 1727 P. Walker *Life R. Cameron* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 243 Some Willies with the Wisps, or Spunkies of Wild-fire, seen mostly in boggish myrish Ground. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xxii, As springs the wild-fire from the moss. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 431 Thou yourself Be dazzled by the wildfire Love to slaughter That swallow common sense. 1873 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 405 He taught...that intellectual culture without moral practice is a wildfire, and that conscience is the voice of God. 1881 J. Payn *Talk of Town* viii, Led by wildfire of this sort to the brink of disappointment.

**d.** Lightning; *esp.* sheet lightning without audible rumbling, as distinguished from thunder-lightning.

1795 Rennie *Verse Deser. Woods Perambuntig* v, Or was it the will-o'-the-wisp their boughs? 1888 Tait *Nature Brit.* XXIII. 330 † What is called 'summer lightning' or 'wild-fire' is sometimes a rather puzzling phenomenon.

**e.** = Volcanic ice (*obs.*); fire-damp in coal-mines.

1683 G. Sinclair *Nat. Philos., Mist. Invis. Spirits* 69 some Coals,...there is a certain Fire,...and I judge, that from its resemblance to *Ignis fatuus*, which the Vulgar termeth Wild-fire, is of the same nature. 1692 Ray *Disc.* i. iii. (1693) 12 If such Hills...may be, and have been elevated by subterraneous Wild-fire, Flatus or Earthquakes. 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coalmining, Wild-fire*, an old term used by colliers for *fire-damp*.

**3.** A composition of highly inflammable substances, readily ignited and very difficult to extinguish, used in warfare, etc.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8485 Hii assailede be toun mid fyr and mid wilde fyr, and mid be wip gadi & strau. 1326 *Edw. de L.* 5229 With trepeiettes they slungen alsoo,...And hewe wylde-fyr in trumpes of gynne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 378 Ne make ymages of no bisshop ne lord...to wilde fyr The moore it bremneth the moore it hath desir. 1471 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 278 At Londone brige anodyr sawte they made agayns, With wylde fyre, wodde & wepon gode. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. vi. 62 Whose seiks an audit bere Proptious, mays his tribute, game or fish, Wild-fowl or ven'son. 1817 Scott *Harolde.* xvi, As the scared wild-fowl scream and fly.

**b.** Humorously misapplied in the first quot. to a wild beast; hence *allusively*; also *fig.* of persons.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. i. 33 There is not a more fearful wild-foule then your Lyon liuing. 1820 B. Jonson *Alch.* v. iii, What's your excuse, Tribulation? you many-nail'd sorts of wilde-fowle? 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 38 † One has to drag in fundamental principles of art and other fearful wildfowl.

**c.** *attrib.*

1825 Hood *To Mrs. Fry* 8, To tame the wild-fowl-ways of Jenny Diver! 1870 N. F. Hele *Aldebaran* ii. 8 Very few wild-fowl shooters frequent this part of the river. 1886 E. E. Prior *Lords of Ice* xxiii. (ed. 2) 360 Wild fowl guns.

Hence **wild-fow·ler**, a sportsman who shoots or catches wild-fowl; **wild-fo·wling**, the pursuit or capture of wild-fowl.

1850 Forrard (*title*) The Wild-Fowler: a Treatise on Ancient and Modern Wild-Fowling. 1872 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* xv. 193 In no other branch of wild-fowling is a breech-loader of more advantage than in teal-shooting.

**Wild goose.** (Also with hyphen.) Forms: see Wild *a.* and Goose *sb.*; also **wilde-goos.** [Cf. (M)HG. *wildgans*, Sw. *vildgås*, Da. *vildgaas*.]

1. Any wild bird of the goose kind; an undomesticated goose; in Britain usually the greylag (*Anser fervis* or *cinereus*), in N. America the Canada goose (*Bernicla canadensis*).

*c* 1050 *Ps.* in Wr.-Wülcker 1691 *Cante*, wilde gos. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesworth* in Wright *Voc.* 169 Un tune owe wosele [*olim* a wilde goos]. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 131 Whan wilde gees lithe in the ayer up fleen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. *Prol.* 67 Ane wyld tydand wyngit wane out owre wosele [*olim* a wilde goos]. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 131 Whan wilde gees lithe in the ayer up fleen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. *Prol.* 67 Ane wyld tydand wyngit wane out owre wosele [*olim* a wilde goos]. Commonly called Gauntes. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV* v. i. 79 They flocke together in consent, like so many Wilde-Geese. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 168 In her foot, Why then my taking like a wild-goose flies Unclaim'd of any man. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 421 We have the wild goose flying over our heads, in the fens of Lincolnshire, in vast flocks. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* iii. 31 Right, to the southland heading, Screams the grey wild-goose.

**2.** *fig.* a. Used of or in reference to a flighty or foolish person: cf. Goose *sb.* 1 f. b. *Eng. Hist.* (*pl.*) A nickname for the Irish Jacobites who went over to the Continent on the abdication of James II and later.

1692 See Wild-goose chase 2. 1843 M. J. Barry in *Spirit of the Nation* (Dublin 1845) 230 The wild geese—the wild geese, 'tis long since they flew, O'er the bullowy ocean's bright bosom of blue. 1845 — *Irish Peas.* The proud ones that the Irish Brigade were entered on the ship's books as 'wild geese'. 1845 M. O'Connor *Melit. Hist. Irish Nation* 367 *note*, Clare, it may be added, was a great fan in raising country for the Brigade. On its return home the French used to land smuggled claret, brandy, &c.: and take away wool, and, what was more precious, 'Wild Geese,' for such was the name usually given to the recruits for 'The bold Brigade.' 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 36 Thou but art a wild-goose to question it. 1881 Froude *Eng. in Ire.* II. iii. I. 245 In 1715 Tens of thousands of young Irishmen were in the brent. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* (1536) B j, That a wyld fyre bren the, Celestena. *c* 1562 Rowley, etc. *Birth of Merlin* iii. vi, Wilde-fire and brimstone set thee! *c* 1705 Pope *Jan. 9 May* 641 So may some wildfire on your bodies fall.

**c.** Phr. *Like wildfire*: with immense rapidity and effect; very swiftly and forcibly: usually with *run*, *spread*, etc.; hence occas. *gen.* forcibly, vigorously. (The commonest current use.)

1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 1503 Whose words like wild fire burnt the shining glorie Of rich-built Ilion.] 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 58 We set fire to it lac. sedgy grass], which runs like Wild-fire. 1702 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xxx, Though I was at that time rich in fame—for my book ran like wild-fire—yet I was very short in money. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* I. xvi, The report...spread like wild-fire through the town. 1857 Reade *Course of True Love, Cloister & Hearth* I. Nhe would...go...and flirt like wild-fire for a fortnight. 1886 *19th Cent.* Dec. 883 With such thoughts running like wild-fire through her mind.

**d.** *attrib.*: in sense 3, as *wildfire arrow*, *ball*, *plot*; *fig.* (cf. 5), as *wildfire blood*, *zeal*; **wildfire raab**, a disease of infants, a form of strophulus with a wandering eruption (cf. 4).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), '*Wild-fire Arrow*, such as are trimmed with Wild-fire. 1814 Gooch *Lucan* VI. 222 Showers of 'wildfire balls. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xviii, The 'wildfire blood of Redgauntlet. 1841 (*title*) A Wild-fire Plot found out in Ireland, shewing how the Rebels would have consumed the City of London by Wild-fire. 1882–7 Gould *Study Med.* (1889) V. 566 Children...liable to the *strophulus volatilus*, or 'wild-fire rash. 1901 Ely, M. Barlow *Defence* Exp. Ded., A 'wild-fire scale.

**Wild-fowl.** (Also in one word, or as two.) Forms: see Wild *a.* and Fowl; also 6 **wyelfoyle.** [Cf. MLG., G. *wildvogel*, ON. *villifygli* (Sw. *vildfågel*, early Da. *vildfugl*).] A wild bird, or (usually) wild birds collectively; chiefly applied to those caught for food, game birds (now esp. of the duck and goose kinds).

*a* 1000 *Bl Hanna Hyrdum* 85 (Gr.) Sum sceal wildne fugel wlonne ateniañ, hæfdon on hunda. 1377 *Langl. P. Pl.* B. x. 363 Delyte in wyn and wylde foule. *a* 1417 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 223 Pultre wyldefoule and other vyaill. 1430 *Mallon. Exam.* in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) I. 80 Johannes Yutte est communis forestallator voluerim vocat. Wyldefoule. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxix. 19 Venesoun, wyld fowll, wyne and spyce. *a* 1513 *Durham Rental Bk.* (Surtees) 215 Et de magistro de Fayrne 6 dd. wyelfoyle et 4 puffyngs. 1602 Shake. *Troil. N.* IV. ii. 53 What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning Wild-fowl? 1764 Cowper *Task* II. 612 Whose seeks an audit here Propitious, pays his tribute, game or fish, Wild-fowl or ven'son. 1817 Scott *Harolde.* xvi, As the scared wild-fowl scream and fly.

**b.** Humorously misapplied in the first quot. to a wild beast; hence *allusively*; also *fig.* of persons.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. i. 33 There is not a more fearful wild-foule then your Lyon liuing. 1820 B. Jonson *Alch.* v. iii, What's your excuse, Tribulation? you many-nail'd sorts of wilde-fowle? 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 38 † One has to drag in fundamental principles of art and other fearful wildfowl.

**c.** *attrib.*

1825 Hood *To Mrs. Fry* 8, To tame the wild-fowl-ways of Jenny Diver! 1870 N. F. Hele *Aldebaran* ii. 8 Very few wild-fowl shooters frequent this part of the river. 1886 E. E. Prior *Lords of Ice* xxiii. (ed. 2) 360 Wild fowl guns.

Hence **wild-fow·ler**, a sportsman who shoots or catches wild-fowl; **wild-fo·wling**, the pursuit or capture of wild-fowl.

1850 Forrard (*title*) The Wild-Fowler: a Treatise on Ancient and Modern Wild-Fowling. 1872 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* xv. 193 In no other branch of wild-fowling is a breech-loader of more advantage than in teal-shooting.

**Wild goose.** (Also with hyphen.) Forms: see Wild *a.* and Goose *sb.*; also **wilde-goos.** [Cf. (M)HG. *wildgans*, Sw. *vildgås*, Da. *vildgaas*.]

1. Any wild bird of the goose kind; an undomesticated goose; in Britain usually the greylag (*Anser fervis* or *cinereus*), in N. America the Canada goose (*Bernicla canadensis*).

*c* 1050 *Ps.* in Wr.-Wülcker 1691 *Cante*, wilde gos. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesworth* in Wright *Voc.* 169 Un tune owe wosele [*olim* a wilde goos]. *c* 1400 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 131 Whan wilde gees lithe in the ayer up fleen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. *Prol.* 67 Ane wyld tydand wyngit wane out owre wosele [*olim* a wilde goos]. Commonly called Gauntes. 1597 Shake. *2 Hen. IV* v. i. 79 They flocke together in consent, like so many Wilde-Geese. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 168 In her foot, Why then my taking like a wild-goose flies Unclaim'd of any man. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 421 We have the wild goose flying over our heads, in the fens of Lincolnshire, in vast flocks. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* iii. 31 Right, to the southland heading, Screams the grey wild-goose.

**2.** *fig.* a. Used of or in reference to a flighty or foolish person: cf. Goose *sb.* 1 f. b. *Eng. Hist.* (*pl.*) A nickname for the Irish Jacobites who went over to the Continent on the abdication of James II and later.

1692 See Wild-goose chase 2. 1843 M. J. Barry in *Spirit of the Nation* (Dublin 1845) 230 The wild geese—the wild geese, 'tis long since they flew, O'er the bullowy ocean's bright bosom of blue. 1845 — *Irish Peas.* The proud ones that the Irish Brigade were entered on the ship's books as 'wild geese'. 1845 M. O'Connor *Melit. Hist. Irish Nation* 367 *note*, Clare, it may be added, was a great fan in raising country for the Brigade. On its return home the French used to land smuggled claret, brandy, &c.: and take away wool, and, what was more precious, 'Wild Geese,' for such was the name usually given to the recruits for 'The bold Brigade.' 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 36 Thou but art a wild-goose to question it. 1881 Froude *Eng. in Ire.* II. iii. I. 245 In 1715 Tens of thousands of young Irishmen were in the

French service, and thousands more were continually recruited under the name of Wild Geese. 1902 in Emily Lawless *With the Wild Geese* Pref. p. viii, The 'Wild Geese' was the name given..to the exiles who, like the wild birds.. migrated to the Continent before and after the Battle of Aughrim, and the Surrender of Limerick in 1691.

3. *attrib.* a. [after WILD GOOSE CHASE 2, as apprehended in later use.] Wild, fantastic, very foolish or risky.

1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* II. xi, To fit him out upon some wild-goose expedition to the coast of Africa. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphthora* 43 She turns it some in Deists-hire's Art, And promis'd they would act his wildgoose part. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daw* III. vi, 'All mad, wild-goose nonsense,' said MacStopay. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xv, Hugh..have gone away upon some wild goose errand, seeking his fortune.

b. **Wild-goose plum, rye**, names for N. American varieties of those plants raised from seeds found in the crops of wild geese; **wild-goose race** = NEST.

1909 *Month* Dec. 599 A well-known American plum is called the 'wild-goose' plum, because a plum-stone from which the whole race has been raised was found in the stomach of such a bird. 1933 WILLIAMS *Avena* (1880) 8 As weary of this 'wild-goose race That led askance, I knew not where. 1884 *Harper's Twenty-third.* 145 As one running the wild goose race, he wished to..encourage in the former argument. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 15 Aug., The introduction of 'wild goose rye into Dakota.

**Wild goose chase.**

†1. A kind of horse-race or sport in which the second or any succeeding horse had to follow accurately the course of the leader (at a definite interval), like a flight of wild geese. *Obs.*

[1592: see 2.] 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* Wks. (Grosart) I. 6 2 Extreme a horse, according to his pace, But loose me wagers on a wilde Goose chase. 1604 H. SPELMAN in *Travellan Papers* (Camden) 60 The King hath beene twelve at Royston, at a wilgoose chase. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. iv. 342 Horse-races, wild-goose chases, which are the disports of greater men. 1688 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat., Hunting-Nature* vii. (1697) 65.

2. *fig.* An erratic course taken or *led* by one person (or thing) and followed (or that may be followed) by another (or taken by a person in following his own inclinations or impulses); in later use (the origin being forgotten) apprehended as 'a pursuit of something as unlikely to be caught as the wild goose' (J.); a foolish, fruitless, or hopeless quest.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 75 Nay, if our wits run the Wild-Goose chase, I am done. For thou hast more of the Wild Goose in one of thy wits, then I am sure I haue in my whole five. 1623-4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* I. v, I have had a fine fegary, The rarest wildgoose chase! 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems, An Addresse* 48 We pursue A Wild-goose-chase, to what none ever knew. 1656 R. FLETCHER tr. *Arrowsmith* 202 No hint of truth or fact? no sparks of grace? No late sprung light? to dance the wild-goose chase? 1660 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Apr. 257 If you cannot reason him to what he may but for his good, let him goe the wild goose-chase. 1671 *Eng. Educ. Gentlemen.* 17 If we should dance that wild-Goose-chase usually led, it would require longer time. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 30 Nov., Don't let me think that you return, for I shall set out upon every wild-goose chase, sticking to nothing. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* xii, His journey to London on such slender encouragement was a wild-goose chase! 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *All Ray* vii, 'I see you have found nothing,' exclaimed Lady Gathin..' It was a wild goose chase,' he replied with a weary look..

†**Wildgrave.** *Obs.* [ad. G. *wildgraf* ( MHG. *wiltgrâve*) : see WILD *a.* and GRAVE *sb.*²] In Germany, formerly the chief magistrate of an uncultivated or forest region; *spec.* the title of a hereditary race of rulers in parts of the Rhineland (cf. RHINEGRAVE, WALDGRAVE). So **Wildgravess** (tr. G. *wildgräfin*).

1762 tr. *Büsching's Syst. Geog.* V. 504 Juliana...Wildgravess and Rhinegravess of Grumbach. 1798 SCOTT *Wild Huntsman* i, The Wildgrave winds his bugle horn. 1798 tr. *Bürger's Wild Huntsm.* 2 Shrill sounds the haughty Wildgrave's horn.

†**Wildhede.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WILD *a.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Wildness of character or conduct.

1481-2 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xci. 52 That for myne houres wlowdie I by no weye Any thinge myngle or tow he of my wildhede.

**Wilding** (wai·ldiŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms. 6 **wyldyng**, **-yngе**, **-ing(e**, **wildinge**, 7 **wildeu**, 6– **wilding**. [f. WILD *a.* + -ING³.] **A.** *sb.*

The meaning in the following quot. has not been ascertained :—

1296 *Acc. Exch. A. R.* 350 m. 1 (P.R.O.) In iij. petris de Burre emptis et quatuor petris de Wyldyng emptis de vxore Andree Skaket.

1. A wild apple or apple-tree; a crab-apple or crab-tree.

1545 *Grete Herbal* cclxxviii (1529) Q ij, De malanis pomis. Wood crabbes, or wyldyngес. 1552 PALSGR. 259/1 Wyldyng a sower apple, *pomme de bays*. 1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 13. 342 The wilding maketh a fairer shew then many a good apple, but by the taste. 1691 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 16, I never saw..any Apples or Pears thrive in an Hedge, unless Crab, or a Wilden, or some Sweeting of little worth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Geor.* III. 309 Ten ruddy Wildings in the Wood I found. 1778 BOLTON in *A Young Tour Irel.* (1780) II. 209 Do not prese wildings till Candlemas. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr. in Gard. Assist.* p. xi, Apples valued principally for Cyder. Royal wilding. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 535 Wildings or seedling apple stocks.

2. *gen.* A wild plant, flower, or fruit.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 73 b, The Filbert will onely be graffed in the Wilding. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. (1612) 95 Wildings, or the Season-fruit he did in scrip bestow. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 17 Oft from the forrest wildings he did bring. a 1700 SEDLEY *4th Bk. Virg. Georg.* Wks. 1778 I. 33 Among the wildings..they [i.e. bees] feed. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 37 The wildings of the forest. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. ix. Nor wilding green, nor woodland flower, Arose within its baleful bower. 1826 CAMPBELL *Field Flowers* 1, Ye field flowers I..wildings of Nature, that spring you. 1842 *Gallagher's Mem.* 14 in *Life, Coef. Kennels, Irish.* III. The principle is to form the hedge of a double row of wildings. 1884 BROWNING *Pertidala, Mikrokosmos* 74 The wilding..Ruffled outside at pleasure of the blast. 1892 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Paradise* xxvii. 178 Well blossoms the wild in men, but the continual rain converts the true plums into wildings.

3. A wild animal. *rare.*

1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Sept. 409 3 Not a specimen of these wildings [sc. deer, turkey, and otter] can be seen now.

4. *fig.* (applied to a person or thing).

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 165 These are Sathans wildings, whom he hath blinded, and so rideth them at his pleasure. 1866 LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* xiv, He made professional acquaintance with two or three wildings of gentle birth. 1882 ATTERSON *Virg. Overtyne* 6 The air of the fireside withers out all the fine wildings of the husband's heart. 1906 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 822 He was swayed by the wildings of his imagination and his affections. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit* I. iii. 17 You are not a heathen wilding, but a child of Christ.

**B.** *attrib.* or *adj.*

1. Applied to a crab-apple or crab-tree : cf. A. 1.

1538 ELYOT, *Arbutus*, a wyldyng tree. 1552 HULOET, Wildinge apple, or crabbe, *arbutum*. 1575 A. F. *Frag. Rucot.* in *Q.* From a wylding tree, Ten Apples ripe I sent. 1632 HEYWOOD *Iron Age* II. Wks. 1874 III. 311 Like a wilding crab, good neither for drink nor sauce. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Christ. Beliv.* 231 Crab-tree, or Wilden-tree. 1665 LOVELL in *Archæologia* XL. 1.

2. a. Of a plant (or its flower or fruit) : Growing wild : = WILD *a.* 2. Chiefly *poet.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 269 Wilding Blooms. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xxiii, Wilding rose. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* 1. 227 Grafted on the crab and wilding pear. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 84 Wilding fruit and shines. 1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* 56 Unlifted was the clinking latch, Only the wilding bramble goes Around it. 1842 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* II. 228 A wildish heath, which was skirted by a thick wood. 1863 WORDSW. *Stepping Westward* 2 'Twould be a wildish destination. 1870 EMERSON *Society & Solitude* (1904) 111 Into a wilding land, and far from home, Were in this place the guests of Chance. 1898 CARLYLE *Freder. Gt.* VIII. v. (1872) III. 309 Prince answers as wildish young fellows will, quizzing my grave self. 1903 R. BRIDGES *Northern Winter* *under Arnd* vii. She could frighten a wildish crow.

**Wilding** (wai·ldiŋ), [f. WILD *a.* + -LING¹ 1. Cf. Du. *wildeling*, G. *wildling*.]

1. A wild plant or flower : = WILDING A. 2.

1840 D. D. *Whately Treasury Wisdom* 1. 349 The turmeric, *henna*, ..considered too valuable..to remain a wilding. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* iii. (ed. 4) 153 His dried garden of wildings. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 3/4 Notes on the growing of woodland and hedgerow 'wildings' in a garden.

2. A wild creature or animal : = WILDING A. 3. 1784 *St. James's Cas.* 4 Apr. 0/1, I am one of her [sc. Princess Royal's] wildlings. 1847 MRS. GORE *Lady Lee* (1852) I. 209 I. H. CRAWFORD *From Fox's Earth* i. 1 The wilding of the breezy heights is quite as interesting as the wilding of the cool water.

**Wildly** (wai·ldli), *adv.* [f. WILD *a.* + -LY².] In a wild manner, in various senses.

†1. Without order, irregularly ; in disorder or confusion ; at random, 'anyhow'; aimlessly, heedlessly. *Obs.* exc. as implied in other senses.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 875 Were she neuer so glad, Hyr lokynge was nat foly sprad Ne wildely, though that she hadde, ..*Pastou Lett.* I. 159 Now the cuntre of N. and S. [= Norfolk and Suffolk] stonde right wildely, without a mene may be that justice be hadde. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 46 The knyghte lyke a lounyge horsebeter wouldde not sende hys ryster wyldelye without a dowar assured. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 128 How wildely then walkes my Estate in France? 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 550 As th'vnthought-on accident is guiltie To what we wildely do, so we professe Our selues to be the slaues of chance. a 1633 G. HERBERT *Country Parson* xxii. (1652) 90 The Questions must be propounded soberly and wildely, and then the Answerer will discover what he is. 1658 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 193 There is more copiousness in things wildely scattered, than in things well and orderly digested. [1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 80 The wildly-devious morning-walk. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 19 Wildly loose their reel locks fly. 1820 CAROLINE A. SOUTHEY *Ellen Fitzarthur* 80 Farey's wildly-roving eye. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, A hundred thousand shapes and substances of incompleteness, wildly mingled out of their places.]

2. Without restraint (in various shades of meaning). a. Beyond limits of reason ; extravagantly, fantastically ; distractedly, as if out of one's wits.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiii. 72 A greet licence han writers and spekers..forto write and speke more wildeli than thei schulden be suffrid forto write and speke. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1150 As the poore frighted Deare that stands at gaze, Wildly determining which way to flie. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. iii. 94 Sweating, and blowing, and looking wildely. 1625 M. CLIFFORD *Hmn. Reason* 68 This opinion is so wildly uncharitable, that it strikes out ten thousand Millions out of the book of Life, for each single Name that it leaves in it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 22 Damon .. wildly staring upwards, thus inveigh'd Against the conscious Gods. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, Some of them, upon hearing me talk so wildly, thought I was mad. 1820 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xii, Enthusiasm frequently..injures those whom it wildly attempts to serve. 1826 RUSKIN *Ch. Mar.* (1. vii, Yet must I think less wildly :—have thought Too long and darkly, till my brain became..A whirling gulf of phantasy and flame. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. II. 665 How many times should we have wildly rushed with fire and sword into extreme! 1913 *Daily Graphic* 26 Mar. 9/1 'The Great Adventure'..is wildly extravagant and yet it is very simple and human.

b. Without moral restraint ; dissolutely, licentiously ; in freedom from control, at one's own will.

1581 tr. *Calvin's Four Serm.* iii. I vij, Thei might haue liued in other places wildly & wantonly. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* V. i. 229 That I should..speake of something wildly By vs perform'd before. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Iwav. Uncert. Journey* 8 Some few do travell in the Vncertain Diuine, some wantonly, some wildly, some wisely. 1799 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* II, That M. Valancourt had comported himself wildly at Paris, and had spent a great deal of money.

c. With unrestrained or violent movement, feeling, or utterance ; vehemently ; excitedly ; 'frantically', 'like mad'.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 874 Some [bushes] twin'd about her thigh to make her stay, She wildly breaketh from their strict imbrace. 1599 SIR JOHN DAVIES *Immort. Soule* xxxiii, Those serpentinoall inundations, haue..wildly deluviated over all the South. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemæan Ode Pindar* iii, Some wildly flie, some gently creep into corners crept. 1754 GRAY *Pleasures* 29 Their raptures now that wildly flow. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 517 The wretch, who once sang wildly, dance till end and night, ..Is sober, meek, benevolent. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxvii, A shout..terminating in a cadence so wildly prolonged, that..the deer started from their glens. 1859 MASSON *Life Milton* III. 113 The villagers danced wildly to the music. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 The flakes sped wildly in their oblique course. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* xix, The whole..herd [of elephants] wildly trumpeted their alarm.

3. a. Without cultivation, naturally, like a wild plant. *rare.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 180 Valour That wildely growes in them, but yeelds a crop As if it had been sow'd. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii. 83 That which grows wildly of it self is worth nothing.

b. Without the refinement or orderliness of culture or training ; rudely, roughly, savagely. Also (now *rep.*) in good sense : In a free, natural, or unconventional style ; with the romantic aspect of uncultivated country.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 88 When he demean'd himselfe, rough, rude, and wildly. 1599 *Hen. V*, V. ii. 43 Her Heiges..Like Pleasures wild inuiron one with other, Put forth disorder'd Twigs. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1025 The toil-strung youth, By the quick sense of music taught alone, Leads the wild dance, wildly associate in the lively throng. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne, Invitation* 3 The mountain ground, Wildly majestic. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 483 The wildly wooded banks of the Ardoch. 1814 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii. 44 Here the view becomes wildly romantic.

**Wild man.** (Also formerly with hyphen, or as one word.) [Cf. Du. *wilde mann* cannibal, G. *wildemann*, *wildmann*, *wilder mann*, ON. *villumaðr*.]

1. A man who is wild, in various senses of the adj. a. A man of savage, fierce, uncultured, or unruly nature or character (cf. WILD *a.* 6, 7).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 43 Wyldе Men ne mon he nouȝt nimen, nat techeliese weren of pouȝte. 13.. *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) App. H. 136 A wuslde men [*read* man] fol bolde Pe king sende to be court to helpe wip his enemys. 1393 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathew*) 900 Pare-for he ȝe of stedfast wil, Porh wyld men wil ȝow do il. 1513 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, No. 4101. II. (P.R.O.) A Scot and a writer of Irelaunde and therein a wilde man Ryding on a horse. 1650 [see WILD *a.* 12]. a 1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xvi. (1640) 161 A wild man lives as he likes himselfe.

b. (WILD *a.* 5.) A man of an uncivilized race or tribe ; a savage, or one reverted to a savage state.

13.. *Cursor M.* 3081 (Göll.) Ishmael wonid par as a wild man, In but desert pat hight pharan. 1530 in *Ancestor* (1902) Oct. 136 Wilton bergh to his ryght a swored man, a wyld man in his kynde vere. 1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's Newfound World* xxiv. 31 b, We were well received of the Indians or wilde men of the Country. 1575 in Heydon *Def. Bibliogr.* (1810) I. 542 To make wyse in the streetes, there are cerayne men appareilled lyke devells, and wylde mean, with skyphs and certayne beadells. 1611 W. ADAMS *Lett.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 37 Eight of our men .. ranne from vs with the pinneese, and (as we suppose) were eaten of the wild men. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 47/1 Peter the wild man, who was taken in the Hartz Forest in Hanover. 1843 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 2 The wild man of North America is exceedingly unlike the wild man of every other country.

c. *pl.* The extremists of a political party, a profession, etc.

1923 *Weekly Dispatch* 13 May 2 The wild men pin their faith to the Capital Levy as a vote-catcher. 1923 *Daily Mail* 25 July 14 All the 'wild men' of European music,

such as Schönberg, Bartok, Prokoviev, Stravinsky, Alois Haba…, Milhaud, and Poulenc.

**2.** (*Wild a.* 1.) A name for the orang-outang; also *wild man of the woods* (see Wood *sb.*).

[1769 E. Bancroft *Guinea* 131 These animals [*sc.* Orang-Outang] in all the different languages of the natives, are called by names signifying a Wild Man.] 1791 Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* VIII. 97 A: there is a greater similarity between this animal and man than between those creatures which resemble him most, as the Barbary ape [etc.], the Indians are to be accused for associating him with the human species, under the denomination of *orang-outang*, or *wild man*. 1881 J. Hatton *New Ceylon* iii. 72 The Bonean 'wild man' is quite harmless.

**Wildness** (wai·ldnés). Forms: see Wild *a.* [f. Wild *a.* + -ness. Cf. MHG. *wiltnisse*, G. *wildnis*.] The quality or condition of being wild, in various senses.

**1. a.** Undomesticated state (of an animal); the untamed disposition characteristic of such state; fierceness, savageness; feloicy; also, shyness.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldenesse, *indomitas, ferocitas*. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 40 Myne eyen..Dyd fyrst attame and bringe in wyldenesse Of the wylde stedes. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 980 And let milde women to him lose their mildeness, Wilder to him then Tygers in their wildnesse. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 31 Lyke wylde hartes,..through a certane wyldnes of nature, fle the..syght of man. 1611 [see Beauty 8]. 1779 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 25 In necessities, and the privation of light, make him lose all idea of liberty, and bring down his natural wildness. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vii. 212 The greater wildness of all our large birds than of our small birds.

**b.** Uncultivated state (of a plant).

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 55 Our Vineyards, Fallowes, Meades, and Hedges, Defective in their natures, grow to wildenesse. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* ii. 73 These [trees]..change their salvage Mind: Their Wildness lose. 1892 Kath. Tynan in *Spectator* 3 Sept. 309/1 The roses will deteriorate year after year, returning gradually to wildness.

**2.** Uncultivated state (of a place or region); the character or aspect of such a place or its scenery. Also *concr.* a wild place, a wilderness (now *rare* or *obs.*).

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Former Age* 14 Thyse tyrannys put hem gladly nat in pres No place, wyldnesse ne no bushes for to wynne. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* clxxxv. (1516) 0 iiv b/2 Nat ferre from warwyke in a wyldenesse [*later edd.* wylderness]. 1613 W. Lawson *Country Housewife's Garden* (1618) 3 The wildnesse of the earth and weeds..is killed by frosts and drought. 1625 Bacon *Es., Gardens* (Arb.) 562 The Heath, I wish, to be framed, much as may be, to a Naturall wildnesse. 1709 Prior *Henry & Emma* 490 The Wildness of the Wood. 1801 Coxe *Tour in Monmouthshire* I. 69 The scenery..is a pleasing mixture of wildness and cultivation. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xvii. All the wildness of Salvator here, and there the fairy scenes of Claude. 1832 K. R. D. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 78 The gloomy fastnesses and wildnesses of nature.

**3.** Uncivilized or uncultured state or character (of persons); savagery, barbarity; †rudeness, roughness of manners (*obs.*).

1630 N. N. tr. *De Bosg's Comm. Woman* 1. 62 The wildnesse of the one, proceedes more then the faire perswasion of the other. 1680 Otway *Orphan* i. iv, I'd rather..grow wrinckled and deform'd As wildness and most rude neglect could make me. 1805 Turton *Hist. Turkey* II. 174 The wildness of the tribes by which it was inhabited. 1871 Rose *Ad Patrem* iv. 63 There is a native wildness in every man.

**4.** Unrestrained condition or quality; want of, resistance to, or freedom from restraint or control (with various shades of meaning). **a.** Disposition to take one's own way; unruliness, insubordination; disorderly or riotous conduct; dissolute character, looseness of morals, licentiousness, wantonness; excessive liveliness or frolicsomeness.

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4893 The tyme of youpth forto pave Withoute eny deth or wo..Is ful of wyldenesse. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1570) 1. 69 Folkes fonte lede Into disporte and wyldenesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldhe-se, or wantonhede, *insolencia, diasolucio*. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* ii. (Percy Soc.) 28 Yf ye'a Somtyme ryot dothe good. We haue well adnumbred forthe our payment with a lytell wyldenesse. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 53 Tyrannye, insolencie and wildnes into grauitie and soberne, 1601 Shaks. *Tw. N.* iii. 4. 189 He is giuen To sports, to wildenesse, and much company. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* iii. iii, Impute his wildnesse, yet, vnto his youth. 1892 Dryden *M. Kercharnell's Ess.* 28 The Roman people had something of wildness in them; afterwards this Humour turned into Authority, and became a rigid Vertue. 1728 R. Ward *Life H. More* 21 We are running into the Wildnesses and Excesses. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1810) III. ii. 21 To be sure Mr. Lovelace was a wild gentleman, but wildness was a distemper that would cure itself. 1751 Maria Edgeworth *Contrast* i, She hoped his wildness was only the effect of good spirits, and that he would soon settle to some business. 1817 Coleridge *Table-t.* 23 July, Genius may co-exist with wildness, idleness, folly, even with crime. 1879 D. J. Hill *Life Irving* 252 Moore, full of troubles from want of means and the wildness of his son.

**b.** Frenzy, distraction; distracted air or aspect; extreme folly or unreasonableness, irrational or fantastic character, extravagance; violence, vehemence, passionateness (of a feeling, etc.); excitedness, extreme eagerness.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9107 What wildnes, or worship, wakned my hert, For to hap her in her? 1600 Shaks. *Hen. IV*, i. 40, I do wish That your good Beauties be the happy cause Of Hamlets wildenesse. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* v. v, Though he be rash, and suddain (which is all his wildness) Take heed ye wrong him not. 1705 Watts *Logic* ii. iii. § 3 A Delirium is but a short Wildness of the Imagination. 1785 Sarah Fielding *Ophelia* II. vi, I enquired for Lord Dorchester with an eager wildness. 1828 Scott *Marm.* vi. v, Joy unwonted, and surprise, Gave their strange wildness to his eyes. 1887 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xix, Alarmed by his aspect and the wildness of his words. 1884 Pennington *Welsh* viii. 269 There is no fanaticism, no wildness in his statements.

**5.** In reference to style or aspect, with various implications: cf. prec. senses and Wild *a.* 14, 14 *b.*

1760 Warton *Observ. Spenser's F. Q.* (ed. 2) I. v. 297 His [*sc.* Chaucer's] romantic arguments, his wildness of painting, his simplicity and antiquity of diction. 1818 Hazlitt *Lects. Italian* xii, The simplicity of their appearance, approached to wildness, was tempered by an hospitable spirit. 1886 Tennyson *Lucr.* xxv. 184 There was a wildness in the sky like that of anger. 1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* iii, Your wildness was your charm. You were a beautiful, ignorant creature, knowing nothing of the world.

**Wildred, Wildren, -in, Wildrenes, -se**: see Wildkred, Wildern, Wildrenness.

**† Wildship.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 wildscipe (**sipe**). [f. Wild *a.* + -ship 1.] Wildness.

*c* 1200 [see Wild *a.* 1]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1585 Wildscipe [*c* 1275 wildhipe] climbeð, and cluden nacheð.

**Wildsome:** see Wilsome *a.*[1]

**Wilduoke, Wildurnes,** obs. ff. *wild duck* (see Wild *a.* 1), Wilderness.

**† Wildware.** *Obs.* [a. M.LG. *wildware* (whence early Du. *wildt-waere*), i. *wilde* Wild *a.* + *ware* Ware *sb.*[3]] Fur of wild animals.

1393 *Close Roll 17 Rich. II* m. 3 (P. R. O.) De uno vase de wyldewaare videlicet de Cistygrey fyngrey popie Bys Rymyn et fetuse. *Ibid.* 24 Sex kipp de wildwaer. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6409 Ne mai wyldware in Furres of bestes be. 1400 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20 Appretiatores de wyldware, videlicet, v. pellium de ermyn,..iis. 1433 *Will of Sir John Fastolf* in Paston Lett. (1904) I. 440 Longe doublatt and wyldewaare. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 8/2 The wildware of the Hare have been all along the study of my leisure hours.

**Wildwood** (waildwud), [Orig. two words, Wild *a.* 4 and Wood *sb.*] A forest of natural growth, or allowed to grow naturally; an uncultivated or unfrequented wood. (In later use chiefly *poet.*)

*a* 1220 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 Sybbon cost se Wodod Eowr, and..he nom mynster þ was gedon to Bedefordscire..þe fand þær nan þing buton ealde wealles & wilde wuda. *c* 1205 Lay. 25905 Per þe eotend uncleȝe ferd mid him wilde deor into þisse wilde wode. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 3928 Wyelde fire. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* x. 18 The glorie of his wilde wode. — *Ezek.* xx. 46 Þou, þe sookis of Basan, for the stronge wilde wod to kitt doun. 1513 Scott *Maz. of Cleruse* ii, Then for shame Let poore the lay, Nor wild-wood deny, nor mountain grey Could screen from treach'rous cruelty. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 102 Whether in garden or wildwood. 1894 Hardy *Well Beloved* iii. 70 Deer..A touch a piece of mountain wild-wood.

*attrib. a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 291/13 Ane heklich bud maid of the wyld wode sege. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 390 When With wild-wood-leaues & weeds, I ha' strew'd his graue. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* ix. The hill his bed, the wild-wood boughs his shade. 1794 S. T. Coleridge in J. D. Campbell *Life* ii. (1894) 34, I had been wandering among the wildwood scenery and ivied castles of North Wales mountains. 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* i. ii. 66 How sweet, on this autumnal day, The wild-wood fruits to gather. 1856 Whittier *Maud Muller* ii. The wild-wood flowers.

**Wile** (wail), *sb.* Forms: 2–5 wil, 4–8 wyle, 4 wylle, wyll, 4–5 while, 5 wyhle, wybylle, wele, *N.* wyill), 5 6 wyll, while, wylo, 6 wyell, 7 wiele), 4– wile. [Origin and early history obscure. The earliest examples are from regions subjected to strong Scandinavian influence. Early ME. *wil* may therefore perhaps represent prehistoric Scand. **wihl-*, whence ON. *vél* craft, artifice, contrivance, engine (cf. the several compounds of this, and *vélsa* to defraud).

The exact derivation of *wile* from an AF. var. of OF. *guile* Guile *sb.* with initial *w* is open to the objection that no such variant is known. Through similarity of sense *wyle* probably became associated with Wile, q. v.; cf. the parallelism of *hynyhe* (which occurs beside *hyrile* in Shoreham's poems) and *hwiȝelen* (Layamon, *Ancrene* (St. Juliana). The relation of *wile* to the synonymous *welle* is obscure.]

**1.** A crafty cunning, or deceitful trick; a sly, insidious, or underhand artifice; a stratagem, ruse. Formerly sometimes in somewhat wider sense: A piece of deception, a deceit, a delusion. Chiefly *pl.* (in sing. now *arch.* or *poet.*).

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1138 He hit dide forþi þæt he wolde habben þa mixes wiles ðær bean were of moni monnes nðde mare. *c* 1200 Ormin 6635 All batt hadd he burrh swikedom & all burrh ille wiless. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 383 A while dat is ful of fele wiles, for is hine to name. *Ibid.* 541 Dis deuel is wiket wil wil and mast. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 361 Manyon trowyn on here wyles, And many tymes be pye hem gyyle. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 699 Herede now of a quyne wyle, Fon asche of bo bourghe cler gyle. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 1360 Pe world..ledes a man with wrenkes and wyles. *c* 1350 *Ipomadon* 6674 Imayne hathe an while ygrede And thoughte to have beygyld. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 129 With suche wiles as thei caste. *Ibid.* 130 Thei schope among hem such a wyle, The king was ded withinne a while. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4203 She knewe eche wrenche and euery gise Of love and euery wile. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 189 To conquest landis and heritagis fra Cristin folk, with wylis and falsheds. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 377 With wrath or wyhylles we xal hyerre wynne. 1558 G. Cavendish *Poems* (1825) II. 13 Whilest I was working witty wililes in Fraunce, I was at home supplanted. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 90 But sum, perchance, that winks mair wylelie, Will say that wait ane wee thing that I na wist. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* iv. iii. 20 Sure these are but imaginarie wiles, And lapland Sorcerers inhabite here. 1693 Hobbes *Leviathan* i. xiii. 67 By force, or wiles, to master the persons of all men he can. 1694 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 36 He by a wile drew me to Preach one Afternoon on the Week Lecture day there. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 649 This .. Rejects all treaty; penetrates all wiles. 1829 Scott *Talism.* xix, That Richard would burst through the flimsy wiles you spread for him. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 216 By the fraud of a two-fold wile. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* lxx. II. 549 The wiles by which its members are lured or driven to their goal.

**b.** Without implication of deceit. A subtle contrivance; a skilful device or scheme; an artifice, 'dodge'. *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4353 But sin he algat sal be ded Do it þan wit suille a wile þat yee your handes ne þer-wit file. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxiii. 149 Pai war ane ober wyle for to get pis gold with. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1248 For wele wist pai þam nane to wyn to þe cite. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix. 1176 Wattir fra them forsuth can nocht be set; Sum wthyr wyll we wonthis for to get. 1508 Dunbar *Lucid. Large* 224, I could eschew hir presence be no wile. *a* 1628 Preston *New Covt.* (1634) 21 We think God not able to doe it, except we help him with wyles and tricks of our owne. 1830 A. Cunningham *Brit. Painters* (ed. 2) I. 235 He became acquainted with all the wiles and stratagems of position and light and shade.

**c.** In lighter sense: An amorous or playful trick; a piece of sportive cunning or artifice.

*c* 1600 J. Lane in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 32 Venus straight courted him with many a wile. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 27 Haste thee nymph, and bring with thee Jest, and youthful Jollity, Quips and Cranks, and wanton Wiles, Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles. *a* 1721 Prior *Songs* xiii, Victoria shews me all her wiles, When I dare but sleep. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 183 Even children followed with endearing wile. *a* 1839 Praed *Chandelier* iii, And telling of Love's wiles To ears that listen. 1847 Jewsbury *Phases of Faith* xi. Wks. (Bohn) I. 364 He read the characters of men and women,.. and their second thought, and their wiles of innocence. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* ii. ii, Lady Tippins's winning wiles are contagious. 1880 Morris *Ode of Life* 17, I treasure up each baby wile.

**d.** *spec.* A cunning turn or other trick of the hare to escape the hunters.

1651 Nat *Creation* 1. (1692) 28 The wiles and ruses, which these timid Creatures make use of to save themselves. 1725 Somerville *Chase* II. 202 The puzling Pack unravel'd by Wile, Maze within Maze. 1781 W. Blake *Ess. Hunting* (1788) 210 The wiles of the Hare have been all along the study of my leisure hours.

**2.** Deceit or deceitfulness; craft, cunning, subtlety, guile. Now *rare*.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* i. 719 Now wost I do it for no wyle. *c* 1395 Sir *Ferumbras* 2408 Y Gret foly, quitale, & wonder. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2239 Falshode, wrong & while. 1440 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.*, 1825 Sleythe, falshed, or any whyle. 15.. Dunbar *Poems* lxxiii. 4 That he wald nocht wyll Vs win your selff ane bettir name! 1634 Milton *Comus* 906 Through the force, and through the wile Of unblest inchanters vile. 1814 *Chron. Jrnl.* 21 Jan. 114 Michael Scot, Practised in every slight of magic wile. 1848 Lytton *Harold* v. iii, This Godwin is a man of treachery and wile. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Apr. 462/1 Nemesis..honour but not the wile of the publisher stopped at this point.

**3.** *a.* Applied to particular mechanical contrivances: see quots. *b.* (*nonce-use.*) An ingenious or fanciful figure or device.

1674 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* i. (1677) 18 Engines that we take Bees withal, we call Wiles. 1844 *Mech. Magazine Gallicrist. Encycl.* 446 Thirdly the wyle, the thawstook, the twistes. 1885 Jamieson, *Wile, wyle*, an instrument for twisting straw ropes. Dunfr. 1893 Nealie *Scots. Poems, Edom* xxvi, Ivory, carved in thousand curious wiles.

**Wile,** *v.* [f. Wile *sb.*, or aphetic f. Bewile.]

**†1.** *trans.* To deceive by a wile; to beguile, delude. *Obs. rare* (exc. as implied in other senses).

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx (*Theodora*) 311 Quhat, wenys þu I wald be wile, þou sayd?

**2.** To bring, draw, or get by a wile (a person or animal to or from a place, course of action, etc., or a thing from a person); to lead, induce, or obtain by craft or cunning.

*a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 213 Wylyche heo wyled hir wenches away. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2240 Thus was he wyled A grete part of his pepil. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 233 Whence it youd warlow with his wand that thus wold wyle oure folk out of wo. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* Allace, that I was bidder wyle. *c* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 840 For to wo man wyl hym wyle. 1513 Scott *Maz. of Cleruse* (S.T.S.) 11 Quhat wyves wonnes bairnit Wt wirdis may be wyld. To do pe deid. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 46 As the fals fowler . Deuoirs the pure wolatill he wyle to the net. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1609) 54 When Innis wild I be true, Which I. Lucrece *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxii, Wyelling fond louers sometime from their wits. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xl. 13 My wofull hart away with thee thou wyld. Tea true it is. 1789 Burns *Blue-Eyed Lassie* 9 She talk'd, she smil'd, my heart she wild. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid Loth*, He could wile the very Bonduca out o' the Firth. 1893 Mrs. Garnett *Ruth* xviii, He's such winning ways he wiles one over to anything. 1879 Stevenson *Fay Mariolle*, etc. (1911) 297 She could neither be driven nor wiled into the parish kirk. *Sig.* 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii. 28 To wile the length from languorous hours, and draw The sting from pain.

**† b.** *refl.* To get *away* by stealth, steal *away*.

1440 *Morte Arth.* 3908 Whills he myghte wile hyme awaye, and wyne to hir speche.

**3.** (as a substitute for While *v.* 3) To divert attention pleasantly from (something painful or

tedions); to charm *away*; *esp.* to cause (time) to pass *away* pleasantly or insensibly: = Beguile 7. 5. Cf. I. *decipere tempus, F. tromper le temps.*

1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. x. He persuaded his sisters, therefore, to walk out with him, to wile away at once expectation and retrospection. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. x. Her smile...Wiled the old harper's mood away. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiv. II. 329 Happy industry, that wiles the toils of labour with a song. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlvi, I was reading a book to-night, to wile the time away. 1840 E. E. Napier *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. v. 172 We...used to wile away the day with all manner of fun. 1880 Vernon Lee' *Hauly* II. iii. 59 Foreigners who came to study art or to wile away a lazy existence.

Hence **Wiling** *vbl. sb.*

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 57r The vther . Concludit schortlie for to slea him, For vyling of his sylver fra him.

**Wile,** obs. f. Vile *a.*, Wale *sb.*[2] and *v.*[1], Weel *a.*, While, Will.

**Wilear,** pseudo-archaic f. Whilere.

1616 J. Lane *Contn. Spr.'s T.* v. 585 Whence they whose would Algarsife kild wilear.

**Wilecoit,** obs. form of Welljacket *S.*

**Wilele,** obs. form of Willy.

**† Wilely,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wile *sb.* + -ly 1.] = Wily. (Also in comb.)

1566 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* xxiv. To the faughter herin, so wisely witted, To save his lyfe, apealth to be repride. 1572 in D. Digges *Compleate Ambass.* (1655) 219 Your Mr. Worseley, whom I found wisely and wilfull. 1575 H. More in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 276 Twill find a Million of Tergiversations and wilely Reasonings to excuse a Man from his Duty. 1709 Sacheverell *Serm. 5 Nov.* 21 The Crafty Insidiousness of wilely Values. 1794 W. Roberts *Lankerton* No. 79 (1794) III. 718 Son of Henry Waldron...under the wifely affairs of George Barrington.

**Wilen,** obs. form of Willow.

**Wilesome,** var. Wilsome *a.*[1]

**Wiley,** obs. form of Wily.

**Wilful** (wi'lfil), *a.*[1] (*adv., sb.*) Compound **will-fuller, willfullest** (both *rare*). Also 3-4 **wil(le)-uol, wyl'le)fol,** 3-7 **wilfull,** 3-5, 7-8 (9 *Sc.*) **willful,** 4 **wyluolle, (weleful),** 4-5 **willef(*l*)ul,** 4-6 *Sc.* **wilful(l),** also various forms with *y, ll, ff,* with or without final *e.* [f. Will *sb.*[1] + -ful: not recorded in OE. (but see Wilfully): cf. Willespul.]

**1.** Asserting or disposed to assert one's own will against persuasion, instruction, or command; governed by will without regard to reason; determined to take one's own way; obstinately self-willed or perverse. (Of persons or personal attributes, or *transf.* of actions: see also 5.)

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 *Pertinaces in malo elimisti ecclesie* bulke chirche deleð fra vrekelmon, þo he wilfulle hen here sinnes to lunen. *c* 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Hwan þu stast on leode King þat is wilful. *c* 1324 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 935 For verray shame and obeie wilful teaches. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 280 Men or wemen of wilful mode, þat order of religion takes. 1589 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) 68 The said Henry is wilfull, derus and a wylfull person and wyll not be ordered but after his owne will. 1590-8 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* 256 Some blinde and wilfull worshippers. 1599 Lyly *Euphues* 43 He that to day is not wylfull, will to morrow bee not so wilful. 1605 Shake. *Lear* II. iv. 305 To wilfull men, The injuries that they themselues procure, Must be their Schoole-Masters. 1773 Mrs. Chapone *Lett. Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 94 The smallest disapp intment...will put wilful young people out of temper. 1820 Shelley *Adonais* xi, One...in her wilful grief would break Her bow and wingèd reeds. 1866 Swinburne *Blake* (1868) 109 These opinions, and stranger than these, he put forth in the cloudiest style, the wilfullest humour, and the stormiest excitement.

*Comb.* 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 34 What wilfull-hearted man can be so apt to believe, that our blessed Lady had such estimation of mortier and stones?

**† b.** In good sense: Strong-willed, strongly persistent. *Obs., rare.*

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5563 A mysthful (*v.r.* wilful) man was Maryus, Of fair speche mereuillous. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 92 Being now become wilfull in our indeauours.

**† 2.** Having the will *to do* something; purposing, intending; wishful, desirous. Also said of the purpose or desire: Eager, earnest. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Nou yzit ane yongne boryeis and ane newene knit. Mochel lasteþ þen of uele botes newe diuerses and wyluolle. Þe borgeys wylneb to chapfari...þe knyzt...wilneþ corteysyes to done an largeliche ymne. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 341 Arayit rycht awesely, Wilfull to ride chewalry. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 361 Whan that he...hadde his wilful pourpos wonne Of al this Erthe under the Sonne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 725 [She] Was be thy worship & wilfull desire. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2019 Wysmen ar wylfull to do grace, & mercyable in persworvans. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. xii. 270 On fut I fynnyt nocht my lusty werk, Wilfull to stynt till compleyt my langsum wark. 1575–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 77 Be wilfull to kill and vnskilfull to store, And looke for no forton.

**† 3.** Willing; consenting; ready to comply with a request, desire, or requirement. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 266 The worthy kyng, quhen he has seyn His host...wilfull to fulfill His liking, with gud hert and will. 1488 Sir G. Hay *Law Arms* (Skene) 87 Gif thai lordis...defendis maliciously the ref, and is nocht wilfull to mak reformacioun and redress. *c* 1560 *Ospreg Reg.* 39 With be wilfull consent of be Kyng and of the Aduocates of the same court. *c* 1575 *Partenay* 1841 With A wilfull hert full gentilly resceyuyng ...thys souerayn.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* v. i. 212 When Wals are so wilfull, to heare without warning. 1598 *Merry W.* III. ii. 44 I will...diwlge Page...for a secure and wilfull Acteon.

**† 4.** Proceeding from the will; done, undertaken, assumed, or undergone of one's own free will or choice; not compulsory or enforced: = Voluntary A. 1 b, 3. *Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. 2. (1868) 98, I se bete nat to beare wilfol meselyngis of the sowle. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 14 Men þat haue...taken cristis meknesse and gret ioueel in wilful profession. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 142 The secunde is, þat he behoues liue in wilful pouerte. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 218 The gret debate in Wallace wit can waid, Betwix kyndnes and wyllfull wow he maid. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* xxvi. (Harl.), Do wilfull penance mone, and ga sall wend...to ioy without in end. 1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* (1538) 37 b, By wylfull keppynge of the commaundement we be sure that we loue God. 1612 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. iii. 131 He there died...through his wilfull want of bread and water. 1667 Milton *P. L.* X. 1042 No more be mention'd then of violence Against our selves, and wilful barrenness, That cuts us off from hope. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 715 The silent stranger stood amazed to see Contempt of wealth, and wilful poverty.

**† b.** Involving unfettered exercise of will; arbitrary; *wilful empire,* absolute sovereignty, autocracy.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xviii. (S.T.S.) II. 24 Thus sall It be clerely schewin ...quhidder wilfull empire or publict liberte be exast establist be hir lawis.

**5.** Of actions: done on purpose or wittingly; purposed, deliberate, intentional; not accidental or casual. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense, of an action either evil in itself or blameworthy in the particular case; often (with colour of sense 1) implying 'perverse, obstinate'. Also *transf.* of the agent, as *wilful murderer,* one who commits wilful murder.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9633 It was his aun...wilful sin Pat did vs all to fall. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Þe *Wyse Prof.* (W. de W. 1496) Mortall synnes, & carnall consentes to the same, and wylfull delectacyons in eyne. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V* 9 b, Wylfull periury. 1560 Daus *Sleidan* (1609) 1 b, Wilfull warre from the aulter. 1593 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 13 Although it be wilfull and purposed murther. 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI,* I. iii. 54 How will the country for these woes be stopt? Or how will strength and valour stand, If wilful discobedience, and Rebell Like true. 1624 Fletcher *Rice Unlaw.* v. ii, Can there be wilfuller destruction? 1738 Bailey (Hull) s.v. *Waste,* Wilful Waste makes woful Want. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 20 Chicane not, Your wilful suicide on God's decree. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* lxvii. VIII. 387 Though his character has...been misrepresented with unusual confidence and candour. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii, On a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury.

**B.** *adv.* **† 1.** = Wilfully 4, 5. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16429 To þai wilful wod he taght þe flaured es al-weland. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Part. Foules* 479 Disobeysaunt or wilful necligent. *c* 1501 Courtenay *Conf. Scandret* (1549) 4 vij, Forgetfull what ye sayd before, or els wilfull blind. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* I. iii, Could she [Fortune] heare, yet is she wilfull mad. 1595 Shake. *John* v. ii. 124 The Dolphin is too wilfull-opposite And will rough stomprize with my intreaties. 1596 [see Blame v. 6]. *c* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* lii. 13 Since from thee going, he went wilfull-slow. 1611 — *Wint. T.* II. ii. 59 Which I'll not but wilfully.

**† 2.** Voluntarily, of free will: = Wilfully 1, 2.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 87 So þat whanne þei schulden ben most wilful pore & preche þe gospel of cristis pouert & his wisdom, þei ben most riche...*ouer* alle men. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxxiv. 16 Ye haue wicked wilfulls that men make. Nor shame to call it nature. 1885 *Academy* 14 Nov. 320/1 The unfortunates or the wilfuls who are under restraint.

Hence **† Wilfulhead** (whence irreg. † **Wilfulheadnesse** in same sense), † **Wilfulship,** wilfulness; † **Wilfulwise** *nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. *wilful* + -ING 1], a wilful act.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 355 Lyk tyrannitis of lumbardye That vsyn "wilfulhed & tyrannye. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) vi. xi. 63 Only that thyng euery wyght may which he wan by vyrgine and nought of wilful-hede. 1485 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 323 Yf any persoune of obstinacie or wilfulhedenesse will withstand...the said...Rules. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj. Scotl.* (1774) ii. 10, *Lone* 810 No woman hes wyt with thy 'wilfullings His wrath's dread Torrent. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 Þat oðer is 'wilfulshipe and lichaunliche lustes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Þe vyfte is þe idel man...þat burstes of wilfulsicipe and drinkst sorowenesse.

**† Wilful,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. *will,* Wile *sb.* + -ful.] Crafty, wily.

*c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21807 (Trin.) Herodde...Pat wilful [Cott. wili] wod Pat sco fals Aspyres Fremde & frendes ala.

**Wilfully** (wi'lfĭli), *adv.* Forms: see Wilful *a.*[1] [Late OE. *wilfullice,* f.**wilful* Wilful *a.*[1] (cf. OE. *carfull* careful, *carfullice* carefully): see -ly 2.]

**† 1.** Willingly, readily, without reluctance; patiently, submissively (with *suffer,* etc.); gladly, fain (with *will* vb. expressing desire: cf. 3). *Obs.*

*c* 1100 *Glos. Æ Friс's Colloq.* 146 (Napier 205/1) *Uolenter,* wilfullice]. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 279 Alle þat cleoli for þi luue meaisse and pouerte wilfulliche bolien. 1297 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1100 Men schuld wilfully fede pore hungry men and beasty. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 170 He serwyt ay lelely; And the tothir full wilfully... Rewardyt him weile his seruice. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxii. 17 Whanne we camen to Jerusalem, ireiheren resceyueden vs wilfulli. *c* 1460 *Godstow Reg.* 132 Manuel...willid & acceptid wilfull pe gifte þat Raph bloet made to pe church. 1493 *Festivall* (Wynkyn de W. 1515) 9 He must...suffre trybulacyon mekely, and do almes deedes wylfully. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. iii. 89 Wilfully I obey thair command.

**† b.** With good will, heartily; 'with a will'.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* II. 286 And with that word sa wilfully He dang on. *Ibid.* VII. 242 That...pikit furth aa wilfully To vyn the ladis at that saw pass. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 First understond, and wilfully pocket.

**† 2.** Of one's own free will, of one's own accord, voluntarily. Rarely in reference to an inanimate thing: Spontaneously, 'of itself'. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 in Haupt's *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alt.* IX. 435/2 *Sponte,* wilfulliçe. 1337 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1165 How moche more be pei cursyd of god; þat bynde hem-self wilfully. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xx. 48 Syth he þat wrouhte it al he wolde was wilfullich neode. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) 176 Hem that sleen hem self wilfully, for love of here Ydole. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula* etc. 87 If þe pulsis puttе in go wilfully out with be clede fleach þi nedes is wele sped. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 277 (Add. MS.) To of thi clothes wilfully, or thou shalt agayn thi wille. *a* 1536 Tindale *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 555/1 The night before ye Christ...he was suffer wilfullye passion for mankinde. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. i. 5 He wilfully her sorrow did augment. 1644 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xi. 493 Martyrs are to die wilfully, not desperately. 1705 Clarke *Disc. Nat. Relig.* (1706) 103 A Man is obliged not to depart wilfully out of this Life, which is the general Station that God has appointed him.

**† b.** According to one's own will; at will, freely. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 604 But þe, folliche folk þour fals godis alle Wil-fully worschipen wip wordliche godus. *c* 1380 *Wyclif Tracts* 182 To me semeþ þei mowe take þe 3ifte here wey wilfulli to sum wildernesse. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 357 Ouer all thys hors so went wylfully here and there ouer all where it lyst hem wold. *c* 1600 Shake. *Sonn.* lxxxvi. 8 But since your worth (wide as the Ocean is) The humble as the proudest saile doth beare, My sawsie barke (inferior farre to his) On your broad maine doth wilfully appeare.

**† 3.** With desire, longingly. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1380 Pe quen & hire doujter & meliors be schene wayteden out at a windowe wilfulli in fere. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VIII. 497 And all did wilfully expect, the silued-throned morne.

**4.** Purposely, on purpose, by design, intentionally, deliberately. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense (cf. Wilful *a.*[1] 5); often with admixture of, or passing into, sense 5; occas. implying 'maliciously'.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 984 Yf pat he wole take of it no cure, Whan pan it cometh, bere it wilfully! 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvii. 285 How mygte he axe mercy, or any mercy lyen hope, þat wykkedlii is & wilfulliche dop wikkednesse ayeynes? *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. (1859) 54 He that wylfully dereyned hym self, who myght hym releue of mysclwyff? 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 184/2 Money so molten, beten or wilfully broken. 1590 Shakespeare *Mids. N.* III. ii. 67 b, The feest also of our Lord Ihare hys vncle...in his iourney toward constantynople was wylfully lodged in a house yt was o cuppel wt wycked spyrytes. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weekes* (1876) 5 Five Alehouses set houses on fire wilfully, they are smoaked to death. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* (1757) 242 Dead to all I could say, and so wilfully insensible of my repeated instruction. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xliv, His administration was wilfully careless, now too indulgent, and now allied to despotism. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. 541 Instances of this arbitrary rame excuses...which ought to have opened the eyes of all who were not wilfully blind. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 107 A mill containing 500 or 600 looms was wilfully burnt down. 1901 *Act 1 & 2 Edw. VII* c. 60 A person lawfully sworn as a witness ...wilfully makes a statement ... which he knows to be false.

**5.** In a self-willed manner, perversely, obstinately, stubbornly.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. v. (1912) 33 The mother...heyng determinately (least I shoulde say of a great Lady, wilfully) bent to marrye her to Demagoras. *Ibid.* II. xiii. 232 Now so evil could the concealer her fault, and so wilfully he perseuered she in it, that [etc.]. 1595 Shake. *John* III. i. 149, I...demand Why thou against the Church, our holy Mother, So wilfully dost spurne. 1598 Sylvester *Sheats Ind. Wks.* (Globe) 654/1 Surely of such desperat persons as will wilfully follow the course of their owne folley, there is not compassion to be had. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Pilgrim* III. iii. *Dodsley* 47, 48 Who, 1717 I. 425 He that first acknowledgeth him for his Prince, and then affronts him, deserves to be prosecuted with the utmost severity, because he did it wilfully, and in meer contempt. 1726–[see 4].

**Wilfulness** (wi'lfĭlnēs). [f. Wilful *a.*[1] + -ness.]

**1.** The quality or character of being wilful; disposition to assert one's own will against reason, persuasion, etc.; determination to take one's own way; self-will, perversity, obstinacy, stubbornness.

*c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 Þat oðer is 'wilfulshipe and lichaunliche lustes. 1297 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 11 Of hele refuse of wilfulnesse, which renders men so insensible to the motives of religion. 1898 Lytton *Alice* II. vi, She could...contradict, with a pretty wilfulness, his most favourite dogmas. 1870

Lowell. *Study Wind*, *Carlyle* (1871) 98 To confound it [*sc.* Will] with its irritable and purposeless counterfeit Wilfulness.

**b.** (with *pl.*) An instance of this, a wilful act.

1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 23 Oct., Whole volumes of Wordsworth's poems were formerly neglected solely because of some few wilfulnesses, if I may so call them, of that great man 1883 Spurgeon *Lifeatr & Medit.* 221 The rebellions and wilfulnesses of mankind.

**2.** †**a.** Purpose, determination, resolution. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 416 Thou shalt considere if thy myght and thy power may consenten and suffise to thy wilfulnesse and to thy conseillours 1626 G. Woodcocke] *Hist Iosaphat* xii 53 He had slaine himselfe, had he not beene preuented by his friendes He continued certaine dates after in the wilfulnesse to die 1633 T. James *Voy.* 18 In this wilfulnesse we continued till the 27.

**b** Intentional character (of an act), the fact of being done on purpose.

1876 Mozley & Whiteley *Law Dict* v. *Murder*, The deliberateness and wilfulness, or we prefer to call it, the intention, which constitutes the crime of murder.

†**3** Readiness of will, willingness, inclination.

1396 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxxix (1495) cv. b/1 These Wyches hit ryvyneth, and hath the wylfulnesse 1901 in *19th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1 68 [The lands should be redeemable] be dissent or wilfulnes of the said the tone or Willum his father 1530 Palsgr. 239/1 Wylfulnesse, *volunterrie* 1553 Brandon *Serm. Repentance* (1574) C vj b, Such workes as they neede not to do, but of their own voluntarines & wylfulnes (wylfulnes in deede)

**Wilga** (wi·lgă) [Native name in New South Wales.] An Australian tree of the genus *Geijera* (N. O. *Rutaceæ*), esp. *G. parviflora*. Also *attrib.*

1889 Maiden *Usef Plants Australia* 1. 0 *Geijera parviflora*, Wilga Sheep bush, Dogwood and Willow 1891 'R. Boldrewood' *Sydney sk.* 241 viii, We rode through a wilga scrub

**Wilger** (wi·lgəɹ) *local.* Also 6, 9 **wilger**, 7 **welger**, 9 **-ar**, **wolgar** [Obscurely f. *wilghe*, Willow *sb.*]

1. = Willow *sb.* 1.

1688–9 in *Hartland Soc.* (E. D. S.) 81, Pd for welgers 12 6d 1867 Rock *Text. anl Nett* xxxi, Nor wels, no, nor withy bind 'fit wix ther herits ner bin' ther hass *attrib.* 1853 in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XVII 60 Let Berry the welger plant a bundle next year 1888 *Ibid.* XIX 150 Down by the welger plot

**2.** = Willow *sb.* 3, Willy *sb.* 2

1548 *Anur Cpt Warrant Ll.* 2 19 Aug. (MS.) Sixteen duodenes excepti unum angline vij dosen of shrympe kapes vulgariter voc wilgers

**3** = Willow *sb.* 4, Willy *sb.* 3

1872 *Daily News* 26 Aug. (Encycl.), A recommendation that measures should be exercised in the use of 'willgers' or 'dreils.'

†**Wilgern,** *a. Obs. rare* [f. Will *sb.*1 + -ern. ME. *gern*, a. ON *gjarn* Vrtda *a.*, The word or a correct **wilgern* survived in 17th c. north dial. *willarn* (Ray).]

Wilful, perverse

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 61 Godd gert them lef thair wilgern werk

**Wilghe,** obs. form of Willow

**Wilgoose,** obs. form of Wind goose

†**Wilhede** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **wyl-** [f. Will *sb.*1 + -head.] Will.

1340 *Ayenb.* 164 Magnanimité is heyenese gratinesse and noblesse of wylhede [*sing. corage*].

**Will, wille,** obs. forms of Will, Willy.

**Willy** (wi·lli), *adv.* Forms see Will; also 5 **wilele**, 6 **wylely**, **-ie**, **wilely.** [f. Will *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wily manner; craftily, cunningly, by stratagem.

c 1440 *Pistill of Susan* 213 Wyl yche heo wyled hir wenches away c 1400 *Anturs of Arth* 375 (Douce MS.) Wilele þei wighte mene þaire weppens þey welde c 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula* xxiii. 25 If peraventure he paciente haue wilely broȝt in with hym any leche for to aspye 1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 44 Antichrist disayned hymselfe & preached Christ wilely, bryngyng in now & then doctrine, and now that 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot* (S. T. S.) I. 268 Wittilie and wylelie tueching the king 1821 *Bible Josh* iii. 4 They did worke wilely, and went and made as if they had beene ambassadours 1822 Bowlan *Holy War* 243 'It is you Mr. Carnal Security that have wilely stripped Mansoul, and driven her glory from her. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 208 And wylily they shut the lock 1847 Gosse *Birds Jamaica* 418 A flock of swimming Pelicans, wilily endeavouring to approach some unwary one 1883 W. Ross *Aberdeen Ballads* 1. 3 He wilily succeeded to his title and estates.

**Willyness** (wi·lilnes). Forms: see Will, [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or character of being wily; craftiness, cunning, guile.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I vii. 8 Truste not in þin owne konnyng, ner in þe wilynes of any man liyvyng. c 1460 Metham *Wit* (1916) 133 A mowght þe qwyche 38 smyl off qwantyte with thynne lyppys sygnyfyith onmyghtynes, feerfulnes, and wylynes. 1598 Dloe *Antichrist* 162 b, So (with certain foxlike wylynesse) they clooke the bloody meanyng 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw* (1603) 2 Neither let any man suppose that from wilines without force, nor force without iudgement, can preceed any protect of worthy consideration 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 To defend them from all Assaults and Wiliness of the Devil 1818 Mrs. Shelley *Frankenstein* xix (1823) II. 126, I will watch with the wiliness of a snake, that I may wing with its venom 1878 Browne *Purst. Rev* iii 81 He had the wariness and wiliness of the cat.

**Wiling,** *vbl. sb.*: see Wile *v.*

**Wills,** obs. form of Whiles.

**Will-wilkie,** obs. forms of Wheelk, Whicn.

**Wilkatt,** obs. form of Wild cat.

†**Wilkin,** *Obs.* Also 5 **wylkyn, wilken, 6 wellkyn, 7 welkyn, wilking.** [? orig. a proper name, perh. of Du. or LG. origin.] A ram, a pile-driving engine.

1495 *Nomad Acc Hen VII* (1896) 256 Rammes of Yron called Wylkyns 1497 *Ibid* 91 Willem Rammer of Iron in *Ibid* 94 Willem rammer of Iron 1580 in P. Thompson *Hist Boston* (1856) 320 I ord Clynton to borrow the wellkyn of Isaase of this Corporation for his necessarie, according to his desire 1659 *Ibid.* A 40 Isaac Jackson wellkyn belonging to the borough, being now no longer useful to this borough, to be sold 1594 *Ibid* 306 paid to John Sherlock for wilking with at Nottingham [1862 *Ibid note*, applied to a pile driving apparatus]

**Wilkume,** obs. form of Welcome.

**Will** (wil), *sb.*1 Forms 1–2 wille, (1 -o), 1–7 wil, 2–4 wille, 2–7 wille, 3–6 wylle, 4–6 wyll, wyl (2 welle, 4 wele, *Sc.* wil, 5 wel, well, wille, wyll, 6 wyl, 6–7 will, 9 *dial.* willl), 5– will. [OE. *willa* wk. masc. = OFris. *wille* (EFris. *wel*, WFris. *wille*), Os *willio*, MDu. *wille*, Du. *wil*, OHG. *willo*, *willio* (MHG., G. *wille*, *willen*), ON. *vili*, *vilja-* (Sw. *vilja*, Da. *vilje*), Goth. *wilja* = OTeut. **wiljon-* = pre-Teut. **weljon-*; also OE. *will* str. n. (chiefly in gen. see sense 10), = ON. *vil*, and OE. *gewil*, -*ile* str. n. I-will; see Will *v.*1]

**I. 1.** Desire, wish, longing; liking, inclination, disposition (*to do* something). In mod. use coloured by or merged in sense 5.

*Beowulf* 635 Þæt he unnunga eowra leoda willan æowrhte *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 50 Ic bocs gearosorn will in þines *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) 143 Du ne wyrcst nanes weres willan, ac eal seo weres willyst ic ne lufy nym of gode acennede. *a* 1225 *Ancr.* R. 60 Wilnen, & habe wille uorte beo iwisnet to *Beoruld* 1570 (Gerton MS.) Pet le strit ne wrste wes bifalled for to lete Þe hi ssolewed hiwelf fared þi buse strete. *c* 1300 *Beket* 221 Sugrot wille him lucon to To wende eft to the holi lond, that he muste wilat do *c* 1325 Coventry Sk. Ac now þat we þat is to gode wille & to ssete in hinde 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Wy þouhte grette wille an wil inge nor to hunne oþren 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv 79 I trow that he Schall to ȝou ȝeild wil for fals 1452 *Acts Hen VI* 1 *Iour* 14 Fastinge refreinithe the fleshe of euelle willes 1485 Caxton *Fables* (1868) 69 He had grete wylle to goo to Inesham 1568 *Chronicle Chron.* I 92 Yf we had hus Soukhuses had no will to marrie the daughters of the Frenchmen 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent* I iii 63 My will is something sorted with his wish 1601 — *Twel C* III iii 3 I have no will to wash my face; nor deed to scratch my beard 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xvii, Don't stop him, Maria if he has the will to strike me, let him 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vii, There was a will, and a longing, more imperious than mere curiosity 1896 Housman *Shropsh. Lad* xxviii, This long and sure-set liking. This boundless will to please

**b.** An inclination *to do* something, as contrasted with power or opportunity.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iii iii, Shee hath not onely power & will Pthause the vulgar wanting skill 1647 W. Browne *Inc-ranter* iii. iv 113 I the Queene is perswaded I have serv'd him well, but because I had a will to. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vii 270 Not fate forbad Scotchmen, but by Will incline 1725 Jeremy *Rambler* No 178 P 14 Great Numbers who quarrel with their Condition have wanted not the Power but the Will to obtain a better State 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxvi, Your lordship will experience that the faculty of the present proprietor to entertain his friends is greatly abridged, the will, I assure you, remains the same 1843 Lanoton *Exped Niger* xxi III. 269 Mr Lake had certainly a will or inclination to enter into arrangements with him 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xiii 200 It was questioned that it could be done if there was a will to do it

†**2.** *spec.* Carnal desire or appetite = Desire *sb.* 2.

971 *Blickl Hom* 19 þa flæscliican willan & þa unterednesse þæs modes 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Verste zunde is þe zelfremmanne nime bares zealian *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (verse) 37 All fleschly wyll for to for sak. 1593 Shaks *Lucr* 247 Thus, loathing his disputation, Tweene frozen conscience and hot burning will 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II iv 164.

**3.** *transf.* (chiefly as obj. of *have*): That which one desires, one's) 'desire'. Now *arch.* or *poet.*

c 950 *Lindisf Gosp.* John v 30 Ne soecco ic uilla min ah uilla þes sendendes *a* 1122 *O. Camm* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Se cyng gæseah þæt he nan þinge his willes þur geforþian ne mihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20880 Pe warlau sal nogth in þis middel Hous na mikel of his will. Als if he þam sagh did ill. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric Ant.* 57 Have ȝe or wyl, ȝe waxeth unwarste. 1390 Gower *Conf* I 73 He With blinde tales so hire ladde, That all his wille of hire he hadde. *c* 1400 *Test. Love* I. 1 Accordyng of Gode I may Bettyr were a chylde to be vnbore, Then let hyt haue the wyll & for euer be lore. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Thus Marrit Wemen* 336 Quhill I ourlit warist of my will, or quhat I wald desir 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen VI*, I iv 144 Would at haue me weepe? why now thou hast thy will 1603 — *Lucr.* 128 The sundrie dangers of his will obtaining 1611 W. Adams *Let in Rundall Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc) 25 God would not suffer them to haue their willes of vs. 1693 Locke *Educ* § 35 He had the Will of his Maid before he could Speak or Go. 1798 Coleridge *Anc Mar* I iv, The Wedding-Guest listens like a three-years' child The Mariner hath his will 1805 Southey *Madoc in Atlantis* 209 Have all thy will of weeds; talk out thine heart 1856 Housman *Shropsh Lad* xxv, A lad that lives and has his will Is worth a dozen dead

**b.** A desire or wish expressed in a request; hence (contextually) the expression of a wish, a request, petition (sometimes passing into the sense 'a command' see 7) *arch* or *dial.*

*What's your will?* (now *arch* or *dial.*, esp. *Sc.*) What do you want? What do you wish me to do?

1340 *Ayenb* 238 Panne zayþ he þet he ȝ herþ þe benes and þe wylles of þe ȝoure *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1918 When Castor hade clanly conuayst his wille, He answered hym honestly with ornyng a litill 1500 Douglas *K. Hart* ii. 21 My thow nocht here? Langer how I could schout! What war your will? I will cum in but dout 1591 Shaks *Two Gent* IV iii 32 *Sil.* What's your will? *Pro.* That I may compasse yours *Sil.* You haue your wish my will is euen this That presently you hie you home to bed 1606 — *Ant & Cl* II ii 48 *Eno.* Soothsayer *Sooth.* What would'st thou? Is this the Man? Is't you sir that know things 1778 Shebidan *Critic* v, My will me now, My Acres, in cave of an act dent, is there any little will or command as I could execute for you? 1808 James *Gowrie* vi, I'll grant your will 1821 Scottish ser, 'What did you say? It is also given as a reply to one who calls 1826 Galt *Last Of Lairds* v 5 When one of the lasses looks from behind it, and says, 'What's your will and pleasure?

**c.** *To take one's will* to do as one pleases (in respect of).

1845 Jamieson v. *To take one's will &c.* To take one's use as one pleases 2. To take as much of any thing as one pleases 1880 G. Macdonald *Castle Warlock* vi, He just lost the matter of his will to himself 1890 *Good Words* Aug. 565 2 Carr let his own house take his will

†**4.** Pleasure, delight, joy *Obs.*

*Exon MS* 82a Denum callum weas ȝ zefter þam wiltheow willa gelumpen *a* 1000 *Cædmon* 3 956 I þæs dryhtnes domweordunga willan in worulde & in wuldre bleed *a* 1240 *Prestun* 46 in *O. & Hom* I 193 Mid en, one wille *Hali Meid* 23 Þenne wil and sælhðe *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P* iv 23 His wille, wille went a way, with more and mirthe ure murthe un mete

**b.** *To have no will of* (*sc.*), *+in* to take no pleasure in, have no liking for

1609 *Ir.* (D. 109) Mal 1 xiv, I have no will you *c* 1626 in W. K. Tweedie *Sel Biogr.* (Wodr. Soc.) I. 320 I have no will of strangers 1872 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xxii, I, man, I hinna will for it.

**II. 5.** The action of willing or choosing to do something; the movement or attitude of the mind which is directed with conscious intention to (and, normally, issues immediately in) some action, physical or mental; volition.

971 *Blickl Hom* 35 Þa sægdlaþ þurh feower þing, þurh zeþoht, & þurh word, & þurh dæd, & þurh willan *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (Cleas MS.) 31 Ga ut þrof wi wil of þin hurte *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 13755 He sand ȝe gilt a-ȝein, þamar þou ann, Þat ilk ti will he ringe, Þe wil þat ilk time 1386 *Pl. Parl's Pr. Ploughm.* 1 I can wilne hertily wel 1473 *Stat Realm* (Cambr.) I 160 Yff he will geve hys dowrye hys part of Swanys well I would gladly be to leve more and to do good dedes 1478 Caxton *Ax myself* (Summer) 547 Hy one wylle and volente 1479 Labl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* (1877) 13 I rested in that wel 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 Of an [= one] Wille, *unanimis* 1523 Lo Fitzher *Prouis* I xxxix 83/2 When the flemyn es saue the herse wyfe of thare wylles 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ Osor* III *interp* B 2, Your wills are so sod, and what so I keepe your Tills Instead of payment I accept good wills 1832 Arbuthnot *John Bull* iv iii, My Will at present is to keep my head on

**c.** *Will to* with sb. or the (after *Gr. Wille zu*)

Cf. *Der Wille zum Leben* in the title of Schopenhauer's *Welt als Wille und Vorstellung* v. 1819

1893 J. C. Rorertson *Hist. Christ Evolution* XI *Imagmat.* n 87 (*Standing.*) The Will to be Well. 1898 Tille tr. *Nietzsche's Thus Spake Zarathustra* 163 Wherever I found living matter I found will unto power. 1903 Chesterton *Orthodoxy* vi. 130 I hardly know any will to live which may be I said in *Martin Chuzzlewit* 1907 Zimmern tr. *Nietzsche's Twilight Good & Evil* 20 Life itself is Will to Power 1908 K. Mecer *A. Calibert* xxxvii, The principle of the will to live over the threatening assaults of death.

**6** The power or capacity of willing, that faculty or function which is directed to conscious and intentional action; power of choice in regard to action. (See also Free will.)

c 888 Ælfred *Beth* xiv § 2 Antgit & semynd & se gesceadwisca willa þat hine þara tweȝa hyste. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* I 288 Of þam willan cumaþ geþohtas, and word, and worc *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom* 219 So fader and his wisdom þure heure wille þat is se hali gast. *c* 1200 Ormin 11500 Wille nas þare i ridde mahht Þurrh whatt menn inness þe þennenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 662 He þam gaf þer will alles þe gode to do, to leus þe till 1390 Gower *Conf* I 322 Thi will is the principal, And hath the lordschipe of thi wit

c 1480 *Wisdom* 213 in *Mis-cl Pr* 43 And I of be soull am be will 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 29 Euer the will chesyth the yl, and leuyth the gud 1590 SHAKS. *Mids N* iii 111 119 The will of man is by his reason sway'd 1594 If OBSTR *Acct Lett* viii § 3 All these in the wills sollicit'n, and the will as appetites control'er: what we count according to the one, by the other we often retract. 1597 *Hotel* v slvnit § 9 Will, whether it be in God or man belongeth to the essence and nature of both 1601 SHAKS. *Twel C* ii ii 51 The cause is in my Will: I will not tell it. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem Sol* (1913) Whose Wish and Understandings have a mind but before they can see brought in to consent 1667 MILTON *P L* ii 482 All in all, alike the un-ordain'd Will, And yet cannot never to will but or ill. 1738 POPE *Univ Prayer* 119 Who bad'st Us fight in fate, Left free the Human Will 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr Incarnation* iv (1876) 85 In our first and first of all descendants of Adam it is will exhibited in that complete freedom which was its normal condition and perfect state 1880 GREEN *Prolegom Ethics Monthly* (1890) 11 The will exists only and so of evil, it will, which S. hope leaver ere is no a universal substance, apart from intelligence and consciousness

**b** With qualification, in reference to individual character, idiomatically *in a will of one's own*, implying a strong or self assertive will, and hence used as a euphemism for 'wilfulness'.

c 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 100 Sal it be May wes thusly an I hate, and of ane hie will 1552 HULOET *Wyves Lamentac* Since I am so allowed a wyll of my owne, it matters not whether I am pleased or displeased 1760 BP. TH. *Mem* 11 Was Charlotte to set up a will of her own she'd not expect to share the fate of Queen Anne 1798 S. ROGERS *Lett Cant Tr, Young, Italy* I 11 341 If once she could be brought to assert a will of her own 1907 *Lemcy Mem* I 422 A girl of high spirit and self-assertion, will

**7** Intention or determination that something shall be done by another or others, or shall happen or take place, (contextually) an expression or embodiment of such intention or determination, an order, command, injunction (cf 3 b). *Also pl.*

For I rely fest in the ryal nations (*1*) *Ge le will, o es wyl be to will* (Nobles *A* 1) 1450 *Merlin* (1865) 1 *Brownsil* 17.30 Him reall wild wende on wilum 1535 BIBLE *Coverdale* Ezra (1885) 175 Ic Ables ger-sein Cyric & wrich + hate his mon wille is þæt mon hate ælc yfel & after minum dæde 1 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xi 20 Sewurbe ðin wille on eorðan swa swa on heofonum 1175 *Lamb Hom* 21 We suruyeð us to ure drihtenes wille after þe we wealde 1 1000 ORM 1 928 All þo leȝde þatt o God I Rod on hiss lefe wille 1 1250 *Trin Coll Hom* 209 in *O. E. Misc* 126 Bute if we wurchep wylles o ures 1300 *Cursor M* 12372 So it dited noght, þat godes will he suld i-e wroght 1380 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* II 55 All þing þat shal come moot nedis come bi Godis wille 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 48 Mi will is fierst that thou be schrive 1412 LYDGATE *Hondlat Bk* I wat your will and quhat ways ze wald that I wer ther 1484 *Caxton Parl Troy* (1874) XII 161 That all entire be kinges wyll and there vnder Enduring be his gyl will 1543 *Act 35 Hen VIII, c* 1 § 1 It is the only pleasure and will of Almighte God howe longe his Highnes shall lyve 1558 in J. NICHOLS *Some Hist Mem* (1790) 508 My myn I and will ys that the said Sodacell shall be accepted 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II iv 56 In every thing I waite vpon his will 1603 *Hous Ly* 88 II ii 71 In your will Claudio shall die to morrow? 1667 MILTON *P L* iii 295 Such was the will of Heav'n 1711 STEELE *Spect* No 56 P 2 It was the Will of Providence that Master Harry was taken very ill of a Fever 1745 LUCAS *Ess Waters* II 144 They are all dependent on the will of the magistrate. 1833 IRVINGTON *Dream Eve* II 201 In, it comforts me in this our thought to hear that I subdued me to my father's will 1841 MYERS *Cath Th* II § 8 The Books commonly called The Bible contain special Revelations of the Will of God 1842 HOWITT *Rural Life* (1862) 11 1888 BRYCE *Amer Commw* xcvii III 360 This method of consulting the popular will

**†b.** Consent, acquiescence, permission, favour, good will *Obs*

c 1300 *Cursor M* 599 Wit crist will þan sal I telle How he sipen hured helle c 1440 *Gesta Rom* xxxvii 264 I no mocke þat he wanne ther by the wille & the love of Lucii man c 1450 *God dem Reg* 360 With the wille and graunte of Raaf his sone and here 1535 COVERDALE *Ps* xlv 10 Did we poure vnto her drinkofferinges, to do her seruyce, without oure husebonde wylles?

**c** Intent, purport (of a document, cf 23), also, in *St. Lang*, a clause in a summons expressing a royal command (see Quot 1684).

1439 in *Ancestor* (1902) July 18 After that the will of my testament be fulfilled and my debtes paid 1684 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Inst Laws Scot* (1694) 256 The King in his Summons says Our will is &c that ye cite such and such Persons, &c which is called the Will of the Summons, and which Will of the Summons is ever comprehended in Command to the Messengers to cite the Defenders. 1743 KAMES *Decis Cert Sess* 1730 52 (1759) 67 It was necessary for the suspender to follow out the will of the letters

**8** Qualified by possessive, esp in such phr. as *† if his will be, if it be his will* (= if it be his good pleasure) and as obj of *do, work*, or the like: that which one wills should be done, (one's) pleasure'

c 825 *Vesp Ps* xxxiii 9 [xl 8] Dæt ic doe willan ðinne, & dl. 971 *Blickl Hom* 205 Eo secenne hwæt þæs willa sie a-timan *Menologium* 201 Sancta wæhte þæra he wið ælbeðe ær wohtan in worulde willan drihtnes 1220 *O I Chron* (Laud MS) Jan 108, Sebeie hit God almihtija þonne his willa sy 1175 *Lamb Hom* 191 Sif hit his wille were, ne mahte him in deð ne nan pine deriun 1205 LAY 2793 & euer ælc wilde mon hefde al his wil to don 1220 *Bestiary* 41 Do ure dryhten ded was, And doluen, alse his wille was 1300 *Cursor M* 607 Pe sex dais he wroght þat was his will 1370 To wirk pare wik[ke] wil þai thoght. 13 *K Horn* 201 (Harl MS.) Ah sef hit is þi wille Help va þat we ne spille 1400 *Rom St Benet* (prose) 10 Ye sal leue yure alren propir will, and do oþir mens 1400 *Anon Arth* xxvii, Pothe ny dethe and my lyfe, Is anne the wille of thi wife 1400 *Antors of Arth.* 197 One þing wold I wite, if þi wil were 1535 COVERDALE *Ps* xxvi[i] 12 Deliuer me not in to the willes of myne aduersaries 1542 UDALL *Erasm Apoph.* 295 The stronger must lee of and & haue his wille 1590 I *Incr Kean Jude* (1592) O Sun, shall I then haue no comfort, but bee posted off to the wall of time? 1607 SHAKS. *Cor* III iii 7 Direct me, if it be your will, where you may wish your trust lies 1611 *Authorized Version* Matt vi 10 Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heauen 1628 BP. WILLET *Hexapla Exod* 118 By willes will ye gedire pres 1500 *Acts Kalendar* 167 With will and gret lof dudlis I ee 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov* I xi (1867) 13 Why wilt thou not? though will wo wyn 1568 ANCHAM *Schoolm* 1 (Arb) 48 It is left vnknowen vs the, will, stubl rmiesse 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drunken* iii 118 B, When haue brad & Will, o re Wit doth ly ke trayne

**+b** A piece of wilfulness, a whim *Obs rare*

1619 PERCHAS *Pilgrimage* 1 Shall Christians lose the Inheritance of Heauen for a Will, for a Humour, for malicious spight? 1882 *Temple Bar* 28 Xenedol to anre mile gange, es gwilles twa c 1000 11 Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II 2 o le þat ne is willeum nr þæt ic 1380 *Sir Ferumbr* 2211 Wil I nolle be þine, þey þurp me pretyse, nou 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol* 202 (Harl MS) Thing þ-to in mwil his wylles liste 1450 *Merl* 2 *Lestad* 174 I am to lende þat I be wold with helen on nobyr kune my wylles, but I am unde to do as þen my wylle.

**b** with poss pron According to one's choice or desire, one's will used pred with impers *wh to be*, in such phrases as *if your willes is* = if you will if you please, if you wish

a 1300 *Cursor M* 3206 I oth now hued hope, þou tal, vnsuld it þe þi wille 1340 *Ayenb* 141 Wane I wile [*Gott* wilnes ek *Ibid* 209 He hem pbt do qvat his wile [*Gott* wille] was 1375 LARDNER *Pencr* 1 68 Gif that 3our wille wer, le ask 3our leue 1513 HOLLAND *Howlat* 11 *It is at* 312 3e gall heir in schort space Quhat is thy lords thre wis, Gif 3our wilis war 1 1475 *Rauf Coil* 3 520, I wait nocht quhat he wilde be

**c.** as] redicative adj: Voluntary

a 1225 *Ancr R* 302 Schrift schal beon ofdrede, & hopeful, wis, & willes

**++** Governed by qualifying adjs

**11** *a. Good will, ill will* (with various shades of meaning: cf 1, 5–7) see GOODWILL ILL WILL. So, with the comparative, *† better will* = 'more goodwill'; *† evil will* = ILL WILL

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 237 To Lodwin forgef he alle his euel e wille 1357 *Lay Folks Catech* (T) 305 To þy euen cristen will for to haue 1377 LANGL. *P Pl A* xi 78 Because of su ill tales, 3our tenaunts own hym the better wil 1382 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 231, I wrote not vnto 3our mastership of my good will 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I have to yow 1560 DAUS *tr Sleidane's Comm* 15 b, He dyd ass of no euil will or contemptie 1621 J. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 380 Both of them haue been euil to Son

**b** *With the best will (in the world)*

1857 B. TAYLOR *Northern Lear* xxxii (1858) 313 With the best will we found it impossible to eat anything *Ibid* xxxiv 344 All that the old woman with the best will in the world, was able to furnish, was milk, butter [etc.]

**c.** See FREE WILL.

***** with prepositions

**+12** A will [A *pref* 1 or 2] **a.** To (one's) pleasure or satisfaction. *Obs*

a 1250 *Owl & Night* 1322 Heo [*sc* the wre] bidde gode prote & schilde & fale monne song a wille [*v r* awille]

**+b** At command or disposal *Obs*

c 1300 *Chev Assigne* 79 Pothe hwondes & men haue bidde be-ywille

**+13** After (*one's*) will [AFTER *prep.* 13, 15]: according to one's choice or intention, as one will, according to one's wish or liking, as one desires

c 1205 LAY 31650 An I longe it wilden after heore willen c 1290 *S. Brendan* 103 in *S. Eng Leg* 223 Pe ore dref here wille up after wel 1300 *Cursor M.* 15793 O þe i sel i sared he dro,h. þe ere he sinat of an, For bad it ben after his wil, he wald him fain i-salue

**14** Against (= again) *one's* will [AGAINST 10, AGAIN B 7] in opposition to (one's own) inclination or liking, unwillingly (*rarely*, against one's purpose, unintentionally); in opposition to (another's) choice, intention, or desire.

c 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) xviii 85 He schall nost be brynt with her agayns þat will 1400 *Pilgr Soule* (Caxton 1483) ix 68 Thou hyst byreued me Agayns my wyll, by thyng with myn assent c 1450 [see 13 a]. 1528 *Act 4 Hen VIII* c 20 *Preamble*, The said John fortuned to be slayn ageynst the will and mynde of your said Bisseeher 1559 *Mirr Mag, Dk Suffolk* xxii, King and queene were forst against their willes. 1609 SHAKS. *Lear* I iv 216 This fellow has banish'd two on's Daughters, and did the third a blessing against his will. 1630 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Parum* 29 He is willing sore against his will 1678 BUTLER *Hudib* III 547 He that complies against his Will, is of his own Opinion still. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI 320 His steed bestrode the deep, and wheeling swiftly round, Baffled his rider, saved against his will 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I (1852) 38 The Grand Seignior cannot do a more absolute act than to order a man to be dragged away from his family, and, against his will, run his head against the mouth of a cannon.

**15** At (*one's*) will. **a.** According to one's volition or choice; as (when, where) one will. Locally, Of one's own free will, voluntarily.

(*a*) with possessive *at his your, God's* (etc) *will*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 6136 Mis sacrifice your lauerd vnill, Quar yee wil at your ann will c 1350 *Spec Gy Warrie* 23 Mat his will he wole be fede 1389 in *J. Nichl Gilds* (1870) 30 Qwo so schal ben excused for any suche schyl, it sey wil ben it ye aldermannes wyl c 1430 *Sir Tryam* 257 At Coddy wylle muste hyt lave 1570 J. FOXE *Acts & Monum's Cath* (1583) 1 Ye be at liberty at your owne will to geue what soeuer he I aith you intend 1601 SHAKS. *Jul C* II i 17 We put a Sting in Thee, That at his will he may doe danger with 1728 PRIOR *Solomon* I 1 Enjoying sweetest liberty, And roving at my will 1820, 1873 [see SWEET *a* 8d]

(*b*) simply *at will*

13 *Cursor M* 19174 (Gott) Na stinnth did þai lam till, For þai come wil þam all at will c 1400 *Rel Poems* x 4 For pride hem benked goddes pere, þat wilde hin worlde wele at wille c 1430 *Chron Vilod* (1842) 18 Pat Cassibilan vt dir the hie hewn Micht noct twirne thair e at wil to neche n e entie 1579 SPENSER *Sheph Cal* Sept 144 They wonder it will, and stray at pleasure 1611 SPEED *Chron Gt Brit* vi 39 Holding Cornden in the name of Rome, Euen like a fawning Grey hon in the Lyons Den, To let him skip at will 1619 R. COOKE *Diana* (Heber) 1 Sheep feeding at their pleasure will that he is not the Companies seruant, but at will 1667 MILTON *P L* v 295 Natures heire here Wantond as in her prime, and play'd at will Her Virgin Fancies 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* iii 165 The famous Orators whose resistless eloquence Wielded at will that fierce Democratie. 1825 WORDSW *Sol Duty* 8 Thy next which thou canst drop into at will 1872 R. H. HUTTON *Ess* I 47 The law only holds of the materials of scientific hypothesis in the degree of and it gives us in reprosenting to ourselves at will the facts of the universe 1888 E. H. BRADLEY in *Mind* XIII 1 Our ideas of the various sensuous regions parts of our bodies we can produce them at will

**b** In readiness to be dealt with as one will, at one's command or disposal

13 *Gow Mir Ant* 8 Als þowe awen, to haue at þi wore wille & welder 1389 8 I. USK *Test Lov* iii 911 (Skeat) I 5 Sithen her reuinge place is now so nyȝh at thy will 1390 *Lond Mayors* 161 in *Bl Lond Lemnt* 147 Whyle I had my strength at will and my tonge at libil vnclese c 1440 *Cemetery* 33 Whan I e lyste she was all atte his wille 1577 GOOGE *Heresbachius Husb* II 7 With wel ith ynough all pastures at will 1601 SHAKS. *Oth* II i 150 She that was ever faire, and never proud, Had I tongue at will, and 3et was never loud 1621 — *Cymb* IV ii 18 Nor my life is yours, I humbly set it at your will 1667 MILTON *P L* v 377 These mid hours, till Evening rise I have at will 1784 COWPER *Task* II 202 Whist as his eye into these Islands capacious scenery mastered at will 1867 MILTON *P L* v 377 These mid hours, till Evening rise I have at will 1784 COWPER *Task* II 202 Whist as his eye into these Islands capacious scenery mastered for his use, And ranging it at will? 1913 M ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* IX 218 At sunset the wind failed and left me at the will of the tides

**+c.** According to one's desire, as one wishes or likes, *esp* (*pred. or compl.*) of wind or weather, favourable *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 2243 Quen þai at wil had festend grund De wark þai ruised to a stund 1360 *Pol Poems* I 220 When þis wrath at his wil were ouer-blowe 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 48 Mi will is fierst that he schrive 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV Prol 1 Bot Eolus, the god of wyndis blast, Hes in his cauf at will 1594 *Locrine* I ii 26 Now the wind is at will 1784 COWPER *Task* II 202 Whist as his eye into these Islands capacious scenery mastered for his use, And ranging it at will? 1913 M ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* IX 218 At sunset the wind failed and left me at the will of the tides

**d** In reference to an estate held during the owner's or lessor's pleasure, from which the tenant may be ousted at any time chiefly in phr *estate, tenant*, etc *at will*

1481 *Rolls of Parli* V 217/2 Graunties of annuitees, made by you of estate of enheritance, for terme of life, or terme of yeers, or at wille 1589 in *Trans Cumbld & Westmld Archæ Soc* (N S) X 82 Which said Richard John glasiers hathe there occupyethe at will and ought to pay yearly the said rente 1603 G. OWAN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 196 They were not tenantes at will at the Comon lawe 1663 BUTLER *Hudib* I ii 1022 For we are their true Landlords still, And they our Tenants but at will. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm* II ix 145 An estate at will is where lands and tenements are let by one man to another, to have and to hold at the will of the lessor 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric Cambr* 52 The largest farm is held at will 1868 ROGERS *Pol Econ* xiii (1876) 178 The customary occupation was reduced to a tenancy at will.

**+16.** By *one's* will: with one's consent, or of one's own free will, willingly; according to one's desire, if one had one's wish. (Cf GOODWILL 3 b.)

c 1303 CHAUCER *Marriage* 129, I dar seyn, were he oute of his peyne, As by his wille, he wolde nevere have come ageyn 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5728 For by her wille withoute lees I wenche man shulde be seke 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* III iv 67 For I have heard him speak of that same virtuous man partner *Dog* Truely I would not hang a dog by my will. 1601 — *Twel N* III iii 2

**17.** In will. **+a** With the will or intention, intending, purposing (*to do* something); *to be* (also *have*) *in will*, to intend, purpose (Also *in a will.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M* 4725 All he sagh þam in a wil þair broþer wicles for to spil *Ibid* 15195 Pai had i-wil þat ilk night To torn be herode. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 6985, Y was yn wyl for pe feste þat euery hadde a peny.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 8 Of his mysdide hafand her sare, In wil to mysdo nomare. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 173 Gamelyn was in wille to wende berto. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xii. 27 His broderis slauchtyr to revenge in wyll.

†**b.** *To put* oneself *in, or to come in* (a person's) *will, also to come in will to* (a person) : to submit oneself to his will, surrender at discretion. *Sc. Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Syr Tryamour.* 1009 He wylle put hym yn yowre wylle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 984 Quhill tha, for hum-gyr sor, Cum in his will. 1560 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 46 The said Thom Stuert is cumin in the townis wyll, and dome gyffin thairapon. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 218 Al the rest with Sinklar cam in wil to thame of Orkney. *a* 1672 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 79 The honest men...was forced to come in the earle's wil, whilk was not for their weil. 1690 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 237 All quhilk [offences-] Nathanuell acknowledged and came in will. 1756 *Pennecuik's Coll. Sc. Poems* 108 Come in his will; Lay down the talents, or be debtor by hand or bill.

**18.** Of (*one's*) will. **a.** Of one's own accord, spontaneously, voluntarily. Now only with pos. and *own*, e. g. 'He did it of his own (free) will'.

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. (1868) 74 Vif pat dignites wexen foule of hir wille by pe filpe of shrewes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 605 And to pe tormentois of vit sa fayne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5141 He knewe not that she was constrayned,...But wende she come of wyl al free. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 541 For that I heclit of my will, And na man threit me I tell yow till, That I am baldin to fulfill. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., *O' will*, spontaneously.

†**b.** *Of will* : with the intention, on purpose (*to do* something). *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 479 Nocht of reasone, bot of wil A wyfys tarnyng til fulfil.

†**19. On** will : = *at will* (15 c). *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 1102 Heo wunden up selles, wind ston [= stod] an wilden. *Ibid.* 7843 Wulfes heo wunden up on wilden.

†**20. To** (*one's*) will : as one will, as one chooses; at one's disposal; to one's liking : = *at will*, 15 b, c. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3647 It sal him staur al to will. *Ibid.* 23243 O welles mar na mister wil, Pan hat to will o welth pe will. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4501 And will your self to will, nyll he so will he. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 7 May pai lat at sertie him to will. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 161 Thanne hadde I pis ston to myne wylle.

**21. With** (*one's*) will. †**a.** Intentionally; willingly; voluntarily : = *16, 18. Obs.*

*c* 1230 [see 5]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6693 Qua alas animan will wrang, Pat sal pine hell. 1375 *Pistel Conse Felin. A* 431 in *Jrnl. Stroke* (Camden) 343 So the fend hem prokede ich mon to hondlen other wid wille. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1971 When he pam resaue with wil Crist resaue we vs vntil. 1483 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 3 Ye haue counsel to them ye will now come to hym other wyth your wylle or by force. 1513 in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. I. 216, I see veray few...that with their wife weld go ageyn to the trade.

**b.** *With a will* : with determination, resolutely, vigorously, energetically.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I. He turned to (as he himself said) with a will. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown of Wild Olive* I. 44 Work is only done well when we work with a will. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* vii, I picked a stone and aimed it And threw it with a will.

*** **22.** In allusive or proverbial phrases, e. g. in contrast with *deed*, esp. in *to take the will for the deed* ; †*Will is no skill* (SKILL *sb.*1 3); *Where there's a will there's a way* (WAY *sb.*1 13).

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251–2 Wil is wo ... Wil is Red. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 221 in *Macro Plays* 43 Will for dede oft ys take. *c* 1520 *Scottish Field* 148 Pat bame pe pou herde say that Wyll is no Skyll? 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lx. § 6 Where we cannot doe what is inioyned us [God] accepteth our will to doe instead of the deede itself. 1660 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. b, The reasonable will is cept the will for the deed. 1801 LAIRD *Let. to Gentlem.* 9 Sept., In this little screwl you must take the will for the deed. 1810 CAR. WARD *Nat. Prov.* 152 Where there's a will there's a way. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. iii, Oh, sir, it is not the deed—it is the will. 1865 MRS. CRANSTON *Weird Stories* 5 (ed. xiv. (1867) 147 We will take the will for the deed, as the common people express it. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* vi, 'Your wishes make a will,' you say.

**IV. 23.** A person's declaration of his intention as to the disposal of his property or other matters to be performed after his death, most usually made in writing (but see NUNCUPATIVE 1, PAROL *a.* 1, quot. 1706); commonly *transf.* the document in which such intention is expressed.

Formerly properly used only in reference to the disposal of real property, thus distinguished from *testament* relating to personal property; whence the phrase (now tautological, but still in formal use) *last will and testament* ; see TESTAMENT 2b, 1.

(*a*) qualified by *last* (†*latt.*, † obs. rare).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 11 Panne Alisaundre lette his speche, and wrout his last wille. 1424, 1464, 1500, 1637 [see TESTATOR 2b, 1 (*b*)]. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 94 The last wille of the seyd Thomas Sakevyle. 1575–7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 467 In his testamentis and last will. 1598 SYLVESTER *Tourn. Parnassus* iii, *Parisie*, He disposed every thing to make the gentleman's last will and testament.

(*b*) simply.

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 48 Pis testament is ristful wille of dede frounseik. 1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 128 If ther be eny clause or matire in his olde will. 1483 [see TESTAMENT 2b, 1]. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick* rubric, If he haue not afore disposed his goods, let him then make his will. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. 109 Vpon his death-bed he by will bequeath'd His lands to me. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 23 P 9 She threw her will into the fire. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 496 Every person hath full power and liberty to make a will, that is not under some special prohibition by law or custom. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 62 Where a will is written on several sheets of paper, it is the usual practice for the testator to sign each of them. 1892 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 11 A will of real estate, wherever it be made, or in whatever language it be written. 1898 BRIGHT *Sp. Reform* 27 Oct. (1876) II. 20 If it [sc. landed property] were left to him by will,..it paid no legacy duty.

*fig.* 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 180 A most monstrous...He-goat,...making his Will, as we say, and gasping for Life, and dying indeed of meer old Age.

**b.** = TESTAMENT *sb.* 5 a. †*nonce-use.*

[*c* 1570 *Latimer's Protest.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxiv. 91 If God wolde have had a newe kynde of sacrifis ynge preest...then he, or some of his Apostles, wolde have made some mention therof in their master Christ's will.] *a* 1893 J. PAUL in Ford *Hist. Perthsh.* 364 A tawny tattered leaf atween the Auld Will an' the New.

**V. 24.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., as *will-force, -power, -spis it.* **b.** Objective, instrumental, and locative, as *will-commanding* adj., (in sense 23) *-maker, -making*; *will-fraught, -strong* adjs. **c.** Special Combs. : **will-fire** (see quot.); †**will government**, arbitrary or autocratic government; **will-office**, an office in which wills of deceased persons are kept; †**will-wisdom**, wisdom depending on one's will or fancy without divine influence; †**will-work**, a work performed by the human will, without divine grace (cf. WILL-WORSHIP).

*a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* solil. vi. 62 This 'will-commanding Saint. 1848 *Month. Jrnl.* 24 June 509/1 The fuel was ignited by 'will-fire, that is, fire obtained by friction. 1886 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 451/1 The 'will-force operating in all is the same. 1649 HOBBES *Process...Bramhall*, Ansr. Examined Rude and unbounded Will government. 1880 DISRAELI *Endymn.* vi, Events...which alike consigned the will and the 'will-maker to oblivion. 1898 LYTTON *Pelham* xxvii, A thing of state and solemnity,—long faces—easily rising—and 'will-making. 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 243 That journey was taken to London by A. W. and his wife, to get him inserted in the roome Exeter-house. 1874 HOPPS *Relig. Moral.* xiv. 44 The drunkard ...whose 'will-power and whose moral force have been completely destroyed. 1892 *Athenæum* 2 July 21/1 *Med. Will.* 313 In-unity of doubt, due to loss of will-power. *a* 1761 LAW *Const. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 21 Whilst your 'will-spirit is guilty the changes of creaturely fervour have not your concurrence with God. 1854 GALLAHER *Disc. Apost.* 73 His 'Will-strong Objector. 1866 WHITPLE *Char.* 322 No opinionated, will-strong, untamable passion. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matthew* 1 Will-worship, Invented and Will-done. 1580 LYTE tr. *Lobelius' Luther on Ep. Gal.* 85 They take from him y⁶ power both to iustifie and saue, and geue y⁶ same to their owne wilworkes.

**'Will,** *sb.*4 *Obs. rare.* Forms : 3 *wil*, 4 *wille*. [f. WILL *v.*1] Bewilderment, distraction.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1079 Wil sidden cam on euetille on. [*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3836 And for wondsome and wille alle pis wit failede. (See FOR *prep.* 10.)]

**'Will,** *sb.*5 Obsolete pet-form of the Christian name *William* (cf. *Piers Plowman* B. xix. 148, Shaks. *Sonn.* CXXXVI, etc.). **b.** *dial.* = WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

*a* 1718 PARNELL *Poiry Tale* 157 Will, who bears the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1750 COLLINS *Ode Superstition, Highland* 141 Let not dank Will mislead you i the heath. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* viii, You may go right into the bog and be smothered, and that's what the 'wils like.

**'Will,** *sb.*6 [f. WILL *v.*1] **a.** An utterance of the auxiliary verb 'will'; a determination expressed by this. **b.** The auxiliary verb 'will' as used in contradistinction to 'shall'.

1677, 1837–1891 [see SHALL *sb.* 1, 2].

**'Will,** *a.* (*adv.*) Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms : 3–5 *will*, (4 *wil*, *wyll*), 4–5 *wyl* (to, 5–6 *wyll*, 4–6, 8– *Sc.* and *dial.* *will*, (9 *Sc. wull*). [A. ON. *villr* bewildered, erring, astray : see WILL *v.*1]

1. Going or gone astray; that has lost his way, or has nowhere to go for rest or shelter; straying, wandering. 'lost'.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 975 Do flet agar fo sarray,. In fe diserd, wil and wei. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2 491 (Fairf.) Quen I was wil and out of won, Go I tak ye me to rest. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2309 All wery I was and wyll of my gate. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xvi. 1614 He trawalit al day, wyll I te wyne Hys partnar in his company. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. xii. 28 Quhen we war wyll of hething. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 450 When I was will and weriest yo harberd me full evely. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 58 I thay Montanis, I wes he wes will. *a* 1568 [see WILE *sb.*1 II. 2]. 1815 G. BLAITIE *John O'Arnha'* (1826) 62 His will and weary ghost. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxvii, Gyaun awa' to Aberdeen like a will chucken.

2. *fig.* †**a.** Going astray in thought, belief, or conduct; going wrong, erring; wayward, 'wild'.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7310 Noght yow allan, bot your owne sperag, Pat turnd yow will pan your will pening. 13.. *E. Allit. P.* B. 76 More to wyte is her wrange, pen any wyle gentyl. *Ibid.* C. 273 Pou wakened he wyse of his wyl dremes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Margaret*) 360 Soure consal is wikit & wil.

**b.** Not knowing what to do or how to proceed; at a loss, at one's wit's end, uncertain, perplexed.

*c* 1250 *Hereford* 263 Hwan he kam pe, he was ful wil, No haurde he no frend to gangen til. *Ibid.* 1049 Of puttinges he was ful wil, For neuere yete ne saw he or Putten ble stone, or panne bor. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12908 Arthur was al wy] On whilk hil pe geaunt was. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 208 Alias I Joseph for woo Was neuer wight in woride [= world] so wyll I. 1496 SIR G. HAVE *Lawe Armes* (S.T.S.) 53 [They] had sik diede that thai war will quhat to do. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 138 3it was I mekle willar than. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 375 You are so will of your wooing, you wat not where to wed. *Note*, You have such Choice of Mistresses.

3. Phrases. †**a.** *Will of wone* (*wone*) [WANE *sb.*2, WONE *sb.*2] : *lit.* wandering without a dwelling-place, homeless] = 1; also *fig.* = 2 b. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 180 Adam went out ful will o wan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 471 And he wes ala sa will off wane, That he trowit in nane sekyrly. *Ibid.* VII. 2 The king trowand the vod is gane, Wery for-swat and will of wayn. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 217 Was neuere so wofull a wy[f, Ne halfe so wille of wone ! *c* 1460 HENRYSON *Test. Creseid* 543 Wrangit in wo, ane wretch full will of wane. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 343 So will of ware [*printed* wand], and weipand for greif wo.

†**b.** *Will of rede* [REDE *sb.*1 2] : *lit.* at a loss for a plan or scheme] = 2 b. Also *will of good rede*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 494 He wes alsua will off red, That he durst rest in-to na place. *c* 1400 *Wisdom & Guy.* 279 That wedir made me so will a rede, I hopid neuer to have my dede. *c* 1485 WINTOUN *Cron.* VI. xvi. 1652 His leman was will of gud rede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 6 The top of litle Acestes heid, Amang the dulefull armes, will of reid Of his parentis.

**c.** *Will gate* (Sc.), † *gate will* [GATE *sb.*2] : going astray.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 90 Pan sho went in & tolde hym he cauce of hur gate will. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wyl-gate, or wrange gate, *deuiacio*. 1825 JAMIESON, *Will-gate, wudgate* sb. 1. An erroneous course, literally used. S. 2. In a moral sense, any course that is improper.

**4.** *compl.* or as *adv.* (chiefly with *go*) : Astray, out of the way (*lit.* and *fig.*); *to go will*, to go astray, lose one's way, wander, err.

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 52 Silden he us wille, If we heren to his word Dat we ne gon nowor wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4100 Bot ar he till his bur per-in, He sal nan gang will pan. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*St Stephen*) 255 Wenand Saul he had gane wil. Ane withyre 3it pane 3eid he til. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xii. 1137 With mid riderie pat was ay In wantonnes mare wil to draw Pan hawynge fayr and mes-ure hawe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 453 He gaff vnto ane honeste woman 3it bylded, pat wold nocht ly, 3 penys. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 73 Walkand will of his way. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxx. 74 It is so lang in cuming me till, I dreid that it be quyt gane will. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 92 Hoch! I mone, or ga will, Or ane in danger for to die. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-m.* II, I deimt dame Nature was gane will To rare with tackless reil. 1838 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 a Each time she attempted to overturn place she was irresistibly, and against her will, prevented by some invisible power; or, as she said, was 'Will led'.

†**5.** Of a place : Out-of-the-way, unfrequented, desolate. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2284 Wela wylle was he way, per bay hi wod schulden. *c* 1485 *Engl. Cong. Jrel.* li. 229 Hit was wille londe and waldy. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vi. 61 To name wecouth landy. Nolite to pat place, our steddis will. *Ibid.* XI. x. 64 Him self ascendis the hie hand of the hyll By wentis strait and passage scharp and wyll.

Hence †**Willness** (**whylness**), wildness, madness. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9307 What whylnes or wan-pede wryples our mynd ?

**Will** (wil), *v.*1 *Pa. t.* **would** (wud). Forms : see below. [OE. **willan*, pres.t. *wille*, *wilt*, *wilp*, pl.t. *wolde*, Anglian *walde*, = OFris. *willa*, *wille*, *wilde*, *wolde*, OS. *willian*, *willia*, *williad*, *wollda*, (MLG. *willen*, (M)Du. *willen*, *wilde*, OS. *willo*, *wil*, *wilda*, *wildi*, *wēsa*, (Sw. *vilja*, *ville*, Da. *ville*, *vilde*), Goth. *wiljan*, *wiljan*, *wilda* :– OTeut.* *wel-lyan*, parallel with OTeut. **wal-lyan*, whence OFris. *wella*, *welde*, OS. *wellian*, *welda*, MLG. *welen*, OHG. *wellen*, *well*, *wellemes*, etc., *welta*, *wolte* (OHG. *wollen*, *wollen*, *wollin*, *wolte*, *wolte*, *gewollt*), G. *wollen*, *will*, *wollen*, *wollte*, *gewollt*), ON. *velja*, *vel*, *valdi*, *valdir* (Sw. *välja*, Da. *vælge*) to choose; (see WELE *sb.*1), Goth. *waljan* to choose; for further Teut. derivatives see WELE *sb.*1, WALE *sb.*2 choice, WILL *adv.* 2 f. Indo-Eur. *wel-* : *wol-* : *wl-*, represented by L. *velle*, *volo* (*velim*, *volui*), Lith. *véljau*, *véljti* to wish, *pa-vélmi* to allow, *vilti* hope, OSl. *veléti* to command, *voliti* to will, choose, *volja* will, W. *gwell* better, Skr. *várāmi* chooses, wishes, prefers, *vára-* wish, choice, *víram* better, *vrnati* wishes, prefers.

The most remarkable feature of this vb., besides its many idiomatic and phrasal uses, is its employment as a regular auxiliary of the future tense, which goes back to the OE. period, and may be paralleled in other Germanic languages, e. g. MHG.

In some uses it is not always possible to distinguish this vb. from WILL *v.*2]

**A. Inflexional Forms.**

1. *Infinitive.* 1 **wyllan**, 3–5 **willen**, (3 *Orm.* **willenn**), 5 **wylen**, 5–7 **wille**, (7 **wil**), 4– **will**.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xviii. (Z.) 260 *Velle*, *willan*. *c* 1000 ORMIN 5897, & te burh willenn swelenn swellenne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2482 Thou shalt not wille to lassen away. *c* 1420 *Apol. Lol.* 49 To wyllen to mak God felow of pis violence. 1484 in *Bahees Bk.* (1888) 31 Strangers,...the which they knowen you to wille for to admitte and receyue. 1621

Burton *Anat. Mel.* 1. i. 2. xi. 49 *Velle*, and *Nolle*, will and nill. 1654 Vilvain *Theorem. Theol.* ii. 50 Man, at Creation, had to wil or nil naturaly.

2. *Perteral Tenses.* 1*st* and 3*rd pers. sing.* α. 1–4 wile, wyle, 1–6 wille, wylle (1 *North.* willo, uflio), 4–6 wyl, wyll, 1 *North.*, 4–7 wil, (1 ull, 6 *St.* vil), 1 *North.*, 4– will. *B.* 2–3 wulle, 3–5 wule, 5–6 wul, (7–9 *dial.*) wull, 9 *dial.* ull. γ. 3–5 wole, 3–6 wolle, 4–6 wol(l (3 uole, 5 vol); 5–7 wooll (5 -lle, whowl), *dial.* 8–9 wool, woul, 9 ool. δ. 1 *Anglian*, 3 welle, 3–5 wele, well, 4 wel, 8–9 *dial.* el.

α. 888 (MS. c 1000) *Rituale Roth.* iii. § 4 Ic nu wille teonnitce to Gode cleopian. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt xvi. 24 Se þe nu wil [*Wushw.* wille, *Ags. Gosp.* wyle, *Hatton* wile] æfter mín æcynne. — Luke xiii. 31 Herodes will [*Ags. Gosp.* wyle] hec ofslean. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 15 Oþþe ne mot ic don þæt ic wylle? c 1030 *Rule St. Benet* xlviii 8. Se ðe wylle hun asyfan ræslan. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656. Ic þe wile fiuden þæt ðu gold ne silfer, land & ahte. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom* 57 Gif man beð forwunded, he wile anon seechen after leches. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 918 To will ab soit to will noght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 Huo bet wyle conne and wyse be rennes of be to-ige. a 1398 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 7 Of Gyngs ful gl dily now will I tell. 1399 *Lay Folks Mass-bk.* (L.) 922 A lyte wyl I be herte þat he wyl not þeve to hys goed. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 535 Sif sch it hir schewe, sche wil telle Hir fader. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (*Andrew*) 1029 I will Ane vthyre questions send hym till. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1. 3 Now will I shewe ake hym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 Yf man wyll put to his good wyll to bryuge hym safe to the ende of his vsid iourney. 1548 Hutchin *Sum of Pyn.* K. 5 iij, God wylle all men to be saued. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep 3 Ther is nathing þat I wil not vse [cfr.]. 1611 *Bible* Acts. xix. 2, I wil gather all nations against Ierusalem to battell.

*B.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Þu belle u wulle beon þin bite. c 1205 *Lay* 3568 Wha swa wulle habbe [c 1275 wole hibbe]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Hwo se wule wel di n. c 1430 *Pilgr. of Mankinde* ii. 811 (1859) Ye wulle be other noon.

Methan *Anwynus & Cl.* 163 As man autor dothe wryte, right so wul I. 1616 R. Johnson *Pasco. St. Ursula* 31 What lord, or beast, is known so wild, That fled his cage, wuld Render his head in there ngrune? 1836 [Hogtov] *Bilberry Thailand* I. xxiii 307 To be sure, certinly, that I will. 1869 A. Mackay *Mrs. Mackay's Rod* xxiv 252 "Oh, never mind Mrs. Mackay," Oh, but a will mind."

γ. a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 668 in *O. E. Misc.* 137 He wole binnen hire bedde abyde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 Huo wole beon wyse, þet þing þat god helpe wole. 1397 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 66, Ich wolle telle þat cas. 1390 Gower *Conf* I. 7 Tha he wende wel no pes purchace. a 1450 *Domesday Ipswich* v. in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 21 Alf that he wooll done his lawe. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 29 Wole y or wole y not. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 261 And so wolle the kynge my lorde be assured. 1525 Lee, Wharton & Else in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 267 We know yor Lordship's duble wyse dome will consyder thes. 1650 *Hieronymo Banquet* to Time (Percy Soc.) I wooll. 1718 J. Lee *Wanderer* 128 Write me down, what wool pleave you. 1788 Vallancy *Voc Burgic in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Wool*, to wish. 1790 Bowfield *Richard & Kate* viii. in *Rural Felic.* (1806) 3 Ay, Kate, I wo-il. 1875 'S. Beauchamp' *N. Humberland* II. 17 'A thinks a sol,' says she.

δ. (Sc.) *Pesp. Pr* v 513 Fordon ne wellende gi unrehtwisnesse ðu ært. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 Sebe wile þinre leasre sawel his. a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 340 in *O. E. Misc.* 122 God mey giuen wanne he wele goed after 3uil. *Ibid.* 641, 156 Panne we habbe te sawle none more to worðe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 81 1254 (G 11) Fil wele he wele þaimquite þat me iseþ. *Ibid.* 1826 And ȝe sal be, sua well lesu, All dumb of speche. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk. Antiq. Soc.* 360 Ye wer be-ter wyll warnyngee. 1790 Mrs Wheeler *Westmld. Dial* ii. 59, Th reek el blaw en yer feace.

3. *2nd pers. sing.* α. 1– wilt; also 1, 4, 6 wylt, 3 *Orm.* willt, 5 wilte, 6 wylte. *B.* 2–6 wilt, 3–5 wylt, 3, 5, 7 wylte, 5–6 se. *δ.* 7 woo't, w'oot, woot, wut, 7, 9 (*dial.*) woot.

α. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi 39 Nallas sua ic wille ah sua ðu wilt. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx 21 Þa cwæð he hwæt wylt þu? c 1200 Ormin 2039, & þiff þatt tu wilt teonenn me. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1739 Syf þou ȝiue hym a man hate, And þat wrabþe wyll nat late. c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 34 Yeve us counsele how thow wilte wa shall say. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. ii. If thu wylle ever be myne heyre, assente vnto. 1563 Whitehorne *Onoxandros Platon.* 123 If thou wylt that vpon lefe come w orke he doone. 1849 M. Arnold *Sick King in Bokhara* 131 Wilt thou they straightway bring him in?

*B.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Þu wult bi hateen god almihtin.. þet þu wult fylleen þine mudeele. c 1205 *Lay* 624 Sif þu wilt [c 1275 wolt] þu mihte deol. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 29 Wult þu nu, þu wult. (1870–9) If thou wult, thou shalt make him chek and mat. 1557 Phaer *Æneid.* vi. (1558) S j, Wult see the Tartarus thinges?

γ. c 1205 Lay. 1577 Goffar mid þire ferde, wi wolt þu fleian mikian? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 118 If thou wolt live in vertu, thou must ete sadnesse. c 1450 Love *Remonstrance* 1. xv. (Cobb's MS.), ȝe how wolte seen ensample hier of Jhu. c 1530 *Hyenne's reign* (1865) 13 Binnge, if þou wolt, þu soults to this. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iii. 81 b, Wolte thou not take vs in to the number of thy cheintes? 1600 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* i. C 2, Wolt be me a favour?

δ. 1600 Shaks. *Hamt.* v. i. 207 Woo't weepe? Woo't fight? Woo't teare thy selfe? 1604 Middleton *Blurt* iii. C 4 b, Wut open doore? 1607 — *Fam. Love* i. ii, Wo't thou forsake me then? 1620 J. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* iv. i. L 1 b, Wut thou be iust to me? 1629 Shirley *Bull* iv. i, Thou wot stop a breach in a moddle wall

b. 4 wille, wile, wel, 4–5 will, wolle, 4, 6 wil, wol, 5 wole, 6 wyll.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5639 Wil þou i ga . To fot a woman o þat leide? *Ibid.* 9267 It sal be al als tu it wille. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* ix 153 Wolle pow, ne wolle pow, we wollep habbe oure wil. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 2 Yef þu will haue þat loy. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. iv. 15 Quhare, dismale, wil thow now? gan Gyas cry. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 b, Wyll thou or nyll thou, thou mayst leue thy goodes. 1534 Whittinton *Tullyes Offices* I. A 2, Thou shalt lerne as longe as thou wyll.

4. *Plural.* a. 1 willap, wyllap, 3–4 willeþ, 4 wyllep, 5 -yth; 1 (*Subj.*) willen, -on, -an, 3 wilen, 4 willen, 4–5 wylen, -yn, wiln, 5 wyllen, willyn; 5 wyn; (1), 2–6 wille, 3–4 wile, 4–5 wyl, 4–6 wyll, 5 wylle, *Sc.* vyll, 4– will. *B.* 2 wulleþ, 2–4 wulleþ, (3 -et, wlleð, -eð); 5 wull(e, 5–6 wul. γ. 3–4 wolleþ, 5 wolleth; 4–5 wol(l)en; 4–5 wol(l)e, 4–6 woll(e. δ. 1 *North.* welle, 4 welen, -yn; 4 wel, 4–5 wele, well(e. ε. 1 *North.* wallaš, -as, 5 wal.

a. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiv. [xxxv] 17 Seliað & diliuiað ða willað rehtwisnisse mine. c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxxii. (*Z.*) 190 *Volumus*, we wyllaþ. c 1150 *Lamb Hom.* 13 Penne wille þe ȝet bitweonen. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Yef we willeth don his seruise. c 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 191 Leunes and beres him wile to-dragen. *Ibid.* 2304 If se wilen ȝe wið trewende leden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14951 Pai wil me neuer hue. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 16 Fyrst we wyllyn (*v. r.* wellyn) of hem be shreuyn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Huanne hi wyllep hy rhoten openen. a 1375 *Cursor M.* 4318 (Cott.) Nou þai wil him noght suar. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 249 Ydel schauelduris willen loke to be festid of siche meetis. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 11 Yef se wille come to be ioy of heuin. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 21 Or ȝe wylle mennen þis gode dede. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxiv. 8 Þerfore þi charité in chefe to those that wyn be chast. c 1425 *Cursor Mundi* (Cambdn.) I. 48, I leseche yow þat ȝe willyn speke to John Martin. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 331 Pey wyllen not do þat ȝe wyllen. 1468 in *Bull. Inst. Hist. Research* I. 72 *nole*, Rather then we wyll suffre hyt ther shall xx persons ȝe dye in I day. 1496 *Acts Dom. Conc.* (1839) 177 ȝe sall redelie ansuer to þe said matter. ? 1540 Bk. Common *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 70 It is couydent thei will no wyues. 1562 Winget *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 7 Quhat wyll ye speik?

*B.* c 1175 *Lamb Hom.*, 7 Nu we wulleð seggen mare wet þit godspel itacneð. *Ibid.* 41 Seȝ ȝe lusten wuleð. c 1205 Lay. 3 Sæt þer in seli hunen a rume. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Wulleð Sathanas ever wullen don alle. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11419 We will treate of a trew. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (1swb) 66 They wulle hiure be to me as enemyes. 1490 wul yet do. 1581 J. Hall *Contn. Higden* 1. 1. Although concealo they wul A crosse receivde of simple wight.

γ. c 1205 Lay. 479 Pat heo mukeu wonien wer ssa heo wolleð. 1397 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3261 Hit wolleþ wynne by daye. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind* 1010 Panne we wollen of þe watur wilfully drake. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 43 3if 3e wolleþ lyue after þat I techeþ. c 1380 Chaucer *Wife of Bathes T.* 129 What wol yedyne? a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 1–3 We wol wassche us. c 1400 Lovel. *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiii. (Gl. In MS.) if so 3yfe we wolleth hier take good entent. c 1440 *Generydes* 173 They wolle shewe sure purpose euery dele. c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. vi. 171 Purauenture summen wolen in other wise sei. a 1450 Myrc 250 Another tyme yt hem folgheþe As the fader & he moder wolþe. 1534 in *Lett., Supp., Monast.* (Camden) 46 We wol nt be so lolde. 1536 in Leadam *Ast. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc) 43 We assure you that, ye wol groundely examyne the said witnesses.

δ. 1500 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 22 *Quæ unque uultis*, sua huæt gie welle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1327, I wat nan sein hu wel we wellen [Gött. wellin] be i 3ung. a 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 23 þes coueitous symonyentis welen be ȝe first to lette hem. 14.. *Gest. Arthol.* (N.) 100 We welle hy our lorde to wyfe, Yf he wolle be trwe. B 48 b.

ε. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 32 *Quid uultis*, huæt wallaš gie? 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* (1901) II. 199 Pey trow, þat ye wal benefyly conveye me the thynges afore rehersed. 1452 *Ibid.* 201 Suche men as wal have ther service accordyng to the statutes therof made.

5. Reduced forms: a. 1st sing. pres. combined with pron. *ich*, I: 3 icholle, (ich chulle), ychulle, 3–4 ichulle, 5 ychull, 6 chil, chyll, 6–7 chill, 7 'chill, 8 'ill.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Forsiþ, & ichulle forsiue þe. a 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 213 Ichoto be one ich chulle þunken. 13.. *R. Horn* 3 (Harl.) A sing schulle on suge. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 108 Some he sayde, ȝe chulle gon wiþ me. [For other evidence see Ch, 'ch, I *pron.* *, 8*.]

b. Contracted 'll (since the 17th cent.), esp. after pron.: I'll (*ich*), 6–7 *Ile*, 7 *I'le*, 8 *I'il*; he'll (*hell*), 8 *hee'l*; she'll (*sell*), 6–7 *sheele*, 7 *shele*; it'll (*it'll*); we'll (*well*), 6–7 *weele*, (6 *wyll'*, 7 *wee'l*, *wee'll*); you'll (*yell*), 6–7 *youle*, 7 *you'l*; 7 (*yo'll*) 8 *yo'll*; they'll (*thell*), 7 *theile*, 7–8 *they'l*; 9 **who'll** (*hwil*), 7 *whole*.

1725 *King Estmere* xii. in Child *Ballads* II. 52, I doubt sheele doo you the same. 1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* II. iii. B, And for this faulte, wyll pave it ore ni teame. c 1590 *T. T. Hom.* ii. 21. 166 Yf I sowle make our Sauiour selues into your company. 1608 Shaks. *Lear* v. i. 34 (Qa. 1) Sister you'l (Qa. 2 youle) goe with 'st? 1610 Heywood *Gunaik. Age* i. 3, I'le not kill my part. 1623 *Shaks. Two Gent.* II. ii. 6 We'll make exchange. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* To Rdr. (1686) A 3 b, How is it possible (you'll say) to please them all? *Ibid.*, I'll name as many as shall come into my mind. 1720 Ramsay *Wife of Auchtermuchty* iii, Yeil ken what drinkers drie. 17.. *Johnie Armstrang* in *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 292 I'll gie thee all these Milk whyt Steids. 1789 Burns *Holy Fair* v, Gin ye'll go there, yon runkl'd pair, 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* ii. xii, She'll find my garden-tools upon the granary floor. 1844 Browning *Casual. Tuner, Time of a Rouse* i, Who'll do him right now? 1899 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xiv, It'll be known all over the country. 1899 Ruskin *Two Paths* i. § 21 To see if they'll bear shaking. 1904 Wayman *Abb. Lays* ix, You'll laugh on the other side of your face. *Mod. (colloq.)* There, that'll do! Thau dog'll bite you. These chimneys'll fall down soon.

c. and sing. pres. ind.: 1 **ouch**, (? **thou't**).

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 119 Come, come, thou'lt do thy message, wilt thou not? 1607 — *Timon* i. i. 135 That's a deed thou't dye for. a 1889 Beddoes *Wolfram's Dirge*, And there alone thou'lt meet her.

6. a. With prons. affixed: 1*st pers. sing.* 1 *North.* willo, 3–4 willy, 4 wyly, wol(l)y, 5 whillt; 2*nd pers. sing.* 1, 8 *Sc.* wiltu, 3 wultu, 3–5 woltou, 4 weltu, wiltu, 4–5 wil(l)tou, -ow, 5 woltowe, wyltowe, whylte.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt xv. 32 *Misereor turbæ*, willic milta ðreatan. c 970 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 28 Wiltu we gan & gesomnige hiene? a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2064 Hwerto wultu wreaðliin wið þe worldes wealdent? 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5292 How woltou ydelie me. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5118 (Cott.) Wiltou wil þou i ga? 1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Wilte þou don nil wille al þet þ. a 1350 *Northbk* 528 Wilte don nil wille al þet þ. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 4595 Sir, wyly make assay. a 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) ix. 21 Whider wiltou fare? 1390 Gower *Balades*. *Misce.* xcii. (Gibbs MS.) If so Sone wyltowe not gone home asayne wyt vs. *Ibid.* xxxix. 65 Howe longe woltowe make vs in suspens? 14.. *Nominale* in *Anglia* II. 482 Wiltou pat þaime whilk take þat deþ. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 28 Loude god . why lie defende me this daye from shame-full deethe. 1521 Ramsay *Thrie Priests of Peblis* 1. 31 Wiltu dot again? a 1776 in Herd *Scot. Songs* II. 98 O sikepy body, And drowsy body, O wiltuna waken and turn thee?

b. With negative *not* (*na*) affixed: α. 5 wynnot, 6–9 wonnot, 7 woonnot, 7–8 wo'not, 7–9 wonot, (9 winnot, wunnet); 7– won't (7–8 wont'; 8 we'n't, 9 willn't, willut. (*Won't* alone survives in gen. colloq. use; the rest are obs. or dial.) *B. Sc.* and *north. dial.* 8– winna (9 wunna).

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 Sif þay ben hardo and wynnot alye. 1584 R. Wilson *Three Ladies Lond.* D, Sirra He tell thee, I wonnot tell thee, and yet He tell thee, now I member me too. 1632 Shirley *Sch. Compl.* IV. i. 56, I can worke, and woonnot. 1678 *Ward Sol. Inform.* IV. ii. H 3 b, You wonnot pull off your bootes too will you? 1866 *Char. Provence of Mary-Land* (1869) 44 In relieving at a distance the proud poverty of the gentry, they wonnot. 1667 Prior *Dialy* to June, People that have been used to be deceived by us to money, won't believe me. 1670 Taylor *Pl. Scaring Consc.* xxxiii. 166 Sir, I wonnot. But what I cannot grant, I will not hear. *Almanz.* You wo not hear! 1686 in *Agnatis or Cas. Wars Lacede. monians* 101 Wo' not you pardon me? 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Nause has a good steady heart that wont soon break. 1787 Ramsay *Ruby* & *Sandy* 5 Na, na, it winna do! 1794 Sherburne *Metaimosys* (1796) II. 3, That we'n't bring them a present of Negroes. *Clara*, Will, Winnot. 1814 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. x, He wunna budge. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xviii, That will'n wash, Miss. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 240 They don't, and I fancy won't.

c. Written continuously with the inf. *be*.

c 1400 *Generyd.* 2 6516 And so shuld ye to me a wife. 1478 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 30 It nobleth . cheverysyn, to be wife a leder of a felowship in werre. 1573 in *Cath. Treatates* (S. I.S.) 18 It wilbe verray hard to me.

7. *Imper.* 1 *pl.* *North.* **wallaš**, -as, **wallaš**, 4 wile, 5 wylleth, wyl.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xvi. 6 *Videte locum*, se wallaš gesceawiað. 1388, c 1400 [see B. 12 b].

8. *Past Tense.* 1*st and 3d sing.* (and *pl.*) α. 1–6 **wolde**, 4–7 **wold** (1, 3 **wuolde**, 3 **weolde**, (*Orm.*) **wollde**; 4 wold, woled, 5 volde, wholde, 6 **woold**(e, wolt, 7 vold); 3–5 wulde, 5 wuld, wude, 7 wud, wu'd; (5 whowl(l)de, whowllyd; 6 **woould**(e, owld); 5 wolde, 6 wood, 7 wood'd, wo'ld, *dial.* **would**). **wouden**, 7–8 wou'd; 5–9 (now *dial.*) **wud**.

c 888(MS. c 960) Ælfred *Boeth* xvi § 2 Hu wunderlic wolde seon ðæt þunden hwelce celbretun, o ge wolden þa habban, & mid hwelce hiealtne ge wolden beon astered. c 1200 Ormin 252 Forr þatt he wollde þurrhenn þe mannkinn. 1297 R. Glouc. 3262 Þat heo wolden al þus lond dælen heom bi-twene. *Ibid.* 6453 An of hon he wolden hun don. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13701 (Gott.) Pat lain wald neuer sulid be stane. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 247 Be so that thei hen hiþe wolde. 1399 Langl. *Rich Redeles* ii. 87 Somme deide ritht so, and wolde go no ffurþer. 1423 Wawain. *Orem.* (Camden) 11 Alle the blist wolde holden with hym. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 34 The wull... who not so good as I wolde hyt had bene. 15.. *Lone Sangge in Ritson Anc. Songs* (1792) 132 Chryst wold the fyger of hus swete face Wers ȝe lorred whyle ever he wes. 1530 Crowley ed. in Merriman *Life & Letts.* (1902) I. 310, I wolde hnue wete your grace hong er this. 1588 in *Feuil. Brett-Smith Jahn. Vil.* (1904) 129 We wolde you wholde send we convenient apparell. 1627 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 175 Whom if the perfect vertues wolden daine To be set forth with fole of worldly gaine. 1693 *Col. Collect. Examples.* I. 390 And yt he wold promote it as much as he can.

c 1205 Lay. 7964 Þat Cesar wolde þe ȝet wunnien þar. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1071 Or he nu wolden ha dotires noȝ. c 1440 *Generydes* 372 Of his labour wold he neuer sese. 1620 J. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* ii. ii. F 2 b, Wud I were I' the Countrey seane. 1650 Heath *Clarastella* 19 What mortal wold believe?

c 1465 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 204, I wol hertely pray ȝow, þat ȝe wod do make astate unto me. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 33 (MS.), I whowlde a wyve yow lyvrge

houer suile yowr trottynge hors. *1481 Ibid.* 76, I whowlyd fayn heyr some good tydyngys of yowr matter. *1487 Ibid.* 158, I whowde swyase my wyster & yow to com agayne into Ennet. *a 1500 Flower & Leaf* 116 And he would serue. *a 1533* Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1539) Hh vij, What is that reaime that sleeth theim that wold their wealth, and are angry with theim that wolde helpe their yll. *1587* in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* 1. III. 23 Yf I had bid ought I owld have bid by yt. *c 1600* Gotte *Carelest Shepherdess* III. 1, You had better have been hang'd at first, as I wo'd had you. *1608* J. Jones *Ovid's Ibis* 86 Or like Admetus father-law that would, Return to youthful years when he was old. *1665* Flecknoe *Erminia* III. iii. 49, I wou'd no force what I might obtain by gentleness. *Ev.* You wod not? you cannot Sir. *1688* Shadwell. *Spr. Alcatin* I. i. 4 Yeow wooden han leen a Bed aw th' morn. *1697* Dryden *Æneis* xi. 189 Wou'd I your Justice or your Force express. *1721* Shaftesb. *Charac.* II. 227 Wou'd you then appeal..? Most certainly I shou'd appeal, said I. *1787* Incbald *Such Things are* I. i, Why you wou'd not inform against me sure! *1790* Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* 5, I wod fain hev had him tae hed a Docter. *1828* Carr *Craven Gloss., Wod, Wodd*, would.

*B.* Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* 1–6 **walde** (1, 3 **walde, ualde**), 3–8 **wald**, (4 **wald**, 4, 6 **wald**, 5 **wallde, wwald**); 8– **wad** (6 **wadde, wawd**).

*c 825 Vesp. Ps.* xxxix. 9 *Volui*, ic walde. *c 897* Alfred *Gregory's Past.* C. lvii. 443 Ic walde þæt hi wæren þeódelde. *c 950 Lindisf. Gosp.* John vii. 44 Sumo..of þam ualdon zegrioppa hine. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 7 Walden heo naldden heo. *c 1205* Lay. 1416 Whejher heo walden healde ȝeþ. *c 1250* Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 56 þat king Edward in feld walde dwell. *1375* Barbour *Bruce* v. 126 To se quha freind or fa vald be. *c 1440 York Myst.* xv. 70 What it was fayne witte wald I fayne. *1470* Henry *Wallace* xi. 1400 Quhill thir till him had done all at thai wauld. *1489 Cely Papers* (Camden) 69 The pope hollynes..walde a sartte me home agayn. *c 1500* Hawthornden *Cath. Angelicus* (S.T.S.) 76 All thaime, quha wald not be reformit. *1506* Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 9 Gif quha walde knaw the name of ilk Britannie nemie referris it vnto lieutus. *c 1600* La Hogue *Brit. Tongue* (1869) 20 Heer I wald commend to our men quhase confoundes these the imitation of the south. *1604* G. Fox in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 100 Ye wod not be a caping against the king. *1724* Ramsay *Vision* ix, The hardy wald, with hairy wilfs, Doun dyve vengeance fall. *1825* Jamieson, *Wald..* 2. Would..It should, or ought to be.

*1564–78* Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (E.E.T.S.) 5 Gud.. sende you comfort of all thynges that you waulde haue gud of. *1582* N. Wooder (*Cam.*) *Enarr. Iv. Fire Old Plevs* (Roxb.) 32 It wald theam all deceue. *1720* Ramsay *Epistle. Salut. to Ld. Carnarvon* ii, My auld grey-head I yet wad rear. *1816* Scott *Old Mort.* xxxvii, I wad kill him as chicken in an instant. *1825* Brockett *N. C. Words* xv. *Wod*, He wad, at wad he.

**7.** 4–5 **wyld**, 4–5, 7 **wild** (4 **wold, wijld**, 4, 6 **wylde, wilde**, 5 **whelde**), 6– **willed.**

Origin northern, from ON. *vilda*; late examples may belong to Will *v.*[3]

*a 1300 Cursor M.* 8446 His fader biding wel he heild, And did al bat his mouer wild. *a 1340 Hampole Psalter* lxxx. 12 And sco wild. *1393* R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6953 And he myst helpe, yif he wild. *1476 Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 11 My cosyn..sayde me a-yene ye wyld not haue hyddur. *1481 Cely Papers* (Camden) 74 Sche [sc. a litch] wheelle newyr hett mette and so sche ys Deyd. *1546* Bale *Engl. Votaries* i. 31 b, Least wanton youthe walde brynge them togyther wylde they wylde they. *a 1548* Hall *Chron. Richard* III. 52 b, Willed or nilled his Maister. *1610* Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 270 Constantine..they forced wild he, nild he, to usurpe the empire.

**8.** *2nd pers. sing. a.* 1–5 **woldest**, (1 **waldes**, 1, 3 **ualdes**, 3 **wealdest, wealdest, wealdes**), 3–4 **wost, 4 wildest**, 4–5 **woldist** (4 **-es**, 5 **-eis, -yst**, 6 **-ys**), 6– **wouldst, wouldst** (6 **wout**, 7 **would'st**).

*c 825 Vesp. Psalter* xl. 7 *Voluisti*, ðu waldes. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 65 þu wuldest symle þone besmitan þe þu nan wiht yfles on nyxtest. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi woldest þu swikien on þine ayene þinge. *c 1205* Lay. 7776 þu woldest leoti min hayrm. *Ibid.* 8008 Þat þu waldest. *c 1220 Bestiary* 501 Þat tu waldes seien 3ct set [etc.]. *c 1275* Lay. 16035 Set þou were so wis man..þanne þou wost axi of þine mochele care. *1393* Wiclif (1850) 13 *Gamelyn* 1. *Gamelyn Knt.* 2128 Pat lelly me layne, I leue wel þou wolder ! *c 1320 Sir Tristr.* 2076 Pat þou wost hit se Wip sist. *1380* Wyclif *Works* (1882) xxvii. 37 And þou wildest þat þou wuldest. *c 1400 Bestiary* 501 Þat tu waldes seien 3ct set [etc.]. *c 1475* Lay. 16035 Set þou were so wis man..þanne þou wost axi of þine mochele care. *1393* Wiclif (1850) 13 *Gamelyn* 1. *Gamelyn Knt.* 2128 Pat lelly me layne, I leue wel þou wolder ! *c 1320 Sir Tristr.* 2076 Pat þou wost hit se Wip sist. *1380* Wyclif *Works* xxvii. 37 And þou wildest þat þou wuldest. *c 1400 Dest

192 Will you never...fence them in their shuddering from the fierce wind? 1922 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Feb. 88/3 Literature thrives where people will read what they do not agree with, if it is good.

**b.** In and person, interrog., or in a dependent clause after *beg* or the like, expressing a request (usually courteous; with emphasis, impatient).

*a* 1300 *Cov.* & *W.Sol* 186 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 64 Thou hauest ben alle min Hele. Wolten ȝe nou stille sitten here? 1377 *Piers Plowman's Pilgrimage* 135 Wolt þou, ladi, for loue, on vre lay lerne? 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. vi. 42 Sir said Ector wolte Arthur wol ȝe be my good and gracious lord when ȝe are kyng? 1592 Greene *Philomela* To Rdr., I...crauue that you will beare with this fault. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. i. 47 Will you shogge off? 1603 (see Bird n. 2d). 1721 Ramsay *Tog. Lateird* & *Edin. Asks* (O Katty, will ȝe bring wi' me, And leave the dimsome Town a while? 1814 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxv, I desire you will found nothing on an expression hastily used. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* v. iii, O, O, O...O, will you have done!

**7.** Expressing voluntary action, or conscious intention directed to the doing of what is expressed by the principal verb (without temporal reference as in 1 I, and without emphasis as in 10): = choose to (Choose v. B. 3).

The proper word for this idea, which cannot be so precisely expressed by any other.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Nu cit sceolan [we] oberne ebel secan, þon wile, wen wuldor, þe we mid ure sinnan willen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5987 Gas þan, sin ȝee wil bider ga. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* Prol. 8 Why sat ȝe so? quod I, why wiltow leite me knowe of my tale thou ayther nost? 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* x. i. (1495) Al þis [God] may do euery thyng that he wol also, but he wyl not do euery thyng that he may doo. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xv. iii, Bathe my dreize and my lyfe, Is inne the wille of thi wife, Quethur hi wolle stynte me of my strife. Or putte me to payne! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 1214 Iosit rathers as my autour will say. 1528 in Lesdam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 19 Mulso...sayeth...that your sayed bewdlue shall...pay him suche a Fyne...as he will demaund at hys pleasure. 1578 Whetstone *Promos* & *Cass.* III. vi, Dalia, prie Hecate sone? what wolt serue me vse? 1689 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. ix. 23 When God will tell us we shall know. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. ii. 42 You cannot hope to Lyncean' piercing eyes: But will you then a strengthening salve despise?

**8.** Expressing natural disposition to do something, and hence habitual action: Has the habit, or 'knack', of —ing; is addicted or accustomed to —ing; habitually does; sometimes connoting 'may be expected to' (cf. 15).

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* v. vii. 230 Ilpendes hyd wile drincan wætan selice & spynge deh. 13 ... *Ruliewyne* 424 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 139 Þat wil lihtli lauhe, he wil chastlic. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1623 Bridde Roses and opon also Ben passed in a day or two, But knoppes will fresh be Tway dayes atte leest or three. 1440 Promp. Parv. (Roxb.) xvii. 100 Þai er rowgh and will clymbe in to treese als lightly as þai were apes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxiv. 31 Women that wol goo to ofte wenynge and also wol goo on pilgrimage more for sporte than for deuocion. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 174, I have bounde this horse thus by cause he will fyghte. *c* 1500 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 32 Humors superflue, that often will repe into the braynes. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ecclus. xxi. 24 A fode will pepe in at the window into the house, but he that is wel nourtured, will stande without. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 246 The wren doth fear God, howsoever it seemeth not in him, by some large iestes hee will make. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 142 Crabs move sideling, Lobsters will swim and will backward. 1780 *Mirror* N. 100 Of those trifles, the nature will commonly mark the man. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* II. § 51 Men, by their nature, are prone to fight; they will fight for any cause, or for none. 1884 *Punch* (weekly ed.) 26 Sept. 143 Should they make a good haul on Monday, they will lounge away the rest of the week.

**9.** Expressing potentiality, capacity, or sufficiency: Can, may, is able to, is capable of —ing; is (large) enough or sufficient to.

*† It will not be*: it cannot be done or brought to pass; it is all in vain. So *† Will it not be?*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth. Cr.* (1868) 113 In spiritz Ingement is more clere and will nat be cumped. *c* 1430 *Two Coverley-Mr.* 31 Iey be quatteryx v. or vj. in a dyshe, as it wole come a-bowte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519 That ye take with hir that she may haue hir pece. And so to liue in pees and it wille. *c* 1537 De Elyne *Measuryage Lande* Cont, To knowe howe many foote of boorde or stone will boorde or paue it. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Trichum*, a certayne stoole or chaire, whiche will be tourned about. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 607 But all in vaine, good Queene, it will not bee. 1592 — *Rom.* & *Jul.* IV. v. 3 Immoueable was hee: Matrons, Madam, Madam...Will it not be? 1600 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. ii. § 1 Parrots...will be taught to make articulate Sounds. 1710 S. Patrick *Proverbs* 47 The Hazard of being Ridiculous won't Ballance the Inclination to be talked on. 1728 E. Smith *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 98 When the Oven is ready, point in your Stuff. Half an hour will bake it. 1750–1848 (see Do v. 24). 1790 Cowper *Let.* 21 Mar., My periwig is arrived,...my head will only go into the first half of it. 1833 N. Abbott *Papists* (ed. 3) 259 The heart will beat after removal from the body. 1866 R. Chenevix *Life Campbell* IX. (1907) 277 [His] words, though they will bear, yet do not warrant, such a translation.

**10.** As a strengthening of sense 7, expressing determination, persistence, and the like (without temporal reference as in 11). † a. Purposes to, is determined to. *Obs.*

*c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xli. 155 Men sayen comynly, that he whome god will haue kept, may not be perysshed. 1590 — *Eneydos* xv. 55 Iuno the goddesse, wyllynge accomplysshe the marryge of Eneas to dydo. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. lxvi. 6, I heare ye voyce of the Lorde, that will rewarde, & recompence his enemyes.

**b.** *emphatically.* Is fully determined to; insists on or persists in —ing: sometimes with mixture of sense 8. (In 1st pers. with implication of futurity, as a strengthening of sense 11 a.) Also *fig.* = must inevitably, is sure to.

*c* 1626 Chapman *Iliad* VI. 498 Fate's such a shrewish thing, She will be maistris. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* v. iii, I'm. Pure come? *Gio.* So I said, and tell him more, I *will* come. 1672 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* I. i. 5, I know not that's but they'l will and must. 1704 Mrs. Rancliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, If he will lock the door,...and take away the key, how am I to get out? 1802 Wordsw. *To the small Celandine* 52 Buttercups, that will be seen, Whether we will see or no. 1827 T. L. Peacock *Nightmare Abbey* xiii, There is a girl concealed in this tower, and find her I will. 1845 M. Patmore *Rec.* (1889) I. 9 An impulse which will vent itself in some form or other. 1892 R. Reeves *Homeward Bound* viii. 230, I have spent 6,000 francs to come here...and I *will* see it!

**c.** In phr. of ironical or critical force referring to another's assertion or opinion. Now *arch.* except in *will have it* (see Have v. B. 13 b).

1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 58 This is a Riddling Merchant for the nonce, He will be here, and yet he is not here. 1605 Tourneur *Revenger's Trag.* II. v. 2 Some, not content to haue them [*sc.* the Saxons] a people of German race, will needs haue them from elsewhere. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 632 The Rosie-crosse Philosophers, Whom you will have to be but Fryers. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 1 Some naturalists will have honey to be of a different quality, according to the difference of the flowers...the bees suck it from.

**11.** As auxiliary of future tense with implication of intention or volition (thus distinguished from Shall v. B. 8, where see note).

**a.** In 1st person: sometimes in slightly stronger sense = intend to, mean to.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Hwyder wilt þu gangan? Min Drihten, ic wille gangan to Rome. *a* 1000 *Cadmon's Genesis* 1496 Ic wille mid þale fale ærnne fremman. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ic eom wilde geuan wela...inoge. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 485 Ihlulle fordon þe wisdom of þese wise worldmen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 1. 1 Lystenes, lordinges, þat wil listen or wille wiþ þe. T 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 159, I will and shall at all seasons be redy. 1530 *Bible* (Great) Joh. xii. 28, I haue both glorified it, and will glorifye it agayne. 1600 Shaks. *As I...L.* v. iii. 2 To morrow will we be married. 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 127 He run away Till I am bigger, but then lle fight. 1777 Sara Kenn *Examples of Virtue* 55 Never fear Sir, I will speak to Joseph about it. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxvi, Good bye! I'll soon be back. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 43 Yet I thy best will all perform at full.

**b.** In 2nd and 3rd pers., in questions or indirect statements.

971 [see a]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5671 Wil þou sla me als þou has slain Pis cnaue dai be egipcian? 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* 21 That ȝe hie none se...that he dredith god, and that he wil punysshe hem after godis plesaunce. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 200 Her waspish headed sonne...Sweares he will shooke no more. 1635 Shirley *Lady Errat.* v. (1637) I 3 b, If you will not vnite Where you haue best right to honour you. 1705 Burns *Heron Election Ball.* i. i, Whom will ye send to London town, To Parliament and a' that? 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 53 I will cause thee without stripping thee to drink any potion...When King Yoonán heard his words, he...said..., How wilt thou do this?

**12.** With negative, expressing the contrary of senses 6, 7, 10, 11: thus commonly = refuse or decline to; *emph.* insist on or persist in not —ing. Also *fig.* of a thing. (See also 9, 13.)

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 238 Ne wile Drihten suð zelyfan wordum minum. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3728 Ȝif þou for wrabþe wylt nat a3ȝþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 40 Ye wyues can it wel, that is no nede to teche. 1400 *Partonope* 9.0 Partanope wole no lenger byde. 1506 Tindale *Tobias* v. 40 And yett will ye not come to me that ye myght haue your sight. 1592 Shaks. *Ant.* & *C.* v. ii. 234 There is a cruell Fellow, That will not be deny'de your highnesse presence. 1670 Dryden *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. i, I wonnot lift an arm in his defence. 1720 S. Palmer *Prompt.* 251 Love and Tenderness wont permit a Soul than always to make a strict Computation. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* II. 205, I cannot, I won't sit down at Table with her. 1847 Jerrold *St. Giles* & *St. J.* II. 8 Ye gods! what hail! because his painter who is worth a straw ever will copy. 1883 Stevenson in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 557 Those blinders of the United Service will not be worn by *Silk Cord*. 1891 — The Court cannot and will not stand...journalistic personalities about its members.

**†b.** Rendering L. *noli, nolite* as auxiliaries of the negative imper. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 266 Ne wille ȝe sorg anlæcan deade feban. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxliii. 2 Ne wylt þu ofergeotul arfæ weorðan eahta goda. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* vii. 1 Wille to don nat don nobing. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 97, I will saye to god, Wyl nost dampne me fro blisse. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 152 Wylleth not geue place to the fende.

**13.** In 1st pers., expressing immediate intention: *I will* = I am now going to, I proceed at once to.

With negative, used idiomatically as a polite refusal: *I will not* = 'I do not venture so far as to'.

1a. *Moral Ode* 155 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Iwule nu comen eft to be dome þat ich er ow of-sede. *c* 1250 *Gen.* & *Ex.* 227 Min Iugel ich nelle, Ȝwi up-take. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1, Herknet to me...Of a tale þat ich you wile telle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 42 And at a knyght than wol I first bigynne. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. v. 167 That this conclusioun is trewe, y wole preue þrus. 1582 Bible *Martyrdom Compition* (1908) 83 Stefid that Notorious varlet, and infamous Iudas (I will not say wicked homicid). 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 381. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. vi. § 38 I'le onely adde this short Story and then proceed. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 134, I will not call them Cheaters. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 122 In the Morning I had three very good, I will not say handsome, Pipkins. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxiv, 'I will go in and pay my respects to your wife', said he. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 78 My host (whom I will call Mr. Newman) observed [etc.]. 1884 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* iii, Very well; I will wish you good-evening.

**b.** In 1st pers. pl., expressing a proposal: *we will* († *wulle we*) = 'let us'.

*c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Hwæt cumeð ure king? wulle we fare tozenes him. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 301 Sore þey weptun & sayden, 'wollen go hetine, For we se welle þat hit is godes owen wylle'. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 9 Peace: we'l heare him. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 308 Come on, We'll visit Caliban. 1798 Coleridge *Nightingale* 4 Come, we will rest on this old mossy bridge! 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, We will forget Mistress Dods for the present, if you please.

**†c.** *fig.* (in 3rd pers.) of a thing: Is ready to, is on the point of —ing. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 A treou þet wule uallen, me underuoð hit mid on oðer treou.

**14.** In 2nd and 3rd pers., as auxiliary expressing mere futurity, forming (with pres. Inf.) the future, and (with pf. inf.) the future pf. tense: corresponding to *shall* in the 1st pers. (see note s.v. Shall v. B. 8).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxiii. 20 [lxxiv. 21] He wyle naman þinne neode berian. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xli. (Z.) 247 *Loquuturus*, se þe wyle oððe sceal sprecan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19019 (Fairf.) Bot or he wille him flully alaue, bot ȝet a quile he wille a-bide. *c* 1400 *Alexander* 2483 iv. xxx. 80 No doute he wol be redy anon to the deth to kepe the counire and defende it fro his enemyes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12456 (Trin.) I dreie wan wil *lahcr-tacte* ual þis childe forfare. 1459 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 438, I hope he wyl be well demenyd to plese yow herafyrward. 1509 in *Lett. Sophie, Monast.* (Camden) 44, I...have sent vnto hym my full myende therin, the which I doubte not he will declare unto your grace. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i. 245 Mosbie will be there, whose very looks Will add inchantment to my words. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 11. 86 If we shall stand still, In fear our motion will be mock'd, or carpl at. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 448 Time is lost, which never will return. 1798 Cowper *Let. to T. Newton* 9 Dec., They will probably return this day fortnight. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 22 Rest, rest, on mother's breast, Father will come to his babe in heaven. 1858 Lytton (*title*) What will he do with it? 1872 Morley *Voltaire* i. 12 His pigmy hope that life will one day become somewhat better. 1877 Hardy *Under Greenwood Tree* II. iii, The sooner begun, the sooner over; for come it will.

**b.** As auxiliary of future substituted for the imper. in mild injunctions or requests.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, You will permit me to say [etc.]. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* vii, In your intercourse with their chiefs, you will take care to give no handle to their natural presumption. 1876 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* I. § 7 That they should use their own balances, weights, and measures (not by any means false ones, you will please to observe).

**15.** As auxiliary of future expressing a contingent event, or a result to be expected, in a supposed case or under particular conditions (with the condition expressed by a conditional, temporal, or imper. clause, or otherwise implied).

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 3 Ðif þu eafre cymst..to þere stowe,...bonne wit þu cweþan [etc.]. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 72 Xif here ne lið sona xestiredd, hio wile weaxenn mid ungemete. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xli. (Z.) 245 Ymwrih him þene wrl þet is þi willunge, and he wule hit forðen. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexr.* 297 For, how he fin be bataill,...Pan will he wed awaybire wife, & wonn for euer. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xii. 122 Yef hem this dynke, anoon they wole be sounde. 1563 W. Fulke *Meteors* (1640) 50 b, If a darke cloud be at the same rysing, in which the Sunne soone after is hidden, rayne will follow. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 109 Let luie be killed, else tree will be spilled. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 3 Qu. I will not speake with her. *Gent.* She is importunate, indeed distract, her moode will needs be pitied. 1605 — *Lear* III. vi. 85, I do not like the fashion of your garments. You will say they are Persian; but let them be chang'd. 1611 Speed *Chronicle Conq.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 98, I think it willbee very vneesenely for you or them to endeauour the destruction of the others charter. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. 19, The reasonable will accept the will for the deed. 1779 De Foe *Kam. Instruct.* v. i. (1841) I. 10 Won't God be angry with me if I should love him? 1798 Bolingbroke *Patriot King* Introd., He who abandons himself to his passions will abandon or betray his friend. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* x. iv, If I am never happy till then,...and, indeed, will be my life! 1842 Tennyson *Princess* Conclusion, Come rest life quickly! This world's use will have been ended. 1861 M. Patmore *Rec.* (1889) I. 46 The lover of the Elizabethan drama will readily recal many such allusions. *Cymbeline* and *All Souls* xxi, You'll be surprised when you find how easy it is, and yet how you can't do it.

**b.** With pers. subject (usually 1st pers. sing.), expressing a voluntary act or choice in a supposed case, or a conditional promise or undertaking: esp. in asseverations: *I will die sooner than...*, *I'll be hanged if...*, etc.).

1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 266 And þat ich, book, wol beo brent, bote he arise to liue. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 73 He hath neither Latine, French, nor Italian, and you will come into the Court & sweare that I haue a poore pennieworth in the English. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 233 [That] is the opinion that fire cannot melt out of me. I will die in it at the stake. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 49 He warrant him for drowning. 1769 Johnson *MS Note* in *Boswell* (1904) I. 309 I'll take you five shillings on London, who shall cuff five Highland children. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. vi, I will rather die than let you see this wardrobe. 1864 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* xiii. 138 But I will be hanged if I see what it all means, now.

**o.** Expressing a determinate or necessary consequence (without the notion of futurity).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 235 þe comoun cubite.. conteyneþ but a foot and an half.. But a cubite of gemetrie conteyneþ also comoun cubites, þat wil be nyne foot longe. *c1425 Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 15 Doubull a.. þat wel be 4.. þan doubul 5. þat wel be 10. þen draw downe 1 to 4 & þat wel be 5. 1890 Hunt *Treat. Cobbes* iv. 2, That Staffa will set Helsealy. 1709 J. Ward *Inq. Math. Guide* iii. ii. (1734) 293 Then ſoyn the Points *A* and *C* with a Right-line, and it will form the Angle required. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 140 That the number at risk of error will, in the long run, be ‖ of that error which is as often exceeded as not. 1887 Fowler *Deductive Logic.* (ed. 9) 47 From what has been said it will be seen that I do not agree with Mr. Mill. *Obs.* Ibid. If, in any logism, the middle term be not distributed in either premise, there will be no conclusion.

**d.** With the notion of futurity obscured or lost: = will prove or turn out to, will be found on inquiry to; may be supposed to, presumably does. Hence (chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) in estimates of amount, or in uncertain or approximate statements, the future becoming equivalent to a present with qualification: e.g. *it will be . . .* = 'I think it is . .' or 'it is about . .'; *what will that be?* = 'what do you think that is?'

*c1440 Gen. Myst., Assumption* 340, I am afeerd there wylle be sumthyng amys. 1584 *Hornby Priors in Cranc. in Glouc.* (1825), Where on 40 Acres there will be xxiij. li. per acre yearly for rent. 1625 Sir Adam Patrick *Rec. Corstorph. S.Ct.* (1876) I. Introd. 31 The kings hall tale vpoun the bullioun will not be vnder 3 li. yeir. *a1792* Grose *Olio* (1792) 106, I believe he will be an Irishman. *Ibid.* 109 C. How far is it to Dumfries? *W.* It will be twenty miles. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 156 The agriculture of this territory will be very similar to that of Kentucky. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid-Lothian*, I think..ye will be the same lad that was for in to see her yesteren? 1858 M. Arnold *Tristram & Iseult* 1, 9 What lights will shine out in the windows! 1859 J. Stirling *Gd. Queen* v. (new ed.) 219 An untravelled man is always at some disadvantage in *good* English society, where almost every one but himself will have (or will pretend) to have been abroad. *Gloss. w.* *Biddell*, This word we have only once heard, and that will be twenty years ago.

**¶ 16.** Used where *shall* is now the normal auxiliary, chiefly in expressing futurity: since 17th c. almost exclusively in Scottish, Irish, provincial, or extra-British use (see Shall *v.* B. 7, 8, 10).

*c888* Ælfred *Boeth.* x, Hwæt wille we ewehan þe þinum twam sunum? *14..* in *Anglia* XXVII. 287 Illy þ will I be For to worschip hat wight . . *1468 Scottish Feilde* (Camden Soc.) 67 Nothyng attempyng to the countrarie therof, as they well answwere at their pasall. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1577) Author's Ep. B iv, If the booke shall generally offende, I will count him gentle. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* iv. i. 19 Perchance I will be there as soone as you. *a1600* in Ramsay *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 224 Allace! that Day I'll neir forget. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 184, I will win for him if I can: if not, He gaine nothing but my shame, and the odde hitt.

1733 W. Crawford *Infidelity xiv* (1748) 307 Then we will be pleased with the Exertments of his Authority. *a1774* Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. ii. 27 If I draw a cattgut or any other cord to a great length between my fingers, I will make it smaller than it was before. 1793 Burns *Thou hast left me ever, Jamie* i, I maun see thee never, Jamie, I'll see thee never! 1822 Scott *Lett.* 19 May (in Davey's *Cutlas* (1859) 20), I will be glad to contribute anything in my power. 1825 — in Lockhart *Ballantyne humbug* (1839) 90, I expect we will have some good singing. 1875 E. H. Irving *Sherborne* xxxix. 311 I shan't, sir? asked the Irish groom. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dandenotts* ii, Perhaps you are right,.. However, I will know all about it myself in a few weeks. 1903 S. Kay-Gwynn *House of Allard* I. ii. 21 But I'll be all right..if I go away.

*** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses.

**17.** In absol. use, or with ellipsis of obj. clause as in 2: in meaning corresponding to senses 5–7.

*If you will* is sometimes used parenthetically to qualify a word or phrase = 'if (you wish it to be so called)', 'if you choose or prefer to call it to'.

*c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 39 Nalles mas ic wille, nah swa ðu wille. *c1225 Lamb. Hom.* 31 Ah hit mel us rede and to lare sif we wullen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 101 Ich wile be zigge yef þou wyle. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 44 Euer is þi soule vanf þere sif þi-self wolde. *c1400 Destruction* viii [x] (1902) l. 52 Whan god alle myghty wole, right als the londes weren lost, .so schulle þei ben wonnen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* i. xii. 38 Ye must purueye yow for the nourisshyng of your child. And how wolt saud the kyng be it. 1546 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 It neuer leueth vs except we wyll. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* 1. (1625) 47 Let us consider if you will in generall. 1598 Barrough *Epithet.* 255 Pourre by cups, but by the belly full, Poure out to all that will. 1696 Whiston *The. Earth* iv. I. ¶ 2. 218 Gravity..depends entirely on the constant and sufficient cause, and, if you will, the supernatural and miraculous Influence of Almighty God. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xii, The other russet shall be donned tomorrow, if you will. 1870 Ingelow *St. Mark's Rest* vii. ¶ 78 Very savage! monstrous! if you will.

**b.** In parenthetic phr. *if God will* (†*also will God*, rarely *God will*), *God willing*: if it be the will of God, 'D. V.'

In OE., *Gode willgende* (Will *v.* 9) = L. *Deo volente.*

*a1300 Cursor M.* 18462 And yee sal be, ma wil Iesu, Als dumb o speche wit ilk man. 13.. *Ibid.* 199 (Coll. of Arms MS.) Sif god wole penne shal I telle How he barreweds helle. 1438 in Fisher *Lennox* (1874) II. 67 Jhone Stewart.. God wylland, sall half to wyff.. Margaret off Mongomry. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* IX. 379 For thar, God will, is our purpos to be. 1500 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Sec. III. I. 234 At my comynge thadyr God willyngys I shale cawse the sayd Hanggynys to be made. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 396 We sall tak voyage, wil God, with all diligence. *a1578* Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 5, I sall do bettir will god ane vthir day. 1602 Ergondelle *Fr. Gard.* H 3 b, I shall see (God willing) how you will profit. 1716 Steevens *Thoresby's Ducatus* (1852) II. 368 Next week, God willing, I take my journey to my Rectory in Sussex.

**†c.** *fig.* Demands, requires (*absol.* or *ellipt.* use of 3 c). *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6979 Ich mot nede be milde, As lunde of moder wole & kynd, *Ibid.* 13561 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 128 Folk hat ben I-wedded, And libb-þ as hoose lawe wole. 1429 *York Memorandum Book* (Surtees) I. 184 To redresse it as ryght will for the profit of the kinges people. *c1440* tr. *Palland. on Husb.* x. 13 Pleasance and fruyt the tilman forto lurnge As seson wol. *a1450* Myrc *Pars. Pr.* (1868) 714 Oper pan he lawe of pe lond wol. 1521 *Rec. Priory Seal Coxt.* I. 345/1 That no seculare personis have intromettyng with thaim vther wise than law will wol. *Obs.* (Cf. *P..je vexez bien.*)

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvi. 59, I truste in god myn eame is not suche but some of them may sone repente thys, I wold fayn amende, for I see your dedes that ye haue ben full vnkynde. xvi. 246 Yonder is a knyht .. þat is put it bothe vpon hym, and he demeth so shall it be. I wylle wel said the knyght.

**13.** With ellipsis of a vb. of motion. *arch.*

*Beowulf* 318 Ic to se wille. *c1000 Ags. Ps* (Th) c. 6 [el. 2] Hwænne þu me wille to (*quando venies ad me*). *c1225 Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. I.) Hund wile in at open dure to beoden. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2437 Ne wile we nouȝt wyl to be chapel. 13 . *Cursor M.* 20256 (I. M Add. MS.) Iurst my lord was broght to dede. And now my lads wil me fer. *c1386* Chaucer *Friar's T.* 85 Wher ys dwellyng? Seyde this ycman wiltow fer to day? *c1400 Lai-le-ſraine's Cruwge.* 163 Ha canoel þat brenneþ he puit al in ole þe fer þeof wile he nouȝt. *c1450 How Good Wif* 165 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 191 Borowed thinge wole home. 1532 Tindale *Exp. Matt.* v. (1535) 36 Who so euer will to heuen. *c1550 Three Treas. Heaths* X 5 b, Gene ther of to the wounds of pacience and mekenes, he will hide no egges shell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. iii. 145 He in, He in. 1610 *Temp.* III. i. 64 He fetch my booke. 1647 Trap *Comm. on Gen.* xli. 29 They will on in spite of their teeth. 1728 *Entertainer* No. 95 167 Nothing will down with these Zealots but a preaching Ministry. 1820 Jamieson *Hermit in Lond.* 'Twas well with me? *Mrs. Scott Jethrtbel* xxxi, 'Thither will I then,' said the constable. 1885–94 Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xviii, I will to thee o'er the waters.

**19.** With ellipsis of active inf. to be supplied from the context.

*c888* Ælfred *Boeth* v. ¶ 3 Cunna swa þu wille. *c1175 Lamb Hom* 77 [We] habbeð on us[ð] two ueres and wulle nuþe þet þridde. *c1200 Ormin* 1. 1 Whasa wile her to hæle folc fore wher ha wulled. *a1300 Cursor M.* 4 95 Fadyr, he said, I will ful fayn, þi lord I night nogt to stand azayn. *c1400* Rom. *Rose* (Vrtly.) 6115 Whose wil, he may, may leve me þe wile. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxiii. 70 Who is greued with my custome, lete hym amende hit that wol. I wil amende it said Arthur. 1548 *3 Com. Prayers, Matrimony*, Wilt thou take thys woman to thy wedded wyfe ? I will. 1599 T. Clymone *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xlii, That which will, will bee. *a1633* Herbert *Church Militant* xlvi. (1679) 306 Marry if ye will, when you will ; your daughter when you can. 1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* III. iii, *Cleat* ..Think not on me, *Cleon* I wonnot ! will not. 1698 Krebs *Embello* 1. 1. 1. 145 Whose will, and will tell my love all plain. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, Will you go on deck? 'No, I will not.' This was said in a most determined air. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* liii, I can't believe it. It's not that I don't or won't. I can't. 1866 Ruskin *Let.* 30 May, I hope it may do you some good, as it won't me. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1890) 241 I and my sword will take the quest by, As such things will, not quite unhappily. 1889 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* vi, 'Do you know that all the people in the house will think it's looking of me to walk with you?' 'The deuce they will!'

**b.** With generalized ellipsis, esp. in proverbial saying (now usually as in quot. 1562, with *will for would*).

1562–1607 J. Heywood *Prov.* (MS. Douce 52, lf. 31), Who so wylle not when he may he shall not when he wylle. 1580 Bacon *Note Canada*, xi. Wks. 1874 I. 405 Therfore ought such as be godly to send to transitle with heathen & to convince them, not with fire & fagot, with swerde & halter, or with lawe will I. 1598 J. Heywood *Pers. & Epist.* (1867) 130 He that will not when he may, When he would he shall have nay. 1611 Cotgr., Le Tout-ſaire, Who will not when he may, when he would he shall not. 1735 A. Hill *Zaeh Epil*, A Woman Will, or Won't—depend on't.

**c.** With *to* or *that* substituted for the omitted inf. phr.: now usually placed at the beginning of the sentence.

*c1430 Chron. Angliae* 366 'A, boy,' quod she, 'wyl þou so, þou shalt sone myskarye'. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism, Question*, Dooest thou not thinke that thou art bound to beleue, and to doe as they haue promised for thee? *Answeare*, Yes verely. And by Gods helpe so I will. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 87 Now I promise we would haue the charge of wooing. *Gremio*, And so we will. 1607 [see So B. 2 b]. 1900 [see That *dem. pron.* 3 b].

**d.** Idiomatically used in a qualifying phr. with relative, equivalent to a phr. with indef. relative in *-ever*; often with a thing as subj., becoming a mere synonym of *may*: e. g. *I must as soon as you will* = 'however loud you (choose to) shout'; *come what will* = 'whatever may come'; *be that as it will* = 'however that may be'.

1439 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden) 104 Complaine na yo wole y defie thi manasing. 1598 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. 38 This since the Nuptiall of Lucentio, Come Pennyworth as quickely as it will, Some five and twenty yeares. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 162 Well, come what will, Ile tarry at home. 1602 — *Ham.* v. ii. 10. 1623 Earl *March. Al*

*Mondo* (1636) 186 Let his condition here civilly lee what it will, it will not content him. 1738 Pope *Mor. Ess.* III. 153 'Tis ruling Passion, be it what it will, The ruling Passion conquers Reason still. 1827 Scott *Two Drovers* i, The drovers usually sleep along with their cattle, let the weather be what it will. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iv. § 61 Think what you will of it,..the value of the thing itself is neither greater nor less.

**†20.** With ellipsis of pass. inf. *Obs. rare.*

*a1774* Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Phil.* (1776) II. 145 The air's force is compounded of its swiftness and density, and as these are encreased, so will the force of the wind.

**21.** In const. where the ellipsis may be either of an obj. clause (as in 17) or of an inf. (as in 19).

**a.** In a disjunctive qualifying clause or phr. (usually parenthetic), as *whether he will or no, will he or not*, † with pron. omitted) *will or no*, (with *or* omitted) *will he will he not, will he nill he* (see VI. below and Will-nilly), etc.

In quot. 1593 *vaguely* = 'one way or nnother', 'in any case'.

*a1425* tr. *Aidern's Invent. Fortune*, etc. 201 He schal slepe alone, wille he wil he nille he. 1598 Hackett tr. *Hortet's New found Worlde* xiv. 92 b, They floote about water, will they or not, and by this meanes they are taken 1881 A. Hall *Hamlet* 12 Have they Boy Mes the Boy, whether he will or no. Out of my Tent. 1592 Burton *Virus Pennyboke's Lane* Wks. (Grosart) I. 1 A Fortune, shee skorude friendes? who durst be a foe? beruunst? a worlde would serue her will or no.

**II.** The past tense would with temporal function.

* With simple obj. or obj. clause: corresponding to the pres. tense in I.*

**†22.** (with simple obj.) Desired, wished for; sometimes implying or passing into the sense 'intended'; with negative, often implying 'refused': cf. I, 1, 2, 3 c.

*c900* tr. *Beda's Hist* III. xxv. 194 [Heo] cwæð þæt heo þa fruȝne, hwæt heo sceolen oðre hwile to hire þider wolden. *c1000* Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xx. 33 Se sublecman þeaw þa þa hi wolde ge[ ] . . *1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1580 Offreden hamsilver and golde, Ar dohter metal swik he wolde. *a1300 Cursor M.* 16 Wit sarazins wald þai no sight. *c1380 Antichrist* in Todd *Three Treat.* (1851) 56, I wyl, Crist forsoke worldly glorie. Crist wold not worldly kyndship. *c1450 Merlin* xiii. 164 Thes seide thes wolde the londe for to fonde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. xx. 138 He asked yf she wold any thing with kynge Arthur. 1593 J. Bereblock *Ivonis* I. viii. 3/2 He wolde nothing to her but all loue and good ſaith. 1609 Gaule *Pract. Theomes* i. *Praxt* 118 O ad the Jewes, both would haue procured the death of Christ. 1643 [Anglen] *Jure Populi Anglicani* 18 When we would no Paidcin they laboured to punish us. 1692 Wasnington *Mathew's Life* 32 Whatever he would do, he would not be himself would, but what the People required of him.

**23.** (with obj. cl., or acc. and inf.: cf. 2, 3) Desired, wished; often implying 'intended', 'determined, ordained'; *fig.* demanded, required (that something should be done). *Obs. or rare arch.*

*c888* Ælfred *Boeth* xli. 1 Hwy þu Þeodrice ætte woldest þet eage wyrd swa hwyrftan sceolde? *c897* tr. *Gregory's Past C.* xvi. 101 Hu he wolde ðæt mon him sultsode. *1154 O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1137 þa wolde he ðat his sele scolde ben pliht. *c1200 Ormin* 1. 1 Forr þe Laferd Jesu Crist þa wollde þatt hiss modere swa sholldde to þe kirrke gan. *c1300 Cursor M.* 1593 Wald he noght it war mis forsom. *Hrdr.* 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge*, Sun wold wald þat it sun sulde be. *Ibid* 13703 Parr lugh wald mun nulld hir stan. *c1380* Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 107 Crist made him, þat he wolde ded to Judas & to alle men. *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 370 2 He wolde and bequath þe the seid Testament, yat [etc.]. *c1489* Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 301 Ye shall see that Rowlande wolde he had not gon there 1523 Douglas *Æneis* viii. 116 He wald also this regioun euery stead vnder Latium. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* iv. 27 Iecause Israel had not gotten such mysfortune as he wolde they shulde. 1592 Shaks. *Lucrece. Argyth* 527 He would his richesse to bee a cloke of goodnesse. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 161 Heauen would that shee these gifts should haue. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 1900 Thing He would that Captain Credence should join himself with them. 1868 Tennyson *Iaerstone* 68 Because I would not one of three cowards, Not wish'd me gone, were I cuerfed to thee.

**† 24.** *transf* (cf. 4.) Maintained, 'wanted to make out'. *Obs.*

*a1500 Bernard de cura sei fam.*, etc 25/52 He walde þat A watter, or a well, layd wedir it away 1545 Wapotsbelay *Chron.* (Camden) I 152 Jasper and Lumpedey fayne a miracle that he wolde had dee whilest he was at masse 1567 *Satir Poems Reform.* vii. 5, I understud thair sentence they may wald

** With dependent infinitive (as in I.**).

**25.** (Cf. 5.) Wished to; often with implication 'intended to'. *Obs.* or *arch.* except in dependence on a principal vb. in past time.

*c888* Ælfred *Boeth* vii. ¶ 3 Wæt þu hu ic sewand smb Crocees..þa ba hine Cyrus..gefengen hæfde & him forberan wolde? *900* 30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS) an 755 Ymb xxxi. winra þæs þe he rice hæfde, he wolde ofer-faran anne æþeling se was Cyneheard hatte. *Ibid* 757 Swa feola swa he hahlan wolde. *c1205 Lay.* 10758 Þa wolde he þa þeines habbenden. *c1300 Havelok* 1444 Þeih hum tok þan he best wolde Lnen. *c1386* Chaucer *Friar's T.* 80 (Petw.) Seyning a cause for he wold haue a bribe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. ii. 77 He..saw this aduenture and wolde assaye it as other knyghtes dyd. 1526 Tindale *Ephesians* vi. Jesus perceaued that they wolde haue him. 15 *Chrisell's Knt* 26 in *Banmatyne MS.* (Hunter Club) 263 So ho of lufe wes slithe; Schlo wold haif hot sweit Wilhe. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. Pa Certaine, which would be counted pillars of the State. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 302 To assist us in getting as many dry Cocoa-nuts as we

would have. 1705 De Foe *True Relation in Early Writ.* (1889) 443 Mrs. Bargrave asked her whether she would drink some tea. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. i, Till one, who would seem wan-ly, cried, 'What else but evil could betide.' **11** 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xiv. 108 He now would build—and lofty seat he built. 1872 G. Macdonald *Somn. conc. Jesus* xvi. 11 Those of the truth not less than all wouldst make. 1876 Mary Howitt Duppleton (*cassel, Trad* (1891) 31 They asked us if we would have tea, and as we 'would', they took us into an adjoining room.

† **b.** In direct statement: Was about to. *rare*
a 950 *Guthlac.* v. (Prose) 135 270 Da hit þa on mersen dæzian wolde (*immanente aurora*). *c* 1450 *Merlin* 463 As soone as he was ware that she wolde slepe, and was awoke erly as she that was sore affraied, and thei seide [etc.].

**20.** (Cf. 6, 7.) Was (were) willing to, consented to; †deigned to; chose to; †also in weakened sense (nearly = did). Now only in dependence on a principal vb. in past tense.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. ¶ 4 Sunt þis na þa god þe þu wolde þæm þum monnum þa hi horsuman woldan? *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 62 3 Qui wald [*Gött.* wild, *Trin.* woldis] þou I did us o þat land? 23 . *Bonaventura's Medit.* 25 Of a mayden he wolde be born. *c* 1400 *Maundev.* (Roxb.) Thef. r In þat land he wald lede his fyf and suffer hard passion. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 2 For to save man he wolde come down in to erthe for the love of a woman. 1574 in *Hart. Coll. Doc.* (1848) I 97 Thair was tyme and place graintit, to all that wald appone thame thairto. 1611 Bp. Hall *Impreste of God* i. Wks. (1625) 443 In the Creation hee could have made all at once, but hee would take days for it. a 1625 Hume *T. Brown* xl.vii. (1642) 249 He shewed himselfe to be of that extraordinary strength, that if he would fold his hands together, no man could pull them asunder. 1682 Stan. W. *Orpheus* iii. iv, Why would you delay so long to give it? 1753 Chesterfield *Lett. Ch. Ch. Nurse*, 183 St. Francis would have his Religious for Humility called Fratres Minores. 1884 Watson *Daily's Gr an Inn*, xii, I would y u would be all night in a few days if you would only hold on.

**b.** (Cf. 6 b.) In a dependent clause after an expression of request, command, or the like, where the principal vb. is not in past tense. Now *rare*
a 1325 *MS Rawl B.* 520 If 54 h, (I hey) habbez bi soust us that we lut [*sc.* the maleiotil] wulden relesen. 1526 Tindale *Acts* ix. 38 They sent vnto him, desyringe him that he wolde not be greved to come vnto them. 1537 Courthaut *v. Essher* (n. 4) They spake vnto Essher. . .[that] he wolde bringe y^e lawe of Moyses. 1745 A. Butler *Lives Saints*, *St Jane Frances* 21 Jan. She earnestly prayed . . . that he would conduct her to a truly holy spiritual guide. 1813 Southey *Nelson* I. ii. 84 He requested the admiralty that they would not recall him to the Mediterranean. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. IV. 532 She..faltered out her commands that he would sit down

**27.** (Cf. 8.) Was (were) accustomed to; used to.
c 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxvi. ¶ 2 Wiliþa duor ða ic wolde to irnan & stondan swiðe in hiora wæren *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 114 He wolde after ðhisange offrost hine zehiddan. *c* 1290 *Robert of Brunne Hist. Eng.* I. 107 Offesshe he's wolde spekke with him. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 33 Sche wolde seldon come at cheche 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* ix. xxxvii. 390 Euery day ate Palomydes wold reprene sir Tristram of old hate betwene them. 1535 L. Lloid *Martyrw of Hull.* (1613) 40 The Athenians at any victory, would crown the Conqueror with a Garland made of olyue leaues. 1587 Harrisonwe tr. *Holinshed* III. (1852) 184 So lay shee all that night, sometime would she rise up . .sometime would shee cast her cloathes almoste all from her. 1622 Barry *Ram Alley* I. iii. 20 They would make ruffle with lurors. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 103 There at the foot of yonder nodding beech . His lustless length at noontide would he stretch. 1850 Scott *Lord of Isles* II. xvii. 87 He never counted him a man, Would strike below the knee. 1848 Thackeray *Van Fair* xxi. The girls would ask her.. for a little music, and she would sing her three songs 1915 Wyn. Holt *Beacon for Mist Blind* xxv. 307 He would often return home exhausted from his work, and when Mrs. Fawcett read to him he would frequently fall fast asleep.

**28.** (Cf. 9.) Was capable of ——ing; could. Usually in a relative clause.
c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 631 Ther nas no ooynement that wolde clense and hele þe harm myghte helpen. *a* 1440 *Sir Perceval* 491 Ther was non kyn3e that wolde hym by-lyfe. So harde of hyelp was hee. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. xiv. 138 Therme he loked for the scaubard, but it wold not be founde. 1802 Holland tr. *Pliny* xxxiii. II. 542 An office, that had wiped out that which was done, and all to see if he could hit upon it: but it would not be, for yet it was not to his fansie. 1865 In the *Land*, I. 5 With Basket-ship, that would hold fourth, And serve for Flight, and Dinner both.

**29.** (Cf. 10 b.) Was determined to; insisted on or persisted in ——ing.
1706 Farquhar *Recruiting Officer* Fp. Ded., He it know n . . that it was my Act and Deed, rather Mr. Dudley's for he wou'd play his Third Night against the First of mine. 1794 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The signor was cruel enough, but he would be obeyed. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, Then he took to breeding silk-worms, which he would bring in . . to show the old lady. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 The business of Theirs, who would have a finger in every pie that was being made.

**30.** (Cf. 11, 13.) In indirect reports, usually in 3rd pers., of past utterances, etc. in the 1st pers. (now) implying intention.
977 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Ic was heafde beorcfen, & nu on þysum þriddan dæge me eft arærað se ælmihtiga & zeheht þæt ic don wolde. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1.65 Hi..sworon aðas, þat hi æfre woldon fryð & freondscype into þisan lande haldan. 1390–*99 Alex. & Dind.* 45 He sikurede him alle, þat he wolde fare wiþ his folk in a faire wise. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2060 He..made a vowe to Mahounde of myght, He wolde that Clie wynne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxviii. 278 He commaundyd them to assamble as myche people as they coude, by cause he sayde that he wolde goo to his vncle themperour of Almayne. 1859 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 69 They all answered me that they wold keepe the castell. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 47 He would go, he said. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* I, Was it some vain..man—he would not say haberdasher—who [etc.]. 1872 M. Collins *Marq. & Merch.* xxxiii, Adrian..resolved that they would have a jolly rough honeymoon. with everything simple and rustical. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxvi. 339 Anthony suggested to her that she and his sister should alip away unobserved. He himself would remain half-an-hour longer, and would then follow their example.

**31.** (Cf. 12.) With negative, commonly denoting refusal.
c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 969 And sarral wuldet nost ðolen Pat ngar wore ðus todulen. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6193 I thrested, and of dynk had nede, And þe wold na dryne me lede. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 941 Vertu wold nat tary, but hyghyd hym thydyr blyue. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xviii. 13 The publican stode afarre off, and wolde not lifte vp his eyes to heven. 1610 Shakes. *Temp.* I. ii. 167 This dam'd Witch Sycorax . was banish'd: for one thing she did They would not take her life. *c* 1720 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 169 He would not stir. 1820 Wordsw. *Alice Fell* 52 She wept, nor would he pat thee. 1880 Tennyson *Def. Lucknow* vi. 12 Cholera, scurvy, and fever, the second Has wrought the wood of Death. 1918 *Punch* Lit. Supp. 21 Mar., Editors and publishers..would have none of it.

**32.** (Cf. 14, 15.) Forming (with pres. inf.) the auxiliary of the 'anterior future' or 'future in the past', and (with pf. inf.) of the 'anterior future perfect', in the and and 3rd pers. : cf. Shall v. II. 14 b, e.
**a.** In dependent clause (or virtual repotted speech or thought).
c 893 *K. Ælfred Oros.* iv. 10 Þa Darius zesceah þæt he ofer wunnen hæfde wolde, þa wolde he hiene sylfne on fæm zefeohte forspillan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* I. 114 Iurh þæt he wolde þæt ic nanum time þæt Drihtin me wolde leosan ut huss folc off deoflesa walde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3061 þis child was so wel & þeu as twie freende & oþhe þat he wolde be a mon wurþe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xv. xii. 699, I told my brethern sauffer hand what wold falle in the ende. 1496 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 10 Chargeing thame to do justice to lauch the saidis parties as thai wald answer to God at the Day of Judgement. 1598 *Letters Foreign Princes* (Camden) 3 This he protested to be true, as he would answer before God. 1586 in *Lngd. Hist. Rev* (1920) Jan. 233 The lorde Hamilton..wold not be behynde with his frendes to helpe him and wolde be suitors unto her maiestie. 1663 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 183 Saying that the time would be when they should..be glad to come to us as myselfe 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The planet was not yet risen; but she kept her eyes fixed on that part of the hemisphere where it would rise. 1843 Macaulay *Ess.* (1854) I. 58 He undertook to furnish them with a play every year, if his health would permit. 1870 Morley *Voltaire* I. 2 It disclosed to them a practical object which would not otherwise have occurred. 1918 *Cornh. Mag.* June 569 The Elizabethan's chief concern was that the person married soon merge in the past and be gone.

**b.** (Cf. 15 d.) without notion of futurity: Probably or presumably still.
1857 Brookfield *Brook of Lea* I. iv. 79 Of the two younger ones I have very slight recollections, save that one was quite the pet nursling of the school. This last would be Emily, now the wife of Richard Rapier, who would be about half an hour before the King's dinner-time..that Master Richard came again to the hall. 1909 E. H. Burton *Life Hp. Ballioner* I. ii. 12 The list of the Douay martyrs . would have been very much longer than it is if Spanish living at Douay would have known this martyr personally.

¶ **33.** (Cf. 16.) Used where *should* is now the normal auxiliary.
1760–72 Jacob Bicoke *Fool of Qual* (1809) III. 90 The captain fearing that I would die of grief. 1870 Dasent *Annals* xvii, Of course my Aunt did not expect that I would be pleased at the nomination. 1900 *Empire Rev.* I. 382, I rejoiced in the fact that to get there I would have to travel to New York.

**34.** *** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses as in I.***, 17–21. Now *rare* or *Obs.* except with ellipsis of actn to be supplied from the context, or in dj-junctive qualifying clauses (e. g. *whether he would or no*).
† In quot. *c* 1400 (*Beryn*) *wold nat* = was of no avail.
c 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* in. 35 & ða he him from wolde, ða zefeng he hine. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 Hi hæfdon land zeseten swa hie sylfe woldon. *c* 1205 Lay. 18815 Wi naldest þu me suggen Þuh nanes cunnes þinge þat þu wældest to þan kinge? *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 273/79 Sa hund any man wolde zeue þat wiuue. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* v. 270 Al was as þow wolde [*v. r.* wolden] lorde, ywarschiped be þow. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 952 *Dido*, He..ys3ih forth al his compayne, And ryght yrayde as wolde hit desire. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1062 Flawnus saw it wold nat. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. lx. (1859) 57, I was nought but a3yl for to suffre, whether I wold or no. 1431 *Howm. de Merton* (Bann) 522 Pe qwilk frere of Inqueste as law wald I gert procede. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 204 Ther..wente to the courte euen and morowe whan hei wolden. 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prelates* 31 Whether that the Pope receyue it or refuse it, it maketh no matter. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 28 Anselme might not..correct his clergie but as the king would. 1593 Drayton *Ecl.* viii. Would he not stay, if stay might, That lad would neuer from her thought. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 174 Would he, would he not, they made choice for him themselues. 18 In Pescod-time *Virg. Baffled Knight* xiv. He that wold not when he might, He shall not when he wold-a. 1694 *Cupt. T. Smith's Virginia* III. vi. (Arb.) II. 432 They cry'd to us to doe no more, all should be as we would. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 497 The exquisite form he would go and help his Man, let what would come. *Ibid.* 555 He told me he would do just as I would. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, Look where you would, some exquisite form glided gracefully through the throng. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 101 It was determined that the elector should have a chapel in the city whether he would or not.

1867 Morris *Jason* v. 47 When on the morn they would away. 1888 'Leslie Keith' *Alasnam's Lady* xxvii, I wanted Mr. Meyers to count his win, but he wouldn't. 1900 *Discovery* Nov. 331/1 The bulbs were then sealed up again and set aside to ferment if they would.

**III.** The past tense would with modal force.
* With simple obj. (or equivalent), or obj. clause.
† **35.** *trans.* with simple obj. (also *intr.* with *well* or *ill* and dat. of person), as a qualification, becoming a virtual equivalent, of the present tense *will* in 1, 2 b: Could or might desire; 'should like'; desire, wish for, 'want' (sometimes implying 'intend'). Cf. 40. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*
1470–85 Malory *Arthur* i. xix 65 What wold ye with the best of kynge Ban Bleaunes and kynge Bors? 1548 Hall, I am in certayne y^t he would you more honour than ony persone lyuynge. 1552 Huloet *Compl. Iudaike Wks.* 408/1 Wherin euery manner estate hath wherwith to liue well, sauue for very shame. 1588 Shakes. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 174 What would these strangers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* i. iii. 66 Is he yet possest How much ye would? *Shr. Ay*, I, three thousand ducats. 1599 A. Hume *Hymnes* ii 70 What so the fantasie wald. 1611 *Bible* Josh. xv. 18 Caleb said vnto her, What wouldest thou? 1800 Byron *Mar. Fal.* ii. 1, *Page* Come hither, child, I would a word with you. 1822 in *Hymner* ii. (1824) 33 But, in a word, what would you with me?
**36.** Similarly with const. as in 2: viz. with obj. clause, with vb. in past subj. (*arch.* except in *would rather* or *sooner* = 'should prefer'), †rarely in pres. subj., or with acc. and inf. *Hence* (*rare*) with ellipsis of 1st pers. and/or an expression of longing = 'I wish', 'O that'; also, by confusion with 37, in the form (*I*) *would to God* (or *heaven*).
a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered. þet heo wolde þet he wisste hit. *c* 1325 in *A. E. P.* (1862) 33 But in hoore bretes I. wolde bei hulde .. Bote some þat god hem may degrade. *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (Caxton) 8 Do til na man þat als tu walde man did to þe. *c* 1400 *Dest. Troy* 472, I would yonder wot thy wedded mate Were in thy wardrobe. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 38/1 Where at myste some that God wolde not him to be oure reule in deeds of oure semble to God. *c* 1488 *Digby Myst* iii. 922 So shal to god be wuld my lufe fele. a 1536 Skelton *Image of Courte* 1. 1 And so I wolde it were, so God me spede. *c* 1550 Redford *Wyt & Sc.* (1848) 6 My hed aketh sore, I would we were returne. 1559 *Bk. of Discip.* Exod. xii. 3 Wolde to God [1535 Coverdale, Wolde God] we had dyed by the hand of the Lorde in the lande of Egypt. 1590 Shakes. *Mids. N.* v. i. 255, I am sure of this Moone; would he would change. 1595 — *John* iv. 48, I am not mad, I would to heauen I were. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 33 Wch I would you ever to remember. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. To Ridr. A ch, I would those lustie Songe Candyed, to sweeten thy Mouth. 1675 [see Rather *adv.* 9e]. 1777 Miss M. Townshend in Jesse *Scenes & Country Life* (1844) III. 260 This news I pucked up at first door. Would to God that we had peace! 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plag.* iii. 1, At a sad hour the sailor hath return'd; Would he were yet at sea! 1837 Scott *G. A. Wk.* I would to God I were mute. 1865 Whittier *Kallundborg Church* 48 Would I might die now in thy stead! 1882 Tennyson *Charge of the Heavy Brigade* Epil. 10–11, I would have rather seen them scatter'd than the globe fence and to end Might sow and reap in peace.
**37.** Used optatively in the phr. *would God* (also +*God would*, + *Christ would*) = 'O that God would', 'O that it were God's will', as an expression of earnest desire or longing. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*
c 1375 Sc. Legends *Alexand.* 1. 1. (1878) 1 Wald god my wyt war! *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1786 *Lucretia*, God wolde the wal were fallen adoun! *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* xxiv, Wold God he were newe-bis in Ynde here. 1535 *Lond. Gonge* in Rimor *Ancient Songs* (1792) 111 Chryst wolt the fluger of hur awete face Were pictured wher euer I be. 1589 Rastell *Pastyme* A iv, Wold god it were no sayd at this day. 1592 Wilde *God's Judgm.* 56, Would God I could [etc.]. *c* 1600 *Hymn*, *'Hierusalem my happie home'* 20, Ah my sweete home Hierusalem Would god I were in thee.
† **38.** *fig.* as a qualification or equivalent of 3 c.
c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 9 And serue your wyll I haue told What that my woship wold. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 272 Yet xeson wolde it were in remembrance.
† **39.** *transf.* as a qualification or equivalent of 4. 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. xxvi. 409 The fantasticall opynion, that wouldie every man should be saved by his own fastbe.
** With dependent infinitive (as in I.** and II.**).
As with *should*, the notion of past time is usually evacuated by the pf. inf.: see note s. v. Shall v. B. II.***
**40.** The past subj. used with potential or conditional force as a softening of the pres. in. sense 5, and hence virtually equivalent to it: Could or should wish to; should like to, wish, desire, or 'want' to (sometimes implying 'intend'). *arch.* or *dial.* exc. in *would have* (with obj. and inf. or compl.) = 'should like, wish (a person or thing) to be or to do something'; see Have v. 18 b.
The notion of desire (in later use often passing into that of consent or willingness) is often emphasized by *fain, gladly, willingly*, or the like. The use is sometimes hardly distinguishable from the strictly conditional use in 41.
c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xx. Mid hu micelan feo wolde he þonne þa habban sexhund † þus xl. ¶ 5 Se wolde ancian he mæze we ænigne freodom habben..hwæt we don. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 580 & þou wost now sorsake Mi doster þat wolde be þi wif. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4227, I wald sloc-in-tal helle deps Wit mi sun þat for to wepe. *Ibid.* 24360 Pal wald ha berid him ful fain, Bot I him held wit at mi main. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 772 Quat-kyn lyng may be þat lambe þat þe wolde wrake vato hys vyȝt? 13 . *Gaw. Meadowne* (A.) 292 Be what skille walde pai haue hym dede? *c* 1390 *Wild. Palerne* 1851 Pe werwolf..went to him suone, Wip a rude roring, as he him rende wold. *c* 1575 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 97

3et vald I, & I mycht, Na var eld & fult of sycht, Of be tuelf appostolis spek nowe. *Ibid.* ii. (*Paulus*) 264 Pe folk of rowme .. wald have brokyn his palace done. *c*1400 *Brut* Irel. 82 Pe Britons wolde haue alwyse be messagers but Arthure wolde nouȝt soffre hit. *c*1480 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1953 For feere I lookyd as blak as a coole, I wolde have croppyn in a mouse hoole. 1532 *Bible* (Great) Ps. cviii. 30 And so he bryngeth them vnto the hauen where they wolde be [1611 their desired hauen]. 1580 Crowley *Last Trumpett* 765 Thus haue I tolde the, as I wouldst be tolde. If I were in thy place. 1589–80 Harvey *Wks.* (Grosart) I. 76, I would gladly be acquainted with M. Drants Prosodye. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. 1. 80 What would your Grace haue me to do in this? 1599—*Much Ado* ii. iii. 6, I know that, but I would haue thee hence, and here againe. 1682 Dryden *Medal* Ep. Whigs, If you were the Patriots you would seem, you would not at this rate incense the Multitude to assume it. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 120 Be sure they are qualities, which your patron would be thought to have. 1792 in *Yohnson's Debates* (1859) II. 162 What is to be understood by this last sentence, I would willingly be informed. 1865 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 77 *note*, I would not .. be thought to share Mr. St. John's extreme scepticism. 1893 *Bookman* Oct. 17/2 The Duc d'Aumale's great work, 'L'Histoire des Princes de Condé', for which some of us would gladly give all the novels ever written.

1856 Houghton *Sheffield Lad* lvi, Far I hear the bugle blow To call me where I would not go. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 173/2 Second-rate 'romantism', as Mr. Marion Crawford would have us call it.

P with omission of *have* in pf. inf.

1598 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 116 First of all, ..Come dame Benome, pytie as schoe wald, Syne to the Court of Venus schoe wald ane *Seven Sages* 93 Je say he wald deforcit your Dame. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 38 Sir R. Owen would gladlie had me seated in Shropshire.

b. In lighter shades of meaning: Am (is, are) disposed or inclined to; often (in 1st pers. sing.) in hesitating or deferential statement = 'wish to . . . if I may'. (Cf. 13.) *Would say* = 'intend to say, mean'. *Would have* = 'is inclined to believe or assert (something *to be* so-and-so)': cf. 10 c.

*c*1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 706 Of your greete goodnesse, by your leve, I wolde pray you that ye nat myne vices write. 1487 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 96, I wold pray yow, that ye will so my pore howse for yowr logyng. *a*1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 614 Perchase you wolde see what wrak and fate? 1564 Harding *Answ. Jewel* 215 What you would saye M. Iuell, I wote not, what you saye, well I wote. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Love-unknown* 52 When I thought to sleep out all these faults, I found that sooner had stuffd the bed with thoughts, I would say thorns. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mounts. Syst.* 19 Dr. H. M. would have Light to be the Platonick *Anima Mundi*. 1799 *Mirror* No. 31 P 2 I would, nevertheless, humbly propose to the ladies, to be good-humoured. 1800 Wordsw. *Hart-Leap Well* i, 96 But there is matter for a second story, And I to this would add another tale. 1919 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* July 440 Working-men's colleges and institutes.. are, the author would hope, built on a surer basis.

†c. *fig.* of a thing: Needs or requires to, ought to, should. *Obs.*

*c*1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 39 The goune nedyth for to be had; and of colour it wolde be a godely blew, or elys a bryghte sanguyn. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 122 There is a bee called a drone, .. and they wyll eate the honye, and gyueth nothynge: and therfore they wolde be kylde. 1598 *Epicharis* G j, All flesh would be very wel sodden, and with heate, 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxi. xxiii. I. 488 To have good and profitable timber, the trees would bee cut downe that are of a middle age. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iii. 75 That would be scann'd. 1628 Bacon *Sylva* § 625 The Consecration of Fruit would be also tried in Vessells, filled with fine Sand. 1682 Evelyn *Let. to Pepys* 19 Sept., Besides all this, the nature of Prescription would be enquir'd into as well when it makes against us, as for us.

**41.** In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), with pers. subject, forming the auxiliary of the periphrastic past subj. or so-called 'conditional mood' with implication of intention or volition: = 'should choose or be willing to': cf. 6, 7, 11.

*a*1400 *Sowdon Wardr. to O. E. Hous.* I. 253 Ich walde ȝef hit maihte been þolien a puestel deaðes to a rudden him ut þrof. *a*1552 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 5 War mi sorow slaked sum wald I sing. 1598 Maddan *Arthur* VIII. iii. 276 She wold haue alcyne the with that poyson and she myghte haue hadde her wille. 1596 Tindal *Matt.* xxiii. 37 How often wolde I haue gathered thy children together, as the henne gaddeth her chickens vnder her wynges? but ye wolde not. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 189 If hee should intend this voyage toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him. 1620— *Temp.* v. 130 If I did thinke, Sir, I were well awake, I'd striue to tell you. 1660 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 151 Let me by no meanes be continued sheriff..I would rather endure a Fine than be kept on another yeare. 1738 Johnson *London* 9 Who would leave, unbrib'd, Hibernia's Land? 1832 Wordsw. in *Mem.* (1851) II. 257 If..I should be asked how I would myself vote, if it had been my fortune to have a seat in the House of Lords. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, sir, upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, sir. 1900 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 264/4 The main object of writers on Bolshevism, whether they would admit it or not, has been to justify or condemn Lenin's great experiment.

b. *I would* (sc. 'if I were you') is often used colloq. as = 'I advise or recommend you to' (= *I should*, Shall v. B. 19 f). So *I wouldn't* = 'I advise you not to'.

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. 1. 210, I would resort to her by night. 1833 Arnold *Let.* 18 May in Stanley *Life* (1858) I. vii. 360 If possible, I would take a Strabo with me, and an Herodotus. *Mod.* I would n't go skating to-day: the ice isn't safe.



c. Interrog. in and pers.: † *wouldst thou* . . . ? = 'art thou willing to . . . ?'; hence as a softened form of request: *would you* . . . ? *will you*, please . . . ? : cf. 6 b.

*c*1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xi, Quod the quite knyȝte, 'Wold thou laffe him ware alle thing!' 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Ho* v. i, *Bell*... Was this her ring? *Green.* Her ring Sir. *May.* A pretty lille toy, would you take money for't? 1757 Mrs. Eden *Six to Sixteen* ii, Would you say the Lord's Prayer for me, old fellow?

**42.** In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), in the 2nd or 3rd pers., forming the auxiliary of the simple 'conditional mood', expressing merely a possibility or contingency in the supposed case: cf. 14.

For the distinction between *should* and *would* see note s.v. Shall v. B. 19 b.

*c*888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 5 ȝif we nu ȝeswuan hwelce mus þæt were hleðel oððe ofre nyt, & seiit him domas .. hu wunderlic wolde eow ðæt þincan. *c*1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 32 ȝef he þat hieldeþ synne, he wolde be dede wiðtien. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5581 ȝif ichadde him vkuike, be wors þou wost leue me. *c*1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 502 Pere was som Espiait hem by-iweue, That wolde as seyth myn Auctor wel contene Neigh half þis look. 1485 *Acts of Parl. Scot.* (1908) I. 497 Ony to him amekle mallis..& vperis dewteis as he may preif be said landis walde have gevin him. 1538 Starkey *England* iii. (1878) 73 Yf lyȝt were dylygently lokuryd, hyt wold sone be sen. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 63 If thou haddest learned the first point of haluking, thou wouldst haue learned to haue held fast. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 64 (Qq.) Thou cam'st not to kill a Rome, by any other name would smell as sweet. 1670 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21, I am surre you would lee with the Kinge when hee bring you. 1754 Richman in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 829 Perhaps some other saline-sulphureous medium would do as well. 1757 Mus. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 44 There is a butterfly in my study, which would be dead some time past, but that I watched it. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 19 They would have refined their cooperation if they dared. 1859 Ruskin *Two Paths* iii. § 96 Your staffs would not be much wanted in the hands of a duchess. 1901 Violet Jacob *Sheep-Stealers* xiv, Had it been possible to teach him the rudiments of good manners, I would have been a really valuable member of the household. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V* c. 50 § 22 (1) Any documents .. such as would be subject to production in a court of law.

P with omission of *have* in pf. inf.

1593 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccii. 705/1 If..his coyen had not counselled him to haue gone, he would not haue returned thyther vnto. 1823 Picker *Poems* II. 135 That had been milkin' his cow in a sieve.

b. With the hypothetical notion obscured or weakened, the 'conditional mood' becoming a qualification of the pres. ind. expressing some degree of hesitation or uncertainty: as, *such phrases as it would seem* (= 'it almost or somewhat seems'), *one would think* (= 'one is inclined to think'). So † *would be* = 'probably is'. Cf. 15 d, and various uses of *should* s.v. Shall v. B. 19 d.

*c*1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. viii. 322 The first premisse of this argument munne nedils be graunted, as it wolde seeme. *a*1500 *Ordinary* 8 Ley he vpon the face of hyrder and pertlet ..was worth, as I would wene, A thousand pound. 1533 More *Apol.* 955 Men wolde haue went somwhat to haue founde Scripture for it. 1651 Hobbes (title) The Leviathan] maketh a path to shine after him; one wolde thinke the depth as an hore hend. 1660 *Essex Rec. Extracts*, 1660–1661 (1892) 35 The play wold be verie full. 1673 Ray tr. Willughby *Ornithol.* 1678 The play would be very much the iiij^th. 1786 Burns *True Loyst* 8 An' when they meet wi' sair disasters,..Ye maist wad think, a wee touch longer, An' they'll descry a coach wi' the hangman. 1853 Miss Pratt *Wild Flowers* II. 75 This plant is not, as one would suppose from its name, a native of woods and meadows. 1886 Pearson *Grammar* iv, If it were only to see how our vats would think she'd get off of her luxurious pillows for one. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 4/3 The standard suits ..are steadily rising in price, and it would seem that by the time the season opens the market they will come under the proposed luxury tax.

¶ o. Used in the 1st pers. instead of the normal auxiliary *should*.

Still freq. with such verbs as *like, wish* (cf. Shall v. B. 10 f), prob. by association with 40 i otherwise now restricted in usage like the similar use of *will*: see 16 and 37.

1648 [see 48]. *c*1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 29 V wold be ryght glad to be wryten vnto, for we may not go yn-tylle ye comme. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* i. (1577) E j, He that shoulde wryte, I woulde thinke he committed a great faulte, not vsing them. 1594 Shaks. *Much Ado* iv. iii. 119, I would haue thought her spirit had beene inuincible against all assaults of affection. 1603—*Meas. for Meas.* III. ii. 94 I would fain know some certainty. 1660 *Extr. State Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 150 Wee would be glad that all our Subjects could be brought to agree in an uniforme Worship of God. 1733 W. Cranford *Enlightned* (1826) 189 The more we view them, the more would we be satisfied of their reality. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Aug., I would be glad to know when we are to meet. 1794 Hutton *Philos. Light* 15 The more..that we should reason upon such a mistaken principle, the more we would proceed in error. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 293 Such assertions sovereign to turn out exactly as we would wish it. 1889 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 43, I would be disposed to question the accuracy of this information. 1908 *Oxford Mag.* 5 Feb. 180/2 We feel that we would recognise them if we met them.

**43.** In a question or indirect statement in the 2nd or 3rd pers., where *should* would be used in the corresponding direct statement in the 1st.

In categorical questions and reported utterance varying with *should*, as well with *shall*: cf. note s.v. Shall v. B. 8. But in rhetorical questions implying emphatic assertion (e.g. 'Would you believe it?' 'Who would have thought it?') *should* is never substituted.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 119 What woldest thou demen if a man wold yeve three quarters of nobles of golde? 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* iii. 291 Who would not haue beene confounded, & haue gotten him awaie at these thy words? 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 19 You know smoke, and so do I: would you desire better similitude? 1634 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1888) 209 What think you, have I not done fair for once, would you wish a longer letter? 1775 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 2 June, Tell me what you would be most willing to spare. 1779 *Mirror* No. 12 P 8 Would you believe it, Sir, my daughter Elizabeth..said it was fanatical to find fault with card-playing on Sunday. 1785 [see Shall v. B. 19c]. 1861 T. L. Peacock *Cryll Grange* xxix, Do you think..you would find many examples of love that is one and one for all? 1883 [see Minor v. 8]. 1888 Thirlwall *Lett.* (1881) I. 299 If you would like to see it I could send it you. 1886 Story *Fiammetta* vii, Would you like to see it?

**44.** In a conditional (or equivalent) clause with pers. subject, with implication of intention or volition: = 'chose to'; 'were willing to': cf. 41.

*a*900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1107 Xesoð him to healwe þæt him betst bi-wom, þæt he ȝode onfeall to eðele. *c*1205 Lay. 6530 ȝif hit weoren þin wille and þu hit don woldest To sifuen ȝa an ende i þine kinne-londe, We wulleð þine men beon. *a*1350 *Will. Palerne* (ed. Hall) 4 Wold he salue vs sone, mi sorow sold slake. *c*1375 *Joseph Arim.* 640 'Woldestou leose vppon him,' he seis 'I wolde' [etc.]. *c*1390–95 *Vices & Virtues* 211, He seke þe, if þou me say wald, Quaikyn fyr gone on fold or hous, Same at he lauȝ. 1575 *Kenf. Corl. Year* 70 With thy bow thou wold be payit of as thow fand, Forsuith thow sold be wel-cum to pas hame with me. 1596 in *Cath. Doc. Publ. Q.* Eliz. Unconverted 5 or 6 felons in the short ty me he was in Newgate, whereof 2 or 3 might have been reprieved from the gallows, if they would but a denied what they had confessed against me. Hall *Cases Consc.* To Rdr., In the hanching of all which, would I have affected that course .. I could easily [etc.]. 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 30 Is not the world giving their love to me—telling me would I stay I need not fear a congregation. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 92 She knows, in her heart, if she would search into her intelligence, that [etc.]. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iv, Why could Providence .. make me certain of the same, That I survive you..certainly I would accept Your bounty.

b. With inversion of subj., expressing desire or longing. (But cf. 37.)

1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, ii. 1. 75 Now my Soules Pallace is become a Prison: Ah, would she breake from hence. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* 43 O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us To see oursels as others see us!

† c. *fig.* of a thing: Could, might: cf. 9. *Obs.*

*c*1440 *Generydes* 214 And ffurthe he rideth .. With his knyghtes to mete and it were day. 1600 *Fortune Rep.* at Second Cipriane, 3d hit would be gete, With Cosme and damiane wold I dyne.

**†45.** In a hypothetical clause merely expressing a condition or supposition: = 'should', 'were to': cf. 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1147 To dethe mote I smete be with bonder ille..Wold I a lettre vn-to yow bynge or take, To harm of yow. *c*1400 *Pety Job* 500 in *26 Pol. Poems* 137 That feel shall I neuer leas, I bought I wolde for passyng. *c*1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 263 Seis thow not, Lord, this warld ouerturnit is, As quha wald change gude gold in leid or tyn. 1597 Andrew *Bruneschild. Whipper* b iij b, Than make fyre vnder it that it may droppe tretably as yf ye wolde tell ye clocke i. ꝑ yt than there fall a drop. *c*1550 Rotland *Cyt. & Vrnce* iii. 1 Wold God I were perfect, cast ye conuert, Or in sum part thairin muk resistence.

† b. After *as if* (or *as* in same sense): = 'were about to' (= *should*, Shall v. B. 20 a, *b*). *Obs.*

*a*1550 *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308/18 Sum drowpis down as he wold die. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 210 At this I..made as if I would vomit at the thoughts of it.

**46.** In a noun-clause expressing the object of desire, advice, or request.

Usually with a person as subj., implying voluntary action as the desired end: thus distinguished from *should*, which may be used when the person's will is not in view. Also (almost always after *wish*) with a thing as subject, in which case *should* can never be substituted. Hence it would suggest the idea of command or compulsion instead of mere desire. Cf. Shall v. B. 22 a.

1525 Pole in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) July 530, I wold my syster wold mayntyn a littell longer. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 105 O that your frowns would teach my smiles such skill. 1611— *Cymb.* I. iv. 21 I wish'd mine eyes Might satisfie the present witness state, and wish That warmer dayes would come. 1685 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 116 His Lordship desires you would write to Mr. Bridges to desire him to stay my Lord Duke. 1736 Swinburn *Let. to Swift* 15 Sept., Indeed if you pleased,..I would rather that you would, I mean should, charge only five per cent. 1775— *Courts* iv. 11, I wish the lady would favour us with something more than a side-front. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen, New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 465 The general wish of France was that James would govern in conformity with law and with public opinion. 1918 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 554 It is much to be wished that some one would clear up the tangled web of these peace negotiations.

¶ b. Used irreg. for *should* (Shall v. B. 22): with restriction of usage as in 16, 7 *Obs.*

1780–7 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 7, I should be sorry—that the wretch would be the first victim of reprobacy. 1786 Mrs. S. Pennington *Lett.* II. 197, I choose rather you would carry it yourself. 1791 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* III. 312 It was intended that this would encrease the severity of his punishment.

*** **47.** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses, as in I. ***, 17–21.

*c*1250 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 44 Hwa-so hit i leiſen deope bi-ſencð, .. he re ſchal nawt up acouerin hwen he walde. *c*1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1135 And Pandare wep as he

to watre wolde. 1390 Gower *Conf* I 84 Though I wolde, I mighte noght Obeie unto my ladi heste. 1393 Langl. *P Pl C* viii 285 Wist ich be soþe, Ich wolde no forþer a fot for no fareȝ prechinge. 14.. Hoccleve *Mem. Poems* xvi 10 Ihm þan Fayen wolden þat þey and I euene were And so wolde I. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q* clxvii, It stant noght with the as than wald, perchance? 1484 Caxton *Fables of Aesop* ii, Who so mounteth hyher than he sholde he falleth lower than he wold. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par John* 1 15–18 Yet could thei not kyll me whyleme I wolde my self. 1556 Chron. *Antichrist* 120 b, Is it the proprete of a shepheard, to renne madde upon his flocke, wrose than a wolfe wolde? 1590 Shake. *Two Gent* v iii 22, I would to Valentine To Mantua, where I heare, he makes abood. 1605 — *Macb* i vii 44 Letting I dare not, wait vpon I would. 1610 — *Temp* ii i 285 You would lift the Moone out of her spheare, if she would continue in it fiue weekes without changing. *Seb* We would, and then go a Bul-fooling. *Ibid* iii i 61 *I or* I am in my condition A Prince (Miranda) I do thinke a King (I would not so) 1777 Jas. So B 2 b] 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, Sir, . upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, Sir. I wish I may die if I wouldn't, Sir. 1865 Dickens *Reprint* i 8 21 Never think Mitt in usea those three words to fill up his verse, as a loose writer would.

**IV 48** followed by *to* with inf., esp after an intervening word or words (cf. To *prep* B 19); now the regular const. only with pres. pple *willing*.

(Not always distinguishable from Will v 3.)

*c*1320 *Sir Tristr* 303 Tristrem herd it say, On his playing he wold I wentis hilling to lay. 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xiv 5 And he willynge to slen hym, dredde the peple. 1448 Shillingford *Lett & Papers* (Camden) 51 Ellen we wolde truely to have had tyme. *c*1450 *Merlin* iii 54 Ihei haue assembled a grete power, and wele to conquere the lo de he fore. 1480–82 *Rolls Parl* VI 200/2 *Viat in Dei Evangelia* 331 And they wolden to dis þat ye wylle to dis. 1493 Marg Paston in *P Lett* i 351 It semyth that she wold neuer no sayn to have be dely-ered of my knight. 1.. *c*1460 *Pity Sara* n 288, I wolnot for a hundder pownd to stond in fere my lord to tene. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw IV* 203 Not willyng of his owne knight, to bothe the parties. 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 764 He could not get away, & to keepe himselfe close he would not. 1610 Shake. *Temp* iii ii 8 I would I am in a moone made Till I were fewdiuelsome then to suffer I he flesh fire blow my mouth. 1632 Lithgow *Trav* iii 101 The which I willing to see 1633 (see Rather *adv* 9c) 1648 Eeve *I et to L I Da high* 19 Nov (MS.), Nor as it thought he will to stay onely to get y^e saylers aboard.

**V. †49** Pa. pple. would, *wolde* (mostly with ellipsis) chiefly in sense 7, = chosen *Obs*

*c*1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* II 293 He myst, yf he hadde wolde, haue take greet vengeaunce þerof. *c*1385 Chaucer *L G W* 1709 *Dido*, I he fomy bey ll Gouernyth he, r3ght as hym stel hith wold. *c*1422 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 1075 Cost himself To lose and prechen a lif þat he wold. *c*1450 *Oseney Reg* 164 Where I haue i wolyd me to be i beried. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iii xiii 132 M iiij tymes he myghte haue ben her and he had wolf. 1483 Cod. Ino *Cabt* i on Duel clxxiv 1145 Not that hee was vnable to let them or withstande them, if hee had would. 1633 J. Done *Hist Septuagint* 216 If hee had would, hee might easily occupied the Mountaine.

**VI.** Conjoined with Will v, etc

In later use also with *ye* I pers sing *willeth* or *wille*, pa. t. *wille*, *I*, and thus blending with Will v.[1]

**50** *absol* or *intr*. In the disjunctive qualifying phr such as *whether he* (etc.) *will or nill*, also *who(ever will or nill* (in senses 2, 5–7); whether (one) will or not, willing, ly or unwillingly, voluntarily or compulsorily *Obs. or rare arch*. replaced by the inverted form in b.

*c*888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxxiv § 12 We scolon beon nede zebuhte, nam we willen nam we nyllan þæt he ne se hafenra hrof ealra gode. *c*900 tr *Bede's Hist* v iv, Sæge him, swa he wille swa he nelle, he scealh to Columkil in mynstre cuman. 1413 *Pilgr Sowle* (C) iii 8 Þe whiche þat is lofe, þoȝ it leue, He shal, whether he wole or nylle. *c*1449 Pecock *Repr* iv iii 448 And yit, were wile or nyle, Holi Scripture wole þat presesse we and þekenhode he had and shal. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xiii xx 641 Thow shalte knowe hym whether thow wilt or nylt. *c*1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* iv. 348 N ne sall he nit Quha will, quha Nill, vntill ane dog pronunciatioun be had. Hamilton *Cat of Ivys* (S.T.S.) is truth and God is God whether any Councell will or nill. 1681 N Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* ii xxx 239 They do what they list but let the Plebeians have power to will and nill. 1853 T. Cooper *Purgat Martyrs* (1877) 355 Each thing , whether it will or nill, The eternal purpose Doth fulfil.

*Ja* 1 *c* 1679 Hardin. *Corr* n. (1870) 11, [He] theim com pelled To be one his men whether they w ld .r nolde 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii xi 7 5 Els had there ben m rtal werre vpon the morne not withstanding she wold none other whether they wold or nold

**b** esp with inversion of subj (usually a pron.), as *will I* (*or*) *will I he, they* etc.), or † abbreviated, as *will* (*or*) *will, willeng* (*or*) *milleng* (see Willing *ppl a*) ; occas vaguely = † one wity or another, in any case, anyhow'. Now chiefly in the reduced form Whity Wity, q v

*c* 1000 Ælfric Saints' *Lives* xxiii 121 I rñan þe we synfulle and sceolan beon eadmode, wille we, nelle we. *c*1230 *Halt Meidenh* (1922) 41 Wulle i ha nullen ha *a*1300 *Ken Degrev* 573 in *E E P* (1862) 23 Þ or wolny nulin ha beo fle. *c*1300 *Salomon & Sal* (1848) 971 Mote hit al haben is wille, Wultou, nultou, hit wol spille. 1340 *Ayenb* 164 Þet is al þet he may lyeve wylle hom nolle hom. 1382 Langl. *P Pl A* viii 144 Wol þou so nulle þou. 1377 *Ibid* B vi 158 Wiltow or neltow *Ibid* xx 29 Wolnei, nolne *c*1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 13560 Wil thow, nele thow—the pees schal be! 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par Matt*, v 14-16 Yᵉ haȝl that bereyth it ſee the ceryl, willeth it, nilleth it, maketh it tene of al men 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch* ii xvi. Wo þy, wil þou nyll thee, needes must thee abyde his sentence *a*1555 Latimer in Foxe *A & M* (1563) 2324/2 If my Lorde will needes inuade my vnwarde manne, wyll I nyll I. 1596 Harding *Confut.* 137 Well, how so euer it be, will ye nill ye, ye be dryuen to confesse the same to be no newe thing. *a*1566 R Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) G iv, Wyll I or nil I, it must be done. 1567 Jewel *Def Apol* 715 God is able ( wil the Councelles, nil the Councelles) to maintaare his owne Kingedome. 1590 Shakes *R & J* ii 43 And will or nill, Beares her away. 1596 Shake. *Tam Shr* i ii 273 Will you, nill you, I will marry you. 1599 Sylvester *Sonn Mirac Peace* 811, A sacred sage. Will nill I, raps mee bodily to rehearse Great Heauens Trophies. 1620 Holland *Lerp* iii xxv, The Nobles were by meere driuen and to such streights, that wil they, nill they, yeeld they must thereto. 1624 Gorges *Lucan* v 187 For will, or nill, powre them constraines. 1647 J Booker in Lilly *Chr. Astrol.*, Be you for or against, or without changing *Seth* We would say, and then go a Bul fooling *Ibid* iii 1 61 *I or* I am in my condition A Prince (Miranda) I do thinke a King (I would not so) 1777 Jas So B 2 b] 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xiii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, Sir, . upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, Sir. I wish I may die if I wouldn't, Sir. 1865 Dickens *Reprint* i 8 21 Never think Mitt on usea those three words to fill up his verse, as a loose writer would.

**IV 48** followed by *to* with inf., esp after an intervening word or words (cf. To *prep* B 19); now the regular const. only with pres. pple *willing*

(Not always distinguishable from Will v 3.)

*c*1320 *Sir Tristr* 303 Tristrem herd it say, On his playing he wold I wentis hilling to lay. 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xiv 5 And he willynge to slen hym, dredde the peple. 1448 Shillingford *Lett & Papers* (Camden) 51 Ellen we wolde truely to have had tyme. *c*1450 *Merlin* iii 54 Ihei haue assembled a grete power, and wele to conquere the lo de he fore. 1480–82 *Rolls Parl* VI 200/2 *Viat in Dei Evangelia* 331 And they wolden to dis þat ye wylle to dis. 1493 Marg Paston in *P Lett* i 351 It semyth that she wold neuer no sayn to have be dely-ered of my knight. 1.. *c*1460 *Pity Sara* n 288, I wolnot for a hundder pownd to stond in fere my lord to tene. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw IV* 203 Not willyng of his owne knight, to bothe the parties. 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 764 He could not get away, & to keepe himselfe close he would not. 1610 Shake. *Temp* iii ii 8 I would I am in a moone made Till I were fewdiuelsome then to suffer I he flesh fire blow my mouth. 1632 Lithgow *Trav* iii 101 The which I willing to see 1633 (see Rather *adv* 9c) 1648 Eeve *I et to L I Da high* 19 Nov (MS.), Nor as it thought he will to stay onely to get y^e saylers aboard.

**V. †49** Pa. pple. would, *wolde* (mostly with ellipsis) chiefly in sense 7, = chosen *Obs*

*c*1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* II 293 He myst, yf he hadde wolde, haue take greet vengeaunce þerof. *c*1385 Chaucer *L G W* 1709 *Dido*, I he fomy bey ll Gouernyth he, r3ght as hym stel hith wold. *c*1422 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 1075 Cost himself To lose and prechen a lif þat he wold. *c*1450 *Oseney Reg* 164 Where I haue i wolyd me to be i beried. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iii xiii 132 M iiij tymes he myghte haue ben her and he had wolf. 1483 Cod. Ino *Cabt* i on Duel clxxiv 1145 Not that hee was vnable to let them or withstande them, if hee had would. 1633 J. Done *Hist Septuagint* 216 If hee had would, hee might easily occupied the Mountaine.

**VI.** Conjoined with Will v, etc

In later use also with *ye* I pers sing *willeth* or *wille*, pa. t. *wille*, *I*, and thus blending with Will v.[1]

**50** *absol* or *intr*. In the disjunctive qualifying phr such as *whether he* (etc.) *will or nill*, also *who(ever will or nill* (in senses 2, 5–7); whether (one) will or not, willing, ly or unwillingly, voluntarily or compulsorily *Obs. or rare arch*. replaced by the inverted form in b.

*c*888 Ælfred *Boeth* xxxiv § 12 We scolon beon nede zebuhte, nam we willen nam we nyllan þæt he ne se hafenra hrof ealra gode. *c*900 tr *Bede's Hist* v iv, Sæge him, swa he wille swa he nelle, he scealh to Columkil in mynstre cuman. 1413 *Pilgr Sowle* (C) iii 8 Þe whiche þat is lofe, þoȝ it leue, He shal, whether he wole or nylle. *c*1449 Pecock *Repr* iv iii 448 And yit, were wile or nyle, Holi Scripture wole þat presesse we and þekenhode he had and shal. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xiii xx 641 Thow shalte knowe hym whether thow wilt or nylt. *c*1550 Rolland *Crt Venus* iv. 348 N ne sall he nit Quha will, quha Nill, vntill ane dog pronunciatioun be had. Hamilton *Cat of Ivys* (S.T.S.) is truth and God is God whether any Councell will or nill. 1681 N Bacon *Disc Govt Eng* ii xxx 239 They do what they list but let the Plebeians have power to will and nill. 1853 T. Cooper *Purgat Martyrs* (1877) 355 Each thing , whether it will or nill, The eternal purpose Doth fulfil.

*Ja* 1 *c* 1679 Hardin. *Corr* n. (1870) 11, [He] theim com pelled To be one his men whether they w ld .r nolde 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii xi 7 5 Els had there ben m rtal werre vpon the morne not withstanding she wold none other whether they wold or nold

**b** esp with inversion of subj (usually a pron.), as *will I* (*or*) *will I he, they* etc.), or † abbreviated, as *will* (*or*) *will, willeng* (*or*) *milleng* (see Willing *ppl a*) ; occas vaguely = † one wity or another, in any case, anyhow'. Now chiefly in the reduced form Whity Wity, q v

*c* 1000 Ælfric Saints' *Lives* xxiii 121 I rñan þe we synfulle and sceolan beon eadmode, wille we, nelle we. *c*1230 *Halt Meidenh* (1922) 41 Wulle i ha nullen ha *a*1300 *Ken Degrev* 573 in *E E P* (1862) 23 Þ or wolny nulin ha beo fle. *c*1300 *Salomon & Sal* (1848) 971 Mote hit al haben is wille, Wultou, nultou, hit wol spille. 1340 *Ayenb* 164 Þet is al þet he may lyeve wylle hom nolle hom. 1382 Langl. *P Pl A* viii 144 Wol þou so nulle þou. 1377 *Ibid* B vi 158 Wiltow or neltow *Ibid* xx 29 Wolnei, nolne *c*1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 13560 Wil thow, nele thow—the pees schal be! 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par Matt*, v 14-16 Yᵉ haȝl that bereyth it ſee the ceryl, willeth it, nilleth it, maketh it tene of al men 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch* ii xvi. Wo þy, wil þou nyll thee, needes must thee abyde his

wild. [OE. *wilhan* wk. vb. = OHG. *wilōn* (MHG , G. *willen*, pa. pple. *gewillt*) . f. Will *sb* 1]

**1.** *trans.* To wish, desire; sometimes with implication of intention : = Will v.[1] 1, 2, 5. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

*c*805 *Vesp Psalter* xxxiii[ii], 13 [12] Hwelc is mon se wile lif & wilah þæssan dagas gode ? *c*1100 *Ælfred's Boeth* xl. § 3 Dy ne scolde nan wis man willan [*Cott MS* wilnian] sefter lufe. *c*1205 Lay 879 þif se hit willed [= willed] *c*1275 wolleþ], ich hune wille spillen 1297 R Glouc (1724) 32 þat he wilneþ [= wyl wylleþ, willed] mest of alle þing to him eiance. 1340 *Ayenb* 142 Herte þet þis heþ a sayd nayt ne willeþ more þanne uor to by uory ete to þe worlde 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xii 221 [þo þat] willeȝ of bridles and of bestes and of hire bredyng to knowe 14 . *Lai le Freyne* (Ms Douce 59) ff 13 He bⁱ a lytul me seuyth to me wyl þyh [*sybat*] longes lyfte 1425 Caxton *Knyght* (Somme) 218 So had he well wilyd that the monstre had deuoured per seus 1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par Matt* v 21–24 Who so euer hath gotten to hymselfe the charite of the gospell, whyche wylleth well to them that wylleth yll 1582 *N* Hall *Higden's* 87 By Minerua helpe, who willes you all the ill she may *a*1677 Barrow *Serm Luke* xxii 42 Wks 1716 III 45 Thy things he willeth, that we should be good, and that we should be happy 1875 Tennyson *Queen Mary* i iv, A great party in the state Wills me to wed her

**†b.** To desire, *affairs* — Will v.[1] B. 4. *rare.*

1614 Selden *Titles Hon* 134 None of this excludes Vection before, but only wils him the first announted by the Pope

**2.** Conjoined with Nill. see Will v.[1] B. VI.

**3.** To direct by one's will or testament (*that* something be done, to something be done)

871–89 [see Will v.[1] B 3 b]. 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 34 At Wynchestre he lies, so himself willid. *a*1513 Fabyan *Chr n* (1811) 613 Robert Chycheley . the which willed in his testament, that vpon his month day a good dede should be ordeyned for xxiiii C poore men 1590 Skinner *I Q* ii x 32 So to his crowne she him restor'd againe, In which he dyde made ryse for death by old, And after wild it should to her remaine 1635 Peacham *Compl Gentl* iv (1906) 199 Willing his body to be buried in the Cathedrall Church of Rochester 1642 H Parker *Parl Purg Rebell* 247 If a man willeth that his lands shall be sold for payment of his debts 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* vii, It was a simple walking funeral, as he had wished and willed it should be

**b.** To dispose of by will ; to bequeath or devise

*c*1460 *Oseney Reg* 7 Willyng and grauntyng my lorde Robert Doyly, all my londe 1521 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) VI 6 First I will my sault to God almyghtie . 1524 *Test de Wills* (Lincol t Rec Soc) V 132 The residue of all my goodes not willet nor bequethed 1546 J *Is Chantry Surv* (Surtees) II 462, all y^e wch willed and bestowed of one olut 1561 T Lavton *Behaviour* (Arb) 74 The residue of all my goodes not willet nor bequethed 1569 Diggens *Mut Fr* ii xiii Was it not enough that I should have been willed away, like a horse? 1583 *Lond Inner Temp Rec* The statute of Henry VIII did something to restore the power of willing land 1908 M H Ward *Diana Mallory* iii, The vast bulk of Henry Mauban's fortune, his Surrey home, had been willed away.

**3.** To determine by the will ; to attempt to cause, aim at effecting by exercise of will , to set the mind with conscious intention to the performance or occurrence of something, to choose or decide to do something, or that something shall be done or happen.

Const with simplesly, ace and inf., ample inf (now always with *to*), or obj. clause, also *at* or *for* (with *ace* or *v*).

Nearly coinciding in meaning with Will v.[1], but with more expl c reference to the mental process of volition

*c*950 *Lindisf ex* (Prose) *Matt* xxvi 39 Fæder gif he gode willaþ ide lindde his kalice *a*1340 Hampole *Psalter* viii 17 He wilyd noght flee vpne *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 263 La ly, bow have wild me to suffre so tourmentes, and þu suffered be instrument of bine offes for to be þus cut off 1555 *Eurydice & Iph* (1608) A vij When I have willed ex perriment it, I have found it trewe 1570 Levins *Manip* A. Hall *Iliad* v 95 Pan who shall that Vlysses Sacke ya dons death should be 1594 Hooker *Eccl Pol* i vii § 2 To choose is to will one thing before another 1693 R Cocks *Diary* (1848) 1 Sept 3 I will to take it all, for that he had need to use money heare 1850 Pennie *Anis Armin* 119 He had onely a power, y^t to fall into sinne vnlesse he wild 1870 Morris *Earthly Par* III iii 1 Ye see how she seems that she wills to do or say, Seems wisest 1720 J Chamberl *Is haalts Nat Philos* (1729) I 11 If I will to move my Arm, it presently follows 1876 Bosworth *Anglo Saxon Obsd* § 11 He that willeth the end, doth will the necessary means conducive to that end 1877 Carlyle *Fr Rev* i v v, All shall be as God wills, but Notbestitit *Tragic Com* vi, So great Immortal, giant like, that what he wills must be 1892 Farrar *Darkn & Dawn* liv, Who were ready, if God so willed, to die for their faith 1896 Housman *Shropsh Lad* xxx, Others, I am not the first, Have willed more mischief than they durst

**b** *intr.* To exercise the will ; to perform the mental act of volition.

1581 *A V* (Rheim) Phil ii 13 It is God which worketh in you, both to will and to accomplish 1594 Hooker *Eccl Pol* i vii § 2 To will is to bend our soules to the haun g or doung of that which they see to be good 1625 Quarles *Emblems* viii, See how my Sin bamuyzled body lies, Not having pow r, to will , nor will, to rise ! 1690 Locke *Hum Und* ii xxi § 30 He, that shall turn his thoughts inwards upon what passes in his mind, will find that he can will that Stah *Eth. Theor* Wks 1846 I 85 I'ut what could induce such a being to will or to not? 1867 *A P* Lorbes *Explan 39 Arts* 12 Is this infinitely powerful and intelligent Being free? wills he? loves He?

**c.** *trans.* To bring or get (*into, out of*, etc.) by exercise of will.

1890 L Hunt *Table t.* (1892) 184 Victims of opium have been known to be unable to will themselves out of the chair in which they were sitting 1874 H R Reynolds *John Bapt* iii § 2 136 The great powers of nature were willed into being by the word of Jehovah.

**d.** To control (another person), or induce (another) *to do* something, by the mere exercise of one's will, as in religion.

1882 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* I. 37 *note*, The one to be 'willed' would go to the other end of the house, if desired, whilst we agreed upon the thing to be done. 1886 *19th Cent.* Dec. 883 They are what is called 'willed' to do certain things desired by the ladies or gentlemen who have hold of them. 1890 A. Lang *Dreams & Ghosts* iii. 59 A young lady, who believed that she could play the 'willing game' successfully without touching the person 'willed'.

**4.** To express or communicate one's will or wish with regard to something; with various shades of meaning. (Cf. Will *v.*[1] 3.)

**a.** To enjoin, order; to decree, ordain. *Obs.* or *arch.*

(*a*) with personal obj., usually with inf. or clause.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11293 Pe lai of moyses...wijld Womman pat had a knane child, At his forsaun birth suld soo It offer pe hali temple to. 1481 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 496 We desire and also will you that vnto oure seid seruaunt...ye yeue your said. 1547 Edw. VI in *Wyatts' Fragments* (1719) XV. 192 We Wyll and Commaunde yowe to Procede in the seid Matters. 1566 Grafton *Chron.* II. 659 Their nute was smally regarded, and shortly after they were willed to silence. 1588 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. 272 If a man do de in a waste to rob me, and (drawing his sword upon me) be willeth me to deliver my money. 1590 Shakes. *2 Hen. VI*, I. iii. 10 We doe no otherwise, then we are will'd. 1598 Nashe *Saffron Walden* P 4, Vp he was hed and...willed to deliuer vp his weapon. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) I. 32 The King in the Gospel...made a Feast, and...willed his servants to go out to the high-ways side. 1799 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 307 Willing and requiring all Officers and men to obey me.

(*b*) with thing as obj., either sb. (alone or with inf. pass.) or obj. clause: also *absol.* in clause with *as*. (See also 2 *a*.)

*c* 1290 *Beket. Prop* 1356 As he willeth I asket smegerdly myche, Of dethe, & of delre, as destyny willes. 1412 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. viii. 10 We...wil for the mare sekernes this oure confirmacioune be...sellt with oure grete sele. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 224 b, Where scripture willeth the contrary. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Clarisonus*, By sounde of trumpet to will silence. 1585 T. Wilson *Engl. Hist. Rem.* (1914) Intr. 3 Such actes...as mennes red...and was willed to be ingrossed to the third reading. 1612 Bacon *Ess., Of Empire* (Arb.) 300 It is common with Princes (saith Tacitus) to will constancie. 1691 Dryden *Æneis* I. 122 'Tis youre, O Queen! to will The Work, which Duty binds me to fulfil. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. i, Get thou into thy cloister as the monks will.

† **b.** To pray, request, entreat; = Desire *v.* 6. 1454 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 54 As for the questyon that ye willed me to axke my lord, I fond hym yet at no good leyser. 1564 Harrison *Descr. Scotland* in *Holinshed* II. 12/1 The Romaines sent ambassadoures to him, to will him to cease from battayle. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 19 His errand doone, as he was willde, he took his leaue from thence. 1631 [Marbe] *Celestina* xiii. 150 Did I not will you I should not be wakened? 1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* v. i, He has sent me to will and pressing you to make a swinging long Night for him.

† **c.** *fig.* of a thing: To require, demand (cf. Will *v.*[1] II. 3 *c*); also, to induce, persuade (a person to do something). *Obs.*

1445 in *Anglia* XV. 267 Constaunce willeth also That thou doo nought with wyke corage. 1563 Goode *Eglogs* Ded. (Arb.) 24 These...mischiefes vtterly diswaded me from the following of my frendes perswasions, and wylles me rather to condem them. 1587 Fleming *Lucretius* (Arb.) 88 Wisedome willeth me to pawse. 1607 Shakes. *Cor.* II. iii. 125 What Custome wills in all things, should we doo't? The Dust on antique Time would lye vnswept. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 633 Mean while, as Nature wills, Night bids us rest.

**Will,** *v.*[3] Now only *Shetland dial.* Pa. t. and pple. **willed, wilt** (also 4 wylt, 5 welt). [a. ON. *villask*, refl. of *villa* to lead astray, f. *villr* Will *a.*] *intr.* To go astray, lose one's way; to stray; *pa. pple.* gone astray, lost ' (= Will *a.* 1).

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 277 So fer forb þis foul him tilled Pat ate last in wode he willed. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1711 He.. Stelez out ful stylle..Went hat wylt of he rode wyle3es fro þe houndes. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3930 Me thoughte I was in a wode willed myne one. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 17 Qwat way is he willid in þis werld wyde?

1887 Jessie M. E. Saxby *Lads of Lunda, Halyers* v, 'To will', in Shetlandic parlance, means to lose your way. 1899 J. Spence *Shetl. Folk-Lore* 207 'They're wit that wales.' has reference to the difficulty often experienced in choosing among many things.

**Will,** obs. f. Will, Well *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], *adv.*

**Willable** (wi'lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Will *v.*[1] or [2] + -able.] † **a.** That is to be willed or desired. *Obs.* 14.. *Clouds of Unknowing* (MS. Univ. Coll. 14. a 3 b, Pe hyzest wyllabyll þing [L. *volibilitè*], þe whych is god.

**b.** Capable of being willed.

1880 Caird *Introd. Philos. Relig.* ii. 292 All truth is knowable as *my* knowledge, all good willable as *my* will.

**Willage,-aige, Willane, Willans, Willany,** obs. Sc. ff. Village, Villain, Villains, Villainy.

**Will-a-wisp** : see Will-o'-the-wisp.

† **Wille, will,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [Partly developed from predicative use of Me. *wille*, Will *sb.*[1] (cf. Unwille); partly apheltic f. Iwil *a.* (OE. **gewill* in *ungewill*); cf. Wil-.]

*A. adj.* Pleasing, pleasant, acceptable, agreeable.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Uuriht heo doð ec togenes his ancristene, þenne he hine læð6 to drinken more, noht þe him beo wille oðer quæme, ac þenne him ned were. *c* 1205 Lay. 20816 Þif hit be wowre wille an heorte þet we moten ouer sæ. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 371 3ef ow is wifes for to wunien wiþ me. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3647 (Fairf.) Hit salle him sauour wonder wil [*Cott.* It sal him saur al to wil, *Gött.*.. to his wille, *Trin.*..al at wille].

**B.** *adv.* Voluntarily, willingly.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24049 All pat will [*Fairf.* wille] him sal wimand Sal corownd be to lif lastand. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 9645 (Laud) To eche man sbe yeuyþ wille Right to haue good and ille.

**Wille,** obs. Sc. f. Vile ; obs. f. Well, Will.

**Willed** (wild), *a.* [f. Will *sb.*[1] + -ed 2.]

1. Having a will of a specified kind : chiefly in comb., as *Evil-willed*, Ill-willed, Self-willed. 14.. in *Harrow. Med* p. xxv, Witted (aa) a wodkok; Wylled as a wedercokes.

**2.** Having the will directed to some (specified) action; minded, disposed, inclined (*to do* something). Cf. Well-willed (comp. † *better-willed*).

1398 trans. Higden I. 405 Marc. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 200 That shal cause hym to be the better wylyed. 1563 Goode *Eglogs* (Arb.) 225 A Souldier stoute of Reasons bande, is willed there to ryde. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 468, I, taking my leaue depested, being willed to visite the Italian Courtes. 1891 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 512 The poore of France could hardly have refused to assist at the trial.. euen had they been so willed.

**Willed** (wild), *ppl. a.* [f. Will *v.*[2] + -ed 1.]

1. Disposed of by will or testament.

1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, I am the willed-away girl.

**2.** Determined or effected by the will ; voluntary.

1872 G. Macdonald *Rest* iii. 22 A mighty, conscious, willed power. 1891 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 512 The prolonged natural discharges of neurons underlying willed and natural movements. 1905 Rickaby *God & His Creatures* i. Incli. of Understanding, as such, must be willed good.

**b.** Controlled by another's will, as in hypnotism.

1886 Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 14 The 'willed' performer after various..indications of a tendency to move in..[a] certain direction at last hits on the right one.

**Willeful,** obs. form of Wilful.

**Willeliche,** variant of Willy *adv.*

**Willem.** *Obs. rare.* = Guillemin.

*c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 34 Wyllemyns and frere menours.

**Willemite** (wi'lĭməit). *Min.* [f. Mn. Wilhelmite (A. Levy, 1829), f. *Willem* William I of the Netherlands. Native silicate of zinc, abundant in New Jersey, found in masses or crystals of various colours from light greenish-yellow to flesh-red.

1850 *Edinb. Geol., Min.* etc. § 472. 1907 *Times* 25 Mar. 15/3 To detect them [*sc.* certain rays] he used the luminous property of them as they fell on willemite, which was the most sensitive substance he [*sc.* Professor Thomson] had discovered for the purpose.

**Willen** (wi'lən). Will *v.*[2] + -en 1.] One who wills, in various senses.

1. One who desires ; a wisher. Chiefly, now only, in obj. or advb. comb., as Evil-willer, Good-willed, Ill-willer, Well-willer, q.v. So † *cursed willer*, after *evil-willer*.

*c* 1395 *Plowman's T.* 208 Such willers of worshp must well fele, *ibid.* 280 Such willers wil is nat worth a neld. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxxix. viii, Not closely vnder-mind'd by cursed willer, Nor overthrown by foe in open fight.

**2.** One who exercises his will ; one who sets himself with conscious intention to do something ; a voluntary agent.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. x. 96 Qwho-euer wyll to it myght cum, & 3it it is not of 3ik ryonar ne willar, but of ersite fauand, lyberal & takand [cf. *Rom.* ix. 16]. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 1 Willers and workars of the same. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 1-6 There is nothynge harde to the louing willer. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm. Luke xxxii.* 48 Who. 1686 III. 143 Who the willer is to whom we must submit. 1678 Norris *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 289 Every Dependence of an irregular Act upon the Will, is not such as Makes it proper upon the Willer. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xvi, Nature was spoken of as the willer and producer of all the marvels which he describes. 1872 *Dublin Rev.* July 73 The Fathers..fixing their eyes upon the oneness of the thing willed and the oneness of the willer.

**b.** *spec.* One who influences another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnotism.

1882 *19th Cent.* June 893 A much larger percentage of successful results occurred when a near relative of the guesser was the 'willer'.

† **Willerdom.** *Obs. rare.* Also 4 (Perron.) **willerdis dom.** [? f. prec. + -dom.] Wilfulness, self-will.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 295 Worldly coveitouse prestis tradicions, maad of here owene willardis dom for here pride and coveitise. *a* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 247 Than willerdom is worth al pis stuffe. Can none other way but wronge.

**Willern** : see Wilgern.

**Willes,** *adv.* : see Will *sb.*[1] 10.

† **Willesful,** *a. Obs.* [f. *willes*, gen. of Will *sb.*[1] + -ful.]

1. Strong-willed; obstinate: = Wilful *a.*[1] 1.

*a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Pe willesfule hauened hali mire al stille. 1290 *Beket* 1291 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 143 Pe Erchebischop is willesful [*v.r.* wilful] and 3wane he is alles i-brouzt In ani wille pat is luytel wurþth he nele bi-leue it nouht. *Ibid.* I. 319 Sone eft-sones nouzt willesful. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7402 He ne let nost eluþe al is fole so willesful he was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Huych mayne to mochel slac and wylles and lel hy; bote yef he ilke vnderes stefneþ heise straynȝ and ordaynȝ.

**2.** Desirous : = Wilful *a.*[1] 3.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 3if eni is owiht [*MS. T.* fol willes ful] worte leoun oiu. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 435 Pis Maidenes þet beoþ willesfole folie forto do.

Hence † **Willesfully** *adv.*, wilfully; eagerly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 268 Pay..controesued agayn kynde contrare werkes, & vsed hem..wylfully, vpon a wrange wyse. 1340-70 *Alisaunder* 500 þat worthlych too his wight wilfully saide: 'Fro what kith bee yee comme!'

**Willet** (wi'lĕt). [So called from its cry, *pill-will-willet.*] A North American bird of the snipe family, *Symphemia semipalmata*.

1860 Coues & Prentiss in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1861, 416. 1892 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 94/2 Curlew, willet, plover and other beach birds swarm upon the flats in the spring, summer and fall months.

**Willeuol,** obs. form of Wilful *a.*[1]

**Will-E. Wisp**[1] : see Will-o'-the-wisp v.

**Willey** : see Willy *sb.*[1]

**Will-gill, -jill** (wi'l,dgi·l). *dial.* [f. Will *sb.*[3] + Gill *sb.*[4]] A hermaphrodite ; an effeminate man. Also in comb.

1678 Littleton *Lat. Dict.* n, *Androgynus*,..an Hermophraditе or Scrat ; a Will-jill. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. vi. One or two ragged will-gills were playing.

**Will-he, nill-he** : see Will *v.*[1] 50 b.

**William** (wi'lyăm). A common masculine personal name, used in the names of certain species of pinks and other flowers : now only in Sweet-william. † *Wild Williams*, the Ragged Robin (*Lychnis Flos-cuculi*).

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. clxxv. 482 The Crowe flowes is called...wilde Williams, marsh Gilloflowers, and Cockowe Gilloflowers. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 10 *Armeriua sylvestris*...Crowflower and Wild Williams. *Armeria Pratensis simplici*, William with a single flower in a Wood beyond Redding. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xix. (1794) 276 Ragged-Robin, Meadow-Pinks, Wild-Williams.

† *William pear* : see Bellissime.

**Williamite** (wi'lyăməit). [f. the name *William* + -ite 1. In sense 1 = mod.L. *Guil., Wilhelmita*, F. *Guillemite*, etc.]

† **1.** A member of an order of Augustinian hermits : = Guillemin. *Obs.*

1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* N j b, Those Augustines, these Guilhelmites, those Iacobines.] 1668 J. Wilson tr. *Erasmus' Praise of Folly* 100 These Williamites, and those Jacobines. 1693 tr. *d'Emiliane's Mon. Orders* vii. 49 Heremitical Congregations, which are dispersed...under different names, and especially of the Williamites, and Zambonites.

**2.** A supporter of William of Orange (King William III) : opp. to Jacobite *sb.*[1] Also *attrib.*

1689 [see Jacobite *sb.*[1]]. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 198 [Mr. Perceval's] Reasons against the Williamites. 1854 J. C. O'Callaghan *Hist. Irish Brigades* I. 209 To oppose the Williamite invasion under the Marshal Duke of Schomberg. 1859 Thackeray *Virginians* xlii. III. 692 The infamous triumvirs who had been, in the short space of a year, violent Williamites and violent Jacobites, became Williamites again. 1901 *Athenæum* 9 Nov. 615/3 [Fitzgerald Molloy] is as much a Jacobite in his sympathies as Macaulay was a Williamite.

**Williams** (wi'lyămz). In full, *Williams'*, *Williams's* (erron. *William*) *Bon Chrétien* : A very juicy variety of the Bon Chrétien pear (see *a.*), ripening in September, so called from the name of its first distributor in England.

Called also *Bartlett* from the name of its importer into U.S. 1814 Anon *Epit. Hortus Kewensis* 151 Bishop's-thumb Pear. Bonchrétien winter...Williams's. 1852 G. W. Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 690 Useful and profitable orchard Pears. Williams's Bon Chretien. 1860 Hogg *Fruit Mom.* 230 Williams' Bon Chrétien (Bartlett; Enville; Lavalle Williams'). 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 21 Aug. 13/1 The..juicy flavour of the famous William Bon Chrétien. 1895 C. W. Dalmon *Song Favourers* 34 Luscious Harvest plums and William pears.

**Williamsite** (wi'lyămzəit). [f. the surname *Williams* + -ite 1.]

**1.** A follower of Roger Williams, an American colonist of the 17th century.

1833 Whittier *P. Wks.* (1889) I. 269 I'm afraid you have become a Williamsite.

**2.** *Min.* An impure variety of serpentine, named after L. W. Williams, an American mineralogist.

1848 Shepard in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. VI. 249.

**Willie** : see Willy *adv.*

**Willick,** variant of Willock.

**Willie** : see Willy *sb.*[2]

**Willily, -ness** : see after Willy *a.*

**Willing** (wi'lĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *willung*, f. *willian* Will *v.*[2] : see -ing 1.]

1. Wishing, desire, inclination. *Obs.*, or *arch.* in conjunction with *willing* (with mixture of sense 2).

† *Good willing*, the action of wishing well to some one, favourable disposition, goodwill.

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. v. (1890) 278 Þætte nænig biscopa hine oðrum forbære þurh unrehte willunge [orig. *per ambitionem*]. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. ii. (1868) 152 In hem also is likynge of willyng and of good willyng. *c* 1386 *Clerk's T.* 363 My willynge is as ye wole ne aseyens youre likynge. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5952 Whanne she assentith to my willyng, 1418-20 J. Page *Siege of Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 23 He sayde, 'What ys youre wyllynge?' 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Nvj, All the wysests desires their fauour and goode willinge. 1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 155 By impotent willing meaning that natural Inclination ..we have to every Good. 1710 — *Chr. Prud.* v. 218 Our willing of Evil is always with a mixture of willing. 1865 Neale *Hymns on Paradise* to One in willing, one in nilling, Unity their spirits show.

**2.** The action or an act of exercising the will,

volition; voluntary choice or determination, intention

1340 *Ayenb* 9 Wyboute greiue wille an wllinge ne to hwom oþen 1390 Gower *Conf* II 317 Thou suffrest many a wrong dunge, And yit it is nought in wllinge *c* 1425 *Wint Chron* (Schmitt 1910) 4 Aungels & men, her bowis, willynges, seiynges 1587 Golding *De Mornay* 22 What haue we then to thanke of him whose willings are powers, and whose thoughts are deedes? 1865-70 South *Serm*, *Coll* II 3 (1715) IV 296 One and the same Mind in both Being, Understanding, and Willing. 1754 Edwards *Freed Will* iv 22 The very willing is the doing 1805 Hunnell *Treat Sacr* II ii (1808) 259 All the senses and sentiments, and willings, and wishes of their lives. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Feb 6 6 The two first are of human willing, the last is purely necessary, inanimate.

b The action of influencing another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnotism. Also *attrib.*

1883 *Forin Rev* 2 Aug 263 The well known drawing-room game of 'Willing' (where one finds out a hidden object by means of more or less subtle muscular indications from another) 1883 *Chamb Jrnl* 82 The first division corresponds to the willing game' described by Dr Carpenter

**+3** Command, injunction. *Obs*

*c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 5879 My mydir Nys not all at my willyng Ne dar I not all my desyryng *c* 1450-60 *Bp Cursor. Trent's Hounsh Vest in Bk* (1868) 328 The willyng of god to be performed and fulfyllyde

4. The action of bequeathing by will

1847 Grote *Greece* II xi III 183 Throughout most rude states of society the power of willing is unknown

**Willing,** *pple a.* Coming **willinger,** superl **willingest** (now *rare*) [OE *willende* (Will *v*1, -ing 2) suppletive to *gewillende* Self-willing, *unwillende* Unwilling, *welwillende.* Well willing *a*, *ylel willende* Ill-willing, and *willen like* Willingly. But there is no evidence in the simplex or the compounds of continuity of use from OE.]

**+1** Wishing, wishful, desirous, inclined, disposed. *Obs.*

1450 1530 *Werr our Ladye* 11 63 Yt were not spe fefull to I3m to study 12 bokes of heuynes A of dreste though he felte hymselfe willyng therto 1553 T Wilson *Rhet* 121 He was not received if he were a woman, when he was more willing to se her 1587 Holinshed *Chr* II 1162/2 Hwle he beene the willinger to set downe the same for that I would not suffer so worthie a man to lie buried in obliuion 1594 T Bedingfield tr *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist* (1595) 295 The Pope and the King became more willing one of the others friendship 1597 *Lett Illustr Brit Hist* (1846) II 81 The willinger to entertaine his haste 1597 tr *Cato's D Amongst Treat* (17 5) 168 They alledge that the Heate is excessive, that they are willing to hinder the Sun from comming in so much as they can 1611 Bible *Ezek* xxiii 16 As I beg Some little 'freep y day b y, will g to take the 'top of the morning before the rest of his compeers

**2** Having a ready will, disposed to consent or comply, ready to do (what is specified or implied) without reluctance, having no objection 'not disposed to refuse' (J), *spec* disposed to do what is required, ready to be of use or service.

**a** in attrib use, preceding the sb

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 18359 I sueed þi wilig merci [þou] bera me in, And eu I sal be wilinge 1509 Hawes *Past Pl* xx 1 (Percy Soc) 7 I to a wilyng harte is nought impossible 1526 Tindale *2 Cor* viii 12 If there be first a willyng mynde it accepted accordynge to thatt a man hath 1603 Shaks *Meas* I iii 11 What I can with a free & rough 1667 Milton *P L* III 73 Sion . . ready now to stoop with wearied wings, and willing feet On the bare out side of this World 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII 541 Eager in her Charms, He snatch'd the willing Goddess to his Arms *a* 1721 Prior *Henry & Emma* 1 iii, The willing Steed receiv'd her soft Command 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I iii 82 A willing temper makes every burthen light 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres* I i Between millions I've eleven under set out to be the cunningest and the willingest our Parish ever had 1858 Froude *Hist Eng* III xiii 133 Work is done rapidly by willing hands, in the midst of a willing people 1893 Selous *Trav S Africa* 20 Our only men were a good tempered, willing lad, and seven or eight native *a* 1852 *Blackwood's Mag* LXXII 1 (1902) 3 there is never a very willing servant 1888 Rankine *Applied Sc of Arts* (1889) II 5 Aid the willing

**b** in predicative use, or following the sb.: + not *to* and inf, with clause, or absol, + also formerly *to* with sb

I know it very well, the agreeing wi consenting to a 1500 Barclay *Myrr. Hon Lif* (1570) Bycause thekig on I shal ordeyne thee willyng or to take this battaile on thee, he sent to communycate to the lyke, to whom he was 1526 Tindale *2 Cor* viii 19 Not only that but also he was ordeyned of the congregacions to trauayle with vs in this grace 1599 Shaks *Much Ado* III iii 86 He may stake him, marrie him without the prince's willing 1601 — *Twel N* IV iii 29 He shall encounter with Cesario whom I know he is not willing to, for that I know him 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 21, I am persuaded the Devill himselfe was never willing with their persecutings 1685 Baxter *Paraphr N T* Matt x 12 Perjures who are willing to forswear, to get out the Gospel *c* 1720 Dr Tod *Mem Cavalier* (1840) 257 The king was willinger to comply with anything than this 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimonial* (1756) I 244 Mr Truemans [can tell] that Mr Sharply would be very willing to this Union between his Son and his Ward 1759 Golden *Bee* No 8 I hope I grew willing to be burnt or hanged out of a world which was no other to them than a scene of persecution and anguish 1850 Dickens *Dom Cofy* v, Barkis is willin' 1874 Green *Short Hist* viii 83 482 The nation was willing to take ha obstinacy for firmness.

**c** *Willing horse* (in proverbial phrases), applied to one who is willing to work or to take trouble

*a* 1580 J Cooke *Play Wit Wonderful Becoming, by Sir F. Drake* (Hakluyt Soc) App iv 207 There nedyd no spure to a willing horse. 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast* 93 All lay load on a willing horse. 1881 *Daily News* 29 Dec 5/2 It was probably on the well known principle of working a willing horse that he was left to labour as an ordinary Judge for fifteen years

**d.** *transf.* Given, rendered, offered, performed, assumed, borne, or undergone willingly.

1568 Grafton *Chron* II 757 The people in a willyng and louing obedience among themselues 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, III iv 63 We send, to know what willing Ransome he will giue *c* 1600 — *Sonn* vi 6 That vse is not forbidden vsery, Which happies those that pay the willing lone 1648 Milton *Eikon Bas* 52 Held with his melodious harp among In willing chains and sweet captivitie. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* II 965 Haste, my dear Father And load my Shoulders with a willing Weight 1715 De Foe *Fam Instruct* I v (1841) 104 Here, Madam, is the willingest sacrifice I ever made in my life 1814 Byron *Lara* II iii, With eye, though calm, determined not to spare, Did Lara toss his willing weapon bare 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 230 The affection and willing obedience of his subjects

**e.** *fig* of things: Compliant, yielding; (of the wind) favourable.

1590-96 Spenser *Faerie Qu* iv 22 Sum, thocht tham selfis stark, Ar now mad wauk lyk willing wandis 1688 Prior *Ode Exod* 25 Why, O Hope His Wake the consecrated Moon, And fill her willing Lamp with liquid Light? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III 255 And leaving few behind We spread our sails before the willing Wind 1749 Shenstone *Jesse Ode* 85 And some entwind the willing sprays, To shield the illustrious Conqueress. 1792 F Darwin *Bot Cards* 1 55 Down the steep slopes He led with modest skill The willing pathway, and the trust reli 1844 Kinglake *E then* I 3 The willing tune of the (chaloupe)e] crew up, and answered my slightest sigh

**f** *advb.* Willingly, consentingly, without reluctance (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *Willing (or) willing* (arch), with or against one's will, willy nilly

1583 Stanyhurst *Descr Wks* (1880) 323 Which I the willinger do because I think him a good honest gentleman 1607 Shaks *Timon* III vi 32 1667 Milton *P L* IX 382 With that skill I had, when I did sin Eue-wronging. The will linger I goe 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VII 274 Willing we sought your Shores

1738 Thomson *Cruelty Content* 148 [These] conquered in such sorte the hearts of euery one vnto hym, as willy-ga, nilling it behoued euery to hang the heade 1626 T Hawkins *Youths Comedie* 488 Arcadius willing, nilling, was constrayned to agree thereto 1796 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* IV 197 And willing or nilling thou'lt come 1874 Saxby *Compar Phil I* 110 I very often ascient or in deed, has to be brought willing, willing, under some 'family'

**+3** That is so, or is done or borne, of one's own will; voluntary, intentional, deliberate, wilful.

1550 Crowley *Epigr* 33 To the willing wrong of Iustice phete shall be set to. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II xxi (1912) 266 But so by I shun willing missing was the odds of the Prince 1608 Shaks *Timon* III iii 40 Willing misery Outlives incertaine pomps *a* 1623 — *Hen. VIII*, III ii 449 The willing sinne I euer yet committed

**4** Exercising or capable of exercising the will, volitional, conveying impulses of the will

1550 Crowley *Epigr* 33 To the will no thing of the 1577 tr Bullinger *Decades* I 8 We know nothing of the 1596 Hooman *Skeptik Lal* xxiv Into the wholesome 1678 Cudworth *Intell Syst* 878 Whose love to goodness is willing, and not natural 1850 Courtney *Lect Metaphys* 1 xi 1902 *Pall Mall Mag* XXVI 1 (1902) 1 The pupil professed a willingness and anxiety to be of corresponding service to Henry.

**Will i(n) the wisp:** see Will-o'-the-wisp.

**Will-i-will-i:** see Will *v*1 50 b.

**Williwa(·** see Willaway.

**Williwaw** (wi liwǒ). Also willy-, -ie-, wilh(·)-, wully-ws. [? ] A sailor's (whale's, etc) name for a sudden violent squall, orig. in the Straits of Magellan.

1844 J. D. Hooker in *Life* (1918) I vi 137 A squall or Williwaw, as they are called round Cape Horn 1883 Fitzroy *W other Ink* 225 *note*, Those whirlwind squalls, formerly called by the seafarers in Tierra del Fuego, 'willy ws' 1901 Kipling *Kim* xiii, Where storm and wandering willie was got up to dance

**Will-jill** see Will-gill.

**Will-less** (wi lilės), *a.* Also **8 will-less, 9 willess** [f. Will *sb*.1 + -less ]

**1** Not having 'a will of one's own'; not exercising, or not involving exercise of, the will.

1797 Richardson *Correspondence* II xv 99 Without duty and will less resignation. 1823 Galt *R Gilhaize* II 283 I wilked in a willess manner. 1892 Mrs H Ward *David Grieve* I x, The boy's whole look and attitude betrayed will less in the dust-storm of the road

**2** Having no will, destitute of the faculty of volition.

1804 Anna Seward *Mem Darwin* 89 Reasonless, will less instinct, limited but undeviating 1857 Macmillan *Prof Inn* vi 240 A mindless, will less, impersonal solitude.

Hence **Wi·ll-lessly** *adv*, **Wi·ll-lessness.**

1857 Macmillan *Prof Inn* vi 243 He is to do consciously and willingly—what the spirit does unconsciously and will lessly 1902 *Academy* 8 Nov 509 Among the many signs of that hysteria, what is called *abulia* or 'willessness' is one of the most common

**Willo,** obs. form of Willow.

**Willock** (wi lǒk). *local.* Also **-lok.** [f. Will *sb* 3 + -ock. Cf. etym. of *guillem, guillemot.*] The Guillemot; also, the puffin and the razor-bill.

1831 Pelham *Gods Penour* 92 We found abundance of Wil locks eggs; [which is a Provincial word for the legnese of a Ducker] 1835 *Yrs Tours & Journ to N W.* (Hakluyt Soc) I 168 Going to kill willocks 1870 Montagu *Orn with Dict* s.v. *Puffin*, At Dover, then, as well as the Razorbill, is indiscriminately called Willock 1885 Kingsley *Glaucus* 2 Your boys endanger your personal safety, by blazing away at innocent gulls and willocks 1899 [see Guillemot].

**+ Willok** *Obs.* [? an error.] *pl* ? Garments.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 2995 Then take he surlie willoks as he fond ther.

**Will-o'-the-wisp** (wi·lŏzwi·sp), *sb.* Forms: see below. Pl. **will-o'-the-wisps**, also **wills-o'-the-wisp.** [orig. *Will with the wisp*: see WILL *sb.*[8] and WISP *sb.* Cf. JACK-O'-LANTERN, and, for the second element, G. *irrwisch.*]

**1.** = IGNIS FATUUS; *fig.* a thing (rarely a person) that deludes or misleads by means of fugitive appearances.

*a.* 7–9 **Will with the or a wisp (whisp)**; 7 **-with-wisps, with th' wisp, 9 wit or wi' t' wisp**; also 7 **Will the Wispe.**

1608 DAY *Law Tricks* V. H 3 b, I haue playd Will with the wispe with my brother, and haue led him vp and downe the maze of good fellowship. 1623 JACK DAWE *Vox Graculi* 45 When you me mislead with that (Will with wisps). 16.. in *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) p. xviii, Some call him Robin Goodfellow, ... some againe doe terme him oft by name of Will the Wisps. 1694 WESTLOCK *Zootomia* 159 *Ignes fatui*, Fooles fires, wills with a wisp. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 221 Thus far, what I could learn concerning Will with a Whisp, as it hath been observed in the Plains. 1832 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 298 *Ignis Fatuus* or Will-with-the-wisp. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* IV. ii, His imagination is continually hamstrung by some will-with-a-wisp in the shape of a lady's stomacher.

*β.* 7–9 **will of the wisp, o' the wisp** (8 o' th', 9 o-the-); also with hyphens and one or two capitals.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, ed. 2, *Ignis Fatuus*, foolish fire, or (as the Country people call it) Will of the Wisp. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 135 Knowledge by theory only is a vague uncertain light: a Will o' the Wisp. 1756 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxii, All the polemical writings in divinity are not as clear and demonstrative as those upon a Will o' the Wisp, or any other sound part of philosophy. 1805–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) I. xvii, 2, Those Will-o-the-wisp, the Reviewers. 1832 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xi, Through what extraordinary labyrinths this Love, this Will-o'-the-Wisp, must lead me! 1844 CARLYLE *Lett. Cromwell* C. *Shep* I, I'll be a Will o' the Wisp, now here, now there. 1850 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-Bk.* (1869) 190 No light except that of... the wicked ... will-o'-the-wisps as I, of Plantation of Wolf among the marshes. 1858 GEORGE *Scenes Clerical Life* (1878) I. 297 Positive, that we have been on the wrong scent, and running after a 'Will o' the Wisp.' 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 8 *Swedenborg* Sci. & Cult. (1881) 247 The metaphysical Will-o'-the-wisps generated in the marshes of literature and theology. 1918 INGE *Philos. Plotinus* I. 188 The utterly unscientific notion of an automatic 'law of progress' is that strange Will-o'-the-wisp of nineteenth-century thought.

**γ.** 7 **will-a-wisp**, 8 **will o' wisp**, 9 **will-o-wisp** (or o'); also with one or two capitals.

1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* II. 331 White Sheets for Ghosts, and Will-a-wisps have put the Nightgoers fairly unreliev'd. 1738 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 29 Will o' Whisp never led the bewildered traveller over hedge and ditch as a meant does us country folk. 1819 A. CUNNINGHAM *Pilgrim's Bridle* 363 in *Anniversary* 149 Dank will-o'-wisp sank midst the mire. 1863 MERIVALE *Lett.* (1913) I. 111 Young Cupid was he called of old; This will o' Wisp becomes ate.

**δ.** 7–8 **Will in the Wisp** (8 i'the whisp).

1689 *Irish Hudibras* To Rdr. 1 b, [They] made him skip the Rogs like a Will in the Wisp. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* I. (1734) 6 What a Shame they should be allow'd to play Will in the Wisp with Men of Honour. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. i, A Will in the Wisp, to confound, perplex, and bewilder you. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1852) I. 47 We should see them dance about like so many Will i'the whisps.

*ε.* 7–9 **Willy w' (Wispe), 8 Willy wi' (Willie with) or and the wisp, Willy's wisp.**

1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 31 Wenches, that doe sundy and lyeue, Doe call me Willy Wispe. 1659 JAS. GORDON *Reformed Bp.* 259, I do firmly believe, That ... He would have chosen rather to have sent down some English Doctors to have govern'd us ... than have permitted any of them as Willy-wisps to jumpe into these empty Chairs. 1727 Willies with the Wisps [see SPUNKIE 1]. 1758 *Collect. Sc. Poems by Ramsay&c* etc. 83 Travelling of late in fogs and thro' this mire, Without a guide, save Willy wi' the wisp. *a* 1761 [S. HALIBURTON & HEPBURN] *Mem. Magnifico* xii. (ed. 2) 39 Plumbino is Willie-with-the-wisp Marquis o a flash of wildfire. 1790 HOUSTON *Poems* 111 Willy's wisp wi' a birlin' cant Their bizzes a', That's nought but vapours frae a stank. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Will-and-wisp*, called also a Willy-wisp ; an ignis fatuus, or Jack with a lantern.

*b. attrib.*

1860 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 44 A fluttering, shadowy, will-o-the-wisp light. 1873 *All Year Round* 5 July 226 A Strange will-o-the-wisp lights begin to flutter about the cordage. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxi, Kitty's will-o'-the-wisp flashes of petulance.

**2.** An alight, *Notice communing*, so called from the inexplicable suddenness of its appearance.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Hence **† Will-o'-the-wisp** *v. trans.*, to lead astray like a will-o'-the-wisp; **Will-o'-the-wisp-ish, -wispy** *adjs.*, of the nature of a will-o'-the-wisp.

1660 R. WILD *Iter Boreale* ix, Dark-Lantborn Language, and his peep-hoe play, *Will-E-Wisp Lambert's New-Lights out o' th' way. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 375 But to return to our Men of Learning, from whence we have been Will-ish-whisped. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 177 His Mrs. Taylor too, a very "will-o'-wispish 'iridescence' of a creature. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Nov. Chillingley* v. ii, The boy.. became impish and Will-o'-the Wisp-ish. 1886 MRS BROUGHTON *Dr. Cupid* xxxi, The "Will-of-the-wispy laughter of his eyes.

**Willow** (wi·lo), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **welig**, 5 **welegh**; 5 *Sc. pl.* **willeis**, 4–5 **wilghe, wylghe**, 6 **wylly(e, -ie**, 6, 9 *dial.* **willie, willy**, 8 **willi-** (9 **-ey, -wille, -y**); 7 **wilfe**, 8– *dial.* **wilf.** *β.* 4 **welew**, 5 **welogh**, 5–6 **welowe**; 4 **wilewe**, 4–5 **wilw(e, wylw(e, wyl(o)gh, (whilwh), wil(l)ou, wylo, wyllo, wilowe**, 5–6 **wylow(e, (whylowe)**, 6 **willo, wyllow(e, -ough**, 7 **willough**, 5– **willow.** [OE. *welig* f., corresp. to Fris. *welek, wil, ilig*, OLG. *wilgia* (LG. *wilge*), MDu. *wilge* (Du. *wilg*), MHG. *wilge*; f. Teut. *walg-, welg-*, whence also OE. *wilige* WILLY *sb.*[1]

The form-history is obscure, partly from the fact that examples of the word are not forthcoming for the period between late OE. and the 14th century, when the immediate precursor of the present form, viz. *wilwe*, is already established, instead of the normal representative of OE. *welig*, which would be **welly*. The change in the root-syllable may be due to WILLY *sb.*[1] (OE. *wilige*), or an OE. **wilig* may have existed; for the terminal syllable cf. *bellows* beside *belly* (OE. *belig*), *fellow* beside *felly* (OE. *felig*). The type *willy* survives dial.]

**1.** Any plant of the genus *Salix*, which consists of trees and shrubs of various sizes, widely distributed in temperate and cold regions, growing for the most part by the side of watercourses, characterized by very pliant branches and long narrow drooping leaves, and valued economically as furnishing osiers, a light smooth and soft wood, or a medicinal astringent bark, or grown ornamentally by the side of water.

*a.* 1790 *Hibbert. Journ.* in *R. Texts* 123 *In salicibus*, on welgum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 156 Wulfes leaf wylle on wetre. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXXVIII. 2 In be wylghes in be myddis of hit. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr.*, *Gov. Lordsh.* 63 Pat he haue... *Salix, i. Lanx, i. Lanx pauperum* in *MS. Lincoln A.* 1. 17, lf. 103 (Hall.) Tak the bark of wilghe pat is bitwene the tre and the vtter barke. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (S.H.S.) I. 198 Plantation of wyll-wandis. *Cath. Angl.* 418/1 A Wylght [sic], *salix*. 1533 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxiii. 40 Wilowes of the broke. — *Isa.* xliv. 4 They shall growe vpp... as wilowes besyde. 1548 *Will* in *Wills N. Wills* (1882) I. 83 Wylow-tree. 1578 BANISTER *Knt.'s T.* 2064 Wylogh [*rare*, Wylow, Wylw, Willow]. 1587 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 365 At Glyndathan...whyssys berep apples as it were appel trees. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 716. 19 *Hec salix*, a welowe. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13178 Som whilwh ful off leyys greene. *c* 1450 *Cotwolth Dounce* x, in Hazlehorne *Anc. Mysts.* 77 Garland of wylwe would be fetled fayrest vpon his hed. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (1877) 78 A christallyne ryuer garnished with willowe. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 891 By the rushy-fringed bank, Where grows the Willow and the Osier dank. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1275 Plaintive breeze, that play'd Among the bending willows. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 744 The willow-dipt leaf pendent boughs, stooping as if to drink. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 41 While the willow trails its delicate amber. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* II, The old willows by the river.

**b.** The wood or osiers of any tree of this genus.

*c* 1480 CANTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 537 He..toke the bulke..as lightly as it had be som peece of welowe. 1620 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. i. 1. 1. Willow, Osier, or Withie: the Basketts made. 1813 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 25 The pressure of the external air will then force the inclosed through the pores of the basket or willow.

**c.** in allusive use with reference to pliability.

1832 MACAULAY *Ess., Burleigh* P 4 Burleigh, like the old Marquess of Winchester, who preceded him in the custody of the White Staff, was of the willow, and not of the oak. 1847 *Illustr. London News*, 18 Nov. 331/1 I am a willow of the wilderness, Loving the wind that bent me. 1910 J. D. MORTAT *Paul & Pauliniism* 24 Barnabas was of the willow and not of the oak timber.

**d.** Taken as a symbol of grief for unrequited love or the loss of a mate; esp. in phr. *to wear (the) willow, the willow garland* (see 6 d), or *the green willow* : to grieve for the loss of a loved one.

1584 LILY *Sappho* II. iv, Peace miserable wretch, enioy thy case to complayne Alreadie a willow in thy hatte, and lively hart. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. T.* v. i. 10 In such a night Stood Dido with a Willow in her hand Vpon the wilde sea bankes. 1597 DALTON *Wit's Treasurie* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20 Some dolefull Pallad, to the tune of all a greene willow. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisill* v. ii, Bring me a crown of g-ld to crown my loue: A wreath of willow for dispised Grisill. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 51 Sing all a greene Willough must be my Garland. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* I. i, We see you'r willow and are sorry for't. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* V. i, You may see Willow in willow for your brother. 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* v. i, If you had not forsaken me, I had you: so the Willows may flourish for any bunches I shall rob 'em of. 1678 D'URFEY *Fool turn'd Critick* II. ii, by *Lady A...* so that for his sake I quitted all the rest. *Pen.* And left them Willowes. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Thurs. 134 Nor shall she crown'd with willow die a maid. 1882 HOUSE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1080 She is in her willows'...implies the mourning of a female for her lost mate. 1885 KATH. S. MACQUOID *At Red Glove* II. i, There's ... Marie ... wearing the willow because ... Engemann is away courting Madam Carouge.

**2.** With qualification denoting a particular species or variety of the genus *Salix*: see quots. and *almond w.* (ALMOND 10), CRACK-WILLOW, *goat w.* (GOAT *sb.* 4 b), *ground w.* (GROUND *sb.* 18 c), *rose w.* (ROSE *sb.* 23 b), *sage w.* (SAGE *sb.*[1] 4 b), *tallow w.* (SALLOW *sb.* 4), † *stake w.* (STAKE *sb.*[1] 7), *swamp w.* (SWAMP *sb.* 3 c), *sweet w.* (SWEET C. 1 b), WEEPING WILLOW, *whipcord w.* (WHIPCORD *sb.* 3). Cf. OSIER and SALLOW *sb.*

1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 202 Weeping and drooping trees... *Babylonian willow (*Salix Babylonica*). 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* etc. (1860) 328 S[alix] viminalis ... Osier. *Basket Willow. 1738 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* ed. 4, *Salix*, The *Bay-leaved Willow. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/1 *Salix Annellilana*, Russell or *Bedford willow. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 161 *Salix discolor* (*hog willow). 1850 [W. HOOKE] *Phytol Brit.* 103 *Salix augustifolia pumila*; *In stagnantis*. *Dwarf Willow. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 121 This species is sometimes called the "Golden Willow (*Salix chrysantha*), on account of the beautiful golden canes which appear in June and June ornament its boughs. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 202 *Kilmarnock willow (*Salix caprea*, var. *pendula*). 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix purpurea*, *purple willow. 1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 7 The *tree willow (*Salix caprea*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. ii. 1203 *Salix aquatica*. The Otter, or *water Willow. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1430 *Salix arborea angustifolia alba vulgaris*... Our ordinary *white Willow groweth quickely to be a great and tall tree. 1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 227/3 The wood of the white Willow is always in request. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 48 *Salix myrsinites* ...Whortle leaved Willow. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix retusa*, the *yellow willow.

**b.** Extended, with qualification, to plants of other genera having some resemblance to the willow: see quots.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 41 Halimus...may be called in englishe, sea wilowe, or prickey wilowe because it hath the leaues of a wylowe and prickes lyke a thorne. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxviii. 1226 Gaule, sweete Willow, or Dutch Myrtle tree. 1790 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 331 Willow, Spiked, of Theophrastus, *Spiræa*. 1856 BROUGH *Prov. Wds. Lincs., Roman Willow*, a garden plant, *Syringa vernlea flore*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow...Golden. A Madeira name for *Genista scorpius*. —, Pennon. A West Indian name for *Œnothera*. 1875 *Ibid.* Suppl., Willow, Australian. *Gesjera parviflora*. , Water, of the United States, *Dianthera americana*. 1889 *Cent. Dict. Plants Australia* 306 *Acacia calamifolia*, Willow, or Broom Wattle.

**c.** With qualification *bay, flowering, French, Persian* : the WILLOW-HERB, *Epilobium angustifolium*.

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* II. lxxxix. 479 *Chamænerium* is called of Gesner, *Epilobion* ... in English, Bay Willow. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. 306 French Willow. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 280 *Epilobium*] *angustifolium* (Rose Bay, or Flowering Bay). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wil-low...Persian, *Epilobium angustifolium*.

II. **† 3.** = WILLY *sb.*[1] 2, *Obs.*

1385–6 *City of London Rec., Pleas & Mem. Rolls* Roll 97 A m. 28 (MS.) Grant...to destruccion de pessun par engyns appelez Wilwes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (W. de W.) V iij, For flesshe rotyd crabbes come in to wylowe *l.*[ild. *MS.* wilde] & to wylde bestes. 1611 PEPYS in *Curia's Def. Christ's Ch. Wks.* (Parker Soc. 1842) 385 Many unclean and damnable persons is contained in this church, which we behold as it were fishes of all sorts in a fisher's trunk or willo.

**4.** = WILLY *sb.*[1] 3.

1835 LEE *Philos. Manuf.* 164 Blowing and lapping machines...are universally employed for cleaning and opening cotton after it has passed through the pickers. 1850 *Gt. Industr. Gt. Brit.* I. 229 The conical self-acting willow, invented by Mr. Lillie, of Manchester. 1891 MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 85 The spikes on the cylinder and casing of the willow.

**5.** A cricket-bat (made of willow-wood). Similarly, the bat at baseball.

1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* xxiv, He handles the willow pretty well. 1869 *Rowlcker's Ire. Sp.* I. 62 He had my turn at the 'willow'. 1876 in Box *Engl. Game Cricket* (1877) 414 Willow the King is a monarch grand, Three in a row his conquests stand.

**III. 6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *willow band, bark, bed, bottom, bush, dust, gall* (GALL *sb.*[3]), *garth, ground, grove, head, hedge, holt, hoop, island, rind, rove, shadow, swamp, top, tribe, twig, walk, wand, withe, wood*; made of willow-wood, as *willow-cylinder, polisher*. b. Instrumental, parasynthetic, objective, and similative, as *willow-bordered, -coloured, -fringed, -grown, -leaved, -like, -shaded, -tufted, -veiled* adjs.; *willow-peeler*. c. Special Combs.: † **willow bay**, *Salix pentandra*; **willow-branch**, a branch of a willow-tree; also allusively as in t d; **willow curtain** (see quot.); **willow-earth**, compost made of rotten willow-branches; † **willow-flower** = WILLOW-HERB 2; **willow-green**, a variety of green resembling the colour of willow-leaves; **willow-grouse**, the common ptarmigan of North America, *Lagopus albus*; **willow-lark**, the sedge-warbler; **willow-leaf**, a leaf of the willow-tree, or a figure resembling this; *pl.* the luminous filaments of the sun's surface; **willow myrtle**, a myrtaceous willow-leaved tree (*Agonis flexuosa*) of Western Australia; **willow-nightingale** *local*, the reed-sparrow; **willow oak**, a North American oak, *Quercus Phellos*, having narrow entire leaves like those of the willow; **willow partridge**, = *willow-grouse*; **willow pattern**, a pattern of domestic crockery in blue, orig. designed by Thomas Turner in the late 18th century, having willow-trees as a prominent feature; hence **willow-patterned** *a.*; **willow ptarmigan** = *willow-grouse*; **willow-**

**sparrow** = *willow-warbler*; **willow shasts, squares,** pieces of plaited willow for hat-making; **willow-thorn, sea-buckthorn,** *Hippophaë rhamnoides*; **willow-warbler,** a small bird, *Sylvia trochilus*; **willow ware,** crockery-ware of a willow pattern; **willow weapon,** a cricket-bat; **willow weed** = WILLOW-HERB 2, 3; also, various species of *Polygonum*, knotweed; **willow-wielder,** a batsman at cricket; **willow-wren,** = *willow-warbler*. Also in several names of insects or their larvæ which infest willows, as **willow-beauty** (*Boarmia rhomboidaria*), **-bee** (*Megachile willughbiella*); **-beetle** (spec. *Phyllodecta vitellinæ*), **-butterfly, -caterpillar, -ichneu, -cricket,** -fly (any insect of the family *Perlidæ*), **-moth** (*Caradrina quadripunctata*), **-sawfly, -slug** (larva of the sawfly), **-worm.**

1819 Shelley *Cyclops* 143 My young lambs coupled two by two With ¶willow bands. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 193 ¶Willow-bark having been frequently employed against intermittent fevers. 1692 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 108 *Salix folio laureo*,.. ¶Willow-bay. 1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 111 The ¶Willow Beauty.. appears the beginning of July in woody glades and gardens. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Bimbera*, a ¶willow bed. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* vii. i. A winding, ¶willow-bordered river. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 51 Passed a ¶willow bottom on the south side, and a creek on the north. 1611 Rouse *Fl. Medica Trac.* ii. i. *Sung*, Maidens, ¶Willow branches bear; say I died true. 1830 Tennyson *Dying Swan* xi The ¶willow branches hear and mix with your *Requiem*. 1611 Florio *A. xxx*, I have been overwhelmed with presents of willow branches. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xviii. It was bordered by a line of ¶willow-basket. 1772 B. Wilmer *Engl. Months* 78 The ¶Willow-Butterfly. *c* 1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 68 The ¶willow-colored satten suite. 1709 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 96 ¶Willow-Charcoal, or small brocock Fl. 1688 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., ¶*Willow Curtain*,.. a device to curb the rapidity of streams and induce deposit of sediment. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Agrion*, Mould, mixt with a little rotten ¶Willow-dust. 1688 J. Ren *Scots Gard'ner* (1900) 69 ¶Willow-earth or rotten willow-sticks at the bottom of the pot, helps to retain the moisture. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 143 A little ¶willow-earth is very proper to mix with the above compost. 1633 Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* II. xcvii. 477 *Chamæmorion alterum angustifolium*. Narrow leaued ¶Willow Mountaine. 1587 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 119 The ¶Willow-Fly comes on about the beginning of September. 1749 Warton *Trt. Ipiz* 6 O'er Isis' ¶willow-fringed banks I stray'd. 1870 Bentley *Ac. & Last* viii. Certain alder and willow-fringed reaches of the Thames. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 331 Trouting on to the small ¶willow grs in near Cliffe, Yorkshire. 1893 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 93 Osier-holts or Willow garths, as such grounds are called in Yorkshire. 1672 W. Hughes *Amer. Physitian* 98 A most blewish green colour, much like the colour called a ¶Willow-green. 1793 *Scots Mag.* LV. 506/2 A Piece Ditto, striped with ¶willow-green and small Orange or Philamot. 1832 T. Brown *Bk. Butterfl. & M.* (1834) I. 172 Of a pale willow-green colour. 1668 *Merry Devil Edmonton* III. ii, Heere in the walke neere to the ¶willow ground. 1840 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1850) 321 The willow ground, the root ground, the ¶willow ground aloud. 1552 Huloet, ¶Willow groue, *talicetum*. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 17 Meddowe, Wood Lande, and Willowe Grouues. 1893 Saintsbury *Virgil Georgics*, 256 The wild willow-grove. 1871 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 265 A sandy plain somewhat ¶willow-grown. 1798 *Ab 38 Geo. III c.* 4 § 2 Any Willow Heads, Loppings of Pollard or Dotdard Trees. 1611 Rouse *Fl. Medica Trac.* ii. Plate xxxi, A protection of ¶willow-hedge, raised by setting the stakes. 1832 *Berlin, Linc. etc. Herald* 11 Nov. 4/3 Secreted in a ¶willow hole,.. in Holland Fen. 1697 J. Pool *New Disl.* 18 Nor do We in England (as you [the Dutch]) want ¶Willow Hoops from Hamburgh. 1814 Brackenridge *Jrnl. in Views Louisiana* 100 We passed a small ¶willow island. 1769 G. White *Selborne, To Pennant* 29 May, A new calcaria, which at first I suspected might have proved your ¶willow-lark. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 43b, Of Lysimachia. ¶The leaues are thinne and in fashan lyke 'willow leaues. *c* 1512 Peyner *Gazophyl.* Dec. vii. Tab. 63 This hav plain Willow Leaves. 1829 Shelley *Summer* 9 The willow leaves that glanced in the wind's breeze. 1611 Nashvtt in *Monthly Not. Royal Astron. Soc.* (1864) XXIV. 69 What I claim to be the first to discover .. in reference to the structure of his native lunicularia, as well as the precise form of the structural details, which, from their general similitude in respect to form, list once compared with willow-leaves. *Ibid.*, These luminous filaments are willow-leaf-shaped objects. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Adhatoda*, The ¶Willow-leav'd Malabar Nut. 1864 Lockyer in *Reader* 26 Jan. 98/2 Mr. Nasmyth's discovery of the willow-leaved things .. covering like so many scales the whole surface of the sun. 1712 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 432 Its Leaves below are long ¶Willow-like. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 6 A long-bearded willow-like weed. 1845 G. E. Day in *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 101 The caterpillar of the ¶willow-moth. 1898 Morris *Austral Engl.*, ¶*Willow Myrtle*, .., with willow-like leaves and slender branches. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 281 *note*, In the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury, the (reed-sparrow) hath obtained the name of the ¶willow-nightingale. 1777 *Ibid.* LXVII. 208 ¶Willow Oak. From the Likeness of its Leaf. 1772 Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 390 ¶Willow-partridges. 1809 S. Smart *Sixfoldish. Potteries* ix, The Pattern Mr. Turner used was the ¶willow, designed by him from two oriental Plates, still preserved. 1848 Newman *Last 4 Gain* I. 2. 68, I myself found half a willow-pattern saucer in the crater of Vesuvius. 1878 Lowe, *Kreames* 306 The willow pattern, that we knew In childhood, with its bridge of blue Leading to unknown thoroughfares. 1857 Miss Yonge *Dynevor Terr.* ii, The homely black teapot and ¶willow-patterned plates. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, ¶*Willow-peeler*, a device or a machine for stripping the bark from the willow wands. 1884 F. J. Bayten *Watch & Clockm.* 214 Plates for carriage and other small clocks, are polished with a ¶willow polisher. 1892 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 235 *A. pusillus*, ¶Willow Flycatcher. *c* 1500 *Herbal* (1512) Aiij, I can wyssell you a fyne Syrea in a ¶whylowe ryne. 1806 Grahame *Birds Scot.* 5 He sits And warps the skep with willow rind. 1586 W. Webbe *Engel. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 Greene ¶willow rowes which Hilike beet doo reioice in. 1845 *Florist Jrnl.* 193 Over the margin of the ¶willow-shaded pond. 1897 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 56 To wash-pools, where the ¶willow shadows fall. 1829 *Jr. & Lond. Direct.* 364 Patentee..of Heaver, Silk and Willow Hats, and ¶Willow-cravats. 1834 *1st Rep. Poor Law Comm.* (1835) 364, I formerly carried on the business of a willow-square maker. 1901 Seebohm *Birds of Siberia* xiv. 125 This never-ending, almost impenetrable ¶willow-swamp. 1897 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 49 Sea Buckthorn, Sallow-thorn, or ¶Willow-thorn. 1893 Congreve in *Nineteenth Century Journal* xi. (1897) 285 No bitter ¶Willow-tops have been its Food. 1805 Dickson *Pract. Agricc.* I. 119 The farmer may have recourse to plants of the ¶willow tribe for the formation of his hedges. 1784 Golden. *Trav.* 204 The ¶willow-tufted bank. 1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 60 Oh it is a great loggerheaded Chub: .. then hang him up with a ¶Willow twig. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxi, It shore asunder, as it had been a willow twig, the tough and plaited handle of the mace. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* i. iii, By the margin, ¶willow veil'd. 1818 Scott *Old Mort.* xxviii, When they went me for breakfast, I will be found in the ¶willow-walk by the river. *a* 1385 Montgomerie *Flyting* 83 With a ¶willie wand thay gaue me a wirrie. 1548 Hall *Chron. Edw. IV* (1550) I. ii. 24 A great rack for the pewter dishes and ¶willow ware. 1850 'Hat' *Crick. Man.* 45 The way to use the ¶willow weapon. 1726 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 379 ¶Willow Weed or French Willow. 1611 Rouse *Fl. Medica Trac.* ii. And mixed with fine-land set With willow-weed and mallow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow-weed, *Lythrum Salicaria*; also *Polygonum lapathifolium*. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 July 11/3 Wily ¶willow-whistles. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 292 The goodman from a corner nigh Took up some ¶willow-withes. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 174 The charcoal of ¶willow-wood, preferred, by many, for the manufacture of gunpowder. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 61 Wheels..made of..willow wood. 1548 Loberian *Pemp. Plants* 373 ¶Willow-worm: Antiqua Butterfly. *Aurelia Antiqua*. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iii. 753 As Hetonie breakes friendship's ancient bands, So ¶Willow-wort makes wonted hate shake hands. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 111 In an Hour's Rain, the Rising of the Water in the Rains, grows Willow-wort. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Salicaria*, Willow-wort or spiked Loosestrife. ¶*Willow-wren*, see WILLOW 2. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornithol.* 160 The ¶willow-wren. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* II. xi, And changed the ¶willow-wreaths to stone. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 266 The ¶willow-wrens frequents large woods. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 356 Aug. 16th, Willow-wrens had deserted the furze bushes and hedges.

**d.** In uses containing an allusion to the willow as a symbol of mourning or of being lovelorn.

1585 in Chappell *Old Engl. Pop. Mus.* (1893) 110, I wylle the tuttle most stedfast [still] to the: & pacientlý weire this grene wyllow garland. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 208 Sell him, for high resolves a wilow wreath, And I will weare the Willow Garland for his sake. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 112 Still for to weare the Willow wreath. 1598 Ford *Fancies Chast.* iii. ii, Ile weare the willow garland. 1611 Francis *Eagle's, To Willow-tree* 7 When once the Lovers Rose is dead, .. Then Willow-garlands, 'bout the head, Bedew'd with teares, are worne. 1823 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sisters!*, 56 This willow-wearing fit is the. 1833 — *Parson's Daus.* I. xii, The ..willow-wearers at Ulsford.

**e.** quasi-*adj.* = WILLOWY *a.* 2. See also quot.

*a* 1700.

1654 R. *Noble Soldier* iv. I. F i b, I yeelded With willowbendings to commanding breaths. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Willow*, Poor, and of no Reputation. 1875 Miss Braddon *Strange World* ii, Tall, slim, and willow-waisted.

**Willow** (wi·lō), *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To put (cotton, etc.) through a willow.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be willowed..in an appropriate manner, by machines differing in structure and adjustment for different qualities of goods.

**Willowed** (wi·lōd), *ppl. a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ED 2.] Bordered or grown with willows.

1745 Warton *Oda to Morning* 14 The willow'd marge of murmuring brook. 1747 Collins *Ode to Liberty* 56 Willow'd Meads. 1802 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. ii, A longer steel-clad warriors ride Along the wily and willow'd shore. 1891 E. R. Pennell *Stream Pleas.* 44 All the elm-lined roads and willowed backwaters lead to pretty villages.

**Willower** (wi·lōəɹ), *sb.*¹ [f. WILLOW *v.* + -ER 1.] Separated by means of a willow.

1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 26 Fine stuff, such as willowed rope.

**Willower** (wi·lōəɹ), *sb.*² [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ER 1.] One who tends a willow.

1881 *Instr. Cotton Clerks* (1882) 65 Woollen Cloth Manufacture...Willower, Willyer, or Woollyer. *Ibid.* 82 Paper Making...Willower (Paper Mill).

**Willow-herb** [So named from the resemblance of the leaves to the willow's. Cf. the earlier *herb willow* (HERB *sb.* 7 b).

All the plants so named were formerly included under the name *Lysimachia*.]

1. Yellow Loosestrife, *Lysimachia vulgaris*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 74 The first [Lysimachion] which we may call Golden or yellow Lysimachius, Willow herbe, and Loue strife. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia lutea*. Yellow Willow herbe. 1755 Bl. Stillingfl. *Cal. Flora* 2 Sept. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 236 (Great Yellow Loosestrife)..it sometimes called Yellow Willow-herb.

2. Any plant of the extensive genus *Epilobium*, esp. *E. angustifolium* and *hirsutum*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 73 *Lysimachium purpureum primum*. The first purple red, willow herbe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia oliuæ*. Codded Willow herbe. .. *Chamænerion*. Rose bay Willow herbe. 1697 Lhwyd in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 50 The Common French Willow-Herb. 1763 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xix. (1794) 257 Our European Willow Herbs. 1820 Coleridge *Nehemiah* 89 Lychnis, and willow-herb, and fox-glove bells. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* iii. (ed. 4) 204 The willow-herb, or *Epilobium* genus. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* xxxvii, A little ten-yard square island all overgrown with red purple willow herb.

3. *Spiked* or *Purple-spiked Willow-herb*: Purple Loosestrife, *Lythrum Salicaria*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 75 Poynted willow Herbe with the purple floure. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia purpurea spicata*. Spiked Willow herbe. Lichtfoot *Flora Scotica* I. 320 *Scutellaria minor*.. Little scull cap, or Willow-herb. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* iv. (1794) 46 Some plants only having little or no smell as..hooded willow herb. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

**Willowing** (wi·lōing), *vbl. sb.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ING 1.] = WILLYING (after WILLY *sb.*).

1851 L. D. H. Gordon in *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. lxxxi/2 A scutching machine, so arranged that the preliminary process of willowing is performed within it. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Willowing-machine*,.. 2. (Cotton)..Called also *twilly, twilling machine, Lancashire willey, scrali, opening-machine*. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/2 The willowing or willying process, which opens and disentangles the locks of wool. 1891 R. Marsden *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 82.

**Willowish** (wi·lōiʃ), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ISH 1.]

1. Somewhat resembling that of a willow, esp. in reference to the colour of willow-leaves.

1653 Walton *Angler* v. 108 Fish for a May-fly: you may make him body with greenish-colored crewel, or willowish colour. 1658 Beale *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 19 A fady willowish brond leaf. 1676 J. Smith *Art of Painting* II. 21 It's Willowish colour must be corrected. 1708 Thoresby *Ducatus Leodiensis* (1715) 511 *Salix folio subtus incano, viridi supra, willowish

service unto Saints, is but wit-worship, will-worship, and Idol-serice. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm*., *Matt. xv.* 9 (1681) II. 4 Those Pharisees..intending by those superstitious Will-worships to honour God. 1730 BERKELEY *Serm.* Wks. 1871 IV. 641 Not lip-worship, nor will-worship but inward and evangelical. 1847 G. S. FABER *Serm. Cal. Prophecy* (1854) II. 106 A declension from evangelical soundness to unwarrantable superstition and will-worship. 1846 TRENCH *Hulsean.* Introd. (1865) 5 The will-worship of Jeroboam.

So **Will-worshipper**, one who practises will-worship; **†Will-worshipping**, will-worship.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lx. 22. 8 The wil worshippinges which superstitious persones have forged too themselves of theyr owne heades. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Doctor Dubit.* II. iii. rule 13. § 9 He that sayes God is rightly worshipped by an act or ceremony concerning which himself hath no way express'd his pleasure, is superstitious, or a will-worshipper.

**Willy, willey** (wi·li), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wilige, wylige**, -ie, 7, 9 **wooly**, 8–9 **willy**, 9 **willey**. [OE. *wilige*: see WILLOW *sb.* Cf. *wyle, wile*, WEEL².]

**1.** A basket: see quots. *dial.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xiii. (1851) 120 *Corbis*, wylige oððe windel. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vi. 43 Hi namon þara hlafa & fisa lafe twelf willan fulle. *a* 1200 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 336/7 *Corbis uel cophinus*, wyliges. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXVI. (Add. MS. 27944). Of russhes ley ymade panyers: Wiles, cupes and casan.] 1863 PEACOCK *Glos. Manley & Corringham*, a term applied to baskets of various sizes, but generally to those holding about a bushel : sometimes called also *willey-basket*. 1886 *W. Som. Word-bk.*, A large basket—not a shape deep rather than flat. . A willy has two small handles at the upper edge, one opposite the other.

**2.** A fish-trap. *local.*

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (Add. MS. 27944), For flensh ȝ rosted crabbes comeþ in to wyles and pyches.] 1802 CAREW *Cornwall* i. 28 The Trowse are mostly taken with hooke-net, made like the Eastern Weelyes, which is placed in the stickell-est part of the stream. and kept abroad with certains hoopes 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 320 Below the lower ß rod-head, a trap (or *willey*, as in that neighbonrood it is called) is made for the catching of smaller fish. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss., Weelys*, wicker pots or traps for catching crabs.

**3.** A revolving machine of a conical or cylindrical shape armed internally with spikes for opening and cleaning wool, cotton, flax. Called also *twilly*.

[1780: see WILLEY v. quot. 1864]. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 160 The wool-mill or willy is the Easterne

we, Was neuere in worlde wrkland in wede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsome, or dowtefulle, *dubius, fluctuans.* *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this warld, wilsons of wraik! *c* 1460 *Tewnelay Myst.* xxvii. 204 Wilsom of hart, ye ar vnabyll, And out of the right way. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 29 To hungre meit, nor drynk to thristy gaif... Harbeist the wolsome, nor nakit cled ait all. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iii. 105 Wincrtanlie we went The dais wilsum throu the myrky streme. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 44 Were fayrewarth, and richt wellsum of wine, *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* III. 526 Wilsum of ane gude reid. 1554 Knox *Lett. in Anem. Ipsit Tyrie* F iv b, God shall guyde the footesteppes of him that is wilsome. *c* 1590 J. Stewart *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 33 Vandring as ane volsum vagabound. 1614 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 9, If it had not been for a Christian Amaronite, who accidently encountred with vs, in our wilsum [1632, our wearisome] wandring, we had beene miserably lost. 1808 Jamieson, *Wilsum*, in a wandering state, implying the ideas of dreariness, and of ignorance of one's course, S. prov. *wandlesum*.

Hence **Wilsomely** *adv.*†, cringly, perversely; wanderingly, at random; **Wilsomeness**†, error, perverseness; doubt, uncertainty.

13 . *Evang. Nicod.* 1565 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 417 Fro ways of wilsomnes...he has þam taken. *c* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1202 (Camden) xxxv, To somun alle tho, That wilsumly ar wente me fro. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or dowtefulnesse. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 27 As y wandered weldesomly in pe lawnd þat was so grene.

**Wilsome, willsome,** *a.*² *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Orig. a use of Wilsome *a.*¹, later associated with Will *sb.*¹ There appears to be no connexion with OE. *wilsum, wilsumlic* 'desiderabilis', †voluntarius', 'devotus', *wilsumlice* 'sponte', †voluntarie'.] Wilful, obstinate, stubborn.

13 . *Cursor M.* 9631 (Cott.) Þe wil þat was wilsum [*Cott. wilful*] sinne, Þat did vs all fra hin to tuynne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523 A wylsome or foreward oyle hys owne wylle, *effrenus.* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow.* xxi. 3 He wes wide and willsome in the brest. 1818 Todd, *Wilsome*, obstinate; stubborn. A forgotten old word, but as proper as *humoursome*, and the like. 1828 Hor. Smith *Brambl. Hall* I. 56 Within stone walls he is ever willsome and upon the hoof. *c* 1835 Hogg *Perils, Spirit of the Glen* xxvii, Marjorie smiled a willsome smile.

Hence **Wilsomely** *adv.*², wilfully; **Wilsomeness**², wilfulness, frowardness.

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxvi. 10 The wilsumnesse [Vulg. *animositas*] of drunkenhed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or froward wylle, *effrenitas, vel proprie voluntatis sequela.* *a* 1450 *Towneley Myst.* Consul of Pilate xvi, His sins were like crimson—all bent and uneven, The path he hed wilesomely trod.

†**Wilt,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [Origin obscure.] = Wile *sb.* Hence †**Wiltful** *a.*, wily.

*a* 1340 *Sir Kath.* 891 Þe wrenchfule front, þurh ondes, wil wit his wiles[*MS. Royal* wiltes] weorp him ut. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* MS. C.C.C.C. 402, If ei ha ȝe schulen witen ow wið hes deoflies wiltes. *Ibid.* 73 b, Ne his lihtnesse to noht al þas deoflen wiheles nawt ane his strenghes & his stronge tunnes ah deð his wiltfule [*so alts MS. Cotton* 234, *f.* 156 *b*; *MS. Cott. Nero* wihtful, *Titus* wilfule] crokes & his wrenchfule wichecrefles.

**Wilt** (wilt), *sb.*² [f. next.] The action or an act of wilting; *spec.* (also *wild disease*) any fungous disease of plants which is characterized by wilting.

1855 Ainslie *Land of Burns* (1858) 325 To stiffen the wilt that this wilderness has brought on his bosom and bairns. 1916 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 357 Rusts, smuts, wilts, and insect-attacks were calamities to be patiently endured.

**Wilt** (wilt), *v.* [Of dial. origin (in early 19th c. largely U.S.), having the unexpected variant *welt* (Welt *v.*³).] pers. ication of *wilk*, Welk *v.*]

**1.** *intr.* Of plants or their parts: To become limp or flaccid, through heat or drought.

1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 80 To *Wilt*, for wither, spoken of green Herbs or Flowers, is a general word. 1779 *Proposal in Ann. Reg.* 105/1 A bill...was proposed in the sun throughout the day, or until the leaves are entirely wilted, as it is termed in America. *Ibid.* 108/2 If the sun does not appear for several days, the leaves of the tobacco-plant] must remain to wilt. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., These flowers are all wilted. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* xviii. (1824) 182 The leaf wilting before a hot fire. 1829 [see b]. *a* 1885 Jevons *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 36 [They] wilted down like leaves when the forest is on fire. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 506 The tissues of the flower begin to soften and wilt very soon after separation from the plant. 1897 T. H. Warren *By Severn Sea* 27 Magic bowers never wilting.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* To become limp; to lose energy or vigour; to become dispirited or nervously.

1787 Abigail Adams *Lett.* (1848) 133 Mrs. Cranch...is wilted just enough to last to perpetuity. 1825 J. Neal *Rep. Yankees* xvii. II. 109 Look o' the major!...pale as death; and wiltin' away, like a cabbage leaf, in the hot sun. 1857 in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. (1883) 165 My...ruffles wilted to the consistency...of an after-dinner napkin. 1861 Lowell *Biglow P.* II. iii. 200 Poems 1890 II. 227 They...wilt right down ez debtors will thet stumble on a dun. 1890 Henry *Wth Lee in Virg.* xv, The man is as hard as a rock...He wilted a little when you were telling your story, but [etc.]. 1902 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Jan. 1/2 The old aristocracy seemed as if it was going to wilt before this new commonwealth of wits.

**2.** *trans.* To cause to become limp; to deprive of stiffness, energy, vigour, or spirit.

1809 T. Dwight *Theol.* (1819) IV. 165 Despots...have wilted the human race into sloth and imbecility. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. xix. 349 They had secured for his cause no monarchical friends, but had wilted the enthusiasm of the people. 1888 Dyland *John Ward* 233 The full blaze of sunshine...was wilting the dish of violets.

Hence **Wilted** *ppl. a.*; **Wilting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* III. vii. (1812) I. 285 Fanciful festoons of wilted peaches and dried apples. 1830 *Examiner* 351/1 A wilted, sinew-shrunk old hunks. 1867 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 328 Some flowers will not bear to be handled without wilting. 1883 G. Allen in *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 65/1 It is a tall wilted-looking thing, this broomrape. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 396/2 Wilting flowers are hardly appropriate to a steamship.

**Wilt** : see Will *v.* **Wilt,** obs. f. Quilt *sb.*

**Wilter** (wi·ltəɹ), *v. dial.* [f. Wilt *v.* + -er 5.] = Wilt *v.*

1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), To *wilt*, or *wilter*, to wither. 1888 Leys & Clutti Buck *N. C.* 1897 xxxiii, 'He just wiltered'...What is wiltering? How did he do it? 1916 Cullum *Men who Wrought its*, The tide of the Prince's anger was 100 swift for the youthful Prussian's armour of official effrontery. He came near to wiltering before it.

**Wiltful:** see Wilt *sb.*¹

**Wilton** (wi·ltən). Name of a town in the south of Wiltshire, noted since the reign of Queen Elizabeth for the manufacture of carpets: applied to † (*a*) a kind of cloth, (*b*) a carpet of which the manufacture resembles that of Brussels carpet but differing in having the rib cut so as to produce a velvet pile.

1573 *Pennyfyr. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 1/1 Fine broadcloths, cassimers, saggathies, and Wiltons. 1774 *Ibid.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 3/3 Wiltons and Kidderminster carpets. 1778 *Universal Spectator* 81 May 256/2 A brick coloured Wilton coatee. 1880 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxiii, As soft and velvety as a Wilton carpet. 1904 Dunsdury *Carpet Manual* I. 143 The difference in shade was greatest in Wilton and Velvet pile structures. *Ibid. Iv.* 127 The wire used for Wilton is usually deeper and therefore produces a loftier pile than Brussels.

**Wiltshire** (wi·ltʃəɹ). Name of an English county, applied to (*a*) a breed of sheep, (*b*) a kind of 'smoked' bacon, (*c*) a kind of cheese (also *Wilts*).

1794 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 22 The Wiltshire Horned Sheep. *Ibid.*, A flock of Wiltshire ewes. *Ibid.* 29 The old Wiltshire sheep. Bucocke *Hunt's Boy* 270 The Wiltshire pug commonly met with [in Buckinghamshire] are derived from the blood of the Dorset, the Wiltshire, and from a mongrel kind. 1808 *Trans. Soc. Encour. Dom. Annuares* 17 A smoky taste such as that we find in Wiltshire bacon. 1837 Youatt *Sheep* 245 These Wiltshires have now passed quite away. 1880 *Dairy Farming* 248 Different-sized cheeses, from flat Wilts, Truckles and Cheshires. 1894 Oliver *Milk, Cheese*, etc. 255 The small cylindrical cheeses known as 'Wiltshire loaves'. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 20/4 Bacon...Canadian was steadier, with Wiltshires 1s. dearer.

**Wiluol,** obs. form of Wilful.

**Wily** (wəi·li), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Forms: 4 wili, wyli, 4–5 wyly, 4–6 wyly, (4, 6 wely), 5 wilye, whyly, 5–6 wylly, 5, 7 willy), 5–7 (8 *Sc.*) wylie, 6 wylye, (whyly, *Sc.* wylie), 6–7 wilie, 8 wiley, 4– wily. (Wile *sb.* + -y.)

**1.** Full of or characterized by wiles; crafty, cunning, sly, artful. **a.** Of a person or animal (or *fig.* of a thing personified).

Rarely in a good sense: Astute, clever.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11809 Pis herods.. þat will [*Fairf.* wely] wile. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy Chron. Hearne* (Rolls) 3962 Was bope wyly & slieg. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1728 So reniarde was wyle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's Prol.* 52 No poure cloyster ne no Nonys hoir a gouvernour wily and wys. *Wars. Ch. Chron.* 1439 Of alle seynes that was most wyly Of alle othere beestes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xxvi. 155 And there he was in grete peryl, for the gyaut was a wyly beyste. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. ii. 41 Ilk wy, Ilk be-ist wyly to defende hym fro theym, & wyely to assaille them. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 60 Lyke as yᵉ sparowe the wyly byrde eschewith all panters & nettes. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 23 To finde the wilie Ulysses straight downe she tooke hir walke. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 285 As wily as a fox. 1696 R. Mather *Serm.* (1714) 4 The wily spirits of the Armoniack. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* I. 95 Mark! wily Fowlers meditate their Doom. 1807 Crabbe *Library* 243 Then wily Jenkins simple Quakers note. 1858 Bayne *Christ. Rev.* II. 49 The brilliant wily Welshman found himself sharply repelled. 1905 Tarver *Other Side of Lantern* III. viii. (1906) 225 In the...night the wily tide will glide a hundred miles inland.

**b.** Of personal attributes, actions, etc.

*c* 1400 *Beryn* 444 Tapsters, & oþer such, þat hath wyly wits to pik meinays pursis. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3723 Þerfore, by his wily sleyght he away þe cyte fruyt. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 139 She had hin caught in suche a wyly snare. 1552 T. Wilson *Logic* (1580) 82 b, Wily wordes is when a sentence hath a double meaninge. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* iv. iii. 298 Ventidius...by a wily Stratageme, counterfeiting flight and feare. 1645 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. Ep. The wily subtleties and reflexes of mens thoughts. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 33 Artfu' Neits, and Fishers' wylie Skill. 1850 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xxxvii, Judas's averted and wily face. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Feb. 43/3 An imaginary line...offered no real obstacle to a determined and wily advance.

†**2.** *ellipt.* as *sb.* A wily person or animal; in *coll.* *c* 1460 as proper name (cf. 4). Obs.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1929 Pay fel on þyn, ille, & woried me þis wyly wyth a wroth noyse. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 600 in *Macro Plays* 55 Yf ȝe clepyde wysdom: 'ware þat I' quod wyly.

**3.** As *adv.* Craftily, cunningly: = Willily. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 1452 Apel vessel, pat wyth so curious a crafte coruen was wyly. 1567 Harman *Caveat* A 3, All theese...rabblement of rakehelles, that...do...gayne great almes in all places where they wyly wander. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 59 Thocht for thair tyme sum wylie winkit. 1863 Cockeram, *Wily*, craftily.

**4.** Special Collocations and Combinations. †**a. Wily-man, wily-pie** [Pie *sb.*¹], **wily-wat** [Wat²],

appellations for a crafty or cunning fellow (the first as a proper name). *Obs.*

1303 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 27 Then waryn wysman and wyly-man his felawe Fayn were to folwen hem. *c* 1430 *Chance of Dice* 149 in *Engl. Studien* LIX. 9 Lurdis verely ye ben a wyly pye. 1542–79 [see Pie *sb.*¹ 2]. 1550 Hale *Apol.* 73 Ye are a wyly watte in the kyngdome of crafte and generacion of falshede. *c* 1550 *Sc. Tobias* (Chambers) 3 Ye are a wyly wat, & wander here full warelye. 1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 244 b, Osorius is a wylypye, and will not be destitute of a starting hoale. [1587 Harrison *England* II. iii. 149/1 Oh madam (saith he) the wiliest pie of all, these are no pies but soules in purgatorie that cruue releefe.]

†**b.** Wily beguile, also freq. in jingling form **wily beguily** (and similar expressions); orig. in phr. *to play wily beguile oneself* (also later in various corrupt forms), to act wilily in such a way as to Le oneself beguiled, to be entrapped by one's own craftiness; hence *wily beguily* (rarely *wily beguile, gilie, guile*) as *sb.* phr. (*a*) a person who acts thus, or (simply) who acts wilily or craftily; (*b*) an act of this kind, or (simply) a wily act or action, a crafty trick, cunning trickery; rarely as adj., an emphatic extension of *wily*. *Obs.*

1555 Latimer In Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxi. 203 Let men beware that they play not *wylye begile themselves*, as I feare me they do that go to masse. *Ibid.*, Thus they play *wyly, wyly, beguylye* 1562 John Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 103 To whiche smart mocke, and wyly begylyng, He...saide [etc.]. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1973/2 Whereby he hath deceaued the simple, these wylye begely most of all deceaue them selues. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 303 b Sufficiently instructed in these your wylie beguiles and, to make acquainted with your ambitious hawtynes. 1589 [? Nashe] *Almond for Parrot* 17 b, The wicked...being by sleight of their wilie gilles. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. *Magnificence* 684 Smiles, Wylie-Guiles, quient wyly-prettly Toyes. 1618 Ibbeton *Courtier & Countryman* C 4 b, What is the end of all wily beguily? seeking to deceiue other, deceiu'd himselfe most of all. 1622 He. Mountagu *Diuine Trag.* 17 It shall go hard, but our wily-beguily Wits will one way or other finde an euasion. 1625 J. Robinson *Observ.* xv. 108 Such wily-beguilies may for a time...get the opinion of prudence, and politick persons. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 101 Wilie beguilies deceive himself.

**c.** *Comb.* (of the adj. or adv.), as *wily-headed, wily-subtle* *obs.*

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 619/1 There are...soe cauteious and wyly-e-headed. 1624 Gee *Foot out of Snare* App. 108, I shall begin to recant my opinion of his wily-witted worth.

**Wim,** *v. s.w. dial.* Forms: 5 (?)–6 wym, 7 wimme, 7, 9 wimb, 7– wim (9 whim). [Of obscure origin; cf. Wimble *v.*²] To winnow.

Form and meaning in first quot. are doubtful.

1458 *Churchw. Acc., Ludlow* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 48 For j man to helpe to wymmynge the malte to the mylle...ijd. 1681 *Oxtes Well Thresht* 2 They are thresh't, and wimb'd. 1691 Ray *S. & C. Words* (ed. 2), To *winnow*; *Sussex*, Dial. i. e. *Wim*. 1886 *W. Sussex Word-bk.* s.v., Our volks be all busy wimin o' barley.

**b.** *Comb.* : †**wimsheet**, a winnowing-sheet. Also **Wimming** *vbl. sb.* in Comb. *winnowing-dust, -sheet.*

1530 In Wever *Wells Wills* (1890) 111 One whit wymsheete. 1535 *Ibid.* 128 To Parsonne Lethall, a wymeshit and bushell of rye. 1682 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 61 Some have strain'd it with Wimsheet sifwart a Barrel, and the middle thereof, and with a Scoop or Shovel cast their Wheat against the upper part of the Sheet. 1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Engl., Wim sheet, Winnin-sheet*, a sheet upon which corn is winnowed. *Winnin-dust*, chaff.

**Wim,** var. Whim *sb.*¹ in sense 4.

1802 Mawe *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Wim*, an engine or machine to draw ore, worked by horses.

**Wiman,** obs. form of Woman.

**Wimbeame,** var. Wind-beam ¹ *Obs.*

**Wimble** (wi·mb'l), *sb.* Now *dial.* or *techn.* Forms: 3–7 wymble, 4–5 wymbul, -il (5 -el, -ulle), 5–6 -yl(l, -lle, wymell(1 (5 -ulle, 6 wyemblye), 5–7 wymoll (5-yll), wymble, (5 wommil, 6 -ill, womyl, -lle, wombill, wembel, whymble), 8 wimple, 8–9 whimble, 4– wimble (9 *Sc.* and *north.* wumble). [Of uncertain origin; cf. Fr. *wimble*, *vrimbe*, etc.] In AF. **wimble* (var. of **guimble*, represented by late 13th c. *gymble*, and the dim. Gimlet), ad. MLG. *wiemel*, (also Flem.) *wemel* (whence OSw. *wimla*, Da. *vimmel*), MDu. *wimpel*.]

**1.** A gimlet.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/8 m. 4 (P.R.O.) Et iiij.*d.* ob. in Wymbles emptis. [1296 *Ibid.* 5/8 m. 5 Idem Gymblis ferri emptis ..vj.*d.*] *c* 1395 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Wright Voc.* 170 Terere[*gloss* wymble (nauger)]. 1412 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. parvum wymbill, iij.*d.* *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 85 Voide the pith a litel thrash wymbul inbore. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wymbyl, or persowre, *terebellum*. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 254 So eaten with woormes, as though they had byn bored through with wymbilles. 1577 Googe, *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 107 b, The hafles and handles of Wymbles and Augurs. 1636 Featly *Clavis Myst.* xxix. 377 As the wimble bores a hole for the auger. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* III. xxvi. § 1. 222 The little Wimble once entred, the Workman can then drive a great Nail. *c* 1785 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* (1789) 275 The second [field-mouse] nibbles a hole with his teeth, so regular as if drilled with a wimble.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

*a* 1633 G. Herbert *Jacula Prudentum* 955 Gifts enter

every where without a wimble. 1719 D Urfey *Pills* IV 81 Joan's a Piece for a Man to bore, With his Wimble 1781 Barrut *Gen Interd.* 287 The Gad fly From the hinder part of their body, leaves a wimbole of wonderful structure. 1805 Pasc Wakefield *Dom Recreat* iv 60 The wimble is of an admirable structure, and consists of three pieces .. It is the most easily seen in the long wimbled fly.

**2.** An auger; also, a brace.

1336 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 565 Willo Couper ad reparacionem duorum Wymbles, quia fracta in opere Prioris, xij*d*. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A* II xxxiii. L ij, Men with grete wymbilis and awgours shal perce the ship undreneth 1520 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 165 Perce y^e tree thorugh wyth a percer crosse wyse or wyth a wymble 1573 Tusser *Husb.* xvii (1878) 36 Cart ladder and wimble with percer and pod 1583 Jewel *Serm Paul's Cresse* D b, I hat part of the Carpenters wimble, which turneth about, goeth rounde, and by litle and litle draweth in the iron, or steele bit 1620 *Shuttleworths' Acc* (Chetham Soc) 248 Paid for laying 3 wimbolls, 1*s*. 1688 Markham *Cavalry Husb* II vi (1698) 30 A great Augure or wimble of Iron made to receive many bits one longer than another 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc* iii 53 The other end of the Shank must be fitted into the square hole of the Wimble 1789 *Trans Soc Arts* I 38 Hinges, Wimble, and Jack for Ship-builders. 1804 Cass *Craven Gloss*, *Wemmle*, an auger, a wimble

**3.** An instrument for digging in soft ground, or for extracting rubbish from a bore-hole in mining.

1698 Ray *Disc* (1693) 47 They use this Earth or Soil with a long Wimble. 1708 J C *Compl Collier* (1845) 12 [He] puts or screws on the Wimble Scoop which takes up the cut stuff. 1789 *Brand Hist Newc* II 678 The chisel is screwed off [the boring rod], and the wimple or scoop put on 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss*, *Wimble*, a shell auger used for boring in soft ground

**4.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *wimble-bit*, *-bore*, *hole*, *-like* adj, *-stock*, + **wimble-cook**, a wimble-bit

1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc* (Chetham Soc) 9 For towe broste wymeblye bittes and a male pearced bitte, xij*d*. 1688 *Lohe* (Kent) *Estate Acc* (MS) If 118 for 5 wimble bits. [13 *Caidth Texas* 411 in *Archiv neu Spr* LXXIV 338 With his fingere he quickede the wymble Alt a full hole] "wymbilles bore] 1820 Jamieson, *Wimblebore*, a hole in the throat, which prevents one from speaking distinctly, S in allusion to a hole bored by a wimble. 1697 B Hanes *Diu de Chirother* iv 83 If I lye, call me the "Wimble cock 1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl* 215/1 *Foramen rotundum*, a "wimble hole. 1613 Markham *Eng Husbandman* I iv 14 Take a board which shalbe bored full of large wimble holes 1683 J Reid *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 88 Bore the main [*sic* wooden cases] full of auger or wimble holes 1845 S Judd *Margaret* II viii (1871) 288 Margaret presently addressed herself into the porch, "wimble like, she pierced the stacks of men and women that filled the hall 1801 Holland *Ivory* xxi 480 I 493 [Wood] much used for auger handles and "wimble stocks. 1648–9 in Swayne *Churchm Acc Sarum* (1896) 219 A wymble stock and Nayles 1*s* 4*d*

**Wimble** (wi·mbl), *a*. *dial* (and *obs. arch*)

Also 6 **wymble** [as a northern word used up by Spenser, recorded in mod dial use from Yorkshire and Lancashire. The immediate source is unknown (Scand words of appropriate form, e g. Norw *vimmel* giddy, confused, have not the required sense)] Active, nimble.

1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal* Mar 91 He was so wimble and so wight [*Globe* Quicke and quiuer] 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) B j To be a prettie wymble lad 1620 Marston *Ant & Mel* II Wks 1856 I 40 Buckle thy spirits vp: put all thy wits in a wimble agitation 1 Davies (Heref) *Sheph Pype Eel* G 5, Then nought can be atcheu'd with witty shewes, Sith griefe of Lide accloyen wimble wit 1798–28 Mendez *Spr Somers* I xxvii, Man throws the wimble bait, and greedy woman bites

Hence + **Wi mbly** *adv*, nimbly

1594 W Percy *Coelia* (1878) 9 Upon my foot, her tender foot slighted, Wish that she pluckt a puff full wimbely

**Wimble,** *v*[1] *Obs. exc. dial.* [f Wimble *sb*]

1. *trans.* To pierce with or as with a wimble, to make (a hole) with a wimble

*c* 1440 *Pr mp. Parv* 528/2 Wymbelyn, or wymmelyn, *terebro* 1642 Bulleyn *Hosp & Prof* (1888) 11 By 29 To use force first before people will be taught the truth, to knock a nail into a board, without wimbling a hole for it 1663 Sir J Herbert *Mem Chas I* (1702) 142 A Foot Soldier wimbled a hole in the Deck with a Gimblet was hanged 1713 Cyprus Winchiesea *Misc Poems* 127 A Nutshell, wimbled by a Worm 1798 Cowper *Odyss*, xxiii 239, I wimbled a seat The frame throughout

b. *transf.* (Cf Wimble *sb* 1 b, quot 1719.)

1636 R Fletcher tr *Mirtilal* vii lxxiv, Wouldst thou be wimbled *gratis* when thou art A wrinkled wretch def wimed in every part? 1650 *Acta Parl* (1821) VII 486 And well he could dissemble, when wenches he would wimble

**2** *intr.* To bore *into*; chiefly *fig* (*intr.* and *refl.*), to penetrate or insinuate oneself *into*

1600 W Leigh *Charitywen Watch* (1603) 17 How thus spirit hath entred and wimbled into your soules I knew not *a* 1642 Sillman *Dial Com* Relig 5 (1656) 210 In this latter age we have wimbl'd even into the bowels of Plutus's Treasury 1671 Cobin in *N Nobleman Docts* (Surtees) 240 Hee would fain wimble himselfe into some employment under mee 1830 Galt *Annals* I iii 21 189 Charley felt something like a man's finger wimbling in under his neck 1839 *New Monthly Mag* LVI 61 Wimbling deeper and deeper still, till he has attached the remora of your nerves to mine

Hence **Wimbling** *vbl sb* and *ppl a*.

1603 Cockeram, *Terebration*, a wimbling 1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 59 We men in our silent beds of earth will count The slender wasted women, and with them sport, .. and vow their wimbling busse Is full as sweet as womens was to us. 1648 Herrick *Hesp*, *Kisses Loathsome*, Those lips please me which are plac't Close, but not too strictly fact Yielding I wo'd have them: yet Not a wimbling Tongue admit

Vol. X.

**+Wimble,** v.[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. Wim *v.* Cf. Wind *v* 3, Windle *v.*[1]] To winnow.

1596 Winlade *Dict.* (1562) 20/2 A wey or shawide to wynowe or wymble corne with.

**Wimbled,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wimble *v.*[1] or *sb.* + -ed]

1. Pierced, bored.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II (Arb) 58 Warding long wymbled entryes

**2** Furnished with a ' wimble '.

1805 [see Wimble *sb* 1 b]

**+Wimblet.** *Obs.* Also 7 **wimlet.** [f. Wimble *sb.* after Gimlet.] A gimlet or auger.

1670 *Short Relat Sniff Quakers* 62 They got a Wimlet, and bored a hole in the Mault Floor *a* 1711 Ken *Anodynes* Poet Wks. 1721 III 240 Saw, Bodkin, Fish hook, Wimblet, Dart, To stab, tear, jag, or gore each part

**+Wimbrekin** [Alteration of OF. *vibrequin*, *vis(e)-, virebrequin*, after Wimble *sb.*] A wimble.

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A* I xxiv C iij, Sawe, axes, nayles, wymbrekyns [*orig. tarrieres*] and al other ferrements.

**Wim(m)ick,** *v dial* [Imitative] (See quots.)

1850 Dickens *David Copp* ii, "Wen Mrs Cummidge takes to wimmicking 1877 *Miss* old county word for crying.—'she's liable to be considered to be peevish like' 1883 H Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* xvi, Three times had that child wimmicked before an idea knelt down

**Wimman, -en, -on,** obs. ff. Woman.

**+Wimount.** *Obs.* [perh. the personal name *Wimound*, Ol. *Wigmund*] A name of the hare

*c* 1280 *Names of Hare* in *Rel Ant.* I. 133 The wimount, the hubbart

**Wimple** (wi·mp'l), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3–6 **wimpel**, 3–5 **wympel**, 4–6 **wympe** (1, 3 **winpel**, 3 **wempel**, 4 **whympel**, 5 **wim-**, **wym-**, **win-**, **wyn-**, **-pil**, **-pill**, **-pul**, **-pulle**, **-pyl**, **-pylle**, *Sc.* **wompyll**, 6 **wympyll**, *Sc* **wompla**, 7 **wimpell**, 9 **whimple**). 4– **wimple** [Late OE. *wimpel* = (M)LG, (M)Du. *wimpel*, OHG *wimpal* veil, banner (MHG, G *wimpel* streamer, pennon), ON. (*vimpill*) (Sw, Da. *vimpel* from LG.), whence OF. *guimple* (mod. F. *guimpe*), of which the various *wimple* coincided with the native form. Ultimate origin uncertain.

It is doubtful whether the senses provisionally placed together here and under the vb. belong all to the same word. In branch II there may be an onomatopœic element; for formation and meaning *cf. dimple*, *rumple*, *rimple*, *wrumple.*]

**I 1.** A garment of linen or silk formerly worn by women, so folded as to envelop the head, chin, sides of the face, and neck: now retained in the dress of nuns Also *gen.* a veil

Used loosely in early glossaries as a rendering of *L. anabola*, *cyclas*, *peplum*, *vicinium*

*a* 1200 *Lives Holies Gl* 1406 (Napier 119) *Cyclade* .. *wimple* *a* 1200 *Gloss* in Wr Wülcker 107/37 *Ricinum*, wympel uel orh. *Ibid* 125/8 *Anabola*, wympel *c* 1300 *Prin Cod Hom* 163 Here wimpel wt oðer maked seleu mut saffran, *Sc. Leg Saints*, *St Kath* (MS C), Sum ar seiȝ þat hit limpeð to ene wummon cundeliche forte were wimpel *c* 1350 *Metr Margerete* xlvi, Doru þe mitte of ohi chirst, þat wes wimpel ant bond. 1390 R Glouc (Rolls) 6943 Here bodi wiþ a mantel, a wimpel [r *r* whympel] aboute here he sed *c* 1374 Chaucer *Pr ptus* II 110 Do a wey youre wympil & schew youre face here *c* 1386 — *Prol* 151 Ful semyly hir wympul pynched was 14.. *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 601/43 *Ipsum*, y wympul *c* 1425 Wintoun *Cron* IX xxv 1, Scho wes in wompyll arayede *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* lxxx, 317 The emperesse hyr lyfe hire face with a wympil, for she wilde not ben y knowe 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I vii 113 I to ask suppie, with thaim ane wemple hair, And with thandis betuell ther besnaw be the way *c* 1530 *Crt Love* 1109 And eke the nonnes, with vaile and wimple pleyn 1580 *Bill* (Genev) Ex iii. 22 The costelie apparel and iewels, and the wimples, and the crisping pinnes 1809 Scott *Last Minstr* v xvii White was her wimple, and her veil 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xiii, Her flowing wimple and veil 1820 — *Monastery* xxiii, Halfand I *undemians* II 247 Three nuns with veils and wimples

*transf* 1625 Crooke *Body of Man* 123 A certaine smooth and slippery membrane is subiected to it 1861 A. Mackay in *Temple Bar* III. 472 Graves are the sheltering wimples Against Life's rain

**2.** A flag, streamer [An alien sense]

1456 *Sir Gregory Wimple* a Standard or Flag.

**II 3.** A fold or wrinkle, a turn, winding, or twist; a ripple or rippling in a stream

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II iv 30 Bot thai about him lowpit in wympillis [orig *sphiris*] throw 1593 Nashe *Christ's T* 74 b, He not more curious of a wimple or fault in thy vesture, then thou art of spotting and thorow-staining thy deere bought Spirit.

1818 Hogg *Brownie of B Isbeck* xii I 225 A shepherd hates the wimples, as he calls them, of a turnpike. *Ibid* xiv II 22 He had as many links an wimples in his tail as a reel 1849 Elizabeth Cobbold *Waters* 3 Bright Waters, your wimple just bulleth the marrow to sleep! 1878 Stevenson *Will o' Mill*, *Parson's Mary*, The river ran between the stepping stones with a pretty wimple.

**4.** A crafty turn or twist, a wile *Sc*

1638 Sir A Johnston *Diary* (S H S) 230 Notwithstanding al wyles, wimples, offers, motions, and other letts. 1755 R Forbes *Apol* 58 As the goudes helmet will vse glance, An blunk wi' skyrin brawn, That a' the wimples they'll find out Fan i' the mark he sheens 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxiv, There is aye a wimple in a lawyer's claw.

Hence **Wimple-less** *a.*, not wearing a wimple.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 420 3if se muwen beon wimpel leas, beoð bi warme keppen

**WIMPLER.**

**Wimple,** *v* Forms. see prec., also *Sc* 6 **wumpil**, 7 **wo(.)mple.** [f. Wimple *sb*, cf LG *wimpelen*]

**I. 1.** *trans* To envelop in a wimple, loosely, to veil (+ occas *pass* to take the veil).

*c* 1440 *Ancr R* 420 (MS C) Writhen, he seið, naut wimplin *ibid*, Al þeo þa i wimplet *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* II pr 1 (1868) 31 She hat 3it couereb hir and wympleþ forþ *velat*] hir to oþer folk hab shewed hir euerydel to be *c* 1386 — *Prol* 470 Wympled wel, and on hir heed an hat *c* 1407 Lydg *Reson & Sens* 2837 Wympled but in symple guyse 1430–40 — *Bochas* iv xxviii (1554) 64 Rhea Entered into religion, For to be wympled in that holy house, Sacred to Vesta. *c* 1440 *Sqr Gener* (Roxb) 1968 Wympled she was both cheke and chin 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x lxviii 531 Al wayes she was wympeld that no man myght see her vysage 1598 Lyte *Medes* I i Iustice her selfe, that stileth wimpled about the eyes 1615 W Hull *Merr Majestie* 82 They wimpled those eyes 1618 J Lane *Contin Sqr's T* viii 91 *note*, Ne Iulian on woold putt his golden fleze, But wimpled fast his melan cholie eies 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* Introd Bp. His figure was so closely veiled and wimpled either with a mantle morning gown or some such loose garb 1870 Rock *Text Fabr* I 30 A female, crowned and wimpled

**+b** *intr* for *pass* To be veiled. *Obs rare*

1502 Percivall *Sp Dict*, *Reboçar*, to wimple, to go with the face hidden *capere velamen*

**2** *fig* To veil, cover

1387 + T Usk *Test Love* II xiv (Skeat) I 25 With fayre honyed wordes heretykes and mis meninge people sikeren and wimplen their errour 1 Mod in ii 18 Ne shulde he many privy thinges wimpled and folde. 1600 *Hist Reynard the Fox* xxviii, He that cannot wimple falshood in truths kercheife, hath neuer learned the right 1798 *Atlantic M nthly* Apr 503/2 He will gaze tenderly in to the white faces of his cauliflowers, as with pinned leaves he wimples them from the sun

**+3** *transf* and *fig* To enfold, enwrap, wrap up

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI iv 93 Wymplit and buskit forig *sumeral*] in a bludy bend *Hill* viii xii 61 His body wymplit [orig *implexum*] in a bellour Of sa mirk and sa dym skyn *Ibid* x. xii. 134 The futile sisteris tho to dreid Had wymplyt wp [orig *legunt*] thi lawnes lattyr threid *c* 1598 Timothy Bright *Melancholie* 3 Of (S) I let it go: Ane body of ane young chyld wumpillit wpo in sa sklell 1599 R Carew *Tasso* (1881) 80 Her sp rit ng looke a coy regard doth beare, And loues fire wimples here 1830 Swain pelled a stone Mi nthorpe Rise *Poems* v 4 No wonder thoght I waill and weip, If ai wemplit am in woes 1867 H Barnes *Dessk Charter* iii 11 Ȝ I perce ue a little rueh g Aboue my fo ehead but I wimple it with my kerchewes or lock of wreath or a hode 1616 *Rollocks Lect Pass* 2 Ep. Ded ¶ 2 b, He will thirst to be wompled in the wounds of Iesus *a* 1670 Wodrow *Lives Lond Clergie* (Harleian Soc Club) I 208 While charge so written was wompled about that arne arrow head, ȝe shott up over the castle walls whirr Ruthven might find the same

**4.** *pass* and *intr* To fall in folds

1590 Spenser *F Q* I i 4 A vele, that wimpled was full low 1752 R Lloyd *Progr Poesy* viii Poems (1762) 213 Her mantle wimpled low 1820 Scott *Monast* I xv (1831) 283 Curtains of delicate texture, all wimpled with the golden wings of cherub im

**5** *pass* To be straddled like a wimple or veil

1868 + R Sut. *Poems Evenings* I The Sun is gone th ve glorious chariot wheels Have left Ihin rosy film s wimpled acr ss the West.

**II 6** *intr* Of a stream To meander, twist and turn; also, to ripple Chiefly *Sc.*

1721 Ramsay *Poet's Wish* 1, Tay and Tweed s smooth Streams quietly, wimple to the Seas 1785 Burns *Hal Invern* 11, Among the bonie, winding banks, Where Devon roars, wimples, clear 1848 Eliza C. Kent *Summ green b* 138 iv, Streamlets, ye are pleasant things, Wimpling as ye slide 1849 Aytoun *Poems*, *Reginald of Charon* iii Or near some sparkling fountain, Where the waters wimple down! 1879 Stevenson *Trav Cev nes* 19 You may hear it wimpling over the stones an amuth e simple g of a river *transf* 1898 Crockett *Stickit Minist* 8 A dark trap of river men Then line wimpled like a serpent

**7.** To move shiftily or unstea hily

1819 J R Drake *Culprit Fay* xix They struck her keel with jerk and blow, She sank and rose with shout, in the pale moon beam, like a feather 1886 Kipling *Departm Ditties* etc. (1888) 73 When comes the lurch that wimples on his face?

**Wimpled,** occas. **wimpl'd** *ppl a.*

**Wimpled** (wi·mp'ld), *ppl a* Also 9 *Sc.* **whumplet.** [f Wimple *v* or *sb* + -ed]

**1** Enveloped in or wearing a wimple, hence, veiled, *occas* blindfolded

1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) G ij, Which all doth spring from wimpled & mard and deceitfull brawde 1588 Simes *L L L* ii 181 Thus wimpled wil they ſ. & furl hode warward Boys 1839 Lytton *Hyperion* III iii, Neither wimpled nun nor cowled monk 1874 Morris *Gilbert Be kett* xiii, The wimpled maid, demurely sly

**2** Arranged or falling in folds like a wimple, hence, wrinkled, rippled

1599 T Storer *Life & D Wolsey* E 1, A wimpled scarfe bedew'd with hearers teares 1824 Cary *Dante's Inf* xxiii 74 Since she has changed the white and wimpled fold 1909 'Q' *True Tilda* iv, She could read nothing of its faith i' the wimpled surfs e (of the stream)

**3** *fig* Involved, intricate *Sc.*

*a* 1722 Fountainhall in M P Brown *Suppl Pref Decis* (1820) III 329 This was the light and wimpled inter locutor 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph* iii 11 The wimpled Meaning of your unco Tale 1768 Ross *Helenore* Introd, Nick wimpl I wark would I crack a pow like thine 1823 Galt *A Gal ashiels* There was no difficulty in reading the wh mpled m aning of this cou hnu as at ent the reskin o the ch n ler

**Wimpler** 1. *Obs* exc. *Hist* [f. Wimple *sb* + -er 1] A maker of wimples

**Wimpler** 1. *rare* [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ER 1] 'A waving lock of hair' (Jam.)

1724 RAMSAY *Vision* v. Doun his braid back fine his gulyt heid, The silver wimpler's grew.

**Wimpling,** *vbl. sb.* In 3 **wimlunge** [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING 1]

†1 The wearing of a wimple. *Obs*

*c* 1440 *Anor R* 420 (MS C) Ancren, sume sungis in hare wimlunge na lesse þene lefdi

2. The winding or meandering of a stream, also, rippling

1720 RAMSAY *Said 1 unto Somerville* 30 His wimplings [*H Ex* 1851 III 94 wimplyngis] led by Nature's hand 1865 LE FANU *Il was ly Church*, lxxix Those pleasant dimples, like the wimpling of a well 1893 JOE THOMSON in *Anger* (1896) 288 The wimpling of the burns over stony beds

**Wimpling,** *ppl. a* [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING 2]

1 Veiling, concealing.

1747 RIDLEY *Psyche* xi That wimpling Slough shall fall like Filth away 1827 SCOTT *Fair M.* iii, Where wimpling tissue from the gaze The form half hides

2 Winding, meandering (esp of streams), also, rippling

1720 RAMSAY *As by a Sandy* 28 Wimpling Waters which in Lusky flow 1785 BURNS *Sc. Drink* ii Gand auld Scotch Drink! Whether thro wimplin worms thou jink, Or trickle brown ream o're the brink 1827 W. C. *Escurs Village Curate* 61 Amid the wimpling current 1847 LOWELL *E. to H.* 28 Along the wimpling waves of their margin flocks of pelicans waded 1862 SMILES *Engineers* II viii 294 The solitude is only broken by the wimpling sound of the burn 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* i, The wimpling lane

**Win** (win), *sb.*1 Forms 1–3 **winn,** (3 *pl* **wunnen**), 4–5 **winne, wynne, wyn(e,** 3– **win** [OE. *winn(a)* labour, strife, conflict (cf MG, *win*), more frequently *gewinn* see I-WIN *sb* The modern senses are from the verb.

I †1. Strife, contention, conflict, tumult, disturbance, agitation *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen* 259 He ongan him winn upahebl 13 wið þone hehstan heofnes wealdend *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom* 161 Hwile hit is ordred hem bi-twenes among hem flute & wan *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 670 He mot gon to al mid gynne Hwa þe horte beoþ on winne *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 598 Do he ten te mones wenn in So wunȝ dreȝen 3e wattres win *c* 1275 LAY. 9044 Pat heold hit bitt and win *Leo later text* twinl

†2 Gain, acquisition, profit, also, advantage, benefit. *Obs*

*c* 1200 OWEN 6118 þe burþ þ n rihtist swinnkess winn Up þann þaw wile nitteen *a* 1300 *Flurice & Bl* 805 (Camb MS) Ac flurice nelle for no winne; I euere him were wip his kinne *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* iv 5 Ek mewer, greter wynne is to ly a gresse *c* 1475 *Aris D m Cone* (1839) 409/1 þe said tend penny of all wynnis pertenyn to our seruise lord *a* 1500 *Sermon de corpus Xam* 280 Þis Kyng þat is now with worschipe, clethyng & wynne 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xvii 16 Thir merchantis takis vnlesum win 1535 LYNDSAY *Satyre* 3507 Thay ar nocht to win, in ure, and techerie, In covetice, or ony extreme win

†b Possessions, riches wealth. *Obs*

For the phr *to riches win(ne* see WIN *sb*.2 2

*c* 1205 LAY 2995 Ic habbe wunnen si þa wunne þe ich nem waldinge ouer *Ibid* 22668 Wif & mine weden and alle mi te wunnen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 7879 Bot oft þe welcest o win Rise inest þai fal in pouerte *Towneley Myst* i 185 To walk here in this worthely wone, In all this welth wyn

II. 3. A victory in a game or contest *colloq*

1862 *Illustr Lond News* 10 May 492/3 The opposition gathered strength after this slovenly win 1866 *Hardy Trial*, 3 Nov, Pineapple won the first race it being his eighth win since he was sold 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs Life* II. 78, I was real pleased with the win, for lots of my pals had backed Acteа

4. A gain, *pl.* gains, winnings *colloq*

1891 NAT GOULD *Double Event* II, His gambling wins would have been enough for that 1893 *Argosy Gen Ann* Although the Shows might not be affected, their wins would be 1897 T. R. WILLIAMS *Seven on Just as I am* 3 Every mental win on your part is a draw upon universal truth

†**Win,** *sb.*2 *Obs* Forms 1 **wynn,** (1 **wunn,** wenn), 3 **wnne, wonne,** (also 7) **wun,** 3–4 **winne,** (also 7) **wunne,** 3–5, 7 **win,** 4–5 **wyn, wenne,** 4–6 **wynne,** 5 **wyne** [OE *wyn(n,* corresp to Ons. *wunnia,* OHG. *wunnja, wunna* str f, *wunni* f, and *wunne* wk masc. (MHG *wunne, wunne, G. wonne*), f Teut *wun-*, found also in OE *gewun, wunnan* (see WONT), *wȳscan* (= **wunnskjan*) to WISH, and related to *wen-* (see WEEN *sb.* and *v*) and WISE *sb.*2, friend. Cf WINSOME.]

1 Joy, pleasure, delight, bliss; a source of joy, a delight.

*Beowulf* 2262 Hearpan wyn, gomen gleobeames *c* 1205 LAY 9071 Jesu Crist alre worulde wunne. *Ibid* 22732 Ne mihte nouere mon cunne nan awa muchel wunne *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 192 Alle þeo ilke wondunges ȝunched3 wouhe, & nout wunne, ȝuh beo wende5 efterward to weole and to eche blisse. *a* 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom* I 283 Iheui mi weole, mi wunne. *c* 1275 LAY 23569 Loued drihtene crist

muddlerþes wun. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P* xv 47 Away is al my wunne *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 14908 Pair folk 3it bere inne] Per faces to se, hit 3a gret wynne] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl T* 54 Wyn, wo, or chaunginge of complexion *c* 1405 *Cast Persev* 204 in *Macro Plays* 83 *Bi þat* In woo is al my wenne *c* 1700 KENNETT *Lansd MS* 1033 ff. 4, 5, *Wennonne*, pleasant *n. wunne* gaudium, whence *a wun to see*, a pleasure or satisfaction to see

b. In vague commendatory sense, and often in phr *with* (or *mid*) *win*, which, orig. intensive, first becomes a mere tag.

*c* 1205 LAY 14474 Þenne mȝe we lilben & a to ure liue witen ȝeres leden mid winne & mid wurðscipe *c* 1300 *Havelok* 660 Siep sone, with michel winne *Ibid* 2965 13 *Gen & Ex* And 15 On many bonkkes ful brode Breteyn he setten, with wynne *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 5617 Per com þey to [ e toun wiþ wyn *a* 1400 *Sqr lowe Degre* 963 With welth and wynne to were the crowne. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 13346 Þen lope. Pat bad keppit hir full clos se as a clewne lady, With myche worship & win 24 *I rm to Virgin in Rel Ant* II 213 Swete lady, full of wynne, Full of grace and mercy with mekill 15 I am the most wrechewe þat ay myn wynne *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 925 Wel is worthie to wyfe, an I weild her with win

c. In hendiadys phrases.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 161 Sua sikel smeorlig, Do lat me her, Cumes he sone als haue þou win *Ibid* 2219 So haue his Faiþ sway 1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* II, Where wimpling tissue from the gaze The form half hides

2 Winding, meandering (esp of streams), also, rippling

1720 RAMSAY *As by a Sandy* 28 Wimpling Waters which in Lusky flow 1785 BURNS *Sc. Drink* ii Gand auld Scotch Drink! Whether thro wimplin worms thou jink, Or trickle brown ream o're the brink 1827 W. C. *Escurs Village Curate* 61 Amid the wimpling current 1847 LOWELL *E. to H.* 28 Along the wimpling waves of their margin flocks of pelicans waded 1862 SMILES *Engineers* II viii 294 The solitude is only broken by the wimpling sound of the burn 1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* i, The wimpling lane

**Win** (win), *sb.*1 Forms 1–3 **winn,** (3 *pl* **wunnen**), 4–5 **winne, wynne, wyn(e,** 3– **win** [OE. *winn(a)* labour, strife, conflict (cf MG, *win*), more frequently *gewinn* see I-WIN *sb* The modern senses are from the verb.

I †1. Strife, contention, conflict, tumult, disturbance, agitation *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen* 259 He ongan him winn upahebl 13 wið þone hehstan heofnes wealdend *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom* 161 Hwile hit is ordred hem bi-twenes among hem flute & wan *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 670 He mot gon to al mid gynne Hwa þe horte beoþ on winne *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 598 Do he ten te mones wenn in So wunȝ dreȝen 3e wattres win *c* 1275 LAY 9044 Pat heold hit bitt and win *Leo later text* twinl

†2 Gain, acquisition, profit, also, advantage, benefit. *Obs*

*c* 1200 OWEN 6118 þe burþ þ n rihtist swinnkess winn Up þann þaw wile nitteen *a* 1300 *Flurice & Bl* 805 (Camb MS) Ac flurice nelle for no winne; I euere him were wip his kinne *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* iv 5 Ek mewer, greter wynne is to ly a gresse *c* 1475 *Aris D m Cone* (1839) 409/1 þe said tend penny of all wynnis pertenyn to our seruise lord *a* 1500 *Sermon de corpus Xam* 280 Þis Kyng þat is now with worschipe, clethyng & wynne 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xvii 16 Thir merchantis takis vnlesum win 1535 LYNDSAY *Satyre* 3507 Thay ar nocht to win, in ure, and techerie, In covetice, or ony extreme win

†b Possessions, riches wealth. *Obs*

For the phr *to riches win(ne* see WIN *sb*.2 2

*c* 1205 LAY 2995 Ic habbe wunnen si þa wunne þe ich nem waldinge ouer *Ibid* 22668 Wif & mine weden and alle mi te wunnen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 7879 Bot oft þe welcest o win Rise inest þai fal in pouerte *Towneley Myst* i 185 To walk here in this worthely wone, In all this welth wyn

II. 3. A victory in a game or contest *colloq*

1862 *Illustr Lond News* 10 May 492/3 The opposition gathered strength after this slovenly win 1866 *Hardy Trial*, 3 Nov, Pineapple won the first race it being his eighth win since he was sold 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs Life* II. 78, I was real pleased with the win, for lots of my pals had backed Acteа

4. A gain, *pl.* gains, winnings *colloq*

1891 NAT GOULD *Double Event* II, His gambling wins would have been enough for that 1893 *Argosy Gen Ann* Although the Shows might not be affected, their wins would be 1897 T. R. WILLIAMS *Seven on Just as I am* 3 Every mental win on your part is a draw upon universal truth

†**Win,** *sb.*2 *Obs* Forms 1 **wynn,** (1 **wunn,** wenn), 3 **wnne, wonne,** (also 7) **wun,** 3–4 **winne,** (also 7) **wunne,** 3–5, 7 **win,** 4–5 **wyn, wenne,** 4–6 **wynne,** 5 **wyne** [OE *wyn(n,* corresp to Ons. *wunnia,* OHG. *wunnja, wunna* str f, *wunni* f, and *wunne* wk masc. (MHG *wunne, wunne, G. wonne*), f Teut *wun-*, found also in OE *gewun, wunnan* (see WONT), *wȳscan* (= **wunnskjan*) to WISH, and related to *wen-* (see WEEN *sb.* and *v*) and WISE *sb.*2, friend. Cf WINSOME.]

1 Joy, pleasure, delight, bliss; a source of joy, a delight.

*Beowulf* 2262 Hearpan wyn, gomen gleobeames *c* 1205 LAY 9071 Jesu Crist alre worulde wunne. *Ibid* 22732 Ne mihte nouere mon cunne nan awa muchel wunne *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 192 Alle þeo ilke wondunges ȝunched3 wouhe, & nout wunne, ȝuh beo wende5 efterward to weole and to eche blisse. *a* 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom* I 283 Iheui mi weole, mi wunne. *c* 1275 LAY 23569 Loued drihtene crist

[Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE *winnan*, (*wann, wunnen*), also *gewinnan* I-WIN *v.* = OFris *winna* to obtain, OS *winnan* to suffer, win, *gewinnan* to obtain, (MLG., MDu. *winnen* to till the ground, obtain, acquire), OHG. *winnan* (MHG *winnen*) to be excited, rage, contend, exert oneself, also *gawinnan* to gain as by labour or exertion (MHG., G. *gewinnen*), ON *vinna* to labour, bring about, gain (Sw. *vinna*, Da *vinde*). Goth. (*ga*)*winnan* to suffer: ulterior relations are uncertain, forms of cognate meaning are Goth *winno, winna, wunns* suffering, OHG *wunna* conflict, MHG *wunne* pain, ON. *vinna* labour, see also WITHERWIN (OE. *wiþerwinna*, OHG *widarwunno*)

The senses run parallel to a considerable extent with those of GAIN *v.*1 and GET *v.*]

†1. *intr.* To work, labour (OE.), to strive, contend, fight *Obs*

*Leo MS* 5906 Fart þu se Beowulf, se þe wið Brecan wunne? *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Lucth* XXXV § 4 Nis nan zesceaft þe tiohhie þæt hio wiþe winnan wið hie zesiþendum sellan *c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* IV iii (1890) 282/6 Þa þa mid his heidum wonn & worhte þa þing þe nydþearfeco waron *a* 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker 209/41 *Agnanti*, in wan *a* 1220 *O E Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 683 Her onginneð Ecgferð cyning rixlan *c* 1200 ORMIN 3488 Þorr þatt menn sholldenn winnenn ȝwa to cumenn upp till heofennriches blisse *c* 1200 *Trin Coll. Hom* 91 Israelisem and þahen þa Philistiim, and þeoh eure and winneð betwinen hem. *Ibid* 187 Ioh wan wid he þurse *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 521 Til it cumeð be time Dat storm stireð al be se, Danne auner and winter wel nen

†2. *trans.* To conquer, subdue, overcome, defeat, vanquish, 'beat'. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 136 Alle þes kinges were þo, ac leote on nov þer nis; Vor þe king of westsex alle þe oþere wan mest *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 14832 He has vs wonnen [*c* 1375 *Vesp MS* wonnin] wit maistri 23 *Guy Ilw* (A.) 889 Wel many knistes Gij wan þut day 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV 47 He thoucht he suld wyn þe Ile Off Wycht, nocht þat it was will 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* VII (*Jacobus Minor*) 752 Quhene þat tytus ierusalem had wonone *c* 1400 *Sagoun Kyd* 168 in Hail *O E Pol* I 76 For þat ye be conquerid and i wonne *c* 1440 *Arow Arth* xxiii, Gus have he wonun Kay on werre *c* 1470 *Golf & Gaw* 1198 Wourschipful Wayne hyd wonnin him on wer 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII xxiii 1000 Ye shall neuer se playne battaille handle for hond 1513 *Lyfe Hen V* (1911) 108 He deliberated by proces of time to wynn them by hunger and thirst 1598 STOWE *Chron* (1631) 681/1 The Bow of Ut at Reuthan Tzucht with Cecelus and wan him 1577 *I* KENNETT *Flowers Fa gr* 38 b, Here sensuall pleasure doeth assault to winne me by her wyles 1620 T. GRANGE *Art Fal* v. 1 Creet thou hast some hope to winne My thusty thousand Soul diers and my Sonne

*Ag* 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 1 But whiles it [or the adamant] is inuin ible or can not be wonne that way [sc ly fire] yet with the fresh e loud of the Goate it breaketh in sunder 1575 *A. F. Leg Bacon* VII. 22 Philis loues the Hazels well, the Myrtle shall them neuer wynne, nor Phoe ua Bay trees tall

3. To be victorious in (a contest of any kind, as a battle, game, race, action at law, etc.). Also *to win the day, the field* (Cf. *to win the victory*, 6 b.)

Formerly used with a wider range of obj (e g *conquest, exploit*)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 7793 Dauid had gun him batail kene, Wit goddis grace þe felle he wan 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 24 Tuo & ritanty zeales he wanne þe kinges sere *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1747 Ihe meyn e [vie chessmen] were I set vp, they gon to pleye fast Beryn wan the first, be second, & be þird 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II iii (1883) 58 The fyrste of aduocates must be had yf thou wylt wynne thy cause 1489 *Barbour s Bruce* XI *litle*, The battale of Bannokburne, wytkyne 8 yeris ȝe gud Kyng Robert the Bruce wan 1533 LD BERNERS *Huon* lii 177 How kynge Iuoryn caused his doughter play at the chesse with Huon, and how Huon wan the game. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* (1616) Wks. (1910) 180 How they had wonne by prowesse such exploits 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I, v 17 I is loane, not we, by whom the day is wonne. 1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 15 Conquests he winned 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxi 11 3 The Lusitanians and Irojanes wan indeed the field, but lost their Captaine Latinus *a* 1650 CALDERWOOD *Hist Kirk* (1843) II 263 Prove that, and women have the victory 1853 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers Wars* I 22 He wanne this battell 1708 RAMSAY *Monk & Millers Wife* 233 Hu courage wan it 1710 *Spect* No 251 ¶ 1 The Ladies 1801 DICKENS *Uchow* VII, Won the toss—first innings—seven o'clock a m 1878 H. GIBB *Ombra* (ed 2) 2 In either of the adversaries in this game. 1908 [ELIZ. STUART] *Betw Frost & Anchstone* 280 About that time, Waterloo was won.

4 *absol* or *intr.* To overcome one's adversary, opponent, or competitor; to be victorious, gain the victory (now chiefly in sports or games of skill); *fig* to prevail.

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 4688 Hii worrede norpward & wonne wer & ner. *a* 1325 *Cursor M* 20004 (Edin) Werandis on þe wrang þat wan 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII 373 In pursuyn is off hapnyne Quhill for to wyne, and quhill to tyne *c* 1390 *Sir Perc Poems* XXIV. 888 Haue mercie on me, for mercie wynl 14 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc) I introd p 18, Oure lades in Frawnce had neuer before *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* (Anon) II 504 A man playnet at þe dyce, and when he sane of hem began to love, he began to chide with God for þat he wan nott 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov* (1867) 10 He laughth that wyneth 1552 Edw VI *Primer* in *Liv Rem* (Rolls) II 328, I loste and sometyme I wanne and reuers 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i 132 The summe of all, Is, that the King hath wonne. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval* VI iv 15 Nor haue I seene anye horse winne, but I haue seene many Horses loose, which haue beene kept with such dyeit. 1697 DAVDEN *Virg Georg* IV. 207 Obstinately bent to win or dye. 1818 BYRON *Ch Har.* IV. cxl, He is gone, Ere ceased the

inhuman shout which hail'd the wretch who won 1827 DICKENS *Pickw.* II, That [advice] which bystanders invariably give to the smallest boy in a street fight, namely, 'Go in and win'. 1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 32 The passions of her mind Made war upon each other for an hour, Till pity won. 1872 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* III 200 Yet, unaided by army, opposed by all, Christianity won. 1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* XVIII 169 If an owner runs two horses in a race, he has a right to declare with which of the two he will win. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 4 The M C C winning by an innings and four runs

**5.** *trans.* To subdue and take possession of, to seize, capture, take (a place). *arch.* (now associated with 6).

ME *pliz to won to or into one's hand or toull* a1128 *O. E. Chron.* an 1070 (I and MS.) Hi wendon þæt hi sce ðion wunnen eall þet land. *c*1200 *Ivin Coll Hom* 51 Þe king halts þe burh forte þat hit [= he it] wan 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1033 Engeleond a þ'ule mul stren gþe wonne. *Ibid* 3859 King howsel wip is poer wan sone peyto Al to king arthures wille. *Ibid* 7878 Ar is fader wonne engeland. *a*1300 *Leg. Rood* in 1859 *Hatton* 56 Þe king of Rome and al is lond won *a*1300 *Curtor M.* 2020 In his time was þe lond wonnen [*Trinity* wonnyn] into þe saxins hand. 13.. *Lay of Alisaunder* II. 1305 Now he þe king hys contreye wan, And al þe lond wunnen 13 *Coer de L.* 1348 Þe toun of Acres he has wunne 1389 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV 9 Whanne Alisaundre hadde i wonne al þe worlde. 1482 WAVRIN *Chron.* XX 56 Sic assawtis bare he maid That neire be tovne he wonyn [= wonynge] hade. *Ibid* clxx 4816 Quhen he wendane of hid þat he had i wonne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. iii. 61 Quhen Troy wan fyre beniesun þan bes not win 13 *Coer de L.* 1884 He gat þe kastel and þe toun, and al þe lond won entire 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2769 Na mede in heven to wyn 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi (*Andrew*) 560 Þat þai myght wyn þe hevynly kynrike. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xxi 19 In youre sufferaunce schulen ye welden youre soulis. 1400 *Morte Arth.* 22 How they whanne wyrchippis many *c*1400 *Rom Rose* 2310 In armes also of thes knyghtes I rede to thee how þei wonnen þe pris 1485 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii. 513 Whanne they wend best to haue wonne worship they loste hit *To* 1500 *Chester Pl.* XII. 91 But now wynne I the victory. 1548 HALL *Chron. Edw. IV* 203 b, To destroy the Realme and wynne the hatred & malice of all the nacion 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 59 His spoilyet Sathan, hell and sin And heuinlie glore wan. 1579 SPENSER *Shep. Cal. Sept.* 187 Who is wyse dude and common credit *a*1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXI v Of lord of these, let me still mercy wyne 1617 MORELSON *Itin.* II. 166 In defending his fort [like] woon great reputation by their valour 1620 A. HUME *Brit Conq.* (1865) 78 He strupped me on this hand and he on that, that the doctour had wikkes to gang betwix them for a lyggouree. 1754 GRAY *Bard* 57 Weaving in gliding state she wins her easy way. *a*1796 BURNS *As I stood by yon roofless tower* I Like fortune a favour, tint an wun 1853 LYNCH *Blackw. Hist* xxii. I am glad to have won your confidence 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* I Winning small triumphs in bargains and personal encounters 1888 BLACK *Amer Countess* Intrd. 1356 Those who won obedience 1911 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit* X 135/1 Furies naturally won their way into the poetry of the middle ages

†**6.** *obtain; or refer.* In early use *esp* to get gain, make profit; now in general use, in such phrases as *able to tine or win*, i.e. having means sufficient to aim at profit or risk loss *Obs*

*a*1300 *Curtor M* 19574 To win wit-all he wend it bi 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1497 Now we wyn, now we tyn 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A* I 153 Þaiȝ þei ben trewe of tonge and treweliche wynne, And eke as chast as a child *c*1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 133 A moral tale yet I sow telle kan Þat I wol borwe of som auctour þat hath pleyn many a *Potvus* 311 155 Hyt þat wynne, wyb trete ȝe lese 1421 *Ibid* xviii 138 Byse no thyng to selle and wynne *c*1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 139 Wyn or to lese 1475 *Acts Audit* (1839) 47 To defend þe said vnys of Lythcow with ful powere to tyne and wynne 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 53 Be his procurat sue constitute be him in his place, to tine or to wynne in þe said mater 1611 *Acts Councils Scotl.* (1880) IV 281 Ane person þat can tin and win in all thair actiones

†**7** In various specific uses †**a.** To beget = GET *v.* 26 *Obs.*

13 *E. E. Allit. P.* B 11. Hit wernh not alle of wyues sunez, wonen with en fader *a*1400 *Sc Il ars Ili* 387 þe ȝwa þat I wan on myne ore wate I at I wold fine.

†**b.** To get (one) immediate use, procure; hence, contextually, to fetch, bring (*cf.* 14 *b*). *Obs*

*c*1350 *Will. Palerne* 2852 þe weye If wont wistly & what hem mete & drink 13 *E. E. Allit P.* B 617 I schal wynne yow wyȝ & water & brede 1470 HARDING *Chron.* lxxiv 8 Þey he wolde haue wonne hem ayen to youth fode

**c.** To obtain (a woman) as a wife or 'lady'; by action or effort of some kind usually with implication of gaining her affection and consent (*cf.* 9).

*To win an heiress* see WIDOW 1 *b*

1300 *Sir Tristr* 3913 Wiþ hire hope hou wonne hir bat tide CHAUCER *Anel & Arc* 100 Fol mychell I-wys neuer had he or þat he myght his lady wynne 1470–83 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxvi 353 Sir Launcelot was ladyles I wol wyn thy lady 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 91 After al his strife here [sc. Menelaus] was but a st umpet 1630 T. GRANGE *Div. & Pract.* Pamp heart never so faithfully 1868 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard* IV 1. 49 There he did been More hope of winning a Widow at her Husbands Funeral, then of any Bessie Bell or Mary Gray in all *De Blackfriers*. I should let us mind, faint heart ne'er won A lady fair 1847 LEMON *Sun Dramatic* Prol. 220 Take Lalla, then, for heroine and be you The Prince to win her 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *Valerie's Fate* 9, Valerie, will you let me try to win you?

**d.** To gain by effort or competition, as a prize or reward, or in gaming or betting, as a wager, etc. Also *absol.*

*To win one's 1st shoot, spurs* see SHOE *sb.* 21, SPUR *sb.*1 32.

1300 *Sir Tristr* 3913 Wiþinnen wan þat day Of him an hundred pounde. *c*1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 449 Iason Whan he Ram wyþ gilden fleos *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 170 And wo þis wethur shuld wyn bude wirke as I say *a*1400–50 *Wars Alex* 818 Þis renke & his rounay, þai reche vp a crounе, As gome at has þe garland Wonn *c*1480 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* VII 169 For to assaye our horses for to wynne the pryce that the kyng hath set vpon *a*1533 [see WAGER *sb.*1 2] 1540 *Compl Scot* VI 84 Iason wan the golden fleice 1611 JONSON *Catil* I. i, His would haue a familiar To rifle with, at horses and winne cups 1621 T. GRANGER *Explan. Eccles* VI 7 166 Our first Parents for an apple lost Paradise, and woon hell 1643 WARE *Lost Sheepe* 35 Hauening woone the prize in the Pythian games 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II 210 484 A man would be ridiculous that should go to prove by meere reason, that such a one won the plate at a horse race 1835 DICKENS *Sk Bos, Mr Watkins Letter* 1, Frank took dummy 1 and I won sixpence 1848 THACKERAY *Van Pour* lxiv, The Rev Mr Muff, of whom she won large sums at *écarté* 1885 *Law Rep* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant having won on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted

**e.** To get by labour, to earn (now *dial.*), † to get as profit, to gain (*obs*) Also *absol*

*c*1200 ORMIN 10775 þeȝȝ [*sc.* publicans]..wunnenn mikell to ȝe king, & mare till hemm selfenn 1340–70 *Alex & Dind.* 450 Wiþ us schineþ euery schalk in schippus for to wule, For to winne on þe watur wordliche fode *c*1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 715 He moste preche and wel befe his owne þo wynne siluer 1489 *Rolls of Parlt* IV 360/2 Yat wil receive for pruement nobles 3s which yai leede into oyer straunge Countres, where bi is drawe and ȝete encrease, and forged into oyer coygnes, so yat yai wynne in ye allay of ech noble xxd *a*1500 *Ashtu Rattng* 520 The fendys hat he has with his tresor wynnyt 1520 in *Maitl Club Misc* II 103 Honest and laborius persons abill to wyne thar liffing 1532 *Dial on Laws of Eng.* II xxxiii 70 If a preest haue wonne moch by sayenge of masse *c*1620 J. BEAUMONT *Trans Amos Comen* (1869) With little and win oft Makes merchands rich 1623 W. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov A* 5, I am a Fisherman Wh's many yeares my liuing haue I won 1724 CHAMBERS *Lex Mise* (1733) I 87 W't cauk and keel I'll win your bread 1819 SCOTT *Noble Mystmg* xxiii Of him I held the little mill which wins me living free 1841 MOORE *Epicur.* 1 Every one wins his bread in this country 1853 SNOWDEN *Tales Yorksh Wolds* 188 Then Aw can win summat, cannot Aw?

**f.** To get, gather (crops or other produce), to gather in, harvest

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x 189 Swilk cornys that þai bair Woxe ripe ye wyn to manys fude *Ibid* 193 Þan of the peill had vonnyn baȝ *Ibid* 219 To vyn thair harvist 1491 *Acts Jas. IV* (1839) 203/2 That nane be takin bad and wonnyne and stikkit 25 *Battle of Otterburn* x, Yt fell alowght the Lamasse tyde, When husbondes wynnes ther haye 1599 B. JONSON *Cynth. Revels* (1723) 46 The place quhyr he wes nes his pettis vas ther, ner he sawis his corne the next zeire 1885 *Agric Depr'n Council Acct* I 100 The corns it wins in a year 1888 *Law Times* 1 Aug 278/2 [They] might nocht saw nor wine thair cornis. 1683 J. RAID *Scots Gard ner* (1907) 137 Peas When you winny easily wun some for seed 1792 SMOLLETT *Ode* (1794) 110 W He is gone to the field to his workmen C He's W Just so to try to win his hay 1832 SOUTHEY *Doctor* vi (1848) 20 If they had not been afraid of wetting their hay or shearing their corn, they thanked God for it 1891 A. LANG *Tasting Sk* 101 On a holiade the country folk were winning their hay

**g.** To get or extract (coal, stone, or other mineral) from the mine, pit, or quarry, also, to sink a shaft or make an excavation so as to reach (a seam of coal or vein of ore) and prepare it for working, as by drainage, etc. (*cf.* 11) See also WINNING *vbl sb* 5, 5 *b*

1449 in *Reg Privy Seal Scot* 1452/1 6/1 With leve fro þis wyn coils and stanis within the saide lande 1456 70 11 *Acts Parlt S. of* (1870) XII 27 2 Becaus of his coles and fuell to be wonyng in þe said landis 1491 *Acts Jas IV* 380 The man that gettis vevy to se gif he could won salt 1499 *Privy Seal Scot* I 284 I fre to cause to won and dyte leide ture within the sis 1614 in Cockrun Tarlick *Fifeshire Mines* (1878) 5–8) All the mineralls to be wrought and wonn at the saidis mynes 1630 *Burgh Rec Glasg.* (1876) I 304 To won ainsomy tymtalnes in the tymne cuyir at the Quenis Grace sal be can 1648 *Ibid* II 132 Alsmanse sion as to be wonas may serve the building of the mids II *Ibid* 151 To the end alse manse stanes may be wrought and wonn 1708 J. C. *Compl Collier* (1840) 20 You tell me you have hopes to win a Colliery in my grounds 1725 *Rec Mags. Dr Portland VI* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 58 If you have sunk it [a pit] till they come at the bed of coals they are then said to have won the colliery 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Mon. Ang.* I I 168 Coals are so foul to wind near water as rinse in the neighborhood of Newcastle, that they are become already very difficult and expensive to winn 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 968 Of fitting or winning a coal field 1869 *Law Rep Ch* 4/9 V 111 Whether coals are so when it is put in a state in which continuous working can go for ward in the ordinary way 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX 154/2 The trustees had power to win the minerals under their land. 1886 J. HARROWMAN *Sc Mining Terms* 73 A seam is said to be won when a pit is sunk, or a mine drives to it and the pit or mine is ready to take out the coal it will

†**h** To gain (ground) *upon* (*of*), to gain (time) *c*1400 *Beryn* 2384 Beryn gan to turn vside n to be vese stronde, And the erspull after, & wan pppn hym londe *c*1435 *Torr. Purteyne* 156 Thus erthe ot t hym he wane 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 230 Whan the nere he wynne vpon Amphiaraon on this way a nyght and a day 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* I 1 1/1 Thus they daily wanne grounde vpon the Brytons 1606 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl* II iv 9 Your way is shorter, ȝou le win the days vpon me 1611 — *Cymb* III iii 122 1713 POPE *Iliad* x 409 Yet let him pass, and win a little space

†**8** To regain, recover (something lost), hence, to make up for (loss, waste), to rescue, deliver, in religious use, to redeem. often with *again*. *Obs.*

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 768 Fui wel he taunede his luue to man Wen he Sunu holi spel him wan. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 95 He had wastors go worche what pei best coupe, And wynne pat pei wasteden [1377 B. v. 93 wynnen his wastyng]. 1393 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 211 Throw hym I trow my land wyn, Magre the Clyffurd and his kyn. *c* 1380 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 364 By God, that al this world wan. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1306 How a bird-man A feble schepe warest & wone. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 405 Now ar we wonne fra wa, and saued oute of pe see. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 253 Sayd vnto me endelesse thankes to god that he hathe wonne vs agenne. *c* 1533 Lo. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) F vij, The losse of the father by euyll children, is wonne by vertuous sonnes in lawe. 1560 *Child Marriages* 74 To wyne all the tenement together againe. 1587 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 28 Giue thow thy self thy sauill cuild win, In vaine I deit for thy sin. *Ibid.* 39 He wat lostre, and nowe is win. 1633 F. Fletcher *Purple Ist.* v. lxi, Thus Orpheus wanne his lost Eurydice.

**9.** To overcome the unwillingness or indifference of; with various shades of meaning: to attract, allure, entice; to prevail upon, persuade, induce; to gain the affection or allegiance of; to bring over to one's side, party, or cause, to convert. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (see also WINNING *ppl. a.* 3).

Some of the applications are now more usual with the constructions illustrated in b.

*c* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxiv. 2 Pe deuel pat sekis how he myght wynn mennys saule. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28000 (Cott. Galba) If Iosu.. wowid hir with wordes sleghe,.. And burthrogh na bas won hir will. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. xiii. 85 Sic thyng wrocht yeftes the hertes of the goddes and of men. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xi. 30 A wyse man also wynneth mens soules. 1555 Eden *Decades* 116 Allmanye hereby too woonne the myndes of the other kynges. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 417 The Embassadoure of so Noble a Common Wealthe, was soone, and easily, and willingly wonnen. 1580 T. Fotherecue *Forest of Fame* (ed. 2) 141 He won the harts of the Citizens. *a* 1589 in Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 217 His wealth wan many friends. 1592 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 89 Win her with gifts, if she respect not words. 1600 Sir W. Mure *True Crucifyr* 592 Hee.. With this soft speech.. Doth wound, not wonne, the traytor's heart of none. 1653 *Walton Lives* (1675) 31 The worst temper of minds are wonne. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 269 How far.. a Graceful Mein, and Innocent Discourse, wins among more refined Nations. 1708 Cowper *Tasso* iv. 69 Slighted as it is,..the country wins me still. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 703 For courtesy wins women all as well As valour may. 1892 Lounsbury *Humphrey of Conne* III. The ways that win, the arts that please. 1914 Tollinton *Clem. Alex.* I. vii. 936 The missionary goes to win and to save souls.

**b.** with adv. or prep. (*away, over* ; *from, to, etc.*).

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6006 Syf þou to drunkenes wltest hym wynne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xv. (Barnabas)* 128 Faile he be treuthi wonnyn was. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 132 Pat he by slyghte The mayden to his purpos wynne myghte. *c* 1450 in Anglia *Supv* (1840) 169 The presidente..is renounced as in her is ..sweth to wynne al to God. 1542 Udall in *Lett. Ill. Men* (Camden) 5 I hel have therby woonne to goodnes innumerable persons. 1590 in *Meriv. Coll. Misc.* I. 67 That the said ladie may be won to God. 1603 Daniel *Def. Rime* Wks. A 3, To hold him from being wonne from vs. 1632 Sanderson *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. 49 If our Inclinations cannot be wonne over to that course. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Popish Ceremo.* III. viii. 187 He is already winne to repentance. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. ii. 12 The Priests of Elder time., winning their credulities unto the literall and grosse sence and inducement of Cats, Lizards, and Beetles. 1660 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1912) 131 All the Acts of a most gracious Prince.. can not winne them.. from their malicious Courses. 1674 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* II. 336 She has won me to her party. 1706–7 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xi. She could not win him, however. 1814 — *Mansf. Park* xxiii. She can sing and play o' the lute, would win the fish out o' the stream. 1880 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 205 To win her over to ultramontane policy.

**c.** with *to* and inf. *arch.*

1340 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. ii. I ivb, How moch Philautus ..hath wonne me holely..to be his. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent.* III. i. 67. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 323 They conspyre, and winnis him with money quyetlie to putt doune the king. 1640 T. Carew *Poems, Disdain returned* iii, No tenderness, That shall win, My resolved heart, to returne. 1656 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 210 So much fre kindnes as wold winn any creature to admier it. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XII. 53 Unblest the man, whom music wins to stay Nigh the curst shores. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 17 Gleam'st thou, as if delighted with the strain, And won by it the pious hark to keep In joy for ever?

**10.** *intr.* with *upon, on, by, of.* † **a.** To gain an advantage over, get the better of; to gain or encroach upon; *rarely*, to overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 4 As Luna gynneth wexe & wynne Vpon the nyght. 1590 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 284 Where the sea daylie wynneathe of the land against this Towne. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lxiv. 7 When I haue seene the hungry Ocean gaine Aduantage on the Kingdome of the shore, And the firme soile win of the watry maine. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 223 The rabble..will in time Win vpon power. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. i. 121 So in our trifles I still winne of you. 1613 J. Hayward *Lives 3 Normans* 21 Henry..did many other times..inuade his Countrey: sometimes with purpose to winne vpon him, and sometimes to keepe him from winning vpon others. 1685 Dryden *Threne., Aug.* iv, Thus, at half Ebb, a rowling Sea Returns, and wins upon the shore. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) II. 33 This young Gentleman used every Art, to win on the Resentment which the Baronet had entertained against him. 1791 Mas. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* (1820) I. 122 So much did passion win upon her judgement, by time and indulgence.

**b.** To gain influence over, to prevail with (often implying 'to gain increasing influence over, to prevail more and more with'); to gain the favour or engage the affections of (esp. gradually or increasingly). Also with *affection, esteem, regard*, or the like as obj.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* To Rdr. 87, I at last..Thought, I would try, if shame could winne upon 'hem. *a* 1626 Beaum. & Fletcher *Cust. Country* II. i, The courage they respect, ..And their contempt of death won more upon me Than all they did. *a* 1665 Digby *Prov. Mem.* (1827) 205 Her excessive beauty and gracefulness did so win upon his senses. 1709 Pitcairne *Tom Tosses* xiii. viii, By the Force of the true Catholic Faith, St. Anthony won upon the Fishes. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) I. 438 The pleasing countenance of Lydia won on this woman's opinion. 1796 Coleridge *Lett. to T. Poole* 24 Sept., Charles Lloyd's mind won upon me hourly. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xviii, I never was so won upon, as by this class. 1884 Church *Bacon* vi. 124 He had won by great skill the confidence of the King.

† **c.** To prevail upon (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 183 As some of the upper-most sect of Philosophers..have themselves thought, and won upon others to think so too. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 217, I was easily won upon to embark on the Scipio African. 1800 H. Martin *Helen of Glenroy* II. 217 Who shall I win upon to aid me in my future views?

**11.** *trans.* To reach, attain, arrive at : = Gain v. 2 ? *occas.* to get at, get hold of (an object); to overtake (a person); to be in time for, 'catch'. *arch.*

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 211 Yf he had not wonne a roche vpon whiche he gate vp with greete payne. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Cadyow* 131 Bot all for nocht, he wan his hoill that day. 1547 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 61 The wynde enforcyd so myche..., that our governor Saw it was not possybyll to wyne the porte. 1598 Sherwode R. Q. vi. 1. 23 But Calidore did follow him so fast, That euen in the Porch he him did win. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* viii. 56 Then scarce the bending Branches I could win, Young *Ioan fragilis poteram ab arbore contingere ramos*). 1708 Ross *Heleanora* v. 58 Yet wi' what pith she had, she takes the gate, An' wan it. 1807 Robinson *Crusoe* (1831) I. 72 At the same time I push'd with the utmost eagerness after the canoe, ..By which the naked peak they wan. 1822 Hodgson in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 339 Having got your letter late in the day, I am compelled to be brief to win the post. 1842 Macaulay *Horatius* xxvi, And if they once may win the bridge, What hope to save the town? 1848 Rossetti *Poems, Last Confess.* 253 As when a bird flies low Between the water and the land, And the shadow flies with him, till he wins the light. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* xxv, The Halakazi were worsted in the field, but many lived to win the great city.

† **b.** To get across, to cross; to get through, accomplish. *Obs. rare.*

1406 Lydg. *De Cuit. Pilgr.* 903 To chyldire that he yonge of age, And offer han thys ryuer wonne Than folk that ben on age ouercome. 1523 Turner *Herbal* (1568) 39 Fayre lyuing won, Get compassing don. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 645 Ere we get our voyage won.

**12.** *intr.* To make or find one's way; also in metaphorical use. To arrive at or come to some place, etc.; in early use often a mere synonym of 'come' or 'go': = Get v. 31. With various preps. and advs., sometimes in specialized senses: cf. corresponding uses of *get* s.v. Get v. VI, VII. Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

This use depends on that of ON. *vinna.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6956 A frin wat þam ware a-lute, Mal nan win in þat wit-oute. *Ibid.* 7209 Pe fine gaue bak to wine a-way. *Ibid.* 10592 Quils þai locked þam biside, So was won to be heist stride. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 8 Pe kyng of Scotland to Glouncestre wan. 13.. *E. Allit. P.* B. 1777 Pay..Lyfte laddres..R vpon lofte wonen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 461 Neuermore þen þay wyste fram quen he was wonnen. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv. 221 I'hall I low all that thai myght to vyn. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3438 Sen I wan in-to be werld. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 649 Ilke wakond and watid þat wyn vnto þaim wantes. *c* 1440 *Lydgate* (1860) 19 And cover hit þat no hete oute wynne. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Purification* 43 To Jherusalem flast now wynne. 1456 *Sir Gawayne* 658 Sos þay slogh þer mony worþily in Wymond to win. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 475 Thou may not pas Mount Harmard for wild bestis, Nor wyn throw Mount Sount Gotheard for ennoys. 1542 Wyse *Chirurg.* Wks. 2816 II. 282 This, me-thought, was no gladsome unto me to win to the King..that all my policy..was clean forgotten with me. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 687 To ane of the ships..to win to his hous. 1604 in Boyd *Ziven's Flowers* (1855) App. 41/2 That none win to the Sessions bot till the Sessioners be placed. 1650 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 10 Full of cannon and powder, and very hard to be wonn into. 1717 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 262, I hope to win off beginning of next week. 1724 E. Kimberley in *Lett. Illust. Eccl. Hist.* (1790) 120 Christ in person, how shall I win at him? 1813 Byron *Bride Abydos* II. xxv, Had Selim won..To where the strand and billows break. 1817 Scott *Rob Roy* xv, And how am I to win home? 1816 — *Old Mort.* xl, Whiles the tear wan into my e'e. *c* 1830 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* (1837) III. 205, I canna won aze weel thrangh the crowd. 1865 G. Macdonald *Vice Versâ* xii, When I was na bigger than you, Annie, I could win out at a less hole than that. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads, East & West* (1895) 1, Colonel's son or Tyke's bastard won. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, When we won in by the pier. 1923 Edith Thompson *Hist. Eng.* xlvi. 437 The Germans never won through to the Channel ports.

(*b*) *To win way* : to get up; to get up on one's feet, to rise; to get on horseback, mount. *So to win upon.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15760 Pai fell þaim don vn-to þe grund,.. all up þai-sipen wan. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 432 His menzhe all War wonnyn vp apon the wall. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1165 Jason..and ioly knightes moo,..Wonen vp wynly vppon wale horses. *Ibid.* 3398 When he wachont of vre, he wan vpo fote. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 114 And wyn apon youre palfray sone. *c* 1800 *Fallen Grame* in Child *Ballads* II. 393/2 'Win up, my bonny boy,' he says, 'As quick as ever ye may.' 1888 Monnis *Earthly Par.* (1890) I. i. 41 And now we set ourselves in haste to win Up to that mountain's top. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxv, I see let me win upon my horse!

**b.** *absol.* without prep. or adv. † To get to the place implied (*Sc.* and *dial.*); to come, go.

*c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 216 Bettyr hyt ys..Owt of yowre londe ache be hemyd..And faste ye echalle hur conawnde to wynne. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bann. Club) I. 99 The marquess wrote back his excuse, saying, he could not win. 1894 P. H. Hunter *James Inwick* v. 70 There was a by-ordinar congregation that days; a body that could win was there.

† **c.** In static sense: To '*come*', reach. *Obs.*

*a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 258 Reid sallow hair..quhilk wan doune to his schoulderis.

**d.** In reference to a desired end, a condition, experience, proceeding, etc.: with various preps. and advs., often in specialized senses: = Get v. 31 b and various uses in VI and VII (see also below). Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

*Win by...* (*By prep.* 16 b), to escape, avoid. † *Win of edd*, to come of age; *Win out or through*, to come out successfully, succeed in attaining one's end. *Win to*, to begin eating, 'set to', fall to' (= Get v. 60).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13363 Oft pe men þat se þe rightwis Thoru fraunding win þai to pair pris. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 174 Til þat she mowe winnan of helde. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 193/320 He hopid forto win þerby Heigh. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xv. (Barnabas)* 128 He wil nocht cast, For to wyn to his wil. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3986 Quen he wan to wass, — Thre cubettis fra be ground. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. viii. 108 Had I lenghthe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* v. 67 The growyng of hem tuin oon fro þat wole wynne. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 280 Ay houping, throu louping, To win to liberty. *c* 1635 Rutherford *Lett., to Marion M'Knaught* (1664) 190, I know not what to win away to my home, without wounds and blood. 1644 Baillie *Lett.* (1841) II. 211 There is so much matter yet before us, as we cannot win through for a long time after our common pace. 1709 M. Bauce *Soul Conform.* 15 Soul-confirmation..is not easilie wone at,..you that keeps only your old Jub-trouk,..have not the Soul-confirmation. 1721 Ramsay *Horace to Virgil* 22 The Man who cou'd sic Rubs win o'er. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xiv, We got some water-horse and hammer-cloths, and I never wish to win..or they wad let me win to. *Ibid.* xxxv, The job is how we are to win by hanging. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 95 The anguish..that we endure herewith, until we win out of this life. 1919 Max Beerbohm *Seven Men* 103, I wish he could have won out, as I did, into a great and lasting felicity.

**e.** with adj. as compl.: = Get v. 33.

1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 80 *note*, He labours to win free from every form and observance. 1902 *London Mag.* June 452/2 Smiling to see him struggle when he thought he could win clear.

**13.** *intr.* with *to* and inf.: To succeed in doing (what is denoted by the vb.); to contrive, manage *to do* something. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16816 For mai nanna wit quem to winn To serue at ans luueles tuin. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* (Paul) Myste he nowt wynne For to come per inne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3145 O nowise may we wyn þat woman to gete. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 181 b/2 Thus 'y'e may wynne to quyte the tormentes that ben yet to come. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxvii. 32 Thee to imbrace once, God I if I micht win! 1654 *Lusk. Presb. Ref.* 11 The Republique Maid, Who Once took a young-man, but now cannot win To open the door, and let him come in. 1730 T. Boston in Morrison *Mem.* (1899) 237, I am habitually cast down, but cannot win to get my heart lifted up in the love of the Lord. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xv, As sune as I can win to stand on my twa feet we'll be aff this craig o' Sawtan.

**14.** *trans.* with prep. or adv. of place : = To succeed in bringing, putting, etc. : = Get v. 27 a. *Obs. or arch.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8219 Sua depe þair rote þai samen kest, þat mought þom naman pepen win. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 94 Pere walked he a-boute be walles to winne in eft. 1378 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 20 And do that I my shippe to haven wynne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4772 Pai . . Robbit the Riches . . And wonnen it with weghtis & wallis withoute. *c* 1490 *Promptor. Gamb.* 1803 Hot yit his clothes on he wan. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 930 When the vermyn wold have ouer crepon At the holys that were open Pei wold not wyn ouer but wayys. 1604 E. G[rimeston] tr. *Hist. Uscoduc. Author* III. x. 152 They gaue ouer the enterprise to win the red sea into Nile. *a* 1636 Manson *Antiquary* III. i, That I should owe my life to her! without her help I could not possibly win to my house. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* ix, Her kind attendant..tried softly to win the spear from her lady's grasp. 1904 *Daily Graphic* 30 Apr. 3/3 His sweet and level-headed wife wins him through his difficulties.

† **b.** To put, set, take (expressing merely the act, without implication, as in a, of overcoming difficulty or hindrance). *Win out*, to take or draw out, extract. *Win up*, (*a*) to open (a door or gate) ; (*b*) to take up, pick up, lift. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4364 In haste he dore he gan vp winne. 1366 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 92 To wynne vp pe wiket-yat þat pe wey schutte. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 837 Pan Alexander at his knygt angire vnfaire, Wynnes him vp a wardorre. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 465 Rowlande owte his swerde wanne. 1515 *Acc. Lord. High Treas. Scot.* V. 94 To ane masone of the lard of Sefeldis quhilk wan the allording to the said place of Inchegarvy, xxi.

† **c.** To bring, take, move (a person somewhere).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 831 Alle hasped in his hetz wede to halle þay hym wonnen. *c* 1440 *Aiven. Arth.* xxxviii, Se wynnun him noste owte of his way.

† **d.** *refl.* To betake oneself: = 12. (Cf. Get v. 27 b.) *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 402, I schal ware alle my wyt to wynne me bedre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1138 [We] Wyn vs to the walle, waccbe bere vndur.

**15.** *Comb.* in sense 'one who or that which wins . . .', as *twin-all, twin-penny.*

1580 Hollybband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Gaigne-denier*, a porter, a winne-penny. 1630 Fuller *Holy War* II. xlvi. 107 One the winne-all, another the lose-all.

† **Win**, *v.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 vyn, wine, 5–6 wyn(e, 6 wyn(e, winne, 6–9 win, 8 winn. [Variant of *won*, *wonn(e* : see Won *v.*] *intr.* To dwell, reside.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 690 Pat I ma ga To ibesu criste, . . With hym to wine in-to his blisse. *Ibid.* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 816 Fra pe place, Quhare pe magdelane vynand was. c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* xxvii. 789 Pe Vitechery, That wynnis in Irland to bis day. *Ibid.* 2480 Herwewyn *Twa Aloe s* The eldest dwelt in ane Borrous toun, The vther wynnit Upon-land [*v.rr.* vp on land, apon land]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xii. 138 That that in Flwyniis fellis duell, Or that wynnis beyod the lak or well Of Cymynus. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sagis* (Bann. Club) 50 Into ane Realme thair wynnit ane vailzeant knicht. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* ii. Alake we winn'or far frae King and Court! *c* 1824 Ch. Beattie *'John o' Arnha'* etc (1826) 88 An ancient town.. where, tradition says, A housekeeper winned in other days. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3).

**Win**, *v.*[3] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 wyn, 7 wind, 8 winn, (9 won). Pa. pple. 8 winned, *Sc.* win(n), 6, 9 won, 8 wun. [? Win *v.*[1] with specialized development from *sense* 7 f, but associated also with Win *v.*[2] 2.] *trans.* To dry (hay, seed, turf, wood, etc.) by exposure to the air, or to the heat of the sun or a fire. Also *intr.* for *pass.*

1550 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 31/1 Tuelfum pasture pertenis fum feil he won hay. 1588 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXI 412 For making of 36 dawarkis of hay . and for wynning and pasting of the sanyis in tramp mure. 1641 *Peebles Burgh Charters* (1872) 107 To cast and wind peittes, turres, fewall (etc.). 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 154 So much of the Lint as he intends for his own Seed, he builds up in a Stack like Corn, after it is thoroughly win. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. cvi. 455 Seeds sown, well winned and kept. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 268 Cutting, winning, and carrying home their peats, however, consume a great deal of time. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* i. 306 The sun and air gradually won it [*sc.* hay]. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk Farm* II. 959 Feathers may be known in hay by the wheat the wall behind the fire, and there they will soon won *Ibid.* III. 909 [The skin for rennet] is then hung stretched over a stick near the fire to dry and win. 1878 *Gd. Words* 178 The afternoon the hay is so dry and won as to be fit to be stacked. 1884 *Whitby Gaz.* 9 Aug. 1/9 A Stack of well won Hay.

† **Win**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* Also 5 wyn, wynnyge. [Sc. pa. pple. of Win *v.*[1], q.v. (Forms, pa. pple. 8.)] = Won *ppl. a.*; *cvil win*, ill-gotten. Of stone, etc. : Worked, quarried.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IV. xxvii. 1712 Effyr syndry wynnyge wictorys. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 921 That is full euill wyn land To haue quhit, quhen it kumis, bene at thone end hell. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 272 Ane carling of the Quene of Pharein, That euill win gat to elphyne carnis. 1600 *Forgh Rec. Glengarrie* (1896) I. 307 That the tarres quarrell and craig thairof and the win werk lyand in the same can nocht be wrocht.

**Win**, obs. f. Were *v.*, Whin[1], Wine.

**Winable**, obs. form of Winnable.

† **Winage**. *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *vinage* (f. *vin* wine + *-age* : cf. med.L. *vinagium*), assimilated to Wine *sb.*[1]] A seigniorial due derived from vineyards.

1593 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxix. 18 He leuyed the rentes, wynages [*orig* vinagers], and rightes, that pertayned to theirie through out all Flander.

**Winam, Winare, Winberi, Winberry:** see Venow, Winer, Winebberry, Winimberry.

† **Winbrow.** *Obs.* Also 5 wyn-. [ad. MLG. *winbrā*, corresp. to OHG. *winthrāwa* (MHG. *winthrāwe*, *-brā*, G. *wimper* eyclash), f. *wint* Wind *sb.*[1] + Brow *sb.*] An eyebrow.

1470 Carton *Reynard* (Summ.) 2 Neptolonyus was great, black beer and grete eyen, his wynbrowes lyoned. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 26 He had the eyen like a lyon his wynbrowes grete. 1609 Heywood *Brit. Troy* x. xl, His hairy win-browes meet. (Cf. *ibid.* 1471.)

**Wince** (wins), *sb.*[1] [f. Wince *v.*[1]] An act of wincing.

1. A kick. Now *dial.*

1622 Sheliton *Quix.* I. ii. 1. (1620) 66 [The Mule] within two or three winces, ouerthrew him to the ground. 1658 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Bull, Beare & Horse* E 1 b, And as I felt, his hoofe bestow'd a wince, Upon my pate. 1840 Thackeray *Cox's Diary* Jan., Our respective partners gave a wince out.

2. An involuntary shrinking movement (see Wince *v.*[1] 2).

1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xii, She looked up with a wince. 1892 Conan Doyle *White Company* IX, The villein took their blow without wince or cry.

**Wince** (wins), *sb.*[2] [Variant of Winch *sb.*[1] But cf. LG. *wins(n)* small capstan, Du. *winsi* winch.]

1. = Winch *sb.*[1], 3.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. v. 272/1 When the Spinner hath drawn out his Rope Yarn, then it is taken from the Wheele Spindle, and Wound upon the Wince. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 52 The human frame is, hence, a barrel-organ.. and life is the music. Soleng as either the vital or the mechanical instrument is duly wound up by a regular supply of food or of the wince, so long the music will continue. 1837 Kingsbury *Northern Angler* 66 The wince of the reel.

2. *Dyeing.* A reel or roller placed over the division between two vats so that a fabric spread upon it may be let down into one or the other. Also *attrib.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 207 After 48 hours suspension [the calico] is to be washed in water at 170° containing some chalk, by the wince apparatus. 1850 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching* 91 (1859) 374 The fabric may be caused to pass several times round these winces before it leaves the cistern. 1879 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2777/1 The tanks are wince-pots.

**Wince** (wins), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 wynci, 4–5 wynse, (5 wynce, wynoy, 6 wins, 6–7 winse), 6–7 winse, 5– wince. [a. AF. **wencir* or **wencier*, = OF. *guencir* or *-ier*, dial. variants of *guenchir* or *-ier* Winch *v.*[1]]

**I. 1.** *intr.* To kick restlessly from impatience or pain. Now *dial.*

*c* 1290 *Beket* 1483 Wyclif *Sel. Wks* III. 231 A horse unrubbed, pat haues a sore back, wynses when he is ouþ touched or rubbed on his rugge. 1382 — 2 *Sam.* vi. 6 Oza stretchte out the hoond to the arke of God, and heelde it, for the oxen wynseden, and boweden it. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 77 Wynnynge she was as is a ioly colt. 1493 Fl. Papsule *Dowet's Passyon* (W. de W. 1496) 2 wynsyd What he beg meeth to wete poude & wynsynge & kykyng ageynst his mayster. ? *a* 1550 *Schole-house Wom.* 1014 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 245 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, and he will bite, winse and wry. 1598 Florio, *Recalcitrare*, to kicke or strike or winse with ones heeles againe. 1600 Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 340 They bray out a loude, kicking and winsing with their heeles. 1624 Burton *Anat.* I. ii. 847 The angry Beast.. Begun to kick, and fling, and wince 1727 Pardo *Alma* I. 275 Before the child can crawl, He learns to kick, and wince, and scrawl. *c* 1750 Johnson in *Boswell* (1793) I. 236 *note*, A fly, Sir, may sting a stately horse and make him wince. 1782 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes* to Wks. 1812 I. 16 So for poor Sc. Jager and Prince, Had I their prices I should wince, I has to be gilobbed for weeks on hugh. 1800 *Glouc. Gloss., Wincing*, used of a horse kicking out behind.

**b.** In fig. and allusive phr., e. g. *to wince against the prick* (cf. Kick *v.*[1] 1 c and Prick *sb.* 13); hence *gen.* to be recalcitrant or impatient.

*c* 1290 *St. Paul* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 190 Io wynci ageȝn be pricke sa be strong it is be. 1388 Wyclif *Acts* Prol., Youl whom thei hadde chosun, han longe tyme wynsidde ayen the pricke. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C* v 92 It is pe wone of wil to wynse and to kyke. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pelgr* 4196 Of whom pat euery wight pryde, Wolde wynse ageyn euery vyde. *Ibid.* 14532 For to wynse and dysobeye, And to tourne a-nother weye. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xvii. 254 Hou it was vnable vnryȝtwise and repugnaunt ayens the ryȝte . . to wynse. 1562 Bp. Jewel *Repl. Harding* 1. 31 Not to wynse, kick & spurn against their sayinges. 1603 Shaks *Ham.* III. ii. 255 [Qo. 1] Let the galld iade winse *[other edd* winch]. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. iv. 134 I should suspect his preaching had no salt in it, if no galld horse did winse. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks 1716 III. 65 What boots it to winse and kick against fortune? 1764 *Lloyd's Evening Post* 21/1 The fancies of our rambling wits, Who wince and kick at all oppression. 1814 Cary *Dante, Purgat.* xvii. 124 Let them wince, who for such sin witness a-wrung.

† **c.** *transf.* To dart *from place to place.* (*rare.*)

*c* 1400 *Land Cokayne* 61 To stude to stide aboute he wynces, He slees kynges, dukes, & princes.

**2.** To exhibit or make an involuntary shrinking movement in consequence of or in order to avoid pain, or when alarmed or suddenly affected.

*a* 1748 Watts *Improv. Mind* II. v, Perhaps the gamester shrugs and winces, turns and twists the argument every way, but cannot fairly answer. 1819 Scott *Bride of Lammermoor* 325 Some fretful tempers wince at every touch. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* xix, Why, man, you wince at the word 'Death'! 1842 Tennyson *Walking to the Mail* 9 You should have seen him wince As from a venomous thing. 1890 *Besant Demoniac* vi, In your strong frame already beats the heart of a coward. . When I told you this once before, you winced . now you laugh.

**Wince,** *v.*[2] *Dyeing.* [f. Wince *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To immerse in or pass through a vat by means of a wince. Also *absol.* Hence **Wincing** *vbl. sb.*, *attrib.* in *wincing-machine* = Wince *sb.*[2] 2.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 224 They are winced for a few minutes in the cold solution of lime. 1879 Knight *Wincing-machine*, is the English name of the dyer's reel, which he suspends horizontally, over the edge of his vat. 1883 *Cassell's Encycl.* etc. (vol. 7) I 662 Wince again five times. *Ibid.*, 2 pieces of 30 yards of velvet are put in and winced backwards and forwards five times.

**Wince,** obs. form of Quince.

**Wincer**[1] (wi·nsəɹ). Now *rare.* [f. Wince *v.*[1] + -er[1].] An instance. In quot. 1642 *fig.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530 Wynsare, *calcitrator, calcitratrix.* 1580 Hollband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Regimbeur*, a winser. 1622 Coton, *Ruenr*, a kicker, striker, winser. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* 19 Is it blasphemy for me to answer a slovenly wincer of a confutation, that [etc.]?

**Wincer**[2]. *Dyeing.* [f. Wince *sb.*[2] + -er[1].] One who tends a wince.

1881 *Spec. Census Cloth* (1885) 69 Cotton, Calico, Printer, . . Hooker, Wincer. Steamer.

**Wincey** (wi·nsi). Also **winsey**, -ie. Pl. -eys, occas. -ies. [orig. Sc.; app. alteration of *woolsey* in Linsey-woolsey, through the medium of the assimilated form **linsey-winsey.*] A very durable cloth having a linen warp and a woollen weft. (*accent.* A garment made of this.) Also *attrib.*

1808 Jamieson, *Winsey*, adj. Of or belonging to wool. *Cotton wunzy* denotes what is made of cotton and wool; *Linen-wunzy*, of linen and wool, linsey-woolsey. 1810 Jas. Duff *Poems* (1816) 2 Her wanies war made by sewet Modesty's rule. 1858 E. B. Ramsay *Remin* v. (1870) 161 A striped winsey apron. 1880 *Cornh. Mag* Nov 593 Some wincey and a number of pieces of coburg. 1882 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* III. No. 4032, Dress wincies. 1893 Mrs. C. Praed *Outlaw & Lawmaker* 21, All varieties, from the honest brown and grey wincey to the Park turn-out. 1907 Mrs C. Kennaway *Fraud* iv. 29 She..wore a brown wincey dress.

**Winch** (winʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: I wince, 4–7 (9) wynch, (3–5 wenche, 4–6 wynche, 6 winche, 7 wintch, 9 winsh), 7– winch. [Late OE. *wince* :–O Teut. **winkjo-* :— **wenkjo-*, I. Indo-Eur. root *wenk-*, repr. also by Wink *v.*[1] (Cf. Wink *sb.*[2])]

**1.** A reel, roller, or pulley.

*c* 1050 *Ags. in* Wr.-Wülcker 416 6 *Gigrillus* [= *girgillus*], wince. 1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/7 (P.R.O.) In vno veln-mano empt vj. li. vij d. In Wenches emptis ad idem iiij s. vj. d. 1382 *For. Acc.* 20 *Edw.* II (P.R.O.), j wynche ferri pro vna petra vertibili. *Ibid.* j wynche[s] pro vncis ferri pro factura cordarum. 1521–22 *Act 3 Hen VIII. c.* 8 § 2 That the layer of Wollen clothes shall not cause to be drawen in lenght . . the same clothes . . by meyne or wynche or by eny other meane. 1565 Goldinc *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 239 With slinges that went with wynches [*orig fundes habilibus*] & with pellets, they put the Gallies in fuore. 1611 Cotgr., *Tournoir*, . . the vice, or winch of a Presse.

**b.** *spec.* An angler's reel.

1662 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* iv 44 You may buy your Towle ready made, or else let it have a winch to wind it up withall. 1760 Sir J. Hawkins *Walton's Angler* 139 *note*, The winch must be screwed on to the butt of your rod. 1867 F. Francis *Bk Angling* x. 23 Your winch should hold forty or fifty yards of fine line.

**c.** *Naut.* A small machine used for making ropes and spun-yarn; † the quantity of yarn so made.

1640 in Birch *Charters of London* (1887) 290 For a winch of cable yarn, *viz.* 40 *rope-yds*, etc. [see Spun-yarn 2]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 98 *Inch rope* is made of nine spun-yarn with is made of 8 spokes, 4 at each end, and 4 wooden pins 25 inches long driven through the end of them.

† **2.** A well-wheel (better by a crank); hence, a well. *Obs.* (Cf. dial. *wunch-well* a deep well, and Wink *sb.*[2], quot. 1886.)

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I 426 In stede of welle or wenche [*orig. fons aut puteus*] haue a seinve *Ibid.* III 894 The water cleer Of cisterne or of wynche. *Ibid.* IX. 130 The wynche whan we delue [*orig. in fodiendis puteis*]. 1596 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 47 b 2 The wynch or wheele of the well. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, La ruelle*, the brame or rounde wood wherabout the cord of a well is winded, some do call it a winch. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Lemnius's Ermmena* 195 An old well or deepe wintch bold all the night long.

**3.** The cranked handle by means of which the axis of a revolving machine is turned.

1660 R. D'Albpe *Water-dreaving* 21 Winches or Cranks of Wood or Iron are fitted to mens hands, thereby to make a round motion. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Turning* xv. 276 On the Square Pin is fitted a Winch somewhat in form like a Jack-winch 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV 390 After about ninety or an hundred turns of the winch. 1797 Encycl. *Brit. Mech. Powers* 46 The wheel is turned by means of a winch fix'd on the axle of a trundle. 1802 Stat. 37 *Geo* 3 & *Pool* III. xv. 209 One of them turned the wheel, and the other had he carried at his back. 1834 Pearman *Rem. lessons Thank* 31 By Pinkle Lock and Weir, it is necessary for the aquatic tourist to be furnished with a key to open the gates. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 436 1 Winch and axle is a machine constituting a small windlass. 1874 Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xx, I'll turn the winch of the grindstone.

**4.** A hoisting or lowering apparatus consisting essentially of a horizontal drum round which a rope passes and a crank by which it is turned.

1577 Googr tr. *Heresbu's Husb.* 111 b, The smaller sort [of husbandry necessaries] Han mers, Chippe Axes, Winches, Pulleys, Wheeles [etc.]. 1691 Ridd tr. *Leybourn's Math. Winch*, a pulling or skrewing Engine. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xxiii. (Rohb.) 139 2 A Hand screw, or screw engine 1 Glynne or Winch 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Wind-lass*, a kind of Engine to draw Barges, &c. up a River against the Stream. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Winch*, a cylindrical piece of timber, furnished with an axis turned about by means of an handle, constituting part of a draw-well. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 233 An apparatus called a 'winch', for heaving the lines into the boat after the fish is killed. 1880 *Times Lect. Supply.* 25 Aug. 26/1 The value of steam applied to winches and capstans.

**b.** In the navigation of the river Thames, a revolving apparatus at the river side, round which a rope was wound to haul craft through difficult places; a toll levied for the use of this (abolished by the Thames Conservancy Act of 1894).

1623 *Act 21 Jas. I.* c. 32 § 8 For that the said passage from Bisloe aforesaid, to the said Cittie of Oxford, is against the streame, the Barges must..be holed up by strength of men, horses, winches [etc.]. 1662 *Act 13 & 14 Chas. II. c.* 16 *Preamble*, For the convenience of the Navigation [of the Thames and Isis] there are diverse Lockes Weares, Backes Winches and other Engines. 1752 *Per. Ass. Rolls Thames* (1772) 19 The Owner of every Winch, belonging to every Lock below Reading. 1795 *Tymes. Hy. Comm.* L. 129/2 Tolls..payable at the Old Locks, Weirs, and Winches. 1864 *Thames Navig., Tables of Tolls* July 1 Tables of Tolls (including Old Lock Dues, Winches), which will be taken on and from July 1, 1864.

**5.** *Dyeing.* = Wince *sb.*[2] 2.

1791 Hamilton *Encyclopédie's Dyeing* I. 1. II. 159 For the pieces of stuff, a winch or reel is used. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 385 Stir it well about, and put in your stuffs: turn it on a winch, till you see the colour is to your mind. 1820 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 185 The stuffs are drawn through them [*sc.* the baths] by a winch, or reel. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV 688/1 Mounted on a strong frame-work over the trough [of the dye vat] is the winch , which

by its revolutions..keeps the cloth moving down and up continuously into and out of the trough.

**6.** *attrib.*

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, ***Winch-bitt**, the supports near their ends. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 10/3 Kemp was standing against the winch-bit. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, ***Winch-capstan**, a combination in which winch-heads are arranged on top of the capstan. 1881 E. Matheson *Aid Bk.* II. 362 The lifting power in a crane is generally obtained by ordinary 'winch-gear. 1884 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 209 So that the power must act in like manner as if it were applied at a 'winch-handle. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr.* 171 It is mounted upon an iron spindle..at one end of which is a winch-handle. 1847 T. T. Stoddart *Angler's Comp.* 44 The triple gut casting-line..is intended..to be appended immediately to the 'winch-line, by the trout-fisher. 1882 *Standard* 26 Aug. 5/9 Winch should have watched the case and given orders to the gangwayman, who, in turn, ought to have given orders to the 'winchman. 1894 *Times* 9 Feb. 3/3 The winchman and the bullrope man..are assisting to unload the vessel. 1883 W. C. Russell *Ann. Quorn* II. ii. 30 The tiny clink of 'winch-pawls. 1902 *How to make use-ful things* 207 A file runs from the lower end of the butt a recess is made sufficiently large to take the 'winch-plate. 1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 528/2 When one or more pieces of goods are to be dyed the 'winch-reel is employed.

† **Winch,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. Winch *v.*[1]]

**1.** A 'turn' or 'twist' of the head.

1549 Gardiner in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 804/1, I thinke there was neuer man had more playne euident matter to alledge, then I haue, without winches or arguments or deuises of wit.

**2.** = Winge *sb.*[1] 2.

c1538 J. Skinner *Christmas Ba'ing* xix, Poor Petrie gae a weary winch.

**Winch** (winʃ), *v.*[1] *Obs.*[exc. *dial.* Forms: 3 **wenche,** 4-6 **wynche,** 6 **winche,** (7 **whinch,** 9 *dial.* **winsh**), 6- **winch.** [a. AF. **wenchier, *wenchir* = OF. *guenchier, -ir* intr. to turn aside, trans. to avoid, a. Teut. **wenkjan* (OHG., MHG. *wenken*, OS. *wenkean*; — **wankjan*, f. **wankʷ-* (whence OHG. *wank* a side movement, vacillation, OHG., G. *wanken*, ON. *vakka*, OE. *wancol* Wankle *a.*) : *wenk-* (whence Winch *sb.*[1], Wink).]

**1.** *intr.* To start back or away, recoil, flinch; to wince.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Ash for alle onswares, wende ou ant wenche3 fromward him. 1340 *Hampole Psalter* xxxiii. 8 Quarelles quayntly swappe thai owe knyghtes With tryne so wekyrly, that wyte they neuer. ?*a* 1500 *Pebis to the Play* xiii, He stert till ane boggit stouf, Winchesand as he war wondie. 1560 Pilkington *Aggeus* Pref. B iij, Their begynnest to wynche or to startle on this facion. 1563 *Ke3pduk* a 1. iii. 28, He that ones wincheth shall fele the wraike of my fiste. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 81, I will not stirre, nor winch, nor speake a word. 1628 *Robin Good-fellow* (1841) 41 Sluts and slovens I doe pinch, And make them in their beds to wake. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* II. viii, Beate them, whip them, pinch them, punch them, if they resolue not to whinch for it, they will not. 1687 Irvine *Hindl & P.* 111. 131 Yet seem'd he not to winch, though shrewdly pain'd. 1718 Cibber *Nonjuror* v, You must not winch nor stir too soon, at any Freedom you observe me take with him. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Winsh*, wince.

† **b.** *fig.* To recoil in fear or disgust (*at*). *Obs.*

1605 Marston *Dutch Courtezan* III. i, He must nere winch, that would or thrive, or saue, To be cald Nigard, cu kold, Cut-throat, Knaue, 1631 Heywood *Antiq. Lincoln* Pref. A 6 b, A long studied discourse in maintenance of sitting at the holy Sacrament, which good Master Burton never winched at. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 23 They shall severely rule them, so that they shall not be able to winch but at their own peril. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 76 ¶ 8 A general Reformation of an Age, either ridiculous or enormous, may make those winch who find too much Similitude in the Character with themselves to plead Not Guilty.

† **2.** Of a horse: To kick restlessly or impatiently; = Wince *v.*[1] 1. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 To Winche, *calcitrare.* 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v, *Recalcitrare*, to winche agayne, or kyke. 1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus* 182 Let se who that dare sho the mockyshe mare? They make her wynche and leke. 1575 Gascoigne *Wonders, Green Ant.* Sc He winched still alongest, and whisked with his taile. 1591 Greene *Farew. Folly* B 3 b, Sylenus asse neuer sawe a wine bottle but he would winch. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Wince* or *Winch*, ..properly to throw out the hinder Feet, as a Horse does.

**b.** In allusive and proverbial phr., esp. with reference to the 'wincing' of a 'galled' horse.

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 173 b, As a galled horse whiche is touched on the sore he wynch3th & wryeth. *c* 1530 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2203 Remembire the tourne of Fortunes whele, That wantonly can wynke, and wynche with her hele. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par.* Epi. Ded. 9 a, Whom no wynch3eth and kicketh at the ghospell. *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) II v b, I know the galde horse will winche3 wincke. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* v. II. 2 b, Synce you agayinst these churchly stiles so longe and sore dyd wynche. 1632 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 109 Yet do not winch (good dade) when thou art galled. 1826 W. Fenner *Hild. Hanna* Ep. Ded., The will of it self, the more reason it hath to be turned, the more it is wilful, it hinches and winches, and snuffes against it. 1893 Cornhevie *Old Bach.* v. xiii, *Arana.* Illes me! What have you done to him? *Reina.* Only touch'd a gall'd beast till he winch'd. 1718 Cibber *Nonjuror* II. ii, Sir, you cannot conceive the wonderful use of Clamour, 'tis so teizing to a Ministry, it makes them winch and fret.

† **c.** *trans.* To kick (a person) *out of. rare.*

1623 Fletcher & Rowley *Maid in Mill* II. i, A galled Jennet that will winch him out o' the Saddle.

Hence **Wi'nching** *vbl. sb.*[1] and *ppl. a.*[1]

1525 *Stanbridge's Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v b, *Sternax*, a wynchynge horse. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 203 A certaine shamefull winching & repining. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 246 Not such a powting wape in Ramme-ally, or such a winching iade in Smithfield. 1631 [Mabbe] *Celestina* II. 40 [Women] are all of them ticklish, and skittish: the whole generation of them is given to winching and flinging. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 101 That they might, without any ones winching, decree..what-ever would tend to the encrease of their own honour and wealth.

**Winch,** *v.*[2] [f. Winch *sb.*[1]]

**1.** *trans.* To hoist or draw *up*, etc. with or as with a winch.

1523 *Inventories Churchtns. Acc. lf.* 10 (MS.) To fett a bubill to wynche up the tymber. 1530 Palsgr. 408 b/2, I wynche or wynde vp with a wyndlasse or a crane..You shall neuer get this stryng in to the nocke but you wynche it vp. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. i. 128 He..was winched vp in that chaire, and fastened vnto the maineyard of a galley. 1633 J. Fisher *Fuimus Troes* II. ii, I'le winch vp thy estate. 1709 *E. Suffolk Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/3 All black line must be winched up. 1913 Conrad *Within the Tides*, etc. (1915) 219 It was she who winched up that infernal machine, and it was she too who lowered it that night.

**2.** *Dyeing.* = Winge *v.*[2]

1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 514 The silk should be winched through a copper of water at the heat of 160°. 1855 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 563 I keep the boiler for the bolting pan for about an hour and twenty minutes, during which time the cloth should be winched as before. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* II. 40 ¶ 1 In dyeing, the piece is simply winched backwards and forwards.

Hence **Wi'nching** *vbl. sb.*[2] and *ppl. a.*[2]

1875 H. R. Robertson *Life Upper Thames* 19 The tightening of the bolts before tying them is called winching ..: two stout pieces of wood are used which are called the levers, and are connected by a strong cord passed round the bolts. 1901 *Daily Record & Mail* 6 Aug. 3 The winching-away men and sweepers and screwers.

**Winchester** (wi·nʧəstəɹ). [Proper name.]

**1.** The name of a city in Hampshire, the capital of Wessex and later of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom ; used attrib. in specific designations.

**1.** (*a*) *Winchester measure*: dry and liquid measures the standards of which were orig. deposited at Winchester. Also *fig.* So (*b*) *Winchester bushel, gallon, quart*, for which (*c*) *Winchester* is used for short (in druggists' use = Winchester quart).

(*a*) *c* 1550 *Skelton's Ghost* 2 in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) II. 154 Full Winchester gage We had in that age. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II, c.* 8 § 1 The Standard marked in his Majestyes Exchequer commonly called the Winchester Measure containing Eight Gallons to the Bushell. 1680 Also *Mysch. Impos.* xiii. 91 The Advice to those in Communion with the Church, was short and succinct, that the Dissenters shall now have it by Winchester measure. 1682 Warburton *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 114 The Guernsey bushel, great measure, contains about 8 gallons Winchester measure. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 337 2 An Haife Peck, of old it contained 5 Quarts, but by Winchester Measure to which by the Statute of the Land all others now conforme, is but 4 Quarts and a Pint. 1868 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 215 An acre has been known to yield 300 bushels (Winchester measure) of early potatoes for the first crop. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 70. 110 Oysters..by the Winchester bushel. 1888 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 92 The lords of the manor of Tetbury..were convicted..for not using in the public market a brass Winchester bushel. *c* 1890 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 102/2, 268·8 cubic inches to the Winchester bushel. 1897 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V, c.* 56 § 6 Be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Measure called the Winchester Bushel, and the Heaped Measure of the Standard Bushel, shall be abolished. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 65 Fill a 'Winchester quart' bottle with this test acid.

(*b*) 1603 J. Owen *Pembrokeshire* vii. (1892) 55 Theire bushell beinge more then double winchester.] 1708 *Act 1 Anne* lxxii. § 2 A Bushel according to the Standards remaining in the Custody of the Chamberlains of Her Majesties Exchequer commonly called..by the Name of the Winchester Bushel. 1797 *Act 37 Geo. III, c.* 59 § 2 All Oysters which shall..be imported from France.., shall..be rated at seven Pence per Bushel strike Measure, according to the Winchester Corn Bushel. 1888 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 92 The lords of the manor of Tetbury..were convicted..for not using in the public market a brass Winchester bushel.

(*c*) 1590 *Lyncl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 102/2, 268·8 cubic inches to the Winchester quart. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II, c.* 8 § 6 Be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Measure called the Winchester Bushel, and the Heaped Measure of the Standard Bushel, shall be abolished. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 65 Fill a 'Winchester quart' bottle with this test acid.

**2.** (*a*) *Winchester goose*: see Goose *sb.* 3.

**II. 3.** The name of Oliver F. *Winchester* (1810–1880), an American manufacturer, used as the designation of a breech-loading rifle having a tubular magazine under the barrel and a horizontal bolt operated by a lever on the underside of the stock.

1871 *Standard* 1 Feb., The arms..being the Remington and the Chassepot, with some few Winchesters. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 163 He rushed over to his house and brought out a 17-shot Winchester. 1897 Hinde *Congo Arabs* xi. 185 About fifteen Winchester expresses, and the same number of ordinary Winchesters.

Hence **+ Winchestrian** *a.* (see sense 2).

*a* 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Execr. Vulcan* 142 And this a Sparkle of that fire let loose That was lock'd up in the Winchestrian Goose.

**Wincing** (wi·nsiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Wince *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of Wince *v.*[1]; kicking; flinching or recoiling as from pain.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12002 So that no mater off wynsyng Ys flounde in hym in ffleash nor bon, ..Gruchelyng, nor rebellioun, Nor no contrariousnesse. *c* 1440 Promp. Parv. 1. xx. 229 Thei schulden be aschamed..of her wyncing in wiit, and of her hopping bisidis wit. 1530 Palsgr. 753/2 Wynsyng of an horse, regimbement. 1908 Masefield *Esc. Villanie* III. x, The Asse must be kindly whipped for winsing. 1841 Livingstone in Blaikie *Life* iii. (1881) 51 They are excellent patients too besides. There is no wincing; everything prescribed is done *instanter*. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1859) 32 I here is not a clerk who could raise the money to hire a saddle with an old back under it that can sit down on his office-stool the next day without wincing. 1872 Blackie *Adv. Phaedon* xxviii. 382 He bade goodbye to both of them without wincing.

**Winging,** *vbl. sb.*[2] : see Wince *v.*[2]

**Winging,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wince *v.*[1] + -ing [2].] That winces; † restive (*lit.* and *fig.*); recoiling, flinching.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 12 Winsing asse, Kicking colt, and such like nick-names. 1699 Torriano, *Cavallinadonna*, a skittish, or winging woman. 1736 Bailey Caldenwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 234 The Franciscans .. were a set of poor whinsing-like bodies. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, Couples of such wincing landlords. 1876 *Daily News* 27 Oct. 3/5 Outsiders are sure to conclude that the wincing jade is galled. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 84/2 He dug his..spurred boot-heel against the winging flank of the sweating..mare.

Hence **Wi'ncingly** *adv.*

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. x, Belinda .. shrinks wincingly away. 1892 *Manch. Exam. Comp.* I. viii. 131 She remembered it..wincingly, insurgently.

**Winck(e,** obs. forms of Wink.

**Wincopipe,** obs. form of Wink-a-peep.

**Wind** (wind, *poet. also* waind), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1– wind, 3–6 wynd, (4 wint, wynt, wynde, wend, *Sc.* vend), 4–6 wynde, *Sc.* vynd, 4–7 windo, (5 wonde, wynd, wynt, wynd3e, 5–7 wound, 6–8 win; 9 win', wun). [OE. *wind* = OFris., OS., (M)LG., (M)Du. *wind*, OHG., MHG. *wint*, *wind-* (G. *wind*), ON. *vindr* (Sw., Da. *vind*), Goth. *winds* :– OTeut. **windas* :– pie-Teut. **wentos*, cognate with L. *ventus*, W. *gwynt*, Breton *guent*; orig. a pres. ppl. formation (**wi-ntə-*) f. root *we-* of OE. *wōwan* (see Wōwe), OHG. *wōjan* (G. *wehen*), Goth. *waian* to blow, waft, Lith. *vėjas* wind, OSl. (*vě*)*jati* blow, *větrŭ* wind, Lit. *jėsti* air, Gr. *ἠνεμος* (= *ἀϝηϝι*) blows, *ἀήτης* wind. Skr. *vāta* wind.]

The normal pronunciation would be (wind), as in *behind, bind, find, grind, hind, mind, rind*, etc., and this pronunciation remains dialectally and in ordinary poetical usage. The pronunciation (wind) became current in polite speech during the 18th c.; it has been used occas. by poets, but the paucity of appropriate rhyming words (such as *sinned, thinned, dinned*) and the 'thinness' of the sound are against its general use in verse. The short vowel of (wind) is presumably due to the influence of the derivatives *windmill, windy*, in which (i) is normal.

1747 Johnson *Plan of Engl. Dict.* 12 To fix the pronunciation of monosyllables, by placing with them words of correspondent sound .. so that the sound may be learned, as they are now frequently pronounced, will not rhyme to *sound*, and *mind*.

The following quots. contain examples of the pronunciation (wind) in modern poets :—

1825 Lyncl *Rivulet* lxxxi. (*Jerusalem*) iii, She hath sinned; Like ashes now her scattered sons Fly on the wind. 1868 Swinburne *Pericles* 74 As the grasses and wings of the wind Are scattered and shaken, I will scatter all them that have sinned. 1889 Tennyson *Wreck* vii, When her orphan waif stretched out his hands and wailed to the wind, And a voice rang out in the thunders of Ocean and Heaven 'Thou hast sinn'd'. 1913 Bridges *La Gloire de Dieu* 74 When silence ceased Instinctively stirred With Virtue, and went mad conceiving wind.]

**I.** The literal sense, in various applications.

**1.** Air in motion; a state of movement in the air; a current of air, of any degree of force perceptible to the senses, occurring naturally in the atmosphere, usually parallel to the surface of the ground.

**a.** In general or collective sense.

In the collective sense now always with the definite article.

(*a*) *sing. Beowulf* 1132 Holm storme weol, won wīā winde. *c* 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 283 *Se* ðe him eallnes wind cuölæt, he hæfð eallnes. 1340 *Gawayne & Grene* 1979 Wynde gelicoost, bonne he..hlud astigeð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 65 Ne bið þær nan hungor, ne þurst, ne wind, ne gewrenc. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Hom.* (1844) I. 272 Se gaderede milnes wiðsten eadmodnesse, .. he is ilich ðo manne ðe berð dust amidewarde ðe winde. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3697 Hat and cald and rain and wind. 1390 *Gower Conf.* III. 344 The wawes were so wode Wip winde. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 98 Whan pe wind on pe watur pe wawus areche. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 A reede wauinge wiþ pe wynde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) I. 10 The eye no cleer pat men may fynde no wynd bere. 1421 Cakton *Recuyell* (Somner) 381 On a night whan hit was paisible of wynd & of storme. 1535 Coverdale *Is.* xvii[13] 4, I will beate them as small as the dust before the wynde. — *Amos* iv. 13 He maketh the mountaynes, he ordeneth the wynde. 1594 *Selimus* 670, Let our winged coursers tread the winde. 1609 Dekker

*Ravens Alm.* G, He seemed so chary ouer her, that it grieued him the winde should blowe on her. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militt.* ix. 4 A storme of wind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 231 As when the force Of subterranean wind transports a Hill Torn from Pelorus. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* I. 438 Bare were her Knees, and naked her Garments hind; Loose was her Hair, and wanton'd in the Wind. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 177 Water engines that go by wind. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* viii, Not a breath of wind crossed the heavens. 1887 *Field* 10 June, 815/1 He[e] licked off...against both wind and sun. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 104/2 A gust of wind blew the plaintiff's mackintosh coat against the fance.

(*b*) *fig.* c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xviii[i]. 11 [10] *Volavit super pinnas ventorum*, fleȝ ofer fiðru winda. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Pas windas & þas regnas syndon ealle his. *a* 1300 *Cursor Mundi* 10 Windes on ille and ille rises. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 31 Right now the hyhe wyndes blowe. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 157 [If Cyrsetnes doy falle vp-on Monedey, yt schuld be a grat wynyng, and falle off wyndys. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. xi, Hither the winds blow, here the spring-tide roar. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 261 The Lord of America, who ryddes poore the winges of the woundes. 1636–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. Notes, Wks. 1710 I. 357 The Matter of Winds is an Exhalation arising out of the Concavities of the Terrestrial Globe. *Grey Alliance* 43 Command the Winds, and tame th' unwilling Deep. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Mem.* 14 The dewimpearled winds of dawn. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 365 The lighter ólcbris is scattered by the winds far and wide over the glacier.

b. In particularized use (see also 2).

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 56 Þam eal to somne on ða healfe ðe se wind sy. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3687 Þa wind hem brogte to skipperes. 13.. *Cursor M.* 28919 (Gött.) Þar come a sune vte of þe air.. Wid a wend at come wid-all And.., fild all þat hall. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secret.* (1898) 241 Þan hois wynd. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xiv. 39 A small rayne abatyth a grete wynd. 1688 DRYDEN *Mendal* 252 The Climate, vex't with various Winds, is tempested extreamly. *Ann. V. & M.* 1702 I soon I heard a roaring wind. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, There was just such a wind and just such a fall of snow, a good many years back. 1880 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 385 *Kelds* : Hot winds and floods destroyed the crops. 1895 STORR. BROOKE in Jacks *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 520 A low wind wandered about like a fairy.

c. A symbolical representation of the wind. (Cf. F. *têtes de vents.*)

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, A cherub on a monument, with cheeks like a young Wind.

d. *fig.* (sometimes = 'rage'): cf. WHIRLWIND 2.

*c* 1385 *Dethy Hyst.* 1. 1 Sis them all either for floo or ffrende : thus he commaundid in his furious wynde. 1787 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 246 The wind is up in the archbishop's brain just at this moment, and by the least contradiction more would become a hurricane. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xi, Lady Petherwin crashed out of the room in a wind of indignation.

2. With specific reference to the direction from which it blows; usually qualified by the name of a point of the compass, or in *pl.* by a numeral, esp. *four* (hence sometimes *transf.* = points of the compass, directions).

*c* 725 [see SOUTH *a.* 3]. *c* 888 *Ælfredu Boeth*, vi. § 2 Se suðerna wind hwilum mid mycelre strenge þrefreð þa sæ. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xii. 14 Ðȳ hine lyfte ær stormas ȝestondaȝ & se staercea wind, nordan & eastan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 103 Þas feower bearbwinas habbaȝ betweox him ealra ymbhwyrfte ofre sæhta windas. *c* 1340– [see NORTH *a.* 3]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 114 Pis soup-Westerne wynt. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. iii. (1868) 9 De wynde hat hyȝ horine 1377– [see SOUTH-WEST C. 1]. *c* 1379 *Cath. Cath. MS. 19.* No. I. lib. 1. c. 4 If. 22 b, The four wyndes, & thayre 8 wyndes. 1382 WYCLIF *Isai.* xlvii. 9 Þo four wyndys cum, thou synnist. *c* 1440 *Mem. Yorkm. Mast.* (1912) 52 Þe xij wyndes .. hath tweyne syde wyndes oper quarter wyndes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The marynaliz.. hes .. discriuit thretty tua sortis of wyndis. 1604 SHAKS. *Othello* v. 2 When the Winds blow Southerly. 1620 — *Temp.* I. ii. 254 To run vpon the sharpe winde of the North. 1695 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vi. (1659) 151 One Rhumbe hath two coasts or winds. 1691 T. BAKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 2 The Winde in the South, then that blows the Flie in the Trouts mouth. 1859 TENNYSON *S. Foster's Daughter* v. 27 Project these Antæuthe or winds into the horizontal line. 1867 MILTON *P. L.* II. 516 Toward the four winds four speedy Cherubim Put to their mouths the sounding Alchymie. 1819 SHELLEY *Ode to West Wind* I. 1 O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, The wind was a nor'-wester. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxviii, The cousins disperse to the four winds of heaven.

3. In reference to navigation, as the means of propulsion of a sailing vessel.

*Beowulf* 217 Sæwat þa ofer wæghoim winde ȝefysed flota famiheals. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. ii, To þon Sæxe, ȝeseȝndge windas . usic mt lande ȝebrohte. *c* 1205 LAY. 236 Hit þonenne iuatte forð ȝeȝn mid þan winde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6827 Þe wind hom paide wel & to se nii come. 13.. *Kyng. Saunt.* in *Archæo* LXXXI. 183/83 Þe wynt wox þo contrarious. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 44 Þan vent þai to þe se .. & .. god wind þai had. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq.* xxxiii. 80 As þay wer wynd abydynge. 1543–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 249 The saidis boittis with ariatie, quhilkis war seperat la ane gret wound. 1548 HALL *Chron.* vii. 40 A fayre fresh wynd. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 209 We sayled commonly with a fore wind, the winds being more constant in that sea. *a* 1625 MARWARING *Seamen's Dict.* (1644) 2 *v. Ride*, To *Ride betwixt wind and tide*, is when the wind and tyde have equall power. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Provid.* xxiii, The winden, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him, and taught to serve his trade. 1691 *Sir T. Ashby's Acc. Engagem.* 15 If the Wind had stood, we should have had more fighting. 1706 SWIFT *Gulliver* iii. i, I set up my sail, the wind being fair. 1792 Mrs. P. L. Powys *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 268 [We] set off in our vessel for Ryde, with wind and tide both against us. 1879 [see FAIR *a.* 23].

b. *Naut.* in various expressions referring to the direction or position of the wind in relation to the ship : hence also allusively.

*a.g. To gain, get, or take the wind of*, to get to windward of (another ship) so as to intercept the wind, to get the weather gage of: so to *give, leave the wind of*. *To keep one's (the, a good) wind*, to keep close to the wind without falling away to leeward. *To take the wind out of the sails of* (fig.), to deprive of one's means of progress, put a check upon the action of, put at a disadvantage. *To turn (the) wind*, to turn so as to get on the other side of the wind. (For other phrases, as *to haul one's wind*, *to hold a good wind*, etc. see the verbs.)

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 13 Byturnyng wynde at an est sun south of the moone. 1563 GERRARDE in Burgon *Life* (1839) II. 47 They did all they colde to tacke the wynde of us. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 198 All the three Hinkiniers made toward our ship, which was not carelesse to get the winde of them all. 1600 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 97 We havinge the wynde of the Spanishe shipps. 1609 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* ii. 7 We..made all haste possible to gaine the winde of him. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 74/2 The Zealand Admiral kept his wind, the Admiral of the Blew, with eight or ten more standing after him. 1667 PEPYS *Treas. Naval Papers* I. iii, What makes her [*sc.* a ship] Leeward or keep a good Wind. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxvi. 310 They are oblig'd to take the Wind of them all. 1700 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 492 The Wind shifted..to the Westward, which gave the Enemy the Wind of us. 1805 NELSON 6 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 18 The Victory would under three topsails and foresail for the night. 1820 SCOTT *Nigel* lix, He would take the wind out of the sail of every gallant. *a* 1826 *Young Allan* vii. in *Ballads* VIII. 370 My master has a coal-carrier Will take the wind frae thee. She will gae out under the leaf, Come in under the lee, And nine times in a winter night She'll turn the wind wi' thee. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXV. 541/2 Keep the wind—keep the wind—keep the wind. 1863 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 339/2 A young upstart of a rival, Llanelly..which has taken a great deal of the wind out of the sails of Aberdare.

4. As conveying scent, esp. the scent of a person or animal in hunting, etc.: in various phr., *lit.* and *fig.*

*To take, have, get, gain the wind of*, to scent or detect by or as by the wind; hence occas. to keep under observation. Conversely *to lose the wind*, *to have one's wind*. *To keep the wind*, to keep the game on the windward side so as to scent it, or so that it does not scent one. †*On one's wind*, on the scent (*obs.*). *To lie with the wind*, to windward. *Within wind of*, near enough to be detected by.

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7956 þis seiȝen þe scaten þousinde þe comen ayein hem wiþ winde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3669 The stynke scalyt off ded bodyis.., The Scottis abhord ner hand for to lyȝd ; ȝeid to the wynd. 1530 PALSGR. 751/1, I take the wynde, I take the aduyse of a person... Let hym take good heede that they take not the wynde of him. 1598 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 133 My sonne and I will haue the winde of you. 1603 — *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 14 Hee knowes the Game: how true hee keepes the wind? 1620 — *Hen. VIII's Will* v. ii. 10 *Cio.* Truely, Fortunes displeasure is but sluttish if it smell so strongly as thou speak'st of: Prethee how lies the Wind? *Pur.* Nay you must not to your noose sir : I speake but by a Metaphor. 1620 — *Ham.* III. ii. 362 Why do you go about to recouer the winde of mee, as if you would drive me into a toyle? 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 908 The Wood is selfe must be Wrapped vp Close, as farre as the Ointment goeth, that it taketh no Wind. 1662 J. DAVIES *Mercurius Coffee, Tea, etc.* 44 If it [*sc.* tea] takes wind, 'tis spoiled, and has no more strength then dead leven. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 80 Settle the Ground about the Plants, lest the Roots take Wind.

b. *Wind and water.* (*a*) In phr. *between* (or *betwixt*) *wind and water* (Naut.), referring to that part of a ship's side which is sometimes above water and sometimes submerged, in which part a shot is peculiarly dangerous; hence in fig. phr. expressing serious injury or attack. (*b*) attrib. and comb.: as *wind and water line*, the part of a ship's side between wind and water; also *transf.* (see quot. 1876[1]); *wind and water tight* adj., proof against wind and rain or flood.

*a* 1550 *Hye Way to Spirituall Hous* 615 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 52 Landlordes that do no reparacyons, But lene..They bousyng vnlayr wynd and water in their shyppes. 1598 *Lond. Lovers Lost Sp. Navie Irel.* B 2, One of the shot was betweene the winde and the water, whereof they thought she would haue sonke. 1624 T. HEYWOOD *Gunaik. Hist. Lond. Co.* (1897) II. 94 His ship had been long out and very much eaten between wind and water. *a* 1652 A. WILSON *Inconstant Lady* iii. iv, Now they haue cracks met twixt wind and water A'most past mending. Stay, let me feele my selfe. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* x. ii. § 10 The good old man was shot between Wind and Water, and his consent was assaulted in a dangerous point. 1691 T. BAKER *Art of Angling* 1 Be very diligent to shoot between Wind and Water, and the Ship leak'd very much. 1876 PARKER *Fishcraft* 161 The greyfish line, as it is now frequently termed, is of wind and water line. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. ix. 426 The 'Congress'..was hulled twelve times, and bit seven times between wind and water.

5. Compressed or confined air; air that inflates or is contained within some body. Now *rare* (and superseded by *air*) exc. as in 10, 12 (*b*). (With quot. 1689 cf. WINDAGE 1.)

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 A bleddre ibollen ful of winde. *Ibid.*, A nelde prikiunge worpeð al ut þenne wind. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. v. 17 As a bladder full of wynde. 1562 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* I. (1565) A viij, A blather full implete with wynde. 1625 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 109 A good bladder of double leather, filld with winde. 1689 BINNING *Light to Art of Conuerey* xiii. 42 How to Extract the Wind from the Hore of a Peece Geometrically, and thereby to know a fit Ball for the same.

10. † Air or gas in the stomach or intestines (or, according to early notions, in other parts of the body); flatus. † Also *pl.*

*To break wind*, to discharge flatus from the stomach or bowels (see BREAK *v.* 47)[1] † of a remedy, to cure or dispel flatulence.

sinde Ferd, so smoke ogain þe winde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, In so doynge, it may not be sayd that we bete the winde. 1569 BULGIR *Sch. Concyptes* 26[1] He spake to the winde. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* G iij, I see I swimme agaynst the streame, I kicke against a gode, I caste a stone against the winde. 1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* B iij b, He...raises their weapons wound the sencelesse winde. 1612 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* G 3, To strike Ayres, or buffet with the Winde. That playes vpon vs. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shifting C.* 4, Like throwing feathers 'gainst the winde. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 595 Entellus wasts his Forces on the Wind. 1723 SWIFT *Pretty to Stella* 10 Apr., This I tell her, but talk to the winds. 1860 MISS YONGE *Hopes & Fears* I. 201 'Have you spoken to her?' 'As well speak to the wind.'

7. In comparisons, as a type of violence or fury (+ phr. *wroth as (the) wind*), swiftness, freedom or unrestrainable character, mutability or fickleness, lightness or emptiness (cf. 14).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 410 He was as wroth as þe wynde towarde oure lorde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVII. 350, 'I may no lenger leite', quod he, .. And went away as wynde. *c* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Schir Golegrane for greif his gray ene brynt, Wod wraith as the wynd. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 27 Purpois dois change as wynd or rane. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 31 b, All the worlde is of suche a nature that is more lyghte than is the wynde. *c* 1585 [R. BROWNE] *Answ. Cartwright* 83 A man of the winde, and false fellowe. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 94 About the wood, goe swifter then the winde. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 100 Vaine phantasie..more inconstant then the wind. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 253 Speake frankely as the winde. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 499 Thou shalt be as free As mountaine winds. 1785 C. WILKINS tr. *Bhagvat-Geeta* vi. 66, I esteem it as difficult to restrain as the wind. 1855 LONGF. *My last Youth* 4 A verse of a Laplund song..As fleeting as the wind.

II. Transferred senses. (See also I c, 2.)

†8. Air in general, as a substance or 'element'. *Obs. exc.* as in b.

*To take wind*: to become tainted or corrupted by exposure to or access of air; also *fig.*

*c* 1250 *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Pu escope eld & wind & water, þe molde is þet feorþe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 56 Wit and water, wynd and fuyr. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 101/19 In heuene, wynd, water, & fuyr. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 34 Do hit in a hasel penne.. Stop wele þo hede for wynde. 1588 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 28 It hath lane to much wynde in the poudring tubbe. *c* 1588 C'TESS PEMBROKE tr. IV. iv. 8 Vnto my self I might I but cutt the wind Borne on the wings the fearfull doue doth beate. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 82 Whither are they vanish't? *Mach.* Into the Ayre: and what seem'd corporall, Melted, as breath into the Winde. *a* 1620 HEALEY *Theophrastus* To Rdr. (1636) I 2, By powring it out of the Latin into the vulgar..It is come to the dregs, and (almost) it hath taken some wind. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 908 The Sword it selfe must be Wrapped vp Close, as farre as the Ointment goeth, that it taketh no Wind. 1662 J. DAVIES *Mercurius Coffee, Tea, etc.* 44 If it [*sc.* tea] takes wind, 'tis spoiled, and has no more strength then dead leven. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 80 Settle the Ground about the Plants, lest the Roots take Wind.

b. *Wind and water.* (*a*) In phr. *between* (or *betwixt*) *wind and water* (Naut.), referring to that part of a ship's side which is sometimes above water and sometimes submerged, in which part a shot is peculiarly dangerous; hence in fig. phr. expressing serious injury or attack. (*b*) attrib. and comb.: as *wind and water line*, the part of a ship's side between wind and water; also *transf.* (see quot. 1876[1]); *wind and water tight* adj., proof against wind and rain or flood.

*a* 1550 *Hye Way to Spirituall Hous* 615 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 52 Landlordes that do no reparacyons, But lene..They bousyng vnlayr wynd and water in their shyppes. 1598 *Lond. Lovers Lost Sp. Navie Irel.* B 2, One of the shot was betweene the winde and the water, whereof they thought she would haue sonke. 1624 T. HEYWOOD *Gunaik. Hist. Lond. Co.* (1897) II. 94 His ship had been long out and very much eaten between wind and water. *a* 1652 A. WILSON *Inconstant Lady* iii. iv, Now they haue cracks met twixt wind and water A'most past mending. Stay, let me feele my selfe. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* x. ii. § 10 The good old man was shot between Wind and Water, and his consent was assaulted in a dangerous point. 1691 T. BAKER *Art of Angling* 1 Be very diligent to shoot between Wind and Water, and the Ship leak'd very much. 1876 PARKER *Fishcraft* 161 The greyfish line, as it is now frequently termed, is of wind and water line. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. ix. 426 The 'Congress'..was hulled twelve times, and bit seven times between wind and water.

9. Compressed or confined air; air that inflates or is contained within some body. Now *rare* (and superseded by *air*) exc. as in 10, 12 (*b*). (With quot. 1689 cf. WINDAGE 1.)

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 A bleddre ibollen ful of winde. *Ibid.*, A nelde prikiunge worpeð al ut þenne wind. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. v. 17 As a bladder full of wynde. 1562 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* I. (1565) A vij, A blather full implete with wynde. 1625 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 109 A good bladder of double leather, filld with winde. 1689 BINNING *Light to Art of Conuerey* xiii. 42 How to Extract the Wind from the Hore of a Peece Geometrically, and thereby to know a fit Ball for the same.

10. † Air or gas in the stomach or intestines (or, according to early notions, in other parts of the body); flatus. † Also *pl.*

*To break wind*, to discharge flatus from the stomach or bowels (see BREAK *v.* 47)[1] † of a remedy, to cure or dispel flatulence.

c 1000 *Sax Leechd.* II 224 Ful sio wamb bið windes full, bonne cymð þæt of wlacre waetan 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* R v. xxxvii (Bodl MS.) Grete ventoste and winde þat stoppiþ þe weye of þe breep 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 151 For wynd in þe hed. c1400 *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lorikh* 70 It sterys hete to þe body, and destroyes wyndes 1540 Boorde *Dyetary* xxix (1870) 302 Make no restrayninge of wynde and water, nor seege that nature wolde expelle. 1552–[see Bekay 1 47]. 1562 Sped *Herl. Or Bref.* IX xxi § 876 An vnder mule ingendreth of a sore infection to breake winde from off his stomacke. 1600 Vennek *Via Recta* v 89 The eye of the widde is very hurtfull vnto them that are subiect to wind. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 126 The hungry Sheep looke vp, and are not fed, But swoln with wind. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 24 Aug., [I] am in paine with wind we had got into the muscles of his right side). 1708 J. Purcell. *Cholick* (1714) 63 When the Pain spreads itself all over the Belly, 'tis occasion'd for the most part by Winds. 1707 Flover *Physic Pulse-Watch* 378 That the Liver produces a Wind in the Heart that is, the Satisfaction of Humours. 1833 Marryat *Pacha of Many Tales* I 206/1, I can dispel wind in two minutes. 1855 Leech *Pict. Life & Char.*, *Domestic Bliss* [speaking of a baby] That is not taking physic, it's only the wind. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II 921 Even respectable people take the ether, pretending that it is useful for the wind in the stomach.

b *To get the wind up* (slang) to get into a state of alarm or 'funk'. So *to put the wind up* (a person)

1916 P. Gibbs *Battles of Somme* xiii 172 It was obvious that the blinking Boche had got the wind up. 1920 C. Aitkton *Stranded Relations* viii 128, I tell you you've absolutely put the wind up Bob and Peter! They're scared to death of your finding them out

**11.** Air inhaled and exhaled by the lungs: = Breath *sb.* 3. *Obs. exc* as coloured by d below

c 1000 *Sax Leechd.* II 24 Se a bið swiðe scearp wyrcð sweartan of sumes breoste. c 1300 *K. Alis* 6415 (Laud MS.) A litel hole in her chyn Where her wynde goop out & in 13 *Cursor M.* 8711 (Cott.) Þis wind [Cott. sand] þan men draus of Birkhun wind þan com of. c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii 99 Þe preste cuttez a clath on his mouth and stoppez his winde. 1535 *Goodly Primer* O ij b, I beseyne to wasse fayntie and sodeyne sickenesse drawen my wynde. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiv xiii 1 427 His wind he never tooke while the cup was at his mouth, but iustly obserued the rule of drinking with one breath. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* v i 31 She does so blush, & fetches her winde so short, as if she were fraid with a spirite. 1612 *Bible* Ecclus xxxi 19 And he fetcheth it he was short vpon his bed. 1622 Mabbe *Qz*, and hath not puffing an I blowing]. 1685 *Field* 4 Mar. 241/1 Which seeme I to know all the wind out of him. 1918 H. Lawson *Mystery in France* xi 174, I had precious little wind left to breathe with.

b Breath as used in speaking; hence *transf.* speech, talk (esp. in such phr as *to waste one's wind*). *Obs or arch* (exc as implied in Long-winded 2)

a 1330 *Otuel* 216 Þat wind þou hauest i-lore. c 1400 *Destr Troye* 3788 All baire wordes & wynd, & bare wynd vbe. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* n (1867) 97 Do way merci, þou spillist myche winde. c 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 735 Ye in ye tre sore, in wastyng of your wynde. c 1500 Skelton *Gart Laurel* 565, Let vs wast no wyndes in ye lingelers how-but lytill bryne. 1590 Shaks *Com. Err.* II iii 53 Stop in your winde sir, tell me this I pray. 1600 — *Ham.* III vii 67 For his death no winde of blame shall breath. 1616 Withals *Dict* 573 *Os, offrarum* keepe your wind to coole your pottage. 1792 W. *Hawes Wolfaro* 116 The Jew Hackthrow let her out, and Young He did shout to the wind of his tongue

c Breathing as a vital process, hence *transf.* life = Breath 5. *Obs* exc in low slang.

c 1450 *Cur Mundi* (Shaks. Soc.) 1326 My wynde is nyppyd, gon is my breithe. c 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E E T S) 92 Now deth is vnkynd, For he reyth 'Man! stop thy winde.' 1658 Sir I. Berkenhead *Interest* 18 The Scythians swore by winde and sword that is, by life and death. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Wind*, a man transported for his natural life, is said to have *left the wind of his wind*. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed 2) 249 *To skip one's wind*, coarse expression implying to die

d. Easy or regular breathing, power or capacity of breathing: condition with regard to respiration = Breath 6, 7. Now only in sporting phrases.

*Second wind*, a condition of regular breathing regained after breathless-ness during long continued exertion *Wind and limb, limb and wind* see Limb *sb.*[1] 2 d

c 1330 *Arth & Merl* 8256 Þat Þer nawes & eke Þe paine, Sche les winde & ek alaine *Ibid.* 9226 Þer whiles Merlin Dede his out wende to take þe winde. c 1440 *York Myst* xxxv 204 Þa þaire strenghe þan, þor certis ne wa þis wynde. c 1440 Capgrave *Life St Kath* 11 1465 She was lyche vp and comfarte i neve a gayn And at the laste, whan she hal i cause wynde, 'Alys, she seyde.' 1530 Wilson in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* II 2 87 My breithe and my wynde by sything was so short that [etc.] 1579 E. K. *Gl. to Spenser's Shep. Cal.* Apr. 50 He was almost out of wind [*either of wynde*]. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV iii 74 If I trauell but foure foot by the squire further a foote, I shall breeke my winde. 1606 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* II 1 I never was more wound of winde and limbe. 1607 Markham *Caval.* II 8 By the many stops and stayes which are made therin, the horsers huers his winde. 1620 Shaks *Per. I* 1 9 I'll lye till thou burst thy winde. 1630 R. *Allen Illuminism* 39 Reformation of Religion has come in such post haste, that it hath broke its owne winde. 1686 Lryon *Pr. it for a Wife* 2, 6 Ay and he holds out the Note of one Verse till the Clark begins to sing the next, he has a pure Wind. 1735 Somerville *Chase* I 252 His round Cat Foot, strait Hams, and wide spread Thighs, And his low dropping Chest confess his Speed, His Strength, his Wind. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX 18 After sparring for wind in which the Black was deficient. 1830 Hood *Epping Hunt* Advt to 2nd ed., I am much gratified to learn from you, that the Epping Hunt has had *such a run*, that it is *quite exhausted*, and that you intend therefore to give the work what may be called '*second wind*', by a new impression. 1838 Dickens *Nich Nick* xxii, You had better get your wind now, and change your clothes. 1844 J. Wilson *Chr North* I 79 Schoolboys are generally in prime wind 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I v, three-quarters of an hour are gone: first winds are failing, and weight and numbers are beginning to tell *Ibid.* II v, Tom has two heavy body blows, and gets away again before the Slogger can catch his wind. 1859 Livingstone *Expl. & Disc.* 147 A bull if allowed to get its 'second wind' will go on almost for ever

(*b*) in reference to diseased or disordered breathing in horses: see Broken wind).

[1530 — implied in Broken winded]. 1615 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Drunken Sim* C 2, When hee's [i e the horse is] broken in his winde. 1726 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist* I i 24 Loose from the rapid Car you agree ill: true, Lost in the Race. He drag has paded limbs, and burst his Wind. 1777 Thicknesse *Journ. France* (1789) I 18 A very handsome English coach horse is little value in the wind) 1908 *Vet. & Sp Goer* V c 13 § 2 On the ground only of the stallion being affected in its wind

e. *transf* (*Pugilistic slang*) That part of the body in front of the stomach a blow upon which takes away the breath by checking the action of the diaphragm.

1823 H. D. Miles *Pugilistica* (1906) II 206 Ward made play—what is on the head at both sides, then at the wind 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xxvi, Judy pokes him particularly in this part of the victims body of delicate construction and with good *Bible Study News* 24 Nov 7/3 Sharkey came back with his right, delivering several smashes on Corbett's wind.

**12.** Air as used for 'blowing' or sounding a musical instrument (*wind instrument*) such as a horn, trumpet, flute, etc., or an organ-pipe: either (*a*) the blast or stream of air thus used, furnished by the breath of the player or by bellows; (*b*) the supply of air from which this is obtained, usually under compression (cf 9), as in the *wind-chest* of an organ, or (*c*) the body of air within the instrument, whose vibration produces the sound.

*spec in Hunting*, A blast or series of blasts on a horn blown as signal

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v 443 Per is no instrument Delitous bygnd wynd or touche or corde [etc.] c 1500 in *Antiq. Repert.* (1809) II 222 Introduce my lyttel Lorde Anne cuiuslth it for to rage. 1596 Greyndall *Hawking* etc 6 b/1, When you g ve into the field, blow with one wind one short, one long, and one short. 1600 Holme *Armory* II 203 As in an Organ from one blast of wind I o many a row of Pipes the sound is heard breathe. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 537 Their Instruments were various to their mind; Some for the Bow, and some for breathing Wind 1788 Crowe *Lewesdon Hill* 57 Instruments of wind and string 1873 Hamerton *Intell Life* II 28 The wind in the pipes of an organ 1913 G. B. Shaw *Pygmalion Stage play*, Heaving a long sigh, like wind in a trombone, he goes to sleep

b *transf.* The wind instruments of an orchestra (or their players) collectively, as distinguished from the 'strings' and 'percussion'.

1676 Shadwell *Hasty Pudd Mus Termes, Wood wind, or Wood wind band*, the flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, and instruments of their nature, in an orchestra 1880 Rockstro in *Grove Dict Mus* II 566/2 An Orchestra consisting of thirty Stringed Instruments, with a full complement of Wind 1904 *Daily News* 25 Feb 8/5 The wind and percussion are prominent members of London orchestras

**13.** A blast of air artificially produced, e g by bellows (see also 12), the rush of air caused by a rapidly moving body. Const *of*.

1556 Withals *Dict* (1562) 48 The wynde of the belowes 1596 Marlowe *Ed. II* (1598) *Dijb* 11 He which hath no wind at all, will not the wind behold the King doth delay 1600 Shaks. *Ham* II ii 495 With the whiffe and winde of his fell sword Th vnnerued Father falls 1626 Peyne *Ibera in Ost* B 1 b, The last Shotte flying so close by Captaine Portar, that with the winde of the Bullet his very Hands had almost lost the Sence of feeling 1804 *Ayr & Wigtown* XII 322 It was knocked down by the wind of the shell 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Ababbey under Arms* III v 75 The bullet went so close that the wind of it half turned him round

**III** Figurative and allusive uses. (See also 1 d, 3 b, 4, 8, 8 b, 10 b, and phrases in IV.)

**14.** Applied to something empty, vain, trifling, or unsubstantial. a. Empty talk, vain or ineffectual speech, mere 'breath' (cf 11 b), = *Oscar.* empty fame (*obs*)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I 289 Word ne eyzen here bote wind 1300 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv 240 It [*sc* what you say] is but wynde, no þyng for to leue 1413 *Jrnl Parl Pauses* 59/50 þor word of wynd litil remanes 1. Non þrum nys don, þat wynd ne turneþ it to nouȝt 1486 *Bk St Albans* (Wakculloch MS.) Y wyll not take to speke it wair bot wynd 1564 Becon II 62 1 Pref *Gal* C iv, When such as are yet vnlearned, shall perceiue, that the preaching in the Pulpes here but wynde & words 1567 Milton *P. L* vi 282 Nor think thou with wind Of aire threats to aw whom yet wit with deeds Thou canst not 1598 Constable *Three Lyon* 194 A curse is wind 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xix, Hard words, or kind ones, are but wind

b. Vain imagination or conceit (with which one is puffed up: cf 9), also *wind in the head* (with allusion to 10)

1584 Caxton *Cawalry* 86 A knyght that byleueth in deuynaylles hath greiter fayth and hope in the wynde of his bride and the deuynyons than in god. 1598 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 103 Pryde bloweth & fyllyth a man or woman full of wynde & vayne glory 1591 Savile *Tacitus, Hist* iv xxxix 198 When Mutianus had filled with these windes of hope and desire his empty vainglorious minde 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 312 Many puffe vp their owne concetts with nothing els but winde 1634 *T. K. Noble Soldier* III i E 2, Fellowes which swell'd vpon with the wind of praise 1779 J. Brown in R. Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 146, I hope the Lord has let some of the wind out of you, that I thought was in you when first I knew you. 1918 *Blackie Mag.* Dec 763/2 He has probably got the wind in the head through living in that gorgeous Gothic pagoda.

c. *trans.*

1382 Wyclif *Job* vii 7 Haue mynde, for wynd is my lif [Coverdall, my life is but a wynde]. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xxvi 18 We haue bene wt childe, as though we had brought forth wynde 1562 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 201 Ephraim is fed with the winde 1687 P. Ayres *Lyric Poems* (1906) 306 Plough water, sow on rocks, and reap the wind 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg.* IV 573 Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1832 J. James *Philip Aug* xxi, But, in the mean time, we are disputing about wind 1850 Carlyle *Latter Day Pamph* v 85 If Society become wholly a bag of wind, then, ballasted by gunnery

**15** In various proverbial and other expressions, figuring or denoting a force, agency, or influence that drives or carries one (or something) along, or that strikes upon one (or something), or to which one (or something) is exposed.

*esp* in phrases (with variations see quots) *What wind blows you here?*; *Is it the wind that blows my corn* (obs), *It's an ill wind that blows nobody good* (see 18 b and cf 3) *To raise the wind* see Raise v 7 *To sow the wind and reap the whirlwind* see Whirlwind 2.

(*a*) in neutral or favourable sense

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 1320 What manner wyndes gydeth yow now here? 1548 Hewyood (1867) 50 What wynde bloweth ye hyther? *Ibid* 30 To take wynde and tyde with me, and spede thether 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 908 (*Addenda*) I to tell him what wind brought him thither 1599 Shaks *Hen. V*, II iii 30 1839 Mayne *City Match* 1 iii All this is possible, And in the breath of winds and seas 1663 Patrick *Parable* (1687) 300 When we have the Wind and Tide of these pleasures to help us forward 1859 Mereuith *R. Feverel* xxii, A good wind of laughter had relieved him of much of the blight of self deception, and coldness, and distance 1877 Dowden *Shaks Prim* v 54 Shakspere is not yet caught up in the passionate wind of his own imagination

(*b*) in unfavourable sense

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past C* xiii 306 Ne læte ge eow ælcie lare awendan. [*Eph.* iv 14] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18 95 Quat-so-euer he be þat wil ani þing wit wrang blast? 1393 Langl. *P. Pl C* xix 32 The worlde is a wykkede wynde to hem þat wolde trouthe. c 1450 *Cast. Perseve* 2532 It is good, when as the wynde blowe, A man haue sum what of his owe. c 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 211 His wikkit wind of adulatioun 1506 Dundar *Epith* iv 14 Waverynge and cuyed with every wynde of doctryne 1546 J. Heywood *Prov* (1867) 30 All the wynde that euer blew *Ibid* 57 An yll wynde that bloweth no man to good, men say 1573–80 Baskr *Alvcar* (1878) 90 It is an ill wynde tarnes none so good 1589 R. Hyde *Ir Exp* (1633) 11 Thus wind shakes none of my Corne 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Affliction* (1st), Thus thinne and lean without a force or friend, I was blown through with ev'ry storm and winde c 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem Col Hutchinson* (1846) 79 They may let loose the winds of passion to bring in a flood of sorrow 1803 Cogbett *Parl Hist* II 1, 28 It is an ill Wind that blows no body good 1788 [see Impeb v 9] 1776 Hume *Hist Eng.*, *Life* (1778) I p xiii, This variety of winds and seasons to which my writings had been exposed 1825 Worbow *Jonn.*, *Wood & Mine* I 4 Months that endure affliction's heaviest shower, And do not shrink from sorrow's keenest wind 1833 Mas Browning *Prometh Bound* 1152 Such a wind of pride Impelled thee of yore full sail upon these rocks

b. In expressions referring to a tendency, turn, or condition of affairs:

e g *to have the wind of* = *to have the wind blows*, *the wind has changed*, *to strike the wind in that corner or door* † (see Corner *sb*[1] 8, Door 6 c), *to sail with every (shift of) wind*, to turn every change of circumstance to one's advantage. † *To have the wind in (at) one's tail*, to have circumstances or conditions favourable for one's purpose

c 1200 *Camelyn* 703 To telle him tydynges how the wind was west 1470–1668 [see Hand *sb* 6c] 1598 Florio (1967) 75, I knew, which waie the winde blewe 1580 Daus *Sleidane's Comm* 334b, The Bysshoppes of Germany hauynge the wynde at wyll, were the more vyolent 1586 Blundeville in Foxe *A & M* (1563) 1543/1 Wel Palmer (sayd I) is the wind in that corner with you? I warrant you it wyl not long so litle a cast at them! 1625 Shaks *Coriolanus* IV iv, I do Blow This yong-growne Sparrow at his wings, and make him stoope to the Lure. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg.* IV 573 Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1832 J. James *Philip Aug* xxi, But, in the mean time, we are disputing about wind 1850 Carlyle *Latter Day Pamph* v 85 If Society become wholly a bag of wind, then, ballasted by gunnery

**16** In various proverbial and other expressions, figuring or denoting a force, agency, or influence that drives or carries one (or something) along, or that strikes upon one (or something), or to which one (or something) is exposed.

*esp* in phrases (with variations see quots) *What wind blows you here?*; *Is it the wind that blows my corn* (obs), *It's an ill wind that blows nobody good* (see 18 b and cf 3) *To raise the wind* see Raise v 7 *To sow the wind and reap the whirlwind* see Whirlwind 2.

(*a*) in neutral or favourable sense

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 1320 What manner wyndes gydeth yow now here? 1548 Hewyood (1867) 50 What wynde bloweth ye hyther? *Ibid* 30 To take wynde and tyde with me, and spede thether 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 908 (*Addenda*) I to tell him what wind brought him thither 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, II iii 30 1839 Mayne *City Match* 1 iii All this is possible, And in the breath of winds and seas 1663 Patrick *Parable* (1687) 300 When we have the Wind and Tide of these pleasures to help us forward 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxii, A good wind of laughter had relieved him of much of the blight of self deception, and coldness, and distance 1877 Dowden *Shaks Prim* v 54 Shakspere is not yet caught up in the passionate wind of his own imagination

(*b*) in unfavourable sense

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past C* xiii 306 Ne læte ge eow ælcie lare awendan. [*Eph.* iv 14] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18 95 Quat-so-euer he be þat wil ani þing wit wrang blast? 1393 Langl. *P. Pl C* xix 32 The worlde is a wykkede wynde to hem þat wolde trouthe. c 1450 *Cast. Perseve* 2532 It is good, when as the wynde blowe, A man haue sum what of his owe. c 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox* 211 His wikkit wind of adulatioun 1506 Dundar *Epith* iv 14 Waverynge and cuyed with every wynde of doctryne 1546 J. Heywood *Prov* (1867) 30 All the wynde that euer blew *Ibid* 57 An yll wynde that bloweth no man to good, men say 1573–80 Baskr *Alvcar* (1878) 90 It is an ill wynde tarnes none so good 1589 R. Hyde *Ir Exp* (1633) 11 Thus wind shakes none of my Corne 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Affliction* (1st), Thus thinne and lean without a force or friend, I was blown through with ev'ry storm and winde c 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem Col Hutchinson* (1846) 79 They may let loose the winds of passion to bring in a flood of sorrow 1803 Cogbett *Parl Hist* II 1, 28 It is an ill Wind that blows no body good 1788 [see Impeb v 9] 1776 Hume *Hist Eng.*, *Life* (1778) I p xiii, This variety of winds and seasons to which my writings had been exposed 1825 Worbow *Jonn.*, *Wood & Mine* I 4 Months that endure affliction's heaviest shower, And do not shrink from sorrow's keenest wind 1833 Mas Browning *Prometh Bound* 1152 Such a wind of pride Impelled thee of yore full sail upon these rocks

b. In expressions referring to a tendency, turn, or condition of affairs:

e g *to have the wind of* = *to have the wind blows*, *the wind has changed*, *to strike the wind in that corner or door* † (see Corner *sb*[1] 8, Door 6 c), *to sail with every (shift of) wind*, to turn every change of circumstance to one's advantage. † *To have the wind in (at) one's tail*, to have circumstances or conditions favourable for one's purpose

c 1200 *Camelyn* 703 To telle him tydynges how the wind was west 1470–1668 [see Hand *sb* 6c] 1598 Florio (1967) 75, I knew, which waie the winde blewe 1580 Daus *Sleidane's Comm* 334b, The Bysshoppes of Germany hauynge the wynde at wyll, were the more vyolent 1586 Blundeville in Foxe *A & M* (1563) 1543/1 Wel Palmer (sayd I) is the wind in that corner with you? I warrant you it wyl not long so litle a cast at them! 1625 Shaks *Coriolanus* IV iv, I do Blow This yong-growne Sparrow at his wings, and make him stoope to the Lure. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg.* IV 573 Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1832 J. James *Philip Aug* xxi, But, in the mean time, we are disputing about wind 1850 Carlyle *Latter Day Pamph* v 85 If Society become wholly a bag of wind, then, ballasted by gunnery

1919 T. R. Glover *From Pericles to Philip* xii. 378 It may be that the Spartan government had some wind of this.

**IV.** Phrases with prepositions.

**Before the wind**: see Before B. 1 b.

**17.** By the (†a) wind (*Naut.*), as near as possible to the direction from which the wind is blowing (see By *prep.* 9).

1589 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. xvii. 19 Hauing stroke our sayles, we did nothing but lie by the winde. *a* 1620 J. Melville *Celestoma Navit*, (MS.), With chearfull schowt and mirrie pleasant sounds Scho saild fast be ye winde. 1627 J. Smith *Sea Gram.* ix. 49 All your Sheats, Tacks, and Tackles are trimmed by a Winde. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2315/1 The best Sailer I ever met with by a Wind. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 247. 1806 Moore *Sterramin's Song* ii, When by the wind close-hauled we go.

**18.** Down (the) wind. a. In the direction in which the wind is blowing; along the course of the wind. Also *down-wind* (attrib.), situated in this direction, 'lee'.

1604 Shake. *Oth.* iii. iii. 262 I'ld whistle her off, and let her downe the winds, to prey at fortune. 1674 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* x. (1677) 91 The Hare..will..run upon a side or down the Wind. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Err.* 333 Down the wind she swims, and sails away. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 292 I have had a hundred trimmers floating down the wind. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho.* xxxii, The Spaniard fell off again, and went away dead down wind. 1882 Lt. Waldegrave *Shooting* 141 (Badm. Libr.) It is best to 'give the dogs the wind' at the beginning of the day—that is, to start down wind and gradually to work round in the direction from which it blows. 1895 C. J. Cornish *Wild England* 184 We..found that..the birds had all run to the edge. Here we made the mistake of working the down-wind side first.

†b. *fig.* Towards decay or ruin; into or (commonly) in a depressed or unfortunate condition, in evil plight; *to go down the wind*, to 'go down', decline. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiv. xxiii, When they saw him downe the wind and fortune to frowne upon him. 1631 tr. *Machiavelli's Marr. Belphagor* 141 Though [he] was of one of the noblest Families.., yet he was look'd upon as down the winde [orig. *decorrichito*]. 1634 Cave *Prim. Chr.* i. vi. 147 In the time of Constantine when Paganism began to go down the wind. 1683 — *Ecclesiastici* Introd. p. lxvi, The Gentile-Temples, with all their Pomp and Reliques, went down the wind apace. 1697 Scott *Tryal* 25 Apr., The old Tory party is down the wind.

†**19.** In wind (*fig.* from 11 d): ready or fit for action of some kind. *Obs.*

1758 Earl Carlisle in Lowe *Schwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 356 The shops are all as fine as if they expected you, and the people belonging to them all in wind to answer your questions. 1777 Bubb in *Sheriffs & Bristol Wks.* 1840 I. 217 In order to keep power in wind, it was necessary..to exert it in those very points in which it was most likely to be resisted.

**20.** In the wind. a. In (or into) the direction from which the wind is blowing; to windward: (*a*) in reference to something which can be scented or perceived by means of the wind blowing from where it is (cf. 4, and see also b below); (*b*) in nautical use; also *all in the wind* (see quot. 1769).

*c* 1400 [see 16]. 1580 in *Hist. Hen.* (1880) 472 We fand a ledge of rockes in the winde of vs. 1588 J. Lichsfield tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* v. lxiv. 130 He cut and made his course into the Sea, to bring himselfe in the winde of those Seyles. 1634 Habington *Queen of Wyndam* III. v, Oh! how she holds her nose up, like a Jennet In the wind of a grass-mare! 1678 Devden *All for Love* Prol., The tyrants were suspicious, as they had reason, that their subjects had 'em in the wind. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3262/3 It blowing fresh, and they bringing their Ship in the Wind, carried away their Foremast. 1708 T. Brown tr. *Freeny's Amusem.* 3 Like a heated Stallion that had a Mare in the Wind. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All in the Wind*, the state of a ship when she lays nearly parallel to the direction of the wind, so as to shake and shiver. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xvi, We threw up in the wind, and cal. heaved.

b. *fig.* So as to be 'scented' or perceived (or so as to 'scent' or perceive something); *to have in the wind*, to 'scent', to detect or discover the presence of; sometimes, to be on the scent or trail of, be in search of.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iii. I j, Where we can get any meate in the wynde, where we may resorte. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 230 Of him and none but him who in valuation is worth 18 huge Argosees .. haue I tock sent or come in the wind of. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* III. vi. 109, I sent to her By this same Coxcombe that we haue i'th winde Tokens and Letters, which she did resend. 1664 Sanderson *Serm. 2 Tim. Iv.* 9 (1671) I will Take Scholars and Officers lie in the wind for them. 1771 Smollett *Humphry Cl.* II. 10 June Let. 1, The first was noted for having a seaman's eye, when a hailff was in the wind. 1826 *J. F. Cooper Last of Mohicans* xiii, The Mohicans have an enemy l..They scent danger in the wind! 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuzz.* xxv, Mrs. Gamp..scenting no more run in the wind (for the bottle was locked up again) rose to take her departure.

c. predicatively: Happening or ready to happen; astir, afoot, 'up'; (of a person or thing) as the subject of what is going on, 'in the business': usually with implication of being suspected or indistinctly apprehended (cf. b).

1535 Sir F. Bygod *Treat. Improprietions* D], A thynge there is in the wynde..which I trust in God wyl one day come to lyght. *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B iij b, There is sum what in the winde: His lookes bewrayes his Inwards troubled mynde. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* III. i, 32 Where are you, Gentlewoman? there's something in the wind I'm sure. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. xliv. 304 She thought something was in the wind, when my Brother came into my dining hare so readily. 1826 Disraeli *Vin. Grey* v. xiv, There must be something in the wind, perhaps a war. 1858 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iv, There's a woman in the wind.. I'll lay my life on it. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* vi, He'd have told us if there was a horse in the wind. It's a girl.

d. *To keep in the wind*: to remain in suspense or indecision.

*c* 1536 Starkey *Let. to Cromwell in England* (1878) p. xxxix, You schal fynd me..to be no sterrer, wauerar, nor bengar in the wynd. 1555 J. Proctor *Hist. Wyat's Rebell.* 42 b, Such of those parties as longe in the wind, as neuters. 1640 J. D. *Knave in Grain* n. i. D 2 b, Hang not ith' winde, delay does torture). 1881 [see Hang v. 17].

e. *To cast in the wind*: to 'fling to the winds'.

1652 H. Bell *Luther's Colloq.* iii. 66 Otherwise, wee had cast in the winde, and scorned to..consider of that which now wee have plainly expressed in the Scriptures. *Ibid.* xi. 178 If I regarded them not, but casteth them in the winde.

f. *Insignificancy.* (See quot.)

1805 C. James *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., A horse that carries in the wind, is one that tosses his nose as high as his ears, and does not carry handsomely.

g. *Naut. slang* (predicatively). Intoxicated; the worse for liquor: usually with qualification, esp. *three sheets in the wind.* (Cf. *all in the wind* in a (*b*) above.)

1811–12 [see Three sheets 2b]. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 307/2 The anger of those who were what is termed 'a little in the wind', was now roused. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xlvii, I'm not in the wind, at all events, for you see I'm perfectly sober.

**21.** Into the wind: into or towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to face the wind.

1928 *Discov. Mag.* Mar. 294/2 You [in an aeroplane] are tempted to turn into the wind and land.

**22.** Near the wind: nearly in the direction from which the wind is blowing; hence *fig.* nearly up to the possible or permissible limit; about as far as is safe, justifiable, or decent.

1696 W. Hedgwick in Wright *Q. Anne* (1838) I. 44, I went so near the winde with the Queen, that I told hym your Lordshippe knewe I wolde in reason respecte the game as fully as he. *a* 1700 H. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *He'll go as near the wind*, a Phrase to express a thrifty and wary man in any one. 1837 Wellington in *Davey's Catal.* (1895) 35 It is impossible for me to attempt to go too near the Wind. 1861 [see Near adv. 2].

**23.** Off the (†a) wind (*Naut.*): away from the wind; the opposite of *on or near the wind.*

1813 *Examiner* 4 Jan. 6/1 The enemy keeping two points off the wind. 1815 *Naval Chronicle* XIV. 32 The Enterprize was again steered more off the wind. 1826 Raikes *Hist. of Brenton* 332 The Spartan was off the wind. 1882 ‘Vandeecker’ *Yacht Sailor* 144 Running off the wind with a quarterly sail will test your powers to the utmost.

**24.** On a (less commonly the) wind (*Naut.*): towards or close to the direction from which the wind is blowing; (of the ship) sailing or heading in this direction.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I prouided Sail to Leeward to him, to keep him on a Wind with me. 1699 *Enterprise* was again steered more off the wind. 1826 Raikes *Hist. of Brenton* 332 The Spartan was off the wind. 1882 ‘Vandeecker’ *Yacht Sailor* 144 Running off the wind with a quarterly sail will test your powers to the utmost.

**24.** On a (less commonly the) wind (*Naut.*): towards or close to the direction from which the wind is blowing; (of the ship) sailing or heading in this direction.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I prouided Sail to Leeward to him, to keep him on a Wind with me. 1699 *Enterprise* on a Wind before it: that he should not discover my square Yards. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 342 The prows, sailing most excellently on a wind. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) Wind, to live, The Swiftsure and Alexander standing towards us with all sail on a wind. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iv, Clippers are fast on a wind. 1891 J. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 377 We, being 'on the wind, close hauled', were bound by the 'rule of the road at sea' to keep our course when meeting a ship running free.

**25.** Out of the wind. a. *Naut.* Towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to be *on the wind* (see 24). *Close to the wind*, very nearly in this direction: also *fig.* (see Sail *v.*1 1 c, and cf. 22).

1795 Nelson 14 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 15 Signal for the Fleet to come to the wind on the larboard tack. 1856 Maryat *Midsh. Easy* xxiii, Gascoigne went to the helm, [and] brought the boat up to the wind.

b. *To fling, give, throw*, etc. *to the winds* (fig.): to cast away, reject utterly. *To go to the winds*: to be cast away or aside, to vanish utterly.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 989 And fear of Death deliver to the Winds. 1739 J. Wesley *Hymn*, *'Commit thou all thy Griefs'* iv, Forbear to wound Him: Behold Him with thy Groans and Tears! Him, Him, let Him alone. 1824 ‘Roma Lvall’ *Wy'East in the Columbia* I. 31 Your..sensible Yankee *Story* II. 319 The specious cant of subtilty and self-interest she always..'gave to the winds'

folds Of ill white robe 1660 T. Gentleman *Best Way* 12 In distresse of *wind grown Sea 1827 Hood *Hero & Leander* x. Like trees, *wind parted, that embrace, kiss. 1598 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 40 Those *wind puft bladders. 1598–6 Greene *Groatsw. Wit* Wks (Grosart) XII 145 Wind-puft wrath. 1788 Colbeck *Sonn. to Autumnal Moon* 9 The *wind rent cloud. 1833 Tennyson *Dream Fair Women* viii, White surf *wind-scatter'd over sails and masts. 1880 Swinburne *Songs bef Sunrise, Christmas Antiphonies* iii 64 Though man's vain dream Hardly finds a *wind struck lyre Out in tuneless air. 1607 May *Lucan* III 2 Now had the *wind stuffde sailes brought out the Fleet. 1812 Tennant *Anster Fair* II. 822 From Colladyhes to *wind swept Tittenweem. 1877 Black *Green Past* xxxiv, The *wind-swept waters. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr* I xiv, The groan of the *wind swaying oak. 1860 Miss Yonge *Hopes & Fears* I 240 Lucilla before the glass, arranging her *wind tossed hair. 1887 Bowen *Virg Æneid* VI 335 Over the *wind-tossed waters. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl* I 6 Some *wind-wandering Fragment of inky thunder-smoke. 1899 R. Kerr *Agric Surv Berwick* 233 In years of peculiarly windy weather, the stem, where it enters the earth, is often blown about, in a whirling manner. This is provincially called *wind waved*. 1799 W. Nicol *Pract Planter* I 73 *Wind-waving by loosening the old, and breaking the new fibres, contributes to stint the whole tree in growth. c 1300 *Metr Hom* (Small) 36 To us a *wind wauand te rede. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 406 The *wind waving fig tree. 1873 B. Harte *Fel-lotesom* 48 The *wind is fierce unrest in the wind whipped streets. 1710 Hilman *Tusser Rediv* Sept (1744) 116 A Cart Nave I suppose is to stand up upon when they *wind winnow. 1886 Ruskin *Præt* III xxxii 8 The sun dwell stands when its *wind worn battlements are gone.

**d.** similative and parasynthetic, in epithets (chiefly poetic) expressing swiftness, as *wind foot, -footed, -swift, -winged* adjs

1598 Chapman *Iliad* VIII [xi] 178 The *wind foote swift Tlli. mania shayde. 1848 *Odyss Iliad* 1272 *Wind footed, swift Iris. c 1280 *Names of Hare in Rel Ant* I 133 De *wint swift. 1593 Shaks *Rom & Jul* II v 8 Therefore hath the *wind swift Cupid. 1885 Baldwin *Primeval Shore* 232 Meteors over on their windswift course. c 1595 J. Dickinson *Shefh. Compl* (1878) 21 The *wind wing'd Bands. 1817 Shelley *Rev Islam* IX xxii 6 Spring, of love, and youth, and gladness Wind winged emblem.

**31** Special combinations + **wind-balk**, (*sb.* = Wind-beam[1] (see Balk *sb* 11); (*b*) = Windrow *sb.* (cf Balk *sb* II), wind bar, the back of the wind-chest of an organ, + **wind-barge**, a slab placed along the top of a roof to protect it from the wind (cf Water barge), + **wind bed**, an air bed, **wind-belt**, a belt of trees planted for protection from the wind, **wind-bill** *Sc* (cf 14), an accommodation bill, + **wind-bladder**, (*a*) an inflated bladder, (*b*) the air-bladder of a fish; **wind-blown** *a*, blown up or inflated, blown along or about blown upon by (the) wind, **wind bore**, the suction pipe of a pump, or the lower end of this; **wind box** = *wind chest*, **wind brace**, a diagonal brace (Braces 2 b) 17, connecting the rafters of a roof, **wind-bracing**, a similar structure in a cantilever, + **wind-breaker** (cf. 10), a drug that expels flatulence, a carminative, so + **wind breaking** *a*, carminative, + **wind broach** [cf Broach *sb.* 12], a name for a hurdy gurdy, + **wind-cane** = Wind-gun, + **wind catch**, a squall of wind, **wind-changing** *a*, changing like the wind, inconstant; **wind chest**, an air-tight chest or box in an organ or similar instrument, which is filled with wind from the bellows, and from which the wind is admitted to the pipes or reeds, **wind cistern** = prec.; **wind cook**, †(*a*) = *wind mow*, (*b*) a weathercock, **wind-colic**, colic caused by flatulence, **wind contusion**, an internal injury without any external mark of violence, formerly supposed to be caused by the 'wind' (see 13) of a cannon-ball, shell, or other projectile, **wind dial**, a dial showing the direction of the wind by means of a pointer connected with a wind vane, also *fig* (cf. 15 b), + **wind-discusser** = *wind-breaker*, **wind dog** [Dog *sb* 10 a], name for a fragment of rainbow, supposed to presage wind, + **wind dropsy** = Tympanites, Tympany 1, **wind engine**, a machine driven by the wind, as a windmill, + **wind fan**, a winnowing-fan, **wind-fanner** (**vanner**) *local*, the kestrel; **wind fast** *a* = Wind tight 1, + **wind-fill** *v.*, *trans.* to fill up gaps or crevices in (a wall, etc.) so as to keep the wind out (cf Hitting *vbl sb* 2); + **wind flaught** *a* or *adv Sc* [Flaught *adv*], sprawling, as if overthrown by the wind, **wind furnace**, a furnace in which the draught is obtained by means of a (high or narrow) chimney without the aid of bellows or other mechanical blower as in a *blast furnace*; **wind-gap** (see Gap *sb* 1 5 b); + **wind glass** (see quot'), **wind god**, a deity presiding over the winds; + **wind-gout**, gout supposed to be caused by 'wind' (see 10); **wind-grass**, a name for *Agrostis Spica-venti*, + **wind-hand**, the side towards the wind, **wind-harp**, an Æolian harp (also *allusively*), **wind-hole**, + (*a*) the opening at the top of the windpipe, the glottis; (*b*) an opening in brickwork for the passage of air; (*c*) the hole in the lower board of a pair of bellows, (*d*) a ventilating shaft in a mine; (*e*) each of the openings in the sound-board of an organ, through which wind is admitted to the pipes; **wind-jammer** *U. S slang*, (*a*) a loquacious person, (*b*) a sailing vessel, **wind-knot**, a knot tied on a rope, supposed magically to ensure a favourable wind; + **wind-lap**, the tongue or reed of a wind-instrument; **wind-lipper** *Naut.* [Lipper *sb* 1], a rippling or ruffling of the surface of the water caused by the first rising of a breeze; **wind-list** [I list *sb* 3 4], -**logged** *a* [cf. Water-logged] (seequots.); + **wind loft** *Naut.*, ? = **wind-sail** *sb*; **wind-machine**, a machine driven by the wind, or one for producing a 'wind' or blast of air, **wind-motor** [Motor 3], a machine deriving its motive power from the force of the wind, esp. of the form of a windmill; **wind-mow** *dial* [Mow *sb* 1], one of a number of small ricks in which hay or corn is temporarily stacked in showery weather to be dried by exposure to the wind; + **wind music**, music played on wind-instruments; also such instruments themselves, or a company of players on them (cf. Music *sb* 5, 6), + **wind-musket** = Wind-gun; **wind pinning** [cf Pin *v.*[1] 3 c, Pinning 1 a, 2 a], the filling up of interstices in masonry to keep out the wind, **wind pole** [Pole *sb* 8], each of two opposite points of the horizon taken as the standard ones in relation to the direction of the wind; **wind porch**, a chamber constructed on the inner side of a doorway to keep the wind out, **wind-pox**, chicken-pox (Billings *Med Dict.* 1890), **wind-pump**, †(*a*) an air-pump; (*b*) a pump driven by a wind-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech* 1875); + **wind rese** [Rese *sb.*], a storm of wind; + **wind-rake**, ? the raking up of windfalls, or the right to do this, **wind road**, (*a*) a track or course habitually taken by the wind (*nonce-use*); (*b*) a passage for ventilation in a mine (see Gloss. 1883); + **wind-rode**, also + **-road** (see Ride *v.* A 37), *Naut.*, swung by the wind, as a ship riding at anchor (opp to *tide-rode* see Tide *sb.* 16 b), also as *sb*, the position of a ship so riding; **wind-screen**, a screen for protection from the wind, now esp in front of the driver's seat on a motor-car, **wind shaft**, the shaft that carries the sails in a windmill; **wind stroke**, a stroke or injury caused or supposed to be caused by the wind (see quots); **wind sucker**, a form of swell in an organ operated by a valve in the wind trunk, **wind-taut** *a*, *Naut.* [from phr *to hold wind taut*] see quots, also as *sb.* = condition of being wind-taut, **wind-throstle**, **-thrush**, the redwing; **wind tie** = *wind brace*; **wind-trunk**, a large tube (usually of wood) in an organ or similar instrument, through which the wind passes from the bellows to the wind-chest; **wind vane**, (*a*) the sail of a windmill (= Vane 3 a), (*b*) a weathercock (= Vane 1); **wind vent** = *wind-sucker* above, + **wind vent** = Imperial 2; **wind way**, (*a*) a ventilating passage in a mine, an air-way, (*b*) the narrow slit in an organ-pipe through which the wind strikes upon the lip so as to make the pipe speak, (*c*) access of the wind to a sailing vessel so as to give her freedom of passage (cf Way *sb* 16); **wind-wheel**, a wheel turned by the wind to drive some mechanism, as in a windmill or wind-pump; + **wind-work** (cf. 11), the process or function of respiration.

1592–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 373 Pro surrancione j li[d] in *wyndbulks*, stoys pouynchys, 48 8d. 1611 Corio. *v. Row, Mettre le fen en vent*, vis in wind baulkes, or windscreens. 1894 *Northumb'l Gloss.*, *Wind bath*, a wind hearn or collar beam. a beam stretching across the upper part of two roof principals (Obs.) 1881 W. E. Dickson *Organ Build* v 60 The brick of the chest, called the 'wind bar,' should be of strong and sound stuff. 1893 *Cycl Tradesman* (1892) 79 Arches, Cornestones, waterbar, es, and *wind berges or any other brown workes. 1576 *Turbervile Falconrie* 204 Some vse to cutte a *Windbed which is made of leather strongly sowed on all foure sides, and hauing a pype at one of the corners to blow it, and when it is full of wynde, to stoppe it vp and lie vpon it on the ground. 1903 C. Bird *Indian Tea* 2 (1917) 128 This characteristic (*sc* sweetgreen foliage) makes these several varieties of *Dibbings very suitable for planting as *windbelts. 1813 Headrick *Agric Surv Caithness* 169 If the [Scotch bank notes] be not convertible into specie at the option of the holder, there is a strong temptation to issue them on what are called *wind bills*, where there is no corresponding value of commodities in existence. 1821 Scott *Pirate* IV, He would have got a bank credit, manœuvred with wind bills. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Night* 10 b Rich, if they chance but on a moate or a *wind bladder, they neuer haue done with it till they haue cleane lost it out of sight. 1692 Ray *Creation* I (ed 2) 141 As for Fishes The Wind bladder, wherewith most of them are furnished, serves to poise their Bodies. 1593 Nashe *Christ's Tears* I 72 What is beauty more then a *windeblowene bladder? 1600 Rowlands *Letting of Humours Blood* Sat VI 83 More light and toyish than the wind blown chaffe. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl* I. (1818) 17 A wind blowne house. 1876 M. Collins in *F. Collins' Left & Fromdish.* (1877) II 158 Wind-blown daffodils. 1888 F. Cowper *Cashmalia* I 9 A low island, covered with bushes and a few wind-blown trees. 1797 Cuss *Cook's Voyages* 58 The *Wind Bores May be cast 8 feet long with a plain or egg bottom. 1858 *Cent Eng & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 189/1. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 38 A square box, called the *wind box. 1880 *Cath. Household* 30 Nov 4 Tracered *windbraces. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 51 The *wind-bracing was fitted in its long diamonds of lattice. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens* (1713) 600/1 The sugared oily Carminative, or *Wind breaker. 1869 Rogers *Essays for Money* (Percy Soc) 117 Good holsome *windebreaking peppine. 1693 Urquhart *Rabelais* II xxx 198 A player on that instrument which is called a *windiorock. 1726 T. Brown *Lett fr Dead Wks* 1730 II 234 To fumble out a fine sonata upon a wind brack. 1783 E. Stone tr *Bion's Math. Instrum* 121 n (1758) 95 The Construction of the *Wind Cane. 1810 Claudian *Translations* 61 Sweeping or floating Waters, which flit and fleece to and fro with *wind catches. 1665 W. Dobson *Designe Draining Gt. Level Iract* 13 I have thanks I did not make Sea Hatts, but laid them near to avoid a Winde catch. 1593 Shaks *3 Hen VI*, v. i. 57 *Wind cel anging Warwicke now can change no more. 1797 *Encycl Brit.* (ed 3) XIII 487/2 (*Organ*) IKKK is the *wind chest, which is a square box fitted close to the under side of the lower board. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 52 The length of the wind chest depends on the compass of the key bo ard. 1881 E. J. Hopkins *Elem Dict Mus* II. 605/2 The *wind cisterns or wind chests. 1810 R. Vaughan *Water Works* II 4 b, You mow one day, you ted an other you rowle and rake a third, and make *windcockes. 1880 Marbried *Right Royal* 5 Spires of churches gleaming with swinging wind cocks on their perches. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T* 45 b, Every one of them [Fates] is the standard one in relation to the direction of the wind. 1654 Gataker *Disc Apol* 57, I came home, arrested with a sharp fit of the Wind Colick. 1732 Fielding *Love Letters* I. iii. 8 Feed the Children Pain within my Breast, Nor know I whether it arise from Love, Or only the Wind Cholick. 1822–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 236 The oppressive distention of wind colic. 1887 Dungleson *Med Lex*, *Wind-cut* a term applied to the sudden suppression of air, supposed to be produced by the passage of a ball near a part of the body, so as to occasion what has been called a *'wind contusion'*. 1. Longmore in *Gunshot Wounds* 95 The true explanation of the phenomena observed in cases of so called 'wind contusions' is to be found in the peculiar distortion, the degree of oblitquity with which the missile has happened to impinge against the elastic skin. 1706 in Ashton *Soc Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) II 56 The 'Wind Dial, lately set up at Whitehall. 1. Deane, Surveyor of Constant use to those that are in any wise Concerned in Navigation. 1761 Lt. Hardwicke in *Life* (1847) III xiv 257 A great change was made in the political wind dial before you left us. 1676 J. Kirby *Suffolk & Norfolk* Afily Table, 'Wind discusses. 1860 Fitz Roy in *Merc Marine Mag* VII 344 'Wind dogs', and the rainbow, are more or less significant of increasing wind. 1707 Curios *Improv Beasts* 386 The Lampany, which may be called in English the 'wind dropsie. 1822–7 Good *Study Med* (1829) V 451 Making an artificial opening into the cavity of the abdomen in the case of wind dropsy, as well as in that of water dropsy. 1669 Worthop *Syst Agric* (1681) 21 n (c, 'Wind Engines for the raising of Water. 1. 1775 *Ann Reg* 17 His 'wind fone in honda his. 1761 *Descr S Carolina* 7 Afterwards it is winnowed, which was formerly a very tedious Operation, but it is now performed by a very simple Machine, a Wind fan. 1868 Chesshyre *Handbk Organ Acoustics* 11 *Immunculus*, the 'Wind vanner. c 1836 Johnes in *Mrs Bury Lamar & Tasty* (1879) I 301 The kestrel, called here the 'wind farner' and 'windhover, from its custom when hovering over the same spot in search of its quarry. 1648 J. Davidson *Inverurie* (1878) 302 To keep the kirk 'wind fast and water tight. 1. Stanford *Remains Lore in Antiquary* (1888) May 203 1. John Rayner for 'wind filinge the Church wall 1[d]. 1543 Douglas *Æneis* V. vi 86 He Mand pyn lyche 'windfloit fyng *rotabilis*] on the ground vnclene. 1681 French *Distill* VI. 356 Those tubes into a *Windie Furnace. 1683 *K. Digby's Chym Secr* 132 Put them in a Wind Furnace to Calcine. 1704 J. Harris *Lex Techn* I s.v. *Furnace*, A Wind Furnace is one for Fusions, which is so called, because the Wind comes forcibly to blow the Coals, in order to Melt or Fuse the Matter in the Crucible or Coppel. 1763 W. Cleaver *Hydr. Techn.* 11 A Wind Furnace, for the fusion of metals. 1869 Rogers *Chem Chem* (1877) 240 The oldest method of of manufacturing wrought iron was to reduce it from the ore by heating in a wind furnace with charcoal or coal. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech*, *Wind furnace*, a furnace in which a strong heat is obtained by means of a powerful draft, depending on a narrow flue or chimney, as distinguished from a blast furnace. 1588 Lyte *Dodoens Nouuell Hist Cucurbitula*, a 'wind glasse, cupping glasse, or boaring glasse. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I, The 'Wind g d warring now with Fate. 1893 F. K. White & *Lee's Fair Rosemary* III, The wind god as he flies Mans hollow in the Forest trees. 1662 R. Matthew *Unl Alch* 144 A man near fourteen years, afflicted with the 'Wind Gout in his hands. 1847 Inchbald *Jrnl* xi 239 The dry 'wind grass of the plains north of the Straten. 1884 Miller *Fl Vect*, *Agrost* (*Agrostis*) *Spica venti*, Corn grass, Wind grass. 1599 Nye *Commerp* in *Arb* 11 When you come to Peace, set your Budge barrel on the 'wind hand thereof. 1823 Hogg *Queen's Wake* (1841) 109 When 'wind harp to thy window dwells. 1841–3 Marryat *Settlers* xxiii (John) I 225 The musical steaming odorous south wind, which converts all trees to wind harps. 23 *Gent & Gr. Ant* 2336 Pay graybeld and 'windsaile. 1. Pepys *Diary* 'wynt hole. 1683 Moxon *Mech Exerc*, *Printing* xviii P 2 Lay the ends of each Brick about three Inches off each other to serve for Wind holes. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xiv (Knab) 7/1 The wind hole a square hole in the middle of the under board (or a pair of bellows). 1800 Mawe *Miner Derbysh* Gloss., *Wind holes*, shafts or sumps sunk to convey wind or air. 1881 W. E. Dickson *Organ-Build* IX 122 Let us be sure that the flow of wind to that pipe is not interrupted by a chip in the wind hole. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispr* 7 Aug., The few workers present

are effectually playing the part of "windjammers and many rumors are afloat. 1899 *Harmsworth's Mag.* Mar. 501 A large three-masted wind-jammer was caught by the gale and disabled. 1909 *Athenæum* 31 July 121/2 It deals with a homeward passage of a big steel 'windjammer' from Calcutta—a typical chapter from the life of merchant-service Jack. 1868–9 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 367 The witches of Lapland sold "wind-knots" tied on a rope to their seafaring customers. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 27/49 Ye *Wynd-bagge, Ingulus.* 1589 *Pronn. Soc. Antiq.* II. 212 We can do nothing with the guns when there is any swell, or *wind* lipper. 1815 W. Scoresby in *Mem. Wernerian Soc.* II. 324 *note*, The first effects of a breeze of wind on the main water is by seamen called wind-lipper. 1898 Miss Yonge *T. Keble's Parishes* 3 "*Windlist*, white streak of faint cloud across a blue sky, showing the direction of the wind. a 1887 *Penny Treat. Naval Architect.* 1. ii. In the next enquiry must be, what extent of Sail our Vessel must carry, . . and from thence the *Wind-lofft.* 1899 R. Stuart *Anecd. Steam Eng.* I. 149 Air contained in the cylinder, and prevented . . the fall of the piston. . . from this cause alone, (and which was afterwards known by the term of "wind-logged") this engine must have soon ceased its motion. 1901 *Brit. Rail. Engg. Rev.* Dec. II. 122 A self-regulating "Wind Machine. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 7 Sept. 4/2 These wind machines, species of gigantic bellows. 1811 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr. Hist. Ann.* 341 The annual expences of repairs . . will not much exceed that of a wind machine. 1881 Sir W. Thomson in *Nature* 8 Sept. 431/1 Air contained in the cylinder, and prevented . . the fall of the piston . . :

**b** *trans* To turn, to cause to move in a curve. Also *absol*
13 *Somer Sonedayv* in *Rel Ant* II 8 With a wonder ful whel that worthi wyth wond *c1440 Promp Parv* 529/1 Wy dyn' or turyd' a bowte, *gyro, verto* 1483 Caxton *Gold Leg* 1 vij b The tortuse [and] the crane whe wynde their brede here and there as a vane 1596 Shake *Tam Shr* I, iv 1 109 As if an Angell dropt downe from the Clouds, To turne and winde a fiery Pegasus 1614 D Dyke *Myst Self Deceit* (1630) 187 I et the Serpent but wind in his head 1658 W Lilie *Helio torus* x 177 As Camell Dish eu ne way his small head nimbly winde 1666 Hooke *Microgr* 199 Having so small a body upon such long legges, it is quickly able so to wind, and turn it, as to see any thing distinct 1737 Dyer *Fleece* II. 464 Or where the Iuse or Coker wind their streams. 1760–72 H Brooke *Fool Quality* (1809) III 92 The young nobles turning and winding their fiery horses.

**7** *a intr* To move in a curve, to turn, esp. in a specified direction *Obs. exc* as implied in b, c
*c*1385 Chaucer *L G W* 818 *Thisbe* Whan that this lyy nesse hath dronke hire fille, A boute the welle gan sche for to wynde 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* II v (1495) 51 b/1 As a whele wyndeth abowte [orig *in se volvitur et rota litatur*] and mouyth always abowte in compass, soo angels meue a bowte p^e thynge that longyth to god 1600 Shake *Sonn* CXI. 11 It is a Creature that I teach to fight, To winde, to stop, to run directly on 1607 Topsell *Four F Beasts* 174 Lo gallop and amble, to run a race to wind it in compasse, and so forth 1694 Earl Mulgrave *Essay upon Wars Flanders* 326 Winding about [to *circumdo*] on the left hand towards the gates Canimper and Seile, he came before them 1725 Dr Pope *tr Iliad* (1736) I 260 We went winding now f m the south east to the left, till our course looked east by north

**b.** To move along in a sinuous course, to go or travel *along, up, down*, etc. a path or road which turns this way and that
*a*1682 Sir J Berkeley *Tracts* 2 (1681) 165 How the Jordan passed or winded, in a point too old for Geography to determine 1697 Dryden *Virg Past* VII 15 Here wanton Mincius winds along the Plain, And alders in a happy Ranke with bending Reeds. 1725 Desaguliers *Fires Impr* 102 The External Air will go winding thro' the Cavities. 1750 Gray *Progr* 3 The Muse heard wind slowly o er the lea. 1789 Mme D Arblay *Diary* 15 Sept, It made me tired to wind up the flight of stairs 1859 Green *Oxford Studies* (O H S) 92 Long processions of pilgrims were to pass the Jewry to the Shrine of Saint Frideswide 1865 Reade *Hard Cash* xxx, Making a sudden turn, [he] dived into a street, then into a passage and so winded and dodged till he got to a small public-house 1869 Sir F Trevas *Other Side of Lantern* II ii (1976) 36 A train of donkeys winding along among the hansoms.

**c** *transf* Of a line, road, or the like: To have a curved cap, a sinuous course, to lie or extend in a curve or succession of curves. † Formerly also of an object To have a curved or sinuous form.
1555 in Feuillerat *Revels Q Mary* (1914) 184 Garded with a g ird of olden leaves gold and greene sylke wyndinge like a wreth in embroidred vpon gold silke 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomen l* 345 *Lituus*, a writhen or crooked trumpet winding in and out 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimage* 1 21 (ed 2) 15 The passage to mount Vp was very wyde and great, winding about on the outside. 1638 Jackson *Creed* VIII xxv 11 § 4 The crooked paths which winde to cursednesse and malediction 1667 Milton *P L* IV 545 A Rock Of Alchaster pil'd upto the Clouds, winding with one ascent Accessible from Earth 1748 Thomson *Castle Indol* I v, Where this valley winded out below, The murmuring main was heard to flow 1830 Tennyson *In Mem* LXXXV, Still onward winds the dreary way 1866 Baring Gould *Broom-Squire* xvii, The path winded in and out among the grave stones.

**d** with advb acc., or *trans.* with obj. (*one's* or *its*) *way*, etc
1667 Milton *P L* III 513 He windes his oblique way Amongst innumerable Starrs 1794 Mrs Radcliffe *Myst Udolpho* I A rivulet that wound its silent way beneath the shades it reflected 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xxiii, The mile winds not his dark subterranean path beneath our feet the less certainly 1857 Longfellow *Psalm* v 10 The human race at which we wont t our way through the colo ty 1887 L Oliphant *Episodes* 281 A funeral procession, winding its solemn way to the cemetery 1891 Sherman *Last Poems* xii Content to wind the measures [= dances].

**e** *trans* To traverse in a curved or sinuous course; also *transf* of a path, as in c *arch*.
1648 Gage *West Ind* 90 Which it wended the mountain upward much above a mile 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IV 533 He winds the Wood 1743 Francis *tr Horace's Odes* I xxxiii 22 Though fiercer she than wives that roar, Winding the roads, Calabian shore 1798 Lamb *Old Familiar Faces* Sweet it is to wind the rill, sweet with thee to climb the hill 1906 *Daily Chron* 20 Aug 4/4 Wherever a river winds a valley

**8** *Naut* **a.** *intr* Of a ship To turn in some direction, *e g* to swing round when at anchor, to lie with her head towards a particular point of the compass (esp. in phr. *How wind you? How does the ship wind?*). **b** *trans* To turn (a vessel) about (About A. 6 b) or in some particular direction. See also 19 b (*b*), 22 *g*
App a substitution for Wend, q v (1, 6 c)
1613 J Sarin *Voy. Japan* (Hakl Soc) 44 She came to an anck r so neare ahead of vs as we could scarse wynd eleere one of the other. 1623 (Sept. 10) *Admiralty Cal Examn.* 44 (MS) Sh. was not quicke of steeridge, nor easye to be turned or winded 1625 Manwayring *Sea manx Dict* (1664) 115 When they are under saile, they use to sake, how w rds the ship that is, vpon what point of the Compasse doth she lie with her head 1627 J Smith *Sea Gram* vi 87 Wind the Boat is to bring her head the other way a 1668 Davenant *Song, Winter Storms* II. Wha. (1673) 292 Alee, or we sink! Does no man know to wind her! 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag* I ii 18 How Wind you? N N E. thus were no more, nere, keep her full 1709 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1720) *French Sea Terms* 10 *Cap, Ou est la Cap?* how is the head? how does the ship wind? 1798 P Reverr in *Collect Massachusetts Hist Soc* (1826) V. 107 It was then young flood, the ship was winding, and the moon was rising 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xxxi, One of the cutters has winded ; she is stretching out for the shore 1836 Marryat *Pirate* I. 20 The Swedes winded the boats with their heads the same way 1846 Olmsted *Slave States* 607 We backed out winded round head up

**9.** *trans* and *intr.* In the management of horses in the yoke: To turn to the left, or towards the driver: opp to Hap v 1, Hup v, Gee
*a* 1745 1794 [see Hap v 1] 1816 Scott *Old Mort* xxiii, A fackless loon had catched two drag son naigs and he could neither gar them hup nor wind 1850 *Pearl R Agric. Soc* XII 1 125 To plough three 12 yard ridges by winding, or turning to the left hand *Ibid*, By laying two ridges (24 yards) together at each of the e, making and winding out the intermediate spaces, there will only be one open furrow every 60 yards

**† 10.** To draw or pull *out* with a twisting movement Also *intr. Obs.*
*c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 6748 But euere the heed was left behynde For ought I couthe pulle or wynde *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* CCIX. (1542) 257 By cruell deathe, as windynge theyr guttes out of theyr bodyes 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XI lxviii He strous the wounds with weapon out to winde, And stoke the reed, but left the head behinde

**11.** In immaterial sense To turn or deflect in a certain direction, *esp* to turn or lead (a person) according to one's will; also *to turn and wind* (see Turn v 68 b). Now *rare or Obs.*
† *To wind up and down* to revolve in the mind † *To wind off* to turn aside. *To wind about* to use circumlocution with (cf 12)
*c* 1390 Chaucer *Tr plus* II 601 Crisseyde euery word gan vp and down to wynde That he hadde seyd as it come here to mynde *c* 1386 — *L G W Prol* 85 She is the clerenesse And the verray light that in thin herte stant She wynt and ledyth 1586 A. Day *Engl Secretorie* I (1625) 136 That by your timely looking to those matters, you may winde both from shifts, and from blame 1597 Bacon *Ess* (1871) 57 he speculations into another man, to the end to know how to worke him, or winde him, or gouerne him 1606, 1673 [see *Turn and wind*, Turn v 68 b] 1607 Gale *Cert Genuine* iv 298 S Seuerus winded his Actions from the Citizens, and into the Nature 1708 Mrs Centlivre *Busie Body* II i, Ihese flattering fops imagine they can wind, I turn and decoy to love all they approach 1713 Pomfret *Love Unmask'd* 36 To wind the Passions, and command the Heart. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I xxxvi 258 He winds one about and about, and never can be found out, unless one knew how would wish him to have 1777 Johnson *Let to Mrs Thrale* 29 Sept, There was not time for many questions, and no opportunity of winding and winding them, as Mr. Richard can him at, so as to get truth without questions 1821 Scott *Kenilw* VII. He can wind the proud Earl 1 his will 1827 Cruise *Comm Assn* I 218 Love, which had once for all taken root in her heart, now dexterously winded and turned the matter.

**† b** To draw, bring, or involve (a person) *in*, attract *into*, by alluring or enticing methods *Obs.*
1558 Elyot *Dict* Addit, *Lacio* , to bryngе into a snare, or to wynde one in to his purpose 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps* XXXVI 4 Hee doth not simply fynd fault with the vngodly for walking in other folkes with their wyles and practises 1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1632) 1 242 A subtile pretive (as was thought) intended to wynde him wythin daunger *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III xxvi (1912) 504 Which winded her against her will the former mark of p^ersies. 1608 Torkill *Serpents* 48 A certaine man , being treacherously wound in and intrapped, by the craftie wiliues of a certaine woman 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* (1677) 191 If he wisheth them Into a loosenesse once, take heed 1653 H More *Antid. Ath* I iv § 2 You will be wound into the most notorious absurdities 1655 Vossius *Acut Dramboels* 7 It is admiral le how they will wynde men in, and draw men on by drinking first a health to such a man.

**† c** To bring (a thing) *in* by insinuating methods. *Obs.*
1570 Levins *Manip Vocab* C vij, This is the fine force of Sanders most fine wite, in finding out fetches, and winding in stuffe it s strengthen and fortifi e Antichristianisme *c* 1650 Brad ford *Plymouth Plant* (1856) 301 He with his former dealings had wounded himself into a partnership into his owne hands 1674 *Gen t Tongue* IX 160 I is pleasant to see what little Arts and dexterities they have to wind in such things into and discourse.

**+d.** With *out*. To draw out, extricate, disentangle. *Obs.*
*c* 1535 W Roper *Life Sir T More* VI (1729) 40 To wynde suche quarrells out of the Cardinall's head 1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* 309 Iacob and Iosep h being wrapped in sundrie tribulations, were by their merciful God wound out and rid from vll [orig *exliuerunt*]. 1577 *S Ang Manual* 1 vb, Hands are out (orig *exolvi*), & unlaste, that the pit shut not his mouth vpon me 1601 F Godwin *Bps of Eng.* 121 By and by he ouertopped the Archbishop, and quickly wound him out of all authority 1607 Topsell *Rev Trag* III L (1608) E 3, Weele haue some text and wile, To winde our yonger brother out of prison

**†e.** To circulate, put in circulation (money or merchandise) *Obs. exc* as implied in *turn and wind*.
1598, 1686 [see Turn v. 64 c]. 1624 Capt Smith *Virginea* IV 157 Tobacco passes there as current Siluer, and by the oft turning and winding it some grow rich but many poore. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett* I xli, There is no state that winds the penny more nimbly and makes quicker returns 1678 Butler *Hud* III II 1450 Whence turning of Religion's made The means to turn and wind a Trade.

**12.** *intr.* (also † *refl*, and with *it*) To pursue a devious, circuitous, or intricate course in argument, statement, or conduct, († esp with *about* adv or prep ) to use circumlocution or subtle terms of argument (*arch*)
*c* 1386 Chaucer *Can Yeom Prol & T*, 457 For in hise termes, so he wolde hym wynde And spoke hise wordes in so sly a kynde Whanne he commune shal with any wight, That he wol make hym doten anon right 1598 Marston *Dyadoe* I Wks. 1856/1 Truly quod he yo wynde it well about 1599 Shake *Much Ado* II i 234 You know me well, and herein spend but time To winde about my loue with circumstance 1607 Beaum & Fl *Woman Hater* II i, You must not talk to him as you doe to an ordinary man, honest plain sence, but you must wind about him 1680 Aubrey in *Lett Eminent Persons* (1813) III 612 He turned, and winded, and compounded in philosophy, politiques etc. no if he had been at mathematicall work 1686 Jevon *Devil of a Wife* I 14 He has a mind to wind about, but thus shan t serve his turn 1753 Richardson *Grandison* I xxxvi, 258 I have winded and winded about him, as he has done about me, but all to no purpose 1800 Maria Edgeworth *The Will* II, I winded and winded, till at the last, out comes the truth. 1838 Lytton *Leila* IV v, Why dost thou wind and turn, good Ximen? thou knowest well what my words drive at 1880 Robertson *Serm* Ser III vii 93 He did not evidently wind through the dangerous forms of evil 1880 Jowett *Thucyd* I Introd p xii In winding through the long dotes we have sometimes a difficulty in separating his own view from that of others whom he is confuting

**† 13.** *intr* and *refl* To writhe (oneself) to extricate or disentangle oneself from a state of confinement or embarrassment *Obs*
1418–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* I 2007 Love in his lawes often schulde eure, And wynden out of honestees cheyne *a* 1569 Kingesmyll *Hen Lat* 81 b/1 Like as a Serpent when she is in the nette, we he fast fettered, our owne eyes not servyng us to enjoie any wite to winde out 1599 Hayward *1st Pt K Hen IV*, 83 To wind out of those inextricable troubles 1608 P Golding *Sladanus Spit Treasard* 168 Not able to winde out of the linnen which entangled him 1667 Milton *P L* VI 659 Lo a stragling underneath, ere they could wind Out of such prison

1530 Palsgr 782/1, I am tangled in busynesse and can nat tell howe I may wynde me out. 1538 Elyot *Dict* Addit, *Exolvere se vinculis*, to wynde hym out of trouble 1561 Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* Z vj b, He struggled the more to winde himself out of their handes 1597 Hooker *Eccl Pol* V lxxvii § 8 They make it more easie for such kinde of persons to winde themselues out of the law 1633 Jackson *Creed* VIII viii § 2 Hee could not wound himselfe out of those present dangers 1643 Milton *Iustial Ath* 1 *Reading*, To wind themselves from under the Awe of Superstition [1805 Carlyle *Fredk Gt* XIX ii (1872) VIII 120 Solitkof winded himself out of Posen one day, welled by Cossacks (*Cf* to *pitch and toss*)]

**b.** With *in, into*. To insinuate oneself
1548 Udall, etc *Erasm Par Luke* I 1 That being so knowen by the wonderfulnes of his moste fayre workemanship he might be wonne inwarde to our remembraunce 1607 Shake *Cor* III iii 64 Io winde Yourselfe into a power tyrannicall 1640 Rutherford *1st to Lady Kingstch* 97 Mar, If ye could in on his loue, what a second heaven had pass time with, to be burned with fevers of love sickness for him 1646 Saltmarshe *Some Drops* II 57 This is the old way to winde in under the wing of Authority 1690 C. Nesse *Def Nat Test* I 25 He did expressly warn them against such as he heart 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxix Of your having basked at my brother's fireside like a serpent, and wound yourself, through me, almost into his confidence 1886 C Reade *Hard Hitonnats Alex* IV 130 Origen does not wind himself into the heart He has not the blithe genuinity of Clement

**14** *trans* To turn or pass (something) around something else so as to encircle or enclose it and be in contact with it, to coil, twine, fold, or wrap (something) *about, round*, or *upon* something else
Also occas to put around something so as to encircle it with ut contact
1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 8055 Aboute be body a rope bey wonde 1339 Gower *Conf* II 359 He, which hadde of nothing doute Hire wyn pel would aboute his cheke *c* 1450 *Merlin Festial* 126 Hur lady, his moder wynde hur kerchef about hym *c* 1480 *Henry Med* (1911) 301 When it is well won knyt a knot fast 1593 Shake *3 Hen VI*, v 1 54 This Hand, fast wound about thy c ple black hayre 1618 Gainsford *Glory Eng* 41 Some haue wound linnen rowles about their heads in Vister carelesly wonde about 1655 tr *Sorel's Com Hist Francion* v 8 Instead of a Night Cap he had wound a linnen Cloth about his head 1667 Milton *P L* IX 215 Whether to wind The Woodlane round this Arbour or direct The clasping Ivie where to climb. 1680 Moxon *Mech Exerc* 189 Upon the thin end of the Pole must be wound a Cylindrale Bundle of String 1819 Shelley *Faust* II 320 When she winds them [*sc* her locks] round a young man s neck. 1842 Browning *Count Gismond* x Wind the pennons about her! 1866 Lytton *Lost Lales Miletus, Secret Way* 23 As hunters round the wild beasts in their lair Marked for the javelin, Wind a belt of fire 1870 Rose *Lect Paint* I. 1 p xxii, [A] bandage to be winded and kept at the patient s arm 1896 Houghan *Skirpah Lad* v, Suppose I wound my arm right round 1908 J J Bell *Little Grey Magh, Patrol* 18 [He] began to wind about his neck a dark blue muffler

**b.** *fig*., esp. in phr *to wind* (a person, etc) *round one's little finger* (cf. Finger *sb.* 3, and sense 11 above)
1658 Lollius *Immor Stage* 279 To play People out of their Senses, and wind their Passions about their Fingers as they list 1818 Scott *Br Lammm* xxi, I am told the mother can wind them both round her little finger. 1854 Milman *Lat Christ* IV viii (1864) II 356 Irene wound her toils with consummate skill around her ill fated victim 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* III 1 96 My life being wound about you as it is

**15.** To put (thread, tape, or the like) in coils or convolutions around something, as a reel, or upon itself (either by passing the thread, etc round and round, or by turning the reel or other object round and round), so as to form it into a compact mass (hank, skein, ball, etc.). (Also in *fig* phrases cf. PERK *v.*[2] 1 b.) Also with *from* or *off*, to undo the coils of (thread, etc.) by rotating the object on which they are wound; to unwind. (See also *wind up*, 22 c.)

*c*1325 *Glass Wde de Bibbesw* in Wright *Voc.* 157 E vostre filos lk wudez (*gloss* wynde thi yarn] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B v. 521 He bare a burdoun ybounde with a brode liste, In a wilwe-yunde wise ywonden aboute *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 359 De nigge askid ather of þaim whar if he bothom at he cleve was won on was. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 To Wynde spulen, *devolvere* 1530 PALSGR. 782/1 This yerne is so tangled that I can nat wynde it. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod* D iv b, If she wanted a bottome whereon t⁹ winde her silke 1590 SHAKESPEARE *Meth. Pleasure* III xviii (1600) 231 It seemeth wounden together like a string 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 188 If it be so, you haue wound a goodly clewe. 1696 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE *Ess. in the City* 1 A large dor, One seated and holding a skain of silk while the other winds it off on a ball 1787 MRS. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Mar., Miss Planta left the room while I was winding some silk 1867 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 4 The long thin threads which she winded daily from her spindle 1880 *Slang Dict* (ed 2) 247 I'll wind your cotton, I.e. I will give you some trouble. 1889 P. C. HEATH in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 292/2 To operate the instrument it is only necessary to snap the shutter and wind off the paper

*absol.* 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 555, I weue an I worpe and do what treuthe hoteth 1381 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 119 Do passe the time to winde and reele & with your maids to spinne. 1583 BUDGE *Palizonata* 211, An' 'a'p she wou'd, an ay she sweat. 1818 *Mrs. Rund. Committee Rib'n Weavers* 134 Several persons to hang many looms they wind for 1870 *Inquiry Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 18 She winds for forty men weavers.

†**b.** To roll or fold up. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 Let the wol be well folden or wounden with a woll-wynder 1530 PALSGR. 782/1 To wynde, *Fer. Fitzh.* 1. 19-14 Ay a wynde thou wilte þem alwaye.

**16** To encircle *with* or enclose in something passed round and in contact, † to wrap up; † to embrace, enfold in the arms; now, in ordinary prose use, only of binding a thing *round* with tape, wire, or the like.

*c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He wes iwunde mid wine and smirred mid ele *Ib. f.* 107 He wes inaced to monne likenesse and iwunden mid flesce al swa m n *c*1200 ORMIN 3332 & tær sho barr Alimahhtiȝ Godd & wand himm sone i winnclellut *c*1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2557 In an feiles Du child wunden she wulde don *c*1290 *Mary Magdalene* 383 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 473 Huy nomen þe Queene and hire child and wounden in a manted *c*1300 *Cursor M.* 1650 (Fairf.) Mid a wele wit balk and band, And wind it siben well wit wand *c*1300 *Havelok* 568 Hwan giuin him hauede faste bounden, And siben in an old cloth wel wunden 1340 *Gawayne & Gr. Knt.* 2e stele of a stif staf Pat was wounden wyth ynn *c*1375 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1235 Gan ache of hem in armes opre wynde 1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 140 Sche hyd that ys schuld be wound in a canvasse for savyng of the carpays 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 299/b A yong child that lay wounden in smale clowtes in hys moders lappe *Ye* 1500 *Clarendon* V. 1917 Glauder war nevere [Cf. ... Whiles he had Creon in his arms wimdin 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxvii. 20 The coueringe to small, that a man mayȝe not wynde him self therin. *a*1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 8b, There the scabberdes wounde about with satyne *a*1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 197 This hielandman took the swynn [*sword*] and wand it in his plaid 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 51 And so to wynde him in his cowle and basbert. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 23 Sometime am I All wound with Adders wh⁹ with clouen tongues Doe hisse me into madnesse. 1633 BRAUN & H. *Antidote to the Frag.* II Let me wind thee in these arms, Till I have banisht sickness 1686 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 106 If they winde their bottome of two sides with bro me *a*1721 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 294 Dren b the beast, and then wind him up warm in hay 1856 MERRIVALE *Lone in Valley* xiv, Jasmine winds the porch in with sweet and three 1864 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xxi, Such is Judy. And her twin-brother couldn't wind up a top for his life. 1899 SALA *Lights & Sh.* I. xvi, There, you've tips wound, and muffles gumbled for 1885 TENNYSON *Ancient Sage* 107, And wind the front of youth with flowers 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 491/1 The corner posts were padded and wound with many layers of red and blue bunting.

**b** *spec.* To wrap (a corpse) in a shroud or *winding-sheet*; to shroud *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2448 First sir. nyȝt [men] fe liches beðen, And smeren, and wunden, and bi-queðen 13 *Cursor M.* 17288 (Cott.) Pe clothes þai resaiu wra wonden in *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii (*Laurentius*) 503 Ypolyt tuk be cors away, & wan I li m clathis fyne *c*1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. xcv. 2003 (MS. W.) Ia se þe quyk þe dede dispuile Quhen he is wounditt in his achete 1506 TINDALE *John* xix. 39 I hen toke they the body of Jesu and wonde it in lynnen clothes. 1563 *Fonton Providence* I. i. 370 Yea, truly, syr, your father is dead these hauds of mine holpe to winde him 1600 RUTHERFORD *Let to Mrs Craig* 4 Aug., The mother ... cannot get leave to wind the son, nor to weep over his grave. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 335 Vowing he'll not conform, before The Old Wives wind their dead in Wollen 1880 W. COLLINS *Woman in White* II. Narr. I. II. 349 I hat she had winded a many of them in her time.

†(*b*) *nonce-use* To carry *out* in a winding-sheet. 1600 *Heaving of Gallimaufr* B b b Tenne wound out of one house, must for shame carry five payre of sheetes with them.

**c.** Chiefly in pa. pple. and *fig*: To involve, entangle, † occas. to wrap up (in fair words).

*c*1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 913 Ne wynd þou naut by senne ine selke Ac telle out al þat rouȝ. *c*1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2812 Ily wande, þat I am in wonden *c*1449 *Cast. Perseu* 703 in *Macro Plays* 98 Worthy World, in weihys wonde *c*1485 *Digby Mysts.* III. 23, I am wonddyn in weith from all wo 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh Bound* Poet Wks. (1904) 162/1 In the great net of Ate, whence none cometh out, Ye are wound and undone I 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks Char.* I. 57 Then they wound him in their devil's wiles 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

**17.** *intr* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1375 GAWAYNE *Kynchwmbe Wyfe* 1910 If I 126 What tree soever it [ivy] rysse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it 1597 GERARDE *Herbaach's Heath* I. 38 It wyndeth about and lieth in their devil's 1882 W. DIXON *Mac.* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the bales was wound

(*b*) †To make up as the conclusion or final scene (*obs.*); to bring to a close or conclusion, to form the conclusion of, be the final event in

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II 27, I shall be better directed in what manner to wind up the Catastrophe of the pretty Novel. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I xii, To wind up the last scene of thy tragedy, Cruelty and Cowardice shall strike together at all thy infirmities and mistakes. 1821 SCOTT *Peveril of Peak* VIII 254 The moral by which the whole Masque is winded up, was sadly true. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daughter* I xii, Her laughter was winding up the day with her accustomed bottle of soda-water. 1848 THACKERAY *Van Kor. alys*, Sobs and tears wound up the sentence in a storm. 1910 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 6/2 An evening party on Saturday wound up the season's entertaining.

(*c*) To put in order and settle (an affair) with the view of bringing it to an end; to bring to a final settlement, *spec.* to arrange and adjust the affairs of (a company or business concern) on its dissolution, also *absol.*

1780 *Mirror* No. 97 P 7 Some company concerns to be wound up, or some bottomry account to be adjusted. 1796 GOLDSMITH in Sprigge *Life & Lett.* (1910) II 458, I have some affairs in London which I wish to wind up. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I xiii, It was understood that the affairs of the House were to be wound up gradually. 1876 *Bankers' Magazine* 30 Jan 131 2 The Master of the Rolls has made an order to wind up, and has appointed Mr. J. Jin Smith official liquidator. 1893 SARAH O. JEWETT *Deephaven* 213 He was trading up to Parsonsfield and business ru down, so he wound up there and thought he'd make a new start. 1894 HALL *Life of Jesus* xxiv 238 The Resurrection was never formally wound up and still technically existed.

(*d*) *absol* or *intr.* To bring the proceeding to a close, to come to a close; to conclude *with* something.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II *Passion & Prune* x. III 185 And a dish of maccaroni to wind up with. 1853 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Astley's*, One of the little boys wound up by expressing his opinion, that 'George began to think himself quite a man now'. 1855 — *Lett.* (1880) I. 308, I am to wind up with that popular farce. 1888 F. O'DONOGHUE *Merry Oates* I 329 An extreme amount of fever, winding up with delirium on the fifth day.

e In reference to a watch, etc. · see 20 b.

1601 SHAKE *Twel N* II v 66, I frowne the while, and perchance winde up my watch. 1630 *Crabtree Lect.* 41 Gladly he would have interrupted her but the Jacke was wound up, and downe it must. 1698 J. WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xiii (1707) 80 These Mathematical Engines cannot be so easily and speedily wound up, and so certainly levelled as the other may. 1874 N. HAWTHORNE *Sk. & Tales* I 15 A Watch or a Jack, by being only wound up (etc.). 1918 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 272 P 17 Another Puppet which by the Help of several little Springs in it, and by winding it, could move all its Limbs. 1762 CHURCHILL *Poems, Night* 83 Wound up at twelve at noon, its clock goes right Mine better goes, wound up at twelve at night. 1883 RIDDELL *Sk. Scripts* II 248 Climbing a ladder to wind up an old clock.

†(*b*) In reference to the strings of a musical instrument (see 20 a), *fig.* to put in tune.

1605 SHAKE. *Lear* IV iii 176 Th'vntun'd and iarring senses, O we ake vp. Of this childe-changed Father. 1645 WALLER *Chloris & Hylas* 1 Poems 137 Winde up the slack'ned strings of thy Lute.

‡. *fig.* To set in readiness for action, to raise (feeling) to a high degree, now usually, to put into a state of tension or intensity of feeling, etc., to excite; to brace up; in *Racing Slang*, to put (a race horse) into fit condition for running.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV iii, Strume all your wits, winde up inuention. 1610 his highest bent. 1805 SHAKE *Meas.* I iii 37 Peace, the Charme & winding vp. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Woman* v i, His Lungs, Intestines are wound up high and insolent as ever they were. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *De la Calprenede's Cleo.* 267 Having wound him up with good cheer. 1665 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (ed. 2) 136 These kinds of Powers must be perpetually wound up by an Hand of Power and Counsel. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII 20 My passions are so wound up, that I am obliged to laugh or cry. 1759 GOLDSM. *Voltaire's Wks.* (1889) 489/2 Voltaire seemed wound up to no other pursuit than that of fame. 1797 *Med. Jrnl.* I 60 Our pulse is last wound up to the height of expectation. 1822 HAZLITT *Table T.* II vii 176 He had wound himself up to the last pitch of expectation. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii 904 Ladies of fashion use it constantly to wind themselves up, when reduced to a little below par. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* iv (1904) 226 It is not at all easy (humanly speaking) to wind up an Anglican to a dogmatic level. 1871 M. LAZARUS' *Camb. Freshm.* 107 There's one that's what we call wound up going to run cat week in a big handicap. 1880 A. H. HUTH *Dr. Ale* II 257 Yachts in Dublin Bay are wound up very early in the season, and when they have run down to Kingstown they are laid up, as it were, when he has run down.

†g. *Naut. intr.* and *trans.* See quots., and cf. 8, 19 b. *Obs.*

a 1625 MAINWARING *S. a mans Duti* (1644) 113 The ship winds-up, that is, when she comes to ride by her Anchor. 1633 J. JAMES *Voy.* 30 His Anker had never lain able to winde vp the Ship. 1650 [see WINDING *vbl. sb.*1 3 b]. 1691 J. H[AIR] *Acc New Invent* 30 In Ships have Water enough to wind up with the Tide of flood. 1721 *Mistr & Sea Dict.* (ed. 2).

**Wind** (wind, wænd), *p.*2 Pa. t. and pple **winded**. Forms: 5 **wynde**, 6–8 **winde**, 6– **wind**. *Pa. t. and pple* 6– **winded**, 8–9 **wound** (see sense 3). [f. WIND *sb.*1] In ordinary prose use the pronunciation is (wind) except in sense 3, where it is (waund).]

I From WIND *sb.*1 I.

1 *trans.* To get the wind of (WIND *sb.*1 4); to perceive (an animal, a person, or thing) by the scent conveyed by the wind.

† Occas. with obj. clause and absol. In quot. 1607, to perceive (a sound) conveyed by the wind, to hear.

a 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi. The wolfe is so malicious, when he seeth hir comme without fedynge, but he goth wynde at hir musse. And if he wynde here she hath brought any thynge, he biteth her. *Ibid.* Somme men seith but she biteth hir heede, because þat the wolfe shulde wynde nothyng of hir fedynge whan she cometh ageyne. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 399 You might haue tourned the Hare you winded, and caught the game you coursed. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XXIII 6. 807/1 As a swyne when he hath once winded his meat, runnes on to wrash himself in it. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII xxiii I 375 A man may wind the sent of it presently a great way off. 1606 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV ii, Any sensible sweet may winde M. Amoretto and his Punander. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 584 The greedy beast winding the voice of the Dogge. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXVII § 7 468 He could not a great distance wind by his nose where whole some fruites or rootes did grow. 1708 POPE *Odyss.* XVII 385 His nose knew true, To winde the vapour in the tainted dew. 1850 R. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* XXII II 128 Soon after footing the buffaloes came; they had an alarm. They had winded two lions. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Irnl.* 52 A good terrier, one which will wind and, if necessary, kill a rat. 1891 *Field* 7 May 695/1 Deuce drop[ped] to birds that got up as we entered and Dulcimer ran into a pair that she just winded before they rose.

b. *intr.* Of an animal. To sniff in order to scent or on scenting something.

c 1440 [see WINDING *vbl. sb.*1 2]. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 295 When a hart pricketh up his eares he will scharpe. 1842 J. W. CARLETON *Sporting Sk. Bk.* 29 Palatine suddenly raised his head, winded high in the air, sprung over the bushes, winded again, then leaped again.

c. *fig.* (*trans.*) To perceive by some subtle indication; to get wind of, to smell or nose *out*.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Q iij, Philotimus winding out the matter, resolued on this occasion to visit her lodging once or twice, where she would it be sure. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V ii 25 I also, that could like a limehound wind his trace, Had winded him. *Ibid.* VI ix 3, And how so smell, and winde out all your tracks. 1640 C. HARVEY *Synagogue, Search* II, My senses are too weake to wind him. a 1642 FINKET *Diaries* (1656) 13 Winding the cause to be some new Loan, gotten into his Braine. 1775–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Lope* WKS. IV 51 A critic hunted for wit is mukh as a cording to Pope's account, but the emblem of war was more easily winded. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. Introd. to Sect. II *Chaucer, Boccaccio, & Petrarca* 226, I never knew a priest at a fault, whatever he undertook.

II From WIND *sb.*3 II

2. *trans.* To expose to the wind or air; to dry by such an exposure, to air.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyd, *ventilatus, ventilato* *et aere expositus*. 1585 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl.* 385/1 *Offrigitur agere*, the land is winded, followed, ouerwise husbanded. 1611 COTGR., *Vanner*, to fan, or winde Corne. 1688 *Pract. Husb.* III 125 Some say, the leaves the air to wind the ground the other 16 hours.

b *intr.* To 'take wind', become tainted by exposure to air; *trans.* to taint by such exposure. *Obs.*

1844 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 272 A handful of salt shaken on the top of it, which keeps it from turning mouldy or winding. 1864 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 505 If the heat could get at it, it would. It will wind like butter.

3 *trans.* To sound by forcing the breath through, to blow (a wind-instrument, esp. a horn).

In this sense often with pa. t. and pple *wounde* by confusion with WIND *v.*2 (such confusion is due to the vague suggestion from the curved form of a horn or bugle).

1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* 2 17 Minerua was delighted with her pipe, and wel neere in the assemblie of the gods very much displeased. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV iii, Boy, winde thy cornet. 1706 SWIFT *In Fate of Cities Irrough* 16 The Post boy winds his Horn. 1746 COLLINS *Ode Peace* 3 Sweet Peace, who late the heavn with His small lute sullen Horn. 1789 G. KEATE *Pelew Isl.* 33 The boatswain called all hands out to work by winding his pipe. 1790 BERNARD *Retrosp.* (1801) I 282 A boy who wound three horns. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I xvii But scarce again his horn he wound. 1824 — *Lit. of Isles* IV xxix, [It it blast was winded it by the Fairies. 1859 TENNYSON *Pelleas & Ettarre* 317 Gawain raised a bugle hanging from his neck, And winded it. 1859 — *Lluine* 269 Thither he made and wound the gateway horn.

b *fig.* (blow (a blast, call, or note) on a horn, etc.

1599 SHAKE. *Much Ado* I. i 243 But that I will haun a recreation, and I shall reckon it with Seruice. 1611 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II 302 With speech full blown they wind her solemn Dirge. 1765 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1769), *Winding a Call*, the act of blowing or piping upon a boatswain's whistle. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* V vi, He raised a little tucket to his mouth and wound a rousing call.

c *absol.* or *intr.* To blow a blast on a wind-instrument.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II xxiv 86 Quintius caused certaine cornet men to wind and sound before the trench.

d *trans.* To supply (an organ-pipe) with wind at a particular pressure.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 28 They must be winded to match those below in strength.

4 *trans.* To blow (a fire, etc.). *Obs. rare.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit* II vii, The fire the which he had spread abroad, and winded or bellowed in vaine. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I 69 The freshe lime shaken and winded, filled the closing. 'Done! Andy will wind him yet' 1887 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Live* II 9 A country where there was no hill steep enough to wind a horse in good condition. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xx, He can't hardly keep from barking till he's hoarse, and rushing through and over everything till he's wound and done up.

**Wind**, *v.*3 *dial.* Also 5–6 **wynd**, 8 *Sc.* winn. [Perh. a use of WIND *v.*4, cf. OHG. *winden* (MHG., G. *winden*), Goth. *diswinþan* to scatter like chaff (cf. *winþiskaurō* and OHG. *winiā* winnowing fan).

Late Northumb. *wendung*, rare var. of *winnung* winnowing, appears (? to be unconnected, and *wendan* in *Ancr. R.* (ed. Morton) 270 is prob. an error for *windwen*.)

To winnow. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*).

a 1500 *Prompt. Parv.* 529/1 Wynewynge, wythe wynd (A. *P.* wynde), *ventilacio*. 1538 *Aberd. Acc.* XVI (Jam. 1825), And see the same be wynd and dycit. 1548 etc. [see WINDING CLOTH 2]. 1578 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 783/1 The bere grandell, mvlt barne and wyndinhous. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III 74/1 Winnowing, Winding or Heaving. 1733 BUDGELL *Spec.* No. 7 I 293 Their Mother coming home presently after from winding of Corn, affrighted at this tragical Scene, threw it a winding Cloth which she had in her Hand into the Cradle where the youngest Child was asleep, and smother'd it unawares. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxi, Meg fain wad to the barn gaen, To winn three wechts o' nothing. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wind*, To winnow corn. *Devon.* 1869 PEACOCK *Lonsdale Cl. Sc.* 1895 *Hartland Glass* s.v. *Wind*, Although winnowing machinery is nearly obsolete, some farms have still a Windin' place, a spot of high ground where it was performed. 1919 CHOR *Some Old Farm Impl.* 24 [Devonshire] the 'machine fan', or winding van.

**Wind**, obs. var. WIND, pple of WIN *v.*1, var. WIN *v.*2, obs. *Sc.* f. WOUND *sb.*; var. WIND.

**Wind-**1, the stem of WIND *v.*1 in combination, in a few obsolete compounds †**wind-clout** (in *Ormin wundeclut*), a swaddling-band; †**wind-hatch** [HATCH *sb.*1 5 b], a sluice or valve by which a winding apparatus is fixed; †**wind-lift**, a windlass (in quot. *fig.*), †**wind-rope**, a rope for winding or hoisting, used with a windlass.

c 1200 ORMIN 3390 & tær þa barn Allmahhtiȝ Godd & wand hemm sone [*wundeclut* 1639 *Phil. Trans* VI 2104 A Winder with two Handles (great buckets) and a barrel with iron hoops, placed just over the then termed 'Wind Hatch'). a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II v § 64 (1740) 354 The Author intends no Good in all this, but brings it in as a 'Wind lift to drive up a gross Scandal. 1339 in *Pipe Roll 35 Edw. III* m. 47 (P. R. O.) In diuersis Cabulis, *vocatis* Cables, *et* Windrapes, *ac* Wyndlaces. 1400 *Acc. Exch. K.* 43 6 m. 7 (1) Item pro iij hausers empt. pro j Wyndrope et j Windlace.

**Wind-**2, the stem of WIND *v.*2 in combination = winnowing-, as in *wind cloth, screen, -sheet* 1500 *Orbis Vocab.* (W. de W.) 183 b, *Ventilabrum*, a wynde clothe. 1566 *Inv. in Trans Cumb. & West. Arch. Soc.* X 32 Husbandrie &c. vii steckes, one wyndclothe. 1763 MILLS *Exact Husb.* III 125 Sometimes it is thought the wind screen that objection was entirely removed. 1891 *Hartland Glass*, *Win sheet*, a winnowing sheet

**Windabout** (wi ndəbaut), *sb.* and *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WIND *v.*1 + *about adv.*] †**a.** *adv.* Suggested name for a circumflex accent. *b. adj.* That winds about, meandering.

1589 LUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* II vi (Arb.) 92 We might very properly call him the (windabout) or so is the Greek word (*περισπωμενη*). 1882 *Athenæum* 6 May 580/1 *Memory's Hardback* 3 1 The erratic, windabout stream

**Windage** (wi ndedʒ) [f. WIND *sb.*1 + -AGE]

1 An allowance of space (for expansion of gas in firing) between the inner wall of a fire-arm and the shot or shell with which it is charged measured by the difference of the diameters of the bore and the shot.

1719 J. HARRIS *Lex Techn* II 1778 HUTTON in *Phil. Trans* LXVIII 84 It would also be an improvement to diminish the windage, for by so doing, one third or more of the quantity of powder might be saved. 1860 Sir THOMSON *Lands Th* § 117 238 The windage of a loose ball in the barrel of the piece.

2 Allowance made (esp. in shooting) for deflection from the direct course by the wind, such deflection itself.

1867 *Morning Star* 30 July 6 At half past nine the firing commenced but with a breeze almost too strong for accurate aiming, and considerable windage was required. 1892 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* II. 'Seven yards windage, Hal,' said one. 1897 PEMBERTON *Complete Cyclist* 78 This will give a good deal of windage. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 4/1 Yachts (in which) an innovation is made giving a maximum of head room with a minimum of windage

3. = WIND *sb.*1 13; also, the friction of the air upon a moving part of a machine

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Mining* 151 To support the idea of injuries from the 'windage of balls' 1903 *Nature* 29 Oct. 633/2 The power wasted by the windage of fly-wheel and dynamo armatures.

**Windar**, var. WINDER *sb.*5, widgeon.

†**Windas**, *Obs.* Forms: 3–6 **wyndas** (3–5 -*aes*, 4 -*as*, 4–6 -*ace*, 5 -*asse*, 5–6 -*as*, 6 -*esse*, -*ys*, -*ais*), 4–7 **windas**, (6 -*is*, -*oes*, -*ous*, *Sc.* -*ois*, 6–7 -*es*, 7 *us*, -*owes*); 5 **weyndas**, 6 **wendess** [a AF. *windas* = OF. *guindas* (latinized *wind-*, *guindasium*, *-agium*), a ON. *vindáss* (whence MLG., MDu., Du. *windas*), f. *vinda* WIND *v.*1 + *áss* (= Goth. *ans*) pole]

1 = WINDLASS *sb.*1

[c 1280 in *Materials Hist. Thos Becket* (Rolls) I. 300

Ligno quod nautæ windassium vocant caput rudentis circumponere.] 1295 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 5/a m. 2 (P.R.O.), Maesremium . . pro Wyndase et Wyndase Stockes. 1295 *Ibid.* 5/8 m. 13, xiii. d. in quodam Wyndas empto . . ad galeam. *c* 1320 Boke of Nurture (Babees Book) 1. 1. 1.

*Committee Ribbon Wenvers* 7 What can a common winder earn?—Three shillings. What a quill winder?—Four shillings. 1828 T. ALLEN *York* II. 512 If they take away their work from carders and spinners, they return it them back ten-fold as winders, warpers, weavers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 128/2 The winders, who put the silk, cotton, or thread on the bobbins.

**3.** One who winds a clock or other mechanism.

1823 Mrs. SMYTH in J. A. Heraud *Ivy & Mem. Midshipman* VII. (1837) 128 William applied sometime ago to the honour of winding up the chronometers, when Mr. Graves, the regular winder, happened to be absent. 1881 *Instr. Comm Clerks* (1885) 46 Jobber and Winder (Clock).

**II.** Senses denoting things.

**+4. a.** A tendril of a climbing plant. **b.** A twining plant. *Obs.*

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 33 b, The one sort [of Pease]..runneth vp vppon stickes, to whiche with little wynders he bindeth hym selfe. 1668 BACON *Sylva* § 536 Winders, and Creepers: As Ivy, Briony, Hops, Woodbine. 1673-4 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 236 The Wood of all Convolvula's (*sic*) or Winders.

**5.** An apparatus (of various kinds) for winding something, or upon which something is wound or coiled; *e.g.* a winch or windlass, or the crank or handle of one; a reel or spool, or a stick or strip of something serving as a substitute.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 300/2 *Succula*,...a winder or rather the ouerthwart barrel turned with leauers. 1657 T. HORNER *Art of Angling* 25 You must have your winder within two foot of the bottom to goe on your [salmon-]rod made in this manner, with a spring. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 1. 13 The Winch, or Winder, or Handle, the Iron part is the Winder, the Wood the Handle. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Winder*, a winch or handle to wind about. 1824 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 309 The reel or winder being now withdrawn, the coil of paper is cut on both sides. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 213/2 Attached to the heads of these posts are a number of winders for stretching the wires.

**6.** A key for winding a jack, clock, or other mechanism. Also *attrib.* in **winder-hole**, the hole through which the key is passed in winding.

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 95 Even as in that quaint engine you have seen A little man in shreds stand at the winder. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 387 The coard *i*, that is wound round the wheel *h*, by a key or winder applyed to the Axis *l*. 1799 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* II. (1745) 51 Always leave the Winder sticking in the Jack. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* I. *Look at the Clock*, The two little winder-holes turned into eyes. 1884 BAILEY *Watch & Clocker.* 293 Clock keys are often spoken of as winders.

**7.** A winding step in a staircase: usually in *pl.*, opp. to *flyers* (see FLYER 4 b).

1667 [see FLYER 4 b]. 1808 P. NICHOLSON *Carpenter's New Guide* (ed. 2) Pl. 32 A dodging STAIR case with Winders. 1823 — *Pract. Builder* 185 When the treads of the steps diminish in breadth toward the well-hole, the steps are called winders. 1838 LOUDON *Suburban Gard.* 45 The best staircases are those without winders.

**III. 8.** *Winder-up*: **+**(*a*) something that concludes an argument; (*b*) one who winds up a business.

1795 PAINE *Age of Reason* II. 78 The lying imposition of Isaiah to Ahaz, has been averted, and made to serve as a winder-up. 1921 W. DE MORGAN *Old Man's Youth* xviii, I heard the expression 'men of straw' used more than once by winders-up, or victims.

**Winder**, *sb.*[2] [f. WIND *v.*[2] + -ER 1.]

**1.** (*wa*ĭndə) One who blows a wind-instrument.

1621 FLORIO, *Cornettâro*, a Cornet-maker or winder. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 281 Winder of the horn, When snouted wild-boars routing tender corn Anger our huntsmen. 1900 —

**2.** (*wa*ĭndə) Something that takes one's breath away; a blow that 'knocks the wind' out of one; a run, climb, or other exertion that puts one out of breath. *colloq.*

1805 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* (1907) I. 158, I did give her [*i.e.* a mare] a winder, to be sure, only one day's hunting, though, a good hard run over Somerset range. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 212 Do you put it [*sc.* your hand] across your breast in case of any unexpected winder from your apparently peaceable acquaintance? 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* v, It was a run indeed now, and what Joe called, in the only two words it spoke all the time, 'a Winder'. 1866 C. BROOKE *10 Yrs. Sarawak* I. 246 We had to ascend a hill of 500 feet high.... This was called a Winder.

**Winder**, *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. WIND *v.*[3] + -ER 1.] A winnower.

1578 DRANT *Serm.* D vij b, Mowers, threshers, winders and grinders.

**Winder** (wi·ndəɹ), *sb.*[4] *dial.* Also 7 **whinder**, 9 **windar**. [a. early Flem. *winder*, *wender* 'anas mas' (Kilian).] A wigeon.

1542 in *Hemsh. Ord.* (1790) 223 Item, Winders, the doz. 2*s.* 4*d.* 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast. Brevicr.*, the whinder. 1678 *Drunkenness Coll. Oxf. Bills* 23. 150 (MS.), Pullit, 3 whinder 2*s.* 9*d.* 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 322 But George he cut the Dragon up, an't had bin Duck or Winder. 1803-4 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 358 Windar (*sic*, a wigeon diver or dunbird). 1887 *Kentish Glos.*

**Winder** (wi·ndəɹ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **whinder**. [Origin unknown. Cf. WINDLE *v.*[3]]

1. *intr.* To wither; to pine or waste *away*.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. xxiii. 58 Until at length his bodie also began to winder away in a consumption. 1601 — *Pliny* VII. ii. 1. 155.

**+2.** *trans.* To crush into fragments. *Obs.*

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 154 By the fall of a towre [he] was crushed and whindred to death [orig. *confressus & comminutus*].

**Winder, Windrous**: see WINDOW, WONDER, WONDROUS.

**+Windermost**, *a. Obs.* [f. WIND *sb.*[1], after *Hindermost*, *innermost*, etc.] Furthest to windward.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 208 For that the windermost shippe, by opening her sayle, may be vpon the other before shee be looked for. 1702 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3838/1 The Fire of the Cannon began at the Windermost Fort at Nevis. 1707 *Treas. Infort* CIII. 212 b (P.R.O.) This being the windermost, best, and Richest Island, tis most likely they will attack this first.

**Windes, Windewe**: see WINDAS, WINDOW.

**Windfall** (wi·ndfɔl). Forms: see WIND *sb.*[1] and FALL *sb.*[1]; also 5 **wynfall**, 6 **wyndefale**, **wind faulle**. [perh. of foreign origin; cf. MHG. *wintval* (G. *windfall*): see WIND *sb.*[1], FALL *sb.*[1]]

**1.** Something blown down by the wind, or the fall of something so blown down: as, a tree or branch, or a number of trees or branches: *spec.* (chiefly *U.S.*) a heap or tract of fallen trees blown down by a tornado. Also in fig. context.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 540/2 Trees Boghes and Woode called Wyndefalles. **a 1552** LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 98 How one of these Trees came downe alone for Cutting or Wind Faulle no Manne ther can selle. 1580 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 Downe teares yt wyndfale, and thick woods inordrop[p]ed pitchie. 1600 in *Eng. Garner* (1882) VII. 334 Les mortuos arbores, Anglicè the starveling trees and wyndfalle. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 479 The Spartans..when they did spread, and their Boughs were Scattered, they did prune, for their Stem, they became a Windfall vpon the suddaine. 1662 EVELYN *Sylva* XXIII. 109 That no unnecessary Inbezzlement be made by prestences of Repair, Falling, Lodges, Browse for Deer, &c., Windfalls, Root-falls. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 376 They do not burrow under ground, but live..under windfalls and roots of trees. 1785 BURNEY in *Hickeng Papers* (1887) II. 177 We kept one man before, with an ax, to cut away windfalls. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. v, Through the windfalls and the openings of the wood, the rising sun was beginning to silver the leaves. 1866 R. D. CRAIG *Trees & Woods* 123 If the windfall be of trees which are not timber in their nature. 1872 *Builder* 9 Dec. 964/2 The village consequently charged her with picking up a few rotten windfalls from the trees.

b. fruit from a tree or bush (*rarely* flowers).

**a 1592** GREENE *Orpharion* (1599) 49 If Roses be not gathered in time, they turne to windfalls. 1604 N. F. *Fruiterers Acc.* 19 They which fall before the time of gathering, are wind-falles. 1661 M. SERVINGTON *Twelve Months* 18 The wind blasts to blame, among the Apples, ..and the wind-falls are gathered to fill the Pies for the houshold. 1705 E. WARD *Hud. Redivr.* II. 27 The gently Boar in humming round; To see what Windfalls may be found. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 42 They will reject the fruit that has lain but a few hours on the ground, and continue on the watch, for a fresh wind-fall. 1820 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* VII. 99 When the trees are numbered the Pears, there was near a barrowful of wind-falls at the bottom of the old tree. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* x. 197 Heaps of the windfalls collected, here to wait for the cider-mill.

**2.** *fig.* A casual or unexpected acquisition or advantage.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 321 b, After leeryng come to a good wynefall of inheritaunce. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1257 This man .. who otherwise before-time was but poore and needy, by these windfalles and unexpected cheats became very wealthy. 1627 M. BACON *Disc. Concl. Emp.* I. xvi. 90 Where ever neighbouring Princes of their own Nation watched for the windfals of Crowns. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Ker-sey), *Windfall*, ..some Estate or Profit unexpected. 1822 MARIA EDGEWORTH in *Life & Lett. Fr. Forester* xix, Where he..kept little windfalls, that came to him by the negligence of customers— .. loose silver, odd shillings, &c. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. iv. 70 These and many more wind-falls of character he gave us in thought, word, and action. 1897 MRS. OLIPHANT *Harbour, & Sons* XIX. I. 228 Indeed .. were a most unusual windfall to drop thus casually into the new concern.

**3.** *attrib.* (from 1): That is a windfall; blown down by the wind: = next. Also *fig.* (from 2): Casual, 'chance'.

1464 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 176 Ther is wyndfall wod at the maner, but it is of noo gret valewe. 1580 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 97 For barke of a wyndfolde tie at Smytheles vj*d*. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I, You should have leasure and wind-fall boone enow. 1598 *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 132 The Wood called Brownings, Windfall Wood, and Dead Wood. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. 3, All wind-fall comers here seem to be without names. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 74. 560 The windfall fruit in his uncle's garden. 1882 BRANDT *All Sorts* XII, Early August apples, and windfall pears.

**Wind-fallen**, *a.* [f. as prec. + FALLEN *ppl.a.*] Blown down by the wind.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XII. 182 To gather wind-falne sticks. *a* 1678 in *Evelyn's Pomona* 406 That the Fruit be carefully gather'd, not windfall'n nor brus'd. 1799 BELSHAM *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 155 They take advantage of windfallen trees. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 201 Some of the stumps of these wind-fallen trees.

*fig.* 1563 WINSET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* Ded., Wks. II. 10 Ane of our windfallin brethir, laitlie snapperit in the cummerence of Calvinis. 1660 TATHAM *Rump* II. i. 28 *Lady Berthan.* 'Twill get her nothing. She beats against the Wind. *Priscilla.* She's Wind fall'n.

**Wind-flower.** [Turner's rendering of L. *anemône*, Gr. *ἀνεμώνη*; see ANEMONE. Cf. MHG., G. *windblume*.] The wood-anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), or any plant or flower of the genus *Anemone*.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. C v b, Anemone hath the name in Greke of wynde, because the floure nouer openeth it selfe, but when the wynde bloweth..: it may be called wynde floure. 1590 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 8 The wood Anemone or Windflowre. 1714 tr. *Zeutel's Jrnl. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 66 A Sort of purple wind Flowers. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh.* I. 17, The pied wind-flowers and the tulip tall. 1832 WHITTIER *April* 3 Where wind-flower and violet..On south-sloping brooksides should smile in the light. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The Apennine windflower.

b. A name for species of gentian. (Cf. *lungflower*, LUNG 7.)

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

**+Windfucker.** *Obs.* [Cf. '*Fuckwind*, a species of hawk. *North.*' (Halliwell).]

1. A name for the kestrel: = cf. WINDHOVER.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 49 The klatrilles or windfuckers that filling themselues with winde, fly against the winde euermore.

2. *fig.* as a term of opprobrium.

1620 *Narcissus* MS. Rawl. Poet. 212, If, 80, I tell you, my little windfuckers, had not a certaine melancholye ingendred with a nippinge dolour overshadowed the sunne shine of my mirthe, I had beene I pre, sequor, one of your consorte. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. iv. (1620) C 3 b, Did you euer heare such a Wind-fucker, as this? *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad Pref.* A 4, There is a most ridiculous Windfucker, that bouers vp and downe, laboriously ingrossing at the air with his luxurious ambition. *a* 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* IV. i, Hands for Whores and Bawdes, away you wind-suckers [*ita ed.* 1639].

**Windgall**[1] (wi·ndgɔl). Forms: see WIND *sb.*[1] and GALL *sb.*[2]; also 7 **-gaul**. A soft tumour on either side of a horse's leg just above the fetlock, caused by distension of the synovial bursæ.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 90 Wyndgalles is a lyghte sorance, and commeth of grene humour. 1598 SYLVAY. *Yem. Shr.* III. ii. 53 Full of Windgalls, sped with Spauins. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. 78 Windgalls are little blebs raisd vp by extreame trauel on each side the hoofe fetlocks. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i, Feel his Legs, Master, neither Splint, Spavin, nor Wind gall. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5195/4 Windgalls on both Heels of her hinder Feet. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xiv, A third perceived he had a windgall, and would bid no money. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 448 Wind-galls of the knee-joint.

Hence **Windgalled** (-gɔld) *a.*, affected with a windgall or windgalls.

1685 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 36 The Love of his dear Alyson.. quickens his wind-gall'd feet. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3081/4 Her off Fore-foot is wind-galled. 1755 *Ibid.* 4159/4 A black Gelding,...Wind-gall'd in all his Legs. 1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wind-gall*, Long-jointed horses are apt to wind-gall.

**Wind-gall**, [Cf. *windgalle*, *-gelle*, and WATER-GALL, WEATHER-GALL.] A fragment of a rainbow or of a prismatically-coloured halo, supposed to presage windy weather: = WEATHER-GALL.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 3 We noticed the phenomenon named by nautical men a 'wind-gall'..or 'sun-dog'. 1880 FITZ-ROY *Maritime Weath.* 144.

**Wind-gauge, -gage.** [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + GAUGE.]

**1.** + **L.** = Weather-gage: see WEATHER *sb.* 8 and GAUGE *sb.* 5 *a*. *Obs. rare.*

1652 *French Occurrences* 29 Nov.–6 Dec. 214 They were not 30 near the Ness-point, not keeping still the wind gage.

**II. 2.** = ANEMOMETER 1.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 256 To which may be added, the rain-gage, wind-gage, &c. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 38 The Anemometer, or Wind-Gauge. 1883 GWILLIM *Gloss. Coal-m.*, *Wind-gauge*, an anemometer for testing the velocity of the wind in mines.

**3.** A graduated attachment to the sights of a gun, to enable allowance to be made for the effect of the wind on the projectile. Also *attrib.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 7 Small bore, 451 rifle with wind gauge sight and movable shade. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* IV, His telescopic sights and wind-gauges are second to none in the world.

**4.** = ANEMOMETER 2.

1876 [see ANEMOMETER 2]. 1881 W. E. DICKSON *Organ-Build.* IX. 121.

**+Wind-gun.** *Obs.* [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + GUN *sb.*] A gun for shooting a missile by the force of compressed air: = AIR-GUN.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xii. § 6. 104 The experience of windguns witnesseth vs that ayre duly applyed is able to giue greater motion vnto heauie bodies then vnto light ones. 1708 POTE *Dunc.* I. 181 As, forc'd from wind-guns, lead itself can fly. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 399 That air compressed to one tenth in a wind gun possesses a power not much short of gunpowder. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 273 It will not be out of place here to add some remarks on wind-guns. *Ibid.* 1863 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* Prol., They [*sc.* critics] shoot, alas, with wind guns, shan't do with air. 1880 *Collect. Poems* 190, I am one of those that have been shot at by Wind-Guns, which have prejudiced my Reputation. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 272 His whisper'd theme, diluted and at large, Plays on it with a wind-gun's airy charge.

**Windhover** (wi·ndhɒvəɹ). Also 7 **windover**. [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + HOVER *v.*] A name for the kestrel, from its habit of hovering or hanging in the air with its head to the wind. Also *attrib.*

1674 RAY *Collect., Engl. Birds* 82 The Kestrell or Stannel, in some places the Windover. 1738 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 5 The Windhover Cock. 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 7 Aug., The kestrel, or windhover, has a peculiar mode of hanging in the air in one place, his wings all the while being briskly agitated. 1884 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 321 For about as long As the wind-hover hangs in

balance. 1884 *30th Cent* Aug 332 The windower hawk poising at mid distance above his quarry.

† **Windi,** *a Obs.* Also wundi. [perh. related to the stem of WIND *v.*; cf OHG *wendig* (MHG. *wendic*, -*ec*) devoted (of), exempt (from)] Devoid of; quit of

*a* 1225 *Leg Kath.* 376 Ha beoð al witlese, & windi [*v.r.* wundi] of wisdom *a* 1225 *Juliana* 10 Seȝ þu wuit leauen þe laheu þat tu list in ichulle wel neomen þa! seȝ þu nuit no, þu art wundi [*v.r.* windi] of me

**Windio,** var. WENDIO

**Windill,** obs. form of WINDLE *v.*[1]

**Windily** (wi·ndili), *adv.* [f. WINDY *a* + -LY[2]] In a windy manner; as if driven or agitated by the wind, also *fig.*

1888 R. BUCHANAN *Poems, In London* ii, For the world rolls on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweetheart* IV, The stars were glittering windily even before this comrade melted out of the east 1892 — *Marriage at Sea* III, The Cape Girls Nez lantern windily flashing on high from its shoulder of land. 1901 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 372/1 The young lady who writes stories and windily reveals the world that will not accept them

**Windiness** (wi·ndines). [f WINDY *a* + -NESS] The quality or condition of being windy.

1. Windy condition of the atmosphere, prevalence of windy weather.

*a* 1687 PETTY *Pol Anat* (1691) 51 The windiness of the same Month was at Dublin 20 and at London but 17 *Med* The windiness of March and the abovesame of April are proverbial

† **2** Air as an 'element' = WIND *sb*[1] 8. *rare.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv 266 Neither is there any moysture, any wyndinesse [*rig Rabile*], or any firy matter in them

**3** Flatulence, *concr.* = WIND *sb*[1] 10. Now *rare*

*c* 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 1932 Wyn mon not Reed ȝ the out of measure wyndynesse 1543 RAYNOLDE *Byrth Mankynde* ii. vii. (1552) 102 b, I vnderstande & vnquyshe vent is ȝe and wyndynesse 1590 BARNOUIN *Meth. Phisicke* i. i (1596) 2 Sometime it [he lewdnesse] conuerteth thy windinesse ingendred in some part of the head, being weake 1705 *Hann Diet s.v. Honey* 83, Raw Honey, by Reason of its Acrimony, loosens the Body, and causes Windiness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 108 A stemmary windiness

b. Quality of causing or tendency to cause 'wind': = FLATULENCE 2 b Now *rare.*

1576 [I. TWYNE] *Schoolemaster* II xii N ij, Beanes are naturally more windy then Pease, and therefore are of more grosse substance then they, which is light and houer, and is sooner discharged of the windines 1684 TATE in Evelyn *Pomona* 2 Others labour to correct their windiness which they fancy to be in it [*sc.* cider] 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 594 Ginger renders it [*sc.* cider] brisk, and corrects its Windiness

**4.** Resemblance to, or admixture of, the sound of the wind

1879 *Organ Voicing & Windiness* If the conveyances and wind chests hles are sound, blame attaches solely to the pipe

5. *fig.* 'Airiness', emptiness, want of substance; inflated or verbose style.

1614 BARKEWOOD *Lang & Relig* Pref ¶ b, His modest, and humble charity (vertues which rarely cohabite with the swelling windinesse of much knowledge) 1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* v 35 Full of vanity, windinesse, vexation, disapointment 1866 *Sat Rev* 19 May 584/1 The feebleness and windiness of bad poets

**Winding** (wai·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb*[1] [f. WIND *v.*[1] + -ING[1], OE had *windung* only in concr sense, 'plecta' = Du *winding* coil, convolution, OHG early *MHG. winding*, *wintinc* 'fascia', 'fascina', stocking, ON *vindingr* hose]

1. The action of WIND *v.*[1], or the resulting condition. (See also 10.)

**1.** Motion in a curve; turning this way and that in one's course, sinuous progress or movement, †formerly also, revolution, rotation; undulating motion

In first quot. of doubtful meaning] † = TROPIC *sb* 2 a

1387-8 T. USK *Test Love* i. (Skeat) I 39 To travayle and see the wyndyng of the erthe in that tyme of winter 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xi. (Add MS. 27944), A yere is fulle cours and passynge of wyndynge about of be sonne 1530 PALSGR. 280/1 Wyndyng, *volubilite* 1550 LATIMER *Serm.*, *Lukexxi* (1562) 133 How he stretcheth out all his members, what a winding is there, so that all bee body commeth out of frame! 1573 BARET *Alv* W 333 The windinges of serpentes. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog* 70 Birds and Fowles, with their Motions, Chirpings, Croakings, Windings 1683 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov* C 2 b, For there hath he vsed such a deale of intricate Setting, Grafting Planting turning, winding, and returning circuit of [etc.] 1699 MONON *Mech Exerc* II 131 These [stairs], because they sometimes wind, and sometimes fly off from it that winding, take therefore the more room up in the Staun-Case 1709 I. ROBINSON *Transl Mor Syst.* 101 These [Plants] in their Windings, always follow the Motion of the Sun 1760–70 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quality* (1809) IV 87 That graceful winding of person 1778 W. GILPIN *Hints* (1782) 32 The winding of the river 1834 NEWMAN *Parochial Serm* I xvii 274 They wish to arrive at the heights of Mount Zion without winding round the base 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xii, With very little of devious winding, it [= Jordan] carries the shining waters of Galilee into the solitudes of the Dead Sea 1869 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* § 932 Winding of the fore foot is also very objectionable

b *Naut.* (see WIND *v.*[1] 8, 19 b, 22 g)

*c* 1825 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial Sea Services* (1685), Winding of a Ship. 1659 (Oct 18) *Admiral Crt Exams* 55 (P. R. O.) It being upon wyndeanes upp of the tide. [Cf. quot. 1691 s.v. WIND *v.*[1] 22 g]

VOL. X.

**2.** *fig.* Turning this way and that in thought or conduct, nearly always *pl* devious or intricate motions, tortuous or crooked ways or dealings.

1622 BURTON *Anat Mel* II iii III 404 Hearts ease, I cannot compasse with all my carefull windings, & running in & out *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon* v (1642) 393 The boughts and windings of a deceitfull heart 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 19 All this winding to me in plainness, seems an aiming at no House. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm. Eph* i. 9 Wks 1687 I 195 The numberless rovings of fancy and windings of language 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm* xx, The subtle lawyer, accustomed to trace human nature through all her windings. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* xxiii V 124 To trace all the windings of the negotiation would be tedious 1879 DISRAELI *Lothair* I, We are friends and can speak without windings

† **b.** *Mus.* A melodic alternation or variation.

1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend Pract Mus* 85 These little windings and bindings with Discords and Imperfect Concords after them, do very much delight the Ear 1667 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus* I 41 Those long windings and turnings of the Voyce are ill used 1708 A. BRADLEY *Terpsich Mus* IV 75 Which he performs with various turnings and windings of the Voice.

**3.** *Carpentry*, etc Condition of being twisted, chiefly in phr. *out of winding* = *out of wind* (WIND *sb*[2] 3), *in winding*, twisted

1717 SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild Assist* 46 To make the side Lines and middle Lines of the Decks out of winding one with another 1792 J. PEAKE *Doggenham Breaks* 60 Such Ribs as have been brought by a twist, but Lose no more in the middle of the Breach, and be out of winding, in the same continued Line as first drove down 1822 GWILT *Archit* § 1080 Care is taken not to set the wedging principally with points. 1880 J. LOMAS *Allbut's Trade* 328 The tiles themselves must be of good quality—Dutch preferred—and of faultless 'winding'

**4.** The action of twining a flexible object round another or itself, *esp.* the coiling or twining of thread, silk, etc., wrapping in a shroud (now *dial*)

Both *cc* 1386 *cf* sense 8

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franc T* 1313 The cost of burynge, kembynge, wyndynge or bendynge 1440 *Promp Parv* 530 (Winch MS.) Wyndiþyng, or twynynge of þredde, *tortura*, *vel torsura* 1483–4 *Rolls of Parl* V 529/1 (Grete Coll.) Wyndyng, bindyng and sowyng of the Cloutes of Wulle 1552 HULOET, Wyndynge of sylke, or thread 1570 *Aldeburgh Rec* in *N & Q* 12th ser II 328 2 lo m̃yles Bartholmew wyndyng for wyndyng of another 1611 CYC 2 Cor iv 6 The braines are of a fine and delicate wyndinge 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat Mech* 421 Each spinner fixes the end of the piece that is spun to a winding up reel 1835 URE *Philos Manuf* 301 All the stretch and winding on were once more completed 1839 — *Dict Arts*, etc. 1110 A winding on bobbin 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf* 61 The yarn is wound on reels, which are wound uniformly round a thick beam or roller preparatory to the printing 1873 SIDN *Workshop Rec* Ser. I. 201/2 The spools for winding up and winding out could be of the same weight 1883 *Harper's Mag Extract* 58 Patent Crabbing or Winding on Machine 1898 P. MANSON *Trop Diseases* xxxiii 517 A system of managing guinea worm cases which bids fair to obviate all the risks of the old wound-out system.

**5** Hoisting or hauling by means of a winch, windlass, or the like. Also with *up*.

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 530 (Winch MS.) Wyndyng with wyndas, *vel cabel* 530 Wyndynge vp of þynges þat bene heuy, *euolucio* *c* 1575 *Ship Gouvie* in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 620 Gif ane tun or pype be tint in the wynding or hesing, or fruth of the cordis 1886 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss. Winding*, hoisting with a rope and drum 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss Coal-mining*, *Winding*, the operation of raising by means of a steam engine, with ropes and cages, the produce of the mine

**6** Usually with *up*, of a clock or other mechanism see WIND *v.*[1] 20 b, 22 e. Also *fig*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks II 234/1 The new found Instrument that goes by winding vp like a Jacke 1708 YOUNG *Love Fame* I 281 Is there a tongue, like Delia's one hour vnty, That runs for ages without winding up? 1737 *Gentl Mag* Feb 68 / So that no Dean and Chapter will be able to wind up their Jack 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* (ed 3) 38 The half minute which we daily devote to the winding up of our watches 1884 *M. Fausett's Case* 28 Mr. 6/5 The time-piece required a great deal of winding up, that the drinker requires more and more winding up as he goes on

**7** *Winding up* conclusion, finish (see WIND *v.*[1] 22 d); now usually, the bringing to an end the activities of a business concern, also *attrib*

1580 DAUE tr *Stiedanus' Comm* 6 b How vnfortunate hath been the successe and wyndyng vp of commotioners [*sig. seditiosorum exitus*] 1670–8 LAMBARDE *Eirenarch, Kent* (1596) 481 Crafty counsailes be hard in the handeling, and wofull in the winding vp [*sig. exeuntis tristitia*] 1678 FLEMING tr *Cassat Dogs* (1880) 1 In the wynding vp of your Letter written and directed to Doctour Turner *Ibid* 44 The winding vp of ill workes, called the Supplement, &c. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell Syst* 879 If they would but expect the winding up of things, and stay till the last Close 1705 R. CARSWELL tr *Secret Lngd Hist Rev* (1898) XIII 123 The winding up of your bottom will be more pleasing 1782 in *Mme D'Arblay's Diary* (1904) II 97 My warm approbation of the whole work [Cecilia] together the winding up beyond all compare, more happy, [etc.] 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV vi 213 She detailed the progress of the plot to the winding up of the catastrophe 1811 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett* (1894) I 271 The Hague season is nearly over, and a ball on Thursday is almost the winding up 1834 DE QUINCEY *Autob Sk* ii. Wks 1853 I 240 The year 1782 brought that war to its winding up 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade*, Winding up Act. 1873 *Economist* 30 Jan 131/2 The shareholders are asked to oppose the projected winding up 1895 *Times* 19 Jan 15/6 A winding up order having recently been made against this company

**II.** That which winds or is wound

**8** An object that winds or is wound round, a coil or coiled object, †a curved, circular, or twining pattern, ornament, piece of material, etc.

*c* 1050 *Voc in* Wr-Wülcker 505/24 *Incinia*, *windinge*. [Cf 471 *Plectas*, *wewind*] 1398 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw III*, m 33/2 (P.R.O.) In Exonerac̃on, xxiiij Wyndynges, ij mues. ij. lynces 1586 WYCLIF *Ex* 37 vi 29 Betwixt the litil crownes and wyndynges, lounis and oxen 1588 *Inst kinges in Ass* III 844, iij wyndinges of iren aboute a leder 1555 in Feuilleter *Acts of Mary* (1901) 183 Wroughte with white partye layned barwyse wyndinge which was taken out of the borders of hangynges 1598 FLORIO *Compo Tetus* 1 7 (1659) 151 Those who are desirous clasped in the wind ings of this sinne *c* 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 47 To rise the Saplings tall, and curl the grove With Ringlets quaint, and wanton windings wove 1699 I. BARON *Pisgah Transv* 102 A Man must see the folds and windings of a knot before he can untye it 1764 J. ERSKINE *Lect* III 43 Like winch must turn the cylinder once round before the whole fore-resistance can be moved from one spiral winding to another 1825 POOLEY *Laws Angling* xv, In Suffolk the flannel, which is wound round a cop, is called the winding

**9.** A curved, sinuous, or meandering line, path, passage, or the like, esp *pl* meanderings, twists and turns.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I 9 Pis mater, as laborintus, Dedalus hous, hab myury wyndynges and wayes wonderful 1398 — *Barth De P. R.* xiii vi (1495) Cv b/2 Ligris passyth in to ȝe redde see after many turnynges & wynd yngis 1552 HULOET, Wyndynges and turnynges, *anfractus* 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* V. i. 94 Berenice built a bridge upon the utmost winding and nouke of Syrtis. 1625 CHAPMAN *Odyss* IV 1084 The wards or windings of the key 1632 MASSINGER *Roman Actor* I *Soldier* 54 Some in the lowest winding or turning of the eare *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 June 1654, The Mount, to which we ascended by windings for neere halfe a mile 1726 DE FOE *Voy round World* (1840) 192 Fetching several compasses and windings 1788 COWPER *Lett* 4 II 280 *Let* 78, I follow'd long The windings of the stream 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett* (1856) II 181 Those windings That shook along the windings of the cave 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 134/2 That action by which the aliments are carried through the whole of the intestinal canal 1873 MAXWELL *Electr & Magn* II 277 The number of wind ings of the wire between any two small circles

**10** A flexible rod or withy (*obs* or *dial*), † *esp* (*collect sing* or *pl*) the rods or withies used in making or repairing walls, hence, the process involving their use.

1405–6 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 222 Cuiusdibus stramen ad tectuam ar It pro adquisicione de wyndyng, 19*d* 1474 *S Dirk* 289 In 1 li wyndyng to bynd our close walles wydewaller gaweller 1523 34 FITZHERB *Husb* § 126 With the wyndyng of the eddergyes thou doost leue thy stakes 1550 *Lett to Churchm. Acc* (Camden) 44 Item, to John Lames for wyndyng on wode about the Clocke 1d 1599 *Order bk Hartlebury Gram School* (1904) 24 Item for windinge and dawbinge of the church howse 1601 HOLLAND *Liuy* xiii IV I 387 In the winding and weauing vines *Ibid* xxxv xii II 555 The manner of making walls, by dawbing windings and hurdles with mud and clay 1649 *Order bk Hartlebury Grant* 73 For poules for studds ease poules and windin gs and carriadge of them o 6 o 1674 RAY *S & C Words, Yorksh*, Edderings or windings of hedges 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III xii. (1896) 93/1 Hutches Termes Windings Hutches with bread 1852 *Jrnl R Agric Soc* XIII ii 281 Farmers find posts and rails cheaper than the old system of stake and rice Neath Called cock gavel 1 wyndyng 1889 *Chesh Gloss*, *Weendins*, the hedge and ditch are interwoven with the stakes used to shore up the bank of a stream

**III** 11 *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 4 *winding* + *blade* (BLADE *sb.* 10 c), -*hat*, *machine*, *machinery*, *master*, *room*, † *stool* (STOOL *sb* 6), (sense 5, esp. in nautical and mining use *winding a cident*, † *baly* (app = BAIL *sb*[1], bucket), *engine* (*engineman*), *-gear*, † *hatsar*, *hoer*, † *iron*, *pit*, † *pulley*, *-rope*, *shaft*, *tackle*, *term*, *wheel* (sense 6), *winding-room*, *hole*, *pinion*, *square*, *wheel* —) † **winding band** [BAND *sb* 8 5], a bandage, **winding sticks, strips**, two equal pieces of wood with straight parallel edges used to determine whether a surface is true (cf 3)

1895 *Cath News* 14 Sept 3 Two terrible winding sheets accounted for the victims in Rhondda Valley 1536 *Exch A A* 19 31 m 5 (P.R.O.) In j *Wyndyng sheates* empties ad vendum [galeam] 1 l in pipis pro cole ad hoc empts pro wyndyngrope 1582 *N. & Q.* (1st ser.) I 80 10 Linnell feete and handes with winding sheetes 1585 HIGINS *Junius A. mendez* 262 *Fax* II . . . a winding cloth or winding band to tye vp two iawes 1592 *Inv* 384 *Vest tons wittes*, a payre of wyndinge blades to wynde ȝe yarne upon 1882 BRITTEN *Hatch* 4/2 Once I saw a saltrate wheel squared on to the stem of the winding button 1898 SIR BOWES *Coal Trade* II ii. 8 *Sinking* no one gone for drawing up buckets etc. from a well shaft 1875 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* II *winding engine*, a hoisting steam engine 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss Coal-mining* 87 *Winding Engine* 1904 *Daily Chron* 25 Apr 6/4 A terrible calamity was averted in the Navigation Colliery by the heroism of the 'winding

engineman 1874 Knight *Dict Mech* **Winding gear*, an Engli h term for the winding machine for mines 1417 in *Eng. A.-S. Bk Kal Hen VII* (1896) 56 Smalle Warpe Hawsers, Wyndyng hussers 1688 Holme *Armoury* III xx (Roxb) 240/1 Onfe] thuck gut string, which is played upon with along Iron or Iteel Rod stuck at the head Fit a little I elow the *winding hole 1893 *Daily News* 4 May 2/8 In South Wales the *winding h urs were 9½ to 10 hours on four days in the week 1440 in *F * Acc 3 Hen VI* F 9 *Mayor's* (P.R.O.), *Wyndyng (alone 1846 G. Dodd *Brit Manuf* Ser VI 197 The tirred hull then passes in to the *winding loft, where it is wound up on bobbins 1882 Nicholson *Oyster Atch* 232 The two *winding machines may also be driven by the endless rope 1895 *Ore's Circ Sci*, *Inorg Nat* 248 Disarrange ment of the *winding machinery 1881 *Instr Coastguard Clerks* (1885) 68 Coston Mill *Winding Room *Winding Master 1889 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec* Ser IV 317 1 Examine the *winding pinion depth, to see that it is neither too deep nor shallow 1493 in *F * Acc 8 Hen VII

**WINDLASS.**

1849 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 137 Two †windlass nales are supposed on four props. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., The cables [of the windlass] have three turns round this main-piece. ‡ holes are cut for the †windlass-bars in each eighth of the spaced sales. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 369 Iron spindles working in collars or bushes inserted in the †Windlass-ends. *Ibid.* †*Windlass-chocks*, fore-and-aft pieces of oak fitted on the deck and bolted to the beams immediately before the windlass. *Ibid.* †*Windlass-ends*, are two horse-tail pieces forming a continuation of the windlass outside these chocks. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Windlass* is composed of the carrick heads or †windlass heads. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, †*Windlass-gear*, a form of lifting-jack having a winch-handle for turning the pinion which gears into the crown-wheel. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 369 Pieces of hard wood, called the †Windlass-lining, fitted and bolted round it to preserve it from being chafed. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* III. iii, Both shouted vehemently to the coadjutor at the windlass, both sprang at the basket; the †windlass man could not move it with them both. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., Windslups it is supported by chocks, where it is also furnished with a course of †windlass-pawls. 1769 Stevens's *Mag.* x. 1. By a †Windless Rope, and weight to assist it, he may first let down the weight.

**† Windlass,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 6 wynd(e)-, winlesse, windlas(se, (-laies?), wyndlas(s)e, -lace, 6–7 windlace, -lasse, 7 -lass, winde-lasse, (8 windlatch). [Alteration of Wanlace, by association with Wind *v.*[1] and perh. prec. sb.]

1. A circuit made to intercept the game in hunting (= Wanlace 1); *gen.* a circuit, circuitous movement: esp. in phr. *to fetch a windlass*, to make a circuit, go round about, 'fetch a compass'.

1530 Palsgr. 231 He wyll not fetche the wyndelesse in huntyng. 1563 Gorboduc I. (1565) 208 Ile fetche a windlasse a great ways about, and to make al toward one place. 1567—*Orid's Met.* III. 913 b, He runnes not forth directly out, But makes a windlasse ouer all the champion fieldes about. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 270, I now fetching a windelasse, that I might better haue a shoote, was presented with a goodly game. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xiv. xxxiv, The beauties faire of shepheards daughters hold, With wanton winde laces ronne, turne, play and pas. 1602 R. Carew *Cornwall* (1769) 71, Sometimes a foote man will carry the same quite backwards, and so, at last, get to the goale by a windlace.

2. *fig.* A circuitous course of action; a roundabout proceeding; a crafty device (= Wanlace 3).

a 1596 Kingsvell, *Mem's Est., Godly Advic.* (1574) I vij, With suche windeses some are dryuen into the net. 1575 Lanham *Let.* (1871) 55 And heer ar my windlesse, lyke your course as plese yee. 1597 *Mem. Humphrey Dike Drewes* xivi, Which by slye drifes, and wyndlaces sloofe, They brought about. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* II. i. 65. 1627 Collins *Def. Bp. Lyn* 11, viii 'Tis these were the trainees, and the windlaces of the first Iesuites. 1631 [Marbe] *Celestina* iv. 54 What a wind lace hast thou fet'ht, with what words hast thou come upon me? 1772 Nouv. *Voy. Tour* II. iv. 143 (1740) 307 The former are brought forth, by a Windlatch of a kind, to charge the latter with the foulest of Crimes.

**† Windlass,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Windlass *sb.*[2]] **a.** *trans.* (*fig.*) To decoy or ensnare. *b. intr.* To fetch a windlass; make an circuit; *fig.* to act circuitously or craftily. Hence **Windlassing** *vbl. sb.*

a 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* xxi, My young mind, whom Love doth windlasse so? That mine owne wrongs show My wits quicke in vaine thoughts, in vaine blind. a 1660 Hammond *Serm., Eccl. xvi 30* (1664) 12 She is not at so much leasure as to wonder, or use craft to winnow them: she goes downright a wrong *And_Luke x* 31 32 A wilfull wood-man, that by wind lassing presently gets a shoot.

**Windlass,** *v.*[2] [f. Windlass *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To hoist or haul with a windlass. Hence **Windlassing** *vbl. sb.*[2]

1839 Maria Edgeworth *Helen* xiv, None of our windlassing will ever bring her [the truth] up. 1870 *Daily News* 20 Jan, He was hauled into the barn and windlassed clear of the floor. 1877 Kipling *1 apt. Courr.* iv. 203 As though the words were being windlassed out of him.

**Windle** (wi·nd'l), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* or *local.* Forms: 1–3 windel, (1-il), 3–6 wyndel, 6 wyndle, -dille, -dell, 8–9 *dial.* winnel, 6– windle. [OE. *windel* str. m., 'cartellus', 'fiscella', 'canistrum', 'corbis'; f. *windan* to plait, Wind *v.*[1]: see -le 1.

Parallel in formation are OHG. *wintil* (MHG., G. *windel*) swaddling-clothes, Du. *wandel* wisp.]

1. A basket. Now only *dial.* (see quot. 1879): app. associated or confused with Windle *sb.*[2]

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 120 *Cartellus*, windil. c 1000 *Ags. Gen* xl 16 Ic hæfde þreo windelo, þæt ic, hatte he hælde þry mannas mid melewe ofer min heafod. c 1400 *Lanal Troy Bk.* 17073 Thei did bryngye the kiddis dry3e And colis also In hollis & wyndl. 1879 *Isle of Wight Lexicon*, VIII. 174 *Windle*, a basket used in winnowing corn.

2. A measure of corn and other commodities, varying in different localities; of wheat, usually about 3 bushels. *local (north.).*

1268, 1282 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 498 [Nuts] are purchased in Cumberland by the windle] 1281–2 *Inq. post mortem Lahw* I 31/3 (P R O), Et scindum quod quelibet sekepsa continet sexdecim Windellos, et illi sexdecim Windelli fiunt lant quarterium Londinense et dimidium. 1309 *Cri. Rolls Wakefield* (1906) II 194 One wynd[el?] of barley and a quarter of oats. 1321 *Headingue Ducky Lancaster* (1836) 106 [Dealing of corn by] metres and wyndilles. 1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 216 To everichon of the same Orders a wyndle of wheate, or the price therof 1566 in Fiston *Lpool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 86 One wyndle containing 56 quarts of wine measure up heaped shall be the right and just standard. 1636 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc. 1856) 13, 8 windles of wheat Lanc measure. 1799 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 62 Spent the day wholly at home in winnowing my barley, and I measured a windle and an ewindale for it, ing to the malt-kiln. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss* (ed. 2), *Windle, or Winnel*, a basket. 1825 *Trans. K. Agric. Soc.* X. 1 18 The cost [of limestone] at the kiln is 11*d* a windle, and two windles are equal to 3 cwt 1881 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 3/4 Preston, Jan. 15 . Wheat 19s to 22s. per windle.

3. A bundle or band (of straw or hay) *Sc.*

1825 Jamieson, *Windle*, the same with *Wandlen*, a bottle of straw. 1892 Mackintosh *Around the Ordnance Fleet Fires* (1903) 207 [He] had the kegs tied up in windles of straw.

**† Windle,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3 (*Orm.*) winndell, 4 wyndel, 5 -dylle, -dle, 6 windle. [f. stem of OE. *windwian* Winnow *v.* + -le 1. Cf. Wind *v.*[3]] A winnowing-fan.

c 1200 *Ormin* 10483 Himm shollde leiinggenn inn hiss hannd Hiss winndell forr to winnfwenn. c 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Matt. iii. 12 Whos wondel is in his honde, & he schal clense fully his korne. c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 664/9 *Hoc ventilabrum*, wyndylle. 1530 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* xii. 8 When the corne is threshed, the kernel lyeth muxed among the chaf, and afterwards are they dissevered a sonder wyth the fanne or windle.

**Windle** (wi·nd'l), *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 8–9 *Sc.* winnel, win(n)le, 7– windle. [The second element of Garnwindle, Yarnwindle, q. v. for earlier examples.] An appliance for winding yarn or thread.

1687 Miège *Gt. Br.* Pref. 11, Windles, or Blades to wind Yarn with. 1696 *Dryden. Ep.* 17 . *Lovine Lass* in *Ramsay's Last Mus.* (1726) 172 My hanks of yarn, my rock and reel, My winnels and my spinning-wheel. 1797 Aitk. Wilson in *Poems & Lett. Rose* (1876) II. 153 [Rose] turn's the winles' blade An' waft in lapfu's left her 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II (1872) 5 From a windle the thread is conducted to the spool.

**Windle,** *sb.*[4] *local.* Also whindle. [? f. Wind *sb.*[1]] The redwing (*Turdus iliacus*), also called *wind-thrush*, *-throstle*.

1674 N. Coxe *Gentl Recr.* III (1677) 63 The Wind-throstle Or Winn-throstle. 1772 Morton *Orography in Hartf. Mus.* (1744) II. 158/2 The.. Wind-Thrush (or the Redwing, Wheatear, Windle) for so many Names it has in divers Counties. 1794 Sullivan *Hist. Ireland* I. 328, 1825 Swainson & *Prov. Names Birds* 5 Redwing . Winnard (Cornwall). Windle (Devon).

**Windle,** *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 4 *Sc. pr. pple.* wynland, yndland, 6 windill, 6– windle, (9 *dial.* winnle). [f. Wind *v.*[1] + -le 3. With sense 2 cf. M.Du., MHG., G. *wandeln* to go, ramble.]

1. *intr.* To move circularly or sinuously; to turn over and over, or round and round; to whirl; to meander: = Wind *v.*[1] 7 b. Hence **Windling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*[1]

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 721 Sum dede, sum dosnyt, some drownyt wes. 1823 J. Nicol *Tijocrus & N. Visit* to Rdr. p. xxvii, The one hoodwinked with his implicite faith, as with a bumble on his head, thinkes he goes forth right, when he goes in a mill. 1826 Miss Edgeworth *Castle de Blondeville* iv. (1829) 140 Beside some winding brook. 1856 F. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 730 *Windling*, snow drifting. 1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.* s.v. (Lincolnsh.), The snow windles under the tiles.

2. *trans.* To wind (thread, etc.); also *absol*: = Wind *v.*[1] 15. Also *Sc.* 1508, and cf. Windle *sb.*[3] 3, Windling *sb.*[1].

1587 W. Fowler *Wks* (S T S) I. 237/232 Than did I spye Clytyppina and Isabell twa lustie gyrles, Twynnyt & webbis to wundill. 1599 T. [Moufet] *Silkewormes* 2 These flocks as white as milke, That make, and spinne, and die, and weave Gallas, Velvet, Satten, Wouen cloth, to be fashioned. 1825 Jamieson, *Winnle*, to be fanned (straw or hay) into bottles. 1829 A. Whitehead *Tig 'n etsmid* 34 (E D D) I the servant lasses they'd begun To winnle, twine, and twist.

**† Windle,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. as Windle *sb.*[2] + -le 3. Cf. Winnle *v.*[2]] *trans.* To winnow.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 656/23 *Hæ ventilabrum*, a wyndylynge. [The Englishglos appears to be incomplete] 1530 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* xii. 8 When they are fanned or windled, and when the winde of trouble and affliccion begynneth once a litle to blowe. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl., To *Windle*, to Winnowish.

**Windle,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 winele, 6 windell. [? Back-formation from Windlestraw; but cf. Winder *v.*] *intr.* To lose strength or vigour; to wither, waste away, dwindle. Hence **Windling** *ppl. a.*[2]

c 1325 *Gloss. Wr. de Bibbesw.* in *Wright Voc* 161 Io so3 lt mayn et tesuinge, I fore so swindlinge. Wr. winckel) 1579 W Wilkinson *Confut Fam. Love* 31 b, The fruite there of for want of moysture begynneth to windell 1880 Gaskarth *Cantel Serm.* 1 Under plants we see some slow to windle and wither away. 1888 *Sheffield Glass*, *Windle*, v. to dwindle. *Windling*, adj., feeble, delicate

**Windles,** obs. form of Windlass *sb.*[1]

**Windless** (wi·ndlĕs), *sb.*[1] Also -lesse. [f. Wind *v.*[1] + -less.]

1. Breathlessness, out of breath. Now *rare*.

a 1400–30 *Wyrs Alex.* 1272 Sa walke & so wanyes & wery for-foten. 1570 Foxe *A. & M* (ed. 2) 2126/1 His accuser.. came in such post speede, that in a maner he was wyndlesse entryng into the Bishops chamber. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 114 With all the speed I could make I returned all windlesse for hast. 1643 Trapp *Comm Gen.* xliv 27 Panting and windlesse and out of breath. 1894 J. A. Steuart *In Day of Battle* I, He was stupefied and windless before the smile of disdain had time to leave his face.

2. Free from wind; not exposed to or stirred by the wind, in or upon which no wind blows.

In first quot. applied to wind supposed to be pent underground and to cause earthquakes = not causing any movement in the atmosphere.

1597 Shakespeare *1st Part Henry IV* III. i. 30 When steeples totter, and huge mountains tremble With wind less wind [orig. *Le vent sans force vent*]. 1600 Marie *Min. Derbysh.* Gl. 88. (N.D.D.) s.v., A place in a mine where the air is bad or short.. is then said to be a windless. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 1106 The windless sky. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint* II iii iv § 15 251 Colder and more quiet than a windless sea under the moon of midnight. 1853 St. Arnold *New Sirens* 146 In some windless valley.

†3. Not causing flatulence. *Obs. rare.*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II 85 b, Phasiolus or Doscoride is it wyndy, & y^e other ar *flatuum expertes* & vnwindlesse

Hence **Windlessly** *adv.*; **Windlessness.**

1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct 387 The dawn broke windlessly, over the dark mountain pass 1908 R. F Brown *Dismal Shame* x, The sea slept in the windlessness of this August weather.

**Windlesse,** obs. form of Windlass.

**Windlestrae** (wi·ndl,straē). *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 windelstreaw, -streow, 6 *Sc.* wynd-, windilstraw, 7 windle-straw, 8–9 *Sc.* winlestrae, 9 *dial.* windle-, winnelstraw, -straw, etc., 7– windlestraw. [OE. *windelstréaw*, ?f. *windel* Windle *sb.*[1] + *stréaw* Straw *sb.*]

1. A dry thin withered stalk of grass, such as is left standing after the flower or seed is shed.

In north. dial shortened to *wumdle*

c 1000 *Ags. in* Wr.-Wülcker 201/23 *Calamum*, windelstreow 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 234 With hyrstis kaird of waggand wyndilstrays 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 301, I walkkerit at the windilstraw. 1598 D. Fergusson *Scot Prov.* (1641) 328 He that is redd for windlestrawes, should not sleep in bees. 1644 Best *Farm Bks* (Surtees) 71 If the weather be faire and stormye, and the hey shorte and good, they [*sc.* sheep] will not leave one much as a pie of grasse or a windle strawe. a 1720 in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict Provinc.* (1887) 792 To protect him to the fifth part of the rent, was to send him to lift the rest of his stupend from windlestraws and sandy laverocks. c 1730 Ramsay *Poems* xxvi. 1 Bevyll'd wi' the windlestraes. 1818 Scillay *Alastor* 128 I all spares of windlestrae I knew their thin shadows down the rugged slope. 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe*, The air is close, and the day so calm, that not a windlestraw moves on the bents. 1824 Cavalle *Tredd Gl. Sax* II vi. 150 Think what a fine figure of rye and barley, instead of mere windlestraws, beggary and dissolution, was realised by that act alone. 1872 Blackmore *Lorna* xx, Thistle fluffs and bearded windlestraws

2. A name for various long-stalked species of grass, as *Cynosurus cristatus* (dog's tail grass), *Lolium perenne* (ryegrass), and *Agrostis Spica-venti*. Also †*windlestrae-grass*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 Wib earsgan, xeniim þæt nicle gre.ste wendel streaw twy.ege. 1636 Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* I. iii. 6 Reed-grasse . in Latine *Spica venti agrorum* Some . thinke it to be the same with the Latine name, call these, Windle strawes 1775 J. Anderson *Ess Agric.* 428 The crested dogs tail grass, *Cynosurus cristatus*, commonly known in Scotland by the name of windlestraw-grass. 1801 Leyden *Elfin Knight* xiii, The windlestrae, so limber and grey [*note*, Rye grass] 1862 Miss Norton *Lady of Le Carraye* Poet. 122 The pale tufts of the windlestrae grass Hang like locks of dry dead hair.

3. *fig.* a Applied to something (material or immaterial) light, trifling, or flimsy; occas. contemptuously to a spear or lance.

1637 Rutherford *Lett* I 63 (1675) 174 No windle-straws, no bits of clay, no temptation will then be able to withstand you 1831 Scott *Cl Rol* xi, Not one has the courage to throw his shield between the fierce spears of the mercenaries pointed against himself 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xi, He grippit me with one hand and drew his windlestraw of a sword wi' the other. 1905 *Spectator* 28 Sept. 23 Aug 267 3 Her blank verse and other heavy thoughts have none of the life and sweetness of her windlestraw.

b. Applied to a thin lanky person, or one of feeble health or character.

1818 Miss Fenner *Marriage* xxxiv, A sheen puir feckless windlestraes 1836 J. M Wilson *Tales* II 214 2 D)e ken that this windle-straw o' a lassie has won the kirn? 1845 G Carlyle *Schiller* I. 10 He was a person you may form of windle-straws; but, to make a rope, you must have great I 1907 *Q.* *Person Ink.* xxxi, A thin, wistful straw of a man

**Windling** (wi·ndlĭŋ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–5 wyndelynge, 5 wenelyng(e; 7 winling, 8 windlen, wonlyng, 9 winlin, winlen, windling. [? f. Wind *v.*[1] + -ing[1] 2. But perhaps two distinct words.

The word in sense 1 seems to be synonymous with *wynd(e)* ropes, wyndis 1 in 1302 *Acc. Exch.* (P R O) 6 m. 3, 1336 *Ibid* 19 1 m 8, 1340 *Ibid* 21/1 *Hen V* G 9 m 2.

†1. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* ? Small ropes or cords. *Obs.*

1295 *Acc Exch K R* 473 m. 1 (P R O) In Kalmouth empcio ad mairen ix s. vd. 1338 in *Pipe Roll* 22 *Edw III* m. 33 1 (P R O) In CCC. lb de towe, v^{lbs}. fasebus stamin. xvij Millibus de Wynelyng empt 1400 *Acc Exch. K. R.* 45/6 m. 4 In iij^{lbs} peiris de Wenelyng in factum dicte baleingere expendidus. 1407 *Ibid.* 64 11 (2) m. 2 In iij. libris de Wenelynge emptis iij d.

2. A bundle of straw or hay. *Sc.*

1695 in J. Davidson *Inverawe* (1836) 60, Two winlings of straw. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 41 He stumbles at a straw and leaps o'er a wonlyne 1824 H Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 122 The cattle-man removes his labours by bunching up windings of straw, which are so all bundles having a twisted form, of to th weight, or mo e each 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot. XV. Caithness* 146 The tenants of each pennyland had to furnish a certain number of winlins to thatch the manse stacks 1862 Histor *Prov. Scot.* 88 He starts at straws, and hits windling gae.

**Windling,** *ppl. a.*: see Windle *v.*[1] and *v.*[3]

**Windmill** (wi·ndmil, wi nmil), *sb* (Formerly also as two words) [f. WIND *sb.*[1] + MILL *sb.*[1]; cf. MHG. *wintmul*, G. *windmuhle*, LG., Du. *windmolen*, and F *moulin à vent* (from 13th c.).]

1. A mill the machinery of which is driven by the wind acting upon sails, used (chiefly in flat districts) for grinding corn, pumping water, etc. The older and most characteristic European form consists of a conical mill-house with a dome or 'cap' carrying (usually) four sails; the modern American type consists of a disk of sails mounted on a framework of girders, and is used chiefly for pumping or sawing.

The *sails* (SAIL *sb.*[1] 5) are turned by the force of the wind around an axis or *wind shaft*, usually nearly horizontal and having some contrivance (now often automatic) for turning it in any direction to enable the sails to catch the wind

1297 R GLOUC. (Rolls) 1283 Je king of alemaine was in a windmille mone . . 1345 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 190, Y saugh him caried a wyndmelle Vnder a walsh note alvhe. *a*1400 *Gloss in Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Ventagrile*, a wyndmyne *c*1450 *Godstow Reg.* 63 Hitha wonle mille just stondit vppon hoge wik oute fe towne of dominton [? *Londyn Bersie* (Percy Soc.) 77 He went up into a wyndemylne, And stoode upon a hyll soe hye . . 1546 *Lit. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees 1892) II. The rente of a wyndc mylle there, xxl. 1598 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 162, I had rather liue With Cheese vnl Garlicke in a Windmill . . 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 64 At no time there bloweth so much wind as will move a windmill . . 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 109 Windmills, such as the different species for raising water for draining, &c. . . 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 21 If we look upon the sails of a windmill in motion, at a distance they appear to go very slow . . 1841 I. A. TAYLOR *Western France* I. 211 Behind the village church-yard is entirely covered with windmills . . 1888 *Law Rep.* 20 App. Cas 412 Some spars and canvas were sacrificed in order to erect a windmill to assist in working the pumps. . . 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 5/2 2 American windmills generally have the sails arranged in an and also ur lusk.

2 A figure of a windmill; a sign or character resembling this, as a cross or asterisk. Also *attrib.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1400 *Lel. Poems* (Roliln) II 57, I know not an a from the wynd mylne. 1581 CARTWRIGHT in *Confes.* (1586) I. 13 A cross is a marke that may be removed, that teacheth to thinke by this crosse, or by the like windmill or mille . . 1698 MORRIS *Antichr. Pap.* II. *unlawfully* P. 11 . . a certain son formerly used in New South Wales for any J P who was ill educated and supposed to sign his name with a cross x

3. a. A model of a windmill. b. A toy consisting of a cross with a pierced piece of card or other light substance fixed at the end of a stick so as to revolve like the sails of a windmill when moved through the air.

1597 *Will. & F. Pettinger* (Somerset Ho.) I giue to my vncle my wyndemylle which hangeth in my hall 1598 FLORIO, *Ventarello*, a paper cut like a cross, and with a pin put in at the end of a sticke, which running against the wind doth turne about, our English children call it a wind mill . . 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Vrayelle* [Hooton] *Ridberry Thurland I.* v 113 Last week, I sold windmills and bandes of children . . 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiii, I so conciliated Peepy's affections by buying him a windmill and two flour sacks, that [etc.].

4. *fig.* and *allusively.* † a. A fanciful notion, a crotchet; a visionary scheme or project. *Obs.*

1620 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. 12 Others that raise up their confederate spirits, Built windmills . . 1642 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Very Maid* II. ii, They head is full of Windemills. 1659 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 158 He hath wind mines in's head . . 1698 JENKYN *Blind Guide* 19 You have a windmill in your pate . . 1728 FAIR. *or* ALLSAU *Mem.* (1800) 576 Frize, who had a windmill in her head like her husband . . 1739 J. MANNERS *Hearts & Papers* (1852) II. 18 The wind mill is indeed in all their heads . . .

**b.** In allusions to the story of Don Quixote (see QUIXOTE) tilting at windmills under the delusion that they were giants.

1694 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurnall's* The Quixotes of this age fight with the Wind mills of their own Heads. 1846 LLLWELYN *Men Miracles* etc. 84 No doubty Don Quixote, like those that fight, With Warlike Wind mill, and then rise up knight . . 1859 BLACKEY *Conflicts* II. 111, One giants may indeed be only windmills . . 1869 F. FANU *Wyvern Mys.* III. 105 What have I to do wi other folk's windmills? 1894 FARRAR *Christ* 84 *note*, Dr Geerlsheim is again—so far as I am concerned—fighting an windmill

c. *To fling* (*throw*) *one's cap or ete the windmill* [= F *jeter son bonnet par dessus les moulins*]: to act recklessly and defiantly, fly in the face of convention

1884 MRS LYNN LINTON (*hr. Kirkland* xiii, A wild out ward kind of young fellow, who had enjoyed his youth too freely and flung his cap too far over the windmill 1920 LOCKE *House of Baltazar* xvii, You're going to make a bolt with Godfrey and throw your cap over the windmills 1923 F. H. KITCHIN *Dowers Dowson* 305 Throwing their caps over the windmill under the stimulus of war patriotism

† **b.** *fig.* (from WIND *sb.*[1] 10). A crase of 'wind' 1616 DRAKE *Bill Scholast* 80 A full stomacke is a windemill

6 *attrib.* and *Comb.* (See also 2.) a. attrib, as *windmill country, hill, sail*, moving like windmill-sails, as *w. arms*; having a radiating form like windmill-sails, as † *w. battle* (see quot.) b Comb., as *windmill-like* -*studded* adjs., **windmill-cap**, the upper story of a windmill when made movable so as to turn the sails to the wind (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **windmill-grass**, an Australian grass, *Chloris truncata*, with long spreading flow er-spikes; **windmill plant** = ELEPHANT-*plant*; **windmill-pump**, a pump worked by a windmill, a windpump; † **windmill ward**, = MILLWARD.

1891 KIPLING *City Dreadful Night* 88 The windmill arms and the ungry eyes fall 1839 MARRYAT *Soldier's Return* II. 65 This form of Battalia following, which is called by the name of the 'Wind Mill Battalia,' standeth every way ready prepared to entertaine fight 1887 HARDY *Holiday on Road* 83 Approaching Mayfield, we entered upon the heart of a 'windmill country 1889 MAUDE *Useful 11. Australia* 80 *Chloris truncata*, 'Windmill Grass 1449 *Feet Alien'y Reg* (1844) I 305 In quodam lucio de ly Hallbludelucisendo apud ly 'Wyndymylnil 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II 177 A little windemill hill heard by . . 1577 I TUSS *Surv* I 13 The most notable knowen markes, as Marlepittes, I rokes, Windmill hilles etc 1587 *Engl Mist* (Suttees 1890) 91 The noble warles of the towne from the castell bridge alongeste the 'wyndmylle hule . . 1848 *Hoffmeister's Trav Ceylon*, etc vii 277 Their 'wind-mill like wings. 1891 C ROGERS *Adv St Anne* 149 A kind of patent 'windmill-pump 1583 STUBBES *Anat Abus* I (1879) 91 Sometimes they [ie ruffs] are suffered to hang over their shoulders, like 'windmil sayles fluttering in the winde 1759 SMEATON in *Phil Trans* LI. 109 In trying experiments on windmill-sails, the wind itself is too uncertain to answer the purpose. 1864 KINGSLEY *Let from Barrots in Life* xxi (1879) II 334 Your terrible wind mill uncertainty.

Hence † **Windmill** *v.*, *intr.* to turn or change direction like a windmill (*obs. nonce-wd.*); **Windmiller** [cf. G *windmüller*], the keeper of a windmill. **Windmilly** *a.*, abounding in windmills.

1592 H. *Ludus Dian.* (1908) Not many days had passed ere this extraordinary Passion 'Wind mill'd about to the contrary point of the Compass. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Witches* (Frandl) 509, I am a 'wynd mylles as many as there be Nyxes in Norffolke . . 1611 FLORIO, Ventare, to 'windmill as I rakes Like Wind millers, they make every wind serv their turns 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4170/4 A Jew Child, a Wind Miller by Trade 1865 W. WHITE *Nat. Eng.* II. iii 48 I knew I had enough to winner taters', as a windmiller in Warwickshire once said to a friend of mine. 1893 DICKENS *Uncomm Trav.* XXVII, A 'windmilly country.

**Windo(e, -dok**, obs. ff. WINDOW, WINNOCK

† **Windolet.** *Obs.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -LET] A small window. Also *fig.*

1592 R. D *Hypnerotomachia* 9 The same loopes or windolets in diverse places dispersed and set 1596 R. JOHNES *Buckl. Britaine* 1 Which the sunne beames sheepe shut vnto eyes, and close o redrawn their windolets of light. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Sol.* VII. 10 The heart-strong health is the soules windolet 1634 The heart sick health is by beauties wealth. I no sunnie windolets of aithers skie.

† **Windolf.** *Obs.* (*E. Anglia*) In 5 wyndolf(e. [Obscure. The second syllable is prob. related to DELF[1], DELVE *v.*; cf. F. Anglian *delf*, a drain, ditch.] ? A refuse pit.

14.. *Bk. Precedence* 462 In wich enquere 3ef ony mane make ony wyndolfse [*sic*], and ley oney dong in the comyne wey. 1440 *Cvrt roll Gt Waltham* (Lasex) *Manor* 19 May (MS), Willus Lovet fecit vnu fossil regiam viam . et inde fecit unum wyndolff ad nocumentum

**Windore.** *Obs* or *dial.* Also 6 wyndoor(e, 7–9 windoor, windor, 8 windeoor, vindore. [Altered form of WINDOW *sb.* by association with DOOR *sb.* - cf. WIND-DOOR.] A window.

1598 USAEL *Examn Apoph* 245 b, The other without any more lumber, went in at the wyndoore 1680 STANSHI RST *Æneis* III (Aib) 75 At thee wyndo rs, where moonshyne lumiye dyd enter 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. v, Neuer doe a grauer thing, then rise before it, as a windor 1663 BUTLER *Hud* I II 214 Knowing they were of doubtful gender, And that they came in at a Windore 1687 PETTY *Pol Anat* (1691) 4 Cox *Actions* 3 Pounds . . for Chimneys Doors, Windores, Gardens and Orchards. 1720 in *Rutland Illust Glass* (1891), The North Weste windeoor 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl* II 18 July, One Iesabel, a painted harlot, that was thrown out of 'windore 1893 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial W. Eng., Windor*, a window.

**Windostar,** VAR. WINDWSTER *Obs.*

**Window** (wi·ndo), *sb.* Forms: 3 **windoze**, -ohe, -ewe (?), **wyndouwe**, 3–4 **windou**, 4 **wyndew**, **wyndowe**, **wyndouwe**, *pl* **windos**, *Sc.* **window**, 4–6 **windowe**(*n*, -oin), **wyndo**, 5–6 **wyndoe**, 6 -oo, **wendo**, **windoe**, *pl* **wyndoes**, **wyndos**, **vynndowes**, **wendoyes**, *Sc.* **vindo**, **wondow**, 6–7 **windo**, -owe, 4– **window**. [M. *windoje* n. ON. *vindauga*, f. *vindr* WIND *sb.*[1] + *auga* EYE *sb.*[1] (See also WIND-DOOR, WINDORE, WINDOWN, WINNOCK.) The Scand. word replaced and finally superseded OE. *eagþyrel* ETHELRED, *eagdurn*, but the French-derived FENESTER was in concurrent use down to the beginning of the modern period.]

1. An opening in a wall or side of a building, ship, or carriage, to admit light or air, or both, and to afford a view of what is outside or inside.

In ancient buildings it was either left entirely open, furnished with shutters or curtains, or (sometimes) glazed; in modern buildings or vehicles for human occupation, it is usually fitted with sheets of glass, horn, mica, etc., a frame containing a pane or panes of glass, or glazed sashes, the whole framework being known as the window.

It has been suggested that *wodewos* in LAY. 30820 is a misreading for *widewes* = *windewes* 'windows'.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Þe leste þat 3e euer muwen luuiende our þurles, al beon hue lutle, þe þurles leat & nerewest [*Titus MS.* windoles, al beon hu lutle, þe þarlune windoule beo least & narewest] *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 602 Powerti daus after Þan, Arches windoge undon it is . . 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 241/35 To a derne wyndouwe softeliche went Nicholas gan . . *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15933 O walles and windos ale þar heldes ouer þen hangs. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6164 (Laud MS.), Wyndowes closed by on gynne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 32 Per nis noubur Wyndou ne Auter, Þat I ne schulde maken opur mende and my tonge write . . *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 775 His wyndow opnyt he in þe wall . . 1382 *Wyclif Ezek.* xiii. 20 Ȝe wondowe ȝoke lynede out. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x 140 Merlin opened the two wyndowes towarde the gardein, for he wolde that the hauke toght there-pone 1530 PALSGR. 280/1 Wyndowe that he in a house toppe, *lucarne* . . 1542 BOORDE *Regyment* viii. B 3 b, In the night let the wyndowes of your house, & specyallye of your chamber bee closed. 1549 *Compl Scot* xvii. 148 In your glasyn windois. 1566 in Peacock *Engl Ch Furniture* (1866) 98 The roode lofte—taken downe and sold . . barre wyndowes by hir doth mynd to make windows of. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S. T. S.) II. 177 The earle Bothwell come out at ane windowe (*v.r.* windo) 1590 SHAKS. *Com. of Err. & Dul.* II. ii. 208 Your words have tooke such pittifull sowres, That if I breath more, sweet breath will make it breaks? 1632 MILTON *Lycidas* 159 Storied Windows richly dight 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 1 IV 191 As a Thief in at the window climbes . . 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 798 Trees seem to be seen From every window . . 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* li, The windows were looked out of often enough to justify the imposition of 20 additional duties 1851 *Punch's Hist* xv, Mr Guppy has been lolling out of window all the morning. 1855 *Poultry Chron* III. 507 A window of perforated zinc 1876 PYNCHON *Metr. Temp.* 68 Sometimes some of the windows the snow was also piled, obscuring more than half their light. 1884 LEWIS *H. M. Waits* 201 (At the last stroke of XII, when all the windows fall like so many swords of Damocles.

b. With qualification denoting (*a*) the building, room, vehicle, etc. to which the window belongs, as *car, rage, church, door-, lobby, office, parlour, steeple, stove window*, SHOP-WINDOW, or (*b*) the form or material, as *double-, drop-, French, wheel window*, HAY-, BOW-, (LEAVE-, LOOK-, WINDOW.

*a* 1225 [see above]. 1448 [see BAY WINDOW]. 1467–8 [see GARLE *sb.*[1] 4] 1490 *Rolls of Parl* V. 182/2 A Gavill Wyndowe over a Cl yster 1485 *Rec St Mary at Hill* 29 All the glass windowes in the Quyre . . 1530 PALSGR. 280/1 Wyndowe to a churche wyndowes, the vestry wyndowe. 1560, 1660 [see STOVE *sb.*[1] 6] 1581 BURNE in *Cath Anecdotes* (S. T. S.) 110 At the tolbuith vindo vnder the vindo 1611 *Acts P.C.* 1542 At the chekker house vnde 1616 [see DOOR *sb.* 8] 1854 *Directory Bath, Wills*, etc. p. ix, When the Letter-box is closed for the despatch of the mail, an extra box is opened in the Lobby Window 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Double window*, one having two sets of sash, inclosing a body of air as a non conductor of heat and to deaden noise

2. *transf.* A window-like opening or skylight in phr. *in the window*, now chiefly with reference to the exhibition of notices, advertisements, etc., or the display of goods (as in a shop-window).

*To dress a window* = *window-dresser, -dressing* in §d

*a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxi 91 In a wyndou ther we stod, we custe us fyfty syse 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Vray*, Cruzine) 19 Incense had in a wyndo by. 1780 WYCLIF *Acts* xx. 9 Som 3ong man, Eutichus by name, sittinge on the wyndow [*Vulg.* super fenestram] 1526 TINDALE in a wyndowe]. 1543 *Gateway Arch* in *10th Rep Hist MSS. Comm.* App v. 410 No man shall have to lynd of merchandize in the wyndowes of any tenement to be sold to strangers 1860 SHAKS *Jul. C.* II. i. 36 Searching the Window for a Flint, I found This Paper 1698 BP. HALL *Breathings Dev and Soul* 109 Whales I have but a spider in my window, or a bee in my garden, or a Worm under my feet 1695 FULLER *Ch Hist* IX VI § 46 At Fotheringh-Castle I have read written by her in a window, with a pointed Diamond [etc.] 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (*Supp.*) *Meteorology* II 195 The Sashes were thrown up, and they were all sitting in the Window 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* XIX, An old *remonant* which lay loosely in a window-sash 1835 DICKENS *Sk Boz, Parochial's Shop*, The articles of stock which are displayed in some profusion in the window 1861 *Brit Postal Guide* 3 In the case of the addressee still dead in the window of the Post Office to which they may have been sent. 1905 WELLS *Kipps* II. § 2 Carshot, the window-dresser . . tagged inexistently until the window was done.

b. *Goldsmith's window* (Gold-smiths calling): a rich working in which the gold shows abundantly.

1890 'R. BOLDERWOOD' *Miner's Rt.* XIV, This . was after we had worked out our 'goldsmith's window', as the adjacent loggers chrisened it.

3. Applied to openings resembling or likened to a window in shape or function.

e.g † An opening in the side of a vessel, as a salt-cellar, a censer, and the like; † an opening or gap; † a blank space left in a writing; a shutter, valve, or like opening; *pl.* a pattern of squares made with sugar on bread and butter; soap-bubbles blown between the finger and thumb

*c* 1290 MARKWY (Skeat) 58 Þei hadde a saltsellere with wyndowes. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 911 The vessele, the aventaile, enamede so faire, Voyde with-owtyne vice, with wyndowes of subtell werke 1499 *Pastons Lett* II. 41 Sealed with my wyndowe. 1517 in *Archæologia* LXI. 84 A tabernacle of golde with vij wyndowes of birell for the sacrament *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur* (1781) II 321 One Sensour parcell gilte withe Windowes gilte and thoppar Boells 1533 CRANMER *Let. in Misc. Writ* (Parker Soc.) 240 I hat your said collation have a window expedient to set what name I will therein 1549 CHALONER *Erasmus on Folly* N.], How many windowes as (orig. *nodes*) they misste make to theyr shooes. 1578 BANER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 165 An apt hole which may one whyles shutte, and another whyles open, through the holpe

of a certayne plate or wyndowe of yron 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 317 Every House openeth their Casterne window, and receiveth as much water, as is able to suffice them till the next Inundation. *a*1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Sept 1644. In the piers of the arches are windowes as it were, to receive the water when it is high and full. 1708 W. King *Cookery* (1709) 81 The Pavvite Child makes great cluster, I'll he has Windowe on his Breech and Butter. 1832 L. Hunt *Lines written in May* 15 The merry sap has run up in the bowers, And burst the windows of the buds in flowers. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, Putting the fore-finger and thumb of each hand together, as if he was making 'windows' with soap suds. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II 476 A large, well-made lamp, having side windows. 1894 Hopkins *Electric Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 52 This finished fixed sheet, with its 'windows', central aperture, and side strips.

b. *Windows of heaven* · openings in the firmament through which rain was thought to pour

A literalism from Heb. חַלּוֹנוֹת הַשָּׁמַיִם, which is rendered in the LXX by παραθυραι του ουρανου, in the Vulgate by *cataractæ cæli* = 'the floodgates of heaven' (Douay version) in the early Wyclifite version 'the goteris of heuene'.

cf. Cataract 1.

1388 Wyclif *Gen* VII. 11 The wyndowis of heuene weren opened, and reyn was maad on erthe. *c*1400 *Prymer* 67 [Fr. xiii 7] Deeþe cleeþ deeþe at þe vois of þi wyndowis. 1611 Cotgr., *Ventaille du ciel*, the windowes, or floud-gates, of heauen. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI 849 The deep, who now had stopt His Fountains, and the Heav'n his windows shut. 1866 Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx, The rain was worse than ever, the wind was more cold, but the windows of heaven were opened. 1869 Gouldman *Pyra Holinesis* 1 [Elijah] shut up the windows of the sky by his prayers, and by his prayers re-opened them.

c. *Anat.* = Fenestra 1.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 603 Betwixt these two windows aboue the lower hole is there a little knub or prouberation. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* III. xiv. (1686) 139 The third is called the Vestibul, or Entrie: from which part passeth that is called the oval window. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos* I. xiii § 7 249 There are yet two Openings in the Drum [of the ear] the Eye of which are called the Oval Window. The other is called the Round Window. 1879 Calderwood *Mind & Br.* 71

d. *fig.* Applied to the senses or organs of sense, esp. the eyes, regarded as inlets or outlets to or from the mind or soul (also *transf.* in Shaks., applied to the eyelids)

*a*1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii 37 We syn wip oure e, hen we wenden ouryste þe þynge þat we see, and wes ded cumynes in as he wyndowes of oure eyen. *c*1386 Chaucer *Melib* P 456 I hou hast suffred hem entre in to thyn herte wilfully by thy wyndowes of thy body. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xl (Arb.) 109 Whan they ware after slepe so made he vs to shette but one wyndowe where another muste shette two. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) Biij, The eyes are the wyn lowes of the mynde, by whose ayde and myger ran se through them. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii 849 Behold the window of my heart, mine eye. 1590 — *Ven. & Ad.* 482 Her two blue windowes faintly she vpheaueth. 1594 — *Rich. III*, v. iii. 116 Sure I let fall the windowes of mine eyes. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* III. xxx, I hose Lights, the radiant Windows of her Minde. 1660 *Stang Dict* (ed. 2), *Windows*, the eyes, or 'peepers' Kingsley *Hereward* xxiii, *Cloghatch* (II. iii) *In Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb 236/3 She opened the windows of her eyes.

3. *fig.* and in allusive or proverbial expressions

*To open a window to* = to give an opportunity or occasion for (after Terence *Heaut* III. i. 78 [481] quantum ille fenestram ad nequitiem patefecerit). *To throw the house out at (the) window* [= *To enter par la fenêtre*] to make a great commotion, turn everything topsy turvy. *To come in by the window* [= *To enter par la fenêtre*], to come in stealthily

*c*1420 *Primer* 72 Pou art mand wyndowe of heuene, pat sureuelf men entre as steriis. 14.. *Lord of Red & L. Dames* (1901) 185 Loke out at the wyndowe of kyndenesse. 1523 [Coverdale] *Old Godd* (1534) G. What Pinne sawe so great a wyndowe opened, and so great an ouerflowe of ruin to hym self, for to inuade the realme. 1551 Crowley *Pleas & Payne* 350 And your were gliddie to take them in, Because you knewe that they dyd know that your came in by the wyndow of Cyties Plasmon. *a*1715 Ken (1721) I. 76 In closest closett of my thou,ht Hath open windowes to thine eyes. 1589 Nashe *Countercuffe* Wks. (Grosart) I 128 To open such a windowe to the deuill, as they were presently ready to enter in a way to the same hell. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 123 For such a fault as this, which of us here would not have cried out that the walles should have been broken, or the reader to have thrusten the house out of window? 1611, 1844 [see House *sb.*1 18]. 1622 J. Williamson in *Gouldst's Wise Words* 1 *retired* 73 sometimes shee is all for lofty Pride and banqueting-stuffe and as we say, throwes the house out at the windowes. 1630 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 28 Love creeps in at a window, but goes out at doore. 1689 Boyle *Martyrd. Theod.* (1700) 110 The wounds that we quietly suffer to pierce our Breasts, would open you Windows into our hearts. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. xi. 176 I the enraged matrona, pounding Laura's fair face to a jelly with his fist, and turning her whole house out at window. 1879 Farrar *St Paul* II. 90 His Second Epistle to the Corinthians opens a window into the very emotions of his heart.

5. *attrib* and *comb.* a. Simple attrib, as *window-arch*, †*-band* (Band *sb.*1 3), *-blind* (Blind *sb.* 2), †*-carpet* (Carpet *sb.* 1), *-casement*, *-clasp*, *-cushion*, *-flower*, *-frame* (Frame *sb.* 11), *-glass* (Glass *sb.* 1, 7), *-grate*, *-hangings*, *-head*, *-hole*, *-jamb*, *-leaves* (pl. † Rep *sb.* 12 b), †*-nail*, *-opening*, *-recess*, *-sash* (Sash *sb.*4 2), *-shade*, *-shelf*, †*slab*, *strap*, †*stuff*, *ticket*, *-tracery*, *-void* (Void *sb.*1 3 a). b. Objective, as *window-breaking* (in quots. attrib.), *-smashing*, *-vesting*; *window-mender*, *-smasher*, *-surveyor* c. Adverbial, as *window-broken* adj.; † *window gauer.*

1838 R. Willis *Archit Mid Ages* vi. 57 The *window-arch side 1449 *Rent Ripon* (Surtees) III 145 In tiij par de dorlundes, j *wyndoland* 1552 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot* X. 34, 21 pair of wyndo bandis. 1730 Pilkington *Tom Thumb* III. iii, Ha! the Window-Blinds are gone, A Country Dance of Joys is in your Face. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, The yellow window-blind of Pubsey and Co. was drawn down upon the day's work. 1784 Cowper *Task* 228 His wild excursions, *window* breaking feats 1861 Adam Strickland *Old Friends* Ser II 71 I the notorious young outlaw . . of window breaking fame 1859 Hulme *Pryuds to C.* Ser. II I 11 *Window-broken, tat-deserted houses 1575 in *Archæologia* XXX 10, 1 *window carpetis of Brasinge. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. 150 The Pin-head of the Tympan is made of Iron This Iron is somewhat thinner and narrower than an ordinary *Window Casement. 1823 Mrs. Gabrell *Week in Dress* (1863) 33 The *window clasp was unused and stiff 1600 in W. F Shaw *Manx Lawtry* (1890) 225 I three *window curtines 1913 Bennett *Cosmopolitan* No 49 78 My Quarters, Beds, and Window Curtains are of Irish Stuff. 1870 Dickens *Edwin Drood* I, Through the ragged window curtain, the light of early day was fighting in miserable court 1847 W. F Shaw *Manx Lawtry* (1870) 221 Lowre *window cushens 1818 Keats *Endymion* II. 28 Juliet leaning Amid her *window flowers 1703 *Window-frame* (see Window sill) 1804 W. L. Bowles *Spirit Discov.* 51 When winds do rise, And shake the window-frame 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xi, A tear trembled on his sentimental eyelid like a raindrop on a *window-frame 1855 Bellenden Ker *Gossip's Rom.* (1877) 304 Her sonnes gluttonous, her daughters *windowgazers. 1634-5 Brereton *Trav* (Chetham Soc.) 89 The glass-works, where is made *Window-glass. 1700 J. Stevens *Mem. Mon.* Spain I. 61 Of the Glass of Which North only Window-Glass 1864 Dickens *Mart. Chuz* xii, [He] let down the window glass. 1847 Marryat *Mid.* xxxvi, A boy creeps in at the *window-glass 1890 'H. S Merriman' *Slaves of Lamp* xvi, That super innocent old man with the white hair who wears *window-glass spectacles. They struck me as window-glass—quite flat. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xix A wicket *window-grate. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* iii, The tattered *window-hangings 1730 [Bolton *Memo* viii (1899) 160, I request also my window head two little old books 1833 R. Willis *Archit Mid. Ages* VI. 65 A row of small sunk pannels upon the space between the drypstone and the window head [Scott. *ib.* 97] . . In the *Priory* at Dunstable are a mass of black heads sticking through the *window hole 1777 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 158 Door-Window-Jambs. 1798 Richardson *Archæologia* IV. h 302 In the slit deal lining of the *window-jambs 1466 *Church's Acc.*, *Ashton* (Sum. Rec Soc.) 104 For angyng of *wyndowys in the tuwer house vij*. 1547 *Inv. of Gunnersbury* (MS. Hurl 1420, If 58), Two *wyndowe leves 1758 Bowlase *Nat. Hist Cornw* 57 In the Smith's shop the *window-leaves shook, and the shaking of the house 1833 R Willis *Archit Mid. Ages* VI. 65 A row of small sunk pannels upon the space between the drypstone and the *window head [Scott. *ib.* 97] . . In the *Priory* at Dunstable are a mass of black heads sticking through the *window hole 1797

II III (ed 20) 714 Officers of the Inland Office *Window Man, *ibid* 1718 *Ibid* (ed 25) 265 A list of the Officers of the General Post Office in Lombard Street *Window Man for the Day, 1890 *Q Rev* June 113 The Postmaster-General, [is] pointed Notices remain retracted with the public] is recommended to [owever were not only shineede i, but the window men who were evicted them were insulted 1887 *Daily Acts* 6 July 8 7 Cheesemongers —Wanted, by Advertiser, S in the Manager, Winlowman or scales man 1880 BRITTAN *Cl Sahara* II 200 To swallow and the "window is run through the lunes 1700 O HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV 229 Nayl r Hopkin came for "window-money 5s 1750 STRAVE *Tr Shandy* I XXIII, If the fixture of Monsieur's glass in the human breast had taken place That foolish consequence would certainly have followed, —That the very wisest of us all must have paid window money every day of our lives 1900 *Lpth Coral rpr* 619 Many years later we had them [ie drawings] "window-mounted with great care 1854 A ADAMS, etc *Man Nat Hist* 159 "Window-Flies (Epicauridæ) 1829 WHITE *Lete of St Mark* 49 With f rehead gainst the "window pane 1873 T GILL *Catal Fishes E Coast N limes* 17 *Lepb fistularis*, with fistulous snout, "window pane (New Jersey) 1 small flounder (New York) 1876 BELCHER *Growth of Love* xiv And I spe l ehind the dusty wind.pane Watches the days 40 by c 1735 in D D Leader *Rec Sheffield* (1897) 97 Paid Mr John Smith for the presents of knives &c, made to the "window peeper, 10s 6d 1828 *Mech Mag* XIII 1 Hooke *Armoury* in 1500 "Window Posts, Brick Posts, the sides of the Window 1745 WESLEY *Wks* (1872) VIII 211 They broke the window posts, and threw t e into the house 1850 INGRAHAM *Sng Nights Adrift* xxxiv 338 Below the "window screen extends a suite of projecting cam pies 1890 C H MOORE *Gothic Archit* IX 304 Chartr s [cathedral] singularly fortunate in retaining its mu, ıl el jewel like window screens 1778 MRS PIOZZI *Journey Prance* x 443 This splendid cloyster is quadrangled foure st ries high, the uppermost whereof is "window set in the l ew tecture. 1881 P P CLEMENTS in *Rep Somerset Archæol Soc* 1880, 177 The Placutle [<WINDOW Shelf] 1649 J ELLISTONE tr *Clement's Feast* XXXI 213 My Wife ne l t cause any "Window shutt to be made 1894 *Merton Reg* II 61 Quod [a] window Shuts de opere tabulato in ictis xociorum cameris, ubi deerunt, fabricentur 1570 SHUTE *Descri Arct* VIII (1745) 78 When you bar the "Window shuts of your Bed-chamber 1796 *Ash Hist Trent* I XXXVI 937 Placing a piece of paper round the hole in the window shut 1756-7 tr *Keysler's Trav* (1760) I 171 A unwieldy piece of the sufferings of Christ on the "window shutters, done by Hobean 1871 tr *Schellen's Spe trum Anat* I 18 So [f a ray of sun shine be allowed to pass through a small hole in a window shutter of a dark room 1633 G HERBERT *Temple, Dulnette* v, Where are my lines then? my apt preaches? views? Where are my "windows hangs? 1824 W IRVING *Bracb Hall* I 1 *Salmanazar* 259 Those absent standing n the "window se ne *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Oct 1664 I laying at on the "window stool he with his own hands design d to me the plat for the future building of Wilt hall 1867 J C *Fawcett's Reports of Botany* lec Cleve w t on knocking and ringing and the head of the Rev Isaac Dixie appeared high in the air over the window stool 1797 BEWICK *Birds* I 252 The Martin Mason let Martinet, or "Window swallow *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Mem Martinus* (1751) II 160 Considering that they are excused the Charges of House Rent, Window Lights and the like 1890 MISS MARTINEAU *Hist Peace* IV xi II 147 The window tax is a duty upon fresh air sunshine and health 1986 T D LEE *Journal Trans Victoria* I (1904) 187 When [women] make great "window works he re their dugs 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* VII 89 Nor will I speake of the Cock of Christall, Glasse, and Waterie Humors, the Optike and Mouing Nerues, with other these curi us Wi l e workes 1398 *Cal Inquis Post Mortem Vols III* IX 41 [A custom called] 'Buchellyeld [and] "Windowyeld

**†Window,** *v Obs rare* [f PRIC ]

1. *trans.* To furnish with windows (see WINDOWED 1); or window like openings

*a* 1639 WOTTON *Lanegyr K Charles* 11 *Aethj* (1651) 113 If Nature her self (the best architecteess) had (to use an expression of Virtuvius) wind wed y ur breast 1728 POPE *Dunc* II 43 She L n d th m pire of well body d air, With pert flut ers d w n the front well its head

**2** To place in a window

1606 SHAKS *Ant & Cl* IV XIV 72 Would st thou be window d in great Rome, and see Thy Master thus ?

**Window,** obs. or dial. var WINNOW.

**Windowed** (wɪ·ndoɪd), *ppl a* [f. WINDOW *sb* + -ED 2, partly after OF. *fenestré* ]

1 Furnished with or having windows. Also with prefixed word in comb

*c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialog* 116 The hous well ordeined Ought to be well wyndowed Of diverse wyndowes 1611 COTGR., *Jenêtré*, windowed hauing windowes 1624 WOTTON *Ar hit* 76 If we le R ome was wn lowe l round about 1636 PEACHAM *Coach & Sedan* A iv b, Windowed before and behind 1801 JAMES *Mil Dict* I *Spe c* No 278 A strange windowed House which is so l uit that no one can look out of any of the Apartments. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 869/1 Some of the principal buildings we may reasonably suppose to have been windowed in a superior manner 1826 J SMITH *Ch Har* III XXIII, With a windowed niche of that high hall 1830 TENNYSON *I of Hall* XV 131 She built a room all window d to the west 1866 GEO ELIOT *F Holt* I, Hall windowed brick houses 1881 *World* 28 Dec, The dis proportioned, ill windowed and pretentious palace at Kensington 1883 *Standard* 3 Aug 5/7 The windowed side of the new building

**2** Having decorative openings (see WINDOW *sb* 3).

1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 366/1 A crowne of gold wyndowed 1849 ROCK *Ch Fathers* II 246 They had, like Chaucer's Hyman parish-clerk, black windowed shoes, which let the scarlet stockings be seen from beneath 1873 BROWNING *Red Coll Mt-top* 69 Palace panes Polished allwaxt their windowed filagree By twinklings sobered from the sun outside

**3** Full of holes. (In later use echoing Shaks.)

1603 SHAKS. *Lear* III iv 31 Your lo[s], and window d raggedness 1725 HAY *Ldgr Martial* III XXXVII, In window'd hose, and garments twice convey d. 1804 *Westm Gaz* 6 Oct 2 When we sat with sadly windowed clothes on the soil very extensive summit of the Crystalline

**†Windowful** (wɪ·ndoʊful) [f. WINDOW *sb* + -FUL ] As much as fills or will fill a window or the space which a window gives a view of.

1878 MRS OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* IV, That windowfull of sky had darkened, it was almost night 1888 ROSA MULHOLLAND *Marcella Grace* xiii, In poorer homes on the outskirts of the city, one sees windowfuls of flowers.

**†Windowing.** *Obs.* [f. WINDOW *sb* + -ING 1.] The fittings or furniture of a window

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 85 To make windowing of the pure mettle of Venice glasse *Ibid* 95 Windowing and Mongons for windowes, which may be made and cast of this Copper 1619 BARLAND, *Belisaria*, my windowings.

**Windowless** (wɪ·ndoʊlės), *a* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -LESS ] Not having or furnished with windows

1760–72 H BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1809) II 125 Naked walls and windowless rooms 1836 STERLING in Carlyle *Life* (1851) I 300 Would I could sink to bed spent for a whole day! 1871 Younger Pliny's windowless study 1883 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I XIV 249 The windowless vans which are used for the transport of felons 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* xiii, In addition there were great patches of light through the high windowless openings in the walls.

Hence **Windowlessness.**

1917 A K COOK *About Winchester Coll* 228 The comparative windowlessness, and the positive ugliness, of the back of School

**+Windowon.** *Obs* Also 4–5 **wyndown,** 9 *dial* **windon** Obscure var. WINDOW *sb.*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 8 3if þei drawen þe pople by couytise of wyndowns 1450 LYDGATE *Life St Aug* XXII 32 As his moder and I e stood lenying out at a wyndown 1477 *Paston Lett* III 211 The bordes had ben [...] made up with wyndowns 1850 LAMBERT *Ice & Anglers Wisdom*, a window 1858 W. HOLLOWAY *Preston*, 190 *Windon*, "a window *Aoef*

**Window-sill.** = SILL *sb* 1 2.

1793 J WOLCOT *Pet Lyric Peruviae* I Window sells, (some times call'd Window seats) which are the bottom pieces in a Window frame 1814 SCOTT *Lch of Isles* V III on the mossy window sill 1847 THACKERAY *Vanity Fair* xxxvi, Their track effaced the green 1849 CRABBE *Life of Hall* III 235 The cu tom fell Half down, and rested on the window sill 1857 WHITTOCK *Bk Trades* (1842) 325 (*Mason*), He also constructs and lays the wind w cills of all buildings 1890 PEERS *Old Cur Shop* viii, The little flower pots which always stood on the window sill outside 1892 INKERSLEY *Ing Styles Archit Jrance* 311 The existing cathedral window sills 1888 STEVEN SON *Ad tadpoled* II, I heard the blunderbuss rattle on the win low sill

**Window-sole.** *dial* [SOLE *sb* 1 4.] = prec

1570 *Levins Manip* 175 The window soale 1611 COTGR., Le tymon for the masons to sett the wyndowe sole with, 16d 1891 in *Archæol Ælia* LXIV 370, 111 mudell peeces of windo s le 1737 RAMSAY tr *Tesm* I 1 May never a window sole in the house want flowers or windows net.

**Window-stole.** *dial* [STOLE *sb* 1 4.] = prec

1570 *Levins Manip* 175 The window Stoole (Suffolke) 1718 TOOKE *Pantheon* (ed 2) 1 The Masons to set the wyndowe sole with, 16d 1891 in *Archæol Ælia* LXIV 370, 111 mudell peeces of windo s le 1737 RAMSAY tr *Tesm* I 1 May never a window sole in the house want flowers or windows net.

**+Windowy,** *a. Obs rare.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -Y 1] Full of windows or openings

*a* 1631 DONNE *Bait* 20 Or trea herously poore fish beset, With angling, rod and windowie net.

**Window** (wɪ·ndoʊp, wɪ·ndɒp) [f. WIND *sb*,1 + PIPE *sb* 1 Cf. Du. + *windpypje* (Kilian) ]

1. The tube which leads from the throat and (dividing into the two bronchi) conveys air to and from the lungs in breathing = TRACHEA 1a. + Formerly also *pl* = the trachea and bronchi collectively.

1530 PALSGR. 289/1 *Windpype, tuyau de gozier* 1536 BELL *God's Promises* III C ij, Stoppe not my wynde pypes, but geue them lyberte, To sounde to thy name, 1562 CooPER *Antidotum* V *Aretæus, Asperæ arteriæ*, the wind pipe [*sic*] 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xv (1888) 70 The cough which commeth of some cold distemperature in the windp pes. 1660 J BRAGGAN *Pope Alex VII* (1867) 12 Their heads, with the livers and lungs hanging by the wine pipes [*sic*]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 19 Sept an 1777, When a cro ovi dders what variety of sounds can be uttered by the windpipe in the compass of a mouse 1816 SCOTT *Antiquary* III, There was only just sufficient opening in the wind pipe to permit of her l reath passing through her mouth 1874 COUES *Birds N W* 332 The Whooping Crane has a windpipe between four and five feet long—quite as long as the bird itself.

2 An artificial pipe or tube for conducting a blast of air *rare*

1868 HOUSE *Armoury* III v 259/1 A Pair of Bellows 1 the Wind Pipe erected 1689 BURNET *Tracts* I 94 A hole [let into a hill] which all the Summer long blows a fresh Air into the Cellar but this Wind pipe did not blow when I was there

3. *attrib* and *Comb* : **windpipe-stretcher,** *jocular*, a hangman, **windpipe sweetbread,** the thyroid gland (of a calf) used as food.

1897 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Three Weeks Observ* 84 h, Our Wapping windpipe stretcher *a* 1796 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 29 The fore quarter [of veal] contains the shoulder, neck, and breast, the throat sweet-bread, and the windpipe sweetbread

Hence (*nonce-uds*) **Wi ndpipe** *v*, *trans.* to utter through the windpipe, to 'pipe'; **Wi·ndpiped** (-pəipt) *a*, supplied with pipes figured as windpipes.

1860 HOLMES *Prof Breakf T* x, A city, water-veined and gas enwrapped 1898 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr* xiv, The three guardian ladies headed over the town windpiping these and similar Solan notes

**+Windreas** *Obs rare.* Also **-ersse** [f WINDER + -ESS ] A woman who winds (silk, etc.)

1598 FLORIO, *Dinaderesse* a silke windresse *Ibid*, *Naspatrice* a reeler, or windresse of thred, silke or yarne

**+Wi ndring,** *ppl a* r mi spir for WINDING *ppl a.*

1610 SHAKE *Temp* IV i 128 You Nimphs call'd Nayades of t e windring brooks

**Wind-rose** (wɪ·ndroʊz) [f WIND *sb*,1 + ROSE *sb* , in sense 2 after G *windrose* (cf ROSE *sb* 14 c) ]

1. Name for several papaveraceous plants, or their flowers a. the 'bastard wild poppy', *Argemone mexicana*, or the common wild poppy, *Papaver Rhœas*, b. the violet horned poppy, *Rhœas hybrida*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II xxx 320 The bastard wilde Poppie is called in E glish winde Rose, and bastarde wilde Poppie 1874 *Trans Bot* Suppl., Rose, Wind, *Rumex hybrida*

2 *Meteorol.* A diagram indicating the relative frequency, force, etc. of the temperature, etc. accompanying) the winds from the various points of the compass at some given place.

1846 SABINE tr *Humboldt's Cosmos* I 310 Tables of atmospheric pressure accompanying different winds, which have received the name of barometric windroses. 1883 R H SCOTT *Elem Meteorol* IX 206 The best mode of publishing the records for different st tions is the construc tion of 'wind roses,' which are figures in which are calculated the prevalent winds and the thermal windroses for a given number of stations.

**Windrow** (wɪ·ndroʊ), *sb.* Forms and etym : see WIND *sb*,1 and ROW *sb*,1 (also 8–9 **winrow**)

A row in which mown grass or hay is laid before being made up into heaps or cocks, in which sods, peats, or sheaves of corn are set up to be dried by exposure to the wind, or in which dead branches, etc. are gathered to be burnt.

Also *collect or abstr* in phr *into or out of windrow.*

1823–34 FITZHERB. *Husb* I § 25 In the next days, tourne it again e before none, and towards night make it in wyrd rowes and than in smal hey cockes 1641 BEST *Farm Bks* (Surtees) 54 Others when barley is loggery, and full of greenes, will settle it without turning it in the C. *Wkmd, A Wind row*, the Greens or Borders of a Field dug up, in order to the carrying the Earth on to the Land to mend it. It is called a Windrow because it is laid in rows, and exposed to the Wind 1726 [see URQUHART] 1764 *Museum Rust* III lxv 297 A machine for raking hay grass into wind row, drawn by a horse 1882 STEWART *Chron Scot Poetry* IV Gloss, *Windrow* hay or peats put together in long thin heaps for the purpose of being more easily dried 1830 HODGSON in *Range Mem* (1858) II 176 They are also handling much of their hay out of windrow 1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III 967 After the second 2 ridges have been thus cleared, the third ridge being in the middle, contains the grass of 5 ridges, which is called a window 1882 HOWELLS *Modern Instance* XXXII, The farme s were heaping into vast winrows for burning the winter worn stalks of the last year's crop.

b *transf.* of similar rows of various things, *e g* of trees blown down (cf WINDFALL 1) or of dust heaped up by the wind

1888 *Rep U S Comm Agric* (1869) 176 Logs of all sizes lie in windrows. 1881 *Scribner's Mag* Aug 511 The river [Hudson] is divided into long lanes and fields of smooth ice by windrows crossing in every direction 1900 LUCAS MALET *Sir Richard Calmady* I x, The last cloud of the up per sky was rent away by cut ed waves of inky, opalescent cloud

**Wi ndrow,** *v.* Also **winrow** [f. prec *sb*]

*trans* To lay or set in windrows

1789 P WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 28 This afternoon, son Thomas went and windrowed our hay in Block Moss 1787 CROSE *Prov Gloss* To *windrow*, to rake the mown grass into rows, called windrows 1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III 978 The grass which had been raked in the forenoon is windrowed and put into grass cocks 1889 DOUGHTY *Fresdaln Meres* VII 113 The men were windrowing hay, with rakes different to ours

Hence **Wi ndrowed** *ppl. a.* (in transf sense)

1893 W H HUDSON *Idle Days in Patag* VIII 215 The desolate shiftings of the windrowed snows of prairies

**Winds,** var. WINZE.

**Windsail** (wɪ·nsēil) [f WIND *sb*,1 + SAIL *sb* 1]

1. *Naut* A long wide tube or funnel of sail cloth used for ventilating a ship

1742 *Phil Trans* XLII 65 The Wind Sails are usually between 25 and 30 Foot long, according to the Size of the Ship 1825 MARRYAT *Olla Podr* III, I trimmed my ear like a windsail in 'Ot e Ice 1844 DICKENS in *Forster Life* (1872) I 321 From the roof, a couple of windsails dangled and drooped, limp and useless

2. A sail of a windmill.

1795 DE FOE *Tour Gt Brit.* II 151 Here are some wonderful Engines for throwing up Water, one pea by Wind Sails, 12 Wings or Sails to a Mill 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII, 490/2, 1883 MARSHALL *Poems, Sense & Spirit* 8 We go distraught, At best but circle-windsails of a mill

**Wind-shake** (wɪ·ndʃeik), *sb* Also 9 *dial.* **-shack.** [f. WIND *sb* 1 + SHAKE *sb* 1 9 a.] A flaw or crack in timber, supposed to be due to a strain caused by the force of the wind.

1545 ARCHAM *Toxoph* (Arb) 114 Not marred with knot, gaule, wyndeshake, wem. 1824 CARR *Craft ex Gloss*, *Windshacks*, cracks in wood, occasioned, it is supposed by the wind. 1866 *Treas. Bot*, *Wind-shake* See *Anemosis.*

**†Windshake,** *v. Obs. rare*—1, [f. as prec. + SHAKE *v.*] *trans.* To shake as with a violent wind; to inflict a severe shock upon.

1614 BUDDEN tr. *Ærodius' Disc. Parents Hon.* 156 To windshake all that commerce and societie, which is between man & man, stem from the very ground plot, and foundation.

**†Wind-shaked,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. WIND *sb.*1 + *shaked*, wk. pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*] = next, 1.

1604 SHAKE. *Oth.* II. i. 13 The winde-shak'd Surge. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militt.* medit. iv. 41, I quake, Like wind-shakt Reeds.

**Wind-shaken** (wi·ndʃē k'n), *ppl. a.* [f. WIND *sb.*1 + *shaken*, str. pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*]

1. Shaken or agitated by the wind.

*c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xi. 7 A windshaken reed. 1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) v. 2, 26 Ragge tottering loose abought me like windshaken rags. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. ii. 117 Like Oake not to be winde-shaken. 1644 *Prerog. Anatomiz'd* 7 All the trees were wind shaken, and those that were not fast rooted, fell. 1656 LAVEN *Maxims of Cro' Ile* (1811), The windshaken Boughs. 1826 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball*, Sect. II. *Forsaken Garden* iii, The weeds wind-shaken.

2. Of timber: Affected with wind-shake. Also *fig.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Rimus*, To be wyndeshaken as tymber is. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlv. 5 God doo oftentymes tumble downe from their wyndshaken and rotten seages. 1611 BEDWELL & DARKE *Tearing of Ill*, Some poore winde-shaken gallant. 1668 CLARENDON *Vind.* Tracts (1727) 33 The muddle of every piece was wind-shaken and rotten. 1796 SURVIVOR *Tenth.* 387 The discharging Trees of unthrifty broken wind-shaken Boughs. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Anemones*, the condition known in timber by the name of wind sh aken.

**Wind-shook** (wi·ndʃo̅k). [f. WIND *sb.*1 + SHOOK *sb* 3]

†1. = WIND-SHAKE *sb.* Also *attrib.* = prec. 2.

1604 EVELYN *Sylva* xxx. 94, I have seen Wind-shock-timber so exquisitely closed, as not to be discerned where the defects were. 1679 *Hist. Stirpes* (ed. 3) 143 The Wind-shock is a bruise, and shiver thereupon in the tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 868/2. 1809 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 37 One of them [sc. canoes] sunk, in which was the ammunition and my baggage; this was occasioned by what is called a wind-shock.

2. A shock or disturbance of equilibrium caused by a violent gust of wind.

1913 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 1 England must have got a bad windshock, and the machine [an aeroplane] fell like a stone.

**Wi·nd-shook,** *ppl. a. rare*—1. [f. WIND *sb.*1 + *shook*, pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*] = WIND-SHAKEN 2; in quot. *transf.* having internal cavities like wind-shaken timber.

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exempl.* 51 The cause of jointing or wind-shook Cheese, is from a small quantity of Skip-Curd being much broke, so as not sufficient, to form Eyes in the Cheese.

**Windsor** (wi·nzə). Name of a town in Berkshire, on the right bank of the Thames, at which is Windsor Castle, a royal residence.

1. *attrib.* in names of various things now or originally obtained, made, cultivated, etc. at or near Windsor, or of persons connected with Windsor Castle. **Windsor bean,** the common broad bean; **Windsor brick,** a kind of red fire-resisting brick formerly made at Hedgerley, near Windsor; **Windsor chair,** †(*a*) a kind of low-wheeled carriage (*obs.*); (*b*) a kind of wooden chair with the back formed of upright rod-like pieces surmounted by a cross-piece, and often with arms; **Windsor herald,** an officer whose duties are now performed by Garter King of Arms; **Windsor knights,** one of a body of military pensioners residing within the precincts of Windsor Castle; **Windsor loam,** the earth from which *Windsor bricks* were made; **Windsor soap,** a kind of scented (usually brown) soap; **Windsor tick** (TICK *sb.*1 2), app. a small variety of Windsor bean; **Windsor tub** (see quot.); **Windsor uniform,** a uniform introduced by King George III, consisting of a blue coat with red facings and lappels, and a blue or white waistcoat, worn on certain occasions at Windsor Castle by members of the royal household, and by royal or other distinguished guests by permission of the sovereign.

1718 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* 1. 133 Fruit in Pods, of the Size of our 'Windsor Beans.' 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 300 [The buck-bean's] leaves closely resemble those of the Windsor Bean. 1702 SAVAGE *Miner's Friend* 26 The Furnace being made of Sturbridge or 'Windsor-Brick. 1805 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 539 Red bricks which will stand the greatest heat. called Windsor bricks. 1784 in Amherst *Gardening* (1895) 234 My wife was carry'd in a 'Windsor chair like those at Versailles. 1790 CYRIL HARTWOOD *Corr.* (1805) II. 4 A tolerably large circle, with Windsor chairs round it. 1706 *Jackson's Oct. Test.* 50 Nov, The Bodleian Library has most confessedly been very much improved by the Introduction of Windsor-Chairs, so admirably calculated for Ornament and Repose. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* iv, There was one arm-chair in the room,—a Windsor-chair, as such used to be called. 1473-4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 For 'Wyndisoris heraldis aspensis quihen he come again for the renewyne of his conduct. 1827-48 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 310 Wyndesore Harald at Armes. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* To Rdr., Augustine Vincent, Esquire, Windsor Herald, & keeper of the Records in the Tower. 1740 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 458 Hedgerley, the Place where there is dug an Earth commonly call'd 'Windsor Loam. 1807 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 484 Windsor loam: obtained at Hampstead, &c. is frequently used for the lining of furnaces. 1826 *MS. accounts* (D. Dewar, St. Andrew's) To 'Windsor Soap, 3*l*. 1837 MORIER *Abel Allnutt* xxvii, A lamb..which she kept..washed with the best brown Windsor soap. 1907 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 98 The little common horse-bean, ticks, and 'Windsor ticks, are the sorts generally cultivated. 1820 ALVES *Banks of Esk* 166 Old Port pipes or casks, laid open at one side with conical tops, and seats placed at the ordinary height from the bottom,—which turn round upon perpendicular axes, denominated 'Windsor Tubs, from their having been first introduced there. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* (Rivington's ed.), *Chron* 124 The gentlemen [at a fête at Windsor Castle] were dressed in the full 'Windsor uniform, except those who wore the military habit of their respective regiments. 1842 T. HOOD *Comic Ser.* II. *Doubts & Fs*, I the hotel was a red brick building, edging the blue wave of the ocean, as the collar of the Windsor uniform garnishes the coat.

2. Short for *Windsor bean, brick, soap.*

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Feb. 32 A full crop of long-pods, Windsor's,..or other broad kinds. 1840 HACKREAY *Harbor Cut* Sept. 41 Dennet got now turned from red to as pale as white Windsor. 1841 *Cyclop. Eng. & Arch. Pr. rel. IV.* 349/1 The red sandy bricks called Windsors. 1859 *Habits of Good Soc.* 11. (new ed.) 224 The old brown Windsor being still..far the best for the skin. 1884 'H. COTTINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xii, As thorough an ablution as was possible in the absence of my cake of old brown windsor.

**Windsorian** (wi·nzō·rĭăn), *a. Obs.* Also 5 wyndesore. [f. WIND *sb.*1 + -SORE.] A person (orig. a woman) engaged in winding silk, etc.

14.. LANGL. *Pr. Conscy* 19, 209 (MS. T) My wyf was a wyndesore (*B. 4 C. Sexte* webbe) & Wollene clop made, *c* 1700 *Pract. Perfect Cookery* (L. Cumber, Dr. Lowther Windsorster, Spinster. 1793 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 Eleanor Brown, Silk-Winder. 1812 J. SMITH *Pract. Customs* (5) Husks and Nuts are the residence, which is thrown away by the winster, during the process of winding the Silk from the cocoons. 1895 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 259 Your waiters, your winsters, your weavers.

**Wind-suck** (wi·ndsŭk), *v.* [Back-formation from next person(s).] *intr.* Of a horse: To have the vice of noisily drawing in and swallowing air (often associated with crib-biting). Also **Wind-su·cking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 228 Wind-sucking consists in swallowing air, without first mixing the mouth *Ill* 2.0 He continues to practise wind-sucking. 1875 KNIGHT *Pict. Mech., Cribstrap*, a neck-throttler for crib biting and wind-sucking horses. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 81 Indigestion and colic result from windsucking and crib-biting.

**Wind-sucker** (wi·ndsŭkəɹ). [f. WIND *sb.*1 + SUCKER.]

†1. The valve of a pair of bellows. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III xiv (Roxb.) 72/2 The wind-sucker, a flap of strong Leather set over the wind hole within the belly.

2. A horse addicted to wind-sucking.

1845 JAMESON, 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* v, When horse hads sough, which was a wind-sucker, whose was lame after hunting. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 127 Windsuckers and crib-biters should be fed apart from the rest.

**Wind-sucker** : see WINDPUCKER 2.

1880 INGELOW *Steady Shake.* 54 The veriest wind-sucker among commentators.

**Wind-tight** (wi·ndtəit), *a.* [f. WIND *sb.*1 + TIGHT *a.*]

1. Solidly constructed so as to keep out wind: chiefly of a building; also of a vessel = AIR-TIGHT.

1597 [see TIGHT *a.* 2*a*]. 1504, etc. (see WATERTIGHT 1). 1693 *Corr. Earl Shaftesbury* (1821) II. 163 The grammar school is rather watertight nor windthight to the great hinderance of the students within the same. 1697 N. GRAY *Gospel Order* 33 For England, however, the upper Stories are shroudly shattred; yet the foundations and frame being good or mendable by the Architectors now at worke, there is good hope when it is setled, people shall dwell more wind-tight and water-tight than formerly. 1728 CHAMBERLAYNE *Radix. Pietas* II xvii § 10, I took a Tin Tube but found it not wind-tight, compleatly Wind-tight. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Wind-tight*, a cask or vessel to contain water is said to be wind tight and water-tight.

†2. *Naut.* = WIND-taut (see WIND *sb.*1 31). *Obs.*

1642 JOHN MONSON *Naval Tracts* ii. (1704) 301/1 They..cut down Things over-head, which makes them wind Tite and Burthen some.

**Wind-up** (wi·ndŭp), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the phr. *to wind up*, WIND *v.*1 22.]

A. *sb.* The action of 'winding up', or something that 'winds up' or concludes a course of action, story, etc.; close, conclusion, finish, *dénouement*; final settlement; closing act or proceeding. †Also formerly wind-up-all.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 47 Which was the Resplendent and glorious Wind-up-all of that whole Worke. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 74 Doth not the thiuel, I say, in the winde-spall, and in fine, oftner play wilie beguile him selfe then his fellowes? 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* lxxvi. 6 Jerusalem shall be the wind-up of the world. 1683 — *Gratia Nova* (1691) 56 So the wind up of the whole will be this, They shall have like for like. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, I but was the wind-up of the history. 1844 ALD. SMITH *Ald. Mr. Ledbury* xxiv, (1886) 75 Getting through a few.. quadrilles, and Sir Roger de Coverley as a wind up. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xvii, To take myself well to task, and have a regular wind-up of this business now. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp Canon & Fugue* xxiii. 181 The dominant pedal always announces the termination, or 'wind-up,' of a fugue.

B. *adj.* 1. Constructed to be wound up.

1784 *Morn. Chron.* 21 Apr. 4/3 Advt., A wind up range.

2. Forming the 'wind-up' or conclusion of something; concluding, closing.

1843 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. 25 Stafford determined not to be wanting to himself at the wind-up scene. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 153 We had a wind-up champagne supper.

**Windward** (wi·ndwəd), quasi-*sb.* in *phr.*, *a.*, and *adv.* Also 6 *Sc.* wyndwart, yndquhert, 7 winward, 9 win'ard. [f. WIND *sb.*1 + -WARD. (In all senses the opposite of LEEWARD.)]

A. The. *to (the) windward* (also formerly with other preps): to the windward side or direction.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 The said galeasse in a short tyme cam on vynduart of the tothir schip. 1582 WINJET *Cert. Protestants* I. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 4 To let down ane gretis dele thair hie sailis, and hald to wyndwart. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 A sayle, how stands she, to windward or leyward. 1666 MONK *Lett.* (in *Quarrels's Rough List, Ms.* 202 (1900) Oct) Sir William Berkeley kept his course, at which a gun was fired at windward of him. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 281 About Noon he was got to the Windward. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II (Globe) 329 The Sound coming from the Windward. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Nose* iv. 53 The heavens were grey, and there was a very dark line to windward. 1876 Miss BRADDON *T. Hogget's Diary*. I. 87 Before I had could reach him, the first of those giant masses of water struck on the rock to windward of him.

b. In *fig.* phrases, such as *to get to windward of*, to gain an advantage over (cf. WIND *sb.*1 3 b); *to keep to windward of*, to keep out of the reach of (cf. WINDY 2 d); *to cast an anchor to windward*, to adopt measures for security.

1783 COWPER *Let. to W. Newton* 7 Mar., I hat my vanity may not get too much to windward. 1820 DE WIT *Equaliser* 52 His intention of 'getting to windward of those 'Maylays'. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* vi, If I happen to have got to windward of the young woman, why, so much the better. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 1688/2 1918 *19th Cent.* Dec 1152 I his policy was based on a desire to keep an anchor to the windward, to secure the United States for a friend.

B. *adj.*

1. Having a direction towards, *i.e.* opposite to that of, the wind; moving against the wind.

1697 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grammar*, x. 47 You may a windward Tide when the Tide runnes against the wind. 1739 *Gentl.* A Description of the Windward and Passage and Gulf of Florida. *c* 1850 *Indian. Antiq.* 56 Windward Great Cycle Sailing.

b. Of or in reference to a sailing vessel, expressing ability to sail close to the wind: = WEATHERLY 2.

1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 382/1 She is so slender and graceful that one is prone to wonder that such pretty ess is consistent with wind'ward power. 1901 *Yachting Monthly* 27 Sept. 5 7 A better windward boat than the Columbia.

2. Situated towards the direction from which the wind blows; facing the wind.

a 1687 [see LEEWARD A 2] 1725 DE FOE *Engl. Tradesman* III (1738) I. 82 Hewinning, being hunt..to the windward Islands; the others the Leeward, on account of the wind's blowing generally from the eastern point in those quarters. 1838 FOULDE *Plea Hist. Eng.* 1. 1 Lee

**1.** Consisting of wind; of or pertaining to (the) wind; having the command of the winds, as a heathen deity; indicating or suggesting wind.

*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Luke viii 23 Da com windi yst 1390 *Gower Conf* III 313 Ihe wyndy Storm began to sharme. 1500 *Spenser F Q* III viii 44 As when a windy tempest bloweth hye 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II xvi, If stern Neptune's windy power prevail 1600 W Barne *Three Poet Lectures* (1893) 40 March, departed with his windy rage 1627 J Taylor (Water P) *Three Weekes Observ*, Ep Ded, All the watery, windy, earthly, and sturdying Deities 1781 *Cowper Retirement* 432 Wch by morning kindles with a windy red 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* vi. 89 The sea that lay beyond was of a windy green

**b.** Produced, or actuated, by (wind or compressed air): said of music played on wind instruments, or of a wind-instrument

1841 Inackeray *Mem Gormandising* Wks 1900 XIII. 176 Music, whether windy or with 1872 L. *ngf Wayside Inn* II. *Chiter of Hexgrave* 43 Two angels carved in wood, That by the windy organ stood

**2 a.** Of places, etc.: Full of, exposed to, blown upon or through by the wind

*Beowulf* 1358 Windige nessas *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* II. 392 Heora wyrtruma bid wes on ðæs sæs 1483 *Cath. Angl* 419/1 Wyndy, *ventosus ventuosus* 1552 Huloet, Wyndy houses, or places. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 279 A coulde and wyndy clime 1591 *Sylvester Dubartas* xxxiii 350 Then wes he wonne and ane windie vwyre 1593 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I i, Iuno Mvle Helo to direct hee ayre wherles Into the windie countrie of the clowdes 1667 Milton *P L* III 440 On this win'die sea of land, the Fiend Walk'd up and down 1833 Tennyson *May Queen, New Years Eve* v The building rook 'll caw from the windy tall elm-tree 1864 *Webster Dict.* s.v. Windy 191 As he paces the windy deck 1873 Longf *Wayside Inn, Monk of Casal Maggiore* 84 My wretched lodging in a windy shed.

**b** Of times, conditions, etc.: Characterized by wind, in which wind is frequent or prevalent, accompanied by wind

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* III 163 Windig lengten & renix sumer 1431 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 Toward the ende of wyndy Februarie. 1579 *J Dee Diary* (Camden) 5 A moyst Marche and not wyndy 1600 Surflet *Country Farme* v viii 671 Windie Autumnes. 1688 in *Ivernay Mem* (1904) II 382 The wettest & the windiest day that I have seene 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I iii, It is a good Night, only a little rainy and windy 1877 Huxley *Physiogr* 69 A windy day soon dries a wet pavement 1904 W F Hodgson *Front Fishing* 210 Meanwhile the rain goes on no longer a slight windy spray

**c.** Stirred by or set in motion in the wind; moving so as to produce a wind or current of air

*c* 1450 in *De Imitatione* II vii 47 Iruste not ner leene not upon a wan ly reede 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 8 He in his hand a windy fan did write 1828 Disraeli *Ven Grey* vi 1 Hans quivered like a windy reed

**d** Situated towards the wind, windward in phr. *on the windy side of* (fig), so as not to be 'scented' and attacked by (cf. Wind *sb.*1 4), out of the reach of; away from, clear of.

In modern use echoing Sh.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III i 307 *Pedro* Infaith Lady you have a merry heart *Beatr* Yea my Lord I thanke it, poore foole it keepes on the windy side of Care 1601 — *Twel N* III iv 181 Still you keep o'th windy side of the Law 1606 1824 Scott *It an* xii, He had just so much vividity as kept on the windy side of insanity 1865 Cowden Clarke *Shakes Char* vii 190 You cut off his resources, while you yourself keep on the windy side of assassination and murder

**3.** Resembling the wind in storminess, quality of sound, swiftness, † changefulness, etc.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 60 Þeah heora worulde wæde and windisce ehtnysse us astyrnæ onzean Cristes gelaðu ge *c* 1374 Chaucer *B Anel* 11 pr viii (1868) 6 The ayngel is fortune mayisthow sen alwey wyndy[MS wyndynge *went xanne*] and flowynge and euere mysthowyng of his rede 1598 *Florio Ital Dict* s.v. Ventoso, Windie, full of wind 1600 *Shakes Hen IV, Pt 2* I iii 24 Then with her windie sighes, and golden heares, To fan, and blow them dree againe she seekes. 1595 — *Johns* II i. 473 *Zeale* now burnes To purge this windes breath Of soft petitions. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* viii v (ed 2) 756 The windy inconstancy of some of the companie 1670 Dryden *Tyr Love* I ii, Ye Gods! how wayward and how windy passion flows. 1697 — *Æneis* xii 1227 Indu'd with windy Wings to flit in Air 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Oldtown Folks* xviii (1870) 185 Polly gave a scornful toss of her wavy windy passion flowers. 1877 *Black Shrift* I. 3 The sweet windy drone of the organ 1915 *Chamb Jrnl* 20 Mar 245/1 Singing the lines in a high, windy voice

**4. a.** Characterized by, arising from, or affected with 'wind' (Wind *sb.*1 10) in the stomach or bowels († or other parts). = Flatulent A.

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd.* II 214 Wiþ þa þing þe windigne wiþin on men wyrcen 1563 T Gale *Antidot* II 30 In all cold and windy infirmities of the brayne 1598 Marston *Pygmal, Sat* iv 151 The wyndie cholicke strid'd to hunt up the vent. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 185 Waterish and impure stomacks, by reason of wind ble crudities, whereon they abound 1799 Underwood *Dis Childhood* (ed 4) I 56 A costive and windy state of the b wels 1879 *G George's Hosp Rep* IX. 348 After some windy eructation &c. 1889 in J Hutchinson *Archives Surg.* (1898) IX. 12 When well I am generally very windy

**b.** Of food or drink: Causing or liable to cause 'wind'. = Flatulent B.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R* xvii clxxxvi (Add MS. 27361), Newe muste is ful wyndy & smoky 1533 Tvor *Cst Helthe* (1541) 98 Nauewes do not nouryshe so moche as rapes but they be euen as wyndye 1617 Moryson *Itin* III 111 They feede on bread very black, heavy and windy. 1698 Fryer *Asthma* ii (1737) 25 When the Meat is crude, slimy, windy, acerb 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 476 If the food be poor and windy.

**II** Figurative senses. (See also 2 d, 3.)

**5.** Having 'nothing in it', 'airy', intangible, empty, unsubstantial, flimsy, vain, frivolous, trifling, worthless (Often passing into other senses; see below) Similarly of persons (*rare*)

1593 G Harvey *New Let* B b, A wan, or windy Hope, is a notable breake necke vnto itselfe 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* v v 165 There is nothing more vnjust then to make men to liue by windy words & ayres 1601 [see 6 a] 1650 Trapp *Transp of Kings* (ed 3) 47 Neither is Cæsar to make Warres head of Christ and in, Protector of the Church, Defender of the Faith, these Titles being fals and Windie 1693 Dryden *Tr Juvenal* v 219 Exchanging solid Quiet, to obtain The Windy vast relaction of the Brain *a* 1700 H E. *Dict Canit Crewe, Wind, fallen*, without Sense or Reason 1839 Carlyle *Misc, Richter* (1840) II 340 What a hollow, windy vacuity of internal character that indicates 1859 *Du* Quincey *Wks* VI. 1862 IV 272 The windiest of fetishes 1861 Hackeray *Four Georges* iv (1869) 193 The Prince of Wales had some windy notions of his encouraging literature, science, and the arts 1877 Carlyle in *Mrs Carlyle's Lett* II 116 *note*, Sending windy & gassip to the newspapers

**6 a** Of speech or discourse, with various shades of meaning: Verbose, long-winded; violent, vehement, empty and high-sounding, inflated, bombastic; exaggerated, extravagant.

1380 Wyclif *Sob xvi* 3 Whether windi woordis [Vulg *verba venti sua*] shul not han ende? 1590 J Davidson in *Bannatyne MS* (1844) 117 Notwithstanding all the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**b** As a specific or writer: Full of talk or verbiage, talkative, loquacious, long-winded; violent or extravagant in utterance, 'blustering', bragging, boastful (cf. 7 b)

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi viii 33 Quhidder gif thi martial deidis, as that wer ay, into thy windy clattyng toung sal be sene 1598 Hamilton *Catech* (1884) 127 Notwithstanding of the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**7 a** Of speech or discourse, with various shades of meaning: Verbose, long-winded; violent, vehement, empty and high-sounding, inflated, bombastic; exaggerated, extravagant.

1380 Wyclif *Sob xvi* 3 Whether windi woordis [Vulg *verba venti sua*] shul not han ende? 1590 J Davidson in *Bannatyne MS* (1844) 117 Notwithstanding of the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**b** As a specific or writer: Full of talk or verbiage, talkative, loquacious, long-winded; violent or extravagant in utterance, 'blustering', bragging, boastful (cf. 7 b)

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi viii 33 Quhidder gif thi martial deidis, as that wer ay, into thy windy clattyng toung sal be sene 1598 Hamilton *Catech* (1884) 127 Notwithstanding of the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**c.** With qualifying word denoting colour, place of origin, etc., as *Alicant* wine, Claret wine, Port wine, *red wine* (Red *a* 16), Sherry wine, White wine, *wine sack* (Sack *sb.*1).

1300 *Cursor M* 25198 Wines, quite and red *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks* 35 Take Date, & do a way be stonys, & sethe in swete Wyne 1436 *Libel Eng Policy* 53 in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 160 Wyne of the baiarde 1692 Markham *Fr Houses* i 148 The Wines of the Mountains, which is called Hie country wine, are made some thirtie or fortie miles beyond Bordeaux 1632 Lithgow *Trav* III 98 Best Mulaga, Muscadin & and Sherrie wines 1726 Pamelia tr *Hor, Sat* II viii 12 The lees of Coan wine

**d.** Regarded as the usual accompaniment of dessert, see also quot 1843.

1820 1833 [see Walnut 1 b] 1843 J Yvton *Last Bar* 1. vi, Blacke appeared with the final refreshment called 'the Wines', consisting of spiced hippocras and confections 1859 M Thompson *Story of Cawnpore* ix 151 In their wine-and walnut-arguments

**e** *fig.* or in fig context

*c* 1300 *Cursor M* 21594 Pe stile o matheu, water it was, And wan pe letter o luuke 1540 *Hyde Park* (W de W 1553) 154 Allegiyng the dignyties of the seuyn ayle wyne of contemplacyon *c* 1586 [see Pembroke *Ps* cxix L 11, I like a smoked bottle am become, And yet the wine of thy commandments hild 1603 Shak *Meas* I ii 124 Wine of Life is drawn, and the meere Lees Is left thus Vault, to brag of 1808 Scott *Marm* i Introd 181 The wine of life is on the lees 1883 Bynon *Lyrical Poems* 1 Can drain the wine of passion—rage 1825 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) I xvi 252 Literature is the wine of life 1895 Kingsley *Heroes*, I Perl 19 Cheered by this keen wine of liberty and bracing frost 1897 Stevenson *Lett* (1899) I 94 The look of his face was a wine to me

**f** Phrases.

† *To drink in wine age* (cf. F *atoir vin de vingt*), to be merry in one's cups † *Wine of height* 'a former perquisite of seamen on getting safely through a particular navigation' (Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk*) *Wine of honour* (= † *vin d'honneur*) wine presented to great personages on their entry into a town *In wine* (see *In prep* 10 b) cf F *dans le vin* in a state of intoxication with wine, on one's cups † *To go from wine to wine* (cf Claret 2) † *To take wine* to drink wine *with* another person in a ceremonial manner, esp as a token of friendship or regard

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's Prol* 44 Me thynketh ye been wel y-shape I trowe that ye dronken han wyn Ape 1598 *Sel Pr Wint Chamb* (Seldon) II 234 He seyd vyolently on so hym I shall gyve the a quart of Wyn 1598 in *Lodge & Smith's Virginia* (Arb) 633 The Pilots demanded of the Captaine their Wine of hight as out of all danger 1600 Shakes *A Y L* III v 70 Now wonne from the north in wine 1706 *Lond Gaz* No 4276/3 The Magistrates waited on his Grace and presented him with what they call the Wine of Honour 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III 130, I am not sure whether I should not have Reason to wish you were brought home in Wine, rather than to come home so sober as you do 1843 Dickens *Pickw* ii, 'Glass of wine, sir?' 'With pleasure,' said Mr. Pickwick; and the stranger took wine, first with him, and then with the whole party together 1898 Pemberton *Engl Traits, Relig Wks* (Bohn) II 302 If a Bishop meets an intelligent gentleman, and reads fatal interrogations in his eyes, he has no resource but to take wine with him. 1904 Sir A Geikie *Scott Reminn.* xi 318 One still meets with old fashioned gentlemen, especially at public dinners, who 'take wine with you'.

(*b*) Proverbs and proverbial phrases.

*New wine in old bottles* (see Matt ix 17). *To look on the wine when it is red* (see Prov xxiii 31). *Good wine needs*



**5.** Having 'nothing in it', 'airy', intangible, empty, unsubstantial, flimsy, vain, frivolous, trifling, worthless (Often passing into other senses; see below) Similarly of persons (*rare*)

1593 G Harvey *New Let* B b, A wan, or windy Hope, is a notable breake necke vnto itselfe 1598 Barret *Theor Warres* v v 165 There is nothing more vniust then to make men to liue by windy words & ayres 1601 [see 6 a] 1650 Trapp *Transp of Kings* (ed 3) 47 Neither is Cæsar to make Warres head of Christ and in, Protector of the Church, Defender of the Faith, these Titles being fals and Windie 1693 Dryden *Tr Juvenal* v 219 Exchanging solid Quiet, to obtain The Windy vast relaction of the Brain *a* 1700 H E. *Dict Canit Crewe, Wind, fallen*, without Sense or Reason 1839 Carlyle *Misc, Richter* (1840) II 340 What a hollow, windy vacuity of internal character that indicates 1859 *Du* Quincey *Wks* VI. 1862 IV 272 The windiest of fetishes 1861 Hackeray *Four Georges* iv (1869) 193 The Prince of Wales had some windy notions of his encouraging literature, science, and the arts 1877 Carlyle in *Mrs Carlyle's Lett* II 116 *note*, Sending windy & gassip to the newspapers

**6 a** Of speech or discourse, with various shades of meaning: Verbose, long-winded; violent, vehement, empty and high-sounding, inflated, bombastic; exaggerated, extravagant.

1380 Wyclif *Sob xvi* 3 Whether windi woordis [Vulg *verba venti sua*] shul not han ende? 1590 J Davidson in *Bannatyne MS* (1844) 117 Notwithstanding of the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**b** As a specific or writer: Full of talk or verbiage, talkative, loquacious, long-winded; violent or extravagant in utterance, 'blustering', bragging, boastful (cf. 7 b)

1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi viii 33 Quhidder gif thi martial deidis, as that wer ay, into thy windy clattyng toung sal be sene 1598 Hamilton *Catech* (1884) 127 Notwithstanding of the windye vtiumes written by them 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* v iii (1602) M3b, *Tibullus* O terrifi'e, windy words! *Callus* & *Hermogenes* windy Brawne & Lungs 1611 Tuniis *Pared Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not I ng since brought to Athens out of Asia 1660 Fuller *Abel Redev* (1867) 83 By this windy particular he did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated 1810 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1839) IV 379 Lo what purpose then this windy declamation ab out John Calvin? 1868 M Patti-son *Academy* 1 Aug 84 A sequel to the rhetorical and unexplained solid acquisition 1886 *Illustr Lond News* 21 Aug 196/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings

**c.** With qualifying word denoting colour, place of origin, etc., as *Alicant* wine, Claret wine, Port wine, *red wine* (Red *a* 16), Sherry wine, White wine, *wine sack* (Sack *sb.*1).

1300 *Cursor M* 25198 Wines, quite and red *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks* 35 Take Date, & do a way be stonys, & sethe in swete Wyne 1436 *Libel Eng Policy* 53 in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 160 Wyne of the baiarde 1692 Markham *Fr Houses* i 148 The Wines of the Mountains, which is called Hie country wine, are made some thirtie or fortie miles beyond Bordeaux 1632 Lithgow *Trav* III 98 Best Mulaga, Muscadin & and Sherrie wines 1726 Pamelia tr *Hor, Sat* II viii 12 The lees of Coan wine

**d.** Regarded as the usual accompaniment of dessert, see also quot 1843.

1820 1833 [see Walnut 1 b] 1843 J Yvton *Last Bar* 1. vi, Blacke appeared with the final refreshment called 'the Wines', consisting of spiced hippocras and confections 1859 M Thompson *Story of Cawnpore* ix 151 In their wine-and walnut-arguments

**e** *fig.* or in fig context

*c* 1300 *Cursor M* 21594 Pe stile o matheu, water it was, And wan pe letter o luuke 1540 *Hyde Park* (W de W 1553) 154 Allegiyng the dignyties of the seuyn ayle wyne of contemplacyon *c* 1586 [see Pembroke *Ps* cxix L 11, I like a smoked bottle am become, And yet the wine of thy commandments hild 1603 Shak *Meas* I ii 124 Wine of Life is drawn, and the meere Lees Is left thus Vault, to brag of 1808 Scott *Marm* i Introd 181 The wine of life is on the lees 1883 Bynon *Lyrical Poems* 1 Can drain the wine of passion—rage 1825 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) I xvi 252 Literature is the wine of life 1895 Kingsley *Heroes*, I Perl 19 Cheered by this keen wine of liberty and bracing frost 1897 Stevenson *Lett* (1899) I 94 The look of his face was a wine to me

**f** Phrases.

† *To drink in wine age* (cf. F *atoir vin de vingt*), to be merry in one's cups † *Wine of height* 'a former perquisite of seamen on getting safely through a particular navigation' (Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk*) *Wine of honour* (= † *vin d'honneur*) wine presented to great personages on their entry into a town *In wine* (see *In prep* 10 b) cf F *dans le vin* in a state of intoxication with wine, on one's cups † *To go from wine to wine* (cf Claret 2) † *To take wine* to drink wine *with* another person in a ceremonial manner, esp as a token of friendship or regard

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's Prol* 44 Me thynketh ye been wel y-shape I trowe that ye dronken han wyn Ape 1598 *Sel Pr Wint Chamb* (Seldon) II 234 He seyd vyolently on so hym I shall gyve the a quart of Wyn 1598 in *Lodge & Smith's Virginia* (Arb) 633 The Pilots demanded of the Captaine their Wine of hight as out of all danger 1600 Shakes *A Y L* III v 70 Now wonne from the north in wine 1706 *Lond Gaz* No 4276/3 The Magistrates waited on his Grace and presented him with what they call the Wine of Honour 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III 130, I am not sure whether I should not have Reason to wish you were brought home in Wine, rather than to come home so sober as you do 1843 Dickens *Pickw* ii, 'Glass of wine, sir?' 'With pleasure,' said Mr. Pickwick; and the stranger took wine, first with him, and then with the whole party together 1898 Pemberton *Engl Traits, Relig Wks* (Bohn) II 302 If a Bishop meets an intelligent gentleman, and reads fatal interrogations in his eyes, he has no resource but to take wine with him. 1904 Sir A Geikie *Scott Reminn.* xi 318 One still meets with old fashioned gentlemen, especially at public dinners, who 'take wine with you'.

(*b*) Proverbs and proverbial phrases.

*New wine in old bottles* (see Matt ix 17). *To look on the wine when it is red* (see Prov xxiii 31). *Good wine needs*

*ne (imp)hash* (see also Bush *sb*.1 5 c, Ivy-bush). *Wherein worse is sin, wine* (or *truth*) *is soul. Wine and women* (Ecclus xlix. heading. A V)

1600–10 Lyly *Thakes* 1730 Wyn and wymmen bun ok not a nyde. *a* 1530 *Rem. Love* xxxvii. Chaucer's Wks 367/1 Wyne and women in to apostasy Cause wyse men to fal 1533 Coverdale *Prov* xxiii 31 Loke not thou vpon the wyne, how reed it is 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 23 Ye praise the wyne, before ye tast of the grape 1616 T. Windham *Commend. Poem* 13 Lane *Contin Sqr's T.* 7 The vine needes not, where there is good wine 1626 Drake *Bibl. Scholast* 235 When the wine is in, the wit is out 1628 Burton *Anat Mel* 1 ii iii xiii 160 Those two maine plagues and common diaries of humane kind, Wine & Women 1787 Gay *Beeg Op* ii. 1, Women and Wine should Life e nplay. 1733 B Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 241 When the Wine enters, out goes the Truth 1819 Byron *Juan* ii clxxviii. Let us have wine and women, mirth and laughter, Sermons and soda-water the day after 1880 Thackeray *Philip* vii, As Doctor Luther sang Who loves not wine, woman, and song He is a fool his whole le long

**g** In collocation with other words, as *wine and water* (hence *wine and-watery* adj.), *wine(s) and spirit(s)* (also attrib.), *cake and wine*; see also d

1589 Byron *Juan* ii lxv, The same mess Left him no drink, he jump'd into the wave. And so he found a wine and watery grave 1828 *Wine & Spirit Adulterators Unmasked* 19 The spurious Brandy, which generally comprises the stock of the Mahogany Wine and Spirit Merchant. 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII 467/1 Wine and Spirit Trade 1887 H. Latham *Black & White* 121 Able to produce the cake and wine hospitality

**2** In wider use, usually with qualifying word: A fermented liquor made from the juice of other fruits, or from grain, flowers, the sap of various trees (e g. birch and palm), etc.: sometimes called *made wine* (Made *ppl. a.* 2).

*In wine of the country* = F. *En vin de pays*) properly, the wine made in a particular locality for local consumption; usually *transf.* the alcoholic beverage most drunk in a particular country, or regarded as peculiar to it

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De R.* xvii clxxxvii (Add MS 27944), Wyne ymade is ymade by craffe of good spicery & herbes And it farep of be wyn pat is ymade Salmacida, of pe wyn pat hit rotep & troublep. 1548 Hooper *Declam. Christ.* x (1870) 254 All manner of wynes he made (I grippe except) vessyes, the whiche is made of a bery 1613 Shee *Pilgr. Jas* 1 71 1664 Worlidge *Vocab. Pomarius* 102 Peaches also and Apricocks, by some are made to yield pleasant Wines 1710 in *Swift's Lett* (1767) III 90, I spent the evening with Worsley Mountague and Dr. Aldrich over a bottle of their wine 1728 Addison *Spect* No 318 That detestable Catalogue of counterfeit Wines, which derive their Names from the Fruits Herbs or Flowers of which the Juices they are chiefly compounded! 1746 Warton *Progr. Dis on ent* 84 And tho' she boasts no charms divine, Yet she can carve and make birch wine 1750 (*title*) *Wine Kookbook*, a Dissertation to Learning the Origin and Antiquity of Barley Wine 1803 J. Durney *Dis on S. Wine* 88 The wine of rice 1842 London *Sun-ban Chron* 561 The 2 orchard Wines and brandies are made from the very finest 1888 Church and *Blackb* 1 *ngt* 10 What they called the wine of the country—square gin.

**3** *Pharmacy* A solution of a medicinal substance (denoted by a qualifying word) in wine, a medicated wine.

1652, 1900 (see Strel *sb*.1 2a) 1728 Chambers *Cy f* II *s v. Wine, Chalybeate, or Steel li ne* is prepared of steel Filings. 1821 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp* (1825) 655 The solutions thus formed have been denominated Medicated Wines *Ibid* 656 Wine of Ipecacuanha 1866 Aitken *Pract Med.* II. 51 The wine of the root of colchicum.

**4.** A wine-party, esp. of undergraduates.

1800 W. W. Reade *Liberty Hall!* viii 130 When I go out to a wine I always bring my own straws 1880 Kingsley *Alton Locke* xiii (new ed.) 123 The interval being taken up in 'wines,' and an hour of billiards 1885 M. Pattison *Mem* 144 Oh the sey coldness, the dreary Egyptian blackness of that 'wine'

**5.** *Spirit(s) of wine*, alcohol, rectified spirit; *oil of wine*, œnanthic ester; also, a heavy oily liquid (*heavy oil of wine*) consisting of etherin, etherol, and ethyl sulphate, called also *ethereal oil*. See also Low-wines.

(*Cf* quot 1806 s v. Roscid *a*.) 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep* iii xii 161 An evaporation of spirit of wine and Camphir 1648 Diocr *Chym Secr* (1682) 272 An excellent Spirit of Wine to draw Tinctures 1741 *Compleat Fam Piece* ii iv 246 Pour on it a Pint of the ordinary Spirit of Wine, that of twelve pence a Quart 1807 T. Thomson *Chem* (ed 3) II 321 A peculiar kind of oil known by the name of sweet oil of wine 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 43 Raymond Lully was acquainted with 'spirits of wine,' which he called *aqua ardens*. 1882 Watts *Dict Chem* II. 507 *Heavy oil of wine*, according to Liebig, an ethylsulphate of etherol.

**6** *pl* Short for: Wine-glasses

1848 Thackeray *Little Dinner at Timmins's* 11, It was calculated that a dozen or so tumblers, four or five dozen wines, eight water bottles were required

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib. (*a*) Of, made of or with, wine, as *wine alcohol*, *-draff*, *-froze*, *-fregs*, *-harvest* (also attrib.), *-mare*, *-meter*, *-must*, *-offering*, *-pastel*, *-sauce*, *+-shench* (also attrib), *-stalk*, *-stand*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps* (Th) cxl 24 [clv 15] Heortan manna must and wendrine mycelum blisad. *c* 1205 Lay 3329 Heo iward iedde on hire benches, swiches hit were of wine scenche. *c* 1300 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 186 Peron schulen be dusolued wijndraste brent. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb* iii 268 Wyndraf is good also commyxt with donge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/2 Wyne dreggys, or lye. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong. Graffage*, grape gathering, wyne haruest *Ibid*, *Vendangeur*, a Wine-haruest man. 1597 A. M tr. *Guille-*



*meau's Fr Chirurg* 211 b The wine mother or dregge. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiii 1 II 147 As many as have bin wine-drinking Marc. 1667 Milton *P L* xii 91 With large Wine-offerings pour'd out 1701 S. Sewall *Diar.* 2 June (1879) II 36 Treated them with bread, Beer, wine Sillibub 1792–8 E. Darwin *Zoon* (1801) IV 424 He gradually takes more custard every day, . . and takes wine & Sillabub 1809–18 Maria Edgeworth *Absentee* xi, The wine sauce for the hare was spilt by their collision 1818 Dr. Subble in Lady Morgan *Aulohy gr* (1859) 19 You did not expe time to have stayed for the wine posset? 1838 Dickens *Tt Twist* xliv, Wine stains fruit stains, beer stains 1853 Ure *Dict Arts* I 155 The fermentation of wine must 1857 Miller *Elem Chem., Org.* (1867) I § 2 29 Wood spirit and fousel oil are termed homologues of wine alcohol

(*b*) Of, for, or connected with the production, sale, storing, or use of wine, as *wine-barrel*, *-bin*, *bottle*, *-bowl*, *-butt*, *-can*, *cask*, *country*, *-cup* (also *attrib.*), *+-decanter*, *-flask*, *-horn* (OL.), *-jar*, *-land*, *-merchant*, *-office*, *-pipe*, *-shop*, *-store*, *-tavern* (hence *+-tavernry*, *-trade*, *-trough*, *-tun*, *-vessel*

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt xxi 33 Monn se[sic] sezsette bone wingeard & gidfi in hine win t 05 *c* 1000 *Ags Church* 200 Se gerefa sceal beon mon wiflalodum wel bilyfed, ne forgife to lome in Ihorpe *Anc Laws* (1840) II 354 Ne he ne ateone æt wintunnum *c* 1205 Lay 30677 He hafde on his ure wintunnen inoge 1 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2673 Sextene for he was a Wine-yn. His bedi ase a wombon 1382 Wyclif *Jesh* 12 4 Rent wy n hotels — *Job* xxxii 19 Mist that breketh neuve lite wat vessels 1400 (*see Kolb's Hen IV*, 11 m 11 *sb*.) Lydgate *Assem Ladies* 1 Hereupon *Pol Lorik* 16 *Englon Poet Poems* (Rolls) III 223 The Water Bowge and the Wine Botelle 1530 Palsgr. If 178, I broche a wyne vessell 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus* xl 2 They loue the wyne house 1538 Elyot, *Oenopolium*, a wyne tauerne 1580 Holly band *Treas. Fr Tong*, *Ivrongne*, a wine troughe 1597 A. M tr. *Gabelhouer's Fr Chirurg* 41 Ashes which are burned of the inveterate aydes of a wyne pipe 1620 [Taylor (Water P.)] *Shifting* B 6 From thence vnto the Wine Hauen 1635 Heywood *Pleas Hist Gods* 16 Flagons, Tankards, Beere cups, Wine bowles 1636 Blake *Lev Coapbel Co t* iv 306 I do heart having beene 22 s Wine vessell, which hath lasted me 3 yeares 1658 Phillips *Wine-drinking* 1838 Elyot, *Oenopolium*, a wyne tauerne 1580 Holly band *Treas. Fr Tong*, *Ivrongne*, a wine troughe 1597 A. M tr. *Gabelhouer's Fr Chirurg* 41 Ashes which are burned of the inveterate aydes of a wyne pipe 1620 [Taylor (Water P.)] *Shifting* B 6 From thence vnto the Wine Hauen 1635 Heywood *Pleas Hist Gods* 16 Flagons, Tankards, Beere cups, Wine bowles 1636 Blake *Lev Coapbel Co t* iv 306 I do heart having beene 22 s Wine vessell, which hath lasted me 3 yeares 1658 Phillips *Wine-drinking* 1674 Mandeville *Tob Bees* (1723) I 81 That n ultitude of Wine-Merchants, Vi tners Co pers 1736 *Gentl Mag* VI 340/2 Portugal, and other Wine Countries 1748 Wyclif *London* IV 355 The freemen have the privilege of retailing wine without license from the Wine office 1780 J. Davies *Mem Gen Wash* 1 iii 48 He engaged for some time in the wine trade *a* 1800 *Jane Austen* xxvii in Child *Ballads* (1883) II 705/3 Has 3 our wine barrels cast the guest? 1816 Scott *Old Mort* xxxvi, Thou hast partaken of the wine & cup of fu y 1821 — *Kenilw* xxvii He took another long pull at the wine flask 1825 Corbett *Aur Rides* (1885) I 195 I've seen a many wine de vaults. 1830 Disraeli *Mem* (1853) I 2 My father kept a wine store in John's 02 Court 1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* I v v 148 Are 3 our ladders, your genuine your wine bins *Ibid* II vi 191 Wine bottl s were broken wine butts were staved in and drunk 1848 Dickens *Dorit* I 1 A troubled vision of wine shops, wine carriers, gu t e s 1855 — *Bleak H* v 53 Tickle bottles, We l ittle, l t tles 1855 Kingsley *Heroes, Argon* xi 189 Heracles o ne l the fatal wine jar 1864 Ruskin *S t Mar* I s 319 Wine l ttrels would burst if I u ers not sometimes o pened to give them air 1875 *Ure's Dict Arts* III 2149 Hérault is the most important wine country in the south of F ance

(*c*) With reference to the colour of wine, as *wine colour* and *-coloured* (also *attrib.*), adj., *wine black*, *-bright*, *-coloured*, red *sb*., *-yellow* (after *G weinyelb*) adj., also as *sb*., *wine tint* vb

1803 T Weaver *Hunter's Fri Chvract I* xiii 57 Wine yellow is a pale reddish yellow colour 1831 Brewster *Optics* (1853) 188 achromatic telescopes with the secondary colours, viz the wine coloured and the green fringes. 1858 T Thomson *Chem Org Bodies* 402 The wine red colour which remains in solution in the carbonate of ammonia. 1892 Johnston in *Proc Ferm Nat Club* II No 10, 36 The foot of the snail is a wine-yellow 1893 Ellis *Psychol Sex* 2 VI 166 In the Negro, the Chinese or delicate complexion, dark beard (it is sometimes called wine coloured beard) 1897 Miller *Elem Chem* (1863) III 1 Wine red and wine yellow 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz* 16 Higginson *Army Life* (1870) 57 He is jet black, or rather, I should say, wine black 1878 Swinburne *Poeschthons* 114 His wine bright waves 1896 *Ingoldsby Leg* (1898) 1 Wine-yellow, wine-red, wine-brown variety of ruby-tint 1893 *Daily News* 14 Feb 5 3 Wine tints. 1895 S. Crane *Red Badge* iii, A glaring fire was tinted the writers of the river wine-yellow or brown variety of ruby 1911 She the twigs on the peach-trees had turned wine colour

b. Objective, as *wine bottler*, *conner*, *+-cruer*, *-lover*, *-maker*, *-seller*, *-spiller*, *+-sucker*, *+-supper*, *+-tapper*, *+-tunner*, *-vendor*, *-worshipper*, *wine-drinking*, *-producing*, *-selling*, *-swelling*, *-yielding*, vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs.; also *wine like* adj

*c* 1000 *Ags Ps* Matt xi 19 Her 32 eitul mann & win drincende. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm's Gl* 32 1 2652 (Napier 70 1) *Cyaponidus*, *i. negotiatorius*, *vel* tæpperu n 1382 Wyclif *1 Kings* xxi 1 Whi makeris and erbi tiers 1398 Trevisa drinkinge [see Untemperately *adv* 1] 14 *Aom* in Wr.-Wülcker 697/20 *Hec uinetrix*, a wyi maker *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 15 A singe ler a wyne merchaundise 1530 Palsgr. Percivall *Sp Pict*, *Vendimiador*, a wine maker 1598 Stow *Surv* 198 The successors of those Vintners and wine Drawers were all incorporated by the name of wine tunners, in the 15 of Henry the xvi. 1601 Dor man *In a Permaneal Fr. Acad* III 329 A wine like supe. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinary* C 2 b, This strange Wine sucker. 1607 G Wilkins *Miseries Enforced Merr* III. D 4 Scrapetrencher, Wine-spiller. 1611 [see Conner 1]. 1639 Junius *Sinne Stigmatis'd* 313 These wine-worshippers will be set at

on their knees. 1676 Worlidge *Vinetum Brit* 41 Wine yielding fruits 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I 267 My aunt Hervey had given us to apprehend much disagreeable weal from a wine-lover 1849 *Scott Talism* xxi, Ye beef devouring wine swilling English mastiffs. 1855 Lytton *Rienzi* x vii, An honest wine-vender 1855 Pusey *Doctr Real Presence* Note S 473 Some consecrated virgins pleaded for their wine-drinking that it was the element used in the Sacrament 1875 *Ure's Dict Arts* III 1136 The great wine producing district of Burgundy 1895 *Cornh Mag* Nov 506 As early as 1141 we hear of the wine craft being an organised body in France. 1900 J Hutchinson *Archives Surg* XI 206 A robust looking man, by occupation a wine-bottler

c Instrumental, as *wine-crowned*, *-drabbled*, *-driven*, *+-heat*, *-heated*, *inspired*, *-shaken*, *-stuffed*, also *wine-hardy*, *red*, *wise* adjs

*a* 1000 *Judith* 71 Weras winsade *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom.* 213 Idele lehtres and wanrede bruwes [*al drunche*] *c* 1563 *Jack Juggler* (Facs.) C 4a Wine shaken pilgrys peepoure 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iii. 1 *Arke* 137 His wine stuft stomack wrung with wind he feels 1611 *Dialogue Commend Ivorus Wks* (Grosart) II 155 Their wine drivn brains, involv'd in follies cloud 1618 Beaum & Fl. *Coxcomb* I 1, the Gentleman is Wine wise 1625 Chapman *Q Iyst* iii 100 Their wine heat blood 1626 *Bacon Sil* § 810 For feare can get no state In your wine hardy stomache. 1677 Miss Behn *Rover* II ii, The Wine Inspir'd Bullies of the Town 1835 Dickens *Sk Boz* (1850) 58 Some wine-fuddled exuberance of their wine inspired fancies 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I i, That sick, wine drabbled divinity 1880 Tennyson *Cromwell's Funeral* 1150 Wine heat blood from the feast 1887 Morris *Jason* v 217 A wine crowned golden cup.

8. Special combs. wine apple [*cf* G. *weinapfel*, Du *wijnappel*], a large red apple with a winy flavour; **+wine ball** = *wine-stone*, **+wine-belly** *a*, with a belly full of wine, **wine-biscuit**, a small light biscuit served with wine, **+wine-brewer** (see quot.) 1450 Wine hath neither bran nor bone, **wine-cake**, a cake of which wine was an ingredient, **wine card** [= G. *weinkarte*], a list of the wines that may be obtained at a restaurant, **wine-cart**, a cart in which wine is conveyed, esp for sale, **wine-cave**, a cave in which wine is kept to mature, **wine-cooler**, a vessel in which bottles of wine can be immersed in ice or iced liquid, also *fig*; **wine-cooler** = Cooling tankard, **+wine-crush** (see Crust *sb*. 5 b), **wine dark** *a*, of the colour of deep red wine, used esp to render Gr *oinops* as an epithet of the sea, **+wine drawer**, (*a*) a carrier or seller of wine, (*b*) one who draws wine from the cask for customers, **wine farmer**, a wine grower, **wine fly**, any fly (as of the genus *Prophila*), the larva of which lives in wine or other fermented liquor, **wine gallon**, the standard gallon by which wine is measured (since 1706), **+wine gatland**, a tavern sign in the form of a gallon or bush of ivy, **+wine gnat**, app = *wine fly*, **wine-god**, a or the god of wine, esp Bacchus, Dionysus; **wine grower**, one who cultivates vines for the production of wine; so **wine growing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a*, **+wine-knight**, one who drinks valiantly, **wine label**, a label hung round the neck of a decanter to indicate what wine it holds; **+wine law** [Law *sb*.8, *cf* Lawing *sb*.], payment for one's share of wine, **wine measure**, the standard of liquid measure used for wine, **wine-palm**, any palm from which palm wine is obtained, **wine-party**, a party, esp of undergraduates, the chief object of which is to drink wine, **wine-pitcher** (see quot.), **wine-pint,-quart** (*cf wine gallon*), wine porter, one whose business it is to carry wine, esp. to deposit it in cellars, **wine roping**, the development of ropiness in wine, **wine sack**, a sack used for straining wine; **wine sap**, a large red American winter apple, **wine-shades** (see Shade *sb*. 10), wine shed, the 'shedding' or pouring out of wine (a fractious formation after *bloodshed*), **wine-skin**, a wine-vessel made of an animal's skin; *fig* one who 'fills his skin' with wine, a tippler; **wine sop**, **+** (*a*) a sop in wine, **+** (*b*) and (*c*) = Sops-in-wine 1, 2 (*d*) *wineskop Jack*, a salmon fly; **winesour** a small acid variety of plum; **wine spirit**, spirit of wine, **+wine-spurge** *a*, intoxicated, **wine-stone**, the deposit of crude tartar or argol found in wine-casks (*cf* G. *weinstein*), **wine-taster**, (*a*) one who judges the quality of wine by tasting, (*b*) an instrument for drawing a small sample of wine from a cask; **wine vault**, *a*, (*a*) a vault in which wine is stored (Vault *sb*.2 b), (*b*) a pretentious name for a public house, **wine vinegar** (cf G. *weinessig*), vinegar made from wine, as opposed to *malt vinegar*, **wine-wagon**, (*a*) = *wine-cart*; (*b*) a carriage on which bottles of wine are brought into a room, **wine warrant**, a warrant authorizing the delivery of wine from bond, **+wine washing** *a*, 'washing' or swilling as wine, **wine-whey**, whey made by curdling milk with wine (see Whey *sb*. 1b).

1820 G V Sampson *Statist Surv. Londonderry* 438

*Wine-apple* ; from its red colour. *c1440 Promp Parv* 529/2 *Wyyne ballys* , *pilatorie, vel pila tartarea* 1869 DEBREE & CHETTLE *Grissil* 2560 Dost thou not see our "wine ballie drunkards reele? 1839 C F HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II 100 A tray of wine-biscuits and a fragrant Ohio cheese 1799 *Latter* No 131 pt A fragmenty of city medical opera-tics, when one draw Champagne from an Apple These adepts are known among one another by the name of "Wine Brewers 1858 BRADSHAW *Bonebakers Trial* Dd 1, The Pears were both, which they use to prime on 1868 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 93 Why loose thy feast and "wine-cakes bring *munificak*), which thy friends Half cloy'd depart? 1839 WHEELWRIGHT *Aerial Phancy* I 38 The wine cake [so-written] honey, figs, whiter than right for Mercury to eat 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* II, Whe ever to do up a "wine card or a pencil, these articles were snatched out of my fingers 1837 W H ADAMS *Cottage Lib* 2, "wine cut, or rather wags, 1 1908 *Daily Chron* 29 Mar 4/6 Wine carts used to go out of the streets of Lolnbuiy, dispensing the "lards drink to big customers. 1845 Dodd *Brit Manuf* 82 The "wine cases of Lpernay 1825 SCOTT *Cog M* xiii, Dominie, take the key of the "wine cellar with you—it will surely take something 1828 LAYTON *Dict wit* 51, But odd wine books are the best wine coolers in the w rld. 1633 *Canterbury Marr Test* 1 See Sir Thomas Lyttyl 1079/1 Edward Orlocdo, the city of London, "wine-cooper. 1765 TUCKER *Lt Inst* (1834) II 528 Brewing poisonous liquors in a wine cooper's vaults. 1837 [see LOCKHART] I 264 Mr Sh—, the great Mildew is now where the "wine crust used to be 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw Ho!* vi The "wine dark depths of the crystal 1885 Miss BRADDON *Sir Jasper's Tenant* The. Marquise, in her wine coloured dress 1819 PEPYS & LANG *Diary* 7 Sailing, over the wine dark sea. 1415 *Pk Myst* 111 od p xxvi, Wyndra ves 1468 *Mann & Housh Ord* B xxb 322 Of Bayn whit wyne, & of "wyne red 1536 *Rest Sedit n* 181, If a tap ter of a wyne drawer reckon a penny ter two more than his duetie 1583 *Rever Ac & W* ii/1 He doeth sell wine, & drawes that he selleth haue a pinte of malmsey & a loafe 1705 tr *Bosman's Guinea* 111 230 The Commonalty, such as Wine Drawers, Fishermen, and such like 1790 A Young *Trav France* I 231 The greatest "wine farmer in all Champagne 1909 *Wis m Gaz* 16 Aug 5 c The very wine farmers appear to have agreed to drop their plan but not for the repeal of the Law 1584 Hughes [*Compl Gard*] (1637) 1 xxxvi 1 Every day fye, liuing not at the 2 dayes space, or "wineliest 1858 RAYMOND tr *Mueller's Theat Inv* 949 The Fly *Estia* called in the English Wine-fly 1753 *Chambers Cycl Supp* s v *Wine, Wine bite*, a small black fly, found in empty Wine-casks, and about Wine lees 1857 PARTRIDGE *Dodds Nails Pr* 1 168 58 59 "w y Wine 3 gallons are in that vessel 1706 *Act 6 An c.* 17 § 22 Any round Vessel having an exact Bottom & Head of seven Inches Diameter throughout and Six Inches Depth from the Top of the Inside to the Bottom or any Vessel containing Two hundred thirty one cubical Inches and no more shall be deemed to be a lawful Wine Gallon 1533 More *Answ Poys* 1ab Wks 1138/1 Leaning them to the "wine-lees and ale lees. 1668 CHARLETON *One hund 43 Diseases Gout* 2 *cause of its frequent cure* "Wine gnash 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav* 81 Any a little fleet lately "Wining & Dining 1860 J GOW *Rides Fast* iii 139 The Wine Cod in John 1891 WEBSTER *Dict of gar Co* / iv (1835) 37 You shall not take the Wine cord on loss of your Wine, him as a simple passenger 1899 *Westm Gaz* 8 Nov 1/1 A famous "wine grower at Epernay 1845 ROBERTS *Notes Tour, Georgia* 89 The differ ent kinds of cotton cultivated in "wine growing countries 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII xv I 305 Our Vine knight [Fr *pus gnet*] wh n they purpose to sit square at the tavern in and carouse lustily, if they drink Saffron, never leave sacrificed 1848 H E MANNING *Sermons* (1892) I 13 Wine labels 1888 *Daily Graphic* (London) 173 For your "wyne I sough at the sign of the 1726 SE CHAMBERS *Cycl s v Wine*, that part of the body or vessel gathered towards the middle of the ear, and well dried should weigh a gallon of "wine or ale 1772 *Encycl Brit* (1771) I 311 2 B Pagliabecchi 15, wine 1 quart 1661 GREW *Anatomy* II 1 c 184 The Country People tap the "Wine Palm about two feet above the ground 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, Leaves (as in the wine palm) like Nina's hair here 1889 *Gard Chron* 20 Dec 37 "*Wine Party*, a meeting of individuals for an unlimited number, for the purpose of conversation, in which the topics are invariably the wine, the fine fellow, wine, persons, and extem nations 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf* iv, An Oxford undergraduate's room, set out for a wine party 1788 BERRY *Encycl Her* I Glass, "*Wine Tasters*, an instrument in the form of holes in wine casks 1769 *Phil Trans* LIX 220 One drop of tincture of galls gave a rosy purple colour to a "wine pint of this water 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treat Fr Tong, Spatulye*, "wine pourer 1611 COTGR, Vinaire, a wine-pourer 1828 STEPHEN *Comm Laws Eng* IV 11 *Wine Porters*, 8. 1831 *Fun in Herald* 1 July 1/6 Mr Hunt presented a petition from the wine porters of Dublin, praying for the repeal of the 1 Wm IV c 70 1903 *Daily Mail* 3 Sept 6/3 Prom 9, 30 "W e Qua s e s h of them contain ing near two pound Twas 1 c 1730 *Inquel Brit* (1793) VII 684/1 A Wine Pint is 28 cubic inches, and is nearly equal to an English wine quart. 1704 *Phil Trans* (1726), 1 *Wine Roping* ; to alter it; take a coarse Li en Cloth (etc) 1825 J GODWIN *Mor Lect* 1 Wines are "Wine-tried through which wine is sold and from the dregges 1826 *Lond Hunt Soc Catal Travels* 151 [Apples] "Wine Sap, American 1892 *Agric Rev Barbados Dering* 24 Crop crack ing bites from a crip wine sap apple 1879 H S SCOTT *England* II 161 Wine shades, bilegas, and all sts. 1717 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl* II, 8 Aug, She is become a toast , and has already taken the occasion of much "wine shed 1810 BYRON *Hareld* II *xi note*, We had such inkshed, and wine shed, which alm st ended in bloodshed I 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw* xxiv, This fellow can appear before him drunk as a "wineskin, and yet meet no rebuke. 1825 — *Talism* xi, You have been dim g with the Teutonic winesk n 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xlviii That person who have been converting their "solid flesh" into wine skins, cannot stick so close to one station as when they are sober 1882 *N T* R V) Mark 11 20 No man putteth new wine into old wine skins. 24 *Num.* in Wr-Wülcker 740/3 *Hec tipa*, a "wynspore. 1588 STANYHURST *Æneis* III (Arb) 91 With chaffe chaffie wynespoke lyke a gourd bournached roley elephantid. 1586 W WARNER *English Poetry*, 11 Let vs leaue the Wynespoke, with the Cornation. 1825 *Lond Hort. Soc Catal Fruits* 151 [Apples] Wine-Sop, Winter. 1880 F FRANCIS *Ink Angling* 211 (ed 5) 450 The Winesop Black —Mr Ramsbottom says this is "a real old Ribble favourite" 1836 LINDLEY *Encycl Plants* 423 Several sorts of plums found wild, such as the bullace dam on, muscle, wild "winesour 1849 Miss CARR *Fam Cookery* 320 Compotes of wine sours 1753 *Chambers Cycl Suppl s v Wine*, The phrase "*Wine spirit* is used to express a very clean and fine spirit, of the ordinary proof strength, and made in England from Wines of foreign growth 1909 *Daily Chron* 15 Mar 3/3 Pure wine spirit brandies. 1633 G HERBERT *Temple, Ch Porch* 10, Shall I, to please another's "wine-spring minde, Lose all mine own? 1658 CURNAN *Chr in Arm* verse 14 x § 2 113 When he is wine sprung thinks (to they say he can skip over the Moone) 1598 *Creat Heat* (1599) 1 xliii, *Carduus*, wyne-spur or "wyne stone 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 1305 1632 SHERWOOD, A "Winestaster, or Wine broker (for Marchants) 1679 B CHAMPERNOWNE *Pre St Salt* 10 (ed 2) 28 Mr Henry Polhem, Wine Taster 1825 MACAULAY *Fast, Mallets* 229 Johnson was not ill qualified to judge between two Latin styles as a habitual drinker and no sot; for a "wine taster 1858 LANE-POOLE *Hist Turk Emp* 194 Wine taster —When it is desired to drink a small sample of wine from a cask, a little instrument is used called a "Wine Spoonet 1828 M *Hon, Mechan of it* They went into a "wine vaults, to get materials for washing them in making a night 1893 HOLGER *Linn Hunters* (1907) 148 A wine vault in the city 1827 BAYNE *Encyc Domestic Econ* 1 xxxvi 1 Wine vessels 1753 *Chambers Cycl Suppl s v Vinegar*, It fave this powder in the strongest wine Vinegar 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 3 Genuine wine vinegar 1823 *Mech Mag* I 1 The strongest wine vinegar 1848 H R FORSTER *Stone Cat* 112 A pair of double wine wagons 1906 *Blue Mag* Nov 662 2 We rattle you in wine waggons 1888 *Pall Mall G* 20 Dec 2/1 With "we waiters and orders for dozens of dressing cases 1592 R GREENE *Groats w th Wit* Wks (Grosart) XII 130 Hauing bestowed a "wine-seller vpon his daughter 1733

**2.** That has taken wine, esp. in abundance.
1640 J. D. *Knowe in Gr.* 1. L C 3 b, We'le pledge, we'le pledges Victual'd and Win'd already. 1898 J. McCABE *Life Mont. Monastery* vi. 133 He invariably returned ..well wined and nourished.

**† Wine-drunk(en),** *a. Obs.* [OE. *windruncen* = Du. *wijndroncken* (Kilian), G. *weintrunken*, ON. *vindrukinkinn.*] Drunk (with wine). Hence **† Winedrunkenness.**
1000 *Daniel* 753 Windruncen ræwit. *c* 1205 LAY. 8126 þa drihhtene guinen wæren wilen druniken. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 270 in *O. E. Misc.* 118 Ne wurþ þu neuer so wod ne so wyn-drunke þat euere segge þiue wife alle þine wille. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 357 [Palemius] was wyndronke. *Ibid.* VI. 39 He hated wyn drunkenesse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 19 That man mai wel noght longe stonde Which is wyndrunke of comun us. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/2 Wynne drunkon. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Thess.* v. 7 Those that are wynedrunken, are drunken in the night.

**Wine-fat:** see WINE-VAT.

**Wine-glass.** [f. WINE *sb.*1 + GLASS *sb.*1 Cf. (M)LG., MHG. *winglas*, (Du. *wijnglas*, G. *weinglas*), etc.] A small drinking-glass for wine. Also = *wineglassful.*

Wine-glasses, which are characterised by having a stem and a foot, vary in shape (and, in some cases, in colour) according to the wine for which they are intended, and are distinguished as *champagne glass, claret glass, port glass*, etc.
1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4574/4 Wine and Water Tumblers, Beer and Wine Glasses with Covers. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. ii. 37, I am dealing these out to them by the wine-glass. 1882 *Pioneer (Penrith) Batch.* 357 We began with minute wine-glasses of rakí, red wine, purple wine.

**b.** *attrib.* Resembling a wine-glass in shape.
*c. Comb., as wineglass-cooler, -shaped* &c].
1824 REDDING *Wines* (ed. 3) 370 Wine-glass coolers..should be laid on the table and the glasses reversed in them. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* i, A smooth piece of interval, with half a dozen good-sized wine-glass elms in it. 1907 M. C. F. MORRIS *Northernhaie* I. 79 A smaller bell, which was long and wineglass-shaped. 1908 *Nature Rev.* XVII. 6 An old-fashioned wine-glass pulpit, with reading-desk below.

Hence **Wineglassful,** the contents of a full wine-glass; the amount that a wine-glass will hold, usually reckoned as 2 fluid ounces.
1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* vii, My venerated instructor..took a wine-glassful of old rum..every day after his dinner. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Diz. Throat & Nose* II. 352 A wineglassful of spirits of turpentine.

**Wine-grape.** [f. WINE *sb.*1 + GRAPE *sb.*1] **†** 1. A cluster or bunch of grapes. *Obs.*
*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3710 Ðes xii. Sider hem hauen breȝt, An win-grape on an cunstaf.

**2.** A grape from which wine is made. *U.S.*
1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 356/2 The fruit of several other species of vitis, natives of America, possess some merit as wine-grapes. 1845-50 MISS *Liberal Lect. Ibid.* 149 He has traced the northern limit of the wine-grape, where the mean annual temperature is about 50°. 1866 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 212 What varieties are in highest repute as wine grapes?

**Wine-house.** [OE. *winhús* = MLG., MDu., MHG. *winhûs* (Du. *wijnhuis*, G. *weinhaus*), ON. *vínhús.*]
1. A public house where wine is drunk. Now chiefly *Hist.* or with particular local reference.
1567 DIGGES & WYRLEY *Hope Hav.* i, From hinc come I, to intreate you..to meet him this afternoon at the Rhenesh-wine-house ith Stillyard. 1621 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 309 Our warehouse, dwelling, lyeinge roome, and wyne howse. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scintil., Agreement* 19 Thou [sc. the Bible] art the oyl and the wine-house. 1680 PEPYS *Diary* 94 Nov., Creed and Shepley and I to the Rhenish wine-house, and there I did give them two quarts of Wormwood wine, and so we broke up. 1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Wine-houses*, certain places of resort in the garrison of Gibraltar, from which the governor has been accustomed to derive a pecuniary profit. 1816 KEATINGE *Trans.* I. 50 (In Spain) It is disgraceful to be seen entering a wine-house. 1849 *Macaulay Corn.* 30 Apr. 5/3 The wine-house known as the White Hart in the Euston-road.

**2.** A house that deals in wine; a firm of wine-merchants.
1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, A clerk in a wine-house. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1140 No natural Sherry comes to this country; no wine house will send it.

**Wine-lees.** [f. WINE *sb.*2 + pl. of LEE *sb.*2] The sediment deposited in a vessel containing wine. Also *fig.*
*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 Alschis of wyn lies. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/2 Wyne lees..., *tartarum, vinacium.* 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 95/2 *Fex vini vsta*, ..wine leese. 1640-41 VICARS *God in Mount* 40 The wine-lees of payswaine Popish popperies. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 103 Their faces smeared over with wine-lees. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxii, The undergardener dressed the nuisetree's hat in hot wine-lees. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, One tall joker..scrawled upon a wall with his finger dipped in muddy wine lees—Blood.
*attrib.* 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xviii. 802 A matter of a wine lees colour.

**Wineless** (wai·nles), *a.* [f. WINE *sb.*1 + -LESS.] **1.** Lacking or destitute of wine.
1436 *Libel Engl. Pol.* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 What nedeth a garlande, whycche is made of ivye, Shew a tavern wyneclesse, also thryve I. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/6 Invitations to wineless dinners. 1910 *Expositor* Mar. 284 Altars at which only wineless offerings were made.
**† 2.** Lacking the characteristic qualities of wine. *Obs. nonce-use.*
1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 684 A wineclesse weake wine as one may say [*ἀοίνου οἶνος*].

**Wine-pot.** [f. WINE *sb.*1 + Pot *sb.*1 Cf. ON. *vínpottr.*] A pot or flagon for holding wine.
14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629/29 *Vinifrenum*, a wympot.
*c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Whyle her standyth a wyne-potte and a lyte bytwyx our lady and Gabyrell at hur salutacyon. 1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 81 By the olde order it is vnlawfull to bryng winepots to the borde. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 239/1 *Epichysis*, ..a wine pot or wine vessel. 1833 SCOTT *Anat. Demog.* v, When the wine-pot.. hath brought thee on occasion into something of a scrape. 1846 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* i. 39 Rome..is..Merely a marvellous mass of broken and castaway wine-pots.
**b.** *attrib.* **†** = **wine-pot herb**, the foxglove.
1552 HULOET, Wyne pot herb, other do call it oure ladies glowes, *aurabaces.*

**Wine-press.** [f. WINE *sb.*1 + PRESS *sb.*1 1. Cf. MLG., MHG. *winepresse* (G. *weinpresse*).]
A press in which the juice is extracted from the grapes in the manufacture of wine. Also *fig.*, esp. with ref. to Isa. lxiii. 3, Rev. xiv. 19, 20, xix. 15.
1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 33 [He] set a vyneyarde, and hedged it rounde about, and made a wynepresse in it. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autobiog.* (Wodr. Soc.) 77 They had laid down the dyk, cutted the hedge, demolished the towre, brokin the wyne-pres. 1611 DONNE *Ess. Div.* (1651) 24 To put him into the Wine-presse, and squeeze out Philosophy and particular Christianitie, is a degree of that injustice, which all laws forbid. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 16 As a swarm of Grapes..Poures out the Liquor, which in wine-presses they squeeze. 1721 BIDDULF *Spect.* No. 235 P 3 The succeeding Month [*sc.* October] was all soiled with the Juice of Grapes, as if he had just come from the Wine-Press. 1823 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VI. 222 Like the winepress of the Almighty's wrath. 1849 FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 107 He must tread the wine-press alone, calling no God-fearing man his friend. 1873 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 140 In the United States the wine-press is constructed much on the same principle as the ordinary screw cider-press. 1910 R. HARRIS in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 548/2 Oct. 21 The wine-press is full all day.. and then at nightfall kneel..at the altar of the Sepulchre—for was he not red from the winepress of the Lord?
Hence **Wine-presser.**
1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Wine-presser, *pressureur.*

**Winer** (wai·nər). [f. WINE *sb.*1 or *v.* + -ER 1.]
1. A vintner. *? Obs.*
1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 395/2 God thanke you maister winer for your good wyne. 1548 *Alred. Rec.* XX. (Jam.) That no person be same exit. 1 Will. IV, *Municip. Corpor. Act* 1835 Any person..who being a liquor-seller or winer.
**2.** One who drinks wine. *colloq.*
1906 FURNIVALL in *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* (1906) I. 309 *wintg*, A winer is an unreasonable beast. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 6 Dec. 7/1 The diners and the winers of those spacious days of conviviality.

**Winery** (wai·nəri), pl. **-ies.** *U. S.* [f. WINE *sb.*1 + -ERY.] An establishment for making wine.
1880 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 56/1 The road to the large subdivision of Anaheim..is bordered by a deep orchard of oranges. 1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 8 Jan. 185 Wine grapes and wineries are on the rapid increase. 1912 *Daily Chron.* 27 Oct. 2/3 As the result of this legislation the British wine-makers have not shut up their wineries.

**Wine-tree.** *Obs.* or *dial.* [OE. *winetreow* = ON. *vintré*, Goth. *weinatrin* : see WINE *sb.*1 and TREE *sb.*] A vine.
Also a local name for blackthorn and mountain ash.
*c* 1250 *Lendinf. Gosp.* John xv. 5 Ic am þæt wintreo, xie ða tuiggo sint. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 2059 Me drempte, ic stod at a win-tre, Dat adde waxen huȝes ber. 23.. *Lanercost Ms.* 7159 (Jam.) Their sclyues wid þair wyn tres (*Cod. vines.*). 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to Lady Kilconquhair* 13 Sept. (1671) 131 A land of olives and wine-trees. 1697 *Virgil Georg.* II. (1721) 57 Nurse..a young Wine-tree.

**Wine-vat,** *arch.* **-fat.** [f. WINE *sb.*1 + VAT, FAT *sb.*1 Cf. (M)LG. *winfat*, MHG. *winvaz* (G. *weinfass*), ON. *vínfat*, etc.] A vat in which the grapes are pressed in wine-making; a wine-press.
1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xix. 15 He trode the wynefatt of fearse wrath. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 12 Noe..Which he was treading in the wine-fats see. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. iv, You should ha' some would swell, now, like a wine-fat. With must, and wort, new from the vine. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lxiii. 3 A certaine man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the wine fat. *a* 1746 HOUSMOUTH *Rem. Virgil* (1766) 10 In this sentence, the Poet runs into different postures, as if he was gathering the bunches of grapes, ..flinging them into the wine-vat: ..and drinking the must. 1870 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 214/2 The grapes are..emptied into a wooden vat with a hole at the bottom..This vat is placed over another much larger, named the wine-vat. 1881 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Poems, Prodigal Son* iii, The purple wine-fat froths with foam.

**Winey** : see WINY.

**Wineȝarde,** obs. Sc. f. VINEYARD.

**† Winful,** *a.*1 *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*1 + -FUL.] Laborious.
1443-9 PECOCK *Donet* II. vi. (1921) 128 Al seruile werk, þat is to seie, al worldly wynful werk.

**† Winful,** *a.*2 *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*2 + -FUL.] Pleasant.
1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann.) 107 And burgeons of thare branchis bustly, And woddis winnis thare winfull weiis.

**Wing** (wiŋ), *sb.* Forms: *Plural.* **α.** 2 wenge, 3 wengen, winguene, wynguene, wyngene, hwingen, 4 wingen, wyngen, -yn, -on; **γ.** 3–5 wenges, (3 *Orm.* -esse), 4 weengus, 4–5 wengis, 4, 6 weyngis, 5 wengys, -es, weingis, wengges;

4 wyngeys, wingges, wyngnes, 4–6 wyngis, -es, 5–7s, whyngis, -ys, 5–6 whynges, 5; 6–7 *Sc.* wingis, 6–7 -es, 6– wings. *Sing.* **α.** 4 wenge, 5 weng, whenge, weynge, 5–6 *Sc.* weyng, 6 *Sc.* weing; 4–6 wynge, 4–7 winge, 5–6 wyng, whyng(e, 6 whing, wynke, 6– wing. [ME., first in pl. forms *wenge, wengen, wenges*, a. ON. *vængir*, acc. *vængi*, pl. of *vængr* = Sw., Da. *vinge*] wing of a bird, aisle, etc. ; replacing OE. *fiþra* wings, pl. of *feþer*, and *fiþere* (see FEATHER *sb.* 2).]
**I. 1.** Each of the organs of flight of any flying animal, as a bird, bat, or insect.
In birds the wings are specially modified fore-limbs; in bats (and the extinct pterodactyls, etc.), extensions of the skin attached to modified parts of the fore-limbs (see *Bat sb.*1 1); in insects, membranous expansions attached to the thorax in addition to the limbs. In a few birds the wings are rudimentary, and either functionless (as in the *Apteryx*) or used only to assist in swimming or walking (as in Penguins).
Occas. loosely applied to the enlarged fins of flying-fishes and to the appendages of flying squirrels, etc. which serve for movements resembling flight.
*Bastard or false wing* (Ornith.) = WINGLET *s.* b.
*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 A vuhel com flon fram houene into orde ; her he uette feþer-home and wenge. *c* 1205 LAY. 29863 Þat alle here [*sc.* sparrows'] wengen nolt awemmed neoren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 130 Ase bird hiued mid hire wenges sturet bi hwingen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 64/356 He sulfliche ne mouȝte gunnen for-to fleo, And feþerene to heren eov up on heiȝ. *Ibid.* 290/388 Pe dreem of is winguene oueral wes ȝe. *c* 1386 CHAUC. *Sk. Him* thoughte a goshauk with gret flyght..ysmith and spraad abrod his wengyn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 173 The Scharnebaldes kinde, Of whos nature this is inne, That thei han the hastate of the dai, ..He sprat his wynge and up he fleih. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* 221 De Egle is fiskes fowle in fyre, Ouer all fowles to wowe hys wenge. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 476 Pe lyrde ..hylle undyr wynge layede. 1486 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18501 Wondes hygh ther sate a lowe, His whyngesaplayynge to and fro. *c* 1500 *Pearl, Cott.* 1214 Wenges of a fowle or bryde. *c* 1570 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 370 On fute and wenge ascendand to the hycht. 1613 *Bk. Kerwyne in Bakeas Bk.* 278 That all manner of fowle that hath fole fete and is reyred vnder the wynge, ..is gentyll. 1658 PHILLIPS *Dodoens* II. LXXXI. 762 The fruite [of the maple tree] is long, flat, and thinne, almost lyke to a feather of a small birde, or lyke the whing of a grashopper. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Understd.* III. vi. § 12 There are Fishes that have Wings. 1725, 1807 (see BAT *sb.*1 1). 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, The beautiful little blue butterfly with golden spots on its wings. 1867 W. S. DALLAS tr. *Mitscherl's Pterylogr.* 77 The false wing (*ala notha*) described by Mohring. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fisher* 304 The genus [Exocœtus] contains the *Exocœtes* in general form, but the wings are much smaller. 1912 S. E. WHITE *Land of Footprints* xiv. 193 Spreading wide their wings at the last moment to check their speed.
**b.** The wing of a bird, used as food. Also, the shoulder of a hare or rabbit.
*c* 1470 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 64 Cony rost. A cony tak and drawe hym,..rost hym and lard hym then raise his legges and hys wynges. *a* 1500 *Babees Bk.* (1868) 154 His fader toke a capons wynge, ..And badde hym ete apese. 1598 HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 29 A pestle of a Larke, or Plouers wing. 1656 OSBORN *Advice Son* Wks. (1673) 132 Carver at Court, ..who being laughed at..for saying *I he wing of a Rabbet*, maintained it as Grammatical, as the fore-legge of a Capon, a phrase used in Scotland. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iv. 56 Wive polaire choose the wings of pregnant hare. 1820 BYRON *Blues* II. 42 Miss Lilac, permit me to help you; a wing? 1840 DICKENS *Old Curs. Shop* xlvi, Something light for supper—the wing of a roasted fowl. 1841 'NIMROD' in *Sporting Oracle* 48 The most vulnerable part of the rabbit is about its neck and wings, as the shoulders of this animal are small.
**c.** The wing of a bird (usually of a hen, goose, or turkey) used as a brush : cf. next, 7.
1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 Husbandlie furniture.. Wing, cartnaue and bushel. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 67 Then are the wiues to haue each of them a cleane bowle to wringe the honey into, and the man is to standé ready with a winge in his hande. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 243/2 Broom, Wing, Winder, Sheer, and Sack with a Band. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 116 A Strawfork and Rake to turn the Straw off from the threshd Corn, a Fan and Wing.
**d.** A figure or imitation of a wing (e.g. on an image of a bird, etc., or on an angler's artificial fly).
1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 94 Couple a small wynge with a payre of wynges of gold. 1584 *Lambe. Inv.* in Scott *Kenilw.* Note K, 6 rowkes and 6 wings for the spreade eagle. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Easter Wings* title of a poem in the form of two pairs of wings). 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 203 Chuse for thy Command Some peaceful Province in Acrostick Land: There thou may'st Wings display, and Altars raise, And torture one poor Word ten thousand Ways. 1721 BUDDOMOCK *Spect.* No. 58 P 2, 6. 1883 J. JACKSON *Pract. Fly-Fisher* (1880) 10 To make a winged Fly....Wings; a piece of feather, stripped from a Snipe's quill.
**† e.** With qualification (*goose-wing, fly's wing*) used as a type of something of no value. *Obs.*
1377, 1549 (see GOOSE-WING 1). *c* 1450 *Mankind* 783 in *Macro Plays* 29 Tyschet ! a flyes wenge !
**2. a.** Attributed to supernatural beings, as angels, demons, etc., and to fabulous creatures, as dragons, griffins, etc.
*c* 1200 OSBERN *Bokel* 824 Patt all batt hallȝhe genge, batt borrghenn iss þurrh marrtirdom, Flæh upp wiþh taȝenn wenges, 23.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1675 Wan hir sones no helpe wonne, His wingges schon so he glas. 1598 WYCLIF *Ezek.* VI. 2. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 236 And sungelliych hyse wengis gan he sprede. *c* 1388 — *Kn's T.* 1102 Hidde hire stood hir sone Cupido, Vp on his shuldres wynges hadde he two. 14.. *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 2527 Beuys..lyst the dragon

under the wynge 1813 Douglas *Æneas* III iv 34 The Harpyes on wꝫ fell, With huge faird of wengis and mony yell 1672 Milton *P. R* IV 582 A fiery Globe Of Angels on full sail of wing flew nigh 1815 Byron *Dester* iii *Lanchaerib* III, The Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast 1821 Wordsw *Ecclet Sonn* III v 4 The feather, whence the pen Was shaped that traced the lives of these good men, Dropped from an Angel's wing 1885 Hardy *Changed Man, More Interlude* (1913) 269 Since my poor husband left me to wear his wing-bit

b Attributed to inanimate or abstract things represented as flying, or as carrying one swiftly along (esp in phr. *on the wings of*).

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P.* R II 1 (Add MS 27944) In olde tyme poetes peynttide pe winde wip wynges 1530 More *Picus* I 13 b, Wyngyd with the loue of God 1535 Coverdale *Ps* civ[ii] 3 Thu makest the cloudes thy charet, and goest vpon the wynges of the wynde — *Ps* cxxxviii[ii] 9 Yf I take the wynges of the morninge — *Ps* cxlvii[ii] 18 Riches make them selues wynges. 1594 Shaks *Rich III*, v iii 106 When I should mount with wings of Victory 1598 — *Merry W* III ii 109, I haue pursu'd her, as Loue hath pursued mee, which hath been on the wing of all occasions. 1608 [Topsell] *Aristot's Sel* 1 (1658) 11 With mke To goue his time hye wynges. 1611 Shaks *Wint. Tale*, IV iv, 8 Decreed by Iues allurring winges 1665 Boyle *Occas Refl* I i 7 When a pious Soul is once got upon the wing of Contemplation 1700 Dryden *Cock & Dog* 99 Gives the Wings of Time leave swift away 1709 Watts *Hymn*, Give me the Wings of Faith, to rise Within the Veil 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd and half, A cold north-e at wind with frost on its wing 1841 Cat *Aquinas' Ethics* II xix 35 Where the foe seems to come and go on the wings of the wind 1873 Burton *Hist Scot* VI lxxii 307 [The Scots in 1640] seemed to be, indeed, carried forward on the wings of destiny

3 *transf* and *fig* a Power or means of flight, or of action figured as flight; action or manner of flying, flight (*a*) in reference to literal flying

1377 Langl *P Pl* B xvi 9 Ac no fedde, pat is wyes awey of wenge [*v r* wynge, whenge] swifter pan he pecok 1390 Gower *Conf* II 28 A swifte swift of winge 1667 Milton *P L* x 315 The self-same ph e which from heav'n hee hurl'd For hateful sin, grew feathers 1706 Phillips *Cyder* to *Qu ee* v, Upward the Noble Bird directs his Wing 1709 T Robinson *Nat Hist Westmld* v 60 As soon as the young Bird gets wing 1837 Condlr *Beasts of Prey* 225 The bird of strongest wing may be driven out to sea by the tempest

(*b*) *fig*, in various connexions (See also III)

a 1225 *Ancr R* 132 Auh ha ne mahten beo wi-uten wenges to briddes Heo speche ihore I wingen, ant mi kie'a creoce of hem suluen 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxviii 7 I ske two wenges of chiuite 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 473 He ordeyne 4 pyngis to be to men to fle to heuene 1418 *26 Jol Parl* vi 47 To fle to hyze, treste not by wyng 1590 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* C 4, Other excellent points I could touch in this, to like purpose, were I not e mente t to strike the winge, and e me downe to his capacitie 1593 Shake *2 Hen IV*, IV vii 79 Kn wledge (the Wing wi ereuith we fly) to heauen 1598 — *Hen V* P, III ii 30 Thy affections which doe h ld a wing Quite from the flight of all thy ancest rs 1648 G Daniel *Eclog* 1 190 You have a wing of high wyength, might loure into the purest Regi n fa cie breathe 1670 Dryden *1st Ep Conq Granada* v vi, Give wing to your desires, an I let em fly 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* x x (1803) 7 2 Everything they said to me seemed to lend me wings to run away 1819 Scott *Monast* Introd When the peculiar kind of folly keeps the wi g no l ss er. 1849 J Hare *Serm* II iv 80 In old times may ye ars, with

b In Biblical and derived expressions referring to a mother bird's use of her wings for the protection of her young (cf esp Matt xxiii 37), thus virtually = protecting care. (See also 15 a)

a 1300 *E E Psalter* xvi[ii] 8 Hide me under schadou of pe wenges twa. 1535 Coverdale *Ps* lvii[i] 7 In ther tel e shadowe of thy wynges wi l I repose 1557 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 107 Reclis. Gods wing, ye thy wardis weid, His pennis ar thy strang defence. 1579 Spenser *Shepheards Calender*, V, Who did leave my tender Flocks wyng, An I venture into love? 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* xxxiii, Azubah, once more under the shelter of her aunt's wing

4. *transf* a In phr *of* (such and-such) *wing*, used, like *feather* = kind or description of bird (usually *fig*) *Obs.* exc in echoes of I 2 ak xvii 23.

1598 R Leonard tr *Terence, Phormio* I v, All alike all feathered of one wing (*Omnes eodem cognomen*) know one, and know all 1601 Shaks *Twelfth N*, From this session interlet Every foule of tyrant wing, Save the Eagle feath'red King 1608 Dekker *Belman of London* (ed 2) D 2, Of all the mad Rascalls (that are of this wing) the Abraham man is the most fantastick 1608 D Lindley *Ent Pol & Mor* 90 b, A prying eye, a listning eare, and a jerking tongue, are all birds of one wing 1621 *Bible* Ezek. xvii 23 All foule of euery wing 1630 *Pathomachia* IV iii 35 Here is another Bird of the same Wing I believe

b Qualified by a restrictive word, or in technical phr, = bird or birds

1601 Shake *Phenix* 1, Let the bird of lowdest lay Herauld sad an l trumpet be To whose so und chaste wings obay 1725 Pope *Odyss* II v 88 The flight of Augurs drew A sure presage from ev'ry wing that flew 1840 Barnes *Lectures Denmark*, etc I 293 We did not wonder to see scarcely a single wing of a bird in a whole day's journey 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk* p xii, He does not lose one [point] for each fault, providing it is simply not dropping to wing or shot

c. A flock (of plover).

1805 A. Mackintosh *Driffield Angler* 204 Wing of plover

II 5 An appliance or appendage resembling or analogous to a wing in form or function.

a. An artificial apparatus attached to the human arms or shoulders, (*a*) according to early accounts, for flying through the air, (*b*) for assistance in swimming b One of the floats of a water-wheel or sails of a windmill c Poetically or rhetorically applied to the sails of a ship (See also *white wings* s v. White a 11 c.) d. Various see quots 1 *spec.* one of the planes of an aeroplane; also *transf* (*a*) in the Royal Air Force, a certificate of ability to pilot an aeroplane, indicated by the addition to the uniform of a badge representing a pair of wings

a. 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 651 Vor pat aun asolde is enchantement se, He let him make wengen [*v r* wyngon, wingen, wyngen, whyngys] an hes vor to fle 1375 Sc *Leg Saints* (*Dorothea*) 581 [Symon Magus] passid pe, and his wengis dyght, And flaw, as he a foule had bene. 1390 Gower *Conf* II 37 Thus Dedalus Hath mad to fle diverse wynges For him and for his Sone also 1726 Pope *Dunc* IV 452 The head that turns at super-lunar things, Pois'd with a tail may steer on Wilkins wings. 1908 *Daily Chron*, 29 July 5/6 Being unable to swim he had made use of a pair of swimming wings

b 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æs & v* x For the swyfte nesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the wheele of the myll *And god wote* yf the wynges of the myll beth hym wel not 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* II x, 44b, Windmilles hauing euery one of them 10 wings 1699 W Bulkeley *Journal of a Voyage* 31 Here are very many wind milles there hauing ten wings a piece 1681 Owen *Inq conc Evang Ch* II 16 To render the Gospel Church State vniform, it is required vnto my Interest like the Wings of a Mill vnto the Wind 1700 B E *Dict Canting Crew*, *Sails*, Windmill wings 1773 W Emerson *Invent Mill* 3 Mills *Wing* 1794 — *Mechanics* I 1 Into any wheel a part of a mill, &c 1866 C W Hatfield *Hist Nats of Doncaster* Ser 1 203 The wings of some of these [wind mills] describe a circuit of 100 feet diameter

c 1596 Nashe *Christ Teares* (1613) 48 Ships goes with portly sailes As they fly by them with their wouen wings. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II 222 All their Canvass Wings Dilate 1810 Byron *Corsair*, While fleer the vessel on her canvass wing 1833 Mrs Browning *Prometh Bound* 543 The sea mew's clarion, wandering on the Line With linen wings 1878 Jean Miller *Songs of Italy* 99 The yellow wide wings of a bank

d. 1796 *Rose's Diet Hulk T* (ed 3), *Pass of Wings*, oars *Cant* 1799 *Sch Instruct Seamen* 11 Those who are rickets made without sticks Fix to the small ones four wings, in the nature of arrow feathers 1815 J Smith *Pan rama Sci & Art* II 159 The use of wings, rudders, with their cords, to steer a of balloon 1823 *Pract Cyclo Dict Lunar* (ed 3), Wings, arms 1825 Knight *Dict Mech*, Wing 2 A vane of a rotating fan to (*Milling*) A strip, commonly of leather, attached to the skirt of the runner to sweep the meal into the spout 1910 R Ferris *How to Rules* 17 Aeroplanes are those forms of flying machines which depend for their support on the use of the spread of surfaces which are variously called wings, sails, or planes 1918 J L R McCrosan *Syst R & C* 1 Wings are of 3 kinds, Corps, Flying in July of each year

6 A lateral part or projection, in various connexions (See also senses 7–11.)

a A lateral or outlying p rtion of a space or region b Something form g a literal li un bary, as the side wall of a house, the limbs, or arms, etc., also a lateral ex ens on, extensi n, or complement of a structu e, etc e g either of the resulting s lf at the ends of a building c A subsidiary part to a principal one, a literal p jection or structure (in various s ns), pieces of mechanism or other structures (see quots.), spec the part of a ploughshare which extends sideways and is the bottom of the furrow d A projecting part of a fishing net on one side of the main or central part e In a carriage, each of a pair of curved pieces extending over the wheels to provide protection from the splashing of mud, &c., the mudguard of a motor vehicle f Each of two side p ces at the top of an arm chair against which the head may be rested

a. a 1300 *Sir Beues Aferd* 1032 An other wynge of pe werld 1794 Mrs *Anver Cecil* 491 On the north end of suit ides gradually ins extensive prairie grounds; while on the south it slopes more steeply in a shorter distance On either wing is a thick grove of forest trees 1864 Can lyle *Frederick Gt* xi 11 (1873) IV 36 K nigsberg Preussen, the easternmost city of the long straggling Prussian town 1874 Blackie *Lect to Ill* 56 (1909) 228 In the Hill of Howth [rising in the north wing of the Bay of Dublin 1920 *Irish Statesman* 18 June 1011/1 The hard-hit return across town off the service into the right hand wing of his oppo ents base line

b 1484 J Kaye *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* P 10 (1870) A place by the weste bonke of Rhodes which maked with her wynges a pleasant hauen 1531 Elyot *Gov* II xii, He called the tour of Seynt Nycholas 1532 *Lett & Pap Hen VIII*, V 180 Setting the workes of the said sleves with wings and gardens 1611 Cotgr *Aisle* Aisle, wing, the outward Circle or wing of stones [of Stonehenge] 1703 I N *City & Countryman* 107 An apt falling back of the Back and convenient gathering of the Wings, and Brest of the Chimney 1725 Bradley tr *Ferras Imp* 228 You may on each side [of the chimney] raise a Wing of Plaister 1791 La *Pas Pallet's Archit* I 67 The Wings (that is, the spaces between the Wall and the Column which is not comprehended in the breadth of the Atrium) 1796 — *Alberti's Archit* I 14 All this Wing of Wall is exposed to the North 1821 Clare *Village Minstr* I 181 Rich *Joan's Peri polis* 27 Aug The mountains form a wing of stupendous perpendicular cliffs 1850 Parker *Gloss Archit*, (ed 3) I 201 Wings, small flat fins on and upon steeples, principally between mouldings, to separate them from each other in classical architecture When this appendage is attached to the whole of the building it is called its wing 1851 *Beaun & Midl Gardeners' Mag* Apr 38 Many fine trees which have become unsightly by losing whole wings at home 1881 *Rudim Dict Mech*, *Wing* A lateral extension of an abutment A leaf of a gate or double door A side dam on a river shore to contract the channel 1898 *Daily Chron* 14 Mar, 3 Trabune, the winner of the Benedict Steeplechase, was objected to for jumping the wing of one of the fences

c. 1577 Googr tr *Heresbach's Husb* I 21 They have a hole wyng on the ryght syde of the Coulter, whiche wyng is to be removed to whiche syde you list 1597 A M tr. *Guillemeau's Fr Chirurg* 15 b/1 The winges of the Trepane, which delicatelie and easilie cut 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 286/2 The Feathers or Fly, or Wing [of a spinning-wheel] is that which the crooked Wyres are set in. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 42 Some place on the right side of the Coulter a small Wing or Fino 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* etc 346 The wings or vanes revolve from 100 to 150 times in the minute. 1842 J Aiton *Dom Econ.* (1857) 166 This second spade is provided with an iron wing upon its shaft, by which the chopper is forced with the foot into the ground. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Sinker* (Knitting-machine) A wheel with thin plates or projections, called *wings*, used to depress (sink) the yarn between the needles 1900 P. Marshall *Metal Working Tools* 13 The legs [of wing dividers] .. when opened to the required width are secured by means of the thumb-screw which bears on to the projecting wing

d. 1698 *Act 30 Geo II* c 9 § 1 Above Fifty yards in length and Six yards in breadth or depth in the wing of the Nett 1883 *Fisheries Exhib Catal* 295 A 1-inch Weel without wings An 8-el Weel, with loops 9½ and wings 1884 Knight *Dict Mech* Suppl v *Whirlwind*, The wheel mon, swimming up the current, come in contact with the low net, and turning to pass around it, find themselves opposed by the wing

e. 1703 *Morn Chron* 14 Mar 4/2 Advt, A new roomy Gig, with head to take off, wings, and new harness. 1794 W Felton (*Carria*, 1 (1801)) 202 Wings are fixed to the sides or elbows of the chaise bodies their use is to form a rest for the arm and shelter the passenger from the dirt which splas es from the wheels 1881 J W Burgess *Coach Body* v 50 The wings sometimes still are of wood, in which case they are hou ed to the perch by iron hoops

f. 1597 Gl. *Of Warfare Pt* 2 (1898) 20 Wherfore the wings formed by the arm enclosures were padded 1911 R I Crawford *Uncanny Tales*, *Deadly Smite* 11, A great old to ullern arm-chair with wings

7 Latter of the two divisions (*12a hit wing, left wing*) on each side of the main body or *centre* of an army or fleet in battle array, also, each of the two divisions of a regiment or an air force

c 1400 *Brut* cccxxii 283 Pe Scottis comen fersliche in ny wengen *Hist* 285 pe hede euery pe Englisse batayle 13 wenges of pris Archers. c 1440 Wyntoun *Cron* viii xvi 1520 A nobyr weyr ge Jon saw cum sone Off fi gis man c 1500 *Melusine* 240 Anthony ordeyned archers & crosbowers to be wyth wenges of his batayle 1513 Douglas *Æneas Prosts* I cxxx 64/2 Herle of Northumptin & herle of Arundell with the second batell were on a wyng in good order 1533 Coverdale *Judges* vii 16 He devyded vp which were of the lefte wynge, sawe it at the right side was discomfited 1620 Mabbe tr *Alemán Guzm de Alf* II 333 We did presently bridle with the left wing, and the right wing 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* III xiii, As if we had been the Turkish Cities 1667 Milton *P L* I 617 Their doubl'd Ranks they bend From Wing to Wing 1730 Dr Tho *Hist Conf Cath* 191 The Duke commanded the right wing, the Wings engaged first 1769 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1776) s v, Wings, are also the skirts or extremities of a fleet when it is ranged into a line a breast 1864 H Watson *Brit Is* 161 The two opposite divisions were directed severally against the left and right wings 1868 *Qu ies Rev* 4 *Oral Army* 500 When the service Company uses a Regiment's bugle-calls, the Wing, the Battalion or Quarter wing will assign a due proportion of the Means necessaries for the use of the other wing 1915 C G Grey *Aviation Service* 17 One of the chief duties of this ‘wing’ was to look out for Zeppelins

b. In football and similar games: The position of the forwards on either side of the centre, a player or players occupying this position

1889 *Field* 5 Jan 23/3 (Hockey) The left wings played to each other well, and the backs were seen at their best 1898 J Goodall *Assoc Football* 38 Suddenly there will be a swift cle ar side kick to the other wing

c A section of a political or other party, holding views deviating in one direction or the other from those generally held (often distinguished as *left* or *right*)

[Cf quot 1670 s v Right a 18]

1859 From the *Caesar* 181 There is always a dis reputable wing to the r di al party 1884 *Christ in Com monto* 21 Feb, 449/1 The democratic wing of the Tory party, of which Lord Randolph Churchill aspires to be the leader 1898 [see Left, s v. 6 b]

8 One of a pair of lateral projecting pieces of a garment on or near the shoulder, as of a doublet, also, a side-flap of a cap, etc., in military uniform, a kind of epaulette (now worn by bandsmen) which stands out from the seam at the top of the shoulder.

1412–20 Lydg *Chron Troy* I xv, Per was Pantheus with wynges, & rerebras per to 1557 in Dugdale *Orig Jurid* lxx (1666) 310 That none of the Comp anions except Knights or Heralds wear any Wings on their shoulders 1662 Dekker *Meeting of Gallants* B2, If ere it was much peril between the wi gs and the skirts of one of these Doublets, as to all the liberties of London 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 96/2 The Wings are Welts or Guards set on the side on the top of the Shoulders, where the Body and Sleeves are set together 1703 *Index of Crelthy* 56 If short Sleeves be worn she [who pushes before] the Hoop with her Wings nothing but Wings. 1810 *Army Gen Order* 19 Feb, Field Officers are to wear Wings in addition to their Epaulettes 1814 T Hughes *Travels Sicily* 139 A fine cap with large wings which concealed the face 1844 *Queen's Regul & Ord Army* 152 The whole of the remaining Clothing (with the exception of the wings and Shoulder Knots) 1899 Blackm *Tell to Ill* (1909) 181 A sort of spencer open in the middle, with two wings, one on each breast

†b *pl.* The armpits *nonce-use* (Cf L *ala*) 1586 T De *La Perouse Fr Acad* I 470 He tooke hir with both his armes by the wings [orig *les aisselles*]

9 a. A subordinate part of a building on one side of the main or central part

*spec* in *Fortification* see quot 1704

1523 Wolsey in *St Papers Hen VIII*, VI 209 Who with his armye was logged in the countrey in thre wardes and sundry wynges 1623–38 J Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit* (1742) II 46 This Edifice has two Wings 1790 Evelyn *Diary* to Oct 1683, The Court at entree, and wings for officers seeme too neere the streete. 1704 J. Harris

*Lex. Techn.*, I, *Wings*, in Fortification, are the large Sides of Horn-works, Crown-works, Tenailles, and the like Outworks. 1709 G. WHITEFIELD *Lit.* (1768) 12 Allowing another thousand for repairing the house, and building the two intended wings. 1822 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 61 (*Christmas Eve*) It was an irregular building of some magnitude, ..One wing was evidently very ancient, with heavy stone-shafted bow windows.

b. *Naut.* (*a*) That part of the hold or space between decks which is next the ship's side. (*b*) In a steamer (see quot. 1846). (*c*) In a canal-boat or barge (see quot. 1906).

1730 WHEELEWRIGHT *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 25 Sept., Levelled the Hold from the Fore-hatchway clear aft, .. and picked out the large Stones to lay in the Wings. 1805 in *Naval Chron.* XV. 14 He..was carried down into one of the wings. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 370 The term wing is also applied to the projecting part of a steam-vessel's deck before and abaft each of the paddle-boxes; this is bounded by a thick plank called the spanning-tim or wing-wale which extends from the extremity of the paddle-beam to the ship's side. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 10/3 If the tow-rope is too wide, boards projecting over the boat's side, termed 'wings', are brought into use for them [*sc.* 'leggers'] to lie on.

c. *Theatr.* Each of the side-scenes on the stage; also *pl.* (occas. *sing.*) the space at each side of the stage where these stand.

1730 MALONE *Shaks. Pref.* I. ii. Acc. Stage 8) The technical modern term, *wings*, or side scenes. 1809 *Director* II. 330 The turning of one single wheel effects at once..the simultaneous retreat of the entire assemblage of wings and drops and flat. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bon, Private Theatres*, The little space there is between the wings and the wall, and one wing and another. 1849 BROOKFIELD *Tent. Poet.* 320 The frantic stage-manager in the wing. 1885 MARY COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* I, She had known her maintain that cold sternness to the very wings, and then bound on to the stage.

10. *Anat.* A lateral part or projection (usually, one of a pair) of some organ or structure; *e.g.* each of the lateral cartilages of the nose, a lateral process of a bone (esp. of the sphenoid): = ALA 1.

1830 BOWER *Anthropotomé.* vii. (1653) 218 That beauty which so manifestly appears in the wings of the Nose. 1861 BAYFIELD *Treat. De Morb. Capitis* 100 The Haw, nail, or little wing (as they term it) of the eye. 1693 tr. *Blancaart's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pterion*, a Wing, the upper and broader part of the Ear, called the Wing. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 51 The Wing of the right Nostril. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 285 The great wing of the sphenoid bone. 1847 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 570 When one wing [of the diaphragm] is much raised, as by a collection of gas.

11. *Bot.*

† a. The axil of a leaf: = ALA 2a. *Obs.* † b. Each of the lateral divisions or leaflets of the pinnate leaf. (Cf. WINGED a. 3a.) *Obs.* c. Each of the two lateral petals of a papilionaceous flower: = ALA 2b. d. A thin membranous appendage of a seed or fruit, serving for its dispersal by the wind; a thin lateral projection extending along a stem; any thin appendage, as on some part of a flower. (Cf. WINGED a. 3b.)

a. 1563 MILLS *Sprit. Pom. of Herb.* IV. 402 The flowers ..are produced..from the wings of the leaves.

b. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* 651 Fern. *Filix mas*... Leaves doubly winged; wings blunt.

c. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Gloss., *Ala*, a Wing, the Side Petals of a papilionaceous Blossom, or a Membrane added to a Seed, Stalk, &c. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 307 Wings are a sequel to petals. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 85 Genista..Wings oblong.

d. 1776 [see c]. 1787 *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* 283 Fruit egg-shaped, encompass'd with a membranous wing on the sides. 1821 W. S. FORSKALE *Field & Woodl. Plants* iii. 37 In the Narrow-leaved Everlasting Pea..the 'wings' of the stem and stipules.

III. Phrases. * with prepositions.

12. In (the) wing. † a. *In wing of*: in course or process of, engaged in. *Obs. rare.*

c 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* v 7 Whenne thay were in wyng of these werkys [*Dum hæc..agerentur*].

† b. *In the wing of*: ? In the overshadowing presence of. *Obs. rare.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 39 b, Our owne Newtralisme and Lukwarmenes shall in the wyng of Gods sonne vtterly condemne vs.

13. On or upon the wing or † one's wing, † on wing; also A-WING. a. *lit.* Flying, in flight. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d j b, When she is on wyng and comyth low bi the grounde. 1616 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* I. i, The roiall Hawke trailes her prey to her young ones gainst the Sun,..neat teacheth 'em to prey, How to command on wing. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 338 They heard, and were abasht, and up they spring Upon the wing. *Iliad.* 345 So numberless were those Angels seen Hovering on wing under the Cope of Hell. 1798 GRAY *Spring* 85 The insect youth are on the wing. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* II. 192 It is seldom that even these birds is on wing..without uttering its cry. 1859 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, The old birds were too strong on the wing for our young marksmen. 1899 E. FITZGERALD *Omar* vii, The Bird of Time has but a little way To fly—and Lo! the Bird is on the Wing. 1888 BLACKIE *Lect. to Wife* (1909) 209, I have been as happy as a bird on the wing.

b. *fig.* (*a*) Moving or travelling swiftly or briskly; astir, active, on the move.

1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 50 Throw Scotland, Ingland, France, and Lumbardy, Fleys on weyng thi fame, and thi renowne. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 132 When I had seene this hot loue on the wing. 1616 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* I, 'Tis time his fortune bea wing [*sure.* o' wing, o' th' wing], high time sir. 1842 D. ROCHEE *Shannon* To Rdr. b, b, So long as we can keep sound Doctrine on wing, we shall hope to kill..all those [evils]. 1844 LD. NORWICH in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 217 With what impatience his good subiects..expect to hearye his Ma^ties wordes vppon his wing.

1739 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xiii, The prince, whose thoughts were always on the wing. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. iii, Nobody is on the wing hardly a single traveller. 1892 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxxix, Captain..Chauvaring was on the wing early.

(*b*) 'Taking flight', going off or away, starting, departing; ready to start or depart.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. To Rdr. **2 Hauing beene too prodigall in communicating my papers,.. they caught me when I was vpon my wings. 1668 DRYDEN *Prem. Love* i. 3, Look you, they are on the wing already. 1678 — *Aurengz.* iv. (1676) 55 He's wild, and soon on wing, if watchful eyes come near. 1721-2 POPE *Let. to Atterbury* 8 Feb., When I went last to town, and was on wing for the Duxbury. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *Red Court Farm* xx, She fell on her knees..in prayer for the departing spirit, on its wing. 1898 *Punch* 20 Aug. 81/2 The Courts are up, and the members of the four Inns are supposed to be on the wing.

14. On wings: (going) with light steps as one in a joyously exalted mood.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xx, Now the young gentleman was off and out every night, and seemed to be on wings. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* vi, They sealed the promise with a long loving kiss, and Gerard went home on wings.

On the wings of . . . : see 2 b.

15. Under (..) wing. a. *Under the wing of, under —'s wing* (†*wings*): under the protection, care, or patronage of. (Cf. 3 b.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1165 Of hire wrist to under goles wengen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17638, I lilisce be, laurel, pou me has gett And sauf vnder þi wenges sett. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1769 Turne þe, trechoures,..And drawe a-gayn to þi dere wyfe þat is vnder þi wenge. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 281/2 Such as abide and kepe them self under the wynge of your Magestie Roiall. 1593 HARVEY *Examb. Ferrar* 121 B Euery vnder the wyng of my protection All rebels brought to subiect-yon. 1640 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. 11 Ill ij, I houe euer be brought vp at home i vnder my mothers wyng. 1669 H. MORE *Div. Dialog.* (1713) Dedd. A 3 b, If I had not taken this opportunity..of doing that right to the Truth, I here professe as to put it under the wings of my Patron. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4899/1 *Commissary* III. 47 There liv'd Miss Cicely..under the wing of an old maiden aunt. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxi. 353 They fled for their lives to the country under Pompey's wing in Capua.

† b. *To keep one's bill under wing*: to remain quiet or inactive (like a sleeping bird). *Obs.*

[Cf. quot. *c* 1425 in 1.] a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 174 After this..the duke of Yorke..thought it mete neither longer to kepe his bill vnder wing, nor his sworde in sheathe.

c. *Hit under the wing* (slang): intoxicated.

1864 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* iv, He being..'hit under the wing'.

** with verbs. (For other phrases, as *clip the wings*, see the vbs.)

† 16. *To hang the wing* (cf. HANG *v.* 4 c): to hesitate, show timidity. *Obs.*

a 1600 NORTH *Plutarch, Epamin.* (1612) 1122 Afraid onely of the name and reputation of Epaminondas, and hanging the wing, as they say. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* (1612) v. i, If Saint Peter .. had hanged the wing, as they speake, or let fall his Crest.

17. *To make wing* (cf. 3 n and MAKE *v.*[1] 59): to make one's way by flying, to fly. *? Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. 51 Eight thicklens. And the Crow makes Wing to th' Rookie Wood. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 282 Hence he made wing, taking a long and strong flight to Ziklag. 1668 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* (1672), The Island Dorcas that to the Wood made wing. 1858 HAWKER *Wings* 17 The weary fowls of heaven make wing in vain, To escape your wrath.

18. a. *To take to wing* (TAKE *v.* 74 b): = b. ? *Obs.*

1593 J. DAVIES, jun. *Tutenal* XIV. 99 Soon as e'er to Wing they take. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 84 It was within ten yards of me when it took to wing.

b. *To take* (*it, its*, etc.) *wing* (TAKE *v.* 74 c); (*a*) Of a bird, etc.: To take flight, begin flying.

1697 WORLIDGE *Song at Feast of Brougham Castle* 130 He knew the rocks which Angels haunt . He hath kenned then taking wing. 1822 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 62 They will instantly take wing and give you a beautiful shot. 1890 C. DIXON *Spring Feathers* I. 6 The Ring Doves, startled at this, took wing.

(*b*) *fig.* To (a) take flight', take one's departure, make off, flee.

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/5 Success, like Fame, has taken Wing. 1713 BENTLEY *Serm. Popery* 94 The weary Soul.. ready to leave the Carcase, and yet not suffer'd to take it's Wing. 1727 J. BRADFORD *Assertor Hum. Life* (1826) iv. Introd., I lately changed my lodgings..I took wing at a moment's warning. 1829 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Mother-in-Law* (Colburn) 32 As he touched the lock, they took wing like a covey of partridges. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, I found a fellow who..knew this Mrs Glasher before she took wing.

*** 19. Wing-and-wing (*Naut.*): (of a ship) sailing directly before the wind, with the foresail hauled over on one side and the mainsail on the other.

1842 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 135. 1893 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coasters* We greet the clippers, wing-and-wing, that race the Southern wool.

IV. Attributive uses and Combinations.

20. a. Simple attrib.: (*a*) in sense 1 (in reference to parts, structure, or function), as *wing area, feather, flight, membrane, neuration, patch, pattern, pinion, power, quill, ray, shoulder, vein*; (*b*) in sense 5 d: (*c*) in sense 6 or 9 (= aile, lateral), as *wing boiler, cabin, room, walk*; (*d*) in sense 7, as *wing adjutant, commander, officer*; in sense 7 b, as *wing forward, half, man, player*; (*e*) = having wings or side appendages (6, 8), as *wing bonnet, cap, chair, gudgeon, nut*.

(*a*) 1788 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 Furth she quickly gallops, with wingflight swallowlyke humming. 1793 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 124 Put under the wings Pinions on each side the long slices of flesh which you did cut from the Breast-bone. 1797 PRINCE *Gamekpr.* iii. 23 Its Belly, Wing-shoulders, Collar, and about the Eyes white. 1798 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.*, 343 The exterior wingfeathers are black. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 3 Interior wing-quills externally margined. 1826 SAMOUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 37 The Pterigostia or wing-bones, hairy. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 25/1 It (sc. a bat) hybernates, snugly wrapped up in the wing-membranes. 1856 *Zoologist* Ser. 1. XIV. 5151 The wing-veins of insects. *Ibid.* 5193 The Wing-rays of Insects. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 100 Wing catch resolved into two bars. *Ibid.* 174 When very young, the wing-markings more fulvous. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 769 Those..which can soar are mostly large birds, with a relatively large wing-area. 1901 *Spectator* 16 July 112 The wing-power of the dragon-flies. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 432/2 Orthopteroid wing-neuration. 1911 *Ibid.* XVII. 469/1 The darkening of wing-patterns in many species of Lepidoptera.

(*b*) 1897 LANCHESTER *Aerodonatics* (1908) 353 The reaction of the air on the upper and under wing surfaces. 1910 R. FERRIS *How to Fliers* 374 *Wing-flap*, the outline of the wing or main plane surface as viewed from above.

(*c*) a 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Bacon* (1898) I. 79 In the middle-most Isle are couches may then be placed, in the wing-rooms. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 284/2 The furnaces in the wing boilers. 1877 L. JEWITT *Half-Hours Lond. Antiq.* 122 The sleeved surcoat, the skeleton wing-pieces, behind the shoulders. 1883 GRESLEY *Glost. Coalmining* 291 *Wing-bore*..a side or flank bore-hole. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 2/1 The wing cabin at the foot of the companion. 1893 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia* 194 The great chamber was given up to the baby, the Colonel going to the wing room. 1903 J. C. ROGERS *Engl. Furnit.* 64 The back..fitted with forward wing-pieces.

(*d*) 1734 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 198, I sent a pinnace and brought the Velt Marshall's Wing Adjutant to me. 1876 VOLCK & STEVENSON *Brit. Warrant* (ed. 3) 470/2 *Wing Officer*, an officer of the Indian army attached to a wing of a native infantry regiment. 1882 *Cassell's Fr. Dict.*, *Wing-officer*, officier de semaine chargé des good dribblers. 1898 J. GODDARD *Assoc. Football* 30 The wing game—that is to say, the two pairs playing together, leaving the centre-forward waiting for something to turn up. *Ibid.* 78 Wing-halves should keep their eyes on the wing forwards. 1908 W. T. BLAKE *R. F. C. in War* vii. 42 The Wing Headquarters.

(*e*) 1693 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 28 Feb., She had on a large dirty wing cap, made of muslin. 1817 MARIA ROGERSWITH *Harrington* xiii, Then at the top of the mount of hair and horsehair..the wing cap, or the cap with a wing-cap, or a *pouf*. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 257 The wing bonnet like the tilt of a waggon. 1892 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 121 Put a piece of wood in the wing-nut, through. 1900 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furniture* 150 The ordinary English 'wing' or 'grandfather' chair.

b. Instrumental, adverbial, parasynthetic, etc., as *wing-broken, -clipped, -hoofed, -like, -lined, -shaped, -wide* adjs.

a 1793 G. WHITE *Naturalist's Cal.* etc. (1795) 96 As a person was lately pursuing a pheasant that was †wing-broken. 1824 J. W. LUBE *Amer. Woodfowl* iii. 72 Rather a cruel method, perhaps, but one attended with great success in wild-goose shooting, is, on securing a wing-broken one, to fasten it to a stake a short distance from the bind. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Mar. 1/1 Some of the wing-clipped ones..but the †wing-clipped ones..are..shot down. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXIII. 377 Who th'extended night With-held in long date; nor would let the light Her †wing-haires of the lopin. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Alaria ata*, the †wing-like processes of the sphenoid bone. 1906 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 1240 Why the wilde Fen-Goose..as †wing-lin'd, cannot fly. 1899 *Longman's Mag.* *Plants* (1836) 598 Leaves ..†wing-shaped. 1818 KEATS *Walking to Scot.* 19 Eagles may seem to sleep †wing-wide upon the air.

21. Special Combs.: **wing-band** = next, (*b*); **wing-bar**, (*a*) a lateral bar in a scuffling-plough; (*b*) a bar or band of colour on the feathers of a bird's wing, *spec.* one formed by distinctive coloration of the greater or median coverts or both; (*c*) in an aeroplane: see quot. 1910; **wing-bay**, a marking on a bird's wing formed by distinctive coloration of the secondaries, in certain game-cocks characteristically of a bay colour; **wing-bow**, a marking on the shoulder or bend of the wing formed by distinctive coloration of the lesser coverts; **wing-case**, each of the structures (modified forewings) which cover the functional wings in certain insects, as the *elytra* of beetles and the *tegmina* of *Orthoptera*; **wing-chick**, a young chicken still under the protection of its mother's wing; † **wing-cleft** *a.*, *Bot.* = PINNATIFID (cf. 11 b); **wing-compass**, a compass having one leg fitted with an arc-shaped 'wing' or projecting piece which passes through the other leg and may be clamped in any required position (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wing-cover** = *wing-case*; **wing-covert** [COVERT *sb.* 5], any one of the small feathers overlying the flight-feathers of a bird's wing; **wing-dam** *sb.*, a dam or barrier built into a stream to deflect the current; hence **wing-dam** *v.*, *trans.* to furnish with a wing-dam; **wing-desk** = sense 9 b (*b*); **wing-elm** = *winged elm* (see WINGED *a.* 3c); † **wing-fashion** *a.* or *adv.*, in the form of wings;

**wing-fish**, (*a*) = PTERICHTHYS; (*b*) a flying-fish, esp. of the genus *Prionotus*; **wing-footed** *a.*, having winged feet, swiftly-moving; **wing-game**, game-birds collectively, as distinguished from *ground-game* (GROUND *sb.* 18); † **wing-laid** *a.*, ? = *wing-and-wing* (see 19); † **wing-leaved** *a.*, *Bot.* having pinnate leaves (cf. 11 b); **wing-net**, (*a*) a 'wing' in a fishing-net (= 6 d), or a fishing-net with wings; (*b*) a net at the side of a tennis-court; **wing-passage**, a passage along the side of a ship's hold: see 9 b (*a*); also *attrib.*; † **wing-post**, *nonce-wd.* [*Post sb.*² 2], a carrier pigeon; **wing-rail** = GUARD-RAIL 2 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wing rib**, the end rib of a loin of beef; **wing-sail**, ? a sail abaft the main course; **wing-sheath** = *wing-case*; **wing-shell**, † (*a*) the wing-sheath of an insect; (*b*) any of several kinds of molluscs having the shell or some part of it resembling a wing, as the genus *Pteria* (= SEA-WING 2); also, a wing-snail; **wing-shooting**, the practice of shooting birds 'on the wing', i.e. when flying; **wing-shot** *sb.*, (*a*) a shot aimed at a flying bird; (*b*) a person skilled in wing-shooting; *adj.* shot while flying, or in the wing; **wing-snail** = PTEROPOD; **wing-stopper** [STOPPER *sb.* 9], a cable-stopper formerly used in the wings of a ship; **wing-tip**, (*a*) the tip of the wing of a bird, bat, or insect; (*b*) the outer end of the 'wing' of an aeroplane; **wing-tipped** (-tipt) *ppl. a.*, (of a bird) having the tips of the wings clipped so as to prevent it from flying; **wing transom**, the uppermost and longest of the transoms in the stern-frame of a ship; **wing-wader**, an Australian wading bird having a spur or claw on each wing; **wing-wale** (see quot. 1846 in 9 b), **wing-wall**, a lateral wall forming a support to an abutment and to the adjacent earth.

1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 101 'Wing-bands generally fused into one large patch. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk Farm* III. 953 The ends of the 'wing bars having a mealine formed to receive the quadrant, are moved over when the bars are required width. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III 34 'They are light blue on the coloured parts and have no wing bars. 1910 R. FERRIS *Hens et Fowls* 47 'Barr, the larger contrasting colour on members of a wing, running from the body outward to the tips. The ribs are attached to the wing bars, usually at right angles. 1867 *Poultry Chron.* V. 438 'Wing Bow.—8 ch dark red. 1661 J. JONES *Holy Annoy & Vint. Injogue* 238 Some [insects] have 'wings-cases, as beetles, and cantharides. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol* III (1828) I. 64 'Two wings and two wing-cases, ornamented with yellow bands. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* XXVII. 'A young poet is not the same kind of wing chick as a young actress. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 204 'Leaves winged; leaflets 'wing cleft. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 129 More properly two-winged-cleft than twice pinnate. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii (1828) I. 460 In the next order (*Orth ptera*), the *Tegmina*, or 'wing-covers assist them in flying. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim Life* 500 The fore wings may be converted into wing covers for the hind wings. 1815 STURTEVANT *Nomen. Acad.* IX. 13 Greater 'wing-covers tipped with crimson. 1882 *Rep. Pres. Metals U. S.* 102 By sinking a shaft and drifting perpendicular to building a 'wing-drift. 1857 J. D. BORTWICK *Three Yrs California* xvii 265 A company of fifteen or twenty white men would have 'wing-dammed this claim. 1885 *Century Mag.* July 371/2 (without Decoration) Above of this glass gives a desirable touch of color in the lights above the 'wing-decks at each end. 1547 in Feuilleat *Revels Eliz. Vt* (1908) 49 'wynge *Dowes* 'wynge *Fashion* 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 80 The Pteridichthys ('wing-fish). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 304 [Fishes of the genus *Prionotus*] are eaten only in the vicinity of Hartford, Conn., where they are known as 'Wing-fish'. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 666 'Wing footed Mercurie. 1826 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 322 Wing-footed Time. 1698 ROWLAND tr. *Menoffio's Theat. Ivo* 323 Hail the daughters of the wing footed steed. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* vii. The neighbouring squire takes the pick of the 'wing-game. 1632 LITHGOW *Travels* v. 202 The 'wing-layd Galley with her factious oares. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II 129 'Wing leaved Fig Wort, or Dog's Rue. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1 v. *Stake and*, At from 30 to 40 down stream another row of stakes is set, each opposite a stake in the bar-net, and between these stakes a 'wing-net is stretched. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 06 A gentleman, in a fit of passion at some *cad* unsuccessful, flung his racket high up in the air, and it lodged on the ledge above the tambour, behind the wing-net. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild* vi. 101 The 'wing passages of wooden ships of war. 1879 *Scientific Lucks Educ.* IV. 364/1 The 'wing-passage-bulkhead' as a protection against under-water attacks such as ramming or torpedoes. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northamptonshire* (1662) II. 279 Such practices, by these 'wing posts, would spoil many a FOLE *p.ut.* 1883 ANNE THOMAS *Mod. Housewife* iv. 48 A seven or eight pound piece of 'wing rib or sirloin of beef. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 115 '*Wingsail for Ketches.* This sail is quadrilateral, and similar to the mizen course of a ship. It bends abaft the mainmast to boops which encircle the mast. 1874 GARNOCK & BAXTER *Pract. Med.* 411 The elytra or 'wing-sheaths are long. 1682 GREW *Museum* I. § vii II. 164 The 'Wing-shells almost square-knubed on each side before. *Ibid.*, The Long-Shell'd Goat-Chafer is above an inch long, and the Wing-shells of themselves an inch. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 252 The wing-shell belonging to the unimaxular section. 1855 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 260 The wing-shells, or pearl-oysters. 1881 GREPNER *Gun* 58 These guns..were probably intended for 'wing-shooting. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 493/1 Last season, I shot with the best 'wing-shot I ever hunted with. 1890 GREENER *Breech Loader* 253 The contest for the American Field Champion Wing-Shot Cup. 1895 G. J. MANSON *Sporting Dict., Wing-shot*, .. hit on the wing. 1796 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 178 Dog-stoppers are used as additional securities, to ease the deck-stoppers. 'Wing-stoppers are used for the same purpose. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Amer. Birds* 173 The 'wing tip projects only about an inch beyond the secondaries. 1890 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xi. (ed. 2) 332 The females of *Antechinus ruridiventus* does not possess the beautiful orange wing tips of the males. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 2 Feb. 5/6 He hesitated a second to see that the man at the wing tip was ready. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1853) 296 Being 'wing-tipped and unable to fly, he caught it and brought it home alive. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 70 The 'Wing Transom is to have a long round Knee. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine s.v. Transoms*, The arms of the transoms, being gradually closer in proportion to their distance from the wing transom downwards. 1867 PORT-ROYAL *Fred. Carlyon, Prem. Wanderer* I. (1906) 71 The 'wing-wader of Australia. 1791 *Rep. Navig. Thames & Isis* Estimate 5 Taking down the Side-Walls of Godstow Lock, re-building them, strengthening the Wing-Walls, and finishing, £450. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 95/1 Retaining walls were generally introduced at the ends of bridges, to connect the abutments of the bridge with the natural ground; but in these cases they were called 'wing walls'.

**Wing**, *v.* Forms: see prec.; also *pa. pple.* 5 **winged, y-whyngged.** [f. prec. *sb.*]

I. Senses derived from senses 1–5 of the *sb.*

† 1. *trans.* To carve (a quail or partridge). *Obs.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F viij b, A Quayle whyngged & Lyuer [see LIVER *sb.*] 1513 *Bk. Kervynge in Babees Bk.* 265 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. II. 44 Him list not spend his idle meales In quaint epitomizing, wing, and spare. *Epigrammatic* warning] Quailes 1604 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 415 (*b*) a 1726 MRS. BEHN in *New Present* (1771) 263. 1804 FARLEY *London Art of Cookery* (ed. 10) 329 Partridges and Quails. To wing and carve either of these birds, nothing more is to be done than to take the legs and wings.

2. *intr.* († OBCAS. *refl.*) To use one's wings, take flight, fly; occas. *transf.* to sail; *fig.* to 'fly', pass swiftly, speed. *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

1582 STANY. *Æneis* I. v. 111 133, I (an old Turtle) Will wing me to some withered bough. 1623 'JACK HAWE' *Voc. Gramm* 51 It will be better going by Land then to wing ourselves downe the River without a tilted-Cob. 1666 FLETCHER *Rural exit* [1] LXXXIII. 10 Juvenal does it I ve, how I ife wings away! 1688 CROWN *Darius* 62 He wings along the Air on Cloud. 1697 — *Cymb* II. 1 Now I'll to Sir Lewis Jones Bird, the Roman Eagle, wing'd From the uppery South to this part of the West. 1737 H. BROOKE II. *Fusso* (1773) 30 Let wing'd before his Squadron Time, and Death. 1846 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vi, Brave thoughts winged on Grecian words gained their natural mastery over Terror.

3. *trans.* To fly through, upon, or across; to traverse by flying.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vi. 13 The Crowes and Choughes, that wing the midway ayre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 936, I alone first undertook To wing the desolate Abyss. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 220 All that roam the wood, Or wing the sky, or roll along the flood. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 26 Thoughts that wing infinity, appreciate eternity, and through eternity. 1805 WORDSW. *Sky-lark* II, The blue deep thou wingest, And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 1000 Ere the fleet coursers of the dove, that I might wing the wind With pinion swift and strong.

b. with cognate obj. (*flight, way*).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 14 New ways I must attempt, my genius bids me go, New fields untrod, and wing my airy flight. 1698 CONGREVE *Semele* II 2 From banks have I wing'd my Way. 1799 ALEX. WILSON *To David Brodie* Poet. Wks. (1876) 7 The darting year prepares to wing its rapid flight. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iii. 57 faster. It had nearly winged its flight away. 1823 SIR R. HALL *Story of Arm* xvii. 320 If we were able to wing our way from this to the depths of space.

4. To put wings upon, furnish or fit with wings for flying; to feather (an arrow); also *poet.* in ref. to the sails of a ship.

a 1616 B. JONSON *Barrets* 42 Marrings Loves object is; / For her, he wings his shoulders. 1682 HOWE *Sixth Scripsit.* 90 The Feathers that wing our Arrows. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 785 With sails we wing the main. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 706 Nimbly he wings the barb. 1829 T. F. DILLON *Mr. Anglings* xiii. 399 The nicest operation of all, that of winging the fly.

b. *fig.* (or in fig. context): To 'give wings to'; to enable to 'fly' or 'soar'; to give speed or swift motion to.

1599 PEELE *Dispute Bethsaide* C j b, Cast as was Eua from that glorious seate (Where al delights sat baiting winged with thoughts, Ready to nestle in her naked breastes). 1881 *Lust's Dominn.* I. iii. (1657) B 8, Ambition wings his spirit, keep him down. a 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* III. i, *Gis.* Tyrant, twill haste thy owne death. *Rod.* Let it wing it. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* vii. 8 (1656) 633 Fasting-days are soul-fatting days: prayer is edged and winged thereby. 1697 MILTON *P. L.* I. 275 The Thunder, Wing'd with red Lightning and impetuous rage. 1718 COWPER *Catharina* 50 With her book, and her voice, and her lyre, To wing all her moments at home. 1824 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XX. 100 Lively hope, that wing'd The prayers (of St. Gregory) sent up to God for his release. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, The hours glided on,..whether winged with joy or laden with affliction. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VI. v, The Convent was at some distance, but..four would wing her steps. 1869 M. ARNOLD *Sonn. to G. Cruikshank*, Artist, whose hand, with horror wing'd, hath torn From the rank life of towns this leaf.

5. To convey by or as by means of wings; † to transport by flight (*J.*); to carry through the air as if flying, to waft (also *fig.*).

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lii. (1696) 139 It is these two only [*sc.* water and earth], that seems to make the world, while the two purer, Fire and Ayre, are wing'd away. 1682 OTWAY *Venice Preserv'd* II. iii. 32 First, let's embrace, Then'n knows who next shall thus Wing ye together. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 126 When future gales shall wing them o'er the tide. 1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* 174 Sad was the day when my Willy did leave me, Sad were the moments that wing'd him away. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* 28, There was enough breeze..to wing the shadow of a cloud across the soft grey downs.

6. To send flying, let fly (as a missile); to send off swiftly, to dart.

1728 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 832 With his full Strength he bent his angry Bow, And wing'd the deadly Dart direct at the Foe. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* iii, Whether any of his train could draw a good bow, and wing a shaft well home. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, The desire to wing a word to her he thought it wise to repress. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 396 And therewith I bespake him and winged a word for his ears [ἔπεα πτερόεντα προσηύδων].

7. To brush with a hand's wing: cf. prec. I c.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 With Blew Smalts strew very thick the florder while it is wet; and when it is dry, wing that which is loose off. 1866 [see WINGED *ppl. a.* 3].

8. To shoot (a bird) in the wing, so as to disable it from flying without killing it; *transf.* to wound (a person) with a shot in the arm or shoulder, or some other not vital part; to injure or disable (something) by a shot. Also, to pluck off the wings of (an insect).

1822 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* v. iii 77 We are on the ground first. What are the odds now, that he doesn't wing me? 1823 W. IRVING in *Ann Reg.* I. 365 Snatched at, like flies by children, to be winged and let go. 1828 J. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 82 Though I regularly fired,..I never even winged a tomtit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II. Be steady, and wing him. 1884 'I. GOLDINGCOUP' *Under Meteor Flag* v, 'Jompiers was..hid on his left wing.' The Frenchman [*sc.* a ship]. 1914 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/6 One aeroplane was winged by the Russian soldiery.

II. Senses derived from senses 6–9 of the *sb.*

9. † *a. Mil.* To furnish (a force) *with* additional troops on the wings; also of such troops, to form the wings of. (OCCAS. *absol.*) *Obs.*

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 208 This squadron is flanked with Musket and winged with harquebusiers. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iii. 528 In the battle thus ordained, Spurre on your posthorse and meet him presently at Salisbury. 1620 J. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 82 Though I regularly fired,..I never even winged a tomtit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II. Be steady, and wing him. 1884 'I. GOLDINGCOUP' *Under Meteor Flag* v, 'Jompiers was..hid on his left wing.' The Frenchman [*sc.* a ship]. 1914 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/6 One aeroplane was winged by the Russian soldiery.

b. To furnish with wings (cf. 4); *spec.* to fit (a ship) with additional troops on the wings; also of such troops, to form the wings of. (OCCAS. *absol.*) *Obs.*

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 208 This squadron is flanked with Musket and winged with harquebusiers. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iii. 528 In the battle thus ordained, Spurre on your posthorse and meet him presently at Salisbury. 1620 J. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 82 Though I regularly fired,..I never even winged a tomtit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II. Be steady, and wing him. 1884 'I. GOLDINGCOUP' *Under Meteor Flag* v, 'Jompiers was..hid on his left wing.' The Frenchman [*sc.* a ship]. 1914 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/6 One aeroplane was winged by the Russian soldiery.

10. *Naut.* To carry *up* (ballast) in the wings of a ship.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The iron ballast is winged up 3 or more feet on each side of the floor-heads. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 732 To *Wing up ballast*, to carry the dead weight from the bottom as high as consistent with the stability of a ship.

11. *Theatrical slang.* To study (a part) in or about the wings, having undertaken it at short notice.

1886 *Stage Gossip* 70 In the event of an artiste being suddenly called upon to play a part of which he knows nothing, he frequently has to 'wing' that part.

† 12. *intr.* To incline to a particular wing, side, or party. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1617 K. PEYTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* 52 This made the people wing on that side.

**Wing**, *vbl. sb.*³ (*slang*), a penny.

**Winged** (wĭngĕd, *less freq.* wĭngd), *a.* Forms: see WING *sb.*; also 5 **venged(e**, 6 *Sc.* **vengit.** [f. WING *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Having wings, as a bird, bat, insect, supernatural or mythical being, etc.; represented or figured with wings.

*Her.* Having the wings of a specified tincture.

Also in numerous parasynthetic compounds, as *long-winged*, *strong-winged*, *swift-winged*, *white-winged*, etc., q. v. in their alphabetical places.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 527 The wynged god Mercurie. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22816 Toward the heuene sche took hir flyght; For Schee was wynged, for to flie. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. x. 23 The wenged god of hill. 1591 ROBT. GREENE *Armorie* II. 112 b, An Harpie, Vert, Wynged de Or.

**WINGED.**

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. 1. 235 Louse lookes not with the eyes, but with the minde, And therefore is wing'd Cupid painted blinde. 1590 — *Hen. V*, II. Chorus 2 With winged heeles as English Mercuries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 55 One shap'd and wing'd like one of those from Heav'n By us oft seen. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 173 Our winged Friends thro' all the Grove. 1819 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 197 His winged minions in close clusters stood. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 66 This insect becomes winged in the month of August. 1864 TENNYSON *Harv. Grayling* 275 This, wrens, and all wing'd nothings peck him dead! 1873 B. BALFOUR *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) V, Winged Sea-horses. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, 'The atop which regulated the play of the water-was formed into the winged figure of a child moulded in silver.

**b.** *poet.* Applied to a ship with sails set.

c 1386 CHAUC. *Pembrokes Pr.* cvii. viii, The many mounting winged tree For traffique leave retiring land. 1614 W. BROWNE *Inner Temple Masque* I. *Syrens' Song* 2 Steere hither, steere, your winged pines, All beaten mariners. 1834 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 34 Why . doe those winged vessels cut the water? 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 550 From the shores the winged navy flies. 1820 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxviii, Sailors, Coop'd in their wingèd sea-girt citadel.

†**c.** Full of wings; crowded with flying birds. *poet. Obs.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 730 Th' earth cumber'd, and the wing'd air dark'd with plumes.

**2.** Furnished with or having a wing or wings, i.e. lateral part(s), appendage(s), or projection(s).

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 132 Ther forme, which we cal *Terrebellum alatum*, the winged trepane. 1603 T. GODWIN *Rom. Hist. Abridgm.* (ed. 2) 178 Sometimes they would make a winged army, so that the maine body thereof should be in the middle, & on each side a lesser company. 1620-32 J. JONES *Nose Unvayl'd, Diphtheria*, Another is double winged about uncovered. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 198 Mr. Wyse ploughed lightly with a winged plough. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 599 Wither grass-seed harrows. 1859 REEVE *Britiny* 176 A well-to-do peasant father and son with the embroidered gaiter, winged leather boot, many-buttoned waistcoat. 1880 *Cantel. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 578, A winged wardrobe, with circular ends. 1881 J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 71 The winged celts may be generally described as those in which the flanges are short and have a great amount of lateral extension. 1893 J. C. ROGERS *Engl. Furnit.* fig. 33 A fine example of a winged armchair upholstered in damask.

**3.** In special scientific applications.

† *Bot.* = PTERATE 3. *Obs.* Also *winged-cleft*, the divisions of a pinnatifid leaf (cf. *wing-cleft*, WING *sb.* 21). *Obs.* (An inexact rendering of L. *pinnatus*, in this case intended to mean 'feathered' or 'feathery'.) 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. 1. 1 Winged wings, i. e. lateral processes or appendages, as a stem, seed, fruit, sheil, etc. **c.** *Bot.* in names of plants distinguished by having pinnate leaves (cf. *c*), or winged stems or other parts. — **Winged elm**, a small N. American species of elm (*Ulmus alata*) with corky winged branches. **Winged pea**, a plant of the S. European genus *Tetragonolobus* (now included in *Lotus*), having winged pods (see PEA† 1).

**a.** 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 82 Winged leaves) like those of Tansy. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 3) II. 214 Many winged Leaves like those of Ash. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrang. Plants* Gloss., *Winged-Leaves*, when an undivided leaf-stalk hath many little leaves growing from each side; as in Ash and Pea. *Ibid.*, Winged-Clefts. 1796 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) III. 772 Leaf triply-winged.

**b.** 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* Gloss., *Winged-Leaf-stalk*, one that is not cylindrical, but flattish, with a little leafy border at each edge. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 383 The seeds pedicel'd penduious three-side-winged. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 203 Trigonal, with angular, winged, membranaceous processes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1252/1 *Tetragonolobus*, a genus of leguminous plants allied to *Lotus*, from which they are well distinguished by their quadrangular winged pods.

**c.** 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 31 Corallina pennata longior. Inter Scopulos. Winged Coralline. 1665 LOVELL *Herbal* (ed. 2) 470 Winged wood-wax. 1830 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II, *Ochnus*, Winged Pea. 1832 *Vege. Subst. Food of Man* 168 The Winged Yam. 1858 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1856) 366 *Ulmus alata* ..(Winged Elm).

**4.** *fig.* (or in fig. context): Capable of or performing some movement or action figured as flight, 'flying'; flying or passing swiftly, swift, rapid.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. viii. 30 The weyngit messengeir, Fame. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 16 Combe downe his hairs! locke, locke, it stands vpright Like Lime-twigs wing'd to catch my winged soule. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 2 Heare this sealed Briefe With winged haste to the Lord Marshall. 1600 — *A. & C.* IV. x. 142 *Ecst.*, A Wishe thought runs before her actions. *Ord.* So do all thoughts, they are wing'd. 16.. *Lord's Domin.* i. ii. (1659) H 5 b, Old time Tis..be a foot-boy to winged hours. 1698 P. VAN CENT *True Relat* in *Mass. Hist. Coll.* (1837) Ser. III. VI. 39 Divers loopholes, through which they let fly their winged messengers [*i.e.* arrows]. 1699 MILLER *Holy War* iv. xii. (1900) 180 Which race [*sc.* the Spanish gennet], for their winged speed, the Poets feigned to be begot of the wind. 1851 — etc. *Abel Redivo, Romans* 392 He was belov'd of all that lov'd the fame of learning: for he had a winged name. 1727 Cicero, *women nostrum solitare et vagari.* 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 508 The winged Thunder takes his way From the cold North. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 333 And winged Breaths in whistling Arrows fly. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* II. 377 What though my winged hours of bliss have been Like angel-visits, few and far between. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 173 With double speed the wing'd hour gallops by. 1824 MRS. GRANT *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) III. 63 The dear old friends with whom I passed that winged week. 1868 LOWELL *At Commn. Dinner*, A kind of winged prose that could fly if it would. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* viii, Oswald leaves her with winged heels to make his arrangements. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* III. ii, Wing'd souls flying Beyond all change and in the eternal distance To settle on the Truth.

**b.** *esp.* of words or speech (rendering or imitating the Homeric phrase ἔπεα πτερόεντα).

1616 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* X. 488 Circe...Bowing her neare me, these wing'd words did vse. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 388 Then thus, with winged Words, the God began. 1707 COWPER *Iliad* XXII. 92 His mother .. Then in wing'd accents, weeping, him bespake. 1813 BYRON *Br. Alydon* I. viii, Through her ears Those winged words like arrows sped. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXVI. When our own winged words seem to be hovering around us.

**5.** *Comb.*, as (in sense 4) *winged-footed*, *-headed*, † (in sense 3 a) *-leaved* adjs.

1869 ROBSON *Q. of Air* I. § 96 There, is born the shepherd of the clouds, "winged-footed, and deceiving. 1590 "Winged heeld [see WINGY *a.* 4, quot. 1596]. 1808 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* XV. 1210 Those too, such winged-heeled gentleman.. should be to be found in their country. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* I. 88 *Lotus jacobæus*, ..A..pea-flower, on a delicate winged-leaved plant.

Hence **Wingedly** (wi·ŋĕdlĭ) *adv.*; **Wingedness** (wi·ŋĕdnĕs).

1657 DAVENANT *Gondibert* I. ii. lxvii, (So *wingedly* he wheeles) No one could catch, what all with trouble finde. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 146 So lightly and wingedly did he pass through it. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 813 Nor with aught else can our souls interknit So wingedly. 1787 BUCKTON *Italy* (1834) II. 325 Such a palpable manifestation of ardour, beauty and "wingedness.

**Winged** (wind), *ppl. a.* [f. WING *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Shot or wounded in the wing.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 149 Winged, wounded, or dead birds. 1869 MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* 212, He like a winged bird striving to rush himself into time to time.

**2.** Brushed with a bird's wing (WING *v.* 7).

1866 WHITTIER *Snow-bound* 156 We sat the clean-winged hearth about.

**Winger** (wi·ŋəɹ). [f. WING *sb.* + -ER 1.]

1. A scar. A small cask or tank stowed in the wing of a ship's hold (WING *sb.* 9 b (*a*)).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The sides are filled-in with wingers of [1 or] small casks. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict.*

**2.** *Football.* A player in the (right or left) wing; in the Rugby game, a forward whose place is on the 'wing' in the back row of the scrum.

1896 *Boelle Times* 18 Jan. 3/2 Dow making pretty headway and then passing to the left winger. 1903 P. TREVOR *Lady Paramount* xiv, The danger . . that a team of mere 'shovers' will succeed a race of 'wingers'.

Hence **Wi·nging** *vbl. sb.* (*Rugby Football*).

1902 J. H. SCOTT *Rugby Football* 72 'Winging'..is the most scientific game a forward can play.

**Wingless** (wi·ŋlĕs), *a.* [f. WING *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no wings; destitute of wings.

Also applied by extension to birds having rudimentary wings not used for flight.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 808 Manuquees..Footless they liue;..Wingdess they fly. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast. Sp. Anthropus*,..the wingless Hornet. 1704 PRIOR *Canadian Ball.* 131, This wingless Wood I have built from Virginia. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 235 They differ from lignoniaceæ in their wingless seeds. 1835 WOODW. *Ichnog & Phyt.* 319, The Realm of Victory in this temple, was sculptured wingless. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 125 The apteryx .. a New Zealand wingless bird. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 233/1 Many wingless insects—such as lice, fleas and certain earwigs and cockroaches.

*fig.* 1598 BASTARD *Chrestoll.* iv. vi. 80 As if my thoughtes.. Wingdesse & footelesse, now like snailes did creepe. 1748 YOUNG *Night Th.* II. 528 Our hopes Quiver like pulses beneath the melodious dawn? 1855 ALLINGHAM *Day & Yr. Songs* Ser. II. *The Choice* iii, Pea-bloom wingless.

**2.** a. *Entom.* A small appendage at the base of each wing or wing-sheath, as in certain flies and beetles, or on each side of the rostrum in certain weevils. **b.** *Ornith.* A process on the terminal joint of a bird's wing, clothed with small and somewhat stiff feathers: also called *bastard* or *false wing*.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 348 The wingless are small concaviconvex scales, of a stiff membranaceous substance. 1826 C. A. JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 263 The Jay..winglet and greater coverts barred with black, white, and bright blue.

**3.** A small wing-like appendage on some part of dress.

1611 FLORIO, *Talares*,..certaine shooes with wiglets as Mercury is fained to weare on his feet. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 43 The small winglets that were attached to the shoulder-pieces of the earlier coats of leather and..were sorts of escutcheons.

**4.** A small projecting part in a piece of mechanism: see quot.

1839 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 227 L is the winglet, which in turning along with the spindle, has the power of making it traverse and distribute the thread evenly over the surface of the bobbin.

**WINK.**

**Wingmanship** (wi·ŋmănʃip). [f. WING *sb.* after such words as *seamanship*, *penmanship* (see -SHIP 2 b), the meaning of the element *-man-* being lost sight of.] Skill in the use of wings; flying regarded as an art or accomplishment.

1867 DR. ANGELL *Reign of Love* 46 To stand still in the air is not..impossible to a flying bird,..but it is one of the most difficult feats of wingmanship. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Aug. 264/4 In sheer wingmanship, the peregrine has no peer among British birds.

† **Wing-thrush.** *Obs.* [? Arising from a misunderstanding of LG. **wingaardvogel*, *weingartdrossel*, *f. wingaard* vineyard, WINYARD + *vogel* bird, *drossel* thrush. Perhaps never current; cf. WINNARD.] The redwing, *Turdus iliacus*.

1544 TURNER *Avium Præcia*. 1 y, Tertium genus [Turdorum] ab Anglis a wyngthrushe, et a Germanis eyn weingaerdsuogel nuncupatur. Hic turdus.. maculas habet intiuscalas rubras. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Litterae*, a birde of the bignesse of a blacke bird called a wing thrushe. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Litorne*, A wing thrushe.

† **Wingwise,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. WING *sb.* + -WISE.] In the manner of wings: used in quots. in reference to opposite (as distinguished from alternate) leaves.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. K ij b, They [*sc.* leaves of Cicer] stand not wyngewyse, that is one ryght against another. 1568 *Ibid.* iii. 33 Gratiola..The leaues growe wingwise by copies one against an other.

**Wingy** (wi·ŋi), *a.* [f. WING *sb.* + -Y 1.]

† **1.** Of, pertaining to, or resembling a wing or wings; wing-like. *Obs.*

1598 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 66 The lower leaf [of leguminous plants] closely involving the rudimental Cod, and wingy division of wingy divisions embracing or hanging over it. 1604 ADDISON *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 183 With wingy speed [they] outstrip the wind.

**2.** Having wings, winged (*poet.*); having large or conspicuous wings (cf. *leggy*).

1596 [see 4]. 1728 ROWE tr. *Lucan* v. 1099 If some rushing Storm the Journey cross, The wingy Leaders all are at a loss. 1737 DYER *Fleece* I. 68 Involving the rudimental Cod, and wingy division of wingy divisions embracing or hanging over it. 1804 ADDISON *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 183 With wingy speed [they] outstrip the wind.

**3.** Having wings, winged (*poet.*); having large or conspicuous wings (cf. *leggy*).

1596 [see 4]. 1728 ROWE tr. *Lucan* v. 1099 If some rushing Storm the Journey cross, The wingy Leaders all are at a loss. 1737 DYER *Fleece* I. 68 Involving the rudimental Cod, and wingy division of wingy divisions embracing or hanging over it. 1804 ADDISON *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 183 With wingy speed [they] outstrip the wind.

**3.** *fig.* Capable of 'flight', soaring, aspiring; soaring out of reach, eluding grasp or comprehension.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 9 Those wingy mysteries in Divinity, and airy subtleties in Religion. *Ibid.* § 32 The noble Soule..Whose wingy nature ever doth aspire, To reach a place whence first it tooke its fire. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 792 That this [etherial vehicle], being made Light, and Alate or Wingy, might no way hinder the Souls Ascent upward. 1709 BERKELEY *Theory of Hope* II. i, Youth's gallant trophies. invite His wingy nerves to climb. 1855 SINGLETON *Virg.* II. 1121 The phantom-form, a match For wanton winds, and likest wingy things Believed of men. 1877 *Compl. Famulist* I. 1. 43 Use no Wine, or winish Food.

**Wink** (wiŋk), *sb.*[1] Forms: see WINK *v.*[1]; also **7 whinke.** [f. WINK *v.*[1]]

**1.** A closing of the eyes for sleep; a (short) spell of sleep, a nap. *rare* exc. as in b, c.

In Shaks. in phr. referring to death.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 3 Peonne Wakede I of my wink. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machor*) 1204 Till þai be seruice all had mad, þat to sic dede men sald parteyne, Or ony wink ones in þar eyen. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 341 Here I Aske To go to taske A wynke. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 283 Whiles you doing thus, To the perpetuall winke for eye might put This ancient morsell. 1811 —

*Wint T* 11 317 Thou might at be-apice a Cup, To gine mine I nemy a lasting Wnke 1869 Mrs A Whitney *We Girls* vi, "that's it, dear?' asked Mrs. Hobart, rousing from a little arm-chair wink

b. Phr. (*not*) *to sleep a* or *one wink*, (*not*) *a wynk of sleep*, etc.

1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 9146 Pey Ne mete ete, ne drink drynke, Ne slepte onely a lepy wynke 1385 *Hous Fame* 79 That might he nouther ete ne drink Ne have a right rest ne slepe ne wynk 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vi 34 This night I might nocht sleip a wink 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv x 15 For nocht mair may scho sleip a wynk, 1549 Usall *Erasm Apoph* 316 *marg*, Reuilus a vigilaunte consul, for he neuer slept wynke in his reuerend office 1567 Sharp *Cyprd* iii iv 109 Because I receiued command to do this business, I haue not slept one wi ke 1688 N O *Bulwer's Introd* 22 My asking head can get no wink of sleep! 1790 Richardson *Lovelace* II 167, I will go to bed, but not one Wink I fear, shall I get this Night 1840 Dickens *Old C Sh* 4, Whether Mr Quilp took any sleep by snatches of a few winks at a time 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I 18, He has slept no wink all night 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiii, I can t sleep a wink with you at the window

c *Forty winks* a very brief sleep, a short nap

*colloq*

1828 Egan *Finish to Tom & Jerry* iii (1871) 87 The uncommo ly fi, gentleman told out taking forty winks 1851 *Illustr Lond Rev* July 3/2 He quiet 'f tty winks' after dinner. 1890 J Hatton *By order of Chair* II iv, 'Well, I declare, Dolly, you ne going to sleep!' 'I am very tired only forty winks Is there time?'

2 A glance or significant movement of the eye (often accompanied by a nod) expressing command, assent, invitation, or the like *Obs* exc in the proverb *A nod s as good as a wink to a blind horse* (see also Nod *sb* 1 1) and phr *to tip, give, or get the wink* (now apprehended as sense 5)

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxiv 35 Sill ye men could Their veritee all mark of fen appearance, be subtelte, and thair desaitfull talis 1540 Elyot *Image Gov* xxxvii (1 41) 94 Of a man ster sturdy, and fierce, a fistell wynke to his ser vant is a mighty commaundement 1583 Marbeck *Concord Histolomus* 55b I am not so blind, that th i cannot make me i eleue with a wynke, it is midnight at noone day 1591 Nashe *Pun Pasquil* 2 Thou thyself Lither, at whose wink The wrathfull Ocean s swelling pride doth sink 1602 Shake *Ham* iii v 11 a 1632 Donne *Poems, Vanine Graying* 13 Thy beauties, eyes, teeth, and strong Why should these men thinke? I co ld ee lipse and cloud them with a winke 1676 I Thrush er *Man of Mode* s I Only tip him the wink, he knows an Ale house from a Hovel 1710 S Palmer *Proverbs* 100 A nod is a wink to a wise man, but a wink to a fool 1756 T ft *Age sters Fam* (1760) III 313 At last he gave him the wink 1760 tr H Rosse *Voit of Quix* 18 9) III 130 [Sancho] gave me a wink to keep d wink, a 1774 Goldsm *Retorts Con Romance* (1775) II 262 The surge n, who had prest only got the wink, confined him to his bed 1809 Wolcot (P Pindar) *Lousy Poet* Wks thinks a wi ks as good as a nod 1818 S ir *Hist Mell* xvi, A wi k is as gu le as a nod to a blind h rse. 1832 Hr Martineau *Poch Add* I 4 On the first wi k went Hannah, and the neigl bo rs dropp ed off 1872 C Ibbon *For the King* xxii, He gave me the wink that the lady was a friend of his

b. A glance or glimpse (Cf Blink *sb* 2 2)

[1598–1868 see I ve wink a] 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xii, A trifle of orth ography, a glance at ancient history a wink or two at modern dicto

3 *transf* a. A moment of time, as being that occupied by a glance of the eyes, phr *in a wink* (*+ with* or *at a wink*), in a trice. (Cf I ve-wink b)

1585 Montgomerie *Sonn* xiii 4 Bright Apollo Quhais glorious glance sit stoutly skaillis the skyis Quhen with a wink we wonler shaw the warld 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S) II 206 H w radie to do the king pleasour, at a wink quilen he said charge 1633 Eade Massee *Al Mondo* (1636) 61 This is only a winke of Gods 1658 J Robinson *Pedoph* 13 The rest were coexisting with their first Being, or, upon the least Wink of Opportunity prest to be drawn forth 1693 Southerne *Maid's last Prayer* iii ii, the company will be here in a wink as a body may say 1703 D Morison *Poems* 7 Then all a' wallop in a wink. 1828 [see *I remember* 3 He for the last year came a wink too soon 1859 Jephson *Preten sion For* For in a wink the false love turns to hate 1893 Steven son *Catriona* xxx 362 The neat wink of time their blades clashed together.

b (*Not*) *a wink* (not the slightest amount; esp. in *not to see a wink*

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 53, Hath he expreet in his countenance the least wrest of the like of them? 1600 Shake *Temp* ii i 242 Ambition cannot pierce a winke beyd nd 1624 Mollr *Camerar Tri Lab* ii xiii 119 He was shut into a hole where he saw not a whinke 1706 Estcourt *Fair Example* v i, *Il mine* I took up, I say *Sym* In Sincerity, Sir, I can t see a Wink 1841 Thackeray *Cat & Heggarty Diamond* v, At least in my bed room I could not see a wink

4. A recitation of the eyelid, *v* blink

1611 Shake. *Wint T* v ii 219 Every winke of an Eye, some new Grace will be borne 1825 Scott *Fortunes* xxv, Marie me the smallest twitch of the features, or wi k of the eyelid 1848 Thackeray *I am Jour xi*, Sir Giles Wapshot had a particularly nosy manner of imbibing his soup, and her ladyship a wink of the left eye

5 An act of winking (see Wink *v* 1 8)

1837 Dickens *Pickw* ii, Jingle then added, with a knowing wink, and a jerk of the thumb towards the interior of the chaise [etc.] *Hard* lvi, He had been much struck with Mary s appearances having, in fact, bestowed several very unfriendly winks upon her, already 1848 Thackeray *Van, Jour xiv*, 'That is, if you re not on duty to thirt pretty Miss Sedley, Crawley said, with a knowing wink 1851 D. Jerrold *St Giles* vi 60 [He] gave a saucy wink to the servant, and bounded up stairs. 1891 Earl Rosebery *Pitt* xiii 227 Facts of this kind can of course be always dismissed by a knowing wink or a sarcastic smile.

6 *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1708 Curios *Cant Laugh's Last Shake* 1 1 9 Tea l.. Heart opening, Wink tapping Cordial 1775 S J Pratt *Liberal Opin* Ixxiv (1783) III 51 Upon mention of the wink money, he was driving off as fast as he could. 1790 Mountenoy & Gamble *Academy* 191 One of Mr Kipling s jaunty, wink tipping sketches 1893 *Hardy Dynasts* I vi 1, Should issues stand at pause But for a wink while

**Wink**, *sb* 2 *var. dial* Var. Winch *sb* 1

**1847** Halliwell, *Wink* (2) A winch, or crank *West* 1873 Williams & Jones *Glass Sem*, *Wink*, an excavated c ft sunken well 1898 D Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 580 *Wink*, a west country term for a kind of winch used in the bow of a boat by fishermen to raise the anchor 1886 Elworthy *W Som Word* 8, *Wink*, a well from which the water is drawn by a winch, also called bucket 1919 Clode *Some Old Farm Implem* 23 The apparatus for spinning rope was known in a wink (winch) or spinner

**Wink**, *v.*[1] *slang* Short for Winkle *sb*

1851 Mayhew *Lond Labour* I 76/1 The 'wink' men, as these periwinkle sellers are called *Ibid* 479/2 Salt (or fresh) herrings, winks, or shrimps.

**Wink**, (wiŋk), *v* 1 Forms 1 **wincian**, 3 **winken**, 4 **wynk(e**, 4–7 **winke**, **wiuck**, 6–7 **wincke**, (4 *sc* **wynk**, 5 **wynkyn**, *pa. t* **wanke**, **wonk**, 6 **wynk(e**, 9 *pa. t.* and *pa. pple* **wunk**), 4 **wink**. [OL. *wincian* wk. vb = OS. *wincon* to nod, MLG, MDu. *winken*, related to OHG *winchan* str vb. (MHG, G *winken*) to move sideways, stagger, nod; cf. OHG. *winch* (MHG. *winc*, G. *wink*) m. nod, OL. *wince* Winch *sb*[1]

I feut *wiŋk-*, older *weŋk-* Inf. *wiŋkan*, *weŋcc-*

Other forms: 1 pa. t. sg. 1 *wincn*, 3 *wincn*, 4 *wynk(e*, 4–7 *winke*, *wiuck*, 6–7 *wincke*, (4 *sc wynk*, 5 *wynkyn*, *pa. t* **wanke**, **wonk**, 6 **wynk(e**, 9 *pa. t.* and *pa. pple* **wunk**), 4 **wink**. [OL. *wincian* wk. vb = OS. *wincon* to nod, MLG, MDu. *winken*, related to OHG *winchan* str vb. (MHG, G *winken*) to move sideways, stagger, nod; cf. OHG. *winch* (MHG. *winc*, G. *wink*) m. nod, OL. *wince* Winch *sb*[1]

Inf.

*Prof Suthlkf.* 40 And aisbins when they winna stand the test, Wink hard and say the folks hae done their best! 1832 Scott *Cl Robt* II, The kmperor, who will rather wink hard than see disagreements. 1866 Geo Eliot *F Holt* II, Jermyn must be his [election-]agent; Harold must wink hard till he found himself safely returned

6 a. *To wink at.* (*a*) To 'shut one's eyes to' (an offence, fault, defect, impropriety, or irregularity); to connive at.

1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 108 Perso is thre by wynky ngnt his preparacions encorag ed hym to be the bolder. 1540 Elyot *Image Gov.* xxviii. (1541) 76 b, To secretely winkyng at the nawty faultes. 1644 Milton *Judgm Bucer* xlvii. 24 When as all kind of unchastity is tolerated, fornications and adulteries wink at. 1708 *J Wing Crig's Ref* v. (1710) 112 If I this saucyness in you, Should se m to wink at or allow. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* III. iii, Suppose you were to wink at her corresponding with him for a little time. 1813 Scott *Corr M Keeffe*, You find the price of half a cargo for winking at our job. 1861 Thornton *La Boats* I. ix. 250 A very evident tendency to wink at the shortcomings of their friends.

(*b*) To disregard, overlook, pass unnoticed (a fact or occurrence). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1535 Jove *Apol Tindale* (Arb.) 32 He stretched forth his penne against me as fiarre as he dirst, at the whoche chaleng I winked. 1568 *Bible* (Bishops') Acts xvii. 30 And the tyme of this ignorance God wyncked at. *a*1656 B. Hall *Rem Works* (1660) 352 We do will ngly wink at the rest of the offences of like nature. 1821 *Winter Evening Post* (U.S.) Some, who, either wink at, or absolutely forget her admir ble, the plain Principles. 1848 Schomburgk *Raleigh's Discov Guiana* (Hakl. Soc.) 172 It is evident that they winked at consequences which they must have foreseen

†(*c*) To be complai-ant with (an offending or contumacious person), to connive at the doings of.

1567 *Reg Priory Coun't Scot* I. 516 Seing the saidis rebellis wirkit and wrocht as he dar dalling maist evin to the time. 1605 Shaks. *Macb* I. iv. 52 Let not Light see my black and deepe de res. The Eye winks at the Hand 1674 *Vchan's Remembrancer* I. 89 Sir either two Commissioners [in thieving] Jay in an inn who e they were winkt at by the Master of the House. 1703 De La *More Reform* 37 I hope art blame if I Winking it a L--d Who-e Rapes and Vices stand upon Record

†b. (*a*) *To wink on, upon* = a (*a*), above. *Obs*

1546 J Heywood *Pro* (1867) 59 She can wynke on the yew and werry the lam. 1591 Shaks *Two Gent* II. iv. 98 You a homely old-en, I on a maid that winks. 1634 Milton *Comus* 141 You may as well bid me hope Danger will wink on Opportunity. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv I Cromwell & Ayscue* 59, I acknowledge I can not wink and connive with upon his crimes. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. v, Justice must never wink upo i great offenders

†(*b*) *To wink against*: = a (*b*), above. *Obs*

1653 H More *Antid Athe* xi. 84 He that denies this seems to me wilfully to wink against the light of Nature. 1741 Watts *Improv Mind* I. i (1766) 21 Having asserted his former opinions in a modest manner, he is tempted now to wink a little against the truth.

†c *trans* = a (*a*), above *Obs rare*

1570 *Satir Poems Reform* xxvii. 58 Throw 3e that God on us tent Will wynk nocht betweine 3ule and Yuleis and wrang? 1695 Kennett *Par Antig* 18, 300 That cheat was winkt in the times of ignorance.

†7 *intr* To give a significant glance, as of com nand, direction, or invitation: usually *const on, upon*, later *to*, *at*. *Obs*

*c*1000 *Gloss* in Wr.-Wülcker 118/15 *Annucia vel annuite*, it. winke. 13 *Minor Poems of Vernon MS* xxxvii. 680 Whon bei comen togedere, eiber on oher wynkeþ. 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B iv. 155 Ich wynke to wommen, and wowe hem echalle-nges of I owe wynke, And pei lawhyng lope to here *Ibid* xiii. 85 Piciens e perceyued what I dide and wynked on me to be stille. *c*1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T* 340 The Norice of digestioun the sleepe Gan eem wynke. *c*1400 *Lanc'lot* 443 Whan I wynke on the like for to gone. 16 *K Lear* 4 *Mephler* I'm Harishorne *Meter I* (1629) 79 Oure kyng on the sea-bighirde wanke, Proudly with his eyes. 1594 Shaks. *Rom Jul* v. iii. 91 Shall with love's light wink on him. 1600 *Merry Devonshire* III. iii, Then cust she up Her pretty eye and wink'd 1640 tr *Verdier's Hom of Hom* II. xxxiii. 284 She winked to him, wherupon he approached with a great deal of respect unto the Queen [etc.] 1691 Carey *Sir Valentine* II. 30 Why could not you tell me on't? *Single* I wincked, and wincked upon you, and bid ell that I could! 1712 Addison *Spect* No. 57 P. 7, I winked upon my friend to take his Leave. 1788 Mme D'Arblay *Diary* 4 Nov Mrs Thrale winked at him to give up the place. 1819 *Sporting Mag* (N. S.) IV. 256 Down winked to his friend that he was all in it. 1820 Monchrieff *Tom & Jerry* II. iii. 43 Winking at me not to take any notice. 1825 Brewster *Ed. Encyc. Astley* 3, Ma having first nodded and winked to the governess to pull the girls' frocks a little more off their shoulders

†b ? To 'give the tip'. *Obs. rare*

*c*1460 *Towneley Myst* xii. 244 Haue good ayll of hely, bew w, now, I wynk, For and thou dryuk direly, in thy polle wylle it synk

†c. *transf* To make a sign. *Obs rare.*

1738 [G Smith] *Curnos Relat.* II. 317 The Image of *Socrates* which stands on the Table, winks with its Hand

†d *trans.* To bring into a specified state by a glance or nod. *Obs.*

1633 G Herbert *Temple, Home* vii, Wh it is this woman kinde, which I can winke Into a blackenesse and aversest? 1728 Swift *Pyrd. Mod Lady* 193 They Convey a Libel in a Frown, Or wink a Reputation down.

†e. phr. *Wink all his head* [see Hide *v*.] 1 e, and cf Of. *clingemustset*]: hide-and-seek. *Obs.*

1609 J Davies *Humour's Heaven* II. iv, So that he did Drive them from dancing vnto Wincke-all hid.

8. *intr.* To close one eye momentarily, in a flippant or frivolous manner, esp to convey intimate information or to express good-humoured interest.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, Mr Weller. winked so indefatigably that Sam began to think he must have got the *tic doloureux* in his right eye lid. 1858 — *Hard Times* I. xi, He winked to Mrs Nicholas with a degree of familiarity which he, no doubt, intended for a rather flattering compliment. 1886 Kipling *Departm Ditties* etc (1888) 73 An' Jock he staggered, an' Jock he aimed, An' over the turnbrum wonk 1928 G B Shaw *Pygmalion* II. 142 He winks at Higgins.

9. *trans* To close (an eye, the eyes) for a moment, either voluntarily (sense 8) or involuntarily (sense 1).

Colloq phr *To wink the other eye*, to treat what has been said with flippant disregard

1838 Bulwer-Lytton *Sneering Streets* II. Hollo! hollo! he's winking his eye at my maid 1846 James *Step mother* liv III. 8, I shouldn't have winked an eye all night if you hadn't been here 1849 Halkerday *Pen'ennies xxvii*, Lady Cleverleg, giving the young gentleman a delighted look with her fan, winked her black eyes at him 1872 Earl Pembroke & G H. Kingsley *Untu Bubble*, viii 228 There was my princess winking tears that ought never to have been wunk 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* xiv, Lording's eyes tingled with tears He winked both eyes together and blew a nose which was red 1888 H Macmillan *Nature's Corner* xxxii, The lighthouse winked a glaring eye that seemed to stare over their heads far out to sea

b. *To wink away*. to remove (tears) by blinking one's eyes.

1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* II. i, Joan, trying to smile, and to wink away the two large tears that have rushed to her eyes 1892 Mrs S Baxton *Dark I* v. 105 She winked away a few tears that she could not cause to her eyes.

c To move swiftly, cause to flicker like an eyelid

1883 Baringer *Prometheus* 154 Like butterflies, that upon wings of light Wink their silk fans at pleasure all 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xxviii. 190 He told me you swore like a drill sergeant if the model winked a finger

d. To give (a signal), express (a message), etc by means of hasty flashes.

1918 *Glasgow Herald* 22 Nov 5 Their flagship's great eye of flame winking out a message 1919 *Ibid* 21 Apr 7 H M S Glory winked us welcome from the mast head

9 **Wink**, *v.*2 *Obs. rare* [Var. Winch *v.*1 Cf. Wink, *sb.*2] *intr* To shrink, winch.

1598 Silvester *Du Bartas* II. i. 1 *Eden* 145 That boistrous Atlas nobody did not shrink For Northren Windes, nor for the Southren wink 1677 [see Winking, *ppl. sb.*1].

**Wink** = **window**. *Slang* or *dial.* See Window.

**Wink-a-peep** (wi·nkăpī·p). Also 7 **wink-apipe, wincopipe** [f. Wink *v.*1 + Peep *sb*]

†1 *pl* The eyes. *Obs.*

Cf Devon dial *wunk a peeps* drowsiness

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* 4 Those wink a pipes of thine, tho e Beacons to direct me. *Ibid.* 116 Awake for shame, open thy wink a-peeps!

2 *dial.* The pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*.

1866 Britten & Holl Dictionary Plant-Names 87 Found in the Stubble Fields, in Much Country People call the Winco pipe 1886 *Cheshire Gloss* 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) Mar 559 1 The siliquopires are opening, scilor

**Winkel** (wi·nk'l), *pple.* [f. Wink *v.*1 + -ed 1] *Winked-at, -on*, connived at, tolerated.

1632 Brome *Northern Lasse* v viii, [He] has been a loove Lover, at most of the winkt at houses about the Town 1816 Crabbe *Tales wrought in* 352 Pl 158 Put out by he others in the wink-ed days

**Winkel** (wi·nk'l) Also **winkle** [Du.] A store or general shop in South Africa. Hence **Winkelier**, a store-keeper

1829 W C Harris *Wild Sports S Afr* xxxvii. 338 We lost not a moment in opening a *winkel*, or shop 1853 W. R King *Campaign. Kaffirland* vi. 139 'Winkel wag' gons had come out to the camp, and the 'winklers' or private traders sold everything they had 1900 *Ladysm Mail*, Feb 16th Richmond R ad is not a township It boasts of one winkel adjoining the railway buildings

**Winker** (wi·ngkəɹ). [f. Wink *v.*1 + -er 1]

1 One who winks in various senses. *rare*.

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm bef Edw VI* (Arb) 94 He was no gyfte taker, he was no wynker, he was no by wiker 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch* II. xiii F 1b, That frantycke pupyst Iohan Eckius, and our wynchester the wynker of wyles *c*1590 *n Collect B L. ballads* (1867) 224 Cut will after lind, All winkers are not blind 1849 Bulwer *Lytton Caxtons* IV. xiv 164 I trow Cousins who are of the worse sect of winkers are wont to shut their Eyes. 1915 Poem *Let to Craggs* 15 July, A sett of nodders, winkers, and whisperers 1861 [see Winking, *vbl. sb.*1] 1870 *Weyer* 539 Are you a gentleman and wink at whist? This was too much for the winker 1908 *Sat Rev.* 19 July 77/1 Self conscious winkers and giggiers over their own misconduct

2 Chiefly *pl.* applied to the eyes or the eyelashes Now *dial.* or *slang*.

1734 in Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr* (1861) I 519 As soon as my winkers are opened I am always blessed with one of your epistles. 1848 Jamieson, *Winkers*, the eye lashes 1893 *Boy's Own Paper* Jan 157/3 Here, young-ster, clap your winker to this glass 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxvi. 296 Curling upward like the winkers of an old man's eye.

b. The nictitating membrane of a bird's eye.

1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* (ed 2) 180.

3 *pl* (rarely *sing*) = Blinker 2 b; also *attrib.* Also *fig.* or allusively

1585 Filve *Def, Conflut. Pagists* 32 He is the common packhorse of the Papistes, he weareth a paire of winkers ouer his eyes like a milhorse. 1726–7 Mrs. Delany in *Autobiogr* (1861) II 449 Most people wear vast winkers to their heads 1755 J Sheebeare *Lydia* (1769) II 29 Her cap standing beyond her eyes like coach-horses winkers 1794 Felton *Carriages* (1801) III 136 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Instr* I 43/1 The winker-cheek is cut eight inches from buckle to buckle 1881 Phillipson *Harness* 18 Hogskin is utilised for the pads, winkers, &c of brown harness.

*Comb* 1845 Browning in *Lett E B & Fits B Barrett* (1899) I 70, I am set going with a hand, winker wise, on each side of my head

b *transf* Spectacles. *rare*

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* I. 22 A patent pair of goggle winkers, Conceal'd from public view his blinkers

**Winkey**, variant of Winks.

**Winking** (wi·ngkiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Wink *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of Wink *v.*1

†1. Closing the eyes in sleep; dozing, slumbering, also, a doze, a nap. *Obs.*

*c*1375 *Lamb Instr* 245 per leid beon lokinge wiß uten winkunge, song wiß uten hisse 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B v. 3 panne waked I of my wynkynge and wo was wil-alle, Pat I ne hadde sleped sadder 1393 *Piers Pl C* xii. 167 In a wynkynge ich worth and wonderliche ich mette

*attrib* 1605 Fletcher & Shirley *Ht Walker* iv. 1, So, so, he's fast, Fast as a fish in't! yet, he has winking powder Shall worke upon him to our wish

b. The taking of 'forty winks'

1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. xii. 239 Stephenson would occasionally refresh himself with short fits of sleep. He would never admit had exceeded the limits of 'winking', to use his own term

2 The shutting of the eyes, as in blinking, as a gesture of aversion or connivance, and now esp as a flippant indication of intimate knowledge or amused interest. †Also, a significant glance or movement of the eyes; with *at*, connivance.

*c*1440 *Promp Parv* 530/1 Wynkkynge, of the eye (*S* with the eye), *nictistacio, nictus, conquinacio, connivencia* 1480 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 1 Of curtesye to be wynkyng with your 3ye. Watery wynkyng ne droppyng nat of sight clere 1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Nictus*, a wynkynge, as when one doth sygnifie his mynde to an other by winking 1564–78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Fest* (1888) 60 What meaneth hee by winkyng like a Goose in the raine? 1592 *Institc Lear Fool Worc* in Digges *Compl Ambass* 318 To suffer no permission or winking at of any other Religion which our Realm hath always held. 1595 Shaks *John* IV. ii. 211 Am I so grim a thing? Fair fall you I understand a Law 1600 — *Hen* II. iii. 137 If I had given my heart a winking, mute and dumbe 1642 Jackson *True Evang I* iii. 159 Breaches of charity by the winking and scorning of our eyes 1656 Hobbes *Questions of the no religious* 35 If there be a God, a man cannot by an obstinate dis-belief of him make him cease to be, any more then a man can put out the Sun by winking 1884 Rhoda *Redemption's Tears* Wks. 1724 II 25 Men may indeed, by resolved, stiff, winking, create to themselves a darkness amidst the clearest Light 1693 Locke *Educ* § 108 If any one should make them think there is any difference between being in the dark and winking, you must get it out of their Minds 1783 G Keate *Birth Day* 18 Sly wink and blinking, As leering and peering. 1884 Miss I M Hawkins *Annaline* I 206 What is all this winking and smirking about? 1831 Scott *Cr Lock* xiv, It is the misfortune of the watchful on such occasions to be obliged to see the petty part of winking hard, as if not able to see what they cannot avenge. 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxviii, The fat boy swallowed a glass of liquor without so much as winking

3. The rapid alternating motion of an object, the intermittent flashing of light

1859 J Brown *Rab & F* 16 The mobility of that butt [of a tail], its expression and winkings and wavings are the oddest and swiftest. 1899 F R Lelean *Way Navy* 28 The flagsh p keep's breaking out into rapid winkings of lofty electric eyes) 1906 W W Jacobs *Night Watch Blackftrees* 11 The modern signal bell of the German theatre when an act is ready to begin,—a signal reduced in American theatres to the winking of the lights

4 *Like winking*: in a flash, in a twinkling, very rapidly or suddenly, also, with vigour or persistency, 'like one o'clock', 'like anything'. So, *as easy as winking*.

1827 Hood *Sailor's Apol* 71 Both my legs began to bend like winkin 1842 Barhay *Peveril* xxiii, Here is regular skulduggery, and can work you like winkin 1872 Alith Cheyne (Veldiham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 85 But [we] cry 'pray grow your opium!' Because it pays like winking 1902 H Wyndham *Diane of Lives* xxiii, I'll make a hundred and fifty a week as easy as winking

+ **Wi nking**, *vbl. sb.*2 [See Wink *v.*2] Winging. 1677 W Hughes *Man of Sin* II. 7 Wink I. Temperate Causes thus, Is not the mere winking to avoid a blow?

**Winking** (wi·ngkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Wink *v.*1 + -ing 2.] That winks.

1. That shuts the eyes or one eye intermittently or for an instant; blinking, †slumbering, sleepy, in so as. = the blind

Used to render the specific name *connivens* of certain birds *a* 1000 *Sal & Sat.* 77 Lumena he is laece, leoht winke dra [v. r. wincendra]. 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xi. 4 Po wepte I for wo and wraith of her speche, And in a wynkynge water I wolde 1562 J Heywood *Ivy & Ivper* (1867) 161 Smalle holes keepe small mise, from wily wink ng cats. 1611 Shaks *Cymb* II. iv. 89 Her Andirons were two winking Cupids Of Siluer 1630 R Hall *Recoc Medit* xxi. 53 Wee are wont to salute it [*sc.* the light] at the first comming in, with winking, or closed eyes 1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met* I. 900 The Keeper's winking Eyes began to fail. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 773 Blume we most the nurslings or the nurse? The children, deform'd, Through want of care, or her whose winking eye And slumb'ring constancy mars the brood? 1881 Lathan *Symptics, Suppl.* II. 13 Winking Fal-con [*Falco connivens*] It has a wonderful faculty of con-

tracting and dilating the iris. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* x 243 And pr sing tapers rub their winking eyes. 1855 *Poultry Chron* III 381 The nictitating (winking) muscles. 1860 Payne *Faithful Few Ever* II xi 109 And I, contented, idly stroke The winking cat, or watch the fire. 1870 Dis Barn *Lothair* liv, Starveling saints and winking madonnas.

† b Characterized by shutting of the eyes or averted looks, conniving. *Obs*

1577-82 Bretton *Flowers upon Fancies* Wks (Grosart) I 37 I Some finely vse a winking kinde of wife, Some looke aloofe, and some doo still looke downe. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Italie* (1850) 8 Yea, yea, what wyly winking shifts, by cliffe browde beasts are made. 1605-6 Earl Northampton in *Cal. of Times Jas I* (1848) I 55 The winking course which I have forced to take daily in the parts hath tired me with struggling between both parts.

**2.** *transf* That opens and shuts, often, by extension, applied to intermittent light, the flashing of lamps, the twinkling of a reflexion, or the like.

1598 Shake *John* II i 23 Ay all provision for a bloody siedge, And mercies proceeding Confronts your Cities eyes your winking gates. 1611 Shake. *Cymb* II iii 25 (Song) And winking Mary-buds begin to ope their Golden eyes. 1688 Dryden *Span Friar* III ii, A dim winking Lamp. 1789 Wolcot (P Pindar) *Subj fr Painters* Wks 1812 II 142 A winking Light of paltry Rush. 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxvii, These houses had very little winking window-shutters, and low arched doors. 1904 Hichens *Garden Allah* xx, The first glass of bluthly winking champagne.

**3** *Comb.*, as † **winking-blind** *a*, blind (*fig*)

1628 *Eng Prot Plea for Eng Presats & Papists* 60 The councell could not be so winking eyed but they would haue found foorth some one or other culpable

Hence **Wi nkingly** *adv.*, with winking eyes; † with a casual look, with a wink or winks

1594 Nashe *Unfort Trav* 13 b, Whose pleasing face he had a more winkingly glanst on [etc.] 1618 Prachan *Cornif Parn* III (1634) 38 I dare not behold him: some very white object he vieweth it winkingly. 1868 *N Brit Rev.* Dec 449 The left eye of Riff asks winkingly, 'What do you bring to day?' 1897 Blackmore *Dariel* xiii 437 Looking out winkingly in all directions. I beheld a company of little rocks

**Winkle** (wi ŋk'l), *sb* Also 6 **winele**, 7 **winckle** Shortened f Periwinkle 2 (*cf way* from *perwaye*)

1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl* 181/1 Nerita, a Welke, a periwincle or cockle. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII xxxix I 218 I wards, (le ullyenem es to the Snailes or Winkles above named). 1610 — *Camden's Brit* (1637) 727 Stones like unto sea winkles or cockles and other such fish. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 601 It is called *Concha* because it is like a Winkle or Periwinkle. 1884 Dickens *Mem Cha* xxi The very winkle of your country has his shelly hut. 1899 Whiting *No 5 John St* vii 80 A typical family lives before the public on a nutriment of winkles and gin *and ale*. 1893 Col. Hall *Sentry* (1893) II 256 The winklemen were on the mud all day. 1898 *Instr Cen us Clerks* (1899) 39 Winkle Gatherer. 1903 *Times* 13 Aug 13 2 A shilling is said to be the value for a winkle license, which lasted during the winkle season

Hence **Wi nkler**, one who gathers winkles, **Wi nkling** *ger.* and *vbl n*

1889 V I Pask *Fives Thames* 18 Fel trawlers and 'winklers. 1898 *Inscr* 21 Aug, To a Dyer as 'low ol' Bob Osborne 'ave give up Shrimpin an took ter Winklin ?

**Winkle** (wi ŋk'l) *v dial* [f Wink *v* 1 + -le 3] *intr.* To emit light intermittently, to twinkle.

1791 Learn *Mt Poems* 37 In vain the starry winking gleam. 1807 Hone *Mirror* I 208 Lord 63 Whit though, sir, he has two little winking een? They re better than nane. 1905 Mrs. Barns-Graddon *Fixed Hand* 198 The stars and planets twinkled and winkled, and sparkled and glittered

**Winkless** (wi ŋkles), *a* [f Wink *sb* 1 + -less] Without a wink, unwinking

1861 Wynter *Sec Bees* 93 The upturned gaze of winkless scores [of artificial eye] 1889 F H Ludlow *Brass of Boyce* 235 Sat he lit upright in the winkless arm-chair.

† **Winklot** *sc Obs* [Obsleure; for the ending cf *gigiot*, Giglet] A wench

15 *Pebis to Play* 33 in *Maitland Fol* MS (S T S) 178 Ane winklot fell and hurt vall vp *Ibid* 233, 282 Quhen the winklotis and the vantyour

**Winky** (wi ŋki) Also -sy [f Wink 2 + -y 6] Only in slang phr *Like winky*, 'like winking'

1830 Lytton *P Clifford* xxxiii The parson feeks him o it like sixteen, preaching all the while like winky. 1838 Mrs Smythies *Tilbertbrist* ii, We'll be back like winky 1902 Hichens *Sir Y Sparrow* i, 33 She kicks like winky

**Winle**, sc form of Windle *sb* 1

† **Winly**, *a Obs.* Forms: 1 **wynlic**, **wenlic**, 3 **wunlic**, **wun**, **wund**, **wune-**, **wonlioho**, 4 **wynly**, **lich(e**, **wynnelyoh**, 5 **wynlyche**, **winli** [OE *wynlic*, [f *wyn(n* joy, **Win** *sb* 2 + *-lic*, -ly 1] Pleasant, agreeable, goodly, splendid, beautiful (Often merely a vague epithet of commendation)

*a* 1000 *Phænix* 34 Sunbear ikes ð, wuduholt wynlic. *c* 1000 *Ags Hom* (Assmann) ix 205 Heo was swiðe wlitig and wenlices hiwes. *c* 1205 Lay 8090 Wes at foren þan wælste imaked an wunlic fur *ibid* 10000 Stod þe wundliche lc stræ wonlicheð wude and wenliche. *a* 1300 *P Pearl ter* xxiii[i]. 3 Wha sal stegh in hille of haneil winli? 1303 R Brunne *Handl, Synne* 1411 Some of þo wynly wones Were peynted with pre ȝus stones. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wordes wonlich and wishe it tes newe *To* 1400 *Vorte Arth* 181 Ther to wylde to wale, and wynlyche hyddes.

† **Winly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wynlice**, 3 **wunliche**, 4 **wynli**, **lyche**, **wynn-**, **wynely**, 4–5 **wynly**, 5 **winly** [Ol *wynlike*, f. *wynlic* see prec and -ly 2] Pleasantly, agreeably; finely, splendidly (Often vague an alliterative verse)

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps* (Th) cvii[i] 3 Þæt ic wynlice on psalterio þe sangan mote. *c* 1205 Lay 3605 Sone wærð þe alde kuing wuniche ischeðed. *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 749 A gardin euene, wynli wip hese wal was closed al aboute. *c* 1400 *Sc Troyan War* (Horstm) I. 225 The streits ware strauth & wynly made. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex* 5345 In at a wicket he went & wynly it spanne. *c* 1440 *York Myst* xiv 103 What ayles ȝow women for wo þus wynly to wepe? *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 660 The Pape and the patriarkis Welcummit him wynly.

**Winn**, obs form of Win.

**Winna**. *Sc* = 'will not': see Will *v* 1 A 6 b §

**Winnable** (wi năb'l), *a.* Also 6 **wyn(n)able**, 7 **winneable**, 8–9 (*erron.*) **winnable**. [f. Win *v* 1 + -able.] Capable of being won, in various senses

1544 Heywood *Precepts War* 1. v Bvb, All cytyes be more wynnable on the one syde, then on the other. 1611 Cotgr., *Gaignable*, gettable, winnable, gaineable. 1747 Hoosun *Miner's Dict.* I 3 b, When Work is soft, Kind, and Winnable enough without any Hardship. 1807 Anna M Porter *Hungarian Bro* xi (1839) 131 The best proof I can have of her heart's being winnable only by a brave and upright man. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Feb 8/1 All the rest are winnable exactly as Southwark was won.

**Winnackew**, -**acoe**, obs var. Guanaco

1589 J Wood *Voy* 86 Here is Plenty of Winnackews, or Sheep.

**Winnaill**, obs. Sc form of Vennel.

**Winnard** (winnăd) Also 7 **wheenerd**. [app. a. Lg. *weingartds ossel*, *-vogt* (see Wine thrush), with the second element dropped.] A local name of the redwing, *Turdus iliacus*

*a* 1698 [see Windle *sb* 1] 1728 Borlase *Nat Hist Cornw* 211 bis 1880 *P. Cornwall Gloss*

**Winne**, obs. form of Win.

**Winnel**, dial form of Windle.

**Winner** (wi nər) [f Win *v* 1 + -er 1] One who or that which wins, in various senses

1 One who gains something, esp. by effort or merit; *spec.* one who gets (a living) by labour, an earner (*obs or dial.* Also 6, in Bread winner); † one who makes profit, as by trading; † one who 'wins' (Com.) a heavy reaper (*Sc.*)

1358 [see Winner *sb* 1 1]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg Saints* xxxvii (*Machor*) 860 Of goddis corne wynnare to be. 1393 Langl *P Pl C* 1 222 Webbesteres and wolle-werkers and wynners with handes. 1548 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) III v 15 Sum wenys now rewle ȝe[r]ys wyth sense, And wynnerys with her suthe sawe. 1583 *Coth Angol* 420/1 A Wynner, *lucrifacus*. 1593-34 Fitzherb 1598 *Bk of Husb* (1767) II v 15 Sith the barleyes now reule ȝe[r]ys wyth sense, And wynnerys with her suthe sawe. 1583 *Coth Angol* 420/1 A Wynner, *lucrifacus*. 1593-34 tayleth, must-e nedes be a wynner. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F* lxxiii 82 No flie therby winner, the worth of a straw. 1633 *Shirley Lady of Pleas* (1686) II 35 Answer to be winners of their leving be sum honest myes: 1630 R St. *Camd ad's Hist Eliz* iv 173 Whereas Religion is the greatest winner of mens affections. 1858 Hor Smith *Tin Trumpt* I 57 The winner of a title generally deserves it. 1848 Thackeray *Van Jour* lxvii, The May r was diveng-ge I too and swore he would be the winner or her life. 1876 *Life Lyte* (1917) I xiii 337 Holker a great winner of verdicts from juries, w is one of the dullest men 1891 'G. A Birmingham' *Lighter Side Irish Life* 1 6 A winner, not a useless winner of the beasts of men

2. One who is victorious in a contest, a victor; *esp* one who wins a game, a race, a prize, etc, *spec* a horse, dog, etc. that wins a race, in games of skill, the 'piece' that is nearest to a certain point, a winning shot, etc., in recent slang, a thing that scores a success

1535 Stewart *Cron Scot Armis* (S T S) 74 [If he] has tynt the bataill, thryfore he had the wrang, and the wynnar the rycht. 1546 J Heywood *Prov* 1 x (1867) 24 He they wynners or losers. Tolke saw no thing, beggers should be no choosers. 1598 Dallyngge in *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S) I 156 The seyne Romanis selfes, victorious winneris. 1596 Shake *Tam Shr* v ii. 187 Twas I wonne the wager, though you hit the white, And being a winner, God gave you good mirth. 1598 — *Hen V*, III vi 120 When lenitie and Cruelties play for a Kingdome, the gentler Gamester is the soonest winner. 1599 — *Much Ado* II i 55 Sir, the Parrot lo yet to name the winner 1607 *Featherstonhe Ad to conc Gaming* (1668) to It is not deny d but most Gamesters have as many by way other a considerable run of winning, but I could never bear of the Man that gave over a winner, (I mean to give over, as never to play again) 1710 *Acts P* xxvii c 19 2 It shall be lawful for any Person to recover the same [money] with Costs against such Winner 1789 D Davidson *Seasons* 167 A leal shot eithet at the Cock, Which shows the winner by 1822 *Acc Canne Carlieg* 9 The Quarrel the tee is called the winner 1840 Dickens *Old C Shop* xxx, At length the play came to an end, and Mr Isaac Hedge rose the only winner. 1856 *Poultry Chron* I 337 Winners of the First Prizes. 1859 H Kingsley *C Hamlyn* xix, I'd ridden seven great winners before I was eighteen 1874 J D Hyath *Croquet Player* 83 It is useful to be able to tell him that he was only because you 'ha l a bad mallet' 1876 *C wizard Calendar* 19 In a rambling course, run partly out of sight the early points of Moonshine doubtless landed her the winner 1903 *Daily Pictorial* Dec 13/1 The Athanasy has also found a winner in its curiously named [revue'] 8d a mile'

**Winning** (wi nin), *vbl sb* 1 Forms see Win *v* 1 [f Win *v* 1 + -ing 1.] The action of Win *v* 1, *concr.* something won.

1. Conquest, capture, taking (of a place); also, in an early use, conquered territory (= Conquest *sb* 4) *Obs*, or *arch*

*c* 1300 *Sir Prestr* 928 Rohand he left king Ouer al his wining þare 1338 R Brunne *Chron* (1810) 296 Pritti reames men tolde, þat king Arthur wan He parted his wynnyng tille his men largely 1419 in *Documents Français* (1847) I. 227 Thei have wonne the forsaid toun by assaulte thoroughe the whiche wynninge my forsaid lord hath passage to Paris. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 257 Thow mais gret cass off wynnyng off Scotland. 1577 Holinshed *Chron* I 34/2 Calus Iulius Cesar determined to assay ye winning of Britain 1822 Peacham *Compl Gent.* xv (1906) 184 Knighted at the winning of Edenburgh or Berwicke. *a* 1660 *Contempl Hist.* (R. Archæol. Soc) I 280 This noble warrior was soe eager for the winning of that place 1879 Freeman *Norm Conq* IV xvi 80 While the land which sent forth such goodly stores was in winning.

**2.** The action of gaining, getting, or obtaining, acquisition, † gain (in general, as opp to *loss*); victory in a game or contest

With various shades of meaning, in later use restricted to the vb.

*c* 1320 *Sir Prestr* 3006 In wining and in tin I swe to ben ay 1362 Langl. *P Pl* A v 94 Of his leonge I lasshen Ac for his wynnynge I wepe *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* i 190 Swych labour as folk han ȝe wynnyng Of love *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* iii xxvii 493 Þi bynge Of wynnyng in wynning or in wun other manere or getyng 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 19 It is nowthir wynning nor reward, Bot tinsaile [etc.] 1509 Coverdale, etc. *Ecclus Prov James* I 7-12 To ȝe unite lowe of golden, for (ȝe) are wynnynge 1610 Shake *Temp* I ii 451 Least I no light winning Make the prize light 1611 — *Cymb* II iii 8 Winning will put any man into courage 1616 *Bullokar Eng Expos*, Winning, Lucrum 1 183 Your Honour may guess that winning of time is their chiefest aim 1630 Taylor (Water P) *Gt Eater Feast Wks* I 145/2 The unexpected winning of the wager 1667 (see Winner *sb* 1) 1823 Scott *Rokeby* iii xxx, Allen-a-Dale has no fleece for the spinning, Yet Allen a-Dale has red gold for the winning 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown's Schooldays* ii, Cricket and football are the winning games. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Feb 2/1 And in one winning all her woes redeem.

† **b.** Getting of money or wealth, gain, profit, money-making. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29803 Man þou has been to couetus Alote weirds winning fuse 1377 Langl. *P Pl B* xvi 232 Money for wynnyng wold bitraye Father and moder *a* 1450 Myrc *Par Pr* (1868) 99/705 Vaureres that by cause of wynnyng leue her estate to her seruaunt 1616 *Surfl & Markh Countr of Hvse Men* 22 (Hannatyne Mss) For worldly wonyng nic walkis, quhen wystar winkis *a* 1533 I. D Bekners *Gold Bk Aurel* (1546) N vii, Of the vnlewful winning of the fathers, thee followeth the vnlucky loss to their children 1536 Bellenden *Cron Scot* (1821) I p xxiv To thir gret profict and winning *c* 1730 Ramsay *Maltman* iv, He may crack of his winning, Sheets and blankets a dizen.

**c** Getting by labour, earning *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (verse) 2058 If ony woman can oght do þat ony wining falles vnto 1545 in *Arg Borg Sig Scot* 1870, 73/1 A Conveyance by Wynning and Working

† **d.** Profit (in general), advantage *Obs*

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xl (*Nimian*) 1151 Quhat wynnyng is I se, þo þe hai myght to sla me? 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 6 b, Yf ye do so all your ly fe shalbe to you a grete prouffitable wynnyng *a* 1578 I Indyan (Pitscottie) *Chron S* 18 (S T S) I 37 Regairding our awin 1 revat wining mair nor the weilfair of the realme

**3** *concr.* That which is won, a thing or amount obtained or gained, gain, profit (as acquired), † in early use *occas* spoil, booty, emolument, earnings. Now *rare* or *Obs* exc as in 4.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 468 O þi winning giue me þe tend *c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 8393 Wher þe kniȝt wil wynnynge, Se told it ȝeue for no þing' *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 275 His reeons he spak ful solempnely Sownynge alwey thencrees of his wynnyng *c* 1400 *Sir Perc* 1 Þe kyng gaffe hym wynnyng ayen restore 14 *Sc Acts I* xviii (1814) I 736/2 And þat ( f all his wynnyng he sal nocht haide bot 1/3 d *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv 224 [Þe wyf] gaue hym gret wynnynge, and the kynge made it to be prouided to the vttermoste 1488 *Burgh Ac Edinb* (1869) I 55 And that to dele thairwpoun wynnyng and tynsell 1589 Barclay *Ship of Fooles* (1874) II. 83 Ichke of them askyde lacke and wynnynge 1598 J Heywood *Prov* (1867) 34, I might put my winnyng in mine eye 1985 Higins *Junius' Nomencl* 321/2 *Lucrum*, the price or winning given to one that gameth in places and games 1800 Povey *Mus. Prosph* 281 † keep the winning, keep the sinning' We cannot keep the gain and escape the loss

**4** *pl* usually *concr*, as pl of 3 (mostly in collective sense), 'things or sums gained, gains, profits, earnings (*obs* or *dial*.), in mod. use chiefly applied to money won by gaming or betting; more rarely in abstract sense, as pl. of 2, Acts of gaining, gains as opp. to losses.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm Sel Wks* I 11 Defaute in al þis comþ of ydelnesse of prelatis, þat shulden ie he pleynly Goddis fewe and not yet erþly wynnynges *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* iii xxi 391 Þilke goung out for her wynnyngis 1557 Usher *100 Points Husb* xiii, But changyng of wynnyngs may make such a breck, that some is thy winninges, for sauing thy neck 1616 Drake *Bibl Scholast* 78 Hee may put his winnings into his eye, and saue his owne 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* Ded ¶ 2b, One loss may be of more consequence to him, than all his former winnings 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No 40 ¶ 2 A Buttering Gamester that strikes all his Winnings upon every Cast 1725 J Glanvill *Poems* 63 When hapless France shall meet with no Repair From Lossings here, by hoarding Winnings there 1838 Dickens *O Twist* xxxiii, Mr Toby Crackit sent up his winnings [at cribbage], and crammed them into his waistcoat pocket 1885 *Law Rep* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant having w on on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted

**5** *spec* Getting, gathering, taking (of produce, fish, coal, stone, etc); also, in *Mining*, the process of excavation and other preparation for working a bed of coal or other mineral: see Win *v* 2 † 7, 8

1473 *Rentall Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I 192 To mak ma

tenandis for wennyg and laboryng of the ground. 1501 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 100/1 To sustene ony skaith in the wynnyng of the saidis fischingis 1506 *Acc I d High Treas Scot* III 87 To Andro Mailheron, to the colbouch wynnyng in Faukland v li 1553-6 *Burgh Rec Edin* (1871) II 286 To Denne Morrison for wynnyng of thre luntellis to the saidis wyndis, 1630 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 374 For the wynning and leiding of certane stonis for mending of the commoun loche *c* 1750 *Rauçel Brut* (1797) V 99/2 Where a lewel can be devyse to drain a sufficient tract of coal, it is then the most eligible method of winning 1885 E MACKENZIE *View Northumbld* (ed 2) I 87 The winning of a colliery is the draining of a field of coal, so as to render the several seams accessible 1881 *Nature* 27 Jan 308 Deep winning of coal in South Wales 1891 *Times* 10 Oct, The winning of oats in the northern parts of England

**b.** *concr. (Mining.)* A shaft or pit together with the associated 'apparatus for 'winning' the coal or other mineral'; a portion of a coal field or mine laid out for working.

1708 J C *Compl Collier* (1845) 42 How much to allow for a Winning 1768 *Ann Reg*, *Chron* 62 The vast quantity of water expected in the new winning 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz* 26 Sept 7/2 The construction of new winnings, the colliery population, and the production of coal have considerably augmented

**6** Gaining of a person's affection or allegiance, gaining of an adherent or convert, also with *over*.

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxiii (*George*) 864 For of a martyre he pynyge Of a thousand he wan thousandes *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 93 Pei loue more here owen worldly wynnyge . þan wynnynge of soulis to blisse *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol Poetry* (Arb) 40 In the same mind Socrates mocked Gorgias to vertue 1605 BACON *Adv Learn* I iv § 2 The great labour that then was the people for the wi ning and perswading of them 1843 MILTON *Divorce* viii Wks 1851 IV 47 The uncertain winning of an obdur d heretick 1899 HERDLE *Margret at Maine* 91, I had forgotten all about Andrew and his proposed winning over 1918 *Nation* (N Y) 7 Feb 134/1 All the scandal detail that counted in the winning over of Italy

**†7** Deliverance, redemption of WIN v 18 *Ots c* 1400 26 *Pol Poems* xxiv 281 In helle is no wynnyng, Ne non wynnyng vpge to pes

**8.** The action of making one's way or getting somewhere *Sc* and *dial*

1851 SIR A JOHNSTON *Diary* (S H S) II 89 [It] might prevent his wining to any office 1858 SCOTT *Abt Wolf* xiii, Ye'll find it a easier wunnin in than wunnin out here

**9** *attrib* Pertaining to or connected with winning, or at which something is won (sometimes practically coincident with WINNING *ppl a.* 2 q v.); **winning chair**, the umpire's seat at the goal of a race course (*cf winning-post*); **winning-gallery** (*Tennis*), the 1st gallery on the hazard side of a tennis-court, **winning headway** (*Coal-mining*), see quots, and *cf* sense 5 and WIN v 1 7g, so *winning mine*, *pit*; **winning opening** (*Tennis*), see quots; **winning-post**, a post s t up at the goal of a race-course, the racer who first passes it being the winner

1898 'STONEHENGE' *Brit Sports* II I x § 4 358/1 They will n t leave their horses when c lled upon in order to pass the 'winning chair first 1887 G A LAWRENCE *Guy Livingstone* III iv 57 Come down Cowdy into the ditch of the 'winning field 1898 'Winning gallery [see GALLERY 2] 1891 [see HAZARD *sb* 6] *c* 1750 *Rauçel Brut* (1797) I 105/1 The first working or excavation made from the coal pit, commonly called the winning mine or 'winning headway 1846 BROCKETT *N C Glosss* (ed 3), *Winning head ways* two parallel excavations . The principal exploring drifts of a colliery, for opening out the seam for the working 1878 J MARSHALL *Ann Tennis* 160 'If *winning openings*, the dedans, winning gallery and grille *Ibid* 161 (LAWS 320) Either player wins a chase who serves

Scott *Chron Canongate* Introd, In winnowing out the few grains of thrift which are contained in this mass of empty fiction 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr* II viii 30 to winnow out the man that is to govern them. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II 905 Such persons are probably many, but there is no means of winnowing them out

9 To waft, diffuse *poet*

1764 Golding *Trans* 129 While sea born gales their gelid wings expand To winnow fragrance round the smiling land 1821 Clare *Vill Minstr* II 22 The woolly clouds Keep winnowing down their drifting sleet and snows 1871 H Taylor *Faust* I i 23 With wings that winnow blessing From Heaven through Earth I see them pressing

3 In various transf. uses: (cf. L. *ventilare* and Fan v 3–5) a. † To brandish or flourish (*obs*), to beat (the air) with or as with wings, to flap (the wings), to wave (the fins), also *intr* or with cognate obj, to follow a course with flapping wings, or the like.

1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* Arjvl (Arb) 75 Players haue chosen such a Champion as when I gaue the aduenture nowes his weapon 1667 Milton *P L* v 270 He Sailes between worlds & worlds, with steddie wing Now on the polar windes, then with quick Fann Winnowes the buxom Air 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 715 Their self taught wings Winnow the waving element 1793 [see Winnowing *ppl a*]. 1795 Burns *Now spring has clad the grass in green* iv, The waken d lav'rock Shall spring wi' joy her dewy wings In morning s rosy eye. 1820 Shelley *Prometh Unb* II i 7 Ye sea green plumes Winnow'd the crimson dawn 1844–1856 [see Winnowing *ppl a*] 1892 Miss C Mercedith *My Home in Tasmania* II xvii 252 Their [*sc* owls'] ghostly shapes winnow g silently around in the twilight 1869 [see Winnowing *ppl a*] 1893 Grisie *Lord Aylmerl* iv (1882) 78 In winnowing the air with his arms, he had struck against a wagonish stuff g on the r adway 1889 Newton in *Lucy I Bird* XXII 2097 After reaching a height at which it appears a mere speck where it winnows a random zigzag course, it shoots downwards

b Of the air etc. *trans* To fan with a breeze. *intr* To blow fitfully or in gusts

1796 Campbell *Gertrude* II 12 Where, winnowed by the gentle air Her silken tresses darkly flow 1820 [see Winnowing *ppl a*] 1827 Clare *Sheph Cal* 7 Falling snows that winnow by 1830 Andrews Reyn *Barbara Yorke* xxvii, Here upon th s great crest a purer air came winnowing in

**Winnow-cloth** Forms: see Winnow v. and Cloth A winnowing sheet

a 1404 *Durham Acc R Ib* (Surtees) 358 1 wyndowclyth, 1547 *Reg Magd Soc Camb's mats*, Anc windo cloth scontenand 12 ells 1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII 243 One window cloth 1894 *Northumbld Clocs*, *Winda-cloath*, winnowing cloth ] not called bed sheet

*B* 1552 Huloet, Wynew cloth, *ventilabrum* 1588–9 *Extr Burgh Rc Glasgow* (1876) I 129 Item, anc wonnow clayth, ane vnif, ane vthir, ane middill price 21s 1608 Tosselle *Serp nts* 262 Vn ter her hea l t hat l Oken l egg, with the Winn w cloth and the one end of an old Hop-bagge, cast ouer in steed of a Coueller 1900 Gross *Farm Glossl* (ed 2), *Winnar-cloth*, a large cloth on which corn is dighted or winnowed

**Winnowed** (wi nəud), *ppl a* [f. Winnow v +-ED 1] In various senses of the verb

The interpretation of quot 1600 has been much disputed, the passage is perh corrupt

1600 Shaks *Hamt* v ii 201 The most fond and winnowed opinions 1606—*Per* IV iv 374 Such a winnowed purrite in loue 1611 Florio, *Ag* , the chaffe comming from winnowed or bolted corne 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 217 When winnow d Chaff, by western winds is blown 1791 *Cowper Iliad* v 229 Heir steeds eating winnowed grain 1900 Morley *Cr m sell* II v 183 Faith that the God of Battles was on their side, nerved its chosen and winnowed its ha sh with scourge and fire

**Winnower** (wi nəuəɹ) [f Winnow v +-er 1]

1. One who winnows, a person engaged in winnowing; also *fig* (of next 1 b)

1382 [see Winnow v 1 b] 1538 Elyot, *Ventilator*, a vanner or winnower 1600 Dekker *Satiro-m Epistle to Lubr* Pref B 3 b, As a winnower pourgeth the chaffe from the corne c 1612 Chapman *Iliad* v 497 As in sacred floores of summer yeare corne winnowers fling flies In the windes *Museum Rust* IV 309 The seed carried into an heap near the winnowers is shook up a little by a caver 1849 Whittier *Leg N March* xiv, Scattered like chaff before the winnowers fan 1891 R H Vaughan *The mes of Aquin* II 646 He did not take for granted, like the Sophist He was a winnower and a sifter 1915 P S Oliver *Ordeal by Battle* ix, vii 178 [War] is a great winnower of true men fro n shams

2 An apparatus for winnowing, a winnowing-machine.

1604 Shr *Arch t ncon ry of Show Wills 1603–6* II 210 (MS.) To my sonne Thomas Culli sonne my wyndyers wh the best of my tooles 1882 J Wilson *Farming* 364 The winnowers used in such cases is not to differ in construction from those worked by hand 1888 *Lancet's Com Mag* Aug 508/1 The beans [of coffee are] then put through a winnower 1890 *Engineer* 12 Dec 472/1 Threshing machines are popular here, because the grain does not have to run through a winnower

**Winnowing** (wi nəuiŋ), *vbl. sb* [f. Winnow v. +-ing 1]

1. The process described s.v. Winnow v. 1.

a 1382 *Anc R* 370 Recalles sunen ofunden þe wynnom astunt of hire wyndwunge & nsoollen aslape 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* L ix 18 In þe wyndouynge þe caff is oute cast 1538 Elyot, *Ventilatio*, a fannynge or wynnowynge 1566 *Shuttleworths Acc* (Chetham Soc) 85 Wyndinge of barlie 1605 *Reeve's Bk Chesworth* (1910) 113 We look d in to y e wheat & upon winnowing in order to sale, found it in good condition 1733–11 *Gth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec* App II 128 (A machine) for the Dressing, Winnowing, and Cleansing of Flax 1886 Rogers *Agric & Prices* I xv 262 The win nowing was done by women

b. *fig* see Winnow v 1 b.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS* xxii 437 Whon þe wynewyng schal be ginne To parte euel from good 1636 J Goodwin *Child of Light* 14 In these commotions & winnowings of spirit 1679 in *Jrnl Friends Hist Soc.* (1910) XVI 146 That being a time of tryng & winnowing doth onely blow away the chaffe 1851 Gaylkkda *Holy* 303 Instead of undergoing a thorough sifting and winnowing, the free corps fell every day into a more deplorable state of disorder 1913 *Athenæum* 7 June 600/1 He has subjected the correspondence to a rigorous winnowing

2. Of wings, etc. see Winnow v 3. Chiefly *poet*

1844 Mrs Browning *Rhyme of Duchess May* Concl iv, Angel wings, with their holy winnowings. 1898 Kingsley *Glaucus* (ed 3) 120 Small cuttle fish put into a jar, will hover and dart in the water by rapid winnowings of their glassy side fins. 1897 F Thompson *New Poems* 52 The wings Hear I not in prævenient winnowings Of coming songs, that lift my hair and stir it?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb* (in sense 1), as *winnowing operation*, *place*; esp in names of appliances for winnowing, as *winnowing-basket*, *-cloth*, *-fan* (see Fan *sb* 1), *machine*, *mill*, *-sheet*, *-shovel*.

1577 *Inv Dymt Manor, Wandsworth* (Wm Chapter Muniim.) 1 wyndwyngsche debilis 1578 *Ibid* 1 Wynlyn scheis de Canabus. 1382 Wyclif *Matth* iii 12 Whos wynwyng cloth ] in his hond 1382 — *Luke* iii 17 Whos wynewyng tool in his hond 1382 — *Jer* xv 7 A wyndewynge instrument 1548 Udall *Erasm Par Luke* iii 17 Whose fan is in his hand, & wil purge the flour of his winnowyng place 1720 O Sandys *Acc Life* 35 They took away my Winnowing Fan, which was worth 8s 1773 *Tennyson Gas* 3 Bk Suppl 2 3 A winnowing mill 1780 Edmondson *Her Il Gentry Yorksh*, A Winnowing Sheet 1805 R W Dickson *Pract Agric.* I 31 Winnowing Machines of this sort are in pretty general use, where harvests are large 1882 Billings *Resour* vii (ed 8) 243 The man surceased his winnowing operations 1879 B Taylor *Germ Lit* viii 253 The win nowing mill of Time winkes and hawse with words considered immortal in their day 1886 *F W Line Glass* 8 v, A windening sheet

**Winnowing**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2] That winnows, in various senses of the verb

1851 *J Reading Guide to Holy City* 347 Tentation only hermetically sealed, it is as winnowing wheat 1891 Rutherford *Let to Lady Kenmure* 28 Sept, We are fallen in winnowing & trying times. 1793 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode to Hanw* Wks 1812 III 293 The winnowing Butterfly with painted wing 1820 Keats *Autumn* 11, Thy hair soft lifted by the winnowing wind 1885 Swinburne *Poems & Ball*, *Autumn* 110 After change of soaring feather And winnowing fin

Hence **Winnowingly** *adv*

1834 M Scott *Cruise Midge* (1859) 265 The wing of the blue Goshawk winnowingly winnowingly across

†**Winnow-sheet.** *Obs.* [f. Winnow v] A winnowing-sheet

c 1394 *P Pl. Creeds* 435 His wyf walked him wyb In a cutted cote Wrapped in a wynwe schete to weren him fro wedres. 1440 in W Wölcker 618/38 *Antiadoron* 2 a wynne [*printed* wynne] sheete. 1577 in H Hall *Soc. Hist. Ayr* (1886) App I 154, 16 sacks & two window sheets 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 103/1 To make Wind with a Winnow sheet 1808 *Sporting Mag* XXXI 123 Covered with a winnow sheet

†**Wi nnowster.** Chiefly *Sc Obt* Also 4 wynnowere, *Sc.* 6 vyndoustar, windostar, 7 windister; 9 winnister. [f. Winnow v +-ster] = Winnower (orig applied to a woman)

c 1325 *Cl st W. de Bibbesw* in Wright *Voc* 168 Par ven tresse (*gloss* a wynowestere) an ventre Payn de furme is entre 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xx 358 Ane vyndoustaris nij bollis mais. 1508 *Rentale Dunkeldense* (S H S 1915) 251 For the windostaris, 2s 8d [ls]. 1628 in A L. Rutche *Gleanings* (1880) 230 That no wo nomen being 70 Ladies windisteris, did spred much ye last Sabbothe at eftemoone 1825 Jamieson, *H nnr-ster*, *winnister*, *sb*, a machine for winnowing corn *Aberd.*

**Winnyard.** Obs. var Wheinyard

**Winraw, winrow**: see Windrow.

**Winsome** (wi nsəm), *a* Forms 1, 5 wynsum, 2–3 wunsum, 2, 4 winsum, 3 wonsom, 4 winsom, wonsum; 7–9 *n dial* wunsome, n– (in 8 only Sc) winsome. [OE. *wynsum* = Os *wunnsam*, OHG. *wunnisam* (MHG *wunn(me)sam*), f. *wynn* (= Wns *sb* 1 + *-sum* -some Sense 3 came into the literary language from northern dialects.]

1. OE. and M.L. senses.

†**1.** Pleasant, delightful, agreeable. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 612 Dær was hælepa hleahtor, hlyn swynsode, word wæron wynsume a 900 *O F Martyrol* 3 May, Pæron upp-ge here eorðan wynsumes wæstmes 1382 *Isaiah* 13 Pat is wynsum wong, wealdge grene *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 35 Hit wæl me punchen þet softeste bedd, and þet wunsemeste þet se eðre þhad *c* 1205 Lay 1287 He makede hi þon wenofed ane wunsum [*c* 1275 wonsom] for a þing *Juliana* 70 Hit coleðe anan ant war'd hire as wunsum as euer ani wlech wæter. a 1300 *Cursor M* 5792 A wonsum [*incl* wlatsum] & a wel smelland bath boun and mak

†**2.** Kindly, gracious; merciful. *Obs rare*

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* v xxii (1890) 472 He was se swetesta larowe & se wynsumesta [L. *suauissimus*]. *c* 1205 Lay 1253 Þeos wes se wunsume hure monnen. a 1300 *A. E. Psalter* ca[ ]. 3 Þat wunsom es to alle þine wickenesses.

II. Modern senses

3 Pleasing or attractive in appearance, handsome, comely; of attractive nature or disposition, of winning character or manners.

1877 W. Nicolson in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1890) Ser II IX 322 *Wunsome*, neat, pleasant 1796 W. Hamilton *Iernt of Varvon* I, Busk ye, busk ye, my bony bony bride, Busk ye, busk ye, my winsome marrow 1798 Burns *My Wyfe s a wansome wee thing* 1, She is a winsome wee thing, She is a handsome wee thing, She is a bonnie wee thing 1818 Scott *Br Lammm* xiv, If the young folk liked ane anither, they wad make a winsome couple 1833 H Cole ridge *Poems*, *Sonn* viii The rugged rock that bare the winsome flowr Is weak and feather d 1843 Lytton *Last Bar* iv viii, I know thou art fair and winsome 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* v vi 1 276 Harry broke into his own sonie laugh 1880 Buchanan *Harvest Lamm* xix, She looked very winsome in her plain black dress

4 Cheerful, joyous, gay *dial*

1787 Grose *Prov Gloss Wunsome* smart, trimly dressed lively, joyous N 1825 Brockett *N C Gloss*, *Wunsome wunsome*, lively, cheerful, gay

Hence **Wi nsomely** *adv*, **Wi nsomeness** in senses 3 and 4 of the adj. (OE *wynsumlice*, *wynsumnes* did not survive.)

17 *Yock o the Side* xxv in Child *Ballads* iv 280 O Jock was winsomely 1 yo ride, Wi lauth your feet upo ne side! 1893 Jamieson, *Wi nsomely*, in a cheerful and engaging way *Wi nsomeness*, cheerfulness and engaging sweetness 1873 Mrs Randolph *Wild Hyacinth* I, She could not have been called beautiful, but there was a winsomeness in Hyacinth Estrick's face that rendered criticism a hard and unpleasant task 1887 Bowen *Virg Æneid* vi 1 Thus they fly's Who came forward and most winsomely shook hands with us

**Wint**, ol s ( Wind *sb* 1, obs 3 sing of Wind v 1

**Winter** (wi ntəɹ), *sb* 1 Forms *Sing* 1–m ter, 3 *Orm* winnterr, 3–7 wynter, (4 weinter, *Sc* wyntir), 4–5 wintur, wintre, wyntre, wyntur, -yr(e (4–6 winter, *Sc* wintir), 5 wintir, (wantare, wintiur, whyntre, wyntyr, 6 wintter). *Plural* 1 wintru (*gen* wintra), 2–4 wintre, 4–5 wyntre, *dat* 1 wintrum, 2 wintron, 2–3 en, 1–6 winter, (3 *Orm* winnterr, 4 wynter, etc as in sing), 4–6 wynter, 1 wintras, 3–5 wintres, 4 5 wyntres, (4 winters, -es, etc), 4– winters, 4–5 wyntren [OI. *vinter* str m = Ofris *winter*, OS *wintar* (MLG, MDu, LG, Du *winter*), OHG. *wintar* (MHG, G *winter*), ON. *vetr*, earlier *vetrr*, *vitr* (Sw, Da *vinter*, from ON.), Goth. *wintrus* — **wintrus*: prob t nasalized form of the Indo-Iur base *wed* wod-, *ud-* to be wet, found in Wet *a*, Water *sb*, Otter

Originally a n stem, OE *wintru* had regularly gen (rare) and dat. sing in *a*, but the ordinary gen sing in *es* dat sing in *e* and *ene* (from *n*) are found from the earliest inflection, show general assimilation to other declensions]

1. The fourth and coldest season of the year, coming between autumn and spring, reckoned astronomically from the winter sol-tice to the vernal equinox, l e in the northern hemisphere from the 22nd of December to the 20th of March; in popular use comprising the months of December, January, and February, or, according to some, November, December, and January), also often in contradistinction to *summer*, the colder half of the year (cf. Midwinter) In the southern hemisphere corresponding in time to the northern summer.

(a) In general use (Also perso fied)

c 888 *Ælfred Boeth* xxvi § 1 Ic ongemearn hit bi[ swearm, & on wintra ce old a 1000 *c* 1200 *Ags Ps* [see Summer *sb* 1 (a)] *a* 1250 *Owl & Nt* 458 Ne recche ich nouht of wintres te me 1377 Langl *P Pl B* xvi 8 Ac mon in May see in wynter vileþ hem in boure 1382 Wyclif *Isa* xviii 6 Alle the bestes of erthe vp on hym shul dwelle al wynter *c* 1450 Cargrave *Life St Catherine* (1880) 130 Pat he no more dwelle in Wyntir bann in Somyr *c* 1460 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 766 Wyntur with hit lokkys grey fal fle & old *c* 1530 *Songs, Ess &c* (E E T S) 133 Wynter rigbit, Wynter rigbit, Wynter getith. 1538 *Durham Housekp Bk* (Surtees) 192 In agestaments vnto euyn in wynter, 10d 1552 Record *Cast Calais* (1908) 53 Hauens continued till the twelft day of December, & then doth the Sea enter in to apt corn, & Winter beginneth 1600 Shaks *A* 1 / v iv 142 You and you, are sure together As the Winter to fowle Weather 1647 Cowley *Mistress* xiv, Love in extremes is Winter's growth 1718 Pope *Sum Mar* 28 † (a)] 1786 Burns *Tam o Shan* 150 Thro winters cauld, or simmers heat 1820 Keats *Autumn* iv 86 Winter came the wind was his whip One chopp y finger was on his lip 1824 Loudon *Encycl Gardening* (ed 2) 893 The season called winter by the natives of South America, lasting from May to November 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lii, Store of fire wood for the w nter

(b) In particularized use, with qualification, or as denoting the season in a certain year:

*Beowulf* 1228 Hengest ða gyt waiffæge winter wunode mid Finn 972 *Blickl Hom* 213 Wæs se winter eac þy læssa þonne gimm [*sic*] sume, and he forð xxxeahte 2 mos Lay 6034 Aure alche wintre inne Wales heo wunne þa 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 338 In raukrynze [he] layt till the wynt ner was gone 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI 81 After an hard wynter 1398 — *Barth De P R* iv iv (Add. MS 27944) If þe winter before hande was an springinge tyme sote and moyst. 1599 Shaks *Lone Lab* III ii 200, I warrant, her ragges and the Tallow in them will burne a Poland Winter. 1634 Laud *Diary* Oct –Dec, God bless us in the spring, after this green winter 1760 Chron Pomfret in *Chest Hart ford's Cent* (1893) II 101 Mr Walpole and Mr Dashwood stay the winter 1820 Crabbe *Borough* xxii, 232 A winter past & since Peter saw the town, And summer lodgers were again received

(c) Phr *winter and summer* see Summer *sb* 1 2 (c)

b. With reference to the chilling or injurious effect of winter, esp. on plants; *transf.* a period resembling winter, wintry or cold weather.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se wind [sephirus] towyrpð &

fæwnā nēcne winter. 1399 Dallan in *Early Voy. Lavond* (Hakl. Soc.) 84 This day we had bothe wynter and somer. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III. vi. 33 The Swallow followes not Summer more willing, then we your Lordship. *Wint.* Nor more willingly leaues Winter, such Summer Birds are men. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 913 When.. bellowing Clouds.. with an armed Winter storm the Ocean. 1757 [Burke] *Early Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxii. II. 241 The second sort, which.. bears the winter better, is a more tall and vigorous plant. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 467 They stood the Winter well. **b.** In fig. and allusive use, esp. in reference to old age, or to a time or state of affliction or distress.

1590 Greene *Never too Late* (1600) D 1, I am driuen in the winter of my yeares to abide the brunt of all stormes. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. i. 1 Now is the Winter of our Discontent, Made glorious Summer by this Son of Yorke. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 24. 1688 R. Steele *Husbandman's Calling* III. (1692) 35 Prosperity.. nourisheth so many weeds, that like winter of affliction hath much ado to master them. 1746 Shenstone *Song, Winter* 16 When will relenting Delia chase The winter of my soul? 1892 J. Taylor *Enthusi.* x. 296 What has been done is not lost; the seed sown may spring up even after a century of winter. 1849 Froude *Nem. Faith* vii. (ed. 2) 48 It is night and day..with all of us, if we want to live in health. To be well, we must have pain when there will come a North Pole winter. 1869 Tennyson *Passing of Arthur* 4 When the man was..In the white winter of his age.

2. Put for 'year': nearly always *pl.* with a numeral; often in expressions referring to a person's age.

In early use as a mere synonym of 'year'; later *poet.* or *rhet.*, chiefly in reference to advanced age or to a protracted period of hardship or misfortune (cf. 1 c, and Summer 2b.† 9). See also Twinter, Twelfwinter.

*Beowulf* 2209 Syfðhan Beowulfe brǽdde rice on hand ǽhtweard', he ǽghveal tela fiftig wintra. c 900 *Saxon Genesis* in *O. E. Texts* 1536 Twa wæs agan his eðle xxiii wintra. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John II. 20 þis tempel was getimbrod on six & feowertigum wintron [*Hatton* wintrum]. 1254 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Se þet lasteð þa xix winter wile Stephne was king. a 1300 *Moral Ode* 4 in *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þah ich be a wintre old to ȝung ich em on rede. c 1205 Lay. 9028 Þou and twenti winter þis lond he iwalde. *Hist. Holy Rood-tree* (1871) 11 Þah þan I wonn sixteen winter. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 132 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Vele wintre hit is ago þe prophete hit seyde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XII. 3, I haue folwed þe in fiftene and fourty wintre.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. xiv, Þa Lucedemonia beseten þa burg Messianie x winter. a 1000 *De manna uyrftum* 9 God ana wat hwæt him wæs to donne ær þan þe he geworhte Oþþe ær þa fiowertigum wintron [*Hatton* wintrum]. 1254 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Se þet lasteð þa xix winter wile Stephne was king. a 1300 *Moral Ode* 4 in *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þah ich be a wintre old to ȝung ich em on rede. c 1205 Lay. 9028 Þou and twenti winter þis lond he iwalde. *Hist. Holy Rood-tree* (1871) 11 Þah þan I wonn sixteen winter. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 132 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Vele wintre hit is ago þe prophete hit seyde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 3, I haue folwed þe in fiftene and fourty wintre.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. xiv, Þa Lacedemonia beseten þa burg Messianie x winter. a 1000 *De manna uyrftum* 9 God ana wat hwæt him wæs to donne ær þan þe he geworhte Oþþe ær þa fiowertigum wintron [*Hatton* wintrum] gesette. c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 65 Fully twenty winter yeer by yeere He hadde of Israel the gouernance. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxx. 46 Þe þat be o fiftene winter elde. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 128/273 The elder broþer hade a Sonne to clerke, Well of fyftene wynter of age. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 42 An hundreth wynter [*ed.* 1570 winters], I say. 1548 *Werdē & Child* (Facs.) A ij b, Now I am .xix. wynter olde.

c 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 1221 Winters forð-wexen on ȝsaac. 13.. *Cursor M.* 8082 (Cott.) Wit hundi..liuid hot wynters .vij. and .ix. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 502 Holy Kirke hafa ben in errours mony hundred wynters. c 1400 *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 261 A gayne xvij wyntersonde. 1490 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxiv. 467 Thus kynyglydes endured yeres and wynters tyl Alysander was bygge and stronge. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 260 What is sixe Winters, they are quickly gone? 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 143, I loue a man Of eighte winters. 1784 Cowper *Tirocin.* 210 Ere sixteen winters old. 1833 Tennyson *Palace of Art* 139 A hundred winters seaward upon his breast.

c 1400 *St. Jer. 15 Tokens* 22 In þilk age he schal arise þat god was inne ded, Of liist more þan xxti winter.

*sing.* c 1420 Hoccleve *De Regimine Princ.* 1 Þe tryst þat hab ben with-in þis landes.. many a wyntres space. c 1460 Mettham *Wks.* (1916) 84 Jon Metham..trauiaiyd yt in-to Englych the wyst wynyst þis sye age.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* **a.** = Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of winter; adapted or appropriate to, used or occupied in, winter; existing, appearing, active, flourishing, or performed in winter.

(*a*) of natural phenomena, animals, plants, etc.

a 1000 *Phænix* 18 Ne wearm weder ne winterscur. 1300 *Cursor M. Cott.* I. 35 The seuuen wynter shoures. 1500 *Lord Berners* 35/6 Wynter dewe. 1576–7 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 318, v whyes, of iiij yeres olde, vj winter whies, 18*l.* 1594 Hicman *Serm. Paules Cr.* 19/2 Winter *alcyon*,..a winter birde commonly called the kinges fisher. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 110 Thou Flea, thou Nit, thou winter cricket thou. 1600 *Fenerak. Wills* (Surtees) I. 223, I geve to Anne..one olde winter stocke of bees. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 174 Blow, blow, thou winter winde. 1657 Rutherford *Let. to E. Stuard* 37 June, The winter-well will goe dry again in summer. 1659 J. Clarke *Parcem.* 263 Winter thunder, is old mens wonder. 1663 Walton *Angler* To Rdr. A 7, Winter-fish, all Anglers know,..are as useful as an Almanack out of date. 1727 Pope *Iliad* x. 300 His Coursers..white as Winter-Snow. 1727 Phos *Alma* II. 534 Cast your Eye By Night upon a Winter-Sky. 1758 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 34 Repelling Winter Blasts with Moss and Straw. 1773 G. White *Selborne*, To *Pennant* 9 Nov. The..stock-dove..seldom appearing till towards the end of November; is usually the winter-bird of passage. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* III. xxviii, The rose..shall bloom in winter snow, Ere we two meet again. 1850 *Bo-k's Florist* 115 A pleasing and interesting winter-bird is the Glastenbury Thorn. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xx. 244 The most solid winter-ice is open here and there. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 138 A..bridge..across the bed of a winter torrent. 1869 Tennyson *Passing of Arthur* 221 The winter moon, Brightening the skirts of a long cloud.

(*b*) of clothing, provisions, etc., accommodation (also Winter-house, Winter quarters); of localities in their winter state and things associated with the winter.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. viii, Þæt he huton sorge mehte on þam wintersetle gewunian. a 1000 *Phænix* 290 Forst & snaw..corþan þeccaþ wintergewunan. c 1000 *Rectitudines* ix. (Liebermann 450), VIII pund cornes to mete; I sceap oððe III þ to wintersalfe. 1295 *Cartular. Abb. de Whitby* (Surtees 1868) II. 568 De wynterfare..xxvi s. De lanyfare ..xi *li.* xv. *li.* d. De halfare..xviii *s.* *Ye* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* iii. 98 The lawe dide hym compelle .. his wynter fees to selle. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 351 The winte wonyng. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 188 Pasture.. reserayt to the abbay, sale the wynter pastur. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 440/1 Wyntir haule, *hibernacium*, *hibernaculum*. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Tablinum*, was a wynter parlour, wherein were painted tables and bokes of stories. 1568 Knollys in *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 513 Unprouided of sufficient wynter garments. 1575 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 406 Another Close for Winter ground. 1592 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1218 As winter meads when sun doth melt their snow. 1628 May *Virg. Georg.* I. 53 Some sink up late at winter-fires. 1653 Walton *Angler* xii. 292 A winter bait for a Roch. 1675 Hannah Woolley *Gentlew. Comp.* 215 Provide your Winter-Butter and Cheese in the Summer. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xxiv. 102 Have some winter Boots made of it, they'le never take in a drop of Water. 1725 Cyrus Whitworth *Mem. Peace* 36 Birds have dropt their Winter-plumes. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* III. vi. 46 Black Velvet Scarfs..are a handsome Winter-wear. 1729 Fenton in *Wycherley's Wks.* (Globe) 1. p. xxxiv, When the Sun retir'd.. to the six Winter-Signs of the Zodiac; short'ning the days. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 97 So Ships in Winter-Seas.. defy the Storm. 1760, 1797 Winter-lodge [see Hibernaculum 3, Hibernacle 3]. 1814 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi, Six folk tell ower at a winter-ingle. 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Mark* 27 The warm angled winter-screen. 1842 W. F. Ainsworth *Yezin Edhem* II. 294 The winter rains..fall..in the longer portion of valley. 1849 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 577 [Celery] is ..cultivated as a winter salad. 1864 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 484 To harrow in Swedish turnips ploughing the winter-furrow. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Or* 352/2 After being kept on winter-fodder, they are turned out in grass fields. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxxv, The winds.. We heard them sweep the winter land. 1859 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 38 A glacier..is the outlet of..vast reservoirs of winter-ice, a prolongation of the winter-world above. 1894 Armatage *Horse* v. 73 A horse with his natural winter coat. 1904 Bridges *Demeter* I. 282, I think he watch'd a summer butterfly Creep out all crumpled from his winter-cell. 1910 J. Watt *Scottish Bee-k.* iv. 77 There was a 'winter-room' on the south side.

(*c*) of times and seasons. (See also Winter-day, -tide, -time.)

a 1000 *Genesis* 370, & moste [ic] ane tid ute weorþan, wesan ane wintersunde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 82 The blake winter nicht. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1364 Þe blake nightes fade in Scotland in winter seson. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 77 The lang winter nicht. 1559 W. Cunyngham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 34 The Sonne is of vse in winter more profitable in the South. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knocked and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1579 Fenton *Gold. Epistle* 1. 22 b, Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1585 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1589 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*d*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*e*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*f*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*g*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*h*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*i*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*j*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*k*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*l*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*m*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*n*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*o*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*p*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*q*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*r*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*s*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*t*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*u*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*v*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*w*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*x*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*y*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

(*z*) of actions or conditions.

a 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wille. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Thinges doone ..in the Winter mornynges. *Ibid.* 42 The Male (Hempe).. is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. 23 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1685 Hoon *Sapynge* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rose..flowreth fashionably a whole moneth and more in the smilling summer of nature, and June..was fast approaching. 1889 Lowell (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire.

blasted by the cold of winter: said esp. of grain or other crops; so **winter-killing**; **winter-long** *a.*, as (tediously) long as winter; *adv.*, through a whole winter; **winter-love**, cold or conventional love; **winter-old** *a.*, that has lasted since the beginning of winter; **winter ova**, eggs produced by certain invertebrates at the approach of winter (cf. *summer ova* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6); **winter-piece** [*Pièce sb.* 17 b, d], a picture or description of a winter scene; **winter-pride**, the condition of being winter-proud; **winter-proud** *a.*, (of wheat or other crops) too luxuriant in winter; **winter-rig** *v.* (now *dial.*), *trans.* to plough (land) in ridges and lay it fallow for the winter (cf. WINTER-FALLOW); **winter-rot** [ROT *sb.*[2] 2], a disease incident to sheep in the winter; † **winter-stall**, a hive in which bees are kept during the winter; † **winter story**, *tale*, an idle tale (also *winter's tale*: see 3 b).

1888 ROBERTSON & JAMESON *Autumn Life* 709 The *Phytoptalaemata* [among *Polyzoa*] also reproduce by statoblasts or 'winter buds.' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 103 The mani TATTOO'd or woaded, 'a wolf's skin. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 507 'Winter close hit al To holde out colde. 1895 HOFFMAN *Beginnings of Writing* 35 These chronological records are designated as winter counts, as each event covers that period of time between the end of one summer and the beginning of the next. 1872 H. C. BARTON *Regin. Life* II. 514 The so-called "winter-eggs" of the beautiful...Rotifer...*Stephanoceros*. 1728 ANDERSON *Spec.* No. 477 P 1 A 'Winter Garden, which would consist of such Trees only as never cast their Leaves. 1769 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xxiv. (1774) 448 In a climate, like ours, the inside of a house should be a winter-garden, open to the sun, sheltered from wind, dry under foot, and having the appearance of summer by variety of evergreens. 1889 GUNTER *Theat Frederick* xvi. 197 The great conservatory, or winter garden, as it is called in that country, and without which no grand Russian house is complete. 1849 *Trans. Soc. Arts Illustr. Exhib. Bournemouth* etc. 92 Not far from the pier entrance is the Winter Garden and Pavilion. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 86 To have in reserve a winter hired old pasture, which the ewes and lambs can fall back on. 1667-8 *Act 20-20 Chas. II*, *c.* 8 § 10 The time of the 'Winter heyning (that is to say) from the Eleventh day of November to the Three and twentieth day of April. 1813 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 37 The Dung of these [sheep] in Summer, with Winter-hauing, will keep the Ground in good Heart. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1870) 405 The White Mediterranean and Sandomirka wheats were badly 'winter-killed. *Ibid.* 17 The early reports...were generally favorable, and noted by the absence of 'winter-killing. *c* 1320 *Lai le Freine* 143 Al the 'winter long night. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* IV. 193 How winter-long between them there the sweets of sloth they nursed. 1648 J. JONES *Dicaeo, Pactores etc*, Wha a deale of cold busines doth a man wast and the best part of life in! in wattering compliments, tendring visits,...making a little 'winter-love in a darke corner. 1897 H. *Nansen's Farthest North* II. v. 194 Ice which can hardly be 'winter old, or at any rate has been formed since last summer. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3406 He pointed out the difference between the ordinary ova and those called "winter ova", which last he proposed to call ephippial ova. 1877 [see *summer ova* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6]. 1888 ROLFE STIMSON & JACKSON *Amer. Life Ins.* 104 (of Insurers) are of three kinds, small male ova, thin-shelled summer ova, and thick-shelled winter or, better, resting ova. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 17 July, To agree with...[the Dutch Pauter]...for a 'winter piece of snow. 1897 *Athenæum Extr. Virgil's Georgics* P 12 The Scythian Winter-piece appears so very cold and bleak to the Eye, that a Man can scarce look on it with out shivering. 1. HISCOTT tr. *Stahlberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. xlii. 70 The fried [painting] is a winter piece. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 93 Sow old wheat at the first and earliest sowing, and for 'winter-pride. 1. HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. II. 502 When either corne is 'winter-prowd, or other plants put forth and bud too earely, by reason of the mild and warme aire. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 146 When the wheat is winter-proud, which commonly happens after a mild season..."that luxuriance" ought to be checked by eating it down with sheep. 1846 J. *Mem. Lidr. Fracd. Agric. Soc.* VII. 307 There is danger of the crop running to straw, or becoming what is called winter-proud. 1662 M. STEVENSON *Twelve Months* 39 At the end of this moneth [August] begin to sow all fruitfull 'winter-soyls. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 140 Against the 'winter rotte, or hunger rotte, you must provide to feede them [sc. sheep] at home in stitches. 1875 *Treas. of Bell* 40 in *O. E. Misc.* 148 Pickure hi hongeb..Pan don been in 'wynterstal. 1587-8 *Wills & Inv. Durh.* (Surtees) II. 312, iij wynter stalles of bees. 1846 [see STALL *sb.*[1] 4]. 1699 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 239 A mere 'winter-story without any ground or reason. 1556 ORDE *Antichrist* 7 According to olde wives fables and 'winter tales. 1637 C. IVOR *Warn. to H. Hurtlers* 8 Such winter tales as it were too great a muspence of time and words to refute them.

**b.** In names of animals and plants that are active or flourish in winter or in the winter half of the year (often rendering L. *hiemalis* as a specific name), or of late-ripening fruits (cf. 3 c): **winter-bloom**, (*a*) a late-flowering species of *Arctotis*; (*b*) the American witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginica*, which blossoms late in autumn and ripens its fruit the following year; **winter bunting**, the snow bunting (see BUNTING *sb.*[1] 1); **winter clover**, the partridge-berry, *Mitchella repens*; **winter daffodil**, a late-blooming yellow-flowered amaryllid, *Sternbergia lutea*, cultivated in gardens; **winter duck**, (*a*) the pintail duck (see PINTAIL 2); (*b*) in *U. S.*, the long-tailed duck, *Harelda glacialis*; **winter falcon**, the young of the red-shouldered buzzard, *Buteo lineatus*; **winter finch**, a N. American species of finch (see quot.); **winter flounder** (see quot.); **winter-flower**, (*a*) *gen.* a flower blooming in winter; (*b*) *spec.* the early-blooming Japan allspice, *Chimonanthus fragrans* [a rendering of the generic name]; † **winter gilly-flower**, the wallflower (see quot. 1597); **winter grape**, an American species of grape-vine, *Vitis cordifolia*; **winter-gull**, any species of gull which appears in winter in a particular locality, as the common gull, the black-headed gull, or the herring-gull; **winter hawk**, the red-shouldered buzzard (cf. *winter falcon*); **winter heath** (see quot.); **winter-mew** = *winter-gull*; **winter midge** (see quot.); **winter-moth**, any of various geometer moths which come forth in winter, esp. *Cheimatobia brumata*; **winter-pick** [? PICK *v.*[5]], a local name for the sloe when mellowed by frost, used for making a tisane wine; **winter quarening**, a late-ripening variety of apple, which keeps well through the winter; **winter redbird** *local*, the cardinal grosbeak, *Cardinalis virginianus*, which winters in some parts of N. America (cf. *summer redbird* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter rooket**, the common winter-cress, *Barbarea vulgaris* (see ROCKET *sb.*[2] 3); **winter rose**, (*a*) a rose blooming in winter; (*b*) ? the Christmas rose, *Helleborus niger*; **winter-shad**, the mud-shad, *Dorosoma cepedianum*; **winter snipe**, the purple sandpiper or rock-snipe, *Tringa striata* or *maritima* (cf. *summer snipe* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter squash**, a species of pumpkin, *Cucurbita maxima* (cf. *summer squash* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b); **winter strawberry**, the strawberry-tree = ARBUTUS; **winter-sweet** = *Winter Sweet Marjoram* (see MARJORAM); **winter teal**, the green-winged teal (see TEAL 2); cf. *summer teal* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 6 b; **winter-thorn**, a late-ripening variety of pear; **winter-ware** = *winter-wood*; **winter-wood**, small woods which survive and flourish in winter; *esp.* the ivy-leaved and field speedwells, *Veronica hederæfolia* and *V. agrestis*. See also *winter* ACONITE, HELIOTROPE, HELLEBORE, HEMP, MARJORAM, RAPE (*sb.*[6]), SAVORY, WAGTAIL, WREN.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 'Winter Bloom. *Asalea.* 1884 MILLER *Plantæ...Mexicanæ* 1 *Chamænerion*. American Witch-Hazel...Winter-bloom. 1813 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 369 'Winter Bunting (*Emberiza hyemalis*). 1884 MILLER *Plantæ...Mexicanæ* 1 *Chamænerion*. Chequer-berry, Partridge-berry. 1. 'Winter Clover. *Ibid.*, *Sternbergia lutea*. 'Winter Daffodil. 1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 360 Pintail Duck. Sea Pheasant, Cracker, or 'Winter Duck. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 509 'Winter Falcon...With a black bill; yellow cere:..appears at approach of winter, and retires in the spring. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 312 'Winter Finch. Found at New York, in the winter. 1809 EDMONDSTON *Zetland Isl.* I. 240 Ling..are known by the name of 'winter fish. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes R. Cent. N. & Middle St.* 16 *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*. Common flounder; 'winter-flounder; mud dab. 1733 POPE *Let. to Richardson* 10 June, I hope to see you..before this 'Winter-flower is faded. 1. Still called for Lorimers till Tomorrow Night. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxiii. 371 The people in Cheshire do call them 'Winter Gilloflowers. 1615 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* vi. (1623) 12 Wall-flowers, commonly called Bee-flowers, or Winter Gilly-flowers. 1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 169 *Vitis cordifolia*...commonly called 'Winter-grape or Chicken-grape. 1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 220 'Winter Gull. 'Winter Mew, or Coddy Moddy. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornithol. Biog.* I. 364 The 'Winter Hawk. *Falco hyemalis*, Gmel. 1880 *Garden* 14 Jan. 17/1 This 'Winter Heath (*Erica carnea*) is a low growing shrub is one of the best of all winter blooming plants. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 350 The 'Winter-Mew, called in Cambridge-shire Coddy-Moddy. 1892 L. HOWARD *Migrat. of Birds* II. 288 The appearance of..gnats. The first that appear are called 'winter midges (*Trichocera hyemalis*). 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 329 *Smerinthus brumaria*. The 'Winter Moth. 1865 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* XXIV. 126 The Winter Moth (*Chimatobia brumata*). 1866 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* 118 "Winterpick-wine" takes the place of sloe wine in the rustic cellar. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort. Jan.* (1669) 21 Apples..Holland-pepin, John-apple, 'Winter-Quarening. 1714 J. LAWSON *Carolina* 108 Winter Quarening is a durable Cyder-apple, and makes good Cyder. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146/1 Our lively cardinal grosbeak..is known as the "'winter red bird", because more of a songster in December than in June. 1792 SCOTT *Vil. Th.* 120 The "winter Rose must blow, the Sun put on its brighter Beam in Leo. 1892 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* iv. 88 Clumps of winter-roses lay between the silver candlesticks. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 499 In the Chesapeake region it is known as the 'Mud-Shad', "'Winter-Shad', or 'Stink Shad'. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxix. 109 The vine of a species called by the colonists 'winter-grape. *a* 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Remarks on Virgil* (1768) 29 The Arbutus cannot here mean the "Winter-Strawberry. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, "'Winter sweet, *Origanum heracleoticum*. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Pear* ¶ 4/2 The 'winter-thorn.

**Winter**, *sb.*[2] [Origin uncertain.

Perhaps originating as a jocular antithesis to the *summer* or upper rail or cross-bar of the hand-printing press (SUMMER *sb.*[2] 2c). Connexion with north. dial. *winter* = trivet is uncertain.]

In a hand-printing press, a block of wood about nine inches broad by nine deep, supporting the carriage and having a tenon at each end to fit into corresponding mortices in the cheeks.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* II. P 4 The Length of the Winter besides the Tennants, is one Foot nine Inches. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 298. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 156.

**Winter**, *v.* [f. WINTER *sb.*[1] after L. *hiemare* (in senses 1, 2), *hibernare* (in sense 1); cf. MHG., MLG., Du. *wintern* (G. *wintern*), ON. *vetra*.]

1. *intr.* To pass or spend the winter; to stay or reside (at a specified place) during the winter; (of animals) to find, or be provided with, food and shelter in the winter.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 12 If on ony maner thei myyten come to Fenyce, for to wynterne in the hauene of Crete. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 12 The haven was nott commodius to wynter in. 1535 COVERDALE *Jos.* xvii. 6 The beastes of the earth wyntered there. 1668 DRYDEN *Essen. Love* II. i, Birds that breed in one Countrie, and goe to winter in another. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, Discovering a Leak we unshipped our Goods and winter'd there. 1801 A. MACKENZIE *Voy. Mountain* Fur Trade p. xxvii, About a third of these [middlemen] went to winter, and had more than double the above wages. 1828 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations* xv, What savage unsocial nights must our ancestors have spent, wintering in caves and unillumined fastnesses! 1828 DARVILL *Engl. Rural Econ.* Introd. 24 In Mr. Crude's land a farm at Redland, in Gloucestershire, at which place his horses usually wintered. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. ii. 45 The heathen men wintered for the first time in the Isle of Sheppey. *fig.* 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Parish* iii, 'The Miss Willises..seemed to have no separate existence, but to have made up their minds just to winter through life together.

2. *trans.* To keep or maintain during winter; *esp.* to provide (animals) with food and shelter in winter. (Also said of the food, or of the land.)

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntyn', or kepe a thynge al the wyntyr, *yemo*. 1850-7 TOM *Rur. Econ.* (Surtees) II. 306 To wynter theme [sc. two ox twinters] into such tyme as thei be able to drawe. 1570-1 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 594 Item for keppyng 2^o^ Swannes and wynteryng them..xxiij*s*. 1580 *Amaroth. Wills* (Surtees) II. 139 My wief..to sowe and sasmuche haie as will wynter hir. 1697 TOSSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 603 They summered them [sc. sheep] in Apulia, they wintered them in Sunnium. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat. Hist.* Oct. (1744) 135 If I keep more Sheep than I can Winter. 1824 LOUDON *Green-houses Comp.* I. 15 The sickly condition of plants wintered in such of these houses as will do well. 1882 *Garden* 28 Mar. 187/3, I have given up wintering Cauliflower plants. 1883 *Standard* 3 Apr. 3/5 It should be the aim of the grass-land farmer to summer as many and winter as few animals as possible.

† **b.** *fig.* To maintain (an opinion) through a period of trial. (Cf. *to summer and winter* s.v. SUMMER *sb.*[1] 3 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1628 Bp. HALL *Christ. Moderation* The Vnconstant..what he will be next, as yet he knoweth not; but ere hee haue Wintred his opinion, it will be manifest. 1628 T. ADAMS *Serm. Heb. xiii. 8* Wee, (1629) 859 To winter an opinion is too tedious: hee hath beene wary that would lose will bee, you shall scarce know, till hee is nothing.

† **3.** *intr.* To lie or become wintry. *Obs. rare.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 430/1 To Wyntyr, *brumare, brumescere*. † **4.** *fig. infl.* Detained by winter weather, winter-bound. *Obs. rare.*

1555 *Eden Decades* (Arb.) 251 They sayled to the 49. degree and a halfe vnder the pole Antartyke; where being wyntered, they were inforced to remayne.

**5.** *trans.* To affect like winter, subject to wintry conditions; to make wintry; to chill, freeze. Chiefly *fig.* (cf. WINTER *sb.*[1] 1 c).

1592 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsence Wks.* (1630) II. 371 Time that now summers him, wil one day winter him. 1628 FORD *Lover's Melanch.* III. i, I am wintred in the tempests of affliction. 1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 355 Experience has wintered the aspect of the future. 1827 MERESWITH *Poetics* (1894) 304 They uttered noises that wintered the blood.

**Winterage** (wintərédʒ). *local.* Also **-idge**. [f. WINTER *v.* + **-AGE**.] The action of wintering cattle; food or pasture for cattle in winter.

1848 *Craven Gloss., Wintridge*, the same as average. 1888 *Times* 8 Nov. 5/6 [In Galway] 'Winterage' is land hired to place cattle on in the winter months.

† **Winteran.** *Obs.* In Winteran bark [tr. mod.L. *cortex Winterianus*], erron. *bark of Winteran* = WINTER'S BARK.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* II. 58 The bark of Winteran half a pound. 1694 PECHEY *Compl. Herbal* 348 Winteranbark.

**Winterberry** (wintərbĕri). Any of several N. American species of holly (*Ilex*, formerly *Prinos*) with berries, usually scarlet, which persist through the winter; esp. *Ilex verticillata* (also called Black Alder) and *I. lævigata* (Smooth Winterberry). Also, the fruit of any of these.

1758 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7), *Prinos*. Winterberry. 1770 C. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Prinos verticillatus*, the winterberry tree in swamps. 1832 J. BREM *St. Herbert's Isle* 147 Brambled paths, where winter-berries hang. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 172 A vigorous growth of winter-berry, laden with its crimson fruit.

**Winterbourne** (wintərbōʊrn). [OE. *winterburna*, f. WINTER *sb.*[1] + *burna*, BOURN(E *sb.*[1], BURN *sb.*[1] As a place-name *Winterbourne* is distributed over Wiltshire and Dorset together with s.w. Berks and s.w. Gloucestershire; there is also a *Winterburn* in Yorkshire. The mod. use of the word as a common name has not been satisfactorily accounted for.] An intermittent stream, such as those found in chalk and limestone districts, which flows only in winter or at long intervals.

930 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II 346 [Gloucestershire] In winterburnan swa an o3enne winterburnian. *c950 Lindisf Gosp.* John xviii 2 Ofer þæt burna *est* unterburnana [L. *trans torrentem*]

[1774 J. Hutchins *Hist Dorset* I. Introd p lxxv, Winter born N. rises at Winterborn Howton This rivulet seldom runs farther than Clenston in the summer, and thus answers to its Saxon name Winterburn]

1852 Kingsley *Yeast* i. One of those noble springs known as winter-bourns in the chalk ranges 1882 Jukes Brownes *Phys. Geol* 86 The mailbourns [see Evelbourn] and winterbournes of the south of England are caused by a gradual rise in the line of saturation under the chalk hills till the water reaches a level at which there is free egress into some valley or depression 1895 Saintsbury *Ess Engl Lit.* Ser II 79 The flashing of the winterbournes as they spring from the turf where they have lain hid

**Winter cherry.**

**1.** Name for several plants of the nightshade tribe (N. O. *Solanaceæ*) with cherry-like fruit which is ripe in winter; also, the fruit itself. **a.** The common English name of Alkekengi, a European herb bearing a round scarlet fruit inclosed in a red bladder-like envelope formed of the enlarged calyx; also of other species of *Physalis*, as the Cape Gooseberry, *P. edulis*.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E D S) 75 *Solanum vesicarium* in englishe Alcakeng or wynter cherries 1578 Banister *Copy* 306 b, Of the kynde of Solanum is kynde of nightshade. 1640 Parkinson *Theat Bot* 862 *Halicacabum sive Alkekengi* Winter Cherries 1721 Mortimer *Husb* II 178 Winter Cherries are increased from the Roots by Sprouts or Runners 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict* s v *Alkekengi*, The common medicinal Winter-Cherry 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy* II 328 *Physalis edulis*—A Cape Gooseberry or Winter Cherry.

**b.** Applied to species of *Solanum* with cherry-like fruit, as *S. Pseudo-capsicum*, also called Jerusalem Cherry.

1629 Parkinson *Parad* 412 *Amomum Plinij seu Pseudo-capsicum.* Iren Night shade or the Winter Cherry tree 1731 Miller *Gard Dict* s v *Solanum* 1850 G Glenny *Handbk. Flower-Garden* 129 *Solanum pseudo-capsicum* is the Winter Cherry, a greenhouse bush, grown for its red cherry-like berries in winter.

**2.** Applied to species of *Cardospermum* or Heart-seed (N O. *Sapindaceæ*), having fruit inclosed in an inflated calyx like that of *Physalis* (see 1); esp. *C. Halicacabum*, also called Balloon Vine

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II iii § 2 270 The blacke winter Cherrie hath weake and slender stalkes somewhat crested, and like vnto the tendrels of the Vine. 1866 [see *heart-pea*, Heart *sb.* 36 b].

**Winter corn.** [Cf. Du *winterkoren*, G. *winterkorn.*] Corn sown in winter, or in autumn and remaining in the ground through the winter.

*c1450 Godstow Reg* 351 On halfe acre of wyntur corne 1523 *Sk* Fitzherb *Husb* I 8 If thou sowe it with wintercorne, as wheate or ry 1577 Cooge *Herrabach's Husb* 1 25 b, The Winter Corne when it is sowed before Winter, appeareth about the ground sometimes within a seuennight after 1608 Willet *Hexapla Lev* 121 Our wheate and rie, which we call winter corne 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 60 These Lands are very subject to worms which destroys both the Corn and the Grass very much, especially the Winter corn 1764 *Museum Rust* IV 7 If it is to be winter corn, one ploughing more, which is the third only, makes it in fine order for the seed

*attrib* and *Comb.* *a* 1450 *Mankind* 54 in *Macro Plays* 3 A wyntur corn thresscher 1611 in G A Carthew *Hundred Launditch* III (1879) 28 In the time of wyntercorne harvest

**Winter-cress.** [Alter Du. *winterkers*.] Any of the cruciferous herbs of the genus *Barbarea*, the leaves of which were formerly used as a winter salad; esp. *B. vulgaris* (Winter Rocket, Yellow R.).

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E D S) 44 Lino in englishe wynter cresse 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I vi 26 *Barbarea Herbal* tr. viii 189 The seede of winter Cresse helpeth the stranguria 1650 [W Howe] *Phytol Iuvt* 14 Balsarea, Pseudobunias, Winter Cresses 1783 Marryat *Lett Bot* xxiii (1794) 323 Winter Cress with lyrate leaves and spikes of yellow flowers, growing by ditch sides. 1858 Hood *Up Kings* 63

**Winter day.** [OE. *wintерdæg* = MLG., MDu. *winterdach*, *-dagh* [Du. *winterdag*, G. *wintertag*), ON. *vetrardagr*] A day in winter. (More commonly *winter's day* see Winter *sb* 1 3 b)

*c888 Ælfred Boeth* iv § 2 Þa þe ðam wintердæge selest sloʒe tida *c*1373 Sc *Leg. Saints* xxviii (*Margaret*) 345 Efftyre sone þe blod of Alla shere of hyre nek a wel As dois watir one wyntir day 1721 Mortimer *Husb* II 116 I expose them to the Sun in such Winter days as prove clear 1726 *tr* Thomson *Winter* 630 Behold, the joyous winter days Frosty succeed 1842 Dickens *Amer Notes* vi, The darkest winter day that ever glimmered *a* 1876 Aird *Fest. Wks* (1878) 145 On gaily winter days

**Winterden,** corrupt form of Witherden.

**Wintered** (wɪ·ntəɹd), *a.* Forms (1 sɔwintred), 3 wintred, (*Orm*) winntredd, 6–9 winted, 6– wintered. [OL. *ȝewintred*, *I. ge-* Y- + *winter* Winter *sb* 1 + *-ed*, -ED.]

†**1.** Having lived through or experienced many winters or years (*cf.* Winter *sb* 1 2); aged; veteran. In OE. also = 'of age', grown up *Obs.*

The meaning in the last quot is doubtful

*888–95 Laws of Ine* xxxvii (Liebermann), Healden þa magas þone framatol, Oð ðæt hit *ȝe* the child] ȝewinted sie *c*893 *Æ* Orosius *Oros* vi xxii § 1 Hi hiene medlon to leornunga, þeh he ȝewinted *ȝe*were. *c*1200 Ormin 746 Sannt Johan wass strenndedd tu þurrh federe & þurrh moderr, Patt time batt tegȝ wærenn ba Winntredde mann & alde 1394 Kyd *Cornelius* iv 1, Backt With wintered soul-diers vsed to conquering [Gasnar *une armee, De Aeres legions à vouuerre accoustumee*] 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 66 The action is entred, the complaint of her [*sc.* a turbot] wintered browne presented.

**2.** Exposed to the influence of winter; subjected to wintry conditions; chilled or blasted by winter.

*c*1305 Lay. 20 Þe scipen ferden wide ȝeond þare wintredе sæ 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* v 4 In field no flourishing I hat wintered withered stalks stand in couart 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer* 21 First shall the sunne be seene without his flame, The wintred mountaines without frost or ice 1804 Anna Seward *Mem Darwin* 293 The late and wintered period of Autumn. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* III xv 241 Something like a flash of cold moonlight on wintered water gleamed over his poor focusless eyes 1889 Max Lyon Linton *Hard Long Night* II xx, He would welcome here as the wintered earth welcomes the fresh young spring

†**3.** Adapted for or used in winter *Obs rare*—.

1600 Shake. *A Y L* III. ii 111 Wintred garments must be linde

**Winterer** (wɪ·ntəɹəɹ). [f. Winter *v* (or *sb* 1) + -er 1.] One who winters, in various senses

**1.** One who spends the winter in a specified place; a winter visitor or resident; *spec.* a servant of the Hudson's Bay Company who was employed in the far interior of N. America. Also applied to birds (*spec* the jerfalcon : see quot 1831)

1801 A Mackenzie *Voy Montreal* Fur Trade p xxvii, Those are called North Men or Winterers 1823 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna bor Amer* II. 27 The Jerfalcon is a constant resident in the Hudson's Bay territories, where it is known by the name of the 'Speckled Partridge Hawk', or by that of the 'Winterer' 1856 *Trotter. Jrnl. Sport* 15 Mar 176/3 The whinchat hardly deserves to be ranked as a regular winterer, even in Cornwall.

**b.** *spec* An animal, as a horse, ox, or sheep, kept to feed in a particular place during winter (Jam.). *Sc.*

1795 G Robertson *Agric Surv Mid Lothian* 41 In farms where no winterers are kept, the dunghill is placed behind the stables, out of view 1801 *Farmer's Mag* Aug 232 Wintering, or the yard cattle, intended for next autumn's grass. 1827 Scott *Two Drovers* ii, If you let me have six stots for winterers

**2.** One who feeds animals during winter

1832 *Boston Adv* 8 May 3/5 Graziers and winterers of stock

**Winter-fallow,** *sb.* [Cf. MLG. *winterwallgen*, G. *winterfalgen*] A lying fallow, or land that lies fallow, during the winter. So **Winter-fallow** *v*, *trans* to lay (land) fallow during the winter, hence **Winter-fallowing** *vbl sb.*

1707 Mortimer *Husb* 45 The Ploughs are to lie for a Winter Fallow the latter end of May 1731 in Stedman's Agric Observ (1754) 68 Others give their Lands a Winter Fallowing, if they see some other Fallowings *a* 1788 Lisle *Husb* (1757) 54 Spring corn, for which last three they water Fallow'd 1763 *Museum Rust* I 33 Let the land be the Winter Fallowed 1823 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 166 The wheat stubbles are winter-fallowed

**Winter-feed,** *v. trans.* To feed or maintain (animals, etc.) during winter. Hence **Winter-feeding** *vbl. sb*; also **Winter-feed** *sb*, food supplied to animals during winter.

1805 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii IV. *Captains* 947 The wide straddling Mower, That Cuts-cross the swathes to winter-feed his Cattle 1852 *Blackw Mag* CLXXII 275 We are saying that I had winter-feed for more beasts than I had 1861 Miller *Year Fourt Husb* I 323 In Leicestershire, where they winter-feed their wheat by consent 1765 *Museum Rust* IV 400 Deduct for the ewes which feed 3 s 0 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scot* II 221 Stall or winter-feeding of cattle or sheep 1819 Rogers *Agric & Prices* II 280 In 1596-6, hard times were generally purchased for winter feed in the stable

**Wintergreen** (wɪ·ntəɹgrīn). [After Du *wintergroen*, G. *wintergrün.*]

**1** Name for various plants of low growth or creeping habit whose leaves remain green in winter

**a.** Any plant of the genus *Pyrola*, esp. *P. minor*, a woodland plant with roundish drooping white flowers. Also applied to plants of the allied genus *Chimaphila*, as *C. (P.) maculata* (Spotted W.), and *C (P) umbellata* (Pipsissewa or Prince's Pine).

Also in *pl* as a collective name for the order *Pyrolaceæ* = the subordinate name *Pyroleæ*

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E D S) 48 *Limonium* named of the Herbarists Pyrola is name I in duch winter greene. It maye be called in englishe wyntergreene 1640 Parkinson *Theat Bot* 508 *Pyrola notarum* Winter-green, ordinary Winter greene *Pyrola tenerior* Slender Winter greene 1771 J. R Forster *Flora Orcad Septentr* 20 Pyrola rotundifolia Winter-green, round-leaved Virgins. 1824 *Pursh Flora Amer Septentr* I 300 *Chimaphila maculata* C. *corymbosa* Both species are handsome evergreens, and known by the name of winter-green 1882 S Townsend *Wild Fl* III (ed 4) 222 The *Pyrolas*, or winter greens 1872 Macmillan *Trin Coll* vii 285 The winter green and the palmy shield-fern creep into the solitude of the pine wood

**b.** The N. American plant *Gaultheria procumbens* (Aromatic, Creeping, or Spring W.), bearing drooping white flowers and edible scarlet berries; also called Checkerberry, Partridge-berry, Tea-berry, etc.

*Oil of wintergreen, wintergreen oil*, a heavy volatile oil obtained from the leaves of this plant, used medicinally as an aromatic stimulant, and for flavouring confectionery, etc.

1778 J. Carver *Trav N Amer.* xix 509 Winter Green is an ever green found on dry heaths in the winter it is full of red berries about the size of a sloe *c* 1845 Bryant *Strange Lady* 31 Where cornels arch their cool dark boughs o'er beds of winter green. 1855–90 Miss Lincoln *Last Rose* 121 Among these oils are those of the orange peppermint, and wintergreen 1866 Olding *Anim Chem* 83 Wood-spirit is a constituent residue of the essential oil of winter green 1909 *Chem & Druggist* 20 Feb 315/1 The methyl salicylate in the wintergreen oil.

**c Chickweed Wintergreen**, either species of *Trientalis* (*T. europæa* or *americana*), woodland plants of high latitudes or altitudes

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot* App 338 Winter Green with Chickweed Flowers 1789 Aiton *Hortus Kew* I 491 Common Trientalis, or Chickweed Winter green 1840 Brewer *Excurs. Denmark* etc. I 129 The Wintergreen (Trientalis Europæa), the loveliest of all the flowers of the northern flora

**d Flowering Wintergreen**, the Pringed Milkwort of N America, *Polygala paucifolia*

1856 A Gray *Man Bot U S* (1860) 88

**2.** Usually *pl.* (with hyphen, or as two words) An evergreen Also *fig* ? *Obs.*

1681 Cotton *Wond Peak* 83 For Winter Greens the Yew, Holly, and Box 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 383 The best time for the removing of all Winter Greens is the middle in either of October or February. 1798 Savage *Husbandry* I 196 I think on this top of grown for Walks are seen Grey, leafless Wood, and winter Greens 1890 Miss Thorne *Scarlet Tet* Introd (1883) 33 This Inspector was one of the most wonderful specimens of winter green that you would be likely to stumble on in a life times search

**3.** (As two words or hyphened.) Greens for winter use.

1846 J Baxter *Libr Pract Agric.* (ed 4) I 249 Winter greens comprise those varieties of the Brassica tribe which authors are in the habit of denominating Coleworts, Borecole, Savoys, Scotch kale, Sprouts, &c 1886 Hardy *Wood Landers* iv, Rabbits that had been eating the winter greens in the garden.

**Winter-ground,** *v*

Assumed by G Steevens (ed of Shakspere 1773 IX 257) in *Cymb* iv in 220, where the 1st folio has the Raddocke would bring these all Hee's And on those weedes When Flowres are none to winter ground thy Corse ——— *Gun* Prythee haue done, and explained by him as meaning 'To protect (a plant) from the inclemency of the winter season by straw, dung, &c laid round it' (Hence in Dicts from Worcester, 1860, onwards)

**Winter-house.** [OE. *wintерhūs*. Cf G. *winterhaus*] A house for winter occupation. (Cf. Summer-house 1)

*c*1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxxi 98 Winterhus and sumorhus and wynsume buras *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 530 2 Wyntyr howse, or halle *hibernaculum* 1539 *Bible* (Great) Exclus xxii 17–18 A fayre plas stred with a wynter house 1611 *Bible Jer* xxxvi 22 The king sate in the winter house, & there was a fire on the hearth burning bef re him 1688 Lovell *Animal Causes* iv 173 Beavers lay themselves together so as to build themselves stately winter houses 1772 Hawes *Pict St Mus Frame & Hedge* 25 He has a winter house in Florence. 1865 Lyons *N Fish Lores* 352 These cavities were at first supposed to be receptacles of winter houses

So † **Winter-housing.** *rare*

*c*1440 *Pal id on Husb* Tab 18 Bildynge of wyntir housynge

**Winteridge** see Winteragе.

**Wintering** wɪ·ntərɪŋ, *vbl sb.* [f. Winter *v.* or *sb* 1 + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of Winter *v* in various senses

**1** The keeping or tending of cattle etc during winter, provision of food and shelter for animals in winter

1477 [see Summering *vbl sb* 1 1] 1504 *A Englishm Rec* III 330 For wyntering of the ammund till mydsomer 1583 *Stubbes Anat Abus* II (1882) 69 Their feeding, keeping and sommering ge of a stynke 1613 *Heal* 253 Wintering of a mare at Clitheroe xl 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 171 Young lean Cattel may by the Assistance of their Wintering 1852 *Tuttys Chron* II 413 The successful wintering of bees. 1886 C Scott *Sheep Farming* 123 The wintering of hill sheep

† **b.** *transf* or *fig* Provision of food, clothing, or shelter for persons in winter. *Obs*

1586 Lewe *Ila Centrie* 158 If thou hast a shrewd wife, give her as shrewde a winting and turne her off to hard meate *c* 1590 *Jack Straw's Life & Death* in *Harl Misc* 1 She kind wintering We are beset with many stormes

† **2.** Winter weather (of a certain kind). *nonce-use*

1595 Rawlay *Byrth Mankynde* 85 When so euer the wynter is hote & moyst, when that such wintering chaunceth, the hote & moyste whether heateth and moysteth the vomyng body.

**3.** The action of passing the winter in a particular place, a stay or residence during winter

*a* 1593 Marlowe & *Lucan* 1 363 Our wintering, Vnder the Alpes 1681 in Foster *Lives Pict Inst* 140 The bed Sea inte died for our ships wintering *a* 1674 Milton *Hist Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII 5 5 Their two years wintering in Lapland 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I xxii 276 Whose heart is set upon the hope of her wintering with us at town 1861 J H Bennet *Winter Sun* I xi (1878) 135 I had not a bed in the house if it is for wintering abroad that I have an extensive one 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct 1340 In the Arctic seas the art of wintering or the ice is so well understood

**II** Concrete senses

**4.** = Winterling See Winter *sb* 1 2, and cf. Summering *vbl sb* 1 3 c) *Sc*

Cf ON *vetrungr*

1717 *Forfeited Estates Papers* (S H S 1909) Introd. p xxiii Winterings, 30 at 2s 9d per Wintering 1805 JAMESON *Winterers, Wintering*

**5** An animal that is wintered in a particular place 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr 9/2 In addition to the anxieties of sheep-owners the winterings are on the way from the low countries

**III. 6** *attrib.*, as (in sense 1) *wintering ground*, + *harbour* (HARBOUR *sb* 1 2), *house*, *place*, *region*, *station*, (in sense 2) + *wintering meal* (MEAT *sb* 1).

c 1320 BARCLAY *Ynwitk* XXVIII 52 b, Worthy men of his army to be called togidder from their wyntring places 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* V 180 The Romane captaines began to build wintring houses 1666-7 *Act 4 Jas I* c 11 § 2 The Oxen and Kyne must be sold aways for waste of winter; 6s Meate 1681 TRYON *Pr. L. Friends Tames* (Hall MSC 1 f 59) The extraordinary tyme of the Ships comming over of the wintring port, he remembreth not 1689 I. GAYER *Barclay's Apologie* 491 As in per; etuall wintering stations. 1780 COKE *Anim Dietet* 292 The wintering place was observed to lie in 39° north latitude 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer* 51, I set out at sunrise, for the wintering house 1841 CATLIN *Manners of Ind* II lii 149 The winter ing place of Col nel Kearney

**Wintering,** *ppl. a* [f. WINTER *v.* + -ING²] That winters, in various senses

1 Passing the winter in a particular place *spec* of cattle, etc that are being tended in the winter 1840 J. C. CURWEN *Feeding Stock* 55 Feeding the wintering Highla d cattle with the ne [ce 1876 Ch. Ass. *Winter City* VII The wintering swallows had never been so flustered 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz* 26 Feb 5/2 Competent acre ific men would be taken on board and left with the winter g party

**2** *poet* used vaguely for 'wintry'.

1825 SHELLEY *Ariadne* 268 O'er windy and wintering mo Seen th ugh blood-red cloud 1876 *Frechtheus* 732 It s ker set with ice Fthor's edge I spears Than sands are wherkel without the winters g beach

**Winterish** (wi·ntərĭʃ), *a* [f. WINTER *sb* 1 + -ISH 1] 1 a. Belonging to winter b Having a quality of winter (somewhat) winterly or wintry

1530 PALSGR 320 2 Wynteryssh *yournal* 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* 1 220 In winter time he called, a wi terish region 10 wet it is. 1885 *Harper's Mag* Jan 199/1 Grey and wintrish as it [ic a barberry bush] had been on her approach when she looked at it from the other side it seemed to be glowing with rubies

**Winterless,** *a.* [f. as prec + -LESS] Having no winter free from or not experiencing winter

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 193 Such dew as gemmed the everdurning blooms Of Eden winterless 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 88 Glossy surfaces [of leaves], green with more than winterless and winterless delight 1883 *Century Mag* June 2 0/2 The sunny, delicious, winterless Californian sky

**Winterling.** [f. as prec + -LING¹] An ox, sheep, or other animal of a year old, a yearling.

1845 [see WINTERISH 1 b] 1881 SIR G. W. COX *Compar Mythol* 156 A Chimæra is thus, strictly a winter ling that is a yearling

**Winterly** (wi·ntəli), *a.* [OE *wintrlic* = OHG *wintarlih* (G *wunterlich*), ON *vetrligr*, etc., f. WINTER *sb* 1 + -LY 1], but in modern use a new formation (cf *summerly*)]

1 Of, belonging to, or occurring in winter. (Not always distinguishable from sense 2)

c 1000 ÆLFR C *Saints Lives* XI 144 On þam timan was werlice hefigtime wynter and se winterlica wind wan mid þam forste

1559 W CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr Glasse* 34 Into whiche [r tronic of winter] whan he [ic the sun] doth enter he maketh his wynterly rule as ye shall vnderstande 1594 WYLDE *Instr Verite* etc (1878) Those tresses of Haire, which they vouth doe adorne Will looke like the Meads in a Winterly morning 1628 WOTTON *Reliq* (1651) 53 For them I hate a silent and cold winterly diseases 1665 MANLEY *Grotius Lawe* Warres III 307 The Winterly Waters, and frequent showres 1820 J. KEATS *Endymion* III 71 A wintery Pools of Capricorn 1889 MRS OLIPHANT *Poor Gentleman* I xii 202 Even the winterly birds in the trees were silent to day

**2** Having the character of, or characteristic of, winter, resembling winter or that of winter, cold and cheerless, wintry

c 1661 FULLER *Worthies Somerset* (1662) 17 The Earth [of Somerset] in winter is as warmly deep and dirty as any in England 1675 tr *Cassendus's Instr Trade* (ed 3) 5 The Air growing more warm in the Month of April 1703 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 Mar All things look horribly winterly; yea on a great storm of Snow 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entom* I xviii 528 It is not to be thought the summer has been so wet and cold as may alm st say winterly 1858 MRS. OLIPHANT *Laird of Norlaw* II 223 The winterly brown aspect of the trees 1871 MRS. GARNETT *Burgh Sch. Scot* II v. 191 The fields wear a winterly face

b. *fig*

1612 SHAKS *Cymb* III iv 13 If t be Summer News Smile to t before if Winterly thou need st But keepe that count nance still 1680 ALSOP *Antichrist Impos* vi 40 Incendiaries who will suffer no ice to cool that are in them relves of a more wi terly temper 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT *Lett. Ill. & Mat* IV 76 Your note produced a kind of winterly smile 1864 W. J. LINTON *Claribel* 1 11 Let thy sweet spring smile Shine on me through this winterly contempt

Hence **Wi·nterliness.**

1891 W. SHARP in *Mem* (1910) 174 With all the sunlit but yet sombre winterliness around

**Winter quarters.** (Also with hyphen.) [See QUARTER *sb* 15]

1 The place of stay, or lodgings, occupied by troops, or by the members of an expedition, during the winter (between two campaigns or periods of activity or travel)

[1642 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Sept, Seedam, where was at that time Coll. Goring's winter quarters] 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low Co. Warres* III 8 The like was done by the Nervians, when they besieged the winter quarters of Quintus Cicero 1769 *Lond Chron* 9–11 Nov 456/1 According to advices from the Russian Army it will soon go into winter quarters in the centre of the kingdom 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 423 His troops were no sooner distributed into winter-quarters, than Leicester returned with his army towards Zutphen 1803 SIR W. *Nation's Hist. Intercourse*, *Intercourse*, in Arctic parlance, the spot where ships are to remain housed during the winter months—from the 1st October to the 1st July or August 1818 A. H. MARKHAM *Cook's Voyages* 2nd xiii 154 Altogether the neighbourhood of our winter quarters had the appearance of a young thriving settlement

+ **b** *transf* The interval of time during which troops are in winter quarters *Obs*

1708 PHILLIPS *s. v. Quarters, Winter Quarters*, the Space of Time between two Campaigns. 1734 tr *Rollin's Rom Hist* III 402 Which he divides into campaigns and winter-quarters. 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XV 731

**2.** The place in which certain animals find shelter during the winter. (Rarely of plants)

1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* IV 357 Lazy Drones, In Winter Quarters Fee, devour the Grain 1709 J. ROBINSON *Lond Mus Spect* No 1 Some infirm Numbers of Fowls coming out of their Winter Quarters, which was a vast heap of loose Stones 1856 DELAMER *Fl Gard* (1861) 165 Remove Dahlia roots into their winter quarters 1890 *Spectator* 22 Nov XXVI 34 A frost of several days duration sent most of these annuals into winter quarters.

Hence **Winter-quarter** *v.*, *intr.* to go into or reside in winter quarters. *rare.*

1706 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel* (1857) VI 90, 25 000 of the allies are to winter quarter in Brabant

**Winter's bark.** [= mod L *cortex Winteranus* (see WINTERIAN), named from its discoverer Captain William *Winter*, who accompanied Francis Drake in the Magellan Straits in 1578 (Clusius)] a. The pungent aromatic bark of *Drimys Winteri*, a magnoliaceous tree of the mountainous parts of western America from Mexico southwards, used as a stimulant tonic and antiscorbutic; also called **Winter's cinnamon**, from its flavour. b] Extended to other medicinal barks, as that of the W. Indian whitewood or wild cinnamon, *Canella alba* (False Winter's bark) c Any of the trees themselves

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V 30 Of the Barke of Winters tree 1598 *Plat Jewell House* 38 Our Winter Bark or West Indian Cinnamon Tree 1712 tr *Lemery's Hist Drugs* IV 174 White Cinnamon, to which some give the Name Winter's Bark or Winter's Cinnamon 1778 *Phil Trans* LXVIII 478 The Winter's Bark tree, *Winteriana Aromatica* 1830 LINDLEY *Nat Syst Bot* 121 The false Winter's Bark, a good tonic and stimulant bark 1900 *Daily Mail* 8 Oct

**Winter solstice.** The time at which the sun reaches the winter tropic, i. e. in the northern hemisphere the tropic of Capricorn, in the southern the tropic of Cancer; the middle of the winter half of the year, midway between the autumnal and vernal equinoxes

c 1650 A. RIVETUS *Medic* (1663) 42 Tis night (for Christmas) was shortly after the Winter Solstice, when Night growes at other and Day to ger 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Card Cyrus* III 48 Even the Autumnal buds, which about the return of the Sun to the Winter solstice multiply their calix and leaves 1730 BENTON in *Walker's Wks* Observ p xvi, At the time of their breeding (which is about the winter solstice) 1850 *Illustr Lond News* 17 Dec XVII 471/2 Winter begins at the winter solstice

**Winter-tide.** Now somewhat *arch* [OE *wintertid* (WINTER *sb* 1, TIDE *sb*)] cf OHG *wintarzit* (G *wintarzeit*), MLG, MDu *wintertit* (Du *wintertijd*), ON *vetrartiði*, etc., in modern use a contraction (cf *summertide*)

c 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* II xiii (1890) 134 Swylc swa ðu æt swæfendum sitte mid ðinum ealdormannum o d Segnum on wintertide, and sie fyr onælæd c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints Lives* I 295 Hie ne wæteredon on wintertide 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) hwan n þes wyrtbræd þus wynsumlice steme 1398 TR. BEVERV *Chron* (1810) 240 In Wales it is fulle strong to travaile in wyntertide 1535 COVERDALE *Genesis* V 2 Quhyle wyntur tyde vith his blastis . Swa ourdriffin *c* 1400 *Lanfr Cirurg* 63a The trees that ware In wynter tyde naked & bare. 1500 *Lancelot Knight* 3 Wyn (Gresham MS VIII 227 The dates growes short, then heats the winter tide

1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 19 Earliest shoots Of orient green, withouch in wintertide shall star The black earth with brilliance rare 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *Six Yrs. Public Service* 211, 167, I shall never forget those church parades in the dull grey light of wintertide

**Winter-time.** [Cf. ON. *vetrartíma*.] The season of winter.

1393 LANGL. *P Pl C* XIII 189 With forste[s] With wyndes ne with reynes as in wynter tyme *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXXV 291 He was crowned in the Scot ish wynter tyme 1552–96 FITZHERB *Husb* § 16 Yf the lande be falowed in wynter tyme, it is farre the worse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit*, 631 All Winter time almost it is continually cloudy and misty weather 1726 [P. ARBUTHNOT] *Petit Cadiere* Swift's Misc. 1733 III 73 Warming of Cellars and Dressing of Suppers in the Winter time 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* V. If it is winter time, they just give you fire enough to make you think you'd like more. 1896 BADEN POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xiii, A pair of skates which came in useful when he got up to Kandahar in the winter time

**Winterward(s,** *adv* [f. WINTER *sb* 1 : see -WARD(S] Towards winter.

1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Apr, Winterward [see SUMNER WARD] 1906 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* xii, Full to day all had been grey and brown, all still pointed backwards, winter-wards.

**Wintery:** see WINTRY.

**Wintle** (wi·ntl), *v. Sc.* Also 9 **wuntle.** [a early Helem. *wuntileen*, *wend(e)len* 'voluere, voluitare' (Kilian), f *wunden* WIND *v.* 1]

1. *intr.* To roll or sway from side to side

1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* VII, This now ye dow but hoyte and hobble, An' wintle like a saumont coble 1790 — *Verses to J. Lapraik* 8 From him that wears the star and garter, To him that wintles in a halter 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 173 And wi' his prickin gude pyk staff Made them rebound and wintle aff

**2.** To tumble, capsize, be upset.

1867 J. K. HUNTER *Retrosp Artist's Life* XXII. (1918) 315, I wintled over beyond him in the bed 1890 SERVICE *Jan Notandums* v 28 At the whilk observe of mine, I think that his Lordship would have wintled over his pigs

Hence **Wi·ntle** *sb*, a rolling or staggering movement

1785 BURNS *Halloween* XIX He by his shoulter gae a keek, An' tumbl'd wi' a wintle 1888 JAS WALKER *Sc. Reverie* 127 With rocking wintle near the slopping quay I the Granton steamboat at our service lay

+ **Wintrous,** *a. Obs rare*—1 [f. WINTER *sb*.1 + OUS] = next.

1567 J. HOOPER *Early Last Battell* 283 The more wintrous the Season of the life hath beene, look to the fairer Summer of pleasures for evermore

**Wintry** (wi·ntri), *a.* Also 7 **winterie**, 9 -y [OL. *wintrig*, = OHG *wintrig*, etc., f. WINTER *sb* 1 + -Y 3, but in modern use a new formation]

1 Of or pertaining to winter, occurring, existing, or found in winter, adapted or suitable for winter Now *rare* or merged in 2; being replaced by 'winter *attrib.*' (WINTER *sb* 1 3).

c 888 ÆLFR tr. *Boeth* v § 2 Swa ded eac se ðe wintrecum wedercumum wile libwiman selan c 893 — *Oros* I i 22 On þæ n wintergum tidum

1611 COTGR., *Hyvernal*, winterie, wintrie. *c* 1630 MILTON *Passion* 6 Winter solstice like the shorten'd light Soon swallow'd up in dark and long out-living night 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* I 271 The wintry Axle that whirls the Stars of Heav'n 1707 *Curios Husb & Gard* 133 To pick her wintry Nosegay from the Garden 1795 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 20 Her berries red, With which the fieldfare, wintry guest, is fed 1820 IVE *Voy. Glac* I v. 49 Where the wintry edifice had fallen

2 Having the quality of winter, of such a kind as occurs in winter, characteristic of winter

1590 SPENSER *F Q* I xi 21 When wintry storme his wrath hath wreaked does threat 1723 ROWE *Jane Shore* II 24 The Wintry Sky Descends on Shirley's Towers 1726 BUDGELL in *Spectator* No 349 ¶ 1 The wintry west extends his blast 1849 SCOTT *Betrothed* II A barbed horse and his rider will few to stem the wintry flood 1870 LYELL *Princ Geol* I xxvi 400 At this period, the climate of equinoctial lands might resemble that of the present temperate zone or perhaps be far more wintry 1896 KANE *Arctic Expl* I xxvii 411 I passed in a fine morning in delightfully wintry operation 1876 C. T. HALL *Polar Expl* 425 Great ice crystals gave the vessel a wintery appearance

3 Exposed or subject to the effect or influence of winter, chilled or blasted by winter

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI 295 When her leaves the frost Of wintry Xanthus 1803 HYDE *Palestine* 56 The wintry top of giant Lebanon 1827 SHELLEY *Ast Islam* VI xxviii The wintry loneliness Of those dead leaves 1829 DISRAELI *Vivian Grey* III xii, Endless avenues and cross avenues of wintry trees 1918 *Black. Mag* Oct 464/2 You saw nothing but a field or two of bleached wintry grass

4 *fig* with various shades of meaning, *esp* (*a*) Aged infirm or withered from age, (of hair) white with age, 'snowy', (*b*) devoid of fervour or affection, 'cold', 'chilling', (*c*) destitute of warmth or brightness, dismal, dreary, cheerless

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purp Isl* VI 11, Cold, wintry, wither'd Teth 1798 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1868) VII 281 Not dim, at each other in cpi ostle ci no key corners in a winter evening, and over a wintry Love 1820 SHELLEY *Swans Fausti* 15 Nothing of such an influence as the present & Rig *Golden Butterfly* vi, Her cold face shone with the wintry light of a forced smile 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz* 5 Oct 3/3 His latest work met with a somewhat wintry welcome 1900 W. ARAMSON *Life For Liberty* xv 192 The wintry locks of wisdom

5 Used *adverb* qualifying another adj *poet*

1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 3 Thine is wintry chill

Hence **Wi·ntrily** (-əli) *v.*, *irrant* to make wintry (*rare*). **Wi·ntrily** *adv.*, in a wintry manner (*lit.* and *fig*). **Wi·ntriness**, wintry quality or condition (*lit.* and *fig*)

1892 LYNCH *Lett to Scattered* VI 88 Wise divine Love re-imprinting to a world which hate had 'wintried the summer warmth of life 1828 BRIDGES *Poems, Pygmalion* 159 Thou did st shiver 'Wintrily sad 1887–8 J. THOMSON *In the Room* II, Fines now sleep wintrily abashed 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 613/1 She beg in to smile wintrily 1844 in *Spirit Publ Journ* (1845) 328 With all this 'wintriness, he is still a boy 1883 KANE *Grinnell Exp* xxiii (1856) 177 To the east and west there is no such interception to our wintriness 1916 *Spectator* 18 Mar 383/1 On some morning when the harvest is done, And autumn in first wintriness reveals

+ **Winx,** *v. Obs.* [Cf dial. *whimk* to bark, yelp, *whimmock* to whine, neigh, whinny] *intr.* To bray as an ass.

14 *Hortus Vocab.* (MS. Harl 2257), *Mugle*, to lowe as a oxe *Mugule*, to wynne as a asse

**Winy, winey** (wai'ni), *a.* Also 4, 6–7 wyny, 6 wynie, 6–7 winie. [f. Wine *sb.*1 + -y.]

1 Belonging to, or characteristic of wine; having the nature or properties (taste, colour, etc.) of wine; *occas* producing wine; vinous

1390 Gower *Conf* III 371 The wyny grape 1570 Levins *Manip* 102/43 Wynie, *vinosus*. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II iv 660 Full of a reddie wynie iuyce. *a* 1586 Sidney *Pr* LXXV iv, A troubled cupp Where wine and wyny lees compounded stand 1586 Height *Metamach* 159 This wase melancholie carrying a wine and aromaticall spirit may procure an hartly laughter 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 486 Take Cucumbers and set them amongst Musk-Melons and see whether the Melons will not be more Winy, and better tasted 1644 Digby *Nat Bodies* xxxviii § 32 It is said that sufficient tartar putt at the roote of a tree, will make the fruite haue a winy taste 1660 tr. *Barnavelt Sticks dorsia* 141 92 There are Two Substances in Wine, the one is Winey, in which the Spirit of the Wine is, the other is Phlegmatick 1720 T. Fuller *Pharmacopœa* (1749) 1 Middling Ale that is of a light colour and its Malty Taste [and] grow Winey. 1793 Pore *Odyss* XIX 143 A winy vapour melting in a tear 1817 L. Hunt *On Ayton* Poems (1860) 257 His rich orchards in their sunniest colors Are pointing thick with all their winy gl-bes 1900 R. W. Chambers *Cardigan* II, I knew the ink, but the hazard had a winy flavour withal 1918 Blair Hutchinson *Trail Trod* 303/1 His winey face took on a still deeper and more winey tinge

**2** a. Accompanied by the drinking of wine *rare*.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II xxvii (1912) 310 The time was no matter their eares had ever heard of that grew not to be a subject of their winie conference

b. Affected by or due to (excessive) consumption of wine

1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt* To Rdr, If their wiry wits must needs be working 1840 Lady C. Bury *Hist Flirt* xxi, A man who is perhaps a little winey 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp Tour* xlvii, I have thought he had got rid of as much of his winey headache as his elastic would carry off 1893 Ireland *Blanch Adelmeth* 86 When the old gentleman were comfortably fed and amiably winey

†**Winyard.** *Obs* [origin: 1–2 **winyeard**, 2 **winiard**, 3 **winzeard**, **-yard**, **-yherde**, **wynyarde**, 4 **wine-y(h)erd**, **winezerd**, **-yerd**, **wynzard**, **-3ord**. [OE *wingeard* = OS *wingardo* (Du *wijngaard*), OHG. *wingarti*, ON. *vingarðr*, Goth. *weinagards*] = see Wine *sb.*1 and Yard *sb.*1] = Vineyard (*ht* and *fig.*).

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth* lxxxii § 3 Ealle men witon þæt hit þær ne nære3 þe ma þe gimmas weaxa3 on winterdum 971 *Blickl Hom* 51 Ure hwæte, & ure winzeardas & ealle ure tilunan westmas. 1340 *Ayenb* 6 (Laud MS.) 120 1137 He makede manie munekes & plantede winzerd *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 294 Pet beo3 be erest prokunges pet sturnep pe wunpersides, pet beo3 pe eresten of pe winyard 1382 *Wyclif Serm* II *O. E. Misc* 34 Se winyard be tockneþ be sezuse of vie note. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P* xii 41 Tho he the wynyard whrohte 1332 *Rec Chadperton Accts* (Camden) 63 b Quando Jaceam clausam que vocatur le Wineierd *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Fr Vernon MS* 456/186 Mi deore wynyard

**Winze** 1 (winz) *Mining* Also 8 **winds.** [The earliest recorded spelling suggests derivation from Wind *sb.*4] A shaft or an inclined passage sunk from one level to another, but not rising to the surface.

1757 Borlase in *Phil Trans* L 533 The stage-boards of the little winds or shafts 50 fathoms deep were perceived to move. 1778 Penk *Min Cornw* 164 The under ground Shaft or Winds, is worked by hand, with a windlass only 1839 *Penny Cycl* XV 244/2 The common windlass is much used in sinking winzes 1867 *Daily News* 29 Sept, The footway winze leading from the 70 to the 80 has been completed 1889 C. G. W. Cock *Gold Mining* 283 A winze or an incline, the winze being preferable, is made through the bed rock to the gravel

**Winze** 2 (winz) *Sc* [a. early Flem. *wenscb* 'imprecatio' (Kilian): see Wish v.] An imprecation, a curse.

1785 Burns *Halloween* xxiii, He loot a winze, an drew a stroke 1819 W Iennant *Tapistry Storm'd* (1827) 186 Wi' bitter winze and bun

**Winze** 3 *Cornwall.* Also **wins.** Altered f. Winch *sb.*1 Also *attrib*

1839 De la Beche *Rep Geol Cornwall*, etc xv 593 The miners were taken up in a stirrup by two men, who wound the rope, probably over a winze 1855 Leifchild *Cornwall* 98 Upon this platform was fixed a wins for four men 1893 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* 7/4 The small kibbles used with the tackle are called 'winze kibbles'

**Wip,** obs. pa. t. of Weep v., Sc. and dial. form of Whip v.; obs. f. Wipe v

†**Wipard.** *Obs nonce-wd* [f. Wipe v. + -ard] An article for wiping.

1693 Urquhart *Rabelais* II xv 107 A good wiper, who in wiping continually, wipeth with his wipard [*orig mouchet*]

**Wipe** (waip), *sb.* Also 6–7 wype. [f. Wipe v.]

**1** An act of wiping (in 1 senses 1–3 of Wipe v.).

In first quot. in fig phr see Wipe v 9 a.

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof St.* v vii 388 That which hath sharpned the pens of many against him, is his giving so many cleanly wipes to the foul noses of the Pope and Italian Prelacy 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* x, Here the worthy man took off his large spectacles, gave them a wipe and put them on again 1859 *Hornsb. Encycl* II 401/2 If the spit is carefully wiped after roasting, it will require nothing more than a wipe before using 1865 J. B Gough *Platform Reminisc* 69 He had been in the mine, and had evidently given himself a splash and a wipe 1888 J. W. Clarke *Mod Plumbing Pract.* (1912) I 168 Some men can take longer 'wipes' than others, but the wipes should always be done as quickly as possible

**b** With adjs., in various *ht.* and *fig.* senses

1820 [T Egan] *Real Life I and I* 332 A brush to give the gentman a wipe down. 1884 D Kemp *Yacht 4 Boat Sailing* (ed 4) 265 Do not wait until her bowsprit is over your quarter before you luff, but take a wipe out across her when she is fifty yards off or so 1894 H Nisbet *Bush Girl's Rom* 138 Those more particular gave them [*sc* the tin plutters] a rough wipe out with a piece of paper 1910 D Cranford *Shaming Jack* xviii 171 Like vile fly meats sleeping sickness, and deep ng sickness means a wipe out

**2.** A slashing blow, a sweeping cut, a swipe; also *fig* (in early use esp in phraseological expressions, e.g. *a wipe over the shins*); also, a 'blow of fortune' (a stroke of misfortune).

1550 Bale *Image Both Ch* II 60 b, He [*sc* the Beast] had a greuouse wype with the sworde (which is the lyuynge worde of the lorde) when he lost his monks 1 [a] 1588 T. Howell *Arbor Amitie* (1879) 127 When cruell fate them cleane cut off, at once most sodein wipe 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Fam Ep* (1577) 235 The beginners of quarels do sometime catch a wipe 1589 *Marprel Epit* B, He hath giuen the cause vnkown a wipe in his bricke that the cause will be the warmer for it 1590 *Pasquil's Ap* I 1 Cij, The second wipe which mine hath bestowed vpon him 1 a wipe ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents 1638 I rome *Spurgeons Garden* IV x 80 much for single Rupier now a wipe is much worse 1641 Best *Farm Bks* (Surtees) 134 The cow vsed to fetch me a wipe ouer the knuckles with his stick 1851 Kipling *Light that I ailed* VI 100 there is the scar of the wipe he got when he was run ouer

†**b** *transf* and *fig.* A mark, as of a blow or lash; a scar or brand. *Obs*

1593 Shake. *Lucr* 537 The blemish Worse then a slauish wipe or soule blot.

**c.** *colloq* A shot of drinking: cf. Swipe *sb* 2 a.

1600 Rowlands *Tell Humours I Iond* Sat vi E6b, We gaue the Brewers Dog drinke a wipe

**3.** *fig.* A cutting remark, a sarcastic reproof or rebuff; a jeer, jibe.

In quot. 1 in the humorous sense, = 'remark'

1596 Dalrymp le tr. *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S T S) I 39 This was a wype be the way [*orig vt hoc obiter dictum*] *Ibid* 363 Ane wyse aged man gaue him [*sc* Iohn Balliour] ane wype at the hinds of Callamine 1653 H. Wilson *Iames I*, 96 The Lord Treasurer gave him a wipe, for suffering his Coachman to ride lare before him in the streets 1659 *Burton's Diary* III 333 It was an ill wipe to Mr Grove who brought in the Declaration 1795 Vansittart *Confederacy* v 11, So, that's a wipe for me now, Richard 1859 *Bartlett's New Years Gift Christm* 1723 Swift *On Poetry* 95 To statesmen would you give a wipe, You print it in Italic type 1880 Galt *Provost* xxxi, I did not much like that fastening of Mr M Quirter I said, 'Come, come, neighbur, none of your wipes.' 1897 *Westm Gaz* 25 Oct 2/2, The extraordinary wipe (there is no other word for it) which the staid old *Quarterly* administers to the Poet Laureate

**4.** *slang.* A handkerchief (Superseding the earlier Wiper 2) Also in *comb.*

1789 G Parker *Life's Painter* (ed 2) 236, I only nape a rough of hers eye wipes. 1820 *Sporting Mag* XV 18 Three boys brought in for pigging of wipes 1800 in *Spirit Publ Jrnls* IV 274 The wipe nabbers made a tolerable plundering 1858 Dickens *O Twist* viii, 'I'll begin upstairs!' cries he, in a sortin' the wipes.' 1859 Sala *Twice round Clock* 125 The 'lease of wipes', as an irreverent Yankee called the pocket handkerchief

**5** = Wiper 5. Also *attrib*

[1873 Maxwell *Electr & Magn* II 375 A piece of mechanism (commonly called a Commutator, or *wipper*).] 1882 in Knight *Dict Mech* 2 From the Tail the cam is a revolving wheel with twelve or fourteen projecting teeth or wipes. 1903 *Motor Invalid* 81 The wipe commutator is divided into twelve segments, and upwards

**Wipe** (waip), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **wiped** (waipt). Forms 1 wipian, 3–6 wype, (4 wype, 5 wipe, wyp, 6 wip), 2– wipe. *B* 4–5 wepe, 5 weype, 7 weipe, weepe. *γ* 1 t wipode, 3–4 wipede, wypede, 4–7 wyped (ette), 3– wiped. *δ* 4 wipped, wyppit, 4–5 wipte, 5–6 wypt, 5–7 wipt. *ε* 4 wepod, 5 weput. *ζ* 4 wipide, 4–5 wypid, 5–6 wypyd, 6 wipyd. *η* 5 wyppid (5 wyppyd) 6– wiped. *θ.* 4 wypped, 5–6 wypt, 6 7 wipt(e, wip't [OE. *wipan* = OHG. *wifan* (MHG *wifen*) to wind round, Goth. *weipan* to crown; further related to OHG. *waif* bandage, ON *veipr* head-covering, Goth. *waips* wreath, and the forms enumerated s v. Whip: f. the base *woi-*, as in I. *wikstrā* to brandish, shake]

I *trans.* To rub (something) gently with a soft cloth or the like; to do something, so as to clear its surface of dust, dirt, moisture, etc.; to clean or dry in this way. Also with compl.

*c* 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) xxxv 59 Winterciahas þe hy heora handa and fet mid wipedan. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 126 Þe xesest Godes engel standende xefioran ße mid hand-claðe, and wipaþ ßins swatigan limu *c* 1200 *Ives & Virtues* 125 Wassce and wipe wol clane Þa *Ayenb* 17 Þe wyndewe þet hi wepeden hore leoue mod linnene claðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 13300 And wit his tunel efterward Þair fete he weped clene. *Ibid* 17683 Quen he wipped had mi face. *c* 1300 *K Horn* 622 (Laud MS) Wipped hadde he his sweord gripe And on his arm hyt wype 1360 Jancl. *P Pl* A v 93 I-wasst with a wesp of Fiften 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 627 Quhen the king was war wat ded, he wyppit his brand *c* 1400 Maundev xxvii. [xxiii] (1839) 165 Whan þei han eten, þei wypen hare hondes vpon hire skirtes. 1486 *Bk St. Albans* C viij She bekyth when she seeuith that it to say she wypith hir beke *c* 1500 *Young Children's Bk* 109 in *Babees Bk* 93 Wype thi mouthe when þou wyll drinke 1508 Kennedie *Flyting* (W. de W.) Biij, Wype thy nose 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xxxix (Percy Soc) 130 Whan she lacketh clothes, without any fayle She wyped her dishes with her dogges tayle 1600 Shake *A Y L* II vii 122 We haue all at good mess feasts, and wip'd our eues Of drops, that sacred pity hath engendred 1610 *Shoemakers Pet* (Cheltham Soc) 191 To a bote that wyped bootes, in 1780 Cowper *Iliad* 385 I bought a lush to cleanse the stain, He wipes and scours the silver cup in vain 1806 J. Carr *Stranger in Ireland* 269 A large Newfoundland dog walks round the table for the guests to wipe their fingers upon 1831 Scott *Count Robert* III 84 After having finished his draught 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lii, Stopping on the mat to wipe his shoes all round 1859 H. Kingsley *Geoffry Hamlyn* I, The Major had swum out and was standing on the rock wiping himself

*absol* 1614 T Adl Stirling *Domestikes* II xcix, Thus waters wash, winds wipe, and death consume, That th' earth (so purg'd) may be a receipt of for free.

†**b** To rub, stroke *Obs*

1382 Jan 1. *I Il* A v 212 Penne he wsskede of his wynk and wypede his eiȝen 1387 *Trevisa Higden* 30 Bennes he take me ly the knotte fromme the grounde and wyp eny fuze with a rose and kyssed me *c* 1450 *Merlin* I *ettael* 165 Then toke Iude pe lettir but Crist sent to pe kyng before, and weput pe kyng3s forheie pere wyth

**2.** To remove or clear away (moisture, dust, etc.) from something by the action described in 1. Often with *away, off, up*

Also formerly in extended sense, *e.g.* of a cleansing substance.

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* III 4 Læge on hunig ßreo mihi, nim þonne & wipe þæt purhlæd of *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde in O E Misc* 165 Þat hwuch wile clæren alle þeines clæren *a* 1300 *K Il* 1203 (Camb) He wipede þat blake of his swete *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 3580 Whipe vp þe teris *c* 1450 *Merlin Ettelrad* 188 He had a cloth . . . for to wipe away pe teris. 1535 Coverdale *Isa* xxv 8 The Lorde God shal wipe awaye the teares from all faces 1583 Holyband *Campo de Flore* 375 Hauing first wipt of the dust well 1590 Spenser *F Q* III i 38 The Goddesse . . With her vnderlayr garment wipes away the gore 1646 Crashaw *Stiffetto Atlantica* alia, With her soft wing wipt from the brooke of mine eyes awaye 1766 Sterne *T Shandy* VI ii, That you should have wiped it up, and my uncle Toby, and said no more about it 1858 Dickens *O Twist* xxxvii, Now he took courage to wipe off the perspiration which had collected upon his nose 1880 Besant *All Sorts* xx, She groaned and wiped away a tear.

†**b** (with *away, out*) To obliterate, efface, erase *Obs* 2a a specific sense

1535 Coverdale *Ps* lxviii[lxix] 28 Let them be wyped out of yͤ booke of the liuynge 1542 Udall *Erasm Ap* 83 b, Augustus hath written a tragedie against Asax, and hath wiped it out 1580 Sidney *Arcadia* (1912) 310 Which (because it myslyked him) he wyped out with a spounge 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiii 217 If ye meane fortune as she is peynted by the Poets, it is as easie to wype her away as to paynt her 1598 Floyd *Acc Edw & F* 112 They are allowed a Board plastered ouer, which with Cotton they wipe out, when full, as we do from Slates. 1626 Bacon *Instay Conc Prop Learning* 1 447 Your Majesty has wiped away with the soft part of the pen, what the British Minister thought he had written so deeply.

†**c** *transf* and *fig.* To remove, clear away or *off* (something deleterious or offensive) *Obs*

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A xiii 1 (1495) I 31 b Water wypeth and sylthe and wassheth away slyme. 1500 Spenser *F Q* II v 2 While that the morning wanton her did wash to forget His former paine, and wipt away his toylsom sweat 1600 Surflet *Country Farme* II xxiv 243 That turneps wipe away the superfluous humors 1611 Speed *Purple Isl* xi 21, I till coldest sure And heat ye cleare Freehand now wipes off her former lowres 1642 Milton *Animad* tr Wks 1851 III 140 Wipe away that coy paleness out of our light *a* 1660 *Contemp Hist Irel* (tr Archæol S c) III 39 To weepe off this no change staine.

**3** To apply or spread a liquid substance over the surface of a body by rubbing it on with a cloth, pad, or the like (with the substance or the body as obj.), *spec.* in *Plumbing*, to apply solder by this method so as to unite and finish off a joint 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I 98 With this liquid wipe over your gilding 1823 *Pantologia* s.v. *Tinning* 285 (*Grain tinning*) Nitre rubbed, which contains grain, and is slightly wiped on in stripes 1888 J W Clarke *Mod Plumbing Pract* (1912) I 100 If the cloths are of a good thickness the joints can be wiped more easily

**4.** *fig* (from 1) To clear, cleanse (*from* or *of* something); in the biblical passage, to empty completely, lay waste.

*c* 1400 *Pet Pal* 211 in *Archiv Poems* 197 Thow wilt wepyng hous I wypt My wyfe fro me & by synne. 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* xxi 13 I will wype out Jerusalem, cuen as one wypeth a platter [1560 (Geneva), I will wipe Ierusalem, as a man wipeth a dish] 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Ps 50 Wash me yet more from my iniquity, & wipe me from my sinne 1633 *Gen Assembly* 7 Is, To wipe me cleane for euer being kin- *Ibid.*

F 2 b, Hath he not wip't me from the Turkish crowne? 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 612/1 The English, which they thinke lye still in wayte to wipe them out of theyr landes. 1622 Fletcher *Span. Cur.* iv. v, You fooll is of our moneys..., in every Quiddit wipe us. 1638 *Donna Olimpia* 84 Seeing her self clearly wiped of that Interest. 1748 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* i. vi. 58 The wily Harlot, and the Slave, who joint To wipe the Miser of his darling Coin.

**6.** (from 2.) To clear away, remove: most commonly with adv. (*away, off, out*). **a.** To take away, put away (something figured as a stain or defilement); to remove the guilt, blame, or dishonour of; to clear a person, or oneself, of (a charge or imputation).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 131 Whanne þe mescheef of his takynge was iwyped of. *c* 1410 Hucclevе *Mother of God* 31 O blessid lady...þat by prayere wypest cleene away The filthes of our synful wikkidnesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 The good lyfe..wypeth awaye the synnes. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 117 This blot that they obiect against your House, Shall be wiped [*Fol.* whipt] out in the next Parliament. 1605 G. Wfoncocke] *Hist. Iustine* xxxvi. 114 To the entent to wipe that spot of cowardice whereof him had blemished his reputation. 1609 Milton *Eikon.* vv. 140 To wipe off jealousies and scandals, the best way had bin by clear Actions. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 58 I had much habbe h'wonne a-day..., I wyped it is al clene a-way ase it neuere nere. 1740 Pilsbr. *Acodastus* iv. iii. S iv b, That he may wipe away at the moment of his man. 1758 Elde *Antiq.* I. 74 They deceitfully & fraudently wipped their money from them. 1599 Sir J. Harwood *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 55 Hee wiped away from the people such heapes of money as [etc.]. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 115 The Priest ..wipes away to his chamber all that which the poor..Indians had offered.

**c.** To destroy the trace of, obliterate, efface; to destroy the effect or value of, bring to nought.

1564 *Brief Examin.* (1842) 11 Wordes wype a great many out of their brotherhood. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 211, I knew of this before. But..This present greefe had wip'd it from my minde. 1601 *Weal. Ward*, V. ii. 1 An Action for me (milo) wipe not out the rest of thy services, by leaving me now. 1704 C. Leslie *Wolf Stript* 50 But all they have done before, is wip'd clean off. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* vii. 125 Every period of language..wipes out a part of the intermediates which connect a derived element with its original. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* v. 47 The anxiety wiped away from his face as if by magic. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Mar. 7/4 Last week the questions reached a total which had never before been known. This afternoon that record was wiped out and another established.

**d.** To do away with, put an end to, abolish, annihilate. Now always with *out*.

1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 104 The tyrannycal..instytutyonys..left here among vs, whych al schold be wipt away by the receyvyng of the veyh we cal the verey godly law. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* 468 If yee had not vtterly wypte al shame from your faces. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 108 My harme is, my hope away dyd wipe. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* II. 212 And wipe with the first lunge My foe's whole life out, like a sp-nge. *a* 1842 Aswold in Stanley *Life* (1851) I. ix. 237 So completely wiping a man out of existence. 1903 *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 71/3 The competition of railways, which has wiped out the steamers of the Mississippi.

**e.** *spec.* To put an end to death, destroy completely, exterminate (a body of persons). Usually with *out*.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 1052 The Chananites were wiped away by reason of their incest.

1862 *Trol. Dicsonnets* (1878) II. 119 Many of the officers went away saying, 'We will come by-and-by and wipe you out.' 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Hymn to Proserpine* 14 O Gods dethroned and deceased, cast forth, wiped out in a day. 1889 Kipling *Willie Winkie, Drums of Fore & Aft* 103 But for want of fresh troops, the Afghans would have been wiped off the earth. 1898 *Century Mag.* Apr. 925/2 A tragedy which is to end in entire extinction.

**f.** (with *off*, rarely † *out*) To cancel (an account or score); to discharge, pay off (a debt).

1667 Dryden & Dr. Nowe. *Sir M. Mor-ail* ii. ii, All this is since the last reckoning was wip'd out. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* iii. i, For this time I wipe off your score, till you are caught tripping in some new amour. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. xxii. 133 Lovelace..like an absolved confessionale, wipes off, as he goes along, one score, to begin another. 1831 James *Philip Aug.* xiii, Many an old score of rebellion not yet wiped off between himself and the king. 1888 W. J. Tucker *E. Irving* 181 A man which has to go to wipe off a few of your most pressing mortgages.

† **g.** (with *off*) To get quit or clear of (an unpleasant task). *Obs. rare.*

1594 in *Hervey Mem.* (1907) II. 13, I am glad..that you have wipe off that dirty & wett journey so fairely without prejudice to yor health.

**7.** To strike, beat, or attack (with blows, or with mockery, sarcasm, rebuke, or the like). Now *dial.* or *slang*.

1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxvi. b ij b/1 They wolde come to the walles, and wype them in derysion, sayeng [etc.]. *c* 1580 *Thersytes* (facs.) D j b, Thom tombler of tewxbury turninge at a tryce Will wype wyllam waterman if he be not wyse. 1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 You see my quarter staffe...A washing blow of this..can wipe a fellow ouer the thumbs. 1600 J. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* iv. i, *Cal.* Something crost my Nose. *Ran.* A Dore, a Dore, the fields are full of them...There was another wip't me in the same place. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* I. i, *Tra.* You have wip't him now. *Soph.* So will he wher the wench, I hope. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. x. Wks. 1851 IV. 88 That such a heinous fault..should be onely wipt with an implicit and oblique touch. 1663 Lamont *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 164 [He] found them out in bed togither, wher he abused his brother for such a lewd prancke, and did weipe hir with his roddo. 1856 *Bentley's Misc.* Oct. 366 If you don't shell out on the minute I'll wipe your throat with my bowy-knife. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Wype*, to strike, to whip. Clydes.

† **b.** (with *away, off*) To strike off, cut off at a blow. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 27 Her Lions clawes he from her feete away did wipe. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 130 Not that a Nonconformists head must be wip'd off as oft as your nose drivles.

**8.** *intr.* for *pass.* (*lit.* or *fig.*: see 2, 6).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8052 If hat ani verse be ofhalinese wit-in hat tre, Wit sinful men it sal fell...On ganging it sal wipe a-wai. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 21 At the worchyp of this word hit wyl wype sone away, Hit falles and failys forth. 1897 Pollock *Course T.*, viii. 198 Sin, and sin by habit, kills the life of souls, that would not wipe away. *Mod. colleg.* The spots will easily wipe off.

**9.** Phrases (with various nouns as obj.). **a.** *To wipe a person's nose*: † (*a*) see Nose *sb.* 10, 10 b (cf. sense 3 above); occas., to treat with contempt or indignity; (*b*) in mod. use = d (*a*). † **b.** *To wipe the mouth of*: to exonerate, prove or assert the innocence of; cf. I Prov. xxx. 20. **c.** *To wipe one's hands of = to wash one's hands of* (Wash *v.* 3 e). Similarly *to wipe one's lips of*. **d.** *To wipe* a person's *eye* (slang or colloq.): (*a*) Sporting, etc. (see quot. 1823); hence, to get the better of, 'score off'; (*b*) to give a black eye to: e. *To wipe one's boots on*: to inflict the utmost indignity upon. *To wipe the floor with*: to 'bring to the ground' utterly, inflict a crushing defeat upon.

*a.* 1437- [see Nose *sb.* 10]. 1588 tr. *Constantius' Inquis.* 12 The party must..seeke to wipe their noses by shaping them a new forme. 1577 Dutchman *Cicero* (1585) 71 b/2 Hee deuised a shifte howe to wype the Byshoppes nose of some of his Goble. 1598–1721 [see Nose *sb.* 10 b]. 1598–1600 *Minsheu's Guide to Tongues* (ed. 3) 227 (MS.) Her husband..dyd saye that 'I will wype the noses of you all'. 1842 *Asiatic Trad.* XXXVII. i. 235 He once or twice, to borrow Sporting phrase, 'wiped my nose' in a very affronting manner. 1850 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xvii, 'I could have wiped your nose', exclaimed Mr. Sponge, covering the hare with a hedge stake instead of a bloodier foe.

**b.** 1687 *Good Advice* 8, I know she flatters her self..she is a Bulwark against Popery: and with that,..wipes her Mouth of all old sayings. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 125 ¶ 5 The Pains he alledged by the Romanists to wipe the mouth of the pope from being called the Antichrist.

**c.** 1784 Trusler *Moral Bill.* 98, I was determined to wipe my hands of it. 1852 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xvi, With a late and hesitating virtue, they wiped their lips of the murderer's blood, and consented to believe him innocent. Indeed. 1855 Thorpe *Warden* x, That he could..wipe his hands altogether of so sorrow-stirring a concern.

**d.** 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v., In shooting, if one miss in the first, and a second wipe your eye, if he kill it, they say your friend: 'I'll stand by and wipe your eye. 1869 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 212/1 The personal question between the Society and its agents is thus done from the latter in the former when its eye is to be wiped in the fashion above told. 1874 R. H. Dellicr *Cranleigh Coll.* I. 89 Hullo! Cheeky! it's Sunday, or else I'll wipe your eye for that. 1899 *Spectator* 18 Mar. 383 Never so well-pleased as when he is wiping the eye of the professional burglar.

**e.** 1899 Mackail *Morris* II. 346 Though he often wiped his hooks and eyes, a man has never allowed him the more stinging insolence of condescension. 1905 'G. Thorne' *Lost Cause* ix, His only grief was that he was not allowed to 'wipe the floor with that there Hamlyn'. 1918 'G. A. Birmingham' *Island Mystt.* xxiv. 231 He was so infernally certain that the Emperor would wipe the floor with us.

Hence **Wiped** (wəipt) *ppl. a.* (see sense 3).

1884 *Knight's Mech.* 1868/2 Stuppl., *Wiped Joint (Plumbing)*, one made by placing the parts in the required juxtaposition and covering the joint with a mass of solder.

**Wipe**, obs. f. Weep *v.*; var. Wype, lapwing.

**Wiper** (wəi·pəɹ). Also 6 (9 in sense 5) **wyper.** [f. Wipe *v.* + -er1.]

**1.** A person who wipes; *spec.* in various industries, a workman employed in wiping something clean or dry. Also with adv., as *away, of, out*.

1552 Huloet, Wyper a waye of fylth from a mans body. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* xv, Let me and you be wipers Of scores out with all men—especially pipers! Gerunda Gretzwehle *Liber Humanitatis* 141 A wiper away of the tears that none other but he and God beheld. 1881 *Instr. Comm Clerks* (1888) 89 Glass Bottle-washer, Wiper-out. 1888 J. W. Hart *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1904) I. 99 So that when wiping the joint the solder will not burn the little finger of the wiper's hand. 1889 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 220/2 (Locomotive) For wipers and watchmen.

**2.** A cloth or other appliance used for wiping; in *slang* use, a handkerchief (later replaced by Wipe 2b. 4).

1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 59 For v ells canvas for butter clothes and wipers, iiij s. 1598 B. Jonson *Magpye of Oxon* 127 The wipers for their noses. 1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1338 The fish he calls the Wiper, supposing that by it they wipe off the bonie from the flowers. *a* 1700 H. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wiper*, a Handkerchief. 1842 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xii. II. 63, I rolled it up with my wiper. 1870 *Daily News* 23 Sept., The women in Holland clean their steps with an appliance combining the brush and wiper. 1890 *Sci. Amer.* 8 Nov. 297/1 Another movement [of a soldering machine] carries the can body across the wiper, which removes the superfluous solder.

**b.** = *Wiping-rod*: see Wiping *vbl. sb.* 3.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*

**3.** One who or that which strikes or assails; in quots. applied to weapons. *slang.*

1611 Bible, R. *Philistine* v. iv. 11, I could hulk your Grace, and hang you up cross-leg'd, Like a Hare at a Poulters, and do this with wiper. 1890 Conan Doyle *Sign of Four* vii. 85, I have a wiper in this bag, and I'll drop it on your 'end if you don't book it!..Stand clear, for when I say 'three': down goes the wiper.

**4.** † **A severe blow**; also, a sharp rejoinder or taunt (Jam., 1882): = Wipe *sb.* 2, 3. *colloq.* or *slang.*

1846 James *Stepmother* lxv. III. 144, I say, Jack, that was a wiper you gave me between the eyes.

**5.** In machinery, a projecting piece fixed on a rotating or oscillating part, as an axle or wheel, and periodically communicating momentary by a rubbing action to some other part; a cam, eccentric, or tappet; *esp.* one serving to lift a hammer, stamper, valve-rod, etc. which in the intervals falls by its own weight.

1796 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 31 The treadles are worked by 'wipers' fastened on the main shaft. 1808 G. Gregory *Treat. Mech.* II. 11 A wiper, or cam, is that for which the engineer..formed the wipers into spirals, which communicated motion to the hammer almost without any jolt whatever. 1839 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* 969 Over these treadles is a shaft carrying four double wypers containing two segments each.

*attrib.* 1832 Ure *Philos. Manufy* 132 The upper roller is furnished with wiper-wings. 1839 *Ure's Dict.* 367 The wooden wiper-rollers covered with flannel. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 324 The steam is admitted both above and below the piston, by moving the slide with the handle of the wiper-shaft.

**Wiping** (wəi·pin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wipe *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of the verb Wipe, q.v. (*lit.* or *fig.*)

Also with adv.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxx. (1495) L viij/1 Wyth wyppynge & clensynge this vnclennes of leed may be taken away. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wypynge, of *Abstersio...terrorum*. 1448-9 Mewnal *Accounts of Ct.* 1032 This lyoun..in hys weltering Made alle blody Clengyng her..hyr in hys wypyng. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 4 b, The Confutacion, is a dissoluyng or wipyng awaie, of all suche reasons as make against vs. 1611 Speed *Panoramia Sect.* 4 *Art* II. 207 When they require wiping, a warm piece of silk..is the most suitable material to use. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 499 The Conquest meant the Conquering out of old scores. 1890 *Jacobi Printing* 232 *Packing the rollers.*—This is sometimes necessary to avoid the 'wiping' of the roller on the extreme edges of the type, which causes an excess of ink.

**2.** *concr.* (*pl.*): see quot. 1888.

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.* 156 *Wipings*, cotton refuse used for wiping up and cleansing machinery. 1905 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 6 There is sometimes spontaneous combustion..in the ink and wipings at a printer's.

**3.** *Attrib.* and *Comb.* Used for wiping, as *wiping-handkerchief, -towel*; **wiping-bar** (*Glass-making*), see quot.; **wiping-cloth** (*spec.* in *Plumbing*: see Wipe *v.* 3); **wiping-rod, -stick,** a rod fitted with a piece of cloth or tow for cleaning out the bore of a gun.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 590 (*Glass-making*) The 'wiping bar ..wrapped in linen, to remove dust. 1891 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Almojarra*, a 'wiping cloth or rag. 1888 J. W. Clarke *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1904) I. 58 The wiping-cloth following the iron so as to pull or push the solder upwards as it runs downwards on both sides of the joint. *Comm. James* v. x (1656) 913 Better weep here, where there are 'wiping-handkerchiefs in the hand of Christ, then to have your eyes wipt out in hell. 1891 Century *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Rod*, The..'wiping-rod,..used by gun-smiths. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 167 They often take from them the furs they have collected, and barter away with their 'wiping sticks. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* July 18/1 Pete was in the act of forcing down the ball with his long hickory wiping-stick. 1881 Staunyhurst *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 40 Thee wasting sensuous..doe subject, to wiping towels. 1911 Kate D. Wiggin *Mother Carey* xiii, She..gave the wiping towels to Julia.

**Wiping**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That wipes, in various senses: see the verb.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 Wypynge, *tergens*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* i. lxxv. 114 A certaine wiping, cleansing, and attracting faculie. 1599 Marston *Sco. Villanie* iii. xi, The quicke change, with wiping of the eyes. 1877 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 738/1 A wiping-out electromagnet, which removes all traces of the record.

**Wipit**: see Waipit.

**Wippe**, obs. pa. t. of Weep *v.*; obs. f. Whip.

**Wipped, wipt**(e, obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wipe *v.*

**Wips**, obs. form of Wisp.

**Wirble** (wɜ·rbl'), *v.* (Individual.) Also **wirbel.** [ad. G. *wirbeln.*] *intr.* To turn round and round; to whirl; to eddy. So **Wirble** *sb.*, whirl.

1846 Lytton *Harold* iv. ii, I was girt round with dead men's bones; and the bones moved round me, undulating, as the dry leaves that wirble round in the winds of the winter. *Ibid.* ix. vii, The gibe and the wirble of the dead men's bones. 1849 *K. Arthur* xii. 220, And here and there, and wirbelling to and fro,..pale thousands spread the plain. 1866 Ld. Lytton *Lucile* i. iv. § 6. 9 The waters went wirbling above and around.

**Wirch, -ear,** etc., obs. ff. Work, Worker, etc.

**Wirehop, -ip,** obs. ff. Worship.

**Wird** : see WEIRD, WERED, WORD, WORTH.

**Wire** (waiz), *sb.* Forms: 1–4 wir, 4–5, 7 *Sc.* wyr, 4–7 wyre, 5–7 wyer, (5 were, whir, 6 wyere, whoire, wiar; *Sc.* 6 wyir, 7 wyr, weyer), 6–7 wier, wiyar, 5– wire (*Sc.* 8 weyr, 9 weir). [OE. *wír*, corresp. to MLG. *wire* (LG. *wir*), ON. *vírr* in *vírvirkir* filigree work, related further to OHG. *wîsara* (MHG. *wîsere*) finest gold, ornament of this: referred to the base *wi-* of L. *viêre* to plait, weave, etc. (cf. WITHE *sb.*).]

**I.** Denoting the substance.

**1.** Metal wrought into the form of a slender rod or thread, formerly by hammering, now by the operation of wire-drawing. **a.** of precious metal, esp. gold, used chiefly in ornamentation:

From the 13th to the 16th century golden hair was freq. poetically likened to gold wire.

*a* 1000 *Riddles* xxvii. 14 Wrætlic weorc smiþa wire bifongen. *c* 1205 gold wir (see GOLD † 8 *a*). 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* ii. 11 Fetislich her fyngeres were fretted wiþ golde wyre, And bere-on red rubyes. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3967 Many maidens thar he sese, Wirkand silk and gold wir. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 319 Dame Venus..Whose long here shone as wyre of gould bryght. 1483 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* i. In Aquary, Cinthia the cleire, Rynsid hir tresis like the goldin wyre. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 254 All his silver made up in wyer. 1757 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 1 Apr., [The] cushions..are generally brocade, or embroidery of gold wire upon satin. 1879 S. C. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* iv. 73 Silver wire in thirty-three hundred years old, and gold wire six hundred years older.

**b.** of any metal, esp. iron, brass, or copper, drawn out into a rod or thread.

1348 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 470/18 m. 6 (P.R.O.) In Wir empt[o] pro fistula conducti mundanda iij*l.* d. 1389–8 [see WIREDRAWER 1]. 1432 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 182 And yif the cardwirdrawer were ones or twies diseysed with the ontrewe wire he wolde be ware. 1488 *York Myst.* Introd. 40 [Pynners and Wyrdrawers] makes wyre to drawen wyre. 1497 *Nottingl. Acc. Hen. VII* (1876) 100 Wire for prymers. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 113 Item..for wyir to the potair of Striveling to bind the gun stok vs. 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 189 vj lb of drawen wyer—viji*s.* iiij*d.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxvi, They..bound her tender armes in twisted wire. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 14 Iron used for making of Wyre, which is the softest and the softest and toughest. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 186 The parts are then to be joined properly together, and kept in that state, by means of wire. 1828 WEBSTER s.v., Iron is a pliable small bit of wire, commonly brass, with a point at one end, and a spherical head at the other. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 615/1 The materials for wire, possessing, almost equal ductility, are platinum, silver, iron, copper, and gold.

**c.** with qualification denoting (*a*) the metal, as *brass, copper, iron, magnesium, platinum wire*, (*b*) the form or colour, as *black, small, white wire*, (*c*) its use, as *binding, electric, fuse, joint, pinion wire*; also *lapland wire* (see quot. 1755).

14– in Wr.-Wülcker 558/38 *Aerarium*, wyre of yre. 1435 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 183 No Cardwyre no mystermannes wyre. 1463 *Act 3 Edw. IV. c.* 4 § 4 Blanc file de ferre vulgarement nomme whitwyer. 1530 PALSGR. 288/2 Wyre of brasse, *fil darcal, fil de laton.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 15 [He] shard his long lockes, coloured like copper-wire. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* (1683) 4 *Perpendiculars* of Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeited if any such be imported. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci. s.v. Wire, Wire of Lapland*..called..lapland-wire. It is made of the sinews of the reindeer..upon many of thread..covered with fine. 1837 HERBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 906 Rolled or 'black wire,' (as it is sometimes called, to distinguish it from the bright, or drawn wire). 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 429 The drawn tube called joint-wire,..used by the silversmiths, for hinges and joints. *Ibid.* 433 In hard-soldering, it is..necessary to bind the pieces together by their respective positions; this is done with soft iron binding-wire.

†**d.** as the material of a lash or scourge. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 65 Thou shalt be whipt with Wire. 1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* I. ii, *Alib.* Peace, peace, or the wyer comes. 1648 HAGE *West Ind.* xiii. 70 Disciplines of wyar, rods of iron, haire-cloths.

**e.** used for fencing; esp. *barbed* (earlier *barb*) *wire*, later often simply *wire*: a fencing wire composed of two or more strands twisted together, with barbs or short spikes fastened a few inches apart in the strands; also, the fencing or defence so constructed; also *attrib.*

1876 *Field* 16 Dec. 714/2, I was in hopes that a country like the Bicester (where every farmer seems to enjoy the chase) would be free of such an enemy as wire. 1883 [S. SCOTT *Farm Roads*, etc. 88 Barb wire fencing should consist of at least two barbs, used in connection with two wires twisted together. *Ibid.* 89 With all the great advantages of barbed wire is that it keeps them in ; with sheep, it keeps their enemies out. 1900 KIMBERAN *Modder River* xi. 93 The more automatic discharging of their guns at the bursting crowd of human deer impaled upon Cronje's wicked barbed wire. 1915 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 4 Four German snipers were shot on our wire. 1917 *Illustr. London Dispatch* 26 Tremendous barbed wire entanglements form a broad barrier.

**II.** Denoting an individual object.

* **2.** A piece, length, or line of wire used for various purposes (see quots.; some early uses are obsolete).

*Beowulf* 2413 Se [corr^sele] wæs innan full wrætta and wira. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1636 For worldly loye halt not but by a wir; That preueth wel it brest alday so ofte; For-bi rede is to werke wiþ it softe. *c* 1386 — *L. G. W.* 1205 *Dido*, Vp on a courser, startelyngas as the fyr, Men myghte turne hym with a litil wyr, Sit Eneas. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 38. 46 In centre of the compas stike an euene pyn or a whir vp-right. 1426-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 63 First payd for the sepulcre for diuers naylis & wyres & glu ij *d.* 1460 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 292 A limage of lede, broken in the myddes, and made fast with a Wyre. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 52, I haue distroyed Rychарde Hun... I put a wyre in his nose. 1570 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159 Greate wyers that wast crosse the hall. 1581 W. BOROUGH *Disc. Var. Cumpas* ii. B ij, The Flye of the Compas of Variation, is so turned by reason of the Magneticall wiers, that the North point thereof doeth shew the Pole of the Magnes. 1583 [see SUPPORTASSE]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator, Cephalotis*..a strining wyer, or a steele where-with to write. 1616 A. RATHBORNE *Surveyor* 126 On the head or top of which shorter sight, must be placed a wyer or brasse pin. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 2. 179 Through this Button should be fastned an Iron Wyre. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author, O. & N. Test.* III. 244 Round Wires of Gold put into the Ears. 1753 MRS. DELANY *Let.* 17 Feb. in *Autobiogr.* (1861) III. 206 Mr. Maddox, who does surprising feats of activity on a wire. 1821 *Bk. Trades* III. (ed. 4) 67 The mould, which the paper-maker has in his hand, is composed of many wires set in a frame close together. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip. xvi.* (1842) 425 The open limb is afterwards to be wiped clean...with a wire and tow. 1840 LARDNER *Greenw.* 251 One of these cylindrical cards, which, as it revolves, carries away the wool spread upon the points of its wires. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org. Chem.* 111 The [flax stem] is cut up with wires into bars. 1880 R. WARD *Sportsman's Handbk.* 62 [In setting up birds] the leg wires should be half as stout again as the body wires. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8/2 The [telephonic] messages being transmitted from a vertical wire carried up a pole.

**b.** *spec.* One of the fine platinum cross-wires fixed horizontally and vertically at the focus of a telescope : see COLLIMATOR 1.

1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marine Surv.* 1. (1815) 52 If, while the vertical wire runs along the pole, the horizontal wire runs exactly along..the cross-piece [on the pole]..., the quadrant and telescope are right. 1878 *Amer. Photogr.* VIII. 401/1 Focus the sharp image of the sun together with that of the cross-wires or ruled gratings.

**c.** connecting a bell with the bell-pull or -push.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvi, 'There ain't a bell, is there, sir?' he inquired, in a tone of deep interest, when the wire's broken.' 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* III. ix, The door-bell may ring itself off its wire.

**3.** A line of wire used as a conductor of electric current.

*Line wire*, a wire charged with electricity ; *fig.* (*colloq.*) an energetic or vigorously active person.

1747 [see ELECTRIZE v.]. 1796 *Imison's Sch. Arts* (ed. 4) 91 When the wire is to be kept from touching separate, two slender and pliable wires.., are to be fastened [etc.]. 1807 CRABB *Par. Reg.* II. 380 So two cold limbs, touch'd by Galvani's wire, possessing, with new life, their former activity. 1832 Conveying, as the electric wire, We know not how, the absorbing fire. 1886 A. A. C. SWINTON *Elem. Princ. Electr. Lighting* 18 The conducting wires for electric lighting are almost invariably made of copper, which is usually covered with an insulating coat of india-rubber and tape. 1890 live electric wire [see LIVE *a.* 4].

*Sc.* 1810 JAMIESON *Hall. Tales* xiii, Political and social movements touched him only through the wire of his rental.

**b.** *spec.* The line of wire connecting the transmitting and receiving instruments of a telegraph or telephone.

1854 telegraphic wires [see TELEGRAPHIC *a.* 2 b]. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* Pref. p. vi, The wires..are creeping over the Rocky Mountains, and erelong we shall have momentary advices from the Pacific States.

**c.** The telegraphic system. *By wire* (formerly *by the wires*) : by means of a telegraphic message. Hence (colloq.) a telegraphic message, a telegram.

1859 LEVER *Dav., Dunn* xlix, He then telegraphed to his man of business, to ascertain the exact accounts of Lord Lackington's wealth, and answer 'by wire.' 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xviii, You had better come up yourself; but say the word 'Yes', or 'No', by the wires. 1870 H. PAYNE *Telegraphist* 76 Guiding of the *Bellenoy-Aphic*, may have a wire from his sub-editor. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 255/1 The forte of the *Enquirer* is its voluminous correspondence, both by mail and telegraph. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* viii, We pulled up at the Great Peter Street post-office, and Holmes dispatched his wire.

* Senses used mainly in pl. or collect. sing.

**4.** Metallic strings (of a musical instrument).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 355 Iriche men beeþ conyng..in harpe and tymbre þat is i-armed wiþ wire and wiþ stremges of bras. 1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* II. When his golden fingers move The golden wires of his ravishing harpe. *Ibid.* E ij, His haire is lyke the wyer of Dauids Harpe. 1608 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 38 Apollo sings to the touch of golden wires. *a* 1718 PRIOR *Poor Poet* 656 They breath the Flute, or strike the vocal Wire. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 256 When he has pray'd and preach'd the sabbath down, With wire and catgut he concludes the day. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxxviii, His country's creaking lyre, That wheistone of the teeth—monotony in wire! 1828 SKELLEY *Kentd. & Helen* 1164 From the twinkling wires among, My languid fingers drew and flung Circles of life-dissolving sound. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 119/2 In the violin and in the pianoforte, the lower notes are obtained from wires formed of compound coils.

**5.** Metallic hars (of a cage).

1696 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 8 A constant aviary of sweet singers, which are here retained without the charge or violence of the Italian Wires. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. lxxv. 348 It [*sc.* a captive bird] beats and bruises itself against its wires. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, A new cage with gilded wires.

**6.** *Croquet.* The iron hoops or arches through which the balls are driven. Now *rare.*

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 483/2 The implements used in croquet are mallets, balls, posts (or sticks), and hoops (which are called indifferently hoops, wires, or arches). 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* i, Martin..struck wildly in the hopes of an impossible cannon off the wire.

**7.** Knitting needles. *Sc.*

*a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* Poems (1845) 24, I wat they are as pretty hose As come frae weyr or tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 805/1 The method of knitting stockings by wires or needles. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* v, Knitting her stocking systematically, as if she meant every twist of her thread, and inclination of the wires, to bear burden to the cadence of my voice. *a* 1878 in D. H. Edwards *Mod. Scott. Poets* (1880) 1. 30 She's handy an' quick wi' her weirs an' her needles.

**8.** The metallic lines by which puppets are worked. Chiefly *fig.* in the phrase *to pull* (or *move*) *the wires* (see WIRE-PULLER).

1697 BRAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* III. i, Like dead motions moving upon wyers. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 35 [Miracles] were so easy to be done..by Wires and Juggling. *a* 1704 E. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1730 III. 285 A Guide that..moves the rest of them, than the Wire in the Finger of the Poppet-Player. 1826 *Mass. Spy* 12 Apr. 2/6 Mr. McDuffie said..that he was perfectly aware..who was the skulking manager who moved the wires. 1834 S. ROGERS *Let. to Ld. Holland* 28 Oct. in *Pearson's 70th Catal.* (1894) 51 Lord Durham appears to be pulling at 3 wires at the same time—not that the 3 papers—the Times, Examiner and Spectator—are not in the secret, but in his opinions. 1860 *Fraser's Mag.* July 98 To charge him, in the technical language of his purity, with 'pulling wires', and 'laying pipes' for the Presidency. 1888 *Encycl. Americ. Commerce*, v. 2cxiv. 111. 321 A demagogue of greater talent ..may practically pull the wires of a President whom he has put into the office.

**b.** *To be (all) on wires* (fig.), to be in a state of nervous excitement or 'jumpiness'.

1869 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Oct. 630/1 Here's another for T. P.; a man this time, all on wires.

**III.** Network of or framework of wire.

**9.** Wirework ; now usually, wire netting.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 12 Two hattes..the Turffes of wyer couered with clothe of golde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 121 Hanging in the middest cage of birds, wrought about with thick wyer. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Apr. 1646, In the middle of this garden was a cupola made of wyer, supported by slender pillars of brick. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 266 It is pity the Windows of Fairford are not secured with Wire. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 853 The latter is the quick..and is supposed to have fly wire (wirecloth or cloude flies) inside of the windows. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 303 Birds..in new and commodious pens, with galvanised wire fronts.

**†10.** A frame of wire for the hair; (*b*) to support the ruff, = SUPPORTER 3½, SUPPORTASSE. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (?) Least it [*sc.* the hair] should fall down it is vnder propped with forkes, wyres, and I can not tel what. 1595 GERARDE *Herbal* (1633) (Percy Soc.) 3 These flaming heads with staring haire, these wyers turned like hornes of ram. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 For one coriddy wyr to dry the haire of the ruff. For one vyr to ver with one French ioof va.1 iron, for thri vyrs to ver with English roo's ba.1. 1607, 1612 [see RE-BATO]. 1619 FERGUSON *Let. to Abbot* 1. 3 Without any of their tyres, Their wires,..pins, and Pestwiks, And they appear like laid coates in the nest. 1690 D. URFEY *Collin's Walk Lond.* iii. 112 Like Saxon Lords, that trips Strano With Wires, Cushions, and Cupolends the Hips. 1690 M. EVELYN *Fop-Dict., Palisade*, A Wire sustaining the Hair next to the Duchess, or first Knot. [1893 GEORGIANA HILL *Hist. Engl. Dress* I. iii. 197 In addition to the hair, wires were used to stiffen the ruff. The wires were covered with silk or gold and silver thread, and came round the neck under the ruff.]

**c.** *Paper-making.* Woven brass wire-cloth.

*a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, On this [frame] they take up the pappe, the superfluous water draining thro' the wyre...The mark we find on the sheets is formed in the wyre. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Industr. Arts* IV. 1497 The 'wire' is an endless cloth made of very fine wire...The mesh varies from 60 to 70 and sometimes as many as 90 threads to the inch.

**d.** A snare for hares or rabbits.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. xii, He himself had passed through that Field, in order to lay Wires for Hares. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 104 In a late article concerning snares or wires. 1819 *Ibid.* (N. S.) IV. 210 Fix here and there a large bush..and close to each bush two 'wires'.

**IV.** Transferred and miscellaneous uses.

**10.** Something resembling wire or a wire ; e.g. a long thin plant-stem, as an asparagus-stalk ; a straw-berry runner ; †a branch-like appendage of a star-stone ; a cylindrical piece of native silver.

1601, 1879 [see STRAWBERRY B]. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 294 Capillaries..creeping on..the Ground, with Wires after the manner of Strawberries. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 36 Cinquefoil..produces its Leaves ..on a Stem, or Wire. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 11. B. Several [Asterie], with the Points or Branches that are wont to arise from them, call'd, by some, Wires. 1793 J. LODGE *Introd. Tetpog. Hist. Herefd.* 27 That when the wires or vines [of hops] spring up, they may not be too far separated to run their whole length. 1865 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 603 It is only in such as possess a..good carbonic earthy matter, that they [*sc.* potatoes] are enabled to propagate their subterraneous shoots. 1869 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1869) 128 These may they be seen knee-deep in the wires or clambering over the broken grey rocks. 1882 *Rep. Prog. Mineral. U.S.* 200 The quartz shows much free gold and silver. The latter is in the form of nuggets and wires. 1897 H. CLIFFORD *In Court & Kampong* 69 The bristling wires of whitcher, the long cruel teeth lof a tiger.

**11.** *pl.* Applied to hairs, or rays, as resembling shining wires (cf. 1 a), *poet.* and *rhet.* Now *rare.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 79 Apollo Cut off his locks and left them on her head, And said, I plant these wires in Natures womb. 1590 — *Never too late* 49 (*Dyce*) The golden wyre that cheekens in the day, Interwinding the tresses of her haire. [1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxx, If haires be wires, black wires grow on her head.] 1676 Hardy *Ethel Inverness* The swain was peering out just as exhaust to departure, and sent gold wires of light across the glades

†12 *City wire* A 'city wife,' who wears wires (sense 9 b) in her hair or ruff used opprobriously

1609 [J.] *Wyre Silent Woman* Prol. 29 Some [critics] for lard, & tights squirt, Some for yeast wasting speech, and time wires. 1632 Massinger *If Hands Leaver* II. iii, All the City wires, and Summer birds in Towne, that once a yeare Come up to mustter

13 *slang* A pickpocket

So alle I from the practice of extracting handkerchiefs from pockets with a piece of wire

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. Introd. 25 'Wires', or those who pick ladies pockets. 1858 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 614 The boy has now become a regular hand at street wire work. 1861 *Times* 30 Oct. 9/4 When the wire has the man who actually picks the pocket) has helped himself he passes the 'swag' to his confederate.

14 Short for a. A wire rope or cable.

1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 26 Steel wire is made of six strands, with a hemp heart in the centre. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wire* (W.), a hauling rope

b Wire haired fox terrier

1892 *Brit. Fancier* 19 Feb. 79/2 Mr. F. H. Field judged the Wires.

**Wire** *attrib* and *Comb.* 15. a. Simple attrib.: made of wire or wirework, as *wire blind, bolter, cable, cage, cloth, fence, fencing, gauze, grate, guard, lattice, mattress, net, netting, network, rudle, rigging, rope, sieve, work, worm, thread, staple, trap, web, whip*; concerned with wire drawing, as *wire gauge, manufactory, manufacture, manufacturer, -mill*, supported or running on wire, as *wire railway, tramway* b Parasynthetic and instrumental, as *wire caged, -guarded hung, -mended, netted, sifted, -sewn* adjs. c Objective, with agent nouns (applied to persons or to appliances) and *vbl.* sbs., as *wire cutter, -cutting, -monger, tapper* (see Tap *v.*1 2 c), *-weaver*, also *wire like* adj.

1833 I. Ware *Bench to Bar* I. 360 With 'wire blinds the heat and great part of the light might be excluded. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 216 The flour mill had received a most valuable addition in a wire boulter. 1880 *Builder's Diet. Arts* II. 113 The Atlantic telegraph cable is a single wire cable. 1772 T. Simpson *Comm. Adder* 5 I set the wire maker take a 'wrench. 1858 Greenwood *Economy Advt.* 24 [In the wire article,] the shot is packed within a wire cage. 1873 G. Macdonald *Agricola Poems A Manchester Poem* xiv. 1 A little dark lord which hangs 'wire caged. 1798 'Wire Cloth [see Cloth 2 b]. 1833 [see 9]. 1805 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 222/2 This [mould] consists of a framework of fine wire with a 'deckle or movable frame of wood all round it. 1832 W. S. Gilbert *Landscape Gard.* vi. 229, I have lately seen a 'wire fence, which appears to me likely to reconcile the contending objects of beauty and expense. 1878 *Knight Dict. Mech.* 2350 Patent 'Wire Fencing strong enough to keep out Sheep, &c., and close enough for Dogs, Rabbits, Poultry, &c. 1833 Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 237 Shot & 'wire gauges. 1888 *Lloyd's Diet. Terms Mech. Engin., Wire Gauge*, a not had plate having a series of gauge holes, numbered according to the size of wire and metal manufactured. 1816 Sir H. Davy in *Phil. Trans.* CVI. 23 A lighted lamp or candle screened into a ring soldered to a cylinder of 'wire gauze. 1897 Boys and Girls' *Mech. & Mechanics* 430 The ore bed, for need of wire gauze tubes, which are set in a frame a short distance apart, thus allowing the ore to descend between the. 1819 Rennie *Alph. Mar. Engines*, 170 Inches formed of the wire of the gauge of keeping various holes of large insective other series and such places. 1842 Lupton *Mat. & Worm* v. xii Just looking into the parlour to coax him a herself that the 'wire guard was on the fire. 1907 H. Wyndham *Diary of a Delights* vi, 'Wire guarded gas brackets. 1846 H. H. Dixon *Field & Paddock* II. 38 That sprung 'wire hung actions, which distinguishes the stock of the great 'Rawcliffe Horse. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii He observed my Windows and 'wire Lattices that defended them. 1789 Withering, *Bot. Plants* (1796) II. 857 Branches reddish, with 'wire like at the base. 1884 J. Nicholson *Opt. Mech.* 349 The 'wire machine factory situated at L'Aigle, is one of the most considerable in France. 1818 *Mathews's Bristol Directory* 65 'Wire machine maker. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire mattress*, one having a web of wire cloth or chain stitched in a frame for supporting a bed. 1891 *Sir Isaac's Way* 7/1 A pulley with a 'wire recommended chain. 1886 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 346 Three of the machines are, in general, employed in a 'wire mill. 1678-91 H. Stewart *Gr. Golf & Silver Wyre Drawers* (1850) 16 The petition of the Wyre drawers, and Chape makers that they may be made entry into Company, and called 'Wyre m nggers. 1815 *Mem. Lord Cochrane* I. 158 Galvanic or galvanized iron 'wire net. 1910 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 6/4 Then why could not the coverts be 'wire netted from March to October? 1854 *Loudon's Chron.* I. 408 Ordinary 'Wire Netting, from 2d. per yard, 6 feet wide. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 278/2 'Wire net-work formerly employed for fences. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 12 We see a 'wire railway to the left or rather—for the wires are invisible—the trucks go floating through the air like rectangular balloons. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A barley 'wire riddle answers for beans. 1883 *Man Seamanship for Boys* 111 In turning a dead eye, in 'wire rigging, what seizings do you use? 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 157/2 Iron is the material usually employed for 'wire ropes. 1859 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 273 A flat 'Wire Rope Pulley. 1884 L. Hunt *World of Ice, Sky Ties* (1890) 20 With books all in Museum order, especially 'wire safe. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *'Wire sewer*, books sewn with wire instead of thread. 1869 Browning *King & Bk* IX. 1207 For the warm arms, were wont enfold thy flesh, Let 'wire shirt plough, and whip cord discipline. 1665-76 J. Rea *Flora* 158 The ends being first sifted through a 'wyer sieve. 1832 Loudon *Suppl. Archit.* § 665 'Wire Springs for stuffing are nothing more than spiral coils of wire. 1884 'Iona Vall. *Hist. Iowa* 9, Iowa says: I am made on wire springs like a twelfth cake butter fly. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 440 A long 'Wire staple. 1696 Bacon *Sylva* § 171 Which Strings we call Pulse, being bigger in or of Pitch than the other. And therefore 'Wire-strings are never like. 1770 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Nov. 1679, The 1st *Diapason* of 9 wyre strings placed on with a bow. 1887 *Sat. Review* 19 Feb. 191/1 The zither having 24 wire strings. 1894 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispt.* 5 Jan., An attempt to tap the wires and 'work the bookmakers has been foiled. The wire tappers escaped. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 105 One that was seduced into a 'wire trap, by placing its brood in it. 1818 *Mathews's Bristol Directory* 52 Coulting John, 'Wire weaver and Worker. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/1 The 'wire web moves forward with a motion so regulated, as to determine the thickness of the paper. 1909 *Western Gas* 9 Feb. 4/2 The Humber detachable wire wheel is said to be so perfect that it cannot work loose. 1697 H. Shirley *Mast Souldier* II. 11. (1638) E 3, 'Wyer whips shall drive you.

16 Special comb. · **wire bar**, a bar of copper cast into a suitable form for drawing into wire, = **wire-rod**, a metal bar or rod used for producing a bell; like sound, wire-hawked, a Ringed Plover, *Aegialitis cantic-helenus*, found only on the wire-grass plains of St Helena; **wire bridge**, (*a*) a suspension bridge supported by wires, (*b*) a kind of electric bridge furnished with a wire and a graduated scale, † **wire candle**, = *wired candle* (see Wired *ppl. a.* 1, quot 1413); **wire cartridge** (see quot 1858); **wire-cut** (**brick**), a machine made brick cut by means of a steam power wire-cutter; **wire-cutter**, (*a*) nippers or pliers for cutting wire, also, a man employed to cut a wire or wires, e.g. in war operations; (*b*) an appliance for cutting bricks with wire in brick making; so **wire-cutting** (also *attrib.*); † **wire-dancer**, one who dances or performs acrobatic feats on a wire rope, so † **wire dancing, wire edge**, the turned-over strip of metal produced on the edge of a cutting tool by faulty grinding or honing; also *fig.*, **wire-edged** *a*, having a wire edge, also applied to a clear and ringing tone having a line of deeper colour round the edge of the petals; **wire entanglement** *Mil.*, an abatis of (barbed) wire stretched over the ground in order to impede the advance of an enemy; **wire feed, -feeding**, used attrib. in the names of machines with apparatus for maintaining a 'feed' or continuous supply of wire, **wire finder**, an instrument for testing the insulation of electric wires, **wire glass**, sheet glass in which wire netting is embedded, **wire ground** (see quot.), **wire grub** = Wireworm, **wire gun**, a wire-wound gun, **wire hair**, short for 'wire-haired terrier'; **wire haired** *a.*, having a rough coat of a hard and wiry texture, esp. designating a kind of fox-terrier as distinguished from the smooth-haired variety, **wire heel**, contracted quarters of the heel, a defect incident to the feet of horses and cattle; **wire instrument**, † (*a*) a musical instrument with wire strings, (*b*) see quot. 1884, **wire iron**, rod iron for the manufacture of wire, **wire lattice** = *wire cloth*; **wire-marked** *Paper making*, (*a*) *pl.*, the faint lines made by the impression of the wires of the mould in the substance of laid paper, (*b*) as Water mark 5; **wire micrometer**, one with horizontal and vertical wires across the field; **wire money** *Numism.* (see quot.); **wire nail**, a nail circular in section, not tapering but pointed, and having a thin circular swaged head; **wire-nailing** (see quot.), **wire pliers**, pliers for shaping wire into curves and loops (see quot.); **wire puzzle**, a toy consisting of two or more pieces of wire formed together in such a way as to puzzle one's ingenuity in disentangling them; **wire saw**, a kind of saw of which the cutting part is made of wire; **wire silver**, native silver found in wire-shaped pieces; **wire-tailed** *a.*, having wire-shafted tail-quills; **wire-twist**, a composition of iron and steel welded together and rolled into rods, used for gun-barrels; **wire-walker**, an acrobat who performs feats on a wire rope, so **wire-walking**; **wire-wound** *a.*, wound or encircled with wire.

1868 J. Nixon *Metals* 99 The copper, when at the proper state of refining, is cast into 'ingots', 'tiles', or 'wire bars'. 1668 [Sturman] *Instrumenalogia* (1673) 3 Let him learn on one of these 'Instruments Dulz to know a Third, Fifth, and Eighth, which are the principal Concords. 1873 J. E. Harting in *Ibis* July 260 The St Helena bird, popularly known in the island as the 'Wire-bird'. 1818 *Franklin* (Philad.) June 321 The 'wire bridge near Philadelphia is supported by six wires each 3-8ths of an inch in diameter. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 334/1 Another wire bridge was built in 1817, across the Tweed. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Wire*, *Wire bridge*, in *elect.*, a kind of Wheatstone bridge in which two adjacent resistances are formed by a wire. 1419 *Churchwardens' Acc. St. Michael's Church, Oxford* (MS.), 'Wyrecandel ante crucem ad Lux Fulgebit. 1858 *Greener's Gunnery* Advt. 14 The advantages to be derived from the use of the 'Wire Cartridge, in the pursuit of game. The shot is packed within a wire cage, which is constructed so as to allow them to escape from it gradually while the charge is in motion. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, 'Wire-cut brick. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 519/2 In all cases bricks thus made are known as 'wire cuts'. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 'Wire cutter, a pair-nippers for cutting off wire. 1905 H. G. Wells *Kipps* II. v. § 4 Pearce, the 'wire cutter had a wire cutter in his pocket knife. 1902 *Lancet Brit.* XXXII. 910 Detachments of wire cutters, and pioneers, 'wire cutting. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *'Wire Cutting Pliers*. 1895 *Western Gas* 24 Jan. 5/2 The Tramway Strike at Brooklyn. The militia are now using searchlights to detect wire cutting. 1788 Beckmann *Hist. Inventions* (1782) I. 88 Mr Maddox, the celebrated 'wire dancer. 1768 Lucian *Let. Nol.* (1834) II. 362 The application of the pick-pocket, the wire dancer, and the balance master, to become expert in their several arts. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. v. § 22. 175 'Wire dancing consists rather of various feats of balancing upon the wire. [1656 *Phil. Trans.* I. 418 The Edge being when always to a 'Wire, as the very term is.] 1846 Hotzapffel *Turning* II. 496 Lastly, the flat face of the (plane) iron is laid quite flat on the oilstone, to remove the wire edge. 1847 Beckmann *Inventions* (Bohn) VI. 246 I once had hardly worn off the wire edge of his gimlet. 1882 Camden *Pract. Handturning* II. 41 The tool should be so held that the turned edge is drawn from the edge towards the handle otherwise it will discover a great liability to become 'wire edged. 1898 *Gardener's Mag.* 3 Sept. 573/2 Lime was white with a thin coating of wire edged yellow ground picotees. 1896 Voile & Stevenson *Mist. Dict.* (ed. 3) 470/2 'Wire Entanglement. 1879 Hensman *Afghan War* (1882) 215 Wire entanglements, made with telegraph wire and iron pegs. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *'Wire feed Screw machine*, a machine for making screws from a continuous length of wire. 1885 *Iron Suppl.* 950/1 A screw machine 'has an adjustable chuck and 'wire feeding apparatus. 1877 *Jrnl. Soc. Teleger. Engineers* VI. 522 A new 'wire finder. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 768/2 Mr. Murphy proposes to have a section of the 70 female 'wire glass. 1882 Caulfield & Seward *Dict. Needlework*, *'Wire ground* is sometimes used in Brussels Lace. It is made of silk, with a net-patterned meshes partly raised and arched, and is worked separately from the design. 1846 Loudon (Worc.) *Wire Work.* 1895 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 7/1 Her Majesty will probably be the first ship to be fitted with the new 12 inch 'wire guns. 1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 5 Sept. 297/2 Heather, another 'wire hair, came second. 1891 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 83 The rough 'wire haired hounds. 1894 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* (N.S.) I. 157 Scotch terriers, rough, wire haired, with long backs and short legs. 1881 V. Shaw *Bk. Dog* 209 Some excellent wire haired Fox terriers. 1819 Sporting Mag. Wire-Heels. 1854 Wood *Life* (O.S.) I. 190 John Trap of Trinity [who played] on the cisterne, and Georg Mason on another 'wyer instrument. 1819 Sporting Mag. 'Wire Instruments cuts for manipulating wire in surgical practice. 1898 Simmons *Diet. Trades*, *'Wire iron*, the best rod iron made in North Staffordshire. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1318 'Wire lattice. 1858 *Sotheby's Principia Typ.* III. 105 Owing to the leaves having been backed, the 'wire lines could not be traced. 1813 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 107 The kind of paper most esteemed is yellow wove, as the 'wire marks which are in the other sort, are an impediment to the point of the pencil. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/2 Various wire marks, or water marks, are also called. 1813 D. Brewster *New Philos. Instrum.* 52 The 'wire micrometer. 1853 H. N. Humphreys *Coin coll. Man* II. 492 A small issue of shillings, inspecies and halfcrowns, was struck in 1797 and 1798. They are known among collectors as the 'wire money, from the very slender materials on the Maundy pieces. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *'Wire nailing machine*, a machine for closing shoes with wire. 1886 *Lockwood's Diet. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *'Wire Pliers*, pliers in which a pair of smooth jaws, circular in section and tapered lengthways are mounted like the ordinary flat and roughened jaws. 1898 'H. S. Merriman' *Roden's Corner* vii. 69 It happened to be a 'wire puzzle winter, and Cornelia had got about a dozen of rings on impossible wire mazes. 1868 Holme *Ashmore* 501 'Wyer Saw. 1902 *Nature* 28 Nov. 84/2 The helicoidal wire saw has been employed for some years in Belgium and in Italy for some years. 1880 *Arch. Prec. Metals* U. S. 177 Well define I veins, carrying ruby silver, black sulphuret, and 'wire silver. 1893 *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* 19 Oct. 7/3 'Wire tailed Swallow. Inhabits India. 1835 Greener *Gun* II. 14 Damascus barrel, a variety or mixture, made from the composition named 'wire and iron *Steel*. The making of wire twist barrels. 1762 Golden *Cat. Wire* 'Wire tempe-players, fire eaters, singing women, dancing dogs, wild beasts and 'wire walkers. 1895 *Fall Mall Gaz.* 2 Feb. 1/2 Miss Virginia Aragon is the most finished wire-walker that we can remember. 1895 *Western Gas* 22 Jan. 4/3 These 'wire wound guns have been approved of, and are supposed to be nearly 40 per cent stronger than the ordinary type of heavy ordnance. 1910 H. M. Hobart *Dict. Electr. Engin.* I. 32/1 'Wire wound Armature, the armature of an electric generator or motor which is wound with wire. This term is distinction to one of which the winding consists of bars

b. In the names of various plants with slender wiry stems (see quots. and Wire-grass).

1796 P. Browne *Jamaica* 126 The small Wire rush. The large Wire rush. Both these kinds are very frequent in the swamps of Jamaica. 1797 J. Bailey & Culley *Agric. Northumbld.* 127 *Nardus stricta*. Wirebent. 1807 Hitchcock *Voy. Dardanelles* I. 208 (1817) We were several hours struggling through thick scrub and wirewood. a 1850 Bloomfield *Flora West* (1855) 424 *Polygonum aviculare*. Wire weed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* Wiresnail

¶ From the 15th to the 17th century examples of *wire* occur app. with the sense 'iron', ? for confusion with the old form *ire*. (Cf. Wiry ¶)

1406 *York Wills* (Surtees) I. 343 Lego Roberto Brid[e] wyrehatt cum j Carlele ax. 1485 in *Archæologia* XVI. 126 A Wyre hait garnyshed yt bordour Serkyll. 1589 *Aldersgate Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/2 Makynge where gudgyons. 1580 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Comq. E. Ind.* 42 A wether cock, made likewise of wier

(orig. *di bronse*) 1890 *Maldon (Essex) Docts* Bundle 217 No 92 (MS.), iii. Wyer candlestucke, 8*f* 1682 13 If More *Cousin. Kemark Stevens* 63 I hat a Wier Candlestick might be turned into Brass.

**Wire** (wəi·ə), *v.* [*f.* WIRE *sb*]

†**1. a.** To adorn with (gold) wire *Obs rare.*

1383 *K Alis* 903 (MS Lund) Her yelewe her was faire atired, Mild riche strenges of golde wyred

**b.** To entwine *Obs rare.*

*c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I xiv (1650) I 23 As the Vine her lovely Elm doth wire

†**c** *intr* To wind or twist al out *Obs. rare.*

1633 P Fletcher *Purple Is* IV xvi, In small streams (through all the Island wiring)

**2.** *trans.* To furnish with a wire or wires. **a** To fasten, join, or fit with wire or wires, *spec.* to secure (the cork of a bottle, the bottle itself) with wire.

1452 *Churchw. Acc. St Michael's, Oxford* (MS.) Item for wiryng of iij dossen candell of yeremade 1654 Webster *Appius & Virg* v ii, He that would tame a lion, doth not use the gentlest way, but wire his nose 1894 *Daily Chronicle* (Feb. 2) 88 The box contains a reel wound with the wired string is wound. 1885 Mrs Alexander *Valerie's Fate* IV, ii, I wish Cissie for me—not a pennyworth I affix, but just a lot of loose flowers 1902 Robinson *Glass Manuf* 97 In wired plate glass an entire layer of wire netting is interposed between two layers of glass

**2.** *intr.* To twist or coil, as in wiring. To wire fence or netting for confinement or protection.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. lxxv. 348 It [*sc* a captive bird] with meditating eyes, first surveys, and then attempts, its wired canopy 1876 [A.] Smith *Vict Parsons* (ed 3) 237 The lower shelves only are protected by doors and wired frames 1880 Shelby *Wisdom All* xvi, As bats at the wired window of a drying, but best their wins. 1892 *Daily Chron* III 508 A moveable house and wired run which is tenanted by a pair of Bantams 1880 Cannegie *Pract Iron* 43 Traps placed round a wired pheasant inclosure ought to be effective 1903 I P Dale *Ass hunting in Shires* 21 A hunting crowd melts away when the country is open A wired district, however, will soon bring them together 1904 *Daily Mail* (Aug. 9) 6/1 The troopers held up by deep gullies and wired woods 1910 *Black'w Mag* June 831/2 The wired over, sandy road

**3** Fastened or secured with wire.

*Wire-cut* on, designating a kind of tyre which is secured to the wheel rim by means of wire

In first quot, Contained in a bottle having a wired cork 1893 *Field* 20 Oct 548/2 Wired Jockey Club Stakes 1894 Had Majors Wemyss and Gordon to eat cold tongue and drink wired porter attwixt 1850 H Melville *White Jacket* I 1 Wired in and secured behind 1864 E Mayhew *Horse Management* 463 Where the heels have become wired i.e.

**5.** *Croquet.* (See Wire *v* 5.)

1868 *Chamb Fournl* X 485 ¶ 4 Wired Ball is one which cannot be croqued, by reason of the leg of the hoop intervening

**Wired,** obs. form of Weird *sb.*

**Wire-draw** (wəi·ə dr$\bar{o}$), *v.* Now *rare* [Back-formation from Wire-drawer.]

1. *trans.* To draw out (metal) into wire: see Wire-drawing *vbl sb.* 1. *rare.*

1666 Boate *Orig Formes & Qual* 56 Though out of a wedge of Gold one cannot immediately make a Ring, yet by Wyre-drawing that Wedge by degrees, That thing may easily be effected 1831 Youatt *Horse* (1837) I *Wire-draw*, to draw out Gold or Silver Thread 1755 Johnson, To *Wire-draw*, 1 To spin into wire 1898–32 Cleveland *London Lady* 49 He was drawn up his jaws, and snuffs and grins 1902 Maundrell *Journ Jerus* (1732) 42 His never desists (from pulling his Beard, till he had wire-drawn it down to his Feet 1849 D J Browne *Amer Poultry Bk* (1855) 163 The bird has been actually wire drawn It has passed off the hours you have neglected it, without having grown from

**b.** To cause (steam or water) to pass through a small aperture, thereby diminishing its pressure.

1746 Desaguliers *Course Exper. Philos* II 522 It must not be taken for a general Rule that Wire drawing the Water, as it is call'd, is always a Fault 1783 M. Boulton to *Let to Jas Watt* 1 Oct., Briggan always expanded the steam, great Poldice wiredrawn it, as the valve opens very little indeed 1884 *Spencer Turret Hatch's Patent* No 2502 3 In this passage has a throttle valve to wiredraw the steam

**3.** *fig.* a To draw or prolong to an inordinate length; to protract excessively, spin out.

1598 Florio, *Pontare*, to wyre draw any matter. 1611 Cotgr., *Tardiver*, to linger, forslow, slacke, delay, wire draw it 1621 Burton *Anat Mel* II i IV i 209 As an hungry Surgeon often doth prolong & wiredraw his cure to long as there is any hope of pay 1641 J Jackson *True Exang* T 1 40 His torments were so lengthened, and wire drawne to the end Christians might feele themselves dye 1653 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III xl 332, I prorogate, wyre draw and shift off the Time 1780 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I iii, They may contrive to fill up the middle and end of the evening by wire-drawing the comments afforded by the beginning 1785 in Graves *Dict Volgar T.*

**b** To draw out to an extreme tenuity, to reduce to a subtle fineness, to attenuate

1660 Gauden *C & St Demonstr* 18 The superfluity of mans wit and eloquence pl ases to find out many invention, definitions and distinctions even in plain things, wire drawn & religion into fine threads 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici* 313 Having so wire-drawn the Article concerning the Son of God into such infinite Controversies and Disputes 1706 Land *Let to Clarridge* 13 June, Sonnets and all, they won't make a thousand lines as propose completing em, and the substance must be wire drawn 1884 Lowell *Bigelow P* Introd., Poems 1890 II 161 The echo I of Pope in verse ends I by wire drawing its phrase to such thinness that it could bear no weight of meaning whatever

**c.** To strain, force, or wrest by subtle argument or the like.

1610 Carleton *Jurisd* 288 Such as would prove this furie diction from certaine texts of Scripture, as, *vrana fere te letis, &c* And such like which are wire-drawen to countenance this Papall Iurisdiction 1653 Gauden *Hieraspi* 530 He needes not wiredraw his conscience till it fits every State passage 1663 Sorbiere *Voy Eng* (1709) 48 For forcing, or wiredrawing the Sense of the Text 1687 *Good Advice* 59 For while a man is out of Office, he is Test free, but the hour he is chosen to any employment he wiredraws his Conscience to hold it 1700 Dryden *Fables* Pref *A* 2, Where I have been wrongfully accus'd, and my sense wiredrawn into Blasphemy and Heresy 1878 Wesley *Lett* 14 May, Do not wrest, and wiredraw and colour my words. 1812–29 Coleridge in *Lit Rem* (1838) III 155 If our old divines were draw their texts as wire-drawers involve out of the words the fulness of the meaning 1873 H Rogers *Orig Infidel* iii 225 Questions which only tend to wiredraw the judgment

*Adopted* 1891 Emerson *Jrnl* 25 Dec (1909) II 440 The rough and tumble old fellows, Bacons, Miltons and Burkes don't wire draw

†**d.** To draw, bring, get, induce, extract, introduce, etc. by some subtle device *Obs*

1633 Marmion *Fine Comp* III i, Although her husband be penurious, Yet she can make him malleable, and worke him, And turne, and hammer him, and wire-draw him 1650 Stapylton's *Strada's Low C* 46 The Prince of Orange, to wyer-draw the whole business out of the king, takes upon him to have been privy to the plot 1666 Hexham *Low Countries* 168 It was a hard matter for the Houses of Parliament to wire draw him by degrees to such Concessions 1708 in *Perry Hist Coll Amer Ch* (1870) 173 Among the Mr Commiss's Arguments is wire drawn in a Sly ill look'd insinuation 1734 North *Examen* III § 26 (1740) 358, I grant that Matter very fit to be drawn Occasion of in the History of the Times; and was truly, as it was, and not only, as here is done, to wire-draw a Reflection from it 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I xlii 230 If I suspected that any one were only to gain time, in order to wire draw me into a consent

**e.** To draw or spin out *into* (also with colouring from c) *Obs.*

1648 Herrick *Relat to Oberon* 135 In conclusion, after a tedious debate the desires of the Lords were referred to a Committee of the House to be wyer-drawne into an Ordinance 1796 *Connoisseur* No 118 P 8 [He] wire drawe[ l] the looks of Moses into a complete system of Natural Philosophy.

†**f.** *intr* To be penurious or stingy, *trans* to be overreaching or extortionate with *Obs*

1610 Beaum & Fl. *Scorn' Lady* v 1 Thou hadst land and thousands, thou spendst, and lingrest, and yet it flows in double I purchased, wiring, and wiredraw'd, for my wealth, lost, and was scarce[ d 1640 D Rogers *Nyuman* 260 Seeing we wire draw and catch about money rather then we will part with anything 1700 B E *Dict Canl Crew, Wire draw*, to screw, over reach, or deal hard with

**Wire-drawer** (wəi·ə dr$\bar{o}$·ə). [f Wire *sb.* + Drawer.]

1. One who draws metal into wire, one who practises or is skilled in wire drawing.

1605 in C W Burdsley *Dict Surnames* Robert le Wyr draeire 1320 in *Cl Letter Bk E Londn.* (1903) 136 (Emma, daughter of William) le Wyr draweere 1379–80 in *Hist Acct Lete* iii vii (Skeat) 150 Any knaght of the wyr-drawer maketh ile wyr to ben even and supple werchinge 1580 *Hearte Acc. Lete* II (1830) 121 Rauff Vnderwood wyre drawer for vp[ h. and v. d. 1889 in *Trans Hunter Archæol Soc* (Leeds) I *Appx* v. *Hatchet* 27 O, what a brute state of the Church it would be for all Ecclesiastical causes to come before a Weavers and Wire drawers Court 1902 *Pop Scientific* 52 Not to suffer either Refiner, Goldsmith or Wyer drawer to melt the Coyn or Plate of the Nation to make Gold or Silver Wyer 1908 *Lond Gaz* 20 Feb. 1411 The Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Company of Gold and Silver Wire Drawers. 1768 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) I 499 Take a wire drawer, who takes a little bar of silver, and by drawing it successively through smaller and smaller holes, brings it to a fineness fit for winding round a thread of silk 1833 J Holland *Manuf Metals* II 346 It has all requisite qualities given to it in the workshop of the wire drawer 1881 *Instr Census Clerks* 44 Wire Drawers Plate Maker

†**2.** In allusive phr. (*to go to the wire drawer's*, etc) or directly *fig.*; applied to one who spins out a matter to extreme length or draws it fine *Obs.*

1566 Q Bess in *Rec Orig Lett Ser* I II 206 *note*, Are my wordes like lawiers bokes which nowe a dayes go to the wise drawers to make subtall doings more plain? 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 108 Shee will either shut me out for a Wrangler, or cast mee off for a Wiredrawer 1584 — *Alex & Camp* v iii I meane to stop the world, and to draw out my life at the wiredrawers, not to entiall it off at the Cutlers 1589 [R. W. Barlow] *Anew Nameless Catk* 309 For

Tortus, according to his name, plies the wire drawer, and will needs stretch the resemblance into an identity 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* i. You play the wire drawer with her commendations 1809 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* III 640/2 The arts of amplification and illustration they cultivate in various manners, but they are still wire drawers

†3 One who plays on a stringed instrument. *In later notice use* 2.

16.. Mr. Dryden etc. *Old Jane* iv. 1. *Clemene* Is there no Musick in the house? *Drawer* Yes sir, here are sweet wire drawers

**4.** *dial.* (See quot and cf. Wire-drawn 3 f.)

1828 *Craven Dial., Wire drawer*, a covetous person, a penurious wretch

**5** *Comb.*, as *wire drawer like* adv. (cf. 2).

1661 Cotton *Poems, Petit à petit*, faire and softly, now one and then one, wiredrawer like.

**Wire-drawing,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Wire-drawer, see -ing 1.]

**1.** The action or operation of making wire by drawing a piece of ductile metal through a series of holes, successively decreasing in diameter, in a steel plate called a drawplate. Also *attrib*

1728 Absurdities *John Bull* iii. viii. 33 Such Fellows are like your Wire-drawing Mills, if they get hold of a Man's finger, they will pull in his whole Body at last 1797 Encyclopædia Britannica, Supplement, I. 432 The invention of the drawing iron or proper wire drawing 1840 Lardner *Steam* iv. 177 The process of wire drawing in which a cylindrical form is required for the metal of which the wire is made 1876 Rock *Text Fabr.* 22 The first use of a wire drawing machine seems to have been about the year 1360 at Nuremberg

**2.** *transf.* (See quots. and Wire-draw *v.* 2 b.)

1660 D'Alves *Watts Drawing* 35 The forcing & crowding of the water contrary to its own natural porousnesse, and as I may properly call it, this is a wyre drawing of the water 1875 R. F. Martin *Human Vending Mach.* 90 Wire drawing of the stem from passing through a contracted orifice 1889 *Encyl. Brit.* XXII. 487 Wire drawing of steam is accomplished (imperfectly, resisted) friction

**3** *fig.* (see Wire draw *v.* 3)

1640 Digby in *Letters Papers* Ser. II. (1888 IV. 139. I am sorry to see things gotten by wire drawing which one may be sure he had and must be granted 1648 C. Walker *Hist. Indepen.* i. 54 At length after much wyer drawing of the businesse one Warrant was drawn to Master Huyton 1732 Berkeley *Alciphron* i. 11. 21 What footsteps are there in the Holy Scripture of makeing think that the wiredrawing of abstract Ideas was a task imposed either Jews or Christians? 1832 Carlyle *Misc.* III. 21 We have often blamed him for a habit of wire drawing and over refining 1877 Condor *Bible Teach.* ii. 68 To refine this discussion into the wire-drawing of a logical subtlety

So **Wi·re-drawing** *ppl. a.* in fig. senses.

1741 R. Chandler *Pamela* IV. vi. 37 I know the pretty wire drawing ways of your sex 1756 Burke *Tracts Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1906 I. 12 But it does not afford matter enough to fill ten pages though it should be spun out with wire drawing amplification of a Gueciardinic himself 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. vi. An idle wire drawing spirit is too clearly discernible

**Wire-drawn** (wəi·ədrɔn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Wire draw *v.*]

**1** Drawn out to a great length or with subtle ingenuity, fine-spun; elaborately subtle ingenious, or refined

1604 Florio *Montaigne* I. xxvii. 96 A sub[ject common hare worne as I wyer drawn [*tracte*] in a thousand I kees. 1620 B. Jonson *Cath.* iii. 1. Sh. rid it so your ears against the hearing Of the next wire drawne quirke 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 138 The more subtill and wire drawne sele hath beene in deceiving the simple the more the simple may abhorre her 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia, Preface* 196 There is no more certain signe of a bad cause than extended testimonies and wire drawn arguments 1715 Fiddes *On the Classics* (1716) 137 Where they call Improvement is generally spinning out their Author's Sense till it were drawn, that is, weak and slender 1732 Berkeley *Alciphron* v. 124. The wire drawn distinctions of the Schoolmen 1817 Dunlop *Bellenden Ker.* I. 36 A very long piece might grow out of this observation but there is no necessity to be outrageously wire drawn upon it 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* v. Courtly delicacy, wire drawing, lowness in wiredrawn and elaborate 1873 Helps *Anim. & Their* iv. 110 What a relief it is to come from the wiredrawn nonsense of Descartes, Thomas Aquinas and Bacon, to the broad common sense of this thoughtful Scotchman [*sc.* Hume]

**2** Of steam, water see Wire-draw *v.* 2 b.

1794 Desaguliers *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 522 Unless it is very drawn water [*sic*] than at the Rate of three Feet in a Second, the Motion is not to swift 1825 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wire drawn*, the condition of steam when the pipes or ports leading to it are so small as to have not sufficient carrying capacity 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 172 When the suction or delivery pipe is too small the water is then called 'wire drawn'

**3** Of a metal. Drawn into wire. *rare*

1826 Adamson *Fall & Mercy* The under part will approach nearer to the condition of wire drawn iron.

**4** *stance test.* Attenuated, 'weak', 'thin'

1856 Delamer *N. Coral* (1861) 22 A difficulty in town gardens is to keep things from losing wire drawn 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xiii. 'I—am glad to see you' Christine stammered, with a wire drawn, radically different smile from the one he had intended. 1897 Crockett *Lad's Love* iii. He knew then, wire drawn voice of Peter Christie.

**Wire-grass.** [f. Wire *sb.* + Grass *sb.*] A name for various grasses or grass-like plants having wiry stems

1 *U. S.* The British flat-stemmed meadow grass *Poa compressa*, or the annual grass *Eleusine indica*, naturalized in North America

1793 M. Cutler in *Life, etc.* (1888) II. 294 Wire grass, which is Poa compressa 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 341 The wire grass, which grew among the trees the previous year, is frequently set on fire in the spring 1858 *Gosse Man. Bot.* (1860) 554 *Eleusine Indica.* Dog's-tail or Wire Grass. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 710/2 The wire-grass had been roughly plaited into a little mat.

2. One of several other plants, as the West Indian *Paspalum filiforme*, the Australian *Tetrarrhena* (or *Lhaharia*) *juncea*, the North American *Sporobolus junceus* and species of *Aristida*.

1824 Bunchell *Trans.* II. 5 The Wire grass of the island of St. Helena 1884 Gibbesach *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 589 Wire grass, *Paspalum filiforme* 1889 E. M. Curr *Recoll. Squatting Victoria* viii. 81 The wire grass, however, largely predominating over the kangaroo grass.

**Wireless** (wəi·ələs), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Wire *sb.* + -less.] Without a wire or wires, spec. *Electr.* dispensing with the use of a conducting wire.

*Wireless telegraphy*, a system of telegraphy (as that patented by Guglielmo Marconi in 1897) in which inductive waves are used between the transmitting and receiving stations, the signals or messages being transmitted through space by means of electric waves. So *wireless telegraph, telegram, telephony.*

1894 *Western Gaz.* 22 Feb. 8/1 Not only may man be able some day to communicate by wireless telephone with the planets, but, as I have said before, the use of the electric bell was rung at the lighthouse by means of the wireless current. 1898 *Electrical Rev.* 30 May 688/2 The first installation of Marconi wireless telegraph system in Ireland for business purposes was made last week. *Ibid.* 22 July 129/2 The wireless messages were sent from a steam tug, which followed the yacht 1904 *4 & 5 Edw. VII. c.* 24 (*title*) An Act to provide for the regulation of Wireless Telegraphy.

b. as *sb.* Short for *wireless telegraphy, message, apparatus.* Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1904 *Times* 15 June 4/1 The country is full of wireless. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 3 Mr. Witt admitted that my 'wireless' was correct 1906 *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 4/3 The captain was absorbed in the 'wireless' room. As he himself said, he 'so occupied with the wireless operations' 1910 D. Brandão *Signalling* 33 He...requested the wireless operator to assist on the reason if the strange piece produced no answer to the wireless message. from wireless equipped vessels out in the Atlantic

Hence **Wi·reless** *v. intr.* to send a message by wireless, *trans.* to send (a message) or inform (a person) by wireless, **Wi·relessly** *adv.*, by wireless

1898 *Electrical Rev.* 17 June 834 The first news of the wireless...came from Lundy Island, 30 M. away. 1901 *Daily Mail* 1899 *Western Gaz.* 6 Apr. 1/1 Inventors may soon be able to wireless from pole to pole 1903 *Morning Post* 10 Apr. 9/5 A French vessel which I believe was then wireless sed to come back 1906 *Times* 14 Feb. 4 5 The watching French cruiser saw the manœuvres, but I believe it could wireless the news the following order flashed out

**Wireman** (wəi·əmən). [f. Wire *sb.* + Man *sb.*] †1. One who makes or works in wire. *Obs.*

1547-8 in Feuilleret *Accts Exhr. I. I* (1914) 32 To John west wyerm in for 12lb of wyer 1616 B. Jonson *Masques, Time vindicated*, Circle other deuices I had, of Wyre-men 1658 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's, Westminster* (Nichols 1797) 70 To Christopher Dawson, wyreman, for covering the vestry windows with wyre

2. A workman who fixes and attends to the conducting wires of an electric service.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 47 Telegraph Fitter, Wireman 1900 F. C. Raphael *The Electrician Wireman's Pocket Book* 21 Ed. Note, Such Memoranda as would be useful to the Electric Light Wireman in his work.

†**Wiren,** *a. Obs* In 6 *Sc.* wyrin. [f. Wire *sb.* + -en 4.] *Gold worren*, of gold wire

1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. iv. 19 Hir bricht tressis envolupit wyre and wovin with a lusty golf rig I wys I threid

**Wire-pull,** *v.* [Back formation from next.] *trans.* To actuate or promote by wire-pulling. Hence **Wi·re-pulled** *ppl. a.*

1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Dec. 3/1 The whole company of wire-pulled and wire-pulling Wire Rope Co. 1897 *Rev. Rev.* 739 The King was but the crank by which Wild man were pulled the Fenian royalists 1898 Sir W. Harcourt in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 July 1/1 They knew that the agitation was conducted, were pulled and financed from the office of the Chartered Company in Capetown

**Wire-puller** (wəi·əpu·lə). [orig. U. S.; see Wire *sb.* and Puller 7.] One who 'pulls the wires'; one who works secretly to further the interests of a person or party; *esp.* a politician or political agent who privately influences and directs others.

1848 *N. Y. Mirror* 5 June (Bartlett) Already that city [Philadelphia] is filled with wire pullers, and the whole brood of political owls which fix 1859 Carlyle *Prof. Stud.* iv. (O. H. S.) 263 Thus South breaks out in a passionate loyalty to academical wire pullers 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Coll. Recoll.* xxiv. 315 The type of politician who is the despair of the official wire puller

So **Wi·re-pu lling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1847 *Congressional Globe* 26 Jan. 262/3 Next or by demon strations here, next by figuring and wire pulling at home, am I compelled to the unpleasant of this bill. 1872 E. Pierpont *Le outside Tools* 356 I set your clients try their best against the wire pulling smarters. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXVII. 9 Wrest bed, wire pulling demagogues. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 14 May 702/2 Literary wire pulling an bargaining with publishers

**Wirer** (wəi·rəɹ) [f. Wire *v.* or *sb.* + -er 1.] One who wires (in various senses of the vb.); also (*slang*), one who picks pockets with a wire.

1857 Dickens & Ainsworth *Pictures from Italy*, pick-pocket 1854 Thornton *Sylvester's Journal* 490 The nightly wirer of their innocent hare 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1882) 74 Straw Hat and Bonnet Making Dresser, Trimmer, Wirer 1901 *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 9/1 Mineral Water Trade.—Wanted wirers, and bottlers 1926 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 264/1 Then the wirers began to panic terribly, in code.

**Wirework** (wəi·əwɹk).

**1** The making of wire; work done in or with wire, fabrics or objects made of wire

1587 in Feuilleral *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 380 Edmond Hurchall wiredrayer for wirework 1694 Ray *Coll. Words* 132 The manner of the Wire-work at Hanworth in Middlesex 1690 M. Evelyn *Pop Dict* 18 *Pot-grounds*, dressing Boxes, Baskets, or whatever else is made of Silver Wirework 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 399 Observe to clean the rails and wireworks, in the water-courses, of the weeds and grass. 1849 *Kelly's Builder's Price Bk.* 137 Brass trellis wire work, for bookcases 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 348 Wire work to enclose poultry 1908 *Act 8 Edw. VII. c.* 28 Sched. 2 Erection of wireworks in hop gardens.

*attrib.* 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* xxvii. 611 Flower stands with wire work legs.

**2** *pl.* An establishment where wire is made or where wire goods are manufactured.

1898 *Acts Privy Counc.* (N. S.) XXVIII. 594 That the said Hanbery should deliver at the said wireworkes the number of 130 tonnes of malleable iron

**Wire-worker** (wəi·əwɔ·kəɹ).

**1.** An artisan who works in wire.

1690 [Charter of Wire workers of London] 1798 *New Bath Directory* 24 Pewterer, Wire worker 1814 W. Johnston *Beckmann's Invent* (ed. 2) IV. 309 Wire workers, and other artists who use wire 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 748 The paper manufacturer creates a considerable demand for the labour of wire workers

**2.** One who pulls the wires of a puppet show

In quot. *fig.*

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 260 Milton has *not* used machinery—for it is mechanical at best—as the characters of his poems, the agents themselves, not the wire workers.

b. *U. S.* An earlier synonym of Wire-puller.

1835 *Col. Crockett's Tour* (Phila.) 172 He is the wireworker, the very mover and organ of all those high handed and lawless measures. 1842 *Congressional Globe* App. 319/1 Should this be a party question? Are the wire workers of that party that they are raising a storm of indignation

So **Wi·re-wo rking** *vbl. sb.* (*a*) the making of wire; (*b*) wire-pulling

1892 *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 60 Rope making and wireworking 1899 *Western Gaz.* 23 Feb. 2/2 Reducing to a minimum the wire working that would follow, if details as to the schedules were permitted to leak out prematurely.

**Wireworm** (wəi·əwɔɹm).

**1** The slender hard-coated larva of any of the click beetles (family *Elaterida*), which is destructive to the roots of plants, also applied to similar larvæ, *esp.* the leather-jacket grub of the crane-fly

1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 302 The person who shall discover to the Society an effectual method of destroying the insect called the Wire Worm 1815 *Encyc. Londin.* I. xi. 181 The wire worm destroying indiscriminately wheat, rye, oats, and grass 1880 *Garden* 18 Mar. 283/2 I found the crop quite eaten up with wireworm

**2** A myriapod, esp one belonging to the genus *Julus*; a millepede.

1825 Mellish *St. Helena* 202 *Julus pulchellus*, Leach — The Wire Worm, well known as one of the most destructive insects in the Island to all root crops

**Wi re-wove,** *ppl. a.* (occas. -woven.) [f. Wire *sb.* + Wove, pa. pple of Weave *v.*]

**1** Denoting a very fine kind of paper used chiefly for letter paper (See Wove.)

1799 *Sheet Publ. Trials* III. 65 The splendours of gold leaf, wire wove paper, and the finest leather 1802 [W. Gifford] *Heroic Epist. Wynsor* Advt. to Rdr., I intend to print the text up in fine wire woven hot pressed paper. 1877 S. Kerridge *Ivy Lore* 2 *Ilex aquifolium Cat's scourings* 17 The papers were chiefly of the description termed wire wove.

**2** Made of woven wire.

1888 *Builder* 3 Nov. 326/1 The roof of the Asylum was being covered with Wire Wove Roofing 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 69 A horse hair mattress stop ported on a chain or wire wove under mattress

**Wirey,** obs. form of Wiry *a.*

**Wirgune,** -yne, obs. forms of Virgin.

**Wirie,** obs. form of Worki

**Wirily** (wəi·rili), *adv.* [f. Wiry *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wiry manner, like wire.

1846 Landor *Imag. Con.* I. *Q. Eliz. & Dk. Anjou* Wks. II. 175/2 My grandfather, albeit spare, was wirily elastic 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xxxix. A composite feeling wound itself faintly round my heart

**Wiriness** (wəi·rinɛs) [f. Wiry *a.* + -ness] The quality or condition of being wiry.

1802 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 210 Notwithstanding the rapidity of the circulation, and the consequent wiriness of the pulse 1824 *Good Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 46 Hardness and fullness of the pulse, together with its wiriness; this last which has been called wiriness 1832 *Examiner* 243/1 There is no marked change in her voice, except the absence of the wiriness and tremulousness which characterized it last year 1870 *Standard* 5 Oct. 2/1 Mr. Lowe has lost some wiriness than tenderness about his countenance 1883 Miss M. Betham Edwards *Disarmed* xxiii. You look wiriness itself.

**Wiring** (wəi·rin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wire *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of the verb Wire in various senses

1809 Syd. Smith *Charac. Tax* Wks. 1859 I. 133/2 All the deceits of our ancestors respecting the wiring of hares 1831 Youatt *Horse* 294 Lameness does not always exist when the *wiring* is the slow or of long standing 1870 *Punch* 29 June 269/2 Unless he telegraphs, which, when on a journey he started him at what he calls 'wiring', he generally does three or four times a day. 1894 J. D. Heath

*Croquet-player* 71 Red, Instead of playing thus,...completes the wiring, remaining near the hoop as before. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Sept. 3/1 It discouraged scamped contract work in the [electric light] wiring of houses.

**2.** *concr.* Wires collectively; wirework.

1809 Scott *Poacher* 79 Cordage for toils, and wiring for the snare. 1881 [see Wire *v.* 2d]. 1897 S. Crane *Third Violet* xxv. 172 The cashier of the *Gnomis* office looked under his respectable brass wiring and said [etc.]. 1925 *Sci. Amer.* 30 Jan. 95/2 A complicated 8-cylinder machine with its multiplication of wiring.

**b.** (See quot.)

1878 D. Kemp *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 380 *Wiring*, a stringer or iedge running fore and aft in a boat to support the thwarts.

**3.** *attrib.*, as *wiring machine, system*; *Mil.* concerned with barbed-wire operations, as *wiring party*.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wiring-machine*, ...a machine turning the edge of a tin-pan over a stiffening-wire. 1887 *Handk. Exhib. Catal.* 116 Complete Plants for the Manufacture of Barbed Wire,...Wiring Machine, [etc.]. 1900 W. C. Clinton *Electric Wiring* iii. 52 Wiring Systems. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* May 705/1 Four nights previously Angus had been sent out in charge of a wiring-party.

**Wirk(e,** obs. forms of Work.

**Wirken,** dial. f. Quicken *v.*; obs. f. Wore *v.*

**Wirling** (wɜ·rlin). Now *Sc.* or *dial.* Forms: 4–6 wirling, 5–6 wirling, (5 wirlyng, wyrlyng(e, worling, 6 worlin, 9 *Sc.* wurlyon). See also Unling *v.* [Origin unknown.] A term of abuse = 'wretch'; in mod. dial. use, a dwarfish or puny creature.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 270 Crist, his sone, God wolde not spare To leo soudet... And sithen slen him as a wirling. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1706 A wirling, a wayzyngle, a wawil-eyid shrewe. *Ibid.* 1733 A selly nounbre Of wrichis & wilingis. 1436 *Libel of Englysh Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 187 God forbeta that a wylde Yrisshe wyrlinge Shulde be chosen for to be there kynge. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 191 Furworthin wirling. a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 446 Sauing, nixt, how the nunnis that worlin sould Be. 1587 Harrison *Descr. Brit.* iii. xiv. in *Holinshed*, The fridaie being commonlie called among the vulgar sort either king or worling, because it is rather the fairest or foulest of the seauen [days]. 1691–[see Unling *v.*] 1819 [Rennie] *St. Patrick* II. xvi. 313 Haud abye I ye scrunter like wurlyon o' the pit.

**Wirly, Wirrans,** obs. forms of Warlike, Worm, Wrongance.

**Wirra** (wi·ra), *int. Irish.* Also **wurrah, whirra.** [Preceded by *oh*, = Ir. *a muire.*] An exclamation of sorrow or lament. So **Wirrathru** (wirəθrū·) [Ir. *a muire is truaige*].

1839 Carleton *Fardorougha* xii, Oh, wurrah, wurrah, this night! 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxii, And what was it at all? an upset, was it? why, if I and Aaron's at it lucky he wasn't killed? 1892 T. E. Brown *Lett.* (1900) I. 158 He... rushed forth to catch the train,...with some wild wirrathru of farewell. 1908 Weyman *Witch Grove* xxvi. 366 'Oh, whirra, whirra, what'll I do?' the Irishman exclaimed, helplessly wringing his hands.

**Wirrangle, Wirricow, Wirrie:** see Wrangle, Wirricow, Wirry.

**Wirrock** (wi·rək). *Sc.* Also 6 **wyrok, virrok,** 9 **weerock.** [a. early Flem. *weerooghe* ' chalaza, chalazion ' (Kilian), f. *weer* callosity (see Warre) + *ooghe* Eye *sb.*1] A corn on the foot. Also *attrib.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxviii. 28 A flyrok, That hes vpoun his left fute a werok. *Ibid.* lx. 54 With his wawill-feitt and wirrok laim. 1801 Lyttle *Scraph. Sacr.* Gloss. 380 *Virrock* [in Dunbar]...signifies a corn, or bony excrescence on the feet. It is in common use, and pronounced *wirrok.* 1839 W. M'Dowall *Poems* 141 (E.D.D.) Mary Hay, Wha had a weerock on each toe As big's a plum.

‖ **Wirrwarr** (vi·rvar). [G. *wirrwarr.*] A welter.

1868 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* (1876) 392 The *wirrwarr* of the Newtonian or true view of the material universe. 1901 *Expositor* May 439 The strange and arid prejudice that history is only a wirr-warr of beings, happenings, relations.

**Wirs(e)at, -et, Wirschep, Wirsle, wirsttill, Wirt, Wirsum,** obs. forms of Worsted, Worship, Wrestle, Wrist, Worsum (*Obs.*, pus).

**Wirt,** obs. var. Wherret.

1611 *North's Plutarch, Brutus* 994 Cassius..gaue him two good wirts on the eare.

**Wirt, Wirtin, Wirth, -y, Wirwe,** obs. forms of Wife, Written, Worth, Worthy, Worthy, Worry.

**Wisy** (wai·ri), *a.* Also 6–7 **wy(e)rie, wiery,** 8–9 **wirey.** [f. Wire *sb.* + -y 1.]

**1.** Made or consisting of wire; in the form of wire.

1788 T. D[elony] *Ballet White Spaniards* in *Rosb. Ballads* (1889) VI. 389 One sorte of whips they had for men,...The strings whereof with wyerie knots like towes they did frame. 1591 Spenser *Ruins of Time* 10 Her yeolow locks, like wyrie golde, About her shoulders carelesslie downe trailing. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 350 Jayes, that in their wyerie gail Can ask for victuals, and unvictual'd rail. a 1631 Donne *Elegy*, xix. 15 Off with that wyerie Coronet and show The hairy Diademe which on you doth grow. 1720 Gay *Fr. to P. Methuen* 98 My song confines me to the wiry cage. 1816 Byron *Ch. Harr.* iii. xv, The barr'd up bird will beat His breast and break against his wiry dome. 1834 Landor *Exam. Shakes.* Wks. 1846 II. 972/1 To hit an ear or two, or inflict a wiry scourging. [See Wire *sb.* 1 d.]

**2.** Resembling wire in form and consistence; tough and flexible: said esp. of hair (hence of a dog's coat), grass, stems of plants.

1598 Shaks. *John* III. iv. 64 O what loue I note In the faire multitude of those her haires! Where but by chance a siluer drop hath falne, Euen to that drop ten thousand wiery friends Doe glow themselues in sociable grefe. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 308 The wiry moss, that whitens all the hill. 1812 — *Tales* x. 120 Here on its wiry stem, in rigid bloom, Grows the salt lavender that lacks perfume. 1834 W. H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* I. i, A strange superannuated terrier, with a wiry back. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 114 Clods of couch and wiry turf. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxv, While he was rubbing his wiry head with irritation.

**b.** *Transf.* and *fig.*

1772 Armstrong *Misc.* I. 109 Your solid wiry nerves are asleep it would seem to the lute. 1809 W. Blake *Descr. Catal.* 63 The more distinct, sharp, and wiry the bounding line, the more perfect the work of art. 1813 J. Savile *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 773 In the common method of etching...those so tinted...always prevent a wiry hard effect. 1832 Lytton *Paul Clifford* iv, 'Knock him down'. There is something peculiarly harsh and stunning in those three, hard—wirey—sturdy—stubborn monosyllables.

**c.** *Med.* of the pulse: Small and tense.

1801 [applied in Wirksworth]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 620 The pulse becomes small, sharp, wiry or threaded.

**3.** Of sound: Produced by or as by the plucking or vibration of a wire; sometimes, of music, played on string instruments; of a voice, thin and metallic.

1598 [H. Buss] *Betraud* iv. 795 Sirelesses guitar with wiry twangs. 1730 *Examiner* 388/1 He has...learned his voice, the tones of which were sharp and wiry. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 140/1 The tone of this piano-forte was thin and wiry. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 115 Being in *Opera Concl.* 222 With thy sweet fingers when thou gently sway'st The wiry concord.

**4.** Of a person or animal: Lean, tough, and sinewy. Hence *fig.* of personal attributes.

1808 Scott *Marm.* v. Introd. 11 Wiry terrier, rough and grim. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xi, Mrs. Blimber...was a lady of great sanuity, and a wiry figure. 1870 Stubbs *Lect. Eccl. Hist.* xvi. 311 Wiry activity was the acknowledged feature of Charles's character. 1878 Black *Green Past.* xiii, The wiry little pony he rode.

**5.** (See quot.) Made of iron: cf. Wire *sb.* ¶ (nt end).

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 567 Wiery Cymbals [orig. *Des Cimbales le fer*].

**Wiry, Wirykow:** see Worry, Worrikow.

**†Wis,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **wys.** [Usually in inflected form *wiss, wysse*: absol. use of OE. *wis(e* adj. certain, sure, true, etc.: see Wise *a.*] OE. *(to) wissum* Phr. *to wis(se)*, OE. *tō wissum* (for **tō (ge)wissum þinge), mid wisse*, occas. *in wis*: of a certainty, for certain. (Cf. Wis *adv.*)

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvii. 174 Ac wite ge to wissum þæt se welhreowa deofol ne mæg nanum derian. *a* 1100 *Ælfredian Rel.* in Napier *Anglia* 25/1) *Prouerbia, to wissdom, tvel to wissan. Ibid.* 1051 (90/1) *Profecto, i. omnino*, to wissum. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 236 Nuste hi hwejer hom deb wære mid lost, to wissen ne mihte he wisse. *c* 1200 Ormin 8260 Godess enngell comm himm to & seizde himm þa to wisse Whille ende off Israeless land He shollde þanne sekenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Ac sinderlepes he is here fader wel wisse. 1297 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 5515 Of god him seide ofte wis Dat he bileſin geſaris. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 120 Y knowe hem wele. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. 1. 1. 1

to life and conduct; soundness of judgement in the choice of means and ends; sometimes, less strictly, sound sense, e.g. in practical affairs: opp. to *folly*.

*Beowulf* 1959 Offa wæs..wide zeweorðod, wisdome heold æðel sinne. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I. 300 Þeah cyninges wisdom ðeah wyrd ȝeswiċe, ȝesundfol, & ȝeȝefæst. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Þet wit and þene wisdom þe ure þrihten us seȝde. *c* 1200 Ormin 8974 Ilke wurrne wis & þraf i wisdom & inn ellde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 He mei be witte riwle cleopunge, efter wisdom. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 485 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise workimen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8857 God in lond him ali wisdom Ginen, alle he gaf saliuun. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 102 Sif god sende euery gome..Wordliche wisdam & wittes ilicha. *a* 1375 *Cath. Anq.* in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 587 Forþure þe wille wip wisdam. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* v. 21 At be ende of wysdom, foly þou sou3t. 1455–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 283 The moste wyse wysdome of god. 1513 More *Edw. V* in Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* (1548) 218 b, Vf grace turne hym to wisedome. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* 10. 10 The feare of the Lorde is the begynnynge of wysdome. 1563 *Homilies, Negation Wk.* iii. Rest, Thy wisdome can not be ouerpast, but by the direction of the spirite of God, and therefore it is called spirituall wisdome. 1594 Shoks. *Rich. III*, iii. vii. 16 Your Discipline in Warre, Wisdome in Peace. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. § 3 That which meaneth God to worke in goodnes, and that which ordereth his worke is wisedome. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Providence* xvii. Each creature hath a wisdome peculiar to it selfe. 1640 Wilkins *Disc. New Planet* ix. 204 We allow every Watch-maker so much wisdome as not to put any motion in his Instrument, which is superfluous. *a* 1708 *Spectator No.* 1 (1711) III. 28 By wisdom, I mean that attribute in God, whereby He orders and manages whatsoever He takes in hand, by the best means, in the most suitable end to the best end. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 88 Knowledge and Wisdom, far from being one, Have oftimes no connexion. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* xiv. 385 The imagination is the intellect, together with charity inflaming the heart, constitute the gift of wisdom.

**b.** personified (almost always as feminine).

*a* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iii. § 1 Þa com þær ġan in to me heofencund Wisdom. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 19 Wisdom ys ȝerihtwisod fram heora bearnum. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 87 He hab wagt me a-mendes as wisdam him taukhte. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* viii. 1 Doth not wysdome crie? doth not vnderstondinge put forth hir voyce? 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. viii. § 1 To prescribe the order of doing, is a peculiar prerogative which Wisedome hath, a Queene or soueraigne commandresse ouer other vertues. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶4 Loue the Scriptures, and wisedome will loue thee. 1667 Milton *Paradise* v. 580 In solemn warie bands Mutuall faith they plight, and rites of hospitalitie, And to each other dear harmonious sweet Recorded Eloquence, and all the Graces as the waite Of Wisdom their companion. 1712 Steele *Spectator* No. 465 ¶ 1 Wisdom dwelt with Prudence, and Love with Constancy. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 229 Wisdom delights. Lycius could not wed Unless Philosophy should build and bless. 1871 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* I. xxvi. 413 Wisdom and Mercy, Love and Power.

**c.** as one of the manifestations of the divine nature in Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Cor. i. 24, 30, etc.); hence used as a title of the second person of the Trinity (*the Wisdom of the Father*); also occas. applied to God or the Trinity.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 4 Se wisdom mæg us eallunga ȝeniman swylce wyrhta sum; forðon se wisdom is God. *a* 1275 *Colt. Hom.* 219 Þurh his wisdom (se sune) heo ȝe-worhte alle þing. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 De sune of de fader akennd, al swa his wisdom. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 26 Almihti God, Feder, & Sune, & sodfest Holi Gost, also se þreo heo'h o God, & o mihte, o wisdom, & o liue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9730. 1400 *Test. of Love Pol. Poems* (1866) II. 36 Christ, that is the wisedome of God the Father. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. (1592) 53 We call him also the wisedome of the Father, yea, and that properly and simply wisedome. 1833 Newman *Arians* ii. iii. (1876) 169 It would appear that our Lord is called the Word or Wisdom in two senses, and to denote His essential presence in the Father or secondly, His mediatorial office. 1876 Lytton *Lett. to Disraeli* ii. (1892) 32 Wisdom is alive: it is not a thing or quality. It is God. It is God and Man, for it is Christ.

**d.** Contextually, usually predicative with following inf.: = wise thing to do; also with *a* and *pl.*, a piece of wisdom, a wise action or proceeding. (Opp. to Folly *sb.*1 1 c.) *arch.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* vii. 201 Here nou .. and holde hit for wisdam. *c* 1420 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xxiv. 215 Is it wisdom, al vnto hir wille to gon? *c* 1450 *Merlin* 111 Ye ought timerly? 1488 *Coly Papers* (Camden) By Hyt wylbe wysdom to be sewyr of mo. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, iv. vii. 60 Tell them, 'tis wisdom to conceal our meaning. *a* 1642 F. Greville *Nature* (1652) 9 Had I grounded my ends upon active Wisedomes of the present. 1764 Priestley *Lect. Hist., Lit. Educ.* (1788) p. xv, It is certainly our wisdom to contrive that the studies of youth should tend to fit them for the business of manhood. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xviii, It is wisdom to choose a better protector. 1884 Helen Jackson *Ramona* I, If she had not said anything about herself, which she never did—one of her many wisdoms.

**e.** *pl.* as attribute of a number of persons; hence, with possessive, as a title of dignity or respect, esp. for the members of a deliberative assembly; also jocularly or ironically. Similarly, without possessive, as in *the best wisdoms* = the wisest men.

1432–50 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 401/1 To the right wyse and discrete Commens of this present Parlement...Please hit unto youre worthy and noble wisdoms and discretions [etc.]. 1447–8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 108 And it appereth of record the whiche they remytte to your wysedomys. 1538 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 2 As by your wisdomes ye shall thinke may best serue for the kinges highnes purpose. 1587 D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* 60 It may please their wisedomes, who are to be Iudges, to consider. 1619 J. Denison *Heav. Banquet* etc. 317, I will leave that to their wisedomes who haue place of gouernment. 1632 Markham *Country Contentm.* i. xix. (ed. 4) 103 Many of the best wisedomes of our Nation. 1784 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode to Tyrawley* Wks. 1812 III. 253 Even Folly..freely on your Wisdoms cracks her jokes.

(*b*) Less commonly in *sing.* of a single person.

1535 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (Camden) 42 Not likely by that mene to be ended lightly as your wysedom knowyth well. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* Ep. Ded. ¶ 3 The chiefe motiues which induced his princely wisedome hereunto. 1612 J. Lloyd *Lett. Bonaventure Davis Pref.* I leaue my parents, sent for a wisewoman, & her wisedome caune vnto them. *a* 1652 A. Wilson in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. xii. 24 The Hind's Wisdom said, her Lyon not my Lord's Hand. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* viii, Can your wisdom possibly entertain a wish to converse with me?

**2.** Knowledge (esp. of a high or abstruse kind); enlightenment, learning, erudition: in early use often = philosophy, science. † Also, practical knowledge or understanding, expertness in an art. Now only *Hist.*

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 52 *Tulistis claauem scientiae*, ȝie nomon cæȝo wisdomes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* (1495) xix. 1013 Þe whiche is moder of manis wysdom, but in doctrine of the spirit. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 575 The wisdom of an heepe of lerned men Of maistres hadde he mo than thries ten. 1526–30 *Tr. Secreta* 1 Secretarye I pe wyldom be absence of his book schulde..be..preserued. 1526 Tindale *Acts* vii. 22 Moses was learned in all manner off wisdom of the Egiptians. 1552 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 176 The Queene's Maiestie, knowing the wysdome and skyll of John Brende, Esquier, in the leuying and ordering of footemen. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 163 This..was Theophile of the wisdom of the Egyptians. Gentiles, together. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 130/2 What was then called wisdom, which consisted in a knowledge of the arts of governing and the practical part of political prudence. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Coloss.* 99 'Wisdom' in Gnostic teaching was the exclusive possession of the few.

**b.** *pl.* Kinds of learning, branches of knowledge, *rare*.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Mine þeowas sindon wisdomas & craftas & sode welan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8482 Of all wisdams [Solomon] had i-togh. 1852 J. W. Farrer *All or Jesus* (ed. 3) 130 The Colinthians could not come near us in the variety of our wisdoms and our gifts.

**c.** In renderings of med.L. names of substances prepared or use l by the alchemists, as *lute of wisdom* (see Lute *sb.*2 1), *salt of wisdom* = Alembroth, (cf. Turner *Names of Herbs* (1548) 21 b).

1460–70 [see Lute *sb.*2 1]. 1576 Baker *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 39 The Lute of Wysedome, which resisteth the fire inuincibly. 1597 A. M. *Gerarde's Herbal* iii. 1. 329/2, I shall teache the true wysedomes whiche yf thou kepe them well they shall do the moche prouffyte. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* iii. xxv. In his fables he fayne, that Mercurie..by his wysedome, thought expedyente, do teache many good wysedomes. 1860 Sala *Budd. Teer.* I. vii. 127 Listen then, to the wisdom of Pollybank.

**b.** In the titles of two books of the Apocrypha, viz. *The Wisdom of Solomon* (often abbrev. *Wisdom of Sol.*) and *The Book of Wisdom* and *Wisdom of Jesus the son of Sirach* (commonly called *Ecclesiasticus*). Cf. also *Wisdom literature*, etc. in 5.

1430–40 *Wycliffite Bible* Wisd. (*heading*) Heer gynneth the prolog in the booc of Wisdam. 1611 *Bible* (*title*) The Wisedome of Salomon. *Heading* The Wisedome of Iesus the sonne of Sirach, or Ecclesiasticus. 1875 Plumptre in *Expositor* I. 336 Those [words] which are found in Philo and in the Book of Wisdom. 1922 E. G. Browne *Oracles N. T.* iii. 78 The fact that Wisdom also contains an anticipation of one of the three Temptations of Christ.

† **4.** Sanity, 'reason'. (Cf. *Wise a.* 4.) *Obs. rare.*

1611 Florio *Mem. for M.* iv. iv. 5 Pray heauen his wisedome lose not tainted.

**5.** *Comb.* **a.** attrib., as *wisdom-book*, *-lecture*, etc.; *Wisdom literature*, a collective term for the biblical books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom of Solomon, and Ecclesiasticus, and the Epistle of James; *Wisdom books*, *poetry*, *versification*. (See also Wisdom tooth.) **b.** instrumental, objective, etc., as *wisdom-bred*, *-giving*, *-seasoned*, *-seeming*, *-working* adjs.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 187 Of þe strengðe þe ure drihten us to munegeð specð "wisdom loc and se18, *Fortitudo sinceritis vita Domini*. 1887 Cheyne *Job & Solomon* 182 The Wisdom-books of the Old Testament proper. 1892 Tennyson *Unnost* 121 Power..† wisdom-bred And throned of Reason. 1875 Milford *P. L.* ix. 679 O sacred, Wise, and †Wisdom-giving Plant, Mother of Science. *a* 1642 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* ch. xii. 9 Because his true repentant soul was wise, he read this *wisdom*-lecture. 1887 Cheyne *Job & Solomon* 180 The book now before us—the largest and most comprehensive in the *Wisdom*-literature. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) III. 112 The title of sophist,..a "wisdom-monger, in the same sense as we say, an iron-monger. 1898 R. G. Moulton *Proverbs* 169 The metres of *Wisdom* poetry. *a* 1642 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xix The †wisdome-seasoned breast. 1886 E. Irving *Babylon* I. ii. 74 A "wisdom-seeming ignorance. 1816 Shelley *Sunset* 36 To make hard hearts Dissolve away in "wisdom-working grief.

Hence **Wisdomful** *a.*, full of wisdom; † **Wisdomhood**, wisdom; **Wisdomless** *a.*, destitute of wisdom; † **Wisdomness**, (*a*) contained wisdom, wise signification or implication; (*b*) affected or spurious wisdom; **Wisdomship**, (with possessive) be it as title of (ironical) respect (cf. 1 e).

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 156/2 Its wondrous 'wisdomful speech. 1598 Weever *Sat. Wks.* III. 99 As Seynt Poul seyp, In him bep alle tresoures of kunnyng and of "wysdomhod. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knt.* iv. 1, I am mad,..all wit-sutng. "wisdomlesse. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 21 It is a hard matter..to conceive all the "wisdomnes of this syllogisme. 1668 K. Kemp *Reas. Use Ch. Prayers in Public* 14 So impertinent a piece of gravity, so unreasonable a piece of wisdomness. 1692 *Vindication Prel. A.* 9, Their cool "Wisdomships can be as Hot as their Neighbours in their own Concerns.

**Wisdom tooth.** [Usually pl.; orig. *teeth of wisdom*, rendering mod.L. *dentes sapientiæ*, = Arab. *aḍrūs 'l-ḥikmā* (i. *dirs tooth*, *ḥikm* wisdom), after Gr. σωφρονιστῆρες (Hippocrates): so called as not appearing till the attainment of years of discretion.] The hindmost molar tooth on each side of both upper and lower jaws in man, usually 'cut' about the age of twenty. Often in *phr. to cut one's wisdom teeth*, to attain to wisdom or discretion.

1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* (ed. 2) 311, 349 The two last are termed *Dentes Sapientiæ*, the Teeth of Wisdom. 1727 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) Dict. Cc 8 b, *Sophronisteres*, the..Teeth of Wisdom. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x. 8 Gil Blas is a better, finding that I had cut my teeth of wisdom sooner than suited his purpose.]

1828 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 5) II. 921 The last molar in each range, owing to their appearing through the gums, is called the wisdom-tooth. 1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L.* xxi. He's none cut his wisdom teeth yet. 1868 Wayte-Melville *White Rose* III. 205 It seems, they're all born with their wisdom-teeth cut and their whiskers grown. 1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* (1878) 49 The wisdom teeth occasionally erupt as late as the fortieth or fiftieth year.

**Wise** (waiz), *sb.*1 *arch.* Forms: 1– wise, 1, 3–4 (5–6 *Sc.*) wis, 1, 3–6 wyse, (3–4 wisse, 4 wice, *Sc.* vise, vijs, vyijs, vyise), 4–5 wyss, (*Sc.* wiss, vyse, vice, 4–6 *Sc.* wyis (6 -ies), 5 wyesse, whyse, 5–6 *Sc.* wyss(e, vice, 6 wize, wyesse). [OE. *wise* sb. fem. (rarely *wis* str. fem.) manner, mode, condition, thing, affair, cause, reason, (occas.) song = OFris. *wis*, OS. *wisa* wk. and str. (MLG. *wise*, wk., MDu. *wize*, *wijs*, Du. *wijze*), OHG. *wisa*, and with nasal mutation, *weisa* (MHG. *wise*, G. *weise*), ON. *vísa* wk. fem. stanza, **vís* manner in *ǫðrvísi* otherwise (Sw. *vis*, Da. *vise* song; also Sw., Da. *vis* way, manner): — OTeut. **wīsōn-*, **wīsō*: f. *wī-* Wit *v.*1 (for the sense cf. the cognate Gr. *εἶδος* form, shape, kind, state of things, course of action).]

**I.** †**1.** Manner, mode, fashion, style; *spec.* habitual manner of action, habit, custom (cf. Way *sb.* 22). *Obs.* (in later use: see also II.)

972 *Ritchet. Hem.* 53 Manixea mannes wise bið þæt he wile symle to his nehstan sprecan þa word þe he wenþ þæs him leofoste syn to gehyrenne. *c* 1205 Lay. 25426 An hundred busende iwrenaede leoden mid hoere handes wise. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 468 Ze spinnere, werpeð þus hire web, and weueð on hire wise. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1029 For heom ne may leoder ne þinge ben bihinde worpe wyse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1213 Þat folc verst in is wise, To hor godes as hii wolde, dude hor sacrefice. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 265 Þis is þe wise of þe wyf þat wyl myȝtte Synegen ayens þe *synt ypocrit*. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xi. 49, & sit þei ben in moornynge in the wise þat þei maiden here lamentacioun for him the firste tyme. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 35 Our all prayere is in þis wyse, to wyn vs. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiv. 3 Quho list to mark the Scottish gyse..Sall weill perceave their craftie wyses.

† **b.** *phr. To do, make one's wise*: to act in what one can. *In wise of*: after the fashion of; in respect of. *In wise that*: in such a manner that, so that. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 143 Þo he hadde al is tale tiold and imaket is grete wise (*v.r.* al his wise). He sat adoun. *c* 1325 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1654 This Troylus, yn wyse of curtasie,..rod and dide here compaynye. 1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 297 Ledam wulde a do hys wyse to a mad a complent to Pysotte in the acton howse of yow. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vi. 505 All Wallace folk in þis wyse was goud. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* iii. (1577) P v, Wyth the wayes whyche she ordeined, those Realmes are still ruled, in wise that albeit hir life waineth, yet hir authoritie liueth.

† **2.** Song, melody. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Menologium* 70 Wrecan wordum forð, wise [*MS.* wisse] zesingan. *c* 1290 *Owl & Night.* 519 So sone so þu sittest a brode þu forleost al þine wise.

**II.** OE. *wise* manner, fashion, like the cognate forms in other Germanic languages (see the respective sections below), was used in various kinds of advb. expressions meaning 'in such-and-such a manner, way, or respect', in which it was qualified by an adj. or a sb. with or without a governing preposition. Several of these expressions, with others formed on their pattern in later periods, have survived as simple words, e.g. *anywise*, *crosswise*, *leastwise*, *likewise*, *nowise*, *otherwise*, *slantwise*, in which *-wise* has the appearance of a suffix, and, in so far as it could or can still be freely combined with an adj. or a sb. (as in 1 b, 3 b), it has actually performed the function of a suffix. The free use of the various forms, i. e. apart from the established simple words, is now only archaic.

**1.** a. With demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj. in an oblique case. (†rarely *pl.*)

In OE. *ðære wīsan* varies with *on ðære wīsan* (see OTHERWISE), but most later expressions of this form, e.g. LIKEWISE, THEWISE, WHATWISE, resulted from ellipsis of the prep. in expressions of the type in **2** a. THUSWISE is an analogical combination with an adv.

Cf. OFris. *Addēne wīs*, OS. *hē wīsle*, OHG. *andar wīs, einic wīs, MHG. ucheine wīs, der selben wīs, manege(n) wīs.*

1571 *Bīckl. Hom.* 177 Þe lest þe oðre wisan ænig man leorge. *c* 1205 LAY. 22018 Alsðere wise he mihte wiþ Afelstane fihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17473 All fals sal far þat lik wise. *a* 1300 [see WHAT-WISE]. 13.. *Roxanneture's Mestl.* 154 Þat he to bys treytur dyd þe same wyse. 13.. 1532 [this wise [see THISWISE]]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 78 His manye .. That vs dispytis mony vis. *c* 1375, 1860 ȝuche wise [see SUCHWISE]. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 398 Syth that hit woll none other wyse be. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 9896 (Laud) This castelle, is feyror many wyse (*Cott.* on mani wise) Then tong can telle. 1500–20 *Dunbar Poems* xix. 1 How sowld I rewill me, or quhat wyis. *Ibid.* lxxviii. 15 It will nocht waknin me wise. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. x. 93 And as that Bokkit about Ennias alyt Syc wise Vnto ontil thaim carpis Sibilla. 1513 quhat wyse [see WHAT-WISE]. 1594 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I, App. xiii. 39 The shedding .. of this matter can in no moche harme, and pre-judice sundry wises. 1530 *Ibid.* III. App. x. 20, I have prayed no other wysse then the trewth. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 16 Thye how .. mavt .. be reserved, non other wyse then ile conchonyons ar myn mathematical are wont referryd to theyr pryncypullis. 1560 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) II. 85 All reicht.. quhilk he had or ony wyis myght haif. 1570 WASH *Lyoflacius, Electra* 12 Whilst things stand this wice with me. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 36 The Houses, that ran no wise affoard above one Garden. 1799 HUNTINGDON *Dis. Childch.* (ed. 4) II. 225 A bougie..would be every wise as proper. 1858 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 810 No wise beautiful Was Marian Erle. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* xviii, He did it this wise.

b. With general adjs., often forming an equivalent of *-LY* **2**, as + *humble wise* = humbly, *despiteful-wise* = despitefully: in later use hyphened or as one word.

Cf. MHG. *ēticher wīse* (G. *gleichermeise*), G. *gleichlicher-weise, irrtümlicherweise, törichterweise, unfälligerweise*, etc.: *narrenlar weise*, etc.

*Beowulf* 1865 Ic hie bonde wæl..fæste ȝeworhte, æȝhwæs untale ealde wisan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21277 Þe quiles er drain diuerse wise. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 480 The nygtes longe Encresen hire peynes sorquous wise. 1475 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 109/1 Service, the which the seid Gallard..had doon dyvers wise to your goode grace. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 909 Thus they, and thowe wyll, wirk all bot wise. 1590 CONSTABLE *Diana* I. i. 2 Humble wise To thes my sighes in verse I sar-rifise. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 137 It was formed hooked-wise. 1866 *Church & State Review* I. 2 My zeal? it is no dull good-boy book, to be taken teetotalwise. 1876 SIRDHAR *Viet. Poets* vi. 220 'The Princess' and 'The Idylls of the King', are written Dorian-wise. 1883 KINGSLEY *Nat. Nations*, S. *Africa* vi, She..Treated them despiteful-wise.

**2.** a. With prep. (orig. *on*, arch. since 16th cent.; OE. also of; from 14th cent. *in*) and demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj., as *on mine wisan* in no way, NOWISE, *of þisse wīsan* in this way, THISWISE. (Cf. **1** a.) Sometimes illogically written as one word or with hyphen.

Cf. OS. *an negana wīsa*, MLG. *in wat wīsze*, OHG. *in thesa, alla, managa, anei wīi, se dero, andero, welero wīi*, etc.: *auf andere, welche, welche weise*, etc.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. ¶ 2 On nane wisan. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 72 Ne meaht þu on oðre wisan biscop halgian buton oðrum biscopum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 10 *fa*, on fa wise. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 Þæt cyhnesse Drihten nam of þisse wisan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in WR.-Wülcker 341/26 *Aliter*, on anlīce oðre wisan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 On monie wisen mon is ȝeworhten elnessan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 Alle he laðeð ech a sume wise to ordelæs. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2534 Herrrumm onn alle wise. *c* 1330 in what wise [see WHAT-WISE]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8440 Andromaca . prayet the prinse . On nowise in thys world the wallez to passe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5940 Ben thanne sicche marchaunts wise, Not fooles in euery wise. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 102, I am come here, in lyke wyse as ye see. 1470, 1563 in any wise [see ANYWISE]. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* iii. 9 Are we better then they? No in no wyse. 1591 BURNE *Disput. in Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 115 They..vil in nauyse suffer onie man to..preache ogainis the same. 1639 ROGER *Hosm. Unio. Advt.* 2 I know a One who was in no wise averse to that common Learning. 1738 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 269 Provided, however, it were in no-wise an obstacle. 1860 *Med. Trial* IV. 328 This abdominal ring is in nowise concerned in the disease. 1864 *Cambridge Inv.* vi, vii, In this wise, affairs had gone on for a month. 1868, 1869 in somewise [see SOMEWISE]. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Milton* 238 Whoever comes to the Essay on Milton..will feel that the essay in nowise helps him. 1905 in what-wise [see WHAT-WISE].

(*b*) with *a* or a numeral, or *pl.*

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) I. 7 On feala wisan ic besmiwie fugelas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 237 *Bifariam*, on twa wisan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Þe fader is ine þe sune on þre wise. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Tegenes ure emcristene we sulle laden ure ilf edmodelicha on two wise. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Alle ne muwe nout .. bokien on one wise ße vttinge vel ße inninge. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19556 O thrijn wijs Mal cursing he tald on right wijs. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 Þe dyeuel..him chongeþ in uele wyzen bet uolk uor to pryy. 13.. *K. E. Allit. P.* B. 1805 Þus vpon þeynne wyses Þat yow þro schewed, Þat vnclannes to cleuen is corage dere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 99, & In a vice to ȝyddyr fede & in ane anyr o bak & bede. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. ii. (1554) 197/1 Discendable in many sondry wyses. *c* 1440 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xii. 548 Bi manye wijsis. 1500 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 437/1 In other divers manere of wyses.

VOL. X.

b. With general adjs.: cf. † b. (occas. illogically as one word or with hyphen.)

Cf. *in ālkewīse* (LIKEWISE 1), and OFris. *to ēkere wīs* (*anef.*).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 189 Þa cwæþ Nero, On þa bestan wisan þu demest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 *Alkelim Gīnt.* 1. 1300 (Napier 34) *Mirum in modum*, on wunderlicum ȝemete (*in another hand* wise). *c* 1205 LAY. 27834 Wes þe kaisere of-alesen a seckcuðe wisen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10918 Als lagh was pan on ald wise. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1095 So soslanly on a wonder wyse, I was war of a prossessyoun. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 20 In euery skylful wyse. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28028 (Cotton Galba) ȝe oft sithes on wonderwise Biswikes þam. 1425 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcvii, That coude his office doon ȝa connyng wise. 1468 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 153 Thareto I assoyne in double wis. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* xi. vii. 580, I will..that ye be wel bisene in the rychest wise. 1548 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 24 In no lewynge whyse as harte cone thynke. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxv. 3 We ..To sow that ar in purgatory Commendis we on our hairtly wyiss. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 I shall praye for you in lyke wyse. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 87 You take a discord for the first part, & not in binding wise. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 360 Some in scoffing manner ; others in malicious wise. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 548 These letters in scattering wise, CARRATIC. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd., By all means in all Loving-wise, then greet..my Friends in this Pilgrimage, after your own fashion wise. 1805 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. i. (1894) 13 You praise her in too lover-like a wise. 1879 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 46 A noble house they were in every sort.

**3.** With prep. (ße 2) and sb. in (non-syntactical) combination with *wise*, e.g. OE. *on scipwīsan* in the manner of a ship, like a ship.

Cf. OS. *an kuningwīsa* (= like a king, MHG. *in kriuseneis*, MSw. *i kornvis* CRONSWISE.

1340 *Ayenb.* 62 *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 343 Twegen oflætlulafas on heagiwisan aharene. *a* 950 *Guthlac* ii. (Prose) 103 Þiid þam he sen ȝhl com þæt hit sprecan nihte after cnihtwisan. *c* 1200 *Ancrene Wisnlz' Liverpool MS.* 12 Ureomman wescyeð. *c* 1070 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430 Mycel Englisc boc..on leoðwisan ȝeworht. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 108 Kalden hym on-cros-wyse. 1393 *Pilgr. Sowle* vii. 163 In a weythwynde wyse ywrypte al about. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 175 Ayre vp the erthe on anlagh wise. *Ibid.* 1962 Ayles I-newe, & sythen on spyde-wise ; wyndes of full nombre. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5245 In karol wise I saugh hem goon. 1495 *Acta Dom. Cone.* (1839) 497/2 In Indenture wise. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* cxxiv. 50 Lyke as the byrde by the meanes of her owne feathers, wonderstande miserable men..broken and maymed. 1589 in ballad wise [see *ballad-wise* s.v. BALLAD *sb.* 6]. 1596 *Edw. III's* V. 132 Keepe twise as many places in quadrant wise. 1600 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forgeries* To Rdr. D 4 b, The reuerend Master John Feras..did in Sermon-wise explane the bookes of Ioh. vnto vs. 1611 FLORIO *Ital. Dict. Ad Ogni Modo*, *Scrimen d'Alf.* II. 333 The points of the Hornes meeting..in a kinde of circle-wise. 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* II. 573 Gerbellone, in maiden-meekness, By words timorous to me. 1852 H. F. C. ROPE *Relig. Ancillia* 54 We trod the pilgrim road in pilgrim wise.

b. without prep. (variously written).

Cf. MLG. *erdēnwīs*, Du. *kruiswijs*, MHG. *krūzeweise*, G. *kreuzweise, pfandweise*, etc.

1398 [see CROSSWISE 3]. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 475 A quene, sumtyme, sirquise wise. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* ccliii. 1530 *Cert. of Love* 1304 Within a temple shapen hauthorn wise. 1539 [see LOZENGEWISE]. 1545–1616 compass-wise [see COMPASS *sb.*]. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 37 To order it garden wyse, castyng it into beddes. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. iv. 32 No man presumed to make any solemne oration assembly-wise. [*In mensam concinebat*]. 1605 *Timon* IV. iii. 202 Amongst them al. 1631 Celestiall *Ye Olde Sterette of Pavement* (c1890) 177/1 Let them tie upon a stick, posie wise, a little piece of sponge. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* (1760) 100 Then I'll order Tom Coiled-lect-wise makes a Prayer. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 61 Let us try once more to argue Cardinalwise. 1795 *Farmer's Mag.* XVI. 307 They do it after a different manner, ing, and Hind-foot-wise. 1743 SHENSTONE *Lett. to Graves* 23 Dec., The sides [of an alcove] ornamented with sheepbones, [goose-wise, &c. fan-tooth-wise. 1898 (D. H.) *Wiltsh Crov* xlviii, 'Oh, only in a brotherly way'..' Timothy or Titus-wise, you know.'

c. with prep. and sb. in the genitive.

Cf. OFris. *ēnes wīs* = like a man, *to wīf* = *wīves wīse*, *in pelegrimes wīse*, *gastes wīse* as a guest, OHG. *in eines wīs* like an ass, MHG. *in krūnes wīs* crosswise, *ze gesellen wīs* like comrades.

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2961 It was on fendes wise wroht. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 360 On a squieres wise. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 148 On Palfreis wyse. *Ibid.* VI. 9 In A weþe wyues wyse. 1393 LANGL. *Pl. Crede* 1303 In þi *Kyrkes Crov* xlviii, 'Oh, only in a brotherly way'..' Timothy or Titus-wise, you know.'

c. with prep. and sb. in the genitive.

Cf. OFris. *ēnes wīs* = like a man, *to wīf* = *wīves wīse*, *in pelegrimes wīse*, *gastes wīse* as a guest, OHG. *in eines wīs* like an ass, MHG. *in krūnes wīs* crosswise, *ze gesellen wīs* like comrades.

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2961 It was on fendes wise wroht. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 360 On a squieres wise. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 148 On Palfreis wyse. *Ibid.* VI. 9 In A wepe wyues wyse. 1393 LANGL. *Pl. Crede* 1303 In þi *Kyrkes

yt. 1596 Tyndale *Luke* xvi. 8 The children of this world, are in their kynde [1611 generation] wyser then the children of light. 1539 Taverner *Erasm. Prov.* 18 He is in vayne wyse yat is not wyse for hym selfe. (See *Prov.* ix. 12.) 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 Who weith ere he be wise, shall die ere he thrive. 1596 Shake. *Merch. V.* ii. ii. 83 It is a wise Father that knowes his owne childe. 1617 B. Rich *Irish Huldbnd* 16 We were wont to say, it was a wise childe that did know the owne Father. 1727 Mosnow *Curr.* (1864) II. 319 The proverb of being wise behind the time. 1745 B. Franklin *Poor Richard* (1890) 137 Fools make feasts and wise men eat them. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* II. xiii. 201 Men who are always wise in time. 1881 Saintsbury *Dryden* i. 10 Sir Gilbert Pickering...was wiser in his generation.

**b.** Of action, speech, personal attributes, etc.: Proceeding from, indicating, or suggesting sound judgement or good sense; 'becoming a wise man' (J.); sage.

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 922 Þam þe hafað wisne ȝeþoht, *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 198 So þet non wisure read ne met þringen hire ut of hire riste. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conse.* 5338 Of þe ȝeunge men talles yuel bute þif be ȝeunge ben be wyse. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 71 Vche wist in his world þat hab wys understondinge. 1440 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 134 Anothyr yeweth a wyse counsail. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables* Prol. 17 (Makculloch MS.) A doctryne wise anewch, and ful of fruyt. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 84 It is certaine, that either wise bearing, or ignorant Carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* ii. vii. 156 Full of wise sawes, and moderne instances. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 666 Once... eminent in wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong. *a* 1679 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* i. vi. (1675) 84 It must be a Wise Being that is the Cause of those Wise Effects. 1753-4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxiii. 161 My Father also thought fit (perhaps for wise reasons) to acquaint us, that he designed for us but small fortunes. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi. Teach your affection to see with your eyes. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 85 By a wise dispensation of Providence. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xi. 72 He thought it wise not to attempt the ascent further.

*ironically.* 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 28 S. Paule (by this wy-e reason) playd bo pesp wythe hys pysle to the hebrews. 1822 Shelley *Scenes fr. Faust* ii. 227 'Twere a wise feat indeed to wander out into the Brocken upon May-day night.

**†2.** Having practical understanding and ability; skilful, clever; skilled, expert (const. *of*). Obs.

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 550 Worcdeniðes wis. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 382 Of alle bewes wise and fre. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conse.* 5370 Wise wrightis to wale, werkys to caste. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De marvill Rerum* 462 Þit am I wise in sic werk. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 38 b, He secretly sent wise espialles, to searche & prye oute of what progeny thys...Kycharde was disiended.

**b.** *spec.* Skilled in magic or hidden arts. Now only *dial.*, as in *wise wife*, Wise man 3, Wise woman 1.

*a* 1639 Scottishwood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* vi. (1655) 383 Agnes Samson (commonly called the wise wife of Keith) was..a woman not of the base and ignorant sort of Witches. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* iii. xi. 165 Yet was he wise he wish'd to himself that some wise body would help him to his.. money again there appeared unto him a Spirit.

**3.** Having knowledge, well-informed; instructed, learned (*in*, earlier *of*, *upon*). Obs. exc. as in b. (See also Wise man 2, Wise woman 2.)

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146 Læcas lærdon, þa þe wisoste waron, þæt nan man on þam monþe ne drenc ne drunce. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 331 Sume ȝe it þe ȝor of hauen eten...ȝe ...nulen...ben so wise alle þinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Wis men in heuene. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1605 Wys vpon wod-craftez. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 61 In al science at dewys, Par myght non ware be wyse. 1377 Langl. *Rpht Sl. Rennet* (privatelxiv. 42 Sho saiht at he wise in goddis law. *c* 1505 (*title*) Here begynneth thystorye of yᵗ wyll Wyse Maystre of nurture. 1548 Langl. *Piers Pl.*, *Vis.* iv. 51 But in these nice sharpe Quillets of the Law, God faith I am no wiser then a Daw. 1651 Hobbes *Leviathan* ii. xxx. 179 Wiser and better learned in cases of Law... than themselves. 1748 Gray *Eton* 100 Where ignorance is bliss, 'Tis folly to be wise.

**b.** Informed or aware *of* something specified or implied. Now only in such phrases as *none the wiser*, *as wise as before*, knowing no more than before (i.e., usually nothing) about the matter.

*c* 1200 Ormin 2179 Forþi wollde shu ben wis off þatt þurh Godess enngell. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 799 In water ȝe is wis of heueken come. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 424 þat god wys hame wald make Ysaris sonis quhilk war of god. And quhilk war paulis hanis alsa. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 372 þis is a longe lessoun,..and liuel am I be wyser. *c* 1470 Harry *Wallace* viii. 581 Quhen he hard him wyll all that suttell cace. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V* iv. i. 206. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 574 *Obscurum per obscurius*, I am as wise as I was before. 1635 D. Dickson *Herb. Vis.* 8, 156 The Church was made wyse of the imperfection of the Olde Covenant. 1712-13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Mar., I went into the city to see Pat Roli, who lodges with a city cousin, a daughter of cousin Cleve (you are much the wiser). 1714 — *Let. to Miss Vanomrigh* 8 June, The pretender, or duke of Cambridge, may both be landed, and I never the wiser. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxi, Mesdames Bedwin and Durf came back again as wise as they went. 1886 *Century Mag.* July 341/1 Not one whit the wiser of the world than when he left home.

(*b*) U. S. colloq. *To be* (or *get*) *wise to*, to be (or become) aware of; *to put* (one) *wise* (*to*), to inform one (of), enlighten one (concerning).

1901 H. McHugh *John Henry* 69 When I hear a pool-room comedian speaking them getting seasick on the B. & O., I'm wise to the fact that he dips in the Fairmont Almanac for his comedy stuff. 1918 Bindloss *Agatha's Fortune* xvii. 158, I suppose it was because the drummer put you wise that you went to Miss Strange? 1923 F. H. Richie *Divers. Damon* 103 There would be the very devil to pay if Crutchley...got wise to their existence.

**4.** In one's right mind, sane. Now *Sc.* and *dial.* So Du. *wijs*. Cf. Wisdom 4.

*Cf. Brownsf* 2094 wis and xewitig (= fully conscious).

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 412 Here men mȝhten iseo Hou he pleiȝes wit his ȝongue brid; he ne mȝhte nouȝt wys beo. *a* 1400, 1481 (implied in Unwise 3). *a* 1598 D. Ferguson *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 8 Anes wood, never wise. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* iv. i. 245 *Oth.* Fire, and brimestone. *Des.* My Lord. *Oth.* Are you wise? *...Des.* My Lord? *Oth.* I am glad to see you mad. 1681 'Sarah Tutler' *Three Knights* (1689) 9 They were each, according to a significant old Scotch phrase, 'wise (pronounced *wize*, and meaning rather rational than sagacious) and wakrife'.

**5.** *†a. To make it wise* (see Make v.¹ 68 b): to deliberate, hesitate. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 785 Vs thoughte it was noght worth to make it wys And graunted hym wit outen moore auys.

**b.** *To make wise* (see Make v.¹ 69): to behave as if one were 'wise' about a matter; to pretend, 'make *as if . . .*' *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1447 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 14 Hengston seide but litell therto, but made wyse as though hit were yes. 1561 Hewet *tr. Ochino's Serm.* 11 (1577) M vij, The two ...wente to bed darkelong, laughing and making wise to beleeue that hee were about to mocke them. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 265 He maketh wise, as if he had not bene a man learned in some of the mathematicks. 1604 Hieron *Preachers Plea* Wks. 1614 I. 511 Hee...made wise, as if he could haue told[e] great tydings. 1834 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* I. 48 Whether she really felt desirous to take this opportunity of gaining repose, or whether, to use a Devonshire phrase, she only 'made wise' to do so.

**6.** *adv.* = Wisely. *rare.* Usually with def. article or demonstrative: A or the wise man; *spec.* a sage. *Obs.*

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii. 220 Se dysega...all his ingeðonc he ȝeypt, ac se wisa hit ieldcaþ. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1431 Wel ȝelt þat wel þolemod is, and wel wis. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* i. 79 Pis forknowyng wyse. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 268 Upon the ful, upon the wise Sikenesse wol ben ofcomune. 1401 *Pol. Poems* iii. 72 Pis sweete lawe to fool and wise. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 484 þe wise sayd vnto hym: 'þis way is bothe fayr & gude'.

**b.** *pl.* Wise men or persons: now always with *the*; †formerly also with demonstrative, possessive, etc.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 25 Þu ðe behyddyst þas þing fram wisum & gleawum. *c* 1205 Lay. 16817 He hi-heold..wule of wisen ærest spaken wolden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2091 Þe wis, þe wrang, þe mis wisten. Bitven þe wis and þe a wer. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 673 Dindimus þe dere king, the doctour of wise. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 1 Som mattere, Vnknowlich to the wise wyse. *Ibid.* 96 The wisedom of Caldee Ne cowthen wite what it mente. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* I. 165 He fra fooles, and folwe wise. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* 24.1 Wil destroye the wisdome of their wise. 1670 Dryden *tr. Pal. Conq. Granada* II. (1672) 21 The bold are but the Instruments o' th' wise. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 362 The learn'd and wise Sarcastic world exclaim. 1833 Tennyson *Poems* (1857) 155 O silent Father of the Great and Wise. *c. A word to the wise (is enough)*: = Verbum sap. Also + *Few words to the wise suffice*, etc.

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xv. 24 Few wordis may serve the wyis. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowledge* I. (1870) 121 Fewe wooordes to the wise doeth suffice. 1639 J. Clarke *Paroem.* 51 Few words to the wise suffice. *Verbum sapienti est etc.* Word to the wise. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxv. 127 Nay, if she can withstand him—But a word to the wise, Mr. Reeves! Hem!

**d.** The comp. *wiser* as sb. (with pl. *wisers*): One who is wiser; usually with possessive, one's superior in wisdom. *Now rare.*

(Cf. Better A. 7, Elder *sb.*² 2, Greater C. 1.)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26180 Ga til a wiser to sum þi wond. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2634 *Hypermenstera*, And werke after myn wisere esement. 1447 Bokenham *Lives of Saints* 203 And of þi wysers fern bettyr gouernaunce. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wise Men* 22 For warldly wyss sik wantis, quod he, Sowld nocht be kend. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* 8.4 Striue not with a man of power, lest thou fall into his hands. 1538 Hare *Guesses* Sat. i. (1847) 161 All writers wele fel an itching..to be carping at their wyers and betters. 1549 Chaucer *Tale of Pr.* 111. 1181 If thou really art my Senior, Seigneur, my Elder,..if thou art in very deed my Wiser.

**7.** Used as sb. = Wisely. In later use only in comparative. *rare.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 52 Thou vroucht bas vis, That thou discouerit first till me. 1600 Shakes. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 31 This is the lyke Ile went to Orlando: I prayd my Vncle to thriue more wiser. Robinson *Walsingham* IV. 151, I cannot act wiser than to take the little Welsh girl off the hands of her dragon.

**8.** *Comb.* **a.** advls. with adj. or pple., as *wise-bold*, *-hardy* (opp. to Foolhardy), *-valiant*; *wise-framed*, *-judging*, *-reflecting*, *-said*. **b.** attrib. with sb., as *wisehours* sb. (humorous appellation for a wiseacre), *wise-heart* adj. (= wise-hearted).

1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* liv, With a *wise-bold* heed. 1894 Alma-Tadema *Wings of Icarus* v. 56 There you go, old *wisehours*! Here's a storm in a tea-cup! 1842 H. More *Song of Soul* III. II. xii, *Wise* framed questions. 1578 Lanehham *Let.* (1871) 44 Valiant, & *wisehardy*. 1587 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1389/2 Of courage inuincible, *wisehardie* alwaies. 1889 Morris *Odyssey* VIII. 327 The cunning of *wise*-heart Hephæstus' snare. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxxv. 26 Such wemen as were *wyse* herted. 1887 Morris *Jason* II. 862 Men there are Wise-hearted. 1644 Milton *Divorce* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 66 Why men so disseteem this *wise* judging Law of God. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, Many wise-judging men. 1898 Maclean *Sunset* v. 384 *Wise-lipp'd* chief. 1898 Buckley *Iliad* vi. 170 By no means could she persuade just-minded, *wise*-reflecting Bellerophon. 1907 *Pilgr. Parnass.* i. 213 Youre *wise*-said saya Keepe mee from devious...wayes! 1914 *Strong Sister Stella* lxxv, He could young wise, *wise* valliant frame His Syres revenge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Is þet so wel ilered, oðer se *wis* iwurðed [etc.].

**Wise** (wəiz), *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: **1** *wisian*, **3** *wisie*, **4**–6 (8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.*) *wyse*, (**5** *vyse*, **6** *pa. pple. wisde*), **7** (*9 dial.*) *wise*, **3**–**7** (*9 dial.*) *wise*, *9 Sc.* *weise*, *weise*. [OE. *wisian* to show the way = OFris. *wisa*, OS. *wîsian*, MLG., MDu. *wîsen* (Du. *wijzen*), OHG. *wîsan* (MHG. *wîsen*, G. *weisen*, now conjugated as a str. vb.), ON. *vísa* (Sw. *wisa*, Da. *vise*). Goth. *fulla-wairþjan weihwa*: f. O'Teut. ***wîsas* Wise *a.* (Cf. Wis *v.*¹)]

**1.** *trans.* To show the way to (a person); to guide, direct; †hence, to direct or manage the affairs of, govern, rule (*obs.*); also in mod. dial., to induce, entice *away*, *from* . . .; to instruct, inform.

*Beowulf* 320 Stræt wæs stanfah, stiȝ wisode gumum unȝeðre. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 154 Iosue wisode þone mid eahre his hiwrædene, swa him god wisode. *c* 1205 Lay. 1220 Wise mi & witeȝe...whuder ich mei liðan. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 573 Þu...wisi þi mesnet [= household] mid hali liwepen here sunne. *c* 1250 *Prayer to Our Lady* 2 in *O. E. Misc.* 192 Þu wisie me nuþe for ich eom eireðe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10795 Sire steuene of segrane was imad þo het iwisie in sire hadreȝe stude de he wes þut ford to wise. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17031 (Gött.) Quen i be gan wis To be saiis of paradis. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 907 Wip-oute whom he ne mai His kindom wil pere wisse. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1088 Alexander, trottis him to be trod-gate, as him be torche wysis [*Dubl.* vysys]. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 303 Now wis vs crist! quod Oliuer. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Myst. ix. 120 Mahowne he wyse the on thi way. 1575 Turbervil *Faulconrie* 130 Alwayes wysing and making your hawke to learne in youre yarde. 1594 Carew *Tasso* ii. 11 To be wisde what cause her thither drew. 1604 H. Broughton *Advt. Corrupt. Relig.* E 3 b, Temelius might haue wised M. Liuely. 1606 W. [Kyte?] *Sydney's Ourania* I 2 b, She (sc. the Moon) wisteth Sun-gazers when to ope a veine. 1610 H. Broughton *Job* xxxv. 11 Who doth teach us more than the beasts of the earth: and wiseth us aboue the foules of the heauen. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Shep.* i. viii. 16 Being themselves wise, and willing to wise others. *a* 1810 Tannahill *Song, Dear Highland Laddie* ii, The Laird's wyf's awa' my braw Highland Laddie. O. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xxxvii. 310 She...took me by the hand, and wised me to go back. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Wise*, to show or direct. 'Wise him in.' 'Wise him out.'

**2.** To direct the course or movement of; to move in some direction or into some position; to convey, conduct; to turn (in various connexions: see quots.); also *fig.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21372 A...wain men wit four quelis wises. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 17698 His hors on hym [sc. Bokkus] his bridel wysed. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 78 The forgh is best, ifle humour out to wise. 1608 N. Baxter *Sidney's Ourania* C 3, Planets...Knowne to each Figure-flinger...That wise from thence many an vncouth-tale. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* vii, Now, weise yourself a wee easet-ward—a wee nair yet to that ither stane. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., Wise off the rope there, *i.e.* attempt in Scott *Jrnl.* 2 Aug., Stuff with moss, and clog with clay, And that will weize the water away. 1830 Galt *Lawrie Todd* iv. x. (1849) 270 Mr. Bell wised me to the direction upon juvenile indiscretions. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 213 Wise on the Hydrogen, Nichol! 1882 Ilslop *Prov. Scot.* 58 Never wise the water to him that will swim. 1897 J. K. Hunter *Retrospect Artist's Life* xiv. (1912) 135 The first fish rushed to the shore before him, as he quietly wysed them shoreward.

**b.** To direct, aim, 'send', shoot (a missile) (*Sc.*); *fig.* to utter.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24103 Quen i wend word to wise. 1721 Ramsay *Ode to Pa—k.* ii, Powk wysing a Jee The Ryaes Bouls on Tamock's Green. 1824 Scott *Redg.* viii, Better ye'd ne'er wadna mind a bawbee the weising a ball through the Prince himself.

**c.** *intr.* for *refl.* To direct one's course, make one's way, betake oneself, go.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10956 Vnto per coutres he bad hem wyse. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 69 But see the Sheep are wysing to the Cleugh.

**3.** *trans.* To show, point out (the way). + Also, to cause to be seen, show, reveal (*obs.*).

13.. *S. S. Allit. Poems A.* 1. 1103 A wounde ful wyde...oc wyse An-ende hys hert þurȝ hyde to-rente. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 138 Wysand vs þe way to heuen. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* I. 80 Pat wyse vs to þe blysse þat we schall be inne. 1842 Scott *Rob Roy* xxiii, I'll hae somebody waiting to weize ye the gate to the place.

**Wise** (wəiz), *v.*² [f. Wise *a.* 3 b (*b*).] *To wise up* (U. S. slang): to 'get wise'; to 'put wise'.

1919 J. Bonham *Mr. Standfast* iii, If you've got to wise up about Greeson with the whole forces of the British State arrayed officially against you. 1922 P. G. Wodehouse *Girl on Boat* i. 21 You won't wise him up that I threw a spanner into the machinery!

**Wise**: see Vaihya.

1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 53 The last Sect or Cast of Gentiles are the Wises.

**Wise**, obs. f. Vice *sb.*¹ and ², Wise *v.*

**-wise**: see Wise *sb.*¹ II.

**Wiseacre** (wəi·zēkəɹ). Forms: 6–7 wise-acker, 7 wiseaker, wiseare, 7–8 wise acre,

**7– wise-acre, wiseacre.** [sd. (with unexplained assimilation to *acre*) MDu. *wijssegghersr* (waarzegger) soothsayer, app. ad OHG. *wîzago*, MHG. *wîzage* (= OE *witega* WITIE *sb*), with assimilation to *wijs* WISE *a.* and *segghersr* SAYER ]

1 One who thinks himself, or wishes to be thought, wise; a pretender to wisdom, a foolish person with an air or affectation of wisdom.

1595 *Eng. Terse wife* (1881) 146 Shall he run vp and downe the town, accompanied with some such wise akers as himselfe 1609 DEKKER *Gulls Horn-bk* Prœmium 5 Thou Lady of Clowses and Carters, Schoolemistres of fooles and wiseacres 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 47 Syrupe of Poppy (that reades Lord in the hands of such Doctor Wiseakers) 1721 STEELE *Spect* No 218 P 6 Thus Wiseacres was reckoned by the Parish, who did not understand him, a most excellent Preacher 1810 SCOTT *Kenn. Lett* 31 Dec (1894) I 191 208 This wise acre thinks he alone has hit a finger in every man's pie 1858 THACKERAY *Esmond* I xiii I have heard politicians and coffee house wise acres talking over the newspaper 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 115 The architect is likewise often left his own art by wiseacres, whose whole stock of knowledge is got up from 'Parker's Glossary'.

†b. Used in pl. form of a single person; sometimes as a *quasi*-proper name *Obs*

1613 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Laugh & he fat Wks* (1630) II 73/1 A learned wiseakers 1615 TOFTE *Archi's Blacon Epistle* 24 *note*, Wonderfull Husband, so many Wiseakers as once doubting or dreaming of any such matter 1673 *Sten him Bayes* 9 When he his done (like a wise acre) he makes nothing of it

¶c With allusion to *acres* as = 'lands'; in first quot app applied to a landed estate

1608 *Yorksh Trag* 1 m, In the rubbish sold, those wise akers your lands? 1734 NORTH *Exam* II v § 128 (1740) 394 If wise by their Acres, they would have been more expected the Guineys should come out, for the Uses of Mobbing

2 A wise or learned person, a sage. (Usually contemptuous)

1733 in *Gentl Mag* XXIII 417 (spuriously archaic) Pythagoras learned mucha—becoming a mygthye wyse acre 1814 *Sporting Mag* XIV 271 The concourse of wiseacres was truly astonishing 1847 THACKERAY *Brit Pell's Conf Prof* It requires no great wiseacre to know that 1908 *Sat Rev* 29 Nov 677/2 The stock paradox that the cobbler who has 40s. coined into 50s. is a wiseacre

Hence (*nonce wds*) **Wi'sea.cred** (-əid) *a*, having the character of a wiseacre (in quot. with allusion to *acre* of 1c above), whence *wi seacredness*, **Wi sea.credom**, the realm of wiseacres, wiseacres collectively; **Wi sea.creish** (-əriʃ) *a*, like or characteristic of a wiseacre (whence *wiseacreish ness*), **Wi sea.cresm** (-əriz'm), **Wi sea.crey** (-əri), something characteristic of a wiseacre, pretension to or affectation of wisdom, or a remark exhibiting this

1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* B3 Each *wise* acred Lundlord 1648 EARL NORTHUMB in Mallet *Mem* (1908) 59 He conceited phrases and would be *wiseacreish* more of its professors 1885 A. DOBSON *D n Quix* in *Sign of Lyre* 93 To make 'Wiseacredom, both high and low, Rub purblind eyes 1854 J WILSON *Recr Mag* XXVII 415 He then perpends in a wiseacreish pause, to consider if they are ill to be found 1895 SAINTSBURY *Corrected Impr* II 12 *La mort facile* 'wiseacre shness. 1861 J PEACOCK *Gryll Gr* xxii, Whilst a few Dons conservatuous to modern solemnity there is more 'wiseacre ism about it 1917 SAINTSBURY *Hist Fr Novel* I 371 Interrupting his wiser and the other kids fellers with 'wiseacreisms.

**Wisedam,** -**dom**(e, obs fl WISDOM

**Wisehead** (wai·zhed). [f WISE *a* + HEAD *sb* ] One who has a wise head, always in ironical sense, One who fancies himself wise, a wiseence

1578 *Pol Tax Vorks* 238 in Brodsley *Antiquaries*, Johannes Wyshede ] 1758 *Mir of Wit* I 123 The wise heads have been a good deal troubled to invent proper sad jects for this purpose 1862 MRS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxvi, The wiseheads of the vestry hall 1911 JAMES *Aspt Heads* II 94 There were naturally a great many wiseheads who smiled at his pre sipitancy

**† Wi sehede.** *Obs rare* In 4–5 wyse-. [f. WISE *a.* + -*hede*, -HEAD. Cf OFris. *wishêd*, Du. *wijsheid*, G *weisheit*.] Wisdom

1340 *Ayenb* 68 Zuyche yolke bet wyllyh him benyme his lhordssip and his wyshede 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb) 68 He ouerest wysehede

**Wise-like** (wai·zlaik, *dial.* wai·s-, wei·slaik), *a.* (*adv*) *Sc.* and *dial.* [f WISE *a.* + -LIKE 2 ]

1. Reasonable, rational

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort* xiv, It wad hae been frug or my Leddy Margaret wad hae fund out sic a wise-like doctrine on the bield! 1818 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I xii, It would set her better to be carrying a wise like wean in her arms, than trailing about wi' these confounded dougs an' pussies 1893 *Northumbrld Gloss* s v, It had a wise like dog 's tail

2 Becoming, seemly, respectable, proper esp in appearance

1820 *Blackm. Mag* Nov 148 Talking o threshing ripe rigs wi the west wind may look very wiselike in rhyme 1842 ALTON *Dom Econ* (1850) 223 Make it something 'wiselike' and substantial, that it may remain as a monument of your own liberality and good sense 1881 *Academy* 26 Oct 289/3 Jane-like rather than pretty 1894 *Blackw Mag* June 751/1 He was considered by many ladies of the parish to be a very personable man, comely, and altogether a wyse-like man

3. as *adv.* Fittingly, becomingly, respectably.

1820 *Blackm. Mag* Sept. 315 They ought to hire a chaise, and gang in till Edinburgh wiselike 1842 *Fraser's Mag* Jan. 109/2 Dinna gang ramstam in, saying, 'Janet, here's meal and Janet, here's butter'; slip cannily and wiselike in.

**Wiseling** (wai·zliŋ). Now *rare* [f. WISE *a.* + -LING 1 2 ]

1. A pretender to wisdom, a wiseacre.

1633 J DONE *Hist Septuagint* 214 These wiselings, that shew themselues fooles in so speaking and discouering without Dis ourse 1649 J HISTROME tr. *Behmen s Hunt* (1886) 3 Those Luciferian wiselings that thought none could teach them anything 1765 LAW *Behmen's Myst Magnum* xxxiii 292 Let Master Sophister or Wiseling of Babel look in right in the Face 1914 MEYLER & CRAIG tr. *Deussen Elements of Ethics* II iv 245 He praises the wisdom which shrinks from the wiselings

**Wisell,** var. WIZZLE, stalk, etc

**† Wi sely,** *a. Obs rare* Forms 1 **wislic**, 3 **wislich**, 4 *comp* **wislier**, 5 **wysely**, 6 **wyslye**, 7 **wisely** [OL *wislic* see WISE *a.* and -LY 1] = WISE *a* 1

c900 tr *Bæda's Hist* II xiii (1890) 134 Me þyncð wislic, þæt þu xeneo þys þing beteran, þæt we þam onfon *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom* I (1888) 2 Dondn is eac wuhte red, þæt manna xehwylc xeornlice smeage *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 28116 Wit wisller þati was among Hure i strined off sathes wrang 1456 *Libel Scotis Warr* in *Ld Treasr Accts* (Rolls) I 183 Yf men were wysely, the Frenchmen and Flemmynge Sl uide here no state in see by werrynge 1595 *Sp de Flores' Antichrist* E2 A Vato bowre wysely worden

**Wisely** (wai·zli), *adv.* Forms see WISE *a* and -LY 2, also 5 wisilly, vi-, vysaille, 5–6 wyse(-)wyselie, 6 wyselye, wisile [OE *wislice* = OS *withco*, MLG, MDu *wishl* (Du *wijselijk*), OHG. *wîslicho* (MHG *wîslîche*), ON *vîslega* (in the sense of *vissuliga* certainly) f WISE *a.* + -LY 2] In a wise manner.

1. With wisdom, sound judgement, or sagacity. Also more widely, with good sense or discretion

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* xxvi § 1 Se þe wile wisle & xeornfulnesse after þam hiersan spyrian *c*897 — *Gregory's Past C* xviii 131 Dæt he mesnie ðæt folc ðy wislicor & ðy redlicor lære 1340 *Ayenb* 68 Zuyche yolke bet wyllyh him benyme his lhordssip and his wyshede 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb) 68 He ouerest wysehede 1483 *Cath Angl* 'Wisely, *sapienter* 1548 HALL *Chron Hen VI* 90 b This marriage seemed very straunge to wise men 1549 *Compl Scott Prol* 26, I hope that vyse men wil reput my ignorance for ane mortifeit prudens *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom* I xiv § 3 (1622) 150 Wisemen indeed haue euer reputed them for no better then mad men 1702 R DUDLEY *Add Pilot* II 13 in S Parker *Cicero's De Finibus*, He took Cato for a perfect Stoick, and for a Roman, in the sense of the Philosophers 1772 PRINCE *Burlesque Travest* (1798) 108 Wisely Nestor

Who always counsel'd as a Wise man 1853 LYNCH *Self Improvem* I 2 He is a wise man who lives an instructed mind and a regulated choice 1859 GEO ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiii, A fool will bit on t sometimes when a wise man misses

b Ironically applied to a fool or simpleton, as in *the wise men of Gotham* (see GOTHAM 1)

[1477 *Liston Lett* III 32 Yonge Wyseman otherwyse called Poole ] 1596 CHAUCER (title) *Tale of Gamelyn* 1] 1598 SHAKESP *Descrip Cotsmore* 5 Wh like Wise men in the absence of their Captaine followed the Indians 1721 *Countrey Mans Lett to Levant* 32 It were too Churlish to grudge these Italians the Character of the only Vnwemen of Learning

2 *spec* a. A man deeply versed in some subject of study, or in studies generally; a learned man, scholar, philosopher, sage Now *rare* or *arch*

*The seven wise men* the seven sages see SAGE *sb* 1

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen* 377 Wise menn ne wæron zefr, þæt from Noe nigoha wæs ær forðer Abrahames on folctale 1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 114 Wee man in þe lawe 1379 *Gower Lucik Mir* I 1 In Ethin lond ther was a wyseman he in demwyg of wyn 1382 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III 63 Tales Milesus þe firste of þe seuene wise men 1450–80 tr *Secr Secr* 11 6 His philosofins and grete wisemen of clergie 1588 ARY. BARCLAY *Ship* Arb 1 Index, Thales one of the seauen wise men of Greece 1655 STANLEY *Hist Philos* Pref (1687) 2 Hermippus in his Treatise of the seven wise Men saith, they were in all seventeen, of which seven were variously nained 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr*, *S lon*, one of the seven wisemen of Greece 1824 W CLAYTON *Ane Hist* 48 I find 31 of Persepolis who were reckoned among the Seven Wise Men of Greece. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* lxxxiii, Who made the passion of the pagan storm the weetabix food for them to drive the wise men about the harbour

b. A man who utters wise sayings or maxims, *esp* as a title for any of the writers of the Jewish 'Wisdom Literature',

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 69 þe wise mon [*sc* Solomon] axkede in his þon he ches [etc.] 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I 307 Wise men sayis he is happy, That be oither will him chesiy *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (1902) 118 Þe wisman sais [etc] 1548 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 18 b/2 He was wont to say that þe wyse men of Italy many men 1587 J NEWTON *Relat of 1 Hist* 278 So doth the Wiseman [*marg* Eccle 1 24] say it, wherebj he promiseth fulcitue to him that embraceth Wisedom 1611 *Bible* N T Pref 2 There is no new thing vnder the Sunne, saith the wiseman 1649 WILKINS *Beauty Provid* 92 Like vnto whom Hippocrates (as the Wiseman speaks) 1659 *Conf Cantabr* § 13 The wise man hath sayd eu ths Prov xi 4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath *a* 1703 POPE *Fun & May* 153 Let you pursue sage Solomon's advice but, with more success 1711 — Let protest *c* 1750 *Vert Hole Poetry of Man* viii The hesitating of the Wise man, who declares, that the eye is at mocketh his Father the raven of the valley shall pick out

†c One of a body of men chosen for their sagacity as advisers in matters of state, a councillor *Obs* as a specific sense

By 16th-18th century histories used in pl to render WITAN *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2619 Be ling wi's old Aaron saun He sede, 'De child dob sal be cald Moyses' (Cotton Vitellius) 269 That exercyse of thes contreys do sen t serten wyse men wt full auctoryte for to cooten wille Commoners *a* 1500 ANSELM *Orose* (1859) 111 Hi sende to him þe wise men of the citee, xxxv men swonne to mayntene the Assise 1598 LAMBARDE *Archion* (1635) 196 All the Acts are said to passe from the King, and with the Lords both of the Clergie and Laitie 1628 SELDEN *Titles of Honor* 3 Lordes and Peeres, anciently called Aldermen, Herlotches, Senators, Wisemen, by our Historians 1714 FORTESCUE MANDEVILLE *Fable of Bees* (1724) I 288 In King Alfred with the Thought, i e Advice of his Wise men, or Parliament

3 A man versed or skilled in hidden arts, as magic, witchcraft, and the like, a magician, wizard, etc; applied in biblical versions and allusions to the three Oriental astrologers or Magi (see MAGUS 2)

1382 WYCLIF *Matt* II 1 When Jhesus was born in Ethlem lon' kyngis, or wijs men [1388 and in myseri Vulg *Magi*], camen fro the est 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxiv (1562) 200 b, What we be in t toulle, or sickne s of any thing we vnnne hither and thither to wyssardes or to rcerers, whome we call wyse men 1561 T WILSON tr *Cahvich's Treat. Rels* (1576) b Wyssers who in time of sickenesse vse to deuise after hys antiquite 1573 TUSSER *Husbd*, *Fyfe Unpiil* A 1, That he was at the first a seruant seruant wh a trauelli he was mys 1595 PEELE *Old Wives* I (face) Ch I pray you tell me are the wise men the Conjurers dwelle? 1612 CONTIN *Du Verdus Fruct Prier* 1 iv 78 A sort of practitioners, whom our custome doth call wisemen and wisewomen, reputed a kind of good harmless witches or

wisards, who by good words..promise to allay..diluels, practises of other witches, and the fauces of many diseases. 1732 *Flying Post* 19 Apr. 2/1 George Ransforth, ..a reputed Conjurer, or (as the Country People call him) a Wise Man. 1802 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* 39 The wise man lives nit far frae this,..He telt Nan Dobson when she'd wed. 1839 [see Mason 3].

**Wisen**, obs. form of Wizen *v.*

**Wiseness** (wəi·zənes). *rare.* [f. Wise *a.* + -ness. Cf. OE. *unwisines*.] The quality of being wise; wisdom; *occas. ironical.*

*c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 992 To whome sunderlyng He sat a dole of..his wyseuesse. 1387 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) I. 229 For his goodnesse and wyseuesse wolt thou nat do him worship? 1579 E. K. *Ded. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* ¶ 2 His mirrall wiseuesse. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. 286 Yet haue I something in me dangerous, Which let thy wiseuesse feare. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* III. ii. Your wives wonderfull wi-seness. 1636 Shirley *Wedding Cumutha* VII. viii, Which in a wiseness that does honour to her education. 1820 Colebrook in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 629 This chilly, doubting, qualifying *wiseness*. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 8 June 702/2 This report..is full of wiseness that illustrate his wiseness.

¶ *Right wiseness*, erron. division of *rightwiseness*, Righteousness.

1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 234 Of your grete right wiseesse and spiecial goodnesse. 1450 *Merlinl* IV. de W. 1533) 49 Come to this byleve by dooynge of werkes of ryght wyseese. 23.. *New Nothbrowne Mayd* 179 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 8 By right wiseness. 1598 *Dial. Law of Eng.* I. iv. 16 b, Truth in his word, & right wiseness in his deed.

**Wisent** (wĭ·zĕnt). *Antiq.* [a. G. *wisent* (OHG. *wisunt*) : see Bison.] The aurochs.

1866 J. E. Lee tr. *F. Keller's Lake Dwellings* 356 The urus..as well as the bison (or wisent), are found to have been the most abundant animals in the forests of the stone age. 1889 I. Taylor *Orig. Aryans* iii. 152. 1893 Lydekker *Nature & Hosb* 31 The true, or European, bison..also known as the wisent or zubr.

**Wise woman.** (For the general sense 'a woman who is wise' see Wise *a.* 1.)

1. A woman skilled in magic or hidden arts; a female magician, soothsayer, etc.; a witch, sorceress; *esp.* a herbalist or beneficent one, who deals in charms against disease, misfortune, or malignant witchcraft. Now *dial.* or *arch.*

1382 Wyclif & *Sinn.* xiv. 2 Joab..sente to Thekuam, and took thenn a wise womman. 1558 Huloet, Wise woman that telleth fortune. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. v. 97 Was't not the Wise-woman of Brainford? 1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. vi. (Roxb.) 74 I haue haunted a wise woman of our Parish in Northumberland, hath taught mee the spell of eury each of them. 1612 [see Wise man 3]. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. vii. § 8 (1712) 107 The help and skill of the Wise or Wise-woman. 1709 *Tatler Tatler* No. II. 177 An old woman..who was..accounted a wise woman, and a practiser of the 'art that none may name'. 1875 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Folk-lore* (1883) 246, I asked him if Mrs. P—— was a witch? He answered, she was a wise woman, and only used her knowledge to stop others doing wrong. 1885 A. H. Bullen in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* I. 112/2 In his extremity he sought the assistance of a wise woman, Alison Pearson, who treated him so success-fully that he completely recovered. His enemies ascribed his cure to witchcraft.

2. A midwife (= *F. sage-femme*) : cf. Sage *a.* 2 b.

1861 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvi, Or, what, you have got the wise woman, then?' said Varney.

**Wish** (wĭsh), *sb.*1 [f. Wish *v.*, q.v. for forms.]

1. An instance of wishing; a feeling in the mind directed towards something which one believes would give satisfaction if attained, possessed, or realized. (With const. as in Wish *v.* I (*b*), (*c*), (*d*).)

Most commonly denoting a desire for something not attainable by one's own effort, felt in the mind but not impelling to action; a passive or inactive desire.

The ordinary word for the affection of the mind; less emphatic than *craving, longing*, or *yearning*, but including these as particular cases.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 244 Bot if mi wisshes myhte availe, I wolde it were a groundles pet. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 535/1 Wusche, or wuschynge, *exoptacio*. *c*1480 Henryson *Prais of Age* 6 My wyf Of al this warld to mak me lord & king. 1530 Palsgr. 289/2 Wysshe desyre, *souhait*. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 62 As one relying on your Lordships will, And not depending on his friendly wish. 1597 — *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 93 Thy wish was Father (Harry) to that thought. 1600 Dekker *Old Fortunatus* D 2 b, This Hat..clapt vpon my head, I (onely with a wish) am through the aire Transported in a moment ouer Seas. 1648 Fashawe *II Pastor Fido* tr. iv. 64 Fortune beyond my wish hath favoured me. 1694 Atterbury *Serm., Ivom. xiv.* 6 (1726) I. 191 He comes with strong Wishes that he may find it all a Mistake. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 74 Their solest wishes never learn'd to stray. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 178 P 12 The whole world is put in motion by the wish for riches, and the dread of poverty. 1823 Scott *Betrothed* v, Form but a wish for her advantage, and it shall be fulfilled. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxv. 4 The wish, that of the living whole No life may fall beyond the grave. *Ibid.* xc. 24, I find not yet one lonely thought That cries against my wish for thee. 1850 G. Ch. *Lewis Lett.* (1870) 2 II., has no wish to be a Church dignitary. 1876 Mozley *Ser. in. ii.* 213 The power of prayer..is..the power of strong wishes.

*Proverbs.* 1665 Wither *Lord's Prayer* 50 If (as the Proverb is) wishes were Thimbles, we might all eat Birch. 1670 Ray *Prov.* 157 If wishes would bide, beggers would ride. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 278 If Wishes were Horses, Beggars would ride. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 89 He had a saying: Two wishes make a will.

†**b.** in generalized use: Desire. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 62 Pride..seuep but woo & wyssche to wage. *a* 1516 *South Serm., Matt. xxvi. at* 1717) VI. 416 Prayer..was never designed to supply the room of Watchfulness, or to make Wish instead of Endeavour.

c. In phrases with prepositions. † *With or upon one's wish or wishes*, † *at wish*, according to one's wish, just as one wishes; in readiness for one as one wishes, at one's disposal (= *at will*, Will *sb.*1 15 b, c). † *At high wish*, at the height of the fulfilment of one's wishes. *To* (*one's*) *wish* (rarely *wishes*), as one wishes; *esp.* to the full extent of one's desire, as much as one wishes. (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *To a wish* (Sc.), *to fill a wish*, just as one would wish, perfectly, exactly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23112 All pat wit-standand pe es Thoru sal pou thrit it wit pi wiss (*Gött.* Thoru sal pou thrit wid pi suffrel). 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 330, I have ben ofte moeved so, That with my wisshes I it myhte,..I hadde soone in a day. *Ibid.* II. 39 He ne wol no travail take To ryde for his lustinesse, Ne liveth al upon his wisshes. *c*1450 Holland *Howlat* 840 All thus his bathillis in hall here remanit, With all welthis at wise. *c*1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* ix. 27 Well sayinge on horsbacke, and tyl a wyshe wel shapen of alle membres. *a* 1529 Wyatt *Poems, 1 Unstable Desires* 13 Where it was at wyshe it could not remain. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 49 Though a child haue all the giftes of nature at wishe. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* 144 [He] to his wishe, of pilottes made his choise. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 271 He comes vpon a wish. 1607 — *Timon* III. iv. 82 Our bane is filling still, euer out-runne the Constant. 1611 Bible *Ps.* cvii. 30 So he bringeth them vnto their wished haven. 1617 Hieron *Wks.* (1620) I. 1/2 Then to his wish, Beyond his hope, Eve separate he spies. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 83 Though the relief of Banbury succeeded not with, yet the King paid dear for it soon after. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 56 The people, who assisted us so opportunely, were rewarded to their wish. 1787 [J. Beattie] *Scotticisms* 106 Every thing succeeds to a wish. 1823 Byron *Juan* XV. lxviii, A dish Of which perhaps the cookery rather varies, So every one may dress it to his wish.

2. A desire expressed in words, or the expression of such; sometimes nearly = 'request': = Desire *sb.* 4. (Cf. Wish *v.* 3–5.)

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. ix. 31 The wyssis and avowis.. Thy wemen and the matronys dooith vers. *a* 1533 Lp. Berners *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 He sayd 'I wysshe them here on this table'. He had no sooner made his wysshe but they were set there. 1598 J. Melvill *Autob.* (Wodrow Soc.) 443 My opinioun and wis was, ther sould be na generall meitings. 1714 Pope *Let. to Tervas* 27 Aug., I admire your whig principles of resistance exceedingly, in the spirit of the Revolution: I join in your wish for Peace. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 97 One supplication, one desire, one hope, That he would grant a wish for his two sons. 1908 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* xxvi. 339 At Anthony's wish she wore the Cuthbert diamonds.

b. *spec.* An expression of desire for another's welfare: often as a farewell greeting. Usually, now always, in *pl.*

1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus* VIII. ix. 31 The wyssis and avowis.. By women and the matronys dooith vers. *a* 1533 Lp. Berners *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 He sayd 'I wysshe them here on this table'. He had no sooner made his wysshe but they were set there. 1598 J. Melvill *Autob.* (Wodrow Soc.) 443 My opinioun and wis was, ther sould be na generall meitings. 1714 Pope *Let. to Tervas* 27 Aug., I admire your whig principles of resistance exceedingly, in the spirit of the Revolution; I join in your wish for Peace. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 97 One supplication, one desire, one hope, That he would grant a wish for his two sons. 1908 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* xxvi. 339 At Anthony's wish she wore the Cuthbert diamonds.

b. *spec.* An expression of desire for another's welfare: often as a farewell greeting. Usually, now always, in *pl.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. ix. 31 The wyssis and avowis.. By women and the matronys dooith vers. *a* 1533 Lp. Berners *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 He sayd 'I wysshe them here on this table'. He had no sooner made his wysshe but they were set there. 1598 J. Melvill *Autob.* (Wodrow Soc.) 443 My opinioun and wis was, ther sould be na generall meitings. 1714 Pope *Let. to Tervas* 27 Aug., I admire your whig principles of resistance exceedingly, in the spirit of the Revolution; I join in your wish for Peace. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 97 One supplication, one desire, one hope, That he would grant a wish for his two sons. 1908 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* xxvi. 339 At Anthony's wish she wore the Cuthbert diamonds.

c. In phrases with prepositions. † *With or upon one's wish or wishes*, † *at wish*, according to one's wish, just as one wishes; in readiness for one as one wishes, at one's disposal (= *at will*, Will *sb.*1 15 b, c). † *At high wish*, at the height of the fulfilment of one's wishes. *To* (*one's*) *wish* (rarely *wishes*), as one wishes; *esp.* to the full extent of one's desire, as much as one wishes. (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *To a wish* (Sc.), *to fill a wish*, just as one would wish, perfectly, exactly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23112 All pat wit-standand pe es Thoru sal pou thrit it wit pi wiss (*Gött.* Thoru sal pou thrit wid pi suffrel). 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 330, I have ben ofte moeved so, That with my wisshes I it myhte,..I hadde soone in a day. *Ibid.* II. 39 He ne wol no travail take To ryde for his lustinesse, Ne liveth al upon his wisshes. *c*1450 Holland *Howlat* 840 All thus his bathillis in hall here remanit, With all welthis at wise. *c*1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* ix. 27 Well sayinge on horsbacke, and tyl a wyshe wel shapen of alle membres. *a* 1529 Wyatt *Poems, 1 Unstable Desires* 13 Where it was at wyshe it could not remain. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 49 Though a child haue all the giftes of nature at wishe. 1586 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* 144 [He] to his wishe, of pilottes made his choise. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 271 He comes vpon a wish. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 82 Our bane is filling still, euer out-runne the Constant. 1611 Bible *Ps.* cvii. 30 So he bringeth them vnto their wished haven. 1617 Hieron *Wks.* (1620) I. 1/2 Then to his wish, Beyond his hope, Eve separate he spies. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 83 Though the relief of Banbury succeeded not with, yet the King paid dear for it soon after. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 56 The people, who assisted us so opportunely, were rewarded to their wish. 1787 [J. Beattie] *Scotticisms* 106 Every thing succeeds to a wish. 1823 Byron *Juan* XV. lxviii, A dish Of which perhaps the cookery rather varies, So every one may dress it to his wish.

2. A desire expressed in words, or the expression of such; sometimes nearly = 'request': = Desire *sb.* 4. (Cf. Wish *v.* 3–5.)

1513 Douglas *Æneis

threte And wyshe to god hyt were doun ybete. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 21 Wherfore I wyst fulle hertly dyuerse tymes hat ye hadde ben here. *c* 1580 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 40 Therfor my frayltie I may both curse and ban, Whissyng to God I had never known man. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* 31, I wish my wish were as effectually ended as it is heartely loaded for. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 26 That which rather thou do'st feare to doe, Then wished should be vndone. 1624 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 315, I could wish that Mr. Lisle would take some pains in translating the Saxon Annals into our English Tongue. 1681 in *20th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 233, I haue gotten a touch upon me that I wish from my hart it was well in my handes to your satisfaction. 1721 I could wish (see CAN *v.* 7). 1817 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 25 Mar., Heigh ho! I wish I was drunk—but I have nothing but this damned barley-water before me. 1833 TENNYSON *Queen Mary* v. ii, *New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt... I long to see a flower so. 1885 F. ANSTEY *Tinted Venus* II. 21, I wish to heaven I did,' cried the manager. 1890 [see GOODNESS 3].

(*d*) with inf. as obj. (usually, now always, with *to*).

Occas. with admixture of the idea of intention or request for permission (cf. 5, 6): 'I wish to say a few words'.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1060 Ich wisshen hire segen fro de dead. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 149 Sche wisheth forto ben unbore. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 113 So that the moste hardy of hem.. sholde wisshe to be at home in his owne contree. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 33, I wissitt to be The grytast erle, or duik, in France. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. xiv. 17 Wys now to fle vp to the starnis hych. 1566 *Bible* (Geneva) *Jonah* iv. 8 Jonah fainted, and wished in his heart to dye. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 123, I neuer wish'd to see you sorry, now I trust I shall. 1650 MANTON *On Shakespeare* 16 Kings for such a Tomb would wish to die. 1776 *Trial of Woodcomber* 23/2 Any body that wishes to see him may. 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxv, I wish to talk to you. 1856 MORLEY *Unity. Serm.* vi. 81 If men really wish to be good, they will become good. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 305/2 If she wished to be sure of her income she should of all things avoid dabbling in the shares of new companies.

(*e*) with acc. and inf., or in pass. with inf. (usually, now always, with *to*).

Sometimes expressing a request: see 5 b.

1538 STARKEY *England* ii. I. (1878) 176 After a maner..the wych I would wych to be put vse wyth vs. *c* 1580 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xv. 39 Away I went,...Wissing all luvaris leill to bail sic chance. 1589 [M. PARKER] *Whole Psalter* ca. vii, Pursued the foes and wyshe to slay them. *c* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* x, I rather wish thee climbe the Muses hill. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 138 If you can pace your wisdomes In that good path that I would wish it go. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispatch't* 406, I love the Presbyterians so well as not to wish them renounce their reason. 1733–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. 131 (He said that) every man who saw me must wish me to be his. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, Nero..wished Junia Silana and Crispinilla to be put to the party.

(*f*) with obj. and compl. (sb., adj., pple., advb. phrase): now chiefly in imprecations or the like.

*14.. How Plowman learned Paternoster* 152 in Hasl. *E. P. P.* I. 215 He wyshed them at the deyvil thethere. 1577 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 23, I thank you hertely hat hyt pleysed you to wyshe me with you. *c* 1580 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2306, I se well there is no better rede, But syngh, and songen, and wysshe our selfe dede. 1592 TINDALE *Exp. Matt. v–vii* vii. (1550) 88 b, Who is so wel beloued..but that ther be ynow..that wouldeʒ for hys good, wishe him to hell? *a* 1593 [see HELL *sb.*1 3]. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 70, I wished my selfe heere. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 14 Wish me partaker in thy happinesse, When thou do'st meet good hap. 1605 — *Mach.* v. viii. 49 Had I as many Sonnes, as I haue Haires, I would not wish them to a fairer death. 1621 [see FURTHER *adv.* 4 b]. 1721 STEELE *Spect.* No. 27 ? 2 We every day wish ourselves dis-engaged from its allurements. 1794 RAMSAY *Vision* 1, Mailpayers wiss it to the devil. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxvii, We all wish her extremely happy. 1829 CARNE *T. of Half Year*, I wish that were wish'd to salmon for her sake. 1843 LAMB *Let. to Southey* 21 Nov., I wished both magazine and review at the bottom of the sea. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, Let us remember James by name, and wish him Heaven. 1850 TROLLOPE *Sheep-Stealers* xi, She could only move uneasily on her seat, and wish him miles away.

(*g*) after *as* or *than*: often *ellipt.* (so also with rel.) for various constructions, esp. (*c*), (*d*), (*e*).

1843 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxiv. 83/1 The aduentures of amours and of war, are more fortunate and marueilous, than any man canne deuyse or wisshe. 1530 PALSGR. 783/2, I am as well nowe, I thanke God, as I couldte wysshe. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ps. lxxiii. 7 They have more then heart can wish. 1598 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 227 He..goes off as like a Town Spark as you would wish. 1599 GREAT *Elegy* Epi. 8 He gain'd from Heav'n ('twas all he wish'd) a friend. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* i, Nothing had come just as she had wished. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xiii, You should do just what your grandfather wishes.

(*h*) in passive: esp. in predicative phr. *to be wished* = desirable.

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* II. iv, It is to be wished, that they, whiche..haue my autoritie, maye be like to the lawes, whiche in correctynge be ladde only by equitie. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., More to be wished and much more diuine. 1604 SHAKS. *Hamt.* III. ii. 64 To a consummation Deuoutly to be wish'd. 1697 DR FOE *Rev. Projects* 232 'Twere to be wish'd our Gentry were so much Lovers of Learning, that Birth might always be join'd with Capacity. 1788 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* II. 124 At length the day so long wished and expected came. 1876 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* 2 June *p*86/1 The returns from the Cheltenham district were not so complete as might be wished. 1918 *Poll Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/1 The first venture..was not, perhaps, as successful as could have been wished.

†b. *fig.* of a thing: To 'require': = DESIRE *v.* 3.

1600 Abstr *Jonah* 399, I do not find that expositors speake so fully to the matter of this wind, as me seemeth this text doth wish.

**2.** *intr.* To have or feel a wish; in early use often, to long, yearn. *a.* with *after* (obs.), *for*: = 1 (*a*); also *indir. pass.* = 1 (*h*).

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men..wisten ʒerne after ure lauerd ihesu cristes tocume. *Ibid.* 135 ?u hauest longe iwist after strenne, and god hauð here pine iseie. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23548 (Edinb.) Ilk man sal had til ilk, Al þat he wil efair wil. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* 107 The deth wold they haue and wende after it incessantly. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 29 They cast iiij. ancres out of the sterne: and wyshed for the daye. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 69 By so much the more you are welcome, by how much the more you were wished for. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 163, I can only wish for more worthiness. 1757 ELIZ. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 84, I wished for you...in vain all night, the life-long night. 1854 DICKENS *Sk. Ins. Boarding-ho.* ii, Having nothing to do and nothing to wish for, she naturally imagined she must be very ill. 1867 SPENDING *Publ. & Authors* 75 Buy the volumes as they come out, if you wish for them.

b. *absol.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 50 Better to haue then wishe. 1579 *Spec. Pecors Reform.* xii. 185 Than war I fane, but all in vane, To wis and will nocht be. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 228 Quha can wiss aboue this? 1600 SHAKS. *As You Like It* III. iii. 21 I cannot, I cannot, I cannot! I cannot wish a wish and then feel in my pocket, old lady, you may find something.

**3.** *trans.* To express a wish for; to say that one wishes ... (with various const. as in 1); *spec.* to imprecate, invoke (an evil or curse).

*c* 1200 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 308 Alexander ða wiscte: 'Eala þú ða wære hund!' 1476 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 149, I wyshed to him hyr hand in hyrs and I shulde leen it Norwych place. 1580 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 Then he cryeth out and wysseth that he neuer had had eyes to se. 1586 *Bible* (Geneva) Job xxxi. 30 Neither haue I suffred my mouth to sinne, by wishing a curse vnto his soule. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, i. iii. 218 If Heauen haue any grieuous plague in store, Exceeding those that I can wish vpon thee. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* iv. 215 Let us wish to ourselves such a disease as he had wished upon himself. 1725 ATTERBURY *Serm., Matt. xxvii.* 25 (1734) I. 134 The profane Folly..of wishing that Mischiefs may fall upon ourselves, which we attempt, but too well deserve. 1784 RAMSAY *Vision* xxvii, He..wischt I happyness micht bruke. 1788 in *Trnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1908) 72 She was wishing for the 13 last..often wished she might be like her..D[eak] Grandmother.

4. *spec.* (with *to* or simple object) To desire (something, usually good) for or on behalf of a person, etc.: esp. in formulæ of greeting or expressions of goodwill; hence as in 3, to express such a wish for, esp. as a formal greeting:

*e. g. to wish (she) good morning, good-bye* (= Bp. v), *a merry Christmas, a happy New Year, many happy returns of the day* (see RETURN *sb.* 20, etc.); also *intr.* in *to wish well* (see WELL *adv.* 2 b), *ill* (see ILL *adv.* 2 b) (usually with neg.) in *to wish (one) ill* (where *ill* may be taken as adv. or adj.). *To wish (one) joy of*: see *Joy sb.* 9 d.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 282/18 Gesunhaile ic þe wille eldran broðor hælo eow wyscaþ. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* iv. 406, I bidde wisshe yow no more sorwe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 398 Per nie is eyke ne sorȝ..þat he nie may..bobe wisshen and conen alle manere of men merȝe and fot-ȝeuenesse. 1516 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 50 Not to thintent he schulde have hys parte off thys intolerable trobble..but to the intent he may sit in quyetnes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxix. 8 We wish you good lucke in the name of the Lorde. — *Job* xxxi. 30, I neuer suffred my mouth to do wickednesse, to wish him euyll. 1552 HULOET, Wysse ille to any thinge, *fascino*. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 97, I would neither wish thee a greater plague, nor a greater pleasure. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 72, I will not wish vnto you...to be timed to death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) II. 359 To salute thame baith, wisse thame gude morne. 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 12 Fare you well. Gentlemen who haue no more this heart, That doth not wish you ioy. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *Shakr. Wks.* To Rdrs., And such Readers we wish him. 1711 POPE *Ess. Man. Letter* 39 They wished the Swedes Success. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* x, I wish Jane Fairfax very well: but she tires me to death. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxvi, I wish you good night, and good well to, in your congregations. 1888 *Law Times* LXXIX. 345/2 [He] wished the officials good night, and left the room.

b. To desire, or express a desire for, the welfare or misfortune (of a person); only in *evil wished, ill-wished*: see ILL-WISHED.

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 325 All three were so euil wished in the Common wealth, that the least euil which they would them...was but death. 1604 RODLEY in *Bucclew & MSS. (Hist. MSS. Comm.)* I. 48, I leave you both as well wished, as if you were to enjoy the best wishes bestowed this new year's day in England.

8. In expressions of desire for something to be done by another, thus conveying a request; hence, to request, entreat; formerly sometimes, to bid, command: a. a thing or action (with various const. as in 1): cf. DESIRE *v.* 5.

*a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 259 He came to Huon & wyshyd yᵉ letters fro all there fete [orig. *souhaitla leurs piez hors de leurs sambeli*]. 1552 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 58 To wishe of God to purge oure bartes from all filthines and vngodlie dealinge. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. (S.T.S.) II. 236, I wisse rather...that in hope of barnes he take Margaret rather than Magdalen for his bedfallow. 1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* ix. (1636) 36 The Statute of 27. H. 8. of uses, that wisheth that the *cestui que use* shall have the possession in quality and degree as he had the use. 1632 MILTON *Samson* 1414 Brethren farewel, your company along I will not wish. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 272 To confer with Lord Digby, who..should find the best way to make the earl of Antrim to communicate the affair to him, and to wish his assistance. 1849 DICKENS *Lamer. Notes* xiv, Whatever else we wished done was done with great civility and readiness. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 429, I wish that you would tell me about his death.

b. a person *to do* something: cf. DESIRE *v.* 6.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Rome* C. iv. 55 [The] Captaine ..wished them quietly departe, without their liked to be saluted with Cannon shotte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 79 *Duk.* You were not bid to speake. — No, Nor wish'd to hold my peace. 1604 DEKKER & MIDDLETON *Honest Wh.* I. C 2 b, His to the Constable, And in all calme order wish him to attach them. 1716 SWIFT *Poems, Waglits* 35 The Groom was wish'd to saddle Crop. 1844 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. i, Would you wish the gentleman to be shewn in, ma'am? 1899 RUSKIN *Fors Clavig.* I. § 35 There is another thing I wish you to notice specially in these statements.

†c. To invite, 'bid' (a person to a place). *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 259 He..causyd them to syt downe at his owne table that he had wysshyd thether [orig. *cel fait venir*].

6. To recommend (a person) *to* another, or *to* a place, etc. *Obs.* or *dial.*

orig. prob. belonging to WIS *v.*1 2, to direct.

1598 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 141 I can by any meanes light on a fit man to teach her that wherein she delights, I will wish him to her father. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, I was wish'd to your worship, by a friend i' the Temple, that say's you know mens planets. 1823 ROWLEY *Match at Mid-n.* iv. i, He sayes he was wisht to [a] very wealthy Widdow, but of you he has heard much Honour, that he will marry you. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. xvi. 196 Now I have been wished to several fine women, but my fancy gives the preference to you. 1828 SCOTT *Fort. Midd.* xxiii, She passed that interval of time in the house of Mrs. Hall, an acquaintance of that person who had wished her to that place. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Glos.* (ed. 3) s. v., Can you wish me to a customer?

7. To influence in a magical or occult way by wishing; to bewitch by a desire or imprecation. *dial.*

1828 MAS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii, We mun get him away from his mother. He cannot die while she's wishing him. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* 129, When he hears that he had been 'wished,' he..takes to his bed at once.

¶ *I wish*, corrupt form of *iwis*: see WIS *n.*2

**Wish**, var. WISH *v.*1 *Obs.*

**Wishable** (wi·shăbl), *a. rare.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wished for; desirable.

1848 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 20–24 The glad & wishable tidynges of saluacion. 1611 COTGR., *Souhaitable*, ..wishable, desirable. 1905 W. A. ELLIS *Vingt-et-un d'Yvernelonck* 165 Yes, that would be a wishable end.

**Wishe**, obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*; obs. f. WISH.

**Wished** (wi§t, *poet. also* wi·šed), *ppl. a.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. That is the object of a wish; desired, longed-for. Now *rare* exc. as in b.

15.. *Fickle Estate of Court* in *Courtayn Lyfe* (MS. Rawl. poet. 112, lf. 10 b), What if a day or A moneth or a yeare Crowne thy delightes with a thousand wisht contentinges? 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. P iv b, So friendly Venus in, so friendly Cupid speede, And fancie brought in her throne, vnto my wished pease. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* C ij, My wished freind, and welcomde guest. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. iii, We touch the shore Of wished rest. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 208 While Night Inverts the Sun, and wished Morn delayes. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. lxiii. 221 At length...every wished thing is in the wished train. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 17 Oh! why so late thy wish'd return? 1812 CARY *Dante, Par.* xxiii. 4 The bird..With her sweet brood impatient to descry Their wished looks. 1906 CRAIG, MANSFIELD & *Girl & Gate* xxii, Psyche..held out her hand in token of a wished farewell.

b. with *for*: cf. WISH *v.* 2 a.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud.* 1st *Bk.* 1 The wished-for newes of peace. 1793 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* iii. iv, When wished-for pleasures rise like morning light. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Harr.* I. xlv, Yet is she free—she spoil's the wish'd for prey! 1888 BURNAND *Ballads* 11, I..Sighed as it sang [They] declared their inability to render America the wished for assistance.

2. Entertained as a wish: cf. WISH *v.* 2 c. *rare.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 47 Hauing thus made ech other priuie to our wished desires.

**Wishedly** (wi·šedli), *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WISHED *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] As is or was wished; according to desire.

1523 TAVERNER *Erasmi.* x. Eeʒ, Like as wishedly when winds in sommer season blowe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 620 What could have happened vnto him more wishedly? 1884 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 174 Sir George Somers..most wishedly and happily descried land. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* iv. G 4 b, Of all my friends to me Most wishedly, you are welcome.

**Wisher** (wi·šər), *Now rare.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ER 1.] One who wishes.

† *Wishers and woulders*: see WOULDER 1.

15.. *Part. Byrdes* 91 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 171 Wyshers, want wyll. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. (1622) 15 Many times he wished him-self the hack of an Asse,...can vnfortunate wisher, for if he had as well wished the head, it had beene graunted him. 1608 SHAKS. *Lear*, v. iii. 17 Wishers were euer Fooles. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* To Rdr., I am ..only an honest and hearty wisher, that the best of our clergy might forever continue as they are. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. i, The safest way..to take off the

force of the wish, is..to..wish the wisher something in return. 1846 Denham *Prov.* (Percy Soc.) 31 A March wisher is never a good fisher. 1909 Flor. Marwick *My Fifteen Lost Yrs.* 131 If a prisoner has any complaint to make or wishes to seek advice, she asks to have her name put down to see the governor. She is then termed a 'wisher' and is 'seen' by him in his office in the presence of the chief matron.

b. qualified by *evil, ill, well* (see Ill-wisher, Well-wisher).

1896 Earl Mowbr. in *Boccaling's Advts. fr. Parnass.* ii. Ixxxviii. (1674) 241 To take an evil wishers life away. 1746 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 1 Aug., When the Peers were going to vote Lord Foley withdrew as too well a wisher.

**Wishful** (wi'sfül), *a.* [f. Wish *sb.*1 + -ful.]

† 1. Such as is, or is to be, wished; desirable; desired, longed-for. (Cf. Desirous 3.) *Obs.*

1523 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 31 This so glorious, so profitable and so wishfull an enterprise. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 210 We have re-ceived your excellencies wishefull letters. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. xi. 50 The noyous light, Whereof she long hadd wished the wishfull sight. c1616 Chapman *Homer's Hymns Hermes* 183 Many a field Pleasant and wishful. c1643 Howell *Lett.* I. vi. 4 Having so wishful an Opportunity..I could not but send you this Friendly Salute.

2. a. Of the eye or look, tone, feeling, etc.: Full of desire; longing, yearning, wistful. (Cf. Desirous 2.) *Obs.* or *dial.*

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, iii. i. 14 To greet mine owne Land with my wishfull sight. 1711 *Spectator* No. 250 ¶ 6 You can't behold a covetous Spirit walk by a Goldsmith's Shop without casting a wishful Eye at the Heaps upon the Counter. 1739 C. Wesley *Hymn*, Hail the Day that sees Him rise, Ravish'd from our wishful Eyes. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 91 It has probably happened to others, as to myself, to cast an eye of wishful curiosity towards the eastern boundaries of Europe. 1829 C. Bridges *Exp. Ps. cxix.* verse 67, 73 The former wandering child casting a wishful, penitent look towards his Father's house.

b. Of a person: Possessed by a wish for something specified or implied; wishing, desirous. Now *rare* in literary prose.

1733 Whitehead *St. Dunces* Poems (1777) 18 Lo! o'er yon flood H—e casts his low'ring eyes, And wishful sees the rev'rend curates rise. 1825 Watkinson *Wand. N. Amer.* III. ii. 136 Wishful to see her married, I allowed him to take possession. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlii, I was wishful to say a word to you, sir. 1867 Morris *Jason* i. 314, I am but Jason, who dwell here alone..Wishful for happy days. 1875 • Browning *Aristoph. Apology* 170 Wishful from my seat That truth should triumph. 1888 Lucas *Amer. Commw.* I. 165 A second chamber well qualified for the duty of revision, and wishful to discharge it.

**Wishfully** (wi'sfüli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In a wishful manner; with desire; longingly. Most commonly qualifying *look* or equivalent; sometimes app. = 3 in sense of *wistfully*.

1598 Chapman *Iliad* xviii. (1611) 497 All did wishfullie expect the siluer-throned morne. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* ii, Well, young gentleman,..you look wishfully. 1773 Boswell *Tour Hebr.* (1785) 98, I was weary all day, and began to think wishfully of being again in motion. 1791 Burns *Bonie Wee Thing* 3 Wishfully I look and langlouin In that bonie face of thine. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xvi, Bernice thinks so, 22. I am looking daily and wishfully for your little book. 1878 Mrs. Stowe *Poganuc P.* i, Dolly still hung about wishfully.

† 2. According to wish or desire. *Obs.*

1602 Middleton, etc. *Phœnix* iii. i. G 2 b, I doubt now We shall not gaine accesse vnto your loue or she to vs. *Fid.* Most wishfully here she comes.

So **Wi'shfulness.**

1801 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 371, I expect with some wishfulness your remarks on the second volume. 1803 Trotter *Rachel Ray* I. 170 The longing loving wishfulness which used to make so many of her attentions sweet to her mother's ears. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Oct. 422 1 A sweet wishfulness to please.

**Wish-hounds,** *sb. pl.* Also **wished, whisht, wished.** [Wisht *a.* 2.] Local name for a ghostly pack of hounds popularly believed to haunt over Dartmoor (Devon) by night. So **Wi'sh-hunt, Wi'sh-hunter.**

1847 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 334/2 The Abbot's Way..is the especial haunt of the Wish, or Wished [*sic*] Hounds. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* (ed. 3) 1. 1. Instead, p. xix, Wisht-man Wood..is the very home of the *Wish hounds*, which hunt so fiercely over the Moor. 1865 Haring-Gould *Iceland* 302 On Dartmoor the [Wish] hounds are called Yesterhounds. In Iceland the Wisht hunt. 1865 — *Were-wolves* viii, On Heathfield, near Tavistock, the wild huntsman rides by full moon with his 'wish hounds'. 1897 — *Gwavas* xiv, 'Tis no Wish Hunter's gold.

**Wishill,** obs. form of Wishel.

**Wishing** (wi'sing), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wish *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Wish; desire; sometimes *spec.* † (*a*) evil desire, concupiscence; (*b*) imprecation.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Ne wrec þu þa mid wunsinge ne mid wærienge. c1200 *Ureisunz* 334 Golopse and þiscing, þiernesse and wissing. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 349 He set the herte in jeopardie With wilwinge and with fantasie. c1500 *Melusine* 177 Our desyre and wyshyng is brought to effect. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. lxxviii. [lxxiv] 90 b/2 Theyr horses serued them at theyr wyshyng. 1590 Stockwood *Rules Constr.* 3 Some adorne of wishing, as *utinam*. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* iv. i. 299, I cannot be a man with wishing, therfore I will die a woman with grieuing. 1748 Young *Nt. Th.* iv. 71 Wishing, of all employments, is the worst. 1852 Newman *Par. Serm.* VI. xii. 254 Wishing will not serve instead of coming. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 The power of obtaining anything by wishing.

**b. An instance of this, a wish; formerly sometimes passing into the sense 'a request, petition': cf. Wish *sb.*1 2, *v.* 5.**

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* II. 90 In wedes and in wyshynges and with yuel thoustes. 1446 Lydg. *Dr. Guil. Pilgr.* 6731 My desyr & my wyshynges Resten fully in thys thynges. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* Pref. to Edw. VI, a ij, Our daily wyshinges and praiers. 1560 Howyt. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1577) F vij, A wishing for that hee thought he had not. 1648 Fanshawe *II Pastor Fido* II. iv. 64 They..Who not with wishings onely seek her favour. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 191 Such were these earnest Wishings. 1877 Mahaffy *Epict. Diss. Opte* viii, Our young barbarians..interest us in their wishings, their weepings, and..their kissings.

† **b.** *Wishing(s and woulding(s*: see Wouldding.

**c.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in many designations of objects supposed to be capable of magically conferring the fulfilment of one's wishes, as *wishing-bone* (= wish-bone, Wish *sb.*1 4), *-cap, -gate, -hat, -purse, -rod, -stone, -tree, -well.*

1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Wishing-Bone.* 1860 Dickens *Old Fortunatus* II. 2 Ub, Having this mint [*sc.* the purse] about me, I shall want no Wishing Caps. 1674 Trahfrne *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 436 The fools wishing capand the philosophers stone are but trifles. 1825 Scott *Jrnl.* 17 Dec., I have not a wishing-cap, the power of which has been to divert present griefs. 1828 Wordsw. *Wishing-gate* 18 The mystic 'Wishing-gate. 1600 Dekker *Old Fortunatus* III. i, He stands wishing Hat. 1895 Miss Mitford *Dutch Exp.* vi. I. III. 306 The 'wishing purse in his hand. 1850 Lettsom *Full Nibelungen* note. 197 The 'wishing-rod of gold. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 7/3 A 'wishing-stone. 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1922) 22 That she might have the first possession of the 'wishing tree. 1792 J. Moore *Monast. Rom.* I. 18 The wishing wells still remain. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxi, Sick longings, like the *Mooreland Par.* 235 One of these now unsuspected..wishing-wells or hâlkelels.

**Wi'shing,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wish *v.* + -ing 2.] That wishes, longing, desirous; expressing a wish.

† *Wishing-cake.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 290/2 Wyshynge, *appetyte.* 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Solon & Publicola* (1595) 121 In wishing manner, he would his end should be granted to his praier. 1620 J. King *Serm. 24 Mar.* 3 It is not a wishing and woulding mercy, but a prouailing speeding, releuing mercy. 1662 Howell *New Engl. Sycam.* 69 The Optatif or wishing Mood. 1709 Rowe *Ulysses* I. i, The morning Warmth of Youth. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* iii. iv, Return'd to cheer his wishing tenant's sight. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* v. vi, Wishing Peter..Would..balk Sono wishing guest of knife or fork.

Hence **Wi'shingly** *adv.*, desirously, longingly; in quot. 1571, optatively.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxxii. 2. 269 b, Some reade it wishingly: Others vse reteine the future tence, so as it should bee a prophesie. 1732 Bailey (ed. 5), *Desirously*, wishingly.

**Wishless** (wi'shles), *a. rare.* [f. Wish *sb.*1 + -less.] Having no wishes; void of or free from desire.

1820 Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 629 What a heartless, hopeless, almost wishless barrenness of spirit! a 1893 Cen. (G. Sweetser) *New Yorker* Poet. Wks. (1904) 208/1 Where we shall be..Wishless in the sanctuary of Christ's embrace.

† **Wi'shly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [? f. next.] ? Steadfast. 1578 T. Pace in *Corrp. Gallery Interest.* II ij, Vlises wife shall mate the sute, whose wishly troth doth shine.

**Wishly** (wi'shli), *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 wysh(o)-, wlsho-, 7 wishtly. [? Alteration of Wistly *adv.* influenced by *wish.*] Steadfastly, fixedly, intently; occas. longingly. (Almost always qualifying *look* or some equivalent: cf. *wistfully.*)

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* 183 b, fast my eyes vpon it, longing to behelde it wyshirly. *Ibid.*, And sodaynly he caste his syght wyshly, stedily. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxiii. 1 Looking wishly vpon him. 1633 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* v. ii. Wks. 1130/2 Looking first on me, then on the Iudges, and pore better and more wishely with his olde eyen vpon saynt Iohns ghospell. c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xx. 522 Æacides, that (wishly fixed) Still eye deepe the skirmish drew betweene the Greeke. 1622 J. Abbernethy *Chr. Treat. Physick Souls* v. 73 Thou must bee wishly exatmulate in thy conscience. 1647 *Trayt Comm. Hatt.* vi. 4. 286 He looketh wishtly, fixedly, steadily. 1790 Sir T. Reid *Loyal Indiv. Lexell.* 21 Those thousands of loyall Subjects, who..had looked wishtly towards the royall Palace. 1680 R. L'Estrange *Fraun. Colloq. xiii.* 186 Looking wishly up into the Air [orig. *intenta in cœlum oculis*]. 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici* App. 27 Woman, said he, tell me why dost thee so wishly behold me? a 1825 Forby *Voc. East Anglia* (1830) 369 Wishly, steadily, with settled longing. 'The children eyed the plum-pudding wishly.' 1892 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 40, I seed him yesterday a-cranen' over the wall and eyen' on her wishly.

**Wishmay** (wi'shme), [transl. ON. *óskmær*, f. *ósk* wish (see Wish *v.*) + *mær* maiden, May *sb.*1] A Valkyrie.

1863 W. K. Kelly *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 216 The Wishmays or Valkyries. 1889 R. B. Anderson tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 156 A giantess who had been adopted in Asgard as Odin's 'wish-may'.

**Wisht**(wi(s)t), *a.* Chiefly *s.w. dial.* Also **whisht, whished, wh'ish, whist, wist, weist, weest.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. Dreary, dismal; melancholy, wretched.

1892 T. Moore *Hist. Devon* I. 310 *Wisht*, inapt, bad, unfit, as 'wish weather'. 1895 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire..a bad or unfortunate day is a *wisht* day. 1893 'Q' *Delect. Duchy* 306 Ah, the poor body! his was a wisht case.

2. Uncanny, eerie, weird. (Cf. Wish-hounds.)

c1800 (implied in Wishtness). 1872 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Joshua Davidson* iii. 33 A wild whisht country that does not invite much sight walking. 1892 Atkinson *Last of Giant-killers* 165 Their steps and hushed voices sounding very hollow and whist all the time.

3. Sickly, wan.

1868 'Holme Lee' *B. Godfrey* lxvii, She is very whist and white. 1884 Fenn *Sweet Maid* III. xiii. 217 'I don't quite like the old woman to be burnt. How wist she looks!'

Hence **Wi'shtness,** melancholy; something uncanny or supernatural.

c1800 Polwhele *Wishful Swain of Devon* in R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. I. (1865) 150 He sought the dark-green lane,..Sighing..'Wishtness' oh, wishtness, walketh here'. 1839 *Mrs. Palmer's Devon. Dial.* Glos., *Wishness*, melancholy. 1849 Kemble *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire to this day all magical or supernatural dealings go under the common name of *Wishtness*.

**Wishtly,** obs. form of Wistly *adv.*

**Wishtonwish** (wi·ʃtənwiʃ). Also wiston-. [Imitative, from the cry of the animal.] Native name for the Prairie-dog of N. America.

Used by Feminore Cooper for *whapboor-wolf.*

1806 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 360 Some prairie squirrels, or wish-ton-wishes. 1826 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xxii, 'Tis a pleasing bird, . . and has a soft and melancholy note!..'He speaks of the wish ton wish', said the scout. 1829 J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 154 The Wistonwish.

**Wish-wash** (wi·ʃwɒʃ), *sb.* [Reduplicated formation from Wash *sb.* (cf. sense 11 b.v.).]

1. A contemptuous name for weak, insipid, or unsubstantial drink (or liquid food). Also *attrib.* or *adj.* = Wishy-washy 1.

1798 Mrs. A. M. Bennet *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 36 The fish was ill-dressed, the soup mere wishwash. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* IV. 50, I can't been used to her wish-washes, and her Cocoa, Mrs. Smyth *Sailor's Wordsh.* (1867) 736 His drink a wish-wash of six-water grog. 1860 Baring-Gould *Broom-Squire* xvi. 120 He must have ale, not wish-wash tea.

2. *fig.* Wishy-washy talk or writing.

1842 Howitt *Rur. & Dom. Life Germany* 479 You also find the trashiest wish-wash of Lady Blessington .. just as much in vogue. 1885 Sydney Brooke in *Lucifer* (1892) II. 378, I talked sense, and was grimly resolved to give the exact opposite of —'s wish-wash.

† **Wi'sh-wa·shy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wish-wash *sb.* + -y 1.] = Wishy-washy 1.

a 1814 *Sketches & Jests in New Brit. Theatre* II. 383 First he tuold I that losing a leg or a wing Were considered but wish-washy matters. 1816 Scott *Lett. in Lockhart* (1839) IV. 1. 97 There are a few of the best in wish-washy enough. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 60 None ever throve on the wish-washy draughts of the Muses.

**Wishy-washy** (wi·ʃiwɒʃi), *a.* (*int.*, *sb.*) [Reduplicated formation on Washy *a.* (sense 2); cf. the earlier Swish-swash (wishy-washy drink).]

1. Of drink (or liquid food): Weak and insipid; sloppy. Also *dial.* as *sb.* (see quot. 1824).

1791 *Massachusetts Spy* 12 May 2/2 He..looked at the broth —and d——d it for wishy washy stuff. 1824 Macaggart *Gallovid. Encycl. s.v. Wishie-washie*, small drink; ale without foam; whisky without body. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxvi, None of your flagon-of ale and round-of-beef breakfasts nowadays—slip-slop, wishy-washy, milk-and-water, effeminate stuff. 1892 A. Balfour *To Arms* vii, Their wishy-washy, watery wine.

2. *fig.* a. Feeble or poor in constitution, condition, or aspect; weakly, sickly, 'washed-out'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1703 Stelle *Tender Husb.* 1. (1705) 12 Pray, Brother, observe his Make, none of your Lath-back'd wishy washy Breed. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Random* xxiv, A good seaman he is.., none of your guinea pigs,—nor your fresh-water, wishy-washy, fair-weather fowls. 1838 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) II. 261, I am quite well now, only rather wishy-washy. 1856 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 263 A wishy-washy woman's face.

b. Feeble or poor in quality or character; trifling, unsubstantial, trashy, 'milk-and-watery'. † Also rarely as *int.* = pish! tush!

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. xxxvi. 298 *Pan.* Wishy, washy! Trolly, trolly forig. 1797 G. Colman *Heir at Law* II. i, A lord without money but an foolish, wishy washy kind of a thing a'ter all. 1802 T. Dibdin *Il Bondocani* iii. 41 None of your wishy washy sparks that mince their oaths genteely. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. vii. 55 A weak, wishy-washy man, who had hardly any mind of his own to speak of. 1869 Miss Braddon *Doctor's Wife* iii, Isabel painted wishy-washy looking flowers on Bristol-board from Nature. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 9 Feb. 106/3 A silly, wishy-washy, inconclusive..style of writing.

Hence **Wi'shy-wa·shiness.**

1881 Lounsbury *Studies Chaucer* III. vii. 193 He had.. every..personal inducement to go on diluting his original to the utmost limit of wishi-washiness.

**Wisie,** obs. form of Vizy *v.*, *sb.*

† **Wisiify** (wəi·zifəi), *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Wise *a.* + -(i)fy.] *trans.* To make wise.

1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Author's Prol. A 3 b, The World therefore, wisifying it self [orig. *en ingressant*], shall no longer dread the . Blossoms of Reason every coming Spring.

**Wisigoth,** -ic, var. Visigoth, -ic.

1906 W. H. Hutton *Ch. & Barbarians* vi. 73 The Wisigoths identified their heresy with their nationality. *Ibid.* 75 The Wisigothic possessions.

**Wisiun, Wisit,** obs. ff. Vision, Visit.

**Wisk,** obs. form of Whisk.

**Wiskajon,** var. Wrisky John.

1912 E. T. Seton *Arctic Prairies* 301 Each morning.. gray Wiskajon and his mate .. came wailing through the woods.

**Wisker,** obs. form of **Wiskett.**

**Wisket, whisket** (wi·skĕt, hw-). *dial.* Also 6 **wysket(e, -cet, wiskyt, wiscat, 7–8 wiskett, 9 w(h)iskit, whiskett.** [orig. and mainly north. dial.; ? derived (with *-ET*) from the stem represented by the Scand. forms quoted s.v. WHISK *sb.*1]

Local name for a basket, of various kinds and uses.

1530 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) 81, iij stone and a half in ij grete wyscettis of wole; in another wisket xxti pond...1 in another wisket xxti pound. 1570 LEVINS *Manip. Vocab.* 8 A Wysket, *sportella.* 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 53 *A Whisket*, a Basket, a kuttle, or shallow Ped. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 373/2 A Wisket, or Straw-basket, in which Provender is given Cows or Oxen. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* E 2, Poor people...that go daily to the Mines, carry a small Wisket and a Hammer along with them. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Whisket*, a small clothes basket. 1858 R. Owen in *Life* (1894) I. 239 A wisket of lovely grapes. 1897 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 143 They'll tumble up from below like whelps from a wisket.

**† Wi·sky,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 wisc(a)lice, 2–4 wisliche, 4–5 wisly, wissely, (3 wysslych, *Orm.* wisali3, -like, 4 wislike, -lioh, -li, wisely, wysly, 5 wisselich, wyssly, wischli). [OE. *wīslīce*, f. *wīs*1 adj. (see WISE, -LY 2.]

Certainly, surely; assuredly; verily.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lviii[i]. 13 Hi wisslice witon. *Ibid.* xcix. 2 [c. 3] Witað wislice, þæt [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lambh. Hom.* 63 Þe iuste mulneð þeonne red, wislicne he scal wurðen sled. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Pe holi man ne ofer stede wisliuker þerof speoð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 928 He fulleþ wisliy forr þatt gillt i Godess wrakþe & wiscche. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 84 Many wonderful þinges wisly we knowen. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 74 Men wenden wisly that he sholde dye. — *Franklt. T.* 61 She to hym ful wisly gan to swere That neuere sholde ther be defaute in here. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3567 Vnto þat worthy he went wisly anon.

b. *esp.* with *as (alse, also)* or *so* in asseverations. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Vre lafdi Seinte Marie, alse wisliche alse hie þis dai was houen in to heuene, here ure arende to ure louerd þesu crist. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5673 As wisly as Jhesu Crist is chylde. ? *a* 1398 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 632 Now also wisly god me blesse. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 79/104 For as wischli as euer y cum tou blisse, My will is gode. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 63 As wisly God me saw.

**Wisment,** Sc. var. VISEMENT *Obs.*, consideration.

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. v. 988 He askyt thre dayis to wisment.

**† Wi·smuth.** *Obs.* Also [6 wisemute], 7 **wismut, wismodt.** = BISMUTH.

[1587 HARRISON *England* III. xi. 238/2 in *Holinshed*, A mettall...the verie same which Æncelius calleth *Plumbum cinereum*, the Germanes wismodt, wismu, & cunterfeites.] 1650 J. FRENCH[1] *Chym. Dict.*, *Wismodt* is [*printed* in] Tin that is foule and immaileable, and cannot be wrought upon. 1661 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 168 Common copper maketh a sea-green: Wismut common blew. 1683 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 83 Wismuth forms a slight precipitate in the nitrous solution of arsenic.

**Wisnand,** -**nyt:** see WIZENED.

**Wi·some.** *dial.* Also 8 **wisum, 9 wysan.** [f. WISE *sb.*2, after HISOM.] = WIZLE.

1688 [see WIZLE]. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 136 The greenes they [*sc.* the country people] Call Wisums and on these wisums the Rose is in y^e winter. 1823 H. WEDGWOOD in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VI. 314 In North Staffordshire ..the labouring man would speak of cranberry-wysans, hilberry-wysans. The raspberry and gooseberry would be strawberry-wysans, and potato-halms were potato-wysans.

**Wisp** (wisp), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–5, 8–9 *dial.* **wips, wops** (5 **wyppe**), 8–9 *dial.* **whips**; 4–5 (6, 8 *Sc.*) **wysp, 4–6 wysps, 4–7 wispe, (6 wyspppe), 5–6** *Sc.* **wosp, wasp, 7–9 whisp, 4– wisp.** [Of uncertain origin; perh. an unrecorded OE. ***wiſpe, *wiſp** :– ***wiſpiz-*, f. base *wiſp-* in the sense 'wind or bind round', for derivatives of which see WITH *v.*

Cf. WFris. *wisp* wisp, twig, handful of straw. For the forms current in other Germ. langs. see WHISK *sb.*1

**1.** A handful, bunch, or small bundle (of hay, straw, grass, etc.).

13.. in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 91 Per inne oure ledi him wond and bond him wip alnis, And leide him on awisp of hei [*e.r.* a wips of heye]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 438 Yey, gif dun, thyne horn, a wisp of hay. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 379 These champions...bringing foorth a speare made of a wraþt vp wisp of hay. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœmia*, 219 All's alike at th' latter day, by gold and wispe of hay. 1779 G. KRAIE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 48 But why do we stop?...Only to give the horses a pail of water, replace the postillion...Nay, prithee boy, says my friend, add a wisp of hay to it. 1856 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. viii. (1873) II. 132 As if we were a starved coach-horse, to be quickened along by a wisp of hay put upon the coach-pole clowe ahead of us always! 1879 J. HARRISON *Pateconia* iv. 53 Made soft for the young chicks by a few wisps of grass.

**b.** used to wipe something dry or clean; now chiefly to rub down a horse.

In quot. 1589 with allusion to hanging.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 195 Alle þat herde þe horn heolden heore nese after, And weschte þat hii were I-wipet with a wosp [*e.rr.* wips, wysp[e] of Firsen [*C.* vii. 402 Wips [*o.r.* weps] of brarea]. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 88, Penne kembe euery hounde after oper and wype hem with a gret wysppe of straw. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 593/32 *Mempirium* [= *anitergium*], a wyps. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 64 For wit and wisdome ane wisp fra the nauy rub. 1589 [LYLY] *Pappe w.* 1. *Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. III. 404 If he driuell so at the mouth and nose, weele haue him wipte [= wiped] with a hempen wisps. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* B 3, A muskin or wisps to wype her shooes with. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. xxii. 840 For lice...wash them [*sc.* dogs] and rub them with a wispe. 1611 COTGR., *Torche-cul*, a wispe for the tayle. 1662 HOOKE *Scot. Acg.* 324 There you shall burn like wisps, which have done scouring the better vessels. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict. s.v. Embrocation*, Take the Soldiers Ointment,...and anoint the Part affected therewith, being first well rubbed with soft Wisps of Hay. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Horse Managem.* 378 The curry-comb is abolished; but the generality of grooms also require to be cautioned against using the use of the wisp and the brush. 1901 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* vi.

**c.** in various special uses, e. g. as an ale-house sign; hung outside a house as a sign of the plague; as a plug, strainer, or wad; (of herbs) as a perfume or deodorant.

1598 DIOTON *Two Marvill Wemen* 335 Sit tuk I neuir the wosp clene out of my mynd throte, Quhill I oucht wantit of my will. 1598 — *Test. Andro Kennedy* 110, I will...na bellis for nothing...But a bog pipe to play a spreitch. Et unum all wosp ante me. 1618 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 18 The inhabitants of thos howses that be...infected shall hange in, out over the dore white wispes. 1696 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N 3, His Muse, from the first perping fourth, hath stood at Liuery at an Ale-house wispe. *a* 1698 [J. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 71 Good wine needs not a wispe.] 1726 BACON *Advice* § 23 The same Man used to haue continually, a great Wispe of Herbes, that he smelled on. 1850 STAPLYTON *Stradat's Low-C. Wars* IX. 421 [He] put a bundle of hay, upon the end of a sword-blade; as if he would, according to the custome of the Countrey, give notice...that the house was visited with the plague. 1898 *Yks. Dial. Soc. Gloss.*, *Wisp*, a plug or stopper through a wisp. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxviii. (Roxb.) 141/1 A wisp or wad, is either hay or straw to put in after the powder. 1854 JEANNE *Kitch. Gard.* (1856) 157 If the potatoes are moist,...it will be well to leave a wisp of straw sticking out at the top [of the ridge]. 1901 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* I. iv. 209 He gave them herbs...and...sold them wisps to place under pillows.

†**d.** in proverbial phr. *as wise as a wisp. Obs.*

1550 DALE *Engl. Votaries* II. 84 Than as wyse as ij wyspes, and as good as ij goselynges, they examined her what her beleue was in that sacrament. 1579 *Second Lark* 218 When we say that one is as wise as a wisp, does that imply the wisp is wise? 1682 — *Anunt. Glanvill's Lux O.* 35 The world have rose out of their sleep no more wise than a Wisp.

**2.** A twisted band, esp. of hay or straw; a ring or wreath of twisted material, used as a pad.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xii. xviii. (1495) D v b/1 [The] gristylbone...in ye ere...is wounde & wrapped as a wyspe, leest the spyrite of heringe were...hurt by sodayn...smytynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530 A Wyspe, *torques*,...*torquibulum*. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 232/4 [They] moiled hym...and bond behynd hym wyspes of strawe. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* iv. ix. 48 As you rid him with the tramels, so you shall ride him with these wispes &c. [Elsh: bunches ropes' of hay round his pasterns]. 1611 COTGR., *Torche*,...the wreathed clowt, wispe, or wad of straw, layed by wenches betweene their head and the things which they carrie on them. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 194 An oil in length the pliant wisp I weaved, And the huge holy on my shoulders heaved. 1898 SWAINSON *Weather* 1. 10 His mother tied him firmly...to the table leg with a thick wisp of thrums. *c* 1900 *S. Lowrie's Orkney Book* 304 'Wisps' (the local name for great rolls of heather 'simmons', or ropes, used in thatching houses).

†**b.** A twist or figure of straw for a scold to rail at. *Obs.*

*a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xv. 91 He writhed a litell wispe of strawe, and sette it afore her, and saide, ladi, yef that ȝe wilt chide, chide vpon this wisp of strawe. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* VII. D 7 b, Women...When tattling tongues, had won a wispe. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, II. ii. 144. 1626 H. PARROT *Cures for the Itch* 15 b, Theres nothing maids, her (sc. a scold) more, then that the very mention of a wispe. 1678 [R. FERGUSSON] *View Eccl.* 27 As a Wisp is a Theame copious enough to engage an Harangue for an hour long to a well natured Scold.

**3.** A bunch or twisted bundle of hay or straw, used for burning as a torch, etc.

1512–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4984 Pei fauen as a wisp a-fire: Whanne it brenneþ brigtest in his blase, Sodeinly it weaxeþ lesse. 1552 *Hyde of Euchtfreweche* 29 (Jamieson) Ane Yeis lay ane soft wisp to the kill. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 49 Ye shall...with a wispe on a Poles ende, set fire on it, and burne the Lowz Caz. No. 1868/4 Scarcely any Boys ...who made some wisps of Straw, and burnt them in the dark night. 1805 [J. BLACK] *Falls of Clyde* 169 He light a wisp, to...find the bed. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 268 It should be put into the oven, moderately heated with a few wisps of straw.

**b.** A marsh-fire, WILL-O'-THE-WISP; also the light supposed to be carried by the sprite. In more recent use *poet.*

[1608–: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.] 1618 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* I. *Sages and Star*, Philosophy without the star, is but the wispe of error. 1650 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civ. Wars* (1842) II. 226 It is the saints' minimum quoddam naturale; a Nol with the wisp. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* viii. 'Jack-a-lantern' with his wisp alight. 1822 HAZLITT *Table Talk* I. 251 Judgem. 1. 5 Will-o'-the-wisp that flits o'er a morass. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 339 We did not know the real light, but chased The wisp that flickers where no foot can tread.

**4.** A bundle or parcel containing a definite quantity (of certain commodities: see quots.). *Sc.* and *north.* (Presumably so named from being original in a bundle with a wisp or wisps of straw or hay: cf. WIDDY 3, and the analogous SHEAF *sb.* 2 a, b, c.)

**a.** of steel and glass.

1470 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 73 Pro j lss wysp vitri rubri, xiid. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 292 Item...for vij wosp of steil to þe kkis and mattokkis xiiij s. 1511–12 *Ibid.* IV. 273 Ane wisp of Lambert steille, price iij s. 18.. *Aberdeen Reg.* [Jam.], Ane wosp of glas. 1812 *Sc. Sh. Rates* in *Holyhorn's Ledger* (1867) 330 Wisp steill the wisp, xs. 1821 in *Reg. Penny Consol. Scott.* (1895) XII. 439 They fand that the...causes of the said glass contein fyfteene wispis and that in everie wisp thair is three tablis. 1857 (see *wisp-steel* in 6).

**b.** of other things, e. g. fish.

1521 *Aberdeen Reg.* XI. (Jam.) Four wospe of malt. 1557 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 8 This is the pricis of fish[:] for the gret wosp iij s., the small wosp xxx d. 1910 *Aberd. Trad. Notes* 6 (J. III. 150)'a *Wysp*, a quantity of fish; 'I hae naething lit a wosp o' eels' as the result of my fishing—Moray.

**c.** *transf.* A flock (of birds, esp. snipe).

1806 P. NEILL *Tour Orkney* etc. 59 The sportsman...will not pass a marsh without starting several wisps of snipe. *c* 1810 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffield Angler* 204 Wisp, or wisp, of snipes. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Down Trees* 159 A barrel-ful of shot emptied into a wisp of larks.

**5.** In various transferred and allusive senses.

**a.** A twist of paper. **b.** A heap or bundle (of clothes). **c.** (See quot.) **d.** A thin, wispy, flimsy, or slight piece, fragment, or portion (*of* something); a mere shred or 'slip' *of.* **e.** A small broom; a whisk.

a. 1597 *Returne fr. Parnassus*, v. i. 1434 What, you saucye groome, are you bringinge mee such paper wisps? 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Trnls.* IV. 264 And sour like a wisp to the tail of his kite. 1881 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 94 If you have a fire-place, would you not poke it up...with a great wisp of brown paper? 1895 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiii, The bare-armed Bob, leading the way with a flaming wisp of paper.

b. 1736 BUCKE (tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* D. B.) v. *Wyps*, The cloaths lie in a whips', i.e. tumbl'd in disorder. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1786) 106 At last, he was drawn forth, almost smothered, from the wet wisps of linen. 1788 WILLIAM-SON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 245 [The clothes] are folded up into wisps, or bundles.

c. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Norfolk* (1795) II. 391 *Wisp*, a rowel, or seton.

d. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall-Gardens*, A rusty black neckerchief with red spots, used in a narrow wisp round his neck. 1856 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connexion Phys. Sci.* xxvii. (ed. 3) 398 Some [nebulæ] cling to stars like wisps of cloud. 1898 THACKERAY *Our Street* 14 She had a large cangue with a red horse-hair plume and a wisp of [sc. hair] been a wisp of her brother's beard at first). 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 710/1 Tufted with ferns and brambles and wisps of delicate long grass. 1883 TYRRELL *Dublin Bay* 31 A hat great mountain...weaving vapours, wisp after wisp growing, trembling, floating, and fading in the blue. 1885 CONAN DOYLE *Black Charley* xii, As we approached this lonely gillsel, we saw that a dirtied cap wisp of a thing...was dangling from the centre of it. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxviii, The sun had gone down, a little wisp of a new moon was following it. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 244/1 Dawson pointed to a thin wisp of smoke on the horizon.

e. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip*, a besom, a small broom. 1908 RUDYARD KIPLING *Actions & Reactions* 240 A fly wisp made of the tip of an elephant's tail shrunk on to a handle of rhinoceros horn.

**6.** *Comb.*, as *twisp-like adj.*; **wisp bacillus** (see quot. 1916); **wisp-light**, a will-o'-the-wisp; **† wisp-steel**, steel sold in wisps.

1915 *Lancet* 18 Sept. 639/1 The non-sporing bacteria of fæcal origin—e. g., streptococci, B. proteus, 'wisp' bacilli, &c. 1916 *Ibid.* 8 Jan. 73/1 The so-called 'wisp bacillus'...is the B. ramosus or a member of its group. 1847 ELIZA COOK *To the Spirit of Song* iv, Which wisp-light dance on the moor and fen. 1883 SAVILE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 36 A twinkle "wisp-like bunch of silicious spicules. 1612 'wisp steill'(see sense 4a). 1617 *Rolls of Parliaments* I. 2, Steele vocat. Long-steele, Wisp-steele [etc.]. 1657 *Acts Interregn.* (1911) II. 1170 Steel called Sise Long...Wisp.

**Wisp** (wisp), *sb.*2 *dial.* Also 6 **wyspe, 8–9 whisp.** [? Cf. Icel. *vīsp* a measure of corn.]

**a.** A disease in cattle, causing lameness or soreness near the hoof. (Cf. ANGLEBERRY, FOUL *sb.* 2.)

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 232 This disease, as I take it, the countrey people call the Fowle, or the Wisp. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. Untied* 24. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 109 To Cure a Bullock, that hath the Wisp, (that is) Lame between the Clees. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wisp*...*Heref.*

**b.** = SYE *sb.*8 (Cf. earlier and dial. WEST *sb.*2 and dial. *wish.*)

1789 A. C. HOWER *Diaries & Corr.* (1906) 57, I am blind in one Eye nearly from a Whisp in the Eye lid. 1888 *Berksh. Glass., Wisp*, a 'wisp' on the eye.

**Wisp** (wisp), *sb.*3 [f. WISP *v.*] An act of wisping. *A wisp down*, a rub down with a wisp.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 180 They should give the horses a slight wisp down.

**Wisp** (wisp), *v.* Also 7, 9 **whisp.** [f. WISP *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To rub (an animal, esp. a horse) *down* or *over* with a wisp.

*a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 6 A fair bryde is soon buskt, and a short house soone wispt. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 236 Wisp her and curry her, feed her and train her!...and what is she after all but a *mule*! 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 217 The whole body should then be wisped down with straw. *Ibid.*, Of wisping and brushing, wisping is the most beneficial to the legs, where the hair is short. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 351 They are to remain saddled..., time being allowed for wisping them over. 1898 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. I. xi. 361/1

Beginning with the head, which should be first brushed over, then well whisped with a handful of hay.

**†2.** To put a twisted band of hay upon (the legs of a horse). Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1607 Markham *Cheval.* iv. ix. 48 Having thus wispt al his foure legs...you shall then mount vpon him [etc.]. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horsem.* 32 Whisp him up round with small whipps.

**3.** To twist into or as a wisp; *dial.* to rumple.

1733 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* v. 28 The very same head of hair, wisp'd, and matted together, would make the most disagreeable figure. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 387 *Wisp* is used with us, in the farther sense of rudely handling any delicate thing—'Dont wisp it.' 1870 'Ouida' *Puck* vii, 'Ye're wispin' the ribbon, ma dear,' said Dick. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 2 Mar. 5/2 A cloth, degenerating into a rag, is wisped round his head.

**4.** *intr.* To pass *away*, as a wisp of vapour.

1883 Murdoch *Poems Joy of Earth* 19 Which I the phantom wisps away. 1898 H. Sutcliffe *With Kitchener to Khartum* 278 Magically the rifles hushed, the stinging powder smoke wisped away.

**†Wispon,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Wisp *sb.*1 + -en 4.] Made of a wisp or wisps.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super.* 145 She hath already put on her wispen garland ouer her powting Cros-cloth.

**Wisper,** obs. form of Whisper.

**Wispish** (wi·spiʃ), *a.* [f. Wisp *sb.*1 + -ish 1.] Of the nature of or resembling a wisp.

1896 Sars J. Duncan *Daft Days* 11 A *Lady* xi, Involuntarily she put a wispish curl in its place. 1923 E. Bowan *Eyes of Max Carradus* iii. 113 With ungainly movements of her long, wispish arms. 1925 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Jan 5/1 A small man...with a wispish tawny beard.

**Wispy** (wi·spi), *a.* [f. Wisp *sb.*1 + -y 1.] Consisting of or resembling a wisp or wisps.

In early quots. with allusion to *will-o'-the-wisp*.

1727 Pamell *Fairy Tale* Hymen, Will, who bears the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1830 Aird *Dem-mine* iii. 31 Miriam saw white wispy fires dance. 1830 — *Captive of Pez* iii. ii. 6 The skirting moon...from her wispy top tossed the wispy rays. 1839 J. Wilson in J. Hamilton *Mem.* vi. (1853) 208 These [cribs of the Camelsgarde] are...filled with a dry wispy looking plant, neither hay nor clover. 1888 F. Boyle *Camaralzaman* 141 A few locks of wispy hair hung down over the forehead. 1894 *Athenæum* 29 Nov. 719 Nebulous matter, which...attaches itself to the...stars and to the wispy and streaky nature.

**Wiss,** var. Wis *v.*1 and 2; obs. f. Wise; obs. or Sc. f. Wish. **Wissard,** obs. f. Wizard. **Wissch(e,** obs. ff. pa. t. of Wash. **Wisse,** obs. f. Vice *sb.*1; var. Wis *v.*1 *Obs.*; obs. f. Wise *sb.*1 and *a.*, Wish *v.*

**Wissel** (wi·s'l), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see next. [a. MLG. *wissele*, *wessele* (M)Du. *wissel*, corresp. to OFris. *wix(e)l*, *wikle* (whence MHG. *wehsel*, G. *wechsel*), ON. *vixl*: see next.]

**†1.** = Exchange *sb.* 10, *Obs.*

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 104 The Kyng...wylle hawe iij whytyllys whon at Bregys another at Calles the thyrd at London. 1498 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 173 Sald tham [sc. xv buchi crounis] in the Wissell off Brugis for 3 li. 6s. 8d.

**2.** Change for an amount of money; esp. in phr. *to get the wissel of one's groat*, fig. to be 'paid out'.

1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 134 Nor can we wyt them, since they had out Vote; But now they'se get the Wissle of their Groat. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* 36 Wallace quickly brought the Cuireon back, And there gave him the Wissle of his Pack. 1786 Burns *Ep. John Rankine* iv, I...gat the whissle o' my Sark, An' pay't the fee. 1824 Jamieson s. v. *Quhissel*, 'Gie me my wissel'.

**Wissel** (wi·s'l), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4 **weale, wisle,** 4–5 **wissill,** 5 **w(h)ystyll, wys(s)yll, whystel,** 5–6 **wyssil(l, wisle, wishill, quhissel,** 5–7 **wissil, 7 -ell, wyschell, wirsle,** 6–7, 9 **wssil,** 8 **w(h)istle, wissle, wishsle,** 9 **wissle.** [a. MLG. (MDu.) *wisselen*, *wesselen*, *weslen*, corresp. to OFris. *wixlia*, OS. *wehsilon*, OHG. *wehsilôn* (MHG. *wehseln*, mod.G. *wechseln*), ON. *vixla* :– OTeut. **wiksilôjan*, f. *wik-* (cf. Week *sb.*, Wike) + suffix *-sla-*.]

**†1.** *trans.* To exchange for something else. *Obs.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 580 Mony men of gret valour With speris, maxys, and knyvis, And ochir vapnys vissill [*v. r.* wisl](yt] thair lyvis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. iv. 92 Heyr is, A forcy spreit ,Quhilk reputtis fayr to wyssil, ayen ane wyrd Thy honour thus, pretendis to wyn, This mortale stait and life that we bene in. *a*1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 578 Appardon mee, poets, to alter my style, And wissle my verse, for fyling the aire.

**2.** To exchange (words) *with* a person.

1571 A. Stewart *Let. in Bannatyne's Memorials* (Bann. Club) 152 Thow seames in the begyning to schaw thy vnwillingnes to wissil [*ed.* 1806 wishill] wordis in our quarell. **?a 1585** Montgomerie *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 231 Some wordis wer wissellit at the first betuix the erle of Mar and lord Lyndsay. 1819 [Alex. Balfour] *Campbell* I. xviii. 332 He...wears a greyt stith, that he wad never wissle words wi' him till he changed his mind.

**2.** To change (money).

1483 *Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 130 The same of viij Henre nobles quhilk...Isabell allegit...was wisslit and changit be the said Johne and nocht laid wed. 1666 *Despatcreis Gramm. Institt.* v. (1677) G vij b, *Cambie*, to wissel or change money. *c* 1700 Kennett *MS. Lancel.* 1033 ff. 432 b, *Wirsle*, to exchange, or change, Northumb. in *Wirsle me this half-crown*. 1721 Ramsay *Poems* Gloss., *Wirsle*, to exchange (Money).

**† Wisseler.** *Obs.* Also **5 whystelar, westelur, wislare, 6 wisler, quhysselar,** etc. [f. prec. + -er 1, ad. or after MLG., MDu. *wisselere*, *wesselere*, *weslere*.] A money-changer; also, a retailer.

In the prose *Merlin* *c* 1450 (E.E.T.S.) 168 [A] regrater and a wyssaher [so MS.], ȝ rend *voyssier*.

1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 74 God...pwt hyt in yowr mynd to have the c xxx li howt of the whystelers handys .. at Bregys. 1489 *Sc. Acts Jas. III.* (1814) II. 182/2 That his beneficis...lans vnder to be wislare & changeour. 1573 Banet *Alv.* II 654 An Huckster, a regrater: a seller by retaile: a wisler [*read* wisler]. *propola*.

**No † Wisseling** *vbl. sb. Sc. Obs.* [= MDu. *wisselinghe*], exchange

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 164 Al þe gold...He gaf to pure, & his clething He gaf fore ware in weslyng. 1463 *Extr. Aberdeen Reçr.* (1844) I. 405 vs. vi d. the quhilk he tuke fra him in wisling of a farthing of an Inglis nobil. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V.* II. 373/2 Sindry personis havand quhite siluir will not change for gold bot takkis hairfor xij d or mair for wisseling of þe samyne. 1629 *Reg. Priuy Counsel Scot.* Ser. II. III. 90 That nane...ressave anie of the saidis dollouris in payment of debts nor in exchange or wissilling.

**Wissened,** obs. Sc. f. Wizened.

**Wissentide,** obs. f. Whitsuntide.

**† Wisser.** *Obs.* In 5 -are. [f. Wis *v.*1 + -er 1.] A leader, director, guide.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyssare, or ledare.

**Wissh(o,** obs. pa. t. of Wash *v.*; var. Wis *v.*1 *Obs.*; f. Wish.

**† Wissing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wis *v.*1 + -ing 1.] The action of Wis *v.*1, in various senses.

1. Guidance, direction, instruction.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gospels Parker. Luke* i. 79 In *Anr. Lawes* (Thorpe) II. 370 Hi calle þa læse þe we leorniað on locum awihton and ȝeseon be Godes agenre wissunge. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 59 Þe wrecche...schewed prestes þet sinnes...mines þercf god wissinge. *Ibid.* 99 Bi shrifftes wissenge. *c* 1200 Ormin 11830 Uss birrþ sonne þannkenn himm Hiss wissning & hiss lare. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 58 Þy wissynge of his wondir wrouhte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6143 This wer I full well, thurgh wissyng of hom. 1493 [H. Parker] *Dives & Pauper* i. xviii. H vij b, To gouerne them selfe...by the light and wissyng of the holy goost. 1535 Coverdale *Tyndale's Acc. Sec. Late Voy.* i. (1694) 70, I called them *The Islands of Direction*; they are good wishing to fall with the Mouth of the Straits.

**b.** Leading astray, enticement. (Cf. Wise *v.*1 1.)

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 542 Idelnesse is...witter wissyng and wil till alkyns vices.

**c.** Counsel, conveyance. Also *concr.* a conduit.

*a* 1300 *Curs. M.* 21942 Þe water wissing gan he dilt, Pat water to þe lak broght. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1606 The water by wisshing went vnder houses.

**2.** Command, ordinance; rule, government.

*c* 1000 *Æthelw.* in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 39 Þa munecas, he...gode þeowiað under ablodes wiscunge æfter þam regole. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Hit wes loked bi godes wisunge þat hit wes funden. *a* 1200 *Leg. Kath.* 1930 As al he world is iwald burh his wissinge. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3956 þe wysyng of þe wale god þai wist all before.

**Wisste,** obs. Sc. pa. t. of Wit *v.*

*c* 1425 *Wyntoun Cron.* ix. 1887 Þe gret wowit gret pilgramage,...And wissit hir goddis, ane and ane.

**Wissonday,** obs. f. Whit Sunday.

**Wist** (wist), *sb. local.* [In Anglo-Latin *wista*, *wysta*; ? a use of OE. *wist* provision, sustenance, applied orig. to an area which provided sustenance for a community of a certain size.] A Sussex land measure of area, the extent of which appears to have variously computed (see quots. and J. Tout in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XVIII. 705 ff.).

*c* 1180 *Chron. Monast. de Bello* (1846) 21 Octo itaque virgatæ unam hidam faciunt. Wista vero quatuor virgatis constat. Quatuor autem ligiæ leugæ per circuitum, quæ aliis in locis virgatæ vocantur. *Ibid.* 19 In Pelhee est una wista in dominio...Ista enim quadraginta viii. acris constat. *a* 1300 in *Wilts Archæol. Mag.* (Sanders) 256 Archidiaconus Bedellus tenet j stratum. Idem tenet j magnam wistam. *c* 1312 *Ibid.* 100 Virgata seu wysta est sexdecies pars unius feodi militis. Quatuor virgatæ seu wystæ faciunt unam hydam. 1389 in *Sussex Archæol. Colls.* I. (1851) VI. 256, I do allowe tithe free, to my Parishioners, for euery Wist of land that they till, one oxe pasture upon the lease. 1799 *Book of Surveys* 270 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* XXXIII. 21 Mr. Gallington ' Upon this Tenant Down the D. of Dorset has a right to stock for two Wists & a half of land sixty sheep for each Wist. 1853 *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VI. 256 A ' wist ' in Berwick, according to...the Rev. John Hawes, was ordinarily 16 acres: but he afterwards found that in some of the farms it was 18 acres. In Saxon times the wist was 4 virgates or 60 acres. 1892 Woodward *Village in Eng.* 255.

**† Wist,** *a. Obs. rare.* [app. back-formation from Wistly *adv.*] Attentive, intent.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 550 *Motus Tonicus*, wee in our Language call it a Set or wist-looke.

**Wist** (wist). [Partly from *I wist*, corrupt form of *iwis* (see Wis *v.*2); partly errors. use of pa. t. *wist* of Wit *v.*1] To know; in quot. 1594 in *pa. pple.* = caused to know, informed.

[1508, 1614, 1708, 1893: see Wis *v.*2] 1580 Lyly *Euphues* 98 b, You gall mee more with these learmes, then you wist [*ed.* 1597 wish, 1606 wisse]. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 255 Samuel now wisted [orig. *come ya estaua aduertido*], that a great stature was no sure token, caused him to be sent for. 1598 Buckle *Inft. Women Prayer. Arcnal. Misc.* Wks. 1885 I. 68 Though he [sc. Hamlet] wist not of this, he is moued..., and he, like Gothe, takes up a skull, and his speculative faculties begin to work.

**Wist,** var. Wisht *a.*; pa. t. and ppple. of Wit *v.*1; errors. f. *wiss*, var. of Withe.

**Wistaria** (wistē·ria). Also **wisteria, sterria.** [mod.L., f. name of Caspar *Wistar* (or *Wister*) 1761–1818, American anatomist; named by T. Nuttall in 1818: see -ia 1.] Any plant of the genus *Wistaria* (N. O. *Leguminosæ*), native to N. America, Japan, and China, the species of which are hardy, climbing, deciduous shrubs bearing racemes of blue-lilac papilionaceous flowers, the best known being *W. sinensis* (or *chinensis*), formerly *Glycine chinensis*.

1812 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 376 Vines, roses, Wistarias, or other luxuriant climbers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 486/1 *Wisteria frutescens*, Shrubby Wisteria. ... *W. Chinensis*, Chinese Wisteria. 1876 Black *Madcap Violet* vii. 59 The pale purple blossoms of the wysteria hanging in front of the sunlit walls. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 173 The great Wesleria's purple blooms.

*attrib.* 1888 J. C. Harris *Free Joe* 109 A wisteria vine running helter-skelter across the roof of the little cabin. 1895 A. Dobson *At Counsel Gate* i. in *Story of Rozinante* 97 Wistaria blossoms trail and fall Above the length of barrier wall.

**Wistful** (wi·stfūl), *a.* [a]pp. f. Wistly *adv.* (where cf. quot. 1613–16) + -ful, with reminiscence of *wishful*. In early use mainly poetical.]

**† 1.** Closely attentive, intent. *Obs.*

1596 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 344 A Christall Riuer...chid The artlesse Songsters, that their Musicke still Should charme the sweet Dale, and the wistfull Hill. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 223 P 5 [He] Whispered all around the Court with such a pretty Uneasiness, and then recovered her self from one Eye to another, 'till she was perfectly confused by meeting something so wistful in all she encountered.

**2.** Expectantly or yearningly eager, watchful, or intent; mournfully expectant or longing. (Chiefly in reference to the look.)

1724 Gay *Sheph. Week* v. 1 Why, Grubbinol, dost thou so wistful seem? Thine Eyebrow's Sorrow's Look, fright I deem. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 484 My sad companions on the beach I found, Their wistful eyes in floods of sorrow drown'd. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii. 3 Upon my one of my Sashes, cast many a wistful melancholy Look towards the Sea. 1799 Campbell *Pleas. Hope* i. 88 His faithful dog...Points to his master's cave: then turns his wistful Face, and whines a welcome home. 1829 Black *Green Past.* xxi, For a moment she hesitated, eager, disappointed and wistful. *Cornh.* 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* iii. This fair-haired, wistful-eyed girl. 1889 Conan Doyle *Mysh. Clarke* xviii, The wistful-eyed red Somerset kine.

*adv.* 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* i. 258 His eyes gazed wistful round. 1848 Lytton *Harold* II. iii. 74 The moment that seized the girl as she gazed long and wistful upon the knight.

**Wistfully** (wi·stfūli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

**† 1.** With close attention, intently; with an inquiring look. *Obs.*

1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 464 With that he fell again to pry Through Perspective more wistfully. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 139 P 2 [The lion] after having regarded him [sc. Androcles] a little wistfully, fell to the ground, and crept towards his feet. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xii, Brother Shandy, answered my uncle Toby, looking wistfully in his face,—you are much mistaken. 1833 H. Martineau *Manch. Strike* x. 115 Martha looked wistfully from one to the other, not understanding the grounds of the dispute.

**2.** With expectant or yearning eagerness; with mournful expectancy or longing.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 901 Eccho: His doleful wailings did resound, More wistfully by many times, Than in small Poets splay-foot Rhimes. 1758 Goldsm. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 256 Two of the Grenadiers passing by...and looking wistfully at the House; said one to the other, Comrade, let us halt, and take a little drop of Dram. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 Sore and shackled as I was, I got...on deck, and looked wistfully out on the shore. 1819 Ivrom *Island* III. vi, He strode to where young Torquil stood,...Seized his hand wistfully, but did not press. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 53 The Catholic league gazed wistfully after a disaster of their intended prey. 1883 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xc. 165 The girl wandered about wistfully a year or two longer, then died.

So **Wistfulness.**

1775 Ash. 1847 Flor. Nightingale in Sir E. Cook *Life* (1913) I. i. v. 71 There is an uncertainty, a wistfulness in her eyes. 1887 Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* I. iii, The lucent eyes were full of a deep wistfulness.

**Wistiti** (wi·stiti). Also **ouistiti(s.** [ad. F. *ouistiti* (imitative); named by Buffon (*Hist. Nat.* 1767 XV. 96) from the cry of the animal.] A South American monkey of the family *Hapalidæ*; a marmoset, esp. the Common Marmoset, *Hapale jacchus*.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 237 Of the sagoins with feeble tails, there are six kinds. ... The third is the Wistiti; remarkable for the large tufts of hair upon its face, and its annulated tail. 1839 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 49 *Simia jacchus*, Linnæus; the Common Ouistitis. This species is found in Paraguay, and nearly every part of South America. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 212/2 This general resemblance to the human skull is still greater in the Ouistitis.

**† Wistless,** *a. poet. Obs.* [irreg. f. Wistly *adv.* or Wistful + -less.] Inattentive, unobservant.

1747 [G. Ridley] *Psyche* xix. In *Museum* III. 80 ore Avernus, or the Lucrine Lake, The wistless bird pursues his purpu'rd Flight. 1798 Southey *Joan of Arc* I. 405, I held it,...And, wistless what I did, half from the sheath Drew the well-temper'd blade. *Ibid.* iv. 61 Wistless that every eye dwelt on her form, With stately step she paced. 1814 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xi. 10 One, moiling, lay Tangled in net of sensual delight: And one to wistless indolence resigned.

**† Wistly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 6 **wystly, wistle, wistlie,** 6–9 **wistly.** [Origin doubtful;

perh. a variant of WHISTLY, WHISTFUL *advs.*, silently, hushedly ] With close attention ; intently.

Occas. with implication of WISTFULLY 2.

a 1300 *Gest of Robyn Hode* cccccx, Robyn beholde our cyuylry kynge Wyatly in the face 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* O 3, With that Castibula looking wistly vpon him, in furious rage flange hastilye from him. 1596 *Edw. III*, iii. v. 109 Now lies it on an vpshot, therefore strike. And wistlie follow, whiles the games on foote 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX xxxii. 237 For a good while they stood on both sides, wistly looking, & waiting that the shout and charge should begin from the adverse part 1613–26 W BROWNE *Brit Past* II v 435 What time the new-cloath'd trees by gusts of winde Vnmou'd, stand wistly letting to those layes 1841 H L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 23 If you look wistly upon Calvines words you shall find him not repugnant to what I have here delivered. 1693 N LEE *Nero* III 1 53 Do you know me, Sir? Look wistly on me 1784 S KNIGHT *Life T Cobel* 54 He look'd wistly upon me, to observe whether I spoke in jest or earnest 1930 I HORTON *New World* (1950) 282 In your wrestling with temptations, have ye not sometimes looked wistly for death's relief?

**Wistonwish**, var WISTONWISH.

**Wisy**, obs f. VIZY *v. Sc*

**Wit** (wit), *sb* Forms 1– wit, 3–6 wyt, 3 (*Orm*), 4–7 witt, 4–6 wytt, 4–7 wytte, 4–7 witte, wyte, (4 wite, wyth, whit, 4–6 wyth, *Sc.* vith, vyt, 5 whytt, wetie, 6 *Sc.* wott, 7 woot) [OE *wit* neut , more commonly *gewit(t* I WIT *sb.*, corresp to OFris. *wit*, OS, (M)L *giwit*, OHG *wizzi* (MHG. *witze*, G *witz*), ON. *vit* (Sw. *vet*, Da. *vid*), Goth. *un wits ðḥpoowvn, ἀγροικ* f *wit-* (see WIT *v.*1) ]

I Denoting a faculty (or the person possessing it).

†1. The seat of consciousness or thought, the mind : sometimes connoting one of its functions, as memory or attention. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Beath Metr* VII 45 Deos xitsunc hafaš gumena gehweles mod amerred, ac hit on witte wealfende byrnš. c 1175 *Lamb Hom* 71 Sif us eni uel bitt Ponice we gode in ure wit a 1300 *Cursor M* 5243 Wit in his witte he all pursued His were c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Machor*) 338 [He] in his hart wele held it, Ay setentywe he had it wyt a 1400 *Pl Crede* (Skeat) Epil iv 17 Myshyelded men bat walkep in vanyte of hure wyt c 1449 PECOCK *Repr* III iv 395 His ouer greet trust which in his witt he bistitt upon hem 1453 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII v 67 And sammyn prent thir sawis in thy wyt 1548–9 *Bk Com Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, O holy ghoste into oure wittes, sende downe thyne heauenly 1552 LANGHAM *Lett Privy Council* 19 A I may a while I see a short wit by my tooth I had almost forgot 1612 BACON *Ess*, *Studies* (Arb) 13 If a man wit be wanting, let him studie the Mathematicks a 1660 *Contempl Hist Fed Wks* (1676) I 1 Our Catholicke General did now examen the secret retirements of his witte, to be enformed what best to doe in this extreamitie.

2. The faculty of thinking and reasoning in general ; mental capacity, understanding, intellect, reason *arch.* (now esp. in phr. *the wit of man* = human understanding)

For the corresponding pregnant uses see 5 and 6

*Seowenlof* 389 þus þa in helle weoll werhoo droogan, þeah þa wit dugu c 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 21 Hwil þu wit astond & chastes þi wil ne haimed hit te nawiht 1807 R GLOUC (Rolls) 9389 In breyn & wit is so feble, bat per nas of him no drede c 1395 *Mandev* 220 in *E E P* (1866) 51 A dombe best wipoute witte c 1573 *Tr & Troilus Mast Bk* (MS. II) 143 My I use, my lymmes þou hast me lent, My right wit þou hus me sent 1577 LANGE *P Pl* II xx 266 Kynde wrte me tolde, It is wikked to wage pay now. c 1400 *Pety Job* 184 in *26 Pol Poems* 127 To goueme me þis vnwise me wyt c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI 481 To worthy God, can I thank it of mine. Befor my wetis, to þeild me I begin 1586 TINDALE *1 Cor* XIV 20 Brethren be not children in wittes. 1598 GRAFTON *Chron* II 593 His wife were pregnant and had conceiued her wyt 1599 SHAKS *Much Ado* IV i 211, I had a dreame past the wit of man, to say, what dreame it was 1665 GLANVILL *Sceptos Sci* 99 A good will, help'd by a good wit 1708 J SMITH *Cornucopia* 111 Where 1679 BAXTER *Cath Theol* II viii 267 God were not God, if mans shallow wit could comprehend him 1734 POPE *Epistle Cobe*, Of Manners gentle, of Affections mild; In Wit, a Man; Simplicity, a Child 1840 R W HILDYARD *Antiquar Rhilitat & Ancient* 139 We profess not to discover the truth by our own wit 1877 F CARTHY *Own Times* xx 11 98 The wit of man could suggest nothing satisfactory. 1877 E ARNOLD *Lt Asia* VIII 232 Shun drugs and drinks which work the wit abuse

b. In plural, in reference to a number of persons.

a 1300 *Cursor M* 23759 Crist[es] help sal be us ner, His helpes and vr wittes eke 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 27 To fynde remydyes and weyes as by there wittes may be fownde moost sewr 1526 TINDALE *Luke* XXIV. 45 Then openned he their wyttes, that they myght vnderstond the scriptures 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 240 That militare wittes are not refined to the vtmost sharpenesse and subtilty, vsed practised in courtes of Iustice 1664 POWER *Exp Philos* Pref b, Herein we can see what the illustrious wits of the Atomical and Corpuscularian Philosophers did not imagine. 1700 J BROWNE tr *Fresny's Amusem* 7 Some Men can never be brought to write correctly in this Age, till they have turned their Wits upon the Ancients.

c. Often denoting indifferently the faculty or the person possessing it, and hence sometimes used definitely for the person in respect of this faculty. Almost always in plural, of a number of persons, and commonly with qualifying adj. *arch*

For the corresponding pregnant uses see 9 and 10.

1598 *Act 39 Eliz* c 1 § 1 In his Vniuersities of Oxforde and Cambridge where yowth and good wyttes be educate. 1598 UDALL *Aroum Apoph Pref* a6v b, A sence not comen for euerie wittes to picke out 1598 ASCHAM *Scholem* Pref. (Arb.) 19 Many yong wittes be driuen to hate learninge, before they know what learninge is. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I 274 Gods-Hill, in which Iohan Worsley erected a schole for the training up of young wits. 1790 JOHNSON *Rambler* No 84 P 7 The great Praise of Socrates is, that he drew the Wits of Greece from the vain Pursuit of natural Philosophy to moral Inquiries. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult* 38 The rock, on which great wits are often wrecked for want of a little kindly culture of unselfishness

d. Phr. *at one's wit's end* (occas. *ends*) utterly perplexed ; at a loss what to think or what to do. So *to bring* (*drive*, or *put*) *to one's wit's end* : to perplex utterly.

Now commonly taken as 2c, the word being written as gen pl (*witt*) even in ref to a single person

1377 LANGL *P Pl* B xv 363 Astrymyanes also aren at hire wittes ende. c 1400 TYRO *Assembly of Gods* 1665 When they were drevyn to her wyttes ende 1535 COVERDALE *Isa* XX 5 They shalbe also at their wittes ende, and ashamed one of another 1550 *Respublica* I iii 240 & she att her wittes ende, what for to saie or doo. 1588 R BERNARD tr *Terence, Andria* II iv, You bring him to his wits end 1681 FLAVEL *Meth Grace* 111 54 What shall we do? at the very end of men at their wits end 1710 ADDISON *Spect* No 311 P 1, I am at my Wits End for fear of any sudden Surprize. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iv. 206 Mr. Monckton, as one may say, at their wit's ends 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xl. 360 The old Laird fairly finding himself driven to his wit s end 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* I. 18 Orestes, utterly at his wits end

†e *Wit, whither wilt thou?* : phr. addressed to a person who is letting his tongue run away with him.

1600 SHAKS *A. Y. L.* IV i 167 A man that had a wife with such a wit, he might say, wit whether wilt? *Ibid* II iii 61 How now Wit, whether wander you? 1600 DEKKER *Satir* III i, I hart within a hunter of fame, My sweet Wit whether wilt thou? my delicate Poeticall Furie 1617 *Greene's Groats-Worth H Wit* (Perf n. ) his olde Ballad made in Hell, *Ingenio pereo, qui vitter fati nescio* Wit, whither wilt thou? woe is me 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* IV. i, *Cog* Wit whether wilt thou? *Dond* Marry to the next pocket I can find out 1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Exch* I. i, *Cog* Wit is the word strange to you, wit? *Bon* Whither wilt thou?

†f *Wit* and *reason* : name of an old card-game

1680 COTTON *Compl Gamester* xvi (ed 2) 97 Wit and Reason is a Game something like one and thirty

†3. Any one of certain particular faculties of perception, classified as *outer* (*outward*) or *bodily*, and *inner* (*inward*) or *ghostly*, and commonly reckoned as five of each kind (see b) = SENSE *sb.* 1, 7 (see also INWIT 2 b). Also *common wit* = COMMON SENSE 1. (In early use often loosely extended to include other bodily faculties, as speech and locomotion.) *Obs* exc. as in b and c.

a 1225 *Ancr R* 64 þis is nu mouh of þaue witte [*sc* sight] a 1300 *Cursor M* 23990 O wittes all me wanid migth, Gang, mut, ingang, and tung, wit 1340 *Ayenb* 251 Þe wytte of þe taule 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III 467 Nesche is i knowe by meny wittes, for it is knowe bobe by gropynge and by wittes of þe body c 1449 PECOCK *Repr* V vii 510 Inward sensityue wittis and outward sensityue wittis. 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* xxxiv (Percy Soc) 108 I haue no power to write remenant inwardly For dymmyn wytte, and thin ymaginacyon, fantasy, and estymacyon truely, And memory 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest Carmes* B 3 b, In whiche [the] exercyses the wyt of mannes soule foundeth 1598 SHAKS *Rom & Jul* II iv 77 Thou hast more of the Wit I know in one of thy wits, than I am sure I haue in my whole fiue.

b *Five wits* usually, the five (bodily) senses ; often vaguely, the perceptions or mental faculties generally, = *wits* (in sense 3c or 4b) Also (jocularly) *fifteen wits* *Obs*, or *rare arch*

c 1200 *Trin Coll Homilies* 79 Da sif wittes ße god me betahte to lokien þerwiþ, and to luuien 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 298 Hering, sight, smelling and eke tesing, ce wittes five. c 1580 WILLIS *Set Wks* III 117 Py fyve wyttys, be wittyt and be 3ynde 1600 SHAKS *Much Ado* II iii 21 Hath not a Dw wyttis of my sowll with mine c 1595 *Inlet Four Elem* (Percy Soc) 19, I comforte the wyttes fyve, the tastyng, smellyng, & seeyng, I refreshe the eyghte and eleyght the eare, all creatures alyve 1838 THIRLWALL *Expos Creed* viii 98b, There is no breade in the sacrament, nor wine, though the five wittes seeme all 1850 POOLE *Serm* (ed 2) 96 Is there no getting the sinful wisdom out, no purging quite from his fifteene wits? 1860 A COOKE *Pope Joan* 113 Though men had bene bewitched and distract of their five wits 1870 EMERSON *Soc & Solit Addr* 6 Alone and away his five wits, The white owl in the belfry sits 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. iv. 86 Everybody now has learnt that in reality it depends upon the five wits and but on the mystical con stitution within, and on the social conditions without

c. *pl* Mental faculties, intellectual powers (of a single person or a number of persons of 2 b); often practically equivalent to the sing in sense 3

*To have one's wits about one* : to have one's mental powers in full exercise, to be mentally alert *To lose by one's wits* : to get one's living by clever or (now esp.) crafty devices, without any settled occupation

1535 COVERDALE *Isa* XXIX 14 I se wel þat hit is sothe, þat alle manner wittes 3o vn thryfte arn alle þrawen 1586 LANGE *P Pl* A I 129 þou dotest daffe Dulle are þi wittes 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* I viii 21 To be full busy in all the vertues and mighties of 3 oure soulle 1533 GAU *Rech Vay* 87 Quhen our hart and vittis ara ful of sorow 1576 FLEMING *Panopl Epist* 14 So soone as I gathered my wits together 1612 B JONSON *Alch* III iv, How doo they lose by their wits : there, that have vented Sixe times your fortunes? 1620 MASSE tr *Alemman's Guzman d'Alf* II. 99, I had my wits about me, and a hand that was able to finde me worke 1682 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit* I. 163 Great Wits are sure to Madness near allied 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII 326 That my wits may not be sent a wool-gathering 1860 MAUDSLEY *Gil Blas* V. I p 18 Have all your wits about you, you are nursing a viper in your bosom 1880 L HUNT *Indicator* No 14 I 111 That letter touched her kind wits 1890 DICKENS *Old Cur Shop* [xxxvi] Living by his wits—which means by the abuse of every faculty that worthily employed raises man above the beasts. 1893 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq* 146 This expression at last penetrated his obdurate wits

†d *sing.* and *pl.* Consciousness ; sensation : cf. SENSE *sb* 3, 6. *Obs. rare.*

c 1290 *St Brendan* 18 in S *Eng Leg* 220 Seint brendan cride on him al for to it wit him cam 23 *Gaw & Gr Kn* 1755 He kestened his wyttes, Swenges out of þe swownes. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W* 1815 *Lucrece*, Sche loste at onys bothe wit & breth, And in a swo she lay c 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 60 Wt Wilbourn wist he was lapyng

4. The understanding or mental faculties in respect of their condition, chiefly = 'right mind', 'reason', 'senses', sanity †a. *sing.* : esp. in phrases *in (on 't right) wit*, sane, of sound mind, chiefly *out of (by, from, of) wit* or *one's wit*, insane, mad, out of one's mind, also *out of wit* advb, madly, furiously *Obs.* (or *dial*).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xv 7 We de he ychnide and on witte gebohte c 1205 LAY 16061 Swa sende he him was þat al his wit he for le3 c 1290 *St Dunstan* 600 in *S Eng Leg* 19 Heo neuth a non out of hire witte, and feol a doun rist þar. 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 9481 Ac þe kyng nas nou3t wit a 1300 *Cursor M* 27168 Man in wit Or man mai falle was vte of ite e 1350 *Will Palerne* 1483 Neuth wod of witte c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel* 402 Ne Arcyte was nowere he wold dey. Or from his witte he wold twynne 1425 *E E Wills* (1882) 66 Wip witte and good mende 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xx 59 I hey were strobe out of wyt c 1485 CAXTON *blanchardyn* xlvi 178 Arte thou now dronke, or folysshe, or from thy witte? 1582 T NORTON *Calvin's Inst* III 207 As no man has right wit will graunt 1619 POTTENGER *Lamentac* I xiv B 3 (1620) 151 It is a thing so euident that there is a God, that whosoeuer denieth it, is (surely) out of his wit 1794 RAMSAY *Teat Misc* (1733) I 86 The wise was wood, and out of their wit

b *pl* = SENSE *sb* 10. esp. in phr. *in or out of one's wits.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Consc* 785 His wyttes fayles and he ofte dotes 1431 *E E Wills* (1882) 87 Beyng 3ou go de heale and 3 in my full wittes 1600 SHAKS *Much Ado* AIV xxiii 32 For a time it had a way bir wittes 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor* XIV 23 Will they not saye that ye are out off youre wittes? 1598 GRAFTON *Chron* II 593 He was not in his right wittes. 1601 SHAKS *Twel N* IV iii 95 I am as well in my wits (foole) as thou art. 1604 DEKKER *Hon st Wh* I xiii (1635) 53 Are you in your wits? 1622 BACON *Hen VII*, 206 Ioan was unable to beare the Griefe of his Decease and fell distracted of her Wittes 1661 FULLER *Worthies*, Hertford. 111 Some say that his wits is nearer and dearer to any man then his wealth 1736 BUTLER *Anal* Diss 3 306 Nor is it possible for a Person in his wits, to alter his Conduct from Prudence to Folly. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess*, *Clive* (1860) II 302 The new governor was frightened out of his wits

*Sc.* 1598 SHAKS *Merry W* II i 243 Heere's a fellow frights English out of his wits 1843 SCOTT *Drinking Water* 62 Our small beer, or water skorul out of its wits.

II. Denoting a quality (or the possessor of it).

†5 Good or great mental capacity, intellectual ability, genius, talent, cleverness, mental quickness or shrewdness, acumen *arch*

The earliest quots. may belong to other senses e g 6 or 11

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 10829 Po . he understood of is wit, & of is wisdom, Hym þozte it was a gret lere to al is kone dom a 1300 *Cursor M* 5 Sum sco3e sum bokes he lere, O wit o wisdom Was neuer non wise 1350 *Cast Love* 1080 Of whom and how comeþ hit Such reson and such wit, Þat þou dixt so many leches Forto dispute a3eins me? c 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) vii 58 Nyghe that ile is the Ile of Pentexoire, where the Holy Crois was founden be the Wyff of Seynt Elyne c 1450 *Merlin Prittat* 97 Pey began to dyspute with hym, but pey hulden no wit ageyn hym 1535 COVERDALE *Isa* xxix 14 Then shall the wisdome of his wise men be lost, and the vnderstondinge of their prudent men hyd 1586 TINDALE *Rem* xii 16 Let hym that hath wytt count the numbre of the beest 1603 SHAKS *Meas F* III i 282 As those that feede grace and know not great wits to seeme it? *Ibid* Thanh sir, few of any wit in such matters. 1630 R *Johnson's Kingd* & *Comm* 121 The weake constitutions of the Southerne Nations are supplied by the extraordinarie gifts of the mi de to me them what you please either wit, or iudiciue 1709 POPE *Ess Crit* 17 Authors are partial to their wit, 'tis true, But most Critics to their judgment too? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* xi, Where was the wit of the sharp-sighted men found mind? Where the dexterity of the lawyers? 1874 MAURICE *Friendsh. Bks* vi 163 The blessing of wit and foresight

†b Practical talent or cleverness, constructive or mechanical ability ; ingenuity, skill. *Obs.* as a specific sense

c 1395 *Sire Gy Warw* 219 God teuch wit in alle crafter c 1400 *Destr Troy* 1652 A paleis pere make I full wi3 al wit wroght & by wit caste 1590 SPENSER *F Q* I iv 5 It was a goodly heape for to behold, And sy ake the praises of the workmans wit 1648 J BEAUMONT *Psyche* (1702) 31 xxvi Those Engines which so strange a spirit Deuis'd multiply'd and deadlyer made by Wit 1691 RAY *Creation* I (1704) 4 The best Telescopes that could possibly be invented or polished by the Wit and Hand of an Angel 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit* Pref 4 The Enemy is without controversie by the Architect's Wit without the Cyphers Arms, than by the Captain's Arms with out the Architect's Wit

†c Of animals Intelligence, sagacity. *Obs*

c 1400 *26 Pol Poems* II 61 Pere [= the drones'] wit is wane To stroige the h ny 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* iv 145 The witte of this beast [the horse] is excellent. We haue had experience of 1607 TOPSELL *Fours f Beasts* 628 The admirable witte of this beast appeareth in her swimming or

passing over the Waters. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xiii. 122 The Fox is full of wit.

6. Wisdom, good judgement, discretion, prudence: = Sense *sb.* 11. *Obs.* exc. in phr. like *to have the wit to*, which combines the notions of intelligence and good sense.

The phr. in quot. 1600 has become proverbial, though commonly taken in sense 8.

*c* 1200 Ormin 3040 Godess Sune..ius..Godess word, & Godess wit. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9392 Vor wat he ab Manlicke bigonne he it ab bileued Wommanlicke as vor defaute of wit in his Beued. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 285 Pat he ordaind wit his witte He multiplis and gouerns it. *Ibid.* 3079 Quan [synnel] was of age and witte A wijf he spused of egipte. *Ibid.* 29804 Pe gift o wijt of vnder-standing, O counail, strenght, o gode dreding, O counand-scipe, and o pite. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 5 Hail welle of witt and of merci! 1552 T. Wilson *Logic* (ed. 2) 22 As vertue is contrarie vnto vice, witte vnto folie, manhode vnto Cowardise. 1586 J. Hayward *Pseu. & Apiar.* (1865) 153 When ale is in, wyt is out. When ale is out, wyt is in. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 90 Since Brutitie is the Soule of Wit, And tediousnesse, the limbes and outward flourishes, I will be breefe. 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 326 For Lavish Grants suppose a Monarch tame And more his Goodness than his Wit proclaim. 1700 *Spect. Concubine & Athenais & Nanna* II. No. 26 But, however, they had the Wit to recal him [*sc.* Aristides]. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 326 But they were taught more wit, to their cost, in two or three days. 1782 Robin Porterfield I. 40 Such a man deserves good fortune, of which I had the wit to take advantage. 1926 S. Baldwin in *Morn. Post* 8 Oct. 13/3 Men .. who .. had formed his Majesty's Government, .. and who had the wit to understand what the challenge meant.

† b. Contextually in predicative use: A piece of wisdom or prudence, a wise thing to do; also, something demanding or showing wisdom, a matter of practical wisdom. *Obs.*

1378 Barbour *Bruce* I. 180 To fenyhe folk quilis is wyt. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1609 Parfor es wit, to lest & mast, Wine or ale softly to tast. 1421–2 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xx. 115 Wanne þat a man is in prosperite, To drinke a fall comynge it is a wit. 1562 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 229 Gettinge ye a chaunce and knappinge a witte.

† c. A prudent measure or proceeding; an ingenious plan or device. *Obs.*

The uses exemplified by the quots. are prob. of various or mixed origin.

1340 *Ayenb.* 257 Pe ilke erdore ous tekþ a wel grat wyt þet we ne byere nayt lasse þerfore. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1321 *Hypsipyle, & Medeen.* To syndyn hym into sum fer cuntre Here at this lason may distroyed be. This was his wit. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* vi. 18 Thanne shal þey be a goode wit in his cas; and if þou wolt do after my counsele, þou shalt not repente. 1607 Drexer & Webster *Northw. Ho* v. i. Was't not a pritty wit of mine to house had him rod into Packridge, with a horne before him?

7. Quickness of intellect or liveliness of fancy, with capacity of apt expression; talent for saying brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way. *arch.* (Cf. sense 8.)

Formerly sometimes opp. to *wisdom* or *judgement*; often distinguished from *humour* (see quots., and note s.v. Humour *sb.* 7).

1589 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 61 As the Bee is oftentimes hurt with hir owne Honey, so is wit not seldome plagued with his owne conceipt. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 21 Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at mee: I am not onely witty in my selfe, but the cause that wit is in other men. 1650 Davenant *Gondibert Pref.* (1651) 27 Wit is not only the luck and labour, but also the dexterity of thought. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* I. iii. 18. 37 That humble and acceptable Faculty of the Mind, whereby some Men have a readiness, and subtilty, in conceiving things, and a quickness, and neatness, in expressing them, all which the custom of speaking comprehends under the name of Wit. 1704 Vallon *Sir W. Aston* 187 His flowing wit, with solid judgment join'd, Talents united rarely in a mind, Had all the graces and engaging art, That charm the ear and captivate the heart. 1705 Chesterf. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 180 If you have real wit it will flow spontaneously and you need not aim at it. .. Wit is so shining a quality, that everybody admires it, even people aim at it, all people fear it, and few love it unless in themselves. 1777 M. Morgann *Ess. Dram. Char. Falstaff* 165 It being very possible, that a man of humour should be without wit; but I think not a man of wit without humour. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 169 Now Gilpin had a pleasant wit And lov'd a timely joke.

8. That quality of speech or writing which consists in the apt association of thought and expression, calculated to surprise and delight by its unexpectedness (for particular applications in 17th and 18th century criticism see esp. quots. 1650, 1677, 1685, 1690, 1704, 1709); later always with reference to the utterance of brilliant or sparkling things in an amusing way.

1592 Udall. *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. 2 a vij b, Neither doos it esteme it a thyng worthe blame. .with laughter to refreshe the mynde .., so that the matter to laugh at see pure witte and honeste [orig. *modo vtere sit vrgutus ac literatus*]. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. i. 64 They neuer meet, but there's a skirmish of wit between them. 1606 Chapman *Monsieur D'Olive* I. i, Critickes, Essayists, Linguists, Poets, and other professors of that faculte of wit. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch.-Porch* xxxix, Laugh not too much: the wittie man laughs least: For wit is newes onely to ignorance. 1650 Davenant *Gondibert Pref.* (1651) 26 Wit is the laborious, and the lucky resultances of thought having towards it excellence..as well a happinesse, as care. 1664 Flecknoe *Short Disc. Engl. Stage* C 6, Comparing him [Jonson] with Shakespear, you shall see the difference betwixt Nature and Art; and with Fletcher, the difference betwixt Wit and Judgement. 1677 Hayward *State Innoc., Apol. Her. Poetry* 2 a b, The definition of Wit..is only this: That it is a propriety of Thoughts and Words; or in other terms, Thought and Words, elegantly adapted to the Subject. 1684 *Wood Life* (O.H.S.) III. 26 Apr., Lord Chief Justice asked him if Wit were Oxford Wit, that also he should say that if *Magna Charta* would not do it, *Longus Sperta* should do the busines'. 1685 Dryden *Sylvæ* Pref. A 6, I drew my definition of Poetick Wit from my particular consideration of him [Virgil]. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. 8 2 Wit lying most in the assemblage of Ideas, and putting those together with quickness and variety. 1693 Dennis *Misc.* Pref. a 2 b, A true description of Wit; which is a just mixture of Reason and Extravagance. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded. (ed. 2) b, *Les Petits Esprits*:..who like nothing but the Husk and Rhind of Wit; prefer a Quibble, a Conceit, an Epigram, before solid Sense and Elegant Expression. 1704 Pope *Let. to Wycherley* 26 Dec., True Wit, I believe, may be defined a justness of thought, and a facility of expression. 1709 — *Ess. Crit.* 297 True Wit is Nature to advantage dress'd, What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 62 ¶ 2 Mr. Locke's Account of Wit, with this short Explanation, comprehends most of the Species of Wit, as Metaphors, Similitudes, Allegories, Ænigmas, Mottos, Parables, Fables, Dreams, Visions, dramatick Writings, Burlesque, and all the Methods of Allusion. 1744 Corbyn Thomas (*title*) An Essay towards Fixing the True Standards of Wit, Humour, Raillery, Satire, and Ridicule. 1852 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iii. 51 To get beneficial effects from wit,—all the prismatic colours,—but never the object as it is in fair daylight. *a* 1859 Lecky Hist. in *Pref. Misc.* (1861) 19 Wit consists in the arbitrary juxtaposition of dissimilar ideas for some lively purpose of assimilation or contrast, generally of both. 1900 Hammerton *Y. H. Darwin & his Pets*, 78 There is more 'heart' in humour, and more 'head' in wit.

b. With qualification (see quots. and *sheer wit* s.v. Sheer *a.* 8 b).

1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch.-Porch* xl, When thou dost tell a tale, Tell not a mangled Circumstance to spoile the wit, which cannot need. 1653 Flecknoe *Misc., Disc. Lang.* 100 Jests, Clenches, Quibbles, Bulls, &c., which although properly they be not Wit, yet they are Wit-like, and serve for a kind of sportive and wanton wit. 1682 Shepfield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 12 True Wit is everlasting, like the Sun. 1693 Dennis in Ward *Eng. Poets* (1718) I. 61, Scarron's Burlesque was nothing of a Gentleman in it, little of good Sense, and consequently little of true Wit. 1721 Gay *Pres. St. Wit in* Arb. *Garner* VI. 521 The *Spectator*, whom we regard as our Shelter from that flood of false wit and impertinence. 1727 Addison *Guid's Mod.* III. v. *note*, Wks. 1721 I. 243 As True wit is nothing else but a similitude in Ideas, so is False wit the similitude of Words. 1762 *Ibid.* 24 Ovid, who is the greatest admirer of this mixed wit of all the Ancients, as our Cowley is among the Moderns. 1765 Chesterf. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 180 Punning, which, I think, is the lowest kind of misused wit. 1782 Jerome *Northern Lassie* I. ii. Rub, Hee.. breaks out in good iests as all the Wits, Fits, and Fancies about the Towne.

† 9. (*transf.* from 5.) A person of great mental ability; a learned, clever, or intellectual person; a man of talent or intellect; a genius. *arch.* or *Hist.*

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 337 Wommodrun Wawarne, the wit of our were. 1569 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 283 Quhair is the wittis wont to reule Scotland? 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1000 Who knows not the wits of elder Dayes, whom The deep Invention of rare Works hath com. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lx. 13 The wits of former daies, To subiects worse haue giuen admiring praise. 1638 Baxter *Apr. Shepherds* 433 There goes an Author! One of the Wits! 1643 H. More *Antid. Ath.* iii. xi. (1712) 124 Cartesius, that stupendious Mechanick Wit. 1658 Evelyn *Fr. Relation* 8 In the Throne is sent of sublimated Wits that will own neither God nor Devil. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Milton* Wks. II. 132 Milton, the scholar and the wit. 1806 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Peter's Prize* Wks. 1812 I. 277 Malice wits of fools and laughs at a sinner! 1892 Lytton *Zanoni* I. vi, One evening, at Paris, ..there was a reunion of some of the most eminent wits of the time. 1905 Trevelyan *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* 1 A party of wits gathered 'within the steam of the coffee-pot' at Will's.

10. (*transf.* from 7.) A person of lively fancy, who has the faculty of saying smart or brilliant things, now always so as to suggest a witty person.

1698 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccclxxi. 343 Intemperate Wits will spare neither Friend nor Foe. 1727 Gay *Fables* I. 2, Wits are game-cocks to one another. 1814 W. Irving *Sketch-Bk.* (1848) 17 The character that succeeds to well among wits at that of a good listener. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Lond. Recreations*, Uncle Bill..is evidently the wit of the party. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, Go on joking, Ann. You're the wit of the family.

III. Senses, chiefly obsolete, corresponding to those of L. *scientia* and *sententia*.

11. † a. Knowledge; learning; *pl.* departments of knowledge, sciences. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2618 Pe bissopes him amuerede..Al wip grete reysons & wit of lor boc. 13.. *Cursor M.* 18940 (Arundel MS.) Pe holy goost sat bem..Of alle wittis to touche and tast. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ix. (Skeat) 43 Poore clerkes, for witte of schole, I sette in churches, and made suche persones to preche. 1585 *Creation of Eve* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 13 The tre is pleasante to gett wyzedoms & wyit.

† b. The fact of knowing, knowledge, awareness.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 799 Na,—bi mine wites, Y no bed per-of neuer 3ete. *c* 1400 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. x. 1936 God has reserwit til hym all þe wit of þat þat is to fal. 1483 in *Acts Parli. Scot.* (1859) XII. 321/1 He commanis command wit or consent of his baneis. 1548 Herman, *Misne tuinens nisei*, not with My weet, or knowledge.]

c. Knowledge communicated, 'intelligence', information, esp. in phr. *to get wit of. Sc.* and *north.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiii. 443 The lord Dowglas, Gat wit of thair enhuschement. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 515 In the toun no wit of this had thai. *Ibid.* xi. 1092 Quhill wist tharoff is in till Ingland gane. 1500–8 *Act. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 474 The men that cersit and sought and gat wit of the silver disch that was stollin. *a* 1578 Lindsay (Pitcottie *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 188 But on nowayis could they gett wott of him. 1633 M. P. *King & Poor Northern Man* 123 Belike the King of me has gotten some wit. *c* 1700 *Lasalle's Worm of Sydelstorn Haught* xiv. in Child *Ballads* I. 312 The Child of Wynd got wit of it. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., 'He got wit'—he obtained intelligence.

† 12. Meaning, signification: = Sense *sb.* 19–21. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 5 And in þis be wit. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 Þe þoȝes of þo traue ine one wytte byeþ alle þe ychonne bet euere were. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1670, I layn wolde wyt þe wytte of wyt. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 277 Þe accounde wit is allegoryke.

† 13. Way of thinking, opinion, judgement: = Mind *sb.*1 8, 9. Sense *sb.* 18. *Obs.*

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 1086 Ful verraylich hym semed pat he hadde þe same wit. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1649 þus were hy ate alle in wittes tweyne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 195 As many heddes, as many wittes ther been. *c* 1386 — *Franklt. T.* 147 It dooth no good to my wit, but anoyeth. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy bk.* 8233 What is joure wit? how thinke 3owe? 1555 Fraser *Wemyss MSS.* (1888) II. 161 Sumonis into sondry wittes assistit wer and stood. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 282 The old Proverbe..: so many heades, so many wittes.

IV. 14. Combinations. a. attrib., as *wit-battle*, *-combat*, *-contest*, *-pride*, *-sally*, *-shaft*, *-sponge*, *-trap*, *-work*. b. objective, as *wit-carrier*, *-gathering*, *-stealer*; *wit-writing*; *wit-assailing*, *-cherishing*, *-gracing*, *-infusing*, *-oppressing* adjs. c. instrumental, as *wit-abused*, *-beaten*, *-drawn*, *-fraught(ed*, *-pointed* adjs. d. adverbial (= in, or with respect to, the wit or wits), as *wit-foundered*, *-stirred*, *-strung*, *-wonderous*, *-worn* adjs. Special Combs.: † *wit-cracker* = *wit-snapper* (*a*) and *wit-jar*; † *wit-crackle* = Wit-cracker, one who makes witty or sarcastic remarks; *wit-craft*, † (*a*) the art of using one's 'wit' or intellect in reasoning, logic; (*b*) exercise of one's wits; *wit-jar*, an imaginary vessel humorously feigned to contain the wits or senses (in allusion to Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso* xxxix. lvii); † *wit-lost a.*, having lost wit, senseless, foolish; *wit-monger*, a 'dealer' in wit, an utterer of witty sayings (*contemptuous*); † *wit-rack nonce-wd.*, a faculty of eliciting speech by wit (as a rack elicits a confession); † *wit-snapper* = *wit-cracker*; † *wit-stand*, in phr. *at a wit-stand* (cf. Stand *sb.*1 6), = at one's wit's end (see 2 d); † *wit-state*, state of being in one's wits, condition of sanity; † *wit-tooth* = Wisdom tooth; † *wit-wanton a.*, making a wanton use of the 'wit' or understanding; also as *sb.*; † *wit-wanton v. intr.*, 'trifle' (*Cockeram*); to exercise the wits unduly; also, to indulge in wanton wit; † *wit-worm*, one who has developed into a wit (like a 'worm' or caterpillar emerging from the egg); † *wit-worship*, worship devised by human 'wit' or intellect without divine authority or sanction (cf. Will-worship); † *wit-would*, † *wit-would-be*, a pretender to wit, a would-be wit; † *wit-wright*, a maker of wit, an author of witty sayings.

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 40 The will *wit-abus'd*. 1602 Chester *Love's Mart.* (1878) 106 The *wit-assailing* Frenzie. 1603 Davies *Juvenal* Ded. (1693) b Ixxii, The 'Wit-battel of the two Italian Poets. 1603 J. Davies *Wem. Abingdon* (Percy Soc.) 50 Sheele persecute the poore *wit* beaten man. 1702 *Engl. Theophrastus* 7 *Wit*-carriers, whose business is, to export the fine Things they hear. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* D 4, This kinde *wit*-quickening climate. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warwickshire* iii. (1662) 126 Many were the *wit*-combates betwixt him [*sc.* Shakespeare] and Ben Johnson. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 29/1 *Wit*-contests in verse. 1606 Gummil *Char. in Arm.* III. xxx. § 2. 256 Satan budges not for a thousand such Squibs and *Wit*-cracks. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 211 A Colledge of *witte*-crackers cannot flout mee out of my humour, dost thou think I care for a Satyre or an Epigram? 1593 R. Lever (*title*) The Arte of *Reason*, rightly termed, *Witcraft*. 1605 Camden *Rem., Rebus* 146 He was no body that could not hammer out of his name an invention by this wit-craft. 1901 *Harper Dynasts* I. x. 118, A wit-craft marked by nothing more of weight Than ignorant irregularity! 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 386 **Wit*-drawn, wire-drawn curiosities. 1603 Bryt *Expos. Last Pc.* (1623) 7 The *wit*-confused drunkards. 1603 Davies in *Shakt. 1st Folio*, Thy **wit*-fraught Booke. 1603 Drexel *Counsend. Poems* in J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Oo 2 b, His **wit*-fraughted works. 1893 Max Pemberton *From Pirate* III, I sat up in bed, uncertain in the effort of **wit*-gathering if night had not given me a dream rather than an experience. 1901 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 34 Your **Wit*-gracing Skill. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 65 **Wit*-infusing Mercury. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VII. 122 Will. 346 Dr. Hale..was my good Asculis (you read Ariosto, Jack) and has brought me back my **wit*-jar. 1599

Poetas *Angry Wom Abingdon* (Percy Soc.) 13 Ill report doth like a bailiffe stand, To pounde the straying and the **wit* lost tongue. 1600 SHELTON *tr. Don Quix.* xxxi. 293 The Prater and **Wit*-monger 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II 620 [He] was cried up as the main witmonger surviving to the fanatical party. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 100 **Wit* oppressing Drunkennesse 1869 *Rustic Indge's Eo Boy's Ann* 546 The butt of their **wit* pointed pencils. 1590 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I ii. 1151 All the golden **Wit* pride of Humanity, Wherewith man burnish'th their erroneous vanity 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof St* IV vi 269 He had a pretty **wit* rack in himself, to draw speech out of the most sullen and silent guest 1549 CHALONER *I resim on folly* I iij, A certain passion muche lyke to madnesse and **witmaying* 1907 RALEIGH *Shakespeare* 174 The **wit* sallies of Rosaline and Rosalind 1881 SWINBURNE *Mary Stuart* I iii 64 Our keeper's **wit* shaft is too keen for ours To match with pointless iron 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III v 54 What a **wite* snapper are you 1598 BARRET *Crt. Begger* II 1 (1631) O 6 b, This humorous wity Lady is a **wit* sponge, that sucks up wit from some, and holds an her own. a 1650 ROCKET *Life Wits* (1663) 188 Like wyes at a full stand. 1881 *Spectator* 1 Oct. 1281 *starved* burren of wit; destitute of genius. *Examiner* c 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7937 She lost hir **writ* stata. 1886 COBBETT *Fall of Pitt* 1 Surely it is also a great **wit* stealer. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt* IV 1, Fie I am mad, Shund'd and disgrac't, all **wit* stung, wudomisease 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II xxxvii 338 Mans blessed cheeke next to a mans head, which he called *Gennini*, (i' the **Wit*-teeth) 1590 FIELDING *Author's Farce* I vi, Nor was it cram'd with a pack of **wit*-traps, like *Bartholomew Fair*. Wycherly, where every one knows when the joke was coming 1612 SYLVESTER *Lachr Lachr* 99 Epicures, **Witwantons*, Atheists 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Hist* K xx § 2 b, How dangerous it is for wit wanton Men, to dance with their nice Distinctions, on such Mystical Precipices 1642 COBBETT *Fall Pitt* I iii 133 Many dangerous wits to **wit* wanton it with the Majesty of God 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* IX 268 Wretched Maid! England's inhuman Chiefs Shall black thy spotless fame. Wit wanton It will lewd barbarity 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II ii. 11 *Babylon* 584 **Wit* wondrous Salomon 1632 B JONSON *Magn Lady* I. 1, You're sure to have leave-**wit* worke, gentle brother. 1611 — *Catiline* I, What hast thou there? With thy poore innocent selfe? Thus to come forth, so sodainly, a **wit* worme? 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* (1678) 133 That which only wit-worms call nonsense. 1617 *Greene's Ground's W Wit* Pref A 2, So many **Witworn* idiots. a 1569 HYNDE *J Brunn* XXX (1642) 93 That such nervous unto Salmis, is but Wit-wasp, will worship, and Idol service. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm; Ad Clerum* (1681) II 4 God will not approve of, nor accept any Wit worship, or Will worship, forged or framed by man's brain. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* Ded., This Play had been Acted two or three Days, before some of these hasty Judges could find the leisure to distinguish the Characters of a **Witwoud* and a *Truewit*. a 1763 SHERBURNE *Sir Mon & Manners* LXXVI Wks 1765 II 225 A wit would cannot afford to discard a frivolous conceit. 1772 SHERIDAN in *Retd Rambler* 16 Then grumpish, **Wit*-and-Judgment-hating Johnson, Who more successful in intrigue? 1681 H MORE *Let* 15 in Glanvill *Sadducismus* Our professed **Wit* would be's of this present Age 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* Wks 1872 II 1 If **wit*-wrights Poets be 1666 DRYDEN *Ann Mirab. Prof*, Ess (1900) I 14 Wit in the poet, or **Wit* writing, (if you will give me leave to use a new distinction)

† **Wit**, *pron Obs.* Also 1 wyt, 3 wot, (*Orm*) witt [OE. *wit* = OFris **wit* (NFris *wat, wet*), OS. *wit*, ON. (M*w.) *vit*, Goth *wit*: f unstressed form of *We pron* with obscure dental element ] We two.

*Beowulf* 535 Wit þæt gecwudon cnihtwesende *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xx 22 Magæ gyt drincan þone calic þe ic to drincenne hæbbe? Þa cwædon hig Wyt magon *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 33 Sif wit beon anes liuerdes men *c* 1200 Ormin 201 Wit shulenn wel witenn itt till, alde ma þatt wit muzhenn tæmenn *c* 1205 LAY 23653 Wit tweine *Ibid* 23663 Feihten wel sscilleð unc seolunen *Ibid* 26263 Þ ure wif ȝe 12375 we twoj to wihte *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 1773 Frend aske wit ben And trewðe plizt nu unc bi twen

**Wit**, *v.*[1] *arch* exc in legal use. see 10 c (*b*). Pres. t. wot (ȝr and *north dial* wat) , pa. t and pple wist. Forms: see below [A Com. Teut preterite-present verb: *witan*, 1st and 3rd sing. pres. and. *wāt*, and pers. *wāst*, pl. *witon*, pa. t. *wisse, wiste*, pa. pple *gewiten*, OFris *weta, wēt, *wast, *witon, witen* and *wetath, wiste* (mod. Frs. dialects have various analogical forms, e g. pa. pple. *wist, wust*), OS *witan, wēt, wist, witun, wissa* (MLG , MDu. *weten, weet, weets, weten, wiste, ghewiten*, LG., Du *weten*), OHG *wizzan, wizan, weiz, wei(g)umēs, wei(g)un, wissa, wista, (gi)wizzan* (MHG *wizzen, weiz, wizzen, wissa, wiste, wesse, weste, westest, gewizzen, gewust*, G. *wissen, wusst wesst, wissen, wusste, gewusst*), ON. *vita, veit, vesst, vitum, vissa, vitaðr*, (Sw *veta, vet, visste, vetat*, Da. *vide, ved, vidste, vadst*), Goth. *witan, wast, wasst, witum, wissa*. † OE *eat. wast , wit* — Indo Tur. *woid-, weid , wid* to see (? orig to find), also found in OL *ad) wit* see Wis *sb* [1], Wise *sb* [1], Wisdom, Witte.

The OE preterite-pres *wāt, wāst, witon*, and the ir equivalents in the other Ge manic langs. (= properly, I have seen, hence, I know), correspond to Skr. *véda, vēttha, vidmá*, Gr. *οἶδα, οἶσθα, οἶδε, ἴδμεν* (*ἰσμεν*), OSl. *vědě, věsi*, etc ; OPruss. and sing. *waisses*, 1st pl *waidimas*, and are based on Indo-Eur *woid-, wed-*. OE. and pers. sing *wāt* (see A, 2 b below) is an altered form of **wāð* by analogy with *mæht* (and sing pres. of MAY *v* [1]). Similarly OE. *wisste* is an altered form of earlier *wisse* after regular weak forms in *te*

Indo-Eur *woid-, weid , wid* is represented also by Skr *vēda* knowledge (see VEDA), *vitta* known, *vittis* found, Gr *εἶδος* appearance, shape, *ἰδεα* form, *ἄϝδω* (= **ϝάδω*) I sing, *ἀείδειν* invisible, *ἑάνεα* to know, *ἰάνω* to see, *ἑαττον* unseen, unknown, L. *vidēre* to see, Olr *find* 'coram', *fiadu* witness, *adfiadat* they relate, *n-fetar* I know, *fess* knowledge, W *gwydd* presence *gwydeuu* we know, Ofri *wis-ithi* to see, *wlathi* to know, Lith *vėdas* face, Arm *gitem* I know, *gtnel* to found , and (with nasal infix) Skr *vindāti* finds, Gr *ἰνδελλόμενοι* to appear, Olr *finnaim* I find out

The original conjugation, typically represented by *to wit* or *wete*, pres *I* and *he wot, thou wost, we, ye, and they wite*, pa t *wist*, pa pple. *witen*, preserved many apparent anomalies, and various attempts at normalization were made by means of analogical formations and irregular extension of the use of certain forms, with the result that new infinitive and present stem forms came into existence which it is necessary to trent separately : see WIS *v*[1], WIST *v*, WOT *v*, and the archaistic WEET *v*.[1] (For forms combined with prefixed negative *ne* see NETE, NIST, NITEN, NOST, NOT *v*.[2], NUTE.)]

**A.** Traditional Forms.

**1.** Infinitive. a[1] 1 witan (witenne, an(n)e, -on(n)e), 2–5 witen, 3–5 wyten, wite, 4–5 wytene, (whyte, wiet), 4–6 wyt(e, wyte, *Sc.* wit, (I wiotan, wietan, *Northumb* wuta, 3 witenne, *Orm.* witenn, 4 witin, witten, wijt, wyete, *Sc.* wyt, -e, 5 wiete, whitte), 4–7 wit, 5–6 wyt, 4- wit. a[2]. 4–6 wot, wotte, (4 *Sc.* wet), 5 wotten. *β* 4–5 weityn, 4–6 weit(e, 4–7 wete, 5 weten(e, 5–7 weete, (8–9 *arch* & *north* (*q.v.*) weeten). (See also WEET *v*.[1], WOT.)

a[1]. c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* vii ȝif ðū þonne heora þeawas witan wile *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past C* Pref 7 Đa ða middeðearstas seten eallum monnum to wiotonne. *Ibid* 9 Ne wiste hē hwæðer hē ðā word sprecan sceolde *St Chron* an. 1050 (MS D) Hit is earfoð to witanne þara biscopa þe þeorlcoomon. *c* 1275 *Lamb Hom* 9 Ȝef me hit wolde witenn *c* 1290 *S Leg Lamb* 1660 Hwo wolde witen þat soðe of Walwain *c* 1290 *St Clement* 128 in *S. Eng Leg* 326 He wiinede muche to wyten of god *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8301 Þus sal þou witenn þi sinne [etc.] 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 3763 Na man may wyte Whether [etc.] 1360 *Ayenb* 1 Þet is to wytenne 13 *Cursor M* 22004 (Göt) Wit sal þai þat þis ere writ [etc.] 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 3763 Na man may wyte Whether [etc.] *Ibid* 23633 If þai oht mai witin [*v r* witten] bar 13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 132 Vch wyȝe may wel wyte 1380 LANGL. *Sat* I 57 Þat þou miht wyte whoche þei ben *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxi (*Cristoforo*) 401 Gyf þu wit wil myn cuncte *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 3367 To whyte what hure wille were *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4301 Þe hynde wist I nelle take leue 1426 LYDG *Do Guil. Pilgr* 4492 To wyten whether Myn hamer hem touchyd *c* 1450 *Merlin* 82 She wolde gladly witen what a mon she were 1470 HARDING *Chron Prologue* (Camden) I 156, I let you witten I am gretts with the Kyng *c* 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 168 There be none but wold be glad to wete me do wele 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xxiii 8 One ȝe 3 oure master, that is to wyt Christ 1533 Gau *Richt Way* (S T F S) 55 Desir nocht to wit. 1577 FULKE *Confut Purg.* 393 You must write nothe 1580 WYTHE *Decp* 3531 1628 DIGBY *Voy Mediterr* (Camden) 31 To wit 1795 JOSEPH *Bk*

2. 13 *Cursor M* 22556 (Edin.) Quen nan sal wepe quat þan to wite 13 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xviii (*Eugeniane*) 670 God hat send me þi lyfe, be stat, al hal to vet 1 a 1400 *Morte Arth* 948 To wette of the warlawe, whare that he lenges 1400 *Pol Love Poems* 188 in *Yorkshire Writers* 63 Of sumer welfare fayn wet wold we 1500 SIR R. GRESHAM in Lilis *Orig Lett Ser* III 1 234 Yt may pleasse you to wet [*sic*] 1596 SPENSER [*see* ]

*β* a 1300 *Cursor M* 1875 (Cott) How wat we o þis waters west [*Fairf* weet] Quedir þai be fulli fillen yait' 13 *Northern Passion* (MS T) 628 Wele mygte we alle o þis tell and se þat it myghte neuer so be *c* 1400 *Antors Arth* 237 (Douce MS) Yit wetene I wolde What wrathede god moste *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1290 He dose be wele to wete *a* 1425 *Northern Appr* 131 in *New Cycle Mysr* 111 How Thou shalt weet all his will *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 531/1 Wytyn, or weten, or knowyn 1475 SIR J PASTON in *P Lett* III 18 Ye shall be plesyd yow to weetyn of my lesyle 1531 FYOT (*see* 1 a), I ettinge you weete [*ed* 1580 wytte] that we haue a sonne borne 1596 weeten [see B 10 c (*b*)] 1600 weete [see B 3 *b*] 1610 in *Illustr. Good. Misc.* (1883) I 121 how shall do the Maior to weete thereof 1728, 1829 weet [see B 10 c (*a*)]

2 Indicative Present a. *1st and 3rd pers sing.* 1–6 (8–9 *Sc.*) wat, 1, 4–6 wate, (1 uat, 3, 4 wet, 3 what, waht, 4 *north.* waite, wayte, quat, 6, *Sc* vat), 4–5 watte, 4, 7 (8 *Sc* ) wote, 5–9 *Sc* and *n dial.* wait (6 vait). *β* 3–9 wot, (3 wod, 4 woth), 4–5 woot, (whot, 5 whotte, woud), 4–6, 8 wote, 5–6 woote, wotte, 5–7 woth. Also in 1st pers combined with prefixed pronoun (ichot, ohote). see *I pron* A 8 and Ch *pron*

a 1250 *Owl & Night* 1511 Ne wat ich nouȝt wel þis *Rushw. G* (*Ir watt*) hine, *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtu* 2 ac He lit wat he wat alle ling [*sic*] 1205 LAY 7262 Wel ich hit wat What Brutus were *Ibid* 28688 Ich what agan is al mi hinse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5060 Mi fader fare well i watte 13 *Ibid.* 1221) (Gött) Fine i quat him mai noght brin 13 *Northern Passion* (Camb Gg 5 11) 156 I bale done I no wate what *Ibid* 1654 O lome palais a lettyr he wrate. So sayis sayne Iohne pat wele wayte *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* (Laing) 1087 (MS W) Quhejher it so were I nwt *c* 1583 *Leg Bp St Andrews* 170, I watt now what the prophet menis 1618 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 129 Wele I waite 1724 RAMSAY *Tea t Misc* (1733) I 25 And that's an unco faut I waite 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xii, I wat she made nae jaukin 1825 JAMIESON *N. C. Gloss*, *Wat*, *wot*.

*β* a 1225 *Ancr R* 52 Þeo wot betere þen ich wot *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1190 Ich wod al þat to kumen is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8298 Wil i wate al þi yerning 13 *Ibid* 2378 (Göt.) Hu cated wele i wod [*Trin* I wood] 13 *Gay Warw* (A.) 590 Ichot for sobe he wil me vle *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 72 No prelat what where he schal be dampnyd *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L G W Prologue* 208 Wel I woot hit is al in vayne *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 11359, I wotte hit full wele. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 15 He whot never bi o sone God wyl here his bone 1528 ENDALL *Luds xvi* 4 I wotte what to do 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I 1 Neither wote I well, nor if I wot, dare I advouch 1775 *Lett Lees of Liberty* I xiv 23 Here wot I, we dame Ignorat o was seen 1862 H A KENNEDY *Wayfe & Strays* 137, I well wot

b *2nd pers sing* a 1–4 wast, (1 wæst, wast, 3 *Orm* wasst), 3 5 wost, 4–5 woost, woste 5 Also combined with foll pron. 1 wostu, 3 wostu, 4–5 wostow(e. *B* See WOT *v*. *γ.* 4 *Sc* vittis.

*a* 1250 *Ancrene* 116 Þe beot þe laiies cwoalm hatine ai helle? c 1275 *Rushw Gosp* John iii 8 Ne wastu hwonia cymeð & hwider gað *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* John xxi 7 Þu nast nu þ hit ic eo, ac þu nast nyht 1200 LAY 13546 Nu þu hit wost *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 716 Wostu to an man was idore? *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 25477 Vnwrithi an i. wel þou wast 1380 WYCLIF *Serm* Sel Wks II 79 þou woost wel þat Faithere ben imaliendred 1400 *Rom Rose* 6075, I bidde there hem, wostowe howe 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 124/2 I how wostee non wh it thou sayest.

*γ* c 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* (Kath) 1 Sayf þu will hertly trow, þu vittis nocht þu speris now [*inunquam tu ad imaginem hujus versūtiæ attingeres*]

c *Plurals.* a 1 wuton, wotun, wutu(n, -on, wut(t)on, 2 witen, 3 witen (3 *Orm* -enn, wuten), 3–5 wyten (3 wuyten, 4 whiten, 5 witin), 3–5 wite, 4 witte, 5 wyte, wytte, 4 weten, -en, 5 wet, west, weste. *a* 2 wituþ, witaþ, witteð, wutas, 3 wutes, 3–4 wutaþ, 3–5 witaþ (4 -yþ, wyteþ, wtep, witeþ, 5 whitep, wittis, 5 wetep, -ip, -yp). *β* See WOT *v*.

a[1] c 900 *St. Barbe*[1] (Napier) 5 We wonnon þæt we þæs þearfe nabbað *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt. xx 22 Ne wutuþe huæt ȝe ȝiwas *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* John xvi 30 Nu we witon þæt þu wast calle þing 1154 *E Cron* (Laud) Introd 3 We witenn o þer cyninge *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 19 Nusten heo nawiht swa muchel of him swa we witen *c* 1200 Ormin 7293 Patt witenn menn inoȝhe *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 161 Þe we witen wunderlike gultenn wes holden *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex* 300 Adam and eue it wite ful sare *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 261 in *O E Misc* 44 Hwat ich to hem seyde, wel wyten heo *c* 1290 *S Leg Lamb* 1636 Ȝe wyten wel. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 77 Sib pre latis witte not where preestre be acceptable 1389–8 *T Usk Test Love* 1 wit we dame Ignorat o was seen

1 defouled never my conscience *c* 1400 *Pol Poems* iii 101 Lordis we nevere what consayne greues. *c* 1400 *Destr of Troy* 1483 in *New Pol Sg.* (1903) 82 witin wel þat he is king *c* 1500 *Jack Upland* in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 17 Þese wretches weet never where to been 1426 LYDG *Pol Conf Liger* 5556 We wyte wel 1 a[2] c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Mark x 19 Þætte witað [*Rushw* witaþ] ȝie Sætte he maht hafeð sinu monnes *Ibid* x 42 *Scitte*, witazie [*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* ȝe wite ge] Luke xxi 30 Witeð [*Rushw* witaþ] ȝe þæt sumor is Se nunnor *c* 1275 *Rushw Gosp* John iv 22 We wordiað þætte we witon *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 252 To wel we bit witeð *c* 1290 *Beket* 1090 in *S Eng Leg* 135 We witeð wel þat he is God 18 Ah se witep wel. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* IV 5 Se seke vanytes and wittes þat it is vayne þat ȝe lufe 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 89 Men wolden neuere leue it *c* 1400–40 *R Glouc Chron* (Rolls) 120 Se wyteþ [*v r* weteþ, wet3ith, whitep] 1409 in *Exch Rolls Scot* IV 172 Lord, I cry of the forseide lordis wittis ony manere of grefe apperanal til other

**8.** *Subjunctive Present* 1–5 wite (*pl* witen), (1 wiete, *Northumb* witto, -e, 11, 3 wute, 4 wiit, witte, vit), 4, 5 wyt, 4 6 wit. wyte, wete, 5 weete

c 800 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past C* xxvii 101 Sum sua his selfe wieten ðæt hi hit for Gode don *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Luke i 18 Uuæt uuite ic ðæs, huona ðis uuitto? *c* 1000 *Ags St Andrew* (1888) 136 Ne wite ic nā to hwon ic ge-geonsnod æþelen ne *c* 1200 ORMIN 5710 Patt tu ne wite nan *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 250 God hit wute & he hit wot 13 in *Sir W. Polet Old Scot* (1880) 372 Vit alle men þat þis skrifte herres and see 1340 *Ayenb* 5 Þeo þet nouȝt ne wyte þet þeo hit wyte hou hi zsolle haen zelue sen ne *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 372 Wete lordis well þat [etc.] *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 644 It is good that we witen what men they be *a* 1425 *Cursor M* 14348 (Trin , I w ) I at alle witen 1447 BOKEN HAM *Seyntys* (Roxb) 33, I wil ȝe wete Two precyous relykys I her have wyth me 1472 Sir MALORY *Arthur* vi 191 1595 I will that thou wete and knowe that I am Launcelot du lake 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph* II (Arb) 145 Awaye or I wote wate 1598 DRYANDER *Jas Melvil's Diet Scot* VIII (S T S) II 104 To defend him selfe that tha steil him nocht if u e the wit

**4.** *Past tense* (*indic.* and *subj*) a 1 wiste, 1 6 wiste, (1, 3 *Orm.* wisste , 3–6 wyste, 4 6 wyst, (4 wyste, 5 wiste, 4–6 wist (e, 5 weste, 6 wyste, 4–7 wist. Also in 3rd pers pl combined with foll pron 4 wistey, wystey *β* 1 *pl* weston, 4–6 west (4–5 weste), 6 *Sc* weist 7 i wyste, 3–5 wuste, (3 wuste), 4–6 wust 6 4 5 wost(e *c* 4 *Sc* wystyrs.

*a Beon wi*[1] 182 Ne wisten hie nie drit ten god *Ibid* 246 Ne ȝe leafnesword gudfren mendia ȝeareve na wisson *Ibid* 2919 Ȝif he wiste *c* 1050 *I nd Gl* (*p* Matt xxvii 18 He wiste forhon) ȝet heth a litel saldon hine *c* 1275 *I nnk Hom* II 19 Heo wisten þet he wes hali *c* 1200 ORMIN 181 Ilk an Wisste full wel *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 160 in *O E Misc* 42 He wyste þat ic e Gywes hyne þouhte spille

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15953 Pan wijst he cummen his maister word. *Ibid.* 16054 Sir pilate.. Wist þam was leif to lei. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5008 Betere wiston nought what for to do. *Ibid.* 8061 wyste. *a* 1350 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 52 Men .. Pat wist both of wele and wo. 1513- *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 152 He ne wyst on worde what he warp schulde. 13.. *Cons. & Sw. Knt.* 461 Neuer more ben þay wyste fram quelpen he was wonnen. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 771 Quhethir scho ..Wenit, or wist it vitterly. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii (*Regkynald* 133) He..wyst it was scho. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13839 All wiston tho wise.. He shuld duly be ded. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 23 When these..men wiston that Vortiger sholde be kynge. 1532 Q. Margaret in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 120 And..thys Raulme yeyt that Ze vold be dysplesyd. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Ilv, She shewed..all thatshe wiste. 1576 R. Peterson *G. delle Casa's Galateo* 12 The Count .. neuer wyst of his fault. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* 1. ii. 200 And that, God wot, I wist not.

*B.* a 1000 *Judith* 207 Westan hezen þæt [etc.]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Pat hi westen be hure wylle. 1530 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 172 He west not, whether [etc.]. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1178 I..west not what to commend. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cvi. 39 Swa he hira willan wyste fyrmest. *c* 1205 Lay. 525 He..wuste, þat þe king..forð sculde lwenden. *Ibid.* 1187 He sia seolcen, þe..ha lawen wusten. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 10 Eiber seide of oþeres custe þat alere worste þat hi wuste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2025 He hy wiste wel be wan. 1338 Langl. *P. P. A.* iii. 52 Who I þat.. þer nis nouþur Wyndou ne Auter, Pat I ne schulde maken opur mende. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 326 He wuste he scholde helpen wende. 1555 Phaer *Æneid.* ii. (1558) D iij b, Nor what to do I wist.

*δ.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 55 Me wost not where me myste mete harm. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 6 Whanne her fader wost þis, he..forthi childe. 1535 *Lords Dom. Conc.* (1839) 274/2 Robert.. maid faith he wost nocht quhare it wes.

*ε.* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 156 He wyttyt [*v.r.* saklit] at thalm of thair far.

b. *and pers. sing.* 1, 4, 6 wistest (1 **wistes, *subj.* wisse, wiste**), 4 **wystest, (wistes), wiste, 4–5 wyste, wist, 6 wyst.**

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* 3 þ. Is wolde þæt þu me smelest hwæþer þu wisse hwæt þu self ware. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John i. 48 Hunan..mec wistes ðu? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 26 Du wistest þæt ic rypse þær ic ne sawe. 13.. *Sir Beues* 249 (Harl.) Tech him alle þe lyues þat þou wiste wuer wystest [*Laud MS.* wistes]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) 1. 331 In as fer as thou hem wistest false. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xiv. Wist thou thy payne to myne Thou myght thou wepe. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 186 If þou here dome wyste. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 24 Yf thou wyst and knew the greste meruaylles. 1535 Stewart Gouane *Dr Mornay* lii. (1592) 21 If thou wistest how to vse them.

**5.** *Imperative.* Stem as in 1; endings : *sing.* 1–6 **-o**; occas. combined with foll. pron. 4 **witow**; *pl.* 1 **-ep**, 1–5 **-e** (in *wiste ze*), 1, 4–5 **-eþ**, 4–5 **-eth**, 5 **-ip, -yþ**; *north.* 1 **-as**, 4–5, 5 **-is, -ys**; also sing. and (4–) pl. without ending.

*a* 900 Cædmon's *Hymn* 9 Wite ðu þe zearwor þæt ðu.. anfoleteː..lufan dryhtnes. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. viii, Witaþ ze þæt hit swa nis. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Wit þu þonne þæt ic eom dry. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxii. 11 Witon ze þeȝitsetæ] þæt God ȝemyccaleþ hie ðone ȝehalgodan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Wite ze hwet wes sinagoge on þam alde lage. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Wite hi þah þet hi..habbeþ valoriste..; wite þu [see B. 5]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4727 Wijt [*Gött.* wil] yee wel. *Ibid.* 20175 Has na dred, bot wijts it wele. 13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 254 Witeþ þat he me hated er. *c* 1386 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 312 Wite ȝe wel. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 68 A gladere wommon..no miȝt ȝo on erþe.. witow for soþe. *c* 1400 Maundev. vi. (v.) (1839) 23 And wyte zee wel þat [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2773 Weiys hit all wele ..Pat þe dayens you derit. 1441 in *Rec. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1450, 69/2 Witite me to hafe gevin [etc.]. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* Prol. 3 Witith welle that Aristoille made.. many wonderes. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 396 Syr, wyte that greatmagre is come wyth his oost. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 177 Wit ye thay did that baner hye displaye.

**6.** *Present Participle.* a. 1, **witende**, (1 **wittende, wootende**), 4 *n. dial.* **witand, wetand** (*Sc.* **wittand**), 4–6 *Sc.* **wittand**; 4–6 **witing, wyt-, etc., 5–6 witing, -yng(e, 6– witting.**

*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xxvii. (ed. Schipper) 95/1 No witende [*orig. nescientes*]. *Ibid.* iv. xxvi. (1890) 92 Ne weotendum forþig. *nescientibus*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Unbiwitende. 2 *Scientii*, witend. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* x. 4 Witand his priuytes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 86 Witand his wa. 1412–20 Lydg. *Troy* v. 2174 Noon..Knowyng what sche ment. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 8 Well wetyng that [etc.]. 1867 Bailey *Universal Hymn* 8 Witting naught.

**7.** *Past Participle.* a. 1–5 **witen,** (2 **wy-**, 4 **-in**), 4–5 **witen, 5 wytene, wetyn, -un, -en**(e, *Sc.* 5 **witting**, 5–6 **-in**, **witno**, 6 *Sc.* **wyttin**, 8 (?) **wit**. β. 3, 5 **west**, 4 **weste**, 4–6 **wyst**, 5 **wyste, wiste,** 4– **wist.**

*a.* *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 2 Nis nan þing..behydd þæt ne sy witen (*Hatton Gosp.* xewyten). *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6996 In his time war þe fabus written, Pat ȝeit er thoru þe bokes witen (*Gött.* with, *Trin.* witen). *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 869 Hade I wyten your wille. *Yvaine & Gaw.* 1. Lxxvi. v. To She lete als hho nighth had sene, Ne weiyn that he that had bene. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* cxxxviii. 435 Gif þai had writing, herd, or sene. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/1 Lerne, or be writtten ..euer to be knowen and witen. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 604 And I had witin. *c* 1580 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 29, I wald bat it wer witting. 1906 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) II. 444 Gif the peple had witne. 17.. *Jamie Douglas* ii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 98 An I had wit what I wit now.

*β.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18130 Als he had wist it noght. *c* 1300 *Harrow, Hell* 33 (Digby MS.) Sujben hauí boled and west [*Harl. MS.* wyst] Boje chele, hounger and purst. *a* 1340 *Hampole Pr.* 1284 (Harl.) Knyghtes of þe beste Pat he euer hede of weste. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. xiii. 67 Y haue wiste suche men. *c* 1482 *Coll. Papers* (Camden) 132 And y had west þat ye wolde a takked so sore. 1526 wyst [see Had-I-wist]. 1792 [see B. 7 *b*]. 1844 wist [see B. 2 *d*].

**B. Signification.**

**I.** Simple senses.

**1.** *trans.* To have cognizance or knowledge of; to be aware of; to know (as a fact or an existing thing).

**a.** with simple obj.: = Know *v.* 8, 11 *f.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 117 Fruman maran þinges þonne seoxes mannes gemet wære her on eorðan, þæt hit witan mihte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 10 Sif þu wistest godes ȝyfe, & hwæt se is þe cwið to þe, syle me drincas. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Nis nan sunne þet he [*sc.* the priest] ne con i-oðer he hoo wat ðurh, þet he heo dude bin seolf. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 132 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 167 Þe ðe hest wat binnè ofte mest, þe hit al wat it stille. *c* 1200 Orrm 11259 Þiss wass tu wel to sobe. *c* 1250 *Hymn to God* 12 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Þu þe wost al ure þouȝht, louerd drauȝ us neor þe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 129 Þe weldor of wyt, þat wot alle þynges. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbr.* 638 A bettere knijst wot y non. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 389 For aught I woot, he was of Dertemouthe. *Ibid.* 593 Wel wiste he by the droghte, and by the reyn, The yeldynge of his seed, and of his greyn. *c* 1400 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxix, Tha srauthe fulle thinke thay wote. *c* 1450 *Play Sacrament*, 279 The best Cristenyd that I now wott. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 221 None wist his nome. 1530 Tindale *Lec.* v. Thought he wist it not, he hath yet offended. 1560 Chapton *Chron.* 11, 105 If ye had wist the cause of our comming. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 13 The perill of this place I better wot then you. 1640 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. 8 You are Heavens Privy-Counsellour, I understand, What I wist not before. 1733 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxxi. 347 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxvii. 'Wot not that but too well.

**b.** with dependent statement (sometimes anticipated by a pronoun (*it, this*) as obj., which in the pass. const. becomes the subj.): = Know *v.* 11 a.

*Beowulf* 821 Grendel..wiste þe geonor þæt his aldres wæs gegongen. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 121 His wiston þæt hoora ælpel..sceolde..ȝeasted weorþan mid halgum sawlum. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xv. 8 Hu mæȝ ic witan þæt ic hyt ȝeagan sceal? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 24 Ic wiste þæt ðu eart heard mann. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wiste siker þat hit wurðen soðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 61 Ich wot þat þu nat vnMilde wiþ heom þat ne Muwe from þe schilde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2004 Nu he wot ywe haue mis-don. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2345, I wot, he wiles þe nouth wene. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5151 Hii hab ofte ȝ[e]ued & acu, þey þei wyste kynde hem bed wenn. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 500, I will blythly apon me tis The state, for I wate that I have rycht. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 81 Þou wost not to-day þat þou schalt þine to-morowe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8776, I wot my syȝht yt ys not so. 1456 Sir G. Hayy *Laws Arms* (S.T.S.) 22 Eftir Zaluan, was chosin a woman pape nocht wistand that scho was a woman. *c* 1526 More *Rich. III* Wks. 37/1 Whose death kyng Edwarde..when he wist it was done, pitiously bewailed. 1535 Tindale *Gen.* xx. 6, I wot it well that thou dydest it in ygnorance of thi herte. 1591 Sidney *Astr. & St.* xl. v. 16 As nothing is No other comfort haue. 1724 Ramsay *Teat. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I wat on him she did na gloom. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* v, Well wot I thou hast heard the call of a true preacher. 1890 *Century Mag.* Dec. 300/2 They ..writing little that the tide has long since turned.

**c.** with dependent question (also *ellipt.*): = Know *v.* 11 b.

See also What *pron.* 8 b (quots. *a* 1000, *c* 1360, 1568, 1570, 1603) and Watna-what.

*Beowulf* 2519 Nulde ic aweord þeran, ..ac ic wiste hu wið hilde sceal gehegan mine willan wiþ wrigendum. 1298 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 14 Ic uut huoma ic cuom & huidder ic geonge. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Wel ic wat hwer ic seal wunien. *c* 1205 Lay. 1187 Ne wuste he nowðer wiȝ nowðer elf witen hu me stont. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1201 Ich wot ȝet treon schule blome; Ich wat ȝet cornes schule growe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14744 Wijt ȝe to wende ne wat he wijt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 To yelde þet he heþ of oþre manne kueadliche, yef he wot to huam. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 22 Pat was in A Wildernesse, wiste I neuer where. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir. Th.* III. 2 Ich wot wel to God, to weie wiche (*sic*) is deelly and which is vevyl. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6646 At Kypoun hostelers he was, I ne wate how many sere. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 740 Whether they speak Gaelic or no I wotte not. 1548 Hall *Battle of Lake Regillus* xix, And none wist where he lay.

**d.** with obj. and compl., or acc. and inf.: = Know *v.* 11 c.

*Beowulf* 1309 Syðþan he aldordæsn unlyfgendne, þone deorcstan deaðe. *c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxvii. 1 Forðæm he hine wiste swiðe unjeseeadwisne. *a* 1000 *Colleg. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 90/2 We witan þe bilewitne wesan. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5 Pat was heo wis þer wiste, þat heo wulleȝ wenden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1905 Maxencius þe he wete him come he adde of him gret doute. 13.. *K. Horn* 1317 (Harl.) Of sak ne mede, O lyue ne dede þou be wiste. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 609, I wot me vnworthy þis wirdis to flall. *c* 1460 *Paston Lett.* II. 87 In faith, my lorde dyd quyte hym als curteysly as ever I wist man do. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 3698, I haue wyttin gud wemen passe fra hame. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxii. 10 I dois ȝow ay zit Zoyt to wit me in distress. 1570 *Camden Hist. Ref. Vi.* (1633) 15 Hes never wist the matter to hee havynous. 1624 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* vi. 276 Judith..Whom now the Murdress of his Lord hee wist. 1824 Mrs. Brownrig *Lay of Brown Rosary* 1. 179 The grey border-stone that is wist To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

**e.** *absol.*, or in parenthetic phrases (see also 11): = Know *v.* 11 e. (See also Had-I-wist.)

*I wot* (occas. *I wis*), dial. *wuss* (*awyte*), is often equivalent virtually to *I wis* (see Wis *v.*).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxi[i]. 5 Ne ongeatan hi, ne gearu witodon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13067 Hu es it sua þat he seis nu?' 'We na wat, bot ask him-seluen bu.' *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1708 Þou wost ful wel, yif þu wilt write, Pat ajelwold þe dilde site On kines. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 867 Þou leat, ich vnder stand And wot I. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 182 Elyes, wel ye witen in mount Oreb..He fasted longe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 509 What dogg is þat?..wost þou ere? *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 209, I wryt as I wait. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 362 Als far as I wait, the nicht is furth gane. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vii. 44 Them to renew, I wote, breeds no delight. 1600 Shakes. *Hen. Fifth*, *Epg.* iv. 1, Iwis, yet I was a Lordly Feast. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxxiv. He lied, I wot, the softest way to death. *a* 1774 I wyt [see Wise *sb.* 7]. 1775 [see A. 3 *b*]. 1850 Tennyson *Second Song Prof.* Thy whims are lull'd, I wot.

†**(***b***)** in subjunctive in phr. *God or Christ wite.*

Cf. MHG. *wizze Christ*, etc.

*c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Elf, wite crist, heo is ful biter to betene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 God hit wuste & he hit wot (etc.). *c* 1300 *Havelok* 537 God it wite, he shal ben ded.

**2.** *intr.*, with *of*: To be aware of (as existing, or as happening or having happened); to know of (Know *v.* 18 b). With negative, (*a*) to have no idea of, not to suspect; (*b*) to be unaware or unconscious of.

In later use chiefly in the phr. *that I, you* (etc.) *wot of.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 17214 Ich hat a werc mid wundere bi-stonde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Sare hit is þet ich wuste heorof. *c* 1386 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 7 Many of hem wot wel of it ynough wytyn But as he hath herd seyd or founde it wrytyn. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 40 He þat presumip and wenip to wete verily of a þing. *c* 1480 *Alexander* 1578 Sir, þe wyes of no wrang. 1580 Malory *Arthur* I. xv. 49, I wold I had wyst of hem, they shuld not have escaped so. 1906 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) II. 186 Bot fois..met with thame.. be chance the ane not witting of the vther. 1607 T. Rogers *39 Art.* Pref. (1629) ¶¶ 2 We not wotting, nor dreaming of any such matter. 1862 Worsaae *Primeval Antiq.* 111 Those had knew..That of this number wist. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat.* ii. 58 Inspired by a splendid hope,..he wist not of hunger or of sneers. 1878 Whitney *Sights & Insights* II. iii. 363 We wit well of many things that we would never prove.

†**b.** To have experience *of*: cf. Know *v.* 18 a.

13.. *Cursor M.* 20508 (Gött.) I am fare þat i sal neuer wit of care. *c* 1400 *Gawayne & Gol.* 1060 Sir, þou hem never wete of woo! 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xliv, A..prisoner ..That..wote of nought but wo. 1486 Audelay *Poems* 2 His soul never schall parfytly wyt Of joy, be nevyr so gret.

†**3.** Passing into the sense: To become aware of, gain knowledge of, get or come to know; to find out, ascertain, discover; to be informed of, learn, 'hear' (*at* or *of* a person), esp. in answer to inquiry; hence sometimes virtually equivalent to 'inquire, ask'. Cf. Know *v.* 8, 18 b (obs. uses). *Obs.*

Often not distinguishable from the simple sense 'know' (1 or 2), esp. with *will* or *would* (= wish, would like), or with *ere, or* (= before).

**a.** *trans.* with simple obj., or in passive.

*c* 1000 [see A. 7 a]. *a* 1225 *Lagf. North.* 308 Sægð stet he þe set wes þen ha wat hire wog, þet hire sonden ageaðe. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 288 (Camb.) To speke wiþ Rymenhild..& witen hure wille. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 4 To oridrace..alisandre wendus, þere wilde conte wan wist & wonder gladd. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 615 Harmes myghte folwen..If it were wyst. 1389 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 Nero.. wiste wel..he nombre of lewed þat were at Jerusalem. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13486 Pai..Made hym wise of þe werke, þat þai wiste hade. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 111, I sent in to me to weten if thei myȝt speken with me. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 197 b/4 Now wyste I the wyll and entyerly of the holy virgyne she wente to hir. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyra* 901 Of my name wold ȝe wit the veritie, Forsuith, thay call me Scheiphirde. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 59 Lat non knaw ȝor intentis; Be verry war or that thay wit ȝor myndis.

**b.** with dependent statement or question or obj. and compl. (as in 1 *b*, *c*).

1230 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Þa wiste þe king Sat he feorde mid suiedom. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Sif hwa wule witen hwa erest bi-won reste þam wrecche saule..ic sow segge. *c* 1205 Lay. 271 Þet he þe king wolde leornen crafted wan þing hit were. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1015 Pe pikes smite hom þorw out ar his wuste wat hit were. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* (Gött.) Sum folc bigan an fir to cast, for to wit ȝeitir Digas wit werckis vnto kipe. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 145 Whanne þis witty werwolf wiste him so schaped. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Nunn & Judas*) 366, I had þe dede þat þai sald vyte quat I was. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 213 Now wolde I witen of þe what were þe best. *c* 1450 *Chev. Assigne* 55 Whenne he wyste her wife clyde. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* 130 He began to caste his eyen vpon his peple..for to wete how they were of nombre. 1530 Tindale *Gen.* ix. 24 As soone as Noe awaked..and wyst what his yonger sonne had done. 1532 *Disc. on Laws Eng.* 1. xvi. 38, I wolde wytte whether the partie shal be also discharged in the common lawe. 1538 Coverdale *Exod.* 2 Wist his sister stode fer off, to wete what wolde come of him. 1566 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2094 Diligent enquirie maule, they wist At length what was become of him. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Angelo-Lat.* 524 He stood to wit what would be done.

**c.** *absol.* or *intr.* with *of.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 689 Alle þre he broȝte Pe dostren bi vore him to witen of hor poste. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20194 Quat es it nam, ȝe wil wit? I Gladi bar wit wijt, i tell ȝe, a-i. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 509 þis egg, or þe kyng wyat, to be erth falls. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* I. 49 And ȝe wole wyte, thus þei seyn. *a* 1450 *How Hersch. dyd It ȝyf betrayȝ* 103 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 201 Yf he wylle algatys wyte, Say in my chaumbyr y lye sore sykke. *c* 1580 Skelton *Magnyf.* 28 Where wonnyn Welthe, and a man wolde wyt? *Ibid.* 1634, I spake the softlyer, because he sholde not wete. 1870 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 279 He come hame agane or euer thay wist. 1699 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 52 On a sudden (ere any wist) thers rushed into the Senate a Souldier.

armed Horsemen 1795 Burns *'O Lassie' ȝ* O Lassie, are ye sleepun yet, Or are ye waukin, I wad wit?

**†4.** *trans.* To have practical knowledge of; to be conversant with or versed in : = KNOW *v.* 9. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen* 449 He wate ȝemeccas fela. a 1050 *Gud & Hight* 195 He wot inuit in eche songe Wo singet wel, wo singet wrange. a 1300 *Cursor M* 18938 For wel þou all langage wist. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 7166 Ich & he al þis seist skyle. Bettere þan y þou wost þe dede. 1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 316 Swiche maner lorus, þat þou miht þe leste lawe kenne. Whan þou hit wisliche wost, wisne hit in herte.

**b.** with *to* and inf : To know how, be able = KNOW *v.* 12.

1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 99 Sin we wetin hur wil to worchen We moven be soþliche bidde hur seruisen it is. c 1440 *Lonel sydes* 53 He wyste not them to fynde. 1576 Foxe *A & M.* (ed 3) I 249/2 He eyther wist not, or lyste not to shew his euenynge therin. 1598 Barew *Heavens Lesson Wks* v (1596) 58 No Philosopher as yet wist to giue to euery differ ence of wit determinally that which was his. 1853 F. Inchbold *Voyage of Heavon* 24 I sar wint not to evade, as Love wist to pursue.

**†5** In imperative = 'be assured', 'you may be certain', and later in monitory formulæ and polite phrases (e g *ye shall wit, please it you to wit*) = 'you must know', 'let me tell you', 'allow me to inform you'. *Obs.*

a 1000—1100 [see A 3] *c* 1205 Lay 15000 Wite þu, þat dead is Vortimer. c 1275 *Lastion our Lord* 256 in *O F Misc* 47 Vf Mi kynneliche were inn worldis þisse, Minn men wolde wytschonde, wat he wore. a 1300 *Cursor M* 10185 Wan nature nan for-soth wit yee Men of sua mikel cherite. 1382 Lange. *P Pl A* ii 60 Hit witen and wit-nessen þe seuene sages, and *I*, *P*, wel þe[t] etc.] c 1400 *Rom Rose* 4782 Wite thou this, If thou fle it, it shal flee thee. c 1400 Maundev vi (*r*) (1919) I 26 Wyteth wel þat the rewme of Aloye is a full gret contree. 1427 Hen V in Fitz *Orig Lett* Ser III 1 61 We grete yowe wel, and wol ye wite that thambassatours have been here 1449 *Paston Lett* I 21 Preyeng yow to write that I have receyved your goodly lett. etc. c 1450 *Merlin* 1 3 Wite well that god shall helpe yow. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S T S) 15 Se call wit that the sevyn angeles signifyen the sevin partis of the lyme. c 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 98 Thow sall rew in the ruse, wit thow but wenne. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II 9 Plese it you to wete, this same day I depart to Calis warde. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett* (1902) II 196 Please it your excellente Maiestie to write that [etc] 1570 *Satir Poems Reform* x 87 First thow sall wit, the same somе natural To James the Fyft. 1608 Shake *Per* IV iv. 31 Please you wit the Epitaph is for Marina writ.

**†8** with *to* and inf. To be certain or confident, feel sure, expect confidently (Cf. KNOW *v.* 10) *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 9 He was glad, nor he wuste wel to winne al is wille. c 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 224 He was an esy man to yeve penaunce Ther-as he wiste to have a good pitaunce = c 1400 in *Pol Poems* VII 41 Sif he wiste þat heuene to go c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 177 Myc nacyens telde me, þat sir I had wyst to haue lyued, I wolde not haue wondyr þr my synnes.

**†7** Io experience = KNOW *v.* 5 c. *Obs. rare*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth* 8 Oure eldris That mykell waste of wo and wele. a 1510 Douglas *K Hart* 1 76 Thus cumlie court No wandreth wi nor wraith endure. 1792 *R.* Wilson *Watty & Meg* 138 Meg Sicachange had never wist.

**8** To recognize; to distinguish, discern, detect : = KNOW *v.* 1 b, 4 *Obs* or *rare arch*

a 1300 *Cursor M* 781 O wiving i ath god and all ȝee said be knaues at your will. 1300 *Sir Y Bord* 1002 Hiis han wit for to wite be wikke & be gode. a 1338 Mirot *Poems* (ed Hall) iv 44 In þat morning fell a myst, And when oune Inglisse men it wist, þei fill þurre chese. 1393 Phaer *Æneid* 1 (1558) B ij, Whan he his mother wist. He folowed fast and cald (alas) what mesn you, thus to list In fayned wh ypes to gresulle? 1842 Hen Rowning. *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1865) 98 If by chynce an Attic vooce he wist

**II.** Phrases.

**9 †a.** Do to wit, also without *to* (Do *v.* 22 c) : to cause (a person) to know, make known to, inform. Also (rarely) *give to wit* (Give *v.* 29 c). Const as in 1 and 3 *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay 3163 Ich dide ow to wite, þat mi drihte he lond atwa ich habbe ide-ed *Hit* 27150 Arður hafde his hauwures and sone duden him to witen whuder he wolde wenden. c 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2211 And sone wende De king him witen in herte dede. c 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 14782 Seint Bede dob vs to wyten Whilk were gode, whilke were elles. 1377 Langl. *P Pl B* viii 151 I preyed hem If þei hadde any conte Where þat sloweð dwelleth, doth me to wytene c 1400 Maundev (Roxb) iii 8, I do yow to wit þat Constantinople e- rist a faire cites. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v 353 Ye myght have done me to wete of his comynge. 1504 in Hakluyt *Voy* (1599) II 77 Wee giue you to weet, that we haue received your letters. 1508 Lindsay *Dr Corr* 2, I do you to w it [1621 I declare into you] after what maner I preached vnto you 1800 Holland *Livy* xxix xxiv, He did then to weete and understand, that hee intended to conduct his armada to Libybsium. a 1804 Hammer *Chron Irel* (1633) 193 We doe you wit, that such a Law and Custome is in England 1805 [see 3 *a-c*]

**b** Let wit, rarely **†***let to wit* (Let *v.*1 12, 13) : to let (a person) know (a thing) (*a*) to inform (one), or to make (something) known (=*a*); (*b*) to allow (one) to know, or (something) to be known, to disclose, reveal; **†**(*c*) occas to show, exhibit. Const. as in a *Obs. exc dial*

c 1205 [see Let *v.*1 23] 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 9788 Pe point of is sweord at canterbury pe monekes lateþ wite, Vor honour of pe holi man c 1300 Hampole *Prose Treat* 4 He lett me wyste þat he ne is fundene in þe lande of soþly lyfande. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3245 Thou art wel worthy to have maugree To late hym of the Roser wite c 1440 *Generydes* 4153 If ye knowe wher that I may hym fynde, Now lete me wete, I praie yow a 1533 Lo Herbers *Guld Bk M Aurel* (1546) C, I leite the to witte, that the Rodyan people are curteis 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc* (Arb) 219, I let the wete thou shalt not play with me 1552 Knd *Sir Treg* iv 19, Solyman saluteth thee, And lets thee wit by me his highnes will. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* v Ireryi, From Egypt come they all, this lets thee weete (*some* Recte) 1 [I] ne'er let wit', I'll not inform, or I'll keep it secret 1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* II ii, [He] never let wit of his intention

**10** To wit **†a.** *It is to wit* (also *to witting*) : it is to be observed, noted, or ascertained; so *it were to wit*, it needs investigation, one ought to know *Obs*

c 1330 *Cast Love* 783 Of þe maidel heuȝ is to wite þe swetnesse and þe freschhe. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 431 Hit were to witen Whi þe batayle of Troye was smiten c 1380 Wyclif *Serm Sel Wks* I 114 It were to wite þe mynd of þese wordes c 1386 — *Wks* (1880) 328 It were to wite whoþer prine confession made to prestis be nedeful 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P* A iii 11 Vollem. (Bodl.) Furst it is to wetynge what þing the soule is *Ibid* xvii 11 (Add MS 27944). It is to wytynge [*ed* 1495 wyte] þat a graffe chaungeþ þe qualite of þe stok in to his owne qualite c 1449 Pecock *Repr* ii 421 For it were to witen Whi þe batailie of Troye was smiten c 1480 Wyclif *Serm Sel Wks* I 114 It were to wite þe mynd of þese wordes c 1586

**wich, wyche, wych, 4–7** witche, **5–6** weche, (**4** wecch, *Sc.* weach-, wisch-, **4, 6** which(e, **5** whitche, whecche, **6** wytch, *Sc.* wytche, wyche, weyche), **6–** witch. [OE. *wicce* fem., corresponding to *wicca* WITCH *sb.*[3], both of which are app. derivatives of *wiccian* WITCH *v.*]

1. A female magician, sorceress; in later use *esp.* a woman supposed to have dealings with the devil or evil spirits and to be able by their co-operation to perform supernatural acts. See also WHITE WITCH.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* VII. 209 Animæ8..þa reðan wiccan, ðæs þe ðan awent þurh wiccecreft manna mod. *a* 1200 *Ancren Riwle* 1. 192 (Napier 52/1) *P(h)itonissam, i. diuinatricem*, heldurman, wiccho. *c* 1290 *St. Andr.* 279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 100 Faste ȝe schulle þe wyclche bidde.. And amitez of hire heued a-noun. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7363 Here a tale of a wyche, þat leued no better pan a bycche. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 1088 [He] gert þis kaitiue till hyme feire, & and hir: 'þu wicche wich, Quhat wenis þu wt vang to gretche?' *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11182 The worthy, þat witche hase wastid to dethe. 1440 WYNTOUN in *Wars Eng. in Fr.* (Rolls) II. ii. 763 Alla maner magica, vocate vulgaire Wyche of Eygo.. capta est .i. ut apud Smythfeld cremata. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 243 Iuno the false wyche and sorceresse. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 3 Ȝonet the weido on ane bustuous ryland, Off witchis will, ane windir ȝing gareoun. 1591 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 34 See how the vgly Witch doth bend her browes, As if with Circe, she would change my shape. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* 51 Leaves of Elder..which to disappoint the Charmes of Witches, they had affixed to their Doores and Windowes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 P 2 When a Woman begins to exercise her Tongue after a more than ordinary manner, and grow chargeable to a Parish, she is generally turned into a Witch. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 200 The witches follow, Wi' mony an eldritch skriech and hollo. 1808 TENNANT *Lucretius* 15 She..Dreaming some rival, sought and found a witch Who brew'd the philtre. 1902 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* iv. 704 I have heard of one old witch changing herself into a pigeon.

b. With masculine prefix.

1621 *Strange Rep. Sixa Notorious Witches* Bij, Men-Witches. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Anonat. Jer.* 108 No pure Astrologer, but a mere Magitian in plain English, an He-witch.

c. *A witch of Endor* (in allusion to 1 Sam. xxviii. 7); a fanciful term for (*a*) a bewitching person; (*b*) a midwife.

1819 CYRUS SPENCER *Let.* 15 Nov. in *Sarah, Lady Lyttelton's Corr.* (1912) viii. 217 That witch of Endor, the Duchess of Devon, has been doing mischief of another kind. 1919 R. K. MARETT in *Q. Rev.* Apr. 438 In the West End a *séance* with a Witch of Endor is doubtless to be obtained for a suitable fee.

d. Phrases. *The witch is in it*: it is bewitched. *As nervous as a witch*: a New England phrase, applied to a very restless person.

*a* 1854 SELDEN *Table-talk* (Arb.) 82 When a Country-wench cannot get her Butter to come, she says, The Witch is in her Churn. 1889 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* xvii 325 She rove from her struggle with the problem, and said aloud to herself, 'Well, the witch is in it.'. 1921 F. M. CRAWFORD *Uncanny Tales, Man Overboard!* (1917) 232 She's been as nervous as a witch all day. 1922 E. LEESON H. PORTER *Oh, Money! Money!* 141, He's nervous as a witch. He can't keep still a minute.

†2. *Fig.* The nightmare. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wytche, clepyd nyghte mare..., *ytalus.* 1585 HIGGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 427/1 *Incubus, ythiales*,..a kinde of disease called the night mare or witch. Cf. *obs.* HALLIWELL, *Riding of the Witch*, a popular phrase for the nightmare, still in use.]

3. *fig.* a. *gen.*

1699 W. BROUGH *Secr. Priest.* 240 Save me from vain pleasures, the great witches of the world. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* I. Quarterly Paper No. 2. 8/1 The Four of Clubs [is] call'd *Wibling's Witch*..from one James Wibling, who in the forty-seven-hundred-and-seventh Year of Queen Anne, was commonly observ'd to have the Card..in his Hand. 1820 SHELLEY *Gisborne* 132 The quaint witch Memory sees, in vacant chairs, your absent images.

b. (*a*) A young woman or girl of bewitching aspect or manners.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiv. 37 Mrs. Jervis, said he, take the little witch from me. 1800 T. D. WHITAKER *Whalley* I. 284 *note*, In 1745 was played a play entitled *The Witches of Lancaster*...The term has since been transferred to a gentler species of fascination, which my fair countrywomen still continue to exert in full force. 1892 CRITCHETT *Pamphill* I. ii. For my part I find every woman a witch. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* II. 69, I own I have missed Miss Ellen, and good right I had—a young witch, living the world through, hen-a's windows. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootles' Childr.*, vii, She who had been the blithest little witch he had ever known.

(*b*) *Old witch*: a contemptuous appellation for a malevolent or repulsive-looking old woman.

*c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 168 A lusti galiant hat weddithe an olde wiche. *a* 1536 *Calisto & Melib.* 825 How old witch thou bryngyst me in grete dole. 1832 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 7 July, There are only three classes into which all the women past seventy that ever I knew were to be divided:—1. That dear old soul: 2. That old woman; 3. That old witch. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Roman Singer* I, Maruccia is an old witch.

4. Applied to various animals and objects.

a. The stormy petrel. b. A West Indian name for *Cista Mexic. aut*, a black bird of the cuckoo family. c. A kind of snail. d. In a loom: = DOBBY 3. e. *Witch of Agnesi* (Math.): a plane curve named after M. G. Agnesi (1718–99) of the university of Bologna.

a. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 255 Stormy Petrel, ..hated by the sailors, who call them Witches, imagining hey foreboda a storm. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 211 Storm-Petrel...Witch, or Water-witch. b. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 472 Black Witch. Savanna Blackbird. c. 1847 *Berton Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Scarabæus*, Witch or Cockchafer. d. 1823 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss., Witch*, a machine which stands on the top of a loom, and was used previously to the jacquard machine for the purpose of figuring the cloth. 1909 *Century Dict.* Suppl., *Witch*,..a dobby or index-machine. e. 1875 B. WILLIAMSON *Integral Calculus* vii. 173 Find the area between the witch of Agnesi $x^2y = a^2(2a-y)$ and its asymptote. 1901 A. B. BASSET *Elem. Cubic & Quartic Curves* 96 Then the locus of $P$ is a cubic called the witch of Agnesi.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. General combs.: simple attrib., as *witch-act* (Act 38. 5), *gang, -legion, -lore, -plot, -spell, -triad*; with the meaning 'used in witchcraft or by witches in their enchantments', as *witch-broth, -charming, -ointment, -sabbath* (SABBATH 3), *-salve, thing*; appositive, as *witch-bird* (BIRD *sb.* 4), *-bride, -carline, cummer, -hag, -hare, -huntress, -maid, -maiden, -people, -wife, -wolf, -woman*; objective, etc., as *witch-advocate, -burner, -pricker* (PRICKER 1), *-searcher, -seeker, -trier*; also *witch-like* adj. and adv.; instrumental, as *witch-ridd, -ridden, -stricken* adjs.; similative, as *witch-wise* adj. b. Special combs.: *witch-balls* (see quot.); **witch-bell**(s, *Sc.*, a name for the harebell, *Campanula rotundifolia*; **witch broom, butter** = *witches' broom, butter* (see c below); **witch cake**, a preparation used to test a supposed witch, or made by a witch for purposes of incantation; **witch-chap** *dial.* = *plough-witch* (see PLOUGH *sb.*[1] 8); **witch-fire** = CORPOSANT; **witch gowan** (see GOWAN 2); **witch-grass** *U.S.*, (*a*) *Panicum capillare*, a weed-grass found throughout the U.S., also called *old-witch grass*; (*b*) couch-grass, *Triticum* (*Agropyrum*) *repens*; **witch-hat**, a hat with a conical crown and flat brim, represented as worn by witches; **witch-hunter** = WITCH-FINDER; so also *transf.*; **witch-look** = WITCH-KNOT 1; also *transf.*; **witch-loom** (see 4 d above); **witch-man**, (*a*) a wizard; (*b*) *dial.* = *witch-chap*; **witch-mania**, a mania or craze for witches and witchcraft; **witch-mark**, a mark on the body supposed by witch-finders to denote that its possessor was a witch; **witch-meal** = LYCOPODIUM 2; **witch-meeting** = *witches' meeting* (see c below); **witch-pap** (see quots.); **witch-riding**, the nightmare; **witch stitch** (see quot.); **witch-stone**, a flat stone with a natural perforation, used as a charm against witchcraft; †**witch-water**, contemptuous name for holy water; **witch-weed** *S. Afr.*, a parasitic plant, *Striga lutea*; **witchwork**, witchcraft.

1577 BARN. GOOGE *Husbandry* App. 319 The 'Witch-Act..was not repealed till the Year 1736. *a* 1680 GLANVILL *Saducismus* II. (1681) 9, I have..almost spoiled all Mr. Webster's and the other Witch-Advocates Books. 1879 SWEET *Gram. of M. sc.* Witch-advocates, atheists, and mis-believers of all kinds. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, '*Witch-balls*, interwoven rollers of stems of the Salsolaceæ plants, often found in the steppes of Tartary. 1808 JAMIESON, '*Witch-bell*, round-leaved Bell-flower, *Campanula rotundifolia*. 1826 *Hone Lete's Jubilee* 112 The witch-bell blue. 1898 *Prestwich & Sch. Sess. Cas.* (MS.) Margaret Flood accused of calling Agnes Cuthbertson a '"witch-bird'. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* vi. vi, There of the "witch-brides lay each skeleton. 1818 — *Hrt. Mid-Lothian* xxxvi, Ye auld witch-broths..would induce in themselves and their pupils a heavy stupor. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 26 Apr., Do we ever hear of the witch-chaps of old?

Massachusetts call "witches horses' 1885 JAMIESON, *Witches knots*, a sort of matted bunches, resembling the nests of birds, frequently seen on stunted thorns or bushes. 1687 R. BERNARD *Guide Grand-Jury Men* 118 Take Him, Witch thus in league with the Deuill, is convicted ? By a *Witches* marke. This is insensible, and being pricked will not bleede 1887 *Church Lexicon* IX 331/2 *Trymethia*

Several species are found in Britain In some places, they receive such popular names as "Witches' Meat and Witches Butter 1696 HALE *Coll Mod Relat* (1693) 1 73 That Love of hers had carried her at Nights to the "Witches Meetings in great Castles. 1767 HUTCHINSON *Hist Mass* (1795) II 38 1886 ? AUBREY *Rem Gentilisme* (1881) 133 The Midsommer night or Midsommer eve (St ] o Bap tist) is counted or called the "Witches night 1663 BUTLER *Hud* I iii 344 He that gets her by heart must say her The back way, like a "Witches Prayer 1721 ADDISON *Spect* No 61 P 5 To which I must add a little I page m called the Witches Prayer, that fell into Verse when it was read either in forward or backward, excepting only that it Cursed one way and Blessed the other 1884 G A TAWBENCH *Maurice Dering* II 218 My good wishes of late have been fearfully like witches' prayers 1696 HALE *Coll Mod Relat* (1693) 1 39 The "Witches Sabbaths or Assemblies, which were held in the Night 1823 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* viii Such as was never dreamed of in the wildest visions of a Witch s Sabbath 1880 *Ruby Mag* Apr 344/1 The mother pulled some "witches thimbles or foxs love 1853 G JOHNSTON *Bot L Borders* 40 *Silene] maritima* Witches Thimbles 1884 *Gardeners Chr Bot* VI 13 *Geum pumila rotun tifolia* Hare bell. A common rustic name for them is' witches thimbles ' 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant n*, Witches Thimble 4 *Centaurea Cyanus*

d *attrib* passing into *adj* Magic, magical

*c1400 Apol Loll* 93 Pei pat tenden to weche falsnes [L. *magnes falsitatibus*] in pleies or tempestis 1538 COVER *Pub Judgem* lx 57 Ons hands of men commyth by the wey a to y^e witch Oke 1801 SCOTT *Glenfinlas* lvi, And, bending o er his harp, he flu ithis wildest witch notes on the wind.

**Witch, wych** (wɪtʃ), *sb* 3 Forms 1 wice, wic, wyc, 5–7 wycche, 6–8 wich, (6 wi(t)che, wiech, wech(e, weeche, 7 weech), 6– wych, witch. [OE. *wicce* and *wicc*, pap f Teut. *wik-* to bend (see WIKE WEEK *sb*, WEAK *a.*).] Applied generally or vaguely to various trees having pliant branches *esp* f the WYCH ELM, *Ulmus montana* (of which bows were made), b (now *dial*.) the mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*. Also *attrib*, witch alder, a witch hazel with alder like leaves, *Fothergilla alnifolia*, native to Virginia and North Carolina (See also WITCH HAZEL).

*c725 Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) C 106 *Carex* 1, cuticbeam, uuice *a* 1000 *Ags Voc* in Wr Wülcker 220 30 *Carsicus* wic, *uel* cwichbeam *c1000 Sax Leechd* II 86 Genim cwic beam rinde wir, wi e, ge, let [1 e] *Promp Parv* 526/1 Wyche, tre, *vimus* 1536 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc) II 308 Mul o wrom, fully fell i xxvij trees of aeche and wyche 1539 *St Papers Hen VIII* II 483 I have of 4000 wyche bowes be brought hyther 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (1881) 81 Vimus is called in englishe an Elme tree, or a Wich tree 1556 WITHALS *Dict* (1562) 23/2 A witche tree *opulus* 1579 SPENSER *Shep Cal* June 20 Nor holybush, nor bleere ie winding witche 1615 [STANDISH] *New Direct Planting* 11 A- of Elme, so of Wyche, being a wood as apt to make Hoops as any other wood 1616 T SCOT *Philomythi* 11 B 4 b, The curved Elder and the fatall Yewe, With Witch, and Nightshade 11 their shadowes grow 1850–60 MAUNDER *Treat Bot* 894 The 103 *Fothergilla alnifolia* (witch alder) 1861 D H HAIGH *Comp Brit* 78 The mountain ash, rown, or witch. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss*, *Witch wood*, the mountain ash or rowan tree 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss*, *Witch wood*, a twig of the mountain ash, once used to find minerals

**Witch** (wɪtʃ), *sb* 4 *local*. Also whitch [prob a use of WITCH *sb* 3, the name being given on account of the uncanny influence of the fish, cf. uses of L. *stiga*, *b sorcière*, It *strega*.] The flat-fish *Pleuronectes cynoglossus*, resembling the lemon sole, applied also to similar fishes.

1879 SATCHELL *Proc s In ter Fish Names* 9 *Pleuronectes m crocephalus* Lemon Dab 1 em n Sole Witch *Hippoglossoides limandoides* Long Flook, Witch 1882 *Field* 15 Nov 580 Whitches —these fish well known in Grimsby and Manchester, The term is used to denote the sole, flukes (*Pleuronectes flesus* Linn) as well as the kind of dab, which is taken in co siderable numbers in the North Sea These fish are sometimes called white soles 1903 *Times* 21 Feb 17/3 Plaice, witches smalts, and bearings

**Witch** (wɪtʃ), *v* Forms 1 wiccian, 4 wico(h)e, (4 witche, 5 *w* woche, 4–5 wiche, wyche, 5 wyo(o)hyn, wyschyn), 5–6 wytche, 6– witch. [OE. *wiccian*, corresp to MG, LG *wikken*, *wicken*, of obscure origin In the senses arising in ME and later prob aphetic from *bewitch*]

†1 *intr* To practise witchcraft; to use sorcery or enchantment *Obs*.

*c1000 Ags Gosp* Matt xxvii 24 Thorpe *Lawes* (1840) II 208 Gif hwa wiccige ymbe æ ixes mannes life *a1300 K Alisaunder* lviii[ 5 A neddre def Pat noght sal here be steuen of wichand *c1350 Will Palerne* 3530 Were pei bolpe here, Pat schuld wrecche wel wiste he wat were! 1561 T SCOTT *Projector* 30 Hath not Iesabell painted, and whored, and plotted and witche ! and wadred through blood?

2 *trans* To affect (a person) with witchcraft or sorcery; to put a spell upon ; = BEWITCH 1.

*13 Rowng Mead* 816 in Hertig's *Archiv* LIII 395 Wyched bi wyf has he *c1350 Will Palerne* 4427 pat neuer man vpon molde myst it [se the ring] him on haue, ne schuld he with wrecchecraft be wicched neuer more *c1375 Sc Leg Saints* in (Anastasia) 64 Pane pat 30ng manns kyne in hy Sad he was wechyt sekyryly! *c1400 Rowland & Otuel* 1151 Foully there thou wichedo was. 1593 D. BRENNER *Praise* II CCXE [CCXV] 282 b/1 They sayd, that the duchesse Valentyne of Oriyaunce, doughter to the duke of Myllayn, hadde witched the kynge 1598 in *Spalding Club Misc* I 87 His wyff was witchit be his nairest neychbour. 1606 *London Prodigals* I ii 63, I thinke I am sure crossed, or witcht with an owle. 1647 ] MARCH *Actions for Slaunder* 15 Thou art a witch and baddest procure Mother Bale to witch the Cattell of ] 1883 *Folk Lore Jrnl* I 354 A servant told me when her mother was confined a man in the village watched her , so that she could not move in bed 1884 PENNYSON *Becket* III ii Our woodland Circe that hath witch'd the King 1884 MARK TWAIN *Huck Finn* xxxiv, He said the witches was pestering him and he didn t believe he was ever witched so long, before, in his life

b. (with prep. or adv) To bring, draw, put, or change by witchcraft

1597 JAS VI *Daemonol* II i 28 If Witches had such power of Witching of fellows to death (as they say they have) 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag* IV i O2, O that in mine eyes Were all the Sourceroi poyson of my woes, that I might watch a hundring from your height 1853 MAURICE *Camel Conse* 26 See if 30 t can Witch them into a Fit, and Witch them well again 1855 MEREDITH *Shaw Naughtat* (1909) 225 He s witched there for all purpose 1871 TYLOR *Prim Cult* I iv 103 Hindus settled in Chota Nagpur believe that the Mundas can witch aw y the lives of man and beast 1892 NORTHALL *Folk Rhymes* 59 People say that the witches always witch cattle at Rollwright are a regiment of soldiers witched into stones.

3 *fig* To influence as by witchcraft, to enchant, charm ; = BEWITCH 2 Also with prep or adv

1590 SPENSER *F Q* II vii 20 Thy pleasing charmes With which yworchs weren thy louely lookes 1596 GREENE *Groat's W Wit* (1617) 70 [I oue] Witching chast eares with trothlesse tongs of men 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen IV*, IV i 110 A dat ng Argell, drawn downe from the Clouds, To vaile the World with Noble Horsemanship 1612 BRAUN & FI *Amg & No K* III, With her eyes She witches people 1812 LADY CAROLINE LAMB *Glenarvon* 128 Her hidden and like laughter, the toils and cvve That witch d us into love and courtesy. 1824 CAMPBELL *Theodric* 30 Her fingers witch d the chords of her native harp 1828 *Penny Cyc* I 111, Her witching the world with her grace on horseback

b *intr* To use enchanting wiles; to practise fascination.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 409 Applied to those that witch with their eyes, and to those that charme with their eares. 1894 BYRON *Juan* XIII xxx, Adeline was watching, witching and rondeseide it

**Witchaft**, obs Sc. f VOLCHSAFE.

1598 MARSTON *Antoh & Dirty* (Wodrow Soc) 367 The doctrine quhilk God sall witchaft to grant

**Witchcraft** (wɪtʃ,kraft) Forms see WITCH *sb* 2. [OE. *wiccecræft*, f *wicca*, *wicce* WITCH *sb* 1 and 2 + *cræft* CRAFT *sb* 1

1 The practice of a witch or witches; the exercise of supernatural power supposed to be possessed by persons in league with the devil or evil spirits

*c1000* [see WITCH *sb* 1] *a* 1200 *Aldhelm Glass* 1 4955 (Napier 107) *Ne ponnantia*, i *demonum inuo catio* Saldre Wiccecræfte 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conse* 3301 Be wipdraw of diuelis wisdome Pu nustest hwenne hit be come Buta hit of wicchec arte were *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 2831 ] folud wicke crafte and freie, And sla mang *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 4044 Ha wot nedely as pou wolt pis wlisch wicchecraft schewe 1513 *Lay Saints* 221 (*Clement*) 705 He wend [pat] he laghtede had bene He wescheraffe *c* 1440 PECOCK *Repr* V xiv 563 To the spring a skipe acte Ther was nouzt bot wicchecraft 1548 Wicchecraft and Witchcraft 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp Dict* s v *Bruxa*, Witchcraft 1611 COTGR, Witchcraft 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII 1040 Then Juno began to speak: Lo wolf is whipt by wicchecraft 1727 ADDISON *Spect* No 117 P 2 I cannot forbear thinking that there is such an Intercourse and Commerce with Evil Spirits, as that which we express by the Name of Witchcraft 1759 BLACKSTONE *Comm* IV xv 6 To deny the possibility, nay, actual exi ste ce, of witchcraft and sorcery, is to contradict the revealed word of God 1860 BUCKLE *Hist Civ* II 1 Every like a new form superstitions which have been so universal as a belief in witchcraft

b *pl* Acts or instances of this, magic arts, also † occas with *a*, a kind of magic.

1535 *Lamy of Abbotshaw* 11 We cwnnd to be ham wicce craftes Ne bibla — *c* 1540 *Compl Scotl* 207 Drymenis weppinnen & wimenn es, Patt f lipenn wicche craftess. *a* 1585 *Ancr R* 268 Hit binge3 to not alle þes deofles wicchecraftes 1597 SHAKS *Lucrece* 1508 BRERETON *Trav Du P R* xviii In (Bodl MS), Witches also vse pe herbe and pee liuuore of þ e beeste in many wicchecrafles. *c* 1400 *Apol Loll* 87 Wicchecraftis and false enchauntmentis 1560 *Hist K Boccus & Scotus he* (1550) Div b, Vs thou hast now forsakyn And to a wycherafte the takyn 1569 in *Roll Hist Soc Courts* App 143 Scho will confess no wytchcraftis nor gilt 1587 MONTGOM *Flyt*. III 45 All these witchcrafts ceased after the comming of Christ 1670 R T *Optimum of Writ herapt I ind.* 43 Killing of Men or Beasts by Witchcrafts. 1736 T HUTCHINSON *Hist Mass* I 190 Commissioners were appointed for the trial of witchcrafts

2. *fig* Power or influence like that of a magician; bewitching or fascinating attraction or charm

1589 SHAKS *Com Err* V ii 301 You have Witchcraft in your Lippes, Kate 1613 — *Hen VIII*, III ii 58 He hath a Witchcraft Over the King in's Tongue 1647 COWLEY *Mistr*, *Write Love* 3 What new found Witchcraft was in thee, With thine own Cold to kindle Me? *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* X 826 Whether the raising this spirit [of the Levellers] was a piece of Cromwell's ordinary witchcraft in order to some of his designs, or whether [etc ] 1797 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I viii 47 I tell you, I see thro' your *witchcraft*—that was her strange word 1818 SHELLEY *Laonb & Helen* 659 The subtle witchcraft of his tongue Unlocked the hearts of those who keep Gold 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii, By some unfailing witchcraft she [se the sea] entices the breezes to follow her.

**3** *attrib* and *Comb*

1634 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 265 His Blindnesse and Infidelity betrayeth him to this Stupidity, and Witchcraftadhesion to the Creature 1798 G M WOODWARD *Eccentric Excurs* 133 Among the most approved witchcraft remedies we find nailing horse shoes at the thresholds c f DOOR 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed. 3) XVIII 5 The Spaniards were so full of frenzy was in New England, about 1692 1807 MARY KINGSLEY *W Africa* 452 Human sacrifice is very rare in Congo Francisco, the killing of people being nine times in ten a witchcraft palaver

Hence **+Witchcraftical** *a* (*nonce wd*)

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 84 Away with witchcraftical Doctors away with the doctrine of Devils

**Wi·tch-do ctor.** One who professes to cure disease and to counteract witchcraft by magic arts

1728 F HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* VIII 210 Thesal Dorothy Dure it, having been with a Witch Doctor acknowledges that [etc.] 1902 *Journ Anthr Inst* Oct 1085 a He was considered to be a "witch doct r and f urners and females went to him to have the 'evil eye' removed

b A magician among African tribes, esp Kaffirs, whose business it is to detect witches, and to counteract the effects of magic. (Cf *medicine man*)

1836 R M MARTIN *Hist S Africa* II 168 So infatuated [are tl e Kaffirs] in a bel ef of the infallibility of the wizard or witch d ctor 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W Africa* 445 One wo ch doctor may have very little influence over one class of spirit and an other over another class

So **Wi·tch-do ctress.**

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* VII The most famous witchdoctress a woman in good accent was as keen as a dog a

**+Wi·tchdom** *Obs rare* [OE. *wicceadōm* see WITCH *sb* 1 and 2 and DOM.] Witchcraft

*a* 1050 in Assmann *Ags Hom* 143 Ne on wiglunge ne on wiccedome *c* 1445 *Seven Sages* (MS Cantab) *ff* ii 38 If 146 b) So they had hym with wicchedom 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII Prol 11 Quhilk wicchedom and sorsery 1824 CAMPBELL *Theodric* 30 Her fingers witch d the chords of her native harp 1828 *Penny Cyc* I 111 Her witching the world with her grace on horseback

Hence **+Wi·tchdly** *adv*, with witchcraft

1580 A B *Mutatus Polemo* 34 We have not a people so witchedly besotted

**Witchen** (wɪ·tʃn) See WYCH ELM

**Witchen** (wɪ·tʃn) Now *dial* Also ? whitchen [f WITCH *sb* 4 + EN 4.]

1 In full *witchen elm* = WYCH ELM Also *attrib*.

1594 PLAT *Jewell h* II 53 Another tree that somewhat resembleth our Witchen Elmes 1615 NARKHAM *Country Contents* I viii 108 The best Hoopes, either Spanh h or English yewe, and the worst of Witchen or Elme 1681 — *Husgers Prevocation* 39 A very good stiffe 30ng growne Plant of Hasell, Elme or Witchen 1880 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed 3) 53 Amid the sapling oaks, witchen, and ashes my snug box towering high 1881 — *Wint Evel* II 121 The rooks, where 30n ler witchens s read, Quank clamorous to the spring s ap pe ach

2 The mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*. Cf. QUICKEN *sb* 1 (*whicken*), WHITTEN.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xiv 32 The Quick beam (Ormus) or (for others term it) the Witchen or Witch (Witchen) 1676 M COOK *Forest Trees* xxii 13, I the Quickbeam, Witchen, or Wicken ash is pretty plentifull in some parts of the North 1865 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl* II 262 *Pyrus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash) This tree has also the old names of Quicken tree and Witchen tree.

**Wi·tchering** *nonce wd.* [Formed on next with -ING 1.] A deed of witchcraft

1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid* xl Hast no do e mischief e ow already, wi' thy murders and thy witcherings?

**Witchery** (wɪ·tʃərɪ) [f WITCH *sb* + -ERY 3-6.]

1. The use or practice of witchcraft

1586 BALE *Engl Votaries* I 35 b Besydes the rt Magyck, Cwrlege Conjuracyons and Witchery 1590 — that sight there also 1584 R SCOT *Discov Witchcr* III x 53 She was n t mine one carrieng of 3g fisell to fire But she would saie it was to make a fier to burne her 1610 — *Witchcraft* 1637 H JOWSON *Noah Shepherd* II vii, Of Witchcrafts a pater master in nubles she? *Ath* Stay 30u will heare more of her witchrie 1727 DE FOE *Syst Magic* I i (1840) 32 There is a manifest difference between magic, which is wisdom and supernatural knowledge and the witchery and conjuring by which we now understand the word. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* IV iii While 3 ung and old assembled round Listened as if by witchery bound 1854 MILMAN *Lat Christ* II 328 No one answering the citation to accuse the Empress of idolatry or witchery

*attrib* 1627 R BERNARD *Guide Grand Jury Men* 19 The parents sent for a wise woman, who played her witchery trickes 1690 A B *Mutatus Polemo* 12 Is the the black Prince of the ayre in his witchery practises 1768 *Dick Chron* 28 Aug 6 a Prisoner burnt some ca dles over the fire, an I used some other witchery

2 *pl* Deeds of witchcraft

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp Dict*, *Hechizos*, wit hetlet witchcraft 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII vii 5 The Heathenes in those parts are given to Augories and Witcheries. 1636 MILTON *Comus* 521 Great Comus Deep shall d in all his mothers witcheries. 1781 COWPER *Exp xl* 404 As dark as wit h tries, if the sight 1819 SCOTT *Bride* XXXVII, Rebec a, daughter of Isaac of York—a woman infamous for privileges and for witcheries 1874 H H CLUE *Cat of Ind Art S Kens Mus* App 376 Spells enchantments, a nd witch aries are supposed to be in-esent-ally at work.

**2** *fig* Charming or fascinating power or influence
1582 G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) 191 Yᵉ sweet bayte, & lure of curtesy | bacuninginesse and most intellectuall witchery of all other. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. (1729) 80 Wks 1688 III 194 If we can disengage our selves from the witcheries of present allurement 1798 WORDSW. *P. Bell* 265 He never felt The witchery of the soft blue sky! 1834 A. CUNNINGHAM *Bunt. Wife* I. 158 The witchery of his conversation, and the magic of his songs, were too powerful for the resolution of some 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* v. 48 A beautiful Greek woman soothing him with the witchery of her guitar

**b** *jocular* A body of bewitching women
1777 T. TWINING in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 54 Remember me to Mrs. B and the whole witchery

**Witchet** (wi·tʃĕt). *local* [? repr. a variant **wichet* of AF. *wiket* WICKET.] A wide 'head' or working-place in a coal mine; = WICKET 5 b.
1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII 855 A Witchet or Cave was di ven out in the middle of it upon a level for gaining of room to wo k. 1883 GRESLEY *Gl. Coal-mining*, *Witchet* (N.Staffs Wales), a working, place in the shape of a wide heading or boar; sometimes 60 or 70 fe t in width

**Witchetty** (wi·tʃĕti). *Australian* [Native name.] The larva of some species of longicorn beetles, eaten as a food by Australian natives. Also *attrib.*
1891 STIRLING in *Trans Roy. Soc. South Australia* XIV 1898 R. IVIMEY *Metropolitan* 191 The Marsupial Mole was f l on the 'Witchetty' grub

**Witch-finder.** One formerly employed to search for and obtain evidence against witches.
1646 GAULE *Cases Conse.* 6 I do save the troubles and Charges of the witch finder, they will undertake to try the Witch of themselves. 1647 M. HOPKINS *Discovery of Witches* now published by Matthew Hopkins, Witchfinder For the Benefit of the whole Kingdome. 1797 *Encycl. Brit* (ed 3) XVIII 196 Witch-finders, by the witch-finders, considered as a very substantial proof of guilt. 1883 SMILES *Occult Sciences* 169 Dr Barnett exposed the pretensions of the celebrated witch-finder, and witch finder, Darrel

**b** An African witch doctor
1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* II. I saw that the witch finders and the medi ine men were feared in ti e land

So **Wi·tch-finding** *vbl. n.*
1646 GAULE *Cases Conse.* 61 Oft times he marries them, by the Bo k of Common Prayer (as a pretender to witchfinding, lately told me).

**Witch hazel, wych hazel.** [WITCH *sb* 3]
**1** = WITCH *sb* 3. Also, the hornbeam.
1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 3 That every bowyer for every bo ve that he maketh of Ewe make fower other bowes of Elme, wyche hasill, asshe, or other Wood 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, A Wych hasell, as a tree like unto the 1588 HARRIOT *Brief Rep. Virginia* D 4 b, Maple, and also Wi h hazle, wic of the inhabitants we to make their bowes 1807 GRAHAME *Sabbath* (ed. 2) 196 Callst Hornbeame, Hirbeam, or Yᵉ ke l ime, and ti some places Witch hasell 1833 T. JOHNSON *Cornish's Herbal* III 1281 *Wych or Witch hazel, Ostrya virginica*. Witch Hazell or the li e leaue | Time Thus hath little affinitie with *Carpinus*, which in Essex is called Witch Hasell 1857 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* ii. In the court of Norton farmhouse stood with a fine spread of wide boug leaved elm, or wych hazel 1870 STUART *Sylva* II 66 The Wych Elm or Wych Hazel, as it is sometimes called 1885 BAILEY *Virgil* 85 Wych hazel is also sometimes called *attrib.* 1886 A. WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 137 Some men even resorted to the witch hazel fork in quest of knowledge on which capital might safely be invested in mining

**2** A North American shrub, *Hamamelis virginica*, also, an extract of the leaves and bark of this shrub, used as an astringent and sedative.
1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App 332 Witch Hazel, *Hamamelis* 1778 J. CARLE *New Amer. Sys.* XIX 528 The Witch Hazle It has been said, that it is possessed of the power of attracting g l ir silver, and that twigs of it are made use of to discover where the veins of these metals lie hid 1824 LOUDON *Arboretum & Fruticetum* II. 1236 *Y. Lucy* 106 in *Bot. Reg.* 104 Pou are strong wichebe, Mine cleekes and mine enchau tours li ume s hallen bi witchehuge 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* VII. 11 Mo he tyme he halde mad I com ined with his witchings [1388 witche craft]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. 121 All the enchantments or witchings of Circe. 1584 R. SCOT *Discoverie Witchcr* I. III 8 Bodin himselfe confesseth that not above two in a hundred of their witchings or wishings take effe t. 1593 HARSNET *P. & Iuglo* I. 137 Geoffry Chaucer, saying that all these bu nlesse imaginat ons, of sit ht igs, po wers, gs, house hanting, and the like, were the forgeries of craftie priests 1856 GRATIANA CHANTER *Hist. & Ly of Witchcraft* viii. 86 Why be the fokes always telling of w tches and witching? 1904 J. MACKAY *Dict. Ir. Hist.* II. v. 152 Witching and charming were severely punished [in 1728 C.].

**2** *fig* Enchantment, fascination.
1897-44 N. P. WILLIS *Contempl.* 26 Life had been like the watching of a dream 1882 A. AWDRY *Poet Lorenz* III. He felt far from hungry, and was conscious that his palate would require the sdroitest witching

**Witching** (wi·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a* [f as prec + -ING².]
1 That casts a spell; enchanting, bewitching
In quot. 1587 *wyccehen* is of uncertain origin
1587 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II 187 In Affrica beeb meyneys yat haueb wyccheu [*v. r.* wychinge] tongues [*linguas fascinantes*]. Ye time *Histe Imperor* II. 2 In Bullen *Old Ball.* (1884) III 285 Nor her wytchings see Can challendge any share in my disgrace 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl* v 5 Her witching eye the boy, and boat hath charm'd 1747 H. BROOKE in Francis tr. *Hor., Ep* II. II. 217 Witching Imps of Hell.

**2** *transf.* Of or belonging to witchcraft; concerned with the practice of witchcraft or sorcery.
1584 R. SCOT *Discou Witchcr* V. VII. 104 But they have lease reason that build vpon the supernaturall frame of transubstantiation | as almost all our witching writers doo *Ibid* XII. VII. 228 They burst the snakes with witching words 1773 ROWE *Fane Shore* IV. 1, Three damnable Conjurers, Who shall with Potions, Charms, and witching Drugs, Practise against our Person and our Life.

**b** *spec.* Of time Belonging or appropriate to the deeds of witches and witchcraft, and hence to supposed supernatural occurrences
In later use echoing SHAKS.
1600 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. II. 406 'Tis now the verie witching time of night When Churchyards yawne and Hell it selfe breathes out Contagion to this world 1742 BLAIN *Grave* 55 Such Tales their Chear, at Wake or Gossuping When it drawes near to Witching time of Night 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. VI. It was now the witching hour: encreased by ghost and spirit. 1849 — A. *Arthur* VI. lxvii, Just as the witching night began to fall

**3** *fig.* = 'bewitching'; fascinating
**†a** 1600 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 497 Witching tobacco, I will fly to thee 1607 DEKKER *Whore of Babylon* G 3, On my modest cheekes, No witching smiles doo dwell 1787 BURNS *Lament on Pr. apect of Death* 21 Lasting to their witching voice Has often led me wrong 1820 BYRON *Ch. Har* I. lvii, Yet are Spain's maids form'd for all the witching arts 1822 *Blackw. Mag. Spectator* 7 June 709/2 The spell of the watching hand and its people grows on us

**b.** *adv.* Bewitchingly
1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 144 She only answer'd with a lake, Looks witching sweet

Hence **Wi·tchingly** *adv.*, bewitchingly
1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. vi, The sweets delights, that witchingly instil A wanton sweetness through the heart 1868 LOWELL *Study Windows* 191 So we tchingly her finger tips To Wi l im She kisses 1898 *Jenkin's Mag.* XXIII. 628 She was about twenty four, with a witchingly sweet face

**Witchlock.**
1. A tangled knot of hair supposed to be made by witches = ELF-LOCK.
1598 DRAYTON *Heroic Ep., El. Cobham* 112 O that I were a Witch ! I would knit whole t pes of witchknots in her haire 1600 *A. V. Merchant-Taylors* XXXIV in Child *Ballads* I. 87 Oh why has lo se the nine witch knots That was amo that ladie's locks?

**2** A bushy tuft of twigs on a tree: = *witches' broom* (see WITCH *sb* 3 c).
1884 *Nature* XXIX. 527 The simple boy Mistakes the witch knots for the cushat's nest 1886 P. PASE in *Zoʼ l Classif* (ed 2) 96 The witch knot found on the birch, and occasionally on other trees, is a dense mass of twigs like a bird's nest, in an abnormal growth caused by *Hylaptes*

**Witchmonger** (wi·tʃmɒŋgə). [f. WITCH *sb* 2 + MONGER 1.] One who has dealings with witches, or who believes in witchcraft.
1584 R. SCOT *Discoverie of Witchcraft*, Wherein the lewde dealing of witches and witchmongers is notable detected 1677 J. WEBSTER *Displ. ll. Witchcraft* I. 17 To attribute these stupendious effects (as it is Vulgar and Witchmongerish) unto the Devil 1888 DOWELL *Taxation Mong. Bit.*, *Witchcraft* (1870) 110 The witchmon gers were put to straits, e shifts by way of accounting for it 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 11/2 Mr. Edmund traces its pedigree through Rom nticism, witchmongers and Swedenborg

**Witchy** (wi·tʃi), *a rare* [f. WITCH *sb* 2 + -Y 1.] Having the nature of or resembling a witch
1566 *I. Hord Advice to a Painter* 18 When he with Earthy Hounds, with Fairy Elves, with Pucks, Pursues in Fountebleau the witchy Hare 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 331 There looked not a man, but a witchy old woman in man's clothes

**Wite**, *sb.*¹ Obs. Forms: 1 WITE, WITA, WITTA, WOTA, **wuta, 3 weote wite, 4 wete, 8 pl (*Hist.*) wites** [OL. *wita* wk masc. (also *gewita* witness); OFris. *wita*, OS *gi wita* (MLG. *wete*) witness OHG *wizo* (*gewizo* witness), Goth. *weita* (*in fullaweita*, *unweita*) — O Icel. **witon-*: see WIT *v.*¹]
1. A wise man, sage, a councillor, *spec* one of the WITAN, q.v.
c 725 *Vesp. Hymn* V 82 Ne ge witan ne cunnon ge witena ne gesihtes ne gesawon ge witena ne gehyrdon ne ge witena ne gehyrdon 1901 *Crist's Interpr.*, *Wites*, *Wisen*, the Title among our Saxon Ancestors for their chief Lords or Thanes, their wise and ill-bred noble Men 1903 HUME *Hist. Eng. Text-b. Hen. VII*, I. App. I 144 Besides the prelates and aldermen, there is also mention of the wites or wise men

**2** A witness.
c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* Pref., Nalæs mid anes mannes gesæhte ac mid gesægenne unrim gelesfulra witena c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. XXVI. 60 Locye witnesa *rel.* wotna 1035 *Anecr. R.* 204 Beon waste [*v. r.* wæste] & witnesa beraf

**Wite, wyte** (wait), *sb.*² *Obs. exc. Hist.* and *dial.* Forms: 1– wite, also 3, 5 wijt, 4–6 witte, 4, 6–7 wyt, 3–4, 6, 8 wit (4 wyzte, wiit, wijtte, 5 wijte, wytte, 5–6 wyght, 6 wyght, wyghte, wight, quhyt, 7 weit, wayt, waite, 7–8 white), 4– wyte [OS. *wîte* = OFris. *wîte*, OS *wîti* (MLG *wîte*, Du *wyte*), OHG *wîzi* (MHG. *wîze*), ON *vîti* see WITE *v.*¹]
**†1. a.** Punishment; penalty; pain inflicted in punishment or torture, *esp.* the torments of hell. (Cf. OE. *helle-wite*, etc.) *Obs*
c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* XXXVIII 11 Awend from me wite ðin c 888 *Ælfred's Boeth.* XXXVI § 3 Ne þearf nanne wrasn mon toweaxan þæt ðe yflan mæðmen eac, ecu ælfean hiora fleas, þæt hiß ece wite. c 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2544 Þa ic sendan gefeaxan swearne ic wæs wrum to wite wealdende fyr c 1175 *Lofi Hem.* 219 Þa wile þearcnie ve almihti scæppend þa sinne and hus ferien helle wite. c 1200 ORMIN 3905 Swa ] att he þann þe Kasserrking ne felle nohht i witte a 1225 *Ancr R.* 202 Þe Vos of þascunge hauseß þreo hweolpes ] richere & Gile, þeofße, Reflac Wite, & Herrure atienche a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6714 Þis beists lauerd þun sal bi quit Of alkin oncall, and quat wite *Ibid* 15828 He þat amtaand es wit sueru, O suerd sal ha þe wite.

**b.** In Anglo-Saxon law, a fine imposed for certain offences or privileges; often as second element in compounds, as BLODWITE, *ferdwite* (see FERD *sb* 1 4), *fyhtwite* (see FIGHT *sb.* 7), LAIRWITE. Now *Hist*
c 890 *Laws Ælfred* c. 8 Gif hi ne wite le sell 1189 LAW 5218 Þat nl comen to Lundene uppe wite of feuwerti punden 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II 95 Fightynge wyte amerciament for fightynge. ?1473 *Statutes Ripon* (Camden) I 130 That they schol nogt pay no ale wite to the lord
1614 SPELM. *Tithes* I. 260 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 127 *b* 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist Ess.* II. VI. 64 The lesser wite of ordinary fine of the Hundred 1897 MAITLAND *Domesday & Beyond* I. 89 In any case their lord is to have their wites.

**2** Blame, reproach; blameworthiness, fault Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*
*Phr. to ha the wite, to put the wite in, to put (a person) in wite, to gu e wite* (one) *the wite of*), to lay *to the wite on*
a 1225 *Ans R.* 4 Cleanse schir inwit, wiðute wite of ssome e 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 1335 De wite is þine, de riht is mine a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5667 He sanl til him þat bare þe wite, 'How dare þou sai þis broþer sinnle I' c 1330 CHASTE *Con. Vsum Perf.* 47 Þe 4 gon And hem þe wite, me þe wite. — *Wifa Prol* 806 Þat ] haue doun it is thy self to wyte c 1400 *Melusine* 355 Þe wyte is on the 1403 ] to *Temple of Love* 166 Now put not þat pitten ful grete wite On double ] ours c 1440 *Generydes* 869 What cause haue ye to putte me in this wyte? c 1449 PECOCK *Repr* III. xvi. 386 Whiche bene bise sucessis þat I not sit founde in wijte or defaute *Ibid* 451 Þis gouernaunce I leeuynth not þi he wijt to be kut away c 1450 *Holland Howlat* 68, I se be my schad owe my schape has the wyte 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* II. x. 88 Knyghtes of the Rounde Table of the deth of kyng. Lott 1528 MORE *Dyalogue Heresyes* IV xii (1529) 116 b, Our mother Eue layd the wyght of her synne to the serpent 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* XVIII. 19 Þe witte salbe impute to him accordin a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S. T. S.) II. 157 Þisey gif some he hault quhyt that they ar nocht to the wyte of the Inglis men 1818 SCOTT *Heart Midl.* XXXII, This is a your wyte, Miss Jeanie Deans. 1823 GALT *Ayrshire* xii, About seven years after he left the country the wyte was laid upon him, and gave him the way to end of their barons. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XIX, But now it's done, Alan, and who's to bear the wyte of it?

**†b.** The source or origin of blame; the person or thing that is to blame *Sc. Obs*
1552 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. Prol. 98 Quhilk in sum part is tl e cans and the wite, Quhy that of Virgilis vers the ornate bewtie Intill our toung may nocht obscurit be. 1580 ROLLAND *Seven Sagis* (Turnb.) 1733 I am the wite now of hir deid doubtles. 1596 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1939) 104 Sen I am the wyte of all my wo 1788 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph* IV. 1, She abusing first, was a the wyte Of what has happen'd

**†3** *transf.* Offence, injury. *Obs.*
c 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 15 Ne do he þe neuc þwa mucleme teone ne wite on þsac liue ne beo þu nefre ene wraþ þer fore a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4586 Þou sal god office haue ful tite, And all forgiues þe his wijtte *Ibid* 10021 Þat wrat was tan, And don on rode for our wite 13 *Guy Warw.* (A) 304 He wald anon mone hueel of smite, for that wite 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 89 Of wreche is of wijte Ther is algate founde a wyte c 1410 HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2520 Pat hab ] do þe pres pase, or the wyte

**4** *attrib* and *Comb*, as (sense 1 b) *wite exacting*, *free wite*
1897 MAITLAND *Domesday Bk & Beyond* 87 A Writ ever which a lord has a *wite-exacting power 1905 *Rot Chart* (1837) 153/8 Wreche et *witesti et lestagesti 1078 (see LOCE COE) 1901 *Law Mag. & Rev.* 1 Ser. XXVI. 1 Infangthef, Outhef, Hot ue *Wite or Hi s free, one of the items of Priviledge granted to our Portmen

**Wite, wyte** (wait), *v.*¹ *Obs. exc. Sc* and *north dial* Forms: 1 witan, 2–4 witen, 2–7 wite, 3–5 (4 orch.) wyten, 4–7, 9 *Sc* wyte (3 hwite, 4 wyte, *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wyte, wyt(e), 4–6 wit, 4, 7 white, 4–8 chiefly *Sc* wyt, 5 wyit, wyite, wijte, wyet, wyth, 6 wiht, *Sc* wyit, wyit, wyit, 7 *Sc. pa. t* wate). [OE. *witan*, pa. t. **wād*, *witon* (superseded by weak inflexions in MI.), also *ni witan* (*-wād*, *-witon*, pa pple. *-witen*, ME pa t *atwiste*, pa. pple. *atwist*) ATWITE *v.*¹, *etwitian* (pa. pl. *witon*, and wk. *-witte*, Vesp Ps.) EDWITE *v.* = OS. *witan*, MLG., MD. *witen* (Du. *weten*), OHG *wîzan* (MHG. *wîzen*, *c. verwoussen* to reproach), Goth. *-waitan* in *fraweitan* to avenge: f. Tent. *wit-*. see WITE *v.*¹ The sense-development

is paralleled in L.' *animadverteres* to observe, consider, censure, blame, punish.]

1. *trans.* To impute the guilt or lay the blame of (something) to or upon a person (his action, conduct, or character) or a thing, condition, or event (orig. dat., later also with *to*, *on*, *upon*).

*Beowulf* 2741 For ðam ne witan ne scearf waldend fira mordorbeda mæsa. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* vi. iv, Romane witan Claudiuse þone hunger. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Sif þu witest eni þing þinne sunne luste þi ualuen, þu ne schrituest þe nout. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1249 Schal he his mishap wite me? 13.. *K. Alis.* 1703 Þou konst no gode; Y wyt hit all thy yonge blode. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 369 Her sorwen and her care þei wiit þei fole. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 456 Alas Fortune.. Thy slye wheel my wo al may I wyte. — *Miller's Prol.* 32 If that I mysspeke or seye Wyte it the Ale of Southwerk. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1872) 134 His wo Y wyte hit sinne. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2016, I may wit it be, þat I have lost my slyte. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M) 2893 Thou shuldiste on me be wrecke And not wite on hym the gilte. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 35 Y wyte my silf myne owne woo! *c* 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 148 White thi owne falenes alle thi mon-scharne. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xx, 51 This felonnye that this fewe dyde was wyted alle the hoost. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 308 It shal not be wyted me to haue a brother of my moder. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xii. 20 *Fo.* ye of after the miseries which he abydeth are wyted vppon his owne fault. 1587 — *De Mornay* xii. (1590) 181 They..reteine the faultines of that first fault, and cannot wit it vpon any other than the first Father. 1808 Scott *Lay of Lairds* xxx. 268 He wyted it a'on the liberty and equality speerit o' the times.

†b. To impute as guilt; also in neutral sense: To impute. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Judges* iv. 9 In this while victory shal not be witid to thee [Vulg. *non reputabitur tibi*] 1382 — *Rom.* v. 13 Synne was not wytid, [*gloss*] or reckid, whanne lawe was not. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 180 Wyte thou no wyteyng of Werkys wast, She hase consauyd the holy gast. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Playne Expos. Com. Crede* 31 b, Vnto it is to be wished or imputed what so euer thynge..hathe ben done.. vertuously.

2. To impute the guilt or fault to, blame (a person).

*a* 1000 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Proem, Þæt he..him nie nan wite sið he hit rihtlicor ongite ponne he mihte. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 He [*sc.* Christ] setteð þe synfullæ on his liffhalf, and witeð hem þat hie hi here lif daȝnes ne wolden him gueman. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17445 If we man yow wite, Wyte me nogiht, and mak yow quite. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 619 Pe porter gan him wite And seyd: — Cherl! go away'. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 913 And thoghte þat I hir first hadde, myne ye nogiht, and mak yow quite. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xvii. 119 And þou be lost, whom wiltow wyte? *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. 5 The errours..bi which he blamed & witid hem self. 1530 Palsgr. 738/2 I wyte you me, and I am nat to blame. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. xii. 16 Scoffing at him, that did her iustly wite. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 13 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our Vote. 1726 Scott *Dr. Prov.* 357 Wite your self if your Wife be with Bairn. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, It waana my fait: he canna wyte me. 1826 Galt *Last of Lairds* xviii. 162 She had got an injury and wyted me. *absol.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 69 Zuo hit is huanne god his..chasteþ, and maugre hy wyteþ. *c* 1430 *Chron. Assigne* 136 Hoche mone was therfore but no mayes moste.

†b. Const. obj. and inf. (see To *prep.* B. 8): To blame a person for doing so-and-so. *Obs.*

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. iv. 155 Wijting..vsers of ymagis to be gilti of vntrewe feiþ. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxiv. 29 Quha sould thame wyte To seruse thair beistlie lust? *c* 1580 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xl. 51 To lufe your ladeis quho can wyt 30w? *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 739 Quhat tyme he wyitt Will To be maist cause of his mischeif.

c. Const. *of*, later *for*, *with*, that in respect of which blame is incurred.

*c* 1290 *Beket* 2087 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 166 Non oþur gult nis þet he ȝe witer me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17272 He ȝe maist plight was wijt [*Gött.* witt]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 501 Wyte not me for be werk bat I hit wolde help. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 21 Ne nas no lacke with wicke hir myght her wite. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 57 None shal wyte me therof. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 90 Lat vss nocht weit the deuill, ȝe and vthiremis quhilk cumis in vss. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* ix. 29–26 Nothyng had Pharao to wyte God withall. *c* 1550 Rolland *Crt. Venus* Prol. 29 Thow wait it is fals destinie And wyitis Fortoun of thair misgouernance. 17.. *Gil Morrice* xxv. in Child *Ballads* II. 273 Neir wyte a man for violence That neir wate ye wi' nane. 1816 Scott *St. Dunst.* iv, A' the wrang he can wyte me wi'.

3. To lay the fault or blame upon (a thing). †Also with const. as in 2 c.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27769 He wites werd [*MS.* wend] and werris his time. *c* 1320 Sir Seth. *Wagst.* 2504 Alasse, my wyckydnesse, that may I wyte! 1548 Lindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Prol. 22 So vnte Gods worde and the true preachers of all the mischeues which lyeing doctrine is the very cause of. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 84 Allace, I wyit nocht quha fayr ene. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 57 Albe he earst did wyte His wauering mind. *a* 1598 D. Ferguson *Sent. Pron.* (S.T.S.) 12 All thing wytes that vnhappie falles. 1603 *Philotus* clxx, Wyte ignorance that I did not invent.

4. *To wite* was freq. used predicatively in senses 2 and 3 = to blame, blameworthy, in fault, culpable.

*a* 1300 *Florix & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 223 Of al þis gilt he am to wite. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 76 More to wyte is her wrange, þen any wylle gentyl. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 116 His fol, how thou art forto wyte. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 876 (Trin.) Pat þou hast þus don þis mis þi seluen is to wite [*Cott.* biself þou wite þi wa]. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 134 O fals Cupide, is nane to wyte bot thow.



Hence **Wi·ter**, **Wi·ting** *vbl. sb.*1

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. ii. 143 Alle such ouerhastie iugers and wijters God amende. *Ibid.* ii. iv. 155 Thilk doom and thilk wijting. 1825 Jamieson, *Writer*, one who blames another, Clydesd.

†**Wite**, *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 1 witan, 2–4 wite (3 witte, *imper.* wit), 3–4 wyte (4 white); *pres.* 3*rd sing.* 2–3 wit; 3 wat, wot; *pa. t.* 2–4 wiste, 3–4 wuste (4 wist, wust, weste); *pa. pple.* 3–4 wust, 4 iwist. [OE. *witan*, usually in compound *forwitan* (pres. *-wāt*), pa. t. *-wiste*.] Bwitt = 1 cf. OFris. *wita*, OHG. *wizzên* in *giwizzên*, *irwizzên* to be observant, watch, Goth. *witan* (pa. t. *witada*): f. Teut. *wit-*: see Wit *v.*1 In ME. dialects where the inf. ending *-ie(n* is not preserved, this verb is indistinguishable from Wite *v.*2 Some ME. forms point to OE. *witan*.]

1. *trans.* To keep, keep safe, guard, preserve, defend. Also *refl.*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 154 Þæt biȝ god swefen, wite þu þæt xeorne on þinre heortan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 (He) wrohte him to an hors house, and bitahte hine þe hors horde to witene. *Ibid.* 85 Maiden þet hire meiden-hat wit. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 84 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 165 He wit and waldeð alle þing. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Witeð wel hwat þu hauest. *Ibid.* 91 Witeð... wittende here orel. *Ibid.* 97 To witen him of alle fleslihe lusten. *c* 1205 Lay. 21302 Nu him is al swa þere gat her þe þene hul wat [*c* 1275 wot]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 18 Seȝ ha wit hire wiffate bruche. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 128 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Yf we vs wyteþ from heuedsunne. *a* 1300 *X Commandm.* 34 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 26 Wit he fram lichere. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 756 His ensin whan þu hit wite, þe beter it wile þee help þat wite. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 168 Two lawen Adam scholde i-wis Witen and holden in paradis. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 61 Hote þei witen hem wantoneses, wiþ þat þei ben ȝonge. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 255 Lay þou þi fet to my pappe, And wite þe from pe colde. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 92 Voyding slaundre, wyte the of gelousye. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 546 This wol from the weuel wite hem well.

Illustration of pa. t. and pa. pple.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 An melden ..þet wel wiste hire licome in alle clenease. *c* 1205 Lay. 1693 Frutus..hine wel wuste. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 48 Wite wel þine heorte, uor soule lif is in heorte. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 17 *Alle þinge* wisten þat þeh ben ȝonge. *a* 1300 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 ff. 32 That cumiche contreie..ben so i wuste þat [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 172 Þe wist it as wel or bet as sif it were hire owne.

2. Const. clause: To take care, see (*that*).

*a* 1000 *Sec. Lunæ Cunut* lxxv, Wite se oðer..þæt he hit bete. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 298 Witen Spirit þin þeawas ne losige. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Wite se þet ȝe ȝemen þenne halle sunnedei. *Ibid.* 53 Witeð eow þet ȝe ne been þeoste þan nedlike.

3. To see, observe. Also *intr.* to look *on*.

*c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1256 Hose wi þe sweord smite, Two kuynden he miȝte sen and wite (*v.r.* smite). *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15860 Pat non ne scholde hem ne ne wite [*rime* lite]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 2050 Pe wyȝe wynnes hym to, & wytez on his lyre.

Hence + **Witing** *vbl. sb.*2, keeping, custody.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Of swuche witunge is þkunem muchel vuel.

†**Wite**, *v.*3 *Obs.* Forms: 1 witan, 2–5 wite, 4 wit(t, 4–5 wyte, 5 witte. *Pa. t.* 3 wot, 4–5 wat; 4 wited, 5 wyted, wit. *Pa. pple.* 3 *Orm.* witenn, 4 wite. [OE. *witan* (rare), usually *gewitan*, pa. t. *-wāt*, pa. pple. *-witen*.] *intr.* To go, go *away*, depart; to perish, vanish *away*.

*a* 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* xxiv. 52 Nylle ic æfre hionan ut witan, ne æfre hionan wic. *c* 1000 *Orm* 2120 Affterr þatt Herode king Wass witenn ut off life. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 Alsuo he wuste ase þa weorlde and seft þerof wot. *Ibid.* 123 Hider he cumeð on wowe and heðen wit on wowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8068 He wit þis wrang, þe wrang wit he wrang. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1 angel a-wai was wite. *Ibid.* 12262 Þir angels witet þam ewai. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol., All gladnes & delite of erth ..wytes fra þam. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7 Lest ȝe wyte. *Chaucer* (*Tanitol* 229 As a reke away he wat. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 708, I may noghte wit of this woo. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud MS.) 5 Quhen his wes maid he wit away. *c* 1425 *Chron. Kendal* 229 *Prose Life Alex.* 90 Bi þe son settynge þay wyted a-way in-to þe erthe agayne. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* cxii. 1183 Quhen his wes maid he wit away. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 514/2 Whenne a tree rote ete dede The leues fadis hoos & wytis a-weye. *c* 1480 Henryson in *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 65 (S.T.S.) 56 Fall of ȝe sense thir emotis in ane hillok ay Quhilk nocht befor him saw: with hill wer þai wit away.

**Wite**, obs. f. Wight, Wit *v.*1 **Wite3e**, var. Witie. **Witel**, obs. f. Whittle *sb.*1

†**Wi·teless**, *a. Sr.* (and *north.*) ? *Obs.* [f. Wite *sb.*2 + -less.] Blameless.

1560 Rolland *Seven Sagez* (Bann. Club) 18 Scho was wyteless, howbeit storme thame oppone. *c* 1575 *Diverse Doctor.* (Bann. Club) 240 Wyteles of the halding thairof. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 136 Ne can Willye wite the witeless herdgroome. 1627 in A. I. Ritchie *Churches St. Buldred* (1880) 162 Alexander Daviesone did draw his quhinger also, and so sukil not be altogidder wyteless. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 202 If all be well, I'le be wyteless. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 102 They wyte you and you not wyteless.

†**Wi·ten**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 witten. [f. Wite *v.*1 + -en 5.] *trans.* a. To impute. b. To blame. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3462 But bail williams wolues bete wittened it alle. 1589 Perle *Eph. Grat.* B j, Least worthily, I mought witned bee.

**Witenagemot** (witˈnăgēmōt, *popularly* witēnəˈgōmət). *Hist.* Also 3 witene ȝmot; 6 wytena gemote, 7 weidenagamoot, 7–9 witena-gemot(e, (9 witana-). [OE. *witena gemōt* assembly of wise men: see Witan, Wite *sb.*1, and Gemot(e, Moot *sb.*1] The assembly of the Witan, the national council of Anglo-Saxon times; *transf.* of modern parliaments or other deliberative assemblies.

[*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iii. v, On ȝemotе hiorn witena.] *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* viii. (Z.) 30 *Hæc tinodus*, þis witena ȝemot. 1030 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Þa hafde Eadward cing witena ȝemot on Lunden to midlenten. *c* 1205 Lay. 21545 Pet hustinge was god, hit wes witene-imot.

1592 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 251 The word Witena.. doth include the Nobilitie and Commons, because they be Counsellors of the Realme,..in respect whereof the assembling of them, was of some called Witena Gemote. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 226 Their Witenagemots or Mixt Synods. 1656 Harrington *Oceana* 35 *marg.*, Weidenagamoots. 1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 181 The Witenagemote and great Councel of our wisdom, in the preamble to the Statute of 43 Eliz. c. 12. acknowledgeth it to have been the policy of this Realm. 1676 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 405 The witenagemote or *commune concilium* of the antient Germans. 1785 Cowper *Let. to J. Hill* 29 Jan., Shall I deem no other advantage from the great Witena-Gemot of the nation, than merely to make their debates? 1823 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 348 Having occasion to write to Sir T. Acland while he is attending the Witenagemot at Cambridge, I sent him a few lines for the occasion. 1895 Browning *Old Pict. in Florence* xxviii, A kind of sober Witana-gemot [*prime* bag 'em hot]. 1899 Sir M. Foster *Introd. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 22 The first select Witenagemote of the science of the world.

**Witenonfa**, var. Wedenonfa'. *Obs.*

**Witer** : see after Wite *v.*1; var. Witter.

**Witereden**. *Hist.* Also *corruptly* wiiter-, wynter-, wit(t)erden(e, witeredden. [OE. *witeræden* (used in *Beda's Hist.* iii. viii. in the gen. sense of punishment), f. *wite* Wite *sb.*2 + *-ræden* -red.] A fine (erron. explained by antiquaries as a royal imposition or aid).

688–93 *Laws Ine* § 50 Nah he þær nane witereddenne. 855 (MS. 12th cent.) *Grant of Ethelwulf* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 84 Ut sit tuta..ab omnibus secularibus seruitutibus, necnon regalibus tributis majoribus et minoribus, exe tantionibus quod nos dicimus Witereden [*v.r.* Winterden, Witereddden].

1610 Elmbridge *Civil Right of Tythes* 73 [transl. quot. 855] No secular service, nor tributes..nor Witereddenne (for Witterdene, a kind of imposition). 1672 *Cowel's Interpr., Witereden*, a kind of Tribute among the Ancient Saxons. 1720 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* iv. 177 *note*, Written variously Witerden, Wynterden and Witereddden. It was a Tax or Royal aid. 1862 Bland *Title Deeds Ch. Eng.* 19 *note*, [comment on prec.].

**Witesafe**, obs. form of Voucbsafe.

**Witeson**'e, etc., obs. forms of Whitsun.

**Wit-ess**. *nonce-wd.* [f. Wit *sb.* + -ess.] A female wit.

1784 Hor. More in *Mem.* (1833) I. 206 All the pride of London,—every wit, and every wit-ess.

**Witeword**, var. Witword.

**Witful** (wi·tfūl), *a.* [In ME. aphetic for **witful*, OE. **gewitful*, inferred from *ungewitfull* (f. *ungewitt* madness, folly); in mod.E. a new formation on Wit *sb.* and -ful.]

†1. Wise, sagacious. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 911 Membricius..wes..wys & witful. *Ibid.* 9095 Þurh his wit-fulne craftе. 1340 *Ayenb.* 150 He makeþ man wytuol and wys. 1548 Patrick *tr. Pontifical Pompeii Wart.* (1888) 1 Gyff, A witfull capitayne will sende some of hys souldyours that be subtyle & wytyes, to..tempt the mynde of his enemies. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. (1592) 58 That is the marke of the wise witfull action, (that is to say, of the euerlasting word or conceit whereby God made them).

1614 Chapman *Masque Inns of Court* Co, 'Tis passing miraculous, that your dul and blind worship should so sodainly turne both sightfull, and witfull.

2. Full of wit (in modern senses). *rare.*

1765 J. Brown *Char. Times, Summer Day* 174 The poems of Lady Mason, witful Corinna, and Pope. 1872 *Daily News* 31 July, M. Thiers' utterances snap with witful shrewdness.

**Wit-ful** (wi·t), *sb.* Also 8 wyth, width, wieth, 8– withe. [? Corruption of Withe.] A partition between flues in a chimney stack: locally termed *mid-feather*.

1708 *Act 7 Anne* c. 17 § 10 All Withs the Inside of such Chimnies shall be Four Inches and an Half in Breadth. 1717 V. Mansdey *Mellifician Monuments* (1727) 382 The Breasts and Wings, and Wieths [of the chimneys]. 1734 *Builder's Dict.* s.v. *Chimney*, If they [sc. the Chimney-Shafts] be wrought into more Inches thick, .. then you must account your Thickness one Brick and half, in consideration of Wyths and Pargetting, and Trouble in Scaffolding. 1736 R. Neve *Builder's Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Chimney*, In Consideration of the Withs, Pargetting, and Scaffolding. 1748 B. Langley *Lond. Prices* 227 The Widths of Chimneys. 1844 *Act 7 & 8 Vict.* c. 84 Sched. (F) The Breast of every Chimney, and the Front, Back, Withs, or Partition of every Flue, must be at the least Four Inches in Thickness of sound Bricks. 1903 *Pract. Brickwork* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) xii. 100 It will be necessary to tie in the withs on the stretching course.

**With** (wiθ; *chiefly north.* wiþ), *prep.*, (*adv.*, *conj.*). Forms: 1–3 wiþ, 1–5 wip, 3–5 wyþ, wit, wid, 4–5 wyt, 4–6 wyth(e, withe, (3 wyd, wis, with', *Orm.* wipp, 3–5 with, 4 wiit, wiȝth, wyht, wyȝt, whip, *Sc.* vith, 4–5 whit, 5 wyt(ȝ)he,

**wbyt(h, whith, wiɜ, wɔ̈, *Sc.* wygh(e, wyghte, wycht, 6 wight, withte, *Sc.* vitht, quhit, wuthit, 7–9 *n. dial.* wud, 8–9 *Sc.* and *n. dial.* wi', 9 *dial.* wiv, way), 2– with ; *abbreviated* 4–7 w$^{t}$, 5–7 w$^{th}$ (6 wth). [OE. *wiþ* = OFris. *with*, OS. *wiđ*, ON. *við* (Sw. *vid*, Da. *ved*) : app. a shortening (peculiar to the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian areas) of the Com. Teut. **undert.* (see s.v. WITHIN *a.* and *adv.* and WITHER-), perh. taking place orig. in compounds (cf. WITH- and the parallelism of OE. *wiþcuman* and *wiþercuman* to reject, *wiþstandan* and *wiþerstandan* to withstand, etc.).

As an adv., *with* occurs as the second element in composition with other advs. denoting direction, motion, or extension : FORWITH (FOROUTH, FORNOW), FORTHWITH, INWITH, OUTWITH (OUTOUTH), DOWNWITH, UPWITH.]

The prevailing senses of this prep. in the earliest periods are those of opposition (‘against’) and of motion or rest in proximity (‘towards’, ‘alongside’), which are now current only in certain traditional collocations or specific applications. These notions readily pass into fig. uses denoting various kinds of relations, among which those implying reciprocity are at first prominent. The most remarkable development in the signification of *with* consists in its having taken over in the M.E. period the chief senses belonging properly to OE. *mid* MID *prep.*$^{1}$ (cognate with Gr. *μετά* with). These senses are mainly those denoting association, combination or union, instrumentality or means, and attendant circumstance. These are all important senses of ON. *við*, to which fact their currency and ultimate predominance in the English word are partly due. The last important stage was the extension of *with* from the instrument to the agent, in which use it was current for different periods along with *of* and *through*, and later with *by*, which finally superseded the other three. The range of meanings in general has no doubt been enlarged by association with L. *cum*. The interaction of senses and sense-groups has been such that the position of a particular sense in the order of development is often difficult to determine.

In common with other preps. *with* can be postponed to the end of an interrogative or relative clause introduced by its regimen ; but in ME. it was freq. placed immediately after the verb in relative clauses, *e.g.* *þes rentis þat þe fend hab dowed *with* clerkis = these revenues with which the Devil has endowed clerics. In postposition it was for a long period extensively replaced by WITHAL (q.v. B).

**I.** Denoting opposition and derived notions (separation ; motion towards).

**†1.** In a position opposite to ; over against : = AGAINST 1. Chiefly in advb. phrases with repeated sb., as *face with face*, where *to* is now used.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* I. i. § 31 Be norðan is se ea, be oxfer is ge nearu ge breoh, wið Italia þam lande. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 41 Sette se hælend wið..ðæs dores. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Lamb. Hom.* 61 Cristes wille bo us bitwon neb wið neb for him to son. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 His wise wordes þe we wið lam spec mub wið..mube. *c* 1205 LAY. 1874 Bresste wið bresste baene þer crakeden. *a* 1250 [see FACE 2b. 2d].

**b.** In exchange, return, or payment for : = AGAINST 14, FOR 6. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

The related senses ‘in compensation for’, ‘in comparison with’ are only OE.

*c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* IV. xiii. § 1 Hit Scipia nolde him aliesan wið nanum oprum þinge butan him him ealle hiera wæpnan ætsæfen. 993 *Battle Maldon* 33 We willað wið þam golde grið festnian. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Exod.* xxi. 24 Eaze wið eazan, top wið tob. 1440 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. Acta* 18/1 The landis of Pettendreich, the quhilkis was changeit with the landis of Dunottir. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 27 If the childe misse, either in forgetting a worde, or in changyng a worde with a worse. 1590 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 63 Rec. at the chaunge of the cupp with the chalices wt$^{t}$. lij$^{s}$. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to M. Dalmaf* 7 Sept. (1637) 165 We might barter or niffer our lazie ease with a profitable cross.

**2.** Of conflict, antagonism, dispute, injury, reproof, competition, rivalry, and the like : In opposition to, adversely to : = AGAINST 12, 12 b, 12 d.

Still the normal prep. with such words as *battle, chide, compete, conflict, contend, dispute, fight, quarrel, strive, struggle, vie, war*, and phrases like *ge to law, at odds*, but now associated with or merged in 8, 13 b, or 20.

*Beowulf* 152 Grendel wan hwile wið Hroþgar. *c* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 836 Hie wið Godes bearne wið ahofun. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 853 (Parker MS.) Ealhere mid Canterwarum, & Huda mid Suprigium gefuhton on Tenet wiþ hæþenum herige. *a* 1000 *Cmonic Verses* II. 187 Werig sceale wið winde rowep. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Þet he ne misdude wið oderne. *Ibid.* 129 Of þan icompe þe ure drihten hefde wið þene feond. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16981 Siff þa mihhtenn witenn lit þatt haffdenn nib wiþþ Cristе. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 57 He praied him for his nauy to help him with numm. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 124 His knight askid hym if he kend oght with hym selfe. 1590 [see CONFLICT *sb.* 1]. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. ii, Poore shipskin, how it braules with him that beateth it ! 1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 355 One, Who in Rebellion with himselfe, will have All that are his, so too. 1668 WALTON *Angler* iv. (ed. 4) 66 He [*sc.* the trout] may justly contend with all fresh-water-Fish, as the Mullet may with all Sea-Fish. 1729 DE FOE *Cruzoe* II. (Globe) 357 Let us go and have t'other Brush with them. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 334/1 Let the Boys be set a running, as it were, with one another, in getting without Book. 1891 NEWMAN *Pros. Pos. Catth.* vi. § 7 Invention cannot run with prejudice. Prejudice wins. 1909 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 128 Amazons at handgrips with a long-suffering police.

**†3.** Of resistance, defence, protection, warning, caution : = AGAINST 13, 13 b. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 540 Wit unc wið hronflaes werian þohton. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Þa woldan hie on ecnesse hælе & trume wið deoflа mipum & wið helle witum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Wiþ bryne xentia finules nipewearde. *c* 1200 *Holy Rood Prayer* in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 62 Þæt hy us gehealdon & gescyldon wið ealra feonda costnunga. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þe feder and be sune and þe halie gast iscilde us..wið alle sunnen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 Hu se schulen witen on wið þen deofles wiele. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 826 Þe seue berbinne schulen..wiþþ þis Castel so wel wiþ arwe and wiþ qwarel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Symon & Judas*) 203 For þat þu suld mar vnwar be Vith þi fais.

**†4.** Of separation or deliverance : = FROM 6, 6 b. *Obs.* (See also 19 c.)

*Beowulf* 2418 Hafað wuldres waldan lif wið lice. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 197 Þa zesundrode sixtra waldend..leobt wið þeostrum, sceade wið sciman. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 610 Me is lof to cristes house To clansi hit wiþ fule muse.

**5.** = To, towards, in the direction of ; = AGAINST 5. (Only LAY.) *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 213 Streamas wundon sund wið sande. *Ibid.* 2880 Ac him on hrepre hyrzebendum fæst aefter deormum men wyrme hord ontyned wið hyra bonan. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 891 (Parker MS.), Þa wende he hine west wið Exanceastre. *a* 1000 *Riddles* ix. 42 Ponne scearp cymeð sceo wip ofrum, ecg wið ecge. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxvi. 204 Sum wergferend..nam ferde wið þone feld.

**b.** Near or close to, against, alongside. Now only *Naut.* with words denoting proximity and consequently belonging more properly to 18.

*Beowulf* 326 Setton..rondas regnheardе wiþ þaes reodes weal. *Ibid.* 1456 Sceal gestod wið stapan stanbeorh winia bealdor. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.), Æt Aire, & þæt is wið Æbelingga eize. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 5 Sum hreop wið weze. Sum feoll wið þornes hreg. *a* 1250 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 447/25 *Murotenus*, wið done weall. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 113 Bischop Bawdewyn bibi bi-gines þe bayle, & þe burȝ wyth hym wonnen, eche wy bi-syde. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 72 Than go your cours with the horse shoo south southwest. *Ibid.* 13 Fro Seint Margrez steyres and ye wil go with Dongeyne, your best way is south south west. 1577–83 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 10 By force of weather driven with the coast of Sicile. 1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Rev.* (Arb.) 64 A fourth ranne her selfe with the shore to saue her men. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1133 An houre after Sunne rising, we were with a very long and faire point. 1708– [see *h adv.* 9 b]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 180 One of our prizes was ordered to lie inland close in with it [*sc.* the land]. 1788 J. WHITE *Trnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 108 As we run in with the land,..we were surprized to see..some small patches of snow. 1849 O'BRIEN *Naval Biogr. Dict.* 661/2 At the cutting out, close in with the enemy's batteries of *La Gnêpe* privateer. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, A man..saw..some dark troubled object close in with the land.

**c.** Into the presence or immediate proximity of (and in derived fig. uses) : following such verbs as *encounter, fall in, meet*, etc., q.v. (Now associated with 19.)

**†6.** Governing a demonstrative pronoun, forming conjunctive phrases : *with than (the, that), with thi, with thi (that), wiþi, wyþy*, rarely *with this (that)* [see THAN *adv.* 3, THY, *comp.* 1 c, THY *adv.*] : 8. On condition that, provided that, if.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xii. 278 Nolde he syllan ealle his zehta þeah þe he weligi wære, wið þan þe he libban moste. *a* 1200 *Ancr. R.* 152 Wið þe *Ic. Hom.* I. 11 Þurh þe wilnin he her inne wawe and þeo wene wunien. Wið þet he mihte helle pine bi-dienn. *c* 1205 LAY. 8253 Al þine wille he wule don, wið þon þe he him þeue grið. *a* 1300 *Sirie* 192 Ich wile seye þe sumwat þerof, wiþ þat þou me wille stille. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 284 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 29 Grete bewtes to him he bed..Wibi he wold dwell with him still. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 530, I shal..yeue þe al þe lond þat I haue *comp.* 1 c, THY *adv.*] : 8. On condition that, provided that, if.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xii. 278 Nolde he syllan ealle his zehta þeah þe he weligi wære, wið þan þe he libban moste. *a* 1200 *Ancr. R.* 152 Wið þe *Ic. Hom.* I. 11 Þurh þe wilnin he her inne wawe and þeo wene wunien. Wið þet he mihte helle pine bi-dienn. *c* 1205 LAY. 8253 Al þine wille he wule don, wið þon þe he him þeue grið. *a* 1300 *Sirie* 192 Ich wile seye þe sumwat þerof, wiþ þat þou me wille stille. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 530, I shal..yeue þe al þe lond þat I haue take. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 403 With-thi se giff me all the land, That ȝe haif now in-till your hand. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3072 To-ward me ȝe wil be kynde, Wiþthi I wil be ȝoure frende. I wil ȝow save condit. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 100, I wolde he had it for vij. yeer, with thys that my moodre be agreable to the same. 1497 *Somerset Wills, Wells* (1901) 153, I will that Isabell my doughter, shal haue all such stuffe [etc.] whil that she marie by thaduyce of my executours. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 960, I grant your leif, withthy Your name to me that ȝe wil specifie. *c* 1500 *Orpheo & Ht.* v. in Child *Ballads* II. 478 Haue ye thys, my dere swetyng, With that ye wylle lemman myn.

**†b.** With the intention that, in order that, to the end that. *Obs.*

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxviii. § 9 He..forlæt mænigne weoruldlust wið þæm þe he þone welan begeate & geheealde. *Ibid.* xl. § 5 Me were leofre þæt ic oneite wið þam þæt ic þe mone geleasian þæt ic þe me zehet. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 5 Þe lifiade of a meiden þat is of latin iturnd to englische leode, wið þon þat teos hali leafdi in heouene luuie us þe mare.

**II.** Denoting personal relation, agreement, association, connexion, union, addition.

* Senses denoting primarily activity towards or influence upon a person or thing.

**7.** After words denoting speech or other verbal communication between persons (with the person as obj.) ; properly of mutual communication, but formerly sometimes merely = *to*, as in quot. 1480.

*Beowulf* 363 Hy benan synt þæt hie..wið þe moton wordum wrixlan. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl. 12 Ne hafaš hio for me folm,..ne mub hafaþ ne wiþ monnum spræc. *c* 1205 LAY. 14069 He wolde wiþ þan kinge holden runinge. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 123 Vbiui spek þe wyht And do þe to holde grybt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib. Prose* I. prey yow lat me speke Wyth youre Aduersaries in prines place. *c* 1400 *Prose Life Alex.* 14 He went..for to consaile wit a good pat pay called Amon. 1470–1560 [see QUESTION *sb.* 2]. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 106 Scho said nay, With men pat wald hir wed. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 15 Sum with his fallow rownis. 1555– [see CONFERENCE 4]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 930 White handed Mistris, one sweet word with thee. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 16 Give me leave to be ingenuous with your Honour, that manufacture growes worse daylie. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, I had much discourse with his Lordship. 1733–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 109 But, unstaunchable, as the event shewed, Father Marescotti, being talked with, was earnest to be allowed to visit her. 1884 CONWAY *Bound Together* I. 181 For many years Mrs. Blatchford had held little communication with her family.

**b.** Followed by refl. pron., in reference to soliloquy, consideration, determination, etc. *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 514/3 When I determyne with my selfe to do anything. 1593 [see WHICH *pron.* 1 b]. 1594 *Locrine* III. *Chorus*, *Tenvi* I 80 Sayst thou with thy selfe. 1680 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 443 Because you are braue, disdaine not those that are base, thinke with your selues that russet coates haue their Christendome. *c* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* iv. iii, Remember with your selues. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 201, I imagin'd with my self, that, we might multiply..the very same curious Plants. 1741 *Watts Improvem. Mind* I. § 8 (1780) 5 Think seriously with yourselves how many follies and sorrows you had escaped.

**†c.** After *communicate, impart* (information), orig. = ‘share’ (cf. 20). *Obs.* (now replaced by *to*).

1529, 1704 [see COMMUNICATE v. 2]. 1571 [see IMPART v. 2]. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 4 More readie..to impart your experiments with me. 1623 INGHAM *Xenophon* 65 He..communicated his dream with him.

**8.** a. After words expressing transaction or dealing between persons (with the person as obj.).

*Beowulf* 155 Grendel..sibbe ne wolde wið manna hwone wæpnum gedælan. *c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* III. iv. 6 Þar hæmen þe Perse friþ zenaman wið Romanum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5848 (Göll.) Wil þe eldest folk of israel Wid pharao pai went to dele. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 125 (MS.) Þat he wip pi Horsten. *Attengl. Leg.* (1881) 177 Ich..chaungid..his riche wede Wip a beggar. *a* 1400–50 [see COVENANT *sb.* 2 7]. *c* 1450– [see TREATY *sb.* 3]. 1481 *Coly Cheses* (Camden) 72 Yeschall receyve..a yer[e]s rent of felles wich we accorded for iij felles with the costomer. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i, 3 What's your will with me ? 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to A. Cobvill* 19 Feb. (1650) 129 I..neither have nor can bend wit it [*sc.* this world]. 1659 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1900) Apr. 259, I will keepe my dayes with you as long as I am able. 1661 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends' Ser.* II. (1911) 139 Such of his Maiesties freindes as cure had occasion with me. 1780 *Mirror* No. 110 P 2 To do justice to those with whom they have had dealings. 1838 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* xl. V. 115 To give audience to all who had business to transact with him. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 During Edward's wars our commerce with France was wholly broken off.

**b.** After words expressing conduct or feeling towards (a person, etc.).

In some cases now replaced by other prepositions, e.g. envious *of*. In expressions of hostile action or feeling, this coincides with 2.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* vii. § 3 Hwi murcnast ðu wið min? *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xli. 49 Hwi ofstest ðu swa wið me? *c* 1378 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Þif hwa swikde þe wule wið þine eordliche luuerd. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 216 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 173 Ac helle king is are-les wið þe þe mei binden. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 62 Ich wot pou pas wrop wif me nart hom pat ne mupe from pe schilde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1205 Godrich, wat is þe þat þou fare þus with me ? *c* 1400 *Rowl.* 1. 18 Cornell his eldest doughter..was so displeased wip him and wip his peple. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxvii. 457 Thenne was kyng Arthur wroth with kynge Marke. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xviii. 29 Haue patience wt$^{h}$ me & I will paye the all. 1577– in love with [see LOVE *sb.* 7 d]. 1599 H. JOHSON *Eu. Man out of Hum.* II. vi, I am come to haue you play the Alchymist with me. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 160 Be opposite with a kinsman, surly with seruants. 1611 *Acts Jul. C.* III. i. 255 O pardon me...That I am meeke and gentle with these Butchers. 1656 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechisme*, To ..be in charity with all men. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Easter Even* 3 Be in charity with all men. 1708 Yr solicitor being very rough with ye Corporall, and refusing to pay. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 108 P 3 Out of Pity to the Sex, I shall..be civil to it. 1736– vexed with [see VEX *v.* 4 b]. 1885 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 179, I..lost my temper with him.

**9.** Expressing a general relation to a person or thing, usually as affected in some way by the action, etc. spoken of : In the matter of, in regard to, towards, to, at, upon, about, concerning ; in regard to the condition or fortune of.

Sometimes approaching the instrumental use, 37 *c* (with personal obj.) & b.

*c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xxix. 200 Dam Seowan is to cyðenne Sæt he wiste Sæt he nis freoh wið his hlaford. *c* 1205 LAY. 19057 Þe king hire wende to..& hafde him to done wið leofuest wimonne. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 901 Pan men haueden holpen him doun Wiþ þe birþenn of his crenn. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 741 Y mist ymen þo troiflardes to tollen wiþ þe erbe. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* iv. 8 How it is wib hym, y kan not say. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 2366 (MS. A.) How þat schuld be with dun as Godus wyll wold. 1592 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 164 There was a servant of yours..was myscheveously made away with. 1599 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 111 Let vs pay the time but needfull woe, Since it hath beene

before hand with our greefes. 1595- [see BEFOREHAND 1 c]. 1596- [see BEHIND *adv.* 5 b]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* i. 1. 33 Heauen doth with vs, as we, with Torches doe. 1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* i. iii. You shall finde much with minerallis. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* i. 16 We tooke more God then we knew what to doe with. 1660 SOUTH *Serm., Medit. still.* 52 (1737) IV. 97 With the Rooters and Through-Reformers made clean Work with the Church. *a* 1725 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 537 He told me, it was not decent to be merry with such a matter. 1732- [see MATTER *sb.*1 25 b]. 1753-8 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xv. 216 Things, that we have no business with. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 120 P 5 All these indignities I very patiently put up with. 1799 G. S. CAREY *Balmen* (ed. 2) 159 The walks.. have been taken a great deal of pains with. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Prussian Vase* (1816) I. 211 What do you want with me? 1814 WAVERLEY *Ivanhoe* xvi. 194 The .. Master's hand Was busier with his task. 1816 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 101 His manner is brusque and short, and I got on but little with him. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxviii, He knows how to manage with her. 1823 SOUTHEY *Tenn.* 391 This anxiety with myself. 1824 Brownlow *Pippa Passes* i. 108 God in his heaven—All's right with the world! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, He surpassed Ptolemy with the astrolabe. 1873 H. E. KNOCKS in *Owens Coll. Ess. & Addr.* (1874) 58 Experiments on the properties of vanadium.. made with much larger quantities than it fell to the lot of the Swedish chemist to work with. 1887 LEWIS CARROLL *Game of Logic* iv. 95 She is a little puzzled with doing it, in the way of lessons, with her children. 1902 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Jan. 34/3 Getting through with work as quickly as possible.

(b) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. vi. P 4 Get along with you, and go to bed. 1897 go along with you [see Go v., 72 l].

**b.** After an adv. or phr. with ellipsis of or equivalent to a verb, usually imperative: e. g. *away with it* = 'take it away', *down with it* = 'put or throw it down', etc.

*c* 1377 in *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 718/99, I ou Rede.. þat vch a Mon vp wiþ þe hede, And Mayntene him holye beiȝe and fowe. *c* 1388 in *Wyclif's Set. Wks.* III. 472 Þis proude clerkis schal destroie þe pore. 1477 EARL RIVERS tr. *P. Lett.* III. 199 My charges be greetter than I maye a weye with. 1548 *Inspeximus. Welsey* in Furniv. *Ballads from MSS.* I. 140 Wyth tayle, and wyth tayle, and wyth thy goldyn shone. 1535- [see Down *adv.* 25 b]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W. iv.* ii. 239 Come, to the Forge with it. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* iii. v. 81 Come, to our flocke. 1605 — *Lear* iii. 313 To th' racke with him. 1708 [see In *adv.* 1 c]. 1843 *Blackm. Mag.* LIV. 75 To the foul fiend with Rosley Castle!

†**c.** In case of, in the event of. *Obs. rare.*

1624 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1. 1. A good Haunen with all weathers. 1752 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 209, I don't know what we should do with fires; we see the dread of them sufficiently.

**d.** In phr. *with reference, regard, respect to*: see REFERENCE *sb.* 3 b, REGARD *sb.* 13, RESPECT *sb.* 7.

**So** † **with** (now *in*) *comparison to.*

1689 *Hist. Pope's Nephews* (1693) 1. 38 When once he had put on the habit of a Priest, he could hardly..know himself with comparison to what he before.

**10.** In the opinion, view, or estimation of; 'in the sight of'.

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 507 Nu þu, hæfst þe wiȝ driðten dyrne geworhte. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd. Lives* xxvii. 1 Scyldiȝ wiȝ god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9521 He had an anlepe son, þat wit his fader was as wele þat [he] wist his wisdon ilk dele. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 90 He was so gret wyth be Emperour. 1474 *Statutes Pat.* (Cardinal) 1. 251 Remembrynge how gruttely in conscite ye stonde..with a gentylwoman. 1572 *Treat. of Treasons agst. Q. Eliz.* 61 b, To discredite those Noble personns with the people. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 36 To slay men, to inuade the dominions of other people, and to rifle their goods..are with them no offence at all. 1608- go down with [see DOWN *adv.* 38]. 1611 *Bible* 1 Pet. ii. 20 This is acceptable with God. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* Table Gg 2/2 Cycala-Basna..is out of credit with the Gouernour. *c* 1640 BRATHWAIT *Forcers of Conscience* 10 Men whose Life, Learning, Faith and pure intent Would have been held in high esteem with Paul. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 568 Every man was wise as God or Love in 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 338 Most by Numbers judge a Poet's song: And smooth or rough, with them is right or wrong. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xxiv, Juan stood well both with Ins and Outs. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* ad fin., All service is the same with God.

**11.** In the practice or experience of, in the life or conduct of, in (one's) case; sometimes *spec.* in the language or statement of, according to. (With pl. obj. = AMONG A. 8.)

*a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 25 He is coral y-cud with cayser ant knyht. *a* 1338 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 69 Þan with þam was none oper gle. † 1498 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 35 Schewe neuer so ober with vs. 1598 TINDALE *Matth.* xix. 26 With men this is vnpossyble, but with God all thinges are possyble. 1603 SHAKS. *Mach.* v. i. 32 It is an accustom'd action with her, to seeme thus washing her hands. 1613 T. MAYFIELD in *Arch. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) III. 51 Julin the 16, with 9 o clock. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* III. i, 'Tis not with me as with a private Man. 1696 [see WORTH *Intell. Syst.* i. iv. § 32. 316 This notion was so familiar with these Pagans. 1796-7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him', she added. 1841 FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 79 These fits of exultation are not very common with me. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Trevlyn Hold* xii, 'Were the ricks insured?' 'No. There's the smart with Chataway.' 1881 RUSKIN *Fiesole Lect.* 236 With the rough-riding men on both sides of the frontier to meet was to fight. 1909 BYWATER *Aristotle on Art Poetry* 178 HORNER is with him the practical wisdom of the statesman. 1910 BOLLAND *Eyre of Kent* (Selden Soc.) I. Introd. 95 These omissions would be impossible with a copyist who read over what he had copied.

**b.** After words expressing influence or the like: sometimes replaceable by *over* or *upon*.

1578-80 BARET *Alv.* P 596 With whom when she could nothing prevaile. 1632 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 512 His all-potencie with the King. 1712 P. METCALFE *Life S. Winifrids* (1927) 16 He had great Power and Authority with them. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xiii, She has no influence with..my sisters that could be of any use. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 4 Most honest men..would..acknowledge its leading power with them as a motive.

* * Senses relating to agreement (or disagreement) in some respect.

Senses 16 and 18 are closely allied to those ***, involving the idea of proximity or accompaniment in space or time.

**12.** Following words expressing comparison, likeness, equality, or identity.

In some cases varying with or now replaced by *to*, e. g. after *compare, comparison, equal, resemblance* § after *same*, or in more unusual; but *with* is still regular after some derived sbs., as *equality, sameness*, and also after *even* adj., *identical, identity, level* adj., *and* adj., *rank* vb., etc. See the various words.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Hu micle mare is Sonne þæs mounes lichoma to meterne wiþ þæt mod þonne seo mus wiþ Sons mon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3900 Þatt wass inoh all an wiþþ batt batt Godess enngell wærrþde. *Ibid.* 7931 Þeȝre sang iss lic wiþþ wop. 1587 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 295 Of þe same kinde wiþ þe kyngdom of Assiria. 1592 *Herbin* xx. 317 Then bee so fewe that thei may not compare with them. 1613 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 47/1 Wayte [= weigh] the good that he did with the harme that commeth of them. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* ii. 6 Which beynge in the shape off god, thought not it robbery to be equall with god. 1677- [see EQUITABLE 2 c]. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* 24 Feb. (O.H.S.) II. 348 A swivelling Gentleman of not half the sense with the late poor spirited Dick Cromwell. 1836 MACAULAY *Life & Lett.* (1883) I. 256 His style affects me in something the same way with that of Gibbon. 1879 WESTWOOD *Sanskrit Gram.* 337 Some of the apparent roots..with sibilant final are akin with the desideratives. 1882 *Act 45 & 46 Vict.* c. 38 § 1 This Act shall be read as one with the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878.

**13.** Following words expressing agreement, conformity, sympathy, and the like.

*c* 893 ALFRED *Oros.* IV. viii, For þon hie on symbel wiþ Romanum wæron. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxi. 32 þei setiden wiþ hy xefreoþad waare. 1123 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1100 Se arcebiscop[ Turstein..swarb þurh þone papan wiþ Willelme. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xvi. 20 The god of peace bruse sathanede wiþ þe heuenliche fader. 1590 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 At his commandement, With whom myn herte is of accord. 1598 FLORIO *Worlde Dict. Pr.* 8 Ne vn, ne vno, Li, li's Vren haith agreement with the stone Adamas. *c* 1630 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 13 God wiþ man is maade at oone. 1633 JONSON *Tale of a Tub* v. iii, Henrichus Shilyngeros, with whom I vere could sympathise. 1661 STEARNE *Confut.* 111. iii. 48 Haply this life is best..Well correspondent With your stiffe Age. 1692- fall in with [see FALL *v.* 90 b-e]. 1668- [see SYMPATHY 3 b]. 1762 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Biddulph* I. 210 How ill does the vanity of pomp suit with a house of mourning! 1796 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 115 Spain was..on friendly terms with France. 1822 SHELLEY *Rellad* 137 The tiger tames not with the stag at bay Against the hunter. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. 1. 207 He declared his determination to govern in harmony with the Commons. 1913 W. H. HUDSON *Traveller of Old* 158 His heart became ..more..sympathetic with their trials.

**b.** By extension, after words expressing disagreement.

1586 SIR T. HOBBY *Prowne. Epi.* t. viii, 30 It containeth impossibilities and is in euerie circumstance at warre with it selfe. 1598 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* 81 They [sc. the Tories] had only differ'd with the Whigs about the Degree of Oppression. 1792-8 D. TURRELL *Curs. Lit.* (1866) 208 Every edition varies with the preceding one. 1868 CLARENDON *Hist.* III. 1. 1. 1670) 16 Testimony..in no case discordant with that of the Iliad.

**14.** On the side or party of; in favour of; on behalf of; 'for'; opp. to AGAINST 12. (See also 23 c.)

*c* 1200 ORMIN 4675 Swa forwerrpesst tu hin Godd, & haldesst wiþþ batt ahhte. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2308 He swore, Pat he sholde with him halde Hope ageynes atille and bolde. 1598 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 30 He that is not with me, is against me. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1158 Vertu was full heuy, when he ay Frewyll Take part with Vyce. 1478 *Acts Council*, Wks. (1812) 76 Barons and freeholders þat..serve voce with þe said dome. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 238 Nevertheles he came, and leide syde with his broder. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xii. 30 He that is not with me, is against me. *c* 1620 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1158 Vertu was full heuy, when he ay Frewyll Take part with Vyce. 1478 *Acts Council*, Wks. (1812) 76 Barons and freeholders þat..serve voce with þe said dome. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 238 Nevertheles he came, and leide syde with his broder. 1598 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 30 He that is not with me, is against me. 1611 *Bible* 1 Sam. xiv. 4 Certain of the men..were with the Iewes, but certaine with the Apostles. 1660 HOLLAND *Liv* xxix. vi. 713 The citie of Locri..had sided also with the Carthaginians. 1733 [see MOCK *Aī Monday* (1736) 7] When a man comes to be judged; his life..shal give the evidence with, or against him. 1853 CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 July in *Carlyle*, He hath appeared with them. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 827 Jove is with us. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlix. 498 There being with the bill 60, against it 75. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, The soldiers rather laughed at this blade than with him. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Leader* 14 Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us, Burns, Shelley, were with us. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Jan. 5/3 Mr. Gorst, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, has usually voted with M. Clemenceau.

**b.** In reference to wind, tide, etc.: Favourable to, in a favourable direction for.

1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 218 As a Boat that having wind and tide with it runneth glib and merrily down the stream. 1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 378 They had.. the Flood-Tide with them.

**15.** In the same way as; as — does or did, is or was, etc.; like. (Cf. 17.)

*c* 1340 *Medit. in Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 94 So þat þora þi mercī and grace we moun repente of oure..mys-dedis with seint Petir. 1386 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 72 He is Fals with þe Fend. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 12 Of mekenes spekis nan bonet..& nain with hall scriptures: 'Omnis qui se exaltat &c.' 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund & Fremund* 1034-6 In Horstin. *Attengl. Leg.* (1881) 393 He..Hadde with Nestor manly auyȝynesse ;.. Wiþ Tideus he hadde eek hardynesse. 1589 NASHE *Returne Pasquill* Wks. (Grosart) I. 181 A crooked generation, that loues to swym side-long with the Crabbe. 1600 — *Summer's Last Will* Prol. 73 Euery man a Poet, with Archimedes, make a beauen of brasse. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 35 With stonacke full children we bawle for Raules. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 221 P 5, I must carry out with Dido..'Ah! cruel Heaven, that made no Cure for Love!' 1899 BRIDGES *Bards & Rev.* 101 Better to err with Pope, than shine with Pye. 1886 PATER *Æschylus* (ed. 2) 7 *agst. Thebes* 759 *subtly*, Hermann gives *Ἄρειος* with one of the most recent MSS. 1905 CHESTERTON *Heretics* 37 Whether we should love everybody with Tolstoy, or spare nobody with Nietzsche.

**b.** Followed by *the* and a superlative used *absol.*: As well or thoroughly as; (as) one of, 'among'; 'of'; forming adverbial (or † predicative) phrases denoting 'to the full or fullest extent', '(nearly) as — as any or as possible', 'very —', 'highly —': e. g. *with the best* = among the best, as well as any, very well; *with the first*, as one of the first, very early, chiefly, especially (see FIRST 6 c); *with the least* = at the lowest estimate; † *with the most inclined* = highly inclined to, or, *arch.* *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1179 (Harl.) Þou shalt ben wiþ þe vurste. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1636 The king..kep the leuedi with the best. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 281 Why is not he redde with the worthiest? 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxvii. 131 Soo that nyghte they were lodged with the best. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 183, I would have hym [sc. a horse] sumwhat larger, and he shall be with the best. 1513 *Bk. Surrey* in Child, 634 Thyne armure is good and thy sworde is with the best. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 41 b, If ther be anie seruant..whome excellyng vnkyndenesse, 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 51 Who peacods delighteth to haue with the furst, If now he do sowe them, I thinke it not wurst. 1577 HOLOR tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 45 Set to mowe with the formost. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 72 Hee will bee with the first. 1597 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii, A young stripling..that can sleep with the soundest, eate with the hungriest. 1629 GAGE *Trad. Theorist.* 306 Of all the Articles of our Faith and Faith, the Article of Christs Resurrection is with the formost. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 494 There was no way, wherein he did not gain a Victory, but he broke with the weakest. 1826 *Priestley's Rudim.* 55 The preposition *with* is, sometimes used in conversation, to express a degree ..something less than the highest; as, I am not with the widest.' 1892 TENNYSON *Granlin.* 20 At your age, Annie, I could have wept with the best.

**16.** Expressing simultaneous occurrence and association (cf. 25), often also implying causal connexion (cf. 39). **a.** At the same time as; at the time or instant of; on the occurrence of (often with implication 'and because of'); at, on, upon.

(*a*) Followed by a sb. (often qualified).

Before *occasion, opportunity*, now replaced by *on* or (less usually) *at*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10468 (GOTT.) Vpon þat wiȝ hald gan tene. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Laws Arms* (S.T.S.) 145 The payment cessis with the impossibilitee of the service. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 900, I will not keepe thee waiting, to receiue ..tuition to hire a ship,..and with the first occasion to follow her into Sicily. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 273 Nor ends their Work, but with the Night it ceases. 1719 DURFEY *Pills to Purge Melancholy* III. 138 He hath promised to send you a Copy with the first Opportunity. 1748 THOMSON *Castle of Indol.* II. xi, Sometimes with early morning dew bestrewed. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. ii, John..was determining to take possession with the first light of morning. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 157 Browning .. draws nearer to the all-cognizant fashion of the *concetti*, with every poem he writes. 1926 *Times* 15 Mar., With his death, his younger brother..becomes heir to the barony.

(*b*) Followed by a clause introduced by *with that* († *than*), when (and, often, because) that occurred, thereupon; † at that instant, just then (*obs.*); saying or having just said that; *with this*, hereupon. Cf. HEREWITH 2 c, WHEREWITH 4 b.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1409 Laban and his moder wið-ran Faynden wel his sonderne mone. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1943 Wit þis [*Trin.* Here afftir] was born an hali child, Seth pat meke was and mild. *Ibid.* 3368 And þof sco scamful was, I-wiss, Sco tint ne contenance wit þis. 1579 BARNABY *Bright Ref.* 168 Syne..[The] myddis of the tounte he tais, With that neir command war his fais. *c* 1485 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 203 A child..said, he saw it dere. With þat þe child wep he dere. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. 683 With that Iliers lyfte vp his hand & wold haue smyten his broder. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 25, I drop in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) II. 218 And with þis I pray you receive my Seruis well. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 717 'Take then my tears' (with that he wiped his Eyes). 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 P 11 'Who shall decide when doctors disagree?' And, with that, he made one of the bows for which he was famous. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 290 'Our mother, is she well?' With that she kiss'd his forehead.

**b.** Followed by a sb. or pron., forming a phrase equivalent to a clause with *when*, in which the sb. or pron. is the subj. (or obj.), and the vb. is identical with that in the principal clause; e. g. *our hopes died with him*, i. e. when (and because) he died; *to rise with the lark*, i. e. when the lark rises (= early in the morning); see LARK *sb.*2 1 b.

† Formerly also with vbs. of durative meaning: = contemporaneously with.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 497 But many abusions

comme from Boemia into Englonde with this qwene. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1019 He being dead, with him is beautie slaine. 1604 Kirkman *Hist. Horrid.* iii. § 8. 57 Where the Persians, so many of them as lost their wits with their courage [etc.]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 673 His Griefs with Day begun. 1728 Middleton *Cicero* (ed. 3) II. vi. 31 Lentulus and Metellus, whose consulship expired with the year. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 10 Apr. an. 1775. What was said by Johnson, or other eminent persons who lived with him. 1820 Crabbe *Tales* xi. 306 With virtue, prudence fled. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xliii, I hear rumours that another large vessel...foundered at sea. I expect that some of the accusers of Paulus perished with her.

c. In the course or duration of, in process of, 'in' (time, etc.); often with admixture of the instrumental sense: Hy, or in consequence of, the passage or lapse of (cf. 37, 39).

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 329 With a few yeris pai war passand riche men. 1513 Hutchinson in *Archæologia's Arte of Warre* 87 All other thyng...nuaie with tyme be overcome, this onely with tyme ouercometh thee. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* iv. i. 162 Come with a thought. 1611 Fenton *Usurie* ii. xiii. 95 Mans labours and skill wil fail with yeeres. 1627 W. D. tr. *Andiguier's Lisander* 15 To render them more signal offices, which, with time, I hope to performe. 1784 in B. Ward *Dawn of Cath. Revival* (1909) I. iv. 81 [Prejudices] will die away with time. 1855 Tennyson *Will* ii. Bettering not with time. 1875 M. Arnold *God & Bible* p. lxviii, Christianity's adhesion of popular legend and illusion was sure to be cleared away with time. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kidnrotan* 74 Unripe fruit...mellows with the months.

d. After words denoting change or variation: At the same rate as; at a rate, or in a manner, corresponding to that of; in proportion to, according to.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 322 His stout Stomach with his Food will grow. 1701 *Swift Contests Nobles & Comm.* iii, Their Insolence and Pride with their Numbers. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* i. v, His Spirits rose and fell with the Weather-glass. 1838 Dr Morgan *Est. Probab.* 140 The probability of an error diminishes with its magnitude. 1839-47 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* III. 516/2 The diameter of the capillaries of muscle varies...with the size of the blood-particles of the animal. 1897 Buckle *Civilis.* I. ii. 58 The rate of wages fluctuates with its population. 1902 H. A. Dallas *Mort Janus Vita* I 17 Her conviction as to the importance of the script naturally increased with the evidence for its veridical character.

17. Expressing agreement or accordance, esp. in opinion or statement. *To be with*, to be of the same opinion as, to agree with. (See also 15.)

1456 Sir G. Hayr *Gov. Princis* (S.T.S.) 99 Thai speke quhilum with the ane and othir quhilis against the. 1565 Allen *Def. Engl. Ca.* 104, I am not ignorant...the word Sacrifice in tion, with Cyprian, Origen, Ambrose, Augustin. 1612 Tourneur *Atk. Trag.* iv. iv. I 4 b, *Enter the Watch. Belfe.* The Watch? Met with my wish. 1626-40 Jonson (see Run v. 71 b). 1648 Herman, *Ich ben Met u*, I am With you, or, I am of your opinion. 1796 in B. Edwards *Maroon Negroes* 20, I am perfectly with you in your thoughts not to receive another screw. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxix, Ah, it's a fine dance—I'm with you there. 1886 W. S. Blunt *Diary* 22 Apr. in *Land & Free* (1912) II. 91 Harris is with me about Ireland. 1916 J. R. Mozley *Dun. Apostle Hist.* I. ix. 235 It was heart beating with heart.

18. In the same direction as; along the course of: opp. to Against 9: esp. in such phrases as *with the grain*, *with the hair*, *with the stream*, *with the tide*, *with the wind*.

*c* 1489– [see Stream *sb.*1 2f]. 1577– [see Wind *sb.*1 29]. 1597 Bacon *Coulers Good & Evill* Ess. (Arb.) 154, If it be with the streame or with the hill. 1651 H. More *Antikan. Ph.* (1712) 37 Th' thankfulness and reverence he doth receive whatever Divine Providence brings upon him, be it sweet or sour, with the hair, or against it. 1658 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 56 An Awl upon the Iron...is with the Grain of the wood. 1688 [see Metal *sb.* 7]. *c* 1720 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 75 The Gardens runns down a great way, but...is Cover'd with Box by several stepps. 1721 with the tide [see Swim v. 21]. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 386 A field of corn, viewed with the wind, is of a quite shade from the same field viewed against the wind. 1786, 1816 [see Stroke v. 1 1d]. 1820 Crabbe *Borough* xviii. 183 The black footway winding with the wall. 1840 with the tide [see Drop *n.* 8]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* *With the sun*, ropes coiled from the left hand towards the right; but where the sun passes the meridian north of the observer, it is of course the reverse. 1891 with the tide [see Ice *n.* 8 5].

*** Senses expressing accompaniment or addition.

19. Following words expressing such meanings as are indicated above, as *accompany* (see note a.v.), *ally*, *alternate*, *associate*, *blend*, *combine*, *confront*, *connect*, *couple*, *entangle*, *incorporate*, *join*, *link*, *marry*, *mix*, *partake*, *share*, *unite*, *wed* (etc.) vbs. (and derived sbs., as *association*, *connexion*, etc.); *communion*, *company*, *contact*, *intercourse* (etc.) sbs.; *together* adv.: see the various words. See also Along *adv.* 3.

*Beowulf* 1088 Þæt his healfre gewealdwiþ Eotena bearn ǽgan moston. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 8 Se ylla wille næfð nǽnige xeferscipe wiþ þa gesælða. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 307 Swa ðe moddlinde mengan ongunnon leje wiþ soðe. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwoa so euer wule halleen hit wiß þe of þine blisse, he mot cleoan wiß be of þine pine on eorðe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 18029 (Göt.) Aisel haue i blend wid gall. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 201 Þei ben maad fast wiþ þe botme of þe stomac. 1557 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Club) 400 To pay..Twell caponis to giddir wuthe hariage carcage and due service. 1665 Walton *Hooker* Introd., About forty years past..I began a happy affinity with William Cranmer. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 412 Fierce rain with lightning mixt, water with fire In ruine reconcil'd. 1739 Goldsm. *Bee* No. 4 P 6, I was once determined to throw off all connexions with taste. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* II. xiv. 214 A kind of feeling, or immediate perception of things present, and in contact with the percipient. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xvi. (1838) II. 345 The Lacedæmonians, whose force, together with the Tegeans and forty thousand light troops, amounted to upwards of fifty thousand men. 1889 Swinburne *Study B. Jonson* 87 The collocation of such names...as those of Æglamour and Eastre with those of Asherts and Mandlin.

b. Following words expressing acquaintance or familiarity. (After *accustome(d*, *known*, now replaced by *to*.)

*c* 1280 *Bestiary* 113 His mus is set wel unkuð wiß pater noster and crede. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 14 Ne ich neuer þut ich wite nes wiß hire kenemon. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 225 þan went his Ottobone borghour be cuntre, & quaynted him with illkone. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe of Blaunche* 532, I...gan me aqueynt With hym. *c* 1386– *Prol.* 216 Famulier was he With frankeleyns ouer al in his contree. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xviii. 9 Let not thy mouth be accustomed with swerynge. 1611 *Bible* Isa. liii. 3 He is...a man of sorrows, and acquainted with griefe. 1719 in *2oth Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 107 They could not...undergoe the fatigue that the natives were accustomed with. 1881 J. Stephen *Fope* iii. 61 Pope was not disinclined to pride himself upon his familiarity with the great.

c. By extension, following words expressing separation: e.g. *to break with* = to break off connexion with (Break v. 34); *to part with* = to cease to be with or to have with one (Part v. 6c). (After *take leave* now replaced by *of*.)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17029 Kynd na sual suffers ar to part wit man o-liue. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 202 O ye good sheuerd pis degre, þou to departe with your tyches. 1580 *Bk. St. Albons* E iij b, In iij. degrees he men berith or he with hem twyn. 1697 Shaks. *Cor.* iv. vi. 48 I cannot for The Voices dare breake with vs. *a* 1699 Hickes *Y. Brevet* lecture i. (1647) 224 My wife...and my selfe...could take leave with him. 1808 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 110 For more than a year, Scott has cut with the Edinburgh Review. 1884 *Law Rep. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/5 The imminence of a rupture with Russia.

20. Expressing association or participation in some act, proceeding, or experience; *spec.* = acting on the same side as (another lawyer) in an action at law.

*c* 1300– [see Sin pt. 1 c]. *a* 1300– [see Play v. 30]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 201 Sif þou be partenere in dede of pefte, .or of ony oþer wronges, þat is for to seyne, in folowynge wyth wiche dedes. 1528 Tindale *Answ.* xii. 15 He mery with them that are mery, wepe with them that wepe. 1548 Udall (see Abstinence 1). 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* i. iii. 36, I will buy with you, sell with you, talke with you, walke with you, and so following: but I will not eate with you, drinke with you, nor pray with you. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 53 P 7, I will...for the future be merry with the Vulgar. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxviii, My bit is cast in with them, and I must...be reconciled to hear it. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiv, 'I am for the plain stuff, my Lord,' said Mr. Serjeant Buzfuz. 'Who is with you, brother Sergeant?' 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxxviii, Rob..ran sniggering off to get change, and tossed it away with a pieman. 1883 *Manchester Exam.* 7 Nov. 5/4 A letter...by mail service with Australia.

21. a. (with such vbs. as *bring*, *take*, *come*, *go*) Followed by a sb. or (most commonly) pron. denoting the person (vessel, etc.) that leads, conveys, or carries a person or thing, thus having it in charge (cf. 23, of which this use is the converse).

Also *fig.* after *take*: see Take v. 59 b, c.

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* (1887) I. 87/2 He bi-leſde þo is werk, and wit ore louerd eode. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1213 *ibid.* 142 With him a-morewe he nam his oste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15999 (Fairf.) Þai sal vnto þe sun mak, I wil ȝeue þam a sele. 1438-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 133 (Nilus) maketh the londe plentuous thro slyeche that his drawethe with hit. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5 Thay past vnto Paris..With many Prelatis and Princis. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gents.* iv. i. 72 Come with vs, wee'll bring thee to our Crewes. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* (N.) 28 Ten pounder..To carie in your purse about with ye. 1699 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 532 The Shepherd last appears, And with him all his Patrimony bears. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 My uncle used frequently to go to Asha Ram's house. I was little I used to go with him. 1822 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 278 The truth is that we brought with us the rights of men. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xiv. 134 Harold took with them no force capable of controlling...the country.

b. In the possession, keeping, care, or charge of (a person); in the hands of. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4403 His mantel es bi-left wit me. 1340-50 *Hampole Pr. Consc.* 1116 Þe Sauyour of þe world...is wip us founde. 1548 in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* (1870) I. 81 Leaving with the master of the Rolls such things as might...instruct him. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Conc.* iii. iv. 341 That...missionary authority, which is by Christ entrusted with them. *c* 1720 W. Hamilton *Decr. Lamont & Renfrew* (Maitl. Club 1831) 84, I...bought a certain...tenement in the Burgh of Dunbarton untill their fatall forfeiture. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 You have for a long time had my money; it shall remain no longer with you. 1823 *Jefferson Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 6 The committee...left it in charge with their chairman to forward them by express. 1828 Whately *Rhet.* (1850) I. iii. § 2 The 'burden of proof' lies with the accusers. 1868 Conan Doyle *Expl. Gerard* iii. 121 The steal lay with him. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 46 § 17 The ownership of an author's manuscript after his death..shall be primâ facie proof of the copyright being with the owner of the manuscript.

c. In the nature or character of; as a quality or attribute of. Now chiefly after *way*: see Way 26.1 22 d. (The converse of 31.)

*a* 1225 *Trinitate's Vis.* 31 With hym was no charyte. 1853 *Douglas' Æneis* IX. Prol. *marg.*, Vertue..has euer this rewill with hyr: do as thou wald be done to. 1850 Trapp *Comm. Gen. xxv.* 30 This hunter hath no ho with him. 1878 *Dryden Kind Keeper* I. i, She has a notable Smack with her! 1911 R. Martin in E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. iii. 33 He had such an honest way with him. 1848 Newman *Loss & Gain* II. xx. (1904) 254 What a way those fellows have with them!

22. In the company, society, or presence of.

*Face to face with*: see Face 2B, 2d. *With God*, in heaven: see God 5c. *With oneself* (dial.): by oneself.

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* 363 (Cambr.) He schal wib me blowe Til bit beo nir eue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5706 Pat tot moyses ful sikete, And wit be preist raguel he cite. 13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* (S.) 1309 Withe me ȝis ilk day be pou sall, With me in heuenryke. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. 234 Ones I was herberwed...with an hep of chapmen. *a* 1400–90 *Wars Alex.* 1613 þan Wer þair common whit hym kynges. *c* 1480 *Mirk's Festial* 61 Then sate scho done all owhyr wyth. 1526 Tindale *John* xii. 8 The poore all wayes shall ye have with you, butt me shall ye not all wayes have. 1593 *Dior. Rep. Glasgow* (1875) I. 209 The said contrak..subscrivit wyth Schir Thone Alaine, notair publik. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 26 P 12 This Gentleman who has arrived with you is a fool of his own making. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* June 1763 (1904) I. 267, I begged I might be allowed to pass an evening with him there soon. *a* 1814 *Sailors' Rel.* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 317 This whipper-snapper of mine..sets off with himself, and no one knows where. 1820 Keats *St. Agnes* xvi, Alone with her good angels, far apart From wicked men like thee. 1849 M. Arnold *Rugby Chapel* 25, I...think Of bygone autumns with thee. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xviii, He found Nero sitting with Poppæa and Tigellinus. 1914 'Ian Hay' *Knt. on Wheels* xvii, I don't go very often...Perhaps it is because I have no one to go with.

b. *spec.* At the house of, or in the same house or meeting-place as; in the household, retinue, or service of, attending upon; on a visit to, being the guest of (hence *be with* sometimes = 'visit', 'call upon').

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 466 Sella wuneð oc lamech wiß. *c* 1275 Lay. 6 He wonede at Ernleie wiþ þan gode cnihte. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 69 This ilke worthy knyght hadde been also Somtyme with the lord of Palatye Against a Turk. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xviii. 32 Be not wroth with them that sytte with the iudge. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Early Hist. Freemasonry* (1840) 20 He most love...his maystar also, that he ya wyth. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 131 Pis child was with hir many day sho dyed, & no body with hur. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 286 þei...weryn harberwyd wyth a ryȝt good man. *c* 1465 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 71 Sche wyll be for be body with Kynge II. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 121, I thynke they fyghte hardelye. 1583 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 38 Somtyme Apprentice with one Mr Bannester of Preston. 1651 Cromwell *Let.* 12 Aug. in Carlyle, Which Cromwell and his Wife be with you, my dear love to them. 1721-12 Swift *Tyrl. to Stella* 22 Jan., He was glad to find I was not with James Broad. 1725 Cowper *Diary* (1864) 44 This Day Madame Selnave was with me to thank me for her Affair being ended. *a* 1732 in *Tyrl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 21 Went...to Yealand Meeting; lighting and Arithmatick with Michael Jenkinson. 1803 T. Jefferson *Let.* Writ. 1854 IV. 470 He will be with you in Philadelphia in twelve or three weeks. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* v. vi, Have you heard that Eustacia is not with him?

c. *fig.* in reference to an abstract thing: *to be with*, to accompany, 'attend'. Also in reference to God, combining the ideas of presence or companionship and favour, assistance, or the like (cf. 14).

Cf. *God be with you*, Good-bye.

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* (G.) 1020 Godes blessing be all his puple with. 1388 Wyclif *Judges* vi. 12 The Lord with thee, moost stronge of men. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) lii. 210 Godd be wit be, for Godd is wit vs. 1535 Coverdale *Ruth* ii. 4 Grace be with all them which love oure lorde Jesus Christ. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 7 This calme and immoderate heate continued with vs seuen weekes. 1788 Burns '*Of a' the Airts*' I, Day and night my fancy's flight Is ever wi' my Jean. 1885 Brockett *N. & C. Glass.* n.w. *Wud*, God be wud her! God rest her! 1891 Shropsh. *Lad* xxxvii, Luck, my lads, be with you still. 1897 Kipling *Recess.* i, Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet.

d. The phrase *be with*, used in menace, etc. = to be avenged on, chastise, be even with (cf. 12), perh. through here (cf. Visit v. 3), but has affinities with other senses.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 403, I will be with thee straight. 1592 – *Rom. & Jul.* ii. iv. 78 Was I with you there for the Goose? 1596 – *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 170 What, do you grumble? Ile be with you straight. 1825 Jamieson *s.v. Wilk*, 'I'll be wi' him for that yet', Roxb.

23. Having in one's hold, keeping, or charge; having within its compass, limits, area, etc.; leading, bringing, conveying, carrying, wearing, containing, etc.

*With bag and baggage*: see Bag 2B 2g. (*Found* or *taken*) *with the mainour* (*manner*): see Mainour 1.

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 52 Panne michte chapmen fare Puruh englond wit here ware. *a* 1300 *Pist. Susan* 5 His lennes and his orcharduis were with a dep dich. *c* 1400 *Destruc. Troy* 3564 Paloyn-don..prest into hauyn,..With xxxti shippes all ahene, shot full of peuplt. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 1 A pure wommman..Withe two childeren her by-fore. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 80 A poik of canwes with demyis contenand bucht hundreth ane les. 1591 Lo. Burghley *Profits.* I. ccxxvi. 123 b/2 The erle..toke hym a flagon with wyne, wherof he had dronke. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Sam. xviii. 27 He is a good man, and commeth with good tydinges. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* ii. ii. (*stage-direction*) Enter old Gobbo with a Basket. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6054/2 A tall...Man,..with Ruffles and a light bag Wig. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 609 He ordered Grey to lead the way with the cavalry.

1888 Barrie *Auld Licht Idylls* iv 105 The crowd . was back in a moment with a handful of small change.

**b.** In phr. *with child, with young*, etc., said of a pregnant woman or animal (also in fig. phr. from these).

See Child *sb* 17, Egg *sb* 4, Foal *sb* 2 b, Whelp *sb.* 1 b, Young B 2c; also Big *a.* 4, 5, Great *a* 3, Pregnant *a.*1 3, 2 b, 4, 5 (where the sense approaches 39); Bigge *v* 2 c, Conceive 1, 3, Get 1 37 c, Go 67 c.

*c* 1200 Ormin 2455 Þu beost wiþþ childe off Halis Gast *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 20572 Anna wit child was of a mai. *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 392 Pe childe mett a cowe with calfe 1491 *Acta Audit* (1839) 148/1, xxxij sowis with lamb. 1504 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I 92 If my wyfe be wyth a sonne 1598 *Wills & Inv N. C.* (Surtees 1835) I 192, xx wyes calved and wt calve 1597 Turberv *Faulconrie* 269 When hawkes fall to laying egges, and to be with egge in the mewe 1585 *Knaresb Wills* (Surtees) I 149 The childe my wyef is now conceyved with 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Ch Porch* vi, He that is drunken, may his mother kill Ragge with his sister *a* 1656 Eliza Haywood *New Present* (1771) 23 If they are with egg, their vents will be open *c* 1850 *Arab Nts* (Rtldg) 388, I have also to inform you, that I am with child, and if Heaven so much favours me as to give me a son &c.

**†c.** In ownership of, as owner of, having in possession. *Sc. Obs.*

1406 in *Reg Mag Sig Scot 1507* 17/2 Quhyl we remane wyth the said landis 1483 *Acta Audit* in *Acta Dom Conc* II Introd 114 The said Thomas sall remain with the said land and tenement.

**d.** In phr. *with costs, with damages* (in a lawsuit): in early use said in ref. to the winning party = 'in possession of', 'having as awarded'; later, in ref. to the verdict = 'accompanied by an order to the losing party to pay' (cf 32).

1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 76 Richard preyeth hat he may be dismissed out of this Lourte with his costes and damages 1778 G Wright *Exact Accomp I* 144 III 4 A verdict was given for the plaintiff, with one p. und eleven shillings and sixpence damages 1830 Barnewall & Cresswell *Rep K B* IX 528 I have recovered 20*l* penalty, together with taxed costs 1866 *Scott Law Reporter* III. 81 The defender [was] assoilzied with expenses.

**24.** Accompanied by; having as an addition; having in one's company. Often connecting the two sbs. or pronss.: = 'and in addition', 'and besides', or simply 'and'. Occas. in compound place names: = Cum. *With the mouse* (Sc obs.) = and more, and something over: see More B. 4d.

*c* 1200 Ormin 14790 I araon wiþþ all hiss ferd comm affterr warrd *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxli 27 [xiv 25] Bestes smaller with þe mare 1370–88 *Visions Sl Piers* 247 in *C* 150 Per as was wepyng wiþ mouhe vnseeþe *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks* I 205 Þe Sixte, wiþ Clemensyns, done myche harm to Goddis lawe, and enfeblen bileve 1430–50 tr. *H. gelen* (Rolls) I 37 Þe Sarazins, wiþ habundaunce of hir persecuche þe woman with here childe 1494 *Acta Audit* (1839) 205/2 Alexander tuk fra him out of his maning xxti of 30wis with the mye . 1513 *Rec. Priory Neuk* S *&* B 112/2 Half a acre, with the mare before the dore hereof. 1563 I Wilson *Logic* 54 Beauuis with Alexander are com prehended under mans kynde, bicause bridle and specull *a* 1568 Evelyn *Hist Relig* (1850) I 410 The permitting female slaves to be corrupted by their masters, with the like 1729 De Foe *Caution* I (Colchr) 296 We can hily agreed to fl m him an dul also twelve other Gentlemen, with their Servants. 1859 Geo Eliot *Adam Bede* xviii, These grey pews, with the buff washed walls, gave a very pleasing tone to the shabby interior . 1870 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. IV* c. 6 § 1 Imprisonment with or without hard labour

*attrib* 1898 *Westm Gaz.* 17 May 8/1 To inaugurate some with profit scheme

**b** Comprising in the whole number or total; including

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 86 Til thesus cristes fio helle nam His quemed wid eue and adam 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, 'What's that?' . 'Five guineas a week, ma am, with attendance' *Mod* 'How many were there in the party?' 'A should say about twenty, with the children'

**c** Accompanied (favourable wind, weather, etc); having the advantage of.

1536 in *Sel Pleas Crt Admiralty* (1894) I 58 Goyng from the porte of London at a full with a full wynde. 1600 Asthax *Lazarus* xv 1881 This evening (of you shall good speed) To that his foote with high hope might you passe. 1686 tr *Charondas's Trav Persia* 75 We put again to Sea with fair Weather

**25.** Expressing association, conjunction, or connexion in thought, action, or occasion.

*One (day*, etc) *with another* see One 17 b

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 91 And so is Cornewayle accounted wip þe ayhere þerto 1530 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 124 For the certente what my cosen shall have with her, yf God provide for them that they shall go throwe in mariage 1858 Pretender (Camden) 64 Livy may be read with him [i. Dionysius of Halicarnassus] 1784 *Cha fortunate Sensitivity* II 7 One week with another she earned about half a crown 1780–8 Worlidge *Sonnambulist* 162 And tho' in, an'i vera' hearts forgiven, Shilt take thy place with Yarrow! 1820 Shelley *Jo & Shylark* xvi, With thy clear keen joyance Languor cannot be 1834 Dickens *Sk Boz, Boarding-ho* 1, He had his wife what she is to it so—he was of some importance with her—he was nothing without her. 1918 *Act 8 Geo V* c. 46 This Act may be cited with the Trustee Savings Banks Acts 1863 to 1904.

**26.** Expressing collocation in space.

1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 54 Aull iij sortes lyes togydyr whon wi another 1580 *Acta Dom Conc* (1839) 47/2 Þe castin of peiss in a mosse meiklarid with be landis of Dalruskane 1668 J. Davies tr *Olearius's Voy Ambass* 82 We thought it enough to put it [sc. a paper] in with that of the Swedish Ambassadors. 1864 J Webb *Stone Hemg* (1725) 103 The most conspicuous [entrance] . into the Work it self lyeth North East, whereby it frontеth rightly with the publick or high Road 1825 Wellington in Gurw *Desp.* (1838) XII 484, I send with this dispatch three eagles, taken by the troops in the action 1851 Scott *Cast Dang* I. The bonnet usually worn with this showy dress 1899 Rudyard Kipling *Pearl* (1900) 87 The angle formed by St Mark's Church with the Doge's palace 1914 F Gribble *Francis Joseph* xxxi 331 The aristocracy dare not ask the professors to dinner for fear lest they should wear green ties with their dress clothes

**b.** Expressing mixture or combination of material substances.

*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 199 Þeue him triaca maior wiþ hni muscat. 1430 *Two Cookery Bks* 13 Take godle Myltke of Alimundys, an drawe it wyth Wyne *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* iii 820 Take peres right mature, And with hool salt hem trede 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* iv 104 Potherbs Which brunt with Vervain, were his frugal Fare 1753 *Chambers Cycl* Suppl s.v. *Lime* p 3 They work up the chalk rubbish into a sort of stiff paste with water 1841 Penny *Cycl* XX 354/2 When hydrate of salicyle is heated with potash, an acid is formed

(*b*) *ellipt.* in slang use, in ref to liquor = mixed with sugar, having sugar added; usually in phr. *hot (warm) or cold with.*

1823 Dickens *Sk Boz, Mrs Evans & Eagle*, Two glasses of rum and water 'warm with—'. 1854 Surtees *Handley Cr* xiv, Patch me up a glass of cold sherry *with ibid* xxiv, 'Like a glass of brandy, said she 'Or with? or cold without?

**†27.** In addition to, besides; with neg, except.

*c* 1395 *St Edward* 8 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 206 He made neq him nobing for to 3iue þa pore man wiþ a goldene penyng *c* 1425 *Wyntoun Cron* vii 2231 Thre yheris and monethis twa, And ful ellewyn dayis wythe þai 1526 I Vng *Da Gual Priory* 870 A mighty kyng, And wyth al thyng, a famous knyght. 1570 Hexham *Rebelles* 1 43 With that thus war a gudly company Off wyllis men 1830 Lindale *Trad* xx 23 Ye shal not make therfore with me goddes of ayliuer nor goddes of golde. 1909 Nesbit *Wet Magic* ii 41 Sir Roland (1503) 484 Very wine, and with his wisdome very valiant. 1599 Jhymn *Animado* 12 All whiche make xxx persons with Christe.

**28.** After a sb., in a qualifying phrase indicating a characteristic or distinctive part or adjunct. Having, possessing, having in or upon it, containing, bearing (cf. 33)

In this and sense 31 the phr is sometimes equivalent to a descriptive adj: e g *with corners* = 'angular'; *with flower* = 'flowery'; *with wheels* = 'wheeled'.

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 501 Shep wit wolle, neiþ wit horn, and gaite wit herd 1377 Langl *P Pl* B II 16 Hire robe With vmbeleyed golde 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P R* xviii cxliv (1495) I v/1 Hude stalkes wyth corners *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr Vernon MS* 626 His lines & his clothes with a dep dich *c* 1400 Maundev xxvi [xxi] (1919) I 152 A charett with iij wheles 1432–50 tr *Higden* (Rolls) VIII App 497 Schoone with longe pykes 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xl 1 My hairt with the meikle lippis. 1599 Shaks *Much Ado* II 1 75 With a good legge and mo ney enough . such a man would winne any woman in the world 1665 Gerbier *Counsel* 31 Pillars with Architraves 1711 Addison *Spect* No 86 P 2 A Man with a sour thrift Face 1842 *Penny Cycl* XXII 429/2 The consonants are conveniently classed into those with and those without vocal sound 1846 Dickens *Lett.* 29 July (1880) 9 A paper knife with a mother of pearl blade. 1894 *Sphere* 3 Sept 289/2 A lithe high road, with its shrieking steam-trams.

**29.** Indicating a quality or attribute of the action spoken of: forming phrases equivalent to adverbs, e g *with one accord* or *consent* = unanimously, *with care* = carefully, *with ease* = easily, *with impunity* = L. *impune*, *with severity* = severely, etc. (Sometimes closely approaching the instrumental use 37, esp in such phrases as *with a curious eye*, *with all one's heart*, etc.) Similarly after an adj., phr. indicating a particular kind or degree of the quality denoted by the adj

*c* 1200 Ormin 1393 Enn, less haffdenn heofness ærd forrloenn all wiþþ mihhte *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1358 Þe berabe he ferde wi þ sped *Ibid* 1668 Aske it us i skil and þu salt haben *c* 1300 *Cursor M* 1430 Noe it toseþh in prisun strang Don wiit wrang 23 *Northern Passion* (1913) I 5 16 Þe leynes sayd he ferd all wiþ fyr þ 23 *K Horn* 1253 (Cmb) Þe ayrede hem wiþ gret wrake *c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 1330 *Rule St Benet* (prose) 45 What mekenes sal sho muster to habben her sikenes 1598 *Stow Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc) II 174 to get hys money with crafte and suttulty 1838 Conybeare *Deut* vi 5 Thou shalt loue the Lorde thy God with all thy hart, and with all thy soule, and with all thy might 1899 Shaw *Much Ado* I 1 290, I look'd upon him with a souldiers eie. 1660 R Coke *Power & Subj* 45 This unlimited power of doing anything with impunity 1679 Milton *P P* II 89 Who first, with curious eye to Perus'd him 1710 Steele *Tatler* No 208 P 8 He replied with a very angry Tone 1760–78 H Brooke *Fool of Quat* (1809) III 116 A little page was stationed at the door, that the spectators might see with the better advantage . 1771 Goldsm *Hist Eng* III 332 He always travelled with hurry 1780 Cowper *Table Talk* 1, I have only to add to the general character 1846 Dickens *Dombey* xxxviii, P illy, who, with a woman's tact, understood this at once 1856 Mrs Carlyle *Lett* II 269 To day I walked with effort one little mile 1895 Jevons *Money* (1878) 25 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision

**30.** Indicating a feeling, purpose, or other mental state accompanying the action spoken of: e. g. *with approval, awe, horror, indifference, pleasure, regret, (due) respect*, etc.; *with (a, the*, etc.) *determination, hope, intent(ion, view*, etc.: see also the sbs

The phrase thus formed is often equivalent to an adv., as in 29, from which this use is not always distinguishable

*c* 1200 *Gen & Ex* 198 God blaccede it wid milde mood *c* 1330 *Spec Gy de Warw* 93 To don penaunce Wid sorwe at þin herte rote *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc* (Kaluza) 1029 Sir Gyffoun Was bore hom on his schuld Wiþ care and rufull roun 1382 Wyclif *Phil* ii 18 Worche 3e wiþ drede and treml inge 3oure beelthe. 1526 Tindale *Heb* xii 28 Grace, wherby we maye serue god with reverence and godly feare 1581 Rich *Farewe Def* I With this resolution he began to relate [etc] 1601 Holland *Pliny* II cv 1 47 Shee approched neere to the altars, with purpose to sacrifice 1724 in *Trans Lancash & Cheshire Antiq Soc* (1918) 28 We left New England with peace of mind 1748 *Anson's Voy* II xiv 285 They still remember, with the utmost horror, the sacking of their cities 1786 tr *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 51 Vathek applied his ear with the hope of catching the sound of some latent runnel 1798 Southey *Poems Lanter* 1 1 Still on his Madonnas the curious may gaze With applause and with pleasure. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II 100 If, as now it seems, your vision rests With any pleasure on me 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vii II 185 A land of exile, visited with reluctance and quitted with delight 1885 *Law Rep* 29 Chanc Div 482 It is wholly immaterial with what object the lie is told

**b.** In expressions of devotion, affection, or gratitude accompanying what is said or written, esp by way of greeting, as in a message or the conclusion of a letter

1454 *Paston Lett* I 373 Right worshipfull and myn especiall good maister, I recommand me to 3ou with all service and prayer to my power 1541 in *Archæologia* XXII (1827) XII 49/1 3oure humble oratours and servandis with all lauchfull service. 1699 in *Trad Inverness Hist Soc.* (1912) IX 191 G. H[ay] compliments his kind service to them with his deare Love 1688 Pett in *Engel Hist Rev* (1900) Jan 114 Iwo Dorsetshire regiments were dismissed with thanks for their good service in the late action 1708 *Addis. Comm* App 1. 283 I assing the 'ff' before my L^d Harrington with my best complim^ts desiring the favr of just to stand the Count upon it 1789 [see Remembrance *sb* 4 c] 1798 [see Love *sb* 12] 1882 Ruskin *Præterita* iii 58 Love to Shaw *Mrs Warren's Prof* II, Here take George his hat and stick with my compliments

**31.** Indicating an attitude, quality, or condition of the person or thing spoken of. Having, possessing, characterized by. (Often scarcely distinguishable from 28 or 29)

*c* 1250 Holland *Hu stat* 18 He land towne was and le, with lykyng and luf 1587 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 246/2 The English-borne [with whom under the conduct of Talbot] 1593 Shaks *2 Hen V*, I 1 105 What meanes this [unskilful Courtier] this peroration with such circumstance 1620 *Shelton Quix* II ii 58 Sancho with a tang 1671 Milton *Samson* 271 Bondage with ease 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way* iii *Dissenters* 38 Why should the Papist with his Sword, and the Dissenter with the Quaker with no Sacraments at all? 1712 Steele *Spect* No 438 P 4 A very learned Man with an erect Solemn Air 1776 *Trial of Aaronson* 30 He was then in a cool sweat, with a low pulse 1812 *Sporting Tales* 281 Returning late, at early hour to rise With shrui ken features and with bloodshot eyes 1864 Tennyson *Welcome Bride* 387 1883 *Law Times* 22 Sept 352/1 The colony with it cannot take that of the Cape Colony 1893 *Atlantis* Jan 269 Many an then man with less heart and less imagination

**b.** With special implications. (*a*) Still having; without loss of or detriment to; so as to keep or retain; consistently with.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 25 He vnnethis gatt away with his life 1508 Grafton *Chr* II 924 He could not long e nioye in the seruice of princes with the honestie of his lyfe 1600 in J Morris *Troubles Cath Scotf* (1872) Ser 2 iv 195 Another gentleman was beaten down from his horse and hardly escaped with his life 1625 in *Succulenta Miss* (Hist Mss Comm) I 163 The King a letter was, that he . could not with his greatness answer the proposition 1654 in J Morris *Troubles Cath Scotf* (1872) Ser 1 vi 307 He said she could not pass the bounds of winter with life & that took not this remedy 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i § 31 A nation cannot with impunity, cannot with existence go on contemning its soul on Perse

(*b*) Though having, notwithstanding, in spite of (Usually followed by *all* qualifying the sb, cf. *Rob prep* 23 a, b)

23 *Sir Bevis* (A) 2105 Set wiþ þan Ichaude he leuer to wende Þen semuyn, Þan al þe gold þat hab made 1557 Norton *Governor's Deeds* (1858) 207 All these things notwithstanding they are dishonest are sometimes tollerable . . not with these faults they would be diligent to dispatch men 1561 How tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* II xxiv, b, He hath suche straunge conceites . that with all y^e painting he hath he can not paint them 1693 Dryden *Juvenal Sat* Ded (1697) p lxxxv, Even with all this, with all their Rusticity, I add a mewhat of Venerable in them. 1779 *Mirror* No 34 P 91 Imprimatur, with all its dignity, his abilities, and his knowledge, felt himself unequal to the task 1784 Cowper *Task* II 206 England, with all thy faults I love thee still 1881 Stevenson *Fr Forrigoe* Ded, But with the best will, no man can be perfectly five for ever 1908 R Bagot *A Cardinal* vi 90 With all her apparent reckless of disposition she was by no means a heartless w n an

**32.** Indicating an accompanying or attendant circumstance, or a result following from the action expressed by the verb.

*c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 1851 Pe were If we i to I m cuene, Wiþ a rude roring 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xii 2 Thou may complaine with sighis lamentable The death of Bernard Stewart. 1569 Lokk *Ps & Sol* o 1 2 to passe it over with sylence 1621 Lady M Wroth *Urania* 450, I looked upon him, and with tears told him, his cruelty was harder, then the Prince his 1677 Hotton *Heath Advice* 1 10 Afterwards smooth it with a Blood red Heat 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit* 2, 1, She, with Looks averse, and Eyes that frone me, Sadly reply'd 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L* § 265 Our men went out with a declaration that they would not return till they

had found the moorings. 1806-7 *J* Berresford *Miseries Hum Life* (1826) vi 23 The frosty silence with which it is received by the different auditors 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I xvii 822, I do not in the least doubt it, interrupted Fabricio with a hoarse laugh 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) I. With as far spreading and invincible an effect 1928 *Engl. Hist Rev* Oct 672 The value of a papal dispensation is considered, with the conclusion that it is valid in some cases but not in all.

**b.** (*after find, take*, etc.) In the actual commission of (a *crime* or misdemeanour). *Obs* or *arch.*

*c* 1430 *Sye Tryam* 185 Y trowed in hur no false hedd, Tylle y fonde them with the dede 1510 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 324/2 Taken in redehand with any crime 1530–1611 [see Manwood 2] 1572 R. H. tr. *Lasarteaux Ghettes* (1596) 40 Albeit they were almost taken tardy with the deede doing 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad* 1 227 His sonne being taken with the fact, Zeleucus would never suffer the punishment to be lessened

**33.** Indicating something granted, received, or assumed: often with conditional implication, as in *with your leave* (or *permission*) = 'if you will allow me'.

*c* 1300 *Gaw. & Gr Knt* 971 Wyth leue last of pe lorde he went hem ayaynes *c* 1400 *Apol Lollt* 70 Web be leste or confermyng of be kirk, swilk marriage is nite 1436 in *Rep. Hist MSS Comm., Var Coll* IV 109 In cause that I have oute of alle reputacion yf so falle, as with oute I ord mercy it never shal falle 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Chron xviii 12 The wordes of the prophetes beuen with one mouth good, let thy wordes I praye the be lyke one of theirs, and speake good 1579 Gosson *Ephemerides* (1924) 87 With the cuse me and distance find the difference of latitude and departure 1838 Dickens *Nich Nickl* xv, Another gentleman in company, with your leave, gives us a song, without a 'with your leave', or 'by your leave' 1858 Froude *Hist Eng* I v 77 So the line of England remained with the deliberate approval of both the great parties 1879 E. Watkinson *Pictures Mirrored Text* 126 With these general data, I now proceed to examine some of the details.

**34.** Followed by a sb denoting some alteration or modification, or something imposed in the way of a demand or requirement: e.g. *change, condition, exception, loss, proviso, qualification*, etc. (Before *condition* now replaced by *on*)

*c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv 293 We be come to seue you, with this condicion that ye desire nat to know our names. 1489 in *Travels an Papers* (Camden) 93 With the same conditions and provisoes. 1626 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess* (1630) 210 With except of the case. 1669 Horneck *Howyd* 59 The Athenians made peace, with a condition to have their Prisoners released 1779 *Mirror* No 7 P 2 With these qualifications, Sir I am held in consyderable estimation I by the wise of both sexes 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 165 Such a body is composed, with scarcely an exception, of sincere persons 1867 M. Pattison *Ess* (1889) I 44 With the exception of a dwelling house, the remainder of the area was covered with warehouses

**35** a. Followed by a sb denoting misfortune or evil, in imprecations and intensive phrases: also *with a* Wanion, *with a witness* (see Witness *sb.* 14). Now chiefly in *with a vengeance* (in intensive sense: see Vengeance *sb.* 4).

*c* 1300 *K Horn* 326 (Camb.) Wenn I—go] vt of my bur Wip muchel meseuenture *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man. sfle's Prol.* 11 Is that a Cook of Lond'n with mischance? *a* 1529 Skelton *F. Ramoure and Col.* 309 Ye cannot tell dell 1 1536–[see Mirchief *sb* 9a]. 16 Middleton, etc. *Witch* III ii, *Leg* I will send it though you with a powder *Sam.* Let come, with a Pox! 1665 Dryden *Wild Gallant* I ii, I'll put you out of your Pater Nosters, with a verrow to you.

**b.** Introducing a refrain (often meaningless) in a poem or ballad.

[23 *Cur de F* 9522 They rowsede hard, and singge ther tow, With heuelow and rumbelow.] *c* 1400 *Lety Pol* 46 in 16 *Pol Poems* 124 Nowe yeue me mercy, and say nat nay, With *Farce mich, domine* 25 – [see Hey no] 1519 [see Hey no 2]. *a* 1529 Skelton *Commynge* 80 With Hey and with howe 1633, 1678 [see Fading *sb* 1 1665, *a* 1800 [see Fa la 2] 1780 *British Grenadiers*, With a tow, row row, row, row, tow

**36.** In various preceding senses, followed by object and complement (phr. with prep, pple, adj, adv, or inf with *to*).

*c* 1290 *Beket* 1169 in *S. Eng Leg* 140 With one haltre ope be mere forth rod is hoir man 2325 Barbour *Bruce* viii 48 Jhai saw vs rathar cum away The vaward with banner displayst *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T* 211 With fedres peint stiking pe thurgh his herte. 1443–50 in W. P. Baildon *Sel Cases Chanc* (1896) 34 Ilk ane of pam sall haue a of mine therin *c* 1485 *Paston Lett* III 295 Payne abe wold be redde of it with hyr owner wyyf 1587 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) VI 23 Ihe lease hath a hole in the bottom. 1594 More *Comf. agst Trib* III xix (1553) B vij, The priest that had vsed to say *Dominus* with the seconde sillable long 1621 Sanderson *Serm* II i 26 You crow Cock, with your combe on 1630 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. iii (1636) 133 Standing with their armes foulded 1745 Pococke *Decr Easb* II ii 231 There are six youths in each room, with a master over them. 1760–8 Goldsm. *Cit W* lxvi, He sat with rapture 11 his eye 1831 Scott *Cast Dang* xiv, The shield represented an owl with its wings spread 1848 Tennyson *I sky Cl Lare* xv, She went by dale, and she went by down, With a single rose in her hair 1854 Browning *Through the Metaphor to Abd el Kadr* 1, As I ride, as I ride, With a full heart for my guide. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* v, An iron grey watchman and, with a shrewd east wind blowing 1859 Geo Eliot *Adam Bede* xviii, They stood with their hats off 1866 Rubkin *Left to May*, Joan has written another long letter to you with something about me in it 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III 455 Life seemed not so cursed With this to think of

**III** Denoting instrumentality, causation, or agency

**37.** Indicating the means or instrument (material or immaterial) of any kind of action: By means of, with the use of

*c* 1200 Ormin 5524 Pe bodiz for to pineun wipp swinne. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 9 He [a dragon] dut wri3 his stert *Ibid.* 617 He ne hauen no li3 Pat he mugen rasen wipp 1230–40 *Pers Alfred* 30 in *O. E. Misc.* 108 I or to werre pat lond wip hunger and wip hervinge *c* 1280 *Gen & Ex* 444 Al was pe folc brouȝ in myd, Al he wit hose word made Iuil *a* 1300 *A. Horn* 459 (Camb.) Wip seluer & wip golde Hit wurh him wel isolde. *Ibid* 514 Pus armes he hab & scheld To fyhte wip vpon pe feld *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 14457 Pat he suld dess take o pair kin, For to ransun wit adam sin *c* 1330 *E. E. Allit. P.* B 1238 He with keyes vncloses kystes fut 1390 Wyclif *Mark* xiv 58, I schal vndo this temple mad with hondis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 2 Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote The droghte of March hath perced to the roote. *c* 1400 Maundev (1915) xxvii 265 A lytille whyle on hire hondes for to chacche with hire bare 1413 *F. E. Wills* (1882) 82 The residue of my godes, y bequethe tho Annys my wyf, an my son, to kepe hem bob wyt 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 I hay wretyng generally to to jacke wi ll wyt 1492 Caxton *Vitas Patr* (W. de W. 1495) II 247/2 Oonly at mouthe as suffyced to lye with his brede 1503–31 Dunbar *Poems* I 6 Quhy sowld Sr. *Mark. Kest* IV § 56 May quice thee hir national history with the seventeenth century 1887 T. Carroll *Gems of Logic* I 2. 22 Middle 'begins with 'm' 1908 *Trans Phil Soc* (1909) July 412 Newcomb's response did not stop with sending Warren for the defence of the Northern Colonies.

**38** After words of furnishing, filling, covering, adorning, and the like. (Allied to II. ***, involving the notion of addition)

*After, full now replaced by of*

*c* 1200 Ormin 994 Bulliedd brasd smeredd wel wipp eliewe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg* I 384/250 For to crouni him with garle. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1 God him wolde fulle wit his grace. *Ibid* 1046 Wit grene and leues his he clad. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P* xxxiv 96 To presente hyre sone With myrre, gold, and encence. *a* 1366 *Chaucer's Rom. Rose* 1076 It [of a robe] ful well With Ostrays leyd was enerydeell *c* 1394 *P. Pl Crede* 116 Cloþ to coveren wiþ our bones *c* 1425 *Engl Conq Irel* 130 Fecomberth whyth syn 1445 in *Arg* 14 XXVIII. 109 Hir chaumbre was dowbelid with wyne 1506 in *Mem Hen VII* (Rolls) 285 the third chamber was hanged with a very rich arras *c* 1525 *1st Dialog. Bk Amour* (Arb.) Introd xlii Thou hast furnished my chambers with [see Endow 7 3 b] 1590 Shake *Mids N* II i 131 Her wombe then rich with my young squire 1590 Shakespeare *F. Q* III xi 4 His chamber all was hanged with pure Ihe warlike Worthies 1610 Shake *Temp* I ii 154 Infused with a fortitude from heaven *Ibid* 283 Then was this Island not honour'd with a human shape. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 299 As full of spite and ill nature as a spider with poyson 1633 J. Clarke *Two fold Praxis* 63 It is very expedient for us scholars to be instructed with good matters *c* 1648 Milton *Sonn.* xii, Help waste a sullen day, To force our Consciences And side us with a classic Hierarchy. 1713–[see Litter B 5, 6a]. 1736 Salk *Koran* (Rodw. Dict.) I 3 A slury and burret with all sorts of vallies, mountains, with mountains. 1849 Robertson *Serm* Ser I vi (1866) 99 Christianity permeates all evil with good 1878 Hardy *Ret Native* VI v, Wealden dells [of *c* 1700] lie richly flowers. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 86 A breeze Tipping the waves with foam

**39.** Indicating the cause or reason: In consequence of, as a result of, by the action of; because of, by reason of, on account of, from, through, by.

In some cases now replaced by *of*: after Come v 2 c, 3 b; in others *of* and *with* are used with distinction of meaning (see e. g. Die v 1 b, 7 c, Weary *a* 1 c, 9).

13 *Cursor M* 10258 Pis lauerd pat was he writ pat for lorn 13 *K. Alis* 930 Mony a baner torlled with the wynde. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 466 And deyde wyþ strokis pat bey hente 1478 *Paston Lett* II 170, I have somewhatt crawed, what with the see and what with the thyn dyet heer. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent* I i. 69 Hart sick with thought. 1593 – *3 Hen. VI*, IV iii 111, I feele remorse in my self with his words 1596 – *Merch. V* II ii 84 And with they not quickly, I should die with laughing 1600 G. Abbot *Exp Jonah* 54 These did perish in their owne sinne, although they perished with the Iust 1601 Shake *Twel N.* III iv 366 This comes with seeking you *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron Ireld* (1633) 202 The Lord James Audley dyed with the griefe of a horse 1687 in *Misc. Top. & Gen.* I 253 *Comm. App* v. 23 She was so ill with wearing a paire of perfumed bodyes that she was forced to goe to bed 1688 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 12 July, Sir Jonas Moore, K. was much ill from his home 1784 Cowper *Task* 833 Flush'd with drunk'ness. 1816 Byron *Pris. Chillon* I My hair is grey, but not with years. 1830 Hawthorne *Twice told* I, *Celestial Railroad*, The branches, unmoved by the 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* 4 Zymosis I had evidently been suffering with from boyhood *Med colleg* Harry Wood is in the Cottage Hospital with his knee

**b.** After a trans. vb. (usually in pass.), or a pa. pple. or ppl. adj., indicating the immediate cause or ground of the action or state spoken of, often approaching or coinciding with 37 or 40 b

After certain pples, as *pleased, surprized*, etc, varying with or now replaced by *at*. After *troubled* vb sometimes approaching 5

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3690 Dor wurd she hanne wi3 lepre smiten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4056 Pus sopht hum an to greue wit wrang 1389 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 249 Pe pepil was I pleyed wip his faire speche. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 3068 Contente with his pouerte *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2201 With tho wordes the kyng liked full ill. 14.. in *Cuthbert's*

**c.** After *begin* or *end* and words of like sense, in various shades of meaning: indicating (*a*) that which constitutes the beginning or end, i.e. the initial or final part, element, stage, proceeding, etc. (after a personal subj. and before a gerund now *by*, as in b above); (*b*) a person or thing acted upon or treated first or last (coinciding with 9); (*c*) (after *begin, originate*, etc) the agent or source from which something takes its rise (allied to 12).

Phr (with ellipsis of obj) *to begin with* to take what is mentioned or indicated as one's starting point.

1412–20 Lydg *Chron. Troy* I 2414 For my behest wyth deth I schal conclude. *c* 1550 Bale *K Johan* (Camden) 47 I trust to begyne with, we shall interdyte the lond 1570 Foxe *A & M* (ed 2) I 494/2 First begynnyng with that godly man . . the suter of the bokes. *a* 1589 in S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Hann. Club) 8 It is true that 'any well and doe well ends both with one letter' 1877 in *Essays from* (Camden) II 110 The Commoners take distaste that anything which relates to money, should begin with the Lords 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 622 Drawing towards a Conclusion of this Treatise, I shall put a period thereto with some unvulgar Considerations of the Nature of Sounds and Melody 1723 Berkeley *Guardian* No 69 P 2 He has ended his Discourse with a Prayer 1768–74 Tucker *Lent. Yours* II 52 [*Let*] I shall be finish'd the scene with winning my esteem 1833 Ht Martineau *Brooke Farm* I 6, I must begin my lecture with you 1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII 297 The reasoning generally closes with a maxim 1861 T. I. Peacock *Gryll Grange* xxiii, I will be bound every one of that company could find a quotation in point — Miss Gryll, to begin with 1878 Stevenson *St. Mark's Rest* iv § 56 We may close her national history with the seventeenth century 1887 T. Carroll *Gems of Logic* I 2. 22 Middle 'begins with 'm' 1908 *Trans Phil Soc* (1910) July 412 Newcomb's response did not stop with sending Warren for the defence of the Northern Colonies.

**38** After words of furnishing, filling, covering, adorning, and the like. (Allied to II. ***, involving the notion of addition)

*After, full now replaced by of*

*c* 1200 Ormin 994 Bulliedd brasd smeredd wel wipp eliewe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg* I 384/250 For to crouni him with garle. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1 God him wolde fulle wit his grace. *Ibid* 1046 Wit grene and leues his he clad. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P* xxxiv 96 To presente hyre sone With myrre, gold, and encence. *a* 1366 *Chaucer's Rom. Rose* 1076 It [of a robe] ful well With Ostrays leyd was enerydeell *c* 1394 *P. Pl Crede* 116 Cloþ to coveren wiþ our bones *c* 1425 *Engl Conq Irel* 130 Fecomberth whyth syn 1445 in *Arg* 14 XXVIII. 109 Hir chaumbre was dowbelid with wyne 1506 in *Mem Hen VII* (Rolls) 285 the third chamber was hanged with a very rich arras *c* 1525 *1st Dialog. Bk Amour* (Arb.) Introd xlii Thou hast furnished my chambers with [see Endow 7 3 b] 1590 Shake *Mids N* II i 131 Her wombe then rich with my young squire 1590 Shakespeare *F. Q* III xi 4 His chamber all was hanged with pure Ihe warlike Worthies 1610 Shake *Temp* I ii 154 Infused with a fortitude from heaven *Ibid* 283 Then was this Island not honour'd with a human shape. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 299 As full of spite and ill nature as a spider with poyson 1633 J. Clarke *Two fold Praxis* 63 It is very expedient for us scholars to be instructed with good matters *c* 1648 Milton *Sonn.* xii, Help waste a sullen day, To force our Consciences And side us with a classic Hierarchy. 1713–[see Litter B 5, 6a]. 1736 Salk *Koran* (Rodw. Dict.) I 3 A slury and burret with all sorts of vallies, mountains, with mountains. 1849 Robertson *Serm* Ser I vi (1866) 99 Christianity permeates all evil with good 1878 Hardy *Ret Native* VI v, Wealden dells [of *c* 1700] lie richly flowers. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 86 A breeze Tipping the waves with foam

**39.** Indicating the cause or reason: In consequence of, as a result of, by the action of; because of, by reason of, on account of, from, through, by.

In some cases now replaced by *of*: after Come v 2 c, 3 b; in others *of* and *with* are used with distinction of meaning (see e. g. Die v 1 b, 7 c, Weary *a* 1 c, 9).

13 *Cursor M* 10258 Pis lauerd pat was he writ pat for lorn 13 *K. Alis* 930 Mony a baner torlled with the wynde. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 466 And deyde wyþ strokis pat bey hente 1478 *Paston Lett* II 170, I have somewhatt crawed, what with the see and what with the thyn dyet heer. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent* I i. 69 Hart sick with thought. 1593 – *3 Hen. VI*, IV iii 111, I feele remorse in my self with his words 1596 – *Merch. V* II ii 84 And with they not quickly, I should die with laughing 1600 G. Abbot *Exp Jonah* 54 These did perish in their owne sinne, although they perished with the Iust 1601 Shake *Twel N.* III iv 366 This comes with seeking you *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron Ireld* (1633) 202 The Lord James Audley dyed with the griefe of a horse 1687 in *Misc. Top. & Gen.* I 253 *Comm. App* v. 23 She was so ill with wearing a paire of perfumed bodyes that she was forced to goe to bed 1688 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 12 July, Sir Jonas Moore, K. was much ill from his home 1784 Cowper *Task* 833 Flush'd with drunk'ness. 1816 Byron *Pris. Chillon* I My hair is grey, but not with years. 1830 Hawthorne *Twice told* I, *Celestial Railroad*, The branches, unmoved by the 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* 4 Zymosis I had evidently been suffering with from boyhood *Med colleg* Harry Wood is in the Cottage Hospital with his knee

**b.** After a trans. vb. (usually in pass.), or a pa. pple. or ppl. adj., indicating the immediate cause or ground of the action or state spoken of, often approaching or coinciding with 37 or 40 b

After certain pples, as *pleased, surprized*, etc, varying with or now replaced by *at*. After *troubled* vb sometimes approaching 5

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3690 Dor wurd she hanne wi3 lepre smiten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4056 Pus sopht hum an to greue wit wrang 1389 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 249 Pe pepil was I pleyed wip his faire speche. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 3068 Contente with his pouerte *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2201 With tho wordes the kyng liked full ill. 14.. in *Cuthbert's*

*Heraldry* IV. vii. (1632) 296 Worne wud Age 1533 COVERDALE *Prov.* vi. 25 Lest thou be taken with hir fayre lokes 1883 T WHARTON *Iliad* 125 b, Because I haue halfe wearied the reader .. I will hasten him againe with a merry tale 1623-[see SEXBY 3 b] 1658 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ Wars Spain* 349 Hugging himself with that small victorie 1685-1768 [see STERNE 7 b] 1745 SWIFT *Lett. Faculties Irland* Dcd, Wks 1841 II 284/2 To suppose you would be very much obliged with anything that was new 1792 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1899) III 494, I am rejoiced with the account he gives me 1807 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr* III 363 I am not surprised with the opinionativeness of Lord Grenville 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI 96/2 His men and horses were now nearly spent with toil 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xx, A face which was shaded with dejection.

**c.** After an inir (rarely a trans) vb. or an adj., combining the sense 'by reason of' with 28 ('having in or upon it') or 38 ('filled, covered, etc. with'). Also more vaguely, indicating a substance (esp a liquid) which is the logical subject of the vb.: e g *it is pouring with rain* = rain is pouring; *(flowers) dripping with dew* = having dew dripping from them.

1388 WYCLIF *Exod* iii 8 A land that flowith with milk and hony 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 1 Hire cheekes ben with teres wet. *c* 1400 *Yvaine & Gaw* 1307 The castel and cete rang With mynstralsi and nobil sang *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 5 With silkyn hobes I hym dufrit .. Ane hattok with *Targe* all Doun throu the tyce a tyrur ran with stremys 1853 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII viii. 93 Hir figoure es grisly gret abounda, Wyth glowand ene birnand of fawmis blak 1865 COOPER *Hist. tracts, Manants* 1 Streets running with water 1866 SHARP. *Ant & Cl* I iii 45 Our Italy, shines o're with cruell Swords 1622- [see KNAVE 4 a] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 600 Now was the Sun in the Occident breathing kindly his vapour 1697 DRYDEN *Virg Georg* III 235 Th' Albumian Groves, with Holly green *Ibid* 559 The Garment, stuff with Ice, as Hardned as Steel 1746 SHENSTONE *Elegy* *prop?* 28 Hallowed be the mouth That teems with moral zeal and dauntless truth! 1798 COLERIDGE *Auld Acquaintance* 8 Gardens bright with sinuous rills 1799 WORDSW. *Inscript* viii My eyes are dim with childish tears 1849 [see POEM v. 6 b] 1899 T S MOORE *Vinedresser* 6 Banks more soft with moss than any bed

**d.** Following words of blame or the like (after *charge* orig fig from 38); also after *credit* vb.: indicating the ground of the charge, etc.

After *accuse, suspect*, now replaced by *of*

*c* 1440 *Alph Tales* 318 Pis preste ioolde hur cownsell, & vpbrayd hur herwith .. 1450 *Merl. Mag. Dk Clarence* I To charge me with offence 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Demetrius* (1595) 946 Her was most detected with this vice of lechery. 1592 *Taming of Shrew* I. 240 A knave .. Whom he accuseth with adulterie 1665 DRYDEN *Ind Emperor* III ii, None shall tax me with have Perjury 1670 STUBBE *Reply H. More* (1671) 75 The World will condemn you with Blasphemy for their comparison 1715 *De Foe Fam Instruct* (1841) II i 2 To be blot with which I reproach myself 1872 MRS H WEST *Alicia de Lacy* IV 298 There seems no just cause for accusing the Archbishop of premature fate of this nobleman 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV i. iii. 27 To credit him with a desire to reform the Church.

**40.** After a passive verb or participle, indicating the principal agent: = BY *prep.* 33. **a.** (a person or animal). *Obs* exc. *dial*

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 2489 He was wit pe prestes shrine 23 *Cursor M* 15908 (Gott) Sare he dred pat ayden fell Whil pam he sold be slaine. 1340 *Ayenb* 180 Alle we byeþ wit þe deuel 1399 Your honour .. is be siely prayed With lordes, wyth ladyes, with alle pat lyf bere. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII 128 And be the armys led was he Wit fyftene men. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) vi 19 Pis same sowdan was slayne with his owen seruands 1486 SIR G HAY *Law Arms* (S T S) 38 The first quhite that ever was borne with man. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I 52 They all were eten wyth bores and of lions 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 56 So awful rumour Was neuir hard wit pis nor man in tha eild 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb) 110 There was a Towne in Spayne vndermined with Conyes, in Thessalia with Mowles, with Frogges in Fraunce 1611 SHAKS *Wint T* V ii. 68 He was borne to preces with a Beare 1638 JUNIUS *Paint* 181, 86 It was miserally sacked, and burned with Turkes 1670 DRYDEN *Conq Granada* III i, As I were stung with some tarantula. 1709 BRADLEY *Fam Dict* s.v. *Bees*, You design to breed on, 'tis suckled with a Mare *c* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I 250 He rode thro' London, accompanied with the most popular men of the Court 1727 *Pinkie* (1876) 19 This island is habited with monkies and myself 1735 J. HUGHES tr *Fontenelle's Dial* v viii (ed 3) 353, I went attended with numerous train *Mod. dial.* You never hear of horses I mug bit with snakes.

†**b.** (a thing, material or immaterial) *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xii (*Matthias*) 65 With wawis castin to e land 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III 299 Awaked wip crieinge of gaudres. *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5866 In to eland war pai kest with' a flowyng flode 1591 HOGGES *Psalms* I xxx 4], Intercepted with the perpendicular lyne 1634 SIR T HERBERT *Trav.* 94 Hyrcania is limited on the North with the Caspian Sea. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xix 354 Her other entrails were much hurt by being crush'd together with her stays 1766 R HAMON *Compl. Farmer* II 2 Overflowed with rivers or land floods.

**B.** *adv.*

†**1** With at to, (them, etc.); in collocation, company, or association; together; occas, at the same time, simultaneously. *Obs.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* xvi § 3 Ne sie naubt gecynde þæt senig wiðerweard þing bion gemenged wið oðrum wiðerweardum, oððe senige geferedenne wið habban *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 54 Meng þonne hwitcwudu wip *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* v 712 Ley nattelys vndir with. *Ibid* vi. 20 Al doubil seed, as benes, And other pulš, a al dayes flours, And greteth with þeng *nempligan grundeceswyl*. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 150 Defende and kepe þe soule of þy seruaunt .. and, by grace goyng wip (orig *comitante gratia*), dyrecte hym by be wey of pes

†**b** *With also*. nonce-substitute for WITHAL (= 'also') *Obs rare*

1586 G WHETSTONE *Engl Mirr* I xv 95 Fraunces the second beeing both very young, and with also married to the Queene of Scots.

†**2** *With and with* **a.** Immediately, forthwith (= BY AND BY 3), b. From time to time, again and again, every now and then. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Ormin* 9628 Hee wass wipp pe wipp pa seoffne seollpess shewenn *c* 1205 LAY 20747 We sendeš wiš and wiš and 3eornen Arpures giuš *Ibid* 30177 Adwine sende auere wiš and wiš to wulle maken un friš *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* XI 175 Delue hit ofte, and Ay with and with lycour on hit to treie.

†**3** With that, or with which; therewith, wherewith = WITHAL *adv* 2 *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 936 God wan band pam kyrtels pan of hir, And cled þar flexs wit for to hide *a* 1425 *Ibid* 8597 (Trin) Her modris had no cradles ne wip to by 1566 in Pict *Lyndesay Monarche* (1883) I 48 Pe maid eard had a couple of partridges, and to drink wih of his lordships cost

†**C** *conj* **a.** To the time that, until (Only OE) **b.** During or at the time that; while, when. (Cf sense 16 of the prep.) *Obs. rare.*

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt x. 11 Der wunas wiš 3e Sonn. translation *Rushw Gosp* 455 It was nocht eyth till in Tne toune, with [*w rr* quhill] *c* 1570 *Whitel* MS defens was maid *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1685 With bir things were done

**D** *Comb*, as **with-worker** (*nonce-wd* after G. *mitwirker*), a fellow-worker, co-worker.

1884 R F BURTON *Camoens, Lyricks* I. 4, I have been a ded by a host of * with workers *.

**With** = see WITHE.

**With**, the form of WHITE, WIGHT.

**With-**, representing OE. *wiþ-* (see WITH *prep*) used as a prefix to verbs (and derived sbs) with the meanings: (1) away, back, as in OE *wiþbīdwan* to bow away, *wiþfaran* to escape, *wiþgān* to disappear, *wiþlēon* to withdraw; so WITHDRAW, WITHHOLD; a few modern words come under this heading, which are formed by substituting *with-* for *re-*, as *withcall*; (2) away from one, as in several OE. words meaning 'reject', 'refuse', *wiþcīdsacan, wiþwīcan, wiþhogian, wiþhegan, wiþbracian* WITHSAKE *v*, *wiþweorþan*; (3) against, in opposition, as in OE. *wiþfeohtend* adversary, *wiþhabban* to resist, *wiþsecgan* to oppose, *wiþsprecan* to contradict, *wiþstandan* WITHSTAND *v.*; (4) together, in *withjoin*.

The following is a list of the less important verbal formations (transitive verbs except where otherwise marked); mostly obs (see quots)

†**Withbere** [BEAR *v* 1], to carry away; see also b; †**withbojt** *pa. pple.* [BUY *v*] redeemed; †**withbrast** *pa. t.* [BURST *v*] *intr.* burst asunder; †**withbreide** [OE. *wiþbregdan*, BRAID *v.*], to withdraw; †**withbuwe** [Bow *v* 1], to avoid; **withcall**, to recall, re-whistle, to recall, revoke, repeal; †**withdrive**, to drive away, repel; †**withbuhe** [OE *wiþbūgan*], to despise; †**withjoin**, to join together, conjoin (*intr* and *trans.*); †**withlaft** *pa. pple* left behind; †**withlosen** *pa pple* [LESE], lost; †**withnay** [NAY *v* ; cf. RENAY], to deny, refuse; †**withnim** [= *L. reprehendere*; see NIM *v*], to reprove, rebuke; †**withpass**, to escape the lips of; †**withquetše**, to deny, contradict, refuse; †**withscape**, to escape, †**withschadowid** *pa. pple.*, veiled, shrouded [SHADOW *v*], in *Lord w*, God forbid; †**withsoore**, to cut away, detach; †**withshonte** [SHUN *v* 2], *intr* to shrink back; †**withslip**, to escape; †**withsoț** *pa. t.* [SEEK *v*], pursued, persecuted, †**withsperre** *v* [SPAR *v.*], to bar (the way), †**withstad**, -stod *pa. pple.* [STEAD *v*], beset; †**withstarie** [START *v.* 6], *intr.* to escape; **withstay** [STAY *v* 1 II], to hold back, oppose, withstand, †**withstew** [STEW *v* 1], to check; withstraun, (*v*) to commit; (*b*) to restrain; †**withtee** [TAKE *v* 1], to withdraw; *refl.* and *intr* to abstain; †**withtelle**, to gainsay, †withturn, to avert.

*c* 1300 *Halsham* 196 Other thing ye shal not haue ne *w*ithbere fro me. 1340 *Ayenb* 180 Alle we byeþ *w*il bojt of one reisne pres 1698-9 MERMAN *Ant Negro & I* 1500 Like dy ngon *w*ith brast in pe myddys. *c* 1300 *Cursor M* 15908 (Gott) *Cy gos y Dial* (1900) 103 þara oðra se cnihi *w*ibbrend & þa oðre brohte to ham Godes men *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 168 Dast þi heora hunda fra Sam blodes gyte ne *w*ibbraden *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 22 In wunne stude þu hauest her ofte halet & bute þu wel bredde þe, bredes te þat ofer *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 128 Oorie *w*ibhawen name *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 32 Hwase benches on ai þus, & nule *w*ibhuhe þet þing þet hit al of wakenede. 1901 *Prion Forest Folk* x 205 Do ye *w*ithcall them saying 'oues shed 'eaues and 'eves 1900, Sister Mortis I 1904 'H. S MERRIMAN' *Flotsam* xiv, 159 The troops were withcalled. 13 *K Alis* 1301 *W* †withclepe and withstonde Thee trunge of Greee londe 1340 *Ayenb* 189 Our alle time y-conformed ne neure in none time wyckepled *Ibid.* 215 Per me sseal wyþ-clepie his herte to him. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI 269 His wiþclaped al þat was i doo by his predecessour. *c* 1440 *Promp.*

*Parv* 530/2 Wythe clepyn', or reuokyn. 1617 HOLYOKE *Rider's Dict*, To Withclepe, *revoco* *c* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Th.) xciii[i] 13 [14] Nesire *w*ibdrifeh Drihten ure his agen folc 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* ix. A iij/a The same [Sorell] water withdryueth impetigines. *a* 1000 *Cadmon's Gen* 2804 Nalles nergendes hyse *w*ibhogode *c* 1250 *Hali Meid* (1922) 33 Nule wibuhe pat þing þat hit al of awakened *c* 1450 *Merlin* 282 Holde we vs to-gedre cloos and make semblaunte as we wolde *w*ith loyne 1830 J HAYWARD *Fern Vil*, vi 11 And he hath agreed finally withJoyne forces *c* 1375 *Cursor M* 6403 (Fairf) Hys mantel ys *w*ibleft [*Cott* bileft] wyl me. *a* 1300 *Ibid* 10855 (Cott) Ne sal pe nywght be *w*ibloken pe maidenhed pat pou hast chosen *Iliad* 14100 pe beter lott has marr chosen, þat hir nou n gat be wille in 13 *E E Allit P* A. 915 As pou art gloryous with outen gaile, *w*ith nay þou neuer my ioiful lone *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* III 1151 If that withnay Her fruit *c* 1450 *Iprot* n 180 I hen she withneyed and withseyd all the poyntez pat were i pt *c* 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* vii 308 By lytle an mynute be *w*yb name R3it sse a quad 13 3 *E Leg* (MS Bodl 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII 374/297 Ic am a knowe pat ic wbyl er pe wot non amys *a* 1340 *Hampole Psalter* xxxvii 4 han ws[p]ainp and blamep pe more he him wrepep *Ibid* 66 Efter pan cumep pe wyndynynge- luanne me *w*ibsit ane man o[r his] senes *c* 1340 *Gawayne* (Skeat) 2300 Woman threuth and withmeyth *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxvii 2 Pat nane reprouahi word *w*ibpassed me *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* x § 1 Ne mæg se mon *w*idcweðan ne andsacan Logan þæt þe þa men sædon *c* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Th.) lxxvii. 137 He *w*ibqua'd and sede *Ne wun ego christus* *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 10076 Wytschap who so wes vn bian. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev* (Linc MS) 1 Pis knyght *w*ibstode wip myght fra 1398 TREVISA *Iarth De P R* viii xl (Tollem MS), [Light] ) uttep nouzt it selfe deep into a body pat is *w*ith schadowed [*Cott wasshyed*] 1450 *Merlin* 282 Gawayn seid 'wit schild 3e do pat s n 13 *Ibid* 3011 (Gott) 1340 *Ayenb* 243 Wy[score [*MS Bodl* 789 fol 178 b wit e wese] and wy[schen pe wulles and zete ys wlonkere 1611 *Coll Edwin* 137 He wi*s*qua'd and sede *Non sum ego christus* *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 10076 Wytschap who so wes vn bian. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev* (Linc MS) 1 Pis knyght *w*ibstode wip myght fra 1398 TREVISA *Iarth De P R* viii xl (Tollem MS), [Light] ) uttep nouzt it selfe deep into a body pat is *w*ith schadowed [*Cott wasshyed*]

xxv. 27 It seemeth to me unreasonable, to send a prisoner, and not withall to signifie the crimes laid against him. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* vi. § 2. 139 He that shall consider how many thousand several words have been ... composed out of 24. Letters; withall how many hundred lines there are to be drawn in the fabrick of one man; shall [etc.] 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 128, I shall, thou say'st, expel A brutish monster: what if I withal Expel a Devil who first made him such? 1771 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 11 When he played and sung withall, it was extremely agreeable to hear. 1808 Scott *Marm.* i. xxviii, Nor lord nor knight was there more tall Or had a statelier step withal. 1837 Southey *Let. to Wynn* 21 May, Withall I have not often read a book that interested me so much. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* viii, She ... was so sweet and kind, and withal seemed ... so dependent on him. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 266 Of such peculiar suppleness that you could wind it round anything, ... and as strong withal as a hawser.

b. Contextually: ‘At the same time’; in spite of all; notwithstanding, nevertheless.

1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 124 St. Gregory, disliked the Law, but withall according to his duty published it. 1704 Southey *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 11 May, They have shown me that happiness is attainable; but, withal, taught me by repeated disappointments never to build on so sandy a foundation. 1802 Wordsw. *To the Small Celandine* 17 Modest, yet withal an Elf bold, and lavish of thyself. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 181 In the middle his master was rather severe, but withal a very good man. 1880 *Academy* 23 Oct. 290/2 This...impressive, though withal faulty, work.

2. = Therewith 2, 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12128 Iesus..bar it ham als in a ball, And present pan his noder wit-all. 1389 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 101 Ye Den schal gedren ye forseyde halpenys, and by wyth-al breed. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 20 Whom thou dede ought withal. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 29/33 Yef any ex tun wit-al. 1533 Coverdale *1 Macc.* iv. 44 He toke aduysement, what he might do withall. 1536 *Lit. Primanol. Fr. Acad.* i. 301 A Philosopher...walking a lanterne and a candle lighted at midday .. was demanded what he ment to do withall. 1604 A. Wotton *Anon. to Iste Poplish Articler* 78 We are not ashamed of our small number, though the Papists twight us with all, in comparison of their huge multitudes. 1657 Sanderson *Serm.* Pref. 8 4 The Papists, ..escaping in the mean while Scot-free, as if we were meddled withall in any of their Sermons. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 92 Having spoiled the gods Of honours, crown withal thy mortal men Who live a useless day out.

*To begin withal*: see *With prep.* 37 e.

1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* v. (1538) 83 And to begynne wythall, they say ye *Confiteor*. 1553 Bradford *Serm. Repentance* (1574) B vij b, I will (to begin withal) shew you on what repentance is. 1599 Marlowe and Pt. *Tamburl.* v. i, Then leave at him, to begin withal.

†b. *I cannot do withall*, I cannot help it.

1470–1611 [see Do v. 54].

**B.** *prep.* Substituted for With *prep.* in post-position, esp. at the end of a relative clause or its equivalent or of a direct or indirect question, governing a relative (expressed or implied) or an interrogative; † occas. = Therewith 2, 3.

The relative may be either expressed (e.g. *that . withal* = with whom or which: *as* after *such*, etc.) or not expressed (freq. in the inf. construction, e.g. *a rod to be beaten withal* = a rod with which to be beaten).

The advs. *herewithal*, *therewithal*, *wherewithal*, were modelled upon the earlier *herewith*, *therewith*, *wherewith*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6171 Ioseph, of his wines [= wife] wit-drou pat fraward folk wit-all. c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxvi. 122 Pai gife a grete soume of monee for to bye oute paire penaunce withall. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes & Sayes* ye resemble hym that seketh a rod to be lasyn with all. 1517 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 35 A sken to kefer wt all the same booke. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxxiv. 63 Ye may Aide me be so straynyed that we haue nat to lyue withall. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xvii. 26 What shall a man geve to redeme hys soule agayne with all? 1532 *Visit. Abbr. Bardney* 11 Vicar tithes as I was behind withall. 1555 R. Pownall *Muscules' Temporiser* I. B vj b, Yonder commeth he that I haue dyuers tymes desyred to take with me to Walsingham, and yet not yt. 1598 *Rec.* Ile tel you who Time ambles withall, who Time trots withal, ..and who he stands still withall. *Ord.* & *Constit.* 1604 Ye shall not by any Aide nor be so constrayned

procedure, to demand the withdrawal by a member of an expression or a statement.

1793 in *Ld. Auchland's Corr* (1861) III. 37 Burke got up twice, but the House was so satisfied that it would hear nothing, and nothing was heard but *Withdraw, withdraw.*
1837 DICKENS *Pickw* I. The Chairman was quite sure the hon Pickwickian would withdraw the expression he had just made use of 1880 *Hansard 3 Parl Deb* 20 Aug 1756, I call upon the hon Member to withdraw the word 'offensive'. (Cries of 'Withdraw!')

**d.** To refrain from proceeding with or prosecuting (a course of action, a proposal, etc); to cease to support or present (a candidate, etc).

1781 BLACKSTONE *Rep* II 1028 The Court allowed the Plaintiff to withdraw his Demurrer 1834 DICKENS *Sk Boz, Steam Excurs*, Mr. Alexander Jones moved as an amendment, that [etc], but after some debate consented to withdraw his opposition 1844 H H WILSON *Brit India* I 355 The latter proposition was withdrawn 1880 *Hansard 3 Parl Deb* 20 Aug 1739 Amendment by leave, withdrawn 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* XXIII, Nero neither repeated nor withdrew his command 1903 *Act 3 & 4 Geo V*, c 6 § 1 If the candidate is withdrawn or deceased he to be withdrawn.

**4.** †**a.** To keep back or hold (one's hand), also, to withhold (a blow). *Obs*

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* 859 (Camb) His dent he gan wip drape, For hi were neȝ aslaȝe 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 163 Achilles tho withdrowh his hond 1400 *Test Scrr, Cr. Lordsh* 52 Whanne kynges withdrawes her hondys frome pe possessiouns of her subiitz

†**b.** To keep back, withhold (something due, customary, or necessary), hence *gen* to withhold.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 21906 Pai serue him all apon þair wise, And man wit draus his seruise, *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol* 787, I koude nat, with al pe lawe pat ys, withdrawe hire from a good felawe *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 231 They have preuyd pat þey with drowe no dewete þat was wonyd & vsyd 1530 in Leveson *Cartae Chamber* (Selden Soc) II 70 The said priour withdrawith suche dueties as they of Right owght to take 1546 *Pilgr Pr.Pr* (W de W 1531) 65, Who god withdraweth his layne, Than shall there be nyther one nor two 1580 LEE WITHDRAWND.

†**c** To keep back, restrain (a person, his desires, etc) *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb* 254 Þe goode man and þe wyse wyþdraweþ here wyl and here lostes 1390 GOWER *Confess Amantis* (Soc) *Conf* II 393 Withdrawith thi lust and hold the stille *c* 1450 *Merlin Festival* 96 Forto withdraw all men of such opes and wordys Seyst Poule 1548 *Gude & godlie* 1567 withdrawis his voyces from symphonye 1550 PALSGR 781/2 Let him go when he wyll, he shall not be withdrawen for me

**5.** To draw away, deflect, divert (a person, his mind, etc) *from* an object, pursuit, line of conduct, etc; †also, to draw, attract, (a chattel). Now *rare.*

†Occas const *inf.* To divert from doing something.

1340 *Ayenb* 58 Þet hi mysliue his mann þe guode þet hi hateþ y conceyued wyþdraþe *Ibid*, 3ef þou be bine tonge wyþdraȝest ine man oþer a chiel wel to done *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec Nun's Pr* II 215 Pat man leve no worldly goodis pat wip drawiþ his wille fro God 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II 34 Parauenture more cheyfull knyghtes haithe otherwise yower mynde 1589 CAXTON *Faytes of A* I XXIII. IV, Withdrawe towardys the, the horses of straungers by 5 eftes 1592 ELYOT, *Ancacmastasis*, recreation, that withdraweth the myndе from heuynes or melancholy 1563 GOLDING *Caesar* III (1565) 76 Those sorte of rescals whom hope of spoile had withdrawen from husbandrye and ploughe 1594 GREENE *Jas IV* A 3 Who knowe coumanious thoughts am I withdrawne! Why linger I twixt hope and doubtfull feare? 1606 SHAKS *Tr & Cr* V IV 31 Aduentagious care Withdrew me from the oddes of multitudes 1608 *Doc Privy Council Scot* (1885) VII 182 To alienat and withdraw tham from thair due obedience to his Majestie 1652 HUBERT *Leviath.* I VIII 52 Whatsoever is new, or great, withdraweth a man from the intended way of his discourse. 1667 MILTON *P L* VII 612 They thought Thee to diminish, and from thee withdraw The number of thy worshipers. 1841 FITZHUTSINE *Hist. India* I 593 It would have been happy if he had never been withdrawn from those pursuits 1859 W COLLINS *Q of Hearts* I 21 In circumstances which have withdrawn us from the world for the rest of our days

**6** To remove (a person) *from* a position, to cause to retire or recede, †occas to take aside; *spec.* to cause (a force, troops) to retire *from* a position, to draw off *from* an engagement

*a* 1425 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 107 Whan that he hath withdrawe oute of abbeyes, for thaue londes 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 149 Saturne withdrewe his people on that oon side 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw IV* 206 Wherby onely sauegarde and comforte, were to withdraw hym and his compaignie into Fraunce *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas II*, III, A shining blude Withdrawes a coward theefe that would invade. 1613 tr *Jacchus & VCS* (HNE MSS Comm) I 160, I prevn tly did withdraw him until I had discovered that which I desire! 1622 LEIGH *Debates H's Lords* (Camden) 87 The ambassadors withdrew 1894 L. JAMES *Mutiny* (ed 2) To *withdraw*, to call back to make to retire 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xli, Where ere that I lower may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* IX, A sounder had withdrawn in pursuit of him all the dogs and the greater part of the huntsmen 1836 THELWALL *Tortrice* XII III 77 I was compelled to withdraw her forces from Leshos 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fanr* IX, Walter Scaps was withdrawn from Eton and put into a merchant's house 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* XX, She has withdrawn her spies

**b.** *Law* To remove (a juror) from the panel in order to put an end to the proceedings.

*a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I VI (1787) 36 The court and the king's Attorney generall were so well satisfied with the defendant's title, that they moved the defendant to consent to withdraw a juror 1769 *New Lond Mag.* Sept. 438/2 And Mrs Phillips agreed on her part that a juror should be withdrawn. 1866 POSTE & PINLASON *Nisi Prius Cases* IV. 942 The plaintiff's counsel proposed to withdraw a juror, which was assented to 1882 Oscoop *Libel & Slander* 550 Actions of defamation are often compromised before the judge comes to sum up the evidence. A juror is often withdrawn, sometimes at the suggestion of the judge

**+7.** = *withdraw from* in various senses *Obs rare.*

1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 895 Sin 3e maugray your mihi mote bit wip drawe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2037 Yif pow wolt draw thi fork wit, & rel awdry withdrawe *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 304 He with drow the forsaid court, by the mean of a frendly accorde.

**II. 8.** To remove oneself *from* a place or position; = 12. Now *rare or arch.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 19175 Pai badd pat þai pam suld wit-draw Quils þai samen spak a thrau 13 *Hist* 21654 (Fitzh) Adam quen he wrost hyuud wey Vndir Iyv tre he him wip drowe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1297 Yif pow wolt draw thi fork wit, & rel awdry withdrawe *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St Aug* 39/19 He wepte, and with drow him 1485 *Rolls of Parl* VI 314/1 The Duk William had withdrawn him out of thy Duke. 1530 PALSGR 783/1 He hath withdrawen him selfe in some corner 1593 SHAKS *Rich II*, V III 28 Withdraw your selues, and leaue vs here a while 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* I 637 Vortigern had withdrawen himselfe into these parts 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts i* 3 (1734) I 377 It was requisite he should withdraw himself from the Sight of men 1839 LANE *Aral Nts* I 203 The King disguised himself, and withdrew himself from the midst of his troops.

**+b.** Of combatants, troops etc = 12 *b Obs*

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 2333 Pe Iuwise hom withdrowe, & pe saxe hin hom reste *c* 1300 *K Horn* 886 (Laud MS) Hyre pe ȝonge fonken wyt drawe 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III 169 Pe Romayns wip drewe and wip-stood wipdrowe hym.

**+c** Of water: = 12 *c Obs.*

*c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) XXIV 111 Pe see, pat before bette apon pe mount, withdrewe it 1422 YONGE tr *Secr Secr* (EETS) 208 Pe water and hym wyth drawyth afyyr the mewynge of the mone

**9.** To remove oneself *from* a condition, sphere, society, etc; = 13. Now *rare or arch*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 26136 Oft als haue i me wit drauu Til wreclig wrappid in pi sarines. 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 340 Goth, Voyces of deuyle withdrawing them from the right wayes. 1550 DALE tr *Sleidanes Comm* 2 b It is also to be feared lest some would bee withdrawen from the vnitie of the church 1598 JONSON *Every Man out of his Humour* I. Ii, Withdraw himself from an office the duties of which he was no fully competent to discharge 1865 DICKENS *Lett* (1880) II 233, I am withdrawing myself from engagements of all kinds.

**+10.** To cease, refrain; = 14. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *St James* 159 in *S. Eng Leg* 38 Of is lubere þouȝ3 þat he pouzte for drede he him with drow 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 10221 Pe king of almayne acoles To him, pat he wipdrow him out of wo 1393 J. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10872 Of pat man hyt ys grete drede, pat wydrygh3 hym fro gode dede 1340 *Ayenb* 50 Hunne hi wyþ-drageþ to do þe guode 1382 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 215 Pat man leve no worldly goodis pat wip drawiþ his wille fro God Tr377 *Stanzaic Papers* (Camden) II 34 Parauenture more chyuelyl knyghtes haithe otherwaw yower mynde 1589 CAXTON *Faytes of A* I XXIII. IV, Withdrawe towardys the, the horses of straungers by 5 eftes 1592 ELYOT, *Anacamastasis*, recreation, that withdraweth the myndе from heuynes or melancholy 1563 GOLDING *Caesar* III (1565) 76 Those sorte of rescals whom hope of spoile had withdrawen from husbandrye and ploughe 1594 GREENE *Jas IV* A 3 Who knowe coumanious thoughts am I withdrawne! Why linger I twixt hope and doubtfull feare? 1606 SHAKS *Tr & Cr* V IV 31 Aduentagious care Withdrew me from the oddes of multitudes 1608 *Doc Privy Council Scot* (1885) VII 182 To alienat and withdraw tham from thair due obedience to his Majestie 1652 HUBERT *Leviath.* I VIII 52 Whatsoever is new, or great, withdraweth a man from the intended way of his discourse. 1667 MILTON *P L* VII 612 They thought Thee to diminish, and from thee withdraw The number of thy worshipers. 1841 FITZHUTSINE *Hist. India* I 593 It would have been happy if he had never been withdrawn from those pursuits 1859 W COLLINS *Q of Hearts* I 21 In circumstances which have withdrawn us from the world for the rest of our days

**6** To remove (a person) *from* a position, to cause to retire or recede, †occas to take aside; *spec.* to cause (a force, troops) to retire *from* a position, to draw off *from* an engagement

*a* 1425 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 107 Whan that he hath withdrawe oute of abbeyes, for thaue londes 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 149 Saturne withdrewe his people on that oon side 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw IV* 206 Wherby onely sauegarde and comforte, were to withdraw hym and his compaignie into Fraunce *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas II*, III, A shining blude Withdrawes a coward theefe that would invade. 1613 tr *Jacchus & VCS* (HNE MSS Comm) I 160, I prevn tly did withdraw him until I had discovered that which I desire! 1622 LEIGH *Debates H's Lords* (Camden) 87 The ambassadors withdrew 1894 L. JAMES *Mutiny* (ed 2) To *withdraw*, to call back to make to retire 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xli, Where ere that I lower may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* IX, A sounder had withdrawn in pursuit of him all the dogs and the greater part of the huntsmen 1836 THELWALL *Tortrice* XII III 77 I was compelled to withdraw her forces from Leshos 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fanr* IX, Walter Scaps was withdrawn from Eton and put into a merchant's house 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* XX, She has withdrawn her spies

**b.** *Law* To remove (a juror) from the panel in order to put an end to the proceedings.

*a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I VI (1787) 36 The court and the king's Attorney generall were so well satisfied with the defendant's title, that they moved the defendant to consent to withdraw a juror 1769 *New Lond Mag.*



1897 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 368: Prest aȝen him he was & alos of hom to grounde, so pat hi gonne wiþ drawe. *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 13746 Longer to vnte myght þey nought stande, But þey was assented to 1882 Oscoop *Libel & Slander* 550 Actions of defamation are often compromised before the judge comes to sum up the evidence. A juror is often withdrawn, sometimes at the suggestion of the judge

**+7.** = *withdraw from* in various senses *Obs rare.*

1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 895 Sin 3e maugray your mihi mote bit wip drawe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2037 Yif pow wolt draw thi fork wit, & rel awdry withdrawe *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 304 He with drow the forsaid court, by the mean of a frendly accorde.

**II. 8.** To remove oneself *from* a place or position; = 12. Now *rare or arch.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 19175 Pai badd pat þai pam suld wit-draw Quils þai samen spak a thrau 13 *Hist* 21654 (Fitzh) Adam quen he wrost hyuud wey Vndir Iyv tre he him wip drowe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1297 Yif pow wolt draw thi fork wit, & rel awdry withdrawe *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St Aug* 39/19 He wepte, and with drow him 1485 *Rolls of Parl* VI 314/1 The Duk William had withdrawn him out of thy Duke. 1530 PALSGR 783/1 He hath withdrawen him selfe in some corner 1593 SHAKS *Rich II*, V III 28 Withdraw your selues, and leaue vs here a while 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit* I 637 Vortigern had withdrawen himselfe into these parts 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts i* 3 (1734) I 377 It was requisite he should withdraw himself from the Sight of men 1839 LANE *Aral Nts* I 203 The King disguised himself, and withdrew himself from the midst of his troops.

**+b.** Of combatants, troops etc = 12 *b Obs*

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 2333 Pe Iuwise hom withdrowe, & pe saxe hin hom reste *c* 1300 *K Horn* 886 (Laud MS) Hyre pe ȝonge fonken wyt drawe 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III 169 Pe Romayns wip drewe and wip-stood wipdrowe hym.

**+c** Of water: = 12 *c Obs.*

*c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb) XXIV 111 Pe see, pat before bette apon pe mount, withdrewe it 1422 YONGE tr *Secr Secr* (EETS) 208 Pe water and hym wyth drawyth afyyr the mewynge of the mone

**9.** To remove oneself *from* a condition, sphere, society, etc; = 13. Now *rare or arch*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 26136 Oft als haue i me wit drauu Til wreclig wrappid in pi sarines. 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 340 Goth, Voyces of deuyle withdrawing them from the right wayes. 1550 DALE tr *Sleidanes Comm* 2 b It is also to be feared lest some would bee withdrawen from the vnitie of the church 1598 JONSON *Every Man out of his Humour* I. Ii, Withdraw himself from an office the duties of which he was no fully competent to discharge 1865 DICKENS *Lett* (1880) II 233, I am withdrawing myself from engagements of all kinds.

**+10.** To cease, refrain; = 14. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *St James* 159 in *S. Eng Leg* 38 Of is lubere þouȝ3 þat he pouzte for drede he him with drow 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 10221 Pe king of almayne acoles To him, pat he wipdrow him out of wo 1393 J. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10872 Of pat man hyt ys grete drede, pat wydrygh3 hym fro gode dede 1340 *Ayenb* 50 Hunne hi wyþ-drageþ to do þe guode 1382 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 215 Pat man leve no worldly goodis pat wip drawiþ his wille fro God Tr377 *Stanzaic Papers* (Camden) II 34 Parauenture more chyuelyl knyghtes haithe otherwaw yower mynde 1589 CAXTON *Faytes of A* I XXIII. IV, Withdrawe towardys the, the horses of straungers by 5 eftes 1592 ELYOT, *Anacamastasis*, recreation, that withdraweth the myndе from heuynes or melancholy 1563 GOLDING *Caesar* III (1565) 76 Those sorte of rescals whom hope of spoile had withdrawen from husbandrye and ploughe 1594 GREENE *Jas IV* A 3 Who knowe coumanious thoughts am I withdrawne! Why linger I twixt hope and doubtfull feare? 1606 SHAKS *Tr & Cr* V IV 31 Aduentagious care Withdrew me from the oddes of multitudes 1608 *Doc Privy Council Scot* (1885) VII 182 To alienat and withdraw tham from thair due obedience to his Majestie 1652 HUBERT *Leviath.* I VIII 52 Whatsoever is new, or great, withdraweth a man from the intended way of his discourse. 1667 MILTON *P L* VII 612 They thought Thee to diminish, and from thee withdraw The number of thy worshipers. 1841 FITZHUTSINE *Hist. India* I 593 It would have been happy if he had never been withdrawn from those pursuits 1859 W COLLINS *Q of Hearts* I 21 In circumstances which have withdrawn us from the world for the rest of our days

**6** To remove (a person) *from* a position, to cause to retire or recede, †occas to take aside; *spec.* to cause (a force, troops) to retire *from* a position, to draw off *from* an engagement

*a* 1425 *Knt de la Tour* (1868) 107 Whan that he hath withdrawe oute of abbeyes, for thaue londes 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 149 Saturne withdrewe his people on that oon side 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw IV* 206 Wherby onely sauegarde and comforte, were to withdraw hym and his compaignie into Fraunce *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas II*, III, A shining blude Withdrawes a coward theefe that would invade. 1613 tr *Jacchus & VCS* (HNE MSS Comm) I 160, I prevn tly did withdraw him until I had discovered that which I desire! 1622 LEIGH *Debates H's Lords* (Camden) 87 The ambassadors withdrew 1894 L. JAMES *Mutiny* (ed 2) To *withdraw*, to call back to make to retire 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xli, Where ere that I lower may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* IX, A sounder had withdrawn in pursuit of him all the dogs and the greater part of the huntsmen 1836 THELWALL *Tortrice* XII III 77 I was compelled to withdraw her forces from Leshos 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fanr* IX, Walter Scaps was withdrawn from Eton and put into a merchant's house 1891 FARRAR *Darkn & Dawn* XX, She has withdrawn her spies

**b.** *Law* To remove (a juror) from the panel in order to put an end to the proceedings.

*a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I VI (1787) 36 The court and the king's Attorney generall were so well satisfied with the defendant's title, that they moved the defendant to consent to withdraw a juror 1769 *New Lond Mag.*

1897 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 368: Prest aȝen him he was & alos of hom to grounde, so pat hi gonne wiþ drawe. *c* 1330 R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 13746 Longer to vnte myght þey nought stande, But þey was assented to 1882 Oscoop *Libel & Slander* 550 Actions of defamation are often compromised before the judge comes to sum up the evidence. A juror is often withdrawn, sometimes at the suggestion of the judge

**+7.** = *withdraw from* in various senses *Obs rare.*

1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 895 Sin 3e maugray your mihi mote bit wip drawe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2037 Yif pow wolt draw thi fork wit, & rel awdry withdrawe *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 304 He with drow the forsaid court, by the mean of a frendly accorde.

**II. 8.** To remove oneself *from* a place or position; = 12. Now *rare or arch

**Withdrawer** (wiðdrɑ·ər) [f. as prec. + -ER1] One who withdraws, in various senses of the vb.; *spec.* in *Sc. Church Hist.*, one who did not conform to the established church in the 17th century.

1675 *Bk. of Bps.* (Roxb.) 46 Sathe that none suche were neuer sene with fleeres or fleers fome bruiches. 1580 Oxford R. *Ct. pro Ex. in Pyet* 194b, Joseph was not a with drawer of the come, but a seller. 1666 in J. Ryle *Cent. Ref. Aisle* (Wardw. Soc.) 519 Contemporary with the Majesties lawes withdrawers and contemners of him let the subjects hearts from his obedience. *c* 1639 Baillie in Lloyd *Peerages of Scotland* (1825) Introd. 41 They are withdrawers of their hands. 1677 *Hale Pract. Conteyned in N. E.* Ser. III. (1722) V. 221 Constant withdrawers and keepers out of assemblies. 1842 J. Brown *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (new ed.) II. 312 In the statute enacted [in 1671] that the withdrawers from the conform i comments of their own parish, be punished.

**Withdrawing** (wiðdrɑ·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ing1] The action of the vb. Withdraw in various senses.

*c* 1315 Shoreham in *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 250 Thy cheste and mysdoynge And wyb drawynge of god. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 11 All manere of withdrawynge of vber men thynges wrang wysely ag vyses þaire. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 He wyl þe drattinges of mete and of drinke. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Þei maken lordis bareyne for wibdrawyng of werk men. *c* 1430 *Art Nombryng* E. E. T. S.) 11 In withdrawyng a nombre ben necessary. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 262 At the departyng hercules passeth lightly the withdrawyng & departyng of alle hem it were there. 1561 T. Norton & Sackville *Gorboduc* III. ii. Lords there be that well minded, are subiecte to so many withdrawynges of mind, that they euisly fal awaye. *a* 1651 C. Love *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1654) 6 A double withdrawing of Gods Spirit. 1689 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 61/2 the fyneing husbands for the wifes withdrawing from the church is contrair to Law. 1698 *Angus Presbytery* II. 250 The withdrawing of the guard from the harbours a month. 1817 Cyprian in *Athenæum* (1894) 8 Dec. 791/2 The quiet withdrawing from a ny further c mmunion with him. 1881 Trench *Mirac.* v. (ed 7) 177 A withdrawing of the meaner thing, to make receptive of the better.

*b attrib.* (also Withdrawing-chamber, room)

1550 Lambarde *Perambl. Kent* (1576) 398 A certaine withdrawing house, called Otforde. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 31 Withdrawing Corners and Refuges to Rob ers. 1823 Mary Gisborne *Wife's Manual* IV. 263 Mine Wintersham soon made her withdrawing-room. 1861 Scott *Kenil.* vi. They went to the withdrawing apartment. 1898 *Century Mag.* Jun. 256/1 This withdrawing ground was within the garden enclosure.

**Withdrawing,** *ppl. a.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ing2] That withdraws (usually in intr. senses); drawing back, retiring, receding.

1611 *Bible* Neh. ix. 29 They withdrew the shoulder [*margin* gave a withdrawing shoulder]. 1708 Hickman *Hymn Solitude* 23 And the long withdrawing, vale. *a* 1846 Hayldon *Aut.* (1853) I. 179 That I can't tell you; said he, with a cold withdrawing air. 1881 Swinburne *Study Shakesp.* 127 By some long withdrawing arm of the sea. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. iv. 152 Sands which the sunset gilded with its withdrawing glow.

Hence **Withdrawingness,** retiring disposition.

1705 *Feminina* I. 209 To shake off all this shyness and withdrawingness from sy ur friends.

**† Withdraw ing-cha mber.** *Obs.* [f. prec. vbl. sb.] = next.

1390 *Rolls Parl.* III. 300/2 Trours des Petitions tender at four place en la Chapelle de la Wth drawing Chambre. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 202 Item lego ordeno j bedde I bedd in le withdrawyng chamb re. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Samela flung away to her with drawi g chamber in a dissembled rage. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 139 The Bishop being in a withdrawi g Chamber, re ad over the Order so often, that he got it by heart *verbatim*.

*fig.* 1622 F. Mortagu *Diatribæ* 7 In the *Lavaryes*, and withdrawing chambers of your *History of Is hes*.

**Withdraw ing-room.** *arch. or Hist* [f. as prec.] A room to withdraw to, = Drawing room 1 i.

1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 204 He was had into a with drawinge room, where the lords were. 1611 Cotgr., Le Barry *Rum Alley* v. 1, He waste in the with drawing roome, Vntill you call. 1661 Lady Oberly *St. Tett* (1742) 37 While we were in the with drawing room making preparations to go into the house of lords. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. xxxvi. 283, The apartments she has to let are a well drawi g room, two or three handsome bed chambers. 1848 Mor. A. Marsh *Fr. Darcy* xxxii, He sat by her in the large wi h drawi g r om, where she was at work. 1885 Payn *Talk of Town* I. 120 It was William Henry's habit to quietly withdraw and seek Margaret in the withdrawing room.

**Withdrawment** (wiðdrɑ·mənt) Now *rare.* [f. Withdraw *v.* + -ment] = Withdrawal in various senses; formerly *spec.* the withdrawal of divine illumination.

1640 O Sprigurie *Christs Counsell* 79 All the wrath of God, and the withdrawments of his love. 1666 G. Abbot (*Bar. Lee Mary Land* (1869) 64, I am certainly confident, that England would as soon feel her feebleness by withdrawment of so great an upholder. 1677 Gilpin *Damonol* III. xxii. 195 An apparent withdrawment from Obedience. *a* 1709 J. Lister *Autobiog* (1842) 52 He would sometimes say to me in the times of God's withdrawments, 'O I son I am not able to be under God's absence.' 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. iii. 41 The Withdrawment or Absence of the Sun. 1817 Chalmers in *Edin. New Mar.* 4 A great withdrawment of wealth from its former channels of distribution. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 5/2 The immediate withdrawment from an expensive colonial policy.

**Withdrawn** (wiðdrɑ·n), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple of Withdraw.] In various senses of the vb.; sometimes in a purely static sense, secluded; also of mental state, detached.

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* VI. 477 Where abide My Mother, with her withdrawne housewiferies. *Ibid.* XXIII. 8 Wake, Leaue thou withdrawne roome. *a* 1652 Bp. J. Semphill *Heroic of Irenio* (1657) 13 She shut her self up in the most withdrawn chamber of the Palace. 1723 Ceres Wyndcaves *Mix. Poems* 94 The withdrawn, the absent Mind. 1723 Lois *Let to Swift* 22 Jan., Your withdrawn and separate state. 1849 A. Satchley *Build Societies* 100 Withdrawn shares (not wholly subscribed for). 1858 Longfellow *Maine Woods* iii (1918) 157 The stream was so withdrawn that my companions concluded to go farther up it. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 3/1 The withdrawn lot [of horses] includes Stonyhurst and Indian Queen.

**Withe, with** (wiþ, wið, wiθ), *sb.* Forms 1, 3 wiðe, wiþpe, 4–9 wyth, 5–6 wythe, (4 withthe; wyppe, 5–6 wythth(e, 5 withthe, whythe, 6 wethe, 7 wieth, *Anglo-Ir.* whitt, *dial.* 5 wyffe, 6 withe, wyft, 7, 9 wift, 9 wiff, weef, wef), 6– with, withe. [OE. *wiþþe*, corresp. to Du. ris. *withthe*, *witte*, MDu. *wisse* (Wilem. *wisse*, Du. *wis*, *wisse*), MLG. *wide*, *wede*, OHG. *wida*, *weida*, (*wida*), (G. *weide*), Icel. *viðir*, OHG. *widi*, *widi*, (MHG *wide*), also in OHG. *khunawidh* (cf. OE *cynewiþþe*), ON. *viðr* (gen. *viðjar*), *viðja* (Sw. *vidja*, Da. *vidje*) = O Teut. **wiþðn-*, **wiþi-*. Other Teut. variants are represented by MLG. *wide*, OLG. *wida* (MHG. *wide*, *G. weide*) willow, Goth. *wida* in *kunawida* chain, ON. *viðir* willow, OE *wiþig* Withy, q.v. (The various forms with *gn* are mainly Kentish.)

The Teutonic cognates are of unknown meaning from Indo Eur. *weit-*, *wid-* are —Zend *vaêti-* willow, Gk. *ἰτέα* willow (—**FwitFeA*, true fellow, L. *vitis* vine, Irish *vetis* wand, *fidhe* withe, *withan* withy, OSlav. *větvĭ* branch, *větĭ* fetth 'fibra' (—**wiθti*). According to a widely accepted view *weit-* is a derivative of *wi-*, which is represented also by L. *vieo* to plait, Wine *sb.*, and perh. Whouch, wall.]

1. A long, tough, flexible twig or branch, of willow or osier, used for binding or tying, and sometimes for plaiting.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* 504 Egeas belend ðam ewellerum Ræt hi hine wæddum bundon and fæstnodon mid ðam rode xebundon. *c* 1200 in Wr. Wülcker I. 206/9 *Circus, uel circulus*, wiþpe. *Tunica lus, uel fauus, rap. Ibid.* 383 16 *Lorum, uel corrumpum*, wiþðe. *c* 1200 Trin. 1581 b 5 Pe I afere wrohte an swepe þar al alle nit were of wiþpes. To ti n þatt hemm jarikedd wisse stranng pine i dellen wiþpess. *c* 1205 Lay. 25973 Pat wore tweid mine iueren to-somne Mid wiðen and wiðe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 542/2 Withe to gadere. *a* 1500 *Sir Ferc* 423 Brydille bruse he righte nune; But a withe base he tane, And kevilles his stede. *c* 1540 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 b, Ye shall not *Acc.* of *Joh.'s Hosp., Canterl.* Paid for wyft & Roddis for the fish cker) vd. 1553–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 25 The fate season shold be fastened with a withyll or a withe to drawe by. 1553 Lden *Treat. Newe Ind.* Cij, Vnbridled hair ge neather w he nor coller about their neckes. 1558–— *Decay* C. They shyppes were fastened with cables and withthes. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed 2) 2165 They found a casket locked with a padlocke, and so cutting the withe [*first edit.* wistel] there of, opened it. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* (Arb.) 41 Ladies that were couple I together by the neckes with no other With. 1600 Harleyt *Voy.* III. 2, 2 The manner of their hanging up of their fish and flesh with withes and dry. 1612 *Bible* Judges xvi. 7 If they bynde me with seuen greene withs (*great Bible* withes), that were neuer d ied, then shall I be weake. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 181 The Irishmen vse to weare vpon them by a with 268 *Tobe* (*Kent*) *Estate Accts* (MS.) For 300 of wiffe. 1630 J. de Grey *Compl. Horsem* 271 They haue with a with put it through the hole of the said stone. *a* 1660 *Contempl. Hist First* (Ir. Archæol Soc.) I. 241 Tynge rope and whitts to either e d thereof. 1693 Evelyn *Del. Quint Compl Gard* II. 266 We tie up fruit with Osier withs, and afterwards we wrap up with long Litter some Spanish Cordous. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 270 For making of these Bridges, they twist Withes together, like Ropes: 1818 Todd *Johnson's Pract. Agricult.* II. 674 Proper wyst s for tying them together. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 282 In fir rims, the wooden withes of the bottom are pressed through the rim. 1883 Rimmer *Wayside Rob.* v. 180 A round cage of green withes. 1896 Voyle & Stevenson *Midst Dict., Withes*, twisted rods for securing the web of a gallon. 1897 W. Jones *Finger-ring Lore* 383 A massive gold mourning ring formed of two knotted withes twisted together. 1898 *Lancs. Gloss.*, *It off*, var pron of 'withe's,' 'withe wife's'. 1899 M. Rose & Stonehewer-Cooper *Hagbolt Cantabrica* 325 Rounded stones with grooves around them, where the withe would have been twisted, to form a handle for its manipulation. 1899 *Kentish Gloss.* s.v., Withy, a certain kind of hoop, which went by the name of kith kuth, was bound with two withs.

b *g.n.* A pliant twig or bough.

1817 Jas. *Mem. Brit. Indus* II. iv. I. 245 As he rises from sleep, a Brahmin must rub his teeth with a proper withe. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xii. The fork of the tree, from which the withe depended. 1882 Miss C. Praed *Policy & P.* vii. A trailing withe of orange begonia.

† 2. A willow wand or garland carried into the sovereign's or a nobleman's house at Laster; hence, the ceremony or festivity itself. *Obs*

1465 *Mann & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 309 Item, on Ester day my master gaff to John Kocke to the wythe, xxd. 1467 *Ibid.* 393 Item, on Estyr day, my maistyr gaffe to the wyffe in the Kanges howse, vj s viij d. 1537 *Privy Purse Exp. Prince Mary* (1831) 24 Geuen to the Kinges Cookes to thayr wythe at Easter xl s. 1539–40 *MS. Acc. Butchers Co. London*, Payd for xvi men for vj^e bryngyng in of y^e Quynes wythe. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 72 In the weeke before Easter had yee great sheawes made for the fetching in of a twisted Tree, or With, out of the woodes into the Langes house.

d. With allusion to the story of Samson in *Judges* xvi. 7 (see sense 1, quot 1611)

1835 Faben *Inf.* (1869) 89 My soul arose and cracked in scorn the chains of darkness, like the green withs of the strong man. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daus.* xiv, I know that if I'd once to exert myself, I can break through the withes of green flax with which they try to bind me. 1876 Blackie *Songs Relig* 39 Strong by thee, like feeble withes he snapt The bonds of custom.

† 2. A halter, properly one made with withes. *Obs. c* 1205 Lay. 23833 Deð wiððe an his sweore & cra.ð bore to ane more. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11551 Aboute þy nekke hangep a wyþpe, pat hap be depatted fro Goddys gyrdyl. 1340 *Ayenb.* 135 Pet juge ssioued and y nome and mid mo-þaire an hondret maidenes þet hep mes þe wyþpe ine þe nykke. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut* xviii. 21 22 681/2 Who walked about the streetes as it were with a with about his necke. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* II. i, A wyth take him. 1625 Bacon *Ess. Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 371 That he might be hanged in a With, and not in a Halter because the last should be voued with former Rebels. 1678 T. Brooks *Gold Key* Wks. 1867 V. 441 [He] was condemned to the fire with others, only he should have the favour of standing at the stake without a with. 1694 S. Johnson *Notes Fast Let Bp. Burnet* i. 2 If the Highest Censures will not do it, we must do as is done in like Cases, we must take a With.

3. A willow. *Now dial.*

*c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 671 Wyth, brome, and quincetre. 1569 *Surrey & Kent Sessions Comm.* (L. C. C. 1909) 31 To Cut vppe the Withes by Rye Walls. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 130 To cut vp his wethes & shaue his bankes throw his grounde. 1696–1864 (see Water with). 1725 *Compl. Farm-Piece* II. 330 A Bed made of Red Willow. 1820 Keats *Endymion* III. 1577 Robertson *Hist. Amer* IV. 2, 2 I the root of the *curaru*, a species of withe.

b. The creeping plant *Helictospermum frutescosum*, of Jamaica, the stems of which are used for making baskets.

1697 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 87 Worve then all weeds, Withs, which are of a stronger grouth then the Canes. 1740 *New Hist Jamaica* (ed 2) 316 1847 Gosse *Birds Jamaica* 373 The gradual predominance of marsh plants, sagittaria,.. bulrush, and black withe.

4. *technical.* (See quots.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 350/2 A Glovers With is a square Iron, wrethen in the middle like a Wrench. Upon this they do use to rub and fret their Leather Skins to make them soft and plumpy, which kind of work from the name of the Instrument, they term the Withing. 1839 Sayer *Collier's Wood Bk* 736 *It* sth, an iron instrument fitted to the end of a boom or mast, with a ring to it, through which another boom or mast is caged out and secured. Also, in mechanics, the circular white handles of cold chisels, hot tools, &c., which prevent a jar to the assistant's wrist. 1880 *Amer. Cyc. Brit* XV. 437/2 A blacksmith's chisel held in a barel withe, and used for hot iron. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Mechanical Arts*, Withes, iron hoops or bands used for binding bales of cotton or rags.

5 *attrib* and *Comb.*

1598 J. F. Stourany *Songs & P.* 21 The withe-woven pannier. 1865 Lyell *Antiq. First Man* viii 190 Axes made by grinding the edge of a suitable pebble, and fixing it in a withe handle. 1866 *Treas Bot* 1235 2 Withe rod, *Viburnum nudum*. 1900 Cornish *Animal Anecdotes* 18 A fence turned out a dozen water hens, a brown owl, a woodcock, and a water-rail, from one little withe patch.

**Withe,** *v.* Now *dial.* and *U. S.* Also 4 wype, 5 wyth, 8 wythe, 9 with. [f. prec.]

1 *trans.* To twist like a withe. Also *fig.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxlv (MS Add. 27944) Iley breekith moost but iey beeþ ymade strengere with wypynge [*Bodl. MS.* weiyng] and wyndynge as breede is with wyndynge. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 125 The house must haue holmes withed about their neckes. 1809 J. Harlow *Columb* IX. 621 Bacon Withes Proteus Matter in his arms of night.

2 To bind with a withe or withes; *U. S* to take (deer) with a noose made of withes.

*c* 1630 Sir Hall *Def Cruelty* Wks 1634 II 424 Stay but a while, and you shall see him with'd, and tied, and stak'd, and baited to death. 1732 Lucas *Exact Farmer* 133 Others will drive in one Stake, and withe it about the Tree. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm* Ser. I. xvi, If their fences are well'd, they ought to stake them, and with them well. 1839 Hoffman *Wild Scenes* I. xix, What, Linus, you are not a going to withe the deer? 1841 J. F. Cooper *Deerslayer* vi, But it strikes me that I'm wished like a saw-log, that ye must choke too.

3 *technical* (See prec. 4, quot. 1688.)

**Withe,** var. Withe *Obs.*

**Withein,** var. Weothele *Obs.*

**Withen** (wi·θn, wɑ·θn). *Obs. exc. dial* (*w. mod.*) Also 4 wythone, wythene, 5, 9 wythen, 6 withyn, 7–8 within, 9 wythin, withing [prob. orig adj., f. Withe *sb* or Withy *sb* + -en4, after *aspen*, *beechen*, etc. The west-midland place-name *Withington* is app. f. this word.] A withy or willow. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

For other uses see Eng. Dial. Dict.

*c* 1230 *Ancr. R.* MS. C.C.C. *H.* 22 b, He is as be wiðen þe spruteð ut be betere þet me hine croppeð oðte [*Cf* quot. *a* 1225 s.v. Withy *sb* 1] *a* 1360 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm* App. v 246 Gaynesh n e no garlond of greene Hot bit ben of withones [*painted* wythounes] ywroght. 1380 Wyclif *Sel.* 31 17 Withenes trees (Vulg *salices*) of the strem. *c* 1440 *Merl's Festial* 174/13 He come by a wythen-tre, and made berof a goodge yerde. 1580 *Drusiana Coll Monuments* (MS.),

A dicheque quicksetted with thornes and Withyns. 1620 in *Lancs. Q. Sess. Rec.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 145 [John Sorocolde entered a close...and cut and took thence] withins. 1632 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 170, I observed most part of the ground...planted with withens. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 295/2 The Hoop Twigs are Withen Twigs Cloven. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 160 That I should attempt making of Paper from the Bark of Withins. 1788 *Ann. Reg., Pro-ceedings* 156 The bark or peel of within twigs. 1886 *Cheshire Glass, Withen or Withy*, a willow.

**† Wither,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *wiþre* (once), f. *wiþer* Wither *a.*] Opposition, hostility; adversity. *On wiðers*, adversely.

*Beowulf* 2933 [He] wiðres ne truwode, þæt he seemannum onsacan mihte. *c* 1205 Lay. 1248 Þe heo wolden mid wiðere þan kinge wið-standen. *Ibid.* 2884 Þe wind him com on wiðere. *Ibid.* 4678 Þat ich wes i wide an wiðer com toȝenes.

**Wither** (wi·ðəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 8 **wether.** [f. Wither *v.*[3]]

†1. A disease of cows. *Obs.*

1652 W. Poole *Country Farrier* 48 A Cow that hath the Wither. *a* 1720 Lisle *Observ. Husb.* (1757) 294 The wether that comes forth either before or after calving. [Cf. 1756 Ellis *Cy. Housewife* 359 That fatal Malady that some call Withering, that is to say, her Bearing comes out behind.]

2. *Tea-manuf.* The process of withering (see Wither *v.*[3] 4, c).

1897 D. Crole *Tea* vii. 114 Should...the weather not be propitious for a natural wither, none of this leaf would be ready for rolling. 1903 C. Bald *Indian Tea* xv. (1919) 225 Leaf is ready for rolling when it has become absolutely soft and flaccid, without being in any sense dried up [*marg.* Good wither].

**Wither,** *sb.*[3], occas. sing. of Withers.

**Wither,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 1, 3 **wiper, wither,** 3 *Orm.* **wiperr,** 4–5 **wyper,** 5 **wothire, whiper, wythyr.** [OE. *wiþer* adv. or adj. (rare), related to *wiþer* prep. = OFris. *wither*, OS. *withar* (MLG. *wider, wedder*, MDu., Du. *weder, weer*), OHG. *widar* (MHG. *wider*, G. *wider* prep. and *wieder* adv.), ON. *viðr*, Goth. *wiþra*; OE. has also *wiþ(e)rs* prep. = ONFris. *withers* (MDu. *wederes*), OHG. *widarēr* (MHG. *widerer*): f. Indo-Enr. *ui-* denoting separation or division + comp. suffix *-tero-* (cf. Skr. *vitarām* further). See also Wither-[1.]]

**A.** *adj.* 1. Hostile, adverse; fierce.

(*c* 1000 *Glost in Germania* (N. S.) XI. 394/366 *Infensus*, wiþer.) *c* 1200 Ormin 1581 Þatt wiþerr gast, o ȝuch fin nu. *c* 1205 Lay. 9287 Þe he hadde Wiðe[r] king þe wiðer was an compe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 275 Sicambri were afterward I-cleped Francis, as it were feranci, þat is wither and stierne. *c* 1746 J. Cowper (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 60/2 Iusty wither Tyke. [Cf. 1847 Halliwell, *Wither*...a strong fellow. *Yorksh.*...*Withering*, (1) strong; lusty. *Cheth.*]

2. Contrary, opposite; wrong (side).

*c* 1205 Lay. 11972 Þa aras heom a wind a þere wiðer side. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 930 On wyþer half water com doun he setter. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3355 Þat he wirke noȝt on þe wethire halfe.

**† B.** *adv.* Hostilely; perversely; fiercely. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 11972 Þa aras heom a wind a þere wiðer side, þat swo he ȝeraðnluker cleped is him, swo his wiðere turnes froward him. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3386 Amalech folc fast hard and wider.

Hence **Witherly** *a.*, contrary, perverse; *adv.*, fiercely, violently. *Obs.* or *dial.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 298 Neuer set in no boke breued I herde Pat euer he wrek so wyþerly on werk þat he made. *Ibid.* C. 74 Al he wrathed in his wyt & wyþerly he bigan. 1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Witherly*, wilful, contrary. 1847 Halliwell, *Witherly*, hastily; violently. *Devon.*

**† Wither,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *wiþerian* = MDu. *wederen*, OHG. *widarōn* (MHG. *wider(e)n*) *v.* *wiþer* (see prec.).] *intr.* To be hostile; to offer resistance, fight, struggle.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 552 For ði synd ða æcelbuman Godes bearu, forðan ðe nan þing on him ne wiðerað ongean God. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 Þif we wiðerið on ehte and on speche toȝenes ure chirche. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 475 Til ðat ðer hieȝes faren and fallen ðer-inne, wiðeren in ðat web, and wiken ut wenden. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 14 Wrastlin ha moten ant wiðerin wiȝ ha seoue. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 48 Þenne is me lyȝtloker hit lyke...Þenne wyþer wyth & be wroth.

**Wither** (wi·ðəɹ), *v.*[2] Forms: *a.* 4–6 **wydder, widder,** (5 **widre, 6 wyddre, weder**). *β.* 6 **wyther,** (6–7 **whither,** 7 **weather**). 6– **wither.** See also Withered. [app. var. of Weather *v.* ultimately differentiated for certain senses.]

1. *intr.* Of a plant: To become dry and shrivel up. Often in fig. context or in comparisons. Also with advs.

*a.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 468, & wyddered was þe wodbynde bi þat he wyȝes wakned. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* V. 5 Rist as hay, þey mon widre. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 378 b/2 They shal neuer fade ne wydder on lene theyr coulour. 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 146 Saynt James compareth the vanyte of this lyfe to the vapoure and sayth it shall perysshe and wyder awaye as a floure in the hey season. 1581 — *Serm. agst. Luther* ibid. 393 Trees when they be wydred and theyr leues shaken from them. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxi. 19 The figge tree wyddered anoȝe. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Bb vij b, The greatnes of youthe shall waste and wydder in age.

*β.* 1588 Shake. *L. L. L.* II. i. 54 Such short fin'd wits do wither as they grow. 1593 — *Rich. II*, v. i. 8 See, or rather doe not see, My faire Rose wither. 1634 Milton *Comus* 744 Like a neglected rose It withers on the stalk with langulsh't head. 1668 J. Owen *Indwelling-Sin* xiii. 274 He melts down the lusts of men, causeth them to wither at the root. 1763 Mills *Syst. Provid. Husb.* IV. 39 Before the roots were withered off, the bulbs should be taken up. 1786 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 332 The harvest and the vintage withered on the ground. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 948 Like flowers we wither, and like leaves we fall. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. xxxii, 'The tree will wither long before it fall. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 190 Now for the high woods that murmur, now for me the roof-tree fall. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* cxiv. III. 643 After a year or two of bloom, a town wilts and withers.

2. Of other animate things: To become dried up or shrivelled; to lose vigour from lack of animal moisture; to pine or fade *away* with age, disease, decay, etc.

*a.* *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5302 Þe fre kyng Teutra Wex weike of his wound & widrit to dethe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 63 Now I wax old,...As muk apon mold I widder away. *β.* 1588 *N. T.* (Rheims) Mark ix. 18 He foameth, and gnasheth with the teeth, and withereth. 1748 R. James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 159 When the eruptions begin to subside and wither. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* vi. xliv, All lips which I have kissed must surely wither, But Death's. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xv, Do a kindness to the sweet dear that is withering away. 1862 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 654 Those unfortunate men who were withering under the tropical sun. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Archives Surg.* IX. 309 Many of the nodules subsequently withered.

3. *fig.* Of persons, or of inanimate and immaterial things: To lose vigour or freshness, to languish, decline, pine *away*, fade, fall into decay.

*a.* 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 147 Vnderstandynge wyll and reason...he so vtterly wedred and dryed vp, that the wonted moysture of deuocyon is in hym lacked. [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) B, Y^u ...doest not widder & dry vp ye wylderes. 1550 *Rirr. Mag., Edw. IV*, 63 As they be neighbors all is wydred away.

**†** 1533 Coverdale *Eccles.* x. 27 He hath caused them to wyther awaye, he hath brought them to naught. 1562 Bonnebourne *Hist. of Hagarites* (1674) 248 Men that ...are now arrived at the haven of their businesse, to wither [*later ed.* weather] for their passports. *a* 1647 Habington *Queen of Arragon* (1786) I. 70 An heroick gentleman witheringe in poverty. *a* 1696 Hales *Gold. Rem.* (1673) 122 An hope of excellent things...which...for want of cherishing fades and withers in the bud. 1888 *Adir. Fr. Winchester* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2550/1 This Ancient City, which is now again weather-ing by their Absence, which began to Flourish ...from being blassed with their Presence. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIII. 246 With'ring at heart to see the weeping Earle. 1780 Cowper *Exposit.* 324 States thrive or wither, as moons wax and wane. 1820 Scatcherd *Tales* xvi. 268 A hue like this never withers, it will last, it will glow awhile longer. 1830 Galt *Annrie* I. ii. (1849) 87 My heart withered as I contemplated the scene. 1850 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (1862) II. 155 When that sense [of national union] is weakened it withers. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. I. 8 Christianity...withered under Frank patronage. 1901 *Scotsman* 16 Nov. 9/4 It would be idle to expect Scotsmen ...to stand...at a high level, when all other securities are withering in price.

**†** 4. *a.* *intr.* and *pass.* Of a crop: To be dried, to dry. *Obs.*

1552 Turner *Herb.* B iij Hey,...whan it is wel wydered on the ouerayde and dryye, than turne it. *Ibid.* § 31 Pees and beanes...wythen togyder, and wyde benethe, that they maye the better wydire. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 131 Corne hurtes when it downe...should wither as needeth, for burning in mow.

**†** b. *trans.* To air: = Weather *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1644 Parl. *Petitions* (1558) Lvij, Nor were men of timber apparell, excepte they were well sunned, or wythered in the clean ayre. *a* 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 180 He withers his clothes on a stage as a Sale-man inforc't to doe his suites in Bartholmew-fayre.

c. *Tea-manuf.* To dry (tea leaf) before roasting. Also *abstol.* Also *intr.* of the leaf.

1753 F. Picou *Of Tea* in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1793) II. 68 The leaves...is gathered, then put in Sieves, or Baskets,...and those put in the air, till the leaves wither, or give. *Ibid.*, Youngshaw...says, that the leaves of Souchon are best, when first plucked, if they have been withered by the Sun, or Air. 1879 E. Money *Tea* xxiv. (1878) 208 Why wither at all? I made Tea...of 1st, totally unwithered leaves; and, of leaves but little withered. 1892 J. M. Walsh in *Cent. Mag.* 1004 Two hours only being picked at a time and 'withered' in the open air.

**†** d. *intr.* = Weather *v.* 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1. *Intermittent Fever* (1798) 24 [Wacken] withers by exposure to the atmosphere, and then becomes more grey. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. Seine* 97 The deserted pile withered away upon by stone beats and the rains of heaven.

5. *trans.* To cause (a plant, flower, etc.) to dry up and shrivel. Also in fig. context.

1555 Eden *Decades* 299, I...sawe the braunches of fruite-full trees withered by the coulde. 1598 *Edw. III*, II. i. 300 The Sunne, that withers heye, doth nourish grasse. 1668 J. Owen *Indwelling-Sin* xv. 253 He makes their lives unfruitful to others, in weakening their root, and withering their fruit through his poisoning temptations. 1768 Goldsm. *Double Transform.* 76 That dire disease, whose ruthless power Withers the beauty's transient flower. 1832 James *Philip Augustus* xxiv, On whose rosy cheek the touch of care had withered not a flower. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Where a factory planted among fields withered the space about it, like a burning mountain. 1885 Cloud *Hythe & Dr.* I. iii. 41 The fierce heat that withered the approaching harvest.

6. To cause (the body or the physical powers) to become wasted or decayed; to cause to shrink, become wrinkled, or lose freshness.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 13 [They] haue not withred vp their handes in signing and subscribing to their requests. 1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 240 Age cannot wither her. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iii. x. 149 They...attenuate our bodies, dry them, wither them. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vi. 830 Every eye...shot forth pernicious fire Among the accurst, that withered all their strength. 1740 Dyer *Ruins Rome* 477 Enfeebling vice Withers each nerve. 1847 Scott *Eight Widow* v, May the tongue that tells me of his death...be withered in thy mouth.

7. *fig.* To destroy the vitality or vigour of; to cause to decline, decay, or waste; now somewhat *rare* exc. in hyperbolical use, to blight or paralyse with a look of scorn or the like. Also with *t-away*.

1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* I. i. 7 Like to a Step-dame, or a Dowager, Long withering out a yong mans reuenew. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* III. 111 Himselfe withered with debite. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 303 Wild Amazement flung From out thy Clariot, withers ev'n the Strong. 1785 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 190 Like Mars terrific,...When clad in wrath he withers hosts of foes. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. ii, Expend I before the red-eyed Wrath Wither you to ghosts. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* iii, Dr. Slammer...said nothing, but contented himself by withering the company with a look. 1844 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxx. 462 The historian...would have been withered by the frowns which would have darkened upon him from the saloons of Versailles [etc.]. 1887 A. Jessopp *Arcady* 172 The world is getting quite too much for us—withering us, in fact.

**Wither,** var. Wither *sb.*[3]

**Wither-**[1], *prefix*, repr. OE. *wiþer-*, OFris. *wither-*, OS. *withar-*, MLG. *widar-* (MHG., G. *wider-*), = the adv. *wiþer* (see Wither *a.*) used with sbs., adjs., and verbs (cf. With- 3), chiefly in the sense (1) against, in opposition or hostility, as in OE. *wiþercrist* antichrist, *wiþerwinda* contradiction, resistance, *wiþersaca* Withersake, *wiþerwinna* Witherwin; less commonly in the senses (2) in return or compensation, counter-, as in OE. *wiþerlean* recompense, *wiþerlīfe* counterchange; and (3) in the opposite direction, back.

**†** 1. In sense (1), used (esp. by Layamon) in compounds denoting hostile acts or contests, as wiperblench, -ded [Deed *sb.*], -gome [Game *sb.*], -hap, -neht [Fight *sb.*], **wiperstrenoþ** resistance; also in the derived sense 'adverse, evil', as **wipercraft,** -laȝe [Law *sb.*[1]], and (in personal designations) **wiperlaȝe** [cf. OFris. *witherlagia* opponent] persecutor, wiperlaȝe [Theode] enemy people; occas. with verbs, as **wiperhalde** [Hold *v.*] to hold out against, oppose. (Often indistinguishable from Wither *a.*) *Obs.*

*c* 1200 Ormin 5905 ȝiff he ȝete waxenn ȝuer awihti off wiperstrenoþ þe Oniggnn hise aþenn oferrkinng. *Ibid.* 10227 To fihhtenn ȝorr þe Ieode, To wiperrstanndenn hiss wiperrþeod. *c* 1205 Lay. 272 Witen he wolde þurh þa wiper-crafies *later text* wise crafies] wat þing hit were. *Ibid.* 405 Þar eroȝ wate & win & wiper-hetes fele. *Ibid.* 1247 Þe king wolde wiȝ heom wiðer-halden. *Ibid.* 10468 Þe ilæfule þurh his wiðer-laȝen muchel of þine cunne of-slæȝen. *Ibid.* 18318 Cuð hit is wide of ure wiðer-halden. *Ibid.* 27300 Summe heo wræstelden and wiðer-gome makeden. *Ibid.* 28669 Þa weoren wide to-flopen: ut of þan wiðer-uehte. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 5 Þe swarte wiðerlahen leoden wes uðerliche on hire leoflike liche, het hit beoden. *c* 1250 *Long Life* 12 in *O. E. Misc.* 156 Nis non so stiong...Þat mai ago deabes wiper-bieneh.

2. In sense (2), = **witherweye** *v.* *trans.*, to weigh again; **witherweight** *Sc.* (also *wodderweght*), a counterbalancing weight. Cf. Withernam.

1340 *Ayenb.* 137 To...wiþnyme his dedes...and telle, and weȝe, and *wyþerweȝe*. 1642 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 330 xx. A "wodder-weght is one ball weghted to the better. 1808 Jamieson, *Witherweight*,...(*witherwecht*), the weight thrown into one scale, to counterbalance the paper, or vessel, in the opposite scale, which contains the goods bought. 1820 Hogg *Wint. Even.* T. I. 170 She's nae wother-weight nouther.

3. In sense (3), **† witherhoked** *a.*, barbed [cf. MHG. *widerhāke* barb, G. *-haken*, ElFris. *wiirhake*]; **† witherwinde** *adv. Sc.* [Wind *sb.*[1] II], = Withershins.

*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5666 Þis diacoun hadde a long taile þat was *wiþerhoked*. 1643 in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scot.* x. (1834) 459 She turnit herself thrie severall tymes round *wither*wys, bot nocht the fyrr.

**Wither-**[2] (*rare*), = Wither *v.*[2] used in comb. in sense 'withered', as *wither-boned, -faced* adjs.

1598 Nashe *Strange News* Wks. (Grosart) II. 227 The wither-fac'd weather-beaten Gentleman. 1821 Milman *Fazio* 9 Like some dry wither-boned anatomy.

**Withered** (wi·ðəɹd), *ppl. a.* Forms: 5–6 **wyddred** (*Sc.* 5 **wydderit,** 5–6 **widderit**), 6 **wydred, widdered, wydderad, wyddurde, (wedred, *Sc.* widthrid), wyth(e)red, withred (wethered), 6–7 withered, 6– wither'd, withered.** [f. Wither *v.*[2] + -ed.[1]]

1. Of a plant, fruit, etc.: Shrivelled or shrunken through lack of moisture, and so deprived of its natural colour, freshness, or bloom; hence, of fields, or stretches of country, and *gen.*: Dried up, arid.

*c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1037 Thar auld bulwerk I se off wydderyt ayk. *c* 1480 Henryson *Tree Alice* 222 Thir widderit pres and muttis...Will berk my teith. — *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* xix. It will not win ȝow worth ane widderit neip. 1508 Fisher *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 148 Wedred grasse or hey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 70 The widshrid barran feildis. *a* 1580 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Prof., Wks. 1564 II. 2 A pece of grosse smokye bacon or saulte withered

byefe 1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* III xxi 210 Many dea trees, sandy e, wytherd, withrinefull 1609 *Shaks Temp* I ii 467 Witherd roote 1637 Rutherford *Lett. to M. Vennat* (1671) 166 Our Lord shall water with his dew the withered hill of mount Zion in Scotland. 1688 Dryden & Lee *Dk Guise* I i, To the bare Common of the wither'd Field 1710 *Lond Gaz* No 4737/4 A tall thin Man, with withered Hair 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 52 Wither'd stumps disgrace the sylvan scene 1823 Scott *Tryorm* I v, The wither'd leaves, That drop when no winds blow 1861 Mrs Browning *Nature's Remorses* 21, Withered immortelles, long ago cut 1864 Tennyson *Enoch Ard.* 676 But narrow breadth Of wither'd bulk or filth.

**2.** Of men and animals. Physically shrunken, shrivelled, wasted, or decayed; deprived of animal vitality or vigour

*a* 1500–34 *Cov. Corpus Christi Pl* 1 839 Sey ye, wyddurde wyvis, whydder aire ye a wey? 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xxiii (Percy Soc) 143 An olde wyzed wicke 1526 Tindale *John* v 3 A greate multitude off sicke folke, off blynde, halt, and wyddered 1588 Shaks *L. L. L.* IV iii 242 A withered Hermite, five score winters worne 1642 Milton *Animadv* xiii Wks 1851 III 233 They may as well sue for Nunneries, that they may have some convenient stowage for their wither'd daughters. 1700 Rowe *Amb Step Mother* III i, Wrks which Years and Sickness have made Sage. 1868 J H Blunt *Ref Ch. Eng.* I 401 A poor withered skeleton of humanity

**b.** Of the body, or parts of it: Shrivelled or shrunken, esp. by the wasting of disease or age. Formerly, and now *colloq.* or *dial.*, often applied to a paralysed limb

1513 [see Wearish *a.* 2] 1526 Tindale *Mark* iii. 1 There was a man which had a widdred honde 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 644 Take the head off my wither'd Arm 1795–6 Wordsw *Borderers* II 890 Twice did I spring to grasp his withered throat. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* Introd 3 His withered cheek, and tresses gray 1821 J Thomson *Lect Inflam* 159 The part affected became at first insensible and cold, and, in the progress of the disorder, dry, hard, and withered 1887 Dowden *Shaks Primer* v 79 So fierce a human energy as that of Richard concentrated within one withered and distorted body 1900 H G Wells *Outl Hist* 559/2 The figure of the new monarch [William II of Germany] with a withered left arm ingeniously minimized

**3** *fig* in immaterial sense: Deprived of or having lost vigour, freshness, or 'bloom', shrunken and decayed; † formerly sometimes, reduced to poverty.

1561 Hoby tr *Castiglione's Courtyer* II xviij, In my withered reasonings 1596 Raleigh *Discov Guiana* A 3 b, I am returned a beggar, and withered 1637 Rutherford *Lett to Parishioners* 23 July, The Lord will make this withered kirk, to bud again like the rose 1708 J Brown in R Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 237 Our sacrament is on the 5th Sabbath of Ju e. Pray for our withered corner. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* IV xxv, Lay on him the curse of the withered heart. 1819 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 1 288 The pale Omega of a withered race 1860 Smiles *Self Help* xi 285 The Board's youth turns from his withered pleasures 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* II xv, A grey dusty withered evening in London.

† **4.** a. Worn out, ragged. *Obs rare.*

*c* 1480 Henryson *Test Cress* 165 His widderit weid fra him the wind out went.

† **b.** = Weatherbed 1 *Obs rare*

1796 Kirwan *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 348 Withered gneiss has sometimes the appearance of a grey slaty mortar

**c** *Tea manuf.* (see Wither *v.*² 4 c)

1897 D Crole *Tea* iv 117 Trolly loads of withered leaf

**5** *Comb.*, as *withered looking* adj

1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 179 His beard stunted, tawny, and withered looking

Hence **Wi·theredly** *adv* , in a withered manner ; **Wi·theredness**, the condition of being withered ; rarely *concr.* a withered part.

1532 Coverdale *Jer.* xiv 3 Why is it for their bewty wythrednesse and sonneburnynge 1621 T Williamson tr *Goulart's Wise Vieeland* 24 Old age the unweldinesse or witheredneese of the body 1658 R Fox *Worlds Sweep* iii xxiii 293 That withrednesse caused by a fall I have annointed twice a day. 1659 Lorriano, Witheredly, *accamente* 1722 J Wilson *Pict Cancer Serm* Wks (1854) 213/2 There usually follows, on God's withdrawing, a more withered sense and barrenness on the souls of his people 1883 G Macdonald *Princess & Curdie* iii, Every trace of the decrepitude and withredness she showed. Vanished

**Witherer** (wi·ðərəɹ). *rare* [f. Wither *v.*² + -er¹] One who or that which withers.

1828 Landor *Imag Conv., Engl & Flor Vis* III 427 Gifford is the Harriet Wilson of our literary world; the whitest of young ladies and Mons Minor of Pern, Blancher of the hair, and Witherer of the strength.

† **Witherful**, *a Obs.* [f. Wither *sb.*¹ + -ful.]

**a.** Hostile, wicked, evil. b Bold, valiant. Hence † **Wi·therfulness**, wickedness.

*a* 1000 *Prov Cott Homil* 83 Hie wiðerfulle hine, þo hen deulen on helle *Hist* 63 *Dissaluere colligationes impetuatis* þat unbindeð þe bendes of wiðerfulnesse *c* 1205 Lay 21830 To þan scepen wenden wiðer fulle cheu þeod 25264 Arður his writ nom an bondien mid wiðer fulle worden

**Withering** (wi·ðəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wither *v.*² + -ing¹]

**1.** The action of Wither *v.*², q. v

1593 Fitzherbert *Husb* § 23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the swater it wyll be when it is hey, but it wyll haue the more wyddryng. *a* 1614 Downe *Hosea* xiv (1614) 131 These enormous witherings of our bodies are allowable 1658 A Fox *Worlds Sweep* III. xxiii. 289 A Withering, is a Symptom which is incident to Joints wounde l 1796 in J Robertson *Agric Perth* (1799) 317 What fell off from the whins, broom, firs, &c. in the course of their withering 1848 S Ball *Tea* viii 157 The peculiar red appearance of this tea is produced by tossing the leaves (in trays) to promote the withering 1853 Maurice *Prophets & Kings* viii 115 The withering of a hand which was cured again 1862 Herbert *Organization in Daily Life* 5 The waste of time, and the withering up of enjoyment. 1866 G Stephens *Runic Mon* I 25 The remaining withering away of the N in Scandinavia is in the infinitive. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII 845 Spontaneous withering or incrpression of the tension of the tumours 1903 C Read *Indian Tea* xv (1917) 218 Withering in the sun is fatal to fine quality

**b** *attrib.*

1707 Mortimer *Husb* 267 After the Malt has lain on the withering Floors about twelve or fourteen days 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xiii, I he learned gentleman who does the whitening business, and who l ughs all opportunities with his gloomy sarcasm 1897 D Crole *N Tea* viii 124 A withering-house 100 yards long will accommodate about 140 maunds of leaf

**2** *concr.* Withered branches or brushwood, used in making fences, etc.

1850 C W Hoskyns *Talpa* 46 A man made barrier of stakes and 'witherings' 1854 R S Surtees *Handley Cr Spec* (1901) 104 The rotten stakes and witherings of a low ill made up gap.

**Wi·thering**, *ppl a.* [f. Wither *v.*² + -ing².] That withers, in various senses.

1. Fading, decaying. *lit.* and *fig.*

1590 Alex Hume *Hymns* vii. 206 Widdring weids. 1621 T Williamson tr *Goulart's Wise Vieeland* 2 This withering and transitory life 1688 J Owen *Indwelling Sin* xiv 235 There may be a withering member in the body 1689 Gwyn *Operation Jesus* 3 Jesus Anguish blasted the withering flower 1783 Barbe *Villace* 1 185 The bare arms broken from the withering tree 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 938 Here he fights, and there obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with ring wreaths. 1822 Shelley *Adonais* xxxii, On the withering flower The killing sun smiles brightly.

**2.** Causing to fade or decay (*lit.* and *fig.*); *esp* causing decay of vigour or paralysis of effort; blasting, blighting; often applied to the 'paralysing' effect of scornful looks, criticism, and the like, and to destructive gun-fire.

1579 L K in *Spenser's Sheph Cal* Feb *Arg*, A dry and withering cold 1599 Daniel *Musophilus* 167 Whereas he came indeed in the Autumne, We set in th' Autumne, in the withering And sullen season of a cold defect, Must [etc] 16 Hakewill *Apol* iv. 1. 210 A withering scowl she wore 1810 Southey *Kehama* xv. 170 Nor hast I in that Watch a withering sight! 1813 J Cross *Corsair* II x, The withering sense of evil unreveal'd. 1849 Aytoun *Lays S Scot Cav* 314 Vainly speed the withering volley Mongst the ranks of our Lord 1857 Kingsley *Two Y ngs xv*, Tisley cast on him a look which he intended to have been wi hering 1859 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxiv V 135 A blighting and withering dominion. 1884 *Chamb Journ Whole Works Dr Johnson* 174 Our withering fire knocked the poor fellows over and over

Hence **Wi·theringly** *adv.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1815 Byron *Lara* II. *Hist of Guzzlers*, Ye must wander witheringly. In other lands ty die 1829 *Winter Annian Hours* (1830) 64 The gathered flower droops witheringly away 1835 M Scott in *Blackw Mag* XXXVII 452 My uncle Ludo witheringly set him down 1848 Bagot *Prophecy* xiii 116 'Then, my l ask, what is the use of sending me on a fool's errand?' the professor retorted, witheringly

**Witherland** (wi·ðəɹlænd). *Hist.* [Named by Verstegan after W. *Witheringe*, who first described and analysed it in 1784 see -ITE¹ 2 b.] Native barium carbonate.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 418, I could not discover any result of crystallised shape, like the witherite

**Witherling** (wi·ðəɹliŋ). *Obs.* [f. Wither *sb.*¹ + -ling¹.] A withered branch; a shrivelled or stunted person.

1598 Morse *Dialogue* II Wks 186 I all these brunches of heritikes seme their neuer so freshe & grene, beeyet in deede but withred witherlinges 1607 Walkington *Optick Glasse* 24 Grandman *Cranis of Homer's Wks* 30 No forspoke Dwarfe, nor downeward withering.

**Witherman** (wi·ðəɹmən). *Law* Now *Hist.* Also 4–6 **wyther**, (4 -ðr-), 5–6 **wether-**, **wider-**, 4–7 **-name**. [Law-French (in Britton *wythernam*), presumably a. Old Norse *viðrnám* recorded only in the sense 'resistance' (but cf. early Da. *vedernam* pledge), f. *viðr-* Wither-¹ + *nám* Naam. The etymological meaning is 'reprisal'.] In an action of replevin, the reprisal of other goods in lieu of those taken by a first distress and eloigned; also, the writ (called *capias in withernam*) commanding the sheriff to take the reprisals.

1290 Britton I 249 Si les bestes soint chaces hors del counte, ou si le bailli faitre desturbaunce troeffe, tauntost face prendre des l estes del deforceour a la double value cum vs lytherum 1534 *Statutes at Large* 428 De returnes in replegiare lou le plentyfe auera vne withernam 1548–2 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen VIII* c 26 § 29 The Shirief shall have for the making of Repliegias twelvepence, and withernam upon the same twelve pence 1593 tr *Act & Edw I*, c 5 [A] courte, hauynge power to holde pleas of wythernam 1579 *Fenne Terms Law* 72 b, The party vpon y^e returne of the sheriffe shall haue 1 writte of Withernam, directed to the Sheriff, that he take as many of hys beastes (yll y^e hee hath made deliuerance of y^e first distres 1599 *Life of Sir T More* in Wordsw *Eccl. Biog* (1853) II 102 Whether chattell taken [in] withername may be replevied. 1628 J. Wilkinson *Treat Of Coroners* ii 153 b, Then the plaintife may have a Withernam, which must be made in this manner. *c* 1685 Sir H Finch *Law* (1636) 354 In a replevin in the Countie Court, if the goods be conueyed away, so as at the Tenants suite they cannot be restored, processe of withernam lyeth 1696 tr *Moyle's Rep* 30 A Withernam was awarded, and executed, and now comes the Plaintiff and prays to declare, and plays a deliverance of the Withernam. 1767 Blackstone *Comm* III ix 149 Goods taken in withernam cannot be replevied, till the original distress is forthcoming

**b.** A process of distress (or arrest) for debt, formerly current in the Cinque Ports (and other towns)

1314–15 *Cal Letter Bks Lond* E (1903) 12 (The sum of 40*s* which had been taken by way of] Witherman [from] Thomas de Granthan de Dyvelyn 1352 *Borough Customs* (Selden Soc.) I 122 Al ante du du plaintif, ci deit le bailif par assignement des jurs prendre une Weythernesse ou plusmoque vienge de la dite vile ou cité 1461–83 *Hist* I 125 Payle and jurates may take a wythername against all his tenauntes 1599 *Hist* I. 116 If any man have take toll or custom of eny freman of Cawnterbery, he that ys grevid may have a widernamne at Cauntorbury therfore 1574 *Acts Privy Council* (N S) VIII 313 A letter to the Mayor of Dover touching complaintes made against him by Flemynges for the arrest made by widernams 1596 *Ibid* IX 215 Whereas Andrew Muller of Hamborough was arrested at Dover by a writt of withernam

**c.** Reprisals taken at sea by letters of marque.

1714 Fortescue-Aland *Pref Fortescue's Abs & Lim. Hen* 50 This Word Witherman also signifies Reprisals taken at Sea, by Letters of Mart also.

**Withers** (wi·ðəɹz), *sb. pl.*, occas. *sing* wither. Also **7 weather-**. [app. a reduced form of *widersome* or *-some* (see quots. 1541–2, 1547), f. *wider-* = Wither-¹ + an obscure element; cf. *G. widerspenstig*, *Icel. widr-* Wither-¹ + *rest* Wrist.] In a horse, the highest part of the back, lying between the shoulder-blades. Also, the corresponding part in some other animals, as the ox or the sheep Often in fig. context, esp after Shaks. (quot 1602), with allusion to the 'wringing' of a horse's withers

1541 *Act 33 Hen VIII*, *c* 5 § 2 Every horse to be in height xiij handfulles measured from the neither parte of the here of the houghe vnto the vpper parte of the Widersomes, That is to saye, the vpper parte of the Shulders 1547 Salesbury *Dict Kergi Welsh*, *i yswydd gudum*, the wyder some

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 219 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false guide 1594 Blundevil *Exerc* II xix (1597) 221 I, In his [or the Pull a] necke toward the Withers are 7 sturres 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* P 4, That wring him on the withers worse than all the rest 1602 Shaks *Ham* III ii 52 Let the gall'd iade winch our withers are vnrung 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw Ho* v 1 Hab, Never were those innocent Citizens so notoriously wrung vpon the withers 1609 C Butler *Feminarch, Hen VI*, cccxlii, Though the chiefe Author of Tyrranye gall'd the withers of their will 1709 Swift *Dis t Serv*, w Contrive that the Saddle may pinch the Beast in his Withers 1858 Lyte *Maxims* 1 iii, Tell the owner, said Caroline pressing on the wrung withers, [etc] 1859 Darwin *Orig* x 1 25 The Vampire bat is often the cause of much trouble, by biting the withers of horses 1867 Smyth *S Baker Italy Ired* xviii 475 The shoulders [of the sable antelope] are extremely high at the withers. 1868 Symonds *Amateur Sk, Cath Revel* (1880) III xi 190 The ox is city of Italy which Tassoni did not wring in the withers of its self conceit

*attrib.* 1607 Torshell *Fourf Beasts* 397 The wither of the be sit, I meane the top of his shoulder next to his necke. 1695 *Lond Gaz* No 3096/4 A black Gelding, the Hair clipt on his Wither 1709 G White *Selborne, To Pennant* Mar, I mentioned in the account of the Cheshire horse, and found that, from the ground to the wither, it was just five feet four inches 1850 H Herbert *Tract Horsemanship* 118 The saddle, pressing on the side of the wither, would pinch the horse 1908 *Animal Managem* 160 A wide wither is nearly as troublesome as a high one

**b.** *transf.* The part of a saddle which comes over the withers.

1764 J Wallis *Farrier's Dict* xv *Bow of a Saddle*, The withers is the arch that rises two or three fingers over the horse's withers

**c.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *wither-gall*, *-strap*; **withersband**, *-lock* (see quots.); **witherwrung** *a.*, injured in the withers.

1596 Earl Monm tr *Boccalini's Advts fr Parnass* I. xxxi 54 A three-wheel'd Chariot drawn by lean weather-wrung Jades 1764 J Wallis *Farrier's Dict* s v *Bands of a Saddle*, Besides these two great bands, the fore bow has a small one called the wither band, and a crescent to keep up the wither arch *Ibid*, *Witherband*, a band or piece of iron, laid underneath the saddle, over the fingers above the withers of the horse, to keep tight the two pieces of wood that form the bow. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Tour* II v 57 A broken-winded wither wrung horse. 1792 W Felton *Carriages* (1801) II Gloss, *Wither Strap*, a part of the harness, which goes round the withers of the horse to hold up the collar 1895 Jamieson, *Witherlock*, the part of the mane, of which one takes hold when mounting on horse back 1888 *Corah Mag* Sept. 299 Many of them had open kidney sores and wither-galls.

† **Wi·thersake.** *Obs.* [OE *wiðersæcc* = OFris *wiðersekia*, OS *widersahha*, OHG *widarsahha* (MHG. *widersache*, MLG. *widersacher*): f. *wiðer-* Wither-¹ + *-sacu*, agent-n. f. stem *sak-* of Sake *sb*.] An adversary, enemy.

In OE, simply and in phr *Godes witersace*, often = apostate.

*c* 960 Ætherwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schroër 1885) lxii. 110

**Withersins, widdershins** (wiðər-, wiðəsins), *adv. dial.* (chiefly *Sc.*). Forms: 6- widder-, 7- wither-, (6 widdir-, weddir-, wod-(d)er-, 6, 9 wooder-); 6-9 -sins, 6- -shins, (6 -syns, -shynes, -shynnis, -son(n)is, 6, 9 -sinnis, -sonss, 7-shines, 9-sohynnes). [a. MLG. *widerstin(ne)s* (cf. *wedersins* 'contrario modo', Kilian), a. MHG. *widerstinnes, ſ. wider-* WITHER-1 + gen. of *stin* (esp. MG.) = *stand, stint way*, direction (see SITHE *sb.*1): cf. MHG. *widerstimmen* to return. In sense 2 associated with *son, Sun sb.*]

†**1.** In a direction opposite to the usual; the wrong way; *to stand oi start withershins*, (of the hair) to 'stand on end'. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii 26 Abasit I wote, and widdersyns start my hare. *Ibid.* Direxium of Buik 29 And on the bak half writis widdirsinnis Plentie of leysyngis. 1570 R. Bannatyne *Mem* (Bannatyne Cl.) 12 That will gar thair hairis trumbill, and thair hair stand widdirshynes. 1583 *Rep. Sp. St. Andrews* 194 Anna potter in the kitchen his blessing gave, Betuixt the schoulders a royall route, Turning him wodderschins about. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 580 Hairis like wyrdsisteris vbaub. *a* 1600 — *Sonn* xxxiii. 6 Sho straikit bukwart wodershins my hair. 1685 G Sinclair *Satans Invisib World* 211 His hair standing Widdershins in his head. 1721 Ramsay *Tell never leave* v, The Starns shall gang withershins e'er I deceive thee.

**2.** In a direction contrary to the apparent course of the sun (considered as unlucky or causing disaster).

1545 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club 1903) I. 84 Sayand the said Margaret Balfour sayand sche was wytche and that sche ȝeid widersonnis about mennis hous sark alane. *a* 1583 Montgomerie *Flyting* 418 Thair veneraball virginis quhome ȝe wald call witches, nynt tymes, widersonnis, about the tume raid. 1596 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 96 I find it wilbe ane deir yeir; the bled of the corne growis withersonnes; and quhan it growis sonn, ais about, it wilbe ane gude cheap yeir. 1597 *Skene Reg. Maj.* (1609) 12 Ane to take ane birne of the corne on his bak, and careit it thrie tymmis woodersonn above the kill. 1685 G Sinclair *Satans Invis. World* 251 (which dance) the men turned nine times Widder-shines about, and the Women six times 1728 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph* II. ii, Mausy Runs withershins about the Hemlock Lowe. 1845 Scott *Jairon* xxviii, While the challenger rode around the lists in the course of the sun . the defender made the same circuit *widdersins*. 1840 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* (1845) XV. 141 The fishermen, when about to proceed to the fishing, think they would have bad luck, if they were to row the boat 'withershins' about. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 10 So, widdershins circling the bridehed of death, Kneel, cheer and labour.

†**Witherward,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **witerward.** [OE *wiþerweard* (cf. OHG. *widarwart, -wert*, Goth. *wiþrawaírþs*), f. *wiþer-*, WITHER-1 + *-weard*, -WARD.] Hostile, inimical.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth* xl § 2 Þeah hit nu hefiȝ æe & wiðerweard, 972 *Blickl. Homm.* 223 Him þa bæðnan men wæpnode wæron. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Matt. xi 25 Alle ceastre oððe hus, þe hyra wiþerweard onȝean hyt astilt, hyt ne stent. *c* 1200 Orm 5667 Wiþerrwarrd onnȝeness Godd. *c* 1205 Lay. 8873 Wið al folc he wes wiðerwarrd. *a* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2933 Dis king him his wel wiðer ward Agen his folc. 13.. *A Dave Dreame* 90 No strook ne ȝal he ȝeinward Io þilk bat hym wæren wiþerward.

**b.** *absol.* (Cf. OE. *wiþerweard* adversary.)

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4297 Þou wrikus bot on þa witerward, & worthis þaim oure.

Hence †**Witherwardness,** hostility, enmity.

*c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past C* iii 36 He wearð oft swæ ungemetlice gremod & gebolgen onmedes, þætan sie ne scylde & ælcre wiðerwerdnesse wið hine. *a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Hatrede and widerwardnesse.

†**Witherwards,** *adv. Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. WITHER-1 + -WARDS.] = WITHERSHINS.

1604 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc* I 144 To gang thryse wodderwards about the kow, and attaik hir in the left syd. 1643 in Dalyell *Superst of Scot.* (1834) 459 [He] ȝeid about his hous twys or thrys witherwards.

†**Witherwin.** *Obs.* Forms: 1–3 **wiþer-, wiþer-**, 3–4 **wither-, wyper-**, (4 **weper-, wipir-, withere-, yre-, wipper-, quiper-, wider, wyder-, widdir-, wydyre-**), 4–5 **wodir-, wethur-**, 5 **witer-**; 1–2 **-winna**, 2–4 **-winn**, 3–4 **-win**, 3–5 **-wynne**, 5 **-wyn**, (**-un**), 4–5 **-ywne**. [OE. *wiþerwinna* = OHG. *widarwinno* (MHG. *-winne*), f. *wiþer-* WITHER-1 + agent-n. of *winnan* WIN *v.*1] An enemy, adversary; *spec.* the Adversary, the Devil.

*c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xix 146 Dylles he sie ongieten ǽnst he sie wiðerwinna ðæs þe he bið geæwen ðeow on his ðeȝnunge. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* (Assmann) I 190 Ure wiðerwinna is wacol & us cwuma wlehs. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6648 Þo þis quene was of londe yþrnu þoru hire wiþerwinne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6284 His folc he has al sauued sund, þair wiþerwinn se knoght to grund. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi (*Magdalena*) 246 How þe deil he (holy) ay ne, To safe wa fra þe wethirwyne. *c* 1400 *Morte Arth* 2215 Wrothely he Wounded thees whyiryewys, werrayede knyghtites. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 695 Nowe arte þou werre þan any Sarasene, Goddis awenn wedirwyne. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlvii. 42 Thike day Converyid was . A thowsend & Fyfty Sarrasines that to fore tyme weren wethi-wyn.es.

**Withery** (wiðəri), *a. rare.* [f. WITHER *v.* + -Y 1.] Inclined to wither; wilting.

1881 R. Banister *Treat 113 Dis. Eye* Brevary (1892) (b 3 b), Eyes darke, withery, and cloudy, presage death. 1882 Green *Lett* (1901) 81 As All else are waxing pale and withery under the Tartarian heat

**Withey,** variant of WITHY.

†**Withfall.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WITH *adv.* + FALL *sb*, after late L. *symptoma*, Gr. *σύμπτωμα* SYMPTOM.] A chance, casuality, accident; a symptom

1582 Thynne *Herbal* ii 46 b, The vurynes appiere eaten with theyr sede bryng dedely withfallet. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes Ayde* II 22 Accident is that, which the Greekes call *Symptoma*, and we properly in English, to fall and with fall

†**Withgang,** *sb.*1 *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON *viðgangr* increase.] Success; advantage, profit. So †**Withgate** 1 *Sc.* [Gate *sb.*2]

1456 Sir G Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 172 Wikkit men has oft tymes in this warld welth, and withgang. *c* 1480 Henryson *Wolf & Wedder* 3021 Thay haif withgang, wyfis, welth, and chenyng. 1510 in *Rec. Earldom Orkney* (S H S 1914) 86 Vnht al profeits and vtgang [I *perated* vgang] sene Schir Danit deit. 1825 Jamieson s.v. *With gait, To get the withgate*, to gain the advantage.

†**Withgang,** *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *viðgangs* access, admission.] Free course; unlimited permission, licence, toleration. Also †**Wit thgang** *sb.*, *transf.* to give licence to, tolerate.

*a* 1500 *Rates of Marriage* 1 ȝaif my hart euer withgange of al plesans *Ibid* 3747 Gif men thaim withgang wantonly, Than will thai cowet the mastry. 1808 Jamieson, *With-gang*, toleration, permission to pass with impunity. *Skene* So † **Wit thgate** 2 *Sc.* [Gate *sb.*2]

1599 *Sc Acts Jas VI* (1816) IV. 187/1 The withgait and libertie quhilk aindry avaricious persones hes tane to exact . vik stentis and taxationis. 1600 *Ibid.* 284/1 Ane terrour to the ewill disponit to give withgait to thair Inclinatioun *Ibid.* 616/2 The withgait and libertie grantit vnto Suche himmelfull and vnlauchfull extortionis.

†**Withgo,** *v. Obs.* [f. With- + Go *v.*; in sense 1 OE. *wiþgán.*]

1. *trans.* To go against, act in opposition to, oppose; in *pa. pple.* opposed (to).

?*a*.1 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 99 Ond næfre ic ne mune þæt wiðgange þæs þinges þæt hes [sic a grant] forbeoden oððe þon wiðgæn *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 27986 It [se lechery] es sua greif and god witgan Þat [etc] *c* 1350 *Leg. Acad* iii 1552 Þe wil he nas allmast Was so gentil and god withgane.

2 *intr.* To pass away; *pa. pple.* ? passed on their way.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5085 Mi wret es me now al witgan [*Gott* ouer gan] 24 in *Lumdale's Inv* (1843) 168, I faced me farthe in that fryth, I mett three comely kynges with gone.

3. *pass.* To be possessed *with.*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8915 (Fairf.) Ho is wode & wiþ þe deuel withgane.

4. *intr.* To go with something else.

1608 Sylvester *Mem. Mortalitie* II. xxxvii, Th' hand bindeth not except the heart with-go.

5. *trans.* To forgo.

1587 Golding *Contn. Term. Pr. Ar.* 12 Wks. 1686 III 176 Who for one . mess of Pottage . did withgo his birthright

**Withheld** (wiðhe·ld), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Withhold *v.*] Kept or held back.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxvii 177 My withheld benefactions. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxiii, Your withheld rents. 1914 Amelie Rives *World's End* xl, His face had a curious, withheld look as he stooped to kiss her.

**Withhold** (wiðhō·ld), *v.* Forms and etym. : see Withe- and Hold *v.*; 3–7 occas. as two words, 6–8 freq. with hyphen; also 3 **wiSealden**, 4 **withald**, 5–6 **-alde**, 5–8 **withold**; *pa. t.* 4 **wiSeld**, 5 **without**, 6 *pseudo-arch.* **with hault**; *pa. pple.* 4–5 **withelde**, 5–8 **witholden** (*with holden* was still freq. in the 19th century).

1. *trans.* To keep *from* doing something; to keep in check or under restraint; to hold back, restrain.

Formerly also const. inf. = from doing it, thing.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Leg.* 142 Alle ȝunge men cumeð of se eiȝene, he ne muȝe with-holden heom nouȝt 13.. *E. E. Allit P.* B. 740, I schal wyth halde my honde for borȝyng vel lede. 1375 *Cursor Mundi* (Trin.) 24 Þat teres fullen out of se eiȝene, he ne muȝe with-holden heom nouȝt 13.. *E. E. Allit P.* B. 740, I schal wyth halde my honde for borȝyng vel lede. 1375 *Cursor Mundi* (Trin.) 24 Þat teres fullen out of þi eiȝen, þi wepinge þou ne withald. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xi. 78 I, leteth & withholdeth the colre froo his kend deococion. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II 240 Jason Ne mihte noght with holde his lok, Mot so good lede on hire he tok, That [etc.] *Ibid* 284 To be withholde ayein largesse. *c* 1400 *Sir Secr. Secr, Gov. Lordsh* 113 Y withdrew me, & ouercome my self, for to withholde my couetyse. 1533 Coverdale *Pr. Ps* xvii. 4 Then haue they with holden their bestes from violet stondinge. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen V* 70 Forasmuche as our saied father is witholden with diuerse sickenes, in such maner as he may not attende in his owne persone. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. vi. 37 With hold thine indignation, mighty heauen 1601 — *Twl C.* ii. 11 168 What cause with-holds you now to goe home? 1646 J. Hall & Brain *Ps.* xl. 9 Nor did [I] my Lips with-hold 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 237 So I withheld my Passion, though I was indeed ready to the highest Degree 1742 Johnson *Sydenham* Wks. 1787 IV 493 He was withheld from the university by the commencement of the war. 1746 Fielding *J. Andrews* II v, Had not some awe of the company . withheld his rage. 1749 — *Tom Jones* x. ii, From screaming his Patient every Hunting Morning with the Horn . it was impossible to withhold him. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Mrs Thrale* I May, Such is the call for your presence, that is there to withhold you? 1868 Lynch *Rot ulet* cxvii. I, While darkness yet withheld the dawn. 1873 J. G Holland *A. Bonnie.* ii, I longed to go nearer it, but the prohibition withheld me. 1910 *Engl Hist. Rev.* Jan. 53 Walpole . withheld Great Britain from giving support to Frederick William.

*absol.* 1382 Wyclif 2 *Thess* ii. 6 Now what withholdith, ȝe witen, that he be schewid in his tyme. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) 2 Thess ii. 7 He which now withholdeth, shal let till he be taken out of the way.

*b refl.* To restrain oneself.

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 135 Þe mann þe him wiðhalt. of ates & of drenches *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 348 Ich halsie ou... þet ȝe wiðholden ou from vlesliche lustes. 1393 R. Baumes *Handl Synne* 12623 Sow to withholde Fro þe synnes þat byfore are tolde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 99 If it be swa þat any man withheld him fra þis feste *c* 1400 tr *Secr. Secr, Gov. Lordsh* 73 With-holde þe from latynge of blood *Ibid.* 116 He þat with oldys him to sterre his bondes. *a* 1529 Fotheringay *Achoour* in Wks. § 2 (1622) 283 He prayes vth to God, to withhold him, because hee could not withhold himselfe. 1897 Warung. *Tales Old Régime* 246 Blake,.. though tempted, yet withheld herself from yielding.

†**6.** *intr.* To refrain *from*; occas. const. inf., or *trans.* with gerund. *Obs.*

1650 H. More *Obscr in Enthus. Tr* 4 etc. (1656) 103 Yea could not with hold from telling us that you are but a young man *c* 1650 Brandon *Pilgr. to monast Hunt* (1856) 104 They withheld and did no more hurte. 1721 Addison *Spect* No 233 ¶ 5 He could no longer withhold making himself known to him 1814 Southey *Life & Corr. Nelson Ship of 3 oels* 218 *note*, No man should withhold from extending his hand to support the falling *Ibid* 275 *note*, The fools will carefully withhold from the mention of their fooleries. 1827 Jas Mill *Brit India* v IV 153 He was incapable of giving, or capable of withholding to give an opinion.

†**7.** *trans.* To keep away or off, ward off. *Obs.*

13 *K Alis* 2306 Glutoun pulte forth a stelene scheld, Nygursa dunt withheld 1560 *1st Bk Discipl Ch Scot* (1621) 66 Lvery Kirk must have a hack able to with hold rame.

†**8.** To hinder, prevent. (With dir. obj., clause, or acc. and inf.) *Obs*

*c* 1400 tr. *Secr Secr, Gov Lordsh* 93 Vnderstandynge . ye luge wirkand, and withholdand þat þat vndoynge bycomes. 1486 *Bk St Albans* sig. b iv, Ne to dilygent . and with holdeth his strenghte 1674 N Fairfax *Bulk & Selv* 9 Nothing with holds, but that from an infinite tale of finites there may at length be made a finite one. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* II. iii 22 Nothing with holds my wishes to be released, but my desire of seeing the darling happy

†**9.** To keep away or separated *from*. *rare.*

1533 Douglas *Æneis* IV. v 80 Quhen the Troiane realm of Itail I defaland, And fra the ground to them promist withhald. 1854 Fathorn *Angel in His, Betrothal* 140 Like a ship frost-bound and far With held in the ice from the ocean's roar.

†**10.** To defer, postpone. *Obs rare.*

1725 Pope *Odyss* xxii 258 She willing longer to survey The sure and sons great acts, with held the day.

**2.** To keep back; to keep in one's possession (what belongs to, is due to, or is desired by another); to refrain from giving, granting, or allowing.

†**9** formerly with dat. of person. (The current sense)

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 13 Þa þinges þe ne sculen ben mineȝ, þa bieð to wiðealden mid michele skele *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 924 Wel he bi-hot & wel he wiðheld. Oc al þat eure fel him to, vre lec he let him welden it so *c* 1300 *Cursor M* 28497 Gains godd i thine bene an hende, Pat i wit halden ha my tende 1360 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xi. 49 He with halt non hyne his hire þat hym deserueth 1500 *Gesta* me ȝe relyues vp agayn, þat ȝou with halst of myne 1449 *Paston Lett* Suppl (1901) 22 The Pryore and Convent of Norwych have wyth-holden certeyn rentes and tythes that they haldin of me. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x xli 480 A knyghte that hyght Conreyes that withheld her alle her landes. 1493 *Rolls Parlt* VI 462/1 That ye withhout your duty belonging to the sayd Mr Lee. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Lan IV* 232 Your old rightes & possessions, which were from you wrongfully with holden. 1590 Spenser *F. Q* II. xi. 9 Soone as Time gan his head bewaile, and sorrow appeare as he his light with hault 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 186 Blessings, not with held from Pagan people. 1798 Pole *Hist Descr Malta* Pref 8 Reserv'd to grace thy reign divine, Forescen by me but ah! withheld from mine 1794 R J Sullivan *View Nat* I. 470 From such an intercourse, I should have received instruction. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, Perch the messenger could not withhold the tribute of his admiration from this realous conduct 1861 Bocqueteau *Mod. Pract.* 1 (ed. Spencer) acknowledged power to give or to withhold supplies 1874 S. Wh Bensons *Fr* I 38 The other branches of the Church Catholic, with what communion was withholden from us. 1883 Tulok in *Encycl Brit* XV 499 1 Such divine beings as can give or withhold the rain 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo V.* c. 46 § 4 That by reason of such refusal [to republish] the work is withheld from the public

*absol* 1781 Cowper *Iliad* 321 He will give freely, or he will withhold 1859 Whittier *My Psalm* 43 All as God wills, who wisely heeds I give or withhold.

†**3.** To detain; to keep in bondage, in custody, or under control. Also *fig* Obs.

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 3013 He [ie Pharaoh] wið held hem, and al so he [ie. Moses] it held. Al be ouf of egupt wunð dead. *c* 1300 Chester *Troyles* iv 1 Now is no almane to us to wyn Hire to with holden þat ye loueth most 1390 Gower *Conf.* I 308 If thou art on of alle, That with this vice hast lein withholde 1422 Yonge *Secr Secr.* 161 Verite in this dayes is wyth holde, bonde, and prisoner *c* 1500 Skelton *Garl Laurell*, etc., Wks 1843 I 427 The swayne last [*sic.* Right and Reason] Be withholde so fast With money, as men sayes, They can not come ageyne 1590 Shaks *Mids. N.* III. i 26 She (perforce) with holds the loued boy 1621 Tourneur *Atk. Trag.* I ii, Your Favour had by his duty Been with held from the knowledge of the world 1714 *Orig Canto Spenser* xxxvi, The struggling Fly he firmly doth with hold [Cf. quot 1854 in 2 †]

†**4.** To keep in use or possession; rarely, to keep in place; to retain; *esp.* to retain in the memory; occas. to reserve *to oneself. Obs.*

c 1860 *I see & I witness* 27 Hit is al 3edwoll, and of habe-nec e 3it wi hheilden c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth* iv pr vi (1868) 139 He wol be for laten peraventure to continue innocence, for I se wicke be ne in ry ne wi hholden fortune. c 1386 — *I wys* I 9067 I the Pater noster is short for to withh lden it is my reverence here. 1387 *Trevisa Higden* VI 381 (Skeat) 1 37 Al thoug it be a wisyle swete, it may not be with h lde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* v ii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 *St. Mary of Egypt* 78 Sithe to keps and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibhelde no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

c 1430 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 240 With holden hire lyen le nat Of h seruantis pore, pei crie. 1802 in BENTHAM *Life in Fr Sc I vi* (1837) V 97 The fulls icuity offered and re ily with I hen remedy. 1884 TENNYSON *Conf* 1 48 Ihe long wi holden calumny.

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit I e withhol lers and intromettours therwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 1, c 1581 It shall not be laufull to ane withholder of the saidis tiethes before the Iudge then e elect sett all. a 1648 J D HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1781) 117 If either Pin e hue an intention to recover any other Ri hts against either the with holders. a 1652 IRISH *Ch Litht* 1 (1675) 555 He hath no e Withh lders to keep him from his 1866 J C MURPHY *Comm Feud* xxii 28 Whether he [ie God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of ruin. 1927 OUTWATER *Land or Rev I* iii 28 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

**Withholding** (wiðhoʊ lɪŋ) *vbl sb* [f as prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb WITHHOLD retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 267 How I shal gouerne me in the chevysynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (Lamb) 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetne se of sholdres by takyn hardy nesse, with withholdinge of wyt, and vndyrst nd nesse. c 1430 *Pryv Pol Manhode* in Todd 3 Pe 3ifte 3e so to me an hey blok the body, and 3eet withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc Proc* (P. R. O.), Thendenturres of his withholding bitwix the King and him. c 1450 *Godstow Reg* 351 That they shalde receyve the tythys with out ony withholynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parli* V 324/1 That a note le sume of monneye bee to me delivered for the withholding and contenting of such soudeours. 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 518/1 Ane irrevocable pwegeing taking and withholding of the Kis gait aiveil. a 1655 C. IVES *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1854) 41 The withholding of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 310 His very Withholding and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LD KHARE *Scott* IV i 18 He withholding of the as usual. 1881 COLE in *Journ Transact* 3 The blank profound, Which h lls All knowledge ever ly withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep* (N S) LI 242/2 If a party to an instrument the t ue ty will holding information which is material such withholding amounts to fraud

So **Withholding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV xiii (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and slowy to pilce. 1898 *Lorton Ar* Aug 305 The eteri al duel between the desiring flesh and the withho ding spirit

**Withholdment.** *rare* [f WITHHOLD *v* + -MENT] — WITHHOLDING *vbl sb*

1620 G SEMAINE *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1852 W ANDERSON *Expostor of Popery* (18 8) 73 There is an important withholdment made in the communication.

**Withi, war** *with thi* see WITH *prep* 6.

**Within** (wiði n), *adv*, *prep*, (*adj*) Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words) a. I wipinnan, wiinnan, 2–4 wiinne(n), 3–5 wipinne, etc (see WITH and INNE *adv*); also 3 wip inn(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widinne, 4–5 withinne. *B.* 3 wipin, 4–5 withyn, (*pa.*) WITH *prep* 2 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xviii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (*Lambeth*) 78 Shuld, to kepe and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibheldè no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit I e withhol lers and intromettours therwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 1, c 1581 It shall not be laufull to ane withholder of the saidis tiethes before the Iudge then e elect sett all. a 1648 J D HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1781) 117 If either Pin e hue an intention to recover any other Ri hts against either the with holders. a 1652 IRISH *Ch Litht* 1 (1675) 555 He hath no e Withh lders to keep him from his 1866 J C MURPHY *Comm Feud* xxii 28 Whether he [ie God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of ruin. 1927 OUTWATER *Land or Rev I* iii 28 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

**Withholding** (wiðhoʊ lɪŋ) *vbl sb* [f as prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb WITHHOLD retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 267 How I shal gouerne me in the chevysynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (Lamb) 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetne se of sholdres by takyn hardy nesse, with withholdinge of wyt, and vndyrst nd nesse. c 1430 *Pryv Pol Manhode* in Todd 3 Pe 3ifte 3e so to me an hey blok the body, and 3eet withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc Proc* (P. R. O.), Thendenturres of his withholding bitwix the King and him. c 1450 *Godstow Reg* 351 That they shalde receyve the tythys with out ony withholynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parli* V 324/1 That a note le sume of monneye bee to me delivered for the withholding and contenting of such soudeours. 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 518/1 Ane irrevocable pwegeing taking and withholding of the Kis gait aiveil. a 1655 C. IVES *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1854) 41 The withholding of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 310 His very Withholding and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LD KHARE *Scott* IV i 18 He withholding of the as usual. 1881 COLE in *Journ Transact* 3 The blank profound, Which h lls All knowledge ever ly withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep* (N S) LI 242/2 If a party to an instrument the t ue ty will holding information which is material such withholding amounts to fraud

So **Withholding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV xiii (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and slowy to pilce. 1898 *Lorton Ar* Aug 305 The eteri al duel between the desiring flesh and the withho ding spirit

**Withholdment.** *rare* [f WITHHOLD *v* + -MENT] — WITHHOLDING *vbl sb*

1620 G SEMAINE *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1852 W ANDERSON *Expostor of Popery* (18 8) 73 There is an important withholdment made in the communication.

**Within** (wiði n), *adv*, *prep*, (*adj*) Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words) a. I wipinnan, wiinnan, 2–4 wiinne(n), 3–5 wipinne, etc (see WITH and INNE *adv*); also 3 wip inn(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widinne, 4–5 withinne. *B.* 3 wipin, 4–5 withyn, (*pa.*) WITH *prep* 2 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xviii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (*Lambeth*) 78 Shuld, to kepe and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibheldè no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit I e withhol lers and intromettours therwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 1, c 1581 It shall not be laufull to ane withholder of the saidis tiethes before the Iudge then e elect sett all. a 1648 J D HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1781) 117 If either Pin e hue an intention to recover any other Ri hts against either the with holders. a 1652 IRISH *Ch Litht* 1 (1675) 555 He hath no e Withh lders to keep him from his 1866 J C MURPHY *Comm Feud* xxii 28 Whether he [ie God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of ruin. 1927 OUTWATER *Land or Rev I* iii 28 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

**Withholding** (wiðhoʊ lɪŋ) *vbl sb* [f as prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb WITHHOLD retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 267 How I shal gouerne me in the chevysynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (Lamb) 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetne se of sholdres by takyn hardy nesse, with withholdinge of wyt, and vndyrst nd nesse. c 1430 *Pryv Pol Manhode* in Todd 3 Pe 3ifte 3e so to me an hey blok the body, and 3eet withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc Proc* (P. R. O.), Thendenturres of his withholding bitwix the King and him. c 1450 *Godstow Reg* 351 That they shalde receyve the tythys with out ony withholynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parli* V 324/1 That a note le sume of monneye bee to me delivered for the withholding and contenting of such soudeours. 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 518/1 Ane irrevocable pwegeing taking and withholding of the Kis gait aiveil. a 1655 C. IVES *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1854) 41 The withholding of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 310 His very Withholding and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LD KHARE *Scott* IV i 18 He withholding of the as usual. 1881 COLE in *Journ Transact* 3 The blank profound, Which h lls All knowledge ever ly withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep* (N S) LI 242/2 If a party to an instrument the t ue ty will holding information which is material such withholding amounts to fraud

So **Withholding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV xiii (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and slowy to pilce. 1898 *Lorton Ar* Aug 305 The eteri al duel between the desiring flesh and the withho ding spirit

**Withholdment.** *rare* [f WITHHOLD *v* + -MENT] — WITHHOLDING *vbl sb*

1620 G SEMAINE *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1852 W ANDERSON *Expostor of Popery* (18 8) 73 There is an important withholdment made in the communication.

**Withi, war** *with thi* see WITH *prep* 6.

**Within** (wiði n), *adv*, *prep*, (*adj*) Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words) a. I wipinnan, wiinnan, 2–4 wiinne(n), 3–5 wipinne, etc (see WITH and INNE *adv*); also 3 wip inn(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widinne, 4–5 withinne. *B.* 3 wipin, 4–5 withyn, (*pa.*) WITH *prep* 2 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xviii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (*Lambeth*) 78 Shuld, to kepe and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibheldè no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit I e withhol lers and intromettours therwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 1, c 1581 It shall not be laufull to ane withholder of the saidis tiethes before the Iudge then e elect sett all. a 1648 J D HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1781) 117 If either Pin e hue an intention to recover any other Ri hts against either the with holders. a 1652 IRISH *Ch Litht* 1 (1675) 555 He hath no e Withh lders to keep him from his 1866 J C MURPHY *Comm Feud* xxii 28 Whether he [ie God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of ruin. 1927 OUTWATER *Land or Rev I* iii 28 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

**Withholding** (wiðhoʊ lɪŋ) *vbl sb* [f as prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb WITHHOLD retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 267 How I shal gouerne me in the chevysynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (Lamb) 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetne se of sholdres by takyn hardy nesse, with withholdinge of wyt, and vndyrst nd nesse. c 1430 *Pryv Pol Manhode* in Todd 3 Pe 3ifte 3e so to me an hey blok the body, and 3eet withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc Proc* (P. R. O.), Thendenturres of his withholding bitwix the King and him. c 1450 *Godstow Reg* 351 That they shalde receyve the tythys with out ony withholynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parli* V 324/1 That a note le sume of monneye bee to me delivered for the withholding and contenting of such soudeours. 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 518/1 Ane irrevocable pwegeing taking and withholding of the Kis gait aiveil. a 1655 C. IVES *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1854) 41 The withholding of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 310 His very Withholding and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LD KHARE *Scott* IV i 18 He withholding of the as usual. 1881 COLE in *Journ Transact* 3 The blank profound, Which h lls All knowledge ever ly withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep* (N S) LI 242/2 If a party to an instrument the t ue ty will holding information which is material such withholding amounts to fraud

So **Withholding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV xiii (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and slowy to pilce. 1898 *Lorton Ar* Aug 305 The eteri al duel between the desiring flesh and the withho ding spirit

**Withholdment.** *rare* [f WITHHOLD *v* + -MENT] — WITHHOLDING *vbl sb*

1620 G SEMAINE *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1852 W ANDERSON *Expostor of Popery* (18 8) 73 There is an important withholdment made in the communication.

**Within** (wiði n), *adv*, *prep*, (*adj*) Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words) a. I wipinnan, wiinnan, 2–4 wiinne(n), 3–5 wipinne, etc (see WITH and INNE *adv*); also 3 wip inn(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widinne, 4–5 withinne. *B.* 3 wipin, 4–5 withyn, (*pa.*) WITH *prep* 2 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xviii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (*Lambeth*) 78 Shuld, to kepe and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibheldè no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit I e withhol lers and intromettours therwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 1, c 1581 It shall not be laufull to ane withholder of the saidis tiethes before the Iudge then e elect sett all. a 1648 J D HERBERT *Hen VIII* (1781) 117 If either Pin e hue an intention to recover any other Ri hts against either the with holders. a 1652 IRISH *Ch Litht* 1 (1675) 555 He hath no e Withh lders to keep him from his 1866 J C MURPHY *Comm Feud* xxii 28 Whether he [ie God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of ruin. 1927 OUTWATER *Land or Rev I* iii 28 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

**Withholding** (wiðhoʊ lɪŋ) *vbl sb* [f as prec. + -ING 1] The action of the verb WITHHOLD retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib* P 267 How I shal gouerne me in the chevysynge and in the withholdynge of my conseillours. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (Lamb) 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetne se of sholdres by takyn hardy nesse, with withholdinge of wyt, and vndyrst nd nesse. c 1430 *Pryv Pol Manhode* in Todd 3 Pe 3ifte 3e so to me an hey blok the body, and 3eet withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc Proc* (P. R. O.), Thendenturres of his withholding bitwix the King and him. c 1450 *Godstow Reg* 351 That they shalde receyve the tythys with out ony withholynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parli* V 324/1 That a note le sume of monneye bee to me delivered for the withholding and contenting of such soudeours. 1548 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 518/1 Ane irrevocable pwegeing taking and withholding of the Kis gait aiveil. a 1655 C. IVES *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1854) 41 The withholding of the Spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr* II 310 His very Withholding and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 LD KHARE *Scott* IV i 18 He withholding of the as usual. 1881 COLE in *Journ Transact* 3 The blank profound, Which h lls All knowledge ever ly withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep* (N S) LI 242/2 If a party to an instrument the t ue ty will holding information which is material such withholding amounts to fraud

So **Withholding** *ppl. a.*, that withholds

c 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* IV xiii (1869) 183 Withholdinge, and ful of cley, and slowy to pilce. 1898 *Lorton Ar* Aug 305 The eteri al duel between the desiring flesh and the withho ding spirit

**Withholdment.** *rare* [f WITHHOLD *v* + -MENT] — WITHHOLDING *vbl sb*

1620 G SEMAINE *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errours. 1852 W ANDERSON *Expostor of Popery* (18 8) 73 There is an important withholdment made in the communication.

**Within** (wiði n), *adv*, *prep*, (*adj*) Forms (2–5 written as one or as two words) a. I wipinnan, wiinnan, 2–4 wiinne(n), 3–5 wipinne, etc (see WITH and INNE *adv*); also 3 wip inn(n, *Orm.* wippinnenn, 3–4 widinne, 4–5 withinne. *B.* 3 wipin, 4–5 withyn, (*pa.*) WITH *prep* 2 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* xviii (Tollem MS.), Pe heed is sundel conynge narow and byas, and put wi h wi hhalt for bagge of pe brayne. c 1400 tr *Secr Secr* (*Lambeth*) 78 Shuld, to kepe and withholde kyndly I-se. c 1430 *Life of Alf Minsh* de r xv (1862) 10 He I wih wih h lle to him alle we geuinces. 1483 CAXTON *Gold Leg* 1 a h e h wold I yeue e calle a d wel withheld the examp le fa knyght that had thre wyues.

**†b** lo keep attached to one s person or engaged in one's service, to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side *Obs*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thus in I soules ful wel o bon With I eld be king, with hin to lede. c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat Holy St* (1851) 100 Crist wibheldè no men of lowe ne hi lees ate, ac of riche and fers and of Maundiy (1356) xxvi 1 7 All the mynstrelles pat comen bef re hym ben with hi chen with him as of his h usuld. c 1440 HOCCLEVE *De Regim* 1 1 With I olde, her and sele 1403 *Ct Privy Council* III 90 He has bene with holde a l of rete me for a yere wi h the n th King Henry. 1484 *Caxton Fables* I 17 He lieuer was ser vaunt to the Duc e ne wythholdyn in the seruyce. 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheldè him for his seruaunt

**†5** lo keep, maintain, preserve *Obs*

c 1000 *Ælfric Homilies* I 382 Pæt tu hes hame wel gezeawen & mid godes fultume widhealden. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troil* III pr vi (1881) 142 Ioul hastip to withholden pe pinges pat he hap maked in to hys semblaun e. c 1386 — *Prol* 521 Ac soken I nou eschaunges of thynges pat I nerehiertook to been withholde. 1390 GOWER *Conf* I 7 Knyhth de Wheref the wyde whil e fame Write in Cremig in 3it withholde. c 1440 *Life of Cuthbert* 3 Pe whilke nethir spere I be shulde, Ne in no castel to be withholde

**†6** a lo hold lo lo hold up, sustain *Obs rare*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII xi 44 In thar hand withheld and euery knycht I wys gaf gud cumpany. 1560 tr H Bradon *Trial Crucl* (1809) II 153 [He] cut the hair that withheld me in twain to down I thought I fell

**†7** *intr* lo hold with, adhere to *Obs rare*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Hence Withholdable** *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld

1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 248 The bri tual I ut ever with I liable I rib s, with which they are fed.

**Withholden** (wiðhoʊ ldən), *ppl a arch* [pa. pple of WITHHOLD *v*] = WITHHELD *ppl a*

a 1450 *Knt de la Tour* Prol 4 I oulo flee es elle a d withhol le the good *Ibid* 14 Alle the e men that kepithe hem self cle se house freel ert to with lde good ensamples of lyf

**Withholder** (wiðhoʊ l də) [f WITHHOLD *v* + -ER 1] One who withholds

1483 *Acta Audit in Acta Dom Conc* II Intiod 209 Thirt s ho hous he ar soun gest e the withol lers of thame 1516 *Reg Privy Seal Scot* I 218 I 2 commit

1598 Stow *Surv.* 242 First to speake of that part within the gate. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 9 To gain beleefe, one must keepe himselfe within the bounds of likelihood. 1795 Watts *Logic* v. vi. § 5 To leave Obscurities in the Sentence, by confining it within too narrow Limits. 1779 *Mirror* No. 10 P 11 A man who has confined his turn for enjoyment within the bounds pointed out by nature. 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* i. iii, The proud Grandee .. reposes within damask Curtains. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 221 Whether the Declaration of Indulgence lay within or without the limit was the question. *Ibid.* v. 624 Five hundred prisoners had been crowded into the parish church of Weston Zoyland .. five expired within the consecrated walls. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Theol. Ess.* (1888) i. 7 Those within the circle of its influence.

(*b*) Appended to names of places lying within a certain boundary or area, as *Bishopsgate Within* (i. e. within the walls of London), *Hensington Within* (i.e. within the borough of Woodstock).

1598 Stow *Surv.* 85 Algarsate ward within and without. *Ibid.* 248 Faringdon Warde, Infra, or within. 1657 Howell *Londinop.* 87 We will .. take a Survey in Bridge Ward within, so called of London Bridge. 1748 *Kmt's Lond. Directory* 93 Ware Nathaniel, Grocer, Bishopsgate within. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiv, The united parishes of Saint Simon Without, and Saint Simon Within. 1869 *Kelly's Direct. Oxon* 329/2 Hensington Within is a civil parish, formed .. from the portion of the old parish in Woodstock municipal boroughs.

† c. *Within land*: in the interior of the country, at a distance from the coast or other boundary: = Inland C. *Obs.*

1624 Purchas *Pilgrimage* ix. iv. (ed. 2) 840 The Porles dwell an hundred miles within Land. 1627 Monyson *Itin.* iii. 121 Coventry, .. at the day is the fairest City within-land. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone l.*, § 206 Though there is plenty of the same kind of stone to be found in Strata within land; yet .. the lime-burners can procure it .. more conveniently on the shelving sea-shore. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxiv, It was too far within land, and I might have been scented.

d. On the inner (esp. landward) side of; further in than. (Cf. Without B. 1 c.) † *Obs.*

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 220 The Cutter, being on the Beam, and four Miles within us. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* iv, Three other apartments, one for my wife and me, another for our two daughters, within our own. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone l.*, § 336 At 126 yards within high-water mark. c 1804 Jane Austen *The Watsons* in *Mem.* (1871) 302 The tea-room was a dismal small room .. within the shelving sea-shore. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxiv, It was too far within land, and I might have been scented.

e. On the inner (esp. landward) side of; further in than. (Cf. Without B. 1 c.) † *Obs.*

1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 220 The Cutter, being on the Beam, and four Miles within us. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* iv, Three other apartments, one for my wife and me, another for our two daughters, within our own. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone l.*, § 336 At 126 yards within high-water mark. c 1804 Jane Austen *The Watsons* in *Mem.* (1871) 302 The tea-room was a dismal small room .. within the shelving sea-shore. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxiv, It was too far within land, and I might have been scented.

**6.** *transf.* In the membership of (a class, society, etc.); (in predicate) included in, forming a part of. (Cf. In *prep.* 7.)

1697 Jos. Woodward *Relig. Soc.* vi. (1701) 124 It is obvious, That this is a Society within a Society, and a Refining upon a Reformed Church. 1709 *Homilly* 4 Jan. xxx. 471 Compositions which may be arranged within this class. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* (N. S.) LII. 319/2 Criminal Informations are within the mischief intended to be guarded against.

**7.** To the interior of; into. Also with the boundary as obj., as in 1 b. (Cf. In *prep.* 30.) *Obs. or arch.*

c 1205 Lay. 1812 Belin & Brennes buyen heom from þat fuhte with inmen are muchele dic. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3775 Alle he sunkes še erde within. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2303 (Gött.) Felindes crepe þau ymagis wiþ-in. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 80 This Horn.. Was knight within this Cite. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* lxxvii, I was anon in broght Within a chamber. 1748 Hervison *Wolf & Weither* 52 Was nouther Uolf Uildcat, nor 3it Tod Gruntle within þay boundis all about. 1598 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 92 Full lustily thir ladyes .. Enterit within this park. 1588 N. Lichefield tr. *Castenhada's Conq. E. Ind.* i. 7 b, Long upon the friday within a certein harboure. 1620 Shaks. *Temp.* i. ii. 21, I would Haussuncke the Sea within the Earth. 1864 Lingard *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 304 Admission within the fold.

†**3.** In or into the midst of, among, with; *spec.* in the house of; hence, in the hands or possession of.

a 1250 *Ureisun* 26 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 191 Biuoren ðine leoue sune wiþ-innen seraphine. c 1245 *Engl. Coup. Iesl.* 52 Whan þhay nyght nat wherynne to reste, þhay sought hem a bedde with falshed & wyth treyson they wold come wyth-yn ham. 1268 *Angl. Misc.* (Surtees) 9 To serche what osmundes he had with in hym at yat tyme. c 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 22, 92 So we hest þese nonnes to be nurses wiþ-in þis þat þei schuld not come with-inne þe nunnes .. but only for ministracion of þe sacramentis. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 399 Yf he kepe any Bawdery within hym his fyue is at euery tyme vj s. viij d. 1488 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1910) 122 He shalle lyynde and repayre alle bookes needefulle wythine vss. 1490 *Will S. Bader* (Somerset Ho), Elizabeth.. dwelling within me. 1493 *Mirk's Festyvall* 151/2 Some.. men yt had copyes of this boke within hem at home. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2134/2 A woman of Iewelich within v s. 1609 Tourneur *Funeral Poem Sir F. Vere*, When occasion did present His observation with some accident Within the enemie, that alike twice he served in to attempt a fight.

**4.** Various *transf.* uses, chiefly with reflexive pronoun. † **a.** In the limits of (not beyond or outside) the body, community, or collection of. *Within themselves (ourselves*, etc.): among themselves (etc.), independently of others. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 5914 Wit-in þeir suen kind to brede, 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 522 Hit shalbe determyned & ordeyned by all the Mairyn within them self. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 516/2 They, within theymselfe, shall make Collection of such Somes of Money as shall be assessed..to be levyed. 1598 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 140 If they perceyue dissention in our lookes, And that within our selues we disagree. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 189 They differed within themselves in their votes. 1737 [S. Berington] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 113 Living entirely within themselves, free from all Mixture and Commerce with other People.

**b.** *Within oneself* (*itself*, etc.): (*a*) so as to be self-contained or independent, without external connexion (now *dial.*); † (*b*) in self-command or self-control, not 'beside oneself'; (*c*) in the limits of one's own belongings or resources, without external supply or aid (now *dial.*); (*d*) not beyond one's normal capacity of exertion; without strain, or waste of energy or effort.

(*a*) 1548 *Stat. Chamber Cant.* (Seldon Soc.) II. 136 He seid..that my lord of Peturburgh was lord and Kyng wythin hym self vnder the Kyng. 1727–60 Thomson *Summer* 779 A world within itself, disdaining all assault. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvi, Some efforts..towards building houses *within themselves*, as they are emphatically termed.

(*b*) 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & C.* II. v. 75 Good Madam, keepe your selfe within your selfe.

(*c*) 1738 Earl Oxford in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 173 The several officers have all within themselves for their use, cook, butler, housekeeper, wash house, laundry, brew house. 1757 [Hurd] *Europh. Letters. Answ.* vi. xxi. 11. 239 They drive a great many cattle from North Carolina, into Virginia, to be slaughtered there; and they kill and salt some beef, and pork, for the West Indies, within themselves. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 309 They, for the most part, live entirely upon the produce of the farm, and think it best so, when they can. (In which case the words 'live within themselves' that is to say,.. without buying any thing. 1824 Cash *Craven Gloss., Within-ourselfs*, in our possession, without purchase.

(*d*) 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 148 The Sweat will not..appear so plentiful, provided he [*sc.* the horse] is quite run within himself. 1860 Wiseye-Melville *Mkt. Harb.* I. xiv, The horse[ going well on his haunches, and quite within himself. 1878 *Month* Aug. 463 They are rowing quite within themselves, in very good time, and have the race at command.

**5.** *fig.* In the (inner) being, soul, or mind of. *Within oneself*, spec. (after *say, think*, etc.) = in thought, mentally, without outward expression.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) ciii[i]. 1 Ealle ða ðe wiðinnan me synd (Vesp. *inbra me sunt*). a 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Þi þonkes of þe passiun of sunnen þat ich wrahte wiš inne me. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 807 Þe find.. said wit hin his sexi thoght, Ic haue him don to suinc for noght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 155 Huanne þise two ziden of þe herte beoþ acodde..þet is þe scele and þet wyl þanne in þe mon wonnen. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 238 To ouyr-comen enemis þat arn þe wiþ-inne. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xi. 21 She saide with ynne hir self, 3if I touche oonly the cloþis of hym, I shal lie anal. 1500–20 *Dunbar Poems* lxix. 22 Hald Hoip and Treuthe within the fast. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xxiv. 32 Did not oure hertes burne with in vs, while he talked with vs? 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 14 The spirit of my Father, which I feele is within mee, begins to mutinie against this seruitude. a 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. (1698) 118 Laughing within himself. 1748 [Richardson] *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 217 They will be moved on the slightest occasions, whether those offer from within or without them. 1836 Lytton *Duchess de La Vallière* I. iii, Her own heart within me! 1859 Jesse *Ch. Fathers* II. xii. (1903) IV. 179 The priest prayed—by name, but within himself—for the then pope (etc.). 1860 Rawlinson *Anc. Monarch.* (1871) II. 55 It is for my own mind and heart to think of her, all shut up within herself. 1896 Howard *Skerpsh. Lad* xxii, And fire and ice within me fight Beneath the suffocating night.

**6.** In the course of (a period of time); most usually, before the end of, after not more than; also, since the beginning of, not more than . . ago; or *gen.* between the beginning and end of, in the course of, during. So † *within a word* = as soon as a word was uttered, at a word.

c 1275 *E. E. (Vesp.) Hom.* 89 Wiðinnen feower wucan (cotton) Hefde he ibroken one Lay. 1295 Wiš innen an Þuderm Brennes hine biðohte. c 1290 *Beket* 1500 In *S. Eng. Leg.* 249 Euerech Abbod of grete Monekes to bulke chapitle cam With-inne þre 3er. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7047 Some ar[e] þere with-yn a lytyl. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* v. 249 He hath wedded a wyf with-inne þis syx monethes. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 103, I fel a-sleepe with-Inne an our or two. 1440 Promp. Parv. (Harl. MS. 221) 529 He schall hafe worde within a day and a nyght. 1535 Coverdale *Acts* v. 5 Ye shalbe baptysed with ye holy goost, & that within this fyve dayes. 1548 Hall *Chron. Henry VI* 180 b, How many meanes and weys hath my lord Protectours grace, within his tyme of gouernaunce, attempted..to aloonne those warres. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. (1640) 82 Things..which may be done in succession of ages, though not within the houre-glasse of one mans life. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1693) 70 If the Owner do not come within a year and a day. 1737 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 247, I am, within these three days, recovering Spirits and Appetite. 1822 *Act 3 Geo. IV* c. 39 § 2 Within Twenty one Days after the Execution of such Warrant of Attorney. 1865 'Mark Twain' *New Pilgr. Progr.* xl. (1870) 85 The cry went abroad of 'Ten minutes to dress for breakfast'. I was dressed within the ten minutes. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xiii. IV. 361 One of which was standing within the present generation. 1916 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 2 (*Title*), The Hours within which Marriages may be lawfully solemnized.

† **b.** *Within night*: after nightfall. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Land Troy bk.* 7894 The day was gon, thei hadde no lyght, For it was wel with-Inne night. 1523 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) I. cccxl. 533 About two hours within night they arned them. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IV. 149 The last howre of Prayer, is alwayes two or three howres within night. 1665 W. Hewers *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 206 We.. arrived..a little within night.

† **c.** (without reference to limits) At some time during: = In *prep.* 18. *Obs.*

1491 *Acts Audit.* (1839) 76/1 Þe last court quhen..þe dome was gevin was within feryale tyme onne gude Wednisday in passioun wouk. 1551–2 in Feuilleret *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 74 Boughte of him within y^e monethe of december. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 60 King Pharamond..died within the yeere of our Redemption, Foure hundred twentie six. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1663) 79 He to whom the property is, may take him within the year. [1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xcii, Who' it spake and hared to view A fact within the coming year.]

**7.** Not beyond or above (a specified or implied amount or degree); at, in, or of less than or not more than; so as not to exceed or surpass; *esp.* (*b*) in expressions of a small difference or margin of error from a larger amount: = with a difference of not more than (so much) above, or, usually, below.

1388 Wyclif *1 Chron.* xxvii. 23 Dauid nolde noumbre hem with ynne twenti 3eer (1382 fro twenty 3eer and benethen). c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxx. 137 Faire damyseles with-Inne þe side of xv. 3eere. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 200 Wether þei ben cosynnes wythinne degre of mariage or no. 1489 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 131/2 Þe sereffis quhilk is prist his gudis haid prisit haim gretly within þe space of thre 3eiris. 1530 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 20 *Preamble*, Beyng of kyn..unto the said John..within the second and third degree. 1727 Swift *Let. to very young Lady* 132, I think you ought to be well informed how much your Husband's Revenue amounts to, and be so good a Computer as to keep within it. 1783 J. D. Lucy in *C. Gent. Mag.* (1784) 54/1 I am determined to live within my income. 1851, 1867 [see *Made sb.*1 12 c]. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 453 The actions were commenced within a few days of each other.

(*b*) 1566 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxxvi. 28 Thousands..are gone..Till all: within forte, weare flowne quight awaie: 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiii. v. 395 The..diameter..was foure foot within three quarters of an inch. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 126 He is very yong, and yet will he within three pound lift as much as his brother Hector. 1721 Steele *Spect.* No. 91 P 1 She has a tall Daughter within a Fortnight of Fifteen. 1886 E. C. Robins *Temple Sol.* (1887) 15 The extreme length of Solomon's Temple..is made (in his restoration of it) to agree with that of the Tower of Pantheon within a inches. 1900 *Congress Apr.* 168 The unit of electrical current..was obtained..to within one point in 20,000.

† **b.** *Within age* = of less than full age, under age. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) iv. xxxviii. (1859) 64 They.. gouerne hym, ryght as he were to yonge within age. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 111, 317 Chyldren..that dye within age be vncrystened. 1542 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. cl. [xcvii.] 295 When kynge Rychарde was crowned..he was within age, and a kynge ought not to gouerne a royalme tyll he be xxi. yeres of age. 1552 *Rec. Leet. Cam. Law* iii. (1630) 35 Leasing their leire within age, a Male within 21. and a female within 14. yeares.

**8.** Not beyond or outside (a specified distance); at or to a distance of less, or not more, than; nearer or not farther away than.

Often in fig. phrases, as *within an ace, a hair's breadth of.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 3044 As sone as Ermones..Sawe that he was withynne his weppons length, Anon he smote At hym. 1537 Layton in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 151 Other doctor Lee or I have familier acqwayntance within x. or xij. myles of hit. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 25 (We) came within foure degrees of the Equinoctiall. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 93 The least false Step brings them within an Ace of Death. 1726, 1839 [see *Inch sb.*1 2]. 1755, 1787 [see Hair's-breadth]. 1785 *Reports Cases Sel. M. Geo. III* c. 93 § 64 Within the Distance of Ten Yards. 1821 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 Almost within striking distance of each other. 1861 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxxvii, The German would not permit Esca to approach within spear's-length of his post. 1864 A. Trollope *Belton Estate* xiii, Keeping within a few yards of his sister's chair.

**9.** In expressions referring to the physical range of some action or perception: Not beyond, not farther than the extent of: as *within call*, near enough to hear a call; *within reach*, near enough to reach, or to be reached; *within sight*, or *hearing*, near enough to see or hear, to be seen or heard; etc. Often const. *of* (the agent or perciplent, or the object of the action or perception). Cf. In *prep.* 9 d.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lv. 188 He slewe..all that came within his stroke. a 1538 *Lett. Suppr. Abbeys* (1843) 158 (see Cannon-shot 3]. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. (1586) 25 Shoote not at every bird, but onely at those that are within reach to be taken. 1611 Bible *Ps.* cxlv. 18 The Lord is nie vnto all them that call vpon him, and are able to drill him on from one Lewdness to another. 1707 Sir W. Hope *New Method Fencing* 99 The Single Point within and above the Sword, called in the Schools *Volte Coupé*. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 109 P 3 He came within the Target of the Gentleman who rode against him. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 34 When, upon joining blades with your adversary, you find your sword in a line between his sword-arm and the left side of his body..it is termed being within the arm.

1876 R F Burton *New Syst Sword Exerc* 53 When the point is passed well under and within the sword arm

**9.** *fig.* In the extent of (something abstract figured as a region, or as having extension); *esp* in, or not beyond, the scope or sphere of action of (authority, power, knowledge, a law, etc.). Cf. In *prep* 8, 9 d.

1493 *A in Pom Conc* (1839) 272/2 He was within our sourraine lordis warde 1528 *Act 4 Hen VIII c* 9 § Suche as ben within the iurysdyccion 1556 Dalus tr *Olaus Magnus Conc* 78 Within his iurisdiction 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, i ii 289 But this lyes all within the will of God 1610 B Jons *Alch* i i You will let gho in Within the statute? 1643 [see Sinkler *Sh* 633] 1658 J D Herbert *Hen I* III (16 3) 357 If that rental shall have the benefit of this recourse to the Ordinary, but the writs were within holy Orders 1664 Spelman *Tr I* (Arb) 388 I will in your Stomack, not within 30 Cubits of it. 1670 Sitter *Tatler* No 238 P 2 As they live within Rules and at they transgress them 1765 Blackst *Comm* IV xxvii 366 Within the benefit of clergy 1820 *Reports & Inst Exhors Rep* I 436 Whether the party was a traveller within the bankrupt laws 1823 Scott *Quent D* II vii, Who will assert that their place of residence is within my knowledge? 1862 Sirr tr *Livy Prose* I ii 214 43 Even Athens was within the definition 1869 Freeman *Norm Conq* III 288 D 1 Besides the strongholds within their power? 1891 *Law Times Rep* LXIII 736/1 The contract and the label together constituted a written warranty within the meaning of the above section

**C** *adj* That is within, + (of a letter or document) enclosed. *rare*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III 258 This is in favour you will see by the within Letter 1766 Mad Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* IV 32 Here is the within letter 1798 *Bloomfield's Rhymes* II 21 Agreeably to the command of the within Writ 1806 Gen Wilkinson in Cruse *Appeal to Mr Pitt* (1838) II 4 4 Inclosed is, in addition to the within talk, to enable me to enter into all regard for the nation.

**D** *Comb* a. of the adv., in quots. in sense 1 c, as + *within bounden, within-named* adjs. b. of the prep within-bound *a* (*sconce redd*), confined or experienced within bounds (in a school)

1598 Cr *Test Bk* 593 The condition of the Clergie is such that wherein certain trauers is depending betwixt pe withinbounden Maire & Comunaltie on the on partie and pe provost & Louent on pe tothir partie 1870 Rock *Text Bk* 198 Townsend *Leominster* (n d) 300 The within named John Ingle 1706 Dr *Fer Trust Relief* Pref (1789) 436 The houses in which the within named Bargay lived 1708 *Rec Stitchill* (S H S 1905) 159 The within mentioned George Hamilton 1834 Chitty *Forms* 165 As well the within-named plaintiff as the within named defendant 1839 W Howitt *Boy & Country Bk* 227 What are all their within bound enjoyments to their monthly rural walks? 1864 A B Cornes *Poems of Wrotte*, etc 43 To be indorsed "By Sale of Court," &c. &c. &c. at the instance of the within-named Appellants (or Respondents)

+ **Within n-door**, *adv. phr.* (*a*) *Obs* [See Door *sb* 5] = next.

*Speak within door* 'do not clamour so as to be heard beyond the house' (*J*)

1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 31 Him that hath a Conduite within doore, and fetcheth water without. 1604 Shaks *Oth* IV i 144 Speake within doore. 1611 Bacon *Ess*, *Counsel Kingd* (Arb) 481 Sedentary and Within doore [*ed* 1612 within-doores] Arts 1649 C Wase *Sophocles, Electra* Methinks within door, I should here One of the maides keep a groaning 1821 J Ams *Elia Ser* 1 *Old Benchers*, I suspect he had his within door reasons for the preference.

**Within n(-)door**s, *adv. phr* (*adj*, + *sb*) *arch* In (or into) the house = Indoors.

1598 Mulcaster *Positions* (1888) 53 One to be used within doores, and the other abrode 1600 in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I 684 It seems odd that [he] should make his final Appeal to the People, before he had tried the Force of one of his Reasons with n doors 1789 N Shaw *Tour W Eng* 459 Rain continued so within doors several hours 1852 Dickens *Amer Notes* ii, All within doors is very plain and simple 1858 Hawthorne *Fr & It Jrnls* (1871) II 266 An English coal-fire, if we could see its honest face within doors, would compensate for all the unnumbered miles of outside atmosphere 1884 *Cent Shakespeare* 11 Judith's father would have no serving men come within-doors. 1895 Hardy *Jude the Obscure* i ii, An animated conversation in progress within doors

b. (with hyphen) + *attrib* or as *adj.* = Indoor 1; also as *sb.* that which is, or those who are, indoors

1611 [see pre quot 1623] 1630 *R Johnson's Kingd & Commin* 29 That there be none addicted to arts manly, than unto sedentary and within-doore occupations 1858 Hawthorne *Fr & It Note-bks* II 286 All the within doors of the village empties itself there

+ **Within nforth**, *adv Obs* Also with hyphen, or as two words (when divided), or as three. [f Within *adv* + Forth *adv* Cf *withoutforth*.] Properly, Everywhere within, internally throughout (see Forth *adv* 2 b), but in use a mere synonym of *within* = Within *adv* 1, 2, 3

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troth* v pr v (1868) 168 Pe possessiun of pe bodly mooeuep pe formes pat restein wip in pe pynge 1382 Wyclif *Isai* xl 9 A Voice of oon criynge without forth and withinforth 1425 *St Mary of Oignies* ii 11 in *Anglia* VIII 151/3 Wip how many kynde dyuersite of vertues she was vnuested wip in forpe 1467-9 *Rec Exeter* (1810) 237 That no comeren sewe another in a foreyn courte vnto the tyme he take his aeeyon wynforth. 1470 85 *Mort Arthur* xx xxii 836 They withinforth kepte theyr walles & clefte vnto them whan nede was 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 78 b Wene you that it is with me withinforth, as it appereth outward ly? 1549 Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 135 It is no harde to cause a chylde to take any thyng within forth 1548 Udall *Erasm Par Luke* 21 43 Ye outwardely beare a shewe of holynesse, yet withinforth swell in ambicion. 1861 Holland *Philip* xxi xiv II. 93 The lad ought to have libertie to play up and downe behind, that it may bee let downe farre within forth 1870 — *Camden's Brit* 103 The Romanes when they were about to found cities, yoked on the right hand a Bull, and within forth a Cow.

**Within aside**, *adv*, *prep.*, (*sb*) Now *arch* or *dial* (Also with hyphen, or rarely as two words.) [f Within + Side *sb.*1, after *outside*] **A.** *adv*

**1.** On the inner side: = Inside *adv.* 1, Within *adv* 1 (in part). Also const. *of.*

*a* 1598 Southwell *Hunsdon Medal* (1873) 70 The windowes were wider withinside than without 1652 Benlowes *Theoph* 58 The salt which adheres to the neck of the Ketoot within-side 1732 Miller *Gard Dict* s.v. *Grass-hook* Within side of the Wind-vane you should have a good strong Shutter. 1778 Graves *Spir Quix* IV, xii, A small oval picture, fixed in a pannel, within side of the door. 1800 I Carte *Duty Lr or Ltt* (1820) 202 He employs the ill-starred man with inside and another withoutside, of a sphere, disputing on its convexity or con xavity *c* 1850 *Fo'csle Nos* 47 (Webb) 154 *Strong*, one or two planks withinside, next under the gunwale, answering to the sheer-strakes without side

**2** In (or to) the inner part or interior (*of*): = Inside *adv* 2, Within *adv.* 1 (in part), 3 b, 4 d. Also, indoors = Within *adv.* 2 b

1598 Barret *Theor Warres* I i 126 Caualliero, or a mount within side dist from the curtine 1712 Steele *Spect.* No 533 P 8 What prises within side of those Vehicles 1723 R Wodrow in *Select Biographies Maitland Club* I 74 I was of squad dozens fifty foot high so contrived within-side as to form a very intricate Labyrinth *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Vicar of Wkfd* (1778) I 389 The diver sate upon a small seat within side 1774 — *Nat Hist* (1862) I vi 91 4 The porcupine sq ills within side spongy 1802 Maria Edgeworth *Irish Bulls* vi, The impudence of first at the door of a house with-in having previously examined whether any one was within-side 1806 R Cumberland *Mem* (1807) I 155 An office, that requires a city to entomb it within side and without 1816 *Sc Sur* A gaudy equipage will attract notice, though it shall carry a dull company within-side of it 1827 Southey *Lives Uneas Writ* xxxvii (1868) II 78 We meant to have had an excursion all down the coast within-side 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* x 260 My gentleman sat withinside tailor wise and busily stitching

**3.** *fig.* Within the limits of.

1856 J Grote in *Cambr Ess* 104 The classical range is restricted withinside of Greek and Latin literature

**B.** *prep.* = Inside *prep.*

**1** On the inner side of = Within *prep* 1 b, d

1760-72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1809) III. 99 The stake they run up withinside the spinal bone *a* 1766 Mrs F Sheridan *Nourj mhal Coach Wks.* 1863 IV. 348 *note*, Within side and without the grounds.

**2** In the inner part of = Within *prep* 1.

1686 *Pour Apost* 158 Why may not there be imperfect Metalls grow withinside the stalks of Corne, as well as the perfect both with out and withinside other plants? 1782 Eliz Rowe *Letters to Retirement* 80 Warmth here to stay within side the house 1814 Jane Austen *Emma* I Harriet had never been within side the Vicarage 1849 De Quincey *Engl Mail Coach* Wks. 1863 IV. 348 *note*, Within side and without the grounds.

+**C** *sb.* The inner side: = Inside *sb* 1. *Obs. rare.* *a* 1814 *Bandit* II, in *New Brit. Theatre* I 409 She fastens the within side.

So **Within asides** *adv arch* or *dial.*

1891 Stevenson *Island Nts' Entert, Bottle Imp* (1893) 154 Withinsides something obscurely moved *a* 1894 — *Fables* xviii *Touchstone*, His soul withinsides was as little as an ape. 1896 *Daily News Rewards & Fairies* 74 I hat thought shrivelled me withinsides.

**Within nward, -wards**, *advs. nonce-wds* [f Within + -ward, -wards] Towards the interior.

1821 Forbes, *Admir's*, from within, withinward (Torbiano 169) from within outward 1865 J Grote *Explor Intell.* 8 The communication being only withinwards from without, and not withoutwards from within

**Within**, obs form of Wightly *adv.*

**Withnay**, see With-.

**Withness** (wi'thnes). *nonce-wd.* [f. With *prep.* + -ness] The fact of being with some one or something; collocation, association.

1907 W. James *Pragmatism* iv 256 The lowest grade of universe would be a world of mere *withness* 1912 *Contemp Rev* Jan 72 The withness of another witness, association, brings us into the interior of the plan of the creation

**Withnim**- see With-

**Without** (wiðou't), *adv*, *prep*, *conj* Forms (2-5 written as one or as two words): a wiß-, wiputan, 2-4 wip-, wituten, 3-5 wipouten, etc. (see With and Outen *adv.*), 4-6, 7-9 *arch.* withoutten; also 3 -utene, -utin, 4-5 -owsten(e, 5 -oughten, -owghten, -outene, -ȝn(e, etc.; *abbreviated* 5 w'outon, w'owtyn. β. 2-4 wip-ute, 3-4 wiute, 3-6 withoute, (3 wiđh wute, wip houte, 4 wit out(ẗ)o, 5 withouete), etc. (cf. Oute *adv*), *abbreviated* 4, 6 w' oute, 5 w'owte, w'ou3te. γ 3 wip vt, 4-5 wipout, etc (see With and Out *adv*), 4- without; *abbreviated* 5-6 w'out, 5 w'ou3t, w'wt, 6, 8 wout, 7 w'out [Late OE. *wiþūtan*, f. *wiþ* With *prep.* + *ūtan* Outen *adv.*: see Within.]

**A** *adv.*

I Outside, in various senses opp to Within *adv.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.*

For instances of the ellipsis of the object of the prep, in which *without* has the appearance of an adv, and may be so construed, see B 4 and 14

**1.** On the outside or outer surface (of a material thing); externally.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I 86 His lichama barn wiðutan mid langsuneere hætan *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 3828 On a wond Wid uten he wrot he wið hond De twelfte names of pat kin. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse* 8047 A vesselle dyyped In water Pat water bath with in and without 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* xviii. vi (1495) 811 *b*/2 A Rede is smothe wythout & holow within 1429 in *Froc Privy Council* (1834) II 247 They were endowid wipoutyn to be oure pensoures ag in liste assignes. *a* 1450 *Cursor M.* 17347 (Trin) Pei shuttle pe doreȝ at pe last Wipinne & wipoute loken so 14 *Why I can't be a Nun* 180 in *L. R. P.* (1862) 143 Hyt schyned wyt the owte so fayre and clere. 1596 Shakes. *Tam Shr* IV i 32 Be the Jacket fayre within, the Gilts fure without? 1611 Cotgr *Crudelites* 65 The Dukes Palace seemeth to be fure, but I was not in it, onely I saw it without 1681 J Williamson tr *Goubart's Hist Vitellius* 82 The Images called Silenes, wh h a farre off, and without appeared to bee grossely caued 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 505 It is an ordinary Curiosity, to Forme Images and Shapes in Stuffe without Shapes; which is done by Moulding them within, and Cutting them without 1797 [see Within A. 2]

**2.** Outside (or out of) the place mentioned or implied, *esp* outside the house or room; out of doors.

*a* 1200 in Ausmann *Agr Hem.* xvi. 226 Þeet þær zelamp, þæt hig ealle in on þa burh foron, þæt þær nan þing þæs folces wyðstan belyfen næs. *c* 1200 *O. F. Cursor* (Mcs F) an 992 Man scolde fandian gif ani mihte herborwe þanne here ahwar wiþutan *c* 1205 *Lay* 12960 Brutten weoren wið innen & Meiȝ wes widen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 996 A firin wil þar ee o burc, Mas nan wam in þat ee wam wid dred 1302 Welcum be þi sauerd', said þai, 'Duell þou nogt wit vis *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 2 40 Naymes panne with oute zede he badde pe kyng wip oute 1420 Maidstone (Roxb) v 17 Ffa þis citee ill & hill without & bare Sampson þe gates of þe citee 1526 Tindale *Matth* xxi 17 Be-held thy moder and thy brethren stond without 1535 Coverdale *2 Kings* x 24 When they came in to offer sacrifices 1580 appointed h m foure score men without 1654 Sir A Johnston (Ld Wariston) *Diary* (S H S) II 300 They were at nett in the fields, but M. J. Gordon and I were to preach without. 1688 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II (1900) 175 All this time poor Mercy did stand without, trembling and crying for fear that she was rejected. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* III 111, I here is a Footman without with the Horses 1768 Goldsm. *Good Natur* v, *Tar* I'll go hasten things without 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v 51 By the middle of the seventeenth century wit was becoming more numerous and more savage 1890 Bridges *Spring* II viii, When winds without make moan, It love my own fireside. 1894 Zangwill *Ghetto* I xv, Pinchas betook himself unceremoniously without

**b.** *transf.* Outside of a class, body, or community, not in the number or membership; in an alien or foreign community. *Those* (*that are*) *without* = 'outsiders'. Now only in echoes of 1 *Cor* v 12.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 2004 þe king let arere up chirches & to al þat fond shoute, & banneres and in hor peer, þat er were al wipoute *Ta* 1300 in *O F Misc* 146/34, xxxii schiren synnen on engelonde And Norþhumbres & wip vtan And lobeȝ and westmarcolond and wip vtan walis. 1525 J D Berners *Froiss* (1812) II lxxiv [lxx] 294 The pryse was gyuen of them without, to syr Johne Holande 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor* v 12 What have I to iudge them that are with out? Do ȝe not iudge them that are with in? 1535 Coverdale *2 Deut* xxv 5 Then shall not ȝ^e wife of the dead take a straunge man without, but her husbands brother shall take her to wyfe. 1676 W Aiten *Addr Noncony* 67 The breaking the Churches Peace and the bad effects of it, both among themselves and in reference to those without 1846 Mrs A Marsh *Per Darcy* xxxix, The secrets of my trade are not to be rightly communicated to those who are without 1864 Posby *Daniel* (1876) 300 To win those without to live according to the law

**3.** *fig.* and *gen.* Outside of the inward being, soul, or mind; with regard to external actions or circumstances; in relation to others or to something other than the self, sometimes, in outward appearance as opposed to inward reality; outwardly.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II 402 Se ðe ne mæg geðwæscde wiðutan rihtwise on manna ȝesihðum *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 4 Þe oðer iwile is al wiðuten, & riwleþ þe inome & licomliche deden. 1340 *Ayenb* 93 Yboȝtsye is a reonle þet makeþ to zeowy þe guod wyþoute þet ssel wythinne 1430 *Pilgr Lyfe Manhode* iii 10 *Relig Pieces fr Thornton MS* (1914) 54 How þay sall bere þam with owthen and with in; howe to God, how to man *c* 1440 Maundev (Roxb) 123 Þis is þe Rule þat he man lufis a creature for be lewtee wythouten 1500 *Ord Crysten Men* (W de W) 11 Some thynges they make in operacyon wythout all onely, the whiche is done in the soule materyally 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 2 Cor. vii. 5 We were troubled on euery side, fightings without, & terrours within 1607 Gentleman tr *Caussin's Holy Court* 392 Rage may haue inward beginnings, without any accidentall occasion without 1653 Bp Hall *Medit Mirth Char. Life* 209 When (for ought a man can see) I y^e countenance without, a godly man may be sad, and melancholicke, and perplexed. 1692 E Walker tr *Epictetus' Mor* xxvi, An injury to something else without, tis none to thee 1832 Hr Martineau *Hull & Fellow* iv 84 Then you will be at ease without and at peace within 1888 G Macdonald *Castle* Within and Without a dramatic poem

**4.** Preceded by *from*, in above senses.

*a* 1200-50 *Wreck Alex*, 1092 Þe sodomy', he callis fra with oute 1845- [see Within *adv* 4] 1788 Wollaston *Relig Nat* ix 190 The hints I received from without 1868 Colenso *Grand Vol Hexateuch* I. 266 We seek only for guidance from without, has all his happiness in another's keeping 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvi, Doors opened smartly from without 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v 1 548 An independent state, jealous of all interference from without 1898 Illingworth *Div Immun* vi 237 The man loses his power of self determination, and is determined from without.

**B** *prep*

I Outside of, beyond (in various senses): opp. to Within *prep.* Now only *literary* or *arch.*

**1.** Outside of, on or at the outside of, in the space external to (a space, region, place, receptacle, inclosing boundary, etc.).

*Without board* (Naut.): see BOARD *sb.* 12. See also WITHOUT DOOR(S) below.

*c*893 *Alfred Oros.* II. iv. §7 Wiðutan þæm dice is se worhl twegea eha þeal weall. *a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1079 Se cyng Willelm gefeaht togeanes his sunu Rotbearde wiðutan Normandige. *c* 1205 [see BOARD *sb.* 18]. *c*1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1389 Al a welle wiðuten be tun. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 8196 (Fairf.) Ilkan to sette haire pauylion..wiþ-out [*Coll.* vtewil] be toun. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 31 Obied wid-uten þe kirke doris to þe vre be saugten. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 16 The Church of seynt Clementis wyth-owtyn Templebarr. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10989 (Trin.) Þe folke þat were þe chiche wiþoute Wardrike whet he was aboute. 1426 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 111 As well without house as within. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 176 To pyche the said shipp without bords. 1497 *Ord. Navy* Alsoo the Regent without Portesmouth haven. 1573 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* 711 No Bishop maie geeue orders without his owne Diocese. *a* 1592 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 205 There fell a schour of rayne, .so vehement, that non myght abyd without a house. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 94 A little Chappell a mile without the Village. *a* 1656 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. I. (1677) 20 We cannot know..whether there be any Worlds without the compass of this. 1737 BERKELEY *Prof. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 550 The church of St. Agnes without the City. 1745 *Read's Lond. Directory* 83 Sir Thomas Gresham & Comp. Bankers, without Temple-bar. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xviii. II. 727 The Irish language was universally spoken without the pale. 1880 *Gilbert's Lect. Capital* I. 292 The rays of greatest heat..lie entirely without the visible spectrum. 1889 *Act 48 Vict. c.* 13. Sched. II. 8 A parish.. situate partly within and partly without the boundary.

**b.** (with verb of motion) So as to be outside of, to the outside of, out of. *Obs. or arch.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 39 Da namon hig & ofslogon hyne & wurpon wið-uten þone wingeard. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1006 In *S. Jnec. Leg.* 170 With-oute þe yates ne cam he nouȝt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 91 Nabugodonosor..slowȝ alle the strong men,..and þrewe hem wiþ-outen be walles vnburiede. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 31 She yede without her place crieng on God. 1564-5 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1674) XII. 30/2 Sendand woll..fra quhatsumeuir port..within þe Realme of Scotland wtw^t be samyn Realme. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* xii. 317 He led me without the enemy.

**c.** On the outer side of; further out than; (in or to the space) beyond. (Cf. WITHIN B, I d).

1689 BISCHIAM *Voyages* 18 Of the middest of the Island.. was extended without the left Wing of Cyrus his Troopes. 1728 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 5 When I came without the Spithead, I saluted the Admiral. 1757 W. DAMPIER *Trav.* Sp. & *Port.* xliii, The rest of the court form in a second circle without the ambassadors. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 122 Of the rock of Sparrow, spoke of formerly, .. there is one without another. 1867 SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 736 *Without*, outside, as, studding-sail without studding-sail.

**†d.** At more than, beyond (a specified distance). 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4005/3 To begin to Work without 70 Yards Distance from the Shoar.

**2.** *transf.* and *fig.* Outside of, not in the limits of, external(ly) to.

1028–60 *Lamb. Northumb. Priests* §6 Þæt nan man ne wibge on neah-hiban mon þonne wiðutan þam iiii. cumene. 1357 *Lay Folks Cate'h.* (T.) 105 Wiðouten halikirke nis na saule hele. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 13266 (Fairf.) Nauper I sale ȝe house on londe bote oþer þing wib-oute nouȝt [*Cott.* wit vnrenun]. *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (prose) 17 Ilke sunday wid-uten tenin sal þe cantikle be said. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (1910) 28 Wil he was vexed with ouy materia, sythir with-oute þe religion or with-Inne. 1598 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 45 It was forbidden vnto them to marie without their owne tribe. 1618 WITHER *Motto.* (1619) 120 Iustinella (16:3) 54 He that beares an honest heart about him, Needs never feare what changes be without him. 1694 STANHOPE *Epictetus' Morals* I. 11 The Object that moves our Affections, is without us. 1705 — *Paraphr.* II. 138 Some [reasons] are without the compass of my present design. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* xiv. 190 One whose sources of happiness are without home.

**†b.** So as to exceed; beyond. *Obs.*

The phr. *without measure* (= *F. sans or outre mesure*), 'immoderate(ly)', 'excessive(ly)', belongs here or under 10 a.

*c* 1400 [see MEASURE *sb.* 13]. 1530 SIR THOMAS MORE *Image of Love* 1895 Somtyme without Measure he trusted in golde; And now without Measure he shal haue hunger and colde. 1560 *Women Saints* (1886) 63 Beating and bouncing her without all measure.

**†3.** Beyond the extent of, outside the range of (some action or perception); beyond the scope or sphere of action of. *Obs.*

For *without comparison*, see COMPARISON 2 (c).

*a* 1548 [see REACH *sb.*1 5 b]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. Prol. A ij b, He beynge without the danger of gonne shot. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 111, Though it be without my commission to meddle with them. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 3 Two thynges are without our command: Poynte of Nature, and pointes of Fortune. *a* 1656 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 91 Conjectures of things without our knowledge. 1770 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* iii. (1876) 332 Beauties in our art that seem..to lie without the reach of precept. 1809 KENDALL *Travels* I. vii. 70 The happy consequences..are without description. 1860 *Lovely Sorrow* II. 221 To witness the elements jarring from above, and without their reach.

**†b.** Beyond the capacity or comprehension of (= BEYOND B. 5 b); outside the province of. *Obs.*

*c* 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv, Oh, now I apprehend you: your phrase was without me before. 1603 — *Sejanus* II. i, The ages that succeede..shall admire And reckon it an act, without your Sense.

**4.** Used *absol.* by ellipsis of obj., in opposition to *within* (or *in*) prep., where it has the appearance of an adv.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5933 Bath in buses and wit-vte. *c* 1320 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud) Wit hinne þe curt and wit oute. 1480 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* 446 Places within the shire of Coventre & without. 1580 A. FLEMING *Comm. Holinshed* III. 1390/1 Alliances either in Italie or without. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Richter again* (1872) III. 21 Is not God's Universe within our head, whether there be a torn skull-cap or a king's diadem without?

**II.** Senses intermediate between I. and III.

**†5.** In addition to, or with the addition of; besides. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 366 We habbeð seoue þusund of gode cnihten, wið outen wifmen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4107 An hondred þousend hors..Wiþ oute wimmen þat were so vale þat þer nas of non ende. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 54 Wiþouten alle þis a hundreth knyghtes he toke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 461 Housbondes..bee hadde fyve Withouten other compaignye in youthe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 93 Wip oute be fal seruice he wolde euery day seie be sawter. 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Collect. IV. 197 There 30 redy..iiij^e shippes of forstage wythoute other smal shipes. 1538 CROMWELL in *Lis. Lett.* IV. 14 God (with out whom there is none other God).

**†6.** Exclusive of, not including, except. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 378 Nim..þa wyrtan wermra, alla wiðutan anre. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 557 A flod..ouer-flowed men & deres kin, Wiþ-vten noe and hise þre sunen. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 493 Godard was..þe moste swike, Þat eure in erþe shapped mon to make, Wiþ-outen Iudas. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Ancl.* I. 119 He wes the fayrest mon, With-outen Absolon, That setibe wes ant tho.

**†II.** Expressing absence, privation, or negation: With or involving the absence or want of; in a state of not having, or so as not to have; so, or such, that there is no . . . Opp. to WITH *prep.* II***. (The ordinary current use.)

**7. a.** (with'obj. a thing, material or immaterial) With absence of; not with the presence or addition of; not having with it or with one; not accompanied by; not combined or associated with; not having to do with or carrying or wearing.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 997 Brand all þeorrf wiþþuten bermne. *a* 1225 *Prov. Alfred* 119 Wyþyte wyuðome is wrole wel vnwurþ. *a* 1338 MIROT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 138 Bischeppes..Put stongen and wepen, Wyth-out helm and sheld. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xv. 5 For without me ȝe moun no þing do. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 36 A childe born withouten fader. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 19, I..saide..That ..I could not answere without that writyng. 1588 COVERDALE *2 Kings* xviii. 25 Thinkest thou that I came vp hither without ye Lorde to destroye these cities? 1592 in J. Morris *Troubles Catth. Religion* (1872) 183 Condemned for burying a Catholic without a minister. 1598 in *Haringtou's Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 176 To make peace withouten his allyes and friends. 1667 MILTON *Par. Lost* VIII. 39 Without thee nothing lofty can I sing. 1712 SWIFT *Prol. to Stella* 23 Dec, We shall have a peace very soon; the Whigs without arms are almost entirely agreed, and if they argue we shall make it without them. 1875 [see GET v. 63 b]. *Mod.* Come and help me with this job; I can't do it without you.

**10.** (with obj. an abstract thing, as a quality, attribute, action, condition, etc.): **a.** (depending on or referring to a verb) With absence of; in a state of, or freedom from; so that there is no . . : often forming phrases equivalent to negative adverbs, e. g. *without end* = endlessly, *without fail* = unfailingly, *without fear* = fearlessly, *without success* = unsuccessfully, etc.

Frequent in M.E. in intensive or expletive phrases, as *withouten dread, leas* (*sb.*), *lesinge* (*sb.*), *lettinge, tie* (*sb.*), *miss* (*sb.*), *strife*, etc. See also the various also.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Iwaipen ine eche pine, wiþuten alesinge, and wiþuten miles. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 12 Þei wimmen fode, derflike wiþuten dred. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 183 Wit-vte cheste and bute syȝte. *c* 1375– [see DELAY *sb.* 2a]. 1297– [see FAIL *sb.* 2]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1107 Þei hul sitad er in buie blis, Wit-vten wast..., Wit-vten sake, wit-vten sare. 1320 HANDLE *Pr. Conic.* 3429 Swa parfitely may nane ly here, Wiþ-outen veniaunces. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiv. 297 He is neuere mare, Wiþouten mo, ouermyȝnes amonge, and mischief to bote. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 281 Sche seith me may wiþouten oth. *a* 1450 MIRK *Pary. Pr.* 94 Say by seruice wyþ-outen lesyng. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 428 Withouten cause ye be not come hider. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 5 Quhen he purchessis pace ande conceyd, with out diminucione of his vycht. *a* 1553 LEIGH *Acc. Relig. Q. Mondo* (1656) 164 It is just..that they who live without repentance, should dye without comfort. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* 11 Wow gaffers wi' their counsels without end, Sometymes amonge, and mischief to bote. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 281 Sche seith me may with

8903 þt louerd saul abbai an name ‡ wr wiþonte blame *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 102 Mild and meek, wittouten gall. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbr.* 4112 Neuere no was he with oute strif, But ay wiþ vikelnche ȝueede ȝe ȝif. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I 45 To grounde I was withoute breth 14 *Pundale's Vis* 32 He was a man withoute pyte 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. Crnes Richmond* Wks (1876) 300 He not end an men with-outen hope 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 499 It is obscrued by some, that there is a vertuous Bexoar, and another without vertue 1699 Ibid. *Henry Vnd* 1 91 ‡ There was a time when the Mind was with-out those Principles. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 492 All sorts of Tools and Iron work, they had with-out Dule 1758 Hume *Ess., Pl. gurence* 66 ‡ In vehement re-ening, without any appearance of art 1859 Hawthorne *Fr & It Jrnls* (1871) II 284 It resembled an unspeakably bad dough-nut, without any sweetening 1865 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 87 They are white, without positive intensive, without strength and slender, without grace

c With no possibility of, so, or such, as not to admit of, so or such, that there can be no . . .

*a* 1300 *Curs. M* 25821 For ‡ ur wiuhopping þu fell wel wiþ ‡ reuering ‡ ur wiuhad ‡ ur child 1340 Our mercy was slayne with outyn redemptioune *Ibi* 226 With out reskew he stekyt I-nn to dede 1530 Palsgr 3 9 2 Without remedye, *sans faulte* 1552 Huloet *Vnreuocable*, *Vnreuocably* 1755 Johnson *Rambler* No 174 ¶ 14 These wounds are without cure 1762 Hume *Hist. E. g. Jul C to Hen VII* I App 1 252 The great lo do until he is among the Angels 1770 Nobody could preach with out appeal any theories they caught 1776 [see Rempur 2b 3]

d In such phrases as *without comparison, controversy, doubt*, ‡nay, etc the meaning may waver between ‘beyond’ (cf 2 c 3) and ‘involving the absence of’, ‘not admitting of’, ‘so that there is or can be no . .’.

*a* 1300– [see Doubt 2d ‡ 4d] 1340–1378 [see Conscience 2d ‡ 2b] 1547–1577 [see Controlsy 1 c] 1557 *N & Queries* (1850) VII 3 Without doubt, he which is Jesus receaueth blessing of hym which is greater 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn* II xix § 3 these things are will out Contradiction, and could not otherwise be 1621–1709 [see Compare 2d ‡ 3].

†e *Without day* — Sine die *Obs.*

1567 Cooke *Interpr* v. *Day*, To be dismissed with out day, is to be finally dismissed 1571 Hilles *Comf. Godly* VI 262 He doubted of the Effect of a Noble Prot' if it discharged the Indictment, or only put the Defendant without Day.

**11** followed by a gerund or vbl sb. in *-ing* equivalent to ‘so as not to’ or ‘and not’ with the corresponding vb, or ‘not’ with the pres ple; e.g *to pass by without seeing* = ‘to pass by so as not to see’, ‘to pass by and not see’, ‘to pass by, not seeing’

*a* 1300 *S. Trinite* 2620 Tristrem is went on-way Wiþ-outen comi-gnan 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B xi 144 He wondred me were grunted Grace, wyth outen any bede byddynge *c* 1400 *Deste Troy* 2992 Tite, withouth ianyng, ait it were al 1515 *Reg Pilgr* Vow *Pref* I 207/1 So pas and repas ale oft is that pley without ony arestinge *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., 14 Edw IV*, 215 The Frenche king calling for water washed and now without any answere making 1639 S. Du Verger tr *Camus Admir Events* To Reader 2 vij, Drones which do but humme about flowers, without gathering any honey from them 1734 Bowkerey *Let* Wks 1871 IV 217, I can hardly stir abroad without catching cold 1779 *Mirr* v No 2 P 2 No child ever he ard from its nurse the story of Jack the Giant killer's cap of darkness, without enuying the pleasures of invisibility 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Sk. ps & Lenants*, We never passed at night without seeing the eldest girl at work 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* II 169 He was a slave without being a drudge 1877 Black *St Mark's Rest* IV § 51 A solemn ti e of old Venetia wall which you might pass under twenty times without seeing 1885 *Law Times Rep* LXIV 1 1076 No person was to be blind out without the charge having been inspected by the un lerlooker.

†b Governing an infinitive with *to* [After Fr, etc] *a* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi 470 If it were possyble reto rne agen hole and sounde wythoute beyng shonouned 1556 *Jr de Flores' Aurelio & Isal* b 6, Without to see it willbe in written

c. By ellipsis of the gerund Not counting, leaving out of account. *colloq*

1872 Geo Eliot *Middlem* xxxv II 222 My father has enough to do to keep the rest, without me.

**†12** *It without any one* in various senses (see Mo 8 c, More 4 b, 5 c) *Obs* Often used as a neg *c* 1390 etc. [see No More 1 b above] *c* 1450 *Merlin* 271 Pe weiwolf . . wert wrgily ‡ wei wit oute any more *c* 1350 *Leg Rood* in 148 By þt ilk way went we twa, þt is mine and I with outen any mo *a* 1400–50 Alexander 719 Wyll wyppis more forthe they rode *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* x 61 I-nll Norani k ik be come with outin mare. 1500–20 Dunbar *Lament for Makers* 89 The Deuill vald then, withouttin mair, ‡ Renounce ȝour God, and cum to me

**13** In senses 7–11 often with conditional implication (mostly with negative, expressed or implied): If one have (or had) not, if there be (or were) not, unless one have or there be, in the absence of, in default of, ‘supposing the negation or omission of’ (J)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 126 Na were may stand Wit outen grun twall to be last and 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III 161 N þer man ne wommon schulde be punished wiþ oute gilt. *c* 1450 Langham *Life St Aug* 99 Pat swech bonges myte not be do witi outen vertuous tuyyng 1500 Tindale *Heb* xi 6 With out faith it is vnpossible to please him 1661 Godolphin *Love Jupiter Introd* 2 6, The Manner may not sail without one Cat or more in his Vessel 1748 Thomson *Cast Indol* I 15, Withouten that would come an heavyer Ile 1766 Goldsm *Vicar* IV xv, What is genius or courage without an heart? 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxvii, Without a sense of your fault, how can repentance and amendment be expected? 1857 Buckle *Civilis* I ix 617 The people believed that without the nobles there was no safety, the nobles believed that without the crown there was no honour

**14.** With ellipsis of the obj. (cf. 4). Now *colloq.* (except in contrast with *with*).

In negative contexts, as in quots 1733, 1808, virtually = otherwise, this use is further extended in unstudied speech, e g You can go, if you can find somebody to go with,—not without.

*c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (prose) 16 pe nihend ferþe ualme wid pe antefen oniud-uiden 1597 Shaks *Lover's Compl* 98 Small shew of man was yet vpon his chinne Yet nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without 1634 Dorothy Osborne *Lett* (1888) 223 Here is a ring ‡ is and fleuret whether these be any word in't or n t, only ‘tis as well without 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I xii 70 We throw out our Lead, and by Soundicks cured this wound without. 1681 T Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* N 27 (1713) I 178 Come it is a great while since we had a Pindarick, have you never a one in your Budget? *Learn* him Scholar without 1730–46 Lady D Germaine in *Lett Swift & his Friends* (1844) 173 Though you shall take the four [the sound pounds], still I shall have enough without 1733 Lady *Hervey Letters* (1848) 126 All the former Kings being broken ‡ flat ‡ Ends in taking up (for ‘tis impossible to do it without) 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III 27 Pray don't Will I have you to your hands without 1800 Mrs Hervey *Mourtr y Jane* IV 57 Well promise nothing, Mr Chowles, but do it without 1838 Newman *Lett* (1891) I 188 I have written to tell you, and left Oxford with it 1878 J A Tillman *Let* in W R W Stephens *Life & Lett* (1895 II 161, I don t get any w sh p here, but I m better without 1898 W W Jacobs *Sea Urchins, Grey Parrot* (1906) 208 Mum ud have given him some on ourgement A man wouldn't offer to lend a lady his open glasses without.

b *slang* in reference to liquor Not mixed with sugar of *With pep* 26 b (*b*)

1825 Disney *Stat* 6 Geo IV c 81 Mixtures of brandy and water cold with out 1837 Lardner *Inquil Leg., Execution* 71 There is ‡ talk h, ‘cold without,’ ‘hot with,’ ‘heavy wet’ 1854 New World 2nd S vi 161.

**15.** Qualified by a negative = *not without* = not lacking, with or having some (implying or suggesting a somewhat slight or not very great amount).

Cf *not* with negative adj or adv (Not *adv* 10 c)

1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S.T.S.) I 42 Sa sure is hatrin that nocht wtout cause the historiographours named it the Porte of sanfgard and sauftie 1605 Shaks *Macb* I v 20 Thou would st be great; Art not without Ambition 1611 Cotgr *Fraper* Fy, fy, for shame we wthout guests 1807 Southey *Chronicle's Lett* xxxvii (1808) II 71, I looked back upon Birmingham not without satisfaction at thinking I should never enter it again 1858 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xi III 113 Many were the writings not without hope that mild and liberal counsels might prevail 1870 McCarthy *Donna Q* I 62 She remembered not without a pang the days

C. *conj* (or in *conj. phr.*)

1 The prep governing a clause introduced by *that*, so that *without that* becomes a conjunctional phr.: †a. (*a*) Except that. (*b*) In addition to the fact that. *Obs rare.*

*c* 1200 Ormin 1022 þatt wass hefft wiss hemmpedd tær, forr þatt nis hemm nan wiþ-uwwenn Alf batt hiht tatt her wiþ-uwwenn wass Wiþþutenn þatt te biscopp selff þær sholde cumenn o þe yer ann sipe, & all hunnrane 1489 *Acc Exch. Heigh Treas* 1 Edw IV 1 Item in redy silver for ij bokes to the King, with wte at the Master of the Wardrop hes boycht y dusane of rybbauns summa iij^li.

b (in sense B. 10) Without its being the case that now expressed by the construction with gerund (B. 11), with or without posa, e.g. *without that you shall need* = ‘without your needing’; *without that he led me* = ‘without leading me’. Now *rare* or *Obs*

*c* 1450 in W T Parbour *Hist Contr act* (1914) 201 Without þat ony mariagis were made or had bitwene ane lord John Mereys and John Hlsboth 1471 Foresele *Hist* (1869) 525 S unto Edwarde ieyned peseably with oute eny claime made vppon him, by lyge, or by her husbande, and with oute eny claime of their heires for ever that he lede 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi 560 The speres flew in peces without that ony of them ne felle to the giounde 1494 St. Capgrave *Life St Aug* 99 Pat swech bongis myte not be do witi outen vertuous tuyyng 1500 Tindale *Heb* xi 6 With out faith it is vnpossible to please him 1661 Godolphin *Love Jupiter Introd* 2 6, The Manner may not sail without one Cat or more in his Vessel 1748 Thomson *Cast Indol* I 15, Withouten that would come an heavyer Ile 1766 Goldsm *Vicar* IV xv, What is genius or courage without an heart? 1834 Marryat *Peter Simple* xxxvii, Without a sense of your fault, how can repentance

2 Hence, by omission of *that*, simply as a conjunction If . . not, except, unless

Formerly common in literary use, most frequently with verb in subjunctive, inter *colloq* (‘not in use, except in conversation’ J 1755) or *arch* and now chiefly *illiterate* Often replaceable by the more usual gerund (B 11), *without he be compelled* = ‘without being compelled’; esp with clause referring to an attendant circumstance or result rather than a condition, as in qu 1 1870.

1393 Langl. *P Pl* C v 176 Quath conscience to þe kynge with oute be ‡ ur hauen ‡ ur hed 1 bynde, Ner ‡ t hit to hynge 1480 Mary Easton in *P. Lett* II 308 If I wer ther without I had the more, ‡ urchepfull persones abought me. it shuld be to me but a vylney 1497 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II 28 She is displeasde and I know not wherefore, without the wyches be fallen on hir 1499 1523 Fitzherbert *Surveie* (1882) I xii 19 All the moost parte of the resime were right joyouse, without it were a few persones 1519 Horman *Vulg* 1 Without I consider 1534 More *Conf aget Irish* 1 xii (1553) C iij b, Good workes to godwarde woorkeli no man without god woorke with him 1565 *Reg Privy Co* VII 1 (1587) will nocht deliver. the said hors without he be compellit 1591 Shake *Com Err* III ii 92 Such a one, as a man may not speeke of, without he say sir reuerence 1598 Florio *Pedagon & Merry* (1663) 111 Without she will it 1886 O W Holmes *Astrea Iv* xiv (1892) 211, I know these people, . so as ill the vicinity as I can without them, without it takes time about it 1868 J H Blunt *Ref Ch Eng* I 437 No canons were to become law without they were assented to, by the crown 1870 *Daily Chron* 30 Nov. 2/7 Without a great change takes place the meeting is sure to commence to-morrow

D. *adv* That which is external, the outside *nonce-use.*

1899 C F D Arcy *Ideal* 5 *Theol* Introd 22 Necessity is determination from without, determination by the not self. It belongs therefore to whatever has a ‘without’

**†Without, adv.** obs. pa. t. of Withstand.

**†Without tide** *adv. phr. (adj.) Obs* = next. *c* 1205 Lay 2382 Pat neuer ne ferde heo wiß uten dore 1570 Levins *Manip* 229/8 Without doore, *extra, foris* 1621 in Foster *Pupil Inheritrix* Ind (1906) 280 A Atorme of rayne that wet these hatch weare without doors in the street. 1649 C Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 30 Enter in, and let her without door Her own distresses, and her friends explore 1739 Johnson *Rasselas* xi (1787) IX 174/1 Hfe . . friend found him sitting without Door

b *attrib* or as *adj.* (with hyphen) = Out-door *a*; in quot *transf.* or *fig.* relating to the outer world, outward, external.

1621 Shake *Wint* I ii 1 69 Prayse her but for this her without dore Forme

**Without doors,** *adv phr (adj.) Obs or rare arch* (Also with hyphen.) [See Without *prep.* I and Door 5.]

1. Out of doors, outside the house, in the open air. 1607 Middleton *Chaste M* 63 Our meat we bought our selues, and we fetched our beere without doores 1665 Gerbier *Counsel* 27 At the latter end of the year no brick work without doores ought to be laid 1695 A Trifair *Nero Confed Saint.* (1698) 3 The Family being all without Doors 1721 Addison *Spect* No 83 P 1 When the Weather hinders me from taking my Diversion without Doors 1796 Morse *Amer Geog* II 621 Without doors they use a kind of wooden patten 1840 Dickens *Old Curi Shop* xxvii, The preparations without doors had not been neglected.

2. *transf.* and *fig* Outside the community (family, nation, etc); †*spec* outside Parliament (= Out-of-door, -doorr A 2a)

1697 C Davenant *Ess E Indian Trade* Wks 1771 I 96 Some persons (without doors), profess themselves open enemies to the traffic in general 1709 *Swift Adv Relig* Misc (1712) 204 Senators are like to have but little Power for any Proposals that come from without Doors 1723 Dr Wharton *Law Decisions* No. 5 I 43 Those who are Without-Doors should do their Duty by supporting such Patriots 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvii (1812) I 181 It will not be necessary to take the trouble of answering the quotation from a speech without doors 1792 Burke *Sp* at May (1816) IV 21 The House was untainted by those false principles which had been so amply circulated without doors 1823 Scott *Quentin D* xiv, He was the best all enemies without doors, found a fair foe who could belabour him within.

**3.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* = prec. b.
1654 Fuller *Comm. Ruth* 139 The Daughters of Sarah, whom the meekeness of their Sex hath priviledged from following without doors affairs.

**† Without-forth,** *adv. Obs.* (or *rare arch.*) Also with hyphen, or as two words, or as three. [f. Without *adv.* + Forth *adv.*] Properly, Everywhere without or outside (see Forth *adv.* 2 b); but in use a mere synonym of *without.* (Opp. to Withinforth.) **a.** = Without *adv.* 1.
*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 384 Woo worbe 30u.. ypocrisis, þat clensen wibout-forþ of þe cuppe and of þe dishe. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 46 þei weren apeied wiþ o cote or kirtil with-ynne forþe & with-oute forþ. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 72 When þay were alle in, God closed þe dore after hem wythout-forth. 1474 in *Litt. Cantuar.* (Rolls) III. 272 Yowre powche and key-band with the keverynge; on the which are.. set ij. porses with swetecloth. 1511 *Copyf.orde's Pylgr.* (Camden) 23 Whereby he myght se before the entre into this Temple. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxv. vi. II. 528 The peeces of this earth, if a man doe but rub, shew the coate naturall colour which is not mixt; without-forth they be spotted. 1894 F. S. Ellis *Reynard the Fox* 247 Withoutforth of the ring .. A stone, of colours three.

**b.** = Without *adv.* 2, 2 b.
1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xii. 46 His modir and his bretheren stoden with-outforth [1388 withouteforth]. 1388 — *Acts* v. 34 Gamaliel.. comaundide þe men to be put with-forth. 1469 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 373 That euery citesein .. whoutforth paya alle maner charges as citezens do that dwelle wyfynforth. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. xxii. 156 They .. kepte the syege with hytel warre withoutforth. 1530 Tindale *Deut.* xxxiii. 25 Without forth, the swerde shall robbe them off theire children. 1600 Holland *Livy* VII. xxi. All was quiet withoutforth. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* 139 The space, .. between the wall and the heape of earth cast up withoutforth.

**c.** = Without *adv.* 3.
1337 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 758 Thou schalt not do leccherye noþer in consent in hert ne spekynge ne in countenaunce withowte-forþ. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 364 Pe wit comeþiþ fro wiþ outen forþe þe figure of þe body of þe man. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1909) 123 The schame þat sche hadde of his synnn was so grete wiþ-inneforth þat sche forgat þe schame and reuerence þat sche hadde withouteforth. 1492 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. b/a Faynynge wythoute fourthe by theyr couuert manere and aymple habyte semed to be Innocentes. 1530 Palsgr. Introd. 34 The verbes actyves betokyng some acte to passe from the doer without forth.

**d.** quasi-*sb.* (preceded by *of*): That which is without; external region or action.
1470–85 Caxton *Charles the Gr.* (1881) 114 Hyt befelle that a marchant of withoute forth herd the..fame of this man. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 277 b/a That the werkes of withoutforth be fyrst withforth ruled after the iugement of right & reason.

**e.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* Outside, external.
*c* 1300 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 9 The wythoutforth landys and tenementis.

**Without-side,** *adv.* and *prep.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [f. Without + Side *sb.*, after *without.*] Opp. to Withinside or Within. **A.** *adv.*
1. On the outer side or surface : = Outside *adv.* 1 (in part), Without *adv.* 1.
1538 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xli. 180 The roote is ..blacke without-alde. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. v. (1713) 97 Nor do we our selves grow by being liquored without side, but within. 1695 Congreve *Love for Love* I. i. Why civil as Lawyer with-side? — Does he carry his Conscience without side? 1727–38 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Mould,* The Moulds..are of wax, supported within-side by what they call a core, and covered without-side with a cap or case. 1736 C. Smith *Wand. Warwick* 19 Barricading the cabin door withoutside. 1849 Cin. G. Rossetti *Testimony* 20 Poet. Wks. (1904) 119 We build our houses on the sand Comely withoutside and within. *c* 1850 (see Withinside A. 2).

2. In (or to) the place or space without : = Outside *adv.* 1 (in part), Without *adv.* 2.
*c* 1300 Eyelein *Pity* 31 Sche..lyeþ, The Cathedrall,..full of sepulchres without-side. 1706 E. Ward *Hud. Redriv.* (1707) II. vi. 4 Without side warm, within side merry. 1710 Mrs. Centlivre *Marplot* ii. Wks. 1760 II. 247 When I came without-side, I saw nobody there. 1800 *Ann. Reg.*, Chron. 414 Within this temple is an altar, and without-side, near the entrance, another. 1831 Tsekamma *Adv. Younger Son* I. xx. 148 A wild shout from without-side.

**3. Withoutside of,** *prep. phr.* = *outside of,* Outside *adv.* 3 a.
1698 in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VI. 23 Placing the Indians, without side of our soldiers in a ring battalia.
1721 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 169 A very narrow bridge, .. without-side of the gate. 1751 R. Pallock *P. Williams* (1682) II. xi. 108 Without-side of those mountains, it was scarce darker than at my arbor. 1765 J. Hunt *Hibernia Curiosa* 163 Wearing their shirts withoutside of their cloaths. 1805 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. 345 All the world withinside of Nejed.

**B.** *prep.* = A. 3, Outside *prep.* 1, 2, Without *prep.* 1, 1 b.
1666 (see Withinside B. 2). 1756 *Impostors Detected* I. iv. 32 The monk's cell, which he had left without side the door. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 176 Succeeding each other, one without side the other, like circles in disturbed water. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 353 A fire was made without side the cabin, in the open air. 1832 T. Hope *Ecs. Origin Man* I. 8 Modifications existing withoutside my person.

**† Without-take,** *prep. Obs. rare.* [f. Without *adv.* after Out-take *phil., prep.*] Except.
1440 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 185 With al the Princes and men of value of the lande, wythout-take the Pepill of Vlystere.

**Without-wards,** *adv. nouce-wd.* [f. Without + -wards.] Towards the exterior.
1805 [see Withinwards].

**Withpraise,** etc. : see With- b.

**Withsafe,** -**sair,** obs. ff. Vouchsafe.

**† Withsake,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 wiþsacan, 3 -saken ; *pa. t.* 2 -soc(k, *pa. pple.* 4 -saken. [OE. *wiþsacan,* f. With- + *sacan* to contend, dispute, deny; cf. MHG. *widersachen.*] = Withsay *v.* 1, 2, 3.
972 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Wiþsacaþ nu þain leasum welum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 33 Se þe me wiðsæcð beforan mannum, & ic wiþsace hyne beforan minum fæder. *c* 1205 Lay. 10898 Þa wiðsaken wolde cristindom he dude his marken him on. *Ibid.* 13000 Imong þan eorlen he stod & fastliche hit wiðsoc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Ich hit ne mei nout wiðsaken. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 178 His grese folk þat him wiþ-saken hedde.

**† Withsave,** obs. f. Vouchsafe, used by Wyatt in the sense : To preserve.
*a* 1542 Wyatt '*Syns thou ys twic*' 50 Henceforthe my fredome to withsave (*rime* have). — '*Now must I lerne*' 22 Now must I seke som other ways My self for to withsave.

**† Withsaw.** *Obs.* [f. With- + Saw *sb.*2, after Withsay *v.*] Withstanding.
*c* 1200 *Ormin* R. 288 Hwonn þe delit ihe luste is igon so ouercumð þet ter nis non wiðsiggingge [*v.r.* wiðsahel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5877 Now wald þai mak þam a wiþsaw Fra þair lauerd to werre. 1340 *Hampole Psalter* xlii. 5 Þe Manis lordes of wastes..habdes I ben desturbed þorui with sawe of hoere neegebure [orig. *per contradicionem vicinorum*].

**† Withsay,** *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] = prec.
*c* 1330 Otterbourne VII. 369 Per iere stryf ne contekynge, Ne no wyb-seyg.

**† Withsay,** *v. Obs.* [OE. (rare Northumb.) *wiþsæcga* : see With- and Say *v.*1 Cf. OFris. *withsedza.*]
1. *trans.* To renounce. *rare.*
*c* 960 *Lindisf. Pontific.* (Surtees) 34 *Terrena desideria reiquentes,* eardlicn lvato wiðsæcgende. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 147 Fuery cristen wight shal han penaunce þat he me knowe, And me withsaye his mawmettrie. *Ibid.* 453 We þat knowen thilke name [of Christian] so For vertuous, we may it nat withseye.

**2. a.** To affirm the contrary of, contradict, deny (a fact or statement); also, to deny the existence of.
*a* 1340 *Cursor M.* 8636 Al mon..deb somuch mis þat he no open sunne þat he hit ne mei nones weis allelunge wiðsiggen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2309 To londone he gan him bringe, & sede he wolde þe kyng to-fore þe icrounede wiþsigge. *c* 1300 ne nipte it wel wip segge. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9800 Syker ys, þat yn rolle ys leyde, For þan may hyt neuer be wyþsayde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 59 Seynt Iust wipseib nougt oure lyeiene. 1443–50 in W. F. Baildon *Sel. Cases Chanc.* (1896) 136 He withseieth not the matier conteigned in the seid bille of complainte. 1493 *Com. Lect Bk.* 30 Yf he withsey the seid Iust he withsey the seid Iust in effect. Brauncheis of Counetre, nor the allowance þerof had at Bristoll. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2 Sythe I have sayd it, I wyll never withsay it. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 136 That Dian witnesde thou canst not withsaye.

**b.** To contradict, deny the statement of (a person).
1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10349 Wan þou seist, quaþ he king, þat I ne wolde nouʒt þe sigge, þou segst ouerl as þou art, þat wiþsigge þe nouʒt. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) I. 184 To withsaye thilke men that of these speken otherwyse than the sothe. *a* 1400 *Pistel of Swete Susan* 2504 I ne may þerfore, But þat I muste yow with-seyn. 1530 Rastell *Bk. Purgat.* I. vii, As heyng and not beynge be two contrarye[unto] [etc.] the one may dayly denye and with reason be disproued and withsayd.

**c.** *intr.* To make denial or contradiction ; to speak in opposition *to*; also *trans.* to utter by way of contradiction.
*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 I-wis In witnes þai rea with him,..For þai no wise wil with-say þat gert to dett him bring. 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 124 Pese is rered vp ageyn my foes, withseiende to me. — *Judith* I. 11 To þise þese Nabugodonosor..sente messageres i þe whiche alle with o wil withseiden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 341 When Nesion had his tale seid, Ayein him was no word withseid. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 259 Pat euerych bakere habbe hys seal ymad..Pat no Bakere withsigge hys seal. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2 If I take oper þan wool. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiii. (1869) 48, I may not to þat of no thing wel withseye. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 52 Yf any man..withsaye or withstonde me. — *Judith* I. 11 To þise þese Nabugodonosor..sente messageres i þe whiche alle with o wil withseiden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 341 When Nesion had his tale seid, Ayein him was no word withseid. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 259 Pat euerych bakere habbe hys seal ymad..Pat no Bakere withsigge hys seal. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2 If I take oper þan wool. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiii. (1869) 48, I may not to þat of no thing wel withseye. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 52 Yf any man..withsaye or withstonde me, þat he withseye not by dedez and acter of their factours.

**3.** *trans.* To speak or act against, oppose, resist; = Gainsay *v.* 3 ; occas. to say (a thing) in opposition. Also, to disallow, forbid. Also *absol.*
*c* 1200 Ormin 1356 Fele þeode modlik wiþþsteþenn, & wiþþsezzdenn ; þeffnes lihhtt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 Þi þo dages luueden heroules, his broðer wif, and binam hire him, and Seint Iohan hit wiþ seide. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Iwenne he schil & te heorte ne se þe wiþsiggende. *c* 1272 *Passion our Lord* 422 in *O. E. Misc.* 49 Eueruych mon þat makeþ hym king, He wyl-seyþ ce-are. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 89 Pei no man dar withseie hem in here wrong. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 805 Who so wole my luggement withseye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 321 Ther mai noman his happ withstonde. 1472 Caxton *Ryczyell* (Sommer) 88 That ther be not oon man that is so hardy to withsaye ony thynge contrayre to my will. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* xxix. c vj, He was ..patron of the purpyse and the parson durst not withsaye hym. *Ibid.* cxxiii. mj b. I defende and withsaye to them the kyssyng. 1523 Lb. Berners *Froiss.* I. cclxxxiv. 574/2 I may not nor dare not withsay yor noble pleasure. *a* 1529 Skelton *Sk. Parrot* 395 Moloo, that nawenst, there darre no man withsay.

**4. a.** To refuse to do or perform. Also *absol.*
*c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Þeo . wiþsiggeð he graunt þeruf mid unwille heorte. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 66 Set tu makt þef bu wuit burhen þe seoluen, ant þef þu mare wiðseist [etc.]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7689 To hom þat wolde is wille do deboneire he was & milde & to hom þat wipsede strong tirant & wilde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W. Prol.* 367 Ye hym was bodyn make thilke tweyne Of sum persone & durste it not withseye. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 49 Gladly he wold haue doo the bataylle yf he had not wytsayed it . whan he was requyred.

**b.** To decline to give, grant, or allow ; to refuse. Also with dat. of person (sometimes with dat. obj.).
1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4920–6 Pe byssop yt nolde graunte ne outlych yt wyþ seyde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2905 (Laud MS.) Homage nolde hym non wipsaye. 1400 Hoccleve *Lett. Cupid* 108 She..So lyberal ys, she wol no wyght with-sey. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 32 She..Halsethe and kissethe and wol hym not with-seyne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 204, I will in no wise wib-say that ye requere. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 86 No man shall ther-of you werne ne withsay. 1532 *Dial. on Lawes Eng.* I. vi. 10 b, I will nat withsay thy desyre. 1548 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 163 Thanke your selfe, whiche wouldst haue me rather faulte..than..withsay your request. 16.. *Eger & Grime* 500 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 372 Sue he desired that sword soe bright That shee was loth to withsay that Knight. 1661–85 in *Hounsk. Ord.* (1790) 372 This is in noe wise to bee withsaid, for it is the King's honour.

Hence **† Withsay'er,** a gainsayer, opponent.
*c* 1440 *Wycliffite Bible* Pref. Ep. iii. 63 The withseieris to withstonde [orig. *contradicentes resistere*]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 267 All withsayers and standerers to brekc this writyng.

**† Withsay ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Withsay *v.* + -ing 1.] Contradiction, gainsaying, opposition.
*a* 1225 [see Withsay *v.* 2]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 233 Pou salt knoye god..mid ale þine wylle wyþ-oute wyþsaiginge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 71 Fame of Paradys hab i-dured wiboute wipseinge seue þousand 3ere and more. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 190 To dispose ekir þis writyng at her wille without ony withseying of them or ther successours. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 487, I shal do With all my hole hert, without withsaing, Al that which ye wyll be me inioyning.

**† Withse't,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *wiþsettan* : see With- and Set *v.*]
1. *trans.* To resist, oppose, withstand. Also occas. const. inf. : To prevent from doing something.
*c* 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xvii[i]. 9 Æcsyld me from auntyne manna þe ne me ʒesæwsciun wiðsette. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Hom. Hom.* vii. 186 Donne sende he heom fultum burh sunne deman, þe wiþsette heorre feondum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 *Dese superbie restiden* [*v.r.* wiðsetten] *þan gode mon.* *c* 1330 *Roland & V.* 834 No hadde hen be bacinet, Pat he strok wip sett. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2021 Hauen to aryue þey hym wolde wipsette. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 174 Myse we with eny wyt hus wil with-sette, We myste be lordes aloft. *a* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 213 Pey Holi writ, Pat cleerli scheweþ þe goostli liif, How þou schuldist deedli synne with-sett. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4518 Generides and his fere to-geder, And bere entre to withsette. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wyþsettyn, *obsisto, obstito.* *c* 1460 *Cent. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 212 If thou with-sett the deuyl in his deede.

**2.** To beset (a way, etc.) so as to prevent a person from passing. (In early use with dat. of person.)
*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23727 Pai him wip-sett were, Nil we, wil we, we sal mete. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 337 Als pei fro kirke cam, per way he bam withsette. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 107 Pai all þam withsettin, Swa þat no place in-till his way.. With twa thousand of men. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 1021 Sir Ywayne sone with-set the yate, That the erll myght noght in tharate. 1426 Lydg. *Dr. Guil. Pilgr.* 10537 Thys ilk confederacy, Cassandre, a perilous mortal wayt To pylgrymes..Ther weyes, when they he wyth-set.

**3.** To seize in compensation for a debt, etc.
1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 82 Yf he withsitte hys lyvelode to ben with arest for viije. of rentte.. wich yowres fadre paside nevere. 1477 *Ibid.* III. 211 Mastras Clere hath sen down byr men, and with set alle the stuff and wreklee.

Hence **† Withsetting** *vbl. sb.*
1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Þe ualse yulemde þet..zacheþ wyþsettinʒiges and resist uor to bynime oþren hare oþen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wyþsettynge, *obsistencia.*

**† Withsit,** *v. Obs.* = Withsette. Sir T.]
1. *trans.* To oppose, resist, withstand. Also, to prevent; to ward off
*c* 1300 *Havelok* 1683 Haueluk ne durste.. Nouth withsitten bat ubbe bad. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8138 3yf pe ne cunne nought do wyp hym, What he lykyng may wyp-syt. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9055 King Rion wipsat þat dent. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. viii. (Skeat) I. 87 This rightfulnesse .. helpeth the spirit to withsitte the lustes of fleshly lykynge. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 251 Ich with-sat nat hus heste. 1418–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 3003 To with-sitte pe force of ayre contrarie. *c* 1425 *Sarum Sag.* (F) 518 None durste wipsitte hem. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxiii. (1869) 96 He shulde not mown with sitte þem ne ayens stonde þee.
2. *intr.* To fail. *rare.*
*c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8457 Hir eisen turned, hir voice wipsat.

Hence **† Withsi-tting** *vbl. sb.*, opposition.
1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vii. (Skeat) I. 142 The fleshly body of a man, ouer whiche þese vices haue myȝte & eyȝ.. mokel might in trauaunes..withouten any withsittinge.

**Withstand** (wiðstæ·nd), v. Pa. t. and pa. pple. **withstood.** (Also 5 *pa. t.* **wipstonded.**) [OE. *wiþstandan,* = OFris. *withstonda,* ON. *viðstanda* : see With- and Stand *v.* Cf. OS. *wiðarstandan* (MLG. *wedderstân*), OHG. *widarstân.* For the separable form *stand with* see Stand *v.* 79 a.]
1. *trans.* To stand or maintain one's ground against ; to offer resistance to, resist, oppose : often with implication that the resistance is successful or effectual.
(*a*) a person, his will, desire, power, etc.
*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vi. § 1 Swa ðoð na ða þeostro þine

zedrefednesse wiðstandan minum leohtum larum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hi cyningum & yfelum sicum ealdormannum wiþstandan mihtan. *c* 1200 *Ormin Hom.* II. 434 Nis nan ðing þe his mihte wiðstandes. *a* 1225 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Introd. 3 Ȝif hwa eow wiðstent, we eow fultumiað. *c* 1300 *Ormin* 16143 & tatt all forr to ewemenn Godd & defall to wiþþerwinnenn. 1325 *Anc. R.* 264 Þet we muhten wiðstonden þes deofles ferde, þet is so stinng uppon vs. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 156 Myste we wip any witte his sȝt wiþstonde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Hondy's Prol.* 24, I dar hire [sc. my wife] nat withstonde For she is bigge in Armes. 1434 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 121 To withstand your enemyes in tyme of nede. *c* 1450 *Brut* 432 She withstode the Duke of Burgoyne and alle his malice. 1530 Palsgr. 783/2 All the worlde can nat withstande the wyll of God. 1582 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 212 Seeing that not their wiles, but God's predestination withstandeth them so, that they cannot be able to come. 1592 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. v. 4 They haue wonne the Bridge, Killing all those that withstand them. 1642 [J. Taylor (Water P.)] *Mad Fashions* 3 Thou Lord of Hosts, . . They Foes (Thine Anti-christian foes) withstand. 1708 Prior *Turtle & Sparrow* 106 Grim Pluto will not be withstood By Beauty and alle his malice. 1837 Hickie *Cyrillus*. I. vi. 296 His might nothing was able to withstand. 1882 Miss Beaumont *Mr. Royal* v, You have not the will to withstand your aunt.

(*b*) a blow, force, attack, impulse; a destructive, oppressive, or hostile agency or influence.

*a* 1000 *Wanderer* 18 Ne mæg werig mod wyrde wiðstondan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 136 þisse salfe mæg wiðstandeþ tosindenre hreaþernesse þæt hreaþer. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14995 Þat wiþstand, þat yee mai fle Wit þat partli þat es rightwise. 13.. *Ibid.* 10523 (Gött.) Ioseph þat stiward was,.. wele wiste þe hunger þat þeigh com vpe, . . wiþ-stode it wele. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 68 He was noght of such myght The strengthe of love to withstonde. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. vii. (1558) 4 b, The stroke of fortune withstant or auoyded. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. Ni ih, And sturdy strokes he did withstand. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. i. 173 Rage must be withstood. 1610 [Holland *Camden's Brit.* 509 he valiantly withstood the siege. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 253 Such destruction to withstand He hasted. 1741 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 264 The love of liberty . . carries us to withstand tyranny. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* viii, Having withstood such shocks upon my fortitude. 1852 Malpas *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 56 The pressure is . . withstood by the abutments. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xi. 76 Ground to mould by an agency which the hardest rocks cannot withstand. 1918 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 326/2 Armour to withstand the terrific hitting power of the latest naval gun.

(*c*) a material thing.

*a* 1400 *Octouian* 1150 He ne fond neuer boon ne lyre Hys ax withstent. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 22 Yet they our Machins haue withstoode. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 209 As one doth withstand the violence of the wind, another doth withstand the bridle. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* VIII. 796 Nor thy resistless Arm the Bull withstood. 1721 Prior *Predestination* 333 A Chaplet Fabric built upon the sand Which can no winds, nor falling rains withstand. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* of IV. 132 Their limbs Are not of stone or iron to withstand The trenchant steel ye wield.

† b. To oppose in statement; to controvert, contradict, deny. *Obs.*

1513 Thomas Lo. Howard in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 160 Trusyng that ye woll .. withstande all ill reports undeserved made of me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 166 b, It withstande and stoppe the tonges of them that . . sclaundreth them. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 170 b, This withstandeth our disputation of Necessitie nothyng at all.

c. To resist the attraction, influence, or cogency of; occas. to abstain from (doing something).

1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 292 A curiosity that I could scarce withstand. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 31 The wretch that slighted or withstood The tenfer argument of kindred blood. 1798 Fyrbian *Illustr. Sterne* II. 58 Religious disputes were subjects of ridicule too tempting to be withstood. 1850 Neale *Sentiorb* 18 He could scarcely have withstood contemplating what might perhaps have been his own position. 1877 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 753 It seems impossible to withstand this evidence.

† 2. a. To refuse to allow (a person) the possession of (something). *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24772 (Edin.) [William] shok be king bat Harald hit bat born was of be danis blod For qui he land he him wit stod.

† b. Const. inf. or clause: To prevent. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6923 Pal fand strang folk . . þat .. wit-stode þam be land to win. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5807 He wyghe of his tunge withstande Worse to rep ere then he fonde. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 278 *marg.* What .. Caesar said unto Metellus withstanding that he should not take any money out of the treasourie [*Metello obsistenti ne pecuniae de aerario tolleret*]. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 177 b, Nothyng withstandeth truely, but that both may bee true.

† c. To keep off or away, withhold, withdraw.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), He hab bondes and obstacles to withstonde & lette be poudre. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 284 Lord, wib-stond bis duresse! 1508 Fisher *Treat. Pr. Assembly* (Wks. (1876) 89) Yet no moo more withdrawe from them the bemes of his grace, . . than the sonne may withstande his bemes out of wyndowes where they be open.

d. To stand in the way of; to oppose or hinder the performance, operation, or progress of. *Obs.* or merged in 1.

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2183 *Dido*, Hyresyuitir Anne as she that coude hire good Seyde as hire thoughte & sumdel it with stod. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 51 When her ge wnd .. any superflue flesh .. I withstode it or mette it with poulire of croceroboron. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V*, 1 b, He spared no manner deathe, whose life withstode his purpose. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cix. (1636) 170 Raysons .. concoct raw humors, and withstand putrifaction. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* vi. (1626) 90 His sword withstood Their re-ascent. *c* 1680 *Rawh. Bath.* (1891) VII. 338 Then prethee Love make no delay, let's not of precious time withstand. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 155 The Wintry Seas, and Southern Winds, Withstood their passage home. 1737 Glover *Leonidas* I. 228 Leonidas awake! Shall these withstand The public safety? Lo! thy country calls. 1792 Fielding *J. Andrews* II. iv, I hope you will not withstand your own preferment. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. iv, His frantic mood Was scarcely by the news withstood. That Moray shared his sister's blight. 1845 — *Tailor.* xvi, The entrance of Queen Berengaria .. was withstood .. by the chamberlain.

3. *intr.* To offer resistance or opposition.

*c* 900 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 53 Ongunnun þa seldu .. heiszlice wiðstonda. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Pa uuilaza .. woldon into þam mynstre, & þa munecas wiðstoden þæt hi se uuilaza in cumen. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Ne mihte ber [in hell] nan wiðstonden, ne prophete ne patriarche. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Strenghe to wiðstanden ælcunes deofles fondinges. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2640 De king wiþstod. 13.. *Sir Beues* 2060 (Laud MS.) Þise abiden wipstonde hard And sauen al þe forme wand. 1340 *Ayenb.* 22 Huanne þe man wytstoit alle hare bet guod him wolde. *c* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 456 Quhat God helpys, quhat may withstand? *Ya* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1747 Sife we in the stour withstondene the better. 1530 Palsgr. 781/2 Agaynst the wyll of God no man may withstande. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 183 The City was encouraged to withstand upon the news of Lucullus his approach. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 670 They .. with ease withstood. . . But fate withheld. 1676 S. Sewall *Diary* (1676) I. 31 He was here with Mr. Broughton earnestly urging [etc.]. . Mr. Broughton withstood. 1678 *Bunyan Pilgr.* II. 53 Langton prepared to withstand and rescue his country from the tyranny of John.

† 4. To come to a stand, halt, stop. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3646 Dre dayes and nistes faren it gan And wiðstod þe kinges sonegan. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12980 Þey come & passed to be wodes side, & here wipstode for to abyde. *c* 1450 *Pistill of Susan* 285 (Cott. Jul. B. ii.) He were anoyored and withstood.

**Withsta·nder.** [f. Withstand *v.* + -er 1.] One who withstands; a resister, opponent.

*a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 If .. þe schirreue..sal. chastise þe withstonderes þoru þe prison. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* xxiii. 23 Ther is not diuynyng in the withstander. 1598 Barckley *Felicitie* II. 49 To terryfye their withstanders. 1667 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 569 A withstander of his Hienes warrand. 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 6 Withstanders, intolerable withstanders of reformation. *a* 1818 Raleigh *Judic. & Sct. Ess.* II. (1650) 1 War..may be defined the exercise of violence under Sovereigne Command, against withstanders force. 1743 Doddridge *Rise & Progress* (1821) 155 Silence every bold withstander That shall dare to disobey. 1880 *Examiner* No. 645. 530/1 It has seen him withstand the united thunders of those despotisms. 1897 *Month* LV. *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 190 Obstinate withstanders of all novelty.

**Withsta·nding,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Withstand *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Withstand; opposition, resistance.

13.. *Cursor M.* 14995 (Gött.) Stif wipstondyng & wipth flemyeng. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10049 Þy wyþstondyng haþ hym rafte Of bys ytemyng alle le crafte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 97 Wytstondinge, þet is harthornesse. 1423 [H. Parker] *Direct. Pauper* iii. xiii. (1496) 148 2 They shall haue soo lyte of bodye without ony withstandynge, for ther shall bodyage withstande them. 1596 Lo. Burghley *Precepts.* II. 4 b, 6 b, I went with Maiden in to the dyke. . . They founde no withstanding. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Deut.* xii. 3 Notwithstanding the withstandings of the rude rabble. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 120 Not withstandings against the Shock of Fortune. 1842 Newman *Corr.* (1917) 173 No one can tell how much there is in sympathy, over and above the reasons for one way or withstanding.

So **Withsta·nding** *ppl. a.*, that withstands.

1722 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. Misc. v. ii. 25 The timid Bladder .. bursts the withstanding Casements.

**† Withsta·nding,** *prep.* (*conj.*) *Obs.* (Only in Caxton.) [pr. ppl. of Withstand used as a prep. (conj.) in imitation of Of. *obstant* (*que*). Cf. Notwithstanding (= F. *non obstant*).] Having regard to, on account of; seeing *that*.

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 566 Why dyde ye to me my fader of treyson, wythstandyng that neuer dyde well that he ne dyde of the moste kynghtly of the worlde? 1490 — *Eneydos* xvi. 65 Thynkyng in hymselfe to be in daunger of his persone .. wythstandyng the inuectyue moucyons dyuerse that he had made. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 286 b/2 The marchaunt..wolde not by it withstandynge this that he knewe not how moche it myght well be worth.

**† Withsta·nding,** *adv.* Withstand + -ing 2. *Obs.*

**† Withsta·ke,** *v. Obs.* [f. With- + Take *v.* Cf. ON. *viðtaka* resistance.]

1. *trans.* To 'take up', reprove, rebuke.

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. 9 Noght in þi sacrifice I sall wiptake þe [Vulg. *arguam te*]. *c* 1340 — *Prose Treat.* 8 Þay ere to wytsake and schame. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* (Roxb.) 1403 For he withtoke hem in her lawe þei wraithede hem sore with his sawe.

2. To recuse.

*a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11056 Phylmen þe freke, þat fuerely withtakon,..Lut to þe lady.

3. To keep back, retain, or withhold unlawfully.

14.. *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 48 His tribute..hat þey withtake wolde. *a* 1450 *Myre Par. Pr.* (1902) 2185 Hau þow werkemen oght wyth-tan Of any þynge þat þey schulde han?

Hence **† Withta·ker,** a rebuker, reprover.

*a* 1350 Hampole *Psalter* lix. 24 Put thynge has man delite to be withtaker þat hafe sum louere & man with takere.

**† Withward,** *prep. Obs.* [f. With *adv.* + -ward, after *toward.*] ? Along with.

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1583 Þis pinfule gin wes o swuch wise iginet, þet te twa turnden eiher wiðward oðer.

**Withwood.** *Obs.* or *dial.* [A blending of Withwind and Bindweed.] = next.

1587 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 34 Bindweede, of some Withwoode. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Bindweed* P 2/1, I had a very good crop of wheat; but a with-weed came up to every plant. [Reproducing Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 393, which, however, has *withwind.*]

**Withwind** (wi·þwind). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 wiþ-, wiþewinde, 4 wipewinde, wythe-, wythwinde, 6 with-, wythwynde, 6–7 withwinde, 6– withwind. [OE. *wiþowinde, wiþe-*, later *wiþwinde*, f. *wiþo-, wiþe-* (related to Wither) + *winde* Wind *sb.*[3]; correasp. to OS. *withewind* 'caprifolium', MLG., MDu. *wedewinde* 'caprifolium', 'periclymena', 'hedera', 'ligustrum'; for the first element cf. OE. *weoþetend* Withrind, for the second, OE. *withewinde* ivy, convolvulus; see also Withwindle. *c* 1100 *Glass. Ibid.* 138/28 *Uitticella*, wiþwinde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 585 In a withewindes wise ȝwounden aboute. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. 122 (Bodl. MS.), A tree þat is biclipped wt ywye oþer wip wepewinde. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 12 b, Thynges good for the Lyuer: Wormewode: Wyth wynde. 1548 [Turner & Vicary *Herbal* (E.D.S.) 30 Conuolulus, called of the herbaries Volutilis, in englishe wythwynde or byndeweede. 1552 Huloet, Withwinde *herbe, caprifolium, periclymenon, convolvulus.* 1580 T. Newton *Approved Medicines* 20 b, *Smilax hortensis*, Garden withwinde. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 382 Giving their heads a second tillage, pulling up the withwind. 1859 R. Bromley *Lds Feversh.* xiv, Thro' the hedgerow peer Withwind and Snapdragon.

*attrib.* 1891 Hardy *Tower Dames* ii. 90 One of those sweet-pea or withwind natures which require a twig of stouter fibre than its own to hang upon and bloom.

**Withy** (wi·þi), *sb.* Forms: 1 wiðig, 3 with, 4 wipe, wipe, (wh)itheye, wytie, wipie, 4, 6–7 (9 *Sc.*) withe, 5–6 wythy, 5–7 withye, wythie, 6 wythey, 6–7 withee (5 withei, wethei, -ie, *pl.* wetheis, wethies, 5–6 wythy, wythe, 6 wethye, *pl.* wythioe), 7, 9 withey, 6– withy. [OE. *wiþig* (= L. *vitex, vitis-* Agnus Castus), for the connexions of which see Withe. Cf. Widdy.]

1. A willow of any species: *sometimes spec.* the osier willow, *Salix viminalis*.

961 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 489 On þone haran wiðig. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 He is as wiði þet spricnet ut þe betere þet me hine ofte croppeð. 1325 in Kennett *Parochial Antiq.* (1695) 393 Tres arundo juxta le Whithyeve. *Ibid.* 400 A quo quidem pisto illuc usque via ducta fuit de Withyeys juxta pratum Prioris. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Saur[*ex*] *sive* wytie (wilve). 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xxiii. 40 Schalmen take to hem .. wibies of palm trees. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. xl. (Bodl. MS.), In som partie of his brymme he hab plente of wipies and of segge as it is seide. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 74 The rakes . be moste comynly made of hasel and withe [c 1534 wythe]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxii. 403 [Purple] growing vppon olde wythiese. *c* 1640 J. Smyth *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 193 To be a landinge withy, not a withe. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos. Style Script.* 180 Withees, whilst they are sound grow Unregarded Trees; but when they once are Rotten, Shine in the Night. 1790 W. Gilpin *Scenery Hants* (1804) I. 30 *Salix fragilis*, is the most inconsiderable of it's tribe. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* i, The withees were gloved with silver and gold. 1885 Canon Doyle *Black Charley* xxiz, The moaning of the breeze among the withies.

b. With qualification, applied to various species of willow; also to other plants, as the Inserwort, *Lasergitium Siler*: see quots.

**Hoop withy**: see Hoop *sb.*[1] 13 b. **† Rose withy** = Willow-herb 2.

14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629/9 Wythy, *ciler.* 1523–34 Fitzh. *Surv.* § 130 Withe wethy..wyll not grow in marshe ground. 1562 Turner *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) *Siler*,..spent withie, ozier withie, or small withie. 1612 R. Ch. *Olde Thrifte newly reuived* 45 The Withie, of which are said to be 2 kinds, that is, the white withy, called the Osier, and red Withie, osier Withie. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 17 Chamaemerion sive Epilobium. . Rosebay willow-herb, Rose withy, or Willow-flower. 1733 W. Salmon *Chiltern & Vale Learn.* 191 This Withy soon arrives at a large Stature, especially the red Sort. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 35 The yellow withy which lived on the moisture in the hollow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1232/2 Withy, *Lasergitium Siler*:..—, Hoop, *Ricinus octandra*.

2. A flexible branch of a willow, esp. as used for tying or binding, as a halter (cf. Widdy 2), etc.; any similar flexible branch or twig; a leash, hoop, or the like made of a withy.

*a* 1300 *Sir Beues*, 444 Þat he his mere be bande With the withy. *c* 1440 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. ix. 2874 Withe rapis and wetheis alout þar hals. *c* 1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 286 With grene wythes. 1565 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* (1577) 6, I had better be hanged in a withie or in a cowtuile, then be a rowfooted Scot. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed Hist. Scotl.* II. 1310/2 Which tempest, rent up manie great trees, . or wooned them like withies. 1628 *R. Riding Rec.* VI. 34 He is a rogue and deserves a withy. 1797 A. Hamilton *Navy Sc. Indust.* II. xlv. 190 A Ratton Withy to lift them by. 1787 W. Hutton *Courts of Requests* 324 The ties of honour..are as easily broken through, as Sampson's withies. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Withy*, a round hoop of osier. 1805 Southey *Madoc* I. v, Canes and withies formed the walls and roof. 1818 Scott *Hr. Lamm.* vii, In order to save himself from the withy. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 210 Palm-huts unroofed, despite of their strong facings and withies. 1893 Conan Doyle *Refugees* xxxiv, They were lashed to low posts with willow withies.

b. *coll. sing.* Withies as a materiall.

1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* viii. 95 The harness was made of withy. 1915 *Q. Rev.* July 4 Pots of withy or of stout netting . . are used for crab.

**+B.** = *Widdy* 3. *Obs.*

1438 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 82 Pro fabrica septem wethyis emt. 1456 *Ibid.* VI. 278. 1484 *Ibid.* IX. 230.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *withy band, basket, bed, blossom, bough, cutting, holt, labyrinth, leaf, pollard, pot, prison, rope, shoot, tree, twig, wood*, etc.; *withy-bound* adj.; **†withy-colo**, ? clamorous made of willow wood; **†withy-cragged** [CRAGGED *a.*²], see quots.; **withy-fly**, an artificial fly used in angling; **†withy-herb**, purple loosestrife: = WILLOW-HERB 1.

*a* 1688 Stradling *Ser.* m. (1692) 176 Those Shackles . . which could no more hold him, than the †withy bands could Samson. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* lxix, He . . bound Stiff withy bands the infant's wrists round. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xlix, She . . packed up as many of her belongings as would go into a †withy basket. 1966 Bird in Birch *Cortul. Sax.* III. 96 On ðæt †wiðig bed. 1420 *Chertsey Cartulary* 42 b (P.R.O), Duas acras terre et dimidiam super le Wythyfield. 1583 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 237 The withie Bedd or twigg bedd. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* lxxxix, And now, sir, do you push on to that corner of this withy bed. 1858 J. A. Langford *Cornel Village* 106 When November frosts begin to attract snipes to the withybeds. 1907 Mortimer *Hush.* 203 As soon as the Willow or Withy Blossoms appear. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 512 An arny gret †withi bough. 1860 W. Barnes *Hwomely Rhymes* II. 85 Grey-leav'd withy bough. 1898 A. Austin *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 8 The †withy-bound flask of ruby wine. 1657 Reeve *God's Plea* 254 Fumigations of Storax, . . Nempthar, Diagagant, †Withy Cognition. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* iii. ii. 14 His neck is straight . . and . . one piece with his body, and not (as my country-men use) †withie cragged, which is loose and pliant. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Stable* 3 If it be the loueses he . . like willow, or writhe leaues. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iii, The great †withy pollard which hangs over the backwater. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, †Withy-potts or nests for the wild fowle to lay their eggs in. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* iii. ii, Thirsil from †withy prison . . lets out his flock. 1815 Simond *Tour Ut. Brit.* II. 240 The steeple lasts good two years. *a* 1720 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 375, I gathered †withy-shoots over which the cart-wheel had run. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cal iv. (Bodl. MS.), Forbi it is nougt seker to stepe vnder be †wepie tree. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xxiv. 87, A . . Withy-tree . . which is increased to a most stupendious bulk. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xxxiii, Then . . he . . bore a lump with †withy twigs. 1593 Feltherst. *Husb.* 134 Than maye he . . tothe the rakes with dry e †weshy wodde.

**Wi'thy,** *a. rare.* Also **-ey.** [f. Withe *sb.* + -y 1.] Resembling a withe or withy in flexibility.

1598 Florio, *Vincido*, to tacke, to yeeld, to bow, to wither, writhe. 1726 P. Browne *Jamaica* 244 A strong withey shrub. 1822 W. Irving *Bracebr. Hall* xxxvii. (1845) 229 The long withey ends of the branches.

**Withywind** (wi·θiwaind). Now *dial.* [Alteration of Withewind, after Withy *sb.*] = Withwind.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. lii. 391 Of smothe Bindweede, or Withiwinde. The great white Bindeweede or soft withiwinde. *Ibid.* lii. 393 Of blacke Withiwinde, or Bindeweede. 1598 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Campanilla prima*, white withiwinde, *Semilax*. 1861 Bureton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. iii. 610 Whiter Galaz then the white withy-wind. 1698 tr. *Pechi's Nat. Hist.* II. xiv. 103 The second, withy-wind, being also whiter next to Basil, [etc.]. 1891 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng. Withywinde*, the plant bindweed. 1899 J. L. Knapp *Trad. Nat.* 164 The clematis, the † withy-wind of our peasantry. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* I. 2, You could twist him to your will like withywind, if you only had the mind.

**+ Withze,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wiſ(ð)æ, -ize,** (2 **wiſge, -ege**), 2–3 **wiſze, wiſie,** 3 **wiſthe, wittiſ(e, -y).** [OE. *wiſ(ð)æ, -ige* = OHG. *wiſ-(ð)ago*, altered (by association with *wiſ* Wise *a.* and *sagen* Say *v.*¹) to *wîssago* (MHG. *wissage, -ag*), ON. *wiſir* : f. *wiſ-* : see Wit *v.*²] A prophet. Also *adj.*, prophetic.

*c* 897 *Rushw Gregory's Past. C.* xxxii. 213 Ne eow . . ne underfand for naman monna, ne for naman wigan gæste. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 2 Sue awritten is in casia Sone wiize. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Of þæt þinan spekeð daniel he hatte wiſie. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 15 Salemon and alle wise wiſzen. *Ibid.* 227 þis childes witige gost. *c* 1205 Lay. 15877 To þan kinge was ibroht Jeram þe witie (*c* 1275 witty). *a* 1225 *Juliana* 39 þen muchele witi wittie yeate.

**+ Withze,** *v.*¹ *Obs.* In 1 **wiſ(ð)æn,** 2–3 **wiſze-3en.** [OE. *wiſ(ð)æn* = OFris. *wîgia* (MLG. *wîttigen*), OHG. *wîzagôn* (MHG. *wissagen*, G. *weissagen*); f. *wiſæg* Withe *sb.*] To prophesy.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 68 Wiiga us crist, hua is se ðe þec sl-ahg. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Num.* xi. 27 Þa hi wiſodon on wicstowe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þis he witegede bi drihtene þurh þone halie gast. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 197 His witegede . . of ure loanend þeam cristes to cume.

**+ Withze,** *v.*² *Obs.* Forms: 3 **witezen, -ize, -ien, -ye, wete** (?), 3–4 **wiſt(e, wytie, 4 -ye, wetye**; *pa. t.* 4 **wited.** [OE. **wîtian*, as in *bewîtian* Bewitie.] *trans.* To keep, guard, protect : = Wite *v.*²

*c* 1205 Lay. 2733 Heo bigeten men þe heom cuðen witen [*c* 1275 witie]. *Ibid.* 23738 þat he . . mid his riht honde witeze me wið sconde. *Ibid.* 32155 þe pane hatte Sergius, he wiste Peteres hus. *a* 1250 *St. Kentaus* 92 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 213 Wendeþ . . godes way, Wytieþ eure soule nist and day. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 1030 in *N. Eng. Leg.* 297 þat euereich frere of þat hin leues wities to is soper. — 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9875 Saladin . . let witie be sepuir re bat no cristin ne coun ber. — 1340 *Ayenb.* 122 Þe bayliſe þet gouerneþ and wytyeþ þe kingriche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 376 þis litel barn . . couþe . . kepe alle here beastes, . . & wited hem so wisly. *a* 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 357 And þat seluer . . be ȝolde to seze godemen . . for þe Commune assent, and trewelieche wetye, and trewliche spende.

Hence **†Wi·tier,** protector, guardian ; **†Wi·tiing** *vbl. sb.*, guarding.

1340–50 *Alex. & Dind.* 678 [Bacus] wis witiere of win þat alle won bryngus. 13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 208 Of a vr vife witnes a wel witiynge.

**Withie,** obs. form of Withy.

**+Withieng,** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **witegung, witzlung, witzeong,** 2 **witegung,** 3 **witieng, Orm. witeggbunngo.** [OE. *witegung* (= OHG. *wizagunga*, MHG. *wissagunge*), f. *witegian* Witie *v.*] + *-ung-* (-ing 1.) Prophecy. Also *attrib.*

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii 14 Witzlung esaiæ. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Num.* xi. 27 Witegung is awriten be ane on witegung bocum [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Þis childes witige gost lihte be moder gost of witienge. *c* 1200 Orm. 1 Witeggbunngo wass burrh himm enn erbe cwiddedd. *Ibid.* 15288 All þatt witeghunngebocc patt witess haffdenn cwiddedd.

**Witin,** obs. pa. pple. of Wit *v.*¹

**Witing, -ithe,** obs. ff. Whiting, -ly.

**Witless** (wi·tlės), *a.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.* [OE. *witlæs*, also *gewitlæs* : see Wit *sb.*, Iwit, and -less.]

**1.** Lacking wisdom or sense; not guided by reason; unreasonable, foolish, heedless.

[*c* 1000 *Beoth. Metr. xix.* 46 Wenaƀ þonne swa ȝewitlease þat hi in sodan ȝesæliȝe habben.] *c* 1200 *Ormin* 6107 Sinn þin macche, o þatt God, þe sa witless & wicke. — 1299 *S. Eng. Leg.* 248/263 Þow witlese wrecche. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* iii. 90 Witeles wordes in ydel spoken. *c* 1400 *Brut* (1906) 218 Þe witeles Britons, þat were ofdrad of þe Romayns, . . gate greteles, makeþ Englisheman pritles. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xiii, I was witlesse, wanton, fond, and young. 1581 tr. *Cato's Prouerbes* (S.T.S.) 170 Ane . . confused rabill of vitles Bishopis. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* 73b, O wilfull witlesse acte, Which no man well allowes. 1596 Lisle *Trans. Ortig. Fam.* (1677) 335 To keep in and regulate the extravagant and witless Spirit of Man. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 149 Why did I, young witless maid leave my calling tate? 1794 Godwin *Cal. Williams* 42 Intended (without anil miserable precaution !) for the safeguards of the poor. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* xxxvi, This witless contempt. 1830 Keble *Christian Y.* (Oxford, 1839) 123 It was witless to believe that Paxima contemplated any such measure. 1870 Ilutcher & Lang *Odyssey* 25 Telemachus, even hereafter shou shalt not be craven or witless. 1910 *Times Lit. Sup.* 15/1 Mr. Rolls . . had . . to drop suddenly to the ground . . owing to some witless spectators running into his way.

**2.** Mentally deficient or deranged : out of one's wits, senseless, bewitched. + Also, stupefied, dazed.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 146 Ón þam sifian moiphe he þæt he fastes] liþ cwicu and weaxeð and seo modur lið witless. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1506 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 161 He eode up and doun as wiht witless. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5480 (Trin.) Þe wittes wit þis moȝ, bis wat deed to be him ney. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xxix. (Ursula)* 240 Sa lang witles sall he stand, Til þat tyme he haue his hed. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xi. 218 I awaked þere-with, wittes nerehande. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 573 Wraithly wroht, as thei war witless and wode. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xxxiii. 71 The wood (wittles) . . will well agree, bycause Daud feyned himself too bee out of his wittes. 16.. *Young Muggins* 2 xix. in Child *Ballads* II. 249/2 Shee gaue him a drinke, & he was witless. 1900 H. Seppe *Sketches Wayne* (ed. 1905) 26 I would never do to leave this witless body to the night-rain and the cold.

**+3.** Devoid of understanding; having no intellectual faculty; irrational. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xlviii. 13 Thei most wrecchid herien beestes† wittes forsothe, compariseuned to these. *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tr.* ii. 528 Þei . . liven wort than wittes beestes. *c* 1399 Chaucer *Romaunt of Rose* 5150 This Image Tongles and wittes. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiv. 236 Sillie soules which go on still like witlesse Beastes.

**4.** Deficient in understanding; having undeveloped or imperfect intellectual power ; unintelligent, undiscerning ; stupid, dull-witted.

1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 2470 Euen from the hory head vnto the wiles childe She was the bartes of all. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* (1639) 6, I hold none so witless which cannot make vse thereof, when they once see but the instrument. 1685 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. vi. 4, 777 The Inhabitants . . are most base and witlesse people. 1822 Peard *Lillian* I. 140 The witless child grew up alone. 1895 M. Arnold *Bolder Book* i. 08 Of ignorant witless mind Thou barest me, and unforeseeing soul.

**b.** Not understanding (something specified or implied) ; incomprehensive.

1614 R. Wilkinson *Faire Serm.* 2 Witlesse to discerne what he is himselfe. 1637 Ruthers'ord *Lett., To Jas. Lindsay* 5 Sept. (1671) 238 A witless and lazie observer of the Lord's way and working. 1825 Brownino *An Epistle* 143 The man is witless of . . The value in proportion of all things. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* II. iv. (1860) I. 85 The blue witless . . as which to look up with smiles of witless wonder.

**5.** Not knowing; unaware, unconscious *of*.

In quot. 1827, incapable *of*.

1584 *Rep. Privy Council Scot.* III. 691 Ignorant and wytles of thair lyvche and insolent behaviour. 1597 Bright *Thracian God's Tudgem.* i. (1600) 230 Guiltiness and witlesse of the crime. 1827 Hogg *Mids. Fairies* Introd. His pretty pouting mouth, witless of speech. 1850 P. Cahoon *Wars Hind* 34 Witless of the storm his words excite. 1872 *Blackmore Lorn Doone* I. 8 He lay all witless of his doom.

**6.** Devoid of wit (Wit *sb.* 8). *rare.*

1753 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxvi. 200 Repartee and smartness; the current wit of that witless place. 1899 *Habits of Gd. Society* 9 He can no longer claim exemption from solemn dinners, and witless tea-parties.

Hence **Wi·tlessly** *adv.*, foolishly, stupidly ; **Wi·tlessness,** senselessness, folly, stupidity.

*a* 1200 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* (1900) 223 *Sine, sine, tordere, demantis*, witleasnes. 1598 Florio To Ride 7 Had not H.S. . . so witlessly prouoked me. 1599 Sanders *Eur. Jes. Spec.* (1632) 178 Diuine blessing, which accompanieth good causes, where wickednesse or wilfull & witlessnesse doth not haue accasioned it. 1608 T. Morton *Pecamb. Encounter* 72 Rather . . accounted lyingly witty, than wittesly rash. 1766 Foorde *Sermon. Dog. Women* (1767) I. vii. 302 Like the admiration used by a man of features . . is often by the witlessness of the possessor thrown down in an instant. 1825 Anne Manning *Old Chelsea Bun-ho.* xix. 317 Every one . . prided themselves safe, as witlessly as they had previously held themselves to be in Danger. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 230 Wisdom was turned into folly, and witlessness doth not learn it. 1870 Lang *Odyssey* 282 He kicked Odysseus on the hip in his witlessness. 1910 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Mar. 82 3 An artist . . choosing to portray . . the havoc and witlessness of modern warfare.

**Witling** (wi·tlin). [f. Wit *sb.* + -ling 1 2.]

**1.** A petty wit (see Wit *sb.* 9, 10); one who fancies himself a wit; a pretender to wit (see Wit *sb.* 5, 7); one who utters light or feeble witticisms.

1593 Davden *Persius* Sat. I. Prol. 17 Let Cain, that gilded Bait, be hung on his Hook, The hungry Witlings have it in their Eye. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 211 There are no Entertainment Writings at Will's. 1712–14 Pope *Rape of Lock* v. 29 A Beau and Witling perish'd in the throng, One died in metaphor, and one in song. 1727 Irvine *Examen Poems* 2 P 5 Does any willing want to distress the company with a miserable pun? 1876 Meredith *Beauchamp's Career* xx, 'A hack in hand!' . . A hack in hand, indeed! 'Foursin-hand!' and so drily that it passed for humour.

*attrib.* 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 228 The miserable witling cognoscenti of an opposition. 1845 Miall in *Nonconf.* V. 45 A witling poet.

**‖ Witloof** (wi·tlōf). [Du., lit. 'white leaf'.] = Chicory 1, Endive 1. Also *attrib.*

1885 *Bazaar* 9 Jan. 7/2 Chicory, or witloof, as some choose to call it, is a useful winter salad plant. 1889 Watson *Gard. Assist.* I. 79 Witloof Chicory . . Large Brussels (Witloof) . . has large leaves with wide midribs and stalks.

**+ Wi·tly,** *adv. Obs.* Also **5** wittle. (Of doubtful authenticity ; in some instances perh. a spelling of *wittely* Wittily, in others of *wightly* Wightly.)

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2302 Þe holi williams werkes þei witened it alle, nade his doughti dedes he þei hade be dede alle.

**Witne,** obs. pa. pple. of Wit *v.*¹

**Witness** (wi·tnės), *sb.* Forms: 1–7 **witnes,** 3–6 **witnesse,** 3–7 **witnes,** 6 **wittnes,** 3–6 **witnesse,** 4 **wytnesse,** 3–7 **witnesse,** 4–5 **witnes,** 4–6 **witnesse,** 4 **wytnes,** (2 **witnys,** 3 **-nesce,** 4 **wijtnes, wittenesse,** 4–5 **whitnes,** 4, 6 **wytnes, wetnesse,** 4 **wytnesse,** (7 *Sc.*) **vitnes,** 5 **wyt(t)eneasse, -(e)nes, witnesh, wotenesse, whetnesse, vitnesse(n),** 5– **witness.** [OE. *witnes*, more freq. *gewitnes*, f. (*ge*)*wit* Wit *sb.*, Iwit + -nes.

Cf. Olg. *giwitgussi*, MDu. *wetenisse*. The passage in sense from abstract to concrete is paralleled in F. *témoin* (= L. *testimonium*). The uninflected pl. was frequent in early use ; for separate illustration see sense 4.]

**1.** †**1.** Knowledge, understanding, wisdom. *Obs.*

*c* 950 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 104 Fore wisdom ond witnes Sea hiuoop *propter sapientiam ejus.* *c* 1050 *Gen. & Ex.* 507 He sal . . wenden fewer To be witnesse of iesus crist. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 295 Whanne a symple man seiþ a trewþe, we towen it not for he seiþ it . . but Crist is man of greet witnesse. 1382 — *Prov.* v. 5 Vndirstondeth, yee litle childrun, witnesse [1388 wisdom; Vulg. *astutiam*]. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 435/1 The conynyng and witnesse that restein in his persone. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (A.) 82 77 His own seyng that he had toolde before to a fewe persons of wytnesse [orig. *perfam. is ac hiirse*].

**2.** Attestation of a fact, event, or statement; testimony, evidence; †evidence given in a court of justice. See also 10.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 19 *Falsa testimonia*, leasa witneса. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne spec þu æȝein þine nexta nane falese witnesse. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16480 His aun muth nu has him dempt, o wītnes es na neide. 1340 *Ayenb.* 10 Þou ne scelt zigge none ualse wyttnesse aȝe þine emcristen. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 108 The Lordis .. ordanis the witnes now takin to be clusit. 1505 Lp. Berners *Froiss.* (1812) II. clxii. 446 If neale be I shall proue it by the wytnesse of hymselfe. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 43 To hym geveth all the prophetes witnes. — 1 *John* v. 9 Yf we receave the witnes of men, the witnes of god is greater. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. T.* II. ii. 10 An euill soule producing holy witnesse, is like a villaine with a smiling cheeke. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. p6 That language [i.e. the Greek] was fittest to containe the Scriptures, both for the first Preachers to appeale vnto for witnesse [etc.]. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 157 It is not that I would invalidate his witness. 1739 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 222 They are to make their choice, and abide by it: but whether the answer they decide be, the gospel is equally a witness to them: and the purposes of Providence are answered by this witness of the gospel. 1867 Trc. Argyll *Reign* I. 360 The Scots Parliament [1560] as a witness, and then the witness she gives is condemned. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 11 There is the most trustworthy witness to the imitative propensity of this bird. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 7 Agamemnon .. if the witness of Homer be accepted, brought the greatest number of ships himself.

†**b.** The action or condition of being an observer of an event. *Obs*

a 1340 *Ancr. R.* 63 Wiðute witnesse of weopmen ofer of wummon þet on muwe þineð, ne speoke se mid none monne ofte ne long. c1400 *Beryn* cccxxii. 319 He was bound by othe after notaris in presence and wittes of the kynges.

**c.** Applied to the inward testimony of the conscience: after 2 *Cor.* i. 12.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* v. 12 Witnes þaire awn consciens and accusand þaim. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Crispin*) 195 Hafand his consciens witnes (How he in þat tyme hilland was. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. vi. 46 Þe ioye of a gode man is þe witnes of a gode conscience. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 210 May we with..the witness of a good conscience, pursue him with any further reuenge!

†**d.** In some versions of the Bible: = Testimony *3b.* 4. *Obs.*

1530 Tindale *Exod.* xxxviii. 21 This is the summe of the habitacyon of witness. *Ibid.* 30 The tabernacle of witnesse. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxix[i]. 88 ...yet wil I kowpe vpon his heade, and take the witnes, and made him kynge. *Ibid.* xxiii. 4 That they shulde walke after the Lorde, and to kepe his commaundementes, and witnesses, and ordinances.

**3.** Testimony by signature, oath, etc. Chiefly in phr. *in* (rarely *into*) *witness of, hereof, whereof*, etc.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 214 þe charter was forth brouht with witnes ensealed streit ſonig. *Leyrus..mettis sun ael en testimonyance de sa seal. Pict. A. & N.* 75 In witnesse of whuche þing wrong was be furste. In be Date of be deuel be Deede was aselet. 1388 in J. H. Ramsay *Rough. Charters* (1913) 98 In the witness of the Baronie party-ȝyng Williame, Iun, [etc.]. 1410 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 17 In witnesse of þis dede I haue set herto me seel. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 38 Into witnesse of þe pat is seid I haue do write. *Ibid.* 48 To þe whyche wrytynge þis seel I-put to is wytnes. 1505 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 12 In'witness whereof ..I haith setto my seale. 1535 *Stewart Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 76 In witnes of the quhik to this present writ, subscribit with our handis. 1558 *Scr. R. Huntov's Vng. Clerks Guide* v. (ed. 8) 240 In witnesse whereof I haue hereunto set my hand and seal. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 71 The land was received as a fresh grant, which needed the writ and seal of King William as its witness.

**4.** One who gives evidence in relation to matters of fact under inquiry; spec. one who gives or is legally qualified to give evidence upon oath or affirmation in a court of justice or judicial inquiry.

*Hostile witness*, one who gives evidence adverse to the party by whom he is called. *Ultroneous witness*, see Ultroneous b.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 60 *Falsi testes*, lea e ewl þ cce witnesa. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19419 Tua witnes fas þai þam purmaid, To tell he had a godd to bold. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 74 Þei weren..hyngne many false witnes-es & notaries in his absence, & in presence speke no word. c 1400 *Cato's Morals* x in *Cursor M.* App. iv. If þou be made witnesse, For to say þat þou sest, þou honour Als wele as þou mai fra blame. a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Comm. v. Eng.* II. xv. (1584) 61 Witnesses be swonne, & heard before them (be the iury) .. openly. 1611 T. Taylor (Water. P.) *Gr Gregory Nenzence* Wks. 1631 II. 1/2 Truth must be found, and witnesses produced. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 6 b, When a tryall is by witnesses, regularly the affirmative ought to be proued by two or three witnesses ..But when the tryall is by verdit 12 of a man, there the iudgement is not giuen vpon witnesses. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 146 A Iudge ..ought to take notice of the Fact, from none but the Witnesses. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* (1887) I. 240 False witnesses are much cheaper than in Christendom. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lor.* I. 55 Many witnesses attested that he had borne arms. 1827 Ryan & Moody *Cases Nisi Prius* 31 *note*, In an action by executors, a paid register is a competent witness to increase their assets. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxxiv, How did you like standing witness? Ain't them lawyers impudent things, staring at one so? 1867 *Winston v. Winston Law Rep.* (ed. 4) Hostile witness. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xii. It was certainly an odd chance which would throw them together in a public court as barrister and witness. 1885 Mrs. Brandon *Wyllard's Weird*, 1 You can show that to the Coroner, he said; 'of course, you will be a witness.' 'About the only one necessary, I should think', said the doctor. 'I saw her fall.'

*uninflected pl.* c 1440 *Generydes* 1510 He had hym goo.. To the Sowdon, and telle hym the processe, And he wold be on of his cheff witnesse. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 104 The Lordis .. ordanis him to have letters to summond his witnes, and the party to here thame sworn. 1533 Crammer *Lat.* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) 253 (MS.) That he hathe diuerse witnes, whiche cuilde make manyfeste depositions concernyng the mattir. 1538 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 33 Your owne confession in thes letters, besides the witnes which are against you, wolde sufficient to condemne you. 1713 Swift *Cadenus & Vanessa* 68 The pleader, having spoke his best, Had witness ready to attest.

†**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 Harrowing of Hell xxiv. 11 Þai [sc. the prophets and evangelists] ne witnes of his hightynge. 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 213 If you doubt thereof histories and fables with one voyce are witnes of my saying. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v. i. 103 Well, let my Deeds be witnesse of my worth. 1635 D. Dickson *Hebr.* xii. 2. 284 The Examples of God's Sayncres in Scripture, should stand as Witnesses against vs, if wee run not as becommeth. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 327 Why shouldst not thou ..thy trial chooss With me, best witness of thy Vertue tri'd? 1781 Cowper *Hesperus* 81 Sweet nature .. stands a witness at truth's awful bar, To prove you, there, destroyers as ye are. 1853 Maurice *Proph. & Kings* vi. 91 This prophet..is a true witness for the Lord God of Israel.

**5.** One who is called on, selected, or appointed to be present at a transaction, so as to be able to testify to its having taken place: *spec.* one who is present at the execution of a document and subscribes it in attestation thereof; more definitely, *attesting* or *subscribing witness*.

Often in formulæ corresponding to med.L. *teste me ipso, teste rege, hac testibus scripta*, AF. *testemoine*.

[a 998 in Thorpe *Diplomat.* (1865) 288 Her cyþ on Iysum ærcrifte hu Wynflæd ȝeȝiftade hyre ȝeweorcnesse.] a 1122 O. E. *Chron.* (Laud) 288 An. 656 Ic biddie þe broðor Wilferð & mine swustre Cyneburh & Cynesuuith..þet he beon witnesse & her ȝeo his write mid sire fingre. *Ibid.* 675 Ic Theodorus archebiscop of Cantuarbyrig am witnesse of þis ȝewrite. 1298 *Proclam. Hen. III* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1868) 21 Witnesse vs selven [AF. *Teimoin Meimesme*] at Lunden' þane Estcheniue day on the Monthe of Octobr'. c 1300 *Beket* 836 in *Ref. Rolls* I. 130 Ich was with him er wel inow..þare ne tok ich no witnesse of þat us was biwoone. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxxiv, Ye are aunere to þat I shall not bere it in mynde, but I shall haue a witnesse afore witnesse that ye shalle neuer breke it. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 51 These beyng witnesse, Robert of Wytham, Sire walter, [etc.] 1465 *Irish Acts 5 Edw. IV.* c. 32 We have done to be made these oure letteres patentes Oureself beying witnesse. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 239 Item, the foure witnessis to the said [contract] ane pund. 1505 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 13 Thies witteuesses, Thomas Beamont, [etc.]. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. 203 Go too, the bargaine made: seale it...Be the witnesse. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. p2 Neither is it inough to haue these Witnesses. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of News* v. ii, I haue your Deed...Is't not A perfect Act? and absolute in Law? Sign'd, seal'd, deliuer'd before Witnesses? 1630 Prynne *Anti-Arminn.* 139 Seuerall witnesses auerre it vnder their hands and seals. 1664 in *Exeter St. Papers rel. Friendly Soc.* (1892) 11 We the vndersigned doe hold it for a Certaine Witnesse our hands this First day of December. c 1696 in W. M. Morison *Dict. Decis.* (1809) 16183 The communers and witnesses who testify and subscribe the same. 1720 O. Sansom *Acc. Life* 73 He..threatned me before Witness, That if I did not pay him, I must expect to go to Prison. 1790 T. Innes *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 111 As it is clear by many ancient Charters, and chiefly by the donors and witnesses in the chartularies of our monasteries. 1754 in *Maine Peerage Publ.* (1873) 153 James Fullarton merchant in Edinburgh, and Mr. Stuart Struthe who also subscribe as witnesses. 1756 in Vesey *Reports* (1790) I. 11 Whether Testator's declaration before three witnesses, that it is his will, is equivalent to signing it before them. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xvii, We find his name in the parish register as a witness to the marriage of Maria Lobbs to her cousin. 1839 Lamb *Let.* to Dyer, 1. I, 36 *note*, These words, 'I give and bequeath thee', uttered by a woman to a man, even without the presence of witnesses, are construed her his lawful wife if [etc.]. 1856 Trollope *Bertrams* xlvi. 383 Sir Lionarder *Handy-Dk. Prop. Law* xviii. 141 The statute requires the witnesses to attest and subscribe the will.

†**b.** A sponsor or godparent at baptism. *Obs.* orig. in Puritan use.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. Ixiv. § 5 In the phrase of some kinde of men they vse to be termed *witnesses*, as if they came but to see and testifie what is done. It auoureth more of curiositie then edification, to haue store of fathers and mothers in God. 1612 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* i. iii, He was Witnesse, for Win, here, (they will not be sinful Christians) at her last mariage. 1662 *Pepys Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 188 This day I was witness to one barne of the Lord Balgonies, callic Agnes. 1683 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. § 9 (1712) 115 Four days before this unchance he being witness to a Child, said, that that was the last he should ever witness to. 1837 *Dial. in Person Dial.* Gloss., To *Witness* or to *Stand Witness* to, to stand sponsor to a child in baptism.

**6.** One who is or was present and is able to testify from personal observation; one present as a spectator or auditor. (Cf. Ear-witness, Eye-witness.) Usually with *of*, occas. *to*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 Nu binc nis witnesse per of god bet we þrowne ahte to habben. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22994 Fra ded to lijf nu risen es he, And par-of wittnes all ar wee. 1382 Wyclif *Heb.* xii. 1 Forsothe and we hauynge so grete a cloud of witnessis. Gr. κ(αὶ) τοσοῦτον περικείμενον ἡμῖν νέφος μαρτύρων. 1526 Tindale *Acts* x. 41 Witnesses chosen before of vs. 1560 Rolle *St. Bernet* (1902) 39 [They shall] make þaire peticion, and bi-fore whittnes offr haire childir. c 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvi. 113 þe Pope sayde a sermon of þe holynesse and þe myracles of Seynt Gilbert, rehersing þe wittnes here present. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 213 This lyar coude not bryngе no wytnessis. 1496 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 3 Of witnesses or noo that woll witnesse and testefie the seid payment. a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) II v b, They were witnesse by syght of myne owne eyen. a 1548 Hall *Chron.*; *Hen. V* 35 Because I was neither a witnes of the facte, nor present at the deede I ouerpasse that matter. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vi. 66-71 Speciall witnesses and brutere alsrede, of al the thynges that he wroughte. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 360 b, No man might haue accesse to him, nor speake of him without a witne-ss. c 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* 1604, v. *Scholars.* Why, didst thou not say thou knewst? *Wagner.* Haue you any witnesse on't? 2. *Scholar.* Yes sirra, I heard you. 1592 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 9 False woulā wiues haue yet witnesse with their names, To giue their censure. 1628 J. Nowell *Hercules* 37 But had they no witnesse? I omit God, but had they not themselues, and the testimony of Conscience? 1804 Stedman *Surv. Surin., Ian. Ex.* 22 (1796) I. 152 Those Miracles being performd in the Desart, without any Witnesses but what were of that Nation. 1902 Poet *Dryden* 54 I saw, unhappy! what I now relate, And stood the helpless witness of thy fate. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 142 P 12 His magnificent without witnesses. 1792 Palev *Evid.* II. ix. (1817) 235 It was the credit given to original witnesses appealing for the truth of their accounts to what themselves had seen and heard. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xxxv, Before such witnesses he dared not say half what he really felt. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. ii. 41, I will endeavour to act as if she were witness of my actions. 1842 T. Wright *Biogr. Brit., Anglo-Sax. Per.* 467 Turgot..in his youth had been a witness of the destruction of the abbey. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxiii. 367, I have been twenty times witness to the singular effect which the sound of a bell had upon Napoleon. 1860 F. W. Robinson *Grandmother's Money* v, The inhabitants of Blackman's Gardens ..were witness to one of the sweetest scenes of the season. 1878 *Ch. Ir.* xviii. 392 He judged all his life ..even after the Monarchy had sprung up, he [sc. Samuel] was still a witness of an earlier and more primitive state.

*fig.* 1580 Cowper *Progr. Eve* 274 Then to the dance, and make the sober moon Witness of joys that shun the sight of noon.

**b.** In asseverative formulæ, in which a deity or a human being is invoked as one who is cognizant of a fact; as *God is my witness, Be my witness that* ... Most often in phr. *to call* or *take to* (†one's) *witness*: to call upon or appeal to as one's surety; to swear by.

[c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 23 Sif he godd hafft to witnesse þatt he nā nā wiless þinng. 1297 R. Gloucester (Rolls) 6934 Ich chulle god to witnesse..Þat sif ich of eni guilti am þat ich note þoru þis fure Brenne..& perisy. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17496 Pat soth it es wit ich dight til we wittnes. c 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* T. 155 The hooly writ take I to my witnesse That luxurie is in wyn and drunkenesse. 14.. Hocleve *Min. Poems* xvi. 10 And so wolde I, god take to witnesse! 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (1858) I. 58 I call vpon the for a wytnesse ouer the mother of these childrene, which wolde not kepe my couenaunt. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 90, I take Jesus Christ to witnesse, that in all the worlde, that I haue been at all tymes ..true man. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 133 God is my Wytnes, that my Harte wyll not suffer me, to vnderstande vyle Reporters. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* viii. 195 To which (if so it needefull is) I loue to witnesse call. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 19 Heauen be my witnesse you did not. 1600 — *Sonn.* cxvii, To this I witnesse call the fides of mine, Which die for goodnes, who haue liu'd for crime. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 69 For me, be witness all the Host of Heav'n, If counsels different, or danger shunn'd by me, have lost our hopes. 1700 Dryden *Sigismonda & G.* 397 That I have lov'd, I own: that still I love, I call to Witness all the Pow'rs above. 1839 H. Coleridge *Worthies* (1852) I. 3 He had so often emphatically taken his neighbours to witness that he was weaving. 1840 Dickens *Old Curios. Shop* xxv, The tall boy..called Heaven to witness that he had only shouted in a whisper. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, Though, God's my witness, there's no spite in me for my own sake.

†**c.** Referring to, usually introducing, the designation of an authority for a statement. (Cf. 7 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14791 Quarof was born be king daul, Pat es be tun of bethleem, þe bok is wittnes for to tem. c 1386 Chaucer *Pard.* T. 1 Myn entente is nat but for to preche, And ye shul here what I wol telle, seyn that they ne be nat tempted in hir body, witnesse on yow, that vseth it. 1440 *Sir Gawayne* 177 The cylde þrofe and..The dale sayd after ether was he witnesse the storie. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiv. 428 Lord, this is sothe, securely, wytnes the profett Isay. 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 54 Shewing the rose to be principall of all flourres, as witnessith Plinius, Dioscorides & Galien (S.T.S.) 42 [Jesus Christ] Sinnaris onlie Salutioun, As witnes is thy word in write.

**7.** *fig.* Something that furnishes evidence or proof of the thing or fact mentioned; an evidential mark or sign, a token.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3843 To sen gode witnesse for-on, Eat wond was in dat arche don. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 498 For ferth..suspect in hi- hernyng, & builder not comyne wip hom bifore þei si- hewid þo fayth by sufficyent wittenes. 1414-26 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 94 Lete werk be witnes ȝe can youre Crede. 1584 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. 31 For better witnesse of the antiquitie thereof, the inhabitaunts..doe..call all these old ruines Paleopolys. 1594 W. Harrison in *Shaks. Cent. Prairie* (1870) 12 Whose death was witnesse of her godly life. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 3 Our kneeling..is the gesture of pietie.. What doth better beseeme our bodies, then to bee sensible witnesses of mindes rauished and humbled? 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 48 It is the witnesse still of excellencie, To put a strange face on his owne perfection. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 92 Vpon the which [prayer] I trust Diuine Assistance. *Arch Adv* n

IV. xvii. & Gifts yet more costly were now the witness of his personal presence.

**b.** Introducing a name, designation, phrase, or clause denoting a person or thing that furnishes evidence of the fact or exemplifies the statement. Also *as witness*, and, in early use, † *witnest on*. (After L. *teste* . . , F. *témoin* . . .)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11788 Bot we na wrick be wisliker, þe wark of him sua mai we dred, Als witness on ve eldres dede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 297 Witnesse [L. *testis est*] Tyburces and Cecilies shrifte. *c* 1386 — *Wife's T.* 95 Pardee we wommen konne no thyng hele, Witnesse on Mydas, wol ye heere the tale. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 528 Wytnesse on Wycliff bat warned hem wip prewpe. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 566 Ioyntly to her Mercuries tooke hys yee As came to hys course—wytnesse the zodyak. 1598 F. Meres *Palladis Tamia* 281 The sweete witte soule of Ouid liues in mellifluous . Shakespeare, witnes his *Venus* and *Adonis*. 1626 Champney *Voc. Hys.* 94 The wisest, and greatest clarkes haue erred, as witnesse the laps of Tertullian, Origen, and Lucifer. 1648 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiv. 192 Nature oftentimes recompenceth deform'd bodies with excellent wits, Witnesse *Æsop*. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 503 When Night Darken the Streets, then wander forth the Sons Of Belial. . Witness the Streets of Sodom. 1671 — *Samson* 908 *Dal.* Out of my sight, I command you: I will no more converse with men a woman ever Goes by the worse. . *Sam.* For want of words no doubt, or lack of breath, Witness when I was worried with thy peals. 1762 Cowper *Retirement* 715 And vowels (witness ev'ry monk's review) Belie their name, and offer nothing new. 1892 Thackeray *Esmond* II. ii. The strange, barbarous French which she and many other fine ladies of that time witness her Grace of Portsmouth employed. 1888 T. H. Key *Philol. Ess.* 249 What progress is visible there is chiefly due to the energy of German, not French, scholarship, as witness the valuable editions of Greek authors that has proceeded from the press of Didot.

**c.** *spec.* In textual criticism, a manuscript or an early version which is regarded as evidence of authority for the text. (Usually in *pl.*)

1853 Scrivener *Collation N.T. Authority* Introd. i. p. xiii, The very rough and unsatisfactory process of counting the number of witnesses produced in behalf of each [reading]. 1870 Hoskyns in *Life* I. 305 By counting the witnesses the received text with Greek MSS. of the N. T. and other witnesses. 1908 Friedrichsen *Gothic Vers. Gospels* 194 Wherever the Codex [Argenteus] simulates the Vulgate text, the majority of Old Latin witnesses go with it.

**d.** Technical uses (see quots.; cf. F. *témoin*).

1802 C. James *Milit. Dict., Witnesses.* In fortification. (See Temoins.) [*Temoins, Fr.* In civil and military architecture, are pieces of earth left standing to measure the progressives in the fosses or places which the workmen are emptying, that they may know . how many cubical fathoms of earth have been carried.] 1841 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 763 If any silver be produced it must be deducted from the assay. This is called the witness. 1880 Zaehnsdorf *Bookbinding Mod. Times* When a volume is cut so as to show that it has not been so cut down, but that some of the leaves have still rough edges. These uncut leaves are called 'Witness.'

**8.** One who testifies for Christ or the Christian faith, esp. by death; a martyr. *Obs.* exc. as literal rendering of Gr. *μάρτυς* Martyr.

The reference in Rev. xi. 3 is much disputed; see, e. g., Vigouroux *Dict. de la Bible* s.v. *Témoins*.

1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xi. 3 And I shal yiue to my two witnesses, and thei shulen prophecie a thousynd dayes two hundrid and sixty. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Innocs. Day*, Whose prayse this day the young Innocentes thy witnesses hath confessed, and shewed foorth . in dying. 1557 *N. T.* (Geneva) Acts xxii. 20 And when the blood of thy witnes [*marg.* or, Martyr] Steuen was shed, I also stode by. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 128 One of the softest pillowes Christ hath, is laid under his witnesses head. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* (1850) I. 169, My Lord St. Asaph consider'd the killing of the two witnesses, to be the utter destruction of the Cevennes Protestants . and the other the Waldenses and Pyrenean Christians.]

**II.** Phrases. (See also above.)

**9. a.** *In witness*: as a testimony or piece of evidence. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 3.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 4 In cyðnisse *vel* witnesa. [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ix. 5 Ponne ze ðæt ræse ceastre gað, to witnesse sower fota ðine gað in witnesse.] *a* 1325 *Prose Rom. Rol.-Bp.* 50, lk. 54 b, In witnesse of wiche þinges we habbez don makenn þues oure ayene letteres. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 99 In two lynes bat he wrot, he wolde be wreke, to witnesse of treuþe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 34 In tokne and in witnesse That ilke ymage bar likenesse Of man and of non other beste. 1548 Tindale *Doctrine. Sacrum.* a ij b, They cast vp an heaps of stones in wytnesse & called it Gylyad: yᵉ heaps of wytnesse. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 1 Hang there my verse, in witnesse of my love. 1657 Earl Monm. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 40 Venice doth at this day enjoy many great priviledges, in witness of her great worth and singular merit.

† **b.** *To stand in witness*: to act as a witness. *Sc. Obs.*

1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 422/2 The king . rehabilis the said Johne and Johne to stand in preif and witnes.

**10.** *To bear witness*: (said properly of a person, a book, etc.) to give oral or written testimony or evidence; hence *fig.* to furnish or constitute evidence or proof; to testify, witness *to* (occas. *of*). *To bear* (one) *witness*: to corroborate one's statement or be a witness of one's action. (Cf. ON. *bera vitni*, OF. *porter temoin*.)

*c* 1200 Ormin 12636, I bart te þe leode Witness off himm, þatt he wass wiss Crist Godess Sune. *c* 1205 Lay. 13931 Ich habbe his muneken . þat scullen witnesse beren eowe alle bluoren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6820 Suk þou noght wit tunge later, Ne fals witenes for felun ber. *Ibid.* 19289 Als lucas vs sais þe gospellere, Pat witnise bi vs wont at bere. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3356 Certys þeße ryst wykked yx Whan þe dede bereþ wytnes [*Fun qe ceo tesmoine le mort*]. *c* 1395 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 412 þe godspel þerof bereþ witnesse. 1542 Hanpole *Pr. Consc.* 1612 Pus may seculers, in pis pinke bereꝫ witnes, þly helpyd by way of rightwysnes. *c* 1589 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 527 Hire white coroun beryth of it witnesse. 1593 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 99 Pre persones parcel-meele departable from oþer, And alle þre bote o god; thus abraam bureþ witnesse. 1596 *Anc. Deed* A. 10383 (P.R.O.) This indenture bereth witnes that [etc.]. 1600 Heywood *Gerarde* 1 Grave *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvi. 113 þe archbischop of Reymes was þere present . and bare witnesse of þe holy lyf of Seynt Gilbert. 1900–20 Dunbar *Poems* (1932) 54 The impill so wickit ar of feiris, The fruitless eede all witness beiris. 1526 Tindale *John* viii. 18, I am won that beare witnes off my selfe, and my father that sent me beareth witnes off me. 1580 Sharp. *Com. Serv.* IV. iv. 80 In veritie you did, my lones beares witnesse, That since haue feit the vigor of his rage. *Ibid.* 93 God and the Rope-maker beare me witnesse, That I was sent for nothing but a rope. 1610 *Temp.* III. i. 68 O earth, beare witnes to this sound, And crowne what I professe with kinde event If I speake true. 1691 Hutton *Orig. Log.* In seeking just occasions to broke The Phillistine, Thou never wast remiss, I bear thee witness. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conquer* III, I can bear witness to that. 1832 Sharp *Lond. Jrn. Georgette* (1865) 59 Her dress bore witness to a far more improved taste. 1842 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* 5, To speak of heaven . and to bring it to bear upon the matter in hand, is to bear witness to heaven. *Sim. Styl.* 129 And I, in truth (thou wilt bear witness here) Have all in all endured as much. 1876 Mellon *Priesthood* II. 59 The striking witness which he [sc. Judas] bore to the innocence of his Lord.

† **11.** *To take witness by or of*: to take example by. *c* 1400 *Antors Arth.* 165 (Thornton MS.) Thus am I lyke to Lucefere, takis witnes by mee. *Ibid.* 273 Takis witnes by Tristrem and by Ysoude. Herodone. *Cock & Fox* 200 Tak witnes of the Feyndis Infernall, Quhilk houndit doun wes fra that heuinlie hall To Hellis hole.

† **12.** *To bring, come* (Usu. *v.*) *to witness*: to bring under examination. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 108 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Elch man sal þar biclepien himselfen and ec demen Hic [*read* his] ojen ore and his hanc to witnesse þe ich mine. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 12 In how many gere cause may it be, þat we regnig þe be kirk synful marchondise; bryng to witnes; examyn þe saiwis discusse þe deslis.

† **13.** *To take witness of* : to call or take to witness (see 6 b); to appeal to as an authority or source of information. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 22583 (Fairf.), I take witnes of saint austine Pat tellis how þis werlde sal fine. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 66 For to witnesse I take of god, that my courage Hath hen mor siek than my visage. *a* 1500 in Halliwell *Nugæ Poeticæ* (1844) 58, I take wyttenesse of Davyd kyng and als Solomon þe wyse, That wymmen for a litille thyng offe change her servyse. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 322, I take witness of the gods (who never leave perjuries unpunished) that I often cried out against their impudency. 1624 *Heb & nothebr* 3 I take witness, Wellcome, if there be a doubt, 'with a vengeance', 'and no mistake'.

*Obs.* or *rare arch*

1575 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 98 French Camarick Ruffes, deepe with a witnesse, starched to the purpose. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 221 Here's a lackey ready with a witnesse to deceiue vs all. 1609 J. Davies *Triumphs Death* Wks. (Grosart) I. 49/1 For now we swime (yea with a witnesse) alone. 1611 Middleton & Rowley *Faire Quarrel* III. iii. 1 *Lord of Mon.* vi. (1642) 82 He was sent; but with a witnesse, as the saying is, to destroy. 1670 T. Brooks *Wks.* (1867) VI. 158 That man is a saint in a witnesse that is content to be himself. 1690 Locke *2nd Lett. Toleration* Wks. 1727 II. 270 The French King requires all his Subjects to come to Masse: Those who do not, are punished with a witness. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 21 Hitler with a Witness. 1816 Hazlitt *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 103 Here's a levelling rogue for you! The world turned inside out, with a witness! 1890 Scott *Antiquary* xxiii, To every other person about her she plays countess and baroness with a witness. 1899 Cuppy *Screen Hand* x. (1856) 90 At midnight, it blew great guns, with a witness.

**III.** 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *witness-bearer*, *-bearing* sb. and adj. (see 10), *-heap* (cf. quot. 1528 in 9 a), *-judge*; **witness action**, an action in which witnesses are summoned, as distinguished from one in which only matters of law are argued; **witness-box**, an enclosed space in which a witness is placed while giving evidence; **witness chair**, a seat for witnesses at a court of inquiry; **witness-room**, an apartment in which witnesses assemble and remain while not giving evidence; **witness-stand** *U.S.*, the place where a witness is stationed while giving evidence.

1892 *Daily News* 26 July 7/1 Mr. Justice Kekewich . ordered the motion to be set down as a "witness action. 1540 *Primer* (1553) 51/1 Wytnesse bearer, *testificator, testificatrix, testificatrix.* *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 59 Alle fals wytnes-bereres. 1583 Foxe *A. & M.* 1250/1 These wi. beasted prayers & vaine bearers of wytnesse. 1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's Da Vera Obed.* 35 b, I follow Tullies meaning, who in the weight & importance of witnes bearing, attributeth more vnto such as be wittie & wyse, then vnto those that be of a meane wit. 1848 A. Thomson *Orig. of Secession Ch.* iii. 96 Their resolute and unflinching witness-bearing. 1880 *Spectator* 2 Feb. 166/1 A very real kind of witness-bearing to what we call the supernatural. 1808 J. Carr *Stranger Ferd.* 469, I was surprised to find . that they had no witness-box. The witness is hoisted upon the table. 1859 Eustace *Cl. Rede* xliii, Mr. Irwine was in the witness-box, telling of Hetty's unblemished character. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 7/2 The ex-Premier . advanced to the witness chair. 1928 Tindale *Declar. Sacrum.* a iij, And of al that counsant thei made that heape wytnesse, callenge it yᵉ *wetnesshepe*. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 536 My own experience shall their doom decide; A "witness-judge precludes a long appeal. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxxii, She took her place in the "witness-room, worn and dispirited, but not anxious. 1868 Howitt *Impressions & Exp.* 77 A young man . was called to the "witness-stand in behalf of the prosecution.

Hence **Witnessless** *a.*, without proof; cf. 8 above).

1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. VII. 330 Our act may have the . Virtue of Witness-dom, or as we . translate it Martyr-dom.

**Witness** (wi·tnĕs), *v.* Forms: see prec.; also **4 witnis, 5 wythnesse, wittenesch, 6 witte-nish.** [f. prec. In some ME. texts forms of the type *wittnes* (= witnesses) may be inflected forms of Witte, 1.]

**1.** *trans.* To bear witness to (a fact or statement); to testify to, attest; to furnish oral or written evidence of. (*a*) with simple obj.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13803 He and his fare will lasten ai, Pis will he self witnes and sai. *Ibid.* 23820 Pat witnes us all holi gospelles. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 82 William of Malmesbirie witnesse it in his write. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 191 Pat witnesseth holiwrite who-so wil it rede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6958 Wo wymmen witnessen at here eyen . . I lettres, to witnesse oure bounte. 1474 *Caxton Chesse* iii. (ii) (1883) 123 Sidrac wythnesseth the same. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. Clare Richmond* (Wks. (1876) 308 She . openly dyde witnesse this same thynge at the houre of her dethe. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 220 That Goldsmith there, were he not pack'd with her, Could witnesse it: for he was with me then. 1634 W. Rand *Aulid. Ans.* (1811) 13 (1772) 91 Remigius writes that he had it witnessed to him by the free confession of near two hundred men. 1729 T. Inner *Cert. Est.* (1850) 127 Thus we see how the authority of these settlement of the Scots in Britain witnessed by our own country writers. 1900 *Discovery* Mar. 90/1 The records . contain . references to their Royal founder, witnessing his continued interest in the progress of Science.

(*b*) with obj. clause.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A) 2609 Ichil be make messanger.. Ichil pat bou witnesse me pis boue ende pat be. 1590 Gower *Conf.* I. 263 Senec witnesseth openly How that ofte prey prevely Is of the Court the comun wenche. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1509, I witnesse you . That he was a trew and hollie person. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* II. 126 b, He wytnesseth in another place, the Martirs . were wont . to be remembered . of the Priest at diuine service. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* v. i. 271 Lorenzo here Shall witnesse I set forth as soone as you. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* II. ii. E, Were not the party her selfe alue to witnesse that [etc.]. 1899 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missioners* 1872–86 To witness to a new generation, that England can never be clear from the guilt.

† (*c*) with complement (*for* . . . or inf.). *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 12909 (Gött.) And þar-of es right no farlik, Quen he-self he witnesse for ille. 1545 Joye *Expos. Dan. Bob Ch.* i. 41, I will earnestly witnesse hym . before my heauenly father. for one of myne, to haue the inheritaunce with mee. 1585 Sandlode tr. *Hortus Hæretic. of Heresies* 1 b, Christ, whome the Scriptures witnesse to haue bene incarnat. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 26 Noah was witnessed to be A man righteous and perfect. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 387 Those that knew him witnesse him to be of honest life.

(*d*) in imperative or subjunctive, as a form of appeal. Now *rare*.

*c* 1300 *Destr. Troy* 608 What-euer ye deme me to do, . I bete you full highly with hert to fulfille,.. witenes our goddes. *Ibid.* 1488 The fyfte.. Was Troylus.. That mykell wrong wan, witnes ye of store. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 186 Ay me, it is my husband: witnesse you, That he is borne about invisible. 1591 — *Two Gent.* II. vi. 25 And Silvia (witnesse heauen that feare) Shee doth abhorre Iulia but a swarthy Ethiope. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* viii. 28, While I my Nisa's perjur'd Faith deplore; Witness ye Pow'rs, by whom she falsly swore! 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* I, Witness you three—I'm afraid of him.

**b.** *transf.* Of a document: To furnish formally attested evidence of. Usually with obj. clause.

1474 *Anc. Deed* C. 5555 (P.R.O.) This bylle shalle wytnesse that I Thomas Ormond sweth to Mathew Shaw 15*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*]. *a* 1475 *Rolls of Parli.* VI. 155 a Cokettes of all such Clothes . witnessing the nombre of them. 1503 *Ibid.* 597/1 This Indenture witnesseth That [etc.]. 1555 *Col. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 275 This byll, mad the xvi. day of April . wittenisith that whereas [etc.]. 1658 *Sir R. Hutton's Vig. Cl. & Guild's* (ed. 8) 2 This Indenture . witnesseth, That [etc.]. 1790 *Mem. Sr. Sidney* I. xv, And this indenture further witnesseth, That [etc.].

**c.** *fig.* To furnish evidence or proof of; to be a sign or mark of, betoken. Also with obj. clause.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvi. 192 Pat [= what] witnesseþ pat he was god, for he went [ walked] on it. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 233 The tremblynge of the erthe . the darkynge of the sonne wytnesse hym make of all thynges. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xx. (1912) 81 All other labors witnessed them to be of the lowest calling. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 74 Thy face, and thy behaujour, Which, I witnesse good bringing vp. 1599 T. Storer *Life & Death Wolsey* 3, The stones may witnesse shee was there. 1600 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* I. ii. C 5, The Director whose high erected ambition witnesseth his great wisdome. 1605 — *Discipline* 12 You cannot ride to Ware or to Barkway, but your Hackneyes sides must witnesse your iourneyes. 1853 H. Cockar tr. *Tuttle's Trav.* I. 8 As the wounds we have upon us can but too well witness. 1760–72 II. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. 87 This tear will witness for me, that I do not mean to insult you. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 415 His shoulders witnessing by many a stripe How much his feelings suffer'd. 1796 Charlotte Smith *Marchmont* I. 259 The gilding and carving . witnessed the expence that had once been lavished on it. 1813 Eustace *Class. Tour* (1821) I. viii. 204 The banks of the river, for many a mile, witnessed the rout of the Carthaginians. 1843 Macaulay *Horatius* lxv, And there it stands unto this day To witness if I lie.

**†d.** To give evidence of by one's behaviour; to make evident, to evince. *Obs.*

1581 A HALL *Iliad* iv 168 His kinred and the mother chiefe did many a teare let fall I their woe to witnesse **a 1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxv. vii, Even gnashing teeth, to witnes more their spight **a 1625** FLETCHER *Lawes of Candy* iv i, To finde occasion wherein I might witnesse My duty and obedience **1660** PEPYS *Diary* 15 Apr., Captain Dekings, an anabaptist, and one that have had witnessed a great deal of discontent with the prese t proceedings **1671** MILTON *P. R.* iii 109, I seek not mine but him who sen t me, and thereby witness whence I am **a 1700** DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 112 Long mute he stood, and leaning on his Staff, His Wonder witnessed with an Idiot laugh **1708** POPE *Dunc* i 105 (v.r.) He rolld his eyes that witnessd huge dismay

**e** To show forth evidence of or as to (an object of allegiance) by faithful speech or conduct; to be a witness for. Also with cognate obj. Now *rare* or *Obs*

**1526** TINDALE *1 Tim* vi 13 Jesus Christ whych vnder Pontius Pilate witnessed a good witnessynge [1552 Rheims and 1611 Confession] **1534** *John* v 32 I know that the witnesse which he witnes etn of me, is true **1659** SOUTH *Serm., Matt* i 2 32 (1679) 1 1 1 1 a Martyr signifies only to witness the truth of Christ **1663** in *Tyrl Trials Hist* 3 c XIX 22 the glorious truth of God witnessed out by those 1 witnessed Ch is t which I came to bear witness **1680** C NEWE *Ch A Hist* (1681) 333 John Baptist, who had Witnessed him into the World **1833** *Tracts for Times* I No 9 6 That very confusion is another ordinance, in which the ll shop witnesses Christ

**2** *intr.* To bear oral or written witness, to testify

Now usually with *to* or *against*

**a 1300** *Cursyr M* 11295 bot[1 of him writnes (Twitnes) I pat ye lauerd, "O wist pat ne kenn[1 pou ert born i-nn A gretter barn pan sa at tinkan **a 1380** WYCLIF *Wks* (1888) 368 Pat, as ser one A anselm witness n, here abiids ben ful of leesyngis **a 1382** — *Sel Wks* III 436 At pe day of d m Crist and hise lawe shal witn we agen 30u **a 1400** *Pistill of Susan* 363 pe prest witnessep wel Of p t profit. **c 1400** MAUNDEVILE (1839) 134 In the stoupe of Noe witneth Iohan pat pe culuer brought he braunch e of Olyue **c 1450** *Merlin* 56 And at the boke we lesyth, Ver sesnyus ed the bistide **c 1450** *Golagros & Gaw* 1136 As his wrichis gyltis & grauntid to be fore sar le menske & ayher churchis witnessand **1486** *Bk St Albans, Her* a 3, Many oth er notable thyngis to the pleasure of noble persons may shall be shewd as the werkys folowyng write[n next **1550** COVERDALE *Apoc* 19.6 Idleness hath ben cause of much wyckedenes, As Ecclesiastes tius doeth playnely witnes **1595** SHAKS. *John* iv ii 218 Oh, when the last accompt twixt heauen & earth is to be made, then shall this hand and Seale Witnesse against vs to damnation **1611** *Wint T* iv i 11, I witnesse to The times that brought them in **1720** DE FOE *Sailor's Necess* 150 The Prisoner he ought several Persons of good Credit to witness to her Reputation **1771** CHURCHILL *Hist. Eng* IV 5 He avowed his intention, & called upon his witness to his veracity **1870** ROGERS *Hist Gleanings*, Ser II 27 His simplicity and e ar nestness are mainly witnessed to

**b.** *Sfg.* (cf. I c.)

**1592** GREENE *Groat's W Wit* B 2, I telle their owne works serue to witt ewe sg, n ot their owne wickednese. **1622** *Hall* I 2 n 9 The show of their countenance d ith witnesse against them **1648** NEWMAN *Jar Sions* III. vi 93 Works of obedience witness to God's pu t claims upo us **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* xlvii, The golden hearted dawes Witnessed them to the truth of things **1856** AYTOUN *B Ballads Ev* xiv, How many chur hes wrapped in flames Have witnessed to the spoulers power **1860** MOZLEY *Unem Sermn* xii (1877) 151 So subtle an hypo thesis witnesses to s ommon hero nomon

**†c** In pres. pple absolute *Witnessing* (so-and so) = WITNESS *sb.* 7 *b. Obs*

**c 1400** MAUNDEV. Prol (1839) 2 (The Holy Land) is the best and the myd les of all the World, witnessing, as the Philosophiers, that sayn that, *virtus rerum in medio consistit* **c 1440** *Gesta R m* 1 4 I og s s n the 3 ks of penance, is not hur l, witnessing be wisour , whar he sethe Lo! my yoke is esy **1526** *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 43 Our sayd lorde witnessynge and sayeng Who so euer for my loue forsaketh father or mother [etc]

**3.** *trans.* a. To give oral testimony concerning (a fact, etc.), to depose in evidence. Now *rare*.

**a 1325** *Vis Rad B* 540 If 65b pe avisure of be sikenesse sullen ben desireed to be ome i t pe cert ti witnessen hoore sijt **1528** *Visnam de Melr e* (Bann.) 519 I was requyst for to witnes vnder wryt, thyng ar wes det rmyn d before me in ing ment **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Mark xiv 4 Answerest th ou nothing? teh ide how manie things they witnes a,gainst thee **1611** *Wint Hend* IV 172 The dea he and Her sulks eke can witnesse well his minde, they heard the like **1801** *Sharks Alt's Well* v iii 200 Me thought, I you said You saw and heard in your own Court could witnesse it **1622** MABBE tr *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf* i 277 They did all of them witnesse one and the same thing, I hit I was the sonne of a pa ticular diero **a 1756** J. EDWARDS *Own Life* iii (1 24) I 380 If they would not witness tre uonal le matter against Bullie.

**b** To attest formally by signature, to sign (a document) as a witness of its execution. Also *absol.*

**a 1325** *Mx Read B* 340 Ich b, Witnessinde vs suff at Gaunt be vifte dai of Oct ber **1362** LANGL *P Pl A* ii 131 Io weende with hem to westminster to Witnesse pe deede **1439** *Rolls of Parl* V 21/2 Licence of the whole Chiftevne witnessessed undre his seell **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 97 I hys wytnessyth Alyxsvnder, of lyncolne bysshop, and many oth er *Ibid* 273 To this present writing, their comon seale they have put to, witnessing theire Chapiter **1668** SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* III 46 *Sir Pos* Come Sir, do you Witness it *a Clerk Ay Sir de sets his hand* **1718** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett* (1887) I 240 A writing is drawn and witnessed **1776** *Trial of Mundeomar* 102 Mina Rajah said it was necessary to witness it to make it pukka **1883** MRS. GARRETT *Anth xvii*, There I that's what I call a will, witnessed according to law, and all **1871** R FANU *Rose & Key* II 38 Lady Vernon sends for her secretary, and seals, signs, and delivers it in his presence And now he has duly witnessed it **1910** *Engl Hist. Rev.* Jan 30 John Chisholl witnesses as chancellor pretty constantly in the roll of 53 Henry III

**c.** To be formally present as a witness of (a transaction)

**1362** LANGL. *P Pl* A ii 60 His wiues and witnessen pat wonep vpon eorpe, Pat I, Pauuel, Peffe Fals to pat Mayden Mede. **1849** SIR J. STEPHEN *Fecl. Biog* (1850) I. 43 By his side sat Agnes the Empress mother, brought there to witness and to ratify the judgment to be pronounced on her only child **1859** H. KINGSLEY *Hamlyns* xiii, I would be much obliged to you if you could step round to the Bank with me I want you to witness what passes.

**4** (*transf.*, from 3 c) To be a witness, spectator, or auditor of (something of interest, importance, or special concern); to experience by personal (esp. ocular) observation; to be present as an observer at; to see with one's own eyes. In early use said mainly of the eyes or the ears (In loose writing often used merely as a synonym of 'see').

**1588** SHAKESPEARE *Romeo* iii (Arb) 43 Thee I roians Whose fatal misery my soul hath witnessd hetuye **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Sir T Wyatt* iv, Like last th at comes to stand close, and thine eyes shall witnesse it **1657** COWLEY *Obst Barly* v 15, I will make known how much you are her Servant, if you will but vouchsafe my eyes witnesse it

**1606** G. W[OOD] *Hist Hist Tr fine* XXXIII 210 Others enclosined al out him to dispatch him of his life, more resolute against him now, then ch his Brother himselue with they witnessed **1613** CHAPMAN *Rich Buttrd d'Ambois* H 3 I neuer witnessd a m re noble loue, Nor a more ruthfull sorro w. **1667** MILT *P L* iii 700 To witness with Heauen & Earth, spoke thus our first Father **1697** DRYDEN *Virg Georg* iv 1, Now I sing the Secret heuns only in heav n **1710** SHAFTESB *Chirac* (1711) I 11 11 275 There is nothing ever so trivial that is not deserues shou d be witness'd by the Party, whose Grace he solicits **1784** COWPER *Task* v 744 And witness, dear companion of my walks, 'tis a thought that had doubled long **1789** *Constitutionalist* 26 I witnessed the appearances Mr Melville en tered **1792** G. WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I 295, I met with an opportunity of witnessing a most extraordinary vent iloquist **1796** SOUTHEY *Life* (1849) xii (1799) 181, I never did I witness a more melancholy s ene of devastati n. **1827** MACAULAY *Lit., Machiavelli* (1843) I 68 I hey witnessed the arrangement of the jullies, and the fabrication of the thunders **1836** *Ainsw an Etiquette* (ed 2) 30 Do not pick your teeth mu h at table, as to witness it is not a pleasant thing **1873** J. STEPHEN *Nat Religion* 1 Men are, however, proving through a great change, of which no living man can expect to wit ess the end **1878** MORLEY *Diderot* I iv 70 As he could not witness the outcome t, he let in to meditate on the subject **1912** *Times* 29 Oct 5 2 Large crowds witnessed their departure, but no demonstrati n occurred

*c* *not to witness* **1859** GOLDSMITH *Vicar* xxiii, Sons art wire an I generous I have witnessed that thou art both

*absol* **1810** WORDSW *Peter Lakes* (1822) 121 He I ake of Ur s is disturbed from the bottom, as I was told and indeed as I witnessed, without any apparent c mmoti on in the air

**b.** *fig.* Of a place, time, etc.: To be associated with (a fact or event); to be the scene or setting of; to 'see'.

**1585** ANNA SEWARD *Letb* (1811) I 58 That immortal fountain and valley, which had witnessed the beauty of Laura **1810** SCOTT *Lady of I* v i, What various scenes Are witness d by th rs red and struggling beam! **1813** LOUISA STOLBERG *Countess* I 11 But my I ife here shall be once witnessed the defeat and death of a Gothic monarch **1829** SCOTT *Recollected in*, March and October have witnessed me in the active pursuit of game, for forty years deal with the best barley in Shropshire **1884** PEACH *Holy Roon Lmp* xv (1886) 264 The thirteenth f entury] witnessed the rapid spread of the scholastic philosophy **1887** ROBT DE *Scott Hist* (1888) I 194 The house which those have I nurs hd with e ed thousands of years ago

**Witnessable** (wi tnesăb'l), *a.* *rare.* [f. WITNESS *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be witnessed.

**1870** *Daily Telegraph* 5 Feb, Nothing is more witnessable fa t, it is at a ny rate a self evident one **1891** *Athenæum* 30 May 710/2 In one a gient imp ivement is witnessable

**Witnessed** (wi tnes'st), *ppl. a.* [f. WITNESS *v.* + -ED.] Attested by a witness or witnesses.

**c 1586** CTESS PEMBROKE *Ps* cxiv C iv, All my delight Thy witnest will shall be **1746** FRANCIS *tr Hor., Sat* II v 120 The son in law shall give the nue His witnessed bond

**Witnesser** (wi tnesăr). Now *rare*. [f. WITNESS *v.* + -ER 1.] One who witnesses; a witness.

**c 1400** *Fclgr Sercle* (Claton 1483) II v 53 Ye lyers forswerers and witnessers of falsheds **c 1449** PECOCK *Repr* v 296 Whom in 1 ed ne ne ded to witnessen in a spirituel cause nesser or denouncer or remembrer (as as God, an Apostil, or a Do tour) **c 1450** CAIGRAVE *Life St Gilbert* xxxix 170 Pou clepest pee be witnesses, or witnesseres, mad him to awere pat bes schuld say noth in pat mater **a 1483** *Liber Niger in Munich Ord* (1379) 55 They sitte with hym at the board of doome as recorders and witnessers to the trouthe **c 1500** *Lincoln Corpus Christi* Exh. G 17, A false witnesser. **1554** T. MARTIN *Frantisse Marr, Priests* 2 iij, He was nowe so well become a constrainte witnesser of the prvsion of Chri ist, the first fruite and an example of an heavenly conuersation vnto all his subiectes **1598** in *Feir. St. Papers rel Friends* Ser I. (1902) 42 Lysers, and false witnessers **1661** J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 59 An Eminent and knowing Witnesser to Posterity of the Sence and Fa th of the Church **1674** W P MACKAY *Grace & Truth* 36 The blessed Spirit, the Witnesser of Christ

**Witnessfully**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. assumed adj. **witnessful* + -LY 2.] Evidently, plainly.

**c 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth* iv pr v (1868) 131 In bis wise m re clerely and more witnesfully [L *testatius, vt apertius*] is pe office of w se men yteried.

**Witnessing** (wi tnesin), *vbl sb* [f. WITNESS *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of bearing witness or giving testimony. † *In witnessing of*, as a witness to; † *to bear witnessing*, to bear witness

**a 1300** *Cursor M* 18894 O bis gadring be-houes us pan, In witnessing to ches a man Vn-to be seruis of vr tale *Ibid* 27832 O conuitise coms fals witnessing, and lesing **1380** WYCLIF *3 Cor* v. 12 The witnessinge of oure conscience **c 1385** CHAUCER *L. G. W. Prol* 399 I to this flour Here white corowne beryth the witnessyng of my lettres **1477** *Paston Lett* (Rollo) II. 132 Gladly he cheyth what so he begynne, The fyne therof berith witnessing **1484** CAXTON *Chasse* iii. viii (1883) 150, I haue put on exhe kcys a bille & writynge In witnessinge of the thynges aboueseyd **1526** TINDALE *Rom* I 9 John was in the ye ffath of Pantheus for the worde of god, and for the witnessynge of Iesu Christe **1585** *Rec Privy Council Scot.* I 254 Diuerse persones wer summond . to bear witnessing in the s aid matter **1659** SOUTH *Serm* (1697) I 117 The witnessing of the truth was then so genially attended with that Event, that Martyrdom now signifies to witness by death **1887** DICKENS *Dorrit* II xxvii I have it on the witnessing of thee two madmen that you went down.

**†b** In (abbrev) use = WITNESS *sb* 2 d

**a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii(1) 2 Blisful pai pat kansakis his witnessyngis **1382** WYCLIF *Ps* xcviii[i] 7 Ther kepten his witnessingus, and the heste that he 3af to hem

**2 a.** That which is uttered or alleged in support of a fact or statement, evidence given. *Obs.*

**a 1300** *Cursor M* 16977 Vp pat nas and gaf a cri Quat mi ter es o witnessing Agayn I im for to lede? **c 1330** *Arth & Merl* 1460 Telle our mon, what is pe pyne, Pat we ne sum witnessing Of I i dele **1476** *Acta Audit* (1839) 52/1 Pe sadis partijs beand personly present and bare allegations and witnessingis berd **1478** *Acts Dom Conc* (1839) 20/2 Johne sall bring ane documentis and vther of instrumentis of his seasing pat he has **1561** DAUS tr *Sullinger en Alpac* (1573) 260 b, The Apostles in the gospell are called witnesses and the Gospell a witnessing of Iesus Christ **1587** GOLDING *De M rnay* Pref p. viii, Vnto men we will bring the witnessings of men, euen the things that eurie man knoweth in his owne nature **1611** COTGR. W. HAIG *Russell Hedges* viii 158 His habitude of lying his noted perjury, [etc] qualities f which any man s witnessing were to be repelled in judgment

**3.** Attestation (of a document). Chiefly in phr. † *in or into (the) witnessing of* = *F en témoignage de.*

**1405** *Rolls of Parlt* III 604/2 In Witnessing of whilk thyng, to thys presentes we have sette our forsaide Seal **1866** *L. J. Bible* (1882) 1 Into witnessing of which thyng, to it is my present testiment I have put to my seell **1561** in *Bath Rolls Scot* XIV 481 Robert Hamniltoun for the more witnessing hes subscryvit this his obligetioun with his hand

**4.** The fact of being present and observing something.

**1858** in *Cambr Rep* 154 The witnessing of the scenes **1872** *Ch Ch Aldgate Mem* (1884) 288 The witnessing of your prief ient my heart so deeply

So **Witnessing** *ppl. a.* (*spec.* in *witnessing part*: see quot. 1844).

**1844** WHITMAN *Real Prop* 143 The *testatum*, or witnessing part, 'Now this Indenture witnesseth' [See WITNESS *v.* 1 b] **1855** C DAVIDSON *Pres. Comey* (ed 2) I 64 When the instrument contains more than one witnessing clause **1859** RUSKIN *Two Paths* I 84 C ruption festered to its loathsomest in the midst of the witnessing presence of a disciplined civilisation

**+ Witnessman.** *north.* and *Sc Obs* Forms see WITNESS *sb* [A ON *vitnismaðr* (f *vitnis*, gen of *vitni* witness + *maðr* MAN *sb* 1), accommodated in form to WITNESS *sb.* and MAN *sb* 1] = A witness, b. The (tenurial) duty of providing a witness in court.

**1** 10 in *Reg St Bees Priory* (Surtees) 537 Mȳ d hede and wytnesmann on thyylle now **1278** *Ibid* 374 Pro witnesman et summonitoribus invenendis ad faciendum districciones **1292** *Assc Dard* I. 458 (P. R.) [cf. *Ibid* 374] Quod de cetero faciendi non sit Curiæ nisi unus de Ballivis de Wytnesmann quæ seruicia quondam pertin de pedicijs Abbati et Conuentui **c 1375** *Sc Leg Saints xii (Matthias)* 143 Se ari of me be wytnes mene In be toune of Jerusalem **1456** *Acts Lords Conc* (1843) 6 Ya The quhilk nane nedyt ayit to answer, and the witnessmen examynit and herd in the cause **1493** *Acta Dom Conc* (1839) 319/2 Pe lard of Amsfelde sall cause his officare with tua witnesmen to pynd apoun pe commoune pas is debatable

**Witney** (wi tni). Also 8 **9 Whitney** (8-oye)

A heavy loose woollen material with a nap, manufactured and made up into blankets at Witney, a town in Oxfordshire; also, formerly, a kind of cloth or coating made there. Also *attrib* esp. in *Witney blanket* (for which the simple *Witney* is occas. used).

The name has been applied to similar materials made elsewhere, but in 1909 a decision of the Courts in an action brought under the Merchandise Marks Act upheld the restriction of the name to blankets produced by the Witney manufacturers

**1716** GAY *Trivia* I 47 True Witney Broad-cloth with it's Shag unshorn, Unpierc'd is in the lasting Tempest worn. **1737** in Alice M Earle *Costume of Colonial Times* (1894) 256 Fine Whitney at 538 a yard, Course Whitneys at 28s a yard **1760** FOOTE *Minor* II 21 Whitney blankets for exportation. **1792** *New Bath Directory* 26 Whitney Blanket Warehouse. **1880** S JEAN *Shod fy trade* 45 Witneys have been made in a variety of plain mixtures, and fancy stripes **1886** GRONOW *Recoll* Ser IV 155 He wrapped himself up in a large Witney blanket **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xl, Gave him one of our new whitneys to go behind his saddle **1883** *Jenks Textile Direct* 3 Presidents, naps, witneys &c. **1885** *Mistletoe Bough* 25/2 A thick witney coat.

**Witoten, witout(en,** obs f WITHOUT.

**Witring**, obs. form of WITTERING.

**+ Witryff**, *a. Obs.* [f. WIT *sb.* + *-ryff*, RIFE *a.*] Abounding in cunning.

1598 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 122 The crawis ar wittyff beastis, and the Devill will cum in thair liknes.

**Witsafe, -saffe, -saufe, -save, -sohaif,** obs. ff. Vouchsafe.

**† Witsaul,** *v.* Obs. *rare.* In 1-2 **witsalpe, 3** *Orm.* **witshalpe.** [OE (*ge*)*witscyfe* = Ofris. *wedskepa*, OS *gewitscepi* (MLG. *gewitschap*), OHG. *gewiscaf*: see Iwit and -shir.] Witness, testimony; knowledge.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I xxvii. (1890) 72 Þa þe mi biscopes haligunge in witscipe þ[æ]r gewitscype] stondeð; c1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Gif he hit deð in his witscipe; c1200 Orm. 5709 Patt all þun leortte beo þwerrt ut att tin wittshipe clene.

**Wit-ship**[2]. [f. Wit *sb.* + -ship.] With possession pron uscd as a fanciful title for a witty person.

1656 Davenant *Wits* v. i. He, A little to increase your witships allowance of ante

**Witson(e,** -dal, -tyd, obs. ff Whitsun, etc.

**Wittall(e,** -nill, -ale, etc., obs. ff. Victual.

**Wittam** : see Witham.

‖ **Witteboom** (wi·tăbōm). *Sc. Afr.* [Cape Du. (*wit*)*te Wittebeam*, *Beam sb*[1].] = Silvertree 1.

1818 I Latrobe *Jrnl. S. Afr.* 35 The foot of Table-Mountain is well clothed with witteboom (protea argentea)

**Witted** (wi·tĕd), *a.* [ f orms see Wit *sb.*, also 4 ywittode, wytiet, 7 *erron.* wittied, wittid, [f. Wit *sb.* + -ed 2.]

1. Having wit or wits (of a specified quality or amount) with qualifying adv., as Well witted, etc (*obs.*), or in privasynthetic comb. with an adj., as *dull-, fine-, half-, gross-, light-, quick-, sharp-, slow witted*, etc. ; also in nonce-formations after *half witted*, as *two thwd witted, whole-witted.*

+ Also (in form *wittéd*, influenced by Witty *a.*) in comb *twelfe-wittéd* (? whose wits are in wealth)

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x 397 Wyse witted men and wel yletered clerkes 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III 409 þe scharpest witted men. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xii 233 Suche wel ywittede men and wel lettre[d] clerkes 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* VII xxvi 253 He was merueillously witted. 1508 Monr *Dyalogue* III Wks. 213/2 Diuers yonge scolaus properly witted, feately lerned 1532 — *Confut Barnes* VIII 619/2 Had he no le wening at all, a d wer witted but right meanely. 1610 Healey *Augustine of God* v xxii *Virgil* 253 Claudian was elegantly witted [1620 witted] 1684 A Holland in J Dykes (Herse) *Scourge Pyter Persecutors* 3 Wealth witted Loobies 1624 J Eaton *Honeye a Key Pastify* 44 Concerning of after a carnall humane witted fashion 1835 C F Hoffman *Winter in U. S.* II. 25 A forward, two third witted fell-w 1904 A. C. Pradley *Shakesp Trag* 313 A quick-witted though not whole witted lad

**† 2** Possessed of understanding or intelligence.

1588 Monr *Dyalogue* II Wks 201/1 Yet mu.h a few witted men deuine and feine s liking of such a fashion that it would be beleued 1606 Marston *Fa ane* v Liv, Renowned, witted Dukeinel

**† Wittee.** *Obs nonce wod* [irreg. f Witol: see -ee.] A wife whose adultery was forced upon her by her husbund.

1656 Gayton *Pleas Notes* iv. vi. & vii 208 Such arts those gamesters have, Their Wittals to their wittees to enslave. *Margin.* The Wittell gamesters his wife to be Wittee.

**Wittely,** obs. form of Wittily.

**Witten,** obs. inf. and pa. pple of Wit *v.*[1], var. Writen *v Obs.*, Sc. f. Witting *vbl. sb*[1]

**Wittenes, -nesse,** obs. ff. Witness.

**Witter** (wi·tăr), *sb.*[1] *Sc* and *north.* Also 6 wittir, 9 watter, wutter, wyttyr [prob. of Scand. origin cf. Norw. *vits*, *vitring* warning, sign (*vitra* to warn = ON. *vitra* to reveal), and Witter *a.*[1] and *v.*]

1 Something that serves as a mark, sign, or token.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* v iii. 52 A mark or wittir of ane gryun ark tre a1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Sc.* I (S. T. S.) 272 And we sype wpoun your breist to be ane signe and witter to thame 1644 D Hume *Hist Douglas & Angus* 98 He snatched away his spear with his gaudon or wittir 1798 J Nicholson *Cycle Gleddale* 1. 1. 1.

1583 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 58 To beginne with some pleasaunt tale or take an occasion to iest wittely. 1585 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* ii (1586) 75 b, Hee can giue quip for quip so wittilie that those which begin the skirmish with him boldlie, are faine to retire shamefullie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii xviii ¶ 5 In conversation wittily pleasant and pleasantly gamesome. 1587 Sir T. P. Blount *Eas.* 2. 19 Therefore one wittily calls these Indulgences Emulgences. 1759 Colden *Pers. Ess. Phil. Learn.* ix. Wks. (Globe) 440/2 When an unexpected similitude in two objects strikes the imagination—its odder words when a thing is wittily expressed. 1869 A. H. Marshman *Life & Labours* ii. 25 As one of our men wittily remarked on seeing his first iceberg, it resembled him strongly of the isle of Wight (which). 1883 Mrs. Alexander *Valen. Darrell* I. xi. 208 I don't more talk purely business, partly wittily, told several tit.

†4 Knowingly, wittingly. *Obs. rare.*

1633 Whitfield in *Trial Sinf. Tim.* in 5 That which he willingly and wittily chuses to be done. 1634 Fuller *Two Serm.* 36 Not willingly, wittily, or wilfully.

¶ 5. irreg. as adj. = Witty. *a* 4

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Ben.* (1905) 103 Pat we ve ause, To say or we wil in wordes foune, And pat our w rdes be wittely

**Wittin** see Wit *v.*1, Witting *vbl.sb.*1

**Wittiness** (wi tinės) [*f.* Witty + -ness.] The quality or character of being witty; † intelligence, sagacity; † cleverness, ingenuity, † wisdom, good sense, etc. (see Witty *a.* 2–5).

1533 J. Heywood *Dial. Prov.* (Percy Soc.) Pe shew some witty wittiness. 1542 Recorde *Cr. Artes* Pref. a iv, Wittynesse of beastes and byrdes. 1544 Bertrame *Pastilus Perceplu Hort.* (1674) 1 Ther is in it cause the wittynesse of y^e capitain & knowledge pan chre juyred. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 874 Theyr [*sc.* spiders] wittinesse pollicie, quicknes and sharpnes of sence. 1656 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* viii 6 635 *To be carnall[y]* is the quintessence of the fleshe, wittinesse, or rather wickednesse. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark vi. 28 Not for the Wittiness of her saying, but for her Faith and Importunity. 1761 Hume *Hist.* v. 61 The wittiness of remarks was refreshing after the dullness of the previous speeches.

**Witting** (wi ting), *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs. exc. dial.* [Of mixed origin, in the forms 4 **witand, wyttande, 5 wetand,** a. ON *vitand* consciousness, knowledge (? *a.*1 *a* Wit *v.*1) in phr. *at minni, vdrri, etc. vitand* to my, our, etc. knowledge; this type is app. in part continued in *Sc.* 5 **wytyn,** 5–6 (9 *n. dial.*) **wittin,** 6, 9 **witten** (9 **wittance,** ? = *wittens*); in *Ayenbite* (see quots 1340) in pres. ppl. form **wytende, inde,** otherwise f. Wit *v.*1 + -ing.1]

1 The fact of knowing or being aware of something, knowledge, cognizance.

Most commonly with prep. and possessive (or *of*), as *at, by of to one's witting* (partly after OF *a son escient*) to or with one's knowledge; as one knows; as far as one knows; to one's knowledge; *without one's witting*, with out one's knowledge, so that one does not know, also *but nettig* without its being known; *with ne.* (*tin.*), wittingly.

*a.* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1681 Ne shal ich him unrizen agen, Pat com i wit him pat pe pape Cunes has at his wittand. *c* 1375 *Leg. Saints xv (John the)* 124 Pase rise pe chyld & he was cume a.4 he had wittine of na way. *a* 1400–1 *Wills & Inv.* 25 I wrabbed be fro my wittand. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlv. 72 Al bredir, be my wetand and i wisse so wer we. 1466–11 *Rec. Mag. Yor. Scot.* 1837 214/1 I gif vn tele and i tew counsaill after thame, with wittand. 1474 *Coll. Ayenbi* (1839) 32 Be wittin of vnquhile William of Strivelin. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *With at my wittins*, without my knowledge. 1824 Lane *Laird's Last* 181 I may be, without my wittins, lyin on wie lae. 1828 Mom *Wonsie Wanchan* vii 57 Neither word nor wittens of a fundy, to perpetrate our names to fit ring gen ration.

*B* 1340 *Ayenb* 8 Huo let onwoxlepb his tadre and his moder le his wyttende zo zeyeth dyalliche. *Ibid.* 37 Wyboute h re wyttende a wyf wyboute bure wylle.

† 1358 R. Bowett (*Cal.*) 10 216 Without his consent, or he kynges writ g 13 *Cart. R.* 2 25?) (*Cal.*) borgmaster hai [*sc.* man s sins] and neuer he less Vi of his fe ud sl writing [*C.* 14 witterness, *Caxton* witte, 4 *Ld.* witnesse] *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii 236 Ye be the woman in bis world lyuynge With oute purmoun to my wyl ge I bat I leste loue in al my lyf, and shuld han my parfit cler witynge More pan we men, it han d utous wetynge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T.* 763 With oute witing of oure wiker wight. 1389 *R. Ilt Const. Law* 11 (Skeat) I 63 [God's] witing and his before weting is al oon. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lol.* 66 Pei p at ar cha gid to sey be sobe to per witing. *c* 1425 Wynt. *Cron.* v iv 656 Pe Greklys be kaldes ane Ion til a kyng, Pe qwhar pai Lay bi-fit wyttynge. 1445 tr. *Claudian's Rape of Proserpine* xxvi. 267 Iustice moeuith to preferre right & wrange nesse yive with wetyng. *a* 1450 Myrc 3 Pat hee awoe no maner pynge But hyt be at hys wyttynge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 12 Gode leste me haue de ynes i-se yet euer man, my wityng, bidde to do with me. *Ibid.* 18 Pe lugas ar vnyuedi bi-gode hermeyte yet it were so, a.t he seide, 'ye', as by his wetynge. 1500 *Orf. Crystin Men* (W. de W. 1506) 1 vi G wil. Who so temptyth god wyttyng ony of the x. commaundementes, is in deedly synne. *a* 1533 Lo Herbers *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q iiib, He went fro Rome to Sulon . . without the witting of any person. 1586 *Acts Privy Counc. Scot.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 59 Without thassentes or witting of the saide freholders. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. i. II 400 [If they] be[ ] suffeint to remane thairintill be our witting. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III 464/1 He cuntrie wherin the saidis guidis salbe resett or remane for the space of twelf houris of his witting. 1621 Hakewill *Daniel's Vow* ii. 46 As we have action implied in the Verb to have wee witting, and willing, implied in the Adverb. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) *Witting*, knowledge, judgment, wit.

2 Knowledge obtained or (esp.) communicated; information, intelligence, tidings, news, notice, warning (Cf Wit *v.*1 3) Chiefly in *to get or have witting*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv 339 We sall cum that ze presely, That that sall haff na perawyng, Na 3eit witting of our cumyng. *Ibid* v 320 Quhen men eschapyt him to betrasse, He gat witting tharof alwayis. 1417 in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) IX 427 Kepe this Matere secre that never Creature have Wityng thereof. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 14 When i bow alsaint be brought oute ageyn to Iugement lete me haue weityng. *Ibid* 45 He mervey led how merlin myght have witing,e ther-of. 1497 *Morton Coll. Rec.* No. 1031. The same John Wreghe shuld gyve weryng and warnyng vnto the fermour then beyng. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii cix (1811) 250 The sonnis sent writyngs to the pope requyrynge hym of ayde and counceyll. *a* 1529 Skelton *Image of Ipocrisy* 318 And I knowe ony erthly thynge That is agayne you, ye shall haue witynge. *a* 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II 1068 To giue him with g thereof. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xxii, What will come o' you in the hashes suld come to get witting? 1893 W. R. Mackintosh *Around Orkney Peat Fires* ii. (1905) 34 Hes outs gaes him 'wittance' of the scheme

¶ Used for the infin. in phr. 'to wit'.

1398 *a* 1400, 1440 (see Wit *v.*1 B, 10 *a*, *b*)

**Witting,** *vbl. sb.*2 bequest see Wit *v.*2

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 421/1 Wyttinge, *legacio*

**Witting,** *ppl. a.* Forms: see Wit *v.*1 A 6. [? Wit *v.*1 + -ing.2]

a. Chiefly in conjunction with *wilfully* or *willing* (see Wittingly *ppl. a.* 2 f), adv. = Wittingly 1

1377 Langl. *P. B* xix 368 Lyers pat were forsworen ofte, Wytynge [*r.* wytyngli] and wilfelyng with pe false pat[ron]. 1530 *Rich. Redeless* 238 b/1 Pe lad an asoyne pe consty ucion of his chyldis wyttyng, but wilfully yet he come to amende nott. 1531 Tindale *1 Joh.* ii. 2 (1548) b vij, He why.che wyttyng ne willyng ne shutteth his eyes in the light. 1538 Starkey *England* 1. ii. 58 Wyttyngly I do No man wytting a dwyllyng wyl hurt hymselfe. 1582 J. Watson *Centurie of Lou's* How he witting and willfully followeth the same. 1600 Holland *Livy* vi xl 245 We have practised nothing, witting and willing, prejudicall to the Communaltie.

b Chiefly *predicatively* Aware, cognizant

1500–20 *Dunbar Poems* xxiii. 138 Bath witting and vnwitting me *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps. 1 astorells* 19 Seely shepheards are not witting, What in an art of Iouis hitting. *a* 1629 Hinde *Sp. Introd.* (1630) 10 Such a build without vnwitting. 1894 H. S. Leigh *Rymes & Rhythm* I came, to make you witting of the same. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 885 Scarcely witting, he ran forward.

c Conscious of an agent, that is consciously what she, she denotes

1678 Lutrell *Brief Rel. Eng. Lat.*, A witwal or wittal, a witting cuckold. 1832 J. G. Murphy *Comm. on Law* iv 2 Where wilful ignorance . . is the effect of wilful error. 1870 *Daily News* 2 Nov. 48 (Synge) was a witting artist from unwilful skill

d *tr. trans.* of the action Done consciously (and so with responsibility), conscious, deliberate often in conjunction with *willing*

1553 Brende tr. *Quintus Curtius* (1574) H iij b This willing and witting offending & running. 1581 Hanmer *Jesu his Bann* 148 Wee are all by nature the children of wrath, yet will you not confesse it, but accuse your nature, as shuntard and witting. 1613 Heny *Counter-snarle* 55 Those his witting falsifications. 1640 H. Burton *Truths Tri.* 316 So for knowledge of God, is his witting and willing revelation of himself. 1890 Mrs. Oliph. *Pastbol Mund* vi. 288 The notion of witting and wilful vice

**Witting,** obs. Sc. pa. pple of Wit *v.*1

**Wittingite** (wi tingəit) Min. [ad. G *wittingit* (Nordenskiöld, 1849) f. *Wittings* in Finland, where found *see* Itp.] A variety of Neotocite

1868 Dana *Min.* 788 [see Nordenskiöld].

**Wittingly** (wi tingli), *adv.* Forms: see Wit *v.*1 A. 6 and Willingly 1, also 4 **wytyndeliche** [f. Witting *ppl. a.* + -ly 2]

1 With knowledge or awareness of what one is doing, knowingly, consciously; often implying 'designedly, deliberately, intentionally'. (In earlier use first conjoined with *wilfully* or *willingly*.)

*a* 1300 Cursor M. 8485 (Fairf.) Wittingli and wilfulli. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxvii. 8 Pat hert wittingly & wilfully. 1340 *Ayenb* 8 Pet we ne wrebbe vader ne moder wytyndeliche. *a* 1390 Wyclif *Rom. Prol.*, Creatouris to him irrepsonal, and witendely. *c* 1425 Audelay *Al Pat's Well* 114 He wil not Pat I wrowe wittingly nor vnwarely. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xx. 20 Thow art nocht abill reuisioun for to get, Wittandlie and thow sald ane syn forget. 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 31 Not willingly and of wetyng to slip ouer siche faultes. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II (1882) 14 If it were proued that he killed him wittingly, willingly and of purpose. 1600 Fairfax tr. *Tasso* ix. 80 She drowned her selfe wittingly. 1623 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 594 After him succeded many a blutt men whom for bruetee I wittingly passe ouer. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II* c. 1 § 4 Every person which shall wittingly and willingly suffer any such Conventicle in his House. 1713 Der. an *Phys.-Theol.* iv. 347 I have endeavoured to say as little wittingly as I could. 1789 W. Ingoldsby *Knaresb.* iii. 21 (1862) 109, I would not wittingly dishonour my work by a single falsehood, misrepresentation, or prejudice. 1851 *Glost. Chamb. Westminster Hall Concl.* 11 Wittingly or unwittingly, much of our B. H modern legislation has been a case of advancing by the process of going back

†2. With knowledge; skilfully; wisely. *Obs. rare.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv 594 Emang thame that fechtand weit, That thame defendit so wittinly. 1650 *Narr. late Earle* 28 As was learnedly & wittingly intimated by the Speaker.

**Wittol** (wi tol), *sb. Obs. or arch.* Forms: 5–6 **wetewold,** 6–7 **wittold, wittall, wit-wal,** 6–8 **wittal,** (6 **wittole, -oll, -ale, -ald, witall,** 7 **whittoll**), 7–8 **wital,** 6– **wittol.** [Late ME *wetewold*, app. formed after *cokewold*, Cuckold, with substitution of *wete*, Wit *v.*1 for the first part of the word.]

1. A man who is aware of and complaisant about the infidelity of his wife; a contented cuckold.

14 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 710 Wetewoldes that suffre syn in her pyghtes. *c* 1500 Shelton *Garl. Laurel* 187 Some carefull cokwoldes . Some famous wetewoldis, and they be moche wurs. 1597 Dr Hall *Sat.* i. viii, Fond wit wal that wouldst lode thy wit lease hand. With timely hornes. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* ii. ii. 313 But Cuckold, Wittoll, Cuckold! the Deuill himselfe hath not such a name. 1614 W. Browne *Inner Temple Masque* 11, Come you whose homes the cuckold weares, The whittoll too, with asses eares. 1736 Vaughan *Ivy* (1750) I 126 Is that being a good-humour'd easy Man, and a Wittol to boot, at their Feats and Intreaties, forceable 'em both. 1818 Byron *Juan* i xcix, A real husband[ *MS.* wittol] always is suspicious. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiv, She would not quit the estate and title of the wittol who had wedded her

b *transf.* (? with pun on *wit-all.*) One who has little sense, a half witted person, a fool; occas. a waiting

1588 J. Lyly *Pap. Pap. Triumphans* To Reader A 3, They are accounted of as wittals, for spending their studies about such common deuises. 1599 T. Mor[ley] *Solfaworcest* 34 To see great wittols little things despise. 1632 J. Clarke *Paroem.* 152 He that a wicked is a wittall [*sic*]. 1741 Amherst *Terræ filius* xxxix (17.6) II. 121 Heaven was crouded with religious punsters and wittals. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxvi, He told them that the only advantage he was about to send to the wittols [*sc.* the Mayor and Aldermen] of Kirkwall. 1866 Kingsley *Hereto* xxxii, Coupd'état! the wittol! the blood-sucker!

2. *attrib* That is a wittol, pertaining to or characteristic of a wittol, *transf.* half-witted, senseless

1604 Marston *Malcontent* iv. iii F 2 b, And do I live to be the skoffe of men, To be their wittall cuckold? 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* iii. i, Thou dast lose the Name of Husband, the Name of credulous, wittal Husband, Avoid thy Bride. 1780 Burke *Sp. His Conc.* Wks. vi 56 It saves the nursing of it at ill thrown and ill favoured breasts. 1870 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* ii. 22 Has cost to this wittol nation [1796 — *Aegis Peace* (in 1820) 293 there are cases in which we may pretend to sleep but the wittol wife has some serum in her. *Westminster Review* 1882 With us [P. Kennedy *Bann* (1866) I xviii 258 As one of Congreves wittol squires said . it is a pleasure I would as soon be without. 1885 Ewart *Winter evening Hymn to Jesus* iv, And thy dear name shall privilege to stealthy insurrection creep, While thy wittol masters sleep silence. † **Wittol** *v. trans.*, to make a wittol of

1624 Davenport *City Night-cap* i, He would wittal me, With a consent to my own Shame

**Wittolly** (wi tŏli), *a.* Also 7 wittally, wittoldly, 9 wittoly. [f. Wittol *sb.* + -y.] Having the character, or characteristic, of a wittol.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* ii. ii. 284 They say the jealous wittolly knaue hath masses of money. 1603 Chapman *All Fo. his* i. 1 Sir, No lot me still be thought A seloose Asse, and not a wittally Knaue. 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* iv. x (ed. 2) 493 Her husband was hanged for his wittoldly pertmission. *a* 1625 Brome *City Wit* iv. 1, You are a Wittolly Cuckold I know. 1845 Ford *Handbk Spain* I 83 Most of this people [are] silly, wittoly wit, as well as the figs [*sc.* 'a fig for you, diligently represented' as to confirm the fine feature.

† **Wittolry.** *Obs.* Also 7 witald-, wittoldrie. [f. Wittol *sb.* + -ry.] Complaisant cuckoldry, hence, extreme folly.

1598 Warner *Alb. Eng.* viii xxxvii. 168 Iust Guerdons for Ambition. For defaut Bloteth, Wittolrie and Sottish nice. 1621 Cotgr. s.v. *Fole*, *Un amour est folie et sens*, in loue there is b th wit and witaldrie. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* v. 257 Cuckolds, a Roman (worthie for ever to be bran led with the Wittoldrie)

**Wittome:** see Witham

**Witts** (wits), *sb. pl. Mining* Also whits [Short for *tinwitts* see Tin *sb.* 5.] Tin ore after the first dressing see quot 1853

1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 3) 968 Tin-witts The clean witts contain native oxide of tin, black tin or resin tin, and wolfram with iron and arsenical pyrites, generally containing some copper. 1878 Bottrell *Cornwall* 208 This mixture of metallic matter, named Witts.

**Wittual, wittule,** obs. ff. Victual.

**Witty** (wi ti), *a.* Forms: 1 wittig(e), 3 witi(g), -eg 3–5 wyti, 3–6 witti, 4–6 wytty, wittye, 4–7 wittie, (4 vitty, 5 witte, 6 wyttie, -ye, *Sc.* (*sup.*) wittiast), 3– witty. [OE. *wittig* (also *gewittig*) = MLG. *wittich*, OHG *wizzig* (M)HG. *witzic*), ON. *vitugr* f. Wit *sb.* + -ig.]

† **1.** Having wisdom, a. Said of God or Christ cf. Wise *a.* 1 (*b*). *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 685 Witig god halig dryhten *a* 1000 *Cadmon's Exod.* 55 Hu pas worold worhte witig dryhten 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 1160 Sobe Sune wrang and myghty es he pat nabing til hym impossebel may be. 1380 *Wyclif Sel. Works* I. 53 Pat God is most mystily pyng pat may be. The most wytty and most trupful. 1382 Wyclif *Wisdom* vii. 23 (1906) 18 The presence of the sone [is] most wyse and witty. *c* 1480 Henryson *Swallow* vi, God in all his werkis wittie is

† b. Of human beings: Having good judgement or discernment; wise, sagacious, discreet, prudent, sensible. *Obs.*

In quot. *a* 1360 *adverb.* = wisely

[1087–94 *Laws Cnut* lxxvi, Hit was ær lyfson, pæt pæt culd be læg on cradele, pa gitsenas letan efen scyldig & hit gewitig were.] 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 588, I hald a man myghty and wyse pat here es over prowde and ioly. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 10 In pat pei seyn pei an bepene philosofie is wittiere and trewere pan alm3ty god. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy*

3809 Wise in his wordys, witte of counsaille *c* 1440 PECOCK *Repr.* 1 v. 25 Ech witte man muste graunte that the first principal conclusioun before telle is trewe. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. iii. Isyngynge to hym counsaillours Nestor and the wyse Ulisses. *a* 1586 G CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 46 A warnyng to use thy self more wittier hereafter. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas IV*, 2072 To haue two meanes beseiged a wittie man 1611 *Bible* Iocelus, xxi. 22 He that is not wise [*marg* or, wittie], will not be taught

**2.** Having (good) intellectural ability; intelligent, clever, ingenious; skilful, expert, capable. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

[*a* 1000 *Gifts of Men* 74 Sum bið ȝewitta æt winþeȝe, ȝeorhryde ȝod.] *a* 1200 *Ancrene Riwle*, 59 in N pister (= *Glosses* 9/1 *Per grammaticalibus*, burh wittige þinges wel gleawe gimmen *c* 1205 LAY 21134 He wes hwite i Wygar, þe wittes wurðie [*c* 1275 þe wittye wrohte] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 3 Wel arisen witt, wisdom to telle I. 3 Iapiters or to Fooles. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardernes Treat. Fistule*, etc. 28 A gode tech and a witty. *c* 1440 *Gest. Rom.* xiii. 43 A wise man, and witty in many werkys. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New. Ind.* (Arb.) 24 In workemanship and artes they are maruaylous wytte. 1560 *Rolle* (Geneva) Wisd. viii. 19, I was a witte childe [*Bible* a good child; *c* 1562 *Sapientia* ii. xxiii. § 8 He (no more witte to speake, then blinde to iudge hopes). 1618 BOLTON *Flt., Of Judicature* (Arb.) 152 Iudges ought to be more learned, then Witte. 1627 MORRISON *Itin.* III. iv. 76 Witty Cope the Poet. 1636 HALES *Golden Rem.* (1673) 196 God who is πολυτροπος, or συνετος καρδιαων as Clemens speaks, is witty in invent ing of means to bring us to him. 1647 TRAHERON *Ecstasy* 3 *Emm.* 82 In gentle verse, the Witty told their Flame 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. § 4 When we say the Boy is strong or witty, these are proper or natural Bodies. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 728 Now show this queen of cities [*sc* London], that so fair May yet be foul, so witty, yet not wise. 1886 *Cheshire Glass*

**(b)** Of animals: = WISE *a.* 1 (*c*): cf WITTY *b.* 5*c*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxiv (Bodl. MS.), Nobing is more witty and besie þanne houndde. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo Africus* IX. 356 The white beast [*sc.* the elephant] keepeth in the woods. 1600 B JONSON *Hymen*, *Barriers* 163 At her feet doe witty serpents mone. 1698 BARON *Sea-a* I. 178 I lie Ape also is a Witty Beast, and hath a Dry Brain.

**†b.** In unfavourable sense: Crafty, cunning, wily, artful; skilful in contriving evil; also, foolishly ingenious in devising something to one's own hurt. *Obs.*

*a* 1425 tr. *Ardernes Treat Fistule*, etc. 30 Pat any oþer witty man perceyuyng his werk in vayne. 1512 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Prol. 1. 180 Vaynglore *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 202 They are marueilous witty and wyly in fyndyng fault with other mennes doyngs. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 57 A marueilous witty fellow I assure you, but I will goe about with him. 1598 BARE *Hall Chas. Vineensi int* 111 He is wittie to wrong himselfe 1638 SIR T HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 13 As simple as they seeme, they are witty enough in craft, treason, and villany. *a* 1656 HALES *Golden Rem* (1673) 123 They are unexpected ly, and wonderfully prompt and witty to villany and wicke dnes. *a* 1683 (?) HICKMAN *Apol. Curates* (1707) 125 How came I witty to my ruin thus? *a* 1699 J BEAUMONT *Psyche* xxi. iv, Witty too as 'tis dilusion. 1706 MRS CENTLIVRE *Love at a Venture* I. 3 You Men are grown so witty to Deceit

**†3 a.** Endowed with reason, rational. **b** In full possession of one's wits, of sound mind. *rare*

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints Lives* xxvi. 228 Wearð hiera witta witlig. *c* 1300 *Arthour* 219 in *E. E. Pr.* (1862) 2 Wren þe man is witti, þat witti was of him hidde mande A double best wipoute witte ha lle sse cunde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2 Þis was þis witty best werwolf ferst and laste. 1691 WHARTON *Hamm.* I. x 130 The Child returned to her friends perfe ctly in health, in a witty Co le, but it is doubted she will be but a dwarf

**†4.** Having knowledge, knowing, learned. *Obs.*

*c* 1385 *Leg. Kath.* 532 His wimmen seiden, þat he was wer ri of alle þe meistres 1340–70 *Alex & Dind.* 1122 Wive & wittie of loren 1388 WYCLIF *Deut.* i. 13 Witti [Vulg *sapientis*] men of noumbre þingis. 1397 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 249 Þe wyttiour þat euy wight is The biterour he shal a-bygge, þaȝ yf he wel worche. 1456 SIR G HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 70 Men þat war symple and nocht witty of perpetuale thingis

**†5.** (*transf.* from 2) Showing or demanding intellectual ability; (later, esp of discourse) clever, ingenious, or subtle in conception or expression. Also *ironically Obs*

13 *Cursor M.* 6671 (Gött) Ioseph comandid Depe celers for to delue, And thou his aun witti rede Fil i þam wi l mes, quite and rede. 1625 *St ner Papers* (Camden) I. 61 It [for the matter] must be by wy ty studying 1651 HOBBES *Pathw Knowl* Pref., Neuer wis arte so wonderfull witty as is good Geometry 1658 R ROBERTS tr *More's Utopia* Ep Transl. (1895) 11 The witte inuencion, and fine disposition of the matter. *a* 1662 G CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 5 A mete & apte person to be preferred to wytty affayres. 1681 PETTIE tr *Guazzo's Civ Conv.* 1 (1586) 20 The witte answeres which he made touching that purpose. 1611 *Bible* Prov viii. 12, I wisedome dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inuentions 1633 G HERBERT *Temple, Repentance* iv. 11 Please him, I will, with wit and witte. 1653 H MORE *Antid Ath* i. viii § 2 (1712) 22 That's the witty Fallacy his unwariness has intangled him in 1700 LOCKE *Hum Und* iv xvii § 5 (ed 4) 409 The Fallacies that are often concealed in florid, witty or involved Discourses.

**†b** Skilfully devised for an evil purpose; cunning, crafty; (of torment, etc.) ingeniously contrived; ‘exquisite’. *Obs.*

1620 *and Pl Returns fr. Parnass* I. I. iii Stale sinnes are stale: now doth the world begin To take sole pleasure in a witty sinne 1619 FLETCHER *Knt. Malta* v, I, Expect a witty, and a full revenge! 1623 MASSINGER *Dk Milan* v. ii, Let me pronounce vpon this wretch all torture That witty cruelty can inuent 1640 JER TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp* I. Disc. iv 108 Some in witty torments excelled the cruelty of many of their persecutors. *c* 1670 HOBBES *Behemoth* (1679) 254 He call'd a Parliament, and gave it the Supreme Power, to the end that they should give it to him again; was not this witty? 1681–6 SCOTT *Chr Life* (1747) III. 622 The most witty and exquisite Torments

**†6.** (*transf.* from 1 b) Showing, or springing from, good judgement or discernment; wise, discreet, sensible. *Obs*

*a* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 220 Þei louen more þe most witti reulis of þis crist þan þe vnwitti constitucions of synful men *a* 1475 G ASHBY *Active Policy* 742 Your manly & witti diligence. 1553 M. WOOD tr. *Goodman's De Vera Obed., honner's Pref* 3 b, What a witty part it is, for a man to suspend his iudgement, and not to be rashe in geuing of sentence. *c* 1580 INCELAND *Disob. Child* Percy Q. Here ye may learne a wyttie lesson *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* I. viii, I trust me, to giue, it is a witty thing 1598 R. FLETCHER tr *Martial* IV. Epigr vi, Thou very fain wouldst Priscus wed, I wonder not, tis witty so to doe 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No 79 3/1 The Bold assert his Witty to be Brave, The Timorous Wittily declines all Strife

**7.** Possessing wit (see WIT *sb.* 7), capable of or given to saying (or writing) brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way, smartly jocose or facetious

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 110, I know a wench of ex cellent beauty, and wittie enough 1593 WARNER *Epist* II. 45 I am not mine Hoste a witty man? *Pyne* Sir, To speak truly, he is not to me: for most of his conceits were either so rapture ipen, or so tedious ipest, for which I cannot away with them. 1684 W WESTMACOTT *England's Worthies* 345 Plautus, by his conversing with jocular Wits became so famously witty, or wittily famous, as he attained to an extraordinary height in the Comedic strain 1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat* Introd 14 Whatever Person would aspire to be completely witty, smart, humourous, and polite 1849 FROUDE *Nemesis of Faith* (ed 2) 103 We are witty if it is easy for applause but for affection 1876 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 566 Learned for the nonce in Gibbon, witty as wit's self Voltaire

**†b.** Sharply critical, censorious, sarcastic *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iv. 32 Go too, thou art a witte Dole 1632 LITHGOW *Pilgr. & Travels* (1650) 106 Being naturall to themselues and witty to others 1711 ADDISON *Spect* No. 530 P 2 Will Honeycomb, who was so unmercifully witty upon the Women 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. 73 My Mother says, I am too witty I Angliee, too pert

**8.** Of speech or writing: Characterized by or full of wit (see WIT *sb.* 8), cleverly amusing, ‘sparkling’, sarcastic, facetious or jocular; **†** sarcastic

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 64 Your reasons at dinner were witty with ut affection, and dicious without impudency 1601 — *Twel N.* III. iii. 46 Be curst and brefe it is no matter how witty, so it be eloquent and full of inuention 1609 N N tr *Du Bay's Com pl. Woman* 132 The Melancholy (humour) i s gr ess for witty conceits and apt replies 1700 J DRYDEN tr *Juvenal's Satires* (1693) 1 Your Gentlemen that speak sharp and witty Things 1702 STEPH *Funeral* II. 75 This is the use of your Trinkets Trunkham Witty in this, that they are Trunks 1733 SWIFT *Life & Misf Castleton* 146 The powder'd courtier's witty sneer 1745 CORBYN THOMAS *Fit Wit, Humour*, etc. 7 Satire is a witty and severe Attack of mischievous Habits or Vices 1819 T. *Pr. Dorset* 1. 1 He told the wittiest stories in the world without emitting nything in them but the p ure 1880 ? OLIDA *Moths* I. 'Of course!' One of his witty remarks left the company [which] are, and Lady Dolly. The witty seller smiled grimly, 'And then you will be a grandmother', he said 'I suppose you think that witty' said Lady Dolly

**9** *Comb.* (participial adj. and adverbial), as *witty-branded*, *-conceited*, *-feigned*, *-plaited*, *-pretty* adjs. (all in sense 2, and obs. or arch.), **-wise** adv.

1591 SPENSER *Dn Lartat* I. vi. 746 Iupheius' witty famed Son 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 50 Some ephitique allegatory Apologie, or witty plaited Poesie 1600 J HOLLY *Varronis de Lat.* 14 b, Those witty conceited Fellowes, then noting the carriage of her humor 1606 SPENSER *D. Darley* II. ii. *Ma. misfortune* 604 Quoth he, pretty Toyes and witty Iests 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid Lothian* I. xxvi, Witty-wise I was no *Monast* xv, A witty brained and accomplished courtier

**Wiuper**, Sc. var. VITUPER *sb. Obs.*

**Wituto**(n, obs. forms of WITHOUT.

**Witwall**(wɪtwɔl). Now *dial* 1 orms: 6 7 witwal, 6–8 witwal, 8–9 whitwall, 6– witwall [a. early mod. G. *wittewal*, -e, also *weidewal* (Gesner), now *widewal*, *weedewal*; = MLG. *tcedelewale*, early Flem. *widewael* (Kilian). Cf. WOODWALE.]

**†1.** The Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula*. *Obs*

1544 LLEWELYN *Avian Vers of* I 3, Quadrupes, ales, Anglice a nuttinual Germane en gy witwol, oder eyn weidwal 1600, 1658, 1676 [see I ORIOL] 1671 H M tr *Erasm Colloq* 51 But one can hardly guess for what reason the Raven and the Witwal (I call them) hate so the one 1678 RAY *Wilughby's Ornith* 198 The Witwall, as it is by some called, *Galbula seu Pica nidum suspendens*

**2** The Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*) or the Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*)

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast* 86 *Picus viridis*, the Hick wall, Witwall, or Green-Wood pecker 1678 RAY *Wilughby's Ornith* 139 The greater sp tted Woodpecker or Witwall 1818 SCOTT *Hrt Mid Lothian* I. 62 The ringing of the White wall's shrilly laughter

**+Wi tword.** *Obs.* Chiefly *north.* Also 4 witte-, 4–6 wyt-, 5 wytte-, 6 witt-, 4–5 -worde, 6 wytward [OE *witword* contract, agreement, f. WIT *sb.* 1 + WORD *sb.*; later associated with WITE *sb.*] A will or testament; also, a covenant (in the scriptural sense) = TESTAMENT *sb.* 1, 4

**WIVE.**

**†997** *Laws Æthelred* III. 3 Iandcop & hlafordes gife. & lahcop & witword & ȝewitnes, þæt hit stande, þæt hit man mæ ne awende. *c* 1080 *Charter Will I* in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 439 Ofer þisse landum & landred æreshecop hæfð Sihtan begitan on witword o ðe on cauplande. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxiv [xxv] 10 To seknad his witeword. 1398 R. HIGDEN *Chron* (1810) 153 Fulhille I wille in dede þe kynges witeworde 1303 *Test Lond* (Surtees) I. 186 In kase be þat this wytyword will no,ht perfurnysche I will it be alwyged 1422 *20 Pol. Poems* x. 101 Man, have dared non My wit word wib þy mouþ teche And in by werkis þou seyst hit nay! 1470 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) III. 180, I will þat hobbe þe Wyll and my wytword be fulfeld of the hoole þat is my propyr guddys at thistyme 1555 *Chauceho ice, II. xeloft, I. in.* (Nichols 1797) 199 Rec for ye Wytword of Willm Heyghe 1s

**+Wity,** *a Obs. rare.* [f WITE *sb.*2 + -Y.] Blameworthy

1530 PALSGR 309/2 Wytye in faulte for a thyng *faulteux*

**+Witchoura.** *Obs.* [a. F. *witchoura*, n. Polish *wilczura* wolf-skin coat, f *wilk* WOLF *sb.*] A style of bully's mantle (see quots) fashionable *c* 1830–35. Also *attrib*

1823 *La Belle Assemblée* Dec 269/1 Witchoura pelisse of *gros de Naples*, trimmed with a very broad border of swandown 1833 *Ladies' Pocket Mag.* 2, 38 The witchoura is a very ample mantle, made with a very deep collar, and cape, and long, loose sleeves 1835 *Court Mag* VI p 1/1 [A mantle] is of the Witchoura form, deep collar, and cape, sack, with large Turkish sleeves, and a deep falling collar. 1838 LADY M LOVD *Or Onmnes Fashion in Parts in* 54 *Witchouras* had not yet [*c* 1806] come into vogue]

**Wiue**, obs. form of WIFE, WIVE *sb.*

**Wiure** *Her*, var. *wivre* (= *wivre* 2— L. *vipera* VIPER), a barrulet or cotise dancetté

1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. iv. 90/2 He beareth Argent, a Wiure, Nebule, counter Nebule, Sable A Wiure is much less than either Barrulet or Cotise. *Ibid* iii. 87/1 A Wiure nebulee between 2 Cotizes. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl Her* I Glos, Wiure, Wyre, Vuire, Vuivre, and Vuire

**Wive** (wəiv), *v.* Forms 1 wifian, (3 wifoȝ), 3–6 wyue (ve), 3–7 wiue, 7– WIVE. [OE. *wifian* (= MLG. *wiven*, OIDu *wiven*), f. WIF *sb.*]

**1.** *intr.* (rarely *refl*) To take a wife, get married, marry Const. *+on* (*o*), *with*. Also occas. with *st.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* xl. § 1 Manige habbaþ ȝem ð freoldom ðe ȝewifod *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Lament* 18 in Thorpe *Lawes* (1840) II. 346 He ne mihte wifian for his ealdre. 1205 *Lay* 1 R 308 Iudas wiuede o Thamar. 1225 *Ancr R* 308 Iudas wiuede o Thamar. 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 6429 þo adde hi lobie iwiued wel 1330 *Sir Tristr* 2836 Io wiue on our kinde 1340 *Ayenb* 25 Zuo þet þe ilke þet wyueþ ne do nouȝt þe guode ik, he him hi ealde ne ȝet ase; and zef he hun nymþ ne lykeþ, he him wyf 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T* 217 Ther as him lerte is set her wil I wyue 1480 *Will Jackson* 60 in *Yorks Wills* I. 317 If he wyve ony of my kyn þat nedyis wo, so thryve I, *Wyll.* And yff þat I care, I neur wyve I 1546 J HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. 28 It is harde to wiue and thryue Iohbe in a yere 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 56, I had thrust my selfe into th is maze, Hap ily to wiue and thriue, as best I may *Hen V*, 5 I come to wiue it wealthily in Fraūce 1608 MARSTON *Dutch Courtez.* I. i. Wiue with a woman whose thui wit for my part 1774 JOHNSON *Lo Mr Thrale* 17 All who wisely wish to wiue 1817 LYDON *Journal* I. 208 With any noble man I would wiue 1876 HARDY *Trtherbrta* xxvii, Encouraging Neigh in his resolve to wive

**2** To be a wife, act as a wife. Also with *it. rare.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* D jb, Were it not very absurd for maides being as rea bonne to begin to l ride it, and say in so doing they would le arne to wiue it? 1639 [SEE WIVING *ppl a.*] 1691 T. *Dorset Drollery* 112 Many a the maun de with which she [*sc* a she wolf] wives (orig *acta summa*)

**3** *trans* To take to wife, make one's wife, marry, wed (a woman). *pa pple* wiued or bewiued

1592 WARNER *Ill Eng* ch xxxv. 150 He wyu'd a la dy passing faire 1596 SHAKS. *Merch I.* II. 13 I had rather lice should shrine me then wi ene 1676 HOBBES *Odyssey* II. 293 Many cheer ladies we could wiue 1848–9 LYTTON *K Arthur* II. xv, Wiued to my s n the wi h will soon be ready!! Wiued to my son!—these wives are wiued, I! 1866 MAUREEN *Modern L.* 4 Many a man has wived and thrived 1898 I. P. DAVIS *Life* 51 52 The Maidans continued to wive their sisters in conformity to ancient usage

**4.** To furnish with a wife, obtain a wife for; to marry *to a wife* chiefly in *pa pple.* married (of a man) *Obs* or *arch*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Prol. 58 (183) 68 To þat pleasure taketh a man of all thair cures hath beggis, but bee wiued against his vp elite 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* X jb, They are cal l d nurse, and worse wised, that ride on colies & marre young gallottes 1597 SHAKS. *2 H. IV*, III. ii. 69, I might him in Paules, and then I buy mee a horse in Smithfield If I could get mee a wife in the meane time, Noan and, Noan, and Will. 1604 — *Oth* II. i. 60 Come, my deare Loe, will watch Cassio Now fortunate, he hath a faire wife 1611 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* Prol. Marry, I thinke it be impossible to get a wife in this age, though already wiu'd, as to den and her in marriage 1818 CRABBE *Tales* I. 172 His craft contriued To get the Priest with expeditious veil 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvii, I promise you that young Bennygask shall be richly wived. 1851 W H MACCABE *Berth* III. xiv. 178, I [He is] can do more strange things than unmarried, wife, and wive 3 yrs

**+b** with *it.* To obtain a wife *for. Obs. rare.*

1608 J DAY *Humour out of Breath* I. 2, *Oct.* He one day get A husband for these *Pl.* Wiue it for them [*sc* my brothers], you shall not husband me.

**5.** To become the wife of, marry (a man; also *transf.* of an animal). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1622 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met. IX.* (1626) 175 So haue I seene two Bulls together close; The fairest Cow in all the pasture chose To wiue the Victor. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* 282 Governed by that Villain—by this Fury wived—What fate is mine!

**6.** *fig.* To 'wed', unite, couple. *rare.*

1886 LOWELL *Latest Lit. Ess., Gray* (1891) 9 The thoughts, wived with words above their own level.

Hence **Wived** (wəivd), *ppl. a.*

1633 *Castle Whore* iv. end, He shalbe intombed with a wiued maid. 1636 *Suspect. Brit.* V. 293/2 Gregory VII.. determined...that no wived priest should celebrate or even assist at the Mass.

**Wivehood, -less, -ly:** see WIFEHOOD, etc.

**Wivel**(l, obs. form of WEEVIL.

**† Wiven,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 wyfyne, 4–5 **wyuen(e.** [f. *wife*, WIFE *sb.* + -EN 1. (In some instances perh. wk. gen. pl. of *wife*.)] a. Womanly, feminine. b. Wifely.

1361 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 29 To...fette hom Felice From wyuene [*v.r.* wyuen] pyne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Ste-fan*) 178 His lordy worschip he fel, & wyfyne company ay fled. *c* 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VI. 213 Panne pe queene bygrde here bowdoncle wip bowgyne [*v.rr.* wyvene, wyvell] flaterynge [L. *uxorie adulando*].

**Wiver** ¹ (wəi·vəɹ). *north. dial.* Also 6 **wywer.** [Identical with *waver*, *wafer*, *wefer*, † *waiver*, † *wayver*, † *weaver*, in WAVER *sb.*¹, SIDE-WAVER, and Northumb. dial. *inwaver*, *inwiver* (in sense a.).] A long beam of wood. a. in the roof of a house; in † *winver-tree*, SIDE-WAVER, *top winver*. b. in a boat (see quot. 1893).

*c* 1325 *Glos. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 170 Anunt heceler metter la poutre [*glossed* the wiver-tre]. 1532 in *Northumb. Gloss., Wiver*, a beam. The top wiver is the long wind-balk or collar beam in a housetop. The side wiver is the long beam on which frame-houses formerly rested. (Obs.) [Misprinted *wiver* in *Ibid.*, *Winer*, one of the timbers or wales of a boat on which the sents rest.

**Wiver** ² (wəi·vəɹ). *rare.* [f. WIVE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who takes a wife.

1888 DOUGHTY *Prov., Arabia Deserta* II. 214 The young negros found the old wiver in the garden.

**Wiver(e, Wivern(e:** see WYVER, WYVERN.

**Wivers,** obs. f. VIVERS. **Wives,** pl. (and obs. gen. sing.) of WIFE *sb.*

**Wiving** (wəi·vĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WIVE *v.* + -ING ¹.] The action of the verb WIVE; taking a wife, marrying; marriage.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 50: 5 He bilogte him...of her miste be eny red Pura wyuinge...vor is wif was ded. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* IV. 151 Whiles pow art single...Wreke pe with wyuynge 3if pow wilt ben excused. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* II. 8 Wymmen...Angels. for pei ben vnto spyrytuali & bodyleese, they nede nother weddynge ne wyuynge. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 78 He allowed them that wer towarde wiuing, & yet vsed not. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit., etc.* 73 b, Let wyuing go, lyue single ayre. 1591 H. SWINBURNE *Spousals, Marr.* 7 In wiuing and striuing, a man should take counsell of all the world. 1598 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 83 The ancient saying Hanging and wiuing goes by destinie. 1628 WOTTON *Brit. Remonstr.* v. 1832 The wiuing of the wise King Solomon. 1875 *Standard* 5 Nov. 5. 334 The consequence of so much wiving, was a numerous progeny. 1879 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* II. 54 In a priest the 2.1 of wiving was under circumstances positively awful. 1910 A. HILLIER *Master-Gird* vi. 152 Since the world and wiving began was there ever such a woman?

*attrib.* 1622 MIDDLETON, etc. *Widow* v. i. (1652) 59 [He] Sayes I'm ordain'd for him;...And that his wiving fate speaks in me to him.

So **Wi·ving** *ppl. a.*

1639 GLAPTHORNE *Wallenstein* III. iii, The wiving Vine that bout the friendly Elme, Twines her soft limbes.

**Wivish,** obs. var. WIFISH.

**Wiwes,** obs. pl. of WIFE *sb.*

**Wiwi** ¹ (wi·wi). [Maori, = 'rushes' (T. Kendall *Gram. & Vocab. N. Z.* (1820) 228).] A New Zealand rush used to make an outer covering for the roof and walls of a house.

1842 W. R. WADE *Journ. N. Isl. N. Z.* iii. 61 The roof [of the house] is usually completed with a thick covering of wiwi (a small rush). 1857 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl.

**Wi-wi** ² (wi·wi). *Austral. slang.* Also **wewi, wee-wee,** oui-oui. [ad. F. *oui, oui* yes, yes, taken as typical of the French language.] A Frenchman; also as *pl.* the French.

1845 E. J. WAKEFIELD *Adv. N. Z.* I. iv. 94 If I had told the land to the White misbaptizers, might they not have sold it again to the *Wiwi* (Frenchmen) or Americans? 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 180 Young chiefs.. who will,.. like the 'Wewis' of Young France, indulge occasionally in what that volatile people style '*revolutions intestines!*' 1859 A. S. THOMSON *Story N. Z.* I. II. i. 236 The Wewis, as the French are now called. 1870 EARL PEMBROKE & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* I, Would that the imperious 'Oui-oui' had never placed foot upon your sacred shores!

**Wylde, Wiye,** obs. forms of WILD, WINE.

**Wizard** (wi·zəɹd), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5 **wy-z(e)ard, -sar, 6 -sarde, -ward, wyssarde, wissard,** *Sc.* **weser,** 6–7 **wizard,** (7 **wiseard, wiser**), 7–8 **wizzard, (wisard),** 6– **wizard.** [late ME. *wysar(d, f. wys, wis, wiss,* WISE *a.* + -ARD. The pronunciation with voiced *s* (*z*) follows *wisdom* and *wise.*]

**A.** *sb.*

**† 1.** A philosopher, sage: = WISE MAN 2. Often contemptuous. *Obs.*

The second quot. may belong to sense a.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wysard (*K.* wysar), *sagacutus.* 1 2 1500 *Chester Pl., Coming of Antichrist* 371 *Antichristus.* Out on the [sic Enoch], wysard [*v.rr.* tysarde, vysarde], with thy wyles! For falsely my people thou beryles. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* I. i. (1550) A ij, The Grecians...haue therin taken great payne, naming it first Sophia, and suche as therin were skilled Sophistes or wysardes. 1594 [GREENE] *Selimus* 224 Perhaps you thinke that now forsooth you sit with some graue wizard in a prating shade. 1598 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xii. 2 Therefore the antique wizards well inuented, That Venus of the fomy sea was bred. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. v. (1905) 82 *Albi.* I haue read in a booke, that to play the foole wisely, is high wisdome. *Gall.* How now, Vulcan! Will you be the first wizard? 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 56 The Politicians, the Philosophers, the Wizes of the World. 1693 DRYDEN *Pers. & Juv. Geor.* IV. 572 That this wily Wizard [*sc.* Proteus] must be caught, For uncontrain'd he nothing tells for naught. 1844 W. STRATLING *Italy* II. 99 Two young philosophers and wizards, called Phidias and Praxiteles.

**2.** A man who is skilled in occult arts; in later use, a man who practises witchcraft (the masculine correlative of WITCH *sb.*²): = WISE MAN 3.

9 Occas. applied to a woman.

*c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* ii. 1 When Jesus was boorn in beethleem..., to than 9^e wisards cam from th'est partien to Jerusalem. 1552 HUTT. WISE *Serm.* 3 b, 2 3574 G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) 163 Our natural Astrologers, specially such as are commonly termed Conning men or Artamen. Sum call them wizards. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 84 Sche is ouwicht...a gret common weser and sorcerer, and seems to be brunt. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 237 Yet to none was he more spitefully iust than to wisards and Aruspices. 1620 [see WIZARDISM]. 1622 MABBE *Rojas Celestina* (1631) 1 The Wizard Wisards haste with odours sweet. 1674 HOMER *Odyssey* 73, I was fore'd to come T'inquire of th'Wizard, old Tiresias, What time my long-detained Ship should bring me home. 1677 *Author whom Himself* 3 Clowns on Sch-hars as on Wizards look, And take a Folio for a conjuring Book. 1753 *Treat. T. Cobler* (ed. 3) 3 A large Mob, at Tring, declaring Revenge against Osborne and his Wife, as a Witch and a Wizard. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 942 In July, 1825, a man was known as a wizard, at Wilton-Skeffs in Suffolk. 1851-62 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 77, I call myself a wizard as well; but that's only the polite term for conjurer; in fact, I should think that wizard meant an astrologer, and more of a fortune-teller. 1872 *Daily Trad. Lane.* 333 A wizard who had wrought and hewn amongst his neighbour's cattle. 1897 F. THOMPSON *Nero Hymn* 12 Where, past an eastern wall, the wizard moon.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.*: *e.g.* a man who 'does wonders' in his profession: in recent use often trivially applied to an expert.

*The Wizard of the North*, Sir Walter Scott.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometheus Unbound* I. 205, I have heard my Master say, who is the very Wizard of Histories,...when he came [etc.]. 1829 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* vi. xxii, The Indian Wizard of Verse, which Circe enclosed Ulysses by the wand of Solitude. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 1 Shakspeare *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 35 Gerard Dow, and other old Dutch wizards, who painted...such earthern pots that they will contain water. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr., Scott* (1874) 218 Some reason for suspecting that the great 'Wizard' has lost some of his magic power. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 2/2 The wizard of pebble-building.

**c.** A witch-doctor or medicine-man.

1835 DARWIN *Jrn. Nat. v.* (1870) 114 Each family or tribe has a wizard or conjuring doctor. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* 28 This old fellow...had for many years occupied the position of Wizard-in-chief to the tribe.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wizard-craft, -finder, -man, -swarm*; *wizard-worm* adj.

1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 20 Some wizard-worm cover the head all over. 1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii, If the flames longer in this wise I shall believe in wizard-woven loves. 1876 H. BROOKS *Natal* 334 The wizard-finder is not unfrequently turned to account, and the stronger men of a kraal. 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 277 He went to Juseen Dané, the wizard-man who keeps the Talking Monkey's Head. 1897 *Folk-Lore* VIII. 13 Wizardcraft has the same ultimate origin as...the fairy belief.

**B.** *adj.* **1.** Having the powers or properties of a wizard; that practises wizardry; hence *gen.* having magical or witching power or influence.

1599 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) 8 Vilify, & spylie wincking wizard Woolues. 1649 HAMMOND *Serm. vi.* Wks. 1684 IV. 506 That wizard flesh within us, that hath thus bewitch'd us to its false pleasures. 1679 DAVDEN & LEE *Œdipus* Ep. 35 Thou blind old wizard Prophet. 1746 W. COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* Antistr. 2 Beyond the Measure vast of Thought, The Works, the Wizard Time has wrought! 1747 *Ode to Manners* 11 Some Pow'r, All which the Wizard Passions fly. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xlix. Or in some shadowy glen's romantic bower, Where wizard forms their mystic charms prepare. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xxvi, All day the wizard lady satte aloof, Spelling out words of dread antiquity. 1835 JUSTICE *Rivnal* III. ii. These wild and wizard scenes of life. 1897 *Daily News* 14 June 5/3 The artificial production of diamonds by the wizard chemist of to-day.

**2.** Of, pertaining to, or associated with wizards or wizardry; hence *gen.* magic, enchanted, bewitched.

1638 MILTON *Lycidas* 55 Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high, Nor yet where Deva spreads her wizard stream. *c* 1796 ROSCOE in Currie *Burns's Wks.* (1800) I. 343 And let Despair, with wizard light, Disclose the yawning gulf below. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* III. xx, Lord Gifford...tarried not his garb to change, But, in his wizard habit strange, Came forth. 1812 — *Triherm.* III. xxv, The wizard song at distance died, As if in ether borne away. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* II. 221 Those tow'rs sublime,..Were sever'd from the haunts of man by a wide, deep, and wizard glen. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Interview* 104 Tasso, Guarini, waved their wizard wands, compiling the groves from Arcady. 1830 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxxiii, The wizard lightning deeply glow. 1918 N. MUNRO *Vanity Fock* II. 20 It was like as they were in some wizard fortress cut from rock.

**3.** *Comb.*: **wizard-like** *a.* = WIZARDLY *a.*

1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* v, I know you are fond of queer, wizard-like stories.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Wizardess,** a female wizard, witch; **Wizardism,** wizardry; † **Wizardizing** *ppl. a.*, practising wizardry or witchcraft; **Wizardship,** wizardry.

1789 H. WALPOLE *Let. Hannah More* 9 Aug., I wish my Macbethian 'wizardess would tell me 'that Cowslip Dale should come to Strawberry Hill'. 1868 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 353 It was vaguely left to force the belief, that on this occasion our basket either carried a distinguished wizardess, or...a wondrous medium. 1882 W. BLACK *Strange Adv.* The study of 'Wizzardism hath also been famous amongst them. 1796 I. DE FOE *Hist. David* II. ix, Whether Wizardism made them ugly, that were not so before. 1693 HARRIS *Pop. Impost.* xxi. 235 Wizarding Arts, and practising South-Sayers. 1882 MABEL COLLINS *Cobwebs* II. 252 Vanitart had learned the secrets of 'wizardship during his travels.

**Wizard** (wi·zəɹd), *v.* [f. WIZARD *sb.*] *rare.*

**† 1.** *trans.* To call 'wizard'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* iii. 111 If M. Chamber had considered that Aristotle and the Grecians had their chiefe knowledge from these ouer-seene Arabian Iuggers, he could neuer (for shame) haue wizarded them. *Ibid.* vi. 179.

**2.** To practise wizardry upon, to bewitch; to drive *away* as by magic.

1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter-quarters* 62 The last lingering trails of mist were gradually wizarded away. 1900 *Folk-Lore* (1901) June 177 If yah be a wizard, wizard me.

So **Wizarding** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of wizardry, witchcraft, or magic art.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 337 Those...cheating Arts of Mantesis or Wizarding, with which the world always hath been...abused. 1924 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 650/2 When the people think that the wizard is out of him to practise potent in spells, they get to wizarding on their own account.

**Wizardly** (wi·zəɹdli), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. WIZARD *sb.* + -LY 1.] Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or resembling a wizard or wizardry.

1598 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* (1871) 7 Wizardly dreame of dreames! 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N 2 b, No wizardly astronomer of them all ever dreamed of any such calculations. 1665 DURHAM *Pilgrimage* 1 Wizardly dreams by wizardly and deuillish practises to vp-hold his owne greatnesse. *a* 1648 J. D. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 404 Divers feigned Miracles, accompanied with some Wizardly Impostures and Juggles. 1652 GALLE *Magastro.* 1 I count this Church wizardly fable not here worth the relating. 1893 *S. Isidore's Mag.* May 597/2 A power which seemed sometimes to have a touch of the weird and wizardly in it. 1913 JANE H. CORNISH *Souvenir of George Borrow Celebr.* 14 Sergeant Bugeo's encounter with the wizardly creature.

**Wizardry** (wi·zəɹdri). [WIZARD *sb.* + -RY.]

**1.** The art or practice of a wizard or wizards; wizardly or magic skill; witchery, witchcraft.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cix. 671/1 If these [inchanters or witches] be forbidden † we must vnderstand... yt all other kinds of Wizardrie are deadly sinnes. 1665 PATRICK *Pilgrim* vii. 73, I never used any other Wizardr[y] to make my Land better than my neighbours, but what you will find to lye in the Spades, Mattocks, and Plough. 1796 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XX. 435 The Arabic wizardry of the Italian, the elfen mythology of the German poet, seemed to offer rival resources for a supernatural machinery. 1859 HOWORTH *Iron & Wonder* xxiii. *Epistle* 249 The learned Leech Perished in a tumult many years ago, Accused...of wizardry. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wand. N. Lat. Ch.* (ed. 4) 19 All the witcheries and tricks which are found home in the imaginations of the people. 1877 SYMONDS *Renais. It.* VI. 343 As a physiognomist and diviner, he acquired a reputation bordering on wizardry.

**b.** *transf.* Magic lore.

1876 R. BOWDEN *Poems* 196 There I will sit, and score rare wizardry In characters vermilion, azure, gold.

**2.** *fig.* 'Magical' or 'bewitching' art, power, or influence; 'magic'.

1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 265 Time..works its wondrous wizardry upon the mind. 1887 *Academy* 29 Aug. 133/3 So fascinating a writer is Mr. Matthew Arnold, so all-conquering is his own wizardry. 1901 'L. MALET' *Calmady* v. ii. You have employed a certain wizardry in the furnishing of that room.

**Wize,** obs. f. of VAR. WISE.

**Wizen** (wi·z'n), *a.* Also **wizzen.** [Clipped f. WIZENED, the resultant form suggesting a ppl. adj. in *-en.*] = WIZENED 2.

1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 16 Aug., A thin, little, wizen old gentleman,...crane up. 1837 *Lett. Fr. Madame* (1842) 49 The ladies are all young and wizen, and the gentlemen are all old and wizen. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xxxvii, Her little wizen face was as sharp as ever. 1880 F. G. LEE *Ch. under Ct. Kths.* II. 376 Her now drawn and wizen features. *Comb.* 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Spectre Tappington* ad fin., A dingy wizzen-faced portrait. 1888 FERGUS HUME *Mine, Midas* I. ii, A small, wizen-looking little man.

**Wizen** (wi·z'n), *v.* Also 5 **wisen,** 6 **wisne, 8–9 wizen.** [OE. *wisnian, weosnian* (also *dwisnian, forwisnian*) = OHG. *wesanên, -(e)nên*, also *ar-, ir-, forwesenên*, ON. *visna* (Sw. *vissna*, Da. *visne*); cf. ON. *visinn* (Sw., Da. *vissen*) withered,

palsied : f. Teut. *wis-*, whence also MHG. *wesel* weak, perished ; cf. Lith. *vysti* to wither, L. *vāstere* to wither, W. *gwyw* (= **wiwo-*) withered, OIr. *feugud* 'marcor'.]

1. *intr.* Of plants: To dry up, shrivel, wither. Also *transf.* of persons, their features, etc. See also WIZENED.

c 900 WERFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* 134 Heo lyś seowenced, þæt heo weornode [*MS. Tr.* weonnade] & breonsp in hire sylfre. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xv. 6 Sif hwæle in mec ne wunas zemeneed bið buta zuzice tuiges & dryzeð *vel* wisneð. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 115 Þa he [*sc.* the world] þas fæzer wæs, þa wisnode he on Cristes haligra heortum. c 1050 *Voc. in* Wr.-Wülcker 343 *Arida*, weonieniende.

a 1200 *Ancr. Cantab. Fr.* 48 If. 90 Þe tre weloid & wisned sone, & uuel alle dai.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Wissen*, to wither. N. 1828 TODD, To *Wizen*, to wither; to become dry. . . Common in several parts of the north of England. 1864 J. GILBART & G. C. CHURCHILL *Dolomite Mountains* 493 After wiezning with cold for an hour, we ran down to the hut for breakfast. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxvi. His plump features wizened, and his rosy cheeks grew white.

2. *trans.* To cause to wither or shrivel. Sc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. xii. 40 Tharfor that suffir panis and turment, . . Sum stentit leme in woundit wmdis wak. a 1595 R. M'L. CALDER *Berwickh. Bard* (1897) 229 Self hes gained this upper hand, To wizen up their hearts.

**Wizen,** Sc. and north. f. WEASAND.

**Wizened** (wi'znd), *a.* Forms : 6 wyvnit, -yt, 8 wisen'd, 8–9 wisen'd, 9 wiz(s)ened, wizen'd, wizened, wizzent, wuzzent. [orig. Sc. and north. : f. WIZEN *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Of plants, foliage, wood, etc. : Dried up, withered, shrivelled.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 124 In heych wynnit treis, The soir gled quhislis loud. 1721 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 93 The antient Nations, . Mann study loss . . All a' the wisen'd Leaves of Stove to shake. 1732 *Ode to Ale* 7 The Naga and Nowt hate wisen'd Straw. 1826 G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha* (ed. 3) 58 Their wizzent timbers stour'd like wrekhin! 1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T., Pomegranate Seeds* 196 He set down golden salver, with the wizened pomegranate upon it. 1880 HOWITT *Undiscov. Country* ix, The farmer had ceased to carry his wizened crops from the sterile soil. 1888 *Spectator* 19 Mar. 183/3 There is some excuse for eating wizened Muscats.

2. Of persons or animals, their features, etc. : Shrunken and dried up, thin and shrivelled. † Also of the throat, parched.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. ii. 70 [The wild wolf's] wynnyt throt, havand of blude sic thrist; Gendris of lang fast sic ane appetyte. 1728 RAMSAY *Last Sp. Miser* iv, The wisen'd beardless wights Who, when I set my tan talents in your wuzzent face for that very word? 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxi. (1878) 318 A little wizened creature, with more wrinkles than hairs. 1891 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 253 His wizened face has a strong resemblance to the features of good-humoured goblins. 1903 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) II. 159 Your visit will give you a wizened old hen instead of the plump pullet you look for.

*Comb.* 1890 W. A. WALTER *Only a Sister* xxxi, I'll have a reckoning with the wizened-faced old rogue.

b. *transf.*

1862 MRS. BROWNING *Song Ragged Schools* 28 In God's liberal blue air Peter's dome itself looks wizened. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xix. 209 Below the top hors of a wizened grate was a chilly fire. 1905 SIR F. TREVES *Other Side Lond.* (1906) II. xix. 223 A wizened old city hidden among the hills.

Hence **Wi'zenedness.**

1887 KIPLING *Plain Tales, Risaru of Poores* (1924) 263 It was his wizenedness and worthlessness that made him fall. . in love with Miss Hollis.

**Wize roy, Wizir,** obs. ff. VICEROY, VIZIER.

**Wizle** (wi·z'l), *dial* (*n. nw. midl.*) Forms : 7 wisall, -oil, 8–9 wysle, 9 w(o)isle, wysle, wisle. [Obscurely f. WISE *sb.*? Cf. WISSOM, *wisser* (Eng. Dial. Dict.).] The (green) top of a plant having an edible root.

Hence † **Wisalled** *a. Her.*, having the wisles of a specified tincture.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. iii. 55/1 The tops of Carrats and Parsnips are by Gardiners termed Wisalls, and some Wissmes, so then according to the terms of Art, the Carrat is Or, Wisalled Vert. *Ibid.* ix. 181/2 Grass, Roots, Wisells, Grains. c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Gloss. Wick, (1773) K s/a *Wyzles*, stalks of potatoes, turnips, etc. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Wizzle*, the stems of potatoes.

**Wizzard,** obs. f. WIZARD.

**Wizzel**(l, var. WEZZLE *Obs.* **Wizzon** : see WEASAND, WIZEN.

† **Wlaffe,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *wlaffian*, of imitative origin. Cf. ME. *blaffere*, *blaffoorde* 'traulus' (Promp. Parv. 37).] *intr.* To stammer ; to speak indistinctly. Hence † **Wla'ffer,** *vbl. sb.* (? error.).

1085–50 *Rule Chrodegang* lx. (1916) 74 Of þam deafsnð þa earen & wlaffad seo tunge. a 1300 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 119 An old man he fond, Bleryid & wlaffing. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 173 A chesun mot l'un balbeyn, *glast* wlaffes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 And perzuore leli ne zsolde by bote a wlaffere ne zigge þing to þe uolle. c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 84 Man dumelith and wlaffyth. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 159 Ly conyatioun . . wlyb Iberes and . . Normans, in meny þe conyatoy longage is separyed, and soun yeþ strange wlafferynge [*Cotton* wlaffyng].

† **Wlak, wlach,** *a. Obs.* Forms : 1 wlacu, -o, wlæc, 3 wlac(o)h, wlaech, 3–4 wlach, 4 wlak, 5 wlakk. [OE. *wlæc, wlacu* (an orig. neutrum) = MLG. *wlak* lukewarm (whence *wlachen* † 'tepor'); cf. OS. *walkon*, MLG. *wla(c)ken* to be tepid ; the ulterior relations are doubtful. For the phonology of the final consonant cf. FRECK *a.* (ME. *frek, freek*).] Lukewarm, tepid ; also *fig.* Also advb. in *wlach hat* (cf. MLG. *wlakwarm*).

a 897 ALDHELM *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvii. 269 Da ful oft beoð mid wlacum waten re þælaudode. *Ibid.* lviii. 447 Se ðonne bið wearm, nalles wlacu, ðe god xeorolice onginð, & eac xeendað. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 De wop þe man wepes þo he sunc sinnes wowe cunnes of þe wlache heorte. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech bitweonen two, nouðer cold ne hot. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 310/605 Sit þov nimst rist puyr hot watur and dost cold þervto, Þov mist it makien suome wlach [*MS. Harl.* wlak]. 1434–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 322 In comparisoun to that flothe breneþ þe water þat is wlak. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/2 A wlak, *tepidus*. 1530 *Bk. Hawking* in *Ret. Ant.* I. 304 Kepe it with wlake wyn unto the tyme.

**Wlanc(h, wlank(e,** var. WLONK *Obs.*

† **Wlappe,** *v. Obs.* [app. blending of *lappe*, LAP *v.*2 with † *wlaffe*.] *intr.* To wrap. Also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 97 Comonly þei ben . . wlappid in pride. *Ibid.* 123 Siche on is a dede careyne gon out or his sepulcre wlappid with clopis of mornynge. 1382 — *Matt.* xxvii. 59. 1388 — *Wks.* 6 No man habbiþ nede to wlappe hoyselyed to God, wlappid [1382 inwlappiþ] hym silf with worldli nedis. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. v. 306 [Comm. a Tim. ii. 4] seo þei cumbi & wlappi hem silf in worldli þingis. [1889 J. HUNTER *Hallamshire Gloss.* s.v., In wlapping there is more of folding over, placing one layer over another, than in wrapping. We wrap up any thing in a silk handkerchief: the laundress wraps up the shirt which she has ironed.]

† **Wlat,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *wlætta*, related to WLATE *v.* Cf. ML*G. wlat.*] Nauseous, loathing, disgust.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1889) 68 þelces hæ..hwylcne wlattan and sorzeban on his heortan ne astyrige. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 338 Wiþ spiwdan & wlatnesse. c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 370 *Nauseo*, wlatige. c 1250 *Owl & Night* 1459 Ne lilie mid hire faire wlite wiþ hire sellesnesse þu myhst myd wlate þe eyte bugge.

† **Wlat,** *a.* Also 3 wlath. [f. prec. or next.] Nauseous, loathsome. Hence † **Wla'tness,** nausea.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3300 A welle he funde at marath, De water was biter and al wlath. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxxvi. (MS.), Iuse þynge þat is profitable..þe stomak, and abateþ wlatnesse [*Addit. MS.* wlatnesse] of þe stomak.

† **Wlate,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 wlath, 5 wlatte. [OE. *wlatian* = MLG. *wlaten*.]

1. *intr.* and *impers.* with *dat.* To feel disgust or loathing.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 228 Wiþ wlatunge for Sibum eahtostan mete. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 240 Jonne hie mete þicgeaþ & drincaþ, ponne wlataþ hie. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Sif hee hit [on Wednesday fifth fastenes] stonken, hun wolde wlatien þer ayean. *Ibid.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech . . þu ne ssalt me uorto wlatien. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 154 Overfulle makeþ wlatie 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3538 Swyche men god alday yarny And wiþ here foule synne hym wlatyn. *Ibid.* 9332 3if þou hym louest, with synne þou wlate. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 305 With her vn-worþelych werk me wlaten wyþinne. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 47 His bret wold wlat on and be anchamed of hymselfe, to penk þat he wer conceyuet of so fowle lyog.

2. *trans.* To loathe, abhor.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 7 Man of blodes & swikel wlatib sall lord. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* II. 18, I wlatede alle my bisynesse, þat..most studiousli I translatede. c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 1. 1 He worshipp god men wolde wlate. 1403 [H. PARNEL] *Dreme & Faupter* (Pynson) vi, xvii. t viii, The glove . . seyth that it is amaner of spech to do wlate auoutre and shewynge that auoutrye is ful greuous.

3. To disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 187 Now me wlatis as myn syne þat I for-sak it. a 1400–50 *Alex. & Dind.* 5634 It wild þaim noght þat þair wrang war þam wlate.

† **Wla'tful,** *a. Obs.* [f. WLAT *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Nauseous, loathsome.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 35 (MS. Titus) Hit is wlatefulling for to penke þron ; & for to speke þer-of, 3et wlatefuller. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiii. 3 Forloken and wlatful made þai are in þair thoghts. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Þe worldes lim hild ine uyl and uur wlatuol. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 47 þe wlatful þat he hy conceyuet of, þat 3e so fowle yn hymselfe and so wlatfull.

2. That has a loathing (of something). *rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 Ful vnpacient of pees . . and wlatful of siluþe [L. *otiosa ac nausea*].

† **Wla'ting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* Forms : 1–3 wlatung (i uulatuno), 3–5 wlating(e, -ynge(o, (4 -lynge, -linge, wlath-, wlatt-). [OE. *wlatung*, f. *wlatian* WLATE *v.*] Loathing, nausea ; abhorrence, detestation ; *occas.* an abomination.

c 725 *Corp. Gloss.* (Hessels) N 5 *Nauseatio*, nulatunc. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 80 Zenime wedecedan . & þy3e hyy bonne mid micelre wlatunge æwiteþ þæt sar on wr.. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Habbeð wlatunge of þe muðe þet speoweð ut atter. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxvii. 9 Þai ar me wlatinge to þame to be. c 1325 SHOREHAM I. 697 Hydous hyzt wyte to be ynne, And to þe fast wlatynge And pyne. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 516 In þaire wlathynge bai mesay[ þim] till wrath. 1340 *Ayenb.* 192 God hep grat wlatynge of suych sacrefice. c 1400 *Laufranc's Cirurg.* 98 Þat may be knowen by . . wlatynge, wheune bet a man ys fastynge. a 1450 MYNC 884 [782] Koghe þow not, Let hee suppose how make þat fare. For wlatynge þat þou herest bare [in confession].

So † **Wla'tingness,** abhorrence.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ix. 11 Curse droppide on vs, and wlatyngnesse [1388 wlatyng ; Vulg. *detestatio*].

† **Wla'tsome,** *a. Obs.* Forms : 4 wlatsum, -som, wlatesome, *Sc.* wlatsum, 4–5 wlathsum. [f. WLAT *sb.* + -SOME.] Loathsome, detestable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23229 Fell dragons and tades bath þat ar spon to lek ful lath, Ful wlatsum on to here or se. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 321 Le I nacite a wrþelukar wo for wlatsum dedes. c 1373 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathew*) 484 His wlatsum Infirmyte (*sc.* leprosy). *Ibid.* xviii. (*Fegetcine*) 418, I sal sa quhow myn saule vithine is fylyt vith a wlatsum tyne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 644 Ful wlatsum was the stynk of his careyne. c 1386 — *Nun's Priest's T.* 233 Wombe is so wlatsom and abhomynable To god. c 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 203 Man is but wlatsum erbe and clay. c 1460, 1563 [see the errors. form WALTSOM(E].

Hence † **Wla'tsomeness,** loathing, disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 351 þe ablest . . Gat on his fete & stert hir fra, . . Hafand at hyr gret wlatsumnes. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 195 Here sour dowy is savery þing þat forbidiþ wlatsumnesse [*etc.*]. 1398 [see WLATSOM(E].

**Wlaunke, -ness** : see WLONK, -NESS.

**Wleach, wleh** (we(c)h, wl, WLE. *Obs.* f. WLECH.

† **Wlench,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gewlencan*, † *ge-* V. + **wlankjan* (f. *wlanc* WLONK ; cf. OS. *giwlenkid*). Cf. FORWLENCH.] *trans.* To make proud ; *refl.* to pride oneself.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 And on þis fihte is ech man wlenchinge, þe swelt is lichame, and wleneð his saule. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1000 Leaf þe wlenchest wit þat tu wult þeos wimmen.

**Wlessche,** obs. form of FLESH.

c 1313 SHOREHAM I. 1383 Ine wlessche ioyneþ man and wyf, Children to multeplyeye.

**Wlf,** obs. f. WOLF. **Wlga**(t)r, obs. ff. VULGAR *a.*

† **Wlisp,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **wlysp.** [OE. *wlisp, wlips* 'balbus', 'blæsus', related to **wlispian* to LISP.] Lisping.

c 1370 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 185 Sedous, I bome qui non potest bene dicere a, qui dicit alice dicitur wlysp.

**Wlisp(e,** obs. ff. LISP *v.*

† **Wli'te,** *sb. Obs.* [OE. *wlite* m., beauty, splendour, appearance, form, cerresp. to OFris. *wlite*, OS. *wliti* sheen, form, ON. *litr* colour, countenance (see LIT *sb.*), Goth. *wlits spiowaow, ƕas, þopþ*] ; also in the compound OE. *andwlite*, *ansyn*, beside *andwlita* (see ANLETH.)]

1. Beauty ; splendour.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxvii. 8 Ic is[ealde wlite huses Sines. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 115 He[sc. the world] teah men to him þuh his white & þurh his fegernesse. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Þe fader is on þe sune on þise white, & sune is on wimmes, þat oðer is on white ; two fair is ure louerd . and þe þridde is on þeos. c 1205 LAY. 2094 Heo wes þa þingeste sister, a white ane wlenti. *Ibid.* 2096 Mid alle þan þinge þe heo wes of white ga to loce. a 1250 *Owl & Night* 459 Þe lilie mid hire faire white Wolcumeþ me. c 1275 *Sevrin Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Per wreþ vre white in wunne Cristes beam. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. 5 Þi white and faireheid ilike.

2. Face, countenance.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 16 Wilt ðu[ onsion monna (Vulg. *personam hominum*]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 195 Þet is þet uerbe þet *Gen. & Ex.* 2988 Sone he zede ut and stille he gret, Þat al his white wurð teres wet.

Hence † **Wli'ti** *a.* [OE. *wlitig*], beautiful.

c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* vi. 2 Da zesawon Godes beam . . manna dohtra, þæt hi wæron wlitige. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 313 He awundrede i lim of hire wlitti westrum.

† **Wlite,** *v. Obs.* [? Imitative ; cf. OE. *wrītian* and WRITHE, LITHE.] *intr.* To pipe, chirp, warble.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Þe wrenne þeos þe þeos to liken wimmannen. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 This foules singeth forly fele, Ant wlyteth on huere wynter [*Trend* wynne] wele.

† **Wlo.** *Obs.* [OE. *wlōh* — OS. *wlōh*, MLG., MDu. *wlo*, ON. *lá* (Noun, Sw. *lo*, Da. *lu*) nap of cloth.] A hem or fringe ; a nap on cloth.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 20 *Fimbriam vestimenti eius*, fas nel'o hiih wedes his. c 1304 *Ch. Cirstes* 730 Somme of hem wlikeþ Wip...clopes fal feble, Wel nei forwerd & þe wlon offe.

† **Wlonk,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms : 1–4 wlanc, 1–3 wlonc, 2 wlonk, 3–6 wlonk, 4 wlanck, wlanck, wlanke, wlaunk, wlonke. 4–5 wlank. [OE. *wlanc, wlonc* = OS. *walnk* : cf. WINCH *v.*] 1. Proud, haughty.

*Beowulf* 341 Ellen-rof...wlanc Wedera leod...heard under helme. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 He wes prud & wlonc. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 844 Nawt wiþ wit ah wiþ wlod of ane wlonke wenden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8 Jous þat o will war wlanck, þat cund him at fil tiell thanck.

2. Rich, splendid, fine, magnificent : in later use esp. as a conventional epithet in alliterative verse.

*Beowulf* 2833 Mæðmaþa wlonc. a 1000 *Phænix* 100 Fugel feþerum wlonc. c 1205 LAY. *Madel.* (1222) 21 Ane wide wahes wlonke & welefulle. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 469 Sumeres tide is alto wlonc. c 1325 *Song of Mercy* 2 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 128 Wlanke deor on grasunge gon glice. c 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1634 A white wolf i sirte of þis wlonke maube. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 192 Wod & water & wlonk plantes. *Ibid.* 900, I schulde not lompe by wit so wlonc. a 1400–50 *Alex. & Dind.* 5 89 In wiþ wedow & a wlonk. c 1400 *Antur's Arth.* 317 Wlonke-st in wede. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 255 Archebald the bawsenit, Wichtest of wirk and wichi. 15.. *Tayis Bank* 118 (Bann. MS.) Joy was within and joy without, Under that wlonkest waw.

b. Rich in moisture or sap ; rank ; lush.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. (Tollem. MS.) Snow . . norischeþ and fedeþ good herbes and makeþ hem wlonke [orig. *impinguit*]. cl. 1405 CHAUCER *Ad.* 1655 rankē]. c 1450 *Lonelich. on Heath.* 111. 449 The potters cley, the wlonk *adipsmani*, or sondy lene,...ys nyce nought.

**B.** as *sb.* A fair or beautiful one.
*1a 1400 Morte Arth.* 3338, I went to that wlonke, and wynly hire grette. *a 1508* Dunbar *Twa Marrit Women* 36 Of thir fair wlonkes,.. Alse wes ane wedow, *Ihind.* 250 The wedo to the tother wlonk warpit ther wordis.

† **Wlonkful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Ol. *wlonc* pride + -FUL.] = WLONK.
*1400 Sege Jerus.* 394 In partyis four Of his wlonfulle (r.r. wanikulle) wordis.
So † **Wlonkhede, -ness,** pride.
*c 1375 Lamb. Hom.* 9 Al swa his festen be swiðe ouerlimet þes flowres wlonghesse. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 1400 (Jesus Mss) Þar fleȝ a dialh nu mest is drunkenesse & lowshnede & te galnesse. *c 1386 Poem Tunes Edw. II. in Pol. Songs* (Camden) 330 Wlaunhenesse of wele hem hath al ablent.
† **Wlonsy, wlouh,** *a. Obs. rare.* [? OE. *gewlohd* adunned.] ? Opulent.
*13 Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxviii. 115 Sif..þou art riche mon and wlouȝ And of richesse hast inouh. *Ihid.* 164 Hou þou sselt..richie mon bicoumd and wlouh.
**Wlt, Wluine, Wlman,** *sb.* see VELT, WOLFEN *sb.*, WOMAN.
**Wm-, Wn-:** see UM-, UN-.
**Wnden,** obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*1
**Wne,** obs. Sc. form of OVEN.
*1596* in *Spalding Cl. Misc.* I. 128 Russin as in ane wne.
**Wne,** obs. form of WOAD.
**Wnce,** obs. Sc. form of OUNCE *sb.*1
*1563 Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), In weycht of ten wnsis.
**Wnt,** obs. Sc. form of WONT.
**Wnys,** obs. form of ONCE.
*1480 Cely Papers* (Camden) 133 Wnys or twyse.
**Wo** (wō), *int.* [Variant of WHO *int.*]
**1.** In *wo ha, wo ha, wo ho ha, wo ha ho*: a falconer's call to a hawk; also allusively.
*1588 Marprel. Epistle* (Arb.) 31 Wobohow, brother London, d'ye remember Thomas Allen? *1596* SHAKS. *Merch. T.* v. 239 *Ces.* Shylock, do you hear? *Shy.* I am not bid for love, they flatter me: But soft! Caesar speaks. Wo ha ho! Unto his foot I bow.
*1606* CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* v. i, I rush upon With the most bird-seen cry, the Duke, the Duke, the Duke, Ha, ha, ha, wo ho, come againe, I say. *1829* SCOTT *Anne of G.* xvii, A wood-cock sprung from some bushes, and the young lady threw off her mettin in pursuit. 'Is he—is he—wo ha!' hollowed the falconer.
**2.** A call to a horse to stop (cf. WHO *int.*, WHOA, WOA, and WAY *int.*). Also used in conjunction with other interjections, as *wo-back, wo-ho, hait-wo.*
Also dial. in various combinations with special applications: cf. quot. 1891.
*1787* 'G. GAMADGE' *Acad. Horsem.* (1800) 24 That he is docile, and will stop short at the Word 'Wo-ey.' *a 1800* PEGGE *Anec. dial.* (1814) 11 When our waggoners and carmen make use of the terms *ge* and *wo* to their horses. *1801* G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* I. ii. *Farmer Harrowby, without.* Wo, ho! gently wi'em! so the b'y! *1823* E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Wok* or *Woe*, an imperative to stop cart horses. *a 1825* Hair-wo (see HAIT *int.*) *1834* WHEATLY in *Life & Corr.* (1860) I. 237 It is stopping the horse by a word, as opposed to a sharp pull of the curb. *1837* DICKENS *Pickw.* v, 'Wo-ho!' cried Mr. Pickwick, as the tall quadruped evinced a decided inclination to back into the chandler's window. *1838* T. HOOK *Widow* vii, 'Wo ho!' cried the guard,..running to the leaders' heads. *1840* HALIBURTON *Barber's C.* Misc., I pulled very hard, and cried out, 'Wo! he won't be mouthed'; and as I went galloping for the dear life. *1872* (see GEE *int.*). *1879* JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 142 The carter's lads shouting 'Wo-ho!' to the horses as they were crossing the gates. *1894 Northumbld. Gl.*, *Wo, Wo-haa*, a cartman's order to his horse to stop or stand still. *Wo-hi* and *Wo-hi-h*, turn to left or near side. *Wo-hup* or *Wo-yeer*, turn to right or off side.
Hence **Wo** *v. intr.*, to call 'wo' to a horse; also in *vbl. sb.* (also *wohoiing*).
*1883 C. of Words* 10 The wo-wo-ing of the ploughboy. *1885* RIDER HAGGARD *Witch's Head* xxxii, Presently from the stables there arose a sound of kicking, plunging, and wohoiing impossible to describe. *1889* T. E. BROWN *Manx Wits* 3 'You're very late on the road,' he says—and wacin and wo-ing.
**Wo,** obs. form of HOW.
*1476 Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5, I cannat tell wo sone.
**Wo,** obs. or arch. form of WOE.
**Woa** (wōa), *int.* Also **woah.** [Variant of WHOA.] = *Wo int.* 2. Hence **Woa** *v.*, to stop (*trans.* and *intr.*) with the call of 'woa'.
*1820* DICKENS *Old Curiosity Shop* xxxvii, Woa-a-a then, will you? *1858 Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Nov. 505/1 With a loud 'woah!' the man stopped the beast (*Lit.* ass). *1870* S. LEVER *View from right* 31, I would my mules might say, *1871* M. LEGRAND *Cumbr. Freshm.* 251 Woa, Princey, woa! But Prince wouldn't 'woa.' *1892* CHEVALIER *Wot Cher!* iv, 'Woa! steady! Roddy Woa!'
**Woad** (wōad), *sb.*1 Forms: 1. 1–2, 5–7, 9 *dial.* **wad,** 2 **wasd,** 5 *Sc.* **wad, waydde,** 5–7 **wadde,** 6 *Sc.* **vad,** 6–8 **wade,** 7 *Sc.* **wadd.** *β.* 3–4 **wod,** 4–5 **wode,** 5–6 **wood**(e, 6 **wo**'**adde,** 6–8 **woade** (7 **waude**), 6– **woad,** *γ.* 5, 6, 8 **wode,** 6–7 **oade,** 7 **oad.** [OE. *wād* = OFris. *wêd*, M.LG., MDu. *wēt, wede* (Du. *weede*), OHG., MHG. *weit, weid* (G. *waid*, :—**waidō-* (whence OE. *waide, gaide*, It. *guado*), by-form of **waizdo-* (whence med.L. *waisda, guaisdium*, etc., AF. *waisde*, OE. *gueede*, F. *guède*, formerly also *waide, waude, waueide*), related to Goth. **wizilda* (recorded in L. forms *uuisdelem*, etc.).
Ulterior connexion with OE. *weard, word* 'sandix', and (outside Germanic) with L. *vitrum*, Gr. *ἰόεις* is doubtful. The hypothesis of a primitive Ian may account for the remarkable phonological variations in pre-Germanic.]
**1.** A blue dye-stuff prepared from the leaves of *Isatis tinctoria* (see 2) powdered and fermented: now generally superseded by indigo, in the preparation of which it is still sometimes used.
*c 1000 Ælfric Gram.* ix. (Z.) 72 *Hic vandya*, þis wad. *a 1100 Aldhelm Glos.* 1098 (Napier 29/2) *Ker. isacintha*, of wade. *a 1200 Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/26 *Sandix*, wod. *a 1250 Owl & Night*, 76 Iin eyene bob collblake & hondè Rid, swo ho weren ipeint mid wode. *c 1394* CHAUCER *Former Age* 17 No hauk ywelde or wod no fissh ywelde No knewh. 24... *De Actic. Inquir.* in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 682/2 Item de tynctoribus Burgentibus ponentibus manus suas in le wadde. *1436 Libel Engl. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 180 The madre and woode that dyers take on hande. *1488–9 Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 20 Wood called Tolowse Woide. *1496* in *Memorials Rich. Wells* (1902) 320 Il. pipes of tide. *1495* HALIBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 45 3 ton of wald. *1545 Rates of Custome Ho.* d.ij, Wood of goscoyne the pipe xiii. pounde. *1548* Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI c. 36 Coal of the Isle of Surrey the ballet x. Wood of the Ile of Axholme [Acres] the ballet x.s. *a 1548* HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 200 The Merchaunt strangers ..daily brought Oade, Oyle, Sylke, and other Merchaundyse into this Realme. *1563* GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 117 All the Britons doe dye themselves with woade, which setteth a blewish color vppon them. *1601* R. JOHNSON *Pre-faticr* 2 To the true respects to get, most rich and precious commodities alike, and admit no difference betwixt oade and frankincense. *a 1618 Rates of Merchandizes* F ij, Iland or green Wood. *1622* MABBE *Guzman* I. 202 The Sire Woad, Terra, 22s Azores.. they affoord much Oade, which hav made them most famous and best inriched them. *1715* GASTH *Clare-mont* 50 When Dress was monstrous, and Figleaves the Mode, And Quality put on no Paint but Woade. *1800* MARIA EDGEWORTH *The Will* iii, A gentleman who had set up an apparatus for manufacturing wood. *1805* ROBERTS *Lamb* 30 Deep dying carths, as woad and cinnabar. *1888* J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 441 Woad..is manufactured now only at Bayons Thorpe near Wisbech. *1894* TURNER & *Spinning* 102 In the south of England small pieces is cast into the vat, which is then filled with water.
*fig. 1667* WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 42 This gives the judgement a tincture, nay, a deep woad of intense displeasure.
*¶ fig. 1598* STOW *Survey* B. 64 The Marchants of Normandie made fine for licence to barber their woads, till it was otherwise prouided. *1599* NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 37 They retaine the name of Glaston in English wel inough, for Glade. *1820* BACON *Hen. VII*, 75 The King ..ordained That wines and woads from ..Gascoigne and Languedocke, should not be brought but in English bottomes.
**2.** The plant *Isatis tinctoria*, formerly extensively cultivated for the blue colouring matter furnished by it (see 1). Sometimes called *Dyer's* or *Garden Woad*, and DARE'S WEED. Also applied to other species of the genus *Isatis*.
*c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* II. 94 Genim wades croppan. *1538* BOORDE, *Glastenbery* Ye have a herbe in your gardens that englyshe it waddes. *1538* TURNER *Libellus, Isatis sive glastum, quibus herbam appellat wad.* *1548 – Names Herbes* (1881) 20 Glaston is called in english wod. Ye may not Ode as some corrupters of the englishe tonge do nikenname it. *1562 – Herbal* II. 121 The diers occupy the garden waddle..in dyenne of wull and clothe. *1585 Treas. agst. sowing Woad* (title) The true and perfect way to persue, purchase, shal..breake vp ..any maner of grounde. for the..purpose to sowe or plant woade in. *1601* HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. I. 80 Of the Herbe called Isatis, or Woad: with the iuice where f the women of Brittanie annoint and die their bodies all over. *Ibid.* xxvii. xiii. 284 These Azors receive for their Woad are loaded with a certaine hearbe, called Oad, the c lour and juice whereof Azur is apt to drinke in and receive. *1633 Castle Women* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 7 Let's make our land beare woad instead of wheat. *1739* TROWELL *Treat. Husb.* etc. 33 Of Woad or Wade, the best Land for it. *1778 Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Bedford-shire*, Woad, a plant used by dyers, is also cultivated here. *1856 Farmer's Mag.* (ed. 3) I. 445 Set or explicit agreement [in a lease] against growing pernicious weeds, such as flax, henip, woad.
**b.** **Wild Woad,** the plant *Reseda Luteola*: = WELD *sb.*1 I. **Bastard Woad** = *Weld sb.*1 1 b.
*1578* LYTE *Dodoens* I. xlvi. 66 There be two sortes of Woad: the one is of the gardein...The other is wilde Woad. *1597* GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxviii. 596 Of Sesamoides, or bastard Weld or Woad. *1664* EVELYN (ed. 3) *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 208 ...Wild Woad, Dyers-weed. *1822* CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Cowper Green* iv, The wild-woad on each road we see.
**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *woad-bite, -colour, -farm,* † *-flat* (= *-woad-mill*), *-grain* (Gouan *in litt.* 1), *-house,* † *-lead, -man, -mark, -plant, -plantcr, -stone, -vat, -woad-leaved, -painted* adjs. † **woad-nut,** ? corruptly *-net*, ? a ball of woad.
*a 1667* SIR W. PETTY in Spirat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 289 Nor is Allum used in many Colours, viz. In no *Wood or Indico Dyers. *1698* ROBERT BOYLE *Mem. Philos. Exp.* 168 The outmost border of the innermost wings is sky or *woad-colour. *a 1667* in Spirat *Hist. Royal Soc.* 301 An intense Wood-Colour is of a Damson-colour. *1892 Daily News* 23 July 5/4 There are now only four *woad farms and factories in the entire kingdom. *1479 Will of Swayne* (MS.), *Odefalis. *1496 Ek. St. Albans, Fishing* b ij, Lete woode yonge hasel in an *oodsflate a lyght plumet colored. *1569 Bury Wills* (Camden) 155 My *woadfat coverynge. *1778* D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 43 Adam Dickson, dyer and clothier, ..works two woad fats. *1898 Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 1162 The hands..weed the *woad-fields three times. *1419 Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 335 Qe nulle ne gette entreyn, poudre, fyens, *wodegore, nautre wilenye. *1795* tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) 350 Sheep should be put into the *Wood grounds to eat up the Grass and Weeds. *1899* [H. BRET] *Lit. Mem.* 4, 6 We rode over the farm to the *woad-houses. *1485–6 Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 157, ij s. pro operacione lxxix pete. plumbi operati in j *Wadlede. *1822 Hortus Anglicus* II. 417 *Woad-leaved Centaury. *1440..* in *York Myst.* Introd. p. xxvi, *Wadmen. *1799* A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 It [sc. the wood] becomes what the woadmen term *four*. *1800* J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 32 Woadman,..the name given to the Journeyman Dyer, whose principal business is to conduct the wood. *1613* J. MAY *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 Some colours haue a light ground of woad, but fewe too weake for the depth of that colour it beares, yet can set vp the *woade makers, or *woade rowe, which is vpon the place at a farre richer depth than the peire is woaded throughout. *1545 Rates of Custome Ho.* C viij b, *Wodnutes the C. li lx. viij. d. *Ibid.* d.iij, Wodenutes. *1585 Ibid.* ¶ vij, Woodnets the C. *1624 Rates of Merchandizes* 79 Woodnets the hundred containing five score, 00 to 00. *1891* FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xiii, But how could those *woad-painted fighters withstand the skill..of our legionaries? *1799* A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 The colour resulting from the *woad plant. *Ibid.* 297 The *woad-planter gives 4 or £5 per acre per annum. *1800* J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 36 A *woad vat may be set without the addition of indigo. *1865–72* WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 252 Woad-vat (Pastel vat).
† **Woad,** *sb.*2 *local. Obs.* Also ? **oade.** [Error for *woar, oare*, OBS 5, by confusion with prec.] *Woad of the sea*: seaweed.
*1603* G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 55 Having lyme, sand, woade of the sea and divers other principall helpes to better the soile, where needefull. *Ibid.* 57 Some of the best *Herb. 75* The sea ore or woad as some call yt, which is verye weedes growinge vnder water in the sea.
**Woad** (wōad), *v.* Also 7 **wad,** and ; *5 pa. pple.* **y-wooded.** [f. WOAD *sb.*1]
**1.** *trans.* To dye, colour, or stain with woad, sometimes (in dyeing) as a ground for another colour. Often *fig.*, or in fig. context (cf. *double-dyed*).
*1464 Rolls of Parl.* V. 560/1 Cork may be used in dying upon Wolle y wooded. *1540–50 Act 3 & 4 Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 2 Nor that any person shall or dye any Wolle not coniured into Cloth called Russetes, &c. unlesse the same Woell be perfectlie woaded boyled and maddered. *1603* HAKEWILL *Pol. Impost.* 132 His wit being deepe woaded with that melancholik blacke dye. *1607* SHAKS. *Timon Woad. sb.*1 3]. *c 1613 Overbury's Wife*, etc. *Elegies* Wks. (1856) 6 Some murdering hand, oated in guiltiest blood. *1651* CLEVELAND *Poems, Upon Mr. Peters* 31 I'm never oaded Squire, scarce Yeoman high, Is Tom twice dipt Knight of a double dy? *1655* GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 99 The hypocrite is one that hath woaded with the devil to sinne at noonday. *1660* FULLER *Mixt Contempt.* v. xlix. 760 It was never wet wadded, which giveth the fixation to a colour, and setteth it in the cloth. *1678 Vol. Ballads* (1860) I. 2 o Fool Error's poysonous first Was oaded in Nonsense in Northern blue. *1820* SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. iv. 306 The Picts were apparently an uncovverted tribe of indigenous savages, still tattooed or woaded when Agricola invaded *Vocabulary* 11 Woaded, tattoo'd or wooded, winter-clad in skins. *1894* YORKSHIRE *Woolen Spinning* 98 A piece is sent to the dyer with white injunctions that it is to be woaded, that it must have a ground of indigo put upon it for making the colour of the cloth or wool more durable.
**b.** To treat with woad, in dyeing.
*[1579–1862.* See WOADING *Art of Dying* (1913) 224 'Tis above all of great importance to take care to have a perfect Black, whether it be Maidel'd or Woaded only. *1727–38* CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Dyeing*, Bright green is first dyed blue, and lastly woaded.
† **o.** *transf.* (*fig.*) To ingrain like a dye or stain.
*1647* TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxi. 37, 331 Sin had woaded blameleuses in their farthest deeds. *Ibid.* 332 Sin had long oaded an impudency in their faces. *1647* C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Obs xxii. (1674) 67 The stains of sin I see Are oaded all, or dy'd in grain.
**2.** To plant (land) with woad. *rare.*
*1799* A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 154 He has now between two and three hundred acres of arable, on which he does not woad, in a course of crops.
† **Woad-s-ashes,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [f. WOAD *sb.*1 + pl. of ASH *sb.*2; corresp. to M.LG. *wedʒasche*, MDu. *weedasasche* (*weed-, weydasschen* 'cinceres clavellati .. cinceres smigmatici', Kilian), M.HG. *weidaschen* 'sandix', 'clavellati cinceres' (G. *waidasche*), whence F. *wédasse*, † *wedasse*. Sense b is properly *woad-ash*, but the formal similarity of *woad* and *wood*, and the double use of the MDu. form, produced confusion.] **a.** The ashes of burnt woolens, used by dyers as a source of *potash* or *clavellati*, OF. *cendres clavelés*, F. *cendres gravelées*.
**b.** The ashes of burnt wood used to make a lye.
*a 1587 Sinon. Barth.* 16 *Cineres clavellate*, an. woode ashes. *1545 Rates of Custome Ho.* a.ij, Ashes called woad ashes the laste xx.s. *1563* HYLL *Gard.* (1593) 4 § 3 The art or occupation of a..burner of Ore and woade ashes. *1583 Rates of Custome Ho.* A iij b, Ashes called wood or sope Ashes. *1665* BOYLE *Occas. Reflect. Philos. Wks.* 363 This way was only to mingle exquisitly a quantity of Sal-Armoniack, with about thrice its weight of strong Wood-ashes. *1705* tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) 113 A Perfect Description, of Wood Ashes. *1720* WELTON *New Invention Metal* (1772) 267 Some persons at a great wash put ode, or pearl ashes tied in a cloth, and let it lie in the water. *1780 Act 20 Geo. III*, c. 22 Preamble, Whereas Pot and Pearl Ashes, Wood and Weed Ashes, are essentially necessary in the whitening of Linen Cloth and Thread.
¶ Forms representing the G. and LG. words are illustrated in the following:—
*1705* tr. *Art of Dying* (1913) *title-p.*, A Discourse of Pot and Wyed Ashes, as well as several other Foreign Ingredients used in Dying. *Ibid.* 1, 6 Wayd-Ashes are prepared in the same manner [as pot-ashes], from the Ashes of burnt Wayd, that is Willow. *1708* SEWEL *Dutch-Eng. Dict., Weedasch*, Weed-ashes. *1780* [see above].
**Woaded** (wōaded), *ppl. a.* [f. WOAD *sb.*1 or *v.* + -ED.] **a.** Of a colour or dye: Having a basis

of, or treated with, woad. b. Of cloth, etc.: Dyed with woad or woaded dye.

1579–80 Norfk *Plutarch* (1595) 88 As a deepe woaded die, which went to the bottome, and pearced into the tender wolle. 1580–1 *Act 23 Eliz.* c. 9 § 2 A. . . perfitte coulor of woaded and madhered Blacke. 1613 J. May *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The diers of London doe best observe a true course in setting a wonded seale vpon woaded colours. 1655 S. Ward *Coal fr. Altar* 24 The set vp blewes haue made strangers loath the rich oaded blewes. 1663 Blithe *Engl. Improver Impr.* xxxv. (ed. 3) 227 Wad . . layes the foundation for the solidity of very many colours more: A Waded colour is free from stayning. 1868 C. O'Neill *Dict. Calico Printing* etc. 212 The term *wooded colours*, still in common use for colours which are supposed to be dyed upon a basis of woad blue.

1869 A. Macdonald *Love, Law & Theol.* iv. 66 The glowy wooded blacks of the unique Webster, which usually adorn the backs of youthful Sneakers. 1892 *Times* 14 May 4/3 Some good parcels of wooded wool serges.

So **Woa·ding** *vbl. sb.*

1613 J. May *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The ground of good colours is substantiall wooding, without which diuers colours cannot be perfectly made, as blackes, russets, . . and such like. 1894 Vickerman *Woollen Spinning* 111 The 'wooding' of blacks in too many instances has become so much of a formality . . that the old tests are no longer of any service.

**Woader** (wōu·dəɹ). *rare.* Also 5 **woder.** [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] a. A dyer with woad. b. A cultivator of woad.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 75/1 Deux Draperis, un Woder, & un Tinctour. 1444 *Will of John Rouse* (Somerset Hse.) Tinctor siue Woder. 1626 *Rich Cabinet* 55 b, To goe infield with victuals to his wonders or weeders. 1830 *Wilhering's Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) III. 158 The gangs of people called Woaders, who make the culture of this herb their peculiar employment. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 67 Silk Bleacher, Woader.

**Woad-waxen**: see Woodwaxen. **Wosg(e,** obs. Sc. ff. Voyage. **Woak,** dial. f. Oak. **Woald,** var. Weld *sb.*1; obs. f. Wold. **Woan(e,** var. Wone. **Woant,** obs. f. Want *sb.*1

**Woar,** variant of Ore *sb.* seaweed.

1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 43/1 The woars of the seas.

**Woar,** obs. form of Wooer.

**Woat,** obs. form of Oat *sb.*

1673 G. Fox in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 98 Peas & baily & woats a bushell.

**Wob, Wobat**: see Web-, Woubit.

**Wobble, wabble** (wɒ·b'l), *sb.* [f. next.] The action or an act of wobbling; an unsteady rocking motion or movement; also *fig.*

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 286 That direction being nothing but a certain wabble in the Axis's Motion. 1842 *Francis Dict. Arts* etc., *Wabble*, a hobbling unequal motion. 1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* iv. 89 The long, slow wobble of a badly spinning bait. 1870 Skinner *Canning Tools* II. 154 The mouth[s] of the pockets . . are easier of access; and the chance of a wobble all but avoided. 1896 Wells *Wheels of Chance* v, The bicycle, began an absolutely unprecedented wabble. 1911 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Aug. 223/2 That is a quite characteristic wobble on the part of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

b. *pl.* (*Austrol.*) A disease in cattle caused by eating the leaves of the palm-tree.

1893 *Queenslander* 7 Dec. 1090 Rickets or Wobbles in Cattle.

**Wobble, wabble** (wɒ·b'l), *v.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **wauble.** [Corresponds to Upper, Middle, and Low G. *wabb(e)ln*; cf. MHG. *wabelen* to move restlessly, and ON. *vafra* (synonymous with *vafra* Waver *v.*): f. Teut. *wab-* (see Wave *v.*). A parallel Teut. *wap-* appears in LG. *wappeln*, (ON. *vappa* to waddle, *Sc. waptoddin* a waddling duck. (Cf. Swabble *v.*)]

1. *intr.* Of a person or animal: To move from side to side unsteadily or with uncertain direction.

1657 [see Wobbling *ppl. a.*]. 1694 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) II. 91 This Bird is a Diver, They go waddling from side to side. *Ibid.* 102 When they go to fly up they wabble a great way before they can raise themselves upon the Wind. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4178/4 Advt., Wabbles in his walking. 1749 Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 45 James came wabbling on with the broken equipage, his Fribblesnip much ruffled. 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* vii, Yet . . man them 'till they a'did wauble. Far, far, behin'. 1789 J. Dickson *Seasons* 136 The spire . . Starts frae the slimy drain; and, to the spring, now waubles fast. 1823 Carlyle *Cagliostro* Ess. 1879 V. 73 'The true reason on which History sanctions or flutters and wabbles. 1856 White-Melville *Kate Cov.* vi. 69 Such a figure *I* never saw on a horse !. . bumping when she trots, and wobbling when she canters. 1858 Wills *Wheels of Chance* viii, He resumed the treadles, . . jolted over a stone, wabbled, recovered, and began riding faster.

b. Of a piece of mechanism, a top, a missile, etc.

1697 Moxon *Mech. Exercises*, iii. 48 The wheel, . . wou'd move pendicularly, but wabble towards the Fore or Backside of the Jack frame. 1880 *Ibid.* xii. 215 If in going about of your Work you find it Wabble, that is, that one side of the Flat incline either to the Right or Left [1896 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Wobble*, to wriggle about as an Arrow sometimes does in the Air. 1806–7 J. Bernard *Retrosp. Amus. Life* iv. xv. (A) hat . . which . . wabbles over your eyes and ears. 1828–32 Webster s.v., A top wabbles, when it is in motion, and deviates from a perpendicular direction; a spindle wabbles, when it moves one way and the other. 1884 E. P. Ros in *Harper's Mag.* June 88/1 Well now, watch the floats. If you see one bob under and wobble, a shad has struck the net near it. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 320/8 A projectile from a smoothbore is apt to 'wobble' and go wide.

c. To bubble; to boil. Now *dial.*

1725 *New Canting Dict., Wobble*, to boil. The Pot wobbles, i. e. The Pot boils. 1845 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Prince.* xv. III. 397 Sir Frederick smoked his chilum . . and whiffed and 'wobbled', and wore away the evening. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Wabble*, to boil fast.

**d.** To shake or quiver like a jelly or fleshy body.

1748 [see Wobbling *ppl. a.*]. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xxxvi, Away Jorrocks went, wobbling like a great shape of red Noyeau jelly. 1875 Howells *Foregone Conclus.* xviii, Her chin wobbled pathetically. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692 He wabbled with laughter at the delicious absurdity of the reminiscence.

**e.** To move unsteadily from side to side or backwards and forwards (without progression). Also *fig.*

1858 H. Mayhew *Upper Rhine* iv. 214 From the mouth of the . . figure a long tongue . . was made to wabble. 1865 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* xv. 264 You see it well in old women: how the last teeth wobble. 1878 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 307 The field of the microscope is crowded with organisms, some wabbling slowly. 1898 S. Crane *Red Badge* xiii, His knees wobbled. 1903 G. H. Lorimer *Self-made Merchant* xix. 278 He shouted 'Hello!' in what he tried to make a big, brave voice, but it wobbled a little all the same.

**2.** *fig.* To hesitate or waver between different opinions or courses of action; to be inclined to favour first one side and then the other.

1884 *Bath Herald* 20 Sept. 3/1 The *Standard*, . . has . . wobbled back to its old ways. 1885 Dilke in *Life* (1917) II. 111 These members of the Cabinet either wobbled backwards and forwards, or did not care. 1906 G. W. E. Russell *Social Silhouettes* 161 If you wobble or rat or play the Gandi friend, you are only too likely to find yourself cast at the next election.

**3.** *trans.* To cause to move unsteadily from side to side.

1831 T. Allen *Hist. Co. York* III. 44 The convex surface, with its glasses, was then turned and wobbled in the concave basin by steam power. 1881 P. M. Duncan in *Academy* 23 Apr. 468/3 One of the rigidly armoured Silurian fishes which learned to snap at its prey and got more food by the attempt to wobble its cranium.

**4.** *U. S.* To crumple *up*.

1869 Mrs. Whitney *We's Girls* vi. (1874) 119 The dishtowels dirty, and the dish-cloth all wobbled up in the sink.

1884 F. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* June 88/1 To keep the net straight, and not all tangled and wobbled up.

**5.** *Comb.*: **wobble-head**, a form of heat-energy caused by vibration; **wobble-saw**, a circular saw mounted askew on its spindle so as to cut a groove wider than its own thickness.

1899 Lockyer in *Nature* 20 Apr. 585/2 To get concrete images of these effects we spoke of path-heat, spin-heat, and 'wobble-heat.' 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2717 *Wobble-saw*. 1911 H. W. Durham *Peter* 53 'Druther be a Wobble saw.

**Wobbler** (wɒ·blə(ɹ). Also 8 **wabler**, 9 **wabbler.** [f. Wobble *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which wobbles; a person or animal that walks unsteadily; one who wavers or vacillates in opinion; also *spec.* (see quots. 1785, 1823, 1875).

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Wabler*, foot wabler, a contemptuous term for a foot soldier, frequently used by those of the cavalry. 1823 Jon Bee *Dict. Turf, Wabbler*, a boiled leg of mutton, alluding to the noise made in dressing it. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2717 *Wabbler*, an elliptical canter-head placed at such obliquity on the shaft as to revolve in a circular path. Sometimes called a *drunken cutter*. 1897 *Daily Mail* 8 Jan. 6/2 Good Auger 1/1 Such a Government of Wobblers. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, Wobbler*, . . a horse that swerves from side to side when trotting.

**Wobbling** (wɒ·blĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wobble *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Wobble.

1858 Hawthorne *Septim. Sc.* i. 1 Evil, No wabblin' of his hind parts, but steady as a pump bolt. *a* 1868 *N. Y. Com. Adv.* (Bartlett) Leverrier's calculations gave the mass of the unknown planet, by which the 'wablings' of Herschell were to be explained, at so much. 1881 Miss E. A. Braddon *Eg.pt. Sepulchres* II. xvi. 26 He nearly fell off his mule with the excess of the wobbling. 1876 Vasey & Stevenson *Rep. Forest.* (ed. 3) *Fabaceæ*, The unsteady motion of an elongated projectile through the air. 1907 *Athenæum* 27 Apr. 523 2 Here . . is a slight wobbling in the whole structure.

**Wobbling** (wɒ·blĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Wobble *v.* + -ing 2.] That wobbles, in senses of the vb.

1697 Ligon *Barbadoes* 64 Cockroches, a creature . . of a pure hair-colour, which would set him off the better, if he had not an ugly wobling head. 1748 Rr Harrison *Cleveland* VI. 99 [An old man] Shaking his loose-flesh'd wabbling chaps. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 140 Its [sc. the bat's] evening flight and its unsteady wabbling motion amuse the imagination. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr., Rustic Fighting* 46 Still wobbling curves keep wavering like a bite. 1883 Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 599/2 His whole singing was a bad wobbling trill. 1884 J. H. Walsh *Sportsman's Gun* II. 7 When discharged from a smooth bore, . . an oscillating or 'wobbling' flight is produced. 1898 *Catholic News* 21 May 8/4 It cannot be said that the consistency is a wobbling one.

**Wobbly** (wɒ·blĭ), *a.* Also **wabbly.** [f. Wobble *v.* + -y 1.] Inclined to wobble.

1852–62 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 149/1 The knees, which at first is weak and wabbly, gets strong. 1872 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 2 A wobbly can fight as well if his line be slightly 'wobbly' as if it were dressed to death. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I. 279 'Nancy I' cries Hobby, . . speaking in a wobbly, quivering voice. 1878 *Athenæum* 13 July 48/1 His English . . is decidedly 'wobbly'.

Hence **Wo·bbliness**, the state of being wobbly.

1880 Miss Broughton *Second Thoughts* I. ii, General Tarlton is observing with chill misgiving a certain threatening wobbliness in the gait of his [top]. 1881 J. Morley *Recoll.* (1917) I. 174 A 'wobbliness' which nobody is more conscious of or more disgusted by, than I am.

**Woc, woe,** var. Woke *a. Obs.* **Woce,** obs. Sc. f. Voice. **Woch(e**: see Vouch, Which, Wow (wail). **Woch(e)safe,** obs. ff. Vouchsafe. **Wod,** obs. f. Wood *sb.* and *a.*; obs. pa. t. of Wade *v.*

**Wod,** obs. Sc. form of Void *v.*

1477 *Lydgate's Dietary* 54 in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 31 Wod al dronkynnes-e, leuris & lechoria.

**Wod,** obs. form of Hoon.

1559 *Inv.* (Warw.) in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. II. 502/1 A crest cap and a wod to weyr upon his shoulder iiij*s.*

**Wodake,** obs. f. Woodjack (woodpecker).

**Wodbill, -bin, -binde, -cok(ke,** etc., obs. ff. Woodbill, Woodbine, Woodcock. **Wodd(e, Wodden,** obs. ff. Wood, Wooden. **Wodder, -ir,** obs. ff. Weather. **Wodderweght,** obs. f. Witherweight *Sc.* **Woddie,** obs. var. Widdy, Woody. **Woddish, -y,** obs. ff. Woodish, -y.

**Woddram, wodrome,** early forms of Widdendream.

1644 in S. Hibbert *Shetl. Isl.* (1822) 594 The said sicknes was taken off the said Marion and casten upon a young cow of the said John's, which took wodrome. *Ibid.*, An other cow . . also died mad and in woddram.

**Wode,** obs. Sc. f. Void; obs. pa. t. of Wade *v.*; obs. f. Woad, Wood. **Wodehouse**: see Woodhouse. **Wodeland, -liche, -ness(e**: see Woodland, Woodly, Woodness.

**Wodenism** (wō·dĕnĭz'm). *rare.* [f. *Woden* (see Odin) + -ism.] *Odinism.*

1891 Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 236 Wodenism was so completely vanquished that even the coming of the Danes failed to revive it.

**Wodensday,** obs. f. Wednesday. **Woder,** obs. f. Other, Weather. **Woderofe, -rove, -rowe,** obs. ff. Woodruff. **Wodershins,** obs. f. Withershins. **Wodesour,** -sour, etc., **-wale, -ward**: see Woodsour, etc. **Wodewe,** obs. f. Widow. **Wodewose**: see Woodwose.

**Wodge** (wɒdʒ). [? Vulgar alteration of *wedge*: cf. Wedge *sb.* 4.] A lumpy protuberant object. Hence **Wo·dgy** *a.*, solid, bulky.

1907 Phyllis Dare *From School to Stage* v. 84 Not a London thin-bread-and-butter tea, but a great woggy, aslice repast. 1910 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Dec. 797/1 A' wodge' in his left breast-pocket.

**Wodhacke,** obs. f. Woodhack. **Wodhed,** var. Woodhead. **Wodinsdai,** obs. f. Wednesday.

**Wodky,** variant of Vodka.

1893 R. H. R. *Kendee to Istria* 271 A glass of wodky.

**Wodland, -liche, -ly**: see Woodland, Woodly.

**Wodmell,** obs. form of Wadmal.

1522 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 154 A wodmell slope and a pare of breche of the same.

**Wodnes(e,** var. Woodness. **Wodou,** obs. var. Woodow. **Wodowes,** var. Woodhouse. **Wodowhod,** obs. f. Widowhood. **Wodrofe, -roffe, -rove**: see Woodruff. **Wodrome**: see Woddram. **Wodschipe,** var. Woodship, madness. **Wodset(t,** obs. ff. Wadset. **Wodsore, -sour**: see Woodsour. **Wodur,** obs. f. Other. **Wodwale, -ward, -wose**: see Woodwale, Woodward, Woodwose.

**Woe** (wōu), *int., adv., sb., a.* Forms: a. 1–6, 8–9 *Sc.* and *north.* wa, 3–5, 9 *north.* waa, (*Sc.* or *north.* 4, 6, 9 way, 5 ue, 7 weay, 7–9 wea, 8 weea), 5– *Sc.* wae; (with a) 5 wai, 6 waias, waya, waye. β. 3 waies, waiyes, 8 waes; (with *is* the) *Sc.* and *north.* 7 wee's, 8 wae's, wa-ins, waist, 9 wa(a)s, waest; 5 *Sc. sup. of adj.* waist, wayest; 1 *North-umb.*, 3 *Lay.* wa. β. 2– wo, (3 wos, wao, wuo, 4 who, 5 whoo, wooe, 6 *Sc.* voo, woi), 4–6 woo, 4– woe. γ. 3 *Orm.* wa33, 2–3 wei, 3–4 wai, way, 4 weye, we. [Com. Indo-European interjection, used as a natural exclamation of lament; its forms fall into types distinguished by variety of vocalism, and reduplicated forms are characteristic of several of the Germanic langs.; most of these langs. have developed a substantival use of the simple forms (through such constructions as that in A. 6), and English and German have developed an adj. use.

OE. *wá*, also *wǽ*, corresp. to OS., MLG. *wē*, (M)Du. *wee*, OHG., MHG. *wē* (G. *weh*, also *wehe*), ON. *vei*, *vá* (Sw., Da. *ve*), Goth. *wai ohai*, and further to L. *væ*, Lett. *wai*, Olr. *fé*, W. *gwae*. (Arm. *vay* and late Gr. *οὐά*, *οὐά*, *οἰαί* are new formations.) Teut. *wai-* is the source of the exclamations F. *ouais*, It. *guai*, Sp. *guay*.

The γ-forms are from ON. *vei* (cf. Wellaway). The spelling *wo* has been long prevalent in exclamatory use, and is still affected in poetry.

The forms properly substantival (as distinct from the above forms, which belong primarily to the int. and adv.) are :—OE. *wá*, also the reduplicated *wǽwa*, MLG. *wēwe*, OHG. *wēwa* m., *wēwa* f. (MHG. *wē*, gen. *wēwes* str. n., *wēwe*, *wēwa* wk. m., str. and wk. f.); otherwise the orig. interjectional forms are used as sbs.

OE. *wēa* entered into compounds in the sense of 'grievous, evil, bad'; one of these, *wēamdæl* peevish, survived into ME., see Wamdi ; so Gothic *wai* in *waidēdjis* Ἀφρῳ̃ν (f.

**woaldþ* = OE. *wōaldād* crime), OHG *wō* in *wōuwrt* evil fate misfortune, cf Lett *waajsch* weak, ill

Forty ily disguised compounds are WELLAWAY, WELLAWO, and WAILE]

**A.** *int* and *adv*

I 1 As an exclamation of grief or lamentation = Alas! Often in combination with another int., as *ah, lo* (see WELLAWO), cf. WABBLEAH *arch*

c1385 *Corpus Christi* Int 327 *Ua*, cuwa [= eow+wa]

c1450 *Death* 167 in *O. Miscr.* 178 Wat I wil nouldestu er I lesse beon a towe? 1497 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 6446 Awey [*y.r* awai] seiz'onge Jonges, frendles were ha bleue c1320 *Cast. Love* 188 A wei, to schame he hit for lef. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13879 Cried he nay per wa nay wy But die I he was ded per he lay

c1400 26 *Pl. Poems* xxiv 166 Allas oure synnes ary, Iwo wo, wo! c1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv 760 At hir he spred gilt sch Forth ran Wa, wa, schon sat 1876 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. 76 Ah wo wo wo! I the wo wo wo! I find! 1729 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles Antig.* v. iv, Wo! and wo! Ah, who shall ever find unsharp'd Vain 1854 PAYNE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 126 And if, ah woe, she loves alone

†**b** with following clause or phrase expressing the object of the lament *Obs*

c1275 *Lord Þi mon in* 21 O wai is he boc, wer þat he eure hit wule þenche in his bonke c1290 *Owl & Night* 120 Wai [= wai] þat hit is þarof tu ou! c1375 LAY. 8133 Wes þet ich nadde be war! c1400 in *Minot's Poems* (ed Hall) App n 23 We for his Pardun.

II. Construed with adjunct (or, later, its equivalent), with or without a verb of being or happening, in sentences expressing the incidence of distress, affliction, or grief

2 In prophetic or denunciatory utterances of the type of OL. *wā þēþ þām mannum* affliction or grief shall be the lot of the men, *woe be to* = may affliction or distress light upon us, *woe is him* — cursed is he, *Obs or arch*

*Lord's iff* 23 Wa i li þe i þe sceal þu h alt ne mid swike þeosafulan fo þe c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Wa þiþ þonne þem mannum þe ne an o þe þa wisan ne fulgiað 1340 WALPSTAN *Hom* xxv [1883] 146 Wa bydd ham þe þer lið stræt bidde to 1430 *Hymns to Virgin & Child* (Maskell) 250 Wo ys him þat ys knowe ne shall 1535 *Northern Passion* 93 (Camb Gg.) Who be þat mun At þat tresen tyme began. 1730 GOMER *Conf* I 98 Nche seide Ha treuw, wo shee be 1400-50 *Alex. & Dind.* 465 Waiaway to wnel me & wa is þow in erthe 1400 MAUNDV. (Roxb) xiii. 55 Wa be to þe, Bethsaida! 1450 *Merlin Textual* 4 Then woo schall be to hom þat shall be þis rebuk 3n þat day 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (R. 181) 41 Heh shall ye be to me the tyme they sude, that ever we shulde put trust to the Frenshe pepule 1533 PAITH. *More* II A vij, Woe be to them that couple and knytte þat in heuen 1548 HALL *Chron. Dystany* an (ed. 2) 273 In his God for carters and plow men but A. y they haue the name of ey shall synne, Woe be the pyse! 1580 *Lucy Accord.* (S.T.S.) xxviii 151 Wais sow 1598 *Grisly Gostly B.* (N.T.S.) 187 Way is the His day of Israell 1683 STUBBE *Annal. Alm.* ii (1882) 97 Woe be to you, if woe were to be the measure and portion of creatures. 1836 LADY MANCH. *Wife & Sist.* (ed. 2) 162 Woe is him whose bed is made in hell 1880 tr. *Joc. Sac. Antiq.* 2 Wo, wo, wo to him that is cut in nether shew! or receive his tidness without due prayer 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 5 Woe to the Villain! if he recollect not that! c1860 *Under Chill's Pinetree*, 11 Don't wail me, three welcome —yet woe to it if they! 1881 MRS. *Harry Ancliffe* xi, But woe is him, if a nasty foe smute him to the quick.

3 In merely declaratory statements of the type of OE. *hun bið* or *is wā* = he will be or is distressed, afflicted, grieved, or sorrowful, ML *hinn est (fuit)* *woe* = he is (much) distressed or grieved *Obs. exc.* as in 8.

c893 ALFRED *Oros.* iv. xi, Þæm folce was ræþlees wa, þæt hie þæt mæste þeel fol to þan sceoldon, se eac þæt hie his stræn to dryhtan ne moston 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 He þan bið set heatrin wa. Some be ine ungeardnisse in ile wa. 1375 engestan ebelen es c1400 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 *Fet þat asinna mea mite mee* Woo is mi soule þat wil I ik here swo la ge c1400 *Orison* in *Minot's Poems* (ed. 2) 54 Off þatt he nohht ne wisste off Crist c1405 LAY. 1660 Swa swiche wa hi was hat wil le fe in 1445 *Ann. Rich. II* 98 Ne is nat hei þat wot 1450 *Owl & Night* 1808 þat þ ob her wo is hom be- 1500 *Lorica M* 3749 Me es wa wa, I nast I wo, fe 1580 *Sir Ferumb.* 209 He was ful wa þan in o þoht, & þe vekede amo ge 1700 *Wife Bath* 268 In ile the wife of the werlde wo is wa theme neuer I c1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 816 Cuthbert sawe, him was full wa

†**b** very freq in *woe is me* (OCLAR. + *to, unto me*) I am distressed, afflicted, unfortunate, grieved. Now only *arch* and *dial*

c1205 LAY 8343 Wa is me þat ich was mon iboren 1340 *Leviticus* in *O. & Hymn* 185 Wa is me I let ic im swa hreowlæs wip þe! c1350 *Will. Palerne* (*Early English Text Society*) 1442 Wais me, douchtir for þe 1400 50 *Wars Alex.* 2975 'Wa is me' quad he, 'was I in val apryl' c1400 *Antura Arth* 196 (Dou e Ms) 'Wa is me for be wo! quod Waynour c1480 HENRYSON *Wallace & Oth. Bruce* 26, Now may þai ded, a dwoine nel ure fre! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. 133 Iut netheles, iubtet I am full wayis me! 1566 *Inventaries Coll.* ix. 16 Wo is vnto me (Wyclif wo to me, CORDALE wo vnto me, 1611 Woe is vnto me) yf I preache n t the gospell 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 25 My sheepe I as waxed (was in me therefore) 1583 G. M[ERTON] *Ist. Dial.* 6 Wastes is me Husband our awn Breads all gane 1729 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* ii. v, Wo is me! Wretch! 1782 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxiii, Woes me for Johnie Ged's Hole now if that thae news be true! 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 150 So whom replied King Arthur, much in wrath 'Ah, miserable and unkind, untrue, Woe is me!' 1892 FLEMINGAL *Fleckless Maiden* 1 Woes me! I'm a maiden fleckless

*Minor Poems* p. xliv, Lastly (woe is me!) I printed it in 1878 from [etc.].

4 *Woe worth* (in 16th and 17th cent sometimes hyphened): may evil befall or light upon; a curse upon; cursed be or shall be often in phr. *woe worth the day (the whale, the time), arch*

c1205 LAY 2562 Wa wrðe auer þene smið c1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 37 Wa wrðe þan þat chaffere c1275 LAY. 801 Wo worþe oneaad *[earlier text* Wale wrðe vnrad] 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 7306 Cursed lasyf and wa worth þe. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 4118 And 3if i wrong seie any word, wo worþ me euer a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 139 Wo worthe wykyde armour!' Percyvelle may say c1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv 744 Alace That I was maide, wa worthe the coursit cruel 1400 *Chaucer's Dreame* 1215 Alas my herte, wo worth my life 1549 *Compl. Scotland* 1 (1872) 34 Wo worth the, O Deuyll, wo worth the, that thou haste made Eue, to worshyppe false Goddes. 1563 *Mirrour for Magistr.* 111 Woe worth the day, wherein I was borne 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 198 My wo worth the time that euer we consented 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 66 I all England, farewell peace, woe worth our Weale and tranquillitie 1683 G. MERTON] *Works Dial.* 16 Woes worth this Trash 1684 BUNYAN *Light for Blind* 3 Then they all wept again, and cryed out Oh, Woe worth the day 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* i. 27 Woe worth the Tongue! my Blisters are not gall, That sinner I mean, I should have wisht 1788 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xv Woe worth that brat, by human tyrsh! 1820 SCOTT *Ivry* of *I* 1 iv, Woe worth the chase, woe worth the day, That cost thee lordly Percy's life! 1822 *Scotch Drink* xv Woe worth that brat, by human tyrsh! 1820 SCOTT *Ivry of I* 1 iv, Woe worth the chase, woe worth the day, That cost thee lordly Percy's life! 1822 *Scotch Drink* xv Woe worth that brat, by human tyrsh! 1820 SCOTT *Ivry of I* 1 iv, Woe worth the chase, woe worth the day, That cost thee lordly Percy's life!

†**b** As an independent exclamation = SCENE I 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 143 Wo wo to the, that are ded to 1568 MASTER *New Nuttanes* 23 Woe worth when trees drop in their proper kinde!

†**c** *Woe worth me!* used occas loosely = *Woe is me* 1886 SWINBURNE *Locrine* v. ii, *Hostile* Woe worth me! *Sabrina* Nay, woe worth Her wickedness 1888 CORNISH *Devil Whale Company* iv, Wo worth me when Agatha the fire woman sees eyes upon it!

d *Woe betide you* (etc.) In mod use *colloq* with weakened sense: You (etc.) will get into trouble (if . .). Also without obj

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* ii. 86 And ar his wedding beo we cupit wo be-hold-ed! *Hid* iii. 110 Ek wedde wyues a3ȝ we be ȝyle! 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. And.* II. iii. 5 Now helpe or woe betide thee euermore 1808 [see Hoime v. ic] 1819 KEATS *La Belle Dame sans Merci* xiv, And this I dream'd it has betide, The latest dream I ever dream'd 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvii, Go to the sack man's chamber and woe betide you if you again quit it without my permission 1820 *Monastery* xxvii, Woe betide you, if I have to clench it much 1868 [see Bitterness 1c]

5. Without verb a const dative (or its equivalent) = *woe be, woe worth, woe betide arch*

c897 ALFRED *Gregory's Past.* C xliv. 328 Hit is to cweþenn Wa eow þe cildrum! but to hi Hwæt 1178 Wa me & us [= we] code! 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Wa eow þe nu hihlust! c1200 *Ormin* 8 Wite xxiii 7 Wa þiss mannes land 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Wa to þe þe þe deuelle mester *Orph. Lettres* 89 Wa to þe þe þe deuelle mester *Orph. Lettres* 89 Wa to him, that in the desert I and Of his travels 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Ill* 185 Wa to ilk ane I fand that dares Defile the stream 1794 LEWIS *Song, Lo the Last Interpress* 23 Now woe to thee, thou cruel one! A bloody man I trow thou be 1829 DE LA BECHE *Sketch Rocks* 15 but woe be to the wicked our father minds are d id 1842 LYTT. *Zanoni* i. ii, Woe be to the wretch who shall hear the barbaton that night! 1850 SCOTT *Lochs. ton, for*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxx Some articles we will minute down with wh h he shall comply, or woe on his head! 1851 *Punch* XXI. 1 Woe be to the Minister who shall dare to propose it! 1854 MRS. STOWE *Uncle T.* xxxvi, Oh, woe for them when they shall wake!

†**6.** *Woe to work* (= person) *woe* = to inflict distress or trouble upon; to afflict, to do harm to Also without regimen *Obs*

Ong *woe* is adv in this phr but later apprehended as sb. (B. II) (Of other kinds, e.g. *Gwelte tun*)

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* (Rtb) cxviii. 138 Þa me gramu worun wordu þinra, and me wa dydan c1200 *Moral Ode* 289 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 177 Ac ter ne deð he m nout so wo in þo | þe beoð oube | at i wrneð þet beore þine ne scal neure lakien unde 1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Is hit no wisdom mon to don so wo him auluen? c1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 49 Hu mon earmdeon anan awakene? ser wib, hit wurcheð þa wa þet i-wurðen is 1340 *Ayenb.* 86 Abraam him folweðe and wolde wa *Ibid.* 2000 De leu ut comen vn neet, And vn lene after þa De dieden þe vn fette wo c1300 *Cursor M.* 5531 Iliat as þe mare þa did Iliam wa Þis folc multiplied & mare c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xiv* (*Theodora*) 624 Pe feynd, cure fa, Coud nocht to wirk hyr wa 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 62, I do þe wele why dost þou woo? c1405 WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. xxv 1321 Hafand þaire sulde noucht, Bot þai mare wa to-brayd. c1500 *Bernard de cura rei fam* iii. 55 He kest the stone to be watter, & lad it wan worghe 1592 HARVEY *Pier. Penn.* xxiii (*Percy Soc.*) 76 It doth right well appeare that love hath done you wo 1883 *Academy* 1648 These ladies . prepare to worke vs woo and doo vs all mischiefe

**B** *sb* (See also A. 6.)

1 A condition of misery, affliction, or distress, misfortune, trouble, grievous or sorrowful state. *poet* or *rhet.*

c1000 ORMIN 897 Bape hemm fell to þolenn wa þurrh fell wiþerne ire *Ibid* 4766 Tenn menn forrines þe gode þoh patt dazz, & þet bilæmpp hemm ojerr wa. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 251 Þan was hure firste name Iudeu þe brocte us to woa, Adam gaf hire nome eua 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 7770 þe king & oþer riche men wolde euere ambe þe sunne þe poure adde wo 1320 *Cursor M.* 2196 Nebrihot Þat in þat time wrogt mikel waa. 13 *Ibid* 22470 (Edin) Quar to sold we be born to day, Quen al þing sal com to way? c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv (*Johannes*) 30 He vald frate quykc þam fla, & þryne þame syne in doule & wa. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4952 Vouthe hem piate in lupardye, In perell and in myche woo 1480 HENRYSON *Prose of Ages* 12 Wrechidnes has wroht all welthis wele to wo 1593 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CLXXXIXXX 308 b/2 The captayne hade had dayly great payne and wo to defende their townes 1598 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 309 For neuer was a Storie of more Woe, Than this of Iuliet, and her Romeo 1655 MILTON *Sonn. Massacre Piedmont* 14 From these may grow A hunder d fold, who Lord, may ly thy Name in the Babylonian woe 1667 — *P. L.* i. 2 The fruit Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal tast Brought Death into the World, and all our woe 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vil.* 160 Pleased with his guests, the good man learned to glow, And quite forgot their vices in their woe 1790 COWPER *Progress of Error* 8 Within your soul a voice there lives! It bids you hear it unto of Woe 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 983 My day's though fow, have pass'd more than my share of woe but more of woe 1814 — *Lara* i. 11 Lord of himself,— that heritage of woe 1820 SCOTT *Ab. xxii*, A screech owl denouncing some dire woe 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 11 Woe is me! Wherefore should I care? 1848 MRS. CARNALL *Mary Barton* iii, Her giddiness, her lightness of com ht, had wrought her this woe

*personified* c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4935 With his labour and travaile Long had ben with sorwe and woe

**b** in conjunction with *weal*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 216 Al þis he kenned wel and wo 13 *Ass.* 3449 Here his folk come wel or weye, Him tofore mys bote deth 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 11 Day & nyght, þt is ossidelly, in wel & in wo 1375 *Leg. Saints xxviii* (*Jacobus*) 235 Pat wele na wa sal neuir mar I nemth ga 1385 CHAUCER *T. C. W.* 687 *Cleopatra*, So nere out of myn herte in remembrance Of wel or wo for carole or for dance c1400 *Pol. Poems* vi. 66 God hab lent yow dis cite, in Pipe of wele and of woo 1567 *Gude Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 189 Greit cruse thryi half for till repent, Bot will I say nocht do so, Nocht for to tell of wo 1611 BIBLE *1 Esdras* i. 31 Whatsoeuer betide of weal or woe 1860 MOTLEY *Nether.* vi. 1 290 Two important commonwealths, up to whose action the weal and wo of Christendom was hanging

**c** In particularized use, chiefly *pl*, Misfortunes, troubles, griefs.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecc.* ix. 12 Or wo to pouel, and to 3it comen tau woo 1587 *Satir Poems* (*S.T.S.*) I. 3 All the woes that Out in Ilium Into 1 as pretty lytill bark did wryte 1598 MONTGOMERIE *Misc Poems* 9 Thir cairis incon tinent with cruive till remeid, Quhais torture of all my woes I wyt 1599 DRAYTON *Heir to Ely* Q. *Anne* 1 Her woe Of woes whose numbers woe seeme lesse 1624 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Bull's Jubilum Rab.* 2 Be Rebells that rise Heed her (se Ireland's) woes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* I. 7 Iunos fears his Garments to be goes Both for his publick and his private Woes. 1714 YOUNG *Force belief* 1 168 Now she ere lives within her anxious mind Weighs all her woes in reserve behind a 1720 SIWIFT *Dial Quakers* (1796) I 61 The Lord sent me to you to warn you of the woes that are coming upon you 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. xiii 132 Who has not been touch'd with the woes of his lovely and gentle queen, subjected by him to a trial of life and death, on a false charge of infidelity? 1850 *Blackw. Mag.* 146 The most fund imental cause of all our present concerns is one

†**d.** *transf* A cause of misfortune *Obs. rare.*

c1400 *Beryn* 1276 My wele, my woo, my paradise, my lyvis sustenance!

†**2** Physical pain or distress, disease or infirmity *Obs* or merged in sense 1

a 1205 *Ancr. R.* 220 He lette ham þolien wo inouh—hunger & þurst, & muchel swinc 1377 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 1918 He was pur mesel bo & he bicom in ai þuiringe hol of al is wo 13 *Northern Passion* 189 (Camb. Ll. 1.) Pat dyd I pin tyll pine and wa And cayre þat thoght hym f r to sha 1340 *Ayenb.* 4 Dyeð 1093 A full wetinge of wat r þis wo wil amende 1400 50 *Alex. & Dind.* 1 Pat wo ne wanie a skins me be wone Of werke wel ne I wide & skke was tholis c1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Prof. 36 Thys holy man leuand mony of his wo 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xvi. 6 Yf I let other seke [1583 CRANMER *Pillage* 1 227 Thus groan the old, till by disease oppressed, They taste a final woe, and then they rest ]

**b** With reference to the pains of hell.

c1200 ORMIN Ded 209 To takenn us off helle wa þa gode swiless alle *Ibid* 1400 Forr whatt tesȝ fellenn done dun off he þe unnrihtt unelle Till alle þe wa off helle 1340 *Ayenb.* 111 *Sy Leg Lg.* 36 þou sendest us þare we gret wo thelds In gret torment and brennínge c1375 SHOREHAM 11 534 Pus þe ded wyl vnapeyred hys, And eke hys þyues, Dampned to mo Moche hys þe pines þat hem eyleþ, And eke þe wo c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 108 He more he dwelleth þeryn long, The more schulle he encreesth woo 1589 *Pasquil's Pro phi* xii 8 Who looks to him with lively faith is sau'd from endless woes.

†**3.** Sorrow, grief, anguish (as a state of mind or feeling). *Obs.* or merged in sense 1.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 263 Pat child was so born child þat In heorte hen hadde wo c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1483 Neiþ wod of witte for woo of þat swete 23 *Gaw & Gr. Knt* 1737 With alle þe wo þat he myȝt drye 1400 [see I. 1 the fun] went away c1400 *Destr Troy* 1360 Mony wymes for woo, of þese wit past c1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 57 Tendrely remembre on the wo & peyne, þat thow souffridst in his passioun c1530 *Cert Love* 258 I for soth, quod she, 'they wailen of their wo' c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxv At My hart, tak nowdir pane nor wa, For Meg, for Meidop, or 3it Mawa 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pack o Lent* (2) The poo e Curres stinke for woe for feare that another I ent is come sodainely vpon them [1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 118 His down-cast Eye reveals his inward Woes.

1719 Young *Busiris* I. 1, What is the big Woe that threshing at my Heart.]

†4. Lamentation, mourning. Chiefly in phr. *to make woe. Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 463 Godard herde here wa, Ther-ofte yaf he nouth a stra. 13 .. *K. Alis.* 2360 (Laud MS.), Michel woo & grete walynges Was made. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1839 *Lucrece*, The woe to tell wil bee impossible, That she and al hir frendes make at-ones. c 1418 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1097 For shame! why makest pou al this wo! 1508 Dunbar *Two Married Women* 437, I haif a wraist spunge for wo, Quhan my wyde clokis Thair wring I it full wyicly, & weis my chekis.

5. An utterance of the word 'woe' in denunciation; an anathema, curse.

c 1300 *Apol. Loll.* p. 21, Her enden the sighte wools that God wilnid to freris. Amen. 1548 Bale *Engl. Votaries* I. 75 He went fearceiye vpon them with wo vpon wo 1637 Rutherford *Let. to L. Creighall* 10 Aug., There is a *woe*, *woe to him by whom offences come*. This woe cause out of Christ's mouth. 1658 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 146 A necessity is laid upon us with a woe, and an Anathema, if we come not to confession. 1828 Scott *Fred. Mold.* xxii, She bore a male-child, under circumstances which added treble bitterness to the woe denounced against our original mother 1841 Mrs. Webster *Aph. Cornelia* (ed. 2) 1 Here is woe & wail, light on the please I) At first I got a gliff o' Betty's face. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* viii. 228 The woe, pronounced by the Saviour—that woe must literally fulfilled.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *woe-hurricane*, *-mark*, *-trumpet* (Rev. viii, ix); also adj. = woeful (cf. C), as †*woe day*, †*-thing*, †*-word*; objective, as *woe-begetting*, *-boding*, *-denouncing*, *-forbodding*, *-revolving* adjs.; instrumental, as *woe-adumbred*, *-besen*, *-bested*, *-cross-wounded* (see Cross- B), *-dejected*, *-delighted*, *-embroidered*, *-exhausted*, *-fraught*, *-illumed*, *-infirmed*, *-stricken*, *-struck*, *-surcharged*, *-wasted*, *-wearied*, *-worn*, *-wrinkled*, *-wroth* adjs, *woe-enwurpt*, *-wrinkle* vbs.; in other advbs. relations, as *woe-betrothed*, *-destined*, *-sprung*, *-wedded* adjs.; †*woe-heart* [cf. C. I b, d], an affliction; also Wosith.

1609 J. Davies *Holy Roode* I 3 Thy †Woe-adumbred Front 1780–92 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 3 The natural progeny of that woe-begetting parent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 370 Al my face So riveled and so †wo besein c1420 Hading *Chron. xciii.* ii, Full †wo bystad with sorowe and with care. c 1450 *Merlin* 82 Wha so ill thinke neuer so wo bestad. c 1530 *Crt. Love* 845 Ye made me wobestad. 1577 Potter *Æschylus, Supplicants* 75 My burstling heart. †woe-betrothed, Ye wes'us friend! 1838 Eliza Cook *World* IV, The raven with its †woe loding tone. 1609 J. Davies *Holy Roode* F 2, Comfort . Her †woe-crossewounded Heart. c1205 Lay. Nu is icumen hin †woe dæ. c 1346 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) I. 48 Ipsis sit Walewaye, meschef irsitsuma woday a 1756 Bubb *Bannocks o' Barley*, Wha in his wae days Was loyal to Charlie? 1788 Cowper *Task* II. 485 Thy cruel, †woe-delighted train 1809 Campbell *Gert. Wyoming* iii. xvi, [He] smote his breast with †woedenouncing hand. 1766 Lluia Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 85 The †woe-denouncing Shastah changes the abode of the souls of these tyrant whites into the frames of †woe-destined negroes 1579 Savage *Wanderer* ii. 203 She muses o'er her †woe-embroider'd Vest. 1591 Nashe *Christ's T.* 26 Adams fall neuer so †woe enwrapped the earth, as the relation of them shall 1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* III. 56 The †woe-exhausted pool. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) I. n. 56 The beleaguered and woeexhausted city 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxvii, Three banners flew †woe-foreboding, distant seen. 1791 T. Paine *Rights Man* 103 †Woe-fraught bi-heat of kesar or of queen. 1818 Holder *Poems* 69 From whose woe-fraught bosom break Those dismal cries! 1639 Rutherford *Let. to Wedster. Kenmure* 1 Och, I hope that Christ, who is married you, married you and all the crosses and †woe hearts that follow you. 1818 Keats *Endym* iv. 537 †Woe hurricanes beat ever at the gate 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 637, I see more clear Thy works within my †woe-illumed mind. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Ep. Ded., My †woe-infirmed Witte, consprired against me 1848 Jun. Rambler I. *Mary Barton* ix, The distress..which was crushing their lives out of them, and stamping †woe-marks over the land. 1824 Symmons tr. *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 61 Many a †woe-revolving grief [πολυθρηνον πνευ]. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 276 Their †woe-sprung tears shall sue. 1850 I. Hackeray *Pendennis* xvii, Arthur could not snow pallid and †woe-stricken her face was. 1770 Hodson *Ded. Temple of Solomon* 2 The Fury of the †Woe-struck King 1828 Carlyle *Misc., Varnhagen* (1840) I. 169 A certain woestruck martyr seal. 1618 Brathwait *Strappado* 97 A †Woe-wasted Carkasse. 1673 Lodowick *Burlesque upon B.* 6 What i must I undergoe thus †wo-thing, And suffer thus for doing nothing? 1619 Drayton *Bar. Wars* IV. xcv, Hee †woe't in longing. 1580 Sidney *Arcadia* *Hist.* 403 While the Church lay under the †Woe-Trumpets. 1826 E Irving *Babylon* iii I. 196 We expect the seventh trumpet, the last of the three woe trumpets. 1614 Chapman *Odyss* xix 700 When all poore men Would get their †wowatcht pow'rs reliev'd. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. iv. 18 My †woe-wearied tongue. c 1390 *Writ, Patern.* 793 He shal slyki a-doun a-slepe ful harde, ac a †wo wery weigh for-waked to-fore. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 2 Wo-werie and wetschod wente ich forth after. 1613 J. Davies *Muses Teares* C 3, When thou Cam'st to repose his Hailes ! †wo-wearied now ! 1577 Potter *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 255 On its woe-wedded (αἰνόγαμον) Paris' hated head. 1879 Browning *Aristoph. Apol. Herakles* Bit This I pondered, though †woe-whelmed. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Heren pat harde word, pat †wword. 1601 *Mary Magd. Lament.* ii. 132 Poore †wo-worn woman. 1795 *Oxford's Psyche* 46 These wan and woe-worn cheeks of mine. 1897 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Brontë* II. xiii. 324 She saw her husband's woe-worn face 1871 Swinburne *Songs bef. Sunrise, Hall bef. Rome* 86 The woe-worn people. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 29 Let me.. waxe olde and †woe-wrinckle my cheekes.

C. *adj.* (orig. and chiefly predicative).

This use has developed by a process common to the history of impersonal expressions in which an original dative has been converted into a nominative: *me is woe* became *I am woe*, as *me longeth* became *I long*.

1. Grieved, wretched, miserable, sorrowful. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

The first instance, like many more in early ME., is doubtful, because it is impossible to determine whether *saucte paul* is dative (900 A. 3) or nominative.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Pa was sancte paul swiðe wa and ahoh him. ... to his leorderes fet. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom* 173 Danne standeð þo wrecches alse þo þe wo beð. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14546 His disciplis pan war ful wa, pat pair maister was hated sua. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1152 Now er men weis, now er nan wa. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* lii. (*Andreas*) 709 Pan was egeas wondir wa, Pat saw hymself confundit sa. 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 369, The swan is ded: his makes is wa. c 1420 Henry *Wallace* I. 401 Willyham was wa he had na wappynis thar. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* viii. xxxix. 334 Ful wo was la Beale Isoud 1513 *Lett. to Douglas' Fort Wks* (1874) I. Bingr. Introd. p. xiii, I am ryght sory and woo therfor. 1543–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 15 It is an olde saying, ' The oxe is neuer wo, tyll he to the harowe goo'. 1553 Coverdale *Ter* xxii 10 Mourne not ouer the dead, and be not wo for them 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 10 My freind, quhat makis the sa wra? 1632 Hodgson *Journ. Scot.* (1840) 72 Quhis understanding that Gadatas was long since full woe and even out of the world for feare 1637 Rutherford *Lett., to T. Corbet* (1671) 173 If I in the least knew was to be a witness against them a 1848 Ln. Herbert *Hen VIII* (1683) 515 He was woo that ever she came into England 1700 Dryden *Wife of Bath's T.* 708 Woe was the Knight at this severe Command! 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 215, I am wae for your Skathe. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* vi, I'm wae ye sud hae cause to say ane. 1825 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 44 Poor Queen !.. I was wae to hear of her sorrows. 1827 Hogg *Three Perils Charac Dreamer* xxxv, She had grown ' was ' as folk said.

*in comp. and sup. forms.*

1378 Barbour *Bruce* xv. 245 Micht no man se sene wrather *[MS. wa-wrath]* than Schyr Ingram 1400 *Alex.* 2004 And he be wrest [*v. r.* wost] of be werd. 14.. *Chaucer's Compl. Pite* 3 (Phillipps MS.) In this worlde was no wight woer 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Lady* 263, I coude noon ne no wrecchidder wrecch wast (*v.r.* wa3est). c 1478 *Pastenay* 285 More neuer ne [he] was woer at no stounde Then off that he hade wemmed his Raymounde.

b. Said of the heart or soul, and in phr. *woe in heart*, etc. ; esp. in north. dial. phr. *wae's t'heart* (*wast-heart*, *waestart*, etc.) = woe is me ! *alas!*

The earliest quota. are doubtful ; cf 2 above.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 136 Ic eom wa on his mode. a 1300 *K. Horn* 175 Pe stuard was in herte wo, For he nuste what to do. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 12440 (Fairf.) For sob myne hert is wa. c 1420 *Gamelyn* 315 Gamelyn he is wo in his mynde was ful woo. c 1440 *Partonope of Blois* 1446 His nas neuer ere so sore aferde Ny neuer in herte hirf half so wo. 1591 Drayton *Harmony Ch.* (Roxb.) 26 Oh holy blessed Sion hill ! my heart is woe for thee. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 366 How woe my hart was. 1695 [see Weeful heart] 1703 Thoresby *Let to Ray* Glos. (E. D. S.), *Wae'st heart*, a condolence to a sorrowful person. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 215 *Wae's heart*, &c. 1728 Ramsay *Anacreontic on Love* 11 With his complaint my soul grew woe 1773 Ferguson *Odd Genial. Epistle to Rankine* 3 Let's hearts fu' wafaul find The heart's dreast want peace o' mind. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 94 An' mony a time my heart's been wae. 1829 J. Hunter *Hal. Forest* (1845) I. 3 Many a heart-ache and heart-wae, an expression of commiseration. 1854 *N. & Q* 1st Ser IX. 349 '*o Westfort*, a common expression of sorrow or condolence among the lower classes around Leeds. 1894 R. Bridges *A Robin* iv, She was my heart, she was my heart in woe.

†c. In exclamations similar to those in A. 2, 3

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22103 Corozain, si be pe wea ! And sua be it, bersabada ! c 1340 Hampole *H. Ab.* (Horstman) I. 165 Wo is he pat wotnot [*lc.* c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 332 Iervsalem, euir va þu be ! c 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 1691 Tha Glaunt hym toke, wo be he ! 1580 *Acts of Parl. Scot.* I. 13 b, A bandy wych Calsyd celyatyne that wo myght she be.

d. In attrib. relation (cf. *woe-day*, etc. in B. 6). *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1670 Stirling *Trouh. Chas I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 103 Some ..left their lodgeings desolate, with wae and sorry hearts. 1728 Theobald *Double Falsehood* iv. 1, If he have a Mother, she's a Woe-woman for him at this Hour. 1788 J. Beugo *Linkum Doddie* 1, I am a woe-worn widow wi' heavy day 1823 N. Munro in *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 784/2 The wae wee chirrup of the yellow yite.

†2. Of an event, circumstance, etc. Woeful, miserable, sorry'. *Obs.*

1388 *Minor Poet. Ejust* (Arb.) 38 Then alas, he was in a woe case 1626 *Day Festevals* vi (1615) 155 Were it not for Bread, it would be woe with Mankind. 1658 Heywood *Wise Woman* III. 4, I hope so, or else I were in a woe case 1648 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif* 69 If he did, it would soone bee woe with us all. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* vi 408 Oh ! woe it is to think So many men shall never see the sun Go down !

**Woe-begone** (wōˑbigɒn), *a.* (*sb*) [The construction out of which this word arose is illustrated by the quots. immediately following, in which an objective pron. is governed by a compound tense of Bego (q. v. sense 8) with Woe *sb.* as subject (*Me is woe bigon* = Woe has beset me) —

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1150 Me nas neuer so woe bigon, Yif thou it wost vnderstond ! For . almost schaue him slon. c 1386 Chaucer *Franklt T.* 588 Noght wolde I telle how me is woe bigon But cas ten outher mistes I dye or pleyne

Subsequently a change of construction took place, parallel to the passing of *me is woe* into *I am woe* (see Woe *a.*), *woe* and *begone* becoming consequently so individually associated as to form a compound.

In the following quot. there seems to be a blend of the old and new construction :

1592 T. Watson *Tears of Fancie* xxxvii, My hart doth whisper I am woe begone me.]

1. ' Beset with woe' ; oppressed with misfortune, distress, sorrow, or grief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13 .. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 312 He went and trent his bed opon, So man þat is wo bigon 1470–85 Chaucer *Rem. Rose* 576 In worlde nys wyght so hardo of herte That nolde haue had of her pyte So wo begone a thyng was she. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 227 Hellen .. Which of the See was wo begon, For pure drede hire herte hath lore 13 *Northern Passion* (1913) l. 140 Lyll anoynt with all his acke body þat walull was and wa began c 1430 *Pol Rel & L. Poems* (1903) 207 Jou mystist han holpe 3ong & oolde Pat ben diseasid and woo-begon. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii 257 Beestys, byrdys, all þase þat lyst rest, when þay ar wo begon. c 1480 Henryson *Sheep & Dog* 1901 So it many one Now in þus warld richt wonder wo be gone. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiii 79 Sa wobegone becam this lusty man That sait teris fast our his cheiks run 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, i. 1, 71 Euen such a man, so faint, so spiritleasse, So dull, so dead in looke, so woe be-gone. 1603 J. Davies *Microcosmos* 190 To succour one another now Were fond. 1685 Beaumont *Psyche* (1898) 93 All wea-begone, thus hu'd the Shepheard long 1805–6 Carr *Dunic., Inf.* xviii. 83 That lofty shade, who seems too woe-begone to succour my distress 1820 Shelley *Edmond* iii. 18, Poor Frank Castlewood, who Edmond thought might be wobegone on account of parting with his Divine Clotilda ]

2. Of persons in respect of their looks, appearance, or manner : Exhibiting or betraying a state of distress, misery, anguish, or grief. Also *transf.* of inanimate objects.

The rise of this sense in the modern period was due to an academic revival of the word, with a certain special reference to such contexts as that of quot 1597 in sense 1.

1802 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Vault* IV 135 You have left all your woe-begone looks behind you 1805 Scott *Lay* iii. v. (1849) 112 The wo-begone heroes . eyed each other with rueful countenances. 1825 Waverton *Wand. S. Amer.* iv. 275 St John's is the capital of Antigua. I present it appears sad and woe-begone 1827 Lockhart *Scott* I. ii 89 A poor mendicant approached, old and woebegone 1860 Sala *Accepted Addr.* 153 It was the most woebegone excavation you ever saw. 1877 Mrs. Murray *Heart's ease*, Remembering how sad and woe-begone the little man seemed at leaving England 1892 J. S. Winter *Arry Mob* xvm, ' And I dare say I should 'a' looked quite as woebegone, laughing at this woebegone picture of herself

*Comb* 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* ii, Some woe-begone looking fellows were laden with our baggage 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ash Mamma* lxvi, A wretched, dilapidated woe-begone-looking place.

b 1822 *ib.* A woe-begone creature.

1879 E. Arnold *Lt Asia* v. 117 Whom sadly eying spake our Lord to one, Chief of the woe-begones 1893 Kipling in *The King's Business* (New Haven, Ct.) 138 The 'dreaming heart of those woe-begones.

Hence **Woe-bego nness**, **Woe-bego nish** *a.*

1826 B. Hall in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) VI. 316 His countenance a little woe begonish 1865 J. Brown *John Leech* viii, *Thackeray's Lambkin* (1882) 169 A woe-begone visage, string at him with an expression of comical woebegoneness. 1885 H. O'Rourke *Narr. Travels & Archip* 153 The intermittent 'All'-al-allahs'—whose very woe-begoneness made me smile

**Wood**, obs. form of Wood *a.*

**Woeful** (wōˑfūl), *a.* Also **woful**. [*f.* Woe *sb.* + -ful. (Revived or newly formed c 1750.)]

1. Of persons, their attributes, actions, etc : Full of woe ; afflicted with sorrow, distress, or misfortune ; sorrowful, mournful.

a 1300 *Cursor M* 11564 Ful waful made he mani wijf ! c 1384 Chaucer *H Fame* I 214 Wepynge with ful wofol chere 1390 Gower *Conf.* III 260 Wher ther myhten se The wofulleste upon this Molde 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. v. 156 Herynge aboute hym many complayntes of wofull lenyngMen 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. Prol. 58 It sperit be hys wofull contenens, that schee was in grite dout ande dreddour 1557 Grimalde in *Tottel's Misc* (Arb.) 112 For Wilford fell this traytour wofull ende 1587 Fuller *Hist. Iwche* Introd (1621) A 4, The infinite number of wofull Christians (whose grieuous groanings under the heauy yoke of infidelitie no tongue is able to expresse) 1652 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* v. ¶ 14 They dispatch Petition after Petition, Embassie on Embassie, representing their wofull estate. 1800 Irving *Sketch Book* xi, When Soulby thought on his merciemen now, A woeful wight was Soulby *Ballad Eve, Milton* P 45 I he haggard and woful stare of the eye. 1885 E. Arnold *Secret of Death* 10 Be sure that woeful father wept.

2. Of times, places, etc. Fraught with woe, affliction, or misery ; miserable

a 1300 *Cursor M* 2882, I rede 3ow take Essaumple bi his wafol wrake c 1400 *Melayne* 260 Oure knyghtis one be grounde lyes With wondis sore one wedell wyse 1580 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 7 This is a wofull werde 1592 Shaks. *Rom & Jul.* iv. v. 49 O wo, O wofull, wofull, wofull day. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit* 1 240 That wofull warre betweene the houses of Lancaster and Yorke. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw* 554 In this wofull Iowne dwell not above two or three hundred Inhabitants. 1723 *Pettt Gen* 1 In this wofull estate of antient splendour, and lamentable condition of your Majesties Dominions. 1777 Dalrymple *Trav. Sp & Port* liv Many old palaces going to ruine, the woeful memorials of antient splendour. 1893 Scott *Grey Brother* 22, A woful place was that, I ween. As sorrow could desire 1853 Hawthorne *Tanglewood T., Minotaur* 28 The wofulest anniversary in the whole year.

3. In weakened or trivial senses : Such as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction ; ' grievous ', ' sad ', unpleasant ; very bad, poor, or mean ; ' pitiful ', ' deplorable ', ' wretched '.

1619 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B 3, These mens honesties are like their states, At piteous, wofull, and at low pris'd rates. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 496 Mun, poore childe, is a woefull scholler. 1650 B. *Discourse tobacco* 2 It is a woefull while a coming. 1692 Mrs. D'Anvers *Academia* 53 She's in a woful taking, When once she comes to miss her Breeding. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 418 What woful stuff this madrigal would be. 1723 Chambers tr. *La Clerc's Archit.* I. 117 Two Imposts over each other would have a woful Effect. 1778 S. & Hr. Lee *Cant. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 146 [She] had many good qualities, but was a woeful manager of children. 1823 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* Isliil, He...has a woful consciousness upon him of being a scapegrace. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* II. 44, I had to return to camp...in a woful plight, minus my hat, and my shirt torn to ribbons. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 9 June 176/3 Wild dogs have...made woful havoc of the sambar and spotted deer. 1920 *Ibid.* 2 Sept. 558/1 The woful results of uncritical thinking.

**4.** In comb. with another adj., as *woeful-wan*; also advb. = Woefully.

1592 Greene *Ploggs* 107 Her drooping, woeful-wan, like one forlorn. 1794 *Girlhood of M. T. Holroyd* (1896) 259 His others are woful bad. 1820 S. Rogers *Hum. Life* 283 One woeful-wan, one merciless as mad.

**Woefully** (*wō*-fūli), *adv.* Also **wofully.** [f. Woeful + -ly 2.]

**1.** In a woeful manner or condition; miserably, grievously; mournfully, sadly. *arch.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 198, I am A womman wofully bestad. *Ibid.* 269 Whan thei here How wofully this cause fedde. *c* 1480 Henryson *Testam. of Fox* 275 The 3owr...Put hir playnt on this wyis wofullie. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 300 b, As thou were so wofully arayed. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 23 Where many wofully for wailing woefully. 1654 Middleton, etc. *Old Law* v. i, These that do lead this day of jollity Doe march with Musick...Those that doe follow sad, and wofully. 1718 Toulmin *Bickerstaffe's Life* Rem. Wks. (1660) 35 That wofully distracted Church. 1752 Smollett *Per. Pickle* cxiii. [cv], I know...what makes you laugh so woefully. 1864 Tennyson *Dolorous Stroke* xiii, 'I suppose she thinks so of me,' said Belton woefully. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 570 Wofully wed in a snow strewn bed.

**2.** So as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction; grievously, deplorably, 'sadly'.

Occas. as a mere intensitive = *awfully, terribly.*

1648 Jeremy Taylor *Blind Guide* iii. 58 You say but very little, but in that little you wofully trifle. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xxiv, Thou base once wealthy, irreparably deceived me. 1832 James *Philip Aug.* xiv, Of defences armour the supply was wofully small. 1843 *Peter Parley's Ann. IV.* 266 Mrs. Clinker, who was woefully, as the termed it, fond of pigs. 1885 *Truth* 11 June 1481/1 The butter exhibits are...woefully bad, and deplorably uninteresting.

**Woefulness** (*wō*-fūlnĕs). *arch.* [f. Woeful + -ness.] Woeful condition; and misery

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* 1. 3151 O dredefull dethe.. Takynge our hertes from us full brought vs to thraldomnesse, wofulnes and peyne. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. (1922) 61 The harte snuffed up with wofulnes. 1686 G. Stuart *Succ. Astr.* 2 Their wonderful misery, Wofulness[] seem'd vanish't. 1867 Morris *Jason* xvii. 1118 He...muttered low for fear and woefulness.

**Woele,** obs. form of Wheel.

**† Woeless,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 **woles.** [f. Woe *sb.* + -less.] Free from woe.

*c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 28 Petously complene 30r woles pane.

**Woemen,** obs. pl. of Woman.

**† Woeness.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 *Sc.* **wanes.** [f. Woe *sb.* + -ness.] Grief, sorrow.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 80 The wemen...tuke sic melancoly, That sum for wanes lap into the se.

**Woer, Woerd, Woes:** see Woore, Word, Ooze.

**Woe-worn** (*wō*-wŏrn), *a.* Also *Sc.* **wawsome.** [f. Woe *sb.* + -some.] Woful.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* xliv, She kend her lot would be a wawsome ane. 1867 G. Macdonald *Songs Summer Nts.* i. iii, 'Tis not a flowing wind, I see—An ebbing wawsome thing. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 736/1 The wawsome blade passed through Lakanoo's breast-bone, cutting a wawsome gash.

**Wof,** obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Wrave *v.*

**Woff,** var. Waff *v.* 3

1570 Levins *Manip.* 158/40 To woff like a dog, *latritare.*

**Woft,** Sc. var. Waft *sb.*1

**Wog,** obs. Sc. f. Vogue *sb.*

*c* 1700 M'Ailie *Cert. Cur. Poems* (1828) 6 For we declair it wnto yow, The man hes gott the wog.

**Woggle** (*wŏ*-g'l), *v.* Variant of Waggle *v.*

1848 Rennie, *Johnny Newcome* (ed. 2) to Woggle 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 767/1 I woggle my machine [*sc.* an aeroplane] from side to side. 1921 S. Graham *Europe—Whither bound?* 112 The miserable great waggons of open horse-trains woggled along the main ways.

**Wogue,** obs. Sc. f. Vogue.

**Wogul, vogul** (*w-*, *vō*-gul). Also 8 **Vogoul, Wougoul,** 9 **Wogule, Vogule.** [Russian Вогулъ, G. *Wogul*, etc.] One of a tribe of the Ugrian stock inhabiting Tobolsk and Perm. Hence † **Wogulian** (collan); **Wogule** *a.* [G. *Wogulisch*].

1698 tr. *Brand's Trnl. Embassy* 91 Wogulitrol.] 1760 W. Tooke *Russia* I. 157 The Vogouls. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 84 The Wogolians are rather below the middle stature. *Ibid.*, A Wougoul village is commonly composed of one family. 1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 256 Classes...of Languages...; Siberian, Permian, Vogulic. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 8/2 The Vogule...on the eastern slopes of the Urals.

**Woh,** var. Wough, Wow *sb. Obs.* **Wohe,** obs. f. Woo. **Wohey,** etc.: see Wo. **Woice,** obs. f. Voice.

**Woid(e,** obs. Sc. ff. Void, Wood *a.*

**Woidie,** var. Voidie. **Woifen,** obs. Sc. pa. pple. of Weave *v.* **Wois, woise,** obs. ff. Whose. **Woitting,** obs. Sc. f. Voting. **Woiwode,** var. Voivode.

**† Woke,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 -wac (1 wace, *inf.* wake), 4 *north.* wak, 4–5 wake; *β.* 3–3 woo, (3 woo, *inf.* woke), 3–5 wok, 5 woke; 1 *comp.* wacere, *superl.* 1 wacost, 4 wakkest. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Goth. and Fris.): Obs. *wāc*, corresp. to OS., MLG. *wāk*, MDu. *waec* (Du. *weak*), OHG. *weih* (MHG., G. *weich*) yielding, soft, ON. *veikr*, *veyk-r* (Sw. *vek*, Da. *veg* soft, Norw. *veik*) weak :— OTeut. **waikwo-*, f. **waikw-*1 **wikw-* to yield, give way: see Wike *v.* Cf. Weak *a.*, a. ON. *veikr.*

The word died out in the 15th c., being superseded by Weak; if it had survived, its form in mod.Eng. would have been **woak* (wak), the vowel being modified in quality by the initial (w) and shortened by the final (k).]

= Weak *a.* in various senses. **a.** Pliant, flexible (only OE.). **b.** Lacking in strength, vigour, endurance, or courage; inferior physically or morally. **c.** Low] in status or degree; insignificant.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlii. 306 Sua sua wæc hreod & iidel, þe mic hwiða windes mæg sweggan. *a* 1000 *Wanderer* 69 Ne sceal no to hatheort ne to hrædwylde ne to wac wiga, ne to unwitful. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 9 Ic Ælfric munuc and messepreost, awa þeah waccre þonne swilcum haidum gebyrige. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 191/18 *Lentus*, wacc. 1050–73 (Ælfric) in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430, ii forealdode ræddingbec swiðe wake, and ii. wac messereaf. *c* 1200 Ormin 18238 Icc annm i me sellfenn wac & full off unrihtwisnesse. *c* 1205 Lay. 23393 Ah fehten ich wulle..wð Arðure kinges, whaðer unkere swa beoð þere wakere sone he hit þe laðere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 128 Do wel & dere þe suluen euer woc. *Ibid.* 52 Ofte a ful hawes smið smaleð a ful woc hauk. *c* 1230 *Hali Meið.* (1922) 9 Drehen se moni wa, for swa wac huire ne te world forȝelt euuer at ten ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2197 Sho wald wirken Sathanas, an wac wimman. 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 581 in *O. E. Misc.* 135 Min hew falewiþ, and min wlite is wan, and min hreðe woc. *a* 3... *Gen. & Ex. Knt.* 354, I am þe wrecche wif of Loth, þe stinkende. *c* 1275 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 389 For þu art wak & gret with barne. *c* 1325 *Engl. Conq. Ireland* 146 The englyssche weren both wrþh & wok, þat wes sayn[e] to þyght, þe Iresshe stronge & bold to wyrthstonde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 296 Then callyd he norys to be modyr, and bade hur...helpe hur forto fede þe childys cloþis; for schio was to woke, and myȝht not welde hom. 1597 Hamond *Antid. Infect. in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Oct. 743 With inuincible mayme that maketh me wake. *d.* *Wake fish* [cf. G. *weichfisch*], dried cod, stockfish.

1586 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. H Lond.* (1907) 290 Stockfasshe [called] half woxefisshe (*sic*).

**† Woke,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wacian, 3 wakien, 3–4 woke, wokie.** [OE. *wācian*, f. *wāc* Woke *a.*]

**1.** *intr.* To grow or become weak, to weaken; to become less severe, be mitigated.

893 *Chron. Æthelwerd* iv. 2 Þæm mæ mihte oncnawan þæt se cniht nolde wacian æt þam wige. 2003 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Donne se hereteoa wacað, bonne bið eall se here swiðe zehindred. *c* 1205 Lay. 2938 þa nældeð þa king & wakien æt þan wrecche. *Ibid.* 13466 Þa hes weren sone þe runken þæt wakeden heore sconken. *Ibid.* 19708 His hearte gon to wakien [*c* 1275 woke]. *c* 1275 *Signs of Death* 4 in *O. E. Misc.* 121 Þe hefd wokeð in þeou blokeþ And þi strengþe wokeþ. *c* 1374 [see Weak *v.* 2].

**2.** *trans.* a. To dilute, water. b. To soften (in quot. *fig.*). c. To soak in water: = Weak *v.* 1 b.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 339 As who so filled a tonne of a fesshe ypyked, And went forth with þat water to woke with themese. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xv. 25 Ac grace groweþ nat til goode wil gynne reyne, And wokie þorwe good werkes þikkede herte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524 [He] with warme water of hus eyen wokeþ hit til hit white.

Hence † **Woked** *ppl. a.*, steeped.

1408–9 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. H Lond.* (1909) 71 [A proclamation forbidding the selling of watered fish] persoun eawe [called in English] Wokedfysh.

**Woke,** obs. pa. t. of Ache *v.*; pa. t. and pple. of Wake *v.*; obs. form of Oak, Week.

**† Wokely,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *wāclice*, f. *wāc* Woke *a.*: see -ly 2.] Weakly, feebly, poorly.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 34 Nu is se ȝeerrowne emiges eadres. *c* 1200 Æ*Lfric Hom.* I. 598 Ȝeh wam sceamaȝ, ȝif he ȝelaðod bið to wouldlicum ȝyftum, ðæt he wuclice ȝeworyd cume. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Ȝif þu...werest te ernest wocliche [MS. Corpus þrildeliche] & ȝiuest þa uttonde inwrihte. *c* 1230 *Hali Meið.* (1922) 10 Þe poure, þe beoð wacliche þeuen and biset on vuele.

**Woken,** *ppl. a. rare.* [pa. pple. of Wake *v.*] Awakened.

1649 C. Wase *Sophocles, Electra* 2 Birds with chirping Mattins call from bed The woken Suns already rising head. 1924 *Serena Blandish* vii. 120 Her newly woken spirit.

**† Wokeness.** *Obs.* [OE. *wæcnes*, f. *wāc* Woke *a.*: see -ness.] Weakness, debility; (in OE. also) lowliness, inferiority.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 68 Hi bændon ðæt ða xymstanas awendon to heora wacnysse. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 1584 (Napier 37) *Ultitas, adiectio*, wæcnys. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 83 Þu hafdest me imaked glad and blibe; ac ich hes hause forloren for mine wocnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Þei we beoð sen ure ȝerune fehleose & ure ȝerune muchele unstrencðe, & ure ȝerune wocnesse. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 273 And te strengðe of þe helpe mi muchele wacnesse. 1547 *Trst. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 258 The debilitie and wakenes of my bodie.

**2.** Moisture. (Cf. *wakness* s.v. Wak.)

**Wokethistle.** *Obs.* [app. f. Woke *v.* (2 c) + Thistle *sb.*] The tessel (the upper leaves of which form a cup, which is usually full of water).

*a* 1389 *Sinon. Bartholom.* (Aneed. Oxon.) xy *Labrum veneris*, an. wokethistel.

**† Wol(e, woll,** *adv. Obs.* Orig. unstressed form of Well *adv.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1905 Putifar was wel riche man. 13.. *Cur. de Lv.* 1280 A wol bold barcun. 1399 Lydg. *Rich. Redeles* I. 67 Woll wo beth he wones. *a* 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 75 My cause xal be wol I-doo. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 178 Daiis wole dulcett for to dresse.

**Wol(e** = see While, Will, Wool.

**Wolant, Wolbede,** etc., **Wolcome,** obs. ff. Volant *a.*, Woubit, Welcome.

**Wold** (*wōld*). Forms: *a.* 1, 3, 4–6 *Sc.* wald, 5 walde, 7– *dial.* waud, 8 *dial.* wadd, 9 *Sc.* wauld. *β.* 3– wold, 4–6 wolde, 5–8 would, 7 wowld, *pl.* woles, 8 woald. *γ.* 6–7 old, 7 ould. See also Weald. [Com. Teut. (not extant in Gothic): OE. (Anglian) *wald* (WS. *weald*: see Weald) str. masc. forest, wooded country = OFris. *wald* forest, MDu. *woud*, *woold* (Du. *woud*), OS. *wald* forest, ? wilderness (MLG., LG. *wold*), OHG. *wald* forest, wilderness (MHG. *walt*, *wald*- forest, wood, timber, G. *wald* forest), ON. *vǫllr* untilled field, plain (Sw. *vall* pasture, Norw. *voll* grassy plain) :— OTeut. **walþus*, of which the ulterior relations are doubtful. (From Teut. is derived OF. *gualt*(*a*) woodland, scrub, untilled land, whence *gaudine* bower, grove.)

After the early 16th cent., the word ceased to be in general use and became restricted to local districts in which it entered into the proper designation of characteristic tracts of country, probably at one time thickly wooded; thence arose the general literary (esp. poetical) use defined in sense 3.]

**† 1.** Forest, forest land; wooded upland. *Obs.*

*a* 700 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 344 In limen wero wealdo, & in barh wæro walda. *a* 1000 *Vision Leofric* 305 se hlanca ȝefeah wulf in walde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 10 Wilde deor þet on þeos wilde waldes wunieð. *c* 1300 in Stow *Surv. Lond.* (ed. Strype 1755) II. 5/1 *Nemus vocat*, Fabi de Walds. 1313 in Sonnini *Recueil Forêt Kent* (1790) 210 Septem Dennas in sylva num vocatur Wald. *Ibid.* 213 Homines quoque de Walda debent unam domum æstivalem quod Anglice dicitur a Somer-hous, et unam ad duras. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3799 Pai druȝe furth be dissert & drinkles þai spill, Was nouthire waldis in þar walke ne watir to ryne.

**† 2.** A hill, down. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 21530 Childric com sone ouer wald liðen [*later text* ouer dounes wende]. *Ibid.* 25258 Na whit leo ne funden quikes uppen wolden [*later text* vp þan hulle]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 938 Dre der he toc, ile ðre ȝer hold, And sacreds god on an wold. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Þe holy gost hyne ledde vp into þe wolde For to beon ȝuonded of sathanas. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 Y• Walde, *alpina*. *a* 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* 154/436 Hereby apon a wolde Schepardis wachyng there fold. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. xiii. 11 The trawelour yond vnder the wald Lurkand wythdrawis to sum sovir hald. [1590 Cambrn *Britannia* 279 *Cotswold*.. Montes enim & colles *Wealdis* olim dicerunt Anglo-Saxones, unde antiquum Alpes Italiæ *The Woulds of Italie* interpretatur.]

**3.** A piece of open country; a plain; in early use (with *the*) sometimes = 'the plain', the ground, the earth; in later use chiefly, an elevated tract of open country or moorland; also *collect. pl.* or *sing.* rolling uplands. (Frequent since *c* 1600 in vague poetical use.)

*c* 1205 Lay. 10001 Stod he wundliche wude amidden ane walde [*later text* wolde]. *Ibid.* 16461 Hengest bah a þene walt [*later text* Hii wenden in to þan felde]. *Ibid.* 20842 Penne he bið baldest sifenne þeos walles. *c* 1300 *Beryn* 606 Elpes..to-gaddre gon o wolde, So sep ðat cumen ut of folde. *Ibid.* 757 Ilk der ðe him here6 to him cumeð, And folez6 him up ure fe wold. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. 355 Thair fayis, with thair mycht, noyand, Quhill to the wald cummyn war thai. Syne nyrtheward tuk thai hame thar way, And dispersyt, in thair natyve partis, ouir al Italy wyde-ware. 1548 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 207 No man with convyn herd me with sched herd com on the wold after gresse be mowen to fe me maked and led away. *c* 1565 *Coll. Pervav.* 825 in *Bibl. Piscator.* Whyl he walkyth in worldly wolde, I, Bakbyter, am with hym holde. 1577 *Hist. Arrivall Edw. IV* (Camden 1838) 26 Aboute that place was a great sand a fewe yeres before, and a wold. 1583 Douglas *Æneis* ix. xi. 13 Rane..dois smyte apon the wald [orig. *Aumont*]. 1838 Stanley *England* (1879) 73 The west groundys (as hathyn, Stanmore and oldyn). 1589 Harrison *England* ii. xiii. 208 in *Holinshed*, This may suffice for the vse of the word Wald, which now differeth much from Weld. For as that signifieth a woodie soile, so this betokeneth a soile without wood, or plaine champaine countrie, without anie store of trees. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iii. iv. 125 Swithold footed thrice the old. 1638 W. Denny in *4 sev. Dudrensis* (1877) 16 Faire fleec'd Sheepe, which beautifie the Woulds. 1740 Somerville *Hobbinol.* i. 237 On the bleak Would the new-born Infant lay, Expos'd to Winter Snows. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* iv. xiii, Or who may dare on wold to wear The fairies' fatal green? 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxix, Till he...from his further bank Ætolia's wolds espied. 1832 Tennyson *To Y. S.* i. I, The wind, that beats the mountain, blows More softly round the open wold. 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* 1st Ser. 111, *Blasphemer's Warn.* 3 With broad lands, pasture, arable, woodland, and wold. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* Prol., Between the forests

were open wolds. 1905 A. C. Benson *Thread of Gold* iii, Beyond all ran the long pure line of the rising wold.

**b.** *fig.*

1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Pilgrimage* lii, That led me to the wilde of passion, which some call the wold. *a* 1640 Jackson *Creed* x. Notes to xxii. 3141 Though I have cut up in the Wolds of Gentilism, and layd together a Turf or two. 1897 L. Morris *Epic of Hades* ii. 217 The thick-leaved coverts deep And wind-worn wolds of life.

**c.** in alliterative conjunction with *wood* (occas. with *waste, wild*).

1813 Scott *Triermain* ii. xi, On vent'rous quest to ride,...by wood and wold. 1821 — *Pirate* xxvi, On they went, through wild and over wold. 1847 *Longm. Esq.* ii. iv, The notes of the robin..Sounded sweet upon wold and in wood. 1896 J. Dickson *Third St. Eclogues* Ser. ii. 70 And waste and wold Took heart and shone.

**4.** Used in the specific designations of certain hilly tracts in England, viz. the hill country of the East and North Ridings (*Yorkshire Wolds, † York(e)s-wold, + York-wolds*), the Cotswold district, the hilly districts of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire.

1478-8 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 157/2 Fell called Shorlyng and Morlyng, growyng in Yorkeswold. 1598 *N. Country Wits* (Surtees 1908) 101 My mother in Willoughby upon the wolde. 1596 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 408 Those large champaignes of Yorkswold, and Cotswolde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* Description Part of it [sc. Leicestershire] is called the Wold, as being hilly without wood. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxvi. Argt., Tow'rds Lester then her course she holds, And sailing o'er the pleasant Ouldz, She fetcheth Soare down from her springs. 1622 W. Burton *Leicestersh.* 306 Waltham on the Wouldes. 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 18 Sheepe of the grasse that groweth on the landes, and especially on the leyes of the wolds, is a small, sparrie, and dry grasse. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1022 In some woodly parts of the Wolds in Lincoln-shire. 1692 Meriton *Pratts York-sh. Ale* (ed. 3) 80 (East-Riding Yorks.) For *Wolds* or *Woulds* [they say] *Wauds.* 1725 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 95 The Yorkshire Wolds, called here the Wadds. 1778 Pennant *Tour in Scotl. & Yorkshire*, A large tract called the York-Woulds. 1892 Scrimpsher *Fields & Cities* 20 The north of Lincolnshire is.. high and dry. It is called the 'Wolds,' but does not mean big stones and heather. The Wold is not a moor; it is a succession of good turnip fields.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wold-dweller, -fire, -hill, -land; wold-like* adj.; wold-mouse, a vole; **woldsman**, a dweller in the wolds.

1909 M. C. F. Morris *Nunburnholme* 12 The early *Wold-dwellers. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* ii. (1814) 147 Like *wold-fire, at midnight, glare it on the waste. 1819 'Sylvanus' *Bye-lanes & Downs* Introd. p. ix, A view of pastures, turnip and corn-fields, and *wold-hills, terminating in a distant glimpse of the ocean. 1907 *Yorksh. Archæ. Journ.* XIX. 12 The *wold land about Louth. 1848 Lytton *Harold* i. iii, Lands..wild and *wold-like. 1892 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 5/1 Voles, or *wold-mice. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 138, I am told by the experienced *woldsmen, that there is as great difference as possible in the neatness of the making up the sheaves. 1895 *Naturalist* 320 The Louth woldsmen were in the habit of attending Lincoln [market].

Hence **Wolder** in *Yorkshire wolder*, an inhabitant of the Yorkshire wolds.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 139 The experience of our Yorkshire wolders.

**Wold**, var. *gould*, pa. pple. of Quell, to kill.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 255 Til he was on de rode wold, And biried in de rockes wold. *Ibid.* 420 Abel an hundred 3er was hold, Pan he was of is brober wold. *Ibid.* 526 Eor is writen quat saie a wold, Dat sin werld was wexe wold.

**Wold(e**, obs. ff. Old, Weld *sb.*[2], Wield, Would.

**† Wolden-eiged**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [App. an alteration of *wald-eiged* Wall-eyed *a.*, due to the influence of ME. **walden*, Oe. *gewealden* small. Cf. Waldenein.] ? = Wall-eyed *a.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1727 (Laud MS.) Alle wolden-eiged hii [*sc.* the Albanians] leep by nigth ala a Catt hii seep.

**Wole**, obs. f. Whole, Will, Would, Wool, Would. **Wolen**, obs. form of Woollen.

**Wolf** (wulf), *sb.* Pl. **wolves** (wulvz). Forms : *Sing.* 1–6 wulf, 3–4 wif (dat. -ue), 4–6 wulfe, 4–7 woulf(e, 4 wulff, (1 uulf, 4 *Sc.* wolf, 5 wilfe, wulfe, *Sc.* woulf, 5–6 woulff(e, 5–8 woolf(e, 6 wolphe, *Sc.* vuolfe, vulue, 8 *Sc.* wowf, 7 wolph, in Comb. wolve, 8 *Sc.* wouf, 9 *Sc.* woof). 3– wolf. *Gen.* 1 wulfes, 3 wulues, etc., 4–6 wolfes, 5 wolfys, 6 wolfues, woluis, 6–7 woolfes, -ues, 7 wolues, 8 wolve's, 7– wolf's. *Pl.* 1 wulfas, 3–4 wulues, 3–7 wolues, 4–6 woulfes, 4–7 wolfes, (4 woluys, -es, wolwes, *Sc.* wo(o)lfes, 5 wolueus, vulves, 6 woulves, wolfues, wolfys, wulphes, *Sc.* woulfis, woulfes, wolffis, wolf(f)is, wolfis, voluis, vowris, wowves), 7 wolfs, 7–8 woolfs, 4– wolves. [Com. Teut. and Indo-European : OE. *wulf* = OFris. *wolf*, OS., MLG. *wulf*, MDu. *wolf*, *wulf* (Du. *wolf*), OHG., MHG., G. *wolf*, ON. *ulfr* (Sw. *ulf*, Da. *ulv*), Goth. *wulfs* :— OTeut. ***wulfas*. Feminine formations in Germanic are OE. *wylf*, OHG. *wulfa* (MHG. *wülfe*), ON. *ylgr*.

Indo-Eur. ***wlpo-s-* is represented outside Germanic by Skr. *vṛkas*, Zend *vəhrkō*, Gr. Αὐκος, Alb. *ulk*, Arm. *gail*, L. (dial.) *lupus*, OSl. *vlŭkŭ*, OPruss. *wilkis*, Lith. *vilkas*, Lett. *wilks*, and the corresp. fem. ***wlpī-s-* by Skr. *vṛkī*, Lith. *vilkė*, Russ. *volčica*.

Various details of these relationships have been much disputed, and the proposed ultimate connexion with Gr. Ἀλεξω to draw, OSl. *vlěkŭ*, Lith. *velkù* to tear, or L. *vellĕre* to pluck (see Wool *sb.*) is problematical.]

**1.** A somewhat large canine animal (*Canis lupus*) found in Europe, Asia, and N. America, hunting in packs, and noted for its fierceness and rapacity. Also applied, with or without defining word, to various other species of *Canis* resembling or allied to this : see also Prairie-*wolf*, Timber-*wolf*.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 332 *Lupus*, wulf. *c* 1000 *Be manna wyrdum* 12 (Gr.), Sceal hine wulf etan, þæt hæstlapa. 1205 Lay. 21305 þenne comed þe wlf wilde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5774 King eagar..het þat he him sende sech 3er..þre þousend of wolues in name of trauge. 1326 Hamtoun *Pr. Consc.* 1208 Lyouns, libardes and wolues kene. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 207 Wanderen as wolues, and wasten 3if þei mouwen. *Ta* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3446 The wolues in the wode, and the wilde bestes. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 26/2, I sought the, to thende that of the vnlues ne of the euyll bestes thou were not eten ne all to torne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxii. 57 Throw biddowis yowling of the wowf (*rime* growf). 1510 *Kal. New Leg. Ency.* (Pynson) 5 b, Two wood wulphes. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 66 Ettine with vowis lippis and cuddis beist. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 72 The harris, lyone, wolfis, foxis, and dogis. 1558 Huloet, Wolfes denne, *lupanarium*. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, i. 242 The trembling damme, inuironed with Wolues. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 153 The best and fillets of a Wolues Liuer. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 87 The Woulues [are] not much bigger then our English Foxes. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1826) 50 Wolves, of which are found two sorts, the one Mastiff Wolf thick and short..; the Greyhound Wolf long and swift. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. iii, 190 Two huge Wolfs. 1678 Phillips *Pensor* 56 The Wolves's Portion, or the Vulture's Prey. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 305 Assembling wolves in raging troops descend. 1730 Ramsay *Fables, Condemned Man* 7 The wowf and fod. 1824 Lewis & Clark *Trav. Missouri* (1815) I. 206 We caught in a trap a large gray wolf. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* xv. 48 The wolves howled from the prairies. 1858 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 99 The American wolf, *Canis lupus occidentalis*. 1880 Hulbert *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 378 The Indian Wolf, *Lupus pallipes*,.. approaches the Jackals. 1888 R. Cowper *Caedwalla* 55 I have a wolf in my dog-kennel, and my wolf-dog which can hurt me. 1890 Mivart *Dogs, Jackals*, etc. 6 The size and proportions of the Wolf roughly resemble those of a large mastiff. 1894 Rolleston & Jackson *Life-hist. & Morphol.* 548 The true Wolves are (excluding some varieties of the domestic Dog) the largest members of the genus, and have a white patch on the tail-tuft. 1900 *Nature* 30 Dec. 561/1 The South American manod wolf..carrying its head very low.

**b.** In comparisons, with allusion to the fierceness or rapacity of the beast; often in contrast with the meekness of the sheep or lamb.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Hionu ic sende iuih sum swa wulfas on midlunge scaifa. *c* 1205 Lay. 23 Corineus heom rade to swa þe rimie wulf. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 31 [He] Bigon anan ase wed wulf to weorrin hali chirche. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 Hengest..þe he wolde habbe þe lond..þanne wolf is a lomb. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4047 Al so wolf þe schip gan driue, Arthour smot hem alle swipe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1. 1. 1.

What is call'd by..Surgeons a Wolf, is a sort of Cancerous Ulcer, more properly so called when in the Legs. 1741 [see Tait. 18.] 103. 1796 Pennie *Anonym.* (1809) 108 The common people usually call a cancer in the breast a Wolf. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 153 All sorts of cancers, wens, and wolves.

† b. = *wolf's-tooth* : see 10 f. *Obs.*

1607 Markham *Cavel.* VII. xxxvii. 54 The woolfes..are two sharp teeth more then nature allowes, growing out of the vpper iawes, neere to the great teeth.

†. A name for apparatus of various kinds. † a. An ancient military engine with sharp teeth, employed for grasping battering-rams used by besiegers. *Obs.*

1489 Caxton *Feyttes of A.* II. xxxvi. K vj, Men make another engyn whiche is called wolffe that hath an yron bowed with grete and sharp teeth whiche engyn is in suche manere sette to the walle that byt cometh and grepith the masse of the mouton, and holdeth it so fast that hit can not be drawe nother forward nor bukward. 1632 Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 110 Nor had they as much as iron Howles (*orig. lupi*) and Crows to grapple the Ram withall.

b. A kind of fishing-net : also *wolf-net* (see 10 e).

1795 *Bradley's Family Dict., Wolf*, the name of a Net that is a great destroyer of Fish, as well in Rivers as in Ponds. 1847 Halliwell. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Wolf*, a kind of trammel.

c. *Textile Manuf.* A willow or willy (Willy *sb.*1 3). (Cf. G. *wolf*, Sw. *vulf.*)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wolf*, a beating or opening machine, for tearing apart the tussocks of cotton as delivered in the bale.

8. *Mus.* a. 'The harsh howling sound of certain chords on keyed instruments, particularly the organ, when tuned by any form of unequal temperament' (Grove's Dict. Mus.); a chord or interval characterized by such a sound.

After G. *wolf* (Arnolt Schlick, *Spiegel der Orgelmacher*, 1511).

1788 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 22 By this means the temperature of all thirds and 'fifths' can be highly improved, and what is called the 'wolf' is entirely done away. 1869 Hipkins in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 188 The G# to the E♭ [sc. Schlick] calls the 'wolf', and says it is not used as a diminished tone (♯. *Ibid.* 185 In the mean-tone system..there is one fifth out of tune to this extent [nearly half a semitone]..There are also four false thirds, which are nearly to about the same extent..All chords into which any of these five intervals enter are intolerable, and are 'wolves'.

b. In instruments of the viol class, a harsh sound due to faulty vibration in certain notes.

1878 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Music Terms*, 1884 Hawkis *Mus. Lib* 225 A slight mistake in position [of the sound-bar], a looseness, an inequality or roughness of finish, will produce that hollow teeth-on-edge growl called the 'wolf'. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* July 15/2 There's a hantle o' wolfs on my father's strings.

9. Phrases. a. *To cry 'wolf'* : to raise a false alarm (in allusion to the fable of the shepherd boy who deluded people with false cries of 'Wolf!'). b. *To keep the wolf from the door* : see 5. c. *To have or hold a wolf by the ears* [= Gr. τὸν λύκον ἔχειν τῶν ὠδῶν, L. *lupum auribus tenere*] : to be in a precarious situation or predicament (see quots.). †d. *A hair of the same wolf* : cf. Dog *sb.* 15 e. †e. *To howl among wolves* [= F. *hurler avec les loups*] : to adapt oneself to one's company, though one disapproves of it. f. *A wolf in a lamb's skin, in sheep's clothing*, etc. : a person who conceals malicious intentions under an appearance of gentleness or friendliness (a allusion to Matt. vii. 15). †g. *To be in the wolf's mouth* [cf. F. *à la gueule du loup*] : to be in deadly peril. h. *To see or have seen a wolf* [= Gr. λύκον ἴδειν, etc.] : to be tongue-tied (from the old belief that a man on seeing a wolf lost his voice). i. *To wake a sleeping wolf*: to invite trouble or disturbance (cf. Dog *sb.* 15 k). j. In various proverbial expressions.

a. 1560 R. T.[Fortescue] *Forest* cccix. 330 The Boy..would be Crying *a Wolf, a Wolf*, when there was none, and then could not be Believed when there was.] 1858 Mrs. Craik *Woman's Th.* xii. 316 She begins to suspect she is the one so ready to cry 'a wolf!' that after crying 'Wolf!' ever since the respectable maturity of seventeen—..the grim wolf, old age, is actually showing his teeth in the distance. 1886 Baring-Gould *Court Royal* xxxvii, This is Beavis' cry of wolf, is it?

c. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 425 The Bishop of Rome, ..as the prouerbe is, beleeue the woulfe by hys eares, ..he coueted to gratifie the kyng, and also feared themperours displea-sure. 1632 Quarles *Samson* xi. 63, I have a Wolfe by th' eares ! I dare be bold, Neither with safety, to let goe, nor hold : What shall I doe? 1884 *Times* 30 Oct. 9/3 These expressions come from a man who has a wolf by the ears, whose task is well-nigh desperate.

d. 1564 B. Jonson *Dark Ages* i. iii, 'Twas a hot night with some of vs, last night, John : shal we pluck a hayre o' the same wolfe, to-day?

e. 1576 Turbv. *Tubbs on Gen.* vi. 181 This diuelishe prouerbe..we must howle among the Wolues. 1649 Br. Hall *Casts Consc.* (1650) 187 What do you howling amongst Wolves, if you be not one?

†f. [c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6260 Who-so toke a wethers skin, And wrapped a gredy wolf therin,] *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 490 in *Macro Plays* 55 Ther ys a wolffe in a lomlyas skyn. 1533 More *Debell. Salem.* xvi. 87 He wyll play the woulfe in a lambes skynne. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 54 Thou Wolfe in Sheepes array. 1718 Bevan *Play is the Plot* i. 1, 9 Mercy o' me ! what have we here then ? a Wolf in Sheep's cloathing ? 1720 [see 4]. 1857 Trollope *Three Clerks* xiv, Why had this tender lamb been allowed to wander out of the fold, while a wolf in sheep's clothing was invited into the pasture-ground ?

g. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 40 Pan was Elfred in þe wolfes mouth.

h. [1480 Caxton *Mirrour* II. xv. 100 Vf a wulf and a man see that one that other fro ferre, he that is first seen becometh anon aferd. 1486 Lage *Armory* 98.] 1579 A. Fleming *Ivy. Bucol.* IX. 59 Mœris holdes his tounges, The wolfe hath spide out Mœris fyrst. 1597 Dryden *Virg. Past.* IX. 75 My Voice grows hoarse ; I feel the Notes recay ; As if the Wolves had seen me first to Day. 1767 Sumner tr. *Idyll. Theocritus* xiv. 30 ' What are you mute ? ' I said—a waggish guest, ' Perhaps she's seen a Wolf,' rejoin'd in jest. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xviii. Our young companion has seen a wolf,..and he has lost his tongue in consequence.

l. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 174 Since al is wel, keep it so : wake not a sleeping Wolfe.

*j.* c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prince.* 3064 A sllye folwe the honyed þe wolf, carevn. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 200 We saie Cicilia, the Woolfe is at hande, when the same man cometh in the meane season, of whom we spake before. [Gr. *Ἰδοὺ λύκος ἐν ὁδῷ.*] 1577 Wolton *Cast. Christians* II. iij b, Lyon:..doo not one encounter another, the Serpent stingeth not the Serpent, but Man is a Wolfe to Man. 1649 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Lei. sent to London* 6 It is a hard world when one Wolfe eates another. 1721 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 170 You have got a Wolf by the Lugs, you can't keep. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 103, I mourn the pride And avarice that make man a wolf to man. 1872 Browning *Fifine* ix. 18 hunger, prowling, allures the wolf from the door.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *wolf bark, bite, chase, den, fur, growl, hair, hunt, kind, pack, pest, tail, track, -trap* ; appositive, as *wolf antipathy, bitch, hurd* (= offspring), *cub, dam, nurse, whelp* ; in connexion with belief in lycanthropy or the association of human beings with wolves, as *wolf boy, brethren, charm, child, clan, dance, devil, life, man, people, race, totem, type, woman* ; also *wolf-belt*, -*girl*, etc. Objective, as *wolf-catcher, -hunter, -hunting, -rider, -scaring, -slaying, -spearing* sbs. and adjs. c. Agentinl or instrumental, as *wolf-begotten, -haunted, -moved* adjs. d. Similative and parasynthetic, as *wolf-coloured, -eyed, -grey, -headed, -shaped* adjs. ; also *wolf-like* adj. and adv.

1860 W. Holmes *Elsie V.* iii, The great cur showed his teeth,—and the devilish instincts of his old 'wolf-ancestry looked out of his eyes. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Fsp. Educ.* Ix. 291 Was that the 'wolf-bark of the Corsican dynasty ? 1862 J. H. Burton *Scot's Lett. Queen Anne* I. 1 Written with a wolf-bristle and their pack killed no men. 1897 Scott *Hight. Widow* v, There shall never be..dirge played, for thee or thy bloody 'wolf-lurd. 1621 Cotgr., *Louvetier*, a Wolfe-catcher, or Wolfe-hunter. 1864 *Early Rec. Aspinwall Fam.* I. (1901) 33 That the wolfe Catcher shall be payed out of the treasury. 1901 *Church. Yrnl. July* 473/1 The 'wolf-Heathen of the North. 1577 F. Hoffman *Winter tr. Ord.* I. 244 That most exciting of sports, a 'wolf-chase on horseback. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 268 In this district..'a 'wolf-child was found. Specimens of India express it, and found some years ago. 1890 Frazer *Golden Bough* iv. II. 351 The Indians of this part of America are divided into totem clans, of which the 'wolf clan is one of the principal. 1779 Forest *Voy. N. Guinea* 131 The largest bird of prey..has the breast..is black, or 'wolf-coloured. 1817 Scott *Harold* I. viii, A she-wolf, and her 'wolf-cubs twain. 1886 G. H. K. Vaux *Gaz. Birds* II. 54 Five or six active wolf-cubs. 1588 Shakespeare *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 Lyke rauening 'woolfdams vpsnacht and gaunted in hunger. 1908 *Sunset Mag.* Apr. 466/1 A 'wolf-dog is considered a valuable asset. 1900 *Annual Market of Tales* 307 Pat fand in þe wud a 'wulfe den & þer was wulfe-whelpis þerin, bod þer dim was away. 1895 Kipling *Second Jungle Bk.* 1 Mowgli went to shelter With the 'wolf-devils ! 1866 Lytton *Last Tales Miletus, Fata Catchar* 86 A 'wolf-eyed rover. 1883 'Ouida' *Wanda* I. 15 The little fierce brown head..was in four-and-

called "Wolfes clawe. 1733 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lycopodium*, The common wolf's claw moss. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* 81, (ed. 4) 289 The...common club-moss, or wolf's-claw, or 'stag's-horn.' 1443 in *Babynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 238 Chattok dedit piscem vocatum Pedulupum aut *Wolfes-foote al. Luperius.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* lii. civil. 1371 Called...In English Woolfes foote, or Woolfes clawe, and likewise Club Mosse. 1839 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, Crowd close, little snipes, among the cup-moss and wolf's foot. 1866 LYTTON *Lucile Milton* 115 A wolf's-hide mantle for his robe of state. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 179 "Wulfys thystyl: *camalion.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 1092, Wolnisthistle is *Chamaeleon.* 1585–6 BUNDMAN *Horsmanship* iv. xlvi. (1580) 13 b, A horse...having two extraordinarie teeth called the 'Woolfes teeth, which be two little teeth growing in the vpper sawes, next vnto the great grinding teeth. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 323 A Horse is said to have Wolves-Teeth, when his Teeth grow either Outwards or Inwards so that their Points prick and wound either the Tongue, or Gums when he eats. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Illustr. Horse Management* 146 At one year old,...frequently at birth, little nodules of bone, without fangs, merely attached to the gum, appear in front of each row of grinders. These are vulgarly denominated 'Wolves' Teeth.' 1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* 95 *Acnitum* "wolves wort.

Hence **Wo'lfdom**, the realm or domain of wolves, wolves collectively; **Wo'lfhood**, the state or condition of being a wolf; **Wo'lfkin**, a young wolf; **Wo'lfless** *a.*, free from wolves.

1824 *Sun* 21 Jan. 3/2 Before the House of Hanover or Stuart,...Alfred or Beadice *Wolfdom* was, and is and is to be. 1869 J. Lucas *Fables of Æsop* I. 70 In him cunning was foxiness,...cruelty, "wolfhood. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* v. 59 Oh! thou 'Wolfkin instead of Lambkin. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* I, Shall we turn to be slaves? is it well to wish...and wolfkin, from the wilderness, wallow in it. 1893 L. STEPHEN in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 160 The sheep of a "wolfless region.

**Wolf** (wulf), *v.* [f. Wolf *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To eat like a wolf; to devour ravenously.

1802 SALA *Seven Sons* III. xi. 272 [She] used to...wolf her food with her fingers. 1880 SPURGEON *Ploughm. Pict.* 105 Hungry dogs will wolf down any sort of meat. 1903 *Speaker* 24 Jan. 419/1 The men...wolfing up meals of oyster stew in an atmosphere of perpetual dyspepsia.

2. *intr.* with *it*: To behave like a wolf; = Wolve *v.* 1.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 196 While 'Obeyd was wolfing it in Kaseem.

3. *trans.* To delude with false alarms: cf. prec. 9*a*.

1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 55 Those whose interest it was to wolf the credulous public out of their pence. 1917 CONTACT' *Airman's Outings* 4 The dwellers in the blinking hole, having been wolfed several times, are sceptical.

**Wolfbane**: see Wolf's-bane.

**Wo'lf-dog.** [Cf. *G. wolfshund.*]

1. Any of several large varieties of dog formerly kept for hunting wolves, *esp.* the Irish greyhound or wolf-hound.

1652 *Order Ir. Privy Council* 27 Apr., Such great dogges as are commonly called Wolfe-dogges,...which are useful for destroying of wolves. *Archæologia Oxoniensis Diary* 15 1880–1970, The bulls did exceeding well, but the Irish wolfe-dog exceeded, which was a tall greyhound. 1798 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 182 Wolf-dogs (once so useful and celebrated) were perhaps peculiar to Ireland, but that breed is now nearly extinct. 1840 C. H. SMITH *Dogs* 11. 139 The Great Wolf-dog is not common in central Europe; and appears at present almost confined to Spain. 1851 *Youatt's Dog* 66 The Italian or Pomeranian wolf-dog. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. ii, When that hoa sounds, a score of wolf-dogs are let loose.

2. A cross of a domestic dog and a wolf; recently in *Alsatian wolf-dog*, popular name of a dog produced by crossing the German sheep-dog with a strain of wolf.

1736 AINSWORTH, *Lycisca*, a dog ingendered of a wolf and a bitch, or a shepherd's dog, a wolf dog. 1755 JOHNSON, 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 577/1 The black wolf-dog of Florida resembles the black wolf of the same region. 1914 R. ARUNDEL *Police Dogs* 6 The German Sheep Dog (known in this country as the Alsatian Wolf Dog).

**Wolfdom**: see *n*ext Wolf *sb.*

**Wolfe**, obs. ff. Wolf, Woof.

† **Wo'lfen**, *sb. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 **wylfen**, 3 **wuluene, wluine**, 6 *Sc.* **wolfyne**. [OE. *wylfen*, of which the normal representative would be ***wilwen**; f. *wulf* Wolf *sb.* + -EN³. Cf. MHG. *wilwinne* (G. *wölfin*), MDu. *wolvinne* (Du. *wolvin*), Da. *ulvinde*, etc.] A she-wolf.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 362 Nil he drincen wylfenes meolc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Wið þe wluine & wið þe wulfen, & mon wrð is wulf. *Ibid.*, Þeo þet is iwend te wuluene, i Godes cien, & is ase wuluene stefne in his swete earen. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 573 Leoun or wolf, wlnine or bere. 15.. *Harrowing of Hell* of Fer 107 (Bannatyne MS.), Ths...wildcat, & the wild wolfyne.

**Wo'lfen**, *a. rare*—¹. [f. Wolf *sb.* + -en 4.] Pertaining to a wolf, wolfish.

1810 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 320 To wreathe anew the bonds of love, Which strife with wolfen tooth No more shall gnaw in twain.

**Wolfer** (wu'lfəɹ). *rare.* [f. Wolf *sb.* and *v.* + -er 1. Cf. Wolver.]

1. A wolf-hunter.

1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The 'wolfers' proceed to gather up animals slain, carry them to camp [etc.]. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 520/1 Trappers and wolfers, whose business is to poison wolves.

2. One who 'wolf's' food or drink.

1897 A. R. MARSHALL *Pomes* 118 (Farmer), The worn-out whiskey wolfer calmly slumbered through it all.

**Wo'lfess.** *rare.* Also 5 **wolueasse**, -as. [f. Wolf *sb.* + -ess 1. A she-wolf.

1398 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 23 A wolfesse [*a.rr.* wolvesse, wolues] þat hadde lost hir whelpes. 1550 W. LYNNE *Caxton's Crow.* 85 b, Hy chaunce came a wolfesse out of the nexte mountaynes. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 560 *note*, The wolf lives instinctively solitary...so that even his connection with the wolfess is but of short duration.

**Wolfian** (wu'lfiăn), *a. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. the name of the German embryologist CA. F. *Wolff* (1733–94) + -IAN.] In *Wolffian body*, the mesonephron or primitive kidney; either of the two renal organs of the embryo of vertebrates; so *Wolffian duct.*

1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, *Wolffian Bodies*, false kidneys. ...The substance by which the kidneys are preceded in the embryo, and which was first remarked by Wolff. 1850 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 594/1 The parovarium is formed out of the Wolffian body. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. 414 The earlier, primitive kidney duct is distinguished as the 'Wolffian duct.'

**Wo'lf-fish.** [After L. *lupus* (see Wolf *sb.* 3 b). Cf. G. *wolffisch.*] A large and voracious sea-fish, *Anarrhichas lupus*, having numerous sharp teeth and edible flesh; also called *sea-wolf.* Also applied to other fishes of the same genus.

1869 Blague *Sch. Conceptes* 153 Of the Cockatrice and Seawolf...The Wolf fishe marking him well...sayde [etc.]. 1695 R. C. *Dedekind's Sch. Silenentie* (1904) 77 As for the Wolfe-fish, Dedekind calls it Lupus. 1719 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 315 The mouth of the wolf-fish is almost paved with teeth. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 64 In Torbay...where no wolf-fish (*Anarrhicus lupus*) or other shell-crushing pairs of jaws wander.

**Wolfhood**: see after Wolf *sb.*

**Wo'lf-hound.** = Wolf-dog.

1842 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxii, We have brought down the game at last, quoth my lady's brach to the wolf-hound. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marg. & Merch.* I. i. 27 An enormous Pyrenean wolf-hound. 1890 *Dogs, their Management, & Treatm.* 20 The Irish wolf-hound is known to-day by a few, but very much as one hundred and fifty pounds. 1923 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May, It was discovered when the Show opened that a valuable Alsatian wolf-hound had disappeared.

**Wolfian** (wo'lfiăn, wu'lfiăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] Also **Wolffian.** [f. the name of the German philosopher Christian *Wolf* or *Wolff* (1679–1754) + -IAN.] *a. adj.* Pertaining to the philosophical system of Wolf, which was an eclectic adaptation of Leibnitzianism and scholasticism. *b. sb.* An adherent of this system. Hence **Wolfianism**, the philosophical system of Wolf; **Wolfianize** *v. trans.* to render Wolfian.

1798 ENFIELD *Brucker's Hist. Philos.* II. 572 Almost every German university was inflamed with disputes on the subject of liberty and necessity; and the names of Wolfians and Anti-Wolfians were every where heard. 1843 *Eclectic Rev.* Feb. 163 The influence of the Wolfian philosophy. *Ibid.* 164 It is undoubtedly to Wolfianism that we are to trace the existence of that coldness and lifelessness which characterizes the sermons of the latter part of the preceding century. *Ibid.* 165 The already Wolfianized mind of the rising student. 1849 G. S. MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* II. 118 Lange...sought...to demonstrate the Spinozistic and atheistic character of the Wolfian doctrine.

So **Wo'lfianism**, **Wo'lfianize** *a.*, characterized by a combination of Wolfian and Leibnitzian views.

1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 150 The artificial harmonies of the Wolffio-Leibnitzian philosophy.

**Wolfian** (wo'lfiăn, wu'lfiăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] [f. the name of the German philologist F. A. Wolf (1759–1824) + -IAN.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to F. A. Wolf or his theory regarding the Homeric poems (developed in his *Prolegomena ad Homerum*, 1795). *b. sb.* One who accepts this theory.

1875 W. D. GREOORY in *Contemp. Rev.* July 234 The Wolfian theory...that the Homeric poems were a congeries of originally independent lays, which first began to unite in the time of Pisistratus. *Ibid.* 235 Next to him [*sc.* G. Hermann] in importance among the later Wolfians...stands Lachmann.

**Wolfin**, obs. Sc. form of Woven.

**Wolfing** (wu'lfiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wolf *sb.* + -ing 1.] Hunting for wolves. Also *attrib.*

1873 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 128 When the wolfing season has commenced on the prairies, the hunter impregnates the carcase of a buffalo...with strychnine and places it in a likely position. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The stock in trade of a party engaged in 'wolfing' consists in flour, bacon and strychnine.

**Wolfish** (wu'lfiʃ), *a.* Also 8 **woolf-**. [f. Wolf *sb.* + -ish 1. Cf. MHG. *wolfisch*, and Wolvish.]

1. Of or pertaining to a wolf or wolves.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 146 ·3 Wolfish, *lupinus.* 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 160 The wolfish race, Appear with belly Gaunt, and famish'd face. 1697 C. NESBIT *D. A. Jw. Pract.* 355 So vigorously had the wolfish tribe been hunted down that only one couple survived.

b. Abounding in wolves. *nonce-use.*

1797 COLLINS *Ode Liberty* 72 Where Orcas howls, his wolfish mountains rounding.

2. Characteristic of, befitting, or resembling that of, a wolf.

1674 *Gent. Tongue* viii. 146 All the wolfish designs walk under this sheeps clothing. 1750 LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) III. 79 His...unsociable and wolfish disposition. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Grope your way with me into this wolfish den. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VIII. v, By the cross men with a fierce and wolfish glare.

3. Resembling a wolf, wolf-like.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Indians* 250 To keep the [Indian] wolf from our own doors, by engaging him with his wolfish neighbours. 1894 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiv. 242 Swarms of Cossacks, on fleet and wolfish horses.

b. Ravenously hungry. *U. S. colloq.*

[1842 *Frazer's Mag.* Dec. 630/2 My appetite was growing decidedly wolfish.] 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Wolfish*, savage, savagely hungry. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* II. 233 I'm wolfish.

4. *Comb.*, as *wolfish-faced, -looking, -visaged* adjs.

*c* 1779 CRABBE *Midnight* 295 Avarice...A Woolfish-Visag'd Fiend. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxvii, [The animal] is wolfish-looking. 1894 HALL CAINE *Village Tales* (1896) 162 The wolfish-faced crowd had melted away.

Hence **Wo'lfishly** *adv.*; **Wo'lfishness.**

1576 MASWELL *Mr. Swinks* 66 The Wolfishness of those which...ought to have been the Christian Pastors, but went on scattering their Flocks, if not devouring. 1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 703 The Red Rover yowls wolfishly to the moon. 1842 BOSWORTH *Bible* xi. 12 Wolfishly eager for booty. 1890 J. FULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 203 Compare...the consummate wolfishness of Christian Europe with the simpler wolfishness of heathen nations.

**Wolfkin, Wolfless**: see after Wolf *sb.*

**Wolfling** (wu'lfliŋ). [f. Wolf *sb.* + -ling 1.] A young or little wolf. Also *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6056 (Laud MS.), Wylfynges he biachette also, Merueillous men ben hoo. 1599 THOMAS *Sylvan. Speech. Cruell* 8 If a mighty hunter...happenyng vppon the Wolfes denne, findeth there the young Wolfelynges. 1746 W. HOSSACK *Fool* (1748) I. 94 Wolflings in Swaddling-bands. 1859 G. ELIOT *Fr. Lee.* III. v. iii, Young children were thrown in [the river], their mothers vainly pleading: 'Wolflings,' answered the Company of Marat, 'who would grow to be wolves.' 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 204 Thou art a man, Little Brother, wolfling of my watching.

**Wolfram** (wu'lfrăm, wo'lfrăm). [n. G. *wolfram* (*woloorm* in Mathesius, 1562, *wolffram* in Ercker, 1580, *volfram* in Wallerius, *Mineralogia*, 1747), of uncertain formation: generally assumed to be an old miners' term f. *wolf* wolf + *rahm* cream (cf. *rahmers* foamy wad), and to be the source of mod.L. *lupi spuma* (Agricola *De Nat. Foss.*, 1546), which corresponds, however, to G. *wolfsschaum*; but perh. f. MHG. *rām* dirty mark, soot.

The variants of the G. word, e.g. *wolffram m*, *wolff, ert*, *wolfart*, *wolfarth*, suggest association with proper names. Since Agricola describes the *lupi spuma* as a light 'stone', it is improbable that it was the mineral wolfram.]

1. *Min.* A native tungstate of iron and manganese, 1893 tr. *Haeckel's Pyrethrologia* 19 Tungsten and iron are not easily separable from wolfram, a kind of mock-tin, or an irony tin mineral. 1787 GROSCHUR tr. *Klaproth's Observ. Fossils Corn.* 32 Wolfram of a blackish texture mixed in quartz and clay, is brought from Poldice. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 292 Oxide of tungsten...Preparation.—The mineral wolfram is reduced to the finest powder [etc.]. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 78/1 These alloys are made from a mixture of...ores..., the chief one being a tungstate of iron and manganese, known as wolfram.

2. The metal tungsten obtained from this mineral.

1845 W. GREGORY *Outl. Inorg. Chem.* 197 Tungsten...Syn. Wolfram—Occurs in nature, chiefly in the mineral wolfram. 1909 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* 2 May 456 Wolfram, or tungsten, a metal which is used as an alloy for hardening steel.

3. *attrib.*, as *wolfram mine, ore*; **wolfram lamp, -steel** = Tungsten *lamp, -steel*; **wolfram-ochre** = Tungstic ochre, Tungstite.

1862 wolfram-steel [see Tungsten 3]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 903 Tritiable Tungsten...occurs native as tungstic ochre, wolfram-ochre, or wolframine. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 10/1 Dr. Auer...claims that the light obtained from the wolfram lamp is three or four times as brilliant as that given by the ordinary carbon lamp with the same consumption of electricity. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 227 A large specimen of hübnerite from Huara wolfram mine. 1916 *Chamb. Journ.* 9 Sept. 615/2 Quantities of wolfram ore are also produced in Australia.

Hence **Wo'lframate**, = Tungstate; **Wo'lframed** *a.*, having wolfram added; **Wolframic** *a.*, = Tungstic; **Wo'liframine**, tungstic ochre, tungstite; **Wo'lframite**, = Wolfram 1.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 603 M. de Luca has solicited attention to what he calls "*wolframated fer-ic-on.* 1880 MAYNE *Explor. Lex.* s.v. *Wolframite*, Wolframic acid. 1854 DANA *Min.* 343 Wolframine. 1868 *Daily News* 13 Wolframite. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 228 Wolframite and smoky quartz, from Burma.

**Wolf's-bane** (wu'lfsbēn), + **wolfsbane.** [f. *wolf's*, gen. of Wolf *sb.* + Bane *sb.*[1], rendering mod.L. *lycoctonum*, a. Gr. *λυκοκτόνον* lit. 'wolf-slayer'.] A plant of the genus *Aconitum*, esp. *A. lycoctonum*, with dull yellow flowers, occurring in mountainous regions in Europe. Also applied to *Arnica montana* (*winter wolf's-bane*), and to the winter aconite, *Eranthis hyemalis.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbs* (E.D.S.) 9 The other kynde (of Aconitum) is called Lycoctonum, & in englishe it maye be called wolfes bayne. But this kynde is deuided into two other kyndes, of whiche...the one may be called in englishe monkes coule or blewe wolf-baine. The other kinde...may be called in Englishe yelowe wolfesbayn. 1578, 1597 [see Monk's-hood 1]. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* xxvi. 216 Most

Herbarists call it *Aconitum hyemale*, and we in English thereafter, Winters Wolfesbane. 1656 W. Coles *Art of Simpling* 66 The Ointment that Witches use is reported to be made . . of the Juices of Smallage, Woolfsbaine and Cinquefoyle. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332. 1785 Martyn *Lett. Bot.* xxi. (1794) 298 Wholesome Wolfsbane [*Aconitum Anthora*] . . has pale capsules . . and the flowers are sulphur-coloured. 1820 Keats *Melancholy* i, Go not to Lethe, neither twist Wolf's-bane, tight-rooted, for its poisonous wine. 1848–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 146 *Aconitum uncinatum*. American Wolf's-bane, 1856–60 A. Gray *Man. Bot. N.U.S.* 13 *Aconitum reclinatum*. Trailing Wolfsbane. 1886 *Treas. Bot.* 13/1.

†**Wolf's-fist.** *Obs.* In 3 **wulues fist**, 6 **woolfes** fistes, 7 **wolues fyste**; also 6 **wolfyst**, 7 **wool-fist**. [f. gen. of Wolf *sb.* + Fist *sb.*2, of which Lycoperdon (Tournefort) is a translation.] The puffball, *Lycoperdon Bovista*. Also used as a term of abuse.

*c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/15 *Fungus*, wulues-fist. 1530 Palsgr. 289/2 Wolfyst, *vesse de loup*. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii. cxii. 1286 Puffes Fistes, are commonly called in Latine *Lupi cerebrum*, or Woolfes Fistes. 1606 *Wits Beguiled Fruit*, Out you paltry wolfes fyste, you Woolfist. 1812 Cotgr., *Vesse de loup*..Wolues fyste.

**Wolf's-head, wolf-head.** Forms: see Wolf *sb.* and Head *sb.*

**1.** The head of a wolf; a figure of this, e. g. as a heraldic bearing.

*c* 1200 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 360 To sæpe, wulfes heafod lexe under bone pyle. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde pe flesche in his foule lyppys, like wrethe as a wolfe-hevede, pat wrayithe owte as owre 3 Feere *Blas. Genèrie* 230 Hugh the firste Earle of Chester, was surnamed de Loupe, because he bare a Wolfes head in his shield. 1820 Guillim *Heraldry* iii. xv. 143 He beareth Gules, two Barres, Argent, on a Canton Sable, a Wolues head Errased of the second. 1873 T. T. Buckland *Leg.-Bk.* 5 A young man holding a wolf's head high up in the air. 1892 *Daily Tel.* 16 Apr. 5/5 Minnesota spent last year twenty-five thousand dollars in bounties on wolf-heads brought in.

**2.** *Old English Law.* A cry for the pursuit of an outlaw as one to be hunted down like a wolf; *transf.* (orig. in phr. *to cry wolf's head*) an outlaw. 17th century law books have various corrupt forms, as *wolferfod*, *wolfesharred*, *wolfesthefod*, *wolfetshead*.

[*c* 1000 *Laws Edw. Conf.* vi, Lupinum enim gerit caput a die ulagationis sue, quod ab Anglis wlfeshefued nominatur.] *c* 1230 *Mirr. Justices* IV. iv. (Selden Soc.) 125 E point ne vient, qe des adunc le tiegne lem put lou e est criable Wolvesheued, pur ceo qe tas ex lessis hatie de tote pees. *c* 1400 *Gawayne* 700 (Hatl. MS.) Whan Gamelyn her lorde wolues-heed was cryed & made. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VII. 1961 Out of ther court banysshed was prudence, . . And woluis hed was vertuous sobirnesse. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 139 Now wols-hede and out-horne on the be tane! 1885 Kingsley *Hereto.* I, By that time I shall be a wolf's head, and out of the law. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 93/2 Vengeance on these cruel wolf-heads.

**Wolfskin.** The skin or pelt of a wolf; a garment, etc. made of this. Also *attrib.*

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, pe wolfe skynn is hote forto make koffes or pilchons. 1618 Harington *Sch. Salerne* II. (1624) 37 Garments..Of Martyn or Wolfeskinnes. 1734 *Free-holder* No. 255. 2/2 Multitudes believe ..that a Sheep-skin Dress is as good an armour as the best of a Wolf-skin Drum. 1809 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. xvi, His bugle-horn .. in a wolf-skin baldric tied. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 809 His battle-writhen arms and mighty hands Laid naked on the wolfskin. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 743/1 When our own ancestors were . . barbarians in wolfskins.

**Wolf's-milk.** [Cf. LG. *wulfsmelk*, MHG. *wolfmilch*, (G. *wolfsmilch*), Du. *wulfsmelk*, etc.]

**1.** a. A spurge, esp. the sun-spurge, *Euphorbia Helioscopia*; so called from the acrid milky juice.

1578 Banister *Chyrurg.* 101 *Esula*, Woulfes milke. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 364/1 For the Felone of the Finger. Take the herbe called Wolues milke, ye the same with the Flowers on the Felon [etc.]. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 5 *Euphorbia helioscopia* (Sun Spurge) . . Country people call it.. Wolf's-milk, etc.]

b. The fungus *Lycogala*.

1880 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 288 The beautiful round vermilion balls of the Lycogala, or Wolf's milk.

**2.** The milk of a wolf.

1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 113 Half the wolf's-milk curdled in their veins. 1890 Rider Haggard *Nada* xvii, They have drunk wolf's milk.

**Wolfwort** (wu·lfˌwɒɹt). ? *Obs.* [f. Wolf *sb.* + Wort.] **a.** A plant of the genus *Aconitum* : = Wolf's-bane. **b.** A plant of the genus *Periploca*, the juice of which was used for poisoning wolves.

1611 Cotgr., *Aconit, Herbe au loup*, Wolues-bane, wolfe-wort (a kind of Aconitum). 1658 [see Leopard's bane]. 1773 J. Hill *Vegetable Syst.* IX. 43 Wolfwort. Periploca.

**Wolfyst:** see Wolf's-fist.

**Wolhe, nolhe:** see Will *v.*1 50b.

**Wolken(e, -in,** obs. ff. Welkin. **Woll:** see Well, While, Will, Wool, Wooll.

**Wollastonite** (wʊ·lstənəit). *Min.* [Named by Lehman (1818) after the chemist and physicist W. H. *Wollaston* (1766–1828) : see -ite 1.] Native metasilicate of calcium ; tabular spar.

Applied also by T. Thomson to Pectolite.

1823 W. Phillips *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 211 Wollastonite... This substance occurs in the lava of Capo di Bove, near Rome, in small masses. 1836 T. Thomson *Outl. Min.* etc. I. 134 This was the reason which led me to give the appellation *Wollastonite* to the present species, which occurs.. near Kilsyth...It is related to *table spar*. 1886 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 183 Wollastonite..occurs as a rock-forming mineral chiefly in ..rod-like or pinky crystals.

**Wolle :** see Walle *sb.*1, Will *v.*1, Wool.

**Wolle bode,** obs. var. Woubit.

†**Wolleyn,** suggested by Lyte [a..er Woollen, q.v. ¶] as an alternative for Mullein.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 118 Mulleyn (or rather Wolleyn). *Ibid.* 119 Mulleyne, or rather Wulleyn.

**Wollop,** var. Wallop *v.*

1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* vi. (1850) 59, I wollopsaned the hoop around him. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* v, I have a rope's end of him to wollop 'em.

**Wollow,** obs. form of Wallow *v.*1

1620–2 *Essex Archdeaconries Depos. Bk.* ff. 129 (MS.) She was drunck and lay wollowing in the durt.

**Wollyn,** obs. form of Woollen.

**Wolp,** obs. form of Whelp *v.*

**Wolron,** var. Wilronde *Obs.*

*a* 1851 in R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 70 In place o' her ain bonny bairn, she fand a withered wolron.

**Wolsome,** var. Wilsome *a.*1

**Wolsted,** obs. form of Worsted.

**Wolt,** obs. pa. t. of Wield. **Wolt(e,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*1; see Will *v.*1 A. 3. **Woltou,-towe =** *will thou*: see Will *v.*1 A. 6a. **Wolum,** obs. Sc. f. Volume. **Wolunte,** var. Volunty *Obs.*

**Wolve** (wulv), *v.* [f. inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.*] **1.** *intr.* (also with *it*). To behave like a wolf, play the wolf.

1708 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. 187/2 If any Seducers were let loose to wolve it upon the good people of Roxbury. *a* 1709 E. Thompson Seton *Billy* i. (C. D. Suppl.) A Wolf was wolving on the east side o' Sentinel Mountain.

**2.** To use organ : To give forth a hollow wailing sound like the howl of a wolf, from deficient wind-supply.

1864 Le Fanu *Uncle Silas* I. xxv. 325 What an awful storm I..Don't you like the sound ? What they used to call 'wolving' in the old organs at Dorminster ! 1919 M. R. James *Thin Ghost* 230 The organ wolved—you know what I mean : the wind died.

†**Wolving.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *wolve*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -ing1.] = Wolfling. 1798 Southey tr. *Tamulo's Nurse* I. (1800) 23 Whilst ten young wolvelings shelter find.

**Wolver** (wu·lvəɹ). *rare.* Also 6–7 **woolver.** [f. Wolve *v.* or inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -er3.]

1. One who behaves like a wolf; a ravenous or savage creature.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 147 Three meales of a Lazarello, make the fourth a Woolner [*sic*]. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* Epistle to Rdr., Scylla and Charibdis, those two Cannonarie and Woolners [*sic*] of the Sea. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 184 Jelly-fish, fierce little 'wolvers' throwing out their..stings.

2. One who searches or hunts for wolves.

*a* 1900 E. Thompson Seton *Billy* i. (C. D. Suppl.) As the wolver rode down an adjoining cañon, he saw a Wolf come out of a hole. 1921 *Chambers's Jrnl.* July 473/1 The wolver, ranging over unexplored territory.

**Wolverene, -ine** (wulvərī·n). Forms: 6–9 **wolvering, 8– wolverene, -ine** (6 wool-, ulver-ing(e, 7 woolverin(e, *Sc.* voluering). [app. f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.*, but the formation is obscure.]

1. The glutton (*Gulo luscus*), now esp. the North American variety : see Glutton A. 4.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* (1908) 256 Furres of woolveringes for pedlers capps. 1593 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 24 Their beasts...are the losh,...the beare, the wolvering or wood dogge. 1619 Middleton *Love & Antig.* D1, Beasts bearing Furr,.. Racoone, Moashye, Wolverene. 1747 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 203 The Gluttin,..or Wolverene. 1812 J. Smyth *Peasl. Customs* (1821) 225 Wolvering, a large animal, almost equal in size to the wolf. 1820 Hannon *Jrnl. Voy. N. Amer.* 426 The carcajou or wolverine, in shape and the colour of the hair, greatly resembles the bear. 1894 Lowell *Heart. Xvi.* 40 How the Wolverine, upissing, Made him ready for the encounter. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of Dead* 8 Where the wolverine trundles the packs from the camp.

2. The fur of the wolverene.

1596 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 2 A cassocke of progran edged wth wolvering. 1622 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 307 Furres called ..Voluerigis the peice, vili. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 56 Wolverings, undressed. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 7/1 It is already prophesied that wolverene is to be the favourite fur for next winter. 1895 Kipling *and Jungle Bk.* 158 The long wolverine-fur fringe of her ermine hood.

3. A nickname for an inhabitant of Michigan. So *Wolverine State*, Michigan.

1835 C. F. Hoffman *Winter in Far West* I. 207 The genuine wolverine, or naturalized Michiganian. 1847 *Congressional Globe* 3 Feb. 332/2 A great Government bank—a full-grown wolverine wild-cat. 1879 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 Michigan is Lake State or Wolverine State.

**Wolvin,** obs. Sc. form of Woven.

†**Wolvish,** *a. Obs.* Also 5–6 **wolw-,** 6 **woulu-, wolw-, Sc. wolw-,** 6–7 **wo(o)lu-,** 7–9 **woolv-.** [f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of Wolf *sb.* + -ish1.]

1. = Wolfish 2, 3.

*c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 174 Among wolvys be wolvyshe of corage. 15.. *Six Ballads with Burdens* (Percy Soc.) 5 This wolwyssh shepe. 1549–? CovERDALE *Pentiftal Lett.* I. (1593) M 1, Iudas .. hauing woluish condicions vnder sheepes clouthing. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v. (1590) 191 This woolvish sheepheard. 1604 *Suppltic. Massepriests, Ans.* K 8, The woolvish cruelty of popish Inquisitors. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 330 With her nailes Shee's flea thy Woluish visage. 1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* II. i. D 3b, Out you woolvish mungrells ! 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccvi. 141 These Wolvish Back-Friends. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 181 If superstition and despotism have been suffered to let in their woolvish sheep.

**2.** = Wolfish 1.

1595 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 133, I sawe the ffrendlie man wounde in a wolwyshe weede. 1877 T. Kendall *Flowers Epigr.* 87 The founder of the same [*sc.* Rome] with Woulusshe milke was feede. 1793 Blake *Song. Exper., Little Girl Found* 51 Nor fear the wolvish howl Nor the lions' growl.

Hence †**Wolvishly** *adv.* ; †**Wolvishness.**

1598 Bark *Three Lawes* 1212 Thy woluyshnesse by thee crowned will I lyple making the to pype. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* iv. 665 Some, wolvishly, did prey upon the quick.

So †**Wolvy** *a. Obs. rare*—0.

1612 Corgr., *Louvier*, Woluie, Wolfe-like.

**Wolward,** obs. f. Woolward. **Wolwat,** obs. f. Velvet. **Wolwe,** obs. var. f. of Wax *v.*

**Wom,** obs. form of Whom.

**Woman** (wu·mən), *sb.* Pl. **women** (wi·mĕn). Forms (case-inflexions in OE. and early ME. as in Man *sb.*1) : *Sing.* α. 1–5 wifman, 2–3 -mon, 2–4 wimman, (3 wim(m)on, wyman), 3–4 wym-man, 3–5 wymmon (4 wyfman). *β.* 3 wummon, 3–5 wumman. *γ.* 3–5 womman, wom-mon, 4–6 woman, 5 womman, woman(n)e, 5–6 wommane, 7 whoman, (also 9 *dial.*), woonman, 3– woman. *δ.* 5 wommon (?). *ε.* 7– *Anglo-Welsh* o'man, 7–9 uman, 9 'oman, umman. *Pl.* α. 1–4 wifmen, 1–4, 8 wimmen, 3–5 wymmen, (4 wyfmen, wimen, wemmen, 4–5 wymen, 5 wymmen, ? *Anglo-Welsh* ymen). *β.* 3–4 wummen. *γ.* 3–5 wommen, 5 womene, vommen, wowmen, 6–7 woemen, 4–women. *δ.* 4 *Sc.* vemene, 4–7 wemen, 5 wemyn, whemen, weymen, 5–7 women, 6 wemen, 6–7 wemmen, 7 wemmin. [*c. wifmon(n*, -*mən(n* (see Man *sb.*1), pl. *wif-men(n*, *i. wif* woman, Wife *sb.* + *mon(n*, *man(n* human being, Man *sb.*1 A formation peculiar to English, and not extant in the earliest period of OE., the ancient word being Wife.

The regular ME. descendants of OE. *wifman*, *-men*, *viz. wimman*, *wimmen* (cf. OE. *lēofman*, *lēofmen*, Leman), continued in use until the 16th century, from the rounding of *wi-* to *wu-* is clearly established, and is at that time characteristic of western ME. texts. The form *wummon* appears in the late 13th century (first in western texts), and the corresponding pl. *wommen* in the late 14th. The simplification of *mm* in *wo(m)man*, *-en* and *wo(m)man*, *-en*, and the consequent conversion of the first syllable into an open syllable gave rise to forms with *ō* and *ŏ*, which, continuing to the early modern period, provided the occasion for punning analyses of *woman* as *wo* (*two*) *man* (*male*). From *c* 1400 *woman* and *women* became regular spellings for sing. and pl., and have been retained as a properly corresponding pair to *man* and *men* ; but in the modern speech the pronunciation (wu·) was ultimately appropriated to the sing. and (wi·) to the pl., probably through the associative influence of pairs like *foot* and *feet*.

From at least the 13th century, and partly in the pronunciation of the pl. has been in respect of the quantity of the first vowel, which was either short or long in the 16th and 17th centuries ; but in the same period we have the pronunciations of the sing. are recognised by orthoepists, viz. wu·man, *wŭ*·man, *wo*·man, and u·man, *ŭ*·man, of which all but the first have now given way to dialectal usage.

[ Examples of the *δ*-forms of the sing., without initial *w*, follow here ; for illustration of the more normal forms see sense 2.

†1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 343 Youre pore bede oman and cosyn, Alice Crane. 1558 Charnock *Bk. Astron.* Title of Chapter (MS.) Is the ineffe man or owman or bothe ? 1823 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 52 *Sha.* Certain, certain ! *Eva.* Certain, certain ! *Eva.* O'man, forbeare. 1632 Nabbes *Con. Gard.* v. ii, Your Ladiships uman. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xv. x, When her Ladiip was so very kind as to take me four hur one Uman. 1808 Jamieson, *Uman*, the pron. of *woman*. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xiii, Putting on his spectacles to look at the 'oman ! 1858 J. S. Grant *Life* I. 84 Bad luck to the 'oman ! 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Coll. & Recoll.* 14 Like other high-bred gentlemen he [*sc.* Lord John Russell]..called a woman an 'oman'.]

**I.** An adult female human being. (The context may or may not have special reference to sex or to adult age : cf. Man *sb.*1 4 a, c, d.)

†*Man or* (*and*) *woman* used appositionally = male or (and) female.

*Sing.* α. c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. vi. § 2 Minutia hatte an wifmon, þe on heora wiuan sceolde nunne beon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 22 God..geworhte þæt rib, þe he genam of Adame, to anum wifmen. — *Judges* iv. 22 Da clipode seo wifman cuðlice him to. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Sið þa læse weren nu, nalde na mon mis-don wiþ oðre, ne wepmon ne wifmon ne meiden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 133 Þe lif holi wifman sarra. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1237 Ich wymmon benche3 luuya derne. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 486/53 Com ageyn & bring þis wyyn a-now To þis pore wifman. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1156 Þe fayrest wyfman under mone. 13.. *K. Horn* 552 (Harl. MS.) Er ne be eny wyf take Oper wyp wymmon forewart make. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 He..zayþ to þe manne and to þe wyfmanne [etc.].

*β.* a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Hwarse wummon lluoſ oðer mon bl him one. *Ibid.* 58 Þis is a swuðe dreadlich word to wummon þet schawed hire to wepmones sien. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 191 Nis nu wummon ifloren þet be beo

lliche. 13 *Coer de L.* 3863 Man, wumman, every Sarasyn.
1499 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 (Add. Pynson), Wumman
⁊ c 1275 Lay. 2837 Womman [c 1205 wifmon] þou hart bende. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 212 Al vor a woman Pat beleams was iclinged þus batailu verst bigan. ⁊ 1300 *Cursor M.* 9000 Foluand a wicked womman will. *Ibid* 20185 Quis echo spac þus, þat suet woman, saint Iohan com. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 94 Pei weddeþ ne wommen þat þei wiln dyken. 24 In *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 To onpreyse womene yt were a shame, For a woman was thy dame. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II 7 And yff ye wold be a good sister off your mete allwaye, that ye myght wave and grow flast to be a woman 1546 in J. Bulloch *Pynnere* (1887) 63 Lucry pynour bayth man and wumman. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. 139 One that was a woman when Queene Gunouer of Britaine was a little wench 1592 *Two t'cent iv* iv. 165 Our youth got me to play the woman's part, And I was trim'd in Madam Iulias gowne. 1667 Dryden & Dr Newc. *Sir M Mar all* III (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perriwig above, and a well trim'd shoe below. 1697 Congreve *Mourn. Bride* III. ad fin., Heav'n has no Rage, like Love to Hatred turn'd, Nor Hell a Fury, like a Woman scorn'd. 1725 Pope *Ep. Lady* 216 Men, some to Bus'ness, some to Pleasure take; But every Woman is at heart a Rake. 1780 J. Brown *Toleration* (1803) 8: No ecclesiastical power can reside in a bachelor, a woman, or a child. 1818 Wordsw. *Laodamia* v. *A Phantom'* 27 A perfect Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command 1828 Ilvaor *Yuan* I. liii, Her stature tall—I hate a dumpy woman. 1839 Hood *Comic Annual* vii. in *New Mo. Mag.* XI IV 18 A girl of seventeen is a woman, when a man of seventeen is a boy 1867 *Act 30 & 31 Vict.* c 130 § 3 In this Act 'Woman' shall mean a Female of the Age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1887 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty.

*β.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a Female of the Age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*γ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*δ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ε.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ζ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*η.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*θ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ι.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*κ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*λ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*μ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ν.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ξ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ο.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*π.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ρ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*σ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*τ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*υ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*φ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*χ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ψ.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

*ω.* c 1290 *St. Patrick's Purg.* in V (1810) 162 Ne wepneadmen ne wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmon na preat, fela Fæmnena. 1154 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Pa nas þer nan iwimmed ne unimmed Act 'Woman' shall mean a female of the age of Eighteen Years or upwards 1889 *Act 50 & 51 Vict.* c. 58 § 75 In this Act 'Woman' means a female of the age of twenty-one years or upwards. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* v, A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty

a good woman? no thyng. 1546 *Pilgr. Prof.* (W. de W. 1531) 97 b, For a man as man is no assurance, & moche lesse in woman. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* iv. 810 Woman's a various and a changeful Thing! 1733-4 Richardson *Grandison* III. xxvii. 133 Woman is the glory of all created existence —But you, madam, are *more* than woman! 1766 Goldsm *Vicar W.* xxiv. *Song*, When lovely woman stoops to folly. 1828 *Scott Woodstock* v. 76 Woman in our hours of ease, Uncertain, coy, and hard to please. 1843 — *Quentin D.* xiv, Get thee gone with thy woman's ware! 1849 Fraser *Mem. Church* 294 All that woman's care or woman's affection could do to soften off her end was done. 1853 *Dickens Bleak Ho.* xiv, 'But Woman, lovely Woman, said Mr. Turnvdrop, 'what a sex you are!' 1854 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* (1877) I. 253 Woman's heart is alike in all ranks 1894 'Max O'Rell,' *John Bull & Co.* 82 Of all the domestic animals invented for the service of man in South Africa, the most useful is woman.

c. *pl.* in pregnant use with reference to (irregular) intercourse with women.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 He ne scolde nat for ætes ne for drunches ne for wimmane ne acul man nauere ben forloren. 1480–20 *c* 1532, 1621, 1727, 1829 (see Wine *sb.*¹ 2 (*b*)) 1538 Coverdale *1 Sam.* xxi. 4 Yf the yonge men haue onely refrained themselues from wemen. 1597 Passman *Pope's News* 15 Above all thynges let hym keepe hym self from woman.

d. In a mode of address. (Cf Man *sb.*¹ 4 (*e*) Now (except *dial* and in renderings of foreign modes of speech) used chiefly derogatorily or jocularly.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 49 Wummon, set þu hauest were after þi wil. a 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom* I. 189 Helpe me to, wummon, þat þu hauest þrowen wunder. c 1250 *Kent Serm in O. E. Misc.* 29 Ure louerd seiþ to hire, Wat he longeþ hit to me oþer to þe, wymman? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6652 Wimmen, wimmen, don a wail wanne pou negte for me. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* iii. 103 Ywyttiliy, wymman! wrouȝt hastow oft. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xv. 28 O thou wommyn, thi feith is grete. c 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 93 O I womman, what hast þou done? 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iii. 182 O mother, mother! O! heauens! O heauens! *Corio* Nay, I prythee woman. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 343 O Woman, best are all things as the will Of God ordain'd them. 1728 E. Ward *Female Tel.* 24 Oh Woman! thy Calamities are great 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* ix, Arrah, woman, don't be talkin your balderdash to me. 1882 Tennyson *Lover*, I. iii. 63 Will you hold your tongue, woman? her husband cried out 'Woman! hold my tongue! This language to me!' 1902 S. Macnaughtan *Fortune of War* 1. 1807 Shaks. *Oth.* i. 3 'Woman, you are to blame,' responded Colin, 'but you have not got the English tone.'

e. With allusion to qualities generally attributed to the female sex, as mutability, capriciousness, proneness to tears; also to the position of inferiority or subjection (phr. *to make a woman of*, to bring into submission)

c 1400 *Brym* 879 She bad done a wommans dede. c 1400 *Antors Arth.* 107 Hit warned, hit wayment as a woman 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xxvi. (Percy Soc.) 23 Then know I a lyghter mete than that it is eyen a womans tounge, For that is euer weryage. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 184 b, This peace was called the womenness peace, for because that notwithstandyng this conclusion, yet neither the Emperoure trusted the Frenche kyng, nor he neither trusted the Emperoure. 1592 Shaks. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 57 *Jul.* Your reason? *Lu.* I haue no other but a womans reason I thinke him so, because I thinke him so. 1593 *Parsi nate Borrower* (1630) 79 If I, with a womans resolution, the plaine Downe-right, falling into so knaue a vaine of scoulding, as she had charged him with a thousand discourteuses. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. vi. 25 *Bast.* Here's a stay That shakes the rotten carkasse of old Death Out of his rags! *Aust.* Here's a large mouth indeed That spits forth death and mountains, rocks and seas, Talks as familiarly of roaring lions As maids of thirteen do of puppy dogs! 1596 — *Merch. V.* iii. 111 Here — *Ham.*¹ i. ii. 146 Frailty, thy name is woman. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* i. ii. 62 Be woman in all parlies, saue in thy eies. 1607 Heywood *Woman Killed* A Woman is Weather-cocke. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* ii. viii. 125 O what great Bargains are these! and cheap enough in any Woman Conscience 1748 *Scots Mag.* Dec. 544 Pennsylv. 15 Savages's Woman Queen's Women of you. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* xxxi. 11. 40, I have seen your husband carrying wood into his lodge to make the fire. Where was his squaw, that her husband should be obliged to perform the office? 1850 *Smedley & Fairlegh* xxvii, Don't make such a fuss, you're as bad as a woman 1851 Kingsley *Alt. Hereward* 5 For men must work, and women must weep.

f. (Now always with *the*) The essential qualities of a woman; womanly characteristics; that which makes a woman what she is; womanliness; *occas.*, the feminine side or aspect; ♀ predicatively = feminine, womanish.

1598 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV* iv. 4 *Now is Will.* Iv, But that my eyes Have more of woman in 'em than my heart, I would not weep. 1637 N. Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 18 Not in a fit of woman cry and whine. 1661 Evelyn *Tyrannus* 28 It is not unusual to say when in the midst of the Battel of the two Coasted Sardanapalus's. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz* v. 80 All the Woman work'd within your mind. 1772 Mackenzie *Man of Feel.* xxi. (1803) 78 Take away that guilt, she has woman about her, already. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xiv, It might be said, that the Earl of Sussex had been most serviceable to Elizabeth, while Leicester was most dear to the woman. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* i. ii. iii, Teach her to subdue The woman in her nature 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 552 It is the manly affection to her husband a nephew. 1894 'G. Egerton' *Keynotes* 188 Jo get at the woman under that infernal corset.

†g. *One's own woman*: mistress of oneself, independent. (After Man *sb.*¹ 4 (*i*)) *Obs.*

1693 Manton *Dutch Courtezan* iii. 1, I assure you tis nere marry. Marry God forbend tis hue my owne woman

h. In contrast, explicit or implicit, with 'lady' (see Lady 2*b*. 4).

1598 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* iv iv, But that my eyes Have more of woman in 'em than my heart, I would not weep. 1637 N. Whiting *Albino & bellama* 18 Not in a fit of woman cry and whine. 1661 Evelyn *Tyrannus* 28 It is not unusual to say when in the midst of the Battel of the two Coasted Sardanapalus's. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz* v. 80 All the Woman work'd within your mind. 1772 Mackenzie *Man of Feel.* xxi. (1803) 78 Take away that guilt, she has woman about her, already. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xiv, It might be said, that the Earl of Sussex had been most serviceable to Elizabeth, while Leicester was most dear to the woman 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* i. ii. iii, Teach her to subdue The woman in her nature 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 552 It is the manly affection to her husband a nephew. 1894 'G. Egerton' *Keynotes* 188 Jo get at the woman under that infernal corset.

†g. *One's own woman*: mistress of oneself, independent. (After Man *sb.*¹ 4 (*i*)) *Obs.*

1693 Manton *Dutch Courtezan* iii. 1, I assure you tis nere marry. Marry God forbend tis hue my owne woman

h. In contrast, explicit or implicit, with 'lady' (see Lady 2*b*. 4).

ling, wherein not many women (I should say ladies) are concerned. 1889 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiii, 'You are such an unreasonable woman,' remonstrated Mr. Benjamin Allen. 'I beg your pardon, young man,' said Mrs. Raddle, 'but who do you call a woman?' 1897 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 1128/2 Defendant pleaded ..that the person described as a woman was in fact a lady. 1898 Miss Gabrell *North & South Essex*, So that was the lady we spoke of as a woman? .. You might have told me who she was.

i. With qualification denoting status, occupation, or character, *woman* enters into many compounds or collocations more or less permanent, corresponding to those of *man* (Man *sb.*¹ 4 (*g*)) but much less numerous: see the various qualifying words and Bondwoman, Charwoman, Countrywoman, Gentlewoman, Horsewoman, Manwoman, Needlewoman, Old woman, Tire-woman, Townswoman, Wise woman, Young woman, etc.

*Woman bond*, nonce inversion of Bondwoman *Forst women* = Prima donna. *Little woman*: a female child, girl (cf *little man*, Man *sb.*¹ 4 *f*), also, an affectionate or playful form of address to a girl or young woman, esp one in whom womanly qualities are conspicuous. *New woman*: a woman of 'advanced' views, advocating the independence of her sex and deifying convention, hence *new-womanhood*, *new-womanish* adj.

1675 Homer *Odyssey* iv 12 The second wedding was his son's, Whom on a woman bond he had begot. 1827 Earl Mount Edgcumbe *Mem.* 1. 1. 1.

of youre moste secrete woman. 1565 *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 144 To playe a partie at a playe theie call the bilea, my mestres Beton and I against the Quene and my lord Darlye—the women to have the gayre of the wynninges. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 93 Sir Thomas Bullens Daughter,...One of her Highnesse women. 1663 Dryden *Rival Ladies* v. ii, A Note put privately into my hand by Angellina's Woman. 1740 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII. viii, In Town I visit none but the Women of Quality. 1819 Malkin *Gil Blas* IX. ix. (Rtldg.) 360 Another coach and four, with Seraphina's women. 1893 † Leslie Keith † *Lisbeth* iii, I wonder ye dare put such an affront on me before the women! 1898 Hichens *Londoners* x, From Mrs. Crouch, ma'am, her Grace's woman.

3. †a. A lady-love, mistress. *Obs.* b. A kept mistress, paramour.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7567 They toke and slowe Hirkan And yolde Kirdeiele his woman. 1581 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q vj, A feruent Dialogue full of the affection of a louer with his womanne. 1639 J. S. *Cithamas* 23 Agree to bee my woman, and I will consent to bee thy man. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 13 Oct., The Duke of York .leaves off care of business, what with his woman, my Lady Denham, and his hunting three times a week. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 384 If any of you take any of these Women, as a Woman or Wife, .. he shall take but one. 1924 Galsworthy *White Monkey* III. vii, Tiley tell me Bilderson keeps two women.

4. a. wife. Now only *dial.* and *U.S.*

Cf. Old Woman 1 b and the corresp. use of *man* (Man *sb.*1 8).

*c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7043 A night be his woman [*wyue MSS.*] he lay. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 306 See the hell of hauing a false woman; my bed shall be abus'd. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Nice Valour* II. i, A man can in his life-time make but one woman, But he can make his fifty Queanes a month. 1693 Dunton *Ramond* vi. 293 Enquire thy Neck and put it in the Yoke: But for no mercy from thy Woman look. 1765 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 416 My poor little woman has been in the drooling mood for two or three days. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.*, x, Gates and his woman thought that they should come for'ard...to be what master would have 'em ever was. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 193, I persisted in them to the last, as did my woman. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courag.* vii. 147 He married my woman's aunt.

† b. The female mate of an animal. *Obs. rare.*

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 244 b, The hee Goate, ..by a certayne instinct of nature, ..goeth alwayes before his woman.

5. The reverse of a coin; in reference to the figure of Britannia (q.v.) upon it. (Cf. Man *sb.*1 17.)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Harp*, Harp ..is also the Irish expression for woman, or tail, used in tossing up in Ireland. 1832 Marryat *Jaf-Hunter* III, *Thos.* Here goes—heads or tails? *John.* Woman for ever. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* xi, I pulled out a shilling. 'If it's head we go, Jim; if it's woman, we stay here.'

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

6. a. Simple attrib. = ' of or characteristic of a woman or women, feminine, womanly '.

1592 Udall *Erasm. Apoth.* 99 The woman sexe is no lesse apte to learne al manner thynges, then menne are. 1622 Late M. Wroth *Urania* 104 Woman modestie kept her silent. 1822 Fletcher *Prophetess* III. iii, You'll find it but a woman-fit to try ye. 1831 Hervey *Int. Fr. Faer Maid of Hext* III. i. 31 In this woman shape He cudgell thee. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 82 Into the woman-state sequant to pry. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xxvi, Still only man, in whom a fox fill woman-mercy would not know. 1845 Clough *Poems*, 'O θεὸς μετὰ σου ?, I shall see thy soft brown eyes dilate to unknowing woman thought. 1848 Mrs. Carlyle in *Froude Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 278 What a contrast it often think betwixt that woman and Geraldine! the opposite poles of woman-nature! 1883 Browning *Toch. Hakhdadish* 310 The woman-nature—the soft-strong Of feminine omnipotence O'er our strong male-stuff. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 346/2 The next moment he had taken the fair woman face between his hands. 1895 *Cath. Mirror* 25 Sept., Foreword woman-way. 1897 'H. S. Merriman' *In Kedar's Tents* xxvi. *heading*, Womanesque.

b. *appos.* (*a*) = ' female ', esp. with designations of occupation or profession.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29430 If þou wit þi woman find Clerk be doand dede vn-hende. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xvii. 9 A woman widowe. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 3 A woman-gayyn hyt was his maister. 1548 *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wulcker 600/47 *Sacerdotissa patrina*, a woman-mangussayh. 1550 Palsgr. 280/2 Woman coke, *cuysiniere*. 1867 Morison *Tilt.* I. 92 Woman poet Sappho. 1892 Brome *Court Beggar* v. ii. (1653) S 3 b, What Woman Monster's this? 1899 D. Pell *Improv. Sea* Ep. Ded. d j, We are so wise now, that we have our woman Politicians. 1675 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 442 A woman-martyr who ..offered herself to martyrdom. 1680 Shadwell *Guilty Mother* Captain. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* vi. Note 31 A Woman-Grammarian, who corrects her Husband for speaking false Latin. 1697 — *Æneis* XI. 796 [1016] A Woman Warrior was too strong for thee. 1706 Prior *Ode to Queen* xxvi, The Woman-Chief in Time of the War. 1707 Pope *Iliad* IX. 756 One Woman-Slave was ravish'd from thy Arms. 1869 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* II. 54 A woman-shearer, through the harvest, is reckoned equal to the rent of a cottage and yard. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 540 The Princess with her monstrous woman-guard. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I, Lisbeth's natural refusal to have any woman-helper in the house. 1877 Black *Green Pastr.* I, With scarcely a woman-friend in the world.

† (*b*) = ' having the character of a woman, feminine, womanly; effeminate '. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xxv. (1912) 407 Rather then onely shew her selfe a woman-lover in fruities lamentations. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 319, I have been a pious fool, a Woman-King.

(*c*) With names of animals, forming designations of creatures having the qualities or properties of a woman and of the particular animal.

*a* 1693 Fletcher *Women Pries* IV. iv, I', know her To be a Woman-wolfe by transmigration. 1693 *Lady's Calling* I. iii. 8 23 Nothing can be more unnatural, more odious, then a woman-tiger. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* xi, The brutes, acting under the direction of that woman-monkey. 1893 Rodway *Hand-bk. Brit. Guiana* 67 How such an unwieldy creature (as the manatee)..could ever have been figured as a woman-fish can hardly be understood by anyone who has seen it.

c. objective, as *woman-follower*, *-killer*, †*-queller*, *-scorner*, *-slayer*, *-spiller*, *-worship*, *-worshipper*; *woman-bearing*, *-churching*, *-degrading*, *-despising*, *-flogging*, *-murdering*, †*-quelling* adjs.; similative and parasynthetic, as *woman-faced*, *-fair*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-proud*, *-vested* adjs.; instrumental, as *woman-bred*, *-built*, *-conquered*, *-daunted*, *-governed*, *-made*, *-ridden*, *-tended* adjs.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxviii, The boy grew up delicate, sensitive, imperious, 'woman-bred. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 466 A new-world Babel, 'woman-built. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xli. 336 An uprising or 'Woman Churching Treatment. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 233 'Woman-conquer'd (stood) there The bearded Victor of ten-thousand hymns. 1598 Rowlands *Betraying Christ*, etc. 31 iv, 'Woman-daunted Peter. 1895 G. Gissing *Private who did* (1906) 84 Their own vile 'woman-degrading and prostituting morality. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 566 Ausonius makes her [sc. the Sphinx]..'woman-faced. 1866 Rossetti *Poems* 56 Beside her hung the Man and image 'woman-fair. 1794 Southey *Coleridge's Fall of Robespierre* II. 181 The 'woman-govern'd Roland. 1902 *19th Cent.* Dec. 989 The 'woman-headed serpent. 1823 H. G. Knight *Alaistlar* III. xiii, Well may the mild, the 'woman-hearted fall. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxix, Having a firm conviction in his own mind that he was a 'woman-killer and destined to conquer. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 58 Thou art ..a Man-queller, and a 'woman-queller. 1611 Daniel *Tale of Melicert* 1056 Bound the woman-queller. 1892 Thackeray *Esmond* II. iv, A weak priest-ridden, 'woman-ridden man. 1581 Habington *Ori. Fort. Xvis.* Arcad, He had proud'lasts selfe a 'woman-slayre. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* v, A perpetual series of aggression had converted me, not into a woman-hater, but a 'woman-spitter. 1897 *Lp. Dufferin Lett. High Ser.* 40 The ridiculous effect of a 'woman-tended home. 1897 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 163 'Woman-vested as I was. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* Introd. p. xviii, The 'woman-worshiping of Saint Louis. 1848 Kaulk *Verse lou Lais* ix, Next Lady-day..as the 'woman-worshipper call'st. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 7 Foule 'womanwronger.

7. Special comb.: †**woman-actor**, (*a*) an actress; (*b*) an actor who takes women's parts; **woman-bore** *rare*, a woman-hater; **woman-body** *dial.*, a person of the female sex, woman; **woman-born** *a.*, born of woman; **woman-dangler**, one who dangles after women; †**woman-errant**, one who goes after women; **woman-grown** *a.*, that has become a woman; †**woman-house** *Sc.*, a laundry: see also *women-house* (9 c); †**woman-keeper**, a female nurse; †**woman-louper** *Sc.*, a whoremonger; **woman-mad** *a.*, mad after women; **woman-man**, an effeminate man, or one who in some way resembles a woman; **woman-market**, a place for the sale (*lit.* or *fig.*) of women; **woman-movement**, the movement for the emancipation of women, or the recognition and extension of women's rights; **woman-palaver** *African*, illicit commerce with a woman or women; **woman-physician**, (*a*) a woman's doctor; (*b*) a woman-doctor; **woman-post**, a female messenger or courier; **woman-raving** *a.* = *woman-mad*; †**woman-reputation**, reputation for women; †**woman-scrimmager**, a maker of women's shoes; **woman-slaughter**, the killing of a woman by a human being; **woman-suffrage**, the right of women to vote in public affairs; hence **woman-suffragist**, an advocate of woman-suffrage; †**woman-surgeon**, one who beautifies women by the aid of paints, washes, etc.; †**woman-tired** *a.* [Tire *v.*2 2], hen-pecked; †(*on*) **woman-ways**, **-wise** *advs.*, after the manner of a woman or women.

1779 Cumberland *Fash. Life* (Dial. old Phays) Alexander Goffe, the "woman-actor at Blackfriers ..used to be the jackall. 1895 Kipling *and Jungle Bk.* 246 Big skin "woman-boats', when the dogs and the ladies lay among the feet of the rowers. 1611 Cotgr. *Fort Hrt. Hdl.* iv, It was a wicked thing for a woman-body to be standing among bundles of barkened leather her lane, selling saddles and bridles. 1889 Hall Caine *Scapegoat* xii, The young woman-body is dead in child-bed. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 181 Canst thou..Buy what is "woman-born, and feel no shame? 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. Nordt* (1851) I. 227 Nor in those days could the like Burns] help from woman-born. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 508/2 That when his back is turned the Senecas may not call him a thief as well as a "woman-dangler. 1648 Shirley *Witty Fair One* II. ii, What make you here, my "woman errant? 1785 Burns *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* iv, Their jenny, "woman-grown, In youthfu' bloom. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 208 The maiden sunshine grown. 1618 *Rec. Soc. Sig. Scot.* 555/2 Cameram lie "woman-hous. 1754 *State of Process, Mrs. Forbes v. D. Scot* (Jam.) Water lying on the floors of the woman-house and kitchen. 1592 Wyrcestrey *Chron.* (Camden) II. 80 Betwene euery xx children [of Christ's Hospital] [there was] one "woman keeper. 1630 †Dekkers *Blacke Rod* (1925) 107 No Women-keepers to rob you of your Goods, or to hasten you to your End. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 419 A "woman lowpar, landless. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 249 Accursed Paris, "woman-mad, seducer. 1805 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1 *Vocation* 344 May one hope...In "Woman-Men a manly Constancie? 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Superbia Flagellum* 64 The Woman-man, Man-woman, cunne you whether, The Female-mash, Male-female, both yet neither. 1889 Tennyson *On one who affected an effeminate manner* 4 But friend, man-woman is not woman-true. 1576–98 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 109 Another lady then demanded, if we had not a "woman-market. 1884 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the woman-markets of the west. 1898 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 3/1 It is in educational affairs that the "Woman Movement appears to be making the most progress. 1897 Hinde *Congo Arabs* 52 What every African traveller knows as "woman-palaver'. 1533 *MSS. Dn. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 374 To a "woman phisician...iiijs. iiijd. 1591 H. Smith *Pregnr. Marr.* 76 To helpe him in his sickenesse, like a woman Phisition. 1625 Hart *Anat. Ur.* ii. vi. 85 Much lease then the ignorant Empiricke, the petticoate or woman-physitian. 1599 Shakes. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 228 What cause is such haste in riding robes? What "woman post is this? 1626 *Ralegh's Ghost* in *Hart. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 547 How he [sc. Gondorlar]..answered the expectation...of the king ..shall be declared upon the next return of the woman-post, which passeth betwixt the English and the Spanish Jesuits. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 357 A woman-post in flying raiment. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 92 Cursed Paris, thou "woman-raving seducer. *a* 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* vi. (1642) 395 To which popular credit and "woman-reputation they attained...by their invincible patience and silence. 1900 *Gaz.* No. 4003/4 Robert Fleetwood, a "Woman Shoemaker. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Crabtree Lect.* 80 Least there should be man-slaughter, or "woman-slaughter committed. 1790 T. Gordon *Humourist* I. 169 But only be deem'd Woman-slaughter. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & Wits*, They had never heard of a verdict of woman-slaughter in their lives. 1869 *Times* 11 Apr. 12/1 "Woman Suffrage. [Letter of two peritions.] 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Jan. 10/1 The sunflower badge...has been adopted by the Iowa "woman suffragists. 1848 Ford *Lover's Hdk.* II. iii. 72 My nurse is a "woman surgeon...*Rhe.* A she-surgeon, which is in effect a meere matter of colours. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 74 Thou dotard, thou art "womantired unto a worsted stocking. 1844 Partlet heere. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 174 With velwet bordour about his threidbair coit, On "womanways well tyoit about his wame. 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 2308 This man Died "woman-wise.

8. Comb. with *woman's*, as *woman's* † *post*, *tailor*; **woman's boat** = *women's boat* (see 10); **woman's man**, a lady's man, a gallant; † **woman's-meadwort** = Meadwort 2.

1765 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Canoe, Umiak*, the "woman's-boat. 1599 Barrow *Wit of Wit* (Grosart) 57/2, I thinke it better to bee thought a good "womans man than an ill mans woman. 1863 Longerve *Old Bach.* IV. xiii, Sailing is the best qualification for a "woman's man. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 256 P 1 The Woman's Man is a Person in his Air and Behaviour quite different from the rest of our Species. 1729 T. Cooke *Tale, etc.* 40 Such a "woman call'd a Woman's Man. 1818 Fessenden *Ladies' Monitor* 31 Nor will I sanction any plan T'annihilate your pretty woman's man. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* (Ashm. M.) 209 Frenych cresse or "wymmanys medewourth. 1620 B. Jonson *Masque, News fr. New World* (1641) 42 *Chro.* Is he a Mans Poet, or a "Womans poet? *Fus.* Why, both

these *women-matters..in our own verge. 1864 Meredith *Emilia* xxxvi, Are there men-women and *women men?.. have we changed parts to-night? 1670 †Dekker *London looke backe* (1925) 190 When the Bell hath ceast tolling for thee, and thy *Women-sleepers leaue gaping for thy Linnen. 1669 Needham *Mod. Medicina* 73 (Zacutus) hardly grants any possibility of *Women-stirkes escaping [pox]. 1867 *Times* 4 Mar. 6/4 Mr. Mill upon *Women Suffrage.

**10.** Comb. with *women's*: **women's-boat**, a boat to be used by women only = Oomiak; **women's courses**, † **evil** = Catamenia; † **women's-kins**, of the female sex; **women's man**, pl. of *woman's man* (see 8); **women's suffrage** = *woman-suffrage* (see 7).

1823 Scoresby *Jrnl.* p. xxx, They had made a three years excursion along the eastern coast in a *women's-boat. 2615 Crooke *Body of Man* 60 Where wee apply cupping glasses to bring down *womens courses. 1379 *Mirr. Glouc. Cathedr.* 29 i. iv. 2 b, Menstrua. In Englysh 'wymmens yvell. 1536 *Wills & Inv. N. Country* (Surtees Soc.) I. 82 Euerye of my seruaunttes aswell menskynnes, as womenskynnes. 1872 Addison *Spect.* No. 536 ♀ a That part of Mankind who are known by the Name of the *Women-Men or Beaus. 1981 R. King *Mod. Lond. Spy* 56 We now drank one tea, which, to what are called women's men, is at that time of the evening generally very agreeable. 1868 *Times* 11 May 10/4 A branch of the National Society for the *Women's Suffrage.

**Woman** (wu·măn), *v.* [f. prec.]

†**1.** Early nonce-uses. **a.** *intr.* To become woman-like; with *it*, to behave as a woman, be womanly. **b.** *trans.* To make like a woman in weakness or subservience. **c.** *pa. pple.* Accompanied by a woman. **d.** To make 'a woman' of, deprive of virginity.

1593 T. Edwards *Cephalus* (1878) 55 Her courage was euen then a womanning. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. ii. 53, I haue felt so many quirkes of ioy and greefe, That the first face of neither on the start Can womans it. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 195, I...thinke it no motion or my wish To haue him see me woman'd. 1618 Heywood *Golden Age* III. I. 2 b, I woman'd first Eue, and made thee a greater father. 1623 Daniel *Hymen's Trí.* III. ii, This day I should Haue seene my daughter Siluia how she would Haue womand it.

**2.** *trans.* To furnish or provide with women; to equip with a staff of women. (After Man *v.*)

1706 Mrs. Centlivre *Basset-Table* Epil., The Ship's well man'd, and not ill Woman'd neither. 1830 Wheaton *Jrnl.* 271 The tops of the houses were manned and womaned for many a square. 1865 Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 108 A sea-boat womanned by a set of Grace Darlings. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 7 Aug. 5/5 The hospitals..not manned, but womanned, with intelligent nurses.

**3.** To address as 'woman'; see prec. 1 d.

So *to dear woman*, to address as 'dear woman'.

1790 Richardson *Pamela* II. 269 She call'd her another time Fat-face and woman'd her most violently. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 399 Whom call you woman? Dare to woman me! 1883 D. Cook *Paul Foster's Dau.* III, Don't come dear womaning of me.

**Wo·man-child.** *arch.* Pl. **wo·men-chi·ldren.** [Woman *sb.* 6 b.] A female child.

1558 T. Wyrley *Serjeants* III. 161 If it be a woman childe, than let the christener say thus, [etc.]. 1560 Becon *New Catech.* vi. Wks. 1564 I. 537 It is expedient, yᵗ. scholes for women children be erected. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. viii. 265 The women-child is easilie put to. woman-child into the Princes cradle. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xvii. 449 The father might..assign a guardian to any woman-child under the age of fourteen. 1815 Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 283 Such a temper—in one so young—...a child—a woman-child. 1866 Lytton *Last Tales Miletus* 108 An aged king, to whom the fates had granted but one fair woman-child.

**Womandom** (wu·măndom). [f. Woman *sb.* + -dom.] The realm of women; womankind.

1858 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 458 The whole womandom of the rooms is up in arms. 1892 *Pictorial World* 3 Oct. 195/1, I had a special brief for Fashion in the High Court of Womandom.

**Womanfully** (wu·mănfŭll), *adv.* [f. Woman *sb.* after *manfully.*] With womanly courage or perseverance; like a woman.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 660 Do all manfully and womanfully, good ladies and gentlemen, without let or gainsay. 1824 Southey *Let. to John May* 29 Aug. in *Life* (1849) I. 240 This she resisted womanfully. 1872 Tylor *Primit. Imag. Soc.* 95 You will manfully and womanfully prolong your investigations.

**Woman-ha·ter.** Also (in pl.) **women-.** One who hates women; a misogynist.

1607 [Fletcher] (*title*) The Woman Hater. 1649 Massinger *Picture* II. ii, Surely, madam, I am no woman-hater. 1698 Collier *Immor. Stage* iv, 171 This Coarseness [toward women] does not always come from Clowns, and Woman-haters. 1728 Swift *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 8 Against the sex to write a satire, And brand me for a woman-hater. 1877 Rita *Virginia* I. ii, I should scarcely think that the sudden introduction of a young and beautiful woman...into your domestic life was quite welcome to such a woman-hater as yourself.

**† Womanhead.** *obs. or rare arch.* Forms and etym.: see Woman *sb.* and -head. = next.

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 299 (Fairf. MS.) And shal I prey, and weyve womanheede? c 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 890 The queene anon for verray womanhede Gan for to wepe. c 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 753 Thow glorie of womanhede, thow faire may. c 1448 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* (1892) 50 'I to recommande me...To hir benigne & humble womanhede. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* V. 691 Fra Inglissmen to saiff my womanheid. 1496-9 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 126 She is amyable and good, with great wysdome and womanhead. 1598 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 160 Suete Womanheds I saw cum in presence. 1879 Brant *Serm.* D viij b, The Church of Christ is a woman, and hath womanhead towardes her beloued. 1597 in *Y. Mirfield's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 432 Deir damselles I leave af your dreirie mean, And grow in godlines to womanheid. 1699 Drayton *Moon-calf* Agincourt etc. 265 When I sawe her rampant to transcend All womanehead [*sic*]. a 1632 Donne *Relique* 3 Graves haue learn'd that woman-head To be to more then one a Bed. 1894 J. Davidson *Ballads & Songs* 3 Now you surely know The wrongs of womanhead At last are fairly dead.

**Womanhood** (wu·mănhud). Forms and etym.: see Woman *sb.* and -hood.

**1.** The state or condition of being a woman.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 283 Alle here lymes so wel answeringe Weren to womanhode. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 545 She,...contrarie to Gods lawe, and the honest estate of womanhood, was clothed in mans apparell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 220 May we with the warrant of womanhood..pursue him with any further reuenge? 1823 Byron *Juan* IX. lxxi, Her womanhood in its meridian. 1829 Hemans *Marr. Cerzint* 176 She...with all grace Of womanhood and queenhood, answer'd him. 1860 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* v, Her first conception of the stern Jewess had...been that of perfect womanhood.

**b.** The state of being a grown woman; the period of life succeeding to girlhood.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 470 *Si apparuerit in ea womanhood*, that is, if she appeare of yeares. 1658 Osborn *Advice to Son* (1673) 18 Your memory appeared. 1718 Steele *Spect.* No. 534 ♀ 1 This has been my State, till I came toward Years of Womanhood. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 81 Nature...assume the dress Of womanhood. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvii, The change from childhood to womanhood. 1893 Crockett *Stickit Minister* 40 Janet grew to womanhood without a sweetheart.

(*b*) *attrib.* in *womanhood suffrage*, formerly freq. (used (after Manhood 7) for *woman-suffrage* (Woman *sb.* 7).

1892 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 3/2 A future system of manhood and womanhood suffrage.

**2.** The constitution, character, or qualities natural to a woman or womankind; womanliness.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1042 *Dido*, If that god...Wolde han a loue for beaute & goodnesse And womanhede [tr. *v. womanhode*] & trouthe ek in conclusion. 1590 Greene *Never too late* I. (1600) E 2, Courage is knowne in extremities, womanhood in distresse. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 72 Neither in Pyther Faith, Truth, nor Woman-hood in me else. 1621 Heathwait *Nat. Embassie* 160 To transgresse the bounds of womanhood. 1755 Johnson, *Womanhood*, *f. woman*, the character and collective qualities of a woman. Obsolete. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xxxiii, Miss Brass's maiden modesty and gentle womanhood. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II. viii. 255 My mother...had sympathy with every emotion of true womanhood.

**3.** Women collectively, womankind.

1823 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 900 Maydenly demure, Of womanhode wonder well assured. 1839 They contribute to make this kind of Womanhood more universal than it would otherwise be. 1858 Miss Mulock *Woman's Th.* 71 The infinite wrongs, errors, and sufferings of this world of womanhood. 1889 Bishop *Meux. Thorpe* 293 Upingham womanhood must next be taught to cook.

**Womanish** (wu·mănĭsh), *a.* [-ish¹ 2.]

**1.** Of or belonging to a woman or women; a woman's; used or done by women. Now *rare.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 48 With so swete a sleuene Like to the melodie of hevene In womannysshe vois thei singe. 1555 Lady Vane in Fore *A. & M.* (1563) 1445/1, I...doe prepare..my womanish bodie to their burthens of reproufe. 1610 A. Cooke *Pope Joan* 100 They might haue pretended that they would not be subiect to a womanish and an vnwarlik Quarrell. 1611 Florio *Worlde* 111. 210 Spinning, weaving, and the like womanish chares. a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* IX. Notes (1673) 95 That this was a Womanish wear may be seen by the words of Authors 97. Eg. of his 2. Life Usworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 322 *Python* is properly a womanish Pall or Veil. 1896 F. Harrison in *19th Cent.* May, 801 A separate degree conferring and exclusively womanish university.

**2.** Characteristic of or proper to a woman or women; womanly, feminine.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 604 The wordes and he wommanisshe gestes. 1530 Palsgr. *Acolastus* 1. 1 b, Lyke a woman I am, 72 Whiles th' womannyssh diede Sche to ek and nyste what to rede. *Ibid.* 111. 304 Sche wolde him goode name kepe Fro feres womannysshe scharne. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* VII. Wks. 467/2 The mother..dreste and womanishe fare. a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 39 A voice, not softe, weake, piping, womannishe, but audible, stronge, and manlike. 1606 G. Warner *Albions Engl.* (ed. 2) 297 Emperors in *Hist. Incitate* Their priuat matters she had beene able to gouerne easily by her owne womanish wisedome. 1611 Iremn. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* v. 1, She's a Brother...Like her, a face as womanish as hers. 1706 Kennett *Hist. Eng.* III. 781 He had a particular Averseness to Dancing, and all Womanish Exercises. 1728 Richardson *Spect.* No. 563 ♀ 2 Lyes I Complaint...in wonderfully beautiful: The sentiments..have something in them particularly soft and womanish. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* I. 203 Nothing, said she, but Womanish Curiosity. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xvii, To love her [*sc.* the camel] for the sake of her gentle and womanish ways. 1866 Mrs. H. Wood *Johnny's Eve* xix, The pale features, regular to a fault, were almost womanish beauty.

**b.** In derogatory use.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 229 As he which hath himself resteigned...Out of the manere of a man, And tok his womannysshe chiere. 1532 More *Confut. Barnes* viii. Wks. 760/e Her questions are so like to be but friuolous & womanish. 1534 — *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. vi. (1553) G j Weping for our sinnes..they reckyn shame almost and womanyshe pesiishen. 1592 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Womanish encountrings, vnseemely lyings and childish threatenings. 1685 Dryden *Thrrn. Augusi.* viii, So weak, so womanish a woe. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* II. 209 She betrayed neither weakness, nor womanish submission. 1813 E. S. Barrett *Heroine* II. (1909) 55, I do not like...his pencilled eyebrows and curled locks, they look so womanish. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 402/2 He must have been under the influence of fears which it would be an excess of flattery to call womanish.

**3.** Resembling a woman, womanlike: in later use chiefly derogatory; also of a girl, Like a grown woman in her ways.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 93 He syh wher sat a creature, A lothly womannysch figure. c 1470 Harding *Chron.* LX. ii, Elyne...was...More Angelyke then womannyshe of hewe. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. *Wks.* 1601 If manishe men make warriers womanish. 1788 Wesley *Jrnl.* 20 June, This girl...being then between fourteen and fifteen years old. But she was then quite a womanish girl. 1891 Farrar *Darkness & Dawn* lxv, Lascivious Otho, gluttonous Vitellius, savage Domitian, womanish Elagabalus.

† **4.** Having a great inclination or liking for women. *Obs. rare.*

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. xii. 187/1 A frere wythe womanysh lokes the holy horeson neuer so sayntly. 1579-80 [implied in Womanishness].

**5.** *Comb.*

1382 Wyclif *1 Kings* xv. 12 He took away the womannysh maad men [*effeminatos*] of the loond. a 1623 Fletcher *Lover's Cure* III. ii, One so full of childish fear, And womanish-hearted.

Hence † **Wo·manish** *v. trans.*, to render womanish, to womanize.

1562 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. I j, Men...who ought not with suche delicacies (as musicke) to womanishe their mindes. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xii. § 5 This effeminate love of a woman, doth so womanish [*so ed.* 1590; *add.* 1593–1674 womanize] a man, that (if he yield to it) it will..make him..a launder, a distaff-spinner.

**Womanishly** (wu·mănĭshli), *adv.* [f. Womanish *a.* + -ly².] In a womanish manner or style.

1573 Baret *Alv.* W 319 Womannishly, faintly, fearfully, *muliebriter*. 1579 Twyne tr. *Lycosthenes' Prodigies* 1. lxvi. 242 When as she womanishly lamented that he should die an innocent. 1665 Heathwait *Counse. Two Tales* (1901) 13 To have his hair curled, and womanishly dishevelled. 1731 G. Jeffreys *Merope* I. 2 Are we sunk so womanishly low, That we can only mourn, and rail, and pray? a 1845 T. O. Davis *Life Curran* (1846) 60 Curran was of a most impassionate, womanishly sensitive heats. 1860 Sir T. Martin *Horace* I. xxxvii. 65 A woman, yet not womanishly weak.

So **Womanishness** (wu·mănĭsnes), the quality or state of being womanish.

1549 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 41 The minstrelsie of lutes ..is farre more fitte for the womannishnesse of it to dwell in the courte among ladies. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Theseus & Romulus* (1595) 41 Their womanishness was rather to satisfie lust, then of any good love. 1607 Markham *Caval.* I. 25 Such as out of their flemye womanishnesse seeke for spirit in secrets. 1664 H. M. *Spirit Popery* 111. 22 The more-then-ordinary Womanishness of the Church of Rome in that Interval. 1858 *Hansch. Words* XVIII. 414/1 There was no nonsense about Kate, no silly affectation of boyishness, no still sillier affectation of premature womanishness. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 19/2 The clergyman's acquired womanishness. 1883 J. Hawthorne *Dust* I. 207 A certain softness or womanishness in his nature, which his masculine taste condemned.

**Womanism** (wu·mănĭzm). [f. Woman *sb.* + -ism.] Advocacy of or enthusiasm for the rights, achievements, etc. of women.

1863 Ld. W. P. Lennox *Drift Recoll. Remin.* I. 286 It became quite the rage to quote the ambiguous passages of her worst productions, as reflecting the strong-minded womanism of the nineteenth century. 1882 Mrs. Parkman *Mercy Learley* xxvii. II. 165 That the mother of his daughter...should now turn round and take her part, from downright womanism, in the teeth of all reason.

† **Womanist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ist.] = next.

1628 *Day Law-Tricks* v. I 2 b, Hee's a sweet womanist.

**Womanity** (wum·ænĭti). *humorous.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ity, after *humanity.*] The normal disposition or character of womankind.

1843 Mrs. Browning *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) I. xviii. 82, I will be secret beyond womanity, if you are frank beyond discretion. 1868 Helps *Realmah* I. vi. 115 Mrs. Milverton and Lady Ellesmere are very like ordinary women. Womanity is strong in them. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Jan. 2/2 Such fresh experience of love..increases one's knowledge of 'Womanity'—if I may be allowed the term. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 2 May 7/3 What will it profit a woman to gain an Oxford degree and lose her womanity?

**Womanize** (wu·mănaiz), *v.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ize.]

**1.** *trans.* To make a woman of (a man); *gen.* to render effeminate, to emasculate.

1593 [see Womanish *a.* 5 (1865). 1643 Torshell *Cast Contr.* 9 We may not now suffer the thoughts of safety else where to womanize our spirits. 1647 Stapylton *Juvenal* 10 *margin*, The Romans Sardanapalli, men womanized. 1755 Johnson, *Womanize*, to effeminate; to emasculate; to soften. Proper, but not used. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* No. 156 P 5 To vitiate their morals, to womanize their spirits. 1813 Lytton in *Lett. Rebt. to Earl Lytton* (1906) I. 40 Don't let Italy womanise you. 1882 Meredith *Tragic Com.* I. vii. 146 Men who have the woman in them without being womanized.

† **2.** *intr.* To become womanlike; to behave like a woman. *Obs.*

1604 Earl Stirling *Crœsus* III. ii. F 3, From the height of Honour to digresse, To womanize with courtly vaine delights. 1613 Wyther *Abuses* II. Juvenilia (1633) 132 Such as can So much degenerate themselves from Man, To tyre and gesture both to womanize. 1736 Bailey (fol.).

**3.** To consort illicitly with women. *colloq.*

1893 Farmer & Henley *Slang, Comic.*, to go wenching: to womanize. 1904 C. Mackenzie *Sinister St.* III. xii, The Bad Men went up to London and womanized.

Hence **Wo·manized** *ppl. a.*, in senses of the verb;

also, rendered women; **Womansing** *vbl sb* and *ppl a.*, **Womansian·tor,** **Womaniser,** one who goes after or consorts illicitly with women

1624 Gee *Foot out of Snare* (ed 2) 81 to act a womanized Character in Terence ! a Eunuchus 1633 Drumm of Hawth. *Entert K Chas* iv 34 Ingenuous presents, womansing toyes 1634 J. Johnson *Pinyr's Chirurg* I 24 (1678) 17 These are a sine womanizing or womanish men 1773 Ash, *Womanizing, the act of womanizing* ; the qualities of a woman 1839 Mrs. Kirkland *New Home* xviii 1 1 the womanized one of the proud and haughty her 1876 M. C. Jackson *Chaperon's Career* 11, She is a womanized likeness of poor Edward 1914 A. Harris in *Austr's Mary* 241 The growing softness of life has and the Unterland—the world's general womanization as the style (German) called it 1924 Galsworthy *White Monkey* II 14 somehow I feel he's a womaniser

**† Wo mankin.** *Obs.* In 3 (*Orm*) wifmann, **wimmannkinn** [I Woman *sb* + Kin *sb*1 cf. Mankin.] = next 1

c1200 Orm 13341 Wel tha saldh þatt sho wass edly womannan till wann inn kinn bitwennenn *Ibid* 3058 Till wepp mann & till wifmannkinn

**Womankind** (wu mănkaind) [f. Woman *sb* + Kind *sb* Cf Womenkind ]

1. The female part of the human race, the female sex; women in general

c1375 *Cursor M* 2024 (Fairf) For wille we come of woman kinde 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 117 Pl nro heelde womman kynde for febie to be relef a 1400 *Pearl* (1891) 21 Bycause for the dedez of a mon kynde [*Peyrner* (1895) 6 womans kynde] c1450 *Bk Curtasye* 2593 in *Babees Bk*, Spekeȝ neuer vnhone to fyn mayskynde 1500–20 Dunbar *Lament Makers* 7 The tail dulyne of womankynd 1611 that dreids for ma sklume 1535 Coverdale *Lev* xx 11 22 Thu shalt not lye with mā kynde as with womankynde 1590 Spenser *F Q* III iv 52 Ye gentle Ladies brest with pitiousness race Of woman kind 1670 Hackett *A p II Williams* II (1692) 35 His man would suffer no woman kind to do any service to him after 1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1) 91 If in woman kind I can love nothing but you 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 3, I do adore Of womankind but one 1818 Byron *Juan* III xxvii, My wish is That womankind had but one rosy mouth, I'd kiss them all at once from North to South 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv 290 The soft Limbs, pride of womankind

**† b** appositively or predicatively Female *Obs* c1570 R Cowp *Injunct ons*, Their chyl iren and seruuntes both mānkinde and womankinde 1577 Bp Aylmer *Are ples to be sung etc* I 4ᵇ Vnto boyes of his parish either mankind or womankinde 1614 R Carlon *Th. Arab I Pearl* 11 D 2 b, Did I but only know her to be woman kind, I thinke it were sufficient

**2** The women of a family, household, company, country, etc.; female relatives and friends (some times also servants), (one's) women folk

1573 L. Lloyd *Liger Tri cas* (1586) 8 Agreeing that the woman kinde shall dispose as they might 1825 Southey *Lett* (1856) III 128 My womankind [Mrs. Hill] in the city 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, Pen having undertaken persecution which his womankind had so flatte upon him 1861 Augusta *Diary Mid Life* 200 Why did the womankind in and out of the house, for a long way round

**† 3** A female human being, a woman. *Obs.*

a 1688 *Warn Married Women* xxviii in Child *Ba ads* (1859) IV 363 a Sance that sometime in woman kind Women are seen no more 1711 *Acts & Laws Massachusetts* (1724) 2 Whosoever shall be convicted (A cult g any Woman or Woman kind 1808 Scott *Marmion* IV 'Where's the lying woman or mankind?' 'Indeed bother Mama set aw 3 to the Hallet Crag, I and I saw her yesterday see her' 1823 Lamb in Talfourd *Sk. by* (ed 3) 1 Is there a woman kind on board, she would set us all in love with ds

**†4.** Womanhood (Cf Mankind A. 2.) *Obs. rare* 1540 Coverdale, etc. *Erasmus Par 1 Peter* 11 7 Let your wyfe vse suche due fauoure vnto her womanhode, &c.

**Womanless** (wu mănlės), *a.* [f. Woman *sb* + -less] Without a woman or women, having or cont uning no women

1846 in Worcester 1859 *Athenæum* 10 Dec 777 2 It is a strange arena, the womanless world of cassocks 1872 M Collins *Sweet Clara* I 54 Arthur Somerville, left to himself woman le s 1910 *Ingl Rev* June 494 A womanless play called *The Ivy Wreath*

**Womanlike** (wu mănlaik), *a* and *adv* [f. Woman *sb* + -like] **A.** *adj.* Like, resembling, or characteristic of a woman or women, in derogatory use, womanish, effeminate.

c1440 *Promp Parv* 524/2 Femynyne, or woman lyke, *muliebris* 1550 Crowley *Way to Health* 315 I lingered lather whose woo in ther womanlike hartes I kindled 1561 T Norton tr *Calvin's Inst* iv xix 1556b, Clerk's were ! remained by the ere here how that they should not bear a y lewd of womanlyke trumpery, 1597 Drayton *Heroical Ep, Isab to Mortimer* Notes such, How beh uiour and attire euer so womanlike, to please the eye of her Iudge our Prince 1694 Capt J Smith *Virginia* 31 Scorning to be seen in a y woman like exercise 1847 Hexham 1, Womanlike delicate and tender 1825 Scott *Talism* xiv, As I used at being quite as much a womanlike experien n of sorrow, for I cannot be classed but in very indistinguishable 1878 *Contemp Rev* Feb 321 Trees were created with women in like inhabitants capable of good and ill 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* 316 The tearful womanlike face of the Christ

**B** *adv* In a manner characteristic of women; after the fashion of women; like a woman.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 362 She was not fond for sword nor w wnd, nor weyed womanlyke. 1556 Pilkington *Aggeus* (1562) I iv b, The spranking Paris fyne With grekishe wymsie pynkyd, womanlie 1635 *Pilk Long Mag of Wisdom* (1637) 43 She dressed him full womanlike. 1743 Francis tr *Hor, Odes* I. xxxvii. 26 But she a nobler fate expir ed, Nor woman like beheld the deathful sword. 1857 W Collins *Dead Secret* v iv (1861) 221 'Of course', cried Rowland, looking, womanlike, straight on to the purpose she had in view. 1858 H. S. Merriman *Roderick* xxxix 303 He would not, it appeared, sit down without her permission And, womanlike, she gave it

**Womanliness** (wu mănlilus). [f. Womanly *a.* + -ness] The quality of being womanly; womanly character; † effeminateness.

1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Mollicies, et mollicia*, womanlynesse 1579 Gurnhay tr. *Gest Erasmus Par 1 Tim* iii 11–6 The entertainyng [also] lyuynes, womanlyness, and sufferance of the wyfe. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* iv (S T S) I 314 Throuch the negligence of King Constantine, and his womanliness. 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlinesse *verwijfheyt* 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr 564/2 The *Portia* of Mrs. Venn is endued with the grace and womanliness that characterized her performances 1876 J Parker *Inquiry* I xvi 259 The womanliness of the Divine nature, its inhnite grace and path s 1881 G Meredith *Trag Com* I vii 146 The choicest women are those who yield not a feather of their womanliness for some amount of manlike strength

**† Womanlish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Blending of Womanish and Womanly *a.*] Womanlike, effeminate

1579 Tomson *Ph s aegri Fortune* xii 181 Womanlishly lamenting her losse and her best pres ous and fayre Iewelles 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlish or effeminate, *vrouwachtigh* Womanlishly, *vrouwachtighlick* 1648 *Ibid.* II, *Effeminate* Womanlishness, or Effeminateness

**Womanly** (wu mănli), *a.* [f. Woman *sb* + -ly1.]

1. Possessing the attributes proper to a woman; having the qualities (as of gentleness, devotion, fearfulness, etc.) characteristic of women, also said of these qualities or of actions which exhibit them.

c1290 *S Eng Leg* I 106 (C) womanlyche wyf *Ibid* iv 604 (Camb MS) þo wontis & þo womanliche kynges sche herde riȝt nouȝt þouh sche þere were c1386 — *Knt a Tale* 1175 No womanly no lyngeryng I pleee 1387–8 T Usk *Test Love* II xii (Skeat) I 324 So precious perle, as a womanly woman in her kynde 1440 Hoccleve *Regement's Princes* 1 (1860) 1 Ne womanly ydelnesse 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III xii 52 Ȝe ar nocht womanly 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen V* 57 b, For womanly shame he should not haue shewed his fearefulnesse 1596 Shakes *Tam Shr* I ii 275 Is there a womanly quality? 1599 — *Much Ado* II i 13 Is not marriage an honourable estate, and a womanly calling? 1611 — *Cymb* III iv 52 Gentle Ladies (neet sin) but tenderly kind 1670 Hackett *A p II Williams* II (1692) 35 His man would suffer no woman kind to do any service to him after 1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1) 91 If in woman kind I can love nothing but you 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 3, I do adore Of womankind but one 1818 Byron *Juan* III xxvii, My wish is That womankind had but one rosy mouth, I'd kiss them all at once from North to South 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv 290 The soft Limbs, pride of womankind

**† b** appositively or predicatively Female *Obs* c1570 R Cowp *Injunct ons*, Their chyl iren and seruuntes both mānkinde and womankinde 1577 Bp Aylmer *Are ples to be sung etc* I 4ᵇ Vnto boyes of his parish either mankind or womankinde 1614 R Carlon *Th. Arab I Pearl* 11 D 2 b, Did I but only know her to be woman kind, I thinke it were sufficient

**2** The women of a family, household, company, country, etc.; female relatives and friends (some times also servants), (one's) women folk

1573 L. Lloyd *Liger Tri cas* (1586) 8 Agreeing that the woman kinde shall dispose as they might 1825 Southey *Lett* (1856) III 128 My womankind [Mrs. Hill] in the city 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, Pen having undertaken persecution which his womankind had so flatte upon him 1861 Augusta *Diary Mid Life* 200 Why did the womankind in and out of the house, for a long way round

**† 3** A female human being, a woman. *Obs.*

a 1688 *Warn Married Women* xxviii in Child *Ba ads* (1859) IV 363 a Sance that sometime in woman kind Women are seen no more 1711 *Acts & Laws Massachusetts* (1724) 2 Whosoever shall be convicted (A cult g any Woman or Woman kind 1808 Scott *Marmion* IV 'Where's the lying woman or mankind?' 'Indeed bother Mama set aw 3 to the Hallet Crag, I and I saw her yesterday see her' 1823 Lamb in Talfourd *Sk. by* (ed 3) 1 Is there a woman kind on board, she would set us all in love with ds

**†4.** Womanhood (Cf Mankind A. 2.) *Obs. rare* 1540 Coverdale, etc. *Erasmus Par 1 Peter* iii 7 Let your wyfe vse suche due fauoure vnto her womanhode, &c.

**Womanless** (wu mănlės), *a.* [f. Woman *sb* + -less] Without a woman or women, having or cont uning no women

1846 in Worcester 1859 *Athenæum* 10 Dec 777 2 It is a strange arena, the womanless world of cassocks 1872 M Collins *Sweet Clara* I 54 Arthur Somerville, left to himself woman le s 1910 *Ingl Rev* June 494 A womanless play called *The Ivy Wreath*

**Womanlike** (wu mănlaik), *a* and *adv* [f. Woman *sb* + -like] **A.** *adj.* Like, resembling, or characteristic of a woman or women, in derogatory use, womanish, effeminate.

c1440 *Promp Parv* 524/2 Femynyne, or woman lyke, *muliebris* 1550 Crowley *Way to Health* 315 I lingered lather whose woo in ther womanlike hartes I kindled 1561 T Norton tr *Calvin's Inst* iv xix 1556b, Clerk's were ! remained by the ere here how that they should not bear a y lewd of womanlyke trumpery, 1597 Drayton *Heroical Ep, Isab to Mortimer* Notes such, How beh uiour and attire euer so womanlike, to please the eye of her Iudge our Prince 1694 Capt J Smith *Virginia* 31 Scorning to be seen in a y woman like exercise 1847 Hexham 1, Womanlike delicate and tender 1825 Scott *Talism* xiv, As I used at being quite as much a womanlike experien n of sorrow, for I cannot be classed but in very indistinguishable 1878 *Contemp Rev* Feb 321 Trees were created with women in like inhabitants capable of good and ill 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* 316 The tearful womanlike face of the Christ

**B** *adv* In a manner characteristic of women; after the fashion of women; like a woman.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 362 She was not fond for sword nor w wnd, nor weyed womanlyke. 1556 Pilkington *Aggeus* (1562) I iv b, The spranking Paris fyne With grekishe wymsie pynkyd, womanlie 1635 *Pilk Long Mag of Wisdom* (1637) 43 She dressed him full womanlike. 1743 Francis tr *Hor, Odes* I. xxxvii. 26 But she a nobler fate expir ed, Nor woman like beheld the deathful sword. 1857 W Collins *Dead Secret* v iv (1861) 221 'Of course', cried Rowland, looking, womanlike, straight on to the purpose she had in view. 1858 H. S. Merriman *Roderick* xxxix 303 He would not, it appeared, sit down without her permission And, womanlike, she gave it

**Womanliness** (wu mănlilus). [f. Womanly *a.* + -ness] The quality of being womanly; womanly character; † effeminateness.

1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Mollicies, et mollicia*, womanlynesse 1579 Gurnhay tr. *Gest Erasmus Par 1 Tim* iii 11–6 The entertainyng [also] lyuynes, womanlyness, and sufferance of the wyfe. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* iv (S T S) I 314 Throuch the negligence of King Constantine, and his womanliness. 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlinesse *verwijfheyt* 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr 564/2 The *Portia* of Mrs. Venn is endued with the grace and womanliness that characterized her performances 1876 J Parker *Inquiry* I xvi 259 The womanliness of the Divine nature, its inhnite grace and path s 1881 G Meredith *Trag Com* I vii 146 The choicest women are those who yield not a feather of their womanliness for some amount of manlike strength

**† Womanlish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Blending of Womanish and Womanly *a.*] Womanlike, effeminate

1579 Tomson *Ph s aegri Fortune* xii 181 Womanlishly lamenting her losse and her best pres ous and fayre Iewelles 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlish or effeminate, *vrouwachtigh* Womanlishly, *vrouwachtighlick* 1648 *Ibid.* II, *Effeminate* Womanlishness, or Effeminateness

**Womanly** (wu mănli), *a.* [f. Woman *sb* + -ly1.]

1. Possessing the attributes proper to a woman; having the qualities (as of gentleness, devotion, fearfulness, etc.) characteristic of women, also said of these qualities or of actions which exhibit them.

c1290 *S Eng Leg* I 106 (C) womanlyche wyf *Ibid* iv 604 (Camb MS) þo wontis & þo womanliche kynges sche herde riȝt nouȝt þouh sche þere were c1386 — *Knt a Tale* 1175 No womanly no lyngeryng I pleee 1387–8 T Usk *Test Love* II xii (Skeat) I 324 So precious perle, as a womanly woman in her kynde 1440 Hoccleve *Regement's Princes* 1 (1860) 1 Ne womanly ydelnesse 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III xii 52 Ȝe ar nocht womanly 1548 Hall *Chron*, *Hen V* 57 b, For womanly shame he should not haue shewed his fearefulnesse 1596 Shakes *Tam Shr* I ii 275 Is there a womanly quality? 1599 — *Much Ado* II i 13 Is not marriage an honourable estate, and a womanly calling? 1611 — *Cymb* III iv 52 Gentle Ladies (neet sin) but tenderly kind 1670 Hackett *A p II Williams* II (1692) 35 His man would suffer no woman kind to do any service to him after 1760–72 H Brooke *Fool of Qual* (1) 91 If in woman kind I can love nothing but you 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 3, I do adore Of womankind but one 1818 Byron *Juan* III xxvii, My wish is That womankind had but one rosy mouth, I'd kiss them all at once from North to South 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv 290 The soft Limbs, pride of womankind

**† b** appositively or predicatively Female *Obs* c1570 R Cowp *Injunct ons*, Their chyl iren and seruuntes both mānkinde and womankinde 1577 Bp Aylmer *Are ples to be sung etc* I 4ᵇ Vnto boyes of his parish either mankind or womankinde 1614 R Carlon *Th. Arab I Pearl* 11 D 2 b, Did I but only know her to be woman kind, I thinke it were sufficient

**2** The women of a family, household, company, country, etc.; female relatives and friends (some times also servants), (one's) women folk

1573 L. Lloyd *Liger Tri cas* (1586) 8 Agreeing that the woman kinde shall dispose as they might 1825 Southey *Lett* (1856) III 128 My womankind [Mrs. Hill] in the city 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lvi, Pen having undertaken persecution which his womankind had so flatte upon him 1861 Augusta *Diary Mid Life* 200 Why did the womankind in and out of the house, for a long way round

**† 3** A female human being, a woman. *Obs.*

a 1688 *Warn Married Women* xxviii in Child *Ba ads* (1859) IV 363 a Sance that sometime in woman kind Women are seen no more 1711 *Acts & Laws Massachusetts* (1724) 2 Whosoever shall be convicted (A cult g any Woman or Woman kind 1808 Scott *Marmion* IV 'Where's the lying woman or mankind?' 'Indeed bother Mama set aw 3 to the Hallet Crag, I and I saw her yesterday see her' 1823 Lamb in Talfourd *Sk. by* (ed 3) 1 Is there a woman kind on board, she would set us all in love with ds

**†4.** Womanhood (Cf Mankind A. 2.) *Obs. rare* 1540 Coverdale, etc. *Erasmus Par 1 Peter* iii 7 Let your wyfe vse suche due fauoure vnto her womanhode, &c.

**Womanless** (wu mănlės), *a.* [f. Woman *sb* + -less] Without a woman or women, having or cont uning no women

1846 in Worcester 1859 *Athenæum* 10 Dec 777 2 It is a strange arena, the womanless world of cassocks 1872 M Collins *Sweet Clara* I 54 Arthur Somerville, left to himself woman le s 1910 *Ingl Rev* June 494 A womanless play called *The Ivy Wreath*

**Womanlike** (wu mănlaik), *a* and *adv* [f. Woman *sb* + -like] **A.** *adj.* Like, resembling, or characteristic of a woman or women, in derogatory use, womanish, effeminate.

c1440 *Promp Parv* 524/2 Femynyne, or woman lyke, *muliebris* 1550 Crowley *Way to Health* 315 I lingered lather whose woo in ther womanlike hartes I kindled 1561 T Norton tr *Calvin's Inst* iv xix 1556b, Clerk's were ! remained by the ere here how that they should not bear a y lewd of womanlyke trumpery, 1597 Drayton *Heroical Ep, Isab to Mortimer* Notes such, How beh uiour and attire euer so womanlike, to please the eye of her Iudge our Prince 1694 Capt J Smith *Virginia* 31 Scorning to be seen in a y woman like exercise 1847 Hexham 1, Womanlike delicate and tender 1825 Scott *Talism* xiv, As I used at being quite as much a womanlike experien n of sorrow, for I cannot be classed but in very indistinguishable 1878 *Contemp Rev* Feb 321 Trees were created with women in like inhabitants capable of good and ill 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* 316 The tearful womanlike face of the Christ

**B** *adv* In a manner characteristic of women; after the fashion of women; like a woman.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 362 She was not fond for sword nor w wnd, nor weyed womanlyke. 1556 Pilkington *Aggeus* (1562) I iv b, The spranking Paris fyne With grekishe wymsie pynkyd, womanlie 1635 *Pilk Long Mag of Wisdom* (1637) 43 She dressed him full womanlike. 1743 Francis tr *Hor, Odes* I. xxxvii. 26 But she a nobler fate expir ed, Nor woman like beheld the deathful sword. 1857 W Collins *Dead Secret* v iv (1861) 221 'Of course', cried Rowland, looking, womanlike, straight on to the purpose she had in view. 1858 H. S. Merriman *Roderick* xxxix 303 He would not, it appeared, sit down without her permission And, womanlike, she gave it

**Womanliness** (wu mănlilus). [f. Womanly *a.* + -ness] The quality of being womanly; womanly character; † effeminateness.

1538 Elyot *Dict*, *Mollicies, et mollicia*, womanlynesse 1579 Gurnhay tr. *Gest Erasmus Par 1 Tim* iii 11–6 The entertainyng [also] lyuynes, womanlyness, and sufferance of the wyfe. 1596 Dalrymple tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* iv (S T S) I 314 Throuch the negligence of King Constantine, and his womanliness. 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlinesse *verwijfheyt* 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr 564/2 The *Portia* of Mrs. Venn is endued with the grace and womanliness that characterized her performances 1876 J Parker *Inquiry* I xvi 259 The womanliness of the Divine nature, its inhnite grace and path s 1881 G Meredith *Trag Com* I vii 146 The choicest women are those who yield not a feather of their womanliness for some amount of manlike strength

**† Womanlish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Blending of Womanish and Womanly *a.*] Womanlike, effeminate

1579 Tomson *Ph s aegri Fortune* xii 181 Womanlishly lamenting her losse and her best pres ous and fayre Iewelles 1647 Hexham 1, Womanlish or effeminate, *vrouwachtigh* Womanlishly, *vrouwachtighlick* 1648 *Ibid.* II, *Effeminate* Womanlishness, or Effeminateness

**Womanly,** *adv. Obs.* or *arch* [f. as prec.: see -ly 1.] In a womanly manner; like a woman.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 9391 What he sþ Marlebrit he nome, he it þ bilemed Wommanne ichc, as vor defaute of wit in his heued c 1400 *Destr Troy* 3904 Cassandra was a clene Maydon Womonly wroght 1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb) 19 Ye shuld not be so womanly, ne so lyke a lofter, remembre me with many fylthie reportes made in my lyuenes by me 1508 Dunbar *Tua Married Women* 496 In euery man is speciall spekc I sum womān, so wyse, and so womanly, ȝit hall women ther hertis 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers, Lullabie of Lon* 4 And lullaby can I sur ig to, As womanly as can the wife 1611 Taylor *Comm Titus* II 2 (1619) 378 For how womanly have many behaued themselues, 1723 *Breton* No 7 (1726) 48 You then very Womanly expect a Consideration for the Trouble we put you to in Swearing 1894 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* xxvii, Oh, womanly, she prayed in tent, When none beside did wake !

**Womanness** (wu mănnės). *rare.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ness] Womanliness.

1845 Mrs. Carlyle in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 230 The only chance of my getting any light good of him was to make him forget my womanness 1881 *Blackw Mag* Oct 433 Above all stood her feminineness, her thorough womanness.

**Woman-se rvant.** Pl women-servants. A female servant.

1599 *Sat Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc) II. 43 Other women and women seruants 1839 *Bible* (Great) Gen xx 14 Men seruantes & womenseruantes [1560 *Geneva* women seruantes] 1589 Ridge *Mirr Schol* 1570 b, woman seruant 1779–81 Johnson *L P*, *Pope* Wks 1787 IV 15 She bribed a woman servant to procure her a sword 1836 Dickens *O Twist* xxxiv, At this, the two women-servants lifted up their hands and eyes. 1855 Mrs Carlyle *Lett.* II 263 A dutiy woman servant opened the door

**Wo manship.** *nonce-wd* [f Woman *sb.* + -ship] *Her womanship* jocular title for a woman.

1600 Heaton *Discov New World* II ii 99. I. told her Womanship that for my part I had [etc.]

**Wo manshire** *nonce wd* [f. Woman *sb.* + Shire *sb*] The domain or sphere of women

1656 *Virgo Repulsed* 73 Thou hast got the merriest woer in all Womanshire.

**Woman's rights.** Also women's rights The rights claimed for women of equal privileges and opportunities with men Also *attrib.*

[1759 the rights of woman *Mc Rights of w*]

1840 Thackeray *Shabby genteel Story* iv, She may sympathise with the advocates of woman s rights who point out this monstrous wrong 1850 (title) Women's Rights Convention. 1864 'Annie Thomas' *Db Denise* III 23 Even though Stephanie Fordyce was no woman s rights girl 1883 F M Crawford *Dr Claudius* v, We have seen something of the 'woman's rights' question in America

Hence **Woman's (women's) righter,** a believer in or supporter of woman's rights

1885 *Pall Mall Gaz* 23 Feb 3/2 Women's righters in Germany 1894 [E Gosse] *Critical Kit-cat* (1896) II 179 May we be saved from being a woman s righter !

**Womar,** var Woomera.

**Womb** (wum), *sb* Forms · a. 1–2, 4 wamb, 4–5 wambe, see also Wame. *β.* 1– womb, 1 wommb, 3 7 wombe, 4 wombe, 6 *Sc* woyme, woymbe [Com Teut : Ob. *wamb, womb* str. fem. (Mȝlf. Wmb, *wamme* (Lindisf.), Ohg. *wamba, wampa* (Graff) *wamma* (Hrabanus) MHG *wamme, wampe, G wamme*, dial *wampe*), ON *vpmb* (Msw. *vamb*), Goth. *wamba* κοιλία, γαστήρ. ulterior relations obscure

For a Romance deriv of the Teut word see Gambeson ]

**† 1.** = Belly. *a.* The abdomen *Obs*

c885 *Lindf Gosp Matt* xv 17 Ealle þing þe gaȝ in on wamb nester, a ut fiih in e ton womb ur c1000 *Ags Ps* xxxvi 31 Ic wat ȝeve ih on we e ferm, & c hafde feowre fet under wombe. c1200 *Lay Alexander* 1980 His neb began to þinken his wambe son to swollen 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 10794 Was richard benwrichel toward is son in be feld hal a wombe iwent, Sauld he nome hom in riȝt? c1325 *Poems Vernon Ms* 141 b/1 *E P* (1867) 1212 His wombe to brestе amidde atte o c1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 66 Inwyth the wombe of man Is herte liuer and longes 1382 *Wyclif Acts* I 18 And he wombe brast out 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 59 Þe wombe is ordeyned for þe mete of he þ 1398 — *Barth De P* (1495) 1519 Hor tan *Virg* 2281, Nyce pray and new fangled gay ments, wethy fyre and yelnes make me to be wo manly 1598 I Florio *Worlde of Wordes*, *Inuentre* a womb, a belly, a matrice, or woman pe 21548 Hall *Chr*, *Hen V* 47 b, For very womanly mā, she sat in the highest authoritie about the king her husband 1558 [J. Pilkington] *Burn Bush* (1877) Lest that at ȝm, she shuld fall by womanlie facilitie, 1615 G Sandys tr *Ovid's Met* 358 Burning with a womanly spleen 1718 Lucas *Mem Women Intrig Gall* I 2 Women of Quality 1887 [see Womanly *B* 1]. No 1 1725 Bp Gibson *Pastor* 227 The Husband's Employment of a Nurse. 1738 Arbuthnot *Aliments, Rules of Diet* (1756) 408 Young Persons under a womanly Employment of a Nurse. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II xxxvi, 227 The girl begins to be womanly. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* II, xxii, It, he was womanly garl of fourteen 1853 — *Bleak Ho* xv, A very little girl wearing a womanly sort of bonnet, much too large for her.

**3** Belonging or proper to the female sex.

1863 Geo Eliot *Romola* xlv, Her early training had kept her aloof from such womanly labours. a 1873 Lytton *Pan ssionist* (1875) 121 Women are to be enjoyed in the absence of womanly education wholly unknown at that time to the fresh ns I miss of free e 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) III. 146 Modesty is not by womanly because

**Womanly,** *adv. Obs.* or *arch* [f. as prec.: see -ly 1.] In a womanly manner; like a woman.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 9391 What he sþ Marlebrit he nome, he it þ bilemed Wommanne ichc, as vor defaute of wit in his heued c 1400 *Destr Troy* 3904 Cassandra was a clene Maydon Womonly wroght 1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb) 19 Ye shuld not be so womanly, ne so lyke a lofter, remembre me with many fylthie reportes made in my lyuenes by me 1508 Dunbar *Tua Married Women* 496 In euery man is speciall spekc I sum womān, so wyse, and so womanly, ȝit hall women ther hertis 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers, Lullabie of Lon* 4 And lullaby can I sur ig to, As womanly as can the wife 1611 Taylor *Comm Titus* II 2 (1619) 378 For how womanly have many behaued themselues, 1723 *Breton* No 7 (1726) 48 You then very Womanly expect a Consideration for the Trouble we put you to in Swearing 1894 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* xxvii, Oh, womanly, she prayed in tent, When none beside did wake !

**Womanness** (wu mănnės). *rare.* [f. Woman *sb.* + -ness] Womanliness.

1845 Mrs. Carlyle in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 230 The only chance of my getting any light good of him was to make him forget my womanness 1881 *Blackw Mag* Oct 433 Above all stood her feminineness, her thorough womanness.

**Wo man-se rvant.** Pl women-servants. A female servant.

1599 *Sat Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc) II. 43 Other women and women seruands 1839 *Bible* (Great) Gen xx 14 Men seruantes & womenseruantes [1560 *Geneva* women seruantes] 1589 Ridge *Mirr Schol* 1570 b, woman seruant 1779–81 Johnson *L P*, *Pope* Wks 1787 IV 15 She bribed a woman servant to procure her a sword 1836 Dickens *O Twist* xxxiv, At this, the two women-servants lifted up their hands and eyes. 1855 Mrs Carlyle *Lett.* II 263 A dutiy woman servant opened the door

**Wo manship.** *nonce-wd* [f Woman *sb.* + -ship] *Her womanship* jocular title for a woman.

1600 Heaton *Discov New World* II ii 99. I. told her Womanship that for my part I had [etc.]

**Wo manshire** *nonce wd* [f. Woman *sb.* + Shire *sb*] The domain or sphere of women

1656 *Virgo Repulsed* 73 Thou hast got the merriest woer in all Womanshire.

**Woman's rights.** Also women's rights The rights claimed for women of equal privileges and opportunities with men Also *attrib.*

[1759 the rights of woman *Mc Rights of w*]

1840 Thackeray *Shabby genteel Story* iv, She may sympathise with the advocates of woman s rights who point out this monstrous wrong 1850 (title) Women's Rights Convention. 1864 'Annie Thomas' *Db Denise* III 23 Even though Stephanie Fordyce was no woman s rights girl 1883 F M Crawford *Dr Claudius* v, We have seen something of the 'woman's rights' question in America

Hence **Woman's (women's) righter,** a believer in or supporter of woman's rights

1885 *Pall Mall Gaz* 23 Feb 3/2 Women's righters in Germany 1894 [E Gosse] *Critical Kit-cat* (1896) II 179 May we be saved from being a woman s righter !

**Womar,** var Woomera.

**Womb** (wum), *sb* Forms · a. 1–2, 4 wamb, 4–5 wambe, see also Wame. *β.* 1– womb, 1 wommb, 3 7 wombe, 4 wombe, 6 *Sc* woyme, woymbe [Com Teut : Ob. *wamb, womb* str. fem. (Mȝlf. Wmb, *wamme* (Lindisf.), Ohg. *wamba, wampa* (Graff) *wamma* (Hrabanus) MHG *wamme, wampe, G wamme*, dial *wampe*), ON *vpmb* (Msw. *vamb*), Goth. *wamba* κοιλία, γαστήρ. ulterior relations obscure

For a Romance deriv of the Teut word see Gambeson ]

**† 1.** = Belly. *a.* The abdomen *Obs*

c885 *Lindf Gosp Matt* xv 17 Ealle þing þe gaȝ in on wamb nester, a ut fiih in e ton womb ur c1000 *Ags Ps* xxxvi 31 Ic wat ȝeve ih on we e ferm, & c hafde feowre fet under wombe. c1200 *Lay Alexander* 1980 His neb began to þinken his wambe son to swollen 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 10794 Was richard benwrichel toward is son in be feld hal a wombe iwent, Sauld he nome hom in riȝt? c1325 *Poems Vernon Ms* 141 b/1 *E P* (1867) 1212 His wombe to brestе amidde atte o c1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 66 Inwyth the wombe of man Is herte liuer and longes 1382 *Wyclif Acts* I 18 And he wombe brast out 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 59 Þe wombe is ordeyned for þe mete of he þ 1398 — *Barth De P* (1495) 1519 Hor tan *Virg* 2281, Nyce pray and new fangled gay ments, wethy fyre and yelnes make me to be wo manly 1598 I Florio *Worlde of Wordes*, *Inuentre* a womb, a belly, a matrice, or woman pe 21548 Hall *Chr*, *Hen V* 47 b, For very womanly mā, she sat in the highest authoritie about the king her husband 1558 [J. Pilkington] *Burn Bush* (1877) Lest that at ȝm, she shuld fall by womanlie facilitie, 1615 G Sandys tr *Ovid's Met* 358 Burning with a womanly spleen 1718 Lucas *Mem Women Intrig Gall* I 2 Women of Quality 1887 [see Womanly *B* 1]. No 1 1725 Bp Gibson *Pastor* 227 The Husband's Employment of a Nurse. 1738 Arbuthnot *Aliments, Rules of Diet* (1756) 408 Young Persons under a womanly Employment of a Nurse. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II xxxvi, 227 The girl begins to be womanly. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* II, xxii, It, he was womanly garl of fourteen 1853 — *Bleak Ho* xv, A very little girl wearing a womanly sort of bonnet, much too large for her.

**3** Belonging or proper to the female sex.

1863 Geo Eliot *Romola* xlv, Her early training had kept her aloof from such womanly labours. a 1873 Lytton *Pan ssionist* (1875) 121 Women are to be enjoyed in the absence of womanly education wholly unknown at that time to the fresh ns I miss of free e 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed 2) III. 146 Modesty is not by womanly because

**Womanly,** *adv. Obs.* or *arch* [f. as prec.: see -ly 1.] In a womanly manner; like a woman.

1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 9391 What he sþ Marlebrit he nome, he it þ bilemed Wommanne ichc, as vor defaute of wit in his heued c 1400 *Destr Troy* 3904 Cassandra was a clene Maydon Womonly wroght 1475 *Bk Noblesse* (Roxb) 19 Ye shuld not be so womanly, ne so lyke a lofter, remembre me with many fylthie reportes made in my lyuenes by me 1508 Dunbar *Tua Married Women* 496 In euery man is speciall spekc I sum womān, so wyse, and so womanly, ȝit hall women ther hertis 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers, Lullabie of Lon* 4 And lullaby can I sur ig to, As womanly as can the wife 1611 Taylor *Comm Titus* II 2 (1619) 378 For how womanly have many behaued themselues, 1723 *Breton* No 7 (1726) 48 You then very Womanly expect a Consideration for the Trouble we put you to in Swearing 1894 Mrs. Browning *Rom. Page* xxvii, Oh, womanly, she prayed in tent, When none beside did wake !

**Womb** (wum), *sb* Forms · a. 1–2, 4 wamb, 4–5 wambe, see also Wame. *β.* 1– womb, 1 wommb, 3 7 wombe, 4 wombe, 6 *Sc* woyme, woymbe [Com Teut : Ob. *wamb, womb* str. fem. (Mȝlf. Wmb, *wamme* (Lindisf.), Ohg. *wamba, wampa* (Graff) *wamma* (Hrabanus) MHG *wamme, wampe, G wamme*, dial *wampe*), ON *vpmb* (Msw. *vamb*), Goth. *wamba* κοιλία, γαστήρ. ulterior relations obscure

For a Romance deriv of the Teut word see Gambeson ]

**† 1.** = Belly. *a.* The abdomen *Obs*

c885 *Lindf Gosp Matt* xv 17 Ealle þing þe gaȝ in on wamb nester, a ut fiih in e ton womb ur c1000 *Ags Ps* xxxvi 31 Ic wat ȝeve ih on we e ferm, & c hafde feowre fet under wombe. c1200 *Lay Alexander* 1980 His neb began to þinken his wambe son to swollen 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 10794 Was richard benwrichel toward is son in be feld hal a wombe iwent, Sauld he nome hom in riȝt? c1325 *Poems Vernon Ms* 141 b/1 *E P* (1867) 1212 His wombe to brestе amidde atte o c1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 66 Inwyth the wombe of man Is herte liuer and longes 1382 *Wyclif Acts* I 18 And he wombe

Maundev. (1919) xviii. 101 Men putten it in medicynes..to make the Wombe lax. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 A potage nessche and laxatyue to pe wombe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgy*, 51 If pat he be febil, voide pe fece of his wombe bi clisteris. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* 11. xxxiv. (1869) 88 Pou berest him to priuee chambres..to voide his wombe. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) M ij, It is holsome for you, every day once to procure the dusty of the wombe.

†**d.** The belly-piece of a hide or skin. *Obs.*

1434 *Will of Ruddok* (Somerset Ho.) Calabir wombis. 1483 in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) I. 32 A greete bordure and purfile of ermyne wombes. 1532 *Dunmow Chronicles. MS.* ff. 12 b, Item, for a payer of womb tandes..vi *d* ob. 1552–2 *Acts 3, 4, & Edw. VI* c. 15, § 3 Everis Girdler..maye..sell.. Necken, Wombes and Shreddes of tanned Leather. 1592 Greene *Upl. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 269 Whereas you should only put the backs of skinners into facing, you taw the wombe. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 305 Heaver ballies or wombes in pelves, viii *s.*

¶ (*a*) In translations of the Vulgate rendering *venter* in the sense of 'heart, soul'.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* vi. 31 *Expavit venter meus*, forhtade womb min. 1382 Wyclif *Eccles.* ii. 29 My wombe [*later version* soule] is dularous of my trauel.

(*b*) tr. L. *ventriculus* = Ventricle 1.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (1495) lvij b/a The herte hath two holownesse or wombes departed and bitwen bothe the wombes of the herte [L. *ventricoli cordis*]. *Ibid.* i viij/1 In the wombe of the hert is a pyece shappe as an eore without.

**2.** The uterus.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxvi[i]. 3 *Fructus ventris*, westem wombe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 29 Eadzo bidon fa unberendo & fa wombo fa ne acendon. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Hy mai fat moder forqeten fat child fe hire bar in hire wombe? *c* 1205 Lay. 199 Huuede Lauine ja quene kine-bearn on wombe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3460 Childir tuin pot lai pat moder wamb within. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 859 A child gan stere in hir wombe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 63 What wommans wombe nyght bere so grete a bight? *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 73 b They were twelue Princes of one wyues wombe descended. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 94 Birds, that are shaped without the Females Wombe, haue in the Egge..Matter of Nourishment. 1718 Prior *Nutbrown Maid* 11 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth. 1820 Shelley *Cloud* 83 Like a child from the womb. 1842 Tennyson *Day-dream* 28 Like hints and echoes of the world To spirits folded in the womb.

**3.** *transf.* A hollow space or cavity, or something conceived as such (*e.g.* the depth of night); †also, a belly-shaped object or part.

1589 in Birch *Cent. Scot. Inv.* (1872) 32 Pret swa on east crofte þan swa ondling þære hege rzewe þat on ondancilles wombe. *a* 1000 *Riddler* iv. 48 [Clouds] fealdan lastaS sweart sunsendu sear of bosme, wretan of wombe. *Ibid.* xxviii. 1 Ic þa wihte gesceah womb weres under hrifjum ahrutenum. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xix. 7 Nakened shal be the flod wombe [*abrcus ventri*]. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* i. § 3 The moiter of thin Astrolabie is þe thikkenesse ycleped with a large boos þat reseyvyth in it þe wombe the thynne plates. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Somers) 596 I had moche leuer that the erthe wold opene and swalow me in to his wombe. 1588 Shak. *Tit. A.* ii. iii. 229, I may be pluckt into the swallowing wombe, Of this deepe pit, poore Bassianus graue. 1592 *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 65 An apothecarie, so hastie powder fee'd Doth hurry from the fatall Cannons wombe. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iii. v, Yee zeolitic couriers of the night, Hurrie your chariot into black wombe. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* x. 477 The fourth brought water, and made fuel whine In ruddy fires beneath a womb of brass. 1616 T. Scot *Philomythia* I 3 b, And like them nudely enter The sterne shipwombe. 1661 Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 141 When the wind is gathered into that hole, and tossed to and fro in the womb of it, there is to be heard as it were a musicall sound. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 1078 When Earth will open her devouring Womb, To rest a weary Goddess in the Tomb? 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Mem. Things* II. x. 334 There was seen at Mecklin fifteen Pale and Dead Men in the Womb of a Cherry-Stone. 1732 Swift *Stella's Birthday* 68 As you raise it [sc. the bottle] from its Tomb, It drags behind a spacious Womb. 1797 J. Cuke *Cent. Observ.* 43 Choosing it [sc. the boiler] with a circular wall to inches thick, as high as the womb of the boiler. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., Palm Sunday* iii, Sinners in earth's dark womb that rest. 1857 H. Miller *Northern Trav.* xxx. (1858) 315 You can..watch, through the vortex of whirling spray in its tortured womb, the starry constellations which radiate from the pole-star as a fall. 1863 — *Poems, Poet's Trial, and Eve in Winter*, Wait in the womb of the snow. 1887 Ian Hamilton *Ballad of Hadji* 14 Then through the womb Of night I galloped.

**4.** *fig.* (from 2) A place or medium of conception and development; a place or point of origin and growth; sometimes *spec.*, as †the matrix of metals, etc.

1593 Shake. *Rich. II*, ii. 1. 51 This England, This Nurse, this teeming wombe of Royall Kings. *Ibid.* iii. 2. 10 Some vnborne sorrow, ripe in fortunes wombe. 1604 — *Oth.* i. iii. 377 There are many Events in the Wombe of Time, which will be delivered. 1634 Milton (Winter P.) *Shallow* C 6 b, Siluer..from the wombe of vaast America. 1652 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 13 Elements are simple essences..and are the wombs of mixed things. 1665 J. Spricer *Vulg. Prophe.* 8 There is not a more fruitful womb of seditions and confusions, in States than the Opinion of such predictions is. 1667 Milton *P. L.* i. 673 Undoubted sign That in his womb was hatcht otherwise Orc, The second ruine of loste Angels. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1712) III. 29 The empty Womb of Nothing delivered itself of that Lump and confus'ed Chaos, which.. God..digested into that..Order we now see it in. 1757 [Burke] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vii. xxix. II. 282 The cold womb of the earth is incapable of any better production than some miserable shrubs. 1788 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 396 *Pericarpium*, the Womb of the Plant big with Seeds, which it emits when mature. 1810 Coleridge *Friend* No. 10 ¶ 1 The various unforeseen Events that are ripening in the womb of the Future. 1860 Yeame *El Dorado* ix. 93 The fulfilment of her destiny is in the womb of time.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *womb pearl, passage, -pipe, side*; *womb-enclosed, -lodged* adjs.; †**womb ache**, belly-ache, stomach-ache; †**womb brother**, a uterine brother; †**womb-cake** = Placenta 1; †**wombgate** [Gate *sb.*1], = Vulva 1; **womb-grain** [tr. G. *mutterkorn*], ergot of rye (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1848); †**womb-infant**, an unborn child; †**womb-joy**, gratification of the appetite, luxurious fare, belly-cheer; †**womb-liver** = *womb-cake*; †**womb-pancake** = *womb-cake*; †**womb-rope**, a belly-band of rope; **womb-stone**, a calcified fibroid tumour of the womb (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); **womb-syringe**, a uterine syringe; †**womb syrup** (see quot.); †**womb-taok** [cf. Tack *sb.*3, *v.*1] = Womb-tie; †**womb-trumpet** [cf. G. *muttertrompete*], a Fallopian tube, *oviduct*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xlviii. (1495) f iij b/c Gete..swagyth *womb breher*. *ab.* 1647 Trapp *Comm. 2 Thess.* ii. 1 Brethren, *womb brethren*, as near in nature as is possible. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Hertfordshire* (1662) iii. 19 Son to Queen Katherine by Owen Theodor, her second husband, womb-brother to King Henry the Sixth. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* (1685) 12 The Spill-vein, receiving blood out of the *Womb-cake*. 1743 R. Poole *Journ. France* 61. (1744) I. 132 The Placenta or Womb Cake. 1615 Crooke *Descr. Bodie* 1. iv. 8 Thy *womb-inclosed* off-spring. 1379 *Gloucester Cath. MS.* 19 Press No. 1 *Testigo* 32 yealled paries vulue Anglice the *Womb-gate* wall. Or elles lingula vulue Anglice the Wombesates tunge. 1681 Cotgr., *Vrayque*, the pipe or passage whereby a *womb-infants* urine is carried from it. 1580 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 68 Helaia..silleth..treve prechinge for..worldli lordschipe, & "womb-joie and lekerie. 1388 *Songs & Poems on Costume* (Percy Soc.) 45 Unthrifte and wombe-ioye, *sterelles et luxurieuse*. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. vi. (Tollem. MS.) [Children] bipinkip only in wombe ioye, and knowep not pe mesure of here owen wombe. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* i. xxxvi. 61 The Womb-pancake..; also the 'Womb-liver. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* ii. 9 On the seventh day she..voided the placenta, or *Womb-cake*. 1706 Cotton, &c. *Agreiterra*, A 'womb-lodged infant. 1668 "Womb-pancake [see *womb-liver*]. 1598 Florio, *Vulva*, ..the "wombe part or "womb passage. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph. Lect., Womb-bretheren*, communitarians of the *Vagina*. 1611 Cotgr., *Vulve*, the "wombe-pipe, or priuie passage. *c* 1395 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 160 Ka porte de *Matrice* [*Gloss* fr.] le ioyer[her], E sa entree une venter [*gloss* a "wombe-ryp]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 88 *Sele oder el ventre*, Sadal hamborwe and wombeorope. *c* 1392 Chaucer *Astrol.* ii. § 29 The iiye Meridional on the "Wombe-rope. 1615 Crooke *Descr. Bodie* 1. i. 3 I ley the plie in A charger, the wombe side vpward. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 5/1 This Water is to be injected into..the "Womb-side. 1615 Crooke *Synopse Ubervinus*, i. 6. *Caranna*, The "Womb Syrup, or Syrup of Gum Caranna. 1729 P. Walkden *Diary* (1866) 16 Henry Charnley was the nurse, with pax knuckle and "wombtak, at 4 *s* 2 *d*. 1703 *Ainsworths Abridged* 156 The Feg thus influene'd, falls off into one of the "Womb-Trumpets.

**Womb** (wūm), *v.* [f. Womb *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To enclose as in a womb.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 239 The hidden harme.. Wombed within our walles and realme about, As Grekes in Troy were in the Grekish beast. 1611 Shake. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 501 Not a-foot all the day, or The day before it wombed, will I breake my oath. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* I. 113 In this from out another tree A bud they womb. 1877 G. Macdonald *Sonnet* in *Seq.* A wood that day Wombed in its wind.

†**2.** To cause to swell *out*: = Belly *v.*1 *nonce-use.*

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. [II.] lxi. 57 Once lanched forth, hee may..find the blast, to wombe out his sailes more fully.

**3.** *pa. pple.* Impregnated; *womb-laden* adj.

1887 Courtney *Poet. Rev. Char. Johnson* 16 As womb'd with fire the cloud electrick flies.

**Wombat** (wǫ·mbat). Also womat, wombach, wo(o)mbach. [Native Australian name.] Any of the burrowing marsupials of the genus *Phascolomys*, native to South Australia and Tasmania, characized by a thick heavy body, short legs, and a general resemblance to a small bear.

1798 Flinders in *Voy. Terra Australis* (1814) Introd. p. cxviii, Point Womat, a rocky projection of Cape Barren Island, was so named from the number of these animals, which were seen. [*Ibid.* p. cxxxv. Called by the natives, *womat, wombat*, or *wombach*, according to the different dialects, or perhaps from the different rendering of the word as anger who brought the information.] 1827 in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 175 The dogs had caught them three kangaroos, and two badgers or wombacks. 1852 J. West *Hist. Tasmania* I. 32 The Wombat, commonly called in the colony Badger. 1856 Gosse *Critical Kit-Kats* 267 Pater has often reminded me of some such armadillo or wombat.

1877 Lancl. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 63 He eet many sondry metes mortrewes and puddynges, Wombe-cloutes and wylde braune. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 503/1 Trype (or pawnchecliowt,..or wamclowte..), *scruteum*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 789/19 *Hoc omentum*, a womclotte.

**Wombed** (wūmd), *a.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ed 2.] Having a womb or belly (of a specified kind); also (quot. *c* 1430), great-bellied.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7731 Suibe pikkes mon he was & of grete strenghe, Gret womlede & ballede. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cvi. (1869) 122 Swollen and womlied thanne.] bicome. 1620 Markham *Anat. & Mal.* m. Wka. 1856 I. 32 This hollow wombed masse shall inly grone. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* viii. 531 O'er the fire A tripod maple-wombed.

†**Wo·mbful**, *sb. Obs.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ful.] As much as will fill the womb or the stomach.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 437 Sche leved here thriftiene dayes in fleschelicbe likyng, and haldde her wombeful, and went hir wey [L. *implebat ventrem desuetis*]. 1657 Rutherford *Lett., to Parishioners* 13 July (1664) 7 The earth worme, who can never get his wombfull of clay. 1837 — *Let. to A. Gordon* 234, I would break the door and be in upon him, to get a wombfull of love; for I am an hungered..bout.

†**Wo·mbful**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + Full *a.*] Having a full stomach.

1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xlix. 30 He that lythe with women wombe fulle (*cf. ante* with belle wombed.

**Wombill, womble**, obs. ff. Wimble.

**Womble, Wombly**, var. ff. Wamble, Wambly *a.*

†**Wo·mbling, -long**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -ling, -long.] With the belly on the ground or along a surface.

13.. *Kt. Alis.* 5698 (Laud MS.) þe Adders..to-cleuþ wombe-lyng. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 451 Lay your cony wombelonge vche side to pe chyne.

†**Wo·mb-tie, -tow**. *Obs.* In 5 wom(e)tye, wombtye, 6 womtoe. [f. Womb *sb.* + Tie *sb.*, Tow *sb.*3 Cf. Wame-tow, Wamty.] A girth or belly-band.

1481–3 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 496. No. 26 [R.O.] Bely girthez Womeiyes. 1485 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 83 Pro cordis empts ad faciendum lez Wombtyes fiijd. 1587 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 159, ij load saddles, a womtoe and a halter.

**Womby** (wi·mbi), *a. rare.* [f. Womb *sb.* + -y 1.] Having a womb-like cavity; hollow.

1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, ii. iv. 124 Caues and Wombie Vaultages of France. 1858 Singleton *Virgil* I. 60 To hide thee in the womby earth [orig. *cava..terra*].

**Wome**, obs. form of Womb.

**Womenfolk** (wi·menfōk). Also *dial.* -folks. [f. *women*, pl. of Woman *sb.* + Folk.] **a.** Women collectively, womankind. Now *dial.* **b.** The women of a household, or family, or the like: *dial.* the female servants.

1589 T. Hood *Parson's Daw.* i. vii, You have been snubbed with the women-folk, as I call them, have driven you away. 1849 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Afr.* II. 389 Making your appearance in such a fashion, and that too, when you know there are women-folk in the house. 1877 Black *Green Past.* I. There was a stir among our women-folk. 1879 Burroughs *Locusts & Wild Honey* 131 We could gain no information from the 'women-folks'. 1896 Rideal (*title*) Charles Dickens's Heroines and Women-Folk. 1912 *Times* 9 Aug. 7/4 Foreign residents have sent their womenfolk to Monaco for safety.

†**Wo·menkin**. *Obs.* [f. *women*, pl. of Woman *sb.* + Kin *sb.*1] = next, 1.

1387 womnen kyn [see Mes-kind].

**Womenkind** (wi·menkaind). [f. as prec. + Kind *sb.* Cf. Men-kind.] **1.** = Womankind 1.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 333 pis poyn is noȝt i-reknesd in pe book of poopes for he was of womnen kynde. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* F ij, I can not for thy sake but say and thinke well of womenkinde. 1617 Bradw. & Fl. *Philotimus* 11, 'Tis the truth that all womenkind is false. 1652 H. L'Estrange *Answ. to Jewes* 26 A curse entailed upon Eve, and all women kind ever since. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1699) 500/2 It..cures the Greensickness in Virgins, and most Diseases of the Womb in Women kind.

1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xxxvi. II. 300 The women-kind always do think that. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 854/1 The ..foot-warmers ..used by all womenkind in Dutch churches. 1889 Mrs. E. Kennard *Mistress of Mere* (1891) I This behaviour disgusted Mr. Bousfield with womenkind.

†**b.** = Womankind 1 *b.* *Obs.*

1571 Grimal *Inuent., Lucifer* 10 Their children and seruantes both menkinde and womenkinde. 1588 in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 255 [Every servant] bothe men kinde and women kinde. 1596 Dalrymple *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1888) I. 143 (if the same be true) that betwixt him and vnder xiiii yeiris in menkynd, and all yeiris in womenkynd.

**2.** = Womankind 3.

1648 *Jonsonian Dirge* (London 1908) 59 Some of the womenkinde of the Parish. 1674 Josselyn *Rarities* 140 Mr. Jones Mutton. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* xiii. (1875) 159 The old gentleman evidently took a secret pride in his womenkind. 1905 W. H. Beuton *Gaunderoyde* 148 The patronage of gentlemen and their womenkind alone enabled him to live.

**Woment**, var. Wayment *v.* **Womet, -it**, obs. Sc. ff. Vomit. **Womma**, var. Warnel *dial.* **Wommil, -ill**, obs. ff. Wimble. **Wommon**, var. Wamble. **Wompom, wompom**, obs. ff. Wampum. **Wompple, wompyll**, obs. Sc. ff. Wimple.

**Womward**(e, obs. forms of Homeward *adv.*

1507 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) I. 249 They..returnyd wonward.

**Womyl, -yll**, obs. forms of Wimble.

**Won**, wone (wɒn, wōn), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.* and *arch.* Forms: 1 wunian, (1–2 uni-), 2–3 winen, wunen, 3 wunie(n, wunye(n, wune, *Ormin* wunenn, 3–4 wne; 2–4 wonien, 3 wonin, 4 wonen, wonije(n, wonje, wonie, -y, 4–5 -ye; 4–8 wonne, 4–9 won(n, wone, 5 wonon, -yn, (5–7 woon, 7 woone); *Sc.* and *north.* 4 wone,

**wonne**, 5–9 wun, 9 woan(e, woon, wonne, wunn. *Pa. t.* 1 wunode, 2 wnede, 3 wunede; 4 wonid, wonyed, wonde, *Sc.* wonnyt, 4–8 wond, 5 wonyd, vonnyt, 6 woond, (*pseudo-arch.* wonne), *Sc.* wonnit, 4– wonned, wonn'd, woned, won'd. *Pa. pple.*: see WONT *pa. pple.*; also 5 wunte. See also WIN *v.*[2] [OE. *wunian*, corresp. to OFris. *wunia*, *wonia* to dwell, ON. *una*, *unna*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wonen*, OHG. *wonên* (MHG. *wonen*, G. *wohnen*) to be accustomed, remain, dwell, ON. *una* to rejoice, Goth. **wunjan* in *unwunands* troubled :— **wunôjan*, *-ôjan*, f. Tent. *wun-*, for further relations of which see WEAN *v.*, WIN *sb.*[2], etc.]

I. 1. *intr.* To stay habitually, dwell, live (in a place or with some one).

*Beowulf* 1128 Hengest..wunode mid Finn. *c*725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1140 *Immoratus*, wunat. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 Seo ferzernes þære sunle þe on ecnesse wunah on heofena rices zeſean. *Ibid.* 105 Ac þær wunian mot þe[l..mid engla sibbe on ecan wuldre. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 39 Hiis comon & zesawon hwar he wunode, & mid him wunodon on dam dæze. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-þeoden..on hiscyne rice wunedes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Per wunieð Seinte gunnes wurmes inne þet fordoð nuðe al þeos mileleod. *c* 1205 LAY. 17681 Þene heaðen lazche þe wunedan an ssi londe. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 517 Þis is for-wi, þat whoso wile be gruue, *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2742 Raguel lettro ſiat riche man, Was wuniende in madian. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3678 Þou and þi childer it sal bigin And þat wonn þi house wit in. 1382 WYCLIF *Chron.* (1850) 17 He com his sam to socour fro he þer he gan wonne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 232 He..is welcome whan he wil and woneth wyth hem of. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 344 Þe Munke with his kynghit þe Kyng yere. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 82 In maner of hyrdis in pasturage, On wild montanis he wonnit all his age. 1557 PHAER *Æneid.* VII. (1558) Yy, What people dwells hereby, what townes they keepe, and where they wonne. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 88 Wheresoever the Romane wonneth..there he woneth, and biideth. 1854 ROBERTS *Lucan* VI. 240 Dis that woonneth still below. 1862 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Emb.*, etc. N 9, Simple and meane's the cottage where I won. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 157 Out of the ground up rose As from his Laire the wilde Beast where he wons In Forrest wilde. 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 5 An honest Miller wond in Fife. *c* 1746 J. COLLINS (Tim Bobbin) *View Lane. Dial.* Wks. (1757) I. 9 Gawpin mon ot weuans aleawt three Mile off. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Up spoke the moody Elfin king, Who won'd within the hill. 1847 HOOD *Miss Kilmansegg* I. Neither the forest haunts love I to won. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* v. (1857) 85 There wone a barber in Dudley..of whom I purchased several fine violdilettes. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Gladys* 563 The wizard that wonned..underground.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

*Beowulf* 2249 Beorh eaſgeanc wunode on wonge. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 111 We secolan..þone rihtan geleafan þeste stadelian on ursum breostum þæt he ðær wunian mæge. *c* 1000 *Phænix* 82 Þær se halga stenc wunaþ zeond wyolond. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Sif we þis dol þenne wunet god almihti in us. *c* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 391 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Þeyh o mon wolde al þe worlde And al þe wunne þe þar-inne wunyeh. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9666 For þes mai nourquar abide þar haste wem, or þar pride. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (1902) 2 He dos all to noht þe ainne þat wnis in his boht. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clouts* 142 They haue..ryght sklender conning Within their howes wonyng. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 3 Wastefull wayes, Where daungers dwelt, and perils most did wonne. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, i. iii, Thy sight hath cleerd my thoughts many banefull troubles wonn there wonnd. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 17 For in that happy soil, doth pleasure ever wonne. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts, &c.* (1642) 58 And if it be blasphemy or Heresie, let them looke unto it, where it wonneth so familiarly with so many men. 1828 HOOD *'Oh! well may poets make a fuss'* 81 Where are ye, London meads..And gardens redolent of flow'rs Wherein the Cyprian wonn? *a* 1839 LADY THOMAS HASTINGS *Poems, Lay of Brill* 222 Ever within those sashlcas walls Sorrow wonneth. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 304 That Wisdom yet might wonn with them again.

†**2.** To continue to be, remain (in a certain state, condition, or way of life); to have existence, live.

*Beowulf* 1735 Wunaþ he on wiste, no hine wiht dweleð all ne ylde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 155, & hro was fæmne ær hire beorhte & hro wunaþ fæmne after hire beorhte. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* iii. 595 Se leswe..ewe3 þæt he zelyfan wolde..ʒif he wunode o(et) mid-dæz. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Sibbe us..þet he..mid his hali gast us lihte and in clænesse to wnien inne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men þe waren wundende on eche of þese þrie tinges. *Ibid.* 179 *Uuimus in ludeus*..on swuche we beoð wunien. 1340 *Ayenb.* 19 Þo þet libbeþ be þe goste lyeþ þo þet ine þe loue of god wonyeþ. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. 205 ʒif þou wol wone in wrþe, Þenk þy grete. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 963, I couth nocht won in to welth wretch wast, I was so wantoun of will. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 39 How might that bee, And he the stoutest knight, that euer wonne? 1595 — *Col. Clout* 309 Like as in this same world where we do wone. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xxvii, Fancie, a lad that all in feathers wone.

†**3.** To remain (in a place); to stay. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* ix. 146 Seo eadiga lucia on þere ylcan stowe wunode þe heo ofslazen wæs oðþæt sancrdeas comon. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 83 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 40 Wend hom, dowzter.

†**4.** *trans.* To dwell in, inhabit. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 1260 Grendles modor..se þe wæterzeſean wunian scolde, cealde streamas. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 372 Dær he heanne beam on holtwuda wunað. 1585 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1593) 39 The fire he ay doth shon, And chooseth him the contrary continually to won. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 75 When all this Earth, Was onely won'd with such as beastes begot. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xxv, The toure wherein she lay enclos'd, Was with her damsels onely wond and mee.

II. **+5.** *intr.* To be accustomed or used *to do* something. *Obs. To be wont*: see WONT *pa. pple.*

The regular form in this sense in OE. was *gewunian*.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xli. (Z.) 247 *Solco* ic ʒewunize (*v.rr.* iwunie, wunize), *solcas* ʒewunizende. *c* 1300 *Prompt. Parv.* 532/1 Wonon', or vse custummably, *usito*. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 119 And thereto aye wonned to repayre The shepheards daughters. 1590 — *F. Q.* III. ix. 21 Her well plighted freck, which she did won To tucke about her short, when she did ryde. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. I. xxxii, These parts that wont To drag in dirty earth.

†**6.** *trans.* To accustom (a person *to* something); *refl.* to accustom oneself, become or be accustomed. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19541 He wass aennd to fullihtnenn, To wunenn swa þe folc þæerto, for þatt ieȝȝ aholdenn ȝemenn Wiþ clennesse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 19 Þo libbeþ in þe loue of god wonyeþ. *a* 1382 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 124 From lasynge þu þe wonie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Þe ilke þet mest him wonyeþ to zuerie meat zenezyþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 289 Þei ne wonede hem to þat vice. *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Ye sal wne yu til strate gate. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xiv. 559 For to sette thee and wone thee to þis loue more.

**Won** (wɒn), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wonne. Pa. pple. of WIN *v.*[1], in various senses of the vb.

1300–20 Ill-won [see ILL- 7]. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 155 b, An holy nation; a wonne people. 1598 BERNARD *tr. Terence's Andria* Prol. Hey nowe they haue gotten it, and for, account that as wonne good. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* v, A won battle. 1880 LOWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 158 A won game. 1883 *Man. Manch. Miller* iv. 108 Rendering at last to God His own won heritage.

**Won**, obs. form of ONE, WAN *a.*, WHEN; pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*[1] and [2]; obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*[1]; var. WONE.

**Wonable** *a.*, Sc. var. of WINNABLE (see WIN *v.*[1] Forms *Inf.* 8).

*c* 1660 D. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) 125 So many of the King's Servants, as were thought to be most wonable.

**Wonce**, obs. form of ONCE.

1599 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 272 The rebell would be wonce in the wheweel himself.

**+Wond**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [n. ON. *vándr* bad, wicked (Sw., Da. *ond*, Norw. *vond*, mod. Icel. *vondr*).] The evil one, the devil. (So Da. *den onde*.)

*c* 1250 *Death* 112 in *O. E. Misc.* 174 Nu þu schalt in þe puite wonen mid þe wonde.

**+Wond**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In 4 wa(a)nd. [f. WONDE *v.*] Hesitation.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8465 Man it cleped ecclesiastes, Pat spoken mast wit-vten wand, Hu fals þis world es for to fand. 1340 *Ayenb.* 181 Þet þai fasteþ wit-vten wond þat tok.

**Wond**, south. ME. var. FOND *v. Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9600 King henri wondede moche to abbe men in offis, bat of conseil were.. wis.

**Wond**, south. ME. var. *fond*, pa. t. of FIND *v.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 561 He astore wel is lond Wib hoember kinges god þat me of his wond. *Ibid.* 3726 He.. wan it [*c.* Ireland] al clene to him & al þat he wonde [*v.r.* wond].

**Wond(e**: see WAND, WIND, WONE, WONT, WOUND.

**+Wonde**, *v.* Forms: 1–2 wandian, 4–5 wand(e, wonde, (4 waand, want, 5 whonde, wound(e, wounde: *Sc.* 5 wayn(d-e, 5–6 wand). [*OE. wandian* (WSax. *wandigan*) hesitate, refrain, spare, corresp. to ON. *vanda* to make elaborately, make difficulties, find fault (cf. *vandr* difficult, etc., *vandi* difficulty, etc.): app. f. *wand-*, *wend-* to turn (see WAND *sb.*, WEND *v.*, WIND *v.*[1]; and cf. WANDIE *v.*).]

**1.** *intr.* To shrink or flinch for fear; to hesitate (esp. const. inf.); to refrain.

*c* 1897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past.* C. xx. 149 Oft mon bi5 swiðe wandiende to ongynnenne & swiðe latteowe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 [Sin-] swiþe unsyferlice þæt se man wandaþ þæt he hi ærre ætecge. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxvii. (Z.) 161 *Verzor* is andrysige 100ʒ & wandize. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Ac he ne wandude na him metes to tylienne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4334 How sco broght him to be wit, Pat he ne wand to sell wil i noght waand. *Ibid.* 5923 For-þi, leue fader, want þou noght, Al þi wil it sal be wroght. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2693 Also shal þe wommon wonde to take [in marriage] here godwyves husbonde. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 898 The soudan tok the prest bi the honde, And had him go and nothing wonde. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4071 For dreie of duresse nor of death it ne be, wonde ne wanye, to wirche what i þoute to telle. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1187 *Dido*: Love wil loue, for no thing welc it wande. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 500, I wole..Do my deuer yf I may, & for no deþe wonde. *Ibid.* 3380 Wond of hi weping, whipe vp bi teris. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 3961 (MS. W.) Scho wayndit nocht þare frit to wesche. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 398 Quhat he fand to wirk, To cutt his throit, or steik hym sodanlye, He wayndyt nocht. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 219 But the duc Anthony wanded. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 91 Richt as the rose vpspringis fro the rute,..Nor wandis nocht the levis to outschute.

**2.** *trans.* To refrain from; to shrink from, avoid, shun; to refuse.

13.. *Cursor M.* 8361 (GOLL.) He..had his say, ne wond it noght, Quat wer best aa his thoght. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 203 Ne hy ne wondeb messeday, Ne none holy tyde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 268 This worthi knihi with sword on honde His wif was made, and thei him wonde. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1306 My ryght name schalle y not wande. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1255 Soche wordes y rede thou wonde. I se 1500 *Chester Plays* (E. E. T. S.) xxiii. 29 His wickednes he would not wonde [*MS.* wound]. Till he was taken and putt in Band.

Hence **+Wonding** *vbl. sb.*, flinching, hesitation. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 77 None will we lere, Full warely to were 30u fro alle wandyng.

**Wonde**, irreg. pa. t. of WIN *v.*[1]

1575 FORTESCUE *Forest of Hist.* 65 Who so wonde [*ed.* 1576 wan] then the price.

**Wonder** (wɒ·ndəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 wundor, 2–5 wunder, (3 wndr, *Orm.* wunnderr, 4 wondere, wonder), 4–5 wondre, wondur, wondire, -yr(e, wundyr, 4–6 wundir, woundir, -er, *Sc.* vounder, vondir, 4–6, 8 *Sc.* wondir, (5 wundur, wonther, wonpur, 6 *Sc.* winder, -ir), 6–7 woonder, 8–9 *Sc.* wonner, 3– wonder. [OE. *wundor* neut. = OFris. *wunder*, OS. *wundar*, (M)Du. *wonder*, OHG. *wuntar* (MHG., G. *wunder*), ON. *undr* (Sw., Da. *under*) : of unknown origin.]

I. Something that causes astonishment.

1. A marvellous object; a marvel, prodigy. *The seven wonders of the world* (= *l. septem mira, miracula*, or *spectacula*), the seven monuments regarded as the most remarkable structures of ancient times. *Nine days' wonder*, and allusive uses ; see also 2 b.

*Beowulf* 840 Ferdon folctoȝan..ʒeond widwegas wundor sceawian, lapes lastas. *c* 900 CÆDMON *Hymn* 3 Sum he wundra ȝihtunes..or astelede. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leech.* I. 381 Ac bwæt se ðæt wundor be ȝeond ðas worold fære8, stynneras 2ælst *c* 1205 LAY. 21738 Þa..ȝunnen to ȝeonnen..into þan watere, þer wunderes ȝeoȝ inoge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 152 Mirabilia Anglie, þre wondres beþ in engelond,..Pat water of laþe is þat on, þat euere is ilicche hot. *Ibid.* 155 Vpe þe plein of salesbury þat oþer wonder is Pat ston long is ichuped. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 231 For þey schulde..write and certifie þe senatoures where and what wondres were i-founde. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. i. 6, I rather would entreat thy company To see the wonders of the world abroad. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 36 Carrion Flies..may sease On the white wonder of deare Iuliets hand. 1616 R. COKER *Pathway to Pleas. Diuerp* (1635) 1, As to entertain it [*sc.* the idol] to be bigger then that at Roads, which was taken for 1 of the 7 wonders of the world. 1681 [see PEAK *sb.*[1] 3]. 1732–14 POPE *Rape of Lock* II. 140 The Wonders of your Beauty. And calls forth all the wonders of her face. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 267 All the wonders of the Mediterranean sea are described in much higher colours than they merit. 1878 BROWNING *Pr. Ariadne* 1 We must have our journey marge Ample for the wayside wonders.

b. Marvellous character or quality; wonderfulness; marvels collectively. (Cf. MARVEL *sb.* 2 c.)

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 268 Set is wunder of Sir wirm [*sc.* the ant] More fiamne man wenen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Þe wyse Wihtine i dipte into the fuyre. Loe þe wonder of þe worldliche wisdom. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xix. 20 Whanne the Reed Sea was passid, and ech path of watris was maad dri, and the grene feeld was maad of the wilde see, alle the folc passiden in to the hous of the feith, and seyen togidere the wondris of the Lord. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 181 *Ariel*. O wonder! How many goodly creatures are there here! 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. v. 17 As when The Bird of Wonder dyes, the Mayden Phoenix, Her Ashes new create another Heyre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 70 Great things, and full of wonder in our ears. 1738 GRAY *Taste* 33 Great things and full of wonder in your ears I shall unfold. 1801 MONK LEWIS (*title*) Tales of Wonder. 1842 TENNYSON *Lockſey Hall* 200 When I dipt into the future..Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ix. 129 We went out into the bright wonder of the moonlight.

c. (*transf.* from p.) The object of astonishment (usually implying profound admiration) for a particular country, people, age, or the like.

*World's wonder*: the Marvel of Peru. *Wonder of the world*, the ginseng, *Panax Schinseng* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 4 Hark! what pleasance, sweet hath this Englands glory, Gallia's wonder. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xi. § 1 The bewtie whereof..was such, that euen this was the wonder of the whole world. 1607 *Lel. Collect. Sp. & Charge* F, This Sea-inuyronde-land, the beauty, and wonder of the world. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* I. iv, She's the wonder of the town. 1641 Cath. tells Towne. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 280 Babylon the wonder of all tongues. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Mistress of Peru*, a kind of Night-shade..with Flowers of such Variety that it is also call'd *The World's Wonder*. 1733 POPE *Ep. to Bathurst* 180 Wharton, the scorn and wonder of our days. 1831 E. BURTON *Eccles. Hist.* vii. 205 In Ephesus this feeling found an additional vent in the pride of having their temple considered the wonder of the world.

d. A marvellous specimen or example (*of* something); in *Sc.* used contemptuously.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 180 In this Wonder of a Garden there is neither Grass-work nor Gravel. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 65 Our Whipper-in, wee blastit wonner, Poor worthless elf. 1825 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, But surely she was a very wonder of beauty! 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 490/2 It was a wonder of beauty,—the fairest piece of earth my eye ever rested upon.

e. *U. S.* A kind of cake; = CRULLER.

1848 [SHERR] *Pioneer Life* vi. 61 1870 97 Other dainties awaited us as the result of killing hogs. They were 'dough-nuts' and 'wonders'. 1899 Mrs. Strowe *Mistister's Wooing* iv, 34 A plate of crullers, or wonders, as a sort of sweet fried cake was commonly called.

2. A deed performed or an event brought about by miraculous or supernatural power; a miracle. *To do or work wonders*, to perform miracles. *Arch.*

*c* 990 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 11 Dis onðne frumm ðæs wundra se hælend in ðær byrig. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Eal þæt folc þe his wundor zeseah, his noman myccledon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9499 Crist..wrohhte wunndre micle ma þann icc þatt nan mu tellenn. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 60 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Hi seyden..Alle his wndres þat he dob is þurch þene vend. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 125 By wychecraft he achal wirche wondres. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV.

(Roxb.) xl. 43 Mᴛ hat ilke ȝerde Moyses..dridd many wonders. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 765 He couth werk wonderis quhar way that he wald. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 For they se hym in his great mysteries & wonders. 1582 Wimbet *Cert. Tractatis* iii. Wks. (S.T.S.) 1. 17 He send His Apostolis and seuinty-twa Discipulis .. geuand thaim also power to werk wonderis. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iv. 48 You iudge it straight a thing impossible To compasse Wonders, but by helpe of diuels. 1602 Stubbes *Christ. Corresp. Sacred* iv. ii. 56 That doctrine which was confirmed by undoubted miracles, hath assured us of the coming of lying wonders. 1781 Cowper *Expostl.* 155 They saw dismay'd, and life reas'rted, .. Confess'd the wonder. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* 6 The healing of the paralytic ..was a wonder, for 'they were all amazed'.

† **b.** An extraordinary natural occurrence, esp. when regarded as supernatural or taken as an omen or portent. Chiefly *pl.* *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8611 Wanne me sede him of suche wondres þat god on erþe sende þat it was vor is lubernesse to trufle he it wende. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4004 For wonders þat shuld falle, als I here, Agayn he worldes lauche er sene now. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11827 When he wist of thies wondres, thies wordes he said: ' Vonder towne wille taken in a tyme short'. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. viii. 36 He was but sobir pissaunce, and no wonder, To help in battaile. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 He rekened vp the wonders that were before his time. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 13 Mony sygnes be God war schawne and wonndirit. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* II. iii. (1687) 66/2 Of the Wonders of Nature, Aristotle gives a very slight account. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 1. 320 My Father Governs with unquestion'd Right; .. And Heav'n by Wonders has espous'd his Cause.

**3.** A marvellous act or achievement. *To work, do, or perform wonders* : to do marvellous acts or bring about marvellous results; hence *gen.* to do surprising things.

*c* 1280 *Bestiary* 398 Listnes nu a wunder, Dat tis der [*sc.* the fox] dob for hunger. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 3 This bok schal after seen how Cupide of love, which many a wonder. *Ibid.* 136 With strengthe he [*sc.* Nebuchadnezzar] putte kinges under, And wroghte of Pride many a wonder. 1491 Caxton *Reynard the Foxe* 328 In this batail herodes dide wondres & merueilles. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, I. i. 122 Where valiant Talbot..Knacied wonders with his Sword and Lance. 1660 F. Hooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 295 Don Sebastian did wonders in his own person, but overpowered with number, he [etc.]. 1727 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 207 Lay on Twenty Loads of Chalk alone upon an Acre, and it will perform wonders. 1784 *Cowper Tirocin.* 23 For here the fancy, roving unconfin'd,..Works magic wonders. 1784 — *Task* iv. 87 Katterfelto, with his hair on end At his own wonders. 1849 Disraeli *Lucy* v. vi, Inquired by your Ladyship's approbation, my steward has really done wonders. 1854 L. Ritchie *Wand. Scene* 139 Habit effects wonders.

**4.** *gen.* An astonishing occurrence, event, or fact; a surprising incident; a wonderful thing.

*To hear, read, speak, tell wonders*; to hear, etc., surprising accounts.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 319 A temple hii vonde vair inou & a mauuet amidde þat þe wonder gret & þat vair men bididde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 67 Who that wolde ensample take..Of many a wondre here he mihte. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxxvii. (1495) L.iii/1 Of Gerle is kyndled in water and quenched in oyle: and that is wonder. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21 (Trin.) Man sternen .. ro-mounce rede, Of kynge & quene.. Of wondris þat his knystes felle. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 47 b, I wyll not tarrie my tale to talke of Robbyn Hoode,..or to speake wounders of the man in the Moone. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 13 Den you in the Parke about midnight, at Herne-Oake, and you shall see wonders. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iii. xvi. 171 Some of these Lakes be very hote, which is another wonder. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* II. i. The love of boyes into their Lords is strange, I have read wonders of it. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 136 They talk Wonders of her Beauty. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 585 The chilling tale Of midnight murder was a wonder..told to frighten babes. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xix, Why should you make a wonder of my wearing the full guard of companary? 1850 Haviland *Science of Fairy Tales* (1856) 3 The weary hunters beguile the long silence of a desert night with the wonders of their youth.

† **b.** Spec. = Miracle. *Obs.*

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 5 Noȝt standyng in ydilnes, nor to playe no wondyrs rymnyng.

† **5.** a. Evil or shameful action; evil; *pl.* evil or horrible deeds. *Obs.*

1150 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, I ne can ne i ne mai tellen alle þe wonder ne alle þe pines þat hi diden wrecce men on his land. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Ic ne mai nimen..alle þa wunderen. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4004 Of wrecche senfulle, habbe idon..*a* 1425 *Anerc. R.* 72 Moni mon wened to don wel þat in ded also cweade [*MS. C.* wunder]. *c* 1450 *Gen. & Ex.* 1619 He made angil deuel dwels, Þat made ..euerlic wunder, and euerlic wa. *Ibid.* 3588. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1440 (Cott.) Fykenild me hab gon vnder Ant do rymenild sum wonder.

† **b.** Destruction, disaster. *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 7855 Þa þrihten wenden to wundre ofter half hundred. *Ibid.* 12500 Heo alopen þer muchel wunder, twa & fifti hundred. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5706 Þe bretayn..Where werre, & wrake, & wonder, Ilk yere has wont þer-inne.

† **c.** Great distress or grief. *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5962 Yn be put..He sagh so moche sorowe and wundyr, Of fendes fele þat þere wore. *Ye* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 190 (Percy Fo.). Of this..I have great wonder; for sorrow my hart will breake assunder. *a* 1600 *Northumberland Betrayed by Douglas* ii. in Child *Ball.* III. 411 As woe and wonder he them amongst.

**6.** Phraseological uses. † **a.** *To wonder* : dreadfully, horribly, terribly. (Cf sense 5.) *Obs.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 654 Ealle men hine fram stowe to stowe brudon and to wundre tawedon. *c* 1230 *Hali Meidh.* (1922) 23 Lecherie seið ' schonne þe menske of þi meidenhad, & takeð hire to wunder [*v.r.* al to wundre]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22606 Heuen he sal se part in sundre, And be sal here it cri to wonder.

**b.** *To a wonder*, in early use also † *to wonder* [after F. *à merveille*], marvellously, wonderfully, marvellously well. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 175 The unparallel'd Des-Cartes hath unriddled their dark Physiology, and to wonder solv'd their Motions. 1698 Crowne *Caligula* iv, Y'are in a wonder fair. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, Sentences in Latin and Greeke, which on occasion he would produce even to wonder. 1711 Steele *Tender Husband* II. 11 He is better to a Wonder. 1792 Cowper *Let. to Unwandine* 11 June, His motives were not, nor could be, of the amorous kind, for she was ugly to a wonder. 1818 Lytton *Pelham* xxxvi, I have flattered him to a wonder! 1843 Thackeray *Mr. & Mrs. Berry* ii, He ties his white neckcloth to a wonder.

† **c.** *To think* [Think *v.*1] *wonder* (const. dative of person) : to seem a matter of astonishment (to); to excite the passion, to be astonished, to marvel, wonder. So, rarely, *to think* [Think *v.*2] *it wonder*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Ponne ne þincþ us þæt nan wundor. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 484 Wundor me þincð eower þæslicnes. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4011 All þis þinkes wunder & selcuð Forwhi sodeynes. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5786 Of þis mede here sone may þynk wonder, For alle þyng it bretes in sonder. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 176 Whi þou wrabþest þe now wonder me þinkeþ. *a* 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* ii. 54 Quhat Natur works, we may not think it wonder.

**d.** *It* (or † *that*) *is* (*was, were, etc.*) *no wonder* : it is (etc.) not surprising; usually with dependent *that*, or *if*-clause. Similarly, *it is* † *great, little, small wonder*, etc., *not very surprising*; *it is* (*a*) *wonder, wonder it is*, it is wonderful.

† *A wonder is to speak*, it is surprising to tell.. † *Make it no wonder*, do not be surprised at it.

*c* 1000 Beowulf *Crist* 1018 Forþon nis ginig wunder hu him worulddreamas ofer unclane leogrod cearum sorgende hearde ondrede. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Hit nis nan wunder þah mon sunegie oðer liwle uniwaldes, ah hit is muchele sarre wunder þah he ne sunegie swikes. *c* 1200 Ormin 2317 & tatt nass wunnderr þwerrt ut nan þatt he wass wiss o lare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 378, & lute wonder it was þat strange men in te lond were. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5786 (Gött.) Wonþer was hu he jider wan. *c* 1390 *Sir Tristr.* 2213 Sore him greued his vene, As it no wonder nes. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 177 Ac selcuþ schulde þei neuere out, a gret wonder hit were. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 382 Though god his grace caste aweie No wondr is. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 811 Pare slike wirchip he wan was wonder to tell. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 180 Þere lyys sorell in hay and thertyne now, that it was wonder to wete. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 85 And it is wonder that your wylde Insolence Can be content with Reason in presence. *c* 1540 *Bk. Cok. Privy Counsell. Hist.* (Camden No. 20) 30 He went..to the duke of Bedforde, whose arrivall, a wonder is to speake, how much it encouraged his owne people. 1586 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 163 For he affeird, it wes na winder, His cursour suld him cast. 1679 W. Fulke *Heshins' Tart.* 168 It was a wonnder, how many Christians escaped through the impenetrable darknesse. 1696 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 193, I must away to day before night come, Make it no wonder. 1600 R. Blount tr. *Constraigio* 168 It was therefore no wonder, if a Christian king..should be tempted many things. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxv. 219 It were a wonder there is no greater notice taken of it. 1673 ' *imgar-A Mustard* (1873) 19 That's a wonder of wonders, that your bellys were not burst. 1706 E. Ward *Wonden World Dist.* (1708) 200 If he has a Reversion clear of Incumbrances, it's a Wonder. 1741 Warburton *Dis. Legat.* v. ii. 6 (1755) II. 69 It is no Wonder his Arguments should look asquint. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. iv, ' No Man is wise at all Hours'; it is therefore no Wonder that a Boy is not so. 1840 Hackaday *Lane's* II. You consume more tea than all my family,..and as much sugar and butter—well, it's no wonder you are bilious!

**e.** Without verb, esp. in *No wonder that, if, or though*; similarly, *small wonder that* (etc.), *what wonder if*.. Also interjectionally in (*and*) *no wonder!, and what wonder!*

Cf. *L. nimirum*, Gr. οὐ θαῦμα, θαῦμα οὐδέν.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 100 No wonder though he siketh ofte. *a* 1400 *Perib.* 1 And hees neuete for no wonder, I wene. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 204 No wonther dougth me smerte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowundyr, *Ne* nowonder, *nimirum*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. viii. 103 Na wonder, than sic selcouth Cariddis. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. vi. 12 Will poore Folkes lye .? Yes! no wonder, When Rich ones scarce tell true. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 606 What wonder then if fields and regions here Breathe forth Elixir pure. 1705–6 Worlidge *Borderers* II. 812 *Hier*, I was alarmed, *Mar.* No wonder; this is a place That well may put some fears into your heart. 1853 Jerdan *Nat. Hist. Ire.* IV. 58 Is miserable, and no wonder! 1882 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xviii, She has given her honest little heart away—and what wonder! 1894 Fanu *Double Bay* 4 Simon knew..no wonder Nero loves her better than pale sad lady who sits among the six Vestals. 1913 H. L. Jackson *Archaiol. Jesus* 6 If the great authorities differ 'small wonder that weaker minds are in doubt.

**f.** *The wonder is* . . , what is surprising is . . .

1605 Shaks. *Lear* v. iii. 326 *Edg.* He is gon indeed. *Kent.* The wonder is, he hath endur'd so long. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xi, The wonder is, not that there should be so many fatal accidents, but that any journey should be safely made. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* i. iv, The only wonder was, that it had not happened sooner.

**g.** *For a wonder* : as an instance of a surprising fact; strange to say.

1896 Reade *Never too Late* xxvi, For a wonder he was not see-sick. 1881 Saintsbury *Dryden* vii. 143 For a wonder Dryden resists..his unhappy tendency to exaggerate the meanness of his subjects.

**h.** *In the name of wonder* : used with an interrogative word to give emphasis to a question; also *colloq.* or *dial.* shortened to *the wonder*.

1626 Marriner *Roman Actor* iv. ii, In the name of wonder, What's Cæsar's purpose? 1728 *Amer. Freeholder's* No. 9 P 12 What in the name of wonder do you mean? 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* xxxv, How the wonder do you manage it? 1883 R. Dawson *Feast of Peace* iii. 814 Who in the name of wonder are these queer foreigners?

**II. 7.** The emotion excited by the perception of something novel and unexpected, or inexplicable; astonishment mingled with perplexity or bewildered curiosity. Also, the state of mind in which this emotion exists; † an instance of this, a fit of wonderment.

*c* 1190 *St. Dunstan* 8 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Þat folk stod al in gret wonder. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* v. 26 And greet wondir took alle men, and thei magnyfieden God. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 18 When Thomas had seo þis, anon he cried for wondyr and for fere. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K vij b, Then be turning about, and beholding him..with a wonder [orig. *con marauiglia*] stayed a while wythout any word. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 135 You'le find a dilt'rence, As we his Subiects haue in wonder found. 1611 *Bible Acts* iii. 10 They were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened vnto him. 1699 *Voig. Prer. Cens.* 31 Galen was hush'd into a wonder by some anatomical observations. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 540 Satan ..Looks down with wonder at the sudden view Of all this World at once. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Nov. 1690, Lord Godolphin, now resuming the commission of the Treasury to the wonder of all his friends. 1738 *Gray Journal* in Yᵗ'd in wonder stood the warlike pair. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 215 And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew, That one small head could carry all he knew. 1814 Cary *Dante, Parad.* xxxi. 31 The grim brood..Stood in mute wonder 'mid the works of Rome. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxv, Mrs. and Miss were at the door listening with wonder to Mrs. Becky's sobs and cries. 1870 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. I. 143 The faculty of wonder is not defunct, but is only getting more and more emancipated from the unnatural service of terror.

† **b.** *To have wonder*, to be greatly surprised; to marvel: = Wonder *v.* 1, 2. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 172 It was our lorder ordinance, For-þi no wonder ne haue ȝe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 62 And quhen he hard sa blaw & cry, He had wondir quhat it mycht be. *c* 1373 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Jonathas*) 121 All þat herde hym, þald ce wyse, Had wonder þat sik ȝong wist be Inony manne. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* i. xiv. 55 Thenne syre Arthur dyd so merueillously in armes that all men had wondyr. 1500–20 Dunbar *Fremit Ireld.* 7 Thay saw that I nocht gladder wax of cheir, And thairof had that wonder.

† **c.** Profound astonishment. *Obs.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 19 To so unbeleeued a poynt loe prouoked, as that which was to haue vnto a Prince, as to be a good horseman. *a* 1588 Sidney *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 117 All ignorant that soule, that sees thee without wonder. 1605 — *Arcad.* i. 31 His Wonders and his Prayses doe conclude, Which hauing so done, he his. 1607 Br. Hall *Holy Observ.* I. xx. (1609) 32 No man hath beene so exquisite, but some haue detracted from him, euen by those qualities which haue seemed most worthy of wonder to others.

**8.** [*f.* Wonder *v.* 2.] A state of wondering (*whether*, etc.). *rare.*

1853 Mrs. Gaskell *North* xix, Many profound secrets, most of which related to their wonders if Jemima and Mr. Farquhar would ever be married. 1889 ' J. S. Winter ' *Bars. Bell* iv. (1890) 45 Haunted by..a wonder whether he would find his way to St. Erth's.

**III.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

**9.** Simple attrib. (sometimes passing into adj.).

**a.** = ' that is a wonder, marvel, or prodigy ', as *wonder-avenue, -child* (after G. *wunderkind*), *-flower, -night, -sight* (after G. *wundergesicht*), *-treasure*.

1838 Longf. in *Life* (1891) I. 293 The great wonder-flowers bloom but once in a lifetime. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 1. 1 Ye wonder-avenue of palaces (the Grand Canal). 1890 ' R. Boldrewood ' *Miner's Right* xiii, You..discover so many wonder-treasures. 1891 You will never consent to such a thing. *Col. Reformer* xviii, A Pharos, a wonder-sign, an exemplar throughout all the civilised world. 1896 *Catholic Mag.* May 428 Hermann Cohen, by reason of his marvellous pianoplaying, was looked upon as a ' wonder-child '.

**b.** = ' of wonder or wonders ', as *wonder-book, -city, -literature, -story, -tale, -world* (cf. G. *wunderwelt*).

1851 Hawthorne (*title*) A Wonder-Book for Girls and Boys, (including ' Tanglewood Tales '). 1852 H. Melville *Whale* i. 7 The great flood-gates of the wonder-world swung open. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4487 A kind of wonder-story in zoology. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 144 The native wonder-tales must only be told in the winter. 1881 — *Anthropol.* 382 It is known to be only a version of the ..wonder-tale told by Herodotus. 1896 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 May That Asiatic wonder-world, the Indian Empire. 1896 J. Davidson *Fleet St. Ecl.* Ser. II. 78 To wonder-worlds of old romance Our aching thoughts for solace turn. 1905 Roosevelt *Outdoor Pastimes* xi. 329 To read and enjoy the wonder-book of nature. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 6/2 All our wonder-literature. *Ibid.* 20 Sept. 1/1 Everything in that wonder-city [sc. Fez] was so like a half-remembered dream.

**c.** = ' miraculous, magic, magical ', as *wonder-offspring, -staff* (cf. *G. wunderstab* magic wand), *-stroke*.

1846 Trench *Mirac.* Introd. iv. § 3. 46 By a mighty wonder-stroke of grace the polarity in the man is shifted. *Ibid.* xxix. 491 *note*. Sometimes (in early Christian art) he [sc. Jesus] is touching with his wonder-staff the head of Lazarus. 1907 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VIII. 208/2 The belief in such wonder-offspring was once as common in Europe.

**10.** Objective and obj. genitive, as *wonder-bearing, -exciting, -hiding, -leaving, -promising, -raising, -seeking, -stirring, -writing* adjs.; †*-wonders-doing* adj.; *wonder-hider, -seeker*; *wonder-worth, -worthy* adjs.; instrumental, as *wonder-dumb, -fed, -smit, -stricken, -struck*, †*-struckne, -wounded* adjs.; *wonder-bearing, -striking, -teeming, -waiting* adjs.; † *wonder-rap* [RAP *v.*3]. *-strike* vbs.

1799 Campbell *Pilgrim's Hope* l. 130 With them, with him [sc. Newton], watch the shrine with *wonder-beaming* eye? 1858 Hughes, *Wonders doynge, mirificus.* 1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 167 Shy birds stood Watching us, *wonder-dumb.* 1899 Milman *Lat. Christ.* xiv. (1864) IX. 77 This *wonder-fed* and wonder-seeking worship. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* iii. viii. The deceptions, and *wonder-hiding* stupefactions, which Authority exercises on us. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3167 The *wonder-loving* and credulous Northmen. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 64 The *wonder-promising* Matter, that was to perform all these marvels. 1813 — *Remorse* Epil. 78 Saintly hermits' *wonder-raising* acts. 1812 J. Davies *Muses Sacred* Wks. (Grosart) II. 277/2 O night of force to *wonder-rap* all Eyes. 1791 Cowper *Odyssey* VI. 190 'Wonder-rapt I gaze. 1599 T. Moufet? *Silkwormes* 53 Then list a while, you *wonder-seeking* great. 1898 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. xv. 298 The phenomena known to modern wonder-seekers as the case of somnambulism or clairvoyance. 1855 'Wonder-seeking [see *wonder-fed*]' 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* iii. 99 Therefore, before Him, am I 'wonder-smit. 1799 Coleridge *Psyche* 33 Shell! tell the *wonder-stirring* tales. 1825 Singleton *Virgil* I. 51 At whose lay 'wonder-stricken were the yards. 1896 Hawthorne *Kogl. Mosses Ser.* II. 64 The sagacious plan which perplexes and 'wonder-strikes me in most cathedrals. 1604 Vicars *God in Mount* 4 The memorable and 'wonder-striking Parliament-Treason. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Noah* 597 Ashamed, 'wonder-strook. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* iv. 155 If wonder-strook I at your words appear, My wonder you'll excuse, I hope, if I tell. 1818 D'Arblay *Camilla* II. xiii. [She] seemed wonder-struck, without knowing why. 1817 Malthus *Popul.* II. 220 Great and astonishing as this difference is, we ought not to be so wonder-struck at it. 1848 Miss Thompson *Lect.* 266 'Wonder-struckne wights. 1708 Southey *Blenheim* v, With 'wonder-waiting eyes. 1884 Browning *Drama. Pers., Att Eagles* 44 Had I painted it while, Why, there it had stood, to see, nor the process so 'wonder-worth. 1622 Middleton *Honour & Virtue* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 361 Which is not the least 'wonder-worthy note. 1903 G. Bruno *Recitia Renatis.* I. 10 [This] is in itself a wonder-worthy paradox. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 280 Like 'wonder-wounded hearers. 1603 in J. Davies *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 103/1 His 'wonder-wiring Hand.

**b.** advb., = '*wonderfully*'. (After G. *wundergross, wunderschön*, etc.; cf. Wonder *adv.*)

1892 J. Payne *Songs Life & Death* 214 Oh, wonder-lovely maidens were the verses I wrote. *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 2/2 Oh, how wonder-beautiful! 1904 *Ibid.* 12 Feb. 2/3 Delicate wonder-white crystals.

**11.** Special comb.: **wonder-bag**, a negro amulet, = Obeah 1; **wonder-horn,** (*a*) a cornucopia of marvels; (*b*) a magical horn; **wonder-man,** a wonder-worker; †**wonder-master**, a magician; †**wonder-mase** *v. intr.* and *trans.*, to be amazed, or to amaze, with wonder.

1793 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ep. the Pope* Wks. 1812 III. 309 Quaco, full of negro faith and superstition, Loaded his jaws deep with 'wonder-bag: Of Monkeys' teeth, glass, hor-shair, and red rags. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 178 Their world was a huge 'wonder-horn. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 231 Was it that the wonder-horn was still echoing from the far-off summoning the man... to the soul-roads? 1883 Stallybrass tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1230 He was the greatest magician or 'wonder-master of them all. 1898 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/1 Cornelius Drebbel, 'the wonder-man of Alkmaar'. 1863 Barnby *Pop. Impost.* 37 This foule 'wonder-maister is now full of wonders upon his head. 1629 in *Rec. Aberdeen* (1844) I. 165 Men did 'wonder-maze, Which wonderment, this later worke of thine (Not by declaring from it) doth clean take away. 1618 Bolton *Hist. Wales* ibid. II. 51/1 Here taught. Rights Ruines to repaire...with Words, that wonder-mazed men.

†**Wondeer,** *a. Obs.* Forms: see prec. [repr. OE. *wundor* Wonder *sb.* in compounds, as *wundercræft* marvellous skill or power, *wunderdéd* miracle, *wunderdæen* wondrous sign, miracle, prodigy (so OS. *wunderquâla* extreme torment, OHG. *wuntarsiht* 'spectaculum', MHG., G. *wundersal* miracle, ON. *undrsjón* spectacle, etc.; see also Wonder thing); cf. the similar origin of Main *a.*, and see Wonders *a.*] Wonderful, wondrous, marvellous. *Oft or in (a) wonder wise*, wonderfully (cf. MLG. *wunderwîs(e)* adv.). See also Wonder thing, Wonder-work.

*a* 1178 *Coll. Hom.* 235 He cwæð a wunder word to þar sawle ðí þa witie ȝeniam. *c* 1205 Lay. 1147 Heo dude wonder crafftes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6050 Þat folc com þikker amorwe to se þis wonder dede. *Ibid.* 8093 Þe wiues þer per com also a wel wonder cas. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1873 So wonder a wilde best þat weldes no mynde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 1005 So sodanly on a wonder wyse, I was war of a possessyoun. *c* 1376 Chaucer *Troylus* i. 419 Alas what is þis wonder maladye. *c* 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 250 This warnynges beoth wonder and feole. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* ii. 126 In wonderwyse holy wryt tellith how þei fullen. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1895) 46 Wiyn of watir he makiþ biyue, And doob manye a wondir dede. 1425 *Engl. Cong. Jerl.* 130 About that tyme, befel a wonder aduentur yn a wodde of Myth. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2643 Thou schalt telle me of that cas; Hyt hys the wonderest that ever I herde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. I. 685 He passed by a Castel where was a wonder turnament. *a* 1500 Skelton *E. Rummynge* 73 With clothes vpon her hed ... Wrythen in wonder wyse. After the Sarasyns gyse. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* 2 *Chron.* xxvii. 24 And he prayed vnto the Lorde, which made him promes, and gaue him a wonder-token. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* iv. 58 And, wonder wonderfully, I spake to me.

**Wonder** (wʌ·ndəɹ), *v.* Forms: **1 wundrian,** 3–4 **wondri,** 4–5 **woundre,** 4–6 **wondre, wondir,** (3 **wundren, wundre, wndre, wondrie, wondry,** *Orm.* **wunndrenn,** 4 **wondur,** 5 **wondyr, wundur, wunderon, wonderyn**), 5–6 **wunder,** 6 **-ir,** 6–7 **woonder,** 4– **wonder.** [OE. *wundrian* OS. *wundrôn*, (MDu. *wonderen*, OHG. *wuntarôn* (MHG., G. *wundern*), ON. *undra* (Sw. *undra*, Da. *undre*): f. Wonder *sb.*]

**1.** *intr.* To feel or be affected with wonder; to be struck with surprise or astonishment, to marvel. Also *occas.* to express wonder in speech. **a.** in OE. const. genitive of the object of wonder, also with preps., now nearly always *at*, occas. *over*, formerly also *on, upon, of*.

*c* 888 *K. Ælfred Boeth.* xxxiv. § 10, Hwa mæg þæt he ne wundrie ær elcra gesceafta ures scyppendes? 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Nis þæt to wundrienne...þæt he acweald heon wolde. *Ibid.* 153 He gehyrde heora þrowunga & he þa wundrode ofer þæm þrowlicum. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Lives* (Skeat) I. 382 Drihten wundrað swíðe eorþan wilte & wæstma. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vi. 2 Manega þeȝrofon & wundrodon on his lare. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 27 Þa Manege...wundredon hahe off all þæt hem was gewiddedd tære off Criste. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 228 Þu flyst a nigt and nost a-dai, Par-of ich wondri. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6 Ne wondres nan in scrifthing. Quilc men nai ȝet wundren on. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5353 In lepes & in coulles so moche vias hii ssolleþ hom bringe, Þat is moni sad wondry of þis gret sacrilinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18774 Godmen o galilee, þan þai sagh þis ne wonder yee? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 217 Somme of hem wondred on the mirour...How men myghte in so wicche myrrour Swich *Apparaat* make. (Kort.) Myn owene folweth noght of hir woo, Whi hir ladie fered so. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 125 b/1 All the people drewe to hym and wondred on hym. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 71 Wondring on the air at the ebbyng and flowyng of the see. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 136, I wonder of this being here together. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* (1821) V. 24 I wonder we any marvel, For wondring on a deitie divyne. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 856 Hast thou not wondered, Adam, at my stay? 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VI. 304 I wonder I have not been called upon for wedding

c1200 Ormin 7984 Wunnderr mikell shame waas till Iserrnaile þede. c1205 Lay. 11254 Þa wader grefiie men. *Ibid.* 3744 Þat feht was *wonder* strong. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4448 (Gött.) Þe king wid hiim was *wonder* wrath. *c*1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* 430 (Fairf.) Than founde I slitte ouen vpright A *wonder* wel farynge knyght. *c*1400 *Prose Life Alex.* 46 This prynce was a wyghte man..& *wonder* trewe till Alexander. *c*1440 *Liber Cocorum* 23 Waashe hom and have hom *wonder* smalle. 1598 Chapman *Let.* in *Hunt. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 302 Wherein I would *wonder* fain break my mind unto you. *a*1550 *Freiris Berwik* 167 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 290 Wilk that who enyilt *wonder* lustely. 1566 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* iv. (S.T.S.) I. 169 Hadrian beiring this, was *wounder* discontent. 1785 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv. Now I believe ye like me *wonder* weel.

†**Wonderclous.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + Clout *sb.*1] ? Something showy but worthless.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 228/46 A Wonderclout, blabbe, *garrulus, linguosus.* 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Supper*, Z 1 b, O wretched Athenians, Hell but a vexation, and Heaven but a *wonderclout* in their doctrine. *Ibid.* Ff 4, Her meritórious worke, a Wonderclowte.

**Wondered** (wɒ·ndaɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wonder *sb* or *v.* + -ed.]

†**1.** Wonderful, marvellous. *Obs.*

*c*1386 Cŵer Pembroke *Pr.* xcvi. ii, Of his actes the wondred story Paint unto each people forth. *Ibid.* cvi. ix, God ..Power'd them on by wonders wondred oft.. And wondred works. 1618 Drayton *Poly-olb.* viii. 448 Into what sundry ayres her wondered self also throws.

**2.** *Wondered-at* = Wonder *v.* 1 a, d.

*c*1681 Chapman *Iliad* xxiv. 440 A great time Achilles gar'd vpon His wondred-at approch. 1615 — *Odyss.* xi. 249 My Father ..vale no sumptuous beds, Wondered at furniture. 1637 Gutteridge *Lith. & Sc.* (1882) 96 My ..never-enough-wondered-at Lord Jesus.

¶ In the following, *wondered* is virtually in parasynthetic comb. ('performing such rare wonders').

1620 Shaks. *Temp.* iv. I. 123 So rare a wondred Father.

†**Wonderel.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 wonderele, wundrel. [Of Scand. origin (cf. MDa. *underli*) : see Wonder *v.* and -el3 (cf. -le 1 b).] A wonder, marvel.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wunderelle (*K.* wundrel..), *prodigium*.

**Wonderer**1 (wɒ·ndərəɹ). [f. Wonder *v.* + -er1.] One who wonders *at* something.

1592 Barey *Ade*, W 3 b, A Wonderer, a marueler, *mirator*. [1598 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 231 *Parædoxon*, or the Wonderer.] 1600 Chettl e *Hoffman* II. (1631) F 4 b, That giddy wonderer may amaz'd stand. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 1 To advance that crackt-brain head in the concits of his European wonderers. 1734 J. Richardson *Milton's Par. Lost* p. xxxvii, And the Bishop known This Story..he would not have been One of the Wonderers at Milton's Escape. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xiv, She was a great wonderer, every one must be who takes a very lively interest in all the comings and goings of all their acquaintance. 1852 R. B. Mansfield *Leg. Water-Lily* 29 At our start, one wonderer from the bridge. 1865 De Morgan in *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 730/1 His backers and his quizzers, his admirers and his wonderers.

†**Wonderer**2. *Obs. rare.* [f. Wonder *sb.* + -er1.] A wonder-worker.

1640 Trapp *Comm. Revel.* xiii. 4 The Pope can doe whatsoever Christ can doe ; yea and more too, it should seem by these wise wonderers.

**Wonderful** (wɒ·ndəɹfŭl), *a.*, (*sb.*), and *adv.* [f. O.E. *wunderfull*, f. Wonder *sb.* + -full ; cf. MLG. *wonderfull*, MSw. *under(s)fuller*.] **A.** *adj.*

**1.** Full of wonder; such as to excite wonder or astonishment; marvellous; sometimes used trivially = surprisingly large, fine, excellent, etc.

*a*1200 *Ælfredus Glast.* 1. 2757 (Napier 74/9) *Stupendo*, i. *miranda*, mid wunderlicu, and wunderfulle. *a*1225 *Juliana* 7 *Trin. Coll. Homs* 177 Wunderliche ben þe sas ut sondes, and wunderful is ure louuend on þeunesse. *c*1275 Lay. 280 His fundle, þat þe mid some was wunderful to wisse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8575 God sende uor is laþernesse moni deoluot cas in his lond & wonderuol. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6404 Of þe ioies of heuen þat ben wonderful takens many, þat salle falle bytyme þat day. *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 1355 There were wemen to wale, A wonderfull nownbur. *a*1425 *Cursor M.* 9311 (Trin.) Men shal him crist wit wonderful werkes. *c*1450 *Mirk's Festial* 20 Per God wrouhte mony wondyrfull myracles for hym. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 452 Wise women has.. nomes sere Wondirfull & counsellers. *c*1450 *Mirk's Festial* 190

**Wonderment**(wʊ·ndəmẽnt). Chiefly *literary*. [f. WONDER *v.* + -MENT.]

1. The or a state of wonder; = WONDER *sb.* 7.

1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 78 After most shamefull rumors raysed upye to theyre dyffiamacion, with slaunderouse wonderment of the towne. 1569 GOLDING tr. *Heminge's Postill* 39 Wes must with holy wonderment embrace the heauenly Oracles. 1571 — *Calvin on Ps.* viii. Contents, Dauid beholdinge himself of Gods fatherly bountifulnesse towards mankinde...is rauished into a wonderment of it. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 9 Whom all admired, as from heauen sent, And gaue vpon with gaping wonderment. 1688 BUNYAN *Sol. Temple* xxii. 52 That which added to their adornment, was the wonderment of a Queen. 1787 MISS D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 Feb., The wonderment with which they heard a proposal so new was diverting. 1799 COLERIDGE *'Nor cold, nor stern, my soul!'* 8 They gape for wonderment. 1824 WARDSW. *Poems Wks.* (1856) II. 119 Much of what his biographer deemed genuine admiration must in fact have been blind wonderment. 1879 LEWES *Study Psychol.* viii. 155 The mind passes from wonderment at the miraculous to the discernment of order.

b. An expression of wonder: chiefly in *to make a wonderment*, to express wonder.

1593 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's True Obed.* 54 b, Her parentes...would make signes, as by wonderment, as they men seme to v-se against me. *a* 1656 R. TURNER in Marbeck *Bk. Notes* (1581) 243 A great outcrie & wonderment was made against the Dracons & Priests of Constantinople, 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* in *Ann.* (1635) Much talke there was..of the murther of the Regent, many making a wonderment at vaine things, as his mothers dreame. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Juffice of Peace* 3 Let not a wonderment be made of it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 71 Why, Jack, thou needest not make such a wonderment, as the girls say. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 4 Here the sound wonderments, and mutual applauses of our marvellous good looks. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* xxiv, What wonderments you do make about nothing.

2. An object of or a matter for wonder; a wonderful thing; = WONDER *sb.* 1–4.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 70 b, The games called Dionysiacs,...he called the greate woondermentes & rarynges of fooles. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1572 This obstinate and stoburn rebellion of tharchbishop stirred vp much anger...; that almost he was alone a wonderment to al the realme. 1588 GRAFTON *Chron. II.* 1. 1 *marg.*, Sir Hugh Spencer the yonger lead about for wonderment, lyke a beast. 1784 CONSTABLE *Diana* VII. I, A flouring field, the world's sole wonderment. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Rome* 28 Seuen Romane Hills, the worlds 7. wonderments. 1618 BOLTON *Sacred Mem.* 8 Therefore in Heathens Images he spake, Wrought wonderments, and wrought them so from grace. 1628 PAYNE *Love-locker* 33 I turne themselues into...so many Monsters, and wonderments of the World. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 Deliverances, commonly, are but nine dayes wonderments, at most. 1757 FOOTE *Author* Prol., 'Tis Wonderment, them Boobies ben't ashamed. 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xv, It's a wonderment to me, how you got us off. 1859 READE *Griffith Gaunt* II. A shop with all sorts of household wonderments exposed for sale. 1915 H. JAMES *Sense of the Past* (1917) 150 To determine wonderments that should be beyond answering.

b. A wonderful example or instance (*of* something): = WONDER *sb.* 1 d.

1626 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* v. 95 But vpon Alcibiades they threw down a wonderment of welcome. 1697 BRAUN. & F., *Romane Hadr.* iv. i, How many...have dedicated grave Works to Ladies, (nothing fitter,) and have call'd them...the patterns of perfection, and the wonderment of Women. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 253 The untended orchards are strayed in a wonderment of blossom.

3. Wonderful quality: = WONDER *sb.* 1 b.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 20 That strange Dame, whose beauties wonderment She lesse esteem'd, then th'others vertuous gouernment. 1647 FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. xxxii, How should I...limme forth her vertues wonderment? 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxxi. 313 That King will be looked upon as a King of wonderment. 1801 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Misery* III. 251 As a climax of wonderment, the Jacobin Winterton has succeeded with Lady Amelia. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 33 The people...opens his eyes upon things all of which are full of novelty and wonderment.

**Wonder-monger.** [f. WONDER *sb.* + MONGER 2.] One who deals in wonders; a wonder-worker, or relater of wonders.

1612 B. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* iv. iv, How are the great wonder-mongers of Aegipt abashed. 1651 WITHER tr. *Prince rose's Pop. Err.* 436 Those Wonder-mungers cannot take away the Kings evill. 1745 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. II (1748) III. 281 Instead of a cured our wonder-mongers, do I not tell you, sir, that I saw it with my own eyes! 1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) Pref., The God Pretius ...famous for being a juggling Wonder-monger ..and turning himself into all Shapes. 1851 NEWMAN *Prest. Pos. Cath.* 231 Future story-tellers and wonder-mongers. 1865 DR MORGAN *Lately Story* iv. 112 That...class of persons which, when its attention turns towards wonder-mongering,...loses its head promptly.

**†Wonderness.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 **wunder-nesse.** [f. WONDER *sb.* + -NESS.] A wonder.

*c* 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 40 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Bi-twene þis twam wolke me punchep a wundernesse.

**†Wonderize,** *v. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. WONDER + -IZE.] *trans.* To make a wonder or marvel of.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* F 1, Some iudgements ...wonderize the birth of common wit.

**†Wonders,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **woun-deris.** [gen. of WONDER *sb.*; a Scand. idiom: cf. MSw. *unders*, gen. of *under* WONDER *sb.* in *unders miraculum*, *teken*, *thing* marvel, miracle, prodigy. Cf. *livet* alive (LIFE *sb.* 15). See also WONDBOUS.]

A. *adj.* = WONDROUS *a.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1595 þaa þat þa wonders [*Gött.* wonder] werkes wrogh it. Þaa pleres þa mad. *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* 1469 (Cheltham MS.) A wonders thinge [13.. *MS. A.* wonder-þing] ye may here. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. (1555) F ij b, It was a wonders case. *c* 1521 *Ist Engl. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 20/1 Many dyuers maner and wonders bestes. *c* 1580 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 89 A, ye be wonders men! *c* 1630 Lo. HERBERT *Arth. Lyt. Hyst.* xxxv. (1814) 111 When the duke sawe these thre knyghtes do suche wonders meruayles in armes...he was...dyspleased. 1600 W. BARR *Three Fast. Elegies* I. (1893) 44 Am I a prating bore of wonders cost.

B. *adv.* = WONDROUS *adv.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 45 Ye..let light of that thing whiche firste ye maked to you wonders dere. *c* 1395 *Pearl in Trip. Gow* 699 In *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 324 These folkes be wonders stout. *c* 1520 *Everyman* 7 This matter is wonders precyous. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 220 Yet be they receyued and interteyned wonders gentylye. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 207 In danger of deith,...Do weill is harnessit, and wounderis bauld. *c* 1600 *Dialogue in Verse in Marlowe's Wks.* 1850 I.xii. 304 But it deuiseth wonders well.

Hence **†Wondersly** *adv.* wondrously.

1489 SKELTON *Dethe Erle Northumb.* 193 O perlese Prince...! Which to thy resistence wondersly was wrought All mankynde. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xiv. 5 Be ye sure it doth wondersly well.

**Wondersome,** *a. rare.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + -SOME.] Wonderful.

1774 JEBB in *Corr.* I. i, I have often-times thought to myself, that it was a wondersome kind of thing, how it came to pass, that you two agree so badly.

**†Wonder thing.** *Obs.* (Also as one word.) [f. WONDER *sb.* + *a.* Cf. G. *wunderding*, MSw *unders thing* (see WONDERS *a.*).] A wonderful thing, wonder, marvel.

*c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 677 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 238 A wonder þing it was to seo..A so gret best a-boute wiende. 13.. *Sir Perceval* 1. 1140 in *Ashm.* (1844) 3 Wonder thinges here. *a* 1300 HANPOLE *Prickfire* cxviii(i) 18, I sail bihalde wondirthyngis [Vulg. *mirabilia*] of þi lagbe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 53 In a wast...there was a wonder thyng, a wonty-thyng In hys chambyr to nyght. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 2 This hindir nycht..To me was tawld ane windir thing. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 27 A wonder thing what thingis these olde thinges be.

**Wonder-work.** [OE. *wunderweorc* = WFris. *wonderwirk*, MHG. *wunderwerc* (G. *-werk*), MDa. *underverk*, etc., f. WONDER *sb.* + WORK *sb.* In ME. treated as two words (cf. WONDER *a.*); in the modern period, a new formation.]

1. A marvellous or miraculous act; = MIRACLE 1. Also *gen.* a wonderful achievement.

*971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hie..wunderweorcum swiþe wuldorlice ascinon. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 705 Swylce he þa [*sc.* Christ] oðerra mirim cyðde wundorworca on wera xeaþðe. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 29 Hermis, þe Archiue Lild, 390 þan wirkes he wonder werkes new. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1529 (Gött.) Þai þat bir wonder werkes wroght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (John Evangelist) 1 Þe wirkar of wondyr mocht, Quhare he wondir werkis wrocht. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* A j, By sundry meanes, this Wonderworke is wrought.

1845 J. STUART *Journ. to Walk* 80 While the Christians,...on account of a few insignificant wonder-works, proclaim their Jesus for a god. 1889 JAS. GIBBONS *Our Chr. Heritage* 249 Saint John relates the wonder-works of Christ.

2. A wonderful work or structure.

*c* 1275 LAY. 17376 Þo gonnen hii wende...to þan hulle... war stod þat wonder work. 1389 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 277 Þe Duke Nicolle Seynt Albons his grete chirche from the foundement of a wonder werk of brend tyle.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. x, Fit speculations! such as ...He found in worder-working Rome! 1887 WARNER *Arrow of Fisherman* 150 Forums which should surpass Trajan's wonderwork. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 238/1 These wonder works of the sea are broken into such fantastic forms. 1904 *Spectator* 1 Oct. 1/2 The hotel is, like everything else here, a wonder-work.

3. Marvellous work or workmanship.

*a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. CXXXIX. (1811) 216 A beer of wonder werke, marueylous curyously made.

1863 *Pilgrimage over Prairies* II. 265 Impassive spirits ...whom the daily wonderwork of nature, her glorious displays of the sublime, her lovely and the wild, cannot move, or affect. 1883 in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* CXXVI. 4 God was alone in the wonderwork of Creation.

**Wonder-worker.** [WONDER *sb.* + WORKER.] One who works wonders or marvellous things; *esp.* a worker of miracles; a thaumaturge.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 169 Some of their better Prelates have removed..an image of our Lady, upon the broaching of a report that it discovered whatsoe're they were, that stole it. 1662 St. FAWCET *Seasonable Serm.* 17 The praying generation are the wonder-workers of the world. 1668 H. MORE *Dis. Dial.* III. xix. 427 That he may be accounted a stupendious Wonder-worker, a Creatour of his Creatour. 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts xxvi.* 26 (1734) I. 18 In China and Japan these Wonder-workers may pretend to have done as many Miracles as they please. 1856 MRS. VONDE *Daisy Chain* II. xviii. (1870) 346 A wonderworker in cloth. 1876 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 373 Hannibal..taking his place...among the great wall-builders and wonder-workers of Eastern history and legend. 1895 FR. MARIANUS *St. Anthony of Padua* 145 The saintly Friar, the Wonder-worker filled with love and sympathy.

So **Wonder-working** *ppl. a.*

1504 *Salimus* 284 Your wisedomes ouerflowing wit, Digs deepe with learnings wonder-working spade. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 190 To the high honour of our great and wonder-working God. 1679 *Hist. Jetser* 18 They fall down before this wonder-working Image. 1720 BISHOP *Pacuphr, Habakkuk* iii. iii, Waving his Wonder-working Wand. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 194 The music of Orpheus, Amphion, and such wonder-working bards. 1809 W. IRVING *Knicherb.* I. ii. (1861) 10 The wonder-working sword of Harlequin. 1847 KEBLE *Serm. v.* 270 In the mysterious and wonder-working Prayer of Consecration. 1893 *Catholic Mag.* Aug. 228 There came..the wonder-working body of St. Cuthbert.

**Wonderwyse** : see WONDER *a.*

**†Wondilch,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **wandilch.** [app. a. ON. *vandiligr* bad, wicked, evil, f. *vándr*: see WOND *sb.*1 and -LY 1.] app. Bad, evil.

*c* 1205 LAY. 6358 He hauede þa þere winnan enne swiðe wandliche sune [*later text* ohte man].

**Wondrous** (wʊ·ndrəs), *a.* and *adv. literary.* Also 6–9 **wonderous,** 6 **wond(e)rouse, wo(u)nderus, woundrous,** 6–7 **wonderous,** 7–9 **won-d'rous.** [Alteration of WONDERS *a.* by substitution of suffix -OUS, after *marvellous*.]

*a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 1 Þis sede was grene, And on the dry herse gan spring Which me thought a wondrous thing. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* iv. (1555) C iiij, The wonderous serpente Of the which is made by enchantement. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxix. 18, & so shal I spie out wonderous thinges in thy lawe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 5 A faire young man, of wondrous beauty. 1598 HAKLUYT *Coast. Rem.* (1632) 3 The Castilians...hauing found a passage to steal in vpon them, were men of wonderous subtiltey of wit. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 583 Some of Serpent kinde Wondrous in length and corpulence involv'd. 1678 *Hymn*, When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory dy'd. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 153 Hope...has the wondrous virtue to extract contentment from the direst use. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii, For hours, and hours, this wondrous white woman poured forth her speech. 1864 DAVIE *Holy Rom. Emp.* (1871) 357 The German mind, just beginning to put forth the blossoms of its wondrous literature.

B. *adv.* = NEXT. *arch.*

*c* 1557 MRS. M. BASSET tr. *Boet's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1891/2 An vrgent and wonderous necessarye cause. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 229 We found this auncient Well so wondrous deepe, that scarce ropes could double make our bucket in the water. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* vii. 77 As he made some bodies wondrous great, so he made others wondrous little. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1801) I. xxiii. 35 They tell me she is wondrous pretty. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 38 Some she would teach (for she was wondrous wise). 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* vi, This horse can so wondrous slow. 1877 BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 428 Lady, thou art wondrous fair.

**Wondrously** (wʊ·ndrəsli), *adv. literary.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a wondrous manner; to a wonderful degree; wonderfully, marvellously.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvi. 8 Thane thocht I thus, this is ane fellowin phary, Or ellis my wit rycht woundrouslie dois varie. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* xvii. 3 They were...put to horrible feare & wondrously vexed. 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* lxxiv. xiv, Thou wondrously didst cause... From thirsty flynt a fountayne flow. 1607 SHARP. *Timon* III. iv. 71 My Lord leanes wondrously to discontent. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 587 So wondrously was set his Station bright. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 17 (1824) 319 So wonderously adroit in pedestrian exercises. 1905 REVAS *Other-Vale Lantern* iv. (1906) 83 The walls of the main building are wondrously carved.

So **Wondrousness.**

1852 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 240 Because of the very wondrousness of this universe.

**†Wondsome,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Of Scand. origin (cf. MSw. *vandsamr* difficult, troublesome; Norw. *vandsam* difficult to please): see WONDE *v.* and -SOME.] Beset with difficulty; in quot. quasi-ab. (see FOR *prep.* 10). So **†Wondsomely** (wandsomdly) *a.* [cf. MSw. *vandsamliker*].

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3878 And for wondsome and wille alle his wit failede. *Ibid.* 4022 The waye vnto Wynchestre they wente...Wery and wandsomly.

**† Wone,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 wune, 3–6 wone, 4–7 won, 4–8 woon, (5 wne, woone, 6 wun). [ME. *wune*, *wone*, aphetic f. I-WUNE, I-WONE, OE. *gewuna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewone*, MDu., (M)LG. *wone*), OHG. *giwona* (MHG. *gewon(e)*, related to MIIG. *gewan*, ON. *vane*, which represent another grade: f. Teut. *ga-* Y- + *wun-*, WON, WONE *v.*]

I. [See WON *v.* II.] Habit, custom.

1. Habitual action or conduct (of a person); (one's) habits or practices collectively.

*a* 1225 *Ancr.* 8, I seoð [Heo] dude hit eft & eft, & feol so into ful wune þet heo lei & rotede þerinne. *c* 1275 LAY. 24017 Þe Peutes dude hire wone (*c* 1205 I-wune). 13.. *Guy W.* (A.) 330 Arthur, Sawarad sone, þat of gouernaus hab þe wone? *c* 1380 *Cast. Love* 278 Þis kyng hedde a sone, Of auht wit and of such wone...As was his fader. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 335 To lyuen in delit was euere his wone, For he was Epicurus owene sone. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 6 Chasti þaim fra iuil wne, als be fadir dos his sune. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 66 Myche boryneesse of yrysshe synnes that ...were amendet, & yn better woone I-broght. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 252 His wonne was to wirke mekill woo. 1450–80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xi. 26 He vsith not his custome [of eating twice a day] for he stomak is out of his woone.

b. In particularized use; *pl.* habits.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Seint nicholas þe on his childhode wunede him to fasten, and þat wune heold to his liues ende. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 972 Hit is min hiðe, his li nil wone, þat ich me draze to mine cuðde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2713 (Laud

MS.), He was be Emperoures sone, Wel to Iuste was his wone. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 89 Treuþe..had hem .. wikkede wones wiþly to amende. c 1450 *Merlin's Prestial* 79 He was word before to seie, and cowþe not leue his old wone. *a* 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 3 In a gardyn, about twayn after noon, Ther were ladyes walking, as was her wone.

**3.** Established usage or custom (of a people, country, etc.).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Scint iacob..nam ȝeme of þe wune þe weren þo, and yet lien mid mannen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 388 Þis wune he [*c.* he] haued i leuuen him bi-wenn, Duy he an hundred to-gidere ben. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1681 Quat laban, 'long wune is her driuen, Firmest on elde, first ben giuen.' *Ibid.* 3237 Danne he leraden henn newe wones. *c* 1290 *St. Edward* 12 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 47 Seint Edward..is sone After him was king þ-mad, nas lawe was and wone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10095 Þe lauerd es nu biiummen threll, þe dogiter mader agnin al won. *c* 1385 *Chaucer L. G. W.* 714 *Thisbe*, There was but a ston wal hem be-tweene, As ofte in grete tounnys is the wone. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 34 Thay ne hadden no wone of wyntres ; for þeyr beþ clene. c 1450 *Mirrour Salvacionn* (1888) 163 Dede mens bodyes to byrye with mirre was the olde wonne.

**3.** Phr. *In wone* : as a matter of custom, customarily. *To have in wone* : to be accustomed *to do* something ; to practise habitually ; so *to be in wone, to have wone. To be of common wone* : to be common custom. *By or with wone* : as a matter of custom ; used as a tag (also *in good wone*).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4718 Hii dude hom vorbere in þis lond þan hii were in wone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21403 Mare was coppellers wit won. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (H.M. MS.) 20 He callide to hym seynt Iohan..And seide, 'woniman, lo, here þi sone, And, man, take hure to moder in good wone'. 1330 *Gowth Cong.* [1.pa.] 14 Jeanne wone a Chaunbre with togedre wone. *Ibid.* 11. 243 At hom if that a man wol wone, This Fievere [*sc.* jealousy] is thanne of comun wone Most grevous in a mariage of alle þinges. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Afur hym regnede Titus his sone, The Emperour most curteys by wone. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. 5992 (Cott.) He had in won, By his wiff, sextyne to ly Ofte nychtis with women by. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 230 'Ilee ye', ale seide, 'Sywardes sone, That all goodnesse hath in wone ?' *c* 1436 *Lydg. Engl. Pol. in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 196 In somme tide wolde he have in wone, And in custume, to be fulle redy sone, Wyth multitude of men. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 156 All the good thing þat he wone Of godis grace is bot a lone. 1582 Stubbes *Herbal* n. 31 They that vse to eat of it loke much more freshly then they had won to do.

**II.** [See Won v. 1.] The action of staying or remaining ; place of dwelling.

**4.** Phr. *Withouten wone*, without delay. Cf. *withouten hone* (Hone *sb.*2).

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 215 And yf thou semle hur not soone, Hastelye, wythowten wone, Then ryseth thera stryfe. *c* 1506 *King & Hacker* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 5 Gramercy, felow, seyde ower kyng, withowyn ony wone.

**5.** A dwelling-place, abode ; *spec.* this world : = Wone *sb.*2 1, 3 b.

c 1205 Lay. 13492 Ne mei i noht for muchele sorne habben here þenne wone. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 513 He enoch wes þrotti fro werldes wune Matusale was boren ȝe sune. *a* 1300 *Nº Ystoria* 164 *In E. E. P.* (1862) 12 Wel atist þe faire to lede Wiþ þou art in his wiecche wone [*rime* mone] 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 5388 Of any wif þat in þis wonne wyxet þ-holde. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3377 Sythe bretayne owte of troy was sought And made in bretayne hys owne wonne. 1585 Banister *Hist. Man. Surg.* xxiii. Howe she felde Both what she was, and where her wun she helde. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 7 There the wise Merlin whylome wont (they say) To make his wonne. 1598 Tofsell *Serpents* 269 She ..from the Center draweth a thred like wooll to lye vpon While double worke on euery part doth fortifie her wone. 1640 H. More *Song of Soul* iii. xxii, That first fram light hast given a free wonne [*rimes* sun, begun] To this dependent ray. *Ibid.* xxiii, Flocks of souls ..that have their wonne Where they list among the grare. 1681 — *Psychath. Prophet.* Pref. p. xxvi, The Wilderness the Won of Spirits and Ghosts. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. viii, With all the gods that love the rural wonne [*rime* sun, undone].

† **Wone**, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [*Early Mod.* Forms : **3** won, **3–4** won, **4–5** woon, wone. [Midland and Southern variant (with ō) of Wane *sb.*2, which is probably a. ON. *vān* hope, expectation, and therefore identical with Wone *sb.*3 The germ of the sense of 'dwelling-place' is to be seen in ON. examples such as *þá er allar vánir vóru rannsakaðar* when all the 'expected places' (places where it might be expected to be) were searched ; cf. Now. *von* place where one expects to find something, fishing-place, hunting-ground. Association with Won *v.* assisted the establishing and further development of the sense in ME. ; cf. also Wone *sb.*1 II. The allocation of meaning in particular instances is often doubtful.]

**1.** A place of habitation or abode, dwelling-place.

c 1275 *Serming Christ* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Me grauep þis gost, in greote and in ston, þer weop ȝe vrie in wurmene won. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 46 So wyde in world ys huere won, In uch a toune untrewe is on. *c* 1330 *Sir Perc.* 2436 No hadde þai no more wille þat þe wonn Hov grene. 14.. *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 85/116 Pray we þat bryde so bright as hon, Þat ower dwellyng may be in her wonn, Wiþ hym þat for ous take was slone.

**2.** *sing.* and *pl.* A dwelling-house, dwelling, habitation : freq. applied to a palace.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Wiþinnen ower woanes ne lete ȝe nenne mon sleopen. *c* 1330 *Athelston* 253 Ihc habe in-same bey rod To Westenmynstyr wone. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 140 How wan þou into his won in wedes so fowle ? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2400 ȝe schal in þis awe ȝer a3ayn to my woner. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 178 A woon wonderlle well ȝe-bild, Wiþ arches on eueriche half. *c* 1440 *Gynd Troy Bk.* 18361 Þat cheat al doun thes worthi wones, Ded & tyte, eclat & stones. *c* 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 207 And al þe wrightes withinne þi woon To sustenie þee and þin household. 1501 Douglas *Æneis* prol. 1. xxxiv, Kepparellit was that godlike plesand wone. 13.. *Floddon F.* in Furnic. *Percy Folio* I. 338 He tooke me from my father deere & keeped me within his wones. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 168/12 A Wone, *habitatio*.

b. *pl.* Rooms, chambers, apartments.

*c* 1325 *Orfeo* 351 Amyd the launde a castel he syz..Within were wyde wonys. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 617 Haf ȝe no wones in castel walle ? *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 331 The wynter wones on the sonny side. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 1834 Large and rownde were the wones, þe flore was paved with precious stones.

**3.** *sing.* and *pl.* (with sing. concord). A city.

1*a* 1300 *Morte Arth.* 2472 Thay had wonne that wone be theire awene strenghe ! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9857 Yonder won [*sc.* Troy] for to wyn. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 1141 For þat grete wichke þat was in þat wonys [*sc.* the city of Alexandria].

**4.** *In or within one's wones* : in one's possession.

1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 56 He that stant to day alofte And al the world withinne his wones The treasor myhte have everydel.

**5.** *sing.* and *pl.* (with sing. concord). A city.

1*a* 1300 *Morte Arth.* 2472 Thay had wonne that wone be theire awene strenghe ! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9857 Yonder won [*sc.* Troy] for to wyn. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 1141 For þat grete wichke þat was in þat wonys [*sc.* the city of Alexandria].

**6.** *In or within one's wones* : in one's possession.

1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 56 He that stant to day alofte And al the world withinne his wones The treasor myhte have everydel.

**7.** *sing.* and *pl.* (with sing. concord). A city.

1*a* 1300 *Morte Arth.* 2472 Thay had wonne that wone be theire awene strenghe ! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9857 Yonder won [*sc.* Troy] for to wyn. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 1141 For þat grete wichke þat was in þat wonys [*sc.* the city of Alexandria].

**8.** *In or within one's wones* : in one's possession.

1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 56 He that stant to day alofte And al the world withinne his wones The treasor myhte have everydel.

**9.** *sing.* and *pl.* An inhabited place ; a country, realm, territory, domain ; *gen.* a place. Phr. *within wones, in wone* (freq. as a tag) = everywhere, anywhere.

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8051 Passent calangred his failer wones, þe king for robbery of possessione. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 65 Fulle fare mare þan I may rede Of gode men er non left, *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nir Thopas* 90 He so longe hadde riden and goon That he foond in a yle ful woon Of geaunts. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 18 Deþ, as ich lyuede, Wonede in þo wones, and wrekede spiritus. 1390 *St. Kedrin* in *Hib.* Wher so bey ffeerde be ffyyth or be wones. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. 347 Fadres and Modres þat walken in woo. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. Preyse we lanterne þen to wyse Se wise weyes to heuene wones. 1447 Bokenham *Lett.* 94 Hym þat not drede, where bey go, Here wele and worschip, in euery won. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 26 A noble man, .. Wis-loue in hild, þoruh-lyt in wones. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* 1913 Twelve the wyseste Of al that won. 14.. *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 44 in *O. Eliz. Acad.* 45 Ne fayre wordes brake Neuer wone, ne shall in no wone.

**b.** Applied to this world (esp. in *worthly* or *worldly wone*) ; also to heaven (cf. also quots. 14.. in 1 and *c* 1400 in 3). Phr. *worthly* or *worthy in wone*, distinguished in the world or in this life.

14.. in 1 and *c* 1400 in 3). Phr. *worthly* or *worthy in wone*, distinguished in the world or in this life.

*a* 1300 in *Wright Lyric P.* xvi. 51 In al this wurldliche wonne, Ne weore wey neuere non lusumore in londe. *c* 1373 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 637 From his blisse we schal be flemed Out of þat worþli won. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 54 Þo þoȝtes þat were ches to be swete þat were holy, Were worþli, werhil in wone. *Ibid.* 134 With wordus þei worshipe þat worliche in wone. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 168 Þose worliely men in wone. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Percy MS.) 6188 Wyrches hem ys worlde in wone. 14.. *T. Chestre Launfal* 919 To wonye yn worldly wone. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* i. 184 To walk here in this worthely wone.

† **Wone**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* Forms : **3–5** won, **3–7** wone, **4** whon, **4–5** woon, wonne, **5** von, woone; **5** oon, one ; *Sc.* and *north.* **3–4** wan, **3–6** wane, **4–6** wayn(e, (**4** vayn, **6** vaine). [ME. *wōn*, app. a. ON. *vān* (see Wone *sb.*2), but the earliest form with prefixed *i-* (V-), viz. I-won (q.v.), is remarkable in a word of Scand. origin.]

**1.** I. Hope or expectation of a favourable issue ; choice of alternative ; hence, resource, expedient, device, plan, plot. Phr. *to have, know, see*, etc. *no other* (or *better*) *wone*.

*c* 1200 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 7 /226 Þo he nuste non oþur won [*rime* won, ion]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4423 Þis gode folc of troye þat whon is hor rasdles, vor hii nadde oþer won. *Ibid.* 1025 His hire vnderstod þat he hem wolde flee Þat þei nyste of liþer won, Vor to site his godwine. *Ibid.* 10749 He of scapede to churche, as him þoȝte best won. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8579 Þou sal noȝt ga na better wan Þat flesch þou sal fra þe haterit. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 247 Whon he sauȝ non oþur won, He bi-þoȝte him sone Anon, Wher him was best to be. *a* 1420 *Sir Cleges* 90 Cleges sey non other wone ; Therefe he grauntyd sone anon. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* iii. vi. 874 Sen oþir succoure haf she nane, Na she can se na beteyr wayne. 14.. *Perlesvoȝe* 1205 The theff couth no better wonne, In to the see rennyth he sone. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7779 He wist not whilk was better wane, To dyȝe in fray, or to be taine. 1538 Starkey *Exam. Accid.* (Rolls) I. 191 Flie myȝht the nochti, thair wes na vther wane. 1583 *Leg. Fp. St. Andrais* 81 Than, when he had na vther vaine, He maid him for the lak wanne.

b. phr. (north.) *Will* [Wal. *a.*] *of wane* (less freq. *wone*), occas. *wilsome of wane* : at a loss, in bewilderment, without resource.

13.. *Cursor M.* 3051 (Göt.) Nou gas þat wreche wille of wane Wandrand in wildernes alane. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 424 Thai war in will of wane, Nocht wyst quhat to ga and will of vayn. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2283 All will of his wone his werdis to laite. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxiv, Þowe may sytte in sted, wilsome of wane ! 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 496 Preist or clerk that tyme tha spairit nane ; Full mony ane tha maid rycht will of wane.

**2.** Opinion, belief. (Cf. Were *sb.* 1.)

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 1711 More he louede hauelok one, þan al deuanari, bi mine wone ! *Ibid.* 1972. 1370–80 *Visions of St. Paul* 901 in *O. E. Misc.* 229 Hose leeueþ not in wone þat leau cliuí, Godus sone, Tok Flesch and blod. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristeforc*) 89 Trowand in wane, forowt wone, þat þu þe maste master had bene.

**II.** Resources ; abundance.

**3.** Phr. (*full*) *good wone*, (*full*) *great wone* : a good number, a great quantity ; used either in opposition (often following the *sb.* qualified), or with dependent *of*. Also advb., more or less vaguely, but chiefly with reference to the exercise of great force or speed. So *evil wone*, scarcity, dearth.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 17 Engelonde is vol inoȝ of fiut & of tref, Of stel of yre & of bras, of god corn gret won. *Ibid.* 5359 His vrhuides ..so þat won of fisse him broȝte, þat wonder it was. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7921 O scep he had ful mikel wan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1907 He leyden on heuedes, ful god won. *c* 1330 *King Alis.* 635 Þer com þat tweye beste ful good won. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 447 We sall gett water grete wane Here out of þis hard stane. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 170 Ly[f, gef hym goddis, good wonn, þat gladded his herte. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces Fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 102 Þou gafe thayn welthe mare wone þan hay euer hadde. 14.. T. Chestre *Launfal* 560 He, þenne her wel good wone, 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 1344 Bued ne corne ne ete none, But water had he good one. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 10039 Of knines þou hore hede gode oon. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 948 Thir wermen tuk off vent soune gud wayn. 1*a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Balaam* 125 Yea, looke, thou hst hym gold great wone [*rime* none] And eke for to lyve upon. *c* 1530 in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. XI. 7 Thus and many mor shal fayle, gret woone. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 106, 24 Good wone, *abundantia*. Euil wone, *inopia*.

**4.** Abundance, plenty. *In wone* : in abundance, plentifully.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2876 Thoru brennyng of þe brinstane, Quare-of þar es sa mikel wan. 13.. *Ibid.* 641 (Göt.) Þis is a stede of welthful wone, Of leye ne bis ne wantis nane. *Ibid.* 4353 Welles it welle in wone. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 4 *Dind.* 499 Þere won walleþ of watur in þe welle-springus. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 37 All thair vittalis was gone, That thay weildit in wone.

**5.** Fortune, wealth, riches, possessions.

*a* 1300 *Florice & Bl.* (C.) 386 Þe ne faileþ non Gold ne seluer ne riche won. *c* 1300 *Poem. Heending* xxvi, Sef þou hast litel non wone. *a* 1330 in *Wright Lyric P.* xiv. 46 His worldes won. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2658 He hym ȝ-clothed in alle wones. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1269 Were I worth al þe wone of ȝe wimen alyue. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* II. 1370 That ye shuld parte al his welthe and wone. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 501 The large wones Of Perser lohn, ne al his treasory Might not unneth haue bought the hole party.

† **Wone**, *a. Obs.* Forms : *a.* 1–2 **sewuna**, **4** ywon(e, **5** wone ; *β.* **3** wune, **4–5** won, wonne, wone. [OE. *gewuna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewōne*, Du. *gewoon*), OHG. *giwon* : f. *ge-*, Y- + *wun-*, Won *v.*]

**1.** Accustomed, used, wont (*to do* something).

*a.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 1 *Sicut consuererat*, suæ hetteleæ swuna wæs. *a* 1122 [O.] *Peterb. Chron.* an. 1048 (Laud MS.) an. 1066 Dydon eall swa hi ær ȝewuna wæron. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 176 Why he nold with hem come, No he tolore was ywone. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3288 Ywis he was ywone In fat cite, Pat þan was ȝ won to be. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 358 For ever he was thereto I-wone, To do Cristen men grete pyne.

*β. c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1569 And Iosu eam him a-gen, Als he was ilc dai wune to don. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1324 Þe pine to lere o frut es won. *Ibid.* 1326 Þe pine þou fute cites wune to be Ka noght now bot stinkand sere. *a* 1400 *Rawlinsk* 2151 He..was here king, Iat was hem wone Wel to yeme. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 246 [Sultan] as he all tyme wes wone, Indo thocht mind his conquest. *a* 1400 *Pearl* xxiii. Com. viii. xxxii. 1516 Folk, þat was nought wone To se sic awant.. Abaysst of þat sicht I wi war. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 23 Pe heriest daves wer ye hat þai skolde in wynt to cese. *c* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (1510) U iij b, And hayle that to fal is wone Thy eyght daye of the mone.

**2.** Customary, usual, *rare*.

This is a doubtful sense : many of the instances may be as it is now, where *wone* is orig. and prob. always = Wone *sb.*1 (cf. quot. *c* 1220 in sense 3).

*c* 1205 Lay. 11184 Þa þe king ihurde ane hit is sune, he stronede hire ȝeu ene ȝeme. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 63 Robard Courthose his sonne he gat all Normundie, To hold, as it was wonne, als hey re of ancestrie.

**Wone**, *v.*1 : see Won *v.*

† **Wone**, *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms : **1** wanian, **3** wanenn (*Ormin*), wony, -ie, wone, **3–4** wane. [OE. *wānian* = OFris. *wēnia*, M.LG. *wānen*, OHG. *weinōn* (MHG., G. *weinen*), ON. *veina* :— OTeut. **wainōjan*, f. *wai-* Wok.]

**1.** *trans.* To bewail, bemoan.

*Beowulf* 789 Þara þe..sehyrdon..sar wanigean hellehæftan. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 518 Ongunnon ærcnan, þar ewanian, wyrd wanian. *c* 1205 Lay. 25847 Þa fond he þer ane quene..wanede hire sidles þurt heo wes on liues.

**2.** *intr.* To lament, moan. Also *transf.*

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1090 Beornas gretab, wæpnu wanende werigum stefnum. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 5653 Þe þriddre seollfne dojh þe mann wepenn wipp skill & wanenn..forr hiss allþenn sinne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1503 Eode þu mon wonie and grete, Riȝt suich hi weren unlede. *c* 1275 Lay. 29827 Þa þhohte he..weape and wony [1. 2205 wenen] i-cuiðe teares. *c* 1275 *Sl. Poems of Gilt* 183 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 Heo wonie and greoneþ day and nyht. *c* 1325 *Cursor M.* 12420 (Fairf.), Ilkkin hant to a hasin belle Pat..wans forþ wiþ-out reson.

**Wone**: see Wane. **Woned**: see Wont *pa. pple.*

**Wonene**, var. Whenne *Obs.*, whence.

**Woner**: see Wonere.

† **Wonesome**, *a. Obs.* In 3 wunsum. [f. Wone *v.*, or Wone *sb.*1 + -some.] Customary, usual.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Ac wowe bed wunsum þeih hit ne beo nahh letsum. *Ibid.* 203.

**Wong.** *Obs.* exc. in place-names. Also **wang.** [OE *wang, wong* = OS. *wang*, OHG. *wang*, only in *holzwangâ* 'campi nemori' and in place-names, (G. dial. *wang* mountain slope), ON. *vangr* (Sw. dial. *wång*, Da. *vang*), Goth. *waggs καράδεισος.* (We have also WANG 1.)] A plain, field; a piece of meadow land; *spec.* a portion of unenclosed land under the open-field system: now surviving locally in the proper designations of certain fields or common lands.

*Beowulf* 2042 Beorh eal3earo wunode on wonge weteryðum neah. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 105 Seobþan heofonas tohlidon, & seo hea milt on þysne wang astag. *a* 1000 *Phoenix* 13 Þæt is wynsum wong. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1444 Borwes, tunes, wodes and wongs. T23-, in Spelman *Gloss. Arch.* (1664), Tres acræ terræ jacentes in lez wongs. 1372 in *Cal. Close Rolls* 355 [A third part of a furlong called] Londwong. [Londmedewong. [a third part of a furlong called] Londwong. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/1 Wonge of londe, *territorium.* 1549 in *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc. V) I. 157, iij acres landes lying in parish called schothorne wang. 1548 *Ibid.* II. 97 A certeyn landes callyd Bawdywanwang. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wong* an agricultural division or district of some uninclosed parishes...In the parish of Hornington, in Norfolk, for instance, there is the How-wong, q.d. the wong by the hill. 1856 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. II. 79 At Tickhill [Yorks] are lands, all of which are usually called the North Wongs, South Wongs, Saffron Wongs, and Church Wongs. 1877 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* s.v., At Horncastle there is a piece of common land near the town called The Wong.

**Wong,** obs. form of WANG 1, check.

‖ **Wonga-wonga** (wɒŋgăwɒŋgă). *Austral.* Also **wanga-wanga.** [Native name.] An Australian pigeon, *Leucosarcia picata.* Also *wonga(-wonga) pigeon.*

1850 P. Cunningham *Two Yrs. N.S.W.* I. xvii. 320 A large pigeon named the *wanga-wanga*, of the size and appearance of the ringdove. 1846 J. L. Stokes *Discov. Australia* I. x. 314 At Captain King's station I tasted the wonga-wonga pigeon. 1887 W. S. S. Tyrwhitt *New Chum in Queensland Bush* viii 149 An occasional plain or scrub turkey, and wonga or squatter pigeon.

**Wongan,** variant of WANGUN.

1884 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 132 We took possession of a deserted *wongen*, in which to cook and eat our dinner.

**Wonger(e,** var. ff. WANGER *Obs.*

**Wongge** tooth, obs. var. WANG-TOOTH.

**Woning,** *vbl. sb.* 1, var. WONING.

**† Woning,** *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wanung,** 2–3 **waning,** 3–5 **woning(e,** -**yng(e,** 5 **wowenyng.** [OE. *wânung, l. wânian* WONE *v.*2 + -ING 1.] Moaning, lamentation.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark v. 38 Seaach þæt þæt wanung. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxiii. 104 La...hwæt mæt þeos geomung and wanung gif þæt ne sceðfreo? 1340 *Hampole Lamb. Hom.* 33 In hele, þer is waning and graning and tojen gribbating. *c* 1400 *Test. Cock. Hom.* 177 Danne hauen wowendide men on herre wowe and on manie woninge. *a* 1450 *Owl & Night.* 311 Þu...tellest þat ich ne can nouht singe Ac al my rurede is woinyng. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 1514 Achilles ligges...Ded In Eroye in gret woeenyng. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Troi.* 144 In al places was weylynge & wonynge, yollynge & cryinge.

**Wonly,** obs. f. ONLY. **Wonn(e,** obs. ff. ONE, WAN *a.*, WUNN.

**Wo'nner, wo'ner.** *arch.* Also 4 **woner, wonyer.** [f. WON *v.* + -ER1. Cf. G. *bewohner, einwohner.*] A dweller, an inhabitant.

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter, Song of Moses* 506 All be woners of chanaan wex starke. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* cxviii[i]. 5 A comelinge woner I am in the erthe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 Pat is nouȝt pleynyge to God, þat graunted be place to be olde wonyer. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. cxcvi. (1811) 201 Wonner [citing Trevisa]. 1885 Jean Ingelow *Lisbeth of Sigismund* xcvii, The shy wood-wonners...bright-eyed furry things.

**Wo'nning, wo'ning,** *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs., dial.,* or *arch.* Forms: 1 **wunung,** 2–3 **-ing, -ieng,** (3 **-(d)unge, -(d)inge, wun(d)ing, wunge,** 4 **-ynge, -enge, -(d)ing, -ring,** *Sc.* **wonnyne),** 4–5 **wonyng(e, -inge, -lynge,** 4–6 **wonnyng(e,** 5 **wunnyng(e, wonyng,** 6 *arch.* **woonning,** ? *dial.* **wunning, wunnen),** 4– **wonning.** [OE. *wunung*, f. *wunian*: see WON, WONE *v.* and -ING 1.]

**I.** 1. The action or state of dwelling or abiding. *To make one's woning,* to take up one's abode, to dwell.

*c* 961 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (1885) 109 Þif he eft on ænigne timan hine sylfne to mynstres wununge gefæstnian wile. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 13 We þæra ǽelefa?...þæt swa hwylc man swa mildheortnesse nafa?, nu hit þær Cristes...wununge on þære heortan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 227 Þerefore he nakede his wuninenge in þe wildeneȝe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Mi cunne & mi wuninge, þauh hit þuncheȝ attri, hit is þauh mahwinde. 1297 R. Gloue (Rolls) 6604 In is stepmoder ierte is woninge he [*sc.* the Devil] nom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 314 In woman sal mi wonning be. *Ibid.* 6139 Pair wonning war. Four hundreth yere to þan had bene. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxxvii. 66 His wonnynge is amange men þat has dene thoghts. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 761 Sum cristine þare wonynge rasis, þat þare pompire kirkis have. 1407 Scogan *Mor. Balade* 88 Let hem [*sc.* vices] have no wonning In your soules. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* iv. 3 The place That I haue graunte you...To haue your wonyng in. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/1 Wonynge, or dwellynge, *mansio.*

2. A place of habitation, dwelling-place.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xxx. 313 Wæs seo wununge ær swyþe wynsum on to wicenne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) iii. 454 Se hæfde sende þæt on his feeder huse synðon manega wununga. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Þole me louerd alitelwan þat ich bimuȝe mi sor, er ich wite to þe þestere wuninge. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5372–3 To certain woninge he hem breyte bobe lowe & heye, So þat he wunninge were al bi weste weye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 149 Pe ze þe is woninge of bestes and of men. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. iv. (Tollem. MS.), þe...hyrynde heuen...cuntrey and wonynge of blisful men. *c* 1400 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iii. 223 His saule þat is þe wonyinge of crist. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 18 Hooli Trinite bryngge to þi woninge. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 442 In Gyan land full haistely couth tryd, Rainyt feill fyr, and wainyt wonyngis wid. 1592 Greene *Groat's Yr. Wit* (1617) 9 When I came first to this little, my whole wardrope was onely a suite of white sheepe skins, my wooning, the wide world. 1602 W. Basse *Three Past. Elegies* ii. (1893) 66 My wooning is in yonder stall.

3. A building-house or dwelling-room, dwelling, habitation.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* vi. 14 Wyrc ðe nu anne arc...& ðu wyrcst wununga binnan ðam arce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 *Habitatio genus non habet commune...* Hore wuninges nameð no ȝet. 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 504 He made hire vnder erþe a woninge...& huld hire þere...priueliche. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 502 Now walle þe a wonnyng þat þe warkeȝ myȝt. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 177 The lady hir leif has tane, And went hyr hame to hir wonnyng. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xlii. 28 What he say wyth hys eyȝe he schuld be took leue and wythdrawe to hys wonyng. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 94 Her name Is Elynour Rummynge, At home in her wonnynge. 1824–8 Southey *Doctor* cxxxvi. (1862) 1. 1 Every 4 December...the parts of Craven this word is nearly extinct. When a cottage is divided into two parts, or habitations, it is called a house with two windings. 1827 *Mirror Lit.* XIII. *Decline of Life*, etc. 115 Clouds of them [*sc.* flies] under some herdsman's wooning, where there are the milk-pails.

**II.** 4. Custom, usage, habit. *rare.*

*c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xlii. 28 Whan he say wythe hys eyȝe he schuld be took leue and wythdrawe to hys wonyng. *a* 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 94 Her name Is Elynour Rummynge, At home in her wonnynge. 1824–8 Southey *Doctor* cxxxvi. (1862) 1. 1 Every 4 December...the parts of Craven this word is nearly extinct. When a cottage is divided into two parts, or habitations, it is called a house with two windings. 1827 *Mirror Lit.* XIII. *Decline of Life*, etc. 115 Clouds of them [*sc.* flies] under some herdsman's wooning, where there are the milk-pails.

**Wonnyard,** var. WANDRETH *Obs.* **Wons,** obs. f. ONCE. **Wonsom,** obs. f. WINSOME *a.* **Wonsped,** var. WANSPED *Obs.*

**Wont** (wŏnt ; *now chiefly U. S.* wønt), *sb. arch.* Also 6 **woont(e, wonte,** *Sc.* **wount.** [Early history and origin doubtful; perh. arose from a conflation of two synonymous constructions, *it is my wone* (WONE *sb.*) *to . . .*, and *I am wont* (WONT *pa. pple.*) *to . . .*, whence *it is my wont to . . .* (In view of the textual variants in the quots. from Cursor Mundi, this may be considered a dubious instance.) Johnson marks this word as 'out of use'.] Habitual or customary usage, custom, habit. *Use and wont*: see USE *sb.* 9 b; *of* (*† in*) *wont*, customary, usual.

13 . *Cursor M.* 13963 (Göt.) For þiper þode he al vmstunt, Par to rai3t ofte was his wont [*other texts* was he wont].

1350 Will. Palerne 1090 Wont or custome is an ay-well lawe. *amorse.* 1543 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 24 Payand zeirly...the sowm of xxiv bollis...with all vther dew seruice, vse and wont. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 196 b, After our old wont, we come together vpon our owne in the church of S. Maturyne. 1548 Udall *Apoph. Erasm.* 135 b, Of (*† in*) wont

§ ywonst)); 4–6 wunt, wount, wonte, (4 wonnt, wonp, *Sc.* wont, 4–5 wnt, 5 won(n)et, w(o)unte, 6 wante), 5–7 woont(e, 4– wont. [OE. *gewunod*, pa. pple. of *gewunian* WON *v.*]

**A.** *pa. pple.* †**1.** Accustomed, used *to*, familiar *with* (a thing, practice, or condition). *Obs.*

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* i, His mod..to þam worulcarfum ȝewunod wæs. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 278 Næs þæt Israhela folc ȝewunod to hreawum fæstne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Ac hwanne hit [sc. the child] bið ȝarn wuned, hit wepeð þe lasse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24562 Til suetren hine my-seluen wont worth. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iv. pr. iv. (1868) 128 Pei han hire eyen so wont to derkenesse of erþely þynges. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 283 She neuere was to assaut3 gentes wonte. *a* 1400 *Theophilus* xxi. in *Engl. Studien* XXXII. 8 For I was wont to noble fare Among prynces of londes. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 164 Cardinalis.. With red hattis on hed, in haile takynning Off that deir dignite, with worschipe ay wont. *c* 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* lvii. 83 From his youth he was euer wont with hardnesse, hunger, thyrst, and labour.

**2.** Conjugated with the verb 'to be', and const. inf. (with or less freq. without *to*): Accustomed, used; in the habit of (doing something).

*a. c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Vre dribten wile cumen..and wile for-bemi alle his fon and heom þet him iwunede ani þing to done. *c* 1200 Ormin 12658 *Ke* wass he wunedd offte To cuncenn till se himm till himm. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1431 Cwiðer ze king of Engelond is loud is muche schuld sone Of reome þat is eldore ywone [*v.rr.* ywond, ywonte, wonnte, wonte] to done. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3776 Whan war we wonned be by-linde? 1340 *Ayenb.* 206 Al þet me wes ywoned þynore to louie. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* iii. 486 His clarioun.. With which he wonde is to hiraude Heu that me list preised be. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xi. 143 Among wyues and wodemen ich am ywo [*v.rr.* wont to, wont to] sitte Ytaurroked in pawes. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 106 John Waleys and Alice his wyf..quyteclayned..ij. d. of yerely rente, the which they were I-wont to haue. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 111/1 Lyke as he was wound to telle and reherce. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* iii. xiii. 196 Of suche thynges men are wonted to vse.

*b. a* 1340 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Ant al þat hird þat he was I wunet to dreaðen efter hire. *c* 1390 *Richet* 247 In *S. Engl. Leg.* I. 111 Wiste nobleie he nas ywonet þenne he was I-wonet to do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3524 A godd ..Þe qðilk þat he was wonnt anure. *Ibid.* 4452 To comforth þam wel was he wont. *Ibid.* 28233 My lauth it wald be þat þamm war wont ane wonte dotene. 13.. *Roman vespasian's Medit.* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrappe. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 200 That folk, that euir wes fre, And in fredome wont for to make I. *c* 1470 *Henry Wallace* 292 He forgatt hur,..nor did hur not wur-shup as he was wunte to don. *a* 1490 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 1353 Art pow I-wont as it is-wrake Any pleyes for to make? *c* 1470 *Sir Gawayne Papers* (Camden) 1. 110 Servantes be not so delygent as þei were wonto bee. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1890 He was wonte to baste, brage, and to brace. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 16 Ay went in desert darknesse to remaine. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 599 Your Ancient Conjurers were wont To make her fetch Spheres dismount. 1741 Gray *Acrib.* 108 Legions, wont to stem With stubborn nerves the tide. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* vi. xxiv, The lark was wont my matins ring. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* xli, He might have more good qualities than she had been wont to suppose. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* viii, Every pleasant spot in which we two were wont to meet. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 350 The poet is wont to ignore the rivers when it suits his convenience to do so.

**d.** predicated of things.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 37 Þe swine and ure tilþe is ofte iwened [*v.rr.* iwuned, wuned] to swinden. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 914 And so, grete tempest secode al, Pat on þeye Fraitye was wot to fall. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 381 Parthia..was I-wonede to conteyne al þe lond of foure contrees, of Assyria, of Medie, of Persida, and of Carmania. *c* 1400 Maundev. I. (1919) I. 5 Constantinople þat was wont to be clept Bezanion. 1424 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 114/1 In manere of Wymes..were wonted and vsed to pass through a vessell. 1596 *S'hampton Cri. Lect Rec.* (1905) I. i. 44 Where the blacke was wonte to stande. 1611 *Corvat's Crudities* (1905) I. 359 The longer your letters were the more they were woont to please me. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 123 Those looks That wont to be more cheerful and serene. 1792 Belsham *Chas. Grandison* viii. (1817) 273 The prejudices which are wont to arise in our minds. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* vii. 127 Such a distinction is not to be termed 'inorganic'.

**b.** Conjugated with the verb 'to have': in *had wont*, had been accustomed. Now *rare*.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 15 b, One of his good dames.. who had wont to bestow the best roome..in her house on him. 1608 G. Wydeneck[?] *Hist. Irelme* xliv. 137 A narrow path, where cattel had wont to go through. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* I. 16 My Couch had wont to be upon curious Satin Quilts. 1682 Hunyan *Holy War* 239 The love-feasts that were wont to be between the Prince and them. 1870 J. Bruce *Life of Gideon* vii. 120 He who had wont to come to the patriarchs..had actually come to him.

**c.** without inf.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 138 Þea..halgra wer wass ȝewunod þæt he wolde gan on niht to sæ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3520 Enan went for till hann, A day, mon he was oft wont. *a* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 68 Pai cuth.. Ger serpentis strik men ful sare, As befor-tyme wechis vont ware. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 323 Jif ilk of þese nemes ordris be more medeful þen mannes lif was wonid. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 349 Inglismen thocht he tuk mar bountiously Than he was wount at ony tym before. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxviii(i). 149 Quycken me accordinge as thou art wont. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xv. (1674) 164 He found her not to have that Grace and Majesty which she had wont. 1719 Young *Revenge* v. i, He fought as he was wont, and four he slew. 1810 Cary *Dante, Paradise.* xvii. 52 The common cry, Will, as 'tis ever wont, affix the blame Unto the party injur'd. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xli, All is going on as it was wont.

**+B.** *ppl. a.* = Wonted B. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xl(viii). 33 The tredere of the grape the wont myrrie song shal not synge. 14.. Hoccleve *Min. Poems* 70/109 Lady ! Of thy wont bontee, keepe alway the cours I *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. vii. 73 Pou..turnest anoon ayen to be wont iuges of þyne herte. 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 17 After his wont disdaynfull manner. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iii. 1 So comes it now to Florimell by tourne,..To tast of ioy, and to wont pleasures to returne.

**b.** *Ought and wont* (Sc.) : due and customary.

(Cf. *used and wont* s.v. Used *ppl. a.* 2, b.)

*c* 1560 *Godstow Reg.* 298 Yeldyng therof yerely to the chefe lordis dewe and woned rentis. 1477 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 102 All ithir dew service aucht and wount. 1535 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* II. 265/2 With vther service and dewtess aucht and wont alanerlie.

**Wont** : see Want, Were *v.*

**Won't** (wōunt), colloq. contraction of *will not* = *will not* (see Will *v.*[1] A. 6 b). Also (cf. Don't, Shan't) as *sb.* = refusal.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 16 Already he was beginning to know the just value of a woman's won't, so he gave up the contest. 1912 B. Holland *Life Dk. Devonshire* I. xiii. 293 Hartington's won't was stronger than his will !

**b.** In logical sense, with infins., forming *sbs.* (occas. adjs.), e.g. *won't-learn*, one who refuses to learn ; *won't-work* ; *won't-wait*, that won't wait.

1857 R. M. Ballantyne *Coral Islands* xxiv, People..who are sich born drivellin' won't-believers that they think (etc.). 1860 Mayne Reid *Boy Hunters* 200 John Russell lets off his won't-learns very easily. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Feb. 7/1 The 'unemployables' and the 'won't works' are the recipients of the relief. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 8 Apr. 1/1 Won't-wait agitators.

**Wonted** (wōnted) ; *now chiefly U.S.* wo'nted), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Either f. Wont *sb.* + -ED, or an extension of Wont *pa. pple.*, apprehended later as pa. pple. of Wont *v.*]

**A.** *pa. pple.* †**1.** = Wont *pa. pple.* 2. *Obs.*

*a* 1425 *Found. Hosp. Troyloe* v. 171 (Campsall MS.) And whiten gan the Orisonte alone Al Estward as it wonted is to done [*v.rr.* Al Esturwardes as it woste is to done; Al estward as it wonted is to done]. 1490 Lovelich *Merlin* 6779 Lo, Syre, Merlyne Ja comen to yow here, That ȝe Weren Wonted to loven so Wel. 1557 Piers *Herald.* v. (1558) N ij b, Wonted and vsed to giue armes. 1596 *Nashe Pierce Penn. Iref.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 152 Omagher to contribute to Oscarrall, as hath been wonted, the thirde parte of the said bonnaght. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lond. Cr.* 140 The Lord Iustice..was wonted to set vp. 1666 G. Wyodcocke[?] *Hist. Ivelme* xxxii. 109 Being enticed with the sweetenesse of the prey as men wonted to liue vpon rapine. 1892 Mrs. Oliphant R. Cleveland *preached at S. Martins in the Fields* 25 O theefe, wonted with violence to violate men.

**2.** = Wont *pple.* 1. Now *U.S.*

1620 C. Hamilton *Serm.* 2 He prouided..a tent, whereonto it had beene wonted. 1624 Sylvester *Parl. Virtues Royall* 1305 The Angell, wonted to Heauen's Blisse-full Hall, Made latile visit in this vnbeleeuing Stall. 1637 Earl Monm. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 295 The Romanes were..accustomed to war, wonted to victory. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* i. 1 Let me be wonted to the Pleasure of Good, and would not Remove. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 364 Dramatic materials to which the people were already wonted. 1851 Hawthorne *Trs. Sev. Gables* v. 72 Hepzibah had fully satisfied herself of the impossibility of ever becoming wonted to this ..obtrusive public bell. 1878 *Scribner's Monthly* XVI. 565/2 After we got wonted to their beauty. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* LXXXVI. 855/1 He became wonted to his new station.

**b.** *absol.* Made familiar with one's environment. Now *U.S.*

1620 Markham *Masterp.* I. lxxvi. 159 Others vse to leade the horse to a ..sheepe-pen, where great store of sheepe are wonted. 1641 [see Wonting c.]. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* I. 214, I had down..They grew so wonted as..to tolerate my near approach. 1874 — *Lett.* II. 238, I long to get back and yet am just beginning to get wonted (as they say of babies and new cows) over here.

**B.** *ppl. a.* Accustomed, customary, usual. Now *arch. or U.S.*

1408 in Hakl. *Voy.* (1599) I. 277 According to their wonted manet. 1553 Aschan *Rsgr. Germany* A iij, Letters..full of your wonted good will towards me. 1574 in *Hist. Essex Archæol.* (1856) II. 234 Savage did send vnto the grounds, with the hounds, but the wonted boy, with a keepers. 1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 384 The wonted streame..is..turned always. 1624 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* v. 199 It being growne past the wonted season of the comming in of ships. 1697 Milton *P. R.* iv. 440 Out of the wood he starts in wonted shape. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 3 Wks. 1871 I. 128 The wonted indulgent methods of Providence. 1756 Gray *Let.* 92 Eʼen in our Ashes live their wonted Fires. 1823 Scott *Peveril* lii. xxvi, The King.., in a threadbare cloak, with his wonted old high-crowned hat stuck full of images. 1868 Lowell *Fable for Critics* 41 Archæologists..Have tried to make out, with a zeal more than wonted, 'T was a kind of wild swine that our ancestors hunted. 1870 Tennyson *In Mem.* ci. 22 As year by year the labourer tills His wonted girdle. 1880 Mauvy *Phys. Geog.* § 259. 299 Which obstructions may prevent the winds from taking up..their wonted supplies of moisture.

*absol.* 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. v. i, The Wonted tumble-down ! by imitation, by invention, the Unwonted hastily builds itself up.

**Wontedly,** *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ly [2].] Customarily, habitually, usually.

1587 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* (1575) II. 182 [He] hands wontedly were so cold both in Wynter and Sommer as the Mountayne ice. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. § 25. 425 Wontedly the Land was defended by dint of Swords. 1625 Jackson *Creed* v. I. 449 Oftimes more then wontedly paun-pering their wonted greene desires, vnder the shelter of a sable suite. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 189 If the sight appear not as formerly or wontedly it did.

**Wontedness,** *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] Accustomedness, habituation.

1648 *Eikon Bas.* xvii. 92, I might suspect my Judgement to be blassed..with some Prejudice and wontedness of Opinion. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 173 Wontedness makes even Blackamores seem handsome to one another. 1868 A. D. T. Whitney *Patience Strong's Outings* iii, We shaded off our wontedness from one [carpet] into the other.

**Wontler,** var. Wantler [2].

1657 in Giles *Hampton* (1847) Suppl. 3 Within these two meadows are several Hams of meadow, viz. the Bull Ham, the Worden Ham, the Wonter's Ham [etc.].

**Wontle,** obs. form of Want *v.*

**Wonting,** *vbl. sb.* [f. Wont *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Wont. **a.** The accustoming (of a person *to* something).

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* Pref. A 2, The Wonting of us to the Use and Liberty of these Levities, Leads..us to a Mis-understanding of Things.

**b.** Custom, wont.

1667 Cotton *Scarron.* iv, 58 Æneas ard de Queen have made..A match to go, after her wonting, Into the Wood a Squirrel hunting.

**c.** *attrib.* : **+wonting penny,** wages paid to a cattle-herd for keeping beasts in a place until they are accustomed to it (cf. Wonted *pa. pple.* 2 b).

1691 Bray *Farms. Obs.* (Surtees) 120 The word herd hath for everie beast one pennie, which is called a wontinge pennie; hee ..keepeth them ..till they bee wonted and familiar to keepe.

**Wontless,** *a. poet. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. Wont *sb.* + -less.] Unaccustomed, unwonted, unusual.

1587 T. Hughes *Misfort. Arthur* i. ii, That both my hart and narrow quite be burnt, And synewes dried with force of wontlesse flames. 1598 Sylvester *Bynon Hon. Beauty* 2 What wontlesse fury dost thou now inspire Into my feeble breast? 1628 Muse *Fancies Farewell* i. 12 Mounted on wings of immortalitie, I feele my brest warmde with wontlesse fire. 1793 Smeaton *Narr. Edyst. Eddyst.* 29 His..all astonish'd at their force And wontless valour, rages round the field. 1855 Singleton *Virgil* II. 22 Deadalus..Along a wontless region flutter'd To th'icy Bear.

**+Wontlike,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 7 woont-. [f. Wont *sb.* or *ppl. a.* + -like.] Wonted, accustomed.

1621 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 64 He stirred not, neither with wontlike disdaine once offered to reuenge so great an indignitie.

**+Wontly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Wont *ppl. a.* + -ly [2].] According to custom, usually.

1654 Vilvain *Enchir. Epigr.* v. ii, Hot Fume..Which Wind And Earthquake wontly breathe. *Ibid.* 192 b.

**+Wontwardness,** *rare.* [f. Wont *sb.* + *-wardness* (see -ward [1]).] Custom, habit.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* (1.w. 2194 Alkyne tame best..ran.. To wodnis and to wilderness, Leifland thare awre wontwarnes [*MS. Cott.* awde kindlyness].

**Wonus,** obs. form of Once.

**Woo** (wū), *v.* Now *literary.* Forms : 1 **wogian,** 3 **wohe,** 3–4 **woȝe(n, wowen,** 3–6 **wowe,** (4 **wouwe,** 5 **wowyn, wogh),** 5–7 **wow, wooe,** 6–7 **wo,** 6–8 **woe,** 6– **woo.** [Late OE. *wōgian* (also *dwōgian* in trans. sense), of obscure origin.]

**I.** *intr.* (or *absol.*). **1.** To solicit or sue a woman in love ; to court, make love to.

*a* 1050 *Liber Scintillar.* xlix. (1889) 68 Bearn wordle þriwre wogiað & hi beoð xeseallde to gyftum. *Ibid.*, Ne hi ne wogiað ne hi ne leedað wif. *Ibid.* 70 Naht framað fæsc habbum nædren ȝif oð xelimpð, ne wif ne wogiað. *Ancr. R.* 388 Ase a mon þet wowed [*MS. Titus* wohes]—ase a king þet luuede one leafi of feorrene loude. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 793 (Camb.) Whyle he first to woȝe, He him þine gloue. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 Unto pe duke of Normundie he went for to wowe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 7 When a womman is al one, he maketh a man..The more hardi forto wowe. 1393 — *Mirour* xiii. 44 Religious men of diuerse plaris Cumis thair to woo and se fair facis. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 3 It's possible, that..but seeing, you should loue her ? And louing woo ? and wooing, she should graunt ? 1670 Ray *Prov.* 50 To woo in a pleasure in a young man, a fault in an old. 1792 Burns *Duncan Gray* i, Duncan Gray came here to woo. 1820 Campbell *Maid's Remonstr.* i, Never wedding, ever wooing, Still a love-lorn heart pursuing, ..Wed, or cease to woo. 1859 Tennyson *Merr. Geraint* 421 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine, Drunk even when he woo'd.

**b.** Of animals.

*a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 44 Wowes this wilde drakes. *Ibid.* Wowes this wowth under dounk. 1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xii. i. (1495) A ij/1 Males [of birds] drawe to company of females..and wowe wyth beckes & voyce.

**c.** in fig. context.

1595 *Anarch. K.* 400 Lo ! þus ure Loued wowe[3] : nis heo to herd i-heorted þet a swuch wowere ne mei tunnen hire luue to him. 1599 Gowen *Conf.* II. 78 In loves court..The poore verie schal nought spede, Wher that he rise vice woweth. *c* 1600 *Pol. Verses & Ball.* x. 120 He [sc. Christ] is worþy be loued, þat so dede wowe.

**2.** To make solicitation or entreaty ; to sue *for* ; to ' invite ', ' call '. Also const. clause.

1625 Brathwait *Spiritualls* (1638) 143 Th' Maide..Wooing with teares..That loue would giue this Monster th'ouerthrow. 1634 Br. Hall *Contempl., N. T.* iii. xv, Even after an ill harvest we must wooe to God for a blessing. 1640 — *Holy Panegyrick* 2 We are Christs Paranymphs, or spokesmen, and must woo for him. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 202 So poor George wooes and prays and pleads in vain. 1896 A. R. Houseman *Shropsh. Lad* iv, Towns and countries woo together.

**II.** *trans.* **3.** To sue to or solicit (a woman) in love, esp. with a view to marriage; to pay court to, court.

[*c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* vii. 14 Þa ða heo gewende of scole, þa awogode hi sum eadel. *a* 1200 in Thorpe *Ancrene* (1866) 312 Þa foreward þe Godd[e]ne worhte wiõ Þe[o]fulric þa he his dohter awogode.]

*c* 1250 *St Matthew* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 80 A king...wolde ire habbe to his spouse and wowede hire wel faste. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 546 (Camb.) Inchal...mi knizthod proue, Ar þe ginne to woge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2793 If þou man nedd þe euer þar-till At forse wommon. Or woud hir wit worden slighe. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1247 *Dido*, He...wowede hyre to han hire as his wyf. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4442 Ther is a knyght hir wowith every owre, Not for to wedde hitt for his paramour. 1530 PALSGR. 783 a Thou arte but a foole to wo her, she is nat for the. 1580 LILY *Euphues* (Arb.) 307 Woo her, win her, and wed her. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* vi. xxix. (1612) 146 Thus wowde he her, thus wonne he her, thus wowde and wonne hee sped. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 59 Long thus I wooed her with dew obeisance, In hope some day pleasure to haue won. 1714 T. LUCAS *Mem. Gamesters* (ed. 2) 41 He presum'd to woe a great Lady, who was a Widow. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 37 He wo'd in and won A labourer's daughter. 1861 GEN. FLEMING *Silas M.* iii. For four years he had thought of Nancy Lammeter, and wooed her with tacit patient worship.

**b.** Of animals.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) X vj b/2 The males wowith & pleyth the females. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 15 If the [ie. the Mare] refuse him, you may put a small stone N[o]se to hers. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 412 [We] heard their loud gobbling on a sunny spring morning when wooing their mates.

**† c.** Sant of the female: To solicit the love of.

*c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cronyk* III. v. 344 Scho... Sald Iosephe walde haf lyin hyr by, Qwhar to scho wonit hym bevly. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. viii. 784 [She] wowed hym to haue layne by hym.

**d.** In fig. context.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 390 Ieau Crist...þet al o þisse wise wowunde ure soule. *a* 1240 *Ureisun in O. E. Hom.* I. 287 A wrete þeosa...hwinn can ich be wowinge *Vlateres text* wowe þe] wiþ swete luue. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 69 In soughe whanne y was wilde & stronge, þe fals world fair slide me wowe. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 155 See what you come Not to woo honour, but to wed it. 1672 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp. Granada* III. 113 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune to Which he has wooed, and which I had Won. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 126 They are lost In chase of fancied happiness, still woo'd And never won. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii, Venice...in old times would send forth the Chief of the State to woo and wed the Adriatic Sea.

**4.** To move or invite by alluring means; to entreat or solicit alluringly. (Said properly of persons, fig. of things.) **a.** const. obj. and inf.

*c* 1400 *Sng Rolan* 1426 His lingle to blow, they hym woed. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 4 He...wooed them (with many fayre promises) to repent. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 293 My wayward Husband hath a hundred times Woo'd me to stake it. 1611 KEATS *Lamia* I. *Lycius Cradled* 1 Upon His woo would to convent to the pa'nt of Inde. 1629 MILTON *Maiorely* 38 Only with speeches fair She [sc. Nature] woo's the gentle Air To hide her guilty front with innocent Snow. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 558 Then forth he walks, and woos the bird of eve To mingle woes with his. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* I. 217 Begone!—I woo thee not to stay. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 137 Could she have...wooing every bud and flower to burst forth into beauty. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 687 Him they lured Into their net..., wooing him to woo.

**b.** const. obj. and advb. phr. (or simple adv.).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 91 Þey heo were...bysylych ywoned to cowen and chippynge...; sit sche lelle cleue maydo. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 81 His gentlewoman is wooing Hermiogenes for a song. 1612 *Two Noble Kinsmen* II. ii. 109 All those pleasures That woue the wits of men to vanity. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxiv. 92 With the oratorie of to invite a prijest to woo money out of peoples purses. 1681 BURTON *Admirable Curiosities* (1684) 73 To little purpose he woed the King and Queen for Reparation. 1703 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. 5 Well might you hope to woe me to your Wishes. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 627 Those truths...Invite thee, woo thee, to the bliss they share. 1820 IRVING *Mem. Pol.* v. 17, I will woo my pillow For thoughts more tranquil. 1830 TENNYSON *Owd to.* 13 They woo to thy tuwhit. 1873 M'LAREN *Serm.* Ser. iv. vii. 121 In spite of all they woo'd that sweet word him aside. 1882 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* 8 Aspiendid summer day, wooing the very cunt off your back.

**5.** To sue for or solicit the possession or achievement of; hence *fig.* to 'court', 'invite', 'tempt'.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 513/1 Wowyn', *peto, peto-tis*, 2. 1530 LYNDS *Monith.* 180/1 To wowe, *procure, ambire.* a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 140 Mak choice slien of thone then, Or of a thousand thingis ;...With that I wowd his wings. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 68 What a life is this That your poore friends must woe your companie. 1623 — *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 143 You take a Precipit for no leape of danger, And woe your owne destruction. 1693 BACON *Ess., Honour & Reputation* (Arb.) 67/2 Some in their Actions, doo Wooe and affect Honour, and Reputation. 1639 FULLER *Holy Warr* I. iv. 5 Some...rather woed then wanted for their own deaths. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 90 Their Bones were doubly so sore They durst not woo one Combat more. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 413 All flattering else...In wooing mercy by renew'd offence. 1798 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Hope* 170 They that woo present. 1798 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Hope* i. 14 Whose hollow turret woos the whistling breeze. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. xlii, Pale, statue like, and stern, she woo'd the blow. 1882 W. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xxiii. 224 A theatre which for years before had wooed in vain the patronage of the public. 1883 R. BRIDGES *Prometheus* 935 She fled into the sea, preferring there to woo The choking waters.

Hence **Woosble** (*wū·sb'l*) *a.*, suitable to be wooed.

1903 ZANGWILL *Grey Wig, Merely Mary Ann* 262 She was well-nigh of woosble age.

**Woo**, var. WHOO *int.*

*a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Content* Poems, etc. (1742) 248 The chattring Sembriefs of her [sc. the owl's] Woo hoo, hoo. 1892 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xviii. An owl hovered around our heads uttering its doleful woo-hoo-a.

**Woo**, dial. f. Wo *int.* **Woo, woo'**, dial. ff. WOOL.

**Wooc, Wooch**, var. WOKE *a. Obs.*, WOOSH.

**Wood** (wud), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **widu, wiodu, wudu**, 2–3 **wude**, 3–6 (7 *Sc.*) **wode**, 4–6 **wood, woode**, (7 *Sc.*) **wod, wodde**, (3 **wd**(d)e, 4 **wud**, *Sc.* **wod, woud, wud**, 5 **woyd, whode, vode, woode**, 6 **woodde, wud**), 5–6 (*Sc.* **wid**(**d**)**e**, 5– **wood**, (9 *Sc.* **wudd**). [OE. **widu, wiodu**, later **wudu** str. m. = OHG. **witu, wito** (MHG. **wite, wit**), ON. **viðr** (Sw., Da. **ved**) :— OTeut. ***widuz** (cf. OIr. **fid** tree, gen. **fedo**), Celt. ***vidu-**, Lith. **vytis** tree, a spear, the Cross. (Cf. THER *sb.* 3–6.) *Obs.*

In mod. arch. use associated with sense 7.

*a* 1000 *Dreams of Rood* 27 Ongan sperean wudu seleста. *a* 1000–50 *Wyrcest.* 398 So sunu wes þe sooða wudes bearnes be-twene, Þat al to-wraste þoi þar wode & werpis in sondire. 1866 REALE *Sequences & Hymns* 46 His precious Body... broken on The Wood.

**2.** A collection of trees growing more or less thickly together (esp. naturally, as distinguished from a *plantation*), of considerable extent, usually larger than a *grove* or *copse* (but including these), and smaller than a *forest*; a piece of ground covered with trees, with or without undergrowth.

**†** *Money of the wood* = *wood-honey* (see 20). *Obs.*

*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxix. 13 Eall se wudu hyne ymbsæt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 221 Þe wilde bor of þe wode [MS. *wuderne*, alle wildeort wode. 858 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 101 Butan ðem wuda be ðem sealtern limpð. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Lives of Saints* xxx. 37 Þa wæste ic þæt se wudu þær he þicost wæs. *a* 1122 O. *E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1123 Dis wes swiðe god zear & swiðe wisfull on wudan & on feldan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 344 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 182 Hi munen libbe[n] liche grene wode, Þat ane gulistes ne bara Þe leaues. *c* 1290 *Kentish* 130 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 349 He[o] wende to þe wode of clent. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3887 In þe oþer half beþ grete wode, ywe & meld al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8985 Mani woldis ha bai thoru gan, Bot sulik a tre ne fand þai nan. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sermons* Sel. Wks. II. 4 Hony of þe wode. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. of T.* 866 *Thisbe*, There entryn in while ly[o]nes Out of the wode. *c* 1400 *Pestr. Troy* 1393 Ouer hilles & bethes into holte wodes. 14.. *Stat. King's Forests* (Manor MS. 135 fol. 73) As touching the kinges wast, that is to say the kinges wodes. 1426 LYDG. *Dr Guil. Pilgr.* 2626 Gladly folkys I conveyen...To ward the woode, to gadis flours. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 11 Nathing of wod I wait, Bot gif ye mak it drie. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 113 The wilde bore out of the wod hath wrait it vp. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* viii. 41 Where the trees are so scattering here and there one or two those trees do not one of them touch an other, such places are called woods, but they are not properly to be called coverts. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. ii. § 2. 218 Then are those leaves two A hunting in the woddes revolv'd to gor. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 203 Hills...adorned with some pleasant woods (which in higher Germany are all ferre). 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 66 Woods, that wave o'er Delphi's steep. 1842 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 180, I push'd alone on foot. Across the woods. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 177 We proceeded slowly upwards, through woods of pine. 1866 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* ii. (1892) 81 All woods lure a rambler onwards.

*b. Woods and Forests*, more fully *Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues*, a department of the Civil Service (see quot. 1810).

1803 *Gen. Woods, Forests, &c.* 25567 *tit.* Surveyor-General of His Majesty's Woods, Oaks, Forests, and Chaces. 1810 *Act 50 Geo. III C.* 65 § 1 Such Commissioners to be appointed, shall be and be called 'The Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues'. 1812 *1st Rep. Comm. Woods, Forests*, etc. 18 Department of Woods and Forests. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1858) 247 But as to Woods and Forests, I never could understand what to interfere. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, You can't offer him the Presidency of the Council,..You can't put him in the Woods and Forests.

**3.** Without article, in general or collective sense: Wooded country, woodland; trees collectively (growing together). Now *rare* exc. as in BRUSH-WOOD 2, COPSEWOOD 2, UNDERWOOD.

*c* 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 167 To wudu we gað mid unum freondum. *a* 1100 *Gen & in Anglia* IX. 250 Se on dune, 20 on wuda, se on wetere. *c* 1300 OSBERN 14568 Wude, & feld, & dale, & dun, all wæs i watter sunnkenn. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 661 (Laud) Þe king rod on huntingge, Ta wule he gan ouertake. *c* 1450 *Castleton Reg.* 32 In tofts in croftis, in wode and mede. 1557 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 58 Twoe hundrith Acres of Pasture xxti acres of woodde. 1613 G. SANDYS *Trans. Ep.* High land... full of tall wood. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 109 Luarzab...shut up the Passages by felling an infinite number of Wood. 1737 *Daily Gazetteer* 3 Feb. 2/2 Advt., To be Sold, A very large Quantity of all Sorts of Wood, with or without the Estate on which it stands. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 149 The real interest of the country requires that none but the worst lands be covered with wood. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vi, Whole nights he spent oy moose-light pale, To wood and stream his hap to wail.

**4.** *transf.* and *fig.* **a.** Collection or crowd of spears or the like (suggesting the trees of a wood); *gen.* a collection, crowd, 'lot', 'forest'. (After *L. silva.*) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* v. 500 Though my buckler bore a wood of darts. 1620 B. JOHNSON *Alch.* III. ii, The whole family, or wood of rods. 1642 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 331, I might...observe what is answerable in the Church of Rome to the *Vinalia, Robigalia, Tarquinalia, Parentalia, Proserpinalia*, and other Feasts of the Gentiles; but this wood is so wide, that I may easilier lose my self in it then get through it! 1670 G. H. tr. *Ital. Cardinal's* III. iii. 328 Cardinal Savelli...having discover'd his natural infirmities..., the whole Wood of his other good qualities were not sufficient to hallance them. 1670 DAVENANT *1st Pt. Cong. Gronada* II. (1673) 24 A wood of Launces. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* Pref., Wks. 1851 VIII. 469 In such a wood of words. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 79 What a wood of difficulties and objections this side of the question is incompassed with. 1798 SOUTHEY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 2 A wood of threat'ning lances.

**5.** Phrases and Proverbs. **† a.** *In a wood*: in a difficulty, trouble, or perplexity; at a loss. So **b.** *Out of the wood* (U.S. *woods*). (Cf. quot. 1664 in sense 4.) *c.* *To go to the woods*: to lose social status, be banished from society. **d.** *Man of the woods*: = ORANG-OUTANG. *a.* *A bird in the hand is better than two in the wood* (and similar phrases; now usually with substitution of *bush*, BUSH *sb.*[1] 1 c): a smaller actual advantage is preferable to the mere chance of a larger one. **† f.** *To have an eye to the wood*: to be on the look-out for some advantage. **g.** *Not to see the wood* (**†** *see wood*) *for the trees* (**†** *for trees*): to lose the view of the whole in the multitude of details. *h. More ways to the wood than one*: different methods of attaining the same result (and similar phrases).

**a.** 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 415, I am afraid we are in a wood. No wonder the nation is puzzled, when the wisdom of the nation is puzzled in this place. 1706 T. BROWN tr. *Petron's Amours* 153 I am in a Wood; there are 20 many of them [sc. coffee-houses] I know not which to enter. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 28 Nov., I assured him I was quite in a wood, and begged to know more explicit.

**b.** 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 20 Dec., Mr. Windham says we are not yet out of the wood, though we see the path through it. 1801 [see HALLOO *int.* 2]. 1802 *Edgeworth's Parapgph*, Don't crow...before you're out of the woods. 1889 *Times* (weekly ed.) 20 Oct. 8/3 It remains to be seen yet whether the Germans are not shouting before they are out of the wood. 1889 ' EDNA LYALL ' *Derrick Vaughan* I. 12 In a few months...I noticed a fresh sign that he was out of the wood. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 Nov. 1/4 The people of North Dakota seem not to be out of the woods in the matter of prohibition. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xxiv, When a patient reaches this stage [of convalescence], he is out of the woods.

**c.** 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Jan. 1/1 Those gamblers whose social position was at least equal to Sir William's have gone ..' to the woods'.

**d.** 1755 *Ed. Dearg. Tower Found.* 25 You are...shewn in this Yard a Man of the Wood. 1774, 1836 [see ORANG-OUTANG]. 1892 ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xx. 270 The hairy man of the woods.

**e.** ? 1530 [see BIRD *sb.* 6]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 30 Better one byrde in hande than ten in the wood. 1621 T. GRANGER *Eccles.* xi. 5. 267 A bird in the hand is far better then two in the wood.

**f.** 1592 H. WOTTON *Cousillie Contrav.* 292 The Damoysell making a signe to her supplyante [*printed* supply oute] (who had alwayes an eye to the wood).

**g.** 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. iv. (1867) 51 Plentie is no deintie, ye see not your owne ease. I see, ye can not see the wood for trees. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* v. 5 Ih, Thou canst not or wilt not see wood for trees. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 217 He could not have beene able as hee went about to have seene the Wood for the Trees. 1711 ADDISON *H.M.S. Wagon* 92 This was like, not seeing the Wood for Trees. 1888 PAIRE *Exc. fr. Guardian* (1896) 95 Garrick.. bears no very distinct figure. One hardly sees the wood for the trees.

**h.** 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. iv. (1867) 75 Ye tooke The wrong way to wood. *Ibid.* 77 There be mo waies to the wood than one. 1569 *Inv. Sackv. Complaynte* 62 Countryous men, which studie all the weyes to the wood to saue their money. 1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 74 There bee (as the Prouerbe saieth) more waies to the wood then one.

**II. 6.** The substance of which the roots, trunks, and branches of trees or shrubs consist; trunks or other parts of trees collectively (whether growing or cut down ready for use).

Also with qualification, as BRUSHWOOD 2, TALLWOOD 1 *small wood*, *young wood*.

*c* 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 167 Se se sie unwær-lice ðone wudu hiewð, & sum his freond ofsleh. *a* 1000 *Cynewulf Christ* ii. 1. 1. 1. Wudu & wæstmas. *c* 1205 LAY. 8700 Heo bi-gunnen þene wude feollen. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 97 Hewynge of wode. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 121 The hors is nedeful wode & tallwode to carie. 14.. *Stat. King's Forests* (House MS. 235 fol. 73) If ther be ony man that...caryeth a way ony smal wode. ? 1479 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 423 That no wodde there be solde vntil the pepill be sett vpon the said wodde. 1488 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 141 That non young vode be stryyd. 1549 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 121 In dyuers places in England there is wood the which doth torne into stone. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 40 Fruit gathred too timely wil taste of the wood. 1611 COTGR., *Bois de brin*, round, or vnclefi-small wood. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. viii. 414 The wood will pay for the ground. 1796 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 64 This stone I took to be wood petrified. 1828 L. KENNEDY & GRAINGER *Tenancy of Land* 132 Timber elm grows more commonly than any other kind

of wood excepting beech. 1893 T. F. Hardwick *Phot. Chem.* (ed. 2) 289 Acetic Acid is ..produced..by heating wood in close vessels.

b. as prepared for and used in arts and crafts. In predicative use sometimes = wooden. (OE. regularly used *tréow* Taxe (cf. B. 2) in this sense.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22543 Wodd and wall al dun sal draa. 1351–2 in Feuilleraf *Records Eduw. VI* (1912) 82 Vj^e scabbarde of wood turned. 1577 Googk tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 46 Sythes we vse to sharpe with Whetstones or instruments of Wood. 1591 Shake. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 90 His talkes of wood: It is some Carpenter. 1620 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) 11. 15 Edwin.. pluck'd the Minster down (but then was wood), And made it stone. 1686 Petty in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 285 Colouring of Wood and Leather by Lime, Salt, and Liquors. 1689 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 1. 1 The model of the Mosque in wood. 1709 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Sept. 1677, The gates are wood..plated over with iron. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 39 P 1 Other Counterfeit Books upon the upper Shelves ..were carved in Wood. 1726 Gibson *Decl. & P. Il.* (1782) I. 56 No wood, except cedar, very curiously carved, was employed in any part of the building. 1783 Cranke *Library* 302 Bibles bound in wood. 1806 W. Y. Ottley *Hist. Engraving* I. i. 5 The Origin of Engraving in Wood. 1852 R. A. Willmott *Pleas. Lit.* (ed. 2) vii. 40 All the classic authors—in wood, with vignettes.

c. as used for fuel; Firewood.

+ Occas. *coll. sing.* faggots: locally, small coal (quot. 1805).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 4 Æc he hi bewæg mid wudu oran & forbærnde hine. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Gederedh wude bretti, and bi poure wuminon of Sarepte. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3189 Als wodde brinnes, pat es sadde and hevy. c 1440 *Prov. Vo.* in Wr.-Wülcker 657/11 *Hoc focale*, wode to the fyre. 1480 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 18 Thei have receyved upon making of the ij. M. wode xiiij.s. viij.d. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1868) 224 ccc wode xij^c & iij candell v^s. 1611 Bible (Geneva) Ezek. xxiv. 10 Heape on muche wood: kindle the fyre. a 1668 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 35 As fyre the wid we se Dois burne. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Short Summer's Tour* 44 The miserable Stipend or Hireling wages will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* III. 51 The small coal used to heat the salt-pans is universally called wood by the salters on the eastern coast of Scotland. 1808 Scott *Marm.* vi. Introd. 1 Heap on more wood!—the wind is chill.

d. *Hort.* The substance forming the head of a tree or shrub; branch-wood; also, branches collectively; in a fruit tree, primarily leaf-bearing, as distinguished from fruit-bearing, branches. (Cf. *wood-bud*, *-branch* in to.)

1523–36 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 130 (Withies) be trees that wyll soone be nourysshed, and they wyll bere moche wood. 1572 Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* 46 If there be in your trees certain branches of superfluous wood that ye will cut of. 1658 Evelyn *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 11 Every Bud which bears but a single leaf produces only wood. 1721 Monthly *Husb.* II. 302 A Peach, the more it runs to Wood, the better it will bear. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 705 Gardener, when pruning for wood, should bear in mind when pruning for fruit. 1858 Glenny *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 211/1 When a Heath has done blooming, and before it makes its new wood, is the time for pruning it.

e. As the material of an idol or image. (Biblical.)

1535 Coverdale *Esch.* xx. 32 Wod & stone wil we worshipe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 236 Bewar, I am ane Ielous God, I am na Image, nor wod. 1681 Flavel *Keiving Saints, Sermons* II. ix, All Adorers of the Mass, Who bow to Wood, and Stone, and Brass. 1819 Hugh Hymn, *From Greenland's Icy Mountains* i, The Heathen, in his blindness, Bows down to wood and stone!

f. *spec.* (*Hort.* and *Bot.*) The hard compact fibrous substance lying between the bark outside and the pith within.

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* III. xiv. 449 It is vsuall to graft betwixt the wood and the barke, when trees begin to put vp their sap. 1673–4 Grew *Anat Pl.* (1682) 113 The next generall Part of a Branch, is the Wood; which lyeth betwixt the Barque and the Pith. 1823 Lindley *Timber* 48 A drying up or wasting away of the wood immediately surrounding the pith. 1877 A. W. Bennett *Thomé's Bot.* 313 In the anatomical structure of plants Cynopaemas resemble Dicotyledons in all essential particulars.

g. A particular kind of wood; freq. *pl.* kinds of wood. In *Pharmacy* formerly applied to particular kinds used medicinally: see quots.

Pbr. *To tell what trees the Carpenter's of*, to be seasick.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 248 Philautus not accustomed to these narrow Seas, was more redy to tell what wood the ship was made of, then to answere to Euphues discourse. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 73 A wood full fit to forge the trolling wheeles Of chariots. 1602 W. S. *Thomas Lt. Cromwell* II. it, To my victuallers want the Sailers, and thinking me to bee a man of better experience then any in the shippe, asked mee what Woode the shippe was made of. [1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* C i b, I emy stood fearefull of euery calme billow, where it was no boote to aske him to tell what the ship was made of, for he did it deuoutly.] 1661 Culpepper & Cole *Pharm. Lond.* 7/3 Cypress. This Wood laid amongst Cloaths, secures them from Moths. 1687 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* 24 Woods for the use of Dyers:..Sweet smelling and curious Woods. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 63 The Nephritic Wood is thick, without Knots. 1754 Gentl. *Soc. Surv. Ecg. Philos.* (1776) I. 292 To ascertain how much richer long working vats have more than other woods. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 604 Many of the red Indian woods take double a blood red juice. 1873 Lasllett *Timber* 17 The hard and strong woods used for architectural purposes.

1772 Macbride *Th. & Pract. Physic* 635 A pint of decoction of the sudorific woods. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 15 A decoction of the woods. 1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Woods, Sudorific*,..This term is applied, collectively, to the guaiacum, sassafras, china, and sarsaparilla; which are often used together as forms for the sudorific decoction. 1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, *Woods, the*, those formerly in repute as antisyphilitics.

h. *transf.* A hard substance found in the head of an elephant.

1899 C. Rose *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 236, I sat on one [elephant] while they searched for the wood in his head. It lies about an inch beneath the skin imbedded in fat, just above the eye, and has the appearance of a thorn, or a small piece of twig broken off.

i. In echoes of the L. proverb which appears in Erasmus' *Adagia* II. v. 1 with the form *Ne a quovis ligno Mercurius fiat* (see quot. c 1594, and cf. A. Otto *Sprichwörter der Römer* 220); hence, the 'material' or 'stuff' of which a person is 'made'.

Cf. similar uses of Gr. ὕλη, F. *bois*.

[1588 Shakes. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 249 Is Ebonie like her? O word diuine? a Woman of such wood were felis like.] 1594 Bacon *Promus of Formularies & Elegancies* (1898) 19 A mercury cannot be made of every wood (but priapus may). 1599 *Lett. to Sir Duchemag* in Spedding *Lett. & Life* (1861) I. 234 I hope you will think I am no unlikely piece of wood to shape you a true servant of. 1666 T. H[awkins] tr. *Cousin's Holy City* 5 Vertue is a meruelous workewoman, who can make Mountaines of any wood. 1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* IV. i, I know better than most men of what wood a minister is made. 1832 Scott *Cent. Dang.* v, The wood of which a knight is made, and that is a squire.

7. Something made of wood: *spec.* a. The wooden part of something, as the shaft of a spear. b. A block of wood used for engraving or printing, as distinguished from a metal plate or type. c. The cask or barrel as a receptacle for liquor, as distinguished from the bottle. d. *slang.* The pulpit. e. The wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (as distinguished from *wind*: see 10 below). f. Each of the bowls in the game of bowls.

1823 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xv. 290 A long piece of..hard iron..fastened into the Wood of the under half of the Mold. 1892 Workshop Receipts 1. 159 The Wood [of the javelin] is shaven, the steely Point remains.

b. 1839 J. Jackson *Wood Engraving* viii. 220 Wood engraving is necessarily confined, by the size of the wood, to the execution of wiles of much *wind*: see 10 below). 1872 Ruskin *Rovetti* (1899) 137 An engraving on wood of my picture..there is an objection to sending 'the wood' travelling.

c. 1806 J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 171 When the sperit's been years in the wood. 1882 J. Ashton *Social Life Reign Anne* I. 301 Ordinary clarets from the wood.

d. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* xl, They say he's a pleasant fellow out of the wood. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 10 July 45/2 Mr. Beecher's audience has always been altogether confined to what irreverent people call 'the wood'. 1897 *York Yorkshb Songs* 130 You are very good in flannel, Sir. 'I'll come on Sunday, and see if you are as good in wood.'

e. 1879 E. Prout *Harmony* 72 The brass instruments, used ..in combination with strings or wood. 1901 W. J. Henderson *Orchestra & Its Treatment* ..in the modern orchestra consists of flutes, oboes, clarinets and bassoons.

f. 1884 Doherty *N. Barlow* viii. 49 Hero ancient fogies.. tried To better aim their wandering 'woods' to guide. 1910 J. A. Stewart *Bowls* 74 The ship may..Summon a player from the mat to look at the lie of the 'woods' before delivering his bowl.

8. Phrases. † a. *Against the wood*: 'against the grain' (Gr.ain *ib.* 1 16 b). † b. *A piece of wood*: a contemptuous appellation for a stupid person; a block-head. c. *In God and wood*: see quots. d. *To take in wood* (local U.S. colloq.): see quot. e. In names of certain trees: *Wood of Jerusalem*, a variety of pear; *Wood of life* = Lignum vitæ 1.

a. a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 35 Such a witte..well handled by the mother,..and wrought in it shortly, not overthwarte, but against the wood, by the schoolemaister.

b. 1691 *New Disc. Old Intreagne* xxv, Next him Sir Ralph,..a very piece of Wood.

c. a 1529 Skelton *Speculum Principum* 1. 1. 1.

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 100 Whether *wood*-fibres occur in Cryptogams is at least doubtful. **1403** *Festivall* (W. de W.) 131 b, A *wode* fyre, for people to syt & wake the by. **1794** Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xiii[1]. The dying embers of a *wood* fire still glimmered on the hearth. **1823** J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 185 Bugs never infest houses, in which *wood*-fires only are used. **1859** Morris *Jason* I. 262 All about The *wood*-folk gathered. **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. 1 (Bodl. MS.), *Wode* foules dwelleþ in *wodes* and in þikke coppes of trees. **1787** Burns *Admiring Nature in her wildest grace* 13 The fawns *wood*-friend in Nature's native taste. **1848** G. W. Bridges *Ann. Jamaica* II. 247 Surprised to find their *wood*-girt town surrounded by an armed force. **1590** Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 9 The wyld *woodgods*. **1610** Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, No Goblin, Wood-god, Fairy, Elfe, or Fiend. **1820** Keats *Lamia* I. 34 Full of quaint jealousies Of the Wood-Gods, and even the very trees. **c1843** Carlyle *Hist. Sketches* (1858) 270 The 'wood-goddess' with her nymphs. **1591** Spenser *Com. Inf. Bk.* 82 & so follow'd he into another 'wood, round. **1622** Cotgr., *Lair*, Wood-ground, by measure, or quantitie of *Arpent*. **1835** Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 258 He has to pay interest for his *lumber*, to protect his 'wood-grower. **1852** Mayne Reid *Scalp-Hunters* vi. 48 The water-drawing, 'wood-hewing puebloe. **1891** Hardy *Tess* xxvii, The 'wood-hooped pails...hung...ready...for the evening milking. **1537** "Woll Haes Wenne" (N. & Q.) **1883** *Cath. Angl.* 431/1 A 'Wodde keper, *Incarius*. **1519** *Pres. Furies in Sentrey Mus.* (1810) 32 That noo wode kyeper take no wyfe into the wode for abydynge. **1868** 'Lee Lee' *B. Godfrey* xvii. 95 He is woodkeeper to Squire Osborne. **1676** Phearne *Naval Archit.* 27 The pieces of which it is composed are connected by *wood*-keyed hooks & scaphs. **1845** Browning *Flight of Duchess* xvii. 78 Like Orin in the *wood*-knight. **1398** Trevisa *Bart. De. P.* (1550), *Selengier*, wilde, or *wodelice*. **1713** *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII 224 A sort of sullen greenish Wood-like rust. **1785** Cowper *Let. to Newton* 19 Mar., We...have...more than two waggon loads of them in our 'wood-loft. **1906** T. Tosswill *Forest Laws* 104 To mark a long and lasting day Upon the 'wood-mons laid. *a* **1586** Sidney *Arcadia* iii. (1622) II. 74 The Nightingale 'woodmistresse King. **1757** *Reg. Importation Bees* 3 The 'Wood-Owner...divided his Wood into a Number of Cuts. **1832** *Genil. Mag.* CII. i. 578 a The 'wood panneled ceiling. **1827-35** N. P. Willis *Idlewild* 50 'Woodpath or terrace, or slope by hill or vale. **1856** Vaughan *Hydrol.* (1860) I. 139 These 'wood-pathways ...feel up a steep hill. **1842** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 281/2 To 'wood-pave the turnpike roads. **1887** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 1/1 The 'Wood-paved part of the Street. *Beowulf* 3144 'Wudu-rec astah. [**1895** W. Morris *Beowulf* 199 The wood-reek went up.] **1856** *Pall Mall Mag.* May 87 That the blue woodfire might chase away the fog. **1869** Blackmore *Lorna D.* x, The bark from the 'wood-ricks [being] washed down the gutter. **1897** Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 13 Beside the 'woodside's lonely gate 969 *Lodge* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 528 Of sweptelan streame west be 'wudu rimæ. *c* **1205** Lay. 7149, I þan wode rime. **1837** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 457/1 The 'wood-roofed house. **1205** Lay. 467 Leaueres beaun his to hibben hi þon 'wode-roten. **1825** Hazlitt *Spirit of Age* I. Wks. 1902 IV. 198 Wreaths of snow under which the wild 'wood-rovers bury themselves ...in winter. **1817** Lady Morgan *Italy* (1821) II. 308 Our celebrated landscape-painter, Robert,...assisted me in laying out the grounds, and disposing of my 'wood scenery. **1479** in *Kent. Gilds* (1893) 225 Provyd...that the 'woodsellers leve not the bak bare of wodde. **1554** in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 183 Wodseller and Citezin of the Citie of Bristowe. **1755** in *Notes & Queries*, 9 s. 'woodsellers. **1828** Mrs. Hemans *Peasant Girl Rhone* 16 Sad and slow, Through the 'wood-shadows, moved the knightly train. **1691** T. Hearne *Acc. Most Eminent.* 9 'Wood-sheathed Ships. **1844** Louisa S. Costello *Beauty & Pyrenees* I. 282 We were glad to take shelter in a 'wood-shed. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 'Wodes-hyde, *v. scala.* **1577** in J. R. Boyle *Bedon* (1879) 65 For nailes and 'wood-shodes, and two shotelly wyll. **1842** J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 293 Take the 'wood-shoots from off their roots, so that the bark may grow over the wound. **1822** Hone *Every-Day Bk.* II. 70 The 'wood-skirted lawn. **1858** O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iv. (1891) 211 The creaking of the 'wood sleds, bringing their loads of oak and walnut. **1847** Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* vii. (1857) 48 Smelling of fresh straw in summer, and 'wood-smoke in winter. **1601** *Death of Robt. Earl of Huntington* D 2, Fall to your 'wood wings therefore, yeomen bold. **1834** Mrs. Hemans *Poems, Hugh Bigod* 7 The sweet wood-sound's penetrating flow. **1538** Elyot *Dict.*, *Ligula*, fuell, or a 'wodde stacke. **1707** Mortimer *Husb.* 379 The size of Taygoss and Wood Stacks, in most Countries. **1913** *N. & Q.* 'Hetty Wesley' 11. v, The wood stack hid her from the Parsonage windows. *c* **1820** Mrs. Hemans *Tale 14th C.* 322 The 'wood-stalls of the barn-yard. *a* **1583** Gascoigne *Flying* 737 'Woodyck, hoodpyck, ay like to liue in lacke! **1794** Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxii[1]. The passing gleam fell on the 'wood-sorb below. **1839** in *Inquiry, Forest. Draft. Draft* (1849) William, Sedgwick, 'wood-turner. **1901** *Scotsman* 5 Apr. 7/2 'Wood turning tools. **1791** Charlotte Smith *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 226 Birds, who found food and shelter amid the shrubberies and 'wood-walks. **1595** Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* (Arb.) 46 The 'wood-walle I Cittizens at sea. **c1325** in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) I. 506 Duas acras terræ in 'wode wey. **1611** S. W. Mitchell *Pearl* 13 The beauty of those wood-ways green. **1890** *Household Words* I. 293/1 'Wood-weeds, river-weeds, and other water-plants. **c 1887** Tuffrin *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 331 The humble-bee is the wide 'wood-world many roam. **1579** Fulke *Conf. Sanders* 587 To prouе them 'woode worshippers and idolaters.

**f.** In ME. poetry, in combs. *wood bough*, *lay* (Lea *sb.*[1]) = ? glade or grove, *lind* (= tree), *rite* (Rice[1], small branch), esp. in phr. *under wood bough*, etc. = in the woods, in the leafy shade; sometimes with allusion to secret love-making.

Cf. J. Hall's tr. of *King Horn* 1227 note.

*a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 56 Euer is þe eie to þe wude leie [*v. r.* wodeleȝe], bruneis is þet ich hunte. *a* **1250** *S. Eustace* 20 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 212 Þe bert wes muchel...þer he wes ounder wode linde. *Ibid.* 32 Þere he wes ounder wode leye. *Ibid.* 76 [He] wes ounder wode-bowe. **13..** *K. Horn* 1160 (Harl.) Şef þou horn euer seşe vnder wode leye. *c* **1300** *Sir Tristr.* 2483 Vnder wode bouȝ þai knewen day and nigt. *c* **1330** R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4734 Wylde walkande by wode lyñes. **1387-8** T. Usk *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) I. 53 Beware of thy lyfe, that thou no wodelaye use, as in asking of thinges that stretchen in-to shame! *c* **1400** *Cameron* 633 Adam loked the wudir wode bough. *Ibid.* 676 As men that ben...hard be-stad vnder wode lynde. *c* **1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 1344 Rachis can ryn vndir the wod rise.

**g.** attrib. uses and comb. of pl. (sense 2). *U. S.* **1849** F. Douglas *Life* 50, I stopped my oxen to open the woods gate. **1868** *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 391 Any land...may be improved by the addition of vegetable matter, such as woods litter. **1880** S. Lanier *Hymns of Marshes, Sunrise* 17 The woods-smell. **1902** S. E. White *Blazed Trail* v, Bands of woods-creatures. **1904** — *Forest* xiv, He was...comparatively inexperienced in woods-walking. *Ibid.*, A good woods-walker progresses without apparent hurry. **1908** — *Riverman* vii, Still lingering at the woods camps,...five hundred woods-weary men.

**10.** Special Combs.: **wood-acid** = *wood-vinegar*; **wood-agate**, vegetized wood (*Cent. Dict.*); **wood-alcohol** = Wood-spirit 2; **wood-axe**, an axe for hewing wood or felling trees; **wood-block**, a block of wood, *esp.* one on which a design is cut for printing from (cf. *wood-engraving*, Woodcut); **wood-block** *v.*, to pave with wood-blocks; † **wood-bone** [Boon *sb.*[1] 6], ? a boon-day for wood-cutting; **wood-borer**, something that bores wood; *esp.* any one of certain insects and other invertebrates which make perforations in wood; so **wood-boring** *a.*; **wood-bound** *a.*, (*a*) bound or fastened with wood; (*b*) of land, encumbered with woody hedges or trees; (*c*) enclosed by woodland; (*d*) *fig.* exc. quot. 1892; **wood-branch**, a branch of a fruit tree kept primarily for growth of wood (6 d); **wood brick**, a block of wood cut to the size and shape of a brick, inserted in the interior walls of a building as a hold for joinery (Gwilt); **wood-bud**, a bud forming the rudiment of a wood-branch; † **wood-bush**[1] [Buss *sb.*[1]], a vessel for conveying wood, a wood-barge; **wood-bush**[2] [Bush *sb.*[2] 9], name of a wooded region in S. Africa; **wood-butcher** *U.S. slang*, an unpretending carpenter; **wood-carpet**, (*a*) a floor-carpet made of thin pieces of wood arranged in patterns (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); (*b*) the geometer moth *Melanippe rivata* (E. Newman, 1869); † **wood-carriage**, a tenurial obligation to carry wood; **wood-carving**, the ornamental carving of wooden utensils, furniture, etc.; *concr.* a piece of such carving; hence **wood-carved** *a.*, **-carver**; † **wood-cast** [Cast *sb.* 13], a pile or stack of wood; **wood-colour**, the colour of wood; a pigment made from **wood-copper**, a wood-brown fibrous variety of olivenite; **wood-corn**, 'some quantity of Oats or other Grain, paid by Customary Tenants to the Lord, for liberty to pick up dead or broken Wood' (*Cowel's Interpr.* 1701); **wood-draughtsman**, one who draws for wood-engraving; so **wood-drawing**; **wood-dried** *a.*, dried by the heat of burning wood; **wood-drink**, a decoction of some medicinal wood (cf. 6 g); **wood-engraver**, (*a*) one who engraves on wood, an artist who does wood-engravings; (*b*) a name for various species of N. American wood-boring beetles, esp. *Xyleborus celatus*; **wood-engraving**, the process or art of engraving on wood or of making wood-cuts; *concr.* a design so cut upon a wood-block or obtained by impression from it, a woodcut; **woodfall**, a felling of trees for their wood, a cutting of timber; **wood-farm**, (*a*) a farm on which trees are grown for timber; † (*b*) an office in the Port of London, which dealt with the clerical work and collection of goods discharged; **wood-farmer** (see quot.); **wood-flour**, (*a*) a substance obtained by grinding wood containing starchy matter, proposed as a substitute for flour; (*b*) a very fine sawdust obtained from pine-wood, used as an absorbent surgical dressing; † **wood-fold**, a wood-yard; **wood-forester** *Sc.*, one who has charge of woods; † **wood-free** *a.* [cf. Free *a.* 27 b], entitled to take wood gratis; **wood-fretter** (cf. *wood-borer*); **wood-fungus**, a fungus that infests wood; † **wood-garth** = Woodland; **wood-gas**, gas for illumination obtained from wood; † **wood-gold** [Geld *sb.*], money paid for the privilege of cutting or gathering wood in a forest; also (according to 17th c. legal writers), the privilege of immunity from such payment; **wood-gum** = Xylan; † **wood-hag** [Hag *sb.*[3]], the right to cut wood; † **wood-hagger**, a wood-cutter, wood-hewer; **wood-hanging**, 'thin veneer on a paper backing, to be used as wall-paper' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wood-hewer**, (*a*) one who hews wood, a wood-cutter; (*b*) a bird of the family *Dendrocolaptidæ*, a South American tree-creeper; † **wood-hire**, payment or outrent for wood; **wood-hole**, a hole or recess in which wood is stored for fuel (cf. *coal-hole*); † **wood-honey** [OE. *wuduhunig* = L. *mel silvestre*, Gr. μέλι ὄρεινον], wild honey; **wood-hook**, a hook for cutting off pieces of wood from trees; **wood-horse** *U.S.*, (*a*) a sawing-horse; (*b*) the walking-stick insect (*Cent. Dict.*); **wood-hung** *a.*, bordered with hanging woods; † **wood-iron**, ? iron smelted by means of wood; † **wood-leaves** (Sc. *-lief*, *-lef*, *-leve*), leave or permission to cut or procure wood; *transf.* a duty charged for this; **wood-lock** *Naut.*, a piece of hard wood sheathed with copper, fitted closely beneath the pintle of a rudder to prevent the latter from rising; hence **wood-looked** *a.*, secured by a wood-lock; † **wood-lode**, the carriage or conveyance of wood; the right or privilege of carrying wood; **wood-lot** *U.S.* [Lot *sb.* 6a], a plot of land containing or consisting of woodland; **wood-maid**, **-maiden**, a mythical female being dwelling in or haunting woods; † **wood-maker** = Woodman 2; **wood-master**, now *Hist.* the master or overseer of a wood; **wood-meal**, (*a*) a kind of flour, resembling sawdust in appearance, prepared from the root of the manioc or cassava-plant; (*b*) the powdered wood produced by the wood-worm; **wood-money** (sexquot.); **wood-mote**, now *Hist.*, a court for determining cases in forest law, later called *court of attachments* (Attachment 3); **wood-mould**, mould consisting of decayed wood; **wood naphtha** = Wood-spirit 2; **wood-note**, a natural untrained musical note or song like that of a wild bird in a wood (in later quots. echoing Milton); **wood offering**, an offering of wood to be burnt in sacrifice; **wood-opal** [G. *holzopal*], opal formed by petrifaction of wood, opalized or silicified wood; **wood-paper**, paper made from wood-pulp; **wood-peat**, peat formed from decayed wood (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wood-penny**, (*a*) ? = *wood-silver*; cf. *woodland penny*; (*b*) Lady's bedstraw, *Veronica officinalis*; **wood-piercer**, **-piercing** *a.* = *wood-borer*, *-boring*; **wood-pile**, a pile or stack of wood, esp. for fuel; **wood-plant**, (*a*) a plant with woody stem and branches; (*b*) a plant that grows in woods, a woodland plant; † **wood-plea court**, ? = *wood-mote*; † **wood-pleck** [Pleck], ? an enclosure in which wood is stored; **wood post**, a station where wood is procured; **wood powder**, (*a*) powder made by disintegration of wood, as sawdust; (*b*) a kind of gunpowder made from light porous wood; **wood-print**, a print from an engraved wood-block, a woodcut; **wood-pulp**, a pulp made by mechanical or chemical disintegration of wood-fibre, and used for making paper; also *attrib.*; **wood-ranger** *U.S.*, one who ranges woods; a scout or sharpshooter in American armies (cf. Ranger 3); † **wood-rent**, ? = *wood-silver*; **wood-rock**, a compact variety of asbestos resembling dry wood, also called *mountain wood* (Cent. Dict.); **wood-saw**, a saw for cutting wood, as a buck-saw (Knight 1875); **wood-sawyer**, (*a*) a man employed in sawing wood; (*b*) the larva of a wood-boring beetle or other insect, which cuts off twigs, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wood-scathe** [Scathe *sb.* 1], a fiend or monster of the wood; **wood-sorrow**, a metallic screw specially adapted for fastening together parts of woodwork or wood and metal; **wood-service**, service as a wood-ranger; † **wood-silver**, ? a payment made in lieu of a supply of wood; cf. *woodland silver*; **wood-skin**, a light canoe made of bark, used by native tribes in Guiana; **wood-soot**, the soot of burnt wood, formerly recognized in the British Pharmacopœia as *fuligo ligni*, and used in dyeing; † **wood-speech** [Speech *sb.*[1] 10 b], a kind of wood-note; **wood-still**, a still for distilling tar or turpentine from pine-wood (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wood-stone**, petrified wood, *esp.* a form of quartz consisting of silicified wood; **wood-stove**, a stove adapted for burning wood (Knight 1875); † **wood-sugar** = Xylose (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.*); † **wood-tale**, a quantity of wood supplied as a due; **wood-tar**, a bituminous liquid obtained in the destructive distillation of pines and other trees; **wood-tin** [G. *holzzinn*], a variety of cassiterite or tin-stone of brownish colour and fibrous structure, resembling dry wood; **wood-vessel**, (*a*) a vessel carrying a cargo of wood; (*b*) *Bot.* a sap-conducting vessel in the woody tissue of a plant; **wood-vinegar**, vinegar or crude acetic acid obtained by distillation of wood, also called *pyroligneous acid*; † **wood-waste** (meaning unknown); **wood-wharf**, a wharf at which cargoes of wood are landed or shipped; so *wood-wharfing*;

†**wood-whistle,** ?the bishop's weed, *Ammi majus*; **wood-wind,** the wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (cf. ? e above, and WIND *sb* 1 12 b); **wood-wool,** †(*a*) cotton; (*b*) fine shavings of wood, usually pine-wood, used as a surgical dressing and for various other purposes; **wood-wright,** a worker in wood, as a carpenter.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, '*Wood-acid*, an inferior pyroligneous acid, distilled from oak, beech, ash, &c. 1881 *Wood* alcohol [see PYROLIGNEOUS]. c1350 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 557 In factura unius *Wodeax* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II 454 With ane wod ax tit vp the streak of his heid 1892 *Mag. Nat. Hist.* 300/2 Les schaft of the wode ax 1900 R W CHAMBERS *Cardigan* xxix, I unslung my wood axe He drew his hatchet 1837 HERBERT *Legeis & Hints Fowler* II 825 Two specimens of 'wood bricks, cut by Mr Waghorne 1877 II LAW & D K CLARK *Constr Roads* 17 Following the experience of stone set paving, the wood blocks of narrower dimensions answered better 1883 *Builder* 24 Nov 704/2 The prejudice against the use of wood elm for purposes such as wood-block flooring 1908 *Westm Gaz* 31 Aug 2/1 The road leading from Shepherd's Bush to Uxbridge, the major part of which was 'wood-blocked by the United Tramways Company 1584 *Compleint of vnmanerlie Beggers Cuckingham, Northampt* (1815) 4 Vnto *Wodbone in autumpno, vnto Gallinam ad Natale Di*, et decem oua et pullos 1850 A. WHITE *1st Centaeca & Mus* 58 Found in the *Lunar* Sea 'Wood Burrs' 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol* vii (1818) I 240 The little *wood* boring beetles (*Anobium pertinax* and *striatum*) also attack books. 1895 KNIGHT *Pract. Mech.* 227/2 *Spiral bit*, a wood boring tool made of a twisted bar of metal 1550 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 229 Two paire of *wood* bowne wheills. 1570 HILMAN *Instr. Rudic.* Mar (1924) 35 Where it fronts the Sea, upon most Marshes, Wood bound, over shelter I by Woods, and the like 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I 56 High Hedges and low Pollards, are the bane of corn fields in Norfolk, and this unanimously are said to be wood bound 1876 HARDY *Hand of Ethelberta* xv Ethelberta and Christopher sto d within the wood-bound circle alone 1892 *Daily News* 6 Sept 6/6 *Wood-bound Trade*, in the coopering industry making packing casks in which to put bottles for export from breweries 1706 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* (1719) 111 Some *Wode* branches are those that form the Shape of the Tree 1841 *Wood* Bricks [see NOG *sb*1] 1763 MILLS *Syst. Exact Husb* IV 249 Care should be taken to cut them a little sloping behind a *wood* bud, which may be easily distinguished from the blossom buds 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII 346/1 The flower buds are plump and roundish, the wood buds are more oblong and pointed 1587 *K. & Queene Mem. Wood* Mich v. 3 Navis Angl' voc.' *wood* in the 1896 *Westm Gaz* 14 Sept 2/3 Mr Sajie, the mystical Queen of the *Wood*-bush tribes 1903 L. DOUGALL *Country* 114 A delight to the Wood Bush is apt to spoil a man for other scenery 1890 in Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* s.v. Counting carpenters and *wood* butchers together, it is estimated that 'wood sawyers men in their living in London as carpenters and joiners 1557 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel* (Hist MSS Comm) 39 The freholders haithe been accustomed to pay certain *Woods* curreges and other duties 1885 HALLIWELL *Hall Shaks.* (ed 3) 921 The elegant 'wood carved roof 1895 W S COLEMAN *Wood-owls* (1860) 62 The wood [of the alder] is a favourite material for turners and *wood* carvers 1847 in LINDSAY *Chr Art* I p clxix, Artists in 'wood-carving 1880 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II No 5703 Book case, wood carving 1881 *Encycl. Sport* (Badm. *Cyth. Angl.* 423/1 A 'wood cleaver, *struxes* 1612 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I 259 Chr Wright [presented] for building his wood cast and laying his gutters in the Kings street, whereby the people cannot conveniently passe 1820 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent* xii 116 V mic *Wood* colours are pounded either of Vmber and White, Chat-coale and White (etc.) 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 507 The sap wood has a light whitish or yellowish wood-colour 1823 W PHILLIPS *Introd Min* (ed 3) 320 Hematitic Arseniate. 'Wood Copper 1902 *Archæologia Oxoniensia* Rec Soc.) 76 Facit easdem consuetudines sicut Robertus de Stodleigh' prester 'Wdec'an munn fedellum 1894 HARRISON in *Daily News* 16 Dec 5/3 Nearly all the 'wood-draughtsmen of my time have become painters of eminence. *Ibid.*, He watches over the welfare of the artists now as much as he did in 'wood-cutting days. 1597 HEARNSHAW in *Collect* (O H S) I. 230 Yearely 'woodfals in Middlewe 1893 J. CLAY *Chronol. Dict* 29 To see that the Woodfalls be made at seasonable times 1767 A YOUNG *Farmer's Lett to People* (1771) I 111 153 *notes*, 'Wood farms not being very common 1812 J SMITH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 388 The lawmen of the Woodmote or Silver Office in the Port of London 1831 LOUDON *Encycl Agric* (ed 2) 1123 'Wood farmers, such as rent woodlands, to be perused ally cut for fuel [etc.] 1849 DODD *Inst. Mines* 3rd ed v 18 The wood next dried, and is afterwards ground repeatedly, till it assumes the form of a rough flour The 'wood flour is then formed into small balls 1844 Specif. No 10,128 (*Buck's Handbk Med Sci* I 263/2 Wood wool and wood-flour, the latter the finest are made from pine wood 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 195/25 A 'Woodvild, *lignarium* 1903 Q VICTORIA *Mary Lennox* (1884) 32 The Duke's head 'wood-forester 1899 CHOLMLEY *Kit Kennedy* 175 Kit's uncle Rob, the wood forester 1854 *Quarters rel Glasgow* (1906) II 523 Ac hinbalde salbe 'wod fin and querell les to the hig gung of the saidis myine and hir dame 1611 COTGR., *Tuvetiere*, the little worme called a 'Wood fretter 1892 *Pierce Telegraphy* 161 Dry rot is due to a species of 'wood fungus—the *Merulius lachrymans*—which destroys the tensile and cohesive power of the wood, and gradually reduces it to a fine powder. 1343 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 39 Lapides pro pavimento del 'Wodegarthe 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 34/5 Vᵉ Wodgarth, *lig(n)arium* c1885 LETHERY in *Cire. Sci* I 229/2 the city of Heilbronn has recently been lighted up with 'wood-gas 1844 in Spelman *Gloss Archæol* (1664) 260 I i sint quieti de omnibus geldis, & dangegeldis, & 'wodegeldis 1334 in *N Riding Rec rd* Ser. V 88 I sint quieti de omnibus geldis 1504 CROMPTON *Jurisd* 197 Woodgeld, is properly to be discharged of gathering within the forest, for the behoofe of the foresters and other ministers there. 1668 COKE *Om I itt* 233 Pouizeld (*i.e.* pudzeld) or Woodgeld is to be free from payment of money for taking of Wood in any Forest 1894 MAIR *Woodcraft* 7 *Webb's Dict Chem* IV 868/1 Iree gum 'Wood gum 1569 in *Reg Mag Soc Scot* 1580, 810 Cum iuspicacia, silvis, nemoribus cum lie 'wode hage 1569 *Charters Corporation Arbroath* (1886) 84 Cum eandem silvam et nemus, bus cum lie Wodhag 1895 *Acc Exch A A* 5 8 m 2 (P R O) In stipendus Walteri Le 'Wodhaggar pro meremio proster nemus in Wood de Nouham 1894 CAVE & WHITE *Econ Timber* 41 On Let no man thinke that these gentlemen spent their times as common wood haggers at felling of trees 1868 *Rep U S Comm Agric* (1869) 124 American 'wood hanging has been applied for the finish of the suite of rooms c1000 *Ætatic Dict* xxix 12 Hutun 'wodu heawene 1611 Bam Sa warter [*sic*] 1300 *Rec Portsm* 11, 5 Roberto le Wodehyewere 1483 *Cath Angl* 422 I A Wodde hewer, *lignarius* 1867 SULLIVAN & SULLIVAN *Elec Osmith* (1869) 17 *Aspho olapteu ney* [Kenyon] Wood Hill 1838–9 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 574 Pro Wodhire apud Aldyngrige, Brome, et Rylley, hoc anno, *inqd* 1522 in *Wills & Inv* (Surtees) II 1 Pro Wodhire apud Ryley, *xiid ob* 1668 EFFINGHAM *Sha Hunted of the Cond* 1 11, Creep into the 'Wood hole here. 1793 J PURTER *Splendid Shilling* 4 Or Sleeping 'Wood, or Winter's chilling Cold 1876 *Amateur Gard* March 1 6 *Windsor Gard* March 16 *Meadowsweet*, 'wudu hung 1398 in *Sira Barth Pr* R xvii lxxii (1905 Pyx) Peenhaunte the flouere [cf. *Meadowsweet*] 1562 in *Hollowe Sermons* 1490 *Mirk's Festial* 184 b Sayni I on eite lewes, bred and rowud and whyt and whien pay byn fotude thiy byn swete as hony and bin cayld 'wode gyngyuere 1611 COTGR., *Carre*, a Coach, Cabbeiot, or wedehoke, *sax calus* 1598 BARRET *Theor Warres* v iii 134 1500 wood hookes, and tooles to make faggots 1849 W DOUGLAS *Cycle* 116 My Johnson has a machine like a 'wood horse and set 1745 WARTON *Iteai Melancli* 315 'Wood hung Meuni, stream of druids old 1536 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 604 Et in j pec. ferr. pro le 'Wodhowes 1611 COTGR., *Hoyau*, a Mattock, or Broad Hoe 1808 *Hogg Jacobite Relics* II 283 Payit be the said Robert for wod leif in France, xxvij frankis 1820 in *Acc Const Rec Scot* (1850) II 300 Deverell Wodleif, to leive and woodleive 1805 *Shipwright's Vade m* 142 **Wodlock* a piece of elm or oak, in the throating or sc ne of the pintle, near the load water line 1611 COTGR., *Saulvion*, the Herbe Woodlove

insect (see quot.); **wood-drake**, the male of the *wood-duck*; **wood-duck**, a species of duck inhabiting woods, *esp.* the N. American summer duck, *Æx sponsa*, and the Australian *Bernicla jubata*; **wood-frog**, a species of frog found in woods, as the N. American *Rana sylvatica*; **wood-goat**, a S. African species of antelope, *Antilope sylvatica*; **wood-grouse**, (*a*) the capercaillie, *Tetrao urogallus* (see GROUSE *sb.* 1); (*b*) the spotted Canada grouse, *Canace* (*Dendragapus*) *canadensis*, or allied species; **wood-ibis**, a stork of the subfamily *Tantalinæ*, esp. *Tantalus loculator*, which inhabits wooded swamps in southern U.S.; a wood-stork; **wood-kingfisher**, a name for birds allied to the kingfisher, living in woods: = *king-hunter* (KING *sb.* 13 b); **wood-leopard** (*moth*), a species of spotted moth (*Zeuzera pyrina*), the larva of which bores into the wood of trees; **wood-owl**, any species of owl living in woods, as the tawny or brown owl, *Syrnium aluco*; **wood-partridge** = *wood-grouse*; **wood-pelican** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-pheasant**, (*a*) = *wood-grouse* (a); (*b*) in Zanzibar (see quot. 1892); **wood-quail**, any bird of the genus *Rollulus*, of the Malay archipelago; **wood-rabbit**, the common rabbit of U.S., *Lepus sylvaticus*, also called *rotion-tail*; also, any rabbit living in a wood; **wood-rat**, any rat of the American genus *Neotoma*; **wood-robin**, a local name of the American *wood-thrush*; **wood-shrike**, (*a*) = WOODCHAT; (*b*) an African shrike of the genus *Prionops*; **wood-shrimp**, a crustacean of the family *Cheluridæ*, as *Chelura terebrans*, which bores in submerged wood; **wood-slave**, a West Indian lizard of the species *Mabouya*; **wood-snail**, any species of snail inhabiting woods, esp. *Helix nemoralis*; **wood-snake**, a snake that lives in woods, as those of the family *Dryophidæ*; **wood-snipe**, -**snite**, names for the woodcock (British or American); **wood-star**, a name for several species of humming-birds, as those of the genus *Calothorax* and the Bahama sheartail, *Doricha evelynæ*; **wood-stork** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-swine**, a swine living in woods; *spec.* the bosch-vark, a ferocious wild swine of S. and E. Africa; **wood-tantalus** = *wood-ibis*; **wood-thrush**, (*a*) a species of thrush of the eastern U.S., *Turdus* (*Hylocichla*) *mustelinus*, noted for its beautiful flute-like sweet song; (*b*) a local name of the missel-thrush, *T. viscivorus*; **wood-tick** [TICK *sb.*1], a tick of the family *Ixodidæ*, found upon plants; **wood-warbler**, (*a*) the wood-wren, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*; (*b*) a general name for the American warblers (WARBLER 2 b), esp. those of the genus *Dendroica*; **wood-wasp**, (*a*) a wasp that lives in woods, as *Vespa sylvestris*; (*b*) a wasp that burrows in rotten wood, as some species of *Crabronidæ*, or a wasp-like insect whose larvæ bore in wood, as the horntails; **wood-worm**, an insect larva or other invertebrate, as the ship-worm (see TEREDO), which bores in wood (also *fig.*); **wood-wren**, (*a*) a species of warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*, or its congener the willow-wren, *P. trochilus*. See also WOODCOCK, etc.

1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosnick Syst* 9 The *Wood-Ant feeds upon Leaves. 1726 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 140 In the West Indies, [they are called] Wood Lice, Wood Ants, or White Ants. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 33 Length of the wood-ant (*F. rufa*) three-eighths of an inch. 1784 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 305 *Wood-Baboon... Inhabits Guinea. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xii. (Bodl. MS.). Some beb feeble been and some beb *wood been. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* H 5 b, The wood-pecker, doth more harme to wood-bees then garden-bees. 1795 WHITE-HUNTHAM *View U.S.* IV. 213 *Wood-beetle, Lepiura. 1805 R. T. GORE *Blumenbach's Nat. Hist.* I. 301 Lepiura... S. Aquatica... The Wood-beetle... On aquatic plants of all kinds. 1843 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. xi. 78 As thoroughly drilled as ...a piece of wood that has been eaten with the maggot of the wood-beetles. 1895 C.W. WRIGHT in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 10/2 To hunt *wood-bison,...now become the rarest game in the world. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 143 These animals go by the name of *wood buffalo. 1836 Reading *Hist. Mod. Wines* iii. (ed. 2) 47 A nauseous odour ...from a vast number of *wood bugs which had been ...crushed in the [wine] press. 1748 *Abstract of Harg in Rel. Ant.* I. 111 The frendlese, the *wodecat. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Nat. La Plata* 18 It is called wood-cat, and...is an intruder from wooded districts north of the pampas. 1758 STRANGE J. WEYMAN *Shrewsbury* xxvi, Speak, you viper, and don't stand there glowering like a wood-cat! 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 175 A little Bird, sometimes seen, but oftner heard in the Park at Woodstock, from the noise it makes, commonly called the *Wood-cracker. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* VII. 350 The *wood-cricket is the most timorous animal in nature. *a* 1100 *Gloss. in* Wr.-Wülcker 521/32 *Pulbenda* *wudecuffre. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 15 Meates and drynkes makynge good juyce...Wodde culvers. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 201 Mice, Dormice, and Swine do sooner perish with hunger, than they do eat of a Ring-Dove or Wood-Culver. 1812 PLUMTRE *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* I. 304 Large animals, such as buffaloe, *wood-deer (*antilope sylvatica*). 1838 W. F. HUNTER *tr. Azara's Nat. Hist. Paraguay* I. 145 Laborde says that his first species is called red deer and wood deer (*Ciervo rojo y ciervo de bosques*) in Cayenne, being always met with in woods. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 433 The *Wood-Digger. This Insect...digs frequently into soft places of timber, where it keeps a throbbing noise, not unlike our death-watches in Europe. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 166 *Wood Dormouse. *Myoxus Dryas*...It is said to be a native of Russia, Georgia, &c. inhabiting woods, &c. 1814 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VIII. 97 Summer Duck, or *Wood Duck. *Anas sponsa.* 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* v. 147 The wood-duck (Bernicla jubata) abounded on the larger water-holes. 1887 CLARE *Myth. Cal.* 54 Green *wood-fly, and long-horned humble bee. 1859 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 208 Wood-Flies (Platypezidæ). 1698 N. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 73 Very large *Wood-Frogs, with the extremity of the Toes webbed. 1893 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sketches* 288 The fitful and plaintive croak of a wood-frog. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 77 The *Wood Goat (*Culeræ nemorensis*) frequents woods and does not come into houses. 1789 G. FORSTER *Capt. Cook-man's Voy. Cape Gd. Hope* vii. I. 276 This *wood-goat, or, as it is called, *bush-bok*. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 313 *Wood Grouse. It inhabits woods and mountainous countries. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 938 The *wood or wilde Hornet (saith Pliny) live in hollow trees all the year long. 1888 SWAINSON *Gen. Syn. Birds* 191 *Wood Ibis...found in Carolina, and in various parts of South America. 1875-84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 735 *Pseudotantalus*...African Wood-Ibis. 1898 *Sportsman's Cycl. Nat. Hist.* IV. 1276 *Zeuzera Æsculi*, the *Wood-Leopard, is a rare species, of a white colour, with numerous steel-blue spots. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 277 The *Wood-Owls (Strigidæ). *a* 1638 MEDE *Apostasy Hb.* 542 The hewel...Doth from the bark the *wood-moths glean. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. viii. II. 388 If the wood-pandles, it is thought that the sawes of the *wood-Mouse tempered with honey, cureth the same. 1834 MARY HOWITT in *Tait's Mag.* I. 445/2, I saw a little Wood-mouse...Its mouth was unusually small. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 253 *Wood Owl...As the bird seems to be the only British species...more particularly found in woody than in other situations, the title of Wood Owl seems to be adapted to its manners. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 389 *Woodpecker-tribe. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* VIII. v. (1849) 370, I heard the wood-partridge drumming on a neighbouring tree. 1754 CATESBY *Carolina* I. 81 *Siccus Aquaticus*...The *Wood Pelican. 1820 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* II. 81 *Wood Pewee Fly-catcher. *Muscicapa virens.* 1702 tr. *Sir T. Herbert's Trav.* 340 The Cock of the Woods, or Which Giraldus Cambrensis calls the *Wood Pheasant. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Nov. 3/1 What is called the *wood-pheasant...It has a long-tailed bush cuckoo. 1678 RAY *Dict. a.v. Rollulus*, The red-crested *wood-quail is *Kr. cristatus or rouloul. Ibid.*, *Wood-rabbit. 1900 CORNISH *Waterside Thames* 73 These wood-rabbits differ in their way of life from those in the open warren outside. 1766 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 10 Jan. 30 We found a great nest of a *wood-rat, built of long pieces of dry sticks. 1809 W. L. LINDSAY *Mind in Lunacy* II. xi. 32 The Fallow Deer and the *wood-rat. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 335 *Wood Rattle-Snake. *Crotalus Durissus.* 1805 MITCHELL & MILLER *Med. Repos.* 122 The *wood-robin, or Missisippi thrush. 1814 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* I. 29 Wood Thrush. *Turdus melodus.* ...It is called by some the *Wood Robin. 1882 *Standard* 6 Jan., The chief bird [Peter] and companion of the wanderer in the New Zealand bush is the wood robin. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 482 *Wood-Sandpiper. 1790 *Bridge Water Mag.* I. 21 Inhabits the moist woods of Sweden. 1884 [see SANDPIPER 1]. 1875-84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 401 *Bradyornis mursiyensis*. Mariqua *Wood-Shrike. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 182, I saw one of these spiders eat a small lizard called a *Wood-slave. 1892 *Field* 17 Brit. Rev. Dec. 604 The baleful race of woodslave and slippery-back, those hideous brown and yellow lizards of the West Indies. 1814 A. WILSON *Ornith.* VIII. 97 Wood Snipe now and then descend...to pick up a *wood-snail or a beetle. 1856 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 118 The pretty banded wood-snail (*Helix nemoralis*). 1585 T. WASHINGTON *Nicholay's Nav. Voiages*, &c. 1 Landsnake or *woodsnake. 1887 *St. James's Gaz.* 24 Mar. 6/1 It would seem that in times past the *Woodspite was considered a stupid bird. *c* 1440 in Wr.-Wülcker *Wülcker Vocabulary*, *wudusnite. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xi. 96 There is a kind of Wood-Snite in Devonshire, greater than the common Snite. 1899-60 SIR J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer. Nat. Hist.* (1860) II. 14 The Short-tailed *Woodstar (*Calothorax mucrurus*)...is one of the most diminutive even in the family of dwarfs, measuring rather less than an inch and a half in length. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 653 American *Wood Storks. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 37 *Wood-Swallows (*Artamidæ*). 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 440 The *Wood Tode (*Hepialus sylvinus*). *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 894 The Tod wod Swyne. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. to Cape of Good Hope* II. 134 Lion, tiger, *wood-tyger, &c.

*Songs, Woodswurge* 12 Among those few The woodspurge flowered, three cups in one 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict. Fragaria vesca* 11 Common or Wood-Strawberry. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Pulse* 6/2 1/2 Dr Lister recommends for the improvement of sandy, light ground, all plants of the pea kind, and particularly the *wood* vetch 1823 Scott *Redgy* iv. ii. Where profuse the wood vetch clings Round ash and elm; Its pale and azure pencill'd flower Should canopy Titania s bower 1826 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl* II. 310 This Hyssop is commonly called also Wild Vine, or *Wood* vine 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. Woodvine, Yellow; *Morus calcar gallis*

**Wood**, *a* (*ob*[2], *adv*.) *Obs.* exc *dial* or *rare arch* Forms 1–6 (9 *Sc*.) wod, 3–7 (9 *arch*.) wode, (4 *Sc* wood), 4–5 woud, 4–6 woode, woud(e, wodde, (5 ods, oothe, *Sc* woide, void, 5–7 *Sc* wold) 6 wodd, (oode, wyd, *Sc*. vod, wuid), 6–7 woodde, (6, 9 *Sc*. wid, 7 would, 8– *Sc* and *dial* wud), 4– wood. [OE *wód* = OHG. *wuot* (in *ferwuot* raging, frantic), ON *óðr*, Goth. *wôþ*, **wôþs* possessed (cf OHG., MHG. *wuot*, G. *wut* rage), f. Teut *wōð-* (to which belong also OE. *wōþ* song, sound, ON *óðr* poetry, and WODEN); Indo-Eur *wat-*, represented by L. *vātes* seer, poet, OIr *fáith* poet, W. *gwawd* song of praise, the fundamental meaning being 'to be excited or inspired'. From the mutated stem are OE. *wéde* mad, *wélan* WEDE *v*, *wédenn* in WEDNESDAY, WIDDENDREAM The form *wōðe* is from Scand. Compounds are BRAIN-WOOD, RED-WOOD *a*.]

1. Out of one's mind, insane, lunatic: = MAD *a*. 1. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* (Cott.) 1555 Ysaac was *Rebecan* wode. *c*1300 *Agt. Gost* John x 21 Ne synt na þis wodes mannes word *c*1300 Ormin 15506 He dræf ut off wode mannn þatt wass wode 1340 *Hampole Prose Treat.* (1866) 4 A wode man i schend on bys bok. And a mone he hadde butenyng *c*1380 *Wyclif Sermons* 5.44 3if i told hit a treuly my tene He wold wene i were wod *c*1430 *Hymns to Virgin* (1867) 46 Wode man he seigh here bi-side, And makly made his hool *c*1440 *York Myst* xi 334 His folke sall no feire Yf he go weilnand wode *c*1440 *Promp Parv* 372/2 Oothe, or woode, *amens* 1500 Skelton *Why come ye nat to Court* (1502) 6, They bee bitten of the wood dog the devil, & he fallen wood themselves. 1578 *Satyr Poems Reform* xxxvii 100 Rise wod and say the wer 1590 Shakes. *2 Hen. VI* iv. iv. 34 Through vnadvized rag hneuse woxen wood 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* b.ii (of any man in I unatick woodde, or furious, with space of manifest wit and iudgement) 1704 Rawlay *Fast's Mist.* (1733) I 86 The wife was wood, & nid out o her wit *c*1730 – *betty & Kite* iv, I hat a like to put us wod 1810 Scott *Old Mort* xxxvii, some folk say, that pride and anger hae driven him clean wood 1818 – *Ivanhoe* xliv, *Wood* mad, rhyming with *food* This word is rarely used 1843 Lytton *Last Bar* i. ix, Am I demnd? Stark wode!

**b.** Of a dog or other beast: Rabid: = MAD *a* 6. *c*1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 4 Wiß woden hundes slite 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* A. xii iv (Tollem MS.), [Honey] helpþ þe biteynge of a wood hounde 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xviii (Arb.) 61 Ye were nat wood dogges vtte more humayn. 1549 *Compl. Scot* vi 57 Quhen it [is the do., star] ringis in our hemispers, than dogis ar in dangeir to rin wod 1551 Turner *Herbal* i. Hir wirkyng is as wel against the bytinges of madd or wood beastes 1608 *Melr. Hagiality Rec.* (S.H.S. 1914) 60 Scho [ie a mare] ran wood and drounet hirself in Tueid 1810 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* ii, Bitten by a wood Dogs tooth'd tooth 1733 *Lennox Annot. Rec.* (MS.), There has been some wood dogs going through the town 1866 G Henderson *Leg. Rhymers* 58 The bull ran wud. 1869 Spencer *Princ. of Biology* (1898) 181 The dog ran mad that barkit at her

**c.** In phr. of comparison, often expressing fury or violence (cf. 3). c g. *as (of) he* (etc) *were wood*, *as or like wood* (cf. MAD *a* 1 c)

*c*1000 *Beowulf* 738 Wæs se grimma mod, And wurðen se we wiiren wod *c*1300 *Havelok* 508 Starinde als he were wod 1340 *Ayenb* 140 Hi yernep þy þeaspeþ ase wode. 1460 *Chron. Vilod.* 3859 His eyzedde To ronnde as þaw he were wode *a* 1529 *Rede me & be nat wrothe* xxviii, I hey beganne to cryse lyke wode folke *c*1460 *Play Sacr* iii 403 in *Anecdota Myst Pisi* (1909) 70 Yf blesiyth as 3t were woode, I wyll 1530 Dorman *Apol. Conf.* I. 224 That peeik that prance, as princes that war woude 1568 J Howitt *Nevves* (1879) 121 From me he fled as woode. 1590 Shakes. *Two Gent.* iii iii 30 Like a woman 1647 H More *Song of Soul* I II xciii, Thou raw st as thou wert wood 1721 Ramsay *To Lord Dalhousie* 13 Some like to gar the Gourock run like wood.

**d.** With qualification, as *half, near (nigh), worse than*, etc, the combined phr use becoming virtually equivalent to one of the derived senses below

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 384 He was ney wor wrybbe wod *c*1350 *Will Palerne* 56 Þei were so berke on hat barn þat it was neiȝ of his wit wod for fere *Childh. Jesus* 133 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1878) 113 Frawdyn was wrobe & nydel ode for nerehande wode] *c*1440 *Gesta Rom* xxvi. 96 he knight was halfe wode for wo *c*1450 Henry *Wallace* iv 418 In propyr ire he wox ner wode for teyne

**2** Going beyond all reasonable bounds, utterly senseless; extremely rash or reckless, wild, 'wholly mentally excited': = MAD *a* 2, 4, 7

*c*900 *Alfred Solil. August* (1922) 25 Hwa is swa wod þæt he dyrre cwebban þæt God ne se sece? *c*1205 Lay 1714 Swa wod he was to fehte *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 130 Þet tu schalt demen þi suluen wod, þo þu þer toward þoubtest 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 90 Þat man may be holden wode Þat chases þe ille and loves þe gode *Ta* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 303 Coueitise is eurre wode, To gripen other folkes gode 1390 Gower *Conf.* I 164 Awen he fledde As he that was for love wood. *c*1400 *Pride of Life* 499 in *Non Cycle*



*Myst Plays* 104 Be he so hardy or so wode In his londe to anyue, He wol as he herte blode *c*1430 Lydg *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 A woode wisdom, and a wise woodenesse *1433* Mirk *Fest. of Lane.* ii viii 89 Wode lustis, made lufe. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) I 116 Whiche of theye myndes ae so blynde and wode And so reted in theyr errour and folye. 1579 Spenser *Sheph Cal* Mar 55 Ihelf wex so wanton and so wood 1584 *Merry Mag.* 26 b, Incontinent desire maketh him wood of their so nise 1627 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* 8 If a Papist will be so wood as to adde brittish Ubiquitisme, to your barbarous Cyclopisme *a* 1708 T Ward *Ling. Rid* 24 What sees he in her, he s so wood for? 1828 Scott *Aud Ant* xxv, I he folk in Dumbiane nie a' clean wud about this bit job 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss Hags* liv. 382 The lassie's gane wud! I here s nae reason in her.

¶ b. Used inaccurately to render L. *furialis*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I 297 In þat loud is a lake wonderful and wood (L. *furiali*) for who þat drynkeþ þerof he schal leese his good reson and leeche

**3.** a. Extremely fierce or violent, ferocious; irascible, passionate

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 66 Monie cumeð inchrud mid lombes fleoue, þe beoð wode wulues 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse* 2254 Als wode lyons þai sall ryn 1438 *Rolls Parl.* V 22/1 In the II vnt. 89 A scheep cled in foxis skyn, & a dowe wodar þen any wode beast *c*1480 Henryson *Lock & Key* 105 A rycht proud man, wrangfull and vnrycheous 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 72 Ther ys no best so wyld, o de, or cruel, but to man by wysdom he ys subdued 1556 Lauder *Tractate of Pryde* 1. 1. 1. 3a nocht chuse vnto that cure Ane Vnmolent nor wod Pasture 1590 Harrough *Meth Chris* 81 xxvii (1596) 44 They thrt I saw this disease [ie mania] be wood ou vnquiet, like vnto bestie 1600 Shakes. *Twel. Nt.* iii. iv. 122 Sphinxes and Chimæras wood 1611 Cotgr. *Sauvage*, wood, fierce, wild, rough, rude, sauage

**†b.** quasi *sb.* (*a*) madness, (*b*) in phr *for wood* (see FOR- *pref.*[1] 10), 'like mad', madly furiously

*c*1275 in *Poems of Hell* 48 in *O. E. Misc* 148 Sprikes i and þornes wiȝ-inne, Þat wunded me for wode 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6201 Þey nome hit flowe vor wod *Ta* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 276 Sle hath auch wo whan folk di þ good, That nyȝh abe wode hemselven wolde 1386 – *Pard. T.* 411 I met vv ȝ Wood Vevevse that bursst out his smoky fires.

**†B.** quasi *sb.* (*a*) madness, (*b*) in phr *for wood* (see FOR- *pref.*[1] 10), 'like mad', madly furiously

*c*1275 in *Poems of Hell* 48 in *O. E. Misc* 148 Sprikes i and þornes wiȝ-inne, Þat wunded me for wode 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6201 Þey nome hit flowe vor wod *Ta* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 276 Sle hath auch wo whan folk di þ good, That nyȝh abe wode hemselven wolde 1386 – *Pard. T.* 411 I met vv ȝ Wood Vevevse that bursst out his smoky fires.

**†C.** *adv.* Madly, frantically, furiously (chiefly in *wod wroth* etc)

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6109 Þe king knout wiþ hom wa þo so wod wroþ þat he nuste wat he dude 1340 *Ayenb* 140 Þeos hateð und ben woode wiþ wiþ men þat trewli despisen synne *c*1425 *Lugt Cong Test* xxxviii 94 The knyght bytwene a wes pees þe sun bolne he wode semyngede wiþ-so grysly, o oþer halue, hys fomen *c*1430 *Syr Gener* (Roxb.) 4923 The king of kinges quo sske wode Thai any shuld be bold bette than him self were *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii (1811) 513 The more the kynge spake for the Englyshe men, the more therwyth they dyspyted agayne them 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. vii. 9 Wod wroth he hurlis furth his dartis, and dyngis That he myght his fomes succur 1535 Coverdale *Hosea* vii 5 They begynne to be woo he downeken thurow wyne 1569 Blague *Sh. Concertes* 94 The patient hearing this was wood angrie, and commaunded all ye Phantians to be put out of doores 1601 Dent *Pathw Heaven* (1831) 122 They are so extraordinarily enamoured and are so wood mad of it that they will hasten it

**D** *Comb.*: **† wood-like** *a.* = Woodlie *a*; **† woodsek** [Sick *a*], mad. See also Woodman *c*. 1576 T. Proctor *Gorg Gallery* O iv b, Wherwith distrest with **woodlike* rage, the[se] words he out abrade *c* 1580 Warreth in *Gregory's Dial* (1900) 135 Pa was zelanded as **wodnesse* [*v r* wedendseca.] man to Benedicte 14 in W. Wilcker *Sax Gr Megser*, wode sek

**† Wood**, *v.*[1] *Obs* Also 4–5 woode [f prec]

*trans.* To go mad; to rave, rage (also *fig*).

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth* iv met. iii. (1868) 123 Pous þei ne anoys nat þe body, þise vices wo oden to distroonen men by wounde of þouȝt *c* 1386 – *Sec. Nonn's T.* 467 He stareth and he woodeth in his Aduersence 1390 Gower *Conf* I 282 Whan I se may my lady wode The more I am redy to wraththe I wode as doth the wylde Se *c* 1430 *Lyfe of Alphabet* I. cxvi (1865) 61 Deth is a beste so wylde that who so seeth it he woodeth *c* 1440 *Jacupbus* 1144 The kynge began to wode, That his hayghtes bore downe were.

**Wood** (wud), *v.*[2] [f. Wood *sb.*[1] (Cf OE. *wudian* to fell wood)]

**I.** †**1.** *trans.* To surround with or inclose in a wood or trees; *refl.* and *intr.* to hide or take refuge in a wood. *Obs.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast* (Camden) 195 The bowse ys meetely wodeyd in hege rowys *a* 1589 R Lane in *Hakluyt's V.y* 741 The Saugpee betooke themselues to thrift we followed for a while after them, who had woodded themselues we know not where 1645 *City Alarum* 13 We'd ould not tread those Mazes of fortune, wherein we have often wooded

2 *trans.* To cover (land) with wood, as trees, to plant with trees, convert into woodland.

In this sense a back formation from Wooded *ppl. a*, q.v. for earlier quots.; cf also Woodine 2

1768 *Trans Society Arts & Sciences* (1808) II 36, I was delighted with the fine pear trees which wooded the country 1828 Stewart *Planter's Guide* (ed 2) 20 Transplanting could do this to an extent which I have not wooded at once 1896 Howitt *Impressions & Exp* 6 The primeval forests densely wooding the vast levels.

**II.** 3. a. *trans* To supply with wood for fuel; to load (a vessel) with wood

1628 in Foster *Lett. East India* (1909) III 260 Wee woodded and I dlasted our shipps. 1712 E Cooke *Voy* 5. Nov 117 This Island where we entered & wooded water'd, and fitted our Ships. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* iii. 430 Our next employment was wooding and watering our squadron 1804 Nelson 22 May in Nicolas *Disp* (1845) V 471 Seah rse being in want of wood to be ordered to the Island of Asinara, to cut wood, for which purpose she may remain forty eight hours In much less time the Victory could be wooded 1900 Lennox *James Chalmers* x 72 The people helped in wooding the vessels.

**b** *intr.* To procure or take in a supply of wood for fuel. Also (in mod use) with *up*

1630 Carr J Smith *Trav & Adv* ii 57 In this little Ile of Mevis, I have remained 14 dayes, and have refitted my men 1726 Shelvocke *Voy round World* 76 In this river I imagined we might wood and water 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 369 Soon after leaving, we passed the Zephyr, wooding up on an hour later, our own boat was run to the bank, and we als commenced wooding 1891 C Roberts *Adrift Amer* 200 We went on down the river, stopping occasionally to wood up, & washing in for the night 1921 W F Livingstone *Jaws of Livingstone* 56 I he vessel was wooding with rosewood and ebony logs

4 Bowls. *To Wood*, see Wood *sb.*[1]

1897 *Encycl Sport* I 130/2 The jack is said to be 'wooded' when surrounded by bowls.

5 *trans.* To furnish with a wooden support, to prop with wood.

1918 *Glasgow Her* 14 June 6 Simpson wooded the place (in a coal mine) temporarily, in order to prevent a further fall

**Wood**, obs. form of Woad

**† Woodage.** *Obs rare* [f Wood *sb.*[1] + age] 1611 Cotgr., *Legnisle*, woodage; [Fourmon of wood]

**Wood ā-sail**, *pl* **-sailes.** [Wood *sb.*[1], Asse *sb.*[2]] The ash or ashes of burnt wood

1748 *Anson's Voy* iii. 135 This oil served when mixed with wood ashes to supply the use of tallow 1836 C. Wooldridge *Ashes* 1 (Heading) Something some called to be placed among the wood ashes of the fire an I baked. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* 63 Natives who had rubbed themselves with wood ash until their complexions were 'the color of slate pencil'.

¶ See Woad-ashes.

**Wood-bill** (wu dbil) [Ok *wudubil*,[1] see Wood *sb.*[1] and Bill *sb.*[1]] An implement used for cutting wood, pruning, etc. Bill *sb.*[1] 4

*c* 725 *Corpus Glossi* (Hessels) I 48 *Falcastrum*, wudubil *c* 850 Wærferth in *Gregory's Dial* (1900) 113 Some dæge sealde he him grenzeloman þæt is hatten wudubil 1356 in Isley *Mem. Lowl* (1878) 284, 3 twy billes 3 woodbilles 1388 in *Reg. N. CA. Acts* (unprinted) 273, 1 woddbil 1660 Blount *Fam. Inst* (1688) 44 His Name was agreed to be Will Jones, and His arms a wood bill 1788 Cowper *Let* 28 July, The axe and the woodbill have been too sharply employed

**Woodbine** (wu dbin), **woodbind** (-bænd) Forms see Wood *sb.*[1] a 1 bind, -bend, 1–6 -binde, 4–7 bynde, 5 -bende, 5–6 -bynd, 6– woodbind; *B* 6 -bvne, -bin, (*ydial* wid d bin), 6– woodbine (Also with hyphen, formerly occas. as two words.) [Ok. *wudubind*, *bindr* also *bend*, *bendi*, Wood *sb.*[1] + root of Bind *v.* (*bend*, *bound*). cf Da. *vedbende* ivy and, for the second element, Wyth(e)rind. For the loss of final *d* cf. *lone* for *land*, *rine* for *rind*]

Similar formations are Ok *wudu wunde* 'volvola', 'edera', 'viburna', 'convolvus', *wudu hunde* 'convolvus', ON *veðr-rind* ivy, Norw *ved(e)rende*, *(v)endel*, *videndel* 'caprifolium']

1 A name for various plants of a climbing habit; in early use (later only dial.), convolvulus and ivy.

now chiefly (*f' S*) the Virginia Creeper *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, and the West Indian *Ipomœa tuberosa* (Spanish Woodbine).

*a* c875 *Lindisf Gosp* Mark i 6 Wudu bannx þæt wæxen on wuldu binde [*Rushw* wude bendum] *c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* I 302 Xenim þysse wyrte wyrtrumum þe man cappas & oþrum naman wudubend hatað *Ibid* II 34 Wyrt 222Nelde wuldubinden leaf *c* 1050 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 418/25 *Hedera nigra*, wuldubind seorþiht *c*1485 tr *Ardern's Treat Fev* 164, etc. 30 Recipe—þe luyce of sen herbe, or mech wormode petite consaude, wodbynd 1526 *Grete Herbal* ccccxlvii (1529) Ariv], *De Proprietatibus* 1582 Pettingten & *Thos Abelas Pract* A 2 a iij The woodbinde ch vlues vp & vpreules it selfe ouer all the branches, vnto it haue ouergrowen and kylled them 1586 Bellenden *Bullenden's Boethius* (1536) (1938) xxxiv Ellal is called *Hedune* & *vitis vitis* [*sylvestris*] 1611 Florio *Worlde of Wordes* 1670 Blount *Glossographia* Wax (S I S) 44 As ye wood bind cleaveth in ye oak and tyne with time destroys ye tree 1697 *Phil Trans* XIX 628 Trifle Fig Names, Blew Woodbind, Trifoly Ivy 1698 Lett J Smith *Letters* v 171 As the leaf of Wood bind which runnes vpon trees, twining it self like a Vine the fruit eaten worketh in the nature of a purge 1699 Gerard *Herbal* Bodæus *Bodæus* & Hedera Berries of Wood bind 1760 J Lee *Introd. Bot* App 324 Woodbind Spanish, *Ip. co.*

β 1572 Turner *Herb* (1568) 57 Nexte vnto the herbes to growe in the garden for Physicke 23 Satchvort 24 Woodbine 1846–50 A Wood *Class Bk Bot* 222 *Ampelopsis quinquefolia* Five-leaved Woodbine, a creeping plant for walls, and is best known by the name of Woodbine

**2** *esp.* The common honeysuckle, *Lonicera Periclymenum* a climbing shrub with pale yellow fragrant flowers; also extended to other species, as the N American *L. grata*

*a* c1265 *Voc Plants* in Wr Wülcker 656/1 *Matervilua i chaneſ le*, *i* wudebinſlipe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III 1231 As sobwe as the wrye be the soote wode bynde *a* 1387 *Sinon Barth* (Oxford Quon) 24 *Caprifolium*, wodebinde 1388 Turner *Herbal* II 82 b Whereof the Honysuckle wexeth it self about bushes. 1624–8 Sheriey *Sch Complement* II (1631) 18 The Honey Wo d bind, Circling a withered Bryer 1778 R Graves *Sylvanus* I 6 Among the lofty trees which round the door An ilantine blooms 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xvi 1794) 204 The Woodbind has slender trailing branches, twining round the boughs of trees

β 1548 Turner, *Terrelymenon*, an herbe called woodbine, whiche beareth the hy ſuckle 1590 Shaks *Mids N* II 1 251, I know a bank where the wilde time blowes, Quite ouer-canopied with luſh woodbine 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 146 The Musk rose, and the well attir'd Woodbine 1718 Lady M W Montagu *Let to Abbé Conti* 19 May, The walls are in the nature of trellice's and so is the outside of them, vines and woodbines painted 1847 60 Darlington *Amer Weeds* 282 Agreeable I o icera. Wild Honeysuckle American Woodbine 1856 Mrs Mulock *John Halifax* xii, There was a yellow ja mine over the porch at one front door, and a woodbine at the other

**3** *attrib* and *Comb*.

1548 Upshall *Vocabula* of Ba Others browse the wood I me twigges 1599 Shaks *Much Ado* III v 30 Benedick is couched in the wo d line couerture 1599 Cutwode *Caltha Poet Scintilla* C 6 b, She commeth to the woodbind tree. *Ibid* cxvi B 8, She goes vnto the Woodbind Tree 1706 Pork *Spring* 97 Haste to ye yonder woodbine bowrs 1723 *Guardian* No 102 To taste the odours of the wood bine grove 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 461 In the gelid caverns, woodbine wrought 1845 J F Carpenter *Poems & Hymns* 93 The cottage With porch—all woodbine clad 1854 Lennox *Maud* I 4 The woodbine spices are wafted about 1895 R W Chambers *King in Yellow, Street of Our Lady of Pacific* ii (1900) 232 A white house and wood-bine-covered porch 1908 [Lilie b wife] *Below Front & Anchovine* 115 Across a woodbine hedge

Hence **Woo dbined** (-bsind) *a.*, overgrown or adorned with woodbine

1795 Southey *Joan d'Arc* v 104 The woodbined wall 1803 Cotswold Inns *Lyra Pastor* 109 Those woodbined oriels.

**Woo d-brown.** Also 3 wudebrune, 4 wodebroun, 4–5 broun, 6 (? *error*) woodbroney [f. Wood *sb*1 6 + Brown]

†**1.** The herb bugle, *Ajuga replans*, in reference to the brownish tint of the leaves *Obs*

*c*1265 *Voc Plants* in Wr Wülcker 554/3 *Buglosa*, *i* bugle, *i* wudebrune *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol* (Anecd Oxon) 13 *Lugula*, bugle, *i* wodebro un

¶ Glossing I. *fraxinus* 13th-cent

*a* 1400 *Stockh Alex* MS 188 Hertswort or wodebroun, *fraxinus* 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl, Woodbroney is *Fraxinus*

**2** [partly after G *holzbraun*] The brown colour characteristic of wood (see quot 1805). Also as *adj*

1805 J Walker *Hints on Caract Portraits* 63 Wood brown is a very pale col ur being a mixture of yellowish brown and much ashes grey 1839 Maggi Livray *Brit Birds* II 367 The wing and tail w ood brown 1866 Rock. Whitney *Leathe Goldthw ait*, The loveliest balmoral I ever saw in my life! Why, you'll look like a hamadryad, all in these wood browns!

**Woodbury** (wu dbari). The name of Walter Bentley *Woodbury* (1834–1885), inventor of many contrivances connected with photography, used attrib in designations of processes invented by him, as *Woodbury gravure*, *-process*, esp. **Woodburytype** (wu dbaritai p) [see -TYPE], a process in which a design on a film of gelatine, obtained from a photographic negative, is transferred by heavy pressure to a metal plate from which it may be printed, a print thus produced; also *attrib*.

1869 *Photogr Trnl* 16 Jan 218/2 The Woodbury Type Company 1872 *Woodbury Patent Specif* 4 Dec, In *Ure's Diet Arts* (ed 7) III. 565 The ordinary Woodbury printing-press. 1878 tr *Vogel's Chem Light* xv 243 Woodbury printing 1878 Abney *Trnsl Photogr* 174 The Woodbury-type process 1881 *Athenæum* 25 Jan 134/1 This book is illustrated by Woodburytype reproductions of contemporary views of the Tower of London 1881 *Nature* (N Y) XXXII. 219 A two page Woodbury type of a Chinese eaten..by bookworms 1892 *Hazell's Annual* 559 It is an improvement upon the well known Woodbury process, and has been given the name of Woodbury gravure

**Wood-carne, -cerne,** obs ff Wood-kern.

**Woodchat** (wu dtʃat) [I rst found in a post-humous work of Ray's (see first quot), where it appears to be for **wood cat*, a literal rendering of G *waldkatze* (Naumann) or *waldkatz* (Brehm) thus not connected with Chat *sb*4] A species of shrike, *Lanius rufus* (*rufus*, or *aurriculatus*), a rare summer visitor to England, also called **woodchat shrike**

1713 Ray *Synops Meth Av* (1713) 19 The lesser Ash C. lour'd Butcher-bird with a white Spot on each Shoulder The Wood chat 1774 Goldsm *Nat Hist* V 236 The woodchat resembles the [so I lacked butcher bird] except in the colour of the back, which is brown; and it is red as in the other 1781 Latham *Syn* I 1 169 Wood-chat shrike *La ius grieschæ rouge* 1860 Wood *Illustr Nat Hist* II 376 The Woodchat Shrike is occasionally but very rarely met with in this country 1894 Newton *Dict Birds* 845 The Woodchat, with bright bay crown and nape, and the rest of its plum ge black grey and white

**Woodchuck** (wu dtʃʌk) [Alteration, by association with Wood *sb*1, of Algonkin Indian name of Cree *wuchak* (Watkins), *otchock* (J Richardson), Wejack] A common N. American species of marmot, *Arctomys monax*, of a large stout form, which burrows in the ground, and hibernates in winter

1689 in *Hist Coll Essex Inst* (Mass) IV 23/1 A parcell of woodchuck commonly called Woodchuck's meate 1778 J Carver *Trav N Amer* xvii 254 The woodchuck is a ground animal of the fur kind, about the size of a rabbit 1819 Warden *Acc U S* I 225 Marmot of Maryland *Arctomys monax*, known by the names of woodchuck and ground hog 1855 Longf *Hiaw* vi 125 O'er these it was easy to clamber, Not a woodchuck could get through them 1864 Whittier *Among the Hills* (1893) 230 Sweetly through them had dug out for their shelter, like swallows and woodchucks

**Wood d-coal.**

**1.** Charcoal obtained from wood, with *pl*, a piece of this = Coal *sb* 4 *arch* or *Hist*

1693 [see Coal *sb* 4]. [Dennisey's] *Hilpb Gauell* (1816) 14 In both places appeared to have been fire made by wood coals 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo* 38 It is not your chance to have a bit of chalk A wood-coal or the like?

**2** = Lignite

1709 Kirwan *Coal Ess* 348 Coal is often found under basalt —Wood coal is no rarities f und under both 1830 Henwood *Trans Roy Geol Soc Cornw* II (1831) 45 Thin seams of fossil wood and wood coal

Hence † **Woo d-coa ler, -co llier,** a maker of or dealer in ' wood-coal' (sense 1) = Collier 1, 2

1600 *West Riding Sessions R Ix* (Yorks Rec Soc III) 218 R. Lumley, super dict. Lumley woodcollier 1690 in Marshall *Estimston Reg* (1891) 32 Khizal eth Chidle wood coalliers wife 1708 *Lond Gaz* No 4447/4 Richard Bradley, Woodcollier

**Woodcock** (wu dkɒk), *sb* Forms: see Wood *sb*1 and Cock *sb*1; also 2–3 wide cok, 4 wodecoc, 5 kok, wodkoke, 6 wodkoce, *Sc.* widcolk. [Late OE. *wudu-, wudecocc(e*, f Wood *sb*1 and Cock *sb*1] Appears in OE. as *huitecox*, *wutecos*, *widecox*, etc, and in Norman dial as *videcot*]

**1** A migratory bird, *Scolopax rusticula*, allied to the snipe, common in England as in the British Islands, having a long bill, large eyes, and variegated plumage, and much esteemed as food. Also, the allied *Philohela minor* of N. America, similar in appearance and habits but smaller

Properly de ioting the in le I ird but commonly applied to both sexes. *c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* I 70 In sportmannes vse with it catcheth *wuducocc* and *gyrsan*, *snite*, *hasel*, etc *c* 1050 *Voc* in Wr Wülcker 558/5 *Accga* wuducoc *ac* 1100 *Class* thi dingt 139/20 *Accita*, snite, *uel* wudecoc 1073 *Ibid* Cast (Kuhn) 85, 11 wodecoc ken pru ni ol ias 1321 *Wr Voc* Le bon widcoke pur i demier *c* 1325 *Gloss W de Bibbesw* in Wright *Vo* 164 Un nescye [*glos* a wodekok] *Hist* 174 Anon (Percy Soc) 1349 *Durham Rolls* (Surtees) 41, 11 plouers, 13 Wodekokes *c* 1440 *Ipar Cocorum* (1862) 35 Po crine schalle be Dratun at po yde as wodcokis. 1486 *Bk St Albans* Hawkyng I he maye also fle at herons at bitorous to sle hot if ther be crafte 1533 Elyot *Cast Helthe* (1539) 30 Wodcockes are of a good temperiaunce, and meetely ly3ghte in digestio n 1550 *Bueph Rec Ir Inst* (1871) I 92 Item fowle viz. Ix cuttowe lyve, Ixx woodcocke, in with *Reg Privy Mr's Comm* App 158 Send to the fouler and se if he can get moor fowles or pivers or partridges or w.idcocks. 1700 I Brewster *Prouty's Amusem* 38 Mayors and Woodcocks come in about Michaelmas. 1768 Pennant *Brit Zool* II 348 Woodcocks generally arrive here in flocks 1819 Byron *Juan* ix lxvii, He cannot live, like woodcocks, up n suction 1872 Coues *N Amer Birds* 249 In woodcock and true snipe the eye is placed far back and high 1900 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 132 The wood cock are notoriously late

b Applied to other birds.

(*a*) Local name for the pileated woodpecker of N America, also called *log cock* (*b*) *Little woodcock* = woodcock-snipe (see a) (*c*) *Sea woodcock* = Sea Pie 3 *c*

*a* 1813 A Wilson *Foresters* Poet Wks (1846) 228 Crested wood cocks hammer from on high 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 141 Great Snipe (*Gallinago major*) Little

**WOODCRAFT.**

woodcock, Woodcock snipe (Ireland). 1888 G. Trumbull *Bird Names* 132.

**2** In allusive use (from the ease with which the woodcock is taken in a snare or net), in reference to capture by some trickery, or as a type of gullibility or folly; hence applied to a person: a fool, simpleton, dupe *Obs or arch*

*c*1430 Lydg *in Pol Rel & L Poems* (1903) 48 With wodcokes, lerne for to dare *a* 1500–34 *Lett. Corp Christi Pl* n. 432 For, dame, well I beswer vnt my wyttis, To wayte or spy where the wodkoce vittis 1833 More *Debell Salem* Wks 958/2 As though he trusted that all the worlde wer woodcokes or as himselfe 1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* Apol (Arb) 72 t upide seis vpp a Springe for Woodcockes, which are entangled ere they descrie the line 1601 Shaks *Twel. N* III v 92 Now is the Woodcocke neere the gin 1845 Milton *Colast* Wks 1851 IV 376 This most incogitant woodcock 1642 T Washbourne *Div Poems* 1 Or like the Wood cock hide their heads, and then, 'Cause they see none, think none sees them again 1679 *Hist Jetuite* 25 What have the wise Woodcocks of the Council to do with our Affairs? 1708 *Brit Apollo* No 3 2/2 That he shou d not, In his own Trade appear a Woodcock 1848 Scott *Jt Mi rrith* xxxii, Poor woodcock, thou art snared! 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II ii, We hold our Saxon woodcock in the springe, But he begins to flutter

**3.** Various transferred uses **a.** = *woodcock-shell* (sec 4); more fully *thorny woodcock* **b** A variety of apple. **c** = *woodcock soul* (sec 4). *d. Scotch woodcock*: fancy name for a savoury dish: see quot

*a.* 1815 S Brookes *Introd Conchol* 157 Woodcock, *Murex Tentaculatus* 1815 Brookes *Illustrow Linn Conchol* 202 *Murex Tribulus*, Thorny Woodcock or Venus Comb.

*b* 1700 Nourse *Diss Benefits Heath* x 148 The Woodcock is a fair large Apple, and produces an excellent Cyder 1803 *Trans Soc Arts* XXI 120 The golden pearmain, woodcock, and red musk, are generally le ge apples

*c* 1764 *Museum Rust* II xlvii 107 Our souls are, in general, either a loam, brick earth, or woodcock, and under them clay

*d* 1879 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 1 14 May 1/4 'Scotch Woodcock' consists of hard boiled eggs chopped and mixed with anchovy sauce, and then laid on slices of hot buttered toast

**4** *attrib.* and *Comb*, as *woodcock-pie, shooting*; **woodcock clay** = *woodcock soil*; **woodcock-eye, -head, -nose** = Woodcock *sb* 3 *a*; **woodcock-night** 1, **woodcock-fly**, a fly used by anglers (see quot); **woodcock gun**, a gun used for shooting woodcocks; **woodcock owl**, a local name for the shorteared owl; **woodcock('s) pillot**, a local name for the golden-crested wren (see quot 1893); **woodcock shell**, one of several species of *Murex* having a long spout resembling a woodcock's bill, **woodcock snipe**, the great snipe, *Scolopax major*, **woodcock soil**, a loose soil consisting of a mixture of clay and gravel; **woodcock wing**, (*a*) the wing of a woodcock; (*b*) = *woodcock-fly*

1780 Young *Tour Ire* II 88 A hill which is wet woodcock clay 1794 W Felton *Carriages* (1802) II 155 Having the trace rings made with a screw, whereby they may be changed and "woodcock eyes" put in their place. 1880–4 Day *Fishes Gt Brit & Irel* I 250 *Centriscus scolopax* The trumpet, bellows fish, "woodcock or snipe fish 1787 *Hunt Angling* (ed 3) 52 Woodcock fly, or Woodcock fly, found on the body of an Oak or Ash is a brownish fly and is taken from the beginning of May till the end of August 1858 Gosse *Canadian Nat* II 1 Another "woodcock gun, less elevation is required, the distance of shooting being shorter 1840 Macgillivray *Brit Birds* III 461 *Also headpeats* The breakbill Tufted Owl, "Woodcock Owl Mouse hawk 1598 *Minsheu Dict* v 86 Now men maie goe to breakfast with a "woodcoke pie 1906 *Westm Gaz* 24 Dec 11/2 Woodcock-pie is a famous Christmas dish at the Palace 1872 *Daily Telegraph* 8 Feb Woodcock Pilot', 1893 Newton *Dict Birds* 568 The bird [or Golden crested Wren] in autumn visits the east coast in enormous flocks, they are well known as the migrations as "Woodcock's Pilots," from their generally preceding by a few days the advent of those regular immigrants 1907 *Athenæum* 11 May 570/2 The most interesting, if these local terms is that of "woodcock pilot', by which the goldcrest is known to all the wild fowlers 1890 R G Cumming *Hunting Trofs Afr* (1892) 98/1 I always use No 4 shot as much indifference as if I were going "woodcock shooting 1895 "woodcock snipe [see 1 b] 1764 Young in *Museum Rust* III 111 Ibid 1884 Roose, "woodcock, brick earth soils 1775 N Kent *Hints to Gentl* 14 Woodcock soil generally consists of yellow, or white clay, with a mixture of gravel, is seldom fruitful 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 3508 Except God make me lichter nor ane fedder, And send me doun guide "Widcok wingis to flie 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz* 7 Apr 6/1 A bull trout succumbs to the woodcock wing

Hence (*nonce-wds*) **Woo dcock** *v.*, *intr.* to act like a woodcock (see quot, and cf quot. 1634 in 2 above); **Woo dcocking** *vbl.*, *n.*, *attrib.* to make a 'woodcock' of, to befool.

1817 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* vi, Like all cunning people, he "*woodcocks*—hides his head, and forgets his body can be seen 1612 Cotgr, *Becasser*, gulled, abused, 'woodcocked, made a woodcocke

**Woodcraft** (wu dkrɑft). (Also *U. S.* woodscraft. see Wood *sb*1 9 g.) [f Wood *sb*.1 + Craft *sb*]

**1.** Skill in, or skilled practice of, matters pertaining to woods or forests, esp. (in early use) to the chase; now (chiefly in U. S. and Colonial use) applied esp. to such knowledge of forest conditions as enables one to maintain oneself or make one's way.

23 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1605 A wyȝe þat was wys vpon wod

crafties To vnlace his bor lufly bigynnae. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 110 Of woodcraft wel koude he al the vsage..A Forster was he.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* lx, Thou hast begun thy woodcraft well. 1838 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* XXIV, One or two other leaders of the camp, versed in woodcraft, examined with learned eye the trees. 1879 BET HARTE *Idyl of Red Gulch* Wks (1879) 56 When he had built a fire against a tree, and had shown them other mysteries of woodcraft. 1890 ' R. BOLDREWOOD ' *Col. Reginon* xi, The steering straight in a country without a landmark, was likely to bear hard upon his woodcraft. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* XVIII, He was full of delight over everything that savored of the woods or woodcraft.

**2.** Skill in woodwork, or in constructing something of wood.

1823 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 525 They Nor knew to build a house With wickered sides, nor any woodcraft knew 1891 L. PEACOCK *N Brendon* I. viii 127 The chief carpenter [has] some good books on woodcraft.

**Woodcut** (wu dkɒt). [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + CUT *sb.*[2] 21.] A design cut in relief on a block of wood, for printing from, a print or impression obtained from this; a wood-engraving. (Formerly more freq. called *wooden cut*; see WOODEN *a.* 4.)

1682 EVELYN *Chalcogr* 84 All those excellent Wood Cuts of Hans Schirstyn and Adam Altorf 1816 OTTLEY *Hist Engraving* I 102 The wood-cuts which execute what is termed the old block-books. 1835 DICKENS *I et. to Miss Hogarth*, A new publication each number to contain four woodcuts. 1857 H SPENCER *Westm Rev.* Apr. 460 The woodcuts of the *Illustrated London News*

*attrib.* 1865 *Way Prompt. Parv.* p xiv, The well known wood cut device used by Wynkyn de Worde and by R. R. Bowker in *Harper's Mag.* July 182/1 Charles Knight's popular illustrated books again revived wood cut work.

**Wood-cutter** (wu dkɒtə(r)).

**1.** One who cuts wood; one who cuts down or fells trees, or cuts off their branches, for the wood; a wood-hewer.

1774 *Pennsylv Gaz* 14 Dec Suppl 2/3 Cross-cut, pit, hand, woodcutters, tennon, and a variety of other saws. 1778 LYNCH in Sparks *Corr. Amer Rev.* (1853) II 83 It will be right to keep your heroes for wood cutters? 1837-42 HAWTHORNE *Twice told T* (1851) II ix 129 The axe of the woodcutter echoes in the forest 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXIII, The huts of the wood-cutters, where the vessel stopped for fuel.

**2.** A marker of woodcuts, a wood-engraver.

1861 T. G WARNER-SMITH *Arch Cret* (1862) 194 Our historical wood-cutters have thought it much to follow those hues nearly pencilled by the inventor on the blocks. 1904 *Times Lit Suppl* 21 June 181/3 Mr Mudday interprets the stone carvings, and the woodcutters interpreting Mr. Maudsley.

**Wood ɑ-cu tting**, *sb.*

**1.** Wood-engraving. Also *attrib.*

1790 *Harmer's Collect* (O H S) VII 382 Wood cutting being not so much used since engraving came up 1871 ALABASTER *Wicked of Law* liv, The arts of printing and woodcutting have, in Cochin-China, made books very cheap 1890 *A hen rum* 1 Mar 281/2 Many inequalities observed in the output of woodcutting *both ghe.*

**2** The action or employment of cutting down trees for wood, or of cutting wood with saws or other appliances. Also *attrib.*

1872 J. RICHARDS *Wood working Machines* 32 Wood-cutting Machines 1893 RODWAY *Hand-bk Brit. Guiana* 58 Wood cutting grants are obtainable 1899 — *Guiana Wilds* 19 Now and a, an he did a little wood cutting.

**Wooddie, -y, -lah**, obs. ff. WOODIY, WOODISH.

**Wood-dove.** [*Cf. Du. houtduif, G. holztaube*] = WOOD PIGEON Also applied to certain S. African birds allied to this (see quot. 1875–84)

*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thop* 59 He wodedowue vpon a spray She sang ful loude and clere *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wode Dowe, or stokk dowe, *palumba* *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols* (E. E. T. S.) 13 When curlews cary clothes, & woddowes wers w-doddyssis, theves to kyll, Than put in a wom un your trust & confidence 1709 SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. 92 While the soft mourning, am'rous Wood-Dove coos. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* I 287 *Columba Œnas* Stock Dove. Wood Dove. 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk Tau I & Chas. I* (1898) 74 Melodious as the voice of wood doves. 1875–84 *Coues's Birds N. Amer* 560 *Myiopelia larvata* Rufous-breasted Wood Dove *Ib.* 570 *Chalcopelia afra*. Emerald spotted Wood Dove *Ib.* 571 *Tympanistria tympanistria* White-breasted Wood Dove.

**Woode**, obs. form of WOAD, WOOD.

**Wooded** (wu ded), *ppl. a* [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] or *v.*[2] + -ED.] Furnished with wood or woods; covered with growing trees; abounding in woods or forests. (*a*) predicative, in ppl. construction, in later use giving rise to sense 2 of WOOD *v.*[2], of which it may be taken as the pa. pple. Usually with adv

1662 CANDEN *Rem* 1 Isle of Distance abundant in pasture, plentifully wooded. 1685 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, It is well wooded, and well watered,—the acres Fertile and rich. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Introd. His estate was . well wooded and full of timber. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog* I. 141 The land is flat, marshy and wooded with pines, birch, larch and willows 1825 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng* XII III 137 The neighbourhood of Kensington was richly wooded. *Ib.* a 1826 BRAUN & PL. *Bonduca* I ii, The hills are wooded with their partizans. And all the valleys overgrown with darts, As moors are with rank rushes

(*b*) in attrib. construction, preceding the sb

1782 PENNANT *Journ. Chester to Lond.* 99 Some pretty pieces of water, winding along a fine wooded dell 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw* III, In a wooded part was situated the ancient mansion. 1890 *Blackw. Mag* Jan. 109/2 The tangled Canal..runs straight as a die between its wooded banks.

**Wooden** (wu'd'n), *a.* Also 6–7 wodden, woodden, 6–8 wooden. [f. WOOD *sb.*[1] + -EN 4.]

**I. Made or consisting of wood.**

1538 ELYOT *Dict*, *Durotaxus*, wodden 1597 GOODE *Herebach's Husb* 1 37 Raking them with woodden Rakes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II ii (1592) 122 To fall downe prostrate before a wooden Idoll. 1612 CORYAT *Crudities* 34 The images of many of the French Kings, set in certain wod den [*sic*] 1756 *Gentleman's Magazine* 163 MOXON *Mech. Exerc. Printing* XXIV ¶ 1 If the Joyner performed his Work well in making the Wooden-work 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1909) 20 Beat every two or three rows of turf, while moist, with the wooden-beater. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II vii, A kind of wooden Machine 1831 SCOTT *Cl Rob.* xv, A massive wooden stock. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXVII. 197, I reached a wooden hut 1898 A AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The slowly-rolling wheels of a wooden wain with wooden wheels, wooden pole, and wooden yoke.

*b, transf.*, in various occas senses Made or produced by means of wood; dull or dead, as the sound of wood when struck, relating to or occupied with wood, full of objects made of wood; hard and stiff like wood

1606 SHARP *Tr. & Cr.* I iii 155 Like a strutting Player Whose wooden Dialogue sticks in's sound That hath a stretcht footing, and the Scaffolage 1610 *Temp* II i, 62, I would no more endure I his wooden slauerie [*sc.* piling logs]. 1663 BUTLER *Hud* II iii 609 Secure from Wooden Blow 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc* III 27 Put the whole lump into a wooden Box 1703 I N *City & C. Purchaser* 161 Trees useful for the Carpenter, Joyner, or other Wooden Artificers 1890 LOWELL *Democracy & Leaflets of Am's Read* 412 In the woodenest outskirts of North Cambridge. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* IV. 762 A feeling as if the throat were 'wooden' 1899 [J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg* X No 38 Descr Plate XVII, The fingers have become slender, pale and wooden

**2.** *fig.* Having some quality likened to the hard dry consistence of wood, or to its inferior value as compared with precious metal or fine stone.

**a.** Lacking grace, liveliness, interest, or the like; expressionless, spiritless; dull and inert; stiff and lifeless.

*a* 1586 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B 3 b, He will never blush, he hath a wodden face 1625 BACON *Ess.* I. *Boldness* (1871) 7 When a Boldness is followed with a Countenance, that puts his Face into a most Shrunken, and wooden Posture. 1823 R H in *Examiner* 17 May 315/2 The dreary and dishearten ing manner in some parts feeble and wooden 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv 215 The seeming poverty of his intellect, his blank wooden lo ks 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist Elizabeth Lit* iv (1890) 130 The earlier and woodener matter [of poetry] 1899 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 526/1 A dryasdust antiquary of the most wooden type

**b** Of persons or their attributes Mentally dull; insensible, unapprehensive; unintelligent, blockish.

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1590) 3 When I see so leaden eyes, so not to see sweete Beauties shewe Or seeing, have so wooden wits as not to know. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen VI*, IV vi 72 Wooden slaues, and mortall Peasants I to whom? Why for my King Iush, that's a wooden thing 1639 T. FAN *Temple of Solomon* 194 Their lying wonders is often recited in their wooden Legends *a* 1691 BURY *Life Francis Peyton* (1823) II 455 *note*, The Rump of a House, twas the wooden invention of Generall Br e (a wooden Dragon) 1698 *Ames Ir Cath* 40 I talk of a Jew in this address of Sin, to make the Merit of such a wooden Law to be little better than a wooden God 1805 MOORE *To Lady Hestheote* 51 Those thin Wits With heads as wooden as the Poles they're placed in 1811 LOCKE in Nicols *Illustr* III 127 The Duke's wooden speech 1820 *Blackw. Edinb Mag.* VII 129 The wooden notion that it is an inherent quality in a word to be of the same part of speech.

**†c** Of inferior character, poor, worthless

1592 LYLY *Gallathea* II iii, I shall haue but wodden lucke. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv Devon* § 103 (1810) 100 In old time were golden prelates, and wooden chalices, but in this time, wooden prelates and golden chalices. 1641 *Protestation* 2 (*cat* 1528) 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 119 Making a wooden spade: but this did my Work in but a wooden manner.

**†3** Belonging to the woods, sylvan *Obs. rare.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl Usher* I, Bash, Sylvanus this woodden g st 1823 CARLTON *New Purchase* 30 Our wooden country's mighty rough for some folks. *Ib.* 115 Religious meetings in the wooden world

**II** Special Collocations **†4. Wooden cuts** = WOODCUT *So wooden picture, print. Ob.*

1883 MOXON *Mech Exerc Printing* 1 Cutting them Letters upon the Sides in which Pages or Forms, are made by our Wooden Pictures are Cut. 1691 WOOD *Ath Oxon* I 31 Printed from a Wooden Cut the Picture of a Bear basted by six Dogs 1708 *Hearne Collect* II 25 (O H S) I. 25 Raphael, a Wooden Print. 1770 DE NOMME *First Printing* 92 Elegant initial letters, and fine wooden cuts 1837 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* I. II 328 450 Other Brandishs of Scotsburg published a work in three Volumes folio, with 2, 8 wooden cuts of plants. [1848 LOWELL *Fab Critics* 1596 *note*, Cuts rightly called wooden, as all must admit.]

**5. Wooden horse.** **a.** [*cf. L. equus ligneus*] A designation for a ship. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 29 They are glad on their wodden horses to post after [the herring]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxi. (1647) 264 The Low-countreys, the best stable of wooden horses, and most potent in Shipping 1844 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, [He] saw nothing in this worse than an ordinary fit of sea-sickness He assured his passenger that he hoped to drink a can with him; for all that he felt a little out of the way for riding the wooden horse.

**b.** An instrument of punishment, chiefly military, formerly in use (= HORSE *sb.* 6 b): see quot. 1688. *Hist*

1689 *Law Scotpha Isle of Man* (1819) 103 The Offender for (theft) under the Value [of 6*d.*] to be whipped, or sett upon a Wooden Horse ordained for such Offenders 1698 in Rushw *Hist. Coll* IV II 169 Henry Matthews and Robert Rowe were tried by Court Martial and sentenced to ride the Wooden Horse at the Royal Exchange 1698 BURTON *Hist* III iii. 212 Worse than marriage is a Wooden Horse. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III xix. (ROXB) 200/1 Moderne punishments used among the Souldiery Ridding the wooden horse, setting them up on horse wode of wood with a sharp rigged back, ha hands tyed behind him, and Muskets or weights hung at his feet *c* 1700 J. LEWIS *Mem. Fr William Henry* (1879) 1 The Duke had his boys put the taylor on the wooden horse, which stood in the presence room for the punishment of offendes, as is usual in martial law. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 44 Punishments inflicted by Officers without the Sentence of a Court Martial, Picketing—tying neck and heels, and riding the wooden horse 1899 BALDOCK *Cromwell* 360 Two soldiers of Dean's regiment rode the 'wooden horse' for an hour

**†c** A name for the scaffold or gallows; also for an instrument of torture: = HORSE *sb.* 24 *Obs.*

1652 [see HORSE *sb.* 24] 1665 CHANDLER *Lamberd's Hist Impots* II 222 A Wooden Bench, which they call the Wooden Horse [described at length].

**d.** The wooden figure of a horse (TROJ ἵππος, Odyssey VIII. 492, 512) in which the Greek invaders were concealed at the siege of Troy. Hence **†Wooden-horse** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to capture by means of this.

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsence* Wks. (163) II 3/2 Vnlll the Wodden Horse of trusty Sinon, Could a whole Iitter f m of Greeks in Harnesse 1626 *Hard Advice to Painter* 32 Hark ! Cassandraes Song e're Fate destroy, By their own Navyes, Wooden horse thy Troy 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 148 Open was the garden-door, and all the builder of the wooden horse in which the heroes were concealed

**e.** A wooden structure in a gymnasium, for vaulting exercises: = HORSE *sb.* 6 c.

1894 G. ROLAND *Gymnastics* 27 The wooden horse interesting from the number of exercises practised upon it

**6. Wooden shoe** a shoe made of wood, as the French SABOT; in the 18th c. popularly taken as typical of the miserable condition of the French peasantry.

1607 [see SABOT *sb.*] 1701 DE FOE *Jure hom Eng.* I. 268 Two hundred Thousand Pair of Wooden Shoes, Who God be thanked, had nothing left to Use 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* Prol. 8 Round heads and wooden shoes are standing Jokes 1766 GOLDSM *Vicar W* xiii, What I give up liberty, property, and, as the Gazetteer says he does to be saddled with wooden shoes! 1818 SCOTT *Heart Midl Lothian* xl (1850) 190 The earlier and woodener matter [of poetry] 1899 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 526/1 A dryasdust antiquary of the most wooden type

**b** Of persons or their attributes Mentally dull; insensible, unapprehensive; unintelligent, blockish.

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1590) 3 When I see so leaden eyes, so not to see sweete Beauties shewe Or seeing, have so wooden wits as not to know. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen VI*, IV vi 72 Wooden slaues, and mortall Peasants I to whom? Why for my King Iush, that's a wooden thing 1639 T. FAN *Temple of Solomon* 194 Their lying wonders is often recited in their wooden Legends *a* 1691 BURY *Life Francis Peyton* (1823) II 455 *note*, The Rump of a House, twas the wooden invention of Generall Br e (a wooden Dragon) 1698 *Ames Ir Cath* 40 I talk of a Jew in this address of Sin, to make the Merit of such a wooden Law to be little better than a wooden God 1805 MOORE *To Lady Hestheote* 51 Those thin Wits With heads as wooden as the Poles they're placed in 1811 LOCKE in Nicols *Illustr* III 127 The Duke's wooden speech 1820 *Blackw. Edinb Mag.* VII 129 The wooden notion that it is an inherent quality in a word to be of the same part of speech.

**†c** Of inferior character, poor, worthless

1592 LYLY *Gallathea* II iii, I shall haue but wodden lucke. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv Devon* § 103 (1810) 100 In old time were golden prelates, and wooden chalices, but in this time, wooden prelates and golden chalices. 1641 *Protestation* 2 (*cat* 1528) 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 119 Making a wooden spade: but this did my Work in but a wooden manner.

**†3** Belonging to the woods, sylvan *Obs. rare.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl Usher* I, Bash, Sylvanus this woodden g st 1823 CARLTON *New Purchase* 30 Our wooden country's mighty rough for some folks. *Ib.* 115 Religious meetings in the wooden world

**II** Special Collocations **†4. Wooden cuts** = WOODCUT *So wooden picture, print. Ob.*

1883 MOXON *Mech Exerc Printing* 1 Cutting them Letters upon the Sides in which Pages or Forms, are made by our Wooden Pictures are Cut. 1691 WOOD *Ath Oxon* I 31 Printed from a Wooden Cut the Picture of a Bear basted by six Dogs 1708 *Hearne Collect* II 25 (O H S) I. 25 Raphael, a Wooden Print. 1770 DE NOMME *First Printing* 92 Elegant initial letters, and fine wooden cuts 1837 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* I. II 328 450 Other Brandishs of Scotsburg published a work in three Volumes folio, with 2, 8 wooden cuts of plants. [1848 LOWELL *Fab Critics* 1596 *note*, Cuts rightly called wooden, as all must admit.]

**5. Wooden horse.** **a.** [*cf. L. equus ligneus*] A designation for a ship. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 29 They are glad on their wodden horses to post after [the herring]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxi. (1647) 264 The Low-countreys, the best stable of wooden horses, and most potent in Shipping 1844 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, [He] saw nothing in this worse than an ordinary fit of sea-sickness He assured his passenger

†**wooden dagger**, the dagger of lath worn by Vice in the old moralities, †**wooden doublet** *jocular*, a coffin, **wooden island** (see quot); **wooden isle**, a rhetorical designation for a ship; **wooden leg**, an artificial leg made of wood, also *fig*; **wooden mare** = *wooden horse*, 5 b, **wooden pear**, an Australian tree, *Xylomelum pyriforme*, bearing hard inversely pear-shaped seed-vessels; † **wooden ruff** = *wooden cravat* (see RUFF *sb.*4 4), **wooden surloust** *slang*, *= wooden doublet*, **wooden tongue**, an infectious disease of cattle and horses, in which the tongue is enlarged and hardened; **wooden ware**, articles, esp household utensils, made of wood (sometimes written with hyphen or as one word; cf *earthenware*); **wooden wedding** *U. S.*, the fifth anniversary of one's wedding, on which it is appropriate to give presents made of wood; **wooden wedge** *Cambridge Univ* (see quot. and WEDGE *sb* 8).

1614 SYLVESTER *Last Vertures Reuall* 705 A skilfull Pilot, Her winged mynage rightly to command With hempen Reins in † wooden Bridle. 1685 *Arch. Pacif.* (1883) V 606 To be pelted with Pipes and thin wooden casements. 1768 *Pot-Robins Intell.* 4-11 Apr 2/1 We hear of none this boot that are to wear the "Wooden Cravat. 1589 NASHE *Martine Months Mirth* Wks (*Grosart*) I 17 Your wooden dagger may not bee worne at the bracke, where S Paules sword, hangs by the side. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV iv 77 This roaring diuell i'th olde play, [i. Pistol] that euery one may payre his nayles with a wodden dagger *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gentl* v 1 According to his merits he should wear, A guarded cote, and a sweete wooden dagger. 1678 (F. FORMBY) *Ways to kill Care* Died p. 12, Where to find a guardian for the bawling brat, in case pups should suddenly tumble into his "wooden dublet. 1868 ANNE *True Amer* III 250 Wooden Islands, as places where large quantities of draft wood have been arrested and matted together in different parts of the river. 1603 CHETTLE *Kind Heartes Garne* E 3, The inhabitants of those "wooden Iles, are worthy Seamen. 1582 *Alderburgh Rec in N. & Q.* 12th Ser VII 366/2 Pro 3 s Joyner for a "wooden Legge. xviij*d*. *a* 1625 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd* I iii (1664) 8, She knows a man with all his Limbs a Wooden leg, a Crutch swing her heart. 1668 R. STEELE *Husban tman's Calling* 1 (1672) 7 Every man should be of some use in the body politick else he is but an artificial member, a meer wooden leg. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No 48 P 2, I was the old Soldier who pretended that I had broken my Wooden Leg. 1887 BRANDT *The World went in*, He might be said to have lost it by accident and was replaced by a wooden leg. 1819 "Wooden mare [see MARE² 2 b]. 1829 SCOTT *Of Ill Ht is note* The punishment of riding the wooden mare is one of the severest modes of enforcing military discipline. 1889 MAHEN *Hist. Pt Australia* 615 *Xylomelum pyriforme* Native Pear "Wooden Pear. 1805 *Young Dict., Wooden word* a scoffin, generally spoken of in a wooden sort not with such solutions. 1884 KIRBY *Veter. engineers & Dict.* 328 In cattle the disease [actinomycosis] shows itself in form tumours on the jaw and particularly by a great enlargement and induration of the tongue—"wooden tongue. 1924 *Christian World* 12 Mar 3/2 A Haverfordwest saddler has died from the disease known as "wooden tongue. It occurs occasionally among horses but is extremely rare in human beings. 1727 EARBERY in *Burnet's St Dead* I 20 If a Man should find a fine and magnificent Seat, still the less he there (" with "wooden ware and the most sordid furniture. 1884 SARGENT *Adv Forests N Amer* 406 Large quantities of woodenware handles, spools, bobbins etc. 1888 *Gent's Mag Pap* 274 My 1075/1 In America, to the fifth anniversary of the marriage ceremony is known as the "wooden wedding. 1880 *Slang Dict* (ed 2), "Wooden wedge, the last name in the classical honours list at Cambridge.

III 10 Combinations, as (in sense 1) *=wooden-barred, -hooped, -hulled, -legged, -panned, -seated, -shod, -soled, -walled* adjs, (in sense 2 a) *wooden-faced -featured* adjs also † **wooden-footed** *a*, wooden-shod, **woodenhead**, a stupid person, a blockhead, **wooden-headed** *a*, having a "wooden head', stupid (hence *wooden-headedness*); **wooden-weary** *a*, stupefied with weariness.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* II 23/1 Every one of our pens was made with an open "wooden barred back. 1605 CAMDEN *Remn* 78 By this name [of Saxons], the Amorous Knights were wont to salute freckled "wodden faced women. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict* XXX, His niece, whose wooden faced stolidity had something suggestive of being listened to and stared at by two Dutch clocks. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* VII, A "wooden featured Mynor. 1670 G. H. *Hist Cardinals* I 1 22, I heard a certain "wooden footed [e.g. *a colonel*] first preach. 1832 CARLYLE *Tait to Hope* 8 Sept I saw the coronation procession, which seventy or eighty th. mast "woodenheads besides were looking at. 1906 J. OXENHAM *Grand Christmas Pudding* 142 To let true that that woodenhead played you on her arrest? 1865 *Sat Rev* 4 Feb 143/1 That all brute "wooden headed creature, a man who built to appreciate his value. 1850 DICKENS *Let to Mrs Watson* 14 Dec, I a which "wooden headedness the Child shall be taken to task. 1906 *Nacm Mag* Apr 454 A large "wooden hooped net. 1885 *Illustrator's Assn* 445/1 Of the "wooden hulled vessels the best were Lives. 1884 HACKSTAFF *Shall'ygenteel Story* 1 A stout old "wooden legged Scotch regimental surgeon. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk., Undertakers* 89 Spoken sailed "wooden pinned barges. 1890 'R. POTHERGOOD *Col Reformer* XXV, The "wooden seated American chairs. 1800 "Wooden shod (see SABOT 2). 1892 HACKSTAFF *Purse & Sk., Cart woke*, Virtue may exist among wooden-shoed Papists as well as in most Church of England men. 1820 MILMAN in *Bioger* IV 1 (1900) 18 "Wooden soled shoes. 1910 CROCKETT *Dew of Youth* I ii 10 Troop of wooden soled clogs. 1891 C. JAMES *Kent Regimentals* 23, I walked on between the tall, straight stems. A sudden turn in the "wooden walled alley brought me face to face with a great, still lake. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav Arabia Deserta* I 427 Hounds . . "wooden-weary with long watch

Hence (chiefly *fig*) **Wood'den**, **Wood denise** *vbs*, (*nonce wds*), *trans.* to render wooden, **Wood denly** *adv*, in a wooden manner; **Wood denness**, wooden quality or style; **Wood'deny** *n*, of a wooden quality.

1641 MILTON *Animadv* Wks 1851 III. 239 How little wee needs feare that the unguilding of our Prelates will prove the "woodenning of our Priests. 1891 LANCASTER *Mermet* 235 When the poetic vigour was enfeebled and "woodenised by age. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett* (1888) 63 You would have both pitied and laughed at me if you could have seen how "woodenly I entertained the widow. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I 361 To have some sport in seeing how woodenly he would excuse himself. 1881 J. C. MURRAY *Josephs Coat* I 21 Sitting by the fireside, looking woodenly respectable as of old. 1894 W. C. RUSSELL *Good Ship Mohock* I 15 The mechanical lureling who does his duty woodenly. 1872 *Daily News* 2 July, "Woodenness cannot with truth be said to be banished from the handling of the Aldershot force. 1886 *Spectator* 6 Nov, I it Suppl. 1501 The woodenness, notwithstanding the suits of woodenness, which are inevitable whenever authors do not make their studies from life. 1888 SWEET *Hist Lang Sounds* p xi, The "woodenness with which then characterized German dull dogs. 1864 *Hornung Star* 19 Sept, Some of the horses are "woodeny old screws without a pace in them beyond the regulation amble. 1885 C. L. PIRKIN *Lady Lovelace* III xxxvii 240 Wooden hand woodeny, unlike against the tenderness. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xii 210 Woodeny hardness [of the heart muscle]. 1905 *Sat Rev* 1 Apr 415/1 The capacity to be reverent to several kinds of woodenness.

**Wood-end.** *Shipbuilding* = *hood end* (HOOD *sb* 8) Cf. *whooding*, HOODING (sense 3, 1627).

1867 *Smith Sailor's Word-bk*

†**Wooder** (wu dar) *Obs.* [OE. *wudere*, f *wudian* to cut wood, later directly f. WOOD *v.*] *= sb* 1, -ER 1. (WOODYER) WOODMAN 1.

*c* 1050 *Gen Antiq* in W. Wülcker *Lit. Calomer*, *wudiere* 1375 *Aot Hundr* II 210 Andreas le Wodere 1397 *Cal. Close Rolls* 75 *Ed* 1 *Ida* Matthew le Woder 1767 *Wallis's Ivy* in H. Wallis *Hist* (1773) I 468, I understand that no man, except the wooders and waterers, with their guard, should be permitted to go on shore 1773 *Gentl Mag* XLIII 419 They were wooders in the island.

**Wood-evil.** [f Wood *a.* + EVIL *sb*] Local name for dysentery or a similar disease in sheep and cattle; also called *moor-evil* or *black legs*

1523-34 LITTLETON *Tenures* § 60 A sickenes among shepe . . called the wode euyll cometh in the springe of the yere, . . and they lese the best, and the lyke sickenes ouerly. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap & Good Husb* III xix 75 The wood euill or Clumpe is a weakenesse or straying of the sinewes apt to grow in the hind quarters. 1744 *Compl Farmer* They have a distemper in Leicestershire frequent amongst the calves, which in that country they call the black legs, but in Staffordshire it is called the wood evil. 1747 *Hanway Trav* I 491 The Wood evil is set lon or never found among sheep that have their pasture in low grounds. 1749 [see *moor evil*, f. MOOR *sb*.] 1840 W. HOWITT *Rural Life* I 11 Wood-evil, in neat cattle, or palsies is brought on by cattle by their devouring the acrid buds of trees, by bad winter provision, by impure water, and similar causes.

†**Wood-ey** *a.* *Obs.* *rare* [irreg f Wood *a* + -EY] Mad, furious.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II (Arb) 56 His sight foule fred, filled with woodful phrenzye Chor ebus

**Woodhack** (wu dhæk) *Obs.*, (*or dial.*) Forms 5 **wodehake, wodake,** 6 **wo(o)dhacke,** 9 **woodhack.** [ME. *wode-hak* a stem of HACK *v.*1] (Cf. *watchake*, NUTHATCH.)] A woodpecker

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 531/2 Wodehake, or reyne fowle *c* 1475 *Piet Voc* in Wr. Wülcker 763/1 *Hic sitor* a wodake *a* 1500 SKELTON *Ware* 418 This woodhacke, that wyndeth right fearfully, as he had the muse. 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Wo hacke a byrde. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov Names Birds* 100 Green woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*) Wood hack (Lancash.).

†**Wo dhæ cker** (*rare*)

1548 THOMAS *Ital Dict* (1550), *Picchio*, a woodhacker or a woodhacke.

**Wood'hade.** *Obs* Forms: 3 wod(h)ed, 4 wod(e)hade. [f WOOD *a* + *-hede*, HEAD] Madness, extreme folly

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 513 Wimmen swile woded wenten on, Clubed hunkinde he gunnen don *Hist* 3539 Swile wod-hed he cam ouer hem. 1297 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 9017 I welue folys a karolle dyst, Yn wodehed, as hyt were yn cuntek. 1340 *Ayenb* 18 Pe oper ontreuþe þet comp of prede is wodhede

**Wood o-hen.** [f Wood *sb*1 + HEN *sb*] 1 A female woodcock. Now *rare*

Formerly, like the woodcock, often rendered as a tenant's due.

1281 *a Yorkshire Inquis* (Yorks. Rec Soc 1892) I 248 (Onc. fowl at Christmas, called) le Wodehen 1343 in Blount *Fragm Antiq* (1815) 338 Reddendo et unum Wod hen . . in Natali Domini. *a* 1400-50 *Alexius* Fetuis pyys gilinarum illarum que erunt leute mis intra dominium de Groby que vocantur le Wodehennes. *c* 1580 *Dial Creatures Moralized* Bk. A iij, Oenas the woodhenne enjoyed the eggs of a Peacocke. 1612 *Rec Mag Stg Soc* 280/2 Cum silvarum gallinis le wode hennis. 1836-48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* IV 107 I will not pay one groat to anyone, Who is not enough to misname wodhens "woodcocks" 1901 RYE *Celtic Folklore* I 55 The wife then flew away like a wood hen into the lake

2 Any flightless rail of the genus *Ocydromus*, of New Zealand and other Pacific islands = WEKA.

1773 COOK *Very South Pole* I iv (1777) I 73 In the bottom of this arm or cove [of Dusky Bay] we found many ducks, wood hens, and other wild fowl 1845, 1873 [see WEKA].

**Wood-house** (wu dhous). [HOUSE *sb*.1 3.] A house, shed, or room in which wood is stored.

[1276 *Close Roll* 2 *Edw. I* m 10 De wodehusia videlicet Johanne Heruy pro quatuor acris & dimidie terre quatuor solid.] 1326-9 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 23 In grauedacione ostij de le Wodehous, vj vuld. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 328 In the which mese is I conteyned —] halle, with xj celers, j kechyn, j dosse boue, j woodehous. 1580 LEVINS *Manip* 225/16 A Wodhouse, *lignarium*. 1674 J. FLATMAN *Poems, To Mr Austin* 14 Thus a black velvet Casket hides a Jewel. And a dark woodhouse, wholesome water fuel. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Dial Locke & Montagne* Wks 1907 II 243 To the Coal hole or woodhouse? 1833 LOUDON *Encycl Cottage Archit.* § 921 The Coal-house and the Wood house should always be adjoining the kitchen. 1856 Miss YONGE *Daisy Chain* I viii, They claimed him for a good game at play in the wood house.

**Woodhouse,** var. WOODWOSE

**Woodie,** var WIDDY; obs f. WOODY.

**Woodiness** (wu'dines) [f. WOODY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being woody.

1 Woody texture, consistence, or appearance

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* IV XXVIII I 450 Some fruits, neither without in shell, nor within forth with herbish, have any of this woodinesse. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxx (ed 3) 249 The Vatican Bay, the Vine which was grown to that bulk and woodiness as to make Columns in Juno's Temple. 1760 GOLDSM. in *Ant Examin.* II 3 Growing ill proportion, the thickness and woodiness of its stem, to become a shrub of six or seven feet high. 1850 NICHOL *Archit Heavens* I 17 Until individual trees could be distinguished, the general blue view terminated in a vague appearance, which I may be permitted to call a diffused woodiness. 1862 RUSKIN *Mod Painl* V VI xiii § 10 91 Its woodiness, examples of two faults in tree drawing, namely, the loss not only of grace and spring, but of woodiness

2 The condition of being full of woods or forests; prevalence or abundance of woodland; *cover* woody growth.

1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I 119 By Woody Waste (in mount) grass land over run with rough woodiness. 1799 STUART in *Owen Wilderley's Diary* (1877) 114 Their move ments were so well concealed by the woodiness of the country. 1869 BLACKIE *Lect to Wyse* (1909) 180 The rich sloping woodiness that you remember on the Rhine

**Wooding** (wu·din), *vbl sb.* [OL. *wudung*, f. *wudian* (WOOD *v.*) and -ING 1.]

1. The action of procuring or taking in wood for fuel, esp on board a vessel; also, feeding a fire with wood.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom* II 292 Þæt hyrdheb folc gedafode þæt some ðe hæðenan on heora ðeowte leofodon, to wudunge and to weorce. 1743 J. SARIS *Voy Japan* (Hakl Soc) 69 I gave leaue to as many as would to goe ashoore hauing done watring and wooding. 1745 J. *Lind Obs Diseases Seamen* 216 Besides our constant Employment in Wooding and Watering. 1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* 35 By dint of constant wooding and watering the warm mine of wood. 1875 BRUNTON *Sailor's Pocket Bk* V (ed 2) 145 Notice any convenient creeks or rivers for wooding or watering

*attrib.* 1589 PORTOCK *Voy* 214 At this island I would advise the watering and wooding business to be done. 1804 GILCHRIST in *A. Duncan Action* (1806) 111 The wooding and watering parties. 1813 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* I 269 The scenery and the society of Wooding Bay at yesterday's—high banks, cotton slides, wooding station

2 The action of planting ground with trees; *cover* a plantation or collection of trees

1588 PICKEE *Farmes* (B.) The charges of the wooding in the grove. 1790 A. WILSON in *Trans & Lit Proc Scot* (1876) II 106 Deep in lonely woodings lost. 1827 STUART *Planter's G* (1828) 255 The wooding of two acres of ground as a Close Plantation. 1873 M. CHADWICK *Gens of Wye townships* 103 Much of the wooding which gives variety to the landscape

**Woodish** (wu·dish), *a.* Now *arch.* Also 6 **wodd-**, 6–7 **wood-**. [f WOOD *sb*1 + -ISH 1.]

1. Having the nature, quality, or consistence of wood, (somewhat) woody.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II 40b, The braunches [of Lithospermon] are strong and woddishe *Ibid* 87 A woddish torche or fyrebrande. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 115 Quince Peares are of a verie hard and woodish substance. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb* II 214 Bastard buttany having many brown woodish stalks.

†**2.** Belonging to or characteristic of the woods or wooded country; sylvan *Obs.*

1588 T. HOMAS *Ital Dict* (1611), *Iaunt ue* wilde, wooddish rude 1612 DRAYTON *Poly ol* XI 216 Wantun woodish nymphs. 1630 CHUTE *Beauty Rhetor* (1913) 24 Retired himselfe into a little wooddie posture Here he built a Pavilion of boughes His friends persuaded one Seignior Theodora Polalogo to manure into his woodish accupations

†**Wood·dist.** *Obs. nonce-wd* In 7 **wooddist.** [f as prec + -IST.] = WOODMAN, WOODMAN 1, 4.

1623 T. CAMPION *Relat Royal Entert* 11, Such muscle as the wilde Woodists shall bee ashamed to heare the report of it.

**Wood d-kern, -kerne.** *Hist* Also 6 **-karne,** 7 **-cearne, -cerne** [tr. Ir. *ceithearnach coille* (*ceithearn* KERN *sb*1, *coill* wood)] An Irish outlaw or robber haunting woods or wild country, such outlaws collectively.

Used by Holl and to render L. *latro*

1548 *State Papers Irel., Edw VI* I 84 (MS.) The kynd of people which we call outlawes & woddkerne. 1581 DERRICKE (*title*) The Image of Irelande with a Discoverie of Woodkerne, wherein is expressed, the Nature, & the Wilde Irishe Woodkarne, their notable spinesse Deliuerie & practises. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden* Ireland

xl. lx. 1065 The same is said unto me..which were more beseeming to speake unto a wood-kerne and robber by the high-way side. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 201 Cormacke O Neale..was of a milde sweet disposition..yet..little lesse barberous then the better sort of wood kern. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 210 The Lawlesse Wood Carnes in Ireland. 1696 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1901) VI. 116 Mount Leinster..which by reason of the great adjoining woods hath always beene haunted with Irish Toryes or Woodcarnes. 1845 Ferrar *Eccl. Archit. Ire.* 98 At the close of the sixteenth century, these Towers became the receptacles of thieves and wood-kerne.

**Wood-knife.**

**1.** A dagger or short sword (KNIFE *sb.* 1 b) used by huntsmen for cutting up the game, or generally as a weapon. *arch. in Hist.*

1446 *E. E. Wills* (1880) 96 A sword harnesed, a wodeknyf harnesed, and a Dagger. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xxi. 764 They were shoters, and coude wel kylle a dere.. and they dyvyly lare bowes and arowes, bowes & wood knyues. 1568 Fulwell *Like Will to Like* Ij b, Come no neer me you knaues for your life. Lest I stick you bothe with this woodknife. 1600 Surflet *Maison.* 4 Fauchon, Hangar, Wood-knife. *a* 1650 *Bay & Mantle* xxxviii. in Child *Ballads* I. 273/2 He pulld forth a wood knife,..He brought in the horns head. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes Don Quix.* xxvi. 212 He drew his woodknife and hit the priest on the head. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiv. The gay baldric, which sustained a bugle-horn, and a wood-knife instead of a sword. 1867 Munro *Jason* I. 83 The wood-knife in the side.

**2.** A large knife for cutting off branches or twigs.

1880 C. R. Markham *Perms. Bark* vii. 54 The *catendor*.. conducted the party for hours through the tangled brush-wood,..using the wood-knife at every step.

**Woodland** (wu·dlănd). Forms: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Land *sb.* Land covered with wood, i. e. with trees; a wooded region or piece of ground.

850 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 141 Æxþer ge etelond ge eyrð lond ge sæ wudulond. *a* 1095 Lay. Weuue bundin hine bistondeð i þon wode-londe. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 208 In that wodde land. 1496 Sir G. Hawe *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 139 Cow or calf..in wood vnbrocht. 1536 Bible *Meas. Land* A ij, Woodlande and fyldelande he not measured with perches of lyke grand length. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 51 What champion soile, What woodland refuge. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 567 In the mids of this Woodland standeth Coventry. 1622 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xviii. 178 What is now the Woodland in Warwickshire, was heretofore part of a larger Weald or Forest, called Arden. 1659 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 88 There's no Field Champion-Land of that yearly value for either Corn or Pasture, as be the Wood-land, nay here in *Henry & Emma* 309 She to the Wood-land with an Exile ran. 1763 W. Roberts *Nat. Hist. Florida* 34 The number of marshes and woodlands prevented the horse from pursuing them. 1793 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 276 Tracts of woodland never yet cleared, but kept inclosed for a supply of fuel and timber. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. iv. I. 214 A hunting-seat of Queen Elizabeth,..when the neighbourhood was all woodland. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine* I. The morning was fair and cloudless, its sunbeams piercing through the darkest glades in the woodlands.

**b.** *attrib.* Of or pertaining to woodland; used, situated, dwelling, or growing in woodland; consisting of or containing woodland; belonging to or characteristic of woodland; sylvan.

*¶ Woodland penny, silver = wood-penny, -silver*: see Wood *sb.*[1] 10.

1251–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 552, vij li. iij s. iij d. ob. de Woodland pennys ad festum Sancti Johannis Bapt. 1296–7 *Ibid.* 136 Et'o pro Woddandsilver. *a* 1336–7 *Ibid.* 674 Pro Woddandpennez ejusdem ville. 1536 Beneke *Meas. Land* A ij, Two maner of perches, the woodlande perche and the fyldelande perche. The woodlande perche is communely .xviii. foote in length. But in some places it is longer. 1577 Harrison *England* iii. xii. 111 b/1 in *Holinshed*, Adders..are found in our woodlands, countreys and highest grounds. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* iv. v. 49, I am a woodland fellow sir, that alwaies loued a great fire. 1610 Heywod *Brazen Age* Wks. 1874 II. 281 The woodland measure of 18 teete in the pole. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 783 Adore the Woodland Pow'rs with Pray'r. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 178 Rows'd by the woodland nymphs..The mountain goats came bounding to the tarn. 1798 Wordsw. *Tables Turned* iii, Come, hear the woodland linnet. — *It's are Strove* iii, She had a rustic, woodland air. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* iii. xiii. The wonted roar Is up the woodland glen. 1831 — *Quentin D.* Introd., In the more woodland districts of Flanders. 1853 Kingsley *Hetw. Hot* xxv, Garments..rather the worse for a little woodland service. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xii. II, Gathering woodland lilies. 1877 Black *Green Past.* I. The secrecy and silence of the still woodland ways. 1879 Cassell's *Nat. Hist.* III. 68 The Woodland Caribou and the Barren-ground Caribou are the names given to a larger and a smaller breed in Canada. 1902 Gordon *Naturalist Thames* 76 The [grey] partridge is becoming a woodland bird.

Hence **Woo·dlander**, an inhabitant of the woodland; *occas.* an animal that lives in woodland.

1774 T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 40 The woodlanders of High Furness were then employed with the care of the flocks and herds. 1810 Wordsw. *Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 259 A few vassals following the employment of shepherds or woodlanders. 1887 Hardy (*title*) The Woodlanders. 1889 F. A. Knight *By Leafy Ways* 61 Another much calumniated woodlander, the badger.

**Woodlark** (wu·dlărk). Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Lark *sb.*[1] A species of lark (*Alauda arborea*) which perches on trees; distinguished from the skylark by having a shorter tail, more variegated plumage, and a different song.

*c* 1325 *Glos. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 164 La calaundre [*gloss* wode-larke]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 808 Esperuer tele et chalaundre and wodelarke. 1544 Turner *Avium Præsagi.* E 2 b, Superest tertium galeritæ genus, Germanis copera. *Marg.* a uuodlerck. 1688 (see Skylark *sb.* 1). 1769 G. White *Selborne* (1789) 69 In hot summer nights woodlarks soar to a prodigious height and sang singing in the air. 1818 Keats *Walking in Scotland* 14 Wood-lark may sing from sandy fern. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 1496 Mid them [*sc.* yew-trees] did the woodlark flit, Or sang well sheltered from the wind.

**Woodless** (wu·dlĕs), *a.* [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + -less.] Destitute of wood or woods; treeless.

1555 Turner *Herbal* 1 Prij, Our beth groweth in playnes and vnder woodles hylles. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) 146 Here are Fens and Heaths,..and Meddows and Pasture, and Arable and Woody, and (generally) woodless Land. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 141 The coasts are..rocky..and woodless. 1825 J. Duncan *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 96 Travellers across the woodless pampas sometimes make their fire of a dead horse. 1881 Morgan *Contrib. Amer. Ethnol.* 106 The woodless plains of the Sacramento.

**Woodlet** (wu·dlĕt). *rare.* [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + -let.] A little wood.

1822 Forrocke *Berkeley MSS.* 226 This elegant woodlet. 1892 *An Australian Girl* II. v. 57 Groves and woodlets.

**Wood-louse** (wu·dlous). Pl. **wood-lice** (-lais). [f. Wood *sb.*[1] + Louse *sb.*] **1.** A small isopod crustacean of the genus *Oniscus* or family *Oniscidæ* ; *esp.* the common species *O. asellus*, found in old wood, under stones, etc., and having the property of rolling itself up into a ball; also called † *cheeselip, hog-louse, slater, sow-bug*, etc.

1611 Cotgr., Cloporte, la petite Vermine..qui se trouue..dans le bois, ou Wood-louse. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 152 Those vile Insects commonly called in English, Wood-lice, or Sows. 1725 Swift *Wood on Insect* 3 An Insect they call a Wood-Louse. That folds up it self like a Hedge-Hog. 1844 Hood *Haunted House* 177 The wood-louse dropped and rolled into a ball. 1869 Mrs. L. L. Hesiop *Notes on Old Edifices* II. The walls were black and rotten, and alive with woodlice.

**2.** Locally or occas. applied to various other small invertebrates found in woodwork or in woods, or resembling the crustacean described in 1.

**a.** A wood-louse fly (Hippobosca *s.* Melophagus). **c.** One or more species of mite or other parasite. **d.** Various insects of the family *Psocidæ*, as the book-louse and death-watch. **e.** A millepied of the family *Glomeridæ*: a pill-milleped.

1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 149 A kind of Ant..breed of rotten wood, and thence some call them Wood-lice. 1699 Sloane *Voy. Jamaica* LIX. 150 The *Worm-eaters*, or wood-louse. 1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* (1772) II. 333 Wood-lice (*Acarus Americanus*, Linn.) abound there in great numbers. 1819 D. B. Warden *Acc. U. S.* I. 496 Musquitoes and wood-lice [note, *Acarus Ameri.anus*] are most troublesome in thickly wooded places. *Ibid.* II. 135 The wood louse, or Bete Rouge (*Acarus sanguisuga*). 1825 Jamieson, *Wood-louse*, a wood-worm. 1863 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 631 The Great Sea-louse or Sea-woodlouse. *Ibid.* 632 The well known Pill-woodlouse.

**3.** *attrib.*

1796 Sheiman *Surinam* II. xxv. 234 The..bird, which..the negroes called *wood-louse-finch*, from its feeding on wood-lice. *Ibid.* (Illustration), The Yellow Woodpecker, or Wood-louse fowl. 1817 Kirby & Sr. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) I. 309 The woodlouse tribe (Oniscidæ). 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 267 Woodlouse-Millipes (*Julus terrestris*). 1859 P. P. Carpenter in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* (1860) 207 Chitonidæ or Woodlouse shells.

**Wood-lover**, *Obs. rare.* [OE. *wuðlic* : see Wood *a.* and -ly[1].] Mad, frantic, furious.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 182 Sa eadiga Benedictus..manode þone rehan cempe þæt he ðære mycclan reðnysse zeawice. *c* 1340 Hocclieve *Learn & Rede* 290 The fyry flaumbes..In which the soules bremne in woodly wyse. 1523 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 789 Rorynge and yellynge his outrageious treasnase, thei Tore his longe asvonder in woodely violence.

**Wood-lily**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: see Wood *a.* [OE. *Wuðlilie* : see Wood *a.* and Lily *sb.*[2]] Madly, ferociously, furiously, wildly, passionately.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 230 Hi weoron..mid deoflе afyllede, ðaða hi swa wodlice to Aam welwillendan Hælende sprazcon. *c* 1000 tr. *Iustil's Admon.* vi. (Norman 1840) 46 Dam wuffe bicne te wodlice to Aam ælmihtiza Zode. 1340 *Ayenbite of Inwit* (1889) 6/145 Pam undeawfæstsen, he wodlice drinð ad heora zeswinken amyiezah. *c* 1405 Lay. 3901 He mochul a þi wodelike wrað. 1523 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 2512 Wode 9426 King Margaras..Ban asailed wodelicke. *c* 1350 *Wilt. Palerne* 550 Pat i wrouȝt so wodly & wold to him spoke. *a* 1585 Harding *L. G. H.* 1751 *Lucrece*, Dwyst That in his herte brende as any fer So wodly that his wit is al forgyven. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2827 Wyes..appone wyghte horses, Walopande wodly. 1490 *Destr. Troy* 3894 He but þei full wodely wakonit anon. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Bocchus & Sydracke* (1530) F i b, Yf he loue one wodly. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 165 Antichrist layeth about him so wodly. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Anger, & Hum.* Wks. II. 251/1 He frets ..And frantickly ran wodly through the wood. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, They skelpit me when woodly fleid.

**Woodman**[1] (wu·dmăn). Pl. **woodmen.** Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Man *sb.*[1] (Cf. Woodsman *sb.*)

The meaning in the following is uncertain :—972 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 603 Fram hwitingho to wudemannes tune. 1275 *Rot. Hundr.* II. 19 Johanni Wodeman.

**1.** One who hunts game in a wood or forest; a huntsman. *Obs.* or *arch.*

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, As of þe maners howe he shulde be vndo y pawse ouere lightly, for þer is no woodeman nor good hunter in Inglonde, but þei canne do it wele ynowgh. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* H v, That is a saying enounge hunters that he cannot be a gentleman which leueth not hawkyng and hunting, whiche I haue called elde enounge wel allowe. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. v. 30 Am I a Woodman, ha? Speake I like Herne the Hunter? 1616 Bora *Explor. Proper Pr.* xlvii. 9 Wks. (1689) 935 Woodmen say that Deere are most circumspect in fat pasture. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* III. I have taken more Pains to single you out, than ever Wood-man did for a Deer. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* vi. vii, Conrad..Was by a woodman's lyme-dog found. 1832 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xi. 85 He looked down with contempt upon the rangers, as..Inexperienced woodmen, but little skilled in hunting lore.

**b.** *fig.* or *allusively.*

1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 47 He was not..so ill a Woodman to giue ouer the chace at the first default. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 170. 1618 Fletcher *Chances* I. iv, I see ye are a woodman, and can chuse Your deer. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* II. i, 18 Has the old Cupid, your Father, chosen well for you? is he a good Woodman?

**2.** One who looks after the trees in a wood or forest; one who fells or lops trees for timber or fuel; also, one who provides or purveys wood.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17745 Her ye a woode off lytel prys, Wych a woodeman selleth me. 1530 Palsgr. 289 a Woodman that lyveth by felling wode, *du guillon*. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Dendrophilus*, a woodmen or such as carrie wood about streetes to be sold. 1634 Milton *Comus* 484 Either som one like us night founder'd here, Or els som neighbour woodman. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's New Syst. Agric.* 229 Of the Aspen Tree our Woodmen make Hoops, Firewood, and Coals. 1800 Campbell *Beech-Tree's Petition* 2 Spare the beech, woodmen, spare the tree. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. vii. 83 Bonsall and Petersen are now woodmen, preparing our daily fuel. 1875 Bidwell *Settler's Pocket Bk.* vii. 108 Each full 16 feet long, proprovviding 2 woodmen, 2 watermen. 1903 Maud S. Rawson *Apprentice* 141 The oldest woodsman say that it takes a hundred years to grow a perfect oak for an English ship.

**† 3.** A forester having charge of the king's woods.

1594 Crompton *Jurisd.* 146 b, Auant que sera perfect Forest, le Roy couient appointer certaine officers, come vn keeper, Forester, Woodman, Regarders, & Verders. 1609 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xxi. (1615) 159 The foresters & woodmen did take no good regard to the forests.

**† 4.** An inhabitant of the woods, a wild man, a savage; a person representing one in a pageant, or a figure of one in heraldry. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 1442 *Exte. Abed. Reg.* (1844) I. 9 The fleschowares sal fynd [for a play], twa or four women. 1566 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Frommongers* (1866) 85 They shall fynde iij. two woodmen, wt clubbes, rounden in order. 1620 in Morgan *Illin. it.* (1617) 108 To march..into Cvlrane..to have brought into subjection all the woodmen. 1660 J. Taylor *Royal Oake* 10 Several persons were drest like Satyrs, and mixt Wood-Nymphs. 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Woodman*, a name given by several Writers to the wild man, or satyr.

**5.** A workman who makes something of wood, esp. the woodwork of a carriage.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 175/1 When the body is finished from the hands of the woodman, it passes into the hands of the painter. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 4 Wanted Coach Builders and Wheelwrights.—Good woodman.

Hence **Woo·dman(s)craft**, **Woo·dmanship**, the business or skill of a woodman; † **Woo·dmanlike**, † **Woo·dmanly** *advs.*, in the manner of or befitting a woodman.

*c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, If he lorde will haue þe deere vndone, he þat he bidderh shulde vndo hym þe more wodemanly and clenly þat he canne. And wonderth ye nought, bolde, þat I speke so of hert in a poynte of wodemanscrafte. 1479 [see Woodsale]. 1575 Gascoigne *Hearbes* 256 Gascoignes woodmanship written to the L. Grey of Wilton. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. *Prouide* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, You know what belongs to the Wood manship, the Wardship, and Stewardship. *a* 1650 *Marr. Sir Gawaine in Furnivall & Hales Percy Folio* I. 106/1 He kyng in hys hand tok a bowe, And manfully he bowyd he bare. 1831 Scott *Cr. Rob.* xxix, It were bad woodmanship to raise the hollo upon the game, ere it had been driven within compass of the nets. 1882–3 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 July 1/2 Lemon Fraser's political sagacity hardly seems on a par with his woodmanscraft. 1912 A. C. Benson *Reuben* v. 180 He was fond of woodmanship. His bragging gloried in his chopper were very characteristic signs of his presence.

† **Woo·dman** 2. *Obs.* Forms and etym.: see Wood *a.* and Man *sb.*[1] A madman, lunatic, maniac.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3138 Hii verde as wodemen; hii wenden hii were ymore. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* vi. 341 Sa wod a fulie [*Edit.* 1620 wodmanheid] Nane sall me wed. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xii. 432 Cryenge and ratenge hym as a wod man. 1483 Cath. *Angl.* 415/1 Pardy *Woodman* in Marriott *Miracle-Plays* (1838) 200 Like as a wodman he gan to fray.

**Woodmonger** (wu·dmʌŋgəɹ). Now *rare* exc. *Hist.* Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb.*[1] and Monger *sb.* A dealer in wood; a timber-merchant, or (*esp.*) a seller of wood for fuel.

1260–1 *Cal. Wills Cst. Husting, Lond.* I. (1889) 8 Robert le Wudemongere. 1378 *Ibid.* II. 147 William Wodemongere. 1484 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 367 a Carpenters, Wodemongers and Coolemakers. 1567 in *Archaeologia* XXXV. 51 Paide to Mr. Fermer, wodemonger, for a M and iij^{xx} di. of billetts, xvij s. viij d. 1590 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. 609 Hanker *Rental Aldm. Wks.* (1890) IV. 116 Winter, the friend to none but Colliers and Woodmongers. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* II. i, Though I be idle,..they were raised one upon another, As woodmongers do billets. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 215/4 The many great abuses committed by the Company of Woodmongers in the Sale..of Fuel. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. v. v. 76 The Two Woodmongers Wharfs for the Sale of Fuel. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1756) 256 Vessels, such as the Wood-mongers, that is the Wharf Keepers, or Coal-Sellers furnished. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* iii, These sturdy oaks had long since become the property of some honest

woodmonger. 1908 W. G. Collingwood *Scandinavian Britain* 112 'Six score to the hundred' is still familiar to Lake District gardeners and wood-mongers.

**Woodnesse.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: see Wood *a.* and -nesse.] 1. Mental derangement, insanity, mania, frenzy, lunacy, craziness: = Madness 1.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 458 Þa geaxode se cyning Polinius be dæm witegan menn, hu se apostol hine fram dære woednesse ahredde. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvi. 24 Poul, thou maddist... maye leitris turnen thee to woodnesse. 1493 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* v. xviii. (W. de W. 1496) 220/1 Yf a man in his woodnesse & rauynge slee man & woman or childe. 1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* iii. (1593) 79 Drunken woodnes wrought by wine. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* (1634) 238 Wee yet reade in some parts of England the wood woolnes for furiousnesse or madnesse. 1627 Thornley tr. *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 60 Their minds were struck with a kind of Woodnesse. 1823 W. S. Rose *Amadis* 198 Wraut in imagin'd flames to woodness stung Deep in a roaring stream, she headlong sprung.

2. Extravagant folly or recklessness; vehemence of passion or desire; wildness, infatuation. Cf. Madness 2.

*c* 1000 in Assmann *Hom.* (1889) 60/212 Þa sæt he...tælende þone hæthenan. His wodnys wearð ȝewrecen swa þurh god. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1382 They callen loue a woodnesse or folye. 1387 [see Madness 2 b]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 A woode wisdom, and a wise woodenesse. 1435 Hoccleve *First of Love* 11. viii. 90 Here is lufe with-outen meyknes, wisdom ful lytel. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* vi. Now perceyue I wel they foly and grete wodenesse. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* ii. 1 viij, It is extreme wolnes to doubte ȝohither they ar to be feed baly or nocht. 1613 Crooke *Body of Man* 284 When their genitalles are full of seede they grow into woodnesse and rage of lust.

3. Violent anger, wrath, fury, rage; extreme fierceness, ferocity, savageness, cruelty. Cf. Madness 3.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 30 Þæt earme wif gelyfde his wæsbreowum xeðeahte, and weard mid maran wodnysse astyred. *a* 1300 Harrowing of Hell (Vernon) vi. 1 Lord in thi wodnes arge me noght. *Ibid.*, Wodnes or ire is a stirynge of mannys wil, excitand to vengaunce. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* lx. (*Nathan*) 704 Nero wex wroth In sa mekill wodnes of thocht, Pat he his awne modir gert sla. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 474 Heo ter hir clopus al in sunder, in a gret woodnesse. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 237 In her woodnes the Q[ueen] the bischop of Chaumbrey. 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R viij, You haue chased the bulle, and scaped his woodnes. 1550 Bale *Engl. Votaries* II. 98 He fretted for wodnesse, and was angry with himselfe. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 166 He proceeding in cruelty, and daily increasing his savage woodness against the Saints. 1593 Shakes. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 88 With what wild and savage boasts...maided...with blind rage and woodnesse against one. 1823 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 I. 12 While-I just girn out-by yonner, wi' perfect wodness when I think o' you...rinning like twa mae, and ither mae o' genius. 1906 Doughty *Dawn in Britain* xiii. IV. 36 So woodness kindles his great heart, gainst Romans.

b. *fig.* Excessive violence or severity, 'fury' (of pain, or of inanimate things, as wind, fire, etc.).

*a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 704 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 It doth noth away all be pyne, But all be wodnesse for be tyme. *c* 1420 *Destr. Troy* 1008 Pe fyre-ȝe wynnes, And the wodenes of waghir, *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 21 His kechyn was a-fyre sodenly, and likly to perish with woodeness of fyre. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 189 Fayre flowres of vertue this vyrgine paste faded by the wodnesse of the northe. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 229 The Lord of Wynnis, with wodnes, God Eolus, his bugill blew. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 247 No rage of disturbing sea, nor woodenesse of the winde.

**Wood-nymph.**

1. A nymph of the woods; a superhuman being imagined as a beautiful maiden inhabiting woods; a dryad or hamadryad.

1597 Gerarde *Gerbal* M iij b, The Woodsynphes likewise followed moste nicely tripping. 1634 Milton *Comus* 120 By dimpled Brook, and Fountain brim, The Wood-Nymphs deckt with daisies trim, Their merry wakes and pastimes keep. 1667 — *P. L.* ix. 386 She...like a Wood-Nymph light Oread or Dryad...Betook her to the Groves. 1704 Mrs. Rawlinson *Myst. Adolphus* xxxvii, Marble statues of wood-nymphs. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xx. xxvii, She possessed the form and hue of a wood-nymph, with the beauty of a sylph. 1867 Morris *Jason* I. 92 Then mayst thou find, In some fair grassy place, the wood-nymphs kind.

b. *transf.* (cf. Dryad 2 a, Nymph 2).

1780 Miss Cowley *Belle's Stratagem* ii. i, The maxims you learnt among the wood-nymphs, in Shropshire, won't pass current here.

2. a. Name for certain species of humming-bird, esp. of the genus *Thalurania* (Gould). b. Collectors' name for moths of the genus *Eudryas*.

1861 Gould *Trochilidæ* II. Plates 99–102. 1889 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 402 The beautiful wood-nymph, *Eudryas grata*.

**Wood-oil.** A name for several oils or oily substances obtained from various trees: (*a*) from the East Indian *Dipterocarpus alatus* and other species (= Gurjun *balsam* or *oil*); (*b*) from the East Indian Satinwood, *Chloroxylon Swietenia*; (*c*) from the seeds of the Chinese Oil-tree or Varnish-tree, *Aleurites cordata* (also called *tung-oil*, from Chinese *yu-tung* or *tung-tsai-shu*, native names of the tree), used chiefly for varnishing woodwork. Also *attrib.*

1759 in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1793) I. 109 The Bûraghmah Dominions yield Gold,...Earth-Oil, and Wood-Oil. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 99/1. 1842 W. Robinson *Assam* 62 The Dipterocarpus levis...yields the thin liquid balsam commonly known by the name of 'wood oil,' and which is much used in painting. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 438 *Chloroxylon Swietenia* furnishes East Indian Satin-wood, and an oil called Wood-oil is obtained from it. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* IV. 1411 Tung-Tree, or Wood-oil...is a product of the sea-called oil-tree of China, Cochin China, and Japan. 1890 Hobbs *Three Yrs. W. China* 18 The wood-oil tree...was scattered about among the fields.

‖ **Woodoo** (wudū'). Also 8 woodoo, 9 wandoo, wirdu. [Turkish *wazd.*] The minor ablution of the Mohammedans. Cf. Adept.

1794 P. Russell *A. Russell's Hist. Aleppo* I. 194 The ordinary preparation for prayer, consists in washing the face, hands, and feet, and is termed Woodoo. 1813 J. Fowles *Oriental Mem.* III. 124 Ablutions, called the wazzoo, preparatory to the namauz, or prayer. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* I. ii. 65 The father usually teaches his son to perform the *wuzoo'* and other ablutions. 1855 Burton *Meccah & Medinah* (1879) 56 The first thing on rising is to perform the Wuzu, or lesser ablution.

**Woodpecker,** var. Woodwose.

†**Woodpeck.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-pyke.** [app. alteration of Woodspeck after next.] = next, 1.

1552 Huloet, Woodepeyke byrde, *picus.* 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 204 Certeyne byrdes...lyke vnto those which we calle woodspeckes or woodpeckes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* x. xxix. I. 285 Men say that in the territorie of Tarentum there be no wood-pecks or tree-jobbers. 1694 Addison *Spectator*, No. 433, ¶ 7 Woodpecks, nor the Swallow harbour near. 1706 Gardiner tr. *Rapin's Gardens* (1728) 197 Wood-pecks, and various birds the trees invade.

**Woodpecker** (wu·dpe·kəɹ). Also 7 **-picker.** [f. Wood *sb.*1 + Peck *v.*1 + -er1.] Cf. the Gr. names δρυοξοκολάπτης, δρυοκόλαψ, δρυοκάπος, ἡ δρῦς τρυπᾶ τὸν ἀηδόνα to peck, nor- to strike.]

1. A bird of the family *Picidæ*, esp. of the subfamily *Picinæ*, comprising very numerous genera and species found in most parts of the world; usually having variegated plumage of bright contrasted colours with various markings; characterized by their habit of pecking holes in the trunks and branches of trees.

1530 Palsgr. 258/1 Woodpecker a byrde, *espec.* 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 228 As the Wood-pecker, his long tongue doth till Out of the clov'n pipe of his horny bill, To catch the Insects. 1604 Drayton *Owle* 193 The Woodpecker, whose hardned beake hath...pierc'd the heart of many a sollid Oke. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* v. 171 Numbers of small birds...Woodpickers. 1678 J. Cranke *Trans. of Saint-Evremond* xviii. 228 The Woodpecker...is a very beautiful bird; there is one sort whose feathers are a mixture of various colours; and another that is brown all over the body, except the head and neck, which are of a red. 1806 Moore *Ballad Stanzas* ii, I heard not a sound But the woodpecker tapping the hollow beech-tree. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Sp.* (1860) 71 Woodpeckers are confined to wooded districts; in North America this group is exceedingly common, and in the Pampas not one. 1862 — *Orchids* iii. 127 As a woodpecker...climbs up a tree in search of insects. 1870 *Nat. Amer. Birds* 191 Woodpeckers nest in holes in trees.

b. With defining words, denoting various species.

The three British species are the Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*), the Pied or Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*), and the Barred or Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*D. minor*). Others are the Great Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus or Ictinopicus pileatus*) in northparts of Europe and Asia, and many N. American species, as the Downy W. (*Picus or Dendrocopus pubescens*), the Golden-winged W. (*Colaptes auratus*), the Hairy W. (*Picus or Dendrocopus villosus*), the Filleted W. (*Quiscalus or Dryotomus filcatus*), etc. Several of these are locally known by special names, as Flicker, Hickwall, Ivory-bill, Log-cock, Pigeonjay, Sap-sucker, Witwall, Woodspite, Yaffle, etc. (see these words).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 86 *Picus Martius*...the great Woodpecker. 1731 Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 21 *Picus varius minor, ventre luteo.* The yellow belly'd Wood-pecker. 1782 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 558 Red-necked woodpecker. The whole head and neck are crimson. *Ibid.* 561 Yellow Woodpecker...less than our green Woodpecker: being only nine inches in length...it is common at Cayenne. 1788–1800 [see Spotted *Suppl.* a. 4 b]. 1810 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. i. 148 The Ivory-billed Woodpecker subsists on insects, which it catches on the bark of trees...It is able to pierce...hard trees, as the oak and beech. 1813 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* II. 142 His tri-colored plumage...is so striking...that almost every child is acquainted with the Red-headed Woodpecker. 1824 *Newspaper* (Halifax), The golden-winged...or yellow-bellied woodpeckers...are also with us. 1858 Maria R. Audubon *Audubon & Trvls.* II. 51 Harris and Bell had gone shooting and returned with several birds, among which was a female Red-patched Woodpecker.

†2. *Cant.* At gaming, a bystander who encourages novices by putting up money for them. *Obs.*

1668 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* iii. D2, He that winnes hit is the Eagle, he that stands by and venturers, is the Woodpecker. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

**Wood-pi·geon.** Any of the species of pigeon that live in woods, as the stock-dove, *Columba œnas*, and (now esp.) the ring-dove, *C. palumbus.*

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 77 *Columbæ Cœrenatis*...the Stock-dove, or Wood Pidgeon. 1743 Shebbeare *Fraternal Ballad* ii. v, I have found out a gift for my fair; I have found where the wood-pigeons breed. 1780 G. White *Selborne, Let. to Pennant* 30 Nov., As to the wild wood-pigeon, the *œnas*, or *vinago*, of Ray, I...see no reason for making it the origin of the common house-dove; but suppose those that have advanced that opinion may have been misled by another appellation, often given to the *œnas*, which is that of stock-dove. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 217 Knots or bunches...formed by means of a plexus of young shoots,...apt to be mistaken...for a wood-pigeon's nest. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* 303 The forest is not vacant...Wood-pigeons and turtle-doves abound.

**Wood-quest, -quist, -queest.** Now *dial.* Also 6–7 -quyst(e, -ocyst, -quiste, -coist. [f. Wood *sb.*1 + *quest, quist, Queest.*] = prec.

1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* iii. xvi. 109/a Grated bread in the broth of a woodquyste. 1580 T. Newton *Approved Medicines* 85 b, Ye stockdouue, or Woodquist. 1582 Bathan *Treatise's Earth. Dr. K. Kenn.* vi. 182/1 The Stock-doue or Wood-coyst. 1623 tr. *Swetnam's Theat. Hon.* ii. xiii. 231 Ring-doues, or Wood-coysts. 1761 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 12 Dec. 2 Two Brothers being out a shooting Wood-quists. 1806 J. N. White *Poems* 18 The wood-quest wild. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, Wood-quist. 1877 *Jrnl. Miss Farreard* II. ii. 173 The woodquests' cooing formed a melodious base.

**Wood-reeve.** Also 6 **-rye,** 7 **-reafe,** 8 **-reef.** [f. Wood *sb.*1 2 + Reeve *sb.*1 2.] The steward or overseer of a wood or forest.

1579 Tusser *Thirlede. husb. Forest.* v. xlvii. 70 What it be now other then a Woodrye's, or Woodman? 1643 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Spent vpon our woodreefe for coming to giue vs notice of sume abuses done to our wood. 1795 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIII. 28 Thom [says] that fail to form so desirable a shape as in the opinion of a judicious wood-reef is necessary. 1866 *Morn. Star* 6 Mar. 6/5 The case was moved by Wm. Cosens Bellew, Verderer to Miss Hayes. 1913 *Daily News* 13 Aug. 5 We are mostly shepherds and wood-reeves and thackers and foresters here.

†**Wood-rowel.** *Obs.* [f. Wood *sb.*1 + Rowel *sb.*, in reference to the whorled leaves.] = next.

1568 Turner *Herbal* iii. 24 Of wood rofe or wood rowell. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* 683 Woodrowell..is a good healer vp of wounds. 1909 *Rngl. Dial. Dict., Wood-rowell*, sb. Oland. Yks. The name for woodruff. Not now known.

**Woodruff** (wu·drøf). Forms: 1 **wudu-, wuderoſe, -rife,** 3 **wuderouse,** 4 **woderowe,** 4–5 **-rove,** 5 **-roſe, wodrowe, -roſſe, -ruffe,** 5–6 **-roſe,** 6 **woodrouse, -rowe, -roſe, -roof(f)e,** 7 **-rof, -rough,** 7– **-roof,** (8 **-rooff**), 9 **woodruff,** (*Sc.* **-riff,** *arch.* **woodroofe, wood-ruffle.**] 1. **wudu-roſe, f. wudu** Wood *sb.*1 + **-roſe,** f. **wudu-roſe** Wood *sb.*1 + **-roſe,** f. **wudu-roſe** Wood *sb.*1 + **-roſe,** f. **wudu-roſe

What course shall be taken for the rest of the years with the wood sales for supply of this 25,000 *l.* yearly. 1786 in *Trials. Hy. Comm.* K.III. 629 Warrants for raising £ 4,000 ..by Wood Sales in Dean Forest.

*attrib.* 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 243 A sort of lusty bil-men set In wood-sale time to sell a cope.

**Wood-sear, -seer, -sere** (wu'dsiə). Also 9 *arron.* -soar. *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. Wood *sb.*1 + Sere *a.*]

1. A frothy exudation on plants, produced by an insect: = Cuckoo-spit 2 †; also, the insect itself.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 72/1 *Attelabus*, .. the smallest sort of locustes that be wingless: ye woodseare. 1589 [P Lyne] *Faspe w. Hatchet* B ij, Such a warming as shall make all his deuices as like wood, as his spittle is like wood-seare. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. viii. 39 Spiders, wormes, woodseares and such like vermines. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 28 That spumeous froth or dew (which here in the North we call Cuckow-Spittle, and, in the South, Woodsear..) looks like a heap of glass-bubbles. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 235 Insects of mysterious birth ..Hid in knots of spittle white..' Wood seers' call'd, that wet declare, So the learning shepherds say. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 533 The abundance of woodseare and honey dew on herbs indicates fine weather.

*attrib.* 1599 Cutwode *Caltha Poet.* (1815) C 2 b, I will not (as the creeping canker) waste thee, nor as the worm in woolsear time bespewe thee.

2. The season in which a tree or shrub will decay or die if its wood be cut.

Erroneously explained as 'the season for cutting wood'.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 111 From Maie til October leaue cropping, for why? In wood sere, whatsoeuer thou croppest will dy. *Ibid.* 119 The knots and knobbes will neuer be gone, but sommer cut downe to destroy. 1603 Sir C. Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* ii. 43 If wood be cutte after the sunne decline from ve vill be come to the equinoctiall, (which time they call woodsers) it will neuer growe againe. 1610 Folkingham *Feudigr.* I. ix. 22 All sappie weedes cut downe in Woodseare, and often mowne againe..; their roots will putrifie and rotte. 1891 *Glass. Etym. Dict. Windsore*, decayed or hollow pollard, also the season for felling wood.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* Applied to 'loose, spungy ground' (Lisle). Hence **Wood-sear-y** *a.*, in same sense.

1670 Aubrey in *Miscell. Curr. Subj.* (1714) 84 Let us imagine ..what Kind of Country this was..by the Nature of the Soil, which is a Soure, Woodsere Land, very natural for the Production of Oake especially. 1732 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 27 Chalk fills up the vacuities of sandy, or wood-seary ground. *Ibid.* 79 Culd, loose, hollow, wood-sear land. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. (1764) 97 Chalk laid on sandy or wood-seary ground. 1811 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 112 The red strong land on the high level parts of the Downs, which was once woodland, and sometimes expressly called 'wood-sour land'.

† **Wood-shaw.** *Obs.* Forms and etym. : see Wood *sb.*1 and Shaw *sb.*1; also with gen. 4 **wodes-schawe.** A thicket : = Shaw *sb.*1 1 *b.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 21561 Halden tat of wode scaga scalkes swiðe kene. *c* 1300 *Thrush & Nightg.* 19 in Heil. *E. E. P.* (1862) I. 57 Fowel, for thi false sawe, For bedd i the this wode shawe; Thou fare into the fiðe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 339 When the wode is thikke and schawe Hire child behielde. *a* 1400 *Ipomydon* 73 And als he weute by a woischawe [*v.r.* came by a lytell schawe] þare mett he with a lyttill knaue. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 768 Then went þey so vnto þe wode drawe Thikkere then trees by wodes-schawe. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xii. 356 Sir Iamurak..rode vnto the forest, and there he mette with two knyghtes houynge vnder the wood shawe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vi. 10 His nawy derne amang the thik wod schaw.

† **Wood-ship.** *Obs.* [OE. *woddriht*e : see Wood *a.* and -ship.] Madness : = Woodness.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wright-Wülcker 245/19 *Furra, insania, amentia*, wodscipe, rejpnes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 *Ira furor brevis est*: wreðhe is a wodschipe. *a* 1440 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 211 Leste þu wreoken him on me i wodschipe of þine wreðhe. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xxxvii[i]. 8 Ensede fro ire, and for-sak wodeship. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxx. (1869) 62 Glotonye hath double woodshipe i wrappid of vnwarning, and woodshipe of outrageous spekinge.

**Woodshock** (wu'dʃɒk). [app. popular alteration of a native form of Woodchuck (see Wejack).] A North American species of marten or its fur : = Fisher 2 *b*, Pekan.

1840 J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 52 *Mustela Canadensis* (Linn.) The Pekan or Fisher..skins are annually imported into England..under the names of Woodshocks or Fishers.

**Woodside** (wu'dsaid). Forms and etym. : see Wood *sb.*1 and Side *sb.*1; also with gen. 4 **wodes-syde, 6 woodssayde.** The side or edge of a wood.

Chiefly in phr. with prep., as *by* or *under the or a wood-side* = beside a wood ; cf. Hedging, Roadside, Wayside.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4733 Bi a wildrin wod side. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Auch.) His folk he dede abide Vnder wode side. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 139 Thai that in the wodsyde weir. *c* 1400 *Parce Michi*, 181 in *20 Pol. Poems* 148 By dale, by doune, by wodes syde. *c* 1450 Lydg. *Mirr. Pomey* (Percy Soc.) 110 So that ye wylle goo thys tyde Down to the chapylle under the wood syde. 1530 Palsgr. 290/1 Woodensyde, *ordere du bocage*. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lvii. 18 They came to a lytyll woodsyde. 1658 Cromwell *Sp.* 4 Feb. in *Carlyle*, I would have been glad to have lived under my woodside, to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than undertaken such a government as this. 1666 Inveden *Ann. Mirab.* ccxlviii, Thus to some desert Plain, or old Wood-side, Dire Night-hags come. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 11 A bull, or male hare, is known by its.. feeding farther from the wood-sides. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* ii. (1870) 47 You see a little withered old man by a wood-side opening a wicket. 1843 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 353 The woodside on the south is very swampy. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxxv, It will be as well for some of us to remain here; and, spreading our men along the wood-side, prevent the escape of the villains. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 295 The snow may be gone..except ..along fences and woodsides.

*attrib.* 1865 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 402 Like a babbling woodside brook. 1872 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 68 In the wood-side field.

**Woodsman** (wu'dzmǽn). Pl. **woodsmen.** (Chiefly *U.S.*) [f. *wood's* gen. sing. or *woods* pl. of Wood *sb.*1 + Man *sb.*1; cf. Backwoodsman.] A man who inhabits, frequents, or ranges the woods, a huntsman, sportsman, wood-cutter, etc. (cf. Woodman 1 1, 2, 4) ; one acquainted with or accustomed to the woods.

1688 Clayton *Virginia in Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 189 There are abundance of fine Red Deer, so that a good Woodsman, as they call them, will keep a House with Venison. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 86 The Captain..told him..that he was but a merry Woodsman, and that he would sowing him but twice round and he should not guess the way out again. 1755 R. Rogers *Pruth.* (1769) 9 One company of woodsmen, or rangers, to make excursions towards the enemy's forts. 1797 F. Baily *Trnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 358 My companion..was an excellent woodsman; and I.. trusted more to his sagacity, well knowing that he would not easily mistake the track. 1817 Scott *Harold* II. xiv. A woodsman thou and hast a spear, And couldst thou such an insult bear? 1825 — *Talism.*, xxii, The low wall at a dog's..which, as an expert wood-woodsman, he had no hesitation in recognising to be that of his own faithful hound. 1827 Hood *Plea Mids. Fairies* xlvi, A merry Woodsman, clad in Lincoln green, Passed with his bugle in his mates. 1859 Whyte-Melville *Katerfelto* xvi, Rube was far too practical a woodsman to pass such a slot without inquiry. 1876 *N. Y. Weekly Witness* 30 Dec. 1/1 The woodsmen were busy felling for the opposite party. 1902 S. E. White *Blazed Trail* vi, A veteran woodsman who had come to swamping in his old age.

**Wood-sorrel.** [English *of sorrel de bois*, superseding Wodsour : see Wood *sb.*1 and Sorrel *sb.*1 (3 a) : so called from the sour taste of the leaves, resembling that of sorrel.] The common name of *Oxalis Acetosella*, a low-growing woodland plant having delicate trifoliate leaves and small white flowers streaked with purple, appearing in spring.

1525 *Grete Herbal* I. (1529) C vj, Alleluya, wood sorell or cockow sorell. 1538 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xliii. 509 Wodde Sorrel is a lowe or base herbe, without stalkes. 1634-5 Berketon *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 192, I took a good quantity of milke thistle and wood sorrel. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 166 Wood sorrel,..being boiled with [milk], and coagulating, the whole is put into casks, and kept under ground to be used in winter [in Lapland]. 1880 W. M. Rhind *Life W. S. Forster* (ed. 2) I. ii. 42 The first appearance of cuckoo or swallow, of wood sorrel or anemone. 1899 R. Bridges *Idle Flowers* vii, Woodsorrel's pencilled veil.

b. Applied with defining words to other species of *Oxalis*; also in the West Indies to species of *Begonia*.

1770 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 201 The yellow wood sorrel, or *Oxalis cornuculata*. 1825 Dr Lanes *Kalm's Trav.* (1861) 63 The *Oxalis crenata*, or notched Wood-sorrel, a tuberous-rooted succulent, cultivated in Peru under the name of Oca. 1858 A. Inwine *Handbk. Brit. Upright Yellow Wood-sorrel*, 1864 Gerbrach *Flora W. Ind. Is.* 787/2 Sorrel, wood. *Begonia acutifolia*.

† **Wood-sour.** *Obs.* Forms : see Wood *sb.*1; also 4 **-sowr, -sowre, -soure, 5 -sore,** 6 **-sower.** [f. Wood *sb.*1 + Sour *sb.*, corresp. to ON. *skógarsúra* (*skóg* Scogh, wood, *súra* sorrel), Da. *skovsyre*. Cf. (= sorrel) MDu. *suerkruyd, suerick*, Du. *suring*, WFris. *sûrbläddsen* pl., G. *sauerampfer*, etc ; and (= wood-sorrel) G. *sauerklee, sauerkraut*, Da. *surklever*, etc.] = prec.

*a* 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 30 *Alleluia*, i. wodesour. 1440 *Ordene's Trott. Fitz Herbert* 61 Panis cuculi alleluya, i. wodsour, is a treyfole growyng vnder hym bee and bereþ white floures, is a ful sour herbe. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Ocym.*, *Acetosa Acetosa trifolium acetosum, ab officinis Alleluya, vulgus etiam vocat Alleluya* wodsore, & cuckowes meat. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 74 Oxys ..shuld be called wod sour or sorell. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xliii. 509 Wodde Sorrel is called..in English Woodsorrel, and Woodsower. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Woodsower is *Oxys*.

**Wood-sour,** erron. form of Wood-sear.

**Woodspeck** (wu'dspek). *dial.* Also 6 **-spicke, 7 -speight, -spight.** [f. Wood *sb.*1 + Speight.] A woodpecker ; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis*.

1555 Gesner *Hist. Avium* 680 Primum pici genus Anglì speciatim & wild-spechtam..nominant. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxvii. x. II. 282 The roots must bee digged up in the night season, for feare that the Wood-speight or Hickway should see them: for in the day time he said bird would die in their faces that carie it away, and be ready to lob out their eyes. 1626 *Bp. Cotton's Posie* Proverbs H 2, The coloured Woodspite runs along the trees. 1818 Revce *Brev. Suffolk* (1902) 45 Others, whose notes I cannot commend.., as the Cuckcow, the Jay, the wood spight, the owle. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* V. 249 The Green Woodspite or Wood-pecker is called the Rain-Fowl in some parts of the country. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 99 Green Woodpecker...Wood spite (Norfolk). Wood spuck (Norfolk ; Suffolk).

**Woodsy** (wu'dzi), *a. U.S.* Also -ey. [irreg. f. *wood's*, pl. of Wood *sb.*1 (see 9 g) + -y 1 ; formed thus for distinction from *woody*.] Of, pertaining to, characteristic or suggestive of the woods ; sylvan.

1861 Whittier *Cabin Poems* Kenoza Lake vi, Woodsey and wild and lonesome, The swift stream wound away. 1869 Mrs. Stowe *Oldtown Folks* xxxvii, [We] ran..about the piles of wood..with a spicy and woodsy smell. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* II. 78 Their songs have the delicacy and wildness of most woodsey forms. 1900 † Mark Twain *Man that corrupted* etc. 367 There was a sleepy, woodsy stillness everywhere.

**Woodwall** (wu'dwɔl). Now *dial.* Forms : 3 **wude-, 3–5 wodewale, 5 -woll, wodwale, 6 wode-, woodw(h)ale, -wale, -wele, 7 -wal, woodhall, 6– woodwall.** See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [ME. *wodewale*, nd. or cogn. w. MLG. *wedewale* (early Flem. *widewael* 'oriolus') f. *wode* Wood *sb.*1 + *wale* of obscure origin. (Cf. Witwall, and, for sense 2, Hickway.)]

†1. A singing bird : in early quots. of uncertain identity, but prob. (as later) the Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula*, which has a loud flute-like whistle: = Witwall 1. *Obs.*

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1659 (Cott. MS.) Prusche & þrostle & wudewale [*Jesus* MS. wodewale] An fuheles he grete & smale. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* 20 The noble lauerock ant wolc ant the wodewale. *c* 1325 Wodewale, *Dr de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 Epoter la note de l'oriol [*gloss* a wodewale] In 1366 Chaucer *Compl. Venus* 31 In many a tre ay wodewales nygh tyngales, Alpes, finches, and wodewales, That in her swete song deliten. *Ibid.* 914 With popyngay, with nyghtyngale, With Chalaundre, and with wodewale. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Mirr. Pomey* (Percy Soc.) 93 On fresch bloum hes syngith the wodwale. *a* 1600 *Robin Hood* ii. in *Child Ballads* III. 92 The wodwale sang, Would no more cease, Amongst the leaues a lyne. *a* 1650 *Fyer & Grime* 92 in Furnivall & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 583 The throstlecocke, the Nightingale, The laurecocke & the wild woodhall. 1657 Tomkinson *Acorie's Disp.* 24 That Bird which Children falsly call this, that is Woodwall. *a* 1667 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671), Witwall vel Woodwall, *galbula*.

2. A woodpecker; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis* : = Witwall 2.

In quot. 1489 tr. OF. *brubier* buzzard.

*c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xliv. 171 But men saye in a comyn language that whome neo wodwale dyde bride a spechawke'. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 224 Byrdes..some what lyke vnto those which we caule woodwaules, or woodpeckes. 1566 *Aid & Sitz.* c. 15 § 2 For the Head of everie Woodhall buye Xpence. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornithol. Gen. Zool.* IX. 285 [The Green Woodpecker] is called in different parts of England by the various names of Woodspite,..Woodsnall, and Popinjay. 1906 J. R. Harris in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 212 In Devonshire a common name for the bird is Woodall.

**Woodward** (wu'dwǽd), *sb. Hist.* Forms : see Wood *sb.*1; also 6 **wodwarte, 7 woodward.** [Late OE. *wuduweard*, f. Wood *sb.*1 + Ward *sb.*1 Suffixes as a surname in the forms *Woodward* and *Woodard*.] The keeper of a wood ; an officer of a wood or forest, having charge of the growing timber.

*c* 1050 *Kent. Sing. Vers.* § 13 (Liebermann 452) Wudeweard gehyrð ælc windfylled trēow. 1090 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 26/1 Wodewardes & proprios Forestar' sic Minister Bosc orum suorum predictorum. 1324-5 *Hist.* 470/2 Le Wodeward Sire Johan de Blakenbey. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wodewarde, or walkare in a wode for kappynge, *lucarius*.

1495 *Rolls of Parl't* VI 466/1 The Office of Woodwarde within the Counte of Caernarvan 1563 Bp. Sandys in Strype *Ann Ref* (1709) I. xxxv. 356 [He] is now my tenant and my baillif and woodward of my manour. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 33/43 A Wdwarte, *saltuarius* 1619 J. Clay *Chard Diar* 29 The Wood-wards is an Officer of Charge, vnto whose care and trust, the custodie of the Lords Woods, and Re-sept of the profits arising out of the same, are chiefly committed 1638 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 109 The woodlards greene with Tityrus dye was dight. *a* 1647 Habington *Surv. Worc.* (Worc. Hist. Soc. Publ.) I. 454 Hereeyppon dyd the Byshop of Worcester appoynt his servant to bee his woodward in Wenlond, and within the chase of Malvern 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III No 119. 4/1 James Worseley, Esq; is made Woodward of the New Forest *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 361 My woods are assures me, that windy weather makes the sap rise much sooner in trees than it would otherwise do 1732 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 80 The first officer [of the New Forest], under the lord-warden, is the woodward. Under the woodward are twelve regarders 1892 *Daily News* 21 Sept., The under keeper of the Loughton and Theydon Walks, gave evidence that the Woodward of Loughton had inclosed a thousand acres of the public land, and that his woodward had cut down several thousand trees

¶ Used for Woodhouse.

1488 *Acc. Ld H. Treas.* & *ot.* I. 82 A wodward of gold with a dismant. 1552 *Lyndt's Dict.*, *Cæpus*, a beast in face like a Swyne, or woodward. 1596 in J. Nichols *Comp. Testamentary* (1861) 90 Hewe Witts and Xpofer Becket, Wdwardes, or Ivemen

b. As the title of an officer of the 'Ancient Order of Foresters'.

1886 *Rules Court No. 2091 Foresters* No. 22 The Woodwards shall visit the sick members once a week

Hence †**Woo dwardship**, the office of woodward.

1418 in *31st Dep. Kpr's Rep.* 500 [The] Wodewardships [of the commotes of Penllyn and Talhepent, Merionethshire] 1485 *K. Rich'd Parlt* VI 370/1 The Office of Keeping of the Parke of Hyseley, with the Wodewardship. 1586-7 in H. Hall *Soc. Life Eliz.* (1886) 242 Mr Inkpen sold him the woodwardship of that manor [Ibstone] 1590 in *Trans. Ho Comm* XLIII 583/1 He hath shap timber there within the Wood Wardship of Cesar Roberi, Esquire.

**Woodward**, -**warden** (wu·dwā(ā)d), -*adv.* -*rare*. [f. Wood *sb*.1 + -ward(s.] Towards or to the wood.

† *From the woodward* : away from the wood.

1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 238 An other Lady running from the Wood ward *a* 1849 J. Mangan *Poems* (1859) 371 Bury rode west from the Castle *Counsellor's Mute* Ser. II 9 When the lush bough tempts the pigeons woodward.

**Woo dwa rden**. *rare*. [f. Wood *sb*.1 + Warden *sb*.1] = Woodward *sb*.

1748 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 205 That some of the Woodwardens go and view y^e wood blown down.

**Woodware** (wu·dwēə). [f. Wood *sb*.1 + Ware *sb*.1] Articles made of wood, collectively.

1850 Cornwall in *New Monthly* LI. 326 Ironmongery, matches, hatchets, woodware and nails. 1894 J. Davidson *Random Tim* 49 'And what is there at Chesham?' 'Woodware They make chairs, and toys and toy spades.'

**Woodwax** (wu·dwæks). ? *Obs.* Also 6 **wodwesse**, **-wosse**, 9 *dial.* **woodwhin**, etc. [OE. *wuduweaxe*, f. *wudu* Wood *sb*.1 + *weaxe*, presumably f. Teut. *waxs-* to grow, Wax *v*.1] = Woodwaxen

1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II 66 Wudu weaxe & hegenefe gecnuwen þa togædere. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 35 Wodwesse, *glastum Hid* 175/37 Wodwosse, *glastum* *a* 1667 Sir W. Petty in Spras *First Royal Soc* 296 The Yellows are Weld, Woad wax, and old Thatch 1691 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 49 In Bradon Forest grows very plentifully rank wood wax 1707 Mortimer *Husb* 241 Green weed or Woad wax. 1844 Maltcaster *Gallon'd Bayliff* 186 *Woadwaxe*, a yellow flow'r that grows on bad land, and has a bitter taste. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II 435 The wood wax and gorse are very abundant.

Hence **Woo dwaxen**, one who gathers woodwax.

1899 J. L. Knapp *Trial Nat* 77 Our poorer people used to collect it by cart loads, and the season of 'woodwaxen' was a little harvest to them the old woodwaxers tell me that [etc.]

**Woodwaxen** (wu·dwæksn). Forms 4–5 **woodwexen**, 6–9 **woodwaxen**, 9 **woad-waxen**. [app. oblique case of OE. form of Woodwax (*wuduweaxan*) taken as nom. The form *woodwaxen* is due to association with Woad.] The plant (*Isatis tinctoria*).

1367 *Cl. Rolls 41 Edw. III*, m. 9 dorso, Item pars vasta comodiatis tam in denariis quam de subbosco & woodwexen *a* 1400 *Old Usages Winchester* in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 398 Pursyth a man y^t lade wt wodes, þ^t cumeþ to selle, twey ȝ ow. . . Also, y^t cart ȝ lade wt wodewexen to sale, fowre pans. 1597 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 51 The Marigolde of Marsh is called Lysimachia. Woodwaxen [*glastum*] groweth in Medowes and is hotter like to Frome 1598 Lyte *Dodoens* VI VII 667 Of base Broome or Woodwaxen 1650 [W. Rosa] *Myst. Brit.* 46 1899 [see Woodwaxer above].

2. *attrib.* Woodwaxen dye.

1881 S. Thompson *Wild Flowers* 21 (ed. 3) 236.

**Woodwork, wood-work** (wu·dwŭk).

1. † A piece of work in wood, an article made of wood, or such articles collectively. *Obs.*

1560 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 226, I give vnto my sonne Edmund Bacon all my plate, hangings, wood worke houshold stuffe, and furniture 1568 Grow *Museum* II 111 192 With these, all the turn'd Wood Works in India and China are wrought and burnished. 1714 *Fr. Bk of Rates* 59 Woodworks such as Patten-Nosers, Button-Molds, Toys, &c *a* 1722 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed 3) IX 348/2 The acknowledged skill of her ancient artizans in wood works.

b. (without *pl.*) Work in wood, *esp.* those parts or details of a manufactured object or artificial structure which are made of wood; the wooden part of something.

1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* I. 205 If we could suppose this mill to have a power of repairing all the parts that were worn away, whether of the wood work or of the stone 1788 *Farm Dict.* s.v. *Plough*, I his depends much upon the Truth of the Iron Work, and therefore it is best the Plough should rather be accommodated to the Irons, the Wood work being easily alter'd. 1837 *Civil Engg. & Arch. Jrnl* I. 6/1 A groin is a frame of wood-work, constructed across a beach. 1850 J. Holland & *Diamond* III VII, That long cupboard over the woodwork of the mantelpiece 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* III. xxxvii 178 Some of the woodwork of the benches was torn from its place.

† 2. A grove or plantation artificially laid out.

1718 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 28 A large Wood-work cut into a Star, with a circular Alley.

3. a. Work done at cutting wood. *woods-use*

*a* 1861 T. Winyard *Life in Open Air* (1863) 41 We chopped at the woods for fuel Speaking for myself, I should say that our wood-work was ill done.

b Work done in wood, as carpentry.

1903 *Board Educ. Sch. Prog. Pt. II 208 Secondary Sch.* 84 Syllabus of wood-work for country or small isolated Schools.

So **Woo dwo rker**, (*a*) a worker in wood, one who makes things of wood; (*b*) a machine for working in wood (= Joiner *sb.* 3); **Woo dwo rking**, the action of working in wood, the manufacture of wooden articles. (also *attrib.*); † **Woo dwo rkman** = *woodworker* (*a*).

1659 in Marshall *Estimstown Reg* (1891) 32 Geo Wightman a woodworkman 1892 J. Richards (*title*) A Treatise on the construction of Wood working Machines. 1893 Knight *Mech.* 418/1 *Lathes, fig.* 3, a screen, with angle cut file, used in wood working. *Ibid* 981/2 *Woodworker*, a machine tool having various attachments and adjustments for different kinds of work 1880 *Scribner's Monthly* I 72 We stroll through the woodworking-shops, where nothing is done by hand that can be d ne by machine 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, s. v., In the coach making trade wood workers consist of wheel-makers, body makers, and carria,e-makers

† **Woodwose, wod'dhouse**, *sb. Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*). Forms: 1 **wudewæsa**, 4 **wodwos**(-**wysse**), 5 **wodwose**, 4–6 **wodwos**, 5 **wodwose**, (-**wous**(e, -**woys**, -**wosh**(e, -**wyssh**(e, **wodwyse**), 5–6 **woodwose**, -**wyss**, 6 -**woss**, *pl.* **wodys**, **vodys**. *B.* 5 **woodowes**, 6 **wodowes**, **woodos**(e, **wodehouse**, -**howse**, **wood**(e)**hous**(e. [Late OE. *wudewdsa*, f. *wudu* Wood *sb*.1 + *wasa* (of obscure origin).] A wild man of the woods; a savage; a satyr, faun; a person dressed to represent such a being in a pageant.

Sometimes perh. to be construed as *pl.*

*a* 1100 *Glass* in Wr.-Wülcker 208 *Satiri, uel fauni, . . uel fauni fecarii*, unfule men, wudewasan, unfeale wihtu. 1340 *Gaw & Gol. Grene* 731 Sumwhyle with wymmen he were, Sumwhyle wyth wodwos, þat wonned in þe kauntre. 13 . *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 201 Þa breu-teres doubtiur ; tolde ] e folk as wodewose wilde Who þat wan his herede Dede. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. xix (Tollem MS) Perin [*sc.* in Africa] ben satires, wodewoses, tigres, and oþer horrible be-tes 7 *a* 1400 *Horn Childe & Maid.* Alle wymmen were wodwos þo and be caynestre. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 7691 [4737] in *Anglia* XII. 616 Pat knape hath non forsake I be wodwose [*v.r.* wodwos], þat wyldernesse hath fownde. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Ireland* 257 The King of Irlaunde daunsed in his halle with his knyghtes, and was arayed lych a wodwous 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. 6 Wherfore he hath named Satyre 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. 109 Wode wowis be vpward nostrelde, *satyrs sunt stilo*. 1555 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 60 Men lyke wodys alle in grene. 1596 Wirhals *Diet.* (1574) 15 A wodowose, *satyrus* 1598 Florio *Worlde of Wordes*, *Leuom*, (Ouid) 251 Fourthly came . . the Erle of Essex w^t a woodhous preceding, and berying a bere tre. 1725 Fitzherb. *Husb* Colophon, Emprynted at London in Southwarke, at the sygne of the wodowes. *a* 1728 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 9 b, These beastes were led with certayne men appareiled like wilde men, or wodehouses. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 213, Some wente naked, some romed lyke woodsoes, none did anye thing by reason [1832 Arbin *Anc. Customs* etc. *Lagitha* 251 The savage men, or woodhouses, as they are sometimes called, frequently made their appearance in the public shows 1866 J. Nichols *Comp Ironmongers* 86 *note*, The engravings represent ivy men or wood wards, characters introduced in the pageants of that period [c 1515]. They were sometimes called woodhouses.]

b. A figure of such a being, as a decoration, a heraldic bearing or supporter, etc.

1358 in *Rep. MSS. S. Middleton* (1911) 165 Item] botoner de woodwose, &c. Item ], botoner de woodewoses, pris *c s.* 1381 *Test Ebor* (Surtees) I 121 Lectum . broudatum cum signis de woodewose *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1540 A vestoure Wyth a full of woodwose & oþer wild beastes. 1498 *Test. Ebor* (Surtees) IV 133 Sex cochiaria optima argentea] cum woodwoher.

1. 1399 *Will of Feld* (Somerset Ho.), Dosen spones of silver with woodwons on thende. 1513 in *Archæologia* LXVI 347 A Countrepoint of woodehouse lyned wt canvas. 1531 *Rec. of Aberdeen* (1871) 49, vi Speyns with woodis heidis. 1910 F Bond *Misericords* 16 The woodehouse is a very common supporter in heraldry 1910 *Archæologia* Ser. II XIX. 81 Three woodhouses ( between crowes ]

Hence † **Woo dwose** *v. intr.*, to run wild.

13 *Metr. Hom* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 274 He is wodore þen þat mon þat muche skile and resun con And gob as þen wod wonaide ?

**Woody** (wu·di), *a.* Forms: 4 **wody**, 4, 6 **woddy**, 6 **woodye**, **wood(d)ye**, 6–7 **woddie**, **wood(d)ie**, 6–8 **woodey**, 6– **woody**. [f. Wood *sb*.1 + -y 1.]

# WOOD-YARD.

1. 1. Covered or overgrown with wood; having a growth of trees or shrubs; full of or abounding in woods or forests; wooded.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV 492 In a woddy glen. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* xiii. 20 The erthe, fat, or barayn, wodi, or with outen trees. 1545 Brinklow *Complt.* (1874) 17 Such heathy, woddy, and moory ground, as is vnfruiteful for corne or pasture. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 33 Whence as he to loue wooddie hils did fine, *a* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 134 The said mannour was in antient time, when twas woodly, a stall or den for wild beares 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xlii. IV 230 A small woody island. 1796 [see Woodiness 2] 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII 1 305 The woody mountain tracts 1844 Howitt *Rur. & Dom Life Germany* 351 As we approached, the hills became wilder and woodier 1867 Alonzo *Jason* xvii. 7 The rose-hung lanes of woody Kent.

¶ b. Bushy.

1609 *Bible* (Douay) 2 Kings xvii 10 They made them statues under everie thicke woddie tree [Vulg *omne lignum nemorosum*].

† 2. Belonging to, inhabiting, or growing in woods or woodland; sylvan. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 18 The woodly Nymphes, faire Hamadryades 1599 T. M[oufet ?] *Silkewormes* 14 The hearde of woolly outlawes fell 1620 G Fletcher *Christ's Vict Earth* vii, A grasse hillock with a woodie plaine befrocked. 1655 J. S *Innocents's Ills de Secre* t. v 20 Some woody Deity.

b. Of, pertaining to, or situated in a wood.

*a* 1721 Prior *Colin's Mistakes* I, A Wimple's woody Shade his Way he sped. 1809 Coleridge *Three Graves* 498 Deep in a woody dell *a* 1840 Joanna Baillie *Ivers Kerrlied Sheving* 17 The woody valley The wood-nymph's daughter blue Have clothed the ground 1911 Mrs H. Ward *Case Rich Megnolli* xiv. 88 As they neared the end of the woody path, he looked up again.

II. 2. Made of wood, wooden. *Obs. rare*

*a* 1540 Hanner *Images* Wks. (1573) 346/1 Stony & woodly Images. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xx, In prison pent, whose woddye walles to ieo-se Of no lesse peryll than the dyng was

4. Of the nature of or consisting of wood; of or belonging to the wood as a constituent part of the plant; ligneous.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I xvi. § 2. 17 Salt Marsh Spike grasse hath a woodie tough thicke roote *a* 1704 Locke *Hum Nat. Philos.* IX. (1754) 33 Herbs are those plants, whose stalks are soft, and have nothing woody in them 1756 Withering *Brit. Arborescent.* 804 The stem is somewhat woody, as the stems of the Rose 1846 *Zoologist* IV 1282 The small roots of rose-bushes sometimes produce rounded, warty, and woody knobs, inhabited by insects. 1859 Dawson in *Q. Jrnl Geol. Soc* XV. 630 Leaves strengthened by nerves composed of sclarifirm and woody tissue 1908 *Animal Manag. etc.* 87 Bruised stems contain varying proportions in all vegetable foods

b. Of a plant: Of which wood is a constituent part; forming wood; having the stem and branches of wood; *woody plant*, a tree or shrub, as distinguished from a *herb*; *spec.* in distinctive names of particular species, as *woody nightshade*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III lvi 398 Some Herbonistes of Fraunce do call it *Solanum lignosum*, that is to say, Woody Nightshade. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed 3) II 48 Hardly to be called herbaceous, but shrubby and woodily. 1830 Lindley *Nat Syst Bot* 99 The most northern woody plant known is a kind of Willow, *Salix arctica* 1835 *Encycl. Metrop* V 307 Cinquefoil, grown woodier.. from its upland situation.

c Resembling wood; having the texture or consistence of wood.

1718 W. Barham *Carolina* 468 The fruit is a large, round, dry, woody apple with dry woody cinnamon seeds. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch Jrnl* III. 68/2 The coal is rendered tougher, or, in the language of the colliers, more 'woody'. 1871 *Rep. Gentlemen's Diet* 132 All the wood is woody shell as large as a baby's head hanging on one of the lower branches of the very tree on which I was sitting.

5. Pertaining to or characteristic of wood; resembling that of wood; having some quality (*e.g.* the smell) of wood.

1830 J. G. Strutt *Sylva Brit* 46 A piece of oak, which, exposed to the sun and rains for a century, yet smells woody 1860 W. White *Yorkshire* xi 100 Apples . their substance is as hard as timber and woody to taste. 1876 Morris *Æneids* XII 782 The gripping woody bute [of an arrow] 1900 H. S. Merriman' *Isle of Unrest* ix, Clean woody odours.

b Having a dull sound like that of wood when struck.

1875 R. H. R. *Rambles in Istria* 50 A good campanile . with two sweetly toned bells—why is it that ours are always so unmusical and wooden? 1892 *Macm. Mag.* LXV. 241 A little cottage piano, woody and dull of tone.

**Woody**, variant of Widdy.

**Woo'd-yard**. Forms and etym.: see Wood *sb*.1 and Yard *sb*.1 A yard or inclosure in which wood is chopped, sawn, or stored, esp. for use as fuel. Also *transf.* (quot. 1774).

1290–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 7 In j securi empt. pro le Woddyard, 2*d* 1537–8 *Priory Pontef. Chap. Acts Mary* (1831) 54 Item to the Squillary, 8*d* Item to the Woodyerde, vi*d* x*d* 1542 *Acts Privy Council* V. 12 8 3 The sergeant of the Woodyarde 1827 Capt J. Smith *Sea Grave* I. 2 To those Docks belongs their wood-yards, with saw-pits. *a* 1900 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Sept. 1676, Over against his Majesties wood yard. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist* IV. 166 Their wood-yards are larger or smaller, in proportion to the number in family ; and the usual stock of timber, for the accommodation of ten beavers, consists of about thirty feet in a square surface, and ten in depth. 1895 Longe. in *Life*

(1630) I. v. 61 There is no wood to be had from the College woodyard. 1859 Jephson & Reeve *Brittany* 268 We begged permission of the bursom proprietress of a woodyard, to pitch our tent among her heaps of timber.

**†Woodyer.** *Obs.* In 5 wodyere. [OE. *wudi-(g)ere*, f. *wudian* to cut wood: see -ER. Cf. Woodman.] = Woodman 1 2.

a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 130/32 *Calones*, wudieras. *Ibid.* 190/31 *Calones*, wuddjeras. a 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. ii. (1869) 146 A woodyere stode alle me..wode in his forestе. 1860 *Sussex Weekly Advert.* 29 Nov. in *N. & Q.* (1910) 11th Ser. II. 299 To be Sold Eight acres of Underwood...Apply to James Wratton..the woodyer, who will shew the wood.

**Wooed** (wūd), *ppl. a.* [f. Woo *v.* + -ED 1.] That is courted by a lover. Also *absol.*

1582 Bentley *Mon. Matronæ* Pref. B 1 b, The wooed woman not to be by anie meanes covined or abused in marriage. 1893 Le Gallienne *Retrosp. Rev.* (1896) I. 13 A wooer at a certain hot moment entreats, the wooed: 'Will you, I ask once more, shew your belief in me by letting me encircle you with my arm?'

**Wooer** (wū·ər). Forms: 1 wogere, 3, 5 woware, 4–5 wower (4 wouwere), 4–6 wower, 5–6 *chiefly Sc.* wowar, 5 woar, *Sc.* wowir, 5–6 *Sc.* wawar, 6–8 woer, 6– wooer. [OE. *wōgere*, f. Woo *v.* + -ER 1.] One who woos a woman, esp. with a view to marriage, a suitor; *rarely* a woman who woos a man. Also in fig. context.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xvii. 137 Sume hi wyrcaš heora wæpnum drencas..þæt hi to wife habbon. *c* 1050 *Rule of Chrodegang* lii. (1916) 64 Ponne wite þu þæt hi beoð wogeras awiðor ionne preostas. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Ich am woware uolhe swuðe. Ich hale mourne biclupne mine leofmon bute ine stude derne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 74 Se faren lyke þise woweres, Pat weiden nonne wydwes but ferst wolde hem spouse. 1390 Gower *Conf. Prof.* (W. de W. 1499) II. xliv, That it mygthte come to theffecte of true possoage he hathe suche gracyous apekynges this maner of a wower to a dyscrete. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. v. Prol. 196 Traist nocht all talis thai wantoun wowaris tellis. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 73 He vnto hir a goodly tale began, Mens life is a woer, that a widdow is man. 1632 Sir Stafford *Hen. Glory* 88 He compares God to a Woer, the Angell to a sollicitour, and Mary to the beloved. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 Now, Woer, quoth he, wou'd ye light down I'll gie ye my dochter's love to win. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* v, She were fittest Valentine in Perth for so craven a wooer. 1854 Dickens *Hard T.* I. xvi, Mr. Bounderby went..to Stone Lodge as an accepted wooer. 1865 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xviii. 44 'Love at first sight' is no uncommon thing when Jesus is the wooer.

b. *transf.* of the lower animals.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 43 b, If shee haue not been horsed before, she wil so beate her woer, y^t [etc.]. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 236 It is not always the males [sc. button-flies] who are the wooers.

c. *Comb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. Prol. 300 To crowd In amorus voce and wowar soundis lowd. 1785 Burns *Halloween* iii, The lads sae trig, wi' wooer-babs. 1845 Jamieson, *Wooer-bab*, ..the garter knotted below the knee with a couple of loops, formerly worn by a young man who was too sheepish to announce in plain terms the purpose of his visit.

**Woof** (wūf), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 -wof, 3 of, 4–5 oof, 4, 6 ofe, 5 offe, 6 owfe, 7 oufe, *β.* 6–7 woofe, woufe, (6 wolfe, wowfe, 7 *pl.* woovis), 7–8 wooff, (8 woofi, whoof), 7– woof. [OE. *ōwef* (later *ōwef*), f. *ō-* + *wefan* to Weave. (Cf. the later parallel formation *āweb*, *āweb* Arb.) ME. **ouf*, *oof* became *woof* partly by association with Warp *sb.* in *warp and* (*or*) *woof*, or with Weft.]

1. The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp: = Weft *sb.*[1] 1.

a. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C467 *Cladica*, weft uel owef. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 364/23 *Cladica*, weft, oððe owef, oððe claudica. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Bonth.* 30 If 145/1 *Subtemen*, of. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xiii. 47 A wollun cloth, or lynnen, that hath a lepre in the oof, or in the warpe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xi. (1495) an ivh/1 The vyrynner..begynneth the webbe in the myddyll poynt & goeth rounde abawte the ofe. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 628/1 *Subtegmen*, [*glas* warpe], *sic quoque stamen*, *vtrum* offe]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/1 Oof, webbynge, *trama*. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1562) 35 b/2 The warpe, *stamen*. The ofe, *subtegmen*. 1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dict. s.v. Lino*, The woofe of linnen. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 337 To spoole, winde quils, lay his warpe, shoot oufe.

*b.* 1530 Tindale *Lev.* xiii. 48 Whether it be in the warpe or woofe of the lynen or of the wollen. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 157/25 Y^e Woofe of a web, *subtegmen*. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 846 As it is in the Warpe, and the Woofe, of Textiles. 1627 Trapp *Comm. Ps.* xc. 4 Stitch as through whose whole lives godliness runneth, as the Woof doth through the Warp. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 188 The Workmen shall not make Use, neither in the Warp or the Woof, of any Yarn of a different Quality. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 324 Threads thrown across by the shuttle are called the woof. 1802 Trans. Baillie *1st Pt. Travels in Asia*, IV. 384 The finest British matrons cross the woof With coarser hands than theirs. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 76 In a web the warp is stronger than the woof.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context, often in collocation with *warp*.

1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* I j, To..wrappe vp his lifewarpes woofe with so euill a hute. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* M, The pro. of that Oration, was of the same woofe and thrid with the beginning. 1697 W. Hawkins *Apollo Shroving* 1. 1 Where euery English threed is quercast with a thicke woollen woofe of strange wordes. 1727 Gray *Bard* II. i, Weave the warp, and weave the woof, The winding sheet of Edward's race. 1849 [see Warp *sb.*[1] 2 b].

**Vol. X.**

1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xix, That commerce of feigned and preposterous admiration which..made the woof of all learned intercourse. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. 29 The woof of self-interest is so cunningly interwoven with the warp of righteous feeling that very few of us can tell where the threads cross.

2. The thread used to make the woof; also in vague poetical use.

1540 Hyage tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* I. iii. (1541) 3 b, To warpe, or sle wynd spindels in a cese, for to throw wolle of. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* II. iii. The old wife shee spun the woufe. 1634 Milton *Comus* 83 First I must put off These my skie robes spun out of Iris Woof. 1638 *Sturgis Rec. Glocgow* (1876) 386 Their suld be no woovis wovin of townis folkis thairin. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 244 Iris had dipt the woof. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* xi, Did I weave these visions from the woof of my madness?

3. A woven fabric, esp. as being of a particular texture: = Weft *sb.*[1] 3; also, the texture of a fabric. Often *transf.* or *fig.*

1674 N. Faifax *Bulk & Selv.* 74 That woof and plight that the whole ticklish frame of worldly beings are wheel'd into such a tide of day [viz. dawn]. *Ibid.* 74 That we can sometimes force bodies to close with the woof or tenor of the whole. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 164 To spread the pall beneath the regal chair Of softest woof. 1737 Dyer *Fleece* III. 40 Curious woofs of beauteous hue. 1790 Cowper *Odyss.* XIX. 173 A robe..of subtlest woof. 1812 Scott *Don Roderick* LXIII. 6 Part their glaive o'er mingling shield and woof. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 232 There was an awful rainbow once in heaven: We know her woof, her texture. 1826 Joanna Baillie *Family Legend* I. The very spider through his fairest cage Of wiry woof,..Scarce seems a lothly thing. 1838 Lytton *Alice* v. v, That girl's thread of life has been the dark line in my woof. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 178 Receive this web, and braid its heavenly woof Beneath thy breast.

†4. The action of weaving. *Obs. rare.*

1700 Dryden *Cyn. & Alc.* 237 Alcyone..hastens in the Woof. Which Robes his wrapp'd Infant.

**Woof** (wūf), *v.*[1] *rare.* [f. Woof *sb.*[1] Cf. Woofed.] *trans.* To arrange (threads) so as to form a woof; to weave. Also *transf.*

1894 Alice C. Macdonell in *Lyra Celtica* (1896) 252 Woof well the cross threads, To make the colours shine. 1920 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 514 Woofing the shuttle to and fro, warped and woofed together by lianas and creeping plants.

**Woof** (wuf), *int.*, *sb.*[2], and *v.*[2] Also wouf, wowff. Imitation of a gruff abrupt bark of a dog; also *transf.* (Cf. Whoof.)

1788 Burns *Poems* 29 (Jam.) Curs baegin to woof an' bark. 1839 J. Ballantine in *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 26 The wowff o' the colley. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxv, Every now and then, he [*sc.* a dog] would discharge a Woof, like a cannon from an ass. 1885 Rudyard Kipling *N. Sol. Mines* iv, Presently..came a loud 'woof, woof!' 'That's a lion,' said I. 1918 H. Carlk *Air Men o' War* 14 The hoarse 'woof' of a bursting anti-aircraft shell.

**Woof**, obs. pa. t. of Weave *v.*

**Woofed** (wūft, *poet.* wū·fed), *ppl. a.* [f. Woof *sb.*[1] + -ED. (Cf. Woof *v.*[1])] Woven; *fig.* intricate.

1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxii, So much awhile, enwoofed in woodland phantasies.

**Woofi** (wū·fi), *a. rare.* [f. Woof *sb.*[1] + -y 1.] Resembling a woof or woven fabric; of dense texture.

1826 Joanna Baillie *Martyr* II. i, Close round us hung, the vapours of the night Had form'd a woofy curtain.

**Wooing** (wū·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 wogung, 3 wowunge, 4–6 wowyng, 4–5 woynge, 5 wowyng, 7–8 woing, 7– wooing. [f. Woo *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Woo; amorous solicitation, courtship: in ME. often with dysiogistic implication.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* vii. 301 Weard þa se casere for þære wogunge his wifes. *c* 1205 Lay. *Brut* 8. 2. 2. 2

*Northampt.* 451 Wool wrought together and compacted as closely, as Wool is by the Workman's Hands, in the making a Hat. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 65 P 2, I am ashamed to tell you that we are indebted to Spanish Wool for many of our masculine ruddy complexions. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. 72 In the same Fleece diversity of wool Grows intermingled. 1826 J. Kennis *New Supply* 8 Our Oriental Wool. This coloured wool comes from China in large round loose cakes. ..The finest of these gives a most lovely and agreeable blush to the cheek. 1832 Tennyson *Gardener* 146, I hear Dead sounds at night..Like footsteps upon wool. 1872 W. Reid *Sheep* 82 An increased supply of mutton and wool.

b. The fleece or complete woolly covering of a sheep, etc. ; *out of the wool*, shorn.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 161 This whethur and he wole were wonderly keppit By..Mars. 1550 in Phillipps *Wills* (1830) 180 Threescore Sheep, to be delivered unto him out of their wool. 1579 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 22 To bring the woll, the skin, and hyde To Edinburgh Towne. 1841 Sarah, Lady Lyttelton *in Corr.* (1912) 310 Lord S...left town..' to see the sheep just out of the wool after shearing.'

c. The short soft under-hair or down forming part of the coat of certain hairy or furry animals.

1805 Shaw *Mach. tr.* i. 25 Eye of Newt, and Toe of Frogge, Wool of Bat, and Tongue of Dogge. 1807 Trotter *Feuar's Receipt* 274 The use of the wool of a hare, well burned..fastened the haire from falling off. 1815 Mankinson *Country Contentm.* 1. 103 After your dogge hath courst, ..first cleanse his mouth and chaps from the wool of the Hare. 1823 J. Badcock *Fashionroads, Celebr, Charit* iv. 23 Ha! you felt the woolf of Bever? 1757 *Refl. Importation of Bar-Iron* 13 The American bought the Beaver Wool (the raw Material [of his hat]) at no such cheaper Rate. 1827 Youatt *Sheep* iii. 57 The camel has, at the base of its long hair, a quantity of wool. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 258.

d. As the material of the thread spun and cut off by the Fates. *Obs.*

1608 B. Jonson *Hue & Cry after Cupid* Wks. (1616) 939 That was reserv'd, vntill the Parcæ spunne Their whitest wooll; and then, his thred begun. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Kalthus'.* 161 Let Destinie's pale Fate your spindles fall Fill, and winde up with whitest wool.

e. With qualifying word. See also *fell-wool* (Fell *sb.*1 4), *goat's-wool* (Goat 4 c), Lamb's-wool, *skin-wool* (Skin *sb.* 13), etc.

1696 *Nottingham Rec.* VI. 211 The stones de flesse wolle et skyn wolle. 1498 Halyburton *Ledger* (1867) 219 A pok of lam vol. *c* 1545 *Tenures Indentures* 19 Cotiswold wolle of the growynge of this present yere. 1658 *Ordin. Council* 6 Sept. 8 ii Manufactures..made of Sheeps Wooll or Coney Wooll.

f. In comparisons, e. g. *as soft, white as wool.*

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* calvil. 16 Se sele8 snawe swe swe wolle. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 98/1 Hire her and hire hod was white so wolle as pei it were wolle. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* i. 14 The heed of him and heeres weren white, as whijt wulle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 65 Softer than the wolle is of a wether. *c* 1480 Henryson *Two Mice* 159 His warme as wull. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 63 Gyff your sinnis be..reid as purpur neutherthein ya sal be quhit as wow. 1742 R. Forbes *Apoc. etc. Sibyl* (1772) 38 Sinners are cotton's Rather than saffron for na' ony woo, that grows on mutton. 1839 Longf. *Wreck of Hesperus* xviii, She struck where the white and fleecy waves Looked soft as carded wool.

g. Phrases and proverbial sayings. (*a*) *Against the wool* : contrary to the direction in which wool naturally lies, the wrong way. (*b*) *To draw* (or *pull*) *the wool over* (a person's) *eyes* : to make blind to facts, to hoodwink, to deceive. *U. S.* (*c*) *To dye in the wool* : to dye the wool before spinning ; *fig.* in *pass.* to be thoroughly imbued ; *dyed in the wool* (chiefly U. S.), thoroughgoing, out-and-out ; *wool-dyed* in 5 d). †(*d*) *To gather wool* : see Wool-gathering 2. (*e*) *Great* (*much*) *cry and little wool* (etc.) : much talk or clamour with insignificant results (see Cry *sb.* 16). (*f*) *Woollen wool.*

(*a*) 1533 Tindale *Expos. 1 John* iv. Wks. (1573) 415/1 He wresteth all the Scriptures & setteth them clean agaynst the woll, to destroy this article. 1548 J. Heywood *Prov.* x. xi. (1867) 30 What should your face thus agayne the woll be shorne For one fall? 1909 Hosten *Wit of Wit* (Grosart) 80/2 But begging is a vile & unmanly trade, *Valiant*. Then worke. *Anger*. That goes against the woull. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvi. 298 Let us..brush our former Words against the Wool.

(*b*) 1855 Frances M. Whitcher *Widow Bedott* xv. (1883) 55 He ain't no big a fool as to have the wool drawed over his eyes in that way. *a* 1859 in *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 537 They think they find a prize, if they can only pull their wool o'er other people's eyes. 1884 Howells *Silas Lapham* vii, I don't propose he shall pull the wool over my eyes.

(*c*) 1579 &c. 1674 [see 1794 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 18 Children as it were in the Wooll of their infancie died with hardnesse may neuer afterwards change colour. 1830 H. Warner *Sp. in H. of C.* 20 Feb. (Thornton) I am half an hour [he can] come out an original democrat, dyed in the wool. 1840 J. P. Kennedy *Quodlibet* ii. 52 As patent a dyed-in-the-wool Democrat as Theodore Fog himself. 1871 *College Courant* 21 Jan. (Schele de Vere *Amer.*) A drenching rain has washed the indigo from his new suit dyed in the wool at home, into his skin. 1885 Hughes, *Dying Textile Fabrics* 289 If in any dyed woollen fabric the colour has been imparted to it while it was yet in the state of unspun wool, it is said to be wool-dyed, or to have been dyed in the wool. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 503/2 Socialists dyed in the wool. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 93/2 The governor of Alleghenia is a dyed-in-the-wool scoundrel.

(*d*) 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers Epigr., Trifles* 15 The Papist praies with mouth, his minde on gathering woolle doeth goe. 1693 Breton *Packet Mad Lett.* ii. (1653) 83 For their wits, if they loose not their owne fleeces, let them gather Wool where they can.

(*e*) *c* 1480 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 His hyghnes shall have peroff, but as lande be man but sherid is hogge, muche crye and litil woll. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 28 Here is..as one said at the shearing of hogs, great cry and litle wool. 1644 Prynne *Falsities & Forgeries* 2 Here is a great cry indeed, but little wool. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 165 Rumph, quoth the Dun'l when he clip'd the Sow, A great Cry, and little Woo. *a* 1734 North *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 170 For Matter of Title he thought there was more Speak than Wool. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. (Rtldg.) 201 At first, there was much cry but little wool. 1862 Hislop *Prov. Scot.* 142 Mair whistle than woo', quo' the scomer when he heard the sow.

(*f*) 1303 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 264 Thyne sheep ar ner al shabbyd, be wolff wolleth wolle. 1583 Howard *Defensatives* A j b, Would ye teeth backe the Cannon shotte. 1620 Shelton *Don Quix.* II. lxvii. 455, I would not have him care for wool, and returne shorne. 1680 C. Blount tr. *Philostratus* 241 It is ill Wool that will take no Dye. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* iii. 249 Sancho Panza..says, 'not to go for wool, and come home shorn. 1864 Browning *Mr. Sludge* 930 If such as came for wool, sir, went home shorn; Where is the wrong I did them?

2. Applied to substances resembling sheep's wool.

a. A downy substance or fibre found on certain trees and plants; also, the thick furry hair of some insects or larvæ. Cf. Cotton-wool 1.

*c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 268 In that Land ben Trees, that beren Wolle, as though it were of Schepe; where of men maken Clothes, and alle thing that may ben made of Wolle. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 59 b, His Apple or fruite is all ouer couered with a certaine kinde of woull or cotton. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 118 The other white Mulleyne ..hath white leaues frayed with a soft woull or Cotton. 1684 T. Burnet *Sacred Theory of the Earth* (1726) 2 Woods of Trees. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict. s.v. Xylon*, Seeds..wrapped within that soft ductile Wool, commonly known by the Name of Cotton. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Feb. 1/1 *Larvæ*, ..shabby, thickly clothed with white wool. 1891 Don *Dicklamyedous Pl.* I. 513 The wool contained in the fruit is called *Samauma*. In Brazil, with which the natives stuff pillows and bolsters. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 61/2 The *Actinotus*..the whole body is generally clothed with scales rather than with wool. 1885 Tennyson *Spinster's Sweet-Arts* xii, The wool of a thistle is silky. 1895 Lydekker *Nat. Hist.* I. 99 The wool is 354 Horse-chestnut leaves, when they make their way through the..bud-scales, are thickly covered with wool.

b. In the Cotton manufacture imitated or artificially produced. † Also (*Spon.*) applied to Ice.

*Philosophical, Philosophers' wool*: see Philosopher 5 b. [1598 T. Johnson *Cornucopiæ* C 3 b, A stone named Abeston ..which is..a kinde of Woull growing about it.] 1599 Mouffet] *Silkeworms* 61 The smal..of white wool that's new. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Trophein* 751 As the rigour of long Cold congeals To harsh hard Wool the running Rivers. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1. 91 Into this form may the whole substance of the Zinc be converted. Several names have been given to these flowers, such as Philosophers wool, Nihil Album, &c. 1657 J. Hurst, *Homœopathic Pharm.* 975 Flowers of Zinc, Philosophical Wool. *c* 1805 Philosophers' wool [see Philosopher 5 b]. 1875 Knight *Mech., Wool*..is also a fibre obtained by steam into a fibrous form. Known as slag-wool, or silicate cotton. 1884 *Lock Workshop Rec. Ser.* III. 430/2 Slag-wool. ..The process is principally used for covering boilers or steam-pipes. 1888 [see Glass 16].

c. The short crisp curly hair of a negro. Also *gen.* (jocularly), the hair of the head.

1807 *Lond Gaz.* No. 3256/4 Run away..,a Negro Boy.. the Wool on the right side of his Head about the breadth of a Crown Piece. 1730 Southall *Bugs* 6 Meeting with an uncommon Negro, the Hair or (rather) Wool on his Head, Beard, and Body, was white as Snow. 1771 Smollett in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I. 509 The people are..woolly-headed, like Negroes ..the hair, or rather the wool upon their heads, was very curiously powdered. *a* 1853 in 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. ix, He'd got no wool on the top of his head,—just the place where the wool ought to grow, you know. 1882 in S. Sr. John *Hayti* iv. 146 The principal trouble to the female negro mind is her unfortunate wool. *slang phr.* 1830 R. Lower *Tom Cludpole's Yarn.* cxxvi, Dat 'riah'd ma wool. 1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, &c.*, 'Keep your wool on', don't get angry.

3. Woollen clothing or material; &c. phr. *among the woo'*, in the blankets.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11112 He..Ne wered noþer wol ne line. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1272/2 How proude is many a man now (the yere of our Lord 1534) of lyn gowne is fyner? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Genil.* I. i, A Country Fool, good to..taste course bread, wrapt in Wool. 1707 *Curios.* (1708) 1 Wool-gathering. 1776 *Pennsylvania Mag.* Feb. 44 (E.D.D.) They..den among the woo, Fu' quiet that night. 1882 Edith A. Hanmer *Common-sense Clothing* 28 Wear wool in hot weather: do as you please in cold.

b. The nap of a woollen fabric.

1563 Fulke *Meteors* (1572) 14 Garmentes, whose wolt is hyghe, as fryese mantels, and suche lyke. 1577 Harrison *England* II. 6 (1877) I. 34 Such patrons doo scrape the woollen wt no hard hand. 1856 R. Rout *Treat. Woollen Manuf.* 1/1 The wool is the..fibre which..when..combed..forms the wool of the sheep's back. 1863 Lond. *Gaz.* No. 6109/6 Mary Louff.., Coney *Wooll-Cutter. 1869 Rees *Cycl. s.v. Wool*, The wool is then..carded. 1895 D. Mackenzie *Emigr. Guide Australia* 92 Of these bales, ..one of our ordinary *wool-drays, drawn by eight bullocks, will carry to Sydney from 4 to 5 tons of wool. 1870 *Yorksh. Anc. Coins* etc. 300 Struthium..is a Root us'd by the *Wool-dressers. 1887 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., **Wool-drier*, a workman who dries wool after washing. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wool-dryer*, a machine for removing the moisture from wool after washing, dyeing, or what not. *Ibid.*, **Wool-duster*, a machine for mechanically removing the coarser impurities from wool. 1671 Land. *Exact Papers* (Camden) I. 173 I cannot learn that any more then 1500*li*, or at most 2000*li* a year, was ever made for *wooll dutys to y^e chief Gouvr. 1858 J. Bates in *Trans. Yorks.* (1879) I. 648 *Wool dyers. 1801 T. Peck *Norwich Direct.* 10 Coulsen Ralph, *Wool-Factor. 1806 *Monthly Mag.* June 481/1 At a recent meeting of..wool growers of Glamorganshire, resolutions were adopted for establishing a *wool-fair in that county. 1748 Jarvis *2nd Pt. Quix.* III. xvii. 11. 298 Pedro Perez the *wool-farmer. 1824 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xviii, The heavy clouds..had..settled down in a black, *wool-fringed bank. 1899 H. Johnston *Câpwe. Limbuchi* xxii. 253 Her profession was that of a *wool-gleaner. 1806 *wool growers [see *wool-fair*]. 1847-54 Webster, **Wool-growing*, a., producing sheep and wool. 1888 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 40 *Wool-growing would be profitable if it were not for ravenous dogs.

†*c* 1470 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 283 The marchaunte comme oure wollys for to bye. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, They followe..but one kynde of marchaundyse as Woullen or Sylkes. 1566 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 61 Wools are as yet at high rate, but I thinke shortly they will fall. 1604 E. G[ismstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxiii. 299 If they could make profite of their woolls by sending them into Europe. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4288/3 The Wools to be seen at Leathersellers Hall. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 124 Wools have been distinguished in commerce into two classes; fleece wools and dead wools. 1890 E. B. Ramsay *Remin. Scott. Life & Char.* (ed. 5) 69 *Cus. A.* as not *Shep. Ay*, a' no ca' them a', all on' wool.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* : a. simple attrib. as *wool-bale*, *-blanket*, *-bob* (Bob *sb.*1 6), *-clip*, *-coat*, *-crop*, *-hat*, *-import*, *-lock*, *-mattress*, *-produce*, *-production*, *-sheet*, *-side*, *-tax*, *-top* (Top *sb.*1 2) ; = relating to or concerned with the manufacture, storage, transport, or commercial handling of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-bill*, *-boat*, †*-chamber*, *-dray*, *-duty*, *fair*, *-hall*, *-loft*, *-market*, *-quay*, *-room*, *-sale*, †*-shop*, *-store*, †*-stool*, *trade*, *-train*, *warehouse*, *weight*, *-wharf*. b. objective, etc. esp. in terms denoting operatives or machines concerned with the manufacture of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-breaker* (Break v. 2 c), †*-bragger*, *-broker*, *-burler*, *-buyer*, †*-chapman*, *-cleaner*, *-cutter*, *-dealer*, *-dresser*, *-drier*, *-duster*, *-dyer*, *factor*, *-farmer*, *-gleaner*, *-grower*, *-holder*, *-jobber*, *-maker*, *-merchant*, *-monger*, *-moter*, *-oiler*, *-picker*, *-printer*, *-puller*, *-roller*, *-scourer*, *-scribbler* (Scribbler 1), *-shearer*, *-shearing*, *-shrinker*, *-washer*, *-wearer*, *-weaver*, †*-webster*, *-weigher* ; *wool-bearing*, *-broking*, *-bundling*, *-burring*, *-classing*, *-cleaning*, *-growing*, *-picking*, *-printing*, *-producing*, *-pulling*, *-rearing*, *-scouring*, *-washing* sbs. and adjs. c. instrumental, similative, and parasynthetic, as *wool-backed*, *-fringed*, *-laden*, *-lined*, *-overburdened*, *-white*, *-wooded* adjs. ; also *wool-like* adj.

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 1/2 Soft *wool-backed satin. 1892 Mundy *Antiboes* (1897) 32 Long cavalcade of drays.. laden with *wool-bales, hides, &c. 1798 A. Young *Trav. France* I. 174 Our woollen manufacturers..when suing for their *wool-bill, of infamous memory, bringing on Thomas Wilkinson from Dunkirk quay..to swear that wool passes from Dunkirk without entry, duty or any thing being required. 1899 *Daily Mail* 31 Mar. 5/1 The first *wool boat of the year of dowhill *wool blankatia. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 570 It is not that wool-blanket, smothering affair that we wore wrapped in in the Arctic. 1801 *Monthly Rev.* July 271 The journey was continued in a flat-bottomed *wool-boat. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karpf.* 101 The lads of the village had..collected round the *wool-bob, in their black felt hats. *a* 1692 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 110 Mr. Ludlowe..and his predecessours have been *wool-breakers 80 or 90 yeares. 1738 Leslie *Rehab.* (1757) 457 Wool-breakers ..separate the fleeces by themselves into every sort of a sort. 1825 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 219 Gill-machines of the ordinary construction as represented in the wool-breaker. 1914 [Blanch] *Iceland Merchant* iii. 42 I buy *Wool-bragger buys his Wool in the Summer, and sells out the greatest part in the Winter. 1852 T. Baines *Hist. Liverpool* 756 *note*, Mr. Thomas Southey, *wool-broker, Salthouse Dock. 1818 *Sheep* Contents p. vii, *Woolbroking advantageous to the Grower. 1879 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-bundling Machine. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Wool-burler*, one who removes the little knots or extraneous matters from wool, and from the surface of woollen cloth. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-burring Machine*, a machine for removing burrs from wool. 1848 *D. Fergusson's Scot. Trav.* (S.T.S.) 8 A wools seller kens a *woole buyer. 1775 W. Donaldson *Agric.* 116 The rich grazier who can compel the wool-buyers to his own terms. 1876 J. S. Burnley *Yorksh.* (1900) 243 We took dinner..with the big sheep lairds, the wool-buyers and wool-brokers. 1603 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 82 Y^e graueries; y^e *woole chamber, y^e Cheese chamber. 1572 *Privy Purse Eliz.* 157 The feete and the skin they sell vnto the *woolchapmen. 1890 *R. Bolderwood' *Col. Reformer* xi, A natural aptitude for *wool-classing. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wool-cleaner*, a machine for cleaning dust, burs, and other foreign matters from wool. *Ibid.*, Fig. 7345 *Wool-cleaning machine. 1895 *Times* 18 July 5/6 The *wool clip of the year throughout Australia. 1904 McCabe *Haschel's Evol. Man* I. 107 The wool-coat—wool-coat usually, in the case of the human embryo, covers the whole body. 1884 Helen Jackson *Kaumeo* I. 106 I could exchange my *wool-crop to a pound while it was on the sheep's back. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6109/6 Mary Louff.., Coney *Wooll-Cutter. 1859 Rees *Cycl. s.v. Wool*, The *wool-dyeing process. 1845 D. Mackenzie *Emigr. Guide Australia* 92 Of these bales, ..one of our ordinary *wool-drays, drawn by eight bullocks, will carry to Sydney from 4 to 5 tons of wool. 1870 *Yorksh. Anc. Coins* etc. 300 Struthium..is a Root us'd by the *Wool-dressers. 1887 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., **Wool-drier*, a workman who dries wool after washing. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Wool-dryer*, a machine for removing the moisture from wool after washing, dyeing, or what not. *Ibid.*, **Wool-duster*, a machine for mechanically removing the coarser impurities from wool. 1671 Land. *Exact Papers* (Camden) I. 173 I cannot learn that any more then 1500*li*, or at most 2000*li* a year, was ever made for *wooll dutys to y^e chief Gouvr. 1858 J. Bates in *Trans. Yorks.* (1879) I. 648 *Wool dyers. 1801 T. Peck *Norwich Direct.* 10 Coulsen Ralph, *Wool-Factor. 1806 *Monthly Mag.* June 481/1 At a recent meeting of..wool growers of Glamorganshire, resolutions were adopted for establishing a *wool-fair in that county. 1748 Jarvis *2nd Pt. Quix.* III. xvii. 11. 298 Pedro Perez the *wool-farmer. 1824 M. Scott *Cruise Midge* xviii, The heavy clouds..had..settled down in a black, *wool-fringed bank. 1899 H. Johnston *Câpwe. Limbuchi* xxii. 253 Her profession was that of a *wool-gleaner. 1806 *wool growers [see *wool-fair*]. 1847-54 Webster, **Wool-growing*, a., producing sheep and wool. 1888 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 40 *Wool-growing would be profitable if it were not for ravenous dogs.

1751 *Engl. Gauntteer* I. xv. *Buckinghasm*, This Town was many years a wool-staple, and many of its †wool-halls are yet standing. 1808 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XI. 290/2 †Wool hats are made entirely of coarse native wool and hair stiffened with glue. Before the emancipation act these hats were largely exported for negroes' wear. 1842 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 57 Another meeting of foreign †wool holders. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 27 June 7 A congestion of †wool imports at the docks. 1778 Ash, *†Wool-jobber*, one who buys up small parcels of wool and sells them again. 1890 R. Bolderwood *Col. Reformer* xii, The teams †wool-laden departed. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 159 The straight hairs on the leaves disappear by cultivation, but the †wool-like hairs continue on the stem. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 251 Dense bodies of white wool-like exhalations fill the deeper valleys. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 43 He then told me to put on my †wool-lined rubber boots. 1382 Wyclif *Wisd.* v. 15 The hope of the vnpitous is as †wille leet, or thistil-doun. *c*1440 Hoccleve *Lerne to Dye* 219 Myn hope is as it were a †wolle-loke Which the wynd vp reisith for his lightnesse. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Wullok, *villus*. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 245, xix newe cabulles and xix †wolfotte at Southampton. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 887 The wool-loft bears evidence that sheep form a part of the live stock. 1683 *Cath. Angl.* 431/1 A †Wolle maker, *lanifex*. 1886 C. Stooke *Sheep-farming* 192 It will take a long time to cause such a demand for woollen goods as appreciably to affect the †wool markets. 1850 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 1/6 A matter involved as a "†wool mattress". 1856 *Pigot & Co's Lond. Commerc. Direct.* II. 315 *†Wool* merchants and warehouses. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1. 1 Ac þe poteres beþ to late in tueie †wolmongers, hor chaffare in to lede. *c*1400 *Old Usages Winch.* in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere..ne may habbe no stal in þe heye-stret. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 157 Wool and Woolmongers. 1894 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 351/1 Impurities..are afterwards picked out by boys or women, called "†wool-masters", or "wool-pickers". 1864 Bidoint *Acad. Sloyd* 118 *†Wool-oats* burthened sheep. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *†Wool-oiler*..a device for attachment to the first breaker over the feed-apron, and immediately in front of the first licker-in of the carding machine. 1538 *Act 28 Hen. VIII* c. 4 § 1 Weauers, tuckers, spinners, diers, and †wulpikers..haue ben..without worke. 1843 [see *wool-master*]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *†Wool-packer*, a machine for barring wool. 1827 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journey Amer.* (1818) 56 The wife was at a neighbour's on a †"wool-picking frolic," which is a merry-meeting of gossips..to pick the year's wool and prepare it for carding. 1867 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *†Wool-printer*. 1852 Kane *Gold Col. Austr.* 3 The "wool produce of Australia. 1880 D. Scott *Sheep-farming* 18 A †wool-producing breed. 1903 Flemming *Pract. Tanning* 1 The first operation to which sheepskins are subjected by the tanner or †wool-puller is soaking. 1877 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 58/1 A high duty on wool makes it cheaper to have the †"wool-pulling' done in England, and let the skins come to us as our raw material. 1883 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 351/1 Charges sur les Laynes..al †Wolkey en la Port de Londres. 1476 *Stoner Papers* (Camden) II. 5 The ij polets wolt, beynge at the Wolkey. 1792 *Act 32 Geo. III* c. 31 All that Piece or Parcel of Ground..called or known by the Name of Woolt Key, situate..in the Parish of All Saints Barking in the City of London. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 10/1 A large †wool-rearing district. 1892 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/3 The fleece he carries to the 'skirting table,' where the †'wool roller' stands. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 979 The †wool-room and the wool-room are both seven feet high. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *†Wool-sale*, a periodical public sale, in London or Liverpool, for the disposal of large quantities of wool. 1890 R. Boldrewood *Col. Reformer* xii, The reputation of the Garrandilla clip in the forthcoming wool sales. 1858 E. Baines in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 601 Woolcombers, Theirs, &c. also Journ *Shaddy-trade* 60 †Wool-scouring..has become general, as regards fine foreign and colonial wools. *c*1830 in Southey *Comm., Pt. Bk.* (1851) IV. 491 Mr. Spiller, †wool-scribbler, ..City Road. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *†Wool-scribbler*, machines for combing..wool into thin downy translucent layers. 1884 *Spectator* 26 Apr. 548 An ideal †wool-scutcher, with more tearing-power than any other combination of iron teeth. 1641 †wools seller [see *wool-buyer*]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *†Wool-sheet*, a packing-wrapper for bales of wool. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 89 I understande be yowr letter that awll the †wowlschypys ar cwm to Calles. 1903 Flemming *Pract. Tanning* 65 By which all fleshy particles are removed from the grain or flesh side and the loose dirt removed from the †wool side [of the pelt]. 1833 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 9 The †wool slubber,..after a visit to the beaching-house, resumes his task with the fleece. 1848–53 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 241 The †wool-tax fell heavily upon the inhabitants. 1894 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 2 Deputies from the manufacturing districts..spoke for the repeal of the wool tax. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 Studille, wolle, card and all †wooll tolles. 24.. in Wr.-Wülcker 588/31 *Icarpa*, a †wolletoppe. 1775 Ash, *†Wooltrade*, the trade of buying and selling wool. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 28 Feb. 3/1 Mr. Chaplin: They go over to Rye o' Thursday in the †wool-wains. 1806 W. Wilson *Hist. Disc. C.A.* I. 297 The meeting-house in Grewel-lane, was afterwards occupied as a †wool-warehouse. 1884 W. S. B. M'Laren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 51 No †wool-washer ought to allow his suds to run away in the form they leave the bowls. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 935/2 *†Wash-wool* washer. 1884 W. S. B. M'Laren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 38 So much has been heard..of the superior †wool-washing in Yerviers. 1583 W. Turner in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. 60 Why Ministers [should] not..for eight hundred..wearing bishops..in the convocation-house, if there be threescore pastors and elders, they are †woolwearers. 1589 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 508 *Lanarius*,..a †wooll weauer. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 219 †Wollewebsteres and weueres of lynnen. a 1662 Holyday *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 123 (Illustr.) The word..is by the Scholiast expounded to, by *Lanifrandia* (a †wool-weigher). 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *†Wool-weight*. The following are the subdivisions used in weighing wool 1908 *Cath. Encycl.* XV. 781/2 Wills, *Lond.* v. (1889) 313 Le †Wollewharf. 1493 *Ibid.* ii. (1890) 432. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 1092 The hissing frankincense, Whose smoke, †wool-white as ocean foam, Hung in dense flocks beneath the dome. 1848 Tennyson in *Mem.* (1897) I. 281 Thick wool-white fog. 1821 Keats *Lamia* II. 179 A sacred tripod..Whose slender feet wide-swerv'd upon the soft †Wool-woofed carpets.

**d.** Special comb.: †**wool-ball** (see quot.); †**wool-battery**, a battery faced with wool-packs built up as a breast-work; **wool-bird** *slang*, a lamb; †**wool-bow** (see quot. and Bow *sb.*1 13); †**wool-butter**, butter used to salve the wool of sheep; †**wool-craft**, wool manufacture; **wool-driver**, one who buys wool from a sheep-owner to sell it in the market or to manufacturers; **wool-dyed** *a.*, dyed 'in the wool' (see I g (*c*)); **wool-fat** (*a*) = Suint; (*b*) = Lanolin; **wool-flock**, coarse, inferior wool; † **wool-folder** = Wool-winder; †**wool-gasherer**, one who collects wool from the flockmasters; † **wool-grabber**, one who prepares wool for the manufacturer; **wool-grass**, name for various grasses or grass-like plants having woolly spikelets, as the American *Scirpus cyperinus* (*S. eriophorum*) and the European *Erianthus ravennæ*; **wool-grease** = Suint; **wool-hole** *Printing*, also *Printers' slang* (see quot.); † **wool-hurdle**, a sheep-fold; **wool-mark** = Sheep-mark; † **wool-master**, an owner of wool-producing sheep; a wool-producer; **wool-mill** = Willey *sb.*2 3; **wool-monger**, the clothes-moth, *Tinea sarcitella*; **wool-needle**, a blunt needle used for wool-work; **wool-nipping**, a portion of wool nipped off a sheep in branding; **wool-oil**, +(*a*) oil used to salve the wool of sheep; (*b*) = Lanolin; **wool-owner**, a sheep-owner; **wool-pated** *a.*, woolly-headed; **wool-plant**, ? = Mullein; **wool-press**, a press used in packing wool; **wool-scour** *Austral.*, a large shed where wool is washed; **wool-screw**, a wool-press; **wool-shear**, now only *pl.*-shears, shears used for shearing sheep; also †*wool-shearers*; **wool-shed** *Austral.*, the large building at a sheep-station in which the shearing and wool-packing are done; **wool-sorter**, a sorter of wool; *wool-sorters' disease*, anthrax, also known as *splenic fever*; so **wool-sorting**; **wool-spinner**, (*a*) a workman who spins wool; (*b*) a species of mussel (see quot. 1815); so **wool-spinning**; **wool-sponge** *U. S.*, a variety of bath-sponge; **wool-stock**, a heavy wooden hammer used in fulling cloth; **wool-thistle** = *woolly-headed thistle* (see Woolly-headed a); **wool-tree**, any species of *Eriodendron*; **wool-weed**, any species of *Eriocaulon* (pipewort); † **wool-weigh** *sb.* [Weigh *sb.*1 2], scales for weighing wool; † **wool-weigh** *a.*, that weighs out wool for spinning; **wool-wheel**, a wheel for spinning wool; **wool-witted** *a.*, woolly-minded; **wool-yarn**, yarn spun from wool; *spec.* (see quot. 1863).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *†Wool-balls*,..masses of Wool compacted into firm and hard balls, and found in the stomachs of sheep. 1892 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 341 A large mould of my wheel has been sent to me..to be made with †wool battery, for raking a close column of infantry. 1895 C. M. Westmacott *Engl. Spy* I. 156 The wing of a †wool bird. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 2/1 Lambs..fat mutton 11½ p.; †*Wool-Bow*,..an Instrument by which Wool is rent and torn and beaten very fine,..before it can be worked into Hats. 1808 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 519/2 Some barrel-lam butin *lie* *†woollbutter*. 1587 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 297 Pallas..foode my crafies, and specialliche †wolcraft [*lanificium*]. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* xv. xliv. (1495) G iij, This londe [*sc.* Cos] was fyrste endowed wyth wolle and †woldrye. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 13 Yf..the said †Woolldryer shall sell his sayd Woollen at any other place forthe of Suffolkes. 1776 W. Dodd *Beauties Agric.* 111 The breeders, drivers, or owlers, are the only persons who profit by their necessities. 1824 C. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* lii. 97 The distinction between †wool-ged cloth and †piece-ged cloth. 1892 *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Industry* X. 709/1 An Improved Manufacture of Saponifiable Fatty Matter from †Wool-Fat. 1555 *Cal. Patent Rolls Philip & M.* (1936) I. 421 A †woolleturner..by the whiche they have the forfaictures of †woll flocks. 1660 *Act 12 Charles II* c. 18 § 1 Whereas..great quantities of †Woll Woollen..Yarn made of Wool Woollen-stocks..are secretly exported. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Aug. 3/1 We would not object if Parliament forbade the sale of wool-flock as bedding material. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Wool* 2/2 May a No power, or gatheror of wary wollen-stuff, and a workes any †wollefolder, or wollewyndar to folde or wynde his..wolle or wollen, vnlease [etc.]. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 101 Ser, of my †wolle wyndar ther is[e] for to wynd. 1591–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 7 § 1 The corrupt practises of diverse..Woolgatherers and Regrators. *c*1400 *Prof. Ep. Sermon* in *Wyclif Dials.* (1840) I. 9 Wolde graithers and false lurdeins. 1894 Thorold *Walden* xvii. (1865) 231 The arching and sheaf-like top of the †wool-grass. 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 501 *Scirpus Eriophorum*, Michx. (Wool-grass). 1822 *Trans. Soc. Chem. Industry* IX. 707/1 Acids generally used in the recovery of †wool grease from the waste water from wool washing and combing factories. 1851 Savage *Dict. Printing* 814 †*Wool hole*, a place boxed off sometimes under a stair case, or in any situation where the dust will not affect the press room,..in which the wool is carded wherewith to make the balls. *Ibid.*, *Wool hole*, the workhouse. When a compositor or pressman is reduced by age or illness to take refuge in the workhouse, it is said he is in the *Wool Hole*. 1586 H. J. Carey *Practise Mrs.* vi. 76 When he hears his maids either at y^e †woolhurdle, or the milking pail. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 93 It is in your power to follow your strayed stock, and claim it anywhere by the †wool-mark. 1592–3 *Decay Engl. in Suffolk.* (E.E.T.S. 1871) 101 Refusyng none, but only them that hath al this aboundance, that is to saye, sheepe or †woll masters, and inclosers. *a* 1691 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 110 Our clothiers combine against the wool-masters, and keep their spinners but just alive. 1903 *New Hills Clock & Jones' Factory* Introd. p. lxxx, The woolmasters secured a small advantage. 1819 Rees *Cycl.* XXXVIII. 4 Q 3 b, The wool for coarse goods is passed several times through the †wool-mill. 1830 Boucher *Analyt. Dict.* 176 The Woolmill, (commonly called the Devil). 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 867 The †wool-moth then takes up its residence, in summer, amongst such fleeces. 1880 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 230 †*Wool Needles*..are short and thick, with blunt points, and long eyes, like those of darning needles. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 83 Coarse †Wool-pippings and Tarry Pitch-marks..having great virtues in them. 1760 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 111. 68 Wool-pippings..are beneficial for lands. 1545 *Rates of Customs Hn.* 4], †Woll oyle called trane the tonne. *c* 1585 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 509 All our wolle oyles and sweete oyles. 1894 H. Nisbet *Bush Girl's Rose*, 293 Wildcat came in with Mr. Craven and the other †wool owners. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 27 The Inhabitants of this Island..are all Negro's. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) II. 159 The †wool-plants are a beautiful ornament to the garden. 1883 Browning *Jack. Habbadash* 18 Hairs silk-soft, silver-white, Such as the †wool-plant's. 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxiii, I dreamed..that the wolf had been under the †wool-press, screwing me down as hard as he could. 1921 Bean *'Dreadnought' of the Darling* xi. 201 The wool..goes on to be washed by machinery in a long shed, called the †wool-scour, so as to get the grease and dirt out of it. 1848 F. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 82 Wooden †wool-screw. 1843 *Ordnance Misc.* (Camden) 208 *†Wool-sticke*. I. 184, I took ane seif and, set ane'cogge full of water in the seive, and then laid ane †woll scheir on the coggis mouth. 1832 Loudon *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 373 The wool-sheers are ..worked with one hand. *Sheep Mist. Pract.* XXI. 1 A Lad ..was wounded in the abdomen by a pair of †wool-shearers. 1850 Cluttersbuck *Port Phillip* II. 23 In some instances the flood has swept away the †wool-shed and its contents. 1850 Lamb-LEY *G. Hamlyn* xxiii, Backed by huts, sheep-yards, a wool-shed, and the usual concomitants of a flourishing Australian sheep station. 1894 *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 5/1 Wool-sheds in Sydney, some of whom employ †wool-sorters of their own to assort and repack it for the London market. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* iii. 37 If the †wool-spinner be not content for any considerable time, his fingers lose the delicacy of touch indispensable to his occupation. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 10 Dec. 3/8 Henry Stretton has died from †wool-sorter's disease'. 1858 E. Baines in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 653 The †wool sorting done by the proprietors themselves. 1815 S. Brookes *Conchol.* 157 †Woolspinner, *Mytilus discors*. 1848 *Boston Misc.* Aug. 208 In proportion..as he adds to his taciturnity was the loquaciousness of a woolspinner. 1881 Galt *Ann. Parish* xii. (1895) 65 Superintending..a great †wool-spinning we then had in hand. 1893 Simmonds *Dict. Products Sea* 159 The [American] grades are glove sponge ..†wool sponge..and yellow and hard head. 1898 – *Dict. Trade*, *†Wool-stock*, the heavy hammer used in fulling cloth, or driving the threads of the web together. 1769 J. Hill *Herb. Brit.*, †Wool-thistle. 1831 Dow *Dickhamyadoros Pt.* I. 510 *Eriodendron anfractuosum*, Indian anfractuous †Wool-tree. 1772 J. Hill *Veg. Syst.* X. 26 †Woolweed. Eriocaulon. *c* 1200 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 148/21 *Campana*, †wulwæsa. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane pair of woll weyis, ane pair of hallenfis of †woll weyis. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 100 Illustr. 123 We to the †Wool-weigh-maide. 1630 in Ramsay *Bamff Charters* (1915) 223 Ane †woll qwheill. *c* 1840 in Thorold *Verses* (1893) 233 A gude woo' wheel, my wife to spin on. 1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's Lovers* iv, A woman stands at the great wool-wheel, one arm extended to the distaff. 1903 A. T. Shepard *Red Cravat* I. ii. 12 A belated Mastodon, stumbling from some old Germian forest..would have caused little more consternation among the terrified villagers. 1299 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 360/2 Grete quantite of fyme †Wolle yerne. 1596 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 88 To Jenet my doghter, half my wolle with †woolle yerne. 1. Watson *Weaving* 39 Wool yarn is spun from the short fibres of the fleece..,and Worsted yarn from the long staple.

**Wool** (wul), *v.* [f. Wool *sb.* (Cf. Oe. *wullian* to wipe with wool.)]

**1.** *Trans.* † **a.** To coat or line with wool. *Obs.*

1666 in *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XII. 67/2 One Richard Bailey, who..is also very skilfull in the Art of Oyling of Linnen Cloath or Taffaty, or Woolling of either, so as to make it impenetrable.

**b.** To stuff *up* with wool.

1883 'Ouida' *Wanda* viii, I feel as if some hand had woolled up my ears.

**2.** *U. S. slang.* **a.** To pull the 'wool' or hair of (a person) in sport or (esp.) in anger.

1854 in *Congressional Globe* July 1690 (Thornton), I regret very much to see these two gentlemen from Illinois woolling each other in the most approved fashion. 1859 Le Fanu *Wyvern Myst.* I. vii, I'll see you and the old boy wool each other the better for Hal. 1894 H. Gardener *Unoff. Patriot* 325 Wool little Margaret's curly pate for me.

**b.** To † pull the wool over the eyes of; see quot. 1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang, Wool*, to (common), to get the better of, to discomfit.

† **Woolage.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 **wollage.** [f. Wool *sb.* + -age, after obs. F. *lanage*.] (See quot.)

1688 *Holme Armoury* III. 47/2 *Lanage*, wollage; the trade of woull, or gaine thats made thereof.

**Woolant**, obs. form of Volant *a.*2

1503 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1844) III. 238 Woolant piece over the head.

**Wool-bearer**, -**bed**: see Wool-.

**Wool-bearer.** An animal that bears wool, *esp.* a sheep.

1683 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Wolle berere, *lanifer*. 1807 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 631 The Ephthees of this beast are..horse-bearer,..wool-bearer [etc.]. *c* 1621 Chapman *Iliad* xxiv. 134 A huge wooll-bearer, slaughterd there. 1851 Hawksdale *Nympha Lib.* II. xliv. 45 The trembling Woolbearer. 1857 Voyat *Shrop* iii. 95 Many an animal that had not been dreamed of as a wool-bearer. 1891 C. Roberts

*Adrift Amer.* 245 To maunder on behind the slow and harmless wool-bearers.

So **Wool-bearing** *a.*

1830 Boote *Analyt. Dict.* 286 The Sheep, or Woolbearing animal (*Ovis aries*).

† **Wool-blade.** *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wolblad*, f. *wolle* Wool *sb.* + *blad* Blade *sb.*] Mullein.

1585 Higins *Iunius' Nomencl.* 238/2 *Verbascum*, . . wool-blade: longwoount. 1606 *Holyoak's Rider's Dict.*, Hymnol. II. K kk iij/2 *Candelaria*, torch-bearbe, wooli-blade, longwort. 1658 Lady Wilkinson *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 50.

**Wool-card.** [Cf. LG. *wulle(k)karten*, MDu. *uldkaert*, etc.] An instrument (see Card *sb.*1 2) used in carding wool. Also in comb.

1564 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 96, iij paire of woll cardes. 1587 Harcall *Dk. Cattell* 1. (1596) 71 Ye shall therefore vse to kembe them with woolI cards or horse combe, as some do. 1609 *Leather* 10 Woll-Card makers. 1630 *Proclam.* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 164 English Wyer..for the making of good Woll Cardes. 1750 in *8th Rep. Hist. Mss. App.* II. 125 For pricking the Leathers of Wool, Silk, Cotton, or any other Cards. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 231 The works [at Barnsley] were long famous for the manufacture of wool-cards.

So **Wool-carder**, one who cards wool; **Wool-carding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cardeur de laine*, a woolI carder. 1832 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 166 The woolI-carding engine. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I, Streets . noisy with the .. broad jeats of woolI-carders in the cloth-producing quarters.

**Wool-comb.** [OE. *wullcamb* = OHG. *wollakampô* (MHG. *wollechampe*, *wollekam*, G. *wollkamm*), ON. *ull(ar)kambr* (Sw. *ullkam*, Da. *uldkam*): see Comb *sb.*1] The toothed instrument used in carding wool by hand; later also, a machine to perform the same operation.

*a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 263 Wulcamb, cip, amb. 1418 *Durp Wills* (Camden) 3, I put the woIlecombes. 1523 *Extr. Aberd. Rec.* (1844) I. 452 Ane par of woll camis. 1613 in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1792) I. 173 An hek lell with a pair of clatting woll combes. 1688 *Holme Armoury* III. 52 Alph. Arms, *Bromley*, Sa. three woolcombs ar. 1707 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mcrcy.* III. 125 Bishop Blaze, to whom their traditions ascribe the invention of the woolI-comb. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr. xv*, Just as if I'd had it teased with a pair of woolI-combs. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 16 Wail the woolI-comb's sound within the fleece Began and grew.

**Wool-combe.** [Cf. MLG. *wulkemmer*, (M)Du. *wolkammer*, G. *wollkämmer.*]

1. One who combs or cards wool.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3820/4 Philip Adams,..aged 25, a Woolcomber. 1778 *Annals of Agric.* IX. 1. 156 Half a dozen woolI-combers perhaps are necessary to keep a thousand spinners and weavers at work. 1835 *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 144 The wool is not carded in the factory, but is given out to the woolI-combers, who comb it by hand. 1889 J. Burnley *Hist. Wool* etc. 410 The term 'woolcomber' had completely changed its significance. In 1825 it indicated a member of the operative classes; in 1833 it was only used in regard to a class of employers. 1913 *Times* 9 Aug. 17/2 An outbreak [of fire] at a Bradford woolcomber's.

**2.** = Wool-comb. *rare.*

1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* I, I should sit on pins—on woolcombers—with nothin' but summer drawers on, till the account appeared.

**Wool-combing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1723 *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Spinning* (1866) 3 Two instruments of iron, to be used in the said trade of woolI kembing and preming. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 387 The woolcombing business was formerly carried on..at Chumleigh. 1837 Henbert *Engin. Encycl.* II. 913 Woolcombing by machinery has now almost superseded the work by hand. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 440/2 A new woolI-combing apparatus.

**Would** (wŭld), *sb.* Forms: 7 wolde, would, 9 woold. [Related to next.] **a.** *Naut.* = Woolding. **b.** *attrib.* in *would cord*, *rope* (cf. WFlem. *welkorde*): binding cord or rope.

1628 *Tobe* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* ff. 115 (MS.) For making 16 lbs of hempe into a wolde rope, 4/-. 1639 *Ibid.* ff. 202 A payer of woold ropes. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix (Roads) 43/1 The Woold or woolding of the mast or yard; is the ropes about them to keep on a fish. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Fra. t. Agric.* II. 775 (Bundles of weld plants] are tied up by a string made for the purpose, and sold under the title of woold cord.

**Would** (wŭld), *v.* Forms: *a.* 7 woll (*pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wolled, woulled), 9 wool; *β.* 7- wolded, 8- woold (9 would). [The late appearance of this word suggests that it is a back-formation from Woolding (q.v.), but it was probably a late ME. adoption of MLG. *wolen*, *wolen* (LG. *wölen*, pa. pple. *wüld*), MDu. *woelen* 'premere . . constringere, torquere' (Kilian), Du. *woelen* to woold (whence G. *wuhlen*, *wulen*, Da. *vule*), also Du. *bewoelen* (G. *bewuhlen*), Flem. *woelin*, *oelin* to bind round with cord or rope, WFris. *woelje* to wind. (Further relations are uncertain.) The infinitive forms *would*, *woold* appear to be due to the influence of the pa. t. and pa. pple.] *trans.* (*Naut.*) To wind rope or chain round (a mast or the like) to strengthen it where it is broken or where (being made of two or more pieces) it is fished or scarfed. Also said of the rope.

*a.* 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 96 The master sent hym to tell me the mast was woIled. 1620 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xxvii. 88 Wee woulled the two byghtes to the shanke. *Ibid.* lxi. 147 In fishing and woulling our maates and yards. 1674 Josselyn *Two Voy.* 5 We found the head of our mainmast..shivered and the fore-top-mast cracht; So they woIled them both.

*β.* a 1625 Manwaering *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 216 To *Would*: or *Woulding* is to bind Ropes about any Mast, yard, or the like, to keepe on a fish, or somewhat to strengthen it. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 35 With her whole Body woulded about with Hawsers for preventing her very sides falling out. 1730 W. Wogan-worth *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Loyal'* 30 Oct., Yesterday in the afternoon stowed the Lazaretta, and this morning Woulded the Main Mast. 1750 [see Woulding 1 b]. 1804 Nelson 27 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VI. 172 You will see every dispatch in woolding and securing the foremast. 1837 Marryat *Perc. Keene* xx, Our main-mast had received so many shots, that we were obliged to weld it for its support.

b. *gen.* To wrap or bind round.

1775 Romans *Florida* App. 65 Keeping your lead going, till you come on soundings so soft that the lead will bring none of the mud up, unless it be woolded with canvas. 1823 [see Woolder]. 1833 Marryat *Peter Simple* xliii, A carronade, well woulded up. 1837 F. Howard *Old Commanders* xiv, This love of a sail was woolded, with studied accuracy, by brilliant, black, and very narrow ribbon. 1847 Halliwell, *Woold*..(9) To twist a chain round a refractory horse to render him obedient. *Kent.* 1890 W. C. Russell *Nelson* 62 Her hull was tarred together by cables, which trapped or woolded the fabric from stem to stern.

**Woold**, obs. form of Weld *sb.*2

**Woolder** (wū·ldəɹ). Also 6 woller, 8 woulder, 9 woolder, woulder. [f. Woold *v.* + -er1.] + **a.** *Naut.* A would rope. *Obs.* **b.** *Rope-making.* A stick used as a lever in woolding; also, a workman operating this. By extension applied also to other similar levers (see quots. 1863, 1875). **c.** *dial.* A rolled bandage.

1548 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 177 Six coyle of rope for wollers. 1750 Blanckley *Rem. Expositor* 190 *Woolders*, Double Ropes, or Strands, about the Mast and the Men that work with them, are a great Help to those that heave at the Hooks in laying or closing Cables. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 58 *Woolders*, single and double hauled, are sticks about three feet long and four inches in circumference, with stropes of rope-yarn made fast, to fix on the rope and assist the men at the hooks in closing the rope. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 489/1 (Rope-making) The woolders should keep their eye on the men at the crank, and make their motion correspond with his. 1823 Moore *Sketch Voyage* 143 A woulder, bandages. 'Tears quite wet—I'm forced to keep the woulders on.' Would is also used as a verb. a 1832 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wolder*, a rolled bandage. 1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 201 To *Spar with Windlass*, a wooden roller having a rope wound round it, through the bight of which rope an iron bolt called a woolder is inserted to aid in heaving it round. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2981/1 The three [strands] are placed in the three grooves of a conical wooden block termed a *top*, through which is passed a transverse stick forming the handles or *woolders*.

**Woolding** (wū·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: *a.* 5 wolling, 5–6 wolyng(e, 6 wooling(e. *β.* 5 wolding, 7 *pl.* wouldens, 7–8 woulding, 9 woolding. [pl. ME. *wol(l)ing*, prob. ad. MLG. **woling*, MDu. **wooling* (Du. *wooling*, whence G. *wuhling*, *wulung*, Da. *vuling*, cf. Sw. *vulning*), f. MLG., MDu. *wolen*, etc. Woold *v.*]

1. The action of binding an object tightly with cord; esp. *Naut.* the action of winding rope or chain round a mast or yard, to support it where it is fished or broken. Also *attrib.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wolynge, or stronge byyndynge (*K.* woldynge, *S.*, *H.* wollynge), *prouincia*, *prestricio*. *Inventories Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 400 Item a cablette of cc weght accoupled & spent Abought the wollyng of the mayne yarde. 13.. in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) I. 290 Item, for wolding the same [a lance]. 1548 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 174 Wooling ropes, xii coyles. 1670 in *Cal. St. Papers, Col., Amer.* (1889) 50 It is a common Practice [in the Indian] privateers, . . to cut a man in pieces,..sometimes tying a cord about his head, and with a stick twisting it till the eyes start out, which is called Woolding. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 35 He would some nothing but what was forced out of his mouth, by the woolding of his head with a cord. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor* 110 *Walls, Wooling*, drove through the Wall. Volney *Voy. Syria* II. 384 The Ship's Masts. 1804 Lakwood *No Gun Boats* 14 Such masts require no splicing, no wolding, no fishing. 1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Instruments Horse*, 11 Rope and Ship Builders, barge nails,.. scupper and wolding and lap nails.

2. *concr.* a. A wrapping, swathing (in first quot. glossing L. *pero* a rustic boot); esp. *Naut.* (often *pl.*) the rope or chain used in woolding a band or wrapping of rope wound round a mast, spar, etc.

a 1425 *Voc.* in W.-Wülcker 656/9 *Hic pero*, *ri*, wolyng. 1598 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 556 The Tyger sprong the woolings of her bolt-spreete. a 1625 Manwaring *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 117 Also those Reapes, which come from the Sheke-block, to the Woolding, and Lashes it fast downe from rising off the pillow are called the Wouldings of the bolt-sprit. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 Coates and Woolding. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 35 Allison *Voy. Archangel* 36 We..got two Wouldens on our Rudder Head. 1789 Smeaton *Artillery* v. 388 Saw up your Cloth, and reinforce it throughout with a Woulding of Marline. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 54 The main-mast was sprung at the upper wooling. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Yard*, They [sc. the lateen yards] are..composed of several pieces fastened together by woolldings. 1788 A. Cochrane *Direct. Using Coal Tar* 11. 1837 E. Howard *Old Commanders* xiii, The immense wolding of flannel and swathing around his right leg.

**Woolf(e**, obs. forms of Wolf *sb.*

**Wool-fell.** *Hist.* [Fell *sb.*1] = Wool-skin. 1424 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 173/2 All sakkes of Wolle and Wolle felle yshipped by Marchantz Englissh. 1543 tr. *Stat. Staple 27 Edw. II & c.* 1 The staple of wolles, lether, wulfelles, and leade growynge and commyng forth within our sayd realme. 1622 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 42 Would and WoolI-fells were some of little value in this Kingdome. 1678 Hobbes *Odyssey* xvi. 30 To which [seat] Eumæus a Wool-fell apply'd With Rushes under it. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 304 The duties on wool, sheep-skins, or woolfells, and leather, exported, were called *custome antiqua sive magna*. 1829 R. Thomson *Magna Charta* 389 A half mark upon every 200 wool-fells, or undressed sheep-skins. 1888 Bowden *Transcripts* 106 Chaucer loved the woolfells and leather of the Petty Customs only because they helped to save his purse from getting light.

**Woollat**, var. Wolf's-bane.

**Wool-gathering**, *vbl. sb.* and *gerund.*

1. The action of gathering fragments of wool torn from sheep by bushes, etc.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 424 b, Your Diuinitie raunged very much at random, as if it were strayed and runnying in some wilderness a woolgathering. 1878 R. Peacock in *Archæologia* XLVI. 384 Wool-gathering yet goes on in many places even on enclosed lands. 1889 H. Johnston *Chron. Glendoick* xxii. 262 He is at it by working for it—hard 'oo'-gathering and hard spinning.

2. In fig. phr. *to go* (*run*, *be*) *wool-gathering*, formerly always *a* (or † *on*, † *of*) *wool-gathering*: to indulge in wandering fancies or purposeless thinking; to be in a dreamy or absent-minded state: said esp. of 'time', etc. Similarly, *to send or set (a) wool-gathering.*

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* ii. 59 Hackyng & hemmyng as though our wittes and our senses were a woolI gathering. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 632 Their mindes goe a woolI-gathering. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 40 To busy the wittes of his people, for running a woolgathering. 1601 W. Percy *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* iv. 1, (Rook) 46 My Husband . . like a Woolstapler, has drunk on woole-gathering, in search of him, as now you see mee. 1607 R. [Carew] tr. *Estienne's It. of Worde's* xxxix. 349 The gentle Frier (whose mind was a woolI-gathering). 1625 Br. Mountagu *App. Cæsar* 23 If you read them, but marked them not, your wits went on woolI-gathering at that instant. 1632 Gayle *Mastrophus.* 41 He..sends his father-in-law almost a woolI-gathering. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VII. 326 That my wits may not be sent a woolI-gathering. 1776 *Gentl. Jrl. Palatine* (1856) 386, I suppose you thought my Brain were Wool gathering. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* (1873) I. i. 7 Sacred Poets have..gone a woolgathering after 'Ideas' and suchlike. 1890 J. Hatton *By Order of Czar* II. xiii, Constance was woolI-gathering, as it were.

**b.** Hence, Indulgence in idle imagining or aimless speculation.

1607 Middleton *Fam. Love* v. iii, Ha! you summoned your wits from woolI-gathering? 1804 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 279 A great deal of woolI-gathering about what it will bring. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xxvii, 'There never was such a shop for woolI-gathering. 1893 Patmore *Religio Poetæ* (1898) The crazy woolI-gathering which is ordinarily regarded as thought.

So **Wool-gathering** *a.*, indulging in wandering thoughts or idle fancies.

1850 Mrs. Stowe in *Life* (1889) 140 If my wits are somewhat woolI-gathering and unsettled. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* i, It was Seth Bede, an was alloya a woolI-gathering chap. 1893 E. H. Barker *Uncle Jonathan* xxxv. 259 At those moments when the woolI-gathering mind has to be hurried back and fixed upon the sacredness of the ritual.

† **Wool-house.** *Obs.* [House *sb.*1 3.] A building for the storage (or manufacture) of wool.

1299 *Cal. Wills Ct. Husting, Lond.* 1. (1889) 220 [House called] Wolhous [in] Spoiercelane. 1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 540 xl in planks marrandis pro le Wollehous de Pytyngdon, &c. c1403 *Pict. Voc.* in W.-Wülcker 604/12 *Hoc lanificium*, a wullen house. 1499 *Kent Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 249 Itawyng owte the cordage owte of the Wollehouse. 1541 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) I. 81 In ye wollhouse a pyle of wole. 1646 *Jury in Milton Papers* (Camden) 92 In the woolI-house, hoppes at 2 00. 1783 Berridge *Whit.* (1864) 430 Mr. John Raymond's great house, with his woolhouse, and two thousand pounds in cash.

**Woolled** (wu·ld), *a.* Forms: 5–6 woolled, Sc. wollit (6 wollit), 6– woolled, 8– (now *U. S.*) wooled. [f. Wool *sb.* + -ed2.]

1. Bearing wool, covered with wool; having the wool still on, unshorn.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 293/2 Many..personnes leaden oute of the Roiaume..grete nombre of Shepe woIled into Flaundres. 1489 *Acts Dom. Conc.* (1839) 117/1, v aulde woIlit scheip. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. x. 9 The woIlit scheip him follo wand at the brak. 1550 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1909) I. 129 The wall vnder skynnis. 1598 Florio, Wolled or wrapped in wolle, *lanatus*. 1850 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 385 At times we find a 'woolled one' on the left after a shepherds' meeting, then we find the rear is. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 6/3 Bales of woolled sheepskins.

2. Having wool of a specified kind.

1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 137 b, Lookes, that your Ewes haue a large body, & large woolled. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Housu*, *Mouton housu*, a sheepe well woolled. 1778 D. Loch *Tour Scot.* 20 Well adapted for..feeding the best woolled sheep. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 88/2 The best breeds of fine-woolled sheep. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 74 A good long-wooled skin. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 183 The original sheep in most countries where improved species are now found, were invariably fine woolled.

† **b.** Of cloth: Having a (good) nap. *Obs.*

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* ii. iiii. 382 You must then scoure such chafe with thicke new cloath being well woolled [*Fr. bien laine*].

**Woollen** (wu·lĕn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1, 5 **wullen**, 4–6 **wolen**, 4–7 **wollen**, (4 **-ene**, **wolyn**, **wullun**, 4–5 **wollin**, 5 **-yn**, **wolland**, **-on**, 6 **wolan**, **woulne**, *Sc.* **volene**, **woone**, 7 **wollan**, 8–9 *north.* **woon**, **woun**), 6– **woollen**, (now *U.S.*) **woolen**. [Late OE. *wullen*, f. *wull* Wool. *sb.* + **-EN**², replacing the mutated form *wyllen* (= OHG., MHG. *wullîn*). Cf. (M)LG. *wullen*, (M)Du. *wollen*, Fris., G. *wollen*.] A. *adj.*

1. Made of or manufactured from wool.

1046 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 107 Ic ȝe-an sancte Æðelðryðe anes wullenan kyrtles. 23 . *K. Alis.* 4445 (Laud MS.), Ne spere carf horoug out An hoxup a wollene clout. 1376 *Rolls of Parl.* II. 353/1 File de Layn appelle Wolyn-yerne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 215 My wyf was a webbe and wollen cloth made. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 Pen take a quantyte of wollen cloth. 1598 *Exch. Accord. Roger.* (1841) I. 300 Scottis wairis, nic as claith, lynning and woone. 1675 A. Fleming *Vir. Bucol.* III. 9 Nowe doth the Ram, and other sheepe theyr wollen garments dyre. 1694 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 278 Woollen Yarne being within 3^q prohibition of y^e aforsaid Acts. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. i. ii. 3 The woollen cloth which covers the dry-labourer. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 41 Coarse woollen stockings. 1825 Ei Phrinsoke *Acc. Caudni* (1824) I. 183 In winter, the people are all clad in woollen garments. 1838 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 403 A woollen carpet is a non-conductor of heat. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* 60 A woollen yarn..is that which is spun from wool in which the fibres are arranged so as to lie in every direction.

†**b.** Covered with (a fleece of) wool. *Obs. rare.*

1480 in *Chartery 9c. Kelin.* (1872) 169 Of the hundreth playnnis, wollin, calfis, gaitis, [etc.].

†**c.** *fig.* Silent, as if padded with wool : said of the feet or footsteps. *Obs.*

After L. *pedes lanosi or lanatos habere*, ' to have woollen feet ', to walk silently, to move unperceived.

1597 J. King *On Jonah* (1618) 130 Following with woollen feet, but smiting with an arme of Iron. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 362 You shall find.. woollen pace and iron vengeance.

¶ The allusion in the foll. quot. is uncertain.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 56 There is no firme reason.. Why he cannot abide a gaping Pigge?.. Why he a woollen bag-pipe. [See 1876 Steinер & Barnett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 423/2 s.v. *Bagpipe.*]

†**2.** Wearing woollen clothing, (*a*) as a mark of penance (cf. Woolward *a.*), (*b*) as a mark of poor or lowly status. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* cci. 293 By comyn acord of the bisshoppes they cam wullen and barfote in the chirche of our lord. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. ii. 9, I muse my Mother Do's not approue me further, who was wont To call them Woollen Vassailes, things created To buy and sell with Groats.

**B.** *sb.* Cloth or other fabric made of wool or chiefly of wool. Now *rare.*

† *To lie in the woollen*: to sleep with a blanket next to one. *To be buried in the woollen*: to be buried without the use required by the Act of 28 & 29 Chas. II for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture.

*c* 1390 *Fr.-pr. Wisdom & K. R. P.* (1869) 19 Linin, woilin, gloues and schone. 1398 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 78 He hitte pe eorpe to seruen ow vchone Of wollene, Of linnene. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11128 (Trin.) He wrappid hir wollen my lynne. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 457 Vesselys or vestmentes of sylke, lynen, or wollyn. 1577 Goose *Heresbach's Husb.* 122 In Winter, they would be clothed with Woollen for taking of cold. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 31, I could not endure a husband with a beard on his face, I had rather lie in the woollen. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 309 His Breeches were of rugged Woollen. 1666 *1st Sess 19 Chas II c. 4 (title)* An Act for Burying in Woollen only. 1759 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 287 Let 'em damn us to Woolen, I'll never repine At my Lodging when Dead. 1760 J. Loch *Town Spot.* 14 There are several looms employed here..for linens and coarse woollen, adapted for country use. 1791 A. Macaulay *Hist. Clapbrook* 216 An Act was sent..of the body of having been buried in woolen in Saint Pancras church-yard. 1856 C. Wordsworth *Athens* v. (1855) 87 Over which is a short vest of woollen. 1883 Ana S. Ballin *Sc. Dress* 128 Woollen should be worn not only in winter but in summer also. 1908 *Animal Management.* 73 Knee caps..are made of stout woollen or kersey.

**C.** Woollen cloths or clothes.

1800 Stuart in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 377 A great quantity of English goods, particularly woollens, found their way into that country. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* II. (1818) 52 Instead of melting under an equinoctial sun in the lightest cloathing,..they were glad to resume their woolens. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 53 They grew small salled by means of woollens, in which the sheets were sown. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* III. iv. 358 The exportation of Irish woollens to the colonies and to foreign countries was prohibited.

¶ A proposed name for the Mullein, *Verbascum Thapsus*, formed by substituting *wull*, *wull* Wool *sb.* for the first syllable (but cf. M.LG. *wullen* = Verbascum).

1578 [see Woollyfoot]. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclvi. 630 Mullein is called..in English Mullein, or rather Woollen. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Woollen. *Verbascum Thapsus.*

**O.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly of the sb.) : **a.** simple attrib., as *woollen't-card*, *district*, *-loom*, *manufacture*, *-mill*, *-trade*, *-weaving*; **b.** objective, as *woollen-dyer*, *-manufacturer*, *scribbler* (Scribbler 2), *-spinner*, †*-webster*, *-worker*; **c.** instrumental and parasynthetic, as *woollen-clad*, *-froched*, *-stockinged* adjs.; **d.** Special comb.: **Woollen Act**, the act of 18 & 19 Chas. II prescribing burial in woollen; † **woollen-going** *vbl. sb.* = *woolward going* (see Woolward *b*); † **woollen-head**, a thick-headed or dull person (in quot. *attrib.*); † **woollen-witted** *a.*, = Woolly-headed *c*; **woollen-work**, † (*a*) woollen manufacture ; (*b*) = *wool-work*. Also Woollen-draper.

1578 Dresser *Œdipus* Prol. 36 Record it,..The first Play bury'd since the ' Woollen Act. 1621 *St. Bh. Rates in Halfhundred Ledger* (1867) 204 Cardes called Woollen cardes. 1690 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 162 The ' woollen-clad soldiers of Alexander. *c* 1890 Cassey *Ventilation* 14 In the ' woollen districts. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4611/4 James Ford of Bow, ..' Woollen-dyer. 1864 Bruce *Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1866) 175 An imperial penitent, standing barefoot and ' woollen-frocked on the snow. 1903 [H. Fenner] *Jones & Pauper* I. xxxvi. (W. de W. 1496) 76/1 All they that vse..maases synygoge, fastynges,..' woollen goeynge, and such other in theyr wytchecraffte. 1758 Toldervy *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 31 Proving to that ' woollen-head justice, that we are neither felons nor vagrants, tho' he was disposed to call us so. 1938 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 200 Our ' woollenlome. 1955 *Burgh Rec. Prestwick* 25 Oct. (Mail. Club) 69 Ane volene lwyme. 1666 *Act 18 & 19 Chas. II* c. 4 For the Encouragement of the ' Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom..Be it enacted [etc.]. 1776 *Swift Gulliver* I. viii. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Emp.* (1854) I. 277 Various branches of the woollen manufacture have been introduced into Rochdale. 1888 Bearsley *Adam* II. 8 Other ' Woollen manufacturers, as well as the ' woollen. 1800 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 67 The woollen-manufacturers are incensed at the introduction of machinery. 1839 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 72 At Bannockburn and Stirling, are a few ' woollen mills. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, ' *Woollen-scribblers*, machines for combing or preparing wool into thin downy flakes. 1901 Wordsworth & M'Clure *Morning* (ed. 2) 1 The object of the ' woollen-spinner will always be to have yarn in which [etc.]. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 7 Dec. 4/4 Women, thick-headed, ' woollen-stockinged, flannel-petticoated. 1738 Berkeley *Querist* § 89 Our hankering after the ' Woollen-Trade. 1824 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 68 The wool and woollen ' trade. 1598 Kyd *Howards Hist. Sea Fight* (1903) 272 [A wife's] principall care should be of Lynnen or of ' woollen weauing. 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 119 Other Statutes..for Linnen and Woollen Weauing. 1580 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 99 (MS. T.) ' Wollene websteris and weueris of lynen. 1638 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 170, I, Richard Dymplebie of Limblanes, yeman webster. 1742 Fielding *Joseph* I. ii. I have a Woollen-draper and Horsebeeler. 1835 Shirley *Lady Pleas.* III. (1637) G 1, Course woollen witted fellowes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 ' Wollond wayn, *plaustrum*. 1866 *All Year Round* No. 369 Four young ladies, carrying baskets of woollen-work 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 287 The arrival from the Spanish Netherlands of Woollen workers.

**Woollen-draper.** Now *Hist.* [f. prec. *sb.* + Draper *sb.*] A dealer in woollen goods.

1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 7. § 1 Linnen Drapers, Woollen Drapers, Haberdashers and Grocers. 1619 Purchas *Microcosmus* (1857) 80 Woollen Draper hath been chosen by him, the Diar, Cottoner, Sherman, Fuller [etc.]. 1642 Rart. Monu. tr. *Bondt's Civil Wars* VI. 24 The Company of Woollen drapers kept a Storehouse in Cullen from whence the Low-countries, and all Germany were furnished. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XI. v, I can neither live on Hopes or Promises, nor will my Woollen-draper take both Sorts in Payment. 1813 Jane Austen *Emma* XII, Ford's was the principal woollen-draper, linen-draper, and haberdasher's shop united. 1850 Cobb *Lond. Merch.* II. 55 The trades of clothiers, weavers, woollen drapers.

So **Woollen-drapery**, woollen goods ; also, a shop for the sale of these.

1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2322/4 All sorts of Woollen Drapery. 1766 *Entick's Lond.* IV. 40 The Woollen-drapery is a wholesale drapery. 1919 *Jnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XVI. 141 Daniel Dunbalin, of Warrington, of a substantial woollen-drapery.

**Woollenette** (wulıne·t). *U.S.* Also woolenet. [f. Woollen *sb.* + -ette.] A thin woollen stuff.

1825 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. 3, I wish you would send me up some nankeen pantaloons, as my woolenet ones are so tight that they are uncomfortable. 1846 Worcester, *Woollenette*, a thin woollen fabric.

†**Woo·ller.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 woller. [f. Wool *sb.* + -er 1.] A wool-carrying ship.

1428 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 121 Yowre oder stuffe I schall send yow be masonesyp in the ton of the wollers. 1892 *Ho. Lords MSS.* (Hist. MSS Comm.) 384 The Bill..gives but half to the privateers of all Owners and Woollers.

**Woolliness** (wu·linės). [f. Woolly *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being woolly, in various senses ; also *concr.* a woolly substance.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclix. 634 Leaues..like vnto those of Hyptapser, but far whiter, softer, thicker, & fuller of woollienesse, which wooll is so long, that one may with his fingers pull the same from the leaues. 1791 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 210 The Seed with its Woolliness, beginning a little to rise of its self at the lower-end of the Head. 1795 Hamilton *Agric. Chem.* (ed. 2) 192 The woolliness of the flowers in the Reed. 1824 *Examiner* 307/2 Mr. Fielding's execution is ..soft without woolliness. 1856 *Mem. W. Tassell* 29 xviii, He [v. Tassell] said that though pretty well he felt a ' woolliness ' in the brain. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 398 A ' mulley ', feeble, unpleasant appearance, technically called ' woolliness '. 1882 Hopkins *Hawaii* 344 The hair is black and waving. Its curl is perfectly free from the woolliness of the African. 1883 *Hardwick's Phot. Chem* (ed. 9) 152 In attempting to cast a large plate, a wavy appearance, often termed woolliness of the film, is seen at the lower corner. 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* IV. v, That state of numb woolliness to which yesterday a less portion of laudanum had brought her. 1894 H. F. Forbes *Primates* I. 204 The woolliness of their under-fur.

†**Woo·lling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Wool *sb.* + -ing 1.]

1. Combing wool ; only in *woolling comb*.

1399 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One p^r of woulling combes.

2. = Coating or lining with wool.

1660 [see Wool v. 1a].

3. Carrying of wool, esp. illicitly (= Owling).

1684 Sir J. Lauder *Jrnl.* (1900) 3 The great number we mait of soulders all the way begat in us great fears of woolling, yet it pleased God to bring us most safely to Faire. 1764 A. Anderson *Hist. & Chron. Deduction* (1787) II. 480 The mischievous practice of wooling, as it is vulgarly termed, that is, the running of our English and Irish wool into France.

4. = Wool-gathering 2.

1709 E. Ward *Hud. Redin.* I. 6 When these the Sons of Knipperdoling, Let all their Senses run a wooling.

†**Woo·llish,** *a. Obs.* [f. Wool *sb.* + -ish 1.] Resembling wool, woolly.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 65 The fruite [of oleander]..when as it openeth sheweth a wollyshe nature like an whyte down. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. lxxi. 750 The leaues..be neither white, smooth, nor wollish.

**Woolly** (wu·li), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6 **woolley**, 7 **wooly**, 7, 9 **woolly**, 8 *Sc.* **ooy**. [f. Wool *sb.* + -y 1. Cf. (M)LG. *wullig*, Du., G. *wollig*.]

1. Consisting of wool. Also *transf.* relating to wool ; containing wool (or sheep).

1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 302 Giuing accompt of th' annuall increase Both of their flankes, and of their woolley fleece. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 165 He had upon his upper Garment some black Sheep-skin, the woolly side out. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 493 Thus while she sings, the Sisters turn the Wheel, Empty the woolly Rock, and fill the Work with Length'ning Thread. *Ibid. Pythag. Phil.* 172 The Sheep..A patient, useful Creature, born to bear The warm and woolly Fleece, that cloath'd her Lordier. 1820 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* I, Like pious incense from a censer old, Seven hours before The warm and woolly flock in woolly fold. 1891 M. Muriel Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 214 The high perfection of all woolly occupations

2. Of the nature, texture, or appearance of wool ; resembling wool ; woolly-like.

*c* 1586 C'ess Pembroke *Ps.* cxviii. v, Snowes woolly locks lay him wide scatt'red are. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 34 My fleece of Woolly haire. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. lxxiii. 106 Called in Latine *Lanuginosa*, of the woolly substance of woolly flockes, wherewith the whole plant is in euerie part full fraighted. 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* III. iii, The woolly-curled Clouds. 1790 Eve Sheep-shearing 8 June 1689 Its haire was woolly like a lamb. 1798 J. Phillips *Cyder* II. 186 O, may'st Thou often see Thy Furrows whiten'd by the woolly Rain [cf. Virgil *Georgics* I. 491]. 1798 Pope *Odyss* XIX. 280 Short woolly curls o'erhov'd his bending head. 1820 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. 91 Its fur..is of a woolly nature. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. the Mast* xiii. 31 Coarse black hair, but not woolly, like the negroes'. 1856 Gray *Labor Secrets Chr. Life, A. Johnston* II. The sky had the white woolly look that portends snow. 1900 *Words of Eye-witness* 53 A puff of woolly smoke in the air.

**b.** Having a soft and clinging texture ; said esp. of edible things which are consequently unpleasant to the palate ; also of the surface of a road.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 137 The Fruit is pretty sweet but woolly in substance. 1769 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 416 He has a pair of leaders ready when the roads run woolly. 1849 D. J. Brown *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1850) 99 Barley..is said to render the flesh of poultry insipid, and woolly. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 619 She has found the eggs of Spanish fowls eat woolly. 1860 White-Melville *Inside Bar* I. iv. 345 Time's short,..roads woolly, and hunted scarce. 1874 Raymond *Mines Amazing* 497 The pulp soon assumes a spongy appearance, technically known as 'woolly'. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 176/2 Turnips have become all tops, and, are just getting into the woolly stage.

3. Having a natural covering of wool, woolbearing.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 84 When the worke of generation Betweene these woolly breeders in the act 1697 Dryden *Æneis* III. 844 Like him in Caves they shut their woolly Sheep 1725 Pope *Odyss* XII. 320 Then suddenly was heard To low the ox, to bleat the woolly train. 1788 Pilkin *Poems* 104 I will score o' sheep, eal be thine, O' coy sheep, the fattest o' the plain. 1860 G. H. Kingsley in Galton's *Vac. Tour.* 139 [The colony] was justly famous for woolly back to another, intent on singling out the one which has been indicated to him.

**b.** Having hair resembling wool : applied esp. to negroes (= *woolly-haired* or *-headed*).

1767 Carteret in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) I. 168 Two of the natives ..were black, with woolly heads. 1810 Mrs. Rarnauld *Hist.* 166 Streets, where the turbaned Moslem, bearded Jew, And woolly Afric, met in motley throng. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* xxiv, He had eaten penmican, and ridden a woolly horse. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 351 It was a large, woolly poodle, snowy white.

c. In specific names of animals, often rendering L. *lanatus*, *lanuger*.

**Woolly bear** *colog.* (esp *children's*), also *dial.* **woolly boy**, a large hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth.

1781 Pennant *Hist. Quads.* I. 213 Woolly Maucauco. 1793 *Ibid* (ed. 3) II. 296 Woolly Rat. 1805 Dorothy Wordsworth *Jrnl.* 3 Nov., Like an immense caterpillar, such as, when we were children, we used to call *Woolly Boys*, from their hairy coat. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 121 The pear tree is often affected with the woolly aphis. 1853 Wood *Nat. Hist. Mist.* III. 535 Its [*sc.* the Tiger moth's] caterpillar is familiar under the name of Woolly Bear. *Ibid.* 568 Pig ; Woolly crab, *Dorippe lanata*. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 131 The Woolly Lemur. *Ibid.* 211 The Woolly Lemur—The Avahi. *Andrei's Insects.* 1879 *Ibid.* II. 333 *Rhina cat trichocinnus*, or the Woolly Rhinoceros.

d. *Woolly aster* or *woolly*, applied in the Far West (West 98.) to the Aster of the United States of America on account of its rude and uncivilized character ; hence *gen.* barbarous, lacking culture.

1892 A. Wellman *Tales of the ' Ill ill ' & Woolly West* ' Publishers' Note, Woolly..seems to refer to the uncivilized —untamed—hair outside—coal still in the sheepskin coat—condition of the Western Pioneers. 1894 *Western. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/2 Hos many Indians did you kill? Now, Cappen, I want something wild and woolly.

†**c.** = WOOLLEN *a.* 1 c. *Obs. rare.*

1631 DEKKER *Match Me* II. D 1 b, Thanket vengeance; thou at last art come (Tho with wolly feet).

**4.** Of parts of plants: Covered with a pubescence resembling wool; downy, lanate, tomentose.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxiv. 204 Anthiopis hath great brode woolly leaues. 1620 tr. JONSON *Forest* ii, The blushing Apricot, and woolly Peach. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 611 Rough is the Stem, which woolly Leafs surround. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abutilon*, The large-leav'd American *Abutilon*, with woolly Stalks. 1845 DARWING *Lect. Histor.* ii, The leaflbuds on the Vine are woolly. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 53 Githago segetum...Calyx woolly.

**b.** In specific names of plants, often rendering L. *lanatus* or *tomentosus*.

**Woolly butt** [BUTT *sb.*2 4], an Australian name for species of *Eucalyptus*, esp. *E. longifolia*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxiii. 106 *Bulbus Eriophorus*, Woolly lacini. *Ibid.* ii. celix. 634 We may call it Mullein of Æthiopia, or woolly Mullein. 1699 [W. HOWE] *Physiol. Brit.* 61 Hypericum tomentosum,...Lobells Woolly S. Johnswort. 1830 J. D. MACCOCK *Flora Barbadensis* 294 *Phaseolus Mungo*...Woolly-Pyrot. 1850 ANNE LINDSAY *Pioneer. Pl. V.* 111 *Salix lanata*:...Woolly Broad-leaved Willow. 1882 *Internat. Exhib., Catal. Products Queensld.* 26 Eucalyptus sp...Woolly Butt. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 54 Woolly Gum of Herring. [This is the smooth-barked variety of *Eucalyptus Stuartiana*. 1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 247 Giant woolly-butt forests.

**5.** *gen.* Having a wool-like texture, surface, or covering.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 27 The native [nitre] is generally acicular or woolly. 1914 C. MACKENZIE *Sinister St.* III. xv, The golf-bag...woolly now with the accumulated mildew of neglect.

**6.** *transf.* and *fig.* Lacking in definiteness or incisiveness; 'muzzy'; (of the mind, etc.) confused, and hazy; (of painting, etc.) lacking in clearness or definition; (of sound, etc.) dull and indistinct.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 54 It (sc. a picture) looks woolly, undecided in effect. 1839 CRAYON & JACKSON *Wood Engraving* 721 Some of the chiaro-scuros...seem too soft and woolly. 1864 YATES *Broken to Harness* I. viii. 146 The daughter of old Dowlas was a little woolly. 1895 HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 518 Pusey's woolly mind appears to cling to him [sc. Gladstone]. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxv. II. 198, I suppose it...said Mrs. Waule, in the lowest of her woolly tones. 1874 LESLIE CARR *Fluid. Guyane* v, The farm-servants...lost in woolly wonder. 1878 LOCKYER *Stargazing* 254 Except on the finest of nights the stars...appear woolly. 1894 G. MACDONALD *Lo Gifford* ii, 'That is not a bad remark, Joseph,' replied the laird, with woolly condescension. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque*, *Some Portraits by Raeburn* (1901) 190 Their faces have woolly and evasive periods. 1884 *Bazaar* 26 Dec. 681/3 A drawing to look into, but rather woolly at a few paces off. 1895 M.-my KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 572 The performance...strong and woollier and woollier in tone, and then dying out in sleep. 1897 *Graphic* Christmas No. 9 The stiff woolly piano.

**7.** *Comb.*, as *woolly-butted* (BUTT *sb.*3 4), *-coated*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, *-looking*, *-minded* (hence *-mindedness*), *-pated*, *-tailed*, *-tufted*, etc.

1843 J. BACKHOUSE *Narr. Visit Austral. Col.* 445 The Gum-trees...are of several species. One called here, the 'Woolly-butted Gum, seems identical with the Black-butted Gum of Tasmania. 1892 St. STEPHEN *Mowgli's Sp.* (1893) 341 A lank, 'woolly-coated weed [sc. a horse]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 3 June an. 1781, Lord Monboddo's notion, that the ancient Egyptians were not only black, but woolly-haired. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Miss Swartz, the woolly-haired young heiress from St. Kitt's. 1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 11) II. 363 The woolly-haired rhinoceros. 1820 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 380 *Inula Saxatilenis*. Woolly-leaved Inula. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woolland.* (1862) 128 The Woolly-leaved Rose (*Rosa tomentosa*). 1881 *Cassell's Techn. Dict., Brushmaking*, a 'woolly-looking variety of aluminous pyroxene. 1896 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 There are plenty of such 'woolly-minded men in high places in Washington. 1897 *Mag. Art* The Don, with much alacrity and 'woolly-mindedness,.. proceeded to ransack all the lockers. 1898 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 18 A comely 'Limb'd Person, though a 'Woolly-pated Coffery. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon* etc. x. 362 'Woolly-tailed Yak ox.

**B.** *sb.* A woollen garment or covering; now esp. *pl.*, garments or wraps knitted of (fleecy) wool.

1875 *Young Mech.*, *Woolly Wraps* 1906 *Cent.* Aug. 283 'Granny the Thimbleman '..knits woollies for the 'quality'. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 514 *note*, Flannel shirts and woollies of all sorts for the wounded soldiers. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 148/1 Some of his underclothing and a 'woolley' in addition to the spare shirt and socks.

**Woollyer, Woolly(e)ying,** var. forms of WILLYER, WILLYING *vbl. sb.* (q.v., WILLY *sb.*1).

1848 T. ALLEN *Co. York* I. 305 Sweeping, or as it is sometimes called, woolleying, is done upon a large cylindrical machine. 1875 BAINES *Yorks.* I. 670 Woollyers.

**Woo'lly-head.** A person with woolly hair, *esp.* a negro; hence, a nickname for an abolitionist in America.

1829 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Woolly-heads*, a term applied in the first place to negroes, and then to anti-slavery politicians. 1884 *Daily Tel.* 20 Sept., I must do the American press the justice to say that...I get it quite as hot from the Woollyheads as from the Copperheads. 1886 *10th Cent.* June 503 Our friends the 'woolly heads' [sc. Arabs] are pressing at us from amongst the bushes.

**Woo'lly-hea·ded** (stress variable), *a.* Having a woolly head: **a.** in specific names of plants; **b.** Woolly-haired; **c.** *fig.* Dull-witted.

**a.** 1690 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 22 *Cardamus eriocephalus* ..Woolly-headed Thistle. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 701 *Cardamus eriophorus*..Woolly-headed Thistle.

1847 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 237 *Cnicus eriophorus*.., (Woolly-headed Plume-thistle). 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 72 *Andropogon bombycinus*...'Woolly-headed Grass.'

**b.** 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 5. 2/1 The Blacks in Guinea are Woolly-headed. 1813 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man* vi. § 8. 307 Most of them resembled the woolly-headed Papuas. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xvi. 435 Abyssinians and Nubians,..flat-nosed, and woolly-headed.

**c.** 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* IV. iv, She has taken... the Borrowdale road, walks along it for some distance confused and woolly-headed. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 This, too, not by silly, woolly-headed people, but by practical, hard-headed men of business.

**Woollyish** (wu'li,ij), *a. rare.* [f. WOOLLY *a.* + -ISH1.] Somewhat woolly.

1773 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796), Woollyish,...*sublanatus*.

**Woo'lman.** Now chiefly *Hist.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + MAN *sb.*1: cf. MDu. *wolman* 'lanarius'.] A dealer in wool, a wool-merchant.

1390 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 43 John de Gysburn, woleman. 1424 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 84 John Deyster, woleman. 1458 in *Hearne's Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 256 Hic jacet Johannes Wodehouse, woodman. Woleman juxta villae [etc.]. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Wools* 23 May 2 The Masters & wardens of the company, and felowshippe of the Woolmen of the Citie of London. 1642 *Rest. Corp. London* (Surtees) 27 Woolmen dislike and find greate falt with woll that hath much salve or tarre in it. *a* 1720 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 425 When a woolman was weighing my wool, he observed me the difference of some fleeces to goodness. 1761 *Lond. & Environs* VI. 363 *Woolmen*, a company probably of great antiquity, though they have no charter, and are a community only by prescription. 1911 J. S. M. WARD *Bronzes* 2 The brasses of the woolmen are the finest. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Oct. 7 Woolmen, bankers, and journalists were consulted.

†**Woo'lner.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 **wollner.** [f. WOOLLEN + -ER1.] A dealer in woollen goods.

1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) 87 To publish unto the brokers and wollners of the towne your intente to sett them a worke in the makinge of broade kersies.

**Wool-pack.** [f. WOOL *sb.* + PACK *sb.*1]

**1.** A large bag into which a quantity of wool or of fleeces is packed for carriage or sale.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11171 [They] Ride vpe tueye wolpakes, champen as bli were. 14.. in Kropp *Leg. St. Patrick's Purg.* (1930) 65 Stopping and shoyving fe feithe downe into here bodies as pe wold stoppe a wullepak. 1600 *Maidon, Essex, Deeds* Bundle 162 ff. 3 MS.), iij li. of Richard Holmes wool in wool packs. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 111 The Land Keeper of the Great Seal, upon the Wool-sack. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 95 The Lord Chancellor...sits on the first Wool-Sack...Upon these Wool-Sacks sit the Judges, the King's Council at Law, and the Masters of Chancery. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 536/2 The noble Lord on the Woolsack. 1785 *Rep. Cases Parl.* (1820) II. 82 God I swore, while George shall reign, The Seals, in spite of changes, to retain, Nor quit the Woolsack, till he quits the throne. 1796 T. MORTON *Way to get Married* I. i. (1840) 16 *Count.* Pray stick to the law. *Lov.* And to the woolsack. Does not the hope of that...cram our courts full of barristers, with heads as empty as they leave their clients' pockets? 1827 *Evans Lond. Disp.* II. 414 The Lord Chancellor on the Woolsack at one o'clock. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 108 What seated Thurlow, and Wedderburne, and Brougham on the woolsack? *Wks.* 1854 *Memoirs Lit. & Soc. Anec. Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 189 If the performance of the advocate reaches any high success, it is paid in England,...with seats in the cabinet, earldoms, and woolsacks. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley xxv*, She drags her husband on to the woolsack, or pushes him into parliament. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 478 The woolsack is hereditary not in the House, a fact recognised by the Standing Orders which provide that when the Lord Chancellor wishes to speak he is 'to go to his own place as a Peer'.

*attrib.* 1833 LEVANTER *Lament. Lit. Taste* 1673 I. 362 Though I am but a Woolsack-god, and have no vote in the sanction of new Laws.

**2. Woolsaw** (wu'lsɔ). Also 8 **woolesaw**, 9 **oulsaer**. [Mosquito *woulsaha*.] Among people of African descent in Central America, an evil spirit or demon.

1757 R. HODGSON *Mosquito Territ.* (1822) 46 A kind of priests called Sookies, who...pretend to deal with an evil spirit called Woolsaw. 1766 *Woolsaw Mosquito Territ. Amer.* 267 Their great evil spirit is the 'woolsaw' or devil. 1822 T. YOUNG *Residence on Mosquito Shore* vi. 92 After sun-set a Sambo will not venture out alone, lest the Oulsaer should carry him away.

†**Woolsey,** *sb. Obs. rare.* The second element of LINSEY-WOOLSEY used independently.

1737 HENTEMY *Rem. Dist. Free-Thinking* liv. III. 12 Unless he thought his Verses were to sell by the Foot, no matter for the Stuff whether Linsey or Woolsey.

**Woolsey** (wu'lzi), *a. rare.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + *-sey* derived from LINSEY-WOOLSEY.] Woolly; woollen.

1859 LANDOR *Andrea of Hungary* IV. 80 The woolsey race [*i.e.* sheep]. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* I, The Carrier's mantle, or woolsey coat.

**Woolskin**(wu'lskin). Also 6 **wol-, volskyn(g**. [SKIN *sb.*] A sheepskin with the fleece on it.

*c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 362 The wolfe anympnys maketh men to rise To gret robberie in many sondry wise. 1481 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 103/1 Pre hundreth & foure skore wolf skynnes. 1533–8 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 209 Expenditure 44s wolskyns. 1533–4 *Ibid.* 313 Vocatin volskyngs. 1628 *Sc. Bk. Rates* In Haliburton's *Ledger* (1867) 340 Woll skins the hundreth, xx li. 1643 *Docq. Lett. Pat. ad Q.v* (1837) 370 Lettres Patentes...for the collectinge of the Custome of wooles hydes woolskinnes...in the Porte of ..Southampton. 1903 FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* 64 Woolskins are also very cheaply tanned in the following manner.

**Woo'l-sta·ple'.** [STAPLE *sb.*2] A market appointed for the sale of wool.

c 1475 Norohm *Spec. Brit., Mem.* (Camden) Introd. p. xvii, Ther are within this cytie the longe Woulstaple and the rounde, both which take name of the Staple that ther was kepte for woules. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 July 1656, The pinnacle of one of their wool-staple houses. 1778 *Engl. Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Sandwich*, The wool-staple was removed hither from Queenborough, in the reign of Richard II.

So **Wool-staplar**. [Staple *sb.*3] The staple of (a particular) wool.

1838 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 155 The distance between the first and last pair of rollers is much greater, on account of the greater length of the wool-staple.

**Woolsted**, obs. form of Worsted.

**Woolster** (wu·lstəɹ). *Sc.* [f. Wool *sb.* + -ster.] A wool-stapler (Jam. 1825).

1577 in *Agric. Surv. Ayrs.* 90 (Jam.) All other art or trade viz. of shoemakers, ... carpenters, and woolsters.

**Woolsy** : see Woolery.

**Woolwish**, var. Wolvish *a. Obs.*

**†Woo·lward**, *a. Obs.* Forms : see Wool *sb.*; also 6 woldward. [M.E. *woll(e)ward*, prob. alteration of **wollward* (of which there is perh. a relic in the form *wollerd*, for *wollerwerd*, of quot. 1480), from an unrecorded OE. **wullweard*, f. *wull* Wool *sb.* + *-weard*, *-ward* wearing, clothed (in); f. stem of *werian* Wear *v.*1 (cf. OE. *linenweard* clothed in linen, and prob. *scirwered*, *sweglwered* 'clothed' or enveloped in brightness). The assimilation of *-ward* to *-*ward, initiated by lack of stress, would be furthered by the prevalence of the word in the phr. *to go woolward* (cf. *to go heavenward*).] Wearing wool next the skin, esp. as a penance : chiefly in *to go woolward*.

c 1325 Shoreham *Poems* 1. 2094 Baruut go, Wolle-ward and wakynge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 1 Wolleward and weet-shoed wente I barefot. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 43 Sant Thomas, be come to Canturbiury, woolward and barfote. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* xcix. f 1, Good men.. that wenten baarfoot & wollewerd [*B-rd* 99 wolward] for to haue mercy of the ij. kynges. c 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvii. 574 He is goon his wayes wulwarde & barefote with a sory staff in his hande. 1508 Fiskyn *Y Penit. Pr.* cii. Wks. (1876) 181 Truly it was a more glorious sight to se sayntes Poule...in hungre, thurst, watchynge, in colde, goynge wolward. 1588 Shaks. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 717 The naked truth of it is, I have no shirt, I go woolward for penance. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. v. i. 627 Poore people fare coarsly, worke hard, goe wollward and bare. 1646 Trapp *Comm. John* xvi. 2 If he thought his shirt were infected with that heresie, he would tear it from his own back, and rather goe woolward. 1820 Scott *Nigel* xvii, To walk wool-ward in winter.

b. in attrib. position or comb.

1493 [H. Parker] *Dives & Pauper* iv. xxi. (W. de W. 1496) 186/2 Auowe that she hath made to god as of fastynge, of pylgremage, contynence, wolwarde goynge, and such other. 1531 Tindale *Expos. 1 Cor.* (1537) 23 His fastynge, his wolward goynge, his foote goynge. 1628 Hr. Hall *Cont.* 30 Mar., Wks. 1634 II. 327 Their woolward and barefoot walks. 1655 [G. Hall] *Trt. Rome* vi. 73 What woolward penances, what weary pilgrimages!

c. *To lay woolward* : to bury in wool. *rare.*

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Hullen) VIII. 392 The sexton..so laid the dead bodies woolward.

**Woolwich** (wu·lij). The name of a town in Kent, used attrib., esp. to designate productions of its old dockyard and the Royal Arsenal, as *Woolwich-gun*, *-hulk*; also **Woolwich-beds** *Geol.* (see quot. 1859); **Woolwich infant**, a jocular name given to a class of heavy guns.

1794 Burns *Epist. fr. Reuben* 40 The shrinking Bard.. dread a meeting wi' a Woolwich Infant. 1859 Page *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Woolwich-beds*, a name occasionally employed by English geologists to designate those beds of plastic clay, sand, shingle, and rolled flint-pebbles which lie between the 'Thanet Sands' and the 'London Clay'. 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clavig.* ii. 27 The 35-ton gun called the 'Woolwich infant', which is fed with 700-pound shot and 130 pounds of gunpowder at one mouthful. 1878 W. T. Vincent *Warlike Woolwich* 30 *note*, The name of the 'Woolwich Infant'..was suggested to the writer of these pages by Sergeant Major Adamson, of the Depot Brigade, Royal Artillery. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 272 *Woolwich Gun*, a gun rifled on the French system, with this modification, that the grooves are shallower, and have their corners rounded off.

**Woo·l-winder.** [Winder *sb.*1 (Wind *v.*1 16, 22 b.)] One who 'winds' or packs up fleeces for transport or sale.

1503-34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 52 Let the wol be well selden or wounden with a wol-wynder, that can good skyll therof. 1580 *Prochum. Winding of Wools* 23 May 1 The felloweshippe of wole wynders, otherwyse called wollmen. 1697 Howell *Londinop.* 63 The residue of the Lofts were letten out to Marchants, the Wooll-winders and Packers therein, to winde and pack their Wools. 1797 Byrom *Rem.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 266 It was the feast day of the woolwinders. 1885 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 138 Pick up the fleeces, and carry them to the wool-winders.

**Wool-work.** [Cf. *G. wollwerk* woollen goods.] †1. Working in wool; manufacture of woollen goods. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 (Add. MS.) Wolle werke, *lanificium*. a 1513 Fabian *Chron.* vi. clvi. (1811) 145 His doughter he set to spynnynge and woll warke. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 121/39 Wolwerke, *lanificium*. 1692 Braithwait *Engl. Gent.* 125 The Towne of Kendall, so famous for Wool-worke.

2. Needlework executed in wool usually on a canvas foundation. Also, knitted wool fabric.

1872 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* IV. 5 Design for a fire-screen in wool-work. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 465 Berlin woolwork. 1888 Fergus Hume *Mme. Midas* I. 61 A cup of wool-work.

*attrib.* 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Mar. 3/2 The eye of a wool-work needle. 1905 Mrs. Barker-Grundy *Facil. Hazel* 55 She placed a wool-work cushion at the back of my head.

So **Woo·l-worked** *a.*, worked in wool, consisting of wool-work.

1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. Suppl. 8/2 A good wool-worked pocket-book. 1900 *Bookseller's Catalogue*, Magnificent Woolworked and Silk Picture.

**Wool·-worker.** [Cf. *G. wollwirker.*] One who works in wool.

1372 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* II. (1890) 151 [The light of] Wolwyrchers (in the same church). 1552 Huloet, Wolle worker, *lanifex*. 1903 A. Robertson *R.C. Ch. in Italy* ix. 187 St. Blaise..was once venerated in Yorkshire as the patron of woolworkers.

**Woom**, var. Vome *Obs.*, vomit.

**Woomera** (wū·mərə). *Austral.* Forms : wom(m)erah, womrah, wom(m)·, wummera, wommaira, womerar, wo-, wamara, woom-, wammera, wommora, -ala. [Native name, given as *womar*, *womerra*, *wommerru*, etc. in various vocabularies.] A throwing-stick used by Australian aboriginals. = Throwing-stick *a.* Also = next.

1837 Grey *Journ. Two Expeds. N. W. Australia* II. 356 He [*sc.* the native] was quite naked, except the netted band round the waist, in which were womeraha. 1845 J. Bateman in Cornwallis *Kingsley Vocab.* (1850) I. 107 We ..encountered an old man, armed with spears fixed in their wommeras. 1845 J. O. Balfour *Sk. N. S. Wales* 17 A *whamera* whizzed past where I was standing, and with unerring aim struck Fighting Jemmy on the thigh. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* Oct. 935/3 ..with the aid of a favourite womerah, could send a long spear, tipped with palm-wood, through a deal plank an inch thick a hundred yards away.

**Woomerang** (wū·məræŋ). *Austral.* Also wom-. [Native name (*wo-mur-ring* in D. Collins *N. S. Wales*, 1798, I. 613).] A missile club used by Australian aboriginals. = Throwing-stick *b.*

1849 J. C. Prichard *Ethnol. in Man. Sci. Enquiry* 433 The ancient Britons were known by their use of javelins..The Australians by their woomerangs or throwing-sticks. 1865 J. Rogers *New Rush* II. 46 Next—high in air the womerangs spear the clouds.

**Woomir.** (See quot.)

1834 M'Culloch *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 628 A mixture of *chack* beaver, with white and brown stage beaver, or seasoned beaver, commonly called 'woomir.'

**Woon** (wūn). [Burmese *woun.*] A Burmese administrative officer. Also **Woondook**, **Woongee**, names for different grades of this.

1800 M. Symes *Acc. Embassy Ava* xiii. 308 To assist in the administration of affairs, four officers, called Woondocks, are associated with the Woon's Gongree. *Ibid.* 309 There are..officers ..who bear no ostensible share in the administration of public affairs, such as the Daywoon, or King's armour-bearer; the Woon in waiting; the governor of the elephants; also the Woons of the Queen's household. 1836 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* June 561/1 A message came down from the Woon, or head man, of the friendly people who inhabited the interior town of Negu. 1886 Lt. Churchill in *Daily News* 26 Jan. 2/4 Those [English] officers were supported by troops and were working through local woons.

**Woon**, var. Wone, Woolen.

**Woond**(e, **Woonder**, **Woone**, **Woont**: see Wind *v.*1, Wonder, One, Wont.

**Woontak** : see *womb-tack*, Womb *sb.* 5.

**†Woop.** [? var. of Hoop *sb.*3 2.] The bullfinch.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 91 *Rubicilla*, Pyrrhula, the Woop, or Bullfinch.

**Woop**, variant of Woup *Sc. Obs.*

**Woorali, wourali** (wurā·li). Also 8–9 woorara, 9 woorrara, wooraly. See also Oorali, Urali, Urari. [See Curare.] A South American climbing plant, *Strychnos toxifera*, from the root of which one of the ingredients of the poison Curare is obtained; also, the poison itself. Also *attrib.*, as *woorali poison, vine.*

[1598 Sir W. Raleigh *Discoverie Guiana* G 2, Names of poysoned hearbes. Ourari.] 1769 E. Bancroft *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 101 The Woorara, which is the principal ingredient in the composition of the fatal liquid called by some of that name. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* I. xv. 395 A few of the above arrows are frequently dipped in the woorara poison, which is instantaneously fatal. 1811 Wintersteen *Sierra Leone* I. xv. 271 A kind of dart,..dipped in a poison called woorara. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* 33 A vine grows in these wilds, which is called woorali. *Ibid.* The woorali poison destroys life's action so gently, that the victim appears to be in no pain whatever. *Ibid.* 34 He scrapes the woorali vine and bitter root into thin shavings. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 130/2 Wooraly, Urari, or Poison-plant of Guiana. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 18 Nervous sensibility, after its suspension by woorara poisoning. 1900 P. Fountain *Mts. & For. S. Amer.* vii. 185 My mixture...was, like the true woorali, innocuous if swallowed. *Ibid.* 189, I have..strong grounds for believing that it is snake-poison that is the active principle in the woorali paste.

**Woord, Woorld, Woory**(e, etc., obs. ff. Word, World, Worry *v.*, Woos, obs. f. Ooze, Whose. **Woosel**(l, obs. ff. Ouzel. **Woost**, obs. 2 sing. pres. ind. of Wit *v.*1 **Woosy**(e, obs. ff. Oozy. **Woot**(e, obs. ind. pres. of Wit *v.*1

**Wootes**, obs. pl. of Oat.

1559 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 74, vj pockes wootes.

**Wootz** (wūts). Also wuds. [app. orig. misprint for *wook*, repr. Canarese *ukku* (pronounced with initial *w*) steel.] A crucible steel made in southern India by fusing magnetic iron ore with carbonaceous matter. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV, 322 Doctor Scott..has sent over specimens of a substance known by the name of wootz; which is considered to be a kind of steel. 1804 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. III. 456/2 Wootz, a steel from India, has lately been most successfully employed [for cutlery]. 1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 1276 The wootz or the cossits of the magnetic oxide of iron, united with quartz. 1869 Baldwin *Prehi. Nations* vi. (1877) 209 The celebrated India steel called wuds. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* May 569/1 The Indian 'wootz' steel,..which possesses remarkable toughness and sharpness.

**Woo-woo.** Imitative of the sound of wind.

1841 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Boillie* (1872) VI. 253 The ever-moaning..unsyllabled *woo-woo* of wind in empty churches!

**Wooy**, Sc. form of Woolly *a.*

**Wooze**, var. Ooze.

**Woozy** (wū·zi), *a. U. S. slang.* Fuddled with drink; hence, muzzy, 'dotty'.

1897 *Voice* (N. Y.) 22 Apr. 3/2 In the woozy lexicon of the voting church there is no such word as power. 1900 'O. Henry' *Roads of Destiny* iv. 69 A woman gets woozy on clothes. 1907 *Comm. Daily News* viii. 292 The man was mad. Well, he went a bit woozy.

**†Wop.** *Obs.* [OE. *wōp* : see Weep *v.* etym.] Weeping. Hence † **Wopi** *a.*, tearful.

*Docmodel* 983 Para þe of wonnen 7 wop geloðien, gryreleoð galan godes andsacan. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 12 Þær bið wop & tobæ gristbiting. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Ure drihten .. hurnd bore hare ehnen mid wope to muchele blisse. c 1205 Lay. 5970 Wælle muchel wæs þa wop [c 1275 wepinge]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Ilesced beo þu, Louerd, bet ...efter wopie wateres ȝeiðest bilð nuttulðes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6912 Heo ..bitaȝte hare ehnen mid wop in to oriaunde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Oure blisse is ywent in-to wop.

**Wop**, var. Whop. **Wopen**, obs. f. Weapon.

**† Wopne**, -one. [?]

1481 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wopne, or pysse (*S.* woppen of pis), *urina*.

**Wopnen**, obs. form of Weapon *v.*

**Wopper**, var. Wapper *a.*

a 1658 Cleveland *Old Man courting young Girl* 62 Perish'd Gungs and Wopper-eyes.

**Wopper**, var. Whopper.

**Wor**, var. War *a.* and *adv.*, worse.

**†Wor·ble**, *v. Sc. Obs.* [var. Warble *v.*3; cf. Wrabble *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle, writhe; to wallow.

a 1568 Rollock *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 444 We wer..then wrobling [*ed.* 1616 wabling] and walteringe in the myn sinne and filthinesse. a 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xlvii. 10 Vhy haif I not, O God, als blunt a [braine] As he that daylie wonkheis in the wyne. 1828 Jamieson *s.v. Wrabil*, *S. wonrdek, wurble*: as to *wurble in or out.*

**Worble**, variant of Warble *sb.*2

1847 Gosse *Omphalos* xi. 309 The Worble of the Oo.

**Worcester** (wu·stəɹ). The name of the county town of Worcestershire, used *attrib.* to designate articles originating there, e.g. (formerly) a fine cloth, (now chiefly) a kind of China ware ; also *ellipt.* = † Worcester cloth, Worcester porcelain, etc.

*Worcester sauce* = Worcestershire sauce (see next).

1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 8 § 5 Any Worcester white Clothe and Clothes whiche shalbe made within the Citie of Worcester commonlye called Longe Worcesters. *Ibid.* § 7 All and everie White Clothes and Clothes commonlye called Short Worcesters. 1820 R. Warner *Tour Northern Counties* I. 47 That exquisite porcelain, known by the name of Worcester china. 1820 *Auction Catal. Fonthill Abbey* 45 A Worcester tea and coffee set. 1848 J. R. Forster *Stowe Catal.* 2 An oval sugar-basin, cover, and stand, of rare old Worcester. *Ibid.* 9 A pair of vases, of Worcester porcelain. 1851 Mrs. Beadon *Account of Royal Visit* 251 Worcester sauce into his coffee, and cream over his devilled cutlets. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 649/1 Dr. Wall..started the Worcester Porcelain Company in 1751. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 8/6 Hops. Worcester..Trade in Worcesters keeps quiet.

**Worcestershire** (wu·stəʃəɹ). The name of an English county : *attrib.* in *Worcestershire sauce*, which is made in Worcester (also *ellipt.* for this).

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* ii. § 107 Worcestershire Salts. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. iii, They found no fault with my Worcestershire Perry, which I sold them for champagne. 1850 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 91 A bottle of Worcestershire. 1889 G. Allen *Falling in Love*, etc. 203 Mulligatawny soup, Worcestershire sauce, pre-served ginger, hot pickles.

**Word**, **Worcher**, **Worchip** : see Work, Worker, Worship.

**Word** (wūd), *sb.* Forms : 1 - word, 1–6 wurd, (3 wored, woerd, weord, wuord, wort), 3–6 werd, 3 (4–6 *Sc.*) wourd, (4 wrd, 4–6 worde, wurde, *Sc.* vord(e, vourd, 5 worp (?)), 4–7 woord (6–7 -e), 5–6 *Sc.* wird(e. [OE. *word* str. n. = OFris., OS. *word*, MDu. *wort* (Du. *woord*), OHG., MHG., G. *wort*, ON. *orð* (Sw., Da. *ord*), Goth. *waurd* :— OTeut. **wurdom* :— pre-Teut. **wr̥dho-*; cf. Lith. *vardas* name, Lett. *wārds* word, forename, OPruss. *wirdi* word, Olr. *fordat* 'inquiunt'.

Indo-Eur *wordh-* is generally taken to be a deriv. of *wer-*, *werd*, which appears in Gr *Fειπω* I shall say, *Fρητωρ* speaker, L *verbum* word, *Skr vrathas* command, law, etc.]

**I.** Speech, utterance, verbal expression.

**1** *collect pl.* Things said, or something said; speech, talk, discourse, utterance; *esp.* with possessive, what the person mentioned says or said; (one's) form of expression or language. Often in such phrases as *in these, other*, etc *words*, in (such-and-such) language, *many words, few words* (see also 22, 26), *to give words to, to put into words*, to express by means of language, *beyond words*, incapable of being expressed in language, unutterable, unspeakable

a 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 81 Xif bas word and sob a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen* 2389 Ne wille Satran zelyfan wordum Godes *Ibid* 1300 *Sun Call How* 10 Ne mu3 no mon þeose word weggen ær he hæbbe on his heorte onde *Ibid* 43 Vnderstonde we on ure heo te bis holie wordes *Ibid* 257 On þeose fewe litele word I þinke3 sein gode word, zif bis weren wel ipoond *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 229 Þe tidekning þerwið seide *Ibid* 88 15 Nu beo3 his word [*c* 1175 wordes] gode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 830 Ihesu at o mon ban drogbtin spak Wordes batt o wrab and wrak *Sir Ferumbras* ix 752 Sen þou spekes so rysly, it is grete skill at men chasty. Þis prowd voundin 1480–1530 *Wyntoun Cron Anhang* I 111 These ar the wordes of the prophete Dauid *Ibid* II 66 Youre holy ernest forby deth 3ou all wyme and ydel wordes 1526 Tindale *John* vi 63 I the wordes that I speake vnto you are spirete and lyfe. 1539 *Gau Xi Art I* 297 b Vno de ye yer is noth the more plesand to god for cause we w z many vordis in it 1605 Shaks *Winter's T* III iii 209 Come sorrow, and sad breathed spirits, and burst This forc'd passage, Which already Is all too weake for the sorrow, which it should vtter. *Hml* v iii 8 I haue no words Why yonder is no more Sword 1638 Junius *Paint Antiquities* 89 Seeing they cleare such a great point in few words. 1667 Milton *P L* x 861 Soft words to his fierce passion she assayd 1709–1712 words of course [see 26 362a] 1749 *Copy Let Ser. Lady at Paris* 17 Not yet, answered Mr de Vaudreuil, at most with the French words I learned a smattering of at Inn. 1813 Lady Bughfish *Lett* (1893) 61 Words can't describe the figures the women dress here 1817 Shelley *Sonn, Oppression* 1 Sonnet: to what shall I compare thee 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xvii Forbear these wild and dangerous words! There may be here those who will pretend to track mischief from high words 1830 Tennyson *Mariana in C.* 1 111 124 All this is wh it I have often heard you say yourself in other words. 1848 Thackeray *Van Jair* xx, When he had a duty to perf orm Captain Dobbin was accustomed to go through it without words or much hesitation 1850 Tennyson *In Mem* v 1, I sometimes hold it half a sin To put in words the grief I feel 1878 Bennett & Rice *Celia's Arb.* xvii I have now only time for very great thinks which I owe you 1882 Bryant *All Sorts* viii At a loss to give indignation words 1885 H Conway *Daintry of Air* xxvii, To use his own words, he was a chuff-stick 1892 *Temple Bar* Dec. 541 She could not put her fear into words 1905 Elin Glyn *Visits Elizabeth* 277 Her tact is beyond words.

**b.** In various absolute or casual uses (sometimes *spec* speech as distinguished from writing).

*Beowulf* 619 Þær wæs hæleþa hleahtor, wlynn wæs monig, word wæron wynsume *a* 940 in Kemble *Lod Dipl* V 243 Ic Ælðelstan on ðisum gewrite mid wordum ande mine ðæde cwebe [etc.] *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* (Th) I 14 Þa com se engel to him and bi gecyrde mid Godes wordum *c* 1205 Lay 5 Seþþen he þa þe boc þrunde to ure *Hit* 6695 Mid wurden and mid writen he dude hunke3 wel þi[n] *c* 1290 *S Eng Leg Cursor M* 19226 Fle fro þis fals wrau vt His wordes a mon ou3t noght vnder 1386 Chaucer *Pard T* 213 Doeth nat the wise and the prudent king as David seith, herken wordes of flaterye? *a* 1450 *Knt de la Tour* 18 We falle in wordes of pryvetees. *Ibid* 25 The wiff ought to lete the husbonde haue the wordes, and to be maister. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii Prologue 549 Somerying in his wordis. *c* 1589 — *Blanchardyn* xvi 28 Wythout moo wordes the knyght mounted on horsbak 1590 Shakes *Comedy of Errors* iii 47 Sayand till her with wordes still, Half pity of your presence 1596 Hale tr *Stat Comm* 1 [They] affirmed their doynges to be good, bothe in wordes and writyng 1653 Fox *A & M* 1235/1 We had more wordes of thy maistres 1802 Shaks *Hamlet* II ii 193, I would not Haue you giue words or talke with the Lord Hamlet 1677–8 in *Scot Friends Instit. Soc* XIX 61 Shee was much runn into words 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi 723 They in Words and Tears had spent The little time of stay

**c.** *spec.* The text of a song or other vocal composition, as distinguished from the music, also, the text of an actor's part. In first quot also *sing*.

1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* 1 Here shalle be there 3ys thre chynges in goddes seruyce The sentence, the worde, and the a nge, the notes and songe serue to the wordes, and the wordes serue to the ne mynde sentence. 1605 Shaks *Macb* i iii 88 To th' selfe-same tune and words. 1622 — *Cymb* IV ii. 238 1781 Victor *Theatres Loud & Dublin* II 5 The Rehearsals begin to be of Use to the Actor When he is quite perfect in the Words and Cues 1774 [see Sir T 73]. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii 270 Till at the last she set herself to mu n, like perfect music unto noble words 1850 Haring-Gould *D Old Country Life* 279 A marvellous store of old words and tunes in her head

**2.** *sing* Something said (= sense t); a speech or utterance; *esp.* followed by a possessive or demonstrative. *arch.*

*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt iv 4 Ne bi3elest se man be blisse anum ar be mitcan worde be of godes muðe gæð *a* 1175 *Cott Hom* 235 He cwæð a wunder word to þar sawle hi þa wiste ysriuan *c* 1200 Ormin *Ded* 45 Min word Mi33 hellpenn þa þatt redenn itt to sen & tunnderr-stanndenn itt *Ibid* 282 Swa wass filledd opennlig batt word tatt ær was cwiddedd *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1600 Þis word out of his hert sprang 'Me reus þat euer made i man' 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv 145 With that vorde assemblit that *c* 1400 *Antours of Arth* xvi, Ways me for the wirde! *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vi 538 Wallace was blyth fra he had hard thar wourd.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxvii. 75 The wird of Jesew is fulfillit rycht, Surrexit sicut dixit. 1534 Fewterer *Myrrour Christes Passion* 124 A contemplation of this seconde words spoken by Christe vpon the crosse *Ibid.* 4 His moste comfortable worde of our most swete sauyour Iesu spoken vnto the theefe. 1563 Foxe *A & M* 1258/1 At this worde which he coupled with an other, came I in. 1581 Cowper *Conversat* 533 He bless'd the bread, but vanish'd at the word. 1801 Scott *Tale Sir John* xxviii, Yet hear but my word. 1821 Lamb *Elialy Aug* xxviii, We have striven to draw some word from her; but she sobs, and answers nothing. 1867 Morris *Jason* I 217 So at this word the king along the shore Built many a tower 1871 B Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 69 The word, alas! dies even in the pen

**b.** With negative expressed or implied, or with *every* Any or the least utterance, statement, or fragment of speech, anything at all (said or written).

*a* 1000 *Riddles* xxxi. 1 Ic þe mæg word asprecan *c* 1200 Ormin Ded 70 Patt upponn all þiss boc ne be Nan word 3e3 Cristess lare *a* 1300 *K Horn* 260 (Harl) Þah hue ne donne at bord Mid him speke ner a word (*c* 1 no word) *c* 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 1166 Ih se3 neu word bismarid, war þat all stil *a* 1508 Dunbar *Fan Marrit Women* 257, I sall say furth the south, dwsym land no word 1581 J Hamilton *Catech Trent* 198 Yt is, He sal not hauf ane word to answeir 1611 *Bible* 2 Sam xiv 10 Why speake ye not a word of bringing the king backe? 1667 Earl Orrery *St. Lett* (1676) 81 He went to bed in order without so much as telling me one word of it 1676 Earl Essex in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II 83, I was above four months before I could get one word of answer from her 1720 De Foe *Single* ii 21 (1840) 98 I they never heard a word of English 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* I xlviii. 342 You undo me, if one word of this matter escape 3 ou. 1758 Mrs Lennox *Hemenway* (1891) I. 203 That her every word and action [might] be under his direction 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xx, I would not mention a word about it to her 1806 *Hist Europe* 111 I could not find a word indicating that he took blame to himself 1863 W C Baldwin *Afr Hunting* vii 293 It is now eighteen months since I heard a word from my friends 1879 Miss Mackenzie *Gd Wife* I iii, Before she had time to put in a word. 1882 Hesant *All Sorts* xxi, Her ladyship held out her hands, without a word.

**c** *A word*: a (short or slight) utterance or statement; a brief speech or conversation, similarly *a word or two, + a couple of words*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* (Fairf) 1423 Master of þe shepe, a word with pe 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 149 Than yf we be touched with a sharpe worde, we shal yelde a gentyll answere 1611 *Bible* Matt xxvi 73 Surely thou also art one of them, for thy speech bewrayeth thee. Nowe a worde or two, out of the fathers, for the ouerthrowing of Dive and Cardes 1589 Puttenham *Engl Poesie* iii xxv (Arb) 307 Vse to expound it in a word or two, which is a great matter to haue a couple of wordes with them. 1611 *Bible Isa* i 4 To speake a worde in season (*Geneva* a worde in time) to him that is wearie 1639 [see Wise *a* 6 c] 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iii. 3 Interested people beate it vp for two 1810 Crabbe *Tales* xviii 5 Peter had of all a civil word and wish 1832–6 Dickens *Sk Bos* i *Scotch Nettgats*, Some ordinary words of an unmeaning kind passed between her and her mother 1837— *Pickw* xxxiv, And now, gentlemen, but one word more. 1880 Jennyson *Dora* 42 If you speak with him Or exchange a word, you shall not find him stubborn

**d.** *spec.* Something said on behalf of another; esp. in such phrases as *to speak a (good) word for*: see also 23. + In quot. 1525, *pl* voices.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* (Vesp) 10870 Nemore *Him* i 107 A Gentilman understood that I had been robbed in France, whereupon hee gave his word for me unto the Maior 1689 in *Somers Tracts* (1812) III 403 Sometimes by Discourses we shall labour or practise to gaine woordes for to make a Mayor, Sheriffe, or any other officer 1832 Carlyle *Misc. Ess, Goethe's Helena* (1872) III 290 I, the venerable man deserves a word from us 1840 Macaulay *Hist Eng* III I, 301 Any dissolute courtier for whom one of the king's mistresses would speak a word

**e.** *Eccl.* The gospel or password.

*To give the word* (a) to utter the passw rd in answer to a sentinel's challenge; (*b*) to inform officers or men of the password to be used

1706 — see Watchword ]

*a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* lxvii 230 When he sawe his tyme, he cryed hys worde & token 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iv. vi 91 *Edgar* [*within*] Giue me an inch of ground. *Ibid* 92 The foe is gone by, and the gate was opened 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* v I 603 The word by which the intelligence was to reach the fleet in the darkness was Solebay 1855 *Ibid* xvi III 679 The first morning on which Marlborough had the command, he gave the word 'Wirtemberg' 1888 *Queen's Reg & Orders Army* 94 The Governor will give the Word or parole in all places within his government.

**†3** *Abstr. or collect. sing* (without *a* or *pl*) Speech, speaking: often as distinguished from writing, esp. in phr *by word, now by word of mouth* (see 19); also, the faculty of speech, access, language, tongue. *Obs.* exc. as in 19

*a* 1000 *Caedmon's Gen* 1756 þu him sealdest word and zewit. *c* 1200 Ormin 3043 Patt Godess enngell seȝȝde þatt Till Josepp þatss wipb wordc *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24074 Ea nan tung mit speke wit word, Ne writer wate it wit penn 1320 *Sowdone of Conf* 1 206 Coueite in Saxoun is to sein Constance upon the word Romein *Ibid* III 135 Alsoue alle erbli creatures The hihe makere of natures The word to man hath yeue alone *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (prose) 44 Sho sal be repreud foure sibe with wordc *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 100 The Carll was wanton of word 1490 *Acta Dom Conc* (1839) 182/2 Duncane laid in wedset a land and tenement in Louthbye to Thomas Gudelad be word and but charter or possessioune *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D* II. iii (Arb) 56 No man for despate, By worde or by write Hes felowe to twite. 1580 Hay in *Cath. Tractates* (S T S) 39 The traditions quhilk ye have learned ather be wourd, or be our epistle. 1628 A Leighton *Appeal to Parl* 74 The Anti-episcopall government which by word and writ he had maintained. 1708 P Walker *Life Peden* 70 Rob. (1827) p xiii, It is.. maliciously spread, both by Word and Writ

**4.** *sing* and *pl* Speech, verbal expression, in contrast with action or thought.

*Beowulf* 989 Xescad witan wordu and worca. 971 *Blickl Hom* 35 We sculub þurh þa zebohti, & þurh word, & þurh weorc, & þurh willan *c* 1175 *Lamb Conf Hom.* 218 Mid worde, mid dæde, & mid alle beorte. *c* 1200 *Trin Coll. Hom* 65 3if man haueð wið us agult, woerdes ofer wurkes. *c* 1300 *Cursor M* 14563 Þor þat i wrou here wit word, þar sal yee find in dede 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1729) 94 Ouper in word or dede bou greued him 1390 Gower *Conf* I 7 The word was lich to the conceite Without semblant of deseite *a* 1400 in *Ab Pol Poems* 111 297 Wib word of wynd, and neuere werre ende 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (bommer) 19 He was taat ze trewe in dede & in word 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix 6 Bath in word, in werk, and mek intent *a* 1580 *A Scott Exerces* (S T S) 2 109 Words wbout werkis availles nocht a cute. 1601 B Jonson *Poetaster* iii v, Great Cæsars nieces cannot be fought with words. 1602 Shaks *Ham* iii iii 97, 98 My words flye vp, my thoughts remain below, Words without thoughts, neuer to Heauen go 1605 — *Macb* i i 61 Words, to the heat of deedes, too cold breath gues. 1605 Bodley *Let. to Fames* 3 May, Wordes are women, and deedes are men 1667 Sibat *Hist Royal Soc* 434 A Society that prefers Works before Words. 1672 Marvell *Reh Transp* II 180 Not to thy words accord 1800 Coleridge *Piccol* i 61 Men's words are ever bolder than their deeds. 1860 [see Deed 16 5 b]. 1875 [see Deed 16 1]

**5.** *pl.* orig. in various phr. denoting verbal contention or altercation, e. g. + *to be or fall at words (into words)*, + *to have some or many words*, + (*some*) *words are between . . .*, etc., now chiefly *to have words (with)*; hence simply *words* = contentious or violent talk between persons, altercation; also with epithet, as *hard, high, sharp*.

+ See also Debatement or libellous statement

1468 *Paston Lett* II 105 Your brother and Debenham were at words *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iii 88 Whan they were wexed wrobfull and were at grete wordes 1496 *Hundred Merry Tales* (1887) 8 The other agayn said he shuld not, & he agayn said he wold bryng them ouer spyte of his teeth & so fell at wordes. *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* lxv 229 When I sat that wordes fyll out 1563 I shall fass out 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s v *Altercor, Cum patre altercavit diubum*, thou wast at words. 1590 *Turbervil's Newe Purgat* (1848) 82 Wherupp in they fell to hard Wordes and from wordes to blowes 1591 Shaks *1 Hen VI*, ii v 46 In argument vpon a Case, Some words there grew twixt Somerset and me 1663 Butler *Hud* III i 1, Of Hard Words, Disputes and Fears set Folks together by the Ears. 1684 Luttrell *Brief Rel* (1857) I 307 His royall highnesse has brought his action of scandalum magnatum against Dr Oates for some words 1752–4 Richardson *Grandison* II xii. 86 High words & small between them They parted in passion 1825 Jennings *Sketches* II iii, Privately and myself have been at high words on your account 1848 Thackeray *Pendennis* II He and I had once hard words, and parted 1848 Dickens *D indeyer* xxxi Words have arisen between the housemaid and Mr Towlinson 1862 Sala *Seven Sons* I. 18 We had got into words about an invitation 1913 M Roberts *Salt of the Sea* viii 183 My old man said he was a bloodsucker, and that led to words.

**6.** Report, tidings, news, information. (Always in *sing* without article, in such phrases as *to bring, send, write word, to have word, word came*, etc.)

971 *Blickl Hom* 173 Sona swa þæt word become to Neorone *a* 1122 *O E Chron* an 1101 Þa com þæt word þæt unnrihtscipa lægen he westan-ã herzodon *c* 1205 Lay 3732 And Curdoille com þat word Þat heo was iworðen widewe. *c* 1205 [see Spad v 1 (1)] 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 826 He sende þe queene in dojter word wib a maister were 1300 *Cursor M* 11454 Word com til bedrid be kyng þat þar was sunlik kynges cummun *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) xxv 119 He schall hafe words when he comes in his cuntre 1413 Sir T. Grey in *32nd Rep Dep Keep's Pr* 862 He sende me no more worde of yat mater til I cam to Yorke *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 100 Hur husband hadde many dayes no wurd of his wyfe nor of his childer *a* 1533 Ld Berners *Huon* lxv 227 My brother Huon is now in the abbay of saint Maurise, the abbot there hath sent me worde 1598 Shaks *Merry W* III v 48 I must carry her word quickely. 1606 — *Ant & Cl* II v 118 Bid you Alexas Bring me word, how tall she is 1668 Stillingfl., *Orig Sacræ* I iii 8 If Alexander were word to his Mother of the head of Nilus in the East Indies 1718 Steele *Spect* No. 284 P 5 Send me Word whether he has so great an Estate 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, We had word that Mr Dombey was doing well 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxx, A servant brought word that Major Pendennis had returned 1855 Lytton *My Novel* xxiii, The Parson writes word that the lad will come to-day

**b.** Common report or statement, rumour. (Usually with *the, this*, etc.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xxviii 15 Þis word wæs gewidmærsod mid Iudeum *c* 1205 Lay 16 Þis lond hit wæs to nim, þat was wideu cuð, þat þe king Latin seȝf Lauine his douter Eneam to are bruke *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1015 (Cambr) þe word bigan to springe Of Rymenhilde wedinge 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ii 78 Our all the land the word gan spryng, That the Bruce the Cumyn had slayn *a* 1578 [see Spring *sb*.] 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk* iii 18 Sic and gud'e ale was nae cant 1819 Shelley *Cenci* i ii 6 An evil word is gone abroad of me. 1819 Scott *Noble Moringer* xiv Her husband died in distant land, such is the constant word

**†c.** Common report in praise or celebration of a person or his actions; fame, renown, high repute.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints Lives* vii 388 Þa aspranz his word wide zeond land *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 127 Þo spronz þe word of his holi liffode wide into þe londe. *c* 1205 Lay 6302 Of hire wiðdome sprong þat word wide & sidde *a* 1225 *Ancr.*

*R.* 88 We is me þet he, oðer heo, habbeð awuch word ikeiht. 83.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2551 Your worde & your worchip walkez ay quere. *c* 1400 *Dest. Troy* 893 The words of his werkes thargbe be worlde sprange. *a* 1450 Henry *Wallace* iii. 259 The words of him walkit baith fer and ner.

**d.** Reputation, character (*of* being or having what is stated). *Sc.*

1728 Ramsay *Three Sonnets* i. 89 Rosie had word o' meikle siller, Whilk brought a hantle o' wooers till her. 1829 Jamieson s.v., 'She gets the word o' being a lichi-haudit wuysn', i.e. it is generally said of her.

**7.** A command, order, bidding; a request. (See also 17.) Usually qualified by possessive or *the*.

*To say the word*: to give the order, say 'go' or the like. In phr. *to send word* sometimes combining senses 6 and 9.

893-89 *K. Alfred's Will.* In word zelæstan þe on mines fæder yrfewrite standaõ. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Christ* 1630 Hy brucon cyninges word. *c* 1200 *Bestiary* 81 Silden he us wille, If we listen to his word. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 736 God seide word to abram: 'Abram, ðu fare ut of lond and kin.' *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 363 in *O. E. Misc.* 47 Alle þat hoþ in song ibeeþ myne word. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18053 Quen i word herd þat he hadd i quok for him. 1386 *Bk. St. Albans* e v b, The first worde to the houndis that he hunt shall owe pat. 1496 in *Eliz. Crig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 29 Please your Graces to send me word quhat serves..I sall do. 1526 Tindale *Luke* v. 5 Yet nowe at thy worde I wyl loose forthe the net. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 28 His worde only ruled, & his voyce was only heards. 1560 Goose tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* ii. (1561) Eviij, If thou sayst the word, we goe. 1594 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 38 Thus euery soulditor kill the Prisoners, Giue the word through. 1601 — *Jul. C.* i. ii. 204 Vpon the word, Accoutred as I was, I plunged in. 1831 Hervood *1st Pt. Four Months Wear* v. 144 Shall I write that plaintive ? say the word, He have him by the eares. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iii. 708 When at his Word the formless Mass.. came to a heap: Confusion heard his voice, and wilde uproar Stood rul'd. 1753-4 Richardson *Grandison* i. xxxvii. 297 I rang..to beg my cousins' company. They wanted but the word: In they came. 1803 Wordsw. *Sonn., Nos Kilcrankey* 12 Or a single hour of that Dundee, Who on that day the word of onset gave ! 1860 (see Spear v. 21). 1842 Tennyson *Dora* 19 In my time a father's word was law. 1858 Dickens *Christmas Stories* (1874) 50, I gave Rames the word to lower the Longboat and the Surf-boat.

**b.** *The Words*: the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* iv. 13 The ten wordis, that he wrot in the two stonen tablis. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Exod.* xx. 17 These ten words written by God himself. 1884 S. Cox *Miracles* 18 'The fundamental moralities' in the 'Ten Words'.

**8.** A promise, undertaking. Almost always with possessive, as in *to give (pass, pledge) one's word, to keep (hold* arch.) *one's word, to break one's word; to be as good as one's word*, to keep one's promise (*so to be worse than one's word*, to break one's promise); *a man of (= master of*, etc.) *his word*, one who keeps his promises; also *on (= upon, under) the word of (a prince*, etc.). See also 15, 18, 28 b.

Used *before* 20.1, 8, Break v. 15 c, Pledge v. 2 b, Plight v.2 2, etc.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 243 Hwæt syndon þine word, Drihten.. 'Sy se me ærhyrsa and se me leoð fylgende, ne an loc of eowrum healfe forwyrð?' *a* 1188 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1014 (Laud MS.) Man..freondsciepe ȝefæstnode mid ælcum mid wædde.] 1300 *Gowan Cato* (E. E. T. S.) 11 Ne sai wel euery word þou þinke, þat þou keepe his word in trouthe upryht. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* ii. i. (1883) 22 That the symple parole or worde of a prynce ought to be more stable than the wrytyng of a marchaunt. 1490 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 513/2 The said Kyng..bound hym by his writyng, ..and also in the worde of a Kyng promysed to kepe the same. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. c. 1531) 2 Our soverane lord promitis faithfulye and on the word of ame kyng, that [etc.]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 304 Neither perused Marcus Tullius a Romayne of his worde. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 98 b, My Lorde of Winchester..hath subscribed..vnder the worde of priestehod, to stande at the ordine..of the personne of Rome. 1555 Eden *Decade*, Castell. E iij b, The seconde..poynte in a Gentleman..is promes kepyng, as to bee Mayster to hys worde. 1580 T. Forrest *Pasf. Looking Gl.* 58 b, Haue..greater care in geuing thy worde, then in lending thy money. 1582 Lond. *Adoption* (Shaks. Soc.) 60 Promising..(so his creditour woulde be his wordes master) to doo his indeavour to performe his will. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* i. i. 122 By his gracious wooing, And by his princely word. 1591 — *Two Gent.* iii. 1. 337 For that I promis'd you I'd be as good as my word. 1633 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) 256 An honest mans word must be his maister. 1672 Wycherley *Love in Wood* v. v. Will you be as good as then your word ? 1704 Bp. Bisnop *Life* 130 I hope..did not fly from their Words but stood firmly to what they first proposed. 1813 Scott *Triorm.* iii. xxii, I swore upon the rood, Neither to stop, nor turn, nor rest, In life or death I hold my word ! 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 535 Having solemnly pledged his word:.. not to attempt anything against the government. 1882 Reade *Cloister & H.* iv. Give my words to show by no countenance. 1886 Rider Haggard *Jess* iii, No English government goes back on its word.

**9.** With possessive: Assertion, affirmation, declaration, assurance; esp. as involving the veracity or good faith of the person who makes it. See also 15, 18, 28 b.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. v. 87 Sir Toby will be sworn that I am no Fox, but he will not passe his word for two pence that you are no Foole. 1610 — *Temp.* ii. i. 86 His word is more then the miraculous Harpe. 1730 *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland rel. to Coal Trade* 30 The Buyer..must take his Quantity upon the Seller's Word. 1758 Ainsworth *Engl. Lat. Dict.*, To call back one's word, *recanto, retracto, denego*. 1764 M. Bishop *Life* 211, I just saved my Word.

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xi, I give you my word that my brother did not leave a shilling to his son. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* vi, What surety had he that Leo would leave him in peace..? none but his word—the word of a villain like that. 1866 Spurgeon *Treas. David* Ps. vii. 3-6 If we cannot be believed on our word, we are surely not to be trusted on our oath.

**10.** **a.** An utterance or declaration in the form of a phrase or sentence. *arch.* (Cf. 25.)

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 236 Dust word belimpð synfulnisse to Gode, unum, le sum. 1393 Langl. *Pier. Pl. Crede* 131 The hopeleste word, of Neuer to returne, Breath I against thee. 1580 Cowper *Boadicea* 13 Rome shall perish with this word In the blood that she has spilt. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 46 We should put down the three words 'Peace', 'Perseverance', 'A worthy Communion to-day.'

**b.** A pithy or sententious utterance; a saying; a maxim; a proverb. Now *rare* or merged in 7.

exc. in Words I., Watchword 1, 2 (*dial.*), *Household word* (see Household 8); + in first quot., a 'dark' saying, riddle.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1079 Gywe [= if] he cane vnclo þat worde. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 49 He bad will be lufely, ressayfe these fiue wordes with-owtten forgetynge. 1599–1888 [see Household 8]. 1645 Bp. Hall *Rem. Discontents* 130 It is a true word of Saint Austin, I never read in other Christs but those of the Devils Harlot. 1833 Dr Quincey *Revol. Greece* Wks. (ed. Masson) VII. 317 It seemed likely..that..Shakspere's deep words..first realized, and 'darkened the luster of the dead'. 1893 Trench *Prov.* 26 That well-known word which forbids too accurate scanning of a present, 'One must not look a gift horse in the mouth'.

**†c.** A significant phrase or short sentence inscribed upon something; = Mot 1, Motto 1. *Obs.*

1432 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 88 My creste, myn armes, and my word 'mercy and ioie'. *a* 1500 *Ascemb. Ladies* 87 On her harpe[ he] had written, *et despectum*. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1568) 42 b, The armes of cuerye gentleman..with the supporters beline, wreathe, and creast, with mantellis, and the word thereunto. 1579 Fenton *Guicc.* (1618) 380 Hee..hath drawne him his word with a Text-pen. *Zelus domus tuæ comedit me.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iv. 38 And round about the same in goodly meet, Her word she wrought. 1592 Ribbon *Surv. Devon* I. 144 (1810) 159 His word was *quid nemo*.

**11.** Religious and theological uses (in *sing.*, mostly with possessive or def. article); often in full, *the word of God* (*God's word*), *the word of the Lord*, etc.

**a.** A divine communication, command, or proclamation, as one made to or through a prophet or inspired person; *esp.* the message of the gospel (also *the word of Christ, of grace, of life*, etc.).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 241 On þa ilcan niht com se word to Abrahame þe him to cwæð. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xl. 8 But the word of oure Lord schal dwelle in `sou plenteuously. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11 143 As my sowle is sufficeth pacyently wronges..in obedyence of his worde. 1526 Tindale *Mark* iv. 17 As sone as eny trouble or persecucion ariseth for the wordes sake, anon they fall. 1560 — *Rom.* x. 8 The worde of faith which we preach. 1605 *Ibid.* xx. 32, I commende you to god and to the worde of his grace. 1694 Marshall *Treat. Crosse* 83 The lawes of the church take place..in the words of god. 1711 Addison *Sped.* No. 379 Barlow *Defence* 181 The ministerie of the word is a conditioner with the Spirite. 1648 T. Shepard *Clear Sunshine of Gosp.* 13 The Word of God is much delicate stirred up by the Word. 1758 Wesley *Hymns*, '*See how great a flame aspires*' iii, Sons of God, your Saviour praise ! .. He hath given the word of grace. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1060 Sir Lancelot sir, Where I used to be blessed in carrying the word of life to the sinful and desolate. 1921 *Act 11 & 12 Geo. V*, c. 29 Sched. vii, To ..promote unions with other Churches in which it finds the Word of God truly preached. 1930 Abp. Davidson *Convoc.* 29 Mar. in *Church Times* 1 Apr. 392/1 Right Reverend and Reverend Brothers in the Sacred Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

**b.** The Bible, Scripture, or some part or passage of it, as embodying a divine communication.

1553 *Proclam.* 18 Aug. 1 Some euell disposed persones..haue..spoken vpon them..to interpret the wordes of God, after their owne brayne. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2185/1 *Gosp.* The worde sayth it is his body before it is eaten. *Word.* Those wordes would I faine heare: but I am sure they be not in the Bible. 1587 Allen *Def. Priesthood Pref.*, They remember well (such is their exercise in y^e word) how y^e disciayne of Moyses & Aaron preiacy ouer y^e people [etc.]. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* iv. iv. 44 What's the Scripture and the Word ? Doe you study them both, Mr. Parson ? 1781 Cowper *Hope* 659 Mighty to parry and push by God's word With artless simplicity. 1813 Scott *Triorm.* iii. xxii, Read us a chapter out of the Bible. I am very low in my mind, and at such times I like to hear the Word. 1875 Manning *Unity Church* 17 The word of God declares, first of all, that the Son of God is 'The true Light'.

**c.** *The Word (of God, of the Father)*, *the Eternal Word*, etc., as a title of Christ: = Logos, q.v.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John i. 1 *In principio erat uerbum*, in frumu was word. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 615 Godus worþliche word as we wel towen, Is sone soþliche of man. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3 God..That al thinge made in sapience By vertue of wordde and holy goost. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* ii. 103 The endelesse worde of the father that is oure lorde Iesu cryste. 1567 Allen *Def. Priesthood* 19 The seruile fourme of our owne nature, ioyned mercifully in one persone, to the woorde and eternall Sonne of God the Father. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 163 And thou my Word, begotten Son, by thee This I perform. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 897 Thou art the source and centre of all minds..eternal Word ! 1805–6 Carr *Dentist. Parnass.* VII. 99 Until it plane'd the Word of God to come Amongst them in a body. 1890 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxxvi, And so the Word had breath, and wrought With human hands the creed of creeds. 1893 Lightfoot *Colossians* 281/2 The Eternal Word *is* the goal of the Universe, as He was the starting-point.

**12.** An element of speech.

**a.** A combination of vocal sounds, or one such sound, used in a language to express an idea (e. g. to denote a thing, attribute, or relation), and constituting an ultimate minimal element of speech having a meaning as such; a vocable.

Sometimes with reference to the writing of a word as an indivisible unity, e.g. *as one or a single word, as two words*.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Grom.* ii. (Z.) 5 Butan ðam nafum ne mæg nan word beon awriten. 1. *a* 1400 *Wycliff's Bible* Prol. 57 This word *autem*, either word, mai stonde for *forsothe*, either for *but*. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 1 ii. By so many wordes in Latyn that we haue no proper englysh accordynge therto. *Ibid.* ii. 77 Thys worde Amen ys a worde of hebrew. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xli. (1887) 244 Wordes be names of thinges applyed and giuen according to their properties. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* iv. i. 68 You doe ill to teach the childe such words. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iii. 192 Words..have their signification by agreement, and constitution of men. 1677 [see Witticism]. 1694 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. ii. § 1 (ed. 2) 223 *marg.*, Words are sensible Signs necessary for Communication. 1711 Addison *Lett. Italy*, *Epist.* ii. 170 Long darken'd Words he shall with Art refine. 1820 Wordsw. *Resolution & Indep.* xiv, Choice word and measured phrase, above the reach Of ordinary men. 1879 Shelley *Cenci* v. iv. 14 These three words..'They must die'. 1883 Trench *Prov.* 31 So long as a language is living, it will be appropriating foreign words, putting forth new words of its own. 1895 Jevons *Money* (1898) 250 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. 1884 J. A. H. Murray in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1882–4 p. xxiii, There are necessarily many compounds as to which usage has not yet determined whether they are to be written with the hyphen or as single words.

**b.** + (a) As designating a thing or person: A name, title, appellation. *Obs.* (*b*) As expressing an idea: A term, expression.

*c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* v. xl, On his maran ceastre, seo halde wurde bære bescade is nemned Wilsabyrig. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 135, 'Ic eow sende frofre Gast.' Þeos word sceal stillice swa mon cwebe þingere oþre frefrend. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* v. xv. (S.T.S.) 300 Sa þir gaulis, following the words of þe said place [quhare þai war ordanit to big], begouth ane toun maynit millane. 1572 Lo. Burghley in E. Nares *Mem.* (1830) II. 544 *note*, Your assured loving friend, William Cecill. I forgot my new word, William Burghley. 1611 Bible *Isa.* lxv. 15 Deuise for faire a fairer word then faire. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* II 4, I doe before hand gyue the worde of disgrace to any that shal be called Sir Iohn. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* Sulphureous and Mercurial, which are the Chymists Words. 1668 Moxon *Dyalling* 48 An Explanation of some Words of Art used in this Book. 1848 Colonso *Answer to Lord's* p. 10 *Nibbishy* seems the word that most exactly would suit it.

**c.** A written (engraved, printed, etc.) character or set of characters representing this.

*a* 1000 *Riddles* xlviii(l), Moðbe word fræt. 1521 [see Wrath v. B 1]. 1611, 1888 [see Swear v. 1]. 1778 Priestley *Lect. Logic* i. iv. § 1 We convey [our Ideas] to each other by the Means of certain Sounds, or written Marks, which we call Words. 1845 Maunder *Hum. Mind* 1. 174 The words of Egypt's Hetokening, as the words inscribed upon their foreheads implied, that they were a dedicated race. 1904 Budge *Syd & 4th Kings of Assyria* 1. The word Assyria stands for words of power of all kinds is 'heku', and whether they were inscribed upon amulets, or merely recited over them, the effect was the same.

**d.** In contrast with the thing or idea signified.

*c* 1450 *Bk. Curtesy* (Oriel MS.) 343 His [sc. Chaucer's] longage was so feyre and pertinent, That somed vnto mennys herynge, Not only the worde, but verryly the thynge. 1859 Bentley *Phal. vii.* 189 Wise men take Words for the shadow of Things. 1892 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. 87 This word [sc. nature]..frequently is used merely as a word..by those who is not knowing themselves what they mean by it. 1754 Gray *Poesy* 110 Thoughts that breath, and words that burn. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 114 A business of words only, and these too of words..of which..*Num. Inverser* 733, 2 Men are apt to be led away by words. 1827–1876 [see Thing sb.1 8 a]. 1867 Dr. Arovle *Reign of Law* ii. (ed. 4) 63 Words, which should be servants, have become to us often its masters. 1898 H. S. Merriman *Roden's Corner* x. 106 'You don't take any interest in the Malgamite scheme?' 'No. And I am weak of the very word.' 1922 *Times* 5 Aug. 7/3 A question of words.

**e.** *The word* (as predicate): the right word for the thing, the proper expression; hence contextually denoting or indicating the thing spoken of, esp. the business in hand or to be done. *colloq.*

1598 Shaks. *Merch. T.* iii. v. 58 Bid them prepare dinner. *Clow.* That is done to sir, onely cover is the word. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. iv. 155 Come Sir, are you ready for death ? .. Hanging is the word, Sir. *Ibid.* v. 226 Pardon's the word to all. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* v. ix, If Threats are to be cut, let Swords clash ; Snug's the Word, I shrug and am silent. *a* 1705, 1850 [see Mum sb.1 B]. 1728 Addison *Spect.* No. 409 P 5 Sheafe's the Word. 1773 Sheridan *Duenna* ii. ii, Trust me when tricking is the word. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlviii, Steady's the word, and steady it is. Keep her so ! 1883 Howells *Ind. Summer* ii. 16 Lady-like was the word for Miss Blowen. 1885 W. S. Gilbert *Princess Ida* iv, Contempt? Why, damsel, when I think of man, Contempt is not the word.

**III.** Phrases. (See also above senses.)

* with preposition.

**13.** **a.** At a or one word: (*a*) upon the utterance of a single word; as soon as a word is spoken; without further parley; without more ado; at once,

forthwith; so †*at the first word*; (*b*) in short, briefly, in a word; so †*at wordes thre*, †*at fewe wordes*, †*at wordes schort*, etc. *To be at a or one word*: to be brief *Obs* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* 118 (Harl.) Þe children ede to þe stronde
And in to shipes bordē þō he furste wonde 23 *Gregorius* 618 in Herrig *Arch. Neu. Spr.* LV 435 A Cardinal þer spac a mong schortliche I se seide at wordes preo 13 *Coer de L.* 2 se besonne score, and moo 3 were, Welcomyd hem alle at on word *Ibid.* 2813 Ihe Sarezyns comen aftyr thatte affyngyng At schorte wordes a grat route *c* 2325 *Cursor M.* 7720 (Fairf.) Þen dregh saule his awen sqeorde And sclogh him self atte a worde *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 11 Plesyth at a word, I hy dry ty myng is nat worth a toord 14 *Siege of Troy* 1724 Alisaūdur dyed at wordes 1 schort *a* 1400–50 *Alex. & Dindimus* 364 in *Anglia* VIII 2 Wel *c* 1434 vnto þe lorde, Alle be mete he vayes at on bare worde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2129 Thou shilt be holpen at wordes fewe. *c* 1440 *Pr. Parv.* (1499) 17 Hakke hom on a borde, As smalle as I mo may at a wo tde *c* 1450 *Tyr Gener* (Roxb.) 363 Thes vii sages bad here I desmas at a word Shal I rut hem ouer the ship bord 1483 *Wycrir's confession abs Ire nito* 2b, Tell me itt o nword [*I no tevere*] what thou wilt hist with me 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 123 At a word I would I had no thing it aware 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, III ii 329 To con I hauē sp ke at a word. Fare you well 1598 — *Merry W.* I 109 He hath wrong d me, indeed he hath, at a word he hath *Ibid.* III iv 5 I am at a word follow 1599 — *Much Ado* II i 118 *Prythee* I know you well enough, you are Sig nior Anthonio *Anth.* At a wo rd, I am not. 1601 — *Twl C.* I iii 270 If I would not haue taken him at a word, I would I might go to Hell 1605 Camden *Rem., Surnames* 104 At a word, all (names) which in English had *Of* act before them, and all which in Latine have *De* præfixed, were by some from places 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell* 231 That I may speake fully at a word, it is the most plentifull habitation and seat of Kings. 1694 Penn *Rise & Progr. Quakers* 11 45 They were at a Word in Denmark Nor could Traders customers many Words tempt them from it 1777 S J Pratt *Emma Corbett* I 2 To be at a word, will you remain prudent it possible for me to call you my wife? 1831 Scott *Rob. Roy* xxvi, So you may at a word count upon remaining prisoner here until [etc.] *a* 1845 Barnes *Nairne Song, Caller Herrin'* vii, At aw word he in; I'se at it the mind. *Obs.*

† b *At one word*: at one mind. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 6812 Bote hii were at one worde to libbe in clene live, So þat hii were wiþoute eir

c. *To take* a person *at his word*: to assent to his statement, or agree to his proposal; to accept what he says and act accordingly.

1535 Coverdale *1 Kings* xx 33 He sayde: yf he be yet alyue, he is my brother And the mene toke him shortly at his worde, and sayde: Yee Benadab is thy brother 1590 Shaks *Com. Err.* II ii 17 *Ant.* Let thee alone: *Dro.* Nay any man would take you at your word And goe indeede 1670 Dryden *C ng Granada* II i, Old as I am I take thee at thy word, And will tomorrow Wed thee with my sword 1748 Fielding *J. Andrews* III xii One of the servants whispered Joseph to take him at his word, and suffer the old fool to wife if he would 1777 Sheridan *Trip to Scarboro' Bvt v*, 'Come on, and tread where I shall tread' The other took him at his word, And followed as he led 1884 *Manch. Exam* 12 May 4/7 Our contemporaries must not be offended if we decline to take them quite at their word

**14. a.** In a word in a simple or short (esp. comprehensive) statement or phrase; briefly, in short. Now only introductory or parenthetical.

*Obs. in one word*; also † *with a word*

1590 Shaks *Two Gent* II iv 71 His virtues but young, but his experience old, His head vn mellowed but his Judgement ripe; And in a word He is compleat in feature, and in mind 1596 — *Hen. V*, II iv 98 I then did we bow, set on you fcure, and with a word, outfac'd you from your prize 1598 R. Bernard tr *Terence, Andria* I v, Tell me in a word what ist you will with me? 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl* II xiv 232 To return to my former Subject, and Recreations, and Ibject, and in a word, to my wonted course of Life 1709 Norris *Ideal World* II xii 496 If you will have in one word a guide, a companion, each, in a word, that the Idea we see in God, I ut the sentiment we feel in ourselves 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum Knowl* I § 4 Houses, Mountains, Rivers, and in a word all sensible Objects. 1855 *Orr's Circ Sci., Inorg. Nat* 236 Some natural exposure on a cliff, in a valley, by a stream, or where—in a word—the surface coating of soil is absent, the underlying rock can be seen 1891 Westcott *Gospel of Life* 13 Man in a word is dependant on that which lies outside himself

**b In so many words** (tr L. *totidem verbis*, cf. So 37 d) lit in precisely that number of words, in those very words; also, † word for word.

1670 W Walker *Idiomat. Anglo l at* 23, I rendred it even almost in so many words *totidem fere verbis inter & etiamsi sunt* 1720 De Foe *Singleton* xv (1840) 252 William told us in so many words, that it was impossible 1836 Dickens *Sk Boz Scotland Yard*, That the Lord Mayor had threatened in so many words to pull down the old London Bridge, and build up a new one 1881 W Collins *Black Robe* I 194 That the object was to bring Romayne and Stella together was plain to him as if he had heard it confessed in so many words.

**15** On or upon one's word: (*a*) in const. with a verb, in sense 8 or 9: On the security of, or as bound by, one's promise or affirmation; hence (*b*) as an asseveration, *on* or *upon* († *of*, † *a*) *my word*: Assuredly, certainly, truly, indeed.

(*a*) 1598 R Bernard tr *Terence, Andria* v, I, The good turne that you promised me on your word 1600 E Blount tr *Conestaggio* 206 If he would assure him vpon his word, he would go to the campe 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw Ho* ii 1, *Doll* Tis but poore fifty pound *Alla.* If that bee all, you shall vpon your words take vp so much with me.

(*b*) 1588 Shake *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 59 Of my word, I haue written to effect. 1598 — *Rom. & Jul* I i 2 A my word wee l not carry coales. 1598 — *Merry W.* IV. ii 61 He will s reke there on my word 1603 *Decl Commons Rebell Ire* 52 Upon my word your Lordships is little beholding to him 1646 in *Buccleuch MSS* (Hist MSS Comm.) I 308 But of my word she will not meet with the like proffer again 1766 Goldsm *Vicar W* xviii, A very good boy, Bill, upon my word 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxix, Upon my word and h nour, Captain Gills, it would be a chanity to give me the pleasure of your acquaintance 1872 Geo Eliot *Middlem.* xxxvii II 295 Upon my word, I think the truth is the hardest mouth one can be pelted with

b. (with ellipsis of prep.) *My word!* as an ejaculation of surprise, *calling* or *valour*.

1827 Lockr *Lond Lyrics* 79 Half London was there, and, my word, there were few But envie l Lord Nugel s felicity. 1890 'R Boldrewood' *Col Reformer* xix, My word! . that's something like a mob!

*** with another sb.

**16** A word and a blow a brief utterance of anger or defiance, followed immediately by the delivery of a blow, as the beginning of a fight; hence in reference to prompt or sudden action of any kind; sometimes used predicatively of a person. Also *figurative* and *attrib.*

1598 Shaks *Rom & Jul* III i 43 *Tyb.* Gentlemen, Good den, a word with one of you *Mer.* And but one word with one of vs? couple it with something, make it a word and a blow 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1811) IV xxvi 207 My cousins are grieved [at my going so soon] they did not expect that I would be so sudden and a blow, as they phrase it 1820 Byron *Juan* III xlviii, With him it never was a word and blow, His range y word once o'er, he shed no blood 1850 Mrs. Trollope *Lindisfarn* xix, Mr. Lindisfarn had a Napoleon like promptitude of action, which the unlearned operatives described by calling him 'a word and a blow man.' 1857 Ruskin *Elem. Drawing* xxvii. 242 Firm friends and bitter enemies, with them it is 'a word and a blow'

**17. Word of command**: a word or short phrase uttered by an officer to a body of soldiers as an order for some particular movement or evolution; also by a carter to a horse, etc.

1639 R Ward *Animadv Warf* 230 You are to use these words of Command in f llowing 1684 R H *School Recr.* 45 Keep your Musket hard against your Shoulder after you have fired, till the next Word of Command 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. vii, I have seen this whole Body of Horse upon a Word of Command draw their Swords at once 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxxiii, The hoarse shout of the word of command ran along [the line]. 1853 [see Command *sb* 1 b] 1898 [see Halt, def.]

**18.** Word of honour: an affirmation or promise by which one pledges one's honour or good faith

1814 D. H O l rien *Captiv & Escape* 65 They suspected we were deserters We assured them upon our word of honour, they were very much mistaken 1856 Elgin Hosm xon in *Life* (1872) II 208 Christmas No 97 He has past set his word of honour that he would report himself at the fort.

**19.** By word of mouth: by speaking, as distinguished from writing or other method of expression; orally. Hence *word of mouth* attrib., recited, done, given, etc by speaking; oral.

*a* 1553 Udall *Roister D* III ii (Arb) 40 A little message vnto hir by word of mouth 1598 R Bernard tr *Terence, Eunuch* I ii, It cannot be told by word of mouth, howe delicately I am handled by letters 1600 Holland [see Mouth *sb* 3c]. 1638 Featly *Strict Lyndom* II 221 Pretending I know not what nuncupatory will by word of mouth 1654 Gataker (Watch) *Fast* 8 Not by word of mouth. They can flatter with l en, Picture, and by word of mouth 1752 Berkeley *Th Tar water* Wks 1871 III 498 Of this I have received word of mouth from Dr. Cocchi 1883 D C Murray *Hearts* xxxiv (1885) 208 He would rather tell him of this by word of mouth than by letter

**b.** Phrases: *Bible, Parson, Truth, Word* (1897) II 562 Word of mouth wills are, in certain cases, allowed by the Statute of Bruids 1899 — *Justs & Civil Letit, Air Justis Index* 61 he language employed in word of mouth discussions 1894 *Times Weekly Ed.* 30 Sept. 9 2/1, The author has to acknowledge his indebtedness for much word of mouth information

D. Applied in reference to drinking.

1738 *Swift Pol Con ersat* II. 164 Come, Sir John, take it by Word of Mouth, and then give it the Colonel (Sir John drinks.)

**20.** Word for word: in the exact, or (in reference to translation) precisely corresponding, words: — Verbatim A. 1 a, b. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.* — Verbatim B 1.

*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W* 1002 *Dido*, I could folie word for word Virgile. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II v (1883) 61 He dyde als sayth he, for word for word as the phy sicien hath sayd 1558 Cuthbert Scott *Dev* 1 Ded 4 b, We do not follow thys olde Latyn texte word for word. 1601 Shaks *Twel N* III i 78 He speaks three or four languages word for word without booke 1656 Cowley *Pindar Ode's* Pref., If a man should undertake to translate Pindar word for word, 1686 Horneck *Crown of Thorns* xvii 341 Some have been able to rehearse the whole New Testament word for word. 1746 Francis tr *Horace, Art of Poetry* 191 Dwell not on Incidents unlikely known: Nor Word for Word translate with painful Care. 1862 Mrs H Wood *Mrs Halliburton's Troubles* I viii, 'I will faithfully repeat it to you'; 'Faithfully!—word for word?' 1878 W. T Thornton (*title*) Word for Word from Horace 1891 *Law Times* XCII 109/1 The 8th section of the Act of 1874 is word for word the same as the 40th section of the Act of 1833

*c* 1861 Chapman *Iliad* To Rdr A 4 b, Those Translators . that affect Their word for word traductions 1888–9 G. F. Maeh *Angl Lang* xvii (1860) 361 More closely literal, more exactly word for word translations.

b. So † *word after word* (occas. † *after the word*), *word by word* (also attrib.), † *word on word*, † *fro word unto word*.

[*a* 1000 *Ælfred's Boeth* Praem, Hwilun he sette word be worde, hwilum andgit of andgite.] *c* 1000 *Prin Coll Hom.* 17 Ich wille segge on þe crede word after word. 1379 *Gloss. Cath. Mk* 29 No I i m lit ly All that I have seyde in this chapitre Isaac techith word by word 1382 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. xv, 57 That wolde make the sentence open, where to Englissche it after the word, wolde be dork and douteful *c* 1440 Prlock *Reg* II ii 144 The late i amed psalmes ben ouer long to be rehersed word by word here *c* 1478 *Pastenay* 328 Goffray the letters After bieke and rsyd, I ro worde unto word 1493 *Acta Dom Conc* (1839) 308 I se hill of Complaint of [a quitle] tenour follows word in word *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, I hen turning hymself to his accuser, [he] declared worde by worde what he had said 1575 (*title*) A Commentarie of M Doctor Martin Luther upon the Epistle of S Paul to the Galathians first collected and gathered word by word out of his preaching 1623 R. C *Table Alph.* (ed 3), *Verbatim*, word by word 1805 Robson *Scotland* I 83 The kind of word by word examination of your author which is rightly called 'reading' 1907 H W Fowler & F. *E Trac No. Xvii* 193 And let me here set out my method word by word I am a moralizer because I wish morals to be drawn [etc] *** with qualifying adj.

**21. Pair words** (Fair *a* 5) pleasant or attractive speech (usually implying deceitfulness or insincerity).

1529 *More Comfort Gen* 899 Me nædre to forscape scylte & to seclefece fah wyrm þurh fæir wordum. *c* 1200 *Ywes & Ysenes* (1888) 11 Ik habbe beswiken min emersten mid faire wordes. 1538 Starkey *England* II ii (1878) 191 By hys dyssymulatyon and faire wordys 1546 J. Heywood *Prov* I ix (1867) 18 It hurteth not the tounge to geue fayre wordis. 1589 [see Parsley *sb*] 1598 Wyrcester tr *Jean Deuter* v, Fair words butter no cabbage. 1607 Dampier *I voy* I. 282 The men began to murmur against Captain Swan but he gave them fair words 1897 *Daily Chron.* 30 Nov. 3/2 'Ho, ho! my masters,' cried he, 'fair words break no bones'.

**22** Of few words: not given to much or lengthy speaking; laciturn; laconic

*c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 127 Off fewe wordis, full wyss and worthy thil war 1561 Hebv tr *Castiglione's Courtyer*, I. 113, Of few wordes, and no brag ler 1590 Shaks. *Hen V*, III. iii. 38 That men of few words are the best men 1607 *Lond Cast* No 3260/4 Well set and mudde vpand, and of few Words 1759 Dunworth *Pope* 120 [Cay] had always been a man of fat few words 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxiv, Mr Dubbley who was a man of few words, but those emphatic

**23 Good word** a friendly, favourable, or laudatory utterance, something said on behalf of or in commendation of a person or thing. *To give* (one) *a good word*, to speak well of *To say* or *speak a good word for*, (*spec.*) to recommend to the favour of another † in 3 also (*a*) used *elliptically* in deprecation of angry or violent speech (cf Good *a.* 7 b, quot *c* 1592); (*b*) in bad sense = *fair words* (21)

*c* 1205 Lay 665 Heo hine gretten mid godene heore worden. [*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 20095 Jan spak þeim swa word gode, Als he lang þar cn be rode] 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 11 N iv, [Thou] dyddest sp eke a g d wrd fir me, and dydst tourne away the strokes from me 1548, *a* 1632 [see Good *a.* 7 b] 1588 J Hey wood *Prov & Epigr* II iv (1867) 77 Good woordes bryng not euer of good deedes good hope 1573 Barr *Alv & Amie* V 52 b I t helpeth one with his good wrde at a time, *suffra ntere s* 1607 Shaks *Timon* I i 77 Your loue to me lyes in y gay dy e that you beare I rot i n 1628 ] Taylor (Water P.) *Iorn Tower Whites* A 7, False hearts can put on g od wordes and lookes 1698 Fryer *Acc E. India & P.* 316 Only giving us good words instead of Payment 1699 Bentley *Phal* Pref p xlvii, I he Good Word, that Mr Grævius has been pleas d publicly to give me 1732 *Servt Pol Conversat* I. 71, I know I sh all always have to your good Word 1852 C B Mansfield *Paraguay* etc. (1856) 364 My friend M Cotrutt has diplomatic business here; and with his good word, I hope to be in clover *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxiii V 78 It was not in the character of tenant that the Czar was likely to gain the good word of civilised men 1892 [see Goon *a* 7 b]

**24. Half a word** (Half *a* 2 b). A very short utterance, a slight fragment of speech or conversation.

1700 J. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem* 19 Taking it for granted, that we two understand one another by half a Word 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I vi, Might I have half a word with you?

**25. Last word** (in special senses). a. The final utterance in a conversation or (esp) dispute. b. *pl.* The latest utterance of a person before death. *The Seven Last Words*, the seven utterances of Christ on the cross (also simply *The Seven Words*). c. The final or conclusive statement, after which there is no more to be said; hence *transf.* (also *latest word*) the final achievement, the latest thing.

a. 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1416/2 My lorde of Lincolne sayde that thou were a frantike fellow, and a man that wyll haue the last words. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Polity*, *Pref.* (Groser) II 43 Come hee and shew scoldes, you that will rather loose your liues, then the last word 1878 Le Fanu *Willing to Die* xxxvi, It was plain she would have one last word more

b 1692 H Hammond (*title*) The Last Words of a Dying Penitent 1868 Scott *Hymn* vi xxxi, 'Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on!' Were the last words of Marmion. 1870 tr *Bellarmine* (*title*) The Seven Words from the Cross 1874 E King (*title*) Meditations on the last seven words of our Lord Jesus Christ 1883 Gnosis *Diet Mus* III. 476 *Seven Last Words, The* a composition of Haydn's dating about 1785. The 'Seven Words' were for long a favourite in Vienna both in church and concert-room.

c. 1881, 1891 [see LAST *a.* 6]. 1888 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 5/6 The long mantles that are the latest 'word' of Paris fashion. 1900 'L. MALET' *Sir Richard Calmady* V. vi. 'The clothes . . supposed . . to present the last word of English fashion.

**23. Of many words**: given to much or lengthy speaking, loquacious, talkative, verbose; also said of a statement, verbose.

*c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dan.* 43 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 183 Ie noght of many wordes. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1438/2 Your diffinition is of many wordes to no purpose. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 158, I thanke you, I am not of many words, but I thanke you. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxiv, She was not a woman of many words. 1856 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iii. (1901) I. 18 Augustus Darrington, . . not being a man of many words, contented himself by stammering something about honour.

**** with verb.

**27. Make words.** †a. *To make few or many words*: to speak briefly or at great length. Also *to make but one word*. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 843/1 To make fewe wordes, *a brief dirt.* *a* 1534 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. (1654) 38 Fall to thy business and make few words. 1677 HALE *New Dict.*, To make many words about a small trifle, *bargainger, contester pour une chose de neant.* 1752 AINSWORTH *Engl.-Lat. Dict.* s.v., I will make but one word with you, *e duobus unum loquor.*

**b.** with neg.: (Not) to say anything (more) about a matter; (not) to speak or make mention *of*. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 67 To make no words of that which I have oftentimes read, . . what harme can there be in death. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 50 Lycurgus neuer bashed or made words at the matter. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 259 Those Chronicles of the English SAXONS . . reported only their owne Saxish battailes, and victories: but never made words of their foiles & overthrowes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xiv, I will be so far from making any Words with you, that I will pay the Shilling more than your Demand. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III, Bring me your bill, and let's make no more words about it. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 8 Then no more words the Strong Man made, but straight Caught up the elder in his arms.

†**c.** To make a proposal of. *Obs.*

1643 MILTON *Tetrach.* 43 Herod . . cast his eye..upon Herodias . . and durst make words of marrying her.

**d.** To speak at (too) great length *of*. *Sc.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxvi, You make words of nothing. 1893 J. ANDERSON s.v., *To make words*, to talk long and needlessly about anything that deserves.

**28. a. Take** (up) the word: to begin speaking, esp. immediately after or instead of some one else. Partly after F. *prendre la parole*; partly from Gr. *τὴν παραβολὴν ἀναλαβών* to take up one's 'parable' (PARABLE *sb.* 6).

*c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 204 The kinge Yon toke the worde & sayd thus. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxliii. 819/1 Than the duke of Lancaster toke the wordes, & sayd [etc.]. 1557 *N. T.* (Genev.) Luke x. 30 Iesus taking his word said [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 510 Then Drances took the word. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxii, Young Selby . . reverently took up the word: 'Kind uncle, [etc.]' 1811 *Sir. & Juliet* II. 192 Henry . . was going to address Mrs. Brewster; but lady Harriet took the word. 1815 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxv, There was a general murmur. 'My Lord Duke,' said the Count of Crèvecœur, taking the word for the rest, 'this must be looked to more closely.' 1824 HOOK *Silas Topham* x, The Colonel, left alone with his wife.., made haste to take the word. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* I. 39 The Father of Gods and of men took up the word.

**b.** *To take* (a person's) *word* : to accept (his) statement or assertion as true or trustworthy: usually with *for*, esp. in the phrase *take my word for it* used to emphasize an assertion = I can assure you, you may be sure, believe me. † Formerly also, to accept or trust (a person's) promise; to give (him) credit (*for* a debt).

1589 in W. M. Williams *Anc. Saunders' Co.* (1867) 69 He giveinge his fayth promise to Mr Alderman . . Mr Alderman tooke his worde. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 66, I take your Princely word, for these redresses. 1597 E. S. *Pieces. Antic. Poste* A 4, Will you giue my word for two pence? Take thy word? He see thee hang first (qd she) pay me my money. 1608 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* I. i. 114, Saue your credit and let swearing alone; I dare take your word. 1609 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* IV. i. 62 But may I take your word Jonas? 1693 *Humours Town* 38 Take my word for't. 1710 STEELE *Spect.* No. 181 ¶ 4 Take my Word for it, there is nothing in it. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iii, Nobody will take our words for sixpence. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 30 Sept., I took his word and honour that he would make an effort. 1864 WEBSTER *Chr. Evid.* iii. 21 How can you know, except by taking the word of the learned for it? 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in a Boat* 186 On a matter of this kind you can take Harris's word.

**c.** *To take* (a person) *at his word* : see 13 c.

**IV. 29.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. Of, pertaining or relating to, or consisting of a word or words, as *word-accent, -group, -history, -memory, -music, -order, -stock, -trap, -weapon* ; (with agent-n. or the like) dealing with or acting by means of words, as *word-conjurer, -epicure, -juggler, -master, -pirate, -smith, -warrior*, etc.; (with pa. t. of action or the like, in instrumental sense) done or carried on by means of words, as *word-battle, -fence* (FENCE *sb.* 2 b), *-jugglery, -war, -wound, -wrangle*, etc.

**b.** Instrumental, as *word-beat, -pity* vbs.; *word-charged, -clad, †-stroken, -wounded* adjs. **c.** Objective, as *word-bearer, -breaker, †-bridger* (BRIDGE *v.*²), *-hunter, -spinner*, etc.; *word-breaking, -building, -coining, -compelling, -juggling, -keeping, -spinning, -splitting*, etc. vbs. and adjs.; also with pl., † *words-speaking*; *word-coinage, -composition, -formation*, etc. **d.** Special comb.: † **word-bate** [BATE *sb.*¹], contention about words; **word-blind** *a. Path.*, affected with **word-blindness**, *i.e.* inability to understand written or printed words when seen, owing to disease of the visual *word-centre*; **word-bound** *a.* (*a*) restrained in speech, unable to use words freely or fluently; (*b*) bound by one's word or promise; † **word-braving**, boasting; **word-catcher**, (*a*) one who catches or cavils at words, a petty or carping critic; (*b*) one who catches and collects words: applied contemptuously to a lexicographer (quot. 1835); **word-catching**, catching at words, petty criticism; **word-centre** *Anat.*, each of certain centres (CENTRE *sb.* 7 a) in the brain which govern the perception or use of words (spoken or written); **word-craft**, the art of using words, oratorical or literary skill; **word-deaf** *a. Path.*, affected with **word-deafness**, *i.e.* inability to understand words when heard, owing to disease of the auditory *word-centre*; † **word-dearthing** *a.*, producing dearth of words, involving a great expenditure of words; † **word-flowing** *a.*, fluent in speech; **word-board**, literal rendering of O.E. *wordbord* (treasure of speech), word-painting *tr. transl.*, to 'paint' in words, describe vividly, make a *word-picture of*; so **word-painter, word-painting** *sb.* and *a.*; **word-perfect** *a.*, knowing perfectly every word of one's lesson, part, etc.; **word-picture**, a vivid description in words, presenting the object to the mind like a picture; **word-play** [cf. G. *wortspiel*], a play of or upon words (see PLAY *sb.* 7 b); **word-shot** *nonce-wd.* [after *earshot*], distance within which one person can speak to another; **word-spite**, spite or ill-will expressed in words (in quot. *attrib.*); **word square**, a set of words of the same number of letters to be arranged in a square so as to read the same horizontally or vertically; a puzzle in which such a set of words has to be guessed (Webster Suppl. 1880); **word-strife**, a rendering of LOGOMACHY; **word-vision** † see QUOT., and cf. *word-blindness*; † **word-wood** a. [WOOD *a.*], mad, wild, or unrestrained in speech. See also WORD-HOUSE, etc.

1903 WINBOLT *Lat. Hexam. Verse* 75 Discrepancy . . between 'word-accent and metrical stress. *a* 1640 JACKSON *Creed* X. xxxvii. 31[55 * Word-Bates, or Verbal Quarrels, arising from ambiguous . . expressions. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxvii, Not unwilling, like a philosopher and a Greek, . . to embark in anything like a 'word-battle. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* viii. 441 The 'word-bearer for the rest of the apostles proves also, when occasion requires, the sword-bearer. 1841 J. JACKSON *True Evangel.* I. iii. 107 They revile, and 'word-beate our persons. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* 'Word-blindness' is . . synonymous with 'Loss of word-memory.' 1881 J. ROSS in *Lancet* 26 Nov. 905/1 This particular variety of amnesic aphasia has been named 'word-blindness' by Kussmaul. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Dec. 2/2 If I appear a little word-bound in my first . . responses, I hope it will . . be imputed . . to the long disuse of speech. 1896 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metrical Legends* I. Lesson from him. The story of the war. Word-bound he is not: He'll tell it willingly. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xvii. 195 A 'word-braving, or scorning all wealth in discourse. 1845 SCOTT *Retrothal* iii, The promises . . escaped . . the slit of a 'word-breaker. Because he hath been a drunken braggart. *Ibid.* vii, Better is an empty stomach . . with a clear conscience, than a fatted ox with iniquity and 'word-breaking. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Feb. Prof. Ep. vii. 72 Recapitulatour, 'word bregcer. 1860 W. BARNES *Tiny* p. v, The known course of Teutonic 'word-building. 1892 *Daily News* 18 Jan. 2/3 Word-building. 1735 POPE *Dunciad* III. 166 Each 'word-catcher, that lives on syllables. 1835 R. GARNETT *Philol. Ess.* (1859) 8 Of this sort of knowledge—of the 'word-catcher, Dr. Johnson had not a spark. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* 'Word-centres' . . are . . those portions of auditory and visual 'word sensory' cortex. 1879 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXV. 398 He sought truth, not controversy and 'word-chopping. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* vi. lxi, Sweet utterance of 'word-clad truth. 1885 *Scotsm.* 4 Feb. 13/1 Largely due to the zeal . . of the 'word-compelling Dante. 1904 H. BRADLEY *Making Engl.* 127 The copious 'word-composition of Greek. 1843 MAURICE *Mor. Philos. in Encycl. Metrop.* II. 576/1 These . . specimens of Greek subtlety..they would be inclined to denounce, as the exploits of a mere 'word-conjuror. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 598 He is..'wordcraftes wis. 1804 J. COLLINS *Scripscrop* A 3, A Noviciate in the Science of Word-craft. 1894 *Athenæum* 22 Dec. 865/2 The French school of literary critics of life..have been curious in their wordcraft. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* etc. 329 Such individuals though 'word-deaf have nevertheless preserved their voluntary speech. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 329/2 The so-called 'word-deafness, in which the patient hears but does not understand words, though he reacts them understandingly and repeats them perfectly. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 200 Thys huge 'word-deartning taske. 1891 *Tablet* 29 Aug. 331 The science of 'word-derivation is a growing one. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Empr.* lxvi. VII. 436 The vanity and frivolity of these masters of 'word-fence. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables of Æsop* cccxxxvi, I was a 'word-flowing Speaker. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* ii. 56 A perfect 'word-fog of directions and advice. 1884 CURTEIS *19th Addr. Philol. Soc.* 77 The oldest phase of the Hamitic 'Word-formation. 1884 H. SWEET *ibid.* 90 Concentrating his attention on the mere sounds of his 'word-groups. 1897 *Harvard Wellth Grants* § 19 The unit of connected speech is..the word-group; *e.g.* in English, 'what-do-you-want? 1896 WHITNEY *Lang. Study* ii. 66 If English stood all alone among the other languages, but an insignificant part of its 'word-history could be read. 1892 BROOKE *E. E. Lit.* i. 1 Widsith told his tale, unlocked his "word-hoard. 1876 A. S. PALMER (*title*) Leaves from a 'Word-hunter's Note-book. 1737 AMBROSE *Lect. Pulpit* 131 Those sacred groves where raptur'd spirits..in 'word-hunting waste the live-long day. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 399 'Word-images as integral components of perception and concepts. 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 160 Barbaric 'word-jingle. 1900 *Month* Jan. 16 The greatest 'word-juggler of all time. 1904 LAWES *Hist. Philol.* (1867) I. ii. 14 The 'word-jugglery of mysticism. 1885 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* XIV. iii. (1864) IX. 143 Bewildered by his own skilful 'word-jugglery. 1888 MAX MÜLLER *Sights & Insights* xxxiv. 320 Very fairly, deeper than mere 'word-keeping. 1866 G. STEPHENS (*title*) The Old Northern Runic Monuments of Scandinavia and England, with Introductions, Appendices, 'Word-Lists, Runic Alphabets, &c. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 69 What the long-'word-makers call an 'interocular' group. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lii. The order of 'word making. 1884 H. SWEET *Ess. 19th Addr. Philol. Soc.* 89 This..makes the colloquial language a far better medium of teaching 'word-meanings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 394 Forms of 'word-memory. 1818 KEATS *Gone Dean's Dau.* xxiv, Do not give Miss Mordaunt reason to suppose me the only 'word-mill in the family! 1898 SWEET *New Engl. Gram.* I. § 1172 The original Latin 'word-order. 1894 DYAN *Man's Keeping* vi, His mother.. 'word-painted a picture to him. 1906 G. A. B. DEWAR *Parry Year* 52 We can no more wear the same clothes as we can the sunbeam. 1861 *Bentley's Misc.* XLIX. 169 Owen Meredith is another 'word-painter, even luxuriant in power. 1866 *Reader* 10 Word Painting: in Series. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* *in Matter* (ed. 3) 266 Like a poem, a parable is a word-painting. 1882 *Archæologia Cantiana* XIV. 3 The descriptive power of a 'word-painting historian. 1694 PETTY *Lett. in Academy* (1890) 9 May 1/1 Your Lordship's Letter of Musick-Characters . . must appeare Gracefull, when y' Word-Part shall bee added. 1673 MARVELL *Rch. Transp.* II. 255 You are . . a mere 'Word-painter. 1790 DR. J. *Last Corr. w. Lord Spencer*, one that play's with Words. 1894 J. S. WHITE *Red Coats* 104 [He] had gone over, with care and loving attention, every little detail of his interview, until he might fairly have been described as 'word-perfect. 1898–9 J. BROWN *Horæ Subt.* (1859) 284 Such 'word-pictures as you find in Dryden. 1888 *Bookman's Wonderful Year* To Rdr., Banish these 'Word-pirates, (you sacred mistresses of learning) into the gulfe of Barbarisme. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. iii. 8 Not so much 'word-pitying her, as providing necessaries for her. 1872 HARRIS *Hermes in Arcadia* 74 To determine what the 'word-play consists in. 1911 H. M. MURRAY *Erthe upon Erthe* Introd. p. xxiii, Alliteration, or 'word-rime, . . not common in Latin verse of the time. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 1, 273 You cannot bring us of, from the 'word-preaching. 1736 GOOCH *Lond. Mag.* 353/2 Hanno was called over her 'Word-selling Crew. 1872 *Ing. Gentleman's Mag.* 512 Little 'word-sketches of those absurd scenes. 1896 *Literary World* 19 June 564 Stevenson's charming child of genius and the plodding 'word-smith. 1582 N. T. (Rheim.) Acts xvii. 18 What is it that this 'wordsceiver would say? 1887 W. MORRIS in *Nat. Observer* (1890) II. 238/2 I am an inveterate 'word-spinner. 1872 STURGEON *Trees, Poet.* III. Pref. p. v, Huge folios, full of dreary 'wordspinning. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Engl.* II. 560 A silly, yet ferocious, 'wordquip quarrel between Rollo and Hugh le Grand. 1861 J. TULLOCH *Engl. Puritt.* iv. 136 He had too large a soul to take delight in mere 'word-splitting. 1890 *Little Folks* Jan. 68 Geographical 'Word-Square. 1611 COTGR. *Rose* 545† They maken foolis glorifie Of her 'wordis spekyng. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 511 Perfor is it not gretelie to charge of wastis spending and of 'word-spilling. 1898 HENRICHSEN *Gothic Verv. Comp.* 23 By skilfully grafting the vigorous axions of his own speech on to the exotic 'wordstock. 1898 W. BARNES *Gram. Dial. Dorset* 24 Among the 'word-stores of the provincial speech-forms of English. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 107 The end of this Anyousia, or 'Word-strife. 1850 T. A. TROLLOPE *Impress. Wand. Ir.* 95 The benevolent 'word-stroke. 1902 MARBLE *St. Aleman's Gneman & Alf.* I. 263 Whilest he was bearing this sad storie..being so 'word-stroken to the heart. 1885 *Athenæum* 5 Dec. 718/1 Cardinal Wiseman, by wily 'word-trap, hee deceived the Archbishop. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Cont. Aristoph.* I. 92 With silent glee his word-traps he lays swiftly. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 531 Visual 'word-trap, particularly in reference to the association of written symbols with their meaning—that is 'word-vision—is especially impaired by lesion of the 3rd frontal gyrus. 1847 TRAFF *Comm. Jas.* ii. 14 (1656) 006 I ivy telleth us of the Athenians, that they waged 'Word-war against Philip. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxvi. VII. 460 The servants of the dogmatists. 1856 R. S. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 123 He regarded with dislike the idle 'word-warfare of scholastic ingenuity. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 1447 Those 'word-warriors, Had their heads fild with counting fantasies. 1866 LITTON *Bampton Lect.* i. (1867) 17 Professional word-warriors of the fourth and fifth centuries. *a* 1555 RIDLEY *Cert. Godly Confer.* (1556) 34 b, To-ste not..to these 'worde weapons, for the kingdome of godde is not in wordes, but in power. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* VIII. iii. (1874) 199 Trevanion was a terrible 'word-weigher. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 281 in *O. E. Misc.* 118 Wyrmon is 'word-wod [v.r. wordwod]. 1900 F. E. HULME *Proverb-Lore* 114 Sword-wounds

may be healed," word-wounds are beyond healing. 1810 Crabbe *borough* IV 523 When the preacher Dropp'd the new word, we heard the cry Of the 'word wounded' 1643 Heylin *Anew Furze* 11 Indisposed to this kind of "word wrangle 1914 D Crawford *Thursting After God* pt II. 152 Mere windy "word wrangling 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps* 211 This dubblehartednesse maketh men dubble tunged & "wordwresters

**Word** (wɜ̄d), *v* [f. Word *sb*; cf OIlG *wortōn* in *spilewortōn* to jest, MHG. *worten* to converse, discourse, ON. *orða* to talk, Goth. *-waurdjan* to speak.]

1. *intr.* To utter words; to speak, talk. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 Lay 18052 þe king worðede þus 1393 Langl *P Pl* C xiv 246 Wit sp̄ worden to me þus was I ryȝt aresoneden reson 1542 Recorde *Verte Arth.* 339 b And now wate thow my wo, words as the lykest 1560 *Bergn* 326 Al be that Geffrey wrotht subtily, The Steward & he burgeys⁹ beld it for foly, Al that ever he seyd 1690 C Nesse *Of Self Trust* I 131 The Judge will not enquire how they have worded, but how they have walked 1819 Keats *Hyperion* II. 251 Thus wording timidly among the hero. 1850 (see Worded *vbl sb* 1).

b *To word it* to talk, esp excessively or violently; to have (high) words *with Obs* or *dial.*

1618 Webster *White Devil* II 1 C 3 b, My Lords, you shall not word it any further, I'll be your Judge 1687 Day *Dyall* vi (1614) 102, I will not stand wording it with our Adversaries. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen* xi 7 Thus God words it with them 1647 — *Comm Tit* III 13 (1656) 949 *Who is a Wise man* ] that is that words it most; for *sensilo loquie stultilo*rum 1692 L Estrange *Fables* ccccxxii 399 He that contemns a Shrew to the Degree of not Descending to Word it with her 1718 South *Serm* (1744) X 148 Men may snarl, and word it high against providence. 1885 Forby *Voc E Anglia Word*, to dispute, to wrangle. Ex 'They *word* it a long while'

2 *trans.* To utter in words, say, speak (olces. as distinct from singing); †also, to speak of, mention. *Obs* or *arch*

13 *E E Allit P* C 491 When I hade worded quatsoeuer I cowbe, To make me at ese sadly men bade 1560 Bible *Ant & Cl* iv 919 Sy[l] that the last I spoke was Anthony, And word it (pity thee) pitteously 1611 — *Cymb* II. iv. 240, I cannot sing: He weepe, and word it with them. 1663 Waterhouse *Fleta Illustrat* 424 This way of Government being changed, it was made capitall (not onely to endeavour but even to word the restitution thereof) 1859 (see Worded *vbl sb* 2).

†3 a. To ply or urge with words. *Obs rare.*

1606 Shakes *Ant & Cl* v 11 291 He words me Girles, he words me I but I should not be Noble to my selfe

†b. To bring by use of words (into or out of a specified condition or course of action) *Obs*

c 1645 Howell *Lett* (1650) II xix. 32 To have to doe with perverse irrationall half witted men, and to be worded to deale with nonsence 1659 Sir J Berry & Sir S Lydd 3 b, Men are not to be Worded into new Tempers, or Constitutions 1716 *Ibid* 1 *Peter* II 23 (1744) VIII 187 Not to word away our souls or declaim ourselves into perdition.

4. To express in or put into words; to compose, draw up *Obs* exc as in b.

1613 (*title*) Songs of Mourning Worded by Tho Campion And set forth to bee sung with one voyce to the Lute, or Viall by John Cooper 1629 Lislie *Zēpēre on O N. Test* To Rule 32 It would give vse & occasion either in wording or sentencing the principall parts thereof to looke back a little into that controverse dulie 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 210 Before the first Logician ever worded a Proposition 1658-9 *Burto's Diary* (1828) IV 225, I would have the question worded, but for you rise, lest to-morrow be spent in it 1700 Rowe *Hymnodia* Wks 1721 III 282 Lord, as dictated, Love worded ev'ry Line. 1806 W Taylor in *Ann Rev* IV 604 Speaking languages have ill worded and have faded without writing. One eminent narrative poem 1838 Gen P Thompson *Exerc* (1842) I 456 The statement of limits is found worded ever again in the Protocol

b. esp, and now only, with reference to the kind of language or form of words used, hence freq with advb qualification

1619 Middleton *Love & Antiq* Wks. (Bullen) VII 315 I triumphs, wherein Art hath been but weakly imitated and most beggarly worded 1671 Baxter *Holiness* III 78 They have not the skil to word it and methodize their notions rightly 1701 J Norris *Ideal World* I. 126 'Tis in reality one and the same question, only differently worded 1723 Pope *Lett to Addison* 1 Dec, This little instant of our life which (as Shakespear finely words it) is rounded with a sleep 1836 Hen Walk *Greece* xx III 153 Instructions angrily worded 1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I viii, It is commonly worded I admit, but, believe me the advice is sound 1908 R Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxii 267 She kept repeating to herself various ways of wording her message ; for it was no easy one to construct

c. *nonce uses* To represent as in words; to pad *out* with (unnecessary) words

1611 Shakes *Cymb* I iv 16 This matter of marrying his King's Daughter wherein I must (should not) a great deale from the matter 1646 T Coleman *Brotherly Exam Re ex* Postscript 29 Pamphlets wherein six pages are worded out to thirty six

**Word**, obs. (strictn.) form of Weird *sb.*

14 *Guy Warw* (Camb) 2255, 7416

**Word-** see Ord, World, Worth *v.*

**Wordage** (wɜ̄dēdʒ). *rare.* [f. Word *sb.* + -age.] Words collectively, = Verbiage 1.

1829 *Westm Rev* Apr 417 The plates are in sufficient without all the wordage 1858 Armot *Lanes from Heaven* Ser II 22 [The tongue] may revolve with the rapidity of machinery, throwing off a continuous web of wordage.

**Word-book** (wɜ̄d ɪdbuk) [f. Word *sb.* + Book *sb.*, in sense 1 cf. G *wörterbuch* (f. gen. pl. of *wort* word + *buch* book).] Du. †*woordboek, woordenboek*, Icel. *orðabók*, Sw. *ordbok*, Da. *ordbog.*]

1. A book containing a list of words (as of the vocabulary of a language, a book, an art, or science) arranged in alphabetical or other systematic order.

The term is often used where it is desired to avoid the implication of completeness or elaboration of treatment characteristic of a dictionary or lexicon

1598 Florio *Ital. Dict* To Rdr, b 1, If no other bookes can be so well perfected, but still some thing may be added, how much lesse a Word booke? 1730 Bailey (fol), *Vocabulary*, a Word Book, a little Dictionary containing a Collection of Words 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an 1755 (1904) I. 197 Johnson's Dictionary a work of much greater mental labour than mere Lexicons, or Word books, as the Dutch call them 1867 Smyth (*title*) The Sailor's Word-book an Alphabetical Digest of Nautical Terms. 1879 Miss Jackson (*title*) Shropshire Word-Book: a Glossary of Archaic and Provincial Words, etc used in the County. 1882 (*title*) A Word Book for Students of English History.

2 The 'book of the words' or libretto of a musical composition.

1878 J Marshall in Grove *Dict Mus* I 353 Besides translating many foreign libretti, [H J Chorley] wrote the original word books of one version of the 'Amber Witch' (Wallace), of the 'May Queen' (Bennett), [etc.]. 1891 *Guardian* 23 Sept. 1531 Mr. Culwick's interesting summary of the word-books of the announced operas

**Words**: see Odd, Word, World, Worth *v*

**Worded** (wɜ̄dēd), *ppl. a.* [f Word *sb* or *v.* + -ed.]

1 Formed into words; expressed in or put into words. *rare.*

1566 Drant *Horace Gentl Usher* IV I 69 Away with this vnmedicinable balme Of worded breath 1869 Ruskin *O of Art* § 42 Capable of interpretation only by the majesty of ordered, beautiful and worded sound 1882-3 Mark Twain *Tramp Abr* 316 No worded description of a moving spectacle is a hundredth part as moving as the same spectacle seen with one's own eyes.

b. Used in combination with adv : Expressed in a particular kind of language or form of words; phrased in such-and-such a manner

1848 W K Kelly tr *J Blanc's Hist Ten Y* II 210 A cautiously worded, but firm answer 1872 Miss Braddon *Lucky Mr* very occasion brought the same coldly worded letter 1899 Mackail *W Morris* II 270 His latest and most carefully worded confession of faith

2. Used in words; involving the use of many words, wordy; †having a good stock of words at command. *nonce-uses.*

1638 Wilkins *New World* II 81 He was much opposed by Aristotle in some worded disputations but never confuted by any reasons 1734 J Richardson *Milton's P L* p lxxiii, A Man of Learning worded, and a Great Etymologist, but a Meer Scholar Morus was also a Worded Man; and he was a Celebrated Preacher

**Wordel**, **wordle**, obs. forms of Worldly, Worldly.

**Worder** (wɜ̄dəɹ). *rare.* [f Word *v.* + -er 1] †a. One who uses (many) words, a chatterer, prater *Obs* b. One who puts something into words; one who frames the words or terms of a subject.

1606 J Carpenter *Solomon's Solace* 3 They were neither worders, nor writers to high learning 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 206 Each good Action speaking more effectually Conviction to Spectators, than any (though the subtlest worder) could ever contrive it. *Ibid* 259 It went to be wished, we cold not say as much of our high worders, of their Covetousnesse 1683 E Hooker *Irish Perfidies Mystic Plot* 7 Other worders as bloody as no man, not to conceal som of our impertinently nil Pulpit praters [etc.] 1887 Knollys *Sk Life Japan* 267 The details belong to the worders of science

**Wordily**, obs. form of Ordain.

**Wordie**, var. Wordy *sb. Sc* ; obs. f Wordy *a.*, Worthy

**Wordily** (wɜ̄dɪlɪ), *adv.* [f. Wordy *a.* + -ly 2.] In a wordy manner or style, with excess or abundance of words; verbosely.

1528 *Word & Child* 277 The kynge of Wrathe full wordely wyll haue wordes 1564 Thomas *Dict* s v *Verbum*, Men *on Earth* in lyuyl Some wordy men rought at Rethorikes Rules to rule thereby they rul'd wordily 1708 Calamy *Life & Times* I 264 His whole life Controvertial Truth been manag'd very Wordily 1873 Symonds *Grk Poets* 32 Sophists and rhetoricians began to flourish and everything that can be wordily elaborated is prized for their mill 1892 Shelley *Hints, Q Journey* I. ix. 198 Southey wrote so smoothly, so easily, so wordily.

**Wordine**, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of Worth *v.*

**Wordiness** (wɜ̄dinɛs). [f. as prec + -ness.] The quality of being wordy; excess or multiplicity of words; verbosity.

1727 Bailey (vol II), *Wordiness*, Talkativeness, &c 1809 W Irving *Knickerb* VII xiii 152 The empty wordiness of his factious subjects—their intemperate harangues 1862 J Martineau *Essays* I 373 A copious phrase ology is one cure of wordiness, and is essential to effective writing.

**Wording** (wɜ̄dɪŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. Word *v.* (or *sb.*) + -ing 1.]

1 Speaking, talking, utterance *Obs.* or *arch.*

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh* Wks 1873 II 62 The Senate will leave wording presently 1625 Massinger *New Way* III ii, *Marrall* Pray you a word Sir *Greed.* No wording now 1819 Keats *Otho* II i, Fine wording, Duke! but words could never yet Forestall the fates 1849 Sears *Regeneration* III i (1859 126 The wording and rewording of liturgies is not prayer. 1890 Bushnell *God in Christ* 159 They must have their reality to me in what they express when taken as the wording forth of God

*attrib.* 1860 Swinburne *Queen-Mother* I ii, All this wording time I am not perfect where this wrong I began.

†b. A saying, statement. *Obs. rare*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxiii. 348 Old Wordings prouing trew

†2. Angry or abusive speech; 'having words' (see Word *sb* 5). *Obs.*

1564 *Child Marriages* 229 In wordinge betwixte the mother of the said Isabell & the said Rafe, the said Rafe said to her, that ther daughter Isabell was a hoore and a thef'. 1594 O. B *Quest. Pr fit Concern* 23 She termeth his outfacing & wording at me, audacitie and manly boldnesse 1614 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII viii (ed 2) 780 They are great gamsters, their play like that of Dice in which they carree themselues very patiently without swearing or wording.

3. The action of putting or condition of being put into words; composition or expression in language (spoken or written), esp. in reference to the words used, mode of speech, form of words, phrasing.

1649 Milton *Eikon* IV 36 This believ'd this wording was above his known stile and Orthographie 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 360, If constancy were to be counted with this selfishnesse (to use our new Wordings of old and general Axioms) 1657 Heylin *Lectesian Vind* Pref 6 b The Directory which prescribes the matter and scope of the Prayers and other parts of publick Worship, but no effect but the coining to the Ministers spirit but the wording of it. 1687 Lo Southerland in *Magd Coll* (O H S) 260 His Majesty leaves the wording of it to you 1718 Hearne *Collect* 1 *Ibid* II 28 Take me Pen, Ink, and Paper, and write him a Letter of my Wording 1765 Blackstone *Comm* I Introd 2 Some forms necessary in the wording of last wills and testaments. *Ibid*, vi 228 This is the form of the coronation oath, as it is now prescribed but the wording of it has changed at the revolution, because the oath is now to be framed in doubtful words and expressions 1818 Keats *Endym* IV 562 Things for which no wording can be found 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxxiv, I entreat the attention of the jury to the wording of this document 1839 Thirlwall *Lett* IV vii. 143 His plain and manly sentences often give us pleasure by the wording alone, 1865 M. Arnold *Ess Crit* II (1875) 41 The clear thought which is at the bottom of that troubled wording. 1882 Proctor *Fam Science Studies* 43, I have altered the wording in such a way as to avoid the use of words not familiar to young people 1891 *Daily Tel* 2 July 1/8 The meaning is plain, though the wording is, to say the least, involved

4. A set of written words, an inscription *rare*

1908 *Times* 28 Jan. 4/6 On a book with a well known Havana indications, including the lock label with the Spanish wording

So †**Wordingly** *ppl a.* (*a*) consisting in (mere) words, verbal, (*b*) using many or empty words, wordy; (*c*) characterized by angry words, contentious, quarrelsome.

1602 Carew Ellis *Fst* II xxv (1611) 48 Patrons of the vulgar without wording favour hath such an operation with mens fancies 1615 J Stephens *Satyr Fem* 332 It is probable she was begotten by some Wording Poet for she consists of as many fearefull wounds without science 1682 Bunian *Holy War* Lo Rdr (1684) A 3 b, In Parles, & in wording Jars

†**Wordish**, *a. Obs* [f. Word *sb.* + -ish 1.]

1. Consisting in or concerned with words, esp mere words (as opposed to realities); verbal: cf. Wordy *a* 3

a 1586 Sidney *Apol Poetry* (Arb) 33 A perfect picture I say, for her poesy pleadeth not in wordish prayers, much lesse of that whereof the Philosophers beato veth but a wordish description *Ibid* 69 Both [Poetry and Oratory] have such an affinity in that wordish consideration 1657 J Serjeant *Schism Dispatch't* 36 Illustrating the Text with those multitudes of wordish evasions 1675 Crowne *Calisto* v 73 All wordish praise she is so much above Hint eloquence would prophanation prove 1697 J Sergeant *Solid Philos* 286 All the Wordishness, and empty Disputes among Trivial Philosophers

**Wordle**, obs f World; var Worle.

**Wordless** (wɜ̄dlɛs), *a.* [f Word *sb* + -less.]

1 Inexpressible in words, unspeakable, unutterable *Obs* or merged in 2

c 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom* 123 Wordles song is þe herte michele blysse, þe heo haueð of heuenliche þinge, and nat þeroffe be stille ne mid worde hem atellen 1647 Trapp *Comm* 1 *Cor* xv 51 (1656) 702 Ebul, Wordless of those wordless words [*ἄρρητα ῥήματα*] 1681 unspeakable words] that Paul heard in his rapture, 2 *Cor* 12 4 1683 F Hooker *Pref Pordage's Mystic Div* 66 Hes was caught up into the third Heaven, where Hes heard wordless Words (for the Greec most emphatickly) Words unutterabl, unexpressibl

2. Not expressed in words, unspoken, unuttered

a 1900 *Chaucer's Dreame* 280 So thought I That wordeles answeres in no toun Was tane for obligacioun. 1633 F Fletcher *Hist* II iv, So sat she joylesse down in wordlesse grief complaining 1820 Byron *Sonn* III lviii, I be stern, deep, and wordless as Of a strong human heart. 1872 Morris *Earthly Par* II iii 189 Some wordless prayer of agony. 1891 Tylor *Prim Cult* I viii. 270 The deaf and-dumb work out such analogies in their wordless thought,

1884 ‘Edna Lyall’ *We Two* xix, Love of the deepest sort is wordless.

3. Not uttering a word; not speaking, silent, speechless. Also *transf.* of action or feeling (cf. 2).

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 316 Wordlesse he was, and semed sicke 1593 Shake *Lucr.* 1118 Her sole with heaued vp hand she doth expresse, And wordlesse so greates heauen for his successe. 1850 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 322 She, wordless, went, But looked her thanks. 1881 Christina Rossetti *Later Life* iii Poems (1904) 298 Our wordless fearless numbness of distress 1890 *Bryt Med Journ.* 8 Feb. 300/2 The patient was quite speechless, or at least, wordless. 1904 G. Watson *Sunshine & Sentim* 188, I was unable to follow her, and stood dumfounded and wordless

b. Lacking the faculty or power of speech.

1648 J. Quarles *Sons Lachrym* 52 The wordless tongues of thirsty children cleave To their unliquid mouths. 1846 *Chambers's Jrnl* 16 May 312 A Word for the Wordless.

c Lacking words for expression.

1881 Poynter *Among the Hills* I. 282 Her mind was too uncultivated, too wordless 1896 Howells *Impressions & Exp* 104 The innocence of wordless Infancy.

4. Not accompanied by words; (of a play) acted without words.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. ii *Babylon* 333 The winged quaver, (Their sounds want sense) their notes are word lesse still. 1853 Bailey *Mystic* 257 The wordless strife, murs of expectant joy 1882 ] Hawthorne *Fort Feat* xxx, The little wordless song which his mother had sung 1897 *Westm. Gaz* 9 Jan 3/1 The history of wordlessly grateful 1899 *Westm. Gaz* 8 June 3/1 The momentary wordlessness that is certain to fall occasionally to the lot of everyone

**Wordli(e, -lich(e, Wordling,** obs. ff. World-ly, Worldling.

**Wordlore** (*wɜ̄* ɹdlōə). [? Word *sb.* + Lore *sb.*¹ Cf. G. *wortlehre* ] a. The study of words and their history, the words collectively of a language and their history b. (= G *wortlehre* ) The doctrine of the forms and formation of words; morphology.

1870 *Dublin Univ Mag* Mar 282 (*cer.*) Word-lore 1872 Kennedy *Public Sch Lat Gram* 5 Etymology comprises — I Phonology or Soundlore, the doctrin of Sounds II Morphology or Wordlore, the doctrin of Words 1904 A. S. Palmer (*title*) The Folk and their Word Lore an Essay on Popular Etymologies

**†Wordly,** *a. Obs rare.* [? Word *sb.* + -ly 1 ] Dealing in, or consisting in, mere words, verbal.

1633 Anne *Fresh* Last Speech *Coronn.* Pref. p v, These wordly gospellers *Ibid* 11 36 A wordly distunction betwixt Doctrinall and Rituall Ceremonies

**Wordly, -lyche,** obs forms of Worldly

**Wordman** (*wɜ̄* ɹdmăn) *rare* [? Word *sb.* + Man *sb* ] A man who deals with or has command of words, a master of language. So **Wordmanship,** skill in the use of words.

1623 Cockeram II, A great Word man, *grandiloquus* 1654 J. Webster *A sal Lexon* 68 Men that think themselves the most skilful wordmen of our Legu dialists in this word! *a* 1721 Prior *Dial betw Charles & Clenard* Wks 1907 II. 213, I will not shew my Anger against this Word man 1882 Stevenson *Men & Bks* (1884) 81 This, The great contemporary master of wordmanship, and indeed of all literary arts

**Wordmonger** (*wɜ̄* ɹdmŋgəɹ). [? Word *sb.* + Monger.] One who deals in words, esp. in strange or pedantic words, or in empty words without sense or substance. *contemptuous*

1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgat* Ep Ded A 2 b, The wordmongers of malice, that like the Spyder grew odious to their own kinde 1608 Shirley *Wifty Fast One* v iv, A pedantical, lousy wordmonger 1740 Lavington *Anthon Heick. & Fanat* (1820) 331 God hath cautioned me against these word mongers. 1855 Morley *Dutch Rep* vi iii (1866) 813 The word mongers who could clothe one shivering thought in a hundred thousand garments 1882 Tennyson *Becket* II. ii, Diagonalise! those are a word monger

So **Wo rdmo ngering, -mo ngery.**

1879 H. N Hudson *Hamlet* Pref. p xiv, Too much time spent in mere word-mongering and lingual dissection. 1903 *Times Lit Suppl* 20 Mar. 87/3 Word-mongery has been overdone here and there.

**Wordre,** obs. form of Order *sb.*

**Wordsworthian** (*wɜ̄*ɹdzwɜ̄ɹ ɒ̆ĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f the name of the English poet William *Wordsworth* (1770–1850) + -ian.] A. *sb* An admirer or imitator of Wordsworth, or a student of his works.

b. *adj.* Of, belogging to, or characteristic of Wordsworth; (of a poem) composed by, or in the style of, Wordsworth

1825 *Sporting Mag* XLVI 12, I am enough of a Wordsworthian not to confine my tastes to the received elegancies of society 1865 Lockhart *Scott's Lives Lett* (1892) I 342 Miss Hume is an ecstatic Wordsworthian, and is to go to see him one of these days in the flesh. 1868 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* III iv. xvii § 20, 304 ‘I fume nimous ma mie,’ is the first Wordsworthian poem brought forward on philosophical principles, to oppose the schools of art and affectation. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 45 Given to indulge in Wordsworthian musings 1878 R. H Hutton *Scott* xvi (1888) 162 Even Scott, who was so little of a Wordsworthian, must have received that day to that favourite Wordsworthian poem. 1901 *Spectator* 5 July 7/1 Imagine a poet whose mind was perfectly balanced between the desirability of gorgeous Swinburnesque ornament and Wordsworthian austerity.

Hence **Wordswo rthianism.**

1880 *Sat Rev* 31 Feb 263 There has been of late a recrudescence of Wordsworthianism.

**Wordy, wordie** (*wɜ̄*ɹdi), *sb. Sc.* [f Word *sb* + -y 6 ] A little or slight word

1728 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr* III xx, She her mun like a tawny bid Hame, wi' a well waid d wordy 1785 Burns *To Rev. M. Math* III, A pack Wha can easy, wi' a single wordie, Lowse hell upon me *a* 1840 Joanna Baillie *Song, Wooer & Bride* xxxvi 38 Weel waled were his wordies.

**Wordy** (*wɜ̄*ɹdi), *a.* [Late OE. *wordig*, f. Word *sb.* + -ig, -y 1.]

1. Full of or abounding in words. a. Of speech or writing: Consisting of or containing many words; = Verbose 1.

*c* 1200 *Aldhelm Gloss* in Napier *O E Glosses* 38/4406 *Verbosus*, wordig. 1580 Wyclif *3 Cor* Prol Wordy eloquence of philosophie 1642 Br Hall *Answ Vind Smect.* 103 In this their wordy, and wearisome Volume 1723 Rowe *Jane Shore* III. 1, In deal in wordy Compliment Is much against the Plainness of my Nature 1778 Br Lowth *Transl Isaiah* Prelim Diss p lxvii, The Chaldee Paraphrase often wanders from the Text in a wordy allegorical explanation. 1813 Hallam *Mid Ages* (ed 10) II. Note 5 I 297 If the Franks scorned the complex and wordy jurisprudence of Rome *a* 1823 Lytton *Pausanias* 1 (1876) 49 The Athenian ambassador wordily boasting 1897 Kinglake *Crimea* (1880) VI ix 309 This despatch was beyond measure wordy

b Of a person Using an excess of words, = Verbose 2; *occas* garrulous, talkative.

1380 Wyclif *Serm* 3 vol II 382 My woor is fewnes [1388 ful of wordis] 1483 *Cath Angl* 432/2 Wordy, *verbosus, & ceteras* 1561 Chaterer *Sir R Baker Cato Variegatus* 9 Words against wordy men, thou must not vse 1778 Steele *Spect.* No 418 ¶ 2 Such a one, including a wordy Knight, while he was making a magnificent Speech to the People 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr* xiv (1901) I 106 The barber's pretty but rather wordy wife 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque* 80 A wordy, priolegomenous babl ler.

†2 Skilled in the use of words. *Obs., rare.*

1603 J. Davies (Heref) *Microcosmos* Wks (Grosart) I. 80/1 Be a Scholler, and a wordie Man 1660 — *Wisem. Heav on Forth* II lxviii, Some wordy men, by words, sought worthinesse. 1680 Otway *Orphan* IV vii, You talk to me in Riddles, Chamont; You may have known that I'm no wordy Man

3. Consisting or expressed in words; of words; verbal. Now chiefly in phr. *wordy war.* (Often with mixture of sense 1 a.)

1567 Harman *Caveat Jrbert* (1573) 129 Intrusion on Gods Prerogatiues royall is rather in facts, then wordy profession 1685 Baxter *Paraphr N T* James II 14 Is not a wordy Profession an unprofitable thing to your selves ? Will saying you believe, profit to Salvation, if you live not according to the Gospel? 1715 Rowe *Lady Jane Gray* I 4, These Clergy Quarrels, These wordy Wars of pious Divines 1741 Franklin *Poor Richard* (1850) 111 He that talks much, talks in vain, We from the wordy torrent fly 1791 Cowper *Iliad* II 463 All this wordy war shall cease 1814 Byron *Lara* I xxiii, To mar The mirthful meaning with a wordy war 1860 Tennyson *Sea Dreams* 31 When the wordy storm Hadended.

**Wordy-,** neesse, obs ff. Virtue, Worthiness.

†**Wordy,** *sb. Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh identical with Ware *sb.*¹, Ore *sb* (OE. *wār*) seaweed, but possibly repr OE. *wdra, wdrum,* glossing med L. *sablonum, sablonibus* ? Sandy or pebbly shore (so, however, note in Napier's *O E. Glosses*, p 49)

*a* 1230 *Ayenbite* in Wright *Pyrc P* 58 Ichan for wowyng al forwlen, wery so water in wore 13 *Macarius* in Boddeker *Altengl Dicht* 249 Y wake as water in wore i stesi wordy

†**Wore,** *v.*¹ *Obs rare* Also wori [perh. to be referred to OI. *vorfna* only intr to wander, f. *vorr*, *vorfinn* Weary *a.*, q v ] *trans.* To trouble, disturb, confuse.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 386 ] is mong wordes [ r worene8] so be sten of be beorte ]et heo ne mei iknowen God *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (MS Bod) 714 Þet hire Reechen eggunge, ne be feondes fondunge Þe hire wore 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat* 18 Þe wil *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P* iv 24 Ther afterward thai worlden won with muchel unwynne us woren woide.

†**Wore,** *v.*² *Obs.* Pa t of Wear *v.*²

†**Wore,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [? = Sc. *vore* of pasternesse pat ben alle heuie sennen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 19764 Cristen seo was and euer fus Abute wil workes of almus 1320–1844 [see Mraw *sb* 3] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 11 Þe wil and þe werk to brue stede men *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* 341 It was a werke of ch ristes 1526 Tindale *Rom* v, 12 Have no felt shippe with the vnfrutfull werkes of darcknesse 1548 Udall *Erasmus Luke* 18 Amonges other workes of Charitie we shoulde comforte the sicke 1703 Earl Orrery *Art y find it* 11 63, I have another Work of Charity upon my hands, to reform an extravagant Husband 1846 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III iii, Even in her dreams Her soul is at some work of charity

d. *The work of . . .* a proceeding or occupying (a stated length of time). So *a work of time*: a proceeding which takes a long time

1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* I vi § 2 The confused mass and matter of heaven and earth was made in a moment, and the disposition of that confused mass was the work of six days 1813 Scott *Rokeby* II xxi To wreak the sword from Wilfrid's hand! Was but one moment's work 1818 — *Hrt M del* II, They had in vain attempted a small head land ; but in the state of the weather and the boat being heavy this was like to be a work of time. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xxxi

(4 -oke, -kke, 5 whork, 6 *Sc.* verk); *Sc* and *north.* 4 waro(ke, wark, 4–7 warke, 4– wark 7. I wyrc, 1–2 wurc, 3 wurk, wurk, (5 wrke), 4 wirke. 8 1–3 worc, 3–7 worke, (3, 6 work, 4 vorke, 6 woorke, wourke, 6–7 worcke), 6– work. *c.* 2–3 werch, 3, 5–6 worch(e, wurch, 9 *dial.* wurtch, 3, 7– warch (see Ware *sb* ).. [OE. *weorc* = Offris. Os., (M)LG., (M)Du. *werk*, OHG. *werah, werc* (MHG *werch, werc*, G *werk*), ON *verk* (Sw., Da. *verk*) .— OTeut. ***werkom** (see Work *v.*), cognate are Gr. *ἔργον*, Arm. *gorc*, Zend *varəna-* activity. Forms γ and ε show partial assimilation to the forms of Work *v* ; see also Wank, Warch *sb.*¹ (in a specialized sense) ]

I. 1. Something that is or was done, what a person does or did; an act, deed, proceeding, business; in *pl.* actions, doings (often collectively = 3). *arch.* or *literary* in gen. sense.

*ang.* 971 *Ritchl Hom.* 57 Þis worc þe deoflum se mæsta seona. *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt xxvi 10 God worc heo worhte on me. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 318 Þæt worc was begunnen ongean Godes willan. *c* 1205 *Lay* 5571 Menbrie dade an vuel weore *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 25 Halden ham i reste from þat fleschliche were. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1810) 80 Or it were alle ten 3ere, þis werk was wrouht *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (verse) 446 Chastesse bam Efter be werk þat þas haue wroght 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* III 310 Whyle god fulfylleth thys dayes the worke of nature ! 1490 Henry *Wallace* I 334 Quhen Wallis thus this wourk herd kud wrocht *a* 1529 Skelton *F Spareow* 566 The kestrell in all this warke Shall be holy water clarke *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Litte IV* 68 Thus was the worke of God, after rose suche a sodain wynde and a terrible tempest. 1595 Shake. *John* IV iii 57 It is a damned and a bloody worke 1599 Peele *Dauid & Bethsabe* II. 1, Is not the hand of Ioab in this worke? 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* III xv 272 A people of that beastly disposition, that they performed the most secret works of Nature in publicke view 1699 South *Serm., Prov.*, *no.* 17 (1697) I 28 After a long fatigue of Eating and Drinking, and Dabling he concludes the great work of Dining Gentile 1848 Mackay *Hope & Fear* (1876) I 1 For almost the last time in which she should be called up to weep in this history, she commenced that work. 1859 H Kingsley *G Hamilton* VIII, All this doctor's stuff is no use, unless you can say 3 charms as well und I bee devil's work

*pl.* 1820 *Keats* 2 Stanzas written in dowds and worcs *c* 1827 *Alfred Greg.'s Past C* xxxii 210 Alf we he myndyn08 bera godna weorca. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 13 Se de ze na æfter beorn worcum, His seegen'd se dod *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 145 Alle we beod in monifald wawe bwat for ure eldere werkes, bwa3 hi ben alle gultes ifulled *c* 1200 16 in *Trin Coll Hom* App 257 Þat ic non þing mi unricht Wurche be werkes be beo8 towlde *c* 1250 *Prayer to our Lady* 29 in O. E. *Misc* 193 Ich bidde þe inne3et mid warken and mid muSe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1963 Wit lete werkes I. see dede 1362 Langl. *P Pl A* I 201 A Prol 3a in Hadton an Hermite vn holy of werkes. 1472 Canton *Aeneyd* Non mer 3 ) he was wyse in her werkes in her wordes in her conuersacion \ flowryng in alle vertuys 1526 Tindale *Matt* xi 2 Whe Jhon beinge in preson herde the workes of Christ 1580 *Lobs* (Genev) Isa lxv 6 These things are written before me, I will not keepe silence 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I viii 119 Hypocrisie loues her workes should be seene, but not her humour *a* 1763 Shenstone *Jrnl to Rev* Wks 1765 II 213 A Deity, whose very words are works and all who so works are worthers *a* 1865 Whately *Chr Revol* v, The works performed by Jesus and His disciples were beyond the unassisted powers of man

*b Theol* (*pl.*) Such actions as are considered as relation to justification usually as contrasted with *faith* or *grace* Rarely in *sing* (See also 3.)

*Covenant of Works* see Covenant *sb* 8a.

1362 Langl *P Pl A* xi 268 3if I shal werke be here werkes to wynne me heuene wyuelees 1382 Wyclif *Tph* II. 9 By grace he ben saued bi feith, it is the 3yfte [G. dot not of werkis, that no man schulde 1480 Henryson *Fox, Wolf & Hus* 807 Works that be maid ferme faith pu vndo. 1526 Tindale *Rom* iv 6 Vnto him that worketh not, but beleyueth on him that iustifieth the vngodly, his faith is reconed for righteousnes 1533 Gau *Richt Way* (S T S) 177 Faith causis him to wirk thingis bewell godlie and christiane warkis 1625 Mountagu *App Cæsar* 164 The pers n with God must be made acceptable bef re any work of his become approveable 1635 Pagitt *Heresiogr* (1661) 18 They seeke to bee justified and saved, by workes, is to seeke that by the Lawe, which could never bee brought to passe, by it

c. Qualified by phr. with *of* expressing the moral quality of the action, as *a work of works of charity, of darkness, of mercy*, etc.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 11 De were of þesternesse þat ben alle heuie sennen *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 19764 Cristen seo was and euer fus Abute wil workes of almus 1320–1844 [see Mraw *sb* 3] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 11 Þe wil and þe werk to brue stede men *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom* 341 It was a werke of ch ristes 1526 Tindale *Rom* v, 12 Have no felt shippe with the vnfrutfull werkes of darcknesse 1548 Udall *Erasmus Luke* 18 Amonges other workes of Charitie we shoulde comforte the sicke 1703 Earl Orrery *Art y find it* 11 63, I have another Work of Charity upon my hands, to reform an extravagant Husband 1846 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III iii, Even in her dreams Her soul is at some work of charity

d. *The work of . . .* a proceeding occupying (a stated length of time). So *a work of time*: a proceeding which takes a long time

1605 Bacon *Adv Learn* I vi § 2 The confused mass and matter of heaven and earth was made in a moment, and the disposition of that confused mass was the work of six days 1813 Scott *Rokeby* II xxi To wreak the sword from Wilfrid's hand! Was but one moment's work 1818 — *Hrt M del* II, They had in vain attempted a small head land ; but in the state of the weather and the boat being heavy this was like to be a work of time. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xxxi

*Doomesday* Wks. 1910 I. 224 They buyld houses, till feildes, and set mylles on worke. *a* 1645 Featly *Reynolds* in Fuller *Abel Redivr* (1652) 487 It pleased his Majesty to set some learned men on worke, to translate the Bible. 1692 Norris *Pract. Disc Dst Subj* (1722) III 134 When the Powers of the Soul shall be more awaken'd, and its thoughts more vehemently set on worke. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* v iii 401 By setting on work such immense numbers of our manufacturers.

**27** Out of work (Out OF II b): having no work to do, unemployed, workless. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*, or as *sb.*

1399 Shake. *Rich V*, I ii 114 All out of worke, and cold for action. 1886 *Daily News* 4 Feb 3/7 The Amalgamated Engineers had lost £40,000 last year in out of work pay. 1887 *Spectator* 4 June 763/2 Afraid of being out of work. 1906 *Westm Rev* Jan. 79 The unemployed of all classes, including the genuine out of works.

**28** To go to work (Go TO, 34): to proceed to some action (expressed or implied); to begin doing something; to commence operations. So *to fall to work* (see Fall *v* 66 e).

1377 Langl. *P Pl* B v 347 Vche a mayde that he mette he made hir a signe Semynge to sinne ward and to the werke ȝeden. 1393 *Gower Conf* III 82 Ȝe werke we ȝeden. 1563–87 Foxe *A & M* (1596) 1811/1 Say your mind, & go briefly to worke for I think it almost dinner time. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II ii (1622) 182 Swearing he never knew man go more awkewardly to worke. 1601 Shake *Twel N* iv i 36 Ile go another way to worke with him. Ile haue an action of Battery against him, if there bee any law in Illyria. I shall go a shorter and a plainer way to worke. 1773 Goldsm. *Hist Eng* I 363 This parliament went expeditiously to work upon the business of reformation. 1890 *Temple Bar* July 329 His wits went impishly to work.

**29** To set to work (Set *v.* 112, 113). *a. trans.* (*a*) To set (a person, the faculties, etc.) to a task, or to do something; less commonly, to put (a thing) in action; *refl.* to apply oneself to labour, or to some occupation or undertaking; to set about doing something.

1497–8 in *Archæol Jrnl* (1876) XLIII 268 A fyne for werkyng by nyght & settyng to werk a child vnbound & vnablid. *c* 1530 Skelton *Magnyf* 1246 A nysot That will not ydyll And can not herselfe to werke. 1579 Fulke *Cruc Ref* (Globe) 240/1 I set Fridas to Work to boiling and stewing. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* xii 1 (1782) IV 221 The time drawn near when I shall set his address to work. 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* iv 80 Set to work. Such a lamp is soon set to work, and as soon extinguished. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine*, etc. 23, Somebody else daring him to go in for honours, he set himself to work to show them all what he could do. 1879 Sala *Paris Herself Again* xxxii The owners set their wits to work

†(*b*) To begin working upon *cf* 23 *c*. *Obs.*

1604 J. Houghton *Royal Husb* Ded A 3 With Veyns and Vlnes, if they was set to Work, by my hard understands them, would prove as Rich

*b. intr. for refl.* = (*a*).

1691 W Nicholls *Answ Naked Gospel* 92 The Doctor sets to work to his exp sition of the Trinity. 1782 R Cumberland *Anecd Emin Painters* I 147 The devout painter sate to work. 1825 *New Monthly Mag* XVI 353, I set to work at another two act piece. 1889 H D Traill *Strafford* iv 46 Charles set seriously to work to govern alone.

** with *work* as *sb.* and a verb. (See also 3 b.)

**30.** To cut out work *for* a person: to prepare work to be done by him, to give him something to do, now only *to have (all) one's work cut out* (colloq.) to have enough, or as much as one can manage, to do.

1619 Tymme, 1866 [see Cut *v* 56 I] 1879 H C Powell *Amateur Athletic Anns* 19 This [race] Crossley had all his work cut out to win

**31.** To make work *a* (also *to make a work*): To work havoc or confusion, hence, to make a to do or fuss, to cause disturbance or trouble (*cf* 6); †in quot 1574, to trouble oneself *to do* something *dial.*

1530 Palsgr 616 a 2 He maketh suche a worke when he commeth that all the house is out of hym. 1574 Kempe *Poems Reform.* xlii 234 If ty maid na work To seek ony. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo* civ Conv 111 (1586) 136 I liese women like some Physicions make more of it all was well before.

1607 Shake. *Corr* I iv 70 There is Auffidious. List what worke he makes Among st your cloven Army. 1698 *Lauder of Fountainhall Chapters* (Camden 1895) II 102 It is a foolish thing for scots men to complain or make worke here, or to endeavour a Rebellion in scotland. 1809 *J. Ramsay's Remin* (ed. 1736) 50 People make a worke to minuter preach the word, sermon over again. 1816 Scott *Antiq* ix, On dear! Monkbarns, what is the use of making a wark? 1884 Walford *Baby's Grandmother* iv, Passing in and out and making no end of a work.

*b To make work for* : to give (a person, etc.) something to do

1595 Shake *John* II i 393 Yong Arthur Who this day hath made Much worke for teares in many an English mother. 1882 Mabbe tr *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf* II 238 I set by sauing their workmanship, my selfe might haue made worke for the hang man. 1908 P Ward *Wooden World Dist* (1778) a To make more Work for the Hempen Whores in London.

*c.* with qualifying adj., as *to make good, short, sure* (etc.) *work (of or with* a person or thing): to do the business, or deal with the person or thing well, shortly, surely, etc.; often with special implication, as *to make short work of or with*, to destroy or put an end to quickly; to settle and dismiss peremptorily; *to make sure work with*, to secure, to get safely into one's possession or control.

1598 Shake. *Rom & Jul* II vi. 35 Come with me, & we will make short worke 1607 — *Cor* IV vi 95, 100 You haue made good worke, You and your Apron men You haue made faire worke. 1608 Torkil. *Serpents* 265 Hauing made sure worke with one, she [*sc* the spider] hyeth her to the Center of her Web, obseruing whether any newe prey will come. 1706 M Henry *Gen* xxxviii 9 Sometimes God makes quick work with sinners. *a* 1774 Goldsm *tr Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 264 Believing they would at last make shorter work with me, and dispatch me with pistols. 1789 Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 52 Seeing what strange work Lord Shaftsbury has made with this passage in his translation of it. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xi, Wild work they made of it; for the Whigs were as dour as the Cavaliers were fierce. 1826 Disraeli *Viv Grey* VI. 5, It is a very awful tale, sir, but I will make short work of it. 1859 H Kingsley *G Howard* xii, The Doctor, on his mare, was making good work of it across the plains. 1889 *Law Times* LXXIX 269/2 A Lords Committee would probably make very short work of those precedents.

*** with qualifying adj. (or phr.: see also 1 c, d, 14, 31 c)

**32. Good work**: a morally commendable or virtuous act; an act of kindness or good will; *esp.* (in religious and theological use) an act of piety; usually in pl. such acts as tend to obedience to divine law, or as the fruits of faith or godliness (cf. 1 b).

*c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegange* 9 Þurh soða lufe & þurh þyrsnnesse & þurh o're gode wore *c* 1000 *Rule St Benet* (Logeman) 24 Auf beteran ofdrum ge gium wexenne & eadmodnen we beoð gemette. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 9 Oðre godere werc & oðre werkes. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 8635 Þa god werr wit manneȝ Þa ma wick wit-ennen wrak. *c* 1340 *Hampole Prose* 11 wel, þei in on wyȝ þos seue uirtues be nore yseid lyeþ be boȝes of ristuolnesse, and al þet frut of good workes þet of hem wexeþ belongeþ to þre tunges. 1382 Wyclif *Matt* xxvi. 10 He wrouȝt a ben[e] ȝ[e]uyng or sory] to this womman ſ sothely a good work she hath wrouȝt in me. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* I. iii 13 He outte be douȝty and strong into gode werkis. 1526 Tindale *New Leg Eng* (Pynson) 1 He dyed in great Age full of good werkes & vertues. 1596 Harington *Metam Ajax* 41 When it does him good but two good works in all his life. 1693 W Kamerey *Astrol Rest* 183 Those times are to be shunned at the beginning of any good work. 1724 Erskine *Serm, Pet.* xxi. 1 (1732) 20 To make the work a good work, it must be done, by a good and holy person, renewed by the Spirit of Christ, and justified by his merit. *a* 1829 *T Hill Lect. Dvn.* v. iii. (1850) 478 Good works are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith. 1867 J. Hutchison *Lect Phil.* iii. 25 Every good work wrought within us and wrought by us

*** 1533. Proverbial and proverbial sayings.

1a. (see Hand *sb.* 60 e). *c* 1530 R Hilles *Comm-pl Bk* (1858) 140 Meny hondys makyth lyght werke. 1670 Ray *Prov* 258 All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy. 1697 *Collier Ess* iv Heroic conduct of this type has a Voice to be, and is, regarded by British officers as 'all in the day's work'.

**IV. 34** *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *work-hours, -pause, -place, -room, -thing, -time, -tool, -yard* (see also Work-day, etc.); (of persons) employed in manual, mechanical, or industrial labour, as *work-girl, -servant* (see also Work-folk, -man, etc.,); (of animals) used for work on a farm or otherwise (= 'of burden' or 'of draught'), as *work beast, -horse, -mare, -mag, -ox, -steer, -stock* (cf. Ox, *workoxteen*), pertaining to or used for needlework or the like (see 16), as *work-case, -desk, -drawer, -pattern, -stand* (see also *work bag*, etc. in d), or Objects, etc., as *work-catcher, -work-grouncing* adj. c. Instrumental, as *work-driven, -hardened, -stained, -worn, -weary, -worn* adjs. d. Special comb.: work-bag, -basket, a bag, or basket, to contain implements and materials for needlework; work-bench, a bench, with accessories, at which mechanics work, esp. a carpenter's bench; work-board, a board upon which some kind of manual work is done; work-box, a box to contain instruments and materials for needlework; work-cupboard = *work-table*, work field, (*a*) a field or piece of ground used for training in farm-work; (*b*) a 'field' of work, region of activity; work-hand, (*a*) [Hand *sb.* 8] a person employed by another to do work; (*b*) with defining adj. [Hand *sb.* 9], as *a good work-hand*, one who is a 'good hand' at work, a capable worker; work-holder, a device in a sewing-machine for holding the work at fabric; †work-holy *a. Theol*, meaning at or pretending to holiness on the ground of works (see 1 b); †work-jail, a penal workhouse; work-lead, †(*a*) a vat (I Ead *sb.*1 5 a) used for fermentation; (*b*) = *G. werkbleı*, lead as it comes from the smelting furnace, containing impurities; †work-like *a.*, inclined for work, industrious; work-mate, a fellow-labourer, one engaged in the same work with another or others; workmonger, controversial term for one who expects to be justified by works (see 1 b); work-shy *a.*, shy of or disinclined for work, lazy; hence *work-shyness*; work-stone, a sloping cast-iron plate (? originally a stone) in the front of an ore-hearth, with a groove down which the melted metal flows; work-table, a table for supporting working materials and tools; *esp.* a small table with compartments and drawers, and sometimes with a well for needlework; work-train, a train of wagons or trucks for conveying materials for construction or repair of a railway, etc.

1775 Twiss *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 36, I bought here several *work-bags made in the Brasils. 1893 Daunt *Eileen Alanna* v, Some half dozen reticules and work bags, 'containing documents', as she informed us. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy S Seas* 39 A small Basket about the Size of the Womens *Work baskets in England 1897 Voynich *Gadfly* I vii, His mother's work-basket stood in a little cupboard 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 866 Thow schalt not couvyte by neyghorys wyf, ne his oxe ne his *werk best 1782 J. Jefferson *Notes State Virginia* (1787) 275 While we have land to labour then, let us never wish to see our citizens occupied as a *work bench, or twirling a distaff 1886 R. Kemp *Gentl He* 307 A Carpenter's Shop will contain the well known work bench of the trade, and perhaps a lathe. 1811 Sutcliff *Trans. N Amer.* 58 A tailor... whose *work-board being at a front window, he had an opportunity of noticing the passengers in the street. 1889 C. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Set IV 395/1 The 'watchmaker's' 'workboard' should be made of well seasoned wood. 1811 Miss Hawkins *Countess of Gertrude*, *Workbox 1848 Dickens *Dombey* viii, Berry brought out a little work box, and fell to working busily. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind Housek Managem.* 25 You must have a *work-case with thread, cotton, needles, pins, thimble, scissors, knife, and tape or measure. 1707 *Gentl of Life* 260 The *work covenant of binds brings to light the duty and the weakness of men 1821 Florio, *Scrignetto*, a little shrine, chest, coffin, or desk Also a women's *workdesk 1848 Thackeray *Pen & Pencil* viii, Before him her *work drawer an enormous piece of knitting 1880 E. H. Rollins *New Eng Tragedies* (1883) 40 These farmers were somewhat always *work drivers. 1526 Tindale *Rom* xvi 21 Thimotheus my *worke felow. 1564 *Brief Exam.* D 3 b, We nede many workefelowes 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Nov 9/3 A visiting farm or *Westfield' managed by the poor-law authorities. 1918 Asp, Davidson in *Times* 30 Dec 8/3 Their activities are in His larger workfield now 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xiii, The blooming young *work girl. 1886 Besant *Childr Gideon* I. vi, We're work girls, and we've got to earn our living. 1866 Carlyle *F Jerrold* (1891) 139 Mr. Jerrold's assistant and *work hand for many years was John Bell, a joiner 1893 J. N Page *Die Virginus* 173 He was a good work hand, and a first class boatman. 1859 Geo Eliot *Adam Bede* iv, She stands blushing with her *work-hardened hands. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.* 2130/2 The cylinder sewing machine has a cylindrical *work holder for sewing seams on sleeves, trousers, and other tubular work. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 49 b, The sophisters, *workholy, & mattifiars, which so magnifie their deedes. 1543 *Rickmersh Wills* (Surtees) I. Inventaryes and stable Item iiijor *warke horses. 1822 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst Husb Scot* I 57 A pair of work horses may be accommodated in a space of sixteen feet by twelve. 1888 *Pall Mall G* 19 Nov 3/1 Parton vii, To try and get a little sleep before *work-hour *Ibid*, Unfettered by work hours 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 233 Breaking up the *worke-house, or bridlewell [L. *ergastula argastulaque*] by night of Workmen. 1834 Poulett Scrope in *Hansard's Parl Debates* Ser III. XXIII. 1326 He whose country must be studded with district workhouses, or rather *work-jails. 1888 *Labour A c Rolls* (Surtees) 156 Pro operacione cc* vjxx viij petr. plumbi in iij *warkledes, brewiedes, et j steplede 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss*, Work-lead Work-lode 1620 *Venner* 264 Heedell *Erasmus* in Fuller *Abel Redivr* (1651) 57 Seaven Cities, no contemptible portion of witty and *workmanly Greece. 1769 Dravton *Nymphid* ii 1/1 Workmayd in her Summers weed, With Sheafe and Sickle 1587 *Lanc Wills* (Chetham boc.) 244 One *worke horse or maire 1851 H. Mayhew *Lond Labour* (1861) II. 55 The man accordingly got a box, and was soon afloat among the old *workmates 1549 Allen *Jude's Par. Rev* xii 3–6 The truth of the christen lieth beyng persecuted of Emperours and Kynges, of *workemonges 1581 Pettie *Guazzo* 88a He Harlots and Publicans repenting truly, and submitting themselues to the mercie of God, are more acceptable vnto God then yᵉ proud workemonger, that trust in their owne righteousnesse. 1888 Mrs Booth *Addr Crit Salvation Army* 7 One class of critics stigmatises us as being work mongers. 1598 *Wills & Inv* (Surtees) I. 111, ij *weryke nagges 1567 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 210, xxj *wark oxen 1897 O Wister in *Harper's Mag* Mar 534/2 He looked at me as a *work-ox 1883 Scott *Guy M* xxii, Miss Bertram's work-pocket 1888 *Pall Mall G* 8 Robertson *Provost o' Glendooke* 91 The Glendookian year contained two *work pauses 1828 Bewick in *Zoologist* (1862) ber 1, xx 8 Sent to work the next *work-place 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict* c 55 § 91 Any factory, workshop, or workplace not kept in a cleanly state 1828 Scott *St M Perth* vii, The *work-room was filled to crowding by personages of no little consequence 1848 Mrs Gaskell *Mary Barton* xiii, Thoughts of the morrow to be spent in that close, monotonous *work-room 1892 *Daily News* 18 May 6/1 There are no openings for *work-seekers. 1593 *Lanc Wills* (1884) 155, I gyve unto every one of my *worke servants over and beside their wages a sheepe. 1904 H. Preston-Thomas *Reg Vagrancy Acts* 4 If the conduct of most of them has been regarding a *work-shyness' 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Jan. 3/2 His rough and *work stained hearers. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Oct 5/1 There are some of us who have learned to love that work-stained river 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxix, He placed another chair opposite that near the *work-stand 1911 *Blackw. Mag* Sept 379/2 Setting him to work with *work-steel and a smile cow *Ibid.* 380/2 What for his *work stock feed. 1667 in Pettus *Fodina Reg* (1670) 35 Five Hearths with Backs, Cheeks, *Workstones, Iron Plates, and other necessaries 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser III 356/2 Extending forwards from the front of the hearth...is an iron plate called the 'fore-stone' or 'work stone' 1880 S & Ht. Lee *Content Tr.* (ed. 2) III 139 On one side stood an ornamental *work table. 1889 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* I,

A small basket work-table, overflowing with bright-colored wools and silk. 1882 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 168 The playthings and the "worktlings, that this unlucky search discovered. 1884 Pall Mall Gaz. 22 (1898) 243 During "work-time he planned amusements for Miss Kennedy and her girls. 1885 Browning *Asolando, Epilogue* iv, At noonday in the bustle of man's work-time. 1888 *Lanc. Willis* (Chetham Soc.) 151 Bellowes and other *work toples. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* Oct. 10 The *work-train is again engaged in hauling gravel on the road. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* I. 1. 54 Look I am I not *Work-wan, flesh-fallen? 1865 Mas. I. S. Clarke *Common Scatwoods* iv. 74 The man of business takes a ramble on the sea shore, *work-weary. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vi. (1878) 170 When for a few moments that *work-worn man takes up his Bible. 1614 T. Gentleman *England's Way* 31 Houses, and *worke-yards erected for Coopers, and Rope-makers. 1884 R. Kerr *Gentl. Ho.* 308 An enclosed Work-yard is...required...The Workshops ought to face it.

**Work** (wǝ̈k), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **worked** (wǝ̈kt), *arch.* **wrought** (rɔt). Forms: see below. [(1) OE. *wyrcan*, pa. t. *worhte*, pa. pple. *geworht*, = OS. *wirkian*, OHG. *wurchen*, *worhta*, *wurhta*, *giworht*, *gewurchet* (MHG. *wurken*, *wirken*, *worhte*, *geworht*, *gewirket*), ON. *yrkja*, *orta*, *ortr*, Goth. *waurkjan*, *waurhta*, *-waurhts*:—OTeut. **wurkjan*, *wurxt-*; (2) OE. (Mercian) *wircan*, = OFris. *werkia*, *wirka*, *worachte*, *worcht*, OS. *wirkian*, *war(a)hta*, *war(a)ht*, OHG. *wirchen*, *warahta* (MHG. *wirken*, *warhte*, G. *wirken*, *wirkte*, *gewirkt*), ON. *verkja*, *virkja* to feel pain :— OTeut. **werkjan*, **warxt-* (**wurxt-*). A third OE. type represented by late *wercan*, *weorc(e)an* seems to point to early influence of the sb. *we(o)rc* (see **Work** *sb.*) upon the vowel of the vb.

Other Teut. forms are OFris. *werka*, OS. *-werkian*, (*werkhot*), (MD)Du. M(L)G. *werken*, (*verachte*, etc.), OHG. *wer.khen* (MHG. *wurchen*, *werken*), ON. *verka* (*-að*) in certain technical uses, *erka* to manage, effect, contrive (Sw. *verka* to do, perform, *virka* to crochet, Da. *virke* to operate, act, weave, etc.).

The Indo-Eur. base *werg-*, *worg-*, *wrg-* is represented outside Germanic by Zend *varəzaiti* to work, Gr. *ἔργον* (=**wergjō*), *ῥέζω* (=**wrgjō*) I do, perf. *ἔοργα*, *ὄργανον* Organ, *ὄργανα* Orgy, Olr. *fairgid* they made, *dofairci* prepare, and the forms of Skt. *sīk* and *v.*, and Welsh *gwe*.

The normal representative of OE. *wyrcan* would be **worch* (for the vocalism cf. *worm*, *worse*, *wort*); the substitution of *k* for *ch*, producing the modern standard form (*wǝ̈k*) instead of (*wǝ̈f*), is shown in north-midland areas *c* 1200, and is due mainly to Work *sb.*, though Scandinavian influence (see various forms above) is possible.

The new pa. t. and pa. pple. *worked*, formed directly on the inf. stem, became established in the 13th century; it is now the normal form except in archaic usage (in which the older form *wrought* may appear in any sense), and in senses which denote fashioning, shaping, or decorating with the hand or an implement: see Wrought.]

**A.** Illustration of Forms.

1. *Inf.* and *Pres.-tens.* *a.* 1 wyrc(e)an, (wyrcean), 2-3 wurchen, (3 wrchen, wuerche, wourche), 3-6 wurche, 5-6 wurk. *β.* 1 wir-(e)an, 3-5 wirche(n, 3 wyrche, 3-4 wirch), (whirche), *y.dial.* wirtch. *γ.* 1 weorcean, wercan, (2 *imper.* wreo), 2-4 werchen, (3 wrecchen), 3-5 werche. *δ.* 3-6 worch(e, (4 worsche, 6 *arch.* woorchen).

*a.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 2 Hreoniae doas *vel* wyrcaa. *Ibid.* xxi. 28 Wuirc in wingeard minne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 Þæt we scoldon wyrcan þæt weorc þæs Hælendes. *Sax. Leechd.* II. 264 Hu mon hreodeunas wiþ þon wyrcean scyle. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Gif monie wi-wen mon nei wurchen elmesaen. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 3 vii. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 1547 Scaðe werc urheten. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 408 (Jesus MS) He wile of bore worche [*Cott.* wichen] bareh. *c* 1250 *Godstow Reg.* 24 With þan holy fur to wurch. 1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 182 In Gods seruyce they honourable ywerche. *B.* c 1225 *Vesp. Psalter* xiv. 2 So...wirced ȝehtwisnesse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1202 Þe wirkes þingeð wrong werche. 13.. *Northern Passion* 1264 Alle the bettyr þey myghte wyrche. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6650 He had wirken whanne þat neede is...Seynt Poule hath loued al hooly chirche He hade thapposteles forto wirche And wynnen her lyflode.. And seide wirketh with youre honden. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 344 Elburwe þat religyose house let after wirchin. *a* 1425 tr. *Higden's Polychron.* (Rolls) I. 71 A place wher assenak is putte in, if it wirch perfitely, shal lycoune blo & bolned. *c* 1440 Promp. *Parv.* 11. xiii. 222 Worie, wirche hall deedis. *c* 1450 *Myrr.* 4, 8 Sou soo in Hali. *E. P. P.* I. 146 He made hym evyn with every man, as far as he cowde wyrche. 1847 Halliwell, *Wirt.h*, to seche. *North.*

*γ.* 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 Þæt þu scealt...Godes willan wercan. *c* 1200 *Rule of Chrodegang* xvii, Þonne hi ne þurfon geneame woc wercean, wirca mic nam þing þæs þe his ænm reoc hæf. *c* 1275 *Coll. Hom.* 223 Wreo þe mon an arc. *c* 1300 werchen [see II. 2]. *c* 1275 Lay. 12167 Ich wolle werechen after þine willen. *c* 1480 werche [see B. 1. c].

*δ.* *c* 1178 *Ay Fadne of Hell* 310 in *O. E. Misc.* 220 Wo-so euer wil halou þis sunnunday Weie and worch it ful. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 84 Wymmen with childe þat worchen ne nomen. *c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 193 Þei weren not...worsche afiir good conscience. *c* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) App. xx. 94 Hi ȝeute wourche wo. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 8 Crist grawut us grace truly to work. 1566 Trane *Horace, Sat.* viii. 6 To woorchen all our will. 1885 Wauch *Lancs. Songs* 24 When a mon's honestly willin' To worch.

Vol. X.

*ε.* 3 (*Orm.*) wirrkenn, 4 wire, wirok(e, wyrkke, wyrkke, wyro, (wrick, wrik, wryk, *Sc.* vyrk), 4-6 wirke, wyrk(e, *Sc.* wrk, 4-6, 8 *Sc.* wirk, 5-6 wyrcke. *ζ.* 3-6 werke, 4 were, werkke, werken, 5-6 werk, (6 weorke). *η.* 4-7 worke, 6 wourke, wyrke, *Sc.* vurk, 7 work, 6-work. *θ.* 5-6 warke, 9 *dial.* wark.

*c.* c 1200 Ormin 10218 Þe wirrkenn allnes werrkess. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1270 To wirk þare wik wil. *Ibid.* 2200 To wyrk wondres. *Ibid.* 23951 Þi will to wire. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9001 How þey so build wyrke. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 4 Þo bokes of holy kyrc, þat holy men...coth wyrc. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xix. (Christopher)* 203 To wryk in vs his weirk postes. 1378 *Barbour Bruce* v. 488 He thoucht to virk with slicht. *c* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1468 Þis ilke prophesye he wyrkkes. *c* 1400 wirken [see 1 β]. 1530 Palsgr. 789/1, I wyrke...Declared in I worke. 1599 *Compl. Scot.* I. 2 Of the ingenuite of gode (quhilk wirkis al thyng). 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 482 For to wyrcke. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* ix. (S.T.S.) II. 201 Feiring...that Angus suld wirk thame sum...leasure.

*ζ.* *c* 1280 werken [see B. 1. a]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14704 Þe werckes þat were. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. T.* 1427 As for to werken any thyng in contrarie. *c* 1440 Holland *Howlat* 785 He couth werk woundreis. 1546 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 236 b, It can weike no effect. 1583 *Recipe-book* 86 b, Thou maie weirke mo cures.

*η.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 206 Alneway worknde. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1708 (Lydon) Lat god worke what his wol is. 1546 *St. Papers Henry VIII* I. 1 Will ye wish I shuld worke. 1560 Rollock *Lect. Thessal.* (1606) 1 Quhilk wirkis in vs. 1561 Golding *Pleas. & Payne Ibid.* 108 The Lorde worke in the hertis of the ycyte. 1570 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 9 Matter...for them to wurk vppon. 1581 *Satire, Poems Reform.* xliv. 368 Destroy the Blocks That wirkis thir Turkis ganis the. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 634/1 Divine powers which should worke vengeance vpon perjurers. 1625 Bacon *Exp. Natural Ind.* (1900) III. 52 Discharging our brondsides as fast as wee could: laied them and wonck them. 1645 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 292/1 Which to worke up the wall.

*θ.* 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 1. xiii. 35 The handes warke. *a* 1529 Skelton *Ir. Sparrow* 709 Whereat they barke, And after all they warke. 1882 Miss Mitford in *Lond. Lit* II. 143 If 'tis to be done, he'll wark the oracle for me.

2. *Pa. t. a.* 1–3 worhte (1 worhte, uorhte); 1–4 wrohte, (3 wrocte, *Orm.* wrohhte), 3–4 wrouht(e, 3–5 wrogt(e, 3–6 wrouȝt(e, wrought, 4 wrogte, wrokt, wrouht, (wrotht), 4–5 wroght, 4–6 wrouchte, 4–6 *Sc.* wrocht, (wrocht), 5 wrowȝte, 4–6 wrought. *β.* 1–2 warhte; 3 wrahte, wrauhte, 3–4 wraȝte, 4 wraht, 5 *Sc.* wraucht, 6 wraught.

*a.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 8 Uorhte lam of ðæm ȝeuille. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 3 Hallwrihht wass he wrohhte. 1096–66 *Inscr. on Dial, Kirkdale Ch., Yks.*, Haward me wrohte. *c* 1200 Ormin 2756 Godd...Þatt alle shaffiz wrohhte. 1205 *Lay.* 12054 He harm wrohte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Þe þet wrohte þe pin. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 146 His mirpe ...ðe wrouhtis [= wrought them] on ðe ferðe day! *Ibid.* 233 It ne wrocte him neuere a del. *a* 1300 in *Anecd. Lit.* (1844) 9 Þe harm, wrof Crist he wrouhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3624 First þan wroght he angel kind. 13.. *Northern Passion* 1367 (MS. Camb. Gg.) Þei wrouhin hit wit vnistrie. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3604 I wrogt nouȝt þe beat. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 258 Iohne wroucht syne sa vittely. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 403 Ful many an hethen wrighteisne fol wo Þe jet wrought hath in his lyue. *c* 1390 *Gower Conf.* III. 340 Þat I wrought folyes fele. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 106 Þe apostil wrouȝt wiþ his handis þingis able to manius vse. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseus.* 3170 *In the Palace of Pride* Þei wrought wel or wrouȝte nesse. *a* 1529 Skelton *Wyffully Aray* 42 Y wrought the, I bowȝte the frome eternal fyre. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 39 The halie spreit vrocht this conceptione. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings i. 2 Where wroughtest thou? 1550 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159 His seruantes that attended and wrouȝte at the Coorte. 1573 *Ibid.* 106 The seyd seruantes wrought vpon sundry occasyons. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. (S.T.S.) I. 193 How ...vnwisile they wrocht.

*β.* *a* 1200 *Leg. Kath.* (Cott.) 1 Þeod in Anglisn *X.* 64 He warhte eac deȝulran eardung stowen. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa warhte god feole tacne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1073 Þet he wrahte hallelicne wunder. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20 He...of hiis ȝe biddes wrauhte [*Cott.* wraȝte]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 56 My wrechid wylle in wo ay wrathe. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. xiii. 5314 Al þe wilis þat he wrauht [in margin] wele. 1560 Rollock *Pr. Ld.* 12 So Sin, not Time, first wraught the change.

*γ.* 1 wyrte, 2 werote; 5 wyrkyd, 6–worked (7–work'd).

*a.* 1000 *Cædmon's Hymns* I. 3 *Digiti mei aptaverunt psalterium*, fingras mine wyrtun hearpan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Þa werote he hele wundra. *c* 1470 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 281 They have wyrkyd vpon the Kyng. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxiii. 26 Ye worke alle thinges in a counsell. 1550 *Bale Apology* 98 Whether he be worked by the Spirit of God or of the deuyll. 1561 Golding *Pleas. & Payne Ibid.* 108 Þe hete...is wyrkyd in vs by nature. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. (S.T.S.) I. 199 How ...vnwisile they wrocht.

*β.* *a* 1200 *Leg. Kath.* (Cott.) 1 Þeod in Anglisn *X.* 64 He warhte eac deȝulran eardung stowen. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa warhte god feole tacne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1073 Þet he wrahte hallelicne wunder. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20 He...of hiis ȝe biddes wrauhte [*Cott.* wraȝte]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 56 My wrechid wylle in wo ay wrathe. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. xiii. 5314 Al þe wilis þat he wrauht [in margin] wele. 1560 Rollock *Pr. Ld.* 12 So Sin, not Time, first wraught the change.

*γ.* 1 wyrcte, 2 werote; 5 wyrkkyd, 6–worked (7–work'd).

*a.* 1000 *Cædmon's Hymns* I. 3 *Digiti mei aptaverunt psalterium*, fingras mine wyrtun hearpan. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Þa werote he hele wundra. *c* 1470 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 281 They have wyrkyd vpon the Kyng. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxiii. 26 Ye worke alle thinges in a counsell. 1550 Bale *Apology* 98 Whether he be worked by the Spirit of God or of the deuyll. 1561 Golding *Pleas. & Payne Ibid.* 108 Þe hete...is wyrkyd in vs by nature. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. (S.T.S.) I. 199 How ...vnwisile they wrocht.

*β.* 1 worchte, etc.: see Wrought.

*γ.* 1 wyrkyd

the bataylles by x. ȝer. *c*1475 *Partenay* 4056 Where this Geant were prouised and wrought.

**2.** To perform, carry out, execute a person's will, advice, etc. . *Obs.* or *arch.* (in later use passing into sense 10).

971 *Bl. Kl. Hom.* 67 þæt þu scealt on mæhwylce tid Godes willan wercan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 21 Se þe wyrcð mines fæder willan. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Hu me sulde godcundnisse uenie, and þes wille wurkien in us. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 15 (Bodl. MS.) Wiich cleusinus wil for ich be ȝeouc leaue. *c* 1230 *Will Palerne* 90 He..graunted him.. Forto wrechen his wille as hard wib his owne. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 491 His riche men..þat his red wrouhten. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1881 All the souereins..assignet me hir, For to werke with my wille, & weld as myn owne. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxix. 83 La Destrosis wirk furthe hir rage. 1508 Munday *John a Kent* (Shakes Soc.) 12 Leave the God of heaven to worke his will. 1700 Dryden *Cock & Fox* 589 The false loon, who could not work his will By open force, employ'd his flattering skill.

** To construct, produce, effect.

**3.** To produce by (or as by) labour or exertion; to make, construct, manufacture; to form, fashion, shape. *Obs.* or *arch.* In general use passing into usually, implying artistic or ornamental workmanship (most commonly in pa. pple. *wrought*; see also e). See also *work up*, 39 h.

*Beowulf* 1152 Swa hine fyrndagum worhte wæpnu smiþ. *c* 1205 Lay. 21211 Ich þe wolle wurche a bord; þat her mæȝen setten to scheome hundred sua. *c* 1300 Cursor M. 1373 *Rom. Rose* 5 9 Of body ful wel wrought was she. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 170 He þat it wroghte konde ful many a gyn. *c* 1420 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251 A bok..þat men callyt an abece. Prattyych I-wrouȝt. *Ibid.* Wrouȝt is on þe bok wib-oute, V. parafys [*Bodl. MS.* 738 wrouht]. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Alexander & Dindimus* 582 So curyously, to no lyche a compace, In all thys world was neuer thyng wrought. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 264 To ane prenis Chalmer..thay him led, Quhair ane burely bed was wrocht. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. Prol. 138 Quhat sall I of the bels wrocht that hyngis aweit. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 115 Some of them, whych..worke ye lingues Artillarie for war. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* lxxxiii. (1636) 86 This is the place where all the humours of the body are first wrought. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 267 The blind labourious Mole In winding Mazes works her hidden Hole. 1758 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 103 A hundred cabin-tenakers in London can work a table..equally well. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xvi. 372 A goblet wrought with curious art. 1797 Encycl. Londin. 4 Carpet-Weaver, 258 A public road, beneath which is worked a path conducting to a fine lawn. 1850 Scoresby *Chester's Whalam. Adv.* i. (1858) 4 Whether the first..whaling harpoon used in America was wrought there. 1884 J. Hunt in *Fagg's Intl. Man* x. 269 The [flint] instruments of oval shape have been mostly worked by gentle blows.

(*b*) with immaterial object.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23326 All þas þat wirkes Laus gain right of hait kirkes. 1382 Prior *Predestination* Wks. 1007 II. 351 Are not the Texture of our Actions wrought By something inward that directs them? 1791 Gent. Mag. *Bentley* 7 Each dream, in fancy's airy colouring wrought.

**b.** Said of God: To create. Also in *pass.*, the pa. pple. sometimes becoming equivalent to 'born'. *Obs.* or *rare arch.* ee also 7.

*Beowulf* 92 Þæt se ælmihtiga eordan worhte. *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp.* Matt. xix. 4 *Qui fecit ab initio masculum et feminam fecit eos*, se worhte from fruma weopen-monn & wifmonn gewrahte hiu. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 569 Nis buten an godd..þet al þe world wrahte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 373 He wroght apon þe leper day þe firmament. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* 90 Alas (quoth she) that I was wrought. *c* 1440 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 61 Alle women that in this world be wrought. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 364 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1834) 297 Quhat sall I do? Allace, that I wes wrocht. *c* 1586 Chest. Plaindrede P. 2 All creatures thou hast wrought..shall their Creator sound. 1639 Mure *Ps.* viii. iii. The moone, the twinckling starrs..Works, by thy finger wrought. 1648 Br. Hall *Heavenly Inmate Song* 19 To the less I can satisfie my self with marvailing at thy works, the more let me adore the majesty and omnipotence of thee that wrought them.

**c.** To construct, build (a house, church, wall, bridge, etc.). *Obs.* or *rare arch.* See also 39 a.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 72 Da cwædon hi betwux him þæt hi woldon wyrcan ane burh. 13.. *Leg. Gregory* 218 Chirches, chapels, bope þoust Wrche he ne dede. 14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. M.) 3655 Heues dyd wyrke Abbeys, mynesters, and meny a kirke. *c* 1460 *God. & Gain.* 64 Weill wrought wes the wall, And paynit with pynsall. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 70 They..the Mole immense wrought on Over the foaming deep high Arch. *a* 1701 Mahudrell *Journ. Jerus.* 7 Mar. (1707) 18 An old Bridge..exceeding well wrought. 1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 7 Scaffolds for working the said Piers from Bottom to Top. 1747 Gould *Engl. Ants* 12 Then [a..an.] double Saw, by means whereof they work their Apartments. 1858 Moore *Sagard* i. 1 Earls were the wrights that wrought it [sc. a house].

†**d.** To 'make', obtain (a friend). *Obs. rare.*

1388 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Mid bis andweardan men mon wyrcð oftost frend & wine. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom* 41 Mid weldede of guse [man mai] fiend wuerche.

**e.** const. *of*, rarely *out of* (the material or constituents); also *in* (some material), usually implying artistic or ornamental workmanship. (In later use almost always in pa. pple. *wrought*.)

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 12 Hit is þas godcundan anwealdes þeowna þæt he wircð of yfle good. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 15 He worhte swipast of strengum. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* vi. 14 Wyrc þe an arce of sibeanwum bordum. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* I. 12 God..cwæð þæt he wolde wyrcan manna of eorðan. *c* 1200 Ormin 1788 Nolde nohht te Laferd Crist..Himm wirkenn wiȝ ioch off nohht, Acc wolde off watter wirkenn wiȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29804 He þat di flex worth in to lane, O lam mai wirc flessli licam. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 204 A newe chaumbre-wouh wrouȝt al of bordes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1919) xxiv. 141 In the myddes of this palays is the mountour for the grete Cane þat is alle wrought of gold & of precyous stones. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 171 O Lord, quhilk wrocht all thingis of nocht. 1596 *Edw. III*, iii. 1. 68 Their streaming Ensignes, wrought of coulloured silke. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 681 Good mistaxone nor wrought out of the rocke. 1709 A. Philips *To Earl of Dorset* 34 Every shrub, and every blade of grass, And every painted thorn, seem'd wrought in glass. 1842 Lond. *Hawley Archiv.* 41 Various ornaments..wrought in the purest gold. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 206 Forty-six noble columns, some wrought in granite and some in marble.

† **4.** To compose (a book or writing), to write.

*c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* III. xvii, On þære bec, þe ic worhte. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 Se ðe þas boc worhte. *c* 1200 Ormin [Ded. 24] þatt ice þiss werre þe sholde wirrkenn. *Ibid.* 14069 Patt boc, þatt Wisess & tatt profetess wirrkenn. *c* 1272 *Lewe Rom* 2 in *O. E. Misc.* 93 A Mayde cristes me bit ȝyue þat ich hire wrouhte a luue ron. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4796 Of Ysope saw ȝe neuere nought, Peyler in boke write ne wrought. *c* 1386 Chaucer *L. G. W. Prol.* 372 As shold the hir of malice wolde endyten Despyt of love, and hir estat unknowe, Ryght so myght I. 1579 Lodge *Alarie Pearl.*, Wks. (1856) 13 Who likes, approves, and usefull deems This work, for him 'tis wrought. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* i. iv. 60 Some therefore say, he cannot be thought A right poem, since it may be wrought In style and subject without fire or force.

† **b.** To utter, speak, say. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Franklin's T.* 1402 Ye Pul ditted þate erin, for þat nought Here þir wordes þat þus war wrought. *a* 1552 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) 5. 45 Philip Valays wordes wrogh And said he suld þare ennys slä.

**5.** To compose (a work) by literary labour, to weave; to make (something consisting of such fabric, as a garment, quilt, etc.) by means of needlework, to sew or knit; to ornament with a design, figure, or pattern in needlework, to embroider.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 377 Two pilches weren ðare3 engeles wrogt. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Ashm. 61) 1560 Now se shal don werche qwyltes ne chalouns by-boute be walles. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvii. 171 A damaskl..þe whiche can wel werche youre clothes. 1552 Huloet, *Wrought or Wouen*, as Walkers and Fuller shall truely walke fulle thikke and werke every whibe of wullen yerne. 1598 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 291 Now she vnweaues the web that she hath wrought. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. iv. 46 Prince. Will you voutsafe I wish a Princesse wrought it me). 1651 Davenant *Gondibert* II. xxviii, These belts (wrought with their ladies' care). 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 104 I was working a pair of ruffles. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 33 A splendid cover..of tapestry richly wrought. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* iii. 47 Eng. vii. I. 72 The princess..had been educated only to work embroidery, to play on the spinet, (etc.). 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* vi, I'm going to work.

**b.** const. *with* the design, figure, or pattern.

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 897 His garnement was euerydell Portreied and wrought with floures. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV.* (1830) 115 An holy harnes..embrowdered and wrought with angelles. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit. in Archæologia* XXX. 12 Sixe quyshions, wrought withe my L. [= Lord's] armes. 1842 Tennyson *Amphion* 1 A garden wrought with laurel zone.

**c.** with the design, figure, or pattern as obj.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 807 The Danes bare in their Ensignes a Raven wrought..in needle-worke. 1841 *Hartt's Amazon* 18 To work patterns drawn on canvas. 1859 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* Ser. I. (1861) 286 Working her name on the blankets. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* I. 238 Some fine linen upon which I could have served..for your grandmother to work on samplers.

**6.** To make (an image or figure); to delineate, paint, or draw (a picture, ornamental design, etc.); to carve (a statue or piece of sculpture); also, to represent by an image, portray, picture. *Obs.* or *arch.* Also in general connexions.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23216 Painted fire..þat upon a wogh war wroght. 1448–9 Mekham *Anonym & Cleopes* 60 Leityrrys off gold, pat day were wrought to þe xe. 1597 W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless* 171, If these disorders be not wrought upon Latten plates. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 208, I shall proceed to the working a Pattern or two in Soft Wood. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 928 Those who living Arts cou'd raise or wrought with living Art. *a* 1707 Prior *To the Hon. C. Montague* ii, Each, like the Grecian Artist, woo's The Image He himself has wrought. 1709 — *Alma* iii. 1 Who, by the help of pictures, this wrought with such pain, now appear like the effect of enchantment. 1780 *Mirror* No. 103 A large iron gate, at the top of which the family arms are worked. 1874 J. H. Pepper *Acc. & Mod. Furniture & Xtmt. Rev.* 129 As the ornamental tooling is worked on leather by the bookbinder.

†**7.** With complemental word or phrase: To cause to be..., make, render; to change, convert, turn into something different; to bring into a specified state; also, to make or create in the form of. With simple compl. or const. *to*, *into*. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 13 Hyt ys awriten, min hus is gecleopud; witodlice ge worhton þæt to þeofa cote. 1340 *Hampole Psalter* His hond þu forbenest, & þine fete wurchest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8302 For þi luue was i wilde wroght. *Ibid.* 18370 Ye þat he has wroght to men And pat efter his sun sprede. *Ibid.* 24088 (Edin.) Pat wroht me out of wite. ?*a*. *Ibid.* 13824 (Gött.) He þat me hal has wroght. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9001 Many wounded þat worthy & wroght vnto dethe. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 336 Thys tawe I neuer..., Syth I was man wrought I. *c* 1480 Henrysoun *Want of Wyse Men* 6 Welth is away, wit is now wrocht to wrinkis. 15.. Dunbar *Poems* lxxiii. 115 Ordane for Him none ressing-place, That is so werie wrocht for the. 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, ii. ii. 47 We had need pray..for our deliuerance; Or this imperious man will worke vs all From Princes into Pages.

1638 Saltmarshe *Policy* 43 If you suspect the performance of a promise, worke them obliged by some speciall engagement and pawne.

**8.** To make, form, or fashion *into* something (formerly also † *in*); to make up; to compound (ingredients); to shape (material). See also 39 e.

In various connexions; cf. senses above. Often with special reference to the process or operation performed; thus passing into branch **.

1538 Starkey *England* ii. i. 173 Our marchantys cary them [sc. lead and tin] out..; and then bryng the same in wrokyd ayayn, and made vessel therof. 1558 in Halliwell *Voy.* (1599) I. 303 All our olde hempe is spunne and wrought in tenne cables..and thirteene Hausers. 1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 61 Gun-powder of 2..Runlet colour ..may be judged to have all its Receipts well wrought. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* i. 9 When you joyn several Bars of Iron together..and work them into one Bar. 1717 Pemb. *Almachius* 661 I..melted down my Plate, On Modern Models to be wrought. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. ii. 135 To unlay a cable to work into running rigging. 1820 *Q. Jrnl. Mag.* II. 17 The subject of the Fugue..is a very good one. It were to be wished that it had been worked into a regular Fugue. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 464 String Rugs..are made from odds and ends of..wool, which are ..worked into coarse canvas in loops.

† **b.** To inflict (wounds). *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Melayne* 1502 We sall wirke þam woundis full wyde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 203 Anoyntmentys I wyll to anoynt his woundys sere, That hues hym wroght. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 339 These theues and robeurs route..fersly vpon philotes..worshynge and gruyng to him many wounde.

**c.** To produce or cause by continued application of physical force, e. g. friction; to † wear (a cavity, etc.) by attrition.

1852 C. Woolhouse in *Athenæum* xvi. (1852) 174 The wheels have worked deep grooves in the rock. *Ibid.* He works holes in the seat of his trousers.

**9.** To put in, insert, incorporate, esp. in the way of construction or composition (cf. 3, 4); in various special connexions (see quots.). See also 36 a.

1665 Gibbs *Counsel* 8 Let the Bottom be of Board lead, ..Glass wrought with an Arch well leaded. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 262 We..work into the Aparture, the Colours we would give the Flower with a Spatula. 1727 *Letter* No. 296 p 1 Those occasional Dissertations, which he has wrought into the Body of his History. 1731 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 48 To..work in the Plank between a Bark. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. vii. 42 The love of pleasure..was wrought into his habit. He was a slave to it. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 254 Such a hedge may be repaired by..inserting in the blades..and ..working saplings through it obliquely. 1880 *Iron* 25 May 463 Heavy coils of iron..have been wrought round the.. fore part of each gun.

**b.** *Hort.* To graft (*on* a stock); also *fig.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* ii. To the Romanes early wrought so much civility upon the British stock. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* i. 1. (1841) I. 48 Grafting the word of life wrought in your heart. 1837 T. Rivers *Rose Amateur's Guide* 72 A collection of Chinese Roses worked on short stems. 1850 R. Thompson *Gard. Amusem.* 387 The..portion cut off, is termed the scion, or graft, and the rooted plant, on which it is placed or worked, is called the stock. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 253 Such a Kilmarnock willow] is frequently worked on low stems, and in consequence much of its beauty is lost.

**10.** To effect, bring about, bring to pass; to accomplish, achieve; to cause, produce. (In early use often approaching sense 1.) See also 36 f, 39 b.

*c* 1200 *Ancrene Riwle* 428 He him iseh þurh þe wahe. ? *a Ex.* 850 He werken scheðe and hate. *Ibid.* 1812 De ne leate ic nost, Til hit þinc[ing on me be] wrouȝt. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* i. 771 Salomon wrouhte þe temple. *Alisaunder* 412 With his ferefull folke to Phocus hee rides, And is wilfull in werk to wirchen hem care. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10998 Edlin, To quilc he wroght be cristin scam. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1123 Forto wirke in me no wrong. 1382 Wyclif *2 Cor.* vii. 10 That sorwe that is after God, worchith penaunce ..; forsoth sorwe of the world worchith deeth. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1668 *Lucrece*, Thou hast wrought Tarquin to be lyth wroughten. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. i. (1495) 61 b/1 In diuerse maters [heate] werkyth dyuerse effectes. 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxii. 32 In þe dyke he wrought þat he hit [sc. sin] hath vs wrought. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi. 5 He wirkis sorrow to him self. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 133 Variand quhil thyr tymis he wrocht his awin wrak. 1582 Writip *2 Cor.* vii. 10 That sorwe that is aftir God, worchith penaunce ..; forsoth sorwe of the world worchith deeth. *c* 1585 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1668 *Lucrece*, Thou hast wrought Tarquin to be lyth wroughten. 1598

c 1300 *K. Horn* 288 (Laud) Wat reymnild wroute Mikel wonder him þoute. 1366 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 85 Such Weddyng to worche to wrabbe with trube. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) G viij, Hee ought to worke the matter wisely. 1621 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Unnat. Father* Wks. (1630) II. 137/2 He resolued to worke some meanes to take away their liues. 1634 T. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Elis.* I. 78 The Conspiratours so wrought the matter, that very many of the Nobility assented to the marriage. 1647–8 Cotterell tr. *Davila's Hist. Frances* (1678) 19 The Cardinal ardently wrought the Prince's destruction by counseling the King. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 646 To work in close design, by fraud or guile What force effected not.

*** To do something to an object (thing or person).

**12.** To bestow labour or effort upon; to operate upon: in various connexions and shades of meaning.

**a.** To till, cultivate (land): = Labour *v.* 1; *rarely*, to cultivate (a plant or crop).

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen. lix.* 20 Noe..began to wyrcenne ðæt land. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* lii. 1228 Whan it [sc. land] moyst, & well ywroght: Oynons desire. 1546 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 49 b, [God] dyd..set hym in paradyse .. for that entent that he shulde worche it and kepe it. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 190 Choose soile for the hop of the rottenest mould, well doonged and wrought. 1622 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 107 The earth is soft and sandy, esy to lee wrought. 1674 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. ii. 191 For the..raising, planting, and working a vegetable called Sesamo[,] extraordinary profitable for oyl. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden. xx.* (1813) 394 When the ground can be conveniently worked. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 263 The common of Rattry..is indeed very barren; but if it were wrought, it would produce turnips and then grass.

**b.** To get, 'win' (stone or slate from a quarry, ore or coal from a mine, etc.) by labour; also with the quarry, mine, etc. as obj.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3069 Me wolde wene þat in þis lond nis ston to worke nere. 1604 E. (Jehnsetune) *Adamas's Hist. Indies* iv. vii. 226 The silver that hath beene wrought in the country. 1628 Raleigh *Ap'y Cuiana* (1650) 54 It had been no lesse a breach of reason to have wrought any Mynes of his, then it is now called a breach of reason to take a towne of his. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 62 We found the Vein wrought three Yards wide, and twenty Fathom deep. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 21 Several parts of the Lode..have been indirectly milked and worked. 1791 Smeaton *Eddystone L.* § 99, ..went to view the quarries where the first stone was to be wrought. 1839 Dela Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iv. 124 Roofing-slates and flagstones have been worked in some places. 1844 J. Dunn *Oregon Territ.* 24 The mines were seldom wrought. But we should employ them to work the coal. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 219/1 Several mines were worked for this metal.

**c.** with various objects: ace quots.

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W. 1791 Lucretia*, Softe wolle..she wroughte. 1570 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 360 When he worked White Paper, he caught the sheet by the upper further corner. 1839 Mrs. Kilpatrick *New Holme* x. 61 The road had been but little 'worked', and in some parts was almost in a state of nature. 1880 Cabbeting *Pract. Trap.* 7 The heaps with the most dividing tracks and greatest variety (*i.e.*, continually used). 1883 *Chamb. Journ.* 15 Dec. 791 Produce of value, such as tea, coffee, indigo, drugs, etc., have to be 'worked' for and prepared for use; and this embraces the opening of the package, examination for sea-damage, sorting into qualities, and a host of other operations.

**d.** To manipulate (a substance) so as to bring it into the required condition; *esp.* to knead, press, stir, etc. (a plastic substance), or to mix or incorporate (such substances) together by this means; also, to spread (a colour or pigment) over a surface.

1419 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 183 That he wyrk na lede amanges any other metall.., but if it be in souldur. 1466 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* I. 289 Item, no tanner, ne ne glover,..wyrche hair leddyr at the ryver. 1494 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 19 Cussions stuffed with..goits here, which is wrought in lyme fatten. 1585 Thynne *Speculum Sathanæ Hæresis Dec.* iii. (1588) 2 Mingle lum togither, & stirr them continuallie in a pot.., vntill the Quicksilver be so wrought with the rest, as you shall perceiue no quicksilver therein. 1595 Gascoigne *Arraign. Whet.* Wks. 1910 II. 36 You shall see..how I will worke this geare lyke wax. 1653 Walton *Angler* viii. 172 Mix with it [*sc.* paste] Virgins-wax and clarified honey, and work them together, with your hands before the fire. 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xxi. 340 When they are wrought to a paste, roll them with the ends of your fingers. 1758 Mrs. Calkhoven in *Collectan. Collect.* (Manit. Club) 147 This salt they work into the butter. 1852 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. i. 41 After the butter is taken from the churn it must first be well squeezed or 'worked' by the hand. 1853 *Lady Lee's Epoch.* 185 Some cooks ..worked sesame flour..with honey and oil. 1885 C. Wallis *Dict. Water-colour Technique* 14 The first tone should be decidedly grey, and on this may be worked Raw Sienna and Brown Madder.

**e.** To shape (stone, metal, or other hard substance) by cutting or other process; also, to beat out or shape (metal) by hammering (see Wrought *ppl. a.* 4). Also with *down*. Also *transf.* to wear by friction or attrition. Also *fig.*

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 65 Before the Glass is wrought down to its true Figure. 1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 157 A greater number of Boards to work to a Level. 1703 *Ibid.* 37 Till you have wrought [*ed.* 1677 filed] the Spindle from end to end. 1727 Bradley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1817 IV. 550 Stone easily wrought. 1781 Cowper *Hatting Mill* 2 When a bar of pure silver or ingot of gold Is sent to be flatted or wrought into length. 1804 Mrs. Brownsmit *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* ii, Little thinking if we work our souls as nobly as our iron. 1833 Kane *Grimnell Exp.* xliv. (1856) 265 It [*sc.* an iceberg] is an amorphous mass, so worn that it must have been sorely wrought before its release from the glacier.

1855 Squier *Adv. Mosquito Shore* ix. (1856) 146 The trunk of the ceiba..is invaluable..The wood is easily worked. 1883 *Athenæum* 21 Mar. 382/1 The facility of working it [*sc.* limestone] would lead one to expect that an accurated architecture would have sprung up in Assyria.

**f.** To do artistic work upon; to decorate, inlay (*with* something). (Cf. Inwrought 1.) *rare.*

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 65 Two Pillars..coloured and wrought with blue and Gold. *Ibid.*, Roofe and sides imbost and wrought with gold.

**g.** *Sporting* (with the game, or the scent, as obj.).

1568 in *Archæologia* XXVI. 207 The Emperore and my Lord wente a longeway of the hare, and worked hr. hares or theare aboutes. 1853 Sneedley *H. Coverdale* iii. 13 He says we've worked them [*sc.* the rabbits] quite enough. 1888 *Times* 26 Oct. 10/5 When I..tried to work the scent of a deer which had got away.., the hound proved quite useless.

**h.** *To work one's passage* (etc.): to pay for one's passage on board ship by working during the voyage. app. arising from ellipsis for *work for*[*t*] but cf. 38 e.

1725 *Afford Nav. Logger* 221 The Captain of the Vessel he prevail'd on to carry them..on Condition of their Working the Voyage for their Passage]. 1836 Mrs. C. P. Thaxter *Bitchen, Canada* & A pretty yellow-haired lad, ..to work his passage out. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxv. Some months afterwards Amory made his appearance at Calcutta, having worked his passage out before the mast from the Cape. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 365/1 An educated young Englishman..worked his passage as a coal-passer and ash-heaver.

**i.** *colloq.* or *slang.* To go through or about (a place) for the purposes of one's business or occupation; carry on one's trade or business, or some operation, in.

*spec.* (*a*) of a hound, (*b*) of an itinerant vendor, beggar, etc.: (*c*) of a clergyman: (*d*) of a canvasser.

1834 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 68, I gave up my hitch..to Joe, to work the enclosures, and he got 3 hares and 2 hare. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 70 I've worked both town and country on gold fish. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 117 To work a beat: to peripatetically carry on such business to sell all one can. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xii, Frank Maberly [a parson] had been..as he expressed it, 'working the Isle of Wight'. 1885 Slang *Poet's Corn.* 8 Oh, I'm a Yu and I.. Were working on this very Twelfth the old Dumfriesshire moor. 1893 *Daily News* 18 Feb. 3/5 To use his own expression, he 'works' it, but not easy to work. A hilly region. 1897 *Pitt-Bits* 4 Dec. 186/2 A professional beggar who 'works' seventy or eighty streets in a few hours.

*spec.* 1725 *Afford Nav. Logger* XXVI. 230 We work'd the hunting-field largely. It constantly reappears in his novels.

**j.** *slang.* To deal with in some way; to get, or to get rid of, esp. by artifice; (of an itinerant vendor) to hawk, sell.

1839 *Dict. Flash or Cant. Lang.* 36 Work the Bully, get rid of his money. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 84 They made more money 'working' these [*sc.* pine-apples] than any other article. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* x. Somebody might claim the colt..—say you'd worked him on the cross.

**k.** To investigate or study systematically. See also *work out* (38 k), *work up* (39 j).

1900 J. Shephard & W. J. Strickland in *Handbk. Austral. Assoc. Adelaide* 84 The country..is almost an untouched group. There are very many forms and when worked they will doubtless yield interesting results.

**l.** To bring or turn upon so as to get into some state or convert into something else; to bring or reduce to; *refl.* with *compl. adj.* to go through some process so as to become . . . See also *work up*, 39 e.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* 70 An English trauaylor..aduised me to make the same [*sc.* Malmesy] alwaies about the middest of May, when it might haue 3 hot moneths together to work it to his full perfection. 1723 Addison *Cato* I. *ad fin.*, So the pure limpid Stream, when foul with Stains ..Works itself easy. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. 298 From..1729 Richardson *Grandison* II. ix. 59 His estate would..work itself clear. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* v. 113 All human achievements are brought down to this top-on-more. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Having no Ash 1/6 It would take some time for the trade to work itself right.

**13.** *Math.*, etc. = *work out*, 38 g; cf. 28.

1593 P. Fair *Horologiogr.* 25, I worke this altogether like vnto the working aforesaid. 1656 Kersey tr. *Pell's Idea of Mathematick* 45 Working with the Elevation of the Meridian. 1823 J. Johnson *Arith.* ii. 137 A second way more briefly to work the same question. *Ibid.* 191 The same example wrought another way. 1869 Stubbs *Mariner's Mag.* ii. xiv. 86 English Navigators work their Observation by the Complement of the Sun's Altitude. 1794 J. H. Hood *Pract. Surrg.* (1828) 40 In all proportions wrought by Gunter's Scale. 1803 Bonnycastle *Hygrin* ix. 72 To set a horse and to work figures by head at the same time. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. v. The sum comes to the same figures, worked either way. 1885 Laing *Math. Class Bk.* 5 To calculate the distance..with as much ease..as if we were working a simple sum of rule of three.

**14.** (= *work on*, 31). **a.** To act upon the mind or will; to exert influence, prevail upon, induce, persuade (esp. by subtle or insidious means); more widely, to bring into a particular mental state, disposition, etc. Also, in later use, to strive or take measures to induce or persuade; to urge. See also *work up*, 39 k.

1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* v. lxxvii, For frends, opinion, & succeeding chance, Which wrought the weak to yeld, the strong to loue. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xviii. § 2 In Negotiation with others; men are wrought by cunning, by Importunitie, and by vehemence. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 532 Yet could hee not bee wrought..to disclose his complices. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 45 What doth the Lord? workes Peters heart from that objection, and so from unwillingnesse. 1713 Addison *Cato* iv. 3, Are your Hearts subdu'd, and wrought By Time and ill Success to a Submission? 1830 Tennyson *Miller's D.* xxx, God..who wrought Two spirits to one equal mind. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* iii, The house or the clothes ..cannot be wrought into an equal power of utterance.

1829 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, I have been working him even now to abandon her. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iii, He was constantly working the squire to send him..to a public school. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* liv, Sooner, or later, he must come round; and the only way to do it, is to work him slowly.

**b.** To act upon the feelings of; to affect, agitate, stir, move, excite, incite. Also *refl.* (occas. *intr.* for *refl.*). Now usually *work up*; see 39 k.

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. iii. 149 My dull Braine was wrought with things forgotten. 1610 — *Temp.* iv. 144 Your fathers in some passion That workes him strongly. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* ix. 1247 Love, Anguish, Wrath, and Grief, to Madness wrought,..his lab'ring Soul oppress'd. 1730 Bremner tr. *Alcipher.* i. 84 Sometimes they work themselves into high passions. 1809–11 Combe *Syntax* xx. 22 The well-dress'd man now stopp'd, to know What work'd the angry Doctor so. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* iv, Grasping his cane tightly, as was his wont when working himself into a passion. 1838 — *Nick. Nickl.* xxxiv, 'What has?' demanded Ralph, wrought by the intelligence,..and the clerk's provoking coolness, to an intense pitch of irritation. 1848 — *Dombey* xxiii, Endeavouring to work herself into a state of resentment. 1854 Milman *Lat. Christ.* IX. ii. (1864) V. 308 Julian was wrought to fanaticism from his constitutional mildness. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. v. 73 Which rigour wrought those children of the ground To that mad rising.

**c.** Of medicine: To take effect upon.

1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Mar., I take a little physic over-night, which works me next day. 1727 Shorter tr. *Humphry Cl.* 26 Apr., Let. ii. It worked Mrs. Lewythin a pennorth.

**d.** To practise on, bunk, cheat, 'do'. *U.S.*

1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 Sept. 6/1 (*Heading*) William officers looking for a horse dealer who has been working that town. 1894 Howells *Traic. fr. Altruria* 122, I might ..suspect him..of..working us, as my husband calls it.

*** To move, impel, drive.

**15.** To move (something) into or out of some position, or with alternating movement (to and fro, up and down, etc.): usually with some implication of force exerted against resistance or impediment. Also *fig.*

1617 Morykson *Itin.* I. 125 This little ditch is not always in one place but in time will make his course to another. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 40 Her Rudder wrought it self out of the Irons, hanging only by the uppermost Pintell. 1720 De Foe *Captain Singleton* (1840) 166 The rage of the floods..works down a great deal of gold out of the hills. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xx, That secret charm, which, once impressed, will work its purpose. 1851 Helps *Spanish Conq.* II. iv. 98 Gradually wrought out of the remembrance by a long train of subsequent events. 1852 Ludlow *Suburban Hort.* 327 Water is poured into it, and soil stirred in till the pit is half full of mud..The roots of the tree are then to be spread, and worked about. 1857 H. Taylor *Northern Treas.* xii. (1858) 127 In vain I shifted my aching leg, and wrought my benumbed hands. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* xxiv. 135 Some people work their flies. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 62 The tube..can be worked down through the hyaline cap. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 858 Loose body in the inner side of knee and by working the knee he can make it evident to the touch. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 July 325 4 A neighbouring battery of guns..were being worked into position with a heaving-song.

**16.** To direct or manage the movement of; to guide or drive in a particular course; *spec.*, *Naut.* to direct the movement of a ship) by management of the sails and rudder; to move and direct (a boat) as with oars; also in *Angling*, to 'play' (a fish).

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 113 A Ship by skilful Steersman wrought Nigh Rivers mouth or Foreland. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* i. ii. 15 The Practick Part of Navigation, in working of a Ship in all Weathers at Sea. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* ii. (Globe) 336 Having no Sails to work the Ship with. 1762 Mills *Nat. Pract. Husb.* I. 160 Make a dam..and a sluice, and work the water upon it through the winter. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 103 Making the finest canoes, and.. expert in working them when made. 1885 J. Wilson *Pocket Angler* Wks. II. 74 [It] requires much skill, and a miracle. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. v, Getting on the box, and working the team down street. 1878 C. Tuttle *Border Lakes* iv. 74 He..worked the steamer..in 1858 *Standard* 20 Sept. 7/2 Special trains..will be worked over the systems of the Great Northern [etc.] railways.

**17.** *refl.* To make one's (or its) way; = **18.**

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* c106 [The vermin] will..worke themselues further in, so that your Terriers shall not be able to find them. 1639 S. Du Verdier tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 90 Octauian wrought himselfe into her good will. 1655 Mod. Wonderfull *Conf. Inst.* 315 How to make a Boat work it self against both Wind and Tide. 1721 Addison *Spect.* No. 121 P 5 [The mole] so swiftly working her self under Ground, and making her way so fast in the Earth. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* i. The women worked themselves into the centre of the crowd. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iv, Tom..worked himself into his shoes and his great coat. 1872 Smiles *Lives Engin.* (1874) II. 27 The solitary thought that would dwell in the minds of men for centuries, until at length it works itself into their daily life.

**18.** with way, etc as obj., usually to *work one's* or *its way*: = 33. 33 b; also *fig.*

1713 Addison *Cato* i. iii, Through Winds, and Waves, and Storms, he works his way. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 321 They worked their way down these streams. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* ix, [A contagious disease] ravaged the English Borders, and made some incursions into Scotland where it afterwards worked a fearful progress. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* ii (18..) 20 Mrs. Trafford worked her way round to Major Lovelace. 1889 R. Bryddall *Art Sent.*

vi. 106 He gradually wrought his way against the usual obstacles which a p or artist must always encounter 1908 [Fiz Powler] *Intic Ivenz's An Holme* 23 The fluffy golden kerna having worked its way through the thick wall

***** Causal senses.

**19** To set or compel (a person, animal, etc.) to work, to exact labour from, to employ or use in work See also 39.

1445 *Lor Inst Bk* 25 Wit ar man it ut wurchithe ony man of the seide craft in to truse wyve le shall f ret x s to the l w walle 1867 Mary Ann Carey I 263 Many good breeders will let their Mares after they are quickened to be strictly travelled two or three times a week 1888 *Times* 1 p xvi Oxen are reckoned the best men if not too much wrought *Ibid* Cin The blaves are usually so well wrought in this clay, that they do not easily take cold 1898 J Nasmyth *Agric C yfeside* 123 Some gentlemen have again begun to use oxen for all the purposes of d ught The bright Honourable Lord Douglas always wo ks a few 1841 R Oastler *Fleet Papers* I 267 Whether it was right to wrk little boys and girls in the fifty nger if in from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock in the eve ing 1888 *Times* 13 Oct 7/6 The manner in which the hounds should be worked 1912 Sir G O Trevelyan *Geo III & Lord* viii 243 The occupants of the best paid places for the most part were not worked at all.

**b.** To bring or get into some condition by labour or exertion.

1628 Folkingham *Panala Med* 72 As Oxen wrought le me, regaine the flesh of young heefers by good nourrage 1707 R Mascall *New Sea Ord* II. ii. 146 He protests that he would not be accessory to the Destruction of so many Innocents, who in he foresaw, would be wrought and starved to Death 1834 Penny Cycl. *Animal Assist* 204 When first I began to handle the hammer my hands blistered but I wrought the blister down 1840 Dickens *Old Cur Sh* 4 xliv She was hard wrought to death 1853 *Bleak Ho* xiii Richard said that he would work his fingers to the bo e fw Ads 1908 II Wares *Old Allegiance* viii 234 I should think you were working the edge away by this time.

**20.** To set in action, cause to act; to direct the action of, to exercise (a faculty, etc); to actuate, operate, manage: with various objects, as a machine or apparatus (passing into **** cf 16), an institution or scheme, etc

c1325 Chaucer *Prol* 530 The ravisehyng to wreken of Elcyne hei wroughten al hire peyne c 1350 Rolland *Cri Ledis* 1 572 To mend the crime thai will wirk all thair mane 1501 Douglas *Hornbook Dedicat* 's Vorge 59 Her left hand to the male the put, her right the hammer wrought c 1610 in C C Bond *Early Hist Viminig* (1904) 15 A smale weight will growe heavye but not be worked up in such many wheeles 1758 J Lucas *Ess Drainage* 15 In 128 Water is raised by a machine, wrought by an horse 1792 R Melvill *2nd Acct Thames Improv* 15 If lower of the Mill-stream will supply it with Water 1798 J Hutton *Acct Mar* v xi, The mariners all grant with their pra 1832 Babbage *Econ Manf* xxxii (ed 3) 251 The coals commonly consumed against it, at the patents has consequently never been worked 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xiii They are de id dolls wooden, wicked with wires 1860 Mill *Repr Gov* (1865) 2 No one believes that every people is fit while of working every sort of thing it may 1877 *Daily Ne* 29 Oct 5/6 The best way to w k the electi ns 1885 'All in Arrears' *Art Cant* ix, Always working her mines) and my own very cautiously 1892 Lefevre *Hist Spain Cent* ix 154 Great n blemen who were also great coalowners w rking their own mines 1923 W J Kerr *Trans Inst Engrs* (1922) I 139 The best way of working figures on their stubs.

**b.** In fig or allusive phrases expressing cunning management or manœuvring. To *work the oracle* (see Oracle 3b 1 b), *the ropes*, *one's ticket* (Ticket 3b 1 6 b)

1859 *Young Dict* 117 Work the oracle, to succeed by manœuvering, to carry out a wily plan to victimize. 1884 Pidgin Illegand *Dunwich* How our mutual friend worked the ropes is more than I can tell; it was 1918 *Athenæum* 15 Aug 759/1 Working on a ticket means taking steps, such as feigning insanity or sickness, in order to get discharged from the army

**c.** To cause to ferment.

[Cf quot. 1594 in 21] 1764 Eliza Moxon *Engl Housew* (ed 9) 140 To make Bub Wine When it is old put a little new yeast upon it, and beat it in every two hours, so work it for two days.

**II** Intransitive senses.

***** To act, to perform work or labour.

**21** Of a person: To do something, or to do things generally, to act, esp in the particular way mentioned, to proceed, to conduct oneself, behave, etc; *Obs.* or *arch*, or merged in other senses.

a 1000 *Sal Boeth* 64 (Gr) Swa ba writestu me. c 1200 *Lamb Hom* 111 Ne ic nam in beliefe ne dar after werkhe? 1297 R Glouc (Rolls) 5819 Wisemen he drou to him & after him he wrote 1300 *Cursor M* 22511 In battail vigly to wrk c 1386 Chas *Sir Thop* 437 This noble emsample to his wheepe he sat That first he wrghte, and afterward that he taughte 1389 Franck *Hegit* 2 (Rolls) I 7 Pro schulleb longe her mede of hym but rew ineb al bat wel wrokeb 1400 *Ab Pol Poems* v 8 Gostly blynd But lewid wrt, and trumpat 1557 *Gorgious Gallery* 1. 1 *Mirr Poems* (Percy Soc) 110 Wher God list wrethe may be noon obstacle 1572 Calvin *Reinyell* (Sommer) 340 [He] putte hym self in to the greetest preas of the battayle wher he wrought mortally a 1580 Sackville *Dynocis Buckstye* Wks (Dyce) I 24 Aduertysyng you to worke more secretly 1850 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 1357 If he haue wrought against the lawes 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 65 He, because he could not otherwise speake vnto him, wrought by agnes, 1601 Shaks *All's Well* v. i. 29 This ha's no holding to sweare by him whom I protest to loue That I will worke against him

**†b.** *To let work* : to allow to act or proceed (*let God work* = leave the rest to God. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid* (1922) 23 Ne þarf þe bute wilnen, & lete goold wrichen 24 *Sir Bevus* (Pynson) 3370 Iowyan transyled of Hydoine, She sayde "go bens away, And late me worke and our lady" 1546 (see A 1 n).

**22.** To act for a purpose, or so as to gain an end; to plan, plot, to contrive, manage *arch*

a 1000 *Judith* 160 Ne mæg ic þæt fela mid wordbeate þinum wylcest þæt ðu þeam xescealtum wes gewealdlice meanre scealtest c 1386 Chaucer *Merch T* 417 God may so ordeyne wirche, That he may repe te of wedded manneres hyl 1390 Gower *Conf* I. 63 How he can wrche Among thy wyde furred hodes, to geten hem the wordes goodes c 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv 242 That wyrk ay to waist wa with vappyn 1548 Hall *Edw. 4 fo. lv* It was before politikely wrought by the French king wrought for his aduantage 1623 Shaks. *Hen VIII*, iii ii 332 Will out the Kings euent or know leisure. Now wrought to be a Legate 1674 Milton *Hist Moscouia* w Wks 1851 VIII 511 The Chancellor with others of the great ones so wrought that a Creature of their own was placed in Sweden 1889 Dennis *Osbornes* xii 240 So wrought the Father of Gods and of men that I was not seen

**23.** Of a thing (abstr. or concr.): To do something; to perform a function, or produce an effect, to act, operate, take effect, *esp* to act in the desired way, do what is required; to be practicable or effectual, to succeed. See also 33

a 1300 *Floris & Blanch* 1 Ye ne may þis þing wrche wonderfull man re, Thugh wik I e saule most cleuied be In purgatoire. a 1375 *Joseph Arim* 49 Louse þi hipes a twynne let þe gost wrche 1393 *Gower Conf* I. 63 How he can wrche Among thy wyde furred hodes, to geten hem the worldes goodes c 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv 242 That wyrk ay to waist wa with vappyn 1548 Hall *Edw. 4 fo. lv* It was before politikely wrought for his aduantage 1623 Shaks. *Hen VIII*, iii ii 332 Will out the Kings euent or know leisure. Now wrought to be a Legate 1674 Milton *Hist Moscouia* w Wks 1851 VIII 511 The Chancellor with others of the great ones so wrought that a Creature of their own was placed in Sweden 1889 Dennis *Osbornes* xii 240 So wrought the Father of Gods and of men that I was not seen

**23.** Of a thing (abstr. or concr.): To do something; to perform a function, or produce an effect, to act, operate, take effect, *esp* to act in the desired way, do what is required; to be practicable or effectual, to succeed. See also 33

1390 Langland *Vis Pier* xi 309 þis þing wrouhte

chord ready made. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* ii. 38 The Greeks of that age ..were able to temper it [*sc.* iron], and they had actually commenced working in it.

c. *spec.* of sporting dogs. (Cf. 12 g.)

1832 [see Working *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 163 Bruce and Rob Roy..both worked in good style. 1874 Carpenter *Mental Phys.* i. ii. § 3. (1879) 104 Young Pointers and Retrievers, when first taken into the field, will often 'work' as well as if they had been long well trained.

**27.** To perform the work proper or incidental to one's business or avocation; to operate or practise in a professional way. *Obs.* exc. as in 5.

1340 *Ayenb.* 174 Pe leche ne may nast werche mid pe zike bote-yef he yzi his wonde. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardorne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 Wip som men it is to wirche wip cauteries. 1673 Carlos *Receipts* (1680) 533 Jupiter..wrought in his science and made his charmes. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* 63 b/2 Wan y^e mone is..in cankro Leone or Libra it is good [to] worch in trees that bathe owre spronges.

b. Said esp. of the performance of artistic work or the practice of an artist. † *Worked upon*, †*about*: decorated or ornamented, e. g. with embroidery, engraving, or the like; also *fig.* *Worked over*: having the surface remodelled or redecorated.

1530 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xlv. 10 A vesture of gold [wrought about with dyuerse colours]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxii. (1912) 291 Her apparell of white, wrought upon with broken knots. 1607 Shake. *Timon* I. i. 24 How like that thou this picture?..Wrought he not well that painted it? 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 102 Exercising his scholars..in the necessary rudiments..before he would suffer them..to worke in colours. 1708 tr. *De Piles' Art of Painting* 356 Those who Also in Sculpture. 1733 *Sch. Miniature* 43 When you work after Prints. 1780 Strutt *Biogr. Dict. Engravers* II. 412 This artist worked with the point only. 1874 J. H. Pollen *Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 132 The work is profusely gilt and worked over with tooling. 1875 Posthum *Medicine* iv. 39 He worked about 1500. 1883 T. Westwood & Satchell *Bibl. Piscat.* 219 The scroll has..been 'worked over', much to its detriment. 1889 R. Brydall *Art in Scot.* vii. 195 The students wrought in the academy daily at painting.

*fig.* 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* iii. 39 For a long time there has existed..a tendency to work over such verbs, abandoning their irregularity varying inflection, and reducing them to accordance with the more numerous class of the 'regularly' inflected.

**28.** *Math.*, etc. To proceed (in a particular way) in calculation; to perform a calculation; to go through the process of solving a problem.

*c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* ii. § 5 When pat the degree of py nombe falleth by-twixe two Almykantaras.., thow Most werken in this wise. *a* 1400 *Cursor Mundi* 19922 (Fairf.) 23 Here he teches how pou schalt wirch in pis craft. Pou schalt multiplye pat figure [etc.]. 1620 A. Hopton *Vacuum Geometricum* 3 For the diuision of sides of Triangles, worke thus. 1624 Handson tr. *Barth. Pitiscus's Trigonom.* ii. 20 If you worke by the table of latitudes..the difference of longitude will be 68 deg. 1669 Stubbe *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 62 You must work as if the Piece were fortified no more than only so much as the thinnest part of the Metal is. 1706 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* 3 G/s If instead of squaring the half feet, you square the half yards.., and work with them, you will attain the same end without any regardable difference. 1823 J. Guy *Tutor's Assist.* 79 Work for the last term and let us before.

**29.** Of a substance (corresp. to various senses in 12); usually with qualifying adv. or phr.: To behave in a particular way while being worked. See also 39 d.

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 136 Whan the yron is well heete, hit werketh the better. 1668 Cheshp *Princ. in* Portland Stone works well. 1676 J. Smith *Art of Painting* ii. 16 Vermillion..If it be ground fine..no Colour works better. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 118 Wheat, in the quarry, it works better than after it has been exposed to the sun. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 739 Yellow ochre.. is..much used [*sc.* in painting], as it works very freely. 1877 *Paper Hanger* etc. 68 Distemper mixed with jellied size will lay on better..than when the size is used hot. Colour mixed on the former plan works cool and floats nicely, while the latter works up and drags and gathers.

**30.** With *on* or *upon* (†*into*, †*of*, †*to*, *with* arch.): To operate upon, produce an effect upon, take effect on, affect, influence: **a.** physically or generally.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 700 Of the hevyn.. How that the disposicione Suld apon thingis, war or pess, Wirk in this Regioune. Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 219 He toke poison..but..it would not worke upon hym. *c* 1580 A. Scot *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 55 As for a weidow, wirk weill on wrang, I knaw no craft sall cause hir lufe sow bettir. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvii. 314 This fault cannot bee imputed to the body..neither can it be imputed to any fruites received first from the body; for the Sucke could not be wrought into by the body. 1601 Shake. *Twel. N.* ii. iii. 183. I know my Physicke will worke with him. 1697 Hakewill *Apol. iv. xiv.* § 5 (1630) 314 The same [sun] which maketh both stinking vapours out of the dunghills and sweete savours out of flowres, the beame is every way the same which workes vpon them, only the difference of the subjects..is it that..diversifies the effects. 1730 W. Burdon *Genil. Pocket-Farrier* 75 When a Purge works..too strong upon him..give him an Ounce of Venice Treacle. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 137 Vexed with whom the bell-mouth'd glass had wrought,..began To troll a..tavern-catch.

**b.** mentally or morally; sometimes, to do something in order to affect, strive to influence (with *to* = Labour v. 13); sometimes, to influence successfully, prevail upon, induce, persuade: = 14 a. (Often in indirect passive.)

1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* ii. ii. 737 Which wrought so on the Swains, they could not another Their sighes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iv. 140 Sir Thomas..seriously wrought with the Grand Signior and his Counsell, to haue had him restored againe to his Lands. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 435 Shee cries and lackes on..but all we can doo will not worke of her. 1660 Atwell *Faithf. Surveyor* 4 He works to the Lady[owner] to send another to measure it [*sc.* the farm]..He prevails with her, she sends another. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 10 May (1970) VI. 79 The King may yet be wrought upon..to bring changes in our Office. *a* 1725 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) I. 339 But he would not be wrought on. 1799 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 284 He was not to be worked upon by Intriguers. 1821 Scott *Quentin D.* xxviii, Sweetest Lady, work with thy child, that he will pardon all past sins. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 72 She..worked on his feelings by pretending to be ill. 1859 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 266 He had many minds to work upon and to win over to his cause.

**31.** To ache, hurt: = Ware *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor Mundi* 16868 Thoffe my schuldire be wele wide, ..And the wielde of myne arme werkkes a littille. *a* 1400–50 *Alex. & Dind.* 531 Sa sare werkis hire pe wame..pat all scho dredis hire dede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1824 I telde sadly how my wounde ay wrought. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xxi. v. 848, I may not stonde, myn hede werches soo. 1808 Jamieson, *To work*, to ache.

**32.** Of liquor: To ferment.

1570 Timme tr. *Mariorat's Expos. Matth.* ix. 17 When the newe wyne worketh or spourgeth, the vessels breake. 1577 Googe *Heresbachius' Husb.* iv. 183 b, The Hony is..offered to stand vncouered a few dayes tyll it haue wrought, and cast vp a loft all his dregs. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6022 About 7 or 8 dayes after the Must hath been thus boyled it begins to work. 1725 tr. *Leon. Platti's Architect.* (1728) I. 52 The tubs wherein the Wine is working. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1860) ii. § 5. 129 The liquid becomes turbid, and small bubbles rise to the surface; or in popular language, it begins to work or to ferment.

*fig.* 1600 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* i. ii. (Arb.) 9 Such barmy heads as these..which..worke..like Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiv, Men's brains are working like yeast.

** To move in a particular way or direction.

**33.** To go or move along, or in a particular course; to make one's (or its) way, take one's (or its) course; now usually, to make way slowly, laboriously, with some exertion or difficulty, or in an indirect course. (Usually with adv. or phr. expressing the direction or course: see also 36 b, 38 b, 39 c.)

*c* 1400 *Treat. Astron.* 3 (MS. Add. Bodl. B. 17), Therbe..vij. planetis pat meuyn and werkyn in the vij. heuenes. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iii. (1883) 87 Ryght so of nothinge so grete playsir as for to tonne & werke all way. 1535 Coverdale *Jonah* i. 13 The see wrought [Luther *Jufur*, Vulg. *ivit*, LXX ἐπορεύετο] so, & was to toulsome against them. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 891 The weary Fleet sailing in with the Seams,..Work on their way, and smite the smouldring Tow. 1800 Coleman *Broad Grins, Philips' Bro.* (1869) 118 Seeing *Butch* approaching, he..work'd his wheelbarrow along. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* i. [The dog] worked round and round him, as if..undecided at what particular point to go in for the assault. 1862 Pechy *Cricket Tutor* 47 A ball working away only a little way to the leg. 1878 Lady Brassey *Voy. Sunbeam* I. 2 After midnight..the wind worked gradually round..and blew directly in our teeth. 1898 G. A. B. Dewar *In Pursuit Trout* 206 The trout was working up stream, always keeping under the bank. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 7/3 The Russians..were working round the rear of the Turkish army.

**b.** To make one's (or its) way slowly or with effort through something, as in penetrating gradually through a substance, burrowing in the ground, etc.

*c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxix. 132 So lang sall pis fox wirk in pe erthe pat at pe last he schall comme oute amang pis folk. 1577 *Newe Trye Treas.* 70 b, The tube is set vppon fyre,..Wroght vnder walles, wait hum to ground. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 47 Sum say3 it is wrought vnder the bottom of the stanes. 1601 in *Pilgr. Soc. Publ.* XII. 189 Sometimes the coneys work under the wall into the garden. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Walk* 2 Z 2/2 The bottom of the walks should be laid with rubble, the coarse gravel, &c., and beaten down close, to prevent the worms from working through it.

**c.** *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: To sail in a particular course, to make sail; *esp.* to beat to windward, to tack. Also 39 c.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* iii. 204 The shipping..had direction to worke about to another Creake. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 Perceiving..that they wrought from us, we likewise..fell in with all the Sail we could make. 1708 *Anson's Voy.* ii. viii. 223 She had sprung her fore-top-mast, which had dis-abled her from working to windward. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 111 A little before noon..we..tacked, and worked up the river. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl.* 2 We reached down the river, and, on the ebb, worked out of the Rock Channel. 1856 Maryat *Pirate* xvi, The Comus..worked, in short tacks, outside the Needles. 1893 Kane *Cruinnell* 87 xxiii. (1856) 184 We are working, i.e., beating our way in the narrow leads..between the main ice and the shift.

**d.** To proceed in a particular direction in some operation.

1877 *Paper Hanger*, etc. 26 The paper hanger generally works from left to right. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss. Working Mine*, working toward the main shaft in the working ore or coal. 1910 F. Fawcett in *Folk-Lore* (1911) XXIII. 39 He is given several sharp blows on the ribs, beginning under the armpit and working downwards.

**e.** *transf.* and *fig.* in various connexions. See also 39 c.

1691 T. Tryon *Art Brewing* (ed. 3) 49 So soon as it [your Corn] begins to come, or as some calls it Work. 1848 Lytton *Harold* ix. ii, A silent war between the two for mastery was working on. 1897 Mrs. Gaskell *C. Bronte* I. ii. 97 Their religion did not work down into their lives. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. ix, Hoping as Our Johnny would work round [= recover]. 1883 Sidgwick *Fallacies* II. vi. 205 Hence..the name [*sc.* demonstration] often works round again, in popular usage, to mean proof which is 'sufficiently' or 'practically' conclusive. 1891 P. Hamilton-way *Out of Egypt* ii. 158 A new conversation starts up every hour, and debatable points acquire a fresh interest because there is never time to work to a conclusion.

**34.** To move restlessly, violently, or convulsively; to be in a state of agitation or commotion; to toss, seethe, rage (as a stormy sea, etc.); to struggle; to twitch; *Naut.* of a ship, to strain or 'labour' so that the fastenings become slack (cf. 35); so of an engine or carriage (see quots. 1791, 1892 s.v. Working *vbl. sb.* 12). Also *fig.* of thought or feeling; sometimes with allusion to 32.

1581, 1582 [see Working *vbl. sb.* 10, pl. a. 4]. 1608 Shake. *Per.* iii. 1. 48 The sea works hie. 1692 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Relat. Journ. Wales* (1859) 12 The well..doth continually work and bubble with extream violence. 1689 H. Pitman *Relat. in Arb. Caroer* VII. 251 Our little vessel..wrought so exceedingly by reason of the great motion of the sea, that we could not possibly make her tight. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v., A ship is said to work, when she strains and labours heavily in a tempestuous sea, so as to loosen her joints or timbers. 1770 Wesley *Jrnl.* 4 July, She..wrought, like one strangled, in her breast and throat. 1825 Jane Austen *Emma* I. xiii, With men he can be..unaffected, but when he has ladies to please, every feature works. 1840 Dickens *Old Curi. Shop* xviii, Shaking his head, and working with both his hands as if he were clearing away two thousand cobwebs. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xi. 95 While everything was working, and cracking, strained to the utmost. 1868 Steven-son *Kidnapped* x. 108 The ship..still working with the sea. *fig.* 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 225 While thoughts like these were working in the minds of many Dissenters. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls* 1302 Then..her wrath, yet working after storm. 1865 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vi. (1878) 161 Tempests of feeling often work beneath an unchanged face.

**35.** With complement: To move irregularly or unsteadily so as to become out of gear.

1770 Lucas *Hist. Prophecy* 325 [To] hinder the Press from working into a twisting position. 1890 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxv. 83 The anchor on the lee bow had worked loose, and was thumping the side. 1893 J. D. Heath *Croquet Player* 26 If the handle [of the mallet] be properly wedged into the head, it ought never to work loose.

III. With adverbs, in special senses.

**36.** Work in. **a.** *trans.* To insert, introduce, incorporate (in various connexions: see 9, 12 d).

1675 A. Browne *App. Art Perf. Writ.* 11 In drawing, and sweetening the same Colours one into another. 1728 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 129 Work in three quarters of a pound of Sugar. 1846 M. Conolly *Progr. Spanish Literat. Hist. Soc.* XX. 93 The 5 American Epistles..abound with choice passages of Scripture well wrought in. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. viii. 124, I would try and work in the old good thing with the new. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) II. App. 584 A..tale in which several particulars..are worked in with a lofty contempt for chronology.

**b.** *intr.* To make one's (or its) way in. *lit.* and *fig.* See 33.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 216 These..sudden gusts make it difficult for ships to work in with the wind off shore. 1849 Hew. & Jerr. *Arct. Voy.* I. ii. 31 The ice seems to..work in with, and assimilate itself to, his own peculiar subject. 1918 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 5/4 Yorkshire troops..threw the enemy out of the village..but the enemy again worked in.

**37.** Work off. **a.** *trans.* To print off (as from a plate); esp. to print in final form, so as to be ready for publication or distribution.

1668 Evelyn *Sculptura* 36 The very first..who publi-shed any works of this kind under their names, wrought off by the Rolling-Presse. 1691 Ray *Corr.* (O.H.S.) 58 When we were then looking over and correcting the story of John Wyclyve in 'Hist. et Antiq. Univ. Oxon.' before it was to be wrought off from the press. 1704 T. Brown *Lett. Amuse Wks.* 1711 IV. 7 That..execrable Dog of a Printer..has work'd off the last Sheet..without sending me a Proof. 1708 T. Hearne *Coll.* 11 Apr. (O.H.S.) II. 102 Mr. Thorpe hath put in pence per hundred to work off his Plates to Schutzer. 1754 *Gentl. Mag.* XXIV. 58 An accident..to the Plate prevented a sufficient number [of etchings] from being wrought off. 1868 Rossetti *Lett.* (1897) II. Introd. p. lxxxi, By an accident of a mis-carriage of proofs in the Post Office, the three letters..were worked off, prior to correction of the press. 1888 Bishop Perry *Statutes Amer. Church* 1 Not wrought off from the Press till 1809. The printers..often found themselves working off papers half through the night and all through the day.

†**b.** To make and throw off. *Obs.*

1695–6 *Act 7 & 8 Will. III*, c. 20 § 8 The profitable Inven-tion..for the..more speedy knitting of..Stockings.., whereby great Quantities are wrought off in a little time. 1739 Malmsbury *Rep. Lett.* (1874) II. 118, I am willing enough to join with you in thinking..that [the souls of both sexes] may be wrought off from different moulds.

**c.** To perpetrate, 'play off'.

1891 Nat. Gould *Double Event* xvi, A nice little swindle you worked off on me that time.

****d.** To take off or away by a gradual process, effect a riddance of; to get rid of, disburden one-self of, free oneself from, by some continuous action or effort.

1678 Rymer *Trag. Last Age* 83 This Scene having wrought off the Remains of Phedra's frenzy, in the next she seems more calm. 1708 A. De la Pryme *Diet.* 27 Mar. in *Diary* (Surtees) 251 Returning to his labour,..he sweat and wrought it [*sc.* canine madness] of to off] without any physic. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Improv.* (1756) I. 216 Nature is working off some latent Enemy. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxv, You..take some of his quack medicine, and then he will allow you a run on shore to work it off. 1873 Symonds *Ch. Fathers* xii. 294 Should a man arise capable of seeing rightly and living purely, he may work off the curse. 1886 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Rebel of Family* x, So full of thoughts and energies she does not know how to work them all off.

†**e.** To draw off or dissuade (a person) from a certain course. Cf. 14 a. *Obs.*

1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* I. iii. xvi. (1687) 94/1 Glauco before he was 20. years old had...aimed at some great office in the Common-wealth, not to be wrought off from this fancy ...untill addrest by some friends to Socrates, who made him acknowledge his own error.

† **f.** To take or tear off by continuous application of force. *Obs.*

1703 Parker *Enschius* viii. 146 When the Flesh of her Sides and Breasts had been wrought off with Pincers, she was Sentenc'd to the Stake.

**g.** To finish working at; to dispose of and get done with.

1800 J. Hamm *Diver's Assist.* 33 When a vat has been heated two or three times, and a good part has been worked off. 1892 W. S. Gilbert *Mountebanks* 3 Up-stepped he, he's to be married tomorrow...and so on until we are all worked off. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 4/2 When the existing contracts for new steamships are worked off.

**h.** To put to death; to hang. *slang.*

1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxiii, He was ready for working off.

**3B. Work out.** **a. trans.* To bring, fetch, or get out by some process or course of action; to get rid of, or effect a riddance of; to expel, deliver, efface, etc.

1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* v. lxxi, These people-cinions they must foll To work out we, to work themselves in! all.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 10 That...you may worke out the knots and Stands of the mind. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 206 If the Fox lie in the earth,...they take this course to worke him out. 1648 *Charles I and Scots* A Sufficient pleasure Indulgences, which may...work that soul out, which lyeth...in the deepest pit of Purgatory. 1680 Dryden *Astræa Redux* 275 Fears of Joy...Work out and expiate our former Guilt. 1691 Harleclife *Virtues* p. 2, Strong Bodies will work out the Poyson they take, by degrees. 1758 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 3/2 To work out the old servants of the Crown, in order to make way for a more uniform system. 1874 Wellesbre *Anc. Priests* iii. 91 The engraver of metal plates has not resisted satisfied with the chasing tool, [etc.]...in working out their substance, but has had recourse to corrosives...to bite...away the metal.

**b.** *intr.* To make its way out, esp. from being imbedded or inclosed in something; to become gradually loose and come out: cf. 33, 35.

In quot. 1698, to lose its effect gradually.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxx. xiii. II. 304 To draw forth spils of bones, and make them to worke out. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. 72 Underlays...are often apt to work out, and...subject it to an unstable and loose position. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 197 The Liquor working out by his Walking, he began to grow weary. 1704 *Kissing & Scamanship* I. 151 *Forelock*, a small wedge of iron driven through a hole near the end of iron bits to keep them from working out. 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* iii, Fresh splinters of the bone continually worked out.

**c.** *trans.* To work (a mine, etc.) until it yields no more; to exhaust by working.

1595 G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 8 (The parties shall cause all such coalpits as shall hereafter be]...newe wrought out and gettyn (to be] caste in and stopped. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* viii, The Highlands were indeed a rich mine; but they have, I think, been fairly wrought out. 1857 Waylland *Victoria & Gold Mines* 276 The diggings, the greater part of which...had been abandoned as ground 'worked out,' to use the digger's phrase. 1906 Hockaday in *Cist. County Hist., Cornwall* I. 530/1 At one part [of the vein] was worked out it was filled in with rubble from the new excavations.

**d.** To wear out, esp. by labour, or by continued application of force. *Obs. or rare.*

1612 Cotgr. s.v. *Ouurer*, *Le temps ouure.* Time workes (or wastes] out euerie thing. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvii, During what long thankless nights had she worked out her fingers for little George.

**e.** To discharge (a debt or obligation) by labour instead of a money payment.

1670 Maryell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 354 Who cannot pay his 52...shall worke it out in the House of Correction. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 28 July 2 Whereas I...have indebted [sic] 7 £...I am desirous to engage and work it out. 1828 Kennedy & Grainger *Tenancy of Land* 297 The highways...[is most frequently worked out. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xv, Mind you're here to work it up.

****f.** To bring about, effect, produce, or procure (a result) by labour or effort; to carry out, accomplish (a plan or purpose).

In quot. 1597, to preserve to the end.

1534 Tindale *Pract.* ii. 12 Workes out youre awne saluacion with feare and tremblynge. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i. 82 We...Knew that we ventur'd on such dangerous Seas, That if we wrought out life, we ten to one...Must bear. Grainger *Expos. Prov.* xi. 18 Doth he not most often by his wit worke out his woe? and by his strength procure his owne ruine? 1633 Fr. Hall *Hard Texts* Hosea x. 11, He loves to injoy blessings, but not to earne, and worke them out. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* iii. 295 To go about to work out true peace by...unlikeness with me, is to work endlesse woke. 1809 Wordsw. *Waggoner* v. 116 When the malicious Fates are bent On working out an ill intent. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 74 O lift your natures up;...work out your freedom. 1859 Geeve *Hebel. Thurber* I. 341 The natural tendency of their mode of life...worked itself out as time went on. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 7. 95 The fortunes of England were being slowly wrought out in every incident.

**g.** To go through a process of calculation or consideration so as to arrive at the solution of (a problem or question), to solve; also, to reckon out, calculate. Cf. 13.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* xix, Day after day, Old Sol and Captain Cuttle kept her reckoning...and worked out her course, with the chart spread before them. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* vi, While she completed the exercise, or worked out the sum (for Mdlle. Moore taught her arithmetic, too). 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xviii, She tried to work out the question in her own mind, whether her eagerness for classical learning was a wrong sort of ambition. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 A practised novel-reader could probably work out the problem and complete the plot.

**h.** *intr.* for *pass.*: (*a*) of a course of events, narrative, etc.: To proceed so as to issue in a particular result; (*b*) with *at*, of a quantity: To amount to (so much) when reckoned up, to 'come to'.

1885 Lb. Coleridge in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 806 The justice of that course, and how it works out in shewn...by the late Lord Chief Justice. 1887 *Spectator* 3 Sept. 1178/1 It is...impossible to tell...how the situation in Ireland will work out. 1898 *Ti-Bits* 16 July 321/3 This [quantity of tea] when infused works out at about 4,000,000 gallons.

**i.** *trans.* To fashion by cutting out, excavation, or the like. ? *Obs.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 68 When I had wrought out some Boards...I made large Shelves. 1775 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 200 The old one then, with as much assiduity as it before worked out its hole, now closes the mouth of the passage.

**j.** To bring to a fuller or finished state; to produce or express in a complete form or in detail; to develop, elaborate.

1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvii, To see how Marlow, Shakspeare, and other play artificers, work out their fanciful plots. 1861 Wayte in *Notes & Queries* 2nd Ser. II. 3/2 The picture...worked out with a skill and knowledge of light and shade. 1865 J. Fergusson *Hist. Archit.* II. i. 380 [Italy] did not work out the architectural type for herself. 1880 M'Carthy *Own Times* IV. lxvii. 518 The theory [of the survival of the fittest]...was worked out with the most minute and elaborate care. 1884 Irvine *R. Scott* xxviii, An idea...which...works itself out in his brain. 1895 F. Harrison in *19th Cent.* Aug. 217 This important and far-reaching truth is worked out by Mr. Hallock with much acuteness.

**k.** To study or investigate completely; to work through. *Obs. or rare.*

1830 H. N. Coleridge *Gk. Poets* (1846) 10 After a boy has worked out a book or given portion of a classic poem.

*****l.** *Pugilism, intr.* To box for practice, as distinguished from engaging in a set contest.

1907 *Daily Express* 27 May 13/1, I saw Barber work out in the gymnasium...boxing four rounds with Young Johnny Brown.

**39. Work up.** **a. trans.* To build up, construct, 'raise' (a wall, etc.): usually with special reference to the actual process. Cf. 3c. *Obs.*

Occas. to build up material around (quot. 1772).

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1542 The walles [were] vp wrought, wonder to se. 1432-50 *Torr. Portugal* 1330 The Giauni wrought vp his wall And laid stonys gret and small. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 250 In working up the Walls of a Building, do not work any Wall above 3 foot high before you work up the next adjoining Wall. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 219 Set this Pole very upright,...and work up the Ground with Mould,...and by its own Weight, or the Wind, should throw it down. 1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 8 Strong Cross-Walls...must be work'd up to the Top of the Crown of the Arches.

† **b.** To lift or raise (a weight) by labour; to hoist. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1620 [see 29].

**c.** *intr.* To make one's (or its) way up, esp. against impediment or indirectly; to ascend, advance: also *fig.*

1665 Milton *Hist. B. I.*, v. 258 Till body up to spirit work. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 104 He ordered the Queenborough ahead to observe their motions, and continued ...endeavouring to work up after them. 1863 *Spectator* 21 Nov. xxvi, Nearer and louder came the oar-roll, like thunder working up from the east. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 28 Oct. 2/4 The Invasion of full flood, and plenty of salmon are working up to spawn. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* I. 27 He was merely working up to a peroration. 1903 G. H. Lorimer *Lett. Self-made Merch.* xii. 209 He was...drawing ten thousand a year, which was more than he could have worked up to in the leather business in a century. 1916 Lb. E. Hamilton *1st Seven Divisions* (1919) 41 An additional flanking corps that was said to be working up from the direction of Journal.

****d.** *trans.* To stir up, mix, or compound, as a plastic substance or substances: cf. 12 d. Also *intr.* for *pass.*: cf. 29.

*c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Mk.* (Heinrich) 227 Let hit stande nyne dayes & nyne nyztes, & þenne werche hit wel þo & let frye hit in panne. *c* 1550 [see *Town Treat. Health* V 2, Take...Frankencense, [and] as much oyle as shalbe thought sufficient, make it and worke it well. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 53 I advise all students that be troubled with wind...to cause Fennell seeds, Anise or Careway to bee wrought up in their bread. 1840 Dickens *Old Cur. Shop* xviii, A stew of tripe, and cow-heel,...and bacon,...and steaks,...and peas, cauliflowers, new potatoes, and sparrow-grass, all working up together in one delicious gravy. 1859 *Every's Circ. Sci., Domestic Sci.* 39 Very hard meal, that does not soon work up into mud or grind into dust. 1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xi, Hannah had left a pan of bread to rise, but forgotten it till it began to run over.

**e.** To make up (material) *into* something by labour (cf. 8); also, to bring into some condition, esp. so as to be ready for use (cf. 12 l).

1591 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 12 The tyme and hammerman for working up the said 6 tonns of barr iron. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 216 No Person ...shall work up into Shoes...any Leather that is not tanned and curried in Manner as aforesaid. 1730 Lawson *Short Acc. Hern's Weltm. Bridge* 60 Fir...Timber was chosen as being...the easiest work'd up. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 325 Seneca...starting a doubt whether God made His own materials, or only worked up such as He found already in being. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Sel. Wks. (1892) 296 The raw and prepared material [sc. silk]...is worked up in various ways. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* Introd. 7 The straw-plait...is wrought up into hats and bonnets. 1869 W. T. Thornton *On Labour* III. v. 323 A builder...willing to keep his men employed during the bad weather,...allowed them to work up a quantity of stone to be ready for use in the spring. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 206 Mediastinal sarcoma...spreads in upon and works up the pulmonary tissue in an irregular and crab-like manner, simulating cancer.

**f.** *gen.*, or in reference to something immaterial: To make up, develop, expand, enlarge (*to* or *into* something).

1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 336 For he that but conceives a Crime in thought, Contracts the danger of an Actual Fault: Then what must he expect the same shall proceed to To finish Crime, and work up Thoughts to Deeds? 1718 Budgell *Spect.* No. 307 P 2 Your agreeable manner of working up Trifles. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Rural Life* (1821) II. 122 A gay coxcomb...who...dresses in the freshest—a leaf could not rustle to the ground—; but it has been noticed by these observers, and wrought up into some beautiful morality. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 11 Nov. 5/1 All this could easily be wrought up into a claim. 1907 Mrs. C. Kennaway *Fraud* iv. 28 He had got a dramatic situation...which he meant to work up.

**g.** To bring by labour or effort *to* or *into* a higher state or condition. Cf. k below.

1668 Davden *Dram. Poesy* 66 This last is indeed the representation of Nature, but 'tis Nature wrought up to an higher pitch. 1760 J. Ward *Pract. Rhetorick Epistolary* 158 The expression in this statue [Laocoon], is worked up to such a just extremity,...that, as the least addition would be extravagance, so every diminution would be a defect. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, The kitchen and buttery were worked up to a high state of perfection. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* II. xxxii. 183 A man can...work himself up into an immortal condition of 'equality with the angels' ...no more than an ox or an ass can work himself up into humanity.

**h.** To make up, form, construct, compose, produce (something material or immaterial): with special reference to the process, or to the labour, exertion, or care expended upon it. Cf. 3–6, 10.

1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 153 P 1 An eminent artist, who wrought up his pictures with the greatest delicacy. 1723 — *Cato* I. iv, The Sun...Works up more fire and colour in their cheeks. 1820 *O. Man. Mag.* II. 60 Fugues wrought up with infinite art, and little melody. 1885 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1887 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Iv. Life* i. 9 He stood...in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

**i.** *Naut.* To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. Dana [see Haze v. 2]. 1842 – *Seaman's Man. Dict., Work up...*, a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours. 1937 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1887 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Iv. Life* i. 9 He stood...in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

**j.** *Naut.* To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. Dana [see Haze v. 2]. 1842 – *Seaman's Man. Dict., Work up...*, a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours. 1937 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1887 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Iv. Life* i. 9 He stood...in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

**k.** *Naut.* To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. Dana [see Haze v. 2]. 1842 – *Seaman's Man. Dict., Work up...*, a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours. 1937 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1887 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Iv. Life* i. 9 He stood...in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

**l.** *Naut.* To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. Dana [see Haze v. 2]. 1842 – *Seaman's Man. Dict., Work up...*, a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours. 1937 *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. 1887 Henty *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. 1911 'G. A. Birmingham' *Lighter Side Iv. Life* i. 9 He stood...in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

**m.** *intr.* To be gradually stirred up or excited; to proceed or advance to a state of agitation or commotion. Cf. 34, and c above.

1881 Daynan *Ann. S. Webb.* 12 Now several factions from this fast Ferment, Work up to Foam. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 36 P 1 You know a premeditated Quarrel usually begins and works up with the words, *Sneer apogize.*

**Workability** (wə:kəbi·liti). [f. next + -ity.] The condition of being workable; capability of being worked.

1874 *Daily News* 17 July 5/5 The workability, to coin a word, of the Millite. 1876 in F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 310 We must have the engineer before us to prove the workability of the line. 1892 *Solicitor's Jrnl.* 5 Nov. 4/2 We...hope that the new rules will be drafted with a full regard to practical workability in detail.

**Workable** (wɜ·kkăb'l), *a.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ABLE.]

**1.** Of substances or materials: That can be worked, fashioned, or manipulated for use; said also of the state in which they are capable of being worked.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 139 As the potter most conynyngly doth caste his pottes when he claye is softe and workable. 1609 JACKSON *Creed* VI. ii. ix. § 1 Workable or fashionable unto any set forme. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* ix. 54 It is but eight or nine Inches thick, but the Roof and Covert being strong, it is a workable Coal. 1853 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 118 Coal and fireclay, of workable value. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* V. 295 Many heavy clays...might be made friable, and easily workable by a liberal application of lime. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blancearia* 90 The 'ochre hole'...had been found too wet to be workable.

**2.** That can be worked, managed, or conducted, as a contrivance, establishment, institution, etc.

1756 in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 267, I stood off..., to put the ship in a workable state. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* III. 367 Often making a circuit to secure good, workable gradients. 1879 W. CHADWICK *Life De For* v. 172 Each of those hands was well furnished with a good workable hedging-bill. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 29 Nov. 5 The only workable boat of the Lord Mayor's Thames Steam Launch. 1886 MRS. BRASSEY *Asphodel* xii, There's not one of 'em knows how to plan a good workable hot-house. 1901 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 9/1 To devise how much had been done to make the hospital a really workable place.

**b.** of a plan, system, scheme, or the like.

1886 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (ed. 3) 63/1 Assuming the plan to be workable. 1898 BAYNE *Locke's Serm.* xi. 445 A permanently workable, broadly comprehensive ecclesiastical scheme.

**3.** Capable of working. *rare.*

1852 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 358 Very nearly seven millions of wives and children of a workable age still unoccupied.

Hence **Workableness**, workability.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Contents p. viii, Tried the workableness of the Rock. 1884 MORLEY *Compromise* 1. 2 The immediate and universal workableness of a policy.

**Workaday, work-a-day** (wɜ·kkădel), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: α. 3 (*Orm.*) **werkedæȝȝ**, **werkedei**, 4-5 **werkeday**(e. β. 6- **workyday**, 7- **worky-day** (6-7 **workie-**, 7 **workl-**, **workey-**). γ. 9 **workaday, work-a-day.** [ME. *werkedag* (3 syllables), of uncertain origin: possibly f. gen. pl. (OE. *weorca*) of WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*, but more probably f. directly on these with assimilation to the trisyllabic *sunnedei* SUNDAY, *messedei* MASSDAY. The type *workyday* is due to the influence of HOLIDAY, and *workaday* presumably to that of NOWADAY(E.]

**A.** *sb.* A day on which work is ordinarily done (distinguished from *holiday*); a work-day, working-day. *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1200 ORMIN 11315 Forr þatt wrake gifeþþ þaw Aȝȝ seove werkedaȝȝess. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 18 Valleð to ter eorðe sif hit is werke dei, nit te Gloria Patri. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) I. 104 After the seven werkedays of travayle. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 4071 In be longe tyme be werke dayes]-I-nowe. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 80 In the werkedaȝ ȝif þat thou be About thi labur truely. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1473) 893 For, a-pon þe werkedayȝ, Men be so bysyy in vche way.

β. 1550 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. i. xxvii. 218 That divers preachers within this diocese...do preach as well the worky days as the holy days. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. v. F 5, On workyday I never coulde be taken With better meate...then roots or sillye beanes. 1598-9 W. JONSON *Case is Altered* IV. iii, Fellow Onion for thy sake I finish this worky holiday. 1603 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 390 Sondaye, Holydaies, worke dayes. 1853 FARADAY *Mics.* 127 He is one that makes always his Holy day for others, and worky-day for himself by taking upon him all the business. 1725 BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xii. 116 We find a great Deference paid to Sunday and Festival above the other worky Days of the Week. 1789 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mrs. H. Moore* 20 July, What the common people call a workyday. 1860 W. WHITE *Worthies* xvii. 178 Even Milton didn't ashamed to stop and shake hands with us, o' worky-days.

γ. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xlix, In the very clothes that he wore on work-a-days. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 238/2 Life was an unbroken work a-day.

**B.** *attrib.* passing into *adj.* (cf. WORKING DAY). Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day or its occupations; characterized by a regular succession or round of tasks and employments; of ordinary humdrum everyday life: freq. in phr. *this workaday world.*

*a.* 1594 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 146 My worky day cassocke. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 55 Prythee tel her but a worky day Fortune. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* III. i, With such a Workiday-rough-hewn Face. 1752 MISS TALBOT *Let. to Mrs. Carter* 27 Sept., Oh this nasty worky-day world! 1877 F. JACOX *Scriptures Prov.* xlix. 545 In the common law of facts in this work-day world.

γ. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Caston de Blondeville* Poath. Wks. 1826 I. 6 The plain reality of this work-a day world. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xviii, The less of real, hard, struggling work-a-day life there is in that romance, the better. 1857 MUSGRAVE *Pilfer. Dauphiné* I. i. 8 Their work-a-day dress is a coarse brown or blue serge surtout. 1859 *Tennson Breitfang* xvii. 284 We cannot long indulge in day-dreams in this workaday world. 1874 P. RUSSELL *Leaves Journalist's Note-bk.* 53 Goswell-road is...one of the most work-a-day of London thoroughfares. 1878 H. S. MERRIMAN *Roden's Corner* xli. 128 He did not attempt to understand the lighter side of life, but took it seriously as a work-a-day matter.

**Work-brittle, a.** *dial.* Also **-brattle, -brackle**, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Work-bracco*). [f. WORK *sb.* or *v.*; the second element appears to be BRITTLE *a.*, but the sense-development is obscure.]

1847 TRAER *Marrow Gd. Authors in Comm. Ep.* 627 What need the [*sc.* Anne Bullen] be so work-brittle, being a Queen? 1898 RAY *N.C. Words, s.v. Werch-bracco*, i.e. work-brittle, very diligent; earnest or intent upon one's work. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Warck-brattle*, fond of work. Lanc. 1882 *Oxf.-Yorksh. Gloss.* Suppl. (E.D.S.), *Work-brittle*, eager to work.

**Work-day** (wɜ·kdē), *sb.* and *a.* [OE. *worc-dæg* (= Du. *werkdag*, OHG., MHG. *werctac*, G. *werktag*, ON. *verkdagr*) does not seem to have survived; ME. *werkday* is prob. a new formation on WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*, or ad. ON.; cf. WORKADAY.]

**A.** *sb.* A day on which work is ordinarily performed; a working-day.

*c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1847) 270 That the mason work he upon the werk day. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522, 2 *Werkday, feria.* 1488 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 279, I wold my prest shuld sing in them tho the desire during the x monethed. 1538 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlvi. 1 Ye dore of the 3 meenner courte...shall be shut the vj. work-a dayes. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion Office*, When the holy Communion is celebrated on the worke-dy. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. 139 They vse all dayes a lyke, wokedayes and holydayes alyke. 1639 HUNT. *Preserv. Herrings* xl (1641) 153 Neither holy-day, nor work-day. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonic Lady* I. ii. Wks. 1760 II. 194 She ...paid the Labourers their Wages on Work-days, and took a Jug with them on Holy-days. 1884 Miss MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Hannah* 22 We (the privileged) see on a work-day the tissue, which the sabbath announces to the generality.

¶ Used for DAYWORK *q.*

1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* (1691), When they performed their Boons or Work-days to their Lord.

**B.** *adj.* passing into *attrib.* Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day; performed, worn, etc., on a work-day; also *fig.* = WORKADAY B.

*c* 1500 *Fly Epist. Rec.* (1891) 211, I give to Edmund Garnet my work day gown. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 103 My werid day gowne. 1585 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxvi. 357 My Visitation Sermons and Workday Sermons. 1622 *Norwich Wills* (Surtees) II. 77 My workday gowne...three workday aprons and one worsted holyday band. 1628 SCORY *Mercy* in vii, Ne'er, in work-day world, was seen A form so witching fair. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xi, [It] relieves the mind from petty calculation and workday cares. 1849 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 89 Even after unloading the waggon, in his workday clothes. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 16 Unfit for this workday world. 1889 COBBETT *Monk* xiv. 295 This dull work-day world.

**Worked** (wɜ·kt), *ppl. a.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ED 1.]

**1.** Used for farm-work.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 170 An old worked Ox fatting as well, and being as good Meat as a young one.

**2.** Executed or ornamented with needlework, engraving, or the like.

1740 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 47, I desire you to send me up my worked facing and robing. 1746-7 MRS. DELANY *Corr.* (1861) I. 147 In my Irish worsted damasks and my worked head. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, The worked worsted chairs. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxx, She turned the watch upon the light, and showed the worked letters within. 1884 F. YATES *Recoll.* I. 181 Elaborately dressed, with a worked shirt-front and huge white waistcoat.

**3.** Shaped, fashioned, or dressed for use or ornament.

1864 J. HUNT in *Vogt's Lect. Man* 328 He reports that he has found...worked flints at a depth of twelve feet in a stratified soil. 1892 *Archæologia* LIV. 110 Many fragments of worked bone have been discovered.

**4.** In various senses: Contrived, managed, conducted, etc.; *Horl.* grafted.

1848 W. PAUL *Rose Gard.* 106 When potting worked plants, we should have an eye to suckers from the wild stock. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* LXVII. 108 Worked Designs from in Plane Geometrical Drawing. 1886 COL. MAURICE *Lett. fr. Donegal* 4 A cleverly-worked intrigue. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 1/1 Leased or 'worked' lines.

**5.** With advs., as *worked-off, -out, -up* (see the corresponding senses of the verb).

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 360 He grasps off the Worked off heap so much at once...as he can well govern. 1818 *Mr. Hodge, Poor, Mct. Ch.* 611 The worked-out system in Plane Geometrical Drawing. 1886 COL. MAURICE *Lett. fr. Donegal* 4 A cleverly-worked intrigue. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 1/1 Leased or 'worked' lines.

**Worker** (wɜ·kăr). Forms: see WORK *v.* [f. WORK *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. Du. *werker*, MHG. *werker* (G. *werker*).]

**1.** One who makes, creates, produces, or contrives, + a. Applied to God as maker or creator; sometimes *absol.* the Creator, (one's) Maker. *Obs.*

13.. *E. Allit. P.* B. 1301 be worcher of his worlde. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxxvi. 3 My workere I shal praise myselfe. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 53 He, of natur that wirker wes and king. *Ibid.* 60 He, the wirker, that put in hir sic grace. 1557 N. T. (Geneva) Esp. vij, God the Creatour, moste perfect and excellent worker of all thinges. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. § 2 Only the workes and operations of God have him both or their worker, and for the lawe whereby they are wrought. *a* 1620 W. PERKINS *Cases Conse.* (1619) 4 He is the author and worker thereof [*i.e.* of goodness].

**b.** An author, producer, contriver, or doer; + also with epithet, as *evil worker* = evil doer. *arch.*

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 261 And therfore in the worcher was the vice. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 206 þus men mai have prophecie, and al þes habitis in þer soule, and be schrewid wirchirs. 1382 — *Luke* xiii. 27 Alle wirchers of wickidnesse. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) I. 63 Al your werkes be cleped seconde, and moven in veine of the firste wercher. *c* 1400 in *Scr. Secr. Hom. Lordsh.* 88 Be wirkere of meruayllys yn oon god. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ii. 417 God is the cheef and principal and veri worcher of the principal effect. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 344 Causer of wer, wirkar of wykidnes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iii. 103, I sall the warrand, and the wirkar [orig. *auctor*] be To mak the baldly undertak. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iii. 2 Beware of dogges, beware of evyll workers. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII, c. 1 Preamb. Pur. Rem.* iii. 5-8 They can not laye to goddes charge the synnes, wherof themself be wylful workers. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* II. vi. I had rather they happen otherwise then well, euen that some varlet is the worker of it. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 197 The workers of the common safetie. 1706 MURSE *Admon. Geog.* I. 166 They believe that the devil is the doer or worker of every thing that gives offence. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 666 The worker of all this evil. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 442 She grew to be the sorceress, Worker of fearful things.

**c.** *transf.* of things.

*c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lii. 11 Deed is wirkere of vertus. 1604 J. DOD & R. CLEAVER *Ten Commands. to Zabaoth* (1615) 16 Tobacco ...was the worker of that mischief. 1612 BRAUM. & FL. *Lacy comedy* iv. 4, You can say well: if you be mine, wench, you must doe well too, for words are but slow workers. 1840 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* III, What a worker of hypocrisy this sight...would appear to be!

†**d.** ? A commercial agent. *Obs.*

1560 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 333 The cheiffe scriber (whome ye all my worcker, and conveyer of all my velvets).

**2.** One who works or does work of any kind (sometimes with adj. denoting the quality of the work); esp. one who works *in* a certain medium, *at* a specified trade or object of manufacture, or in a certain position or station often distinguished by prefixed sb., etc., as *boiler-worker, cloth-worker, iron-worker, metal-worker*; *co-worker, fellow-worker*; *brain-worker, hand-worker*; in early use also, † a maker or manufacturer (*of* a specified thing).

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 23, 24 With the werkere, of alle werk [Vulg. *cum operario operario, et cum opere*]. 1388 — *Acts* xix. 24 Demetrius, a siluer smyth, makynge siluer. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. vi. 98 Now haue we none instrumentes, ne here non workers for to make them newe. *c* 1440 *Partonope of Blois* 1. 61 Of all the workers falle [the tree] That kunyngest is of his felous alle. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 119 The two laste that ben practisiens and workers ben called ploisiers and enterpryens. 1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 404/2 The Offices of Maister and Worker of coine Money. 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* XXXV. 35 Broderers and workers in blue, & in purple, & in red, & in fyne lynne. 1548 HALL *Chron.* 184 Every Haitmaker that is nowe a maker or worker of Haites. 1611 COTGR., *Ouvrier*, a workeman; an Artificer, or handicrafts man, & generally, any worker. 1660 JER. TAYLOR tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 357 Lazy people, and no good workers. 1663 COWLEY *Cdde upon Dr. Harvey* iii, He so exactly does the work survey, As if he hir'd the workers by the day. 1760 *Court & City Reg.* 221 His Majesty's Almanack-Printer and Worker. Hon. Wm. Chetwynd, Esq. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 76 Mr. Naish, flute-plate-worker. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 41 Another worker put through the same task which Lord Shelburne gave me. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* x, I spoke of you as an out-of-door worker. 1877 *Cust. & Navig. Underground. Jrnl.* 55 Jan. 173 Cowles not only has the knack of getting work out of his men, but is a very hard worker himself, though not a pretty one. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxxv. (1898) 241 He is a worker in many departments—ladies, breasts, clergymen—among them, trying to remove some of the sufferings. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 207 The full happiness of that time to me cannot be explained except to consistently hard workers.

**b.** In emphatic use, esp. as opposed to *idler*, or the like.

1628 C. LEVETT *Voy. N. Eng.* viii. in *Colls. t. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. II. VIII. 160 Except for every there loiterers, he have one worker. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's Cabin* xxii, A dreamy, neutral spectator, when he should have been a worker. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* I. 8 The distinction between workers and idlers...is the first of all and honest men. 1872 — *Fors Clav.* lx. 4 *note*, Here and there we have a real worker among soldiers, or no soldiering would long be possible. 1889 G. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 6 Rent ...paid...by a worker to a drone.

**c.** One who is employed for a wage, esp. in manual or industrial work; now often in the language of social economics, a 'producer of wealth', as opposed to *capitalist*.

1848 KINGSLEY in Benham *Cauvin's Bk. Quot.* (1907) 185 Workers of England, be wise! then you must be free. 1857 *Household Words* 27 June 603/1 The first great body of workers, namely the clerks [*i.e.* railway clerks]. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 14 The great and comparatively independent family which constitutes the backbone of our country's greatness, the common working people of England. 1867 *Trades Unions Working Classes* 6 Some have limited the meaning to such as are in receipt of weekly wages, and some would limit the term to mechanics; but such are manifestly not the producers of wealth. It might seem also a condition of such appellation that the person should stand in the capacity of servant or worker for others. On the other hand, we must remember that in many occupations the workers are paid by the month or quarter. 1885 E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* (1886) 124 This, then, is the empire which the bloated sinews of you, workers, are squandered to maintain and extend. 1891 MORRIS *Poems by Way* 112 For that which the worker wanteth shall then be his indeed, Nor shall half be reaped for nothing by him that sowed no seed. 1903 (*title*) The Workers' Educational Association.

**d.** Of animals: † (*a*) A draught animal. *Obs.*

1617 *Tryle* (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 9 One payer workers at £15.

(*b*) A horse, dog, etc. that works (well).

1844 [J. W. Carleton] *Hyde Marston* I. 74 It's not fair to keep the double thong always going with a free worker. 1874 *Rennet Tub Stud Bk.* 161 Bell and Lilly...the latter being a small, mean-looking white bitch, but a very good worker. 1908 *Animal Management*. 283 Geldings...were proved to be very good workers in Somaliland.

(*c*) The neuter or imperfectly developed female of certain social hymenopterous and other insects, as ants and bees, which supplies food and performs other services for the community.

1747 W. Gould *Engl. Ants* 73 As soon as the Queen has deposited a Parcel of Eggs, the Workers take them under their Protection. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xvii. (1817) II. 32 The *workers* or larvæ, answering to the hymenopterous neuters, are the most numerous and at the same time most active part of the community. 1852 *Poultry Chron.* III. 351 Fertile workers lay none but male eggs.

6. *U. S. Politics.* One of a class of political agents that are subordinate to a 'boss'.

1889 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lviii. 451 The large and active class called, technically, 'workers', or more affectionately, 'the Boys.'

3. Applied to apparatus or pieces of machinery.

†a. A vessel in which wine has to be worked. *obs.* b. One of the small card-covered cylinders or 'urchins' in a carding-machine. c. A leather-worker's two handled knife (Knight *Dict. Mech., Suppl.* 1884). d. In pillow lace-making, *pl.* the bobbins that are worked actively. e. = Washer 4 b. f. With prefixed sb., applied to an apparatus for working the material denoted by the sb., as *butter-worker*.

1594 Plat *Jewell-h.* 21 Let your wrought vessel bee such as hath areadie contained some muste or other liquor that hath wrought therin, (for he that knoweth not the vse of a worker is but a shadow vnto it). 1832 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 167 Each pair of cylinders consists of a worker and a cleaner somewhat less in size than its fellow, and turning in the reverse direction of the drum. 1853 — *Dict. Arts* I. 766 The points of this roller (called a 'worker') are inclined in a direction opposed to the movement of the swift. 1853 *Beds' Technol. Wks., Worker, Washer* in paper manufacture. 1878 *Technol. Dict., Worker, Stripper* of the scribbling machine. 1885 J. J. Manley *Brit. Almanac Comp.* 18 The butter-milk and water are carefully pressed out in one of Bradford's butter workers.

4. With adverbs, as *worker-up* (see Work v. 39).

1696 *Second Ed. New Almanack* 10 He be no very good worker up. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1924) 116 Tanners, Curriers, and Dressers, or Workers up of Leather. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 3 The worker-up of novels.

5. *attrib.*, as (sense 2 d (*c*)) *worker ant, bee, cell, grub*; **worker bobbin** = 3 d; **worker card** = 3 b.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xix. (1817) II. 138 The instinct and industry of the worker ants. 1861 The instinct of the queen invariably directs her to deposit worker eggs in worker cells. *Ibid.* xxiv. 394 When all the worker-brood was removed from a hive, only male brood left. 1852 *Poultry Chron.* III. 361 It is not invariably found that the bees will at once convert a worker grub into a queen. 1882 *Gowan Bee-keeper's Guide Bk.* vii. 20 If we examine a hive, we shall find that worker-comb is full of an inch...thick. 1888 *Athenæum* 1 July 18/3 As in bees and wasps, worker nuns occasionally produce fertile eggs. 1894 Vicker-man *Woollen Spinning* 159 We see of each of the pairs of top rollers a 'worker' card, in distinction from the adjoining one, which is a stripper.

**Workfolk** (wɜ·kfōk). Also (now *rare*) -**folks**. [f. Work *sb.* + Folk *sb.*] Cf. Du. *werkvolk*.] = Workpeople, *esp.* farm labourers.

*c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 265 That syche wyrfulk be payd in'good mone. 1566 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (Pr.ock 1866) 124 One sacringe bell...bought of Mr Palmer of Haselwood ...used in his house...for to call worke folke to dynner. 1579 in Feuilleratt *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 164 Wages by him payd to 224 workfolkes. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 88 b, We beseech thee (O thou that art eternall sent) workfolke into thy harueste. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. 337 At the dissection of the gardener, ...according as his number of workefolkes is more or lesse. 1611 *Washington Assembly Bills* (1924) III. 40 Their seamgrakers...were...desiered to paie good English money to their worcke folkes. 1720 *Guide for Constables* 30 Clothiers must pay their...workfolks their wages in ready money. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Work-folk*, labourers. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* II. vii. 412 The lowliest work-folk in the town. 1883 T. Hardy in *Longman's Mag.* July 255 The regular farmers'...'workfolk' as they call themselves. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Aug. 6/4 A slight improvement in the conditions under which farm workfolks live. 1908 *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 8/3 The writer...had...smoked with the workfolk in their public-houses.

**Workful** (wɜ·kfŭl), *a.* [f. Work *sb.* + -ful. Cf. OE. *weorcfull* 'operosus'.]

†1. Active, operative. *Obs.*

1300 *Arth. & Merl.* 199 Ne nimeth nout we habbely y-speke above be lenge þ to þe uerste liue bet is ycleped workful. 1552 Huloet, Workefull, *operosus*. 1565 Harding *Confut.* ii. 218, 97 Steat thou then how workefull is the word of Christ? 1567 Golding *De Mornay* v. 60 In the most single estate of God, there is a workfull power. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., The Philosophy of our day and Land being so much workful as the world knows it to be.

2. Full of (hard) work; hard-working.

1854 Dickens *Hard T.* i. v. You saw nothing in Coketown but what was severely workful. 1875 Holyoake *Hist. Coop.* I. 351 Being very watchful and workful as a secretary. 1891 *Review Rev.* 15 Oct. 352/2 Seven happy workful months spent in Paris.

Hence **Wo·rkfulness**, †activity; laborious activity.

1573 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 17 In the meane tyme his workfulnesse perceth euen into y^e uery Church. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 459 He might have seen, in any Cole-town of the manufacturing districts, an allowance of what is playful, to compensate for its workfulness. 1903 J. C. Smith *Robt. Wallace* vi. 174 He resigned...a position of usefulness and workfulness.

**Workhouse** (wɜ·khous). [OE. *weorchūs*: f. Work *sb.* + House *sb.*] Cf. MDu. *werchhuus*, Du. *werkhuis*, MHG. *werchûs* (G. *werkhaus*), ON. *verkhús* (in comb.).]

1. A house, shop, or room in which work is regularly performed; a workshop or factory. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

a 1100 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 185/3 *Officina*, smiþþe uel weorchus. *Ibid.* 186/29 *Ergastulum uel operatorium*, weorchus. 1350 in Riley *Mem. London* (1868) 269 In the werkhous...12,000 of plaunche-nail...3000 of dornail. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 307 Pe werkehous þere þey dooþ here werkes 1438-40 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp's Stortford* (1882) 6 In Workhous Intomorum juxta cimiterium. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 304 The Grounde wher as the seid Ship was made & the Workehouse Belonging to the same. 1575 in Plomer *Abstr. Wills Engl. Printers* (1903) 39 My workehouse of printing. 1600 Holland *Pliny* II. vi. 1. 61 The worke houses and furnaces of potters. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3260/3 There were taken with him several Pairs of Stockins wet, as if they had been taken out of a Dyers Work-House. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 445 His workhouse, of 20 cabinet-makers, is said to be a very considerable manufactory. 1862 S. R. Maitland *Rise & Progress* Introd. 7 The court by which we first entered is occupied with stables and work-houses.

b. *fig.*

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 34-35 The holy ghoste ...in thy wombe, (as it wer in an heauenly workehouse) shall accomplishe the worknyng of this holy babe. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* vi. (1888) 28 The liuer...the workhouse of bloud. 1598 Florio *Worlde* 1 Le...officine, the workehouse of shoppes. 1598 *Second Pt. Mirror for Magistrates* 58 *Epist. to Faith* 125 Christ being the very worke-house, and shop of the Devil, in which he wrought. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Comphit.* viii. 1. 1. 1

1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 245 *heading*, Working and Prospects of the Reform. 1845 C. F. Barker *Mem. on Syria* title-p., The Purchase and Tenure of Land, And the Working of the Old and New Tariff. 1847 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 307 Exhibiting on that wide theatre the useful working of the fundamental institutions of the British monarchy. 1864 Stockton *Lady or Tiger* 14 His majesty..was greatly interested in the workings and development of this trial. 1884 Dilke in A. Cewston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 101 The working of the bye-laws in Birmingham under the 60th section of the Public Health Act. 1920 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 43 Some changes in the working of the chancery.

**5.** Action, operation. **a.** Of a person; esp. *collect. sing.* and *pl.* actions, doings, deeds. + *Good working* (rare): good works. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 386 God is so parfyte in alle his worchynge pat [etc.]. c1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 698 The children of Mercurie and Venus Been in hir werkyng ful contrarius. c1400 *Cursor M.* 29142 (Cott. Galba) Pou may with him comun in dede, For wers may bi werking spede. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6123 Thou most discouere all thy worchyng, How thou seruest, and what wise. c1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sense.* 3169 Without engyn of fals werkyng. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11501 They shulde ellys for hunger deye, Ne were I & my werckyng. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* (W.) Wyth-stande alle temptacyouns & to be persseuerant in good werkyng. c1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. xviii. 258 That he was lik to wirching to a wyue. c1480 Henryson *Swenhalme* 3 The hie prudence, and wirking merueulous, ..of god omnipotent. 1539 Monson *Inward. agst. Treas.* title-p., Wherein the secrets practises, and workings of the Papists are found that suffrid of late are disclosed. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. ii. § 2 The being of God is a kind of Law to his working. 1602 L'Estrange *Pathes* (1616) 134 The Wayes and Workings of Providence are unsearchable. 1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 91 Against Wind and Tide too, there's no Working. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* (1785) IV. 146, I leave you to your own Workings. 1874 W. P. Mackay *Grace & Truth* 220 In the twelfth chapter of Revelation we have depicted a remarkable series of Satan's workings. 1909 W. Jones *Heart to Heart* 17 Almighty and Everliving God, ..it is Thy glory to conceal Thy workings.

† **b.** Of a thing; sometimes *pl.*, functions. *Obs.* in general sense.

1520 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4907 Pe wirkyng of pe fire swa brinnand. 1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (1495) Yf hys Membres [of beestys] ben dyuers in werkynge, as it fareth in the eeres of the olyphaunt wit the whyche he fyghteth. c1400 tr. *Secreta Secr. (Lydg. Lorch.* 80 Alle fyue wittes pat sholde gouerne..alle pe wyrkynges of pe body. c1449 Pecock *Repr.* ii. xvi. 243 That the seid parties of bemen mulden ful wyrche pe wirchyngis of bodies in pe binethe in the louger world. c1460 Sir R. Ros *La Belle Dame* 340 (Camb. MS.) Loue is sotyle,..S harpe in worchyng. c1470 Henry *Wallace* vi. 10 In Aprell quhen cleithit is..The abill grounde be wyrking off natur.

**c.** Of a drug, medicine, etc.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 Put worchyng shal better done and soner if pe seconnde day after pe puttyng to of arsenek be putte to larde wip pe emplastre sanguiboles. 1562 Turner *Herbal* ii. (1568) 56 The lesse kynde [of Polye]..more strong and stronger in workinge. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 1 b, She shal whilest she is in sleepe imbrace hir husband through the working of this stone. 1580 T. Rogers *Phisicke Master.* (1629) 17 These strange workings of these foreigne drugges in our bodies. 1631 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 39 His Rozen is in smell, taste, and working better than common Turpentine. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 79 After my Physicks working. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 281/2 It is a good Medicine for the Purposes intended. In the working of it, you must be sure to provide two or three Quarts of Posset-drink..aforehand.

**d.** Of the mind, conscience, etc. Often *pl.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. i. 33 Glory growes guiltie..When for Fames sake..We bend to that, the working of the hait. 1592 — *1 Hen. VI*, v. v. 28 Ile wish him to a fellow-feeling of my thoughts. c1600 — *Sonn.* xciii, What ere thy thoughts,or thy hearts workings be. 1602 — *Ham.* ii. ii. 580. 1707 Rowe *Royal Convert* v. 1, The secret workings of my heart, that all reveal'd to thee. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) III. 320 Who can account for the workings of an apprehensive mind, when all that is dear and valuable to it is at stake? 1798 S. & H. Lee *Cant. Tales* I. 5 A friend..would find a generous pleasure in aiding the workings of an ingenuous nature. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* xii. ii, In him, with busier workings. a1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. iii. *Hermione* 60, Workings Of conscience. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 138 *note*, The Archdeacon now gets very eloquent, and gives us all the inner workings of the mind.

**e.** The conduct or operations collectively of a factory, vessel, or the like.

1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* c. 71. § 58 Any grating..placed so as ..to interfere with the effective working of any mill. 1901 Goons *Econ. Cond. Cotton-Trade* I. 12 In full working the cotton mills of Russia consumed about 2,500,000 bales of cotton per annum. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V*, c. 30 Sch. I. ii, The profits or the gross earnings from working of the vessel.

**6.** Influential operation; influence, effectiveness; also, the result or effect of operation or influence. Somewhat *arch.*

c1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iii. pr. xi. (1868) 95 What pei ben guiltid to-gidre al in to o forme and in to oon wirchyng ordig. *in nomine virgo efficientiam*. 1548 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 24 Thanne schal the werkyng be ful sene Of 'Ne remembris,' Domine!' 1550–1550 *Repr. anne Ladie* 1 b, 34 Which..began to prayse god; god turnyd the enemys eeke of them ageanste other... A marueluous werkyng of goddes seruyce. 1547 *Homilies* i. *Exhort. vtge. Holy Scripl.* (R.) [The words of Scripture] haue euer an heauenly spirituall workinge in them. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 14 Throw working of the Spirite in til our hart. a1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. xxiii. (1912) 295 Her fayre colour decaied;..and hastily grew into the very extreme working of sorowfulnesse. 1598 Thme *Ten Kngd. Lepers* E 2 b, There is as great difference betweene the working of hypocrisie and the working of grace, as betweene the working of arte, and the operation of nature. 1718



*Free-thinker* No. 96. 291 The Workings of Superstition are insinuating and slow. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, The workings of a parent's love upon the truth and conviction of this very hypothesis. 1861 Boughsan *Brit. Coast.* xi. 190 *note*, The working of clerical prejudice in..a liberal mind. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 10 Faith, hope, and charity, are the three primary workings of the Holy Ghost in the soul.

**7.** Mathematical calculation; the process of calculating, or performing the necessary mathematical operations for ascertaining, a quantity, etc. Now chiefly, the statement of the operations involved in solving a mathematical problem.

c1386 Chaucer *Franklt. T.* 559 By his .8. speere in his wirkyng He knew ful wel how fer Alnath was shoote.. c1391 — *Astrol.* ii. § 35 This is the workinge of the conclusioun, to knowe yif pat any planete be directe or retrograde. a1400 in Hallive. *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 61 Pat leves after pi wirkyng es pe heght fro A poynte to pe height of pe hyng. 1542 *Crafte Nombrynge* 30 Pou most know well pe craft of pe wyrchynge in pe tabulle. 1543 Recorde *Gr. Artes* 123 Ye same 3^e appeareth of 36 other working before. 1652 J. Eyre *Exact Surveyor* 73 Which by the working according to the former directions, will be found to be about 63 yards. 1684 *Diocesan Amer. Notes* xvi, The observation every day at noon, and the subsequent working in the ship's course. 1893 Todhunter *Conyt. Sections* 74 That a knowledge of mathematics may be gained without the perpetual working of examples. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Nov. No mathematical paper is complete if the arithmetic paper without the candidate shows up the 'working' of the sums as well as the final result.

† **8.** Aching; ache, pain. *Obs.*

a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 96 For wekyng of the hed. *Ibid.* 151 For wyng in pe hed, & werkyng in pe hed. *Ibid.* i. 11 in *Anglia* XVIII. 293 3if a man..In bys heed hath pat sekenesse, Or 3if greuaunce or ony werkynge, & namli tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lorish.* 76 Corupcioun of sicht, werkynge of pe brayn. *Ibid.* 77 He felys his mete bitter in his brest, and werkyng of pe lippis.

† **b.** Stomach-ache or intestinal disturbance. *Obs.*

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* ii. 48 b/1 in *Holinshed*, Beyng moderately taken, it [sc. Aqua vitæ] kepeth..the belly from birthyng. 1650 Venner *Via Recta, Tobacco* 407 So..as to cause a vehement sickly working both upward & downward. 1717 Flover *Asthma* i. 9 A loose Stool frequently happens from the great working in the Belly, occasion'd by the Flu.

**9.** Fermentation of liquor.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Acetus mustulentus*, the fomyng or spinckling vp of newe wine, in ale we call it working. 1611 Florio, Bollimento, the Working of Beere. 1662 Charleton *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 153 Sickly commotions, or (to speak in the dialect of Wine-coopers) Workings. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 218 I will set your Wine in a proper Working, and purifie it in twenty four Hours. 1725 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wash*, With respect to the..workings of this liquor, great regard is to be had to the containing vessel. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 103 Conclude the fermentation in from 40 to 50 hours, and when it is cleansed do not fill up too frequently, for it will work off with great rapidity: rather, let the cask be filled to the stage in the working. 1852 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1324 Unless the weather be very severe, the working (as it is called) proceeds equally well when the fermented wash is double or close.

**10.** Restless movement of water (esp. the sea); straining of a ship, a vehicle, etc. so as to loosen the fittings.

1588 R. Jichefield tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* x. xxxiv. 57 The Moores went so high..they thought it impossible for the shippes to escape..by the working of them it was thought, that sometime they did hoyse up their shippes about the Element. 1660 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* iii. 34 The working of the Land doth much annoy. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 257 The water the Pink had made by her working and straining in bad weather. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 302 By the continual working of the cattles [sc. Cartle's] card, two of them had been broken. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.* 414 The working of the frames of locomotives signifies the loosening of their joints, due to the strains communicated to them by the engines. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Nov. 10/5 Owing to the working of the masts the deck has opened up.

**b.** Involuntary movement of the face or mouth, esp. due to emotion.

1800 Worlsw. *Pet Lamb* 18, I unobserved could see the workings of her face. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, As if to prevent his hearing the workings of his countenance. 1860 Eliz. Sewell *Amy Herbert* xl. I. 202 The working of her forehead showed the storm that was gathering. 1878 Browning *Poetics* 38, Laughing a laugh, which displayed the workings of her mouth [sc. 'mumbling and munching'] to ugly advantage.

**11.** The proper action or movement of a piece of mechanism or the like.

1764 J. Hodgson *Phil. Trans.* lii. xi. (1890) 110 To hinder the working of your Fire-works. 1797 [Dubrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 38 Quarll..was astride on the main yard, with a hatchet to cut down what stopped the working of the yard. 1819 *Arg. Chron.* 23/1 The only noise he heard..was the working of a neighbouring pump. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* iii, The workings of his lungs pumped great jets of blood out.

**12.** Gradual movement or progress (as against resistance).

1883 Muson *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. 223 It will so engage the Oyl, and raise the Stum, that it might endanger the working over the top of the Kettle. 1890 Playfair *Theatre, Huttonian Theory* 401 The working of water collected from the rains and the snows.

**II.** *concr.* **13.** Decorative work. *Obs.*

1538 in *Antiq. Surtich.* (1771) 191 Curiously ornate with divers Workings and Imagings. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4373/4 A..Purse, worked round with 3 distinct Rows of Gold Working.

**14.** A place in which mineral is or has been worked; a mining excavation.

1766 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 The foul air in an old working took fire. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 969 Many water-logged fissures come to be cut by the workings. 1892 *Echo* 8 Oct. 3 An explosion..occurred in a part of the working which extends in a northerly direction beneath the town. 1912 *Times* 10 July 8/1 Another explosion took place..while a rescue party was below in the workings.

**III. 15.** With adverbs, as *working-off*, *-out*, *-together*, *-up* (see Work v. 39); also *attrib.*

1662 Evelyn *Sculptura* iii. 33 They also engrave upon stones, and imprint with it; but with this difference in the working-off; that the paper being black, the Sculpture remains white. 1856 *Penny Cycl.* V. 240 By being careful in the operation of working off, a thousand copies may be obtained. 1895 Kingsley *Water. Bab.* xxxii, Let him have his humour. ..It may be the working off of his madness. 1842 Manning *Serm.* i. (1848) 17 All the face of the world bespeaks the working-out of the prophecy. 1860 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* iii. xx, 'It will be the working-out of my vision', said Henry. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Navy* 215 The working out of Beechey's tables revolutionized navigation. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 184 The determination and working out of the Tabandac of Tropical Africa. 1893 Cockerman II, A 'working together, *coopération*'. 1678 Rymer *Trag. Last Age* 76 If the Poet observe not these measures, the working up of a Scene, is plainly the tormenting of nature, and building our cars to the Grindstone. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 135 All..is done..under the force of artificial impulse, causing what is called a working-up. 1893 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 7/4 Band of hope working-party. 1923 *Athenæum* 10 May 598/1 A working-up to a strong climax.

**IV. 16.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib.: = of or for working or the performance of a certain work, as *working hour(s)*, *humour*, *life*, *light*, *method*, *part*, *rate*, *talent*, *time*, *week* (cf. WORKING-DAY 2), *week's pay*; = used or worn when one is working, as *apron*, *clothes*, *dress*, † *gear*, *instrument*, † *stole* (Stole 3b. 6), *stone*, *tool*; = pertaining or necessary to, involved in, the conduct of a business, etc., as *working capital*, *costs*, *expenses*, *fund*; = belonging to or situated in or at a working sense 14; as *working breast*, *drift*, *face*, *floor*, *headway*, *pit*. **b.** Special comb.: **working-arch**, a tymp-arch; **working-barrel**, the cylinder in which the piston of a pump works; **working-beam**, a walking beam; **working-bit**, a (see quot.); † **working-box**, a *work-box* (Work 3b. 34 d); † **working canvas**, canvas upon which embroidery is worked; **working cylinder**, **working door** (see quots.); **working drawing**, usually pl., the drawings made of the plan, etc. of a building from which the workmen employed carry out the construction of the work; **working heat** (see quot.); **working-hole**, (*a*) the opening in a furnace at which the metal glass is put in or out; (*b*) any of the holes which bear use in working; **working load**, the maximum load that a member in a machine or other structure is designed to bear; **working order**, a condition in which a machine, system, etc. works (well, badly, etc.); **working outline**, an outline which forms the basis of a finished drawing; **working place**, † (*a*) a workshop; (*b*) the place at which a worker executes his work, *spec.* that at which a miner is engaged in excavating; **working point**, the 1 point in time in a machine at which the useful work is done; **working rate** (see quot.); **working room**, (*a*) space in which one may work, room for the performance of work; (*b*) a work-room; † **working school**, a kind of industrial school; † **working-shop**. = Workshop 1; **working-tube**, a glass-worker's blowing-iron; **working-week**, a week in which fermentation takes place.

1789 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 4 May (1892) III. 67, I had but just time to throw off my 'Working Apron. 1853 *Bell's Technol. Wks.*, *Working clothes*..of a blast furnace. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 600/1 The working and pump pistons into their places at the bottom of their respective 'working barrels, in order that they also may make a working stroke. *Ibid.* 771/1 The..end of the [Fitzon's] pump is suspended from the arch of the 'working-beam. 1892–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms*, **Working-clg*, in mining, signifies sufficiently large for a man to work in. 1838 in N. & Q. 5th Ser. I. 423 My small tithe is about £80. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News Mining Gloss.*, *Fut*, to convey coal from the 'working head to the tramway. 1822 *Sc. Bk. Kalendars Husbandman's Ledger* (1867) 329 Lining with..'working Canvas for cushcons. 1657 *Acts of Interregn.* (1911) II. 1213 Canvas called..Working Canvas for Cushions. 1912 *Fitman's Commerce. Dict.* 1/2 Working capital, the capital of a business is the amount available for conducting its operations after it has been equipped in such a manner as to be in the condition desired in regard to fixed assets. 1824 E. Reeves *Pennsylvania Reports* 299 Dressed in ordinary 'working clothes of varied colours. 1912 *Times* 10 Dec. 19 2 The 'working costs, including the London expenses. 1815 *J. Smith Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 143 Such low steam.. being admitted into a steam-vessel..., or 'working cylinder, will there be expanded in any ratio required. 1853 *Bell's Technol. Wks.*, *Working cylinder*, principal cylinder of a water-pressure engine. *Ibid.*, *Working door* of a reverberating furnace (that opening through which the crucible is brought. 1897 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 391 The furnace has a working door at the side, and a charging door at the end. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xxvii. (ed. 3)

269 The actual execution from 'working drawings' 1887 D A Low *Machin. Draw.* Pref p iv, The illustrations for this work have been specially prepared by the author from working drawings 1893 Mrs. Mooman *Lyd. Clear* 1915 69 Her coloured flannel 'working dress 1888 *Keep Ho. Repr. Free Mail* U. S. 639 Further connections between these cross drifts are made by 'working' grifts parallel to the central one 1888 *V. Amer. Act* Jan 46 Returns for 'working expenses. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 23 *To working place*, the place where the miner is excavating the mineral 1914 *Brit. Miss. Return* 90 An 11 or 12 cent series f impleme ts and flakes from 'working floors in or near the kitchen midden at Round Creek near Luton 1905 G. Thorne *Life Canoe.* x, 1 contribution to the 'working fund 1638 *Ancient Wills* (Surtees) II 170 All my leume, 'working geare and my husbandrie geare 1640 *Hist. 124* All my working geare which belongs to my trade 1700 *Act 30 Geo. II*, c. 41 § 12 To make, erect, Wire Wheels Pare Engines Mills, Machinery Working Gearing, for raising Water in the said River Wenson 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Imps.* Vol 242 Hunni g gr ail ry above the 'working bad leay to the highest place worked 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 161 The fire at Whitehaven increased, for working the glass, to what is called the 'working heat and this I found in plate glass, to be 97° 1839 *Urc. Dict. Arts* 537 Seam uncoiler lies a little above the top of each pet sail 'working h les 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric* (1869) 270, I pick them fr beed closely on boards in the cellar, leaving the board w rking h les open 1884 *Mr. Martineau Hill & Valley* viii, 'After w rking hours the evening bef re 1882 Bryant *All Sorts* xii (1898) 154 His pay by the piece gave him as already stated, tenpence for every working hour 1840 *Penny Mechan. Mag.* 1 Am in a 'working humour now so don t disturb me, if you please 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 305/2 'Werkynge instrument for sylke women 1483 Caxton (*title*) Passages of the 'Working Life dur h half century. 1892 *Photogr. Ann* II 259 A square of ruby fabric admits a safe 'working light 1891 Kipling *Light* ix, I've not time to finish it though a good working light to-morrow I hope they 1875 Martin *Harper's Wedding Week* 19 A room I steel ripe would bear a 'working load of 150 lbs. 1910 *Mahogany* 26 Price 180/- formulas and tables selected from the 'working methods of practical phot graphers 1872 *Church Irnl* 29 June 410/2 I a see that the [relics rpt] line in 'working order 1878 Higginson *Atlantic* 3 The Lyceum will begin to get the militia into good working order 1883 D C. Murray *Hearts* xii, Mark took care that his appetite, usually in good working order, should be interrupted by the emotions of the morning 1859 Collick & Irwin *Painting* 147 A finished drawing of the full size being ready a part of this 'working' outline may be traced to the wall 1796 I N *City & C. Purchaser* 84 The 'working part [of architecture] may be helpe l by deliberati n 1719 De F. *Crusoe* (Globe) 72 Here the working P rt of this Day 1746 Leon *Alberti's Archit.* I The whole Business of the working Part of building is this 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII 617 [I he fire] breaking down the partition between the waste and the 'working part, the most terrible explosion ever beheld 1554-5 in Feuilleraf *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 176 n dozen of Rushes for the 'working places of th tilce. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr.* *Tourner d'vn chan. ou mestier, ou on bes g e*, a working place, a shop 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xii (1842) 362 Besides the working place another, unconnected with the busy part of the laboratory, should be appointed 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I 960 Each miner continues to add once his room or working pla e. 1845 J Nicholson *Mech.* 11 All the materials which has been accumulated on the fly during the whole progress of its accumulation, is exerted in an instant at the 'working point 1886 J Barr-Wham *S. Mining Terms* 13 *'Working rate* the rate of wages paid to miners 1778 Rowans *Hercules* App 9 f om Leak's Key, to the Riding Rocks and Roques, there is 'working room plenty, and good anchorage 1807 *Repert. Arts Manuf.* I (1840) 18 There is w rking room all round it 1898 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 558 I the atmosphere of their working rooms is so pernicious that birds die after being exposed to it for a few night 1787 Hawkins *Life of Johnson* 391 Dr Madden was well known by his premiums for the encouragement of Protestant 'working schools. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII 450 The dust of a 'working sh p 1675 *Trump Parv.* 305/2 (Camb MS.) Lyncet a 'werkynge stole 1502 *Trevy Parva Exp. Life of York* (1830) 7 For the stuff and making of my working, stoles for the Quene vs mjsd 1530 Palsgr. 290/1 Working stole fore a sylkeman, *metier* 1585 Higins *Junius Nomencl.* 140/1 A working stoue a stoa ut heateth to working wall, as the whetstone is 1891 P Barry *Dashyard Leon* 218 Like the 'working system of the Thames Company in contract between owner and shipbuilder 1870 Emerson *Soc. Aims* 66 The whole art depends on a few men with 'working talent 1783 *Jrnl. de l. mme* XI VII 372 2 The 'Working Time that is now lost in making up the Hundred 1561 Hewyson *Prov. Exper* (1867) 101 Thou handlest no caruyng nor 'worckyng tool. 1690 Child *Disc Trade* (1698) 182 Not to hinder any man from keeping as many servants as he can, nor loome, w rking tools &c. a 1738 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* 30 A people so barbarous, and destitute of all Working tool 1869 Boutell *Arms & Armour* 1 3 Em ployed as we did at first with no tool but the struck splinters from the flint s one 1845 C. Dodd *Brit Man of Ht* 63 After the 'working tube has ll cted nearly sufficient coal to fill a glass from o e pot 1790 Montagu *Handk* 152 Cove ing your Fat close, if at first you fail t ot in your 'Working Lun 1890 J E C Munro in *Rep Brit Assoc* 429 If the 'w rking week was reduced from 56 to 48 hours 1867 Alg. J E Wilson *Vashti* xiv, She remarked that your eyes were, in comparison with other folks, what Sabbath is to 'working week days. 1913 *Times* 13 Aug 3/1 The 'working years of life

**Working** (*wə·kiŋ*), *ppl a.* [f Work *v.* + -ing 2 (In several uses formerly often hyphened to the vb.)] That works, in various senses

1. Of a person, personal attribute, etc.: Active, operative, energetic. *Obs. or arch*

1387 8 T Usk *Test Love* iii v (Skeat) I. 43 He that neuer han lyf ne soule, ne ordinance of werchinge lymmes 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. iii (1912) 20 A woman of so working a minde, it was happie shee tooke a good course 1633 F White *Sabbath Ep Ded* 9 They command whatsoever their own working heads affect 1648 J Whitaker *Unasch* 14 He had a working head, and a desirous hand 1681 Flavel *Meth Grace* xxviii 476 The working heads of the enemies of that State 1706 J Pition *Kf Elector Bavaria's* 58 Wks. 1907 II 371 Prefacing cannons tell th' approaching storm And working armies take a dreadful f rm 1820 Keats *Ode to I ly* iv 60 A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the white circlet of my working brow

†**b** Of a thing (concr. or abstr.) Operative, effective. *Obs*

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt Tamburl.* II iii, You see, my Lord, what working we orders he hath 1623 Shakes. *Mac. V*, *iii*, 1 of 3 Things Said, high, and working full of State and Woe. 1822 J Taylor (Water P.) *Shilling* B4, A gentle working Potion 1844 Mitton *Areop* (Arb.) 49 Childish men, who have not the art to qualifie and temper these w rking mineralls. 1654 P Jinson *Wonder-w. Provid* in This was the be t working providence of Christ to stir up our English Nation 1709 J Lister *Aset Cure* (1814) 43 Some working physic that might be likely to remove the distemper

2 That works or labours; *esp* that works for an employer in a manual or industrial occupation (see also Working class, -man).

1639 G Platter *Discov. Infin Arcan* Pref C 4 b, How the working poore may be employed in these new inspired times 1703 *Poor Man's Advocate* 31 Thic 4 The evils that beset the working population 1886 Ramsbotham *Phases* 23 Honest we ichin f lks one sees By scores rewind th' Pour law Office dur 1871 Smiles *Charac.* i. (1876) 25 The true working body of working people 1913 Macaulay *Hist Ch Scot* I xviii 388 There must have been innumerable parishes which had no working parish priests 1920 W. S. *Maude Mrs.* (1925) I. 330 Respectable advice to working playwrights

b. In contrast with (*a*) 'master', 'managing', etc., in designations of trade or occupation; (*b*) 'sleeping', in reference to partners in a firm. Also in designations of persons or animals that work or are active in a special way

1776 *Trial Hastings* I 458 He is by Trade a Working-Goldsmith 1793-4 *Matthew's Brist Directory* 78 Tanner, George, Working cutler, Murry street 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. 1 Of the 'working partner in a new firm 1839 in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1860) I 478 The Working Petty Officers of the Royal Navy. 1892 *Cycling* II 197 The working Committee of 8 show 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I vii, A working jeweller by population. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* x § 2 747 Bel jamin Franklin, who had risen from his position of a working printer in Philadelphia to help to found the scientific discoverers 1898 *Daily News* 5 Jan 2/4 Working homers, wonderful for their speed, as it has area used on Government ships. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 8/4 Working Housekeeper, required by gentleman, to work small house

c. Mil. *Working party* = a party of men detailed for a special piece of work outside their ordinary duties

1744 M Bishop *Life* 204, I mounted Guard as Sergeant upon a working Party, and took them to a Mine, in order to work at a Sap 1834-47 J S Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1863) 131 Working parties should have a superior to divided into four parties 1st, the guides and interpreters 2 d, the combatants, 3d, the troops to cover the retreat 4th the working party

d. Of land and cattle: Employed in work, esp. in agricultural work

1613 *Lit Dep sit infra Archdiacon Colcestrensem* If 29 (MS.) The herbadg or pasture of anye w rkinge cattell 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI 240 The 2 d best sort [of sorrel] fair of working oxen 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr 2 4 Bean and pease straw is the customary fodder of the work h rse 1808 *Farmer's Ency.* I 40 *Farm of Work Horses & Hunt* III, Two colts are generally bred from the mares to keep up the st ck of w king horses 1890 'R Boldre wood' *Col. Reformer* xiii, I am told working bullock in Inverness-shire 1892 *Animal Management* 124 A working horse will swallow an inordinate quantity of water very rapidly

e Of a bee or ant. That is a 'worker'.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Queen bee* 6 H r 2 Not only these common w rking bees, but also the drones, or male bees 1816 Kirby & Sp *Introd. Ent.* xxvii (1818) II 51 If we look at the working bee that she queen and working, grubs are originally the same.

**f** In comb. = Producing, creating.

1595 W C. *Polimantia* 144 (1881) 8s Glittering hate worketh gold

+**3** Aching, throbbing with pain. *Obs*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst* vi 8 Sore bonys, & werkand feete *c* 1470 *Henry Wallace* III 204 With mony werkfu d wound 1535 Coverdale *Lev* iv 7 Werf (Reiia) I 75 Ay quhair tha hit maka id ane werkand wound

**4** Of the sea, etc. Agitated, tossing. *poet.*

1582 A Hall *Iliad* i 6 The working sea I will goe seeke in point of morning grey 1606 *Ibid.* viii. 123 Much like the Ocean waue, Which working stormie, not green, but black doth make yᵉ colour haue 1620 W Mason *Vic* 93 The billowes of the working sea it cannot rest 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab* clxxi, On Biscay's working Bay 1676 — *Aureng-z* iv 1, A working Sea, remains e from a Storm. 1795 Pope *Odyss* xii 265 Days they seize, Stretch to the strike, and brush the working seas.

**5** Of liquor Fermenting.

1675 J Veritie in J Rose *Engl. Vineyard* 44 Some replenish their working Wines with Water only

**6** Of the features of the face: Moving involuntarily or convulsively, esp as the result of emotion.

1752-4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xi 75 That little witch, I have been watching, her eyes and every working muscle of her saucy face. 1858 Lytton *Alice* II. iii, The smile vanished at once, as her eyes met his changed and working countenance. 1898 Dickens *Dombey* xi, The working lip was loosened; and the tears came streaming forth 1905 — *Mut. Fr* iv vii, 'I heard of the outrage,' said Bradley, trying to constrain his working mouth

**7** Of an organism, a piece of machinery, etc.: That performs its function (esp in a specified manner); that 'goes' (as opposed to being stationary).

1608 Shake *Per.* v. i. 135 But are you flesh and blood? Have you a working pulse, and are no Fairie? 1765 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1781), *Vaisseau qui se manie bien*, a good working ship, a ship that is easily managed and steered 1859 *Newton's Lond. Jrnl Arts* 1 Feb 115 Mr J A Haswell exhibited a large working model of the new [railway] switch 1874 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 A continuous working reverberatory furnace

b. *Naut.* applied to certain sails

1882 *Standard* 21 Aug 6/6 Lorne and Chattyweet last, the latter with a large jackyards'l sail set, the others having working square-headed sails 1883 *Harper's Mag* Aug 450/2 Racing or working rigs 1892 Anstey *Dict Navig Terms*, *Working fore-sail* (in fore and aft rig, a foresail which runs on a hoop. *Working jib*, the same as a standing jib; and it often has a boom

**8** a Of a majority: Sufficient to secure the passing of measures.

1858 *Penny Cycl* and Suppl 495/a With the command of a working majority of about a hundred in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Peel found himself at the head of his political career 1859 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxiv (1861) V 121 It was not impossible that the servants of the Crown might, by dexterous management, succeed in obtaining a working majority

b. Of a theory, etc.: That provides a basis upon which to work.

1849 Grote *Greece* II xlv V 399 The confederacy would never have become a working reality 1861 H Spencer *Educ* I v 112 If it be only a working hypothesis, to keep us, while confined in the human from blindly and unconsciously violating the laws of the divine 1875 Maine *Hist. Instit* xiii 400 He wishes to alter them according to a working rule gathered from his reflections 1884 H Drummond *Ascent of Man* 8 No one asks more of Evolution at present than permission to use it as a working theory 1919 G. Huddleston *Peacemaking at Paris* II 23 To make a temporary treaty which would give us a working relationship with Germany

Hence **Workingly** *adv.*, †effectively; industriously; **Workingness**, † effectiveness.

1621 Florio, *Operosità*, workingnesse or operation. 1642 J Eaton *Honey-c Jrnl Prof* 1 969 Christ in the resolue of his whole life, after words fulfilled the whole I ve, actually, workingly and perfe tly 1859 Atkinson *Walks & Talks* (1890) 292 Such pretty birds humm n g away so cheerfully and workingly

**Working(-)class.** Chiefly *pl.* **working class** sbs [Working *ppl a.*, Class *sb.* 2] The grade or grades of society comprising those who are employed to work for wages in manual or industrial occupations.

1813 R Owen *New Views Soc.* 5 The poor and working classes of Great Britain and Ireland have increased to exceed twelve millions of persons 1844 H Cockburn *Jrnl* (1874) II 83 What are termed *the* working classes, as if the only workers were those who wrought with their hands. 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict* c 56 § 15 The provisions of section eleven of the Housing of the Working Classes Act 1885, shall have effect as if the expression 'working classes' included all classes of person s who earn their livelihood by wages or salaries.

b. *attrib*, as *working class family, house, vote.*

1869 W. L. Thornton *On Labour* iii v 316 Leading unionists, and working-class leaders 1884 in A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* 105 Those working-class houses that you have bought up and repaired 1899 W. Thomas *Hist Italy* 4 Many of the working-class families 1900 *Working class families* 1910 *Times* 10 Nov 5/5

**Working(-)day.** (Also 6 **workynday**, 6 7 **workenday**.) [f. Working *vbl. sb* + Day *sb* 1]

1. A work day

1478 *Paston Lett* III 237 A hose clothe, one for the halydays and a nodr yr for the working days. 1538 in R G Rundell *Sel Pleas Crowne* (1849) 164 For the said John Halmdry shalbe dyscharged and his shyp of the said halt within vj lawfull working dayes. 1599 W. Thomas *Hist Italie* 4 Many of the working, and lowest times the workenday, the same sitteth from diner till night 1851 Pr J Parkhurst *Journal* A 15 b, That they bipitre not children on the working daies 1868 in *Scrope & Chaplet Reports* (Camden) 1 That a competent number of the gentlemen be appointed to attend the service upon the working dayes throughout the yeare 1692 in C Worthy *Devon Wills* (1896) 29 My blacke suite and old Watmen worken dayes. 1725 *Bk Pot Prayer round World* (1840) 240 They quite forgot the days and knew not a Sunday from a working day any longer 1830 Sir F Palgrave *Hist & Progr. Eng Commw* II p cli, The first open or working day after the two great weekly festivals of Yuh day and Moon day 1839 *Penny Cycl* 25 Feb, Then comes dismal February, and the working days with it after the Christmas and the New Year's heyday and merry making are over. 1921 Onions *Shakes Glossy* 70 The computation of which has occupied the full working-days of a year and a half

b *attrib* or as *adj.* (= Workaday B.), as *working-day clothes, dress, face, world*

1533 in Weever *Wells Wells* (1890) 56 A round workyngday gowne 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 25 Our shepheard must put on his working day face, and frame nought but doleful Madrigalls. 1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl* (1598) C 4 If you heard her working day words, they be rather like thunder. 1600 Shake. *A. V. L.* I. iii 12 Oh how full of

briers is this working day world 1689 in *Bedfordshire N. & Q* (1889) II 237 All my working-day clothes of woollen or stuffe. 1895 Lawson *Misc. Poet Wks.* 2 The working day portion of life's wondrous whole. 1840 Dickens *Old Curi. Shop* xliv, The working-day faces come nearer to the truth. 1872 Geo Eliot *Middlem* lvi, The working day world. 1873 Newman *Serm. Var Occas* (1881) xiv. 275 The working day dress

2 The portion of a day devoted to work or allotted to labour as a day's work.

1873 J. Macdonell in *Jrnl. Arts.* Mar 389 Leaving the length of the working day unchanged 1890 J E C Munro in *Nep Brst Assn.* 472 The more rational proposals to establish a short working day

+ **Working-house.** *Obs.* [Working *vbl sb*] = Workhouse 1, 2

1487 in *Cal Lett bk L London* (1912) 242 [That n.] time expired apprentice set up shop or] working hous [within the City] 1599 Stran. *Hen. V*, v. Chor. 31 In the quick Forge and working house of Thought 1711 *Act 10 Anne* c. 19 § 55 Any such Goods, so made, printed, painted, or stained in their Warehouses, Working houses, or Places aforesaid

1597–8 *Act 39 Eliz.* c. 5 (*title*) An Acte for erecting of Hospitalls or abiding an Working Howses for the Poore 1639 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 138 The workinghouse of Bury

**Working-man.** A man of the working classes, a man employed to work for a wage, esp. in a manual or industrial occupation: a term inclusive of 'artisan', 'mechanic', and 'labourer'

1816 J. Williams *Memoir Impos Condit Poor* 23 How much more pleasant is the occupation of a working man than of a beggar, or a vagrant! 1830 *Blackw Philos Radicals* § 6 in *Life & Writings* I (1885) 154 That all the taxes ought to be taken off from those articles necessary for the subsistence and comfort of working men 1873 *Trevelyan* 5 July 5/1 The prevalence of what are called 'working men's candidatures' 1876 *Webster* in *Law Rep. Exchequer* 'A working man' was here held to include a clerk or small shopkeeper, or anyone whose total income did not exceed £150 a year 1901 W R H [Townshend Lisle] *Ass Mother to Eliz* x 43 Mr. Wertelmann held out a hand like a working man's

So **Working-woman.**

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xv, A child, playing at washing, and imitating a poor working-woman 1918 *Current History* Feb 200 Workingmen and workingwomen have raised the cry for bread, peace, and liberty in the street.

**Workless** (*wɜ·*klĕs), *a.* [f. Work *sb* + -less] **1.** Doing no work, inactive, idle *Obs.* or *arch*

1588 Carton *Pashes of Idlenes* v ix (1589) 130 What d'o ye here, why are yow workless? 1603 [H Parker] *Dives & Pauper* I xxx (W de W 1496) 69/1 Nedy workelesse men that go so gay & spende & wyll not worke 1877 Coldnes *Carols* 11 Wee imagin't wote not what manner of worklesse and ydle soverenitie as though he ruled not mankynd with his power and providence 1899 C Potter *Consecration Serm. Mor. &c. 1898* 13 Idle and wasteful Doctrine these worldless talkers 1881 [Vernon Lee *Baby* vii 195 Inactive, with listless limbs and workless hands

+ **2.** Of faith Without works. *Obs.*

1538 More *Confut Tindale* Wks. 520/2 A manne maye haue the right faythe yelle and worckelesse 1653 Manton *Exp James* ii. 14 The apostle calleth a workless faith a dead or lifeless faith

**3.** Unprovided with work; having no work to do, out of work, unemployed. Often *absol.* with *the*.

1848 *Jas's Mag.* XV 356 The workless idle e wayless many. 1887 *Pall Mall Bud.* 6 The latter will of the fireless room will wring from the workless workers a still more piteous moan *Ibid* 7 Dec 20/2 The Workless in the Country 1892 Mrs. G A Sala *Famous People I Have met* 18 The workless weavers of the last end.

Hence **Worklessness**, the condition of being workless, unemployment

1883 C. Macdonald in *Dom'ol Econ* xiii, Ye maun be grown some short o' sillet i' the time o' warklessness! 1892 *Jas abre Rec* Dec. 29 We are confronte i this Winter with a worklessness which approaches that of 1886

**Work-loom.** *Sc.* and *north* (now in form wark-). [f. Work *sb.* + Loom *sb.*1] A tool or implement, esp one used in manual labour.

c 1425 *Noah's Ark* in *Non-Cycle Mys I Pl* 22 Bi Unlust I am Worklooms for to work and weeld. 1475–6 *Aucts. Rec Aberdeen* (1869) I 43 Gude and sufficiand wark and worklowmys 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. xi. 82 The hust of all sic werklomis was adew 1570 Levins *Manip* 161/31 A Worke loome, *instrumentum* 1 a 1583 Montgomerie *Reprose* 43 That warklowme, quite [*sic* a lum] 1691 Sibbald *Acc Bk* (S H S) 140, 4 pund steell for ye work loomes 1785 Burns *Address to Deil* xi, The best wark lume i' the house 1796 Grose, *Tool Chest* s. v. [He] put his wark looms a-in tune, To ca' some tackets in his shoon

**Workman** (*wɜ·*kmăn) Pl **workmen.** Forms: see Work *sb* and Man *sb*1, also 4 **werman**, Sc **warman**. [OE *weorcmann* = Du. *werkman*, OHG. *werahman* (MHG *werch*, *wercman*), ON. *verk madr.*]

**1.** A man engaged to do work or (usually) manual labour, esp one employed upon some particular piece of work an operative, often (contextually) a skilled worker, † occas. a worker (*as a* medium).

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xvii, He sceal baldan þeodmen & fyndmen & weorcmen c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt iv 37 *Operarii*, werceman c 1205 Lay 22894 A craft weore man, a 1225 *Ancr R* 404 Iðen euentid, hwon me ȝelt were men hore deies hure ȝe *Sir Beues* (A) 3230 A morwe be barouns gunne arise Sum to bonten and sum to chirches, And werk men gonne for to werche 1380 Langl. *P Pl* A II 92 *Dignus est operarius mercede sua*: Workis is þe Werkmon hiȝ hure to haue c 1386 *Sc Leg Saints* xxx (*Laurentius*) 504 It neyght nocht suffice at a met bred to be, to warmen thre. c 1450 *Mirk's Festival* 39 He had so mony werkemen of dyuerse craftys, þat a man schuld not here his felow speke for dount of stroken 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II i. (1883) 22 A werkman in metalle. 1566 J. Heywood *Prov & Epigr* II ix (1867) 77 What is a workman, without his tooles? 1652 Hobbes *Leviath* iii xlii 306 A man is obliged in conscience to set on work upon all occasions the best workman 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 May 1645, This place has also been famous for lutes made by the old masters: the workmen were chiefly Germans. 1725 Watts *Logic* I vi § 8 If I would learn the Nature of a Watch, the Workman takes it to pieces 1844 Gwilt *Archit Gloss* s.v. *Inds of a Stone*, In arching the beds are called summerings by the workmen 1883 W. D Howells *Mouse of Industrious Ants* 4 There were under the hands of the workmen some of the cylinders for the bridge across the Dubuo river

**b.** Connoting a class or grade, or in correlation with 'employer', 'capitalist', or the like

1704 De Foe *Giving Alms no Charity* (1859) 38 The price of wages not only determines the difference between the employer and the work man, but it rules and raises the every market 1707 *Loose Papers* London 1 Hired 2 There are several degrees of people emp loyd in trade below these such as workmen, labourers, and servants. 1868 Rogers *Rambles in Rhine* 52 These companies raise what are called 'work man's tickets' 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav* II Index 27 By workmen I mean people who must use their hands as well as their heads for what they do, by labourers, those who use their hands only 1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict* c. 48 § 16 The expression 'workman' does not include a domestic or menial servant, but save as aforesaid, means any person who, being a labourer, servant, journeyman, artificer, handicraftsman, miner, or otherwise engaged in manual labour, lives entered into or works under a contract with an employer.

1908 *Economist* 26 Dec. 2048/1 At the present time there is a widespread tendency to consider that no one is a workman unless he be engaged in manual labour 1908 *Daily News* 2 Jan. 4/4 It was declared that the term 'work man should include clerks.

**c.** Of ants or bees = Worker 2 d (*c*). *rare*

1870 Duncan *Blanchard's Transf Insects* 349 Besides the neuters, males, females, and soldiers, two sorts of nymphs.

**2.** A skilled or expert craftsman. *Obs.* exc. in *Glassmaking*, the first man of a 'chair'.

1478 *Acta Dom Conc* (1833) 4/2 Pe lordis ransit þe chestis to be weid and preist be workmen, quhilkis preist it is wil knawin 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam Epist* (1584) 10 perces of þe Croft set no straunge Journy man on warke without license of þe Masters of þe Craft, and they to see that he be a workman 1530 Palsgr 472/2 This kote was never made of a workeman, it is but bongled 1559 *Mirr Magistrates Edw Duke of Buckingham* xiii, Here is stuffe plenty to furnish well vp a trimme history if a workeman had it in handlyng 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen IV*, III ii 88 By my troth, the muse me workemen 1657 Worthington *Diary* etc (Chetham Soc.) I 200 He was not satisfy'd in William Pope, because he was not a workman of his trade 1708 E. Ward *Quack in World Diss* (17 81 71 Fr m whence o e may reasonably infer, that he's him elf no Work man 1721 Penny *Daggon Incan Preach* 68, I had answer'd them like an Artist, and like a Workman 1849 [see Servitor 3].

**b.** *transf*; e g applied to a rider, esp in hunting, who manages his horse well or is conversant with the technique of the field, also to a horse that takes its fences well, etc.

1850 *Sp Life* XLVIII 248 The Squire having hit off his fox like a workman 1880 *White Hist Twyf* II 277 Although so splendid a rider over a race course, Old Chifney was not such a workman across a country 1898 *Westm Gaz* 8 Feb 4/2 It is very pleasant to see a young 'un such a workman in her paces, while he marks Cecil's easy set 1897 *Daily Graphic* 63 [Our opponents] were workmen and did such job, clearly, as was cut out 1901 R. Holdreth *Sydney side Sketches* xii, A fine solid, but a true looking horse, looking more of a workman than the other

+ **3** The Creator, = Workpiece 1. *Obs*

1552 T. Wilson *Logike* P 31 The greate workeman of thynges god almighte himselfe 1560 B. Googe tr *Pain cevinet's Comm Nehem* (1561) G 3 That workman first, that made y^e skies the earth, and seas also 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xi (1592) 64 This Speech [= Logos] being the workeman of God 1588 J. Wolfe tr *Pasquier's Apol* 108 *Scit Pasquinus* that I'y b, Darknes was not created tis as old As that great workman which the whole doth n old

**4.** One who works or practises his craft or art in some specified manner)

1484 *Caxton Fables of Alfonce* xiii Ay ge god a workman of his craft is ony was at that time in alle the world 1620 I C *True Hist Miraculous Horse* 1 1 4b And that not every workman can doe them, these full dimen y Picture 1653 G. Herbert *Outl Priest* 67 Never had the workman good tooles 1668 Fuller *tr Bezaal's Idea Perfect Saint* Advt to Rdr a, Alike Durer, a German Pai ter, and s must inc. h the Belle Workman 1849 Parker *Orthod Archit* 8 Among one of the characteristics of a good workman not to waste his materi al. 1868 Darwin in F. Darwin *Life & Lett* (1887) III 349 In health makes me a very slow workman

**5** *attrib*

1549 *Compl Scot* vii 69 Many politic workmanlums for mechanic crafts. 1803 Huber *Palestine* 199 No workman in steel, no potter, nor mason. 1908 *Westm Gaz* 7 Feb 5 3 The workmen shareholders

**Workmanlike** (*wɜ·*kmănlaik), *adv.* and *a.* [See -like]

**A** *adv.* In a manner or style characteristic of a good workman

1483 *Cath Angl* (Pynson) Scriptores *Ires* (Surteees) App. p cccxiii, He said Alexander fect] well wrke the said myne workmanlike *c* 1565 J. Sparke in Hakluyt *Voy* (1600) III 204 They doe make their flesh, as workemanlike, as a Jerkin maker with his pinkesh a serkin 1612 Davies *Why Ireland* 69 The Gardiner their selected plants doth workman like bestowe. 1618–19 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III 302 To be all plasters. Tower with his men and buyer workeman lyke 1634 Sir T Herbert *Trav* 20 Darts of blacke Ebony barbed strongly and workmanlike. 1897 'O Rhoscomyl' *White Rose Arno* 1, You do your work as workmanlike as ever.

**B.** *adj.*

**1.** Of or pertaining to a workman, characteristic of or suitable to a workman. *rare*

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 109 To write, in such workman like termes, as may serve for a Clark of the works to speak unto them. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* I xxvii, An old workmanlike habit of carrying his pocket handkerchief in his hat.

**2.** Characteristic of or resembling (that of) a good workman; orig said of the execution of a work; late applied also to persons or animals having an efficient, 'business-like', or 'smart' appearance or action

1739 Labelye *Short Acc Piers Westm Bridge* 66 To compleat the intended Joske in a more ample and workmanlike Manner 1758 *Essex Gen Advertiser* (1866) 318 To cause the same [Lane] to be restored in a workmanlike manner 1768 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) I 475 A clock of artificial and workmanlike construction 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xliv, [He] filled out three glasses of gin, which Job Trotter and Sam disposed of in a most workmanlike manner 1842 Lowson *Suburban Hort* 365 In nailing in the young shoots, dispose them as straight and as regular as possible it will look workmanlike 1861 White Melville *Mkt Harb* 58 Never in his life had he seen such a thoroughly workmanlike exterior 1874 *Lancet's Gen* 4 Dec 618/1 (A dog) Nice and evenly laimed all over, workman like 1878 Lord R. Gower *Acct in* (1883) II 207 I vo very workman like little horses 1884 *Cornhill Rev* July 58 There is very much to be done that requires nothing more than good workmanlike ability

Hence **Workmanlikeness.**

1890 *Daily Graphic* 29 Aug Even the amateur should know something of the value of workmanlikeness in ornament.

**Workmanly** (*wɜ·*kmănli), *adv.* and *a.* [f. Workman *sb* + -ly.]

**A.** *adv* = Workmanlike A, efficiently, skilfully.

1480 *York Memorandum Bk* (Surtees) I 183 Suche gurdelles as be clerely and warkmanly made upp. 1525 (Coverdale) *Old God* (1534) C 3, An image of his father very cunningly and workmanly wrought 1548 Hall *Chron Hen V* 28 That he hath not gone processyon vpon saturday as at euensonge, nor workemanly made his hys holye water and holye bread 1595 — *Joseph* 21b Ye haue wayned in a camell for it 1598 Hakluyt *Voy. Fur* To Rdr (1634) A 5, Some three or foure preite pictures (in octavo) cut in brasse very workmanly 1696 Duckett *Antitp Ir accnt* 155/2 To make and set up, workmanly, a new Cross-piece of timber 1905 *Times Lit Suppl* 2 Sept 278 2 The four fun sui folio volumes workmanly bound in grey boards and canvas.

**B** *adj.* = Workmanlike B (esp sense 2)

1545 Bale *Myst Iniq* 43 Marke the good workemanlye handelynge thereof. 1570 Levins *Manip* 100/47 Worke manly, *artificiosus* 1580 Holinshed *Chron Scotl* I *Hist* (1595) 64 Whatsoeuer shall belong to coloring to shadowing, and such m se workmanlie points 1590 Wyrley *Trust* (Arb) 33 The roofes are couered with fi e s, slid, in a very workemanly sort 1766 Hackstone *Comm* II xxx 452 He has it upon an implied contract to render it again when made, and that in a workmanly manner 1807 *Pantal Prize* V ix 81 Rudders, and yards and tables all needing workmanly handling and workmanly knowledge. 1907 *Times* 29 May 9 7 Not only was the building architectural, but the best workmanly skill has been employed

**Workmanship** (*wɜ·*kmănʃip). [f. Workman + -ship]

**†1.** The performance or execution of work or a work; work, labour in early use often, the labour or amount of labour performed on a particular task or piece of work. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M* 1684 (Fairf) Lode in werk mi sah pe be sleyghe c 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B x 288 I sine shal I forel clerkes drede to wratthe your lowte werkmanshipe I lette. 1390 Gower *Conf* I 197 With alle swiftnesse of werkmanschipe it was begrive c 1407 Lydg *Assem Goos* 6139 Nature Passeth soothly werke man shepe 1467–8 *Rolls Parl* V 540/1 To remeve the werk, ymage, or workmanship 1503 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* II 208 Ferrakin, and werkmanship and inlaik of the same 1558 in Beuille tr *Reg Ho Pol* I (1574) 1 4 The charges of making the workmanship with staf Nother pece to be bought & made of new 1591 Perry *Eng* C iv (1586) b b The workmanship of handycrafts, 1598 Chettle *Hoffman* A 3 Such as Sicily shall he want, from whose fit workmanship they did, 1621 *Church Acc P Ingl* etc (Surtees) 163 Paid for mendinge the bell ropes with leather and workmanshipp 1667 Milton *P Lost* v 10 Like the Jewels whereof they valued at fifte thousand Crownes, and the workmanship at twelve thousand Crownes 1688 Pet *Chamberlayne* 297 In case they will be at the charge of hanging stone, he would find workmanship, and build them a Tower. 1751 Labelye *Westm Bridge* 78 All Workmanship to be performed at a fixed Price 1793 J. Looke *Topog Hist Heref* 54 Second year a rent and workmanship 30 s. 1818 *Mem Ecclesiastic Committee Robin Hoos rers* 195 An invitation whereon a master took a man to a manufactory for shooing the work, and the man paid every penny of the workmanship of it

**†2.** Action, agency, operation: *Obs*

1534 More *Treat Passe on Wks* 1343/2 If by the wooderfull manshippe of his heauenly merc. 1545 Bale *Myst Iniq* 20b, Eyther had prestes any good other owne in those dayes, or els there was some other good workemanship a brode. 1546 — *Engl Votaries* I 48b The deuel shall workemanshyp of the instruments of bathan 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt* I v 19 Before his audacious workmanship the Churches were rul d in common by the Presbyters

**†b.** Creation, making; manufacture, production.

1578 Timme *Calvin on Gen.* 49 After that the workmanshippe of the World was fully perfected. 1594 Play *Jeruells No.* 1. 70 That it might haue y.hot months togither to work it to his ful perfection. ... I haue thought good .. to set downe mine own fansie, for the easier stirring vppe of this Maimeuey to his workmanship. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* 209 This a great Mystery, how Tubal-Cain .. could ever have tought the Workmanship and Use of them.

† c. Make, fashion. *Obs. rare.*

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* v. Bvb, A: he varied from the workemanship of other bodyes, so had he one passage also of choler that visited the ventricle.

3. That which is wrought or made by a workman or craftsman; (a person's) work. Also *transf.* something produced: *arch.* exc. as in *piece of workmanship*, which may properly belong to 1.

1523 *Act 23 & 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 2 A proper marke..by the which their wares, vessels, and workmanshippes..may be known. 1535 Coverdale & *Endrosi* viii. 7 We all are one workemanshipe of thy handes. 1540 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 The pleisand verkmenschis that vas in the middis of hyr mantil. 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* I. ij b, The daie..whiche is the effecte, or workemanship of the Sunne. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* a ij, Formally, Number, is the Vnion, and Vnitie of Vnits. Which vnyting and knitting, is the workemanship of our minde. 1594 Lyndsay *Trans.* x. 28 To worschip..the workemanship of mens handis. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* iii. 183 It was the onely quarrell he picke with his workemanship, that man was alone. 1710 Prior *Examiner* No. 6 P 2 A curious Piece of poetical Workmanship. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 102 Human nature, considered as the divine workmanship. 1738 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VII. § 21 Inconsistent ideas which are often the workmanship of their own brains. 1758 *Affect. Narr. Wager* 28 A little Hut, ..the Workmanship, I guess, of some Indian. 1796 H. Rumsey *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* xi. III. 266 This ball is the workmanship of the ants. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* i. 63 A new piece of gold or silver.. with noble workmanship. 1870 Rolfe *Ess.* Elliot *Adam Bede* xiv, There's no denying she's a rare bit o' workmanship. 1892 Westcott *Gospel of Life* 200 As the world was His workmanship so man was made in His image.

4. Skill or cunning as a workman; craftsmanship as exhibited in a piece of work.

1529 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 Of gud and sufficient stuff ..and sufficient werkmanschip. 1541 Copland *Galyen's Terapa.* a Civ, For to cure a sely sore wyth ouer grete payne for to heale by medycamentes is a greater thynge and that requyreth workemanshyp. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 68 The Smith excelleth in ruffe workmanship and mechanicall inventions. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. i. 17 Idiots adoire in things the Beauty of their Materials, but admire that of the Workmanship. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 66 It is counted a piece of good workmanship in a Joyner, to have the craft of hearing his hand so curiously even. 1858 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. vi. 72 Those rings of negro workmanship. 1889 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 911 It is subject.. that makes plays enduring, *plus* of course the requisite dramatic workmanship. 1890 *H. E. H. Lecky* 48 He had a high ideal of literary workmanship.

**Work-ma·ster.** Now *rare.* [Cf. MLG. *werkmister*, ON. *verkmeistari* (MSw. *werkmestare*).] A master workman; an overseer or employer of workmen.

a 1523 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* ii. H vij b, Lyke a wyse workemaster haue I layed the fundacyon, for I fyrst begynne to preche you Christ. 1535 Coverdale *Song Sol.* viii. 1 Like a fayre ie wolde, which is ouer lay'd wyth workmen of a *1589* M. Parker in Hakluyt *Voy.* 500, I came to Siuill, and sought me out a workemaster, that I might fall to my science, which was weaning of taffatases. 1617 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 193 This medicine..to an Artist which is a true Preparer of medicines..is plaine and pleasant to be done, and will doe the worke-master credit that useth it. 1652 in F. R. Supp. *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 207 That the workmaster be left at Liberty to make choyce whether he will have a Carpenter or Joyner to lay the same. 1703 T. N. *City & Country Purchaser* 5 Contracts between the Workmaster and Workman. 1816 Coleridge *Lay Sermo.* (Bohn) 307 The contents of every work must correspond to the character and designs of the work-master. 1876 Bosworth *Hist. U. S.* IV. 111 n. 3 Like a man who loves his trade, he set about the task of his work-masters.

b. *fig.* : esp. applied to God as creator and ruler; rarely of a thing.

1535 Coverdale *Job* xiii. 9 Ye are workmasters of lyes. — *Wisd.* vii. 22 The workemaster of all thinges hath taught me wysedome. a 1548 Hall *Chron. Hen. VIII*, 198 These mouths solempne ordeined for most high workemaster God. 1605 *London Prodigal* iii. ii. 93 Nature, in her building, is a most curious work-master. 1607 Markham *Countr.* I. xix. (1617) 79 The braine of a man being a taste and laborsome workmaister. 1632 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* i. iii. 16 The armes and hands, the worke-masters of all things. *Ibid.* lxi. 225 the greatnesse, goodnesse, wisdome, power of the chiefe work-master.

**Work-mi·stress.** [f. Work *sb.* + Mistress, after prec.] A woman who controls or superintends work: only *fig.*, chiefly of Nature (personified).

1598 Hacket tr. *Thevet's New found World* lxviii. 108b, Nature the great work-mistresse. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 337, I assure you Venus is the work-mistresse of mutuall concord. a 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 60 God, by an evident manifestation, that the same work which she acted, was a well-pleasing service of his own, had decreed the protection of the work-Mistresse. 1675 A. Browne *Appendix Art Paint.* 10 Since Nature, that Cunning Work-Mistress, is so extremely Various in her Representations. 1877 Carpenter tr. *Tiele's Outl. Hist. Relig.* 224 Athena, the goddess of art, the 'workmistress' (*Ergané*).

**Work-out.** *Pugilism.* [See Work *v.* 38 l.] A boxing bout for practice.

1907 *Daily Express* 27 May 13/7 Either in a work-out or in an actual contest.

**Workpeople** (wə·rkpi:pl). [Work *sb.*] People employed in manual or industrial labour for a wage: = workmen and (or) workwomen.

1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 216 You cannot imagine what a parcel of cheating brutes the work people here are. 1818 *Mus. Fluid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 150 How many people do they employ, weavers, warpers, winders and work people, of every description? 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. § 1 (1865) I. 69 Each capitalist has money, which he pays to his workpeople, and so enables them to supply themselves. 1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Industries Worc.* 36 Mechanical skill on the part of the workpeople not being necessary—the machines in fact doing the most part of the work.

**Workshop** (wə·rkʃɒp). [f. Work *sb.* + Shop *sb.* 3.] A room, apartment, or building in which manual or industrial work is carried on.

1588 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* Ep. Ded. (Arb) 25 Alexander the Great, passing on a time by the workeshop of Apelles, curiouslie surueyed some of his doinges. 1775 Johnson *Wrt. Lal.* 232 (*Stilg*) Supreme beauty is seldom found in cottages or work shops. 1813 Cleghorn *Mem. W. Penn* xviii. 335 All prisons were to be considered as workshops. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, What was observable in the furniture, was observable in the Veneerings—the surface smelt a little too much of the workshop and was a trifle sticky. 1901 *Act 1 Edw. VII*, c. 22 § 149 The expression "workshop" means..any premises, room, or place, not being a factory, in which, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, any manual labour is exercised

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1796 Burke *Thoughts on Whig's Inst.* Table x.v. *Supper of Lord*, The constitution which toke away from lay men the cup of the Lord, came out of the deuells workshop. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 82 *note*, The accurate treatises, which compose the two last folio's of the Benedictines. 1814 Scott *Waw.* lii, Fergus's brain was a perpetual workshop of scheme and intrigue. 1838 Disraeli *Sp.* 15 Mar. in *Monypenny & Buckle Life* II. 49 (1929) I suppose that.. the continent would suffer England to be the workshop for the world. 1878 Gurney *Cystrology*. 8 The workshop of Nature. 1900 W. P. Ker *Ess. Dryden* (1926) I. p. xxi, If he cannot explain the secrets of the dramatic workshop.

c. *attrib.*

1789 J. G. Winton (*title*) Modern Workshop Practice as applied to marine, land, and locomotive engines. 1873 Spon (*title*) Workshop Receipts, for the use of manufacturers, mechanics, and scientific amateurs. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. The workshop system never flourished where the master works with his men, and gets the best out of them.

† **Work-si·lver.** *Obs.* [Work *sb.* 5.] A customary money payment made in lieu of service.

1395 *Ancient Deed* A. 1423 (P. R. O.), Septemdecim solidis annuis vocatis Werkesilver. 1535 *Stowe* (1631) 455 Certaine annuall Werkseluer et quinque solidis annuis vocatis leswseluer. 1544 *Patent Roll 36 Hen. VIII* p. 3. m. 4 (P. R. O.) Proficua..werkesilver vocata le Carnmony Work Sylver in hemyngforde abbatie. 1795 Jamieson *Environs Lond.* II. 504 The tenants services due formerly in this manor (obliquely re-ta ken) have been commuted for certain sums of money called work-silver.)

**Work·some,** *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Work *sb.* or *v.* + -some.] Explained in Dicty. as = Industrious, diligent; but perh. modelled on G. *wirksam* efficacious, operative.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. vi, Equality, Frugality, worksome Industry.

**Workwoman** (wə·rkwʊmən). [f. Work *sb.*, after *workman.*] A woman who works; a female worker or operative; † a woman who does needlework.

1530 Palsgr. 290/1 Workewoman, *ouuriere.* 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 19 b, Of workewomen many lost. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xiii. iv. 202 Wherein..nature sheweth his selfe a proper workwoman. 1592 Spenser *Mother Hubberd's Tale* 1 Fine flaxen workwoman on ground. 1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 5 Vertue is a meruelous worke-woman, who can make Mercury of any wood. 1675 Hookes *Odyssey* (1677) 188 One of these thrichlins would'd her into sin: For good work-women may be made do that. 1753 Johnson, *Workwoman..* 2. A woman that works for hire. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 280/1 While the Swiss workwoman produces a kind of chain-work on the surface of the muslin. 1865 Eaquires *Cornwall* 74 The workwomen of the mines. 1882 Barant *All Sorts* xxxix. (1898) 269 To live here as a lady-workwoman.

Hence **Work·workmanlike** *a.* or *adv.*, **-woˑmanly** *a.*

1641 C. van Par *Les abus du Mariage* Pl. 4, I now am Mistris of my crafte, and can Worke-womanlike deale in it. 1894 *Temple Bar* CII. 60 Prov. 6y The Lord speede, to which she put her foot in true workwomanly fashion.

**Worky** (wə·rki). *U. S.* [f. Work *sb.* + -y.] A worker or operative. Also *attrib.*

1833 T. Hamilton *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 171 The operative class [of New York] have already formed themselves into a society, under the name of 'The Workies'. *Ibid.* 175 The *Worky* convention. 1855 Hy. Martineau *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 305 The reasons why no gentry were admitted were that there was no room for more than the 'workies'. 1894 *Sunday Reform Leaflet* (Columbus, Ohio) Sept. 5 Take away this rest-day, and you..turn us into a nation of mere 'workies'.

**Workyday,** obs. var. Workaday.

† **Worl,** *v. Obs.* prob. var. Whirl *v.*

c 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 126 All þat euer myght it here, They myght not them self asteren, But worled on a hepe. c 1600 Chalkhille *Theatrum* 1577 Why do you kneel?..I know No worth in me to worl you down so low.

**Worlais,** obs. pl. of Warlock.

c 1300 *Hegh Hard* 13 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 735 Pe worlais, þai wil be her Fort take þair pray.

**World** (wə̄ld), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 weorold, wuruld, worold, woruld; wiarald, 1–3 weorld, woruld, -eld, -old, 2 wurold, 3 we(o)reld, weruld, *Orm.* we(o)relld. *β.* 1– world; 1–3 weorld, 4–6 worlde (2 worlde, 3 wurld, 5 whorlld(e)); 2–3 werld, 3 *Orm.* werrld, 3–5 werld(e; *north.* and *Sc.* 3– warld, 5–6 warlde, warld, (5 warldde). *γ.* 4–6 worlde, 5 wordel, wordil; *north.* and *Sc.* 4–7 wardle, 6 wardil, vardil, wardel, vardel; 3 wordle. *δ.* 3–6 word, 4–5 worde (6 woaude); 3–5 werd, 4–5 werde; 4 wird; *north.* 4, 6 ward. *ε.* 3 worl, 3–5 worle, 5 worlle, orlle, 6 worell; 8 worl', *north.* and *Sc.* 5 warle, 8 wat', 9 warl. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *weorold, worold, world* str. f., rarely m., corresp. to OFris. *werld, wrald, warld* (EFris. *world*, WFris. *werld*), OS. *werold* (MLG. *werelt, warelt*, LG. *werld*, MDu. *werelt*, Du. *wereld*), OHG. *weralt* (MHG. *werelt, werlt, welt*, G. *welt*), ON. *veröld* (Sw. *verld*, Da. *verden*) : a formation peculiar to Germanic, f. *wer-* man, WERE *sb.*1 + *ald-age* (cf. Old *a.*, Eld *sb.*2), the etymological meaning being, therefore, 'age' or 'life of man'.]

I. Human existence; a period of this.

1. a. Chiefly *This world, the world* : the earthly state of human existence; this present life.

*To woruld*, OE. *adj.* : as long as human things shall last, to the end of time (with admixture of senses 7, 9). Similarly in phrases such as *as long as the or this world lasts*, and in *for ever*.

*Æ*lf. (*barter* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 447 Det he ðas god for hleste oð wiarulde ende. c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxvii. 138 [III] ne dearf him nan þinga þæt god Bisne wordende. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 We witon þæt sele wite..to ende stæhð & onettep þisse weorlde lifes. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 'Andwsere me'..he wile segge, 'hwat hafe ðu swa lange liðen on ðisre worelde?' c 1200 *Trin. Hom.* 228 Ne wilnien we þe a ðas weorldi liðer. c 1250 *Kentish Serm. in O. E. Misc.* 33 Þet ha yef us swiche werkes to done in þise worelde þet þo sauluen of us mote bieniaunced a domes dai. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2 Fader ..ðu giue me seli timinge To thaunen ðis werdes beginninge. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 91 Quat boste is to sette trauail On thyng ..þat es bot fantum o þis werld? c 1300 *Havelok* 2335 Was neuere yete loie more In al his werd, þan ho was þere. c 1376 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1058 Allas of me ywis þe wyndes ende Schal neuer ben vpon my nolonge Ne good werk. c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* I. 121 They han here heuene in this world here. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 12 Ale the wyt of this word falus to fely. c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 43 Ilk tume, wretche in this warld, wilsome of wane! 1491 *Paston Lett.* I. 289 In this werd that now is. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 22 Yeerelie to be distributed..twenty pounds in peace to the poore people through this world. 1570 Comyn *Verus Reform.* x. 36 He sall with vs vesi, and with vs suffer, as lang as warld may lest. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 108 Time himselfe is bald, and therefore to the worlds end, will haue bald followers. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 109, I prethee now deliuer them, like a man of this World. 1670 T. Blount *Acad. Eloq.* (ed. 2) 230 The Heir of the Crown of Right line shall be an Esquire to the worlds end. 1794 Paley *Evid.* ii. § 8 A Christian's chief care being to pass quietly through this world to better. 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xliv, 'As to that,' said Mrs. Jennings, 'I must talk through the world as well as I can.' 1865 Dickens *Christmas Stories* (1874) 43 She was too good for this world and for me, and she died six weeks after our marriage.

b. With reference to birth or death; esp. *to bring into the world*, to give birth to (see Bring *v.* 7 c); *to come into* (*or to*) *the world*, to be born (see Come *v.* 4 c); *fig.* (of a book) to be published; *to go or depart out of this world.*

*Beowulf* 60 Þæm feower bearn forð-gerimed in worold wocun. a 1000 *Genesis* 2028 Þu scealt, Adame, binnanne sinum on worald bringan. a 1000 *Epist. Alex.* in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 31 Din muder gewrieð of wuruldæ þurh sconddlice deaðh. c 1225 Lay. 17235 Ich nam nawiht ælle þeh he wolde of worlden iwiten. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2 Bi ic sal to min sune face, .or ic of worlde chare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5116 & þe nexte day of þe worlde he dyed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Þeruore, [3381, c 1500- (see Come *v.* 4 c). a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2653 (Dubl.) Qwen he went of his world. c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3953 Paw y abide now anopi bis worde gone. 1579 Randolph *Lett.* in Buchanan *Ill. Sc.* (S.T.S.) 84 This last litle Treatise..that lately come into the World. c 1588 *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 250 Not douttand bot angels and sanctis departit out of this warld ar ioyus and blyithe of it. 1607 (see Rising *n.* 7 c). 1784 Burns *Addr. Illeg. Child* iv, My funny toil is now n' mair, Sin' thou came to the warl' asleent. 1904 Tan Hay *Kat. on Wheels* xiii. 83 Having been born into the world with a club foot.

c. without article (with blending of sense 7) : † (*a*) *On, o, in world*, in this life, on earth.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist. iv.* xxiii. (1890) 332 Eal þat heo for worulde þr.r, on weruldlicre hiwlfe. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Vn clene wif þolef̄ svonne on weorlde & unclene wif bið unwurð on liue. c 1205 Lay. 22069 Þe king for-bæd heom .. þat na man on worlde sæwe nawt to hwenne .. þut his gref̄ bræken. *Ibid.* 23475 Þut nane ne beoren on weorlde hu feole þurend þer weoren. c 1280 *Bestiary* 130 An wimi is o worlde, wel man it knowed. c 1300 *Havelok* 1309 Wilpeis no bede worde aren. 13-.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chap.* 871 Whilpeis in worlde he were, Hit semed as he myst be prynce. c 1380 *Sir Tristr.* 1270 In warld was non so wis Of craft þat myght knewe. 1457 Hardyng *Chron.* i. in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1910) Oct. 740 This book..Whiche no man hath in worlde but only ye. c 1475 *Partenay* 3816 Pray for me All dais while lif in worle here haue ye.

† (*b*) in genitive = temporal, earthly, secular : freq. in *world's* (*worldes*) *riches, wealth, wim* (Wit *sb.*2 2), and the like. *Obs.* (in later use *Sc.*)

*Beowulf* 3243 Ende zebidan worolde lifes. c 1175, etc. [see Wm. sb.² 8]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þe hie werren wuniende in Ierusalem..and hadden þe fulle of worldes richelase. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 48 Hise wise sune, Þe was of hin fer ear bi-foren Or and werldes time boren. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 8314 Salamon..sal be a man o pes, And nikel haf o werldes ai. *Ibid.* 10416 To sett iesu to werld lar. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 362 For coveitise and worldes pride. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 674 Alle my werdez wele. c 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiii. (1908) 139 Forsakynge all worldes beaynesse. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vi. 34 A barell bung ay at my bosum, Of varidis gud I had na mair. 1615 J. Davies (Heref.) *Of Wreth of Sylvester* 52 Wks. 810 For whose deare birth, thou didst all ease refuse, Worlds-weal, and (being a Marchant) thy Keccits. 1626 G. Woodcocke *Hist. Justine* 15 b, When he saw they would not sell their liberty for any worldes good. 1782 Burns *My Nanie, O* vi, My riches a's my penny-fee..; But ward's gear ne'er troubles me. 1786 — *To Mr. Y. Kennedy* iv, Now if ye're ane o' ward's folk, Wha rate it weel to be clock. c 1796 — *Now bank & brae* ii, The chield wha boasts o' ward's wealth. 1800 *Blackw. Mag.* May 165 Let ward's gear gang.

**d.** *The other, another, the next, a better, the world to come* or *to be*: the future state, the life after death. Sometimes viewed as the 'realm' of departed spirits.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 32 Ne hyš hyt hym forgyfen, ne on þisse worolde, ne on þære towardan [1388 Vulg. nether in this world, ne in the tother]. c 1250 Trinity, nether in this worlde, nether in the worlde to come]. c 1200 Ormin 4103 Restenesss..tacneþþ all batt ressste & to batt halighe sawless brukenn lim ofenn þe33re. 1297–8 *Bk. Conc. Newgate, Nicene Creed*, The lyfe of the worlde to come. 1581 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 173 The horribill tormentis prepairit for thame in the varld to cum. 1612 Braude & Fr. *Philaster* iv. iii, Will there be no slanders, No jealousies in the other world? 1715 I. Mather *Several Serm.* title-p., When Godly Men dye, Angels carry them to another and a better World. 1738 *Wesley Hymns, 'Attend while God's Eternal Son* v, Far from..Sin, and Earth and Hell, In the new World thy Grace hath made, May I for ever dwell! 1790 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 170 Sick'ned by brighter worlds, and led the way. a 1796 Burns *Epit. on Friend* 7 If there's another world, he lives in bliss. 1809 Magee *Atonement* (1816) II. 197 The apostle..justly dead ..becomes equally applicable to all the inhabitants of the invisible world. 1826 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 49 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep,—that death is slumber. 1842 Tennyson *Golden Year* 56 'Tis like the second world to us that live. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 899 Who will embrace me in the world-to-be.

**e.** *gen.* A state of ‡present or future) existence.

c 1300 *Beket* 77 Heo..ȝode about as a best..As heo were of another worlde. 1600 Shaks. *Hamm.* iv. v. 134 Both the worlds I giue to negligence, Let me stand content. 1603 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immortality* 149 Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realised. 1859 Fitzgerald *Omar* xxvi, The Sultan's Turret and Sages who discuss'd Of the Two Worlds so learnedly.

**2.** The pursuits and interests of this present life; *esp.*, in religious use, the lesser world of these; temporal or mundane affairs. † *World's* = worldly.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 399 (370) Ne won he after worolde ne he in woldre ahte wolenc e..ac he ealle forlet. c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 31, þis world, my flesche, þe werlaui ah. 1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Þe more þet [me] lykeþ þe ruchtesse of þe worlde, þe lesse me wyleþ þe mettesse of godes word. 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. ff. 4, þe devel, þe worlde, and þe flesah. c 1445 *Cast. Persev.* 192 in *Macro Plays* 83 Who-so spekyth a-gayn3t hem, he schal be sped, Bobbyd, & bobbyd. 1600, 107 Be Weild, be Flesch, & be Devyl, are knowe grete lordis. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* i. iii. Fye, lyeause he is so sore sette, or to gredy vpon the world, or his thrift. 1564 J. Mantuan. *Treat. Corrupt. Manners* 57 It hath subdued all, conquered the world, discomfited the deuil. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 73 Ah Palinodie, thou art a worldes childe: Who touches Pitche must needes be defiled. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* ii. (1732) 17 Whence is it, that Men follow and pursue the World with so much greediness? 1780 *Cowper Love of the World Reproved* 25 Remember the world—the preacher cries. 1784 — *Task* ii. 389 Infidelity and love of world. 1807 Wordsw. *Misc. Sonn.* i. xxxiii. 1 The world is too much with us. 1843 J. Martineau *Chr. Life* xvii. 255 The world..lit the opportunities of action with a view to temporal good. 1882 Sir Kelly *Nat. Relig.* ii. I. 130 The World is the collective character of those who do not worship.

**3.** The affairs and conditions of life; chiefly in phr., esp. with the verb *go* (e. g. *how the world goes*, how events shape themselves; *how goes the world with* (a person), how are his affairs; *as the* (or *this*) *world goes*, as things are, considering the state of affairs); also † *to let the world slide*, to allow things to take their course, to leave matters alone; † *to let the world vawe* (see Wag *v.* 7 c).

*Beowulf* 1739 Ac him mid worolde wundra sumum. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. 8 ‡ Selpanc þu nu..Boetius..hwæðer þin worold þa call were setter þinum willan. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 318 Hwæt worold-wynna gewyrfeð. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 19 A Feir feld ful of folk fond I þer bi-twene, ..Worchinge and wondringe as þe world asketh. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 530 & wynter wyndes agayn, as þe worlde nakes. c 1460–8 *MS. Trin. Coll. Dubl.* f. 43 b 18 in *Archaeologia* XXIX. 341 Trust not..youre foos, For þei be double in wirking, as be worlde gos. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 238 William Paston..paid to the person..xxxiiijs. d. for his yerely worth, as the world goth now, *xli.* 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 81 How father..thynkes the whurldle qwhesay.., and therfor he whowlde that ze seppurt not yowesselfe to hofton to Iiregyn. a 1529– [see Wag *v.* 7 c]. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iv. iv. T iij, What is the matter, or howe gothe the worlde with hym? 1564 Becon *Treat. agst. Pest.* (1888) 26 Now let vs go..and see how the worlde goeth with Master Antonius. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1848/1 What a Gospeller [he]..was in King Edwardes tyme, which now turning with the world, sheweth him self such a bytter Persecuter..in Queene Maries time. 1596, 1611 [see Slide v. 5 b]. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* ii. ii. 178 To be honest as this world goes, is to bee one man pick'd out of two thousand. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 283 Some must watch, while some must sleepe: So runnes the world away. a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 74 However the world goes, we may yet make a tolerable shift. 1723 Pope *Let. to Addison* Wks. 1737 VI. 32 And give me leave to tell you, that (as the world goes) this is no small assurance I repose in you. 1855 Dickens etc. *Household Words* Christmas No. 156 Hows the world, as you say, about morning? 1860 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xviii, The world is out of Joint. 1886 Baring-Gould *Crt. Royal* iv, What was the world coming to, when the police poked their noses into his shop?

† **b.** State of human affairs, state of things; hence, season or time as marked by the state of affairs. *Obs.*

Rule in *Pecock's Lett.* I. 400 And as for the iiijte *ii.* to be setle on Olivere is taile, I can not see it wole be, for there is noo suche worlde to bringe it abowte. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 Here ye but stranger wardes, the sekenesse rayngyth [sic] so sore, that I dare not wryte. *Ibid.* 152 What world wee schall hawe wt Flaunders I can not say, I feyr me they will breke wt us. ?1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 402 Sir, in that we see the same wantie.. wat world so euer shall happen to fall here after. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 70 If the worlde would haue gone as I would, I had bene long Henryes vncle, and had the crowne. *Ibid.*, What nede in that grene world yt protector had of ye duke. c 1523 — in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 293 They do write to me, that when they may se how the world is, 1530 Palsgr. 559/2 Let the people alone, for they wyll brake wt us. ?1563 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 404 Sir, in that we see the same wantie.. wat world so euer shall happen to fall here after. 1613 Rider *Lex Cantabr.* (1853) 243 Quo, A. Aggregamus example to the worlde to cum. 1787 *Grose & Godfr. B.* (S.T.S.) 44 He that all warldis was beforne, Come downe of Marie to be borne. 1974 Heliowe's *Governor's Pass. Ep.* (1577) 18 For that in the worldes to come, is nothing to be known but the author thereof. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 87 The Heauen goeth about continually, and in so many worlds and ages as haue been, we neuer saw it out of his course at all. 1593 Bilson *Perpet. Govt. Ch.* 5 This was the blessing due to the elder Brother in the first world. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* D 7, Tarquinius..prouided in peace, & in that young world, a notable polititian. c 1600 Hooker *Serm., Habak.* ii. 4 Wks. 1874 III. 640 Adam and all the fathers before Christ, till Christ's coming, in their many worlds together detained. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 2 Forgetfull of all other things in their ancient country, after so many worlds of yeares. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. Gow. 21 Their swaines in loue, shall in the world to come Approue their truths by Troylus. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 202 [200] From all which 'tis as clear, that we meant in the dayes of yore by the word World, time, age, or Æon.

**b.** A period or age of human history characterized by certain conditions or indicated by the character of those living in it. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by 16 a.

1530–1600 Golden world [see Golden *a.* 7]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 160 It was a very good old world, when men wiped their nose on their sleeve (as the French man sayes). 1781 Blair in *Sc. Transl. & Paraphr.* (1793) 12 All old things are accounted good: the world began. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 These were men whose minds had been trained in a world which had passed away. 1886 E. B. Nicholson *Birds Norfolk* I. 28 Shakespeare's 'historical plays' the characters live and speak in the world of the sixteenth century.

**6.** In various phrases translating eccl. Latin *in sæcula sæculorum*, *in sæculum sæculi* = for ever and ever, for all time, through eternity. † *From world into world*, *from world to world* (*s*, *in to* (*the*) *world*, *s of world*, *s world*, *s through all worlds*, *world always*.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxi. ‡ Ic nu scolan standan to worulde. c 1110 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Epil., Si þe lof & wylder no & naa to worulde buton aghwilcum ende. c 1200 *Ormulum* 25 Þe hiærd . wunnende and reallende on worulde a hutenn ende. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 39 Ah schal ifinden him ai swettere & sauurure, fram worlde in to worlde. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* 89 Lord, þou hast ben refuyt to us fra werld vnto þi name. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxiv. 10 Desolat shal (his land) be in to worldis of worldis. a 1400 *Pepper* (1891) 34 As hit was in the begynnyng, so now and euere is, and schal be, world of worldes amen. c 1400 *Rule Sr. Benet* (verse) 331 Sche sal..loue god euer of al his lone And wirchip him world alwandis. c 1420 *Pilgr. Lyf Manh.* (1869) 3 Þat he is God in euerlastynge worldis. *Ibid.* 74 He ordeynede þo þingis into þe world, & in to þe world schal he vndoo[ll] [L. *in aeternum, et in saeculum saeculi*]. 1434 Misyn *Fire of Lufe* 172 To whome be wyschip & ly3e, in warld of warldys. Amen. 1555 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 1. 4 Thorough worlde of worldes: whiche signifieth for euer. 1582 Stor *Discon. Widtakers*, xv. 211 Eternall life, which is finest and for the least euer one God through all worlds. Amen. 1844 Tennyson *Gard. Pan.* 200, I heard his deep ‡ I will,' Breathed, like the covenant of a God, to hold From thence thro' all the worlds.]

**b.** *World without* (ME. *abuten* or *buten*) *end*; later used hyperbolically: Endlessly, eternally. Hence as *adj. phr.* = perpetual, everlasting, eternal; and as *subst. phr.* eternal existence, endlessness, eternity.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Þeo þet beoðen ofenneed þe pinen of helle world a buten ende. c 1305 *St. Swithin* 109 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 46 Pat veiel, þe schal no leng lieste, Ac þu wost werd ful and sound, worde wibouten ende. 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* xl. 28 The Lord of worldis is maad newyng, and to the dwell he thrall saidi withouten end. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 94 b Many benefetes ben geuen to thomour of our lord Jhū crist whiche is blessed world wythouten ende. Amen. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins*, As it was in the beginning, is now, and euer shalbe, world without ende. 1598 Shaks. *K. L. I.* v. ii. 79 A time then thinkes too short, To make a world-without-end bargaine in. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxi. Wks. 1851 III. 474 Two men thinks he talking world without end, to make good his integrity. 1753 in *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) II. 499 L. Chesterfield writes Worlds without End. 1881 Mozley *Mirac. & Mod. Thought* 34 This world-without-end-for-everlasting hole of a London. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 8/1 A city pastor, with a world-without-end of things to be done. 1898 Hourman *Seraphs.* 7 *Advity*, My heart and soul and senses, World without end, are drowned. 1905 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure*

**WORLD.**

*Beowulf* 3243 Ende zebidan worolde lifes. c 1175, etc. [see Wm. sb.² 8]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Þe hie werren wuniende in Ierusalem..and hadden þe fulle of worldes richelase. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 48 Hise wise sune, Þe was of hin fer ear bi-foren Or and werldes time boren. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 8314 Salamon..sal be a man o pes, And nikel haf o werldes ai. *Ibid.* 10416 To sett iesu to werld lar. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 362 For coveitise and worldes pride. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 674 Alle my werdez wele. c 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiii. (1908) 139 Forsakynge all worldes beaynesse. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vi. 34 A barell bung ay at my bosum, Of varidis gud I had na mair. 1615 J. Davies (Heref.) *Of Wreth of Sylvester* 52 Wks. 810 For whose deare birth, thou didst all ease refuse, Worlds-weal, and (being a Marchant) thy Keccits. 1626 G. Woodcocke *Hist. Justine* 15 b, When he saw they would not sell their liberty for any worldes good. 1782 Burns *My Nanie, O* vi, My riches a's my penny-fee..; But ward's gear ne'er troubles me. 1786 — *To Mr. Y. Kennedy* iv, Now if ye're ane o' ward's folk, Wha rate it weel to be clock. c 1796 — *Now bank & brae* ii, The chield wha boasts o' ward's wealth. 1800 *Blackw. Mag.* May 165 Let ward's gear gang.

**d.** *The other, another, a better, the next, the world to come* or *to be*: the future state, the life after death. Sometimes viewed as the 'realm' of departed spirits.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 32 Ne hyš hyt hym forgyfen, ne on þisse worolde, ne on þære towardan [1388 Vulg. nether in this world, ne in the tother]. c 1250 Trinity, nether in this worlde, nether in the worlde to come]. c 1200 Ormin 4103 Restenesss..tacneþþ all batt ressste & to batt halighe sawless brukenn lim ofenn þe33re. 1297–8 *Bk. Conc. Newgate, Nicene Creed*, The lyfe of the worlde to come. 1581 Hamilton in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 173 The horribill tormentis prepairit for thame in the varld to cum. 1612 Braude & Fr. *Philaster* iv. iii, Will there be no slanders, No jealousies in the other world? 1715 I. Mather *Several Serm.* title-p., When Godly Men dye, Angels carry them to another and a better World. 1738 *Wesley Hymns, 'Attend while God's Eternal Son* v, Far from..Sin, and Earth and Hell, In the new World thy Grace hath made, May I for ever dwell! 1790 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 170 Sick'ned by brighter worlds, and led the way. a 1796 Burns *Epit. on Friend* 7 If there's another world, he lives in bliss. 1809 Magee *Atonement* (1816) II. 197 The apostle..justly dead ..becomes equally applicable to all the inhabitants of the invisible world. 1826 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 49 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep,—that death is slumber. 1842 Tennyson *Golden Year* 56 'Tis like the second world to us that live. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 899 Who will embrace me in the world-to-be.

**e.** *gen.* A state of ‡present or future) existence.

c 1300 *Beket* 77 Heo..ȝode about as a best..As heo were of another worlde. 1600 Shaks. *Hamm.* iv. v. 134 Both the worlds I giue to negligence, Let me stand content. 1603 Wordsw. *Ode Intim. Immortality* 149 Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realised. 1859 Fitzgerald *Omar* xxvi, The Sultan's Turret and Sages who discuss'd Of the Two Worlds so learnedly.

**2.** The pursuits and interests of this present life; *esp.*, in religious use, the lesser world of these; temporal or mundane affairs. † *World's* = worldly.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 399 (370) Ne won he after worolde ne he in woldre ahte wolenc e..ac he ealle forlet. c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 31, þis world, my flesche, þe werlaui ah. 1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Þe more þet [me] lykeþ þe ruchtesse of þe worlde, þe lesse me wyleþ þe mettesse of godes word. 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. ff. 4, þe devel, þe worlde, and þe flesah. c 1445 *Cast. Persev.* 192 in *Macro Plays* 83 Who-so spekyth a-gayn3t hem, he schal be sped, Bobbyd, & bobbyd. 1600, 107 Be Weild, be Flesch, & be Devyl, are knowe grete lordis. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* i. iii. Fye, lyeause he is so sore sette, or to gredy vpon the world, or his thrift. 1564 J. Mantuan. *Treat. Corrupt. Manners* 57 It hath subdued all, conquered the world, discomfited the deuil. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 73 Ah Palinodie, thou art a worldes childe: Who touches Pitche must needes be defiled. 1675 Owen *Indwelling Sin* ii. (1732) 17 Whence is it, that Men follow and pursue the World with so much greediness? 1780 *Cowper Love of the World Reproved* 25 Remember the world—the preacher cries. 1784 — *Task* ii. 389 Infidelity and love of world. 1807 Wordsw. *Misc. Sonn.* i. xxxiii. 1 The world is too much with us. 1843 J. Martineau *Chr. Life* xvii. 255 The world..lit the opportunities of action with a view to temporal good. 1882 Sir Kelly *Nat. Relig.* ii. I. 130 The World is the collective character of those who do not worship.

**3.** The affairs and conditions of life; chiefly in phr., esp. with the verb *go* (e. g. *how the world goes*, how events shape themselves; *how goes the world with* (a person), how are his affairs; *as the* (or *this*) *world goes*, as things are, considering the state of affairs); also † *to let the world slide*, to allow things to take their course, to leave matters alone; † *to let the world vawe* (see Wag *v.* 7 c).

*Beowulf* 1739 Ac him mid worolde wundra sumum. c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxvi. 8 ‡ Selpanc þu nu..Boetius..hwæðer þin worold þa call were setter þinum willan. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 318 Hwæt worold-wynna gewyrfeð. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 19 A Feir feld ful of folk fond I þer bi-twene, ..Worchinge and wondringe as þe world asketh. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 530 & wynter wyndes agayn, as þe worlde nakes. c 1460–8 *MS. Trin. Coll. Dubl.* f. 43 b 18 in *Archaeologia* XXIX. 341 Trust not..youre foos, For þei be double in wirking, as be worlde gos. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 238 William Paston..paid to the person..xxxiiijs. d. for his yerely worth, as the world goth now, *xli.* 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 81 How father..thynkes the whurldle qwhesay.., and therfor he whowlde that ze seppurt not yowesselfe to hofton to Iiregyn. a 1529– [see Wag *v.* 7 c]. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iv. iv. T iij, What is the matter, or howe gothe the worlde with hym? 1564 Becon *Treat. agst. Pest.* (1888) 26 Now let vs go..and see how the worlde goeth with Master Antonius. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1848/1 What a Gospeller [he]..was in King Edwardes tyme, which now turning with the world, sheweth him self such a bytter Persecuter..in Queene Maries time. 1596, 1611 [see Slide v. 5 b]. 1600 Shaks. *Ham.* ii. ii. 178 To be honest as this world goes, is to bee one man pick'd out of two thousand. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 283 Some must watch, while some must sleepe: So runnes the world away. a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 74 However the world goes, we may yet make a tolerable shift. 1723 Pope *Let. to Addison* Wks. 1737 VI. 32 And give me leave to tell you, that (as the world goes) this is no small assurance I repose in you. 1855 Dickens etc. *Household Words* Christmas No. 156 Hows the world, as you say, about morning? 1860 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* xviii, The world is out of Joint. 1886 Baring-Gould *Crt. Royal* iv, What was the world coming to, when the police poked their noses into his shop?

† **b.** State of human affairs, state of things; hence, season or time as marked by the state of affairs. *Obs.*

Rule in *Pecock's Lett.* I. 400 And as for the iiijte *ii.* to be setle on Olivere is taile, I can not see it wole be, for there is noo suche worlde to bringe it abowte. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 Here ye but stranger wardes, the sekenesse rayngyth [sic] so sore, that I dare not wryte. *Ibid.* 152 What world wee schall hawe wt Flaunders I can not say, I feyr me they will breke wt us. ?1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 402 Sir, in that we see the same wantie.. wat world so euer shall happen to fall here after. 1513 More *Rich. III* Wks. 70 If the worlde would haue gone as I would, I had bene long Henryes vncle, and had the crowne. *Ibid.*, What nede in that grene world yt protector had of ye duke. c 1523 — in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 293 They do write to me, that when they may se how the world is, 1530 Palsgr. 559/2 Let the people alone, for they wyll brake wt us. ?1563 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 404 Sir, in that we see the same wantie.. wat world so euer shall happen to fall here after. 1613 Rider *Lex Cantabr.* (1853) 243 Quo, A. Aggregamus example to the worlde to cum. 1787 *Grose & Godfr. B.* (S.T.S.) 44 He that all warldis was beforne, Come downe of Marie to be borne. 1974 Heliowe's *Governor's Pass. Ep.* (1577) 18 For that in the worldes to come, is nothing to be known but the author thereof. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 87 The Heauen goeth about continually, and in so many worlds and ages as haue been, we neuer saw it out of his course at all. 1593 Bilson *Perpet. Govt. Ch.* 5 This was the blessing due to the elder Brother in the first world. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* D 7, Tarquinius..prouided in peace, & in that young world, a notable polititian. c 1600 Hooker *Serm., Habak.* ii. 4 Wks. 1874 III. 640 Adam and all the fathers before Christ, till Christ's coming, in their many worlds together detained. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 2 Forgetfull of all other things in their ancient country, after so many worlds of yeares. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. Gow. 21 Their swaines in loue, shall in the world to come Approue their truths by Troylus. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 202 [200] From all which 'tis as clear, that we meant in the dayes of yore by the word World, time, age, or Æon.

**b.** A period or age of human history characterized by certain conditions or indicated by the character of those living in it. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by 16 a.

1530–1600 Golden world [see Golden *a.* 7]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 160 It was a very good old world, when men wiped their nose on their sleeve (as the French man sayes). 1781 Blair in *Sc. Transl. & Paraphr.* (1793) 12 All old things are accounted good: the world began. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 These were men whose minds had been trained in a world which had passed away. 1886 E. B. Nicholson *Birds Norfolk* I. 28 Shakespeare's 'historical plays' the characters live and speak in the world of the sixteenth century.

**6.** In various phrases translating eccl. Latin *in sæcula sæculorum*, *in sæculum sæculi* = for ever and ever, for all time, through eternity. † *From world into world*, *from world to world* (*s*, *in to* (*the*) *world*, *s of world*, *s world*, *s through all worlds*, *world always*.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxi. ‡ Ic nu scolan standan to worulde. c 1110 *Ælfred's Boeth.* Epil., Si þe lof & wylder no & naa to worulde buton aghwilcum ende. c 1200 *Ormulum* 25 Þe hiærd . wunnende and reallende on worulde a hutenn ende. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 39 Ah schal ifinden him ai swettere & sauurure, fram worlde in to worlde. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* 89 Lord, þou hast ben refuyt to us fra werld vnto þi name. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxiv. 10 Desolat shal (his land) be in to worldis of worldis. a 1400 *Pepper* (1891) 34 As hit was in the begynnyng, so now and euere is, and schal be, world of worldes amen. c 1400 *Rule Sr. Benet* (verse) 331 Sche sal..loue god euer of al his lone And wirchip him world alwandis. c 1420 *Pilgr. Lyf Manh.* (1869) 3 Þat he is God in euerlastynge worldis. *Ibid.* 74 He ordeynede þo þingis into þe world, & in to þe world schal he vndoo[ll] [L. *in aeternum, et in saeculum saeculi*]. 1434 Misyn *Fire of Lufe* 172 To whome be wyschip & ly3e, in warld of warldys. Amen. 1555 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 1. 4 Thorough worlde of worldes: whiche signifieth for euer. 1582 Stor *Discon. Widtakers*, xv. 211 Eternall life, which is finest and for the least euer one God through all worlds. Amen. 1844 Tennyson *Gard. Pan.* 200, I heard his deep ‡ I will,' Breathed, like the covenant of a God, to hold From thence thro' all the worlds.]

**b.** *World without* (ME. *abuten* or *buten*) *end*; later used hyperbolically: Endlessly, eternally. Hence as *adj. phr.* = perpetual, everlasting, eternal; and as *subst. phr.* eternal existence, endlessness, eternity.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Þeo þet beoðen ofenneed þe pinen of helle world a buten ende. c 1305 *St. Swithin* 109 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 46 Pat veiel, þe schal no leng lieste, Ac þu wost werd ful and sound, worde wibouten ende. 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* xl. 28 The Lord of worldis is maad newyng, and to the dwell he thrall saidi withouten end. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 94 b Many benefetes ben geuen to thomour of our lord Jhū crist whiche is blessed world wythouten ende. Amen. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins*, As it was in the beginning, is now, and euer shalbe, world without ende. 1598 Shaks. *K. L. I.* v. ii. 79 A time then thinkes too short, To make a world-without-end bargaine in. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* xxi. Wks. 1851 III. 474 Two men thinks he talking world without end, to make good his integrity. 1753 in *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) II. 499 L. Chesterfield writes Worlds without End. 1881 Mozley *Mirac. & Mod. Thought* 34 This world-without-end-for-everlasting hole of a London. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 8/1 A city pastor, with a world-without-end of things to be done. 1898 Hourman *Seraphs.* 7 *Advity*, My heart and soul and senses, World without end, are drowned. 1905 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure*

t. v. Small wonder if the embodiment of the world-without-end should prove no encourager of man's happiness!

II. The earth or a region of it; the universe or a part of it.

7. The earth and all created things upon it; the terraqueous globe and its inhabitants. (See also 21 a, 22 a.)

*Cotton of the world*: see COTTON sb. 2.

*Wide world*: see WIDE *a.* 1 b.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiii. § 5 Þeah þu ne ealle gesceafta ane naman genemnode, ælle þa nemdest þeah ealle þa world hatte wolde. c893 — *Oros.* I. vi. § 1 On þæs Ambitiones tide wuldon wa mycelo wæterflod þeccan ealne middangeard. a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 659 Se þas world gesceop, godes gemearcode. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 We habbeð ihereden þurh wise writega hu he eræst astalde þeos worold al for ure mede. c1200 ORMIN 15650 Þatt shollde tilpp all þe werrlld off nahht. c1205 LAY. 7206 He [Julius Cæsar] bolde to bi-winnen al middel-eardes lond and halde þat worlde in his hond. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 508 Wate no man of werlde no, Quat kinde he was kumen fro. a1300 *Cursor M.* 346 Bot he þat mad all thing o nought To-geder he al þis werld wroght. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 232 Nou sone...departid al þys werld...in þre parties. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* 1. 4 Ich wente forth in þe worlde wonders to here. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1502 He mon nede þus & regne quite þe ronde worde. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiv. Men myghte go be Schippe alle aboute the World, and above and benethen. 24 . *Childh. Jesus* 221 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 123 Þeras, þat alle þys worlde wroȝt, Wyth hys hondes made. Coverd. Psalms lxxxix. 12 Thou hast layed the foundacion of the rounde worlde, and all that therin is. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 214 b. The voyage made by the Spaniardes rounde aboute the worlde. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Arк* 60 The World's-re-colonizing Boat [viz. Noah's ark]. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 168 And thitherie fluxen Rhines & all about the World haue times two their Recruits. 1613 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* viii. 25 The Busquayn Ship...wherein Magellan compassed the World. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xii. 646 The World was all before them, where to chuse Their place of rest, and Providence their guide. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 372 Its own revolvency upholds the world. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 390/1 (*Brooke*) This voyage round the world, the first accomplished by an Englishman, was thus performed in two years and about ten months.

b. *Transf.* and *fig.*

1596 in T. Sharp *Cog. Myst.* (1825) 73 Paid to Crowe for making of iij worldys...iijs. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 498 Her breasts like ivory globes circled with blew, A paire of maiden worlds vnconquered. 1597 — *Love's Compl.* 7, I...Ere long espied a fickle maid full pale, Shorning her world with sorrow, wind and raine. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* I. xvi. 29 I thought open My world to him. 1797 COLERIDGE *Ancient M.* 610 Paths unknown. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 706 See, the sun splits on yonder lamble world Of silvered glass.

c. In phr. with *go round*, *orig.* referring to the rotation of the earth, but used chiefly fig. with implication of other senses (e. g. 1 a, 3).

1780 BLAKE *A Toast* 4 Fill it up, that it shall last while the world goes round. 1788 HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 21 Tis drink, And only drink, that makes the world go round. 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* II, It's Love that makes the world go round!

d. *The world's end*: the farthest limit of the earth. Chiefly used hyperbolically.

Used as the proper name of out-of-the-way localities or houses, esp. formerly, of certain inns kept for illicit purposes (cf. *quot.* 1795).

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 72 Will your Grace command me any seruice to the world's end? I will goe on the slightest arriand now to the Antypodes. 1628 tr. *Matthieu's Powerfull Favourite* 13 Is it for this (say they) that they haue sent him to the worlds end. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. iv, Poor innocent! you don't know that there's a place call'd the *World's End*? 1727 POPE *Dict. Royal* II. s.v. *World*, He lives at the World's end (or great way off). 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 216 We saw...the fresh footprints of a Kaffir, and resolved to follow that to the world's end. *a1878* BAILEY *Festus* 90 Now we stand On the world's-end-land!

e. In generalized sense, usually qualified by *a.*

1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* III. 33 I too truly Tamerlain's Successor; Each thinks a World too little for his sway. 1713 BERKELEY *Pappe* (1721) 6 (1709) 39 This [spherical figure] must be allowed to be the most commodious, apt Figure for a World in many Accounts. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 190 Why have great fore-runners, or one world would not have held Mr. Lovelace and me thus long. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 89 'Tis pleasant through the loopholes of retreat To peep at such a world. 1868 DICKENS *Chastelard* v. ii. 189 Life is not worth a world That you should weep to take it.

f. *pl.* Used hyperbolically for: 'a great quantity'; often adverb. 'a great deal'; 'infinitely' (cf. 19 b). (*a*) *pa.* *Not* (..) *for worlds*: not for all the wealth in the world, not on any account.

*a1586* SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 517 Like two contrarie tides, either of which are able to carry worldes of shippes, and nere vpon them. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 149 Nor doth this wood lacke worlds of company. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Unnat. Father* Wks. 16.01 142 Through worlds of Deaths I'l breake to fly to him. [1832 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xix, I would not part with this for worlds of us!] *Ibid.* xxiv, Nor would he do one act for worlds, that could...cast a shade over the fame and honour of one —. 1872 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* (ed. 5) 178 I'd give worlds to borrow Her yellow rose with russet leave. 1874 W. S. GILBERT *Sweethearts* II, I'm sure I wouldn't stand in his way for worlds. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* v, She seemed to be separated by whole worlds of difference from such ladies as his own mother. 1892 'G. THARBE' *Mona Maclean* vi, I was worlds too shy. 1900 H. S. HOLLAND *Old & New* 33 They look to you worlds apart.

(*b*) sing., in negative context, e. g. *not for the world*, *all the world*, *¶ half the world.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 99 *Prin.* He'll be forsworne. *Kath.* Not for the world faire Madam, by my will. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. iii. 68 Would'st thou do such a deed for all the world? 1605 EDMONDS tr. *Fr. Guard.* N 6 b, I would not faile in it for any thing in the world. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 32 Not for all the world, purposing any hurt vnto him. 1664 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Antiq. Soc.* (N. S.) 178 A thing I would not have been guilty of for halfe the world. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* iv. 46 He would not for all the World return again. 1732 *Lond. Spy Convers.* 43, I wou'dn't be as sick as she's proud, for all the World. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 807 He...Can dig, beg, nor...but would not for a world Exchange his dirty and dependent bread, [etc.]. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxviii, But I am sure I would not do such a thing for all the world. 1824 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, Not for the world...will I be a spy on my kind godfather's secrets. 1847 BUCKSTONE *Flowers of Forest* III. vii, No, no—not for the wide wide world. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. iii. 62 Daphne, usually loquacious, felt as if she could not have spoken for the world.

8. With qualification: Any part of the universe considered as an entity, as ¶ MIDDLE WORLD (the earth), *lower* or *nether world* (Hades or hell, less freq. the earth), UNDERWORLD (id.).

*c1200, c1250, 1822* (see MIDDLE WORLD). 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 44 This beneath world. 1609- [see UNDERWORLD 3]. 1720 [see NATURE *a.* 6]. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 729 The groans of nature in this nether world, Which Heav'n has heard for ages. 1786 BURNS *Nature's Law* iii, This lower world I you resign. 1789 — *To Mr. Renton*, Though 'twere a trip to yonder world. [Ex. 1st Edn. 'Pandæmonium'.] 1822 *Classical Journ.* XXVI. 82, I...With Virgil...visited the nether world of woe.

b. A planet or other heavenly body, esp. one viewed as inhabited.

1573 Annianus *Cato* 1, But thou shalt flourish...Unhurt amidst...The Work of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 254 Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 82 The sun, a world inferior and remote. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 24/2 ANCIENT AND MODERN Other Worlds than Ours. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxxii. 419 Overhead the great worlds became more visible in the deep vault of heaven.

9. The material universe as an ordered system; the system of created things; 'heaven and earth'; the cosmos. Also (rarely) a system of heavenly bodies. Also *fig.* † In early use chiefly in *the greater* or *more world*, the macrocosm, and *the less* or *little world*, the microcosm, man. Now *rare*.

*c1200* ORMIN 17597 Mycrocosmos, þatt nemmnedd iss Affterr þannkinnde þatt þe litle worlld. *a1225* *Ancr.* R. 552 For þis reson þat þe heze hald, Man es clepid þe lesse world. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 645 Þe leoun is hald to a litel world in his kinde. *Compl. Ill.* 71 In a second book, Which thugh nuggace and sorcerie Couthe al the world of tricherie. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Lady* 81, 182 No merualye thoughe hym be delyte in the thynge of the lesse worlde that were yet to be made, then of thys more worlde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xvi. 40 This cleerenesse...enuyronneth al aboute the worlde like foure elementis which god created. 1569 *Inierl. Four Elem.* A vj b, The yerth as a poynt or center is sytuate In the myddes of the worlde. 1596 *Polyp. Pref.* (W. de V., 1533) Lyke as the great worlde was made perfecte in syx dayes, so ys lesse worlde, that is man, is made...perfecte by grace in these vij spirituall dayes. 1598 RICCHER *Cast. Knowl.* 1. (1656) 4 The worlde is an vniuersall creature, and the worlde God all other naturall thinges contained in them. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. i. 10 (Qo. 1) In his little world of man. 1633 HERBERT *Temple*, *Church Porch* lxxvi, Who reads Shall find the world in him, and learn to know him. c1665 HOWELL *Lett.* II. i. (1890) 444 Surely the Astronomers had reason to term this Sphere...a thing of no inconsiderable bigness, when compar'd to the whole World. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiv. § 1 The great collective Idea of all Bodies whatsoever signified by the name World. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* II. ii. 182 The Works appointed to us by the System of the biggest World! 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Universe*, The four Faculties are supposed to make the World or Universe of Study. 1755 JI. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 8 The Inhabitants of the present Age teach us, that the Universe...is replenished with Systems or Worlds of different Bodies. 1882 T. DOLLER *Shuttleburg & Hutchison* 206 We may infer Shuttleburg's conception of the relation of God to the World as that of soul to the body. Nature is ...the vesture of God, and God the soul of the Universe.

10. The sphere within which one's interests are bound up or one's activities find scope; (one's) sphere of action or thought; the 'realm' within which one moves or lives.

In the earliest instances with allusion to the microcosm of man (see 9).

*a1586* SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 31 How it (sc. virtue) extendeth it selfe out of the limits of a mans own little world, to the gouernment of families. *a1642* SUCKLING *Poems* (1648) 11 In each mans heart that doth begin To grow, there is a little world within. 1668 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. ii. xv, She dwells in her own self, there doth reside, Is her own world, and more or lesse doth put forth her self. 1697 WORMIUS, *Personal Faith* 4 Children are blest and powerful; their world lies More justly balanced; partly at their feet, And part far from them. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. ii, With no aspirations beyond the little world in which she moved. 1877 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Aspect.* II. 28 The atmosphere of his dance in which he dwells;...the taint of contempt which infects all the intercourses of his world. 1883 J. T. FORD *Self-improvem.* 53 The world of the world is not of the senses simply, but of the spirit too. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xvi. 168 [His] world was a narrow one, consisting as it did of himself and his bank-book.

11. A section or part of the earth at large, as a place of inhabitation or settlement; † a country or region.

*New World*, a continent or country discovered or colonized at a comparatively late period, esp. the continents of America (the Western Hemisphere) as distinguished from the *Old World*, or the continents of the Eastern Hemisphere, esp. Europe and Asia, as being known before the discovery of America.

1555 EDEN *Decades* title-p., The Decades of the Newe Worlde or West India. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* Ep. Ded. A iij b, Some of them...seeke new Countries and new worlds to shew their valiantnes in. 1589 HAKLUYT *Princ. Navig.* (title-p.), The English valiant attempts in searching almost all the corners of the vaste and new world of America. *a1593* MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Of Troy am I,...driuen by warre from forth my native world. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 45 This little world, This precious stone, set in the siluer sea. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. title-p., Voyages...to all parts of the Newfound world of America, or the West Indies. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. I. 113 From the one side to the other [of the Bosphorus]...man out of these two worlds may parly one to another with audible voice. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. E 2 b, Tanais ...doth diuide Europe from Asia, giuing to each side The name of seuerall worlds. 1638 BAKER *Antipodes* I. vii, No Isle nor Angle in that Neather world, But I have made discovery of. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 283 This World produces two Harvests. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 721 Thence Arts o'er all the northern world advance. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. (1802) 16 Alexander the Great...when he had conquered what was called the Eastern World, wept for want of more worlds to conquer. 1828 ROGERS *Pov. Columbus* iii. 39 From world to world their steady course they keep. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 57 Cities of men And manners, climates, councils, governments, Myself not least to seek a newer world. 1859 CORNWALLIS (*title*) A Panorama of the New World [Australia]. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 146 Before the New World poured in so many objects hitherto unknown to Europe. 1868 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. 29 *note*, The influence which American freedom would exert upon the Old World.

12. A division of created things; *esp.* each of the three primary divisions of natural objects (the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms).

*Organic world*, the animal and vegetable kingdoms; *inorganic world*, the material world outside these.

1694 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 1 Nor...did I neglect...whatever either the Vegetable or Animal World afforded. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 122 The vegetable world is also thine, Parent of Seasons! 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) II. viii. 530 In the inorganic world, the magnificent discoveries of Newton were contumeliously rejected. 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 70 As in the animal or vegetable world.

13. A group or system of things or beings associated by common characteristics (denoted by a qualifying word or phrase), or considered as constituting a unity.

1673 T. BLOUNT (*title*) A World of Errors Discovered in the New World of Words. 1685 J. SERGEANT (*title*) Solid Philosophy Invisible World discovered. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 27 (1695) 319 The whole intellectual World; a greater certainly, and more beautiful World, than the material. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 389 Truth is where the Divine Ideas are,...in the Intelligible World, that world of true light and glory. 1704 *Spect.* II. 253 Intellectual world means the world of spirits, whereas by intellectual beings we mean the world of Ideas. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 536 Then, all the world of waters sleep again. 1807 WORDSW. *Peranant Talk* 33 Dwarfs, books, and cats and a world within a world. 1811 LAMB *Misc. t. Children*, Dear little T. H....finds all this world of fear (i. e. night fears)...in his own 'thick-coming fancies'. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* II. 6 Certain it is that in the steerage nearly a hundred passengers: a little world of poverty. 1851 [see VISIBLE *a.* 3]. *a1862* BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 213 The scientific world is governed by ideas, the literary world by opinions. 1874 MULHALL *Contemp. Evol.* (1876) 199 The mingling of the hyperphysical world of rationality with the irrational creation. 1893 WILLMANN tr. (*title*) The Outdoor World; or, Young Collector's Handbook.

† b. *World of words* : a dictionary. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO (*title*) A Worlde of Wordes, Or Most copious, and exact Dictionarie in Italian and English. 1611 COTGR., *Vocabulaires*, a Vocabulary, Dictionarie, or World of words. 1656 PHILLIPS (*title*) The Moderne World of Words, or A Universall English Dictionary,...*Nouus Orbis Verborum*.

III. The inhabitants of the earth, or a section of them.

14. The human race; the whole of mankind; human society. (See also 21 b, 22 a, b.)

Sometimes passing into 25.

*a900* CYNEWULF *Crist* 1424 Hwæt ! ic þæt for worulde ræhdode. *c1200* ORMIN 17456 Swa iuleþe þe Laferrd Godd þe werelld, tatt he mannkinn wollde shaffenn, Þe mannkinn mann onn erþe. *c1205* LAY. 9072 Þeu Crist...alre worlde wunne. *c1275* *Lyf Paine of Hell* 128 in *O. E. Misc.* 214 Þe sun of god, þat appyn beet þe world. 1590 GREENE *Conf.* I. 1 So that it myhte in such a wyse, Whan we been dede.. Beleve to the worldes ende. *c1400* *Pol. Poems* 306 in *Rolls Poems* 140 And so shul I see wyth-outyyr Deme the world. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 31, I suppose it wolbe hard for you to purge your selfe before God or the worlde. 1587 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* vi. vi. § 2. 600 They make it worldly-wise & cunningly against God, that not ...covertly, but openly, and in the face of the worlde. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. i. § 2 It being impossible that persons employed by a God of truth should make it their design to impose upon the world. 1714 DERHAM *Astro-Theol.* (1769) 27 The condition, state and order of the world inhabiting the earth. 1739 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 307 In Faith and Hope the world will disagree, But all Mankind's concern is Charity. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 128 In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world. 1886 LINDSAY *Bampton Lect.* vi. (1875) 337 The whole world was redeemed by Christ.

† b. *World's*, *worlde's shame*, *shame of the world*: universal or public disgrace. *Obs.*

Replacing the OE. compound *scrudcacumen* (ME. *worldscome*) 60 a 2 a.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 153 He schal with worldes schame

Himself and ek his love schame. 1483–4 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 4 Persones of noo substaunce ne havur, not dredyng God nor worldes shame. 1504 Shaks. *Rich. III* iv. 27 Worlds shame. 1611 Chapman *May Day* iv, Has not one of them [*sc.* disguises] kept you safe from the shame of the world? 1732–8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 32 Fie, fie, Miss! for Shame of the World, and Scandal of good People. 1882 Pusey *Par. & Cath. Serm.* xii. 164 One decided act of blind, obedient faith, ready, to bear what might bring the world's shame.

**c.** *Against the world*: in opposition to or in the face of all mankind; hence, against all opposition, †in perfective expectancy else. (See also 21 b.)

1611 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iii. ii. 224 But yesterday, the word of Cæsar might Have stood against the World. 1690 W. Walker *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 537, I am for the woods against the World, i.e. before any thing. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 114 There I will . hold thee with my life against the world.

**15.** The body of living persons in general; society at large, 'people' in the public; often with reference to its judgement or opinion.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. ii. 120 Fellow, why do't thou show me thus to th' world? Beare me to prison. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) 1 229 Yet let both hym and the world lady of me yff I dealt fowlly with hym. 1693 *Humours Town* 29 To make the World think he has been at a good Meal. 1738 Pope *Epil. Sat.* i. 147 In golden Chains the willing World she drew. 1791 Cowper Churchill 838 You must be wrong, the World is in the right. 1794 Cowper *Task* vi. 681 He...call'd the world to worship on the banks of Trent. 1802–12 Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy* (1820) 131 Ellenborough *Diary* (1881) I. 301 There are all sorts of stories of the Lord High Admiral, and the world says he is mad. 1823–5 Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) 191 It is harder to resist the world's smiles than the world's frowns. 1858 Mrs. Craik *Woman's Th.* ix. 230 How often do we hear the phrase,—'What will the world say?' 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 936 The world, that cares for scandal, say. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/1 From the world's point of view his unpopularity was richly deserved.

**16.** Usually with qualification: A particular division, section, or generation of the earth's inhabitants or human society. **a.** with reference to the place or time of their existence.

1382 Wyclif *2 Pet.* ii. 5 If God..sparide not to the first world, but kepte Noe [Tindale the olde worlde but saved Noe]. 1602 Shaks. *Merry Wives* v. v. 95 Sir John and all Knights of the World. 1704 Swift *Battle of Books* Wks. (1755) I. 305 The part allotted to me...ended, as our world here, say, much to my credit. 1709 *Mirror* No. 38 The female world. 1798 Coleridge *Sibylline Leaves* (1817) 181 Satiated as I am, and as I suppose two thirds of the reading world have been with sonnets. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 470 A gas not yet known to the chemical world. 1880 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 300 It is an extraordinary circumstance is stated to have taken place in the musical world. 1894 *Poultry Chron.* II. 219 Two noblemen, whose names are as eminent in the poultry world as in rank. 1890 Lightley *Law Serm.* iii. 48 The serene resting-place for worn human nature—the world of art. 1888 Sala *Amer. Revis.* viii. (1889) 160 The whole world of rubbishon. 1888 Sharpe *Psychiatria* II. 5 He brought us news from the mathematical and grammatical world. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 441 An old marine engineer, who lives (from this regimen) as living things...defending them...against the aspersions of the silly, uninformed outside world.

**17.** Human society considered in relation to its activities, difficulties, temptations, and the like; hence, contextually, the ways, practices, or customs of the people among whom one lives; the occupations and interests of society at large.

*To begin the world*: to begin to take an active part in the affairs of life; to start one's career.

1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 21 He seythe that he shall dwelle with his wyffes frendes ..and he will no further medill in the werde. 1596 in Feuilleran *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 215 These two will attempt the worlde to seke theyr fortune. 1670 Pepe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 150 A stocke of money to begin the world withall. 1798 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. iii. 136 Olde fellowes you know, haue discretion, as they say, and knowledge too in the world. 1794 M. Henry *Church in Houses* 4 You are beginning the World (as you call it). 1822 Strelee *Specl.* No. 491 P 2 However he had so much of the World, that he had a great share of the Language which usually prevails upon the weaker Part of that Sex. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* i. § 1 That great Whirlpool of Business, Faction, and Pleasure, which is called the World. 1733–4 Richardson *Grandison* II. xvi. 104 He will be still kinder to them, when they are old enough to be put into the world. 1796 (*title*) Address to a Young Lady on her entrance into the world. 1830 Newman *Par. Serm.* IV. xii. 202 By the world, I mean all that meets a man in intercourse with his fellow men. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xiii, The world is before you; and it is most probable that as you enter it, so it will receive you. 1882 W. Ballantine *Exper.* I. ix. 115 He was a perfect child in the world's ways. 1888 Besant *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 297 Two thousand pounds; that's a large sum to hand over...Upon my word,..you will have to begin the world again. 1890 Jesse L. Williams *Stolen Story* etc. 186 Hamilton J.: Knox had been one of the great men of his day...when in college. He was in the World now.

**b.** With reference to social status or worldly fortune.

†*To be beforehand or behindhand in* (or *with*) *the world*: to be in prosperous or indigent circumstances.

1685 Mitton *Ct. Fr. Thief.* ii. 8 *Vr. World*, To be before hand in the World, *être à son aise*...To be behind hand in the World, *faire mal ses affaires*. 1777 Thicknesse *Yours. France* (1786) I. 10 My landlord, Monsieur Desenin, who was behind-hand with the world ten years ago, is now become one of the richest men in Calais. 1784 Cowper *Tirocin.* 672 Low in the world, because he scorns its arts. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxii, Indications of the good gentleman's having gone down in the world of late. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xxviii, His family is getting up in the world. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 119, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. 1889 [see Come v. 56 f].

**18.** High or fashionable society. More explicitly *the world of fashion*, *the fashionable world*; also *the polite world*, *the great world*, †occas. *the very first world*. (See also 21 c.)

*Half-world* (= Demi-monde): see Half- II. 2.

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* i. 1, He talks too like a Person that knew the World. To have been long a Prisoner. 1721 Addison *Spect.* No. 15 P 7 She...fancies herself out of the World, when she is not in the Ring, the Play-House, or the Park. 1729 Butler *Hudibras, Second Canto* 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. know the world I a modern phrase For visits, ombre, balls, and plays. 1746 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Cr.ss Mar* Wks. (1803) I. 185, I have a great world to give this thing know no better. 1750 Chesterfield *Let. to Son* 1 June, The court is called the world here, as well as at Paris; and nothing more is meant, by saying that a man knows the world, than, that he frequents courts. 1768 *Boswell Corsica* Jan. 14/2 The polite world. 1788 Burns *Twa Dogs* 158 To mak a tour, an' tak a whirl, To learn *ben* to an' see the world. 1792 Boswell *Johnson* an Apr. 1779 (1904) II. 349 Mr. Beauclerk...told us a number of short stories in a lively elegant manner, and with that air of *the world* which has I know not what imposing effect. 1799 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 32 His solicitude to maintain his importance as a man of taste in the fashionable world. 1796 — *Marchmont* II. 180, I was brought out the lives of people of fashion in the first world. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* ii, It is but a glimpse of the world of fashion that we want. 1889 J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* ii. (1891) 199, I must tell you that the Parish set themselves up against the fashionable city.

**IV.** Idiomatic uses and phrases: see also above.

**19. A world.** **a.** A vast quantity, an 'infinity'; in early use, esp. a vast expanse (of land or water). *A world of years*, *of time* (obs. or dial.): a vast extent of time, an age, an eternity. (Sometimes more emphatically *a whole world of*.)

†1540 *Elyot Image of Gov.* viii. 28 The playner part of fraunce a craft hath foude To repe in liteł space a world of loude. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiii, Standing there I sawe A world of folk. 1579–80 North *Plutarch. Marius* (1595) 589 A world of people, as well boyes, as men and women mixicke. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 353 A world of torments though I should endure. 1589 Warner *Alb. Engl.* *Peridies* v. xi. 89 Their soldiers met with a world of treasure to Polymnestor. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 39 He, making speedy way through spersed ayre, And through the world of waters wide and deepe. 1598 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, iii. i. 94 For there will be a World of Water shed, Vpon the parting of your Wiues and you. 1598 Chapman *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* iii. D, What a world of tyme is it for me to lie as in a swonde, Without my life. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiv. ii. 1. 404 Yet continued it stable and sure unto corrupt. 1620 Shirley *Pontif.* iv. 4, Serving a world of secret powers. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 16, I beheld a world of old Bookes. 1662 Evelyn *Sculptura, &c. Negmo Pars* 6, He had made provision of sundry huge Volumes,...besides a world more which he had not time to peruse. 1693 Lond. Gaz. *As you find it* ii. ii. 22, I have a World of Business to do this Afternoon. 1779 G. Keate *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 78 A Ship that has been a Voyage to the globe, and cut for a World of Knowledge though a World of waters. 1804 Scott *Sy Marmion* I. xiii. 413, I had a world of things to say to you. 1812 Jeffrey *Ess.* (1844) I. 2 A world of ways to do it, and a world a shore. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. v. (1860) 79 A whole world of passions. 1854 Anne E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., He'll take a world of time to do it. 1897 Ch. Chase *First Violet* iv. 44 They long walks in the clear mountain air are doing you a world of good.

**b.** Used advb.: Infinitely, vastly. (Cf. *worlds*, 7 f.) *arch.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well saud, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. 1879 'Hesba Stretton' *Needle's Eye* xxxiv, Her smile...had a world more tenderness in it. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/2 The Swan Amadyonere is a fine thing, but the Statute of Liberty is a world finer.

†**c.** *It is a world*: it is a great thing, it is a marvel. Similarly †*it is a world and wonder*, †*wonder a world*. *Obs. or dial.*

†1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 399 Seest thou on other feely they nette...and tuesly for to speke It was a world to here the speys bryke. 1519 *Interl. 4 Elem.* C vb, It is a worlde to se her wirke. 1530 Palsgr. 300/2 It is a worlde to se, as cat to Gardyner. 1550 *Wolsey* (1825) I. 145 Is it not a world to consider the desire of wilful princes, when they fully be bent...to fulfil their voluptuous appetites. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 313, It is a world to see. 1600 Holland *Livy* iii. xxvi. 102 A world and wonder it is to hear them speak. 1620 Br. Andrewes *90 Serm.*, *Holy Ghost* xiii. (1629) 733 But it were a world to take up old errors. 1666 Dugdale *Orig. Jurid.* 132/1 The Prince so served will tender meats,...as it seemed wonder a world to observe the provision. 1881 *Lelc. Glass.* s.v., It's a world to see that their little un order the big uns to the reight about!

**20.** The world (see also above senses). **a.** *In the world*: on earth, in existence; (*a*) as an intensive phrase after a superlative or *all*, *no*, *not a*, *everything*, *nothing*, etc. Also occas. †*in a*) *world*; Obs. *on worulde*.

*a* 1070 *Luna Ethelred*, *Se gribe* § 2, On hwam mæg hura sæfre mnix man on worulde swy'or God wurðian ðonne on cyrcan? 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 Pe betreteste man pe is neold per inne [*sc.* in England] beb inome. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 220 Man to pryse Than all the gold in warld that is. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5131 Thretti goblettis of gold, pe grattest in pe worde. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 224 He began to make the grete t sorow in the worlde. *c* 1500 *Melusine* v. 87 He had not now say'ne only word for all the gold in the world. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 74 And I had but one penny in the world, thou shouldst haue it. *a* 1589 R. Lane in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 739 The River of Cheancoak, and all the other sounds, shewe no currant in the world in calme weather. 1600 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. ii. vii. 3 The least wrong pt' wold will throw them downe. 1600 — *Tr. & Cr.* i. ii. 41 *Cre.* Hectors a gallant man. *Alan.* As may be in the world Lady. 1604 Attributed *Serm.* (Sm. lit. 29) (1726) I. 110 The Gospel of Christ, at its Earliest appearance, had all the Probabilities in the World against its Success. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 149 P 7 It is the hardest thing in the World to be in Love, and yet attend Business. 1716 Woodw. *Gem.* (1848) II. 24 Very little would have given all they had in a world to have been off. 1790 Mas. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 21 Thats aw spite, nowt ith ward else. 1826 Disraeli *Vir. Grey* iv. 38 There is nothing in the world that I wish to see, except yourself. 1833 Dickens *Sk. Boz*, *Mr. Minns*, He was...the most retiring man in the world. 1840 R. Blakey *Hist. Moral Sci.* (1850) I. xxvi, Hartley enjoyed his dinner...as if he had not a debt in the world.

(*b*) intensifying an interrogative.

1530 Palsgr. 467/2 He wyste nat in the worlde what to do. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. iv. 26 What in the world should make me now deceiue..? 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Afr.* i. 11 He knew not what in the world to doe. 1614 *Day Dyall* Ep. Ded. ¶ 2 b, Here...could not tell what in the world to say, but laid it. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz*, *Private Theatres*, And if they don't know how to do this sort of thing, who in the world does? 1865 Mas. Willert *Gaysworthys* xxvi, How in the world did you persuade him?

†**b.** *Of the world* [cf. F. *du monde*]: = *in the world* (20 a). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kat.* 238 All studied pat per stod, & walked hym amonge, Wyth alle pe wonder of pe worlde, what he worch schulde. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* (Caxton) vii. 238 ye wold be a good etter vff your mete...ye abide more pe gladdest man off the world. *c* 1497 Caxton *Faxon* 69 Wherfore they began to crye and demene soo grete pitteous sorow of the worlde. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* iii. xxiv. (Arb.) 300 The most gentle and affable Prince of the world. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 39 Now newest deed of the World can match The pleasure of that madnesse. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* iii. ix. 203 He began the most auful and doleffull lamentation of the world.

**c.** *Of* (*all*) *the world*: out of the whole world, above all others in the world. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1800) II. 150 The man of the world, excepting yourself..., for whom I have the dearest respect. 1820 Shelley *Cenci* III. i, I am the wretch of whom I would have chosen. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 477 The look of all the world that charm'd me most Was—well-a-day, the title page was lost! 1

†**d.** *All to the world*: in every respect; = *to* 21 e.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. viii, These the Bastard was bred up...all to the World like any Gentleman.

**e.** *To think the world to owe*: to have the highest possible opinion of or regard for.

1894 'L. Keith' *Elsbeth* xvii, She thinks the world of Elsbeth. 1905 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure* ii. 3, She was kept by a Russian Prince, who thought the world of her.

**f.** See Man of the world, Savoir faire, Woman *of the world*, a woman who is experienced in the ways of life or the conventions of society.

1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 132 Girls...boldly staring at all that is going on, and serving themselves, like little women of the world. 1844 Kingsley *Yeast* viii, Presently (though with all the skill of a woman of the world) she shuffled away the subject.

**21.** All the world. **a.** The whole of the inhabited globe; the entire earth or universe).

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Me were leofre þenne al world (etc.). 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 705 Þei al þe world wer min & al þe richesse vnto. *Ibid.* 754 Þei nas prince in al þe world of so noble fame. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conscience* 5974 Pe hill was no hey, þat ȝe wil mouthe Al þe werld se, als me pouthe. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* viii. 32 What profiteth it a man, if he wynne al the world, and nol make perfyt his soule? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 18 þat was þe xthill Alexandire ...þat sete euyn as his awyn all the werd oube. 1420 in Hall's *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. ii. 99 Knowe ye not that Princes thow we all the word Christene and Hethene. *c* 1450 *Myrr. Virgin* (1907) 122 Alle the worlde schalle to-dyve. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 74 Go now way into the feildis, and preiche the Euangell. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 149 All the world's a stage, And all the men and women, merely Players. 1733 Bramah *Phys. Theol.* II. v. (1720) 48 Every where all the World over. 1784 Cowper *Task* i. 698 Such London is, by taste and wealth proclaim'd The first capital of all the world. 1830 Tennyson *Sea Fairies* xi Who can light on as happy a shore All the world o'er? 1833 — *New Year's Eve* 24 In the early early morning...Before the red cock crows...When...all the world is still.

**b.** Everybody in existence; in antithesis to *oneself*, everybody in the community, the public. Against *all the world*: in opposition to or competition with everybody. (= F. *tout le monde*.)

*All the world and his wife*: see Wife *sb.* 2 b.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14495 All þe werld non wit him rijs. 1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7386 þus maysst nat excuse þe with reus [*v.r.* rys], And sey, 'al þe worlde so dous'. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxii. 253 For antecrist and his sial al þe worlde grout. 1406 Audelay *Poems* 2 That al the werld schal have wyttyng. 1523 Cromwell in Merriman

*Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 33 Theire insaciable apetite..33 so manyfest and notorys to all the world. 1588 in *Border Papers* (1849) I. 307 The Kinge .. will maynteine it [sc. religion] to the uttermoste of his power against all the worlde. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 225 Which I, with more, then with a Common paine, 'Gainst all the World, will rightfully maintaine. 1637 Jackson *Hist. tr. Creed* I. xvii. 6 I will faithfully serve her against all the World. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Doctor Dubit.* III. iv. rule 33. 284 The Rogation last fall the world known) was instituted by Mamertus Bishop of Vienna. 1768 Goldsm. *Gentn. Man* i. 4 All the world loves him. 1841 Thackeray *Ch. Haggarty Diam.* xii, A man has no business to place them of paper for all the world to read. 1854 Tennyson *Charge of Light Brigade* iii, Charging an army, while All the world wonder'd. 1879 McCarthy *Donna* Q. I. 60 A woman can be handsome without all the world running after her.

**c.** Everybody in fashionable society; everybody of account.

1813 *Ak. Char.* (ed. 2) I. 59 Oh, all the world's here, the season was never so full. 1816 Shelley *Cenci Richmond* xxvii, All the world . her world and his world—would think it better that they should part. 1877 *Echo* 13 July 1/4 The London Season when 'every body' goes out of town—all the world, indeed.

**d.** Everything in existence: often in intensive emotional use = All that is of value or account *to* a person, something supremely precious.

Cf. quot. 1.82 in a above.

1595 Shaks. *John* II. 464 My life, my loy, my food, my all the world. 1704 Pope *Autumn* 88, I may.. Forsake mankind, and all the world—but love! 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sensib.* xlvi, Now, Marianne, Edward must be himself to be all the world to me. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Ruth* iv, Happiest of all, there was the consciousness of his love, who was all the world to her.

**e.** *For all the world*: in regard to, or taking into consideration, everything in the world; hence, in every respect, exactly (like, etc.). Also occas. *+for all this world, t'in all the world.* (See also 7 *f, b*.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16063 For al he weel, so fiede he. On lyue wolde he not lete be. c 1350 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1214 For alle pe world in swich present gladnesse Was Troilus, and hath his lady swete. c 1386 — *L. G. W. Prol.* 218 For al the world I spak as the dayesye I counterfete it with white lewy lite. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 40 Sic one had he, and sic fair handis tway, For all the world, sic mouth and face, perfay. 1598 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 93 For all the World, As thou art to this houre, was Richard then. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 149 A paltry Ring whose Poesie was For all the world like Cutlers Poetry Vpon a knife. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xi. xiv. I. 349 Thumbe and great toes they have moreover, with ioints like (in all the world) to a man. 1609 Dekker *Guls Horn-bk.* iii. 15 Two narrow paire of staires, like the ascent vnto Saint Giles steeple: windings like those that lead to the top of Powles steeple. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 533 Just, for all the world, as the Phaises are taxed by our Statutes. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* II. iii, As to her singing, she has a shrill, cracked pipe, that sounds for all the world like a child's trumpet. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. v. 87 She.. dressed herself up in such a costume, as to look for all the world as if her set were of a piece with her appearance. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* 3 This city..was for all the world like a rabbit warren.

**22. The whole world.** = 21 a.

1534 Tindale *Luke* ix. 25 What avaunteth it a man, to wynne the whole worlde, yf he loose him selfe? 1557 *Bicle* (Geneva) 1 John v. 19 We knowe..that the whole worlde lyeth in wickednes. c 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* 72 Should all any is in the whole wounde. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 4 He wither parte, as is situat, as frome the hail warldle it war dividit. 1604 E. G[rimeston] *Gregor. Titelm.* II. i. 7 Man . had left him notwithstanding for his lot the whole world besides. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* v. x, It being just so long since he left his parish, and the whole world at the same time behind him. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. viii, Ethel [was] full of glee and wonder, for once beyond Whitford, the whole world was new to her.

**b.** = 21 b.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 62, I had the whole world as myne with all that ever fonce and myght. 1569 J. Rogers *Exam. Godly Lett. in Fulkerches* 37 *Verstegh's Antich.* (1656) 150 The antechrist of all the whole world. 1570 Bu hanan *Admonit.* Wks. (S.T.S.) 22 Se haif oblesit your selfis befor ye haill world to continew in yaitlk wrtew of justice. 1606 Shaks. *Lear* I. ii. 81 I had rather be any kind o'thing than a fellow of no marke nor likelihood. 1773 Foote *Banker's Bill* II. Wks. 1799 II. 122 The wh ole world concur in giving him service. 1918 *Nation* (N. Y.) 7 Feb. 535/2 The whole world is beggaring itself by war.

**V.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

**23. a.** Simple attrib. = 'of, pertaining to, or relating to the world' (in various senses), as *world-age, -architect, -area, -battle, -craft, -day, -egg, -era, -field, -formation, -hero, -home, -maiden, -map, -ocean, philosopher, -power, -principle, -riddle, -sadness, -sea, -sorrow, -stratum, -stuff, -wilderness, -wisdom, -wreckage, -wright*; in certain cases with reference to early cosmogonies, as *world-egg, -mill, -mother, -oak, -tortoise, -tree*.

Some of these are translated from or modelled on G. compounds, as *weltalter* world-age, *weltgemach* world-ease, *weltschmerz, weltsorge*, world-sadness, world-sorrow.

1908 *Ch. Times* 5 June 761/4 Our Lord's teaching..was that the end of the present world-age was at hand. 1877 E. Cady *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 The idea..of a 'world-architect, wh is limited by the character of the material he uses. 1921 Zwemer *Unoc. Mission Fields* Pref. p. vii, The entire "world-area has not yet been wholly covered by the tracks of the explorer. 1892 R. B. Vaughan *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 205 He was a world-saint, for he had a "world-battle to fight and win. 1830 Strickland *Lives Queens Engl.* I. 87 William Rufus..had an abundant share of "world-craft, and well knew how to adapt himself to his father's humour. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind* II. 758 The earliest "world-day light that ever flowed. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The azure serpent..that sloughs its years And buys the "world-eggs in thy brightness. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* iii. 99 The primeval world-egg of Egyptian philosophy, out of which all things have been generated. 1898 J. Martineau *Stud. Christ.* 139 The end of the great World-era of the Lord. 1840 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 72 How great a thing..it is to be entrusted with sowing the "world field with the seed of man. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 918 A part of the "world-formation. In Marg. Fuller *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 27 To implore these "world-heroes', to beware of cant above all things. 1892 H. Cossey *Reform. World to Many an Inquirer* Christian has unguardedly gone down to the "world-level. 1637 Rutherford *Let. to Lady Robertland* 4 Jan. (1671) 905 Pride, & self love, & blindness, & "world-lusts. 1889 R. B. Anderson tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 118 That the "world-mill has a *mundull*, the mill-handle, which sweeps the uttermost rim of the earth. 1900 *19th Cent.* Dec. 991 The "World-Mother looked down through the expanding incense, as through the veil of centuries. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxiv, She had a "world-nausea upon her. 1926 S. Hoops. *Rev. Lett.* (ed. 2) II. 661 You are in the roar and hustle of "world-noises and affairs which make history. 1904 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 295 The "world-oak or cloud-oak of Germans and Scythians. 1891 J. Caird *Spirit. Princ.* tr. *Tiele's Outlines Hist. Relig.* 281 A sea-voyage over the "world-ocean. 1853 Thackeray *Engl. Hum.* iv. 160 Mat Prior, a "world-philosopher of no small genius. 1880 Dyer *Mem. People* 309 He has, like all great "world-powers, a real dignity and majesty. 1912 W. Temple in *Foundations* v. 81 The 3rd A World-principle, the Logos of the Stoics. 1900 *Expositor Third Ser.* IX. 81 Science has shaken the presence of solving the "'world-riddle' by her means alone is a mere echo of youthful enthusiasm. 1901 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 1 s.v. *Persepolis*, The name "Rumi (*World-illuminer*) .. obtains . the poetry of Omar Khayyam, Leopardi, Heine, and Byron. 1853 T. Parker *Theism, Atheism* Introd. 22 All the "world-saints, as well as all the Christian saints. 1896 *Sunday Mag.* Nov. 779 The "World-Saviour. 1868 M. Collins *Sweet Anne Page* I. 185 That "world-stratum called society. 1888 Wheeler *Geol. Table* 41 The Second of the heroes is philosophy—the "world-student with the glow of the distant fields of "world-stuff. 1898 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* I. iv. 16 Scepticism, which is there "world-tragedy. 1898 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 6/3 The Ward-wick Trust. *Lanc.* 177 The great world-tree. *Ysgdrasil.* 1848 *Bailey Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The scope goal of this dark "world-tree. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxiv, The "world-wisdom much has done, and more may do. 1899 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* II. iv, The narrow world-wisdom of this Welsh solicitor. 1908 *Pall Mall Mag.* XLI. 71 The "world-woman in "World-wrekage. a 1720 Prior *Cromwell & Peter* Wks. 1907 II. 267 Your System-Makers and "World-wrights.

**b.** Objective, as *world-bester, -bettterer, -builder, -controller, -creator, -governor, -maker, -monger, -power, -lover, -maker, -monger, -shaver, -stormer, -teacher, -watcher, -worker*; *world-conquering, -embracing, -fearing, -forgetting, -making*; *world-adorning, -alarming, -bettering, -changing, -cheering, -commanding, -compassing, -compelling, -contenning, -cowering, -despising, -devouring, -embracing, -enriching, -forgetting, -knowing, -lifting, -producing, -rejoicing, -renouncing, -reviving, -revolving, -scorning, -shining, -shaping, -subduing, -supporting, -surrounding, -vanishing, -vanquishing, -wasting, -winning* adjs.; *world-despise* vb. **c.** Instrumental, as *world-adored, -despised, -entangled, -fretted, -jewelled, -ridden, -studded, -used, wearied, -worn* adjs.; similative, as *world-deep, -great, -high, -like, -long, -old* adjs.; see also World-wide. **d.** In other adverbial uses, (*a*) 'from or to the world', 'in, about, or over the world', 'to the end of the world', as *world-abiding, -abstracted, -bound* adjs., *dweller, -famed, -famous* [*-unfatherhaired*] adjs., *-flight, -lasting, -owning, -wandering* adjs.; (*b*) 'over the whole world', 'to all the world', as *world-famed, -familiar, -famous, -known, -noted, -renowned, -spread* adjs.; (*c*) 'of or in regard to the world', as *world-rich, +-seely, -sick, -tired, -wearied, -weary* (hence *-weariness*); (*d*) with pl. in sense 7*c*, as *worlds-high* adj.

1876 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 50 The world-wide and world-old. 1908 *Contemporary Rev.* Dec. 728 The world-wide Sin. 1. 7 A "world-abstracted monk in his solitary cell. 1852 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 554 King, conqueror, and minter, World-jobber! 1908 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. 1 Thy wondrous "World-adorning Fruit. a 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xvi. xci, The "World-alarming Trumpets. 1893 *Dowling* U. S. XXII. 1031 The master of Palo Alto believed that the filly would prove to be a "world-beater. 1875 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 376 One should..try to be an improver, a "world-bettterer" (Cambridge slang of my time). 1898 Tolstoi *Tale* 118 That ardent world-betterer T. H. Green. 1877 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 10) 148 Great deeds, great thoughts, great schemes, "world-bettering. 1727 Tate *Sonn.* 2 My "world-bound bark must course an hardier way. 1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* II. 264 He saw us world-bound. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (ed. 2) 99 He has, like all great "world-builders, left behind him traces of his power. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* I, The "world-changing battle of Sedown. 1603 Chettle *Kind-hartes Dreame*, Sig. B, "World-daunting Tay. The Sun, which now doth gild the skie, With his light-giuing and "world-cheering eie. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 90/1 Ladie, Clad like a "World-commanding Potentate. 1881 Max Müller *Sci. Lang.* Ser. ii. (1864) 216 Their "world-compassing migrations. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 5/3 Wartburg, whence Luther's song entered upon its "world-conquering career. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Sonn. Ld. Kinloss* Wks. (Grosart) I. 98/2 Thy "World-contenning Thoughts. 1893 Scott *Quintin D.* viii, How now!..our world contenning daughter—Are you robed for a hunting-party, or for the convent, this morning? Speak. *c* 1648–90 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 33 Jovinll, Jocund, Jolly bowlers, As they were the "world-contrudes. 1866 W. Elliott *Poem* 82 There lies a "world-corrupted friend. 1877 Caird *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 The idea of a "world-creator, for whom the mean can have no existence apart from the end. 1843 Carlyle *Hist. Sk.* II. *Ark* 449 These stormy Seas' deep "World-devouring waves. 1900 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 6/3 The "world disturbing turmoil [in the days of the Reign of Terror]. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xcix. i, "World-dwellers all. 1648 R. I. *Widdrington's Doctr. Imprecations* (1891) 32 The "world-embracing benefits of his [Abraham's] seed. 1897 Kirk *Chr. Tr. 5th Sunt. in Lent* viii, The "world-encircling sun. 1609 J. Davies (Heref.) *Holy Roode* (Grosart) II. 8/2 Ye beauties weepe out your "world-enlightening eies. 1820 Crabbe *Tales* xix. 202 "World-entangled men! 1866 Tarleton in *Misc. Mog. Wag.* 1867 "World-feared Simius of Salamis. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv. 176 A continually devised Beheading Machine, which shall become famous and "world-famous. 1873 Symonds *Grk Poets* xi. 373 One who made the insignificant the subject of his epigrams. 1841 Helps *Ess., Dom. Life* (1842) 58 Ridicule..tends to make a poor and "world-fearing character. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 54 Rose Red and Snow White, a heavenly, "world-forgetting sort of way. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 25 Feb. 104/1 The charm that stillness has for a "world-fretted ear. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. ii. 1. 68 Under this of Royalty . grow mysteriously,..till it also had grown "world-great. 1853 T. H. Lynch *Self-Improvement.* 95 "Young men and others! as self-improvement is to become "world-improvers. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 243 Night comes, "world-jewelled. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Daus.* I. vii, The..well-trained insinuations of his "world-knowing mother. 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 4) 172 "World-leaving thoughts. 1851 Brimley *Ess.* 105 No mantle of which "world-lasting statue..may be known. 1839 Bailey *Festus* 274 It hath a battle hearty, And "worldlifes might. 1877 Caird *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 "Man is (1849) 18 Then shall..the "world-long growth and gathering of this awful mystery be accomplished. 1633 Earl Manch. *At Mount Edgcumb* (1735) 18 The "low-layed mould his hope and happinesse, when he dyes. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 138, I can't find in my heart to deny that skill to a "World-maker, that I would allow to a Tailor. 1892 R. B. Vaughan *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 678 Plato, who admitted a world-maker, and a Providence. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 919 Astronomy, regarding as practical, by the Astronomers. 1888 Peter *Lord's Transfig.* (1730) 7 O.. "World-monger that thou art, hath Christ answered thee in that oth of Matthew 34 Chap 7 1625 T. Adams *Black Devil* 48 Mammon and "world-nobled wickedness. 1898 M. C. Clarke (title) World-noted Women. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1747 The "world-producing Essence, who alone Possesses being. 1664 *Quaker-Condemned* 41, 20 Every one Takes pleasure in the "world-rejoycing Sunne. 1864 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Peloponnese* I. The "world-renowned islands of Greece. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 51 Thou "world-reviving sun. 1727–46 — *Summer* 32 With what an awful "world-reviving power Were first th' unwieldy planets driven athwart the illimitable void! 1593 Lange *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 26 b These "world-riche men. 1848 Eliza Cook *Dreamer* xxvii, The dense "world-sidden brain. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* I. 460 Infer'st thou to man's "world-roving Genius? 1626 *Sir G. Calvert Epitaph* 11. 1 in *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 99, I That have studied with "world-scorning thoughts The way of Heaven. *c* 1805 Lay. 1043 Ps. comest to-somne "world-shifting earth. 1611 Speed *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Ark* 444 "World-shaking Father. 1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* II. 5 Christianity was a world-shaking faith. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* 367/1 The magic and world-shaking events which are associated with the history of the . Parliament of Great Britain. 1866 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 78 I hear them rail Of "world-shaken projectors Are in thy vessell. 1821 Cotton, *Crook-anonym.*, "World-shogging, all-shaking. 1884 R. F. Burton *Bk. Sword* Introd. p. xiii, Their reckonless of all consequences soared "world-high above the various ranges of systems. 1898 *Daily News* 12 *Jan Apost.* (1840) 239 'World-sick, to turn within and linger There Some idol dream. 1886 W. J. Turner *Ecclesiast.* 333 Your "world-spread language. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & Ital. Cathage* 272 The man who, like one of the "world-stormers of more modern times, could carry everything before him. 1892 Hales *Fr. Furnivall* (ed. 3) 19 'Tis authority I seek, beyond the skies. 1858 Brimley *Ess.* 105 Iron, of which "world-subduing machines may be wrought. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* iii, A "world-surrounding sea. 1885 *Spectator* 7 Nov. 1/1 "World-surrounding æther. 1885 R. L. & F. Stevenson *Dynamiter* 166 At one "world-swallowing stride, the heart of the tornado reached the clearing. 1887 Hawker *Lt. Act* viii. 71 I have never seen to have an Empire. He was the "world-teacher not the world-ruler. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. iv. *Decay* 657 "World-tossing Tempest! 1882 Tolstoi *Can. Richmond* xxvi, That dry, time-worn "world-used London lawyer. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* x. 292 Those poore "world-wanting men. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* i. 295 Jove's world-wandering herald, Mercury. 1590 Shaks. *Com. & Jul.* v. iii. 122 Thou 'world-wearied flesh. 1828 Lytton *Alice* II. vi, It was..this singular purity of heart which made to the world-wearied man the chief charm in Kevlyn Cameron. 1858 Faber *Spir. Confer.* (1870) 142 "World-weariness is a blessed thing in its way. 1908 Murphy *Zenobia* I. i. 16 This sad "world-weary spirit. 1878 Swinburne *Brothers* 1140 Night that lulls world-weary day. 1820 Byron *Werner* iv. 1. 412 A world-winning battle. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. vi. (1872) 126 Giant Labour, truest emblem there is of God the "World-Worker. 1826 A. A. Watts *Richmond-Hill* ix, The world-worn man may here repair. 1820 Manning *Serm.* xxi. (1848) I. 320 The wearied and world-worn spirit.

**24.** Passing into adj. : **a.** in comb. derived from OE. compounds of *woruld*, in which this is equivalent to ' of or pertaining to this world, earthly, mundane', as *woruldâht, -god, -þing, -wela* worldly possessions or wealth, *woruldcyning* an earthly king, *woruldscamu* public disgrace (cf. 14 b above), *woruldwynn* earthly joy.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 141 Þet scal beon worldwunne wiðuten pouere. *c* 1200 Ormin 7513, & uss birrþ weorrldlikenn þinngess luste Forrblushenn & forrwerrpenn. *Ibid.* 19079 Off þatt hemm weorrlldlikhtess speddi Wiþ wrasehþ mare & mare. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Gef þu hauest worold wele þu miht þarof wurðliche fare. *c* 1205 Lay. 7345 Freoliche we hit halded wiþ alle weorold kinges. *Ibid.* 8393, & after muchel worldscome wes worldsorhen. **28.** *Moral Ode* 365 (Egerton MS.) Ne scal þer beo' soed ne scrud ne worold wele none. *c* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 382 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 Alle world-ayhte schulle bi-cumen to noubte. *c* 1275 Lay. 28131 Nolleþ hii hit bi-gynne for none worle-þinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13981 Petre and andrew..wit a word bat left scrips stalis, For bat was bair wele and bair world win [*Cott.* worldis win]. **24.** *MS. Sloane* 2593 xlii. 25 in *Herrig's Archiv* (1902) CIX. 60 If þu welde þi worold goodes [etc.]. *Ibid.* If þu worldi good xuld incres.

**b.** With the meaning 'of or pertaining to the whole world, embracing the whole world, world-wide, universal'.

Orig. translating or modelled on G. compounds, as *weltkandel* world-commerce, *weltkrieg* world-war, *weltmacht* World-power, *weltreich* world-empire.

**1839** Bailey *Festus* 53 [Immortality] That is the great world question. **1848** *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 272 Pride and World-Ambition. **1849** Carlyle *Past & Pr.* iii. ii. The World-Dramaturgist has written: *Exeunt.* **1850** Blackie *Æschylus* II. 6 That primeval age of gigantic 'world-strife' (if we may be allowed to Anglicise a German compound). **1852** Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 42 The great World-victor's victor will be seen no more. *Ibid.* 133 In that world-earthquake, Waterloo! **1858** Grote *Greece* ii. xciv. XII. 120 Alexander, had he lived, would..have multiplied..the communications..between the various parts of his world-empire. **1858** Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* v. i. 1. 20 The huge world-conflagration. *Ibid.* v. vi. 94 The Seven Years' Act...of this World-Drama of the Double-Marriage opens. **1860** Pusey *Min. Proph.* 353 Alexander's policy was essentially different from that of the world-monarchies before him. **1864** — *Daniel* ii. 78 When He took away their world-rule, He left them in being as nations. **1864** Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (1866) 99 The two great ideas which sanctified the unity bequeathed to the ages that followed were those of a World-Monarchy and a World-Religion. **1887** *Contemp. Rev.* May 699 With the world price of wheat so much approximating to the cost of production. **1894** A. J. Balfour *Found. Belief* (1895) 3 Looking at the World-problems which..we are compelled to face. **1898** *Q. Rev.* Jan 164 In any serious world-struggle we should be certain to have Russia's sympathy. **1900** *Daily Tel.* 21 Aug. 6/7 We have had thrust upon us a drama played upon a world-stage. **1904** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 4 2 The great British World-Empire. **1905** *Ibid.* 21 Sept. 1/2 The great world-commerce, upon which the very existence of England will depend. **1906** *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 5/9 A world-parliament of the Universal Peace. **1907** *Ibid.* 8 Apr. 4/2 Wheat is the type of dirigible by which in a world-war..360,000 German troops could be transported from Calais to Dover in half an hour.

**25.** Special comb.: **world-divided** *a.*, (*a*) separated from the rest of the world ; (*b*) ' worlds ' apart or asunder ; **world-history** [G. *weltgeschichte*], history embracing the events of the whole world ; hence *world-historic, -historical* adjs. ; **world-language**, (*a*) a language universally read and spoken by educated people ; (*b*) a language for international use ; **world-life**, life in the world, earthly life ; **world-old** [= *world-auld*], as old as the world ; **world-order**, an organized state of existence in this or another world ; **world-policy, -politics** [G. *weltpolitik*], a policy or politics based upon considerations affecting the world as a whole ; hence *world-politician*; **world-revolution**, a world-wide revolution in the social order or in any sphere of activity ; **world-ruler**, a ruler of the (known) world ; **world-soul** [G. *weltgeist, weltseele*], the animating principle which informs the physical world ; **world-spirit**, (*a*) the spirit of the world in its mundane aspects and activities ; (*b*) = *world-soul* ; **world-state**, (*a*) a state comprising the whole world ; (*b*) a state possessing world-power ; **world-thane** *Hist.* [OE. *woruldþegn*], a secular ' thane ' ; **world-view** [G. *weltanschauung*], contemplation of the world, view of life ; so *world-viewer* ; **world-wise**, *a.*, wise in the things of the world, worldly-wise ; **world-worm**, a low creature of earth ; **world-year** (see quot.).

**a 1618** Sylvester *Sonn.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 321 Our little ⁺World-divided Ile. **1743** Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* III. v. 3 Since world-divided Britain owns his sway. **1899** *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 Races world-divided in their range and their social conceptions. **1837** Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. ii. I. Of these ages ⁺World-History can take no notice. **1901** *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 1006 A philosophy of history and civilisation..which holds its ground as the basis both of World-history and Christian theology. **1876** Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxiii, In this romantic ⁺world-historic position of his. **1879** — *Theo. Such* xiv. 255 Something truly Roman and ⁺world-historical. **1889** *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 256/3 The two classical and four great modern ' world-languages '. **1899** *Daily News* 3 July, A German Professor has proposed English as a World-language. *c* 1200 *Ags. Ps.* (Thk) cxiii. 33 [cix. 25] Þet hio ne wunian on ⁺world-life. *c* 1200 Ormin 3980 All þiss worelld-lif iss full Off sinness þeoosterrnesse. *c* 1205 Lay. 32075 Þu sindest mine þæpe..he þe scal scriuen of þine world-liften. **1848** Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 324 With the world thy part is now,..Now labours to live The worldlife of the future. **1840** T. Gordon tr. *W. Meusel's Ger. Lit.* I. 265 The ⁺world-old Oriental idea of the mystic unity of those contrasts which..are all united in God. **1862** Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. i. 7 No modern traveller..has left a written account of this world-old place. **1875** Lowell *Wordsw.* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 357 The world-old question of matter and form. **1846** Trench *Mirac.* introd. (1862) 72 There is a nobler ⁺world-order than that in which we live and move. **1894** H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 38 The Struggle for the Life of Others..[is] engrained in the world-order as profoundly as the Struggle for Life. **1896** *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/3 The Minister again declared that Germany did not think of inaugurating a ⁺'world-policy'. **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Mar. 2/1 A world-partnership with Japan. **1858** Carlyle *Frederk. Gt.* v. iv. 1. 572 Papa [King George I.] and Husband [the King of Prussia] being so blessedly buried in their ⁺World-Politics. **1905** *Daily Chron.* 24 June 4/3 The considerable measure of success which the Kaiser's intervention in Morocco has established is an instructive lesson in the solidarity of world-politics. **1905** *Ibid.* 27 May 3/2 Our Future is on the Sea? Critical Inquiries and Deductions by a German ⁺World Politician. **1832** Carlyle *Reminisc.* (1881) I. 60 The great ⁺world-revolutions send in their disturbing billows to the remotest creek. **1912** G. Elliot Smith *Ess. Evol. Man* I. 6 The great world-revolution inaugurated by the advent of the Age of Metals. **1874** W. P. Mackay *Grace & Truth* 160 We protest against the awful blasphemy of those ⁺world-rulers who used in Germany the old words *N. T.* (R.V.) *Eph.* vi. 12 Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but..against the world-rulers [*κοσμοκράτορας*] of this darkness. **1918** *The Crisis* II. 423 The bombastic vision of the future as it appears to the German World-ruler. **1848** Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 209, I am the ⁺world-soul, nature's spirit in I. **1858** R. A. Vaughan *Hystics* I. iii. 72 The Christian who identifies himself with the spirit of the world-soul. **1850** Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xxi, The ⁺world-spirit can rebuke as sharply as the Spirit which was in John. **1909** Inge *Christian Mysticism* 329 This world-spirit was incarnated in a human life. **1890** Cheyne *Ch. Ch. Catih.* (1892) 25 She prophesies of a ⁺World-State, and laughs at the little fences statesmen put up upon the map. **1900** *Daily Chron.* 1 Nov. 3/2 However desirable may be the lot of a small State among small States, the conditions are changed in a world of world-States. **1906** *Spectator* 17 Nov. 729 Baldormen, Huldes, Hetgerefas, Mæthegnes, and ⁺Weothegnes. **1839** Keightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 85 The mass-thane or clergyman stood on a par with the world-thane or gentleman. **1887** *Encycl. Brit. Stud. Christ.* 1. 1. 2 The general tendency of his [ac. Paul's] mistaken ⁺world-view. **1900** D. S. Cairns *Christ. in Mod. World* v. 233 Christianity, alike in its Central Gospel and in its World-view, has to come to terms with Hellenism. **1862** Geo. P. Thompson in *Bradford Advertiser* 20 Dec. 6/5 More instances will occur to the thoughtful reader of the ⁺world-wise men and world-wise women pa ođere children biwusten. **1845** Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 240 Was he world-wise? **1862** Lytton *Str. Story* xviii. II. 159 Worldly-wise thing. I am a ⁺world-wise man. **1908** *Daily Chron.* 4 Nov. 4/2 The world-wide woman. **1617** Fletcher *Mad Lover* II. i, Away thou ⁺World-worm, Thou win a matchless Beauty? **1826** T. Irving *Bobadil* I. 239 Rear your children to be men, not to be ⁺world-worms to fatten, not to live. **1892** *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 765/1 These Ages were regarded as the divisions of the great ⁺world-year, which would be completed when the stars and planets had performed a revolution round the heavens.

**+ World,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* **a.** To furnish with a world of people ; to people. Also *intr.* with *it.* **b.** To bring (a child) into the world. **1589** Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 222 Þe Gentiles, when Troy was ⁺worlded, Þou win a matchless Beauty? **1826** T. Irving *Bobadil* I. 239 Rear your children to be men, not to be ⁺worlding to fatten, not to live. **1892** *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 765/1 These Ages were regarded as the divisions of the great ⁺world-year, which would be completed when the stars and planets had performed a revolution round the heavens.

**+ World,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* **a.** To furnish with a world of people ; to people. Also *intr.* with *it.* **b.** To bring (a child) into the world. **1589** Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 222 Þe Gentiles, when Troy was ⁺worlded, Þou wilt have

nease worly ! 1500-20 *Dunbar Poems* xii. 13 Welth, warldly glor, and riche array. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, With all my worldly Goodes I thee endowe. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* ii. 94 Then doth all worldelie pleasure past apere..all vanitee. 1617 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* xxvii. 6 Too sone (alace !)..Thy jairt is acted on this wordlie stage. 1691 Milton *P. R.* iv. 153 And thou thy self seem'st otherwise inclin'd Then to a worldly Crown. 1708 Prior *Turtle & Sparrow* 130 Exempt from worldly Hopes and Fears. 1742 Fielding *Joseph Andrews* vii. viii. The parson..persisted in doing his duty without regarding the consequence it might have on his worldly interest. 1784 Burns *'Green grow the Rashes'* iv, Warly cares, an' warly men, May a' gae tapsalteerie, O ! 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlix. Too much a child in worldly matters. 1849 Lever *Con Cregan* xviii, While I wander along...my worldly substance a few dollars. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 246 In point of worldly prudence, his conduct was unexceptionably wise. 1891 Smiles *Character* i. (1870) 8 Indeed, goodness in a measure implies wisdom—the highest wisdom—the union of the worldly with the spiritual.

**† 2.** Of, belonging to, or connected with this world and its inhabitants ; earthly, human, mortal.

*c* 1205 Lay. 6304 Heo wes swiðe wis of worldliche dome. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 58 Pe wyes pat were here worldliche makus. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* iv. 371 Who so wol haue to wyue my worldliche daughter. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Rock.) Pref. 3 Wold God pat pir worldly lordes wer als gude accorde. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xliv, Gif pe be worldly wight, that dooth me sike. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 198 No worldly drede schall me withstande, Pat I schall with be leue and dye. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 55 Is it not ..a monstrous thinge yᵗ no man shulde be founde able to governe a worldly kingdome save Bisshopes and prelates that have forsaken the worlde. 1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 6 Kinges, princes and worldlie rulers did conspire against God. 1583 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iii. (Arb.) 73 Too what ayyle worldlie ruin tourne ? Thow diost consummand vs ? 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 56 The breath of worldly men cannot depose The Deputie elected by the Lord. 1601 W. Perry *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. (Roxb.) 45 *Dru.* I had a husband once, but he has left mee. *Aru.* A worse then myne the wordly eye beholds not. *Dru.* A worse then myne the heauenly eye enfolds not. 1614 J. Davies in W. Browne *Sheph. Pipe*, etc. G 4 b, Of world, the worly men take thou no keepe. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 193 God did not make the world or worldly things, that the heapes..of them should set forth to us his allsufficiency.

**† b.** Of the whole world, universal, general. *Obs.*

1538 Cromwell, in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 153 Ye do thus dishonnyatye thus Realme, that they shall..ye have ..the wordely rebuke that they might incurre hereafter. *a* 1550 *Vox Populi* xi. 38 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 410 There is no smale nombre That this faute dothe incumbre : Yt is a worldly wonder.

**c.** Of the terrestrial globe. *rare.*

1812 Cary *Dante, Purgat.* i. 40 [The sun] comes ; and, to the worldly way, best guides Its temper and impression.

**† 3.** Of or belonging to the world (as distinguished from the church or the cloister) ; secular ; *occas.* = lay. *Obs.*

*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 7 Mar., 56 He forlet þa weorna and þa worldlican wisan and eode on þæt mynster. *c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 191 Bi colour þat crist was þus worldly lord, perfore þei schulden haue þus seculer lordischipis bi heritage of crist. *c* 1390 in *Wyclif's Wks.* (Wycl. Soc. 1902) 145 A curat and an officer in worldly seruise. *a* 1400 Hymn to *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) i. lxii, It may be that there is many a wyf and many worldlyche woman shall be nerer god than thou. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4530 It folowith not that they Shulde..her soules leese, That hem to worldly clothes chese ; ..Men may in seculer clothes see Florishen booly religion. *a* 1500 *Bernard de Cura rei Fam.* 1. 4 Sum [books] maist for law of god in document, And obir sum for vardly regiment. *c* 1500 *Melusine* lviii. 376 There he herd the deuyne seruyse deuoutly but neuer he ne he nys worldly gouerned. 1580 Jewel *Apol. Ch. Eng.* 56 b, What other be the Abbots at this day in yᵉ Popes kingdome, but worldly Princes ? 1658 in Morris *Troubles Catholic Pref.* (1872) I. xv. 315 All the same [of the flesh], whether the devotion be worldly people came in to see the harm which the waters had done us.

**4.** Of persons, their actions or attributes : Devoted to the world and its pursuits.

*c* 1330 *Cast. Love* 983 Pe worldli is mon euere iliche Loueþ þing þat is worldliche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 210 Alle þoȝtes vleysliche and wordlieche me sel dizte vrom be herte. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 84 Worldly prelatis ful of coueitise symonye & lecherie. *c* 1410 Love *Mirrour* xxxii. (1908) 153 Worldely men and fleschely. 1570 Goode *Pop. Kingd.* ii. 20 Besides more worldly minded they louse, and of more wantton cheare, Than wholy men. 1612 Shaks. *Temp.* i. ii. 89, I thus neglecting worldly ends, all dedicated To closeness. 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 803 The conjured also..Thenceforth shall practic how to live secure, Worldlie or dissolute. 1693 Penn *To Clerk of Exeter* 56 You far above Both these Your God did place ; That Your high Row'r might worldly Thoughts destroy. 1785 Burns *Ep. Lapraik* xx, Aiwa, ye sell-ish, wary race Frae Right and Truth ! 1811 Lytton *Eugene A.* i. 1 The worldlier passions are the growth of mature years. 1860 Hawthorne *Transformation* xii, It is the surest test of genuine love, that it brings back our early simplicity to the worldliest of us. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 218 A man who is trying to serve two masters is a worldly man. 1900 Violet Jacob *Sheep-Stealers* xi, The 'Green Dragon' ..was the point of migration to the worldly part of the county, just as the Cathedral was the point of migration to the spiritual.

**5.** *Comb.*, as *worldly-witted* adj. ; **† worldly-handed** *a.*, occupied in worldly or secular employment ; **worldly-minded** *a.*, having a worldly mind, having the thoughts set upon the things of this world (hence **worldly-mindedness**).

1637 J. Watt *Vind. CA. Eng.* 256 You have brought us to be 'worldly-handed men, handy-crafts-men. 1602 *Song of Mary* in Farr *Sel. P., Eliz.* (Parker Soc.) II. 426 The world disdaines them ! And why ? because they are not worldly-minded. 1611 *Bible* Luke xiv. (heading), Vnder the parable of the great supper, sheweth how worldly minded men, shalbe shut out of heauen. *a* 1638 [see Unhumbled *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1688 Preston *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 36 **Worldly mindednesse*..begets coldnesse of affection. 1798 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. iv. § 4. 205 Men..carried from Worldly mindedness to Heavenly-mindedness. 1849 Longf. *Kavanagh* vii. Prose Wks. 1886 II. 313 Evil propensities, and selfseeking, and worldly-mindedness. 1863 *Homilies* II. *Inform. Princes Script.* I. 8 Sa þ, And some 'worldlye witted men, thynke it a great decayse to..their common wealthes, to geue ear to the simple, precepts of..Christ. 1845 Mrs. Norton *Child of Islands* (1846) 168 The shallow craft of worldly-witted fools.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Worldlify** *v. trans.*, to render worldly ; **† Worldlihood**, worldliness ; **Worldlily** *adv.*, in a worldly manner ; **† Worldlyship**, worldliness.

1612 T. James *Jesuits' Downf.* 57 When religion was once "wordlefied in him, and that state-matters..had so great a part in his studies. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iii. vii. 359 The personis..were religiose men, forsaking uicios of worldli hode and of fleischlihode. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng., Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 122 Hired and "worldlily-interested advocates. 1. Hoon *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubt's of F.* 6 He began to reconsider *worldlihy* and suspiciously all the incidents. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 151 And his worldli dedis..was a lasse to him þan his goostli dedis. 1611 Bible *Num.* xxii. 18 Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 197 [A] lowering of religious tone to the level of the worldly-religious world around. 1864 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 339 They embrace and sanctify every form of worldly-personal consequence. 1896 Black *Briseis* xvii, Worldly-pious waverings.

**Worldly-wise** (stress variable), *a.* Wise in a worldly manner or in worldly affairs ; *transf.* of actions or attributes. Also *adv.*

*c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* i. 45 Worldly wys is goodly nys. *c* 1415 *Crowned King* 85 Þou most be worldly wys & ware be-tymes. 1540 Coverdale *Fruitf. Less.* To Rdr. (1593) 3 b, Thise worldlie wisedome laughed to scorne of the vnexperte, proud, worldly wise. 1562 Pilkington *Expos. Abdyas* E e ij, The ee Edomites..picked oute..the worldly wisest men, thei coulde finde to be their counsellers. 1657 *tr. J. C.* Richardson *Grandison* II. xiii. 97 It was now, in the worldly-wise way of thinking, become his interest to keep the peace. 1727 Gay *Beggar's Op.* iii. Peachum's *Canta Gaudi Wind.* i. 485 The friars with worldly-wise Ken sidelong glances. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* iv, The lads.. imposed on by the cynical and worldly-wise tone which their..uncle assumed.

**b.** *Worldly wiseman* (cf. Wise man) : a worldly-wise man ; now only with allusion to the character so named in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress.* So **† *worldly wiseling*** [-ling].

1590 Lodge *Catharos* (Hunter. Club) 22 Oh worldly wiseman, you are willing into the narrow of matters. 1620 Donne *Serm., Ps. exliv.* 15 (1640) 749 Not onely a worldly wiseman, but a Christian wiseman may reach out both hands, to both kinds of blessings, spirituall and temporall. 1641 H. More *Exp. Dan. Pref.* 30 The worldly Wiselings who for carnevcal ends decry all pretence to the understanding of Prophecy and its mysteries. 1678 Lye *VIII.* 434 There worldly wisemen sold the damaged beast.

**World-man.** [OE. *woruldman*, f. *world* World *sb.* + Man *sb.*1]

1. A man of this world, a human being.

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1016 Woruldmonna see unclæne þrycced. 1340 *Ayenb.* 210 *Worldmen* [*Worldlyche men* tuinlen woruldlmen hatað wenes þisla. *c* 1805 Lay. 28231 Nulleþ [hii] bit biginne for nane weorld-monne [*later text* worle-mannes].

1852 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 341 The hero is the world-man, in whose heart One passion stands for all, the most indulged.

**† 2.** A man who is devoted to this world ; a worldling. *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 881 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise world men. 1601 Br. W. Barlow *Eagle & Body* (1609) E 2 b, An infallible note, he will not say of a reprobate, but certainly of a worldman, not yet regenerate.

**World-power.** [After G. *weltmacht.*]

1. The power of 'this world' (as distinguished from the spiritual world) ; secular power.

1866 Baring-Gould *Curs. Myths Mid. Ages, Antichr. & Pope Joan* 159 Christ will descend to avenge the blood of the saints, by destroying Antichrist and the world-power. 1884 *Expositor* Feb. 89 To crush the heathen world-power, and thereby abolish idolatry.

2. Any of the powers (nations, empires) that dominate the world.

1901 B. Harrison in *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 184 If the World Powers have acy recognized creed, it is that it is their duty as 'trustees for humanity' to take over the territories of all the weak and decaying nations. 1904 J. Gardner in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xiii. 472 The foundation of England's greatness as a world-power.

**† World-riche.** *Obs.* Also **4 worldesriche.** [OE. *woruldrice* : see World *sb.* and Riche *sb.*] 'The kingdom of the world'.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 130 Þa ne linde ænig of þæm worldrice. *c* 1200 Ormin 11800 Purrh þatt te lake gast himm band All weoreldlicnes ahhte. *c* 1205 Lay. 17182 Swa wid ȝam is weorlde-riche nis naan weore, bi ilicche. 1290 Gower *Conf.* I. 306 To seche in al this worldesriche, Men schal noght finde upon his liche. *Ibid.* II. 339, I hadde hir levere than a Mym Of Gold for al this worldesriche Ne mihte make me so riche As sche.

**† Worldship.** *Obs.* [OE. *woruldscipe* : see World *sb.* and -ship.] Worldly things.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 130 Nele nan Godes þeow hiene selfne to unzemetlice þebindan on worldscipum. *c* 1200 Ormin 1633 Swillc lifiss all þwerrt ut dæd Þra weoreldlikess lustess.

**Worldward** (wɜ·ldwǣd), *adv.* (*a.*) [f. World *sb.* + -ward.]

1. (orig. *to the worldward*) In regard to the world ; in worldly respects.

1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* 11. 29 Although I be rich and honorable to the worldward. 1587 — *De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 283 Considering man what hee is to Godward, to the Worldward, to Manward and to himself. *a* 1617 Bayne *Lect.* (1634) 248 Such as live worldward just, but have no care of religion. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* i. vi. (1640) 82 Be not Hypocrites, satisfied with some externall shew of religiousnesse, and orderly living to the world-ward. 1652 J. Reading *Guide Holy City* 216 Another man riseth in honours..another is many waies prosperous to the worldward.

2. Towards or in the direction of the world.

1642 Rogers *Naaman* 45 Thoughts that were roving heiward, worldward, and hellward. 1865 Lowell, *Thoreau* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 368 Emerson..has drawn steadily manward and worldward

B. *adj.* Directed towards or facing the world.

1857 J. Hamilton *Lectures fr. Gt. Bridg.* 261 Over his general and world-ward conduct he will be filled with prevailing satisfaction. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* Oct. 464 Such vanities had a worldward tendency. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* May 76 They chose a bungalow from the world outside To keep their worldward door for them.

So **Worldwards** *adv.*, in respect of the world.

1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 5) 79 Thy church,—One, universal, and invisible Worldwards, yet in heaven united itself.

**World-wide** (stress variable), *a.* [f. World *sb.* + Wide *a.*] 'As wide as the world' ; extending over or covering the whole world.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 71, I had the ground to be a pillow, and the world-wide fields to be a chamber.

1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 125 The world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* i. 899 The world-wide throes Which went to make the population. 1862 Worcester, *World-wide*, coextensive with the world ; as, 'World-wide fame'. 1877 C. Gibbon *Christ* lvii. (1879) 693 The Jews thought Christ would raise Israel to world-wide supremacy. 1898 Birmingham *Shropshire Lad* xiii, The world-wide air was azure. 1901 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 183/1 The problems he undertook to solve were world-wide.

b. as *adv.*

1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 294 Where in caves live the world-wide known gipsies.

Hence **World-widely** *adv.*, **World-wideness.** *nonce-wds.*

1897 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/1 World-widely famous. 1900 *19th Cent.* July 37 Don Sturzo's ambitions are Cæsarean in their world-wideness.

**† Worldy,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. World *sb.* + -y 1.] (The difficulty of writing *-ldl-* correctly makes it probable that some examples are errors for *worldly.*)] Worldly.

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 5202 Pan scholdest þow of al þis lond be kyng, And y by quene, my swete lyng, & by worldy make. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. ix. 139 Worldy deayes she clerely dyd subdue. 1520 Thynne *Eph.* vi. 12 For we wrestle..agaynst power, and agaynst worldy rulers of the darckes of this world. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 4 Nathing in this life appeirit worthy ony mans hart.

**Worley, worlie,** var. forms of Wurley.

**Worling,** var. Warling *Obs.*

**Worm** (wɜm), *sb.* Forms : **1 wyrm, 3, 5–6** Sc. **wirm(e, (3 wirm, 5 wyrme, 6 Sc. virme) ; 1–3 worm, 3–5 worme ; 1–4 wurm, (3 wurem, *Orm.* wurrm, 3, 5 wrm) ; 6 wourme, Sc. wirme, 6–7 woorme, 4–7 worme, 3– worm.** [OE. *wyrm* (= Northumb. Ir. Gr. *wirm*), WFris. *wjirm*, NFris. *wurm*, Du. *worm*, OSax. *wurm*, OHG. *wurm* (MHG., G. *wurm*), ON. *ormr* (Sw., Da. *orm*) ; the stem of Goth. *waurms* ὄφις is uncertain. Related to L. *vermis* worm, Gr. *ῥόμβος, βόμβος* wood-worm.

In this word, as in Worse and Wort, the spelling *wo* is an early graphic substitution for *we* (cf. ME. *twol, twolle, wonder*, for OE. *twulf, wull, wunder*), and this again is a reversion from OE. *wy* (i.e. *wi*) to the unmutated vowel through the influence of the following *r*. More normal developments of OE. *wyrm* appear in the ME. (eastern and Sc.) *wirm* and (south-eastern) *werm.*]

**1.** A serpent, snake, dragon. Now only *arch.* *Beowulf* 2483 Þa se wyrm onwoc. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxxii. 24 Ic sende wiideorn teð on hi mid wurmum & nad-

drum. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 321 He..Wente in to a wirme, and tolde sua a tale. *c* 1290 *St. James* 179 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 29 My Drake þur-spon a grin þeon comincle huy seije.. Anon hadde þis lubere worm is powwer al lieue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5896 Pan tok aaron þis ilk yaird, And on þe flore he beat it don, And it became a worme felon. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 790 Sumwhyle wyth wormes he werrez, & with wolues ale. 1366 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 66 Whi wolde God vr sauueour suffre such a worm in such a wrong wyse be wonnen to bigyle? *c* 1425 *Partenay* 2859 The serpent fill don dede.. Which worme was ny ryght ten hole feete of lenght. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxviii. 4 When the men off the countree sawe the worme hange on hys honde. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 243 Hast thou the pretty worme of Nylus there, That killes and paines not? 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1068 O Eve, in evil hour thou didst give eare to that false Worm. 1797 Fore *To Mr. John Moore* iii. That ancient Worm, the Devil. 1798 W. Hutchinson *View Northumb.* ii. 162 The Laidley Worm of Spindleston Heughs. 1800 Coleridge *Task* vi, 780 The mother sees, And smiles to see, her infant's playful hand Stretch'd forth to dally with the crested worm. 1857 Morris *Jason* v. 258 Therewith began A fearful battle betwixt worm and man.

†2. Any animal that creeps or crawls; a reptile; an insect. *Obs.* In ME. often *wild worm.*

Cf. *blind-worm, slow-worm* (a lizard); also *galleyworm, glete-worm.*

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* i. vii, Froas comon..swa fela þæt man ne mihte..nanne mete æcryrwan, þæt þara wyrma nanre ænlela þæm mete, þe hi æton, ne forswulge. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Deut.* iv 18 Ne wyrce þe ouw..nane anlicnyssa.. ne fugeles, ne wyrmes [*reptilium*], ne fisces. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 [per wuniеh forme wormes inne [read: adders, toads, frogs and crabs]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 þe scorpiun is ones cunnes wurm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2982 Dis wirmes [frogs and toads] storuen in þe stede. *c* 1325 *Sir Orfeo* 252 (Sloan) Now seþ he nobing þat him likeþ, Bot wilde wormes bi him strikeþ. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 112 Briddes and beestes..And wilde wormes of bestes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 27 If Cow or Calf or Sheepe or Oxe sterile That any worm hath ete or worm ystonge. *Ic* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* v. 127 Thus were these wormes [the frog and mouse] contrary of liyyng. 1598 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxxii. 21, I will cause cruell wormes (or flyes) to come vpon the. 1561 Holyband *Hom. Apoth.* 37 Cantarides..are grene wormes shewing with a glosse lyke golde. 1598 Florio *Worlde* ii. xxxii. 196 This herbe dryueth away.. the stinking wormes or Mothes called Cimici. 1785 T. Washington *tr. Nicholay's Voy.* ix. viii. 41 b, Certaine small flying wormes, which with their billes and stinges picking the other figs, sodainely after they are picked, they come to a good and perfect ripenesse. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* 1. 28 b, Where with his hooke of Yuorie, The fellow that did dig, Turnd vp a toade, a loathsome sight, A worme exceeding big. 1667 Milton *P. L.* vii. 476 At once came forth whatever creeps the ground, Insect or Worme. 1804 Wordsw. *Prelude* xiv. 274 The meek worm that feeds her lonely lamp Couched in the dewy grass. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* iv. 545 Ye beasts and birds, Ye worms, and fish.

†b. Applied (like *vermin*) to four-footed animals considered as noxious or objectionable. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1573 Lions & Libardes & other laithe wormes. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* (Arb.) 100 Alas ne growleth of thyse foule nyckers [*sc.* young marmosets].. I sawe neuer fowler wormes.

‡3. A member of the genus *Lumbricus*; a slender, creeping, naked, limbless animal, usually brown or reddish, with a soft body divided into a series of segments; an earthworm. More widely, any annelid, terrestrial, aquatic, or marine.

Also with defining term, as *dew, earth, ground, lug, mud, pipe, rag, rain, sand, sea, tag, tails, water*: see the words.

*a* 1100 *Leech.* in Wr.-Wülcker 1705/35 *Vermis, wyrm.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. cxv. (1495) hh i b/2 Some ben water wormes and some ben londis wormes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 44 Maladeckis, þat ben wormes of þe eþe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Wyrme, *vermis.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 b, Lyke as the worme yt is crusshed or poysoned, many tymes after lyfte vp his hed. 1530 Palsgr. 209/2 Wormes in the erthe, *vers de terre.* 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 A marrishe is to be preferred before a dry ground, that bringeth forth great store of diggs vp wormes. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* iv. i. 79, I neuer..trolle vpon a worme against my will, but I wept for't. 1731 in *Gent. Mag. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 369 The slimy Tribe of Snails and Worms. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 144 We now are in doubt whether he means a real worm, or a young animal of the lizard species. 1840 Newman *Parock. Sermn.* V. viii. 128 Leaving their way upwards through the dust of the earth. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 166 Pectinaria Belgica..is an Annelid, or true worm. 1864 Gosse *Mar. Zool.* i. 81 The Sea-mouse (*Aphrodita*) is one of the most common as well as the largest of our Worms. 1881 Darwin *Form. Veget. Mould* i. 23 Worms are nocturnal in their habits.

b. Prov. *Tread on a worm and it will turn*: i.e. even the humblest will resent extreme ill-treatment. Also in variant or abbreviated forms, e. g. *Even a worm will turn.*

Cf. *Fr. un ver se recquille bien quand on marche dessus.*

1548 Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 32 Tread a wourme on the tayle and it must turne agayne. *a* 1548, 1641 [see Turn v. 66 d]. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, ii. ii. 17 The smallest Worme will turne, being troden on. 1611, 1641 [see Turn v. 59 c]. 1691 S. Shaw *Diff. Humours Min* 18 He has scarce the courage of a Worm, to turn at him that treads upon him. 1818 [see Wound v. 3]. 1850 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Livings.* 245 It exhausted the patience of the much-enduring Willis; so that the worm turned again—insolently. 1864 Browning *Mr. Sludge* 72 Tread on a worm, it turns, sir! If I turn, Your fault!

†c. *Naked as a worm*: entirely naked (= F. *nu comme un ver*), or in allusion to this. *Obs.*

*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 454 Nakid as a worme was she. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 804 Lat me but haue a worm go by the weye. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Flight of Mary* 291, I walke as werm with-outyn wede. *a* 1467 [see Naked a. 1 b].

†d. *To look wormes*: ?to peer narrowly (*through*). *Obs.* (But perh. a corrupt reading.)

*c* 1600 *Timon* i. ii, I'le make the[e] looke wormes through the prysen grates, Valesse thou satisfie to me my debt.

4. Any endoparasitic helminth breeding in the living body of men and other animals. Usu. *pl.* (formerly often with *the*). Also, the disease or disorder constituted by the presence of these parasites.

The numerous kinds are indicated by a defining term, as *Ascarid, Cucumber, Guinea, maw, palisade, pin, round, tape, thread*; see these words.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 120 Wiþ þam wyrmum þe innan eglað þam men. *c* 1300 *Bibl. Poems* 2013 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 Fol of wormes was in flesch. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xii. 23 And he wastid of wormes, deiede. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 466 Als lang as he lifid after, wormes & mawkis bred in his flesch & eten it away. 1566 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij b, A medecyne for wormes called anguellis. 1823–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 103 The wormes is a lyght dysease, and they lye in the greatte paunche, in the belye of the horse, and they are shynynge, of colour lyke a snake, syxe inches in lengthe. *a* 1530 J. Heywood *Play of Love* 676 (Brandl) Wherby loue is a disease Where I'ue lules for wormes, for it driueth hyter swete. 1630 Randolph *Aristippus* 25 The King of Russia had died of the wormes, but for a powder I sent him. 1852 W. Pole *Country Banker* 32 To cure the Worms, or Bottes that doe wring his belly. 1865 *Golden Coast, Guinea-worm* To There is a kinde of long Worm, that ariseth in the Legs, Arme, and Thighe of some men, that cause blister. 1905 Bosman *Guinea* xiii. (1721) 194 The National Diseases here are the Small-Pox and Worms. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* (1736) 413 Children subject to Worms ought not to live much upon Milk, Cheese, or ripe Fruits. 1822 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 365 In an attack upon worms, brisk cathartics should always take the lead. 1826 J. Evans *Anti-Emetic* 41 Sometimes the juice of the leaves dropped in the ears killeth the worms in them. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxxvi. 534 A dose of santonin often produces results which will astonish the mother of worms.

5. The larva of an insect; a maggot, grub, or caterpillar, esp. one that feeds on and destroys flesh, fruit, leaves, cereals, textile fabrics, and the like. Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

With defining term prefixed, as *book, cadelle, cankerworm, coat, fruit, grain, leather, mealworm, meal, silk, skin, span, tobacco, wheel, white, wire*: see these words.

*a* 1200 *Riddles* xlviii, 3 Mec þæt þulre wrætlicu wyrd..þæt se wyrm fret, and þa word sumes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Wiluten salt fleshes gederes wormes..& forroten sone. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10045 Þo grene corn in somer sseilde curne, To soule wormes muchelnel þe eres gonne turne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1612 Pat ilk ern [eagle] be ever-lastandes worm [*Ic* in the manna]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxiv. (Tollemache MS.) In winter þe tender leues þerof beþ eten with stark wormes and with oþer wormes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* *To Sir John Old-castle* 166 The worm for to sleen in the pesecod. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* iv. 963 Now pike out roughthes, & wormes, and buttesflies with þat. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 98 What the cross dire-looking Planet smites, Or hurtful Worm with canker'd venom bites. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 230 Books are subject among other Chances to fire, and the Worme. 1697 *Rector's Bk. Claymorth* (1910) 25, I observed wormes in the Timber of the Church. 1725 Pope *Iliad* xi. 174 The Worm that gnaws the ripening Fruit. 1797 in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 Wheat never plants kindly after a thin crop of clover; but is subject to the worm, and to be root fallen. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 239 The crawling worm, that turns a summer-fly. 1842 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakesp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 308 Boys love hell..no hell like the old yellow accounts to decompose in damp and worms. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xii, The worms have eaten the cloth a good deal. 1857 Kingsley *Lect.* (1877) II. 41 The office of worms in this world is pretty evenly shared between the celestial powers: faction. 1884 J. Parn *Dict. Apicult.* 78 When worms are spoken of by the ordinary beekeeper, the larvæ of the bee-moth are almost always meant. 1888 *Tobacco* 68/2 Of insects Worms, in the American phraseology, here generally known as caterpillars, are the *bête noire* of the tobacco grower.

*Mg.* 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* iv. iii, Some worm of sin, Which in the moght, the worme that eateth vp the riche men. 1860 Peter *Min. Prophs.* 287 Nothing can man have so pleasing, green, and flourishing, but worms will creep in, before he be aware. 1881 Rimbault *Pict. Church Music* 15 Men whom worm prepared by God, whereby, in the dawn, it may be smitten and die.

b. In larva or grub of many kinds of beetles, destructive to trees, timber, furniture, etc. (Cf. *g* and *wood-worm* (Wood *sb.*1 10 b).)

*a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 121/35 *Termes, uel teredo,* wyrm þe borad treow. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 576 Right as wormes shenden a tree. *c* 1450 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 70 Iff wormys wex in a tre. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* ii. xiv. P 5 As the wormes do brede moste gladly in sotte wode and swete. 1580 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 154 As the worme that wydderis quhen he is leuch[e]n the tre consumis thot is duire. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxiv. I. 530 As touching the Worme, some trees are more subject unto it than others; as the Cedar, Cypresse, *Ibid.* v. (ed. 1) 72 Foure Diseases that sometimes happen to Fruit-trees, Mosse-inese, Bark bound, Canker, and Wormes. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farmer* 44 The Worm is very apt to get between the Bark of this Wood after it is fell'd. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 236 Worms ate the floors, the tap'stry fled the wall. 1925 C. J. Cohan *Furniture Beetles* 5 Furniture or.. wood-work..destroyed by what is commonly known as *the* worm —little six-legged, white grubs which live inside the wood, devouring it and turning it to powder.

6. *contextually.* A silkworm.

*a* 900 *Leiden Riddle* 9 Uyrmas mec ni aueſun uyndi-craftum. 1559 W. Cuningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 196 In this country breed the Wormes which make silk. 1599 T. M[oufet] *Silkewormes* 53, I thinke that God and nature thought it meete, The noblest women on nobles tree to feede. 1604 Shake. *Oth.* iii. iv. 73 The Wormes were hallowed, that did breede the Silke. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* iv. ii, An especial good yeare of silke: the Worm never spun a finer thread. 1634 Milton *Comus* 715 Spinning Worms, That in their green shops weave the smooth-hair'd silk. 1707 Curiosities *Husb.* 220 It is good to let the [Mulberry] leaves be clear of Dew or Rain before you give them unto the Worms. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 59/2 As these moulting periods approach, the worms lose their appetite and cease eating.

6. A maggot, or, in popular belief, an earthworm, supposed to eat dead bodies in the grave.

*a* 900 *Juliana* 416 Þæs lichoman sceþe on legre sceal weorþan in worulde wyrme to hrohor. *a* 1000 *Saul & Body* 114 Wiþ readuuá reðe wyrmas. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 13 We beoð wiðuten al swa ße deade mannes þruh, þe is wiðuten liwiesd, and wiðinne stinkende and full of wermes. *c* 1250 *Death* 137 in *O. E. Misc.* 189 Þe wormes nimeð þe [*Jesus MS.* wurmes] wunien wiðinne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14 121 Wormes biginnes at ete him nu. *a* 1400 *Minor P. Vernon MS.* 661/144 Wormes wolle him gnawe. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 37 b, Thou shalt haue no power to fele the stenche of thy body, nor howe the wormes shall vske thy totes knees. 1548 *Gest. Rom.* (Roxb.) VI. 164 My soull to God my maker, and my bodie to the wormes. 1580 *Bible* (Geneva) Job xix. 26 Though after my skin wormes destroy this bodie. 1611 Bible (Authorized Version) Job, Haue died from time to time, and wormes haue eaten them. 1611 *Bible* Job xxiv. 20 The worme shall feed sweetly on him. *a* 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 274 Three months after, his bodie went to the wormes. 1796 M. G. Lewis *Monk* (1796) III. 63 (*Alonzo the Brave* xiii, The worms they crept in, and the worms they crept out, And spotted his eyes and his temples about. 1824 Southey *Life & Corr.* (1849) IV. 135 Some of our party told me of a third [grave], in which the worms were at work, but I shrunk from the sight. 1890 W. Watson *Grand Style Lyric & Love Lyric Amaranth* 52 Life is a feast, and we have banqueted—Shall not the worms as well?

*proverbially.* (Cf. Shaks. *Ham.* iv. iii. 21–3.) 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., He is gone to the diet of worms, he is dead and buried, or gone to Rot-his-bone.

b. *fig.* as one of the pains of Hell (Mark ix. 48, Isa. lxvi. 24).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 48 Aworpen on helle fyr, þar hyra wyrm ne swylt. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Þe wormes þat ne swilt sunes. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Wiluten salt fleshes gederes wormes..& forroten sone. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10045 Þo grene corn in somer sseilde curne, To soule wormes muchelnel þe eres gonne turne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1612 Pat ilk ern [eagle] be ever-lastandes worm [*Ic* in the manna]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxiv. (Tollemache MS.) In winter þe tender leues þerof beþ eten with stark wormes and with oþer wormes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* *To Sir John Old-castle* 166 The worm for to sleen in the pesecod. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* iv. 963 Now pike out roughthes, & wormes, and buttesflies with þat. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 98 What the cross dire-looking Planet smites, Or hurtful Worm with canker'd venom bites. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 230 Books are subject among other Chances to fire, and the Worme. 1697 *Rector's Bk. Claymorth* (1910) 25, I observed wormes in the Timber of the Church. 1725 Pope *Iliad* xi. 174 The Worm that gnaws the ripening Fruit. 1797 in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 Wheat never plants kindly after a thin crop of clover; but is subject to the worm, and to be root fallen. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 239 The crawling worm, that turns a summer-fly. 1842 Emerson *Repr. Men, Shakesp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 308 Boys love hell..no hell like the old yellow accounts to decompose in damp and worms. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xii, The worms have eaten the cloth a good deal. 1857 Kingsley *Lect.* (1877) II. 41 The office of worms in this world is pretty evenly shared between the celestial powers: faction. 1884 J. Parn *Dict. Apicult.* 78 When worms are spoken of by the ordinary beekeeper, the larvæ of the bee-moth are almost always meant. 1888 *Tobacco* 68/2 Of insects Worms, in the American phraseology, here generally known as caterpillars, are the *bête noire* of the tobacco grower.

*Mg.* 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* iv. iii, Some worm of sin, Which in the moght, the worme that eateth vp the riche men. 1860 Peter *Min. Prophs.* 287 Nothing can man have so pleasing, green, and flourishing, but worms will creep in, before he be aware. 1881 Rimbault *Pict. Church Music* 15 Men whom worm prepared by God, whereby, in the dawn, it may be smitten and die.

b. In larva or grub of many kinds of beetles, destructive to trees, timber, furniture, etc. (Cf. *g* and *wood-worm* (Wood *sb.*1 10 b).)

*a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 121/35 *Termes, uel teredo,* wyrm þe borad treow. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 576 Right as wormes shenden a tree. *c* 1450 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 70 Iff wormys wex in a tre. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* ii. xiv. P 5 As the wormes do brede moste gladly in sotte wode and swete. 1580 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 154 As the worme that wydderis quhen he is leuch[e]n the tre consumis thot is duire. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxiv. I. 530 As touching the Worme, some trees are more subject unto it than others; as the Cedar, Cypresse, *Ibid.* v. (ed. 1) 72 Foure Diseases that sometimes happen to Fruit-trees, Mosse-inese, Bark bound, Canker, and Wormes. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farmer* 44 The Worm is very apt to get between the Bark of this Wood after it is fell'd. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* iii. 236 Worms ate the floors, the tap'stry fled the wall. 1925 C. J. Cohan *Furniture Beetles* 5 Furniture or.. wood-work..destroyed by what is commonly known as *the* worm —little six-legged, white grubs which live inside the wood, devouring it and turning it to powder.

c

Shaks *Mcch* IV II 33 How will you lure? *Son* As Birds do Mother *Wife* What with Wormes, and Flyes? 1670 Ray *Prov* 84 The early bird catcheth the worm 1813 Sporting in *Monthly Lean Zool* IX 128 The old birds feed them with small worms, caterpillars and insects. 1836 [Hooton] *Bib rey Thurland* III 195 As brisk as a robin wi worms 1864 Browning *Dram Lyrs, Ladham* 51 The pie with the long tongue That pricks deep into oakwarts for a worm 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* I. vi, As the early bird catches the worm

**b.** as bait for fish.

Also with defining term prefixed, as *caddis, dew, dug, lob, lug red*, etc. see these words

c 1390 *Cast Love* 1109 As fish bat as wi hok inomen, Pat wha be worm he swolowep alast, He is bi pe hok istrd fast 1520 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W de W) D 3, *Lumbrici*, a worme or an angle twache 1566 *Nottingham Rec* IV 130 Digging doune the comon dycke for getting of wormes. 1604 Shaks. *Ham* IV III 28 (Qo 2) A man may fish with the worme that hath eate of a King, and eate of the fish that hath fedde of that worme. 1620 34 Peacham *Compl Gent* xx (1906) 258 For your live baits they are wormes of all kinds especially the red worme 1657 T Barker *Barker's Delight* (1659) 42 For the Barbell, I have taken great ones in Ware river with wormes, for I know no better bait than wormes. 1826 Worcr (P Pindar) *Treats, Whgr Dunciad* wks I Patient men, upon the rivers side, Who for a dinner throw the worm or fly *collect sing* 1909 W C Plarts *Light Lines* 89 There may be no particular skill required in catching a few trout with worm in coloured water

**9** A name for various long slender crustaceans and molluscs (e g. *Teredo navalis*, the ship-worm) which destroy timber by boring Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

Formerly supposed to be a grub or larva of sh and Insecta See also *ship worm* (Suppl 2) 1 Esr xvIII 2621 in *Foster Imp Tractor ex Ind* (1906) 314 She being a new ship, only spoyled with the worm e. 1691 T Hale *Acc New Invent* 7 Sundry Hulls of the Majesties Ships against the Worm 1774 E Long *Jamaica* III 749 This tree having been found to stand the sea water very well, uncorrupted by the worm, which is not able to penetrate it 1864 Browning *Dames Lect's Wife* II III Some ships safe in part indeed, Rot and rust, Run to dust All through worms: the wood

**10.** *fig.* A human being likened to a worm or reptile as an object of contempt, scorn, or pity, an abject, miserable creature

c 825 *Vesp Psalter* xxi 7 Ic soplice eom wyrm [*vermis*] & nales mon c 1200 Ormin 4870 Ic unnn an wurrm & nohht man mann 1340 *Ayenb* 215 Ich am, pe wurm, a lite wurm, and no man 1400 Maundev (Roxb) Pref 1 In pat land he wall suffer hard passioun and dede of pe Jewes for to synfull wormes. 1591 *Troub Raigne K of Iohn* (Kolbi) II 45 Saith that wickede worme, Wicklyf be his name, begun to sowe the seed of crasme in the erthe c 1450 tr *De Imitatione* III iv (7), I am but a poore creature, and an abiecte worme. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III xiii § 9 O Christ the wickedest worme that euer went vpon two legge 1598 Shaks *Merry W* v v 87 *Fal* Wilde worme, thou wast ore look'd euen in thy birth 1649 Massinger *Dk Milanne* II iv, G 4 b, If I am dull now, may I liue and dye The scorne of wormes & slaues a 1660 Dupa *Rules & Helps Devout* (1675) 26 A Dignity that makes poore worms of the Earth to a kind of equality with the Angels themselves 1730 Pope *Ess Man* I 258 All this dread Order break—for whom? for thee? Vile worm! 1859 Jeaffreson *Book Clubs* II, From his exceeding manfulness , Wroth to be wroth at such a worm 1864 Tollopr *Small He Allington* xxvii, Poor reptile, wretched worm of a man! 1880 Hersart *Will Sorts* vii (1898) 67 The meanest amongst us poor worms of earth 1906 *Introduction to Sally* iv. 51 In the presence of her loveliness, what a mere mincing worm he was

**b** Similarly *the son of a worm* (after Job xvii. 14).

1633 Shirley *Gamester* II (1637) D 1, He that affronts Me, is the son of a worm and his father a Wh ore 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Mr Mill who is a worm, and the son of a worm.

**†c.** With qualification expressing tenderness, playfulness, or commiseration A human being, 'creature'. *Obs* (In 16th c. esp. *loving worm*)

Cf *G das arme wurm*, applied to a child.

a 1513 Dunbar *Reyart* II 11 (1508) Ane Vea and he is aa louing a worme against us a dene 1561 Honv tr *Castiglione's Courtier* II K 3 Thus he vsed they would bee contented to louynge wormes, and make meane e auene them lyues, and fonde flatterers 1568 Fenner *The will to Like* A 3 b, Yet are women kinde wormes I dare well say 1593 G Harvey *Pierces Super*. Wks. (Grosart) II 247 Apiemus Asse was a cunning Ape, a louing worme 1610 Shaks *Temp* III 1 31 Poore worme thou art infected 1625 Fletcher *H Thomas* I, I, *al* How do's his father? *Hol* As well as worm can ever be was 1640 H Jonson *Staple of Newes* V III, There bee sits like an old worme of the poeste.

**††d.** Used like Caterpillar 2, for One who preys on society *Obs.*

1591 Greene *N talle Disc Coosnage* Wks (Grosart) X 30 The seruing man sent with his Lo les treasure, lo oth oftimes most part to these worms of the comons wealth 1633 *Castle Women* v 1 in Bullen *O Pl* IV 308 Lords, and these wormes of kingdomes be destroyed. [Cf. 1595 *ante* the cutterpillers of the state.]

**e** *slang* A policeman.

1865 *Slang Dict* 872 *Worm*, the latest Slang term for a policeman.

**11.** *fig* A grief or passion that preys stealthily on a man's heart or torments his conscience (like a worm in a dead body or a maggot in food); esp the gnawing pain of remorse. Cf. Canker-worm 2

Sometimes 'the worm that never dies' (as in 6 b)

a 900 *Andreas* 769 Brandhata nið weoll on ærwttie, woorm blædum fag. c 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's I* 280 The worm of conscience. 1560 *Ane Wanton* 281 (Manly) The worme of my conscience, that shall neuer dye, Accuseth me dayly more and more. 1578 H Wotton *Courtlie Controv* 143 Euery man read easily in his face that some secret worme gnawed vpon his accustomed rest 1594 Shake *Rich III*, I III 222 I the Worme of Conscience still begnaw thy Soule 1623–6 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* III iv, I will hardly buy a capcase for this conscience tho I keep it from the worm 1727 Pope *To Mr John Moore* vii, Their Conscience is a Worm within, That gnaws them Night and Day 1733 Dr Delite *Cf Pathos* xiv, While in this manner he secretly nursed the worm of grief that preyed upon his vitals. 1813 Byron *Br Alydos* II xxvii, And, oh! that sping where more than madness lies! The worm that will not sleep—and never dies. 1826 Hazlitt *Plain Speaker* I Wks. 1903 VII 106 We secretly persuade ourselves that there is no such thing as excellence It is that which we look above all things. It is the worm that gnaws us, that never dies. a 1865 J Gibson in T Matthews *Biog* (1911) 56 Nor did I feel the worm of envy creeping round my heart whenever I saw a beautiful idea skilfully executed by any of my young rivals.

**†b.** A whim or 'maggot' in the brain; a perverse fancy or desire; a streak of madness or insanity. Often *wild worm* (cf. 2). *Obs.* (So G. *wurm*)

1530 Palsgr *Lesclarc* 301 (Brandl) He hath wyld worm in his coma into his hed, so that by reason only he is led a 1530 J Heywood *Play of Love* 678 (Brandl) Our louer, in whose head Is a fruitye worm his opinion is lyed a 1548 Hall *Chron Hen* V 44 Some private Sorpion in secret hidden or some wild worme in your heades hath caused you to conspire my death and confusion *Ibid*, *3 Rich III* 42 The wilde worme of vsurped honor crept in his head. 1608 Chapman *Gent Usher* IV 50 But a Father Would rather eate the brawne out of his armes Then shut the mid worme of his loue in a coarse kinde coate 1609 Dekker & Webster *Sir Thomas Wyatt* I 305 (Brandl) The wild worm of his loue is a seuere Iudge, so that by reason only he is led a 1530 J Heywood *Play of Love* 678 (Brandl) Our louer, in whose head Is a fruitye worm his opinion is lyed a 1548 Hall *Chron Hen* V 44 Some private Sorpion in secret hidden or some wild worme in your heades hath caused you to conspire my death and confusion *Ibid*, *3 Rich III* 42 The wilde worme of vsurped honor crept in his head. 1608 Chapman *Gent Usher* IV 50 But a Father Would rather eate the brawne out of his armes Then shut the mid worme of his loue in a coarse kinde coate 1609 Dekker & Webster *Sir Thomas Wyatt* I 305 (Brandl) The wild worm of his loue is a seuere Iudge, so that by reason only he is led a 1530 J Heywood *I lay of I ove

h. A long spiral or coiled tube connected with the head of a still, in which the vapour is condensed
1641 FRENCH *Distill.* I (1651) 25 Put it into a Copper Still with a worme. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2386/4 Six Backs, several Stills and Worms. 1737 A. COOPER *Distillers* (1760) 4 A subsequent Treatment of the fermented Liquor by the Alembick or hot Still, with its proper Worm and Refrigeratory. 1883 C. E. LAMBOUCH' *Prophet Of Smoky Mts* xv, They cut the tubs and still to pieces, destroyed the worm, demolished the furnace. 1887 *Manch. Exhib. Catal* 939 Samples of Whisky Model Still and Worm

i. A spiral heating flue in a furnace or cooled steam pipe in a boiler.
1758 [DOSSIE] *Elaboratory Laid Open* 9 Another great error in the building furnaces, particularly those for hartshorn pots, or sand pots, is the making the fire round the object, to be heated, in a vermicular fleW, or worm (as it is commonly called), as the principal force of the fire is exercised on that great mass of brick work, which forms the worm. 1796 *Museum Rust* VI 299 They [*sc* two caldrons] may be set in the open fire, without any flaw or worm round them, as an oven like furnace. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 371 The steam is either admitted into the copper by a perforated pipe, or it is made to circulate within it through a closed coil or worm

j. A spring or strip of metal of spiral shape
1794 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1318/2 A Steel Worm or Rowling Spring, to be used in hanging of Coaches. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Archt. Jrnl* III 228 This cutting instrument performs its operations with wonderful precision, frequently cutting a large and continuous shaving of thirty or forty feet in length which, curling up, forms a curious and per fect worm or screw

IV 17. *attrib* and *Comb* a. gen, as *worm-kind, trabe*, objective, as *worm breeding* adj, instrumental, as *worm-cankered, -consumed, -gnawed, -gnawn, -spun, -worn* adjs, dative, as *worm-eaten, -rype*, parasynthetic, as *worm shaped* adj
1611 FLORIO, *Vermifero* . . . *Worme-kind* 1837 HOWITT *Rural Life of England* II 7 *M & K* 6 Thou art no sabbath drawler of old saws, Distill'd from some "worm-canker'd homily. 1828 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mount Sacrif* Wks. (Camden) 1855 I 181 Worm-consumed Corse. 1793 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epistle to the Ivy* 76 The wise Parisians muck her "worm gnaw'd shrine. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II *Babylon* 491 Th old, rusty, mouldy, "worm worn words of your. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat Hist* VIII 166 Animals of the "worm kind being entirely destitute of feet. 1618 COTGR., *Vermifornes*, two "wormes resembling pears. 1593 NASH *Christs T* Wks (Grosart) IV 176, I am the vnworthiest of all "worme reserued wretches. 1893 Q (Quiller Couch) *Delect Duchy* 213 A glance at the "worm riddled rafters. 1893 J. STRONG *New Era* 21 247 Then in vain "worm rype piety, once in favor. 1767 *Phil Trans* LVII 430 When it is extended it is of a "worm shaped figure. 1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf Insects* 384 The larvæ are wormshaped. 1902 *The Enchanted April* ix 138 Mrs Fisher had never cared for macaroni, especially not this long, worm-shaped variety. 1883 NADIE *Carrel's* I Wks (Constable) IV 314 Though we glister it never so in our "worme spunne robes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat Hist* VIII 5 This may serve to distinguish them [*sc* caterpillars] from the "worm tribe. 1820 PHARO *Eye of Battle* 119 Sleep in Honour's "worm worn bed. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* lviii Worm worn volumes.

b In sense 8 b, as *worm-ing, bait, jam, -hook, -poke, -tackle, tin, -worm bobber, -catcher, catching, fisher, -fishing, hunter, hunting, -worm-embowelled* adj.
1909 W. C. PLAYFE *Lady Fisher* 83 Scouling a rise the mead says, with his rod and his "worm bag, to the tee. 1840 PULMAN *Rustic's Sk* 48 O the Ave the only kind of "worm that use I is the blackhead or bluehead. 1844 J. T. HEADLEY *Parsons & Wid* II 82 Not a mere "worm bobber—cannot throw a fly or spin a minnow. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat Hist Brit Fishes* 11 A short gentleman like you, sir, would never make a "worm catcher. 1881 *Athenæum* 30 Apr 594/1 Mr Wills flere'd to luck against Frank Buckland a long legged and long armed friend on any night at "worm catching. 1868 DAY *Hum and of Breath* I [11] B 3/1 And see if any silver coated fish will nibble at your "worme-embowelled hooks. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat Hist Brit Fishes* 10 A "worm fisn at Nottingham 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp* 115 The "worm fisher ought always to possess a stock of it (hat's hon most). 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing Yarns* 64 The worm fisher has his spot handy when the streams are in spate. 1840 PULMAN *Rustic's Sk* 48 "Worm fishing is follwed with greatest success during the season of mowing grass. 1857 W. C. STEWART *Pract Ang, &c* vii (ed 3) 57 Fly fishers are apt to look with worm fishing. 1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 64 This is a very large Fly, and is to be made upon a small "Worm hook. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *North Angler* 12 In Carlisle we speak of large worm, middle sized small worm hooks. 1865 A. S. MOFFAT *Salt Angling* 165, If the "worm hunter only takes care to tread softly upon the bosom of his mother earth. 1850 *Science Gossip* XXVI 139 The worm hunter will turn over every likely stone or rubbish heap which comes in his path. 1850 *J. alnegat* X 348/2 He employed himself in the "worm hunting for a considerable time. 1850 W. LAUSON *Comm on* J. Dennys *Seer Angling* Note 13 *Worme* pokes of cloath. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp* 108 In preparing "worm tackle. 1906 *Macm Mag.* Apr 417 The rod, basket, and the "worm-tin.

c In sense 4, as *worm colic, -disease, -fever, -sickness*; also in names of remedies, as *worm-cake, -lozenge, medicine, powder, -preventive, -syrup, tea* also *worm killing* adj
1773 *Pennsylv Gaz* 23 June Suppl 2 His never failing "worm cake, which destroys that vermin so pernicious to children. 1788 J. HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 202 His worm cake and his pills. 1810 JAMES *Mililt Dict* (ed 3), "*Worm cholic*, a distemper in horses, occasioned by broad, thick, and short worms or truncheons. 1898 DUNGLISON *Med Lex* (ed 7) *Helminthiasis*, "worm disease. 1798 J. TOWNSEND *Journ Spain* II Index, "Worm fever. 1899 *Syd Soc. Lex*, *Worm fever*, PYREXIA consequent on the irritation set up by intestinal worms. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I Wks. 1799 I 164 You "worm killing, blistering, glister-ing, 1818 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I xxvii. If Mary had taken some of her nice "worm lozenges. 1889 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* VIII 2/2 The popular "worm lozenges. 1798 J. PURCELL *Choice* (1714) 177 Two Girls were seized with most violent Cholicks which no Clysters, Purges or "Worm Medicines could appease. 1799 *Med. Jrnl* II 251 Recommendations of some newly-branded worm medicines. 1707 POPE in *Miscellanies*, 10 Mr John Moore Author of the celebrated "Worm-Powder. 1880 GARROD & BARTER *Mat Med* 447 The "worm preventives are medicines which give tone to the intestinal membrane. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm sickness* a severe disease occurring among sheep in Holland, set up by the fly *Lucilia sericata*. 1773 *Annapolis Gaz* 30 June 3/3 A new invented "Worm Syrup. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem Mat Med* (ed 3) II 1478 A preparation kept in the shops of the United States, and much prescribed by physicians, under the name of "*worm tea*, consists of spigelia root, senna, manna, and savine mixed together

d In sense 16 g, as *worm drive, -gear, -gearing, -jack, -pinion, rack, -screw, -shaft, -spindle, -thread, -wheel*.
1907 *Westm Gaz* 19 Nov 4/2 This machine retains the silent "worm-drive. 1884 *Bham Daily Post* 24 Jan 1/1 Wanted, to-ton Foundry Ladle, extra strong with "worm gearing. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Cowpit*, "*Worm gearing* has an arrangement for transmitting circular motion at right angles in direction. 1904 MEREDITH *Dict Mining* 128 Worm gearing is used in connection with steering apparatus. 1877 MOXON *Mech Exercises* III 37 Fig 2 is called a "Worm Jack. 1913 F. YOUNG & ASTON *Complete Motorist* (ed 8) 177 A worm driven axle and the "worm pinion is under-cut. 1851 *Century Dict.*, "*Worm rack*, a rack gearing with a worm wheel. 1877 PLANSTEED in Rigaud *Corr Sir Ken* (1841) II 172 In this machine each wire is fixed by the help of which and a worm screw, the pitch of which might be raised or d pressed easily. 1835 URE *Philos Manuf* 278 The toothed wheel, a red on by the worm screw 1892 *Mateer Trav* 141 The "worm-shaft is a central worm screw working in four cranks on pillars. 1899 USE *Dict Arts* 372 3 rews or "worm shafts, which are placed so as to work in parallel lines (for example, rollers in a spinning mule). 1677 MOXON *Mech Exer* iii 45 That the teeth of the Worm wheel may gather themselves into the "Worm Screw. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-spindle* 1901 *Lon Prize Week* (ed 3) 43 All its gas he e laid down relating to the practical screw, do suppose that the axis of the worm spindle be in the plane of the wheel to work. 1923 *Lamb Tool Mak* 332/2 The "worm thread and the teeth in the strip are square and of great strength 1677 "worm wheel (*see worm spindle* 1. 1892 *Cent Dict* 3 A *Worm Wheel* 1. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-wheel*, the portion of which a worm taking into a worm wheel. 1905 *Chamb Jrnl* May 332/1 An ideal clip for hose connections based on the worm and worm wheel principle.

e In sense 16 h and similar applications, as *worm cooler, -maker, pipe, refrigerator, safe, tank, tub*
1812 *Ann Reg., Chron* 35 A large "worm cooler, which is continually supplied with clear water. 1793 4 *Nat Inquis Philos* (Dutch) 2 Pewterers. "A Worm-tub. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-pipe* 1850 *Parl in La v Times Rep* X 81/1 The coal is put into a common gas retort to which is attached a "worm pipe, through a refrigerator. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-safe* 1850 *Parl in La v Times Rep* X 81/1 The coal is put into a common gas retort to which is attached a "worm pipe, through a refrigerator. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-tank* 1850 *Parl in La v Times Rep* X 81/1 The coal is put into a common gas retort to which is attached a "worm pipe, through a refrigerator. 1899 *Syd Soc Lex*, *Worm-tub

& Simmonds *Engl. Commerc. Corresp.* 285 Buffalo hides except rubbed, holed, or wormed, cannot be laid down at all near your limit. 1895 *Bookseller's Catal.*, Some few margins are wormed, but this can be repaired at a trifling cost. 1900 *Trans. Highland & Agric. Soc. Scot.* Ser. v. XII. 235 It might have been suspected that part of the thinness [of the oats] at one end of the plot was due to worming.

**b.** To eat (one's way) *through*. (Cf. 9 c.)

1858 Masson *Milton* I. 481 There were men who had wormed their way through libraries, and might be classified according to the colours left in them by the food they had devoured.

**II. 3.** To extract the 'worm' or lytta from the tongue of (a dog). [Supposed to be a safeguard against madness: see WORM *sb.* 13.]

1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 369 It shall be good when spaniell whelpes are one moneth olde...to worme them vnder the toung. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* I. 6 A dog not wormed while he is young, will in time grow mad. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. vii, *Fit.*... Hee Will screw you out a Secret from a Statist — *Com.* So easie, as some Cobler wormes a Dog. 1641 Pecham *Compl. Gentl. of Pleasure* For as puppy-dogs may have your dog worm'd, and so be kept from running mad. 1743 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 3 Oct., Patapan is in my lap: I had him wormed lately, which he took heinously. 1813 Scott *Guy M.* vii, The...weasel...had the laird in his sporting parties, wormed his dogs, and cut the ears of his terrier puppies. 1855 Browning *Protus* 50 He wrote the little tract 'On worming Dogs'.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* (as a remedy for madness, a ribald tongue, or greediness).

1564-78 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 62 You learned your Mr Cooke in the vniuersitie of Cridcewell: you were in ner well wormed when you were a young...boy. 1589 Nashe *Pasquiles Apologie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 77 The blood and the humors that were taken from him, by launcing and worming him at London vpon the common Stocks. 1619 *Day Parliament* I. iii. 335 Abishai desiring leave ..to go and worme that unhappy Tongue of his (Shimei's). 1629 R. Harris *Drunkard's Cup* 9 He lang, and cannot be still till his tongue be wormed. 1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* IV. i, Is she grown mad now? Is her blood set so high? I'le have her madded, I'le have her wormed. 1623 Massinger & *Middleton* III. ii. G 3 When I had worm'd his tongue, and trussed his hanches. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* I. 12 He is such a floward testy old fellow, he should be Worm'd like a mad Dog. 1679 J. Ward *Diary* (1839) 137 A certaine woman that eat much before her husband, and hee complained of her to her mother, shee told him at was her fault, for she had not worm'd her.

† **c.** *To worm a person in to the secret* : to extract information from him by adroit questioning. *Obs.*

Cf. F. *tirer à quelqu'un les vers du nez.*

1612 *Treas. Anec. & Med. Times* IX. xxii. 951/2, I have so cunningly wormed my husband in the nose ; that he hath discovered vnto me, more Mony then hee acquainted you withall.

**4.** To rid (plants, esp. tobacco) of 'worms' or grubs.

1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* v. 172 Wormes in the earth also there are but too many, so that to keepe them from destroying their Corne and Tobacco, they are forced to worme them euery morning. All or vnlo be destroyed. 1641 [cf. Worming *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1649 W. Bullock *Virginia* 11 The poore Seruant goes daily through the rowes of Tobacco stooping to worme it. 1727 J. Carver *Treat. Culture Tobacco* iv. 23 This is termed 'worming the tobacco'. 1864 De Colt *Cotton & Tobacco* 274 The plants ought to be wormed—which means searched and cleared of worms —at least once a week.

*absol.* 1886 C. G. W. Lock *Tobacco* 69 The usual practice is to worm and sucker while the dew is on in the morning.

**II. 5.** To pry into the secrets of (a person); to play the spy upon. *Obs.*

1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman-Hater* III. iii, O he is a very subtile and a dangerous knave, but if he deal a Gods name, we shall worm him. a 1618 — *Wit without Money* IV. iv, I'le teach you to worm me, good Lady sister, and peep into my privacies to suspect me. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 41 You have...a Lay-presbytery to worme your Purposes and Consciences. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* v. 211 Spies with eye askance, Pretended heretics who worm the soul.

**6.** *To worm* (a person) *out of* : to deprive or dispossess of (property, etc.) by underhand dealing. ? *Obs.*

1617 W. Fennor *Compters Commo.* 10 It was onely a trick to worme him out of his money. 1649 [J. Daniel] *Trimarch., Hen. IV* xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worne from the Storye, though worn'd out of it. *Eng.* a 1700 H. L'Estrange *Worm'd out of* Rookt, Cheated, Tricket. 1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion...that they ] intly contriv'd to worm us out of this Money. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

**7.** *To worm out* ; to thrust out, get rid of, expel, by subtle and persistent pressure or undermining.

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. ii. 33 I have tried to get the losing worme my daughter, and will see whether fansie can worme fansie out of her heard. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. 30. 67 It is a riddle to me, how this story of Oracles hath not worm'd out of the World that doubtful conceit of Spirits and Witches. *a* 1668 Hexlin *Laud* I. (1671) 46 He did not only crack his Colledge with such a generation of Non-conformists as could not be wormed out in many years after his decease ; but [etc.]. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 127 The industrious Portugeze, whom they have wormed almost out of all their discoveries in India and Africa. 1683 in J. Wickham Legg *Eng. Ch. Life* (1914) 115 A Temper, which must Inevitably...Worme out once againe the Common Prayer. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm*, to work one out of a Place, &c. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 271 He who has the handsomest address...in worming others out of business, and winding himself in. 1748 E. Eberyne *Serm.* (1755) 332 The Venom of the Old Serpent has diffused itself through all the Powers and Faculties of the Soul and Body ; and it is worming out your Life. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 114/1 Such a body of troops a...in time might be able to worm out the English from the trade of Bengal. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, ...also to undermine, or supplant. 1812 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Bachelor's Complaint*, Innumerable are the ways which they take to insult and worm you out of their husband's confidence.

**8.** *To worm out* : to extract (information, a secret, etc.) by insidious questioning. Similarly const. *out of* or *from* (a person).

1713 Addison *Drummer* II. i, I fancy, thou could'st worm it [a secret] out of her. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, to obtain the knowledge of a secret by craft. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. Tr., the World* iv, I do not want to worm your secret from you. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 36, I ...Who've loosed a guinea from a miser's chest, And wormed his secret from a traitor's breast. 1849 Thackeray *Catherine* xi, Old Wood knew all her history... He had wormed it out of her, day by day. 1844 A. Smith *Mr. Ledbury* xx. (1859) 60 He was able...to worm out a description of the locality. 1853 Lytton *Hy Nevel* x. xx, By little and little our Juvenile Talleyrand...worm'd out from Dick this grievance. 1865 Cowden Clarke *Mable. Char.* iii. 68 He contrives by various means to let the king worm from her his secret. 1866 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* v. 62 The judge ordered one of his peasants to visit the man, and to worm the truth out of him. 1900 'Anthony Hope' *Quisanté* I. 24 She could not get much out of him, but she found herself trying to worm out all she could.

**b.** To extract (money, etc.) *out of* (a person) by pleading.

1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, They make the labourer fancy that he is not to depend upon God and his own right hand; but on what his wife can worm out of the good nature of the rich.

**9.** *intr.* To move or progress sinuously like a worm ; also *transf.* of things. Usually with adv., as *about, along, up, down*, or prep., as *in, into* (a confined space). Also, to move windingly *through*; to twine or twist *about* (something).

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Triumph* xxiii, Thousand flaming serpents hissing, And wormling all about his sooty thighs. 1802 G. Colman *Br. Grint, Vicar Bron.* (1839) 118 He (a drunk man) work'd, with sinuosities, along, like a serpent. 1807 Wordsworth *Sonn. Liberty* II. 1846 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xx, I little like that smoke which you may see worming up along the rock above the canoe. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls of the King*, Through vean and buried mountains...have we wormed Down to the ever burning forge of fire. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 139 They wormed through serpent-like passages, and within fifty feet of the pillar-pits. 1885 *Cricket* 19 Aug. 111/1 The procession...moved off in a straggling manner....Once in order, however, the ruling was excellent, and a very presentable line wormed through the streets. 1898 Rudyard Kipling *Stalky & Co. Interlude Campaign* xvi, The caves and their passages worm about inside the kopjie.

**b.** *refl.* In same sense.

1865 Grose *Land & Sea* 255 So, kneeling,...or fairly stretched at full-length supine, ; we worm ourselves into the holes and crannies. 1899 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 200 He wormed himself into the little passage. 1907 Agatha Christie *Big Four* viii. 107, I crawled cautiously out of the bushes, and inch by inch...I wormed myself down the path.

**c.** With advb. acc., as *to worm one's way*. Also of figurative progress (cf. next).

1820 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 309 Fistulous ulcers...have sometimes...wormed a sinuous path, and opened into the vagina. 1840 Longfellow *Hyperion* III. *Ch. Temple, Church-Rents* ii, But when debates and fretting jealousies Did worm and work within you more and more, Your colour faded, and your cheek grew pale. 1841 — *Poems* II. 18 *Voices* iii. 39 A number of newspaper-venders...are worming their way through the crowd. 1869 Trollope *He Knew, he was Right* (1878) 38 That snake in the grass who wormed his way into my house. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* vii. 117 The screw...rushed round, worming its angry way through the long quiet waves.

**10.** *fig.* To make one's way insidiously like a worm *into* (a person's confidence, secret affairs, etc.) ; to burrow *in* so as to hurt or destroy. Also, to wriggle *out of* (a difficulty).

1607 P. Fletcher *Locusts* iv. xxi, To comply With that weake sexe, and by fine forgerie To worme in womens credit, and their trust. 1649 [J. Daniel] *Trimarch., Hen. IV* xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worne from the Storye, though worn'd out of it. *Eng.* a 1700 H. L'Estrange *Worm'd out of* Rookt, Cheated, Tricket. 1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion...that they ] intly contriv'd to worm us out of this Money. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

**7.** *To worm out* ; to thrust out, get rid of, expel, by subtle and persistent pressure or undermining.

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. ii. 33 I have tried to get the losing worme my daughter, and will see whether fansie can worme fansie out of her heard. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. 30. 67 It is a riddle to me, how this story of Oracles hath not worm'd out of the World that doubtful conceit of Spirits and Witches. *a* 1668 Hexlin *Laud* I. (1671) 46 He did not only crack his Colledge with such a generation of Non-conformists as could not be wormed out in many years after his decease ; but [etc.]. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 127 The industrious Portugeze, whom they have wormed almost out of all their discoveries in India and Africa. 1683 in J. Wickham Legg *Eng. Ch. Life* (1914) 115 A Temper, which must Inevitably...Worme out once againe the Common Prayer. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm*, to work one out of a Place, &c. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 271 He who has the handsomest address...in worming others out of business, and winding himself in. 1748 E. Eberyne *Serm.* (1755) 332 The Venom of the Old Serpent has diffused itself through all the Powers and Faculties of the Soul and Body ; and it is worming out your Life. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 114/1 Such a body of troops a...in time might be able to worm out the English from the trade of Bengal. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, ...also to undermine, or supplant. 1812 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Bachelor's Complaint*, Innumerable are the ways which they take to insult and worm you out of their husband's confidence.

**8.** *To worm out* : to extract (information, a secret, etc.) by insidious questioning. Similarly const. *out of* or *from* (a person).

1713 Addison *Drummer* II. i, I fancy, thou could'st worm it [a secret] out of her. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, to obtain the knowledge of a secret by craft. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. Tr., the World* iv, I do not want to worm your secret from you. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 36, I ...Who've loosed a guinea from a miser's chest, And wormed his secret from a traitor's breast. 1849 Thackeray *Catherine* xi, Old Wood knew all her history... He had wormed it out of her, day by day. 1844 A. Smith *Mr. Ledbury* xx. (1859) 60 He was able...to worm out a description of the locality. 1853 Lytton *Hy Nevel* x. xx, By little and little our Juvenile Talleyrand...worm'd out from Dick this grievance. 1865 Cowden Clarke *Mable. Char.* iii. 68 He contrives by various means to let the king worm from her his secret. 1866 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* v. 62 The judge ordered one of his peasants to visit the man, and to worm the truth out of him. 1900 'Anthony Hope' *Quisanté* I. 24 She could not get much out of him, but she found herself trying to worm out all she could.

**b.** To extract (money, etc.) *out of* (a person) by pleading.

1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, They make the labourer fancy that he is not to depend upon God and his own right hand; but on what his wife can worm out of the good nature of the rich.

**9.** *intr.* To move or progress sinuously like a worm ; also *transf.* of things. Usually with adv., as *about, along, up, down*, or prep., as *in, into* (a confined space). Also, to move windingly *through*; to twine or twist *about* (something).

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Tri.* I. xxii, Thousand flaming serpents hissing, And wormling all about his sooty thighs. 1802 G. Colman *Br. Grint, Vicar Bron.* (1839) 118 He (a drunk man) work'd, with sinuosities, along, like a serpent. 1807 Wordsworth *Sonn. Liberty* II. 1846 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xx, I little like that smoke which you may see worming up along the rock above the canoe. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls of the King*, Through vean and buried mountains...have we wormed Down to the ever burning forge of fire. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 139 They wormed through serpent-like passages, and within fifty feet of the pillar-pits. 1885 *Cricket* 19 Aug. 111/1 The procession...moved off in a straggling manner....Once in order, however, the ruling was excellent, and a very presentable line wormed through the streets. 1898 Rudyard Kipling *Stalky & Co. Interlude Campaign* xvi, The caves and their passages worm about inside the kopjie.

**b.** *refl.* In same sense.

1865 Grose *Land & Sea* 255 So, kneeling,...or fairly stretched at full-length supine, ; we worm ourselves into the holes and crannies. 1899 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 200 He wormed himself into the little passage. 1907 Agatha Christie *Big Four* viii. 107, I crawled cautiously out of the bushes, and inch by inch...I wormed myself down the path.

**c.** With advb. acc., as *to worm one's way*. Also of figurative progress (cf. next).

1820 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 309 Fistulous ulcers...have sometimes...wormed a sinuous path, and opened into the vagina. 1840 Longfellow *Hyperion* III. *Ch. Temple, Church-Rents* ii, But when debates and fretting jealousies Did worm and work within you more and more, Your colour faded, and your cheek grew pale. 1841 — *Poems* II. 18 *Voices* iii. 39 A number of newspaper-venders...are worming their way through the crowd. 1869 Trollope *He Knew, he was Right* (1878) 38 That snake in the grass who wormed his way into my house. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* vii. 117 The screw...rushed round, worming its angry way through the long quiet waves.

**10.** *fig.* To make one's way insidiously like a worm *into* (a person's confidence, secret affairs, etc.) ; to burrow *in* so as to hurt or destroy. Also, to wriggle *out of* (a difficulty).

1607 P. Fletcher *Locusts* iv. xxi, To comply With that weake sexe, and by fine forgerie To worme in womens credit, and their trust. 1649 [J. Daniel] *Trimarch., Hen. IV* xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worne from the Storye, though worn'd out of it. *Eng.* a 1700 H. L'Estrange *Worm'd out of* Rookt, Cheated, Tricket. 1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion...that they ] intly contriv'd to worm us out of this Money. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

**7.** *To worm out* ; to thrust out, get rid of, expel, by subtle and persistent pressure or undermining.

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. ii. 33 I have tried to get the losing worme my daughter, and will see whether fansie can worme fansie out of her heard. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. 30. 67 It is a riddle to me, how this story of Oracles hath not worm'd out of the World that doubtful conceit of Spirits and Witches. *a* 1668 Hexlin *Laud* I. (1671) 46 He did not only crack his Colledge with such a generation of Non-conformists as could not be wormed out in many years after his decease ; but [etc.]. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 127 The industrious Portugeze, whom they have wormed almost out of all their discoveries in India and Africa. 1683 in J. Wickham Legg *Eng. Ch. Life* (1914) 115 A Temper, which must Inevitably...Worme out once againe the Common Prayer. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm*, to work one out of a Place, &c. 1714 R. Fiddes *Pract. Disc.* II. 271 He who has the handsomest address...in worming others out of business, and winding himself in. 1748 E. Eberyne *Serm.* (1755) 332 The Venom of the Old Serpent has diffused itself through all the Powers and Faculties of the Soul and Body ; and it is worming out your Life. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 114/1 Such a body of troops a...in time might be able to worm out the English from the trade of Bengal. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, ...also to undermine, or supplant. 1812 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Bachelor's Complaint*, Innumerable are the ways which they take to insult and worm you out of their husband's confidence.

**8.** *To worm out* : to extract (information, a secret, etc.) by insidious questioning. Similarly const. *out of* or *from* (a person).

1713 Addison *Drummer* II. i, I fancy, thou could'st worm it [a secret] out of her. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Worm*, to worm out, to obtain the knowledge of a secret by craft. 1800 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. Tr., the World* iv, I do not want to worm your secret from you. 1807 Crabbe *Birth of Flattery* 36, I ...Who've loosed a guinea from a miser's chest, And wormed his secret from a traitor's breast. 1849 Thackeray *Catherine* xi, Old Wood knew all her history... He had wormed it out of her, day by day. 1844 A. Smith *Mr. Ledbury* xx. (1859) 60 He was able...to worm out a description of the locality. 1853 Lytton *Hy Nevel* x. xx, By little and little our Juvenile Talleyrand...worm'd out from Dick this grievance. 1865 Cowden Clarke *Mable. Char.* iii. 68 He contrives by various means to let the king worm from her his secret. 1866 Baring-Gould *Werewolves* v. 62 The judge ordered one of his peasants to visit the man, and to worm the truth out of him. 1900 'Anthony Hope' *Quisanté* I. 24 She could not get much out of him, but she found herself trying to worm out all she could.

**b.** To extract (money, etc.) *out of* (a person) by pleading.

1851 Kingsley *Yeast* xiii, They make the labourer fancy that he is not to depend upon God and his own right hand; but on what his wife can worm out of the good nature of the rich.

**9.** *intr.* To move or progress sinuously like a worm ; also *transf.* of things. Usually with adv., as *about, along, up, down*, or prep., as *in, into* (a confined space). Also, to move windingly *through*; to twine or twist *about* (something).

1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Tri.* I. xxii, Thousand flaming serpents hissing, And wormling all about his sooty thighs. 1802 G. Colman *Br. Grint, Vicar Bron.* (1839) 118 He (a drunk man) work'd, with sinuosities, along, like a serpent. 1807 Wordsworth *Sonn. Liberty* II. 1846 J. F. Cooper *Last of Mohicans* xx, I little like that smoke which you may see worming up along the rock above the canoe. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls of the King*, Through vean and buried mountains...have we wormed Down to the ever burning forge of fire. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 139 They wormed through serpent-like passages, and within fifty feet of the pillar-pits. 1885 *Cricket* 19 Aug. 111/1 The procession...moved off in a straggling manner....Once in order, however, the ruling was excellent, and a very presentable line wormed through the streets. 1898 Rudyard Kipling *Stalky & Co. Interlude Campaign* xvi, The caves and their passages worm about inside the kopjie.

**b.** *refl.* In same sense.

1865 Grose *Land & Sea* 255 So, kneeling,...or fairly stretched at full-length supine, ; we worm ourselves into the holes and crannies. 1899 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 200 He wormed himself into the little passage. 1907 Agatha Christie *Big Four* viii. 107, I crawled cautiously out of the bushes, and inch by inch...I wormed myself down the path.

**c.** With advb. acc., as *to worm one's way*. Also of figurative progress (cf. next).

1820 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 309 Fistulous ulcers...have sometimes...wormed a sinuous path, and opened into the vagina. 1840 Longfellow *Hyperion* III. *Ch. Temple, Church-Rents* ii, But when debates and fretting jealousies Did worm and work within you more and more, Your colour faded, and your cheek grew pale. 1841 — *Poems* II. 18 *Voices* iii. 39 A number of newspaper-venders...are worming their way through the crowd. 1869 Trollope *He Knew, he was Right* (1878) 38 That snake in the grass who wormed his way into my house. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* vii. 117 The screw...rushed round, worming its angry way through the long quiet waves.

**10.** *fig.* To make one's way insidiously like a worm *into* (a person's confidence, secret affairs, etc.) ; to burrow *in* so as to hurt or destroy. Also, to wriggle *out of* (a difficulty).

1607 P. Fletcher *Locusts* iv. xxi, To comply With that weake sexe, and by fine forgerie To worme in womens credit, and their trust. 1649 [J. Daniel] *Trimarch., Hen. IV* xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worne from the Storye, though worn'd out of it. *Eng.* a 1700 H. L'Estrange *Worm'd out of* Rookt, Cheated, Tricket. 1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion...that they ] intly contriv'd to worm us out of this Money. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

**11.** *trans.* with predicate-extension : To move (an object) *off, down, through*, etc. by a gradual tortuous propulsion or dragging.

*a* 1861 T. Winthrop *Life in Open Air* (1863) 117 Aided by the urgent steam, we carefully and delicately...wormed our boat off the rock. 1873 J. T. Mogeridge *Ants, Ants* I. 33 We measured a tunnel [formed by ants] by worming a straw down it. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* 251 Dick had gradually wormed his right arm clear of its bonds. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 2/1 To repel all attempts on the part of the enemy to worm his patrols through our advanced troops.

**IV. 12.** [See Worm *sb.* 16 d, e.] To make a screw-thread on. † *To worm in*, to screw in ; to insert and secure by screwing.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. v. *Handie-Crafts* 593 He hatcheth files, and winding vices won'meth. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. 218 It hath four Iron Hooks..., whose Shanks are Wormed in. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* x. (1878) 150 A smith may be engaged generally in forging or worming screws. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 271 Its outer surface is smooth for four inches from the distal end ; but for the rest of its length it is wormed.

**13.** *Naut.* To wind spun-yarn or small rope spirally round (a rope or cable) so as to fill up the grooves between the strands and render the surface smooth for parcelling and serving.

1644 [implied in Worming *vbl. sb.* 6]. 1708 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Worm a Cable or Cordage*, to rub out or strengthen it, by winding a small Rope all along between the Strands. 1730 Capt. W. Wrigglesworth *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 22 Sept., Got our Main Stay down, Wormed the lower end of it. 1769 *Falconer's Dict. Marine*, *Vermicilier un Bat*, to worm a stay. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 1 Apr. 2/2, 60 fathom of cable, part of which is wormed. 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 28 It is then to be tarred and wormed with stout spunyarn. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. 360 Three men can worm, parcel, and serve 2 fathoms of 12-inch in an hour.

**14.** To remove the charge or wad from (a gun) by means of a worm (see Worm *sb.* 16 b). Also *absol.*

1800 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., *To worm a Gun*, to take out the charge of a fire-arm by means of a worm. 1899 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man. and Gunnery* 111 Worming, sponging, ramming home, runs out, and trains. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlem. Mag.* Jan. 79/1 The guns were 'wormed', 'sponged', loaded, and run out.

† **Worm-tic**, *a. Obs.* [f. Worm *sb.*, prob. after *rheumatic.*] Of, consisting of, or containing worms.

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 177 The Wormstick Cadaverous Humor and Matter. 1681 — 511 The Cause of Wormstick Cause in the Bowels...Such might kill the Worm. 1690 R. Clark *Vermiculars Destroyed* 15 Slime and wormstick matter.

† **Worm-eat**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = Worm-eaten, *lit.* and *fig.*

1597 Br. Hall *Sat.* I. iv. 6 Some brauer braine in high Hetrick rimes Compileth worm-eate stories of olde times. 1601 *And if it Returne for A Worme*, in Halliwell, Some the marrow of their flowring age, In fruiteless poring on some worme eate hafe. 1607 R. Turner *Anice Te K's*, This worme-eate Church.

† **Worm-eat**, *v. Obs.* [Back-formation from next.]

1. *trans.* To eat into, by, or as by, worms.

1598 Florio, *Tarmare*, to mothe-eate or worme-eate. 1653 Chisenhale *Catholike Hist.* 109 Should the gnawing rusty teeth of time worm-eat and wear all his Records. 1660 *Hic & Ubique* II. i. 20 Let 'em rot with their cares And worldly affairs, And worm-eat their souls with their treasures. *a* 1739 Jarvis *Don Quix.* II. iv. 2, Leave off these vanities, which worm-eat your brain.

2. *intr.* To undergo being worm-eaten.

1641 Best *Farms. Bks.* (Surtees) 125 That they bee readie deale, which are allready disable as sake, and will not worme-eate so soone as white deale.

**Worm-eaten**, *pa. ppls.* and *ppl. a.* Eaten into by a worm or worms.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P.* xvii. lxxiv. (1495) *Q iij's* Fruite...yf it be not roten nother worme etes. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 Take white pese and wasshe hem wele ; ...Devoyde þo worme-etone alle hydene. 1493 *Festyvall* (W. de W. 1515) 130 As stable stalles of asshe ben worm all worme eten. *a* 1570 *Misogonus* II. iii. 84 A neighboure of yours wch is payned in hir mandible wth a wormetone toth. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 48 Old Time...Did eke repaire with long parchment scrolles, That were all worme-eaten, and full of canker holes. 1598 Shake. *Much Ado* III. iii. 145 Smirch'd worm-eaten tapestry, where ...Dan Cupid...Is most worm-eaten too. 1600 — *Hen. V* Prol. 34 The worke of wormes shall not be refused, to cloath a worme-eaten body. 1643 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 72 He found [it] in an old rotten worm-eaten book. 1679 *Rector's Bk. Grayswood* 9 Item, the Church was sound and y^e pease wormeaten. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1720 III. 326 Old worm-eaten Pieces, whose Doors few open on our Approach. 1807 Clare *Village Min.* I. 148 Then, like worm-eaten fruit, it drops and dies. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxxvii, Old worm-eaten ship timber. 1883 J. G. Wood in *Sunday Mag.* Oct. 698/2 Not one ever yet found an unsound or worm-eaten nut in a squirrel's store.

**b.** *transf.* Applied to organic tissue which is indented with small holes.

In Elizabethan writers as a peculiar description of a 'grog-blossom' nose.

1592 Nashe *F. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18 A huge wormne-eaten nose, like a cluster of grapes hanging downewards. 1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* F 2 An Antiquary might haue pickt rare matter out of his Nose, but that it was wormne-eaten (yet that proued it to be an auncient Nose). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 666 The whole of the colon above the stricture was distended and worm-eaten by small ulcers. *Ibid.* IV. 746 A larger superficial ulcer...with irregular 'worm-eaten' or 'mouse-nibbled' margins. 1899 *Ibid.*

VI 530 The surface [of the bone] has a worm-eaten appearance.

c. *fig.* (of persons and things). Decayed, decrepit, antiquated, out-worn.

1573 W Wager *Longer thou livest* 329 (Brandl) You begin to be scabbie and worm eaten, It is time balt vpon you to strow 1589 R Harvey *Pl Perc* (1590) 6 His worm eaten Conceipts 1597 Morley *Introd Mus.* 158 Your close in the treble part is so stale that it is almost worme eaten. 1604 J Dekker *Newes fr Gravesend* Ep Ded A 4 That worme eaten name of Herall It is a name of the old fashion 1614 Ralegh *Hist World* I vii. § 4. 103 And therefore were all thinges among the Greekes (which antiquitie had worne out of knowledge) called *Oxygen* which we in English commonly call (some eatenn) or of defaced date 1637 Rutherford *Lett* (1671) 187 O poor fools who are beguiled with painted things and rotten worm-eaten hopes! 1721 Ramsay *Tartana* 302 These mutty Fools Who only move by old worm eaten Rules 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Sept. 5/1 The worm-eaten bibliophile

*absol.* 1730 Pope *Let to Gay* 1 Oct., The employment I am fittest for—conversation with the dead, the old, and the worm-eaten

Hence †**Worm-eatenness**, worm-eaten condition.

1617 Rider *Bibl S hol*, *Caries* Rottennesse or wormeeatennesse in wood 1617 Harrier *Jonas I* 24 The tops of chemnut trees rot with rustie wormeeatennesse 1666 J Smith *Old Age* 85 By the meanes of the teeth we must understand, all those infirmities that are incident to them by reason of age, whether looseness, b lowness, rottenness, wormeeatenness, [etc.] 1698 J Bate (title), *Verminousness*, Fulness of Worms, Worm-eatenness.

**Worm-eater.**

1 A bird or other creature that feeds on worms; *spec.* the Worm eating Warbler (see below).

1760 G Edwards *Glean Nat Hist* II 200 The Worm-eater [of Pennsylvania]. 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor Amer* II 291 *Sylvicola (Vermivora) pusilla*, Worm-eater. 1838 J Bicheno *Ornithol Siticola* (*Vermivora*) *pusilla*, Worm-eater. 1844 J Bulger *Ornithol* v 39 A desperate gang headed by a chief called 'Kaintoke' (worm-eater).

2 [f. Worm-eaten.] (See quots.)

1850 *Boston* (Mass.) *Yrnl* 16 Sept. 2 A man gave his occupation as that of a worm-eater. He said he was employed by a furniture manufacturer to fire shot at furniture so as to give it a worm eaten appearance 1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct. Worm-eaters are the makers of spurious oak furniture to deceive the public by drilling worm holes into the wood so as to give it an ancient appearance.

†**Worm-eating**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* The eating of worms into fruit, timber, etc.

1594 Plat *Jewell-h* 1 36 Steeping of seeds in the infusion of wormewood, centaury, col quintis la, and such like, will defende them from worm eating 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I x 48 Hen shall cleanse them [sc trees] from wormes, filthines and worme eatings 1677 N Cox *Gentl Recreat* iv 13 To preserve these Stu ks or Tops from rotting, or worm eating, rub them over thrice a year with Sallet or Linseed oyl 1691 I H[ill] *Acc New Invent* 40 To make good the d mage she brought home by Worm eating

**Worm-eating**, *ppl a* That eats worms for food *Worm-eating Warbler*, the bird *Helminthotherus vermivorus* of the eastern U. S.

1817 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen Zool* X. 733 Worm eating Warbler *Sylvia vermivora* Inhabits Pensylvania 1831 Swainson & Richardson *Fauna Bor Americ* II 292 The worm-eating Warblers (*Vermivora*). 1872 Coues *Key N Amer. Birds* 93 *Helmitherus vermivorus*. Worm eating Warbler.

**Wormed** (wɜ·md), *ppl. a.* [f Worm *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Eaten into or bored by worms, infested with worms

1846 A Young *Nat. Di. t.* 371 Wormed, the state of timber or plank when a number of minute cavities are made in it by a gallic ul kind of weevil called the *Lyctus ater*, that abounds chiefly in tropical climates 1853 G Johnston *Nat Hist E. Iord* I 56 Old bushes may g nerally be seen young, all lenggy and wormed, about decaying stumps 1860 *Encycl Brit* (ed 8) XXI. 976/1 There is great reason to believe that some inflammatory action of the liver, of the eyes and of other wormed tissues, precedes the evolution of parasites in them 1883 R Bridges *Prometheus* 102 Then in the ruined dwellings and old tombs He dug, unbedded from the wormed vessels and knew a lord of t ade and husbandry 1913 Masefield *Daffodil Fields* iii, Wormed hard-wood piles were driv'n in the river bank.

2 Formed with a screw-thread. Also in parasynthetic combinations as furnished with a (specified) number of screw-threads

1683 Moxon *Printing* xl. Pt. t. 62 A Three Worm'd Spindle comes faster and l wer down than a four Worm'd Spindle 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz* 8 Aug 11/1 Two perpendicular bars of iron are firmly fixed at the lower upper portion of each of them deeply wormed for a screw When the silo is full, planks are laid lengthwise over its whole surface, through which the wormed ends of the iron bars protrude.

**Wormer** (wɜ·mər). [f Worm *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who pries into the affairs of others, one who 'worms out' (secrets).

The meaning in quot 1602 is uncertain

1602 Chettle *Hoffman* iii. (1631) F 1 b, How say you, most valiant and reprobate Country men have ye not heard I haue bin a stinger, a tickler, a wormer. 1880 Mrs. Nathan *Langreath* III. 265 The insidious wormer of family secrets.

2 a. One who catches or collects worms for bait

1880 F Buckland *Nat. Hist Brit fishes* ii It is a very interesting sight to see the lights of the numerous wormers when they are out with their lanterns collecting of a dark night. 1881 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 A long reach is indispensable to a good wormer.

b. One who angles with a worm or worms as bait.

1891 A Lang *Angling Sk* 26 In a small burn a skilled wormer may almost depopulate the pools. 1909 W C Platts *Light Lines* 82 And how keen some of these old wormers are!

3 *U. S.* = Worm *sb.* 16 b.

1891 *Century Dict* 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1911 Webster.

†**Wormete**, *a. Obs* In 4 **wormethe** [OE *wyrmǽte*, f. *wyrm* Worm *sb.* + *-mǽt-* pret. stem of *etan* Eat *v.* Cf MHG. *wurmǽʒe*.] Worm-eaten.

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd* II 126 Wið wyrmætum hec. 2340 *Hampole Pr Conc* 4560 Als fel fruit es nast good, þaa hit by wel vaay wid-owte, huanne hit is vorroted and wormethe.

**Worm-grass.**

†1 A species of stonecrop, *Sedum album*, with worm-like leaves. *Obs.*

1578 I Lyte *Dodoens* I lxxxiii 214 Wilde Prickmadam, great Nonne Croppe, or Worme grasse 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii cxxxvi 414 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey), *Worm-Grass*, an Herb that kills Worms.

2. The Pinkroot, *Spigelia marilandica*, of the Southern U. S., the roots and leaves of which are used as a vermifuge. Also applied to *S. Anthelmia*.

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 156 *Anthelmentha Spigelia* Worm grass 1786 Abercrombie *Arcanum* 66 in *Gard Assist*, *Spigelia marilandica*, or Maryland worm grass, or Carolina Pink 1822 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 375 The Indian pinks, or worm grasses *Spigelia*) *anthelmia*, and *Maryl ndica* 1864 Griesbach *Flora W Ind Isl* 769 Worm Grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

**Worm-hole.** A hole made by a burrowing worm or insect in wood, fruit, books, etc.

1593 Shake. *Lucr* 946 To fill with worme holes stately monuments. 1599 — *Hen V*, II iii 86 'Tis no sinister, nor no awk ward Clayme 1822 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 375 Inde ibly pinks, or worm grasses *Spigelia*) *anthelmia*, and *Maryl ndica* 1864 Griesbach *Flora W Ind Isl* 769 Worm Grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

**Worm-hole.** A hole made by a burrowing worm or insect in wood, fruit, books, etc.

1593 Shake. *Lucr* 946 To fill with worme holes stately monuments. 1599 — *Hen V*, II iii 86 'Tis no sinister, nor no awk ward Clayme 1822 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 375 Inde ibly pinks, or worm grasses *Spigelia*) *anthelmia*, and *Maryl ndica* 1864 Griesbach *Flora W Ind Isl* 769 Worm Grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

1593 Shakes. *Lucr* 946 To fill with worme holes stately monuments. 1599 — *Hen V*, II iii 86 'Tis no sinister, nor no awk ward Clayme 1822 Good *Study Med* (1829) I 375 Inde ibly pinks, or worm grasses *Spigelia*) *anthelmia*, and *Maryl ndica* 1864 Griesbach *Flora W Ind Isl* 769 Worm Grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

1593 Shake

sunshine scarce couldst bode. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 129 The good and great, That lent a portion of their wealthy power, And saw'd a wormling from destruction's fate. 1858 E. Cashall *Banyre of Bury* etc. 179 The uncreated Word, who flesh became For us poor wormlings creeping on the ground. 1891 C. Dawson *Avonmore* IX. 85 But if [there is] a Soul, that the wormling man, Who madly dares impeach His awful will?

**†Wormly.** *Obs. rare.* [? Named from *Wormley* in Herts. or that in Surrey.] A horse.

1609 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Vocation* 852 Thy white Wormly brave [*ton blanc cervere*].

**Wormseed** (wɔ·msīd). [Worm *sb.* 4.]

**1.** A name for various plants considered to have anthelmintic properties; as swine's fennel or sulphurwort, *Peucedanum officinale*; *Artemisia Santonica*, *A. Vahliana*, *A. judaica*, *A. maritima*; *Erysimum cheiranthoides*; (Trench or English Wormseed); *Chenopodium anthelminticum* and *Ambrina anthelmintica* (American Wormseed); *Halogeton tamariscifolium* (Spanish Wormseed).

*a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 188 Swynys fenkel or wormseed: *fenicularia porcina.* 1440 [see *cruynefenel*, in the 5 lb. 1541 *Bk. Prophetict Herbs* D], *Pentelium particeas*.. is called wormse sede. It is good to destroy wormes in a maines body. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xxii. 272 Cameline, or English Wormseed. *Ibid.* 273 Treacle Worme-seede riseth vp with tough and pliant braunches. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxv. 942 The Latines name it *Semen tinea*: the seede is called *Semen santonicum*, Italie seede, and *Semen contra Lumbrices*: in English Wormseed; the herbe it selfe is also called Wormeseed, or Wormeseedwort. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* VII. xxviii. 870 *Semen Contra*.. English Wormeseede. 1686 Ray *Hist. Plant.* I. 368 Absinthium Santonicum Alexandrinum C. B.. Semen Sanctum Park. Sementina Ger.. Wormseed. 1796 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 332 Worm-seed, *Chenopodium*. 1770 J. R. Forster in *Collect Trans. N. Amer.* I. 163 *Chenopodium anthelminticum* is very plentiful on the road.. The English who settled here, call it Worm-seed and Jerusalem Oak.. In Pennsylvania and New Jersey its seeds are given to children, against the worms. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* III. 585 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.. Treacle Wormseed. 1811 J. Davies *Celt. Mythol.* 418 Wormseed. Jerusalem Oak. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*,.. growing all over America. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Spanish Wormseed, *Halogeton tamariscifolium*.

**2.** The dried flower-heads of one or other of these plants, used as an anthelmintic. Formerly also in pl. *Levant, Alexandrian, Barbary, Tartarian wormseed*, that prepared from species of *Artemisia*.

1520 Armolde *Chron.* (Arb.) 274 Worme sede, ij s. vi. d. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 329 Wormme seede of the best kynde, called *Sementina*. 1594 R. Wilson *Colliers Proph.* ii. 927 (Malone Soc.) *Sould.* I abhorre and defie thee. *Con.* Knew as the child doth when the Worme-seede is ripe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxxxv. 941 This Wormwood called *Sementina* and *Semen san tum*.. beareth that seede which we know to vse, called Wormseed, in shoppes *Semen santolinum*. 1625 in W. Foster *Lett. rec. E. Ind. Co.* (1899) III. 177 Wormseeds likewise doth grow in Coromson. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 25 The Child certainly knows, That the Worm-seed or Mustard-seed, is not the Apple or Sugar-it eats for. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3583/4 The Cargo of the Ship Hamstead Galley,..consisting of,.. Worm seeds, Gum Arabic &c.]. 1727–51 Chambers *Cycl.*, Wormseed, *Semen contra*, *semen santtum*, or *semen santonicum*. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Chenopodium*, The Soft- and fifth Sort.. were brought from America, where the Seeds are called Worm-Seed. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 82 The Chenopodium, producing the semen santonicum, or worm-seed, a medicine formerly in great esteem. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Wormseed*.. The name is applied in herb-shops to *Semen contra*, the produce of several species of *Artemisia*. 1867 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, Wormseed. *Semen Cinæ*, *Semen Contra*, *Semen Santonicum*. The flower-buds of *Artemisia Vahliana*, *A. Sieberi*, and *A. inculta*. 1880 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 293 Santonica or worm-seed.

**3.** The eggs of the silkworm moth. Cf. SEED *sb.* 5 a.

1723 P. Lindsay *Interest Scotl.* 111 By supplying the Planters in those Parts with small Quantities of Wormseed, of the best Breed.

**4.** *attrib.* in *wormseed mustard, oil, † stone, weed, † wort* (see quots.).

1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 35 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.. Worm-seed Mustard. 1870 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 169 The essential oil of Wormseed, or Levant wormseed, known in North America under the name of Worm-seed Oil, is powerfully anthelmintic. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.*, Wormseed oil. *Oleum cinæ*. 1702 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. 65 A Stone found in..Cornwall: and is called there, Wormseed-Stone, being thick set with small Bodies, not unlike the *Semen Santonici*, or Wormseed. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 130 The Worm-seed Weed. 1892 J. D. Maycock *Flora Barbadensis* 146 Worm Seed Weed. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*. 1597 [wormseed wort (see †)].

**†Wrmship.** *nonce-wd.* [-ship.] The personality of a worm. (With possess. pron., as a mock-title.)

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* v. calix, Vain Son of Dust pull down thy foolish Crest, And in this Glasse thy feeble Wormship see. 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* II. xviii, Now serves our Guiltiness, as winding sheet To wrap up Lepers; Cover meet; Swithe thus stern vengeance does our Wormships safely greet. 1778 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* CXXVIII. (1783) IV. 227 A dead man being..property *under the earth*; so that..as the property properly belonged only to the worms, the matter ought to be submitted to their worshipful wormships.

**† Wormtail.** *Obs.* [? different d. dial. *oamer*, Umber *sb.*1 + Stall *sb.*1] An outdoor shelter for cattle in warm weather.

1626 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. xxxiii. Drive thy sheepe and cattaile out of the Sunne, into some worme-stall and place of shade. 1813 Markham *Eng. Husb.* Former Pt. II. A 4, The shelter will..be an excellent wormestall for cattell in the summer. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray, Wormstall*, shelter for cattel in hot weather.

**Wormwood** (wɔ·mwud). Forms: 5 wyrmwode, 5–6 worm(e)wod(e, 6 wormwoode, worme-, woormewodde, wourmewodde, 6–7 -wood(e, 6– wormwood. [Altered f. Wermod, as if f. Worm *sb.* + Wood *sb.*1]

**1.** The plant *Artemisia Absinthium*, proverbial for its bitter taste. The leaves and tops are used in medicine as a tonic and vermifuge, and for making vermouth and absinthe; formerly also to lay amongst the bedding at Coleman Streete, 1578, to destroy fleas, and in brewing ale. It yields a dark green oil.

*a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 11 For to makyn surripe of violet; it of wormwode. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyrmwode, herbe, *absinthium*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* C v, A medecyne for an hawke that hath mites. Take the luce of wormewode and put it ther thay be and thei shall dye. 1562 Turner *Herbal* (1822) 201 For wormwoode to lay amongst the bedding at Coleman Streete, 1578. 1572–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 123 Where chamber is sweeped, and wormwod is strowne, no flea for his life dare abide to be knowne. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 30 When it did taste the Worme-wood on the nipple of my Dugge, and felt it bitter. 1610 Beaum. & Fl. *Faithf. Shepherdess* II. ii. D 2 b, These be the sweet effects of a sparing and a temperate diet. The bitter Wormwood, Sage and Marigold. 1626 Middleton *Anything for Quiet Life* II. i, He burnt wormwood in't to kill the fleas. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 641 And Artemisia grows, where Wormwood grew. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 140 Wormwood gives its flavour to the liquor called the English workman. 1899 Bridges *Idle Hours* 27, Ragwort and stiff Wormwood And straggling Mignonette.

**b.** With qualifying word, designating species of *Artemisia* and some similar plants; as

**†Female**, *A. gallica* or *A. Santonica*; **Holy** *w.*, *A. Santonica*; **Fontic, Roman** *w.*, *A. pontica* or *A. Absinthium*; **Sea** *w.*, *A. maritima*; **Tree** *w.*, *A. arborescens* of the Mediterranean. Also **Roman** *w.*, *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*; **Wild** *w.*, *Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* 7 Wormwood pontike..in englishe maye be called wormwood gentle. *Ibid.* 8 Absinthium santonicum.. may be called in englishe frenche wormwod. *Ibid.*, Frenche wormwod is weaker then Sea wormwod. 1551 — *Herbal* A iij b, Absinthium santonicum.. maye be named in english, wormwode gentle or wormwode Romane, Wormwode pontyke. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. vi. 5 The Seconde kinde of Wormwod is called in Latine *Scriphium*, and *Absynthium Massmun*..In English Sea wormwood. *Ibid.* 6 *Santoni* wormwood, or French wormwood. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxviii. 940 It is called in English small feabell Wormwood, Sea Wormwood, garden or Cypres Wormwood, and French Wormwood. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxv. 941 Holie Wormwood.. called *Semen tina* and *Semen santonicum*.. in shoppes *Semen santolinum*. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* II. ccccxxxi. 943 *Absinthium arborescens*. Tree Wormwood. 1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica*, Wormwood, Sea Wormwood, Roman Wormwood. 1721 *Queen's Closet* 10 To make Syrup of Wormwood. Take Roman Wormwood, or Pontick Wormwood, half a Pound. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Artemisia*, The Roman and Sea Wormwoods are great Creepers at the Root.. The Tree Wormwood rises to be a shrubby five or six Foot high. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 Wormwood, Wild. *Parthenium*. 1854 Thomas & Beldam *Annals & Lives* (1726) 261 It was overrun with Roman wormwood and beggar-ticks. 1884 Gairdner *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 369 Wormwood, Sea. *Ambrosia artemisiifolia*.

*allusively.* 1672 R. Wild *Poet. Licent.* 27 This bitter Cup hath Roman Wormwood in't.

**2.** *fig.* Anything bitter, an impure carbonate of potash, obtained from the ashes of wormwood.

1617 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 209 The salt of wormwood is esteemed hot and dry like the heath. 1666 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 95 Salt of wormwood and juice of lemmon. 1756 F. Home *Exper. Bleaching* 277 To four pints of lime-water..I added 20 gr. of salt of wormwood. 1789 Buchan *Dom. Med.* xiv. (1790) 153 An ounce of the bark .. with an equal quantity of salt of wormwood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 95/1.

**2.** *fig.* An emblem or type of what is bitter and grievous to the soul.

1535 Coverdale *Deut.* xxix. 18 Lest there be amonge you a roote that beareth gall & wormwode. — *Amos* v. 7 Ye turne the lawe to wormwod. *Ibid.* vi. 12 Ye haue turned true iudgement in to bytternesse, and the fruite of righteousnesse in to wormwod. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 329 Yet amonge his aso many prosperous, pleasaunte, and luckye affayres, fortune mengeled sume seedes of wormewoodde, and corrupted his pure corne with the malicious weedes of coccle. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 857 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. 1593 G. Harvey *New Let. Notable Contr.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 285 Converting the wormewood of iust offence into the angels corn of pure attonement. 1596 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* F 4 Too much gall dyd that wormwood of Giueline witnes put in his inke. 1642 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Londons to Hamburgh* C 1 b, All his augred sweet promises, were in the proofe but Gall and wormwood in the performance. 1820 Bacon *Hen. VII* 209 These two Persons .. turned all their Love and Favour into Worme-wood and Gall. 1826 Ford *Lover's Mel.* II. ii. (1629) 33 *Mel.* Ha, ha, ha. *Rhe.* There's wormewood in that laughter. 1832 Lytton *Trans. in Lucretius* 1 Wormwood was in the Wormwood of his brains. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Repentance* iv, Sweeten at length this bitter bowl, Which thou hast pour'd into my soul; Thy wormwood turn to honey. 1642 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 232 It had been happy for this land, if your priests had beene but onely wooden; all England knowes they have been to this land not wood, but wormewood. 1692 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 229 Thus Judgment is turned into Wormwood: for it is attended by injustice, and delays make it sour. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 13 My life is bitter as wormwood.

**b.** *To be wormwood* (or *gall and wormwood*): to be acutely mortifying or vexing (*to* a person).

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XII. x (Rtldg.) 435 The accounts her ladyship brought from Madrid were wormwood to the duke. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xl, His presence and his accommodations were gall and wormwood to his once partial mistress. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. viii. iv. 51 It was wormwood to the proud spirit of Asztippa to be treated as a mere astrologer. 1858 F. T. Buller *Cruise Cachalot* 339 The sight of other people's good fortune is gall and wormwood to a vast number of people.

**3.** Used as a name or specific epithet for certain moths.

1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 91 The Wormwood (*Cucullia Absinthii*, Ochsenheimer). *Ibid.* 134 The Wormwood Pug (*Eupithecia Absinthiata*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 169 The Wormwood Eyelet (*Semasia pupillana*, Stephens). 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 136, 424.

**4.** Short for *wormwood ale* (see 5).

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 425 Oxford, All Souls. ..Their silver cups..are called ox-eyes, and an ox-eye of wormwood was a favourite draught there. Beer with an infusion of wormwood was to be had in the buttery.

**5.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wormwood-bush*, *† -cake*, *-diet*, *-draught*, *-drink*; *wormwood-coloured* adj.; **wormwood-ale, -beer,** ale or beer in which wormwood is infused; **wormwood coal** (see quot.); **wormwood water, wine,** a cordial prepared (like absinthe or vermouth) from wormwood; also *fig.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xiii. 1000 Acerl. *Wormwood Ale Oxford Club Miscell.* (1840) II. 598 For wormewood aill and other aill in the morning coo 03 00. 1693 F. Hering *Cert. Rules* B 1 b, You may vse a good Wormwood Beer, instead of vinegar etc. 1718 *Poor Robin* May A 8 b, Scurvy-grass Ale, clarified Whey, And Wormwood Beer are good they say. 1858 Laux Wilkinson *Words by Old Farmers* 418 Pearl, or wormwood-beer. 1882 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* v. 38, I came opposite to a small clump of wormwood bushes. 1898 W. M. *Queens Closet Opened* (ed. 4) 2 To Wormwood Cakes good for a cold Stomach, and to help Digestion. 1898 Lady Wilkinson *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 353 An old belief continues to be connected with the circumstance of the dead roots of wormwood being black, and hard, and remaining for a long period undecayed beneath the living plant. They are then called '*wormwood coal*'; and if placed under a lover's pillow they are believed to produce a dream of the person he loves. 1816 *Beckford's Vathek* (ed. Garnett) 72 He awoke..stung to the quick by *wormwood-coloured* (1908 wormwood-colour) flies. 1859 Tennyson *Idylls of Hall. Previdence* 46 Gladly will I, like Pontick sheep, Unto their 'wormwood-diet keep. 1730 Lady Luxborough *Lett. to Shenstone* 9 Sept., I have a wormwood wine of my own; and take *wormwood-draughts*. 1898 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 [Let it] be celebrated with cowheeles, and tripes, the keenest mustard, and the bitterest *wormewood drinke*. 1618 Weekes *Whilst Lord* v. vi. 5 *Vit.* Ha, are you drunke? *Hiems.* Yes, yes, with *wormewood* water; you shall tast Some of it presently. 1820 Vaughan *Via Recta* ii. 45, I exhort them to take two or three parts of wormwood-water, and one of *Aqua vitæ*. 1725 G. Smith *Distilling* 46 Wormwood-water is in good demand in the Country. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* I. 168, I was..attacked with a violent pain in my stomach, which yielded only to a strong dram of wormwood water (*Aqua Absinthia*). 1585 Lloyd *Pretie Narrations, Aquawhites* ..*wormewoodde wyne*. 1587 Harrison *England* I. ii. vi. (1877) 150 Artificiall stuffe, as vpocras and wormewood wine. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 81 In vpper Germany the first drought commonly is of wormwood wine. 1692 R. *Bentley's Danube & Lisus* (1748) App. 328 This Gentleman..engaged me to take a Glass of Wormwood Wine with him, as a Whet before Dinner. 1806 *Farmer's Calendar* I. xv. 208 A decanter of Jamaica rum, Wormwood wine, or that of Vermouth. 1844 Mangan *Love & Madness* Poems (1903) 323 Why must Medjnina evermore Drink their tears as wormwood wine?

**b.** *fig.* Attrib., passing into adj. = bitter, tart, unpleasant to experience. So also † **wormwood** lecture, a scolding or 'talking to'.

1593 Shakn. *Lucr.* 893 Thy secret pleasure turnes to open shame..Thy augred tongue to bitter wormwood taste. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* I. ii, An honest decayed commander, cannot skelder, cheat, nor be seene in a bawdie house, but he shall be straight in one of their wormwood comedies. 1608 *Dav Law Tricket* II. C 2 b, Trust me, loue hath kild That wormwood humor. 1640 *Womens Sharpes Revenge* 5 And now lately one or two of their wormwood lectures have pen'd three severall .. ill-fauored Pamphlets ..called Lectures, as the Juniper Lecture, the Crabtree Lecture, and the Wormwood Lecture, wherein they have laid these fulsome aspersions upon all women generally. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* II. I. (1680) 14, I shall read him a Worm-wood Lecture, when I see him. 1680 B. Parker (*title*) A brief sum of certain wormwood lectures: Which women used to sing and say Unto their husbands every day. 1892 F. T. Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 24 Clouding with wormwood drops the wine of life. 1895 G. P. Lathrop in *Heath* (B. C.) Jan. 6 Notwithstanding the wormwood memories of wrongs in the past. 1897 Hardy *Poems of Pilgrimage, Lausanne*, Still rule those minds on earth At whom sage Milton's wormwood words were buried.

**Wormy** (wɔ·rmi), *a.* [f. Worm *sb.* + -y1. Cf. MHG. *wurmic*, -*ec*, G. *wurmig*, Du. *wormig*.]

**1.** Attacked, gnawed, or bored by worms or grubs; worm-eaten.

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxxiii. (1869) 128, I am a wormy wilow; who go leueth to me is lost. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1568) 190 b, Studiously keping those monuments from wormie wemes. 1811 Bloom, *Verses*, wormie, full of wormes. 1708 Ozell tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 34 That in wormy Boards, by Time's corroding Spight disjoin'd. 1736 Mrs. Calderwood in *Colmess Collect.* (Maitland Club) 213 All the fruit in that country is very wormy, and some of the finest nuts had a great worm in the kirnall. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Woodnotes* II. 307 And thou,—go burn thy wormy pages. 1898 Dickens *Dombey* lvii, An old brown, panelled,

dusty vestry,...where the wormy registers diffuse a smell like faded snuff. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 176 We have picked nearly every apple (wormy or otherwise).

*transf.* 1833 in *New Statist. Acc. Scotl.* (1845) III. *Selkirk* 41 The .. herbage on the hills .. was destroyed by a caterpillar in 1762, long called the *wormy* year.

b. *fig.* = WORM-EATEN c.

1611 *Cotgrave's Crudities, Panegyr. Verses* c 5 b, Old wormy age that in thy mustie writs Of former fooles records the present wits. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. vii. viii. 343 Europe's wormy dynasties revoke Themselves in their old gilt.

6. *Arch.* = VERMICULATED 1 c.

1823 [see VERMICULATED 1 c].

**2.** Of the body, its parts and secretions: Infested or affected with worms, itch-mites, etc. Of fish: Lousy (*U. S.*).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 362/1 An ointment for the Wormye, and itchinge Handes. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 555 The iuice thereof dropped into wormie eares, doth kill the wormes that is in them. 1605 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. viii. 105 What would..he presage by such a wormie vrine? 1769 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 203 Children the chief objects of Worms and wormy Slime. 1797 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 140 It is used by Chirurgeons in putrid and wormy ulcers. 1806 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Acrolites*, The horses that have caseated sacs, above all others, subject to slime and wormy matter. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/2 The poor of Scotland .. are not more wormy than the better fed poor of England. 1884 *Spring-field* (Mass.) *Wheelmen's Gaz.* Nov. 210/3 The stream was fairly alive with trout but the large ones were wormy.

**3.** Of earth, soil, the grave, etc.: Infested with worms, full of worms.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 384 Damned spirits all,...Already to their wormie beds are gone. 1645 MILTON *Death fair Infant* 31 Yet can I not persuade me thus art dead.. Or that thy beauties lie in wormie bed. 1651 W. LESLIE *Faire Æthiopian* x. 176 The men of Sere, Who brought the King two silken robes to weare, Of daintie sleaue drawne from their wormie trees. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 345 Loves wormey ground. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* III. 281 Feelingly sweet is stillness after storm, Though under covert of the wormy ground! 1858 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* (1890) IV. 76 The wormy grave brought into antagonism with the scenting of the early dawn. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* II. iv. 71 Birds..busily scratched their food out of the wormy earth.

*transf.* 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xlix, Wherefore all this wormy circumstance? Why linger at the yawning tomb so long?

**4.** Resembling a worm; worm-like.

Formerly in techn. terms, esp. *Anat.*; as *wormy body* [tr. *corpus lumbricosum*: see WORM *sb.* 11 b], the epididymis; *wormy process* = vermiform process (VERMIFORM 3 b).

1543 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 23 b, When thys foresayd wormye body hath attayned to the myddle regyon..of thee stone, it..is no more..thycke wretched, but playne, smoth, and round. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 345 Loves wormey ground. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* III. 281 Feelingly sweet is stillness after storm, Though under covert of the wormy ground! 1858 DE QUINCEY *Body of Man* 177 The anterior and posterior processes of the brains, called vermi-formes or the wormy processes. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Wks.* IV. xxix. 299 The..other [muscles of the hand] are called, by reason of their figure, the *Lumbrici* or wormy muscles. a 1680 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 60 Pliny.. calls it *Cancrus Nauticus*, or the Wormy Berry.

1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 220 A weary, wormy darkness, spurred i' the flank With flame, that it should eat and eat itself Like some tormented scorpion. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* VII. 351 The dreadful wormy thing! Seemed it the wrongful guile about her neck [*fit tortile collo aurum ingens celuber*]. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 327 With fleshy, brilliant, long, wormy festers instead of buds. 1893 MRS. CAMPBELL *Village T.* (1896) 152 Lumps of sticky cocoanut and deliciously long, wormy native sweets.

**b.** *fig.* Crowdedly; earthy; crooked, tortuous.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxxvii. 459 Hereby wee are brought to a Just Contempt of sordid and wormie Affections. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 499 To be of a creeping and wormy disposition, ..to raise the Soule unto a higher Contemplation, than Base and Worldly. 1660 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 353. I have constantly considered the light of the Sun married as a husband to the Earth and the Globe with it; one Heavenly and constant; but the other wormy or corruptible. 1888 BROWNING *King & Bk.* VI. 665 That is the fruit of all such wormy self-contrivance, the unapproved of God: You cannot find their author's end and aim.

**5.** Of or pertaining to worms. *poet.*

1820 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IX. xxiii, Next with naked hand, She pluck'd the bough in wormy mischief left. 1821 — The wormy wax she took, That, from the perforated tree forced out, Betray'd its insect-parent's work within. 1842 HOOD *Ode Tree* iii. 35 With sudden fear her wormy quest The Thrush abruptly quits.

†**Worn,** *v. Obs. rare.* [? repr. OE. *weornian* to wither, fade.] *intr.* To waste *away*.

1538 STARKEY *England* 76 And so hyt fallyth into many fest dekey, and by lytyl and lytyl wormyth away.

**Worn** (wɒ̄n, wōrn), *ppl. a.* Forms: see WEAR *v.*1; also ? wooren. [pa. pple. of WEAR *v.*1]

**1.** Impaired by wear or use, or by exposure; showing the results of use or attrition.

1598 FLEMING *Pantol. Pt. cii.* Wks. (1876) 196 Heuen & eeth shall perysshe..theye condycions shall in maner be lyde & worne. 1563 in *Inventaires de la Royne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) 37 Mair ane vther cott of fiew veluus weill auld and worne. 1577 HANMER *Chron. Ireland* (1809) 200 Worne houses and rotten, *exeat Aries*. 1585 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* vi. 17 The waighye pott of Bacchus with worne eares [*attrita auribus*]. 1596 TUSSER, *Vnnecie* xxii. 64 Whether it be a worne footing or a sharpe curtying foote. 1817 KEATS *Spec. Induction* 15 From the worn top of some old battlement. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, His dress consisted of..a worn dark suit. 1847 A. GATTY *Bell Pref.*, The worn pen of an habitual sermon writer. 1887 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 8/1 By the new arrangement, bankers in the country are deprived of all excuse for not sending in their worn coins. 1903 EDITH WHARTON *Cust. Country* II. xv. 203 The curtains of worn damask.



**b.** *fig.* Of words or ideas: Hackneyed by use or repetition; trite.

1569 ROZET tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 37 Hys woren Romyshe trashe patched and newly redressed. 1640 R. CARPENTER *Experience* III. v. 47 According to the worne axiome of Divinity, Grace perfecteth nature. 1653 LANDON *Immag. Court., L. Phillips & Guizot* Wks. 1876 VI. 563 There you will see the most honourable men at the helm of government, who never thought their worn words worth keeping any more than their worn cloaths.

**2.** Of persons: Wasted, enfeebled, or exhausted by toil, exposure, age, anxiety, or ill-health; showing signs of such enfeeblement. (Cf. *care-worn.*)

Also of animals.

1598 [see 1]. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v., An old worne souldiour. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 64 Finding him so worne and wasted with continuall mourning. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 164 Though..The hie and mightie gods should say they would againe renew To youth my worne corpse. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1368/1 To doctor Sanders a naturall borne subiect, but an vnnaturall seruitor against his owne Prince. 1590 PEEVS *Mem. Navy* (1906) 85 A worn unassisted Secretary. 1607 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 400 So worn, so wretched, so despis'd a Queen. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 9 & The counsel Tender emotions spreading from the heart To his worn cheek. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, The President..looked somewhat worn and careworn, and well he might. 1893 — *Bleak Ho.* xxiv, I..was shocked to see the worn look of his handsome young face. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* iii. 48 The stream seeking to replace by more human nature—the world of art. 1891 T. B. ALDRICH *Lauder* (Cent.) Lead the worn war-horse by the plumed bier.

**b.** Of land: Spent, exhausted, no longer fertile.

1682 *Lib. Pres. Soc.* 30 Which Inclosures they will keep up for several years, until the Ground becomes so worn, that the Flowers will thrive there no longer. 1860 WORCESTER cited Gwp.

†**3.** Of time, a period: Past, spent. *Obs.*

1612 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 142 Infirmitie (Which waits vpon worne times).

**4.** With adv. (See also WORN-OUT.)

**a.** *Worn* in senses 1, 2 above.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 147 The poor worn-down sort [of horses] are the most common victims of this barbarity. 1832 G. LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 265 A worn-down crater. 1845 *Penny Cycl. Nat. Sc.* (1851) 440 The worn-down sandstone. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 876/2 The old worn-down tooth is shed.

**b.** *Worn-in,* ingrained by attrition or exposure to weather, etc. (WEBSTER.)

1883 *Gd. Words* Aug. 543/2 Weather-stain and worn-in dirt.

†**c.** *Worn-up* (WEAR *v.*1 10 b) = WORN-OUT 2.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A purchaser of worn-up horses.

Hence **Worn-ness,** worn condition.

1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vi. 72 The first poetry, the first fresh touches [of her new life]..were passed into established use, and dwindled into sameness and commonness.

**Worne,** rare obs. form of WARN *v.*

**Wornel, wornil,** var. ff. WERNIL.

**Worn-out,** *ppl. a.* [See WEAR *v.*1 9 b, 10 b, 11, 17. Cf. OUTWORN.]

**1.** Of material things: Injured, damaged, defaced by wear, usage, attrition, or exposure, esp. to such a degree as to be no longer of use or service. † Of garments: Discarded, old-fashioned.

1618 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Polyolb.* iv. 72 The errour I imagine to be from restoring of worn-out times in Rede and other records. 1619 SANDYS *Travt.* 40 The bases whereof the Inuite there now worne out characters. 1637 SPELMAN in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 153 A single letter in a worne-out words is a great help to revive what wanteth. a 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* (1655) 1 It is a very decrepit and almost worn-out stamp of that glorious Image in which at first God made man. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xii. 282 For..triangular Punches, as also for worn-out or three square Files. 1758 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xiii. 38 For the bribe of a worn-out coat. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bec., Pantomime's Shop*, The worn-out thin shoes. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* 61 The worn-out vein of transition. 1865 THOLUPE *Bellon Kal.* xxii. 259 The worn-out carpets and old-fashioned chairs. 1875 BURNAND *My Time* xxxiv. 372 Here was a worn-out hack in a sad condition.

**b.** Of a colour: Dull; not bright or vivid.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apocynum*, Small Umbels of worn-out purple-coloured Flowers. 1812 *New Bot. Garden* 9 Their flowers of Asclepias Syriaca] are of a worn-out purple colour.

**2.** Of persons, living things, etc.: Utterly exhausted and wasted in strength or vitality.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Feb. 1695 The Hospital design'd to be built at Greenwich for worn-out seamen. 1758 J. WILLIAMSON *Life* (1822) 49 They used all proper means to recover my worn-out spirits. 1760 WESLEY *Minutes* Wks. 1872 VIII. 357 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive, if he wants it, at least ten pounds a-year. 1793 COWPER *To Mary* 55 Thy worn-out heart will break at last. 1795–6 WORDSW. *Borderers* IV. iv, We kill a worn-out horse, and who but women Sigh at the deed? 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 93 The rough and the worn-out Hedges. 1851 D. JERROLD *Mr. Caudle* ix. 105 He's worn out as a worn-out, broken-winded horse. 1852 HOSKYNS *Talpa* 78 The specific operation of lime upon a worn-out soil. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 505 This practice of crossing with a Gamecock was much in vogue with the old breeders, to improve a worn-out stock. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xiv. 496 There, in the woods, worn-out men sank down on the bare, frozen ground.

**b.** Of a smile: Faint, feeble, ' wan '.

1892 LOVER *Handy Andy* xiv, At last, with 'bated breath,' and a very worn-out smile, [she] faltered forth.

**3.** Of ideas, devices, etc.: Hackneyed by use, trite, stale, out of fashion. Of institutions: Effete.

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iii. 7 Your cold Hypocrisie's a stale Device, A worn-out Trick. 1782 COWPER *Mutual Forbearance* 5 Those hangings, with their worn-out graces. 1802 HT. LEE *Canterb. Tr.* IV. 3 Under the claims of a sort of antiquated and worn-out nobility. 1819 in *Croker Papers* 3 May, His speech..treated a worn-out subject so as to make it appear a new one. 1861 W. STALLING *Hale & Ht. Lit.* II. 23 This composition..exhibits the worn-out Grecian mythology in an aspect of pis turesque novelty. 1892 KINGSLEY *Westw.* xv, I am too old for that worn-out quibble. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii. (1898) 294 The House of Lords.. was an effete and worn-out institution.

†**4.** Of time: Past, departed. *Obs.*

1583 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1350 This patterne of the worne-out age.

Hence **Worn-outness** (also *-outiness*).

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ii, The worn-outiness of the old pony on which he used to ride. 1898 D. GRESSONY *Side Lights* 434 Receiving allowances ..on the same plea of wornoutness.

**Wrod, obs.** pa. t. WORRY *v.*

**Wrow(e, obs.** forms of WORBY *v.*

**Wrorp,** obs. forms of WARP *sb.* and *v.*

**Wrpple, var.** of WARPLE *sb.* and *v.*

†**Worral.** *Obs.* Also **warral, wural, (woralls).** [a. Arab. $J_{\ddot{\jmath}}$ *waral.*] A monitor lizard; = VARAN.

1724 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Aleppo* Add. 3 Here is found a large Serpent which has legs and claws, called Woralls. 1738 T. SHAW *Trav.* 449 Of the Lizard kind, the Waral is of 20 or 30 cubits length. 1744 PHILLIPS *Hist. Sultan* 61 Diverted with Musick, that I have seen several of them keep exact Time and Motion with the Dervishes, in their circulatory Dances. 1793 R. POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 208 The Worral.. is..four feet long,..has a forked tongue. 1796 C. THOMPSON *Trav.* III. 326 The Worral is a Sort of Lizard, which sometimes is thirty or forty Inches in Length.

**Worre,** obs. f. WAR *sb.*1, *v.*, WAR *a.* and *adv.*

**Worret, Worrey:** see WORRIT, WORRY *v.*

**Worriable** (wʌ·riăb'l), *a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be worried or roughly treated.

1826 C. LLOYD MORGAN in *Nature* XXVI. 524/2 A dog can call his companions to a worriable rat.

**Worricow** (wʌ·rikou). *Sc.* Forms: 6 **wirry-cow, -kow,** 8–9 **wirricow, ſ-kow.** *B.* 8–9 **worry-, worricow** (9 **worricow, warricoe**). [f. WORRY *v.* + COW *sb.*3 (as if 'a goblin apt to worry').] A scarecrow; a hobgoblin. Also *transf.* a person of frightful or unprepossessing appearance.

1716 RAMSAY *On Maggy Johnstoun* xi, I think'd up my dizzy Pow, Frae 'mang the Corn like Wirricow. 1728 — *Gen. Mistake* 281 Much hated Gowk, tho' vers'd in kittle Rules, To be a Wirry-kow to writing Fools. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John of Arnha'* (1882) 41 Or, like a worricow in a temple, That brinstane belsh. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* vi, That's Yawkins and his crew..the ill-contriving wirricows.

*B.* 1737 DRYDEN *Virgil's Æneis* I. 81 I canna be your commander Monsieur de Champigny, running about in the dark like a worricow. 1786 H. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 122 The worrycow gid sic a yell. 1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 2 Where's your imp, an' warricoe, An' goblins dwell. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, They do say there's a sort o' worricows and lang-nebbit things about the land. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* xii. It..keeps unceevil folk frae staring as if ane were a worrycow.

**b.** with *the* = the Devil.

1719 W. HAMILTON *2nd Ep. Ramsay* xiii, May thou..thro' thy vitals..Be hunted by the worricow, After Auld Nick's dread. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* vii, Auld Wald tales.. O' warlocks loupin' round the wirrikow.

**Worried** (wʌ·rid), *ppl. a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ED.] In senses of the vb.: Killed or mangled by biting, etc.; maltreated, harassed; troubled or distressed in mind.

1599 BP. COX in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. vi. 90 God was mightily angred with his People, because they offered unto God the Blind, Lame and worried Sacrifice. 1600 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* xx. 8 Reason's sensitiers doe beleager My worried soule. 1648 — *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 115/2 Can poore affrighted Lambs wanton, and frisk upon the pleasant Plaines, when the worried Mothers tremble at the Quest of every Curre? a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIV. lxx, His worryed limbs forthwith the Soldiers stretch To the Bottom to His wounding Tree. *Ibid.* XIX. xxxviii. Must thou Sail from thy quiet Home, and yield to be The worried Slave of all the Winds that blow. 1800 HURDIS *Favorite Village* 111 The stench Which midway meets him in his worried flight. 1825 C. K. SHARPE *Corr.* (1888) II. 347, I am now better—but a good deal shaken, as they say of hard riders. 1864 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* IV. 194 A fagged, worried, hard-working, dusty-footed labouring man. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. v, 'I don't mean that,' said Mrs. Boffin, with a worried look. 1887 Miss BALLARD *Jack & Jill* xxxviii, 'You look ill and worried,' said the Colonel. 1903 BRIDGES *Wintry Delights* 248 And 'tis a far escape from wires, wheels and penny papers And the worried congestion of our Victorian era.

**Worrier** (wʌ·riəɹ). Forms: 6 *Sc.* **wirrear, -iare, ?-ier;** 6 **wurrior,** *Sc.* **worriar,** 7– **worrier.** [f. WORRY *v.* + -ER.]

**1.** An animal that kills or injures others by biting and rough treatment. Also *fig.*

1536 LINDESAY *Compl. Papingo* 68 For I half bene, ay to this hour, Ane wirrear of lamb and hog. 1583 *Elgin Kec.* (New Spalding Club) I. 173 Calling him auld wouff facet theiff carle and worriar of scheip. 1606 BUSHE *Kirk-Buriall* vi. (1833) B 4 b, Diogenes..being admonished that so he should be tome by birds and beasts, did reyre a taunt, in requiring a cudgell to be couched betwixt his head and his wirriers away. 1636 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* 35 Being doubtlesse very threwes, robbers, wolves, and worriers of the Flocks. 1663 J. NEWTON *Prodigies* iii. 8 4 (1665) 109 Rivers Above terrestrial Dogs (as they called their more material and coarser sort of Demons, conceived the Worriers of

Souls) 1730 SWIFT *Exam. Abuses Dublin* 12 Tory Dogs, whereof great Numbers have since been so prudent, as intirely to change their Principles, and are now justly esteemed the best Worriers of their former Friends. 1839 HOOD *Lady Dee Indict* 31 Go where the fierce musquito is a worrier 1882 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl* (ed 2) 99 The Worrier Dog—the Cow with Crumpled horn

†**b** *jocularly* A swiller of (liquor) *Sc. Obs.*

1584 *Lez Br St Andr* 11 12 Still daylie drinckand or he dyne, A worriare of the guide sweni wyne

**2** One who harasses or persecutes another

1712 STERLE *Spect* No 304 76 Certain Persons who by the Strength of their Arms, and Foudness of their Throats draw off the Regard of all Passengers from your said Petitioner from which Violence they are distinguished by the Name of *the Worriers*. 1734 SWIFT *Advice Christchurch* 81 WKS 1765 XIII 291 On this Worrier of Deans whenever we can hit, We'll shew him the way how to crop and to bit

**3** One who causes distress of mind to another, also, one who gives way to anxiety or mental disquietude

1851 *Lond Dict* 1897 *Indep* (N Y) 11 Feb 3/1 Worry is from inside and the Worrier is worried 1918 *Sat Rev* 28 Dec 802/1 Both brothers write of their mother, an excellent woman but a worrier—of the son who was sent back and about the son she was innocent from

**Worriless** (*wɒ* rilės), *a.* [f WORRY *sb* + -LESS] Free from worry.

1889 *Science* 1 Feb 88/2 The professor leading a comparatively congenial and worriless life, in a deeper sleeper (than the lasher).

**Worriment** (*wɒ* rimĕnt) Chiefly *C. S.* [f WORRY *v* + MENT] The act of worrying or causing anxiety; the state of being worried or troubled in mind. Also, something that harasses or causes worry

1855 HALIBURTON *Nat & Hum Nature* I xv 128 The worriment we have had to get the money lately has set you a dreaming. 1863 B TAYLOR *H Thurston* I iv 91 Over and over again he had been on the point of giving her up, out of sheer worriment and exhaustion of soul. 1866 'G. F. HARRINGTON' *Jonathan to Time* 18 A special vexation in her arsenal in the worriment of her husband's. 1883 L. P. ROSS in *Harper's Mag* Dec 46 1 Her slight tendency to worry vanish others a world of worriment 1886 B ROSECRANS *Paper Queen* I x 165 Ready with vinegar, hartshorn and the usual worriments it needs no recitation 1918 MRS ALICE HARKER *Shepherd of Wonderlands* vii 108, I don't know how they'll take this fresh worriment

**Worrisome** (*wɒ* rĭsŏm, *a* [f WORRY *sb* or *v* + SOME] Apt to cause worry or distress, given to worrying

1869 BLACKIE *Self-Culture* D xli, I must give orders that it [a note] is at once, with all the worrisome cough I yours 1882 H C. MERIVALE *Time of Pitt* II i xiv 43 Which is likely to be me before long the highest grade of these worrisome days 1893 *Harper's Mag* Dec 61 The best and the most worrisome woman that God ever made.

So **Worrisomely** *adv*

1869 J. BEALMENT *Joy he* xix VII, How worrisomely cross and peevish were they feel le yea s

**Worrit** (*wɒ* rĭt), *sb. colloq* Also 9 et [f the vb] A state of worry or mental distress, a fretting care or anxiety. Also, a person that worries others or himself

1858 DICKENS *O Twist* xvii, A poor shal life, man cou ti ued Mr Humble to a life of worrit and vexation and hardsh ood. 1864 II Ashwell *Life Bp Wilberforce* (1880) II vii 241 Assuaging any and every worrit, temporal and spiritual. 1898 DEACON *Dom Joseph* I xxii 1 Mrs. Richards's eldest Miss Sarah and Susan and the women (Mrs Richards's life!" 1881 CALDERON *Characters* I In less cares and endless worrits well I know, has a wife 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Hatchback* 189 The [wife] is an old not mind strictness, but they would not stand worrying B ws as kindly and good natured as possible, but he was a worrit

**Worrit** (*wɒ* rĭt), *v. colloq* Also 9 -et [App a vulgar alteration of WORRY *v.* Cf WHERRIT, WERRIT.]

1 *trans* To worry, distress, vex, pester.

1818 LAMB *Let to Mrs Wordsworth* 18 Fish, I have pests worrit me at his inness. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw* xxvi, 'Don't w rrit your poor mother, said Mr Sanders. 1848 JACKSON *Wande Man. Faster* lvii, Lord bless us how she did use to worret us at Sunday sch ol 1854 W C. LLIAMS *Rhyme & Seek* II xiv (1902) 333 Why worrit yourself about finding Arthur Lucas dil? 1865 J R GREEN *Lett* (1901) III 235 I have been worriting myself these last days with those Welsh chaps and our early history

**b.** with adverb extension

1854 W COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II x (1904) 259 It don't do me to good it only worrits me into a pers ration 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* xvi 126 Sir Abraham would not pass an iher income while he has been worreted out of the hospital 1872 GEO ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxvii. II 66 It will worret you to death, Lucy, that I can see

**2.** *intr.* To give way to worry; to experience or display mental disquietude, impatience, etc

1856 W COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II xiv (1904) 317 It was how to track the m in as was Mary's death, that I puzzled and worrited about in my head it all t me 1857 KING *Prin Taste Age* viii (1881) 197 He s ays, and worrits, and will speak to her sometimes for t while morning 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* II xx viii I took alive sir! I come —hustle, hustle! It's gone six o'clock Why, father, how you keep on worriting!'

Hence **Worriting** *vbl sb* and *ppl a.*

1857 DICKENS *D rrit* I xxiii, There would be none of this "worriting and wearing 1858 GERALDINE JEWSBURY *Zoe* I 33 [He] is just the ch ughtiest a d most worrisome boy I ever saw 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf* I xi 174 Here and there some worriting energizing mortal gets command of a boat 1872 SHIELS *Character* VIII 229 Worreting, petty, and self tormenting cares.

**Worrow**, obs. form of WORRY *v*

**Worry** (*wɒ* ri), *sb.* [f the vb]

**1.** A troubled state of mind arising from the frets and cares of life, harassing anxiety or solicitude.

1804 W WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) III 190 Broomfield is a scene of almost as much bustle as Old Palace Yard So much for this, that the incessant worry (it is an expressive word) of this house makes me think of quitting it 1835 MARTINEAU *Jac Faithf* xxv It were better to know the worst at once, than to be kept on the uneasy all y ur days. 1838 DICKENS *Oliv Twist* xxvi, After all the worry of mind I have endured this day 1844 DICKENS *Martin Chuz* xxvii Martin felt, from the fatigue, and heat, and worry, as if he could have fallen on the ground 1862 MRS H WOOD *Mrs Hallib* II xxvi (1888) 290 The fact is I have a good deal of worry upon me 1891 SHIELS *Characteristics* VII 19 Cheerfulness enables nature to recruit its strength, where as worry and discontent debilitate it. 1899 MRS CRAIK *Young Mrs Jardine* III ix 227 It is not work that kills, but worry.

*transf* 1866 LONGF *Flower-de luce* II, Thou laughest at the mill, the whir and wo ry of spindle and of loom

**b** An instance or case of this, a cause of, or matter for, anxiety, *pl.* cares, solicitudes.

1893 *Sketches* 4/1 Of course you had a lot of worries while you were at work Mrs. Mac was in 1894 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C* v 27 Eliza could in here in a great worry, crying in a tu bulent manner 1896 WESTCOTT *Bishop's Inheritance* 7 There is scarcely a greater worry with which invalids have to endure than the incurable hopes of their friends. 1899 LEVER *Tom regart Dunn* I 76 Dublin was kept in a state and repose from the cares and worries of life, said Lord Lackington 1868 LOUISA M ALCOTT *Little Women* II Rich people have all out many worriers as poor ones, I think 1899 *Atlantic Cyc Med* II 1 Add to heart to worry the left hand a labour and a worry 1918 *Times* 3 May 10/5 His chief worry was that he was unable to be of any further use

**2.** The action of worrying and shaking an animal so as to injure or kill it. (Properly of hounds when they seize their quarry.)

1847 SURTEES *Hab & Charinge* xii 250 The whole pack flew from their noses to the worry, and rolled one over another in the struggle for possession 1851 D. LAWRENCE *Mr red & Gown* III 28 They will join in the 'w rry' as eagerly as the younge t hound 1882 C I OWO MORGAN in *Nature* 8 June 126 Such a worry would kill a man. expansion of the successful 'worry [of a cat] he had just enjoyed 1886 *Jones's Sporting Notes* III 155 And then unong the reeds in a rolling over, a c nfusion, and a w rry

*trans* 1901 *Westm Gaz* 18 Feb 3/3 *Christmas* (1902) 100 If here is a brief and l reat less 'worry at the top, and the hills are few Few boors have remained to face the b y; nety

**3** Institution or morbid stimulation (of bodily tissue)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* III 750 This f rm of l sene s ap ears to be due to direct worry of the mu cous membrane

**Worry** (*wɒ* ri), *v. Also and ppple* **worried** Forms: 1 *wyrgan*, 4 *wyrie*, 4–5 *wirwe*, *wirie*, *wyry*, *e*, *wyrry*, *e* 5 *wyrwyn*, *wyrhy*, 5–7 *wirrie*, *wyrry*, 6 *Sc* wirrey, virry, 5–6, 9 *Sc* wirry. 8. 4 *werew*, *Sc* wer(e)ry, 4–6 *were*, (5 *were*, werou-), 5 7, 9 *dial* werry, 6 *wearey*, 6–7 *wearie*, *weary*. γ 4–6 worow(e, (4 *pa pple* yworewid, 5 *pa t* wrod, 6 *3rd sing* woroeth), 5 worwyn, 6 7 worrow, 7 *worwry*, 4–7 wory(e, 5 *vory*), worie, 6 worrye, 6 7 wooxry(e, woorie, worrey, whorry, worr' in verse), 6–8 worwry, 6– worry [Of *wyrgan* = Ol ru. *wurgjan* to kill, MLG *worgen*, MDu *worghen* (Du *wurgen*, *wurgen*), to strangle, throttle, OHG. *wurgan*, *wurkjan* MHG *wurgen*, *wurgen*, *G wurgen*), to strangle, worry, kill by violence —OTeut **wurgjan*, related to **wurg-*, a strong vb stem found in MHG. *wrwrgen* to throttle. — Indo-Eur **wergh*.

The e and ẹ forms (*wirry* and *werry*) are normal ME. developments of *wirie* and *werie*, and have survived in many d. The y forms apparently represent a late WS **wurgan*, with later graphic substitution of *w-* for *wu-*, see the note to WOMAN *sb.* The ri ing of the sound of this form is indicated by the late spellings with *wrow-*.]

†**1.** *trans.* To kill (a person or animal) by compressing the throat; to strangle *Obs.*

*c* 1295 *Corpus Glass* 5 58 *Strangulat*, wyrȝeð *uel* smorð 1340 *Ayenbite* 192 On þe morwe, hwan it was day, He on other wirwed lay, Ale it were dogges þat weren henged 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII 534 (MS *B*) Harald shrewe þat wirwed his broþer Knoud [*MS D* wyrryed] hym with his hondes middle he be the rather delyvered out of his clowes *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 530/1 Wyrwyn, *strangulo*, *jugulo* 1530 PALSGR *Introd* viii 1 96 I am great serpentes That quil lik he wyrreit wyth his handis tuay 1578 LINDSAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) II 191 They were wirreit with ane tow 1868 *Rep Pris Discipl* (1885) VII 185 He tuke the said complenner be the throat and th ought to have wryed her or she had awaked

*B c* 1300 *Havelok* 1915 Weren ich werewed *c* 1325 *Sc Leg Saints xxxi* (*Nicholas*) 904 He wryȝ he þam [*cum strangulant sc.*]. 1456 SIR G HAYE *Law Arms* (S T S) 23 His fiende wryȝt him in his bed 14 *Quatuor Serm* (1862) 31 Þe deuelle is dessauce wit þan wergs or dotes þeyr generacioun 1483 *Cath Angl* 424/2 To Wery, *strangulare*, *suffocare*

γ 13 *M Grog Scental* 1910 *Min Poems fr Vernon MS* 62 Anon as hire child I toren was Þe Nekke heo nom, þe child I-to worwiede [*cf MS* wyryede] 14 *Promp Parv* 532/2 (MS K) Worwyn, *suffoco* in wyryng. 1483 *Cath Angl* 420/2 To Worowe, *jugulare suffocare* 1530 PALSGR *Introd Corpond Tractive* 11 *in Wolfrom Misc* (1844) I 104 I that thay shuldayne fra it that is worreit (Acts iv 10) 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath Irelandes* (S T S) 240/5 Least Laudiane knawis the loue and fidelitie of ane of thair Ministers towards his wyf, wha wornet hir before he passit to his preaching

†**b**, *fig. Obs.*

1587 TREVISA *Higden* VII 461 Þese wexe so riche þat it semede þat þe doustir passede and wernede [*v rr* wyryede, wyryed wyrryde] þe moder [*ut false dit sta matrem super eredes videretur se suffocare*].

†**2.** To choke (a person or animal) with a mouthful of food. Used with the food as subj, or *refl* and *pass* Const. *on* (the food), hence *to be worried*, or *worry oneself*, *on* = to devour greedily. Also *fig. Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 16929 At til resun þe thrid dai had fughten gain sathan, And weriid him on his aun hat, als hund es on a ban 14 WYNTOUN *Chron* VII 311 (WEMYSS MS.) Lhd lat neuer of it a crote, Till I be wery[t *r r* wyryd, wyreyd], pass oure my throte *c* 1500 SKELTON *Magnyf* 1568 On suche a female my fleashe wolde be wroken weryed I wolde be on suche a baste *a* 1529 — *Speke Parrot* 99 Loth I saye, our cat Worriowyd her on that Which I loued best 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* II 66 1 How Godowyn worreit Ilmself to Deid in Presence of Edward King *Abel*, The Lord stak so fast, it worreit him to deid 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron Scot* (1821) II 276 'God gif that hreid worry me, gif ever I wes othir art or part of Alar slis slaucht.' And incontinent, he fell doun werryt in the bed 1694 RAY *N C Words* 55 To be *Worsted*, to be choak't *a* 1779 D GRAHAM *Collect Werst* (1883) II 39 She squattles up a mi ssh kkin a naught, which was like to worry her

†**b** *intr* (for *refl*) To be choked, to choke. Const *on* (as above) *Obs.*

*c* 1440 WYNTOUN *Chron* VII 304 Swa suddanly richt at he burde He werest 1500 DUNBAR *Flyting* 221 Now quhill thair is gudde wyne to sell, Ile thair doun thy lirsd wyry[ *r* wirrie], I gif him to the Devill of hell 1715 in Maidment *Old Ballads* (1844) 33 He like a fool, did eat the cow, And worried on the tail 1796 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Life & Spirits* (1884) v 121 A great fat cake so short he ked that you would think he would worry [at] every word he spoke 1901 MARY *Scot Fern* 385 You fasted long, and worried on a Fly.

†**c** Of smoke To suffocate (a person) *Obs*

1755 *Hom of Gordon* xv in Child *Ballads* III 434 Dear mother, gie owre your bowrs to burn, Nae langer can I stan.

**3.** *trans.* To seize by the throat with the teeth and tear or lacerate, to kill or injure by biting and shaking. Said e.g. of dogs or wolves attacking sheep, or of hounds when they seize their quarry.

*a* 1380 (see b) 1393 LANGL *P Pl C* x 206 Wolues þat wryȝeþ mery, wommes þat þe wolf ete 1450 HENRYSON *Tale Uplf Cadger* 25 Mak ane suddand schow vpon ane scheip, þow with thy wappanis wirrie him to ded 1549 *Compl Scotl* 156 I here by reason of your pryde and ill ar vreis there maxter as acteon was virreit 1606 *Histy Ignite* 72 My dog, wirried my neigi bou s sow, and the sow died 1823 *Fyte Alter Age* 18 Ilk ane Mouschie and cur duggis quha wyrrees and deuoures their sheip

*B c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* (*Andreas*) 259 Swyne hundis com quylare he bis, and werȝ hym a day 1 *c* 1400 *Alex & Dind* 64 He wolde I-en wery and drinke the blode *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent Mirr* xviii 46 Þe ȝe þriete Aldo þat was wernede or wirwed of þe lyoune 1559 *Mor Prat Pilgrimage* Kiv b Þat my enimye be taken & Mischefe þe dogges do werye & kyll 1586 WHITSTONE *Engl Mirr* 1 44 If a Beare appeare, they will all ioyne to weare him 1599 PURLE *Dread & Hatbuild* Biv The mastiues of Iaua shall worry ye 1609 *Ev Woman in Hum* v 1 in Bullen *O Pl* IV, Acteon was werried to death with his own dogs *c* 1625 GOUGE *Gods Arrows* (1631) 370 When he obserueth that the Wolf hath weaned some sheep

*absol* 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl* II (1818) 141 Farre from home it cost Eares many a one.

γ 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Conse* 1229 Lyons, liparides and wolwes kene, þat wald worow men bylyve, And rogg þam in sunder and ryve. 13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1905 Kȝ 158 Þer he hora fete ȝaf fel on hyȝn alle, and worȝed hem þik wyly with a wroth noyse 1 *c* 1400 *Morte Arth* 958 Sone warlawe wyȝ, he worowe ve alle! *c* 1400 *Lanf Cirurg* 80 Þe ȝerbe þat is cleped Cynogiis wolde not seye, bot dongis þam lastes veries. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 420 And with þat he ran on be seke lambe and worod it. 1579 GOSSON *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 39 The mere of Hyrcania, that keepe Mastiffes, to woorrye them selues 1592 BACON *Observ Libel* (end) Remedy (1657) 150 The persecutions of the Primitive Church As that, of Nursing Elpenis, under the Skins of Beasts by Dogs, and so worrying them 1600 *Leycesters Commw* Med iii D 4, Alas! the raui nous Wolues will worr' thy Sheepe 1639 J CLARKE *Parœm* 36 Many dogs may easily worrie one Beare 1680 H STUBBE *Lett* (1881) 285 Ralph Nixon had three sheep worry'd to death in one night 1795 *Life John Metcalf* 3 One of the young hounds happening to worry a sheep 1844 STRICKLAND *Bk Farm* II 88 Many dogs are in the habit of looking out for sheep to worry, at some distance from their homes 1862 C BRONTË *Shirley* xxi, She bit me. She worried me like a tigress 1866 AUGUSTA WILSON *St. Lilmo* v, Did not he worry down and mangle one of my best Scotch ews? 1887 *Times* 8 May 13/2 Defendant's dog seized Mrs Miller by the leg, and bit her several times, throwing her down, and worrying her very much

*absol.* 1870 EMERSON *Gareth & Lynette* 590 Such a dog am I, to worry, and not to flee 1899 H D RAWNSLEY *Life & Nat Sng Lakes* 173 A dog that shows signs of worrying is 'put down at once

**b.** *fig* (or in figurative context)

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks* (1880) 94 No warde to lem hou faste be wolues of helle wriȝen cristen soulis. 1399 LANGL *Rich Redeles* III 72 His own kynde briddis, þat weren wel ny yworewid with a wrop gelder 1509 BARCLAY *Dyalogue* iv 21 114 b/2 To play yᵉ wyly foxes & wryry simple soules & poor lambes 1549 (see 3 *c*) 1560 DAUS tr *Sleidane's Comm* 318 That they ouercee that ther Ministers do theyr dutye, that the wolues do not worrye the flocke 1563 LOK *Ps & M* 1442/2 My L. is it not enough for you to worry your own sheepe, but ye must also meddle wt other mens sheepe? 1609 HOLLAND *Ammianus Marc* 238 Even so

those parts of our life which are diseased, naught and ill affected, these they seize upon, and are ready to worry and pluckе in pieces. 1641 Milton *Reform.* ii Wks. 1851 III 67 To let them still bale us, and worrey us with their band dogs, and Purievants. 1690 C Nesse *O. & N Test* I. 317 Herod pretended to worship Christ when he intended to worry him. 1865 R F Burton *Wand. W. Africa* I. 1 White sea dogs coursed and worried one another over Father Mersey's breadth of mud.

**c.** *transf.* To bite at or upon (an object); to kiss or hug vehemently; to utter (one's words) with the teeth nearly closed, as if biting or champing them.

1587 Golding *Ovid's Met.* XIII 568 Queene Hecub running at a stone, with gnarring seazd theron, And wrryed it betweene her teeth [*Lemosibus inquiens*]. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v iii 38 Then againe worry'd he his Daughter, with clipping her. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* iv. 54 And then he grew familiar with their hard, unjoynted ill, and worry'd it with ravenous kisses. 1905 L. J Vance *Ter. O Rourke* x. xiv. As the Irishman entered, Prince Felix said a word, or two, low-toned and tense—worried it out between his teeth, like an ill dispositioned cur. 1914 A N. Lyons *Simple Simon* I. i 13 Their sons, late of the Great School, home from India on leave and unanimously worrying small moustaches of the tooth-brush pattern

**d.** *intr.* To pull or tear *at* (an object) with the teeth.

1820 *Little Lobs* Jan. 24/2 There was Bruno at the parcel, which had only brown paper wrapped round it.

**4.** *trans.* To swallow greedily, devour. Also with *up*. Latterly *north.* and *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5901 Bot aaron wand it wex as kene pas oper it wired (*Gött* wrid, *Fairf.* wryed) al bidene. 1619 A Gil *Logon Angl. Post* (1632) 3 Worme, *Vora*. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav* 235 They had seene him weare many [jewels] and twas them, hee had wourried in his Ostrich appetite. 1643 Hume & Ross *Scots Lang. Uni* lv § 308 Stout feeders do nothing else but devour (never lin warrowing). 1728 Ramsay *Monk & Miller's Wife* 18 Think ye, his gentle stam a's master To worry up a pint of plaister? 1805 G. M'Leish *Poems* 65 (L. D. D.) Great claggs o' meat they ne'er could worry. 1887 *Jamieson Suppl., Worry*, to worry, devour, eat ravenously.

**5.** To harass by tough or severe treatment, by repeated aggression or attack; to assail with hostile or menacing speech.

a 1553 Udall *Ioyster D.* iii. iii. (Arb) 46 But in spite of Custance, which hath hym wemed, I let vs see his mashp e.shemely hurled. 1592 *Greene Conjurer* Wks. 54 I thought verilie they would haue worried one another with words, they were so earnest and vehement. 1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* 12 Hath your wife vsually cholericke and continuall disorder of y ur humores as y whorrie I your senses. 1652 Peyton *Catalo. Ho. Stuarts* 74, I being a man can speak by experience, who hath been most grievously worried by the hand of the Almighty for sins. 1675-7 Warwick *Mem. Chas I* (1701) 321 Cromwell march'd forwards into Scotland and left London to worry Hamilton in England. a 1680 Glanvill *Serm* iv (1682) 218 No mans Life or property will be safe; mankind would worry and prey upon one another. 1725 B. Higgons *Rem. Hamet* II (1758) 177 He cruelly worries the Memory of a Daughter of his, and 1729 Gay *Fl by t* xiv. In contriving at my escape, you save me from your husband's worrying me with threats and violence. 1859 Rock *Text of Fathers* III. i. 302 He's vowed they would give peace to the Land they were then wasting and worrying by fire and sword. 1877 Freeman in *Brit Q Rev* Jan. 80 Perhaps hardly beings out how thoroughly Edward the Third was worried into war by the aggression of Philip. 1885 *Manch. Exam* 23 Feb. 5/3 Having found their range during daylight, they continued to worry our men all the night

*transf* a 1699 J Beaumont *Psyche* xxii v, Soul if not duly worried dog, d with plowd, Hurtwed and torn. 1808 *Allbutt's Syst Med.* V. 304 A repeated application to some of these drugs by worrying the cardiac ganglia tends to dilatation of the heart.

**b.** with advb extension expressing result, as *away, in, to death.*

1595 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Abigo*, He chased or worried away his sonne to Rhodes 1603 Drexer *Wonderful Ear* I. 5 I rest to scratch out false Crosse'ers eyes, and then (which was worse) to worry her to death with scolding. 1629 Milton *Eccl Power* 74 If disjointed of his own accord, like that lost sheep the Church, how much her more are any borrowd force worries him not in vain. 1678 *Pryor Robin's Inst Char. Scotl* 8 Hus she worries him out of his senses at home. 1721 in *Irish Hist. Rlfs. Comm.* App. V. 184 He is worryed to death by those unnatural infants.

**c.** *transf* With adv. (e. g. *out, down*) or advb. phr: To get or bring into a specified condition by harassing treatment, persistent aggression, or dogged effort. Similarly *to worry one's way*

1707 E. Laurence *Duty of Steward* 15 The Tenants have been suffer'd to worry the strength of the Land by sowing Rape, &c 1806-7 J Berkeley *Materia Hum. Life* (1826) xx xxx 256 You at last worry out a solitary spark from the flint. 1830 E. Hale *Ten Times One* iii. 61 While she 'worried down' the tea and ate a slice of toast 1850 *Nature* 4 Sept 455/2 All such points he will delight to worry out for himself. 1854 Cooke *Y Hop-extractor* 19 Worrying out a knotty point in the 'Original Hebrew'. 1858 L. Strahan *Stud. Rept* II ii. 48 Scott worried his way into some understanding of the language by main force. 1900 A Hope *Lucinda* ii. 24 Walked is not quick witted, but he had a good brain. If he got hold of a problem, he would worry it to a solution.

**d.** To irritate (an animal) by a repetition of feigned attacks, etc.

1807 *Spts. Sketch Flymley's Lett* iv. Wks. 1859 II. 146/2, I admit there is a vast luxury in selecting a particular set of Curmudgeons, and in worrying them as a boy worries a puppy dog 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxi, Hissing and worrying the animal [a chained dog] till he was nearly mad

**e.** *U.S.* To afflict with physical fatigue or distress

1828 Webster, *Worry*, . . To fatigue; to harass with labor; a popular sense of the word. 1876 Holland *Sevenoaks* v 60 For three steady hours he went on, the horse no more worried than if he had been standing in the stable.

**f.** Fencing. *To worry the sword* 'to fret one's opponent by small movements in rapid succession which seem about to result in thrusts or feints' (*Century Dict.*).

**6.** In lighter sense: To vex, distress, or persecute by inconsiderate or importunate behaviour; to plague or pester with reiterated demands, requests, or the like.

1672 Milton *Samson* 908 Witness when I was worried with thy peals 1728 Gay *Begg. Op.* ii xiii, I'm barbarous to you to worry a Gentleman in his Circumstances. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks 1840 I. 196 He had continually worried the Assembly with message after message 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xii, You worry me to death with your chatterings. 1846 Landor *Wks.* II 89 (*Athenæ & Rome, dealers*), I am infested and persecuted and worried to death by duns. They belabor and martellate my ears 1882 Mrs. Alexander *Mr. Royal* II. v. 105 She will worry you till you give your consent. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 July 5/3 The supply of ignorant *exeem* to worry visitors with their foolish bibliomeni. 1889 Jessop *County of Appeal* 281 The scholars were not to be worried with everlasting ritual observances. 1897 J B Pattersey *Adam in Moonshine* x. 203 They won't really do anything but worry you with questions.

**b.** with advb. extension *as one, out of* (something).

1709 Swift *Grand Question debated* (1712) 8 But, Madam, I beg you to continue and invent, And worry him out, till he gives his Consent. 1823 Walter Mendle *Reflex. Grandeur* I x 269 Addressing 'dear Angelon' in an affectionate whisper that it would never have kled one to suppose she worried the poor gulls life away. 1860 Holland *Miss Gilbert's Career* xxvi. She had worried him out of his life, and he had gone and left her childless. 1898 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/1 If by chance it [the Bill] should get through committee altogether, going to be worried out of the posts it at ken up by Lord Salisbury, it is making a very grave mistake

**7.** To cause distress of mind to; to afflict with mental trouble or agitation; to make anxious and ill at ease. Chiefly of a cause or circumstance, or *refl.* or *pass*

1382 Hatfite *Table-Talk* xxiii *On great and little Thinges*, Small paines are more within our reach, we can fret and worry ourselves about them 1828 W Irving *Bracebr. Hall Bracebr. Creek*, He had settled the point which had been worrying his mind 1848 Dickens *Dombey* v, I quite fret and worry myself about her. 1866 Geo Eliot *Felix Holt* xxxvi, I won't imagine that mysteries about Harry Lyon worried her 1867 Trollope *Last Chron. Barset* II. xx. 170 Men when they are worried by fears become suspicious 1874 Jevons *Primer Logic* (1890) II iv 95 This self plagiarism sometimes worries my conscience. 1875 Mrs Randolph *Wild Hyacinth* I 74 Don't worry yourself about it, my love 1880 J. S. White *Mrs. Bob* xxi (1891) 78 It pozzles me and worries me to guess why Miss Lavinia always wanted to drop the subject.

**b.** in pr. pple., denoting a state of mind.

1865 Princess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 65, I am sure, dear Mama, you will not be worrying about it. 1867 Trollope *Last Chron. Barset* I. xxi. 179 The subject...was a sore one, and he was worried a little. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xxiii II. 91 Dorothea had a little writhed and was perhaps with mental debate 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VIII. 602 Some patients are attacked (by lichen) when worried or in low conditions

**c.** *intr.* (for *refl.*) To give way to anxiety or mental dejection.

1860 Worcester, *Worry* v. n, to indulge in idle complaining, to fret, to be troubled. (Colloquial.) *Supt.* 1861 Holland *Lesson for Life* xiii. 221 When she can find nothing to do, then she worries. 1874 Lo Coleridge in *Life* (1904) II. ix 244 'Don't cuddle and don't worry' is his recipe for tragedy. 1892 Lounsbury *Text. & Orth.* iv. (1881) 161 Men would no more worry about finding employment than they worry about finding air to breathe. 1901 Atkinson *Sketches* 203 By-and-bye he had no time to worry.

**8.** *intr.* with advb. extension (cf. the transf uses 5 b, c, 6 b above).

**a.** To advance or progress by a harassing or dogged effort, to force or work one's way *through*. Of the wind: To go on blowing in a harassing way.

a 1699 J Beaumont *Psyche* iv. xxvii, Yet worrying among the wood-nymphs, A wracking Mortal *Had* worried, Winter worries forward at his due Determind season, spight of all th' Ice Which clogs his heels 1820 W. Irving *Sk. Bk. (ed. Storrow)* 211 He was naturally a fuming, bustling little man, and could not remain passive. After worried from top to bottom of the castle with an air of infinite anxiety 1883 Symonds *Ital Sky* (1884) 23 For the next three days the wind went worrying on 1901 *Daily Express* 21 Mar 7/1 In the end we worried through and anchored 1903 Kipling *5 Nations* 211 When the wind worries through, it's 'ills

**b.** To get *through* (a business, piece of work) by persistent effort or struggle; so with *through* advb. *To worry along*: to contrive to live, 'keep going', in the teeth of trials or difficulties (*U. S.*).

1873 Howells *Chance Acquaint* (1882) 209 She must try to worry along without him. 1876 Bryant & Gay *Hist United States* IV. 481 I worried through that war without a scratch 1878 *Cleia's Arb* 20, Often on Saturday night I wonder how I have managed to worry through the work of the week. 1885 Howells *Silas Lapham* (1891) I 269, I think I can manage to worry along 1899 *Wes. in. Gaz* 7 Oct. 2 The British farmer has much to contend with, but on the whole he worries through a great deal more successfully than could be expected

**9.** *Comb*: **+worry pear** (*tree*) = Chokepear

1562 Turner *Herbal* II 108 The wyld Pere tre or choake Pere tre or worry Pear tre.

**Worrying** (wʊ·rɪ,ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* Worry *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of strangling or of biting and tearing by the throat.

In quot. 1601 'worrien' is perhaps the word, altered for the rhyme.

1483 *Cath Angl.* 414/2 Worryng, *suffocamen*. 1580 Daus tr *Meidane's Comm.* 422 The moste importune barking age of Dogges, and weriging one an other. 1621 Brathwait *Nat Fantasticke* etc. 194 How easily I did keepe thy woollie store (as I had care) from worrien, scab, sought, the rot or any kind of murren 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xii, I then the astounded I can heard the worrying of a terrier, and the squeak of a dying rat

**2.** The action of harassing, pestering, or distressing.

1848 Dickens *Dombey* iii, Worryings and quellings of young children 1862 *Nat. Rev.* 8 Feb 1-7 Amidst all this worrying and being worried 1864 Carlyle *Frederick* XV xii (1872) VI 218 Such worryings (*ces sortes de comfortements*) leave their mark on a man.

**Worrying**, *ppl. a.* [*f.* Worry *v.* + -ing 2.]

**†1.** Given to harrying or raiding. *Obs.*

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* 209 A greater rabble of worrying freebuters

**2.** Harassing; distressing to the mind or spirits.

1846 F. Reynolds *Life* I. 228 Your whole conduct is literally worrying and annoying in the extreme 1874 Hook *Gilbert Gurney* xx. *New Ab Mog* XII 147 Whether she would allow me to send her anything to clear her up after her worrying journey 1877 Dickens *Pict'ns.* xxxvi, There are few things more worrying than sitting up for somebody, especially if it is somebody we at a party 1883 — *Mut. to Us* vii, Whatever the wound is, it is a worrying wound.

Hence **Worryingly** *adv.*

1842 Moore *Mem* VII. 311 The difficulty still haunts me most worryingly

**Worsam**, var. of Worsum *Obs*, pus.

**Worse** (wɔːs), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wiersa**, **wirsa**, 1–2 **wyrsa** (1 **wuyrsa**), 2 **wurse**, 2–6 **wurse**, 4 **wirse**, 3 **wrse**, 3–6 **wurs**, 3– **worse**, 3–6 **worse**, 4 **worss**, 3–7 **wors**, 6 **woorse**, **wourse**, 7 **worss**, 9 *tsilzar* **wuss**. *β.* 2 **warsa**, **wersa**, 2–6 **werse** (3 *Orm.* **werrse**), 3 **weorse**, 4 **werse**, 4–5 **vers**, 4 **wers**, 5 **were**, 5–6 **wars**, **warse**, 5–6, 8–9 *north* **warss** [OE. *wyrsa*, *wiersa*, OFris. *wersa*, *wirsa* (for **wirsa*, *wersa* by assimilation), Obs. *wirsa*, OHG. *wirsa*, *-ero*, *-oro* (MHG. *wirse*), ON. *verri* (for **wersi*; Sw. *värre*, Da. *værre*; sec WAR *a.*), Goth. *wairsiza* :— O Teut. ***wersizon-z**, f. root ***wers-*, found in OS, OHG. *werran*, G. (*verwirren* to entangle, confound (see WAR *sb.*1) + *-izon-* compar. suffix.

For the graphic change of th- to w- see the notes to Worm *sb.* and Wonder. The *β*-forms appear first in northeast midland texts and are app. due to Scandinavian influence.

**A.** *adj.* Used as the comparative of Bad, Evil, Ill, or as the opposite of Better.

**1.** More reprehensible morally; more wicked, depraved or vicious; more cruel, unkind, or ill-conditioned.

c 888 *Alfred Boeth* xix. § 3 þi he send wyrsan þonne ny þenu þy he nellaõ wunn hweet hi sant. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp* Matt. xii. 45 Þonne gæð he, and nimð mid him seofun oþre gastas wyrsan þonne he, *a* 1122 *O. F. Chron.* an. 1070 (Tod MS.) Ne wæs þa Angelcynne nan wærsa dæd gedon 1154 *Cod. lan* 1140 Oc alle þe manne lif lædeð, þe wurse he bi wurcon him an rædæ þeor. *a* 1225 Ancr. *R.* 130 Idel speche is wurel, ful speche is wurse. c 1300 *Havelok* 1160 He werse was þan Sathanas. 1340 *Ayenb* 64 Ine þise zenne (of swearing) byeþ ine createne worse þanne ine ooþre. c 1386 Chaucer *Sec Nun's Pr. T.* 68 Ne coveite I nevere worse than a feend of helle. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxxviii. 18 Lover and frende hast þou put from me, and my knowen are darcknesse. 1611 Bible *Matt.* xii. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh to him seuen other spirits more wicked then himselfe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1129 Hee who receives Light from Him visible, whom he wants Light more worse Blind. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 1000 Worse than the Wolf, and than the Lion worse. 

anlicnesse† *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 122 Oft sio wund bid ſaes þe wiorse & ły mare, ſif hio bid unwærlice gewriden. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 243 Þy læs wen sie þæt.. God ..na sende on wyrsan timrepzo. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 16 Se silte byð þe wyrs (*þeior seissura fit*). *c* 1000 Ormin 7305 Þa beþ heȝhenn ȝarrkedd mare inoh & werrse þine inn hellis, þann iff ieticc. *c* 1150 *Hall Meid.* (1922) 19 Se þerre deȝree, se þe fal is wurse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7091 We no come to ese him nit of eni trespas, Bote he payde him be bet, þe wors is ende wel. *c* 1382 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 706 Now is my prison worse than biforn. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 293 Yn werse tyme blewe he never hys horne. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xiii. Werse is the mischief of a tonge than the stroke of a spere. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* i. xiii. (1883) I. 116 While he nowse, beinge men, not onely louse forgotten their congruite.. but, that wese is, hath all lerynge in dedestion. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* ix. 900 And to that horrible cruell dede he gaue no more but unexpected demeanure. 1580 G. Harvey *Three Proper Lett.* 35 *Non omni dormio*, were luckes. 1595 *Edward I* (1. 1. 451 Lillian but foster ame far worse then weeds [&c.]. Shaks. *Sonn.* xciv, 14]. 1597 Middleton *Hist. Chimon* v. F 4 Closelie pent up in delights, farre more worse vnto her then darke Dungeons. 1600–8 *1693* [see Rekeby *Sk. Lb.*]. 1634 A. Warwick *Spare Hrs.* 1. (ed. 2) 14, I will either make my fortunes good, or I ee ronment they are no worse. 1658 Sylvester *Sp. 23* Others dubious words shall be taken in the worse sense. 1685 Dryden *Nefor* Pref. 23, But it will be ask'd why I turn'd him into this lustious English, (for I will not give it a worse word). 1697 — *Æneis* iv. 526 What have I worse to fear? 1738 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 319 Which of these Is worse, Want with a full, or with an empty purse? 1775 Sheridan *St. Patrick's Day* i. 3, I never see her but she puts me in mind of my poor dear wife. *O'Con. Ay*, faith; in my opinion she can't do a worse thing. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxvii, 'If the weather don't worse—' 'It can't be worse,' interrupted O'Brien, 'it's impossible to blow harder.' 1835 T. Mitchell *Aeschyl. of Aristoph.* 284 *note*, This word (ἀπλοῦς) here two meanings: its better sense *goodness*, *brightness* and *splendour*, its worse betokening *falsness* and *grease*. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* vi, Come, you drop that stick or it'll be worse for you. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* ii. x. 398 If logic finds fault with it, so much the worse for logic. 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xx. II. 56 No very good news; but there's worse for us than that. 1884 Victoria *More Leaves* (1884) 333 The rain continued persistently, having got worse just as the prayer began. 1879 McCarthy *Donna Q.* I. 55 There are worse things to be endured in life than being thought too much of by one's husband. 1882 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* II. 6 If you have not profited by my outlay, so much the worse for you.

† **b.** Harder to deal with, difficult. *Obs.*

*a* 1425 *Ancr. R.* 50 Þe blake cloþ..is piecure ayein þe wind, & wurse to þurhseon. 1907 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1124 Vor ȝif hii nalde o þisg iwonne of castel oþer of toune, Wel þe worse it wolde be to bringe hom þe doune.

**c.** More unattractive; more unsuitable or unfitting; more faulty, incorrect, ill-conceived, etc.

1640 Hobbes *Hum. Nat.* Ep. Ded. (1650) A 7, For the Stile, it is therefore the worse, because studied in imitation. I consulted more with Lucian then with Rhetorick. 1666 Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 187 The argument was bad, the plot worse, the contrivance of authority worse of all. 1742 Chas. Pomfret in *Chas. Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 85, I went to see the palace of prince Giustiniani. In my life I never saw a worse. *a* 1745 Swift *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 2 She has had Pox and a worse Complexion. 1797 Hr. Lee *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 338 Nothing makes a man worse company than being in love with his own thoughts. 1841 Stirling *Cloist. Life* 372 They were mostly given..to fixing maximum prices on provisions of every sort, but in respect to corn they did what was even worse. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* iv, 'We've manners', said the hangman, '. I never see in this place afore.' 1847 Ruxton *Adv. Mexico* xxiii. 306 Old manuscripts, written on bad paper, and with worse ink. 1854 A. L. Gordon in *Turf* & Sutherland *Develops. Austral. Lit.* (1898) 201 Mount.. has a head worse if possible for business than mine.

**d.** With agent-noun: More unskilful or inefficient; that does the work more badly. Also, more addicted to some (specified) bad habit.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136 If I was a bad Carpenter, I was a worse Taylor. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 459 These remarks, become more applicable, when the substance acted upon is a worse conductor of electricity. 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xxiii. II. 21, I never heard but one worse rorrer in my life, and that was a roan. 1898 J. Arch *Edin. Sk. & Sk.* 21 The more uneducated a man is the worse hand he is at writing.

**e.** *Worse and worse*: cf. 1 c.

1554 *O. K. Chron.* an. 1139 (Land MS.) And ſæt lastede þa xiii. wintre wile Stephne was king & euer it was werse & werse. *c* 1540 Skelton *Why not to Court?* 132 Whyles he doth rule, All is warse and wale. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, All thynges.. as well in the realme as without, waxed worse and worse. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 93 Worse and worse, she will not come: Oh vilde, intollerable, not to be indur'd. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1760/2 The affairs of Hungary grow worse and worse. 1720 Lady B. Germaine in *Cresv. Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 73 Worse and worse here every day—no soul left that we know but Lady Kit and Mrs. Coke. 1725 Pope *Donne Sat.* iv. 141 So when you plague a fool, tis still the curse, You only make the matter worse and worse. 1854 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 73, I have been patient; but it's growing worse and worse.. flesh and blood can't bear it any longer. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* iv, 'This is worse and worse,' said lady Gethin, gravely.

**3.** Less good, not so good, inferior; of lower quality or value.

*Beowulf* 1212 Wyrsan wigfrecan wel reafedon æfter guðsceare. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Ic wat.. þæt mennisce men sceamiað þæt he wiorðe wyrse þonne his eldran wæron. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 10 Ælc man sylþ ærest god win & þonne hig druncene beoð þæt he wyrse byð. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Þe þinge3 ſæt þu nauht nalt to wurðin.. ane wuine mann fane ðu art. *c* 1200 Ormin 14064 Sibbenn he biginnepþ To bringenn forþ summ werrse win, Sonn sumn þe folic iss drunnkenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 583 Heo wes a cheuese, hire cheap wes þe wrse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 38 O gode petre coms god peres, Wers tre, wers fruit it beres. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 190 And so þei menen þat crist..nedid alle ydeote to leue þe betre and take the wrse lif. 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's Prol.* 18 That ilke fruyt [the medlar] is euer leng the wers Till it be roten. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 5 Men sein it [the world] is now lassed, In worse plit than it was tho. 1481 *Celt Papers* (Camden) 65, I saw newer Hollenders make whorese payment in my dayys. 1573–80 *Tusser Husbandly* (1878) 35 Sow soile and the seasons with the sheafe and the purse, the lighter in substance, for profite the worse. 1594 *Kuranch. Wills* (Surtees) I. 200 My worse clobe. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 1 They which at all times loue opportunitie of vsing the better meane to that purpose, will surely hold the worse in lesse estimation. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. C.* III. i. 139 The Master is a Wise and Valiant Romane, I neuer thought him worse. 1606 — *Ant. & C.* III. ii. 52 He has a cloud in's face. *Eno.* He were the worse for that, were he a Horse. 1615 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Ucania* xiii. II B b, Worse than the dust, that vnderfoot is trod. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* i. 2, I attribute this Coolvenese..to his yeares, being on the worse side of forty. 1759 Brown *Estim. Manners* 3 Sheep..should be bought from a worse land to bring on to a better. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* iv. viii, Though it is acknowledged, that the commodity of the distant country is of a worse quality than that of the near one. 1779 *Coxe temp. Hardwicke* 35 It can never be interpreted, that removing oneself from a worse country to a better, is a surrender of oneself into a worse. 1820 Scott *Monast.* Introd. Epi., 'They are prime stamps' ..' worse than the best wad never serve the monks, I'se warrant.' 1894 *Times* 10 Jan. 12/5 [Persia] for one chance worse than a yard and better than half a yard.

† **b.** Of silver or coin: Of less value *than* (a specified standard). *Obs.*

1588 *9.* 1676, 1681 [see Sterling B. 3]. 1649 Latimer *Vaughan's Math.* 3 Silver is worse than Gold, because base mine miners, money hath bene worse then it was before. 1715 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5349/3 A certain Person was indicted for passing a Piece of Money [Persia] for three Crabs *Ibid.* No. 5494/4 Silver..one third Part worse than the said Act directs. 1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 135 The coins were worse than standard.

† **c.** Of less value; implying loss or defeat, as *the worse deal*, *end*, *part*, *side*. *Obs.*

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1225 Ond þær wunsceapan on bone wyrsan dæl fore scyppende scyfende weorþaþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2487 Þe wers part Iacob, bi saut draght Mi thing he haue þere wers part es mine. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 29 þat here men of þat side schal haue the worse ende and be ouercome. *c.* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2810 Þe wers ende þan þeyre fo. 1518 *Ibid.* No. 54/4 Silver..one third Part worse than the said Act directs. 1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 135 The coins were worse than standard.

† **d.** *To be worse than one's word*: to fail to carry out, or act up to, what one has promised. *Obs.*

1672 Wycherley *Love in a Wood* v. 2 Sy Will you be worse then your word? 1682 Flor. Mac *Magot Order Hor. Mystic* iv. I. 130, I will not be worse than my word to my lady. 1686 Galt *Last of Lairds* xxxix. 359 Mrs. Sourocks was not worse than her word, [etc.].

**e.** *Worse half*: used jocularly to match *better half* (see Better A. 3 c).

1783 H. Walpole *Let. to Lady Browne* 19 Oct., It is not fit my better-half should be ignorant of the state of her worse-half. 1880 Flor. Mac *Magot Order Hor. Mystic* iv. The preparations would serve to occupy our time, whilst our worse halves are out shooting.

**4.** Predicatively (often with *the*: see The *adv.*).

**a.** Of persons: Less fortunate, less well off; in less favourable circumstances or position. Const. *for* (some person or thing that causes deterioration or loss).

*a* 1188 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1064 (Laud MS.) Swa þet seo scyre & þa oðra scyre þe þær neh standon wurdon fela wintra þe wiersan. *Ibid.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) 503 Wenden hamb & ba be worse þoȝ crowe bigredde him bi be mershe? 1340–70 *Alex. & Dindi.* 231 For þo were is no weih, wis þi3 be some, Þouh he þinke þe worse, þe wiȝe is þe wiser. 1381 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 26 And drink whon þou druiest, but do hit not out of Resun, Þat þou worþe þe worse whon þou worche scholdest. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvii. 64 Þe laste errour schal be worse þan þe formere. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 183 A foot of Honor better then I was, But many a many foot of Land the worse. 1596 — *Merch. V.* iii. ii. 263 When I lou'd you I was worth nothing, I should haue told you That I was worse then nothing. 1601 — *Twel. N.* v. i. 30 Thou shalt not be the worse for me, there's gold. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 148 All this were done: That now hath sterd'd them, why they were no worse Then now they are. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* i. 1 Miserable Vranis, worse art thou now then euer, knowing his loue betwixt their harmes, while thou dost liue vnknowne of any. *a* 1708 Heyrick *Thrs. Theol.* (1711) III. 203 Thou art never the worse, for others being better. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* iii. 1, I hadn't the Pleasure of knowing his Distresses till he was gone thousands worse than nothing. *a* 1784 Johnson in Mrs. Piozzi *Anecd.* (1935) 43 How would the world be worse for it? 1791 — in Boswell *Life* an. 1775 [Persia] for one chance worse than a yard and better than half a yard. 1846 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* ser. i. *Jackdaw of Rheims*, Nobody seem'd one penny the worse.

**b.** Less well in health, physical condition, or spirits; less hale or strong.

*Thе worse for* (*Sc.*): overcome or intoxicated by (liquor, drink). Also *transf.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark v. 26 [Hire] hii nalt na fremode, ac was þe wyrse. 1388 Wyclif *Mark* v. 26 [She] was nothing amendid, but was rather the worse. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 6402 (E.E.T.S.) Forthewyth was hoghte hym hys hakeneye, Neyther better ne worse, but in þe same a-Raye As he hym fryste broȝte frome the foreste: He semyd no-þynge a lusty beste. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting* 464 And now thy wame is wers than ewir it was. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* iv. vi. Yvr b, It liketh me not to remember it. I am the worse whan I thynke on it. 1558 Hulore, Warsse to be for age, *senesco*. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 3 The worse am I for that which I have said Were he mine enemy. 1603 Dekker *Wonderful Year* E 2 b, There was she worse then before. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 93/1 He was at first very ill, then got better; he is now worse. 1832 Lockhart *Scott* IV. viii. 261 He answered, that he had ridden more than forty [miles], a week before, . and felt nothing the worse. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1871) V. xliii. 106 Germanicus grew rapidly worse. 1881 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 19, I hope you were not the worse for my visit.

(*b*) 1825 Marryat *Pas. Amidsh.* i, My mother had retired to her bed a little the worse for liquor. 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xxxix. II. 316 When a man..has..made himself the worse for liquor, he'd done enough mischief for one day. 1881 J. B. Gough *Orphan's Address* 96 Who ever saw me the worse for drink? 1885 Stevenson *Prince Otto* iii. ii. 268 To tell you the open truth, your Highness, I was the worse of drink. 1913 *Spectator* 4 May 814/1 A learned judge said of Mr. Gladstone that he was often 'the worse' for flattery.

**c.** Of things: In less good condition; showing signs of damage, deterioration, or loss of quality. Const. *for* (see 4 a), obs. or dial. *of*.

*It would be none the worse for* i. e. it would be all the better for, would be improved by. *colog.*

*c* 1290 *St. Dionysius* 62 in *Leg. Cath.* 279 Þat writ lay longue in þat fuyr, and neuere þe weorse it nas, Ne nouȝt i-wemmed of one letter. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 201 Let brede hem [sc. olives], lest they bete and be the wers. 1546, 1706, 1721 [see Worse *vbl. sb.*]. 1592 Nashe *Pier. Pen. & Ad.* 207 What were thy lips the worse for one poore kin? 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xii. 35 Euery matter worse was for her melting. 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV* Induct. II. xviii. 129 Sir Charles answered.. That he would take a survey of the timber vpon his estate, and fell that which would be the worse for standing. 1780 Cowper *Lett.* 16 Oct. 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. 1824 in *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1825) 213 His face..rather the worse of the fire by which it was exposed. 1835 J. Hawthorne *Sk. Ans. Greenwich Fair*, Blue satin shoes and sandals (a *leetle* the worse for wear). 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 20 Their allowance of rice and meal would not be the worse for such additions. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xvii. (1885) 137 Her finery was naturally all the worse for having been fine. 1918 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 816/3 We do not know that his book is much the worse for the lapse of time. 1919 *Mod.* His coat would be none the worse for a good brushing.

**d.** *Worse and worse*: cf. 1 c, 2 e.

1478 Caxton *Reynard* (Sommer) 23 Saturne thus felyng hym in grete sorow & trouble he was as a fore is a fore is sayd. 1553 *Respublica* iv. iii. 1019 Truelie, I fele mi wiefe hitherto wurse and wuise. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* iii. iv. 119, I pray you speake not: he growes worse and worse. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, 'Well, June?' 'Wuss and wuss, Miss Is,' Firkin said, wagging her head. 1850 — *It is not better then!*

**5.** *Comb.*, as *worse-natured*, *-tempered* adjs.

1648 Jenkyn *Blind Guide* Pref. A 3, His being badly nurtur'd formerly, and worse natur'd still. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* 46 These differ from the former, as a worse-natured bull from a better. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* I. ii. 10 Poor sister is not naturally good-humoured.. She must therefore have an appeased to great disadvantages when she aim'd to be worse-temper'd than ordinary.

**B.** *absol.* or as *sb.* Chiefly ellipt. or absol. uses, with or without the def. or indef. article.

**1.** A person that is less good, virtuous, kindly, etc. As *pl.*, those that are worse.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Ne hælden hi hælde noȝt betere ne wurse. 13.. *Cursor M.* 10036 (Gött.) Caym was he feindes fode, was neuer wers of moder born. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 80 Bope burnes & burdes, be better & be wers, Ladye hem alle iuffyly to lenge & to lere. *c* 1500 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 17 Beholde thi selfe, and thou mayst see; Thou xalte beholde no wher a warse. 1599 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Envoy 12 The better shall entire the plaine, The worse complore. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 216, I feare there will a worse come in his place. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 68 And let her dye too, and give him a worse, and he will follow worse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 903 He..shall see her gained By a farr worse. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. lxvii, That worse part of sex, the strong and tall, Valse through. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Nov. 2/4 Fool will have Fool, and Worse take Worse.

† **b.** *The worse*: the Evil One, the Devil. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 229 Þe wurse hafe þe wurse. *Ibid.* 191 Neddre smuhgð diſeliche. Swa doð þe werse. *c* 1205 Lay. 1140 Temple heo funden þar ane, . þe wrse hit hafde to weldan. *Ibid.* 11092 þe wrse [*c* 1275 þe feond] hine lusede. *Ibid.* 29188 Crist seolue he forsoc and to þan wrsen he tahc.

**c.** *sb. pl.* (*One's*) *worses* = inferiors. (Nonce-use, after *betters*.)

1873 Rubbin *Fors Clav.* xxviii. 9 Speaking to you, then, as workers, and of myself as an idler, tell me honestly whether you consider me as addressing my betters or my worses? *Ibid.* 18 The question whether you are the betters or the worses of your masters.

**2.** Something worse; what is more evil, harmful, grievous, unlucky, etc.; a greater degree of badness.

*Beowulf* 1730 Hy þæt wyrne ne con. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* x. Ha swelce þu þonne manna þæt wyrse & þæt laðre nu ðu þæt leofre hæfst gehealden? *a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 1039 He þæt betere þeceas..& þam wyrsan wiðsoc. *c* 1205 Lay. 3432 Ich wende swiðe wel to don ac wrse ich habbe vnder-fon. *Ibid.* 24821 Sif þu swa mih oure þis scult wissen vnder-fon. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2432 Alas! he seyde, y hider cam! Fro wycke vnti wors y nam. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1074 Now is wykke fourmed vnto

worse. c1500 *Lancelot* 515 Wers than this can nat be said for me. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 10 This tyrant too, whose sauges still to worse and worse do runne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 46 For feare of worse, that may betide. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 301 Oh no, the apprehension of the good Gives but the greater feeling to the worse. 1600 — *Hen. IV*, IV. 179 Thou had hopes, and worse remaines behinde. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 79 To feare the worst, oft cures the worse. 1614 BP. HALL *Recoll. Treat.* 974 Weake and base minded men incline to the worse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 128 Though thereby worse to me redound. a1716 BURNE *Gross-bel. Dinner*, And, if it please thee, Heavenly Guide, May never worse be seen, than Bynon *Ch. Hist.* I. iv, Worse than adversity the Childe befell. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xx, With fair warning not to come back on such an errand, lest worse come of it. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 741 That which he better might have shunn'd, if griefs Like his have worse or better. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* I. 232 You had better take yourself off peaceably, before worse comes of it. 1869 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 403 (*Lovers of Gudrun*), Ah, farewell, Lest of mine eyes thou shouldst have worse to tell Than now thou hast! 1898 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xliv, Dust's your wages, son of sorrow, But men may come to worse than dust.

b. *To do worse*: to behave more wickedly, badly, foolishly, etc.; also, with dative of person or *it*, to deal with or treat (a person) more harshly or unkindly.

Orig. const. with the adv.: see WORSE *adv.* 2, 2 b. In the early examples given here, the inflexion seems to indicate the neut. adj. or quasi-sb., and the usage is rare, usually so apprehended in later use. Cf. *ofo good, Goon sb.* 5a.

1256 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) Naure hethen men werse ne diden þan hi diden þa. 1297 R. GLOUC. 12 Ne þan þe werse panne he bere sculde. c1200 *Moral Ode* 223 (Trin. MS.) Werse he bod his gode wines þan his fiendes. c1205 LAY. 3406 Nule hee me do na wurse þanne hire lond forwurmen. *Ibid.* 29186 Gurmundenes sune he bicom: he milde wes na wurse don, for crist seolue he forsoc. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1408 Iwelper deb wurse, flesch þe gost? c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9304 Þyse bye hadd mercy & pyte, Wirse þan þey schuld nought do we. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 250 Why schulde not men now reprove popes, sif þei don now werse? c1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 502 Who kan say bet than he, who kan do werse? 1396 — *Lenvoy a Bukton* 17 But yet lest thow do werse, take a wyfe. c1390 MIDDWALL *Castle of Perseverance* 1945 Þe good þou may do wurs. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* iii. 5 Thou speakest soch wordes, but thou art euer doinge worse, and worse. 1609 SKENE *Hiscb.* IV. ii. 71 To do worse to you were fell Cruelty.

c. What is less good or precious or valuable, (Cf. WORSE *a.* 3.)

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. Wks. 1922 II. 22 Never after to feede of worse then fruictfull. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 55 Neuer so rich a Iem Was set in worse then gold. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 102 For what God after better worse would build? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 280 All below, whether by Nature's Curse, Or Fate's Decree, degen'rate still to worse. 1870 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lvi, I hat thorn-pressure which must come with the ripening of the sorrowful Better, suffering because of the Worse.

d. Used as an alternative or addition to an unfavourable epithet or characterization = something worse still. Usually *or worse, and worse.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xviii. 72 Þan may lykne lecteris men to a blasebergh, oþer a cloke. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1021 A vyllayne orels were subtly thou was borne. 1633 WALTON *Angler* vii. 147, I might say more of this, but it might be thought curiously or worse. a1734 NORTH *Lives* I. 242 *Guilford* (1742) 224 The Man's Wife was his Nurse, or worse. 1815 KINGSLEY *Yeast* viii, They say, sir, he went up to court, and slandered the nuns like drafmda and worse. 1898 H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxv, 269 Everybody knows that it is a disgrace or worse—perhaps a crime.

3. In phrases with a preposition. a. *For better, for worse*, also *for better or* (*for*) *worse*: used where an issue is doubtful or beyond human control.

*To put to better and to worse*: ? to subject to every kind of luck (quot. c 1430).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 24 For bet, for wers, for oght, for noght, Se he paiseth nevere fro me þought. 1430 LYDG. *Assigne* 244, I wolle putte my body to better & to worse, To fyzte for þe qwene. a1500 *Sarum Manuale, In agonisalibus* (Rouen 1502) fo. xlvii, ? It is to my welle like þat to my wyfe I haue and to holde fro this day forward for bettere for wers for richere for powrer. a1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 19 b, And so for better or for worse, they were coupled vnto Kyng Alphonsus leader and went away with the stockdouues. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm.* 122 For better for worse. 1858 DICKENS *Dombey* liv, Mr. Towlinson, informs the kitchen that him and Anne have now resolved to take one another for better for worse. 1872 SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 60 Character is undergoing constant change, for better or for worse. 1905 H. W. BEVERIDGE *First Principles* 3 Land also, for better or worse, a decided instinct to invest human nature...with certain attributes of ideal grace.

b. *For* (*to*, *from*) *the worse*: chiefly used to indicate the result of a change in condition or quality, fortune, or circumstances.

c1400 MAUNDEV. (Rawl.) xxiv. 111 Þe iournee changeed efter to þe werse. 1548 FORREST *Pricke Prouyse* 352 The worlde is chaunged from the better to the worse, Not to the bettre but to the warvse farre. 1600 [? G. HAYDOCK] *Horn Sobs.* 319 Honor nourisheth in light and vain men a wrong opinio of their own worth, and consequently, often changeth their manners into the worse. 1668 DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* III. 1, All we have done succeeds still to the worse. a1718 W. KING *Letter* Wks. 1776 III. 272 It is thy curse Ever to change, and ever for the worse. 17.. [HUMES] *Cœrl, an the King come* II, I trow we swapped for the warse. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 263 *note*, The Doric character generally was undergoing a most important change for the worse.

c. *From bad (evil, ? ill) to worse.*

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 121 He by unrepentaunce fell from euyll to worse, and frome worse, to worste of all. 1550 LEVES *Serm.* (Arb.) 39 You whych haue gotten these goodes into your own handes, to turne them from euyll to worse. 1568 ? HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 73 Suche drifftes drawe he, from yll to wars and ware. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Febr. 12 Must not the world wend in his common course From good to bad, and from badde to worse, From worse vnto that is worst of all..? 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 You draw us from bad to worse, and from worse to worst. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 38 See then lest Bad enough to Worse advance. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 206 I thus will this latter, as the former World, Still tend from bad to worse.

†d. (*To judge*) *to the worse*: disadvantageously, unfavourably. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xiv. 39 Take heede that no man iudge others actes to the worse [*nec alius alium judicet in malum*].

e. (*To differ*) *for the worse*: to one's disadvantage.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. xi. 83 The situation of the Quaker differed from that of other dissenters, and differed for the worse.

4. *The worste*, the losing or less desirable part (in a contest, or the like); disadvantage. Cf. A. 3 c and WORST *sb.* 8. Chiefly in the phrases which follow (b, c, d).

c1205 LAY. 26590 And ær heo tostweinden þe wurse wes Rom-cnihten. *Ibid.* 26597 Brutten wokeden þa & heure wes þat wurse. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 11073 He bogte he wurse went on bys syde. a1425 *Cursor M.* 7760 (Trin.) Of his hatid þat was so ariel he wex [*Cott. Fairf., Gött.* for] on kyng saul fel. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 39, I byleue, yf the kynge besege the castelle that the worste shalle come vnto hym.

b. *To have the worse*: to be worsted or defeated in a contest. Also *gen.* to have the disadvantage in a comparison with another.

c1205 LAY. 26512 Þa iwræð sone Þat Bruttes hafden þat wurse. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Pt. Gr.* (Rolls) 10373 He þat hit gat, he wore be ladde. 13.. *E. E. Allit. Poems* A. 48 Penne is me lystloker hit lyke & her lotes prayse, penne wyþer wyth & be worse & hyre lasse. c1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 1201 Yow louieres axe I now this question, Who hath the worse [*v.r.* were], Arcite or Palamon? 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 380 Wicke is to stryve and have the worse. c1450 *Merlin* III. 56 In þat bataile was grete mortalite on bothe parties, but the hethen people hadde muche the worse. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxx. 261 Sir Gawayne and sir Tystram medled, and there sir Gawayne had the worse. 1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. xxx. 372 b, In the end, the Sallinbenes had the worse [in a skirmish with the Montannes]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 23 Who euer man, and what conquestes atchieu'd, But sometimes had the worse, and lost by warre. 1880 EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* iv, Perhaps the instinct that always leads a man to foresee when any impending explanation is not likely to end in his favour, prompted him to divine that he should have the worse of this. 1888 OMAN *Hist. Greece* xv. (1901) 142 A running fight ensued, in which the invaders had greatly the worse.

†c. *To go* (*away*) *with, to go* (or *come*) *to, unto, by the worse*: to be defeated or worsted, fail, miscarry.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 40 The folk of Troye hem seluen so mysledden That with þe worse at nyght homward hy wenden. 1634 HEXHAM *Spraeckb.* 12 Wat hel ick my time away with the worse? very pleasant he was and laughed at himselfe most of all.

(*b*) 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 380 *Arthour* I. lx. 46 Fyghte not with the swerde ye had by myracle, til that ye see yo vtho the wers. 1532 TINDALE *Exp. 1-vii Matt.* vii. (c 1550) 87 b, Which [Mose] wente vnto Pharao ones to fall, than gyue he to the worse immediatly. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xii. 67 In those ordinary bickerings, ihe commonly went to the worse. 1611 *Apocrypha* xiv Now sommer and winter shall they went to the worse [*tum æstate atque hieme mala fe pellebantur*]. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 96 As Truth got euer the vpper hand,...so the brochers and vpholders thereof went euer to the worse.

(*c*) 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 310 The beginning should procede of you, which in the cause are inferiours, and goe by the worse. 1585 *Treas. Ghristl. Corall* 2 23 [c. 3] To whom the Hedwanes and their confederates had diuerse tymes giuen battell: wherin going by the worse, they had receyued great domage. 1587 GOLDING *Caluin on Deut.* 1 Now, if we had not miscarried, and gone by the worse all along? 1641 J. SMITH *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 34 Neither let us despaire of them, because they have been hitherto by the worse: will hereafter go by the worse. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 901 In argument with men a woman ever Goes by the worse.

†d. *To put to the* (or *one's*) *worse*: to defeat, worst, discomfit, in a contest or conflict. *Obs.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xviii. 22 He put me to the worse or on foot or on horsback. c1482 J. KAY tr. *Caxton's Siege of Rhodes* Ded. in Gibbon's *Crusades*, etc. (1870) 136 But that [at Rhodes] he was put to hys worse and to shame. 1538 BIBOT *Dict., Pessundo*, to cast vnder foote, to put to the warse. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 78 For euer, if they chaunced to skirmishe, the Frenchmen were put vnto the worse. 1586 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 9 When he had put the space of ten yeares warred with diuers Kings, and often put them to the woorse. 1606 G. WOODCOCK *Hist. Ipotine* 17 22 He was put to the worse of his enemies. ? *a1680 Grotius vindicat.* 1621 *Bible* 2 Chron. vi. 24 If thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy. a1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 265 Aretas...took the field against, but was put to the worse.

†e. *To wring to the worse*: to vex, distress. *Obs.*

1553 ASCHAM *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Octauio was euermore wrong to the worse by sonny and sundry suites.

**Worse** (wɜːs), *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. in nonce-use. Forms: 1 **wyrsian, wyrsiæn**, 3 **wursien**, 3 **wurse(n, wursi, wursin, werse(n**, *Orm.* **werrsenn**, 4 **worsi**, 4, 6–7, 9 **worse.** [OE. *wyrsian*, f. *wyrsa* WORSE *a.* Cf. OFris. *wersia* to resist, withstand, OHG. *wirsên* (MHG. *wirsen, würsen*) to make worse.]

1. *intr.* To become or grow worse, deteriorate.

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxvii. 6 Fuladun & wyrsadon [*deteriorati sunt*] wund-webbe mine. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 124 He sceolde beon ascyred from þanna tweowe, ʒif his breosta wynsigende wære. a1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 158 Folcláze wyrsadan ealles to swyðe. a1180 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1083 (Laud MS.) & na hit wyrsode mid mannes swyðor & swiðor. c1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Þa sende me clades, for to biwinden þe rapes, þet his locome be feble wes ne worsiede toliti wursien. c1205 LAY. 18931 Sif ich wlite ahte, þenne wursede [c 1275 wersede] ich on crafte. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 396 Þe wunde þet euer wunsed an hond, & strengre is forte helen. a1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 265 Sikere ha beoð . . of þulli blisse, þat hit ne mei neauer mare þuttin ne wursin. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Efterward comþ werlihede þet makeþ þane man werri and wursi muin dayes to daye. 1854 SIR J. HOOPER in L. Hussey *Legis* (1918) I. 322 Ever as our dayes are, whether they mended or wursed, it would [etc.].

2. *trans.* To make worse, impair, injure, blemish.

c1200 ORMIN 11823 Þe wrenneþ hit to þrihhenn us Þillforenn Godess ehne. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Ȝe mowen muchel þuruh ham beon ȝ-goded, and ȝ-wursed [*MS. T.* wursnet]. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2166 Þet tet wakelunge ne wursi neauer þe mod. a1240 *Wærnes* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 202 Mid unrihten habbeð grimliche iwursed me. c1300 *Cast. Love* 811 Hire holy maidenhod þat neuer for no þing i-worsed nas. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 161 Þei sclee creaturis herted, and noon ben worsid, ni þis ʒifte. *Ibid.* III. 349 Whan þei maken frensa, þat ben worsid bi þis makyng, þei don hem a grooti harm. 1598 R. *Edw. Confessor* (1599) 1 Title, Other Translators, who are reputed to haue taken great paines in worsing their authors. 1616 BRETON *Good & Bad* 19 His liuerning may worse him, but not him. 1820 QUARLES *Esther* Wks. (Grosart) II. 592/1 What's good, (like Iron) rusts for want of vse, And what is bad, is worsed with abuse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 440 Perhaps more vaild Armes, whom next we meet, May serve to better us, and worse our foes. 1867 A. TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* (1869) I. xiii. 446 [Walter at country inn *log.*] Then as goes away to better themselves, neglect their business, and worse it. 1888 *Referee* 21 Feb. 7/4 Instead of bettering it [sc. their condition] they have 'worsed' it.

**Worse** (wɜːs), *adv.* Forms: 1 **wiorr, wirs**, 1–2 **wyrs**, 2–6 **wurs**, 2 **wirr**, 3–6 **wurse**, 3–5 **wors**, 3–**worse**, 4 **worsse**, 6 **woorse**. *B.* 2–6 **wers**, 4–6 **werse**, 5 **weorse**; 5–7 **wars**, 5, 8–9 **warse**, 5–6 **warsse**. [OE. *wyrs, wiers* = OS. *wirs*, OHG. *wirs* (MHG. *wirs, wirrs*), ON. *verr* (for **wirs*; hence WAN *adv.*; Sw. *värr*), Goth. *wairs*: see WORSE *a.*] Used as the comparative of the advs. *badly, ill, evil, avilly.*

1. More badly or wickedly; more censurably or foolishly in regard to conduct.

In *do worse*, the word is now verb. usually regarded as the neuter adj. or sb.: see WORSE *sb.* 2 b.

c897 ALFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 169 Da under-Nicdlan ðæt hie wiers ne dæn þonne him man to wele. c1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 181 Wyrs deð se ðe hiefð oððe ðæs oðres misræcð. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1410 Such heo mahte leo of golnesse, þat sumquelc wurse ne mouhte. c1315 SHOREHAM 111. 221 Þou halst wel wors þanne masseday þane man mi dyd hys werkynge. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 783 Wers wirchen no folk þan he wercheþ. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cv. 6 We han. 102 vnwitilly, wyes wioulit hastun ofte, þat wolde worsiliest þou neuere þen whon þou fals take. *Ibid.* A. xi. 279 Panne maiste þe maydeley who myste doo wers? c1386 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 344 Þei ben dredeful to dai þat don wel wers. 1568 ? HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 32 We maie doo much ill, er we doo much wars. 1587 GOLDING *Table Talk* 218, I judged a man of better sort could scarce do worse than caper in the morris-dance of verse.

b. More severely, hardly, harshly, unkindly, or unfavourably.

? *To do* (a person) *worse*, to treat more harshly or severely. Cf. WORSE *sb.* 2 b, and, for the use of WORSE *adv.* A. 6.

a1200 *Moral Ode* 236 (Lambeth) Hi hem deð wa inuch... Nute hi hwelper hom deþ wurs [*Trin. Coll.* deð wors]. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 57 Deih he better do Gode an oder, þeih hwehere he lete wers of him aþuen, þanne he do of oðre. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 793 Telstu hi me þe wis [*Cott.* wurs] for þan þet ic hute erne cunne & wot þet ich hit wulle forgon? c1400 *Destr. Troy* 11. 66 Euel thou spekest, worse dost menne. c1440 *Generydes* 1365 He hym reproued with grete rygour he ment. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 168 Some tyme ygnorantes hym so maile yonely that alle they worse and worse with out any compassion on the people. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xix. 9 We will deale worse with the then with them. 1553 *Retholicus* 13 That let this be taken no worse then ye wys menne. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 45 Now I but chide, but I should vse thee worse. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. i. 56, I shall thinke the worse of her for this. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iii. 135 My Sister may receiue it much more worse, To haue her Gentleman abus'd, assaulted. 1667 in *Earl. St. Papers Fitzherb. Ser.* III. (1901) 171 Hee will not deale worse with them then they did before. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 484 Will they not deale Worse with his followers then with him they dealt? 1802 WORDSW. *Sonnet Castle Indol.* 34 Some thought far worse of him, and judged him wrong. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Hse.* xiv, I hope you won't think the worse of me for having made those little appointments at Miss Flite's. 1882 MRS. *Caldecote* 106 Don't think me a coward, I am handled worse than had I been a Moor. 1882 W. COLLINS *Black Robe* I. 236 You are sure you won't think the worse of me, if I tell it?

c. More carelessly, faultily, unskilfully, imperfectly, etc.

c1205 LAY. 28500 Mon i þan filte non þer ne mihte kienne nenne kempe, no na þa stude werse [c1275 wurs], to wh þa. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Oðer ȝif me sennes wurse ei þing leasted oðer bleiþ to witene, þei he wene þet hit ouh. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 501 Yet þu singest a wrse [*Cott.* wurs] þan he heyalige. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 122 It doth hym worse þan his wyf or wete to slepe. c1400 *Pol. Poems*

ix. 52 Here wastes, but hey waye be nos. *Ibid.* x. 10 We fare}a as knawe pat takep his hyre bysore, Serue his mayster wel be worse berfore. *1440 Rolls of Parlt.* V. 64/1 Your Soudeours . . the wers paied of theire wages. *1538* Starkey *England* 99 The ground also wors tyllyd and occupyd. *1546* Heywood *Prov.* i. xi (1867) 32 Who is wurs shod than the shoemakers wyfe? *Ibid.* 34 At end I might put my winnyng in mine eye, And see neuer the wourse. *1580* Sidney in A. Collins *Lett. & Mem.* (1746) I. 295 I would . . your Worship would learne a better hand, you write worse than I, and I write ewell enough. *1611* Shaks. *Wint. T.* iv. i. 30 If euer you haue spent time worse, ere now. *1709* Pope *Ess. Crit.* 35 There are who judge still worse than he can write. *1749* Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. vii, I may put all the good I have ever got by you in my eyes, and see never the worse. *1765* Robertson *Chas. V*, III. xi. 368 Raw soldiers, ill-disciplined, and worse armed. *1821* Bentham *Lett.* (1856) III. 288 The pains are ill drawn and worse executed upon stone. *1849* Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 304 The English women of the generation were decidedly worse educated than they have been at any other time since the revival of learning.

2. More unfortunately, unluckily, or unhappily. *Worse off*, in worse circumstances, less happily or fortunately situated : see Off *adv.* 11.

In early use often with impers. vb. and dat. of person, e.g. *(it) is, chaves, limps him worst* (cf. Wor A. 3 and *Holland* 1347 ‘wirs is thim Obrun’); later *it is, goes*, etc. *worse with him*.

Prov. *to go further, and fare worse* : see Further *adv.* 1 a. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 297 Dyfera him by wirs me. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John v. 14 Ne synnaa þu, þe-læs þe þe on sumon bingon wyrs getide. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 904 (MS. E) Ac hit wæs yfeldan þonne hi ærlie wendun. *c* 1205 Lay. 20 Wel oft ane leir wa sum neure wurs þanne þa. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 34 Me is þe wurs þat ich þe seo. *c* 1275 *Pass & Wolf* 2 a in *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 Therfore ich fare the wors. *c* 1290 *S. Horn* 116 Of the wrecche horn beo wo Ac neure wurs þan him was þo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26784 And worthes þam wel wers þan ar, And quilam bettis neuer sure. *c* 1300 *Havelok* (Skeat) When Godrich herd þat tiding, Neuer him nas wers for no þing. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* IX. 143 And alle for her forfadres þei fenden be worse. *Ibid.* XIV. 208 Þe chyle or childe þat hym chieuch þe worse. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4550 Þe awondrede of hom echon, þat for al þe strokes þat þay gerde on, þat hym nas nost þe wers. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 147 And allewey þi fil best or worse. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 740 By god, for this wodes he shal fare the wors. *c* 1400 *Beste. Troy* 5585 The Troiens full tyte were tyrait to ground: Thurghe Achilles alsmaistly non eschepy the worse. *c* 1400 *De Pol. Pacient* xiv. 51 Make obere folk þe worse to lyue, For gyuynge profyt þou wolde haue. *c* 1440 *Antwys of Artk.* 615 But him þynke he shuld haue schewyd the worse. *c* 1460 *De Pol. Pacient* xiv. 51 Make obere folk þe worse to lyue, For gyuynge profyt þou wolde haue. *c* 1440 *Antwys of Artk.* 615 But him þynke he shuld haue schewyd the worse. *c* 1460 *Tournaye Myst.* iii. 191 God speke, wife, how fayre þi fyer. Now, as nowthe, nought myght I thryfe, the wars I there see. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 216 I tit now with me wers than ever I was. 1525 Sir J. Cheke in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Sér.* II. I. 316 He shall speak well knowe that he fare the nothyng the wars for the Kynges Highnes and your Grace is recommendation. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 67 But this motion wore succeded then the entreators desired. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 44 Nor the worse shall he speed, that soweth ill seed. 1609 Rowley *Search for Money* (Percy) 12 Seeke him and finde him hee must, or it would go worse with him. 1629 G. Plattes *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* 21 But the more I tryed the worse I aped. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 996 With ruin upon ruin, rout on rout, Confusion worse confounded. 1832 D. C. Lewis *Creed* (1850) 20 On the whole they are rather worse off than the convicts in the hulks. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iv. 467 A clamour grew As of a new-world Babel, woman-built, And worse-confounded.

**b.** *Worse and worse.* Cf. Worse *a.* 2 e.

*1483 Cath. Angel.* (Camden) 159 The exchaunge goyth ever the longer worse and worse. *1552 Huloet* iv. ii. *Worse and worse* from good unto bad : from bad unto worse. *1580* Sidney *Arcadia* iii. iii. 163 He will not make a spart of it, and torment the poore Lady worse. *a* 1600 Donne *Sat.* iv. 90 As it is Scratch'd into smart, and as blunt iron ground Into an edge, hurts worse. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. viii. 3, I do know thee Wor a them a Prouide-breaker. 1623 — *Hen. VIII* iv. ii. 195 He startle you Worse then the Sacring Bell 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 993 Such another Field they dreaded worse then Hell. *Ibid.* VI. 607 Hath defeated to retire They worse abhorrd. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* I. 319 Which, angry as he is, will see him worse. *a* 1796 Burke *Fr. from Euphra* 65 Thou know'st, the vultures cannot hunt their worse. 1819 Keats *Cap & Bells* xxiii, Trust fellow's voice, which plagues me worse than any. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. ii. 110 That stern yet piteous look, those solemn tones, Wound worse than torture.

**b.** As a diminuent, with verbs of liking, trusting, praising, pleasing, etc. : In a lesser or lower degree, less, less well. Similarly *worse at ease*, less well at ease.

*c* Alfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 143 Dyfæs hira lufu ful aslacize, & he him þe wirs licige. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1043 (Laud MS.) Se ærcebiscop wende þæt hit sum oðer mann ahæfden wolde...be he his wyrs truwede and ude. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9015 þe wikke neuer þe worthier, Þat man tell quat þe þughti er, Ne þe gode þe wers to prais, Quat so men o þe wik sais. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* III. 168 Nay, lord, quaþ he þat, hell fer þe worse, Whon þe witen witerlis he wher þe wrong lihe. *c* 1530 Rastell *Pyt & Sci.* 835 (Manly) Ye, and I lyke him never the worse. *1590* Shaks *Tam. A.* Act. 774 Your treatise makes me like you worse and worse.

*1600 — A. Y. L.* III. ii. 25 The more one sickens, the worse at ease he is. *1607 — Cor.* v. ii. 73 The glorious Gods...loue thee no worse then thy old Father Menenius do's. *1607* Hamington in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 250 Even Augustus was the worse beloved for appointing an ill man to his successor.

*d. Worse than* used before an adj. (sb., vb.) as a form of pejorative comparison. Cf. More C. (*adv.*) 5.

*13.. Gosp. Nicod.* 742 (MS. G.) 30 wers [*rubr.* wors, ware] þan woke, how dar 30 negh his stede? 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 175 Oh keepe me from their worse then killing lust. *1605 — Lear* I. ii. 82 Brutish Villaine; worse then brutish. *1607 — Timon* III. v. 106 I'm worse then mad. *1672* Milton *P. R.* III. 419 Besides what other worse then heathenish crimes. *— Samson* 893 By worse than hostile deeds. *1799* Wordsw. *Ruth* 164 O Ruth ! I have been worse than dead. *1810 — Nonn., Ord, pet, Discapsan* 3 Elve ‘were worse than vain To gather round the bier these floral shows. *1867* A. T. Drane *Christian Schools* II. vi. 253 Among the scanty relics that escaped the hands of these worse than Vandals, *1867* Augusta Webster *Dram. Lyrics*, The worse than daily-famine hunger of never-satiated scandal and gossip. *1897 Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 3/2 He deliberately chose to worse than waste his opportunities and his talents.

5. Used parenthetically or conjunctionally to introduce an additional clause or sentence containing a further and stronger instance of action which incurs reprobation. Cf. More *adv.* 6.

*1784* Cowper *Task* II. 22 Thus man devotes his brother, and destroys ; And, worse than all, and most to be abhorr'd, ...Chains him, and task- him, and exacts his sweat With stripes. *1805* Wordsw. *Rob Roy's Grave* 24 They stir us up against their kind ! And worse, against ourselves. *1813* G. Murray *Euripides* vii. 166 He had denied the gods ; worse, he had denounced the doings of the gods as evil. *1826* H. E. Bunbury *Gorgons Gallery* p. xvi, Worse still, he has omitted one leaf.

6. *Comb.*, as *worse-affected, -applied, -armed, -bodied, -born, -calculated, -disposed, -executed, -governed, -ordered* adjs. ; also †*worse-opinionated a.*, having a more unfavourable opinion (*of*) ; †*worse-willing a.*, less well-disposed ; more unwilling.

*1637* Morrison *Itin.* II. 63 It was apparant that either he was growne weaker in iudgement or †worse affected to the Queenes service. *1591* Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. ii. 418 Before Mars, worse affected to Learning's Muse, but †worse-applyed pen. *1829* Scott *Anne of G.* xxviii, If the Lord of Hosts should cast the balance in behalf of the fewer armed Puritans, *1837* Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* (1857) II. iv. 39 Ill-fed, †worse bodied, shapeless enery where. *1834* H. Lytton Bulwer *Pelham* I. 92 That ‘great manner’, by which the nobility of this country are distinguished between themselves and their †worse-born associates. *1837* Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. vi. 1. 50 Parliament was so completely an instrument of bad government, that it was ‘worse calculated for promoting good results than the most arbitrary will of a King. *1579* T. F. *Newes fr. North* D j b, I am very sure, that many are †worse disposed, and much more vnwilling to high and honourable calling. *1820 Sc. Hist. Mag.* II. 454 Irregular, ill-directed, and †worse-executed rebellions. *1659* T. Pitt *Rev. Govt. Misc.* (1680) 69 Ingratitude, which is the †worse governed. *1641* Heylin *Hist. Episc.* II. vi. 436 Confessors...who, having suffered much in the ruinous of their per-severance, became the †worse-affected of those, who had not borne suffered with an equall constancie. *1715* South *Serm.* IV. 366 An illiniclined Judgment, and †worse-ordered Morals. *1549* Convocation *Erastus. Def.* 1 Cor. ix. 20–3 That...I might, following their humours, allure them either into Christ, or, the least, not make them thereunto †worse willing by displeasing their mindes. *1550* Somerset in *Calvin's Epistle* D j b, But this muste not make you †worse, but make yu worse willynge or fearefull. *1584* R. Scot *Discov. Witches*. ii. ii. (1886) 35 The people would be †worse willing to accuse them [*sc.* witches] if they were not revenged upon them.

**Worsement** (wɜ·smĕnt). [f. Worse *v.* + -ment, after *betterment*. Cf. Worsenment.] Deterioration and depreciation of real property caused by the action of persons outside without the owner's consent.

*1884* Ld. Salisbury in *1st Rept. Royal Commiss. Housing of Working Classes* 7. 15090 If you charge for betterment, do not you think you should pay for worsement ? *1890 Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 July 2/2 We doubt whether the abolition of the gates and bars would in fact conduce to the improvement of the squares and streets in question. *1908* Arnold-Forster in *Mem.* (1910) xxii. 340 That the principle of betterment should only be adopted concurrently with the principle of worsement, or deterioration.

**b.** *transf.* and *gen.* (nonce-uses).

*1803 Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 1/1 This morning's batch contains 83 persons who have been committed for trial, ought not Mr. Plunket to call them ?) on the Home Rule Bill. *1902 Ibid.* 17 June 11/1 The ‘Worsement’ or ‘Betterment’ of Directors...Do the Directors stand to lose or gain by the introduction of the companies and the enlargement of the capital?

**Worsen** (wɜ·sn), *v.* [f. Worse *a.* + -en5 1. Cf. Lessen *v.*

The word is common in dialect (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) and was reintroduced to literature *c* 1810–1830 (by writers like Southey and De Quincey) as a racy vernacular substitute for *deteriorate* and the like.]

*a* 1825 (see Worse *v.* 2). *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 112 Tymes lyen changet, men lyen worsent. 1533 tr. *Erasm. Com. Creide* 171 b, Such persons which by craftes doun apayres and worsen the commune coyne. 1641 Milton *Reform.* i. Wks. 1851 III. 10 It is still Episcopacie that...worsens and slugges the most learned, and vnlearning religious of our Ministers. *1694* Dicby *Nat. Anal.* x. 8 II. 438 A...state, where she can neyther be bettered, or worsened. *c* 1847 Fletcher *Reasones* II. xiii. (1601) 103 Life in it self is a Blessing : And it is not worsened by being long. 1690 Brooke *Whs.* (1867) VI. 239 The righteous are signally sanctified by fiery dispensations, but the wicked are signally worsened by the same dispensations.

1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 251 If effeminacy could become the attribute of a whole nation, it would be proper to institute societies for worsening the condition of the poor. *1807* Southey *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) II. 357 Methodism...has worsened whatever it has altered. *1816 — Ess.* (1832) I. 172 The manufacturer worsened his wares, the landholder increased his rents. *1830 — Penins. War* III. 703 Men whose nature, originally bad, had been worsened by their way of life. *1832* Carlyle in Froude *Life in London* (1884) I. i. 19 To ask able editors to employ you will not improve but worsen matters. *1853* De Quincey *Autobiogr. Sk.* ii. Wks. 1862 XIV. 98 Their case was certainly not worsened by being booked for places in the grave. *1870* Morris *Earthly Par. IV.* 40 There sat a woman all alone Whom sons ten years would make a crone, Yet would they little worsen her. *1906 Spectator* 30 June 1043/1 Irrelevance and confusion are worsened, not bettered, when advanced under the cloak of a distinguished reputation.

**b.** *spec.* To inflict loss upon (a person, locality) in respect of real property (see Worsement).

*1894 Times* 4 Apr. 6/2 Every man who was worsened having to be compensated before he was turned out. *1894 Daily News* 21 June 3/3 The construction of these thoroughfares had worsened Wardour-street and other streets through diversion of the traffic.

**c.** To represent (a thing) as worse than it is; to depreciate.

*1885* Jean Ingelow *Perdita* 66, I have worsened life, I have wronged the world. *1885* Gladstone in *Times* 28 Apr. 7/4 The policy which is now in existing circumstances, which I shall say nothing to exaggerate or worsen.

**d.** *refl.* To make oneself worse or (*dial.*) worse off. *1848* Cas *Cromes Glan. & Sev.* (1887) 2 I will not worsen myself. *1862* Pusey *Min. Proph.* 167 Moab and Ammon chose them gods like themselves, and worsened themselves by copying these idols of their sinful nature. *1864* Kingsley *Water of Life* (1879) iv. 51 They feel that they have weakened and worsened themselves thereby. *1866* Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* v, That's how the working men are left to foolish devices, and keep worsening themselves.

2. *intr.* To become worse, deteriorate.

*1798* Wordsw. in *Mem.* (1851) I. 86, I am still much engaged with my sick friend ; and sorry am I to add that he worsens daily. *1823* De Quincey *The Dove* Wks. 1862 X. 325 Next day Schroll was in a violent fever...On hearing this report, Schroll rapidly worsened. *1829* Southey *Nav. T. More* (1891) I. 183 It is hardly possible to conceive if he be left to himself. *1839* Carlyle *Chartism* ii. (1858) 9 If life had longer the general condition of the poor must be bettering instead of worsening. *1844* Howitt *Rural Life of England* v. 184 However the world may mend or worsen. *1880* Miss Broughton *2nd Thoughts* II. iii. vi. 206 The weather has signally changed and worsened. *1885* Morris *Hopes & Fears for Art* iv. 219 Whether the times better or worsen.

Hence **Worsened** *ppl. a.*; **Worsening** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

(a) *1830* Southey *Let. to Allan Cunningham* 4 Mar. in *Life* (1850) VI. 89 The portrait...is a worsened copy of ‘Firstbut the Evangelical’. *1875* A. J. Ellis tr. *Helmholtz' Sensat. Tone* 583 Inharmonic intonation augments the evil of the harsh tones in Beaniquet's, of which it is simply a worsened form. *1888 Jewish Chron.* 17 Feb. 11/2 Even this worsened condition is disputed by some eminent authorities.

(b) *1838* Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 250 To the serious injury of his health, and even to the worsening of his temper. *1837* Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, Such...desperate hope that worsening of the bad might the sooner end it and bring back the good. *1876* Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xix, The ten or twelve years since the parting had been time enough for much worsening. *1887 Athenæum* 29 Jan. 153 3 The steady worsening of social conditions.

(c) *1898* Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IX. x. (1873) III 173 Does not reach Sedan till the 2nd morning after, and then in a weak, worsening, and altogether dangerous condition. *1891* C. A. Smith in *Robert W. Barbour* (1893) 425 A very large number of worsening or desperate cases [of tuberculosis].

**Worsen**, dial. or illiterate alteration of Worse *a.* and *adv.* (? arising from the collog. *worse'n* = worse than).

*1634* Heywood & Brome *Lancash. Witches* v. i. I, It stinket...worsen than ony brimstone. *1854* Dickens *Hard T.* ii. 23, From bad to worsen. *1864* Webster, *Worsen*, A. E. Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., It's worsen it was.

**Worseness** (wɜ·snĕs). [f. Worse *a.* + -ness. Cf. Worsenness.] The quality or state of being worse or inferior.

*a* 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 187 And sib þe worsenesse of þing is matere of sorewe, man shulde have more sorewe for synne þan for ony oþer þing. *1848* Sir J. D. Hooker in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) I. 207 The badness of the specimens, the worseness of the published descriptions. *1872* Blackm. *Fort Clar.* v. 23 We will have...no equality ; but recognition of every betterness that we can find, and reprobation of every worseness. *1903* J. Hunter in L. S. Hunter *Mem.* (1921) 248 He said I was worse than when I came the first time—the worseness due, no doubt, to the strain and worry of last winter.

†**b.** *spec.* Quality below the standard for gold or silver. Cf. Worse *a.* 3 b and Betterness 1 b.

*1782* in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 133 The accuracy of these assays was farther confirmed, by nearly the same average of worseness being found upon more than 12000 guineas.

**Worsenment.** [f. Worsen *v.* + -ment.] Occas. used in preference to Worsement as a more analogical form.

*1894 Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 2/1 The word, we suppose, ought to be ‘worsenment’, for while the verb of better is

'to better', the word of worse is 'to worsen' 1905 J. M. Robertson *Chamberlain* ix 43 Whereafter his worsenment is swift indeed 1906 *Lit. Mail Lond.* 20 Mar 2 If 'betterment is recognised, worsenment should be equally allowable

**Worser** (wɐ·rsəɹ), *a* and *adv.* Also 6 **wurser**, **woorser**, 9 *vulgar* **wusser**. [A double comparative, f. Worse *a* and *adv.* + -er 3. Cf *lesser*.

The word was common in the 16th–17th c. as a variant of 'worse', in all its applications. In modern use, it is partly a literary survival (esp. in phrases like *the worser part, sort, half*), partly dial and vulgar.]

*A adj.* = Worse *a*.

1495 *Trevisa's Higden De P. R.* xix cvi. If vnyt & Morethrumbles egges ben lyke to theyr egges but they ben leaser . and worser of smallynge 1553 Brende tr. *Quintus* viii 129 b, Fearing the sequel of worser inconueniences 1553 J. Watson *Ackt* (1580) 197 If one should sett Likes Velvet against Geane Veluette, the Lukes will appeare better, and the Geanes will seeme worser 1598 *Mirror Mag. Dukes of Norfolk* xxiii, To preserue me from a worser yll 1766 *Merry Tales of Skelton in Wks* (1843) I. 82 If he one wouldе call thother Swanbon, the whyche they dyd take for a worser worde then knaue 1570 R. T. *Discourse* 40 Vnwiser then Pilate, worser then Lucifer 1573 & 80 Turber *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser be lacke than wyues and could? 1582 J. Watson *Centurye of Loue* xxx (Arb.) 66 In hatred and worser plight am I 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus* II (1882) 33 They are not onely not inferiour to any nation in the world in the excesse of apparrell, but are rather a worser then a woorser can be. 1598 Shaks. *1 Hen. V*, v. iii. 36 Chang'd to a worser shape thou canst not be. 1595 Markham *Trag. Sir A. Grimuile* eleven, His pure part, from worser rent asunder 1605 *London Prodigal* v. i. 68 (Brooke) Such bad beginnings oft haue worser ends 1609 Rowlands *Hell's broke loose* To Reader (Hunter. in Club) 5 All composed of the scumme and waste worser sort 1633 Ford *Lover's Melanch.* v. i. I'll dishasn A dinell, worser then the worst in hell 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* i. v. § 36 The conclusion alwaies follows the worser part, if there be any worse 1659 W. Whately *Prototypes* i. iv (1640) 15 We must speake of Caine, who being the elder brother was yet the worser man 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxvii. 28 Worser in Papists *Comm. Deut. Termes de la Ley* 352 It is there taken in the worser sense 1682 Norris *Heroicles* 88 Hence to thy Cell the worser actions are accompany'd with the worst pleasures 1713 Berkeley *Dial. Phys. Theol.* iii. 83 Our own great infirmities and failings deserve a worser place, a more immodious Habitation. 1720 *Lond. Gazetteer Weekly Rec.* (ed. 4) 38 If the worser earthy Part of the Hop is greatly the Cause of that rough harsh unpleasant Taste 1783 Burns *Kenn. rest* 9 Or worser far, the pangs of keen Remorse 1821 Southey in *Colonial Ann. Reg.* II. 127 Upon the convention of Cintra ministers had chosen the worser part 1827 [see Half *a* 4 b] 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) I. Lawcraft, of a worn Soul with Penetrafft, is perhaps the worser devil of the two 1854 S. Austin *Germany* 312 The worser part of the press was timid venal and obsequious 1871 M. Collins *Sun Sir Meetings* 13 One might imagine it a worser Troy 1876 Barrar *Mark's Sermons* xxvii. 272 He must break, if need be, his old life in two and fling away the worser half 1887 Morris *Odyss.* xi. 622 For I, e'en I, the bondsman of a worser man was made

*twice or* 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xi. You might ha' made a worser guess than that, and not far off 1843 Disraeli *Sybil* i. 4, 'It's the buttes', said Nixon, 'they're wusser n' tommy

*b absol* and *elliptical*

1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* iv. (1602) 73 He setteth Iesabell on fire, whose carefull thoughts enquire, Cause bom mons vnto careleasse ioy for worser is to trouble 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. (1617) 22 [He] shall not bee alle to discerne which is the worser and which is the better 1638 *Cassim in d'Ayll* ii. 269 If thou shalt receiue the better for thy selfe and saue the worser vnto God 1652 J. Trigon *Trade* iii. 392 A worser cannot hinder 1658 Hemans tr. *Bp. Bedell's Banish'd Lr.* 58 If the chance to be from a bad Prince to a worser 1660 Gataker *God's Gt. Damonish* 50 There is no necessity to make evil deeds good by doing worser 1682 W. Allen *Early Unity* 3 This was one of the to the better sort of Christians to separate from the worser 1840 G. Godwin *Last Days* v. 5 Famy, y u are a hagnorant creature, and Mr Hinks is a worser 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 333/1, I hear it was a toss up which day was the better or 'worser' of the two

†**c.** *absol* (One's) inferiors *Obs.*

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* ii. (1586) 91 b, They ought to beholde their inferiours with a meeke gratious eie, by meanes whereof they get the good will of their worsers.

*B adv.* = Worse *adv.*

1860 Pilkington *Expos. Apocrys.* Comm. And the worser learned be preferred afore the better, to the ministery let not the better disdayn him. 1573–80 Baker *Husb.* (1878) 90 Where pasture and water is, ther do fare 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* v. i, How like you this? doth he well? *Dio.* The better, the worser. *Host.* I, I pray then, what doost thou thinke of loue? *Dio.* I, the worser then I can of him 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* ix. 232 But thus do ye, nay worser 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. 1. 105 How do you? I meant it? *Cas.* The worser, that you say me the addition. 1620 *Ant. & Cl.* ii. v. 50, I cannot hate thee worser then I do, If thou agnme say yes. 1628 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* iii. 1, I would make his head ake worser than his horns do 1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 45 My hostesse asked me how I liked this tale? I said, it was good enough to passe time tho it might be worser spent 1640 D. Rogers *Naaman* 435 Where he does well, none does better, but where ill, none worser 1684 *Wond. Nat. Hemg* (1732) 31 His Draught I am confident you will like the worser, because he likes it so well 1697 tr. *Patin's Trav. Cong China* xxiv. 409 The other Chinese Merchants were much worser used 1700 J. Brown *Amusem. Ser. Com.* 48 Persons that have a great deal of Idle Time lying upon their Hands and can't tell how to employ it worser 1856 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tales of Shops*, Your poor dear wife as you uses worser nor a dog.

**Worser** (wɐ·rsəɹ), *vb. rare.* [f. Worser *a*, after Better *v.*] *trans.* To make worse, *refl.* to impair one's worldly position. Hence **Wo·rsering** *vbl. sb.*

1848 *Collectanea Glocestr.* 283 *Worsered*, made worse 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 829/2 Thus, be it for the bettering or the worsering of the type, it is our democratic civilization forladden forever 1906 *Macon Mag.* Oct. 914 She says, 'Be going to better myself, can you' I says, 'Take care you don't worser yourself

**Worserment** ([f. Worser *a.* or *v.* + -ment, after *betterment*] = Worsement.

1890 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 5/5 What, if we may coin so large a barbarism, may be called the avoidance of worserment 1900 C. G. Harper *Holyhead Road* I. 93 They received no compensation for the 'worserment which must have practically ruined many of them

†**Worseness.** *Obs nonce-wd* [f. Worser *a* + -ness. Cf Worsenness] The quality of being 'worser' or inferior.

1620 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiii. lxxvii. 322 In Heats and Colds I Temperate in Worseness in neither Nor, working, in their Seasons, is a Betterness of Either

**Worsest** (wɐ·sest), *a.* A jocular and dial reduplicating of Worst, as if f. Worse *a* + -est. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 204 But a laughing woman, with two bright eyes, is the worsest devil of all

**Worse(t, worsset,** north. ff. Worsted.

**Worship** (wɐ·ʃɪp), *sb.* Forms: *a* 1 **weorð-scipe, -scype**, *north.* **worðscip**, 3 **worðscipe, schipe, -schepe**, 4 **worpsaipe, -schap, wortscip, schyp**, 3 **worsipe**, 4 **-saipe**, 4–6 **-schipe** (4 **-schippe, -schype, whorshype**), 4–5 **worschepe, -schepe**, 4 **worchipe**, 4–5 **worschippe(, -schyppe)**, 4-chippe, 5–6 **worshippe**, 5–7 **-shippe**, 4 **worscip** (*scip*), 4–6 **worschip** (4 5 **schipp**, 4 **-schyp**), 4–5 **worchip, -chyp, chep**, 4– **worship** (6–7 **-shipp**), 5–6 **worshyp** (5 **shypp**), 6 *Sc* **wourship**, 7 **woorship**; 3 **wyrdscype**, 4 **wurscipe, -schipe** (*Orm* **wurrpshipe), -aipe, -wype, wurhscipe**, 3 **wrð-, wrþsipe, wrh-, wrscipe**, 4 **-scipe**, 4–5 **wrschipe, -chepe**; 3 **wurschipe** (*Orm* **-schippe**), 4 **-schipe, -schype**, 5 **-chipe**, 4 **wurshippe**, 5 **-chippe**, 6 **wushippe**, 5 **wurschip** ( **chip, -chyp, -chep**), 5 6 **wurship** 7 **wyrßschipe**; (chiefly *north.* and *Sc*) 4 **wirscipe, -schepe**, 5 **-shipe, -chipe, -chepe, wyr**, 4 **wirscippe**, 5 **-shippe, wyrschyppe, -chippe** (vir-, wyrohippe); 4 **wirscip(p), -scep(p, 4–6 wir schip** (6 **-schep, wirschip**), **wirohip, -chep**, 5 **wir-, wyrschyp, -chyp**. *Pl.* **-scipes**, *rarely* **-schippes**, *northern* **worðscype**, † **wyorð** Worth *a.* + **-scipe** suff. The formation is peculiar to English.]

I. 1. The condition (in a person) of deserving, or being held in, esteem or repute, honour, distinction, renown, good name, credit. *Obs.* exc. *arch* (Common down to 16th c.)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. § 4 Hi wunnon after weorðscipe þæt hi wæron ealle gelice, hiobolon goodne hih on *crafte* (*text* cop *Johm* iv 44 Witga on his ceðle worðscip ne hæfð) c 1000 *Ags Gosp.* Matt. 13, 57 Nan witega næfð nanne we ðscype on his agenum earde. 1205 Lay. 31 59 Worðschepe (c 1275 worsipe) hæue þu *þhat* 3 ze Mi Lauerdes þat me feoder nes no mon felle, no he wurh scipe ne can *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1340 An maide mot lutse cleve þat hire wurpschipe beo stald 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 107 Wynne worschip & welthe 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 155 To wynne he maystrie of wommen þou getest but litel wor schippe 1422 tr. *Secreta Secretor.* (E.E.T.S.) 228 Of worshepe honour & mesure shel ye be welle 1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Because ye ain of worshepe and cunnyng w-shyp to rule and gouerne 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 309 Þei desired to kepe his ir uthe a and worship unblemyshed 1515 Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) I. 18 Every man dyd hyt best to gete worship to them. 1530 Palsgr. 418/2 If he wyll say it of his worship [*text* yow & worshyp] I dare affyrme it 1555 *Inscript. Pol. Coat* 1950 Wyth, I thus most mon desyre the title of worship, For we doo worke the dedes that vnto worship appeteigne 1558 tr. *Becon Pomander Pr. Conscience* 11, With thy iustice mercy dwelleth, Wherby thy worshipp more excelleth 1859 *Tennyson Etaine* 1318 It will be to your worship, as my knight To save that she be burned worshipfully

†**b.** A source or ground of honour or credit (to a person) *Obs.*

a 1240 *Ureisun in O. Hom.* I. 109 Na hit be no worðscipe þet þe schulunt me to drowe. c 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P. 975 Salomon seith It is a great worshipe to a man to kepen hym fro þe vse and stryf. 1400 *Lamedyn* 285 Moche worshipe it were to vs alle Might I be ram and þe ryngge hyngen bome to his halse. 1430 *Syr Gener* (Roxb.) 5709 Litle worship had it been If þe my ladies clothes had seen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. xxi. 146 He seemeth hit were your worship to helpe that dolorous knyghte 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 31 b, The synnes that a man is shryuen of shall be moche worshipp to hym 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xix. 22 It is a mans worshi to do good.

†**c** One who, or that which, constitutes a source or ground of honour *Obs*

c 1410 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 27 Thow art ensaumple of chastitee And of virginees wors hip and honour 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. xiv. 73 He had ay fech kheleh Tys ryall steyd Quhilk was hys wirschyp and hys comfort hayll 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* iii. 3 But thou (o Lorde) art my defender my worshipe, and the lifter vp of my heade. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 345 Wallace, the chiefe honour and Wirschep of the Weirs, drew him back to the Scotis partie

†**d** *spec.* Worthiness in battle, valour *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7002 After I am com ledeon þat worscep in his time I ad don 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 50 And throw his worschip sa wroucht he, That he reskewyt all the fleara. *Ibid.* xv. 564 Hot that thai dayis sa can assuail That thar mycht nocht worschip availl c 1440 Wyntoun *Cronyk* ii. xvi. 1521 Hir douchtyr Tuk vparmys in hir stede, þat worschep pruffit in mony dede.

†**2** In phrases **a** *To turn (one's) worship*: to gain honour or renown. *Obs*

c 1200 Orrin 19373 Forr þurrh þatt tatt tiss woldenn þa Sen Godd wurrshipe winnenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2439 He foiued hir wil mare þan ure, þe wirschip þat sco did him win 13 *Guy Warw.* (A) 818 Who þat ber be of mest mist, Grete worþschipe he winneþ c 1350 *Will Palerne* 648 Nis no man vpon molde þat more worschip wynnes c 1400 26 *Pl. Poems* iii. 57 A worþi knyht wol worchip wynne c 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 35 That Auntie shall by gynne That knyghtis shall there worshyp wynne. 1471 Ripley *Compl. Alch.* v. xxviii. in *Ashm.* (1652) 153 But to get it here what worship and avayle, They wyn in London 1523 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 574 Whom y' y' day played tonyder an Heinander, and it sygned full sore, but Heinander had alle alsthe Englysshemen wan yt' worshyp 1579 *Satir Poems Reform.* xxxvi. 157 Quha vantis be bluid thay all thair worschip wan 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 31 Of great aduenture he was bond, To winne him worship 1598 Marston *Sco Villanie* i. 184 That with industrious paines hath wonne the true worship

†**b** *To get, or have, the worship of* to gain the honour or renown of; to overcome or winning *Obs*

1482 Caxton *Godfrey* lxxii. 116 Bawdwyn, and they that were with hym, sayd that they ought to haue the worship of that day 1520 Arnold in *Chron.* (1811) 9 Where he fell in Smytefeld, betwene the Lord Scales and the bastard of Burgoyne, a d the Lord Scales had the worshyp of the felde a 1533 Fabyan *Chron.* (1811) 670 Whyche esquyre gatte suche worshyp of the same Henauder, that the kynge made hym streyght knyght

‡**3** The condition (in a person) of holding a prominent place or rank; dignity, importance, high standing or degree. *Now arch.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Swelce þu sie bines agnes le unnen, nigher ne þurfe welonza ge þines weorþscipes. c 1030 *Lofe of Hend* (Logeman) 145 Swa i wylcere yhle 0878 worþscipe [L. *dignitate*] he is. a 1154 *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1132, He com on x Petres mæsse dæ mid mycel weorscipe into the mun tre. c 1200 *Trin. & Virtues* 53 Danne hie se lide forlesen þe worscipe of heuene to angles. c 1205 Lay. 20452 Swa þu scalt wurðen in worldscipe þare a 1225 *Ancr.* A. 278 Al so as prude is wilnunge of wurðschipe, rihtal so eadmednesse is forkeoruinge of wurðschipe c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7099 Constant[i]nople[be]corome tok, & þus to wors hipe g in he lende 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 Goodes of eorðe ne sinne, ne richeuesse worsipe, ne bealnesse 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 13 For to be þaire lykynge of mete and dry k ard clop and worldly worschipe. c 1425 *Chron. Lond.* (Kingsford 1905) 49 We pryve hym [Richard II] off the kyngdom and worshyp 1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 13 Ye ar inbylled to be made knygth at it wis Coronacion but and it lyke you to take the worshyp vpon you [etc.] 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 409 A lorde was a clerke in he tenomed it rome wh' he cald not come to the worsh p that he desyred. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xlix. 21 Whether his children come to worship or to shame, he cannot tell And yf they be men of lowe degre he knoweth not 1549 in Tytler *Eng. under Edw. VI* (1839) I. 219 And we and others of worship in these countries do incur by these means much infamy. 1573 & 80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 208 Yet is it not to be forgot In Court it hath some to worship come 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 7 In professing it is his intent what soeuer vnder his worship he shall vnderstand to vnto here he take her plal ly and clearely to wife 1607 *Stat. in Hist. Hutchinson Comp. Sch.* (1890) 57 Sauinge in to euery man his highe degree of honor, worshippe and estate 1728–8 *Short Pol. Coat* 194 Sir was as fine as Peacock, but truly, I thought there was more Cost than Worship 1765 *Pol. Treasons Journey* 1 Wks 1 gladly would labour for little or nothing; only victuals and cloath, as me cost it an worship 1846 *Scott Journ. of Affairs* 11 Worship and birth to me are known By books, by learning, and, I tone

†**b** With *a* and *pl.* A distinction or dignity, a position of honour or high place. *Obs*

a 1300 *Ayenb.* 75 Al þe blisse of þise worolde him nolde by drede and wo, ryscheuesse of þg, worþsseppes voulhede 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1153 Pride of lyf þat seme in here kepes, Failes to honours and worldepes 1387 Trevisa *Higden* II. 213 Offa was worschypful in ren of Canterbury, and lyuynde hem þat were lyche [*read* he and hem þat] 1480 Hilton *Scala Perf.* I. xxxvii. (W. de W. 1494) He þat hath forsake the loue of the worlde in worshippes and riches 1520 *Merita Morte Arth.* 20 How they wil not a wyth were a worshipp many 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xlix. 12 In Galba MS.) He þat victors may gete will be eoron [Auth] wirschipes grete 1549 tr. *Imitatione* I. xxiv. § 1 If I you had ful ypped unto now in worshipnes & lustes of be worlde 1598 *Chest Goddes Chyld* 69 Riches and worshipes ben but lente to man for a tyme. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iv. 278 Mis. What in the worst content resp d upon the worships of their name 1606 G. Wo d. *Hist. Sapient.* 119 That it shou ld be lawfull f r them to po sesse all their estates and worships whatsoeuer

†**c** An alleged name for a company of writers. 1486 *bk S. Albans* F vj b, A worshyp of wrytyng

‡**4** *Man, gentleman* etc., *of worship* a person of repute and standing. Now *arch*

[1 quot 1598 c nitra ted with *of honour* (= belonging to the nobility.]

1340 *Ayenb.* 80 He þat is comb wel to man of worsseppe þet he l y ameuered me alle his dedes. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 17 Lanne we es of worschype Wip his leitres he let to þe

lud vende *c1386* Chaucer *Franklt T* 324 He was a man of worshipe and honour 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 28 With other folkes of worshippe, preests, and gode frendys 1503 Fitzherb. *Surv* Prol. b ij, Euery great estate, both men & women of worship that haue great possessyon of landes and tenementes shulde haue [et.] 1556 *Acts Privy Counc Ired* (Hist. MSS Comm.) 11 They shall examyne hym or them before the nexte gentilman of worshipe 1577–87 Stanyhurst *Descr Ired* 30 in *Holinshed*, There are besides these noble names, certeine gentlemen of worship, comm mie called baronets 1592 Chettle *Kind harts Dr* To Gentl Rdrs, 3 Besides, diuers of worship haue reported, his vprightnes of dealing 1598 Stow *Surv* 264 In this Cloyster were buried many persons, some of worship and others of honour 1618 Taylor (Water P.) *Penniles Pilgr* Cab, Kinde Mr. Thomas Banister, the Mrs. Why is of worship and of good Respect 1633 Butler *Ch. Hist* IX 178 Our Author (though a person of witt and worship) denyeth his intelligence from the French writer disaffected in religion 1693 Congreve *Old Bach* v. vii, All the World know me to be a Knight and a Man of Worship 1820 Scott *Monast* xix, This is our presence, and to a man of worship I said the Abbot 1837 Bisset *Life of Sacheverell* 1 Which [man] bespoke the owner a man of worship, and one well to do in the world 1889 Gertrude *Mervyn's Hardcheek* xxvi, Uncle and his grandfather were both men of worship in my boyish days.

†**b** So *of good* or *great, worship Obs*

1555 [Joo from *Wyatt's Rebell* 6 b, Christopher Roper (a man of good worshippe) was executed at Tiborne] 1577 Master Tucke & minister Dorrel gentlemen of good worshippe, and Iustices of peace 1583 Stubbes *Anat Abus* i (1879) 109 One shall not be two yeres of such wholsome meate was thou, bit sufficient for a man of great worship to dyne withall 1598 Grenade *Spirit Counsel* F 2 The other two seemed me inner then in number, yet Gentlemen of good worship 1603 tr. Ouvs *Pembr Arcadia* (1893) 12 It hath ben allwaies inhabited with diuerse Knights and gentlemen of greate worshippe

†**c** *Place of worship* a 'good house' *Joins of worship* an important town *Obs*

1484 Mabg Paston in *P Lett* III 314 Swethe dysporte as sche hadde seyn hyrself in places of worsel ip ther vs a he hathe ben 1494 in *Fabyan* vii (1559) 332 The said lordes goeng on foote in every towne of worshippe

5. With *your* or *his* A title of honour, used in addressing or speaking of a person of note. In later use *spec* as the title of a magistrate

1508 Goete *De Herode Sarm* I do office your name to your worshipful maistership not that I a iudge of so present, worthy your worship, but that [etc.] 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* B 6 b, Your worships were then elected Governours of this said Hospitall 1570 *Levins Manip* 121 (Camden) Your worship is not ignorant that [etc.] 1607 Shaks. *Timon* III iv 71 What does his cashiered Worship mutter? 1631 Heywood *1st & 2nd Pt Edw IV* 1, 2 *Knowest* thou, what will you draw? *Clem* The best wine in the house for your worship 1693 Dryden *Persius* v 211 Now Master Damsel is his Name 1728 Da De Foe *Eng Tradesman's Courtsh* 1 (1807) 59 Indeed I did not know your worship at first I am sorry to see you out so late and [please your worship, and all alone 1732 Fielding *Tom Thumb* iv v, He arrived when the play had almost finished his business He was acquainted that his worship would wait on him in a moment 1768 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 45 To P. Esq; High Sheriff of the County of Y. *Sir your Worship* 1773 Goldsm *Stoops to Conq* iv 1, Dig I have got a letter for your worship 1797 Lamb *Let to Coleridge* 10 Jan Is it a favour to have you? And what does your worship know about farming? 1837 Dickens *Pickw* xxv, 'This here's Pickwick, your wash up,' said Grummer *Ibid* Muddle your worship 'Upon the front door' 'Yes your worship' 1861 Agnes Strickland *Q of Ire ids* Ser II 73 For which I humbly hope your worship will be pleased to send him to Botany Bay 1880 *Ill Lond Lett writing* 63 To his Worship F. C. Waltz, Esq. Mayor of Manchester

†**b** Without personal pronoun *Obs rare*

1566 Warner *Alb Engl* xv 91 Your worship I have hapt to fall, they went not to such Worships as like Tyrants men miscall 1663 Barrow *Serm* (1687) I xii 177 The next to depend on himself Though not an alliance known, perhaps he be thought derogatory to the Worships of our days)

†**c** *My worship* jocular for 'me', 'myself' *Obs*

1601 W Parr *Quene and Cecile* III v (Camd.) If I shewe you not such a piece of Hammer-craft, neuer you my worship credit henceforth 1668 (title) *Verney Mem* (1907) II 223 I saw 3 good matches at Newmarket which pleased the king well but not my worshipe, for I got no money by them 1708 [Dr Paul's] Cath. Inst. 30 Is any Alliance known, perhaps he be thought derogatory, to the Worships of our days)

†**d** *My worship* jocular for 'me', 'myself' *Obs*

1601 W Parr *Quene and Cecile* III v (Camd.) If I shewe you not such a piece of Hammer-craft, neuer you my worship credit henceforth 1668 (title) *Verney Mem* (1907) II 223 I saw 3 good matches at Newmarket which pleased the king well but not my worshipe, for I got no money by them 1708 [Dr Paul's] Cath. Inst. 30 Is any Alliance known, perhaps he be thought derogatory, to the Worships of our days)

†**e** *My worship* jocular for 'me', 'myself' *Obs*

1601 W Parr *Quene and Cecile* III v (Camd.) If I shewe you not such a piece of Hammer-craft, neuer you my worship credit henceforth 1668 (title) *Verney Mem* (1907) II 223 I saw 3 good matches at Newmarket which pleased the king well but not my worshipe, for I got no money by them 1708 [Dr Paul's] Cath. Inst. 30 Is any Alliance known, perhaps he be thought derogatory, to the Worships of our days)

†**f** Respect or honour shown to a person or thing *Obs.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hept. On Old Test* (1922) 28 He hrohd his fæder on fullum worscipe þær *c* 1020 Wulfstan *Hom* xxxiii (1883) 163 Ealle þeaw lyamu we scylon mid worðscype þam þe us cenedon 1120 *O. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1115 He was ordining and mycelan worðscype *c* 1200 Ormin 3095 Si Drihhtin Wurrshipe & lofl & wulleert *c* 1205 Lay 2211 Ich þe leue to fonge mid worþscype þan is *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 68 Bere3 worðschipe þerto nor þe holi sacrament þet se ineo3 þer þurh *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 12092 Ill eldren men wirscip to scau *c* 1385 Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* 1039 That I may of your here sayne Wrshyp or that ye come agayne 1389 *Eng Gilds* (1870) 7 To bringe þe body in to þe place þider with worschippe *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* (Verse) 1950 A souereyn sal ger gestes keþe With honour & with gret wirshepe. *c* 1420 *Pol, Rel & L. Poems* (1903) 248 He saluted his moder with gret worchepe. 1490 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret* 181 And therfor grete honoure, glorie, and Perpetuel virchippe, is to the Prince 1580 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 54, I haue spokyn wt Bongay and he spekys of your mychie whorschype 1598 Dunbar *Flyting* 191 ten thowe with wirschep wild ze hine be styld. Haill, 30 leirnit sangsour! 1635 Coverdale *Apoc. Esther* 211. P 2 I hou wotest that I loue not the glory and worshipe of the wrighteous. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 117, I protestmitted nothing which might make for your aduauncement, in respecte of the worship that might be ministred by vrides 1604 Hannah *Chron Jesu and* (1653) 70 So that they were then received with all worship.

†**b.** *In, for, or to* (one's) *worship's* in honour of. Also with dat *Obs.*

*c* 1275 *Lamb Hom* 5 Heo n men þa bisetne and hat cweden al þane weg hem to wurþsipe *a* 1225 *Ancr* A 30 He wenen þet se hueuel best & mest, in hore worschipe wage3 oþer les, oþer mo. *c* 1290 *Beg Asiam* 338 *In S Jer* 472 þe Maine heo wrouhten warderon of heuen, þe sweete I lie Maudeleyne in cristes wurthe hipe, For heo was þe kuinne of heouene leof and deore *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 121 In hur wirs hip wild i bigin A lvttand ware apon to myn 1338 R Baddeby *Chron* (1810) 17 In vtede of Kynge Edwarde I did him bere þe croice, In wirschup of Jhesu. 1387 Higden *Higden* I 93 Medus cleped be cuten Medus also, in worshipe of Medus mode 1389 *Eng Gilds* (1870) 27 A ffeteherlode þer is ordeined ffour fires in þe worschep of god and sa moder *c* 1430 *Compl. and Sco* in I 53 *Temple of Glas* 76 I sit in worshepe & memory, Wher and I trompe of this ston *c* 1450 Capt Kalf *St Aug* Prol 1 Than wil I begynne his werk to þe wrship of his glorious doctour 1466 *Rolls of P.* II 573 I will make my dotation and worship for worship of Norfolk 1494 *Fabyan* vii 558 Such Crafles as bene ryely charge in his Cite to be worship of the same 1506 R Whytford *Martirl pr* 51 b, I be dearly in of a churche that saynt Bonyface 99 popes halowed in the worshyp of our lady & of all martyrs 1568 Grafton *Chron* II 1103 It is written at the length, and in most always to their honour and worship

†**c** *To do* (one) *worship* to show honour, pay respect or homage, to. *Obs*

*c* 1205 Lay 9828 Chudien wes þi cudli he freond, Þe dude þe hi worhscipe *c* 1290 *Beg & Fl* 2757 [Jethro's daughter] Þat was þore hir fliht Þat he seyd, Hayl, and wrshipe hem dede. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5290 (Fairf.) He þat me east of alle ere, and done me worshe. 1397 *Jas Gloucester* 1306 Our gastly Fadre tenus us, To vtlik man thist worshupfull is, for to do worship afir that it is 14 *Sir Tryam* (1) 1229 So moche worshyp he hyr dyd for me & for my men 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX xii 89 Nor william in his 3eris thryd Wrschip to Robert c myn dul. 1589 Carew *Nonnes of Aym* 11 xiv 390 Ye haue done to them so great worship, 1596 Dymmok *Ireland* 30 Their they made vs worshippe & the doctryne of god oure sauyoure in all thynges *a* 1553 Udall *Respl* I 1 iv, D. your maister worship as ye haue done in time past 1610 B. Jonson *Alchemist* IV, 1, That dint may make you Master worship then you thinke 1872 Freeman *Norm. Conq* xvii 3 IV. 78 To accompany the King on his voyage or simply to do him worship on his departure

†**d** *To have, or hold, in worship* to hold in honour *Obs.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm Sel* Wks II 67 For he þinkiþ vnkist Crist or worshipe as he ʒiueþ hym 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I 4 9 Belles and statues [that] in worschippe men haues *c* 1400 Maundev (Roxb) lx 34 Pat hathe þat place in grete worschippe 1450–81 tr. *Secreta Secret* iii 6 That his philosophie be held in worshipe and high recomendacioun *Ibid* xviii 15 And euyrmore leke that thou holde alle the lordis in gret worshipe as they ben of estate.

†**e** Reverence or veneration paid to a being or power considered supernatural or divine; the action or practice of displaying this by appropriate acts, rites, or ceremonies.

*Place of worship* see Place *sb* 26

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 5980 þe folk of egypte man to bestes kipe vnwrth þe wrshipe 1393 Gower *Conf* III 344 Wrot word in to widdirnes To make vs lauerd his wirscip to. *c* 1330 R Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 7362 We [Saxons] haue Godes seruise, & we wirschip we make 1340 Hampole *Pr Conscience* 6 Oure angels weit fra vs away, Bifor god baire wirschip to ma *c* 1400 *Rule St Benet* 1241 Parfor be rowle I wil rehercc, How þai sal do wirchep alway, When þai sal sing or rede 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Lady* II 92 What thynge ioye ȝe not euer haue but wor ship and glory be gyuen vnto god 1550 Crowley *Way to Wealth* (1872) 10 Whan they come to the congregacion in the temples 1587 *Gude & Godlie B* (S. T. S.) 129 Lord thow will bruf Wirschip in spirite and veritie *Ibid* 87 Quhilk ar nocht to be worshipit with ceremonies 1611 Shakes. *Winter's T* iii 3 Worshipping A mankynd 1588 Barlow *Three Serm* 1 3 His presence in that temple so holy, so glorious, and appointed for his worshippe 1642 J. Burgesse *Vour Joy* 53 The changers of Gods worship amongst the ten Tribes were wiser 1644 (title) A Directory for The Publique Worship of God, throughout the three Kingdoms 1660 Stillingf. *Orig Sacra* v 17 If by Worship Divine be taken the great part of the Christian worship 1680 Burnet *Rochester* 53 He believed there should be no other Religious worship, but a general Gratitude and Love Breathing in sacred Hymns 1721 Steele *Spect* No 147 P 4 As the matter of Worship is now managed, in Dissenting Congregations 1759 Robertson *Hist Scot* I vii Wks 1813 I 481 In public assemblies for the worship of God 1778 *Archæologia* (1779) V 197 The Church of Stockholm was considered as the Doomsday Book as the place of worship belonging to that manor 1880 Hazlitt *Fest Dram Lit* 20 He redeemed man from the worship of that idol self 1898 Lytton *Pelham* I. iv The attitude that Nature dedicates to the worship of a God 1876 Morley *Univ Serm* vi. 129 To think that we know everything about God is to benumb and deaden worship; but mystical thought quickens worship 1883 L. D Wagner *Remembered Yesterd* 25 Protestant worship was forbidden in this region, houses of worship were pulled down, meetings for worship were forbidden

**b.** *transf* Veneration similar to that paid to a deity. *Obs*

1838 Mas. Browning *To Bettine* 3 Upturning worship and delight To his grand face, as women will 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven* (1874) I i 13 The dying city obtained wider worship in her decrepitude than in her youth 1893 *Horner's Mag.* Dec. 113/1 The General Assembly addressed James in terms of worship extraordinary to a republican ear.

9. With *a* and *pl.* A form or type of veneration or adoration; † a single instance or occasion of performing the acts associated with this.

1604 E [Grimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* v iii 334 Virachocha, which holde the chiefe place amongst the wor ships which the Kings Ingues made 1643 Trapp *Comm Ex* xxxv 1 The Church, in her Worships, is terrible as an army with banners 1657 J Watts *Nerdis*, etc iii To Rdr *b, This Dipping of two new Sisters in a Pond of the Yard being in publick, and in a dissolute day, and between the Morning and Evening Worships drew away much people thither 1669 W Penn in *Ellis Pennsylvania* (1902) 282 The Parliament, by means Sadtus Act had the free exercise of their destinct worships. 1687 *Proclam in Lond Gaz* No 2231 5 And likewise Indemnifying fully and freely all Quakers, for their Meetings and Worships. 1735 J Mitchell *Acharn of Aristoph* Introd p xii, A faith, which stood far indeed above the least worships, which surrounded it 1824–6 Tennyson *Lord Lee* II v 217 Free from the more debasing admixtures of most worships of heathendom, 1859 J Taylor *Logic in Theol* etc 220 Continuing to dispense the customary Patristic warning the ministers of worships, which were still adhered to by large masses of the Roman people 1906 A E Whatman in *Amer Jrnl Relig. Psych* I ii 56 Animals worship man as a combination of two separate worships

**b.** *poet* An object of worship. *rare*

1621 Fletcher *Ind Princess* II vi, By that brightness That guides the world with light, by all our worships, I will not rest

**III. 10.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as †*worship deed, †-house, -music, -song; worship-worth, -worthy* adjs., †**worship-waller**, one who desires to be worshipped

*c* 1300 *Land Troy Bk* 12770 But wold he, lord do my rede, Pe ich He do a worschip-hous 1513 Douglas *Æneis* (Urry), Sochie worship-willers mote ill fele 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb Kent* 364 Then were it wisest of the people to keep worthie worthies 1594 in *Pal Devonshire* (1918) 3 The Castle with their Worship H. use adjoining is a fine Object. 1872 Forman *Inquiry into* 363 This offers positive existences as worship-worth in the room of those ideas 1884 *Chr Ref World Dwight* 12 Now 3000 B.C. This pass ige indicates the true nature of worship song 1884 Payne *2001 Nights* IX 251 None is worshipworth save God alone. 1919 C. A Harris *Bible Mirror* 11 Now 3000 B.C. This passage

**b.** *transf.* To regard with extreme respect or devotion; to 'adore'.

1700 Mrs. Manley *Power of Love* I. (1741) 126 Why may I not know and worship my Benefactor? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi. ii. Men are strangely inclined to worship what they do not understand. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. ii. 63 Under the shadow of the genius that he had worshipped almost from boyhood. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 258 Lady Churchill was loved and even worshipped by Anne. 1851 Kingsley *Yeast* x, She had worshipped Intellect, and now it had become her tyrant. 1856 Dickens, etc. *Wreck Golden Mary* ii. 19 I worshipped the very ground she walked on! 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* iv, Our mother was the sweetest...of women—Malmie and I worshipped her. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 508/2 His wife simply worshipped him.

**c.** *absol.* To engage in worship; to perform, or take part in, the act of worship.

a 1723 Burnet *Own Time* (T. Mant. MS.) If to worship before the devil, be to worship the devil, then to worship before the image, is to worship the image. 1824 Lamb *Elia* Sec. II. *Blakesmoor*, I...knew every nook and corner, wondered and worshipped everywhere. 1860 Warner *Seaboard* II. 462 It distresses me sadly to see the effect of not worshipping where good men of all sects have been used to worship. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Mrs. Bob* ii, Ever since the first day...he had persistently and abjectly worshipped at the shrine of Mrs. Lovelace. 1908 R. Bridges *A. Carhart* vi, 92 The parish church in which the Cuthbert family had worshipped.

†**2.** *trans.* To honour; to regard or treat with honour or respect. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 511 Sibben sal...chirchen ben wurshped mor and mor. a 1300 *Cursor M.* (Cott.) Sayand moder þou wirschip ai. *Ibid.* 28141 Ic habe counsild in bis to be for-þi þat alle suld wirschippe me. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 163 Richard curteise was, & he treuthe wirschipped. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Þe parish church in which the Cuthbert family had worshipped.

†**2.** *trans.* To honour; to regard or treat with honour or respect. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 511 Sibben sal...chirchen ben wurshped mor and mor. a 1300 *Cursor M.* (Cott.) Sayand moder þou wirschip ai. *Ibid.* 28141 Ic habe counsild in bis to be for-þi þat alle suld wirschippe me. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 163 Richard curteise was, & he treuthe wirschipped. 1340 *Ayenb.* 208 Þe parish church in which the Cuthbert family had worshipped. 1382 Wyclif *Sirach* x. 20 Þe worshipful man schal be wirshipful, and he that dredeth God schal be wirshipful. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (1865) I. 59 Þe kyng of Babilon worschepede [L. *honorauit*] his Ezechias wyþ siluer. c 1450 *Loy-Feste Mirr. Bk., Bidding Prayer* iii. 71 We sal pray specially for all bases but whiche þis kirke owther with bake or bell, ussement or cloþes. 1473 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 84 So that none of us reserve and kepe to his proure use but ringis and iouches for to worship his wiffe and children withalle. 1484 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 87 Þe kynge...dud worshippe and honoure þe hys seruante with seche benefettys to geue other exaumple.

†**3.** To invest with, raise to, honour or repute; to confer honour or dignity upon. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 330 At London is his heued, his chartres eek leued, in Scotland spred, To wirschip her lles. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 286 Þe manheed of Crist is a margarite þat worshipiþ his Chirche and confortiþ mennis hertis. a 1425 *Prose Treat. Treatvlus* 4 The excercyse of bokes worshippeþ a leche. *Ibid.* 38 Sich pronosticacion...shal worshipe þe hisynes of be leche. c 1450 Bokenham *Seyntes* 230 Ffor as a kyng of grace & ryghtwisnesse, Worshippeth the body of a mighty kyng, So fair language Worshippeth a lettir with good endityng. c 1530 *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E.E.T.S.) 111 Shee was a mayde, she had worshipped all her kyn. a 1598 H. Smith *Serm.* (1594) 337 He gapes for a phrase that...he may haue one figure more to grace and worship his tale. 1601 A. Munday *Downf. Earl Huntington* I. iii. Þou haue dishonoured me; I worshipt you, You...Unto a Iustice place I did preferre, Where you vniustly haue my tenants sack.

**Worshipability.** *rare.* [f. next.] Capability of being worshipped.

1812 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 378, I commend the modest Unitarians for their candour in giving up the possible worshipability of Christ.

**Worshipable** (wɜ·ʃipəb'l), *a.* [f. Worship *v.* + -able.]

†**1.** Entitled to honour or respect; honourable, worshipful. *Obs.*

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3511 Thy dispoisicion Ordeyned had the table By lyklyhede of high degre And of estate ful worshipable. c 1450 — *Life Our Lady* (MS. Ashm. 30 ff. 94 b), Se howe lowely in a stall or stabill howe that she satte this lady worshipabill. 1406 — *Do Gwil. Pilgr.* 7724 A Gorger off Sobyrnesse, Thy wych Armure ys profytable, To alle folkys worshepable.

**2.** Capable of being worshipped.

**Vox. X.**

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* I. (1858) 196 Nature is still divine,...the Hero is still worshipable. 1857 P. Freeman *Princ. Div. Serv.* II. 173 A worshippable Presence of Christ, resulting from their consecration. 1883 *American* VI. 7 Woman's being is to him fairly worshipable.

**Worshipful** (wɜ·ʃipfl), *a.* (*sb., adv.*). Forms: *a.* 4 worsipeul ; 4 worshup-, 4–5 worschip-, worschop- (4 worsship-), 5 worchip-, 4– worship-, 5–6 worshypful, *Sc.* wourschip-, 5 woorshipfull, etc. *β.* 5 wurshipful, -whipe-, 5–6 -shipfull(e. 7– 5 wir-, wyrship-, etc. [f. Worship *sb.*]

**1.** Of things: Notable or outstanding in respect of some (good) quality or property; distinguished, imposing; reputable, honourable. Now *arch.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxi. 14 Worschepfulle [*L. preciosum*] þan be in Ebrone hinne it sal be swa. 1320 *Sqnnh. Bo* Nor virtue is þing wel worþsipuol, lostuol and uremuol. 1357 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. ii. 119, I beleve that the moost worshipfull sacrament of the auter is Crystis body in forme of breed. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xxviii. 7 Hou worschipful [*L. terribilis*] is this place! 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiv. xxiv. (Tollem. MS.) With his conynge betto cure Lorde made his Mounte [Tabor] worschipful [*L. commendabilem*]. c 1450 *Merlin* iv. 85 He...seide that so high and worschipful a-mendes dide neuer a lorde to his man. c 1450 *Loveluch Grail* 68 In þe mos worschipful and reuerent gyse they hym beryeden as they cowde devyse. 1479 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 171 The mare of this said worshipp full city. 1508 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 189 He shall gyue vs power to preche,...whiche shall be a very worshypfull office. 1560 Pilkington *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 182 They shall finde no worshipfull names geuen to the preachinge minister, then to any one sorte of men. 1575 Lanham *Lett.* (1871) 3, I am placed at Count Leycester's...in as worshipfull a place as I could wish. 1610 *Camden's Brit.* 375 When this right worshipfull title [of knighthood] was by the Prince conferred upon one. a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Suff.* (1662) 65 His Posterity still flourish in a Worshipfull manner in Suffolk. 1670 Eachard *Reflect. on Vind. & Panther* 34 No Romance can furnish us with such pleasant and worshipfull Tales. 1686 Scott *Wonder.* ii, Will he give me the Remains of his worshipful and wonderful house-keeping? 1851 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* xxi. IV. 606 Whether standing or sitting, his look was worshipful and kingly. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* xxxvii. I...will not be worse than painting a piece of staring immodesty and calling it by a worshipful name?

*adverb.* 1880 Poste *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 176 Aristotle distributes good things into three classes—the admirable or worshipful [τὰ τίμια]—the praiseworthy—the potential.

**2.** Of persons: Distinguished in respect of character or rank; entitled to honour or respect on this account. Now *arch.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxviii. 4 Konynge that makis men worshipful. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 205 Ilk man that worshipfull is. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 182 And eke so worschipful a wif, The daughter of an Emperour, To wedde it schal be gret honour. c 1400 *Chron. Vilod.* 3147 A worshipfull woman in bat contre bo dwelt. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* (Priv. Lib.) 82 Þat he be holden wijs and worshipfull in þat cite governance. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. viii. 425 Syr Tristram that is the worshipfullest knyght that now is lyvynge. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 68 Of a worschipfull kynrik mans hand myghte I not dye. c 1530 *Prov. in Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 58 A nobyll and a worshipfull hert neyyt wyll do vnworthely ways. 1555 Eden *Decades* (1577) 372 Wyve & woorshypfull men experte in nauigations. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Faun. Love* To Rdr. 5 b, The ancient...leying conceyued by worshipfull frends came not into my handes. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 109 Small townlets, which have given surnames to ancient and worshipfull families. 1630 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 306, I encountered with a Worshipfull English Gentleman Mr. Stydolffe Esquier of his Maiesties lwdy. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 107 Edwin Sands, Arch-Bishop of Yorke, born in a worshipfull family in Kent. 1691 Norris *Beatitudes* I. 1 Instruments in L'Estrange *Life* II. 52 Oh! what a delicious painter of mind and body is that worshipful Master Aubrey! 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell Let.* cccvii. (1871) IV. 93 He is one of the noblest and worshipfullest of all Englishmen, at least the strongest and terribles.

†**b.** Applied to Bede, = Venerable *a.* 1. *Obs.*

14–. ¶ Ynde *Assembly of Gods* 1581 Belyndu all these wa worshipfull Bede. c 1450 *Compend. Olde Treat.* (Arb.) 175 Worshupfull Bede in his first booke telleth (etc.). 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 411/1 Bede is not called of holy chyrche Sayntbede but worshypful bede.

**3.** *a.* As an honorific title for persons or bodies of distinguished rank or importance: formerly used very widely, but now restricted to justices of the peace, aldermen, recorders, the London city common and freemasons' lodges and their brethren. *Right worshipful* is applied to mayors, and the sheriffs, aldermen, and recorder of London.

1398 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 316 Y...by for yow hier, worshepfull fader in God, and lord, Richard, by the grace of God vnworthi bischop of Lincoln, sowle [etc.]. 1409 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/1 To comune...with the Wyrshipfull Prince Robert the King of Scotland, and his Consell. 1426 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1890) 10 Your right worshipfull Mair,...and all þe wirshipfull Counsell of þe cite of York. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 79/2 The fundation of that worshipfull Fraternite or Gylde. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 My right worshipfull Lord Bisshop of Salysbury. 1578 T. Nicholas tr. *Certes' Comp. W. Indies* (1596) Ep. Ded., Whilest I abode...in the Iste of Palma, in affaires of merchandize for the worshipfull Thomas Lasoo Esquier. 1605 Camden *Rem.* Ded. 1 To the Right Worshipfull, Worthy and Learned Sir Robert Cotton. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 48 The Worshipfull Companys letters. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Nonsence, Trav.* 20 The right worthy worshipfull Knight Sir Paul Neale. 1641 W. S. *Mom's Edw.* I^d Ded., To the Right Worshipfull Sir John Lenthall Knight. 1720 A. Petrie *Rules Deportment.* (1877) 70 The Manner of directing of your Letters...To the Right Worshipfull Lady M. S. ...To the Worshipful Lady A. S.

1738 Pope *Hor. Satires* II. ii. 75 How pale, each Worshipful and Rev'rend guest Rise from a Clergy, or a City feast! 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 286, I thanked...his worshipful brethren of the Council. 1768 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 46 To the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Mercers. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lviii, A dumb waiter, who has something to do with a Worshipful Company who have got a Hall in the next yard. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, Sir Charles Weinants, a right worshipful gentleman also. 1878 *Law Bk. & Prophate Dict.* 380 A certain Cause now pending in our Consistory Court, before the Worshipful Thomas Hutchinson Tristram, ...our Vice General.

**b.** Used in forms of address, as *worshipful sir*, (*right*) *worshipful master*, etc.

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 19 Right worthy and worshepefull Sir, I recommaunde me to yow, (etc.). 1440 *Cov. etc. Cuttlinghum Priory* (Surtees) 114 Worshipfull Sir, I commend me to yowe. c 1440 Mang. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 42 Ryth reverent and worsepeful bushon. c 1455 Brynton *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 349 [To Henry, Duke of Somerset, being High mighti Prince and my right worshipfull and good lord. 1473 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 144 Right wyrshypfull and my ryght tendre moder, I recommaunde me to yow. 1502 Udall in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2 Right worshipfull and my singlar good Maister. a 1592 Greene *Alcida* (1617) Ded. A 3, To the Right Worshipfull Sir Wmfrid Gifford, Knight. *Ibid.*, So (right worshipfull) after your returne from the Low Countries, (etc.). 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Her Ladyship, Right worshipful, is gone to be at home. 1768 *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 48 Justices of the Peace, and Mayors, are stiled Right Worshipful. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* iv, 'Thanks, most worshipful,' returned Miss Vernon. 1843 *Life Sir W. Follett* 30 I...shall not be my fault if I do not, though but a humble headman to your worshipful Mastership, help to make them so. 1861 *Dict. Daily Events* s.v. *Addresses*, The Mayors of all Corporations, with the Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Recorder of London, are styled *Right Worshipful*; and the Aldermen and Recorder of other Corporations, as well as Justices of the Peace, *Worshipful*. 1906 *Complete Letterwriter* 21 A Mayor is addressed as The Worshipful the Mayor of —; in a few cities as 'Right Worshipful'.

**c.** *absol.* (chiefly pl.) or as *sb.* In later use *spec.* a magistrate.

c 1450 *NS. Trin. Coll. Camb. R. 3. 19* If. 170 b, Worshipfull and dyscrete that here present be, I wyll you tell a tale of two or thre. c 1460 *J. Russell Bk. Nurture* 645 Pees durst y do my deuoire with any worshipfulle to be wonnynge. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 129 As by the reporte of dyvers worshipfull men, as well as Justices of the Peace, *Worshipfull*. 1906 *Complete Letterwriter* 21 A Mayor is addressed as The Worshipful the Mayor of —; in a few cities as 'Right Worshipful'.

**c.** *absol.* (chiefly pl.) or as *sb.* In later use *spec.* a magistrate.

c 1450 *NS. Trin. Coll. Camb. R. 3. 19* If. 170 b, Worshipfull and dyscrete that here present be, I wyll you tell a tale of two or thre. c 1460 *J. Russell Bk. Nurture* 645 Pees durst y do my deuoire with any worshipfulle to be wonnynge. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 129 As by the reporte of dyvers worshipfull men, as well as Justices of the Peace, and other worshypfull of countrey, where they dwel. 1595 *Churchm. Acc. St. Marg. Westm.* (Nichols 1797) 24 When the worshipfull of the parish made the perambulacion to Kensington. 1806 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* X. 213 Anon the day of trial comes, The Worshipfuls were on their bums, And all the court in solemn silence sat.

†**4.** Showing or bringing honour or distinction *to* a person; reputable or honourable *for* one. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 24 And sif þei seyn þat grete chirchis ben worschipful to god [etc.]. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 46 Per is no þing worschipfulere to a leche...þan to kepe a lyme woundid fro swellynge. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325/1 Crafftes which be convenient, worshipfull and accordyng for Gentilz wymmen to vse and occupye. 1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 143 That shuld not be worschepfull for you; for men shuld not than set be you. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 82 For he had supposyn that hit was worshipfull and fitiynge to a kynge to purdone as to punysshe.

**5.** Imbued with the spirit of worship or veneration. 1809 W. Tolson in Robberds *Mem.* II. 274, I should have been more humble, pane-gyrical, worshipful. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 3 The Whigs...are more worshipful of that perfection of worship, the Christian British constitution. c 1861 T. Woolner *My Beautiful Lady, Night* ix, Or kneels she worshipful beside her bed. 1892 Harry Furniss, He would sometimes clutch her large, worshipful eyes ...looking at him from their depths.

**6.** Deserving or capable of being worshipped; worshipable.

1879 Browning *Pietne* xxxii, Obey Implicitly, nor pause to question, to survey Even the worshipful? 1901 *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 72/3 The theory of transmigration of ancestral souls into worshipful plants and animals.

†**7.** *adv.* = next. *Obs. rare.*

1292 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 1 15 It is a fowle slaunder that he was so wrechepul berned...and so litill do for hym sithen.

**Worshipfully,** *adv.* Now *rare.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 worschip-, 5 worshyppe-, worshep-, worschop- (5 worshyp-), 6 worshypp-, worshipfully, worshipfullie, worchepefullie. *β.* 4 wurschyp-, 5 wurshepfully. 7- 4 wirship-, wirshep-, 4–5 wirschip-, 5 wirship-, wyrschypfully. [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

†**1.** With due honour; with words, acts, or attentions, expressive of esteem or regard. Now *arch.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9807 Pat y þys wyry sacrament more beginne, And worschyfully þar-of speke. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 186 That we neuen noght his name but worshipfully. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 37 Pan xal ilk a brober...comyn and gon wit be cors to elbercher, wurchepefullee. c 1400 Love *Rosarcyal. Mirr.* (1907) 248 Oure lady and hir susires and Maudeleyn rescyyued hem worschipfully with knelynge and lowe bowynge to be erthe. 1449 Bokenham *Seyntys, Hardy.* 872 Fro whens...they come to...a relygyous place...wher wurshepfully Austyn was receyuyd. c 1500 *Melusine* l. 10 It is gret shame to me...that I ne doo you to be conueyed worshipfully through my land. 1535 Coverdale *Eccles.* xlvii. 10 He ordeyned to kepe the holy daies worshipfully, and that the solempne

feastes..shulde be honestlich holde. 1579 Twyne *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. xliii. 219 b, Thou oughtest eyther to speake worshypfully of thy father, or els to holde thy peace. 1589 Tennyson *Elaine* 1319 It will be to thy worship, as one knight,..To see that she be buried worshipfully. 1872 — *Gareth & L.* 809.

† 2. In such a way as to confer honour or dignity, or to make a good appearance. *Obs.*

*c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12462 He schulde set hit most worschipfuly, for he wolde vele his pane wysal. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5157 God has be more forgete.. for worshipfull artoures wedded & weddes a kinges sune. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vi. 20 He gers pam be keped honestly and worschipfully,..Pan sal pai wele be bawmed and worschipfuly cleid. 1448 Hen. VI *Will* in Wills & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 378 To thentent that diuine seruice shal mowe be doon therin worshipfully vnto the honour of god. *c* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1137 Worshipfully we shalle bury hide lim to the palys and bery her so. 1535 Coverdale *Neh.* iii. 20 After him buylded Baruc the sonne of Sabai the other pece worshipfully & costly. 1577 tr. *Hadibras's Decades* (1590) 42 The wisedome of Salomon, is worshipfully thought of throughout the whole compasse of the world. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sinn* Wks. (Grosart) II. 38 Worshipfully is this Lord of Limbo attended, for Knights themselues follow close at his heeles.

† 3. So as to obtain or deserve honour or praise; worthily. *Obs.* (or *rare*).

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 197 If she gouerne hir worshipfully. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* iv. 8 If a kyng wolle regne worshipfully, it bihouyth him neyther to haue..skar-te ne fool large. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* iv. iv. 123 The thyrd..is wel to be one of the knyghtes of the round table ..for many tymes he hath done ful worshipfully. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 326/1 Charges, which must be kept and borne Worshipfully and Honourably. *a* 1500 *Bale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 141 They worshipfully ruled and governed. *a* 1529 Skelton *Why come ye* 314 To take on hande Worshepfully to withstande Such temporall warre and bate. 1545 in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* Pref. 6 The said Wyllame fowght stryke manly and worshipfully. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Bedford* (1662) 109 A family of his alliance is still worshipfully extant in this County. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 490 Then Sir Lavaine did well and worshipfully.

† 4. *Ironically.* Finely, properly. *Obs.*

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* III. Wks. 463/2 Is not this conclusion worshipfully deduced vpon scripture?

5. In a spirit of worship.

1886 Ruskin *Praeterita* I. i. 30 Gleaning worshipfully what fragmentary illustrations of the history..of the family might fall from their lips.

**Worshipfulness** (wɜ·ʃipfŭlnĕs). Also 4 **worschupefulnesse, 5 worschipfulnes, 6 woorship-.** [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being worshipful, in various senses.

*a* 1400 *Minor Poems, Vernon MS.* 501/292 Vppon a day for worschupefulnesse þe Pope wolde syge a Messe. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 81 Y saw ni seche [= such] with a special certen worshypfulnes put to ful softe and ley peynys. 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* xxxix. 16 Honestnes in vertuousnes, and woorshipfulnes Doe where honestnes, or vertuousnes, beareth roote. 1577 tr. *Lanoy's Hist. V.* 1 To owe all Sir-Reuerence to your Right Worshipfulnesse. 1877 Blackie *Wise Man* 137 We may not confront the polished and blazoned worshipfulness of the Ten Hundred, with our bland smocks and uncurried coaches. 1887 Fox, Warden *Sckehenaude* III. 168 Distant awe and reverent worshipfulness.

† **Worshipfully.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Worshipful *a.* + -ly 1.] Worshipfulness; in quot. as a title.

1589 Nashe *Counter-cuffe* B iij, To be lorde with your worshipfullie, Pasquill hath posted very dilligently ouer all the Realme.

**Worshipful.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **worpsaip-hede.** [f. Worship *sb.* + -head.] Dignity, rank.

1340 *Ayenb.* 49 Pis zenne anheþeþ and loseþ by the hodes and pe worpsaiphede.

**Worshipless** (wɜ·ʃiplĕs), *a.* [See -less.]

**1.** Not practising worship; unworshipping.

1563 J. Brown *Chr. Pyrnl.* 331 What mad-men are these, who thrust themselues vnder hard, worshipless families.

**2.** Destitute of worship; unworshipped.

1815 Byron *Hebrew Mel., On Jordan's Banks* 12 How long by tyrants shall thy land be trod? How long thy temple worshipless, Oh God? 1839 Bailey *Festus* xxxiii. (1845) 316 Who gave their name to stars which still roam round the skies, all worshipless. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 435 Long has the god been worshipless.—To prayer!—Rev. H. S. Holland in S. Paget *Mem.* (1901) 300 [He felt the Cathedral services] rather limp and worshipless.

† **Worshiply,** *a.* Obs. [f. as prec. + -ly 1.] = Worshipfully *adv.* (in various senses).

1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Me can iadele þri manere guodes, guod worpsaiph, guod kostuol, and guod uremuol.

† **Worshiply,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 **worpschiplich(e, worschip-, worsnaip-, worshepliche; 4 worshepeli, -ly, 4 worschip-, 5 worshyp-, worshup-, worshepli, worshiply** (-lie, etc.). *β.* 5 **wurshyply, 7 wurshiply.** *γ.* 4 **wirschiply, 5 wyrchiply.** [Irreg. f. Worship *sb.* + -ly 2.] = Worshipfully *adv.* (in various senses).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27498 Wirschiply, i thanc it be, Pat suilk a simple wroght als me Did be broght vnto preist-hade. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 131 His lorde honoure he held worschiplich, & defended it wele & hardilliche. *Ibid.* 5040 Pan y-herberwed weren he Worschiplichie in pat cite. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 81 To Sorke be[i] com aseyn, & wrouht per worschiply..a Kirk of our Lady. 1340 *Ayenb.* 54 þo pet libleþ be hyre onestete : pe ilke..libbeþ worshepliche to be wurlle. *c* 1400 *Brut* xxii. 26 þis Belyn dwellede þo in pees, and worshepliche him helde amonges his barons. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 494 My Lord Chanceler wold that my master schuld be beryed wurchyply. 1472 *Rb. Nobleast* (Roxb.) 65 The whiche king Cirus received the saide Lizander full worshiplie in his palais. *c* 1489 Skelton *Death Earl Northumbld.* 186 Barons and those knygtes bold..Whom he as lord worshypply mainteyned. 1601 J. Dee *Diary* (Camden) 64 He vsed me and reported of me very freely and worshiply.

**Worshipped** (wɜ·ʃipt), *ppl. a.* [f. Worship *v.*] Regarded with worship; adored, venerated.

1797 Dyer *Fleece* II. 361 To Ayra, the proud throne Of India's worshipp'd prince, whose hest is law. 1803 Visct. Strangford *Poems of Camoens* Sonn. xviii. (1810) 104 Dear land, which once adorn'd my worshipp'd fair. 1807 Aug. J. E. Wilson *Vashti* xxvii, Heaven shield you, my worshipped one! 1871 Smiles *Charac.* ii. (1876) 49 The poet himself was..interred beside her worshipped grave.

*adv.* 1882 *N. York Rev.* CXXXII. 142 The Worshipped and the worshipper are there.

**Worshipper** (wɜ·ʃipəɹ). Also 4 **worschiper, wirshiper,** 5 **wor-, wóorshypper,** 7, 9 **wor-shipper.** [f. Worship *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** One who worships. Freq. const. *of* (the deity or thing worshipped).

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 88 Þes wickid ydolatrours, worschiperis of false goddis. 1382 — *2 Macc.* i. 19 Presist that thanne weren wirshipperis of God. — *Acts* xvii. 22 Men of Athenis, bi alle thingis I se 30u as veyn worschiperis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 168 God..is a spiryte: and they that be his verey worshyppers, must worshyp hym in spiryte. *a* 1533 Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D iij b, He was a greatte louer of his goddis, and woorshypper of theym. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1560) M j, Such manes worshipper is he. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xliv. 15 Then maketh he a graue, and religious..delighteth in true worshippers hunt. 1622 *True Noble K.* v. L 4 2 True worshippers of Mars. 1632 Gouge *God's Arrowe* viii. § 3. 180 Hee is not..a true worshipper of God, who is not a true God. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 58 The ready imitation of his [Odin's] superstitious worshippers. 1796 R. J. Sulivan *Anal. Ld. Chesterfield's Lett.* 111 Fire, being the purest body in nature, its worshippers supposed that it ought to be honoured with the purest kind of devotion. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxix, I have been..in..a..religious worshipper-house, whom I have served. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* II. iii, All men, especially all women, are born worshipers. 1868 Fitz-Gerald *Omar* ii, When all the Temple is prepared within, Why lags the worshipper? 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 220 *Parachete* i. vii. 108 The worshippers of Intellect may not know that they are worshippers of God under another name.

b. One engaged in, or taking part in, divine worship.

1825 Scott *Talism.* ix, Did you, or did you not, know any lady amongst that band of worshippers? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. 111 The worshippers were frightened, beaten, and pelted with snowballs. 1914 J. Mackie *Ch. Highlands* v. 107 Few worshippers could be got together.

**2.** *transf.* One who regards a person or thing with feelings akin to worship; a devotee.

1647 Cowley *Mistress, Her Conduct* 10 Thou alt'st, and dost not see, nor smell, nor hear Thy constant zealous worshipper. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* 142 All your Enterprises..will..be..the Ruine of the Gospel and the Worshippers of it. 1788 Crowe *Lewesdon Hill* 3 And, rooted so, Thou dost appear more gracefully array'd Than Pashion's worshippers. 1790 Athenæum *Rev. Pref.* I. v. 538 Notwithstanding the state of modern depravity, Truth will continue to have her worshippers. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* v. 14, When the Poet dies, Mute Nature mourns her worshipper. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* II. v, A worshipper of the 'Glass of Fashion,' rather than of 'the Mould of Form.' 1847 S. Hickson in *Westm. Rev.* XLVII. 60 We can only conjecture the number of Cobolds now in the land, he prejudged the question. 1858 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 85 Sarsfield was..too honourable a gentleman to shelter himself under the mask of the mutinous worshippers.

**Worshipping** (wɜ·ʃipiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Worship *v.* + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of offering worship (to a deity).

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 9372 But yn alle here mosé þai worschipe þe goddys þey made wyth sorquery. *c* 1315 Shoreham *n.* 4 þou opene myne lyppen, lord,..And my mouþe..Schel þyne worschyppyng sende. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 3 Angels alle in his presence He vndyd thyn obedyence, And do the worshippyng Of 1400-1550 *Alphabet of Tales* 57 He..went vnto a grete compayned therin & fel doun vpon his knees & began to worshippyng of false goddes. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* Contents, The worshippinge of ymages. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Trav.* III. xxvii. 158 b, [They left] the worshipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 Cockeram tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. 375 For..virtue, and God's better worshipping.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 197 They..were wrett.hed-lyche worshyppynges of false Idolles. 1549 Cheke *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. ☞ 1j, To walke..as it were before the iporche of the temple,..to expell and kepe out all false worshippinges. 1587 Fleming *Def. Martin* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worshippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. iv. 446 To acknowledge one God, whome varieties of Sects and worshippings should best content. 1678 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 103 That the thoughts..should enkindle in us..hearty worshippings, of a boundless goodness.

**2.** The action of honouring, revering, or treating with respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* 903 Haue pese with wirschiping, iosep of Aramathy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worshippyng of Antecrists lawe. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought availe. 1585 Putterham *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 145 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worshippings and praise of good men. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, meerely for the worshipping of a civil marriage.

*attrib.* 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worshipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

**Worshipping,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That worships; engaged in worship.

1580–92 H. Broke *Iewel of Quod.* (1809) IV. 126 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1589–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1878 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1900) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my intellect. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxxix. 308 She was a brand-new bride, . happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripling of a husband.

Hence **Worshippingly** *adv.*, adoringly.

1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshippingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. Downes *Nerves Visited* II. iv. v. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

† **Wo·rsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Worse *v.* + -ing 1.] Deterioration.

*c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 105 He..is haldin to restour..the twal [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratioun,

**Worsle,** *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **worsill.** [var. of Warsle *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen.*] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **Worsler; Worsling** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play,.. Nakit worsling and strouglling at nyse poynt. 1535 [see Warsle *v.*]. 1768 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* v. xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1873 *Dial.* xxxix. 340 Then wee he worsland our ane woodie swyre. 1899 G. Boyd *Last Antitell* 11 Jamie..cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1808 Jam. *Teuton Gloss., Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

**Worst** (wɜ·st), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wyrresta, wyrrest, wirresta, wirrest,** (**wyrest**); 1 *Northumb.* **wurresta**; 2–3 **wirrest**; 3–6 **worst**, 3–**wurst**, 6 **woorst**, 9 *vulgar* **wust**. *β.* 1 **werresta**, 1–2 **werста**, 2–6 **werst**(e, 3 **wer(r)est**, 4 *Sc.* **verste**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **verst**; 4–6, 8–9 **north. warst**, 5–6 **warste**. [OE. *wyrresta, wyrsta, wierresta, werresta, wersta* = OFris. *wersta*, OS. *wirsista*, OHG. *wirsisto, -esto* (MHG. *wirseste, wirste, wirste*), ON. and Icel. *verstr* (Norw. *verst*, Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*) :– OTeut.**wersistaz*, f. *wers-* : see Worse *a.* and -est.

The *β*-forms, which were local in OE., were rendered in Anglian ME. by Scandinavian ; cf. Worse *a.*]

**A.** *adj.* Used as the superlative of the adjs. *bad, evil*, or *ill.*

**1.** Most bad or evil, in regard to moral character or behaviour; most vicious, wicked, cruel, etc.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Ic he se hexsl lufian to ungemetlice þas woruldgesælða, forðam hie oft cumað to þaem wyrrestum monnum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 153 Xesoh ða scandle & ða hetelican word & ða hearmas her dob. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 45 And swa byð þysse wyrrestan cneorysse. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Gif ðu luuest ðo liche ðe ðe luuieð, ne dest ðu na swa swiðe mann of ðe worelde? *c* 1205 Lay. 10535 þer he funde þa wurste men þa on londe wuneden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 89 Idel speche is wurl ful speche is werst of alle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8610 þe worste men of þe lond, & meest cruel al so, He wolde make is conseilers. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 648 Flenhild, þat was þe worste mode child. *a* 1325 in Wright *Lyric P.* 59 When y my self haue bisethe, nop y knowe me for the werst of alle. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 4456 Gog and Magog..þe werst folk þat in þe werld duels. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chpl.* 2028 Pe werst in þe werld, þe worse, þe worst vpon erþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 261 Myn husbonde is to me the worste man That euere was. — *Merch. Prol.* 6, I haue noon housbonde this seuen yeer and mo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 145 Pride, Which is the werste vice of alle. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 57 He..went vnto a grete compayned therin & fel doun vpon his knees & began to worshippyng of false goddes. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* Contents, The worshippinge of ymages. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Trav.* III. xxvii. 158 b, [They left] the worshipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 Cockeram tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. 375 For..virtue, and God's better worshipping.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 197 They..were wrett.hed-lyche worshyppynges of false Idolles. 1549 Cheke *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. ☞ 1j, To walke..as it were before the iporche of the temple,..to expell and kepe out all false worshippinges. 1587 Fleming *Def. Martin* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worshippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. iv. 446 To acknowledge one God, whome varieties of Sects and worshippings should best content. 1678 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 103 That the thoughts..should enkindle in us..hearty worshippings, of a boundless goodness.

**2.** The action of honouring, revering, or treating with respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* 903 Haue pese with wirschiping, iosep of Aramathy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worshippyng of Antecrists lawe. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought availe. 1585 Putterham *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 145 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worshippings and praise of good men. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, meerely for the worshipping of a civil marriage.

*attrib.* 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worshipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

**Worshipping,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That worships; engaged in worship.

1580–92 H. Broke *Iewel of Quod.* (1809) IV. 126 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1589–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1878 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1900) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my intellect. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxxix. 308 She was a brand-new bride, . happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripling of a husband.

Hence **Worshippingly** *adv.*, adoringly.

1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshippingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. Downes *Nerves Visited* II. iv. v. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

† **Wo·rsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Worse *v.* + -ing 1.] Deterioration.

*c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 105 He..is haldin to restour..the twal [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratioun,

**Worsle,** *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **worsill.** [var. of Warsle *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen.*] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **Worsler; Worsling** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play,.. Nakit worsling and strouglling at nyse poynt. 1535 [see Warsle *v.*]. 1768 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* v. xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1873 *Dial.* xxxix. 340 Then wee he worsland our ane woodie swyre. 1899 G. Boyd *Last Antitell* 11 Jamie..cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1808 Jam. *Teuton Gloss., Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

**Worst** (wɜ·st), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wyrresta, wyrrest, wirresta, wirrest,** (**wyrest**); 1 *Northumb.* **wurresta**; 2–3 **wirrest**; 3–6 **worst**, 3–**wurst**, 6 **woorst**, 9 *vulgar* **wust**. *β.* 1 **werresta**, 1–2 **werста**, 2–6 **werst**(e, 3 **wer(r)est**, 4 *Sc.* **verste**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **verst**; 4–6, 8–9 **north. warst**, 5–6 **warste**. [OE. *wyrresta, wyrsta, wierresta, werresta, wersta* = OFris. *wersta*, OS. *wirsista*, OHG. *wirsisto, -esto* (MHG. *wirseste, wirste, wirste*), ON. and Icel. *verstr* (Norw. *verst*, Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*) :– OTeut.**wersistaz*, f. *wers-* : see Worse *a.* and -est.

The *β*-forms, which were local in OE., were rendered in Anglian ME. by Scandinavian ; cf. Worse *a.*]

**A.** *adj.* Used as the superlative of the adjs. *bad, evil*, or *ill.*

**1.** Most bad or evil, in regard to moral character or behaviour; most vicious, wicked, cruel, etc.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Ic he se hexsl lufian to ungemetlice þas woruldgesælða, forðam hie oft cumað to þaem wyrrestum monnum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 153 Xesoh ða scandle & ða hetelican word & ða hearmas her dob. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 45 And swa byð þysse wyrrestan cneorysse. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Gif ðu luuest ðo liche ðe ðe luuieð, ne dest ðu na swa swiðe mann of ðe worelde? *c* 1205 Lay. 10535 þer he funde þa wurste men þa on londe wuneden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 89 Idel speche is wurl ful speche is werst of alle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8610 þe worste men of þe lond, & meest cruel al so, He wolde make is conseilers. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 648 Flenhild, þat was þe worste mode child. *a* 1325 in Wright *Lyric P.* 59 When y my self haue bisethe, nop y knowe me for the werst of alle. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 4456 Gog and Magog..þe werst folk þat in þe werld duels. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chpl.* 2028 Pe werst in þe werld, þe worse, þe worst vpon erþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 261 Myn husbonde is to me the worste man That euere was. — *Merch. Prol.* 6, I haue noon housbonde this seuen yeer and mo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 145 Pride, Which is the werste vice of alle. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 57 He..went vnto a grete compayned therin & fel doun vpon his knees & began to worshippyng of false goddes. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* Contents, The worshippinge of ymages. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Trav.* III. xxvii. 158 b, [They left] the worshipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 Cockeram tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. 375 For..virtue, and God's better worshipping.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 197 They..were wrett.hed-lyche worshyppynges of false Idolles. 1549 Cheke *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. ☞ 1j, To walke..as it were before the iporche of the temple,..to expell and kepe out all false worshippinges. 1587 Fleming *Def. Martin* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worshippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. iv. 446 To acknowledge one God, whome varieties of Sects and worshippings should best content. 1678 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 103 That the thoughts..should enkindle in us..hearty worshippings, of a boundless goodness.

**2.** The action of honouring, revering, or treating with respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* 903 Haue pese with wirschiping, iosep of Aramathy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worshippyng of Antecrists lawe. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought availe. 1585 Putterham *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 145 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worshippings and praise of good men. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, meerely for the worshipping of a civil marriage.

*attrib.* 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worshipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

**Worshipping,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That worships; engaged in worship.

1580–92 H. Broke *Iewel of Quod.* (1809) IV. 126 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1589–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1878 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1900) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my intellect. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxxix. 308 She was a brand-new bride, . happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripling of a husband.

Hence **Worshippingly** *adv.*, adoringly.

1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshippingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. Downes *Nerves Visited* II. iv. v. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

† **Wo·rsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Worse *v.* + -ing 1.] Deterioration.

*c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 105 He..is haldin to restour..the twal [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratioun,

**Worsle,** *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **worsill.** [var. of Warsle *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen.*] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **Worsler; Worsling** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play,.. Nakit worsling and strouglling at nyse poynt. 1535 [see Warsle *v.*]. 1768 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* v. xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1873 *Dial.* xxxix. 340 Then wee he worsland our ane woodie swyre. 1899 G. Boyd *Last Antitell* 11 Jamie..cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1808 Jam. *Teuton Gloss., Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

**Worst** (wɜ·st), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wyrresta, wyrrest, wirresta, wirrest,** (**wyrest**); 1 *Northumb.* **wurresta**; 2–3 **wirrest**; 3–6 **worst**, 3–**wurst**, 6 **woorst**, 9 *vulgar* **wust**. *β.* 1 **werresta**, 1–2 **werста**, 2–6 **werst**(e, 3 **wer(r)est**, 4 *Sc.* **verste**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **verst**; 4–6, 8–9 **north. warst**, 5–6 **warste**. [OE. *wyrresta, wyrsta, wierresta, werresta, wersta* = OFris. *wersta*, OS. *wirsista*, OHG. *wirsisto, -esto* (MHG. *wirseste, wirste, wirste*), ON. and Icel. *verstr* (Norw. *verst*, Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*) :– OTeut.**wersistaz*, f. *wers-* : see Worse *a.* and -est.

The *β*-forms, which were local in OE., were rendered in Anglian ME. by Scandinavian ; cf. Worse *a.*]

**A.** *adj.* Used as the superlative of the adjs. *bad, evil*, or *ill.*

**1.** Most bad or evil, in regard to moral character or behaviour; most vicious, wicked, cruel, etc.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix. § 1 Ic he se hexsl lufian to ungemetlice þas woruldgesælða, forðam hie oft cumað to þaem wyrrestum monnum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 153 Xesoh ða scandle & ða hetelican word & ða hearmas her dob. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 45 And swa byð þysse wyrrestan cneorysse. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Gif ðu luuest ðo liche ðe ðe luuieð, ne dest ðu na swa swiðe mann of ðe worelde? *c* 1205 Lay. 10535 þer he funde þa wurste men þa on londe wuneden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 89 Idel speche is wurl ful speche is werst of alle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8610 þe worste men of þe lond, & meest cruel al so, He wolde make is conseilers. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 648 Flenhild, þat was þe worste mode child. *a* 1325 in Wright *Lyric P.* 59 When y my self haue bisethe, nop y knowe me for the werst of alle. 1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 4456 Gog and Magog..þe werst folk þat in þe werld duels. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chpl.* 2028 Pe werst in þe werld, þe worse, þe worst vpon erþe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 261 Myn husbonde is to me the worste man That euere was. — *Merch. Prol.* 6, I haue noon housbonde this seuen yeer and mo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 145 Pride, Which is the werste vice of alle. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 57 He..went vnto a grete compayned therin & fel doun vpon his knees & began to worshippyng of false goddes. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* Contents, The worshippinge of ymages. 1588 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Trav.* III. xxvii. 158 b, [They left] the worshipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 Cockeram tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. 375 For..virtue, and God's better worshipping.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 11. 197 They..were wrett.hed-lyche worshyppynges of false Idolles. 1549 Cheke *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. ☞ 1j, To walke..as it were before the iporche of the temple,..to expell and kepe out all false worshippinges. 1587 Fleming *Def. Martin* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worshippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* v. iv. 446 To acknowledge one God, whome varieties of Sects and worshippings should best content. 1678 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 103 That the thoughts..should enkindle in us..hearty worshippings, of a boundless goodness.

**2.** The action of honouring, revering, or treating with respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* 903 Haue pese with wirschiping, iosep of Aramathy. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worshippyng of Antecrists lawe. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought availe. 1585 Putterham *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 145 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worshippings and praise of good men. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, meerely for the worshipping of a civil marriage.

*attrib.* 1621 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worshipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

**Worshipping,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That worships; engaged in worship.

1580–92 H. Broke *Iewel of Quod.* (1809) IV. 126 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1589–96 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1878 Blackie *Lett. to Wife* (1900) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my intellect. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxxix. 308 She was a brand-new bride, . happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripling of a husband.

Hence **Worshippingly** *adv.*, adoringly.

1850 Miss Mulock *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshippingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. Downes *Nerves Visited* II. iv. v. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

† **Wo·rsing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Worse *v.* + -ing 1.] Deterioration.

*c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 105 He..is haldin to restour..the twal [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratioun,

**Worsle,** *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 **worsill.** [var. of Warsle *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen.*] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **Worsler; Worsling** *vbl. sb.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestrale play,.. Nakit worsling and strouglling at nyse poynt. 1535 [see Warsle *v.*]. 1768 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* v. xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1873 *Dial.* xxxix. 340 Then wee he worsland our ane woodie swyre. 1899 G. Boyd *Last Antitell* 11 Jamie..cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1808 Jam. *Teuton Gloss., Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

**Worst** (wɜ·st), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wyrresta, wyrrest, wirresta, wirrest,** (**wyrest**); 1 *Northumb.* **wurresta**; 2–3 **wirrest**; 3–6 **worst**, 3–**wurst**, 6 **woorst**, 9 *vulgar* **wust**. *β.* 1 

den§ synfulra se wyrresta. c888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvIII. § 2 Elect is þæt swetoloste tacen þæs mæstan yfeles on þisse worulde, & þæs wyrrestan edlæsnes æfter þisse worulde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 91 Ic was ætiecen to þæm wyrstan tinregum. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an 1086 (Laud MS.) Swylc coðe con on mannum, þæt full neah nefre þe oðer man wære3 on þam wyrrestan yfele, þæt he on ham drife. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 217 (Lamb. MS.) Þe þe deþ is wille mest, he haueð wurst mede. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14553 Of all him fell þe worst lot. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xvi. 2 A wounde feers and worst [1388 werst, Vulg. *vulnus sævum et pessimum*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 349 False Egiste...Was demed to diverse peine, The worst that man cowhe ordeigne. a 1450 *Knt's Tale Festial* 145 Then come þay all wrobe and beten þys man on þe worst maner þat þay cowþe. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1714 I trist to God our worst dayis er gane. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xxvII. (1889) 248 Of two wyues men ought euer to eschewe and flee the worst of bothe. 1552 Huloet, Worste tyme for a publycque weale, *allenistimum est publice tempus.* 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 176 b, If he bee angry, and fierce, and round, he is worst of all. 1596 *Edw. II*, ii. 1 440 Poyson shines worst in a golden cup. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 332 Giue thy worst of thoughts The worst of words. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 193 He repaires to his owne house, meager, pale, and in the worst case that can be imagined. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 462 But pain is perfect miserie, the worst Of evils. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* IX. 392 That hapo alone will fortifie my Breast Against the worst of Fortune, and of Fate. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 498 We thought they ought to be every one of them put to the worst of Deaths. 1765 Gray *Shakspeare* 8 What awaits us on the other side? The worst, or the best? 1775 *Mod. Tyrol.* IX. 527 The worst cases were discharged cured ...in about an average period of twelve days. 1805 *Ibid.* XIV. 227 Bleeding had been attended with the worst consequences. 1809 *Ibid.* XXI. 420 The two worst wounds in the loins were foul and deep. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 94 It was by the sun and the wind and the rain I got my posterkin of a 'study' improved out of some of its worst blotches. 1882 W. Collins *Black Robe* I. 272 'How does Stella bear it?' 'In the worst possible way...In silence.'

b. Hardest, most difficult to deal with. Const. *to* and inf.

c 1400 *King Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 100 Þre þinges on erþe beþ pat men nowen nouzth yknowe...þe werst is þe fierþe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 b, Þerylous kynde of lepry & worst to be cured. 1639 J. Clarke *Paræm.* 87 The best things are worst to come by. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xiii. 98 Our worst place of work was now before us.

c. U. S. colloq. phr. *the worst kind*; also used adverbially = most severely, most thoroughly.

1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 227 He loves Sal, the worst kind. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 517 *Worst kind.* Used in such phrases, 'I gave him the worst kind of a licking.' Also adverbially; as 'I licked him the worst kind,' i.e. in the worst manner possible, most severely.

3. Most wanting in the good qualities required or expected; least good, valuable, desirable, or successful; most inferior; meanest or poorest in quality; least considerable or important.

c 1325 *Sir Orfeo* (Sisam) 367 Þe werst piler on to bihold Was al of burnist gold. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1270 The werst walle for to wale...Was faurly cubettes by course. c 1440 *Sir Amadas* (Weber) 343 The worst hors is worthe ten nowsele Of hom all that here is—Be Malcop of Wyrthe. xv. xi. 439 The worst of them wille not be lyghtly matched of no knyghtes that I knowe lyuynge. 1493 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 82, iii sylver spones of the werste sorte. 1530 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 113 To John Colson my worst chamlet dublet. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 38 marg. The more haast ye wast speede. 1597 Hooker *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 114 The best geris tane away and auuld, and the werst reserue. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 49 Graie wheat is the grosest, yet good for the clay, though worst for the market, as farmer may say. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 53 Nations and endowments haply not the worst for two and fifty degrees of northern latitude. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. 226 He was mistaen, being on the worst side of fifty. 1656 Bridges *Lett.* (Camden) 182 For then y^e University would have the disposall of their liuings, w^ch now they give to y^e worst men they can find. 1736 Swift *Baldwin* 93 Let the worst inn's worst room. 1740 Mrs. E. Montagu *Corr.* (1906) I. 42 Living in a cottage on love is certainly the worst diet and the worst house to live in in the world. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VIII. vii, To charge the same for the very worst provisions, as if they were the best. 1786 Burns *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* xv, They drew me threteen pund an' twa, The very worst. —*My Father was a Farmer* ii, My talents they were not the worst. 1825 Lytton *Pelham* 210 He was one of that class...who, with the best intentions, have made the worst members. 1836 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 436 Burnaby Green was the worst of translators. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 127 One of the worst dogs in them slipped at the bucket. 1845 *Punch's Chron.* III. 406 It was the worst [show] I ever saw, cattle included.

†b. Phr. *At (the) worst hand*: (*a*) in a position of defeat; (*b*) most dearly or unprofitably; (*c*) on the lowest estimate. *Obs.*

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 352 He saw well that his folke was at the worste hande, soo made he to sowne the retrete. a 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Pref.* (1809) 380 They were driven at the worst hand to sell unto the merciless Merchants, their Cowes, Hackneyes [etc.]. 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 421 More ignorant barbarisme here, than in Paulus, who at worst hand hath related it in good and true Latine.

†c. *In worst part*: in the most unfavourable aspect or construction. *Obs.*

a 1530 J. Heywood *Play of Love* 1508 A louer best loued hath paynes in lyke wyse As here hath apered by sondry weys Which sheweth his case in worst part to anyse. c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiv. 124 Myself take that wrong he hath done To Hector in worst part of all.

†d. *To have the worst end (of the staff*, etc.): cf. Worse *c*, 3 c. *Obs.*

1564 T. Dorman *Proof Cert. Articles Relig.* 92 Yow maie haue cause to thincke, that yow holde by the worst ende of the staffe. 1597 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1304 Perseve then, ye haif then The warst end of the stric.

4. *Predicatively.* Most unfortunate or badly off.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 196 Or to be worse than worst Of those, that lawlesse and incertaine thought Imagine howling. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 2 To be worst, The lowest, and most dejected thing of Fortune.

5. *Comb.*, as *worst-humoured*, *-intentioned*, *-natured*, *-surfaced*, *-willed* adjs.

c 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 105 Warst willid tirytoris [*malignisimi proditores*]. 1696 Harrington *Oceana* (1658) 103 When I consider that any countrymen are none of the worst nature'd. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* III. i. 25 Every body knows I am the worst natur'd fellow breathing. a 1680 Earl Rochester *Allus. Horace* 60 The best good Man with the worst natur'd Muse. 1774 *Goldsmith's Retal.* Postscript, Thou best humour'd man with the worst humour'd Muse. 1796 Crockett *Grey Man* xxxiv. 231 The greediest and worst-intentioned rascals in the world. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 3/1 From Blois to Chartres was the worst-surfaced road we came across.

B. (absol. uses of the adj.; 2su. with *the*.)

1. *The worst*: one who is, or those who are, most objectionable or least estimable in moral character, behaviour, accomplishments, etc.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 68 And let worse follow worse, till the worst of all Follow him laughing to his grave. 1632 G. Herbert *Temple, Church-porch* xl. 72 Judge not the preacher,...The worst speak something good. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* I. 270 Fervor, your best and innocence will plead, To win with the worst. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* I. 433 Lovely to the worst else [Virtue] seems. 1880 Tennyson *First Quarrel* xiii, An' tha wasn't one o' the worst. 1898 *Yorks. Weekly Post* (1899) 3/3 Mr. Pepper himself beyond question a man of the worst.

†b. *spec.* The Devil. Cf. Worse *B.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1388 Wyclif *Ephes.* VI. 16 The fyry dartis of the worste [1382 the worste euyl]. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1961 Thou sist with vnsell, seruand of o þe werst!

2. What is most objectionable or deplorable in regard to morals, taste, etc.

1590 *Grene's Orl. Fur.* 1174 Her sor so his mouth he covers, His word sit evermore awry And seith the worste that he may. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4696 He but waynes ay þe worst to worship þe better. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/1 Worste (Caxton 1483) I. xvii. 74 He is euermore redy to do and say the werst. c 1480 Henryson *Trial of Fox* 10 Of euill cummis war, of war cummis sorrow. 1611 Bible (Douay) *Num.* xiii. 28 In the very refuse of thy deeds, There is such strength and warrantise of skill, That in my minde thy worst all best exceeds. 1620 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 65 For that we easily enclins to the worst, and with much difficulty to the best things. 1655 Unchecked sin tending to the perfect worst in wretchedness because to the perfect worst in character.

b. What is most reprehensible or faulty in a person's character.

1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, Do you know the worst of your father? 1871 Geo. Eliot *Middlemarch* xxxvIII. II. 84 He's Wiggleni himself...that's the worst I know of him. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* VIII. ii, 'We're all so modest in Primrose Court, that's the worst on us,' replied the woman.

3. What is most grievous, unlucky, painful, hard to bear; a state of things that is most undesirable or most to be dreaded.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 904 Beth nought agast..For hardely þe worste of þis geer Go. Elior

*tet Pt. Cong. Granada* v. ii, But 'tis, at worst, but so consumed by fire, As cities are, but their fails rise higher. 1758 J. Blake *Plan Mar. Syst.* 56 He is at worst sure of wholesome bread. 1778 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* 215 So that not much harm will be done at worst. 1837 Landor *Pentam.* i. Wks. 1853 II. 308/1 Brutus and Cassius, at worst, but slew an atheist. 1881 Miss Hardon *Asphodel* I. vii. 209 This kind of thing went on for another week of weather which at worst was showery.

**6.** (*To do*) *the worst* or *one's worst*: the utmost evil or harm possible. Hence occas. *one's worst*, without *do*.

*c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xiv. 48 Blanchardyn herkened the prouost, to whom lightly he answered that he shold doo the best and the worst that he coude (in the joust). *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 78 It is the main among all ouer enmyes that worste dooth to vs. 1548 *Stat Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 177 [He] sethe them to do to hym the best and the worst that they can For he sethe not a Shrewe by them all. 1553 Ascham *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Let his enemies do to him the worst they could. 1567 *Horestes* 385 (Brandl) Drawe thy sword, sylyus, that is a man, And then do the worst, that euer thou can. 1568 North *Guevara's Dial Pr.* iv. xiv. 259 b, The worst they can doo, they can but murmure. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. i. 49, I do not fear the worst. It hath done to me the worst. 1869 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. *Læ. Gudrun* (end), I did the worst to him I loved the most.

(*b*) 1300 Gower *Conf.* III. 321 Ha, thou fortune, I thee defie, Now hast thou do to me thi worste. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lvii. 511 Wete ye wel that I am sire Tristram de lyonees, and now doo your worste. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. iv. 24 Treason ha's done his worst. 1616 T. Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 30 A fig for him. Let him doe his worst. 1639 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 And therefore now you with all deligence doe endeuour to doe your best to doe your worst. 1650 T. Vaughan *Anthroposophia* 27 When Death hath done her worst. 1653 Walton *Angler* iv. 115 Let the Fishes alone at what *corner* they will, and do its worst. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 102 P 8 To defie the Cold and Rain, and let the Weather do its worst. 1781 Cowper *Table Talk* 729 Satire has long since done his best; and Anti-Anti and Loathsome ridiculey has done his worst. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* xi, You threaten us, fellow? Do your worst, Blow your pipe there till you burst! 1888 Bryce *Am. Comm.* II. (1898) 208 Now you may go away and do your worst.

(*c*) 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 5 Therefore to our best mercy give your selues, Or like to men proud of destruction, Defie vs to our worst. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. ii. 180 What old or newer Torture Must I receiue? whose euery word deserues To taste of thy most worst.

**7.** The harshest view or judgement; as *to speak* or *think the worst of* a person or thing).

*c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxiv. C iv, Let princes talk, And talk their worst of me. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* II. iii. 159 She's my good Lady, and will mute, I hope, But thinke the worst of me. 1638 Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 61, I hold my selfe greatly injured of such as iudge of me rather the worst than the best. 1711 Addison *Freet. Char.* Ix. 2 The worst he can venture to say is, that it is ridiculous.

†**b.** *To take* or *wrest to the worst, to take at worst*: to put the most unfavourable construction upon. *Obs.* Cf. Worse *sb.* 3 d.

1535 Coverdale *Prov.* x. 32 The lippes of the righteous are occupied in acceptable wordes: but the mouth of the vngodly taketh them to the worst. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Supererr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52 Let me not be mistaken by sinister construction, that wrastelh and wriglelh every sillable to the worst. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* v. i. 181, I cannot choose but tell him that I care not, And let him tak't at worst.

**c.** *To make the worst of*: to regard or represent in the most unfavourable light.

1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* II. 162 But it's over, you know: so what signifies making the worst of it? 1853 Trench *Husb. Pr. Advice* (1854) 134 Was hot, and had made the worst of it, instead of the best. 1877 Trench *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 115 Roman Catholic writers make no attempt to conceal the depth of darkness and dishonour which the Papacy then passed through; nay, they seem rather to take a pleasure in making the worst of this.

**8.** Defeat in a contest. (Cf. Worse *sb.* 4) †**a.** *To put to the worst*: to defeat, overcome. Also *to put at, drive to the worst*; *to give* (*you*) *the worst on't*. *Obs.*

*c* 1460 *Three 15th C. Chron.* (Camden) 59 She..put him dyverse tymes at the worste. 1574 Hellowes *Guevara's Fp.* (1584) 328 They liued by robbing and pilling one from another, euermore driuing the worst to the wall. 1598 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Destroço*, putting to the worst, putting to flight. 1598 R. Bernard *Terens Andria* I. iii. (1607) 20 *Hir fe vltum herua pernendarelli.* My master hath put me and me to the worst. 1644 Vicars *Jehovah-Jireh* 194 Our left wing being thus put to the worst. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1692) 199 Why, I would fought as long as Breath had been in me; and had I so done, I am sure you could never have given me the worst on't. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* to Mar. 1685 The party were exceedingly put to the worst by the preaching and writing of the Protestants. 1706 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. v. (1840, 6) Putting Michael and all the faithful army to the worst.

**b.** *To have the worst*: to be defeated. †Similarly *to go or come to, come or go by, come off by, go away with, come off with the worst.*

1509 *Morte Darthur* I. ix. (W. de W.) Eyghte not with the swerde...til that ye see ye go to ye worste [*Caxton* vnto the werst]. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* I. ii. 24, I should knocke you first, And then I know after who comes by the worst. 1597 Bcard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 90 His owne side came to the worst, doing more scath to themselues than to their enemies. 1605 *London Prodigal* I. i. 51 He is a mighty brawler, and comes commonly by the worst. 1613 Sir P. Hoby *Counter-mande* 24 Hee which bringeth a great Armie into the field, without victuall or munition, is like to goe by the worste. 1639 [see Go v. 57 c]. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I, ii. 29 There was a shrewd brush lately twixt the young King and his Mother, who...met him in open field..; but she went away with the worst. 1710 E. Ward *Brit. Hud.* 26 Those who laugh'd aloud at first, At last may chance to come by th' worst. *Ibid.* 116 Those who by swelling fear Beget the Fray, came off by th' worst. 1834 Godwin *Lives Necrom.* 184 In these wars, the Peris generally came off with the worst.

1598 R. Bernard *Terences Andria* II. v. (1607) 43 *Nostrum partit timere*, I feare our side will haue the worst. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. 111. 300 There happen'd a fray betwixt the Cardinal, and the Hallenditers..in the last of which had the worst of it. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.*(1720) III. 166 The King of the Bulgari made a troublesome, uncertain War upon the Empire, which sometimes had the better, oftentimes the worst. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvi, George..bragged..about his valour in the fight,..in which he decidedly had the worst.

**Worst** (wɜːst), *v.* [f. Worst *a.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To make worse, impair, damage, inflict loss upon: = Worse *v.* 2, Worsen *v.* 1. *Obs.*

1602 Habington in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 321 Her bettering the state of my father's fortune (which I have, alass! so much worsted). 1648 Earl Westmorland *Orig. Powers* (1879) 22 God makes all things for good ‘tis Man Sowers and worsts Creation. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. P 16 If I be worsted by your sickness, I grow sick and worsted in some faculty. 1682 Penn in Clarkson *Mem.* (1849) xviii. 115 Thy father's public spirit had worsted his estate. 1728 W. Smith *Ann. Q. Anne* 28 By which the College may be said to be worsted [*sic*] above 3*l.* 10*s.* per Annum. *a* 1742 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* ii. (1829) 26 A pear grafted upon a quince may be merited but it grafted on a pear stock will be worsted. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1775 *Wit*, but suppose I had worsted my substance, are there not many who .. have lessened their estates, though they have never practised agriculture? 1792 Wordsworth *Pamela* III. 26 To better the Condition of the Tenants at the same time, at least not to worst them. 1798 — *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 342 Suppose you kill one another, will you be bettered, or worsted by that? 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* ii. xiv, Nor is there any doubt but the land is annoyed and worsted [*infestatur*] by these Weeds. 1881 Percy *Chirogr. Wks.* II. 69 He may be much worsted by the experiment.

†**b.** *intr.* To grow worse, deteriorate. *Obs. rare.*

1781 P. Beckford *Th. Hunting* (1802) 314 We perceived that our scent worsted, and were going to stop the hounds. *c* 1825 Jane Austen *Persuasion* (1818) I. i. 20 Anne haggard, Mary coarse, every face in the neighbourhood worsting.

**2.** *trans.* To defeat, overcome, get the better of (an opponent) in a fight or battle.

1536 Bradshaigh *Rem. Emp.* 20 After many battailes Otho being worsted..slew himselfe. 1657 Earl Monm. tr. *Parnell's Pol. Disc.* 187 He got a notable Victory, worsting a great number of the Enemy with a small number. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. ii. 878 The Bear was in a greater fright, Beat down and worsted by the Knight. 1703 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) II. ii. 37 Here's a man boasting him than the Paris-Gazette, when it relates a Battle where the French were worsted. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 174 The Syrians having been worsted in the hilly country. 1849 Grote *Greece* II. liv. (1862) IV. 527 A battle ensued, in which that prince was completely worsted. 1856 Kane *Arct. Explor.* I. xxiii. 291 He turned on them and worsted them badly before making his escape. 1886 Child *Eng. & Sc. Ballads* II. 441/2 The page wrests his accuser in a duel. 1889 Morris *Hs. Wolfings* 18 In forty fights hast thou fought, and been worsted in four. 1901 F. B. Nulsing *European Days & Ways* 209 Blücher now took pleasure in getting even with Napoleon for worsting him at Ligny.

**b.** To defeat in argument, in a suit, dispute, etc.; to outdo, prove better than; to quell (an attack).

1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 209 Lest if you were silent the people should think you were worsted. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 51 Your art at Lyricks out-gon by Davids Harp and how do Salomons Proverbs (for contracted sense) worst Seneca? 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* V. 229 And where His Highnesse was worsted or wearied, Arch-bishop Cranmer supplied His place. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 520 Remember how in Arms and Politicks We still have worsted all your holy Tricks. 1693 *Humours Town* 20 If I cannot worst you in Latin, I'll worst you in English. 1694 Kettlewell *Comp. for Persecuted* 69 Who art oftimes pleased to permit a righteous Cause to be worsted. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1775 I, Let a Johnson could not brook to be worsted in argument. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Irish Bulls* iv, I could not bear to go away worsted, and borne down in the very first English faction. 1868 Helmore *St. Paul's* iii. 70, He appealed to Rome, but was worsted in his appeal. 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* I. v. 136 In any matrimonial battle he was likely to be worsted by a woman. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 273 [I was] in the habit of feeling worsted in everything I tried of original work. 1911 Rose *Pitt & Fox War* x. 234 In this secret chaffering Pitt and Grenville were worsted.

Hence **Worsting** *vbl. sb.*

1842 J. H. Newman *Ch. Fathers* 60 We might have conquered by a weapon which was honourably and dignified. 1883 Miss Broughton *Nellie* II. 84, The dispute ends in the worsting of the person to whom alone it is of any consequence to succeed.

**Worst** (wɜːst), *adv.* Forms: α. i wyrst, wyrest, wirst, 2–3 wurst, 4–5 worste, 6 woorst, 4– worst. *B.* 1–2 werst, 3–6 werst (3, 6 *Sc.* verst, *Orm.* werrst, 4 werist), 4–5 werste, 6– *Sc.* warst. [OE. *wyrrest, wyrst, wierst* = ON. (Icel., Norw.) *verst* (Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*). Cf. Worst *a.*] In a manner, or to a degree, that is most (or extremely) bad or evil.

*c* 897 *Rivers Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 209 Donne hi wenen ðæt hie hebben beist ʒedon, ðæt we him ðonne secgen ðæt hie hebben wierst [*Cott.* wyrst] ʒedon. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxxiv. 60 Þa ofermodan oðre ricsan ðe þa werige folc wyrst tuciað. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1087 (Laud MS.) He[e] clyde zit ealles warst ofer eall þæt land. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 14 Þis bec8 he wepnen þet me wurst wundeð. *c* 1200 Ormin 1250 Uss birrþ clippenn all awæȝ þe flæshess fale willes, þatt allre werst & allre mast Werdeþþ þe wrecche sawle. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 68 Of alle wymmanne Wurst was godhild þanne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21450 (1 shall trest him] he wers [*Gött.* werist] þat euer i can or mai. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2604 Þat me greuþ werst. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 370 As þe peple of Israel wern werste gouernyd undir her prestis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 121 Thus he, which love hadde in desdeign, Worste of all othre was besein. *Ibid.* II. 15 Whan that he worst ferde. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vii. 69 The third part of hys mantil..vas wont greuis, & the werst. Scott *Poems* xvi. 46 Thay cary victuallis to be toun That werst dois dyne. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Gov't. Wks.* 1910 II. 112, I am not the worste furnished of a seruaunt with this good fellow. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 206 When thou did'st hate him worst. 1609 N. Carpenter *Archiphel* II. (1640) 66 Oftentimes he that can best act, can worst pen his own part. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iv. 142 The Turkes Sabboth is worst kept of all.* 1786 Burns *Tam Dogy* 205 But Gentlemen, an' Ladies warst, Wi' ev'n down want o' wark are curst. 1787 — *John Barleycorn* xi, But a miller us'd him worst of all, For he crush'd him between two stones. — *My Father was a Farmer* iii, And when my hope was at the top, I still was worst mistaken. 1866 Saintsbury in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 903/1 In this great mass [of correspondence] Voltaire's personality is of course best shown, and perhaps his literary qualities are worst.

**b.** With a vb. of liking, loving, allowing, pleasing, etc. : Least well, least.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Oft hit gezamleþ þat his ehta weorþaþ on þæs onwealde þe he an to his life wyrrest wille. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4368 (Trin. R.) Þe wiues þat þai wers louid þam bande þe werst loued [*Cott.* loue] of alle þis lande. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxvii. 84 Ofyme suche maystres as ben of lest cunnynge in grammer ensaunce, and worst mowe ben myssed. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 133 Cæsar and Cicero, whose puritie was neuer foiled, no not by the sentence of those, who loued them worst. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 150 b, A sort of all other beastes can sooner away with hunger. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. iii. 21 Of all the faults beneath the heauens, the Gods doe like this worst. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 3 Try your Honour mercie: you may worst Of all this Table say so. 1634 J. Levett *Ordering Bees* 8 Bees of all other natures can worst away with the great noyse. 1788 Burns *What ails ye now'* xii, But, sin plea'd them warst ava.

**c.** *Comb.*, as *worst-affected*, *-bred*, *-damaged*, *-deserving*, *-favoured* (*Sc. -faurd*), *-formed*, *-governed*, *-looking*, *-managed*, *-manned*, *-paid*, *-used* adjs.

1598 *Sarelle & Tosh.* (1606) 15 The pelt-wooe is the worst of price unto him without comparison in the worste fauored-este). 1701 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* II. i, What Titles had they had, ..if Nature had not Strove hard to thrust the worst-deserving first? 1791 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* xxxii. 170 His majesty's worst-affected subjects. 1791 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) II. 203 The worst-bred man in Europe, if a lady let fall her fan, would certainly take care to pick it up. 1794 1768–74 Tucker *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II, 283 In the worst-formed bodies...there lies an immortal spirit. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 74 The worst-favour'd were on the shorts of Fyfe. Is cumlye comparet wi' thee. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxiii, Waiting for the slowest and worst manned vessels. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Streets—Morning*, The lowest description of worst paid, and too often, the worst used class of the community. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* ix, I thought him the worst-looking dog I had ever beheld. 1857 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) II. 318 The worst-used woman I ever knew. 1877 G. Fenn *Cavaliers* I. 276, I believe that we are the worst-governed and the worst-managed people on earth. 1899 W. J. Gordon *Foundling* 53 The worst-damaged plate was taken out, re-rolled, and replaced.

**Worsted** (wʊrsted), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 worth-, 4 wurthsted, worthested(e, worstesde; 3 wr-, 4–5 wurstede, 6 -steede, 5–6 wursted (5 -stet); 4–5 wirsted, 6 wyrsted, 5 worstede; 4–6 worsted (5 worse-), 4– worsted (5 -sted, 6 -stede, -styd; 5 -stet, 6 -stett; 6 worsted), 5 worsteyd, 6 -steid; 6–8 worstead; 6 woorsted, 7 -sted, -stead. *B.* 5–6 wolsted(e, 6 wullatid, ulsted, 7 wolsteed. 6, 8 woolsted. γ. 5–6 wusted, 5–7 wosted, 6–8 wooested. 8. *Sc.* and *n. dial.* 4, 6–7, 9 worset, 4, 6–7 worsett, 7 worssett; 5–6 worsat, 6 worsatt, -ait, 9 wurset, -it, wussat, wusset; 4 wirset, 5 wirsat, 6 wirsait; 5 wersed. [From the name of a parish in Norfolk, north of Norwich, originally (OE.) *Wurðestede*, later *Wurthstede*, *Worthsted*, etc., and now written *Worstead*.]

†**1.** (Anglo-Latin) *pannus*, (Anglo-French) *drap de Wurthistede*, etc.: = sense 2. *Obs.*

1296 *Cal. Close Rolls* (1904) 511 Pannum de Worthestede. 1301 *Lat. Pat.* 4 Oct. in *Northampton Rec. Rec.* (1898) I. 59 Le quoillet pannes de worthestede qui vocatur coverlit. 1328 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 48/2 Ses pouerres..Overours des Draps de Wurthstede en le Counte de Norff. 1347 *Ibid.* 168 a Pur Draps de Worthestede ove les Custumes. 1350 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 173 In 21 pannis de nigro worsted. 1402–3 *Ibid.* 182 In tribus pannis de worsted. 1420–3 *Ibid.* 185 In 2 pannis nigris de worsted.

**2.** A woollen fabric or stuff made from well-twisted yarn spun of long-staple wool combed to lay the fibres parallel.

*a.* 1093 in *Camden Misc.* II. 13 Pro xij. ulnis de wrstede ad caligas faciendas. 1345–9 in *Archæologia* XXXI. 78 Eidem ad vnam aulam de wrstede cum Scutis Regalibus. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 262 Of double worsted was his semycope. 1393–4 *Act 17 Rich. II, c.* 2 Les Marchants & ouvrours de draps appelez sengle Worsteds. 1422 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 Also ȝ be-queythe to Robert, myn heldest son, a reed bedde of worsteyd. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 478 Item, j pece of grene worsett xx yards longe. 1465 *Ibid.* (1904) IV. 201 A coverlyte of whyte worsetde longyng therto. 1535 in *Archæologia* IX. 299 A dubblette of wursteede. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 60 b, Within hys gate..dwelled dyuerse Frenchmen that Kalendred Worsted, contrary to

the kynges lawes. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit. 475* They obtained...that the Worsted made there [at Norwich] might be transported. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Norf.* (1662) 247 It surpasseth my skill to name the several stuffs (being Worsted disguised with Weaving and Colouring) made thereof. 1708 Pope *Dunc.* II. 150 The very worsted still look'd black and blue. 1791 Mrs. Haywood *New Present for Maid* 258 Directions for cleaning of Worsted and other Sorts of Stuffs. 1886 Beck *Draper's Dict.* 373 *Worsted*, cloth of long stapled-wool, combed straightly and smoothly, as distinct from woollens, which are woven from short staple wool, crossed and roughed in spinning.

*b.* 1538 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 152 Unum cowle de nigro wolstede. 1551–2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI*, c. 7 § 1 Any kynde of Cloths Chamlettes Wolstede Sayes [etc.]. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 76 His guarde, all in a livery of Wolsted.

*y.* 1440 in Peacock *Eccl. Furniture* (1866) 182 A vestment of Black wosted. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 38 A piece wosted iij. yerdes deepe, for stremers and pennilaries. 1539 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bk's Storsford* (1889) 126 Item a vestment of grene wusted w<sup>t</sup> an obe. 1556 *Towneley 1st Play*, in *Hallivell* (1838) 208 They shewed vs a certaine cowrse cloth...it was course wosull, and a small thred, and as thicke as wested. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 235 Sleeues..., one halfe of wosted, the other of veluet.

*δ.* 1390 [see †]. 1575 *Reach. Rolls Scot.* II. 505 Per empcionem de xij ulnis cum dimidio de wirset. 1436 *Register. Aberdeen.* (Maitl. Club) II. 148 Vnum vestimentum integrum de nigro wersed. 1483 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 71 [12 d.] couering of Inglis worsat. 1580–1 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 305 One vestment of blacke worsett. 1586 in Hay Fleming *Reform. Scot. Church* (1910) 158 [In] of roist wornat, to ly under nobillis felt. 1618 *Sc. Pk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 289 Beltis..of worsett the groce, viij li.

**b.** With *pl.* A particular variety of this fabric.

1324–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 292/2 Draps qe homme appelle Worthatelee & Aylehamus. 1348 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1708) V. 678 Stapula...aliorum Pannorum de le Worstedas. 1390 *Pat. Roll 10 Rich. II.*, m. 28 Feb. Pro mercatoribus et operatoribus de worstedes. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 Persones that maken counterfait of all maner Worstedes. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 24 A Worsted man of Norffolk, that solde worsteds ayt Wynchester. 1541–2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 4 The makyng of worsted caps and other wollen clothes. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* V 92 As if a man should carrie Mockadoes and woolsteds to be sold at Norwich. 1603 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1842) I. 256 And grit buyst, and certane kemmis, worsetts, spectikyllis, and wther small geir in it. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 296 Sewing worsetts, 1681 Lovelace tr. *Tarnovius' Trav.* I. 143 Their loom stands before them, and in their left hand they have several ends of round bottoms of Worsted of many colours, which they work in their several places. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 265 She being a Spinner of Yarn or Worsted. *a* 1745 Swift *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 3 If a Tenant cuts a Worsted...in the Sleeve of a Gentleman his Stockings, he should forfeit his whole Parcel. 1784 Adam Smith *W. N.* iv. viii. (1793) II. 307 Woollen yarn and worsted are prohibited to be exported under the same penalties as wool. 1841 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Nell Cook* Since, Mrs. John Ingoldsby at the table, busily employed in manufacturing a cabbage-rose...in many-coloured worsteds. 1856 Surtees *Handley Cr. Ho.* II. 159 The young ones sought out their threads and their worsteds to work her a collar or a piece of crochet work each. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 134 The typhoon, which may consist of a single thread of wool or worsted.

**4.** *attrib.* or *adj.* Made of worsted or worsted yarn; said of cloth, thread, garments, etc.; also in specific names of fabrics or materials, as *worsted braid, damask*, etc.

1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Les Worstedes appelez Worsted-beddes, doubles, & sengles. 1490 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 201 For ij dowbil wirsat beltis til him, price iij s. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 198 For iij elnis of wirsat claith to lyne the said goune. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 43 A wolsted dublet. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 67 Item iij worsted copes. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 71 Spanglet like to the worsted stockings of Sathan. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Tvrks Gard.* D 8 b, I will haue no worsted hosen. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numb., Widdow's Teares* iv, The worsted thred is cut, that made vp clothing. 1720 T. Gordon *Humorist* L. 45 Renouncing his Buckles and conforming to Woolsted-Tapes. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* xvii, His white silk stockings were converted into black worsted. 1848 Scott *Fr. Of Perth* vi, The thumb of his mother's worsted glove might hold the treasure of the whole clan. 1849 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 255/2 Worsted [is made] at Banbury and Coventry. 1858 Lytton *What will He do?* I. vi, Two small worsted rugs. 1878 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Victory* II. vii, Voluminous worsted curtains falling before the narrow windows. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 324 Worsted Braids...Worsted Damasks.

*Comb.* 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 158 The looms of a worsted-lace weaver.

**5.** Simple attrib. and adjective comb., as *worsted-breaker, -comber, -dealer, -factory, machinery, -maker, -making, manufacture, -manufacturer, merchant, mill, repository,* †*-shearing,* †*shearman, -spinner, -spinning, -thrrowster, trade, -weaver, -weaving.*

1858 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 217 These two endless chains pass over fluted guide-rollers (like those more obviously seen in the "worsted-breaker). 1708 in P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* (1784) 808/1 William Hussey, a *worsted comber. 1830 Parson & White *Directory Leeds* etc. 426 *Worsted Dealers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 254/1 The *worsted factory in the north. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2819 *Worsted machinery. 1338 Starkey *England* I. iii. 95 Weuers, *worstyd-makyers, tukkers and fullays. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 5 The said mysterie and occupacion of *Worsted makinge. 1805 Luccock *Wool* 156 The state of the *worsted manufacture. 1756 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 604 The cave of the silk and *worset manufacturers. 1801 T. Peck *Norwich Directory* 11 Crowe William, *Worsted-Manufacturer. 1481 *Howard Lett.* III. 278 One Holt, a *worsteda marchaunt. 1880 Gollan *Smith Cowper* vii. 200 The letter slides from spiritual despair to the worst-rendered...1856 W. White *Hist. etc. Leeds* 96 Two *worsted mills at Norwich. 1898 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, *Worsted-repository*...a shop where fancy knitting-wools are sold. 1503–4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 17 § 1 The *Worsted Shearmen wythin the said Cite...have chosen Wardens of *Worsted sherying. 1830 Parson & White *Directory Leeds* 172 *Worsted spinners. 1805 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 1/1 Worsted-spinning hands wanted. Henry Pease and Company. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5403/4 A *Worsted-Throwster by Trade. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 68 The *worsted trade of England. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 The craft of *Worsted Wevers. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4319/4 George Durant, of the City of Norwich, Worsted-Weaver.

**Worsted** (wu·sted), *ppl. a.* [f. Worst *v.* + -ed.] Defeated.

1892 Child *Dict. Trade* (1698) 198 The worsted party, by the fate of war, being deprived of their estates. 1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 52 The general on the worsted side is expected to be disgraced. 1821 T. & H. Smith *Rej. Addr.* I. (1873) 6 God bless the guards, though worsted Gallia scoff. 1869 Gladstone *Juventus Mundi* iii. 84 A place of refuge for the worsted and for the worsted party expelled from other portions of Greece.

*absol.* 1869 Browning *Old Pict. Florence xiv*, To submit to the worsted is shame.

**Worstedness.** *rare.* [f. Worst *a.* + -ness.] The quality or state of being worst.

*a* 1665 J. Goodwin *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 92 Lastness or worstedness in estate or condition.

**† worsum, wursum.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **worsm**, **wursm**, 3 (*9 north. dial.*) **wursum** (**wrusum**), 4, *Sc.* 6–7, 9 **worsum**; *Sc.* 7 **worsam**, **-some**, 6 **wourssome**, 9 **woursum**. *β.* 3, 6 *Sc.* **wirsum** (3 *Orm.* **wirrsenn**), 9 *north. dial.* **wirsom**. [OE. *worsm*, *wursm*, metathetic form of the more usual *wurms*, *wurmis* (also *wyrms*); app. related to *wyrm* Worm *sb.*] Purulent matter, pus.

*a.* c 825 *Rituale Gloss.* 177 *Pus*, vnorsm. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146 Wyrmsa, wyrmsa, wursm, wyrhlà. *Ibid.* II. 202 Oþ þæt he hit wursm of mube bræce. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 Mine wunden...gedered nowe wrusum [*v.r.* wursum] & ich ham wulle wesshen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 58 Ouer-al wrang vte worsum and wose, And wormes creuled here and bare. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. iv. 64 Thir wretchit menis besching, that his fude, And drinkis wormum, and thair loppert bluide. 1595 Duncan *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.) *Pus, sanies*, worsum of a byle. 1610 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 95 For kneeding of ane bow, quhairthrow he haill milk tuik scho [*sc.* the gait] was bludie and wersum. 1613 P. Forbes *On Rev.* iv. 15 It is not mixed with blond... much leuse with bloudy wursum. 1666 *Despaut. Comm. Lat.* (1714) 1,180/1 After rotten and purified blood will worsome. 1808 Jamieson, *Woursum*, *Worsum*, purulent matter; *Sc.* pron. *wursum*. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Words* (ed. 3). *Wursum*, pus; particularly when fetid.

*β. c* 1200 Ormin 4752 War & wirrsenn toc annan Ut off hiss lic to flowenn. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* 322 (Titus MS.), Hwon...al he fulðe & þeos wirsum & þe wurmes ut iuaren. 1570 in *Misc. Spalding Club* (1841) I. 93 Thow...keist witcheeraft on the said cow,...that scho gewe no milk, bot..lyk wirsum or wenen. 1847 Halliwell, *Wirsom*, foul pus. *Yorksh.*

*b.* (quasi-*adj.*) Purulent.

*a* 1599 Rollock *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 444 He has not skunnert..at thy worsum byllis, and botchis.

**Wort** (wɔ̈t), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **wyrt**, 2 **wirte**, 6 *pl.* **wirtes**; 2 **wort**, 4 *pl.* **worte**; 1, 3, 5–7 **wurt** (5 *pl.* **wurtes**), 3 **wrt**, 3–7 **worte** (5 **wortte**), 4–7 **wort** (5 *pl.* **wortes**, 6 **woorte**). [OE. *wyrt* root, plant = OS. *wurt*, OHG. (MHG. and G.) *wurz*, ON. (Icel., Norw., Sw., Da.) *urt*, Goth. *waurts*; the stem is related to those of ON. *rót* Root *sb.*, and of L. *rādix*, Gr. *ῥίζα*.

For the history of the spelling and pronunciation, see the note to the verb Wort.

**1.** A plant, herb, or vegetable, used for food or medicine; often = pot-herb.

Not in ordinary use after the middle of the 17th cent. and now *arch.* As a second element, however, retained in various plant-names, as *colewort*, *liverwort*.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxxix. 6 On marne swe swe wyrt leored. *c* 897 *Alfred Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 173 Manegra cynna wyrta & wyrtwyrhta. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 42 Ge teiggas mere & cunela & alc wyrt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 70 Deos wyrt is þæt betonicum nemned. *c* 1205 Lay. 31884 Þat folc fluh þa to wudes..heo hueden hi wunien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 119 Ilk grene ilc wurt, Þis owen sed beren houd he. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6909 It wolde finde hom lec & worten inowe bi þe pere. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A 42 Schadweȝ in þe sesoun, & schene vnder schawes, Gilofre & gromylyoun, & pyonys. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 170 Whan she homward cam she wolde brynge Wortes or oþere herbes tymes ofte. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Hakkes smalle by wortis and persyl. *c* 1475 *Macro Plays, Mankind* 765, I was neuer worth a pottfull a wortis, nythyn I was borne. 1530 Fitzh *Governour* III. xxii. (1883) II. 323 Wortes that the feldes do brynge furthe, for their potage. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. lxxv. 641 Cynes...is set in gardens amongst potte herbes, or wortes. 1609 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* vii. 238 *Wirts* or *Worts*. Woortes, for which we now vse the French name of herbes. 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Pr., Winter* xvi. ii. 204 It is an excellent pleasure to be able to take pleasure in worts and water, in bread and onions. 1755 Johnson, *Wort*, 1. Originally a general name for an herb; whence it still continues in many, as *liverwort*, *spleenwort*. 1864 Cockayne *Leechd.*, (Rolls) I. Pref. p. iii, We find the healing power of worts spoken of as a thing of course. 1888 A. S. Wilson *Lyric Hopeless Love* cxv. 330 And worts and pansies there which grew Have secrets others wish they knew.

†**2.** A general name for any plant of the cabbage kind, genus *Brassica*; colewort. *Obs.*

*c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 190 Woman mylk and wortis sounith. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 154 Saue worts [*excepta cauliboa*] none in winter, without euere lut be. *c* 1490 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 69 Hare in Wortes—Take Colys, and stripe hem faire from the stalkes. *a* 1500 *Boorde. Hare in E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 44 Yf I to the toune come or tyme, He hit in wortis or in leyke. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Brassica ...anglice nocatur* wortes aut Cole aut Cole Wortes. [1598 Sharn. *Merry Wiv.* I. iii. 23 *Fal.* Good worts? good Cabidge.] 1601 Holland *Pliny* xix. iv. II. 17 Here is the stem of a woort so well growne, here is a cabbage so thriven and fed, that a poore mans board will not hold it. 1617 Fletcher *Valentinian* III. iii. I am poor, and my digging, and my Planting of Worts and Onions, any thing That's honest,.. I'll rather chuse. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., To M. Ju. Wicks* 12 A Dish Of thrice-boyl'd worts. 1755 Johnson, *Wort* 2. A plant of the cabbage kind.

†**3.** *pl.* = Pottage 1. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Master of Game* (1909) 13 Digby 182 Prol. 211 He shall eat onlyeyn wele his wyf worte, & worte of the mulle, & the hert and of oþer good metes. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 114 Wortes made of olde cheese, cicer, cristall beaten to powder and taken with hony. 1552 Huloet, *Wortes, pottage*. 7 If thou, Diogenes, couldest flatter Dionise, thou shouldst not need to make woorts. 1598 Withals *Dict.* (1599) 51/2 *Pulmentum*, a meate made ỳ the grewell or wortes.

†**b.** With qualifying word: esp. *long worts*.

*c* 1430 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 5 Lange Wortys de chare.—Take beeff and merylonys, and boyle yt in fayre water; pan take Gyre wortys and...pandyke beeff and wortys in the water. Lange Wortes de pessun. *c* 1466 J. Russell *Fik. Nurture* 518 Frumenty with venesoun, pesyn with bakon, longe wortes not spare. *c* 1500 *Hyf Boke Kervynge* (1901) 11 For to make small wortes...then take herbes of the beste that thou can gete for wortes, and hewe them small.

**4.** *Comb.*, as † *wort blade*, † *-leaf*, † *-plant*, † *-pridge*; † **wort-cropper**, a name for the lurcher; **wort-cunning** (pseudo-*arch.*), the knowledge of herbs and plants; † **wort-stock**, a cabbage-stalk; † **wort-yard**, a herb-garden. Also Wort-worm.

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Caulis*...† *wortte* blade. 13.. *Names of Herbs* (MS. Digby 86 If. 168 b), Pe † *wortleef*, pe wort. In Wr.-Wülcker 597/27 *Herbarium*, a † *wortes plat*. 1556 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 230 Item, *worte porrege...iij*d*. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 504/31 *Herbularet*...a *wortcropyr. Wr. Holland *Bk. Hunting* xi. 81 So Wort-stocks being dried and burnt into ashes. *c* 1000 *Cambr. Ps.* cxliii. 13 *Pynuptuaria*, hordyrn *vel* *wyrtxeardas. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 331 He...suffrede mok, for delaite of preching, to ete of þe wortis and not to a wortyerd. 1382 — 2 *Kings* xxi. 2 Sif to me thi wyn yerd, that I make to me a wort yerd.

**Wort** (wɔ̈t), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 **wyrt**, 5 **wirt**; 4– **wort**, 4–7 **worte** (5 **wortte**), 4 **wourt**, 5 **wurt**(*e*, 5–7 **woort** (6 **woorte**). [OE. *wyrt* = OS. *wurtja* spicery, MHG. and G. *würze*, spice, brewer's wort). f. the stem *wurt-*; cf. *wyrt* Wort *sb.*[1]]

**1.** The infusion of malt or other grain which after fermentation becomes beer (or may be used for the distillation of spirits), unfermented beer. † Of beer: (*to be*) *in wort*, still unfermented. (See also Sweetwort.)

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 268 Bewylle þone þriddan dæl on hwætene wyrt. *c* 1385 *Gloss. H. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 158 Fio wort to ale. *a* 1387 *Simon, Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 16 *Cremitlum*, worte. 1390 *Two Cookery-Bks.* II. 107 Seth hem [*sc.* quinces] in gode wort til þey be soft. 1498 *Acts Dom. Concil.* (1839) 241 † Pe spoliation...of...holl a chalder of malt in ail and wort. 1574 R. Scot *Hop Garden* (1578) 54 In the first Month of March, there goeth out of these Hoppes almost no vertue at all. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 923 Nay then two treyes, an if you grow so nice Methegline, Wort, and Malmsey. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxv. 630 Great 8 They put in willowe leaues and boome buds into their wort in steed of hoppes. 1696 Bacon *Sylva* § 383 It were good also to try the Beere, when it is in Wort, that it may be seene, whether (etc.). 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) I. 314 This in a hours time will ferment and froth like Wort. 1731 E. Shaw *Three Lect. Exp.* 45 When the Liquor, or parcell of Wort, brewed in the common manner, is become fine by standing. 1778 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 240/1 An eighth Part of the Wort evaporated in three Hours boiling. 1851 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 94/1 By the excise rules, 100 gallons of such wort ought to yield one gallon of proof spirit for every five degrees of attenuation. 1868 Spencer *Prine. Psych.* II. vii. (1872) II. 31 Fermenting wort shows the same thing. 1881 *Act 44 & 45 Vict.* c. 24 § 1 (1) No person may, without being licensed...Brew or make wort or wash.

†**b.** *Sc. To play wort* = to work or stir the mash in the brewing vessel. *Obs.*

1644 *Marchmck Kirk Sess. Rec.* 10 Jan., The collecteres...delateth that Alex<sup>r</sup> Greig his wif & his woman wer playing wort. *Ibid.* 12 May, James Robertson...denyed that thair was any wort played in his house the fasting Wednesday.

†**c.** *fig. To cast in one's worts that*, etc.: to give one something to meditate upon or consider. *Obs.*

1539 Cromwell *Let. to Hen. VIII*, 5 Feb. (1900) II. 176 And yet further I casted in his wortes that if they wold regarde them [*sc.* the Pope's censures] your highnes was and

should be hable..to defende..yourself,..and that..they should not fynde grace unfournished of all thinges expedient.

**2.** An infusion or decoction of malt formerly used in treatment of ulcers, of scurvy, and other diseases.

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 727/2 This medicine will do much better in a strong Decoction of Ground Malt, Anglice Wort. 1766 in Machride *Th. & Pract. Physic* (1772) 642 The first day he took the wort, he had the following scorbutic symptoms. 1770 Rush in *Med. Observ.* (1779) IV. 367 An Account of the Usefulness of Wort in some ill-conditioned Ulcers.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly in names of utensils and materials used in brewing, as †*wort-cake*, *-condenser*, *-cooler*, *copper*, †*dish*, †*-fat*, *filter*, †*-lead*, *-refrigerator*, †*-stone*, †*-trough*, *tub*, *tun*; also *worts-receiver*.

1705 Sir J. Dalrymple *Let. to Admiralty* 3 My Yeast-powder..to set the first parcel of Wort-cakes in fermentation. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wort condenser*, one for condensing the vapor which rises from the wort in the process of boiling. *Ibid.*, **Wort-cooler*, usually a shallow vat of large area, in which the infusion of malt is placed to cool. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 456/2 The consumption of fuel was much more considerable in the immense grate under the †wort copper. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 80 In the brewhouse..a †wort dish, sixpence. 1367 *Proxy of Friskate* (Surtees) 8 Item, iij gallons sive †wortfatt, iij d. 1583 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1914) I. 172 Ane masking fatt, ane wortfatt. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wort-filter*, one for extracting the clear liquor from the boiled mash. 1440 *Inventory in Linc. Wills, etc. Bk. A.* p. 30. To ij †worthedles. *a* 1550 in Stuart *Hon da* (1776) III. 65 Item 6 wort leeds, callyd coolars. 1893 Ellington *Manuf. Spirit* 103 They drain the several pipes..into a †wort receiver. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Wort-refrigerator*, an apparatus for cooling wort after boiling with hops and previous to fermentation. 1892 *Mus. Sig. Sept.* (1893) 178 A mask fat, a †wort stane. 1548 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 30 A browyn leed..a maskefatt,..and a wortston. 1465 in *Rymer CA. Acts* (Surtees) 1 A wort trogh de lapide. 1600 *Melvon Regality Rec.* (S.H.S.) I. 295 Ane woorttroch. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 370 Foure gyle fattis and ane †wort tube. 1655 *Tobe* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* (MS.) fol. 17 The great †worte tunn in brahouse.

† **Wort**, *sb.*3 *Sc. Obs.* [Metathetic form of *word* Word *sb.*] The snout of a pig.

1507 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 436 That nay swyne be haldin within this toune vnwesche ha hand, or ane ring in thar wort,..and that gif he fundin vnesche hand, and without ring in thar wort,..thai salbe eulset, [etc.].

**Wort**, variant of Whort.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 370 Black Worts. Black Whortle-berries.

† **Wort**, *v. Sc. Obs.* [Metathetic form of *wrot* Wroot v. Cf. Wort *sb.*2] *trans.* Of swine: To root or dig *up* (ground).

1578 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 164 Ane swine that ..wortis othir mennes landis, sal be shane. 1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 218 That odiouse Beast and lecherouse Swyne (quhai hair worted and rutted vp the Lordis wynze yaird no far as in him wes). 1597 Jas. VI *Daemonol.* III. i. 59 When as Swine wortes vppe the graues. 1808 Jamieson, To *Wort*, *Wort-up*, v., to dig up.

**Wort**, var. *wortz*, FORTE *conj.* (= until).

*a* 1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 4920+22 Vorte [MS. *a*. wort] God yet wolde amende.

**Worth** (wŏrþ), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 weorþ, weorð (1–weorð), weurð (= Anglic wurþ), wyrþ, 1, 3 wurþ, 2–3 wurth (6 wurthe, wyrthis); 1–3 worþ, 3– worth (6 worthi), 4–7 worthe, 6 woorth, wourth(e. [OE. *weorþ* (*wurþ*, *worþ*) neut., = OFris. *werth*. OS. *werd*, OHG. *werd* (MHG. *wert*, G. *werth*, *wert*), ON. *verð* (Norw. *verd*, Da. *værd*), Goth. *wairþ*.] Cf. Worth *a.*]

**1.** Pecuniary value; † price; † money.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliii. 13 Du bisohtes fole ðin butan weorðe. *c* 893 *Rushw. Gosp.* (Mk.) vi. 198 Þeh he his sunne wið feo þecealde,..he þet weorð nolde agan. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 89 Here innoþ þu gefyldest ingon monaþ ind calles middaneardes weorþe. 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 9 Þys mihte beon þeseald to micelum weorþe, and þearfum zedæled. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Þet he nime þa ilke chete worþ. *a* 1225 *Ancr.* 182 Þis hire sunegiuen þe þis þurh nawiht wið feo þecealde,–

..hu mycel mic manna hæfde..& hu mycel feos hit ware wurð. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lviii. 37 Loke what it is wre [= wrþ] þat ye ne sette na fehan price þar-on. 1548 *Gel. Cant. Stor Chamder* (Seldon) II. 29 A Fyne..whych amountyth wyth asmoche as the sayd landes..be worth clyerly to be solde. 1605 Kromdelle *Pr. Card.* K 5 b, There is a fayre Diamond, what is it worth? 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* III. 1078 Pray tell me what this land is worth by the acre. 1909 C. Thorne' *Lost Cause* ii. 37 What'll it be worth when it is reaped?

*ellipt. as adv.* 1690–1874 [see Candle *sb.* 5 f]. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xviii, The game didn't seem worth the candle.

**b.** Of (such-and-such) value *to* a person. Also with dative of person.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* xii, [The Dene sayd] I pray yow what is this benefyce worth to yow a yere. 1533 More *Apol.* x. Wks. 867/1 At the landes aud̃yces thu I haue..is not at this dayes..woorthe yearelye to my lyuynge, the summe of full fyftye pounde. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 303 Certenly that countrey is not so much worth vnto hym, but that, if he myght with his honour, he ought to be content to forgoe it. 1658 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 160 He said the first oath should stand and that it should be worth her soa[h]. 1686 tr. *Colloquies of Erasmus. Solymon* 83 Which Employment was worth to him about fifteen thousand Pounds yearly.

**a.** In contemptuous comparisous. Sometimes *ellipt.* after verbs of action: see (*b*).

For further examples see Button *sb.* 2 b, Cress 2, Fas 2, Fig *sb.*1 4, Fly *sb.*1 2 d, Halfpenny 1, Haw *sb.*2 2, Leek 3, Myrr 2 b, Prize *sb.* 2 b, Pin *sb.*1 3 b, Prebn *sb.* 2 b, Straw *sb.*1 7, Turd 2 b.

*c* 1250 *Orison of Our Lady* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 160 Pis liues blisse nis wurð a slo. *c* 1275 *Luue Ron* 80 in ibid. 95 Pis is on ende wrþ on hevene. *c* 1300 *St. James* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 35 Ouwer power nis nouȝt wurth an hawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26901 Hop es god at hald wit house, but till vnskil noght worth a glute. 1393 R. Baddow *Handl. Synne* 1699 For euery gadlyng nat wurþ a pere Takyþ ensample at sow to swere. *c* 1430 *Syr Tristr.* 3167 Pis lond nis worþ assay [= an egg]. When þou hast dasid þy riche adede. *a* 1552 Minot *Poems* i. 24 Pai fled,..And all paire fare noght wurth a flye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 331 To hasten is noght worth a kress. 14.. Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 599 For all þat baytys þat ye hym haue leyde..be nat worth a peere. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 8 Whereas in matters not worth a blewe point..we will spare for no cost. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII*, 7 She knewe it to be but a feigned & painted matire & not worth two strawes. 1580 Fulke *Retentive, Discov. Dougl. Sanders* ii. 181 Therfore these three differences are not worth three chippes. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 29, I would say they [the Jesuits] had no schoolemaster worth a blue button amongst them.

*ellipt.* 1578 Foote *Banister* 8 Those manufacturers, and meagre suchanicks? fellows not worth powder and shot.

(*b*) 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 204 Pou fisshes not worpe a leke, þise & goo bi wey. *c* 1425 *Wyntoun* vi. xvi. 54 Schal no deuel at his deb-day deren him worþ a Myte. *c* 1425 *Hours Playn, Castle Perseus.* 2227 Go hens I se do not worthe a tord!

**2.** Of material value; capable of being estimated in terms of money or some other material standard; valuable as a possession or property. Qualified by adv. of quantity, as *little, much,* †*nought.* †*Well worth*: of full value. *arch.*

*c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 He sullere loued his þing dere and seiȝ þat it is wel wurð, oðer betere; þe beyer..seiȝ þat hit nis noht wurð. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 306 Lityl is worth the remes of an ey. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 118 A. A goose hawke I gett non here yett for..my lurdd Chamberleyn beyth hem upp and [= if] they be any thyng worth. 1598 T. Watson *Sevens Sacr.* xviii. 123 Bye me one or two of the best of them and leave me the rest. 1598 Florio *Ital. Dict.* iv. Civb, Ah sir, when one is hungry, good meat is much worth. 1598 Petitie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 138 It may rightly be saide, that feathers are more worth then the byrde. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 6 Fruit blown vnripe, are small worth. 1728 *Inter. Intrest* No. 19, 126 A Gentleman is not worth than a noble. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 68 My Time or Labour was little worth, and so it was as well employ'd one way as another.

**b.** Of value in other than material respects. *arch.*

*c* 1000 Ormin 2156 Mare wass hiss bede wurþ þann alle þegkn hakeȝ. *c* 1205 Lay. 26555 Nis noht wurð þeatan þer ioe dede mi. 1297 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 1318 His sacrifice was lute worþ & nabeles it was ydo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 25 That figure..Betokneth how the world schal change And wexe lawe worth and strange. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit* 36 Ilyt ya so mouche worthe,..The verie therof no man telle may. 1584 Cayan *Fables of Ruyd* 1. xii, Better worthe is to lyve in pouerte surely, than to lyue ryotesly beyng euer in daunger. 1588 Cecil. in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* Pref. 8 Marry I an ounce of advise is more worth to be executed aforehand than in the sight of perrille. 1879 George *Lofen de Verdenal's Prov.* 32 That wisedome is more worth then the weapons of the mightie. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 37 Their prayers for them is more worth then the means of sustenance which they receive from them. 1672 Maxwell *Rich. Transph.* 1. 19, I do not think it so much worth to gain his approbation. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 173 A blessing that is more worth than all the wealth of which the Jews have ever cheated honest men. 1834 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 311 He will have..a living lesson, better worth than Divines could teach. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* II. ii. 148 Little worth is woman's beauty, So oft an image dumb we see.

**3.** Of a specific or certain value in other than material respects.

1297 R. Gloucr. (Rolls) 810 To soþ þou seidest me, þat as muche as ich hadde ich was worþ. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8550 Py lyfe hym bynkeþ ys wurþ no pyng. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 261 For rihtwisdam is worþ al þe world riche. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 75 Weore þe Bisschop.. worþe bobe his Eres, Heo scholde not beo so harill to deceyue þe people. 1398 J. Rastell *Hundred Merry Tales* (1866) 93 I pray yt techs me my Pater noster, & by my trouth I shall therfore teche the a songe of Robyn hode that shall be worth xx. of it. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iii. 30 A dram of sweet is worth a pound of sowre. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 248, I thought an howres rest worth a Kings ransome. 1658 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 28. 429 Neither is this deduction worth any thing. 1713 Addison *Cato* II. i, A Day, an Hour of virtuous Liberty, Is worth a whole Eternity in Bondage. 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* II. 1003 A thought that's worth a thousand worlds! 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxviii, A night-cowl of good claret is worth all the considering-caps in Warsaw. 1849 Lytton *Arthur* VI. Hist., But one love dog is worth ten lions dead. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 574 The judgement of a competent tribunal is always worth something. 1894 *Saturday Review* 5/1 It is a matter of this kind a grain of common sense is worth a peck of scientific hair-splitting.

**b.** In the phrase *as much as .. is worth.*

1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 82 ¶ 4 It is as much as my Life is worth, if she should think we were intimate. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* x, To haul on a wind was as much as her spars were worth.

**c.** *For all (it, one) is, was worth*: to the fullest extent. Orig. *U.S.*

1883 *Merc. Jury* (N.Y.) in Ware *Passing Engl.* 5 Scalchi, to use a slide-wall phrase, played Siebel for all the character was worth. 1891 Sheldon (Mass.) *Tent.* 1 Out-o'-sky Tile Boston Pole, having worked the bogus-letter for all that it was worth, now admits that it was a forgery. 1889 Gunter *Two Americans* xi. 98 [The steamer] is driving, for everything she is worth, down the waters of the Finnish Gulf. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 592 We spun round and round ..I strongly advise this line for all it was worth.

†**4.** Valuable; of value or use (*to* some end); worthy. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 90 Zeynte paul, heþ hyer ymemnd þe meste gentile ȝwoman and þe meste worþe and þe meste ywoned to hy worþ and profit. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 13 To no thing it [salt] is worth ouer, no but that it be sent out, and defoulid of men. 1426 Lydg. & Burgh *Secreta Secret.* 1961 It is not worth, the Science and Sentences of the Sterrys. 1530 Palsgr. *Introd.* Fiij, That the crown of France was well worth the trouble of bearing one mans. 1866 Neale *Sequences & Hymns* 93 Ye, who sometimes think such Songs of Gloria unworthy of Earth.

**b.** With vbl. *sb.* (in early use with *the, one's*) as complement. † Also *to* with inf. (quot. 1559).

The const. also occurs with OE. *wyrþe, weorðe.*

In recent times the illogical use of *worth* for *worth while,* and vice versa, is frequent.

(*a*) 2340 Palsgr. *Acolastus* IV. vii. X ij b, My corne..was not worth the cuttyng downe. 1559 Clough in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) I. 235, It were not worth the labour to go myles to see it. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 11 (*margin*) Three small Ilands discouered not worth the watering. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 170 Worth the seeing, for the antiquity and building. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 112 All histories will tell you, it is a point worth the observation. 1669 Penn *Truth tr. Barbo's Act of Metals* I. (1674) 130 It is very well worth ones making a journey purposely to see them. 1692 L'Estrange *Fables* ccxliii. 293 It's worth the while to see not Worth the Begging. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* III. 825 An Ass like this was worth the stealing! 1832 Lister *Arlington* II. 252 You may think it little worth the telling,..but you shall know every thing.

(*b*) 1591–5 Spenser *Col. Clout* 85 Well I weene it worth recounting was. 1598 Jonson *Every Man, Humour* IV. iii, Hee's worth a speculation now: well, I will follow him. 1599 *Prine. Morals* viii. (1902) 256 [He] soon lost his iron lamp, the only furniture which he had worth taking. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. iv. 87 The matter is worth what spread ..is now not to be helped, and therefore little worth thinking of. 1836 *Hints on Etiquette* (ed. 2) 15 If a man be worth knowing, he is surely worth the trouble of cultivating properly. 1877 Mallock in *19th Cent.* Sept. 251 (*article*) Is Life worth living? 1889 T. A. Trollope *What's to-morrow* III. 285, I have then, at all times, had a conviction that it's worth living. 1915 Shaw *Shew's Haweshb* p. xxxi, When a text has any claims to belong to the thirteenth century, it is worth noticing what evidence it contains for the lengthening of short vowels in open syllables.

**c.** With nouns having the force of vbl. sbs.

1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 231 He is acquainted with diuers things worth his knowledge. 1744 *Mod. Gloss Life* (1747) I. 44 Very inquisitive in asking about every particular Thing that was worth my Observation. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxvii. 338 It is worth the reader's attention to observe. 1837 Dickens *Nickleby* iii, 'I wish you joy with your notice,' said the dismal man. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 76 The rusting of this particular metal is worth closer study.

†**9.** Fit, meet, proper. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7351 [If] he noght wurth, leif sir king, bat man in godd haue mistrouing. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 3446, I mayniy yow awere,..Pe worthe wage baim [to] vayue þat þat haue wele serued. 1542 Elyot *Image Gov.* 141 Certes to blame ben be lordes grete,..þat hir men lete Vsurpe awicke a lordly apparaille; [ti] is not worth.

**Worth** (wɔ̄þ), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: (see below). Common Teut.: OE. *weorðan, wurðan* (*wearþ, wurdon, geworden*) = OFris. *wertha, werthia, weirda* (WFris. *wirde*), OS. *werðan* (MLG. and LG. *werden*; MDu. and Du. *worden*), OHG. *werdan, werthan* (MHG. and G. *werden*), ON. and Icel. *verða* (Norw. dial. *verda, verta,* MSw. *varþa, vardha,* Sw. *varda,* Da. *vorde*), Goth. *wairþan.* The stem is prob. the same as that of L. *vertĕre,* OSlav. *vratiti, vratiti* (Russ. *vertet'*), Lith. *versti* (*stem vert-*), Skr. *vrit* (*pa.ttat, vartit*) to turn, the sense in Germanic having developed into that of 'to turn into', 'to become'. Cf.-ward *suffix.*

OE. compounds are represented by the obsolete Forworth and I-worth.]

**A.** Illustration of Forms.

**1.** a. *Inf.* a. 1 **worðan**, **wurðan**, **wyrðan**, 2–3 **wurðen**, **wurþen** (3 *Orm.* **wurrpenn**), 3 **wrþan**, 4 **worþen**, **worthyn**. β. 2 **wurðe**, 4 **werpe**, 4–5 **worþe**, 4–6 **worthe**. γ. 4 **worp**, 4–5 **worth**. δ. 4 **worðe**, 5–7 *Sc.* **word**.

a. *Beowulf* 2526 Unc sceal weorðan . swa unc wyrd geteoð. *a* 900 *Andreas* 182 (Gr.) Sceal leohtgedal . æfter wyrðan. *c* 1000 *Daniel* 115 (Gr.) Þætte riices ǽghwæs . aceoldoc . endde wurðan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wisse . þat hit wurðen solde. *c* 1200 Ormin 492 Þatt man te sholde wurrþenn þa sælt to wurrþenn prest. *c* 1205 Lay. 1934 Þar on þa scalt wrþan sæl. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 2010 in *O. E. Misc.* 115 It sullen wurþen to nout. *c* 1330 *Arthour & Merl.* 262 (B.M. MS.). Ne schal me neuer worþen wel. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 9 Schent mote y worþen. *a* 1400 in *Anglia* XVIII. 342 Alf on be in poynt to worthyn wod. —

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat þe sholde wurðe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chap.* 1171 Swiche no mist y neuer were, *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 337 God lene him grace to god man to worthe. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 491 Cursed mut he worthe. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1217 What shall worthe of vs twoo! —

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 930 To puder sal þou worth again. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 141 Let him worth til lestie be iustice. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 2878 He had hym . on a blank worth. 1549 Latimer *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth of it, I can not tell.

δ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22489 (Edinb.) Pe sternes . sal . worde al blak sun and col. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Ypolitus*) 118 Now quhat sal word of me? 1535 Stat. *Richt. Vag.* (S.T.S.) 30 He wald word man for our salvation. *a* 1585 W. Guthrie *Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will word of my wife?

**b.** *Pres. Ind.* (*3rd sing.*) a. 1 **weorðeð**, (**uuiurth-ið**), **wyrðeþ**, 3 **wurðeð**, 4 **worþep** (*pl.* **worpen**); *north.* 1 **worðes**, 4 **worpes**, *-is* (*3rd* **worpen**); **worthis**, *Sc.* **wordis**, **wourdis**. β. 3 **weorð**, **werð**, **wyrð**, **wirð**, **wurð**, **wrð**, 3 **wurþ**, 3–4 **worþ**, 4–6 **worth** (4 **worht**); *3rd* 1 **wyrrð**, 3–5 **worst**.

In OE. and early ME. the present tense is sometimes used in place of the future.

α. *a* 825 [see B. 3]. *a* 900 *Andreas* 483 (Gr.) Ær ðu . larna þinra eate wyrðest. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 34 Huu worðes ðis? *a* 1000 *Laws of Ethelstan I* xxxiv, Sif þanes hlice worðeð, þy sellsceaftan sceal. 1205 Lay. 8586 Ne þet heo wurðeð þe lahe. *c* 1290 *Beket* 998 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 135 Alle we worþeð i-brouȝt to nouȝte. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* lix. 36 His worthetth al to wyn. *c* 1330 *Gay Warm.* 401 Þou worþest to wrecche. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1106 Hit worþes to youres. *c* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. v. (Tollem. MS.), þe ouir purty .. worþeþ more lyte, and þe neþer partie .. worþeþ more heuy. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 782 Vp he worthis vppon his stede. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 306 Sone is Wymond, I wait, it worthis na weir. *c* 1480 Henryson *Cock & Fox*cd 23 Pe lowe þat ay is bent Worthis vnsmart.

β. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* iv, Ponne he ietwuhe us & hire wyrd. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxii. 211 He wyrð seald to ðæs ondleonese. *c* 900 *Beda's Hist.* Pref. i. (1890) 2 Hu wurð he elles zehered? *a* 1000 *Laws Ethelbirht* lxxv, Gif he heafet weorðð, þær motan freond seman. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* iii. 19 Þa . to duste wurþ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 112 Þe bleod þonne ne worð þe sor. *c* 1375 *Coll. Hom.* 935 Fram þa forme man to þa latst þe wrld et þes wrldes ende. *c* 1450 *Prov. Ælfred* 3046 in *O. E. Misc.* And selde wyrð he blybe and gled. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1570 So is þe studie icloped noȝ & euere worþ. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 128 Sauoured worþ he neuer more. *c* 1330 *Arthour & Merl.* 23 Pyn auunt worþ dere abogt. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. Prol. 187 Slekyt worth thir bestis skynyis.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8 Þat worþ ycaut per king anon. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 404 Ysauued worstow (*v.r.* worst þou) neure. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 805 Elles þow worst be-leyn. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1505 Certys, eyre, thou worst schent.

**c.** *Pres. Subj.* 1 **weorðe**, (**uueorthe**), 2–3 **wurðe**, (*pl.* **wurðen**), **wurþe**, 3 **wurthe**, 4 **wurth**; 3 *3rd* **worpe**, 4–6 **worthe**; 4 **worp**, 4–**worth**, (4 **worht**, 5 **worth**); 6 *Sc.* **wirth**.

735 [see B. 3b]. *c* 1000 *Sermon Lambert.* III. 58 Sif nægl of hondum weorðe. *c* 1150 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Þonked worðe him. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Ure fon . wulleð swo don, bute we wurðen us ware. *c* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 633 Wel worþe he wid. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2273 Wel worthe he, þat þe 2273 Blissed worþe his soule ay !. *a* 1325 Minot *Poems* ii. 21 Wele worth be while. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 116 Mendeð þworþel ! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 537 Tille ye haf worthe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 8871 Woo worth the tyme. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiiv. 9 Wo wirth the fruct. And wo wirth him. 1562 *Homilies* ii. *Perils Idol.* (R.) Woo worthe the time that euer we synned. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xviii. 887 Ah woe worth him.

**d.** *Imper.* 4 **worth**, 5 **worthe**.

*a* 1300 *Otuel* 841 Worþ wy bihinden me her. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 249 Thanne worthe upp, Walis.

**2.** *Past Tense.* (*1st* and *3rd sing.*) α. 1–3 **wearð**, **warð**, 2, 4 **ward** (2 **uuard**), 3–4 **warp** (3 *Orm.* **warrp**); 2–3 **werð**, **werþ**, 4 **werpe**, **werth**; *pl.* 1 **wurdon**, 2 **wurðon**, **wurþen**, 5 **worden**. β. 3 **wurð**, **wurd**, **wurþ**, (4 **worpe**), 4–6 **worth** (5 **worthe**). γ. *Sc.* and *north.* 5 **word**, 5–6 **worde**.

α. *c* 900 *Andreas* 1343 (Gr.) Hwæt wearð eow? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 12 Ón ðam dæge wurdon herodes & pilatus frynd. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135 Wurþen men swiðe of wundred. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 Þær ward ȝeworðen mychel smoltnyss. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum [seed] . werð totreden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Þe luchanne ward bretful of wundren. *Ibid.* 181 He . weard þar mide scheked. *c* 1200 Ormin 10960 Þarrafftterr warrþ itt efft to nohht. 13 . *Guy Warw.* 4723 Opon a mulle seche warp anon. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 227 At laste he werpe sike. *c* 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. C. 171 Noble he werþ & riche. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 131 He weard yn greet dette. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xvi. (Arb.) 34 Thus worden my teeth al blody.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þat bred wurð to flesh. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 995 His name ðo wurð a lettre mor. *Ibid.* 2207 She ward wið child. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 209 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 Þat folk werþ eft worpe hapild. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 195 Lowys . worpe sike. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvi. 186 What worthe of hit he ne knew. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iii. 23 Wictaill worth scant. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xi. 80 The myndis worth agast.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 490 He worde stanelyndale. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 137 He knewe not . what worde of them.

**3.** *Past Participle.* a. 1 **ȝeworðen**, 2 **-ðen**, 3 **i-wurðen**, 4 **iworpe**. β. 1 **worden**, 2 **wurðen**, 3 *Orm.* **wurrpenn**, 5 **wurthen**; 2–3 **worðen**, 4 **worpen**, 4–5 **worthen**; *Sc.* 4–5 **worthyn**, **-ine**, 5–6 **worthin** (6 **-ing**), 6 **wordine**. γ. 2 **wurþe**, 5 **worthe**.

a. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 He . sona wearð hal ȝeworden. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 Þær ward ȝeworðen mychel smoltnyss. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat . iwurðen to uuelinge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* IV. 187 Pe Parthes þat were i-worþe relesed.

β. *c* 1000 *Daniel* 124 (Gr.) Wearð he . acol worden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Þe spec of þat . sholde þeih hit wurðen were. *c* 1200 Ormin 3873 Godess Sune . Wass wurrpenn mann. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 198 Herrod . wes worthin Iacobes Martyr. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1000 Pe toun is brent, hom with fyre, þat were fey worthine. 14.. Wyntoun *Cron.* (W.) iv. 1654 Thai had done Þe wethere worthing þarby hard. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* (Caxton) (1869) 138 On horse he is wurthen vp. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 6 Wit is worthin wynkis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. Prol. 26 Wenis thou . the craw be worthin quhite. 1535 Stat. *Richt Vag.* (S.T.S.) 29 That God is wordine mane.

γ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Also suteliche swo it wurþe were. *c* 1400 *Rauf Coilȝear* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde haue worthe of the men.

**4.** *Weak forms.* a. *Pa.t.* 3 **wurðede**, 5 **wurthed**; 4–5 **worthed**(e, -id (*Sc.* **-yd**); *Sc.* and *north.* **worthit**, **-yt** (5 **wurthit**). b. *Pa.pple.* 4 **worped**, **worthed**, *Sc.* 7 **worde**, 9 **wort**.

a. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Þe . wurðeden dead. 13 . *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 485 Til worþed an ende. *Ibid.* 678 A duk to haue worþed. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiii. 334 Thame worthit Maidinge. (Rawl.) xxiv. 112 Pe while . worthed till a worthy and a . Cristen man. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 What at worthed pe bodie cuthe neuer man tell. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 973 Thus worthit schir Gawyn in þis grene kirtoun. *Hist. K. Boccas* 4 *Sydrocke* (1510) *S iij*, The kyng . worthed there vpon. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 149 He knowneth not what is worthe of the graill. 1586 *Leycester's Commw.* (1844) 34 Which can be worthe of such a . professor. 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38 What could be wort of a' the sheep.

b. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þat bred wurð to flesh. *c* 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 995 His name ðo wurð a lettre mor. *Ibid.* 2207 She ward wið child. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 209 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 Þat folk werþ eft worpe hapild. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 195 Lowys . worpe sike. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvi. 186 What worthe of hit he ne knew. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iii. 23 Wictaill worth scant. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xi. 80 The myndis worth agast.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 490 He worde stanelyndale. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 137 He knewe not . what worde of them.

**3.** *Past Participle.* a. 1 **ȝeworðen**, 2 **-ðen**, 3 **i-wurðen**, 4 **iworpe**. β. 1 **worden**, 2 **wurðen**, 3 *Orm.* **wurrpenn**, 5 **wurthen**; 2–3 **worðen**, 4 **worpen**, 4–5 **worthen**; *Sc.* 4–5 **worthyn**, **-ine**, 5–6 **worthin** (6 **-ing**), 6 **wordine**. γ. 2 **wurþe**, 5 **worthe**.

a. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 He . sona wearð hal ȝeworden. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 Þær ward ȝeworðen mychel smoltnyss. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat . iwurðen to uuelinge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 187 Pe Parthes þat were i-worþe relesed.

β. *c* 1000 *Daniel* 124 (Gr.) Wearð he . acol worden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Þe spec of þat . sholde þeih hit wurðen were. *c* 1200 Ormin 3873 Godess Sune . Wass wurrpenn mann. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 198 Herrod . wes worthin Iacobes Martyr. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1000 Pe toun is brent, hom with fyre, þat were fey worthine. 14.. Wyntoun *Cron.* (W.) iv. 1654 Thai had done Þe wethere worthing þarby hard. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* (Caxton) (1869) 138 On horse he is wurthen vp. *c* 1480 Henryson *Want of Wyse Men* 6 Wit is worthin wynkis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. Prol. 26 Wenis thou . the craw be worthin quhite. 1535 Stat. *Richt Vag.* (S.T.S.) 29 That God is wordine mane.

γ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Also suteliche swo it wurþe were. *c* 1400 *Rauf Coilȝear* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde haue worthe of the men.

**4.** *Weak forms.* a. *Pa.t.* 3 **wurðede**, 5 **wurthed**; 4–5 **worthed**(e, -id (*Sc.* **-yd**); *Sc.* and *north.* **worthit**, **-yt** (5 **wurthit**). b. *Pa.pple.* 4 **worped**, **worthed**, *Sc.* 7 **worde**, 9 **wort**.

a. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Þe . wurðeden dead. 13 . *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 485 Til worþed an ende. *Ibid.* 678 A duk to haue worþed. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiii. 334 Thame worthit Maidinge. (Rawl.) xxiv. 112 Pe while . worthed till a worthy and a . Cristen man. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 What at worthed pe bodie cuthe neuer man tell. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 973 Thus worthit schir Gawyn in þis grene kirtoun. *Hist. K. Boccas* 4 *Sydrocke* (1510) *S iij*, The kyng . worthed there vpon. 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 149 He knowneth not what is worthe of the graill. 1586 *Leycester's Commw.* (1844) 34 Which can be worthe of such a . professor. 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38 What could be wort of a' the sheep.

**5.** Sigoification.

**I.** *intr.* To come to be, come to pass, come about, happen, take place.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 34 Cuoeð . [Maria] to ðæm engel, huu worðes ðis? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 He bebead hunæ & þare se, & þær wearð ȝeworðen mycel smyltnes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat þe sholde wurðe. *Ibid.* 197 Hit is worðen alse ure louerd wolde. 13 . *Northern Passion* 1410 Or þe lorde haue kraun tinese Sall it worth opon pis wise. 13 . *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 685 Wyth wele wait þay pat day, til worped an ende, in londe. *c* 1400 *Leg. Rood* iv. 197 And so it wurthed as þe Iuus wolde. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* xvi. 38 Afyre this, worth gret spech yn-to all þe lond.

**b.** In the subjunctive mood, expressing a wish for something to happen to one, usually with dat. of person.

13 . *Cursor M.* 25613 (Gött.) Gabriel . said, 'leuedi ! ful of blis, ai worþi þe wel !' *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2221 He let his oth at ouercome, Þat worpe hym yuel and wel ! 1388 *Wyclif Palerne* 2567, I ne wot in wat wise to worche be beyt, . but worpe god wil alle. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 493 Elt he seyde to hem-selfe wo mote þou worpe ! *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 480 Ich euer wolde þat wel þe worthe. *c* 1450 *Merl.* 1. 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 295 Pe dor tyneth on hym for euermore and so eurelasting farcwel worthe hym and hys werkys.

**c.** In the phrases *woe worth* (now arch.), and *well worth* (obs.) followed by noun or pronoun. (Cf. Woe A. 4, Well *a. i.*)

(*a*) *c* 1205 Lay. 3359 Wa worðe þan monne þe lond haueðe mid menske. 13 .. *Cursor M.* 21792 (Edin.) Antecrist . wa worþe þe stunde ! *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1218 Wa worpe þe while þat I was ney ferd, so wep I þat I ne mi3te. *c* 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 320 Wo worthe evere fals envie ! *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 260 Woo worthe the oure that euer I was made in ! 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. xi. 132 Wo worth this sword, for by hit haue I geten my dethe. *a* 1548 Sir T. Wyatt *Poems* (1913) I. 76 Thou toke her streight from me : that wo worth thee ! 1561 Hollyband *Treas.* viii. 211 Wo worth them, vnnaturall, and downe with them still. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numb., Widow's T.* 21 Woe worth the Time, woe worth the day, That rear'd us first (thou Yalitha, a 1801 R. Gall *Poems & Songs* (1819) 30 Woe worth ye, sir ! it sets ye ill To talk to me in sic a style. 1829, 1879 [see Woe A. 4].

(*b*) *c* 1205 Lay. 13079 Wel worðe þe Vortigere þat þe rett kinnes bere. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2 *S. Eng. Leg.* 155 Wel worþe his mizt .., Se wreat is on fe ferde day ! 13 .. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2127 Wel worth þe, wyse, but woldes my gode. *a* 1382 Minot *Poems* ii. 5 If it wrokin I were, wele worth þe while. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 379 Wel worth of dremes ay bene olde wyues. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fox & Wolf* 35 Weill worth my Father, that send me to the hair.

**2.** To become, come to be (something): a. With sb. or adj. as complement.

738 *Beda's Death-verse* 1 Fore þære neidfaerne naenig uuisirthi thoncmottura than him thurf sie. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 173 Þa hwile þe he þær stod, he wearþ fortigen geong cniht. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135, And uuard þe sunne swile als it uuare thre niht ald mone. *Ibid.* an. 1234, Þat lice dei . þa ascleode he & ward ded. *c* 1200 Ormin 160 Opre unnfæwe shulenn ec full gladc & blipe wurrþenn. *c* 1205 Lay. 22070 Penne scullen it[o] Bruttene blissen wurðen riue. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1175 Abimalech wurð sek on-on. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2080 Louerd he worp of france. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 826 Til y trusseun as, Þo worp y neuer blipe. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 265 Bute þe loweste þat liuede his lord mihte worpe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 289 Scheepe þat drynkeþ of þat oon [river] schulle worpe blak, and scheepe þat drynkeþ of þat oþer schul worþe whyte. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 699 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 Sif on be in poynt to worthyn wood For peyne of with, dragance is good. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. 111. 243 He said haue worthyd vnto for schame A fre kynryk ȝwa til defame. 1496 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 45 For dout that thai worth proude and hautayn of thair office. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 245 O lust,.. Thyself consumyng worthis inaniciable.

**b.** With past participles.

138 *Beda's Death-verse* 5 Hwæt hiu gastne .. after deothlaege doemid uuorthen. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135 Wurþen men suiðe of wundred & of dred. *c* 1178 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum of þe seole feol..bi þe weie and werð totreden. *c* 1200 Ormin 3417 Þatt wass þatt Crist wass icast adoun. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2291 But god now hem help, shyn worþ þei slepend. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 404 Þou þat þow lyuye ysauued worstow neure. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1871 If þou tarie longe her-wyþ þou worst y-schent Ieȝe þow worst an honge. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* xlix. 124 (*title*) the contrey forth ther-after worth so Latyn-ysed and Scottysed.

**3.** With prepositional or adverbial complements:

**a.** To come to be, attain to being (in a particular place or condition).

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* Iv, Swa deð eac se mona . þonne he betwux us & hire sunnan cymð, þonne worðeð he ungesewenlic. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* ii. 298 Þa worðon hi ealle to nahte. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wead anon to worthe out of his myndes. *c* 1200 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 505 The strete werth a fuyre. *c* 1400 T. Chestre *Launfal* 131 So suvagelych hye gonne he bestite, That he ward yn greet dette. *a* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1096 Lat it worth at my will the wourschip to wale.

**b.** To turn or be converted *to* something; to change in status *to*.

*Beowulf* 2203 Heaðoreaf hildeincessas . to bonan wurdon. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 820, Hit þa þat ar was ful rice, he hit weard to nan þing. *a* 1225 *Wulfstan Hom.* xxx. 145 We . scolden worðen to ðan ilcan worðscipe to ure. *c* 1200 Ormin 6976 Patt steorrne . Warrþ all to nohht. . Affterr patt Crist wass fundenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Þat bred wurð to flesh and þe drinke to blod. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat . iwurðen to uuelinge. 1340 *Hali Meid.* 9 And is þat . iwurðen to uuelinge. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud) 467 Pou art so foyr and brigcte, þou schalt worþe to knyte. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1106 Quat-so-euer I wyl vnne to þe, hit worþes to youres. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 746 And ich a beggers brol.. worþ to a writere. 1496 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 221 Sa that ȝe gif thare war a soverane..all the world wald worth to nocht.

**c.** To get *up*, *on* or *upon*, a horse, etc.

*c* 1290 *Beket* 1164 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 139 Pe boli Man.. werth op . and rod him forth wel wyl þat he mouȝte. *c* 1320 Upon a mule sche warp anon. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5053 (Kolbing) A desirer þo ladde Agreuein, & seyd, 'Worþ her on hastiliche !' *c* 1379 *Coll. Hom.* (Surtees) 11 Þe Kyng worþe vp [*L. ascendit*] yif þou wilt. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, Pe horamen þat beth þere at he deth, shulle worthe vppe on horse. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 11398 Kyng Arthour was be Temple wher vnto he com, ..' My leve frend,' he seide, 'worth vp in haste.' *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (1510) *S iij*, For thy the kyng Boccus anon Toke hors and worthe vp thereon.

**d.** To become *of* (= happen to, betide). Also with *on*.

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 277 God behiȝt hem hauen, and tolde what shulde worþe of him. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxi. 139 We knowe whiche schalle of be remenaunt. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde haue worthe of the man in these ȝeris, if thei holden not be mad religious. 1549 Latimer *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth, what wyl be the ende of thys man? *c* 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 150 He knewe not from whence they came, nor what should worthe of them. 1599 Z. Boyd *Last Battell* 425 (Jam.) Then many shall wonder what can bee worde of such a blazing professor. *a* 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will worth of my sons? And, What will word of my goods and gear? 1828 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38, I was..considering what could be wort o' a' the sheep.

**e.** To pass *away*, go *hence*, remain *after* (= behind).

13 .. *Cursor M.* 19110 (Edin.) Pe lastand dede sal worþe awai. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2355 Wende listly leennes & late me worpe after. *c* 1400 Wisdom 1109 Þou shalt haue þat I bete & þou hence worth. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 22588 (Trin.) Lord god þat lastes ay þou shal ve do to worþe away.

**4.** *To let* (one) *worth*: to let alone; = I-worth 6.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1930 Þer fore he was so prout & he king nas him suffr bote as a neade, & let im worpe al out. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3597 'Lat me worþ', quaþ william, 'þat I schal ! wite sone !' 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 87 For-þi I conseille alle þe comune to lat þe catte worthe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6037 Late ladies worthe with her thyngis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 58 Than seide Merlyn, 'Let me worthen ther-with, and I shall a-quyte me of the covenaunt that I made'.

**5.** To behove, need, be necessary. Usu. impersonal with dative preceding (*him worthiht*, etc.). *Sc.* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 109 Him worthit, magre his, abyde In till ane hamelet neir thair-by. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 652 Pis Nero worthit ay of ned . ryse aye quhone

his master come here. *c* 1405 Wenteus *Cron* vi 333 þis Pyppynes þan Werthit til tak til him Off Frawns þat tyme þe gouernayle *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 271 Schir Amar said, 'I trewis it wordis tak'. *Ibid* VIII 1616 Off this sayingl me worthis for to cess.

†**Worth**, *v*.[2] *Obs* Forms: 1 **weorðian**, **wurðian**, **wyrðian**, *north.* **wurðian**, 2–3 **wurðien**, **-in**, **wurðen** (3 *Orm.* **wurrpenn**), **wurðgin** (*pa. pple.* 2 **iwurðsedd**, 3 **iwur(ð)get**), **wurðe**, 3 **wurrpe**, **worþi**, 4 **worth(e**. [OE. *weorðian*, *wurðian*, *f. weorþ* Worth *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To honour (a person or thing), to treat with honour or respect.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past C* xvii 123 Du weorðaS ðone sunu ma ðonne me *971 Blickl Homs* 11 Weorþian we eac þa clæna ha hades *c* 1000 *Ags Ps* Matt xv 8 Þus folc me mid welerum wurþaS [*v. r.* weorþaS]. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 45 We agen þene sunnedæi awðeliche wel to wurþien *c* 1200 Ormin 2388 Þatt þurrh wass þigo wel warp to ben Swa wurrpedd her onn erþe. *c* 1205 Lay 13422 Þas cnihtes weoren an hirede hahliche iwurðed. *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 1668 Iunus Ros for-dei on Sunendæg, & i-sæ forð niðen iwurðed ay *Hid* 3503 Wurð ðin fader and moder so, ðat ðu læn dreðe *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 2124, I wall more worth ; a wyse man disciple, þan þe honour þat Acheles ast

b To pay divine honours to (a deity), to worship

*c* 897 Ælfred *Oros* IV iv 162 Þa diosta þe hie an simbel weorþedon 971 *Blickl Hom* 17 Þif þu fealtest to me & me weorþast *c* 975 *Rushw Cod* John iv 22 Xie worðizes ðet se ne wuten we worðigaS ðe we wuten *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 11 Hine 3e scule wurþian and heraunen and lusian mid al euwer hearte *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom.* 45 Ure hlouand þeu cunst heiged and wel3ed þat he *c* 1225 Leg. 1162 Heo wurðeden þæt anlicnes þe scucke hit on feng *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 1845 Wið newe alter wurðed he wel se strong god of þa tel

2 To raise to honour ; to distinguish

*a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 1195 (Gr.) Bi] se hwæteadig wigge woo ðod, se þæt wicg byrS *a* 1000 *Waldere* I. 22 (Gr.) Wurðia ðe selfes mundbora *c* 1205 Lay 1614 Al þis cun he wurðede, riche & wrecchen *c* 1400 *Chron R Glouc* (Rolls) App G 154 Þeos foure weyes on þis lond, long helm Made & wyeld þese kny3tes þat worþi were

**Worthen**, *v nonce wd* [f. Worth *a* + en.] *trans* To raise in worth

1894 G. Egerton[1] *Discords* 241 Woman has cheapened herself through ignorance ; she must learn to worthen herself by seeing knowledge

**Worthethy**, obs form of Worthy

**Worthful** (wɜ̄·þful), *a.* Forms 1 **weorðful**, 1–3 **wurð-**, **wurþful** (3 *Orm* **wurrpfull**), 3 **wurthful**, 4 **worpuol**, 7 **worthfull**(, 6 **wyrth-full**. [OE. *weorþ-*, *wurþful*, *f. weorþ*, *wurþ*, Worth *sb.*[1]

In later use app re-formed ptly to match *worthless*] in 16–17th and again in 19th cent, perhaps on the model of G *wertvoll*]

1 Of persons Honourable, deserving of honour; meriting respect or reverence, full of worth or merit. Also *absol*

*Beowulf* 3099 Swa he manna wæs wizend weorðfullost wide zeond eorðan *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Luke xiv 8 Ne sete þu on þam fyrmestan setle, þe þes sum weorðfulra sie invela hol fram hym. *c* 1122 *Chron* (Laud) an. 1086 § 8 Se cyng Willelm wæs swiðe rice & wurðfulre þonne ænig his fore genga were *c* 1200 Ormin 5105 Helyas wass an wurrpfull prophete. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1181 3ef he is wurðful and siht mon. 1340 *Ayenbi* 176 Þise mæn and þe hardi and be worþuolle 1536 in *Lett Soulpr Monast* (Camden) 126 Right wyrthfull sir, with due reverens my duty remembred (etc.). 1609 Rowlands *Guy it arw* Ep Ded, Disdain not therefore (most worthful and precious spirit) to vouchsafe the view of these Arcks Lines. 1647 Trapp *Comm Matt* v 13 (1657) 228 As every man is not worthful, he is more modest. 1849 Rock *Ch Fathers* II 27 Those high born dames and worthful females whom Margaret the queen had drawn about her *a* 1909 G Tyrrell *Autob* (1912) I 238 The more worthful have to repair the defective training of the noviceship.

†2 Respectful, reverent, loyal *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Sax Leechd.* III 440 Munecas zetaþolode to weorþfulre þeonuje hælendes cristes *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1658 Or [= before] hase he hire pigt & sworen, ðat him sal þeis worðful ben bonn

3 Having worth or value ; valuable ; precious.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 140 Pet heo sturen seð & deð menske hire wurðfulle soule *a* 1225 *Leg Ands* 1017 Hi wunder werkes & wurðful in eorðe. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O E Hom* I 211 Turn to be worlde þi wurðful rode bet þu spreddest þe on. 1299 *Statutes Antonine's Ref* 11 11, That prince that worthfull praise aspires, From vice, and from lips, applause desires 1879 Pentecost *In Vol Ib* vi (1881) 63 Just as a man's note is only current and worthful because the man is good 1888 Furnivall & E. T. S., *Texts prepared, Gen Notices* 3 Some [Lives of Saints] are dull But all are worthful for the history of our language 1893 Upton *Hebbert Lect* (1894) 198 The presence of absolutely worthful ideas in our consciousness

Hence †**Worthfulhead**, honour, dignity, **Worthfulness**, value

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 3499 Ne let þu nogt min wurð-ful bed forfaren in ðe fendes red. 1894 Pentecost in *Brit Weekly* 20 Sept 338 Make this the touchstone of worthfulness in selecting the books.

†**Worthihead**, **-hood**. *Obs* [f. Worthy *a*] Honour, distinction, worthiness.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI 333 I har may no man haf worthyhede, Bot he haf wt to stoit his ancis [*v. r.* deid]. *c* 1450 Harding *Chron.* Ed. Prf (1812) p. 2, He was a knyght, electe for worthihode.

**Worthiless**, obs. var. Worthless *a.*



*a* 1542 Wyatt *Fr ctl* Poem. 13 Thu Justice yf so his promesse complyshythe For his wordes nake to worthlesse desert 1590 J. Proctor in C. S. *Right Relig* A iij, I will leaue you, loth to keep you too long, perusing a worthlesse pamphlet.

†**Worthily**, *a. Obs* Forms: 4 **worpliche**, **-lych**, **worthilyche**, 4 **worpil**, **worthily**, **-yly**, 5 **wurthyly**, **wordyly**. [var of Worthly *a*, after *worthy.*] Worthy, honourable

13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 343 Wolde 3e worþiliych lorde,.. Bid me bose þis benche 13 *E. Allit P A* 846 For þy yche saule þat hade neuer teche, is to þat lomire a worthily wyf *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 4290 With a þeliche wist, wel wo is me nouþe ! 1400 *Morte Arth* 695 Seyne that worthily che wy wont wn to chambyre *c* 1400 *Aduers of Arth* 365 (Thornton MS.) Scho was the worthieste wyghte, but any wy im ghte welde.

**Worthily** (wɜ̄·þili), *adv.* Forms: *a* 4 worpliche, worthilyuh, 5 worthilyche, 4 worpil, worthily, -yly, 5 wurthyly, wordyly. [var of Worthly *a*, after *worthy.*] Worthy, honourable

13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 343 Wolde 3e worþiliych lorde,.. Bid me bose þis benche 13 *E. Allit P A* 846 For þy yche saule þat hade neuer teche, is to þat lomire a worthily wyf *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 4290 With a þeliche wist, wel wo is me nouþe ! 1400 *Morte Arth* 695 Seyne that worthily che wy wont wn to chambyre *c* 1400 *Aduers of Arth* 365 (Thornton MS.) Scho was the worthieste wyghte, but any wy im ghte welde.

**Worthily** (wɜ̄·þili), *adv.* Forms: *a* 4 worpliche, worthilyuh, 5 worthilyche; 4 worpil, -ily, -yly, 4–5 worthili, 4–6 worthyly (4 -ylye, 5 -ylie, wurthyly), 4– worthily (5 worthilly, 7 worthilie), 5 worthyly(e, 6 -lye worthylie. *β.* 4 worthelioke, -eli, 4–7 worthely (6 -elie, woorthely). [f Worthy *a.* + ly 2. The *β*-forms are not always distinguishable from variants of Worthly *adv.*]

†1. With due dignity, pomp, or splendour. *Obs.* (Passing into sense 3.)

13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 72 When hay had waschen, worthyly hay wenten to sete. *c* 1330 *Will Palerne* 4290 With a þeli toute he rod hire a-3ens, & worþil hire he welcomed 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B vi 8, I was war of a womman worthiliest ycloþed *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1630 Priam .. a palas gert make, Full worthely wroght & by wit caste *c* 1440 *Gest Rom* IV 12 Thei burred the body of the kyng, worthely enowgh as it neuer seyden *c* 1450 *Lonelich Brut* 461 This corsi acion was worthely doon *Ibid* 486 Lordes and ladyes were worthely serued thurgh-out the C art 1542 *Boorde's Dyet* (Caius MS.) 4, I am not worthely wrapped nor went But pouerely pricked in pouerte

†2. Becomingly, elegantly. *Obs rare.*

13 *Gaw & Gr. Knt.* 144 Bot his wombe & his wast were worthily smale

3. In a manner befitting one of high standing or character; in accordance with one's own dignity or personal worth; honourably, nobly

*c* 1300 *Vsyonn Pilate* 11 Worthilyche he fellen þat he doth In armes day by day so worþily þat alle prys hath he. 1382 Wyclif *1 Mace* iv 8 So I bysecche, that 3e walke worthily in the clepynge, in which he ben clepid *c* 1400 *Sir Perc Alexan ter* 2505 Pat within on þe wall worthili with stude 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* II 259 At this sayde worshyp was do to our moder lady by cause she had so worthyly ourne ye feude. 1497 Caxton *Reynard* (Sommer) 186 Hercules and theseus did worthyly and digne of memory 6. 1586 J. Rogers *Estate Godly Love* (1876) 181 Thus blessed are ye of Almighty God, that you walke worthily therin 1596 Spenser *F Q* VI ii 25 Well may I confess such an one thee read, As by thy worth thou worthily hast wonne 1606 Shaks. *Ant & Cl* II ii. 190 Worthily spoken Menenas *a* 1609 Hieron *Jr Brown* xxxi (1621) 97 He that had done so worthily at Ely haste, became famous in Bethlehem. 1678 *Bunyan's Canry* (1881) IV 2 The gentleman has moved worthily, and like a gentleman 1784 Cowper *Task* v 807 The soul that sees Him, learns at least t' em-ploy More worthily the pow'rs she own'd before 1867 C. Chai mers *Calednia* I iii. vi 280 He worthily fell, in fighting for his people 1868 J. G Holland *Titcomb's Lett* VII 157 An intelligent use of the time ly spent 1880 *Miss Braddon* II Feb 5/5 The office he has long worthily held as parliamentary secretary to the Trades Union Congress

b. Condu ct, or ellipt. for this

1841 W. S. Gilman *Life* II 12 There are some who do not walk worthily of their profession 1881 J. T. Pat tenaw *Virtues Imp* 237 Oft hast thou acted thy part, My country, worthily indeed

3 According to desert or merit ; as one (or it) is deserving or worthy ; deservedly, justly, rightly

The attribution of desert may be either to the subject or object of the action.

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol 3 We menge wordes of lovynge na þat w rthily he may trow him 1447 Bokenham *Sprtlyn, Roberd of Cysyle* (1835) 181 Ye ought worthily To Be these seue vertuis to hennne dede stye 1535 Coverdale *1 Chron.* xvi 25 For the Lorde is greate and i cn not worthely be praised 1598 Florio *Ital Dict* s.v. Degnamente In Englishe worthily 1844 H. G Robinson *Odes of Horace* I vi, Who worthily can sing Achilles wise In substance of time bound ? 1865 Kingsley *Herew* ix, His father promised him the succession—which indeed he had worthily deserved

b. Facet with reference to demerit or the punishment for this.

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* vi xvii (Bodl MS.). David blamed worthilich þe seruantes of kyng saule þat were pleging 1599 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) I 247 But suche youth worthely lyue in brawlynge stryfe and payne 1550 Crowley *Last Trumpet* 175 But if thou wilt be styl sturdy The Lord shall plage the worthely. 1599 Greene *Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII 187 I haue so often offended thee that I haue worthely deserued death. 1614 Heywood *Gunaik* IV 188 As the processe of her life was in many passages therof worthily infamous *a* 1678 T. Stanley *Hist Philos* xiii xxiii (1687) 933/2 Ingratitude is worthily hateful to all men 1784 Cowper *Tirocin* 402 Ingregious purpose ! worthily beguin In barb'rous prostitution of your son

c Fittingly, in respect of subject or matter

1555 Eden *Treat. New Ind* (Arb) 6 My trauayl herein couldie no wayes be more worthily bestowed 1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr Faith* 14 Here a man not knowing the mistery, might worthely be astonied 1642 J. Eachard *Grace Jesus' Justif* 68 That new distinction is the more worthily to be suspected for a corrupter of the Gospel

4 With due devotion or reverence ; in a fitting spirit, reverently, devoutly, also, with real desert by reason of faith or good life.

*a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xiv 1 Lord wha sall won in þi tabernakle, þat is wha worthily lufis þe here 1398 Chaucer *Jacs I* 386 Men may also refrayne venial synne by receyuynge worthily of the precious body of Jhesu crist *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* I lxxii (1869) 49 And if this bred thou wolt nem; ne and clepe wel and worthiliche, I sey it is bred of lyf *a* 1440 *Hist A. Becket* 4 To worthe (? 1510) F iv b, VI this word be worthely spoken It shalbe hard for eith to heuen 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 171 b Clennesse of lyue, whereby they may worthily laude and prayse god 1565 Harding *Answ Jewel* 132 By the vertue and efficase of this Sacrament duely and worthely received 1610 Healey *St Aug City God* xv xxiii 563 Wee do worthily beleeue that the 70 had the sprit of prophecy 1758 Young *Centaur* I 11 As to God, they are The natural religion commands us to think of Him worthily and speak reverently, of Him 1770 *Sacraments Explain d* (ed 2) 54 A second Thing required, is the State of Grace, without which no one can worthily receive this Sacrament

†5 At a proper rate or value *To take worthily* to accept graciously *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 381 Helyse left þe grete rechesse & tooke worþili þe pore childe 1393 *Piers Plowm C* xxi 180 Ac þe crme to hire To schewen such thing as thei broȝte, Whiche worldlich of hem ladde, he leet hem worthily.

†**Worthine**. *Obs* [OE **worðign*, var. of *worðig*, *f. worþ* Worth *sb.*[2]] Survives in place-names as *-wardine* ] An enclosure close ; sec also quot. 1701.

*a* 1122 *Rec Prior B M Wigorn* (Camd) 95 b Wermena de Witlai pro 3 Wrthin de festo sti Mich 1301 *Cowell's Interpr.* (ed Kennett), *Worthine*, a Court-yard, or Orchard, a certain quantity or dimension of Ground so call d in the Mannor of Rangeland, Com Hereford.

**Worthiness** (wɜ̄·þinės) Forms *a* 4 worpi-, worþynes(e, 4–7 worthi-, worthynes, 5–6 worthy-, 5– worthiness, 4 wurpy-, 5 wurthyness(e, wurthines (wurghtinesse); 6 woorthi-, woorthynes(e, wurthiness. *β.* 5 wordyenesse, 6 *Sc.* wirdinnes [f. Worthy *a.* + -ness]

1 The character or quality of being worthy, in various senses *a* Of persons

*a* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conscience* 8 Per help Avalles til þe saules In purgatory, Afur þai er of worthynes. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II 178 In al þis world þes nys a betire knyght Than he þat is of worthynesse and gentilesse *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg* 1 50 Remembrance That thei take of his worthinesse Of knyghthod and of gentilesse. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntlyn*, *Anne* 607 Thus lady to preise of hyr worthynesse, Fer passyth my wyt. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xliii. 167 By the hyghe prouesse & grete worthynes of the knyghtes 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV Prol. 54 (1710) Lvi b, All the world feared Rome onely, for her worthynes in armes 1550 Crowley *Inform* Sel Wks. (1872) 163 Stand ye in much in your own conceyte & glorie ynge in the worthynesse of your blonde *c* 1590 *Percy Reliq* (1794) I 4 Such costly robes As may become her beauties worthyness. 1606 Shaks. *Oth* II i. 212 He is a good one and his worthiness does challenge much respect 1611 Holmes *Lucian's Ass* 46 Worthinesse is a thing different from the worth or value of a man, and also from his merit or desert and consuteth in a particular power or ability to doe well, or to be said to be worthy. *a* 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 239 They are in Law in the 8 Rank or Height of Worthiness and Proximity of Blood, as their Roots 1711 Addison *Spectator* No 1 104, I am awaken'd to see more Worthiness in you, than ever I saw in any Lady in the Land. 1801 Wordsw *Peterets' T* 130 My knowledge is small, Yet tell abroad thy mighty worthiness 1879 Farrar *St Paul* (1883) 173 A Divine Charity not only perceives real worth but even creates worthiness where it finds none to call forth.

*b* 1450 *Merlin* xiv 203 Thei semede to be of grete worthynesse. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xiv 49 O thou fre knyght, replenyshed with prouesse & of grete worthynesse.

b Of things or qualities.

1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* xvi vii (1495) 356 Siluer .. herde he pens after pat water 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* II 260 Of the worthynesse of the whiche we haue no Richesse Ageyns freedshipp of worthynesse 1526 Lydg *De Guil Pylgr* 17383 For to declare þe worthynesse Of euery vertue 1548 Hall *Chron* 4 Of the worthynesse of the sayd Citie 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* II 268 All erthly creatures resteth ageyne in manere to the worthynesse of wyfe 1611 Bible Wisd Sol iii 15 Glorious is the fruit of good labours 1741 *Compl Fam-Piece* II 1 57 Such hereditaments should be knyt unsyted and annexed, agreable to the worthiness and dignitie thereof. 1877 B. Godge *Aeschylus's Orest* II 67 Next vnto the Rose in woorthynesse, for his Sauour and beautifull whitenesse is the Lillye. 1892 Jewis *Faint Ancients* 47 Art can doe nothing without the materiall : wherefore the materiall without Art hath no worthinesse. 1673 Baxter *Cath Theol* II i 233 Is there ever the less worthiness in it, because God causeth it ? 1798 Sckeb *Serm.* (1771) VI 132 Convinced of their Mistake from the Heavens by the singular Worthiness of their Conduct. 1850 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I 167 Say if you can, when was there most real worthiness of existence.

c With *a* (and plural), *that*, or *this*.

13 tr *Rolland in Engl Stud* VII 308 Now, sustur, go nyer and chalange sum parys of alle þis sweete worlyyenesse. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr* II xv 235 Forto be douoyli reasonabid upon Goddis worthinessis. 1450–1530 *Myrr Our*

*Ladys* II 91 A prerog'd ue is an excellente worthynes. 1590 Stockwood *Aduice Constructe* B This worthinesse of one person shoue another, in not of birth or blood 1657 Jer Taylor *Duc. Dubitantium* III 39 I may take in also the accidental and extrinsick worthinesses 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. 3. 11 There is a worthiness consistent with free Grace 1753 Richardson *Sir Charles Grandison* (1781) I xxxii 256 My Brother is valued by those who know him best, not for this or that single worthiness [etc.] 1863 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I 243, I could make a washing-piece about the old gentlemen and their worthinesses 1880 Irenicus *Serm. Westm. Abbey* xxxiii 382 There is a worthiness in God's saints, though that worthiness is itself of God's free giving

† 2 With possessive pron., as a title. *Obs.*

1300 Gower *Conf.* Prol. 50 He [a bad me doo my best] yeue That to his hihe worthinesse Som newe thing I schulde loke *a* 1400 50 *Horn. Wit. Leg.* 1938 Sone, worthi he wele, youre worth ys fest! *Ibid.* 3163 First write I to your worthines. 1455 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 287/1 The grete and ourte vouste I have and hope yet not unknowen unto your worthy neyes, which I have in execution of the said charge 1564 *Brief Exam.* By Your worthy nesse may knowe what my judgement is 1620 Cavendish *H. Roman* I (1631) C 1, We know your worthinesse is not capable in all true time. 1628 Heywood *Sallust, Hist.* Ded., Your worthinesse

† 3 Ceremony, pomp. *Obs.* —1

*a* 1450 *Gesta Regis* 28 Whan Queene was dellyuryd of a feyre sone, whiche with high and grete worthynesse was bought forthe, and crystenyd.

† 4 The quality of deserving *to* be treated in a specified manner. *Obs*

1296 9 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII 303 Set [this sun] pesaith in worthinesse to ben punished in peynis of helle

**† Worthing** [*Obs* forms: 1 weordung, 1–2 wurðung, 1–3 wurðing, 1 wordung, 3–4 worping (4 worpynge) [OE. *weorðung, wurðung, f. weord, wurðian* Worth *v.*2] Honour; respect, worship.

*c* 897 *K.* ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* lii 35 For ðære weorðunge ðæs folces he bið on ofermetu awended *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi 4 Ne is witge buta worðinge *c* 1000 Ælfric *Let.* in Lesse. 1 Ne wæs he wuldor buta worðunge *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 59 Penchesð na nenn hwilch wurðingg eow hauesð idon þe heouenking *Ibid.* 109 Godes lage lat ec mann wurðie ehre his feder and his moder mid mahelere wurþunge *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 33 Du giue me selc timinge To thannen his werdes biginninge, Þe, leuerd god, to wurðinge *Hind.* 387 Of þan wurðinge and of þan worpinge. Wordes mad Corunes *a* 1300 *Lail le Passour* 31 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 Þis is mote wip much worping to sov schow is vprising *c* 1325 Shoreham iii 182 As al holy cherche he tekþ, þou make þyne worþynge

b *Worthing day*, Sunday, *worthing night*, ? Sunday night

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 9 Þat wes heore sunedei and bet heo heolden heure wurðing þa þe wes o deð *a* 1325 *A Luue Daiye Dreams* 87 Me mot a weuene, on worping nigh Of þat dulce derworþe knizth

**† Worthing** *Obs.* [app. f. ME. *worþ* Worth *a.* Cf. Goodness *sb.*] Dung; manure. Also *fig.*, moral corruption or filth.

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 85 Þet mi al chef bet fid ford mid þe winde þicumeð worþinge *a* 1200 *St Marher.* 3 Ne letiu neauer þe unhwil wurpen hire i wurþinge *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Þe ilke sun wereðinge swuleð þe worldes worþinge, þen wilewed [*sic*] i wurðinge & forrotied þin

*c* 1382 in T. West *Antiq. Harmens* (1774) App viii 34 D 4, Five hundred fud'er of worthing, alias, soupe load, alias worthinge or dung *c* 1391 *Broomsfleet Manor Roll* (Mrs.) Item that Thomas Wale remove his swyn stye that the worthing or fylth therof do not erupt the water 1398 in *Lanes. & Ches. Rec.* (Chetham Soc.) I 35 Fighte wynne lodes of worthinge or dunge 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 161, And bringing it hardlye . xv loodes of worthinge with good store of lyme in it

*attrib.* 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 332/1 A Worthing Forke, or a Dung Forke 1876 *Linton Cleshire Glossy*, *Worthing hook* dung-fork

**Worthless** (wɜ·ðlɛs), *a* [f Worth *sb* + -less]

1. Of things, etc. Destitute of (material) worth; having no intrinsic value

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* v iii 125 Me thinkes I do digresse too much, Cyting my worthless prayse 1591 — *Two Gent.* iv ii 6 But silvia is too holy, To be corrupted with my worthlesse gifts 1664 Dryden *Rival Ladies* I.p. Ded., My Lord, this worthless Present was design'd you long before it was a Play 1693 Prior *To Hon. C. Montague* vii, Scorning at Night the worthless Prey, We find the Labour gave the Joy 1728 Pope *Dunciad* III 328 The worthless Numbers o'er a worthless foe! 1784 Cowper *Task* II 618 Can gold grow worthless that has stood the touch? 1843 Scott *Tales of the Crusaders* xxiii, Why should a person more worthless than his already taken place on 20 worthless an account? 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii II 208 The indulgence was clogged by conditions which made it almost worthless 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Nov 3/1 The book seems to us about as worthless as a book can be without being morally offensive

2. Of persons Lacking worth or merit; destitute of moral character, contemptible, despicable

1592 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v v 53 So worthlesse Peazants bargayne for their Wiues, As Market men for Oxen, Sheepe, or Horse 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* II, iii, Any hope he found me worthless 1619 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Richery Wiuer* B 5 b, Seuentily, and last's a worthy worth lesse crew, Such as heau'n hates. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1020 The Philistian bride Had not so soon preferr'd Thy Paranymph, worthless to thee compar'd 1723 Addison *Cato* iv, Am I then doom'd to fall By a boy's hand? and for a worthless woman? 1772 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks 1840 I 68 He was a worthless fellow, though an excellent workman. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxix 275 They get lazy and take to drinking, and go all down to be mean, worthless fellows 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV 384 A worthless adventurer, whose only recommendation was that he was a Papist 1881 Miss Braddon *Asphodel* III 300, I am very sorry that an honest man should have been fooled by a worthless girl

*absol.* *a* 1568 Ascham *Scrip.* (1770) III 139 If it brings the Worthless and the Wicked into Credit and Familiarity with their Betters. 1890 W. James *Princ. Psychol* I 320 The mode of genesis of the worthy and the worthless seems the same

† 3 Unworthy (in various senses) *of* something, or *of* a person. *Obs*

1592 Greene *Ideonia* Wks (Grosart) XI 176 But now thou art reduced worthlesse of all thy former honours 1602 Shaks. *Tw. Nt.* I v 61 A peeuish boteel boy, worthles of such Honor 1608 Chettle *Hoffman* ix (1631) H 2, The worthy Dutchesse, worthles of this death, Was murder'd. 1630 G. Daniel *Ecclus* xxi 19 But the wise Man will seeme soe poore An Act, soe worthles of him

Hence **Worthlessly** *adv.*

1598 C. Brooke *Ymne Repentance* Mica Oliver was exacting, but not worthlessly selfish 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Ajax* 1162 He too at shames to be the Words of a babbler, prating worthlessly

**Worthlessness** (wɜ·ðlɛsnes). [f. prec. + -ness.] The character or quality of being worthless

1611 Cotgr., *Vilesté*, vileness, baseness, worthlessness 1624 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II ix 87 That his people may find him lesse worthy in the worthlessness of him that succeeds 1662 H. Stebbe *In stau Nectar Pref* 12 Man ought to enter into other despair, then what his own Worthlessness creates in him 1703 J. Savage *Last Antisenile* liv 139 I am heartily ashamed of Ladies besides me have discovered thy Worthlessness 1772 *Junius Lett* lvii 297 The meanness and intrinsic worthlessness of the object (supposing he could attain it) would fill him with shame and disgust 1817 J. Scott *Vis. Retract* (ed 4) 313 A cold cruelty of practice, quite equal to the worthlessness of her principles 1852 Grote *Greece* II lxix IX 249 He proclaimed that he was sensible of the worthlessness of his countrymen. 1884 R. W. Church *Bacon* v 102 The many extravagant hopes, and the high handed worthlessness.

**† Worthly,** *a. Obs.* Forms 1 weorðlic, wurðlic, 2 wurdlich (*comp.* wuredlker), 3 wurð, wurplich (*sup* wurðlukest), 4 wurthli; 3–4 worplich (3 *sup.* -lokest, 4 *comp* -loker), 4 wortlich, -lych, worpelych, 5 worpelliche; 4 worp, worthi, -ly, worpe-, worthely [OE. *weorðlic, wurðlic, f. weord* Worth *sb.*1 + -ly.]

1. Of things. Having great value or importance, noble, fine, excellent, etc.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros* III. x 140 Papirus weorþlicne ræd hæfde *a* 900 *Juliana* 9 Was his rice brad, wid & weorðlic. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xix 143 Hi wrohton eac þe wurðlice cirican *c* 1200 *O. & Nic.* (Mdl.) 1300 Þe worplike weorðlic lac zeoffodde *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 47 Heo hafd mid hire þrie wurdliche mihte *c* 1205 *Lay.* 11772 Ah loke þeos wurðliche wiues, wholiche wuðliche weren *Ibid.* 28923 He had alle þe seoðnliugnes þat heo hesen þrieten wurðliche wepnen *a* 1240 *Ureisun in O. & H.* 1 189 Þu art ure wurðlik ete worþliche þing ureð he þuhcheð delit of þe swetnesse *c* 1320 *Sir Perstr.* 1029 Swiche meting nys neuer non made Wiþ worþli wepen wiȝt 13 *E. E. Allit P.* B 464, I wysse a worplicher won to wedde I neuer seȝe 1340–50 *Gawayne* 1 44 Hee alsoke hath there And iwonne at hi s will þe worthych places *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc* (K. duze) 761 Her wer a worþly won Þor man, þat wer in dute *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 146 Riches of golde, sylver, iowelis, and othyr worthely possessions 14 *in Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 126 The qwiteyere hath a worthy dwellyng place, alias, a worthy place of worthely mynde be progenys of oure lorde the kynge, to hem and to hys sayde cyte were graunted de

2 Of persons: Estimable, honourable, worthy.

*c* 888 *K.* Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 1 Ærþon he worðlic wæs and hu fremærlic þe wile se mon þinkan *c* 1100 *O. L. Chron* (MS D) an 1093, Ili þa mid weorðlicum weorode hine *c* 1200 *Ormin* 1 *Lofsong of Lof Hore* 39 Þa eȝe wass alls man and þatt wurðlich *c* 1205 *Lay* 25496 Wenhauer his queene, wurðlukest [*c* 1275 worþ] kest] wiuen *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 26156 His þaine gonne þe lond leote to leore, worþliche kniȝtes *c* 1300 *Sir Beues* (A.) 1687 Play mirt he may Wiþ þat worþli wiȝt *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* v 38 Als wise man of wordes and writhil in mede. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 233 Canvtou me neuer worthi to weden ne worþliche seruise. *a* 1425 *Anct. R.* 174 Heo schulen beon me heouene, ouer oñer kunnes folke, wurðliche schrud. *c* 1450 *Gen & Ex* 1518 Dor he was for his fadir worthy and worþlike a wel houen *c* 1530 *Will. Laferne* 673 He welcomes hur worþli *Ibid.* 3202 Whan þei were clothed worþli in heire wedes. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 184 Whan he war in þat fayre palays, it was ful worthly wroght alweys.

2. = Worthily *adv.* 2.

*c* 1205 *Lay* 5770 Þa sculleð cnæ wurðliche wreken *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 3216 Þan Alexander Wyanes worthly ouer þe walles with in to þe cite

3. = Worthily *adv.* 4

*c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 His flesc and his blod, ȝif ic hit euaa wurðliche underfenge, awa hit wurðe were. *c* 1200 Ormin 1033 Patt folkkess halizdomess, þatt wærenn inn an arrke þær Wel & wurrkipe gemmde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21618 Pe lauerd agh yee worthli to lute. 1552 S. Gardiner *Expl Cath Faythe* 128 For such as receaue Christes most precious body and bloud in the Sacrament worthly, they haue Christ dwellyng in them

4. = Worthily 1 *adv.* 2.

1480 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 43 Hyt was so gret and grenetysmable that y can not remembre how y my3ht worthly speke of hyt

**† Worthmunt.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 wurðmunt, -munch, worðmunt. [OE. *weorð-, wurð-, wyrðmynt* (also *-mynd, -myndu*), f. *weorþ*, etc., Worth *sb.*1] Honour, worship.

*c* 1205 Lay 18851 Þe wile þe þus world stunt stasten scal te wurðmunt. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath* 1435 O with wummon wurðmunt & alle worldliche wurde! 1225 *Juliana* 65 (Bodl. MS.) Pu art wurðe wurðmunt from worlde into worlde

**† Worthness.** *Obs.* [OE. *weorð-, wurð-, wyrþnes* (north *worðnes*), f. *weorþ*, Worth *a.*] = Honour b. Worthiness

1298 *Proclam. Hen. III*, 3 Þat vre rædewmen habbeþ idon and schullen don in þes worþnesse of gode and on vre treowþe for þe freðe of þe loande 1480 *Bk St. Albans, Her* A 1, Beyng in worthenes aarmes for to bere by the Royall blode in ordynaunce.

**Worthship.** [f. Worth *sb.*1 + -ship.] The condition of being of worth.

1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* I vi, It is the summary of all manner of 'worship', and true worshipings and nobleworships whatsoever. 1851 — *Sterling* I v, The world its worth shops and worships unworthily

**Worth-while,** *adv. rare.* [See While *sb.* 3 b, and Worth *a.* 8.] The quality of being, or that which is, worth while.

1867 Mrs. Whitney *Leslie Goldthwaite* xi, How did the world seem to such a person, and where was the *worth-while* of it? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Aug 9/1 The pursuit of the worth while

**Worth-while,** *a* [Cf. prec.] That is worth while; of sufficient value or importance

Common in recent use

1884 *Spectator* (see next) 1912 *World's Work* 67/1 He has scarcely any worthwhile reversionary interests. 1917 *Publishers' Circular* 30 Apr 487/3 Each book is offered as a book particularly worth while in the judgment of the Board of Editors.

Hence **Worth-whileness,** the quality of being worth while.

1884 *Pharm. Weekly Pest* 18 Oct 5/1 The worth whileness of forming a local portrait gallery 1890 *Nation* (New York) *Pam* 128 If something does present itself to you in the light of worth whileness, nothing can stop you

**Worthy** (wɜ·ðɪ), *a.*, *adv.*, & *sb.* Forms 1–3 wurðī (-y), 4 wurþy (-ye), 4–5 wurthi, -thy (5 whurthy); 5 *Sc.* wyrdy, *Sc.* wirthie, -thy; 3–5 worþi (4 worthi), 4–5 worpy, 3–6 worthi (4 worthie, 6 *Sc.* worthi), 3–7 worthye, 4–7 worthie (4–5 worthé), 3– worthy (4 worthethy, 5 whorthy, *Sc* 5 worthy, 6 worthie), 5 wourthy, 6 woorthie, -thye, 6–7 woorthy *B. Sc.* (and *north.*), 5–6, 8– wordy, 6 wordy, wirdy, -die, worde. [ME. *wurði*, etc., f. Worth *sb.*1 + -y, replacing OE. *weorðe, wurðende*, Worthe *a.*, and in some senses OE. *weord-, wurð-*, Worth *a.*

The following are illustrations of the β forms

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xl (Ninian)* 224 Sa [he] made fail wordy goddis turde. 14 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 104 Alle men helde her wordy of gret reuerence *a* 1400 *Morte Arthur* 71 in *Lay Folks Mass Bk* 150 Pray That thow be wordy to see that sight 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I vii 137 Ane wordy werreour that myght her ken 1533 *Bell Rutland* (1813) I 61 It is ane trew word and aluay wordy to be resaut 1583 *Stranes Burgh Rec Annan* (1893) 85 Quharfor I am nocht wirdie to be ballie thair 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 182 Sir Crafftie, our wordy wise neybor 1892 J. Young *Lochbroom Mg* (E. D.) Cottars pour, who ne er had daunk Wordy the name o' honest worthy

**A.** *adj* I 1 Of things. Having much, possessed of value or importance, good, excellent. Now *arch.*

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1501 Forne burbe was wurðy nouȝt 1538 Wyclif *Verse Sel Wks* II 226 Cristen men shulden benke shame to foule be worpy suȝt of Crist 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xiv 28 Thauh ich preise poueste bus and presse hit by ensamples Worthy is þe wyn 1440 *Jacob's Well* 190 Prayere is more worthy to god, þan almes or fastyng *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 86 Pus 30 may se by veray reson þat Godys grace is more worthy þan þe werkys of þe creature 1477 B. Good *Herrebuck's Husb* II, 108 The Date (a worthy tree) bendeth vp against his burden 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* B 1 b, The pots feel finely roasted In a worthie fire 1608 R. Haydan in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan 71 Witnes your maiestie suddainely assist, this worthie business is like to vanish Lamentablely. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 171 Cows and Oxen are worthy Beasts, and in great request with the Husbandman. 1674 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. xi 55 All the most passionate Graces used in this most worthy manner of singing. 1776 Pennant *Tour Scot in 1772*, 303 According to the worthy custom of these islands.

† b. Of the value of, worth (so much). *Obs.*

1393 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6393 Hys vessel was man made worthy [*rime* worby] To vpon *Chester Pl. Nativ* 590 Thyrd parte the worlde, as reade wee, that temple was worthye 1589 J. Sanford tr *Agrippa's Van Artes* 160 The thinge is so muche worthy as it maye be sold for 1877 Kendall *Flowers Riger.* 36 If I thou saie they are no gifts, but trifles worthie nought 1894 E. G[ibstone] *Acosta's Hist Indies* III. xx 185 The traffike they make of it, is worthy much money 1721 Ramsay *Rent & Full Stocks* 124 We thought that dealer a stock an ill one, That was not worthy half a million.

**c.** Capable of justifying (expense).

1783 J. Phillips *Treat Inland Nav.* 44 It would be found worthy the expence to carry the navigation...to Braintree.

**2.** Of persons: Distinguished by good qualities; entitled to honour or respect on this account; estimable.

13.. *K. Horn* (Harl.) 1222 For her bueþ myne knyhte worþi men & lyhte. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 160 Of his men most worþi, as þam consaile can [he] take. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 597 *Cleopatra*, This like senatour Was a ful worthy gentyl werriour. *c* 1400 Maundev.(Roxb.) xv. 67 Cristes sone is he best, he worthiest and next to Godde. 1449 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 197 Iosue the Worthy and wyse weryor. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* 1. xxi. 36 The good.. admonestyng of the worthy duc encressith in an cost hardynes..and vertue. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* 24 Thou moste worthy iudge eternal. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* 1. 10 He calde the sauntients of the host, they that most worthy were. 1596 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 239 Long line King Richard, Englands worthie, King. 1639 W. C. *Italian Convert* xxx. 222 But especially his worthy wife did then shew her selfe most loving and loyall. 1663 Jer. Taylor *Funeral Serm. Abp. Armagh* 20 He was bred in Cambridge, ..under Mr. Hulet, a grave and a worthy Man. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 106 ¶ My worthy friend has put me under the particular Care of his Butler. 1758 *S. Hayward's Serm.* Introd. p. iii, A small collection of your late dear and worthy Pastor's sermons. 1826 H. Siddens *Mem. Wife, & Widow* III. 211 That worthy man could read hearts with great perspicuity. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, Slowly then rose Alfred, bishop of Winchester, the most ancient prelate in all the land. 1885 ‘Mrs. Alexander’ *At Bay* vii, She would like her to be..married to some worthy person.

**b.** *absol.* In sing. or plural sense.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 23 His maister was made sitte as for be moste worthy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 296 That he be [= by] worthi and be wise..was conseiled. *c* 1420–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxxi–5 Howe Kynge Peryamus, with al the worthy of Troyanis partye, kame to the felde. 1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 149/2 To tak a deligent inquesicioune..of be best and worthiest to be said burgh. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlix, To the cepter shal not be remoued from Iuda..tyll the Worthye come. 1845 J. C. Mangan *Germania Antiqd.* I. 56 The Worthy repose not the earth.

**c.** *Worthy of blood* in *Eng. Law* : see quots.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 2 b, The elder brother shall haue the lande by discent, ..for that, that the eldest brother is more worthy of blod, then the younger is. 1591 Yet the blood of the part of the father is more worthy..in iudgement of law, than the blood of the part of the mother. *a* 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 311 Where the Children are equal ..it resorted to the Line of the Mother, and the nearer and more worthy of Blood were preferred. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 223 The worthiest of blood shall be preferred. 1841 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* I. 382 All the female ancestors.. were equally worthy of blood.

**d.** Of mind or character : Having a high moral standard.

1733-4 Richardson *Grandison* IV. 12 But all three are men of worthy minds, and deserve better fortune. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 469 Such as are styled, in the cant term of the day, men of worthy minds;—men of worthy minds, silly, insignificant words, that ever came into fashion. 1843 Miall in *Nonconformist* III. 1 An act of homage done to great and worthy principles.

**3.** Of persons: Holding a prominent place in the community; of rank or standing. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sonn.* 2 Thy worthy Famulier was he With frankeleyns..And [eek] with worthy wommen of the toun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3697 There was Eculia be honorable.. With women of worship, the worthiest of Troy. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 45 in *Babees Bk.* 31 Loke be a worthy wyght, and of Then by self thow art on, Suffre hym fyrste to towche pe mete.

†**b.** *Worthy man* (also as one word) : a man of note or standing. *Obs.*

1449 in *Lect. Bk. Guild.* (1907) 111 The seyd meir..made com afore hym thes worthyemen following. 1535 *Ibid.* 182 The whiche bille the seid meyre..send to all the worthymen of the ward, whiche be these, *Thom. Temple* Esquyer, ..and a-forne a worthyman, *Quirs.* 1485 *Rolls of Parll.* VI. 338/1 Burgeis and Worthymen, Cominalte and their Successours. *a* 1500 *Rolls Chron. in Lon. Temp. Chron.* (1901) 233 To have ..had diverse worthymen and their goodes of the citee.

†**4.** Of things : **a.** Strong, powerful. *Obs.*—1

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlix. 3 Fire in his sight sal brenne soubli And in his vmgange storme worthi [*L. valida*].

†**b.** Honourable; held in high estimation. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 24 Is cryst more of myzte & more worthy name Than ihesu or ihesus? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 58 Pis stat is most worbi in be chirche. 1387 N. T. (Geneva) *Matt.* v. 13 Then..loue to ryft is the worthiest place at feastes. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. 191 We knew..The Lords would not be too exasperate, To incite or suppresse your worthy yoke. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3 b/2 The worthyest partes of the bodye, as the Braynes, Harte, Liuer, or thirste. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* Ep. Ded., All which ..I humbly Dedicate to your Noble, Worshipfull and worthy Acceptances. *a* 1721 Prior *Down-Hall* 114, He is a Lawyer of worthy Renown.

**5.** Of sufficient worth or value ; sufficiently good ; appropriate, fitting, suitable.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21492 Ilkan him gaf worbi offrand. *a* 1440 *Pound. St. Bartholomew's* xviii. (1886) p. lxvii, God, þat is merveilous in his seruantes hed, with worthy prayynge magnyfied. 1585 *Homilies* II. *Sacrum.* I. 214 Aright & worthy estimation, and vnderstanding of this mistery. 1594 in Brydges *Restituta* (1815) III. 198 You shal..sought for matter in a forraine soyle, As worthie subjects of your silver pen. 1738 *Gray Statius* I. 19 Ye Argiv flower..Receive a worthier load ; you purely ball Let youngsters toss. 1808 Scott *Marmion* I. vii, We saw the victor win the crest He wears with worthy pride. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 64 It was improved by the insertion of worthy windows.

†**b.** Sufficiently heavy or severe; deserved, merited by default or wrong-doing, condign. *Obs.*

1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 197 No hell can be a worthy payne For your offence, it is so greate. 1574 *Homilies* II. *Wilful Rebell.* iv. 586 A worthy end of all such Rebelles, who..become hangmen vnto them selues. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvi. xv, Often he freed them...But..Left them at length in worthy plagues to pine. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 7 He hath not worthy blame laid vpon him. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry Wherry Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 10/1 They..did as much as lay in them to doe,..to giue them worthy punishment.

**6.** Of persons: Possessed of sufficient worth, desert, or merit.

1598 *2nd Prayer-Bk. Edw. VI, Communion*, rubric, The humble..acknowledging of the benefites of Christ, geuen vnto the worthye receyuer. 1788 Picken *Poems* 86 A worthy frien' is e'en right rare, An' virtue ill to hit on. 1818 Byron *Ch. Harr.* IV. xlv, Soon Shall one day, if found worthy,.. See thy God face to face. 1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 146 No worthy successor of Richard Turpin arises to ‘murder sleep’. 1882 *Hawker. Lyra Nupt.* 7 July 9/1 Mr. Phelps..is bent on proving that he is a worthy successor to Mr. Russell Lowell.

**b.** Of actions, etc.: Adequate or suitable in respect of moral excellence or noble aims.

1563 *Homilies* II. 444 (*title*) An Homely of the worthy receauing..of the Sacrament of the body and bloud of Christ. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* iv, Your next worthy worke is, to..visit my Lord Chiefe Iustice of Troms. 1619 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicking Wincy C* 3, I know there's many worthy prujects done, The which more credit..bath won. 1678 *Bunyan's Pilgr.* I. (1853) 58 Comparison..is an Help to the worthy receiving of the Lords Supper. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 223 Before the eyes of men, make at last, Who ..turn to wakeful prayer and worthy act.

**II.** With various constructions.

Freq. intensified by *well*: see Well, *adv.* 16 b.

**7.** Of sufficient merit, excellence, or desert *to be* or have something.

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 186 In *O. E. Misc.* 6 Ne deme 3e nozt wurði, Dat tu dure loken up to 3e heueneward. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1, Ne is he worbi, Ne for-bi, Ne ben, Ne was, Ne worbi worbed to ben. *Ibid.* 3753 He seiden ha weren wurði bet To ðat seruise to ben set. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4056 Joseph he nagh a nagh is mesnen, þe quilk es worbie for to reuen. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* cxlvi. 10 Not in the helthe of man he hath leuere to haue. 1377 *Hist. B.* III. 228 Mede is wel worthi þe maistrye to haue! *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 228 Pat we may fle fro þam þat ben worthi in like to be dampned. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 97 O mayden worthy to be loued of god. 1540 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9, I requyre you all in the name of Iesu to be louers and worshippers of Christ. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 12 He will, perchance, be fund worthie to be counted amange the martyris: Vailze that be worthie! 1611 Bible, Heb. ii. 11 Sanctifieth, and they which are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not worthy to be called brethren. *ellipt. c* 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxi, 3e mone haue maystries cuyrywar As wele worthi 3e ar soe.

**8.** In ellipsis of *to*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28 Ic es noght worbi forgiuen be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 46 As hire thoghte...She was noght worthi nxen there, Fro when they come. *c* 1400 *20 Pol. Poems* 102 Pat is worthi to be called knyghtes.

†**c.** Const. *for* (some purpose). *Obs.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 76 He is as worthy for an Empresse loue, As meet to be an Emperors Councellor. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* 237/2 Pompey's Wife, being refused to fall upon any petty businesse, as not worthy for his Kings Fleet, to run any hazard in.

**9.** Deserving *of* something, by reason of merit or excellence.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20350 Berns..oft er for bair dughti-hede Schuth worbi mikel of mede. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Bonnert) 492 Your labours shall neuer be digne ne worthy of prayse. 1534 *Lindesfarne Prof.* (1871) 2 Ne ic am worthy of refferment in the Army. 1798 Fernan *Illustr. Storne* iv. 137 It contains nothing worthy of attention. 1848 L. Hunt *Year of Jubilee* 206 Wretch that I am! been thought worthy of cultivation. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvi. 230, I thought such services worthy of some recognition. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 4. 128 Abelard was a foe worthy of the mettle of courage.

**b.** With ellipsis of *of*: Deserving, meriting.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19369 (Edin.) Pa weute iolfular pan are, ..þat tal for him war worbi grance. *c* 1400 *20 Pol. Poems* ii. 40 The trewe seruant is worthy hys mede. 1496 Fabyan *Chron.* lxxxiii. (1811) 62 That thou..resygne..the Rule of thy lande to hym y^t is more worthy this name than thou art. 1520 Crowley *Inform. Sel. Wks.* (1859) 162 Yee owne conscience shall iudge you worthye no mercye. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* 340 This man is worthye much commendation. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. Caes.* xxxviii, Oh pardon me thou bleeding peece of earth, That I am meeke and gentle with these butchers! Thou art the ruines of the noblest man That euer liu'd in the tide of times. Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood! Ouer thy wounds now do I prophesie, Which like dumbe mouthes do ope their ruby lippes, To begge the voice and vtterance of my tongue, A curse shall light vpon the limbes of men; Domestick fury and fierce ciuil strife Shall cumber all the parts of Italy: Blood and destruction shall be so in vse, And dreadfull objects so familiar, That mothers shall but smile when they behold Their infants quarter'd with the hands of warre; All pitty chok'd with custome of fell deedes: And Cæsars spirit ranging for reuenge, With Ate by his side come hot from hell, Shall in these confines with a monarchs voice Cry Hauocke, and let slippe the dogges of warre, That this foule deede shall smell aboue the earth With carrion men, groaning for burriall. 1611 Bible, Heb. ii. 11 Sanctifieth, and they which are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not worthy to be called brethren. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 153 Thou in thy Eden taken'st no delight, And worthy not dost consequently deem Meat, drink, or exercise. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 106 ¶ My worthy friend has put me under the particular Care of his Butler. 1758 *S. Hayward's Serm.* Introd. p. iii, A small collection of your late dear and worthy Pastor's sermons. 1826 H. Siddens *Mem. Wife, & Widow* III. 211 That worthy man could read hearts with great perspicuity. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, Slowly then rose Alfred, bishop of Winchester, the most ancient prelate in all the land. 1885 ‘Mrs. Alexander’ *At Bay* vii, She would like her to be..married to some worthy person.

**b.** *absol.* In sing. or plural sense.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 23 His maister was made sitte as for be moste worthy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 296 That he be [= by] worthi and be wise..was conseiled. *c* 1420–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxxi–5 Howe Kynge Peryamus, with al the worthy of Troyanis partye, kame to the felde. 1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 149/2 To tak a deligent inquesicioune..of be best and worthiest to be said burgh. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlix, To the cepter shal not be remoued from Iuda..tyll the Worthye come. 1845 J. C. Mangan *Germania Antiqd.* I. 56 The Worthy repose not the earth.

**c.** *Worthy of blood* in *Eng. Law* : see quots.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 2 b, The elder brother shall haue the lande by discent, ..for that, that the eldest brother is more worthy of blod, then the younger is. 1591 Yet the blood of the part of the father is more worthy..in iudgement of law, than the blood of the part of the mother. *a* 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 311 Where the Children are equal ..it resorted to the Line of the Mother, and the nearer and more worthy of Blood were preferred. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 223 The worthiest of blood shall be preferred. 1841 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* I. 382 All the female ancestors.. were equally worthy of blood.

**d.** Of mind or character : Having a high moral standard.

1733-4 Richardson *Grandison* IV. 12 But all three are men of worthy minds, and deserve better fortune. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 469 Such as are styled, in the cant term of the day, men of worthy minds;—men of worthy minds, silly, insignificant words, that ever came into fashion. 1843 Miall in *Nonconformist* III. 1 An act of homage done to great and worthy principles.

*Comb.* 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Conc. Weapons* 50 b *marg.*, No honorable nor worthie minded men. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 139 He is a worthy-hearted child. 1856 *R. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 297 A worthy-minded parson of the old school.

**3.** Of persons: Holding a prominent place in the community; of rank or standing. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sonn.* 2 Thy worthy Famulier was he With frankeleyns..And [eek] with worthy wommen of the toun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3697 There was Eculia be honorable.. With women of worship, the worthiest of Troy. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 45 in *Babees Bk.* 31 Loke be a worthy wyght, and of Then by self thow art on, Suffre hym fyrste to towche pe mete.

†**b.** *Worthy man* (also as one word) : a man of note or standing. *Obs.*

1449 in *Lect. Bk. Guild.* (1907) 111 The seyd meir..made com afore hym thes worthyemen following. 1535 *Ibid.* 182 The whiche bille the seid meyre..send to all the worthymen of the ward, whiche be these, *Thom. Temple* Esquyer, ..and a-forne a worthyman, *Quirs.* 1485 *Rolls of Parll.* VI. 338/1 Burgeis and Worthymen, Cominalte and their Successours. *a* 1500 *Rolls Chron. in Lon. Temp. Chron.* (1901) 233 To have ..had diverse worthymen and their goodes of the citee.

**4.** Of things : **a.** Strong, powerful. *Obs.*—1

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlix. 3 Fire in his sight sal brenne soubli And in his vmgange storme worthi [*L. valida*].

†**b.** Honourable; held in high estimation. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 24 Is cryst more of myzte & more worthy name Than ihesu or ihesus? *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 58 Pis stat is most worbi in be chirche. 1387 N. T. (Geneva) *Matt.* v. 13 Then..loue to ryft is the worthiest place at feastes. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. 191 We knew..The Lords would not be too exasperate, To incite or suppresse your worthy yoke. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3 b/2 The worthyest partes of the bodye, as the Braynes, Harte, Liuer, or thirste. 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* Ep. Ded., All which ..I humbly Dedicate to your Noble, Worshipfull and worthy Acceptances. *a* 1721 Prior *Down-Hall* 114, He is a Lawyer of worthy Renown.

**5.** Of sufficient worth or value ; sufficiently good ; appropriate, fitting, suitable.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21492 Ilkan him gaf worbi offrand. *a* 1440 *Pound. St. Bartholomew's* xviii. (1886) p. lxvii, God, þat is merveilous in his seruantes hed, with worthy prayynge magnyfied. 1585 *Homilies* II. *Sacrum.* I. 214 Aright & worthy estimation, and vnderstanding of this mistery. 1594 in Brydges *Restituta* (1815) III. 198 You shal..sought for matter in a forraine soyle, As worthie subjects of your silver pen. 1738 *Gray Statius* I. 19 Ye Argiv flower..Receive a worthier load ; you purely ball Let youngsters toss. 1808 Scott *Marmion* I. vii, We saw the victor win the crest He wears with worthy pride. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 64 It was improved by the insertion of worthy windows.

†**b.** Sufficiently heavy or severe; deserved, merited by default or wrong-doing, condign. *Obs.*

1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 197 No hell can be a worthy payne For your offence, it is so greate. 1574 *Homilies* II. *Wilful Rebell.* iv. 586 A worthy end of all such Rebelles, who..become hangmen vnto them selues. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvi. xv, Often he freed them...But..Left them at length in worthy plagues to pine. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 7 He hath not worthy blame laid vpon him. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Merry Wherry Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 10/1 They..did as much as lay in them to doe,..to giue them worthy punishment.

**6.** Of persons: Possessed of sufficient worth, desert, or merit.

1598 *2nd Prayer-Bk. Edw. VI, Communion*, rubric, The humble..acknowledging of the benefites of Christ, geuen vnto the worthye receyuer. 1788 Picken *Poems* 86 A worthy frien' is e'en right rare, An' virtue ill to hit on. 1818 Byron *Ch. Harr.* IV. xlv, Soon Shall one day, if found worthy,.. See thy God face to face. 1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 146 No worthy successor of Richard Turpin arises to ‘murder sleep’. 1882 *Hawker. Lyra Nupt.* 7 July 9/1 Mr. Phelps..is bent on proving that he is a worthy successor to Mr. Russell Lowell.

**b.** Of actions, etc.: Adequate or suitable in respect of moral excellence or noble aims.

1563 *Homilies* II. 444 (*title*) An Homely of the worthy receauing..of the Sacrament of the body and bloud of Christ. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Hornbk.* iv, Your next worthy worke is, to..visit my Lord Chiefe Iustice of Troms. 1619 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Kicking Wincy C* 3, I know there's many worthy prujects done, The which more credit..bath won. 1678 *Bunyan's Pilgr.* I. (1853) 58 Comparison..is an Help to the worthy receiving of the Lords Supper. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 223 Before the eyes of men, make at last, Who ..turn to wakeful prayer and worthy act.

**II.** With various constructions.

Freq. intensified by *well*: see Well, *adv.* 16 b.

**7.** Of sufficient merit, excellence, or desert *to be* or have something.

*c* 1220 *Bestiary* 186 In *O. E. Misc.* 6 Ne deme 3e nozt wurði, Dat tu dure loken up to 3e heueneward. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1, Ne is he worbi, Ne for-bi, Ne ben, Ne was, Ne worbi worbed to ben. *Ibid.* 3753 He seiden ha weren wurði bet To ðat seruise to ben set. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4056 Joseph he nagh a nagh is mesnen, þe quilk es worbie for to reuen. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* cxlvi. 10 Not in the helthe of man he hath leuere to haue. 1377 *Hist. B.* III. 228 Mede is wel worthi þe maistrye to haue! *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 228 Pat we may fle fro þam þat ben worthi in like to be dampned. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 97 O mayden worthy to be loued of god. 1540 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9, I requyre you all in the name of Iesu to be louers and worshippers of Christ. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 12 He will, perchance, be fund worthie to be counted amange the martyris: Vailze that be worthie! 1611 Bible, Heb. ii. 11 Sanctifieth, and they which are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not worthy to be called brethren. 1895 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 307 The only knowledge worthy to be called knowledge.

*ellipt. c* 1440 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxi, 3e mone haue maystries cuyrywar As wele worthi 3e ar soe.

**8.** In ellipsis of *to*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28 Ic es noght worbi forgiuen be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 46 As hire thoghte...She was noght worthi nxen there, Fro when they come. *c* 1400 *20 Pol. Poems* 102 Pat is worthi to be called knyghtes.

†**c.** Const. *for* (some purpose). *Obs.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 76 He is as worthy for an Empresse loue, As meet to be an Emperors Councellor. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* 237/2 Pompey's Wife, being refused to fall upon any petty businesse, as not worthy for his Kings Fleet, to run any hazard in.

**9.** Deserving *of* something, by reason of merit or excellence.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20350 Berns..oft er for bair dughti-hede Schuth worbi mikel of mede. 1472 Caxton *Recuyell* (Bonnert) 492 Your labours shall neuer be digne ne worthy of prayse. 1534 *Lindesfarne Prof.* (1871) 2 Ne ic am worthy of refferment in the Army. 1798 Fernan *Illustr. Storne* iv. 137 It contains nothing worthy of attention. 1848 L. Hunt *Year of Jubilee* 206 Wretch that I am! been thought worthy of cultivation. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvi. 230, I thought such services worthy of some recognition. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 4. 128 Abelard was a foe worthy of the mettle of courage.

**b.** With ellipsis of *of*: Deserving, meriting.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19369 (Edin.) Pa weute iolfular pan are, ..þat tal for him war worbi grance. *c* 1400 *20 Pol. Poems* ii. 40 The trewe seruant is worthy hys mede. 1496 Fabyan *Chron.* lxxxiii. (1811) 62 That thou..resygne..the Rule of thy lande to hym y^t is more worthy this name than thou art. 1520 Crowley *Inform. Sel. Wks.* (1859) 162 Yee owne conscience shall iudge you worthye no mercye. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* 340 This man is worthye much commendation. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. Caes.* xxxviii, Oh pardon me thou bleeding peece of earth, That I am meeke and gentle with these butchers! Thou art the ruines of the noblest man That euer liu'd in the tide of times. Woe to the hand that shed this costly blood! Ouer thy wounds now do I prophesie, Which like dumbe mouthes do ope their ruby lippes, To begge the voice and vtterance of my tongue, A curse shall light vpon the limbes of men; Domestick fury and fierce ciuil strife Shall cumber all the parts of Italy: Blood and destruction shall be so in vse, And dreadfull objects so familiar, That mothers shall but smile when they behold Their infants quarter'd with the hands of warre; All pitty chok'd with custome of fell deedes: And Cæsars spirit ranging for reuenge, With Ate by his side come hot from hell, Shall in these confines with a monarchs voice Cry Hauocke, and let slippe the dogges of warre, That this foule deede shall smell aboue the earth With carrion men, groaning for burriall. 1611 Bible, Heb. ii. 11 Sanctifieth, and they which are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not worthy to be called brethren. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 153 Thou in thy Eden taken'st no delight, And worthy not dost consequently deem Meat, drink, or exercise. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 106 ¶ My worthy friend has put me under the particular Care of his Butler. 1758 *S. Hayward's Serm.* Introd. p. iii, A small collection of your late dear and worthy Pastor's sermons. 1826 H. Siddens *Mem. Wife, & Widow* III. 211 That worthy man could read hearts with great perspicuity. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, Slowly then rose Alfred, bishop of Winchester, the most ancient prelate in all the land. 1885 ‘Mrs. Alexander’ *At Bay* vii, She would like her to be..married to some worthy person.

**b.** *absol.* In sing. or plural sense.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 23 His maister was made sitte as for be moste worthy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 296 That he be [= by] worthi and be wise..was conseiled. *c* 1420–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxxi–5 Howe Kynge Peryamus, with al the worthy of Troyanis partye, kame to the felde. 1490 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 149/2 To tak a deligent inquesicioune..of be best and worthiest to be said burgh. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlix, To the cepter shal not be remoued from Iuda..tyll the Worthye come. 1845 J. C. Mangan *Germania Antiqd.* I. 56 The Worthy repose not the earth.

**c.** *Worthy of blood* in *Eng. Law* : see quots.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 2 b, The elder brother shall haue the lande by discent, ..for that, that the eldest brother is more worthy of blod, then the younger is. 1591 Yet the blood of the part of the father is more worthy..in iudgement of law, than the blood of the part of the mother. *a* 1676 Hale *Common Law* (1713) 311 Where the Children are equal ..it resorted to the Line of the Mother, and the nearer and more worthy of Blood were preferred. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 223 The worthiest of blood shall be preferred. 1841 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* I. 382 All the female ancestors.. were equally worthy of blood.

**d.** Of mind or character : Having a high moral standard.

1733-4 Richardson *Grandison* IV. 12 But all three are men of worthy minds, and deserve better fortune. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VI. 469 Such as are styled, in the cant term of the day, men of worthy minds;—men of worthy minds, silly, insignificant words, that ever came into fashion. 1843 Miall in *Nonconformist* III. 1 An act of homage done to great and worthy principles.

*Comb.* 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Conc. Weapons* 50 b *marg.*, No honorable nor worthie minded men. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 139 He is a worthy-hearted child. 1856 *R. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 297 A worthy-minded parson of the old school.

pontiffs whose fearlessness and justice were worthy of their exalted office.

†11. Under an obligation *to* do something *Obs.*[−1]

**1469** *Paston Lett* Suppl (1901) 128 Wheche wele considered, she were wurthy to recompense you

**B** *adv* or quasi *adv* Worthily; in a manner worthy *of* (something). *Obs.* or only *poet.*

**13..** *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1477 Sir Wawen her welcumed worþy on fyrst **c 1475** *Rauf Coilȝear* 360 I hay callit it the best ȝule than, And maist worthie began, Sen euer King Charlis was man **1526** TINDALE *Ephes* iv 1, I exhorte you thatt ye walke worthy [Gr. ἀξίως] off the vocation wher with ye are called **1577** B GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III 114 Among all other creatures the Horse may worthiest challenge the chief est place **1806** H SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II 67 It is a prouder triumph to found a race by living worthy, than to receive the greatest honours from the records of the dead **1815** MRS. PILKINGTON *Cel brity* III 47 Satisfaction which arises from a conviction of having acted worthy of ourselves.

**b** In comb. with adjs or verbs, as *worthy-sing* vb (= to sing worthily) *worthy-sweet* adj.

**1606** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II iv *Trophees* 34 Let me his Harp-strings haue, His Lute, and not his Launce, to worthie sing Thy glorie **1844** MRS BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xlv, The leafy sounds of woodlands Brought interposition worthy-sweet.

**C.** *sb* **1.** A distinguished or eminent person; a famous or renowned man or woman, esp. a man of courage or of noble character.

**13..** *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1508, 'I woled wyt at yow, wyȝe,' þat worþy þer s[y]de 'whi were [etc.]' **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 755 A sete þat was vnder a windowe of þat worþeis chaumber **c 1400** *Destr Troy* 9481 He woundit þat worthy in his wide brote **1412–20** LYDG *Chron Troy* I. 4103 Vp on þe whiche many worþi loste þer his lif **c 1450** HOLLAND *Houlate* 843 The Pape Wosche with thir worthyis, and went to counsall **1535** COVERDALE *2 Sam* I. 21 There is the shylde of the Worthies smytten downe. — *1 Macc* ix. 21 Alas, that this worthy shulde be slayne **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* II (Arb ) 46 Too seriue this woorthy, My father vnwelthy mee sent **1605** *1st Part Jeronimo* III ii 30 This fierce, couragious Prince, a noble worthy. **1628** A LEIGHTON *Appeal t Parlt* 176 Sundry worthies of the Scottish nation **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 322 Rule to trye the reall worth of Feminine worthies by **1664** BUTLER *Hud* II II. 149 Did not our Worthies of the House, Before they broke the Peace, break Vows? **1706** J WARD *Wooden World Diss* (1708) Ded A 6 b, To excite some renown'd Worthy to do you Justice **1784** COWPER *Tiroc* 647 With commendation due, To set some living worthy in his view **1805** SOUTHEY *Madoc* xviii The Bards of years to come Shall with the Worthies of his country rank Llewelyn's name **1866** J MARTINEAU *Ess* I 1 Before he can be registered among the worthies of humanity **1868** FREEMAN *Norm Conq* II vii 81 In the course of the next year England lost one of her truest worthies.

**b.** *spec.* A hero of antiquity.

**1552** 3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 133 A maske of greate personages representinge the woorthyes of the greekes. **16..** ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* IV v 119 He to the world shall add another Worthy **1638** JUNIUS *Paint Ancients* 51 Hercules among all the other Worthies was most frequently made in a Lions skinne **1711** POPE *Temple Fame* 65 *note*, The western front is of Grecian architecture The Doric order was peculiarly sacred to Heroes and Worthies **1762** HURD *Lett Chivalry* 32 Do not you remember that the Grecian worthies were as famous for encountering Dragons as for suppressing Giants?

**c** *The nine Worthies*, nine famous personages of ancient and mediæval history and legend, also called †*the nine Nobles* (see NOBLE *sb*[1] 1 b).

The number is composed of three Jews (Joshua, David, and Judas Maccabæus, three Gentiles (Hector, Alexander, and Julius Cæsar), and three Christians (Arthur, Charlemagne, and Godfrey of Bouillon)

**c 1417** *Agincourt* 13 Though thou be not set amonge yᵉ worthyes nyne, Yet wast thou a conquerour in thy tyme. **1454** *E E Wills* (1882) 133, I bequeth to my brother the hallyng with the ix wurthy. **1550** J COKE *Eng. & Fr Heralds* § 11 (1877) 61 Charlemayne for his valyauntnesse is of the nombre of the nyne worthyes [**1589** WARNER *Alb. Eng* vi xxix 128 For well this Subiect might increase the Worthies vnto ten] **1610** TOFTE *Honours Acad* II 3 That famous Iosuah, one of the nine Worthies **1619** J TAYLOR (Water P) *Kicksey Winsey* C 1 b, Forgot had bin the thrice three worthies names, If thrice three Muses had not writ their fames.

*transf* **1586** FERNE *Blaz Gentrie* 156 Semyramis is one of the nine worthies of that sexe

†**d.** A prominent scholar or theologian *Obs*

**1605** HIERON *Short Dial* A iij b, Popish grounds, which our owne worthyes, long since haue razed and overthrowne **1607** — *Defence* I Pref ¶3 b, Is not this, to make voyd all the writings of our worthyes written in condemnation of those corrupt translations? **1611** *Bible* Transl Pref ¶13 So many of their Worthies disclaiming the now receiued conceit

**e.** Applied colloquially or facetiously to any person, esp. one having a marked personality. (Common in 19th cent )

**1751** WARBURTON *Pope's Wks* III 69 Thus it fared with our two Worthies. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw* iii, Tressilian acquiesced, and the two worthies left the apartment together **1836** DICKENS *Sk Boz, Streets—Night*, Stirring the taproom fire and taking part in the conversation of the worthies assembled round it. **1850** 'SYLVANUS' *Bye lanes & Downs* i 13 Another worthy of York appertaining to the turf about this period. **1880** BROWNING *Dram. Idyls* Ser II. *Pietro* 351 Ho, my knaves without there! Lead this worthy downstairs!

**2** A thing of worth or value. *rare.*

**1588** SHAKS. *L L L* IV III. 236 In her faire cheeke, Where seuerall Worthies make one dignity

†**Worthy,** *v Obs* [f. WORTHY *a.*]

**1.** *trans* To render, or hold, worthy (*of* something); to raise to honour or distinction.

**1387–8** T USK *Test. Love* I ii. 109 Who hath worthyed kinges in the felde? **1549** COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas* I. 13–21 This is the honoure that the heauenly father worthyed vs withal **1565** CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* 128 b, To make hir wel apayde, that she should be worthied to haue a God to talk to hir. *Ibid* 170 b, Sith the Scripture is worthyed of these titles. **1601** W. WATSON *Import Consid.* (1831) 4 By how much I might be worthied with a favourable conceit had of you all. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* II ii 128 When he put vpon him such a deale of Man, That worthied him, got praises of the King **1624** QUARLES *Job Militant* Med. xvi N 1, So wisedome be the message, Embassadours are worthyed in th Embassage

**2** To hold in honour, pay respect to.

**c 1425** *Eng Conq Ireland* 93 The Pepil of the londe manshiply hym sholde vp-take, and worthy as lorde.

**-worthy,** the adjective employed as a second element in a number of compounds, of which only a few have come into regular use, as *blame*, *note-*, *praise-*, *sea-worthy*. The earliest instances, occurring in the 13th century, are later variants of forms in *-wurthe* (OE *-wyrðe*), as *dere-*, *luve*, *stalworthe* for earlier *derewurthe*, etc., = OE. *déor-* and *stælwyrðe* Other OE. examples, as *nytwyrðe*, are not represented in ME, and there is app. no direct connexion between OE. *þancwyrðe* and the late ME. *thankworthy*. Of new formations the 13th cent affords *deathworthy*, the 14th *blame-* and *thankworthy*, and the 15th *sale-worthy*, the 16th adds *faith-*, *honour-*, *praise*, *note-*, *fault-*, and *name-worthy*, and the 17th *worship-*, *wonder-*, *scorn-*, *fame*, *laugh-*, and *labour-worthy*. The common *sea-worthy* is not recorded before 1807, and more recent formations from the 19th cent. include *mark-*, *song-*, *battle-worthy*, and irregularly from verb-stems, *teach-* and *paint-worthy*.

**Wortle** (wɔ̄·ɹt'l). Forms: α. 5 **wirtil, writel,** 9 **whirtle, wortle.** β 7 **wurdle,** 9 **wordle.** [Of obscure origin.] An implement used in the drawing of wire or lead-pipe (see quots. 1875). Also *Comb.*, as *wortle-maker*, *-plate.*

**1430** *Cov Leet Bk* 142 Joh. Smyth, wirtilmaker. *Ibid* 160 Tho Smyth, writelmaker. **1664** H POWER *Exp Philos* 56 Your Wire drawers know, that if they take a short piece of Wire, and drill it through, that then though they draw it out to the smalness of a hair, yet will it still remain hollow quite through in despite of their Wurdle **1819** REES *Cycl* XXVII 3 M 2, The workmen are provided with a great number of these plates ; they are called whirtles. *Ibid*, This winds up the double chains, drawing the pipe through the whirtle, by which it diminishes its size and lengthens it out **1875** KNIGHT *Dict Mech*, *Whirtle*, a perforated steel plate through which pipe or wire is drawn to reduce its diameter *Ibid*, *Wordle*, one of the pivoted cams in a draw head capable of simultaneous adjustment to regulate the size of the throat through which the tube or wire is drawn **1888** *Science* 14 Dec 286/1 The wire breaking into short lengths when being pulled through the wortles. **1913** *Engineering* 18 Apr. 541/3 It is also probable that the earliest wortles were hard stones. *Ibid* 542/1 The wortle-plates required by those engaged in drawing wire by hand.

**Wortle(berry,** obs. ff. WHORTLE(BERRY.

†**Wortling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WORT *sb*[1] + -LING.] A young vine plant.

**1691** Y WORTH *New Art Making Wines* 9 But if thou wilt repair an old Vine, these [roots] are taken out, and are now call d Wortlings *Ibid*, These our Wortlings are the better able to defend against the Frost.

**Wortwale,** var WARTWALE *Obs.*

†**Wortworm.** *Obs* Forms: 4–5 **worte worm** (6 **worme**), 5 **wort worme, -wyrme, wurtwurme.** [f WORT *sb.* + WORM *sb*] A caterpillar that feeds on worts or cabbages.

**1388** WYCLIF *Joel* i 4 A locuste eet the residue of a worte worm [L *residuum erucæ*]. **c 1440** *Promp Parv* 532/2 Wort wyrme, þat etythe wortys, *eruca* **c 1440** *Palladius on Husb* i 880 Tak Iuce of hennebane With sour aysel, Ereither wol be wortewormys bane. **1496** *Bk St Albans*, *Fishing* 1 j b, In August take wortwormes & magotes. **1530** PALSGR 290/2 Worte worme.

**Worwyn, wory(e,** obs. forms of WORRY *v.*

**Wos,** obs and vulgar f. *was*, pa t of BE *v.*

**Wos, wose,** obs. forms of WHOSE.

**Wosbird,** dial. var. *whore's bird* (WHORE *sb.* 3).

**Wose,** obs. f OOZE. **Wosen,** obs. f. WEASAND.

**Wosie,** obs. f. OOZY *a.* **Wosing,** obs. f. OOZING *vbl sb*

†**Wosith.** *Obs.* Also 3 **wasið,** [wei-sið]. [f. WOE *sb.* + SITHE *sb.*[1]] Trouble, affliction

**c 1200** *Trin. Coll Hom* 209 ȝif he seð his emcristene þolien wosið. [**c 1205** LAY 25846 Þa fond he þer ane quene weop for hire wei sið ] **c 1230** *Hali Meid.* (Titus) 51 Alle þe alde wiues schome craft, þat cunnen of þat wasið *Ibid* 53 Lutel wat meiden of hire wasiðes of þat fode fostringe **c 1330** R BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 15712 Manie oþere sore hit ment, Þat wyth hym byde many wo sith

**Wosse, wosshe,** obs ff WISH *v.* **Wosseyle,** obs f WASHAIL *v.* **Wost,** obs. f. VOUST *sb.* **Wost(e, wostow(e, wostu:** see WIT *v.*[1] **Wostour,** obs. f. VOUSTER. **Wosy(e,** obs ff. OOZY.

**Wot** (wɒt), *v. arch* Forms: (see below). [var. of WIT *v* 1, due to the carrying over of the preterite-present stem *wǭt* (earlier and northern *wāt*) into other parts of the verb. The substitution occurs first in the 2nd pers. sing. (*wāt*, *wǭt* for *wāst*, *wǭst*) and the plur. (for *witen*) of the present tense, and appears in northern texts from the end of the 13th century. In the 14th cent. the new forms *wotest* and *woteth* (*wotis*) appear. The infin. *woten* occurs early in the 15th cent, and *wotte, wote, wot* in the 16th, together with the pres. pple. *wotting.* The pa. t *wotted* is an archaism of the 19th cent.] *trans.* and *intr.* To know. Freq const. with *of.* (See WIT *v.*[1])

**1** *2nd sing. pres. indic.* **α.** *north* and *Sc.* 4–5 **wat,** 4–6 **wate,** (4 **whate, quat, vat**), 6 **wait,** (**vait**). **β.** 4 **whote,** 5 **woot, wot.**

**α a 1300** *Cursor M* 766 Wat þou [*Gött* quat, *Fairf* wate] quarfor? **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr Consc.* 1660 Ne þou whate never in what stede þou sal dyghe **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* v 241 Thou vat nocht quha is thi frend **1423** JAS I *Kingis Q* CXXIX, Lo, wate thou quhy? **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. XIII. 5247 (Cott) Quhat was God, wat þou oucht, Befor þat hewyn and eirde was wroucht? **1549** *Compl Scot.* xv 126 Thou vait that ane man vil haue childir of deferent conditionis. **c 1550** ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* 1 404 Thryis als mekle scho reuis, That thou not wait **a 1568** in *Bannatyne MS* (Hunter Club) 133 I how wate nocht quhen that it will licht.

**β a 1352** MINOT *Poems* (ed Hall) xi 4 Þou whote wham I mene **c 1400** *Nun-Cycle Myst Plays* III 40 Now wot þou wele of all oure wo **a 1425** *Cursor M* 3231 (Trin) Wende in hye vnto mesopothanye, Þere þou woot oure frendes wone.

**2** *Pres. indic plural* **a.** *north.* and *Sc.* 4–6, 8 **wat** (4 **quat,** 5 **vat**), **wate** (5 **quate**), 5 6 **wait** (6 **vait, waite**) **β** 4–6 **wote** (4 **woteþ, wotin,** 5 *north* **woteys**), 5 **woote,** 5–6 **woot, wott(e,** 5–9 **wot** (5 **whot**)

**α a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4729 Wel wat [*Fairf* wate] yee Mi stiward ioseph al fedes me. *Ibid* 14571 We wat [*Gött* quat] mast quat er þat þar. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr Consc* 1432 Ofte chaunges þe tymes here, als men wele wate **c 1375** *Sc Leg. Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 172 Of pollucione of flesche grovis, as ve vat, giltines **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* v XI 2931 (Cott ) As ȝhe wate and has herde tel. **1456** SIR G HAYE *Law Arms* (S T S) 151 Changeing of men that wate the kingis secretis may do grete scathe **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* x Prol 66 Ilk as the sawle of man is ane, we wait, Havand thre poweris distinct and separate **1549** *Compl Scot* v 32 Thai vait nocht quhat thing is the varld **1596** DALRYMPLE tr *Leslie's Hist Scot* I 58 Quhilkes to cal is heip or gait we kn we nocht, nor wat we weil. **1720** RAMSAY *Prosp Plenty* 171 Right wiel they wate That truth and honesty haulds lang the gate. **1724** — *Tea t Misc* (1733) I 66 Now wat ye wha I met yestreen?

**β 1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 39 Þys clerkys wote þat ys to wetyn **c 1400** tr *Secreta Secret*, *Gov Lordsh* 51 We woot wel þat þe kepynge of largesse ys right herd **1426** LYDG *De Guil Pilgr.* 2432 They whot nat wher to saue or lese **c 1460** *Play Sacr* 3 4 Ye wott what I haue sayd. **1521** FISHER *Serm* Wks (1876) 315 We woot that that people of the Iewes was a shadow of the chrysten people **c 1530** LATIMER in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) I. App. xliii 119 Ye call the Scripture the new Lernynge, which is eldre than any lernynge that ye wote to be the old **1598** SHAKS *Merry W.* II ii 90 Then you may come and see the picture that you wot of **16..** MIDDLETON etc. *Old Law* III 1, I have found out the true age of the party you wot on **1657** TRAPP *Comm Ps* xxxii. 5 Wot you what? he hath confessed himself as guilty as his man **1753–4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) IV xvii. 141 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? **1841** JAMES *Brigand* iv, There are more dangers around than you wot of **1874** MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* XL II 30' Don't forget to caress the old gentleman you wot of, said the Advocate frequently

**3** **a** *2nd sing. pres. indic.* 5 **wotest, -ist, ys(t,** 6– **wottest,** 6 **wottst, wotste,** *Sc.* **wattis.**

**1387–8** T USK *Test Love* I II 74 Wottest thou not wel that every shepherde ought to seke his sperkelande sheep. **c 1400** *Beryn* 45, I myȝte nat lyve els, howe wotist **1448–9** MEDWALL *Amoryus & Cleopes* 360 Wotys thow qwat me thynkyth best? **1470–85** MALORY *Arthur* I xxiv 72 This knyght is a man of more worship than thou wotest of **1549** COVERDALE *Erasm Par. Rom* Prol ✠ iv b, Thou woteste not what thou teachest **1579** HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) A vij, For well thou wotste, if thyrsty were my minde Then would I [etc ]. **a 1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 426 Thou wattis not quhat thou wald. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, Wottest thou that Lucas de Beaumanoir is now himself at Templestowe? **1844** MRS BROWNING *Crowned & Buried* xv, I would have The dead whereof thou wottest, from that grave

**b.** *3rd sing. pres. indic.* 4 **wotis,** 6 **woteth,** -**ith,** 6 **wottyth,** 6– **wotteth,** 9 **wots;** *Sc.* 6 **wattis,** 7 **waits,** 9 **wats.**

**13..** *Cursor M* 10506 (Gött) He wotis þis haue i ȝernid ay **1523** SKELTON *Garl Laurel* 1431 Lytill wotith the goslyng what the gose thynkith *Ibid* 1438 Wele wotith the cat whos berde she likkith **1531** *Dial Laws Eng.* II liii 44 It is therefore no synne to say he wottyth not where he is. **1535** COVERDALE *Baruch* III 32 He that woteth all thynges, knoweth her **1577** *St Aug Man* (Longman) 97 O kyngdome without ende; where the day woteth not what time meaneth **1602** J DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* (Grosart) 6 1 Through which she wots what works hir woe or weale **1633** SIR A JOHNSTON (Wariston) *Diary* (S H S ) 81 Quho waits bot the Lord wil deal bountifully with his servant once this weak as he did [etc ] **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl* xi, Let her know that he she wots of remained here expecting to see her **1879** F ARNOLD *Lt Asia* viii. 22 The ant wots of its ways, The white doves know them well.

**4.** *Infin.* 5 **woten,** 7 **wote,** 6 **wotte,** 6– **wot.** Also *subj.* 6 **wote** ; *imper.* 6 **wot, wat,** 7 **wote**

**1414** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 59/1 Which is gret doel to alle the Kynges trewe lieges to woten of swiche meschiefs done and used withinne the Rewme **1509** FISHER *Ps* cxlii. Wks.(1876) 253 No meruayle it is yf than the sely soule . wote not what

to saye. 1550 Falsce. Ep. Ded. p. iij, So that we myght wotte for the kepynge of trewe congruite in that tonge.. how (etc.). 1575 A. Fleming *Virg. Bucol.* iii. 8 If so much thou know not, then, well wot, the goats is mine. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxx. iii. 11. 406 Wote well, that ordinarily the water thereof is not good. 1683 Camden *Rem., Lang.* 19 Conscience, they called Inwit, as that which they did inwardly wit and wote, that is, know certainly. 1823 Scott *Tvlorm.* i. xi, The. Monarch full little did wot That she smiled, in his absence, on brave Lancelot. 1892 Morris *Æneidos* iii. 379 The other things the Patron still ban Helenus to wot.

**8.** *Pres. pple.* (and *verbal sb.*). **6 wottyng, 6- wotting.**

1523 Crowley in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 42 People brought to extreme distresse and not wottyng how to lyue. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigrs.*(1867) 120 Wotting and wenning, were those two things one. 1574 A. L. *Calvin's Four Serm.* ii, He stammered, not wotting what to say. 1604 Gataker *Transubst.* 60 Well wotting that there was no such thing. 1891 Scott *Herodot* iii. 111, Hardly wotting why, He doff'd his helmet's gloomy pride. 1887 Morris *Odyss* xiv. 452 And neither the Queen nor Laertes the Elder were wotting of this.

**9.** *Past tense.* 9- **wotted**

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* viii, That honest gentleman's terror communicated itself to him, though he wotted not why. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* (1908) I. 114 Having rushed into more responsibility than I wotted of. 1901 Lowman' *Words & Eyewitness* (1902) 217 He will see many things he wotted nothing of.

**Wot,** dial. and vulgar form of What.

**Wot(e,** obs. forms of Oat.

**Wote,** obs. Sc. form of Vote *sb.*

**Wote** : see Wit *v.*1, Wot *v.*

**Woth,** obs. ind. pres. of Wit *v.*1

**† Wothe,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms : *a.* 4 wape (quape), 4-5 wathe (5 wauhte, *Sc.* vathe) ; 4 wath (quat, 5 *Sc.* vath) ; 4 wayth, 5 *Sc.* wath. *β.* 4-5 wothe, 5 woth. [a. ON. **waiðe* (ONorw. and Icel. *veiða*, *veiði*, Norw. *veide*, Swed. ; MSw. *weþi*, *wæthe*, Dan. *vaade*), perh. f. **wai* (ONorw. and Icel. *vei*), harm, disaster.]

**A.** *sb* The condition of being exposed to or liable to injury or harm ; danger, peril ; hurt or harm ; a cause of harm or injury. Also const. *of.*

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiv 3 Sorwes ofe dede vingafe me and. And wathes of helle me fand bu. a 1300 *Cursor M* 1846 [he stormes stacked pe wind, Wath was pan pe sand and sua blind. *Ibid.* 23363 Quen man es in wath o ded. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 293 If him com any scape, tinselle of seignorie, Litle sore he will be wope. c 1440 *York Myst.* v. 65 Nay, certis it is no wathe, Ete it safely ye may.c 1470 Henry *Wallace* ix. 1737 Fast south that went ; to bid it was gret wauth

*β.* 13 . *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 375 Bot much pe bygger yet was my mon, Fro Jon was wroken fro vch a wope . 13 *S. Werbrowalde* 233 in Horstm. *Leg* (1881) 27 Hot for wothe ne wele, ne wrathe ne drede I remewt neuer pro pe rist . c 1400 *Destr Troy* 6050 For to wacche and to wake for wothis of haires. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 143 She seyth pey go to helle wothes . c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 416 Ye shuld not be so spitus standyng in such a woth.

**B.** *adj.* Dangerous.

c 1300 *Cursor M* 1211 Allas ! pat i him [Joseph] ouber oute-sent, pat wal pot was so wath to wend. *Ibid.* 28687 To fall in syn hu gret foly,—hu qua [*Cotton Galba* wathe] it es par-in to ly.

Hence **† Wothely** *adv.* [Icel. *váðaliga*, MSw. *vadhelika*, *vadelige*], dangerously, perilously.

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2090 Thy gentille , wondes alle wathely, that in the ways stondes ! *Ibid.* 2186, I am wathely wounddie, warnys I neuer ! c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8897 Achilles wounde full wathely in were of his lyffe. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 303 (Thornton) Arthure Salle be wondede, I wysse, fulle wathely ! *Douce* wopely ; *Trin* wothe-lik], I wene.

**Wothe,** var. of *woghe* Wough *sb* 2

**Wother,** obs. form of Other.

**Wother, woper,** obs. forms of Whether.

**Wother-weight** (Sc.) ; see Wither-, 2.

**† Wotless,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. Wot *v.*] Unknowing, ignorant.

1590 H. Constable *Diana* vi. 2, Whose hands I kisse.. when she stands wotlesse whom so much she blesseth.

**Wot-save,** obs form of Vouchsafe v.

**Wott,** obs. Sc. form of Wit *sb.*

**Wott(e,** obs. ind. pres. of Wit *v.*1

**† Wottingly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. *wotting*, pres. pple. of Wot *v.*] Wittingly, knowingly.

1530 Palsgr. 846/2 Wottyngly, *a escient.* 1851 *Gloss. Cumberld., Wittenly*, wottenly ; designedly.

**† Wottoo** -- wit thou : see Will *v.*1 A. 3 *a.* 8.

1701 Steele *Funeral* iii. (1702) 42 Wottoo, Wottoo Fright thy own Trembling shivering Wife.

**Wou,** obs. f. How *adv.* ; obs Sc. f. Vow *sb.* and *v.*1

**Wou'bit, wo'bit.** *dial.* Forms : *a.* 5 wolbode (wolbode), wolle bode ; 5 wolbede, 6 wolbede, 7 wolbet, wolbet ; 7 wool-beard, woolbed, 8 wool bed. *β. Sc.* 6 wowbat, woubet (voubet), wobat, 9 vowbet, woubit. *γ. north.* and *Sc.* 7 oubut, 9 oubit, oobit, ubit, yeubits, hoobit, hubert ; obsed. [*ME. wolbode* and *wolbede*, app. f. *wol* Wool *sb.* with obscure second element ; the form *-bede* may be connected with Bood or Budde.] A hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth ; a 'woolly bear'. Also *transf.* (and *attrib.*) applied contemptuously to a person.

*a.* 14 . *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 706/15 *Hic multipes*, a wolbode. 1683 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A wolle bode (*A. Wolbode*), *multipes*. 1498 *Treat. Fishing* to. *Angle* (1883) 14 Bynde it on your hoke with fetchers ryke and make it rough lyke a wellede. 18 . *Orinz Vocab* (Shrewsbury MS.) Wolbede 1861 Holland *Finzo* xxiii. v. 11 369 The Wooll-beads or Caterpillers, which are a kind of earth-wormes , all haires, having many feet, and courbing archwise as they creepe. 1866 R. Venables *Exper. Angler* in *Jam.* 57 Those rough insects (which some call Woolbeds, because of their wool-like outside, and rings of divers colours). 1881 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 8 (1700) 35 Palmer worm, Palmer fly, Woolbed, and Cankers, Are all one Worm. 1889 *Fly Angling* (ed. 9) 18.

*β.* 1508 Dunbar *Twa Marrit Wemen* 85 Ane wallidrag, ane worme, ane auild wobat carle. c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiv. 94 Swa ladeis will nocht sounze With waistit wowbattis rottin as pes Montgomerie *Flyting* 268 Wanchopen wobet [*v.r.* wowbat, wolbet], of the weirdis inwyt. *Ibid.* 614 An warloch, an warwolfe, an woulbet but haire. 1802 Sibbald *Chron. S. P. Gloss., Wombit, Oubit*, one of those worms which appear as if covered with wool. 1818 *Edin. Kenn.* XIV. 1. 1 he *hairy wombit, or oubit*, is the name given by boys (in Berwickshire) to the caterpillar of the tiger-moth

*γ.* 1568 Turnbull *Serpents* 103 The English-Northren-men call the haurie Catterpillers, Oubuts c 1800 *Aires Gl Surv.* 693 (Jam.) *Ubit*, dwarfish. 1825 Jamieson, *Oobit*, a hairy worm, with numerous rings of black and dark yellow. 1852 Kingsley *Poems, The Oubit*, It was an hairy oubit, sae proud he crept along. 1881 ] Brown *Horn Subs.* Ser. ii. 117 Very like a huge caterpillar or hairy *oubit*. 1886- in dialect glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

**Wouch(e,** var. forms of Wough *sb.*2 *Obs.*

**Wouchaif(e), Wouchesafe,** etc., obs. forms of Vouchsafe *v.*

**Woud,** obs. Sc. f. Vood *v.*, obs. f. Wood *sb.*1 and *a.*

**Wouf,** var. Woof *sb.*

**Woul,** obs. var. of Woof *sb* 1

**Wough** (wɒx, wɒf), *sb.*1 *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: *a.* 1–4 wah (5 *Sc.* wauht). *β.* 1 was, 4 wagh, wau ; 1 (*dat.*) waze, 3 wazhe, wauze, 4 wage, wawe ; *pl.* 1 wazas, 3 wazhes, 4 waghis, 5 wawis, -es. *γ.* 4 wo3 (*dat.* wo3e, *pl.* wo3es), 4, 7–9 wogh, 5 woch, 8 wosgh ; 3–4 wouh, 4 wou3, wougbe, 5, 8–9 wough. *δ.* 4–5 wowe, 4 wow ; *pl.* 3–5 wowes (3 woawes), 5 wowen. [OE. *wág* (also *wáh*), *wáh*, ON. *váttr*. *váðr* (W Fris. *weach*, EFris. *wâch*, MDu. *wagh*, *wegh*, Du. *wang*, *dech*, *wet*) ; related to Goth. *waddjus*, ON. *veggr* (see Wig *sb* 2).

The later Sc. *wauht*, *vaut*, and northern dial. *waave*, *vaave*, *vaa'*, are normal phonetic developments of *wall*, and their wide currency indicates that they represent that word rather than *wah*.]

**1.** A wall of a house ; a partition.

*a* c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi § 7 Swa awa mieres husen wah [*Cott.* wæhher 3e oðer] mere flure 3e oðer hem hrofe. c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* 288 Him is wiðstandan þæs hangaðer ne stannen weall ne hryden wah. c 1200 Ormin 1015 An wæpenliff wass spredd fra wah to wahe c 1205 *Lay* 25887 He nom þa wepne, & þa wawes [*Otho* & wah] and leiðeden to grunde. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* i. 247 Is eauer hire unbeaw forte sechen in-gong abute be wahes to a murðrin bere þat him deð. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 23216 (Edin.) Paunid fire ; bat þam i wall war wroht. a 1300 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (b. f. T. S.) 7 Quhile þa ly by be wacht.

*β. Beowulf* 620 Þæt is on wæze wundor mislicu bæm sele gesæted eallwealdendes. c 893 Ælfred *Oros* v. xv. 250 He oft ..slog mid his headde on þone weg. 971 *Blickl Hom.* 151 Hie þa wurdon sona ablende & beorn heafdon slogan on þes wazan and on þæt hofu. 1154 *Chron. Abingd.* (Rolls) I. 284 Hi slogan mid heafdum ongean þa wazan. *Hist* 6825 Patt hirnestan Patt band ta twezenn wazhess. c 1205 *Lay.* 20189 Heo letten alle þa scrud at þere dure wetepen to wazhe. c 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 338 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Seye þu me þoh, yf þu ert gi3 wene kynge oþer bi hahhede wole þou þe to-drawe? *Cursor M* 7667 þe king þan hent a spere warp it stair han thoru vnto be wai (*Gott.* wawe ; *Lans.* wagh) 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 6619 A burnand fire on a wyze, þat is þe ayred outher heghe or laghe. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3228 3it ware þe wawes of þe wanes, Polischid all of pure gold.

*γ.* c 1000 *Ælfric's Lives* (1) 535 Carited arat eam fram 5e grundwalle, and beclepð all þe woh. c 1250 *St Dunstan* in *Cott. Jul. E. vii.* 22 Þa herpe he hengð up be wohh a þorn. *Ayenb* 72 Betuene hiam and paradys ne is bote a lyte wo. 1340 Wyclif *Ps.* lxi. 4 As to a bowid wough3e, and to a ston wal put doun. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4773 In the castell..all was bare as a bast, to be bigge woghes. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb* iv. 785 Hym liketh best a daubed wough, and he Wol haue a wal of cley and stoon. a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 181 An adyrsope, come of þe woch. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 54 *N. Wagh*, a Wall, Lanc., 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray*, A *Wegh*, any Partition, whether of Boards or mud Walls or Laths and Lime ; as a Boarded-wough, studded wough. c 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lan. Dial* Wks. (1862) 1. 8 Wough, a Wall. 1847–78 Halliwell *Dict. Archaism* II 818, She lived agin the wogh yonder, where you see that gent coming out.

*δ.* a 1225 *Leechd.* II. 172 Þanh hire licome beo wiðinnen þe uour wowes. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1528 Wowes west and eest and suth. 1393 R. Baunne *Handl. Synne* 4972 Here mayst þou betyt slepe a þef, þan vnder wowes þat ouerlepe a wowe. 13 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1532 In pe palays pryncipale vpon pe playn wowe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 324 Ther was nothing ben betwene, But wow to wow and wall to wall. c 1400 *Land Tway Bk* 1838 I roye as doune & oure thenewe, Tour & hour, walle & wowen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wowe, wal (*v.r.* wowe or wall), *paries, murus*. c 1450 *Golagros & Gaw.* 351 I ywrde huwene the wowes. a 1470 H. Parker *Dewes & Pawper* (W. de W. 1496) v. iii. 198/1 God þykenth flaterers to theym that playsiren & paynten walles and wowes without

**2.** *Mining.* The side of a vein.

1653 Manlove *Liberties of Lead-Mines* 234 If woughs be sirete, the Miner then may fire. *Ibid* 250 Water holes, Wand holes, Veyns, Coe-shafts and Woughs. 1681 J. Houghton *Rara Anas* (R.D.S) 44 *Woughs*, the walls or sides, sometimes of hard stones, and sometimes soft. 1858 R. Fullarton *Astrologer* i. Wks. (1858) 135 Where wough or rider, Switch'd a leading fast, There he was matchless at a tearing blast.

**3.** *Comb.* : **† wough-nail,** wall-nail (Wall *sb.*1 2).

OE. *wágcrypt*, *-cryft* occurs in the Ormulum as *wæghcrifft*. 1331 in Topham *Colleg. Chap. St. Stephen* (1834) 67 Idem pro 2000 de Wounail empt' pro quadam interclus' in dicta domo faciend'. c 1300 in Rogers *Agric & Prices* I 498 (Di the Irish estates we find a kind of nail called 'wou or 'wouwe-nails'. 1411 *Ibid.* III. 447 Wough prig nails.

**† Wough,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* Forms : *a.* 1–4 woh, 3 woch, 3 (5 *Sc.*) wocht, 4 woht. *β* 1 (3) dat. wo (woo), 3–4 wo3 (4 wogh), 3–5 wough, 4 *dat.* wo3e, 3–4 wo3e (4 wo3he), 3–5 wo3he, 5 wothe. *γ.* 3 wou, 3–5 wouh ; 3–4 wouh3e, 4 *pl.* wouhes, 4–5 wou3 (5 wough, wow3), 4, 4 wough, 5 wugh, *Sc.* weuch ; 5 wouche, wou-, wowȝe, woughe. [OE. *wóh* (inflected *wó-*, *wǽg-*), neut. of *wóh* Wough *a.* used as *sb.*]

**1.** Wrong, evil ; injury, harm.

*a* c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* vi. x. 264 Þa sæde him hiora ar, þæt he wuh hæfde, þæt he. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxxv. 4 Wuh meldiað c 1205 *Lay* 11589 Þat mes swikle muchel woh c 1250 *Death* 261 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Lete na bauze þat woh and luuie þat rizte. c 1250 *Owl & Night* 1160 Þe brichtest dai and eve nist, Heo bringe woh, þu broztest rist. c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Harl) 52 Mon hab do me shome 3 noh wyþ word ant dede in heore woh

*β* c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xl § 7 Englas nanes wes [*v.r.* wozes] ne wihnaþ. c 897 — *Gregory's Past. C* xiv. 343 Hie nyllað wietan mid bwelcum woge þ[æ]r hie wið him gestrienden c 994 *Lof* in Birch *Cartul.* iii. 82 Ic him wolde fyl þanan to fy hte and næfne to nanan wo c 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom.* 165 Al riht as kid and wogh arered 13 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1559 Pas hym to Pe kyrk, and Pe leude hym offe, For to hat wonnen hym to wose c 1350 *Will Palerne* 544 For bat were swiche a woth þat neuer wolde be mended. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2812 As me is wa for þi wose & þi wrange bathe.

*γ.* a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Wouh þet me mis-deð us, oðer of word oðer of were. *Ibid.* 190 Wel is us nu, Louerd, nor þe dawes þet tu bwadest us mide þine wordes & wouhes. c 1330 R. Brunne (*Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7270 Of two þynges wakned hys wough c 1330 *Chrst. Lave* 1117 3if þou wole a-menden his wou3, Pou schalt leue þeow strong 3ong Inou3 a 1450 *Le Morte Arth* 1333 Her hertes was full of worow and woughe.

**2.** In phrases a *To do* or *work wough*. Also const. *to, on* (a person) or with dat.

(*a*) c 1200 *Lay* 22456 Pat he nefden neuer noh don c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Vor þolemod is pe þet þuldeliche aberd neoh þet me deð him a 1300 *Cursor M* 1328 Wit þar bastons þeir þat him dud þis sari wough. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 119 Io William did he wouh, He did breune Helwelle, & William bisiper sik-uh c 1400 *Rowland & O* 119 Pur here schall 10 man do the wo3he, til aughte dayes ben a-goo.

(*b*) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5689 Vor no man ne durste him wbesegge, he wrozte muche wou a 1300 *Cursor M* 24340 (Fairf.) To me his moder did þis wogh, þat neuer him bus woh. 13 *E. E. Allit P.* A 6.2 Pay lafden fyst & wrozten wogbe. c 1470 *Gol & Gaw* 700 The wyis wroght with grete wanchancle and vnwar. *Ibid* 1190 To wirk him wanchecth or wough. c 1350 *Hunt Chronicle* xxxi in Child *Ballads* III 308/2 He wrought hem both woo and wouche

**b.** *To have wough* : to be in the wrong.

c 1205 *Lay.* 3327 Leuedi þu haues mochel wouh *Ibid.* 3793 þu hauest woh & þet hauest riht. a 1225 *Ancr R* 54 Me leoue sine, þu hauest wouh c 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 332 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Seye þu me þoh, yf þu ert gi3 wene kynge oþer bi hahhede wole þou þe to-drawe? *Ibid* 341 þu seiest he hadde pe riht, Pe steward hadde pe wou3 c 1400 *Solomon & Bl. Hist.* 584 Ac so wys clerk ne worþ þer non, Pat ne schal haue to don þrou3, forto disputen a3eins hym þei3 he haue þe wou3.

**c.** *Mid* or *with wough* : wrongfully. (OE. also *on wóh*.)

c 885 *Ælfred's Will* in Birch *Cartul.* II 177 þæt ic mines magan eld oðbe 3ingran mid nanre wihte ne forhemde. c 960 *Lawa Edgar* ii iv & se þe oðerne mid wope forseggan wile, þæt he [etc] c 1175 *Lamb Hom* 99 þas ruperes and þas reueres þet neuedð oðres monnes eahte mid wohe. c 1205 *Lay* 24821 Of Brelle þan kinge, þat he mid wope at Pauis aslowe a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I 205 Summe tide ich habbe iheued of oðer monnes mid woh. c 1290 *Beket* 12 in *O. Eng. Leg.* I. 83 Þey þolede þe kinge of al þe wo þat seint thomas hadde with wou3 c 1300 *Cursor M* 102 Herode king sua wogh hor crist ask þe childer slogh. 13 *Guy Warw.* 5080 Ich ere of hem bat he toke, he sik3, Were it wib rist, were it wib wou3. c 1330 *Arth & Merl* 4806 Wib gode rist & no wou3.

**d.** *Without(en) wough* : truly.

13 *Guy Warw.* 6895 Lat neuer, wibouten wou3 c 1400 *Merlin* 1415 (Kölbing) Herkneþ alle, wib owte wough, Y schal sow telle, why y lough 14 *Sir Beues* (S.) 2135 Certes, madame, with out wough, c 1440 *Chron Vilod* 1572 Suche virtuose werkes he dide with-oute vylonye wb-owte ony wothe [*rime* bothe]. *Ibid* 2100 c 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1638 Withe Syr mador, with outen woughe, Full sone acordement gon they make.

**Wough** (wuf), *sb.*3 Also *Sc* wouch. [Imitative. Cf. Wuff.] The bark of a dog or other animal.

1894 Macltaggart *Gallovid Encycl* 481 *Wouch*, the same with *bowk*, a dog's bark. 1850 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* II xiii 200 The hound, with a short 'wough' dropped in upon his head 1898 *Longm. Mag.* May 67 Little squirrels have quite a large vocabulary, .a bark or wough when suddenly alarmed

**† Wough, a.** *Obs.* (or *shal.*) Forms: 1–4 woh (3 wop), 4 woug, 9 *dial.* ough; *pl.* (etc.) 3 wo3e, wo3he, wowe. [OE. *wōh* (inflected *wōh*, *wōg*-), of obscure origin. Hence WOUGH *sb.*2]

1 Crooked, bent.

a1122 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul* II 114 Danne fram langan leage to bam won stocce c1897 *Ælfwine Gregory's Past* C 41 59 boo micle nosu & boo woe a1000 *Laws Ethelb* xlvi, Gif mon3 openæ eaze wiþ weorþeþ a1100 *Glass in* Wr-Wülcker 146 58 *Dum tua dementis wels*, mulcere wege wrage a1250 *Owl & Night* 813 Þe fot was pleyn & wogh. 1866 BROOKEN *Prov. & Pets Tunes*, 141 The woodman said that the stuff was kind, but all I've seen was cough inclined.

2 Wrong, evil, bad. Also *absol.*

*Beowulf* 3747 Wom wundor bebodum wergan gastes c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth. Metres* 8 3 Ille is wog þat he mon lete unwitnode a1000 *Riddles* xl (Gr.) Woh wyrda sceaþa þu c1200 ORMIN 1275 Þeȝȝ rihtes mennesscnesse Drihne dalpesa drinnch o rodetieo for ure wohe dedess. c1205 LAY 4333 Þat is woh & wi wil i-hat. a1225 *Juliana* 8 Wiðute knotte & dolke of woh inwit & of wreon & of wowe. c1230 *Owl & Night.* 164 Schild þine swikeldom vram þe lihte, & had þat woye [? wowe] among þe rihte. c1300 *Sir Tristr* 1750 Her wemig, was al woh Vnmeth al hem to a-rede. c1400 *Destr. Troye* 1950 Florentin nast forsoke hyt, þey hyt wer woo.

**† Wough,** *int. Obs.* [= WAUGH, WOW.

a1553 UDALL *Roister D.* III iv (Arb.) 54 Wough, she is as fat as a tunne, I shall be sea-sick.

**Wou3,** obs var How *adv.*

**† Woulheche** *Obs.*—1 [*f. wouh*, repr. OE. *wōg-*, stem of *wōgian* to Woo + *lecche* -LEECH.] Wooing, courtship. So also **† Woulhechung.**

a1225 *Ancr R* 56 No woulechete me se oulicrt ase te o plentie wes *Hod* 388 He wot woulechunge sende hire his sonden

**Wouke,** obs form of WEEK *sb.*

**† Woul,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Imitative. Cf. WAWL *v.*] *intr.* To howl, cry, wail.

c1300 *Nominale* (Skeat) 748 *Tetson cruale*, Brok wouilth 1382 WYCLIF *Hosea* v 8 Woulle 3e in Bethauen *Ibid* xii. 14 The crieden not to me in her herte, bot thei wouliden in her cuchis

**Would** (wud), *sb* [The subj. of WILL *v.*] used substantively.] The feeling or expression of a conditional or undecided desire or intention

1390 GOWER *Conf* III 32 Bot yet is noght mi feste al plein, Bot al of wolde and of wold hereof have I my fulle desires. 1626 FANSHAW *Hist Hannas* (1658) 58 Thou hast a settled will to smite but a sorry would, or a months minde to repent. a1653 BROWNE *Norm* (1735) 59/2 Your Wouldis and Wishes after Christ and Salvation are not the real Exercises of your Soul's flying unto him for Salvation. 1864 TENNYSON *Compet Wealth* (1866) 31 If all my 'wouldy,' dear Jones, were chas'ged to the clouds', I'd deck th' Dunglow with Europe goods. 1876 EMERSON *Lett & Soc Aims, Perf. & Immig* Wks (Bohn) III 141 All warnings must be in a degree esoteric, written to a human *should* or *would* instead of to the fatal *is*

b With *the*, denoting desire or intention in contrast to duty or necessity.

1753 *Richardson Grandison* II xvii 127 But as it will alw ys be with silly girls, that distinguish not between the *n uft* and the *should* 1831 CARLYLE *Misc Ess, Early Ger Lit* (1872) III 288 When man, hemmed in between the Would and the Should, or Must, painfully breaks out

**Would,** obs f. HOLD *v.*, OLD *a.* WELD *sb.*1, WOLD, var WOULD *sb.* and *v.*

**Would-be** (wu dbe), *a.* and *sb.* [The phrase *would be* (see WILL *v.*1 40) used attributively and absolutely.]

**A.** *adj* Of persons: That would be; wishing to be, pushing as.

In the earliest examples used as a mock addition to a designation or title of I

1300 GRAVESANDE in *Hist Illustr Script Fines* (Surtees) 77 Hugh le Heire le Heire] contingens, volebat esse eum H walde le Prior 1642 KINGDON *Jealine* etc 138 By the skill of Marquis would be Ioncs, Tis found the smoothest salt dish is simply the stone

1647 TRAPP *Comm Matt* v 21 286 Epictetus complained that there were many would be Philosophers as for us a few would be rids would goe 1692 *Rehoboth Revolucis* 1 The Would be Wits, and would be Wits, The witty Fool must have the foremost place 1708 *Brit Apollo* No 73 2/2 The next a Proctor's Clerk, a Would-be Beau 1750 *Student & Obs Misc* I 23 None but Academical Pedants and would-be wits 1794 JEFFERSON *Writ* (1859) IV 112 We shall see what the court lawyers and would be ambassadors will make of it 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A* II ii Envy, the bane of rascals—they are would be men of the world 1864 PUSEY *Eirenicon* II 92 Antiochus was a propagandist of false religions, a would be deceiver, a true 1880 GARDINER *Student's Hist* 3 Napoleon I was usually bequeathed a legacy to Castillon, the would be assassin of Wellington

b *Transf.* Of things: Intended as

a1839 HARTLEY *Poems* 70 All is so. The burnished plate That decks the would be rustic gate 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II xxvi, Speaking with a would be tone of condescension 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew* etc xxii (1878) 313 He had continued to speak with the same fluent would-be eyniciem 1901 H SUTCLIFF *B Cunliffe* v 73 His usual stilted gait softened to a would be airiness.

**B.** With following adj, forming a hyphened phrase.

1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxvii 238 The would be genteel excombs of Calcutta 1840 F GORDON tr *H Mennel's Gen Ist* II 80 Rills are filled with Philistinism and would be wise morality 1865 ANNIE THOMAS *On Guard* II 90 A sayer of would be sensible things 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II, With a would be valedictory wave of the hand

**d.** *Would-be-thought*, wishing to be considered as.

1805 T HARRAT *Scenes of Life* II 67 The wits, and would-be thought wits, of the day 1815 MRS PILKINGTON *Celebrity* II 248 Perhaps I might, rejoined the would be thought cynic.

**B.** *sb.* One who fain would be (something specified or implied)

Sometimes used as a fictitious surname

(*a*) 1605 B JONSON *Vol Ipone* Epism Pers (1607), Fobtique Would bee, a Knight Fine Mad: Would bee, the Knights wife 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Love at I. nitance* I ii 5 *Enter a Servant. Ser* Sir, here is Mr Would-bee to wait on you. (*b*) 1672 MARVELL *Acb Transp* I 238 They are the Politick would-bees of the Clergy. c1730 RAMSAY *To his Son* vi, Yes, this bit little would-bee's know 1732 *London Mag* I 20 Of all the Fops in Nature, none are so ridiculously contemptible as the Wouldbees 1781 COWPER *Conversat* 622 A man that would have failed, at their own play, A dozen would be's of the modern day

**† Wou lder.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. *would*, pa. t. of WILL *v.*1 + -ER1.] In the proverbial phrase *wishers and woulders* : those given to saying 'I wish . .' and 'I would . .', i.e. indulging idle wishes instead of making active efforts.

The phrase in which the word *wishers* with *housebolders* is frequ quoted (with slight variations) down to the 18th cent

1508 SKANDERBEG *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) C vj, Wyshers and woulders be small householders 1546 J HEYWOOD *Prov* (1867) 24 Wishers and woulders be no good housholders *a* 1617 BAINE *Lect* (1634) 240 A man may bee a wisher and woulder with Balaam, but misse of his desires 1623 R CARPENTER *Pandæ Exhortation* 1 The imperfect Essayes of lame languishing wishers and woulders 1648 HAMMOND *Practs, Cases*, 36 The hypocrisie of the wisher and woulder, that cries Lord, Lord, and doth not 1670 RAY *Prov* 295 (K. of Prov.) Wishers and walders are poor householders. 1687 SCHARF *Comm Prov* 88 56 Wishers and wouldiers are no livelyers, nor long livers.]

**† b** In *well woulder* well wisher. *Obs.*—1

1643 *Plaine English* 28 These are well-wouldets to the Parliament

**Would-have-been.** *adj.* [The verbal phrase used attributively.] That would have liked to be, that aimed at being, (something specified)

1744 PETER HEYWOOD *Female Spect* V (1748) I 233 Her penetrating eyes immediately discovered her would-have-been gallant *Ibid* VI 49 The would-have-been merchant was ready to burst with inward rage at this sneer 1844 AIR SMITH *Adv Mr Fadbury* xxvii, The would have been assassin (I trust the Fifteenth 1901 *Nation* (U. S.) 16 Nov 3/1 The line goes forward after the would have been invaders of Natal

**† Would ling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [irreg. f. *would* pa. t. of WILL *v.*1] The action or fact of desiring. Usually coupled with *wishing*

1549 CHALONER *Praise on E Ely* K iii, These be some who onely with wishing and wouldling are riche in their owne fantasie 1620 SANDERSON *Serm at Clerkenw* (1681) I 51 Not by wishing and wouldling, (and we have Prayers for it, most wishers and wouldlers) rather than Praying 1655 GURNALL *Christ in Arm* I (1656) 374 If wouldling and wishing will help us to heaven, then they may come thither. a1714 M HENRY *Wks.* (1853) I 123 Wishing and wouldling is but trifling

b. *pl* Desires, inclinations

a1642 BROWNE *Answ Faithfull* (1648) 38 Many a poore wretche, that hath forbidden wishes and wracked desires after grace and holinesse 1661 GURNALL *Christ in Arm* III 166 Those wishes, wouldings, and weak willes. 1710 J NORRIS *Chr Prud* 217 If they have a great many imperfect Motions, Inclinations, Half Consents, and Velleities or Wouldings to do so 1738 JOH EDWARDS in *Life Doddridge* (1843) 368 His desires were not idle wishings and wouldings.

**† Wou ldingness.** *Obs nonce-wd.* [f as prec. + -NESS.] Desire, inclination

a1661 FULLER *Pisgah Sight* I iii 8 Wks. 1654 I 38 And a whatsoever you do, you do it against the velleity (or wouldingness) or other; and secondly, with some mixture of the contrary

**Would'e** (wul) Also **Woulf.** [The surname of Peter Woulfe (?1727–1803), a London chemist.] *Woulfe's apparatus*, a series of glass receivers (*Woulfe's bottles*) formerly used in distillation.

1800 tr *Lagrange's Chem* I 109 A bent tube immersed to the bottom of water, contained in one of Woulfe's bottles. 1815 J SMITH *Panorama Sci & Art* II 18 Woulfe's apparatus evolved so large a quantity of subtile, elastic, and often uncondensable vapours 1827 FARADAY *Chem Manip* xv (1842) 360 An arrangement of vessels first devised by Glauber, but which with some modifications, has since retained the name of Woulfe's apparatus. 1858 SLOFFORD *Elem Chem.* 38 The Woulfe's bottles are about two-thirds filled with water.

**Woulk,** obs. Sc form of WEEK *sb.*

**Woulk,** obs Sc var. VAULT *sb.*1

**Wouman,** obs. form of WOMAN.

**Wound** (wūnd), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–3 wund, 3 wunde (wnde); 2–3 wounde, 4–6 wound (6 *Sc.* wond), 5 woynd, 6 *Sc.* wind. *b.* 3–7 wounde, 3–wound (5 wownd, *Sc* vound); *8 pl.* wawnds. [Common Teutonic. OE. *wund* = OFris. *wunde*, *wund* (WFris *wounne*, LFris. *wûn*), MDu. *wonde* (Du. *wond*), OS *wunda* (LG. *wunde*, *wunne*, *wunn*), OHG *wunta*, *wunda* (MHG. *wunde*, *wunde*, G. *wunde*), ON. (Icel., MSw.) *und* (Da. *wunde* from LG.), of uncertain relationship

The original *d* was normally lengthened before *nd*, but in the standard pronunc. has been prevented from developing into *n* (as in *bound*, *hound*, *ground*, etc.) by the influence of the *n* (in contrast to *wound*, pa. t. of WIND *v.*1) The pronunc. (wound) is however given by some dictionaries of the 18th century (Kenrick, 1773; Jones, 1798) as widely current in dialects, as implied in various forms of WOUNDS and ZOUNDS, and was common in the 16th c. See WOUNDY.]

**1.** A hurt caused by the laceration or separation of the tissues of the body by a hard or sharp instrument, a bullet, etc ; an external injury.

*† Death's wound* see DEATH WOUND.

*a Beowulf* 2722 Da sio wund ongon, þe him se soroðraca ær geworhte swelan and swellan 950 *Boeth's Hist* II xx (1890) 124 Eac wæs se cyning gehiered from þære wunde, þe him se geðon was c1000 SAX *Leechd* I 180 Wið wund 1, xemin þas wyrte þe we sæncgen nemdun 1275 *Lamb Hom* 79 Þi cors þer an belendis Mon and heuede toupe of him and wesch his wunden mid wine c1205 LAY 13569 He wunde sfeng feouwer wundes long c1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 187 in *O. E. Misc.* 42 Ne schulden hi nouht yete þolie nehie wunde c1300 *Harlok* 1980 He haues a wunde in the side 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr Consc* 5339 Ilphalde he wolde hab; he stykes 1382 WYCLIF *Jeremiah* 30 Þat he sakede of Ojsiere If þat he any wonde bere in ys body þat tyde. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 6316 Achylles hymselfe fore to no fyght for hys fil wondys 1422 YORKE *Rolls Serenis Secret* 181 The bee is a Passyng wrathfull beste and for venge vnce they lewyth thar stynguil in the wonde 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xvi 33 He toke them and washed their wondes 1549 *Compl Scot* xiv 121 The mortal wonds that he had reseuit fra bessus 1 is scriptur

*B. c* 1290 *Sancta Cruce* 438 in *S. Eng. Leg* I 14 To gadere hy a-mitten to grou de and maden heuin wel hetere wounden 1297 R GLOUC. (Rolls) 11397 He hadde mo þan twenti wounde ar he were ymome 1325 *Spec Relig* 1 *Warw* 440 And here þeih sholen se wiþ blache, þat wiþouten wounden openliche 1390 GOWER *Conf* III 137 Of word among the men of Armes Ben wounded leeched with the chasmes, Whan lacketh other medicine c1400 MAUNDEV (Roxb.) xiii By þe blude rynnes doun fra þer wondes c1440 *Promp Parv* 531 Wownde, festyr, *cicatrix*. Wownde, made wythe sweorde or other wepne, *vulnus*. 1483 CATHOL ANGLICUM 20 Wownde xv. 396 He cast hym doun to the grounde with a wounde mortall 1547 BOORDE *Brev Health* I ccxlixvii (1557) 290 b, There be diuers sortes of wounde some be newe and fresshe wounded and some be olde wounded, some be depe wounded, (etc.) 1594 SHAKS *Rich III*, v 11 Ss Dead Henrie's wounds, Open their congeal'd mouths and bleed afresh 1621 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I 3, Wounds should be drest and heal'd, not vext, or left Wide open, to the anguish of the patient 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low Wars* 171 Octavius was shortly after wounded by Sertorius and dyed of the Wound 1679 OLDHAM *Sat Jesuits* iii (1681) 70 A Wound the ugh cur'd, yet leaves behind a Scar. 1732 LEDIARD *Seldens* II viii 204, I was wounded in the Wound which laid me on the ground 1744 J ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv Health* III 316 For want of timely care Millions have died of medicable wounds 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xv 157 The broken vehicle Wept o'er his wounds 1804 *Naval Chron* XII 389 Having several sabre and pike wounds 1821 LAYER *Oakfield* 1 iii 22 Wounds, sir, wounds, I received none? said a voice, as the doctor left my room 1866 G MACDONALD *Ann Q Neighb* xxvi, The blood flowed from a wound on the head 1907 J H PATTERSON *With Zionists of Tsavo* vii 58, I bathed and dressed his wounds

b. Esp. in the (FREE) *Wounds* of Christ.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom* 75 Ac he hom helde mid his halue hi wunden 1225 *Ancr R* 292 Nem ofte Jesu Wiþ into his wunden, scoge in hom and þine poukes 1300 *Leg Ant* 928 He axes to lyue from dede þen þridde dai myd is wounden vyue 13 *Gaw & Gr. Ant* 642 Alle his aþ-manne vpon folde wan þe fyue wounde3 þat Jesu last on þe croys 1450–1530 *Myrr Our Lady* 1 155 My meryte of our lordes fyue wondes 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 2 Ihu me not worthy to be knowen & partyner of thy wyl 1533 in *Lim. Doc. Docum* (1914) 157 The iij cuttes shelles shall deyly vse in hondy and wor-thip of the v wondes of our lorde Ihesu crist for to pray folkes in the towne 1611 *Cotgrave's Dict Lim* 220 They brought into the field many men, vnder fiue ensignes, wt ensigne were painted in some, the fiue wounds of our Lord 1660 R BROOKE tr *Le Blanc's Trav* 54 The Church of the five wounds of our Saviour 1807 WORDSW *White Doe* II 22 And figured there The five dear wounds our Lord did bear 1853 PUSEY tr *Horæ's Pascal Sacr* (1883) II 21 Salutations to the Five Wounds of Christ 1887 *Engish Brit* XXII 549/2 As regards full stigmatization, with the wa ide production of the five wounds, ..the oldest case, after St Francis, is that of Lidwina

c Used as an oath or strong exclamation, as *By Christ's, or His, wounds, His arms and wounds, Wounds of God*, etc. (Cf WOUNDS *int.*)

c1350 *Alexius* 144 Bi alle þo wondes þat Jesu boȝ on, Be Cristes wondes fyue 1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 268 Be his wounds, fals traitour, thow sall de. a1533 HERMAN *Hosbe* clxxxiv 76b I dar the maister ruffian began to swere bloode & wounds that his eyen stode in his hede 1550 LATIMER *Serm* Gnib, He cried oute, what, shall I dye (quod he) wounds, sydes, hart, what I dye, woundes and sydes shal I dye dye I cannot 1576 *Gamm Gurt Hous* I 3 By His wounds I and ten to one! 1588 J UDWELL *I the will to Live* B 1 b, Gogs hart ! Blood, wounds and nailes, it wil make a man mad 1589 *Pasquil's Return* C 2 Wounds! Ile by wounds I would never lin [etc.] 1600 CHETTLE *Hoffman* IV (1631) H 3 b, Swounds ile confound her, and the linger time 1598 CHAPMAN *Widow's Tears* v 1 Ad's wounds, and heart! I'm glad I ha' fun 3 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xi, 'Blood and wounds!' (cried Weasel) d'ye question the honour of my wife, madam!' 1886 BLACKMORE *Lorna D* xxv, Wounds of God! I'm what way thought you that a lawyer fastened to your rigmarole?]

**d.** *fig* or in fig. context.

a900 *Cynewulf's Crist* 1334 Eala! þær we nu mazon wrade wunde gesmeagan on us-um sawlum synna wunde c1000 *Ælfc Homil* (Thorpe) I 298 Ure belendede cum to helen þe wundes he þe deaðl halide on mancun broht a1240 *Ureisun of O. L. Hom.* 1. 189 Þine wunden healen þe wunden of mi saule c1374 CHAUCER *Anel & Arc* 230 My foo that gave myn herte A wounde 14.. HOCCLEVE *Virg. & Christ* 62 Yhesu the soueraun leche,

preys of grace, Put he my wowndes vouchesauf to cure 1530 TINDALE *Answ More* L. Wks. (1572) 261/2 The wound of temptation beyng greater then that it could bee healed with the preaching of a woman. 1580 DALTON *Sherdone's Cosmo.* 231 That the wowndes of the Church might be healed 1598 TIMME *Fox Pag. Papers* L 5 b, Who falleth from patience by the wounds of wel temptes. 1601 RALEIGH *Debates Ho Lords* (Camden) 59 The wounds of the priviledge of the House not soe greate, as that his Majestie should conceave a suspicion of our reale to his honor. *a* 1683 SYDNEY *Discr. Govt.* L xi 84 This Wound is not cured by saying, that he first conquers one, and then more 1708 POPE *Ode St Cæcilia* 99 She Pours balm into the bleeding lover's wounds. 1744 H. BROOKE in E Moore *Fables* xv 14 The wounds of honour never close. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D* xvi, I ours, who searched the wounds of the land with steel and caustic 1882 MRS. BROWNING *Dr Profundus* v, And tender friends go sighing round, 'What love can evescure this wound?' 1885 MRS ALEXANDER *Valley of Rose* xx, My jewel will always believe the best of me; time will heal up her wounds

**2.** *transf.* An incision, abrasion, or other injury due to external violence, in any part of a tree or plant

1591 C. HYLL *Ordering Bees* etc 77 Then the barke of him [an Apple tree] is sicke then cut it with a knife, and when the humour thereof is somwhat flowen ouer, stoppe diligently his wounds with clay 1658 LYBURN *Fer Gard* (1675) 53 Make as few wounds in a Tree as possibly you can 1707 MORTIMER *Husb* 397 If you have occasion to make any great Wounds cover them over with Clay 1790 H ROOKE *Mr. Sherwood Forest* 15 This bark has been stript off for cutting the letters, the wood which grows over the wound never adheres to that part 1832 J. KEITH *Bot Lex.* 73 If the cortical layers, while yet young accidentally be wounded, the part destroyed is again regenerated, and the wound healed up without a scar 1867 W. G. SMITH tr *Tubeuf's Dis Plants* 79 Wounds to the bark are also frequently produced during the felling of neighbouring Trees.

**b.** In other transf. uses.

1667 MILTON *P L* L 689 Soon had his crew Op'ned into the Hill a spacious wound and digg'd out ample Oar 1712 *Ibid* 782 Her rash hand Forth reaching to the Fruit, she pluck'd, she eat Earth felt the wound 1792 PARKINSON in *Trans. Soc Arts* X 81 Fifty lower marine plants were wounded, thirty two of which had their wounds in the upper third

**3.** *Surgery.* An incision or opening made by a surgical operator.

1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol Anat.* III vi 243 If you ..then by a Wound made in an Artery shall put in a crooked hollow probe 1805 *Med Trnl* V 512 The wound of the integuments was contracted with strips of adhesive plaister 1824 J THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 37 At the operation no tumour was found, on Feb. 20, the wound was quite healed

**4** Something which causes a wound (lit or fig).

1725 POPE *Iliad* IV 225 My vanted belt repell'd the flying wound. 1844 MRS. HOUSTOUN *Texas & Gulf* 169 Lower wounds, words be wounds For, so, it shall not fear thy power to hurt.

†**5** (= L *plaga*.) **a.** A blow, a stroke. (Cf. PLAGUE *sb* 1) *Obs.*

1380 WYCLIF *Luke* xii 47 Thilke seruaunt that knewe the wille of his lord, and made not him redy, and dide not ay his wille, schal be betun with many wowndis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P R* VI. XVI (1495) 113/1 The seruaunt that is not chastysed with wordes shal be chastysyd with wowndes. 1450 1530 *Myrr Our Ladye* II. 68

†**b.** A plague. *Obs.*

*c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1209 That was the ten woundes of Egypte

†**6** An imperfection, a flaw *Obs*

1646 SIR J. BROWNE *Inq Lond Ep* I 1 1 Our first and ingenerated forefathers, from whom we derive our being, and the severall wounds of constitution

**7** *Her.* (See quot )

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 20 Seuen signes, or tokens whiche are figured in Armes round 7 Is of Purpre, and is to be called a Wounde.

**8** *attrib* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as *wound-complication*, *-fever*, *-mark*, *-print*, *-secretion*, *-surface*, *-typhoid*; with meaning 'used for the healing of wounds', as *wound balsams*, *-herb*, *-oil*, *-ointment*, *-paste*, **b.** objective and instrumental, as *wound-dilator*, *-dressing*, *-explorer*, *wound-inflicting*, *-plowed*, *producing*, *-scarred*, *-worn* adjs.

1658 A FOX tr *Wecker's Eighth Bk Secrets* 172 To recover better of Wound Gyles, and of Wound Ointments, than of Wound Balsams. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem Mat Med* (ed 3) II 1503 Wound Balsam 1870 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 913 A common and formidable wound complication 1846 JAMES *Heidelberg* III 141 In every country town, the latter [i.e. the barber] exercises the craft of bone setting and *wound-dressing 1884 KNIGHT *Dict Mech*, **Wound explorer*, an electric sound used in searching for bullets 1888 LANCET & PYE SMITH *Prince & Treat Med.* (ed. 3) 70 Pyæmia (*wound fever, surgical infection) 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II cxci 508 In the world there are not two better *wound herbes 1840 PARKINSON *Theat Bot* 543 Golden Rodde is the most soveraigne wounderbe of many 1733 SALMON *Syn Med* III xxii 416 Clowns woundwort an excellent woundherb. 1868 J H ROSE tr *Orfila's Med* 270 So did the *wound inflicting instrument 1892 J. HENDERSON *Ann. Lower Deeside* 114 One of the survivors of the gang used to exhibit the *wound mark of a dagger 1658 *wound-oil, *-ointment, *-paste *wound balsam* (above). 1753 J BARTLET *Genl Farriery* xxv 224 Pledgits of tow spread with black or yellow basilicon (or the wound ointment). 1902 *Brit. Med Jrnl* 1 App, 90 Her King did not approve of *wounded-paste 1760 J DAVY *Pepys Bequall Gr* I 1. (1881) 10 Thou art a Souldier, and thy *wound plow'd face Hath worry furrows till'd with falling tears. 1862 J M NEALE *Hymns Eccl. Church* 89 In His feet and Hands are *Wound-prints, And His Side 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct 5/3 One of the most terrible *wound producing bullets with which our military could be armed 1888 GUNTER *Mr Potter* xii. 144 The weather beaten, *wound scarred veteran of the plains. 1880 HARWELL *Amputation* 2 This cord was saturated in *wound secretion 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Berg's Pharmr* 108 *Wound surfaces, of whatever sort, are closed and healed by it. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* I. 611 Pyæmia has been called *wound typhoid 1880 SHELLEY *Prometh Unb.* II. 21 He has pale *wound worn limbs.

**9.** Special comb.: **wound-cork**, a protective layer formed on a damaged trunk or branch of a plant or tree; † **wound-drink** (see quot. 1694); **wound free** *adj.*, free from wounds; invulnerable; **wound-fungus**, a fungus which grows on the injured part of a plant; **wound-parasite**, a parasite infesting damaged plants; **wound-rooket** (see quot.); † **wound-shrub**, a shrub having healing properties; **wound-stripe**, a strip of gold braid worn by a wounded soldier on the left sleeve, vertically, above the cuff; † **wound-tree** (see quots. and cf. *wound-shrub*); **wound-weed**, = WOUNDWORT; **wound-wood**, wood formed over an injured part.

1867 W. G SMITH tr *Tubeuf's Dis Plants* 26 A corky tissue –*wound cork – may be formed in consequence of wounds to the bark. 1657 W COLES *Adam in Eden* CLXXXIV 614 Of Bugle The decoction is an especial helpe in all *Wound drinks 1694 SALMON *Pract Phys* (1707) 73 A *Wound Drink or Drink for wounded People 1600 HEYWOOD *Brit Troy* XII XCIII 263 Nor scapt the Trojan *wound-free Hector 1867 SMART *Horace Odes* III. 4 Sons of his skin To be wound-free, not to be pierc'd with steele 1862 — *Gronnik* VI 280 An hearbe with whose juice if he would annoynt his wounded Knight, he should be healed and wound-free 1867 W. G SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis Plants* 77 They are less suited for the entrance of *wound fungi than wounds on the living branch. 1867 W G SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis Plants* 76 The normal duramen is preyed on for nutriment by many *wound parasites 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E D S) 82 Parlara herba may be called in englishe *wound rocket, for it is good for a wounde. 1599 LOVELL *Herball* 542 *Wound shrub, *Isantegratis*, *Pulmerum medicinale*, *Chamæ Cistus* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 1180 *wound stripes on his arm 1840 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot* 1650 *Negundo mas & fœmina*. The male and female *wound tree, whether they be healing or wounding tree. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower Pl.* III 288 *Solidago Virgaurea* This Golden Rod was called *Wound-weed 1867 W G SMITH tr *Tubeuf's Dis Plants* 77 These reagents even replace the formation of protective *wound-wood

**Wound** (wūnd), *v.* Forms 1 **wundian**, 2 **wundie**, 3 **wunden** (4 **wndon**), 3–5 **wonde**, 5–6 **wond**, 3–6 **wounde** (4 **wownde**, 5 **wowndyn**, 6 *arch* **wounden**), 4– **wound** (5 *pr.* **wond**). *Pa. t.* (3 *arch*) **wond**. Pa. *wundian* (f. *wund* WOUND *sb*) = OHG *wuntôn* (WFris. *wounje*), MDu and Du *wonden*, OHG. *wunten* (MHG. *wunden*, G. *verwunden*), Olcel. *undaðr* pa. pple.; also OE. *gewundsan* = Goth *gawundsn* ]

**1.** *trans.* To inflict a wound on (a person, the body, etc) by means of a weapon; to injure intentionally in such a way as to cut or tear the flesh

*c* 750 *Penit Ald Englerd* iv xxii in Thorpe *Laws* II 210 Gif hyre hwende ceorle wunde wundige hyre ane hond 9a wunde. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C* XXXVIII 277 Swelce he sua nacodne hine selfne cowige to wundigeanne bi ymbsetenesse his feondum *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 222 Se de man mandode & wile hine ofsleon, swelte he deade. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 15 Sit þu me wundedest, it sealde wundian hine selfne. *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 47 For him bireneden alle hise riche weden ·nd wundeden him swithe *c* 1205 LAY. 1724 Hoo and wejnen hine wundeden [*c* 1275 wounded hine] and slowen *c* 1200 *Ormin* 8781 Forr þatt he Se8e man mannkinde & wile hine ofsleun, swellte he deaþe. *c* 1275 *Lamb Hom* 15 Sit þu me wundedest, it sealde wundian hine selfne. *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 47 For him bireneden alle hise riche weden ·nd wundeden him swithe *c* 1205 LAY

Force on the Vessel that her Keel may wound Ths hated Soil 1743 R. Blair *Grave* 192 The tapering Pyramid I... whose spiky Top Has wounded the thick Cloud 1766 J. W. Banks in *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Turnip*, Some (turnips), which had been accidentally wounded by cows 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 246/1 *(American)*, The American aloe yields when wounded, an abundance of sweet fluid 1882 *Lloyd's Brit.* XXI. 820/1 s.v. *Shipbuilding* For the sake of avoiding unnecessarily wounding the timbers

**†b.** *spec.* To damage (a mast), esp. in a naval action. *Obs.* (freq. in 18th cent.)

1743 4 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 211 The Namure being in a shattered Condition, all the Topmasts wounded 1758 *Ann. Reg.* I. 100/2 The Orpheus is prepared very well to go, her mast very much wounded 1778 *Hull Id. extract* 16 June 1/3 Her rigging was much cut, and her mainmast wounded.

**c** *fig.* Of wine: To overpower.

1623 J. Mulcaster *Nat. Lex. Terræ & Mod. T.* I. 61 *1/1* Vpon the left hand lay the bodies of beasts stretched out along, sleepe q verie soundly. All were wounded with Wine 1829 Shelley *Last Jet.* ii. I filled Another cup, well knowing that the wine Would wound him soon

**Wound** (wound), *ppl. a.* [Pa. pple of Wind *v.*¹]

Subjected to winding, in various senses of the verb.

1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxvii. 1 An eddere, a crooked wounde neyl ent 1583 *Dav. Jour. Navig.* (Hakluyt) 11 78, 9 pound bownd wheeles 3 paire of wound de wh des 1865 Swin burne *Chastelard* iii. 1. 88 Soft as the loosening of wound nerve in sleep.

**Wound,** pa. t. and pple of Wind *v.*¹

**Woundable** (*wu* ndăb'l), *a rare* [f. Wound *v.*¹ + -able.] Capable of being wounded, vulnerable.

1611 Cotgr., *Blessable*, Woundable. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* iii. iii. 414 Power and Profit are the two staples of Princes eyes, woundable with that to touch thereof 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* iv. xiv. 150 So woundable is the dragon, under the left wing, when pinched in point of profit

**Wounded** (*wu* nded), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ed.¹]

1 Subjected to, injured or impaired by, wounding; suffering from a wound or wounds: **a.** Of persons or animals

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxxxiii. 6 As woundid men slepende in sepulcris *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7338 Mony woundit wegh fro hit wrayn past. 1542-3 Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII, c. 1 Prec. Here ys dayly woundyd many, Full sore sicke. 1560 Shaks. *3 K. John* iii. ii. 54 There lay he stretch'd along like a Wounded knight 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. 74 All these wounded Patients 1703 *Sat. Crit.* 157 A wounded Alexandrine ends the song That, like a wounded snake drags its slow length along. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxv. 383 It is the wounded soldier who deserves the reward. 1795 Wordsw. *Borderers* v. 2152 The wounded deer retires to solitude 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* iii. 2, It stretch'd him on the plain Beside the wounded Beltane. 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II. xi. 215 Like some poor wounded bird that steals into a thicket to die 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lyn.* 633 Kay near him groaning like a wounded bull.

**b.** Of parts of the body.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 b/2 We can not, w h out dilanations of the wounded parts, drawe forth the bullet 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iv. vi. 25 Ouer Suffolkes necke He threw his wounded arme 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xii. 946 Fix'd on his wounded Face a shaft he bore 1769 E. Hancocke *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 399 A cataplasm applied to the wounded part, is the general remedy for ve iomous Bites. 1806 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 101 A stratum of coagulated blood extending from a few inches below the wounded part

**c.** *fig.* Impaired, attainted

1692 Prior *Ode Imit Hor* xiii, Tell 'em howe're, the king can yet Forgive Their guilty Sloth, And let their wounded Honour live

**2** *absol.* Those who have received wounds

*c* 1000 *Lude of Chrodgang* 1 Pain æmete þe gode hecas dǽl ȝnbe ȝewundde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxvii. 5 All wounded, stepand bat are In throches 1670 Wiseman *Wounds* ii. 67 from the defect of the Scotch army among Du bar, there came many cri e wounded to St Johnstons 1813 Scott *Rokeby* iv. xxii, The yellow moon her lustre shed Upon the wounded and the dead 1845 C. Sumner *True Grandeur Nations* (1846) 15 A little cheese and a few vegetables are all that can be afforded to the sick and wounded 1899 in W. H. Fitchett *Deeds of Knights & Bluejackets of England* (1903) 260 Round the goals the wounded sit.

**3** *fig* Deeply pained or grieved.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 370 Schr hath my wounded herte cinsight 1613 Shake. *Hen. VIII*, ii. ii. 75 The quiet of my wounded Conscience 1647 Fuller (*title*) The Cause and Cure of a wounded Conscience 1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 341 To wound like those a wounded spirit feels 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlix, The wounded pride of Florence 1881 Mrs. Marsh *Under Lities* ii, The only person in the room who pours oil upon his wounded sensibility 1891 Fairfax *Darbies & Dames* liv, If there were anyone who could bring healing to her wounded soul

**4** Of inanimate objects: Marked or injured by cutting or piercing.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prologue* 81 Ye, Their speak is softer than hem balme from wounded rind *a* 1717 Parnell *Song* Poems (1737) 20 No more he with a true love Knot and Name Engraves a wounded Tree 1728 Pope *Solomon* iii. 229 Whom the cut Brass, or wounded Marble shows Valior o'er Life 1801 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 384 The greatest quantity of rope has been made from the wounded cables of the prizes 1822 Byron *Ch. Harold* i. xlix, Wide scatter'd hoof-marks dint the wounded ground 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* i, For a long time, there were wounded trees upon the battle ground. 1897 W. G. Smith in *Tribune's Dis. Plants* 73 A healing tissue immediately begins to form on wounded surfaces.

**†5.** = Wounding *adv.* *Obs*

1733 *A Murphy Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 28 P 2 A wounded sharp Boy he is.

**Woundedly,** *adv* [f. Wounded *a* + -ly².]

†**1.** = Woundily. *Obs.*

1796 Wm. Bron *Heyhoe f r Hinds* iii. 33 Are you certain sure it was only a leady I met? it look'd woundedly like an angel!

**2** In a wounded manner; as though wounded.

1808 Coleridge in Mrs. Sandford *T. Poole & Friends* (1888) II. 100 It does a friendship no good for a man to have felt resentfully, and woundedly, towards his friend 1905 A. S. Alexander *Tramps* 95 [The grey hen] rises, fluttering broken wing, only or woundedly

**Woundedness,** [as prec. + -ness] The state of being wounded.

*a* 1640 Fenner *Serm.* (1657) 223 The Patients here are felt and discerned to have two wounds or maladies: First, brokenness in heart, Secondly, woundedness

†**Woundhurt,** *pple. a. Obs.* [pa. pple of Wind *v.*¹] Twisted, twined

*Beowulf* 1193 Him wæs wunden gold statum ȝeæwed, earmbreade twa. 13.. *Etang Nicod* 63 *in Ar hæ Stud nova Opr* I. III 138 A wonden wrethe þat hus heued hyd Spred he all furth on brede 1602 W. Basse *Three Past Elegies* ii (1880) 61 A wounden wreathe she had of Bays and Rose.

**Wounder** (*wu* ndər). [f. Wound *v.*² + -er.]

One who or that which wounds.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 424/1 A Wounder, *plagarius* 1573 Bo Tuser *Husb.* (1878) 7 Your father was my founder, till death did make me his wounder 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xvi. x. (1886) 410 The blood of him that is wounded, rebounded and shipped into the wounder 1621 G. Sandys *Christ's Nat.* 18 (1640) 69 Like a Bull, that tears A wounding iauelin; whom the wounder feares 1818 Lond. Mag. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* i. 21 He was one of the Duke's wounders 1882 *Standard* 11 Sept. A band of volunteers who made the assault upon the enemy. 1901 'Linn'shan' *Hurds by Eyewitness* (1902) 57 Shells are unlovely killers and woundless

**Wounder,** obs. form of Wonder *sb* and *v.*

**Wounderus,** obs. form of Wondrous.

**Woundikins,** *int.* [f. Wound *sb.* 1 c see -kin.] A variant (with dim ending) of Wounds *int.*

1598 F. Howard *R. Reefer* xxxii, Woundikins I if there beant fier here

**Woundily** (wou'ndili), *adv. Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. Woundy *a.*² + -ly².] Excessively, extremely, dreadfully.

1529 *Fanchase Recruit Officer* i. I, It smells woundily of Sweat and Brimstone 1720 in Wilkins *Ant. Britannicæ* (1860) II. 90 Sir Piet. Pound's such charges that woundily much deeper, But yet he was woundily beat 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* x. x. 128, I got off in a twinkling, being woundily afraid it should be found out 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 1 Nov. *Ned Bryant* I. 17, I own I'm woundily afraid of dead men 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxviii, The butler observed, 'it was blowing clear now, but had smoked woundily in the morning.' 1890 Thackeray *Pendennis* iii, Pen suffered woundily when called on to pay his share. 1880 L. Wingfield *In H. M. Corpse* (1881) 17 You convicts are woundily crooked cattle.

**Wounding** (wu ndin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wound *v.* + -ing¹.]

**1** The action of the verb, the fact of being wounded. Also *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 3737 (Laud MS), Rysth also he was arise, Of his wounde, þat he was ingrue. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alexander* 4705 Pare was hurlyng on hige, Quat of wrestling of wormes, of wounding of knyghs *a* 1425 tr. *Ardenne's Treat. Fistula* 50 If any man be wounde in any party of be legge violently and without woundyng of be skynne. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star-Chamber* (Selden) II. 140, I ame Indyted thear for beatyng and woundyng of one John Holt 1581 R. Hall *Hunt's Up* Nine days ago he been shot and shot, and them with wounding shed 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* x. xvi How can thy eye most sharp in wounding be In seeing dull? 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. iv, An Indictment of Assault, Battery, and Wounding was instantly preferred against Tom. 1799 W. Nicol *Pract. Planter* 295 All wounding in pruning should be performed, or towards the examination of buds which (etc.) 1822 Manning *Serm* xviii (1828) 267 The sharp inward wounding of the soul 1850 *Retrospect Rev.* CII 303 The most violent injury from slight concussion to compound communicated fractures of the skull with wounding of the brain substance.

**2** = Wound *sb.* I.

1581 R. Hall *Hunt's Up* 65 That this your wounding got, Which irkes you so, he should delay 1595 Markham *Sir A. Grenvile* (Arb.) 78 At length, the Master hath procured The Knight dis-arm'd, to haue his woundings cured 1676–78 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1809) II. 89 The great physician of un sick souls had healed my own woundings.

**Wounding** (wu ndin), *ppl. a* [f. as prec. + -ing².] That wounds or injures; capable of causing hurt or pain: *lit.* and *fig.*

*c* 1386 *Chaucer's Wife of Bath's Tale* 1 Of wounding swerde and hand 1589 Markham *Sir A. Grenvile* (Arb.) 78 At length, the Master hath procured The Knight dis-arm'd, to haue his woundings cured 1676–78 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1809) II. 89 The great physician of un sick souls had healed my own woundings.

**Woundless** (wu ndles), *a.* [f. Wound *sb.* + -less.]

**1** Free from a wound or wounds; unwounded.

1579 Stenser *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 41 Doubted Knights, whose woundlesse armour rusts. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vii. 353 He that steals home wound less from the Wars, Is held a Coward. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 216 Undertaking to deliver them you in a short time woundlesse and friends *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 40 So many slaggard knights lying in field, for all I see your person woundless 1725 Johnson 1817 Mocket *Lalla R., Fire-worshippers* iv. 366 And some who, grasp'd by those that she, Sink woundless with them 1858 H. Arnott *Balder Dead* ii. 18 All at night return to Odin's hall Woundless and fresh. 1891 Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. xii. 226 His pride in appearing woundless and scatheless.

†**2** That cannot be wounded, invulnerable *Obs.*

1604 Shake. *Ham.* iv. i. 44 Or Whose whisper may incse our Names, And hit the woundeeve ayre *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 338 Th' Angell through the woundless Welkin swifter glides Then Zephyrus.

**3** Inflicting no wound, unwounding, harmless.

1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* viii. 346 And not a dart fell woundless there.

**Woundly** (wou'ndli), *adv.* ? *Obs.* [f. Wounds *int.* + -ly².] = Woundily *adv.*

1646 Quarles *Pedagog. Regnans* Wks (Grosart) I. 80/1 One thing bee told me, now I thunk on't, troubles me woundly *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) 72 What (I pity) was woundly sin, to be punished 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 41 Andrew talk'd woundly wittily to them all. 1839 C. Clark 7 *N ables* xxxiii, A woundly learned man was he.

**Woundrous,** obs. form of Wondrous

**Wounds** (wounds), *int. Obs* exc. *arch.* Also 9 wouns; 7–8 wauns, 8 waund's, *dial* 8–9 wuns. [pl. of *wound* see Wound *sb.* 1 c.] = God's wounds, used as an oath or asseveration

*a* 1620 Dekker *Shoemaker's Holiday* D 1, Wounds then farewell 1733 Foote *Author* Farce iii. Wounds how the Powder flew about 1801 G. Colman *Poor Gentl.* I. 1 4 Wounds I let me come at him 1820 Keats *Cap & Bells* lxxi, 'Wounds! how they sweat!' says Hum 1824 Scott *Nigel* iv, Wouns! man, we'll stuff his stomach with English land

*a* 1696 Richard *Plimlot* 14 Wounds! I shan't let fly sure 1706 J. Mottley *Recruit Officer* I. 1, Wauns! I wish again that my Wife lay there 1728 Cibber & Vanb *Provok'd Husb* iv. 65 Waund, he'll storm any thing *Ibid* 68 Waund! I can't have Patience, I'll have him storming 1796 T. Morton *Way to get Married* ii. ii (1800) 33 *Clem.* Who's at the door? *Serv* Wauns I forgot It be master Bashall fra Lunnon.

*c* 1796 *J.* Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial* Reader, Wks (1869) p. xxxiv, Wuns sigh, theawrt like' strowll open. 1843 T. Wyse *Hist. Exp.* 57 'Wuns, says we,' 'this rough beginnin' freightens me.'

**Wound-up,** *a.* [f. *wound*, pa. pple. of Wind *v.*¹ + Up *adv.*] That has undergone winding up (see Wind *v.*¹ 20)

1887 Levin *N. Lorrequer* i, All were breathless in their wound-up anxiety to hear of their countryman. 1893 Dickens *Bleak Ho* xxxix, That old gentleman is still murmuring, like some wound up instrument running down

**Wound wort** (*wu* ndwŭrt). [f. Wound *sb.* + Wort *sb.*¹, after Du. *woudkruid*, G *wundkraut.*]

A popular name given to various plants from their use in healing wounds, *esp.* (*a*) one of the species of *Stachys*, often more fully as Clown's w., Downy w., Marsh w., etc.; (*b*) the golden-rod (*Solidago virgaurea*); (*c*) the kidney-vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*); (*d*) the comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*), † (*e*) Saracen's w (*Senecio sarracenicus*); (*f*) Hercules'-all-heal (*Opopanax Chironium*), (*g*) Knight's pondwort (*Stratiotes aloides*).

1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 87 Solidago saracenica is called in duch Heidnabe wundtkraut. It may be called in english Woundeweart 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xcvii. 347 Saracens Consound is called in Latine *Solidago Saracenica*, in English Saracenes Woundwoort *Ibid* xcix. 349 Of Lad tame Dorcas his Woundwoort. *Ibid* cclxxxv. 677 It seemeth to be *Stachys palustris*, or Woundwoort *palustris*, or Knightis water Woundwoort. *Ibid* cccl.xxiv. 852 Of Clownes Woundwoort 1 Alheale *Ibid.* 853 Whereupon I haue named it Clownes Woundwoort. 1660 Parkinson *Theat. Bot* 603 *Achillea Sideritis tuteo* Achilles yellow Woundwort 1697 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* 0cxli. 58 Allheale is called in English Hercules Allheale, and Hercules Woundwort 1728 Rowe *Lucan* IX. 1566 Woundwort and Maiden weed perfume the Air 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 230 The downy Woundwurth [sic] is a native of Jamaica. It should be a fine vulnerary. *Ibid* Downy *Mam Melastoma* I. 364 You speak to me of dittany and wound wort. 1796 Withering *Brit Pl* III 532 *Stachys sylvatica*, Hedge Nettle Woundwort 1798 *Collinson* Goldenrod Woundwort *Solidago Virga-aurea.* 1819 Rees *Cycl., Wound-Wort*, Hercules's, or All heal, the *tuberosa Serpentaria* of Linnæus. 1832 *G. W. Johnson Cult. Gard Dict*, *Anthyllis vulneraria* (common woundwort) 1857 Anne Pratt *Flower Pl* IV. 190 *Stachys sylvatica* (Hedge Woundwort). *Ibid* 191 *Stachys palustris* (Marsh Woundwort) *Ibid.* 192 *Stachys Germanica* (Downy Woundwort). *Ibid.* 193 *Stachys arvensis* (Corn Woundwort).

**Woundy** (wu'ndi), *a.*¹ *rare.* [f. Wound *sb.* + -y¹.] **a.** Characterized by wounds. **b.** Causing wounds.

1660 Waterhouse *Discourse Arms* 30 Like Sicinius Dentatus who served his Country one hundred and twenty battayles, and brought from them twoundy Testimonies of valour. 1826 Hood *Love* 5 What art thou, Love? .. a boy that shoots, From ladies' eyes, such mortal woundy darts.

**Woundy** (wau·ndi), *adv.* and *a.*³ *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 8 **waundy.** [f. Wounds *int.* + -y¹.

The pronunc. (wundi) is given by Sheridan (1789) and Smart (1836) in contrast with the noun (wǫ·ndi).]

*A. adv.* Very; extremely; excessively.

a. c 1621 Rowlev etc. *Witch Edmonton* II. i, 'Tis woundy cold, sure! 1660 *Dial. betw. Tom & Dick* 1/2 And yet the Thief is woundy Close. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* IV. xiii, He was woundy angry when I gav't that wipe. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 79 His drinking much Flip, makes him woundy subject to the Vapours. 1774 C. Dibdin *Waterman* I, She keeps her a-bed woundy late of a morning. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, His orders are woundy particular. 1829 — *Tyrol.* 19 Apr., We smoked and I became woundy sleepy. 1864 Le Fanu *Uncle Silas* II. 232 He was 'a woundy ugly customer' in a war, she could tell me.'

*B.* 1718 Brevat *Play is the Plot* n. i. 19 And the Jade's a great Fortune, and woundy handsom too into the Bargain. 1791 O'Keefe *Mod. Antiques* I. (1792) 16, I was woundy hungry.

*C. adj.* Very great; extreme.

1681 *Plain Dealing, Dial. Humphrey & Roger* 1/1 By the Mass, Hodge, thou say'st well, I have a woundy mind to do as thou say'st, but [etc.]. 1702 Farquhar *Twin-Rivals* v. iii, You must know Sir, that I have a Daughter .. and that I had a woundy Kindness for. 1728 Brevat *Play is the Plot* II. i. 21 And has she such a woundy deal of Wit, do you say Sir? 1794 Godwin *Caleb Williams* 37 So he flew into a woundy passion and threatened to horsewhip me. 1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* I. 213 You'll kill a woundy sight on 'em, I think, at that distance. 1888 F. Cowper *Capt. Wight* 218 They castle folk be a woundy lot of gallants.

**Woundyr,** obs. f. Wonder *sb.* **Wouned,** **Wount(e,** obs. ff. Wont *ppl. a.* **Wounty,** obs. f. Wanty.

**†Woup.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wowp, wop, 6–8 woup, 7 woupe, 8 woop. [Of obscure origin; the related verb is now represented by Wur.] A hoop or ring, esp. a finger-ring of plain metal as distinguished from one set with stones.

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 310 For outputting of Wille Wodis wowp at lay in wed.. xxvij s. 1535 in Ramsay *Bannf. Charters* (1913) 89 Ane wowp of gold. 1544 *Acts & Decreets* I. f. 140 Ane woup of gold about his arme of ane pund weycht. 1633 Sir A. Johnston (Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) 31 Thy wyfe woupe brak on thy finger in two haifs. 1691 in *Prov. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1919) LIII. 54 Two stoned thinges, ..with five gold woupes and ane gold lockit. 1720 in *Friner Papers* (S.H.S.) 87 Ane woups and a pearl necklace. . A small diamond ring, three woups and a pair of gold lockets.

**Wound,** obs. form of Wind.

**Wourne,** var. *worne, wurne,* Warn *v.*²

1568 *Jacob & Esau* 1. iv. Bijj, But wife Rebecca, I woulde not haue you to mourne, As though I did your honest petition wourne.

**Wour(e,** obs. forms of Wort *sb.*¹, 2.

**Wous,** southern form of Fors *a. Obs.*

13.. *Vox & Wolf* 12 in *Rel. Antiq.* II. 272 Withinne the walle was on hous, The wos was thider swithe wous.

**† Wous,** var. of Vous *int. Obs.*

1674 J. Howard *Engl. Mountebanks* I. ii. 62 *French.* Make way English Clown. *Wit.* Wous, but we won't.

**Wousheesauff,** obs. f. Vouchsafe. **Woust,** obs. f. Voust. **Woustour,** var. Voustер *Sc.* **Wout,** var. Volt *Obs.* **Woutde,** obs. varr. Vault *sb.*³ and *v.*¹ **Wou-wou,** var. Wow-wow. **Wouyn,** obs. pa. pple. of Weave *v.*

**Wouz,** var. How, Hou *adv.*

*c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 356 Wip hertes of heynesse wous halwen pei chirche.

**Wove** (wōv), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [var. of Woven: see forms of Weave *v.*¹]

1. = Woven *ppl. a.*¹, 2, 3.

1720 Shaftesb. *Soliloquy* iii. ii. 147, I can't conceive. how a Writer changes his Capacity, by this new Dress, any more than by the wear of Wove Stockins, after having worn no other Manufacture than the Knit. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. i. ii. 37 Opening a trade for wove goods on the coast. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xii, The chairs and couches were covered with Eastern wove mats. 1840 Mrs. Gaugain *Lady's Assist. Knitting* I. 57 If a wove stocking, open up the seam. 1903 Kipling *Five Nations* 15 'Mid berga about the Ice-cap Or wove Sea-passes now.

**b.** *Wove mould,* the particular kind of mould used in making wove paper (see quot. 1854).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 927 The frame-work of a *wove* mould is nearly the same. 1854 C. Tomlinson *Cyc. Art-Manuf., Paper* 20 In wove moulds, as their name implies, the wire is woven into wire cloth.

**2.** *techn.* Of paper: Made on a mould of closely woven wire. (See 1 b, and cf. Woven *ppl. a.* 4.)

1829 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 63 Wove Foolscap. 1854 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 It is printed on the most splendid wove paper. 1879 *Print. Trades Trnl.* XXIX. 43 A handmade, blue wove Foolscap paper.

**b.** *absol.* or as *sb.*

1899 *Stationers' Handbk.* 12 In woven papers may be mentioned *Hand Wove*.. ; then comes another, which .. is termed *Yellow Wove*. 1889 J. Dundas *Practic. Papermaker* 56 That warm cream colour..so much desired in high-class cream wove and laid post.

**Wove,** pa. t. and pple. of Weave *v.*¹

**Woved,** obs. pa. pple. of Weave *v.*¹

**Woven** (wō·v'n), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wouen, wovyn; *Sc.* 5 wowen, 6 wolvin, 7 wolfin. [pa. pple. of Weave *v.*¹]

1. That has undergone the process of weaving; formed or fabricated by weaving.

*c* 1450 Henry *Wallace* I. 292 A wowen quhyt hatt scho brasyt on with all. 1560 B. Googe tr. *Pallingenius' Zodiac* II. (1561) C iiij, The wouen webbe of flaxe. 1575 in *Archæologia* XXX. 19 Item v paire of wowen shets. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 303 Bustcanis or woven tweill stuffe. 1727 De Foe *Eng. Tradesm.* (1731) I. 332 Her Stockings from Tewksbury, if ordinary; from Leicester if woven. 1758 Whitehead *Verses to People Eng.* 4 And Navies powerful to display their woven wings to wind. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v. ii. 97 You clothed me in a robe of woven gold. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Proserpine, Dumed* 834 Where Scythia's shepherd peoples dwell aloft, Perched in wheeled wagons under woven roofs. 1883 W. D. Cuzzon *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 80 Travelling endless woven wire sieves.

*fig.* 1894 J. Davidson *Ballads & Songs* 33 We set about To bring the world within the woven spell.

2. Formed by interlacing or intertwining after the manner of weaving.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 4 Soone after comes the cruell Sarazin, In woven maile all armed warily. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. v. 23 Whilst the Lion like, Intangled in the net of their assaults, Franticly wrends, and tyt(e)s the woven toyle. 1608 May *Virg. Georg.* II. 49 Take a thick-woven Osier colander. Through which the pressed wines are strained clear. 1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 901 They live here longer..then in their artificial woven Hives. 1793 Wordsw. *Salisbury Plain* 288 Long grass and willows form the woven wall. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* xxiii, Woven tracery ran..o'er The solid rind. 1892 W. B. Yeats in *1st Bk. Rural Poetry* 1, I hear the woven roofs of.. Sorrow *fig.* 1644 Vicars *God in Mount* 6 A pernicious woven-knot of malignant active spirits. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 48 Voice of living language, heard or felt or seen Through night and day. 1892 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 121 The groups thus obtained, with substitutions which interchange the two sets of letters, are said to be 'woven' groups.

*Comb.* 1885 Mrs. Caddy *Footsteps Joanne D'Arc* 12 Horses feed in the wide, woven-fenced fields.

3. Interlaced, intertwined; wreathed.

1815 Shelley *Alastor* 459 A well. Images all the woven boughs above. 1833 Tennyson *Miller's Dau.* 230 The kiss, The woven arms, seem but to be Weak symbols of the settled bliss. 1845 Stetson *K. Arthur* III. ex, Fair was her garden, walled with woven flowers.

†**4.** Of paper: = Wove *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.*

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 72 We have volumes every day, on woven paper,..in the finest wire we have seen.

**Woves,** obs. form of Vowess.

*a* 1550 Leland *Itin.* (1768) II. 33 An Image in the Habite of a Woves.

**Wow** (wau), *sb.* [Imitative: cf. Wough *sb.* and Bow-wow.] A bark or similar sound. b. A waul.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 131 Johnson with a surly wow, wow. 1862 Hislop *Prov. Scot.* 125 It's weak i' the wow, it's strong i' the wark. 1913 *Bystander Mag.* Mar. 492/2 A barking deer explodes in an unexpected 'wow' ten yards off.

**Wow** (wau), *v.*¹ [Imitative: cf. prec. and Wough *v.*] *intr.* To howl; to waul.

1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 234 The wolf wow'd hideous on the hill. 1824 Lake *Travels Russia, Wrote,* to howl. 1900 C. Lee *Cynthia in West* v. 69 You should hear her wow, just like an owld cat!

**Wow** (wau), *sb.*² *Sc.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Of exclamatory origin: cf. Wow *int.*]

1. An exclamation, variously expressing aversion, surprise or admiration, sorrow or commiseration, or mere asseveration.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. Prol. 19 Out on thir wanderand spiritis, wow, that cryis. 1535 *Lyndsay to Play* 74 (Maitl. fol. 178) Awe winkles fell and bir taill ywow, Quhat malkin, hyd 3ow. 1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 74 Wow! that's brawe news. 1789 Burns *Grose's Petegr.* 11 And wow! the bairn's since dead. 1813 Scott *Guy M.* xi, Wow, woman, the Bertrams of Ellangowan are the auld Dingawaics lang syne. *a* 1840 Joanna Baillie *Poems, Fly.* (1851) 16 But wow! he looks dowie and cow'd. 1892 Lumsden *She-o-head* 56 As below the brig we turn—Oh, Wow! the deavin' din there!

**b.** Followed by *but* or *gin.*

1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Grs.* ii. 40 And wow gin she was skeigh And mim that Day. 1724 — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 The wooer he step'd up the house, And wow but he was wond'rous crouse. *a* 1800 *K. Henry* v. in Child *Ballads* I. 290/1 O whan he slew his good gray-hounds, Wow but his heart was sair! 1843 J. Ballantine *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* II. 151 Wow, uncle Willie cam doun..An' wow but he was a brew man.

**2.** In other than Scottish use.

1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* v. 35 Wow! my father, of those two regiments not one escaped. 1916 J. Bell *Little Grey Ships* 17 'Wow!' exclaimed the young seaman ..'Wish I was in Egypt. How's this for cold, old Bill?'

**Wow,** obs. Sc. f. How *sb.* and *v.*¹, *v.*³; obs. f. Woo *v.*, var. Wough *sb.*²

**Wow(ard(e,** var. ff. Vaward. *Obs.* **Wowbat,** obs. var. Woubit.

**Wowchaife, wowchesaf,** obs. ff. Vouchsafe *v.*

**† Wowe.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 wawa, 2–4 wawe, 3–4 wowe, 3 wou. [OE. *wāwa* = OHG. *wāwe,* ON. *vá* := OTeut.**wauwan-* f. the root **wai-*, repr. by OE. *wā* Woe.] Misery, distress, trouble, sorrow.

*a. a* 1000 *Genesis* 466 (Gr.) Þæt þær yldo bearn moste oncoman godes & yfeles,..welan & wawan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xlviii. (Z.) 279 On ðære weorce awrieene hreðsunga.. and wawa...Se wawa getacnað þone ecan wawan, ðe ða habbað on helle wite. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 He wurð ídemed to þelien wowe mid tiouelen in helle. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 152 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde þer inne wawe and ine weone wunien. *c* 1200 Orrin 13349 Þatt he sholdde wurrþenn hard To þolenn alle wawenn.

*B. c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 Here is..smeadnesse, sorinesse, werinesse, and oðre wowe muchel. *c* 1205 Lay. 27560 Þar was wowe and sorinisse inowe. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 414 Al þat ho singe3 hit is for wowe. *a* 1300 *Pearl.* Simon *Sinet* 2. iii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 17 Þis worldis wel nis bot wowe. *c* 1325 Shoreham vii. 858 Panne fal3 ous rewelyche by kende To 3offry wowe.

**Wowe,** var. Wough *sb.*¹ and *a.*; obs. form of Woo *v.*

**†Wowell.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. connected with *wouelle* in *Saxon Leechd.* II. 266.] Colisfoot.

*c* 1430 *Aphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 210 *Fex pulli, herba terrestris,*..donnhowe uel howell uel feldhuue.

**Wowen,** obs. f. Woo *v.*; obs. Sc. f. Woven *ppl. a.*

**Wowf** (wauf), *a. Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] Crazed, daft, mad.

1802 Sibbald *Chr. Sc. S. P.* IV. Gloss., *Wowf,* mad. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* vi, It is very odd how Allan, who, between ourselves,..is a little wowf, seems to have more sense than we all put together. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, 'What d'ye mean by daft [= daft]—eh?' 'Just Fifish,' replied Peter; 'wowf.' 1897 Snaith *Fierce-heart* 21 Not 'is yer honour gane clean wowf?'

**Wowing,** obs. form of Wooing *vbl. sb.*

**Wowl** (wuul), *v.* [Imitative.] *intr.* and *trans.* To howl.

1757 [E. Personer] *Mitre* I. xxviii, A second blinks and wowls his dread. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Wowl, v.* to howl, to wail vociferously.

**Wowld,** obs. f. Would. **Wown,** obs. pa. pple. of Wind *v.*¹ **Wownd(e,** obs. ff. Wound *sb.* and *v.* **Wowp,** obs. var. Wur *v. Sc.*

**Wowser** (wau·zəɹ). *Australia.* [Of obscure origin.] A Puritanical enthusiast or fanatic.

Hence *Wowserism, Wowserize.*

1909 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 4 'Wowser' is a term applied by certain portions of the Australian Press to persons of all denominations, more particularly to those who are fanatical on temperance and social evils. Their followers are called 'Wowsterites', and their propaganda 'Wowserism'. 1912 *Nation* 11 May 214/1 A wowser is one who seeks to compel everybody else..to do whatever he thinks right, and abstain from everything he thinks wrong.

**Wowt,e,** obs. var. ff. Vault *sb.*³ and *v.*¹

**‖Wow-wow**¹ (wau·wau). Also wou-wou, wauwau, wawou, wa-wa, wawah, wah-wah. [a. Malay واوا *wauwau,* Javanese *wawu* (whence also Du. *wouwouw, wauwauw*), imitative of the animal's cry.] The silver gibbon of Java, *Hylobates leuciscus.* Also applied to *H. agilis.*

a. 1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* I. 209 The Ash-coloured or Silvery Gibbon, also called the Wou Wou. 1838 *Libr. Entert. Knowl., Menageries, Monkeys* I. etc. I. 183 The wou-wou (*Hylobates Leuciscus*) is covered with a long fine long fur of a woolly texture. 1885 H. O. Forbes *Wand. Eastern Archip.* 70 The loud plaintive wailings of a colony of Wauwaus.

*Attrib.* 1864 H. O. Forbes *Handlik. Primates* II. 154 The Wau-Wau Gibbon. *Hylobates leuciscus.*

*b.* 1882 De Winton *Equatorial Zool.* 202 Monkeys of every description, from the hideous proboscis to the pretty wa-wa. 1883 Isab. L. Bird *Golden Chersonese* 297 A little wah-wah, the most delightful of apes.

**Wow-wow**². [Imitative.] A bird of British Guiana.

1855 H. G. Dalton *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 413 The 'baclora', or wow-wow (*Trogon melanopterus*), so named from the noise it makes, is always the sure of a rainy season.

**Wow-wow**³. ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Only in *wow-wow sauce,* a fanciful name for a preparation used with stewed beef.

1822 May *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 4) 325 Wow Wow Sauce for Stewed or Bouilli Beef. 1868 *Enquire Within* (ed. 14) 285 **Wowyn,** obs. f. Woo *v.* **Wox,** obs. Sc. f. Voice *sb.* **Wox, Woxe(n,** obs. pa. t. and pa. pples. of Wax *v.*; **Woxin, Woxsen,** etc., obs. pa. pple. of Wax *v.*

**Woy,** *int.* Also woyh. [Exclamatory.] A call to a horse to stop. (Cf. Hay, Wo, Whoa *int.*)

1797 T. Morton *Cure Heartache* I. i, *Frank* (without) Woyh! woh! Sindler! 1809 R. Kerr *Agric. Berw.* 503 Formerly, in speaking to their horses, carters..in calling to stop used the inconsiderable sound of *ge'ee, ho w', or woy.* 1828 Carr *Craven Glean., Who, Woy,* a word used to stop horses in a team.

**Woyage,** obs. Sc. f. Voyage. **Woyce,** obs. Sc. f. Voice. **Woyd,** obs. f. Void *sb.*¹ **Woyde,** obs. Sc. and north. ff. Void *a., sb.,* and *v.* **Woye,** var. Vote *Obs.* **way.** **Woyid,** obs. Sc. f. Void *v.* **Woys(e,** obs. ff. Voice *sb.* **Woyse,** obs. f. Ooze *sb.* **Woywod,** var. Voivode. **Woyte,** obs. var. Vault *sb.*¹ **Woze,** obs. f. Ooze *sb.*² **Wozen,** obs. f. Wrasand. **Wp(e, Wpone,** etc., obs. ff. Up, Upon, etc.

# Wr.

**Wr-** (r), a consonantal combination occurring initially in a number of words (frequently implying twisting or distortion), the earlier of which usually have cognates with the same initial sounds in the older Germanic languages. The combination is regularly preserved in Gothic, OS., OFris., and OE., but in OHG. is reduced to *r-*. In ON the *w* was lost before *rð*, *rl*, at an early date over the whole Scandinavian area, at a later period in all other words in ONorw. and Olcel. In the modern Germanic tongues *wr-* remains in Du., Flem., LG., and Fris., and is represented by *wr-* in Da., Sw., and some Norw. dialects.

Some 130 words in *wr-* are recorded from the Ob. period, and a number of these survive in the later language, while others have been added from Du and LG. Early difficulty in pronouncing the combination may be indicated by the Old Northumbrian spellings with *wor-*, and by the 14–15th cent. *wersti* 'wrist', *wer angust* 'wrongous'. The *r* is sometimes separated from the *w* by metathesis, as in ME. *werð* for *wræð* 'wroth', *werch* for *wrech* 'wretch', *wirlen* for *writlen*; but conversely *wr-* may arise from the same cause, as in OE. *wryhta* 'wright', for *wyrhta*. Signs of the dropping of the *w* began to appear about the middle of the 15th cent. in such spellings as *rang* for *wrang* v., *rong* for *wrong* adj., these become common in the 16th cent. (for examples see Wrangle, Wrap, Wrake, Wreck, Wrench, Wrest, etc.) Reduction of the sound is also indicated by the conversic practice of writing *wr-* for *r-*, which similarly appears in the 15th cent. (in *wroth* for *rathe*), and becomes common in the 16th; for examples see the subordinate entries under Wrack, Wrecked, Wrigged, Wrap, Wrape, Wretchless, etc. In standard English the *w* was finally dropped in the 17th century; it has remained (though now obsolescent) in Scottish, and in some south-western English dialects is represented by *v*, which is also regular in north-eastern Scottish.

The phonetists Bullokar (*Amendment of Orthographie*, 1580) and Gill (*Logonomia*, 1621) have *wr-* throughout, and no doubt pronounced the *w*. Later authorities, e.g. R. Hodges (*English Primrose*, 1644), mark the *w* in this combination as silent

**Wr**, obs. var. Our *pron* **Wra**, ME. var. Who.

**Wraak**, var. Wrake *sb.*1 *Obs* **Wraaste**, obs var. Wrest *sb.*1 **Wrabbe**, var Wrob *v. Obs.*

† **Wrabbed**, *a. Obs. rare* [Of obscure origin. Cf. Wrawed *a.*] Perverse; difficult to manage.

1540 J. Haywood *Four P. P.* 986 By theyr conditions so crooked and crabbed, frowardly fashonde, so waywarde and wrabbed 1550 *Jacob & Esau* III. ii. Haste any more wyves vnche a man as I haue? so crabbed, so frowarde? so crabbed, so wrabbed, so stiffe, so vntowarde?

† **Wrabble**, *v Obs. rare.* In 6 **wrabel-**, *Sc.* wrabill. [Of obscure origin. Cf. Warble *v.*3, Wobble *v.*] *and*r To struggle.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. viii. x. 84 About bir palpis The tua twynnis Sportand full tyte gan to wrabill and bing 1534 M. Rr *Aurea Pes* 2 b, Thay wrabel and ding. The hote fyre of hell shalbe so fast frayed in all theyr tayles wrabelyng them togyther, yet neuer shall they gete ye fyre fro theyr tayls.

**Wrable**, obs Sc. variant of Warble *sb.*1

1513 Douglas *Æneid* III. Prol. 245 In wrablis [*ed.* 1553 werldis] dulce of hevynly myrth The lurkis Lowyt thar lege with tonys curyus [Cf. Wrible.]

**Wrache**, obs Sc var Wretch *sb.*

† **Wrachelsness**, obs. Sc. ff. Wretchedness.

**Wrack** (rak), *sb.*1 Forms 1 **wræc**, 3–5, *Sc.* 6 **wrak**, 4 **wrac**, 4– **wrack**, 6–7 **wracke**. [OE. *wræc* neut., f. pret. stem of *wrecan* to drive, etc., Wreak *v.* Cf. Wrack *sb.*2, by which the later senses (esp sense 5) may partly have been influenced; in writers of the 16–17th cent. it is sometimes uncertain which word is intended.

The evidence of rhymes shows that early northern ME instances of the spelling *wrak* usually have a long vowel, and belong to Wrake *sb.*1]

**I. 1.** Retributive punishment; vengeance, revenge, in later use also, hostile action, active enmity, persecution *Obs exc. arch. or poet.*

Freq coupled with words of similar meaning, as *war*, *wrath*, *wreak*, and tending to pass into sense 2

*c* 900 tr. *Boeth's Hist* IV xxv. (1890) 356 Hi . mid by wisse ðæs forecweðenan wræcnes slæzþnie wæron *971 Blickl. Hom.* 25 þæt unaxegenlice wræc & þæt unzeendode wite, þæt þon unlædon þær æteowiað hiþ. 13 *Cursor M.* 890 (Göt.), Til þat sum o þaim lauerd þan wiþ wacke wordes baith of wreth and wrack 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) I. 24 Sic diuisioun may nocht lest rycht lang, But weir and wrak and mekle opin wrang 1575 Dunbar *Treatyse* 177 And yet cum man Vse wracke for rewth I can murder like hun beist *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Psalmes* lxxviii. xxi, Now pain and paine conspire With angry angells wreak and wrack to frame 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ii. 21 There gan he with bitter wracke to wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong 1865 Carr *Hayward* 1 *Lay of Ivo* v, Strange memories crowded back Of Queen Gunhild's wrath and wrack 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 516 Will it bring him back For his foe on the country and wrack?

*fig.* 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 49 Hath he not lost much wealth by wrack of sea?

† **b** In the phr. *to do or take wrack* (on one) 1a *Athen. Nephos* (Sweet) I. 91 Ial I on Sole at Salk with yryn' and with water deme and do wrak 1426 I. Yng. *Pk Guid Pilgr* 1385 Myn hornys [are made] for to take wrak On shewynge, to puite abak

**2.** Damage, disaster, or injury to a person, state, etc., by reason of force, outrage, or violence; devastation, destruction.

In very frequent use from *c* 1580 to *c* 1640

*c* 1297 *Hom. Wulfstan* (Napier) 302 Ic talie

Except for its frequent use by southern writers between 1508 and 1690 (of the note to Wrack *sb* 1), the form is predominantly northern and Scottish.

1. As wrecked ship or other vessel; a vessel ruined or crippled by wreck. Now *dial*

c1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T* 513 The Constable of the Castel down is fare To seen this wrak and al the shipe he laughte. 1626 Capt Smith *Accid Yng Seamen* 29 She will split or billage on a Rocke, a wracke. 1636 G Sandys *Paraphr Ps* xlviii 76 Blacke Eurus roars, And spreads his wracks on Tharsian shores. 1687 A. Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* I. 126 Close by about we saw the wrack of that Barque, which stranded the same day. 1692 in *Acc Convoc Burghs Scot* (1880) IV 594 Her ship become a wrak 1736 in *Hist. Coll Luce Inst* (U S A) V 158/1 Drowned from the wrack of the sch[oone]r. *Ibid*, The sea came and washed them off from the said wrack. 1772 Anne Lindsay *Auld Robin Gray* v. But hard blew the winds, and his ship was a wrack. 1862 Lord *Birds of Passage in The Cumberland* vi, Down went the Cumberland all a wreck. 1895 *Cornh Mag* Feb 209 'Wrecks man,' he shouted pointing to the double light house, 'there is no chance of wracks for a pur fisherbody noo'

*transf* (of persons) 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb) 97 Menaphon espied certain fragments of a broken ship float ing vpon the waues, and certaine persons driuen vpon the shore These (as distressed wrackes) preserued by some further foresport ing fate [etc] 1594 Shake *Rich III*, I iv 24 Me thoughts, I was around fearfull wracke; A thousand men that Fishes gnaw'd vpon. 1601—*Twel N* v 82 That most ingratefull boy From the rude seas . Did I redeeme a wracke hope he was.

b. Remnants of, or goods from, a wrecked vessel, esp. as driven or cast ashore; shipwrecked effects or property, wreckage, also in earlier use, the right to have such Now *arch*

1448 *Rechey Rolls Scott* IV 439 Le wrak cuiusdam nauis combuste infra portum de Leith 1575 *Rec Burgh Soc Aberd* 185/1 Inuenerunt dictum forestarium custodem de *Wrac* et *Waif* infra dictum dominum de Coldingham. 1596 *Extr Aberd Reg* (1844) I 448 Anent broken ship, quhilk, throw storme of sey, happin to brek, and the wrak of hir come in on the coist of Crouchane 1584 Greene *Morando* Wks (Grosart) III 84 I can tell that I brought vp no wracke. 1599 Shake *Hen V*, I ii 163 As rich As the Owse and bottome of the Sea With sunken Wracke 1639 in Maitland *Hist Printing* (1753) II 151/2 All their antient Rights, with Pit and Gallows, Sak and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert Wrack, Waifs[etc.] 1666 Heylin *Cosm* 5th ed (1669) 71 Charybdis is a Gulf which violently attracting all Vessels that come too nigh, devoureth them, and casteth up their wracks [cf 1652 wrecks] 1670 Dekker *Long Grounda* iv 15, My own lost Wealth thou gav'st not only back, But driv'st upon my Land my Foes a Wrack 1700 Phillpott *Illust Camd* II 21 Witsom were goods driven to the shore, when there had not been for some space any wrack visible 1883 Wyndham *Ballades, Antiquary* 31 Casting up mire and blackness as I storm'd next wrack of the sea 1897 *Longm Mag* Feb 343 If rough it be heaped myseren of wrath and wrack When the long wave from the long beach drew back

†c. *pl* Fragments of wreckage Also *fig. Obs*, a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii (1912) 360 Who then myselfe should the so close unto the wracke of wrecks doo he

2 The total or partial disablement or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation, = Shipwreck *sb* 2 Now *rare*

1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 41, I haue in my voyage suffred wrack with Wisses. 1590 Spenser *F Q* I vii 18 As when a ship An hidden rocke ouergrowen hath vnwares, Or lay in waite her wrack for to bewaile 1615 G Sandys *Trav* 2 Glad that with wracke of ship, and losse of goods they may prolong a dewyous life 1648 G. Daniel *Trin Q* v 331 In a wracke, wee trust A Naylefull, or a Planke of broken Chest, To cauise vs 1673 Ogilby *Pl. Com Granada* (ed 2) III 109 Seruing, pursuing in a generall wrack, When first the loosening Planks begin to crack Each catches one 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *New World of Words*, Jetson, or Goods cast out of the Ship before in danger of Wrack. a 1879 H Dewar in *Poems of Places, Brit. Amer.* 35 In the wrack tall masts would crack.

b. *fig* and in fig. context

1580 Gosson *Pleasant Quippes for Gul. Upstarts* (1870) 19 Fell Sathan is chiefe rul er of these vices Hee wickes our wracke, he doth these tempetes rayse. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v Wks 1598 II 140 Yet being vnable to withstand the force of wracke inevitable 1622 Sharp *Hist of Cyprus* vi In 87 When Seleucus died famine His forces effe ting with his cares preuen ted still my wra ke 1668 Pepys *Diary* 22 Oct II 8 Hee that steeres by the gayle, is sure in danger of wracke 1649 G Daniel *Trinarch, Rich II*, vii, The greater winds of Faction broke in here, To make a wracke 1699 J Beaumont *Psyche* I. Canto IV, That wracke may longer stay to make, Wat but to run upon a certain wrack

3 Marine vegetation, scewced or the like, cast ashore by the waves or growing on the tidal seashore. (Cf Wrack *sb* 1 2, Varec 1.)

Also *cart, grass, herb, lade, rood*

In first quot the precise sense is not quite clear

1513 Douglas *Æneid* III iv 34 Rent me in pecis and in the flus wrak, Or in the wyld se lare, a sea wrak 1552—[see Sea wrack 2] 1650 [Howe] *Phytol Brit* 101 Divers sorts of Sea Oake, or Wrack 1668 Wilkins *Real Char* 371 Herbs growing commonly upon Shores and Rocks in the Sea 14 Wrack. 1700 Wallace *Diss Orkney* (1883) 49 *note*, When the sea-weed is driven in greater plenty, all the people divide the wrack according to the proportion of land they have 1708 *Petiv Gazoph* 1 159 Full of small sandy Warts as in our common Wrack or *Quercus marinus* 1785 Martyn *Lett Bot* xxxii 500 Fucus, Wrack or Sea weed properly so called, has two kinds of bladders 1850 H Miller *Footpr Creat* 1 10 The shores of the lake were strewed by a line of *wrack* consisting of marine plants [etc] 1895 Kingsley *Glaucus* 57 The purple and olive wreaths of wrack, and bladder weed, and tangle 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss* 78 The farmers grow sea weed for manure, cutting the wrack periodically Stones are placed for the wrack to grow on

b Weeds, rubbish, waste, etc, floating on, or washed down or ashore by, a river, pond, or the like; = Wrack *sb*.1 2 b.

1598- water-wrack [see Water *sb* 20] 1852 H Stephens *Bk Farm* (ed 2) I 396/2 To prevent the *wrack* floating on the surface of the water finding its way into the sluice 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* I. 14 When we came within five or six miles of the land, the yellowish green tinge of the sea was suddenly succeeded by muddy water with wrack as of a river in flood *Ibid*, The wrack, consisting of reeds, sticks and leaves. 1877 V L. Cameron *Across Africa* I 63, I observed wrack of grass and twigs in the branches of small trees , showing how much the flood must be at times.

c. Field-weeds, roots of couch-grass or the like, esp. as loosened from the soil to be collected for burning; vegetable rubbish or refuse found on agricultural lands; = Wreck *sb* 1 2 c.

1715 Pennecuik *Essexdale* 6 [They] will not suffer the *Wrak* to be taken off their Land, because they (they) do keepe the Corn warm. 1825 Jamieson, *Wrack*, *Drack*, grass, *Iniscun regens*, Linn 1 Rosh Perhaps denominated *Wrack*, because it is harrowed out in that form. 1828 Hunter *Jrn Husbandman* (1757) 158 It is all their antient Rights, with Pit and Gallows, Sak and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert Wrack, Waifs[etc.] a 1866 Heylin *Cosm* 5th ed (1669) 71 Charybdis is a Gulf which violently attracting all Vessels that come too nigh, devoureth them, and casteth up their wracks [cf 1652 wrecks] 1670 Dekker *Long Grounda* iv 15, My own lost Wealth thou gav'st not only back, But driv'st upon my Land my Foes a Wrack 1700 Phillpott *Illust Camd* II 21 Witsom were goods driven to the shore, when there had not been for some space any wrack visible 1883 Wyndham *Ballades, Antiquary* 31 Casting up mire and blackness as I storm'd next wrack of the sea 1897 *Longm Mag* Feb 343 If rough it be heaped myseren of wrath and wrack When the long wave from the long beach drew back

†d. *pl* Fragments of wreckage Also *fig. Obs*, a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii (1912) 360 Wo then myselfe should the so close unto the wracke of wrecks doo he

2 The total or partial disablement or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation, = Shipwreck *sb* 2 Now *rare*

1579 Gosson *Sch Abuse* (Arb) 41, I haue in my voyage suffred wrack with Wisses. 1590 Spenser *F Q* I vii 18 As when a ship An hidden rocke ouergrowen hath vnwares, Or lay in waite her wrack for to bewaile 1615 G Sandys *Trav* 2 Glad that with wracke of ship, and losse of goods they may prolong a dewyous life 1648 G. Daniel *Trin Q* v 331 In a wracke, wee trust A Naylefull, or a Planke of broken Chest, To cauise vs 1673 Ogilby *Pl. Com Granada* (ed 2) III 109 Seruing, pursuing in a generall wrack, When first the loosening Planks begin to crack Each catches one 1706 Phillips (ed Kersey) *New World of Words*, Jetson, or Goods cast out of the Ship before in danger of Wrack. a 1879 H Dewar in *Poems of Places, Brit. Amer.* 35 In the wrack tall masts would crack.

b. *fig* and in fig. context

1580 Gosson *Pleasant Quippes for Gul. Upstarts* (1870) 19 Fell Sathan is chiefe rul er of these vices Hee wickes our wracke, he doth these tempetes rayse. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* v Wks 1598 II 140 Yet being vnable to withstand the force of wracke inevitable 1622 Sharp *Hist of Cyprus* vi In 87 When Seleucus died famine His forces effe ting with his cares preuen ted still my wra ke 1668 Pepys *Diary* 22 Oct II 8 Hee that steeres by the gayle, is sure in danger of wracke 1649 G Daniel *Trinarch, Rich II*, vii, The greater winds of Faction broke in here, To make a wracke a

Saxon's breath. 1899 S. Macnaius *Chimney Corners* 259 His queeny hee was wracken an runnin all afore her *transf.* a 1586 Sidney *Arth.* i *Stella* Sonn. lxvii, Doth Stella now be-ginne with pitteous eyes The ruine of this her conquest to espie? Will she take time before all wracked be? 1594 Shakes *Rich. III*, iv i 97 Lightin oldie yeeres of sorrow thine I seene, And each howres joy wracke with a weeke of teene 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* iii cxxvii, The Precedent may dangerous prove, and wrack Thy Throne and Kingdome

**4** *intr.* To undergo ruin or subversion

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxvii xviii [Those] who be swarved to ill, both they and theirs shall wrack 1599 Sandys *Europe sp.* (1632) 151 Ayle without which the whole Empire were in danger to wrack. a 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xlvi. 565, I sunne if I can still I wrak if I re-veill My hurt 1697 J. Campbell *Hanno Mus. Dunch.* 83 Which gave the people themselves reason inte cast-aways, wracking in the depth of hell.

Hence **Wra·cking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 Cotgr., *Ruine viend*, a running, wracking, spoyling. 1624 Wilkins *Math. Magick* ii. The utter ruine and wracking or worrying of the holy Limbes of Christ 1811 Cotgr., *Vaut-fracas*, wracking, shipwrack bringing

†**Wrack**, *v.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* [ad. M.G. *wracken* (whence G. *wracken* to sort), to reject, refuse, var. of *wraken*, Wrake *v.*[1]] 1609 in *Rec. Com. enl. Burghs Scot* (1870) II 284 Ile last vessell wrackit, ja liget and brunt be the fire [ie inspectors] 1612 *Ibid.* 3 6 Anent the matter of the herring and Lurells thairof, sufficiencie of packing and wracking [of the same].

†**Wrack**, *v.*[2] *Obs.*[1] (? ad. Du. *wraken* to make leewy Cf. G. *wrak*, *wrakling*, leewy.)

1635 L. Foxe in *North II. at Sea* 180 In that distance holding the same course, I had 2 deg. 14 min. to wracke upon, and within one point to make my paralell

**Wrack**, *freq.* erron. f. Rack *v.*[3]

1553–8 Latimer in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III App. xxxv 98 The Martyrs in the old Time were wracked 1620 Pilgrim Sea *Voy.* 111 Mercury, he was wracked by sweet words 1630 Wilt. Swift *Sacr. Soul's Cal.* III xiv 330 What great Concern was it in the Spirit of a faithful Servant of God 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II xxv 351 Landlords had now so wracked their rents 1758 *Hist. Pr.* No. 72 II 297 If they wrack their Tenants to find out [etc.] 1785 Burns *Scotch Drink* i, Let drunken mines an stories wrack us, An gar us rue. 1893 Lowell *Among My Books* (Cabinet) 7 Mar 808/2 Sin wracks the machinery of the mind 1898 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 5/3 They themselves are wracking their busy hours.

*absol.* 1607 Shakes. *Cor.* v i 16 A pure of Tribunes, that haue wrack'd for Rome To make Coriolanus cease

**Wracked** (rækt), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] That has undergone or suffered wreck, esp. shipwreck. Formed, *rare*[1].

1581 A. Hall *Herl. Is.* 15 Yee bring the Greekes a rich rough feare, the Troyans courage hie, So that the wracked Compe restore his credite with the 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* in tr. *Schisme* 372 A hundred wracked men would drowning, keep the wrecked planks with the left hand 1648 J. Beaum *Psyche* iii lxxxv, When loe an ungyv'n Sea o-ris proud waves beate In the wracked Mariners 1652 Nedham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 127 Those wracke goods that had been seized by the Receivers of his Customs 1797 New Conn. *Spectator* 3 Oct. 1/1 The wracked Merchant now secure from Shore Looks back with Dread on all his Perils past. 1864 Mrs. Lynd *Tudor Pol.* 17 Every body's troubles as her troubles, from a wracked boat to a broken patcher's pot. 1873 *Tennyson Q. Mary* v. 264 Two cups which my father took from wracked Armada's hold.

**Wracked**, erron. f. Racked *ppl. a.*[3]

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii iv *Trophies* 803 Her makes th' whole Kingdom wracked and to meet 1656 Cowley *Davideis* iii 683 Merab rejoyc'd in her wracked Lovers pain 1699 J. Beaumont *Psyche* x ccxxxiv, New Enchormed their wracked Souls

**Wracker**[1] (ræ·kəɹ). *rare* [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who wrecks ruins, or subverts.

1612 Cotgr., *Ruineur*, a ruiner, wracker, spoyler

†**Wracker**[2]. *Obs. rare* [f. Wrack *v.*[3] + -er[1], or ad. MLG. *wraker* (whence Du. *wrager* sorter.)] = Wraker

1584 [see Wraker] 1729 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V 217 By means of wrackers of herrings to be imported the 1818, To appoint one overseer of these wrackers

**Wracker**[3] (ræ·kəɹ). *rare* [f. Wrack *sb.*[2] + -er[1].] One who collects wrack, weed, or seaweed

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII 293 The Norman wreckers, as they gathered sea weed on the beach

**Wracker**, obs. var. Wrackful.

1736 Ainsworth's *Contorter*, a wracker, or wre ter

†**Wra·ckful**, *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 3 wracfull, 4 wrakful, 5 -fulle [f. Wrack *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Characterized by resentment or anger; vengeful, angry.

*c* 1230 [simpl. ed.] 11 next]. 23 *Ff. Allit.* I 302 Now God in swyp to N.e con speke Wylde werkif I wrake *Ind* 541 buche a wrakful wo for wlonsum dedes Parfornel I be hyze fader *Ibid.* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3818 He wente at the gayneste, Wondur of thas wedurwyss with wrakfulle dyntys.

Hence †**Wra·ckfully** *adv.*, vengefully *Obs.*

*c* 1230 *Halt Meid* 41 Hwen godd as wreccfulliche fordemde 11 Freq. in the Egerton and Harleian copies of the *E. E. Psalter*, eg. II 13, xvii, 9; lix, 2; lxxiii, 1.

[OF. *wrecful*, f. *wrec* Wrack *sb.*[1] + -ful.] Full of misery; wretched.

*c* 1325 in Wright & Halliwell *Reliq. Antiq.* (Camden) 256 For wille is red, the land is wreful, For wit is qued the lond is wonful.

**Wra·ckful**, *a.*[2] Now *arch.* and *rare.* [f. Wrack *sb.*[2] + -ful.]

**1** Causing shipwreck, wreckful.

1558 Phaer *Æneis* II 64 Io Syllas wrackfull shore with shipps approche we nye. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* I iv b, That, where the fruitles sande with wrackfull wawes 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I ii 353 Io stand still firm 'gainst the roaring noise Of wrackfull Neptune 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* i. 326 Where long Latmus lent safe harbor for his Ships, with wrackfull tempests rent. 1623 Drumm. of Hawth. *Flowres of Sion* xii 6 These Lockes, of blud'ing deales the gilt attire, Waues curling, wrackfull shelfes to shadow deepe. 1633 J. Barclay *Gluttons Feaver* I 2 b, A Vessell, neare some wrackfull strand

**2** Causing destruction or devastation, effecting damage or harm; destructive

1578 *Lyte Dodoens* II 70 Then my delight was in the dery dent Of wrackfull warre 1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 84 Lun so the king of streames Beyond his bankes abroad all wrackfull rose 1600 Nixon *Sonn* lxv 6 O how shall summers humny breath hold out Against the wrackfull siedge of battering dayes? 1633 T. Barclay *Gluttons Feaver* H 6 Cracke all thine arteries with tortures irule, Ye muyr more stormes, more wickfull woes abide? 1721 *Chambers's Trav.* Jan. 50/2 A people that has not had its mind and feelings warped by it as wrackful was

**3** Involving suffering by, injury, harm, etc

1581 J. Howell *Deuices* B iv, To shunne the sheete of shame, Which had I wrapt her wrackfull blemisht name 1602 J. Davies (Heref.) *Mirror Mans Wit.* (for 1611) II 183 This Life, a Wyld (a wrackfull way) that Wisedome clothes to proue 1821 Scott *Dun Roderick* iii vi, What wanton horrors marked their wrackful path!

**Wracking**, erron. f. Racking *vbl. sb.*[3] (also *attrib.*).

1676 *Lond Gaz* No. 1083/1 Certain Instruments made use of for the wracking of Criminals. 1688 Holme *Armory* III 321 1 Wra king Plank, with a Rowling Wheel of so many Spokes as you please 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3311/1 Wracking Pulleys, Screws and Hammers

**Wracking**, erron. f. Racking *ppl. a.*[2]

1579 *Fenton Hist. Guicc.* (1618) II 282 W., perhaps shall be build Each on his rock transfixed, the sport and prey Of wracking whirlwinds 1837 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Heraclitus*, The spot of wracking winds

**Wrack-rider.** Also **rack-.** *north. dial* (See quots.)

1794 Hutchinson *Hist Cumbld* I 460 [The] Brandling is the Rackster of the county of Durham, and the Samlet is the Rack-rider of Northumberland. *Ib. Rack, or ill rackrider*, the same species of trout as the Brandling.

†**Wra·cksome**, *a. Obs rare*[1]. [f. Wrack *v.*[2] + -some.[1]] Destructive.

1584 Hudson *Du Bartas Iudith* 161 Then mine n t Ilorian wracksome tourets tall, Nor lining the wracksome engine to their will

**Wrackstaff**, obs. erron form of Rack staff

1688 E. Chilmead *Navig. Renat. Lorrain* 11 Of the Nothing but Wrack staves for to mea Men.

**Wrae**, Sc. var. Wro *sb.* **Wrecche**, obs. var. Wretch **Wrastlen**, obs. f. Wrestle *v.* **Wrawe**, obs. pa. t. of Writhe; obs. var. Wroth *a.*

**Wrag**, obs. erron. f. Rag *sb.*[2] *a.*

1844 *Chron. Vitod.* (Surtees) VII 63/2 I wo stone offices formed of Kentish wrag ashlar.

†**Wrag**, *v. Obs. rare*[-1]. [Of imitative origin Cf. Waggle *v.*[1]] *intr.* To struggle or strive; to resist. Hence **Wragging** *vbl. sb.*

*a* 1275 *Ancr. A.* (MS. Cleopatra C. vi) fol. 137 b, For þeo þet [see] fondunges þet beoð þe de dles swenges, wragge3 oðer hwiles, & [heo] moten wresten ageon mid stronge wragelunge.

**Wrag**, erron. f. Rag *v.*[4]

1842 [Black]wood in Mrs. Oliphant *Blackwd & 4 Sons* (1878) II 266, I do not forget to wrag the Doctor on this subject

†**Wragged**, obs. erron f. Ragged (rough)

*c* 1600 Shaks *Sonn* vi, Then let not winters wragged hand deface In thee thy summer ere thou be distild

†**Wra·gger.** *Obs* Also wragger. [Cf. Wrag *v.*] One who wrangles.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii 58 Both bosters and bragers god keep vs fro. Such wryers and wragers ȝe are to me fo For to crak *Ibid.* xxx 143 A bag full Of Wraggers and wrears, a bag full of refes, Of carpers and cryars [etc.]

†**Wraggle**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 3 **wragel-**, 6 **Sc. wragil, wragle, 7 wraggle.** [See Wrag *v.* and -le, and cf. Wl. *wragelja* to waddle, LG. dial. *wraggeln* to wiggle, to wriggle.]

**1** *intr* To struggle or strive, to resist. Hence **Wra·ggling** *vbl. sb*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 Pe oðer bitternesse is bitternesse in wraglunge, & in wraglunge agein o ndunges. *Ibid.*, Þoe þe set [sic] fondunges þet beoð þe de dles swenges, wragge3 oðer hwiles, & [heo] moten wresten ageon mid stronge wragelunge.

**2** To struggle Hence **Wra·ggling** *ppl. a.*

1508 Dunbar *Tydings* 195 Wan wraglane[?] *Will* wraglandl wasp! 1604 Middleton *Blurt, Master Constable* C 1, I struggled and struggled, and wriggled and wraggled

†**Wraggle**, *v.*[2] (See quot. and cf. Raggle *v.*[2]) 1875 Gutter in *Trans. N. Staff.* (1876) VIII 246, I could make out two or three holes where the silk lining . . was rent and wraggled.

**Wragh**, obs. var. Wrath *sb.*; var. Wraw *a.*

†**Wragland.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin. Perh. merely a var of the erroneous form *wranglan(d)* cited s.v. Wranlons; but cf. Waggle *v.*[1]]

**1.** (See quot. and cf. Wranlons)

1611 Cotgr., *Rabouderie*, wragland, crooked, or misgrowne trees. which will neuer prouo timber.

**2** (See quot. and cf. Wrekking)

1611 Cotgr., *Rabougrir*, to wax mishapen, or imperfect of shape; to become a wragland, or gnub

**Wrah**, variant of Wraw *a. Obs* **Wrahat**, var *wrought* 3.e Work v. **Wrai(e, Wraire**, var. Wray(er *Obs.*

†**Wrain-bolt**, variant of Ring-bolt. Also †**Wrain-stave**, a staff for inserting in an eye of this.

1750 Blancklev *Naval Expos* 17 *Wrain Bolts* [Each] has a ring at one End for a Staff to go through, [etc.] *Ibid.* 190 *Wrain Staves* are a Sort of thick Billets, tapered so at each End that they may go into the Ring of the Wrain Bolt [Hence 18 Rees' *Cycl.* (1819), Young *Naut. Dict* (1846), Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* (1867), etc.]

Hence †**Wrai ning-bolt**, -*staff. Obs.*[-1]

1769 Falconer *Dict Marine* (1776), *Antlet.* Obs.[-1] a crooked instrument of iron, used in the hand for the more easily driving the timbers in ship building. The English artificers perform this operation by wrain g bits and staffs.

**Wrait**(e, obs. variants of Writ *sb.* & *v.*, and v.

**Wrait**, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of Writhe v

**Wraith** (rēθ), *sb.* Orig (and chiefly) Sc. Also 6 **wrath, wrayth, wraithe, 7 wreath** [Of obscure origin.]

**1.** An apparition or spectre of a dead person; a phantom or ghost

1513 Douglas *Æneis* x 122 Nor nit na vane wraths nor gaistis quest Thi cheir can to warne 1560 *Rolland* vii 93 In dimere places The wraithis walkis of gaistis that ar dead. 1585 Polwart *Flyting* 81 *Mi alquarrie* 658 The spreit is expyed, Thir wrytes of witches, wraikis and wraithis 1786 Burns *Ilk a wife's gudeman* viii, Ghaist-kenn's wraith, in heavenly graith, cry'd, Willie, rise! 1808 Scott *Marm.* vi Introd 146 In realms of death Ulysses meets Alcides wraith 1812 J. S. Kennedy in *Poems, Passes & Glasgues* Ser II 170 She died broken hearted

Afterwards, in the still of the evening, the damsels were with would enter the dusky department. 1866 Allan *Solit Nat & Man* iv 288 While Smander, Fairfield and Ryd el remain, to all visionary minds his fate Wordsworth's wraith will haunt them. 1892 J. Hogg *Old Tolm*, etc. 44 While I Droft ungrorous to the ancient sea, A wraith, a film, a memory 1900 A. Uiward *I. Tolb* 226 Tall, pale and hollow eyed, with gaunt cheek bones, like a wraith from an extinct world

*fig.* 1880 G. Macdonald *Diary Old Soul* Feb ix, Duty's firm shape turns to a misty wraith.

**b** An immaterial or spectral appearance of a living being, freq. regarded as portending that person's death, a fetch

1513 Douglas *Æneid* x xi 127 Thy lider went this wrath or schrudde of bone 1597 Jas. I *Dæmonol* III i 63 These kindes of spirites, when they appeare in the shadow of a person to die, to his friendes, are called Wraithes in our language 1692 R. Kirk *Secret Commonwealth* § 8 p 18 What the Low countrey Scots call Fetches, and Irish *Faithoke* or Death's Messenger 1770–3 R. Fergusson *To Mem Dr W Wilkie* 35 I dreem't yestreen his deadly wraith I saw Loup by my en as white's the new-fa'n snaw I kent that it forespak ought to him' wne 1820 Scott *Monastery* xi I heard it credibly reported that the wraith of a person shortly to die, is a firm article in the creed of Scottish superstition 1824 Miss Grant in *Mem. & Corr* (1844) III 66 A wraith is the shadowy likeness of an absent living person 1836 Tytler *Hist.* xi 16, As the shape of the warning wraith haunts the mountaineer 1850 Alexr. Smith *Poems* 92 She and her love,—how dimly has she seen him Dark in a dream and windy as a wraith! 1872 Tylor *Prim. Cult* I 404 This is well known by the action not only of a living spirit, but of a special doctrine of 'wraiths or fetches' *transf* 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xvii, An opposition procession was there entering, also by men in black. 'Is it our double?' asked Shirley 'our manifold wraith?' *fig.* 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxii 13 O hollow wraith of dying fame, Fade wholly, while the soul exults.

**c.** Without article.

1884 E. Gurney in *19th Cent* 796 The coincidences of death and wraith are due to chance 1898 H. Newbolt *Island Race* p. 6 Strange dreams of Wraith and Doom, O Spirit of the Age of Faith, Go with our sons on all their ways When we long since are dust and mould

**2** A water-spirit

1772 etc [see Water *sb.* 24 c] 1801 M. G. Lewis *Bothwell's Bonny Jane* ii, I hear, with mournful yell, The wraiths of angry Clyde complain 1832 J. Bell *St Herbert's Isle* 132 Wraiths and wizard water-fays 1844 Mrs. Hemans *Poet* 138 Miller *Sch. & Schm* x (1858) 205 Highlanders cutting down their corn, when the boding voice of the wraith was heard

**3** An appearance or configuration suggestive of a wraith or spectre.

1888 Whittier *Storm on Lake Asquam* iii, A fire veined dark item swept Over the range; A wraith of tempest,.. From peak to peak the elf and goblin stepped 1892 J. Tacy *Mirabeau's Isle* 8, Through the wraiths of scud he thought he had seen something

**4** *attrib* and *Comb.*, as *wraith-land, -seeing, spell, wraithlike* adj.

1736 *Yorkshire diary* in *N. & Q.* (1922) 390/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead—be they i ph, wraithspells, wick things and the like ket 1889 *Young Hornsby Pictures* 126 Their leggies gat wraith like, their cheekies gat death like 1891 Tylor *Prim. Cult* I 405 In bilesna and the Tyrol the gift of wraith-seeing still flourishes 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 17 Apr., What challenges are prompted to the great to come from their wraithlands!

**Wraith**, obs. Sc. var. WRATH *sb.*, *v.*, WROTH *a.*

**Wraith**(e, erron. varr. RATHE *sb.*²

1824 CARR *Craven Glost., Wraithe*, shafts of a cart 1852 L. D. B GORDON *Arct. Trad. Illustr. Cat.* p. VIII, The 'wraithe' is for the purpose of keeping the threads separate. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb 7/2 He got a rope, fastened it . . to the cart wraiths, and strangled himself

**Wraithly**, etc., obs. Sc. var. WROTHILY, etc.

**Wrak**: see WRAKE *sb.*¹, WRAKE *sb.*², *sb.*³

† **Wrake**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 WRAEC, 3–5 WRAK, 4 *north* WRAS, 5 WRAK, *Sc.* WRAK; 2–WRAKE, 5–6 *Sc.* WRAIK. [OF *wrac* (oblique cases *wrace*, *wrece*), f., revenge, vengeance, etc., = Goth. *wraka* persecution, f the same stem as OL. *wr-ec* neut., WRAKE *sb.*¹ For the related OS. *wrâka*, OHG. *râcha*, see WRECHE *sb.*]

**1.** Suffering that comes or is inflicted as a retribution or penalty; retributive punishment, vengeance, revenge. Also (*b*) coupled with cognate terms.

*Beowulf* 2336 Him bæs gu̇kwyning, wedera þioden, wræce leonode. *c* 825 ? *c* 950 *Psalter* lvii 11 Bið gehiwod se rehta wras. Some he sceal wrecan and arleasra . . ? 1290 *St Basil's Hist.* xv 81 (MS Corpus Camb.), Ne wes unsælic wrecu þam ðe iu Caldeas bærndon Hierusaleme wealles *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 61 Bute we tunnen to gode anraðliche, þe wile his sweord dingen, þat is his wrake . . 1393 *Piers. Plowman* C. xx. Ah we schulen sechen efter wrake on alle þat we hiwieð *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13035 I dred lord þou ne bete þi sake, Þou sal noght dei wit vten wrak 1423 *Jacobs I. P.* II 386 (On) þe moste mountayne . . flokked þe folke, for ferde of þe wrake, *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xii* (*Matthias*) 179 At þe laste Iudas for wrake Ressavyt þe nek . . strake *c* 1430 *Chr. Assygne* 72 Wolt þou werne wrake to hem þat hit deser uethe? *a* 1500 *Hist K. Boccus & Sydracus* (1520) Q b, That scourge is a sword of wrake That one shyld ag ayne a nother take 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. 120 The cruell wrak of that dissimulatyd sin

(*b*) *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 13 Sel se to breczð mone lare þenne seal eou sone þe wrake muchele wrake and wike, lere and hunger *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1104 Ic wot hwar sal beo mi̇ þ wrake *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex.* 552 No cam on weolde wreche and wrake *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14 Þat worm þan droghten apik worldes broth o wrath and wrak i þrin wrakel. 1393 R BRUNNE *Hand. Synne* 3389 Per schewed God wel by Þat he kote a cursed wyf, And takeued hir wel knowe and wrake 1582 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) I 252 The grete vengiance and wrake That schulde falle for sinnes sake. *c* 1400 *Sir Isenbras* 846 Vengeraunce shalle thou on vs come With vrake and woo and wrake ! *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth* 1452 The knyghtis answerd with wo and wrake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII x. 117 Hey wrak And powerfull vengeir ye sall sall the ourtak.

**b.** In the phr. *to do, have, wirn* (= take), *ta*, or *take wrake* (*of*, *on*, or *upon* a person or thing, or with indirect object).

In freq. use *c* 1175–*c* 1483, esp. with *take*.

1*a* 900 *Laws of Ine* 18, Alf hwa wrace dó, ær hon he him ryhtes bidde . . *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii 7 Ne deð god his gecorenra wrace ? *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 9 Þa ilke wrake þe se dude þe, þa sculdest don me *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 205 God nom muchele wrake . . te mudest . . *a* 1225 *Ps. Alfred* 647 in *O. E. Misc.* 136 Þor he þe wile wrake don *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11554 On þe sakles he sulde ta wrake 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (1) 21 Þou sal noght take Or wickedly to venge him opon his euen cristen *c* 1450 *Merlin* (*Cot.* MS.) Mercy nay may they not haue wrake *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchf.* xxvi. 92 To be prevented . . to the kynge of salam and ye, for to haue wrake vpon hym . . 1500 *Hist K. Boccus* 3 *Syd. Strache* (1520) E 3, On thy goddes we shall do wrake 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. 80 Þe in mynne Cophaneus, Þat vengeans take and wrake vpon our fleit 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xxiii (S. T. S.) II 40 We desire nowthir be goddis nor men to tak ony wrak or puny sement on zow 1613 CHAPMAN *Hymns to Hymen* 289 Ill 122 Let Peace grow cruell, and take wrake of all

**c.** *In wrake of*, in revenge or punishment for. *Sc.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx (*Theodora*) 799 In wrak of hyr fals thift [the accuser] sodanely þe þef wes tan 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. vi. 91 For strang hunger wall ze stand in sic state, In wrak of our inuris and beistis slane

**2.** Adverse action, active enmity; hostility, mischief.

*a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom* (1883) 106 His sunu hiete Mars, se macoda mire gewinn, and wrohte, and saca and wræca he styrede gelome *c* 1205 LAY. 4063 Wrake wes on londe, wa wes hare wiuinnge *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath. Strat Dreames Ant.* I 262 Armes y sen and eke bataille, Hit astrif ant wrake withoute faille. *c* 1330 *Arth & Antit* 397 All thus the wrake gan bigynne, And with wrake thus went atwinne, I ho bold berne to 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXIII 85 What þorw werre and wrake and wicked hydes, May no pleu ar pees make in no place *c* 1430 *Lyne. Hist. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 225 Herein deuided haue caused mochel wrake. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth* 1675 Sy̆r gawayne And mordrate that my kelle couthe of wrake 1470–89 MALORY *Arthur* XX. 797 For and there vpon were made betwyx sy̆r launcelot and vs, wel, you wel [etc.]

**3.** Distress of body or mind, pain, suffering, misery.

*a* 1000 *Phoenix* 51 (Gr.), Nis þær on þam londe ne wop ne wracu, weatacen nan *c* 1300 *Bonaventura's Medit* 960 My brepren also, kepe hem fro wrake 13 *Sir Beues* (A.) 398 A was þrough in tene & wrake Ofte for þat childes sake. 13 *Leg. St Gregory* 138 He tok þat child wipouten lese and bar it hom wipouten wrake *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *M. Kath.* 866 Þa walle turne wall to wrake & to dole *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventriæ* 189 He hall suffer for mannys sake moch gret wrow and wrake

**4.** Destructive harm or injury; wrecked, ruined, or impaired state or condition; ruin, destruction, wreck.

*a* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 149 in *O. E. Misc.* 111 For God may gliuen wunne he wole good þeat vuel, wele after wrake *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1813 He wol þe chacy as 22 fo & werche þe sorwe & wrake. *a* 1400 *R Gloucester's Chron* (Rolls) II. 786 Her was mochele manqualm, wrake was in londe *c* 1400 *Antars of Arth* xvii, I here wrechut wurmus wurchen me thus wrake . . (Thus to wrake an I wrouke, Wayner, wrec. *c* 1450 *Guy Warw* (C.) 2158 For they sake To vs ye comen moche wrake, And all for the loue of the . . 1470–85 MALORY *Arth* VII. xx. 344 He wil doo moche harme . and worche you wrake in this countray *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Banks Helicon* 47 Fals Helene caused King Priamus wrak [c. wrake] In Troy . . 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist Scot* (S. T. S.) II 178 That nal hatred war nocht the occasioun of the wrake of the hail Realme . . 1600 CHETTLE *Hoffman* (1631) B 4 b, Newes more welcome then the sad discourse Of Leonibery our nephewes timeles wrake

**b.** In the phr. *to bring vnto, to fall into, to go, put, or work to wrake.*

*a* 1225 *Cursor M.* 9204 (Trin.), Ierusalem was stroyed & takes þat kyngdome fel in to wrake *c* 1295 *Nun Cycle Mystr Pl* 35 Alas, all pen had gone to wrake ! Wold ye haue alayne my son Isaac ! *c* 1433 *Chron Tomdon* (Kingsford, 1903) 25 Turrours went also to Wrake, wher that they myght be flounde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. 110 By multitude and nomer on vs set All zeid to wrak *c* 1550 R. BIRKTON *Hospital Fortune* A 13 b, Displeasure and thought doth bring him vnto wrake *Satir. Poems Reform* I. 107 Whilk made mucle myserye, and wrought this realme to wrake. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 158 Quhen thay war put to wrake

**5.** An instance or occasion of suffering or inflicting vengeance, harm, injury, or the like.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4990 Now es vs comen our aid sakes In to wonder wer, and wrakes. 13 *Cursor M.* 23 Þe first wrak þat ever was born on wyȝes 13 *Cursor M.* 1568 Kyng Rychard hys hostel gun take, Þhir he gan hys fyrste wrak *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* xxvi. 261, I wrak3 3 nyȝter3 has our tane þis Bretune *Ibid.* xxvi. 533 Thou wrak3es me in þ gaste rnase *c* 1440 *Jone Bonce* 1077 God had sende on hym a wrake, That in the palsye can he schake *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 948 I haue sworne to venge hy̆ of many wrakes

*a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S. T. S.) I. 225 Sendand nathing bot wrakis to come to hir pretendit husband

† **Wrake**, *v.*¹ **Wrakeden**, revenge *Obs. rare* —.

*c* 1205 LAY. 76 For þe wrakedonn of Menefrus queene, . . for hire weorenn on ane daȝe hund þousunt deade

† **Wrake**, *sb.*² Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 6–7 *Sc.* WRAK (6 WRAIK), 7 WRAIK. [var. of WRACK *sb.*²; the form may be due to the influence of the preceding word.]

**1.** Shipwreck; = WRACK *sb.*² 2.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. 111 *Aneating*, How that Enee wes with the tempest schuk, And how Neptune his nawy saint fra wrak. 1530 PALSG. s. 299/2 Wrake of a shippe, *naufrage* 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xxiii (S. T. S.) II 40 Þe wrak of þe schip

1544 *Aberdeen Reg* (1844) I. 205 Ane schip of fyr, quhilk was storit as wrak in tu cumin in the havyn 1581 *Sc Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III 255/2 The hill walk and way þt that ar hippet to be fund within the boundis of ane saidis landis or sic cost throuff 1610 *Reg Mag. Sig. Scot.* 146/1 Cum he wrak et wair, pretanis de I e 3 air de Avach, silver wrak et wair, banis . . 1624 [see WAITAGE 2]. 1634 *Extracts Burgh Rec Tranark* (1893) 327 With furk, fork, cert, vair, wrak, vennysone.

**2.** Sea-weed; = WRACK *sb.*² 2.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Ir ch wior*, Wrake of the see 1597, 1657 [see SEA OAK]. *c* 1600 KENNETT in *Prompt. Parv* (1865) 533 Reste, sea-weed, of some called reists, of others wrake, or ware.

**4.** *Sc.* A wrecked edifice, etc *rare* —1.

*c* 1625 A CRAIG in H Pinsent *Antient* STS) I 23 One man consecratis religius works to Gods . . one Other leavs sad wrak to his posteritie now.

† **Wrake**, *sb.*³ *Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* wrak. [var of WRACK *sb.*³; for the long vowel cf. WRAKE *v.* 1] Refuse, rubbish; something worthless.

*a* 1350 *Northern Passion* (G.) 1372 þe met of hat oþir liȝte he wold nouȝt ete, Wiþ wrake & schrewid ȝarn he was cloþed 1630 Awel bei alongen hit alle for wrake *a* 1586 *Maitland Quarto MS.* (S. T. S.) 122 Sum h upe is ȝit that my sericus sall spair, Wt vthir vnhuklk I wait I am bot ane wrak 1824 A. CRAIG *Poet. Ess* C 3, Then shuld we not lan poynted at for wrake, scorne, and disgrace.

† **Wrake**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Also 4 *north.*, 5 *Sc.* **wrak**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wraik**. [Prob. = Du. Hrreg. var. of *wreke* WREAK *v.* prob. influenced by WRAKE *sb.*¹] Cf. MDu *wraken*, var. of *wreken*; M l G. *waken* to torture.

OE *wracenede occurs as var. of wræc-ende* (= casting on) in *Orosius* I. xi.

**1.** *Trans.* = WREAK *v.*¹ 1. Occas. *refl.* Also *fig.*

*c* 1205 LAY. 6015 Wrake we us on Beuttes & in to þan londen we sullen fiȝhtenn *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6236 Bot þan i sal me on him wrak *Ibid.* 6595 Dright sal me on ȝow wrak [*c.* wrek] Ȝe sal noght ga þat I sal no wrak *c* 1400 *Pistle of Ly.* 88 in *Anecdote Myst., Pilate* 90 Deth & Life strauth a sterne strife King of Life to wrake.

**2** *intr.* To execute vengeance (*on* a person).

*a* 1300 *Cursr M.* 25458 O mans-sauler þrid I man wrak, Ne man sa wild in wa to wrak [*Fairf.* wrak.], To rue ȝe grene and gra *Ibid* 27450 Quare euer he mai ȝ at man ouer-tak, He sal wit wrake ȝe quare he wrak [*Fairf* wrek].

**3** a. To be wroth or angry. *rare* —1.

*a* 1300 *F. Psalter* vii 12 (P.), God demer right, beland, and strang, Nou wrakes [*r.* wrathes] he daites alle lang?

b. To be violent or furious; to rage.

*c* 1330 *King of Tars* 148 Gret were tho bigon to wrake, For the marriage ne moste he take Of that myȝden heende

**4.** *trans.* To vent (one's wrath); = WREAK *v.* 3.

1568 SMITH *Serm* F Q 11 vet 14 Ah wofull man, what wrath of cruell wight on thee ȝ wrake ,doth thee thus wretched make ?

b. To take (vengeance) *on* some one.

1595 *Mem. Capt Peter Drake* I xiii 103 In the End, I sufficiently raked my Vengeance on Mrs Dickering

† **Wrake**, *v.*² *Sc. Obs.* Also **wraik**(e. [var. of WRACK *v.*² Cf. WRAKE *sb.*²]

**1.** *trans.* To bring (a person) to ruin; = WRACK *v.*² 3. Also *refl.*

1572 *Satir Poems Reform* XVIII. 142 And schow wer wraikit, all the warld may weyr, Than wald the Duke but dout ressaif ye croun *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot* (S. T. S.) I 71 They thocht no thing better nor to wrake them and that with extreme weirs 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* (S. T. S.) 41 Be the Lord the wicked wraikes. 1603 *Philotus* lix, Quhome haue ȝe wraikit bot ȝour awin. 1621 [see WRACK *v.*² 3, quot. 1567].

**2.** To subvert or overthrow.

1570 *Satir Poems Reform* XIV 74 Apperandly thir plagis ar powrit out To wrak this warld and wait ȝe quhair about ? 1574 *Ibid.* xlv 447 Quhen the Kirk ȝe ȝit haue wraikit, ȝit all the Kirkis sall not be stabilit. *a* 1614 ? MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 246 I he presuming of the cheiff corrupt members had vtuat and wraikit the estaet of the Kirk

**3.** To hurt, harm, or injure severely; to damage, wreck, or ruin materially.

1570 *Satir Poems Reform* XXIV 8 Quhair furious Flem ing schot his Ordinance, Willing to wrak him wantit na guide will 1578 *Sc Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III 113/2 Sum of thair bowsis wyffis and bairnes ar slane and thairfra allutirlie wraikit and brount 1596 in *Spald ing Club Misc* (1841) I 88 His hail ger surmounting to mair nor three thowsand lib ar altogidder wraikit and brunt 1607 *Perth Kirk Reg.* (1840) II 295 Dumbartane is likkie to be wraikit be the inundatioun of the witer of Clyde 1620 in *Rec. Convent Burghs Scot* (1880) IV 169 Ane bunk named the Generall, was wraked in this harbour.

**3.** *intr.* = WRACK *v.*² 4. *rare*—1.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform* xii 6 Thocht not, in our dayis, Hephimus will wraik vpon the wrang of the King

Hence † **Wra king** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1569 *Dwarn Or. wr* (Bann Cl.) 247 The wraking of James erle of Mortoun and his assistaris

† **Wrake**, *v.*³ *Sc.* Also 7 **wraik**. [a (M)LG. *witken* (whence Sw. *vraka*, Da. *vrage*), older Du. *wraken*, Du. *wreken*, older Flem *wraecken* (Kilian), to reject, etc. Cf. WRACK *v.*³] *trans.* To examine (goods, etc.) with a view to rejecting or destroying the unsound, faulty, or damaged. Hence WRAKING *vbl. sb.*

1584 *Inverk Rec. Lamb* (1886) I. 341 All the bening and quhyte fische that sall happin within the said ȝet to be strukin vp, vi stet and wraket 1599 in *Acc Convent Burghs Scot* (1870) II 60 Anent the office of jedgene wraking and tuichseing of all fische and vtheris maner of thingis 1609 *Dict* 284 Nane to be trans rit furth of the realm quhill that [sc. herring barrels] be prekit, wraikit and merkett as follows.

† **Wra keful**, *a. Obs.* [f WRAKE *sb.*¹ + FUL Cf. WRACKFUL *a* 1, WREAKFUL *a* 1]

**1.** Vengeful; = WRACKFUL *a.*¹

*a* 1225 [implied in WRAKEFULLY] *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test Cres* 29 And wraikfull sentence gaue on Cresseid

**2** Of persons. Revengeful.

*a* 1300 *F. Psalter* xvii 51 (P.), Deserue in be iuist and dui Era mi foes wrakeful [*r.* wrathful] are

**3** ? Wicked; sinful

*c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric* iv 23 Þis wrakeful werkes under wede in soule vnleleth sone.

**4.** *Sc.* Destructive

*c* 1625 *Bissets Rolment* (STS) I 22 Fun in tha n t thow reserst a Monument That all the spyte of wraikfull tyme out face.

Hence † **Wra kefully** *adv*, vengefully *Obs*

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 364 Wilk God so wrikefulliche awreken him upon sunne ? *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath. Strat Dreames Ant.* I 362 Hu wrakefulliche (*v. rr.* Mȝ wrakeliche] wenestu wule ha ant wre3ke uppon þe, wrecche !

† **Wra ker**, *Sc. Obs.* [f. WRAKE *v.*¹ + ER¹ or a (M)LG. -*ere*, -*er*.] Cf. WRACKER 2.] One who inspects goods and rejects or destroys the faulty.

1584 *Sc Acts, Jas. VI*, III (1814) 300 [10] appr int ane discrete man to be visitour, wraker [*v.r* wrucker] gauer and lumar of the saidis treis 1584 *Burgh Rec. Ayr* (1882) IV 143 Jadgeares, wrikeres, visitouris and markeris of the haill hering and quhyte fishe that sall cum within the port 1598 in *Rec. Convt Burghs Scot* (1880) I. 31 Ladger, inspectour, or wraker of all barrellis and hoghedis of salmond and hering

† **Wrakling**, *Sc. Obs.* Also -lin, -lyne, -lene. [ad MLG. *wrakelinge*, MDu *wrakelinc* (whence also Sw. *vrakling*) plank-nail, Da. dial. *vrækling*.] A large make of nail, esp. used in shipbuilding. Also *collect*

1494 *Ac L H & Treas S of* I 250 The expensis for the ma ken of the eine greibis of the large [include] for wrakliynys bocht vp[*sic*] *Ibid* 251 vij stone and xij pundis of bollis and wrakling 1496 *Ibid.* 310 And the tuasdal of ingil bowsalet, and mȝm wraklene

*attrib.* 1497 *Sec Id Hist Treas Scot.* I 334, iijd gret wrakkin nailis.

† **Wrall**, *sb. Obs rare* Also **wrawl** [*f.* next.] **1** A winding or twisting; a twist or coil

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P.* A xviii 11 Cimb MS), Pe edible emphlewes . . ȝelep wil wralles [*A.* 1495 wrynkles] corckles & dentes of he boon

**2.** A wrinthed decoration or ornamentation.

1540 In A Green *Lat H Soc* (1856) II xlvi p 11, Item, 2 spones with wrawles. *Ibid* p 12, 2 spones with wralls.

† **Wrall**, *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin; cf. WRAELL *v.*] *Trans.* To wreathe, wind, or twist; to convolve.

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P.* R xix (Tollem MS.), Theese holes ben set in þe ut in lon [of the ear] and ben wralled and wounde as a spyrulet of a presse *Ibid.* xxii. lxxx,

Genista] haþ ·selow floures in somer, hikke and wrallid [L. *involuta*]. *Ibid.* xviii. lv. (Bodl. MS.). Serpentes and adders þat may blinde and wralle and folde is owne boilie.

*fig.* c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 1. 370 Such successours [of Peter] ben to bold, In winning al their wit they wral.

Hence † **Wra·lling** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxxix. (Bodl. MS.). Smallinge smoke ..croked wip many bendinges and wrallinges.

**Wrall,** etc. : see Wrawl, etc.

**Wramp** (wæmp), *sb. north. dial.* and † *Sc.* Also **9 ramp.** [Of obscure origin. Cf. M.LG. *wrampachtich*, Da. *vrampet* warped, twisted.] A twist or sprain. Chiefly *fig.*

1669 Fleming *Fulfilling of Scripture* (1671) 99 How dreadful it is to give the conscience a wramp which is more easily hurt then healed. 1690 D. Williamson *Serm. bef. King's Commissioner* 17 Young ones may get a wramp, and a wrong set by bad Masters. *a* 1706 in J. Watson *Coll. Poems* I. 60 It will be better than Swine Steam, Potany Wramp or Mirrie. 1794 M. Sutherland *Y. Kennedie's Boys' Perth* (1827) II. 138 Grieved for the Wounds and Wramps, Stabs and Strokes his Mother Church of Scotland hath received. 1747 Erskine *Misc. Pieces* (1871) 50 Jokingly ..I fell, Pretendin some unlucky wramp or stremb. 1846 Brockett *N.C. Words* (ed. 3). 1878 in Comb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*).

**Wramp** (wæmp), *vbl. sb. north. dial.* and *Sc.* [Collated to prec.] Sprain. To twist or sprain (the ankle, etc.) ; to rick or wrench.

1808 Jamieson s.v. *Ibid.*, Cumb., I've wrampit my kute. 1878 in Cumb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*). 1897 Lo. E. Hamilton *Outlines* 201 He's wrampit his ankle.

**Wran,** Sc. or dial. var. Wren.

† **Wranchevel.** *Obs.*[-1] (Meaning obscure.)

c 1325 Short Ram *Poems* 1. 1008 þe fend hit was þat schente hyt [*sc.* spousing] al Myd gyle and hys abette, Wranchevel.

**Wrancke,** obs. erron. f. Rank *a.* **Wranckle,** obs. erron. f. Rankle *v.* **Wrang,** obs. or dial. pa. t. of Wring *v.* ; obs., dial., or Sc. var. Wrong.

† **Wrangel.** *Obs.* [Cf. Wrong *sb.*!] The rib of a boat. Also *attrib.* in *wrangel-nail.*

1356 *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III* (Comp. Scotland in ..[1900] de Wrangelnaille et xlvij. doleis vacuis emptis. 1511 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 151 Reparacions of makyng and amendyng the Boote belongyng to the Bridge..Item..for ij wrangells, xviij*d*. Item..for ij wrangells, viij*d*.

**Wranglan(d)s** : see Wranlons, Wragland, and Wrong *a.* 1.

**Wrangle** (rængʼl), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An angry dispute or noisy quarrel; an altercation or bitter disputation.

1547 Latymer in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1350/2 Or els he had neuer come into this wrangle for his own goods with your brother. 1621 Cotgr., *Noise*, a brabble,..wrangle, squabble. 1632 *Lites Pan's* (Camd. Soc.) 11 [This] animated all those persons who were mutinous & discontented ..to raise wrangles & cavills at what ever I did. 1732 Swift *Consid. Two Bills* Wks. 1841 II. 225 I am but one humble member of wranglers and litigious suits in the spiritual courts. 1779 G. Keate *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 72 When discord agitated the assembly of the gods, and their wranglings had made a bear-garden of Olympus. 1787 J. Jesson *Hertf.* (1859) II. 335 The complicated wrangles of this continent. 1839 T. Mitchell *Progs of Aristoph.* p. cxi, Preferring the songs of Colonean nightingales to the wrangles of the Agora. 1859 Holland *Gold Foil* xxiv. 277 The disgraceful wrangles of the religious newspapers. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 2 (1882) 471 Each should be selected after a long wrangle between the borough and the officers.

*attrib.* 1602 Parsons *Warn.-need to Sir F. Hastings* 22 The arrival of D. E. his wrangle-word. *Ibid.* 56 This pelting marchant comming later to the Assembly wrangles ouer so vnimportant matters. *transf.* 1866 G. A. Lawrence *Sans Merci* II. 235 There are days when [the horse]..will jump only on compulsion ; but he has to deal with sharp spurs and bands of iron ; and he has never once put much the best of a wrangle.

† **2. a.** A disputatious answer or argument. b. A controversy. *Obs.*

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 21 b, To the fourme of wordes he hath formed a wrangle, the matter he graunteth belike to be true. 1752 Law *Spirit of Love* I. (1760) 1 Your Objections rather tend to stir up the Powers of Love, than the Wrangle of Dead Debate.

**3.** Without article : The action of wrangling; angry altercation or argument; noisy dispute or contention.

*a* 1797 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) III. iii. 81 From this dialogue the assembly fell to wrangle, and broke to quarrelling. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. xci, None can hate So much as I do any kind of wrangle. 1834 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) II. 159 They are too well and ill enough together to turn the stream of wrangle into a new channel. 1872 Talmage *Serm.* 255 The Book of Job has been the subject of unbounded theological wrangle.

**Wrangle** (rængʼl), *v.* Also 7 **8 rangle.** [Cf. LG. *wrangeln*, MHG. *rangelen*, frequentative f. *rangen* (= MLG. and LG. *wrangen*) to struggle, wrestle, make uproar, related to *ringen*; see Wring *v.*]

1. *intr.* To dispute angrily ; to argue noisily or vehemently ; to altercate, contend ; to bicker.

1377 [see Wrangling *vbl. sb.*]. 1552 Huloet, *Altercor*, to contende with wordes, to wrangle. 1582 N. T. (Rheim.) 2 *Tim.* ii. 24 The servant of the Lord must not wrangle. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* i. (1925) 81 The contrarie to right would be soon espied, howsoeuer it [*sc.* the tongue] wrangle. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Humility* iv, Here it is For which ye wrangle. 1633 Walton *Angler* 211 None do here Use to swear, (hathes do fray Fish away. Fishers must not rangle. 1704 Prior *Let. to M. Boileau Despreaux* 192 With too much Heat, We sometimes wrangle, when We should debate. 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* I. viii, First secure what share you can before you wrangle for the rest. 1776 Goldsm. *Retal.* 55 Now wrangling and grumbling to keep up the ball. 1847 James *Convict* III, Sometimes they laughed and wrangled good-humouredly enough. 1867 [T. Wright] *Some Habits Working Classes* 124 Even in cases in which no premeditated resolve to wrangle exists, wrangles often occur. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. iii. 92 While his Norman lords were wrangling.

b. Const. *about, against, anent, over,* and esp. *with* (a person).

*c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* II. 526 Why cleimen they wholy his power, And wrangen ayenst al his hests? *c* 1400 *Langland's P. P. C.* xviii. 80 Paugh coueytyes wolde with be paune wraxle [*Camb. MS.* wrangle] þei mai nat come togeders. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* v. ii. (Arb.) Be contente men with you haue wrangled About the promise of mariage by you to them made. 1596 Bell *Surv. Popery* II. 194 Howsoeuer you wrangle about your formall successors. 1609 Dekker *Guls' Horn-bk.* 1. 6 Did man..come wrangling into the world, about no better matters? 1650 W. Bell *Cosmins' Gate Lang. Unl.* ¶ 705 They wrangle anent... that universal and present remedie, whether it bee to bee had or no. 1794 Sir Fox *Very. among Druids* (1890) 353 Quarrelling and wrangling about their wealth. 1796 Lit. Hardwicke to Harris *Life* (1847) II. 290 Wrangling about titles, they lose the objects. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxiii, They sometimes wrangle with her for an hour together under my study window. 1859 Jerdon *Brittany* I. 3 While rival farmers wrangle over rates and road-making. 1870 *Verney Memoirs* II. 235 [They] were still wrangling with his mother and his many creditors.

*fig.* 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iv. 144 Mens Natures wrangle with inferior things. 1814 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* K 2 b, Let us no longer wrangle with our Wittes, Or daily with our Fortunes. 1815 G. Sandys *Trav.* 209 The winden favorable, and the seas composed ; but anon they began to wrangle and we to suffer.

*transf.* 1604 Crashaw *Delights Muses, Mystikes Duell* 43 A nightingale, In controverting warbles evenly shar'd, With her sweet selfe shee wrangles.

c. To make a noise suggestive of or comparable to wrangling ; to jangle.

1826 J. Hunt *Rimini* I. 178 The golden bits keep wrangling as they champ. 1833 Longf. *M. Angelo* I. ii. 81 in. Low and loud the bells..Jangle and wrangle in their airy towers.

2. To argue or debate; to engage in controversy ; formerly also, to dispute or discuss publicly as at a university, for or against a thesis, etc. Freq. const. *about, over, upon, with.* Also with clause (quots. *a* 1586, 1586).

1570 Dranе *Serm.* C iij b, Hence wrangle the Iesuites, hence wratle the Sophonistes. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 41 Aristotle bids us from barbarous wrangle ; auoiding wrangling, whether Vertue bee the chiefe, or the onely good. 1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 46, I must wrangle while you sit at ease with your butter. 1618 Bolton *Flor. Lud. Lat.* (1697) 208 In wrangling about words, not inquiring after the purposes, and to the point. 1638 R. Baker in *Baldwin's Life* (ed. II) 31 Is being resolved..to forsake my own opinion, if any man will wrangle with me for it. 1666 J. Beck in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. B. p. lxvii, The Commencers and their Sophisters are disputing and wrangling there until the clock strikes 5. 1738 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 49 All the question (wrangle e'er so long) Is only this, if God has plac'd him wrong! 1773 Lit. Shebbeare to Wilkes (1774) I. 1. viii, 1. About which we see men wrangle and dispute without end. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 4 When..few [were ready] to write or wrangle for their creed. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 365 The factions of the Parliament House, swe-struck by the common danger, forgot to wrangle. 1877 Lord Derby *Homer & Golden Horn* 75 For this reason..the Assembly wrangles over unimportant matters.

*transf.* a 1608 in Davison *Poet. Rhapsody* (1621) 302 Tell vit how much it wrangles In tickle points of niceness. 1898 H. Bowden *Worship, for Many Sects* vi. (1901) 53 He thinks that judges God..stumbles, complains, wrangles, and finds no issue to its labour.

3. *trans.* † a. With *out* : To argue out (a case, dispute, etc.) ; to contest or dispute contentiously to an end or issue. *Obs.*

1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* iv. vi, If I make 'hem not wrangle out this case to his no comfort. 1632 Brome *North. Lass* v. ix, While they wrangle out their cause, let vs agree. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 111. ¶ 2 If he could but wrangle out a vexatious dispute. 1728 [Dr Fog] *Street-Robberies* 4 The poor Captain was left to wrangle it out with the Footmen.

b. In *pass.* To be argued or debated.

*a* 1734 North *Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 165 And so it was wrangled off and on till the Session ended.

c. To utter wranglingly. *rare*[-1].

1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* iv. xxxviii, All that had been wrote or wrangled thereupon in the schools and porticoes of the learned.

† **4.** To get (something) *out of* a person by bargaining. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1664 Capt. Smith *Virginia* iii. 75 We wrangled out of the King ten quarters of Corne for a copper Kettell.

**5.** To influence or persuade (a person) by wrangling or contention ; to argue *out of* a possession, etc., *or in* to some state.

1633 Burroughs *Sm. Pers. Sins* (1653) 4 Princes, disdaining to bee wrangled out of the ancient rights and regalities. 1658 Brannhall *Consecr. Bps.* viii. 282 To wrangle the Church of England out of a good possession. *a* 1699 Ile, Brownine. *Serm.* (1704) I. xii. 165 Will a man..be wrangled out of his Evidences? 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 525 All the devils in hell shall never wrangle a believer out of his heavenly inheritance. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 70 The Latter would have wrangled 'em out of it. 1847

Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* viii, Moral philosophy [has] wrangled the world in and out of its senses.

b. To force or drive *out of* a place by wrangling. 1693 C. Mathes *Wond. Inv. World* 26 To wrangle the Devil out of the Country, will be truly a new Experiment.

† **c.** *refl.* To harass (oneself) by altercation. *Obs.*

1649 Jer. Sanderson in D'Oyly *Life Sancroft* II. 402 When we have wrangled ourselves as long as our wits and strengths will serve us. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 8 (1726) 37 In this..mischievous course have these our reverend old mothers continued for several centuries, wrangling themselves about trifles.

**6.** With *away, out.* To consume, spend, or pass away (time) in wrangling. *rare.*

1794 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* IV. 230 They..may at last possibly agree to wrangle out the evening of their lives together. 1903 R. Grenett *W. Shakespeare* 53 Do I weakly Wrangle away my precious moments?

**7.** *Western U. S.* To take charge of (horses) ; to herd. ,

1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* xiii. 197 Forrest detailed Red Wheat to wrangle the horses, for we intended to take Honeyman with us.

**Wrangled,** *ppl. a.*[1] ? *Obs.* [Cf. Rangle *v.*] Wreathed ; twisted ; injured by twisting.

*a* 1560 Phaer *Æneid* VIII. (1562) Bbij, Both noise and feare thei mingled through their work, and wrangled wraithes of following flames. 1897 in *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1 The stump..was harder than his head ; and his arm was a little wrangled, as we may say, by pitching on it.

**Wrangled** (rængʼld), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Wrangle *v.* + -ed1.] Disputed, contested.

1876 Mrs Henderson *Tenant in Tail* The children returning ..to ask loudly for arbitration on some wrangled point.

**Wrangler** (rængʼlə). [f. as prec. + -er1.]

1. One who wrangles or quarrels; an angry or noisy disputer or arguer.

*c* 1515 *Cocks Lorelle's B. B.* 4 Here is gylys Fogeler of ayebery,..With wralys the wrangler. *c* 1560 *Disc. Creatures Mor.* v. Bij b, Many one..agaynst Lawe and Reason sometyme will stryue and..be the first wrangler. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Lucilla..will either shun mee out for a wrangler, or cast mee off for a freshwater. 1581 J. Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 68 Giles James, a snaggerer and wrangler, much discommended. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 159 Convinced gainesayers and wranglers they are, in stead of conquerors. 1741 Warton *Jumper. Miscell.* xii. 120 Rather like well-bred gentlemen in polite conversation, than like noisy and contentious wranglers. 1790 Cowper *Iliad* I. 360 But this wrangler here—Nought will please him but the highest place. 1809 Irving *Knickerb.* iv. i, His name.. was a corruption of *Ayver*, that is to say, a *wrangler* or *scolder*. *a* 1901 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1903) *Mid. Ages* (1908) 107 Henry the Wrangler conspired with the Czechs of Bohemia.

*fig.* and *transf.* 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 129 Where so the wofull Louer is, euen there also is he [*sc.* Cupid], In bedde the wrangler will not misse his pillowbeare to be. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 75 The Sea's a Hog Wmole cold Wrangler[s] tooke a Boyce. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Family* ii, What doth this noise of thoughts within my heart?..Lord,..Turn out these wranglers, which defile thy seat.

*Prov.* 1616 Drake *Bibl. Scholast.* 244 A wrangler neuer wanteth words. 1672 T. Hunt *Abeced. Scholast.* 18 Many Lawyers, many Wranglers.

b. One who engages in argument, debate, or controversy ; a debater, disputant, or controversialist.

1561 T. N[orton] *Calvin's Inst.* iv. xviii. 145 b, Nowe least any wrangler should stirre vs vp stirife by reason of the names of sacrifice and priest. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 90, I set downe the proportions..to content wranglers, who..will..take occasion to..detract from that which they cannot disprooue. 1610 *Lit. Cambridge* (1824) 49 Teaching them the subtilities of Logic, which as it is usually practised, enables them for little more than to be excellent wranglers. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xvii. § 11 These general Maxims..are of great Use in Disputes, to stop the Mouths of Wranglers. 1742 Warburton *Div. Legat.* II. ii. Append. 13 There is indeed a Time when a serious Writer would not trouble himself to confute or set a Wrangler right. 1774 Reid *Aristotle's Logic* vi. § 1 (1788) 227 A man who has studied logic all his life may be, after all, only a petulant wrangler. 1842 H. Taylor *Eadtha* iv. 70 The argumentative resources of the modern..wrangler *(earlier edd.* sooic). 1881 Paxton Hood *Christmas Essays* 161 He was not a wrangler, not disposed to maintain debates as to his rights.

c. The name for each of the candidates who have been placed in the first class in the mathematical tripos at Cambridge University. See Tripos 2, and cf. Senior *a.* 3.

1750 *Friendly Adv. Old Terry to Vis.-C. Cambr.* (1751) 26 The Wranglers..have usually expected, that all the young Ladies of their Acquaintance..should wish them Joy of their Honours. 1792 in C. Wordsworth *School. Life* (1877) 123, I did above three times as much as the Senior Wrangler last year. 1822 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 571/2 These two drivellers are represented as having been fellow-wranglers at College! 1831- [see Senior *a.* 3]. Knatchbull *G. Hamilton* xii, He took up his books once more, and came forth third wrangler. 1874 C. Wordsworth *Soc. Life Eng. Univ.* 230 The set for Com. Priora, Feb. 9, 1774 ..being the earliest which bears on its back a list of the Wranglers and Senior Optimes.

*fig.* c 1820 Byron *Diary* Wks. (1826) 630/2 Lady B. would have made an excellent wrangler at Cambridge.

**2.** *Western U. S.* One who is in charge of a string of horses or ponies on a stock-farm ; a herder.

1888 Roosevelt in *Cent. Mag.* April 852/2 There are two herders, always known as 'horse-wranglers'—one for the day and one for the night. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV.

405/2 One of them would overpower the 'wrangler' in the darkness, and turn the horses loose.

**Wranglership.** [*f.* prec. + -SHIP.] The position or rank of a wrangler of Cambridge University.

1792 in Wordsworth *School Acad* (1877) 323 I'm perfectly satisfied that the Senior Wranglership is Peacock's due. 1843 R J Graves *Syst. Clin Med* xxx 397 Obtaining the senior moderatorship [in Dublin university] (analogous to the wranglership of the English universities). 1886 *Standard* 30 Jan 3/2 To witness the last conferment of degrees under the old system of Wranglership. 1883 Miss M. Bertram-Edwards *Disarmed* xxx, Those young ladies as yet outside the intellectual region of Wranglerships and the Classical Tripos.

*attrib.* 1872 *Daily News* 25 Mar, Mep break down under a wranglership competition.

**Wranglesome** (rɛ'ngl'sŏm), *a colloq* or *dial.* [*f.* Wrangle *sb.* + -some.] Given to wrangling; quarrelsome; contentious, peevish.

1821 *Ann Reg., Chron.* App 211/1 Why do you flurry yourself so much? the child is only a little wranglesome and cross. 1847 Halliwell. 1869– in dialect use (Yks, Lanc, and Chesh)

**Wrangling,** *vbl sb* [f. Wrangle *v* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb, noisy quarrelling.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B iv. 34 There as wrathe and wrangling is here wynne hel shuet shiluer 1552 Gardiner *Pol Obed. Prince* 154 As for such other wranglyng shall after be spoken of by further occasion 1598 Florio, *Contesa*, a strife, a debate or wrangling 1653 W Rameny *Astrol. Restored* 137 Mars causes law-suits and wrangling. 1708 Ramsay *Three bonnets* iv 137 The king of brutes wad rage Wi' hoofless wrangling in his cage 1813 Scott *Rokeby* iii. 22, Though wild debate And wrangling rend our ancient state 1882 Sir C Dilke in Gwynn *Life* (1917) I 406 Much unseemly wrangling would be prevented for many years

*fig.* 1809 Annie *Randall Ser* 1 2 Love will become as well, when wrangling wrestles with such violent murie

b. Controversial argument or debate, contentious disputation.

1626 Bacon *Lord. Let* 119 There falleth out amongst them all times much wrangling about the questions 1641 Milton *Reformation* 25 What wrangling the Bishops and Monks had about the reading, or not reading of Origen 1679 Penn *Addr Protest* 11 Such Philosophy become little else than an Art of Rangling upon a multitude of Idle Questions 1720 S Payne *Rp. A Cumberland's Scutcheon* 7 xxvii, His Averseness to any like Wrangling made him leave his B ok to shift for it self 1768–74 Tucker *Lt Nat* (1834) II 331 All that wrangling and writhing wherewith the Prophecies have been pulled by freethinkers 1827 Whately *Logic* 26 A view of such rules is much instead of deserving to be called the art of wrangling, be [etc] 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxv 436 A refuge from platform oratory and sensational wrangling

*attrib* c 1700 Pomfret *Stephen & Lore* 20 Those dull pedantic rules, They had coll-ted from the wrangling schools. 1708 Rowe *Ambitious Stepmother* i 1, Unpractis'd in Disputes, and wrangling Schools

2 A wrangle; a noisy quarrel.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 472 They that can not suffer the wranglings of young students 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iii *Vocation* 1152 He heard amid the street A wrangling, jangling, and a murmur rude 1668 Glanvill *Plus Ultra* Pref., Consider me as a Person that love calmness all Wranglings 1797 Swift *To Stella 7* Not in Wranglings to engage With such a stupid vicio is Age 1788 V Knox *Winter Even* lxx (1790) I 530 The wranglings of Cambridge, and the disputations of Oxford 1811 to give young men a controversial turn, which [etc] 1821 Hogg *Sardanapa* II. 1, I rule with these wranglings, and but hear me! 1830 Lamb *Elia* 1st *Drama* 56 A University wrangling concerning who should be greatest in the kingdom of Christ.

**Wrangling,** *ppl a.* [f as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That wrangles, quarrels, or disputes; engaged or embroiled in, given to, or characterized by, noisy altercation or dispute; contentious.

1489 *Caxton Paternoster* (Camden) 162 His attorney ys a wrong lying felow, he wold nat ordy mony but nemyng grutes a 1529 Skelton *Agst Garnesche* ii 40 I wil unstylsore, ye mamosset, Wranglynge, wynsynge, wytles wrangynge, and nothyng meke. 1581 A Hall *Iliad* v 100 Mars is a wrangling craking wretche 1633 P I Fletcher *Purple Isl* viii xxxvi, The third Heretique, a wrangling Arrian 1698 Fryer *Acc E India & Persia* 68 Mount Mr *Boscabine's Rocks for I ir ats* I xxxi (1674) 36 It might serve for a Lesson to wrangling Countries 1718 Pope *Let to Caryll* 18 Jan, The unwholesome labours of wrangling statesmen, and the quarrelsome ones of unchart table diviners. 1759 Dilworth *Pr Sc* 39 After the death of poor wrangling Demas. 1800 Wordsw *Expostulation & Reply* 2 Ye wrangling Schoolmen of the acrid hood! 1824 Scott *Betrothed* Conclusion, For wrangling curs will fight over a banquet as fiercely as over a bare bone 1846 Mrs J Marsh *Father Darcy* II v. 118 The wrangling nobles of Philistia.

*transf* and *fig.* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Dd iv, A wrangling tongue is the best language that I hear 1721 Sheffield (Dk Buckhm) *Wks* (1753) I. 15 I by happy stroke can into softness bring Reason, that rough and wrangling thing 1898 Meredith *Odes fr Fleet, Interlusion* xiii, Alas he, the bright day's husband, Beheld a wrangling heart, as 'twere her soul On eddies of wild waters cast 1899 Swin burne *Tristram of* I 18 Let no wrangling breath distune the peace that shines about us.

b. Noisy; clamorous; also *transf*, jangling.

1608 Machin *Dumb Knt* III E 3 b, When the old nurse to still the wrangling babe, Shall sing the carefull story of my death 1845 Longf *Belfry of Bruges, Carillon* ii, When the wrangling bells had ended. 1858 Mrs Gore *Life's Less* xi II. 227 Her remote Dale, with its wrangling beck 1891 *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 214/1 So has it fared with the marshlands with their wrangling sea fowl.

2. Of the nature of wrangling: contentious, noisy, clamorous.

1556 Gardner *Explic Christ's Presence* 43 Whereof this auctor may not think nowe as vpon a wrangling argument, to satisfie a conscience diuised. 1624 Raleigh *Lett World* iii vi § 6 To finde him buse in wrangling altercation. 1641 Milton *Animadv* 57 Because hee may not as a Judge sit out the wrangling noyse of litigious Courts. 1663 Dr Patrick *Parab Pilgr* xix, This wrangling peece of learning 1728 Hobonim in Ixelle *Life & Writings* (1863) 107 The wrangling, jangling disputes about the Divinity of our Saviour 1732 Mme Collier *Art Torment* (1811) 216 Some wrangling dispute or other that shall sour the whole company.

3. Marked or characterized by noisy or contentious disputation or altercation.

1576 Whetstone *Rock of Regard* 1 97 A wrangling hate, where once was passing love. 1594 Shake *K. John* III iv 55 Accursed, wrangling words enough of days 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor* 251 Our wrangling humour an't desire to be cavilling about questions disputable 1628 May *Iveg Comp* II 61 It is no wrangling courts, no lawes undone by wrangling 1656 Cowley *Pindar Olym, Dithyrac* iii, Thou neither great at Court... Nor at th' Exchange shalt be, nor at the wrangling Barr. 1725 Pope *Iliad* II 309 Peace, Inconstant nymph, loves the stout, With wrangling Heralds farm'd for foul debate. 1825 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxxiv 262 It is hard to behold the wrath spped in ea of our wrangling and become deg, ra ted under an idiom light 1883 Whitelaw *Sophocles, Antigone* 111 At call of Polyneices, stirred By bitter heat of wrangling claims, Against our land lying gathered.

Hence **Wranglingly** *adv.*

1612 Cotgr, *Tempestiſs ment*, contentiously, sedatiously, wry glingly 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc* IV 65 We shall ... dispute of it not wranglingly and Contentiously but Cordially and Spiritually.

†**Wrang-nail.** *Obs. rare.* [var of ME. *angnail* (OL. *angnægel*), perh by confusion with *warnail* (OL. *wearnægel*) Warnel.] A corn on the foot or hand; = Agnail 1.

1530 Palsgr, *Lesc*, & *L. Poems* (1907) 64 For to Dystroy a Wrang Nayle, othe[r]wyse c ellyd a Corne 1556 Withals *Dict* X 3, An agnayle or wrangnayle [1568 wragnayle], *clauus*.

**Wrang-nail, -rope:** see Wrong *sb* 1

**Wrangous(lie, -uis(lie, -us(lie, etc,** obs vars. Wrongous(ly.

**Wrangwis(e, -ly, -ness,** obs. ff. Wrongous, -ly, -ness.

**Wranke,** obs. eron f. Rankle *v*

†**Wranlons.** *Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure origin Cf. Wranglons, -ly.] *pl.* Unthriving trees that will never become timber.

1432–3 Martin in *Lear Rook* 11 *Hen VI* (1567) 2 b, Querkes qe sont appelles wranlons qui ne voet estre mesrenne, mes est aussi le bois, il nest bruge wrait [Hence in Baldwin *Ter of* (1580) *wranglons*, in translation (1611) *wrang lands*, whence in Blount (1656), Skinner (1671), Coles (1677), etc.; also Bailey (1721) *wranglings*.]

**Wrap** (rap), *sb.* Also 9 wrapp. [f. the vb. Not usurl before the 19th cent.]

1. a. A wrapper or covering. Also *fig.*

c 1460 J Russell *Bk Nurture* 210 Thow must square & proporcioun by breed and so shalture make[ ] y wrappe[ ]r wrappe[ ]r wrappe[ ]r after maneriy. 1589 Harleian *Mise* 216 In Goa they vse not to abate any tare of any g ods, except of sacks or wraps 1873 M Arnold *Lit & Dogma* (1876) 100 Hindrances of power to penetrate through wraps and appearances to the essence of things.

b. A cover, blanket, rug, or the like for lying over or drawing about the person when travelling, reposing, etc. (Cf. 2 b.)

1806 *Pitt Chron.* 10 Sept. 1/2 We have heard I suspect not, the African explorers and many other travellers say that at night no wrap could equal the beard 1863 Dickx *Pedestrian* I. 54 I had two large carpet bags, a bundle of heavy wraps, and a umbrella, to be slung with me 1869 *Times's Illust Turkey* II. 15 A few wraps in case of a night in-house.

c. A loose garment or article of feminine dress used or designed to envelop or fold about the person; a shawl, scarf, or the like.

1827 *Lady's Mag.* June 349/2 The Circassian wrap is much worn for half dress; it will sets off the fine bust of a well made figure 1840 *Ladies Cabinet* Mar 1 In this is not however the case with the cloaks or shawls adopted as wraps for evening parties. 1885 Mary Collins *Prettiest Woman* 9, Arthur held the door open, putting Adelaide's wrap around her shoulders. 1894 Mrs Dean *Mans & Myst* (1899) 122 Her face was close to his shoulder, a light wrap of lace framed it.

*attrib* 1885 *Hanch Exhib Catal* 64 Warm Wrap Shawls.

b. An additional outer garment used or intended to be worn as a defence against wind or weather when driving, travelling, etc. Usu. *pl* (Cf 1 b.)

a 1817 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 53 Tom Musgrave in the wrap of a traveller 1855 A Manning *Ourlives & Book* ii. xiv 229, I was taking off my wraps, and making ready to go up stairs 1861 J H Bennet *Winter Medit* (1873) I 87, I put off all the cold north wear which had been blowing, which obliged us to wear all our wraps. 1898 J B Whitehorne *Mors till Eve* I 2 After unrolling and unbuttoning his outer wraps, the doctor ascended the stairs

3. a. *spec.* A single convolution, twist, or winding of a thread in fastening an object.

1879 Ogden in J. H Keene *Fishing Tackle* (1886) 170 Secure it with one wrap and two hitches before taking the two ends off, and tie[ ]

b. *techn* (see quots.)

1888 C. P Brown *Cotton Manuf.* 28 A complete revolution of the latter [worm wheel] means 3564 yards—technically called a wrap. *Ibid*, If a warp contains 4 wraps and 7 teeth it is 14 445 yards long

**Wrap,** obs. erron. f. Rap *sb* 1

**Wrap** (rep), *v.* Also 4–7 wrappe (6 *arch.* wrappen), 6 werppe, 6, 9 *dial.* warp, 7–8 rap, 9 *dial* wrop [Of obscure origin. Cf. the earlier Bewrap *v* (also Belrap *v*, Lap *v.*? with the variant Wiappe, and Warp *v.*?), and NFris. *wrappe* to press into, stop up, Da. dial. *vrappe* to stuff.

The dialect var. *warp* had formerly greater currency (This word is often pronounced *rop*, rhyming with *sop*, even by speakers much above the vulgar' (Walker, 1791) 'The same pronunciation is not uncommon in some parts of the United States' (Worcester, 1858).]

I. 1. To cover, enwrap, or swathe (a person or part of the body) by enfolding in a cloth or the like; in later use esp., to envelop or enshroud with a garment; to attire, garb, clothe in an enfolding garment. Occas. *refl.* Also with *about, around, round*

c 1300 R Brunne *Medit* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrippe, Now swaþe y þe dede 13 *Cœur de L* 3014 Hys cloumbeerys in hys wrisp'd warm. He lay and slept 1400 *Flor. Sainte* (Camb. Univ.) 89 Ne ete ne drank, but bytoke hym me to clothe and wrappe c 1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 11 245 The virgin wrappyng and gatheryng togeyther the hondes and fete of her lyttel sone 1460 Rolls Parl. (Genev.) IV 2 xxxviii 14/2 He covered her with a vaile, and wrapped her selfe. — *Ipomadon* xxvii 20 For the bed is strong, and the coverynge is suche that none may wrip him self 1569 Milton *Iliads Natiti* 1, The Heaven born childe, All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies 1688 R Holme *Armoury* II 31/2 Some of his Heads He has wrapped about the Body [*sante*] with a Towel [charged with a b.] 1791 Cowper *Iliad* III 495 Helen in her lucid veil close wrapt around, Silent retired 1800 Wordsw *Prelude* VI xxxi, A shape with arms wrapp'd around 1859 Dickens *A Tale Cities* I ii, All three were wrapped to the cheekbones and over the ears 1909 J L Allen *Bride Plantation* vi 159 Coarsely wrapped and carrying some bundle , [she] opened her front door

b. Const *in* (+ *on*) or with. Also *refl*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 745 He grip[ ]p vnder as a weigh wolu he wrapped hem in his hide *Ibid* 4202 He wist wel hat bei went wrapped in þe skin nes c1375 *Pol., Rel, & L Poems* (1903) 55/20 Jesu, swete, beo moth wrop Pou nuh robbe cloute ne clop Pe on to wrappe 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxxvi 1 King Ezechie kutte his clothis and wrappid in with a sac c 1440 Lovl *Mirrour Mery* vi (1908) 47 Sche wrapped him in a clothe and hidde his heued 1450–60 Lydc *Bochas* I 0169 Poueri eek ligulh ith e cold, vnthin i-bit Wrapped in straw, without e m pleyynge 1598 Florio, *Inuolgere*, to wrap, to wraple to the body, and wrap pedin it as a clene lynynge cloth 1847 *Hawthornden* c v b, Thus cosfled and wrapped with their cred hatter of this paper, they go to bed to town 1590 Spenser *F Q* II 12 58 Which I will not seeke to write in Palmers weed 1617 Moryson *Itin* III 171 Many women wrap their heads and mouthes with a narrow linge piece of linnen. 1680 Butler *Hud* II. *Canto* 3 (1744) 68 He wraps himself warm in Furs 1755 J Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I 186 With his Legs wrapt close in a Pair of good Hay-Boots 1784 *Cowper Task* II 635 Some noble Lord Shall wrap himself in Hamlet's inky cloak 1825 Scott *Talisman* xxii Sir Kenneth then wrapped him in the cloak of the Arab chief 1831— *Cft Midlothian* xxxi, Let me wrap my head round with my mantle to dispel this dizziness, 1872 Carlyle in *Mr Carlyle's Life* III 247 We had to wrap ourselves in quite a heap of rugs and shawls 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 1 vii 7 Wrapt in a warm coverlet of rugs and furs 1885 Mary Collins *Prettiest Woman* 9, Arthur held the door open, putting Adelaide's wrap around her shoulders. 1894 Mrs Dean *Mans & Myst* (1899) 122 Her face was close to his shoulder, a light wrap of lace framed it.

*attrib* 1885 *Hanch Exhib Catal* 64 Warm Wrap Shawls.

b. An additional outer garment used or intended to be worn as a defence against wind or weather when driving, travelling, etc. Usu. *pl* (Cf 1 b.)

a 1817 Jane Austen *Watsons* (1879) 53 Tom Musgrave in the wrap of a traveller 1855 A Manning *Our L

1872 MARCH DUFFERIN *Canada Jrnl* (1891) 327 The governess won't wrap up nothing but a frost bite will make her careful. 1885 MRS. ALEXANDER *Valerie's Fate* II. 1 Advise you to take that delightful shawl of yours to wrap up in on your return

2 To cover or envelop (an object) by winding or folding something round or about it, to surround *with* or enwrap *in*; covering, wrapper, or the like, esp so as to protect from injury, damage, loss, etc. Also *transf* (Cf. LAP *v.*[2] 3.)

1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* xxi. 9 The sword is wrapped with a pal after the jewish coope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr's T.* 648 Canacee softely in hirs[e]s gan hire fo[ld] an injured falcon] wrap. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* A. xv. (Bodl. MS.) Briste bonnes (strongue lyre schyneb but pei beb wrapped [1535 CAVERDALE *Jeremy* xl. 3, Hercules bear the bondes in whiche he was wraped and swadled in. 1484 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 149 In Augelettes wrappyd yn paper. 1508 *Bk. Kervynge in Babees Bk.* 269 Yf ye will wrappe your sourcrust in bredde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. Prol. 60 *Heraldis* Kyd wrappit in the de section, and let thy style be wrapped often therewyth. 1585 HIGGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 110 *a* The rod, or cane wherewith any kind of pulse is wrapped or covered. 1600 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* I. iii. 352 He furnishes the Churchlires with wrot papers to wrap candles in. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* 71 *Ad ipse Wellow et Hampton Court* 5 Thou hast not wrap'd thy Talent in a Clout. 1656 COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 57 A great Hackle the body black and wrapped with a black Ostrich Herle. COWPER *To Miss Throckmorton* 13 Some Alpine mist can wrap in snow Thus braves the whirling blast. 1821 BYRON *Ch. Harold* IV. i. Sublime pyramids wrapt beneath the clime. 1850 DE SMYTH *Pr. Life Q. Eliz.* (1857) I. 260 Her coffin be kept in bandboxes and wrapped in cotton wool all our lives. 1893 HODGSON *Fl. v. Phantyar* (1907) 49 Wrap the tube in a piece of clean white paper.

*Fig.* 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 232 I rolle his witte in his weele yo wrappid for a tothe. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 67 For that shall they be wrapped in the cloudes of myne darkeneve. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Because thys second sorte is wrapped within the folde of the proposed subiect.

*refl.* 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 1 Stond fast therefore, and wrappe nott youre selves agayne in the yoke of bondage.

b Freq with *wds*, as *about, down, round, together*, and (esp *up*)

1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xix. 19 Thou forsothe art cast after fro the speaker. 1481 CAXTON *Myrrour* I. iii. 18 Whan he was wrapped in his weele yo wrappid for a tothe. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 67 For that shall they be wrapped in the cloudes of myne darkeneve. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Because thys second sorte is wrapped within the folde of the proposed subiect. *refl.* 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 1 Stond fast therefore, and wrappe nott youre selves agayne in the yoke of bondage.

b Freq with *wds*, as *about, down, round, together*, and (esp *up*)

1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xix. 19 Thou forsothe art cast after fro the speaker. 1481 CAXTON *Myrrour* I. iii. 18 Whan he was wrapped in his weele yo wrappid for a tothe. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 67 Why then shall they be wrapped in the cloudes of myne darkeneve. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Because thys second sorte is wrapped within the folde of the proposed subiect. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 27 He did mean death to all that worke oppose For which the heavie burden at last Swaggered from my shoulder, and undid My selfe in speaking. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 158 Whose hands soever lanc'd their tyrannous and damned spleens, Their issues, their families, their friends, Were sure to vade, to fly, to starve, to beg. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. xxxiii. 599 Hee was wrapped up in a blacke Hackle like a mourner. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 158 Wrapp'd in a sable cloud. 1611 COTGR., *Enveloper*, to wrap, or wrap vp. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 1 Wrapt up in his mother's mask *aimé des femmes*

3 To envelop or enclose *in* a surrounding medium, as flames, water, etc. Freq in *passive* (Cf. 6 d.) Also *refl.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xiv. 27 The Lapicens fleyng the Lord wrapte him with a pine in the myddel of hales. *Jn 5th xiv* 4 The dukis of hem & duk hym hedid in his hood wrapped. *c* 1450 *Gest. Rom.* (W. de Worde) A V. In his I tide the bone was wrapped. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 25 Sad shadowes gan the world to ly le From mortall vew, and wrap in darkenes se dreare. *c* 1659 *Rosh. Ball* (1888) VI. 326 A Man Who his father is wrapped in mould. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 158 Of fire the vigilance I dread, and to elude, thus wrapt in mist Of midnight vapor slide obscure. 1715 POPE *Iliad* IX. 51 Fulfil thy stern des re Burst all h r gates, and wrap her towrs in flame. 1718 *Curios. in Husb.* 91 If wrapp'd in flames, in rain buil'd, sinks the fabric of the world. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 124 Oh Winter, Thy rebeal wrapt in clouds, A leafless branch Thy naked beauties show. 1791 THELWALL *Poems* I. 3 The baron who wrapped the castle of his competitor in flames. 1908 G. CORMACK *Egypt in Asia* II. 18 The loftier summits are wrapped in clouds.

*fig.* and in fig context. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxvii. 19 We forsothe ben wrapped in derknesse. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* (1876) 18 The spirytuall voluptuousnes of the body, wherin the synner is altogether wrapped, hy maselfe hys is a sowe walowith in the pud fell. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 126 (Q. 2), Why dy e we wrap the gentleman in our more rayne breath? 1856 MRS. CARPENTER *Quaker Grandmother* 176 Wrapping sin in clouds wont t alter its character, my girl.

*elliptic* 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* v. 27 And he was wrappid before the feet of her.

†b. To involve, environ, or entangle (a person, etc in something that impedes movement or restricts liberty, to catch in this way. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *in Obs*

*c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince* 1686 Be war of jencom brauns of pe feend which h m enwip pe wrapp n to & wrpe 1560 A. LEIGH *Catalog. Famous Serm. Songe Lerch* (1574) D vij When we shall mourne so that we shall not be so wapped in and tangled 1580 A. BOORDE *Remedy & Pref.* 270 How wisely a e the wareles wrapt ly those that lye in wayte? 1589 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 268 The Hart being e tired into a thick wood his horns were wrapped faste in the boughes. 1877 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 1584 Absalom . being wrapped by the haire to a tree.

*fig.* 1591 GREENE *and Pt. Conny Catching* (1592) B 4 These moathes of the Common-wealth, apply their wits to wrappe the world in Labyrinths of craft and vncouth conceits. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 6 Oh how are they wrapt in with infamies, That from their own mindeeds askaunce their eyes!

c. To clasp, embrace. Also in fig. context. (Cf. LAP *v.*[2] 3 c.)

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* IV. ii. 58 What dost thou wrap and fumble in thine armes? *a* 1600 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* II. v. 11 To persuade our great Grandmother the earth to wrap his cold body in her warme bosome. 1726 GAY *Trivia* I. 192 Others you'll see Wrapt in th embraces of a kersey coat. 1797 COLERIDGE *Melancholy* 3 Her folded arms wrapping, her tender pall

4 To envelop, entangle, or implicate (a person, etc) *in* (? *into*), to surround, encompass, or beset *with*, some (esp. prejudicial) condition of things, as sin, trouble, sorrow, etc. (Cf. ENWRAP 2 c.)

Also OBCUR with *up*

Freq *in pa.pple*, not always distinguishable from 6

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 6 The children of hym wrapid with many mys beuys. *a* 1400 *Leiby Lyrics* 154 (C 1024) 234 Mannes soule was wrapped in wo. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince* 1938 My goost is wrapped in an hevy drede. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. v. 68 A synner bou art enclombred and wrapped in many passions. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxlvi. 216 Suche as than bare armes in the towne, were so wrapped with treason, yt [etc.] 1548 TINDALE *A.* IV. xi. 39 God hath wrap ped all nations in vnbelefe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 37 b, The deuill is disposed to wrap vs in sondry calamities at one time. 1602 CARLTON *Thankf. Remembr.* 12 95 They stirred vp new troubles by wrapping them in new gutboles against the King. 1606 *Bp. Bedell* (1886) VI. 326 If the Man wrapped in woe. *a* 1839 J. HARD *Poems* (1864) II. 4, I see him brood. Wrapt in his mental solitude. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 443 Not less than wrapt in sin. 1872 BROWNING *Red Cotton Night-Cap Country* II. 1889 & WINCHAM in *Western Can.* 25 Dec. 5/3 We were living from day to day wrapped in anxiety

*refl. a* 1586 CHAUCER *Faer. T.* 586 Alle this manere of folk wrappen hem in hir synnes. *c* 1430 in *P. I. Rel. A. I.* (1901) 217 Jou wrappist pee wab vnyteez. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron. Hen. VIII*, 149 He brought him selfe into suche perplexitie, and wrapped him self, in soo many tortures, and pu nyshmentes. 1585 COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Induco*, To wrappe or entangle him selfe in certaine questions. 1675 TRAHERNE *Ceutur.* I. (1908) 13 Though in one Fate I wrap my self and you

*Transf. c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 418 Unhappy Deity! Why love he this so much, in these distresses to wrap Fantasy?

b To involve, enfold, or enwrap (a person, etc) *in* some soothing or tranquillizing state or influence Freq in *passive*, = sank in slumber, rest, etc. Also with *up*.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redel.* III. 231 Ho so is loued his spirit is bote wrapped in welle. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvi. [lxxv.] 5 *Amit. I.* (Percy S.) 10 What I am wrapped in wele. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 41 Careleese Quiet lyes, Wrapt in eternall silence farre from enuyes. 1598 *Sir Eglamour* 1. 1 42 Musicke speeke loudly now, the season's apt, For former dolours teem le esure wrapt. 1717 POPE *Letters* 3 Later, each mild fea h amiably quiet, Receive, and wrap me in eternal rest! 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 1 02 He lives At distance safe the human tempest roar, Wrapt close in conscious peace. 1798 COLE *Mem. Travels* (1868) 25 Sweetly and gradually was I lulled to half sleep, he d ems of bett r w rl ls. 1842 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* II. The house is wrapped in slumbers. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii. Wrapped in the delights of home and her child. 1872 *Punch* 2 March 95/2 He's were soon wrapped in sound and healthy slumbers.

*Fig.* 1791 COLERIDGE *Happiness* 73 Where far from splendour, far from riot, In silence wrapt sleeps careless Quiet

5 To involve or enfold (a subject or matter) so as to obscure or disguise the true or full nature of it, to conceal or hide by enveloping *in* a mass of different character

1382 WYCLIF *2 Cor.* xi. 1 Who is this, wrappende in sentencis with woordis vnwise? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr's T.* 507 All were he ful of resons and fulwisse It was so wrapped vnder humble cheere And vnder hewe of trouthe. *c* 1400 *Beste. Abr.* 1 Wrapped in a fable. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvi. [lxxv.] 5 COOPER *Thesaurus, Implicata res controversiis*, a matter wrapped and incombred with many controuersies. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Wrapping hys lessons in the folde of the principall Lords, wrapping their hopes with such cunning, as they rather feele [etc.] *a* 1639 T. CARW *Imperfect Enjoyment* 7 Contained all In Wise speech, that wrapt Truth in tales. 1712–4 *Pope Aspic Tale* 104 Some dire disaster That which, or where, the fates have wrapt in night. 1759 MASON *Eng. Garden* I. 1 Wrapt in the artful investigation. Youth, Wrapt in those holy harpings! *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. v. 85 The religion of the Egyptians was all mystery, wrapt in obscurity. 1849 SCOTT *Poems* 1 Such fond superstition delights to shield wrap their words in mist. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh Bound* Poems (1850) I. 184 Zeus requires This declaration Not wrapt in doubtful words but speak clearly! 1877 DALE *Jew Temp* iii (1877) 35 The image wrapped in the word is a very impressive and instructive one. 1885 REV. MAY *Prov. Conf.* (1893) III. xiii. 253, I found the question wrapped in darkness

b Freq with *up*. Also *transf*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Micah* vii. 3 Therefore the great man he speaketh out the corruption of his soule: so they wrap it vp. 1601 DEACON *Tr. Lucifer* vi. If it be wyndome Which so imbroyles the state of truth with brawles, And wrappes it vp in strange confusednesse. 1619 VINCT. DONGASTER *Tell it not* in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 109 Sum more latterines then her Highnes hir self wrapped up in sweet termes. 1669 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* 125 Here is no wrapping up Religion in strange figures and mysterious non-sanses, which the Aegyptians were so much given to. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 275 P 4 If it had been proper for them [*sc.* ladies] to hear, the Author would it have wrapp d it up in Greek. 1779 *Mirror* No. 22, It was some time in education which had wrapt up Cleone's character in so much obscurity. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Lazar.* (1842) I. 208 Their best plan for seizing on the savings of other men's industry in the form of population wrapped up. 1897 F. WARUNG *Tales Of A Legume* 24 Without troubling to wrap up his resolve in smooth-sounding words.

8 Of qualities, etc.: To invest, environ, or beset (a person, etc.); to enkompass *in* some condition. Also with *up* (Cf. 4.)

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxiii. 11 Al aboute feris shul I sixten hym, and without wrappen his feet. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Lam. to Lov.* 18 Albeit matrimonie be a holy thyng, yet it wrappeth a man in worldlye cure. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 358 b, The selfe same cause wyl shortly after wrap vp them also in great diuiseue. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubb.* 1260 Say me not so, nor euill hap vnworthy in such wretchednes doth wrap. 1608 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. iii. 54 (Q. 1) Some deere cause Will in concealement wrap me vp awhile. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man's Conflict* 388 Humane Justice wraps up the innocent and the guilty in the same punishment. 1665 SIR R. HOWARD & DRYDEN *Ind. Queen* II. 3, Guilty rage, Which wrat t all things up in one dismal fate. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Tut.* 122 Thy power, thy fulness of bless ing, wrap my soul up in astonishment and devout adoring. 1737 POPE *Hor., Ep.* II. i. 402 Or the land and deep, Peace shake her wing and wrapt the world in sleep. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 146 They disentangle from the puzzled skein, In which obscurity has wrapped them up, The threads of brown deep. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 226, Oblivion wrapped Our spirits.

*transf.* a 1548 WYAT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 73 Some pleasant lowre thy wo may wrappe, and thee defend, and cover

b. Of mould, etc.: To contain, cover (the dead)

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, By the fresh turned up mould that wraps up his head. 1798 COLTON *Death of Col Ross* VII. Every sod which wraps the dead. 1792 BURNS *Highland Mary* iii, Could a the clay, That wraps my Highland Mary's form, *Soon Death & Riddell* ii, The sod that wraps my friend

c To form a wrap or covering for (a person or thing), to cover, clothe. Also with *round*

*c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 229 About him a manshion, A garment that against cold nights, did impenetrable wrap. 1738 POPE *Ep. to Cobham* 249 Let a charm ing Chintz, and Brussels lace Wrap my cold limbs, and shade my lifeless face. 1895 SCOTT *Last Hundred Years* 204 Some wrapped him round. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* 504/1 Wrappers differ from [*see* labels] in having larger margins, so that they can be drawn or wrap up a bottle of patent medicine, a bar of soap, etc

*fig.* 1842 TENNYSON *Vis. Sin* iv. v, Wine is good for shriveld lips, When a blanket wraps the day.

d. Of flames, etc.: To spread or extend around, about, or over (something), to surround, encompass (Cf. 3.) Also with *wds*, as *round up*

1656 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 534 [A] sudden cloud all his fame benights him and all his store Wrapp'd him round and in white smoak more. 1694 MAUNDRELL *Journ.* 13 Which had wrap d in shades the Mountain Heads. 1716 LADY *Treby* in *Hist. MSS. Comm.* 383 Flames sudden wrap the walls. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 357 Our own meadows in atmospheric vapours is found in obscurity. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of the Lake* III. xxiv, Not faster speeds the midnight blaze Wrapping the chiefs in purple glaze. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxvii. 3 A thick fog wrapped the mountain quite closely. 1899 CROCKETT *Adv. Kennedy* 337 The snow had wrapped all the city in a white cloak in mystery

*Fig.* 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* IV How beautiful was the tranquility that wrapt pel the scene. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* iv. 4 The speaking quietude That wraps this moveless scene.

e To veil or conceal *from* a person, etc.

1819 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. xiv, While clouds are passing by Which wrap them [*sc.* stars] from the foundering seaman's sight. 1867 MONIER *Jason* II. 105 A cloud That wrapt the Goddess from him

**II.** 7. To wind or fold up or together, as a plant or flexible object; to roll or gather up in successive layers. = LAP *v.*[2] 2. Obscure. With *up* or *together*.

Also *transf*

*c* 1398 *Alex. & Paterne* 2442 As blue be bere schinnes from here bodi pei hent & wipli wrapped hem to-ladere. 14 *Testam. Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. 12. (B M Add MS.) fol. 206 b A lille kynde of serpentes and addres pat by kynde may wrappe & fold hille in owne bodi. 1535 COVERDALE *Is.* xxxiv. 4 Then toke Elias his cloke, an I wrapped it together. 1555 WATERMAN *Jardin Fasciculus* II. iv. For saie thei, the beginnynge of thinges vnable to vnderstande heauen and earth togither in one pyterne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 28 The vgly monster, wrapping vp her wretched sterne around, I on fierce vpon his sheild. 1600 *2nd Pt. Return Parnass.* I. iii. 628 Can there be miste or darkenes where you are, whose beames wrappes up cloudes as wherlewindes dust? 1608 *Great Feast of Addes* (Percy S.) 17 The wrapping vp of the wrapper vp in their smoky sails, for their vyands was spoiled. 1633 W. RAMSAY *Astrol Restored* 304 Flounderin ancchalation thickened and wrapped into a cloud. 1681 H. VENABLES *Experience of Angler* 61 Snails loveth red worms, especially those that [he] wrapped up in a knot or round Clue. *Fig. c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. VI. (1868) 60 Deep wrappeb to gidre be hepe besedes and be lowe. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Sam.* i. 14 Wakide the 3oc of my wickednesse in his bond, wrappid thei ben togidere, and leid on my necke. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 81 Wayte well my wordis, and wrappe hem togedir. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem* I. (Arb.) 57 In these fewe lines, I haue wrapped vp the most tedious part of Grammer. 1596 FLEMING *Pseudo-Epist.* 337 For euil, be maleuols malicious persons a better spirit and so wrappeth vp all with commendations. 1618 DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 273 In all this, thou dost but wrap up a snow ball upon a coal of fire. 1885 BACON *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 441 Some haue in readinesse so many Tales and Stories, as there is Nothing, they would insinuate, but they can wrap it into a Tale.

*refl.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Serpens*, The scalie serpent wrappeth himselfe in rounde rundels

**8.** To fold, wind, or roll (a covering, garment, or the like) about a person, etc.; to arrange or dispose (a wrapping, etc.) so as to cover or envelop; = Lap *v.*2 1. Usu. with advs. or preps., esp. *about*, *around*, *round*.

Somewhat rare before *c* 1700.

*c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 7388 A large couerechief of threde She wrapped all aboute hir heede 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Intorno*, His garment wrapped rounde about his lefte arme. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 36 His garment . . The which his naked sides he wrapt about. 1656 Sir H. Blount *Voy.* 19 The Levantines used to wrap white linnen about their heads 1773 Graves *Spiritual Quixote* xi. 119, Unto the old Incumbent at his gate . . His banyan, with silver clasp, wrapt round His shrinking paunch 1796 Coleridge *Watsy, those clean dry looks!* . . Berkshire ring and Round his tar'd limbs to wrap the purple vest. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. i, The warder wraps his shaggy mantle round. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vi. 43 Wrapping my plaid around me, I wandered up towards Charmoz. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* March 300/1 Dick . . wrapped the heavy coat around her and held her in his arms.

*fig.* and *transf.* a 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* iv 83 Thou, who didst wrap the cloud Of infancy around us. 1820 Shelley *Hymn Merc.* xxxvi, The G'd wraps a purple atmosphere Around his shoulders. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Friend* I. xvi. 160 Among many people the body is regarded as a mere garment wrapped around the soul.

**b.** To twist or coil (a pliable or flexible substance, etc.) *round*, *about*, or *on* something; to twine. Also *refl.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 107 Cutte the settes the more halfe a sonder . . and wrappe and wynde theym together 1538 Coverdale *Jeremiah* xiii. 11 Lo deye like aboute me and the wedes were wrapte aboute myne heade 1560 Bible *Job* viii 17 The rotes therof are wrapped about the fountaine. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. 360 Some haue hanged many small bran hes, whereby it windeth and wrappeth itself about trees 1778 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Twisting*, About this [cap] is wrapped a li g piece of fine thin linn en or cotton 1793 in Richardson *Pamela* III. xxxix. 310 Again she wrapped her arms ab ut me 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 119 The Screw of Ar himedes is formed by wrapping a tube r ound a cylinder. 1852 Miss Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii, 'What did you wrap this round the book for?' said St Clare, holding up the crape. 1854 R. Meadow *Angling* 60 A strong peg on which the line can be wrapped.

**9. a.** *intr* (for *refl.*) To twine, encircle, or wreathe *round* or *about* something as or in the manner of a wrapper or cover; = Lap *v.*2 1 b. Also *transf.*

1608 *Relat. Trent. W. Bath* D j b, The Vyne so loueth the Pine by nature that it wrippeth more kindely about it 1660 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiii 223 A Flat Leather Thong, which wrapping close and about the Rowler . . commands it the easier 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No 35 (1713) I 228 Well, and Conscience, when you have once bou'd it tender to the Dictates of Reason, is to wrap about your Finger like a Glove 1858 *Ct. & Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 270/1 [With] the formation of the extreme end of the breakwater . . it would be next to impossible for a sea to wrap or wrap r round it 1895 *Spectator* 5 Oct. *Nat.* 55 Gneiss is often found wrapping round the central granitic mass of most in chasms.

**b.** Of a garment: To extend *over* the figure, etc., so as to cover it, or form a lap (Cf Lap *v.*2 8 b)

1798 *Lady's Bl. uthly Mus* Nov I 397 The gown wrapping over one side . . drawn up a little with white cord 1827 *Lady's Mag.* Nov 621/1 The well waddled, luxurious, and wrapping well over the form, are much in request

**Wrap-**, the verb stem in comb. with a sb. or adv.; in sense of 'that which wraps or is wrapped about'; as **wrap reel** (see quot.), **wra·p-round**, a garment for wrapping round a person; **wrap tobacco** (*obs. elliptical*), = **Wrapper** *sb* 4 Also **Wrap-rascal**.

1877 Browning *Agamemnon* 120 A wrap-round [Gr. αμφιβληστρον] with no outlet I fence about him the rich woe of the garment 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Oct. 11/1 What is known as 'wrap' tobacco is a special kind which . . is sought to cultivate *Ibid.*, 'Wrap' fetches from 2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* [per lb.] 1890 Nesbitt *Mod. Cotton Spinni. & Manuf.* 220 291 In order to maintain the counts of yarn, a machine known as a 'wrap reel' is employed . . this consists of a small fly or swift

**Wrap**, errors f. Creq. *c* 1600–1680) of Rap *v.*3

1561 Norton & Sackv *Gorboduc* iv. ii 239 His noble limmes in such prop rtion cas A: would have wrapt a sillie woman fro . . 1598 *No-body & some-b* in Simpson *Sch. Shak.* (1878) 317 Your kind a presence wraps my soule to heaven 1615 Day *Festivals* 905 All they can wrap and rend in little enough for Wife and Children 1620 Feacham *Compl. Gent* xvi. 106 Whereouer he could wr p or wring 1641 Symonds *Serm. bef. H. Comm.* C, the command must needs co ne with such evidence when it wrappeth the will into such an habit 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Vandal. Wars* II. 53 Artabines (fell) into a deep trance, seeming wrapt with the greatness of the action 1679 C. Nesse *Antid. agst. Popery* 193 The apostle [was] wrap'd up to the third heaven 1854 Miss Baker *Anne Boleyn's Chest* II. 208 He wraps and wrings all he can 1922 F. Philpotts *Grey Room* iv 106 He was wrapt from this life to the next.

**Wrapp**, obs. errors. f. Rape *sb* 2 4.

1584 Pasie *Arraignm.* 2 iv 11 ii, The least of these delights. Able to wrappe and daisie humn'ne eyes.

**Wrappage** (ræ·pădj). [f. Wrap *v.* + -age]

**1.** That which wraps, enfolds, or covers; a wrap or outer covering; a wrapper of a parcel, packet, or the like.

In first use, esp. *fig.*, from *c* 1860.

*fig.* 1827 Carlyle *Lit., Richter* (1840) I 13 Every work be it fiction or serious treatise, is embaled in some fantastic



wrappage, some mad narrative accounting for its appearance 1840 Sara Coleridge in Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1843) II 445 To consider the words of Scripture as mere wrappages for some more definite revelation out of Scripture. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iii, Not till he had unwinded from him the wrappages of it [*sonte* the confusions of life essential], could he become clear about himself 1859 Hare *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. iv. 68 All these things, dress, fortune, etc are mere wrappages compared with the substantial ground of a man's character 1861 A. C. Bradley in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 36 The words of the *Nonnethess* how. ever insignificant their historical wrappage may have seemed to him.

*1st* 1846–8 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. vi. ad fin., To-morrow this sheet shall be the wrappage to a bar of soap. 1871 W. Collins *Moony & Merchant* I. 232 No Nobody should be lost, except what is unvital, mere wrappage and encumbrance of history.

**2.** A loose garment for enveloping the person; a wrapper. Also in fig. context.

1831 Carlyle *Sart Res* I. i, The vestural Tissue which Man's Soul wears as its outmost wrappage and overall. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iv, Figure unrolled in thousand-fold wrappages and folds of darkness (loyalty, mean ing these things, must involve itself 1863 D. Wilson in *Edin. New Jrnl.* Synd. XVIII. 79 The constant laying of the infant to rest on its back . . along with the fashion of Pad 218 Nothing should be lost, except what is unvital, mere wrappage and encumbrance of history.

**3.** Something wrapped up; a package, parcel.

1883 *Daily Tel.* 19 Nov 5/3 This paper wrappage was taken on by train to Stalybridge.

**11.** Of the nature of wrapping. *rare*—0

1846 Worcester (citing *Fr. Act*) [Hence in later Dicts.]

**Wrappe**, obs. var (and pa. t.) of Warp *v.* 1.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7371 Alle naked hym self he wrappe In þe wykkes clothes þat he had ware 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 *De Gual Pilger* 21932 Þilk I hadde wrappe the, bakyd, cast the vp and d ed un In thornys for thy sauacioun 25 *Hampton Psalter* 3 *Mss* 171 (Harl MS.), Now he, now he . . Now on the qubeell, now wrappit [*Bann. MS.*, wappit] to the ground

**Wrapped** (ra·pt), *ppl. a.* and *pa. pple.* Also 7–8 wrapt. (Wrap *v.* + -ed 1)

**I.** Concealed, covered, hidden.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. A.* x iv (Bodl MS.), Fyyre beschynyk alle lynges wiþ his . wrapped [L. *circumtectus*] brizte es. 1601 Chester *Love's Mart*, etc. (1878) 125 He be prettiest Offring that ever was wrapt in Christall.

**2.** With *up*: a Involved, complicated, couched in complex, covert, or vague terms.

1789 Jefferson *Writ* (1853) II. 304, I have anxiously wished that the Constitution were but somewhat wrapped up in their expressions, that full room might escape, on a treasient reading 1806 *Daily News* 23 Jan 7/1 It is the wiy of the Ministry to speak in wrapped up language, but throughout the cr sis attendance has been more than ever unusually enigmatical 1898 *Ibid* 14 Nov. 5/2 The beauty of the Fabiola Blue Book was the absence of wrapped up words.

**b** Muffled *up* in, covered *up* with, a wrap or enveloping garment.

1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho* II, The shining figure of a wrapped up man 1901 *Westm Gaz* 8 June 1/3 The wrapped up figure on a pedestal

**c** Marked or characterized by absorbed attention. (Cf. 5.)

1884 *Pall Mall G* 8 Nov. 4/1 His incapacity to hear given to wrapped up attention by another 1893 *Daily News* 27 June 6/3 Faces wore a 'wrapped up ex pression, and voices were hard and tuneless

**3** Drawn together, fashioned, made, or constructed by wrapping or winding.

1810 Keats *Cap and Bells* xxx, With hasty steps, wrapp d clo k, and solemn lo ks [he] upon his errand sallies 1837 Kirby in *Northern Angler* 2 The wrapped hackle fibres are generally . . and include su h [kinds] as wicker work, wrapped work, twilled work

**II** In j rediciative use. **4.** Deeply interested, centred or absorbed, in a person or thing.

1598 Hall *Chrons., Hen. IV.* 54 b, Benedict the xiii . . was wrapped in his owne folishe and fantastical opinion 1681 Marshall *Bk of Notes* 593 Him that is wrapped in the l uuenesse of his own will 1816 Byron *Ch. Har* iii. cxv, My daughter! . . 'tis the only time I dare rest, but there it can be so wrapt in thee 1848 Dickens *Domb'y* xxxv, Whether Mr Dombey, wrapped in his own j ealness, was at all aware of the fact

**b.** Freq with *up*. † Also const. *with* (= *in*).

In very frequent use from *c* 1820.

(*a*) 1699 Hoyer *Fr. Dict* II, I am so wrapt up with him, *je suis tellement attaché*. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1705) 145 How much soever some People may be Rapt up with their *Sad Idolatrie* 1784 P. Wright *New Bk Martyrs* 704/2 King James was so wrapt up with a conceit, that he had now conquered the whole nation

(*b*) 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 130 P 5 Being wrapped up in the safety of my old age. 1711 Addison *Spect* No 105 P 6 The State-Pedant is wrapt up in News. 1776 Foote *Bankrupt* I. 3 His whole soul is wrapt up in Miss Lydia. 1784 P. Wright *New Bk Martyrs* 805/1, I want words to express it, he was like one wrapped up in heaven. 1806–7 Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xvi iii, Before you are yet sufficiently wrapped up in the study 1821 Bentley *Ess., Wordrw* 166 His heart was wrapped up in his wife and sister. 1828 J. Penn *Compleat Angler* I. 32, I like a man to be wrapped up in his calling.

**c.** *Wrapped (up) in*, entirely associated or bound up with; quite dependent on, involved in

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* v. 132 O then, first for your own illustrious sake, And next, for Us wrapp'd up in you, beware Of his Designs in time. 1722 Addison *Spect* No. 123 P 4 His young Wife (in whom all his Happiness was wrapt up) died 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1809) II. 157 He was the only child . . and the lives of his parents were wrapt up in him. 1847 James *Convict* I. 108, I put mine [*sc.* happiness] under your guardianship also, for mine is wrapped up in yours 1859 Miss Pirkington *Last of Castlerea* II. 69 My mother's whole life is wrapped in him 1892 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* 31 To be wrapped up in the mysterious nature of Self existence, is the equally mysterious power of communicating existence

**5.** Absorbed or engrossed in thought, contemplation, etc. Also in *comb.* for use with *up*

Perhaps partly suggested by Kapt *ex yple*

1601 Shake *All's Well* v. iii. 128, I am wrap'd in dumball thinkings. 1634 Milton *Comus* 526, I began Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy To meditate my rural minstrelsie 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. ii, He is always wrapped up in cogitation. 1751 Shollett *Per. Pic.* xiii, He seemed to be wrapped up in profound contemplation 1771 Beattie *Minstrel* I. xxv. 7 Where the strapling, wrapt in wonder, roves 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. 1 P 2, I found Don Ca-sar just as much wrapped up in the contemplation of the happy couple 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* II, Some were resting with their eyes closed, as if wrapt in prayer or meditation 1892 Baring Gould *Kitty Alone* II. 162 The girl stood wrapped in delight.

Hence † **Wra·ppedly** *adv.* intricately *Obs*—0

1589 Riden *Bibl Scholastr.* 1685 Wrappedly, *contorte* 1617 Hexham I. v.

**Wrapper** (ræ·pəɹ), *sb.* Also 6 **wrapor**, 8 **rapper**, 9 *dial* **wropper**. [f. Wrap *v.* + -er1]

**I.** 1. That in which anything is wrapped, enveloped, or enclosed; a piece of fabric or other material forming a wrapping; esp. in later use, a protective covering for a parcel or the like.

*c* 1486 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 74 Take white wine of be towlle, and wryth e an handfulle . next be bred myghtily, and se pat thy wrappere be made strayt . . *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiii. 153 His wounde opend, and out of it ranne blood through the wrapor and the bed. 1530 Rolland *Crt. Venus, Two cumel pe & conveture*, a wrapper 1611 Cotgr., *Emballage*, a wrapper; a peece of wast paper for that purpose. 1662 *Act 14 Chas. II, c.* 18 § 6 Wollen Manufactures . . with Scrues into Sacks Baggs and other Wrappers made of Wool or Linnen 1721 Addison *Spect* No 50 P 7 My Jugs [were] closed together by a wrapper of parchment

1780 ] Warton *Fest Pope* II 330 Pope was so infirm, and his body required so many wrappers and coverings, that it was hardly po sible for him to be neat 1838 Dickens *Oliver Twist* xxiv, A man pulled off a large wrapper which had concealed the lower portion of his face 'Pop that shvwl i vay [he said] 1885 Mabel Collins *Prettiest Woman* I, She had thrown a loose white wrapper round her shoulders. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Dec 2 3 The silk wrapper that he was wearing was stolen from off his neck

3 An outer garment, esp for indoor wear or use in household work, designed for loosely enveloping the whole (or nearly the whole) figure, a loose robe or gown. In later use chiefly *U S*

1734 in *Trans Roy Hist Soc* Ser IV VI 42 The [Indian] Queen s [Garment] was a sort of scarlet rowell in the make of our English wrappers 1740 H Walpole *Lett* (1903) I 84 Her dress her service, and her impudence must amaze any one that never heard her name She wears an old mazarine blue wrapper, that lapes open and discovers a cuava petticoat 1745 *De Foe Tradesman* xxvi, (1841) I 265 Her wrapper or morning gown, a piece of Irish linen painted at London 1784 *Trial Miss Cay & Sterginon* (1831) 48 We got up [from bed], put on our rappers, and went down in the parlour 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* xxiv, Mrs Curdle was dressed in a morning wrapper 1881 [see Morning *sb* 7 b] 1883 Miss C E Woolson *For the Major* vi His wife had just risen—or so it seemed, for she wore a rose colored wrapper 1886 A G Murdoch *Scotch Reminer* (ed 2) 15 She was at work in a workaday wrapper, and had herself down 1905 *Outlook* 21 Nov 663/2 The English woman scorns the hideous 'wrapper' which so many French and American women wear in the bosom of their family.

b An article of dress, esp. for masculine wear, intended to wrap about or fit loosely over the person a wrap Now *dial*

1799 *Hull Ad exteiser* 30 Nov 3/1 Tandy was clad in a white serge wrapper, resembling a friar's gown 1832 Fytton *Eugene A* II vi, A shower of rain now began to fall Sir Peter turning to Wilder, said to him, What! no cloak, no wrapper 1840 R S Fitzgerald *Cloncl* (1879) I 86 Just the same price as I gave for a Chesterfield wrapper (as it is called) 1844 Shropshire *Handlk Brit Isles* (1854) 411 The dress of the people, both male and female, comm nly consists of large blue wrappers and trousers 1888 T Hardy *Il esse Tides* I 58 An old milkman never, in a long white pinafore or wrapper 1892 — *Tess* xiv The brown cough 'overcoat' or over all—the old-established dress of the [harvesting] field woman

4 Tobacco-leaf of a superior grade prepared and used for the outer cover of cigars or of plug-tobacco, a covering made of this Chiefly *U.S.*

1828 R Hoare *Compl Amateur Gardener* (Knob) 114 Filler, is the inside of the Roll [of tobacco] which is any sorts of Leaves and Stalks Wrapper, the out side of the roll, which are good leaves 1838 *Penny Cycl* II 48 [4 lb fill] of cigars now belies the wrapper 1864 R L Da Costa *Hist & Cult Cotton & Tobac* 290 The best leaves are required by the tweters for wrappers around heavy or plugs 1884 *Fall Mall G* 17 May 4 A cigar consists of three parts, the wrapper, the bunch, and the filler

b *U S* A cigar.

1849 Hawthorne *Twice told T* 60 Our friend expending a white bunch of Spanish wrappers among barrified associates.

5 *Bot.* †a. (See quots) *Obs*

1578 tr *Fuschius's Hist Plantes* I 256 The Wrapper of the Acorn is a sort of Box set off with several Scales pale green 1578 *Lyte Dodoens* (1619) 311 446's *Calix*, the cup *Tuchaborium*, or wrapper, is a cup made from a flower 1793 Martyn *Lang Bot Cyclop*, the envelope, cover, or wrapper of the stamens and pistils.

b. In Fungi. —Von Mohl (ed 3) III 386 *Agaricus rubescens* Wrapper at the root, grey or greenish *Ibid* 371 Lycoperdon Wrapper many-cleft, expanding 1807 Jas. E. Smith *Introd Botany Pod* 2, Wrapper, or covering, of the Fungus tribe 1860 Mayne *Expos Lex* 1337 *Volva*, the membranous covering curtain, or wrapper of the fungus tribe, hiding the parts of fructification, till bursting all round it forms a ring on the stalk

6 *Amer* a. (See quot)

1790 C Cartwright *Jrnl Labrador* III p x, *Wrappers*, loose sleeves pieces to button round the wrists, to defend them from the frost

b A piece of leather boot adapted for fastening round the leg (also called *wrapping-boot*).

1828 Pike *Sources Mississ* (1810) 10 App 36 A kind of leather boot or wrapper [among the Indians] the provinces the dragoons wear, over this wrapper or boot, a sort of jack boot made of sole leather.

c An undershirt. 1891 *Cent Dict*

7 *Lumbering* A chain for binding logs on a sled

1901 *Munsey's Mag* XXV 391/2 The load is stopped exactly opposite long parallel skids Two men cautiously unhook the 'wrappers'

II. 8. One who wraps or packs up anything; *spec.* one whose occupation consists in wrapping parcels. Also with *up.*

1591 Percival L, *Embalmer*, a roller, a wrapper vp 1795 Johnson 1866 in S Timmins *Resources*, etc *Birmm* 356 Women & Girls as Lacquerers Chargers & Tubes, Press Women & Wrappers up. 1881 *Instr Census Clerks* 45 Cutlery Wiper, Cetter up Wrapper up *Ibid* 99 Factory Hollower Stoven up, Wrapper, Slinger 1883 *Labour Gazette* 1 Oct 11 Oct, Grocery and Provisions—Junior wanted Good flat wrapper and correct accountant preferred

III. 9 *attrib* and *Comb*, as *wrapper-apron, boat, wrapper addresser, -writer.*

1876 Miss G L Banks *Manchester Man* II, She had taken off her wrapper brat [*footnote* A sort of close pinafore] 1893 *Pall Mall* 1 23 June 15/1 They were mostly clerks and wrapper addre sers *Ibid*, Some half-dozen wrapper-writers each copying with lightning like rapidity from a directory page before him 1896 M Quiller-Couch *Jane Vercoe*, etc 145 Enveloped in what was commonly called a 'wrapper apern.

**Wrapper** (ræ·pəɹ), *v* [f. prec.]

1 *trans* To cover with, enclose or envelop in, a wrapper.

1885 C G W Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser IV 263/1 Vegetable parchment is used very extensively for wrapping the better class of literature 1890 W J Gordon *Foundry* 209 Delivering the papers folded and wrapped ready for post 1893 *Sat. Rev* 7 Jan 24/2 A volume in quarto, handsomely, but alas! very loosely, wrappered.

2 To cover *up* in or as in a wrapper.

1905 H. G Wells *Kipps* II ix, All the stalls were wrappered up, and all the minor exhibitions locked and barred

Hence **Wra·ppered** (-ŭp), *ppl. a.* Also **Wrapperer**, one who covers (esp magazines or books) with wrappers.

1896 H G Wells *Wheels of Chance* IV, A cheerless, shutter-darkened, wrappered up shop 1906 — *Days of Comet* I v, A few other wrappered figures came out of the bungalows 1908 *Daily Chron* 24 April 12/3 Girls wanted as book wrapperers (magazine)

**Wra·ppering** (ræ·pərin) [i. as prec. + -ING 1 d.]

1. Coarse fabric or material used or designed for wrapping or covering.

1844 *Civil Eng & Arch Jrnl* VII 88/2 Upon the bricks is placed a quantity of gravel, and a piece of fabric, such as canvas or wrappering 1865 Mrs H Wood *Ormond Secret* xiv, Her apron is a piece of wrappering off a bale of goods 1867 *Hearth Mar* 27 Sept 6 Calverley tied round his neck a piece of linen wrappering

2 A loose outer garment, a wrap or wrapper.

1862 Mrs H Wood *Mrs Hallib* I x, Mrs Dare was silently removing some of her outer wrapperings 1900 F Ellis *Gown Rest* 406 A great fur cloak for wrappering She wore

† **Wra ppery.** *Obs rare*—1. [f as prec. + -ERY 3.]

A wrap or covering.

1666 J Davies *Mandelslo's Orat* 354 The hand or arm of the Young is cut off , neither is it found among the wrapperies [L. *involucris*], even as the head is

**Wrapping** (ræ·ping), *vbl sb* [f. Wrap *v.* + -ING 1.

App 12re between the 16th and 19th cent.]

1 The action of covering with or enveloping in a wrap or wrapper. Occas. with advs., as *round, up*

Also *fig*

*c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 533/1 Wrappynge, or bylynge, *co pertio, involu io* 1553 Brende *Q Curtius* 170 Which Darius perceiuing, cut and without wrappinge of his wound called for his horse 1611 Cotgr, *Iumeault tement*, a wadling, or a wrapping in swathe bands 1837 Hr Martineau *Soc Amer* III 72 A wrapping round of uncommon considerations with an impenetrable cloud of the plainest words 1872 March Dufferin *Canad. Jrnl* (1878) 15 The children play in the snow Their nurse, Mrs Hall, dislikes the wrapping up

b The action of interlacing or intertwining; the fact of being interwoven. Also *fig.*

1553 Brende *Q Curtius* 105 By reason that the wreathing and wrapping together of the bowes & leaues of them the bodies of the tres 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus s v Implicatus*, A wrapping of armes croase one within an other 1836 J. Gilbert *Cur Adamum* viii (1852) 70 Let us that strife wrapping together of the one with the other, this blending of things so dissimilar, will not accomplish the object designed

2 Something used or designed for enveloping or wrapping up, a wrap or covering. Also in fig. context.

1587 Fleming *Higden* I 9 My wit is ful luyte to unwralle be wrappynges of so wonder werkes 1388 Wyclif *Ward* vii 4 I was nurschid in wrappyngis and in grett bryntnesse. 1895 [S Leinfellier] *Cornwood* 178 The wearing of thin shoes and stockings during unsuitable weather, being a dangerous transition from the thick shoes and heavy wrappings worn by the same persons in daily work 1896 *Knight Bee* V 775/2 Broken leaf tobacco firmly wrapped round with one or two wrappings of whole leaf 1883 Gerole *Among Mongols* xvii 201 The volumes are carefully washed in their yellow wrappings 1894 J S Winter *Red Coats* 78 Dolly was eagerly tearing the paper wrappings off the big box of sweetes.

*fig.* 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* (1839) II 28 Having been enabled to receive Scripture truth in spite of the wrapping which has been put round it. 1902 F Campbell *Love* 319 Unbelieved in a wrapping of utter selfishness.

b An article of dress used or intended for enveloping the figure; a loose covering or upper garment; a wrap, wrappage, or wrapper.

1535 Rainbow *Serm* 25 The sheepe gives us shelter trough her wrapping the cold why should we hurt after more coarse furres and wrappings? 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho* III, A gentleman in the coach who looked very large in a quantity of wrappings 1882 F Cozan *Memories* 35, I preached in wet clothes, continuing my labors until night, when in dry wrappings I slept well 1899 Rodway *Guiana Wilds* 30 No stiff wooden figure made up of corset and wrappings, but a woman of flesh and blood

3 *attrib.* in sense of 'used or designed for wrapping or covering', as *wrapping-cloth, -silk, -wire*; † **wrapping boot** *U. S*, a form of boot adapted for wrapping about the ankle and calf; **wrapping-paper**, a special make of strong paper for packing or wrapping up parcels.

1566 *Eng Ch Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 75 A cup of syluer for the communion with 15 wrapp inge clothes for yt 1648 Herrick *Hes Wishes* 4 Wrapping cloath 1808 Pike *Sources of the Mississippi* (1810) 10 App 41 Their dress is the wrapping boot with the jack boot, and permanent spur over it. 1828-32 Webster, Wrapping paper.

1848 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* (ed 3) 470 Strong common brown wrapping paper 1860 Rimbault *Pianoforte* 183 Modern pianofortes have steel wire throughout, with about one octave in the bass closely lapped. The wrapping wire is of soft iron for the upper part of the octave, and of copper for the lower 1883 *Daily News* 24 Apr 5/8 The four main cables are 15¼ inches in diameter There are 243 miles 493 feet of wrapping wire on each. 1883 W D Curzon *Manuf Industries Worc* 80 The manufacture of the heavy and coarse sorts of wrapping paper 1890 *Cent Dict. s.v Silk, Wrapping-silk*, a fine strong floss employed in the manufacture of artificial flies

b In sense of 'used or worn as wrapper or enveloping outer garment', as *wrapping cloak, coat, mantle, pelisse, robe.* Also Wra·ping-gown

1787 Mme D'Arblay *Diary* 8 Nov, What was my surprise to see a large man, in an immense wrapping greatcoat, buttoned up round his chin! 1820 *Lady's Monthly Museum* Nov V 408 White muslin wrapping robe, with full sleeves 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xxi, His dress [was] a horseman's wrapping-coat 1834 Medwin *Angl Forester* II, In the bureau or large wrapping cloak 1848 Borrow *Bible in Spain* x The large wrapping man's cloak which she wore 1870 Morris *Earthly Par* III 210 He came, and to the floor he cast His wrapping mantle

c With advs., as *wrapping up department.*

1883 W D Curzon *Manuf Industries Worc* 101 [In] the wrapping up department girls are busily engaged wrapping up goods of all kinds.

**Wra·pping,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wrap *v.* + -ING 2.] That wraps, covers, or envelops. Also *fig.*

1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II (Arb) 50 In vayne Laocoon . Is to soon embrued with wrapping gyrdle y coompast. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps* xxxi 11, Preserve me from the wyly wrapping net, Which they for me have sett 1813 [Leigh Hunt] in *Examiner* 31 May 345/1 Under the wrapping silence about me 1859 *Daily News* 13 Oct, The necessity of plunging through a deep gulph of air before one meets the wrapping and shielding water.

Hence † **Wra ppingly** *adv*, disguisedly. *Obs*—1

1649 Canne *Snare Broken* 12 It would not have been so ambiguously, darkly, wrappingly given forth.

† **Wra pping-gown.** *Obs* Wrapping *vbl sb* 3 b + Gown *sb*] A night-gown

1709 S. Wesley in Quiller Couch *Hetty Wesley* (1903) 1 vii, She had nothing on but her shoes and a wrapping gown 1709 Steele *Tatler* No 1 p 1/1 Mr. Bickerstaff was in her wrapping gown and consulted her glass 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb* I ii, I shall never be reconciled to this nauseous wrapping gown 1800 *Lady's Mag* 31 p 5 What was my surprise at meeting him in his wrapping gown and night cap 1827 Scott *Chron Canongate* I, The wide wrapping gown and night cap 1877 Miss Yonge *Caumes* III 18 He King was seen standing before the fire in his wrapping gown

**Wrap-rascal** (ræ·pɹɑskăl) Now *arch.* or *dial* [f Wrap *v.* + Rascal *sb* 3 Cf. *hap-harlot*] A loose overcoat or great-coat, esp worn in the 18th century, a surtout.

1716 *Gay Trivia* 58 The true surtout *mang*, A Joseph, a Wrap rascal, etc. 1738 in W C Sydney *Eng & Engl 18th C* (1891) I 121 Those loose kinds of great coats which I have heard called 'wrap-rascals' 1820 Bentham *Ration Jud Evid* (1827) III 192 A sort of knave's coat, or (to use an appellative not in my years ago applied in vulgar language to a particular sort of wrap-rascal) 1845 *Punch* VIII 87 The shapeless articles which, under the various names of Ingles, Wrap rascals are now placed on the human form 1884 Miss *Thorne Aloe South* I 1 Muffled up in these lurtute wrap rascals, and with wide awake hats sloushed over our eyes 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxv, On the threatened, in a rough wraprascal, stood James More

*fig.* 1812 J O in *Examiner* 23 Nov 750/1 The specious cloak of Prudence,—that wrap rascal of the worldly minded.

1862 Thackeray *Round Papers, Letts's Diary*, There is the cozy wraprascal, self indulgence—how easy it is!

*attrib.* 1898 Weyman *Castle Inn* 192 A big dingy man in a wrap rascal coat

† **b** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 Grose *Dict Vulg Tongue* (ed 3), *Wrap Rascal*, a red cloak, called also a roquelaire.

**Wrapt,** obs etym 1 Kaft *ppl a* 2.

1796 Mme D'Arblay *Camilla* IV 337 [She] was absorbed in wrapt expectation 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII xiii, P 16 He will bear it read with so great reverence

**Wrapture,** obs. form of Rapture.

† **Wrase.** *Obs rare.* Also 5 **wrese.** [OE *wrǽsen* band, tie Cf. also LG. *wrasen* stuffed pad for the head ]

1 A small bandle

*c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 385 in *O E Misc* 48 Of one wrase of þornes he wyþen hym ouer cruche *c* 1470 *Colk Angl* 495/1 (A), A Wrase [*rec*], *fascinulus*

2. = Wash 2 (Cf Wreath 5 a, Writh.)

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Arculum*, a roll that women weare on their heads to bear burthen a wrase [*Elyot* wase]

**Wraskle,** obs var. Wrakle *v*

**Wrasle, Wrassil,** &c vars. Wrestle.

**Wrasse** (ræs). Also 8 **wraws,** 8 9 **wrass** [ad Cornish *wrach*, mutated form of *gwrach* = Welsh *gwrach* wrasse, also old woman (cf Old wife 3) Mod Cornish dial. has also the form *wrath*, and *wrasse* may be an E. plural in *-s.*]

1. One or other species belonging to the acanthopterygian family *Labridæ* or esp the genus *Labrus* of bony, thick-lipped, marine fishes; esp. the ballan (the 'old wife', *Labrus maculatus*) or the striped, red, or cook species (*L. mixtus*), found on the British coasts.

*a* 1672 Willughby *Hist. Pisc* (1686) 319 *Turdus vulga-*

*tissimus, Tinctî marinis* Venetis : Cornub. *Wrasse, Hind.* *300 Cornubiensibus* Wrasse *dicitur.* a 1705 Ray *Syn. Pisc.* (1713) 136 *Iuvetus trahjectanensis,* the Wrasse, or Old Wife. 1758 J. Hill *Hist Anim.* 249 The Wrasse, or Old-wife, is frequent in the Mediterranean 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 307 The Labrus or Wrasse [has] the body oval : the head middling : the lips doubled inward. 1800 Gmelin *Rom Nat Hist* 905 The brilliant wrasses dart out and in, decked in scarlet and green. 1888 *Encycl Brit.* XXIV. 685/2 Some 450 species of wrasses are known.

b. With distinguishing epithet.

*Comber, cook, cuckoo, rainbow, red, small-mouthed, striped wrasse* see these words

1789 Pennant *Brit Zool* III 203-8 Ballan Wrasse. Bimaculated Wrasse, *L. bimaculata* Trimaculated Wrasse Striped Wrasse Gibbous Wrasse. 1878 *Ibid* (ed 4) pt. xlvii, Comber Wrasse. Antient Wrasse 1836 Yarrell *Brit Fishes* I 279-291 The Green-streaked Wrasse Red Wrasse, Three-spotted Wrasse (etc.). 1840 *Couzer's Anim Kingd.* 310 *L. Lineatus,* the Lineated. *L. turtegatus,* the Blue streaked, *L. carneus,* the Three spotted Wrasse. 1848 *Maunder's Treas Nat Hist* 2 v, Several species of this Acanthopterygious fish, viz. the Cook Wrasse or Blue-striped Wrasse (*L. varigatus*), the Comber Wrasse (*L. comber*) 1874 Couch *Brit Fishes* III. 30-42 Green Wrasse. Scale-rayed Wrasse. ...Small mouthed wrasse. [etc.]

c. *New Zealand* (See quots.)

1789 J. Hector *Fishes N Zealand* 108 A small Wrasse,... called the Spotty or Freckled. 1868 Hutton *Austral Birds* 518/2 *Wrasse,* this English name is given, in New Zealand, to *Labrichthys bothryosomus,* Richards. Called also Freckled, Spotty, and King Wrasse.

2. Without article. Wrasses collectively

1730 Heath *Acc Isl Scilly* 45 The Irish are Pichards, Hake, Wrass, Whistlers. 1765 in Pennant *Brit Zool* (1776) I 143 Where the wrass, and pollack, are taken in season. 1878 R. Thomson in *Trans. N Zealand Institute* XI. 384 Wrasse, Parrotfish, and Spotties are often in the market 1883 *All Year Round* 18 June 16/1 The full fare of a family of the neolithic period ..they had mullet and wrasse, dogfish and skate

3. *attrib.*, as *wrasse family, -fish.*

1840 in *Couzer's Anim Kingd.* 309 *Labrida* (the Wrasse, or Rock fish Family) 1890 *Cant Dict* s.v. *Labrus,* Wrasse-fish (*Labrus maculatus*)

† **Wrast,** *v.t.* *Obs.* [Origin?] (Meaning obscure)

Perhaps *to wrast* pa. pple, 'wrested away' (from what is right) but cf next

23 *Cauc & Gr Kal* 1663 He dalt with hir al in daynte, how an euer he dede turned it to wrast

† **Wrast,** *a Obs.*[1] [OE. *wræst, wræst* elegant, noble, excellent. In ML. perh a back-formation from Unwhast *a*] a. Of sound : Loud, strong

b. Of persons : Stout, active.

13 *Cauc & Gr Kal* 1473 Wele worder hym warp with a wrast mowe 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (r) 1170 Wilde bie þei kast, þe kyng to confound, His schipmen were falle wrast [*printe* t wraski], els had he gon to ground.

**Wrast,** etc.: see Wrest, etc.

**Wrat** (rat). Now *dial* or *Obs.* Also 6 **wratte,** 9 **wraught.** [a. (M)LG. *watte* (LG. *wratt,* Du. *wat*), or metathetic var Wart *sb* ] = Wart *sb* 1.

1587 Awdry *w Brunswyke's Datyell li ateers* ii ccxiv b/1 The eyck wratres in the foundament. 1596, 1609 [see Wart *sb* 1] 1768 Ross *Helenore* 30 Black harry wi's Club throw her fie were like mustaches seen. 1808 Jamieson. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Words* s.v.

† **Wratchyhe,** *Obs.*[2] [Of obscure origin; perh. f. Cornish *wrath* Wrasse + *hihan* small.] (See quot.)

1443 in *Rekynton's Corr* (Rolls) II 238 Magister Tregoran dedit piscem vocatum base et wratchy he alias a tenche of the see.

**Wratch,** etc. see Wretch, etc.

**Wrat(e,** obs. or Sc. pa. t. of Write *v.*

**Wrath** (rɒþ, *U.S.* rӕþ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wræðu,** -o, 3 **wræðe,** 2 **wredða,** 3 **wredðe** (**wreadde**), 2-3 **wreðe,** 3-4 **wreþþe,** 4-5 **wreithe** *β* 1 **wræðo,** 3 **wræðoe** (**wræðhe**), **wræþe,** 3 *Orm* , 4-5 **wrape,** 4-5 **wraithe.** *γ.* 3 **wræð,** 4-5 **wrape,** 4-6 **wrathe,** 3 **wræð,** 4 (**wragh,** 5 **wraa,** **wraagh,** 7 **wrauth**). *δ.* 3-7 **wraith,** 6-7 **wraithe,** vr. **wrayth** (**wrayith**). [OL. *wræððu, -o, -wræþþu,* f. *wræþ* Wroth *a.* + *-þu* .—Teut. *-þð-*: see *-th*[1]. Cf. Wrethe *sb.*

The original long vowel (*ǽ*) was shortened before the double consonant, and, save the two ML. types *o* *ǽþe* and *wræþþe* from the latter comes the present *wrath*, with later lengthening of the *a*, as in *path, lath.* This pronunc. (rɑþ), regarded by Walker (1791) as 'more analogical', and formerly common in long use but now displaced by that with the rounded vowel (rɒþ), is still given as the standard by American dictionaries.]

1 Vehement or violent anger; intense exasperation or resentment; deep indignation : *a.* In the phrases *for, † a, † on, of, with* (*† mid*), or esp. *in wrath.*

c 900 *Lindisf Gosp* Mark iii 5 [Jesus] mib-sceawde hia mid wræðho cuoð to þem monn, aehen hond din *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 113 þe lauerd [he] do hit for nihtwunesse and noht for wreðde. *a* 1200 *Ivest & Virtues* 121 Ne he ðe surhwunde on wræþþe, ne he ðe wunelliche lið on hordome. *a* 1225 *Leg Kath* 1362 þe Keiser kaste his bresued, as wod mon, of wraðhe. *Ibid* 2048 Hu wrakelliche, weneytu, wule he, al o wraðhe, wreken on þe, wrecche! 13 *Gaw Hermit* (C) 1326 It is Guy, That in wrath from the well departi truly. 1382 Wyclif *Mark* iii 5 He biholdynge hem aboute with wrathe seth (etc) *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6697 Then for wrath of his wound He gird to a greke. *c* 1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 11. 79 Some vse when they here the fende named in play or in wrathe to saye Aue Maria. 1526 Mar. 12ewe 1st *Pt. Tamburl* 11. iii, My heart is swolne with wrath, on this...villaine Tamburlaine and of that false Cosroe. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii 86 Yet being men they stared ghastly, some for wrath, to see their captiue Dame 1603 Daniel *Wild Gallant* I. (1656) 24 Come not near me to night, while I'm in wrath. *c* 1743 Sir C. H. Williams *Wks* (1822) I. 203 Great Lord of Bath, lie not in wrath, At what the people say. 1798 Wordsw. *Peter Bell* 348 On he drives with cheeks that burn In downright fury and in wrath. 1880 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. 243 But we may go in wrath.

b. In general use. Occas. *personif.*

*c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Wreðhe hafð wununge on þes duntan bosme. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 41 All þare hwile ße hu wraðhe oðer nið hauest mid te *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3863 Der ros wreðhe and strif to mon Ayen monnen and ayen 1338 R. Brunne *Chron* (1810) 6 He ne suffred neuere wrath to be aboue. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VI 98 Leo wel I war of wrathe þat wyl kindle Sclewen. *c* 1440 Hoccleve *De Reg Prince* 3872 Wrathe, be body of man inward freteth. *c* 1445 *Cast. Persev.* 210 in *Macro Plays* 83 Wrathe, þis wrecche, with me schal wone. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 214 Ageyn hym wold he not ascende The same in happ wylle fulle on the 1526 Tindale *1 Phes* iv 31 Let all bitternes, fearnes and wrath be put awaye from you 1590 Shakes. *3 Hen VI*, II. iii 3 Such bitter war Wrath, the son of Mischief, thirsty of his vngodly tire. 1640 G. Sandys *Christ's Passion* 11 201 Wrath, the Nurse of War 1695 Hawkesworth *Virtues* 225 Upon whom the Wrathful Angel shall be provoked to Wrath. 1700 Congr. *Estpost* 132 He judg'd them with as terrible a frown As if not love, but wrath, had brought him down. 1839 *Ld. Lytton Law & Lawyers* IV 11 Wrath was abroad and in his path 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlvi, Mrs. Brown's daughter looked out ; ; and there were wrath and vengeance in her face. 1871 Smiles *Huguenots in Eng.* Conven. App I 243 He was now full of wrath and resentment against them

*Transf* 1827 Portor *Course T* v 395 He heard the weltering of the waves of wrath. 1848 O. W. Holmes *Lattle of Lexington* iii, Fast on the soldier's path Darken the waves of wrath.

c. With qualification (adj or poss. pron.).

*a* c 900 *Rituale Ecel Dunelm* (Surtees) 12 Ic bitæce-nesse & iitra & wræððo ne zniimmen from eih *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 69 For sið þi wreðhe and þi modi, þen e it bi tole god Lauerd Iesu Crist 1440 Cursor Mundi 9464 word mid muchelere wreððe 1587 Lrelsa *Higden* IV. 263 þe way was so opened forto take wreche of al oiles wrþþe 1596 Shakes. *Merch. Venice* (Qo.) II. iii 3 Let him spend & we eschewen of giet hate & wrethe *a* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi 154 Of my wrethe wreke me I will

*β a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 28 Þa wæs se wæl ant bed o great wræðoe bringen forð a uet *c* 1205 Lay 6379 Ah hit wes muchel harme þat þurh his wræðhe his wit wes awemmed 1340 *Ayenb* 148 Þet is þe wraþþe þet monnes red. *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 728 Sif pemperour were wiþ me wroþ his wraþþe forto slaken. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 154 The wrathe of God. That if he wrathithe is overgo *c* 1425 *Cursor M* 5085 (Trin.), Mi wraþþe is cleine fro me goon

*γ c* 1300 *Havelok* 1179 Do nu wel with uten flit, Yeld hire þe lond Wile ich forgiue þe þe lathe, Al mi dede and al mi wrathe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel & Arc* 31 Mars which

The old wrath of Juno to fulfille Hath sette the people hertes, ever in grete Gyues [etc.] 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* 64 Yet in his wrauth this thought he euer among, If he shuld avenge hym sodeinly (etc) 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II viii 88 Whan the wrauth of the wynde began to lasse. 1526 Tindale *1 Phes.* iv 26 Let not the sonne goo doune apon youre wrathe. 1596 Shaks. *Kich. III*, II. i 106 Who knows not he is dead! Who knows he is? Qu. (in my wrath) Kill them & dig. 1616 T. Scot *Philosophistre* II C 3, b Ch roreth out his wrath, Nor other need of drums or trumpets hath 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 691 The seer could not yet his Wrath assuage. 1735 Pope *Prol Sat* 30 Which must end me, a fool, a wrath or love? 1796 Mrs. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 239 When he had respectfully suffered her wrath to vent itself, he made apologies. 1802 Mackay *Ahlfp* xxiii, His chafing, bleeding temper as one saw; his whole soul one rage, and wrath, and fever 1870 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. xxiv 200 Let the Devil one with terrible wrath Seeketh a path His prey to discover

*δ* c 1480 Henryson *Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 7 In his wrath he were ye thame to dreid *c* 1500 M. Nisbet *N Ant's* (S.T.S.) II. 238 *marg* , As for malice or vnlawful wrath it is vtirly forbidin *c* 1614 Sir W. Mure *Dido & Æneas* 1 906 His wrayth fled he reares Above the waters, toss'd by Juno's wrayth.

d. Righteous indignation on the part of the Deity.

*a* 900 *Rituale Ecel Dunelm* (Surtees) 8 God, beado folces þines huldendes rymmadlice biseh, & se oppa ðunes tæcðas ymbw sind *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 Þondne we te kelien godes wreðhe mid teares *a* 1300 *E. L. Psalter* xciv 11 (Ii.), Als in my wreth I hadd I sworn, If þai sal entir in my rest. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 780 He takyþ more to wrþþe þat synne þan þei 1388 Wyclif *Ezek* xxxiii 19 Suth the lord seiþ thus, Y schal not haue wraththe vpon the hous of 1450 *Ant de la Tour* 13 Porto apese the wrathe of God. thei fasted 1535 Coverdale *Hosea* xiii. 11, I gaue the a kinge in my wrath 1560 Whittingham *Gen.* v 5 I. 30 For the abusing of thy dayis God is at wrayth with vs 1594 Milton *Comus* 840 Where the wrath of Jove Speaks thunder and the chains of Gorgon lie 1611 Bible *Zech* vii 12 Therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hostes. *a* 1754 E. Rawlins *Serm* (1763) 200 Did We not know that God is in his heart of a truth to soune from God upon Impenitent Sinners.

e *attrib.* and *Comb*, as *wrath-fire, -storm* , *ob* jective, as *wrath-provoking,* † *-venger* ; *wrathful,* as *wrath's fierceness, -like* ; *wrath-incensed, -kindled, -consume* v., *-kindled, -swollen.*

*a* 1593 Marl. *Ovid's Elegies* II v 52 She kissed so sweetly, as might make Wrath kindled loue away his thun der shake. 1593 Shakes *Rich. II*, I. i. 162 Wrath kindled Gentlemen be rul'd by me. 1600 Shakes. *Lett Hous ors blood* IV. D 8 b, [To] threaten to drawe his wrath venger, his swoorde 1604 Vicars *God in Mount* 12 The gust of such a wrath provoking sin. 1608 Shakes. *Per. Prince of Tyre* I. iv 434 When thou fightest against him, thou struckest up his wrathful-fire 1728 Morgan *Algiers* (1731) II 56 The extraordinary storming of the Forts, and Batteries of the Christian, especially since our wrath kindled soons at Court. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* IV 166 They fly dispers'd nor tempt His wrath-inkindled eyes of living fire. 1798 Southey *Ir Ballad's Other* 11 (1826) I. 27 His sov'reign's wrath-bewilder'd brain. 1859 Fitzgerald *Omar* A. lii, Whether the one True Light Kindle to Love, or Wrath-consume me quite 1886 J. Patterson *Infelonge* v 63 The wrath storm which our sins have created 1894 G. Meredith *Poems* 81 It sanges like the wrath-faced father Sea To countering winds.

Hence **†Wra·thhead**, wrath; deep anger. *Obs.*[-1] 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 12460 God .. Oper for-ȝyuep..alle with gladehede, Or alle abydeþ to hys wrathede.

**Wrath**, M.E. var. Wroth *a.*

**Wrath** (rɔ̄þ), *a.* [var. of Wroth *a.*, prob. by association with Wrath *sb.*] Wroth, angry, irate; deeply resentful.

Somewhat rare; but occurring in various passages of the Douay Bible (1609) where earlier versions and the Authorized have *wroth*.

1535 *Treviz.'s Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. 316/2 No creature is .. more feruente to take wreche than is the bee when he is wrathe. 1560 Sharp. *Merch. N.* ii. 4. 20 Oberon is passing fell and wrath (*orig.* heate hath). 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. viii. 43 Whereat the Prince full wrath, his strong right hand . heaued vp on hie. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Gen.* xl. 2 Pharao being wrath against them .. sent them into the prison. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xviii, Th'old Dragon under ground .. wrath to see his Kingdom fall. [1849 Maddex *Lagarton* I. 271 When he was wrath with any man.] 1862 Thackeray *Lovel* iv, Lovel, seldom angry, was violently wrath with his brother-in-law. 1882 Bulwer *Strange Story* II. 229. I saw the child looking towards us, and..she seemed near. I felt wrath with her.

**†Wrath**, *v. Obs.* Forms: α. 3 wrǫðen, wrepen, 4 wrepe, wretpe, 4–5 wrethe. β. 3 wrǫðen (wrǫðin), 3–4 wrapen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4–5 wrappe, 5 wrappi, wrathpe; 3 wratpen, 4–5 wrathen, wratthe. γ. 3 wrǫðen, wrapen (wrahen), wrahen, 4–5 wrape, wrahe, wrap (a wragh), 4–6, *arch.* 9 wrath. δ. 5, *Sc.* 6 wraith. [Early ME. *wrǫþen, wrapþen*, f. the sb. (see Wrath *sb.*), taking the place of the earlier *wrǫðen* Wretched v. Cf. Awrath, Iwrathe, and Wroth *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To be or become angry, wrathful, or wroth; to feel, manifest, or exhibit anger; to rage.

*c* 1205 Lay. 3240 þa ȝwreiðede [*v.r.* ȝwreðede] Nu[m]ert. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 746 Þe king him to wreðhen (*Cott. MS.* wraðen). *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxi. 10 Sinful sal se, and wrath he sal . 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 230 Þer wrathed not be wyȝ, ne he wrech sayled. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 189 Yf he wrathe, we mowe be war. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 632 He wrathed sore ys hestie. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 3 Whan the goode man herde this he gan to wrathe.

*transf.* *c* 1275 Lay. 4577 Þe wind com on wiþere, And þe see wrepede. *Ibid.* 12060 Þe see was wonderliche wod; and he see wrahpede.

b. Const. *against, at, in, with* (a person or thing).

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 111 Whan wrathed Steuen with Dauid of Scotland. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8442 The worthy at his wife wrathed a litle. *a* 1450 *Kni. de la Tour* (1868) 20 A gentille knightes doughter that wrathed atte the tables with a gentilman.

*transf.* *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii. 3 When wrathed [*Hart. MS.* wraghed] breth ȝa in us pus. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxxiii. 3 Whan shulde wrathen the wodnesse of hem in vs.

α. Of the Deity: To be or grow righteously angry or wroth (*against* a person or thing).

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 12 (H.). God demer rith,..Nou wrathes he alle deies in land? 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* ix. 128 Caymes kynde & his kynde coupled togideres, Tyl god wratthed for her wikkede. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* v. 21 Lord, thou wratthedist ayen vs hugely. *a* 1450 *Kni. de la Tour* (1868) 77 And God wratthed therwith, and laide Moyses[etc.].

2. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) irate, angry, or wroth; to move to anger, rage, or deep resentment; to anger, enrage; to annoy, vex.

In very frequent use from *c* 1150 to *c* 1450.

*a.* *c* 1205 Lay. 3771 Heo werðeode [*c* 1275 Hii wrǫþede] heore noddiri mare þenn hiderto. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 408 On alle wise uorberen to wreðen hure dame. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* (A.) 276 And þu hi nyd worde ȝrenedest heuedest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Þet we ous loky þet we ne wrǫþji uader ne moder wyrindieticke. *c* 1386 *Sir Wyncunh.* 209 Þenk eft-sones to auenged be of þe Amyral þat hab y-wrǫþped þe. *a* 1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 237 Petir stod wrethful for sore. *a* 1500 *Vices & Virtues* I. 39 So he hafd bene sadi[mitid] him me mai no maun wrǫþin. *c* 1500 Lay. 7200 Þe feond was ȝwroðed. 1597 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7721 Sif hat eni hin [= William] wrǫþede, Adoun he was ȝeue. 13.. *Allit. P.* A. ii. 85 Serue on þi lokkes, Such weddyng to worche to wrabbe with trube. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. 316 Þe bee whan he is ywrabbed. *a* 1450 Mync *Nor. Pr.* 1142 Hadde he wrathed py neyboru in any þynge? 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxxii. 246 The kyng was gretely meuid and wrathed.

*transf.* *c* 1205 Lay. 12006 Þe se wes wunder ane wod, and ladliche iwraðed.

*absol.* 13.. *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 260 Lechery.. wastiþ .., hii wrabþiþ, hii biclieþ.

γ. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* (H.) 276 Hi..þu hire naid worde wraped hauedest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16427 Pilate forthogt þaim bath to wrath. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 981, I wrabe him neuer .. in word ne in dede. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1151 No I wolde haue wrathed her truly. *c* 1450 *Merlin's Prophesi* 99 But ȝu a mynhanger..þay wrabeden hor modyr. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vb, Wrath not thy neighboru next the. [1866 Morris *Ayenb.* 8 *marg.*, Wrath not thy Father or Mother.]

*transf.* *c* 1205 Lay. 4577 Þe wind com on weðere, and þa se he wraðede [*c* 1275 þe se wrǫþede].

δ. *c* 1400 *Iwut* ii. 310 Wherfore þe King was grevly.. wraithed. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* 43 He wraithit me, and than I culd him warne Withinn ane speir.

b. Predicated of things. Somewhat *rare*.

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 938 Ne nis na þing bewiteð monnes muchele madschine wreðeð [*Cott. MS.* wraðeð] him wið mare [etc.]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Moni þing achal haun wrǫðen & gremen. 1470 *Paston Lett.* III. 57 Sir Jamys is evyr choppyng at me..with syche wordys as he thynkys wrathe me.

c. To provoke or incite (the Deity) to righteous anger or wrath; to move to displeasure. Also const. *to, with*.

In frequent use from *c* 1325 to *c* 1425.

*c* 1200 Ormin 5615 Þu Ne darest nohht Drihhtin wrabbenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Monnes sunne ȝ-gret of hire hule heouenliche cunde, & forte þeien hire, wreðdet hire schuppiare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8813 Þo þou ..wrabedest so muche god. *c* 1340 *Ayenb. Amit.* 206 Al our sunne, We schuld leo-se, and for þat sinne, Wrethi God þereto. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1229 (Fairf.), Vn-ael-ye cayme..and alle his ongeringe I wrabbe him wip wikked rede. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 16 Iheue, for them y be bisechie Pat wrabben þee in ony wise. *a* 1450 Mync *Nor. Pr.* 978 Hast þou..I-wrabbad þy god with þyne wykked rede. 1489 Caxton *St. Wenefr.* 3 Thou hast gretely wrathed oure lorde.

3. *refl.* To rave, become, or grow angry.

*c* 1205 Lay. 20345 Arður..þa gomen ræh and wrǫðe hine sulfne. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.), Þe þet nes iherde bi, he wreðdede him swiðe. *c* 1230 *Beket* 972 Þo þe king [*sic*] him so come he wrahþede him a-non. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 661 Fader, no wrebe þe nouȝt. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 176 Whi þou wrabbest þe now, wonder me þinkeþ. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 4125 Hurie brother wratthede hym þo at þe last. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxvii. 644 Anon to wrathen sche gan and here. [1822 Scott *Peveril* xxii, 'Nay, wrath thee not, Will,' said Ganilese.]

4. *trans.* To be or become angry with (a person); to treat with anger, ire, or deep resentment.

*c* 1325 Chaucer *Troylus* 111. 174 Nat fyri forbere, yf þat ye don a-mys. To wrathen [*Harl. MS.* wrath] yow, and whil þat ye me sese, Cherycen yow right after ye deserue. 1375 *Cursor M.* 1229 (Fairf.), And ine Michel with word oc Worschipe þe, or elles god Wolde wrathen me. *c* 1420 in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 192/11 Whi wrabþist þou me? y preue nee nouȝt. 1567 Turbev. *Ovid's Ep.* 73 b, A cruell stepdame..gaue him a drinke poysoned, *ascribi in partum meum*.

5. To afflict, harm, or injure; to bring to grief or disaster.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1529 Gwichard, who hab wrethed þe, Þe Amyral of Babiloyne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. 6/46 For worre wrathed hym not so much, but wynter was worse *Ibid.* 2420 Adam,..Salamon..and Samson..were wrathit with þat vice. woman's wylis. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 1123 (Camb. MS.) Þat þey be passyd the hyllys hye, We schall ben wrath.

Hence **†Wra·ther**, one who excites, or moves to, wrath; **†Wra·thing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* iii. 7 Therfore thou shalt speke my wordis to hem,..for thei ben †wrathithers. *c* 1370 *Stacions of Rome* 107 (Vernon MS.), †Wrabping of Fader or Moder Of hii þat þis lesse nome he forsiþe þe. 1390 *Gower's Morals* 2/6 in *Cursor M.* 16733 For name alde wrabbing hate nost þi frende if he chaunge his manere. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 241 Principally for drede of god, for dreed of his wrethyng. *a* 1450 *Kni. de la Tour* (1868) 24 For drede of sclaunder and wratthinge of her.

**Wrath**, obs. erron. f. Rathe *adv.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2145 (Linc. Inn MS.), King Anguis ..Did arme his mete wrath & prest.

**Wrathe**, obs. pa. t. of Writhe *v.* **Wrather-hail, -heal, -hele**, var. Weother-heal *Obs.*

**Wrathful** (rɔ̄·þful), *a.* [f. Wrath *sb.* + -ful. Cf. Wrethful *a.*, Wrothful *a.*]

1. Of persons, etc.: Harbouring wrath; full of anger; enraged, incensed.

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1 Þe wreðe wif, ȝ Mi leaue artou.. Fra mi fader ben wrathfull as. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gyde Warw.* 262 Þeder he wole lihten adoun Wrathfull..as a lioun. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* xv. 18 A wrathful man stirith debatyngis. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. (Bodl. MS.), Þe bees þeþ..foule to ssip and more wrabfulle panne oþer. *c* 1430 in *Babees Bk.* 12 Do not bei to wielde, ne to wrabful, neiþer waaste. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 737 He was very choleryke, hasty, and wrathfull. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 18 Al the frushe and leauings of Greeks, of wrathful Achilles. 1624 Milton *Ps. cxxxvii.* 7 Rase it, rase it, wrathfull Edom. Thou doest the wrathfull tyrants quell. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 344 The Bees, a wrathful Race. 1697 — *Æneis* viii. 81 With wrathful Speech to Venus he appears. *a* 1718 Prior *Second Hymn of Callimachus* 92 Less wrathful the far-shooting God smit His fatal Arrows. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 303 They knew their heads, and looked gloomy and wrathful. 1846 W. H. Mill *Five Serm.* 11 Jesus Christ Himself as wrathful against the determined sinner. 1877 'Rita' *Vindictive* I. viii, Her heart was wrathful and indignant. 1892 A. E. Lee *Hist. Calumbus, Ohio* I. 315 The tollgates.. were torn away by wrathful citizens.

b. *transf.* Of things.

1583 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* i, The wrathful winter proacheth on so fast. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 43 The wrathfull furies wait on wrathfull sword. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. ii. 902 Thou hast felt the rod Of the revenging wrathfull Deitie. 1596 — *Lucan* viii. 1 Wrathfull Sword, or fatall Fire destroyes. 1597 Daniel *Tethys Festival* 99 But yon a mysshapen..hay wrabefeed hor modyr. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vb, Wrath not thy neighboru next the. [1866 Morris *Ayenb.* 8 *marg.*, Wrath not thy Father or Mother.]

*transf.* *c* 1205 Lay. 4577 Þe wind com on weðere, and þa se he wraðede [*c* 1275 þe se wrǫþede].

δ. *c* 1400 *Iwut* ii. 310 Wherfore þe King was grevly.. wraithed. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* 43 He wraithit me, and than I culd him warne Withinn ane speir.

b. Predicated of things. Somewhat *rare*.

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 938 Ne nis na þing bewiteð monnes muchele madschine wreðeð [*Cott. MS.* wraðeð] him wið mare [etc.]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Moni þing achal haun wrǫðen & gremen. 1470 *Paston Lett.* III. 57 Sir Jamys is evyr choppyng at me..with syche wordys as he thynkys wrathe me.

c. To provoke or incite (the Deity) to righteous anger or wrath; to move to displeasure. Also const. *to, with*.

In frequent use from *c* 1325 to *c* 1425.

*c* 1200 Ormin 5615 Þu Ne darest nohht Drihhtin wrabbenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Monnes sunne ȝ-gret of hire hule heouenliche cunde, & forte þeien hire, wreðdet hire schuppiare. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8813 Þo þou ..wrabedest so muche god. *c* 1340 *Ayenb. Amit.* 206 Al our sunne, We schuld leo-se, and for þat sinne, Wrethi God þereto. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1229 (Fairf.), Vn-ael-ye cayme..and alle his ongeringe I wrabbe him wip wikked rede. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 16 Iheue, for them y be bisechie Pat wrabben þee in ony wise. *a* 1450 Mync *Nor. Pr.* 978 Hast þou..I-wrabbad þy god with þyne wykked rede. 1489 Caxton *St. Wenefr.* 3 Thou hast gretely wrathed oure lorde.

3. *refl.* To rave, become, or grow angry.

*c* 1205 Lay. 20345 Arður..þa gomen ræh and wrǫðe hine sulfne. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.), Þe þet nes iherde bi, he wreðdede him swiðe. *c* 1230 *Beket* 972 Þo þe king [*sic*] him so come he wrahþede him a-non. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristr.* 661 Fader, no wrebe þe nouȝt. 1382 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iii. 176 Whi þou wrabbest þe now, wonder me þinkeþ. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 4125 Hurie brother wratthede hym þo at þe last. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxvii. 644 Anon to wrathen sche gan and here. [1822 Scott *Peveril* xxii, 'Nay, wrath thee not, Will,' said Ganilese.]

4. *trans.* To be or become angry with (a person); to treat with anger, ire, or deep resentment.

*c* 1325 Chaucer *Troylus* 111. 174 Nat fyri forbere, yf þat ye don a-mys. To wrathen [*Harl. MS.* wrath] yow, and whil þat ye me sese, Cherycen yow right after ye deserue. 1375 *Cursor M.* 1229 (Fairf.), And ine Michel with word oc Worschipe þe, or elles god Wolde wrathen me. *c* 1420 in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 192/11 Whi wrabþist þou me? y preue nee nouȝt. 1567 Turbev. *Ovid's Ep.* 73 b, A cruell stepdame..gaue him a drinke poysoned, *ascribi in partum meum*.

5. To afflict, harm, or injure; to bring to grief or disaster.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1529 Gwichard, who hab wrethed þe, Þe Amyral of Babiloyne. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. 6/46 For worre wrathed hym not so much, but wynter was worse *Ibid.* 2420 Adam,..Salamon..and Samson..were wrathit with þat vice. woman's wylis. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 1123 (Camb. MS.) Þat þey be passyd the hyllys hye, We schall ben wrath.

Hence **†Wra·ther**, one who excites, or moves to, wrath; **†Wra·thing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* iii. 7 Therfore thou shalt speke my wordis to hem,..for thei ben †wrathithers. *c* 1370 *Stacions of Rome* 107 (Vernon MS.), †Wrabping of Fader or Moder Of hii þat þis lesse nome he forsiþe þe. 1390 *Gower's Morals* 2/6 in *Cursor M.* 16733 For name alde wrabbing hate nost þi frende if he chaunge his manere. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 241 Principally for drede of god, for dreed of his wrethyng. *a* 1450 *Kni. de la Tour* (1868) 24 For drede of sclaunder and wratthinge of her.

**Wrath, obs.**

*Thrush & Night.* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 52 Hy gladieth hem that beth wrowe. *c* 1325 Shoreham *Poems* lv. 239 Wat helpbe hyt no wran to be, Wanne þou wyþ gode chyat! *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manc. Prol.* 46 With this speche the Cook was wrooth & wraw. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 8 Wisit þat er sekc;.. Sahtil pat erc wrage. *c* 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* in Halliw. *Nugæ P.* 9 They be than so angry and wraw and wraw. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 40 Thow mantycore,.. Wrangelynge, waywyrde, wyles, wraw, and noghyng meke. 1818 William in *Archæol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wraow, angry.* 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 126 *Raw*, angry.—Sittingbourne.

**b.** Marked or characterized by anger or ire.

*c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* (K.) 80/2 Clenchyn a-gen in wraw spechs,..*elgarria.*

**2.** Peevish, crabbed; perverse, contrarious.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 677 Accidie maketh hym heuy thoughtful & wrawe [*var.* wrowe, *Ellesm. MS.* wrawful]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 99/1 Crabbyd, awke, or wrawe.. *ceronicus, bilosus. Ibid.* 333/1 Wraw, froward, ongoodly,.. *protervus, exasperans.*

Hence † **Wraw-ful** *a.*, = **Wrawful** *a.* 2; † **Wraw-ly** *adv.*, perversely; † **Wraw-ness**, perverseness.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 680 He dooth alle thyng with anoy and with wrawnesse, slaknesse, and excusacion. *c* 1400 wrawful (see prec. a). *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 181/2 Awkely, or wrawely, *perverse, contrarie. Ibid.* 333/1 Wrawnesse, *protervia,..hilositas, parvuristas.*

† **Wraw**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **wrawen**. [ad. MDu. *wrauwen*, of imitative origin.] *intr.* To miaul, as a cat; to mew.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 22 Thenne..began he [*sc.* Tybert the cat] to wrawen for he was almost ystranglyd. 1662 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 611 Quhan we vold [= would] be in the shap of cattis, we did nothing but cry and wraw.

† **Wrawed**, *a. Obs.* Also 5–6 **wrawd**. [f. Wraw *a.* + -ED1.] Angry, wroth; perverse.

*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3367 For he..Is wrawid & wrathfull of will, & wode as a lyon. *c* 1486 Bassrell *Bk. Nurture* 500 Crabbe is a stuff to kerve & a wrawd wight. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 126 O forlorne Dido, now now wrawd destenye grudg at thee.

**Wrawl**, *v. Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Also 4 wrall, 7 wrawle; 5, 7 wrawle, 6, 8 wraul, 7 wraule, 6– wrawl (9 *dial.* rawwl); also 4 (9 *dial.*) warl. [Imitative. Cf. Norw. *vraula, raula*; also Da. *vraale, vrøle*, Sw. *vråla*, LG. *wrälen*, to squall, bellow, scream.]

**1.** *intr.* To utter an inarticulate noise or sound; to bawl, squall.

*c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1835 Thus he wrawled & wroth a way, One word to hyr he nolde hye say. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 191 Brailing fooles that stralf for euerie wrong. 1620 Holland *Pliny* I. 158 But now..she hath laid all naked upon the bare earth,..to cry and wraule presently from the very first houre that he is borne into this world. 1806 Bayberry *Crit. Life* 53 Here crying and wrawling for they wot'd not what. *c* 1780 M. Lonsdale in S. Gilpin *Songs Cumbrid.* (1866) 376 Guidman staid wraulin at her lug, An' ca'd her many a garrick. 1818 William in *Archæol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wrawling*, quarrelling, or contending with a loud voice. 1859 B. Brierley *Daisy Nook* 49 A lot o' dhrunken chaps rawin' wi' one another.

† **2.** Of a cat: = Wraw *v. Obs.*~1

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. xii. 27 Some were..of cats, that wrawling still did cry.

Hence **Wraw-ler**, one who brawls or squalls; **Wrawling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 99/2 Brodde or *warlare* [*Winch. MS.* wrawlere].., *traulus.* 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 55 Neither were..[the children] cryers, wrallers, or vnhappy children. *a* 1593 Heywood *Johan & Pph.* (Brandl.) 363 Who wyll neuer leue her *wrawling* and crying. 1670 Goode *Pagnin's Augl.* II. (1880) 21 b, Children there that lye, And fill their eares with wrawling all the night. 1693 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1019 Cries and wrawlings of an infinite number of children. 1714 *News & Merry Prognost.* E 2, Beggars lose brawling, And wretches lose wrawling. 1873 A. Anderson *Expos. of Heathcot.* 30 To quiet & make all his wanton and *wrawling* cryes. 1699 R. West *Bk. Demeanor* 60 in *Babees Bk.*, Nor practice snuffyngly to speake, for that doth imitate The brutish Storke..and the wrallings of a child. 1720 *Welsh Ambassador* iv. 1910 [Tha women] to still their wrawlings bastards cry out, haste [etc.].

**Wrax**, erron. f. Rax *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.*

**Wraxle**, *v. Obs. exc. i.w. dial.* Forms: 1 **wraxlian**, 3–4 **wraxli**, 4–5, 9 *dial.* **wraxle** (5 **wroxle, wraxle**, 9 *dial.* **wrazzle**). [OE. *wraxlian* = OFris. *wraxlia* (WFris. *wraksele, wroksetje*). The orig. form of the stem may have been *wrasx-*; cf. OE. *wrâstlian* Wrestle *v.*] *intr.* To wrestle; to contend, strive. Also *fig.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxii. 24 Da wraxlode an engel wið hyne on merzen. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 578 Ic wæs ..on unmæðum gefohten a wendende ant wraxlende. *c* 1275 Lay. 1858 Brutus hine lette wite, fort lete fondien of his main stronge, to wraxli to vore Brutus. *Ibid.* 24699 Seoune þar wraxlede and wiþer-game makede. *c* 1298 *St. Swithin* in *E.E.P.* (1862) 45 Þe baldelikere bi mizte Huppe ouer diches wher hi wolde, þobe wraxli and fyte. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 69 Yf wratthe wrasle with þe poure he hath þe worse ende. *Ibid.* So þaugh cousetyes wolde with þe poure wraxle þei mai nat come to-gederis. 16.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 593 *Luctor*, to wraxle. 1796 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 217 I thought he'd wriggeled, and pawed, and waxled, and twined. 1852, 1886 in Devon and Isle of Wight glossaries. 1894 *N. & Q.* 16 Dec. 479 (Cornish dialect) *Wrazzle*,..to wrastle.

Hence **Wrax-ling** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Num.* in Wr.-Wülcker 150 *Luctatio*, wraxlung. *c* 1275 Lay. 1871 þar was mochel folk at þare wraxlinge. 1708 *Exmoor Scolding* Gloss., *Wrazling*, wrastling.

**Wray**, ME. or dial. var. Wro.

† **Wray**, *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wregan, wreȝan**, 2 **wreiȝen, wreȝen, wreiȝen** (*Orm.* **wreȝ**(h)**enn**); 2 **uureien**, 2–3 **wreien**, 3 **wreyen**, 5 **wreyyn**; 3 **wreiȝe**, 3–4 **wreie**, 3–5 **wreye**, 4–5 **wreȝe** (5 **wreyȝie**), **wregh**(e, 4 **wreȝ, wrei**, 4–6 **wrey**; 4 **wroie, wroye**, 4–5 **wrade**, 5–6 **wray** (6 *Sc.* **vray**). *b.* 3–4 **wrȝhe**, 5 **wrigh**, 4–5 **wryen, wrye**, 4–6 **wrie**, 5–6 **wry**. *γ.* 5 *Sc.* **wre**, 8 *north. dial.* **wree**. [Comm. Teut. : OE. *wrêȝan, wrêtan*, = OFris. *wrêgia, wretia* (WFris. *wroegje*, EFris. *wrigie, wrig*, NFris. *wrige*), MDu. *wroeghen* (Du. *woegen*), OS. *wrôgian* (MLG. *wrogen, wrugen, rogen*, LG. *wrogen, wragen, wrägen, rogen*), OHG. *ruogen* (MHG. *ruegen*, G. *rügen*), ON. *rôgja* (Icel. *rægja*). Norw. *rægja*, Sw. *röja*). f. the stem *wrôz-* (ON. *rôg* slander, strife), with a variant *wrôh-* which appears in Goth. *wrôhs* accusation, *wrôhjan* to accuse.

By normal dialectal developments, three main forms of the stem appear in ME., viz. *wrey* or *wray, wry*, and northern *wrei*.]

**1.** To accuse, denounce, or inform on (a person); to expose (one) by revealing or divulging information, etc., to one's harm, prejudice, or discredit; to charge with a crime, offence, fault, etc.; = Bewray *v.* 2.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) D 74 *Defernatur*, meldadun *uel* wroegdun. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 10 Dec. 216 Ic cume eft on domes dæg ond þe þonne wrege befran Crystes þrymsetle. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* ii. 189 *Parcle* þa ardlice..to þam healdendum, and hi agenin þa to wræstnesse. *a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066 Hiæ man wræzde Sone bisop Ægelric on Burh, & sende hine to West mynstre. *a* 1175 *Lambeth Hom.* 71 Ne mei þe deouel þe wræcen on þan eðre liue. *c* 1200 Orrin 2889 He [*sc.* Joseph] was zedmod & milde, I þatt tatt he ne wollde nohitt Unnshabij wimmannis wrehhess. *Ibid.* 2892 Forr he wollde nohht Affenn Mitc. 39 pe maystres of þe temple.. For to vnderuinne vre louerd.. wre eues abuse..þet heo hynamyhte wreye and don wel þyfolkes. *Ibid.* 42 *Annis & Autil.* 1090 Than tolde he Annis al that cas.. And hou the steward gan hem wrain. 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 304 Pilat..sepin to be iewes..sayd: 3e wrigh him wrangwisly'. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2852 Sho hyr wrayed, and vtterly fast sho was wrenghed. And how tint traytyrs on hir leghed. *c* 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Ad.) 109 þe iewes..leidde hym..vn to..cayphine And he gon be wrigh, & sayd hym wer to dede. 1480 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 167 b, Cithero..borwede of one scilla, but he was wryed er þe bargayne was made. *Prol. Hist. Jos.* (MS. D) an. 1076, Walpeof eorl ferde ofer sæ & wreide hine sylfne & lard forsyfenysse. *c* 1475 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 3if þu wreiest þe seolfen to þine scilfte. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) 304 Mon schal wreien þe wrecche ine schrifte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16756 Qua se vil noght him-seluen wrei..nu ar he dei. *Ibid.* 16466, 26701, 26716, 28667. *Fig. a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Let..bouhtes muneȝunge wreie him, & biclenche hem of mislihe sunnen. *a* 1400 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 741 In bremful bale he schal hit by, When conscience his werk schal wreye.

**b.** Const. with cause, *for* (= thing).

*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 8 Nov. 202 Þa wrædden þa ofre cræftigan hy to þam casere. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 14 Ic nanne intingan findan ne mæg on þisum men of þam þe ge hine wregedan. *c* 1132 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131, þa com Henri abbot & uureide þe munecess of Burch to þe king. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 172 He was sone iwreid to þe kinge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1. 5009 Songe (Cassandra) for to him I-wreid, Sire, to thee, for þat ilk gilt. 23.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3303 Here wil we not lenger duelle: To þemperour y-wraid we be. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 1910 Þe sweyes eutrichon lagonnen hym to wryen of many þinges. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 134 Antipater..was wryed to the Emperoure Julian.

*refl. a* 1300 *Cursor M. Virtues* 141 3if ure hierte..us ne unfermeneð nabt ne ne wreihð of nane senne.

*intr. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26668 Pat þou..wrei þi-self and þine þinges [*Fairf.* wreis þi-self and þine].

**2.** To declare or assert (something about another) by way of accusation or denunciation; to bring forward as a charge.

*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 25 Aug. 150 Þa foren þa hæðnan blicceras ond leahtras to wræc kyninges brehtec. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 478 Þæt folc wrehton his modigsynze to ðam casere. *c* 1200 Orrin 416 Þatt fand mann nan þing uppon hemm To wregenn, ne to telenn. *c* 1350 *Northern Passion* (1916) II. 1 Sonne..followed [Judas] longe to here; Wat þey mizte on him leye To be luus vorto wrey.

**3.** To reveal or disclose (something secret) perfidiously or prejudicially; to divulge with breach of trust; to betray; = Bewray *v.* 3.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23552 Pat þou sal wrei þin aun dede, Pat nu seigne be for þe lede. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3656 Non com onain..To wray be kinges parlement. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VI. 281 But his counsaile was I-wried, and he was..I-closed in an abbay. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Quyrin..; þis ston wryeþ and discouereþ in slep counsel and priuite. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 3546 Priamus him..spies That youre counsyl to him wries. *c* 1485 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden, 1856) 21 As soone as the said lorde wiste that their counselle was discovered and wreid, they fledde. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Lord Hastings* xlvii, Alas, are counseils wryed to catch the goode? 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 128 Cist out my tong,..Least I should wraye this blondy deeds of his.

**4.** *gen.* To reveal, disclose, or divulge (some fact, etc.); to declare, communicate, or make known; = Bewray *v.* 4.

*a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 533 (Camb. MS.), Hele ihc wulle, and noþing wreie, Qwer beire campaigne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egidius*) 1246 Ihe ȝere solempnyt fast..þai mad, one þat day scho deyt, fra þat he hyre lyf had wryet. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's Prol.* T. 216 In his songes somwhat wolde he wreye His wo as in a general compleynynge. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* ix. iii. 5 The deid is auld for to beleif or wry, Bot the memor remans perpetually. *a* 1548 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 57 Your sighes yow fet from farre, And all to wry your wo. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* R viij b, Then gan hee wrie his former loue, And all his flame vnfolde.

*transf. c* 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 31 Alas I dye; the torche is come that al this world wol wrie. 1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* x. v. (Tollem. MS.), Leye bischineþ derke þinges, and wryeþ þinges þat ben hidde, and makeþ hem knowe.

**b.** Const. with clause. *rare*—1.

1525 *Gascoigne's Poesies* Wks. 1907 I. 23 In thundring verse he wrayes, where highest mindes be thrall.

**5.** To reveal or make known the presence of (a person); to expose; = Bewray *v.* 5.

*c* 1290 *Beket* 1214 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 141 With him a-morewe he nam His oste, þat he ne schulde him wreije forto he after were cum. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3911 Þai schulde him nouȝt wrain, Vnder his hond he made him pai. 13.. *Guy. & Gy. Kint.* 1706 Þay sued hym fast, Wreȝande hym ful wisterly with a wroth noyse. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 3741 To an..old tour..He hyed hem with mechel hast For drede lest thei were y-wraied.

**b.** To put (a person) in the power of an enemy or opponent by disloyalty or treachery; to betray. *c* 1275 *Al Praise of Yield* 11 in *E. Mitre*, 150 Ely..þat wreyþ his silue oþer him fled Abuuen his eyan þe fol geþ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 117 He was I-wreyed by þe same douzter Faunia..and fli to Marcii. *Ibid.* 157 Pere he was I-wreyed wiþ [= by] a swyn.

**c.** To expose (a person) by revealing some hidden fact or private matter.

*c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5460–2 Als stalne thyng wreghes a thefe fouden, When it es oboue his neke:..bounden, Right swa þar synns sal wreghe þam þar-e. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1. 147 Thane seyde eyt Launfal..., Tell ye no man of my poverte... The knyghtes answerede and seyde tho, That they nolde hem wreye nemore for wo. 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Prose) 36 Wrei hir noht þat te þing es sent to. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 62 As a theef wol be gladde there as he is hidde, and not be wayed of his theft. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (1510) G j, Yf thou thy frende it sey, And wenyst he shal the not wrey.

**6.** To reveal, disclose, or discover the true character of; to show or expose the existence or presence of (something desired to be concealed); to betray; = Bewray *v.* 6.

1576 Whetstone *Rock of Regard* 1. 38 Thou mayst (God wot) thy wisard vaile, thy wanton maskes are wrayd. *Ibid.* 65 The colours which I wore, my secrete mourning wrayde. 1587 *Mirr. Magy., Stafer* iii, The werke wrayes the man, seeme he neuer so fine.

**7.** To expose to view; to exhibit, show.

1587 Turberv. *Trag., Tales* M iij, He wried his wounds, he shewde the shameful blame, He told the cruell treason.

**8.** *intr.* or *absol.* **a.** To denounce or slander a person; to make accusations, cast aspersions.

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2179 Meriadok wrayeþ ay, To be king þat seyd he. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* ii. 84 þat no manere mede schulde maise him wrye. 14.. *Wheatley MS.* (1921) 8 First ye gloþered, now ye wrye.

**b.** To make disclosures or statements.

*c* 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* (1875) 2 If I solde sett it forth o-dowes-dayes. With my tonge, to wrobbe and wrye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxii. 25 They þought yif I gropped ȝere & wrye, And I saide 'nay'; but sone I wreyede high aperte.

**c.** *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (1794) 9) Gloss., *To wree question a person*, to insinuate to his disadvantage.

Hence **Wraying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 317 *Accusatio*, *wreging. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 300 Þe vifte [deadly sin] is wreiunge. *c* 1300 *York Myst.* xxii. 25 They þought yif I gropped ȝere & wrye, And I saide 'nay'; but sone I wreyede high aperte.

*c.*

**† Wray·ful**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **wreiful**. [*f.* **Wray** *v.*¹ + *-ful.*] Containing or involving an accusation; accusatory.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrift schal beon wreiful, bitter, mid seoruwe. *Ibid.* 304.

**Wrayst**(e, obs. f. WREST *sb.*¹ and *v.* **Wrayst**, obs. pa. t. of WRITE *v.* **Wraythe**, obs. pa. t. of WRITHE *v.*¹

**† Wray·ward**, *a. Obs. rare.* [Prob. an alteration of WAYWARD *a.*] Perverse, froward.

1516 *Pronp. Parv.* (W. de W.) C iij, Crabbyd or wrayward, *acerronius, bilosus.* *c*1520 *Dial. Creatures Mor.* v. B iij b, A wrayward man caweth stryues. *Ibid.* xii. D iij b, A sertayne lorde somtyme had a wrayward seruant and inuywylyd.

**Wrd**, obs. form of WORD.

**Wre**, obs. Sc. variant of ORE 2.

1633 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 44/2 Reservand to ws yron wre and all other kynd of mineralitis.

**Wre**, Sc. var. WRAT *v.*¹ *Obs.*; obs. var. WRY *v.*¹

**Wreachednes(s**, obs. ff. WRETCHEDNESS.

**Wreade**, obs. var. WEAL *sb.*¹

1584 TWYNE *Æneid* IX. Sij, The snake about him wrigling winding wreades with griefe of wound.

**Wreak** (rēk), *sb.* Now *arch.* or *Obs.* Forms: 4–7 **wreke** (4, 6 **wrek**), 6–7 **wreake**, 6– **wreak**. [In early Northern texts a normal variant of WRECHE *sb.*; in later use prob. substituted for this, or for WREAK *sb.*, under the influence of the verb.]

**1.** Pain or punishment inflicted in return for an injury, wrong, offence, etc.; hurt or harm done from vindictive motives; vengeance, revenge.

In frequent use from *c* 1540 to *c* 1670.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22004 (Edin.), Saint peter sal be domb bot dai...For doubt of alle sinners wrek [*Cott. wreke*]. *c* 1320 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5318 Howe suld þai þan in þe tyme of wreke be stille? *Ibid.* 6101 Pe day of wreke and of vengeaunce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10074 Pe saynts of hell Were wode in hor werkis for wreke of Achilles. *c* 1420 *Pryck Lyfe Alex.* 76 Pe wrethe & be wreke of oure godder...fallez apon vs. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 120 [On] all knaves childer in this Countrey, shall fall the wreake. 1526 TINDALE *Pract. Romans* Wks. (1572) 49/1 He describeth the outward conuersation of Christen men, how they ought..to commit wreake and vengeaunce to the Lorde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xciii. 1 O wrath of man his rancour to requite, Forgets all reason... I mean by rancour the parental wreke. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tr.* (1837) 58 Such flames of wreake within her bowels ride. 1589 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 2610 Thee carying headlongs to eternall wreake. 16.. *Faithful Friends* lii. iii, Nor shall the life or goods Of One, or any thy assistants, feel The wreak of his iust anger. 1665 *Reader* No. 122, 309/2 Pride and haughty wreak From irreverence begin. 1689 SWINBURNE *Testaments* II. 32, I would...the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I in rest.

**b.** In the phr. *to perform, seek, spend, work*, and esp. *take* (. . .) *wreak.*

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* Prol. 202 (Petyt MS.), When god toke wreke of Cayns synne. *c* 1378 *Cursor M.* 1156 (Fairf.) Þat I sal take wrek on þe. *c* 1440 GAVDEN *St. Kath.* v. 61 God...on the pupile tho took ful grete wreke. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxv. 291, I saide that he shuld...of youre werkys take wreke. 1548 HALL *Hen. VIth.* (Parker Soc. 1849) 229 No man should avenge himself, or seek wreak, no, not by the law. 1576 WHETSTONE *Rock of Regard* I. 32 Sith fortune threates, to whose oure wrakes of ioy, The sowsing of our ship in seas of yre. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xii. 349/1 No creature is more wreakfull, nor more feruent to take wreake than is the lion when he is wrath. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 162 A huswife of Millan...wrought her wreake vpon the fruite of her womb. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Busy D'Ambois* III. i. E 4 Dull and demure in performing Wreake of the deer blood of my matchless Brother. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 308 Enough of wreak is spent! A passage hath been made among the foes. 1886 HINTON *Anab. Mar.* (abr. ed.) I. 167 None murdered the damsel but I; take her wreak on me this moment.

**† c.** *In* (*or for*) *wreak of*, in revenge of, in return or repayment for. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iv, Would to heauen (In wreak of my misfortunes,) I were turn'd To some faire water-Nymph. 1599 PEELE *David & B.* E ij, They with him conspire, And kill thy sonne in wreake of Thamars wrong. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* V. i. 123 Brother...he shall indure For wreake of that ioyes exile I sustaine.

**d.** The avenging of a person.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Busy D'Ambois* III. i, Your defect of spirit and valour, First showne in lingring my deare Brothers wreake.

**† 2.** An instance of taking vengeance or exacting retribution. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xviii. 51 God þat gines wrekes me to. *a* 1340 SIDREY *Æneid* II. 750 Of the Grekes the cruel wrekes. *c* 1386 CTESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXI. xiii, My tongue..[shall] Tell thy wrekes and their disgraces, Who thin ill to me procure. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 397 Where cruell wrakes their bits may not remoue. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm., Passion* xvi. (1661) 224 To take a wreak or revenge upon sin.

**† 3.** Harm, injury; damage. *Obs.*

15.. *Parl. Byrdes* 24 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 168 All the byrdes...Said, the Hauke doth vs great wreake. *a* 1548 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 38 Vnkind tongues, to yll hast thou me rendred, For suiets diuers to me wroke and shame. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* 33 These same olde walls..is that which Rome men call. Behold what wreake, what ruine, and what wast. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Mindes Melodie* vi. 44 My foes...would rejoise To see my wreak, and would my soule subuert.

**Wreak**(rēk), *v.* Forms: 1–2 **wrecan**, 2 **wrecon**, 2–4 **wreken** (3 **wreken**, **werken**, **wreoken**, *Orm.* **wrekenn**), 5 **wrekene**, **wrekyn**; 3–7 **wreke** (4 **wrekke**), 4–5 **wrek** (4 **wreck**), **wreek**, 5 **wroke**, **wreake**, 5–6 *Sc.* **wreik**, 6–7 **wreake**, 6– **wreak** (7–8 **reak**); *Sc.* 5 **wryk**(e, 6 **wrik**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wrec** (**wuraec**, *pl.* **wrecon**), 2–3 **wrac**, 3 *pl.* **wrake**, 4–5 **wrake**, 5 **wrak**, 6–7, 8–9 *arch.* **wroke** (9 **wrok**); 4 **wrek**. *Weak*: 4–5 **wreked**, 4 **-ide**, 5 **-yd**. *Sc.* 5 **-yt**, 6– **wreaked** (8 **raked**, 9 **wreak'd**, *Sc.* **wreakit**). *Pa. pple.* 1 **wrecen** (**gewrecen**), 3–4 **wreken** (**iwraken**), 3–5 **wreke** (4 *y-*, 4–5 **ywreke**); 3–7, 9 *arch.* **wroken** (4–6 *y-*, 5 **iwroken**), 4, 5–6 *Sc.* **wrokin**, 4–5 **wrokyn**, 5 **-yne**, 6 **wrokne**, *Sc.* **wrokkin**, **wrookin**, 6–7 **wrooken**; 4–5, 9 *arch.* **wroke** (4–5, 6 *arch.* **ywroke**, 5 **iwroke**), 6 **wrooke**, *Sc.* **wrok**. *Weak*: 6, 9 **wreaked**, 6 **wrekte**, **wreacke**, 7 **wreak'd**, 9 *U.S.* **reeked**. [Common Teut.: *Goth.* **wrikan** str. (**wrarc**, **wrikans**, **wrecen**), *OFris.* **wreka** (**WFris.** **wrekke**), *Sc.* **wrokin** (MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du. **wreken**; also LG. **wrâken**), OHG. **rëchan**, **rëhhan** (MHG. **rechen**, G. **rächen**), ON. and Icel. **reka** (Norw. **reka**; Sw. **vräka**), Goth. **wrikan** (to persecute), f. the Teut. stem **wrek-**, pre-Teut. ***wreg-**, cognate with that of L. **urgêre**. Cf. WRACK *v.*¹, WRECHE *v.*, WREOK *v.*², also A., HEBREAK *vbst.*]

**I. †1.** *trans.* To drive, press, force to move, etc. *Obs.*

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 213 *Torquet*, uuraec. *a* 1000 *Riddles* L 1 (Gr.), Hwyic is hyelebya þæs horsc...Þæt hine mæge æscegan, hwa mec on oð wrece? *Ibid.* XXI. 12 Mæ þuih hrycg wrecen hongiæ under an orþonc þil.

**† b.** To cast or throw *out* of a place. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3148 Ilc folc is to fode framen...And nost for-of [*sc.* of a kid] ve huse wreken. *Ibid.* 3191 Doe he dolnen...ðe mast haluen up-bræc & bonge ut of Se erðe wreken.

**† c.** *transf.* With *out*. To pass or spend (time). Cf. DRIVE *v.* 21. *Obs.*~1

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1547 Quen sa fele yeir ar wroken oute, þe inlad [*Gött.* land] was aboute.

**† 2.** To banish or exile, to drive out or away. *Obs.*

*c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1076, Sume hi wurdon geblende, & sume wrecon of lande. ? *a* 1300 *Gregory* 216 Sche hadde be power and be wille, þe leuest fram hir for to wreke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 Huerout he wrek þo þo zyalde and boyte ine þe kempe.

*fig.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Huanne he his sael wreke out of his uelegrede. ? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4128 For all youre wisdom, I-wis, is wroken to your tongis.

**II. 3.** To give vent or expression to, to exercise or gratify (wrath, anger, etc.); to vent.

*a* 900 *Cynewulf* 1308 Þas folc slean, cynn on cneatrum mid cwealmþræa, & his torn wrecan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) LXXIII. 5 Ne wrec þu þinn yrre, wræce mode, of synne on eorþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 19506 Þeos wrecche he takeð him to wrekenn hise tene. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 374 He schal nat ryghfully his yre wreke. 1421 *St. Pol. Poems* 83 Lete nat vengeance by wrake be wreke. Vengeance is godds. 1430 *Lydg. Chron.* (Rolls) 467 Harel rode, þat wolde wreke and yll Vpon he had not wroken his fill. 1530 PALSGR. 785/1, I wreake myne anger. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Eng.* I. 13/1 The Britons...to wreake Scotish wrath, the King supplied many Religious houses of their goodes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 23 As when Dan Æolus...Sends forth the winds., Vpon the sea to wreake their malice. 1600 HOLLAND *Liv.* 323 They were staied...in this sweetnesse of wreaking their anger, and satiating their revenge. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 10 [The] heart-breaking griefe Enemies: and vse Kenemies, not as to wreake their malice. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. ii. 23 'Tis my hate and the deferred desire To wreak it, which extinguishes their blood. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* IV. 11. 113 In time to come Against Agamemnon wreak his wrath. 1890 SHELBY *Stein* III. 315 Stein wreaked his disappointment in unsparing criticism.

*transf.* 1794 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow* 103 The only creature...On whom the elements their rage might wreak. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. vii, Beneath most calm resolve did rage and burn Its whirlwind passions.

**b.** More usu. const. *on* (**† in**, *against*) or *upon* a person. (Freq. from *c* 1560.)

*c* 1200 ORMIN 19866 Þho...þohhte batt þho shollde onn himm Wel wrekenn hire tene. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 982 Wel bet is hem þat wreken hem may. *c* 1385 *L. G. W. Saintis* vii. (*James Minor*) 133 Par-fore þai wrekyt þar wodnes in þis lamis, callit þe les. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxiii. 307 Ye shall wreke your wronges vpon me. 1596 PHAER *Æneid.* IV. (1558) I iij, On my brother fals I wroke my tene. 1688 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 9 Pandosto wreaked his wrathfull fury vpon his owne sonne Bellaria. 1697 DRAYTON *Agincourt* CCVI, I neuer will reiire, Vntill our Teene vpon the French we wreake. 1697 BURGHERS *Poet. Wks. Append.* 60 As tho' they would reak their Malice upon God. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 1233 The moodly Sire, to wreak his Hate On Realms. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* Prol., I wreaked my Resentment upon the innocent Cause of my Disgraces. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* lxiv. (1806) IV. 732 The church...persevered in the project of wreaking her own enmity against the nonconformists. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenstein* viii. (1865) 119 That I might wreak the utmost extent of my anger on the dread Harold.

**c.** *refl.* Of a passion, feeling, etc. 1 To give expression to (itself); to find utterance or free course.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 5 Disleall knight, whose coward courage chose To wreake it selfe on beast all innocent. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 186 That the indignation of mankind should have wreaked itself upon the chief monsters. 1890 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet L.* xiii, In the education of her child, the mother's enthusiasm of thought had something to wreak itself upon. 1887 R. S. STORRS in *Libr. Mag. Aug.* 106 The Hellenic spirit...wreaked itself in immortal expressions on the choicest marbles and temples in the world.

**d.** To bestow or spend *on* a person, etc.; to expend.

*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Sonn.* Wks. 1922 II. 203 She hath no other cause of anguish But Thereuse love, on her by strong hand wroken. 1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* 107 To wreak Such love upon the task as fate(.). 1857 HOUGHTON *Pr. Hohenst.* 174 God..Grants each new man...Interconmunication with Himself, Wreaking on finiteness infinitude. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 76 *Mephis.* Here in the genuine path for you; Yet strict attention must be given. *Stud.* Body and soul thereon I'll wreak.

**† 4.** To punish or chastise (a person); to visit with retributive punishment. Also *refl. Obs.*

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 3 Þæt wæs þæt mon wrece & witnode hwonne for his yfle. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1090, Se cyng was smeregende þu he mihte wrecan his brother Rodbeard, swiðost swencean. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21773 For to wreke þam wan he had Pat þus did cast þair goddes dun. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 286 With the fues he [*sc.* Jesus] was so stad, to ded they can hym wreke. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.* (1661) 165 To wreak ourselves for so often offering so foul indignities to Heaven.

*transf.* a 1638 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 134 The deap'rate Heron..turns his last to wreak The pallazdoes of his [*sc.* a falcon's] beak.

**† b.** To injure, hurt, or harm (a person). *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Bons Florence* 104 He was..all to-brokyn, Fere unwelde in hames, and of warre wreknyn. 1570 *Satirs Reform.* xxxii. 124 Let nocht the wretch...Haue ane strenth or power thame for to hurt or wreik. *a* 1593 MARLOWE tr. *Ovid's Elegies* II. xi. 22 What each one speakes Heleene, no tempest the beleuer wreakes [*L. credenti nulla procella nocet*]. 1683 W. WALKER *Phraseol. Gen.* 1351 In labour the stronger wreaks the weaker. *In opere firmior* (*boni*) *imbecillum conficit.*

**III. 5.** To avenge (a person).

In senses 5, 5 b, very frequent *c* 1200–*c* 1600. The passive construction *to be wreaked* (**† *wroken***), freq. implies that the revenge is taken by a third party, and is thus equivalent to the reflexive use.

*Beowulf* 1385 Selre hiō ǽrs-hwæm þæt he his freond wrece þonne he fela murne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 5 Forðon weorlo sel hefig wrecen [*Rushw.* wrecæn] me sylfum þa ilco. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 979, Hine nolden his eorðlican magas wrecan. *c* 1205 LAY. 27612 Cumeð hidere to me, and wrake we Ehtelred. ? *a* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1856 Symeon and leui it bi-speken, And hauen here sister bor i-wreken. *c* 1330 *Sir Tristr.* 3295 Þe mon slain ber ley..Iwrake he ben ney. *c* 1400 *Sir Beues* (A.) 4466 Wrekeþ sour fader wiþ your mistes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 855 Pe wee in his wreth wrekis his modire. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXV. 452 Thou shouldest well to be wroken whan thei saugh tyme. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* v. 101 Therfore how will I wroken be? 1530 PALSGR. 454/1 He will be wroken when you shall thynke best. 1563 J. HOOKER *Hist. Ireld. in Holinshed* II. 13/1 He conceiued it for a sufficient reuenge, that he can reuenge and be wreaked. 1585 in Percy *Reliques* I. 100 And soun i' the Gordon's foul hartis laide His wreak vnon his cleat-clade. 1590 TURBERVILE *Epistle & Lynette* 355 Grant me some knight to..Kill the foul thief, and wreak me for my son.

*prov.* *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Ne wrec þu þe mid wussinge ne mid warienge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Ne wrecche ze nout ou suluen, ne ze grucche ze nout. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 89 To wreke hymself he bouȝte hit worth ever with worpes whan he sezhe[d]. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2407 Lytell Iron. *Reson & Sens.* 369 Antropos, hir self to wreke, Doth full many thredes breke. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 310 Will God I leiffe, we sall vs wreke on part. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xiv. 267, I am as wroth as I may be, And some way I will wreke me. 1530 PALSGR. 785/1 If thou cannest not wreake the, byde the poste. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. viii. 44 Hard is for worthie thing that day of wrong her selfe had wroken. 1606 BUSHKETT *Cris. Life* To They that by combat seeke to wreake themselues. 1659 TORRIANO *Dict.* s. v. *Wrecan*, *Vulgo dicimus*: to wreke one selfe, or take revenge.

**b.** Const. *of*, *on* (**† *o*, *in**), or *upon* (**† *up*) one who has done harm, etc.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii, 3 Widiun...cuoeð mec ðu soc of widerwordu minum. *c* 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 279 His sincsyfan on ham sæmannum wurðlice wrec. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 5 Danne sælþ ðe hat he is wel ȝwreken of his unwinne. *c* 1205 LAY. 19210 [Þe] wreche uppen [*c* 1275 vppe] Maximien, Valentin & Gratien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2028 Þe shenkest on him for to ben wreken. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5962 (Kölbing), þe king..Wele him wrake of his felawes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 83 Ich wolde wreken on þis [B. ii. 194 wroke of þol wreccheu. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 31 In oure lordes name, y am wroken in hem. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 88 Lorde,..þou wreke me vpon þis man. 1480 CAXTON *Tyrrius's Hegdeus* (1828) 358 b, He wold be wroken vpon kyng Rychard. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Dan Bartlh., Dol. Disc.* 50 The Goddesse of reuenge dooeth vse to bee wreakt on my rebellyng wyll. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 21 Forbidding her to be wroken. *Ibid.* IV. vi. 23 She..vpheld her wrathfull hand, With fell intent, on him to haue wroken. *transf.* 1300 GOWER *Conf.* I. 148 Of hem forthi shal be nought slk Of thilke fievre [*sc.* jealousy]..For it wol in him-self be wroke. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1506 That on suche wyse wyll my thoughte wolde be wroken. 1581 SIDNEY & SACKV. *Gorbodue* IV. i, Canst thou hope..that these handes will not be wroke on thee? 1592 SHAKS. *Ivan. & Jul.* III. v, 100 To wreake the Loue I bore my Cosin, Vpon his body that hath slaughter'd him.

*refl.* *c* 1200 ORMIN 914 God wollde himm wrekenn o þe preost. *c* 1205 LAY. 19250 Wrekeð sow sið ȝe cunnen of Senisce monnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11063 Vr neghburs mai þam on vs wreke. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 46 Of fals Edrik fayn wild he him wreke. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 395 *Ballade*, Hym deynyth nat to wreke hym on a flye. *c* 1460 *Crt. of Love* 702 She saw an egle wreke him on a fly. *a* 1548 WYATT *Poet. Wks.* (1913) I. 131 Comfort thy self my wofull hert, Or shortly on thy self the wreke.

1586 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* II. i. Attempt redresse by armes, and wreake your-self Upon his life. 1604 Parsons *3rd Pt. Tonge Conserv.* Epist. 1591 The Duke thought best to vse this meane meanes, to wreake himselfe of the said Bishops. 1612 Chapman *Widowes T.* III. i. That I may wreake my selfe vpon my selfe. 1730 T. Boston *Mem. x.* (1899) 292 They usually wreaking themselves on the ministers as the cause of all public evils. *c* 1830 in Child *Ball.* III. 438/1 He micht hae spared my lady's life, And wreakit himself on me! 1870 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* Rec. Well that ye came, or else these caitiff rogues Had wreak'd themselves on me.

†**o.** To revenge (*of* (*on*) a wrong, injury, etc. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alexander* 76 þe King was carefull in hert, Till hee were wroken of þe wrong. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 56 On euery wrong a man may nat be wreken. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3109 He will me wreke gn soure werke wers þan of thelen. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4634 Be wroke he wold of sum thing. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1028 Syth hyt ys soo, Cryste wreke hur of hur woo. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Clout* 600 Then ye wyll be wroken Of euery lyght quarell. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 34 To find ane way of Pechtis to be wrok of thair iniure. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. v. 22 Stirring to be wroke Of his vnkindly wrongs. 1591 and *Tr. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 73 Tis Gods decree to wreake us of these harmes.

*refl.* *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 620 On his falshede fayn wolde I me wreke, If I wiste how. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 22 About the park thai set, . With vi hundreth . , All likly men, to wrek thaim of thar harmes. 1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 608/2 The woman . wanted not wherewith to haue fatisfied subiectes to haue wroken himselfe of such wrongs. 1578 T. Procter *Gorg. Gallery* B iv, That thou and I shall ioyne in loue, and wreake vs of our wrongs.

†**d.** To deliver or rescue (a person) *from* or *out of* woe, etc. *Obs. rare.*

a. 1. *E. Allit. P. A.* 375 Much þe bygger þei was my mon, Fro þou was wroken to wele & wo3e. *c* 1450 *Merlin* (Shaks. Soc.) 29 Out of whoo3 set art not wrokyn, In helle logge þou xalt be lokyn. *Ibid.* 330, I xal delyuere mannys kynne,—From wo I wole hem wreke!

†**e.** *refl.* To satisfy or gratify (oneself). *Obs.*—1

1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* IX. 181 Whiles þow art 3onge, and þi wepne kene, Wreke þe with wyuynge, til þow wilt ben excused.

**6.** To take vengeance or inflict retributive punishment for, to avenge or revenge (some wrong, harm, or injury).

*Beowulf* 1670 Ic . fyren-dædа wrece, deað-cwealm deniçea. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxviii. 10 Wrec blod ðinra ðinra ðeæt agoten is. *c* 1205 Lay. 19365 Hu þeðen hider wenden & wraken his fader wunden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13332 Wil-self se sett to wrek þe wrang. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 327 Þat non ne mihte comen hire to . . with hir to speken, Þat euere mihte hire hale wreken. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxxii. 43 For the blood of his seruauntis he shal wreke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1750 Now [is] tyme . To mene vs with manhode & our mys wreke. 1471 Ripley *Compl. Alch.* Epi. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 109 Of your great fortune ye be not presumptuous, Nor vengeable of my rode to wreke every wrong. *a* 1525 *Pergilius* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 23 When wyll you wreke your faders deathe? 1548 E. Hall *Hiad* IV. 169 Yet list he not their wretched woe to wreake. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* (1837) 141 The done divine . Yet strikes at last, and surely wreakes the wrong. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. iv. 8 For of a womans hand it was ywroke, That of the wound he yet in langour lyes. 1620 Fletcher *Prophetess* II. ii, Lend me your helping hands To wreak the Deities. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* XII. 338 Arms, Arms, the double-form'd with Fury call'i To wreak their Brother's Death. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* II. xxxiv. Vassal . . must none be wroken. 1814 — *Lord of Isles* IV. xxx, O Scotland ! shall it e'er be mine To wreak thy wrongs in battle-line. 1887 Swinburne *Locrine* IV. 1, 56 Yea will it is that holds me yet alive . . Till all my wrong be wroken.

**b.** Const. *on* or *upon* (a person or persons).

1290 *Juliana* 204 Ponne ic nyde sceal . on þeare grimme eatan godscyld wrecan. . . *Cursor M.* 2586 Wroken on þaim sal be þat wrang. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XII. 227 Welle on thame the mekill ill That thai and charis has done vs till. 1443 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxiii, On my-self haue al my harmys wroken. 1577 Holinshed *Chron. Scot.* I. 390/1 Thy self he might haue wroken his grief vpon him. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 15 Perhaps this hand may . wreake your sorrow on your cruell foe. 1598 Shakes. *Hen. IV*, II. 664, She's call'd the powers beneath On her own son to wreak her brother's death. 1882 Tennyson *Promise of May* I. 507 Why! than the cowards wreak their wrongs upon my wrongers. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. xii. 37 On him, [I] beseech thee, wreak my wrongs amain.

†**c.** To vindicate (something). *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 208 Addeth vengeaunce hipe, And helpe trouþe be wel wroken. 1580 R. Robinson *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 10 Poore client-shooes gate their clubs, and willingly attend, To wreke there maisters quarrell.

†**7.** To visit (a fault, misdeed, evil action) with punishment; to punish (wrong-doing). *Obs.*

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxviii. 4 ? Þæt is þonnehiora mildsung þæt mon wrece hiora unðeawas be hiora gewyrhtum. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xliii. 383 Þæt he ða gyltas . wæs he ða scyldequm monnum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Swa se wer hit wrecð þæt his wif hie forbeniden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Godes wrake cumeð on þe worelð to wrekenne alle on sunfulle men here gultes. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Ne bi-hold þu ham [sc. sinn] nout leste þu wreoke ham on me. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3063 Þu sal hin hardcnesse ben wreken, Þat men sulen longe har-after speken. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 37 Þat wikkednes, þat men suld haf wroken. *a* 1378 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 393 Þat god may wreke Eurrich a word þat we speke. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 46 A I reynart that ye now al thus haue your wyl I pray god to wreke it. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ii. 29 There gun he , with bliter wracke To wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong. 1620 Beaum. & Fl. *Faithf. Sheph.* v. I, Else Pan wreak, With double vengeance, my disloyalty.

**8.** To inflict or take (vengeance, etc.) *on* or *upon* a person ; to execute or carry out by way of punishment or revenge.

In frequent use from *c* 1830.

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 30 That ye make punyssyon thereof and wrek on hym grete vengaunce. 1700 Dryden *Sigism. & Guisc.* 589 He left the Name, Resolv'd . . To wreak his Vengeance, and to cure her Love. 1758 P. Williamson *Life & Adventures* (1812) 39 So desirous was every man to have a share in wreaking his revenge on them [*sc.* dead Indians]. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 412 Xerxes . wreaked his vengeance upon Babylon. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* IV. vii, An historian springs up, who wreaks ample chastisement on it [*sc.* a nation] in return. 1855 Paley *Æschylus* Pref. (1861) p. xxv, Till vengeance had been wreaked for the wrongs suffered in life. 1870 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1236 Thou hast wreak'd his justice on his foes. 1899 Swinburne *Rosamund* II. 32/2, I would the deed Were done, the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I Dead.

**b.** To cause or effect (harm, damage, etc.).

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. xxxix, With thee , will I seek Through the air's wintry gulf hunted clouds to wreak Ruin upon the tyrants. 1818 — *Rosal. & Helen* 670 That poor and hungry men should break The laws which wreak them toil and scorn, We understand. 1885 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. iii, [In] his Grig . the unpopular steamer . always was . wreaking destruction upon somebody or something. 1886 *Daily News* 22 Sept., Landslips . are believed to and wreak but little harm.

**9.** To inflict or deliver (a blow, etc.). *Now rare.*

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. x, The wreathed Serpent . did ever seek Upon his enemy's heart a mortal wound to wreak. 1849 Merrifith in *Chambers' Edin. Mag.* July 16/2 There the Russians wreaked artillery . With the thunder of its treachery On the skeleton brigade. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 55 Though they wreak Upon Me stroke and again stroke.

**10.** With *out*. To exact by way of punishment.

1879 Momerie *Origin Evil* I. 16 Justice, which can only be appeased by wreaking out a certain quantity of agony as an equivalent for a certain quantity of sin.

**IV.** †**10.** *intr.* To take vengeance ; to inflict punishment. Also const. *on*. *Obs.*

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxvii. 12 In nonan dryhtnes ic wrecca in him. *Ibid.* *Canticles* cxviii. 84 Hu fela dagena ðinra wrecst on eow oððer eowrum ðeðeahte. *c* 1200 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxlix. 7 Mid by hi wrecan þencead wrâðum cynnum. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Lat him wreke ðe is riht deme ouer ðe luiuende. 1340 *Ayenb.* 209 Hy wrakelicheȝ, wenestu, wule he, al o vrȝðse, weken on þe, wrecche ! *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xcviii, 9 Our God, þou herd hem; þou, God, was merciful to hem and quainted to wreke of alle her fyndeyuges. 13 . . *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 198 Bot neuer set . . i herde þat euer he wrek so wyþerly on werk þat he made. *a* 1500 *Ballad of Rose* 276 That here gladly, and lyttill spekis, Laith for to crab and seldin wrekis. *c* 1614 Sir W. Mure *Dido & Æneas* 111. 852 Fy, now sowr oares employ, Sack, wreak, revenge, dendish and destroy !

Hence **Wre'aking** *vbl. sb.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10336 (Edin.), Quebir sie wil driue on us þe blame Of ani wreking of [*Cotton.* on] þis name. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth. Metr.* VII. (1868) 147 Agaynstonde, purged in wrekyng by þe destruccioun of troie he luste chambres of mariage of hys broþer. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 323 Thy words and werkis will haue wrekyng. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 298 When our hearts . . fet with the wreaking of our Malice. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cxxviii. 42 The Wreaking of a Malice, and . . the gratifying of a Revenge.

**Wreak**, obs. var. of WREK *sb.*

1579 Spenser *Shegh. Cal.* Dec. 29 What wreaked I of wintrye ages waste. 1592 R. Johnson *Nine Worthies* F], He layde him downe like one that wreaked no guerdon to his gaine. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* IV. 1 wreake not of their foolish ceremonies. 1600 [see REEK *v.* 3a]. 1683 G. Meriton *Yorks. Dialogue* 661 Better's a comming ; pray thee, do not wreak Your humour.

**Wreak**, obs. erron. f. WREK *sb.*1 and *v.*1

**Wreake**, ? variant of WREEK *sb.*1 5.

1867 Drayton *Agincourt* 41 The French lye yonder like to weakes of sand.

†**Wreake**, obs. var. WREK *v.*1

1590 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 49 Huge whales in Seas that mighty carricks wreake.

**Wreaker** (ri·kəɹ). Now *arch* and *rare*. Also 4-5 **wreker**, 4-6 **wrekere**, 5 *Sc.* **wrekar**. [f. WREAK *v.* + -ER1.] Cf. OHG. *rechâri* (MHG. *-ære*, *-er*, *G. -rächer*), M.LG. *wreker*, *wrecher*, (M)Du. *wreker*, and WREKERE.] One who takes vengeance ; an avenger.

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* viii. 3 Þat bus for-do Þe fas, þe wreker him vnto. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. (1868) 118 Ne seek no beyys wrekeful. 1560 Rowland *Vpon Salust* 18

band by which the crest is joined to the helmet; = ORLE 1 c. Also *fig.* (quot. 1622).

1578, etc. [see TINCHE 2b.†] 1593 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1849) I. App. 61 Robert Darley bayryth..3 barrs upon his nek, sabul unde or wave, insant out of a wrayth goulis and sylver. 1570 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 105 He beareth on a wreathe 'Topaze' and 'Saphiere' an Alcian. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 15 The wreath of three, was made a wreath of five; for to the three first tilts of the two bousts, were added two more. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 393/2 A Sarazens Face..environed about the Temples with a Wreath or Torce. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 3906 The Wreath is a kind of roll..which ancient knights wore as a head-dress when equipped for tournaments. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. 265 The Crest was worn supported by a Chaperon or Wreath. 1869 CHAMBERS *Ver.* 172 A Coronet, or a Wreath, was composed of two strands of twisted silk, on which the Crest appeared to be supported. *Ibid.*, The Wreath, Bandeau, or Torse (sometimes, though improperly, styled a Chaplet).

†d. A metal ring forming a holder for a spindle. 1733 TOLL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 335 The Spindle is kept from moving out-ways, by a Wreath, in the same Manner as the Axis of a Wheel-Barrow is. *Ibid.* xxiii. 377 The Hopper and Spindle are .. kept in their Place .. by two Wreaths screw'd on to the Spindle.

**2.** Something resembling or comparable to a twisted or circular band; *esp.* a coil of a spiral column of smoke, steam, or the like.

Before *c* 1790 *rare*: freq. from *c* 1820: cf. next.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1088 Sin..with Sorrow voice, and Clouds began To darken all the Hill, and smoak to rowl In dusky wreathes. 1836 [HOOTON] *Silberry Thurland* I. ix. 181 Having lit her pipe, she..blew a few more wreaths of tobacco-smoke. 1866 *All Year Round* XV. 180/1 Certain misty wreaths—the skirts..of an adjacent sea-fog—kept sweeping up the valley. 1870 DUPUYTREN *M. S. Bradford* xvi. 210 As he puffs the wreaths out of his complacent lips.

b. Freq. const. *of* (smoke, etc.).

1789 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 112 As the sun declines.. The shepherd, all involved in wreaths of fire, .. shows a shadowy speck. 1794–96 COLERIDGE *Religious Musings* 133 Wreaths of vapour tracked a winding brook. 1797 SCOTT *Ert-King* ii, It is but a dark wreath of the cloud. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v. Wreaths of dust were spinning round..before the morning blast. 1875 BUCHLAND *Log-bk.* 363 Wreaths of sea came rolling in. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii. 288 The homes of the fishermen were putting out curling wreaths of smoke.

c. A bank or drift of snow; a snow-wreath, snowdrift. Freq. *wreath of snow.* Orig. (and chiefly) *Sc.*

1785 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* i. ii, The thick blawn Wreaths of Snaw..May smoor your Wathers. 1744 THOMSON *Winter* 898 Scarce his Head Rais'd o'er the heapy Wreath, the branching Elk Lies slumbering sullen in the white Abyss. *c* 1790 in Burns *R. &c.* (1800) IV. 177 *Weeping* as in eve of life, I wander through a wreath o' snaw. 1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* 13 While yet in mountain cleughs Lingers the frozen wreath. 1843 *Statist. Account* X. (1845) 484 (He) lived to see his empire melt away like the winter's wreath. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 26 Those wild gardens amid the wreaths of the untrodden snow.

d. *transf.* A bank of sand.

1852 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 207 Endless links and sand wreaths.

**3.** Each of the turns, convolutions, or coils of a ringed or spiral structure, spiral shell, etc.; a whirl, whorl.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 61 There is in most hives 17 or 18 wreathes. *Ibid.*, 4 wreathes from the b ottome. 1659 FULLER *Pisgah* V. viii. 155 The four first wreaths of my scrue are undoubtedly..1660 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1021 The open of the shell is pretty round, the second turn or wreath is very large for the proportion. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 416 A small Brown Buccinum..a with a roundish Mouth of six Wreaths. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Scalare*, A peculiar species of .. screw shell, the several wreaths of which [etc.]. 1758 [W. MAS-SHALL] *Minutes Agric.,Observ.* 58 Let the wreaths (or twists) of the [sheaf] bands be turned upward, toward the ears. 1818 *Cleaner's Portfolio* 1. 37 The wreaths being ornamented with transverse undulating costæ.

b. *Conch.* The genus *Turbo* (TURBO 2); a turbinated or wreathed shell; a turbinate.

1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 128 *Turbo*, Wreath. (A animal [is] a Slug. 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 595/2 The clathrus, or barbed wreath, has a taper shell of eight spires. 1819 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 203 *Turbo*, Whorl or Wreath.

†c. *Bot.* = COROLLA 2. *Obs.*

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* i. iii. (1765) 7 The Petal..encloses and protects it [*sc.* the flower] in the manner of a Corolla, or Wreath.

**4.** A fold, crease, or wrinkle.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde þe flesche in his foule lyppys, like wrethe as a wolfe-heuede, it wraythe owre at vnder! 1600 SURFLET *Country Farme* II. xxvii. 484 As it [*sc.* the figl is verie fat the iuice doth constraine the skin to fall into wreathes. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. v. 235 If he haue a short chol neck, with a thicke skin, and many wreathes, or rolles, about the setting on of his chaps. 1697 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* i. 126 The Wild-Goat is as big as a Hart..; They have Wreaths and Wrinkles on their Horns. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Improv.* (1740) II. 71 You will know whether it [*sc.* the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and even, or, otherwise, in Wreathes or Wrinkles.

b. A raised band or string-course. *rare*—1.

1677 MOXON *Fr. Dict.* 1, *Cordon de muraille*, an outstanding wreath or edge of stone on the out-side of a building, commonly distinguishing the several Stories.

c. *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1880 CAVE *Craven Gloss.* 271 *Wreath*, the mark and swelling on the skin occasioned by a blow.

**5. a.** = ROLL *sb.*1 8 c. Now *dial.*

1598 WITHALS *Dict.* (1602) 43 b/1 A wase or wreath to be layed vnder the vessell, that is borne vpon the head. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 213 A Wreath, *circus, cisticillus.* 1589 MIGGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* 1, *Tortillon*,..a Wreath of Cloth which Women lay upon their heads when they carry a Pail or Basket. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1855–76 in Yorks. glossaries. 1896 *Whitby Gloss.* 272 The *sheel*..is carried on a 'wreath' or pad.

†b. A roll of bread. (Cf. TOBIE.) *Obs.*

1600 HARLIVT *Voy.* III. 200 They beat their corne to powders: then they make paste of it, and of the paste, cakes or wreathes. 1625 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 47 A present of..70 wreathes of bread, and a basket of grapes.

†c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1811 CRABB *Pandect.*, a Pennet; the little wreath of sugar taken in a cold.

**6. a.** A twist, coil, or winding (of some material thing or natural growth); a sinuosity; a winding motion.

1589 LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv, The Cedar..knitteth it selfe with such wreathis into the earth, that it cannot be remooued. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xviii. (1666) 53 The second wreath of that Cable. 1667 MORTON *Hin. I.* 240 The very last of them [*sc.* large sheep] hanging in many wreathes to the ground. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 517 Of his tortuous Traine [the serpent] Curld many a wanton wreath in sight of Eve. 1700 TOPE *Sappho* 149 Round your neck in wanton wreaths I twine. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 213 A troop of porpoises..In curling wreaths..gambol on the tide. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* II. 144 Her braided locks O'er the fair front..of day. 1858 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 72 A lowly stone on..trashed wreaths of the worm in dirt.

†b. *Veterin.* The tail of a boar. *Obs.*

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 The tayle of a Bore is to be termed his wreath. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv. 27 b. 1618 BOLLDRAR *Reg. Exped.* [Hence in some later Dicts.] 1619 J. MARKHAM (*T.*) *Hary Landrayles* 12 b, A Deere, Bore, a Hare,..haue no more tayles then a Iack-an-Apes, for it is a Deeres Single, a Bores Wreath, a Hare or Conyes Scut. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, [The Hunter's] next discourse was of the tail or single of a deer, the wreath of a boar.]

**7.** Something formed by twisting; yarn of a specified texture.

1737 DYER *Fleece* III. 61 A diff'rent spinning ev'ry diff'rent web Asks from your glowing fingers: some require The more compact, and some the looser wreath.

**8.** A curve in the handrail or string of a geometrical stair; that part of the handrail which bends round curtail steps.

1814 P. NICHOLSON in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXXII. 134 The Plank, out of which the Wreath is to be cut. 1820—*Staircases*, etc. p. iii, Squaring the wreath upon geometrical principles. 1839 PLANCHÉ *Cyclop. Costume & Furniture* 58 In this case the wreath must be in two pieces. 1881 *Dict. Architecture* s.v., A wreath of a staircase handrail is continuous in a circular or elliptic staircase.

**9.** *south. dial.* (See quots.)

1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 268 *Wreaths*, the long rods of hurdles used for sheep-folding. 1896 *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 320 *Wreaches*, (Dorset), withes to keep hurdles and sowels together.

**10.** *techn.* A defect in glass (esp. flint glass), consisting in almost imperceptible strize producing certain optical aberrations. *Obs.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 384 In uniform flint-glass, free from strize, or wreath, is much in demand for the optician. *Ibid.*, Glass allowed to cool slowly in mass in the pot is particularly full of wreaths.

**II.** **11.** A chaplet or garland of flowers, leaves, or the like, esp. worn or awarded as a mark of distinction, honour, etc. Also rarely without article.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iv b, The whiche Astragalus shalbe as it were certaine round beryes and the other Astragalus.. shalbe wreathe wise [like a wreath]. 1589 GREENE *A.B.Cæp.* I. iii. 7 Apollo sonne perceauing him with Garland on his head,..coueted him to cast the wreath away. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* (1748) 1. 1 Gathering Poetick wreaths for my Hire, Be thou assisting to this Poet of mine, With funerall wreathes incompassing his browes. 1628, etc. [see LAUREATE *a.* 2]. 1633 *Jonson Hymen to Son. &c.* A Bride Attired Months bestow Springing Wreaths for William's Brow. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 196 He the wreath Pontific bore amid the Persian camp. 1798 COWPER *Task* v. 721 But fairer wreaths are due..To those who, posted in the shrine of truth, Have faith'in her defence. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii, The shepherd kings of patriarchal times, Who knew no higher gems than hyacinthine wreaths. 1839 DICKENS *Nicholby* xxiv, Mrs. Borum and the governess cast wreaths upon the stage. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 208 She..shall wear Alternate oak and acorn-bell to wreath about her hair. 1892 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 29/2 He is ready to resign his victor's wreath to Darwin.

*Fig.* and *transf.* 1591 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. i, [May] this crowne,..like the snakie wreathe of Tisiphon, Engirt the temples of his hatefull head. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 61 Hee..gained the Sea-lords nobler wreath about his Shield The royal Scottish wreath, upholding it in state. 1613 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 73 Sow-thistle,..whose downy wreath If any one should blow off as a breath, We cleeme her for a maide. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 938 There he..obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with'ring wreaths. 1799 CAMPBELL *Trans. Wolfe* 2. 46 Auspicious Hope ! in thy sweet garden grow Wreaths for each toil. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xvii. Twilight o'er the east wove her serenest wreath. 1838 WORDSW. *Death Yar. Hogg* 30 Our haughty life is crowned with darkness. Like London with its own black wreath.

**b.** Const. *of.*

? *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 113, I for þe on my hed suffyr a wrethe of stynkyng þornes. 1599 SYLVESTER *Eglish.* 256 Hymen also crowns with wreathes of vine. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 459 A Crown, Golden in shew, is but a wreath of thorns, Brings dangers. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* V. 177 The common Crew, with Wreaths of Poplar Boughs, Their Temples crown. 1709 POPE *Summer* 10 The Muse..adds the wreath of Ivy to thy Bays. 1800 WORDSW. *Ellen Irwin* 4 A Grecian maid Adorned with wreaths of myrtle.

*fig.* and *transf.* 1609 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 113 The wreath of madness fine Ore fixing Phœbus front. 1821 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 307 The glory..That plays like a wreath of halo-light Around his Mary's head. 1841 EMERSON *Exx., Love* § 5 The remembrance of these visions..is a wreath of flowers on the coldest brows. 1868 PARKE *Silence & V.* iii. (1875) 60 The power and splendour of her literature, conferred upon her [*sc.* Greece] a wreath of unfading admiration.

**c.** A trailing cluster of flowers, tendrils, etc.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 631 A poore Chappel.. adorned onlie with wilde mosse, and wreathes of clasping Ivie. 1784 *Cowper's Task* v. 158 Long wavy wreaths Of flow'rs..Blush'd on the panels. 1798 WORDSW. *Lines in Early Spring* 10 Through primrose tufts..The periwinkle trailed its wreaths. 1881 E. WHITE *Lancs. Songs* (ed. 3) 84 Wreaths of fairy frost-work hung Where grew last summer's leaves.

**d.** *Purple wreath*: (see PURPLE *a.* C 2 c).

1864 GUISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 389. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Petrea volubilis*, the purple wreath, .. is a native of the West India islands and of the mainland from Vera Cruz southward.

**e.** As the title of a book comprising a collection of short literary pieces ; = GARLAND *sb.* 4.

In frequent use from *c* 1825.

1793 (*title*), The Wreath ; a Curious Collection of New Songs. 1799 E. DUBOIS (*title*), The Wreath; composed of Selections from Sapphо [etc.]..accompanied by a prose Translation and Notes. 1800 (*title*) The Poetical Wreath: a Collection of Original Pieces, in Prose and Verse. 1881 ' A. L. O. E.' (*title*), A Wreath of Indian Stories.

**f.** A representation of a wreath in decorative work, metal, stone, etc.

1847 C. BOOTH *T. Eyre* iii, A certain brightly painted china plate, whose bird of paradise, nestling in a wreath of convolvuli and rosebuds, had (etc.) 1890 YOUNG *Ann. Banbery-Lourg. Lond.*, 506 Four silver wreaths, with ribbons, for crowning the Master and Wardens on Election Day.

†**12.** A twisted mass (*of* something). *Obs.*—1

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Wronget van Pieren ofte Wormen*, a Wreath of Worms or Snakes.

**III.** **13.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wreath hurdle, line, -offering, part, rail, work*; *wreath-drifted, maker, -wise*; **wreath animalcule** (see quot. and cf. PERIDINIAL *a.*); **wreath shell,** = sense 3 b; **wreath-work,** the early purple orchis, *O. mascula.*

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 370 *Wreath Animalcules* (*Peridinidæ*). 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* 76 More dazzlingly white Than the *wreath-drifted* snows. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 181 The wreath hurdles is a profitable business. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 507 Draw a line, which will give the *wreath* line formed by the bosings of the winders. 1881 *Instr. Course Practic* 55 Artificial Flower Maker ..Shell Flower Maker. *Wreath Maker. *a* 1833 MRS. HEMANS *Korner & Sister* Poems (1875) 425 With his *wreath-offering silently to stand In the bush'd presence of the glorious dead. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 597 In preparing the string for the *wreath part, a cylinder should be made. 1820 P. NICHOLSON *Stair-cases*, etc. 17 Getting a *wreath rail out of the solid. 1847 W. HAMILTON *Hand-book* 423 *Turbo*, the *wreath shell. 1824 J. C. MANGAN *Germon Anthol.* II. 105 *Hand-with-hand*, linked *wreath-wise round. 1825 J. NICHOLSON dance in order. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 384 The same person ..hath contrived an Engine to turne *wreath work. 1730 W. GEORGE in *Mem. W. Shadwell* (Surtees Soc.) 1. 1 Nicholas large partition encompassed with plaited wreath-work. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 148 Purple *Wreath-wort.

Hence **Wreathage,** wreaths collectively; **Wreathed** *ppl. a.* in various senses; **Wreathedness,** the state of being wreathed; **Wreathen** *ppl. a.*; **Wreather,** one who wreathes; **Wreathful** *a.*, full of wreaths; **Wreathing** *vbl. sb.* in various senses; **Wreathless** *a.*, without a wreath; **Wreathlet,** a little wreath; **Wreathwise** *adv.*, in the manner of a wreath.

1611 COTGR., *Guirlandé*, wreathed, garlanded. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandeux*, wreathie, wreathed. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandure*, wreathing, wreathedness. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandeur*, a wreather. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandeux*, wreathie, wreathful. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandeux*, wreathie, wreathful. 1611 COTGR., *Guirlandeux*, wreathie, wreathful

her head. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* L. 585 They shape, they wreath themselves up, and when touched make themselves quite round. *a* 1853 Ronfeston *Lect.* i. (1858) 20 The clouds wreathing themselves in that strange wild way.

**b.** To wind or turn (some flexible object) about or over something; to form or adjust as a wreath or encircling coil. Freq. with *round* or *about*. Also *transf.*

1530 Palsgr. 783/1 He had a kercher wreathed about his head. 1583 tr. *Heiton Neurse's Gentleon* i. 80 b, [This] demeasured Crocodile . . wreathing his Tayle, all aboute his [sc. a horse's] Feete afore. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. 211 They . . weare on their heads a cloth wreathed. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* v. 8, 4 b A new Head being set vpon your Statue, A Rope is since found wreath'd about it. 1620 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* v. 42 A Serpent wreathed about a Sword, placed vpright. 1671 J. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 20 Round that, they wreath a white or red Turban. 1727 Pultex *Æschylus* 121 Ye waves That o'er th' interminable ocean wreath Your crisped smiles. *a* 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* viii. 352 An ill-adjusted turban . . wreathed around their sunburnt brows. 1845 J. C. Mangan *Germ. Anthol.* II. 61 The white flowers were twined Around our temples by thy whiter hand. 1877 Tennyson *Achilles over the T.* 5 Around his head The glorious goddess wreath'd a golden cloud.

*refl.* 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iii. 5, 14 Sweet Phœbe, do not scorn me, . . Whose grain is blue, lies sharper than a serpent's tooth, Whose heart is beauti-bound: The cicatrice And labour'd aspect of it may stain, stain, Like the wash'd ethiop, but no worse than this, Wherein she wreathes herself. 1632 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlewoman* 122 The Iuye . . windes and wreathes it selfe about the Oake. 1806 Bucke *Hist. Rome. Emp.* v. 83 The gorgeous drapery of romance gradually wreathed itself round his name.

**c.** *Sc.* To fasten or secure (a yoke) upon a draught-animal. Only in fig. context.

Perhaps partly by influence of *Lam.* 1, 14 (see 3 b. *infra*).

1650 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 17 These men . . labour to wreith the yok of their oppressiouues upon thair bodyes and soules. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 46 A yoke, which the wretched sufferers can neither bear, nor yet shake off, is wreathed about their necks. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* v. (1827) I. 399 They employed as instruments for subduing the Scots, and wreathing the yoke about their neck. 1777 Watson *Philip II.* I. 92 Till the yoke being wreathed about their necks, the most secret murmurings became . . fatal to those who uttered them. 1827 Pitcor *Course T.* vii. 503 Not those who . . smiled To purchase human flesh, or wreath the pliant Of vassalage and savage liberty.

*transf.* 1832 J. Jarvis *Disc.* 108 The burden of man's guilt is wreathed to the neck of the Only Begotten.

**2.** To surround or invest with or as with something twisted or turned; to enwreathe. Also with advs., as *about*, *in*.

1598 in Feuilleret *Manels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 41, vj Corled bed sleives . . wrethen abowte with redd golde sarsnett and sylver lawne. 1632 T. Heywood *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* i. B 3 b, I for this Will wreathe a Garland of Bayes, Or of guild, stuck full of Indian gemmes. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iv. 76 Dusk faces with white silken Turbants wreath'd. 1769 Sir W. Jones *Palace Fortune* (1777) 7 With the branches of aspa the leafless plants were wreath'd. 1832 Scott *Betrothed* Note D, Three hundred of the British, who fell there, had their ne'er wreathed with the Sudor-hawp. 1833 Wordsw. *To Frith of Forth* 2 Ne'er did mortal . . climb gracefully . . wreathe with mist his [sc. a crag's] forehead high. 1854 F. W. Mant *Midshipman* 90 I like some huge baronial castle wreathed in with woods. 1879 Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* I. 18 Wreathed with fresh Sculpturings of forgotten warfare.

*fig.* 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I. 243 Contentment wreathes with silk and velvet the prisoner's chains.

**b.** To encircle or surround with a wreath or garland; to bedeck or adorn with or as with a wreath; to garland.

1630 Milton *Comus* 55 This Nymph . . gar'd upon his clustring locks, With Ivy berries wreath'd. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* i. 5 With Laurels wreath your posts, And strow with Flow'rs the Pavement. 1700 Pope *Sappho* 25 Would you with ivy wreath your flowing hair. 1796 Coleridge *To a beautiful Spring* 6 With one fresh garland of Pierian flowers . . My longing hand shall wreath thy mossy urn. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* iii. 25 To wreathe a victor's brow. 1848 Lytton *Harold* i. i, Doors and windows were . . wreathed with garlands. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* v. 73 Then with the myrtle of Venus the chieftain wreathes him.

**c.** Of flowers, etc.: To encompass or enclose (an object) as or after the manner of a wreath; to form a wreath about (something).

1718 Prior *Solomon* ii. 140 In the Flow'rs that wreath the Spiritual Bowl, Fell Adders hiss. 1798 Coleridge *Ode Autumnal Evening* to Each flower that wreath'd the dewy locks of Spring. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 2/3 Flowers of heaven I . . wreathing The God-centred vision of all coming years!

**3.** To unite (two or more things) by twining or twisting together; to entwine, intertwine; also, to fold (the arms).

1593 Bernde *O. Curitius* 13 A rope folded and knit with many knots, one so wretched within an other, that [etc.]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* ii. 61 You shall wynde and wreathe the greene blades [of the garlic] togeather, and trusse them to the grounde. 1599 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. 1, 19 You have learn'd . . to wreath your Armes like a Male-content. 1596 Marcall *Cattle* 275 To ring hogges . . some put a red yoate wyre vnder the cleane of his snout, . . then wreath it altogether. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* iv. Wks. 1856 I. 53 Enter Andrugio and Antonio wreathed together. 1808 Wordsw. *White Doe* 1324 If she too passionately wreathed Her arms. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* i. viii. I beheld . . An Eagle and a Serpent wreathed in fight. 1847 Madden *Lusmore* III. 31 Twelve swine, tied together, with withies ascending great wreathed sculpture.

**b.** To combine (several things into one structure) by interweaving; to twine together; to form or make by intertwining.

*a* 1547 Surrey *Par. Eccl. iv.* 34 Cables brayded thre fould . . to gether wrethed swer [= sure]. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 81 A kind of wooddie . . fit to wreath and bynde in leapes to catch fish withall. 1604 E. Grimstone tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxiv. 288 A great cord wreathed of chaines of roasted mayz. 1767 Gray *Death of Hoel* 13 Chains . . Wreath'd in many a golden link. 1788 Cowper *Gratitude* 7 She gave . . me braids, Wreath'd into an elegant bow, The ribbon. 1811 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 263 Hurdles . . made of hazel rods closely wreathed. 1844 W. Barnes *Poems Rural Life* 289 *Blinder*, a bar of wood with holes to take the ends of a hurdle while the maker wreaths it. *refl.* 1555 Edn *Decades* (Arb.) 295 The lenues of this *Cacus* . . wreathinge them selues one within an other.

*fig.* 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Polity*, Jacke 5 § 8 When . . heauenly and earthly happines are wreathed in one crowne. 1611 Bible *Lam.* i. 14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come vp vpon my necke. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (J.), In such base noisome hearts you shall ever see pride and ingratitude indivisibly wreathed and twisted together.

†**c.** *local.* To support, maintain, or hold up (a bank, etc.) by or as by wattled work. *Obs.*

1569 *Survey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C., 1909) 34 That he stake weath & laude vppe so muche vpon the neede ye. 1578 *Ibid.* 120 To stake walle or wreath his bake against the riser of thames. 1576 *Ibid.* 252 To scale watle and wretche [*sic*] the outer side of the saied shewer.

**4.** To arrange or dispose flowers, etc., as (a wreath); in later use *esp.* to adjust or fashion (flowers, etc.) into a garland or chaplet.

1595 *Locrine* ii. vi. 14 A flowring garland wreath'd of bay. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 892 From his slack hand the Garland wreathd did fall down softly. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3007/4 A very beautiful chintz, with flowers, delicately wreathed . . on a striped ground of yellow muslin. 1849 Rubbin *Sev. Lamps* § 18. 57 The next step was to gather the flowers themselves, and wreathe them in his capitals. 1892 Tennyson *Abbot's Dream* 23 Gathering . . From each fair plant the blossom delicately-grown To wreathe it with. *for the king.*

†**5.** To make (a bow) by a supple bending of the body. *Obs. rare*—1.

1730 Thomson *Autumn* 1197 Let . . those of fainer front . . Wreathe the deep bow, diffuse the lying smile.

**II. 6.** To turn or cause to turn forcibly round or to a side; to twist, wrench, or wrest. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. i. 36 Sir Guyon . . from so heauie sight his head did wreath. 1592 A. Day *Eng. Secretorie* i. (1596) 31 Sterile trees . . tops whereof the wind seemeth to wreath and turne at one side). 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 25 By wreathing their ire, fugitives) thwats he turned them against vpon the enemie. 1611 Dugdale *Pilgrimage* (1761) 139 They stalled a man which was a fit-horse, wreathing his head from his body. 1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* ii (1906) 15 To wreath, rub, slap and smooth them [sc. blankets] till you have rendred them very soft and pliable. 1678 Hooke *Animadv.* 152 This Plate . . must be wrenched or writhed, so that the Plain thereof most stand parallel to the Plain of the Incident Rays. 1704 J. Pitt tr. *Reyfe Lord* iv. 100 Was it for this you . . your locks . . with torturing irons wreath'd around? 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* II. ix. § 7 Moses wreathed his head . . and turned it to the ground, and . . wreathed it round, and trod upon it.

*fig.* 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 344 To wrest the will of man, or to wreath it to our business.

†**b.** *fig.* To extend unduly the application or meaning of (a writer or writing); to 'wrest', stretch, strain. *Obs. rare.*

1566 Stapleton *Ref. Unic. Zenuri* iv. 62 b, To wresie and wreth Scriptures to his pleasure. 1583 Babington *Comm.* Gal. II. 1830 It is shame for you to wrest and wreath the Doctors as you do. 1656 J. Hammond *Leah & R.* (1844) 23 They were resolved to wrest and stretch their commission to the prejudice of Mary-land.

†**c.** *refl.* To worm (oneself) *in*; to insinuate. *a* 1571 Jewel *Def. Apol.* I. v. 52 [Antichrist] shall shew forth himself . . and . . wreathe himself with countenance of devotion and holinesse, that hee may . . secretly wreath in himselfe.

**d.** To twist, turn, or contort (the body, limbs, etc.); to writhe.

1640 Milton *Apol. agst. Smect.* Wks. (1697) 339 When in the College-hearing Diviues . . have been seen so off upon the Stage wreething and unbooing their Clergy-limbs. 1695 Blackmore *Pr. Arth.* viii. 191 Oeta his wounded Body wreathing in Pain. 1697 R. Lucas *Enthusiasm* ii. 35 He was suddenly seized with a violent Convulsion Fit, which wreathed him every way. 1712 Gay *Rural Sports* i. 230, Impatient he roll'd, and wreathed his sinking body round. 1787 *Minor* iii. ix. 187 My mother . . wreathed her body, . . and cried. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* xi. xi. Keen to inherit his new wreathed limbs. 1851 Mrs. Gaskell *North & South* ix, Margaret wreathed her throat in a scornful curve.

**e.** To alter (the features, etc.) *in*, *into*, or *to* a smile, etc. (*cf.* Wreathed *pple. a.* 2 *c*).

1813 Scott *Rokeby* i. xxiii, Contempt kept Bertram's anger down, And wreathed to savage smile his frown. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* xvi, Gilbert . . walked up to the pair, his weather-beaten countenance wreathed into paternal smiles. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards (*J Nile* v. 286 (They) wreathed their countenances in ghastly smiles.

*refl.* 1668 Miss Beaumont *Dehna-Yea Fruit* i. The mobile mouth . . will wreathe itself into such a smile that [etc.].

†**7.** *a.* To take (something) by force; to wrest or seize. *Obs. rare.*

1590 C. S. *Night Spirits* 11 To wreath from Princes their crownes is more impossible. *Ibid.* 15 Authoritie to wreath from kings their crownes.

†**b.** To rend or tear. *Obs.*

1598 Harsnet *Trip.* II. i. 104 If it should happen to haue lighted on any part of the shippe, . it would rent and wreth sayles, mast, shroudes and shippe and all in manner like a wyth. 1606 N. [Baker] *Mystery of Outrages* E, The seamine of an Oke in peeces they wreath. 1607 Topsell *Beasts* 487 Lyons . . doe not onely bite, but also wreath and teare the wounds.

**III.** *intr.* **8.** To undergo writhing, twisting, or deviation; to diverge or swerve; to bend, turn, or coil. Also with *round*.

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xii. vii. 205 From their course the starres doo wreath, And soules she conjure can. 1599 T. Cutwode *Caltha Poetis* (Roxb. Libr.) The lisy tree . . seems to sigh. And with the wanton wind to wrig & wreath, against the god. 1603 G. Gilpin *Pembrokeshire* (1809) 64 Sometymes the same [vein of limestone] is found to wreath to the northe and southe. *c* 1612 Chapman *Iliad* vii. 236 Ajax a furre greater stone lift up, and, wreathing round, With all his body layd to it, he sent it forth. 1820 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 190 Downy bents, that to the air did wreathe. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 60 Where . . the lithe brown sea-flowers wreathe and sway.

*fig.* 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* III. 151 Beauty is never so beautiful as when, of I tears it, it wreathes back on me with spirit. 1890 Tennyson *In Mem.* xlv, The lightest wave of thought shall slap The fawning sea's mirrored eddy wreathe.

†**b.** To become involved or intertwined. *Obs.*

1632 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlew.* Table † 7, The lute while it is winding, decayes the plant, with which it is wreathing.

**9.** To assume the form of, circle in the manner of, a wreath. Also *fig.*

1776 J. Barclay *Par. Psalms* 88 The flame of fire shall round him wreathe. 1814 Byron *To Belshazzar* ii, Go! dash the cup from thine hand: thy wrist is weak, And wreathes round with them. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 444 A strange, palpable obscurity, wreathing up in long strata to the northward. 1867 Morris *Earthly Par.* iv. 405 Red fire of pinewood . . Wreathing around my lady greedily. 1875 Stillman *Poet. Poets* iii. (1887) 81 The weary penman who could send a smile wreathing from Laurel's End to Grant's.

**b.** *Sc.* To form into, assume the shape of, a snowdrift or snow-wreath.

1821 R. Quinn *Heather Lintie* i. 163 As we had no need o' sarch for weather, Though snaw was wreathin'. 1887 *Ingleb. Fancies* 200 The snaw was wreathin' in the glen.

**10.** Of flour or meal, in milling: To hug the eye of the millstone so closely as to hinder its descent.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v.

**Wreathed** (rīdd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wreathe *v.* + -ed 1. Cf. next and Writhed *ppl. a.*]

1. Formed by or as by wreathing, wi.ying, twisting, or twining; arranged or disposed in coils, curves, or twists; contorted, twisted.

In frequent use from *c* 1590 to *c* 1630.

*c* 1530 Tindale *Exod.* xxviii. 14 Thou shalt make . . cheynes off fine golde: lyenkewise shalt thou make them wreathed cheynes to the lokes. 1535 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 127 My iij wretthed syngles of golde. 1587 A. Day *Daphnis & Chl.* (1890) 14 Vnder my rammish bush there watched Iohnne. 1605 B. Jonson *Masque of Blackness* 1 Muvique made out of wreathed shells. 1608 Sir H. Platt *Garden of Eden* (1653) 142 Winding the young stock about the stick, it will grow in a wreathed form. 1649 G. Daniel *tr. Ovid's Trav. E. India* 111 [The] Diadem . . might have been of wreath'd Linnen, or Gold, or other solid matter. *a* 1721 Kirk *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1752 IV. 237 Psyche . . with their tenable wreath'd Hornes. 1743 Dalrymple *Virgil, Aeneid* VII. 351 A chain of wreathed gold. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. 2, The Eagle . . intermingling wreathed Serpent. 1820 P. Nicholson *Masonry* p. iv, The geometrical construction of the wreathed post of the Rail. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* 204, The short iron wreathed Persian sword. 1908 [Miss Fowler] *Betw. Irvn & Anchoine* 362 The fog rises like wreathed, white and still.

*fig.* 1586 Chas. Paumer *Tr. exx.* D iii, From falsehoods wreathed way, O save me, Lord. 1846 J. C. Mangan *Poems* (1903) 95 Whence flowed the tones Of silver lyres, And many voices in wreathed harmonies.

†**b.** Corrugated; wrinkled. *Obs.*

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 49 The Fig tree . . all his Wood not so plaine, as wrethed & wrinckled. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Orchards* (1674) 12 You shall find the better tasted fruit to be more wretched or wrinkled.

**c.** Formed by wreathing the countenance.

1633 Milton *L'Allegro* 28 Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles.

†**2.** Crossed, folded; also, having the arms folded. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii 235 Longauille Did . . neuer lay his wreathed armes athwart His louing bosome, to keepe downe his heart. 1595 Markham *Sir R. Grinvile* iv, Thetis . . with wreathed armes. 1598 B. Jonson *Comedy of R.* iv. ii, Another . . walks off melancholie, and stands wreath'd As he were pinn'd vp to the arras.

**3.** *a.* Of columns, etc.: Twisted or shaped in a screw-like form; contorted.

1624 Wotton *Elem. Archit.* 11 Wreathed, and Vined, and Figured Columnes, which our Author himselfe condemneth. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 May (1641, Some of the columns wreathed, others spiral. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 256 Wreathed columns; such as are twisted in the form of a screw. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* 1053 *Wreathed columns* . . are . . very appropriately called contorted shafts.

†**b.** Having a spirally-grooved bore; rifled. *Obs.*

1681 R. Chromwell *Lett. in Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 56 The little gun . . is not so propper for shott it being a wreathed barrell.

**4.** Formed or combined by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 8 A banquet . . vnder a wreathed arbor of Laurell, Iessemen, Hollie, and Iuy. *Ibid.*, A banke of wreathed bushes. 1633 T. Adams *Devil a Pt.* ii. 424 These cha nes, . . were they of cords, of wreathed trees, of iron, might bee burst asunder. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Church* 1 A Wreathed garland of deserved praise. 1688 Holme *Armoury* ii. 468/2 Two Serpents in Fesse to the sinister; wreathed, respecting. *Ibid.*, Two Snakes wreathed in pale. 1795 H. Tooke *Purley* II. 216 A *saddle* bridge, is a bridge of . . twisted or wreathed twigs or boughs. 1817 *Dugdale's Monasticon* I. 1 Here St. Joseph . . erected, . . of wreathed twigs, the first Christian

oratory in England. 1828 Tennyson *Lover's Tale* II. 43 They vanish'd.. Beneath the bower of wreathed eglantines. *transf.* 1782 Wanton *On Sir F. Reynolds's Painted Window* 24 Where Superstition with capricious hand In many a maze the wreathed window plann'd.

*fig.* 1820 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 60 A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the wreath'd trellis of a working brain.

**5.** Covered, decked, or encompassed by a wreath or wreaths; garlanded.

1819 Keats *Lamia* I. 38 When from this wreathed tomb shall I awake? 1847 Lowell *in Life* (1891) II. 76 Byron's wild and wicked travesty..hits the Laureate [*sc.* Southey] hard on his wreathed head. 1897 *Daily News* 30 June 6/2 The wreathed coffin was conveyed..to its burial ground.

**b.** *Her.* Encircled with a twisted band or wreath.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 471/2 A Flower de Lis Wreathed, or in the middle Wreathed. *Ibid.* 393/1 A Saracens Head.. wreathed about the temples. 1858 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 143/1 Heads are also blasoned wreathed or banded, as the case may be.

**c.** In the specific names of birds (see quots.).

Frequently used by Latham.

1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 358 Wreathed Hornbill; ..on the top of the upper mandible is an appendage, rounded at top. 1785 *Ibid.* V. 216 Wreathed Flower; round the crown runs a list of white, encircling the head like a wreath. 1819 Stephens in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. 488 Wreathed Pluvian. *Pluvianus coronatus*,..[= Latham's] Wreathed Plover. 1823 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 140 Wreathed Warbler... From the eye round to the nape a white line, passing backwards, and surrounding it as a wreath at the back part.

Hence **Wrea·thedness.** *rare*—0.

1730 Bailey (*fol.*), *Contortedness*, wreathedness.

**Wreathen** (rī·ðn), *ppl. a.* Also 4–6 **wrethen**, 5 **-yn**, *-in*, (6) **wrethe**. [ME. *writhen*, normal variant of *writhen*, ppl. pple. of *writhen* Writhe *v.* Cf. Writhen *ppl. a.*]

**1.** = Wreathed *ppl. a.* 1.

*a.* *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5576 All be watir of be werd [to him seemed] bot as a wrethen neddire. 1401–8 *Dux Isam Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 304/1 Hir wrethyn cardell, *etc.* *a* 1450 *Songs & Carols 15th C.* (Warton Club) 85 My baselard hast a wrethin hafte. 1469 *Will of Packett* (Somerset Ho.), A wrethyne ryngge of golde. c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 170 Great gilte Candlesteks costid withe writhin shaftes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII.*, 207 b, Veluet..fret with flowers of Silver, and small twigges of wrethen worke. 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* 40 Mercure with his wrethin wand. 1887 *Suppl. Jamieson* 280 Wrethin' straw-ropes.

*b.* 1598 Birde (Bishops') *Exod.* xxviii. 29 Chaynes of pure golde, and wrethen worke. 1611 Speed *Scotl.* I. xxiii. 46 (1632) A wreathen, slyding. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxvii. 14 Thou shalt make..two chaines of pure gold..; of wreathen worke shalt thou make them. 1792 Abp. Newcome *Translation* 167 easily giving them [*sc.* stalactite] pendants and chains, and even wreathen work. 1871 J. Hay *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 154 Wreathen amulet Forged against sword-stroke. 1882 Ruskin *Aratra Pentelici* 51 The wreathen work of its doors, ..the foliage of its capitals. 1895 — *Fors Clav.* lviii. 288 The pierced fractional coins will only bear a chased wreathen fillet. 1897 Blackmore *Erema* II. 74 The glorious woods of wreathen gold..all were mine.

*Comb.* 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 566 Wreathen-podded Whitlowgrass. [Grows in] Fissures of lime-stone rocks.

**2.** Formed or arranged by or as by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 21. 81 Their Oratory, built onely of wreathen wands. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 58 To build a Church or Oratorie of wreathen wands. 1723 Cyrus Wheicrake *Poems* 39 The Flowers..In wreathen Garlands tempt again Cucullus. *a* 1850 in Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Monast. Orders* (1852) 45 A church of wreathen wands.

**Wreather** (rī·ðəɹ). [f. Wreathe *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which wreathes, twists, or twines. Also *transf.*

1566 Stapleton *Ref. Unto. Jewel* IV. 62 To proue you wresters and wreathers of Gods holy words. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 5 Pityocampes, who had to say, a wreather or bower of pine apple trees. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Wrijfer*, an Extorter, a Wrether, or a Wrester. 1817 Keats *Sleep & Poetry* 14 Sleep, Soft dews that on our eyes!..Wreather of poppy buds, and weeping willows!

**Wreathing** (rī·ðiŋ), *vbl.sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of twisting or contorting; the fact of writhing; an instance of this.

1580 Holyband *Treas. Fr. Tong. Torvement*, a wreathing. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiii. 223 Leauing their mourings free; which yet, shall come to the end which God hath listed to appoint vnto them, whatsoeuer windings and wreathings they seeme to themselues to make. 1613 G. Sandys *Poetic.* 34 By the wreathing of their bodies..they seek to auoid the pursuer. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Hartlul. Anat.* I. v. 8 Touching the Contorsion or Wreathing of the recurrent Nerve. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Works. Nat.* 131 The Earth-Worm, by a sort of wreathing, takes hold of the Ground with its small Feet. 1794 R. J. Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 456 The sun,..whose oblique course is not unaptly represented by the wreathings of a snake. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 155 The attendants told me, from the wreathing of her body..; that she would soon have another fit. 1823 Joanna Baillie *Poems* 260 [Steam] With tressy wreathings playing in the air. 1885 R. Buchier *Feus & Epochs* Oct. 23 Mid the wreathings of the vapour dim The goddess grew in glory visible.

*fig.* 1612 Shelton *Quix.* I. iv. vi. (1620) 343 His Friend did notable injurie to their amitie in searching out wreathings and amfages in the discovery of his most hidden thoughts to him. 1641 Fanshaw *True Relat. Parl. Kich. II*, 37 Those infinit wreathings of concurrence.

**b.** *concr.* That which is wreathed or twisted.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xiii. 449 And for these grafts it is enough, if euerie one of them, haue one good sielet or two aboue the stocke. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* (ed. 2) xii. 110 To Painter, for the picturing of some exquisit arme, leg, torse or wreathing of the body.

**+2.** A wresting of the sense or meaning of something. *Obs.*

1628 Prynne *Cens. Cenens* 67 Which is a grosse abuse, a wreathing, a peruerting of the Scriptures.

**3.** The action or fact of entwining or intertwining; an instance of this.

1583 (see Wrapping *vbl. sb.* 1 b). 1598 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 53 Houghes and braunches..did..dilate Their cleping armes, in wanton wreathings intricate. 1661 Boyle *Spring of Air* II. ii. (1682) 32 In strings there is required either wreathing or some..texture of component parts. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Cry of Children* viii, Let them touch each other's hands, in a fresh wreathing Of their tender human youth! *a* 1901 W. Bright *Age of Fathers* (1903) II. 23 The wreathing of a garland for the Penates.

**4.** The action of investing with a wreath.

1859 Grote *Greece* II. lix. IX. 137 The operations of wreathing and unwreathing must here have been performed by the soldiers symbolically.

**Wreathing,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

**1.** That wreathes, twists, or twines; enwreathing.

1597 Daniel *State Inane.* iii. 26 When your kind Eyes look'd downe on my wreathing. And not vouchsafing, deem'd me still embraces Joyn. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* IV. 22 Unbidden Earth shall wreathing fruitfull clusters bring. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* 180 To cast from off her the wreathing Serpents. 1816 Byron *Siege Corr.* vi, In red and wreathing columns flash'd The flame. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xiv, [To] see the wreathing and unwreathing must here have been performed by the soldiers symbolically.

**Wreathing,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

**1.** That wreathes, twists, or twines; enwreathing.

1597 Daniel *State Inane.* iii. 26 When your kind Eyes look'd downe on my wreathing. And not vouchsafing

cam, his folk to preche, per Cristendam fro Paen wreche [w.r. to reche].

**2.** *refl.* To avenge (oneself).

1398 TREVISA *Glanvil De P. R.* xviii. vii. (Bodl. MS.), þe bore...takeþ here and strengþe to wreche hym of his aduersarye wiþ his tuskes.

**3.** To give effect to (wrath, etc.); = WREAK *v.* 3.

*c* 1400 LYDG. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 41 Or þe wycked fend his wrath up on us wreche [*rime* leche].

Hence † **Wre'cher**, an avenger (*of* some wrong).

*a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* viii, 3 þat þou destruye þe enemy and þe wrecher [L. *ultorem*] of Adam sinne.

† **Wre'cheful**, *a. Obs.* Also 3-4 **wrech-**; 4 **wrac(e)ful-**, 5 **wrecheful**. [*f.* WRECHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WREAKFUL *a.*] Vengeful; revengeful.

*c* 1290 *St. Edmund* 333 in *S. Eng. Leg. I.* 309 God...nis nouȝt so wrechful ase men weneþ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 377 Seyntes and halowes of þis lond beeþ more wrecheful þan seyntes of oþer londes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xiii. (B.M. Add. MS.) No seruture is mork wrecheful: þan is þe bee whanne he is ywraþþed. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) 1 Thess. iv. 6 God is wrechful of alle suche men. *c* 1420 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 59 He seyiþ not to vengeable ne to sweete wrecchful here but to þe wille of God & saue his neibours soule.

**Wreght**, obs. Sc. form of WRIGHT *sb.*1

**Wreck** (rek), *sb.*1 Forms: [1–3 **wrec** (1 **wrecc**, **wæcc**, **wæcc**), 1 **wrech**, 3–4 **wrek**, 3 **wreek**, 4 **wrack**.] 3, 5–6 **wrek**, 5 **wrekke**, **wrecke**, 6– **wreck**. [a. AF. *wrec*, *wreck*, *wrek* (also *were*, *waere*, *warec*, whence F. *varech*, *navec* VAREC), a. ON. **wrec*, **wrek* (Norw. and Icel. *rek* n.), f. the stem of *wrekan* to drive: see WREAK *v.*, and cf. WRACK *sb.*2 The AF. word is also the source of med. L. *wrecum*, *warectum*. The ON. variant **wrekes* (Icel. *rekr*) is represented in English by the obsolete WREKE. Another French form appears in VRAIC.]

**I. 1.** *Law.* That which is cast ashore by the sea in tidal waters; esp. goods or cargo as thrown on land by the sea from a wrecked, stranded, or foundered vessel. Occas. *wreck of the sea* (med.L. *wrecum maris*, AF. *wrec* or *wreck de mer*), *+wreck of the king* (med.L. *wreck regis*). Cf. SHIPWRECK *sb.* 1, SHIPBREACH.

[1039 WM. I in *Chron. Abingdon* (Rolls) 201 Brameestre ...cum omni maris ejectu quod nos *wrec* [v.r. *waerec*] nominamus. 1275 *6 Edw. I Rot. Hen. II* (1904) 83 Quia accepit wrech regis. 1290 K. JOHN *Charter to Dunwich* in *Hist. Dunwich Chart.* (1837) 51/2 De ewagio de wrec et lagan et de omnibus aliis consuetudinibus. *a* 1268 BRACTON *De Leg. & Consuet.* (Rolls) I. 60 Item ubi non apparet dominus, sicut est de wreco maris. 1292 BRITTON I. 216 Par fraunchises de aver wreck de mer trové en suen soil. 1343 in *Rymer's Fœdera* (Rolls) II. II. 1295 Wreccum maris...tam de piscibus regalibus, quam de aliis rebus quibuscumque, ad terram illatum projectis. 1800: see JETSAM 1.]

1288 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Wrek, weyf, stray, merchet, lecherwey, bloderwyt. *Ibid.* 57 Wrek et weyf, straye. 1455 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 311/2 Wrecke of the Sea, Weyves, Estrayes. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 221 Masters Clere hath sen down hyr men, and save the stuff and wrekke. 1482 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 20/1 The same Duc shall have...Wrekke of the Sea, Tresour founde. 1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1970) 229 If a ship were cast on shoare, and were not repaired by suche as escaped on lyue within a certaine time, ...this was taken for Wreck. *Ibid.*, If from thence-foorth any one thing (being within the vessell) arryued on liue, then the ship and goods should not be seised for wrecke. 1630 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* May (1931) 427/2 Burying a man that came ashore when the Kinges wreck came ashore. 1651 tr. *Aitkin's Courts Law* (1697) 2 The Kings Prerogative, chap. 11, the King shall have Wreck of the Sea throughout the whole Realm. 1666 *N. Kidding Rec.* VI. 102 A warrant against 21 Britton men for unlawfully taking a whale and other wrecke. 1788 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Wreck, antiently, not only comprehended goods...from a perishing ship, but whatever else the sea cast upon land; whether it were precious stones, fishes,...or the like. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 283 If any persons...take any goods so cast on shore, which are not legal wrecks, 1768 *Ibid.* III. 108 The court of the admiral [had]...no manner of cognizance...of any wreck of the sea: for that must be cast on land before it becomes a wreck. 1806 ROBINSON *Amer. Law Rec.* 63 *Wreck*, In its legal signification, is confined to such goods as, after shipwreck are cast by the sea cast upon the land. 1822 *Act 1–2 Geo. IV*, c. 75 § 26 That no...person who may be entitled...to Wreck of the Sea, shall be entitled to appropriate such Wreck or Goods...until he (etc.). 1866 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov., The more scrupulous deliver up their spoil to the receiver of wreck. 1888 J. WILLIAMS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 687/2 As wreck in the last resort became crown property, it was never subject to forfeiture. *Ibid.*, Wreck was frequently granted to subjects as a franchise.

**2.** = WRACK *sb.*2 3. SEE-WRACK 2 a, VAREC 1. Latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

*Cf. tangle-wreck* TANGLE *sb.*1 3; *sea-wreck* s.v. SEA-WRACK.

1499 *Prompt. Parv.* (Lynn) s.v. Wrek of the see, *alga*, *sarga*. 1500 *Orige Iuliane* 30 Wrek, *Alga*, *Aerba marina*, i.e. *illud quod mare proficit*, wreke or fruthe of the see. 1634–5 BEARSTON *Trust.* (Chetham Soc.) 99 The grase, weeds and wreck, lunsight by the sea. 1681 *Sc. Acts* 1st Sess. 1681 c. 24 The tangle-wreck. (1738) s.v., Wreck, in some places...is used to manure the ground. 1752 in *Yorks Mag.* (1933) July 235/9 He was then employed in gathering wreck. 1791 *Statist Acc. Scotl.* I. 123 The shores [of Ayr-shire] abound with...rich sea-weed or wreck for manure. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* III. 351 Sea-ware, driven upon the shore by the tides...is commonly called *Simon wreck*. 1876 in *Cleveland Gloss.* Suppl. 1894 K. HEWAT *Little Scottish World* vii. 119 The 'Wreck Brethren',...annually...raised funds for their purposes and regulated the carting of the wreck.

**b.** = WRACK *sb.*2 3 b. Now *dial.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrek, of a dyke, or a fenne, or stondynge watyr, *alga*. 1722 *R. Riding Rec.* VIII. 248 The Treasurer to pay £1 for clearing away the wreck from How and Kirby Misperton Bridges. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* II. 198 Our faces were concealed by the 'wreck' that covered the stones. 1877–86 in Lincoln and Cheshire glossaries. 1884 (I. S. STREATFEILD *Lincoln. & Danes* 376 Wreck, weeds and other rubbish floating down streams or on ditch water.

*Comb.*

*Sc.* and *dial.* = WRACK *sb.*2 3 c.

1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Soc. Improv. Agric. Scot.* 17 Cause pull up and gather carefully the Wreck, or Roots of Weeds and Grass, into Heaps. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* II. 392 *Wreck*, dead undigested roots and stems of grasses and weeds in plowland. 1820 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 50 A field...where dung was applied amid mountains of wreck, or couch grass.

**3.** A vessel broken, ruined, or totally disabled by being driven on rocks, cast ashore, or stranded; a wrecked or helpless ship; the ruins or hulk of such. Also *wreck of a ship*.

[*c* 1290 *Flete* 1. xliv. (1647) 61 Item dicitur wreckum navis vel bastellus fractus, de quibus nihil vivum evaserit.] *?a* 1300 *Chaucer's Man of Law's T.* 415 Wks. (1532) 24 b, The constable of the castel downe is fare To seen this wrecke, & al the shyp be lorn. 1611 COTGR., *Vaisseau*, a wracke, or ship cast away. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. 67 Charybdis is a Gulf...which violently attracting all Vessells that come too nigh it, drowns them, and casteth up their wrecks. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 80 He shall restore whatever Wrecks may happen on his Coasts. 1739 DE FOE *Cruise* I. (Globe) 84, I could plainly see...the Wreck of a Ship cast away in the Night. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 14 The Ship is a perfect Wreck. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 669 Three...from the wreck on oars and rafts descend. 1805 J. THOMSON *Pop. World* (1813) 391 The ship...struck upon a reef of rocks..., and shortly became a total wreck. 1810 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 58 Around the wreck Become a lifeless wreck. 1819 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* lxxix, The wreck of a little coasting craft still lay about two hundred yards to sea.

*fig.* and in fig. context. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 356 To the fair haven of my native home, The wreck of what I was, fatigu'd, I come. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 3.0 Such is the person you come to see, or rather the wreck of what was never a first-rate vessel. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 322 All of manhood in him...had given way and left him a stranded wreck. 1891 *Temple Bar* XCII. 74 My life itself is a wreck,...I am flung from the rushing tide of the world as a waif of shame.

**b.** An unserviceable or crazy old vessel.

1698 *Fryer. Geog. Sess.* 5/1 There are too many of these old wrecks (as largest) on that river.

**4.** a. *Law.* A piece or article of wreckage; a fragment of a wrecked vessel or its cargo. Freq. *pl.*

1570 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 775 Wrecks and fyndalls floating in the sea, or half of all wrecks and fyndalls shall haue that as a wreck of y^e sea. 1652 NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* I. xxv. (1663) 167 The Question is, whether the Goods lee...called Spoils of the Wreck. 1729 JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Lagan*, [If] these Goods are cast away upon the Land, they are then a Wreck. *Ibid.* s.v., It was usual to seise and forfeit Wrecks to the King, only when no Owner could be found. 1796 HUTTON II.

**b.** Without article. = WRECKAGE 2.

1744 *Gentl. Mag.* 616/2 Several chests, broken masts, and other pieces of wreck floating in the sea. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Desmond* I. 1. 1. 1. The Channel-fleet...was strewn...with pieces of wreck, and piles of plundered goods. 1819 *Ann. Reg.*/*Chron.* 42 Six men reached the shore...upon planks, which were raised by the surf and wreck. 1832 RUDDING *Shipwrecks* I. 104 All the crew believed the ship was crushed to pieces, but no wreck floated up. 1865 in Inman *Nav. Tales* (Such things] As the sea feeds on wreck and stray and ca-taway.

**5.** A drifted or tossed-up mass; a large heap; a great quantity; an abundance. Now *north. dial.*

1818 DE VERE *Poly-olb.* ii. 34 Where Ocean's liver ridged sand-like sands, as rocks and shouldring drifts. 1683 G. MIDDLETON *Works. Vital.* 15 There's like a wreck it [sc. corn] lyggs all down o'th Land. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 2 *Wreck*, a heap. (Such things] As the sea feeds on wreck and stray and ca-taway.

**6.** That which remains *of* something that has suffered ruin, demolishment, waste, etc.; the dilapidated, disorganized, or disordered residue or remainder *of* anything. Also (*a*) with a mod. pl.

[*a* 1131 *Peterborough Chron.* (Laud MS.) Bodl. 636 Bounden amid-s...The Wrecks of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Collmess Collect.* (Maitl. Cl.) 250 His [estate] is...left him, but only the wrack of it. 1818 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evidence* I. 490 *Wrecks of Memory*. 1820 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house. 1821 *Lamb. Ess. Elegiac* I. 193 An image of the...beloved L. 30 or *L. 40 per annum.* 1860 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house. 1821 *Lamb. Ess. Elegiac* I. 193 An image of the...beloved L. 30 or *L. 40 per annum.* 1860 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house. 1821 *Lamb. Ess. Elegiac* I. 193 An image of the...beloved L. 30 or *L. 40 per annum.* 1860 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house. 1821 *Lamb. Ess. Elegiac* I. 193 An image of the...beloved L. 30 or *L. 40 per annum.* 1860 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house. 1821 *Lamb. Ess. Elegiac* I. 193 An image of the...beloved L. 30 or *L. 40 per annum.* 1860 *Westm. Mag.* 171 He continued obstinate and mad, going...over the wrecks of the house.

**II. 7.** The disabling or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation; loss of a ship by striking on a rock, stranding, or foundering; an instance of this; = SHIPWRECK *sb.* 2. *To make wreck*: cf. MAKE *v.*1 64.

1489–4 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 293/1 If any of the forseid Wares or Chaffares...come into this Reame or Wales by wey of wrek. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 221 There is a grete chyppe go to wrekke be Scarburgh. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 4 This Arke...by diuine prouidence...was gouerned from running to wreck. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 490 1 That euery person makyng wreke by sea, and comming alue to lande, shoulde haue all his goodes saued. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 6 Learning his ship from those white rocks to saue,...Threatning vnheedie wreck and rash decay. 1609 CAROLI *Interpr. S.-t Iohnes*, Iesson 6, He shall make shipwracke of the vessell being in danger of wrecke. 1672 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Dec., *Corp. Cranmian* III. 107 As Seamen, parting in a general wreck. When first the loosening planks begin to gape, Each seizes what he finds easiest to grasp. 1749 *Gentl. Mag.* 396/1 The ill behaviour of his crew, and the bad condition of the ship occasioned his wreck. 1795 BURNS *O Waly's luck* III, Her two eyes...Would keep a sailor frae their wreck. 1809 R. WARNER *Tour Cornwall* 138 A range of rocks, the terrible scene of many a disastrous wreck 1824 G. WILKES *Narr. Ct. Sculpin Expled.* II. 61 In leaving the harbour we had a narrow escape from wreck. 1848 F. HUME *Mimic. Mishaps* I. Prol., We are...shipwrecked sailors; and I will tell the story of our wreck.

*fig.* and in fig. context. 1588 MARTIN *Dial. agst. Fest* (1888) 93 The ship of fooles...wanteth a good Pilot, the storme, the rocke, and the wreeke at hand. 1770 COWPER *Let.* 23 Sept., The storm and sharp-three made a wreck of the friendships I had contracted.

**b.** *Stock Exchange.* (See first quot.)

1876 E. PERRY *Ye outside Fools!* 360 A *Connor, Peel, Clayne, Kong* are all instances in point of a *Wreck*. 1878 *Wreck. Ibid.*, 208 The seductive interest of Rigs and Wrecks.

**10.** The action of subverting or overthrowing an established order of things, etc.; the fact of being brought to disaster; downfall, overthrow, ruin.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 109 He came into Mesopotamia, not without plaine daunger and wrecke to the state. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* xxxv, Then all the woe and wreck wherein I stode, as ransome I doe quitlie quight. 1608 *Great Frost* 10 fin., Being...thus round beset with the horrors of so present a wreck, he fell down on his knees. 1783 J. BICKERTON *Power Sea* 11 Thus the fall and ruined bands of ancient Greece, whose songs have perished in the wreck of time. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* iii. iii, Proud of calamity, we will enjoy the wreck of wealth. 1838 *Fr. Soc'y Rev. & Ir. Introd.* (1840) 11 The wreck of their ancient liberties. 1839 TAILFORD *Glen. or* I. 3, You come To share the wreck of the Mardonalds. 1895 J. PAIN *Talk of Town* I. 182 It was not that she feared to risk the wreck of her own happiness.

*fig.* 1793 BURNS *Where are the joys* iv, A' that has caused this wreck in my bosom, Is Jenny.

**b.** The action of wrecking or breaking apart; the fact of being materially wrecked or ruined; destruction or demolition.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 166 P 2 Books which...may last as long as the Sun and Moon, and outlive the general Wreck of Nature. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 55 The manner in which he relieves the earth from this universal wreck. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxix. 570 In accounting for these extraordinary accumulations of broken coal we may undoubtedly refer their origin to the wreck of the regular seams. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Travels* 31 Dealing thunderous wreck to the two hostile vessels. 1886 J. HARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Wreck*, a break-down, as in a shaft or on an incline.

**c.** In the phr. *to go to wreck* (*and ruin*).

*a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 542 Our failed shields and weapons then they found, And...our discording voice they

knew We e tt to wreck, with nonder ouerlayd 1548 Udall etc *Ivanm Lar Mirk* v 11 17 The flocke goeth to wrecke on t utterly perisheth 1600 Holland *Livy* 676 All things els also tth m went to wreck 1721 Da Foe *Mem Cavalier* (1840) 65 I saw our men go to wreck 1789 Bossa *Hagyn Iver* 1788 4 A Towmont, sirs, is gone to wreck! 1834 De Q IV *Autobiog Sk* Wks 1858 I 16 To wreck goes every n tion or fe l ng that divides the l ve man from the b ave 1877 Lady Gregory *Kiss* 11 The whole estate is going to wreck and ruin 1883 Stevenson *Treas Isl* xxviii, Here you are in a bad way ship lost, your whole business g ne to wr ck

*elliptic* 1980 Punch 'No *Churchman am I*' v, A letter inf rm d me that nil was to wreck

**III** 11 *attrib* and *Comb*; as *wreck buoy, case, chart, flag*, objective and instrumental, as *wreck-finder, -raiser, -seeker*, † *wreck fishing; -raising, -threatening*, also *wreck-derelicted, -strewn*

1874 J Fenton *Sailor's Pocket Bk* 299 Wreck buoys are painted green 1892 Manch Sat Jrnl 7 Mar p 4/1, in 1377 a 'wrecker' was tried in the same ex 1866 *Catal Int exhib, Ind* No 9747 Long, wreck clear of the British Isles for 1871 1879 Smiles *Lives* IV iv 42 A 'wreck' devoted sea man thus might pray To the deaf sea 1901 *Daily Chron* 9 Oct 7/6 (citing *N Y Tribune*) The wreck of a sailing barge was lifted bodily from the sea bed, termed the "wreck find r," then by means of derricks or suction pumps raised all to the surface 1874 Temple *Lett* Wks 1720 II 310 This Invention of a Wreck following [by Edmund Curtis] for the Recovery of His Majesty's Ship, cast away before Ostend 1897 *Daily News* 15 Sept 8/4 The Hamburg-Amerika line has had built a green "wreck flag," warning all craft to steer clear of the debris 1881 *Instr Census Clerks* (1881) 36 Wharfinger. Wh t Agent "Wreck keeper" 1898 *Westm Gaz* 14 July 5/2 His "wreck raising" vessels this time is to take an attempt to save some of Admiral Cervera's unfortunate squadron 1843 Capt Marryat *M Violet* xxviii The unconscientious "wreck seeker of a caption

the Earth is like Ocean, "Wreck strewn and in motion 1757 Dyer *Fleece* iii 620 Inscrutable "Wreck threatening Staten Land's e hing g shor

**b** Attrib. in names of persons having, or appointed to take, charge of wreck or wreckage, as **wreck commissioner, -master.**

1846 Worcester (citing *Jr Wreck Master*, a master of a wreck. a 1868 in Cent. Dict.) *Wreck Assistant* 27 The Inspector or Wreck master, being a vessel wrecked, stranded, or in distress, shall become the master of all wreckers employed on such vessel, and shall be responsible 1894 4 & 57 & 58 *Vict* c 60 § 21 It shall be the duty of a wreck commissioner to hold any formal investigation into a Loss 1892 *Cent Dict* s.v. *Assessors of wrecks* in Great Britain, *wreck masters* (in New York and Texas), officers whose duty [etc] 1898 *Engineering Mag* XVI 79 Instructions for the handling fire-hoses should be printed on the hands of the railroad staff in building wreck-trains

**c** Special Combs., as **wreck fish**, the stonebass, † **wreck-goods** Sc, goods cast ashore from a wreck, † **wreck make** *poet* that which causes wrecks; **wreck ware** *Sc*, **-weed**, = sense 2; **wreck wood**, wood washed up or ashore from a wreck, also *attrib*, **-wreck-works**, salvage-works for raising a wreck or wrecks.

1882 Day *Fishes Gt Br* I 28 This fish is called in Devonshire, "Wre k fish, because it follows floating timbers 1883 *Fisheries Exhib Cat* 280 Special I e furnished with all necessaries n ed in fishing [etc] 1808 Scott *Marm* I. *Introd* 2 Alph Index to "Wreck goods become Escheat as Public P. 1765-8 Blackstone *Instr Laws Scot* II. 8 § 13 Wreck goods were formerly termed an escheat but accord for the owners 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iii (Arb) 88 And Caulo a ceiveth we due spy, with Scylla the "wreckmake 1865 Wise *Trans Penz Nats* 243 *note* On the coasts of Scotland sea weed is called "wre k ware' 1821 Scott *Pirate* x One who on the sea flung forth as "wreck weed *Hid* v, The "wreck wood that the callants brought in yesterday 1843 *Times* 25 July 3 2 The mast is still standi g and we y little wreck wood has d iven from her sides Quarter C rn ll a *derring Heath* 5 The rain drove s ddenly like threads of gold in the shine of the wreckwood fire 1903 B Cuthbert *Saddle of Sands* xx, The "wreck-works were evidently what they purported to be.

**+ Wreck**, *sb* 3 *Sc Obs* [var of Wrack *sb* 3, after prec.] 1 'Pelf'. Jamieson 1808 Wright *Cent Trustatis* Wks (S T S) I 8 Hym rud regrude to the wrek of thi warldis ar lustis of thar bodyis a 1568 Lyndsay in *Ivanahyne MS* (Hunt Club) 191/1 Ane wrecke will haf no man, That ane schirt schort at hend and feit, For all his wrek and wair

**+ Wreck**, *sb* 4 *Obs rare*. [Alteration of Wreak *sb* cf. Wreck *v* 4] Vengeance, revenge

1593 *Lloyd's Armory* 96 b, His trefoil heart straight bruded out with full wordes of wreck 1598 wreke] and reuenge 1596 Spenser *F Q* IV vi 16 Ah cruell hand, and hart lhat worket such wrecke on her

**Wreck**, obs. erron. var Reck *sb* 1 3

1797 B. Smith *Hudibras Hippi* III 30 Why did you raise me to the heighth of Joy, Above the wre k of Clouds and Storms below?

**Wreck**, var Reck *sb* 2 (= Rack *sb* 2 5 d)

1674 Ray *C & H Words Smelting Im* 122 The lead tin passes to the *wre k*, where they work it with a wooden rake in Vessels 1800 Miss Edgeworth *Game Forfeit* II, I had new models made of the sieves for tossing the box and trough the buddle, wreck, and tool.

**Wreck** (rek), *v* 1 Also 5–6 **wrek-**[f Wreck *sb* 1 Cf med l. *wracare* (12th cent.) ]

In various senses common only in passive use

† 1. *trans* To cast on shore *Obs*

c 1440 *Sir Amadas* (W) 473, Folke fordryvon in the schores, Bronne sydes, All maner of ryches, Wrekkyd with the water lay [= sliv (Camden), He fond wrekun a mung the stones Kaygres in mennesse] a 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 894 He say that lady whyte as flowre, Was wrekyd on the sonde *a* 1500 *Ichab First MS.*) *Comm* Var Coll (1907) IV 87 (Sezing them] as g sodes wrecked, which neit er can he may soo bee taken as long as the veray owners there if le certa ily known 1596 Spenser *F Q* v iv 5 A Coffer strong, seeming to haue suffred much like wrong by being wrecke vpon the sands 1799 Jacob *Law Dict* s.v., If Goods wrecked are seised by Persons having no Authority 1821 *Acts 1 Geo IV*, c 75 § 26 That Part of the Coast where the same [goods] shall have been wrecked, wrecked or found

**2.** To cause the wreck of (a vessel), to wreck (= ship), = Shipwreck *v* 1 b. Chiefly *passive*. Also *fig* and in fig context

1579 Lanbarde *Peramb Kent* (1596) 228 A shippe laden with the Kings owne goodes was wrecked within the precinct of this Hundred. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III vii 7 The ribs of vessels broke, And shiuered ships, which had been wrecked 1614 Raleigh *Hist World* v iii § 3 Number of Ships were wrecked by storms. Webster 1778 Gordon *Hist Amer.* (1776) VI 395 Brought into the European seas, in a most India ship that might be wrecked upon her return 1845 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol* II 200 The dislodge of my peace is wrecked on Beauty's rock 1846 Mrs. A. Marsh *Father Darcy* II ii 60 So bravely as we have struggled against being wrecked 1861 Wood *Illustr Anecd* I. 1 The vessel is finally wrecked 1865 H Kingsley *Hillyars & Burtons* xxvii, If the *Hermione* has sailed, she is wrecked somewhere on the coast

*refl* 1886 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 756 The full bark of ours, when sorely tried, May wreck itself without the pilot's guilt

**b** To cause or cause (a person) to suffer or undergo shipwreck, to involve in wreck. Also, to cause the loss of (goods or cargo) by shipwreck; = Shipwreck *v* 1 c. Chiefly *passive*

1617 Morryson *Itin* II 8 The Spaniards, last yeere wrecked on the Coasts of Connaught had left great store of treasure 1625 Lamentation *Spanish Lover* 1 *Aranzapotes* 14 A young Gentleman, wrecked in itself on his vnderage along the vnhospitable shore 1836 Marryat *Mesh Diary* xv, We were wrecked on this very last night 1877 Lewinson *Hist Id* II 3, Thy will unto him be done, for a night I have wreck'd mi 1903 S F White *Forest* viii, A big toller ripsaw[ing], or gunwale [of a canoe] You are wre ked

1838 Thirlwall *Greece* III 148 The rocks on which high hearts are wre ked 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed 2) 123 Hound to earth, Wrecked in the deeps of Heaven in Death's expiring throes 1847 Emerson *Poems, Threnody* 1 Pour'd wrecked on the rocks and quicksands of so lilly hues

1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxi, I'll answer for it going the unhospitable shore 1836 Marryat *Mesh Diary* xv, We were wrecked on this very last night 1877 Lewinson *Hist Id* II 3, Thy will unto him be done, for a night I have wreck'd mi 1903 S F White *Forest* viii, A big toller rips w[ing], or gunwale [of a canoe] You are wre ked

1838 Thirlwall *Greece* III 148 The rocks on which high hearts are wre ked 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed 2) 123 Hound to earth, Wrecked in the deeps of Heaven in Death's expiring throes 1847 J. D. Adams *Poetical Remains* 1 p vii, If he would not wreck his life amid the rocks and quicksands of so lilly hues

**c** *transf* and *fig* Newbery *Sonn Eng Life* 115 So may it be when st rms my life shall strand On treacherous shoal, May waves that wrecked reach out a pitying hand To aid my sorrow

**c** *transf* (see quot)

1617 Morryson *Itin* III 144 There be some quicksands, wherein footemen are in danger to be wrecked

**3** To cause or bring about the ruin or destruction of (a structure, etc) as by violence or misuse, to reduce to a ruinous condition in this way; to shatter, ruin, destroy

1510 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II 70 [He] maketh Fysh gathes & weeres by reason wherof the sid poyte is so wrecked, shrinked [etc] 1594 Spenser *Amoretti* lvi, That tree am I, whom 3 ic do wreck, do ruine, and destroy 1881 Shirley *Tapfast* x 370 Their tool, O Comet, Who did not the least of the fruit Universe Towards thine own toil, wrecked in that soul-mission. I have not ast ay 1865 *Fall Mall Gaz* 14 July 9 2 The mob commenced wrecking Conservative houses stoning one sick gentleman lying on his bed 1878 Bosanquet *Soc & Sessions* 34 The everyway external stream leaves it [as a rush] wrecked at last 1890 *Atlantic Mont Mead* VII 193 The joint is found to be completely wrecked

*transf* 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xii, How now? My Duke's crown wrecked?

**b** To cause or bring about the subversion or overthrow of (some condition or order of things), to shatter, ruin

1740 Smollett *Regicide* v vi O recal Those flatt ring arts thy own de ed employ'd To wreck my peace! 1791 Burns *Tam Samson* Ca'm thou wreck his peace for ever! 1802 in *Mem Jane Austen* 334 Her want of tact and judgment has wrecked the party 1858 Carlyle *Frede Gt* IV, Do not wreck, upon trifles, a noble interest we have in common 1881 Sir G. Trevelyan *Life* xxv very nearly wrecked a thousand.

**c** To frustrate or thwart, to prevent the passing of (a measure, etc.)

1895 Motley *Dutch Rep* v v, Every fresh attempt at an unjust le compromise was wrecked upon the obstinate bigotry of the leading ecclesiastic with whom [etc] 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb 7 2 The measure will it is pretty certain, be wrecked before it gets out of committee

**4.** To bring (a person) to ruin or disaster, to subvert, ruin. Also *refl*.

1590 Spenser *F Q* III ix 4 All his mind is set on mischefe To hoord vp heapes of evill gotten masse, For which he others wrongs and wrecches himselfe 1594 [see 3] 1644 *Ashton's Ans* 6 He resolves to wreck him, and that I have his life 1738 Pope *Ess Man* i 264 Let ruling Angels from their spheres be hurl'd Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world 1771 Scott (E. Pasdale) *Ode R A* 2 in Wks 1812 I 20 Despising Pride whose wish it is to wreck 'em

**5.** To shatter (a person's health, constitution, or nerves) by sickness, hardship, or the like, to destroy the quality or tone of. Usu in *passive*

1818 Robertson *Serm* Ser II (1859) 123 The drunkard discovers that he is unexpectedly degraded, his health wrecked 1897 Kipling *Capt Courag* 213, I wonder your nervous system isn't completely wrecked.

**6.** *intr* = 1. To suffer or undergo shipwreck, = Shipwreck *v* 2. Also *fig.* and in fig context.

1671 Milton *P R* II 228 Honour, glory, and popular praise, Rocks whereon greatest men have oftest wreck'd 1697 — *Nisroch* 1044 What Pilot so expert but needs must wreck Fimbarqu'd with such a Senate at the Helm? 1799 Herkeley *Lett* Wks 1871 IV 161 My letters were in one of the vessels that wreck'd 1866 Mrs. G Craik *Why I am Married* iv, With all her early impressions wrecking around her, she did not know to what to cling 1884 Lowell *Democ Vers* 172 The *montagna bruna* on which Ulysses wrecked 1884 Lennyson *Becket* II ii, Holy Church May rock, but will not wreck nor our Archbishop Stagger on the slope decks for any rough sea

**b.** To break down in health

1896 R. Bridges *Growth of Love* xiv, What is this wreck of all he hath in hef, When he that hath is wrecking?

**6 a.** To cause damage by washing *up*

1634 *Rotherham* (Yorks) *Te Ztes Accounts* (MS.), Plaid to The Sandall for paveing at the bridge where the water had wrecke up

**b.** To silt *up*, as with tide driven sand, etc

1786 in *Trans Soc Arts* (1789) VII 56 By a gradual, continual loss of out fall amongst the sands, and by the sluice on the marsh and other parts wrecking up

**7.** To seize or collect wreck or wreckage; to search *for* wreck Also *transf*

1843 *Times* 25 Mar 5/1 The news of the wreck spread rapidly ... and in the evening a large mob assembled with a view of 'wrecking' 1897 *Westm Gaz* 2 Oct 3/1 [Your job] perhaps, is to go "wrecking" for firewood Down upon the rocks the friendly tide sends its contribution of coal

**+ Wreck** (rek), *v* 2 *Obs.* Also 6–7 **wreake**, 6–7, 9 **reck**, 7 **recke** [Late variant of Wreak *v*; the exact reason for the shortening of the vowel is not clear, but cf. dial *brack* for Break *v*.]

1. *trans* = Wreak *v* 5 b. Chiefly *refl*

1570 Levins *Manip* 54 To Wreck, *vindicare* 1583 Babington *Commandm* (1588) 231 A y lnger commission is stretched vp to wreck our selues vpon our brethren 1618 J. Taylor *Comm Letters* 10 The me de and intention of the Apostle here was not, to wreke himselfe vpon them 1620 P. Hannay *Philumela* lxxxiv, The world shall know I was not slow I wreke a wronged mind 1670 Milton *Hist Eng* III 1881 V 242 They wreck'd themselves on the Countries round about wasting all Essex, Kent, and Sussex

**2** = Wreak *v* 3.

1598 *Ill & Dutty Man* iv § 31 It is a kind deuice of his inuentment (and n t a willing one to wreck his own rage) which [etc] 1632 Markett *Keh Iran* § 11 Being ready as on e to auenge his Concupiscence and wreck his Malice 1688 *Lancaster Hist Court Exchequer* 3 These Insufferable Grandees, who reck their Private Spleens

**b.** With preps., as *on, upon, against* (a person, etc); = Wreak *v* 3 b. Also with *out*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphr d*, etc. Q ij She sought me to wre k her husbands death 1583 Golding *Ovid Metam* II. (1corr 1611) II 151 With what greater plague can the vniust gods wreck the wrath and extreme rig ur vpon any man 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 25 That malice which he could n t there on easily wre ke on their Creator 1649 Milton *Eikon* xxvi, To wreck his spleen, or ease his mind upon the Parliament 1702 Rowe *Tamerl* IV, Give him Power to wreck his hatred Upon his Enemies 1712 Addison *Spect* No 439 ¶ [They] often wreck their particular Spite or Malice against the person whom they are set to watch 1777 Watson *Philip II*, I. 1 The King was determined to wreck his resentment on all concerned 1793 R Gray *Poems* 25 Some in the fray wreckt out his spleen On some sly prize or sawney

**3** = Wreak *v* 8.

1593 Marlowe *Edw II*, IV iv, For the open wronges and injuries Edward hath done to v, We come in armes to wreck it with the swords 1598 *Ill & Dutty Man* iv § 31 His Ialus sent To wrecke on them their fellies bardyment 1667 Milton *P L* IV 11 Satan came down To wreck on innocent frail man his loss Of that first Battel

**4** = Wreak *v* 8.

1564 Golding *Hist Iustin* (1570) II 93 There was no object on whom to wreck their vengeance *a* 1590 Henry *Britain* (1731) VI 419 They let out their own vengeance on their living, but on the ashes of dead heretics

**Wreck**, obs. erron. var. Rack *v* 1 2 c.

1737 G Sempill *Building in Water* 101 Splicing the long Sides of the Belts so as they may not wreck in dropping them down [Cf Wreaking *vbl sb*]

**Wreck**, obs erron. form of Reck *v*.

**Wreckage** (re·kedg) [f Wreck *v* 1 + -age 3.]

**1** The action or process of wrecking, the fact of being wrecked Also *fig*

1837 Carlyle *Fr Rev* II vii 13, Wreckage and dissolution are the appointed issue f both [ac wied m and folly] 1890 Cargoft & Bishop *Edin Lect* VI & *Ik Com Prayer* 272 A lively pi ture of the wreckage of ecclesiastical structures at the time [1548–9] 1899 Mackay *Life Harriet* II 201 There had been much wreckage of unverified beliefs and extravagant hopes

**2** Fragments or remains of a shattered or wrecked vessel, wreck

1846 Worcester (citing *Times*) 1867 *Morn Star* 4 Feb, A large quantity of timber, ship's spars, &c. The wreckage appeared to be that of a large ship 1882 F. Boase *Treasury Efficient* 1 The wreckage of the deck was covered with wreckage 1899 Doyle *Duel* (1900) 119/2 Some of the wreckage from those vanished vessels

*attrib* 1818 Shelley *Odes Fr. Hist* 23 His wreckage-spars, His harried ships

**b** *pl* Pieces or fragments of wreck *rare*

1824 Carlyle *Prodr Gt* xvii vii, A bolt shot into the storm tost Sea and its wreckages

**3** Material of or from a wrecked or shattered structure, a ruined fabric, building, etc.

1874 J Geikie *Gt Ice Age* xvi 208 The ice-current would leave upon their frozen shores the wreckage of the distant mountains 1891 Baring Gould *In Troublous*

*Land* viii. 222 They were the wreckage of a palace for princes. 1892 Doyle *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 103 The venerable wreckage of a feudal keep.

*b. fig.* Persons whose lives have been wrecked, who have failed to maintain a position in society.

1883 F. Perk (*title*) Social Wreckage; a Review of the Laws of England as they affect the Poor. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 6/2 Twenty beds are nightly filled by wreckage, more or less battered, from the straits of life. 1898 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 5/2 What a line of flotsam and jetsam it is!...that mass of human wreckage.

**Wrecked** (rekt), *ppl. a.* [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -ed 1.]

1. That has undergone or suffered shipwreck; destroyed, lost, or cast ashore by shipwreck; = Shipwrecked *ppl. a.*

1729 Woodward *Fossils* I. 116 The Coral found affix'd and growing upon wrecked Ships. 1799 W. Lee *Hist. Lenora* 247 It has...been the practice of many lords to keep the wrecked goods. 1818 Shelley *Rosal. & Helen* 394 Wrecked mariners, Who cling to the rock of a wintry sea. 1821 Scott *Pirate* vii, One wave...made the wrecked vessel completely manifest in her whole bulk. 1850 W. Irving *Mahomet* II. 283 Whether the old man...was one of the wrecked crulsers, or a wrecker, is not specified. 1869 *Daily News* 11 Aug., Throwing upon the holders of wrecked goods the burden of accounting for their possession.

2. Damaged or destroyed by wreck, violence, or disaster; shattered, ruined.

1818 Shelley *Julian* 224 Like weeds on a wrecked palace growing 1826 — *Maremghi* vii, Thou shadowest forth that mighty shape in story, As ocean its wrecked fanes: seven yet tender. 1865 Miles *Hermanets Eng.* ix. (1880) 250 Amidst the ruins of a wrecked church. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2821/1 Removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives.

*b. fig.* That has suffered wreck; brought to ruin or disaster.

1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 33 That most hateful land, [where]...my friends...live a wrecked life. 1852 G. Brimley *Ess.* (1858) 84 The incipient stage of madness, springing from the wrecked affections. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xviii. 302 He flung into lottery what was left of his wrecked estate. 1901 *Murray's Mag.* XXIV. 470/2 He was thinking of the old king with the wrecked mind.

**Wrecker** 1 (re·kəɹ). [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -er 1.]

1. One who causes shipwreck, esp. for purposes of plunder by showing luring lights or false signals; a person who makes a business of wasting time and plundering wrecked vessels; also, one who wrongfully seizes or appropriates wreck washed ashore.

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 27 The good people...thronged like wreckers to get some part of the noble vessel...driven on shore. 1843 *Times* 20 Jan. 3/6 Although the officers of the coast-guard keep a sharp look-out, considerable depredation was carried on by the wreckers. 1888 Farrar *Early Chr.* xxii, Cornish wreckers went straight from church to light their beacon-fires. *fig.* 1865 Thoreau *Cape Cod* vi, 105 Are we not all wreckers contriving that some treasure may be washed up on our beach?

b. One who wrecks or ruins a structure, institution, concern, etc.

1888 C. G. Walpole *Short Hist. Irel.* 441 The Defenders especially had begun to take the law into their own hands,...and were the terror of the country side. 1889 Gasquet *Hen. VIII & Eng. Monast.* II. 426 Like a swarm of locusts the royal wreckers went forth over the land.

*fig.* 1893 *American* 13 Lawyers and agents, who might be described with fairness as 'wreckers' and who generally manage to absorb the assets. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Feb. 10/1 As a wrecker of Cabinets Ireland holds a proud position.

c. *fig.* One who wrecks, or successfully obstructs the passing of a measure, etc.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 19 July 1/1 If...they are not able to reckon more than 8 Parnellite 'wreckers'. 1901 *Scotsman* 20 Nov. 8/4 The wreckers in the Senate claimed for America the right of fortifying the Canal.

2. *Stock Exchange.* = Wrecking firm (1st quot.).

1896 'E. Pinto' *Ye Outside Fools!* 359 *Wreckers*...those who make a similarly-organized attack as bears upon some stock, rotten or good,...and force down the price by large and successive sudden sales. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Jul. 8/1 The clamor of contending inflaters and wreckers at the stock exchange.

**Wrecker** 2 (re·kəɹ). Orig. (and chiefly) *Amer.* [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -er 1.]

1. A person engaged in salving wrecked or endangered vessels or cargo; a salvager, salvor.

1804 M'Kinnon *Tour West Indies* ix. 137 Those persons called wreckers, who are licensed by the Governor of the Bahamas, and cruise among the islands for the benefit of salvage. 1819 *Edwards's Hist. W. Indies* (ed. 5) IV. 225 The business of wreckers...consists in giving assistance to those who are wrecked, or in the danger of being so, upon the almost endless rocks and shoals [of the Bahamas]. 1851 *Rovings in Pacific* I. 173 Our own vessel...had heeled on to a sunken patch in the offing...It gave us wreckers a tremendous flight. 1893 Talmage *Old Wells* 213 The wreckers shoot a rope out to the suffering men.

2. A ship or vessel employed in salvaging sunk, wrecked, or stranded vessels.

1882 Webster, 1902 [see Wrecking *vbl. sb.*1 2]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 The Wreckers and Admiral Cervera's Vessels.

**+Wreck-free,** *a. Obs.* [Early ME. *wrec-frī*, f. Wreck *sb.*1 + -free *a.*] Exempted or free from the forfeiture of wrecked vessels and goods.

1209 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 153/2 Cum socca & sacca & thol & theam & infangeneth[ef] & wrecfri & witefri & lastagefri & locofri. 1278 *Charter to Cinque Ports* in *Rymer's Fœdera* (1816) I. II. 538 § Et quod habeant infangenethef; & quod sint wrecfry, & wytefry & lestagefry. 1598 Harluyt *Voy.* I. 127 (tr. quot. 1278). That they shall be wreckefree, lastagefree, and loucecofree. 1706 Phillips (*Wrecfry*) and in later Dicts.]

**Wreckful** (re·kfŭl), *a.*1 [f. Wreck *sb.*1 + -ful.] Causing shipwreck, ruin, or disaster; dangerous, destructive.

1598 Sylvester *Fr. Q.* vi. viii. 36 Straungers...which on their border Weir brought...by wreckfull wyndes. 1812 Scott *Lady of L.* v. i, The wreckful storms that cloud the brow of War. 1848 Mangan *Poems* (1903) 106 This dull world still slumbers...In a midnight dream, Drifts it down Time's wreckful stream. 1876 Tennyson *Harold* III. i. 51 A summer mere with sudden wreckful gusts From a side-gorge.

**+Wreckful,** *a.*2 *Obs.* [f. Wreck *sb.*3 + -ful.] = Wrakful *a.*1, Wrakeful *a.*, Wreakful *a.*] Full of, manifesting or taking, revenge; marked or characterized by vengeance.

1557 North *Guevara's Dial. Pr.* iv. xvii. (1568) 158 Per force my self dooth straine the wreckfull gods, vouch saue it doo not so. 1580 W. T. *Ld. Rosse's Ex. Comedy*, 56 If a man haue to deale with some manner of men which are wreckfull, of a strange nature, hard to please. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 709 The Rule in wreckfull displeasure...laid his Castle even with the ground.

**Wre·cking,** *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -ing 1.] 1. The action of destroying by shipwreck or causing wreck; the fact of having suffered wreck.

1775 Ash, *Wrecking*...the act of destroying by dashing against rocks, or at sea; the act of destroying by accidental means. 1851 W. Collins *Rambles beyond Railw.* v. (1852) 108 'Wrecking' is a crime unknown in the Cornwall of our day. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* 3 Wrecking was no longer permitted by public morality. 1891 C. Dawson *Anonymous* 46 Till drunk with wrecking's awful toil, Heaven smell him and Hurin smile!

*attrib.* 1885 *Jrn. R. U. Serv. Inst.* XI. 428/1 The Wrecking Steamer once practised on the English coasts.

2. *concr.* That which is wrecked; *pl.* wrecked remains.

1819 Singleton *Virgil* I. 200 The more vigorously all will toil To mend the wreckings of a fallen race.

**Wre·cking,** *vbl. sb.*2 *Amer.* [f. Wreck *sb.*2 3.] 1. The action or business of salvaging a wreck or wrecks.

1804 [see 3]. 1868 H. D. Grant *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 35 Wrecking has become a regular vocation for a considerable portion of the population.

2. *attrib.*, esp. in sense 'used for, or in connexion with, relating to, salvaging wreck', as *wrecking car, crane, outfit, pump, train*; also *wrecking law, operation.*

1804 M'Kinnon *Tour West Indies* ix. 144 Effecting an immediate escape in a wrecking-vessel from this wild and inhospitable spot. 1868 H. D. Grant *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 36 Copies of abstract of the wrecking laws. *Ibid.* 62 The harbour-master..., who formerly commanded a wrecker and now owns licensed wrecking vessels. 1875 Knight *Amer. Mech. Dict.* 844/2 Richardson's traveling-crane...is adapted for a wrecking-crane for railroad use. *Ibid.* 2821/1 *Wrecking-car*, one carrying devices for removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives. *Ibid.* 2821/1 *Wrecking-pump*, a steam-pump specially designed for pumping the water out of lighted or sunken vessels, in order to raise them. 1890 *Harper's Weekly* 1 Nov. 904/2 A wrecking train soon removed the débris. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 68 The wrecking outfit should be immediately available. *Ibid.*, Wrecking operations.

3. In sense 'engaged in salvaging wreck or wrecks', as *wrecking company, crew, expedition.*

1851 *Rovings in Pacific* I. 149 Bound on a wrecking Expedition. 1878 B. Harte *Man on Beach* 33 A wrecking crew dragged the vessel's stranded timbers upward into that tossed wearily beyond the bar. 1891 in *Leeds Mercury* 29 Sept. 12 Captain Merritt, of the Merritt Wrecking Company.

**Wrecking,** obs. erron. var. Racking *vbl. sb.*3 1. 1776 G. Sinclair *Hydrost.* (1797) 11 Wrecking the Timber ...be both firmly spliced and bolted together, to prevent their wrecking, swagging or dislocating.

**Wre·cking,** *ppl. a.* [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -ing 2.]

1. That wrecks; causing wreck, ruin, or destruction; destructive.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 228 [Industry] is in itself satisfactory; as freeing our mind from distraction, and wrecking invidious thoughts. 1819 W. Irving *Bracebr.* II. 21 The wrecking fury of the storm. 1880 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* Wks. (1912) 275 The moon, That poured her midnight noon Upon his wrecking sea. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 7/2 Playing a wrecking game towards the present Government.

2. Going to wreck; becoming wrecked.

1903 S. E. White *Forest* viii, A man...scaled the face of the moving jam, and reached the top just as the two sections ground together with a terrible noise of wrecking timbers.

**Wreckle,** variant of Wriggle *sb.* 3.

1816 Bingley *Usef. Knowl.* III. 225 Sand-launce, Sand Eel, or Wreckle (*Ammodytes tobianus*) is a small fish distinguished by its sub-shape.

**Wre·ckless** (re·klĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Wreck *v.*1 + -less.] That cannot be wrecked.

1822 Byron *Heaven & Earth* iii. 733 Hence to where our all-hallow'd ark upreas Its safe and wreckless sides!

**Wreckless,** obs. erron. f. Reckless *a.*

**Wre·ckling.** Now *dial.* [var. of Reckling. Cf. Wrecling.] A weak, puny, or dwarfish animal (or plant); *spec.* the smallest and weakest of a litter.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 330 It causeth it [sc. the vine] to seeme scorched and full of knots, yea and to grow like a dwarfe or wreckling. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* i. 48 When shee shoulde come to foale, shee would bring fourth nought but a wreckling. 1614 — *Cheap Husb., Swine* xi. 94 Take the wreckling, or worst Pigge, and annoint it all ouer. 1782 [see Reckling]. 1895 - in dialect glossaries, etc. (N. Cy. Nhb. to Warw.).

*attrib.* 1600 tr. *Pastor Fido* iv. viii. *M* 3 b, Too much I honour thee, poore weake and wreckling child.

**Wree,** Sc. variant of Wry *a.*2

**+Wreekes,** erron. f. Reaks (prank) *Obs.*

1626 Burton *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 5) III. ii. vi. iii. 515 Fawnes and Satyrs will certainely play wreekes.

**Wreest(e,** obs. or dial. vars. Wrest *sb.*

**+Wre·gling.** *Sc. Obs.* = Wrecking.

1679 in Wodrow *Ch. Hist.* (1828) IV. 501 What through grace he will make such a weak wregling able to endure.

**Wrehhe,** obs. f. Wreathe *v.*

**Wrei,** etc.: see Wray *v.*, etc. **Wreight, Wreight,** obs. ff. Wright *sb.*1 **Wreist,** obs. Sc. var. Wrest. **Wreithe,** obs. f. Wreathe *v.* **Wreitt, Wreitten,** obs. Sc. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Write *v.*

**Wrek,** aberration of Wrack *sb.*4

a 1635 L. Foxe *North-West Fox in Voy.* (Hakl. Soc. 1894) II. 380 In that distance building the same course, I was 1 d. 17 m. wrek from my true course.

**+Wreke,** *Obs.* Also 6 **reke.** [a. early ON. **wreke* m. (Icel. *reki*, Norw. *reke*), from the same stem as **wrek* neut. : see Wreck *sb.*1]

1. = Wreck *sb.*1 1.

1490 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 38 Every man here knoweth wel but he wreke is parrel of be enheritance of Ennynygton. 1497 *Paston Lett.* III. 213 Remembur your ryth of your wreke at Wyndesour. 1513 — Testament of wreke of the schyppe, worth meche mony. 1605 *Act 11 Hen. VII, c.* 34 *Preamble*, Wath wreke of the Sea and all other forfaitures. [1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII, c.* 28 § 1 Lordes marchers...shall have, hold, and kepe within the precincte of their said Iordeshipps...wreke de mere, wharfage.]

2. = Wreck *sb.*1 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wreke, of be see, *alga, nereza.* 1500 *Ortus Vocab.* Bill viij b/1 *Nereza, sex marris,...wreke.* 1548 Elyot, *Vlua*, reke or wedes of the sea.

**Wreke,** etc., obs. ff. Wreak *sb.* and *v.*

**+Wrekle,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [Of uncertain origin.] *intr.* To struggle or move about writhingly.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. Prol. 198 Quha is attachit on sik a stalk...Ma go no ferrar, but wrekle about that tre. *Ibid.* vi. iv. 114 First Sergest behind wone left his be, Wreland [L. *luctantem*] on sheild and wrekland of the sell.

**Wren** (ten). Forms: *a.* 1 **wrenna** (**werna**), 3–7 **wrenne, 5 wrenn, 5–6 wrene** (5 *pl.* **wreneys**), 5– **wren.** *β.* 1 **wrenna** (**werna**), 3, *Sc.* 6–7 **wranne,** 5 *Sc.*, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **wran** (7 **wrane,** 9 **ran**), *Sc.* 6, 9 **wran** (9 **vraun**). [OE. **wrenna** (also with metathesis **werna**, **wrenna** (**werne**)), = obscurely related to OHG. **wrendo, wrendilo**, Icel. **rindill**.]

1. *Ornith.* One or other species of small dentirostral passerine birds belonging to the genus *Troglodites*, esp. the common wren (jenny- or kitty-wren), *T. parvulus*, native to Europe.

In quot. c 1450 used in some allusive sense.

a 1795 *Compl. Scot. Gloss.* (Hewd.) 130 *Jurtrarsair*, wrena. a 1100 *Glois.* in W.-Wülcker 532/2 *Turtur*, wrenna, uel hicemaxe. a 1250 *Owl & Night.*, 564 (Jesus Coll. MS.), Hwat dostu godes among monne? Na nu þenne dop a wrecche wrenne [*Cotton MS.* wrenne]. 1277 *Ely Reg.* Bp. Kirkton MS. wrannes] her heo cube singe Par com...To helpe þare nyhtegale. 13.. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 107 Levere is the wrenne, Abouten the schowe renne, Than the filled mouse, Ober the floute craf. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 149 So that the litel wrenne in his mesure Hath yit of kinde a love under his cure. c 1440 Lydg. *Assem Wemen* 57 Ne be nat to presumptyf, the tirmo-elus,...have fre electioun To flyen...Wher-after lyste. c 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 573 Than shall the knyghtes of the rounde table go to avenge the deth of the wrenne. c 1500 Skelton *Pr. Apparrell* 60 The peacock was...That is our Ladyes hen. 1593 Marlow *Edw. II*, v. iii, The Frenne may strive against the Lyon's strength, But all in vaine. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Pastor.* I. iv. 3 As the Wren doth not only pledge, Fast by their nests hop up and down the hedge. 1632 Brinsley *Theoph.* I. xxviii, Shrubs cannot endure, nor wrens eagles praise. 1720 Ozell *Valerius Flaccus* 284 It was the fable tells us, that the wren mounted as high as the eagle, by getting upon his back. 1750 C. Smith *State C. Cork* II. 304 The Wren makes the first nest, and hatches and kill him is an antient custom of the Irish on St. Stephen's day. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 168 The wren may be placed among the finest of our singing birds. 1825 Wordsw. *The Contrast* 30 This inconsiderate shed, Where, early and dry, Harbours a self-constituted Wren. 1864 Bryant *Little People of Amer.* 21 A pleasant spot in spring, where even the wren was heard to chatter. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 688/2 The range of the Wren in Europe is very extensive.

*b.* c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 380 *Lutrarus*, werna. a 1100 *Voc.* Ibid. 576 *Regulus*, wrannes, *vel turannus.* a 1250 [see *a*]. c 1450 Holland *Howlate* 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit churle was. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 59 Brawne and wran ar namelye vsit in Ingland. 1823 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 128 Wrans are robin-riddicks. a 1892 in Hallis ell *Nursery Rhymes* 184 We'll hunt the wran, says Robin to Bobbin. a 1899 in *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. VII. 109 The wran, the king of all birds. 1880 91 in Antrim, Connwall, and Devon glossaries. 1899 Somerville & Ross *Some Exper. Irish R. M.* i, The carpenter...wished the devil might run the plumber through a wran's spud.

*Phrases.* a 1550 *Image Hypocr.* in. 105 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 434 As wise as any wrenne And holy as an henne. a 1598 Ferguson *Poems* (S. T. S.) 10 As sair fights wrannes as cranes.

*transf.* 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 70 [Stage direction] Enter Maria. *Toby.* Looke where the youngest Wren of mine comes.

*b.* With distinguishing epithets.

1638 W. Lisle *Holiestorus* vi. 87 A bird no bigger then...the lyttny Wren. 1648– [see Jenny wren]. 1808–14 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 128 *Sylvia troglodytes*,

Winter Wren. 1885– [see KITT† 9]. 1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 570 Wren. . Provincial[ly called] Vraun, or Ran. Cutty, Katy, or Kitty Wren. 1848 *Saunder's Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc.* The American House Wren (*Troglodites domesticus*), inhabits the whole of the United States. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* March 616/1 The winter wren (*T. hyemalis*), . a dainty little atom. 1904 *Brit. Mus. Lectures* 157 An example of the St. Kilda Wren (*Troglodytes hirtensis*).

**2.** Applied, esp. with distinguishing term, to various other small birds of the family *Troglodytidæ* or *Sylviidæ*, resembling the common wren in appearance or habits; esp. the gold-crest (*Regulus cristatus*).

Also *bird-*, *marsh-*, *reed-*, *rock-*, *sedge-*, *willow-*, *wood-wren*: see HILL *sb.*† 4, MARSH 4b, REED-WREN, ROCK *sb.*† 9 c, SEDGE *sb.*† 6, WILLOW *sb.* 3, WOOD *sb.*† Some provincial names are recorded by Swainson (1885), pp. 25 27.

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 287/1 The 'Carolina wren . (*Troglodytes Ludovicianus*), and the Marsh Wren (*Troglodytes palustris*). . are found chiefly in the vicinity of water. 1874 RAY *Coll. Words* Eng. Birds 87 The 'topped Wren: *Regulus cristatus*. 1900 [see TOPPED *ppl.* a. 2]. 1760 G. SMITH *State Co. Cork* II. 334 The *Regulus* or 'crested wren . is a smaller bird. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 583/2 [The] Golden-crested Wren . must not be confounded with the . rarer 'Fire-cre-ted Wren,' to be seen in Britain. *Ibid.* 583/1 This species is the . 'Gold crested Wren . and Kinglet of the modern British. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iv. (1870) 67 The twitter of the Golden wren. 1868 PEARSON *Brit. Zool.* II. 511 The small and delicate 'golden Crested-wren. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 170 The Golden-crested Wren is diffused throughout Northern Europe. 1830 BOOTH *Encycl. Dict.* I. 98 The smallest of all the British birds, is called the Golden-crested Wren. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 297 The 'golden-crowid Wren,' *Regulus cristatus*. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* 81, The feeble little golden-crowned wren, that shadow of a bird, braves our severest frosts. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 209 'Gold-naped Wren, *Motacilla elata*, . inhabits Cayenne in the winter. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s.v., Yellow Wren. . Provincial[ly called] Willow Wren. Scriptural Wren. 1938 *Gleanings Nat. Hist.* I. 98 The 'Ruby-crowned Wren. 1760 *Ibid.* II. 143 The 'Yellow Wren hath . been figured and described by different authors under various names, as Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 378 The yellow wren [*Sylvia trochilus*] frequents . places where willow trees abound from which it takes one of its names.

**b.** Applied to various Australasian species of wren-like birds (see quots.).

Also *emu-*, *jack wren* (see EMEU 4, ROCK *sb.*† 9 c).

1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* III. 28 *Malurus Cyaneus*, . Superb Warbler, Blue Wren of the colonists. *Ibid.* 32 The Striated Wren (*Amytis striatus*) ran with amazing rapidity. *Ibid.* 32–31, 39–40 [many species of *Malurus*, *Amytis*, and *Hylacola*].

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wren-hunting*, *-like*; **wren-box**, a collecting-box used by 'wren-boys'; **wren-boys**, in Ireland, a party of boys or young men, carrying a decorated holly-bush with a wren or wrens hanging from it, who go about on St. Stephen's Day singing verses; **wren-bush**, a bush used for this; **wren creeper**, a variety of treecreeper (see quots.); **wren-song**, the song carolled by the wren-boys; **wren-tail**, **wren's-tail**, an artificial fly for trout-fishing; **wren-tit** *U.S.* (see quot.)

1901 *Folk-Lore* June 131 A 'wren boy from the Pitt Rivers Museum at Farnham. 1810 in Croker *Researches in S. Ireland* (1824) 333 It is not right with the 'Wren to-day at all. 1844 CROKER *Ibid.*, A holly bush, . having many wrens depending from it . is carried from house to house with some ceremony, the 'Wren's' chaunting several verses. *c* 1855 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 4 9 Song of the Yorghal Wren-boys. 1872 *Jarrell's Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) I. 465 The dead bird, hung by the leg between two sticks, was carried about by the 'Wren-boys' [of Cork]. 1901 *Folk-Lore* June 131 [He] exhibited a 'Wren-bush from Co. Wicklow. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 537 [The] practice of carrying about the wren bush 'on St Stephen's Day. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 268 'Wren Creeper, . Size of the . Willow Wren. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* IV. 271 Wren Creeper, *Certhia troglodites*, . inhabits America. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* iv. 44 A wh le Parish running like madmen from Hedg to Hedg a 'Wren hunting. 1885 SWAYNOE *Prov. Names Birds* 36 Wren-hunting. [Particulars follow.] 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 10/1 It used to be a common custom . to make wren-hunting parties a feature of the season from Christmas to New Year. 1841 *True Chart. of Cause Bishop* 4 Witness his many Sparrow-ish, 'Wrenlike wanton extravagances. 1869 WORDSW. *Prelude* v. 207 From those loftiest notes Down to the lowest wren-like warblings. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* CXXXI. I'm nobody—a wren-like journalist. 1855 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 The 'Wren Song in Ireland. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *Northern Angler* 47 The 'Wren's Tail, . an excellent summer fly. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 245/2 The Wren's Tail . ; legs of a wren's tail-feather, used as a hackle. 1867 P. FAGG *Angling* 53 Insert the 'Wrentail, Brown Bent, Froghopper. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 38/1 Among the best of these are, the wren-tail, the grouse and partridge hackles. 1892 COUES *N. American Birds* 79 *Chamæidæ*; 'Wren-tits . much like a titm use in general appearance, . with the general habits of wrens.

**†Wrench,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1–2 **wrenc**; 2–6 **wrench**, 3–4 **wrenche**. *β.* 6 **wrinch(e.** [OE. *wrenc*, corresponding in form to OHG. *renki* twist, sprain (G. *ranke* bend, hollow), and in sense to MHG. and G. *rank* bending, turning, trick, artifice. Cf. WRENCH *sb.* and WRENCH *v.*]

**1.** A crooked, cunning, or wily action or device; a trick, wile, or artifice. Freq. coupled with *wile*.

*a.* c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv. § 1 Nauht ne derezað monnum mane awæs, ne þæt lease lof ne læsð mid þam wrencum

bewrixen. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* XXXVII. (1889) 136 On swa hwylcum wrence woda ænis swerixe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1003, Þa scoolde . Ælfric leedan þa fyrde ac he teah forð þa his ealdan wrencean. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 He fondede god self mid his wrenche. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Auh þis heie sacrament . ouer alle oðer þinges unwrihð his wrenches, & lureð[ð his strenches. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 163 Monymon wenep þat he wene ne þarf, longes lyues, ac him lyeþ þe wrench. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7711 He dredde hym of som wicked wrench. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 347 At þe laste Turgesius deide by gileful wyles and wrenches. 14.. *Sir Degrev* (E.) 2753 Þo þe dragoun cowþe noo more þe wrenche. *a* 1450 *Myrour. Life & Passion of Crist* 1060 Þere ne shal . No wrenches ne no fendes wyle Make þat swetnesse away to gon. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 231 All those thynges were wroughte by wrenches of wyked spyrytis. 1579 HANB *Answer out of Vernice* (1580) To Rvb. A iij b, The wrenches and wyles . that the lewde sorte of this people . doe . vse to gette money with.

*b.* 1330 PALSGR. 290/1 Wrenches or wyles, *chartiuerie*. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a vij, If we take not hede to prepare against his wrinches, it wyll ouerthrow vs all. 1548 HALL *Chronicles* 111, God forsweth what wily wrinches . they do commit frō day to day.

**2.** Without article: Trickery, deceit, guile; fraud. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2/24 Of is luper wrenche. . Four hondred & fyftene hondred he slou þere wiþ his spere (Percy Soc.) 44 He was stronge adrad 3ut of wommanes wrenche. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 438 She schette the dore, and set him anenche. Wil ye loos here of wommanes wrenche? 1566 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xxvi. 10 Their right hand with wrenche and wile for bribes doth pluckes and pull.

**Wrench** (renʃ), *sb.*[2] Also 5 **wrynche**, 6–7, *dial.* 9 **wrinch**. (*g. dial.* **wringe**, **ringe**); **wrench(e** *sb.*[3] q.v. **wrunch**, **runch**. [App. not a continuation of the prec. word, but directly based upon the verb.]

**†1.** *On wrench*, crosswise. *Obs. rare*[–1].

*Yc* 1460 *MS. Forkington* 10 fol. 58 (Halliwell), The vij. wyffe sat one the lynche, And ache caste her legge one wrynche.

**2.** *In pl.* Twistings, or the fact of being wrenched; a twisting or pulling aside, away, or out of shape; a violent twist or turn.

1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrenche, *torche*. 1618 BP. HALL *Contempt., O.T.* XII. 3, Gods iudgements are the racke of godlesse men: if they will not confesse then not confesse, let them bee stretched but one wrench higher, and they cannot be silent. 1725 JOHNSON, *Wrench*, . a violent pull or twist. 1771 LONDINUS *Spectator's Guide* 87 A Wrench is thus formed. *Ibid.* 88 Retire a little upon the second wrench. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xi, The little stone having been raised with one wrench of the iron bar, and with another . the wrinch of his shoulder. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iv, [The yacht] blessed round of a sudden, with an appalling wrench at the bow.

*fig.* and in fig. context. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxii, 128 The same reason wold . serue with one lyttell wrenche further, to take away þe wyse & wary from euery other man. 1607 SHAK. *Timon* III. 5 A Nolle Nature May catch a wrench. 1854 H. SPENCER *Illust. Universe* (1859) II. 167 Quite conscious that it is a strong wrench if that drags him out of so large a rut. 1878 BESANT & RICE *By Cella Parsonage* II. 111 *Wives & Daughters* (1866) I. 247 Then, with a wrench, changing the subject, . he broke out [etc.]. 1878 BROWNING *Ixion* 1 Such a wrench shall . bless each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

**b.** A sudden or sharp twist or jerk causing pain or injury to a limb, person, etc.; a sprain, strain. Also in fig. context.

1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrenche out of joynt, *debotement*, *dejoncture*. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxophil.* (Arb.) 49 If he haue a wrenche, or haue taken colde in his arme. 1576 H. WOTTON *Castell of Health* 1. 31 b, A wench let breake in time without perishing the flesh or skinne whiche couereth them. 1656 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 69 Every small Wrunch, or stepping awrie, is enough to put an ill-set Bone out of joynt. 1665 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 200, I have got such a wrench in my ancle. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 226 They haled him into the ship, without . any other injury than a wrench in his arm. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 70/2 A wrench in the constitution and wrenches to which the limbs of animals are continually subject. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xix. 134 They compelled the horses to . make a wrench of it. 1878 *Lancet* 1 Jan. 10/1 The wrench would necessitate a wrench. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* iv, She quietly gave a wrench to the neck of the young hope in her breast.

**c.** An instance of this in horses; also with *the*, as the specific name of an ailment.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtille Controv.* 301 Claribel supposing it hadde lain some wrench, commaunded his man to bathe the horse leg. 1676 BLUNDEVILE *Horsemanship* 59 The Cure to be . . .

Mountagu *App. Cæsarem* 319 Setting some rigorous Puritans aside, that like no Religion but one of their owne making,...there are few Calvinists...that will wrench at this. 1716 Gay *Trivia* III. 123 Should thy shoe wrench aside, down, down you fall.

*fig.* c 1540 Hamrole *Fr. Conse.* 1538 Some gase wrynchand to and fra, And some gaa bysyande. 1709 Hawes *Pract. Pleas.* xviii. (1845) 84, I can not wrynche by no wyle nor croke, My heart is fast upon no sure a hoke. a 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* I. x. xxii. (1636)82 A Church,...wherein were certain tyron-works, which with wrinching about gave an horrible sound. a 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 497 Rather then goe to law, to sit down by loss; and without wrinching forgo what was his due.

† b. *Fencing.* (See quots. and cf. Wheel v. 3.)

1772 Lonnegan *Fencer's Guide's* Index, *Wrenching*, is to disarm, by whirling off your adversary's blade, without setting any bounds to it, or shifting to any certain parade. *Ibid.* 88 When you parry with a Prime, wrench round into a Tierce.

2. *Coursing.* Of a hare, etc.: To veer or come round at less than a right angle; to rick.

1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 244 A deare...will[holde on the same waye, and neuer turneth and wrencheth as a Hare will do before the Greyhounds. 1686 B. Boone *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 98 's Sometimes the Hare doth not Turn, but Wrench; for she is not properly said to Turn, except she Turn as it were round, and two Wrenches make a Turn. 1753 *Chambers's Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Coursing*, If the hare turn very quite about, she only *wrencheth*, in the sportsman's phrase. 1839 *Laws of Coursing* in Youatt *Dog* (1845) 262 If a dog drawn the flesk from the hare, and causes her to wrench or rick only.

II. 3. *trans.* To twist or turn (a thing) forcibly or with effort; to jerk or pull with a violent twist; — Wrest v. 1. Also with *advs.*, as *about, round.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Þeos ilæhtres leoðð þet ne luuien seruen of non oðer gleo, buten makien cheres, & wrenchen mis hore nuð. *Ibid.* 220 Ich chulle wrenchen hire hideward ase hwo mest dredeð. 1390 Gower *Conf. Amant.* (Arb.) 146 Some will take theyr bowe and writhe and wrinche it. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 41 Small seedes, whiche be as they were wrenched or writhen about. 1590 Thynne *Pourgat.* 27 Though shee coulde not treade right, yet wrinche her shooe inward. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. xii. 444 The wood of such great plants, doth plucke and wrinche the graft mightily. 1614 Jee Wrythe v. 5, 1778 Hutton *Math. Dict.* *Wrichcraft* 146 One [cart carrying corn] wrench'd Amy Dunn's House, upon which she came out in a Rage. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xiii, If you choose to call for assistance, I will wrench round your neck. 1825 — *Talism.* xxviii, Each strange and disproportioned feature wrenched by horror into still more extravagant ugliness. 1839 Bailey *Festus Silver. Syst.* I. xxxi. 422 The limestone of the principal branch is suddenly wrenched round. 1865 R. Taylor *Poets Trad. Ut. Highest Night* i. Winds, Seas, and wrenches of the forlorn That struggle when they stand. 1876 Swinburne *Erechtheus* 588 All her flower of body,...With the might of the wind's wrath wrenched and torn.

b. To tighten with or as with a wrest or wrench; † to tune (a harp, etc.) in this way. Also with *up.*

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* H ij b, Orpheus with thy Harpe in hande, Arion also..., Wrinche vp your strings. *Ibid.* M iij b, Playing...vpon their Harpes, wrinched and set to the highest note of the treble string. 1675 Knight *Gent. Mech.* 2253/1 The eye [of the spanner] is caught over the stud on the collar, so as to wrench it fast.

*fig.* 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. viii. 11 For thy Reuenge Wrench vp thy power to th' highest.

†4. *fig.* a. To draw or turn (a person) aside; to force *out of* the right way. *Obs.*

a 1200 *St. Marther.*, 4 Þet tu ne maht nanes weies , wenden me ne wrenchen nt þe wiðerwille. 1303 *Legg. Kath.* 124 Nes per nan þet mahte neauer eanes wrenchen hire...ut of þe weie. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47 Þeu crist. leue swa heare heurte halden to hinn, þat hare flesches eggelinge...ne weorri hare heurte wi, ne wrenche ham ut of þe wei þat ha beoð in gongen.

†b. To draw *out* or expel (temptations); to withdraw or shelter (oneself); to divert or deflect towards another. (Cf. Wrench v. 2.) *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 Swuch þeo temptatiuns beoð, i vleschliche soulen, wrenched ut soure vleschliche tentatiuns þeonne summe of þe uurme. *Ibid.* 292 Þet tu ne mellit þis scheld holden o þine hneorne, ne wrenchen þe þeruore. Ironmard þe deoflen ouer-wen. *Ibid.* 304 Sif þu seist þet þin unstrencðe ne mahte nout elles, þu wrenchest þine sunne o God.

†c. To misrepresent or slander (a person).

c 1340 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 137 Sef y am wrent in beore write, Thenne am y bac-bite.

5. To injure or pain (a person, the limbs, etc.) by undue straining or stretching; to rick, sprain, strain.

a. 1350 Palsgr. 789/1, I wrenche my foote, or any lymme, I put it out of joynt. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 235 A playster...upon places that be out of joynt or wrenched. 1611 Florio, *Storcersi la membra*, to straine or wrench ones limmes out of ioint. 1638 W. Lilly *Hist. Life & Death* 141 Hagues...with a fall Had wrench'd his leg. 1709 Swift *Direct. Serv.* Rules, You wrenched your foot against a stone, and were forced to stay. 1834 T. Mitchell *Aristoph. Acharn. & Equites*, *note*, To wrench the ankle. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxii, He ...came down on the pavement and wrenched his leg.

*fig.* 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xix. 204 Would it not have wrench'd and sprain'd his soul?

*fig.* 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 259 By wrinching their foote in drawing on their hose. 1583 tr. *Hutton Nerve's Gentilesse* 54 b, His foote...so were wrinched that he felt them not. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 78 If an Ox be wrenched and strayned in his sinewes. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 204 Leg out of Joynt or Wrinched.

b. To affect with severe pain, suffering, or anguish; to distress or pain greatly; to rack.

1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* vii. xv, Forthwith this frame of mine was wrenched With a woful agony. a 1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* vii. 872 Through the space Of twelve ensuing days his frame was wrenched. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 456 A spirit not my own wrenched me within.

*transf.* 1809 Wordsw. *Prelude* v. 321 Should the whole frame of earth by inward throes Be wrenched.

6. To pull or draw with a wrench or twist; to twist or wrest out; to force, turn, etc., by a twisting movement: **a.** With preps., as *from, into, out of, to.*

1576 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 Swiftlye they determind...too wrinche thee nauye too southward. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 288 Wrench his Sword from him. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 534 Turnus...Wrenched from his feeble hold the shining sword. 1730 Thomson *Winter* (ed. 3) 360 When Justice...Wrench'd from their hand Oppression's iron rod. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 201 Seizing his pistol, [he] wrenched it out of his hand. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 39 To wrench the rivets from my quivering wounds. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. i. 23 We wrenched out of the wall an iron hook.

*fig.* and in fig. context. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 14 How often dost thou...Wrench awe from fooles? 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 240 Those small faults,...Which like an Engine, wrench my frame of Nature From the fixt place. 1790 Burns *What needs this din* 30 Bruce...Wrench'd his dear country from the jaws of ruin. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dramat. Lit.* 13 Nor could he [sc. Shakspere] have been wrenched from his place in the edifice, without equal injury to himself and it. 1851 Hawthorne *Tw. Sev. Gables* xi. 83 To wrench it [sc. a fixed opinion] out of its grounds. 1859 Bp. Sumner *Own Times* xiii. 111, 281 His gift was that which wrenches success out of the very jaws of failure.

*refl.* 1818 Hogg *Br. of Lin* I. 9 Some of the *Br. Brunnen* 129 As if the corpse had wrenched himself once again into daylight.

b. With advs., as *away, off, out, outward, up*; *asunder, open.*

1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 364 Staying the midst of your sole vpon his horses neather iaw, wrinch the tooth outward. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. ii. 53 *Sec. Gent.* 'Tis like a coffin ... *Cerimon.* Wrench it open straight. 1639 G. Playtes *Pict. on Tongue* 1. ii. 14 In a spasme or convulsion, by violence wrenched open. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Oct. 5/1 They wrenched off cupboard doors to get at themselves the trouble of closing them.

*fig.* 1821 Hazlitt *Westerfolus* x. (1850) 174 The revolutionary tempest...has wrenched off of late our lords's understandings almost asunder. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* x, Were they up her natural feelings of home. 1868 Trowb. *New Zeal. Settler* 11 Events soon wrenched him from his filthy hands upon my will, Wrenching it backward into his. *refl.* 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, What he had in tow... sometimes tried to try to wrench itself away.

*absol.* (or *refl.*) 1912 P. A. Taylor *In Shadow of Bush* xxv. 277 At sight of us she wrenched free.

c. Without const. Also *fig.*

1565 Vallans *Sidr. Scant.* II. Starre v, Desire that never will be quench'd, Nor can be writh'd, nor wrench'd. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 1173 To wrench the Darts which in his Buckler light. 1713 [Oldfield] *Orig. Cauis Speculum* (1714) 34 Those two Nerves Hounds...Striving to wrench the Chain, Which did her tender Limbs to th' Rock upty. 1879 R. Bridges *Shorter Poems* (1912) 248 The lazy cows wrench many a scented flower.

d. To seize or take forcibly; = Wrest v. 4.

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. i. 63 They. put a barren Scepter in my Gripe, Thence to be wrench'd with an vnlineall hand. 1796 Southey *Joan of Arc* v. 48 Then the gallant Shouldhouse day from Oppression's hand he wrench'd By everlasting Justice! 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* v. vi, Wrenching from his hand A naked sword. 1811 Byron *Ld. Harold* II. lxxiii, Martineau *Ireland* vi. 92 Those from whose hands he had wrenched the means of subsistence. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* I. 32 To wrench from the reluctant hands of diplomacy exceptional modifications of those fatal treaties. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I. ix. 143 Spoils had been wrenched from Spain such as hitherto were almost unexampled.

8. *refl.* (a person) *of* something by wrenching or wresting.

1786 Burns *To Mountain Daisy* viii, Till wrench'd of every stay but Heav'n, He, ruin'd, sink!

9. To twist, turn, or change from the right or true form, function, or import; to wrest, pervert, distort. Cf. Wrest v. 5.

1549 Latimer 1st *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 29 Wrenching thys text of scripture after their owne phantasie. *Ibid.*, Wei wrench these words as y wre. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 89 Let his rime and concorde be true,...and not darke or wrenched by wrong writing. 1593 Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 100 Should impertinent secretes be revealed;...euery propoſition wrinched to the hardest sense? 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 51 These devout Prelates, for these many years have not ceas'd in their English writings and speaking the text c 1585 *Sonn.*, '*Cyriack, whose Grandsire*' 4 [He] in his volumes taught our Lawes, Which others at their Bar so often wrench. 1885 Cowden Clarke *Shakes. Char.* viii. 211 They proceeded to wrench that power to the restraining of all dissentients. 1877 Winchell *Reconcil. Sci. & Relig.* xii. 395 It is infinitely better to leave how God really did pro-ceed, than to...wrench our Bible to make it fit a misconception of facts.

†b. To derive (a word) by alteration *from* another. *Obs.*

1623 Cockeram *Eam.* (ed. 3) *to Lewie*, wrenched from *Lodowick*, which Ilius interpreteth, Refuge of the people.

8. *Coursing.* To divert, turn, or bring round (a hare, etc.) at less than a right angle; to rick.

1620 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxiii. 345 When each man...notes Which Dog first turnes the Hare, which first the other coats, They wrench her once or twice, ere she a turne will take. 1839 *Laws of Coursing* in Youatt *Dog* (1845) 262 When a dog wrenches or ricks a hare twice following, without losing the lead, it is equal to a turn. 1840 *Sportsman* II. 216 Wrenched by the one or other of her pursuers, she seemed every moment almost in the jaws of one of them. 1865 *Field* 4 Mar. 191/3 Rebe wrenched her hare half a dozen lengths in advance of Master Sweeney.

*absol.* 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 20 Gardenia shot in front, and...turned; she then wrenched and killed. 1885 *Field* 20 Feb. 272/2 Mr. Dent's dog went up for the kill after wrenching once.

†9. To drive, impel, or thrust (a weapon) with a twisting movement. *Obs. rare.*

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. i. 23 Scipio hath wrencht a sword into hys brest. *Ibid.* v. 322 He wrencht it to the pommel through his side.

†10. *refl.* To force (oneself) in among others. *St. Obs.*

1709 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 454 [Such] persons...in a time of party and division, get in where they ought not to be, and when they have wrenched themselves in, talk [etc.].

10. *absol.* To pull or tug (*at* something) with a turn or twist. Also *fig.* and *transf.*

1697 Dryden *Æneis* XII. 1132 Th' incumbent Heroe wrench'd and pull'd and strain'd; But still the stubborn Earth the Steel detain'd. 1858 Carlyle *Frederk. Gr.* IX. ii. 7 3 France has been wrenching and screwing at this Lorraine, wriggling it off bit by bit. 1885 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, He...then grasped the stone, and wrenched at it. 1891 Kipling *Life's Handicap* 245 The water snarled and wrenched and worried at the timber.

b. To come *out* by or as by wrenching.

1903 E. Childers *Riddle of Sands* viii, The lower screwplate on the stern post had wrenched out.

**Wrench**, obs. or dial. eron. f. Rinse v.

**Wrenched** (renʃt, *poet.* re·nʃ[ed]), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrench v. + -ed 1.]

1. Sprained, strained; dislocated.

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1586) 77 b a Wrenched or hurte in the ioinles, *distortus*. 1567 Gresham in *Harpsfield Life* (1819) II. 210, I wolde have waited upon you, but that my wrenched legge would not suffer me. 1654 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 73 Foot out of Joynt or wrinched Foot. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 87 Who never knewest...pang Of wrench'd or broken limb. 1893 Anne Page *Afternoon Ride* 69 Thirdly loosed the wrenched wrist.

b. Twisted, wrung. Also with *off.* Occas. *fig.*

1804 A. Morrison *M. Hewitt Investigator* 245 A trapdoor...six or eight inches square, with a wrenched half-wrenched-off bolt. 1908 A. Noyes *W. Morris* 63 There are wrenched hands and written lips in it. 1915 A. Reade *Forever Love & War* 38 From our tears...and wrenched hearts, Let some fair harvest arising.

2. *Prov.* (See quot.)

1891 J. C. Parsons *Eccl. Verse* 144 Wrenched Accent. —This term is used when the natural stress is thrown upon a syllable which would not ordinarily be accented.

**Wrencher** (re·nʃər). [f. Wrench v. + -er 1.]

1. A machine or instrument for wrenching or winging. *rare.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xiv. 1 89b Sourysche thynges here downe the meete as it were a pressour other a wrencher [*MS.*, wrynge]. 1832 S. Warren *Diary Late Physician* I. 360 Before proceeding to use our screws, or wrench here, we once more looked and listened.

2. One who or that which wrenches or twists. Also *fig.*

1847 in *Home Life Sir D. Brewster* (1856) 290 [Thou wert] The pillar of shine own beloved fanes; The wrencher of its chill and crushing chain. 1865 Dixon *Two Queens Chap. xvii.* 415 The wrencher of a civil institution to his own individual aggrandisement.

†**Wrenchful**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. Wrench sb.1 + -ful.] Artful, crafty, deceitful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 His wihtfule crokes, & his wrenchfule wicchecretes. c 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 840 Þe wrenchfule fes nt ...wið his wiles weorp ham ut nore of þa eorðe. 1340 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 84 Þu wrenchfule [*Titus MN.* wreth-wile]ful wikt! al for nawt þu prokest me to forgulen.

**Wrenching** (re·nʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wrench v. + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v xxviii (Addit. MS.), þe hond is greued...by wrastinge and wrenching of ioynles. c 1430 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 5 (Addit. MS.), Þe secunde techynge a comyn word of wrenchynge out of ioyntes. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 An other maketh a wrynching with hys backe. 1580 Baldwin *Horsemanship* 51 b, Of the wrenching of the shoulder. 1594 *Romeo & Juliet* (ed. 2) 17 Sometimes the Bone is...forced out of its place, but a little, or half, which is called Sub-luxation, or Wrenching. 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xviii. 318 By the Twisting (or Wrenching) of the Wheels. 1820 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i. 160 My cuirbing limbs Quiver with the anticipated wrenching. 1860 Dickens *All Year Round* 23 July 365 The sudden wrenching with which it came out of our boat. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll.* I. 159 The chairloters...declined to submit them to the unavoidable twists and wrenchings.

*fig.* 1555 Eden in *First Bks. Amer.* (Arb.) 274/2 Their racking, writhing, wrinching, and most-rowsly inturning of Gods holy scripture. 1583 Marbeck *Philotimus* C c ij, Whose false hart cannot lie the wrenching of my heart. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shakes Char.* xii. 91 No tyranny being equal to the wrenching of law for penal purposes.

b. *spec.* The action of rectifying a deformed foot, esp. by a foot wrench.

1896 Treves *Deformities* 415 Wrenching...may be effected more especially in this degree by manual force, and in the severer degrees by special apparatus. *Ibid.*, When wrenching is carried out with the hands.

†2. A gripping pain in the bowels. *Obs.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 124 Vexed much with writhing and griping in the bowels. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 442 The wrinings and wrinchings..in the guts or belly of a man or woman.

‖ 3. *attrib.* in *wrenching-iron.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 92 Give me that Mattocke, & the wrenching Iron. 1709 *Public Adviser* 6 June 3 The Thieves left behind them a Wrenching Iron, about two Feet long.

**Wrenching**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wrenches or twists; of the nature of a wrench. Also *fig.*

1618 GARRARD *Copy Eng. to* xxv. 315 Yet we have still gone forward, and could not see pull'd backe by any wrenching arme whatsoever. 1889 WALLIS *Text Bk. Sound Archit.* 90 The stem must be strengthened to resist the wrenching stresses. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xix. 248 He ..gives this wrist a wrenching twist. 1894 T. PINKERTON *Research* 192 the thought..gave him a wrenching pang.

Hence **Wre·nchingly** *adv.*

1884 L. MACBEAN *tr. Buchanan's Spir. Songs* 28 He was stripped and wrenchingly stretched out with cruel strain.

**† Wrench-milk.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **wrynche, wrynche.** [f. the stem of WRENCH *v.* Cf. OE. *wringhwæg* curd.] Curd.

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Cv, *Originium*, wrenche mylke. [1525 *Ortgala*, wrynche mylke.] 1530 PALSGR. 278/2 Wrynche mylke, *rongye* (read *rongeye*).

**† Wrene**, *a. Obs. rare.* [OE. *wræne* lascivious, libidinous.] Wanton.

c 1400 *Laud. Troy Bk.* 6600, I schal the telle hothe burdoun and mene, Nе be thow neuere so wrothe ne wrene.

**Wrene**, ME. var. of WREN *sb.*

**Wrenean** (renī·ăn), *a.* [f. the name of the architect Sir Christopher *Wren* (1632–1723) + -EAN.] Of or pertaining to, following or consonant with the architectural theories or practices of, Sir C. Wren; built by Wren.

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 132 The decorations of the Wrenean school of architecture. 1815 J. TOPLIS with Wrenean pedestals and balls. *Ibid.*, Whether it in the Wrenean, or any subsequent period. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/1 The exquisite gates which adorn the Wrenean terraces of Chelsea.

Hence **Wrene·anize** *v. trans*, to make Wrenean in character.

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 133 I..the lauthern is wholly Wrenianized, in so much with lights to each.

**Wrong**, obs. var. WRING *v.*

**† Wrength.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [repr. OE. type **wrengðu*, i. *wrang* WRONG *a.* For the formation cf. *length*, *strength*.] Crookedness; distortion.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 85 in *O. E. Misc.*, Danne gob he to a ston, & he bilieb þeron, bilieb til his bec leforn luueð þe wrenche forleren.

**† Wrenk**, *sb. Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **wrenk(e.** *β.* 5–6 **wrink(e, wrynk.** [Northern var. of WRENCH *sb.*] Cf. next.

1. = WRENCH *sb.*¹ 1. Freq. coupled with *wile*.

c 1385 *Metr. Hom.* Prol. 2 Þou filde þis gaste sa full of witte ..Þat al beates er red for man, Sa mani wyle and wrenk he can. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1360 þe world ..leris a man with wrenkes and wyles. 13 *Cursor M.* 13316 (Gött.), Na wrenkes [*other MSS.* wrenches] of þe maledigit Againes þir sal hause no might. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 69 With wrynkis and with wiles..I wend me my weys. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 37 For euerie wrink, for-suith, thow hes ane wyle. a 1500 *to Ratis Raving*, etc. 3 Thair wes nocht bot lesingis, wrink and wyle, of falsait. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxx. 42 In me..wes mony wrinkl and wyle. a 1508 MERSAR in *Raimarlyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 848/19 For every wrynk luk that ye haif a wyle.

2. Trickery, deception; = WRENCH *sb.*¹ 2.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 246 For falshed & for wrenk he forsoure þe land.

**† Wrenk**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **wrenke, wrinck.** [Northern var. of WRENCH *v.* Cf. prec.]

1. *intr.* To writhe; to turn *away*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17438 Bot þai erist þat rightwis es, .. A-wai to wrenk he dos þe wrang. *Ibid.* 19353 Pan be-gan þai wrenk [*Gött.* wrinck, *Fairf.* wrenche] and wrest, And for teme hate to grast.

2. *trans.* To turn aside, to divert from oneself. (Cf. WRENCH *v.* 4 *b.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26585 Pis ypocrites ..wald ai wrenk þair ain wites, For to sem pain self god and lele.

**Wrennian** (renī·ăn). [See WRENEAN *a.* and -IAN.] Built by, or in the style of, Sir C. Wren.

1853 *Ecclesiologist* XIV. 393 The gallery front of a Wrennian church of two orders, such as St. James's Piccadilly.

**Wreoen, Wreoclieu** : see WRY *v.*, WRETHE *v.*²

**Wrest** (rest), *sb.*¹ Forms: *α.* 3–6 **wreste**, 5–**wrest** (7–9 **rest**). 5 **wreaste**, 6 **wrenast**, *Sc.* **wreist**, 7 *Sc.* **wriest**, 8 **rist**. *β.* 4–5 **wraysst(e**, 5 **wraist(e.** *γ.* 5 **wraaste, wrastt**, 5–6 **wrast(e.** [f. the verb.]

**I. 1.** The action of twisting, wrenching, or writhing; a twist, wrench; a tug or violent pull; † a turn of a tuning-peg (quot. 1501).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3480 Pair sirst it was vn-stern stith, Wit wratlih wrestes [*Gött.* wraysstes] aiper writh. a 1400–50 *Alex. Cursasye* 26 in *Babees Bk.* 309 First to the tyght honde þou shalle go, Sithen to þe left honde by neghe þou east; To hom þou loghe withouten wrast. c 1500 *Promptorium Anglicum Kep.* (1809) IV. 406 Stoppide in the freytes they [*sc.* lutestrings] abyden the pynnes wrest. 1502 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* iii. 1 Their instruments all maist war fidilla lang, But with a string quhilk neuer a wreist ȝeid wrang. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 53 With the wreast of a Cok [he] was sure of a coolar: water spurting vpward. 1612 COTGR., *Torse*, .. a wrest, wrinch; wrythe, wrying.

1883 A. HENSCHEL in *Nature* 2 March 458 The time-rates of each of these momenta..are respectively angular moment or twist (of a force-couple) and tractive moment or wrest (of a motor-couple).

*fig.* c 1430 LYDG. *Lyfe of our Lady* (Caxton, f. 148a) I vill b, It cannoth hastes no lenger to debate That pain'd ben with the wraste of haste. a 1500 GARDNER *Orthodoxus Wks.* (Grosart) XII. 31 Loue, if it be ouerstrained, cracketh as the first wrest. 1838 S. HELLABY *Betrayal* 126 In the strong wrest of supplication, then, sole travailing.

b. Extent of wresting; hence, reach of capacity; stretch, strain. *rare*⁻¹.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* I. b, Thou wert chosen to make an Oration.., in which (hauing toyled thy wits to their highest wrest) thou [etc.].

† c. Without article. Twist or coil. *Obs.*⁻¹

a 1575 tr. *Fol. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 49 Thei haule for the moste paste long heare, withowte wrest or curle.

† d. The wrenching or spraining of the muscles; a sprain or strain. *Obs.*

1618 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superstit. Scott.* (1834) 118 [To make] a wresting thread, and give it in the name of the Father, Sone, and the Holie Ghaist,..to wald mak ony wrest of man or beast haill. c 1700 in J. Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1711). 60 It will be good against the Pine Of any Wrist or Strinzie. 1881 PAUL *Poets Prov. Aberdeen.* 15 Mr. Thomson then [ in 1698] being laid-rid by reason of a wrest in his ankle.

† 2. *fig.* An ill or evil turn; a trick. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1930 A mede hire alwey to ȝeue fer-fet, Lest þyn *Yonge Sauage* wreste. c 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 187 Than shall we wayte þam with a wrest, And make all wast þat þei haue wroght.

**3.** The action of wrestling, forcing, or straining the meaning or purport of words, etc.; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 169 b, By what wrest of Logicke doth Osorius gather habilitie of Freewill out of the holy Scripture, wherein..? 1640 *Spec. Bk. Assoc.* 1 They seke faule armure by wrest of scripture. a 1693 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 467 Where the witnesse of the holy Ghost is so manifest, and lacke of her corruption. *Ibid.* 726 It is..partly falsification, partly a wrest of the Scripture. 1699 [Sir. W. DAVENANT] *Answ. Nameless Catch.* 38 To picke quarels at words, by wrests and strcines, neither is pur pose nor to sense.

**II.** *techn.* **4.** *Surg.* A peg for tightening a ligature by twisting. *Obs.*

c 1370 ARDERNE *Practica* (MS. Ashm. 1434) fol. 4 In quo forsitan necessitate, anglice *wrest*, impunitur. c 1425 tr. *Arderne* 9 Ly midder of whiche wrest in be ouer ende shal be a litel hole.

5. An implement for tuning certain wire-stringed instruments, as the harp or spinet; a tuning key. Now *arch.*

In MS. sometimes erron. used to render L. *plectrum*.

a 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), pe towne of speking hymith wordes; as wrest [vaga wrest]..temperith pe strenges; so pe tonge smyteþ pe teeth. c 1425 in *Anglia* VIII. 299/1 It þis newe tymbre settiþ..hir hands and fyngers for a wrast, for is an instrument of organ-songe. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 A Wreste of an harpe or other lyke, *plectrum*. c 1460 *Liber Pluscardensis* (1877) I. 392 Sal we the mentral wryt? Yha, but lie bent and gruf thaim [*tr.* the strings]. 1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Poet.* (1568) Z vij, A harper wt his wrest maye tune the harpe wrong. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 38 His harp in good order vpon the wall hanging, his wrest tyed to a green lace, and hanging by. 1612 in *Halliwell's Ledger* (1867) 331 Wrests for virginals the groce, vi li. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 1 April, Going to the vyolinall maker, buying a wrest for myself to tune my tyrantle. 1668 *Ibid.*, 29 July, To buy a rest for my espinette at the ironmonger's.

1793 *Minstrel* I. 91 Beside it, suspended by a green lace, lie hung the wrest, by which it is tuned. [Cf. quot. 1575.] 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlii. A silver chain, by which hung the wrest, or key, with which he tuned his harp. 1831 H. NEALE *Poet. Rem.* I. 208 Tying his harp strings, and with his wrest or screw tuning them to the proper pitch. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 36 The distinctive badge of the harper is the possession of the wrest or tuning-key.

*transf.* 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Soune is..ys lape with pe wraaste [L. *plectrum*] of pe tonge.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 3 There lacked a wrest to the harpe to set all the strynges in a monacorde and tune, which was the vnyuersall consent betwene the kynge and..Elizabith. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 81/1 O let the longest Lauge be shortest Briefes In this discordant Note, and tune the Wrest. 1613 JAS. I *Reict. Sec. Parl. Conduct* 25 This small instrument the Tongue ..being kept in tune by the wrest of awe.

6. *Her.* The figure of a 'wrest' used as a charge.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. b, His crest a wrest in gowle, Sol. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 50/2 He beareth Argent, a Virginall Wrest sable.

† 6. a. An implement for wresting; a tool for turning bolts, nuts, etc.; a screw-key. Also *fig.*

1570 ROGERS tr. *Gualter. Sec.* (1578) I. 131 (16) Vice pynnes with a wrest for a field bedde. 1593 *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durham* (Surtees) 8 Two silver ..Candlesticks for two quyers ..to be vsed vpon Sunday with wrests. 1598 [see WRENCH *sb.*¹ 3]. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 4 The fellowship in feeling together is..a wrest that straineth and stretcheth benevolence to the utmost.

*fig.* a 1592 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) E 4, Faith is the key that shuts the spring of loue, Lightnesse a wrest, that wringeth all awry.

† b. A machine for hoisting or hauling weights. *Obs.*

1586 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 104 They deuised certayne engines or wrestes [Gr. μηχανὰς] to heaue vp stones from the grounde,..hauyng vppon each stayre a wreast.

† c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*⁻².

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 102/1 Wrest, is that by which Saw Teeth are set.

**7.** Special Combs., as **wrest block** = *wrest plank*; **wrest-pin**, the peg or pin round which the ends of the wires or strings of certain musical instruments are coiled; a tuning-pin (also *attrib.*); **wrest-plank**, the board in a piano in which the wrest-pins are fixed (also *attrib.* and *Comb.*).

1787 H. WALTON *Specif. of Patent* No. 1607, The "rest block, ..the damper .., and the rest pin..are made the same as they always are made in Grand Piano Fortes. 1783 J. BROADWOOD *Specif. of Patent* No. 1379 3 The Nuts going to which the strings are fixt. 1802 T. LOUD *Specif. of Patent* No. 2501. 2 The rest pin block. 1829 P. ERARD *Specif. of Patent* No. 5065. 2 The want of stability in the wrest pin plank. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 722/1 The tuning-pin screws..into the thick metal wrest-pin piece. 1799 J. SMITH *Specif. of Patent* No. 2345. 2 The Drawing..shows the "rest plank, trussed with wood. 1846 ROBINSON-YOUNG in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1847) IX. 78 The rest plank bridge. 1880 *Instr. Trans. Cerdo* (1885) 50 Piano Manufacturing:..Tuner. Tuner. Wire Maker. Wrest Plank Maker.

**Wrest**, *sb.*² *Agric.* Now *dial.* Also 9 **wrest, wrist.** [Incorrect spelling of *rest*, var. REEST *sb.*, by association with prec. and WREST *v.*] A piece of iron († or wood) fastened beneath the mould-board in certain ploughs. b. A mould-board.

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxviii. 190 The Ploughsheath, Wrest, Beam, Share, and Coulter: retain these names clearly in most parts. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agriculi.* 207 Any Plough. Having described the true form and cast on the Shield-board and short WREST. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 166 The earth of the furrow, in rising up from the fore part of the wrest, is received by the mold-board, and turned over suddenly. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agriculture* 6 March 1776 *note*, The wrest is..the piece of wood, which is fixed to *rovest* open and clear effectually the bottom of the plowfurrow. 1796 ROYE *Agric. Kent* (1813) 64 The furrows are opened with an old plough, having the wrest removed. 1804 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 408 The wrest or mould-board. 1887 PARISH & SHAW *Kentish Dial.* 191 *Wrest*, ..that part of a Kentish plough ..on which it rests against the land ploughed up. 1893 S. *E. Ir. Agric. Gloss.* (Ulster) *Rest* or *Rest*) of a plough, a piece of wood below the shield board, which rests the earth aside from the plough.

**Wrest**, obs. var. WRIST *sb.*

**Wrest** (rest), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wrestan**, 3–4 **westen**, 5 **-yn, -on**, 4–6 **wreste**, 4– **wrest** (7 **rest**); 6–7 **wreast(e**, 6 *Sc.* **wreist** (9 **reist**), 6 **wryst(e**, *Sc.* **wrist.** *β. north.* 4 **wraist(e**, 5–6 **wrayste.** *γ.* 4–6 **wrast, wraste.** *Pa. t.* 3–5 **wraste**; (also *pa. pple.*) 4–5 **wrast**, 5 **wraiste, wroste**; 4 **wraisted, wrastid** (etc.), 6– **wrested.** [OE. *wræstan*, = ON. **wræsta* (ONorw. and Icel. *reista*; MDu. *wreste*, Du. *wriste*) :—**wraistjan*, related to WRIST.

The northern forms with *ai, ay*, are directly ad. ON. **wræstr*.]

**I. 1.** *trans.* To subject (something) to a twisting movement; to turn or twist. Also as *absol.*, *about*, *away*, *round*.

a. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* xciii. 93 (Gr.), T..hine. on ða tungan sticaȝ, wrested him fæst woddor, and him ða wongan brieced. c 1205 LAY. 7532 Julius hit wraste & þat sweord mike feste. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Hone* 194 Hur fyngres ache wrast, be blod out brak. Sche tremblede. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xxiii. ix. (Bodl. MS.) fol. 248/2 Je pottle seiþ þat serpente wraste his owne white heed bakward. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 7310 (Trin.) Pe hede ben he bendis so Pat her chaules I wraste in two. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533 2 Wrestyn, and wrythyn a-ȝen, *reflecto*. 1548 EDWD. *Tutor pure mentum*, to vvhich is added the chyrvrgy 309 HARLIUS *Voy.* II. i. 272 A small rod of silver..which is wrested, so that the two ends meet. 1660 HOWELL *Flus Hawk's Her.* 148 A shoe is wrested and turned according to the fashion of a crooked or splay foot. 1676 MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. (Grosart) III. 253 The helliorope flower.. wrests its neck in turning after the Sun. 1709 *Spectator* No. 115 *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 193 A Rope..which they bring over the Top of all the loaded Sheets, and wrest it at the Tail [of each waggon]. 1862 E. THOMPSON *Poems* 50 He wrested o'er the rhymer's head that garnishing which he wrote.

*transf.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 105 Notwithstanding all these barres, within which he [*sc.* a mountain-range] is pent, twined, and wrested.

*fig.* a. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 9 Wraistyng þe skynne slayȝe be tewel & be lyppes of be wounde. 1570 *Pr. Pol.* xvi. 547 This Captyfe..shall be wronge wrast, or I wend away. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 203 To wrayste, *torquere*.

† b. To screw or turn (the pin or pins of a musical instrument) so as to tighten or tune the strings; to tune or tighten (a stringed instrument, its wires, etc.) by means of a wrest. Also with *up*. Occas. in fig. context.

a 1000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 82 (Gr.), Sum sceal mid hearpan sit his hlafordes fotum niðan, & a snellice anre wrastan, hætan scealleras. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* 186) 360 An harpe habbe þre partis, .þe ouermost in which ben stringis wrastid. *Ibid.* 341 And sonnee of trespasse azeyns hem ten [*sc.* strings] shal wraste his harpe to a-corde wele. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533, Wrestyn, *plectro*. 1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Z vj, The clasicord hath a tunely kynde As the wyre is wrested hye and lowe. 1581 PRITTE *Gonnage's Civ. Conv.* iv. (1586) 117 Our lyfe is like to instruments of Musicke, which sometime wresting vp the strings

and sometime by loosing them, become more melodious
1587 Greene *Tritam* ii, Silvestro had almost made Lacena
peesash, fearing if he wrested not the pin to a right key, his
melody would be marred 1615 Sweetman *Arraignm Wom*
19 As fidlers do their strings, who wrest them so high [etc.]
*fig.* 23 *R S Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath &
wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
†**d.** To put, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence,* or preps., as *off, out of,* and esp *from.*

a 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Blinde pe nekke he him nom, & wrast him adounrad al pat he hadde bihynde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 6195 Pe lyd vp sone bey wraste 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyytes myyte not wreste the rope out of his bond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3901 Pat wyf he wrast fro his arde eer
wrasted *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv 670 Hym from his
horn anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 33 From
her the wicked weapon he did wrest. 1656 Fuller *Worthies* iii (1662) 107 He also then assisted Henry Bull to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers, the Censer. 1698 T. Brown *Lett.* 33 Young girls should not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of difficulty 1724 C. L. *St Jaffry's Day* 37 Brisk Knockers strong, from Doors fierce wresting 1778, etc. [see Wrest *sb.*1 1821 Scott *Pirate* v. xxii, Exeter wrested the flask from her hand 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder
*transf.* 13 *E E Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath
& wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
†**3.** To pull, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence,* or preps., as *off, out of,* and esp *from.*

a 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Blinde pe nekke he him nom, & wrast him adounrad al pat he hadde bihynde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 6195 Pe lyd vp sone bey wraste 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyytes myyte not wreste the rope out of his bond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3901 Pat wyf he wrast fro his arde eer
wrasted *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv 670 Hym from his
horn anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 33 From
her the wicked weapon he did wrest. 1656 Fuller *Worthies* iii (1662) 107 He also then assisted
Henry Bull to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers,
the Censer. 1698 T. Brown *Lett.* 33 Young girls should
not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of
difficulty 1724 C. L. *St Jaffry's Day* 37 Brisk Knockers
strong, from Doors fierce wresting 1778, etc. [see Wrest *sb.*1 1821 Scott *Pirate* v. xxii, Exeter wrested the flask
from her hand 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou
from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder
*transf.* 13 *E E Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath &
wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
**3.** To pull, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence,* or preps., as *off, out of,* and esp *from.*

a 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Blinde pe nekke he him nom, & wrast him adounrad al pat he hadde bihynde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 6195 Pe lyd vp sone bey wraste 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyytes myyte not wreste the rope out of his bond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3901 Pat wyf he wrast fro his arde eer
wrasted *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv 670 Hym from his
horn anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 33 From
her the wicked weapon he did wrest. 1656 Fuller
*Worthies* iii (1662) 107 He also then assisted
Henry Bull to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers,
the Censer. 1698 T. Brown *Lett.* 33 Young girls should
not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of
difficulty 1724 C. L. *St Jaffry's Day* 37 Brisk Knockers
strong, from Doors fierce wresting 1778, etc. [see Wrest
*sb.*1 1821 Scott *Pirate* v. xxii, Exeter wrested the flask
from her hand 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou
from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder
*transf.* 13 *E E Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath &
wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
**3.** To pull, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence,* or preps., as *off, out of,* and esp *from.*

a 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Blinde pe nekke he him nom, & wrast him adounrad al pat he hadde bihynde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 6195 Pe lyd vp sone bey wraste 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyytes myyte not wreste the rope out of his bond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3901 Pat wyf he wrast fro his arde eer
wrasted *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv 670 Hym from his
horn anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 33 From
her the wicked weapon he did wrest. 1656 Fuller
*Worthies* iii (1662) 107 He also then assisted
Henry Bull to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers,
the Censer. 1698 T. Brown *Lett.* 33 Young girls should
not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of
difficulty 1724 C. L. *St Jaffry's Day* 37 Brisk Knockers
strong, from Doors fierce wresting 1778, etc. [see Wrest
*sb.*1 1821 Scott *Pirate* v. xxii, Exeter wrested the flask
from her hand 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou
from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder
*transf.* 13 *E E Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath &
wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
†**d.** To put, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with advs., as *aside, forth, off, out, whence,* or preps., as *off, out of,* and esp *from.*

a 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4309 Blinde pe nekke he him nom, & wrast him adounrad al pat he hadde bihynde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 6195 Pe lyd vp sone bey wraste 1387 Trevisa *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyytes myyte not wreste the rope out of his bond. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 3901 Pat wyf he wrast fro his arde eer
wrasted *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xiv 670 Hym from his
horn anon he wraste. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III xii. 33 From
her the wicked weapon he did wrest. 1656 Fuller
*Worthies* iii (1662) 107 He also then assisted
Henry Bull to wrest out of the hands of the Choristers,
the Censer. 1698 T. Brown *Lett.* 33 Young girls should
not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of
difficulty 1724 C. L. *St Jaffry's Day* 37 Brisk Knockers
strong, from Doors fierce wresting 1778, etc. [see Wrest
*sb.*1 1821 Scott *Pirate* v. xxii, Exeter wrested the flask
from her hand 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou
from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder
*transf.* 13 *E E Addl P.* B 1166 Pat wakned his wrath &
wrast hit so hyge, Pat fete I 1430-50 Lydg *Bochas* vi. 423
Of an harpe he herde the sueete soun. Which instrument
Wrested by an agayn to al gladnesse. 1584 Greene *Mirr.*
*Modestie* (1866) 79 The Judges by the power of the law
thought to wrest her vpon a higher pin. 1599 Nashe *Lenten*
*Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 232 Rouze thy spirites and wrest
them vp to the most outstretched spyry straine of elocution

† **c.** To put or set awry with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd Mus* 180 He cath do nothing else in musick but wrest & wring in hard posuts vpon a plainsong
1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* iii. 2 Do I heare a fine word now? wrest in that if you can by any meanes. 1690 C. Nesse *O & N Test* I 209 If the subtile serpent can but see
**3.** To pull

*Cra Con.* Som be wrestid there that they thyr ke on it forty dayes. 1700 Blackmore *Deborah's Song* 200 The earth with dreadful gripes was sore oppress, Which did its twisted bowels wrest.

**II.** †**8.** *intr.* To struggle or contend; to strive or wrestle *against* something. *Obs.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 [Heo] moten wrasten ayeanes [londunges] mid stronge wraeclinge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19353 (Fairf. MS.), Pan pat [*sc.* the Jews] wrenke and wraiste [*v.r.* wraist, wrest], And for pine pair telpe to gnaiste. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3554 I her bolder now so sore agein, That te dar not with hem wrast. 1548 *V. Nicholas Godly New Story* E iij b, For some wring & wrest to go backe again into Egypt. 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 377 Ane fischa in the nette, Ay wrasting and thrasting, the faster still is scho. 1590 Lodge *Rosalind* P 2 b, He that wrests against the will of Venus 1594 Nashe *Unfort Trav.* 118 She struggled, she wrested, but all was in vaine. *transf.* 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 447 The blessed state of them that dye in the Lord, in the meaning of which you wrest and wraple, like a snake.

†**9.** To force a way, make way with effort, find egress. Also with *through, out. Obs.*

*c* 1450 *Wirk's Festial* 1. 9 Pay bonden hym to pe crosse.. so hard pat pe blod wrast apon vche a knot. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1377 The timbre and the roffis shulde wrast. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 81 The faire Enchauntresse.. Tryde all her arts.. thence out to wrest.

†**10.** *Of* sound: To break forth. *Obs.*–1

13 *E. E. Hist. P.* B 1403 Sturnen trumpen strake steuen in halle, Aywhere by pe wowes wrasten krakkea.

**Wrestable**, *a. rare*–0. [f. Wrest *v.* + -able.] Capable of being wrested.

1621 Florio, *Torcevole*, wrestable, to be wrested.

**Wrest-bale**, *obs. variant* of Rest-bale *sb.*

1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 158 Another practice here, is to veil or wrest-balk at Midsummer.

**+ Wrest-beer.** *Obs rare*–1. (See quot.)

Perh. for *rest beer*, from the time it was allowed to lie before being used.

*a* 1654 Selden *Table Talk*, *Parl.* (Arb.) 81 Just as in brewing of Wrest-Beer, time's a great deal of business in grinding the Malt: then it must be steeped.. then they keep it a huge quarter when they carry it into the Cellar, and a twelve month after 'tis delicate fine Beer.

**Wrested** (rested), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrest *v.* + -ed 1.]

**1.** That has undergone wresting or wringing; twisted. Also *transf.*

1609 Holland *Ammianus Marcell.* 50 Bolts and darts discharged violently from the writhed and wrested stirings of a brake or such like engine. 1616 [R. Browne] *Spec. Prel.* II. v. 40 A wrested lie, and closely kept close the gate which led unto it. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph.* (1658) 72 The ache of a wrested joynt. 1656 J. Smith *Pract. Physick* 320 The Bone may alwaies remain wrested.

**2.** *fig.* Deflected or turned from the true meaning or natural application; strained, perverted.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 60 The bare wordes of the lawe, or a writhen and wrested understandinge of the same. *c* 1554 Hooper in *Coverd. Lett. Mart.* I (1564) 160 This iudgement of Paul is more to be followed, then al our own fayned and wrested defences. 1559 T. Brice *Reg Martyres* July 1557 D ij, When wrested law put him to death. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 32 So many wrested Scriptures, so many false conclusions. 1615 J. Stephens *Satyr. Ess.* 272 For he, wanting the humor of his wrested observance, falles away into ignorant silence. 1687 Attfarbury *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 48 Little wrested sentences of authors. 1729 T. Inwins *Cent Evangel.* 1330 Wrested texts of the Old Testament. *a* 1743 Savage *Life Sir R. Walpole* 133 New courts of censure & Explain'd, at will, each statute's wrested aim. 1868 J. Bruce *Digby's Voy. Medit.* Pref. p. xv, Opinions..raised upon wrested inferences.

**3.** Drawn out, taken or acquired, by force.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Non sponte cadentes lachrymae*, wrested teares. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. v. 24 Many wrested were, then such despight, he with strong to yield my wrested right. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 154 Vast confusion waites As doth a Rauen on a sicke-falne beast, The imminent decay of wrested pompe.

**Wrester** (re·stər). [f. as prec. + -er 1.]

**1.** One who wrests or wrenches; a twister; †one who tunes with a wrest.

1504 Cornish in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Z vj, Any Instrument myswrested, but hurt a trew song; Yet shame not the instrument y^e wrester doth wrong. 1547 Huloet's *Wyrs* wrester or wrythe, *extorquens*. Wryster and wryngar, *idem*. 1611 Cotgr., *Retordeur*,..a wrester, a retorter, a wrer backe.

†**b.** An implement for twisting locks. *Obs.*—1

1591 Greene *2nd Pt. Conny-Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 86 The Picklocke is called a Charme. He that watcheth, a Stond. Their engines, Wrasters.

**2.** One who wrests, strains, or deflects the meaning or application of words, etc.; a perverter, distorter.

1533 More *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 524 1 A false wry ther and wrester of holy scripture. 1560 Jewell, *Answ to Cole* I vij, A falsifier, a wrester, a scoffer of the Doctoures. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Phormio* II. ii. A troubler of good men, and a wrester of lawes. 1609 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 34 All such wresters and perverters of the truth. 1693 Hickeringill *Grey. F. Greyb.* 320 Antick foppish quaglers and wresters of Holy Writ. 1721 Attersbury *Serm.* (1734) III. 287 In the first of these Senses, these Wresters of it Bend and Warped the strictest Rule and Measure of their Duty. 1891 W. C. Wilkinson *Epic of Saul* I. 22 Those wresters of the law must feel the law.

*transf.* 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. vii. (Arb.) 166 To forbid all manner of figurative speaches ..as meere illusions to the minde, and wresters of vyrgil iudgement.

**Wresting** (re·stiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.]

**1.** The action of twisting, or turning awry; the fact of being wrested. Also with *off*.

1398 [see Wrenching *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1598 Elyot, *Torsio*, .. a writhing, a wresting. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 367 Branches which will not easily breake with wresting or playing. Ta 1600 *Montgomerie's Cherrie & Slae* 278 (Laing MS.), Ane fyache fanggit in pe nett, .. With wresting and thrysting, The faster slykis scho. *a* 1610 Healey *Epictetus* (1636) 79 In thy walkes thou hast a care to avoyde..the wresting of thy feete. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Distorsion*, .. a wresting or wringing several Ways. 1730 Bailey (Gol.), *Spasm*,..a violent Contorsion or Wresting of the Tendons of the Muscles. 1802 *Edinb. Rev. Mystery* x. 135 Never dreaming the wresting off [*sc.* of a staple] had been done beforehand.

*transf.* 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 480 The wresting of the Inquisition spoon.

†**b.** Adjustment of the strings of a musical instrument by tightening with a wrest; tuning in this way. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 342 Many men failen in pis wrasting [of a harp] & in gostly wrygyng aftur. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrestynge, *pinctura, plexura*. *c* 1500 *Proverbis in Antig. Repl.* (1809) IV. 407 Vse stay-singe in a Virginall, dothe abyde no wrestinge. It is no louse and light. 1530 *Palsgr.* 208/2 *Wrestyng of an harpe stringes*. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Pann Love* 26 b, When he with writhing and wresting had brought his hersse into tune. 1697 Harewill *Apol* II. ii. § 4 The wresting of a string too high marres the musick.

**2.** *fig.* The action of taking away or obtaining by force or exaction; extortion.

1611 Cotgr., *Extorsion*,..a violent wringing, or wresting of things from others. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 329 The wresting of the Kingdom of Poland from Papal Subjection. 1721 Bailey, *Extortion*, an unlawful and violent wresting of Money, &c. from any Man. 1853 Kingsley *Misc* (1859) I. 289 His wresting from her the secret which he had bought in his hersse into tune. 1897 Harewill *Apol* II. ii. § 4 The wresting of a string too high marres the musick.

**3.** *fig.* The action of taking away or obtaining by force exaction; extortion.

1611 Cotgr., *Extorsion*,..a violent wringing, or wresting of things from others. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 329 The wresting of the Kingdom of Poland from Papal Subjection. 1721 Bailey, *Extortion*, an unlawful and violent wresting of Money, &c. from any Man. 1853 Kingsley *Misc* (1859) I. 289 His wresting from her the secret which he had bought in his hersse into tune. 1897 Harewill *Apol* II. ii. § 4 The wresting of a string too high marres the musick.

**4.** *fig.* The action of twisting, or distortion, deflection of the meaning, interpretation, or application; misinterpretation; an instance of this.

*c* 1444 Pecock *Donet* 140 Preachers ben wonod to wynge oute of a worde alle maters whiche to hem liken, in wasting of alle holi Scripture. 1561 Daus *Bullinger, Decades Tetartus* II. 66 Blasphemouse bablynges and abhomynable wrastynges of the scriptures. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 473 He hath nothing [to say] but may reasonably construed on our side without any wresting. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxix. 528 It were an vtter wresting of the Text, to conuey it any other way. 1611 Speed *Hist Great Brit.* IX. xxi. 1000 A manifest perverting of Iustice, and a barbarous wresting of his Lawes. 1721 Atterbury *Serm.* (1734) I. 267 Expressions so bright and clear, as should prevent all possible Wrestings and Misconstructions. *a* 1774 Leigh *Lit. Not.* (1777) III. ii. 62 Among to find out such a sense of them [*sc.* principles of human reason] without violence or wresting, as may comi de or prove consistent therewith. 1818 Todd *Johnson's Dict. Daniel* i. (1376) 5 If a prophecy..admitted of no wresting.

†**3.** The action of contending or struggling; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 180 Be lowly not sollen, if words be unseemly, What wrasting may loose thee, that winne with a kisse. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 355 Their deply exercise then was a continuall wresting against the world, the flesh, and the Deuill. 1589 *Harvey Lett. Dancis* I. (1876) 5 If a prophecy..admitted of no wresting.

†**4.** Gripping or wringing pain. *Obs.*–1

1546 Phaer *Regim. Life* 59 In suche a disease, the glystre muste be greate in quantitie, or els yshulde make wrestynge & roumblynge in y^e belly.

**5.** *Comb.*, as †**wresting-vice**, **stick**, one suitable for or used in wresting or twisting; **wresting thread**, *Shetland dial.*, a thread wound or tied round a sprained or injured limb as a charm to effect a cure.

1568 W. Skinner tr. *Montanus Inquis.* (1569) 26 b, Hys armes..are knyt vnto verye stiffe and small sticckes, which afterwarde they straine with certaine stiffe wresting sticks or troncheons. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell* 9 The hangman prepared both hookes and wresting-vices 1616 [see Wresting *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1890 *Shetland News* 16 (Cent.) XV. 141 The 'wresting thread',..is a thread spun from black wool, on which are cast nine knots, and tied round a sprained leg or arm. 1893 R. M. Jamieson *Rambling Sk.* 122 When a person received a sprain the Wrestin Thread was cast.

**Wresting**, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That wrests or twists; in quot. *fig.*

*c* 1500 *Sir Degrev. Magnyf* 1608 Let your Lust and Lykynge stande for a lawe. Be wrastynge and wrythynge, and away drawe.

Hence **Wrestingly** *adv.*

1613 R. Yong *Drunkards Looking Glasse* A 3 b, But Love breaks forth,..And wrestingly, out of my wonted lymes, It makes me shuffle in these holding rymes.

**Wrestle** (re·s'l), *sb.* [f. next. Cf. Warnle *sb.*]

**1.** Writhing; twisting. The action of wrestling or struggling; the fact of being wrestled. Also *fig.*

1593 Q. Eliz. *Booth.* IV. pr. vii. 99 So ought not a wise man beare with greefe, & riines wrestil [1. *certamen fortunæ*]. 1596 Dalrymple *Pacun on Life* vii. His pange, And murd'ring wrestle, As..he hangs A gilbert's lasse! 1898 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VI. IX. II. 118 War in Italy, universal spasm of wrestle there, losing now the expectation of foolish mankind, 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 819/1 Their limbs gnarled and twisted as if they had won their places by splendid wrestle. 1915 'Q' *Nicky-Nan, Reservist* xvii, He paused, seemingly in wrestle with an inward reluctance.

**2.** A struggle between two persons, each trying to throw the other by grasping his body or limbs; also, a wrestling-bout according to rules; a wrestling-match. Also with *over, up*.

1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* I. 13 Corineus,..Whom in a Wrestle the Giant catching aloft, with a terrible hugg broke three of his Ribs. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* I. 1. Basil leaped the tilt-yard spread the larger space, For the strong wrestle and the breathless race 1864 W. Waterworth *Orig. Anglicanum* 198 Fondness for the wrestle and the race prevailed. 1893 Robinson & Gulick *Wrestling* 54 On the following day, the loser in the wrestle up proved victorious. *Ibid.* 85 Owing to some oversight on the part of the umpires, they decided it must be a wrestle over.

**b.** *fig.* A struggle or contest.

1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* iii. 4 Both parties in the wrestle professing earnest wishes of peace to us. 1885 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi III. 62 The body politic..straining every nerve in a wrestle for life or death. 1889 Horton *Gospel Entering Asswyte* 27 [Paul's] long wrestle with spiritual realities in the desert of Arabia.

**Wrestle** (re·s'l), *v.* Forms: a. (I **wrastlian**), 3 **wrastlen**, **wraestlen**, **wreastlin**, **wrestlien**, 3-4 **wrestlen**, 5 **-lyn**, **wrestelon**, 4–6 **wrestel**, **wrestil**, 5 **wrestele**, **wrestell**, **-tyll**, 5– **wrestle** (6 **wressell**). β. 3 **wrastlen**, 3, 5 **wrastelen**, 5 **wrastel(l)yn**, **-tlyn**, 4–6 **wrastel**, 4–5 **tele**, 5 **-till**, **-tule**, **-tyl**, **-tyll**, **-teell**, 4–6 (latterly *Sc.* or *dial.*) **wrastle** (6 **wrasle**, 9 **rassle**), *q. dial.* **wrastle**, **wros(s)le**) ; 4 **wrastil**, **-tly**, 9 *s.w. dial.* **wrastly**, **wrassly**. γ. 4–5 **wristele**, **-tle**, **wrystyle**, **-tel**, 9 *dial.* **wrustle**, **wrus(s)le**, **russel**. [OE. **wrxstlian*, frequentative of *wræstan* to Wrest, represented in the cognate languages by Norse. *wrassle*, *wrâstle*, MLG. *worstelen*, *worstelen*, 1 d. *wrostoln*, *frostoln*, MDu. *worstelen* (also Du.), *worstelen*, *wrastelen*. Cf. Warnle *v.*, Wrasle *v.*]

**I.** *intr.* To strive with strength and skill to throw a person to the ground by grappling with him; to endeavour to overpower and lay down another, esp. in a contest governed by fixed rules, by embracing his body and limbs and tripping or overbalancing him. Also with †*amen*, †*yfere*, *together*.

*c* 1150 [see Wrestling *vbl. sb.* 1]. *c* 1205 Lay. 1858 Brutus hine lette wið hine wrastlene bi-foren Brutus, Geomagog and Corineus. *Ibid.* 26999 Wrastlen were bræd-leden And wiðer-gome nakenden. 13.., *c* 1375 [see *b.* 3]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Wrestelyn, forcio, luctor*. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Engl.* ix. 14 So to gedre they wrestled longe tyme. 1503 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 238 To wrestle all manner of ways, as the custom of the commers. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 447 To wrestle in the games of Olympia. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 209 With professours of wrestling, to wrestle and to worke dust..for to wrestle. 1718 [J. Thompson tr. *Geoffrey of Monm.* IV. viii. 107 Two noble Youths..wrestled together, and afterwards had a Dispute about the Victory. 1791 *Cowper Iliad* xviii. 1215 Ajax..Challenged me, saying They should have wrestled yet again. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 290 A handsome sum of money has been subscribed to be wrestled for. 1889 W. Armistead *Wrestling* 183 The platforms at rural fairs where local champions wrestled for a fall.

β. *a* 1250 *Ancr. R.* 318 (MS. Titus D. xviii), Ich..bihuld oðe wraestling, oðer me self wraestlede. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7439 Ac he ouercom pe deuel, & adoun him caste, To gadere as hii wraslede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 111 Pise waste..a-gruccheð *Mor.* 3939 So lang pai wrastled [*Gött.* wrestled, *Fairf.* wrestelede] samen pare pat iacob was han hurt wel sare. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 8 Pipen he koude, and wel wrastle and shete. *c* 1440 *Gest. Rom.* xlii. 184 Pus pai wrastled togedyr, & pis man fell. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 320 He..take the kynge vp with both his armes by the waste, & wrastled togyder a longe tyme. 1548 *Patten Exped. Poesye* xix. 61 b, To shoote, to wrastle, to dooe any maunyes feate. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 [They] do wrastle. one and two with their hands. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Trophees* 668 Wee wrastle not..For painted sheep-hooks, or such pettie Prize. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 488 Ye Can be laying in the fourth wrestle; and I am strong enough even to wrastle. 1758 L. Lyon in *Mod. Yernls.* (1855) 33 [They] hopt and rassled together to see which would beat and our men Beat. 1795 Macneill *Scotland's Scaith* 1. 64 Will could rin or wrastle, Throw the sledge, or toss the bar! 1876–in dialect glossaries (Sc., Yks., Lanc., Som.). 1896 P. Graham *Red Scarecrow* 193 Learnin' her sons to boat .. and wrastle.

γ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3933 Sammen handlinges wristeld [*Fairf.* wrestelede] pai Al pe night, til it was dai. Ta 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1141 Wrothely they wristeld pise togeders. 1535 Coverdale *2 Macc.* iv. 14 To lerne to fight, to wrastle, & to put at y^e stone. 1869– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (*see wistle, wrussle, russle*, etc.).

**b.** Const. *with* or †*unto* (a person, etc.).

*a.* *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2804 Iacob, bi-lef for on be nist, .. And for wrestlede an engel wið. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. iii. 225 Wyle hym wrestyd pe angel. *c* 1440 *Gesta Roman.* lxxxiv. 14 Pat he shuld wrestell with Coryn. 1530 Palsgr. 736/1 Wrestell nat with me, for I wyll throwe the on thy backe. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 171 She wolde often times play and wrestle .. with the lyuinge chambertens. 1710 Steele *Spect.* No. 502 P 5 Were there a Scene written, wherein Penketeman should break his Leg by wrestling with Bullock. 1790 *Pilkington* II. 246 He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves. 1856 Kingsley *Herew* 163 He challenges all comers to wrestle with him. 1889 W. Armistead *Wrestling* 249 Sam Rundle..recently wrestled with Carkeck the American.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 Pe zeape wraistlare nimeð zeme hwat tuun his fere cunne rouni, pet he mei wraistlefi. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 515 Vor he scolde mid corineus wraistle be alde ipoȝt. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1708 A place to pleye, ordeyned Brutus, .. [for Corineus] For to wrastle wi þ pat geaunt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 476

Sche coupe eke Wrastel Wip any ponge man, were he neuere so wlyght. *c1440 Gesta Rom* lvii 373 Darste thou wrastill with me? *c1489* Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 365 He toke aymonet by the wast for to wrastle wyth hym *1530* Palsgr 765/1, I dare nat wrastell with hym, leste he gyve me a fall. *1618* J Davies (Heref.) *Mouses Sacr.* Wks (Grosart) II 41/2 O thou, whom Jacob wrastled with a space *1668* H More *Div Dial* I xxiii 93 Consider how many Spectres have been seen or felt to wrastle, pull or tug with a man

†c. *1382* Wyclif *Gen* xxxii 24 And loo! a man wrastlide with hym vnto the morwe.

**c** To struggle physically (*with* something) after the manner of wrestling.

*1589* Greene *Menaphon* (Arb) 56 This infant wrastling with snakes in his swadling cloutes. *1613* Heywood *Silver Age* III 1 Wks. *1874* III 190 In this Iouen sonne Wrastle with Iouen, and to tugge with Beroes. *1623* J Lanlon (Water P.) *Discon by Sea* A 6, Against the rugged waues, we tugge and wrastle. *1643* Howell *Twelve Trees Created* (1661) 94 Sins and wrastles with the foames waves. *1821* Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Lady G* B xxxii, With her in mimick war they wrastle; Beneath her twisted robe they nestle. *1844* Kinglake *Eothen* ii. 11 Thames, the "old Frost fellow that wrestled with us in our boyhood *1893* Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* 77 The hair is short upset and the strong man went down, unable to wrestle his remoreless foe.

*fig.* and *transf* *1398* Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xv (1495) vi, [Mercury is called] the god of wrastling, for he [= the planet] wrastleth with the foamie waues. *1603

a1100 in Napier *O E Glosses* 127/1 *Palestrum*, wrestlunge. *c* 1205 *Lay* 18791 Per was muchel folc at pere wrastlinge a 1250 *Owl & Night* 795 Ac ilume men gob to wraslinge a 1300 *Cursor M* 28596 At wrestely ge at wirky, send, I haf i *c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 8873 Wit wip wrasting, wit wip logging *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 548 Ouer al ther he cam, At wrastlyng he wolde haue alwey the pris *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* I vi 356 To se how pat pis Clyne Wald deid wip him in wrestlyne *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxv 390 He cought the kynge by the waste in auoy of wrasteiynge 1539 Bllot *Castle Helthe* 50 b, Wrastling also with the armes and legges dothe exercise it e one and the other 1562 J Heywood *Prov & Epigr* (1867) 132 The weaker hath the woorse, in wrestlyng alway 1613 Dekker *Strange Horse Race* Wks (Grosart) III 325 There could I describe what warlike Reeue the W de held with the Weauer there Wrastling Running Reuing 1644 Milton *Educ* 7 They must be also practis'd in all the locks and gripes of wrestling 1701 Collier *Ill Aurel* 125 The right Method of Living reacnil es Wrestling more than Dancing 1789 W Buchan *Dom Med* (1790) 41 The fatal effects of carrying great weights, running, wrestling, and the like 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past* III iii 124 The wrestling is only practised on the afternoon of St Bartholomew's day 1850 Maurice *Wor & Wor That's* (ed 2) I 126 Some say that Plato gained a prize for wrestling at the Isthmian games.

**b** With *the*. The sport of grappling and throwing, a contest in wrestling, a wrestling-match.

a1225 *Ancr R* 318 Ich biheold hit, & ofte wrastlunge & ofter fol gomenes 1297 R Glouc. (Rolls) 5675 pe wrastlinge betwene hem was sondeliche strong 1330 R Brunne *Chron* (Wace (Rolls) 1800 O pis clyf seate by, pat pe wrastlyng was ordeyned to be *c* 1400 *Gawayn* 190 Towardes pe wrastling he went, & pe kyng chide rade *c* 1430 *How the good Wif* 81 in *Babees Bk* 40 So pat pe wrastlyng schal be no schoyinge & cok 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II 154 The wrestling at sex it Jumps tide 1598 Sir W *Stanl* (1600) 324 This yeere was Tarlton at the wrastling 1603 Percy *Reliq* 28 June, Went to Moorefields and saw the wrestling between the north and west countrymen 1725 Pope *Odyssey* VIII 104 Then the champions with his strong a bound, Or former in the wrestling, press the ground 1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII 388 1 Leaping and running generally accompany the wrestling matches at games 1893 Rouse & Gilpin *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 189 He went to Newcastle, and won the wrestling there.

**c.** With *a* and *pl*. A wrestling bout or match

1393 R. Brunne *Hrandl Synne* 938 3if þou euer setst at swerde eyper tyng For to fi3t a wrasting *Hyt Is Folye* Karolles, wrasthynges, or 33 nour games. *c* 1400 *Melyn* 121 Ther was ther he seiden cried a wrastelynge *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 231 I haue many an holy dayes ha wrestelyngis, merkettys & feyris. *c* 1450 Cal rave *St Gilbert* 65 Ihes wed nit to renne to wrastlingis, beryingis and swech olor vnprofitabil occupacionis. *c* 1450 *Chron Gr Friars* (Camden) 6 Thys 3ere was one John Norwell slayne at Blakkethe at a wrestlynge 1578 H Worsop *Countrie Contentments* 37 Great preparation was made of singe plays wrastlings, and other manyfest pastymes *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xxiii 620 Peiides then set f rth Prize for a wrestling 1683 in *Verney Mem* (1904) I 335 Where the wrestlings are used to be in Coln. 1710 Fiin fields Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling* 11 [He] stood unrivalled in all the wrestlings.

2 The action of striving or contending, maintenance of resistance, opposition, or strife, on the part of persons

*c* 890 Werferth tr *Gregory's Dial* 320 Swa wæs þær þa seo wrestlung ymb Stephanum. *Ibid* 321 He þa ut forlet of Hahanan to sewenne & to wrestlunge, þæs & deadberes *a* 1400 *Metr Poet* (Pauses) Ephes vi 12 For 3oure wrastlyng is 3e nozyn princes 1523 Lo Berners *Froiss* I xxxix 54 Whan the warlyng endured a long space, but finally it is knowyn he was vanquysshed 1548 Udall Erasm *Luke* xvii v 19 b [To] make ye redy to this wrastling, if ye esteme the blessed rewardes of the gospell 1632 Litiigow *Trav* vi. 294 With sore Wrestling and preaching 1644 *Declar Lords & Comm* 23 Sept 9 Our writhing, and striving with that fierce and peremptory oppo nion *a* 1844 in Stanley *Arn* III ii 31 Their wrestling with civil 1883 *Knowledge* June 334/1 That heavy and subtle wrestling for position which distinguishes the first cl ss player [of chess]

*Irish* 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit* I 2 9 The river having with a great turning compasse after much wrestling, gotten out towards the North 1654 R Codrington *tr. Justine* IV 74 Has continued war and wrestling f the victor

*Fig* 1534 More *Treat Passion* Wks 1347/1 Hys catholike faithe euer continue shal whyle this worlde last, whyt wrestling soeuer the infidele & shall make 1611 Bible (A V) Heb Du Verger *tr Camus Admir Events* 227 How unequall is the wrasting between res on and passio in a weake spirit. 1893 Robertson *Serm* (1866) 45 Language which describes the wrestling of the soul 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Life as a long wrestling with unseen and invisible forces of grace.

**b.** The action of struggling or labouring

a1225 *Ancr R* 238 Al þus, 18ø wrastlunge *tprutad* wiptilunge] of tuncion, arneð þe bireste. a 1225 [see Wrestle *v* 3]. *c* 1450 *Myrr Church Festival* 61 And so yn wrastelyng, scho woke of hyr slepe 1563 Pilkington *Burnynge of Paules Ch* Many saint Williams h rse, wyth wrastlynge and wryinge vppe, saued himselfe and his master from drowninge

*fig* 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* Wks (Grosart) V 252 Which it will be no impeachment for the wisest to turne loose for a truesh, without any difficult wrastling with it.

**c.** The action of striving earnestly in prayer; an instance of this.

1728 Woodrow *Corr* (1843) II. 66a You have our prayers here, and the Church of Scotland has a share in your wrestlings. 1818 J Ivie Smith *Script Test to Messiah* I. 96 The 'wrestlings' of holy prayer 1900 A Meiklejohn *Druid's Island* viii, After deep consecderation, an' sore wrastlin' wi' the Almichty in prayer

3 *attrib* and *Comb*, as *wrestling article, bout*, †*game, -house, -master, -match, ring*, wrestling place, a place where wrestling is practised or held, † wrestling pail, a bout of wrestling; = Pull *sb.*1 3, wrestling school *Gr. Antiq*, = Palæstra q.v.

1714 Parnell *Jan Piny* 62 To make these †Wrestling Articles yet more strange they may be with a Reverend Universal 1866 Inzer *Night Turkey* II 237 [The ballads] treat of "wrestling bouts with Caxton 1596 Spenser *Ir-land* 44 Common Play challenge Calidore in "wrestling game. 1874 Symonds *Sk Italy & Greece* I The olives here tell more to us of Olivet than of the wrestling ground 1848 B G Walker *Arrispath, Clouds* III iii, This is the spirit which daily crowds the lagnios, and drives the †Wrestling houses! 1714 Parnell *Jan Piny* 58 Since the Dilettanti have been celebrated "Wrestling Masters 1820 J Mitchell *Antigallo* I 292 Say further what the wie ling master Instructed you *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 29 Feb 1667, A "wrestling match for £100 before his Majesty 1889 W Armstrong *Wrestling* 233 What a Lancashire wrestling match is like. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 533 2 "Wrestelynge place, *palestra* 1556 *Chron Gr Friars* (Camden) 18 At Clarkenwell at the wrestlyng place *a* 1598 Greene *Dob bon Doolie & Lone* Wks (Grosart) IV 218 Hath not Rollie inuented a thousand deuices to drawe a man from idlenesse, as Dancing schooles, Fencing houses wrestling places? 1890 Harper's *Weekly* 1 Sept 666/3 Pray you whose wrestling place is this? 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 2 This "wrestling pull between Corineus and Gogmagog. *Ibid* 3 Wrestling Pull 1903 III 46 The "wrestli g ring in Lincolns Inn Fields 1893 Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 52 [He] would not be quick enough to put many on the wrestling ring 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV I 290 The exercises of the troop in the "wrestling school 1823 Lockhart, *Gymnastiche, a* teacher of the Wrestling Science. 1893 Robinson & Gilpin *Wrestling & Wrestlers* 9 Old and roughly regarded wrestling science with keen relish. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D* xxvii, When he m "wrestling trim.

**Wrestling,** *ppl. a.* [f as prec + -ing 2]

1 That wrestles or contends, in various senses. Also *trans.*

a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II 532 As wrastling windes, out of dispersed wh I Befight themselues. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T* 2 Wks I 146 Your pens like wrastling Iacobs, striuing, tearing, and intitleable 1597 C. Middleton *Ram Hist Chin* 11 vi 38 His Father whome wrestling age had almost vnone layed along in his grane 1605 Z Jones *tr Leo's Specimens* 21 There was amongst the Greeks a Duell named the wrastling Duell *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xiii 380 All their stiall flies up in wrastling flame 1632 Lithgow *Trav* v. 165 If the lasting noyse of my wrestling voyce 1738 Wesley *Ps* xxiv vii, Thou the true wrestling Jacob art 1847 Tennyson *Princ*, vii, 266 The wrestling thews that throw the world 1884 Symonds *Renaissance Wrestling* 230 Wrestling men are impulsive beings 1892 W H Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* 366 How I saw and lost the noble wrestling bird (the Terutero)

2 Marked or characterized by strife or contention, or by earnest striving.

a 1593 Marlowe *tr Lucan* 909 His grane looke appeard The wrastling tumult 1620 J Peyton *Glasse of Time* I 50 That wrestling way opposed on both the sides 1719 Young *Busiris* I. i, Wrestling men are impulsive beings 1892 W H Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* 366 How I saw and lost the noble wrestling bird (the Terutero)

2. Marked or characterized by strife or contention, or by earnest striving.

a 1593 Marlowe *tr Lucan* 909 His grane looke appeard The wrastling tumult 1620 J Peyton *Glasse of Time* I 50 That wrestling way opposed on both the sides 1719 Young *Busiris* I. i, Wrestling men are impulsive beings 1892 W H Hudson *Naturalist in La Plata* 366 How I saw and lost the noble wrestling bird (the Terutero)

**Wrestler** (rest'), *sb* and *a*. 1 orms t. a. 1 wreoca, wreocea, 2–5 wreoche, 2–3 wreocche, 3–4 wrechche, 3–5 wrechche, 4–5 wreche, wrechch, 5 wreoch, 3–6 wreche (5 *Sc.* werche), 4 5 wreach (5 *Sc.* werch), 4–6 wretche, 5– wretch (6 wreatch); 4 wroche, 8 *dial* wrotch *B.* 4 5 wrich, wriche (wirche), wryche, 5 wryoche, 6 wryfche. *γ. Sc.* 5–6 wroche (5 warche), 6 wrotche, *Sc. dial rig* 9 wrotch. 1 *wræcca, wreacca*, 4–5 *wrecche, wrecch*, applied to the Devil; OHG *recchee, recchо*, etc, exile, adventurer, knight errant (MHG. and G *recke* warrior, hero) —OTeut. **wrakjа(n)-*, f the stem *wrak-, wrek-* see Wreak *v.* The contrast in the development of the meaning in Lng and German is remarkable.]

*A. sb.* †1. One driven out of or away from his native country, a banished person; an exile.

The M s instances are doubtful; they may be contextual uses of senses 2–4.

*Beowulf* 2137 Da wæs winter scaces, feger foldan bearm i fundode wrecca, gist of geardum. *c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth* ii. Da hiold he ic wreccа 3eo hutherlice song 15 sceal na heofende singan *a* 1160 *O. E Chron* (Laud MS) an 722, Ealdbrist wreccа gewat on Suðreze & on Sub Seaxe *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knight's Prol*, 48 Now thilke same wrecche hir semed wrecche in this desert of galle. *c* 1450 *Ludus Coventriæ* 26 Goo nyked vngry and bare foot , as wrecch in werldis pus wende *Ibid* 81, I wende as wrecch in wichoo way.

2. One who is sunk in deep distress, sorrow, misfortune, or poverty; a miserable, unhappy, or unfortunate person; a poor or hapless being.

*a. c* 1000 *Beowulf Metr.* x 38 Ne mæg mon æfre þy eð sunne wreccan his cræftes bemearnan *a* 1225 Wulfstan *Horn* VI (1883) 45 Wraccena rewfulnes is on heora hannum *c* 1275 *Lamb Hom*, 109 3if þe cristene mon bið sæcful, and 3if þe wrecche bið modi *a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 388 So heih 3eoue nes neuer iluuen to so louwe wrecches *c* 1275 *Sinners beware* 103 In *O F Misc* 75 Nu wenep ek þes wrecche þat he ne þurue recche. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 13564 Cowarde haip per no wrecche. 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 385 Mercy or almes is a wille of reliey nge of a wreche oute of his mysese *c* 1410 Hoccleve *Mother of God* 75 Modir of mercy, thenigme confort of wrecches all! *c* 1513 Barclay *Cæpon* (1821) 145 He was mylde and gracious to the poore, and marcyfull to wretches and nedy 1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* iv 87 Solomon the happy king of Juda, byeause of his idolatrie is of a soudeine made a wretch of all other 1623 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Discou by Sea* B 3 b, Poore wretches, which were it not for your charity would perish in your streetes. 1672 T. Hunt *Aboced Scholast* 340 If money do fail a wretch thou art *a* 1720 Prior *85 Songs* iii 8 She scorns to hear or see, The wretch that lies so low at her knee. 1756 Gray *Elegy* 59 The Wretch, that long has toil'd On the thorny bed of Pain 1810 Southey *Kehama* iv v, Even in the grave there is no rest for me, Cut off from that last hope, the wretch's joy 1855 Ld Granville in *Life* (1905) I 106 Being a bad ridden wretch I do not venture to disobey you 1868 Morris *Earthly Par* I 3 50 King, whom all the world hence forth shall know As wretched among wretches

*B. a* 1300 *Cursor M* 23104 (Cdmb.), Par sal stand on bas left side, Wrichis stand in wnkel wise, Pharis (A.) 3e ai Allas, wreche, how may i duelle? *c* 1330 in *Relig Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 63 God & man my spouse is—Wele aght me, wryche, to luf him dere. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 5693 Ay wrecche, ywhyder shal y fle. 1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xvi (Percy Soc) 65 Alas! I wretche and yet unhappy peke Into trouble 1590 *Hist. Jerv. Scot.* W de W 15310 Finally I beseche all to praye for me wrecche 1643 H Cogan *tr Pinto's Trs* 1 2 For myself, poor wretch, I went in my misery to Seuuel 1743 Young *Nt Th* iv 14 Imagina tion's foul, and error's wretch, makes it her slave. Which nature never made 1790 Cowper *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 24 Hover'd thy spirit o'er thy sorrowing son, Wretch even then! 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unbound* I 57 Wretch! He leans upon his crutch, and tells of years To come 1886 W. J Tucker *F. Europe* 36, I, poor wretch, in possession of nothing

**c.** Used as a term of address

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom*, 29 Weilawel wrecche, al swa eche þu mihtest smiten of þan 3ien heauedē 1225 *Leg A oth* 2090 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wrecche, at ich mihte wreken on þe, wrecche! *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 37 Ah, wrecche! þe care azan þi pinunge þe þen binimed þe mihtes sleges *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 3178 A I wreches vnwar, woo 3is in our hond! *a* 1500 *Pricke of Conscience* 1 *Ibid Vox* 1 O wrecche, þat þou art 437 Ye call þat poore man wretch, As thoughe ye hadd no reiche. 1618 Chapman *Odyss* xiv 503 O wretch of Guests thy 1 he hath stirr d My inside to this much hruih. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* v ii 34 Poor wretch, I pity thee.

**d** Applied to animals, birds, or insects

*a* 1300 *Fox & Wolf* in Hail *E. E. P.* I 66 The wrecche bineihe nothing ne wend, It is cold water 1530 Palsgr *Acolastus* 108 The hungree birds wretches we may call 1600 St Bryet *Countrie Farme* 628 Vpon them shall be fat tened mans boudens or bowes for to pleasure his small wretch [sc a silkworm] with all 1620 *Ld. Cromwell* iv 1 47 Who sees the Cob web intangle the poore Flie, May he like say the wretches death is his owne 1820 Keats *Nymphodia* xxvii, Soone away the Wasps doth goe, Poore wretch was neuer frighted so 1742 Pilling *Fr Andrews* iii iv, This was the second time this squire had endeavoured to kill the little wretch [a dog] 1784 Cowper *Task* II 20 Have was no sooner on shore than he listened to the sound of the purruers hanny was wonderfully pleased with the little wretch 1794 Robinson *Summer* 273 The wretch, in the act of fixing in the Wretch his cruel Fangs, Strikes backward 1820 G V Samson *Stats t Sent Londonderry* 210 As to the sparing of calves, there is a [cruel] superstition in the north as the wretch is produced, two persons pull it most forcibly

**e.** A person or little creature (Used as a term of playful depreciation, or to denote slight commiseration or pity)

*c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii 681 He that was full fierce and prowde haddie shame to mate w th so hull a wrecche 1598 Shake *Ham & Jul.* i. iii. 44 The pretty wretch left crying, & said I 1599 Heyton *Hesperides Manillia* ii, With these last words, Farewell good mistresse, the wretch is gone, and neuer shall the ghost. — *Scholler & Souldiour* 30 Oh 'tis a heavenly noise to heare the sweete wretch [—the nightingale] 1604 Shake *Oth.* III iii 90 Excellent wretch! Perdition catch my Soule But I do loue thee 1665 Pepys *Diary* 25 May, She being a good natured and painful wretch 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I vii, Had you exposed the wretch in the manner of some inhuman man 1784 Cowper *Task* iv 12 He whistles as he goes, light hearted wretch, Cold and yet cheerful 1820 Shelley *Hellas* 227 Swift as the radiant shapes of sleep From one another 1871 Morley *Rousseau* I 85, I saw my wife wantame The poor wretch in terribly zealous

**3.** A vile, sorry, or despicable person, one of opprobrious or reprehensible character; a mean or contemptible creature. Also without article

In very frequent use from *c* 1300.

*a. c* 1200 *Juliana* 351 Hyre se feond oncwæð wreccea war leas wordum mælde *c* 1230 *Hali Meid* 47 Pu prokest me to forgulten. & waldes warpe me as wreche i þi leuriste *c* 1290 *Gen & Ex* 1074 Dat folc vtreden. & noʒt wrecches of yuel blod 1340 *Ayenb* 25 Pus him iscemeð and him glorifieþ þe wre hne hi se hirte. 1382 Langl. *P Pl A* II 169, I wolde be wreken on þus wrecches but warchon so ille 1400 Hoccleve *Lat Unpit* 310 The feythles wrecheh how hath he him for swore *a* 1450 *Medit Life & Pass Christ* 1139 Wip rugged nayles þe wrecches wode Nailed him hard

to þe rode 1585 Phillpot in Coverdales *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 230 Vnto me moste vile, sinnefull, wicked and vnworthy wretch. 1588 Grafton *Chron* II. 337 These wretches entred into the Princesse Chamber, and brake her head. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Observ 4 Trvo fr. London to Hamburgh* C 4 b, [They] were amazed at the ingratitude of the wretch. 1629 A. Lovell tr *Thes vaffi Irom* L 104 The perfidious wretch Theseus abandoned the poor Ariadne. 1715 *Pas I am Instructed* 1 1, Wretch that I am, how have I lived, as without God in the world. 1781 Cowper *Table T.* 50 Let eternal infamy pursue The wretch to nought but his amlation true 1805 J. Turner tr. *Voy* xvii. (1813) 212 The wickedness of the wretch who would import a cargo of spurituous liquors into the Society Islands. 1855 Kingsley *Westw Ho!* xxiii, If I be wretch enough to give place to the devil 1883 D C Murray *Weather* 21, What wretched men were to be sure!

*B* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B x 78 þe wrecches [*Camb MS* wryches] of þe worlde is none ywar bi other *c* 1440 *Verb Myst* xxxi. 360 If any wight with þis wricche any werse wais werkin *c* 1450 *Merk Festivities* 2 He ys not but a wrytche and slyme of erth

*v* 1570 *Satir Poeme Reform* xxiii 118 Consume this wratche with Brunstane 1886– in Scottish glossaries, etc.

**b.** Used as a term of opprobrious address.

23 *Sir Beues* (A.) 1033 Brademond, olde wreche, Fetow come I-saune to fede! *c* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2905 Ye wrecches ! quod he wele ying ! Þitur þe-deth of þour duke quat deynes sowe to stryue ! *c* 1430 *Chev Assigne* 71 A, kowardes of laynds, & combred wrecches ! 1548 Patten *Scotarum* iv. V 3 Thou wretched person, thou wretche that thou art 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III ii 53 Tremble thou Wretch. 1779 Dr Fox *Cruise* I. (Globe) 93 Wret h ! look back upon a mis spent Life. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxiii. 248 Wretch, dost thou repent? 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I iii 90 Thou wretch ! Will no-ne among this noble company Check the abandoned villain ?

**c.** Used without serious imputation of bad qualities.

1588 Prior *Os vi*, Levelling at God his wand ring Gneas Laws to his Maker the learn'd Wretch can give 1834 Dickens *Sk Boz, Boarding-h.* I. He, the wretch of a boy's hand, as she inwardly called him 1849 Helps *Friends in C* I vii 159 A wretch of a pedant who knows all about tetrameters

**†4** A niggardly or parsimonious person, a miser *Obs.* (In later use chiefly *Sc.*)

1393 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 6203 Pe wrecche saue hys treasure spend, And wrie hym in hys bedde 1340 *Prompt. Parv.* 188 Or to sette be porses of be wrechches þei hi ne solle vp open to do elmesse *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T* 634 Yee thy richesses that men haue no cause to calle thee nother wrecche ne chiche 1390 *Gower Conf* III 211 He noght a wreche, nor skerche in 3our spending 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol 53 The wrache wais and wrings for this warldis vrelth. 1590 Percival *Spanish Dict.* Hugh Snayles all the vvynter season kepe theym within their shelles, lyuynge lyke a wretche *a* 1598 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron Scot.* (S. T. S.) II 318 All wrangis he did vnrycht he thair man nocht to hurd vp thair sitnr 1673 Wodrow *Corr* I. 23 (Jam.), *Fet valde avarus*, he is a great wretch

**†5.** A poor or paltry thing *Obs rare*—1

*c* 1390 *Prov. Hendyng* 40 Pe worldes loue ys a wrecche.

**6** *Comb*, as *wretch-like.*

1618 Chapman *Odyss* iv 961 Th' abject threshold [she] chose Of her fvire chamber, for her lothl reiose, And mourn'd most wretch like.

**B.** *adj* **†1.** Of persons: Poor, miserable, deeply afflicted, = Wretched *a.* 1. *Obs*

*a* 1288 *O E Chron* an 1131, þis wreccan muneccs lazon onbuton þam wealode a 1154 *Ibid* an 1137, Wreccae men storuen of hungær *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 125 Alswa baldelicche mei þe wrecchesta mon cleopien drihtin him to þeoden. *c* 1205 Lay 6556 Wha se hadde richdom, he hine makede wrecche mon 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4711 Ac þou þou wrecche be, woch measaunture Ab þe yhrogt in to þis stede. 13 *Cuy Warw* (A.) 1811 Sche was a wriche wiman Pat michel sorwe to wan an 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* vii xiii (Addit MS.), No man is more wrecche nojur hap more woo þan he þat hath an yuel wif 1418 20 Lyd. *Chron Troy* iii 1111 Alias I, woful creature, wrecched woman *c* 1450 *Merk's Festivall* 47 Penke how febull and how wrecche I is, when he ys bore 1556 Order *Antechrist* 158 I the wretche people thinke they haue holpen me 1596 Shakes. *J. Q* iii iii 30 It is the misery of a mat maketh wretch or happie

**†2** Of conditions, etc = Wretched *a* 2 *Obs.*

1531 *O E Chron* an 1131, Crist rnade for his wrecce muneces of Burch & for hire wrecce stede. *a* 1200 in *Prymer Ælfric's Gram*, etc (1838) 3 Ponne bið þet wrecc he hf tended 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 4904 Pet we after hor wreccb deep hor londes asunge *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 649 (Vnicf), Wende out of his louesome lande, in to be wrecche werlde þou gange 1583 G Babington *Commandm* (1590) 60 Yet see, ah wretch, and wofu plight, Thy goodnesse to mee fame paseth all matters to thee seruinde.

**†3** Despicable; vile; reprehensible. *Obs.*

*a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 103 Kiel mine wreche herte, be is rettred of his manifealde londinges *c* 1290 *Beket* 1906 in *S. Eng Leg* I 146 Ich dreede for mine wrecche, pat gultes þat worse worth þe ende 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 9021 Pe wrecche luiber giwes *c* 1330 in *Relig Pyrces Ant.* (1924) 53 I do hit chirche pes þou wrecche vnkinde, And to vs wrecche mi3ful, Pi wyt-outen ende 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III 33 Sardanapallus was a man more wrecche þan eny womman

**†4.** Of a paltry character, = Wretched *a* 3 b

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 315 Euer crowep þi wrecche crey þat he swikep nyht ne day

**† Wretch,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 wrecche, *Sc* 7 wrocke, 8–9 wratch. [f the sb.]

1. *trans.* To render miserable.

*a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* vii (1811) 300 Ye fore namyd bysshop contynuynge his tyrannyes, greuest ye bisshop of Wyrchester, and wretchyd nygh all ye londe

2. *intr* To be or become niggardly or parsimonious. *Sc.*

*a* 1598 D Ferguson *Sc. Prov.* (S T S) 10 As the cvrie riches he wretches [Kelly (1721) wratches] 1633 W Strather *True Happiness* 139 As the wretch wretcheth, the more he is enriched [1853 Trench *Proverbs* 104 the more the carle riches he wretches]

**† Wretchcock.** *Obs.* [Alteration of Wretchock, prob. by misprint in the text of Jonson, and adopted from this by Gifford.] = Wretchock.

1641 *B Jonson's Cupides Metamo* Wks 50 The famous impe yet, grew a wretchcocke [1692 wretchock]. 1816 Gifford *B Jonson's Wks, Masque* VII 371 *note*, In every large breed of domestic fowls, there is usually a miserable little stunted creature This unfortunate abortive, the good wives call a wretch[cock. 1817 — *Persius* iii 55 *note*, The poor pun y wretchcock in whom the good old grandmother sees the future son-in law of kings.

**† Wretchdom.** *Obs.* In 3–4 wrecche-wrecchedom, 3 -domm, 4 -dom, dam [f Wretch *sb.* + -dom.] Misery, distress; baseness.

*a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 232 Muchel godnesse hit is nuste knowen wel his owune wrecchedom, & his wucnesse *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfr* (1955) 10 Pi wrecchedom þe pede mone he wolde, of wrecchedome he is king. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 3113 In wrecchedom er now all went 13 . [see Wrretchedom]

**Wretche,** var. Wrecche *sb Obs.*

**Wretched** (re tsed), *a* Forms *a* 3–5 wrecched (*Orl.* 4 -id), 4 -ched, 5 -yd, -ed), 5 wrecchid, -yd (-ed, -yd); 3–5 wrecched (3–4 -ede, 3–5 -id, 4 -yde, 5–6 -yd, *Sc.* -it, yt), 5 wrechid, wreached, 6 wreiched; 5– wretched (5–6 -id, -yd, *Sc.* -it, 6 wretcehed). *β* 3–4 wricheđ (4 -ed, 5 -id), 4 wryched, 4–5 wrechid, -id, 5 wrycched. *γ Sc* 5 6 wrachit (5 wrochit), 6 wretchet, -eit, -it, ratchit. [Irreg f Wretch *a* + -ED 3. Cf Wicked *a* 1]

1. Of persons, etc. Living in a state of misery, poverty, or degradation; unhappy in distress or dejection; very miserable or unhappy.

*a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Dimne is wolde þe wrecchede muls an rewiche newelnin. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O E Hom* I 237 Ich wrecche wrecche, ich wrecche þu luuen for mee, weri and wrecched *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24517 Allas ! quat es me to ti3en ! wrecchidest of all ! 1340 Hampole *Pr Conc* 2418 Wrecched saul, what may tu say When þou parties fra be body away ? 1372 Chaucer *Lucr* 1 *Arc* 80 Pe wrechid Thebanes bretheren two Were slayne *c* 1450 *Myr our Ladye* 30 Soyre vnchaste of youre tender charyte to pray for vyle wrechyd synners 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii. Prol 58 (see Wretchedful *a*) 1538 Starkey *England* II i. 173 Pepul wych now lyu in idulnes, wrech;d and pore. *a* 1552 Leyton *Lamentacion* in Ayre I. 1. the wretched vnfortunate 1628 Fletcher *Prophetess* III i, We are no spinsters! nor, if you look vpon us, so wretched as you take vs 1647 Cowley *Mistress* xiii. Wretched I ! why, how could the wretched Widow do? 1705 Berkeley in Fraser *Life* (1871) 475 Man without God wretcheder than a stone or tree 1795 Southey tr *Heinel Letaue* II 258 A more wretched hand Groan'd under such a bitter tyranny Of a fierce demon 1829 Hood *Dream Fugene Aram* xiv, My wretched, wretched soul Was at the Devil's price 1858 Carlyle *Fredk Gt* (1872) I. 1 he poor exasperated Mother, wretcheder than and angriest of women. 1888 J Hawthorne *Fort Frolic* xxiv, A mountain of it can t make you one hair a breadth the happier if it wretcheder

*β a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iii. 2 Pre fendis þat beg lies wricched vsuries

*γ* 1568 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 24 We wrat but ā mouthe pure, Our sin lies vs forlorne

*b absol.*, in sing. or plural sense.

1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi 4 For wit dust is ended, the wretchid (Wyclif's Wks wrecchid) ben ? be vnhabitable in the loud fulnde 1576 Whetstone *Roche of Regard* 1 42 *marg.*, Poore distressed a griefe to the wretched. 1600 Shaks. *A Y L* III v 37 Whomsoe'er you murther that you insult, exult Oliver ouer the wretched 1732 Thomson *Autumn* 1198 Let these Inspire the wretched in the toils of law 1796 Miss Race tr de Stael *Delphine* iv, The del ght of hasting inside the wretched 1826 H. F. Cary *Dante Inferno* xi (1805) 306, I heard the wretched a groan, and di mourn'd the wretched's do m. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* ii, The wretched ly ik often mistake pictures for realities

*b* a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iii. 2 þe fendis þat beg lies wricched vsuries

*γ* 1568 *Gude & Godlie B* (S T S) 24 We wrat but ā mouthe pure, Our sin lies vs forlorne

*b absol.*, in sing. or plural sense.

1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi 4 For wit dust is ended, the wretchid (Wyclif's Wks wrecchid) ben ? be vnhabitable in the loud fulnde 1576 Whetstone *Roche of Regard* 1 42 *marg.*, Poore distressed a griefe to the wretched. 1600 Shaks. *A Y L* III v 37 Whomsoe'er you murther that you insult, exult Oliver ouer the wretched 1732 Thomson *Autumn* 1198 Let these Inspire the wretched in the toils of law 1796 Miss Race tr de Stael *Delphine* iv, The del ght of hasting inside the wretched a mad lessness

**† Wre·tchedhede.** *Obs.* In 3–4 wrecchede (4 wrocched ), 4 wreochid-, 3–4 wreochid-, 3–5 wreochidhede (4 -hed, 5 -heed) [f. WRETCHED *a.* + *-hede* HEDE 2. Cf. WRETCHEDHEAD.] The state or condition of being a wretch or wretched person; wretchedness, misery.

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvi. 41 [God] helped poure fra wrecched-hede *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (C.) 181 Pe feloun For to forsak this werdes winne Ful of wrecchedhed and sinne 13 *Cursor M.* 1141 (Gött.) Pat pu ill wreched hede [*Trin.* wrecched hede] Pu nal lede owt i ludhin nede *c* 1400 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 240 Whan yt lenk vpon my dede , Dede tornep into wrecchidhede

**Wretchedly** (re ɪ́sdlɪ), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a wretched manner.

1. In a miserable or unhappy fashion ; with great misery, discomfort, distress, or unhappiness, miserably

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9159 Quen he sa wrechedli had tint His heritage *c* 1330 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 842 Pus we bedly endes pe lyf [of vein glorie] MANNYNG (1839) 291 Pus lyven falle wre, bed liche, and ther eten but o nes in the day *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf* (1869) 57 Ari pou not poune wrecch li dnidid in pe sulf *c* 1450 *Myr. our Ladye* 2 Adam fel so wretchely in to synne 1538 STARKEY *England* 164 For lake therof [*sc.* food] many lyue ve ay wrechedly 1586 J. HEYWO *Dial.* iv. 1 (1598) 48 b, I ſyll death from this lyfe, did he wretchedly ſpende his time 1590 SPENSER *Faerie Queene* II. xii. 8 Ceast fallſh by ſon how wretchedly I stray 1667 COWLEY *Pict., Liberty* 87 Thus wretchedly the treacherous day in lust 1765 *Hanway Trav.* IV. 43 It is our lot to live so wretchedly situated as to be content with forty shillings *per cow per annum*, nett i point 1827 BYRON *Manfred* ii. 77, I can bear—I will bear the worst—but what others could not brook to dream 1867 M. ARNOLD *Jasmin* 176 His body In thy despite here mangled wretchedly. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I (1877) II viii 187 Arnulf drove him out to die wretchedly in exile.

**b** In a way suggestive of indisposition or bad health

1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* vi 232 Methinks I look so wretchedly to day! 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I. xiii, Though looking most wretchedly, she ate much.

**2.** So as to cause, or involve in, misery, distress, or discomfort

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5042 Pe wreche Pat pus were ded-li liche and dyd out of vre landel nde *c* 1450 *Myr. our Ladye* 11 199 Wretchelly caste oute from the gery of paradyse *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 223 b, The heppyn of syn vpon vppon wretchedly hath ouer throwen 1700 DRYDEN *Fables Dunyt* 8 July 1626, A ſure token that a wretchedly diſmoliſhed by the late siege 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 1 Pe pri mers were wretchedly ligh-ted.

**† 3** Sc. In a miserly or niggardly manner *Obs.*

1500 *Dunbar Lament* xvi. 21 Sum gevis to littill full wretchedly, That his gifts ar not set by

**4** Quralifying adjs (or advs.) To a distressing, vexing or unsatisfactory degree, deplorably, very badly, = MISERABLY *adv.* 5.

In the trivial use frequent from *c* 1830

1546 *Bale Eng. Votaries* i 76 They are wretchedlye blynde, I want of hyelyght to ſe the ſacred ſcriptures. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xix Wks. 1686 III 217 Sloth is a lasse quality the argument of a mind wretchedly degenerate and mean. 1698 STANHOPE *Epistles* I. iii (1700) 8 Both Error and Vice do ſo wretchedly abound *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 July 1676 The land all about wretchedly barren 1820 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 4 Miss Berry looking wretchedly ill 1831 *Mirfield Mem.* 5 Pe ſpring (1831) I 375 They are wret hedly off for speakers 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II 65 You will find it a wretchedly stupid letter 1859 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xxvii II 308 The hospitals were in a wretchedly dis rganised condition.

**5** In an inexpert, unsatisfactory, or crude manner, insufficiently, unskilfully, very poorly

1577 MORLEY *Ir. Doct* II 2 B, To do a thing wretchedly. *Furni. and quelque chose* 1581 PETTIE *Pleasy* 8 July 1656, A statue of Colus in wood, wretchedly carved 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I (Globe) 136, I made me a Suit of Cloaths wholly of these Skins. They were indeed wretchedly made 1727 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* III xxvii II 269 The capital was a small place wretchedly fortified 1778 E. HARWOOD *Disc. Christianity* 161 This edition wretchedly reprinted, Bristol 1690 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I xxxi 349 We are wretchedly prepared for another winter on board 1885 *Manch. Examiner & Times* 5 Oct., Governments have been wretchedly misled as to the facts.

**Wretchedness** (re tſednes). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being wretched.

**1** A condition of discomfort or distress caused by privation, poverty, misfortune, adversity, or the like, great misery or unhappiness.

In very frequent use from *c* 1350.

*a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conc.* 62 Pe depe of wrechednes and of wrechednes *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 67 Yet hath this bird Lesere in pryde pat is rude a ful good lyf in ese wurnes, and vnkik wrechednesse *c* 1440 *Gesta R. m.* vii 19 Thenne comyth vpon our lord, we enne pat he hath peyne of our wrechednesse 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Summer) 248 Yf they were in the abysmes of wrechednesse and myseryes 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 He cast hym out into the vale of mysery and wretchednes. 1598 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* (Globe) 614/1 Which they are weary of warres, and brought downe to extreeme wretchedness. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. iii. 18 In wretchedness deprived that I cemit to end it selfe by death? 1679 DRYDEN *Troil. to Troil. & Cress* 18 Sir, Consider the wretchedness of his condition. 1748 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 229 I thought, huſy thought I Struck (wretched e mer) how ver the leasing Past In guest of wretched ness perversely strays. 1760 D. WARR *Inq. Beatities Painting* 181 A ſe eminder of hopeleſs wretchedness, of consuming grief 1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks* (1850) 300 The manifold wretchedness to which the poor Irish tenant is liable. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiv, The great manufacturing town reeking with lean misery and hungry wretchedness 1887 BRUCE SMITH *Liberty & Liberalism* 625 What we call "wretchedness, unhappiness and sin" are the inevitable results of the gap which does exist between our powers and our aspirations.

*β* *a* 1300 HAMPOLE *Pater n.* 11 Pe dred of god is noght of wrecchidnes bot of noy *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (Rawl.) xxvi. 224 Pat lifle with grete wrechednesse and scantnesse

*γ* *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pearres of Age* 12 Wrechidnesse his [= has] turnyd al fra weil to vo

**b** A cause or occasion of misery

1382 WYCLIF *James* v 1 Do now, ye riche men, wepe ze, youlynge in youre wrecchednesse that shulen come to you *c* 1410 *Lanterne of Li.* 49 Pis a sorowful vanite & a greete wrecchidnes *c* 1450 *Myr. our Ladye* 11 243 How grete tormentes & how grete wretchednesses they gathen and hepe to theyr owne sowles. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. ii, Call not the Past Time, with all its confused wretchednesses, a lost one 1853 *Anger Asylum* (W. Y.) Dec. 4/2 To these vices is added now a new wretchedness, the vice of drunkenness

**2.** The condition or character of being base or vile, odious or contemptible, despicableness, meanness, baseness

13 *Cursor M.* 10887 (Gött.) Wedand sinne and wrecched nes Pul bremel es pis es *Ibid.* 17288 8–73 Als maket os who loued before pe dele & wrichednes, Als maket loued o hoc erst thorn hir grete godenes 1380 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 Jif ani bredir be falle in ani wrechidnesse pat he ne poueri ze it be nut on hymselue alone, thorwz his owne wrechednesse. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grand.* xlvii. 411 Pe more they loven wrech-ednesse, pe more they schenely thing 1535 *Coverdale Psalms* (Rawl.) 51 Therfor ye ought to conceyve the gret adversite that falleithe to us in only for our owne wrechednesse 1543 TRAHERON *Vigils of Charles V* xxvi 210 b Truely he alone full of wretchednes 1546 LANGLEY tr. *J. Frythe the In ent* iv 1 B ii, They returned to their old wretchednes and sinful abominacions 1617 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref. Wks. (1639) 2 Censuring other men in many things, but not perceiving their own wretchedness at all 1645 MILTON *Colasit* Wks. 1851 IV 345 The guilt of his own wretchedness 1649 — *Eikon.* Wks. 1851 III 340 Pulpit-stuffe hath been the perpetuall infusion of ſervility and wretche lnesse to all their hearers. 1755 JOHNSON, *Wretchedness*, despicableness.

**3.** The base reprehensible action , a vicious trait, deed, etc. *Obs.*

*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 171 Pei tellen lesyngis & wrecchidnesse of synnis *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 795 [Up] don so heigh a heighnesh wrecchednesse Ag ins franchise and gentillesse

**† 3.** Sc The state or condition of being miserly or parsimonious, niggardliness, miserliness *Obs*

*c* 1570 *Henry Wallace* viii 326 Thus ſawſt na Sotheroun for thair wretchedness Bot ſuffre he call hot wretchenes *c* 1590 *Sinclet* 1 287 Wrechines richt ſay Hath Rellmys mard ful deuil & barre 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxi 4 He that hes gold wil get riches And leva in to wrechidnes, He hes sorow to hes deil

**4.** The state or condition of being mean, sorry, or paltry; inferiority, worthlessness.

1810 *Naval Chron* XXIII 39 His seventh assertion is ſo circumſtantial of the wretchedness of his information 1828 *Sir* WEBSTER *Am.*, The wretchedness of a performance

**5** The fact or character of being uncomfortable or unpleasant; discomfort.

*a* 1856 BUCKLE *Sc. Scot., Everett—Night*, After a little conversation about the wretchedness of the weather. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 782 The grim wretchedness of the afternoon was a fit prelu le to Bar's.

**Wretchedness** *Obs.* Forms (see quots.). [Irreg. f. WRETCH *sb.* an l *a* + -FUL. Cf WRETCHEDFUL *a.*] Wretched, miserable, unhappy

1382 WYCLIF *Eccl* v 13 Wrecchful forsothe infirmyte ; what manner he caan, so he shal tunne ayen — *Rem* iii 17 Thou art wrecchful, and wrechful [1388 wretchedful], and poore, and blynd, and naked

**† Wretchhead.** *Obs* In 2 wrecceched, 2 4 wreo-, 3–5 wrecc-, wrechhede, 3 wrecchehed, wrechedde, 5 wrechehede [f. as prec. + HEAD, Cf WRETCHEDHEDE.] = WRETCHEDNESS 1.

Represented in the Ormulum by *Cc* or *ch*.

1154 *O. E. Chron* an 1137, Wes manure gast mare wr cecched man [*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 79 Pas pines bi-bi pet wreccehede] 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 79 Pas pines bi-bi pet wreccehede 1200 *Ormulum* 1. 1. 1.

***wreiði** (Norw. *wreide*; MSw. *wrælhe, wrædhe*, Sw. and Da. *vrede*), *reiði* (Icel, *reiði*, Norw. *reide*). A different OE. formation is represented by WRATH *sb.*]

**1.** Violent anger; = WRATH *sb.* 1. Also in the phr. *be* (= by), *but, for, of, in, on, through, with wrethe.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 21 And miððy ðerhrdon his eodon to haldanne hine, cuoedon forðon þætte on wræðo [L. *in furorem*] þecerred wæs. c 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 1190, Forþan hi weran intinga þare wræðe & was betwyx him & ðan cinge. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 Wel se deuel us wille a-cumbri þurch sonne...oþer þurh wrehe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 482 Lamech wið wrehe is knape nam. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 10049 Hogli in his noþer be wreth ne het, Hir tholmodenes it was sa gret. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 830 Leste thi wrethe first ouergon, Y pray the. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Agatha*) 121 In wyth spynyȝeraw bad gef hire buffetis, a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* (Thornton MS.) 209 (Halliwell), Thus thay fighte in the frythe, With waa wreke thay thaire wrythe. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 118 Haundeyn amgendryth wronge and wrethe. c 1440 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 73 But in nothynge thay myght acorde, & þegon to de pert, as in wrethe. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Wrethe, *ire, courroux, maltalent.* 1567 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 53 Sometymes through wrath, I forced was..To taste them all in peaces small.

*Personif.* c 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 824 Wrethe be-strode a wylde bore, and next hem gan ryde.

*transf.* c 1475 *Partenay* 231 An huge bore of merueilous wreth.

**2.** A fit or display of wrath; = WRATH *sb.* 2.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 865 (Dubl. MS.), Sir, lat þi wrethes all wende. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 117 Wrethis, hatredis, detracciouns mekely suffryr.

**3.** Of the Deity: = WRATH *sb.* 4 a.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 11 In alle sodfæstnisse] sint se ymbvoonded [L. *amputatur*]...wræðo din. a 1225 *Ancr. Riwle* (1853) 130 Ne mei nan folc...mucele wrethe æt godle þurh his sennе gilt. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27362 () þat sorufol dai o pain, ..þe dai o wreth, o quak and soru. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1 Þe wreth of God may we noght bide all: And his wreth at þe last sall with þam mete. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 291 þat tyme þat Egipt was i smyte wiþ God all myȝties wreth. a 1400 *Cleanness* 1147

**4.** Injury, hurt, harm. *rare.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 96 Wende thy waye ..To Charles..& he sall wreke thy wrethis alle. c 1440 *Bona Florence* 1613 Hyn owenhyn, hys nese, hyrase owt on blood, Forthe at the chaumbur dore he yode, For dredе of more wrethe.

**Wrethe**: see WRATH, WREATHE *v.*, WRIT *sb.*

**†Wrethe,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: a. 1 *Northumb.* **wreðan** (**wurreðan**), 2–3 **wreðen** (3 **wethen**), 5 **wrethyn**; 4 **wrepi**, 4–5 **wrepe**, **wreth(e**, 5 *Sc.* **wreyth**. β. 5 **wrethe**. [OE. *wreðan*, causative verb f. *wræð* WROTH *a.* Cf. WROTHE *v.*]

**1.** *trans.* Of persons (or things): To make angry; to vex, anger, irritate. = WRATH *v.* 2.

In frequent use from c 1100 to c 1400.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 107 Se cyng...miß ðy xiherdе wræðde & sende herȝum sinum. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 31 And wurðdе [L. *iratus*] hlafest his ȝesalde hine ðæm pinerum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Bute we inwarliche imilcien and forȝeuen þun monne þe us wrehð and sceandet. c 1190 *Beo. Med.* (1938) 38 For monþ þing schal ham wreaðen & gremien. a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* 197 Þet ich ðe wreðede sume siðe hit me reowð sare. 13.. *Shoreham* (*Wo.*) 261 Sir, ye ar wrethed wrang: That sal ye wit wele or I gang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 45 Gif he tuk till his helping, Ane or othir auld wrethe wrocht. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 109 Gal..no man refuseth, haue he neuer so myche hyin wrethid. c 1475 *Partenay* 2856 More neuer no was woer..Then off that he hade wrethed so Raymounde.

**b.** *refl.* To wax angry; = WRATH *v.* 3.

c 1205 LAY. 9214 Þe kaisere hine wrædde, þe wurs him wes on heorte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18221 Wit þis can iesus him to wreth. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 118. 12 God is rightwis inge i..he wrethis him noght ilk day. c 1400 *Vsuard's Gatto* 995 For na thing that thou mai sayn, Wil i me wreth. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. xxxii. (1869) 153 Nature wolde wrethe hire if sche myȝte.

**c.** *impers.* = ANGER *v.* 2 b.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4639 Or ellis yow writhis with sour wele, for so na wrethi haue I.

**2.** *intr.* To become or be angry; = WRATH *v.* 1.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 107 Wrædde...diwl [L. *frenuit diabolus*]. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 22 Sȝhwa-sehe sæðe wreaðen broðore [L. *irascitur*]. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Tobreoke ænes eorðliches monnes heste, ne wrihe wreðe wiþ þe. a 1225 *Juliana* 13 (Bodl. MS.), Affrican wreadede & swor swiðe deopliche. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1584 He þu Ser..it esau Edse mu bed he, Se wrehed nan. a 1300 HANDLYNG *Psalter* ii. 12 Gripes discipline, leswhen lord wreth: and ȝe perish fra rightwis way. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 209 þat he schulde whanne he gan to wrehe sese ofte and by ordre foure and twenty leitres of Grewe. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3593 þen þe berne writhis, Fandis him first on be-fore, & all folopes efte. a 1425 *Voiage & Visyt.* (Brooke.) 2404 (Addit. MS. 10036), Thei wreped with him for his sawe. c 1475 *Partenay* 1853 It was for his syne That his fader had wrethed heuyly so.

**3.** *trans.* To be angry with (a person); = WRATH *v.* 4.

c 1400 *Chaucer's Troylus* III. 174 (Harl. MS. 2280), Ny ny[l] forbere if þat ȝe don anys To wreth yow. c 1500 *Pleyns Craig MS.* (S.T.S.) 46 Quhy wrethis þou me ? I greif þe nocht.

Hence † **Wre'thed** *ppl. a.*; † **Wre'thing** *vbl. sb.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 3 He will be seen til ill men as "wrethed and as wode. 1367 *Statr. Pemis Reform.* iv. 136 The crewell work of wretheit womanheid. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29511 Quen man..wit ! wrething wode, Gis his sentence on anl man. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5036 Lefe of þi wordis, For writhing of þi wale treuis, & willes þaim na mare. 1443 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxlvi, By quhois effectis grete 3e movit are to writhing.

**†Wrethe,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 1 **wrebian**, **wreðian** (**wrreð-**), 3 **wreoðien**. [OE. *wreðian* (also *a-, ge-, under-wreðian*), f. *wraðu* support, etc., = OS. *wredian, giwredian.*]

**1.** *trans.* To prop or hold up; to support or sustain. Also in fig. context. (Only OE.)

c888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxi, Heora aðc [ac creature] wind wið oðer, & þeah wreðað oðer, þæt hie ne moton toslupan. c890 WERFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 175 Wiebiende [L. *sustenans*] þa tydran linne betwyh his ȝingrena handum. a 1000 *Andreas* 593 (Gr.), Se ðe rodor abeð & ȝeðeahhode folmum sinum, wrehte & wreðede.

**2.** *refl.* To support (oneself) by leaning upon another; = LEAN *v.*[1] 2 b. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 Sif þet hen wergeð, uncrichon wreoðeð him bi oðer. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 857 Alle þeos writeres writes þet se wreoðieð ow on.

**3.** *intr.* To rely *on*, depend *upon*, a person.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 142 Þet heo ðrowun to beon of so hoȝ liun þet..al Cristene uolc leonie & wreoðie upon hare. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1327 We ne cunnen..waupen na word ȝeien to weorrin ne to wreoðienne him þet ha wroðeð on.

**Wrethen, -in**, obs. or Sc. varr. WREATHEN *ppl. a.* **Wrether hail**, var. WROTHER-HEAL *Obs.*

**†Wre'thful,** *a. Obs.* [Early ME. *wrǽðful, f. wrǽðe* WRETHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WRATHFUL *a.*, WROTHFUL *a.*]

**1.** Of persons: Angry, irate; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Heo wes..ligene and swikel, and wreðful and wreaðmod. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 Pellican is a leane fowel, so weamod & so wreðful þet [etc.]. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5109 Þesus Crist, þat til þam swa wrethful sal seme þan. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* V. 209 For he was ..wrefful, and priveliche envious and opunliche dispeyssable. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 233 He that hath a sharpe stone and wrethful..he is wrethfull.

*absol.* a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Þe wreðfule biuoren þe ueonde skirmeð mid inaues. 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Þe þridde werre þet þe verþuhtfule þet beoð þe wreðfule.

**2.** Marked or characterized by wrath.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 141 The bischop sau that Godd wald tak Of his man sin wrethful wrac. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. viii. 4 Quhen wrinkillit wes his turn to Goddis wrethfull wraik, Or hardyment and honour.

Hence † **Wre'thfully** *adv.*; † **Wre'thfulness.** *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 Þe hound of wrethfulnes [*text* wrechfulnes] and enuedat] grennip wiþ his teþ. c 1475 *Partenay* 2218 Then thes paynymes wrethfully ther-thens Wheint.

**†Wre'thly,** var. of WROTHLY *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 3469 (Gött.), Pair strut it was vnsterne stithe, wid wrethly [*Cott.* wrathli] wraystes oper wrenne.

c 1380 HENRYSON *Sqe & Youth* 66 (Bann. MS.), He on his wyfis wrethly went hame.

**Wrεppe**, etc., obs. variants of WRATH, etc.

**Wreton, -yn**, obs. ff. *written*, pa. pple. of WRITE *v.* **Wrett**, etc.: see WRIT *sb.*, WRITE *v.* **Wrett(e**, obs. or dial. varr. WART *sb.*

**†Wretthy,** *a. Obs.*[1] [f. *wretth*, ME. var. of WRATH *sb.*] = WROTHY *a.*

14.. *Castle Loue. Soc.* (MS. Harl. 2252), *Fewidus, id est, calidus, iracundus, A wyglist man, wrethy.*

**†Wrewche,** ?error for *wewch* WOUGH *a.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 125 Malkyne went hame blyth at euin, And sum be left him, bayth wo & wrewche, In dolour & in cair.

**Wrey,** etc., varr. WRAY *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. f. WRY *v.*[2]

**Wrible,** obs. Sc. var. WARBLE *sb.*[1]

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. ii. 18 The birdis..Wyth wrible [*ed.* 1553 werbill] swell...Gan mein and glaid the heynis. *Ibid.* VII. xii. 147. [Cf. WRABBLE.]

**Wrioched,** -id, etc., obs. varr. WRETCHED *a.*

**Wrich**, obs. var. WORK *v.* **Wrich(e**, obs. varr. WRETCH *sb.* and *a.* **Wricht**, Sc. var. WRIGHT *sb.*[1]

**Wrick** (rik), *sb.* Also *dial.* wrick. [f. WRICK *v.*] A sprain or strain.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* 254 This wrick, or sprain of the coffin-joint. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 841 A wrick in my back.

**†Wrick,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 4 **wricke, wrikke.** [ad. MLG. **wrícken* (in *vorwricken, -wrycken*; LG. *wrikken*) to move here and there, to sprain; or Du. *wrikken* to move jerkily, to scull (whence G. *wrikken*, Da. *vrikke*, Sw. *wricka*). Cf. WRIG *v.*] *intr.* To move (jerkily or unsteadily) from side to side.

c 1300 *St. Dunstan* 82 in *F. E. P.* (1862) 36 þe deuel he hente bi þe nose...Þe deuel wrickede her and þer. 1308–30 *Erthe vpon Erthe* 2 Erþ geþ on erþ wrikkend in wedeu.

**Wrick** (rik), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [Perh. the same as prec., but recorded earlier as RICK *v.*[2] Cf. however WRICK *sb.*] *trans.* To sprain or strain.

1686–93 in Somerset, Berkshire, and Wiltshire glossaries. 1904 *County Gentleman* June 1963 [The race-horse] having wricked his back badly.

**Wride** (raid), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 1 **wrid, wryd**, 7– **ride.** [OE. *wrid*, f. *wridan, wridian* to put forth shoots, grow. Cf. Yks. *writh, rithe.*] A shoot, stalk, or stem; a group or bush of stalks, etc., growing from one root.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss., Cultum*, wyrd [*Epinal* wryd]. 944 in Birch *Cartul.* II. 549 Þurh þone ten to þam mi-lan hwit-wride. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Semin æscfrote anne wrid. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Feb. 223 Lettuce with other herbis in a wride. *Ibid.* 11. 201 Heere is an heiful thyng, a wondir wride. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 743 The Frankе Oeser hath no great stemme, but only a great wride or head neare the ground. 1669– [see RIDE *sb.*]. 1790 *Oxford Tract.* 21 Aug. 3/2 From a single one.—One hundred, and thirty three

**Wrigle**, etc.: see WRIGGLE.

**Wrie** (rai), *v.* Obs. exc. dial. [f. prec., or perh. a survival of OE. *wridan, wridian.* Cf. WRITHE *v.*[2] *intr.* To put forth shoots; to spread out.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* s.v. 1848 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* s.v., The wheat da wride out well. 1873– in s.w. dial. use (Som., Dorset, Devon).

**Wrie,** etc.: see WRAY *v.*[1], WRY *v.* and *a.*

**Wried** (raid), *ppl. a.* [f. WRY *v.*[2] + -ED 1.]

**1.** Turned aside; deflected, diverted.

c 1586 CTESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXV. iv, A vaine deceiver, Whose wryed footing not aright directed Wandreth in error.

**2.** That has undergone contortion or twisting; writhed, contorted.

1576 A. HALL *Acc. Quarrel*, etc. (1816) I. 100 His colour..crymsen, his eyes fyry, his visage wryed unnaturally. 1598–9 B. JONSON *Cose is Altered* II. iv, Vsing their wryed countenances in stead of a vice, to turn [etc.]. 1638 MAINE *Lucian* (1664) 349 The Quotter..who stands wryed in a Gesture ready to deliver. 1678 HUBNER *Iliad* XIII. 696 A silver cup That crookt and wryed was about the brim. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* IX. 372 His thick neck [was] wryed and twisted. 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 106 His mouth was wried with agony.

*transf.* 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Prol. 178 Vsing his wryed looks (in scorne of a worse sight) and turne The good aspect of those that shall sit neere him.

**†Wriels.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wrigels** (**wyrgels**), **-ils, wrilis, 3 wricles, wriholes, 4 wrielys, 5 wriels** (**weryels**). [OE. *wrigels*, etc., f. *wrig-*, ppl. stem of *wrían, wrían* WRY *v.*[1] + -ELS.] A covering; a veil.

In quots. a 1225 and c 1400 taken as a plural; see -ELS.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cl. 27 Swe swe wrigels ontwendes hie, & hie binoð ontwendе. c 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Ben.* (1869) 166 Þe þa lin wrigels forspeniden. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 Of þese six wricles despoille þine sunne. a 1275 *Ibid.* 400 (MS. Cott. Cleopatra), Wimpel ne hafile, nouðer ne nemmed hali write, ah wriholes of heuet. 1382 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 8 Nakid þei leue men,..whom wederes of hille moisten, and not hauende wrielys [L. *velamen*] clopie stones. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) iv. xxxix. 61 Þan sayd I right ill done weryels of ymages made of clothe, stopped with straw.

**†Wrien,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* In 3 **iwrien,** 4 **wroyen.** [pa. pple. of WRY *v.*[1]]

**1.** Hidden; covered.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 Herto ualleð a tale, and on iwrien [*v.r.* hulet] uorbisne.

**2.** Accoutred; equipped.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7535 (Kölbing), He cleped an amirail...Wiþ fifteu þousend wreyen knistes, & lad him, þe cuntre ale doun rides.

**Wri'er.** *rare.* [f. WRY *v.*[2]] One who twists.

1611 COTGR., *Retordeur*, a twister,..a wrier backe.

**Wrieson(e, -oun(e, -own**, obs. Sc. ff. ORISON.

**† Wrig,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.*[1] [Cf. WRIG.] The willow-tree.

1564 *Brosenese Coll. Munim.* 19 (Berks.), [The tenant may take] boowes of the wrigges to make stakes..for the mentayning of the mowsides.

**Wrig** (rig), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [Cf. WRIGGLING, WRECKLING.] The smallest or weakest of a litter, brood, or family.

1805 G. MELVILLE *Poems* 67 Tho' [I am] the wrig In a'the nest there's nane sae big, Kaepting Jock. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 700 The weakest pigs are usually nicknamed *wrigs*, or pock-shakings. 1899 J. CORNIE *Scot. Vernacular* 13 The wee wrig, or *puis-né* member of the litter [of pigs].

**† Wrig,** obs. errors f. RIG *sb.*[4]

1638 N. WHITING *Ir Insonie Inson.* 139, I have espied a plump-cheek'd bonny lass. She is a wrig, I warrant.

**Wrig** (rig), *v.* Now *dial.* [? Of Low origin: to twist or turn, an imitative word of the same type as *wrikken*; see WRICK *v.*[1]]

**† 1.** *trans.* To twist or bend (some flexible object) about; to cause to writhe or wriggle. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 177 The bore his tayle wrygges..Against the hyre benche. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. iii. 37 Thus would he..bind Love's winged pride Do wrigge and wrest their pants divorc'd by knife.

**† 2.** To turn aside; to divert. *Obs.*[1]

1581 STANYHURST *Æneid* IV. (Arb.) 118 First thee pilot Palinure thee steerd ship wrigs to the lifthand.

**3.** *intr.* To move sinuously or writhingly; to wriggle, writhe. Now *dial.*

1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* XXII. B 6, The Ray tree..seems to sigh..And with the breath it fetcheth it wrigleth against the god. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* 408 The child's allus wrigging about. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* s.v.

**Wriggle** (rig'l), *sb.* Also **-igle, 9 riggle, 9 wreckle.** [f. next. Cf. LG. *wrigge*/wriggedness.]

**† 1.** A piece of sophistry; a shift. *Obs.*[1]

1575 T. TUSSER *Lect. Easter* 14 To think such little wriggles and Evasions will pass for rational Discourse.

**2.** A quick writhing movement or flexion of the body, etc. Also *fig.*

1709 STREET *Turk's Nos.* 82 P 5 They have always a peculiar Spring in their Arms, a Riggle in their Bodies. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 481 Such length as they [*sc.* animalcules] can throw themselves forward by one wriggle of the tail. 1829 *Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.* II. 230 [The water-shrew] swims very rapidly:..his very nimble wriggle is clearly discernible. 1862 THOREAU *N. Amer.* I. 37 Fishes ..assist..their motion with a dorsal riggle. 1899 J. VINCENT *Int Bk. Bat's & Wills* 12 To kill a story that has..got into print, and to leave it dead, and without a wriggle.

*transf.* 1809 A. LANG *in Contemp. Rev.* March 403 There

the line gives a wriggle, suggesting that the circle was evolved out of a spiral

b A sinuous or tortuous formation, marking, etc. ; a wriggling or meandering course.

1823 JENNINGS *Obs Dial* IV *Eng* 82 *Wriggle*, any narrow sinuous hole. 1833 T HOOK *Parson's Daus* I ii, The ser pentine walks were mere wriggles. 1882 RUSKIN *Bible Amiens* ii § 24 A few careful pen strokes, or wriggles of your own off hand writing 1899 [see WRIGGLED *ppl a*].

c A turn or sinuosity. *rare*—1.

1823 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T*, *Minotaur*, At every new zigzag and wriggle of the path

3 *local*. The sand eel or sand-launce.

1818 [see WRECKLE] 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xxxiii, We dug wriggles out of the sand 1883 *Field* 26 Dec 895/3 Sand eels are known in the Sussex coast as 'wriggles or wriggles , from their action of burrowing into the sand

**Wriggle** (rɪ g l), *v* Also 5 **wryggle**, 6–7 **wrigle**, 7–9 **riggle**. [A (M)LG *wriggeln* (LG. dial. also *frigeln*, *wrigeln*, = Du. *wriggelen*, Wfris *wrigge(je*, *Norw wrigla*, *regla*). frequentative of *wriggen* see WRING, and cf WIGGLE *v*]

1. *intr*. To twist or turn the body about with short writhing movements, to move sinuously; to writhe, squirm, wriggle a. Of reptiles, etc.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth De P R* xviii. ix 758 The adder Alpheonus glydeth and wryggleth WALS wriglelh,—he]wyth wrythes 1558 PHAER *Æneid* IV M iv b As the speckled serpent winging wreathes his limmes about 1598 [see WRENCH 13] 1606 MARSTON *Parasit* II i. C3 b, How the goose wakes wriggles with the sudditain arms 1665 HOOKE *Microg Trans* I 43 The Snake by turning and wrigling laboured to avoid it. 1820 *Q Rev* XXIV 490 As clear by as you may see a serpent wriggle in the grass. 1880 BESANT *All Sorts* xx, Eels are used to being skinned. Yet they wriggle a bit.

b Of things.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met* VI 77 The tip of Philomelaas tongue did wrigle to and fro 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Bb j b Philomelaes tongue, which being cutte of, wrigled vp and downe a long season 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV xxxiii 207 The severall parts of Insects being cut asunder, may wriggle and stirre for a while 1768 74 TUCKER *Lt Nat* (1834) I 271 The pieces of an eel cut asunder continue to w iggle 1831 JAMES *Phil Augustus* III v His nose at the same time wriggling with most portentous agitation 1859 F FRANCIS *Angling* iii. 65 The float will wriggle about a little before the bite is confirmed. *fig* 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath Trag* IV i, [It] makes the spirit of the flesh begin to wriggle in my blood

c Of persons (or animals) To twist, turn, or move uneasily

1573 TUSSER *Husb* (1878) 111 If sheepe or thy lambe fall a wrigling with tothe 1622 [see WRANGLE *v* 5] 1640 H JOHNSON *Ulysses* v 115, I will not come Downe to your Lures, and wrigle 1657 J BERNARD tr *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The Lambs came under the dammes, to riggle and nussle at their dugs. 1732 SWIFT *Lo a Lady* 90 Then apply A stove; till they [ie wits] howl, and wriggle for heat. 1735 SOMER III 8 *Chase* (c) 460 On pe tha I spears they lift hi n [ie an otter] high in Air Wrigging he hangs fearfully 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I x Ethel wriggling fearfully at the wide window seat 1895 S CRANE *Red Badge* vii, He wriggled in his jacket to make a more comfortable fit

*transf* and *fig* 1597 SHAKES *2 Hen IV* I ii 87 Every *Angling* (ed. 2) to Observe that when put together they may not wriggle in the least. 1825 CARLYLE *Loe Lett* (1900) II 159 Self is a foundation of sand Fools writhe and wriggle and rebel at this

2 To move, proceed, or go with a writhing or worming movement Const. with advs., as *along*, *away*, *in*, *out*, or preps , as *from*, *into*, *through*, *up*.

1620 MARTON *Antonio's Rev* IV ii, These vinegar tart spirits are too pearcing A chuike, they'll wriggle in and in 1630 J TAYLOR (Water P) *Jack a Lent* Wks. 117/a The Eele would wriggle vp and downe in his muddy habitation 1647 PARK *Ovid's Hark* IX 25 Devils run in, wriggle into their holes, as worms use to do in time of thunder 1700 *Robinson Vind Monarch Apol* 67 Talons fit to hold fast the Love Prey that it might not from them. 1830 W TAYLOR *Hist. Surv Germ Poet* y II 375 No lizard wriggles through the brake. 1857 MAS. GATTY *Parab fr. Nat Ser* II. (1862) 199 The wriggled away in the mud 1892 C L MORGAN *Anim Life* 82 Wriggling and squirming up a dark green yer xcal wall.

*fig* 1616 in fig context 1634 SWIFT *Let to Faulkner* Wks. 1841 II 726/1 Is it not sufficient to see with what pain and shame he wriggles along 1768 WARBURTON *Doctr Grace* Pref, Truth forbids us to riggle into her sacred preve nce through by paths 1840 HARE *Mission Conf* (1846) 97 That the Understanding is over ready to riggle along the crooked paths of evil 1899 *Habits Ed Society* VII 246 His words come cautiously and suspiciously wriggling up to you

b To flow or run sinuously , to meander

1640 [see WRIGGLING *ppl. a* 3] 1688 W RICHARDS *Wallogr* 34 A Rivulet which wriggled along with a crooked current 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let to Co Montag* 1 Sept , The Trent wriggles through a lovely meadow 1861 READE *Cloister & H* lxxiv, Little paths wriggling among the a ttiqu ities. 1894 EARL *Norseman's Hist Norway* IV 308 The southern Hi ras whose salt waters wriggle to and fro in the broad dale

3. a. To insinuate oneself *into* favour, place, etc ; to advance, 'creep or get in, by wheedling or ingratiation

(1) 1598 B JONSON *Ev Man in Hum* I iv, Now do he creepe, and wriggle into acquaintance with all the brave gallants 1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* I (1637) B 3 b The Courtiers make Us cuckolds, marke, we wriggle into their Estates 1688 PRIDEAUX *Rem* (1739) I 233 By low ignoble Offices To wriggle into Trust and Grace 1745 YOUNG *Nt Th* VIII 457 Earth's subtile serpents Which wriggle into wealth or climb renown 1883 KINGSLEY *Misc* (1859) I 39 A scheme by which to wriggle into Court favour 1891 DIXON *Tower* III iv 49 Lake had crept and wriggled into place and jay

(2) 1598 MARSINGER *Gt Dk Flor*. II ii, This courtier perhaps, by his place, Expects to wriggle further if he does, I shall deceive his hopes 1652 BROME *Queenes Exch* I, He's the King's Favourite ; we may fear he'l wriggle in Twixt him and us. 1691 *Salyr agst. French* 9 If they but wriggle in his Lordship's Ear,.. they learn to domineer 1789 WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Inst Horaces* I 211, He , Who, wriggling to the Hanoverian Guards, Kept the poor Prince of Brunswick out.

b To make use of shuffling or sinuous means ; to get *out of*, escape *from*, a condition or position by evasion, mean artifice or circumvention.

a 1646 BURROUGHES *Exp Hosea* v. (1652) 240 This affliction that thou doest so riggle to get out of 1690 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* II 39 Men will wriggle any way to get from under the force of a text. 1848 W. H KELLY tr *L Blanc's Hist Ten* V II 293 Certain to wriggle out of its inevitable results by ,dangerous artifices. 1898 DORAN *Court Fools* 315 He wriggled out of his bargain. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I 114 I ou are wriggling cunningly out of the position.

4. *trans* To cause to writhe, twist, or bend tortuously; to move or turn writhingly or with quick jerks Also with advs., as *aloft*, *away*, *down*, *out*, *up*, or preps., as *from*, *into*.

1573 TUSSER *Husb* (1878) 109 Sheepe wryging taile hath made without faile 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II (Arb) 50 Their tayls.. they [ie two serpents] wriggled. 1648 GAGE *West Ind* 60 The Indians put his shoulder and almost wholly from me. 1684 tr *Bonet's Merc Compit.* x 363 The wretched Patient cannot lie down, .wriging his body all manner of ways to make room for it 1805 *Sporting Mag* XXV 210 Another pan by wriggling it on the coals. 1806 SOUTHEY *Lett* (1856) I 282 If you can conceive a blue bottle fly wriggling his tail 1860 HOLMES *Chas Medic* 1 He wriggled her legs away from that of the chair 1887 LEGLERTON *Greyvest* xv, He tried to pull and wriggle his trousers legs down to their normal place

c *A Hall Trim.* I 35 These [insects] would.. wriggle them elves up to the top of the water 1739 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr* (1861) I 45 With violent squeezing.. we tightened them into seats. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr Rev* I v. iv, Beneviol ia painfully wriggling himself out, to the Champ de Mars.

*fig* 1710 *Spect of Horace* II 19/2 *Et* might easily riggle it self into the place of *ut*

b To bring into a specified state, form, etc , by writhing or twisting. Const. with advs., as *asunder*, *off*, or preps , as *into*, *to*. Occas. *refl*.

1567 HILTON *Mach Exerc* 11 18 With your Fingers and Thumb wriggle it quite asunder 1827 W C. STEWART *Pract Angler* vii (ed 3) 138 The worm being free to wriggle itself into any shape 1898 [see WRENCH 1 10] 1898 O W HOLMES *Mother* xvii 115 Slavery is wriggling itself to death

5. To introduce, insert, or bring *in* (something) by wriggling , to insinuate (*into* something).

1590 *Martin Marprel Epist Pref* 1 1, I am afraid , they'l riggle you some such favour'd affair 1767 J. CAMPBELL *Lexiph* (1774) 71 When you have wriggled in a new fashioned long tailed word.

b To insinuate or introduce (a person) gradually (*into* favour, office, etc.), esp. by subtle or shifty means Also with *in*. Chiefly *refl*

1670 COTTON *Espernon* I iv 180 He by the means of the Mistress wriggles himself into the company of the Duke 1687 GILPIN *Demonol* (1867) 355 By which means doth Satan, like a cunning serpent, wriggle himself into the affections of men 1710 SWIFT *Pros to Stella* 5 Dec , While he was wriggling himself into my favour 1754 H WALPOLE *Let to Mann* (1833) II 82 Much, She would have wriggled herself into the best clause in the will 1766 — *Let to Mann* 18 July, He might have wriggled his brother in [=into office] afterwards 1824 *Examiner* 778/1 Having wriggled himself into the good opinion of the coachman 1874 L STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I x 359 [He] wriggled himself into a marriage

c To make one's way) by sinuous motion. Also in fig context.

1863 W PHILLIPS *Speeches* VIII 214 Cunning statesmen who have wriggled their slimy way to wealth. 1891 *Century Mag* March 699/1 The Ute wriggled their way out through the passages in the rocks 1899 J CALLOW *Old Lond Fair* I 119 Whitebait seem to have wriggled their way higher up the river.

6. †a. To cut or carve (something) with a wriggly or sinuous pattern; to slash. *Obs*

1610 B JONSON *Alch* IV iii 274 A collar of brawne, cut downe beneath the souse and wrigled with a knife 1694 GAYTON *Fest Notes* I i. Many more by reason of the Captaine Joneses of our times have been hackt, hew'd, wriggled and utterly confounded

b To form in a tortuous or sinuous manner.

1760 H WALPOLE *Let to Mason* 30 June, Stanhope has wriggled a winding gravel walk through [the groves] 1860 *Ice* (N Y) 8 Oct 2 Be content to wriggle pretty patterns on the mud of spoils !

†7. To twist, pervert Cf WREST *v.* 5. *Obs*.

1593 HARVEY *Pierce's Super* Wks (Grosart) II 52 Sinister construction, that wresteth and wrigleth every syllable to the worst 1637 J WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 9 Which when it is in writing, is no more by a disputant indeed to be wrigled and wrested

Hence **Wriggled** (rɪg'ld) *ppl a*

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II 100 They haue a wrigled tayle, and croked tethe like to a Bore 1611 COTGR., *Fricotterie*, frete ; cranklinge, wrigled flourishings, in carunges, &c a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II iii, Your hollow thumb Join'd with your wriggled [slice] box. 1899 A. T and H *Contemp. Rev* March 403 At each side are two-carcled and one-circled specimens with the wriggled line, and two cups and circles with no wriggle.

**Wriggle-** (rɪg'l), the verb-stem used attrib in a few combs., in the sense 'undergoing or characterized by wriggling', as †**wriggle-eye**, **-tail**, etc.

In quots. 1579, 1620, app. from *wriggled tail*

1579 SPENSER *Shep Kal* Feb 7 They went in the wind wagge their wriggle tailes, Perkie as Peacock 1604 T M *Black Bk* E 2 b, Let no yong riggle-eyde Damosell be halt wanauailed 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* III ii, Short riggle tayle Comfits, not worth mouthing 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W Africa* 473 A dance of women , the usual wriggle and stamp affair

**Wriggler** (rɪ'glə). [f. WRIGGLE *v.* + -ER1]

1. One who or that which wriggles, *esp* a wriggling fish, animalcule, etc.

1674 N FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv* Ep Ded , The Fryes of Wrigglers peep out of their Graves and Dungeons 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V Progn vi 180 Drabs, Trulls, Lightskirts, Wrigglers, Minxes. 1880 FORBY *Voc E Anglia* II 381 *Wrigglers* small fish, of which commoner names are sand eels or lance tails 1898 in *Ardnacrusha* (Chicago) 18 June 8/7/2 To make the latte wrig ler (= a child) sit still. 1904 *Melbourne Argus* 27 March 13 Mosquitoes in the larval state are known as wrigglers.

2. *fig* One who makes his way by subtle, ingratiating, or underhand means

1632 A WILSON *Switzer* II 1 263 To observe the tyme, yee wrigglers. There is an ytching height that all do a)me at, But diuers ways to attaine to it. 1879 CONYBEARE *Treas. Providence*, In spite of all the wrigglers into place, Still keeps a seat or two for worth and grace

3 (See quot )

1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct, Wrigglers are engravers who devote their working hours to the tracing of those zig zag lines which are so often a feature of cheap Britan nia metal tea-pots.

**Wrriglesome**, *a. rare*—1 [f WRIGGLE *sb.* + -SOME.] Wriggling

1891 G MACDONALD *Thora & Buds* XXII, The wrigglesome, slimy thing,s (ie water snakes)

**Wriggling** (rɪ'glɪŋ), *vbl sb.* [f WRIGGLE *v.* + -ING 1]

1 The action of the verb in various physical senses , an instance of this.

1580 TURNER *Husb* 2 b, How to cure the wrigling of y* taile in a sheepe or a lambe. 1820 HOLLAND *Pisay* II 47 The Lampreys get between the body of a twig, which with their mouth winding and wrigling they will wrest wider and wider 1869 *Phil Trans* I 67 The wrigling and playing of the Mandrel 1877 BLACKMORE *Tent in Saddle* I Sept, Lovet, towards the end of dinner, after twenty wrigglings, said [etc] 1843 LE FANU *Cyrl Thyn* III iii 118 189 Appetite is not sharpened by the wrigling of the two motives. 1866 GEO ELIOT *F Holt* I, The wrigglings of a worm

2. *fig* Evasion, equivocation , shuffling

1866 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III 56 He is my superior, even in the master art of wrigling 1895 *Ath ance* (Chicago) 7 Feb 652/2 There is a wrigling that is wrong, as when Peter wrigled from the questioning accusations of the servant girl

3 *attrib*. in allusive use, as †*wriggling disease*, *mordicancy*, *tickle*

1590 D UFFEY *Calist's Wath Lond* 1 17 If any of his Flock were seized By heat, with wrigling Diseases 1693 UNQUHART *Rabelais* III xxxii 272 Their figging Itch, wrigling Mordicancy 1729 D UFFEY *Pills* VI 91, I am a Baker, And have a Wrigling Pole 1824 [see *Ague* 1] *Nerve Irritad* 40 The fam'd itinerant lass by her motions in the wriggling trade, Two sterling thousands made

**Wrigling**, *ppl a* [f. as prec. + -ING 2]

1. That wriggles or squirms ; writhing

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met* I 83 b, A wrigling taile streight to his lummes was added more beside 1587 FLEMING *Contin Holinshed* III 1090/1 Two wrigling or sprailing serpents 1613 W BROWNE *Brit Pastor* II ii, Like Angels in A wrigling yealow worme thrust on his hooke 1690 C NESSE *O & N Test* 1 42 He assumes the shape of a wrigling crooked serpent 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III 363 I must take care the little wrigling rogue does not slip through my fingers. 1865 J IVINGSTONE *Zambesi* VII 167 A native emerges out of the moving mass of dead elephant and wrigling humanity 1881 *Encycl Brit* XIII 826/1 A great wrigling iguana

*transf* c 1590 J STEWART *Poems* (S T S.) II 71 Thir wrigling worm than plainly will pass perfyt

2. Characterized or distinguished by wriggling or writhing

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II iv *Decay* 887 As a fell Serpent With wriggling pase doth still approach his Foe 1665 BOYLE *Usef Nat Phil* II 42 A wrigling motion, like that of eels 1703 WOLCOT (P Pindar) *Odes to R A* 11 viii, Won with such wry mouths and wrigling pain 1799 SOUTHEY *Nondescript, I Ahert*, Watching two maggots run their wrigling race 1859 MURCHISON *Siluria* (ed 3) xii 303 Wrigling movements of a Salamandroid quadruped 1888 GUNTER *Mrs. Potter* xxii. 259 [A dog] with tail and ears and body all wrigling restlessly

3 Meandering; tortuous; winding

1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Epistles* iii 48 [55 (via)] came unto the wrigling brook *Ibid* 61 His flowry green, Which wrigling Tyber leaves 1698 FRYER *Acc E India & P* 5 It is not unlike the crawling of a Snake, it's various Hills and Vallies seem to borrow that riggling Shape

**Hence Wri·ggling** *adv.*

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. to Darel* To Rdr. 4 They do rather *vncedere tortuosè*, 1706 wrigglingly to worke. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet Life* v. 73 [He spoke] wrigglingly, and with gesticulations towards the pit

**Wriggly** (ri·gli), *a.* [f. WRIGGLE *v.* + -Y 1. Cf. LG. dial. *wriggelig* wilful ]

**1.** Given to wriggling; squirming, writhing.

1886 EDMONDSTON *Glost Stud. Dial* 39 *Rygly* [sic], unsteady, rickety 1906 *Westm Gaz.* 30 Dec 2/1 The thrush twice found a wriggly creature, and these he carried off to his family.

**2.** Winding; sinuous; tortuous

1901 C. G HARPER *Cr North Road* II 257 One leaves Dunbar by wriggly and exiguous streets.

**Wright** (rəit), *sb*.[1] Forms: *a.* I **wyrhta**, *Northumb.* **wyrhte**, -**te**, **wyrchte**, I–2 *Kent.* **werhta** ; 2 **wrihte**, 3 **wruhte**, **wuruhte**. *β.* I **wryhta**, 3 **wruhte**, **wrihte**, 3–4 **wrihte**, 5 **wrihte**, 3–5 **wryhte**, **wryht**, (3, 5 **wrygth**, 5 **wrythe**), 4 **wryȝte**, 4–5 **wrigte**, 4–6 **wrighte** (4 **wrighet**, **wrigth**, **writh**), 5–6 **wrighte**, 4– **wright**; 2 **wrichte**, 5–6 *Sc* **wryoht** (6 **wryht**), 5–7, 9 *Sc.* **wricht** (5, 9 **wricht**, 9 **wricht**); 4 **wrycht**, 5 *Sc* **wrycht**, 6 *Sc* **wrycth**, 7 **wreight**, 9 *dial.* **treaght**. *γ.* 5 **wryte**, *north* **write**, 9 *north. dial.* **wreet** (**whreet**), **reet**. [OE. *wyrhta*, *wyrhta*, etc. (also *zewyrhta*), = OFris. *wrichta*, OS. *wurhtio*, *-eo*, OHG. *wurhto* (MHG. (in combs.) *wurhte*, *wurhte*, *worhte*), f. *wurh-* :—OTeut. **wurχ-**, variant stem of ***wurk-** : see WORK *v.*]

**1.** An artificer or handicraftsman, *esp.* a constructive workman. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

*Eye-, glassen-, mill, tile wright* see those words

*a* 1465 *Lawes of Ine* lix (*Liebermann* I, 116) Mon sceal nimle to bereȝafiane ȝeȝan set annum wrihtan vi pund-waȝa. *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt. xiii. 55 Nis hesmuō *sefa* wrihte, sunu Marien? *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* I 318 God eac forðiht tostencte, swa þeat he forȝeaf ælcum ðæra wrihtena selecuð ȝeweorc *c* 1205 LAY. 12 Þa com þer a smið, a hoc wes ihaten Wygar, be witeȝe wurhte . *a* 1225 *Ancr. R* 284 Pe calix þet was imeit ide fure woide he, ȝif he kuðe speken, awarien . his wruhtes bonden?

*β* *γ.* *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Mark, Introd. 3 Wundrande þæt lar & mahtin ðære wrihtes sunu *τεκτονος* sunu . *c* 1030 *Rule St Benet* (Logeman) 3 Nam he cleopð his wryhtan [L. *operarium*]. *a* 1200 in Kemble *Cod Dipl* IV 204 And ic bebeode ðæt þeadas on mecdes [*sic*] wuchte and Winoð mon huscnal ne þam monnes þeraumnan . *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3083 Þis druhtin . in his witt it purueid His were, als doe þe cotill wright 1393 LANGL *P. Pl C* XX. 337 þe fyngres is ful hand, for failled thei here bombe, . Shulde no wryȝt *(Vchester MS* writt] werche. 1418 SIR LYDG *Chron Troy* II 497 He made seke in euery regioun For euery wrist and pauyng carpenter 1715 CHEYNE *Phil. Princ Relig* 11 324 Brought into admiration of the infinite Wisdom of the Divine Architect, and contemning the arrogant Pretences of the World and Animal Wrights. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed 2) 307 Upon this central shrine Laid down The scribe, and the physician, and the wright His several offering. 1876 *Whitby Lodas* 224/1 *Wrytghte*, or *Wrychte*, work people in general.

†**b** Applied to the Deity. = CREATOR 1. *Obs*

*c* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth* ad fin., Drihten ælmihtiga God, wyrhta & wealdend ealra þeseccafta. *a* 1000 *Phoenix* 9 Wlitig is se wong eall, sæcele & sorhleas se þa moldan gesceop. *a* 1200 *St Marher* 20 Þis wicket wruhte of ille, mærkedest ooðða. *c* 1200 ORMIN 18780 Þatt all patt shaffle þatt wass wrohht Wass hiſ inn hemm þe wrihhte . *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 331 Þa wrogt þat speke of here wroght bath erth and heuen

†**2.** One who does or performs something; a doer or worker. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl Hom* 111 Forðon þe nan wyrhta ne mæg god weorc wyrcean for Gode buton lufon & geleafan . *a* 1000 *Genesis* 1004 Him ða se cystiesa cwalmes wyrhta mære æfter hon andswarede. . *a* 1300 *Prov. Colt Hom* 191 Þi test ſif gaten fare] in deaðes wrihte, and þennne dod. *a* 1300 [see BATTLE *sb* 14].

**3.** One who works in wood; a carpenter, a joiner.

From *c* 1470 to *c* 1655 chiefly *Sc* and *north* : in later use only *Sc* and *north. dial* (or *arch* ). The Sc. pron is*(w)rixt', (north-eastern) *vrixt'

*Cart-, house-, shaip-, ship-, timber-, wagon, wain-, wheel-wright*, see those words

*a* 1205 LAY 16969 He leite axien anan gode wurhten þe mid mes cuðe wurhtenne

*β. a* 1300 *Vices & Virtues* 37 Wið uten ðe wrihte his timber to kerueu after þare mone . *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1666 Ai schippe he toures þe to sighli, þi self sel be þe master wright 1393 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 9163 He ded come wrytes (*alias* carpenters) for to make Courtyny over them. *a* 1382 WYCLIF *Sel Wks* III 80 Ioseph was a forgere of tren, þat is to seie a wrigte *c* 1450 *Northern Passion* 261/462 Than wantide the wryghts a tre 1564 *R Hyngham Rec* (1883) II 132 To the wrighte, to make the Pillory, 8 vs 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat* viii D 8 The wryghte unto traine what to make, a stoole or God of me 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron* I 42/2 He sawe yet lowe the rest [of the ships] might bee repaired wherefore he chose forth wrightes among the Legions. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom* II *f* § 8 (1622) 193 As we may see, in Platoneſque named instances of his Smithes, and his Wrights 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 64 I his Ship-wright makes the Ship, not as he is a man or good, but as he is a Wreight or Artizan 1785 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph* v iii, Masons and wrights shall soon my house repair. 1788 SIR J SINCLAIR *Observ Scot Dial.* 198 *Wright*, at present is a general name for timber workmen; but the Scots, by *wrights*, mean *carpenters*. 1800 CARLILE *Mrs. Garnons Playwrights* P 1 The millwright, or scutwright, or any other wright whatever. 1858 *Times* 6 March 12/3 At Hull..about



500 wrights are on strike 1887 MORRIS *Odyss* IX 129 Nor yet among them ever ship making wrights there are

*fig. a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 91 Heer is ogledeð swilch timber ðe nature tolden ne may, and þus derewurðe mihte is wrihte ðerovver.

*Ax Prow* 1670 RAY *Prov* 227 He is not the best wright that hews the maniest speals.

*γ c* 1440 *York Myst* XXXVII 230 Thy fadir knewe I wele be sight, He was a write hys mette to wynne. *c* 1460 *Promp Parv* (Winch. MS.), Wryte, or carpentare, *carpentarius* 1463 *Mann. & Housch. Exp* (Roxb.) 210 A wryte that mayd my mastyrys stabyle 1884– in N Cy , Nhb , Dur , Yks , and Lanc. glossaries (*recd*) 1842 HARTSHORNE *Salop Ant* 618 *Wreet's shop* a carpenter's, or more frequently a Wheelwright's shop 1877–90 in Yks. glossaries (*wreet*).

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb* , as *wright-craft*, †*-house*, *-smith* ; †**wright-garth**, a joiner's yard ; **wright-work**, work performed or done by a joiner

1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 [Le] Wrightous et le Plomberhous . 1409 *Ibid* 524 Le Wrightgarth et Swynegarth . *a* 1619 M. FOTHERBY *Atheom* II § 8 (1622) 193 One Acte, of Wright Craft; and one Arte, of Smiths-Craft. 1630 *Ann Dunfermline* (New Spald. Cl.) 62 Ane load of wricht wark 2 s. 1671 in Holmes *Lanterfact Bk Entries* (1882) 103 Item, for wrightworke, 1[£] 5 1881 *Instr. Constn Clerks* (1883) 56 Wheelwright. Wrightsmith

Hence †**Wrightship**, = WRIGHTING. *Obs rare*—1.

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii (*Noah & Ark*) 250 Now assay will I how I can of wrightry.

†**Wright**, *sb*.[2] *Obs.* In 2–3 wrht, 3 *Orm.* wrihht. [ME. reduction of **i-wrht*, OL. *gewyrht* : see I-WRIGHT.] Desert, what one has deserved; hence, blame, fault.

*c* 1275 *Lamb Hom* 69 Crist us seue of him mihte ȝ betere penne we habbeð wrihte *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 217 Ich truste þat he (se God) nele neng (*alon*?) ti mine wrihte. *c* 1200 ORMIN *Ded.* 120 Þatt dahh3 o te leire Sachtenn wiþþ-utenn wrihhte *Ibid.* 8240 He wass flemmd & drifenn ut All affterr hiss wrihhte

Hence †**Wrightful** *a*, having deserved something; †**Wrightlesslike** *adv.*, undeservedly.

*c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2076 Ic am stolen of kinde lond, and her wrigteleslike boldan in bond *Ibid* 2204 Wrigtful we in here bonde ben, vnsogden gultun.

**Wright** (rəit), *Also* 4 **wrihte**, 9 *n. Sc.* **wricht**. [f. WRIGHT *sb*.[1], or WRIGHTING ]

†**1** *trans* To build, construct *Obs. rare*

1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 88 At London, a hauke he did vp wright *Ibid* 321 A bridge he suld do wrihte

†**2** To repair (a ship), renovate, mend. Perh erron. for *righted* see RIGHT *v* 12 *c*

*a* 1656 USSHER *Ann* (1658) 391 Having there new wrighted up su h ships of his as he'd been bruised in the fight.

**3** *intr.* To follow the occupation of a wright. *Sc.*

1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss* 204

**Wright**(e, obs. vart WRITE *sb* and *v.*

**Wrighting** (rəi·tiŋ). Now *Sc* and *dial.* Forms: (see quots ). [f WRIGHT *sb*.[1] + -ING[1] ] The occupation, business, or craft of a wright or carpenter.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8001 Þe wrighting, þe craft of þe wrichtun . 1900 *G* AGNUS *Jan Ostler* iv 96, I shall follow my wrighten a'en

†**Wriguldy-wrag.** *Obs rare*—1. [? f next ] Mischief, harm

1519 *Interl Interl Four Elem* F 2, Jak boy, is thy bowet broke? Or hath any man done the wryguldy wrage?

†**Wrig-wrag.** *Obs rare.* [Cf WRIG *v* ]

**1.** *Str Wrig-wrag*, ? a contentious person

*a* 1529 SKELT *in Agst Garnesche* iv 149 The folleat alouen bodye he hathe, wyth wrig wrag, & wry wrag . 1529 — *Ib Parrot* 91 Let syr Wrig wrag wrastell with syr Delvag

**2.** *adj. wrig-wrag*, at daggers drawn, at enmity or variance.

1529 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* G 3 b, Their townes were sal at wrig wrag, & sucht from their mothers teates serpentine hatred one against each other

**Wrike** (rəik). obs. form of WRIGHT, WRITE *sbs.*

†**Wrike nail** *Obs. rare.* [Origin obscure cf. WRICK *v.*!] ? A screw nail

1496 *Naval Acc Hen VII* (1896) 183 Prouision of Stuff for the Cokkehote aforesayd . 800 c wryke nayles vj<sup>c</sup>

**Wrim**, obs var WORM *sb.*

†**Wrimple**, *sb.* *Obs* Also 5 **wrympyl** [Cf RIMPLE *sb.* (also RUMPLE *sb.*-), and WRIMPLED *a* ] A crease or fold, a rimple, wrinkle.

1499 *Prompt Parv* (Pynson) s v b, Wrympyl, or rympyl Pli uio *vel* Plicatura, wrympyl, or plepyl of cloth, *plica* 1578 Pli uio *vel* Frustra 88 b The smooth the ale mull doth fashion with wrimples. 1603 — *Montaigne* I xxii 51 The h arie head and frowning wrimples of custome 1611 COTGR , *Cotrets*, a wrimple in the face

†**Wrimple**, *v. Obs. rare* [Probably a back-formation from WRIMPLED *a.* Cf the latter RIMPLE *v* ]

1 *trans* (See quots and cf JAG *v* 1 2 )

1611 COTGR , *Frangere* to fringe; also, to wrimple, jag, or rug on the edges. *Ibid* , *Rider*, to wrinkle, or to wrimple

2. *intr* To pucker the face or countenance.

1659 REEVE *God's Plea* 88 Alas we do but only wrimple at a Pulpit lauincing, sing a Penitential Psalm.

Hence †**wrimpling** *vbl sb Obs*

1611 COTGR , *Ridement*, a wrinkling, wrimpling crumpling *Ibid* , *Rugosité*, a crumpling, wrimpling, furrowing.

†**Wrimpled**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 **wrympyd**. [f. MDu. or MLG. **wrimpelen* 'to draw the mouth awry', Hexham), frequentative of MLG *wrempen*, *wrumpen* to wrinkle, bend, turn Cf the earlier RIMPLED *a* ] Wrinkled, rimpled, or puckered , creased.

*c* 1430 LYDG *Min Poems* (Percy Soc.) 203, I can not arraye blaxe, Nor to the fulle rympe hire belle, That is so wrympled as a mase 1553 LINDA *Treat New Ind* (Arb ) 37 Neyther haue they their bellies wrimpled or loose 1559 WHITSTONE *Cognizances* B 3, I holde 3 formes, within a wrimpled skin. 1592 R D[ALLINGTON] *Hypnerotomachia* 28 b, A Dragon[s] wrimpled backe. 1611 COTGR , *Renfrongné*, wrimpled, crumpled, puckered 1641 P HEYLIN *Veng of Soul* I. 1 xlvii, Wafts of wit in scentrall That ruffle Psyche s wrimpled veil. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 23 The wrimpled skin of that old man 1672 T *Hurtado's Lamville* II O 4, Seeing me so bleak and wrimpled, like an old Wives belly

**Wrinch**, cron. f *rinch*, var RINGE *v*

1622 *Peacham Compl. Gentl.* (1906) 152 We stand before your presuance Wrinching our holy begging in our eyes To make petition cleere

†**Wrinch**, var. of (or error for) *winch* WINCE *v* 1 1.

1589 TI VET *Pappe w Hatchet* E 3 b, Rub no more, the curtall wrinches

**Wrinch, Wrine**, obs. vart. WRENCH, WRY *v* 1

†**Wrine**, *v. Obs.*—1 [a ON. **wrina* (ENorw and Sw. dial. *wrina*, Norw. *rina*). Cf WRINE *v.*] *intr.* To squeal, as a pig.

1530 PALSGR *Manip* 139 To Wrine, *vocciferare*, *vt porcus*

**Wring** (riŋ), *sb.*[1] Also 1, 5 **wringe**, 4 6 **wrynge**, 9 **ring**. [OL *wringe*, f. *wringan* WRING *v.* Cf. OE. *win-wringe.*]

1 A cider-press or wine press.

*c* 890 *WERFERTH tr Gregory's Dial* 230 Sanctulus brohte somtiȝe ryllan þider to þæra wringa. *a* 1000 *Judith* 169 *Leyden text* (1924) 28 Þy scbrond red wyth blod Ase troddares in wringe *Ibid*, þe wringe ich habbe ȝ trodded al myself on. 1398 TREVISA *Barthol De P R* XVII (BM Add MS 27944), b Suttsabe þinges bereþ doun þe mete as it were a pressoure oþer a wrynge. *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* 1 495 Col hewer MS ), Whanne þe wrynge is wel mad, it is not speke of nowe *Ibid* XI 207 Erly sette on werkyng hem [*sc* olives] the wrynge 1530–3 in Weever *Fcls Wills* (1890) 155 The dragge, and the wryngge and the vate. 1664 NEWMARKET in Evelyn *Pomona* 48 The Cider bottled imme diately from the wring. 1844 W BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 170 *Wring*, a press, as a cider wring. 1906 in *Eng. Dial. Dict* v v, Cider from the wring

**2** A cheese-press

[1670 in C Worthy *Devon Wills* (1896) 27 A cheese wring ] 1892 I HARDY *Love Tech* The treasured dripping of the whey from the wrings downstairs

**3** *Wring house*, the house or shed where a cider- or cheese-wring is kept.

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 472 Wring house for making cider 1842 *Gt Western Rail. Act* 52 In th' wring house hard by work, Th' mill dri ges I 1888 I HARDY *Woodlanders* XIII, His dwelling, cider cellar, wring house.

**Wring** (riŋ), *sb.*[2] [f. WRING *v* ]

1. The act of wringing, twisting, or writhing ; an instance of this. Also *fig*

*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* XXI 237 But he that forsake I shall gyf hym a wyng that his nek shall crak. 1611 COTGR , *Garrot*, a wring, or pinch in the throate. 1634 SIR HAR *Contempl*, *N T* iv 241 P E The sighs, and teares, and thud bers and wrings of a disconsolate mourner 1697 VAN BRUGH *Relapse* III i, My brother has given it a wring by the nose 1789 I REEVE *Lett Archil* 178 It is wo se if any Wring or unequal Pressure happen, will naturally settle close to each ot er 1880 *Century Mag* May 85/2 She gave the shirt a vicious wring

*fig* 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev* I 1, Have I not crush t them with a cruell wring ? 1628 PRIMAT *Archæ* II. xvii 72 We have under the wring of sorrow

b. The action of squeezing, pressing, or clasping , a squeeze or clasp of the hand

1599 B JONSON *Cynthia's Rev* V iii, A Wring by the hand, with a Banquet in a corner *Ibid* v iii, A wring by the hand, and the Banquet in a corner 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II i, D 4 b, Yet do I understand y ur secret iogges and wrings, Your ey e rcourse & glances 1861 HAWTHAY *Tom s Cheltenham* II iii 41 A wring, a kisse, Sent I y some Childe 1876 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chn* II xxii, James, w th one wring of the hand, retreated 1894 J A STEWART *In Day of Battle* xvii, I gave the good soul's hand a hearty Christian wring

**2.** A sharp or gripping pain, esp. in the intestines.

*c* 1500 *Rawlin Receipt* 61 Ane of the infirmities , The stanly wrig, the stanis and sand blind 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I xxviii 195 Hens dung swallowed by hap, bringeth frets and wrings in the belline. 1609 HOLLAND *Ianm Marcell* 320 An horse sore vexed with a suddaine grip & cr wring in his belly, fell down 1611 COTGR , *Trenchaison*, a gripe, or a wring, as of the Chollicke, &c

**3.** With *down*. That which is obtained by wringing.

1874 T HARDY *Far fr Madding Crowd* lii, To look at the last wring down of cider.

**Wring** (riŋ), *v* Pa. t and pa. pple **wrung** (rʌŋ) Forms. *Inf.* **1** wringan, 2–4 **wringen**, 4 **wrongen**, 5 **-one**, **-yn**, **wrungin** ; 3–7 **wringe** (5 **ringe**), 4–6 **wrynge**, **wryng**, 4–5 **wrong**, 4– **wring** (6 *Sc* **wrink-**, 7–8, 9 *dial* **ring**) *Pr. t.* 1–9 (now *dial.*) **wrang**, 4–6 **wrange** (*pl.* 1 **wrungon**, 3–4 **-en**) ; 3–7 **wrong**, 3–6 **wronge**, 6 **wroong**, **wroung** (*pl* 4 **wrongen**, 5 **-on**) ; 4– **wrung** (6 **wrunge**). *Pa. pple.* 1, 4 **wrungen**, 6 **wrong**, 6– **wrung** (8 **rung**), 5–7 **wrong**, 5–6 **wronge** (4–6

ywrong, 4–5 ȝ-, iwrongе). wronge, 5 wrounge, 6 wroung, wroong(e. *Weak pa. t.* 5–8 **wringed**; *pa. ple.* 6–7 **wringed**. [OE. *wringan* (*wrang, wrungon*; *wrungen*), = OFris. **wringa* (WFris. *wringe*), OS. **wringan* (in *ātwringan*); MLG. *wringen*, LG. *wringen, ringen*), MDu. and Du. *wringen*, OIIG. *rinkan, ringan, ringen* (MHG., G. *ringen*). Other grades of the stem *wring-* are represented by *wrang* Wrong *a.* and Goth. *wruggō* snarc.]

**I.** 1. *trans.* To press, squeeze, or twist (a moist substance, juicy fruit, etc.), esp. so as to drain or make dry. Also *transf.* and in fig. context. (Cf. 14 b.)

*c* 890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 250 Witodlice hit ȝeðuingð..þa þa Langbeardiscan men wringon ceberzan on þære treiolan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xl. 11 Ic nam þa winberian & wrang on þæt fæt. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2064 Ȝe berun ðat-sune [*sc.* a cup] me ðunyte ic wrong. 13.. *K. Alis.* (W.) 331 Herbes he tok..And stamped hem in a morter; And wrong hit [*Laud Ms.* wronge it out] in a box. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thop.* 65 His faire steede.. So swatte, pat men mȝghte him wrynge, His sydes were al blood. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Take Molberys, and wringe a goode hepe of hem þorw a cloþe. *c* 1485 *Dighy Mist. Jacob* (1882) 1. 1. 75 Wrath in Cl 75 Wringeth [*sc.* furnaces with gold] into a schelle. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 418, I haif a water sugane for wa,..Than wring I it full wylely. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 412 Vnderstand you him with a sponge:..if ouce she wrong it, it would drop blood. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1672) 147 God is wringing grapes of red wine for Scotland. 1662 R. Venner in *Exper. Apothec.* vi. 65 Wash it [*sc.* moss] well,..wring it very dry. 1747 Mas. Glasse *Cookery* xvii. 247 Strain them [*sc.* elderberries] through a coarse Cloth, bruising the Berries. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 363 Pour the rest of the milk to it,.. then wring it through a cloth. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* III. i. 97 That your face Seen through my sleep has wrung mine eyes to tears For pure delight in you.

*absol. c* 1050 in Techner *Zeitschrift* (1889) II. 223 Donne þu cuse habban wile, sete þonne þine twa handa togæþere þeȝlȳþes, wringe þa wringan.

**b.** To strain (juice, moisture, etc.) from a moist or wet substance by squeezing or torsion; to extract (fluid) *from* or *out of* something by pressure, etc. Occas. in fig. context. Also with advs., as *forth, out* (sense 14 b).

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* v. § 2 Ne meaht þu win wringan on midde winter. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 Xenim þisere ylcan wyrte leaf, ..wyl on weetere, & wring þæt wos. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. P.* xx. vii. cl.xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Newe wyn þat is newe take ynow & wringe out þe moyste. *c* 1440 *Leg. Rood* (1872) 138 Cristes Cros sit spac his speche: Furst was I presse wyn to wringe. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* vi. 38 He wrunge ȳe dew out of the flese. 1576 G. Baker tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 11 b, We..distill the lycour wrynged forth. 1631 Anchoran *Comestnes' Gate Tongues* 69 Quire is wringed and strained out of olives. *a* 1718 Evelyn *Diary* 21 May 1654, A laundress wringing water out of a piece of linen. 1726 Hervey *Medit.* 42 The intolerable Pressure wrung Blood, instead of Sweat, from every Pore. 1897 Ruskin *Pol. Econ.* I. 17 You have to..wring the honey and oil out of the rock. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. Prol. Wringing the water from his coarse clothing. *transf.* 1659 Hele tr. *Luther's Table Talk* xxxv. 381 He wringeth from me a bitter sweat.

**c.** *transf.* To force (tears) *out of* the eye, *from* a person, etc.; to squeeze out.

*a* 1393 Hylton *Scala Perf.* I. lix. (W. de W. 1494), He ..somtyme wryngeth a tere oute of his eye. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. xiii. 135 Art thou come..To wring more teares from Isabellas eies? 1600 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. i. 90, The gripe of chaunce is weake to wring a teare From him. 1683 Dryden & Lee *Dk. Guise* II. i, It wrings the Tears from Guilloi's Iron Heart. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* xvii, It is not a small distress that can wring tears from these old eyes. 1815 Milman *Fazio* I. i, 'Twere sin to charity To wring one drop of brine upon thy corpse. 1819 Keats *Otho* III. ii. 221 A foolish dream that from my brow hath wrung A wrathful dew.

**2.** To twist, writhe, or wrest (a person or thing); to force (a limb, etc.) *round* or *about* so as to cause a sprain or pain.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 106 Tveah him þa loccas, & wringe þa earan & þone wanghæard twiccize. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 162 Hongur..hente wastur bi þe wawe, And wrong him..be þe wombe. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1014 By the nose I schall the wryng, Thow berdles gadlyng. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xl. (Arb.) 111 The foxe..grepe the wulf fast by the eedyons. And he wronge hem so sore that [etc.]. 1580 Sidney *Ps. xxxvi. 16* The wicked shall wrynge the..on the wryng. 1678 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 114 After they had chafled his temples..,wrong hys little finger [etc.]. 1612 Shelton *Quix.* I. iv. v. 318 He wrung her throat so straitly betweene both his armes, that [etc.]. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Agonie* ii, There shall be see a man..wrung with pains. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 132 ¶ 3 Let me wring your Neck round your Shoulders. 1727–41 [see Twist v. 9 b]. 1815 Burney *Dict. Marine, To Wring a Mast*, is to bend or strain it out of its natural position by setting the shrouds up too taught. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* viii, It's but wringing the head o' him about at last. 1839 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 64 The mamlook..began to wring it [*sc.* another's ear] by little and little. 1881 Rita' *My Lady Coquette* xix, I shall wring that Budd's neck if he comes in my way.

*refl. a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 171 The common people..wring them selfes by the berdes.

*fig.* 1900 J. L. Allen *Incr. Purpose* iv. 39 His heart-strings were twisted tight and wrung sore this day.

**b.** To contract or contort (the features, etc.); to screw, distort, turn awry.

*a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1060 (Camb.), Horn tok burdon & scrippe, & wrong his lippe. 1576 Whetstone *Rocke of Regard* I. 83 She wrung her mouth awry. 1600 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, Would'st have me.. wring my face with mimic action? 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 151 When he fauneth vpon a man he [*sc.* a dog] wringeth his skinne in the forehead. 1665 J. Wilson *Projectors* I. i. 8 Do you not observe him how hard he wrings his brows? 1820 Scott *Marm.* VI. xxx. 5 When pain and anguish wring the brow. 1885 R. L. & F. Stevenson *Dynamiter* 184 The white face.. wrung with unspoken thoughts.

**c.** To twist or force (the features) *into* or *to* a simile, etc.

1806 J. Bidlestone *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 4) VII. xxxv, The necessity.. of wringing your features into a smirk, in addressing a poltroon. 1827 Hood *Mids. Fairies* xciv, To hope my solemn countenance to wring To idiot smiles!

**3.** To twist (a wet garment, cloth, etc.) in the hands, so as to force out water; also in recent use, to pass through a wringer. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *away* (quot. 1728).

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 1233 He shoken hire cloben wasben and wrungen. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 18 Dowel shal wasshen it (*sc.* a coat) and wryngen it bote ȝe confessour. *a* 1425 *MS. Sloane* 73 fol. 201, [When] þat þou moystist it þus.. loke þat þou wryngе it clene. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (*Sommer*) 294 After she toke oute the sherte appertly and wronge hit. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2, I wringe..a clothe that is wete. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* XII. x. 150 The vessels were by these vessels flowed with wine. 1653 Ford *Tis Pity* III. vii, My whole body is in a sweat, that you may wring my shirt; feel here. 1684 Boyle *Porosum. Bod.* viii. 21 To wring away the water, by tying it in a bag or piece of kids.. leather, and then wringing it hard to force it out. 1728 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* vii, I never.. wrung away my sarks with wringing. 1738 Swift *Lett. to T. Brownrigg* 30 June, Take care of dainties.. if a stocking happens to fall off a chair, you may wring it next morning. 1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* II. 283 Weeping, she wrings his dripping hair. 1828 Beach *Self-Cult.* 51 A wet sheet, dipped in water, and well wrung.

*absol. c* 1425 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 A woman ys a worthy thynge; Whan she wrynges wel dothe wel. 1678 *Lessons Hush.* (1898) 173 Maids, wash well and wring well. 1635 *Life & Death Long Mcg Westm.* ii. 5 She had been..used.. to hard labour, as to wash, to wring.

**b.** To clasp and twist (the hands or fingers) together, esp. in token or by reason of distress or pain.

In very frequent use from *c* 1300.

*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 45/300 He wrop and criede and wrong his honde. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 980 (Camb. MS.), Hire fingres [*Harl.* hondes] he gan wringe. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 68 Wrobliche he wrong his fust, *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23960 (Cott.) Þe louelie Ihesus do stil wringe. *c* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 815 They wejȝyn faste and wrang ther hande. *c* 1485 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 37 There had you seen ..many a lady wringe her handes. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cclxx. 565/1 They wronge their handes and tare their heeres. 1611 Braum. & Fl. *Aut. Burn. Pestle* IV. i. Song, Come you whose loves are dead, And wring Every hand and tear your hair. 1659 W. Chamberlayne *Pharon.* III. ii. 105 Her hands Wringing each other's ivory joints. 1740 Shollett *Regicide* IV. v, Wherefore dost thou wring thy tender hands? 1798 Edgeworth *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 200 Persons in violent grief wring their hands and convulse their countenances. 1845 Mangan *German Anthol.* I. 269 She wrung her hands till blood gushed forth. 1884 T. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 89 He wrung his fingers together and breathed hard.

1894 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, The wind sawed.. The shrubs wrung their many hands.

*absol. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23960, I so him hang, I se his wring. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1. 2712 Let hym care and wepe and wryng and waille. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 2/6, I wringe & wepe as ping for-lorn. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tr.* (1837) 251 She wrong and wept a pace.

**4.** To twist, turn, or bend (a limb, etc.) so as to cause pain or injury; to sprain, dislocate, break, etc.

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xi. 347 The schoon schulden be so narowe, that thei schulden neeþis wringe his soneȝ fort into þe schoon. 1530 Palsgr. 785/2, I wringe my wryste. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xxvi. 13 I haue broken the bondes of your yoke, & made you to goo vpright. 1580 North *Plutarch, Fr. Æmylius* (1595) 262 Is not this a goodly shoote? ..yet..reuer a one of you can bende it, or wring it. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) *Civ. Conv.* I. 11 Hee bought a paire of Bootes, whereof the one was so straite that it wrong his legge and foote verie sore. 1618 Shelton *Quix.* II. (1620) 233/1 I know where my Orchard wrung it. 1650 Bulwer *Chirologia* 130 Some..wring her ! as chearfully, as I would a Shoote that wringes me. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 297/2 None knows where it [a shoe] wrings like the wearer. 1827 Hood *Mids. Fairies* xciv, I'll wring Tom Clatpole xxiv, I gun to feel.. De haboot ring me toe.

**b.** In figurative contexts; esp. in the proverbial phrase *to know where the shoe wrings one*, or variants of this: cf. Pinch v. 1 b.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 341 I woot best wher wrynyeth me my sho. — *Wife's Prol.* 490 He sat ful oft and song Whan þat his shoo ful bitterly hym wrong. 1546 J. Heyw. *Proverbs* II. vii. (1562) 57 My wife can tell best, Where my shoe doth wryng me. 1564 Lodge *Alarm* E iij b, We shall finde whereas their shooe wringeth them. 1620 Middleton *Blurt, Mast. Constable* A 4 b, I know those things belong to th' Court. 1694 Earl of Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 253 Here it is that the King of Spains shoe wrings him. 1697 Marvell. *Reh. Transp.* I. 314 They see where the shoe wrings.

**c.** *absol.*, esp. in fig. or proverbial use.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 413, I see that others maye gesse where the shooe wringes, besides him that weares it. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 54 As he were a Coblers eldest sonne, [he] would by the laste tell where anothers shoe wrings. 1609 Rowlands *Crew Kind Gossips* 4 Little do they know where this wrings. 1698 A. Fer tr. *Wurtz Surg.* II. xxv. 149 He that weareth the shooes knoweth where they wring. 1887 *Irishman's News* 23 July (E. D. D.), Every man knows best where his shoe wrings.

**5.** To cause anguish or distress to (a person, his heart, etc.); to vex, distress, rack.

In freq. use from *c* 1280, esp. with *heart*.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1531 So hard hym wrong of sharp destr þe peyne. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 50 If that thou fele That love wringe thee to sore, liberal Ovide and take his lore. *a* 1535 Fisher *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 419 A penitent soule, that is sore prest and wrong with viler shame. 1575 Gascoigne *Dan Bartlo., Reprouer* 19 In deede the rage which wrong him there, was ratne. 1614 Wither *Turnvil., Epigr.* v. 16 Where only thine own guiltinesse doth wring thee. 1648 *Humbling of Peter* 32 Every word hath its weight, and secretly wrings those lay-Levites. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 158 For Nature..Wrings the sad Soul, and bends it down to Earth. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* xxviii, Though he has wrung my heart,..that shall never inspire me with vengeance. 1831 James *Phil. Aug.* III. ii, Even the sunbeam..seemed but given to wring him [*sc.* a prisoner] with the memory of sweets he could not taste. 1845 Mangan *German Anthol.* I. 161 Remorse may wring thy soul too late! 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 79, I must tell you all, How'er it wring my heart.

*absol.* 1853 Anchan *Germany* 23 His take is always so accompanied with discression..,as he neither let's it wring nor wrong, but writes with decision. *a* 1893 Cuk. G. Rossetti *Poems* (1904) 275/1 O faces unforgotten I if to part Wrung sore, what will it be to re-embrace!

**b.** To affect (a person, etc.) with bodily pain, hurt, or damage (sometimes *spec.* by torsion or pressure); to hurt, harm, or injure. Now *dial.* or *arch.* (after Shakspere).

*c* 1300 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2047 Howe the gowte wryngeth me by the toe! 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Contrictus*, The mouthe wrunge with the bridle. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 249 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false saddle. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 55 After they had first wrung their forheads with the bridle. 1697 *St. Papers, Col.* 227 [Stale cider] doth extraordinarily wring the belly. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 176 Being wrung by her Pain. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4881/4 Rung with the Fetters on the white Foot, and rung a little on the Shoulders. 1728 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 198 When scalding Thirst their burning Bowels wrings. 1882 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. V. 89/2 My poor horse..was wrung. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 190, I wrung my shoulder with carrying a twenty-stale ladder.

*absol.* 1575 Gascoigne *Werdes, Compl. Gr. Knt.*, A peece which shot..so streight, It neyther bruzed with recule, nor wroong with ouerweight.

*fig.* or in fig. context. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 387 For deny I wil not that I am wrong or the withers. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. i. 7 The poore Iade is wrung in the withers. [Cf. Unwrung *infr. c.*] 1888 E. Gosse *Congreve* 3 It wrung the withers of Mr. Congreve's family.

**c.** To distress or afflict (a person) by exaction, severity, etc.; to oppress, keep down.

1550 Becon *Fortr. Faithfulst* iii, Thus ȳe' pore people be so wrounge of these ungentile gentlemen, ȳe' the celye soules are lyke unto dry haddocke. 1579 Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 352 So as you [do not], wring your Tenants in such sort for your private gain. 1613 P'Cres Eliz. in *Hist. Eng. Liet. Sec.* II. III. 234 Sir Mr. I am sory I am not in favr ward to wringe you with requests. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* III. 537 The meanest Groom I saw, I feared so, I durst not wrong. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 150 Bare existence, man, to live ordain'd, Wrings, and oppresses with enormous weight.

†**d.** To press or ply (a person) with argument or confutation. *Obs. rare*.

1587 Harding in Jewel *Def. Apol.* 9 What doo Heretikes when they are vryed and wroonge, when by force of argumentes they are straighted. 1648 Trapp *Comm. John* viii. 7 Thus our Saviour wringes those supercilious and censorious hypocrites.

**6.** To wrench or wrest out of position or relation; to cause to change place by turning or twisting. Const. with *adva.*, as *apart, asunder*, or prepa., as *from, off, out of*.

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 3062 His stirope he made him tine, To grounde he him wrong. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XI. xiii. (W. de W.) 9 vi b, Thonder dystroyeth hye trees and wryngyth [MSS. rentyth] hem out of the grounde. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* i. 15 The prest shal..wrynge the neck of it a sonder. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* I. iv, He wrong a club ..out of the hande of Ielabell. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* xxv. (1595) 386, I will..wring a sunder the yron barres [= Isaiah xlv. 2]. 1635 *Long Meg Westm.* xx, Meg..did wring the sticke out of his hands. 1699 *Voy. Archangel* 78 Our Rudder Head was wrung in peices. *a* 1784 in Child *Ballads* III. 480/2 His neck in twa I wat they haw wrung. 1897 Bourne *Surrey Rym.* (1909) 157 My mouth being slightly wrung aside, and my complexion rather swarthy. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xi, I'll wring his calf's head off his body.

*fig.* and in fig. context. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par.* Pref. Ij, Godly Counsaillours, whom..this wicked rable found meanes to wryng out of fauour. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 295 Now your haue not spoken, you must not thinke to wring me from it. *a* 1592 [see Wrest *sb.* 3 b]. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. xii, Who the life from both their hearts can wring. 1870 Browning *The Pope* v, My spirit..struggles hard to wring Thy bolts apart. 1878 Browning *Ls Saisiaz* 51 Each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

*refl. a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 227 To wring themselves out of God's hand by annihilation.

**b.** To bring out (words, etc.) with effort.

*a* 1330 in *Reliq. Lyrica* 1908 Ne can I wrong out þe wringest mani wrang word þat I ofte ȝernes ful wete. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Praise* (No. 3) I, Lord, I will..speak thy praise,.. Then will I wring it with a sigh or grone. 1820 Keats *Ode to Psyche* 1 Hear these tuneless numbers, wrung By sweet enforcement and remembrance dear.

**7.** To acquire or gain (money, property, a right, etc.) by exaction or extortion; to wrest or wrench *from or out of* a person, etc.

*a* 1300 *Sermon in E. E. P.* (1862) 3 pe wreochis wringit pe mok so fast ȝup ham silf hi nul not spend. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 583 *Fiscto*, to wryngе mony. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 213 All which prulleges..they..do what they

can to wrest and wring iron fr. 1594 West *2nd Pt Symbol* § 215 Those offences ..are committed when any wrinseth money or other things from another man 1630 A. *Johnston Wingfd. & Comman.* 367 that Marquesate of Salusses .. which Henry the fourth of France wring from him 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Extort*, to wrest, wring or get out of one by force, threat or authority 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. Hard hands have wring from me my goods, my money, my ships. 1885 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xxii IV 747 To wring taxes out of the distressed population. 1868 Parker *Sermons & L.* I (1875) 15 The holds which the usurer has wrung from the orphan.

*absol.* 1582 [see Wrest v 4b].

*fig.* and *transf.* 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks (Globe) 620 How hardly that Act of Parliament was wronge out of them 1608–11 Hall *Apol* 1 Pap. Ded. It were well if I could wring ought from my aches not unworthie of a judicious Render 1828 Carlyle *Misc., Burns*[n] 31 They will wring from Fate another hour of wassail and good cheer. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I 160 To wring from the very soil more than it could produce 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* IX II 464 The pressure which had wrung from him the only good acts of his reign.

**b.** To exact, extort, or draw (an admission, consent, etc.) *from* or *out of* a person, etc.

In frequent use from c 1380.

c 1444 [see Writing *vbl. n.*] 2 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II VII (1588) 213 At the common Law, *Nemo tenebatur prodere seipsum*, and then he shall was not to be wrung out of himselfe, but (etc.) 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 41 The Lord doth not so to wring from him some tearmes of homage. 1672 Milton *Samson* 1159 [they] constrain'd the bride To wring from me my secret 1721 Young *Revenge* II. 1. wrung a promise from him he would try 1799 Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* 1 359 To wring the slow surrender from his tongue. 1833 Hr. Martineau *Brooke Farm* VI 79, I was prepared to enemy should wring a confession out of me. 1864 G. A. Lawrence *M. Dering* II 83 The gay dare devilry of the man wrung from both..admiration 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 293 These are not admissions wrung by the energy of his opponents from Mr. Huxley.

*transf.* a 1823 Shelley *Falsehood & Vice* 73 The stifled moans Wrung from a nation's miseries

*fig.* 1893 Maurice *Prophets* & *Kings* xxv 441 Wringing out of texts or symbols the proof of some New Testament revelation

**9** To press, clasp, or shake (a person's hand); to press (a person) *by* the hand; to shake hands with.

1534 More *Comf. agst Trib.* II Wks 1170/1 The one toke the other by the tip of the finger, for hand would there none be wrongen thorow the glate 1580 Tyrr *Papistes* (Arb.) 333 To wringing hir by the hand he smiled 1601 [P. Holland tom] *Pasquil's Nath* III (1878) 137 I le wring thy fingers with an ardent gripe .. a 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 28 Aug 1673, He wrung me by the hands. 1713 Addison *Cato* I iv, I'll wring a good old King at parting wrung my hand 1816 Scott *Bl Dwarf* xvii, Langley took his hand, and wring it hard 1848 Dickens *Dombey* I. xiv, Mr. Toots wringing Walter by the hand 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* III, He shook hands with Tom, wringing his hand harder than he knew

**b.** To squeeze or compress *together, round*.

c 1440 Gesta Romanorum (Harl. MS.) He layned in on Mappe the [four] greate sheeres [= shires] by reason whereof he was forced to wringe them .neere together

**9 a** To subject (something) to a writhing, wresting, or turning movement; to press, drive, or impel in this way. Cccas *fig.* and in fig. context. Also with preps., as *into, unto, upon*.

13 . *K. Alis.* 7383 (Laud MS.), His spores he gynneþ in horse wringe. c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xlix. 190 He wrang his fystes and bi-tke the cordes al a-sonder 1565 J. Hall *Certe Serm.* 73 b, Of wrest or wry make scripture a nose, To turne and wryng it every waye. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* Peroration (1925) 252 In tormenting the minde, and wringing it to the worst 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witches* xiii xxv (1886) 170 If you wring a testor upon ones forehead, it will aceme to sticke, when it is taken awaye. a 1585 Sidney *Arcadia* II. 76 Wringing [*Folio* wrenching] his waste, and thrusting out her chinne 1620 Shaks. *Temp* I II 135 Ill in a hint that wringes mine eyes too't. 1658 Heylin, *Wrongly accused*, to Fling, be the taile. 1760–2 Goldsm *Cit W* lxxix, They must wring their figures into every shape of distress. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm* xxxv, And in it true, then, that the bridegroom's face was wrung round about him? 1862 Trollope *Little Mansion* III, Her lips you cannot wring Into saying a word more

*transf.* c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* VII 28 [He] wringed his sadeck atte the pullyng out ayen, that he made of his swerde.

**b.** To wrest or twist (a writing, words, etc.); to strain the purport or meaning of; to deflect, pervert; = Wrest v. 5.

[1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C v, 31 Wil-man and wittiman and warn yn wynge lawe] 1540 *Godlye Communyon* (E. E. T. S.) 77 Wringyng & wrestynge the Scriptures 1581 [see Wrest v. 3]. 1606 S. Gardiner *Dk. Angling* 109 By thus wringing the Scripture and causing it to bleede 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt* v, By wringing the collective allegory of those seven Angels into seven angle Rochets 1845 *Tristram* 8 [Gode] commands and worke are not to be so strictly wrung, as [etc.].

*absol.* 1540 Coverdale *Confut Standish* (1547) d vj b, Thus make ye of gods holy scripture a shipmans hose, wresting and wringing to what purpe ye ye will 1564 [see Wrest v. 5].

**c.** To turn or deflect (a matter) *into or to* something; to convert. ? *Obs.*

1594 *State Papers Hen I III* I 139 To wryng and wreste the matters in to bettre frayme, if they wolde a wrye 1648 L. Hunt *Par Honey* p xvii (tr. Bacon), So are those doctrines best and sweetest which are not wrung into controversies and common-places.

**†d.** To incline or dispose (a person); to bend or divert *to* something *Obs.*

1528 More *Dyalogue* III Wks. 210/1 Our harte euer thinketh the iudgement wrong, that wringeth us to the worse. 1553 Ascham *Germany* 6 b, Octauio was euermore wrong to the worse by many and sundry spites 1579 [see Wrest v 5].

**e** To wreathe, twist, or coil (something flexible); to wind or dispose in coils.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II xvi. 50 b, Another great columne in forme of three serpents, wrung one within another 1907 A. M. tr. *Gentleman's Tr. Chirurg* 29 b/2 Cause the patient gentlye to wring about his neck a table napkinne or a towell 1623 tr. *Bovine's Theat Hom* 1st no. That is to say, a Serpent writhed or wrung togeiher. 1627 A. Tennent *Vis Glencoe* 49 Some in coils their forms did wring, As when the deadly serpent a spring Inuires its victim's doom 1896 M. Field *Attila* IV 107 She catches hold of her own veil and wrings it round her head

**†10.** *refl.* To wriggle or insinuate (oneself) *into* a place, favour, etc. *Obs.*

1595 *Forgeries Richard Dyer's Rem. E. Privy Seals.* II 27 The deuyll wringe hym selfe into the lyttell holie eayen 1598 Nashe *P. Penilesse* B 4 b, I hey wring themselues into his good opinion 1600 Marston *Antonio & Mel* III, Niggard life Hath but one little, little wicket through We wring our selves into this wretched world to curse and rail. 1621 T. Taylor (Water P.) *Superbus Flagellum* D 3 b, These vipers proudly make humility a screw, To wring themselues into opinions view.

**II.** With adverbs

**11. Wring down** To force, squeeze, or press down; to force down the throat.

1633 *Swedish Intelligencer* III 23 [They] will eate you whole handfulls of raw Onyons as familiarly as an Italian wrings downe sallets, or we apples. 1674 T. Hardy *Far fr. Mad Crowned* 101, There were the fellers round her wringing down the cheese [in the press].

**12. Wring in** To insert, insinuate, or bring in with or as with a twisting movement. Chiefly *fig.*

1579 Fenton *Trag. Discourses* 1 Whereat Hee would faine make Euthymus to speak for him, if he could tell how to wring him in. 1597 [see Wrest v 1c]. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev* II iv, Who when they know not acquainted with a stranger, neuer rest till they have wrung in 11 1628 *Drayton Poly-olb* XXI 187 Giue me those Lines..In which things naturall he, and not in falsely wrong

**13. Wring off** To wrest or force off by twisting or turning round.

c 1500 Skelton *Magnyf* 1009 Of some I wrynge of the necke lyke a wyre 1611 Bible *Le* I 15 The Priest shall wring it [a turtle-dove's head] wring off his head 1796 Sweet *Cultivator* II v, One of our servants wrung off the bird's neck 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* II 1 167 Let one .. Wring my crown off and cast it underfoot.

**14.** To force out (moisture) by or as by twisting; to squeeze out. Also *fig.* and *transf.* Cf. Outwring *v.*

1340–70 *Alexander* 722 Hee wringes oute be wet wus 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2577 *Philis*, To meche truste wel may I putte, And yiure teris falsely out wringe 1388 Wyclif *Isaiah* xvi 10 He that was wont to wringe out, schal not wringe out wyn in a pressour c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 210 Pou schuldest wrynge pe pynge owte of pe clope 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* (Roxb.) 33 Gedeon wronge out the dewe 1580 Baret *Alvearie's Comme* 40 b He that bloweth his nose muche, shall wringe out bloode 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II xxvii, With that the fellow wrung out teares 1612 S. Rid *Art of Jugling* E 3 b, So (with a little wringing out the water) you may write out blood in wine. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* 111 A sturdie woman, washing and winding of linnen clothes, wringes out the water 1743 Blair *Grave* 328 From stubborn shrubs I hou wring at their roots a bitter juice 1816 J. Wilson *City of Inq* xii 1 196 Such return Wrings out the tears from my old mother's heart

*transf.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v xxxvi (Bodl. MS), Colde nere is ywronge oute [*L. expressum*] and idrawe to pe vtter parties

**b.** To strain (a wet fabric, etc.) with a twisting motion, so as to press out most of the moisture. Also const. *of* (the liquid in which the thing has been wetted).

13 . [see 3]. 1388 Wyclif *Judges* VI 38 Whanne the flees was wrongun out, he fillide a pot with dewe c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb* II 1 Whan it hath been vp steped xii dayes, Wringe out the mixte [= myrtle berries] & clense hit. 1561 Hollyband *Fr. Alph* 83 Wet a long cloth, wringe it well out 1615 Barker tr. *Estienne's Perfect of Health* 12 b, We wring out the thynge is fused 1676 Wiseman *Surg* II IX. 191 With a Compress wrung out as is prescribed 1772 Mrs. Hannah *Farm Present for Mar* 268 Then wring them out of those suds. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *M. Barton* viii, Just help me wring these out, and then I'll take 'em to the mangle 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 419 Large towel wrung out of cold water

**c.** To get or fetch out (something) with a wrenching movement; to wrench or wrest out.

c 1440 *Wycliffite Bible* 2 Sam xxiii 21 (MS Bodl 960), He wrong out pe spere fro pe hond

**d** To express or bring out with effort. (Cf 6 b.)

1402 *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 106 Oft, Dame, in thi writing, thou wryngst out contradiccion 1831 Lamb *Elia* II *Newspapers* 25 *years ago*, We were wringing out coy sprightliness for the [Morning] Post

**e.** To obtain or draw (something) from another by pre-sure, application, or art, to extract, elicit, bring out.

1586 Day tr. *Mendoza's Comm* 118 b, Of all these thynges can they [ie merchants] wrynge out [*L. elicere*] golde and syluer, I the wonderfull I ease of people 1591 Lyly *Endymn* V III, Marking my signes, by questions [he] wrunge out that, which was reuiue to I ume out 1598 Greene *tr Tacitus, Ann* XV. 228 Let false praise, and wroong out by prayers be restrained 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* II v, Present thy guilt, As if twere wrung out with thy conscience gripe 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv* 90 I hat which claws away world from about them, would, 'tis like, wring out their Planethood from within them 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat* II 58 The gratification is wrung out from the very tormenta of the heart 1855 Macaulay *Hist Eng* xix IV 587 In order to wring out from them the names of their employers. 1899 Browning *Martin Relph* 121 He wrung their pardon out

**†f.** To expel or depose (a person) from position or office; to thrust out. *Obs.*

1580 Daubit *Stedfaste & Comm*, 174 b, After he had wronge oute (L. *eiiaverat*) Mathew Hedde he placed [another] in his rome. 1632 Weever *Anc Funeral Mon* 238 In which office he continued, vntill hee was wrung out by Wolsey

**15. Wring up** To pull up with a twist; to wrench up.

c 1440 *Pallad on Husb* II 185 The wedis with an hond most vp be wronge. [*Cf. unwring*, Ur 4 a]

**b.** To squeeze, press, or compact by torsion; to twist or screw up.

c 1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 14 Take almondes, leay hem, wryng hem up c 1440 in *Housek Ord* (1790) 440 Take parsel, and grinde hit, and wringe hit up with egges through a strynour 1885 G. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser IV 244 Wring the hook up tightly in the press 1892 T. Hardy *Tess* III, The very white frock which had been wrung up and ironed by her mother's own hands

**c.** *Hunting* In passive. Of a lode: To become diminished or dwindled

1839 De la Beche *Rep Geol Cornwall*, etc xi 343 By continuing the workings through the space so wrung up 1854 [J. K. Fitzgerald] *Cornwall* 142 Sometimes the lode becomes 'wrung up,' or impoverished

**III.** *intr* **†16** To flow or run *out* under pressure. to 1888 *Obs*

c 1225 *Ancr R* 320 Ase pet fule wrasum scheawe'h him, & wringe'h ut buoren al pe wide worlde. a 1400 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom* I 281 pat te blod wrang ut at tine finger nailes a 1300 *Cursor M* 11700, I wil pat vie be water wring, pe 1400 *Ywaine* 881 I he tone of hym gan wryng a 1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 288o pe bloode a non began out to springe And pan pe watur after to wringe

**†b** To struggle or writhe in a way *obs.* Also *fig.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1210 Thou oute at holes gunne wringe Euery tydynge streight to pame a 1525 *Pergebus* in Thoms *P. Lyric Poems* II 26 There was a lyrell hole and theras wrange the deuyll out like a eyed 1584 R. Scot *Discov Witches* III xvi. 51 Little holes where a fle can scarselie wring out.

**c** *Mining* With *out* (See quot and 15 c.)

1895 [J. R. Leifchild] *Cornwall* 91 Sometimes the schist so abounds in the lode, that the quartzose part disappears altogether, or is only continued in minute strings. In such a case, the lode is said to have dwindled away, or to have *wrung out*

**†17** To suffer or sustain twisting, wrenching, or turning *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg Kath* 1568 Pe keiser bed pa landen ham swa, pe fet & te honden, pet ha wrungen ayen.

**b.** To be engaged in, to perform the action of, writhing or twisting; *esp.* of the hands

1377 Langl. *P. Pl* B v, 85 His body was to bolle for wrastlhe. And wryngynge pe yedes wip pe wombe 1435 *Torr Portugal* 1690 Fore his men pursued a dere, To his castell, That doth my hondys wring, This Giaunt hym take a 1450 *Myrc Duties* 1 Pe wyfe schal wrynge hyr hondys 1485 Jonkes, Ny wrynge pou not wyth ly schonkes ? a 1580 *Lives of Fulham* 143 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II 7 A gentyll bayd takys on can no defense, but wrynges with the tothe & pe tale. 1546 *Supplic. to Lords Comm* 12 (E. E. T. S.) 69 When they sawe the worlde scorne wil it lyke to wrynge on the other syde, they denyed it 1603 J. Case *tr. Aristotle's Q* 38, His wife with her hands wringing entred to him with a weeping. 1682 Bunyan *Holy Warr* 133 Mr Wetteyes went with hands wringing together 1813 J. Pomfret in *Sacred Poetry* (1808) 243 The hands I I've dearly are wringing

**†18** To fling *away*, to rush precipitately *Obs*

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab* 2557 Richard the whiles away he wronge, Thile that were alle ydo

**19** To twist the body in struggling or striving; to struggle *with* or strive *against* something, to contend, labour, or endeavour earnestly.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* V 168 Arthur weltered and wrong that he was other while by vnder and other tyme above 1489 [see Wrestler 1 2 b] 1548 P. Nicols *Godly New Story* Diij b, Some wring & wrest to go backe agayn into Egypt 1556 J. Heywood *Spider & Fly* 49 The more he [ie a fly] wringe the faster was he wrapt (in the web). 1570 Dwat *Loci Comm* K 3, Iasines and Mambres wrong and shouldered at the truth 1590 [W. Fenner] *Pathway Exercise* II 123 Yet last conclusion fits shewed that they were wringing with death 1837 Carlyle *Misc* (1857) IV 114 With the many he-ited coil of Lernean serpents [Hercules] wrestled and wrung for life and victory

**b** To twist, turn, or struggle in pain or anguish, to writhe

c 1485 *Digby Myst* (1882) II 1409 Swych a cramp on me sett is, I by and wryng 1598 Harin tom *Merlin Epit* (1814) 45 He looked as if he had been wringing hard on a close-stool 1611 Shaks. *Cymb* III vi 79 He will grat some distresse 1633 Br Hall *Occas Meditat* 111 How will it [ie a worm] wreath with the sore hing beanes, and wringe up and down! 1789 [see Wrister - ] 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr* III I, In Hell's wrestle giant 'Mulliocracy' wrestles and wrings in choking nightmare

**c** To suffer or undergo grief, pain, punishment, etc. (*Jer* something).

1565 J. Hall *Cert Sermo* 134 b, None but the pore Doth wryng the feet for Anne and wrest for the shoes. 1586 Ferne *Blaz Gentrie* 22 The sh ensnker hath so scanted his shoe that his foote wringeth therwith 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspiracy* I, Such as are impatient of rest; And wring, leventh some private discontent 1670 J. Hooke *Fr Lord Quat* (1809) III 28 My heart wrings with regret 1831 R.

Lowes *Tom Cladpole* cxlvi, My toe did ring full sore 1882 *N & Q* 17 June 468/2, I took it [as a feather bed lawaj, because he would not wring so [as I have such bed sores].

**20.** †*a.* To set *upon* a person with hostile language *Obs.*

1581 J. HELL *Hadiani Amuru, Orat.* 334 Whereunto tend oth all the endeavor of those men, whome Osorius here wringeth vpon [I *apprime*] so sharpely.

**b.** To carry on wringing or torture *rare*—1

1821 BYRON *Two Foscari* I. i Let them wring on I am strong yet *Guard* Confess, And the rack will be spared you

**†21.** To associate, or join hands, *with* another *Obs rare*

1580 LYTON *Sir Jilia* 109 Which [bribe] belyke you thought that my hands did so tickle to touche that I would wring with the wrong hand fee from the truth.

Hence **†Wringed** *ppl a.*, wrung, squeezed (out).

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II (Arb) 52 Wee wer al inuegled, with wringed teares nicelye blended *Ib.* 1600 *Roman Charity* in A. Phillips *C. Will Gallant* II 142 With wringed Hands, and bitter Tears, These Words pronounced she 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib God* (1682) 617 'Tis as if Divine Goodness did kneel down to a Sinner with wringed Hands

**Wring,** obs. error of RING *sb.*

**†Wring bolt,** obs. error f RING-BOLT

1825 BURNEY *Dict Marine, Wring bolts,* in ship building, are bolts used to bend and secure the [planks against the timbers [Hence in Crabb (1823) and later Dicts Cf. WRAIN BOLT.]

**†Wringe,** obs. variant of *wrinch* WRENCH *sb.*[1]

1632 LITHGOW *Trav* I 3 A Dame Whose wringes, winks, whose curious smiles and words, And scraping feete, lost blandement affoords.

**Wringer** (rɪ·ŋəɹ). Also 6–7 **ringer.** [f prec. + -ER[1]

**1.** OHG. *ringari* (MHG., G *ringer*) wrestler

**1.** An exactor, extortioner, an oppressor.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst Garnesche* II. 1. 1 Such a wringer gob to helle for litil gode but nys nopt his 1568 J. HEYWOOD *Iron & Edger* (1867) 206 How I shall wipe it with? Who was yur welthes wringer? WILCOX *Sarrie Parables* 36 Masters detayning seruaunts wages? a roring sinne, whiche shall make the wringers houle for it a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sec Sax Tetrach* Who (I vow) (I, I) is An Act against all greedy Wringers Wringers, Usurers, and Oppressors. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II xxxii, You're a screwer by deputy, a wringer, and squeezer, and a shaver by substitute

**2** One who presses out juice or moisture *rare*—1

1588 WYLLIE *Samuh* xvi 10 V haue take away the vois of wryngers out [L. *calcantium*]

**b.** One who wrings clothes or the like after washing, one whose occupation consists in wringing

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W* I. iii 5 There dwels his Laundry, his Washer, and his Ringer 1618 ROLFE *Brer Suffolk* (1900) 22 Wringers, squeezers, weavers butlers 1831 CALLEY *Short Acc* I iii, Old Hesiehen who was his washer and wringer 1881 *Instr Census Clerks* (1885) 59 Gun Cotton Manufacture Hand Dipper Wringer

*transf* 1573 HARVEY *Letter Bk* (Camden) 102 Her waste is haste, her fingers such wringers

**†3** *a.* One who twists or distorts. *rare*—1

1558 HOLOBY, Wringer or wrygster of a thinge out of ordre, *e tco*

†**b** *ca.* WRESTLER 2. *Obs rare*—1.

c 1560 *Gentlt & Pryuatlye Treatise,* Wrestlers and wringers of thy holy scripture

**†4** One who causes pain, suffering, etc

1600 *Conclusion betwe Liberality & Prodigality* in H, Thrales, and cattles more horrible stinger's, Rauens, gripes, and gryphons, oh vengible wringers.

**II. †5.** A crow-bar (Cf. RINGER *sb* 1 2.) *Obs*

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C Purchaser* 48 They united into one intire Body, so that they are forced to get them out with Wringers (or Iron bars)

**6.** A wringing machine

1790 *Hull Advert.* 15 June 1/4 Mr. Beetham's patent wringer. 1809 KNIGHT *Set Mech* 1810/1 Palmer's Combined Wringer and Mangle 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull* IV 298 Passing it between the rollers of the wringer

**7.** A device for wringing hot fomentations before application.

1884 EVA LÜCKEN *Last Nursing* VII. 135 You will require new fomentation flannels and wringers 1896 *Allbutt's Syst Med* I 435 A good wringer is made by a strip of tacking

**Wri·nging,** *vbl. sb.* [f. WRING *v.* + -ING[1].]

**1.** Action of the verb, in various senses; the fact of being wrung.

c 1350 *Will Palerne* 5452 Per was siking, weping & wrinkinge for wo at here hertes. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. cxvi. (Bodl. MS.) Oile remeuep be better and be cleenner oute of be drvffe in be wringinge and pressinge 1481 [see WRING *v.* 9a] 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scott.* Pref c iij, The peynfull wringing & so vnpeasable a vyce 1593 HARVEY *Gabriel's I* 10 Rdr. He hath but a slight wringing by the eares 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xiv 57 The wringing of the shoo being knowne to him only which weareth it. 1611 BIBLE *Jerem* xxiii 33 The wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood 1696 JEANES *Mert School Dov* 256 With wringing of hands, knocking of breasts tearing of haire 1708 [see WRENTING *vbl sb* 1]. 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig Philos* I 54 In this great Length of the Tube of the Bowels, no Body can encrease or diminish the Contractions or Wringings of the same. 1780 V. KNOX *Ess* I xiv (1819) 111 224 That wringing of the hands, beating of the breast 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* lv, Her broken words, and her wringing of her hands 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr* iv, The wringing of turkeys' necks

**b.** *fig.* The action of wresting or taking forcefully; extortion.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret* C iij, Ready to suffer wrong without wringing of reuenge out of Gods hand. 1607 COWELL *Interpr, Extortion* an vnlawfull wringing of money or money worth from any man. 1612 [see WRESTING *vbl. sb* 1c]

**c.** With advs., as *out, up.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 19 The wringing out of grapes to her husband 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Extortion,* an unlawfull wringing out of money from any person 1830 DE LA BECHE *Rep Geol Cornw &c,* etc xi 323 The numerous terms such points..of contact a nipping in or wringing up of the lode.

**2** The action of squeezing or pressing water or moisture out of clothes, etc.; †the personal service of doing such Also in fig. context.

1560 *Wills & Invent N C* (Surtees, 1835) 191 To find hym fyre and a chamber with all wesey & wryninginge and one to help hym with his clothes and of 1587 *Acts P. Council* (1814) III 508/1 Most drink clething bedding washing and wringing 1626–7 *Knaresb Wills* (Surtees) II 92 My keeping, & with washinge, wringinge and other necessaryes during my life 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Love Unknown* 20 My heart in a font was dipt and di d, And washt, and wrung the very wringing yet it moveth teare. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw* xx, Richard shall be on the board in the wringing of a shclout. 1845 G. DODD *Brit Manuf* IV 96 The wringing [of wool] is effected thus 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech* 2834/1 The ordinary wringing implements are spoken of.

**†3.** A griping or wringing pain, esp. in the intestines. *Obs.*

c 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas Health* I iv, The ryndc of the pyne apple is very good to take vnder the wryning or it be ripe 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* 235 The griping paynes and wringings of the belle 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I 445 The torments and wringing of the belly 1611 [see WRESTING, WRING, SALT *Lemnia* 15, *Pseudodoxia* III. *Medi.* 83 The wringing of the Guts 1721 BAILEY, To *terminate,* to have a griping or wringing in the belly.

**†b.** The action or fact of feeling remorse, apprehension, or mistrust, an instance of this. *Obs*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen VIII, I.* ii. 28 Doubts, wringing of the Conscience, feares and despaires 1633 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt Walker* III. i. 5 No wringing in your mother now, Sir, I love me. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual* (1859) IV 36 He beheld her, in the wringings of penitential desolation

**†4** Perversion; = WRENTING *vbl. sb* 2 *Obs.*

1565 CALFHILL *Answ Martiall* v 107 Hys wordes without wringing or wrenching at all, be taken to importe much leese

**5.** *attrib.*, as *wringing joint, wringing machine,* a machine for wringing clothes, etc., after washing, a wringer.

1637 WALTON in Wotton *Reliq* (1651) 166 Then was Sugand, the Metropolitan, fairly deposed, being too stiffe for the times which was indeed the wringing point 1833 LOUDON *Magaz Mechan.* I 84 A washing and wringing machine 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict Trade* 417 Wringing machine Maker.

**Wri·nging,** *ppl a* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].]

**1.** †*a.* Of hands That undergo wringing, squeezing, or pressing; wrung under distress. *Obs*

a 1225 *Leg Kath* (Cleop. MS.) 1324 Wepinde & wimmen, mid wringinde honden wepinde sare. 1579 HARK *Newes out of Poules* (1872) B vj, Another cryes with wringing handes. 1596 *Edward II* (Malone) 1 Wringing hands and bitter teares, these words pronounced she. 1705 STANHOPE *Par spkr.* I 73 Wringing Hands and Gnashing Teeth mistook forth and for ever

**b.** Quasi-*adv.* in *wringing-wet,* very wet, so wet that moisture may be wrung out.

a 1500 *Horses & Leaf* 406 To drie here clothes that were wringing wete. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop Kingd* 49 b, Maydens a dabbled in bloud and wringing wette. 1594 GREENE *Jacke's Wit* in *Hooker's Wks* (1888) III 665 A poor fisherman with his clothes wringing wet 1886 GOAD *Celest Bodies* III. i. 371 Wringing wet Influence (as Housings are wringing wet) of 2 and 9. 1847 *Illustr. Lond News* 21 Aug 128/2 Their handkerchiefs are 'wringing wet'. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 585 They I clutch a wringing wet blanket

1500 ALDERIDGE *Sherbro* xxix, Foot-sore, utterly exhausted, and wringing wet with perspiration.

**2** That writhes or twists.

1597 [see WRENTING *vbl. sb* 1] Wks. (1912) 81 The wrathfull Dragon with his long, wringing tails.

**3** Causing pain, distress, or anguish, racking, distressing.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 27 Nipping needs & wringing wants 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II 250 I be wringing pains in the belle 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn* 188 A pain full wringing grief in the body after food 1832 JAMES *Phil Augustus* I. 181, One task..which, however wringing to my heart, must be completed 1892 H. LYNCH *Gerardin* 88 The wringing sorrows brought about by his own baseness

**b.** Characterized by oppression or extortion.

1600 [see WRENTING *ppl a* 2] 1824 BYRON *Lara* II viii, Many a wringing despot Who work'd his wantonness in form of law

**c.** Causing straining or stretching (of the fingers)

1676 MACE *Musick's Mon* 41 Therefore were they constrain'd to extreme hard, cross, and wringing Stops upon the Finger board

**†Wringle,** *sb* Sc [f next.] (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Wringle,* a writhing motion.

**WRINKLE.**

**†Wringle** (rɪ·ŋg'l), *v. Obs.* Also 7 **ringle.** [Corresponds in sense 1 to Da. *vringle,* Sw and Norw. *vringla,* to twist, entwine, and in sense 2 to Flem. *wrinselen* to squirm, writhe. The precise source is not clear.]

**1.** *trans* To entwine or twist together; to wreathe

1570 ROSSEWELL *Armoria* II 63 b, Thus Serpente I haue described as wrinkled into a wreathe.

**2** *intr* To move sinuously; to writhe.

1596 [see next]. 1643 *'Powers to be resisted'* 22 A poore worme will wringle away from the foot, and earth it selfe 1648 HEXHAM II, *Kringen,* to Ringle or to Wrestle. 1769 *Shepherd's Wedding* 12 (E. D. D.), She threw and she drew, she wringl d and wrang

Hence **Wri·ngling** *ppl a.*

1596 DAVIES *Orchestra* liii, I loue Meanders path, In his indented course and wringling play He seemes to daunce a perfect cunning Hay

**Wringle-** (rɪ·ŋg'l), the verb stem used attrib in **wringle gut, -straw** *dial* , †-tail . (See quots.).

1698 ROWLANDSON *Mouffet's Theat Ins* 937 There is another Fly which Pennius calls *Curvicaudon* [recurved tail], very well in English a Wringle-tail, in regard that he bends his tail towards him with his sting started 1892 RAY *N Co Words* (ed 2) 84 *Wringle straw,* or *Straws,* Waddle Straws. 1779 in *Peg Plant Dict.* 1876 *Wringle gut,* one who frets his guts to liddle strings by twisting and turning his body 1877 *Holderness Gloss* 160 *Wringlestraw,* a contrary person

**+Wringleather,** obs error. f RINGLEADER

1525 WARHAM in *Rolls Orig Lett Ser* III I 366 Some of the chief wringleathrs.

**Wringle-wrangle.** *rare*—1. [Reduplication of WRANGLE *sb.* with change of vowel as in *jingle-jangle, tingle-tangle,* etc.] Controversial argument, wordy disputation.

[Cf 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A* II viii, They be so quarrel some [wrangle, wran]e, wrangle, wrangle, ugh, growl, scratch.]

1882 BRADY *Hill Sorrel* xxiv, The lesson was not sitting, and there was no wrangle wrangle of debates to furnish materril for the columns

**+Wri·ngly,** *adv Obs* [f. WRINGLE *v.* 1.] In a wring or twisted manner, twistedly.

1598 STANYHURST *Æneis* (Arb) 137 Three shoures wrunglye wrythen glimming, and forcebiye sowing

**Wring-staff, -stave** *rare*—[Cf. WRING-BOLT, WRAIN-STAVE.] A staff for inserting in an eye of a ring-bolt

1825 BURNEY *Dict Marine, Wring staves* are strong pieces of wood used with the Wrinj. Bolts [Hence in Crabb (1823) and some later Dicts.] 1884 *Imp Dict* s v, *Wring-staff,* called also Wrain staff

**Wrink,** var. WRENCH *sb.* Obs

**Wrink** (rɪŋk), *v* ? *Obs* [Cf. WRINKLE *v.* and ME. *forwrynkle I* (FOR-1 8).] = WRINKLE *v.* 3 b

1821 CLARE *I tell Minstr* II 121 Grief and age had wrink'd her brow

**Wrinkle** (rɪ·ŋk'l), *sb.* Also 5 **6 wrynckle, -kle, -kel, -kul, -kyl(le, 6 wrynckle, wrinkel(l, -kyll, -ckel, 6–7 wrinc(k)le (6 rinkle, 7 rinckle, -el).** [Of obscure origin, possibly a back-formation from WRINKLED *a*

Somner's OE. '*wrincle,* ruga, a wrincle' is not otherwise known. Kilian's '*wrincken, wrincklen,* ruga, rugas ducere' and its rendered suspicious by his giving the English word]

**I †1.** A sinuous or tortuous movement, formation, etc; a winding or curving, a sinuosity. *Obs*

1430–40 LYDG *Bochas* I 268/3 An hous Called Laborynthus, Full of wrynkles. 1440 CAPGRAVE *Pardon* (1860) 10 Laborintus is an hous wrought with wyndynges so diuerse by y wonderful wayes and wynckis, that [etc] 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V v. 60 The sea Laing wynklis makis in oft with hir body 1561 *Ibid* XII viii 69 Als frail wrynklie and turnis can schip mak As dois the swallow

**2.** A crease, fold, or ridge caused by the folding, puckering, or contraction of a fabric, cloth, or other pliant substance. Occas. in fig. context. Also without article

In quots 1676, 1805 with allusion to sense 4 b

a 1440 *Wycliffite Bible* (an xxxviii 14 (MS Cotton Claudius E ii), She took a roket cloh wib many wynckis. c 1440 *Iromp Parv* 534/1 Wrynkyl, or wynkyl in be clobe, *plica* 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc) 1 Nor of his clothynge one wrynckle stode a wrye 1537 LATIMER *Serm Ref Convoc* A iij b These words are so spoken in parabole, and are so wrapped in wrinkels 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiii 218 With their hosen hanging about their heels, full of wrinckles *Ibid* xv 302 He takes away from a wrenckle in his purse 1617 WITHALS *Surg Maist* Wks (1639) 150 That there be no wrinckles in the cloaths applied 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 54 Cause for that virgin Church to condemn the Female sex upon pretence of wrinckles in their garment 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No 16 P 2 His stockings [were] without a wrinkle 1824 LOUDON *Subscription Hort* 175 The rolls of canvass winds up and lets down without a single wrinkle 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* v, Her Sunday bonnet was without spot, her Sunday gown without wrinkle.

*fig* 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik* IV 191 She so farre maintained into the King's breast that the wrinckles of all suggestions were cleared

**b.** A slight narrow ridge or depression on a surface; a longitudinal mark; a corrugation

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb* § 100 The wrynckles on the house 1562 *2nd Pt. Return fr Parnass* III iv 1409 One that admires the good wrinckle of a boote 1697 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* I. 126 The Wild Goat[s] have Wrinckles and Wrinkles on their Horns. 1683 MOXON *Mech Exerc., Printing* xxii. P 1 He leaves no wrinckles in the turnings up [of the paper lining] 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.*

(1740) II 71 Whether it [of the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and even, or in Wreathes or Wrinkles. 1742 H Baker *Microscope* (1743) 204 The little Wrinkles, Hollows, or Crevices of the Cont. 1838 J. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 850 Wrinkles arising from the desiccation of the tube. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl* II 154/1 When . docked she did not show a wrinkle in her copper.

*fig.* and in the context 1729–80 Swift *Stella's Birthday* 54 The Cracks and Wrinkles of your Mind 1820 Hazlitt *Table-T.* Ser. II vi (1869) 127 They cause a wrinkle in the clear and polished surface of their existence

**c.** *transf.* of physiographical features.

1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* VIII 583 Here is shadowed forth From the projections, wrinkles, cavities, A variegated landscape 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* XIV, Every point and wrinkle in the headland. 1900 Le Gallienne *From* xv. 234 Northbeach, lying in a wrinkle of the hill among bushes.

**3.** A small fold or crease of the skin, esp due to age, care, displeasure, etc.

In frequent use from *c* 1590

*c* 1585 (*versor MS* 1884-0 (Trin.), His forhede fow wemles in sege wrinckles thrawen with many wrinkles, *ib.* (1884-0) but was slipt. 1830 Palmer 290/9 Wrinkell in obes face, *rasure* 1586–90 Greene *Metam.* Wks. (Grosart) IX 30 Venus frowned on the smith with a wrinkle on her forehead 1617 Morykson *Itin.* III 169 Fier . causeth wrinckles and spots on their bodies. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Acts* 52 I heen are many wrinckles and clogs we will not fill up with the point of art *c* 1788 W Blake *Tirzel* 108 In couls of wrinkles in thy face 1837 R. M. Bird *Nick of the Woods* III 71 Hands in the wrinkles of forty winters furrowed deep by sun burn. 1877 Black *Green Pastures* II, The calm and thoughtful forehead that had as yet no wrinkle of age or care.

*b transf.*, *fig.*, and in fig context.

*a* 1588 Sidney *Arcadia* (1590) 1 Their blood had (as it were) filled the wrinckles of the seru visage. 1643 Cant *Lapis. Job* I 1529 A perfect soul state, and a perfect state of body, hath no wrinkle in it. 1654 Gentiles *Hospit Incit* 22 No wrinkles in the face, no grey hairs on the head of eternity! 1818 Byron *Ch. Har* IV clxxxii, Roll on, thou Ocean! . time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow 1855 *Whitby Gazet* 199 *Wrongs, . . . . . Time* can neither obscure nor dim upon the skin. 1865 Carlyle *Frederick* XI xx. v [Ut 53] have contributed a wrinkle of human Fun to the earnest face of Life

**c.** A ripple or ruffle on the surface of water, a wavelet. Chiefly *poet*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl* v. xlvii, As when a stone Prints in the angry stream a wrinkle round. 1665 Sir J Herbert *Trav* (1677) 50 I he Sea . was as smooth as Glass, not the least curl'd wrinkle discernable 1821 Clare *Shepherd's Calendar* II 180 N ne faintest wrinkles or the waters creep, 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 17 Where the blue lake's wrinkle marks the river's mouth just below.

**4** *fig.* A moral stain or blemish.

Freq coupled (as in next) with *spot*, after Eph v 27

*a* 1400 *Pauline Ch* (Powell) Eph v 27 he kyrke not hauande a spot or a wrinkle 1548 *Hall Chron. Hen. VI* 58 b/1 (*MS* Fairfax 20), [that] he chirche hadde noo w m ne ryueling eiper wrynckle 1550 R Whytford *Werke for Householders* A ij, Our owne conscyence shall cleerely confesse al our holy lyfe, and every wrynckle & paste therof 1569 Rogers tr *J wis der Noot's Theat* 97 A glorious Church, without any spot or wrinkle 1643 Cant. *Lapis Job* I 1529 Poverty is the wrinkle of riches, and disgrace is the wrinkle of honour *Ibid.*, In the state of glory we shall not have one spot or one wrinkle

**b.** Without article; chiefly in *without* (*spot or*) *wrinkle.*

1526 Tindale *Eph* v 27 A glori- us congregacion with oute spot or wrynckle [Hence in later versions] 1643 Cant. *Expos Job* I 1529 Believers have now a righteousness in Christ without spot or wrinkle 1651 N Balon *Disc Govt. Eng* II xxvii 203 Henry continued in that condition eighteen years without wrinkle of Form. 1675 T. Hodges *Gold Key* 325 In this Robe of Righteousness we are without spot or wrinkle

**5.** *Anat., Zool., Bot.* = Ruga.

1541 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 21 I thought that the matrice be full of ryuelles or wrinckles. 1577 B Goodge *Heresbach's Husb* III. (1586) 117 The skinne of their [*sc* quadrupeds'] paws, yf it be in wrinkles, sheweth he is olde. 1679 T. de Cham *Exact Enquirer* 37 A wrinkle in the shoulder or in any other joynt. 1697 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp* 275 It is a root, which by exsiccation hath contracted wrinkles and linéations. 1732 Monro *Anat.* 11 When they [*sc. fasciculi*] make the first Turn or Wrinkle, he stiles them *Cancelli corrugati* 1774 Goldsmith *Nat. Hist* (1776) IV 214 The muscle [of the mandrill] is deeply marked with wrinkles. 1775 [see Ruga]. 1840 A Combe *Physiol Digestion* (ed 4) 176 The numerous folds or wrinkles which line the inner surface of the duodenum. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* XIII, Like the wrinkles on a nutmeg.

**6.** A section of a calcining furnace

1824 C G W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser III 448 The ore is then thrust out of the furnace into the 'wrinkle'

**II.** †**7.** A crooked or tortuous action, a crafty device; a trick or wile. *Obs.*

1400 in *Pol Poems* (Rolls) II 45 A' for-writhen serpent, thi wyles ben aspied, with a thousand wrynkels thou vexed many soules 1547 Latimer in Foxe *A & M.* (1563) 1350/2 When you note me to be so much abused by so ignorant a manne, so simple, so rusine, and so farre without all wrinckles. 1550 *Dicc-Play* B vb, Euery wrinckel they haue to couer and worke closely with all. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb) 54 Luary wile and euery wrinkle of womens disposition.

**8.** *colloq.* A clever or adroit expedient or trick; a happy device; a 'dodge'.

Freq from *c* 1820 in phr. *to find one up to a wrinkle* (or *true*). Perh a development from the following, or some similar piece of repartee:

1732–8 Swift *Polite Conv* I 74 They say, mocking is catching. *Miss* I never heard that. *Nor.* Why, then, you have a wrinkle more than ever you had before.

1837 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 112 He could put her up to a wrinkle or two. 1848 *Punch* July 19 He knows 'a wrinkle' of everything 1875 'S Beauchamp' *Mr Hamilton* II 155 'You surely don't mean to say you are going to fish with blue bottles?' 'Yes, I do. It's a wrinkle' 1882 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 40 Such wrinkles experience alone will teach.

*transf.* 1832 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II 49, I was . among the workmen, getting some *new plan* and wrinkles done for the great gun, covers, etc.

**b.** A piece or item of useful information, knowledge, or advice; a helpful or valuable hint; a 'tip'.

1828 *Sporting Mag* II 232 On that most auspicious day, I acquired two additional wrinkles 1862 Lo W. Lennox *Recent Sportsm* I 277 While upon the subject of yachting, we would venture to offer a 'wrinkle' as to coppering them 1894 Hale Caine *Manxman* VI xii 426 [That] news hasn't got into the papers yet, but I've had the official wrinkle

**9.** *Cant.* An untruth, fib, lie.

1812 J H Vaux *Flash Dict*, *Wrinkle*, an untruth

**III 10.** *attrib* and *Comb*, as *wrinkle-filling*, † *wizard*; *wrinkle-coated*, *-faced*, *-fronted*, *-fur-rowed*, *-scaled*, *wrinkle maker*

1587 Turberv. *Epist.* etc. 79 Was never Bull so fell with wrinkle fronted face. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I iv 380 Ingenious Saturn, bald, hoary, wrinkle faced 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 8 So Nocrates was censured by a wrinckle wyzard 1613 Dekker *Devils Last Wks* (Grosart) III 255 The Founder and Vpholder of Paintings, Wrinkle-fillings, and Bel-burgs vp of old Faces 1744 Akenside tr. *Longi* III. 220 A female old and gray, With wrinkle furrow'd brow 1784 Bamfylde *Dairying* 55 Curdy or wrinkle coated cheese 1809 Lounger *Jrnl* I 48/2 Plastic Lifeguard 1810 *Ped Flor* 294/2 A wrinkle scaled Podelepis 1836 F. Howard *A. Reefer* xvii, Thought it a sad wrinkle maker 1907 J London *Before Adam* XII, A little fellow, wrinkle faced

Hence **Wri·nkleful**, *a.*, full of wrinkles or creases; **Wri·nklet**, a small wrinkle.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II iv *Decay* 228 With her rent cunning, thin mends, her Poet's wrinkleful defect. 1848 Bailey (ed 3) 224 The lake smoothed down Each shining wrinkle

**Wrinkle** (ri·ngk'l), *sb.*2 Also 7 wrinckle. Now *in dial and local U S* [Alteration of Winkle *sb.*, after prec.] The periwinkle or whelk. Also *transf*

1589 Rides *Bibl. Scholast* 1724 A walke, or wrinkle, *turbo* 1600 Carew *Cornw* 11 30 b Wrinckles, and Muscles, &c. gathered by hand vpon the rockes. 1616 W. Brown *Brit Pastor* II 1 Periwinckles and small Wrinckles 1750 *Gent. Mag Acc Isl Scilly* 46 Of Shell fish are dun mutated Shrimps, Timpets, Wrinkles 1795 Wollon (P. Pindar) *Royal Visit* Poem 24 Oysters in Rather a wrinkle-like watery muscle. *a* 1870 J Cou ti *Folpero* (1871) 153 A journey to the sea-coast to pick 'wrinkles' 1880–8 in Cornwall Dialect

**Wrinkle** (ri·ngk'l), *v.* Forms 5 *6* wrynkle, 6 wrynkel, wrynokle, 6 wrinkel(l, -kill, wrinkyl, 6–7 wrincle, 6–8 wrinckle; 6– wrinkle (7 **wringkle**) [app. a back-formation from Wrinkled *a.* or Wrinkling *vbl sb*]

Somner's *Dict. Saxonicum*, rugare cirqare to wrinkle' occurs in no known text, and was prob inferred from *gerun-cle* Kilian's *wrincekein* 'rugare seu contuert fied and rendered suspicious by his citation of the English word

**1** *intr.* To suffer or undergo contraction or puckering into wrinkles or small folds, to become corrugated. Also with †*together*, *up*.

1598 Passwell *Salerni's Regim* C iij, This crampe wherby the muscles are made shorte and great, and wrynckle vnto gether 1530 Palsgr 785/1, I wrinkell, as a kercher or a garment dothe, *Je plonme* 1594 Plat *Jewell H* ii, Let the skin . be well wrinkled or puckered vp 1598 London & Wise *Compl Gard* 90 [The] Apple is apt to wrinkle and wither 1788 G. Parker & Walker *Planting* 50 Suffer your prim[ings] not to cockle, wrinkle, or rise up in little blubbers 1845 J. Hogg *Shepherd's Cal.* I. 62 The neck cloth, after four vain attempts, wrinkled round his neck in folds 1860 Tyndall *Glac* I 247 The ice seemed to wrinkle up under the pressure

*transf* 1653 Walton *Angler* v 197 If he sees the water but wrinkle or move in one of these dead holes. 1864 Buckland *Undertones, Protest.* II, A trackless Ocean wrinkling tempest wing'd.

**b** Of persons, the face, etc.: To become creased or puckered; to assume or undergo marking with wrinkles, creases, or lines; to crease

1530 Palsgr 785/2 Your face beginneth to wrinkell 1606 Marston *Parasit* II 53 What was you fleering at? there's some weakness in your brother you wrinkle at thus 1684 *Contempl St Mans* IV (1699) 35 If he reach old Age 'tis Face wrinkles 1706 *J and Gas* No 1455/4 When he Smiles both corners of his Mouth wrinkle 1725 Addison *Spect* No 80 ¶ 3 The finest Skin wrinkles in a few Years. 1869 Eng. *Rev. Pepperton* I 225 This old image here Whose carved features wrinkled as he fell. 1890 *Nature* 20 Feb 378 Its body began to wrinkle and to plump up.

**c** To contract *into* smiles, etc., by puckering.

1853 J Brown *Spare Hours* III 82 His face wrinkles into countless smiles. 1854 R. S Surtees *Handley Cr* xi, Dolefu's face wrinkled into half its usual size with delight.

† **2** To move sinuously, to wriggle *Obs.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Tractu tortilis*, a fish that wrinkeih and wrinkleth. 1653 [see Wrinkling *ppl.* a. 3]

**3** *trans.* To form or cause corrugations, wrinkles, or folds in or on (a surface, etc), to corrugate Occas in fig. context. Also with *over*

1561 Cotgr., *Froncer* to wrinkle, crumple, frumple 1670 Milton *Hist Eng* Wks 1851 V 178 Neither do I care to wrincle the smoothness of History with rugged names of places unknown. 1786 *Compl Farmer* s.v. *Madder*, Too hearty a drying wrinkles and splits the bark 1796 Coleridge *To Young friend* 38 A beauteous spirit, scarce wrinkled by the gale! 1828 Shelley *Adonais* 340 The flood of cloud, Which unrisse from its eastern caves Drives, wrinkling into golden waves 1880 — *Prometh Unb* II i 137 A wind swept forth wrinkling the Earth with frost *a* 1885 Jos W *Vac. in Angelus, Cornelia*, To wrinkle, twist, plait, or rumple irregularly *a* 1860 T Seddon in *Mem & Lett* (1858) 205 A wilderness of mountain tops, in some places wrinkled over with ravines

*absol* 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg* II 75 b, The pouldre dr iweth together the loosed parte, it dryeth, muscleth, or wrynkeleth.

**b** To contract or draw (the skin, countenance, etc) into creases or wrinkles, to pucker, crease. Also *refl.*

1566 Painter *Pal Plea* (1569) I F iv, That the swelle g of the body, might not irregularly and wrinkle the face. 1600 *and Pt Return Parnass* III iii 1324 My master will looke on the title and wrinkle his browe. *a* 1661 Holyday *Persius* (1673) 298 He . . . he wrinkled his nose. 1730–1 Thomson, *Autumn*, to wrinkle the brow. 1798 Southey *Sorr Wedding* vi, He wrinkled his black eye brow 1858 Carlyle *Fred II. Gt* V viii, As if the face of the Sphynx were to wrinkle itself in laughter 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* III xv, Wrinkling his face into a very many of curves and lines

*fig.* and in fig. context 1603 Shakes. *Lr* & *Cr* II ii 79 A Grecian Queen, whose youth & freshneese Wrinkles Apolloes 1647 I Calvert *Heart Salve* To Rdr 3 The other writes with a decor and beautie that no ol age can wrinkle or furrow with a no meinesse 1667 Milton *P L* XI 839 A keen North winde Wrinkl'd the face of Deluge, as decrid 1769 Sidney *Hist Maw* III 463 Whilst in the secular Mind the Image has not wrinkled, withered, and rendered superannuated! 1848 Bailey *Fe tus* (ed 3) 249 One Whose heart was wrinkled before his brow!

*absl* & *c* 1779 Crabbe *Midnight* 438 The Brow of State, On wh h Distraction helps the Scythe of Time to wrinkle there.

**c** With *up*

*c* 1590 *Sir T More* III iii 205 For know, Mirth wrinckles vpp my face. 1700 I Bunn *Assassin Ser & Com* 3 Wrinkling up his nostrils. 1748 *Anson's Voy* II iv 280 *Hyest* I v 33 That no foul I men wrinkle up the Nose 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii 23, I fear that wicked laughter round it has set, Which would turn up the skin even to the hair 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* I v 226 And at her mouth a little, with drawn cheeks And eyelids wrinkled up

**d** To screw up (the eyes) Also with *up*.

1840 Dickens *Old Curiosity Shop* xxxvi, Nell wrinkled her eyes and luring her towards him with his bent forefinger 1901 W. R. H Trowbridge *Lett to his* x. 43 Blanche wrinkled her eyes as he ran in the prettiest way

**4** To manifest (something) in or by facial wrinkles. Also *refl.*

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II xix, Some ill favoured ol exerfulnesse begun to wrinckle it selfe in his face 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II xiii, Only a cloud of sadness wrinkled round them [*sc* eyes]—marks of black old Time

**5** *intr.* (*cant.* (See quot)

1812 J H Vaux *Flash Dict*, *Wrinkle*, to lie, or utter a falsehood

Hence **Wri·nkler**. *Cant.* (See quot)

1812 J. H Vaux *Flash Dict*, *Wrinkler*, a person prone to lying; such a character is called also *a quilly*

**Wrinkled** (ri·ngk'ld), *a.* Also 5 wrynkeld, 6 wrynkled, wrinkeled, -kl'd, or in early use representing the rare OE ppl form *gewrinclod* winding (of a ditch), serrated cf Wrinkle *v.*]

†**1.** Formed or disposed in convolutions, sinuosities, or windings; twisted, curled, coiled *Obs*

*c* 1403 Lydg. *Temple Glas* 84 Pe b us, That was forwrynkled [*sc* so wrynkled] in cercle 1597 — *Assn & Sens* 3607 The house of Dedalus is so wrinkeld to and fro That myn not, how he shal goo 1618–20 — *Chr & Troy* II 2522 The Serpent wrinkled vp a ge may beh lde, Vp on pe scorde [Mercury swan]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* V x 79 The house Hait Labor, nthus with many went and wrinkl'd wayis. Hyde *Dialect* I 60 Labourinthus Full of wrinkilit vnreturnable dirk 1578 Lyte *Dod ens* 554 The fourth kind of red cole is called in Englishe Wrinckled or rufled Cole 1587 Maskall *Bk Cattell* iii (1596) 261 Wrinkled hornes, *Cornua rugosa*.

**2.** Having, distinguished by, or formed into wrinkles, corrugations, or creases; contracted or puckered into small furrows and ridges, corrugated, also, pleated.

1523 Fitzher. *Husb* §34 Peeke wheate eft tymes is fynnered, that is to saye, small corne wynkeled and dryed 1530 Palsgr 785/2 Where have you been, your kercher is wrinkled 1569 Mantet *Cr Perrett* 31 b, I the Apple tree is of wrinkled bark 1622 *Tale of Tub* II i 121 I like wrinkled peobles in a glasse streame 1627 Morykson *Itin* III 160 The wild Irish used to weare 30 or 40 elles [of linen cloth] in a shirt, ill gathered and wrinkled 1711 Addison *Spect* No 190 ¶5 Every Ribbon was wrinkled, and every Part of her Garments in Curl 1753 *Chambers Cycl Suppl* s.v *Leaf*, So as to give upon the whole [leaf] a wrinkled surface 1841 *Penny Cycl* XX. 461/2 The smooth an l polished enamel [of the tooth] presents a finely wrinkled appearance. 1861 Holland *Last Life* v 90 Objects distorted by reaching the eye through a wrinkled window glass 1890 *Science Gossip* XXVI 8/1 A large, wrinkled lump of chalk

*fig.* 1599 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Humour* v xii, The wrinkled fortunes of this present minority 1843 Carlyle *Expos Job* I 1519 His wealth and l onour were extreamly wrinkled

**b.** *poet.* Formed by, due to, swelling or surging.

1811 Chapman *Iliad* VII 49 Fresh horror driven through the wrinkled waves By rising Zephyr 1816 J Lane *Contin Sir J L* 193 Now Ittan, in th'oriental, wrinkled wave, had filld his lawn

**3.** Of persons, the face, etc. Marked with small folds, wrinkles, or furrows, creased, lined, furrowed.

a 1599 Skelton *Fl Runninge* 17 Her face Wounderely wrynkled 1596 Shakes. *Merch L* II iv 1 270 To view with wrinkled brow An age of poverty 1616 R C *Times' Whistle*, etc (1857) 123, I am crabbed, wrynckled olde 1651 Herrick *Nymphs Ode* II ix 32 With wrinckled face the dry cry'st out, Vanities! a 1689 Oldham *Aem* (1684) 154 An old wrinkled Baboon 1718 Pope *Iliad* xx 172 On her wrinkled front Sat steadfast care 1786 *Bickerstaff's Lucky* (1888) 93 A wrinkled old eunuch 1808 Scott *Marm* VI xv, His large and wrinkled hand 1860 Emerson *Cond Life Anstry*, Character gives splendour to youth, and awe to wrinkled skin

*transf* 1603 Shaks. *Meas for M* III i 5 A purpose More grauie, and wrinkled then the aimes Of burning youth 1817 Shelley *Art Islam* II xxxiii Old age, with its gray hair, And wrinkled legends of vnw rilty thinga. 1817 Wordsw *Last of Auchtermuc* 17 Wrinkled Egyptian monument Green moss hath grown over

b *fig* and in hp. context.

1598 Shakes. *Rich II*, I ii 70 Grim visag'd Warre, hath smoth'd his wrinkled front 1599 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Hum* I iii D3, Or lies he hid Within the wrinckled bosome of the world? 1634 Milt *Comus* (1637) 72 Casting off the old and wrinkled skin of corruption to... wise young again 1660 R Coke *Power & Subj* Pref 2 The frowns of perverse and wrinckled Fortune 1670 Clarendon *Rem* Incris (1727) 107 The wrinkled Face of antiquity 1681 Sheffield *Hellias* 139 The hoary mountains and the wrinkled ocean seem younger still than he 1871 E. F. Burr *Ad Pudens* xiv. 52 The fresh youthful, and wrinkled antiquity

c Marked or characterized by wrinkles

1576 Fleming *Panoplie Epist* 154 I am entred into my wrinkled and withered age 1582 A Hall *Iliad* iv 69 After our vnrighteous deeds, we mourne and wrinckled prayers. 1607 A Brewer *Lingua* iv II, The two my I rd Comedus and Tragedus, The grave . . . that hair't and quick, with wrinkled laughter panted 1613 Shakes. *Hen VIII* II iii 3 Lasses and sprites appear to vs. . . By hoary Nereus wrincled look 1753 *Adventurer* No 74, I he lectures of wrinkled wisdom 1792 Burns *To Simpson when* . . . A blame in wrinkled colon

d *Sc. Anat.*, *zool* Marked by rugæ or wrinkles; rugose, corrugated

1563 Hyll *Art Garden* (1574) 117 Those Nuuews be the better, which be long and in a manner wrinckled 1577 B. Goog *Heresbach's Husb* I 57 b The beadles and the tax lea of[peahens] covered with a wrinckled skinne 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 472 The skinne vpon the vpper part of this beast is all wrinckled 1658 Rowland *Jonah Incarnate* 47 Their [r bones] wrinkled and round I no trifle. 1797 Bailey, *Anatomy* (in Bees) Writers wrinkled 1796 Withering *Brit Plants* (ed 3) II 1 Leaves somewhat wrinkled, wrinkled and shining 1854 Mueuin *Silurus* IX 233 Wrinkled tubes of the s [annelids] 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* 83 The spoonworm . . . with a strange scalloped and wrinkled proboscis 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* iv 65 The rugose or wrinkled c rus

b. In specific names (see quots.)

1681 Grew *Museum* I. 127 The Wrinkled Snail *Cochlea rugosa* 1770 Pennant *Brit Zool* (1777) IV 95 Wrinkled Vetus] with thick shells, marked with r ig. w c nentric *steps* 1800 Shaw *Gen Zool* I 33 Wrinkled Baboon, with large blood red wrinkles behind 1802 Pennant *Tour* 114 *Salix reticulata*, or Wrinkled Willow 1802 Shaw *Gen Zool* III 28 Wrinkled Tortoise *Testudo rugosa* Tortoise with black wrinkled shell 1880 *Cassell's Nat Hist* III 353 A curious cavelope, thrown by a Wrinkled Hornbill (*Anorrhinus corrugatus*)

5. *Comb*, as *wrinkle-faced*, *-visaged*.

1592 Shake *Ven & A* 133 Were I hard-favour'd, foul, or wrinkle-old 1820 *It stud Angli* II 195 (*Jeremiah*) *I is idum* Wrinkle leaved Crane's Bill 1836 Hawthorne *Amer Note-bks* (1868) I 171 A grey, wrinkled visaged figure

Hence **Wri·nkledness**

1552 Huloet Wrinckelnesse [*sic*] or ruggednes of the skynne, *scabredo* 1611 Cotgr *Rugosité* 1727 Ainsw (vol II), *Corrugis*, writhenness, wrinkledness 1889 E W. Lemon in *Life* (1899) II 262 The Shah has a nervousness and wrinkledness of eyes.

**Wri·nkled**, *ppl a.* [f Wrinkle *v* ] Subjected to wrinkling In quot with *up*

1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xxiii, Putting the mouth of the pipe to his wrinkled up temples.

**Wri·nkledness**, *a.* Also 8 **wrinkleess**. [f Wrinkle *sb.*1 + -less ] Destitute of or free from wrinkles.

1793 Holcroft tr *Lavater's Physiog* xliv 295 The wrinkles compressed, yet open f rehead 1880 Mark Twain *Prince & Pauper* xxvi, The wrinkleless kids 1881 C. Gibbon *Heart's Problem* II, His sallow and almost wrinkleless face

**Wri·nkling** (ri·nkliŋ), *vbl sb* [f the stem of Ol *gewrinclod* (see Wrinkled a. + -ing ]

†1 A winding or coiling, a sinuosity *Obs*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* I 9 As lak nutus hab many wynd[n]es and wrynkelynges, but wil nought be vnwried 1535 *Percival Bartth De P* R xvii clxxiii, A good smelling smoke, full meandres and wrinkelynges, and crokyd with many bendynges and wrynklynges

2 The action of creasing, puckering, or contracting into wrinkles; the fact of becoming corrugated or puckled.

1598 Barckly *Salerne's Regim* (1), Retraction and wrinkelyng togither of the veynes. 1594 I B *Sea Prymond Sea Acad* II 346 A certaine contraction and wrinckling of the orifice 1617 Bingham *Ceeln* III 173 The Cerasians make all the forepart of their gownes in like manner open to avoid wrinckling 1693 tr *Blancard's Phys Dict.* (ed 2) 111/2 The wrinkling of the lower part of the Vagina 1698 *Phil Trans* XX 174 If the Fly had been Dead for some while I could have observed none of this Wrinkling 1859 *Hab to Soc Society* III 149 A peculiar wrinkling [of the trousers] from the thigh to the knee 1884 *Rev trans Met Hist* (1888) II 268 [The] degree of wrinkling of the back of the mesothorax. 1888 *Cornh. Mag* Jan 40 Wrinklings of the crust . . . gave rise at first to baby mountain ranges

*transf* 1878 Browning *Aristoph Apol* 120 The olive-leaves curl, violets crisp and close Like a nymph's wrinkling at the bath's first splash

*attrib* 1878 Knight *Dict Mech* 2822 *Wrinkling machine*, . one to wrinkle transversely the upper leathers of boots and shoes

3 *Carp.* A series or collection of wrinkles, a puckered surface, formation, etc.

1498 *Trevisa Barth De P* R xviii (W de W) 1 viii, Vpstondes, stretchyth oute the wrynkelynge of the skynne 1579 Lanham *Gard Health* 339 The shrieked wrinckinge Yi peare on women bellies after their deliuerance 1628 Felkingham *Panacia Medicæ* It cleanses the Ventricle from Crudities sticking to its rugosities and wrinklings 1857 P P. Carpenter *Lect Mollusca Shells* 205 The first whirl is characterized by extremely minute wrinkling over the whole surface, only discernible when quite fresh 1905 H G Wells *Kipps* III iii 8 6 Such wrinkling of brow and mouth as only an experienced actor can produce

b *spec* (see quot)

1894 *Inner Dict. Printing* 288/2 *Wrinkling*, an uneven surface in a book, caused by not being properly backed or pressed, or occasioned by dampness

**Wri·nkling**, *ppl a* [f as prec + -ing ]

1. Causing or forming creases or wrinkles.

1601 R Martyn *Pageant Faith*, 11 69 The wrinkling print of Time erd'd when it seal d my forehead vp with age 1736 Shaks *Oth* I 26 To thee, whose polish'd brow The wrinkling troubles not 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unb.* I 71 Ye icy springs, stagnant with wrinkling frost 1834 Ainsworth *Rookwood* I 4, A wrinkling smile crossed the swarthy brow 1852 Miss Browning *Cousin Geoffrey's Wand* II 19 Vo ce by wrinkling cares but ruffling hopes, and chilled thee week

2 Undergoing marking with, characterized by, wrinkles or creases.

1790 R. Heath *Carol* 1 113 Glad Echo Her wrinkling fou its with soft vibration shakes 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I 100 This wrinkling brow, Naked and bare of its grey dividers 1839 Bailey *Festus* 97 The wrinkling stalk of Time 1881 Carlle *Mme Delphine* iv 13 Furniture carved just enough to give the notion of wrinkling pleasantry

†3 Wriggling, writhing. *Obs rare*—1

1611 Florio *Worlde of Words Angolina* 21 There be divers wayes to catch the wrinkling Eele

**†Wri·nklingly**, *adv Obs rare* [f as Wrinkling *ppl adv* + -ly ]

In a tortuous or curving manner, sinuously.

1597 Trevisa *Barth* I xxx (MS Tiberius D viii) fol 29 Laborers yu we hous wrinklingly turnyng ges & wyndynges so dyuerslych & so wrynklynglych [*A ille ref* I 32, wrynkynglie he] wyndyng] 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* III 153 Folde vnwrinkled sometimes, they [sc. breasts] are knit wrinklingly vpward

**Wri·nkly** (ri·nkli), *a.* [f Wrinkle *sb.* + -y ] Full of, marked with, wrinkles, creased; puckered, crumpled

1593 Shake *Rich* II v. Drive b, Him Tryton blew with wrinkled cheeke, Whose wrinckly wreathed flute, did fearful shrill as seas outvoyl 1687 A Lovell tr *Thevenot's Trav* II 107 The Indian Women . . . have their Shoulder, Arme, and the Wrist (prol ably for wrist, on acc. of t of a resemblance of the whole line to the human arm) 1899 *Nat Philos, Mechanics* v 20 (L. U. K.), Thus bucket is formed of three planes, BC is called the arm, and CH the wrist

b. A pin or stud, projecting from the side of a wheel, crank, etc , to which a connecting rod is attached, a wrist pin

1882 Webster 1895 Knight *Dict Mech* 1720/1 *Pitman bore*, the stirrup and brasses which embrace the wrist of the driving wheel 1888 *Ibid.* Suppl 209/2 A wrist on a crank wheel

o *Naut* (See quot )

1863 A Young *Naut Dict* (ed 2) 450 *Wrist of an anchor*, the continuation of the arm in a square or rounded form tow ards the palm or fluke.

5. *attrib*, as *wrist connection*, *end*, *power*, freq. in sense ' worn about or depending from the wrist ', as *wrist-bag*, *cord*, *favour*, *iron*, *plaster*, etc.

1906 *Daily Chron* 28 Jan 6/5 The sums stolen out of the 1 wrist-bag, purses 1873 Knight *Dict Mech* 1822/2 A pin passing through the axis of the wrist 1 crank 1895 Tylor *Early Hist Man* VIII 01 A well known New Zealand weapon is an edged club of bone or stone through the neck it has a hole for a wrist-cord 1892 *Daily Mail* VI 321 The wrist end of the ulna. 1626 Middleton *Any thing for Quiet* I iii 11, A fine wrist favour of thin gold 1887 *Archæologia* XLIII 1 46 Two wrist garters. Those [plates] of finely grained green stone appear to be intended to be worn on the wrist 1883 Rumcimax *Shepherd* 366 83 We dividers the wrist-bone 1892 *Sporting Dict* 2 v. *Eye*, Mix all these together to a Consistence fit for a wrist plaster 1897 Ranjitsinhji *Cricket* 165 Every player who has much wrist power 1902 *Scribner's Mag* April 498/1 Big policeman, swinging their clubs by the wrist straps

b. In sense ' of or pertaining to a wrist-band or sleeve-cuff ', as *wrist-button*, *-link*, *-stud*.

1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' Mar* xxxi 315 His wrist-buttons, his shirt studs, the camelia in his coat 1899 *Habits of Good Society* 111 142 Elaborate studs and wrist links, are all abominable 1862 Lever *Hand Gay Dog* I xi 138 Fitting buttoned his jewelled wrist studs in 1895 Knight *Dict Mech* 2822/2 *Wrist link*, a link with connected buttons for the wristband or cuff

o In Cricket, etc , in the scene 'effected or directed by means of wrist-work,' as *wrist hit*, *-play* (hence *wrist player*, *-playing*), *shot*, *stroke*

1862 Pycroft *Cricket Tutor* 19 Throwing back the bat to the bails . . necessitates good wrist play 1867 *J Lillywhite's Cricketer's Comp* 105 A G. Lee, capital wrist player 1888 Steel & Lyttelton *Cricket* 42 Players are not equally good both at the forward driving and the wrist playing games 1895 Kipling *Day's Work*, *Maltese Cat*, Hughes made some

sort of quick wrist-stroke [in polo] 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 April 2/1 The cut was not a wrist hit, but a vehement exhibition of energy. 1906 *Ibid.* 21 March 10/1 A wrist shot that was remarkable

d. Special Combs, as †wrist-bender, a muscle which bends or controls the wrist; **wrist-bone**, any one of the small bones of the wrist; a carpal bone; **wrist clonus** *Path.*, spasmodic contraction of the muscles of the hand, produced by sudden backward pressure; **wrist-drop** *Path.*, an affection marked by inability to extend the hand and fingers, resulting from paralysis of the forearm extensor muscles; also *attrib.*; **wrist-fall**, a drooping ruff or band (cf. †FALL *sb*1 23c) formerly worn about the wrist; **wrist-guide** (see quots); **wrist jerk** *Path.*, WRIST CLONUS; **wrist-pin** *Mech.*, = WRIST 4 b; also *Comb.*; **wrist-plate** *Mach.*, an oscillating plate bearing one or more crank-pins or wrists on its face (*Cent. Dict.*); **wrist watch**, a small watch worn in a wristlet or strap around the wrist, wrist-work, flexure of the wrist, as in batting.

1634 J. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg Wks* 221 Both the *Carpifle vcres*, or †Wrest-benders, arise from the inner processe 1552 HULOET, "Wrest bone of the hand, or arme, *Brachiale* 1611 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 19 The brawne of the arme must appeare full, shadowed on one side, then shew the wrist bone therof 1845 SCOTT *Talism* II, The wrist bones peculiarly large and strong 1872 COUES *N. Amer Birds* 42 Two little carpal bones, or wrist bones 1889 *Buck's Handbk Med Sci* VIII. 33/2 Odd cases of supernumerary wrist bones. 1888 *Ibid* VI 971/2 A 'wrist clonus' may be produced by a forcible hyperextension of the wrist *a* 1842 *Sinquel Metrop* (1845) VII 522 One of these consequences [of the use of lead] is "wrist-drop" 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* V 693 The two common varieties are the wrist-drop type and the upper arm type 1890 MRS. A. E. BARR *Friend Ditton* III. The lace "wrist falls and neck bands. 1881 J. S. ARNOLD *Mech. Inventions* 108 "*Wrist Gearing*, that part of Logier's Chiroplast which guides the wrist. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict Mus Terms* 90 The wrist guide, by which the position of the hand was preserved [in piano-playing] from inclination outwards 1899 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VI 700 The 'wrist and elbow jerk' *Ibid* VII. 191. 1825 KNIGHT *Dict Mech* I. 810 The "wrist pin is a truncated, conical, tubular pin e at which to the crank wheel by a bolt *Ibid*, *Wrist pin Turner*, a machine for turning wrist pins or [for] the turning of 3 upon it. 1856 RAIMES-POWELL *Mechanic's Companion* 31 Wedges, glasses, wrist stitches, buckles, and buttons should be dulled 1898 RANJITSINHJI *With Stoddart's Team* VII 103 His cutting was hard and full of 'wrist work' 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 June 3/2 There was any amount of wrist work in his cutting.

**Wrist** see WREST *sb.* and *v.*

**Wristband** (rɪ stbænd, rɪ zbænd) [f. WRIST + BAND *sb*1]

1. The band or part of a sleeve (esp. of a shirt-sleeve) which covers or fastens about the wrist; a cuff or sleeve-band

1572 in Feuilleret *Revels Q Eliz* (1908) 146 Skarfes, flaw hions, buskins, wrastbandes 1621 COTGR., *Poignet de la chemise*, the wrist band, or gathering at the sleeue hand, of a shirt. *a* 1625 BRAUN & FL. *Bloody Brother* IV iii, You'l dip your wrist-bands, (for Cuff-y' have none) as comely in the sauce As any Courtier 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* II 1, With that the Hands to pocket went, Full Wrist-band drew. 1752 BERKELEY *Ch Farewater* Wks 1871 III 500 Unbuttoning the neck and wristbands of his shirt 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, Although his coat was short in the sleeves it disclosed no vestige of a linen wrist band 1886 *Pall Cat* XVI. 208 He was keenly conscious of his old boots and crumpled wristbands

2. A band worn as a protector on the wrist. *rare.*

1882 *Imp Dict*, *Muffettee*, a wristband of fur or wor-ted worn by ladies

3. A bracelet or wristlet.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl* 252 *Armilla*, a bracelet or wrist band 1697 DAMPIER *Voy* (1729) I 365, A Silver Wrist band, or Hoop to come about their Arms. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Brachiale* (Lat.), a Bracelet, a Wrist band 1909 *Westm Gaz.* 28 June 1/2 Wrist bands, which are a revival of the beaded bracelets worn in early VICTORIAN days, have been introduced

b. A band for shackling the wrist.

1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 17 The feet and hands [of the patient] are attached by anklets and wristbands 1897 *Allbutt's Syst Med* II. 870 Strait-jackets are a combination of the dark ages, and leather wrist-bands and bandages abrade the skin

3. A bandage for fastening round the wrist, also, a wrist-plaster.

1685 BOYLE *Disq Exp Nat. Philos* I v. 94 The *Ingamentum latum*, or wrist-band, that keeps the tendons from inconveniently starting up 1684 — *Porosum Boracic iv* 32 Those [plasters] that Physicians call *Percarpia*, or Wrist-bands

**Wristed** (rɪ stɛd), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 2.]

1. Having a (specified kind of) wrist.

c 1821 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV 61 White wristed Juno Being mulh incensed 1888 STERLE & LYTTELTON *Cricket* 53 'strong-wristed' players play more back [etc.]. 1909 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. vi. § 4 A thin wristed hand.

2. Carried on the wrist

1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct 7/5 A green parrot, 'wristed', like a falcon, but not hooded

**Wrister** (rɪ stəɹ). *U.S.* [f. as prec. + -ER1.] A knitted covering for the wrist; a muffetee.

1879 WEBSTER *Suppl* 1883 *Century Mag* Aug 624 A neighbor, come to tea, was crocheting wristers for her grandson.

†**Wristiklin.** ? *nonce-word. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -KLIN.] A muffetee.

1846 CARLYLE *Lovel Lett* (1909) II 257 She has manufactured two pairs of wristiklins 1852 MRS CARLYLE in *Mem.* (1909) II 35 A pair of woollen wristiklins.

**Wrist-joint** (rɪ stdʒoint). [t. as prec. + JOINT *sb*1] The joint of the wrist; the radio-carpal articulation or joint a. In man.

1634–5 BARKSTON *Trew* (Chetham Soc.) 47 The obstruction, which perhaps occasioned that swelling in the wrist joints 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat* 99 Wrist joint The articulation is formed by the junction of the hand and fore-arm. 1852 *Todd's Cycl Anat* IV. 1307 The wrist joint enjoys every kind and variety of motion 1873 J. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol* (ed. 9) 54 The extension of the wrist joint

b. In birds.

*a* 1843 *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VII 397/1 The Radio-carpal bone...forms...part of the joint of the wrist joint. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 32 Extension of the hand upon the wrist joint increases and completes the unfolding of the wing.

**Wristlet**, etc., obs. var. WRISTLE *v.*

**Wristlet**, obs. f. WRISTBAND *n.*

**Wristlet** (rɪ stlet). [f. as prec. + -LET]

1 a. (See quot.)

1847 WEBSTER, *Wristlet*, an elastic band worn by ladies around the wrist, to confine the upper part of a glove [Hence in some later Dicts.]

b. A bracelet; = WRISTBAND 2.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib* 862 Articles for the Modes, Dijedda, and Mecca Markets ... Armlets and wristlets 1865 SPEKE *Discov. Source Nile* 203 The king wore, for ornament, neatly-worked wristlets of copper 1889 *Daily News* 8 June 5/4 The poor little creature had been decorated with a pair of wristlets

c A handcuff, a wrist-iron

1881 *Daily Tel* 31 Dec 6/1 Wearing black dresses instead of grey, with leg irons as well as wristlets, to show that they were 'lifers' 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz. Daily Notes* 1 Feb 7/2 The ...ell, al use of belts, anklets, and wristlets, in restraining violent prisoners

d A small strap for wearing on the wrist. Also *attrib*

1891 *Times* 16 Oct 4/6 Blue gauntlet gloves, and watch in wristlet 1914 *Hist* 24 Aug 9/4 Stealing a wristlet watch from a dressing-box at the baths

2. (A bracelet or band) for covering for the wrist.

1851 *Illustr Lond News* 19 July 86/1 Wrought muslin wristlets about two inches in width 1861 T. B. ALDRICH *Pampinea & Pets* (1875) 90 A siren lathe With invisible woven of scarlet winds.

b. A muffetee. Cf. WRISTBAND 1 b, WRISTER.

1869 *Eng Mechanic* 26 Nov 264/1 Wristlets, muffs, collarettes, in different patterns, are knitted on the LK knitter 1888 *Woodbury Mag* XXXVI 771/1 Knitted gloves, suspenders, comforters, wristlets.

†**Wri stling.** *vbl sb. Obs*—1 [Of obscure origin.] The action of, or fact of undergoing, curling, coiling, or twisting.

1570 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* III. 151 The wrystling and turning vp of the tayle [L. *cauda contorta*], is a signe of a sound Hogge

**Wristy** (rɪ sti), *a. Cricket.* [f. WRIST + -Y1.] Performed by flexure of the wrist; marked by or clever in wrist-work.

1888 *Longm Mag.* May 47 He was a good bat, noted for his 'wristy' play, as some critic termed it 1893 W. L. MURDOCH *Cricket* 54 A quick, wristy throw

**Writ** (rɪt), *sb.* Forms: 1– writ (1 *north.* u(u)rit, *pl* writto, wrist(e)o, 3–4 wrihte, 5 wrethe, *Sc* writ, 6 wrot), 3–8 writt (4 wrritt, 3–7 writte, 3–7 wryt (5 *Sc.* wryte, wryt), 4–6 wryght (6 whryte), 3–7 wrytte. [OE. *writ* (also *gewrit* WHIT), = ON and Icel. *rit* writing (Norw. *rit* drawing), Goth. *writs* pen-stroke, OHG *rizt* m., stroke, character (MHG *riz*, G. *riss* m., *ritze* f.), f. the weak grade of *writan* to WRITE. Cf. HAMPSHIRE and WHITE *sb.*]

1. Something written, penned, or recorded in writing, a writing. Now *rare.*

*a* 900, c 950 [implied in sense 1 c] *a* 1122 *O. F. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 964 [He] fand ða bidde in þa ealde wealle writes þæt hiora land [wæs] beadle 4 7 gewriton *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 100 Al he habbeð in hure write Ine mi mi-duden here *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8493 Þis writte wit fele wis red and sene, Bot fa it writ quat it will mene. *a* 1300 *Versific* 1486 þis writ hat ge ar him bi-fore 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 154 Sir haf here þis writ, & schewe him alle newe 1418 20 *Lydg Chron Troy* 3700 Ful oft wythe be wrote be olde rede. 1488–91 *Acts Jas IV*, 8 *Parliament Scot* I 87 I here was a writ fund sayand In hac bona [etc.] 1560 Bible in *Statutes Comm* 151 b, He coueted him not, but kept his writes and testamentes 1580 WHITNEY *Emblemes* 143 Ih' Emperor tooke his penne, for to confirme the cause But all in vayne he rente the writte in twaine 1598 LEIGH Lelabor in *Ordur Lett* (1709) I. 10 A letter hath been the object of the writ of any paper 1891 WALSHAM How in *Life* (1898) 353 You have a writ given you, which is like a small cake 1909 *Westm Gaz* 7 Oct 4 2 He writs of the insane are generally distinguished from

†b. A written work, a book, also *pl.*, the writings or works of an author or authors. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Phænix* 495 Þæs þe us leorneras wordum secgaþ, & writu cyþaþ. *a* 1300 *Prov & Virtues* 15 He wisse ð den manines þinges. Þurh halge writes *c* 1330 *Hali Meráð.* 9 And sal tachi forðre i þis writ besen openliche ischeawet. *Ibid* 39 Herche hi read bat he i be frumde of þes writ readde *c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 9615 Her after some in þis writ, Wha he it dede, se schul it write. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 608 He wald-eyed was, as þe writ schewys *c* 1400 *Apol Loll* 63 Woo to hem þat ... writun writtis of vanitiallnes. 1456 HAYE *Law Arms* (S T S) 13 Sanct Paule in his wrytte, sayand (etc.). 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w Dunbar* 258 How thy forbeiris come the writ makis me war. 1590 GREENE *Mourning Garment* (1616) C 3 b, The Authors in their written plaine discusse, Paper was not 3 eyres. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Epist., In the following writ I point at the danger 1681 DRYDEN *Abs & Achit.* I 665 Let Israels foes rashly judge his Writ Apocryphal 1687 — *Hind & P* III 2 Much malice Perhaps may censure this mysterious writ

c. *spec.* Sacred writings collectively, the Bible or holy Scriptures, = SCRIPTURE *sb.* 1, † a single passage in these. Freq. without article (cf. 2), in *Holy* or *Sacred Writ.* † Also *pl.*

*a* 1000 *Riddle I Exet Dom.lm* (Surtees) 79 Cwoeð fordon ðio writ, eghwelc se ðe gileefð on hine ne bið acommende. *c* 900– [see HOLY WRIT] *a* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt. xxvi 54 Ahu hua for hon biðð zefyllid wunniþo? *Ibid* Mark xii. 10 Ne writ þius leornada ge *a* 1200 *Ivan & Vertues* 67 Þenne þat he writt seið þat swire ne he nimðe ouer his riht dome *c* 1410 *Lantern of Li.ht* 132 Alle þoo þat trowen þat helpe may cum of vsing Goddis word þat we clepen writte. *Tc* 1400 in *Anturs M's* (S T S) 58 Was euer merry and euer will for the writ sayis In eternum [etc] 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen VI*, I iii 61 His Weapons [are] holy Sawes of sacred Writ. 1685 WARMAN *Love I* 3 Warman *Ded* Writ our reason does exceed 1745 POCOCKE *Descr East* II 1 60 Cæsarea is remarkable in sacred writ upon several accounts

*transf* 1608 SHAKS. *Per* II Prol 12 At Larissa, where each man Thinks all is writ he spoken can.

†d A written communication, a message, a letter. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll Homl* 7 Sannte iowel wrihte þo a writ and sende hit synfulle men *c* 1288 *Leg Kath* 1400 He sende seoleðe writes to alle þe kuddie clerkes *a* 1300 *A Horn* 550 (Camb MS.) A writ he dude deunse: A þeiif hit stod to writ 13 *K. Alis* 1844 Warnede hire þerof writ Alisaunder a wryt *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbr* 1774 Delyuerly me be wryt, bat Charles sente to sir Balamie. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III 392 Ane writ he send, þat bare the wyll lord Persie had him sent. 1588 SHAKS *Titus A.* II iii 284 All too late I bring this fatall writ. 1598 RYD *Jap. Trag* III ii 26 A letter written by Heronimo .' For want of inckie recease this bloudie writ.

2. a. Without article (cf. 1 c). That which is written; written record

*c* 1205 LAY 29005 Nu ȝe habbeð3 þerof wule word beo sended us here into ure leode mid writ þe Aneas ȝelt mid worde *13 K Alis* 1917 (1 MS), Le kynge tolde he is wryt hu it was. *c* 1375 in *Anal* I 315 507 þat after [sc. Adam] gate writes þese were þinges wryte 1 *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 1. 24 As I in writ fynd 1628 J. MAIER *Treat Leckes Lepar* 266 Barn þat is cured the sick with the touch of euangelicall writ 1733 H. STUBBE *Lord Cor Cases* (1734) 266 A Will declared, testified, and signified by Word of Writ. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iv, The mere human surmises and doubts which clash with Homeric writ!

†b = WRITING 2d. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8495 þis writte [on a marble stone] wit fele was red and sene 1340–70 *Alex & Dind* 1136 He had bulden of marbre A piler ( & þat per wrouhten a wryte *c* 1440 *Promp Parv.* 534/1 Wryte, spone a wrytynge stone, *epitaphium* c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlate* 395 Red the writ of thair werk, to your witness. 1608 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xxxix, Thus found he grauen in the murder stroke ; he mones the smooth writ 1865 RUTHERFORD *Lepal & Irr. Feath* 203 There is writ remaining after sun is rated . Writ written saith a pen of iron, and diamond

c. Written command, order, or authority.

In later use generalized from the senses under 3.

*a* 1400 in *Pol. Gilds* (1870) 360 Sif hit ne be plye of loue þi wryt *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor Fab* xxxiii. 3 Ane wolf þat wrocht wrinis for to schaw? *c* 1580 *Sat pupils* 328 in Hist E F P III 179 Ly sens to cumpownde by fyne cr wryte of poul. 1638 STANLEY *Eng Lawd* 1 iv 127 Touching appellatyonys in causys and remouing by writ 1705 *Lond Gaz.* No 4163/3 Her Majesty hath been pleased, by Writ, to Call [him] to the House of Lords 1708 BLACK STONE *Comm* I 148 The commissions issued to assemble without writ 1808 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* II 1020 [When] the proceedings have been instituted in the country court by plaint, and not by writ

3. A formal writing or paper of any kind, a legal document or instrument (Passing into next)

*a* 1122 *O. Chron* (Laud MS) an 963, Hu se papa Ag also hit fest iode mid his writ. *a* 1200 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl* IV 4 3 Ich mi Dauid Bischop of Bath ben bradken on Cheri-eye 'o x hyden lond 1258 HEN III *Proclamation*, We wiln den sew þis writ open, isemed wiþ we seel *c* 1300 *Harl* K 536 He sende writes wee-on on After his erles. 1362 LANGL. *P Pl A* II 49 Alle to witnesse wel whit be writ wolde, In what manere that Meede in marige was i-feffed 1454 *Acts of Parl* V 297 2 Writtes vnder þer seales vnder the kyngis grete seale 1475 *Bk Noblesse* 58 (boxb) 9 2 [Thad] for a nother writte upp n the patent of ly'eiade, þis ind 1538 WHITTINTON *Vocab.* (Camden) I 91 [He] was made a baron by his writ 1562 *Reg Privy Council Scot* I 231 That he may haif inspectioun of the saidis writtis produsit 1601 WATSON *Hors Mort* I 19, The Bishop ... cannot write, he sets us Rochesters great Church commanding me to remember To appeare. 1672 *St. At* (1820) VIII 87 The Writers to the signet are he þey do's bugged, i t-ome or writ writes of any kind ... unles [etc.] 1707 *Acts Parl Scot* IX. 1879 12 A writ under his great seal 1809 BANKTON *Domesday Bk* 239 Witnessing the King's writ for that purpose 1892 LAWSON *Scotticisms* 18 Lawful King, Whose writ will run thro' all the range of life

b *Law* A written command, precept, or formal order issued by a court in the name of the sovereign, state, or other competent legal authority, directing or enjoining the person or persons to whom it is addressed to do or refrain from doing some act specified therein.

*a* 1400 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 361 þe writ þat me piedeth in þe Cite, by fore Justyces *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg* 206 [To] come fully to the strenghte of the coure for the kyng & his breef or writte *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron* VII (1516) 331/1 A writ was directed vnto the Mayre and Aldermen, charygnge theym that [etc.] *a* 1566 *Sir T Hoveden* I 99 Bring them away to execution ... the writt is come abouue two hures since 1602 *2nd Pt Returns for Parnass* V III 2104 Lo be briefe Academicus, writts are out for me, to appreheñ me 1659 Harmonius *Du Pr* Introd. 4 There are 10 writts signed for their execution 1717 Prior *Dove* xviii, This cruel Writ, wherein you stand Indicted 1810 W Sotheby *Farewell to Poetry* 9 ll. 19 After possession has been given in the Writ 1874 L. W. P. Lennox *Accell I* 281 A brother of an M P, finding sundry writs out against him

c With *of* (the specific designation).

*Writ of aid, certi rari, cessavit, distringas, east, elegit, entry, error, exe ution, formedon, habeas corpus injunc tion, inquiry ; summonition, insimu, mi ri d'ancestor non est inf ciatus first aliger, prohibition, racchament, rebellion, ri, hi, summons, venire facias, waste, etc.* see these words

*a* 1400 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 300 Sir he sy pleted by wryt of plee of londe 1481 *Rolls of Parl* VI 470/2 After possession had been given in the Writte writ 1874 L. W. P. Lennox *Accell I* 281 A brother of an M P, finding sundry writs out against him

c With *of* (the specific designation).

*Writ of aid, certi rari, cessavit, distringas, east, elegit, entry, error, exe ution, formedon, habeas corpus injunc tion, inquiry ; summonition, insimu, mi ri d'ancestor non est inf ciatus first aliger, prohibition, racchament, rebellion, ri, hi, summons, venire facias, waste, etc.* see these words

*a* 1400 in *Eng Gilds* (1870) 300 Sir he sy pleted by wryt of plee of londe 1481 *Rolls of Parl* VI 470/2 After possession had been given in the Writte writ 1874 L. W. P. Lennox *Accell I* 281 A brother of an M P, finding sundry writs out against him wrethe of subpena 1568–9 in Holton *Stat Irel* (1621) 325 Any writt of dower 1643 Carvl *Expos Job* I 367 A writ or patent of protection 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) *s. v.* Writ of Assistance ... of Privelege ... of Rebellion 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV, c.* 27 § 36 (lists many which are thereby abolished). 1864 *Act 28 & 29 Vict c.* 104 § 47 A Writ of Diem clausit extremum may be issued

d. *spec* A document issued by the crown conveying a summons to a spiritual or temporal lord to attend Parliament, or directing a sheriff to hold an election of a member or members of Parliament.

*c* 1300 *Contin. Brut* in *Engl Chron* (1724) 329 He somoned by wryt all bisshoppes & all abbotes. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt* V 335 He was elect Abbot after the said Parlement somond, and holde never Writs of Parliaments. 1503 *Dettingen Parl Rec* IV 147 The which writ (wt reason) ye wt Parliament 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit* (1637) 630 Then was Edward Nevill by the King's Writ called unto the Parliament 1699 Petyt (*title*), A brief Collection, ... Wherein the Right of the several Kinds and Forms of Parliamentary Writs *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 18 Sept 1698, Writs were issued in order to a Parliament 1709 *Lords' Journ* XVI 1 *Parliament*, A long the Parliament Writs 24 Jl. 1761 Hume *Hist Eng* III lx 292 They issued some writs for new elections. 1861 Bickle *Cavalia* (1862) II xv 164 (Ill. Earl of Leicester) set the first example of issuing writs to cities and boroughs 1888 J. Williams *Lincoln Brit* XXIV 697/1 The writ is to be returned by the returning officer with the name of the member elected endorsed on the writ

**†4** = Writing *obl sb* 5 1 req in writ *Obs* (latterly *Sc*)

*c* 1160 *Hymns Ho t* (MS Bodl 343) fol 63 b, I am wunde ... þe we her uylle'n wrten writen *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 75 Þet rihte leue sette'þ be twelue apostles i n write. *c* 1200 Ormin 3281 He badd writenn upp o writt All mankinn forr to lukenn [etc.] *a* 1300 in *P P I* (C 62) 154 Sleiȝ he was Þat þis lore put in writte 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I 14 Iuli it wryt a nathir tet ry *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* VII 100 Luke ȝe do it well in wryt 1585 Jas. I *Ir Parl* (Arb) 14 Wher in writ I do therof reserue 1651 Calderwood *Hist Kirk* (Wodrow Soc) II 446 The Bishop of Rosse his men ... rails left in writt. 1684 Sir G. Mackenzie *Inst Laws S* of (1694) 212 A testament does require to be in Writ

5. *attrib* and *Comb*, as *writ charter*, *writ proof* adj., *reader*, *reading*, † writ-rune, a written character, lesson (*obs.*), a document or letter (*obs.*)

*c* 1205 Lay 3750 Pa com þer a mon an messinge, þe hafde writrune 1781 *Reading not preaching* II 250 To apply this to our writ reading clergy *Ibid* 7 All these readers can read 1844 Lyell *Trav* II 96 Mammoth, Our family have been writ proof for centuries 1906 *Eng Hist Rev* July 506 The writ hunter addressed to the shire moot.

**Writ**, dial variant of Wart *sb*

**Writ** (rit), *v.* *Anglo-Irish.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To serve (a person) with a writ or summons Also *refl*

1888 *Pall Mall G* 14 Nov 8/1 Pat Hoyty [interjected] ... I was writted myself, and I did not 1894 Somerville & Ross *Real Charlotte* xxviii, Why don't ye writ her for the money?

**Writabi·lity** *rare.* [Cf next and Ability] Capability readiness, or disposition to write

1770 H. Walpole *Let to Lady Ossory* 25 Sept, Having received my whole shipful, to thank your ladyship for your kind intentions 1788 — *Let to Mrs H More* 22 Sept, My writability in pressing my letters on you.

**Writable** (rai·tăbl), *a.* [f. Write *v.* + -able.]

1 That may be written, capable of being reduced to or set down in writing

1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 30 Oct, The talk was by no means writable, but very pleasant. 1799 Coleridge in Sandford *Life* (1888) I 85 To the Famous Hartz Mountains to see the mines. On my return I will write you all that is writable 1853 Ruskin *Stones Ven* III ii 97 All written or writable law respecting the arts is for the childish and ignorant.

2 Suitable for writing with

1844 Mrs. Browning *Lett Horne* (1877) I 267, I am turning this pen round and round to find a writable side to it.

**†Writa·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. as prec. + -ation.] Poor or insipid writing.

1778 Miss Carter *Lett to Mrs Montagu* (1817) III 95 What writing, as somebody used to say, what writtation it all is! 1787 Bentham *Wks* (1843) X 174 Nine-tenths of it is bad writtation about the origin of society

**Writative** (rai·tătiv), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ative.]

1. Disposed to write; given or addicted to writing. Now *rare*.

1736 Pope *Let to Swift* 17 Aug, Increase of years makes men more talkative but less writative 1755 Chesterf *Let* 19 Dec., Deaf people are commonly as frivolously writative 1902 *Sat Rev* 17 Jan 53 Our 'writative' contemporaries.

2 Marked by inclination or addiction to writing

1746 Burke in *Leadbeater Papers* (1862) II 72, I always distinguish between a man's talkative and writative character 1788 *Women of Honour* III 209, I was in a fine writative vein

**Write** (rait), *sb*1 Chiefly *Sc* Also 5–7 wryte (5 wryte, 6 Sc. wryt, wryt), 4 wrizt, 5 *north* wrighte : *Sc* 6–7 wreit (6 wr, ur-), 7 wroitte, 6–9 wreat, 7 wreatt, wrait, 9 wreet. wreet [var of Writ *sb.* after Write *v.*, or directly f. the latter.

Examples earlier than the 16th century are prob mere graphic variants of *writ* (as sometimes shown by the rime), but may have helped to introduce the new form.

†1 That which is written, a written record or work ; a writ, writing, letter, document, etc. *Obs.*

Latterly, and from *c* 1545 to *c* 1650 chiefly, *Sc*

*c* 1325 *Curs Mar* 8495 (Trait.), Pis write wil many was rede and here 14 *Pr Rewes* (C) 1260 For he gob with þat wryte 1466 *Acc Mag Sig Scot* 214/2 Made the day of this present write be us and our counsale 1500 *Caldwell Papers* (1854) I. xxii. 52 We haff subscrivit þis wryte wyth our handes. 1566 Stapleton *Rel Unite Jewel* 370 The Legat brought forth a write from Zosimus 1568 ? Howell *Arcas* (1879) 114 Thes my trollying verses, and for vnconning writen 1633 *Cosths Whore* IV ii, Let's read these writes. What a here ! complaints against my worthy brethren? Nay I'll not read a word 1707 *Curios Scot* (1699) 260 A Write that is null 1705 Dalrymple *Coll. Sc Hist* 269 I have neither seen Writes nor Chartulanes, only a Copy of the Charter 1761 in *Survey Peerage Evidence* (1874) 98 His own proper writes and evidents.

†2 a. *Holy* (or *the*) *Write*, = Writ *sb.* 1 c.

1393 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 4845 Holy wryte swyche men bidde 1400 *Apol Lollard Works* 29 Seynt Poul seiþ, in *Seynts v* (*John*) 284 Þe fyrste skil . . . be tuk vt of holy wryte [*rime* it] 14 *Arth & Merl* 686 (Douce MS.), Þus holy wryȝt witnessyþ hyt 1556 Crowley *Treat Pain* 537 I holy write teacheth you so 1567 *Gude & Godly B* (S. T. S.) 211 Thow hes promittit in the write Of all thair sin to mak thame quyte

†b. Written record ; writing. = Writ *sb* 2. Chiefly *Sc Obs*

1483 in *Acts Lords of C* ncil 1918) II p cxxvii, And act of the Lordis gevin thairupon be actenitie write and documentis 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV *marche* 3139 He hes red, in Hebrew wryte, Off fyftene signis. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D* iii. (Arb.) 36 No man for despite, ly wordes or by write Has felone to twist 1598 Barckley (Petvotie) *Chron S of* (S. T. S.) 176 Of the quhilk the nu lins hand tell alswell be write as le toung *c* 1657 Sir W Mure *Works* (S. T. S.) II 238 The monuments of wryte of the greatest antiquitie 1688 Sir Patrick *Inst* 1 19 Private Writs are Contestitute by going and coming that way uninterrupted ... fourty years without Write, or any other Right 1885 Jamieson *Scottish Lexicon*, *writing*, as contrasted with verbal communication

†3. *Law* = Writ *sb* 3 b, c. *Obs*

*a* 1400 in *Eng Gilds* (1871) 361 Wryten (þewe dissesyyne, And wrongful iugement) 1477 *Earl Arg Let*, III 212 Ye must have a meen le sum wryte of trespas for them 1489 *Sc Plantation Corr* (Camden) 92 Afore Easter, send vpon ȝow the wryte 1578 *Lett Depos* (Surtees) VI 2 Ly wright of entre 1598 Starkey *England* I iv 117 He wyl by wryte remoue hys cause to the court at Westminster 1599 Sylvester *Lepry* 94 A Baylife serued with one wryte an whole score or twayne

4. *Sc* = Writ *sb* 4 Only in phr. *in write*

1535 Stewart *Cron Sc I* (Rolls) III 227 The king All his decys in write ȝeue to them send 1609 Skene *Reg Maj., Stat Prist I II*, 47 The summonds sall be put in write. *a* 1645 Lo Naiile *Mem.* (1793) 40 I do set downe there in-formations that vnder them I had 1717 Wodrow *Corr* (1843) II. 270 They behoved to set them [*sc* answers] down in write

5. *Hawking*, manner or style of calligraphy.

*Handwriting* see Hand *sb* 16 b.

*a* 1614 ] Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc) 185 He causit wryt a copie in guid wrait 1678 Sir G Mackenzie *Laws Govt* 178 Such summonds will differ from it as far as several occasi ns 1814 *Cadt s New Brit Theatre* I 351 Whose write is it? not Henry's, sure, no—yes! 1825 Jamieson *Suppl s. v. writ*, *write*, an old text ; *Gerit, Bit, or Mackit write*, round text. 1887 Spavick *Life Dr. Dagwid* 190 My write being noo very crabbit

b *Write-of-hand*, the art or method of writing. *dial.*

1865 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's L* xlvii, A could wish as a'd learned write-of hand, for a've that for to tell Christopher as might set his mind at ease

**Write** (rait), *sb* 2 [f. the vb.]

1. *Writing* = 4. A printed form with blanks for filling in with writings. *Obs*

1752 Brawer *Lex Merc. Rediv* 363 No Money will be paid without such a Draught, or what is called, a Write off 1826 in P Auber *Analysis, Inspect* (1828) 56 For every sum drawn out of the Bank of England, a write off, or draft, shall be signed

b. A cancellation in or by writing.

1902 *Daily Chron* 2 July 2/2 The write off in respect of the short weight was inevitable

2. *Write-up*, a written account or description commending or praising a person or thing Orig (and chiefly *U S*)

1889 *Aberdeen* (Dakota) *Republican* 31 Dec 2/2 The 1 vMoure Progress has an elaborate write up of its city and county 1900 Flit Bank's *Newspaper Girl* 22 What 'write-ups' they gave us, be sure !

**Write**, obs. var. Wright *sb.*1

**Write** (rait), *v* Forms : (see below). [OE. *writan*, = OFris. *writa* to score, write (Fris. *wrata* to wear by rubbing, etc.), OS. *writan* to cut, write (MLG. *writen*), OHG. *rîzan* to tear, draw (MHG. *rîzen*, G *reissen*), ON. *rîta* to score, write (Norw *rita*, *vrita*, Sw. *rita* to draw) ; cf. ON. and Icel. *rista* (wk.) to write. The relationship of the stem *writ-* to Du. and LG. forms without *w* (MDu. and MLG. *riten*, etc.) is doubtful]

**A** Illustration of Forms.

1 *Inf* (and *Pres stem*) a. 1–2 *writan*, 2–4 (6 *arch*) *writen* (3 *Orm.* *writenn*, *writtenn*), 4 *wryten*, 5 *-yn*, *writon* ; 4– *write* (5 *wrijte*, 9 *dial.* *wroite*), 3–6 *wryte* (5 *wreyte*, *whryte*, *wrythe*, 9 *north. dial* *wroyt*), 5 *wryt(e*, 5–7 *wryt*, 6 *wrijt*, 5 *wrighte*, 6–7 *wright*, 6 *Sc.* *writh*, 5 *wrygth*, *wryȝt(e*, 5–6 *wryght*, 6 *wrythe*. b. 4–5, *Sc.* 6 *writte*, 5–6 *Sc* , 8 *writ*, 4 *Sc.* 5–7 *writ*, *Sc.* 5–7 *vrit*, 5–7 *wryt*, 6 *Sc.* *wret* (7 *Sc* *wret*), 6 *wrett*, *wrete*, *Sc.* *wreit*, *wreit*, 7–9 *wreat* (9 *wreet*, *wreeat*). 8 *Sc* 6 *wreate*, 9 *vrait*.

*a* 892 in *O E Texts* 445 Þis mid episcopus rodetacne [ic] festne & write 835 *Ibid* 447 Ic abbs xcrotta cybe & writan hane his mun wille. *c* 1100 *Ps Cambr* (MS F) an 40, Matheus agan his godspell to writen 13 *Cursor M* 648 [None] mai write þe mikel ioy. 14 *Chaucer's Anel & Arc* 209 [Harl MS] Þe same hath write 1440 *Promp Parv* 534 Wrytyn, *scribo* 1449 *Paston Lett* I 87 [He prayeth] me to wrythe to ȝow 1450 tr *Higden V* 359 Orator did wrygte the Actes of Nembrodes. 1480 in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 52 As of any tydynges her y con none wryte yow as ȝett 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 43 In my honour sum thing thow go wryt (*rime* delyt). 1586 Ferne *Reformac* B 3b, I o vnnecessarie to write it 1626 Sir W Mure *Misc Poems* xvi 3 My barren muse ... to wryt forbears. 1673 in *Yeal Friends' Hist Soc* July (1914) 98 I bou should wright to her 1864 Tennyson *Northern Farmer* xv, Sunnuun I reckons 'ull 'a to wrote

*b* 13 *Cursor M* 5253 Þe king ban did his lettres write [*rime* hide] *Ob t Sqlace* 1166 Þe king ... did wit inc 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q* clxxii, Quhat nedis me To writ all this? 1533 Gau *Rauf Coy* 25 Al the buikis quhilk coilzies can write 1590 in *Cath Angl* (1877) IX 305 I o writ her life 1704 Atholl in *Seafield's Lett* (1915) 137, I did myself the honour to write last week 1 1477 in *Maidstone MS* (S. T. S.) 18 Swylke, ... wreit 1536 Buchan in *Introd.*, etc. (187) 32 To wreit att their request a 1547 in *Anglia* XII 260 Off hur goodnese then wolde I wreie 1573 Tvrie in *Catch Practates* (S. T. S.) 12 I bid thocht to wreit 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 1 Quhy wreit ye nocht 1603 in *Cath Angl Hist MSS Comm* App I 31 The man that teachis me to vret 1640 Sir W Mure *Contra Iliff* 52 A scholler A paiquill did repreach his Countrey vvreat 1699 *Seafield's Lett* (1912) 256, I have ..liteli to wret 1705 *Ibid* (1915) 46 He layes it on me to wreit 1859 B. Ramay *Remains* v 128 (E. D. S.) To write ... an old fashioned S otch pronunciation [is] to wreete 1871 W Alexand *Johnny Gibb* xiii, Ye'll just wreet aff at once. 1914 Angus *Shetland Glass* 158 *Wreit*, *wreet*, *v.* and *sb.*

*c* 1384 Q Mary in *Reg Privy Council Scot* XIV 201 We ar moyit to wrait this present unto ȝou 1580 Hay in *Cath Practates* (S. T. S.) 111 quhilk thou Calum wraites in the Furt buik 1866 Galloh *Banffsh Glos* 104 *Vrait*, to write

*b* 3*rd pers sing* 1–4 writ, 3 wrytt

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* II 1 Se leofyd sylfa deð ge ðe leas writ *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 41 Þe deofel writ heo [*sc* a sin] in his tal les 1390 Gower *Conf* III 245 The Philosophre Writ and counselleth to a king.

2. *pa. t. sing.* 1–4 writ, 3 wrytt

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom* II 1 Se leofyd sylfa deð ge ðe leas writ *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom.* 41 Þe deofel writ heo [*sc* a sin] in his tal les 1390 Gower *Conf* III 245 The Philosophre Writ and counselleth to a king.

2. *pa. t. sing.* (latterly also *pl.*). a. 1–6, 9 *north dial* wrat (3 *pl.* wratten, 5 whrat, *Sc.* vrat, wart), 4, 6 wratte, 2, 4–wrate, 5 wraite, *Sc.* 5–7 wrait, 5 wrayt(e, 6 wraitt, wrait, 9 *dial* wraat, wreat

Since *c* 1300 chiefly *north* and *Sc*, but also in southern use *c* 1500–*c* 1670.

1793 5 in Earle *Land Charters* (1888) 42 Wilfrid Iscop he hit wrat *c* 1175 *Lott Hom* 235 God þa laȝe wrate his him self *c* 1200 [see B 4 b] 13 *Cursor M* 22143 Þe godspell in sale he wratte [*rime* watte, *Gött* watt] 1375 *Ibid* 1470 (Faint, Ennoc wrate [*Gött* wrat]sum bokis wip his hunde *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* vii 1854 In Alexander Wart [*v r* wrait] in Schir Matheow 1481 *Rolls Parliament* (Camden) 76 The clerkes that se whrat of Layseter 1585 Whitney *Choice Emblt.* (1586) 64 b, Sendea wratte lamentable Tragedies *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1590) 35 Vpon a roote of the tree she wrat this couplet 1620 I Peyton *Glasse Time* 1 51 That sweete Disciple which the Gospell wrate 1708 Falconer in Hearne *Collect* (O. H. S.) II 230, I wrate once and again 1824 *Craven Glass* 124 *Wreaat*, wrote. 1828– in Yorks. and Linc glossaries (*wrote*). 1894 Hislop *Northumbld Glass* 709 He wrat him a letter

*b.* 3–8 wrote, 5–6 wrotte, wrott ; 4 wrote, 5 *pl* wroten, 6 wroate (wroght) , 4–5 wroot, 6 wroot, wrout(e.

*c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 17 Elch of hem wrot [= *Lamb Hom.* 75 wrat] his uuen 1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 9281 A fende wrote alle þese ȝer þey spake 23 *K Alis* 4778 (Laud MS.), He wroot Alle þese wondres 1377 *Langl P Pl* B xix 478, I wrote [*v r* wroot, wrought, wrogt] as me matte. *c* 1420 *Wycliffite Bible Acts* xv 23 The apostlis wroten greting 1448 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 209 A letter from you wherin ȝe wrote for your mone 1513 in Ellis *Orig Lett* 3rd S I 222 A letter the Swynnerton wrote me *a* 1529 Skelton *Ware Hawke* 223 I wroute a verse *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig Lett* 3rd S II 189 Bythe I last wroght to you 1552 in Foxe *A & M* (1576) 1891/1 Whether thou wrotest it not. 1590 Tarlton *News Purgat* A 2 Virgil after he had wrote his *Aeneidos*, wrote his *Culex* 1709 Strype *Ann Ref* I 146 He wrot to Cecil to release him

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 209 A Letter which thou wrotest.

**γ.** 5–9 (now *dial.*) writ (6 *Sc.* writ), 5–7 writt, (7 writ), 6–7 written ; 7 wryt, 6 wrytte.

*c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6585 There as he writ of these worchynges 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 15 Se wryt to me a clawys in your letter 1539 in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser. II II 132 Your K yng wrytis agaynste Lwther 1581 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione* II (1900) 144 A letter which [she] writ unto her lover 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 226 They writ to all their brethren. 1648–83 [see B. 22 b]. 1666 in *Irish Rep. Hist MSS. Comm.* App. V. 14. I writ wonce to you. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobg.* (Camden) 9 My Lord H. writt to my mother. *a* 1704 Goldsmith tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 324 I writ to her, she received my letter 1788 *Trifler* No. 12. 156 Authors (who writ in the Latin tongue). 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. ii He writ back a letter.

**δ.** 5–7 write.

*c* 1454 Proctor *Fekenham* 7 Pe book which y write in englisch 1582 R. Robinson tr. *Lelland's Assertion* 114 I hatt John which concerning Arthure write the golden historie. *a* 1700 [see B 16]

*ε.* *Sc* 6–7 wreit (vreit), 7 wreit, wreat, 6 wreit, 6, 9 wreit.

1506 *Compt. Lord* 16 Also he vreit ane lettir *c* 1560 [see B 7 b]. *a* 1568 *Henryson* 2 *Sum Practyses* 9 (Bann. MS.), The quhilk 3e in cit vnderstude, Bot wreit on 3e cit culd. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* (T.) 645 Wha wreit sum vers wreit [*Harl. MS* wreat]. *a* 1600 — *Poems* (1821) 240 Sant peter wreit ane vthaar quhair 1652 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 45, I wreitt lykewayes to my sone in law to assist him. 1914 [see A 17]

**ζ.** *Pa. t* 1 writon, 3–5 writen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4–5 wryten, 5 writun, wrytyn (9 *dial* rat'n), 4 write, 5–9 wrote, *Sc* wret.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix. 2 Þæt þa ðe hi ymb writon, *a* 1000 *Ines's W.* 27 Dat ðe ure hali faderes writen 1390 Gower *Conf.* III 85 Vit of thi Calistre And Aristotle whyli on write Lo Alouthre, þi whiche write *c* 1450 Capgrave *St Gilbert* 95 Pei mor-ouyr wrytyn and sent on to þe Pope, complevnyng 14 *Wyclifite Bible* Acts xxiii 34 Whanne the iustise hadde redd the epistle writen [*Vulg.* cum legisset epistolam], and asked of what cuntrey he was. 1489 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55 Se whyche to hyr father that [etc.]. 1887 *S. Chesh. Glass* 86 Wey rit n, Nai rit n, Dhai rit n.

**η.** 1 wretaon, on, 4–5 wretan, wrete.

850 in Birch *Cartul* II 48 Her sindan ða naman þere monna þe þis wreotan & fæstne in c 900 tr *Bædas Hist.* (1890) 346 Pætte seolfan þa hie breowas æt his mu-ðe wreoton *a* 1340–70 *Hampole Psalter* 24 Pe gestil gemyghtsethes To be emperour dixandre here answerus wretan 1387 Trevisa *Higden* I. 249 Athanasius and other lisnoppes wrete for seventy chapitres. *c* 1440 *Wyclifite Bible* Acts xv 23 (MS Bodl 277, þe apostlis wreten bi þe hondis of hem greetyng 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 176 Your erouds that ye wrete to me fore

**θ.** *Weak forms.* 5 wrytted, *pl* writide(n.

*c* 1380 *Wyclifite Bible* 1 Pele iv 6 Thei writiden accusyng ayens the dwellers *Ibid* 8 [1 he] writen [tr writede] vnto apostil 1449 *Paston Lett.* I 88 My cosyn Cler wrytted to me that s he spake with Schlowpe

**3** *Pa. pple* a. *a* (*a*) 1 sewriten, 2–3 jewriten, 3–5 i-, 4–5 ywrite, 4 ywriten, -eun, 3–4 i-, 5 ywryten, 5–6 -yn (*b*) 1–7 writen (1 uuriten, 3 *Orm.* writenn, *Ayenb.* writ, 5 -in), 4–5 wryten, 4–5, *Sc* 6 -in, 5 -yn, -on, -un, 6 *Sc.* wrytyn(e, 4–6 wrytyn, 4–5 yn (wyryyn, 5 *Sc.* vyrtyn), 5 -un, -on, -une, *Sc.* vrytin ; 6 wrytht-en, 6–7 wrighten.

(*a*) *c* 880 in *O. E. Texts* 434 Ond sio bec sind gewriten & unbeliten [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 [If] we writen inne þa tvle. *Ibid.* Nu weren þa breo la.e writen 13 *K. Alis* 4042 Hit is y-writen 1380 Langl. *P. Pl A.* v. 174 Wordes ywritten in þe Rewmes.ye 1413/30 in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser. II II 21 Ye have ben Godes lyon

(*b*) *Beowulf* 1688 O.-hem wæs or-writen fyrn-gewinnes. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 224 A boken hit [is] writen [er me mey hit reden *a* 1400 *Rolle's Prose Psalt C.* (1536) 157 Lyt is lettire of loue me lede, Pat was wrytyn on a wall *a* 1447 in Ellis *Orig. Lett* Ser. I. I 8 Wrytyn the xij day of Marche. 1537 *Vnto Iu Hills* (Lond. Ref. Soc.) 7 The last wyll writtен the day a bovesaid 1552 *Office of Assym., Misc. Bk. ALV.* No. 147 The daye above wrytyn. 1693 *Scotland's Lett.* (1902) 119 Those wer sent in my bed 1703 *Hist.* (1915) 8, I have written to the Earle

**β.** 4–5 iwritten, 5 ywrytten, 6 ywritten ; 4– written (5–6 writtyn, 5–6, *Sc.* 7 -in, 7 writt'n), 4–6 wrytten, 5 wrytyn (whrytyn), 5–6 -yne, 9 *Sc* wrutten.

13 *Cursor M.* 6995 In þe time wir be fabulis written. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VIII 41 As it is writtен in his lyf. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cronn.* II 225 As in be Bill wrytyn it is. 1488 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 58, I have wrytyne to yow dywrys lettyrs. 1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Jul.* 721 Wyrtten haue I red There is no better way to hide 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 71 Things not before discours'd or written of 1892 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xviii, [How] husna he vrutten to you?

**γ.** 4–5 iwreiten, 5 -yn, ywreten ; 4–7 wreten, 4–6 -yn, 5–6 -ynn, -un, *Sc.* 6–7 wreittin (6 vreittin), 7 wreitten.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII 70 As I ere is wreten in letres. *Ibid* 441 Limerus had i wreten and descryved Anselmes lyf. 14 *Chaucer's Sec Nun's P.* 91 (Lansd. MS.), Euclyd whom þis worthie al wi ygolde wreiten [*Camb. MS* ywreyten] were 1476 in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 4 That Thomas Kenten hat ywreten unto me 1534 Cromwell in *Life & Lett.* (1900) I 383 Wreityn at my house 1581 *Bishops' Rolls Scott. XXI* 421 The landis ab sume wreittin 1664 J. Carstaire *Lett.* (1846) 105, I have wreaten ane other lyne to the Lord Chancellor 1685 *Scotland's Lett.* (1912) 10, I would have wreiten to you. 1693 *Ibid.* 209 [A letter] wreitten so him

**δ.** 5, *Sc.* 6 wrettin, 6 wretten (-on, *Sc.* -in). 1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 59 Wrettyn in haste, at Norwich *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxvi. 407 Letters written on the partiest 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S. T. S.) II. 50 Ihis letter [was] wrettun be thir three forrasaid persons in all heist

**ε.** 7 *Sc.* writtein.

*a* 1614 J. Melville *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 267, I have writtеn a special treatise thareof

**b a.** 3–5 i-, ywrite, ywryte ; 3–7, *Sc.* 8 write (7 wright), 4–6 wryte.

*c* 1175 *Coll. Hom* 241 Hit is iwrite Nemo [etc.]. *c* 1200, etc [see Vnwrite *pple*]. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 228 (Cott.), A boc hit is write. 13 *Chron R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 1901 Swrite [*tr* wryte] was lo þis. *c* 1400 *Chr on Vision* (cckvii), þe scribe as he þat is redy to wryte 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 43 Wryte at London 1678 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS Comm* App V 53 Hee has wright my Lord all i erticulats. 1688 [see B 18 a]. 1705 *Stanhope Lett* (1915) 61 It is write by one I can trust

**b.** 5 i-, ywritte, 5, 6–7 *arch* ywrit, 5–6 writte (5 whritte), 5 wrytie, 5–6 wryt, 6– (now *dial.* or *arch* ) writ, 6–7 writt.

1400 Ywain & Gaw. 2988 Pat sope his ywrete 1393 R. Pruinne *Handl Synne* 2177 Hyt 3e sopliche þurgh lawe wrete, þat [etc.] 1426 Lydg. *De Guil Pilgr* 10008 The word ywrete in sapyence 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 402/1 I writte 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 20 Quhat sleuе thame wor les wrire wrote 1602 J. Carpenter *Lett* (1846) 97, I have wreate a lyne to the Provost in that matter 1693 *Scotland's Lett.* (1912) 144 The Secretaris are wrett to anent it.

**b.** 5 ywret ; 5 wrotte, 5, *Sc* 9 wrot, 5, 7 wrott. 1423 in *Acts Parl. MSS Comm.* Var Coll IV 83 Y wrot at London the day. 1440 *Ywain & Gawan* 2527 And he þat sloe letres we t, God him helpe well mot *c* 1500 *Hornchild* 2481 We deme, þat þire bee writen fyue letteres þis is þe wroke' [etc.] 1587 Turbervile *Epitaphs* 141 He fonde þre R and þre I wrote. *c* 1595 *Crafte how to ryde* 16 Pat dyd not þat he hadd wrote 1598 Barckley *Inheritance* 79 Bi. What I pr ue wrote in the table of. 1600 in Fenton *Holinshed* 1584 Raleigh *Hist World* III 12 It was as easie to erre in writing two for one and twentie, as for three and twentie 1647 J. Hill *Pand* (1648) 3 Some write that Jeremiah and Zechary written contractively in the Hebrew are the same 1738 Johnson *Life's Aspasia*, *Poems* I. 4 Until lately, the Secretary wrote Zeila for Yemen 1814 *Scott's Lett. Dell* (1849) I. 60 At other times they [*sc.* hieroglyphics] are ph metics, and written by an alphabet of about 140 letters 1887 A. J. Ellis in *Encycl. Brit* XXII. 381 Some system of writing speech-sounds.

**b** To enter or record (a name) with a pen, etc., to mention (a person) in this way. Also in fig constructs.

*c* 1000 Ormin 564 He shall writenn alle þa þatt swemmdenn himm to life Onn eche liknes lokess write. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6889 He wrat he nam and sett to sele 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII 32 Otho heet take hym þe names i wrete in a bok þei were sylly 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 509/2 *Cowpe* (s 69) 41 Plate, Alle these xxii personis before wreti 1450 *Merit Love & Passion of Christ* 882 To whom with bok I sat nature falles 1452–3 *Somerset Rolls* 30 We ordeyn þt þat all swabondes, before writen kepe a de reule 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* iv 3 Al soch as are written amonge the lyuynge at Jerusalem 1555 *Eden Decades* 272 *Ins vbio*, they write their owne names in the tables of their bo kes 1623 Cockeram I. 5/2 To Write, or inscribe in metall Plate 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 555 ¶ [He] shall written the Names of several Persons at the Side of every Sum mentioned by that excellent Auth 1772 R. E. Glasse *Rem Church* 4 To hve your name Wrote in the Holy Book of Fame 1818 *Keats Endym.* I. 41 Ye have not left your names to write, As when in feasts roll I they write some hero soul 1885 'Mrs Alexander' *At Last* v, Open it look her programme and write her own name for a second waltz.

*fig* 1594 Spenser *Amoret* lxxiv, My verse shall in the heauens write your glad renowne 1880 *Stamp Dict* 348/2 Write injuries in dust, but benefits in marble. Set out at anything—leaving sensible traces of one's presence on it.

**3. a.** To set down in writing ; to express or present (words, etc.) in written form ; to pen. Also (*b*) said of the pen, etc. Occas in fig context.

In frequent use from *c* 1380.

830 in *O. E. Texts* 446 Ic mid cristen rædetacne ðis festne & writе [*Hatton MS* writæ] 1340 Hali Meid 15 Ich bidde ec alle þa þing be halize men writen *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut* xxxi 24 After ðam ðe Moyses wat hiwe ðe bebodu *a* 1200 *M. Hatton* 23 Hire bone wes þet i hit hit writе mid þe leue i þatis *a* of *Jour I to Jerusalem* in *O. E. Misc.* 50 I hites wrot him seolf a writ al on hyng *c* 1300 *Rebek* 822 in 3 *Eng. Lyr* 123 þis child Seruede Abrahames fader Jesum, an I hun a counties wid 1393 [see A 1 a]. 1586 Lancy *P. Pl A* v. 174 Pese bep wor ks i writen in þe kwaiglye *c* 1400 *Test* 3 1386 in 367 *Archæol* 50 Who may gaaunte me thyn I mes, That my wordes writen were 1473 Warkw *Chron* (Camden) 11 He wrot in alle his lettres þese of his regne. 1598 *Piers Plow* (W. de W. 1531) 2 These instrumentes ye I haue gathered & wryten for you. 1595 Shake. *John* II. i. 17 Can you not read it? Is it not faire writ? 1669 Milton *P. R.* III. 48 A C. morter. the Law of Faith, upon their hearts shall write. 1681 in *Penn Records Phil Soc* July (1912) 136 At leasure it may be more faire in the Booke. 1751 Lavington *Enthus Meth. & Papists* III.

(1754) 161 His Hand had wrote what was directly contrary to the Dictates of his malicious Mind 1782 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* III 191, I will get these instructions wrote in a proper form 1845 J H GOSWELL *Lincoln* III 258 At the close of his long life, he wrote Gen., Bart., and M P after his name.

(*b*) 1883 J G PEPPER *Man & Type Writer* 4 Machines which write capitals and small letters 1897 *Strand Mag.* May 591 A non-writing woman, no song sung, and no story till of half these happiness

*fig* 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* V iii 25 About it, and write happy when the last one 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett* (1671) 214 I painted a portraicture of my own heart, and wrote it with self and a pen of indignity 1888 RUSKIN *Fraterita* III iv 159 Mozart's birth wrote the laws of melody for all the world irrevocably

**b** To form by painting or the like; to paint.

a 1400 (see A 3 *b*). 1586 *Chron. Scotland* (Camden) 54 Alle churches new whytte lymed with the commandmentes wrytyene on the walles 1586 in *Archæ* I (1770) I 16 To the painter for writing the scripture 1714 WYNTER *Hort., Nat.* II 92 The lines Writ underneath the Country Signs 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 358 Most mere house painters undertake to paint boards and write them tolerably well 1889 SUTHERLAND *Law Writing* 12 A man might set out and write a sign in the time.

†**c** To translate *into* another language. *Obs.*

c 1535 *Bible as Bk. to Hist. Introd.* 1 Which whan I thinke to wryte Out of latyn in to my comyne language.

**d.** *Writ* (*written*) *large*, penned, recorded, or exhibited in large or prominent characters. Chiefly in fig. use.

c 1595 MILTON *Sonn., On new Forcers of Conscience* 20 *Now Presbyter is* but *Old Priest* writ Large 1866 TWISLETON *Hist. Holy Eucharist* 108 The man was no more than in the boy writ large, with an extensive commentary 1868 KINGSLEY *Water of Life* (1879) 56 I let us look round them, and see it writ large upon the history of nations 1877 J MORRIS *Pilgr. Hadas.* iii. 117 That my life . Was but a tale Writ large by Zeus.

**e.** Of a manuscript, etc.: To bear or exhibit in writing

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 145 Whose Chronicle thus writ, The man was Noble 1712 ADDISON *Spect* No 470 P 3, I have written Letters to several of such Ancient Manuscripts for an exact writing an *ac*

†**f** To employ in dating. *Obs.*

1681 MARION *Adv. Bills of Exchange* (1700) 13 At Hamborough and Strasburg they write by the same stile as we do here in England namely old stile, but in all other parts beyond the Seas they do generally write new stile

**g** To print by means of a typewriter; to type-write; = TYPE *b* 1.

1888 J. G. PEPPER *Man for Type Writer* 3 Writing and re writing familiar words until they fingers run easily

**4.** To state or relate in writing, to draw up or frame a written statement of (circumstances, events, etc.), to chronicle or make a record of. Also with *to*, *unto* (= person), or indirect personal object.

In very frequent use from c 1300.

c 900 *Bede's Hist Pref* (1890) 4 Þæt se ðe ðas bec hafað oððe æfter *O Chron* 1140 (MS. D) Her writon Frensise men 1154 Þis is þe maxon writan þe on ðam ilcan zeare zewrdene wæron c 1175 (see A 1 *b*). c 1200 *Beitr* 193 (93) Ich bole is he turtres hil writen to mine 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11 Þis writ of Ysaye wrote, & of me Ich fame 1300 *Cursor M* 17843 We sal 3ow write All þat we haid and sagh 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 293 Pere Dey dede to wryte 30 how þys chaunce 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 341 Þat I write to 30w the very cause wel 1497 Bp. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect* Vjb a Cryst cam into ÿ^e world, to whom it is write 1547 J. WRIGHT (*Ld. Chichester*) 17 We will not write it for gospell that they lower is greate 1568 HACKET *The 1st & Second Found Bk of Scots* 42 b, There standeth nowe wright that the which we have learned 1643 DIGBY *Obser. Aclog. Med* (1644) 44 To passe what I have written at full upon this point 1671 J. WILKINS *Mercall ger* 112 In the *Collegium Conimbricense* are perswaded that he writ the truth 1675 BURNET *Obn. Lame* (1766) 18 Whose life is so curiously writ by Thomas Hubert 1704 *H. Wood's Pract. Navig* (ed 10) 169 O. urrences which are written on the log board 1833 J. PENNANT *Tour Wales* Ix, It is written that my race Hew'd Ammon, hip and thigh 1865 SAVIGNONE *Chatelard* II 1. 55 Which alone I remembering what was writ of Magdalen I gave not grudging

*fig* and *transf* a 1225 *Ancr. R* 388 He wrot mid his swuðre bleike kalote to his leofmon 1340 *Ayenb* 67 Þerof wryt 1 Mathewes xvii 18 His herte blod wrote here, And Þurlus bodi, le parchemyn is. a 1586 SIDNEY *De Mornay* v 89 We have read in nature that there is but one God, as a thing which we finde written even in the leaues of the creatures 1606 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl.* I. ii. 22 That fate which had Which writ his Honor in the Acts it did 1686 CHARNOCK *Attrib God* (1682) 814 Those Testimonies of the Lord's patience], which I have written in showers, and fruitful seasons 1781 COWPER *Expost* 321 In adverse providence, when pardon'd well, So dearly writ, or difficult to spell 1809 FARLMAN *Mayor Conq* III xiv 355 The great tale of which it became the theatre is legibly written on its natural features

**b** With clause as object, either introduced by *that*, etc., or directly quoted.

(*a*) 833 (see A 1 *a*). c 900 tr *Bede's Hist* (1890) 42 Writeþ Patropius þæt Constantinus se casere wære on Breotone ncenned *Bloh* 460 Hi on heora unoðfæxwit onzebeodon, & þus writon betwyh him Wilfrið [etc.] c 1200 DRINK. (1878) II 354 Arc halliþe weress wratenn uss, . [Patt [etc.] a 1225 *Ancr R* 42 Leteð writen on one scrowe hwat se ze ne cunnen i mont 1300 *Gower Conf* I. 4 If noman write I ou that it stode. 1458 *Paston Lett* I 348 As ye wryght they sey now 1472 *Caxton Recuyell* (Sommer 397 A table wherin was wreten with letters of gold Passe no further [etc.] 1548 UDALL *Erasm Apoph* 230 Of Pompeius it is writen that [etc.] 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist S. of* (S T S) I 39 Sum writyes scottis to ett menis flesche 1686 *Seafield Lett.* (1912) 23 They write that . their fleet sailed from the Texel 1701 L. MORRIS In *Cambrian Reg.* (1796) I 368 The bad sign painter was obliged to write over his drawing, this is a horse, this is a cock, &c. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, I shall respect you as half past five,' Captain Dobbin wrote. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* vi 2 One writes, that 'Other friends remain'

*transf.* a 1388 CHAUCER *Wife of Bath's T* 191 Parauenture in thilke large book Which I at men clepe the heuene ywriten was With sterres That he ÿ^e lous sholde han his deeth all ful wrote 1637 ST *Fehr. Author* K 8, The stubborn'd Cow (meaning) the merry milke-maide by chance, wrot on the ground With milk-white letters where shee would be found

**c.** To convey (tidings, information, etc) by letter; to send (a message) in writing Freq. with *to* or *unto*, or with dative of person; also with *how*, *that*, etc., and clause.

(*a*) To 1400 *Morte Arth* 3904 He wrate vn to Waynor how the werlde clynnis all 1450 (see A 4 *a*) 1561 HOBY tr. *Castalion's Courtyer* II (1900) 264 He wrott unto the Duke, he would [etc.] 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen IV*, v. i. 81 He writes me here, that [etc.] 1618 E. COKE *Disposit* (Hakl Soc.) I. 150 They wrot me h w the Portugals had 4 Gallions. 1685 EVELYN *Mem Godolphin* (1847) 92 She writes me . what conflicts she had endured 1693 *Sc. Presbyt Eloq* (1738) 37 The Colonel wrote the Son bath, 'That ..their enemies' [etc.] 1833 J H NEWMAN *Lett* (1891) I 424 I had written to Rose h w we had best start agitating 1878 BALDWIN *Clin Observ* 69 [She] writes me that she is very much better

(*b*) 1607 SHAKS. *Cor* v vi 63 Haue you with heede perused What I haue written to you? 1650 SPILSBURY *Treat. Circ.* I. iv. § 11 Alexander writ word to his Mother he had found [etc.]. 1676 I. SPRAT *Eliseus* (Camden, 1913) 59 What you say] I will write over hither by divers. 1678 [see A 1 *a*]. 1757 MRS. DELANY *Life & Letters* (1926) I. 179, I beg you will write me word whether [etc.]. 1780–82 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quality* (1792) III 139 Your Father writ me an Account of your Fatal Duel 1843 LOWE *Fishes Madeira* I 201 Mr Yarrell writes me word that [etc.] 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxv, You will . write me word how it looks

**d** To declare, dictate, or enjoin in writing. Chiefly *fig.* (of fate)

1360 BIBLE (Genev.) 2 *Esdr* vi 17 King Cyrus wrote that this House should be built vn. 1673 IRVING *Marriage* 1. (1676) 9 Nay, it is written in Fate, and in the Scripture 1768 *Life in Spain* xxiv, 'It was not so written,' said Antonio, who was a fatalist 1908 'ROMA WHITE' *Backsheesh* xvii 260 That which is written is written. It is stronger than I. So let it be.

**5. a** To give a written account or enumeration of, to describe, or depict in writing.

c 1000 *Ælfred O. Pref Texts* 9 Ac þa ðing þe me on ðissum bocum awriten sind þa þe write c 1200 *Lives & Virtues* 29 He man is leuchen ne on bokes write, nille Þo þet on of hehe a 1225 *Ancr R* 240 Pilte þe uroures þet beo writ her inneðe a 1300 *Cursor M* 648 Se writ in mi mat write wit me, þe mikel ioy þat þam es lent. 23 [see A 1 *a*]. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Chas* xiii, 7 In 30uun book, and 30uun kynrede, al diuisid, writun is bi name 1448 PECOCK *Repr* 1 xi 55 [= REV xxii 18] Putte God upon him the veniances writun in this book. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn* xvii, If I could write the beauty of your eyes 1608 DAVIES *Serpents* 152 When the Egyptians will write a man e ting or at dinner, they ly ght a C ccodile a mong. 1636 *Ld. Treas. Weston's Disc.* (1872) 11 145 Which they have w, that lived in the manner a owe written

**b** To treat of (a subject, theme, etc.) in writing

c 1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt iv 4 Ure Wyrhtere Sunu he leted þ^e we mægen moyses Þ^e awrecten us lare 1597 MARLOWE *1 Tamb* I. ii. 254 Whose wit is fit to date dares write on the art of minicke 1712 FELTON *Dr. Last. Classics* (1718) 248, The Difficulties of writing History 1737 POPE tr. *Hor. Ep* II. i. 148 Before my Country's Love I sung unlearn'd 1821 BYRON *Diary* 29 Jan They talk Dante—write Dante.

**c** To give expression to (one's feelings, thoughts, etc.) by means of writing; to express in written form

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1256 Þar he demeþ mony riht dum & dilt & wryt [*v.r.* writ] mony wisdom 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xiii 26 Thou writist ayen me bitternessis c 1400 *Apol of Lollard* 3 God ȝeuen me þis wisdom to write bitternesse, bote swete is pat 1584 Q MARGARET in *Green Lett* (1846) I 319 I did write my mind plainly to you 1653 WALTON *Angler* 1 49 God [allowed] those . to write his holy will to mankind 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* II. 74 I shall write my th ughts without all freedome 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1776) VII 76 My heart is full, and I can't help writing my mind. 1798 NELSON in A Duncan *Life* (1806) 96 Buonaparte writes his distress for stores

**6.** To compose and set down on paper (a literary composition, narrative, verse, etc.); to put into or produce in literary form, to bring out (a book or literary work) as an author; to indite.

In very frequent use from c 1300.

To 1400 *O & Chron* (Parker MS) an 84 Her Iohannes writ þa boc Apocalipsis c 1175 *Lamb Hom* 55 Feralwa god hit hafde iwriten þe he writ c 1200 *Trin Coll Homilies* 85 Dis ic habbe writen for Se te frieuren Anne du mede hafst c 1250 (see A 5 *b*) c 1275 He [te Moses] wrot an canticle on Þ^e hoor a 1325 *Prose Pss* 210 In *O & Writ* 90 And þam þat gode & gayne þat haue þam wryten þe 1340 *Ayenb* 67 Þerof wryt 1 Mathewes xvii 18 Þet ilke wryt c 1390 *Cursor M* 14399 Vr for eldres þe I dide wrat c 1430, 1460 [see STYF *Pr* 151] 1390 GOWER *Conf* Prol 68 Of whom þat I write may be 1400 [see A 1 *a*]. 1400 *Morte Arth* 3904 He wrate vn to Waynor how the werlde clynnis all 1450 (see A 4 *a*) 1561 HOBY tr. *Castalion's Courtyer* II (1900) 264 He wrott unto the Duke, he would [etc.] 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen IV*, v. i. 81 He writes me here, that [etc.] 1618 E. COKE *Disposit* (Hakl Soc.) I. 150 They wrot me h w the Portugals had 4 Gallions. 1685 EVELYN *Mem Godolphin* (1847) 92 She writes me . what conflicts she had endured 1693 *Sc. Presbyt Eloq* (1738) 37 The Colonel wrote the Son bath, 'That ..their enemies' [etc.] 1833 J H NEWMAN *Lett* (1891) I 424 I had written to Rose h w we had best start agitating 1878 BALDWIN *Clin Observ* 69 [She] writes me that she is very much better

(*b*) 1607 SHAKS. *Cor* v vi 63 Haue you with heede perused What I haue written to you? 1650 SPILSBURY *Treat. Circ.* I. iv. § 11 Alexander writ word to his Mother he had found [etc.]. 1676 I. SPRAT *Eliseus* (Camden, 1913) 59 What you say] I will write over hither by divers. 1678 [see A 1 *a*]. 1757 MRS. DELANY *Life & Letters* (1926) I. 179, I beg you will write me word whether [etc.]. 1780–82 H. BROOKE *Fool of Quality* (1792) III 139 Your Father writ me an Account of your Fatal Duel 1843 LOWE *Fishes Madeira* I 201 Mr Yarrell writes me word that [etc.] 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxv, You will . write me word how it looks

**d** To decree, dictate, or enjoin in writing. Chiefly *fig.* (of fate)

1360 BIBLE (Genev.) 2 *Esdr* vi 17 King Cyrus wrote that this House should be built vn. 1673 IRVING *Marriage* I

wright Himselfe as heyre apparent to the Empire. 1648 Milton *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 567 These write themselves the Presbytery of Belfast. 1678 *Black Prince in Hart. Misc.* (1809) III. 151 John, duke of Lancaster..wrote himself king of Castile and Leon. 1723 Lucknore *Hist. Print.* 60 St. Giles's, Cripplegate, ..at which church he wrote himself vicar in 1566. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, A man of law, Nichil Novit, writing himself procurator before the Sheriff-court. 1857 Trollope *Barchester T.* xx, In due process of time he took his degree, and wrote himself B.A. 1880 Ruskin *Bible Amiens* i. (1884) 3 Why should..a little Frankish maid [sc. Amiens] write herself the sister of Venice?

*ellipt.* 1698 Godolphin *Repert. Canon.* (1687) 23 The Archbishop of Canterbury..writes himself *Divina Providentia.*

c. *To write oneself man, etc.*: To attive at man's (or woman's) estate; to attain manhood, or a specified age. (Cf. 11 b.)

1660 Fell *Hammond* (1661) 3 He grew the Tutor of those who began to write themselves men. 1665 Hexham *Du Hamel & Uhipne* IV. ii. 45 We now write my self Man, go thy way. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxiv, Thou wilt be mad with vanity ere thou writest thyself man? 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* v, The governor had attained his thirtieth year..and his lieutenant did not yet write himself one-and-twenty.

d. *refl.* To name (oneself) in writing; to sign. 1820 Scott *Kenilw.* ii, In the same Dwinetta, for so he wrote himself when in foreign parts. 1921 Barrie *Farrie Wendy* v. 80 James Hook, or as he wrote himself, Jas. Hook.

e. To bring or reduce (a person, etc.) to a specified state by writing. Chiefly *refl.*

1735 Pope *Prol. Sat.* 32 A dire dilemma! either way I'm sped, If foes, they write, if friends, they read me dead. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 668 The Craftsman hath been better Days; but he has wrote himself into Contempt. 1751 Wanburton in *Person's Tracts* (1813) 345 *note*, That no man was ever written out of reputation, but by himself. 1768 Strane *Sent. Journ., Calais*, I had wrote myself pretty well out of conceit with the *Despolificat.* 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi. 181 I..have written yourself out of five hundred a-year. 1852 Thorpe *Northern Mythol.* III. 13 Another, whose cabbages were constantly stolen from his garden, wrote the thief's name from Saturday night till Sunday. 1871 Lytton *Coming Race* xvii, If we wrote our fingers to the bone, we could not throw any light [etc.].

f. To make (one's way) by literary work.

1840 T. P. Tour *Hist. Eng.* 1 Addison wrote his way with his White pamphlets to a secretaryship of state.

9. To spell (a word, name, etc.) in a specified or particular manner in writing.

*c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 109 For he me mazn nohht elless Onn Enngliash writtenn rihht to word, *c* 1205 Lay. 28869 On feole bocken his nome me swa writeð. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 748 And for to mak echo gern write sua, Men wend the Franch-men sald it ta. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 9 And Vairo..wrytes dominis and servois, for dominis and servis. 1692 Phillipott *Kent* 295/2 Blackmanstone, written Bleachmanstone, that is, Man's bleak Town. 1747 Johnson *Plan Eng. Dict.*, Many words written alike are differently pronounced. 1848 Dixon *Trans. Italy*, etc. 8 In this MS.. Virgil is uniformly written Vergil. 1865 Way *Promp. Parv.* p. lxxiii, The word written according to the orthography of the period.

10. To carve, grave, or trace letters or words on (a hard or plastic surface). Also *fig.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3613 Odere tables he broste eft writen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2040 Iii water he sent adoun Liit linden spon. He wrot hem al wi runn. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxi. 18 The Lord gaf to Moyses..two stonen tablis of witnessyng, writun with the fyngre of God. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 88/1 To write his body with harde nailes. *Ibid.* 1490 Strong was by pyne he to wryte His fayre forhed with bornes wryte. *c* 1822 Beddoes *Poems, Pygmalion* 157 Writing the sand lully, he passeth.

b. To cover, fill, or mark (a paper, etc.) with writing; to trace significant characters on (a surface, etc.).

*a* 1240 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 249 Euch an [sc. devil] bereð a gret boc al of nunnen fowl wið swa te smale lettres. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* ii. 9 A boke.., the which was writen withinforth and withoutforth. *c* 1390 *F. Pl. Creds* 275 Wyde wyndowen y-writen ful pikke, Schynen wel schapen scheldes to schewen aboute. 1448 *Anc. Deed C.* 5103 in *Cabal.* VI. 273 A large roll of parchemyn wretyn and lymned with certeyn ymages of Kynges. 1470 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 5 After that y had made and wretyn a fyve or six quayers. 1530 Palsgr. 479/1 Correcte this boke, it is falce written. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. iii. 138 Till she have writ a sheet of paper. 1739 *Wks. Learned* I. 103 That the Leaves of these two great Poets were wrote at Random. 1833 Ht. Stowe in *Life* (1889) 70 The envelope was written in a scrawly, scrawly, scrawly hand. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* (1903) IV. 87 A small strip of vellum written with the following translation.

11. To employ, or be able to employ, (a particular language) in writing.

*c* 1390 *Cast. Love* 24 Ne mowe we alle Latin wite, Ne Ebreu ne Gru pat bab i-write. 1561 A. Barclay (*title*), The Introductory to write, and to pronounce Frenche. 1586 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 59 Such people, as teach children to read and write English. 1864 Dryden *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. 8, I have endeavoured not to write English, like a Scot. 1787 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (ed. 2) IV. 28 Charles VI. ..speaks and writes Latin, Italian, Spanish, and French. 1845 M. Patterson *Ret.* (1889) I. 13 The Latin which Gregory writes in..his native tongue.

b. To employ (a name, word, etc.) in designating oneself; esp. †*to write man*, = 8 c.

(*a*) 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, iv. vii. 74 The Turke, that two and fifty kingdoms hath, Writes not so tedious a Stile as this. 1599 — *Much Ado* v. i. 37 How euer they haue writ the stile of gods.

(*b*) 1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, i. ii. 30 As if he had writ man euer since his Father was a Batchellour. 1601 etc. [see Man *sb.*1 *c*]. 1626 B. Jonson *Underw., Celebr. Charis* i. 3 Though I now write fifty years, I have had, and have my peere. 1639 M. Locke *Obs. Rev. Acts Apost.* 2 When he began to write Man, and had conversd in the world. *a* 1766 in Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (ed. 3) I. 38 All mankind is the pupil..of female institution: the daughters till they write women. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 219 Just as I had written man 3 or.. way of age. 1819 Scott *Anne of G.* xiv, The elder, well-aized, and dark-visaged, may write fifty and five years.

c. To employ (a particular literary style) in written compositions.

1772 R. Ferguson *To Mr. R. Fergusson* ii, You write sic easy stile and plain, ..Na sae auth'ron down dare you indain.

12. To execute (a particular style of handwriting).

1390– [see Hand *sb.* 16]. 1503 Shaks. *a Hen. VI*, iv. ii. 100 Nay, he can write Court hand. 1632 Lisnow *Charac.* C 9, Hee writes a faire hand. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3865/1 Writing a tolerable Clerk's-Hand. 1716 [see Roman *sb.*1 5 b]. 1748 Swift *Pol. Conversation* 28 When I write it, writes a Hand like a Foot. 1766 [see Roman *adv.* 1]. 1831 II. Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 313/1 He writes a good hand. 1865 Le Fanu *Guy Dev.* II. 73 What a hand he writes!

II. With advs. 13. **Write down.** a. To put or set down in writing; to commit to, describe or record in, written form; to note or jot down.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. iii. 7 Write down, write down, bewray thy meaning so. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 572 Things knowne betwixt vs three, Ile write you downe. 1682 *Sc. Presb. Eloq. Memorf. Sow Mislife* (S. H. 83) 40 He gives out word to scribleing and writes itt down. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 555 P 2, I will..write down all they say to me. 1792 R. Hitchcock *P. Wilkins* I. p. xi, For the Purpose of writing down his Life from his own Mouth. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xvii, I write down these opinions, but because I believe them. [etc.]. 1891 W. Bruce & Bevan *Geometry* 143 This enables us to write down at once the equation.

b. With complement. Also *fig.*, and *refl.*

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. ii. 78 If they were brave to write mee downe an asse! 1602 — *Ham.* i. ii. 222 We did thinke it writ downe in our duty To let you know of it. 1804 Lysons *Environs* I. 538 If you can write anything yourself down Goth at once to oppose these. 1856 Miss. Gore *Life's Lessons* III. 70 Why does not E. H. write himself down a fool? 1880 *Times* 7 Dec.

c. To overcome or suppress, to disparage or depreciate, by writing; to condemn or decry in writing; to write in disparagement of.

1708 Swift *Let. to Abr. Hayward* 17 Now, However, one thing I am sure of, that with, that sitter you shall write [me] down you repented, and writ me up again. 1773 Johnson in Boswell *Hebrides*, 1st Oct., It was said to old Dryden, upon the attacks against him, 'Why, they'll write you down.' 'No, sir,..no man was ever written down but by himself.' 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Jan. 49 (Wilkes) actively employed, at least one administration. 1850 H. Walter *Tindale's Answ. More* Introd. Notice 9 This effort to write down Tyndale and his labours. 1852 [see 18 e]. 1900 A. H. Smith *Mary Magdalene* 160 The only object is to write down those tedious romances of chivalry.

*absol.* 1877 Stubbs *Med. & Mod. Hist.* v. (1880) 110 It were..idle, merely to write unfair to write unless it is moved by the desire to write down.

d. *refl.* To diminish or destroy one's literary reputation by inferior writing.

1716 Addison *Free-holder* No. 40 P 3 There is not a more melancholy Circumstance in the learned world, than a man who has written himself down. 1773 [see prec.]. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 4 He has written himself down at a terrible rate by his last publication.

e. To reduce (an account, total, assets, etc.) to a lower amount in writing.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 6/1 That this, as well as all other unfair taxation, should be steadily written down, and finally out of the balance-sheet. 1897 *Ibid.* 8 Sept. 6/1 The assets have been written down in a drastic manner.

14. **Write in.** To insert (a fact, statement, etc.) in writing; = to insert.

1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xxii. 19 It hadde a wal..and in the satis of it twelue aungels, and names writun in. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* II. xi. 2060 Qhir fenjheide fabillis sere I wil forber to wryt in this buk. 1597 *Surg Wills* (1910) 12 A book of paper to wryte in expensis. 1863 Miss Braddon *Eleanor's Vict.* I. 108 All the great scenes have been written in by him. 1896 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 680 *Mordochaeus* liv. 500 It was another work to write in the other name [on a pardon]. 1903 *Athenæum* 3 Jan. 10/2 The date is written in by the rubricator.

15. **Write off.** To note the deduction of (money) in an account; to record (a transfer); now *spec.* to record the cancelling of (a sum, as a bad debt, depreciated stock, etc.).

1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 207 To send the..Bill to the House of the Acceptant, and desire him to order that the Value be written off in Bank. 1730 Brayne in *Mem. Keiths.* 363 Write off from my Bank Book, one hundred and fifty-seven Pounds. 1819 *Mortimer's Commerc. Dict.* (ed. 2) 87 One of the clerks..writes off the sum required. 1892 *Times* 20 Oct. 283/2 The company wrote off the loss as a bad debt.

*fig.* 1869 *Spectator* 21 Sept., China and India being written off as full of people.

b. To compose (a letter, etc.) with facility or expedition.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, She wrote off a letter to a friend. 1860 — *Philip* xxviii, Philip was writing off..one of his grand tirades. 1871 [see A. 1 7].

16. **Write out.** a. To make a (fair or perfect) transcription or written copy of (something, a rough draft, etc.); to copy out; also, to transcribe in full or detail, as from brief notes or shorthand.

*To write out fair*, to make a fair copy of.

1548 Elyot tr. *Erasmus, To write out a boke by an other* mans copie. 1585 Cooper, *Exscribere alicui*, to write out the copie of a thyng to one. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Copier*, *Transcrire*, *a* 1700 in *Cath. Ref. Soc. Publ.* IX. 335 His Bookes, w[hi]ch she write out and faithfully practised. 1776 *Trial Worthington* 161/2 The writer wrote out a Persian bond. 1800 Malkin *Gil Blas* xii. P 5, I..offered to write his memorials out fair. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 208 Atticus..wrote out his sermons and learnt them by heart.

b. *refl.* To exhaust one's resources or stock of ideas by excessive writing; = Outwrite *v.* 3.

1838 Scott *St. Ronan's* Introd., The Author had exhausted himself, or, as the technical phrase is, had written himself out. 1905 *Author* 1 Feb. 152 He has written himself out.

17. **Write over.** a. To write (something) anew or again; to rewrite; = Overwrite *v.* 3, Rescribe *v.* 2.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* i. ii. 120, I will have that subject newly writ ore. 1594 — *Rich. III*, iii. vi. 5 Here is the Indictment..; Eleuen houres I haue spent to write it ouer. *a* 1645 Lib. Napier *Rhabdol.* (1667) 151 They might gaine some tyme in wreating them [*sc.* articles of accusation] ouer to consult vpon the mater. 1721 R. Martin in Buxton *Life & Challoner* (1909) I. 32 They were two dayes in..writeing over fair all ye answers. 1752 Chatham *Lett. Nephew* i. 1, I am extremely pleased with your translation now it is writ over fair.

b. To cover the whole or remaining surface of (a book, etc.) with writing; = Overwrite *v.* 1 b.

1828 Duppa *Trav. Italy*, etc. 9, I saw MSS. of some of the Codex..written over with Greek characters.

18. **Write up.** a. To put in writing a full account, statement, or record of (something); to give an elaborate description of, describe fully; to pen or write in full or detail.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. ix. 117 (Royal MS.), I will noucht wryt vp all That I haue sene in my tyme fall. 1535 Coverdale *Esther* xii. 4 Mardocheus wrote vp the same matter. 1592 Tinne *Tim. Eng. Papery* 61 b, The Diuell that playeth host in this Inne beside..wrote vp his booke. 1860 *Cornh. Mag.* II. 750 You will be waited for.. by a few of the discontented, and asked to "write up" certain parts, without any reference to your own story. 1897 J. Hawthorne *Tragic Myst.* ii, After interviewing the sentry.. they departed to write up the tragedy.

†b. To enter (a person, his name) in a roll, list, etc.; to enroll; = Inscribe *v.* 1 b. *Obs.*

*c* 1500 *Priests of Peebles* 277 That wryt vp leile and falss, ..And dytis Jaim vnder a perdoun. 1535 Coverdale *1 Macc.* ii. 58 There shall xx. M. soldiers be written vp in the kynges hoost. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* lxxxvii. 6 The Lorde shall rehearse it, when he wryteth vp the people. 1666 P. Gonsalvius *Diary* (Spalding Club) 10 I was told where we were to lodge, they..sent a writer to write up our names.

c. To form, trace, or place (something) in writing in an elevated position.

1535 Coverdale *Dan.* v. 25 This is the scripture, that is written vp. 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI*, v. i. 69, I will..ouer the Chayre of State,..Write vp his Title. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxv, Not content with writin' up 'Pickwick' [on the coachdoor]. *Ibid.* iii, I call it a dispensary, and it's always writ up so.

d. To raise or elevate by writing.

1752 Warburton *Pope's Wks.* III. 68 Writers..writing themselves up into the same division with their Readers.

e. To commend (something) to notice or favour by appreciative writing; to laud by way of advertisement.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 165 She was never written up, to use the modern technical expression, in the Reviews. 1851 De Quincey *Wks.* (1863) XII. 21 Byron..wished to write up Pope by way of writing down others. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 7 I'll go in presently and write up this place.

f. To bring (a journal, report, etc.) up to date, or to the latest event, fact, or transaction; to complete (some record) in writing.

1839 Lockhart *Jeffrey* III. v, He..writes up the journal neglected for a week or two. 1848 Hannay *Biscuits & Grog* 19 Now that we..have little to do, suppose we write up our logs? 1900 *Spectator* 3 Feb. 170/1 Mr. Hall..has written the minutes of the Curators cease to be written up.

III. *intr.* 19. To inscribe letters *in, on*, or *upon* a hard or plastic surface by scoring, tracing, engraving, etc. Also *transf.* and in fig. context.

Differing from next chiefly in the specification of the material written on.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 6 Se halend abeah nyber & writ mid his fingre on bære eorðan. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xvii. 13 All swiche ones mannes hand writende on eorðe healle waxe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13709 He stuped dun, and wit his hand He writ a quil in sclo sand. *c* 1425 Lydg. *A. & L.* 1116 Ful fewe bokis..such writyngge ye leue, To write in Wyndouwes of youre wel dedes. 1382, 1389 [see Tank *sb.* 6 b]. *a* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 89 On be forhed to whit so snow Thow write a thorn with a thorny bow. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlate* 206 He couth wryte.. With his neb for mistar, Apon the ae nakit. 1513 Douglas *æneid* I. vii. 121 The wrettis in the dust did write. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxxvii. 16 Take a sticke and write vponit. 1585, 1621 [see Stylle *sb.*]. 1674 C. F. *Wit at Several Ws.* They write in sand when they make oaths. 1706 Stevens *Sp. Dict.* s.v. *Escrivir*, To write on the Sand, or Water, is to do things to no purpose, as that Writing is immediatly effac'd. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917 2 The Chinese..wrote or engraved with an iron tool upon thin boards or on bamboo. 1818 [S. Weston *La Notte* 31] A great quantity of styles to write with on wax-tablets. 1878 [see Stylus *sb.*].

*fig.* *a* 1400 *Kellg. Lyric. Eigh C.* (1924) 114 Pogh my hert be laid as stoone, Yit maist pou gostly write pereon. *a* 1652 [see Writing *vbl. sb.* 7 b].

**20.** To engage in, perform the action of, writing (esp. with pen and ink); to produce (a specified kind of) writing.

*To write and read*: see READ v. 15 b.

*c 825 Vesp. Psalter* xliv. 2 Hrood writ[ers] hrellice writendes. *a 1225 Juliana* 79 He [se ðer leas] on writ was ac he cuðe. *a 1300 E. E. Psalter* xliv. 2 Mi tunge rede-pipe maister-writer, Of swiðlike writande he þer. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* viii. 1 Tac to thee a gret book, and writ in it with the poyntel of a man. *?a 1400 R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 828 He had & writ & raddle & build gudes seruise. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 41 He cowth wryte and reid. *c 1534* R. CROKE in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. I. 336 Provided...that no man may force hym [sc. a pupil] to wryte nonles I be there present, to dyrecte...his said hande and stile. 1592 P. HALES *Writing Schoolemaster* (title-p.), The Arte of Brachygraphie: that is, to write as fast as a man speaketh treatably. 1623 COCKERAM II, To Write after a strange manner, in so much as no man can reade it. *Cryptiher.* 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 159 We think they write backwards, and they, that we do. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 186 Chartres scarce could write or read. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 73 Any one...may write away, without restraint,...whether they can even so much as spell. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxx, 'Da thou write.' 'Your Royal Highness forgets,' said Ramorny, pointing to his mutilated arm. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 148 A fat philosopher sitting writing,...with a goose quill. 1874 SIMMONDS *Sh. Hist. Greece* 18 Then would they [sc. the monks] read or write, what long melodious hours!

*transf.* 1484 *Morals of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 The crystyn people wolde wryte dayly...the lyuynge of her bere wyth her fyngur. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* li The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, Moves on.

**b.** Said of the writing-pen.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. 107 Louise Wit, write Pen, for I am for whole volumes in folio. 1733 POPE *How. Sat.* II. i. 98 Whether the...whited'st wall provoke the skew'r to write. 1742 *Unwr. Lett.* (1900) I. 304 Whereof...I am bold to wryght Pen that writes. 1786 S. TAYLOR *Shorthand Writing* 98 A steel or a silver one [sc. pen] that will write fine.

**c.** To depict on glass, etc.; to paint.

1854 SUTHERLAND *Ripon Cathedral* 24 To write, gild and ornament on glass. 1889 *Sign Writing* viii. To write upon the glass.

**d.** To print by means of a typewriting machine or the like; to typewrite.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2677/1 Johnston's apparatus for the blind is to enable them to write by pressure upon letters in the required order. 1883 J. G. PETRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 3 The learner must be content to write slowly and deliberately at the commencement.

**21.** To perform the action of composing and putting on paper; to practise literary composition; to engage in authorship or literary work.

In very frequent use from *c 1600*.

*a 1122 O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Se write & feostnige mid Cristes rodetacne. *c 1205* LAY. 41 Þa makede a Frenchis cleric Wace wes ihoten, Þe wel couþe writen. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 1786 Sundri hai fand to iuper sagh, And auper he him-seluen wrate. 1387 [see A. 2 b]. *14.. Wheatley MS.* (1921) I. 59 If I write al my lyue I schuld neuer here won dyscryue. *c 1443* PECOCK *Donet* 6 b. Þis bihoued yonge a man to speke and write afair oon of þo yoyniouns. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Therupon I begon after my poore maner to wryte in latyn. 1575 GOLDINGHAM *Gavet. lett.* II. To conceiue that he spake or writ like olde Duns or Scotus. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. comm., S. Paul not only preached, but also writte. 1660 *Rob. Flesher...Mayhara'* 18 He writes well, who writes with Ease. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* Pref., A gentleman who had wrote for the stage. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 332 Halifax...from whom Dryden was not ashamed to own that he had learned to write. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 177/1, I am not writing in the dark.

*fig.* 1849 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 60 He fights now with her Penne, And she writes with his Sword.

**b.** With preps., as *about*, *+ de*, *+ o*, *of* (= on), *on*, *upon*, *+ ymb* (a matter, subject, etc.); or *against*, *+ contrary*, *to* (a person, etc.).

In very frequent use from *c 1300*.

*c 888* ALFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. 2 Swa some swa þa writeras dydon, & enc þa ðe hi ymb writon. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 161 Se halga godspellere swa he him wrat. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 410 Se halhede of Jeses liues writeð ine fower bokes. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 21324 Matheu..o crist manheles wratte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 50 Thilke time at Rome also Was Tullius with Cithero, That writen were her bokes...And so among the whiche in Povrie To the lovers Ovide wrot. 1448–9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 574 Qwere he off constellacionnys doth wrygth. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 29 Sen thir clarkis hes writtin in thair bukis Of younger folk. 1559 COOPER *S.v. Reticulo*, To write contrarie or agaynst olde orations. 1644 [see A. 3 a. 8]. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* (1717) p. i, All the Moderns that have Writ on that Subject. 1727 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 470/1 Had they wrote against the Ministry, we could have borne it. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 252 For them we...explain a thing till all men doubt it, And write about it, Goddess, and about it. 1819 S. ROGERS *Human Life* Poems (1856) 138 Once in thy birth thou had'st me write on thee. 1883 TYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 199/1 Cicero writes of them as wise men, augurs, and diviners.

**c.** With various qualifications.

*c 1600* SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxxvi, By spirits taught to write, Above a mortall pitch. 1692 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 114 The fault is most his own who would have writ to the capacity of vulgar Readers. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremont's Ess.* Pref. iii. His subjects are often great and noble, and then he never fails to write up to them. 1721 FULTON *Distert. Classics* (1728) 91 It must be our Care to think and write up to the Dignity...of the Things we presume to treat of. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* xi. vii. P 3 I should be sorry to write down to their comprehension. 1881 J. PICKOT *Words & Words* 33 Authors will learn to write down to the lowest standard.

**d.** To compose music, a melody, etc.

1672 M. LOCKE *Obs. Eng. Adv. Mus.* 14 Our certain Method of the Scale; which never gives...occasion for...writing in improper Keys. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 556 The custom...of writing upon a Plain-Song. 1789 *Ibid.* III. 209 Tallis and Bird had...long accustomed themselves to write for voices.

**22.** To compose a letter, note, etc.; to communicate information, etc., send word, by writing; to conduct epistolary correspondence. Also with *for* (a person or thing); or *to* (do something).

*?a 1300–70 Alex. & Dind.* 241 Whan dereworþe dindimus þe endelinge hurle Of alisandre askinge as he write hadde. *c 1374* CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1098, I kan not trowen þat she wol write a word. *a 1400–50 Wars Alexander* 2431, I wrate to 30w at me to wayue [*v.r.* wafe] be ten wyse clerkis. *?1481* [see A. 2 a. 8]. 1552 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 89 Sir wheraswe you required me to write, for that [etc.]. 1586 RALEIGH *Lett.* 29 May, The sider which I wrat to you for. 1626 BP. MOUNTAGU in *Corr. J. Cosin* (Surtees) I. 204, I have not much matter, nor occasion to write. 1690 PHILADELPHIA *Lett.* (Camden) 158, I have expressly wrot to be informed of it. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 36 Goods, such as the Captain should write for. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 171 P 6, I applied to him by letter, but had no answer. I writ in terms more pressing. *a 1841* in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 318 He wrote to request my aid. 1890 R. C. LEHMANN *R. Elsdyne* 31 Tell Mary she hasn't written for an age.

**b.** With preps., as *to* (also *unto*, *till*), or indirect personal object (cf. 7 b). Also *cont.* of.

In general use from *c 1600*. In gossip (q.), rare until *c 1770*; freq. *c 1790–c 1865*; now regarded as commercial or colloquial.

*c 1205* LAY. 41 Þa makede a Frenchis cleric Wace wes ihoten, Þe wel couþe writen. 1382 WYCLIF *Jude* 1, 3 Makinge al busynesse of writinge to 30u of 3oure comoun helthe. 1434 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) V. 351 The King hath writen to þerie of Northumberland; [etc.]. 1450 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 963 Thus Eduuard wrayt till Menteith prewalie. 1534 CROMWELL in *Eng. Hist. Lett.* (1909) I. 304 Wherefore...I...am bold to wryght vnto you. 1548 HALL *Chron. Lett. Ded.* I writ unto my friends. 1663 CHAS. II in Cartwright *Madame* (1894) 236, I write to you yesterday. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 192 Miss Forward was very much displeased at what WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XII. 7 Write to me to General Colville's quarters. 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Children*, viii, Forbes wrote to a friend of his at Chertsey.

*(b) c 1440* CHAUCER *Cuckoo* v. 1303 Thou hast not written here syn þat she wente...Now write here þanne [*MS. Gg.* to hire]. 1621 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 25 Together with...Mr. Cook's Books you wrote me of. 1672 in *Camden Soc. Misc.* (1881) 13 Being in hast, have not time to wright any body else. 1763 ELIZ. CARTER in *Mem.* (1808) I. 356, I writ you from Deal. 1795 BURKE in Nicholls *Illustr.* (1848) II. 32 As I write you,...I shall not write Mrs. Nelson this day. *a 1800* PRIOR *Anecd.* (1824) 246 *Wrote* me, and *write* you. 1868 DICKENS *Mut. Friend* iii, I have written to Nicodemus and Clive...wrote me about the transmogrification of our school-fellow. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 840/1 Mr. Adams was another writer of whom my host had much to tell me.

**c.** With advs., as *off*, *over*. With *in* (*Theatr.*), to send in notice in writing.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. I. (1878) II. 10 He wrote ouer for more of the same fish. 1845 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xv, He wrote off to Frank at Whitehall. 1886 LEE & *Sw. B. Foubrooke* II. 283, I...have written off to Tom Lendrick to come over here with his sister. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 5 The invalids did not 'write in' or give notice that they were coming.

**23.** In clauses introduced by *as*, or with advs., as *so*, *thus*.

11.. in *Eng. Misc. to Furnivall* (1901) 91 Swa swa Lycas wit on þis wise hit us writ. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 21465 Þe prophet had written sua, And said [etc.]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 525 Then alsyn wes mone thowsand,...As Dares in his buk...Has writtin. *c 1386* CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 315 His Poul ..., whan he wroot þus in prioum to folk to turne hem to Crist. *c 1450* CARGRAVE *St. Augustine* 60 Hith þus he wrot in Latin. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* G iv, It was done as the kynge had wreton. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 83 Thys hath destroyd more then any pestylens, as Iuuins wryth. 1594 *Lr. Burghley to Essex* 3 b, If I write again as you followeth. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (Epigr.) 11 To one, he wrighteth thus: Discendi [etc.]. 1656 *Shepherd's Care.* (1930) 176 For newes, as Sr. James wreits to your Father. 1730 A. CHAMBERS *Maffei's Amphith.* 95 Thus has one of those foul-mouth'd Poets wrote. 1750 [DALRYMPLE] *Anc. Sc. Poems* 310 The Cardinal writes thus to Cardinal Borromeo, with his own hand. 1874 SIMMONS *Sh. Italy & Greece* 121 While I am writing thus about the production...of these love-songs.

**24.** To follow or practise writing as a profession or occupation; to work as a clerk, amanuensis, or journalist; *+ to*, to act as a ' writer '.

*c 1380 Anterist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 138 To write to þe kynges seel and hold seculer courtes to hyre & to selle. 1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Hanh. Cl.) 2 Thomas Hunter, writer,...was fond guilte of perjurie; and thairfoir was declaired incapable of wryting or agenting ony bussines. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, You might live through it on much smaller means than by writing for hungry. 1871 *Post Platform, Presi*, etc. 281 The *Daily News*, on which Pigott once wrote.

**25.** To spell words in writing; to represent words, etc., orthographically.

*c 1600* A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7 To wryte orthographicalliie ther are to be considered the symboli, the thing asymbolized, and their congruence. *Ibid.* 21, I wald understand quhy they wryte not as they speak. 1704 *J. Pitts Acc. Moham.* A 4 b, I...writ as near, as I could, to their way of speaking it.

**IV.** *intr.* for *passive*.

**26. a.** To be described in writing. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1827 LADY MORGAN *Mem.* (1862) II. 247 The comfortless, unaccommodating reality of those times which paint and write so well.

**b.** To be penned or written. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1862 O. COCKAYNE *St. Mariner.* (1866) p. v, The manuscripts...write straight away from end to end of the ruled lines.

**Writee** (raitī·). *rare.* [f. prec. + -EE.] One to or for whom something is written; a reader.

*c 1621* CHAPMAN *Iliad* xiv. Comm., Where a man is understood, there is euer a proportion betwixt the writers wit and the writees. 1885 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 243 The 'Writer' and the 'Writee', the 'Joker' and the 'Jokee'.

**† Writeling,** *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [Cf. OE. *writian*, to chirp, chatter, etc., and -LING 3.] Trilling or warbling (of the nightingale).

*a 1250 Owl & Night.* 48 West þu þat ich ne cunne singe, þey ich ne cunne of writelinge? *Ibid.* 914 Wi naltu þare preoste singe, An teche of thire writelinge?

**Writer** (rai·tər). Forms: 1–5 **writere**, 3– **writer**, 6–7 **wrighter**, *Sc.* **writter** (6 **writare**, -arr, 6–7 **writtar**, -arr) ; 4–7 **wryter**, 5 -ere, -are, 5, *Sc.* 6 -ar, *Sc.* 6 **wrytear**, **wryter**, **wrytar** ; *Sc.* 6 **wreter**, -ar, **wretar**. [OE. *writere*, f. *writan* WRITE *v.* + -ERE.] Cf. ON. *ritari* writer, Sw. *ritare*, OHG. *rizari*, etc., painter (G. *reisser* tracer.)

**I.** 1. A person who can write; one who practises or performs writing; occas., one who writes in a specified manner; = **Penman**. Also with advs., as *down*, *out*, *up*.

*c 897 Alfred Gregory's Past. C.* lix. 423 Swa se writere, xpt he nu ðiteð, sæt he ær wæs. [etc.] *c 1000* ÆLFRIC *Gram.* I. 186 Oft gelwm gesihð fæcere stafas awritene, þonne herað he þone writere. *a 1250 Ancr. R.* in *Med. Lang. Rev.* (1914) 332 Þench o þi writere: þinc þarof uuncheorre. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 24075 Es na..writer [mss] write wit pens ord, Hu þat vr stur was strang. *c 1450 Mirk's Festial* 1, 301 Iyn mynde was he feyrest writer þat was knowen In all þe world. *c 1450 Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (F.) 354 Whoso wol vse this deuocion, I pray him...Seye a pater-noster for the writere. 1529 MORE *Dyalogy* xi. H 3, Some fawte eyther in the translatour, or in the writers, or in the prynter. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 501 *Exlegarius*,...a gatherer or writer down of such things in a summarie. 1639 S. DU VERGIER in *Camden Miscell.* XI. 45 This disease, much resembling that of writers, to wit, the itch of the fingers ends. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Transcriber*,...a Writer out, or Copier. 1860 GREENWELL *Decrees* 1. 1862 VI. 15 His duty of Anacraphens or 'Writer-up' of the old laws of Athens. 1880 F. HUME *Mine. Midas* I. ii, Wishing his long fingers were round the writer's throat.

**b.** One who prints with types; = sign-writer.

1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 360 The Sign Painter, however, or writer, is a journeyman or master sollus. 1861 *Internat. Exhib., Jury Classes* U. K. 80 Writers and Gilders on Glass. 1871 CALLINGHAM *Sign Writing* 98 In order to imitate raised letters, the young writer should have some idea of...the elements of linear perspective.

**c.** *Writer's cramp* (*Writer's palsy*), a form of cramp or spasm affecting certain muscles of the hand and fingers essential to writing, and resulting from excessive use of these.

1853 SIEVEKING in *Komberg's Nerv. Diseases* I. 320 A peculiar form of local spasm in these parts has...recently been made known under the name of the Writer's Cramp. 1885 H. A. REEVES *Bodily Defor mities* 251 Writer's or Scrivener's Palsy. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Scrivener's palsy*, ...a spasm or cramp,...called also Writer's Paralysis.

**2.** One whose business or occupation consists in writing; a functionary, officer, etc., who performs clerical or secretarial duties; a scribe, clerk, or law-writer.

*Ship's writer*: see SHIP *sb.*$^1$ 9 b.

*c 890* WARFERTH in *Gregory's Dial.* 52 [He] wæs writere [L. *notarius*] in þissere halgan Romane cyrican. *c 897 Alfred Gregory's Past. C.* Pref., Siððan min on Englisc Ælfred kyning awende wæs of his writerum sende suð & norð. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* ix. 2 O man...with...an ynkhorn of a wryter [*L. scriptoris*] in his reynes. *c 1450 Godstow Register* 141 Walter Hunt, writere of þe abbot of Glouc[ester]. *Ibid.*, Scriptor or wryter. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 49, I bequethe to...John Elys, wryter,...a goowne of blak. 1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 512 Maknand him directour of the chancellary with powar to make deputis, clerkis, wrytaris. 1607 COWELL s.v., Writer of the tailes ...is an officer in the Exchequer. 1660 HOWE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* p. vii, A very unskilful Writer (whom I was oftentimes by haste reduc'd...to imploy). 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 586 Writer and Emblemisher of the Queen's Letters to the Eastern Princes. *Ibid.* 591 William Douglass..., Writer to the Privy Seal. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 239 The Writer, or the Person who officiates in his Place, is carefully to observe the Condition of the Danger. 1893 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, This [affidavit] was given out, sir, to a Writer. 1873 W. STOKES *Ruphil Writing* 104 Ready Writers, or persons prepared to write at a moment's notice.

**† b.** *Jewish Hist.* = SCRIBE 2b. 1. *Obs.*

*c 1000* ÆLFRIC *Hept.* (1922) 46/1 Esdras se writere awræt ane boc. *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 4 Þa gesamnode he[ro]des ealle...þara...Esdres writerena. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 447 Esdras, the writere, come doun wiþ þe kynges lettres. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxvi. 32 Jeremye..3af it to Baruch the writer.

**o.** Sc. *Writer to* (*+ of*) *the Signet* (abbrev. *W.S.*), originally, a clerk in the Secretary of State's office, who prepared writs to pass the royal signet; in later use, one of an ancient society of law-agents who conduct cases before the Court of Session, and have the exclusive privilege of preparing crown writs, charters, precepts, etc.

1488 *Acts. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* I. 89 Item, to the writaris of the singnet, at the Kingis commande, ij vnicornis, xxxvj*s*. 1585 *Sc. Acts* (1814) III. 377 That the secretair admonishe all his deputis and writtaris to the

signet That [etc] 1672 [see WRIT *sb* 3]. 1708 J CHAMBERLAYNE *St Gd Brit* 501 If ere is at present about One hundred ordinary Writers to the Signet *Ibid* 534 Writers to the Queen a Signet. 1789 BURNS *Let to Aiudie* 6 Jan. I do not know if passing a writer to the signet be a trial of scientific merit 1895 MACAULAY *Hist Eng* XIII 559 The College of Justice, a society composed of judges, advocates writers to the signet, and solicitors 1888 *Daily News* 29 Dec 2/1 A writer to the signet is the highest grade and finest flower of the profession of solicitor, as practised in Scotland

*attrib.* 1894 *Instit Writers to Signet* (1890) 230 Quhatsumevir writare obeyes ane his lordschips deputt keiper of the signet 1695 *Ibid* p xiv, Ane convenient house, where the writers may meet upon all occasions 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* V (1848) 36 2 In the discharge of his functions as a Writer's Apprentice

**d.** Sc. An attorney or law-agent; an ordinary legal practitioner in country towns, a law-clerk.

1540 *Acts* (1814) II. 359 Except panne bot ar writaris notaris and scribis in our soueranne lordis courtis of Justice. 1565-6 *Keg Privy Council Scot* I 427 We hail subscrivit thir presentis before thir witnessis Alexander Hay, writar, [and] Williame Douglas 1586 SIR J MELVIL *Mem.* (Bann Cl) 340 He maid the hail subie tis to trimble vader him, vexing the haill wreters and lawers to mak sur his gutis and conkisais 1658 J NICOLL *Diary* (Pann Cl) 210 A long cail mud be the Lords of Counsell of Session, and of the laweris, clerkis, and writeris 1773 R FERGUSSON *Rising of the Session* 1, Tirl'd at the law, The wylie writers Hurl frae the outer chalmer ev'ry cleek 1826 CLYDE *Last of Lairds* xxv 216 The fees both of advocate and writer 1888 D GRANT *Sc Stories* 153 He had put him into the office of a writer in a country town

**e.** A clerk in the service of the former East India Company. Now *Hist*

1676 in Wheeler *Madras* (1861) 64 Some of the Writers, by their lives are not a little scandalous 1747 in Yule & Burnell *Anglo Ind* 1st ed 1 Mr Robert Ord, Second Writer in the Service being at a Martial Discussion 1775 CARACCIOLI *Life Clive* I 14 Mr Clive had served the East India company seven years, as a writer 1809 *Colebrd Ind. Reg* 21 Apr 378 These Writers are clerks, sent out to India, where they collect taxes from the people 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 143 Writer to the Most Honourable the East India Company

**3** One who writes, compiles, or produces a literary composition; the composer of a book or treatise, a literary man or author; = PENMAN 3 *b*. Also with *on* (†*of*) or *upon* (a subject)

In very frequent use from c1460 *Also book, countsy, essay, history, letter, man, pamphlet, play, prose, story, tragedy writer*, etc see these words

*c* 888 ALFRED *Boeth* XXIII § 3 Hu ne forealdode in þa twentigþa ah se leodon þonctan þæt þa writeras wæs somne wa þa writeras dy lon *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII 327 Nu toceasa þa Bridferð writere þis awrut synd feowertyne ept tida *c* 1200 *St Marherr* 2 Auh her hit þurh writinn of þe writere þa, hire prutesun *c* 1225 *Leg Antik* 856 Ph histiones fiftes, & Platunes bokes & alle þeos writeres writes þet se wreoðie ow on *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 21196 I cuns wis O þe spostoli dede writer 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 90 Many an other writere the bokes wise Translateden *c* 1420 LOVE *Bonauent Mirr* (1908) 8 An ut semeth to the writere here of most special edification to hem 1538 STARKEY *England* 137 Prouyssyon to stoppe folysch writyng & and lyght bokys of the gospel *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol Poetry* (Arl 137 Some were Monks and Dobs as they Hymnes, and the writer of *Job* *c* 1611 [see WRITER] 1660 STANLEY *Hist Phil* x xii (1687) 841/2 A great Writer, and exceeding for multitude of Books 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* (1738) V *Novelists* Writers of Romances of [sic on] musick was Isaac Hermionet 1752 A MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl* No 5, A cold, trifling, frothy Writer 1834 DICKENS *Sk Boz, Ball Night* A writer of fashionable novels. 1861 LD BROUGHAM *Brit Const* XV 219 It has been remarked by writers on our Constitutional History 1886 E FARRER *Love Jap* (ed 3) 334 Women dress for each other, says one writer

**b** One who is writing *The (present) writer*, the writer hereof.

*a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chr n Scot* (S T S) I 4 I the wreittar that don consuddar weill I be sindrie myndis of men 1623 JASON *Golden Trade* B It pleased them to employ mee the present wrighter 1784 COWPER *Table T* 118 I am trickled down the writer's cheeks Fast as the pearls from his fluent quill 1857 W C STEWART *Pract Angler* VII (ed 3) 139 A brother of the writer made the same trial with the same result. 1883 ANNIE *Sc Heather C mirv* 193 The present Writer's belief on this subject

**c** A composer of music

1688 T SALMON *Prop Perform Music* 19 That the Writers of Musick may more certainly know where to fix their Notes and Sharps 1782 BURNEY *Hist Mus* II 567 Written Descant, which is practised in Italy, by all writers for the Church 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* II iv 261 [Corelli] the simplest and purest writer of Italian melody

*d Writer-up*: see WRITE *v.* 18

1841 *Tait's Mag* VIII 80, I had been misled by those writers up of this country 1904 *Times* 9 June 14 He carried on business as a writer up of advertisements.

**4** *elliptl.* The writings of an author

1605 CAMDEN *Rem* 2 Let therefore these few lines suffice, out of an antient Writer 1676 RAY *Corr* (1848) 192 [This] history makes me suspect he transcribed what he hath out of some writer 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt Nat* (1834) II 465 In some of the classic writers it is said [etc] 1880 HAZLITT *Lect Dram Lit* 11 A whole host of able writers are interfered to moulder in obscurity on the shelves of our libraries 1889 HELPS *Friends in C* Set II VI 96, I saw the other day in an American writer a humorous account

**5** *Writer's stand* (see quot. and SAND *sb* 2 8).

1890 *Allbutt's Syst Med* VII 479 Such granulations vary in size from the finest 'writer s sand ' (' tuberculous dust ') to [etc]

**6.** One who typewrites; a typist.

1883 J G PETRIE *Man for Type Writer* 13 Unless the printers are accustomed to the writer's style of shortening words

**II. 7.** A make of paint brush

1884 R LESLIE in Ruskin *Dilecta* (1900) 6 Turner used short brushes, some of them like the writers used by house decorators. 1889 NORTHUMBERLAND *Type Writing* iv 4/4 A few sables and camels hair pencils. There are what are called 'writers'.

**8** A pen, etc., that writes in a specified manner

1577 STUBBES *Cat* 20 Dec 12/2 These pens are certainly excellent writers.

**III 9** *attrib* (chiefly appositive), as *writer body, chief, -lad*; *writer-ty pe, -word*.

1686 SIR J LAUDER *Diary* (1759) I. 401 Some Writer lads were also accessory. 1717 RAMSAY *Lucky on Lucky Wd* ad ix, The writer lads fu' well may mind him 1785 BURNS *To W Simpson* III, Ferguson, the writer chiel 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xviii, I have just arrested her *extradacious* [*read only causey* Thae arc bonny writer words 1869 A MACDONALD *Clerical Intrigue* 208 A miserable writer body from Glasgow 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 169 That's the writer-type He has the same modelling of the forehead as Torp.

Hence **Wri·teress**, a female writer or author, an authoress, **Wri·terling**, a petty writer; a sorry or indifferent author.

1820 *Blackw Mag* XII. 656 Our rhyming 'writeresses are frequently single gentlewomen. 1855 HAYWARD *Char SA Wks* 18 III 137 Remember it henceforth, ye writeresses whom the world has not authorized 1820 W. LAYLOR in Robberds *Mem* (1843) I 420 Every writer and 'writering of names has a salary from the government.

**Wri·tership** (rəi·təʃip). [f prec. + -SHIP 3.]

**1.** The office or position of a writer in the service of the former East India Company Now *Hist*

1763 in 20th *Rep Hist MSS Comm* App I 338 The surviving applications made by the top finishs for writerships confer much light 1808 *Asiat Ann Reg* 98 The interest that influenced their nominations to writerships 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I xi I being offered a writership, he scouted the idea of a civil appointment

**2** The office or employment of a clerk; a clerkship

1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept 304 Officers who are thoroughly competent for writership in dockyards] and victualling yards at home.

**Writh** (riþ). Now *dial* [Cf Da *vræd*, Norw. (*v*)*ræd*, turning, evasion, etc.; ON *víð* winding staircase] = WRITHE *sb* 1, 2 *b*

*14 Latin Voc* (MS Harl 2257), *Gram* a writh 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 150 A Writh, *crinculus* 1844 W. BARNES *Dor Gl* for 1970 *Writh*, a bundle of a faggot

**Writh**, southern dial. var FRITH *sb* 2 3

**Writhable** (rəi·þăb'l), *a rare*—1 [f WRITHE *v* + ABLE] Capable of being writhed

*c* 1425 *St Christina* in *Anglia* VIII 126 She cr ked hir fyngres & fyngeres as þey were wyl bahl for softenesse.

**Writh(e** var WITHE *sb* and *v Obs*

**Writhe** (rəiþ), *sb.* Also 6 wrythe. [f next Cf WRATHE *sb*, and OHG *vrid* 'tenso']

†**1** Something twisted, wreathed, or formed into a circular shape; a twisted band; a wreath. *Obs*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V x 25 The writhe of gold, or elsa x lowpin ringis 1548 HALL etc *Erasm Paraphr Luke* vii 74 I haue bought a writhe of golde entertwined em ng it. 1569 UNDERW *Nine Heliodorus* IX 137 [Fach] bathe a round Wrythe vpon his head, in which their Arrowes are set in order.

†**b** (See quot and cf. WREITH,) *Obs*—0

1552 HULOET, Wrythes, or any thing that may be writhed about like a willow or oser, *vitilia, ium*

**2** A curled or twisted formation; a wreath or tort

1857 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I 229 The eu ble sate its neck in a strong ruler sits his horse,—fitting its limbs to every writhe of the flint beneath it 1874 R JEFFRIES *Sketching Club* 164 The writhe in his mustache

**3** An act of writhing; a twisting or writhing movement of the body, countenance, etc; a contortion

1821 COYER, *Pantal* A wreet wrinch; wrythe 1567 S HAWARD *Vulg Herbal* 1 188 Men who could watch the ex cruciating writhes of others 1796 *Instr to Recg Co alry* (1819) 29 His head or leading think whose writhes and turnings are followed by every other part of the body [of troops] 1818 CHALMERS *Enquir Dict* V 312 He existed with out a writhe in his countenance 1890 MISS BROUGHTON *Mount* xvi The writhe writhe with which Jim receives this piece of information

†**b** A twinge of pain, etc *Obs*—1

1798 A YOUNG *Trav France* 133 I had some writhes of it for a month after I returned to Lyons again.

**3** Degree of tautness; tension *rare*—1

1879 *Gentes Dict Mus* I 135 A body of par hment, strained upon a hoop to the required writhe or degree of stiffness for resonance.

**Writhe** (rəiđ, *v.*[1] Forms 1 *wriðan*, 3 *wriðen*, 4 *wrypen*, 4–5 *wrythen*, 5 *wrythyn*, *writhyn*; 4–5 *wripe*, 4– *writhe* (6 *wriethe*), 4–7 *writh* (6 *wrieth*); 4–5 *wrype*, 4–7 *wrythe*, *wryth*. *Pa. t* 1 *wrap*, 3 *wræð*, 5 *wraythe*, *wrathe*; 3 *wroeð*, 4–5 *wrop*, *wroth*, 5 *wrothe*, *wrooth* *Pl* 1 *wripon*, 2 *uurythen*, 3 *wrypen*, 4 *writhen* (7 *writhe*), 5–6 *wrythen* (6 *wrethen*) *Pa pple.* 1 *gewriðen*, 3 *gwriðen*, 4–5 *iwripen*, *ywrithen*, *ywrype*, *y-*, *iwrithe*; 1, 4 *wripen*, 4– *writhen* (4 *-un*, 5 *-yn*, 6 *-in*), 5–7 *wrythen* (5 *yn*); 4 *writhe*, 5 *wrythe*; 4 *wropen*, 4–6 *wrethen* (5 *-yn*), 5 *ywrothe*; 6 *wrothonne* *Weak pa t* and *pa pple* 5– *writhed*, 4–6 *wrythed* [O1 *wriðan* str. v (pa. t *wrið*, pl *wriðon*; pa. pple. *gewriðen*), also *gewriðnan* = OFris. **wriða* (N1 ra. *wrida*, *wrad*), OHG. *ridan* (in *ga- kridan*; MHG. *riden*), ON. *rída*, MSw *vrida* (Sw. *vrida*, MDa. and Da. *vride*, related to *wriða* WREATH Cf WREATHE *v*

The northern Mi pa. t *wraythe* may represent ON **wreið* pa. t of **wreiða* (cf ter *riða*)]

**I.** *trans.* **1.** To twist or coil (something); to fold; to coil or fold; to dispose or arrange in a coiled or sinuous form, to bend or distort by twisting Freq with *about*, *over*, *round* preps, *up* adv Also *refl*

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram* XXVI (Z) 155 *Torqueo*, ic wriðe 1154 *O Eng Chron* (Laud MS) an 1137, Mc dide enuited stanges abuten here i cuted & uuriðen to ten it zaðde to þe fæmner 1366 LANGL *P Pl A* xi 9 He bar a lordeinn i bounde wi a bridlestre In-twies bridles wyse i wrijen al oute *c* 1386 WYCLIF *Serm Sel Wks* I 398 A gerdo nan growe so grect þat men shul not writhe it *c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* III 118 Withe not the heed of thy sarmente 1450 *Ant de La Tour* (1868) 19 He writhed a thrill wispe of straawe *c* 1460 [see WRITHER *sb* 1] *a* 1500 *Hist K Boc ne & Sydracke* (1510) A 3 b A grene wand may be writhen whyle it is grene 1568 BUNNY *Bk Martyrs* II 1 The Bowres drew every thyck together as they were written about the stake 1614 D DYKE *Myst Selfe Deceiving* (1630) 273 Correcting the ex ssedness of a twig I see writhes it too much the other way 1635 J SHIRLEY *Hyde Park* III *Wks* 1649 I *sing* 149 Never was there serpent wy then up so suddenly 1643 in *Sir* Temple *Irish Rebell* (1646) 117 They would take and writh wyths about their heads 1668 Sir *Fortes Nat Magick* VIII 72 The pul e ble l i pines still looks after the sun, that it may not writhe his stalk 1745 in *Gentleman's Mag* XLVII 201 Writhing and writhing the head of a slo h. In 1745 SIMPSTONE *Elegies* xx 39 Here the dry ida writhes his sinuous mail 1827 JOHN COOKE *Jrnl* V 5/7 The Worm writhing its tail. In Indeed s nt. 1832 MONTGOMERY *Lectures* I 251 His leaflets tree writhes over the him 1866 CHR ROSSETTI *Time e Ey* 6 Who tis sted her hair And writhed it shinin, in serpent coils 1901 WEEMAN *I Will inmate* vi The king must hang herself at Mademoiselle's knees, writhing herself about them.

†**b** To force in wreaths *Obs*

*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troth* I met iw 7 (Camb MS) Veseus writhyth [L *torquet*] out throw his brokene chymynes smokyng fyres

**c.** To change or fashion *into* (*i to*) some form, etc, by wreathing or twisting.

1580 MALCASTER *Elementarie* I (1925) 35 If the pliable mind be vnwoelsie written in a long leased shape *Ibid Descript B Mi Perth* XXXIX Their counter ances seemed fiercely written into the wildest expression of rage 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven* I § 26 In Dutch and French churches it writhes it into extrav gant f antasies 1879 SYMONDS *M Italy & Gr e* (ed. 2) 291 Snow has writhed into loveliest wreaths

†**2.** To unite, combine, or make compact, by twisting, entwining, or interweaving, to join *with* something, twine together; to intertwine. I req with *together* *Obs*

*c* 1205 LAY 2 074 Þat weore twælf swine mid wælen y writhen al to-gæ here 1388 WYCLIF *Judges* XVI 9 As it is writhedun a thred of tow, whanne it touchith fier 1398 TREVISA *Barth De P. R.* XVII 61 (1) Þe wilde schrubbes and treen wip prickes beþ y-wounde and ywrethe to gedres, and þi hippe can be ofer *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1140 *Bi-writed* it, þi litete Wele writed in wit, þi craft y-tel de *Ibid* 442 Wyspes Wele writed yn and turnyd a zayne þat tide *c* 1485 *Digby Myst* (E E T S) 170/2 He wyll fyl hyre keys wrothe in the wyndys 1530 PALSGR 1 *Flower & Leaf* VIII The hegge also With team ur wo set and englentere, Writhen in fere so wel 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Acervi* 1 *vitilis* 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farmer* XIII 80 Let them rut them with a wispe of straw Inade writh ed together 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootom Lact* 1 *Sect* 1 The Guts are strung [in] a white writhed together 1672 J WEBSTER *Metal ogr* XIII 229 Thick trunnels, which were written variously amongst themselves

†**3.** To form or fashion (a wreath, etc) by plaiting, entwining, or twisting, to plait. Also with *together* *Obs*

*c* 1275 [see WRASE 1] 1388 WYCLIF *John* XIX 2 Knigtis writhen a croun of thornes *c* 1450 *Merl* 3 *Lutsual* 1 121 Þou writhen a crowne of þornes 1530 PALSGR 1 *Flower & Leaf* II *Gilt our* 150 They typpettes be written lyke to cheyne *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt* XXVII 29 Writhing together a crown of thorn 1565 STUBBES *Anchat* Writhe, The other Anchorius shalbe writh ynne like a wreath

†**4.** To turn or wrench round or to a side, to twist about; to wring *Obs*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 3462 þur strut it was vn-stern with Wit wrathh wrestes al er writh 1388 WYCLIF *Jer* XLIX 5 hunne the heel is writhun in the necke 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III 19 Ane blusterand bub Thes haire stang, fra wat hir wont can writhe 1584 BEDINGFIELD tr *Cæsar's Rem Relig* 101 And a stroke was giuen vnwarely by some souldier that stode to the other 1607 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb* II 10 Cattle to your cudgell in his eye (if that sile will hem at writheth 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VI 144 Then writhd I Dart and stopp'd his bawling Breath 1723 SWIFT *Anc stem* No 1 5 There may be a Wan (spi with, Wisely writhing the Head *&c* and in fig. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lake Poets* IV 91 95 His fancy was in all points writhin [L. *retortal*] sche *a* 1547 SURREY *Eneis* IV 782 [He] wrethed in loke toward the royal wealth 1607 HOLLAND *Suet* 118 A young we ch hath I im sore enough by the necke and di writhe him which was sic hit 1684 H MORE *Answer* Pref 13 b, The Remarker has written and forced his Wit and Invention to [a resonate [etc]

**†b.** *fig.* To divert or deflect from or to a person, course, etc.; to cause to turn away, bend, or incline towards another. Cf. WRENCH *v.* 4 b.

*a*1300 *Cursor M* 15569 þor þu wald writ [*torr* writh, writhe] on me al þair aun[ui] *Ibid* 28202 *c*1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxxi (*Lucyenne*) 261 Par for sco thocht wele to wrichtt [*read* writhe] in hyme þir wikkines vbuyth *Ibid* xlii (*Anathea*) 97 For to writh agathis wil fes cryst 1418–20 Hoc *Cursor Propat* 2021 Whan þat he his aspecte hade Fro a man listeth for to writhe 1534 Whitinton *Vulgar Oper* ii (1540) B Pleasures fyxte ofte tymes wryth the hyghar partes of the sawle fro vertue 1561 Norton & Sack. *Gorbduc* i. ii Yet tell e frande Of ffat terne[d] mates wrythe them to the wyrse of yaithfull hist 1642 Gual. *Disc. to Vayne of Arminius* The reliefe his ambition to writhe and bend your inclinations to oppose Mr. 1655 [see WRENCH 6 c].

**†o** With advs., as *about, aside, away, back.* Often *fig.* and in fig. context. *Obs.*

*c*1400 *Anon Rose* 1230 Fortune can writhe her heed awey. *c*1480 Henryson *Sheph Kal* xxv. Sa sall we wyth all vpwrythe *c*1550 H. Lit. to *Hearth A.*) If the eyes be wrythen vyde *a*1564 Bedom *Temp. Fame* 319 To wryth his head about like an Ile 1609 Dekker (Dodsley) *Lon. v.* 8 He shal wryth backe the head theof

**5** To subject the body, limbs, etc.; to a contorting or twisting movement; to twist, contort, to wring or wreathe. Also with advs., as *around, round, together, up,* and *about.*

1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 66 He writh his fust vp on wrathe *c*1485 Wyntoun *Cron.* vi. xxiii. l. 75 Pin spak Makbeth disputuyk, Lyk al writhin [*v. r.* wrythin] in his skyn *c*1450 *Isumbras* 1 Whyle e was in my mekle bon with ha d esse of þin hande 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus s.v. Torqueo.* To writhe or wrieke 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Conscience* viii. He will see nothing can pro ure Ie writhe his nibby 1691 Hayhoe *Certainty & vile Spirits* 106 Some Readers were hurt writhe, and one killed with a Whirl bl 1721 Bailey, *Writhe* (in Country Girl writhing, and distorting her whole Body 1791 La Dixon *Bk Riddles* 71 The allomen I coldens Writhe her fur hides 1814 Wilkinson *Hist Dr. Dr.* II. 424 In the Fall I was writhed 1820 Shelley *Ode to I.* 143 Awl writhe thy neck round 1884 *All Mat Ch* 14 March 181 The Arab writhed their bodies under guns, Gatlings and muskets.

*refl.* 1667 Milton *P. L.* xi. 328 Th n sat in first knew pain, And writh d him to and fro convolv d 1814 Scott *Lay of Isles* iv. xxxii. The no ster heart writhed him up against the spear 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss hags* xxiii. 267 I the ere stu e writh d himself in glee

**b.** To distort (the face, etc.); to draw awry; = Wrench *v.* 2 b.

*c*1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 290 As they drag her back she writhes out to Ora "They'll do the same to you 1598 Shakes. *Merry Wives* iii, Sir Thomas would grant and wriggle and writhe at my proposals.

**c.** To make or pursue (its way) by writhing

1867 J. G. Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist* 3. 6 The snake which has writhed its way to the Mocking Bird's nest

**6.** To twist or wrench (something) out of place, position, or relation; = Wrench *v.* 6. Const. with advs., as *asunder, off, about, out,* or preps., as *from, off, out of.* Also *refl.* and *fig.*

1388 Wyclif *2 Sam* xxiii. 21 He hit he wroth out the spere fro the hond of the man 1390 Gower *Conf* III. 271 He his necke hath writhe anto *c*1440 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 48 Sethe þe capone, breke hom in þe mydd and writhe þem 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* v. 29 There myghte ye see trampons of yron writhen asonder 1554–9 *Sc Acts Q. Mary & Phil & Mary* (Rolls) 129, I wolde God the Pope myght writhe his head from betwene my shulders 1600 in Child *Ballads* III. 433/34 Then he writhe the gr ad ring of his finger 1608 Marston *Parasit v.* H 4 b, Cupid ..Whose force writh'd lightning from Jovian shaking hand 1684 H. More *Answer* 224 Ile for their heads be writhen off 1892 H. Kingsley *G. Hamilyn* ix, She writhed herself free 1889 D. C. Murray *One Aft. Returns* xvii, Writhing the water from their auburn hair.

*fig.* *c*1400 *Destr Troy* 11616 But god . wrangis in his wrathe writhis to grounde 1530 Fox *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 5/2 Here the Bishops began to fall to the out theyr elections and theyr neckes a lide from the Emperours subiection.

**†b.** To insert (something) *in* or *into* a space by insinuation or twisting. Also *transf* and *refl.* Obs.

1590 Babington *Profit Exposit* 2. xliv (1596) 67 You may writh a linnen cloth in the navil rils. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* G a b, This desolative Trumpet of Ierusalems a weake breath or two I will writhe into it 1598 J. Jonson *Every Man in Humour* iii. 1. 78 I have written himselfe, into the habit of one of your *Inforcers.*

**†7.** To wrest, strain, or pervert the meaning of (a writing, passage, word, etc.); to deflect, misapply; = Wrench *v.* 7, Wrest *v.* 5, 6, Wring *v.* 9 b. *Obs*

In frequent use from *c*1555 to *c*1600.

*a*1533 Lo Bernes *Gold Bk Marcel* (1546) Hhiv, They haue writ en and enlarged the discipline of Justyce. 1546 Gardiner *Declar Joye* 43 The pelagian ..searched out places of scripture, and writhed them violently to their purpose. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus s.v. Torqueo,* To wreste & writhe the law 1624 Bedell *Lett* vi. 106 The *Ladies Finders,* wherein that which is spoken of God by the Spirit of God is writhed to her 1662 Bp. Hinbert *Body Divinity* 1. 299 Wrestin, and writhing mens writings, to another meaning.

**†b** To misinterpret (a writer), = Wrest *v.* 8 c. 1595 [see Wrest *v.* 8 c]. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin Inst.* i. xiv. 47 Stephen and Poule ..shows sooner they be writhed, yet must so be understanded

**†8.** To envelop, enfold, or swathe (something) by winding or rolling. *Obs.*

*a*1000 *Father's Feast* in Anal. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 200 Þa he forbruce in waron, þa ge ne wriþon [*l. awriþan*]. *c*1000 *Ags. Gosp* John x. 34 Ia genesl ehte he & wra þis wunda. *c*1205 Lay 17760 Wreo[h] wel þeos cnihtes & þeos a swatling *c*1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 160 His heed writhen was with a greet towayle 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. v. (B. M. MS.) Hewn ..maken hym comfesun ywounde and ywrit he wiþ waxe. *a*1400 50 *Bk Curtasye* 685 in *Babees Bk.*, Pes brede he bynges, in towelle wrythyn. *c*1440 *Promp Parv* 534/1 Wrythyn, *idem quod* hyllyn

**†b.** To confine or fasten with a cord, bond, etc.; to bind, fetter. *Obs*

*a*1 *usf* 764 Ic hine he rdlice hevedan clammum on weel bedde writhan bohte. [*c*1275 *Lamb Hom* 123 ( not forde to helle and þrað þene alde deouel.] *c*1205 *Lay* 17394 Þe mon wes inne writhen mid strongen sal[un]den 23 *Ayenb Allit P.* C 80 Pay Wrybe me in a wull k, wrot out myn yzen *a*1400 *Joseph of Arim* (1890) 98 Coodles of synful men ha writhen in wrathe

*fig.* *c*1400 *Pol Poems Lib* 9088 In hir loue was he so writhen, þat he myght not his wille refrayn

**†9.** To secure or fix (something) *with* a pin, etc. *Obs.*[3]

1683 Petyt *Jus Parl Hom* 1 12 Away Ovens made of strong Arm r ji te, and writhen with Ironpins

**†10** To surround or invest *with* something; to wreathe, enwreathe. Also with *about. Obs*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xx. Ane naruill bruse writh gold, With pulis it sellis, we writ in many fill 1727 Newton *Chronol Ancient Kd.* (1728) 227 A Caduceus written about with two Serpents

**III.** *intr.* **10.** To move or stir in a turning or sinuous manner; to change posture by twisting, to twist about

*a*1300 in *Wars Alexius* (Camden) 3367 Þu wretche writh[e wiþ] so thunne Il at ys wa writhi de as a wound 1303 R. Brunne *Handl Synne* 8247 Þe wrecche writhes & wrynges & wrythes & wrestes 1340 *Ayenb* 1 And writh i boute, to and fro 13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1200 Pen be wikenede, & writh, & ch har warde tuned 13 *Prose Lives Saints* (1901) 1 Þer he gret wo a day 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. xi. 8 Quhen he saw Turnus writhand & wyrand 1600 *Merry Jests Widow Edith* (1817) 11 Then she writhed with her body 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 182 Writhing her body to allure Eve 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vii. 1041 Writhing his body, like a serpent 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* II. 292 The Indian Girl writhes & doubles round her wrych.. 1860 Southey *C. Wilson* 61 Flying, and flinging, Writhing and rising, and the Writer ..must have fallen at Lod re 1893 Mary Chilmondeley *Diana Tempest* xvi. (Heljhe the paper, and watched it writhe under the little chuckling flames

*fig.* 1560 *Jeu. Ieley Myst* xiii. 126 Ihs wald fowre neuer so, Now in weyll, now in wo, And all thyng wrythes.

**b** To contort the body, limbs, etc., as from agony, emotion, or stimulation; to twist *under* or *with* pain, distress, etc.; to wring, turn. Also *fig.*

In frequent use from *c*1800

Þa 1400 *Vit Erkenwald* 1320 Ihune the worthy kynge[Arthur] writhes, and wrijede with his eghne *a*1400–50 *Alexander* 1489 Quham Ali ..þe wale ly of writhis him vis faire [*Dubl. MS* wex wode writh] *Ibid* 1409 *c*1485 Wyntoun *Chron* viii. xi. 1776 Al lyym he helyt in to hewyn, and writhand in wrethe 1490–8 Malory *Arthur* I. cxxxvi. 512 He stumayns wallowed and wrythed for the loue of Ihu Ihu 1573 Addison *Late Pl* v, I et them writhe and writhe, I'll warrant you, before I unloose my stake. 1798 S. & H. Lee *Canterb I* II. 431 [She was] writhing under the wound 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xvii, Brass, after writhing about, was by this time awake also 1848 Kingsley *Alt Locke* vii, Though the nerves may writhe with pain 1890 W. Boott *In Darkest Eng.* 280 I sat dark ocean, full of human wrecks, writhing in anguish *fig.* 1848 Rio *Poet Christ Art* (1857) 1. 1. 1.

Wry.hen Wands or Boughs. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 204 *Wrythen*, pp. † intertwined

**3.** Disposed or arranged in coils, folds, or windings; formed or fashioned by or as by coiling, convolution, etc.

Cf. the earlier *forwrithen* ppl a. (For- *pref.*[8])

*c1340 Lyf Thor* (surtees) VI 178 A writhyne rynge of golde 1559 Morwyng *Avonyor* 77 Destilled in serpentins, or writhen, or crooked vessels 1563 Higins *Junius Nomencl.* 263/2 *Linamentum tortile*, a rolled or writhen tent 1608 Dee *Relat Spir* 1 (1659) 115 A Serpent leaned upon her Lower writhen taile 1662 Douglas *Hist Turks* (1690) 961 The writhen rolls of the turbant 1693 Dryden *Ovid's Met* 1 454 His writhen Shell he takes 1868 Morris *Lathly Par.* 1. 238 [Full] of intertwining writhen snakes.

†**4.** *fig.* Wreathed; perverted; deflected. *Obs*

1551 Robinson tr *More's Utopia* 1 (1895) 91 A writhen and wrested vnderstandinge of the same 1561 I Norton *Calvin's Inst.* x. xiii. 313 To frame themselues against the crooked writhen subtilities with plaine and simple truthe.

**5.** *Comb*, as *writhen-faced*, *-formed*

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* L 3 b, A wearish dwarfish writhen facde collier *c* 1885 J T Stoton *Keys fro' Loomsnary* 115 A thing that's writhen-formt.

Hence **Writhenness.** *rare*—[0].

1727 Bailey, *Vortness*, writhenness, wrinkledness

**Writhenchk.** [f. Writhe *v.*[1] + -enwk 1.

1885 Swainson *Prov Names Birds* 103 Wryneck (*Yynx torquilla*) So called from the extraordinary pliancy of its neck; whence also Writhe neck

**Writher** (rəi·ðəɹ). Also 5–6 wrythar. [f. Writhe *v.*[1] + -er 1.] One who writhes or twists; † one who perverts

*c* 1440 Lydg *Assembly of Gods* 674 Ther were bosters, Praters, fasers, strechers, & wrythers. 1533 [see Wrester 2]. 1543 Hethcow *Lament.* 95 Ye wresters and wrythers of Goddes holy worde.

**Writhing** (rəi·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb* [f as prec. + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this. Also with *away*. Occas *fig*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr's T* 139 With writhyng of his toon 1440 Lydg *Ballad Commendacion* (Percy Soc) 38 Ther offrist or writhyng in hem be, Pu art ay redy up on her woo for to rewe *c* 1500 Skelton *Magnyf* 130 Hi Ly bette I liked a reyne Where with to rule him with the writhyng of a rest. 1577 tr *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 241 Let thy laughter [be] without vnseemely writhing of thy mouth and visage 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 30 A writhing away or turning aloof of the bodie 1639 Sir I Hunsdt *Voy* 284 Ill fauoured gestures and writhing of their mouth and eye. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II 84 The Writhing [of a tree] is the turning of branches. 1723 *Hist Her Ophys* I xxvii 58 The Writhings of the wrathful Asp 1827 Keble *Chr Year, Wed. before Easter*, The writhings of a wounded heart 1835 R M Bird *Infidel* (1836) I 14 Sterling seem'd not trace a smile writhing or quivering of limb 1889 Clarke Russell *Wrecked* xii, A slow writhing of the shadowy substance of the brig's sails, masts, and hull, into determinable forms

†**2.** = Wresting *vbl sb.* 2, Wreiging *vbl. sb.* 4

1555 Travers in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) III App 87 Without writhyng, wrasting, or doubtfull construccions. 1562 Cooper *Answ Private Truth* 78 All the argumentes that you hue brought in nothing but writhinges of extraordin ary cases 1662 Heylin *Q. Body Divinity* 1. 183 Wh it wrything and wringing the Protestants make to shift off this place

**Wri·thing,** *ppl. a* [f. as prec + -ing 2.]

†**1.** That wrings or extorts; practising extortion. *c* 1500 [see Wrathing *ppl a*]

**2** That writhes; twisting or turning to and fro

1798 R. Bloomfield *Farmer's Boy* 76 Where writhing earth wrims meet th' unwelcome day 1811 Byron *Ch Har* II xcvii, Smiles raise the writhing lip with ill dissembled sneer. 1865 Barine Gould *Germany* 2. 170 the forked and writhing lightning 1888 L. S. Hudson *Semper-through Amer* 172 Our driver adroitly left one [rattlesnake] a writhing corpse

*transf* 1897 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 3 The children whose faces watched them through the writhing window panes

**3.** Marked or characterized by sinuous or tortuous movement.

1808 Jamieson, *Wrinqle*, a writhing motion. 1818 Hazlitt *Lect Poets* iii 128 The writhing agonies within. 1848 Lytton *Harold* v, A writhing attempt to smile

Hence **Wri·thingly** *adv*, in a writhing manner.

1611 Cotgr, *Portentueusement*, wryingly, writhingly. 1802 *New Monthly Mag* IV 524 The monster, turned writhingly 1887 Miss Broughton *Belinda* III vii, Turning over writhingly in her chair

**Writhled** (rɪ·ðld), *a.* [app. f. the stem of Writhe *v.*[1] (see -le 3); but perh. an alteration of Rivelled *a.*]

**1.** Of persons, the skin, etc.: Wrinkled, shrivelled, withered. Now *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

1562 Cooper *Thesaurus Erv. Vultus*, To make the face writhled and wrinkled 1591 Sharp *Hen VI*, II iii. 23 Thin waske and writhled shrimps. 1599 Marston *Sco. Villanus* I iii 287 Cold, writhled Eld. 1646 Lovelace *Poems* (1904) 100 Cynthia spotted, she appears Her body writhled 1693 J. H. tr. *Jnv Sat* x 121 A writhled and discoulerd skin 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., St. Dorothy* 445 That makes him sad and writhled in his face.

*Comb* a 1656 R. Cox *Actæon & Diana* 4 A writhled fac'd companion

†**2.** Rough; shaggy. *Obs. rare*—[1].

*c* 1000 *Tunorv iv*, (1840) 86 An vnshorne heade, a writhled beard, beetle browed

**Writhy** (rəi·ði), *a* [f. Writhe *v.*[1] + -y[1]. Cf. Da. *vridig* flexible.] Moving sinuously; writhing

1742 Blair *Grave* 330 Nor fly, nor Insect, Nor writhy Snake, escap'd thy deep Research

**Writing** (rəi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Write *v.* + -ing 1.]

**I. 1.** The action of one who writes, in various senses; the penning or forming of letters or words, the using of written characters for purposes of record, transmission of ideas, etc. Also with *out*.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Of silence & of speche mi lute a lore & forði, me writunges, beo seoruȝ be'e togederes. 1382 Lange. *Pr Pl A* III 62 For þi I lere you, lordynges such writynge as leue, To writen in Wyndowes of soure wel dedes. 1397 *Mon* D iii 211 Pe clergye conforted [= women] in Holy kirke knoweth pis fat crystes writyng saued 1487–8 *Rec. St Mary at Hill* 132 For the wrytyng of the names of the flounderes 1513 More *Rich III*, Wks 16 For al y same cause could want mute suffred vnto y^e lare wryting alone 1540 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw VI* (1914) 49 To waplett the paynttour for his wrytyng of ye pees of Canvas 1631 T Powell *Tom All Trades* (1876) 141 The Scriveners. Find no imployment, but writing of blanke Bonds 1671 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS Comm) I 508 This way thrit I propose of the King's writing himself, is the only way to effect it 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I (Globe) 288 He directed me to send it with a Letter of his Writing 1797 *Encycl Brit* (ed 3) XVIII. 917/2 The Greek text was also used for writing by the ancients 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* xvi. 493 The diamond should be held in a vertical position during the writing 1844 Dickens *Christmas Carol* iv, The two branches were frequently practised by the same person, whereas the term 'writing' was applied to painting in oil glass, and what is called 'working on glass' 1888 *N & Q* 30 Dec. 542/2, I believe Lancaster first suggested writing on sand with the finger 1898 J Taylor *Y Aunt's's Hist. Let & T* 10 The writing out of the products of those earlier days

*fig.* 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* 413 He that hath yt [ac. faith] in his heart & giueth own wrytyng

**b.** *attrib.* (*quasi-concr.*) = *writing*, at the time of writing this. Also *up to this* (etc.) *writing*

1728 Lady M W Montagu *Let to Mrs Hewitt*hewayte 4 Jan, I am, at this present writing, not very much turned for the worse 1830 at the writing 1832 L. Kennedy *Sallow B* (1861) 23 An account of all my doings up to this present writing 1846 C. Mitchell *Newsp. Pers Direct* 77 The united (musical) department is at this present writing, to use an Irishism, nothing if not meagre 1884 *Cent Mag* Jan 433/2 It is at this writing given out that [etc.]

**c.** *Comb.* = *writing tbl sb.*

1883 J. G. Petrie *Man for Type Writer* 5 While the writing is being done by the fingers of the right hand 1899 Warne *Unit Typewriter Man* 10 It also keeps the paper in position for writing

**2** The art or practice of penmanship or handwriting

*c* 1440 Lydg *Horse, Sheep & G* 187 Yiff penny & writyng were to sell, Pe remenaunt wol lost the lay. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 Johun wel enmyd hym on wrytyng & on endytyng 1604 L. G[rimston] *D Acosta's Hist. Indies* I xxv. 80 They having no vse of bookes, or writing 1636 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 126 Before the inventours of letters and writing. 1728 Chambers *Cy I* (1738) xv, Writing is now chiefly practised among us by means of pen, ink, and paper 1748 Anson *Voy* I. iv. 92 Many of the poor people had their son to writing and accounts, and other learning 1784 I Astle (*title*), The Origin and Progress of Writing, as well hieroglyphic as elementary 1800 *Encycl Brit* V 755/1 The three Rs—Reading, Writing, and Rithmetic. 1892 *Pall Mall Mag* XII 244 Writing is the art of fixing speech by conventional signs

**3.** The action or method of fashioning letters or other conventional signs (esp. in handwriting or penmanship); the ' hand ' of a particular person.

*c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 Pat his wrys, his wrytyng, was lych be wrys, lyche be hond, .. of Johun his master. *c* 1440 *Gesta Romanorum* 248 a false wrytyng *Ecclesiographia*. 1476 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 42/1 It wes his awne proper hand and writting 1580 Baret *Alv.* Lera (Gener) 10 The writing of the letter was not like the writing of the Secretarie his. 1683 *Writing Schoolboy Q.* The Arte and knowledge of fayre writing 1692 [J. Willis] *Art Stenogr* (title p.) A very easie Method, for Stenography, or Swift Writing 1806, etc. [see Short writing, Shorthand c]. 1658 Phillips, *Calligraphy*, fair, or handsome writing 1728 Chambers *Cyc* (1738) II s.v. *Gothic*, The character of writing in a character, or manner of writing which [et s.] 1796 [see Hieroglyphical *a.* 2] 1784 I Astle *Orig & Progr Writing* 7 This produced a further change in writing 1819 Blackw *Mag* V 59 *Mrs Hemans*'s hand is the finest writing, Lady? *Incretia* It should be Ormus's hand! 1883 *Manchester & Lincolnshire* 8 May 10/1 Best finished round hand writing 1892 Zangwill *Bow Mystery* 80 The laudlady knew his writing

**c** The occupation of a (professional) writer.

1594 *Hist. Writers to Majest* (1890) 230 To be suspendit fra all writting quhill the payment of the forsaid pain 1681 *Sc Acts* (1820) VIII 244/1 All writers to the Signet, All publict Notars and other persons imployed in writting or Accompts

**3.** The action of composing and committing to manuscript, expression of thoughts or ideas in written words. literary composition or production.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 326 Ther to he koude endite and make a thing, Ther koude no wight pinchen at his writyng 1438–40 Lydg *Bochas* Prol. 1 The poete his writyng fetcheth va 1485 Caxton *Chas Gt* 2 All thynges that ben produced by wryting ben wryton to our doctryne 25 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) I. 3 Till remanit in ane Wryting 1598 Florio, The writing of this other the Lord Oboyne deliuered me your Majes|ties one of the 11 1604 *Extr St Papers Irelande* Ser III (1912) 91 Hee is not of parts for the writeing of such a Letter. 1759 Sterne *Tr Shandy* II xi, Writing is but a different name for conversation 1835 Marryat *Olla Podr.* xxx, Magazine writing is the most difficult of all writing 1889 Mrs. Alexander *Valerie's Fate* iii, Though all three could talk French fast enough, the writing of it was another matter

**b.** Style or manner of composition or literary expression.

1509 Hawes *Past Pleas* xx (Percy Soc) 98 Beseching you to pardon me of my rude wrytyng, For, wish woful herte was myne endytyng *c* 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 84 Doubtful wrytynge is when the wordes may be expounded dyuers wayes *a* 1626 Bacon *Ch Cantrov* Wks. 1879 I 344 Better and earnest writing must in t hastily be condemned 1664 Dryden *Annus Mirabilis* Ep Ded., Your own, our countrymen had not received this writing [of a once in verse] till of late 1718 Addison *Spect* No 403 P 10 A finished Taste of good Writing 1760–1 Wesley *Sup Reasoner Reasoning* no 1991 In the character of fine writing I think the thoughts should be natural. 1829 Keatsin *Poems II Lx.* (1883) III 320 Fine writing is, next to fine doing the top thing in the world 1884 Church *Bacon* II 200 Lively and unstudied as his writing seems

**c** The composition of music.

1782 Burney *Hist Music* 490 The most valuable and elaborate productions [ac. masses] that I have ever seen in this kind of writing 1837 *Penny Cycl* VIII. 200/1 The art of writing in parts 1885 *Proct Harmony* (ed 3) 245 Four part writing is usually considered the foundation of harmony

**d** With advs., as *down*, *in*, *off* (Cf. 12 g.)

1897 *Westm Gaz* 28 Dec 6/3 She must be there for the writing down of capital 1900 *Ibid* 22 Nov 6/2 [The] mechanical agents said that due notice of 'writing in' was given 1918 *Times* 19 Dec 18 3 The scheme provided for the writing off of capital liabilities.

†**4.** Manner of setting down in written form, spelling, orthography. *Obs*

1521 A. Barclay *Introl.* A v b, Whiche is contrary bothe in the true writynge, & also in the pronunciacion of perfyte frenche 1582 [see Writing master]. *c* 1620 A Hume *Brit Tongue* (1865) 1, I seeing sik uncertenite in our men's writyng, as if a man wer to buyld vpon ane vncertaine ground of our best wryters, the same wold agree. 1656 B Jonson *Eng. Grame* iii, The most addaistrea of our tongue, or uncertainty of our writing. 1728 Chambers *Cycl* (1738) s.v *Orthography*, Attempts have been since made to reduce the writing to the pronunciation.

**5.** The state or condition of having been written or penned; written form. Freq. in *writing.*

See Comment v 12, Puttenham 156 b, Reduce 1 25 b

1300 *Rolls of Parli* IV 168/2 Seeing it is Needegree in writing 1460 *Paston Lett* II 122 Let them send ther excuse to me in writyng. 1560 Daus tr *Sleidane's Comm* Pref 2 Their comming vnto the stories. 1611 Cotgr, *Mettre par escrit*, to set downe in, commit vnto, writing. 1657 tr *Perkins Probl Ch* vi 279 Another will by him put in writing. 1711 *Ch Ch Lond* 4 Which Book Examination the said Justices are herey requ red to take down in Writing 1832 Lockhart *Mem Scott* iv 155 Many matters now existing in writing 1892 *Ibid* 232 Some little was reduced into writing 1887 Fiskeat *Chr or Dicts* Ser II 42 The author's agreement, in writing

**II 6.** That which is in a written (now also typewritten) state or form, something penned or recorded; written information, composition, or production; literary work or composition

† *In or Sacred Writing* (quots 1340, 1707). Scripture.

1303 R Brunne *Handl Synne* 4071 Seynt Ysodre seib yn bys writyng, ' Alle þo þat [etc.] 1340 *Ayenb* 73 Zuyche bieþ þo zonges of helle ase be wryting ous telþ 1380 Wyclif *Dan.* v 7 Who euere shal rede this wryting *c* 1444 Pecock *Donet* 156 Alle suche men I remitte into þe writing and writeyng of seynt Austyn. 1483 *Cath Angl* 208 The Sheriffe hath writyng from the Kyng, that he shall in like such a pane[1] a 1513 Fabyan *Chron* Ded (1811) 4, I haue sayngo that it is wryten in the Cronycles of Eutropius. 1537 *Cranmer Lett* I.k 376 Which was lately surrendred & geven vpp by wryting to theme 1596 Shaks *Merch V* II iii 14 A carrion death Within wh se cruell eye is there set a writing fast fixed. 1611 Bible 1 *Esdras* ii 2 He made proclamation by writing 1707 *Monthly Mag* III 423/1 A pair sage in sacred writing where the Philistines 1818 Scott *Hrt Mid* xxiii, W Nelwyn *Last Anal Faith* II 755 Neither the 4th nor 19th sections of this statute require that the agent should be licensed to act by writing. 1840 Barham *Ingol Leg* (1843) 256/1 He pointed out to me this hand which, like the writing on Belshazzar's wall disturbed his hour of festivity 1887 *Cornh Mag* Jan 1 A few handsome deed ed all know ledge of the type writer or the writing

*a basic sly* 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xxii, Cut it down, and you will have no more writing upon your nails

*transf* 1894 H Drummond *Ascent Man* 407 Nature is God's writing, and can only tell the truth.

**7.** A written composition, freq *pl.*, the work or works of an author or group of authors, literary productions.

In frequent use from *c* 1560

1340 *Ayenb* 46 Pis boc is more ymad uor be leawede penne ur þe clercken þet conne þe wryttinge. 1382 Wyclif *1 Tim* iii 15 Fro a fundem in thy wrytyngis, or ye wrytyngis of Jeremye, the prophete. *c* 1440 Pecock *Repr* I xxi 81 Holi Writt in thus wise takun, is not holier neither better than eny other writing is. 1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de 1531) 8 Thus suche wrytynges is supported by concrete goodly fathers 1638 Junius *Paint Ancients* 102 Famous men have studied to illustrate these Arts by their writings and disputations. 1751 *Yorks Assoc* 4 P 8 His present Writing is only to admonish the World. *a* 1790 *Somd Hist Quakers* (1792) I 1, I, the said Bishop hath collated such an high Esteem by his Writings 1818 Shelley *Julian & M* 320 If I can tell in what school her writings belong Macaulay *Hist Eng* vi II 2 His writings (the fathers 1859 Jerrold *Heiligenstadt* 232 A writing, to the effect that it (the museum) was let out altogether

**b.** *The (sacred or holy) writings*, the Scriptures.

1340 *Ayenb* 23 Pane Ierlde duy, þane to uolueþ le writinges, he se wonne dyaþe to liue. *a* 1653 Longing *Bk.* (1732) 208 The Hand of God must first write on their

Heart, ere they understand the Writings of the Scriptures. 1663 Ilc. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 327 The truth of the holy Writings. 1712 Felton *Dissert. Classics* (1718) 94 The Sacred Writings, even in our Translation, preserve their Majesty. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 438/1 Mention is made of the use of signets in the sacred writings.

c. A musical composition.

1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* III. 197 It appears from the writings of this...exquisite harmonist, that he had...studied the greatest masters of his own time.

8. a. A written document, note, etc.; a letter or missive.

1456 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 58 All though my wrytyngges put yow many tymes to gret labour. 1513 Q. Cath. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 90 Come a Post from my lord Howard with a writing at length of every thing as it was. 1555 *Instit. Genill.* Lv, Y'e childe brought the same wryghting to the handes of Mertin. 1620 Hodges *Thank.* (1629) 246 These were the contents of the writing. 1663 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 353 Without another clear and express Donation, wherof they shew no Evidence or Writing. 1890 Gibbons-Neff *Round Bible* 21 There are frequent references in the Book of Ezra to writings, such as proclamations, genealogies, decrees, letters, copies.

b. A written paper or instrument, having force in law; a deed, bond, agreement, or the like; a document relative to a marriage contract or settlement.

In very frequent use from *c* 1500.

1448 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 66 If any suche writyng were knowe and proved by my seide Lorde and the other arbitrous. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 330 Into witnesse they put to theire seales, euerych to others writyng. 1580 in Glascock *Rec. St. Michael's, Op's Stortford* (1882) 37 Pai[d] for makyng the wrytynges betwen the parishe and the belfounder. 1598-1 in Barfield *Thatcham* (1901) II. 103 Pd. for two locks for the chest wher the wrightings are kept. 1631 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* III. i. 40 These writings are the evidence of Lands. 1668 Shirley *Mulberry Gard.* II. ii. 27 You do not lay the necessity of marrying Hone enough to her: ..our Counsel [m.chit] Have been drawing the Writings. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 231 P 2 The Lawyers finished the Writings (in which ..there was no Pin-Money) and they were married. 1754 J. Shebbeare *Marriage* (1766) I. 71 Perhaps your Lordship's Writings [=property-deeds] are in the Hands of those two Fellows. 1818 Cruise *Digested.* 2 II. 233 The Court ordered all deeds and writings ..to be delivered up. 1841 *Penny Mag.* X. 181 *Shabby-genteel Story* IX, No writings at all were made, and the ceremony merely read through. 1893 Sir J. W. Cuttin in *Law Times Rep.* LXVIII. 490/1 The statute requires a deed in cases where formerly a mere writing would have sufficed.

†**o.** A writ *of* divorce, etc. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif *Coll.* iii. 24 Doynge away that wryting of decree, or dom, that was ygeue you. 1568 Bible (Bishop's) *Matt.* v. 31 Whosoeuer putteth away his wyfe, let hym geue her a writyng of diuorcement.

9. Wording or lettering scored, engraved, or impressed on a surface; an inscription.

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxii. 16 The wryting forsothe of God was grauen in the tables. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VII. 149 His epithoph—ne is, wryttynge on his graue. 1388 Wyclif *Mark* xii. 16 Hyngeb ye to me a peny. ..Whos is this ymage, and the writyng? 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 37 He shewid the wrytyng that that other ymage helde. 1530 Palsgr. 691/1 He was a writyngar upon his graue, but the weather hath put it out. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Ecclus.* xlv. 11 Precious stones .. set in golde .. with a writing grauen after the manner of the tribes of Israel. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxxix. 30 They made the plate..of pure gold, and wrote vpon it a writing, like to the engrauings of a signet. 1623 Co kram II. Writings on Tombes, *epitaphes.* 1706 [see White *v.* 19]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/1 The most ancient remains of writing .. are upon hard substances, such as stones and metals.

10. Words, letters, embodied in written (or typewritten) form; written lettering.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 02-4 He so moche sorow hadde, As hys wrytyng was alle to-fadde. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* (ed. 3) s.v., R. Hooke ..shews how to restore, and restore old writings almost effaced. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 151 A new Method of recovering the Legibility of decayed Writings. 1824 Brewster *Sk. Bru, Featherings.* ii. The writing looked like a sk-in of thread in a tangle. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 957 For restoring faded writing. Brush it over with a solution of ammonium sulphide. 1899 Warble *Unit. Typewriter Mus.* 14 Regulating the width between the lines of writing.

**II.** *Printing.* (See News *sb.* 5 b.)

**III.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **12.** a. Simple attrib., as *writing chair, counsel, day, exercise,* †*glove, hand, lesson, night, terms, time.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 445/2 A wrytynge chare. 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 255 The plaiting of this my writing course. 1663 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 501 A pair of writing gloves, *viz.* 1691 Mary Astell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 450 Having been always on writing nights in an hurry. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n Man* Epilogue, My writing days are over. 1788 Cowper *Iliad* XXV. 505 My writing-time is expended. 1805 Scott *Lett.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 44 I shall hold myself well paid on the *writing* hand. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iii, Preparations for giving Kit a writing lesson. 1857 W. Collins *Dead Secret* iv, The two were not .. on speaking, or even on writing terms. 1875 Davidson *Hunt Pointer* 1. 1 What is called the Script or writing character, the most elegant of all.

b. In sense 1 used for writing with ', as *writing apparatus, cane, fluid, implement, tool, wire,* etc. Also Writing-ink, -pen.

Cf. OE. *writing-feþer* 'a pen'.

1589 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.,* 7/2 *Graphium,* a writing wyre. 1606 Holland *Suetan.* 261 The sharp point of a bodkin or writing steele. 1800 M. Koops *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 37 *Charta Angustia.* being too thin for the writing-cane. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VIII. vi. P 1 That minister .. made me take my writing apparatus. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxi, Give him writing-tools. 1840 *Patents* (1869) 56 Ink or writing fluids. 1866 *Ibid.* 388 Articles commonly called 'writing' or 'library' sets. 1873 W. Stokes *Rapid Writing* 78 The formidable iron Writing implement bearing the name of Style.

c. In names of devices for performing or executing writing, as *writing automaton, -ball,* †*-engine, machine, telegraph.*

1695 *Athenian Mercr.* 9 April, The Writing Engine, for taking several Copies of the same thing at once. 1798 J. Dunton *Life & Errors* 239 [Ridpath] invented The Polygraphy, or Writing Engin. 1799 *Patents* (1809) 8 A certain ..writing and drawing machine. 1819 *Ibid.* 21 A machine, ..which I denominate the penographic or writing instrument. 1868 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 136/2 [A] Writing-machine for the Blind. 1878 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Writing-telegraph,* one which sends autographic messages. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Writing-ball,* an electric printing apparatus. 1904 Standen & Taylor *Typing* i, Manipulating the writing machine [=typewriter].

d. In sense 1 used or designed for writing upon', as *writing cloth, material, slate, surface.* Also Writing-book, -paper.

1800 M. Koops *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 33 These writing-materials were not in general use. 1809 R. Lawford in *Trade* 63, 2 [Reams] Writing Royal. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 540 Dowe's patent tracing and writing cloth. 1853 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1427/2 *Table,* a table ..for] writing-surface. 1888 Bygon *12 Good Men* II. v. 36 To get out his writing materials, and to scribble.

e. In sense 1 forming a support or surface for writing on', as *writing-ledge, -lope.* Also Writing-board, -desk, -table 2.

1855 *Patents* (1869) 170 [The cover] which forms the continuation of the writing slope. 1902 *How to Make Things* 531/1 In construction of the writing ledge.

f. In sense 2 used for or employed in writing', as *writing class, clerk, hand.*

1813 Scott *Antig.* vi, My lawyer['s]..writing-clerk (habited as a sharp-shooter) walked to and fro before his door. 1862 *Cornh. Magazine Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 880 Having the cost of a writing clerk. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 177 If the ever puts me into one of his books I'll..amputate his writing-hand. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Jan. 2/1 The writing-classes joggled each others' arms and elbows.

g. With advs., as *writing-off, -out.* (Cf. 3 d.)

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 12/1 Its sister in misfortune.. darkum [=dark] writing-office. 1904 *Ibid.* 9 Feb. 1/2 The 'writing-out' process from which most popular authors suffer.

13. Special Combs.: **writing booth** †(*a*) *Sc.* a writing-chamber; (*b*) a booth or stall where writing is transacted; **writing cabinet,** an article of furniture in which a writing-desk is combined with drawers, shelves, and other facilities for writing; **writing-case,** a portable case for holding writing requisites, and providing a desk or surface to write upon; also *Comb.*; **writing centre,** a physical centre which controls the action of writing; **writing-chamber,** a room or chamber where writing is transacted; freq. *pl.*, a lawyer's offices; **writing-compound,** = sound *sb.* 4; †**writing dust,** = *writing sand*; **writing-frame,** a frame with guides designed to help the blind in writing; **writing hand,** the peculiar position assumed by the hand in shaking palsy (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); †**writing house,** a writing-chamber; **writing-pad** (see Pad *sb.* 3 4); **writing-room,** a writing-chamber; †**writing-sand,** a kind of sand used to dry wet ink after writing; †**writing-standish** = Standish 1; †**writing script** (type), script.

1597 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 122 Ane house..to be ane †writing bouth to...thair servitour and clerk. 1609 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p. xlvii, All writters to the signet ane †writing house. 1611 Florio, *Scrittoio*, a writing bouthe, to wear..a gowne. 1898 *Wide World Mag.* July 448 Public writing booths in Barcelona. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 3 Mounted writing cabinet. 1891 *Law Times* 91/1 Offices, closets, and partitions may be opened by one lock. 1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 253 He drew from a little †writing-case ..some paper, a cut-pen, and an ink-horn. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 16 Jan. 2/2 Ad dan, Crown-Prince has given him in keeping a writing-case with private letters. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 655 If the tumour should happen to produce pressure-action of the auditory nerve, the writing centre, the †writing centre. 1618 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p.xliii, The†writing chalmer of Adame Lawtie. 1708 J. Sheffield *Sat. Poetry* Pref., I did draw out the Collections I had made, while in a Writing-Chamber, ..such [etc.]. 1875 Scrivener *Lect. Text N. Test.* 4 In the scriptorium or writing-chamber of their convents. 1891 Arthur *Chron. Manip.* iii. 71 Fragments of diamond..set in handles..are called scratching or writing diamonds. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 69, I have writing or pounce powder, usually employed in drying dust. 1853 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1823 †Writing-frames for the blind. 1597 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 153 The †writting hous for the clerk of this burgh. 1598 Florio, *Scrittoio*, ..a counting house or writing house-e. 1825 Pondoke *Encycl. Antiq.* 108 Monasteries had..Museums, Scriptoria, or †writing-rooms. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* I. The adjoining writing-room. 1750 Heath *Acc. Scilly* 37 [A bay] where the Beach..is covered with an exceeding fine †Writing Sand. 1863 Hatchard in *Phil. Trans.* CLII. 774 Fine white writing-sand. 1773 Boswell *Lett. to Johnson* 2 Dec. In *Life*, You may..have a little †writing-standish made of it. 1815 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* 313 †Writing types,..a kind of letter.. much like Italic.

**Writing** (rai·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That writes; engaged in, addicted to, writing.

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. ii. 44 What names the writing person hath here writ. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. 246 A

**WRITING-PAPER.**

Rank superiour to the Writing Worthys. 1728 Ramsay *General Mistake* 181 To be a wirrykow to writing fools. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiv, Do you take any interest in writing people? 1853 *Athenæum* 24 June Boz's A great mistake,..to which one writing architect at least is liable.

**Writing-board.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 c + Board *sb.*] A board on which to rest the paper while writing.

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Writynge borde, *plutarium.* 1648 Hexham II, *Een Schrijf-bordt*, a Writing board. 1773 J. Nourthouck *Hist. London* 619 The writing school..contains long writing boards..to sit and write upon. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 592 Underneath this writing-board is a space for papers.

**Writing-book.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 d + Book *sb.*]

1. A blank book in which to write for purposes of record, etc.; a book containing or consisting of writing-paper.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cayer*, a quier of any written paper when a whole writing booke is deuided into equall parties. 1649 *Papers rel. Scots Affairs* (S.H.S.) 306 Payed for 3 wreattings books, 6s 14s. 6. 1901 *Maryland Laws* v. (1723) 16 Substantial Writing Books..for registring such Proceedings in. 1848 Thackeray *Pen. Fair* xxv, Poor Briggs went and entered herself obediently at the writing-book. 1865 *Enquire Within* (ed. 57) 93 Buy coarse white paper...ready to be made into writing-books.

2. An exercise book in which to practise penmanship or handwriting; a copy-book.

1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* iv. (1627) 30 A little copie booke fastened to the top of his writing booke. 1775 Ash. 1850 *Ch's* 188 Oswold *Woman in 19th Cent.* (1862) 331 Having the youngest daughter set..copies in the writing book. 1878 B. Harte *Man on Beach* 64 Guiding her hand over the writing book.

**Writing-box.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 13 + Box *sb.*2] A small box for containing paper and other writing requisites.

1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 210 My wrygthyng box of syprese, 1757 R. Bentley tr. *Heutimeri Trav.* 31 Two little silver cabinets, which she uses for writing her letters. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope* (1868) 416 That his writing-box should be set upon his bed before he rose. 1817 J. Evans *Excurs. Windsor, Shirley-street Story* I. A number of...bills, neatly docketed in his writing-box.

*attrib.* 1891 C. Nisbet & D. Lemon (*title*), Everybody's Writing-Desk Book.

**2.** A make of portable writing-case or box which on being opened forms or provides a desk or surface for writing on.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6939, Despatch boxes, writing desks, and dressing cases. 1866 *Patents* (1869) 370 Improvements in portfolios, writing desks, writing cases.

**Writinger.** *nonce-word.* [f. Writing *vbl. sb.* + -er 1.] An expert in handwriting.

1868 Fushwylah in *Percy's Folio MS.* I. p. xiii, The change of the shape of thec..may help some future and more learned writinger to settle the date.

**Writing ink.** Also **writing-ink.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 b + Ink *sb.*1 1.] A make of ink or writing-fluid prepared or suitable for writing with the pen.

1548 Elyot, *Atramentum sutorium*, writyng inke. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 127, I have presently made a Mixture..to serve for Writing Ink. 1688 *Patents* (1869) 2 A certain powder for..making writing ink. The same [water] into very good black writing ink. 1708 Chambers *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Ink*, Chinese Ink is..not fluid, like our writing Inks. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 478/2 Blue writing ink has been lately introduced. 1867 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 2 For inking in drawings the best Indian ink should be used, and not common writing ink.

*Comb.* 1898 Simmons *Dict. Trades* 417 *Writing-ink Maker*, a manufacturer of fluid inks for writing with.

**Writing-master.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 13 + Master *sb.*1 10.]

1. A teacher of or instructor in writing, penmanship, or calligraphy. Also *transf.*

1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 62 The hole ortografie, which concerneth the right writing of our tung, will ..help the writing master. 1646 in Roberts *Soc. Hist. Eng.* (1856) 197 Given to the writing m., 2s. 6d. 1658 Dawson in Marvell *Def. John Hewet* 126 With a Writing-Master's directing his Scholars hand. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Nov, That is a common caution that writing-masters give their scholars. 1754 G. Bickham (*title*), The English Monarchical Writing-Master. A new county copy-book. 1812 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. vi. 182 'Patience is a virtue,' was my writing-master's favourite copy. 1882 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* II. xi, In the college school. There certainly was a writing-master.

2. The yellow-hammer, *Emberiza citrinella.*

1879 G. C. Davies *Rambles* xxxii. 231 Yellowhammers or 'writing masters', as the country lads sometimes call them, from the scribblings on the egg shells.

**Writing-paper.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 d + Paper *sb.*]

1. A special make of paper, usu. with a smooth

surface and sized, for writing upon; now *esp.*, note-paper.

1548 Elyot, *Epistolarie charta*, writyng paper 1596 *Edmund III*, II ii, Go, breake the thundring parchment bottome out, . I will vse it as my writing paper 1600 J. Lane *Tom Tel Troth* (1876) 123 If all the earth were writing paper made. 1686 *Lond Gaz.* No 2179/4 All sorts of Writing and Printing Paper 1770 *Phil Trans* LX. 301 The film was not thicker than common writing-paper 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. 1 p 4 Writing paper such as a secretary of state need not be ashamed of. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III 110/2 Strong and tough writing papers for account books.

*attrib.* 1827 Faraday *Chem Manip* 1 23 A blank writing paper book with pen and ink.

**2.** A sheet of this *rare*—1.

a 1777 in Evans *Old Ball* I 255 A writing-paper Upon his head he had to wear, which did him treason show

**Writing-pen.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 b + Pen *sb.*1 4.] A pen suitable or adapted for writing.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii xxxi (Addit MS.), A wrytynge penne hatte *Calamus scripturalis*. 1538 Cover dale *Ps lxxv* 4 (4) Out of Labulon are there becme goose noues thorow the wrytynge penne. [Luther *Schreifedern*] 1696 Eart Monm tr *Boccalini, Pol Touchstone* 410 He bore in his chief Standard a writing Pen 1688 Holme *Armoury* (Roxb.) III 401/2 The Pen, Knife and Ink is that with which we make the Pen, or writting Pen 1832 *Patents* (1869) 30 Certain improvements in the construction of writing pens 1866 *Ibid* 390 To utilise writing pens which are worn out

**Writing-school.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 13 + School *sb.*1 1, 9.]

†**1.** A school in which writing or calligraphy is taught. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 413/1 He goeth to the wryting scole 1607 *Exte Aberd Rec.* (1848) II 204 A writting schoole for instructing of the youth in writting and authmetik allaneirlie 1652 *Athenian Mercury* 9 May, Advert., Young Gentlemen may be faithfully Taught by the Author, at his Writing School 1721 W Webster *Attempt* (title p.), The Education of Youth . . . especially with Regard to their Studies at the Writing School 1773 [see Writing-board]. 1780 *Mercur* No 81, Going along, with a set of other girls to . a public writing school

**2.** At Oxford University: A room used or set apart for written examinations.

1876 T G Jackson *New Univ Schools Univ Coll* 3 The three Writing Schools occupy the first floor *Ibid*, The large crowded Writing School *Ibid* 8 I or occasional use as a Writing School I have arranged two of the Vivâ Voce Schools

So **Writing-schoolmaster** *Obs*

1590 P Bales (*title*), The Writing Schoolemaster Containing three Bookes in one, teaching Swift . True . Faire writing 1632 J Davies (Heref.) *Lively Lectr* 1 *Writing* (title p.), The Writing Schoolemaster The Anatomy of Faire Writing

**Writing-table.** [Writing *vbl. sb.* 12 c + Table *sb.*]

†**1.** A small thin tablet, sheet, or plate of wood, ivory, or other material for writing (esp. notes or memoranda) upon; a writing-tablet, = Table *sb.* 2 b Cf. Tablet *sb.* 1 c. Usu *pl* *Obs.*

1526 Lindale *Luke* 1 63 Zacharie axed for writynge tables and wrote 1589 Nashe *Pasquil's Lounder C* A vjb, A newe paire of Writing tables with prodigable Notes for the quarter 1625 K Lowe tr *Bertlay's Arigonius* iv 249 She taketh up her Writing Tables, in which she writeth these lynes. 1656 in *Hearn Misc* (1744) I 252 Writing tables Paper's Place supply'd 1829 Murray *Jane Aren Mod. Paper* 15 The use of lead as the material of the writing table

†**2.** = Escritoire *Obs*

1712 Swift *Jrnl to Stella* 20 Oct, Lady Orkney is making me a writing table. 1728 *Lond Gaz* No 6119/3 [He] took with him a Writing Table, containing 15 Drawers

**3** A table used, suitable, or adapted for writing on, having usu. drawers and other accessories or conveniences.

1833 Loudon *Encycl Archit* § 2096 A handsome writing table, with numerous drawers and divisions for containing papers, money, &c 1862 Evre-Bucle] 1892 Kilner *Light that Failed* (1900) 227 Torpenhow brought him the money and carefully put it away in the writing table.

*attrib.* 1853 Mary Cholmeley *Diana's Lowe Test* xi, The little pile that you wound up, and put in your writing table drawer

b. = Writing board.

1875 Knight *Dict Mech* 2823 The writing table lets down, exposing a number of drawers, shelves, and pigeon holes

So **Writing-tablet**, prec 1.

1849 J. Murray *Pract Rem Med Paper* 17 There are writing tablets of vary. sizes 1851 *Patents* (1859) 32 A durable copy book or writing tablet 1892 *Smith's Dict Antiq* II. 733 Ordinary Greek writing tablets

†**Writling**, early f. Riteling (var. Reckling)

1611 Cotgr., *Cotil*, the vnderling, starueling, or writling of a beast. *Ibid.*, *Grugeon*, the smallest, or most writhen fruit on a tree, writlings. *Ibid* s vv *Couat*, *Regreton*.

†**Writrix.** *nonce-word.* [f. Writer, after L. fem. agent-nouns in *-trix*.] A female writer; an authoress.

1778 Nugent *Hist Fr Gerund* I 145 Why should it not be said, she was not a common woman, but a genuiness, and an elegant writrix?

**Written** (ri·t'n), *ppl. a.* Forms: 4–6 writen (5 *Sc* -in, 5 ywriton), 4 wreten (5 -on, 6 -yn, *Sc.* -in); 5 writtin, wryttin, -yn, 6–written (6 whrythyn), 7 writ'n. [pa. pple. of Write *v.*] **1.** That is composed, recorded, preserved, or mentioned in writing; committed to writing; also, that is in writing (as opposed to oral or printed), manuscript

In very frequent use from *c* 1370.

*a* 1300, etc [see 2 b]. 1485 in *10th Rep Hist MSS Comm. App V.* 382 The above wrytten Peter Lyche, Mayor c 1511 *First Eng Bk Amer.* Introd (Arb) p. xxxi, In the lande of Armeneten is whrythyn scrutyes of the masses 1589 Harding *Answ Fidus Challenge* 30 b, I hinges either declared by written scriptures, or taught by the holy ghost. 1589 Haklluyt *Voy* I. 3 Printed or written discoueries and voyages. 1617–20 Monyson *Itin* (1903) 230 The written Relations of this tyme testifye that they man tayned 600th men at Armes. 1689 Holder *Elem Speech* 9 Written Language is permanent. 1738 C. Trap Preface in *Cl. Hamfordi's Corr.* (1805) I. 24, I make the tour of the world in Gemelli's written one 1780 [see Writer 3 c] 1837 Dickens *Pickw* II. 14, He will consent to accept a written apology. 1864 *Patents* (1865) 363 Letters and other written documents 1899 Warner *Chas. Lifewriter Man* 6 The Hell gives the operator warning when the written line is al out to be completed

*fig* 1605 Shaks *Macb* v iii. 42 Can't thou not Raze out the written troubles of the Braine? *a* 1658 Lovelace *Lucasta* (1863) 62/2 Natures Pamphlet . Whose wit is written and a body'd mind 1802 Southey *Thalaba* xii, Better penitence, That gives no respite night nor day from grief, To shield the written sin 1820 Shelley *Hellas* 805 How wouldst ask that giant spirit The written fortunes of thy house

*transf* 1889 Sutherland *Sign Writing* II 2/1 The consideration of what a written sign ought to be 1900 C R Conder *First Bible* 62 To assign dates to the written monuments of stone.

**b.** [f. Write *v.*] Reduced to, established by, writing; formulated in documents, codes, or printed works. (Cf. Unwritten *ppl a* 1 b.)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 24843 We earn men, quat mni wee sai, Ne knau we noght pe written lai. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* III. Prol. 3 Mayne . Brought to be bathe in hart wrytyn lawys 1475 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 146 Alle lawe positif and alle lawe wreton condempne the vnto the deth 1684 W Penn *Rights Quakers* 11 Such as have only Our written Law comprehends, Pur, our Statutory Law [etc.] 1728 Chambers *Cycl* (1738) s.v. *Writing*, We also say, written *Law*, in opposition to unwritten or traditional. 1853 [see Written *a.* 1]. 1882 *Encycl Brit* XIV. 365 The que tion whether a written law comes relatively early or late in the history of a nation.

**2.** a. That is inscribed or carved upon; bearing engraving or inscription

*c* 1440 *Pallad on Husb* xii 114 Grekis saun that peches we may make Yuriton [l. *scripta*] growe *c* 1793 *Ingeb Brit* VII. 133 Hymettus Mountain, Mountain of Inscriptions, . so supposed mountain in the wilderness of Sinai 1794 W Hutchinson *Hist. Cumbrid* I 128 Written Rocks on Gelt 1865 Reade *Cloister & H* iv, Presently we did pass many written rocks, and espied a written stone.

b. Bearing, inscribed or covered with, writing

1580 [see Written book 3]. 1596 Shaks *Merch V* II. iii 64 A carrion death, Wit in wh se corpse eye there is written A sentence 1608 T Taylor *Progr Sath* 19 A written parchment, and a written sl eet of paper annexed thereunto 1632 *Athenian Mere.* 24 Dec, A fair bundle of written Papers. 1644 Milton *Hist Moscovia* II 11, Leathern whh in all ages have been but written parchments 1865 *Patents* 6 The written paper and the copying paper are laid on a board 1892 Shirley *Friends Dell* II 120 Oh, lift Thine eyes, that I may read this written soul!

†**3.** *Written hand*, cursive form of writing; a form of running hand. *Obs.*

1531 *Rec. Sc Mary at Hr* I 43 A prymmer lymmed with gold and imagery, wretyn h nd 1582 J. Watson *Centuries of Lyric* Ded., This worke being as yet but in written hand. 1617 Morvson *Itin* I 86 An old brevity of written hand and much esteemed 1700 Evelyn *Diary* II. 168, He had skill to trade most written hands. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* II ii, We appoint him our Secretary for he can read written hand 1840 *Chambers's Jrnl.* I. 160 Helen Thoresse, see what it [on a paper] says. you can read written hand better than I

**4** Of letters, etc.: Traced or formed with the pen

1582 Mulcaster *Pr I mentaries* (1925) 80 Soon written figure or accent 1884 A Hume *Bad Tongues* (1865) 7 he sym bol, then, I call the written letter 1861 Laley *A schylus* (ed. 2), *Persians* 353 The vestiges of the written diptamina. 1887 *Encycl Brit* XXIII. 246 Origin of written characters 1888 *Lancet* 26 Nov 1042/2 As he wrote each letter he named the aloud, but the written and spoken letter never corresponded with each other

**5.** a. That has been written to. Also with *to* In quots. *absol.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I 206, I command thee to be pleased If not for the writer's, or written's sake for thy own 1824 *Ibid* II 121 [the letter] was written . in one knee, kneeling with the other Not from reverence to the written to, however

b. With *adv.* That has been written *about*, *down*, *out*, *out by*, etc.

1754 Richardson *Corr* (1804) II 198 Your copied men with their short written down speeches 1893 *Harper's Mag* Dec 101/2 Not that I'd believe any written out foolish book 1899 Warner *Lake Of Gleams* 140 (Cent.) written up record- 1897 Mary Kingsley *W Africa* 205 Using the native languages in his phonetically written-down form 1899 *Daily News* 22 June 8/2 The best written about poet of modern times

**Writter** (ri·tə). [f. Writ *sb.* + -er 1] One who serves a writ or process

1880 *Punch* 4 Nov. 215 2 There was a regular army of writters to meet me. 1887 Black *Yadon* I 47 *Gentle* Arist, The writters would be after him like a pack of wolves.

†**Wrive**, *v. Obs.* In 5 **wryve.** [ad MDu. *wrīven* (Du. and Flem *wrijven*; MLG and LG *wriven*, *wrīfen*; WFris. *wrisuwe*, NFris. *wrisuw*), = OHG *rīban* (MHG. *rīben*, G. *reiben*).] *trans.* To rub

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xlvi (Arb) 126 They rubbed and wryued hym vnder his temples and eyen [Her ed 1894 F. J. Lees *Reynard the Fox* 328 Ibey . wryved his eyes.]

†**Wrixle**, *v. Obs* Also **wrixel**, **wryxle.** [OE. *wrixlian*, *-an* to alter, change, exchange, etc., also *gewrixlian*, altered form of *gewrixlum*, = Oforis. *wr thia*, OS *wehsalon*, OHG. *wehsaln* (G. *wechseln*), etc.]

1. *trans.* To alter, change, confound

*c* 1400 *Dest Troy* 9327 What whyteneu or wanspede, wrykles our myndi? *Ibid.* 10328 Wodenes pe wrixlet, & pi wit failet

**2** To exchange.

*c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 3120 Pat h dde lasure pere likyng to say, And wrixle pere wit & pere wille sheue.

†**Wrixling**, *vbl. sb. Obs* —1 [Ob. *wrixlung* 'mutuum', f. *wrixlian* : see prec] The action of changing, or the fact of being changed

*a* 1440 *Lonng in Q. Hous* I 307 Ich bide pe bi his clodes wrixlunge, Nu red nu bwit, hun on bokerunge.

**Wrizzled** (ri·zl'd), *a.* Now *dial.* Also wrizled (? wrizled, 8 wrizled) [? var. of Writhled *a.*] Marked with creases, wrinkles, or corrugations; wrinkled, shrivelled.

The reading *wrizled* in Shaks *1 Hen VI*, II iii. 23 (where the authoritative texts have *writhle fits* due to Hanmer, 1744. 1590 Shakspr *K Q* I. viii 47 Her wrizled skin as rough, as maple rind, So scabby was, that fett [ 1656 Sir H Choimley *Mem* (1870) 30 A wrizled [finger] nail, as if it had been crushed 1709 tr *Bosman's Guinea* 49 They look as awkward and wrizled as an old Company of Spantards 1708 *Cow Wood* Youthful fires paint with ru idy lute His wrizled Visage. 1777 in *Eng Dial Dict* s v, A wrizled apple, a wrizled old woman. 1873 1898 in Somerset and N Yorks glossaries.

**Wro.** Now *north. dial.* Forms: *a. north.* and *Sc.* 3 6 wra, 5 wraa, 5, 9 wray (9 ray), 9 wrae (rae), wraie. *β.* 4–5 wro, 5 rowe. [a. ON. **wrá*, later *rá*, nook, cabin (whence MSw. *vraa*, *vra*, Sw. *vrå*, Da. *vraa*, Norw. *raa*, *ro*) ]

**1.** A nook or corner; a retired or sheltered spot.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18155 [Pe walid wepand sat pan Mari, All lighted be hir fat come wit him *c* 1375 in *Leg Saints* xlui (*Cecilia*) 495 I gilts hot a lytil wra, a vyel merkat Jare for I is. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 4190 Quare pre wees in a wra I walk pan alone. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. 138 Sum bidi I Cu lopes of the lanthie wra 1840 De Quincey *Ilist.* (1889) II 366 The Ephesian selects a sheltered spot (a wray, for in tauncy, which means the same thing) and altogether 1892 in *Eng Dial Dict* s v Ai pb

*β a* 1300 *Hrrel I* 68 He ma le hem lurken, and crepen in wro. *c* 1395 *Pr conse's Tale* B 1 An I se indited in a wro, I r a w le bevyde a well *a* 1400 *Slac Kome* 1 A hitel be hinde Per stont a Chapel in a wro. *c* 1425 *Thomas of Frecel* (1872) 43 Nare hat wo i in a well

*transf* 13 *L. Alist I.* 3866 In appocaly pse is wryten in wro, I se, he, sa3s Iohan, pe loumbe

**2** *Sc.* An enclosure or shelter for cattle. ? *Obs.*

1808 Jamieson s v

**Wroath**, obs var. Ku TH *sb* 1 4 b.

1596 Shaks *Merch. I* II iv 78 Ile keepe my oath, Patiently to fear my wroath.

†**Wrob**, *v. Obs*—1 In 5 **wrobbe**, **wrabbe** [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To speak of a matter; to give information.

*c* 1425 *Thomas of Frecel.* (1872) 2/1 If3 solde sytt to domesdaye, With my tonge to wrobbe [ r. wrabbe] and saye, Certainely pat lady is no3t, Neuer pe lasse, nedle more

†**Wro biber.** *Obs* = [f prec] An informer.

*c* 1300 *Hrrel* 439 Wreteres an I wrobberes made he falle

**Wroche**, etc, obs. forms of Wretch *sb*, etc.

**Wrocht(in, Wroote, Wroght(e**, etc.: see Work *v.* **Wrog**, southern ML. var. Frog 3.

**Wroght**, obs. var. Ku TH *a.* **Wrohte**, var. Wrought *sb. Obs* **Wroie**, obs. var. Wray 2 1

**Wroith**, obs. Sc. f. Wrath *a*

†**Wroke**, *sb* Sc. *Obs rare.* Also **wroik.** [= ML G. *wrōk*, *wrāk* (D G., Du. *wraak*) enmity, hatred, spite.] Active ill-will or hatred; spite, malice.

*a* 1500 *Perw rd. de cura rei fam* (b.) 153 All lar wroke will ar de wrigh hann kindis 1513 Douglas *Æneid* V. xi 32 Iuno , Not satysfyit of hir auld fury nor wroke.

**Wroke, wroken**, etc : see Wreak *v.*

**Wrong**, *sb*1 Now *dial.* Also 2 **wrange**, 3 4 **wrangc**, 3–, 6 *Sc* **wrang**, 6 *Sc* **wraing**, **wrayng**, 4 5 **wrongge**. [a ON **wrangs rong* (gen *rangar*), rib of a ship (Norw. *rongs*, *rangs*, *rong*, *rvang*, Sw dial *rang*) f. **wranga* curved, bent see Wrong *a* Hence also MLG. **wrange*, Du *wrang*, l. *vangeuse* (14th c.), *vaiangue*, Sp *varenga*, floor timber of a ship

†**1.** A rib of a ship or other vessel, also, a floor-timber of a ship (Cf Rib 4 *Obs.*

(The sense of the OE instances is in doubt.)

*c* 1000 *Ælfric in* Wr Wülcker 201 *Cancrmanen*, wrong. *c* 1100 *Ibid* 182 *Nouuina nauium, et instrumenta carum cancrmanum*, wranga

1295 *Acc Exchcq K R* 5 8 m 3, Et xv d in j Wrange empt Et xx j d in v Wranges empts 1296 *Ibid.* 5/30 in i dorse, In le arbonibus empts de Priore de Tynemue ad Wrangas faciendas in Galea, xxv s 1336 *Ibid.* 10/31 m 6 In xl ligna empts in grosso pro Wronges faciendis, xv s. 1352 *Exchcq Acc Q R.* 20/17 (P.R O), Pro fotynges et

wrongs inde conferatis a nave predicta. *1409 Acc Excheq A R 44/11 (1) m 6 In xxiij* Wronges infra paruam batel-lam expeditis *e 1435 Hist 53/3 m 9* Pro Is pecus maremium pro Wrangys dicte balingere Regis inde fabricandis. *1513* Doctr. & *Stud f xv 164* Thai gan to forge new lis wrangis and viis. *Ibid ix ii 98* Vpbiesis ourloft, hechis, wrangis, and how

**2.** Vlarge crooked branch or bough of a tree, esp. one cut off and lopped for timber. Latterly *dial.*

*1364 Ann Reg, Chron* 88 An oak which contained 13 loads 35 feet of timber, 5 loads of wrongs (pieces not less than nine inches in diameter) *1387* W H Marshall *Norfolk* II 330 *Wrongs*, crooked arms of trees. *1843* E Moore *Suffolk Words* 498 The wrongs of oaks are an valuable article in the body or right up the tree. *a 1885* Forby *Voc E Anglia, Wrong*, a crooked bough

**3.** *attrib* (in sense 1), as *† wrong nail*, *† -rope*, **† wrong head**, = Ring head (cf. *wrung-head*)

*1398 Acc Exchequer Wolf 8 1/2 m 3* Lxx M C. clauis [cf. luet Wrang, nayl empres xij *l t c* *c 2340* in Nicolas *Hist Navy* (1847) II 477 [Two ropes called] wrangropes, *viz 1388 A t Archæ A R 3* (P R O) For fence new wrangropes with emptis pro reparatione navis. *1356 in t he Roll 32 Edw III m 33/1, 2* wrangeropes et xxij hosteropes *1633 Admiralty Cct E xxxv 50, 6* Nov (MS.), She wa sheathed from her bende to the wrong head

**Wrong** (rŏŋ), *sb.*[1] † forms a 1–5, *Sc* and *north dial* 6 wrang (4 vrang, 9 *north dial* wrank), 4–5, *Sc.* 6 wrange *B.* 3– wrong (5 wronge), 4–6 wronge (5 wronke, 6 wrongue, 7 ronge), † wrunge [Substantivised use of Wrong *a.*]

**1.** That which is morally unjust, sinful, base, or improper; the opposite or negation of justice, the negation of equity, goodness, or rectitude (freq contrasted with *right*)

*a 1100 Wulfstan's Ll iv xlii* 203 Da unrihtdemvn, þe wendaþ wrang to rihte and riht to wrange. *c 1200 Trin C Hom* 193 Ure wrong þe we habbeð ilenge wrong to riht and riht to wrange. *a 1250 Owl & Night* 877 If nist sob forþ & a buck wrong. *1303 R Brunne Handl Synne* 4381 For wrong pe lefe he nyst no wrange. *1375 Barbour Bruce* i 177 Dedyndyt ysmie wes he vfft inouch Quhethir it wes throuch wrang or rycht God wat it. *c 1430 Cav & Assigns* 245, I wolle fyȝte for þe qwene wit a hoone þat wr nge seyþe. *c 1480 Henryson Wolf & Lamb* 73 Quhar wrang is, self suld dwell in t ropertie. *a 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) Chron Scot* (S T S) I 65 They put no difference betuix wrang and richt. *1596 Nashe P Penilesse* (1870) 8 For to maister wrong and pursuant pride. *1606 Shake. Tr & Cr* i iii 116 Right and wrong (Betweene whose endlesse iarre Iustice resides). *1667 Milton P L* x 1055 Whence first I knew the doom of wrong and pursuant pride. *1806 Shake. Tr & Cr* i iii 116 Right and wrong (Betweene whose endlesse iarre Iustice resides). *1667 Milton P L* x 1055 Whence first I knew the doom of wrong and pursuant pride. *1806 Shake. Hamlet Travail Synne* 4381 For wrong pe lefe he nyst no wrange. *1375 Barbour Bruce* i 177 Dedyndyt ysmie wes he vfft inouch Quhethir it wes throuch wrang or rycht God wat it. *c 1430 Cav Assigns* 245, I wolle fyȝte for þe qwene wit a hoone þat wr nge seyþe. *c 1480 Henryson Wolf & Lamb* 73 Quhar wrang is, self suld dwell in t ropertie. *a 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) Chron Scot* (S T S) I 65 They put no difference betuix wrang and richt. *1596 Nashe P Penilesse* (1870) 8 For to maister wrong and pursuant pride. *1606 Shake. Tr & Cr* i iii 116 Right and wrong (Betweene whose endlesse iarre Iustice resides). *1667 Milton P L* x 1055 Whence first I knew the doom of wrong and pursuant pride. *1806 Shake. Hamlet* i v 97 Is it for a mighty sense advised of honour and dignity that the humble man should put it to motion, like the occasion of my wrong? *1611 Bible Acts* xxv 10 I stand at Cæsars iudgement seate, where I ought to be iudged: to the Iewes haue I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest. *1667 Milton P L* x 1055 Whence first I knew the doom of wrong and pursuant pride. *1806 Shake. Hamlet* i v 97 Is it for a mighty sense advised of honour and dignity that the humble man should put it to motion, like the occasion of my wrong? *1611 Bible Acts* xxv 10 I stand at Cæsars iudgement seate, where I ought to be iudged: to the Iewes haue I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest.

**2.** Violation, transgression, or infringement of law, invasion of right to the damage or prejudice of another or others; injury, harm, mischief. In early use *Sc*

*12* [see Thwert Navl. *1318 in Acts Parli Scott I* (1844) 471/1 Lorth ȝe noun rayson quod dictur wrang & unlaw. *a 1400 Hali Meid* 47 Quoniam attachiamenta sunt principia et origo placiti cum de wrang et unlawe. *1438 Stanley Inclosed* iv 117 So justyce yȝ oppressyd and wrong takyth place. *1609 Skene Reg Maj, etc* i 98 b, Vnjustlie and against the law, with wrong, & not with law. *1670 Blount Law Dict., I wrt feazor*, a Doer of wr ng. *1 Trespasser. 1675 Maine Hist Inst* ii. 45 The ancient law of Wrong.

c. *To do* (. . .) *wrong*, to act unjustly or unfairly (*to* a person or thing, or with dative)

*c 1200 B st ury* 708 Bimene we us, we hauen don wrong. *c 1250 Gen & Ex* 2683 He i rogte vn warnede on him fist: He ludden on, & wrong wrogte. *c 1300 Havelok* 1208 Man dos to fasting mikel wrang. *c 1330 Spec Gy Marr* 221 If man wole chese to don wrong *1372 in Kelso Liasses* (1908) 1 Þe child þoȝtte þat he dede him wrong. *c 1440 Pr wp Parv* 226 To do wrongs a þinge resone (*P* ayenst reason or i wel), *injurior, prej dico*. *1481 Caxton Reynard* xxvii (Arb.) 74 The lion ryght well doth noman wrong. *1550 Elyot Image Gov* 28 That he whiche hath done wrong, be compelled to make restitution. *1573 Tusser Husb* (1878) 87 Place doong heape a lyt . Where water all winter comes not to. *1600 Shakes Sonn* xl. 4 Loue his wrong is a greater wrong Than iniuries done vnto my selfe. *1609 Milton Lycidas* 102 As the king of England can do no wrong whilst he hath bishops to back his wrongs. *1737 Pope Hor, Ep* II ii 12 To say too much, might do my honour wrong. *1832 Scott Cast Dange* xiii, By which she had done wrong to many. *1879 Lewis Novels Mod Times* ii, Those cut out of more me from thy side, Nor human frailty do me wrong.

**† d.** *To have* (. . .) *wrong*, to suffer injustice, prejudice, or harm, to receive injury *Obs*

*c 1250 Gen & Ex* 2077 Iuil i haue ȝe wrong, quoþ pharaon, 'ȝu wapmen gaue lic leue to gon' *1303 R Brunne Handl Synne* 9582 Quite þe weyl oute of borghgarton, þe wich wrange þer hyt no wrange. *c 1400 Lantern of Light* 45 Glotenye drowneþ þe wittes of þe people till þat þei be vnresonable & kunnen not knowe whiche þei haue wrong. *c 1450 Merl's Bestiary* 1 Þo þo bay haue moche wrong, bay may not gete amendes. *1500 Lay Folys Lett BA* 626 He hi ut grete wr ng in certeyn ffyshes by the comens of Queenstre. *1560 Daus tr Sleidan's Comm* 1 Suche as think they haue wrong at his hande. *1627 Morison Itin* II 12 In their opinion he had wrong to be so charge l. *1681 Scott Armorie* v, He thinks he hath wrong, when he hath not. *1700 Dryden Pal & Arc* III 1020 Heaven will in person vindicate it. *1828 — F W Perth* x, I own you have had some wrong]

**3** In various prepositional phrases: **† a.** *With* or *mid* (. . .) *wrong*, wrongly, wrongfully, unjustly (Cf. 4) *Obs.* [Cf. ON. *með rongu* wrongly]

*1184 Chron Evesham* 1 Iohannes [i.e. Abbot Ioseph] heold his bro ker Rotbert mid wranga on heftinunge. *a 1200 Moral Ode* 290 (Lamb MS.), Þa þe leoddes þeines mid unrihtan and mid wrange. *c 1290 Beket* 859 in S. *Leg Eng* I 130 Me þunchiez with gret wrong he hadde fongoten þe king. *1338 R Brunne Chron* (1810) 110 Steuen stoore þat þe kyng, no non of his, sold chalange þat of fe, With wrong no with rigt i. *1400 Rom Rose* 7177 Þis wrongs person has þe lond in wrong. *1481 Caxton Reynard* xix (Arb.) 115 Suche false extorcioners oppresse the poure people with grete wrongs. *1611 Bible Prov* xxii 13 Wax vnto them that buildeth his chambers by wrong. *1855 Tennyson The Letters* 11 Then we met in wrath and wrong

**† b.** Claim, possession, or seizure that is unjustifiable or unwarranted on legal or moral grounds. Esp in phr. *with* or *† mid* (. . .) *wrong*. *Obs.*

*c 1205 Lay* 2270 For he o al mid wrange wineden of ure lonle. *c 1300 Havelok* 2806 Þat he wrike Hauelok [sc. the kingdom] of with mikel wrange. *a 1325 Gl Hartl Bestr* 520 for sli þ, þif he Eir mid wrange vsurpe þ he seisine of Þidere þ ru desseisine. *1375 Barbour Bruce* i 209 And gyff that ony ma thaim by Hd ony thing þai wes haue thi wrang, the wife or he. *c 1430 Lantern of Light* 45 Couetise of hem þat purchasen wiþ wrong her neiȝbours ground & her catel. *c 1450 Godstow Reg* ii 540 That þei neither for hym or in his right, myȝht neuer clayme ony thyng of right, or of chyme, or of wrongne, in the forsaid acre of lond. *1500 Spenser F Q* I iv 12 Proud Lucifera did vnrape with wrong and tyrannie Vpon the sceptre

**b** In the phr *by, in, †o*, or *† of* (. . .) *wrong*.

*a 1300 Cursor M* 28795 Vr lauerd receues nan Almus bat o [*v. r.* of] wrang es tan. *1398 in Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II 83 [He] hathe of his owne auctoryte and wronge enteryd into the premisus. *1548 Elyot, Turn wel inuenia*, by right or wronge. *1588 Kyd Housh Phil's* (1901) 278 Riches either miserably gotten or encreased by wrong. *1594 — Cornelia* v 430 Must I lose to see great Pompeys house Vsurpt in wrong by lawlesse Anthony? *1608 Cook On Litt* 181 Therefore no relation of an estate to a wrong can helpe him. *1729 Jacob Law Dict* s v *Right*, An Estate gain d by Wrong. *1828 Crusoe Digest* (ed 2) V 141 The defendants had done nothing to vest the freehold in them, either by right or by wrong

**5** With possessive pron. or genitive **† a.** Injustice, harm, or evil inflicted upon another or others; wrong doing *Obs.*

*c 1275 Duty of Christening* 19 in *O E Misc* 143 We schule to crenie greole And bidde myloe of vre wrong. *1303 R Brunne Handl Synne* 6430 Now we be ransum tore haue myseyd. And of þa wrong he hab vpbreyd 13 *E E Allit P* II 56 More to wyte in her wrange þen any wylle gentyl 14 *in Acts Parli Scot I* (1844) 232/2 Of a man grantand his awne wrang. *c 1440 Jacob's Well* xiii 84 Gramercy, Lord, of al þat eek mantifie My wronge. *1513 Douglas Æneid* v i 63 Sen Pallas meritt on Grekis tak sic wrink for Aynr Ollus wrang? *c 1600 Shake Sonn* xl, Loue knowes it is a greater griefe To beare loues wrong, then hates knowne iniury. *1632–8 Star Chamb Cases* (Camden) 168 He shall therefore pay 500*li* and make recognition of his fault and wr ng. *1642 J Maxwell Adopt conc Militia* 17 It is against the rule of l aw, that any man should take advant age of his owne wrong.

**b** Injury, hurt, harm, or prejudice received or sustained by a person or persons. Also in phr *to or † on one's (own) wrong*

*13 E E Allit P A* 15 Oft haf I wayted wyschande þat wele Pat wont was wyþe deuoyde my wrange. *1399 Langt Rich Redeles* Prol 23 Whom all þe londe loued, And not with him regarded for his owne wrongis. *1560 Sermon Wars Alert* 281^a As me is wa for þi wrong, & þi wrange bathe. *1580 Daus tr Sleidane's Comm* 57 b, It is not lawfull for anye Christian to reuenge his owne wronge. *1596 Spenser F Q* v viii 11 What meane ȝe thus rewiwise Vpon your selues anothers wrong to wreake? *1616 Drayton Poly-olb* ii 149 Then shall the Saxon and the Dane with every other s guest, Would needs be telling things exceeding all belief. *1656 H Phillips Purch Lett* (1676) 93 He will maintain his own wrong to the wrong of others. *1661 Hist Estates* 62 Armies and fleets redressed his wrong. *c 1740* Northbrooke in W S Perry *Hist C H Amer Col Ch* I 204 Be cautious how you dispose of the profits of your parsonage, least you pay it in your own wrong. *a 1768 Ossian Carric-thura* I 37 Like the Abilites of the Man, that uses t'em to his Neighbour's Wrong. *1820 Shelley Duppe* 8 Wail for the world's wrong! — *Ladies, I wish Mr. Mathews joy.* My words shook Heaven, Proclaiming vengeance, public as my wrong

*Ep* 1633 G Herbert *Temple, Sunne* iii, There it stands knocking, to thy musicks wrong, And drowns the song

**6** Physical hurt or harm caused to or sustained by some thing or person, treatment causing material injury or damage. (Cf 11.)

*1382 Wyclif Acts* xxvii 10 With wrong & myche harm of charge and schipp 13 kynneth seiling for to be *1398 Trevisa Barth De P* x xxxii (Bodl MS.), For be more e wetlise rayning and puttyng wronge and of hurtyng [of the marrow]. *c 1440 Pallad on Husb* x 2 In wanyng of Phebes be they iolonge, So may bit meest auayle and do leest wronge. *1573 Tusser Husb* (1878) 32 Light ladder and long doth tree leaue most wronge to the apple tree. *1618 Husb* 39 Flaxe the more wrong it suffereth the better doth it prouue. *1596 Spenser F Q* v iv 3 There before them stood a Coffer strong, That seem'd to haue suffred mickle wr ng. *1600 Chettle H ffman* iv (1631) H 2 b, A powder Iseing set on fire to suffocate each sence Without the right of w und (i t wrong) or hurt of any. *1707 Mem* (1907) II 262 Small forts t defend the merchants and their goods from wrong. *1726 Pope Odyss* xxi 429 Least time or worms had done their weapon [sc. a bow] wrong. *1873 A G Bradley Iceland* 144 Drinks dan the door boards wrang, An absent tenant canna see 3o.

**7.** *The wrong*, that which is wrong; the opposite of justice or equity, absence of right or fairness; unjust or wrongful action.

*a 1300 Cursor M* 17548 Pof it neuer haf lasted vua lang, A wat to wrenk he dos be wrang *c 1330 Spec Gy de Warw* 749 Here ȝe mowen se be wrong *1388 Wyclif Acts* vii 24 Moises dide vengiaunce for hym that suffride the wronge *1411 20 Pol Poems* 44 My sword shal abede be rist fro þe wrong *1513 Douglas Æneid* vi xii 25 Britus can revenge the wrong in his entre *1598 Barckley Felicitie* 131 And your fals glossing of the wrong Sall nocht mak yow to rax heir hals. *1671 Milton Samson* 1030 Capacity not rais'd to apprehend Or value what it best to them conduces, nor the wrong Or right discerns. *1832 Scott Cast Dange* iv, If the Scottish have not had the right upon their side, they have defended the wrong with the efforts of brave men *1861 Pearson Early & Mediæv Englishes* 337 *note*, If the wrong has been wholly on one side

**8** The fact or position of acting unjustly or indefensibly, the state of being wrong in respect of attitude, procedure, or belief (*Cf* 1*b*) **† a.** In the phr. *to have the wrong Obs.*

*a 1300 Cursor M* 6000 Pof he be wrang, And al pis wrak on me es lang. *c 1330 Amis & Amil* 908 The steward was so strong, And hadde the right and he [= Amis] the wrong. *13 Gawan Wager* (W) 2900 Thanne shal threttiten we Wha haue the wrang, the wife or he. *c 1430, 1828* [see Right *16* b].

**b** In the phr. *to be or put in the wrong*

*a 1400 Chron & Glouc* (Rolls) II 795 þou wolt þi soule to helle brenge, Vor þou ert in þe wrongke [*v. r.* wronge] *1489 Caxton Sonnes of Aymon* xiii 390 Ye knowe ye were in the wronge. *1513 Wyatt in Tullia Orig Lett Ser* I 174 Your Grace was in the right and he in the wronge. *1582 T Hony tr Castiglione's Courtier* ii. (1900) 186 Thinking that he himselfe had lone in the wronge. *1603 Shake Meas for M* v i 86 You are i' the wrong To speake before your time. *1700 T Brown Amusem. Ser & Com.* Wks 1730 III 92, I am in the wrong, I own it. *1795 Hutton Hist Birmingham* (ed. 3) 223 The authors I have seen are

all in the wrong 1849 Macaulay *Hist Eng* vii II. 266 He had now put himself in the wrong 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamilton* xi. I quarrelled with my last night. I was quite in the wrong 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 380 It puts Lord Tennyson so brutally in the wrong.

† **b.** *To give the wrong to*, to regard as being in the wrong. *Obs.*—1

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 558 They shall give the wronge and blamete the Troians, And to vs the loose.

**II 9** A wrongful, unjust, or unfair action; a violation or infringement of one's rights, an injury received or inflicted; a mischief. **a.** With *any, no, that, this*, etc.

1067–77 *Acc Lanfr* (Liebermann) I 486/1 Ic nelle gebolian, þet enig mon sow aenig wrang þ ode e c1290 *Beket* 230 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 123 Par of nolde he polien no wrong e 1330 *Arth & Merl* 1363 (Kölbing) Sif þ my wrake þu nowt, He wolt to drawe & to hong. c1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1008 Per with mene I fynally be peyne Fully to sles and euery wrong redresse. c1470 *Gregorius & Gaw.* 90 That nege wold wit with mere wrong, Of berne þat wes bourne 1481 Caxton *Reynard* ix. (Arb.) 19 That he myght auenge this our grete wronge 1508 Athynson tr *De Imitatione* III. lx. (1893) 239 If any man layde vnto hym a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. xiii. She reasoned to spende all her ye tres in bewaylinge the wrong, and yet praying for the wrongdoer 1601 Bible *Exodus* xxi. 21 If a man hurted or hit his neighbour for euery wrong 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 300 Thou thy self with scorne wouldst resent the offer'd wrong 1715 *Hope Hist. Ir.* 301 You Dream we be naught, resent that wrong This mighty tyrant were no tyrant long 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 95 All shall give account of ev'ry wrong, Who dare dishonour or defile the tongue! 1795–6 [see Wrong boots s.]. 1832 Tennyson *Lucretius & Lucile* 36 That each had suffer'd some exceeding wrong 1862 Shirley *Q. Skelton Nugæ Crit* x. 444 The wrong indeed was redressed, as far as redress was possible

**b** With *a* and pl

a c1300 *Cursor M* 6447 Quat thurn in rijt i þru wild be gett, In amale wanges pat þar war e1330 Harrowe *Pr. Conscr.* 5541 Alle þat be i-bolded be Falsschede and wranges c1400 *Destr Troy* 12616 God, þat wrangis in his wrathe writhe to ground 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 70 Quhen thow art old, and mis wrakis wrocht 1598 Dalrymple *Leslie's Hist Scot* II. 302 Quha war wounded or had gottin vthers wranges 1786 Burn *Author's Cry to Pepper* xii. Then cry to Saint Stephen's wran Auld Scotland's wranges 1828 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvii. We are for righting our in wrongs.

**b** 1303 R. Brunne *Hand Synne* 11154 God late hem neuer here soules leue þ no wronges bat pey chese ! 1382 Lanel. *P. Pl A* xi 11 As cloples þat C interfetep dis seiten and Compiret wronges 1442–[see Reddi sb 2 1] c1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 141 My bowelle sufferith pecyently wronges and contrarious thinges a1547 Surrey *Aneid* II. 867 May such a wrong passe from a father's mouth? 1822, etc. [see Not's Ques.] 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him sing his Wrongs 1794–6 Coleridge *Relig Musings* 306 The innumerable multitude of wrongs By man on man inflicted 1814 W R Skrimpr *Poems* II Thy wrongs his guilty soul shall sting 1879 Green *Short Hist* iv § 4 191 A wrong of brother against brother was also a wrong, at least the general body of the gild

**c** *Law.* An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass

1296 *Rolls of Parlt* III 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London (complayneth) . . of many wronges and vilties, and also open oppressiones c1400 *Brut* I. 265 He was at pe parlement at Wynchestre ? to haue amendede pe wronges and trespasses pat were done to pe pople 1424 *Acts Parlt Scotl* I (1844) 317 ? pe qubilk wrang was amuffyt betwen þem in le landis 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1) 128 they came to make their humble petition and seweet their greyys and wronges affonseid 1588 Jas VI in *3rd Rep Hist MSS Comm* 419/2 A pair men that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of law 1617 — in Halliwell *Lett Kings Eng* (1846) II 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds 1891 F Pollock *Nineteen Cent.* 259 The particular endeavouring such breaches of Priviledge should not take advantage of their own wrongs or tortious doings. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III v 88 wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species, private wrongs, and public wrongs. 1770 *Cases temp Hardwicke* 35 The declaration must have likewise as grafted on a wrong 1838 W Bell *Dict Law Scot* 458 Where there is reparation due on account of wrong suffered through gross carelessness 1888 Pollock in *Encycl Brit* XXIII 454 Civil wrongs for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/1 An actionable wrong

**d** In the phr *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (to or *unto* a person, or with dative).

c1330 *Sire Gyde Warw* (Pynk Penk Off ] e wrong and pe velle, þat men to Jesu Crist dede c1375 *Leg Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 666 þe wrange, þat to myn god is done a 1400 *Pauline Exp* (Powell) 2 *Cor* vii 12 Not for hym þat hym doo þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd 1538 ? Heywood *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I have done thee flies here among 1585 ? Washington *Nicholas's Voy* I. vii, The great wrong & iniuria that was done vnto him 1643 Cabyl *Yorks Joh* I 163 Only the creditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we have done the wrong 1817 *Mirr Pract Comm Court Scotl* III 345 She was the person who did the wrong 1828 Scott *I. M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him

**e.** Similarly with *a, any*, etc., or pl

1382 Wyclif *Matt* xx. 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. c1386 Chaucer *Melib.* ? 845 That ? is causeless han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me c1400 *Aiols Ai Bonal* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. 1479 *Paston Lett* III 267 Th enjuryes and wrongys done to John Paston 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Mace* iii. 12 That it were altogether vnpossible to do the wrong to them 1598 Shaks *Two Gent* II. vii 80 As those lou'st me, do him not that wrong. 1598 R. Hakes tr *Bodenus's Lett* (vol III) 28, I do not think I shall do you any wrong to send you a better companion. 1676 in *12th Rep Hist. MSS. Comm.* App V 30 The wrongs Lord Marshall doth him, and all the younger children 1823 *Nat Indelib gencer* (Washington, D C.) 29 July 2/3 The wrongs done us by the British government 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I x iv, I could not wrong her, for she would not do herself this great wrong 1861 Mill *Utilit* (1863) 73 In each case the supposition implies two things—a wrong done, and some assignable person who is wronged.

† **10.** An incorrect or improper procedure. *Obs.*

c1440 *Pallad on Husb.* VIII 53 The figure now teneye [*L. inscultura*] hit is no wronge In weet lond. *Ibid.* x. 3 The sone ek is no wronge Rather to do

† **11.** A physical or material injury, hurt, or damage. (Cf. 6) *Obs.*

1398 ? Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* xvii. cxvi (Tollem MS.) By ] e leues þa spaya is defendid agens colde and lote, and agens all wronge and vnkyndenesse 1440 *Pallad on Husb* I 339 Vf eme ferne hit wel That in the tre the morter do na wronge

**12** Something obtained or held wrongfully. *rare.*

c1440 *Jac's Well* 131 Perfore, restory þ stoore wrongis, & ceese out ] e wose of false cuccuwes ! *Ibid* 136 Soure ne is þanne exxcuysyn bou nowt fro dedely synne, but 3e kerne 3olde to hem 3oure wrong & 3oure wrang ]

**13.** *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *wrong-repentance, -righting; wrong-redresser, -righter*; also *wrong caused, incense I, -vexed*; *wrong proof* adj.

a 1580 Sidney *Ps* xxxv 5, Spreke thi ? ire me against wrong-righting Lord 1611 Cotgr., *Vengeur, a wrong-righter*, wi ich couldie recount their wrong caused sorow 1594 Shaks. *R. a Hill*, II. i. 53 These swelling wrongs incensed Peeres, and people 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvii, We are wrong-righters 1828 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvi, We are for righting our in wrongs.

**b** 1303 R. Brunne *Hand Synne* 11154 God late hem neuer here soules leue ? no wronges bat pey chese ! 1382 Lanel. *P. Pl A* xi 11 As cloples þat C interfetep dis seiten and Compiret wronges 1442– [see Reddi sb 2 1] c1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 141 My bowelle sufferith pecyently wronges and contrarious thinges a1547 Surrey *Aneid* II. 867 May such a wrong passe from a father's mouth? 1822, etc. [see Not's Ques.] 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him sing his Wrongs 1794–6 Coleridge *Relig Musings* 306 The innumerable multitude of wrongs By man on man inflicted 1814 W R Skrimpr *Poems* II Thy wrongs his guilty soul shall sting 1879 Green *Short Hist* iv § 4 191 A wrong of brother against brother was also a wrong, at least the general body of the gild

**c** *Law.* An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass

1296 *Rolls of Parlt* III 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London (complayneth) . . of many wronges and vilties, and also open oppressiones c1400 *Brut* I. 265 He was at pe parlement at Wynchestre ? to haue amendede pe wronges and trespasses pat were done to pe pople 1424 *Acts Parlt Scotl* I (1844) 317 ? pe qubilk wrang was amuffyt betwen þem in le landis 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1) 128 they came to make their humble petition and seweet their greyys and wronges affonseid 1588 Jas VI in *3rd Rep Hist MSS Comm* 419/2 A pair men that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of law 1617 — in Halliwell *Lett Kings Eng* (1846) II 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds 1891 F Pollock *Nineteen Cent.* 259 The particular endeavouring such breaches of Priviledge should not take advantage of their own wrongs or tortious doings. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III v 88 wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species, private wrongs, and public wrongs. 1770 *Cases temp Hardwicke* 35 The declaration must have likewise as grafted on a wrong 1838 W Bell *Dict Law Scot* 458 Where there is reparation due on account of wrong suffered through gross carelessness 1888 Pollock in *Encycl Brit* XXIII 454 Civil wrongs for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/1 An actionable wrong

**d** In the phr *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (to or *unto* a person, or with dative).

c1330 *Sire Gyde Warw* (Pynk Penk Off ] e wrong and pe velle, þat men to Jesu Crist dede c1375 *Leg Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 666 þe wrange, þat to myn god is done a 1400 *Pauline Exp* (Powell) 2 *Cor* vii 12 Not for hym þat hym doo þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd 1538 ? Heywood *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I have done thee flies here among 1585 ? Washington *Nicholas's Voy* I. vii, The great wrong & iniuria that was done vnto him 1643 Cabyl *Yorks Joh* I 163 Only the creditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we have done the wrong 1817 *Mirr Pract Comm Court Scotl* III 345 She was the person who did the wrong 1828 Scott *I. M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him

**e.** Similarly with *a, any*, etc., or pl

1382 Wyclif *Matt* xx. 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. c1386 Chaucer *Melib.* ? 845 That ? is causeless han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me c1400 *Aiols Ai Bonal* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. 1479 *Paston Lett* III 267 Th enjuryes and wrongys done to John Paston 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Mace* iii. 12 That it were altogether vnpossible to do the wrong to them 1598 Shaks *Two Gent* II. vii 80 As those lou'st me, do him not that wrong. 1598 R. Hakes tr *Bodenus's Lett* (vol III) 28, I do not think I shall do you any wrong to send you a better companion. 1676 in *12th Rep Hist. MSS. Comm.* App V 30 The wrongs Lord Marshall doth him, and all the younger children 1823 *Nat Indelib gencer* (Washington, D C.) 29 July 2/3 The wrongs done us by the British government 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I x iv, I could not wrong her, for she would not do herself this great wrong 1861 Mill *Utilit* (1863) 73 In each case the supposition implies two things—a wrong done, and some assignable person who is wronged.

† **10.** An incorrect or improper procedure. *Obs.*

c1440 *Pallad on Husb.* VIII 53 The figure now teneye [*L. inscultura*] hit is no wronge In weet lond. *Ibid.* x. 3 The sone ek is no wronge Rather to do

† **11.** A physical or material injury, hurt, or damage. (Cf. 6) *Obs.*

1398 ? Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* xvii. cxvi (Tollem MS.) By ] e leues þa spaya is defendid agens colde and lote, and agens all wronge and vnkyndenesse 1440 *Pallad on Husb* I 339 Vf eme ferne hit wel That in the tre the morter do na wronge

**12** Something obtained or held wrongfully. *rare.*

c1440 *Jac's Well* 131 Perfore, restory þ stoore wrongis, & ceese out ] e wose of false cuccuwes ! *Ibid* 136 Soure ne is þanne exxcuysyn bou nowt fro dedely synne, but 3e kerne 3olde to hem 3oure wrong & 3oure wrang ]

**13.** *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *wrong-repentance, -righting; wrong-redresser, -righter*; also *wrong caused, incense I, -vexed*; *wrong proof* adj.

a 1580 Sidney *Ps* xxxv 5, Spreke thi ? ire me against wrong-righting Lord 1611 Cotgr., *Vengeur, a wrong-righter*, wi ich couldie recount their wrong caused sorow 1594 Shaks. *R. a Hill*, II. i. 53 These swelling wrongs incensed Peeres, and people 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvii, We are wrong-righters 1828 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvi, We are for righting our in wrongs.

**Wrong** (rɒŋ), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1–5, 6– *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **wrang** (6, 9 **vrang**, 9 *north dial* **wrank**), 4–5 **wrange**. *B.* 3– **wrong** (3 **wronk**, 5 **wrong**), 4 **wrongc**; 3 *north. dial* **wrung**. [Late OE. *wrang*, a ON **wrangr*, **rangr* awry, unjust (Norw. *vrang rang*, Msw. *wranger* (Sw. *vrång*), (MDa *vrang*), = MLG *wrange, wrangh* sour, bitter, MDu *wrangh, wrange* bitter, unpleasant, hostile (Du. *wrang* acid, tart; whence WFris. *wrang*); related to Wring v.

The adoption of the word in the OE period is shown by its use as a surname, but by no examples of it. Examples are lacking, unless *on wrangum hylle* in a Berkshire document of 961, preserved only in a 12th century copy (? in rich *Cartul* I. 357), is to be regarded as original, and not representing the word. Early ME instances may occur in the following place names.

a 1153 in *Cowcher bk & Cartulall Abbey* (1904) 52 Confirmo dominibem terre quam ens fecerunt Rogerus de Wrtu gehr c et Henricus Walensis. 1167 *8 Pipe Rolls Hen. II*, 56 Pro murdro in Wrongedechhundred [in Rutland]. 1198 *Pipe Rolls* (Pipe) 24 terra in eadem villa [in Suffolk] e ad Wrangaker [sic], et i rodam.]

**A.** *adj* I **†1** a. Having a crooked or curved course, form, or direction; twisted or bent in shape or contour; wry

c1000 ? Ælfric *Gram* All þatt ohht is wrang & crumb Shall effnedd beon & rihhtedd *Hrd* 9653 c1200 *Bestiary* 78 His [*sc.* the eagle's] bec is bet biforn wrong [a1258 in *Cartul Mon. Kirkestan* (Rolls) 1. 355 I ulbocfurlonges] Wy ongel stane, Wyhlakeswrang 1388 Wyclif *Lev* xxi. 19 A man [that] is ether of hid either of greet, and wrong [L. *vitiosus*] 1426 ? Lyd *De Guil Pilg* 198/6 The crookyd staf and the wrong 1440 *Promp Parv.* 529/1 Wrong, or wrye wronge or wrothe, *distortus* a1470 ? Harley *Dreds & Pauper* viii xv (1493) Fu, The bowes is made of ii thynges, Of a wronge tree, and a right stryngge. *Ibid.* ? *Pauper* xc 81 *Scyd Lady.* ? 1502 ] e cocatryce hath many teth cr kyd and wronge 1611 Cotgr., *Gauche*, left, left handed, wrong, sinister, awry 1613 *Sir Thos Overbury* 114 Her IV 123 Those acres I rode wrangland, stinting att the streete, lying between six narrow wrianglandes, towrds the north and one narrow wrangland towardes the south.

*fig.* 1340 *Ayenb* 159 Yef ] e onderstandinge is wrong, oþer yef be tuystep oþer wyl went, al ] e inwyt asel by piestro and þe hoap of virtues.

† **b** Marked by deviation, deflected *Obs.*

c1440 *Promp Parv.* 197/1 Glwynge, or wex wronge or wrelinge, *ex vexilie, obliquo Ibid* 534/1 Wronge, or vre longe, *oblongus*

**2.** Of persons. Mis-shapen; deformed. Latterly *dial*

c1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* III xxx (1869) 152 Bostows ] am, and halinge, and wronge. To the vnly ] go hippinge 1787 Grose *Prov Gloss*, *Wrong* crooked A wrong man or woman. *Nouf* a 1825 Forby *Voc E Anglia*, *Wrong*, deformed; misshapen in person

**II. 3.** Of actions, etc: Deviating from equity, justice, or goodness; not morally right or equitable; unjust, perverse Also absol.

a a 1300 *Cursor M* 16498, I sal me seluen on me wreck For þis matchandis wrang 13 *E. E. Allit P* C 384 Wepende ful wunderly alle his wronge dedes. c1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc* 5904 Alle his wrang haldynge of gudes aere c1400 *Lude Ut Heuet* (Verse) 208 For wit pou wel, þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome, Alle be wrang and be wrange dedes þat þai haue wroght 1422 *Autors of Arth* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene here in werre, with a wrang wille 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 12 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve 1786 *Hist at Ang* civ, The feeling time does now begin Now, tho they're a ! ether mist, There's naething wrang 1822 Scott *Nigel* II. i, Nothing there was naething wrang in standing up for the auld country's credit

**b** a 1275 *Prov Alfred* ll. 456 ] e woke gunne þu coueren, þe wronke gunne þu rihten and ille ] o amenden c1330 *Will Palerne* 4582 Alle þe werre & þis wo on our wronge dedes 1388 Wyclif *Lev* xix 13 Thow shalt not do wronge ellenge to thi neighbor c1425 *Cursor M* 22256 (Fairf.), Amicitie shal him shewe in þo dedes his werkes wrange to fulfille c1440 *York Mysts* xxxv 26 S. þat oure werkyng be noght wronge 1538 Coverdale *Hab* ! 4 This is the cause, y^ wronge is suffred exceadeth 1579 Lupton *Sheph Kal* May 100 So often times and brode is meant, Full enuieth of wrong entent 1620 T. Paston *Glasse of Time* I 50 That none by wrong oppression shall be cross'd, by wrestling guile 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* II xxvi. 144 A wrong Sentence giuen by authority of the Soveraign 1704 Swift *T. Tub* Auth. 8 With the wrongest Intents attempts in nature to turn into ridicule a work which had cost so much time 1728 Vanbrugh & Cib *Provok Husb* III, When a sad wrong word is rising just to one's tongue's end, I swallow it 1783 *Hist Ir. Parlt* (1834) I 348 If the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wrong ger thing 1853 Miss Yonge *Heir of Redclyffe* II. 1 Guilt and shame her mind to consider that anything could be wrong that Philip desired 1861 Mill *Utilit* (1863) 9 [that] creed holds that acts are wrong in proportion as they tend to produce the reverse of happiness 1878 Jevons *Pol Econ* 65 There is nothing morally wrong in a strike when properly conducted

**b.** In the phrase *it is* (*would be*, etc.) *wrong to* (do some thing).

1596 Spenser *Hymn Heav Love* 180 Had he required life of vs againe, Had it been wrong to aske his owne with graine? 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 113 It is wrong Among mine a mist resort What makes some sick. 1857 Borrow *Romany Rye* xlii, I confess it was wr ng in me to interrupt you 1879 M Carthy *Donna Q* I. 1 Was it wrong of me to try and so produce the reverse of happiness? 1878 Jevons *Pol Econ* 65 There is nothing morally wrong in a strike when properly conducted

**b.** In the phrase *it is* (*would be*, etc.) *wrong to* (do some thing).

1596 Spenser *Hymn Heav Love* 180 Had he required life of vs againe, Had it been wrong to aske his owne with graine? 1781 Cowper *Conversat* 113 It is wrong Among mine a mist resort What makes some sick. 1857 Borrow *Romany Rye* xlii, I confess it was wr ng in me to interrupt you 1879 M Carthy *Donna Q* I. 1 Was it wrong of me to try and so produce the reverse of happiness? 1878 Jevons *Pol Econ* 65 There is nothing morally wrong in a strike when properly conducted

**4** Of persons. Deviating from integrity, rectitude, or probity; doing or prone to do that which is evil, noxious, or unjust, opprobrious, vicious.

a 1300 *Cursor M* 19698, I sal me seluen on me wreck For þis matchandis wrang 13 *E. E. Allit P* C 384 Wepende ful wunderly alle his wronge dedes. c1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc* 5904 Alle his wrang haldynge of gudes aere c1400 *Lude Ut Heuet* (Verse) 208 For wit pou wel, þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome, Alle be wrang and be wrange dedes þat þai haue wroght 1422 *Autors of Arth* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene here in werre, with a wrang wille 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 12 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve 1786 *Hist at Ang* civ, The feeling time does now begin Now, tho they're a ! ether mist, There's naething wrang 1822 Scott *Nigel* II. i, Nothing there was naething wrang in standing up for the auld country's credit

**b** a 1275 *Prov Alfred* ll. 456 ] e woke gunne þu coueren, þe wronke gunne þu rihten and ille ] o amenden c1330 *Will Palerne* 4582 Alle þe werre & þis wo on our wronge dedes 1388 Wyclif *Lev* xix 13 Thow shalt not do wronge ellenge to thi neighbor c1425 *Cursor M* 22256 (Fairf.), Amicitie shal him shewe in þo dedes his werkes wrange to fulfille c1440 *York Mysts* xxxv 26 S. þat oure werkyng be noght wronge 1538 Coverdale *Hab* ! 4 This is the cause, y^ wronge is suffred exceadeth 1579 Lupton *Sheph Kal* May 100 So often times and brode is meant, Full enuieth of wrong entent 1620 T. Paston *Glasse of Time* I 50 That none by wrong oppression shall be cross'd, by wrestling guile 1651 Hobbes *Leviath* II xxvi. 144 A wrong Sentence giuen by authority of the Soveraign 1704 Swift *T. Tub* Auth. 8 With the wrongest Intents attempts in nature to turn into ridicule a work which had cost so much time 1728 Vanbrugh & Cib *Provok Husb* III, When a sad wrong word is rising just to one's tongue's end, I swallow it 1783 *Hist Ir. Parlt* (1834) I 348 If the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wrong ger thing 1853 Miss Yonge *Heir of Redclyffe* II. 1 Guilt and shame her mind to consider that anything could be wrong that Philip desired 1861 Mill *Utilit* (1863) 9 [that] creed holds that acts are wrong in proportion as they tend to produce the reverse of happiness 1878 Jevons *Pol Econ* 65 There is nothing morally wrong in a strike when properly conducted

**c** *Law.* An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass

1296 *Rolls of Parlt* III 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London (complayneth) . . of many wronges and vilties, and also open oppressiones c1400 *Brut* I. 265 He was at pe parlement at Wynchestre ? to haue amendede pe wronges and trespasses pat were done to pe pople 1424 *Acts Parlt Scotl* I (1844) 317 ? pe qubilk wrang was amuffyt betwen þem in le landis 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1) 128 they came to make their humble petition and seweet their greyys and wronges affonseid 1588 Jas VI in *3rd Rep Hist MSS Comm* 419/2 A pair men that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of law 1617 — in Halliwell *Lett Kings Eng* (1846) II 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds 1891 F Pollock *Nineteen Cent.* 259 The particular endeavouring such breaches of Priviledge should not take advantage of their own wrongs or tortious doings. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III v 88 wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species, private wrongs, and public wrongs. 1770 *Cases temp Hardwicke* 35 The declaration must have likewise as grafted on a wrong 1838 W Bell *Dict Law Scot* 458 Where there is reparation due on account of wrong suffered through gross carelessness 1888 Pollock in *Encycl Brit* XXIII 454 Civil wrongs for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/1 An actionable wrong

**d** In the phr *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (to or *unto* a person, or with dative).

c1330 *Sire Gyde Warw* (Pynk Penk Off ] e wrong and pe velle, þat men to Jesu Crist dede c1375 *Leg Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 666 þe wrange, þat to myn god is done a 1400 *Pauline Exp* (Powell) 2 *Cor* vii 12 Not for hym þat hym doo þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd 1538 ? Heywood *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I have done thee flies here among 1585 ? Washington *Nicholas's Voy* I. vii, The great wrong & iniuria that was done vnto him 1643 Cabyl *Yorks Joh* I 163 Only the creditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we have done the wrong 1817 *Mirr Pract Comm Court Scotl* III 345 She was the person who did the wrong 1828 Scott *I. M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him

**e.** Similarly with *a, any*, etc., or pl

1382 Wyclif *Matt* xx. 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. c1386 Chaucer *Melib.* ? 845 That ? is causeless han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me c1400 *Aiols Ai Bonal* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. 1479 *Paston Lett* III 267 Th enjuryes and wrongys done to John Paston 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Mace* iii. 12 That it were altogether vnpossible to do the wrong to them 1598 Shaks *Two Gent* II. vii 80 As those lou'st me, do him not that wrong. 1598 R. Hakes tr *Bodenus's Lett* (vol III) 28, I do not think I shall do you any wrong to send you a better companion. 1676 in *12th Rep Hist. MSS. Comm.* App V 30 The wrongs Lord Marshall doth him, and all the younger children 1823 *Nat Indelib gencer* (Washington, D C.) 29 July 2/3 The wrongs done us by the British government 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I x iv, I could not wrong her, for she would not do herself this great wrong 1861 Mill *Utilit* (1863) 73 In each case the supposition implies two things—a wrong done, and some assignable person who is wronged.

† **10.** An incorrect or improper procedure. *Obs.*

c1440 *Pallad on Husb.* VIII 53 The figure now teneye [*L. inscultura*] hit is no wronge In weet lond. *Ibid.* x. 3 The sone ek is no wronge Rather to do

† **11.** A physical or material injury, hurt, or damage. (Cf. 6) *Obs.*

1398 ? Trevisa *Barth De P. R.* xvii. cxvi (Tollem MS.) By ] e leues þa spaya is defendid agens colde and lote, and agens all wronge and vnkyndenesse 1440 *Pallad on Husb* I 339 Vf eme ferne hit wel That in the tre the morter do na wronge

**12** Something obtained or held wrongfully. *rare.*

c1440 *Jac's Well* 131 Perfore, restory þ stoore wrongis, & ceese out ] e wose of false cuccuwes ! *Ibid* 136 Soure ne is þanne exxcuysyn bou nowt fro dedely synne, but 3e kerne 3olde to hem 3oure wrong & 3oure wrang ]

**13.** *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *wrong-repentance, -righting; wrong-redresser, -righter*; also *wrong caused, incense I, -vexed*; *wrong proof* adj.

a 1580 Sidney *Ps* xxxv 5, Spreke thi ? ire me against wrong-righting Lord 1611 Cotgr., *Vengeur, a wrong-righter*, wi ich couldie recount their wrong caused sorow 1594 Shaks. *R. a Hill*, II. i. 53 These swelling wrongs incensed Peeres, and people 1818 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvii, We are wrong-righters 1828 Scott *Hrt Midl* xxxvi, We are for righting our in wrongs.

**b** 1303 R. Brunne *Hand Synne* 11154 God late hem neuer here soules leue ? no wronges bat pey chese ! 1382 Lanel. *P. Pl A* xi 11 As cloples þat C interfetep dis seiten and Compiret wronges 1442– [see Reddi sb 2 1] c1450 *Myrr our Ladye* 141 My bowelle sufferith pecyently wronges and contrarious thinges a1547 Surrey *Aneid* II. 867 May such a wrong passe from a father's mouth? 1822, etc. [see Not's Ques.] 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg* IV 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him sing his Wrongs 1794–6 Coleridge *Relig Musings* 306 The innumerable multitude of wrongs By man on man inflicted 1814 W R Skrimpr *Poems* II Thy wrongs his guilty soul shall sting 1879 Green *Short Hist* iv § 4 191 A wrong of brother against brother was also a wrong, at least the general body of the gild

**c** *Law.* An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass

1296 *Rolls of Parlt* III 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London (complayneth) . . of many wronges and vilties, and also open oppressiones c1400 *Brut* I. 265 He was at pe parlement at Wynchestre ? to haue amendede pe wronges and trespasses pat were done to pe pople 1424 *Acts Parlt Scotl* I (1844) 317 ? pe qubilk wrang was amuffyt betwen þem in le landis 1518 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1) 128 they came to make their humble petition and seweet their greyys and wronges affonseid 1588 Jas VI in *3rd Rep Hist MSS Comm* 419/2 A pair men that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of law 1617 — in Halliwell *Lett Kings Eng* (1846) II 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds 1891 F Pollock *Nineteen Cent.* 259 The particular endeavouring such breaches of Priviledge should not take advantage of their own wrongs or tortious doings. 1768 Blackstone *Comm* III v 88 wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species, private wrongs, and public wrongs. 1770 *Cases temp Hardwicke* 35 The declaration must have likewise as grafted on a wrong 1838 W Bell *Dict Law Scot* 458 Where there is reparation due on account of wrong suffered through gross carelessness 1888 Pollock in *Encycl Brit* XXIII 454 Civil wrongs for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/1 An actionable wrong

**d** In the phr *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (to or *unto* a person, or with dative).

c1330 *Sire Gyde Warw* (Pynk Penk Off ] e wrong and pe velle, þat men to Jesu Crist dede c1375 *Leg Saints* vi (*Thomas*) 666 þe wrange, þat to myn god is done a 1400 *Pauline Exp* (Powell) 2 *Cor* vii 12 Not for hym þat hym doo þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd 1538 ? Heywood *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I have done thee flies here among 1585 ? Washington *Nicholas's Voy* I. vii, The great wrong & iniuria that was done vnto him 1643 Cabyl *Yorks Joh* I 163 Only the creditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we have done the wrong 1817 *Mirr Pract Comm Court Scotl* III 345 She was the person who did the wrong 1828 Scott *I. M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. 1883 D. C. Murray *Hearts* xxviii In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him

**e.** Similarly with *a, any*, etc., or pl

1382 Wyclif *Matt* xx. 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. c1386 Chaucer *Melib.* ? 845 That ? is causeless han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me c1400 *Aiols Ai Bonal* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. 1479 *Paston Lett* III 267 Th enjuryes and wrongys done to John Paston 1560 Bible (Genev.)

**II. 3.** Of actions, etc: Deviating from equity, justice, or goodness; not morally right or equitable; unjust, perverse Also absol.

a a 1300 *Cursor M* 16498, I sal me seluen on me wreck For þis matchandis wrang 13 *E. E. Allit P* C 384 Wepende ful wunderly alle his wronge dedes. c1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc* 5904 Alle his wrang haldynge of gudes aere c1400 *Lude Ut Heuet* (Verse) 208 For wit pou wel, þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome, Alle be wrang and be wrange dedes þat þai haue wroght 1422 *Autors of Arth* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene here in werre, with a wrang wille 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 12 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve 1786 *Hist at Ang* civ, The feeling time does now begin Now, tho they're a ! ether mist, There's naething wrang 1822 Scott *Nigel* II. i, Nothing there was naething wrang in standing up for the auld country's credit

**b** a 1300 *Cursor M* 19698, I sal me seluen on me wreck For þis matchandis wrang 13 *E. E. Allit P* C 384 Wepende ful wunderly alle his wronge dedes. c1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc* 5904 Alle his wrang haldynge of gudes aere c1400 *Lude Ut Heuet* (Verse) 208 For wit pou wel, þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome, Alle be wrang and be wrange dedes þat þai haue wroght 1422 *Autors of Arth* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene here in werre, with a wrang wille 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 12 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve 1786 *Hist at Ang* civ, The feeling time does now begin Now, tho they're a ! ether mist, There's naething wrang 1822 Scott *Nigel* II. i, Nothing there was naething wrang in standing up for the auld country's credit

**II. 3.** Of actions, etc: Deviating from equity, justice, or goodness; not morally right or equitable; unjust, perverse Also absol.

a a 1300 *Cursor M* 16498, I sal me seluen on me wreck For þis matchandis wrang 13 *E. E. Allit P* C 384 Wepende ful wunderly alle his wronge dedes. c1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc* 5904 Alle his wrang haldynge of gudes aere c1400 *Lude Ut Heuet* (Verse) 208 For wit pou wel, þat þai sal cum To reknyng on þe day of dome, Alle be wrang and be wrange dedes þat þai haue wroght 1422 *Autors of Arth* 421 (Douce MS.), Þou has wonene here in werre, with a wrang wille 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xc 12 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve 1786 *Hist at Ang* civ, The feeling time does now begin Now, tho they're a ! ether mist, There's naething wrang 1822 Scott *Nigel* II. i, Nothing there was naething wrang in standing up for the auld country's credit

**b** a 1275 *Prov Alfred* ll. 456 ] e woke gunne þu co

CHAMBERS *Cycl* (1751) s.v *Errour*, Some philosophers define error [as] a wrong judgment, disagreeing with the things whereon it is passed 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Misconception* a wrong understanding or apprehending of any thing 1805 WILLIAMS *Mem. M Henry* 304 A wrong date is assigned to the delivery of this Sermon 1872 I. R. FANU *Rose & Key* II 27 Her watch being seldom more than twenty minutes wrong, either way 1884 T. *Edwards Logic* 370 An allegation

if wrong deviates more or less from the truth 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 1 There is something wrong in this, dear do not stand up to be shot down that way

**c** Of belief, etc Partaking of or based on error, erroneous

c 1400 *Aule St Benet* (Prose) 42 Pat pai ne falle in wrong trouȝ 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, *I*, iii 31 Marry, for that she's in a wrong beleefe I goe to certifie her Talbot's here. 1656 CHARNY *On Death of Cockburn* 56 His Faith perhaps in some nice Tenents might be wrong, but Life was in the right 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III 306 For Modes of Faith let graceless zeal fix right; His can't be wrong whose life is in the right 1755 JOHNSON, *Misbelief*, false religion, a wrong belief

**6** Not right or satisfactory in state or order, in unsatisfactory or bad condition amiss

*What's wrong with* (colloq.), what is the matter with (see MATTER *sb.* 25 b), what objection is there to, why is it have (it)?

a 1425 tr. *Ard rnes Treat Fistula*, etc 58 Also flowing emonge der somty ne ne humour, but of som bat ar deuell to be dissentersiker and yuely wrong 1450 *Mirk de Festis* (1868) 80 Whyt aylithe you? ȝ trow there be sum thinge wronge with you 1548 *Godly Medit.* in *Ps.* 118 If a thyng wrong be, Soyne is ye wrok 1597 *Satir. Poems Reform* IV 131 In thy default se that na thing be wrang 1598 *Hyde of Auchtermuchty* 133 (Hunt. MS.) Sch fynd all wrang, that vwdd rane nane, Ane Cowhyrd *Lykit* 200 Pay is bussed all night long In getting right wt at faction hes set wrong 1793 [I. AIT DUNDAS] *Dear Estate of Culross* 16 We shall never get right till we set it the wrong as we can 1844 St. M. *Romances*, xv, "Something wrong here, said the traveller, pointing to his own forehead significantly 1858-[see PAYN] *Lost Sir Massingberd* II, ix, You see it might put us wrong with our son in law 1860 A. LEIGHTON *Trad Sc. Life* 52 Nothing wrong with Mrs. Greene, I hope? 1868 A. *Trollope Claverings* xxiv, Now, I want to know what's wrong with a game of bridge?

**b** *Turf* Of a horse: Held in check so as to cause him to lose the race

1889 *Sportsman Tues* 29 June (Farmer) Isabel and Maudie knew the Turf and all its ins-and-outs—they had often blewed a dollar on a wrong un

**c** (see quot)

1895 BURNS *Dict Phrase & Fable* 1325 *A wrong 'un*, a horse which has run at any flat race meeting not recognised by the Jockey Club

**7.** Not adapted, according, or answering to intention, requirement, or purpose; not proper, fitting, or appropriate, unsuitable +Also *const to.*

a 1440 *Bk Curtasye* 90 in *Babees Bk* 300 Yf hur be wrang throte into, And stoppe by wynde 1440 *Pallad on Husb* xii 109 Kitte of euery roten thyng or tree, For grene of that me kitte of is wronge 1514 BARCLAY *Cit & Uplondisshman* (Per 3 Soc) 11 That I was no cocke To laye wronge egges within a straunge nest 1549 *Compl Scotl* x 83 He nuris i serpent in to the wrang sent 1550, 1560 [see WORST *sb.*] 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III i 15 I haue directed you to wrong places 1598 B. JONSON *Ev Man in Hum* II i He claps his dish at the wrong man's elbow 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I 97 Which if you thinke to make me y^e first example he will find he has fixed upon a wrong man 1698 FRYER *Acc E. India & P.* 126 They bought me to the wrong side of a pretty large Bank or Well 1708 PHILIPS *Cyder* 1. 63 To *Mis-represent* not to represent fairly to give a wrong or false character of 1727 BAILEY (vol II) *Misplace* to put in a wrong Place 1737 [see WRONGNESS] a 1778 Lady *Anne* (Wks 1794) IV 152 To put your hand into the wrong pocket 1793 W. ROBERTS *Lounger on* No 38 (1794) II 60 Has was the wrong man that could be chosen 1821 LAMB *Elia: Mrs battle* An adversary, who has slipt a wrong (playing) card 1836-9 DICKENS *Sk. Bos., Scenes* xviii Showing the old and bringing out the wrong hose 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xl The fatal step of choosing the wrong profession 1884 F. YATES *Accell* II 67 Never did a man so persistently do the wrong thing in the wrong place.

**b** In various allusive phrases (see quots. and BARK *sb.*1 2 Box *sb.*2 21, SHOP *sb.* 8 b, SOW *sb.*1 3)

1554 RIDLEY in *Foxe A & M* (1563) 939/2 If you wil heare how Nine Augustie expounded that place, ye shal perceaue that they are in a wrong boxe 1588 J. HEYWOOD *Prov & Epigr* II ix (1867) 75 Ye tooke the wrong sow by theire tayle *Withals Dict* 582 Ye haue taken the wrong sow by the eare 1604 *Dekker & Chetham*, you have lyne your Cone to a wrong market. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœm* 7 You bring your hogs to a wrong market 1761 *Test Rege* II 440 You'd have sworn I had got the wrong peg by the ear 1833 JAS. HALL *Tr. West* 46 You are barking at the wrong tree 1 JOHNSON 1836 DICKENS *Sk. bos, Tales* xii Does he want money? meat? drink? He's come to the wrong shop for it, if he does 1847 CURRER BELL (Mrs. Trotter) *Gold Gossip* 190 Ye've got the wrong sow by the lug this time 1887 *Daily News* 4 March (*F.*) The now well quoted phrase of Lord Salisbury's, 'we put all our money upon the wrong horse' 1907 *N & Q* 29 Jan 46 2 You will find yourself in the wrong shop! it is a vague threat

**c.** *The wrong end*, the end, extremity, or limit less adapted, suitable, or proper for a required or particular purpose. Occas *fig* Also quasi-*adv* (quot 1897)

1587 J. NORDBOWNE tr *Heliodorus* VI (1895) 167 Calasiris carried C. riclias quiuer, the wrong ende downeward on his shoulders 1600 *Sir Arthur Parmore* III iii 1573 My master then turning the wrong end of the bolte vpward 1690 LOCKE *Hum Und* III xi § 24 They begin at the wrong end, learning Words first 1852 R. I. LEYPARCE *Fables* (1897) 147 In a Vain Repentance Minds us of it at the Wrong End on it 1737 [see GO v 1 c] 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII iv 85 I has was setting up the trade of a steward, but beginning at the wrong end 1856 [HOOTON] *Bickerry Auckland* III 250 He looked prodigiously cruel, having, as our country folks term it, got out of bed the wrong end first 1878 [see END *sb.* 24] 1886 KING TOM QUIPHANT *Penn's English* I 491 We talk of the wrong end of the stick 1890- [see STICK *sb.*1 14 e] 1897 KIPLING *Capt Courageous* 25 Patent rockets that went off wrong end first. 1900 S. R. WHITE *Black Dwarf* xxxii, Daly knew men. He was at the wrong end of the whip

d *Lytpg* Not of the proper size, character, or face. Freq in *wrong fount* (abbrev *wf*); also *attrib.*

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist Printing* 444 Letters that are of a wrong Pount 1808 STOWER *Printers Grammar* 216 Plate, The Exemplification of 13 pographical Marks Set Stal. wrf 1898 *Month & Mack Printer* Sept. 1 Chese the every man the wrong sole out 1604 — *Oth* II iii 54 My uncke Foole Roderigo, Whom Loue hath turn'd almost the wrong side out 1615 SOUTH *Serm* (1717) V 60 For it will find that if ever an other Turn befals the Nation, it will be the Wrongside outwards, the Lowest Uppermost 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv His hat was on wrong side before 1883 MARK TWAIN *Life on Mississippi* iv 68 We all struggled frantically into our clothes getting them wrong side out and upside down as a rule 1888 J. S. WINTER *Bootle's Childr.* iv, Having hard to cut the orange behind the finger of the glove which would go on wrong side out

**e** Phrases: *To laugh on the wrong side of one's mouth* (see LAUGH *v* 1 b), *on the wrong side of the blankets* (see BLANKET *sb.* 3).

1714 *Lu as Gamester* 63 He that has laugh'd, 'twas on the wrong side of his Mouth 1772, etc (see BLANKET *sb.* 3) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I VII 87, I began to laugh and sing, though it was sometimes on the wrong side of my mouth 1820 SCOTT *Monast* XXXIII Shafton, men says, was a kin to the Fiercie on the wrong side of the blanket 1837 CARLYLE *Diamond Ne klace* II, By and by those will laugh on the wrong side of their mouths 1885 [see LAUGH *v* 1 b]

**8.** The side, parts, or principle of which one disapproves

1649 [see RIGHT *a* 20 b] 1784 COWPER *Task* 740 Because smooth thy courage has been tried And stood the test perhaps on the wrong side 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* III i, He could argue on the wrong side of any question with an acuteness [etc]

**9** *On the wrong side of*, older than (a specified age); upwards of. (Cf SHADY *a* 2 b)

a 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd* V ii (1664) 140 She is smitten in years o'th wrong side of forty 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Jobbes* ccvi 306 An Old Man on the wrong side of Four score 1728 SWIFT *Vind Sacheverell* Wks 1755 II 1 They had passed their Prime and got on the wrong side of Thirty 1773 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I 220 He is on the wrong side of an elderly man, but a very handsome one 1828 FITTEN *Pelham* III xx, Am I to look like a methodist parson on the wrong side of forty? 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* V 290 A good looking woman, a little on the wrong side of thirty, perhaps.

**f.** The disadvantageous, undesirable, or unsafe *side of* some place, object, etc.

1719 *Dy Voy Cruz* II (Globe) 191 We were on the wrong side of the Straits of Magellan 1728 *Morning Ch. Pasture. Husb* IV i, He takes me into the lobby [to vote]: but I was got o the wrong side the post 1791- [see POST *sb.*1 8 II 1792 'G. GRAHAME' *Birth-day* (1801) 8, [The horse] has got an awkward trick of leaving the other two on the wrong side of the fence. 1814 SCOTT *Wav* X, His grandsire was in front of the battle on the wrong side 1893 MRS. CROMONDELEY *Dianna Tempest* I, The poor meagre home in a dingy street on the wrong side of Oxford Street

1850, 1908 VANBRUGH & C. *Prov Husb* I ii To Wet or got a little on the wrong side of the Question 1783 COWPER *Ode to Apollo* 2 Patrons call those luckless brains, That, to the wrong side leaning, Incline much more 1862 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Scot Life* Sc II 69 I think he would not speak to his wife on this the wrong side of eternity 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I ii 38 For love, I think of that is dead men of yd days To the wrong side of earth wot have been

**g** *To get up or out of bed (on) the wrong side*, with allusion to the supposed disturbing effect on one's temper. (Cf. RIGHT *a.* 20 c) *colloq*

1801 *Marvellous Love Story* I 167 You have got up on the wrong side, this morning, George 1880 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S.* x Mina had got out of bed the wrong side 1887 [see GET *v* 65a]

**11.** Of persons, etc: **a.** Judging, believing, or acting contrary to the facts of the case; incorrect in judgement, erroneous, mistaken, in error

1693 LOCKE *Educ* Wks 1714 II 15 His Practice must by no means err on his Precepts, unless he intend to set him wrong 1735 POPE *Prol to Sat* 158 Did some more sober Critic come abroad; If wrong I smile; if right, I kiss the rod 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1978) III 270, And I own I am wrong 1799 S. & H. LEE *Canterb Tales* (1799) I 61 I thought my husband was wrong, I was right 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Human Life* (1826) v. Concl If I am wrong in this 1836 [see *Duchess de la Vallière* III iii, I was not wrong in the sentence, But wrong to give it utterance] 1873 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) I. 371 I should be very wrong not to obey you

**b.** Not normal or sound in the senses, etc; not sane

1765 SIR J. PORTER in 10th *Rep Hist MSS C* 1mm App I 381 Any suspicion that he was wrong in his senses 1835 D. WEMYSS *Orig Sc Rhymes* 11 (E. D. D.), This maid that is was wrang in the mind 1881 D. THOMSON *Musings* 54 I never will laugh at yer lovers, An think ye are wrang in the head

**III** †**12** That has no legal right, title, or claim, not legitimate; unlawful; = WRONGFUL *a* 3 b *Obs*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 2026 3if a womman yn

hordam de swyche outrage Bat a wrong cyre bere herytage. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 682 There were..Wrong vaurpers, with grat extorcioners. 1498 Sir G. HAVE *Laws of Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 In the quhilk tyme the trayrous Romayns maid thre wrang papis. 1560 CAGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 225 Merry the wrong Kyng of Spayn. *a* 1586 MAITLAND in *H. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) 428 Fray god degressouris and wrang possessouris, repent sail 30.

†**b.** *Wrong-heir*, the hermit-crab. *Obs.*

1570 S. DALE *Taylor's Hist. Harwich* 436 The Wrong-Heirs or Bernard the Hermit. 1894 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 155 The hermit crab..takes up its abode in univalve shells which it finds empty; hence has been named *Wrong heir.*

**13.** Marked or characterized by illegality; not legally valid.

1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 459 pe chighewardens kepen hit still be wronge possession and sett hit to ferme yerely. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 109 Be thy Title right or wrong, Lord Clifford vowes to fight in thy defence.

†**b.** Obtained unjustly; held unlawfully. *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Regation Week* 524 God neuer suffereth the thirde heyre to enioye his fathers wrong possessions.

†**14.** False; fictitious; unreal. *Obs. rare*—1.

*c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 706 For sobe, ich am a mad man now, wel ich may knowe, Forto wene in pis wise pis wrong met-yng so3he.

†**15.** Belonging to, situated on, the left side. *Obs. rare.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1480 Wrothely one the wrange hande sir Gawayne he strykes. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 58 Because the tent of Tullius Hostilius lamit in pe romane landis on pare richt handis, pai turnit pame on pare wrang handis.

**IV.** *Comb.* **16.** Parasynthetic, as *wrong-ended* (see **7** c; hence *wrong-endedness*), *wrong-hearted* (hence *wrong-heartedness*), *-haired*, *-jawed*, *-minded*, *-principled*.

*a* 1400 *Octavian* (Camb. MS.) 107 Moche sorowe deryth mee, That Rome schalle wrong-heyred [*v.r.* wrange-ayerde] bee in vnkynde honde. 1552 HULOET *A-v.*, Wronge iawed, or haulinge the neither longer than the vpper iawe, *bromchus.* 1805 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., The inhabitants of England and Ireland are seldom wrong-hearted. 1835 CHR. P. THORNTON *Exercise* (1842) 125 The inconveniences of the wrong-endedness of a property-qualification, with which the British people are unhappily familiar. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 88 His judgment of books is not so much superficial..as it is wrong-principled. 1883 *Imp. Dict.* IV. 669 *Wrong-minded*, having a mind wrongly inclined; entertaining erroneous or distorted views. 1891 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 630 Wrong-headedness may be as fatal now as wrong-heartedness.

**B.** *adv.* **1.** In a direction differing from the right or true one; by an erroneous course or way; astray.

13.. *Curser M.* 5760 (Cott.) Mi folc of yrael it in wil, pai haue ben led wrang alaas. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15720 He sailed al day, & on pe nyght, Vmwhile bobe wrong & ryught, Til he com in-til an Ile. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 331 By God, thoughte he, al wrang I haue mysgon. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Gracelesse's Wondmanship* 31 He winked wrong, and so let slippe the [bow-]string, which went him wide. 1614 SYLVESTER *Part. Vertues Royall* 706 A fair Ship..wants..A skilfull Pilot,..That never wry shee sail, nor wrong shees row. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6398/1 Lost or carried wrong,..several Parcels of Goods. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* I. ii, Lock-a-daisy, my masters, you're come a deadly deal wrong! 1824 MACCULLOCH *Highlands* (1836) II. 180 We may meander even on land grun; so I may run myself wrong in Galloway, a land I weel ken. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ballads, Peter the Wag* 15 He loved to send old ladies wrong, And teach them how to stray. 1875 MISS BIRD *Hawaiian Archip.* 403 Our guide took us a little wrong once..' Wrong' on Mauna Loa means being arrested by an impassable *a-a* stream.

*fig.* 1399 LANGL. *R. Redeles* III. 80 Thus laste pey [*sc.* the young eagles] pe leiter pat hem wrong ladde. 1790 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 167 How liable we are to be led wrong by passion and private interest. 1755 *Mun* XXXVII. 4 When the powers of the soul are wrong directed. 1786 BURNS *Epistle to Dr. Blacklock* ii, Lat'ning to their [*sc.* passions'] witching voice Has often led me wrong. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* App. i. (1891) 251 Tintoret..may lead you wrong if you don't understand him.

†**b.** In an oblique or deflected line or position; obliquely, askew. *Obs.*

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 321 Sette hit [*sc.* a hough] in the delf so lenyng wrange [*l. obliquel. c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXV. 287 We twoo schall see tille ayshe side, For ellis pis werke wille write all wrang. 1530 *Chester Pl.* I. 20 This Caytyfe I have cast, shall be wrange wrast, or I wend away.

**2.** *To go wrong.* **a.** To take a wrong way, road, or course; to go astray. Also in fig. context; and *fig.*, to make a mistake; to fall into error; to err.

*a* 1300 *Curser M.* 15448 A taken ban i sal young giue, bat yee sal noght ga wrang. 13.. *Ibid.* 29681 (Gött.), All pat singes pis sang.. pai lede paim right par pai ga wrang. *c* 1390 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1103 No wonder ey yi bai ga wrang, For in myrknes of unknawyng bai gang. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 120 Whenne he wolde not folwe hym [*sc.* the angel]..Out of the wai he went wronge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 502 Goo wronge, *devio, delino.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. Prol. 8 To follow Virgile in this dirk passe, Conveyne, Sibill, that I goo nocht wrang. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 71 b, Whan this sterre was hyd..they went wronge to theyr great peryll. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i, 94 *Agamemnon*]. We go wrong, we go wrong. *Alas.* No yonder 'tis. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 187 The Learn'd..So much ..scorn the crowd, that if the throng By chance go right, they purposely go wrong. 1718 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 1 It being easy to go wrong where no body has beaten the Way. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 10 There's mony a ane..That far frae gude's way hath gane wrang. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 188/1 We went wrong in making any active intervention. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Societ.* xiv. 337 There are more ways of going wrong than of going right.

**b.** To deviate or depart from moral rectitude or integrity; to take to evil courses; also (*b*) to fall from virtue.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* v. 53 Sanct Petir hat hir with a club,..becaus the wif geid wrang. 1538 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* iv. 19 But yf he go wronge, she shall forsake him. 1780 *Country Progr. Err.* 256 Thus men go wrong..: Bend the straight rule to their own crooked will. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, That when ladies had had homes and mothers, they went wrong in their way too. 1888 LL. S. MERRIMAN *Phantom Future* viii, I tried..to show you that I was not quite a blackguard. But it was useless: I went wrong again.

(*b*) 1879 LYTTON *E. Maltravers.* 96 She had a vague idea about girls going wrong. 1888 M'CARTHY & PRAED *Ladies' Gallery* III. viii. 169 A home..for poor girls who had gone wrong.

**c.** Of events, etc.: To happen amiss or unfortunately; to issue or result unsuccessfully or unprosperously.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. ii, Should you deceive us, would go wrong with you. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 41 Your strong possession much more then your right. Or else it must go wrong with you and me. 1721 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., This day has gone all wrong, by sitting up so late last night. 1824 W. IRVING *Sketch-Bk., Rip van Winkle.* Everything about it went wrong, and would go wrong, in spite of him. 1857 HORROX *Romany Rye* xviii, Everything seemed to go wrong with me—horses became sick first. 1886 G. R. SIMS in *Pall Mall G.* 7 April 2/2 A thick slime of what looks like toffee gone wrong. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Austral Neg at Home* 114 A pal or two..ready to help a chap if things go wrong.

**d.** Of things: To get out of gear or working order; to fail to work, run, etc., by reason of friction, trouble, or break-down. Of a clock or watch: To fail to keep correct time.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* v. i, While others [*sc.* clocks] may keep going continually, and continually be going wrong. 1862 DICKENS *Cr. Expect.* v. We have had an accident with these [handcuffs], and I find the lock of one of 'em goes wrong. 1871 LYTTON *Coming Race* xxii, That watch..has never gone wrong since I had it. 1885 *Law Reports* 10 P.D. 100 The machinery had gone wrong. 1892 *Pall Mall Mag.* II. 4 The water supply has gone wrong.

**e.** Of persons: To fail in some undertaking or enterprise, or in the general conduct of life.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 203 Sevin' Papists' side gae wrang, Out at the Chancllor's-door he flang. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News Fair* xvii, He was a very kind old man...I'm really sorry he's gone wrong.

**f.** Of food, etc.: To get into bad or unsound condition; to become unwholesome.

1882 *Amp. Dict.* II. 403 *To go wrong*, to become unsound, as meat.

**3.** Not in accordance with good morals or a just standard of actions; in a manner contrary to equity or uprightness; unjustly, unfairly; = WRONGFULLY *adv.* **1**, WRONGLY *adv.* **2**.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1362 Hwo may do bi myne songe, Iwisse he no wile wel be wrange. 1297 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12180 Pys erymyte..beheld..whyche come with gode deuocyoun, And whyche for ouper encheson : Alle sagh pys temyte euer-ylyche, Who come wrong, and who wel. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1176 Per-for he wronger he wirches, al pe world may know. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1068 Wyne has no hauing Bettyng Mare ouer-ille ne wrange werk wrang. *c* 1430 *Chron. Anonyme* 170 Hit is porowe be werke of god or pey [*sc.* gold chains] be wronge wonnen. 15.. *Ib. Cantab.* (S.T.S.) 129 The wrang wirdis ar virrist ..is exilit and his ofspring The land of Juda, that justi wrang. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 80 We perceiu'd both how you were wrong led, And we in negligent danger. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* III. 188 The Right Divine of Kings to govern wrong. 1821 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 191 The tithes..were gifted away to others (right or wrong, I do not presume to enquire). 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. iii, Whether my relative..to set right..whatever she has done wrong—because it is wrong, and not right. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. vii. 199 We must not do evil wrong or unjustly.

**4.** Out of accordance or consistence with facts or the truth of the case; mistakenly, erroneously; incorrectly; = WRONGFULLY *adv.* **2** b.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 10040 Swillke sinndenn alle þa patt spellenn wrang Off mann & Crisstenndom. 1340 *Ayenb.* 161 Nobinne we wenen wrang Of me. *a* 1300 *Curser M.* 15006 Qua will pe sla? qui sais bou wrang? 13.. *Gaw. & Grene Knight* 110 Me think in thoght þe knyght bowed ye blame. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1107 Pat wrong wenep, pat wrong ne demep. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xix. 36 Here that sinneth against me, wrongli his owne soule. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Presence* (1676) 17 Why should it be more a subject to wrong his Prince and his Country? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 515 To this false Foreigner you give your Throne, And wrong a Friend, a Kinsman, and a Guest. [see RIGHT *v.* 7]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 172 Vilely suspicious of..[his servants] wronging him..he is always changing. 1790 *Amer. Mag.* II. 118 Many observations have been wronged. They have been driven to madness by injustice. 1839 DICKENS *Nicklehy* xv, [That] day of reckoning..will be a heavy one for you if you've wronged her. 1882 *Act 44 & 45 Vict. c.* 58 § 18 Any officer..who thinks himself wronged by his commanding officer.

*refl.* 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 178 Good master Ford, be contented: You wrong yourself too much. 1681 *Trial Art Converse* 88 We wrong ourselves if we oppose their Sentiments. 1860 THOMSON *Sea Dreams* iii 3 His gain is loss; for he that wrongs himself wrongs Humanity.

†**5.** 1443 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xciii, Thus were thai wrangit that did nocht wrang. 1475 *Rec. Aberbrothic.* (Bann. Cl.) II. 102 Ewyn myndit personis ..wrangis and tobuis wes. *c* 1566 *Dowbtfe Ale & Wife* 18, Some wolde he shuld be hanged Or els he shulde be wranged. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 182 I suffrit him nocht in ane tot to be wrangit. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 101 Hypocrisy, detest her as we may, (And no man's hatred ever wrought her yet) May claim this merit. 1792 BURNS *Bonie Lesley* iv, He'd look into thy bonie face, And say, I canna wrang thee! 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 27 Some silent sang, And glowr'st as they were wranged. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v.

**6.** To violate or do violence to; to treat unfairly or without due respect.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* i. xiii. 70 So that he not wronge [*sc.*] the lawe of Kinde..neither therbi wronge Holi Scripture. 1592 *Soliman & Perc.* III. i, Spare me not, for then thou wrongst my honour. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 263, I do receive



& Drihhtin wrang to þeowwtenn. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 196 He wot insyht in euche songe, huo singeb wel huo singeb wrange. *a* 1300 *Curser M.* 14280 Quen pat Iuui wrang wit leui delt. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1987 Our gude dedys er ofte wrang. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 107 My witnes on nyztes wrong yi ware. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVII. 264 Here workis bou and wrang. 1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) ev b, If he [*sc.* the harper] play wrong. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1st Ep. John* Prol. (1538) 7 b, Because we be wronge taught. *c* 1600 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 21 The south..pronunces eu, we ou, both, in my simple judgement, wrang. 1755 *Mun* XIV. 5 Methods..extremely wrong calculated for promoting the real perfection ..of individuals. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 332 They will amend it whenever they find it works wrong. 1826 *Life Planter Jamaica* 96 The estate was wrong managed. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. x. 298, I asked him to come on with me...I hope I did not do very wrong. 1897 O. WISTER *Lin M'Lean* 264 Every guest's uneasiness lest he drink his coffee wrong.

**b.** Out of proper order or due place.

1573 BARET *Alv. s.v.*, To put on his shoes Wrong, *indercer calceat aliquid perpropter.* 1611 COTGR., *Mes-Mettre*, To All the question..Is only this, if God has plac'd him wrong?

**c.** Clumsily; inelegantly; badly. *rare*—1.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Misfashioned*, shapen wrong or ill.

**8.** *Comb.* **a.** With pa. pples., as *wrong-advised*, †*-aficyned*, *-grounded*, *-governed*, *-timed.*

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 371 A dull, or careless, or †wrong-directed application. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1802 Subtell policy and †wrong feyned cuntens. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 371 †Wrong-grounded piety and obstinacy. *a* 1586 *Sidney's Arcadia* Wks. 1922 II. 214 To heare the poore-clad truth of loves †wrong-ordred lot. 1849 CLOUGH *Bothie Introd.* xviii. (1856) 102 As if one saw through a †wrong-screwed glass. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 121 Don't let a little †wrong-timed bashfulness take place.

**b.** With strong pa. pples., as †*wrong-take(n*; †**wrong-gotten** *a.*, unjustly obtained; ill-gotten.

*a* 1300 *Curser M.* 27867 Til wrang takin [*blyng* (*v.r.* wraugle) lang] be quite again. 1388 *Wyclif's Nat. Wks.* III. 228 Lord..make restitucioun of goodis wrongetake. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 97 He þat ful is fylde Wip wrong take pore meniys thrift. *c* 1445 in *Anglia* VIII. 256/10 Summe men..pat hadde myche wrongetake goodes. 1513 DOUGLAS *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 202 It was all of robbery & of wrongetten guds.

**c.** With vbl. sbs. and pres. pples., as *wrongbelieving*, *-going*, *-thinking*, *-voting*; also †*wrongwrestling*, = turning aside.

*a* 1560 PHAER *Æneid* IX. Cc iv, The winds vpcaught that stroke, and luno Queene the daunger brake Wrong-wresting as it went. 1852 H. BELL *Author's Calling* 10 Superstitions and wrong-believings. 1856 J. BROWN *Disc. our Lord* I. 367 Our short-comings and wrong-goings. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audit Alt.* I. xlvi. 184 Depriving wrong-voting officers of their commissions. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Invert. Sys. & Cult.* (1881) 66 Clear and consecutive wrong-thinking is the next best thing to right-thinking.

**Wrong** (*rɒŋ*), *v.* Also as **5 wronge**, 6 *arch.* **wrongen** & –**e**. (latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) **wrang**, 9 *n.e. Sc.* **wrang.** [f. WRONG *a.*]

**1.** *trans.* **1.** To do wrong or injury to (a person); to treat with injustice, prejudice, or harshness; to deal unfairly with, withhold some act of justice from (some one).

In frequent use from *c* 1200.

*a.* *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11868 Pen schul we ryghte, þat now vs wranges. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollards* 64 Now are wee men oft wronged, and schrewis vnpunished. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 166 Ye shall be with me, and stop oncle in eche mater..that he entendyth to wrong me in. 1496–7 *Act 12 Hen. VII*, c. 12 § 4 At the complayntes of the partie grevyde..in the name of the kynge hurted or wronged. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 Shewynge hymselfe to be rather glad to be so despysed & wronged. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 623 By this Statute the sayd Irish Lord is wronged, for from the Court of Kinges Bench ..no writtes or services. 1821 BIBLE *Prov.* viii. 36 Hee that sinneth against me, wrongeth his owne soule. 1854 IRAMHALL *Just Vind.* xv. (1661) 17 Why should it be more a subject to wrong his Prince and his Country? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 515 To this false Foreigner you give your Throne, And wrong a Friend, a Kinsman, and a Guest. [see RIGHT *v.* 7]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 172 Vilely suspicious of..[his servants] wronging him..he is always changing. 1790 *Amer. Mag.* II. 118 Many observations have been wronged. They have been driven to madness by injustice. 1839 DICKENS *Nicklehy* xv, [That] day of reckoning..will be a heavy one for you if you've wronged her. 1882 *Act 44 & 45 Vict. c.* 58 § 18 Any officer..who thinks himself wronged by his commanding officer.

*refl.* 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 178 Good master Ford, be contented: You wrong yourself too much. 1681 *Trial Art Converse* 88 We wrong ourselves if we oppose their Sentiments. 1860 THOMSON *Sea Dreams* iii 3 His gain is loss; for he that wrongs himself wrongs Humanity.

†*b.* 1443 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xciii, Thus were thai wrangit that did nocht wrang. 1475 *Rec. Aberbrothic.* (Bann. Cl.) II. 102 Ewyn myndit personis ..wrangis and tobuis wes. *c* 1566 *Dowbtfe Ale & Wife* 18, Some wolde he shuld be hanged Or els he shulde be wranged. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 182 I suffrit him nocht in ane tot to be wrangit. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 101 Hypocrisy, detest her as we may, (And no man's hatred ever wrought her yet) May claim this merit. 1792 BURNS *Bonie Lesley* iv, He'd look into thy bonie face, And say, I canna wrang thee! 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 27 Some silent sang, And glowr'st as they were wranged. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v.

**b.** To violate or do violence to; to treat unfairly or without due respect.

*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* i. xiii. 70 So that he not wronge [*sc.*] the lawe of Kinde..neither therbi wronge Holi Scripture. 1592 *Soliman & Perc.* III. i, Spare me not, for then thou wrongst my honour. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 263, I do receive

your offer'd love like love And will not wrong it. 1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* iii. i. You wrong our Friendship when your Right you name. 1708 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 45 Without wronging the Rule of the Gospel. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* iii. vi. I would return it, but that I must touch it that way, and so wrong my oath. 1784 Burns *1st Epist. to Dunne* viii. To say aught less wad wrang the caries, And flatt'ry I detest. 1808 Scott *Marm.* iii. Introd. 111 The friendship thus thy judgment wronging With praises not to me belonging. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* vii. 221 She pray'd me not to judge their cause from her That wrong'd it. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xix. Rely on my not wronging your forbearance and consideration. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* iv. iii. You wrong your beauty ..in being so proud. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* xlvii. Well then, mother, she is comely, and wrongs her picture but little.

**2.** To deprive or dispossess (a person) wrongfully *of* something; to cheat, defraud.

*c* 1484 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 64 [He] is injuried & wronged of his tenure in Arkenden, contrarie to right and conscience. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iv. 908 A Citizen so wrong'd Of the honor him belong'd. 1660 *Myst. Good old Cause* 13 He hath wrong'd him of a great estate. 1730 *Swift Let. to Esquire* 3 Jan., You wronged me of half my due. 1773 R. Fergusson *Chalmerlit* 98 The succeeding generations[to] wrang O' thaw hien maintenance. 1830 T. Hackeray *Fatal Boots* Jan., I never wronged any man of a shilling. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lx, And suppose, whether I have ever wronged them of a farthing. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* xiv, [He wanted to wrang no man o' 'a money, either]. 1897 Rowlands & *Lane* (Huntingdon, Ct.) 14 Dec., I wrong'd thee in all my life, Mouthfull of Hay or Grasse?

**3.** To do injustice to (a person) by statement, imputation, opinion, etc.; to impute evil to, asperse or calumniate undeservedly; to discredit or dishonour by word or thought.

1504 Shaks. *Rich. III*, iv. 421 *Queene.* Shall I forget my selfe, to be my selfe? *Rich.* I, if your selfe's remembrance wrong your selfe. 1590 Pede *Bard & Bethsabe* B3b, Woman thou wrongst my King, & doubtst his honesty. 1620 *Jewels. Hs. Comm.* I. 535 His first Speech should be, to clear himself from Suspicion of wronging this House. 1634 W. Tirwhit tr. *Balthazar* (ed. 1) 170 Nor will I believe he was made after the image of God, lest therein I should wrong so excellent a nature. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 27 July, He says that the Duke of York is suspected..; but that he do know that he is wronged in the. 1713 Hughes *Cato* iv. i, How wrong'st me, if thou think'st Ever was love..like mine. 1782 Cowper tr. *Mme. Guion, Happy Solitude* 9 Thy creatures wrong thee, O thou good to excess! Thou art not lov'd, because not understood. 1705-6 Wotton. *Borderers* i. 167, I wot not what ill tongue has wronged him with you. 1823 Scott *Quentin Dy.* vi. I wronged his words, perhaps, in supposing [etc.]. 1836 Lytton *Duchess de La Vallière* iii. v, My foolish fancies wronged him! 1861 Tennyson *In Mem.* l, I wrong the grave with sighs. 1870 Bellairs *Lect.* 8 Let us not, in supposing [etc.], wrong the Author.

**4.** To cause undeserved physical harm or injury to (a person, etc.); to affect harmfully or injuriously; to hurt or damage. Now *Sc.*

1595 Spenser *Epithal.* 49 For feare the stones her tender foot should wrong. 1617 Morison *Itin.* i. 37 The people after dinner, warmed with drinke, are apt to wrong any stranger. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 211 One [fruit] out of curiositie I tasted of, which..maligniantly but and wronged my mouth and lips. 1894 *Crockett Mark. Essex., Friendship* xiii. 87 The edges of his Graver..may, in a slip, touch upon the Side and Face of the next Streak, and wrong that more or less. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 151 Without breaking or wronging the greater Roots. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 276 Those boughs also..draw all the sap to them and wrong the rest that are weak. 1725 R. *Grove Poems* 9 A guide man loves his beast, And will not wrang him. 1826 R. Herrick *Poems* 92 Is't cause some farmer's wronged his purchase At some dunik Public.

*refl.* 1620 Venner *Via Recta* viii. 190 They..greatly erre and wrong themselues, that..surcharge their bodies with ouer-much meat. 1899 J. R. Salmond *Man Sandy* xiii. 93 Man leuch till I thocht he wad a wrongit himsel.

**† b.** To impair or injure the quality or substance of (something); to affect detrimentally or harmfully; to mar, spoil. *Obs.*

1598 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iv. iii. 46 If she..forgoe his loue, She hath all wrong her owne honour and name. 1630 in *Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) II. 898 All authoritie being dissolved, want of government did more wrong their proceedings, than [etc.]. 1658 W. M. *Garrard's Sonnet Rogue* 129, I was constrained ..with the force of my sneezing to wrong my breeches. 1659 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* Pref., Do not scoffe at the Histories, being good in themselves, though wronged by my mark of Infamy. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 8 Jan., 'The Widdow', an indifferent good play, but wronged by the women being to seek in their parts. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 May 1662, Her mouth wronging her mouth, sticking a little too far out. 1784 Cowper *Task* vi. 748 Sweet as the harp of prophecy; too sweet Not to be wrong'd by a mere mortal touch.

**5.** *Naut.* To outsail (another vessel); to outdo or surpass in sailing; also = Blanket v. 2. ? *Obs.*

1685 T. Phelps *Captiv.* 9 We had try'd his sailing all ways, but found we could not wrong him any way. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. vi. One Ship said to wrong another, that exceeds it in swiftness of sailing. 1707 S. Brent *Voy. Cachalogalinia* 21 Our Sloop wrong'd 'em so much, that we soon came with 'em, and took them. 1748 Smollett *Rr. Random* lv, We were very much wronged by the ship that had us in chase. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* I. i. x. 73 The officers [of an English man-of-war] observed they wronged her so much, they could go round her if they pleased. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 739 To outsail a vessel by becalming her sails is said to wrong her.

**II.** *Intr.* **† 6.** To act wrongly, harmfully, or injuriously; to do wrong (to a person, etc.). *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 262 For whan that holi cherche wrongeth, I not what other thing schal rihte. *Ibid.* II. 389 God and..the world..Largeasse awaiteth as belongeth, To neither part that he ne wrongeth. *c* 1460 *Cursor Mund.* 61 Our beloued sonnys Abbot and Couent..shewed þat Richard Clerke and summe oþer..,vppon tithi possessions and oþer thynges.., wronge to be same. 1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 49 The assise deliuerit that Angnes Baldun wrangit in the..breking of Katerine Falconeris heid. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. i. 219, I wrong to say so. *a* 1676 Hale (J. xv. *Hagley*), It argues an ignoble mind, where we have wronged, to higgle and dodge in the amends.

**7.** To heel over. (Cf. Right v. 6 c.) *nonce-use.*

1848 Dickens *Amer. Notes* ii. The ship rights. Before one can say 'Thank Heaven!' she wrongs again.

**†Lence Wro'nging** *ppl. a.*

1843 J. C. Mangan *German Anthol.* II. 60 That strong.. devotion which..saved from wronging stain the sacred garland of Homages.

**Wrong-doer** (rǫ·ŋdūəɹ). Also **wrongdoer.** [f. Wrong *sb.*2 + Doer.] One who does wrong.

**1.** One who commits wrongful, unjust, or blameworthy acts; one who transgresses or offends against the moral law.

1297-8 Trev. *Higden Test. Love* II. xiii (Skeat) I. 18 Suche maner laddnesse, whiche is used to purifye wrongedoers, is somwhat. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. ii. 123, I knowe how all þinge is doon, I knowe he is wronge doer & þat I owe forbere. 1530 Fisher *Abs. & Lam. Mon.* iv. (1855) 216 That he defende his peple ayenst wronge doers inwarde bi iustice. *Ibid.*, All the wronge doers of be reaume. *a* 1533 Fauvan *Chron.* (1811) I. 1 Whereby it was..to punysshe the wronge doers of yore people agayne extoccioners & wronge doers, was by them put wrongfully to death. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. xxii, It resolved to spende all her yeers in..prayeng for the wrong-doer. 1618 Bp. Hall *Contempt., O. T.* iv. ii, Pity Who is so ready to except and exclaim as the wrong doer? 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 183 [That] the King may both govern and rule, the Holy Church, and that he defend the same from wrong-doers. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* iii. i, Vindictive Power, Thou Thunder, Let the Wrong-doer and the Tyrant tremble. 1795-6 Wordsw. *Borderers* v. 1. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* viii. The wrong-doer. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 565 They were..men of blameless life, who were regarded..not as wrongdoers, but as martyrs. 1880 W. H. D. Adams *Wrecked Lives* Ser. I. p. iv, The unerring Nemesis of Failure dogs the footsteps of the wrong-doer.

**2.** *Law.* One who is guilty of a wrong, tort, or trespass; a trespasser, tort-fensor; a law-breaker.

1502 *Nottingham Rec.* (1885) III. 306 The said Mayres and Shirefes..shall have..power to punysshe the wrongdoers therin in such maner as they may lawfully do. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 181 For that [action] maketh him a wrong doer. 1634 *Inst.* ii. 568 If the goods or merchandises..be taken away by deceite wrong doers and knowne. 1726 *Aleyn Parergon* 171 If any Seal..be taken away by a Stranger, the Church-warden..may have their Action against the Wrong-doers. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 280 A writ of entry in the post..only alleges the injury of the wrongdoer. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 142 For the same acts there are now done by the person who has right, are not sufficient in the case of a wrong-doer. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 271 Shall the master..be answerable pecuniarily for his man's wilful wrong, or shall he be the wrongdoer? 1911 *Times* 17 May 3/4 He..denied that the mere fact..relieved a wrongdoer from paying damages.

**Wrongdoing** (rǫ·ŋdūiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also **wrongduing.** [f. as prec. + Doing *vbl. sb.*] The action of doing wrong or amiss, or the fact of wrong being done.

1. Wrongdoing or of offence against the moral or established law; reprehensible action or behaviour; evil-doing, misdoing; misconduct.

Rare before 19th c. In frequent use from *c* 1880.

1446 The Prior & Convent *in* Hale *Precedents* 240 .. desiren restitucion of such wrongedoyng. 1547 Latimer in *Foxe Acts & Mt.* (1563) 1352 He that is so obstacle and untractable in wicked sines and wronge doing. 1618 Rowlatson *Historical Coll.* 134 To withstand the doing of wrong; to be against wrong doing, *obsistere iniuriæ.* 1828-32 Webster. 1837 Hy. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 20 The idea of honour is such as to make all fear, and even all temptation, wrongdoing. 1838 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* lxxv. II. 25 It is the rule of heaven, that wrong-doing shall bring sorrow. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* viii. 96 Had [thing] could have been to betray uneasiness and confess wrongdoing.

**2.** A wrongful or blameworthy action.

1874 M. Creighton *Hist. Ess.* I. (1900) 81 A wrong-doing of which I felt no guilt. 1879 *Cassell's Techn.* I. 21 The manager [she] seemed to have suffered for every body else's wrongdoings.

**Wrong-doing,** *ppl. a. rare.* [f. as prec. + *doing*, pr. pple. of Do v.] That does wrong, harm, or ill; prone to or committing wrongful actions.

*c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxxi. 23 þat te celeresse sal ..be meke, and sobur, and nobil..nouȝt wrangdoande ..! *Cursor Mundi* (Trin.) 22202 *Sodomite* in..þos ! he,..violent Will of the wrong-doing Great. 1901 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 6/2 The populations of wrong-doing cities must pay.

**Wronge,** etc., obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wring v.

**Wronged** (rǫŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. Wrong v. + -ed 1.]

**1.** Of persons, etc.: Wrongfully, unduly, or unjustly treated; affected harmfully or prejudicially; injured.

*a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* iv. 462 The wronged bed by me of my deare soone, Whom I defraud of the Hyperian crown. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xxxvii. 1. ii, The smaller compasse that the realme doth holde,..The nearer [is] justice to the wronged poore. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 221 The wronged Soules Of butcher'd Princes. 1820 Maddr in *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 278 A wronged womans revenge. 1681 Otway *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1735) 22 Take this wrong'd Lady home and use her hands-omely. 1709 Atterbury *Serm.* (1726) II. 221 He resolves to make Personal Restitution, where the Wrong can be discover'd and the wrong'd Person reach'd. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 104 Some wronged female orphan of this old Abbey. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxiii, Two dragon sentries, on duty over the wronged Innocence imprisoned. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* viii, The knight.. was charged with favour towards the wronged Britannicus.

*absol.* 1582 Mulcaster *Elementarie* (1925) 264 The name of Christians, which verie title enioyneth a serch to avoyd contention, euen by submission of the wronged. 1691 Matthan *Nav. Spec.* 187 That the strong Man be..made to restore the Wronged to his Right. 1864 [see Wronger]. 1891 J. K. Stephen *Cui Bono? Tendril* 35 When the wronger falls and the wronged wins hays.

**2.** Of things: Subjected to detriment, prejudice, or unfavourable bias.

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 55 The vengeance of my wronged honour. 1644 Milton *Divorce* (ed. 2) 4 He therefore..shall restore the much wrong'd and over-sorrow'd state of matrimony. 1682 Bonlowze *Theoph.* ii. Ixi, She sees defamed Glory, wronged Right. 1849 Lytton *K. Arthur* v. viii, On thy wronged grave one hand appeasing lays The humble flower. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 225 Strain a point the other way, And handsomely exaggerate wronged truth!

**† b.** Perverted. *Obs. rare*—1.

1619 A. Newman *Pleas. Vis.* C 3 b, Besides, preferments would attend On me that I might be the end, Whereat Mens wronged thoughts might mine.

**3.** Diseased; having the normal functions disordered.

1834 T. Johnson *Parry's Chirurg. Wks.* xv. ii. 362 Great pains in the interior torments the patient by reason of the wronged peri-otium. *Med. Sc.* A wronged stomach.

**† Wrongeld.** *Obs. rare.* Also **wrongeyld.** [f. Wrong *sb.*1 + *yeld* Yield *sb.*] A form of tallage.

1340 in *Cal. Rotuloram Patent.* (1802) 197/2 Ac pro confirmavit relaxacionem Thome Comitis Norff[olk]..concessam tenentibus suis ..manerij de Lopham..de quodam tallagio vocato Wrongelde. 1340 *Plea Rolls* 248 A Wrongeyld.]

**Wrongen,** obs. var. Wrung *ppl. a.*

**Wronger** (rǫ·ŋəɹ). Also **4 wrongar.** [f. Wrong v. + -er 1. Cf. I.G. *wranger* distorter.]

**1.** One who wrongs another; a person who does wrong or amiss; an inflicter of wrong, harm, or injury; a wrong-doer.

Freq. from *c* 1400 often contrasted with *wronged*).

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. xiii. 549 Defenders ayens wrongers and diffamers of the..wickid world. 1592 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 1098 That he should wanne the wronger to appeare..at Court, it to defend. 1594 Barnfield *Affect. Sheph. Complaint* xv, If any by his fellowes be oppress'd, The wronger..Shall be well bangd. *a* 1618 [see Wronged]. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 457 A great Wronger of mankind. 1821 Elliot *Corn Laws Rhymes* (1904) 23 In our prayers, If we forget our wrongers, may we be Vice as their virtues. 1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 228 Nothing will make out whether his client was the wronged or the wronger, guilty or not guilty. 1895 W. Watson *Purple East* (1896) 16 A charge from Him Who watches..To smite the wronger with thy destined rod.

**2.** An injurer or misuser *of* something.

1592 *Treasb. Reigne K. John* ii. 259 Arme thee, traytor, wronger of mine inheritance. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* xi, I learn not to be a wronger Of your word; was not your promise laid. *a* 1625 – *Relig. Loricat.* 1, Do not give thy self..so open vile, So great a wronger of thy worth, so low. 1707 Bailey (vol. II), *Wrongfunds* (old Records), misgrown Trees that will never prove Timber, q. d. Wrongers of Land.

**Wrongful** (rǫ·ŋfŭl), *a.* Also 5 **wrangful.** [f. Wrong *sb.* + -ful.]

**1.** Full of wrong, injustice, or injury; marked or characterized by wrong, unfairness, or violation of equity; unfair.

*c* 1321 [see Wrackful *a.*1]. 1338 R. Baunne *Chron.* (1810) 212 Pandolf prouted ye king, in his dispuisoun, He mayntened wrongfulle þing, & wild not leue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 358 Of his wrongful herte he demeth That al is wel. *c* 1445 Pecock *Donet* 94 Þous al hi3 iuge be foule, peynful,..vnkynde, wrongful. 1550 Ld. J. Butler in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* 2nd Ser. II. 51 There is non thinge so injuste or so wrongfull but our Deputie here..wolde..suffer..the same. 1553 Ascham *Germany* 10 This fact was very wrongfull of the Pope for the deede. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* i. ii, Heape not wrongfull shame On her. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* vi. 581 Nor want they lots, nor judges to review The wrongful sentence. 1810 *Scott's Ashaton* v. 91 He would have wrongful and unlawful tone Kehama found relief. 1859 J. Tayior *Logic in Theol.* 268 A wrongful policy may be maintained. 1879 Tourgee *Fool's Err.* xl. 301 He regarded slavery simply as an unnatural and wrongful accident.

**b.** Of actions: Performed, executed, or done unjustly, unfairly, or harmfully; injurious, harmful; unjust.

*c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 618 Þe kinde of þi manhede Wolde haue wreche of wrongful dede. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 358 Thei wrongfull werres uven. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 286 Þeyngge occasioun of offence..by envie, false counsail, and wrongful demynge. 1500 *Orol. Cryptica Mon* (W. de W. 1506) iv. viii. Qiv b, In suche maner that the stroke or the betynge after ye ryght may be sayd cruell & wrongfull. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. vi, Where daugter would offer to make any wrongfull threatning upon him. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor (J.), Hr..must redeem his fault by alms, according to the value of his wrongful dealing. 1792 Bentley (vol. II), *Usurping*, a wrongful taking that which is another's Right. 1839-40 Worcsw. *Sonn.*, 'Fet retribution' 5 She plants well-measured terrors in the road Of wrongful acts. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis of Faith* v. 203 Passion, prejudice, and corrupt self-interest make wrongful entrance.

**† 2.** Of persons: That commits wrong; that does wrong or injustice *to* (or *against*) another. Cf. Wrong *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1582 Wyclif *Lucke* xii. 58 Lest peraventure..the domesman bitake thee to the wrongful axere, and..the wrongful axere sende thee in to prisoun. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 2202 (Trin.), þis nembrot [was]..wrongful emperour, Robber &

monqueller greet. *Ibid.* 11539 Wroo þ wex þat wrongful [*v.r.* wrangwis] kyng [= Herod]. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 95 It followeth not that God is to any man wrongfull. *Ibid.* 2 *Cor.* 40 Yf we eyne not,..bothe yus and I..are also founde wrongfull agaynst god. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xxxviii. 8, Mighty wrongfull foes, Who do evill for good. 1614 R. Harris *Samuell Funerall* (1628) 22, I shall be wrongfull to conceale the other.

**3. a.** That is contrary to law, statute, or established rule; unlawful, illegal, tortious.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 367 Ye ought nat to pursue wrongfull to anoyen wrongful custumes and tributes. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 451 The wrongfull entre..made upon seriesyn personys feffyd to myn use. 1483 *Nottinghams Rec.* (1889) II. 305 þe seid forclike & wrongfulle entree punysshable grevously by your lawes. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 622/2 The wrongfull distraynyng of any mans goodes. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 357 b, When an estranger that no right hath presenteth to a Church,..the wrongfull act..is called an Usurpation. 1720 Jacob *Law Dict.* s.v. *Trespass*, They were the Goods of the Plaintiff, when the Taking will be wrongful. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. ix. 150 Unless the owner..will declare his continuance to be tortious, or, in common language, wrongful. 1824 Lindley *Sp.* & Jum (1854) 297 All the statutes of limitation..sanction possession which was originally wrongful. 1860 *Chambers' Encycl.* III. 462/2 It was regarded as treason to attempt to transmute as it was a wrongful detaining of his free liegemen. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 36 To charge Godric with wrongful occupation of the King's land.

**b.** Of persons: That is such without legitimacy or right; holding office, possession, etc., unlawfully or illegally; having no legal right or claim; = Wrong *a.* 12.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* v. 60 In resengement of the right against the wrongfull heyre. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. Ixii. § 19 Charge them we cannot as..wrongfull possessors of that whereunto they have right. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xii. 359 His..son..to death was hastly done, To set his rightfull Crown upon a wrongfull head. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. 263 Seizing the franchise, or ousting the wrongful possessor. 1838 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, There is a rightful heir..and a wrongful heir, who loves her too.

†**c.** Unjustly detained. *Obs. rare*—1.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. viii. 27 The Prince..did of him require That Damzell, whom he held as wrongfull prisonere.

**4.** Of the nature of error; mistaken, incorrect, erroneous. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1470 *Cath. Angl.* 424/2 (A.), Wrongfulle, *erroneus.* 1562 Cooper *Answ. Priv. Master* 113 To depende vpon your wrongfull interpretacion of my honeste wordes.

**Wrongfully** (rɒ·ŋfŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a wrong or wrongful manner; wrongly.

**1.** In a manner contrary to the principles of justice or equity; unjustly, unfairly.

In very frequent use from *c* 1400 to *c* 1600.

*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 414 If but I consente, I wrongfully Conpleyne iwis. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* iii. 14 He seith to hem, Smyte ye wrongfulli no man. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 205 Pou seest gode lyuerys ayens pe suffre wrongfully. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* I. ii. (1883) 11 He was damned to deth wrongfully. *a* 1513 [see Wrong-doer 1]. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. xiv, Not to suffer such treasures to be wrongfully hidden. 1634 W. Tirwhitt tr. *Balmat's Apol.* Vol. D, 121 Justice so exacts ..that they will not condemn the Devil himself wrongfully. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* v. 497 Salius..pleads the prize is wrongfully conferred. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 204 ¶ 7 When once a vile name was wrongfully or injudiciously given. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvi, If he acted wrongfully, it was in no shape by any precept or example. 1893 Miss Cholmondeley *Diana Tempest* iv, When a man was wrongfully keeping possession of many thousands.

**b.** In an illegal or unlawful manner; contrary to the law; unlawfully, illegally, tortiously.

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 119 All manner land that is holden by me or yn my name wrongfully. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 446 Also the people..hurten the flyssaite in Swannesweil-pole be peir washying ther, wher they ben wrongfully. 1494 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* III. 115 b, Yf a man wrongfully take my goodes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 231 b, Possessions, which were wrongfully & tortiously and wrongfully with holden. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 30 If they possess them [*sc.* their lands] wrongfully, then ought they to surrender their title. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxi. 113 A man might enter to his land, and dispossesse them of such as wrongfully possessed it,) by force. 1752–3 *Act* 26 *Geo. II*, c. 19 § 3 Where any such Goods..are wrongfully bought, sold, or concealed. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 429 4 When [another]..wrongfully detains one's wife, child, or servant. 1810 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) II. 1249 Plea, that..because the gate was wrongfully erected across the same, the defendant pulled it down. 1885 Sir N. Lindley in *Law Rep.* 14 Q.B.D. 816 The sons' goods were in this case wrongfully seized.

†**2.** In an improper fashion; incorrectly. *Obs.*

1549–50 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 91 Where they find any Ground wrought wrongfully by any man, contrary to the right and custom of the Mine. 1561 T. Wilson *Logike* Hijb, Knotty Subtilitees that are bothe false, and wrongfully framed together.

**b.** Mistakenly; erroneously; falsely.

1593 Bulkeley & Cummins *Pop. S. Necc* 180 The Governor was tight in his Conjecture, and did not suspect them wrongfully. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 123, I am forced to assume, perhaps wrongfully, that [etc.].

**Wrongfulness** (rɒ·ŋfŭlnĕs). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The state, quality, or character of being wrong or wrongful; absence of right, equity, or justice; wrongness.

*a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 7546 (Trin.), Nouper may iren nor stele were nonnus wrongfulnes wele. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* xxxvii. 220/2 To abstaine from annoyance, wrongfulnesse, and violence. 1587 — *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 264 Wit is maimed with ignorance, Will with wrongfulnesse. 1647 Symson *Anglia Redivivus* in tr. 3d The right or wrongfulness of this that hath been said. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) I. v. ii. 73 The summary expulsion of all supervision, wrongfulness, and ill-will. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Apr. 488/2 (To) allege the wrongfulness of his own acquisition. 1880 Matthew *Wyclif's Wks.* 393 On the Wrongfulness of the Clergy holding Secular Office.

†**Wrong-haft**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **wronghalue**, 5 **-half.** [f. Wrong *a.* 10 + Haft *sb.* 1.] *trans.* In fulling: To dress the reverse side of (cloth) in some manner.

*a* 1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 8 Qe sul folour facn amenser..sul drap al molyn auant qil koit laues et apparailles en manere qe home apele *Wrongehalued*. 1514 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 640 þat non of the occupacion..wrongheilf no cloth but only vse dobyns or smoth teayls. 1518 *Ibid.* 659 That no man..put no cloth to vse wyder be full but if he will bastle it & wrangheilf it within the Cite. *Ibid.*, That hyght be well lyyled &..truly wrangheilt.

**Wrongheaded**, *a.* and *a.* Also **wrong-headed.** [f. Wrong *a.* + Head *sb.*]

**A.** *sb.* A perverse or wrong-headed person; one who displays perversity of judgement.

1709 Mandeville *Fab. bees* II. p. v, There really are such Wrongheads in the World, as will fancy Vices to be encouraged, and Virtues to be discouraged. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 168 The Family of the Wrong-Heads is..a very numerous one. 1753 tr. *Gerard's School of Arts* I. 11 Wrong-heads..a wrongness carried to perfection. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 630 There is another point on which the Wrongheads are equally mistaken. 1853 Trench *Proverbs* 57 Obstinate wrongheads, who will take no counsel except from calamities.

**B.** *adj.* = Wrong-headed *a.*

1738 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 148 This jealous, waspish, wrong-headed, rhyming race. 1890 Lever *C. Cashel* iii, Tierney is in one of his wrong-head humours.

**Wrong head** : see Wrong *sb.*1 4.

**Wrong-headed**, *a.* (Stress variable.) Also wrongheaded. [f. Wrong *a.* : cf. prec.]

**1.** Having a perverse judgement or intellect; persistently wrong in erroneous opinion; perversely or obstinately wrong.

In frequent use from *c* 1750.

1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* vi. § 26 The pious fraud of some wrong-headed Christian. 1752 Smollett *Peregr.* xi, The character of these wrong-headed enthusiasts. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. i. F 5 The most wrong-headed retail dealer in the town. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xv, There's no reason why you should be. Live reasonably because you are wrong-headed. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/1 The furious zeal of wrong-headed bigots.

**2.** Marked or characterized by perversity of judgement.

1735 Berkeley *Querist* § 436 So long as we entertain a wrongheaded distrust of England. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Sermont.* i. iv, The wrong-headed anger of her master. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* II. v. (1861) 118 Carts that set forward before the horses; weather-cocks that turned against the wind; and other wrong-headed contrivances. 1858 Dickens *O. Twist* xxvii, Wrong-headed, contemptible, treacherous behaviour. 1912 *Times* 29 Oct. 5/3 Had her Southern Slav policy been less persistently wrong-headed.

Hence **Wrong-headedly** *adv.*

1737 *Hervey's Mem.* (1848) II. 3,8 (He) insisted, very wrongheadedly, that he would have his directions in writing. *a* 1776 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1904) I. 50 (The headmaster) was very wrongheadedly severe. 1856 *Harper's Mag.* November 31 Mar. 477/3 The man..would act very wrongheadedly. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 3/1 This was to make, wrongheadedly, a toil of pleasure.

**Wrong-headedness.** Also wrongheadedness. [f. prec. + -ness.]

**1.** The quality or character of being wrong-headed; perversity of judgement or intellect.

In frequent use from *c* 1850.

1740 Dyche & Pardon *Dict.* The Limits that separat Wisdom from Folly, Wrong-headedness from intellectual Sanity. 1752 H. Walpole *Lett. to Mann* (1834) III. 5 There is no end of the misfortunes and wrong-headedness. 1792 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 18 Such wrongheadedness and insanity of Mr. Godwin's publication must be admitted. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xxiv. (1857) 341 The wrongheadedness of a jury. 1856 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Nov. 399 It is a pleasure to meet with many to convict the inquirer of wrong-headedness and credulity. 1889 Baring-Gould *Arminell* xli, Through sublime impertinence and wrongheadedness I have jumped out of my social world.

**2.** With *pl.* A perverse or untoward act.

1748 Chesterf. *Lett.* 18 Nov., He was enabled..to carry them [*sc.* family Powers] to the two objects of the war, notwithstanding their..separate views, jealousies, and wrongheadednesses.

**Wronging** (rɒ·ŋiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Wrong *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of doing wrong or acting wrongfully; an instance of this.

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iii. xvii. 395 If remedie of this wronging schulde be doin in this wey. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 416 Without ony wronging of the heires..of the forsaid Thomas. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 95 The Turcke of a workely spirite prouideth for his owne commoditie at al handes, yea euen with wronging of his brother. 1604 *Ho. Comm. Jrnl.* I. 218/2 [They] were Instruments of..much wronging and oppressing the People. 1644 *Admiralty Cet. Exam.* 28 April (MS.), That their shippe might..not bee overpressed with suite to the wrongeinge of her. 1659 *Gentl. Coll.* (1606) 7 A wronging, a calumniating even of the very Devil. 1700 A. Petrie *Rules Good Deportm.* (1877) 116 This not only is a wronging of the Magistrate of his Right, but it wrongs all fair Traders. 1867 A. L. Gordon *Ashtaroth* Wks. (1912) 253 Yet I forgive your wronging,..I call your bitters sweet.

**Wrongish** (rɒ·ŋiʃ), *a.* [f. Wrong *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat wrong.

1849 Carlyle in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) II. 22 All these paper bundles were written last summer, and are wrongish, every word of them.

**Wrongless** (rɒ·ŋlĕs), *rare*—0. [f. Wrong *sb.*2 + -less.] Devoid of, free from, wrong.

1758 Johnson, *Wrongleasly*, adv. (from *wrongless*). (Hence in Ash (1775) and later Dicts.)

**Wrongleasly** (rɒ·ŋlĕsli), *adv. rare.* [Cf. prec. and -ly 2.] Without doing wrong or inflicting injury; harmlessly.

*a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. xv, He was..deerly esteemed of her for his exceeding good parts, being honorable courteous, and wrongleasly valiant. 1868 C. Macdonald *R. Falconer* II. 93 Some woman..may have darkened his story—darkened it wrongleasly, it may be with coldness, or only with death.

**Wrongly** (rɒ·ŋli), *adv.* Also 4 **wrongli**, **-liche**; 5 *north.* **wrangli**, 9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **wrangly.** [f. Wrong *a.* + -ly 2. Cf. ON. *rangliga*, Norw. *rangleges*; MSw. *wranglika*, Da. *vranglelig.*]

**1.** In a wrong, undue, or inappropriate fashion; unfittingly, improperly. Also *Comb.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11069 Agens God, he ys nat quyte þat suffre for to done profyte Holy clercke wrongly be ware To þo men hat wrykedly lyve. *a* 1386 Sidney *Arcadia* III. vii, So wrongly-consorted a power could not resist the newly minded force of Amphialus. *a* 1830 Sir T. Lawrence in Williams *Life & Corr.* (1831) I. 190 I began [to write] wrongly, I spent more money than I earned, and accumulated debt. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* ix, She..was so afraid of speaking wrongly, that she was silent. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 May 5/6 A wrongly-set switch.

**b.** Inaccurately; incorrectly. Cf. Wrongfully *adv.* 2.

1633 [Ware] *Spenser's State Irel.* Pref. ¶ 5 b, He deceased at Westminster in the year 1599. (others have it wrongly 1598.) 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 13. 71 Mad Men,..having joined together some Ideas very wrongly,..mistake them for Truths. 1828 *Mech. Magazine Digest* (ed. 2) II. 214 The judgement is evidently misstated, or wrongly printed. 1858 [see Unionmeter]. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 7/15 If any houses have been omitted, or wrongly included under any heading.

**c.** In an erroneous manner; by error or misapprehension; erroneously, mistakenly; = Wrongfully *adv.* 2 b.

1755 Johnson, *Mistheliever*,..one who holds a false religion, or believes wrongly. 1809–14 Wordsw. *Excurs.* v. 508 What have I to examine..that separates, that perverts, or trembles, wrongly, or too much? Hopes rashly. 1838 James *Robber* iv, You construe what I have said very wrongly. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 14/2 Even if wrongly, such general principles appear rather as [etc.]. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Mar. 147/1 The methods..have, rightly or wrongly, largely fallen into discredit.

**2.** In an unfair, unjust, or inequitable manner; unjustly, unfairly; = Wrongfully *adv.* 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 8 And yet zenezeþ he more þet deþ oþer porchaseþ eanne oþer harm to oþren wrongliche. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* iv. 92 False pupule, þat bygyleþ good men and greueþ hem wrongliche. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals in Cursor M.* App. 1672 A-gaine man ristwise striue þou in na wise, ne wrangly þou him chastise. 1419 *Pol. Poems* (1859) I. 69 To be wrongly wele, wod þey gun weke. *c* 1430 *Myroure of Ladye* II. 249 Many of them wrongly wandrynge from the ryghtnes of laythe. *a* 1586 Cyrus Pembroke *Pr.* Lxix. ii, Wrongly sett to worke my woe. 1605 Bacon *Merch. v.* v. 93 Thou..wouldst not play false, And yet wouldst wrongly winne. 1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* v. ci, There he had his rightfull punishment, though not wrongly layd vpon his head. 1839–40 Wordsw. *The Roman Consul* 10 When they by wilful act A single human life have wrongly taken. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* viii, I have been wrongly accused.

**Wrongness** (rɒ·ŋnĕs). [f. as prec. + -ness.]

†**1.** The state or condition of being curved or crooked; crookedness, wryness. *Obs. rare.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wrongenesse, of werke,..*curvitas.* *c* 1475 *Ibid.* 433/2 (K.), Ryth, with owtyn wrongnesse, *rectus.*

**2.** Want of correctness or exactness; unsuitability or inappropriateness to a desired purpose or end; faultiness, error.

1726 Butler *Serm.* 306 There was a Probability, if he could see the whole Reason of the Plan, appearing wrong to the general Design, that this would destroy the Appearance of Wrongness and Disproportion. 1796 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 365 Though not right in itself, it may become right by the greater wrongness of the opposite alternative—the remaining in neediness and uncertainty. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iii, This is indeed a time when right Education is, as nearly as may be, impossible: however, in degrees of wrongness there is no limit. 1871 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* v. 10 The Botanical lecturer was, to the extremity of wrongness, wrong. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 2/1 Her gown, even her gloves—everything that could be wrong was wrong, with the worst of all wrongness.

**3.** The character or quality of being morally wrong or wrongful; injustice, wrongfulness.

In frequent use from *c* 1850.

1833 Chalmers *Const. Man* (1834) I. ii. 100 Malice, envy, falsehood, injustice, irrespective of their wrongness [etc.]. 1843 Mill *Logic Nonconf.* III. i. As of a man's sense of rightness and wrongness were nothing. 1851 H. Spencer *Soc. Statics* x. § 1. 128 To determine the rightness or wrongness of certain actions. 1881 *Irish Monthly* XI. 104 When nature..is..chastising us right and left for our wrongness, it is no time to sit at ease.

**4. a.** A wrong bent, tendency, or inclination. *rare.*

1736 Butler *Anal.* II. v. 203 The Wrongnesses within themselves which the best complain of, and endeavour to amend. 1799 W. Gilpin *Serm.* x. 153 What wrongnesses do such thoughts produce..in our tempers, in our behaviour!

**b.** A wrong thing, wrongful act or action; a wrong, injustice.

**Wrongous** (*rɒŋəs*), *a.* Latterly *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: **a.** 2–6 **wrangwis** (5 **-wise**(**8**, **-uise**, 6 **-uis**), 2–5 **wrangwise** (3 **wrano-**), 5 **-uise**, 4–5 **-wys**(**e**, **4 wrangewis**, **-wys**, 5 **wrangwis** (**-ways**, **-wayes**), 6 **wrangwus**; 3 **wrongwise**, 4–5 **-wis**, **-wys**(5 **-wes**, **-woe**). *B.* 5 **wrangous** (6 **-oous**), 5–7 **wrangus** (5 **-ws**, **wrangus**, 5–6 **wrangus**, 9 *dial.* **wrangush**), 5 **wrangis**; 5– **wrongous** (5, 8, 9 **-ous**, 6, 9 **-ous**, 5–7**s**, **-os**, 5–6 **-us**). [Early ME. *wrangwis*, f. *wrang* WRONG *a.* + *-wis*, after *rihtwis* RIGHTEOUS *a.* Cf. MSw. and older Da. *wrangvis*, Sw. *wrångvis* iniquitous, Da. *wrangvis*, Norw. *rangvis*, self-conceited.

The orig. spelling *wrangwis*, *-wise*, survived into the 16th c.; the obscured endings *-wis*, *-wus*, *-ous*, *-as*, etc., appear in the 15–16th c., and *wrangwise*, *wrongous*, about the end of the 15th c. Cf. RIGHTEOUS *a.*]

The exact sense is doubtful in the following early examples.—**a 1200** in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 4732 *Sodi kroest J. asperus*,..wiperwyde, wrangwise, woge.

†**1.** Of persons: Acting wrongfully, inequitably, or unjustly; rascally, iniquitous, unjust. *Obs.*

**a 1200** *Moralities* 256 Þer inne boð..Med-lene dunes men, and wrangwise iuggeres. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1618 Þe þat hauest wrangwise iuged. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 11539 Ful wrath he wex, þat wrangwis king. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii. 13 Wrongwis men & couatous. **c 1400** tr. *Secreta Secretorum*, *Govt. Lordsh.* 116 He þat hauis right a lunge vsage, ys wrongwys. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 137 Wrangous men of fals intent. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxi. 4 He shal..punysh the wrangwous doer. **1567** GUEST & *Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 99 For wrangus men sall end mischeuouslie. **a 1599** ROLLOCK *On 2 Thess.* (1606) 19 (Jam.) So man by nature is a wrangous and wicked iudge. **c 1620** HUSBT *Rolment* (S.T.S.) II. 162 Princes of Scotland, that war..wrangous usurperis of the crown.

*absol.* **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 8211 Þe wrangwis wit þar wafd wrak þar bai biginning gan to tak.

**2.** Markol or characterized by wrong, injustice, or unfairness; = WRONGFUL *a.* 1.

**a 1200** *Moral Ode* 48 Þer ne sal me us naut binimen mid wrange ne mid wrange. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 7548 Godd es euer on rightwis side, Werrand and again wrangwis pride. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* lxv. 43 Thoru þat er rayskl.. dissensiones, and wrangwis ordinationes. **a 1400–50** *Alexander* (Bodl.) 149 Thi sharppest bydyngis and wrongwys Captivitee. **c 1470** HENRY *Wallace* IX. 919 Off cryastin blud to se it was gret syn, For wrangus is wrangwis and wrangwis wrangus. **1535** COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxxv. 12 Hewarre of wrongwous offeringes, for ye Lordes.. regarcleth no mans persone. **c 1550** ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* i. 583 Lufe is wrangous, and lufe is variable. **a 1598** LINDSAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 74 It is meeth for no wrangous quarrell that we haue assembellit our selfis. **1617** JAS. I in Halliwell *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 243 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds. **a 1639** SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* n. (1655) 51 The wrongous judgement and sentence given against them. **1684** *Acts Lord of Lairds* xxvi. The wrongous mischief ye would noo do to the sweet girl. **1830** — *Laurie T. IV.* vi. The laues of his wrongous usurpation.

**b.** Of actions, etc.; WRONGFUL *a.* 1 b.

**a 1300** *Cursor M.* 22076 [þai sal..vnne þe anti-crist come, his werkes wrangwis to fulfill. **1357** *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 292 Wrangwise taking of selling of certaine money. *Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 22 A wrangwise wylynyge or skrynge to haue any maner of gude that ys nowe noghte. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. ix. 68 Sa war his nerr 3 gretar Ercild, Our gift and our wrangwise deid. **1483** in *Acts Parl. Conc.* II. Introd. 109 The actioun..anent the wrangwise occupacioun of the landis. **1557** *Reg. Privy Seal Scott.* I. 448 † The wrangwis taking or selling of certane money. **1583** CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 31 In wrongous withholding of her Dowre. **1588** in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 444 The alleaged investing, and wrongous election of the said regent. **c 1605** BISSET *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 8 Pilate beand..veait in his spreit for..his wrangus doingis. **1615** *Crt. Jonet* 15 April 10/5 A Court of Session action for damages for alleged wrongous certification of lunacy.

**3.** Not right or justifiable in nature or application; not applicable or proper; unfitting, unsuitable.

**a 1350** in Horstm. *Allegor. Leg.* (1881) 29 Se sulde haue schame On me to put swilk wrangwys blame. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 551 Yonder is a fals tabyll,..It is falsly writen, lwys, Unlely dyvyng..and wrangwys. **1470–85** HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 649 Othir sum said, it was the wrangwis place. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 81 He take litil fore how beit he war honorit with wrangwis titlis. **1567** *Gude & Godly B.* (S.T.S.) 274 Allace I this is ane wrangous way. **?a 1600** *Lord Ingram* xxv. in Child *Ballads* II. 129/2, I will not father my barn on you, Nor no wrangous man. **1820** *Joseph the Book-Man* 52 Perchance I've play'd some very wrongous prance.

**b.** Wrongly directed or constituted.

**1708** ROSS *Helenore* 17 If lately chanc'd..To play a feckless or a wrangous shot. **1843** R.W. HAMILTON *Typ. Educ.* iv. 57 In their improvement, if the State be wrongous and defective, you must raise the State to the people.

**4.** †**a.** Obtained by illegal, wrongful, or unfair means; ill-gotten. *Obs.*

**c 1445** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xiii. 1230 Ile thyft, Oppyn refe, or wrangwys gyft,..all I wan The gud. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Trial Fox* 12 (Dann. MS.). Off wrangus get [*v.r.* geir] cummys wrang successioun. **1535** GAU *Richt Feip* (S.T.S.) 16 Thay that haldis wrangus gudis of thair nichtburs or takis wp wrangus rentis. **1600** HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 54 The Ministers *dar* not teache this restitution of wrangous geir. **a 1750** in Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 180 Wrangous gear can never thrive.

**b.** *Scots Law.* Contrary to law; unlawful, illegal. **1631** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 275 Manifest oppression and wrongous imprisonment committed upon the said complener. **1700** *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1823) XI. 213/1 The draught of the Act..for preventing wrongous imprisonments and against undue delayes in tryalls. **1701** *Hodgson* 275. **1733** *Scots Mag.* Aug. 420/2 Under the pain of wrongous imprisonment. **1828** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxx, Dougal will have the good action of wrongous imprisonment and damages against him. **1854** H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii, 473 The pedlar.. raised an action for wrongous imprisonment. **1901** *Scotsman* 29 March 6/8 Pursuer claimed..damages for wrongous dismissal.

**Wrongously** (*rɒŋəsli*), *adv.* In later use chiefly *Sc.* Forms: **1–6 wrangwis-**, **4–5 -wys-**, **5- wrongously**, etc. (see WRONGOUS *a.*); also **4–7 -lie**, **4 -lii**; **5–6 -le**. [f. prec. + *-LY* 2.]

**1.** In a wrongful, unjust, or evil manner; wrongfully, unfairly, inequitably.

In very freq. (esp. *Sc.*) use from *c* 1425 to *c* 1650.

*c* **1325** *Metr. Hom.* 32 It schawed..That I had mi lif wrangwislie. *a* **1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* lv. 12 [People] wrangwisly slane and hurt. **1375** *Sc. Legends of Saints*, *Peter* 80 Þe Iewis..Noghte anely he þat wrangwysly geites, bot he þat wrangwysly haldes. **14..** *Guy Warw.* 6500 (Camb. MS.). Þou dyest vnrecheles, for to sle myne wrongwyse. **a 1400** *Alph. Tales* 48 To pray for me, at I be nott wrongwisle putt to dead. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* viii. 58 If thou swere wrongwysly, thou art worthy grete blame. **1535** *Scottish Metr.* (1890) 19 Ye tennauntes..have wrangwisly halden & occupiet xviij poules feet of ye grounde. **1535** BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 191 Þe Romanis haue nan law bot wrangwisly fra þe publick landis wrangwisly bai wrangwislie possedit. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxiv. 12 God condemneth no man wrongously. **a 1615** *Bricot. Cont. Erik Rot* (1850) 72 He was maist wrangously and wrongously out of the Abbay. **1680** ALISON in Thomson *Cloud of Witnesses* (1871) 62 They have ..tasted and sentenced me wrongously. **1756** BYRD in Beatson *Mil. Mem.* (1790) II. 81 The injury done to our characters..which..[have] been most injuriously and wrongously attacked. **1833** CHARLTON *Const. Man* (1854) I. vi. 242 If one child..is returning..shall find that..he has the possession of another occupier..it has the sense of being wrongously dispossessed. **1860** *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 460 Where the man is wrongously captured or detained. **1894** HALL CAINE *Manxman* 340 She..slapped the schoolmaster for hating me wrongously.

**2.** Without good ground or justification; for no sufficient cause or reason; undeservedly.

*c* **1390** CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2699 How..þat ilke envie Has sni man wreid wrangwisly. *c* **1350** *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 94 My well of my wele as wrangwysly wryed. *a* **1400** *Gesta Romanorum* (Add. MS. B. 1.) 1. 3 [Blame] him wrongfully. **1483** in *Acts Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 103 The malis of the landis..excepand xli. quhilk it is allegit..that he is wrangwisly chargit with. **1494** WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. C.T.S. 1. 53 Paull..at that tyme was..mast wrangwlis persuadit, that all that he did wes..pleasand to God. **1574** in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 102 David..declarit that..the Erle was wrangwislie and sinnesalye vplandit of him. **1630** *Large Declar. Lord Tunnilis Scott.* 377 Wherein..wee are heavily and wrongously blamed and taxed of many great offences. **1848** E. IRVING *Last Days* 67 To endure reproof wrongously, for Christ's sake. **1885** BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 115 Let these folk go, for they are wrongously accused.

†**b.** Without due title, claim, or warrant.

**14..** *Sir Beues* VIII. 1164 Þou wrongwisly hast vs hym þe name of an hirde-man. **1456** SIR G. HAY *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 Ane other callit Dannis was put in the sege wrangwisly.

†**3.** Incorrectly; = WRONGLY *adv.* 1 b. *Obs.*

**1597** *Sinnes Scourge Sect. Sign.*, *Eyrarie Declar.* Quhilk in sum buikes, is wrangeouslie written, *Banata terra*. **1730** MUNRO *Acad. Rosses* (ed. 2) 191 A small Cavity..where the *Acetabula* are wrongously placed, commonly (tho' wrongously) ascribed to Cowper, take their Rise. **1749** in Heslop *Northumbld. Wds.* (1894) 709 Pay'd by..one of ye late stewards, his fourth part of ye money—wrongously given to Ralph Smith.

†**Wrongousness.** *Obs. rare.* In **4** wrangwisnes, [f. as prec. + *-NESS.*] The state or condition of being wrong; wrongfulness.

**a 1300** *Cursor M.* 7543 Qua-sa fightes in wrangwisnes, Him helpes noght his frinnes. *c* **1325** *Metr. Hom.* 136 Sua strokes to be hiest sal he soffer for his wrangwisnes.

†**Wrongwende,** *a. Obs.*—[f. WRONG *a.* + *-wende*, as in *halwende*, etc. Cf. Norw. *rangwend.*] Distorted, turned aside.

**a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 253 Þeo..habbeð be nebben wrongwende snuttes. Nummen nowðer, bute ower nebbe ane.

**Wrong-wise,** *adv.* [f. WRONG *a.* + WISE *sb.*1 II.] In a wrong or reverse manner.

**1849** ROSE *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xi. 99 The illuminations, that they might be seen in their true position by the people, had to be hung wrong-wise up to the ground to them.

†**Wroot,** *sb. Obs.* In **1** wrot, urot, unrot, **4–5** wrot, **5** wrotte, wrougthe. [OE. *wrōt*, = MLG. *wrote* (a mole), LG. *wrote*, *wrote*, WFlem. *wroete* (anout). Cf. next and WORT *sb.*?] The snout of a swine, etc.; a proboscis.

*c* **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) H 188 *Brunnistin*, *wrot*. *a* **1100** *Cott. Gloss.* 1146 *Wrot*, *snoc*. **1158** *Promptorium*, *pipus hoc*, *wrot*. *a* **1325** *Old Ace* ii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149 Much me anuep þat mi drihil druiþ and mi wrot wet. *c* **1375** in Horstm. *Sources* (1878) 324 Þis beste hatte wrot to him gonne leode. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxix. (Tollem. MS.). The sea swyne..picchep þe wrot [1535 snowte] in grauel. *Ibid.* xviii. xlii. (Bodl. MS.). With his wrote and snowte he wroteþ vp trees. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 587 *Grunnus*,..a grupn, or a wrot.

†**Wroot,** *v. Obs.* Forms: **1 wrotan**, **2–4 wroten** (**5 -yn**), **4–7 wrote** (**5 wroth-**), **4–6 wroote**, **6–7 wroot** (**5** *Sc.* **wrote**, **6 wrutt**). [OE. *wrōtan*, = OFris. **wrēta* (WFris. *wreite*, NFris. *wrota*, *wrôte*, *wrâte*), MLG. *wroten* (LG. *wröten*), MDu. and Du. *wroeten* (Antwerp dial. *wruten*), OHG. **wurbian*, *ruonian* to plough up, ON. and Icel. *róta*, (M)Sw. and Norw. *rota*, Da. *rode*), f. *wrōt* WROOT *sb.* Cf. ROOT *v.*2, WROT *v.*, WROUT *v.*]

**1.** *intr.* To turn up soil with the snout, as swine in search of food; to dig up the earth by grubbing; = ROOT *v.*2 1. Also in fig. context.

*c* **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 682 *Subigo*, WROTE. *a* **1000** *Riddles* 21[1]. 107 Swin, bearg bellende on bocwuda won wrotende wynsum lifde. *c* **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Alse swin, þe wulleð and wroteð and aneuneð aure fule. *c* **1205** LAY. 469 Wilde swin þat wroteð 3eond þan grunen. *c* **1386** CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 783 (Ellesm.), Right as a soughe wroteth in euerich ordure; so wroteth [*other MSS. add* þe sike] hire beautee in stynkynge ordure of synne. *c* **1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v. [Wild boars] wrote in þe grounde with þe rowell of hir mowe. *c* **1420** *Chron. Vilod.* xii, The bore..he-tyrnus to wrote, He rukes vppe mony a rote. **1426** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 In the wylderneese of this worlde where they labour & wroote in the erth. *a* **1586** SIDNEY *Da Mornay Prel.* 2 3 Wee..preach the kingdome of heauen, and haue our groynes euer wrooting in the ground. **1589** HARRISON *England* III. viii. (1878) II. 52 Some [sheep] also will wroot for them [sc. saffron-bulbs] in verie eger maner. **1622** DRAYTON *Polyolb.* ii. 320 That cruell Boare, whose tusks turn'd up whole fields of graine, And wrooting, raised hills upon the level Plaine. **1642** BEST *Farm. Bk.* (Surtees) 144 To lye it wheare it may be well wroten amongst with swine and beasts. *Ibid.* 148 Rye-strawe, well wrote amongst.

**b.** *trans.* Of worms.

*c* **1398** *Erthe upon Erthe* 2 Þan a scalbon an hundred wormes wroten on þe skin. **13..** *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 467 God wayned a worme þat wrot vpe herote. *a* **1425** *Cursor M.* 23281 (Trin.), Þo wormes war slid on him, þat wroght-war Lyng. *Bochas* I. 6435 Lik a worm that wrotith on a tre.

**c.** Of persons: To turn up the ground. *rare*—1.

*c* **1395** *Dyetz* 239 Now he most bothe digge and wrote, Er he have his fille of rote.

**2.** *trans.* To turn over, dig or tear up, with the snout, as in grubbing or burrowing; = ROOT *v.*2 2. Occas. with *up*. Also in fig. context.

*c* **1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxix. 13 Hine utan of wuda soferas wrotað. *a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 252 Þeo vi. ne beoð nowðer ei wroght,..bowe wailes with to wrote. Wrote þai sal 3owre dene. *c* **1386** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 406 Moolde-worpis þat wroten he erbe. **1398** TREVISA *tr. Bartk. De P. R.* (1495) *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Rootes þat [*sc.* boars] wrote oute of þe erthe. *c* **1440** *Gesta Rom.* 148 (Addit. MS.), There entred a swyne, and the new plantes..he wrote. **1589** MARLEY *Gr. Feverel* 102 The Swine..wrooting vp the clots of the yearth. **1681** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 99 Cursed be those Swynishe heines, whiche can wroote together all rootes of wickednesse. **[1682** see *P. L. Reform. Fr. Parnass.* III. iv. 1300 If his earth wroting snout shall gin to scorne.]

†**3.** *trans.* To grub or root (earth, etc.) by grubbing. *c* **1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 802 Light molde about and on, snoon let wrote. *Ibid.* iii. 445 More [mould] a biel heere vppon hir wrote. *Ibid.* xii. 469 But wete hym ofte, and donge aboute hym wrote.

Hence †**Wroo·ting** *ppl. a. Obs.*

*c* **1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 79 A wroting viceus [*L. ulcus corrodens*] is þat of his maliynge is wrotynge. **1530** PALSGR. *Addit. MS.* wrote[h]. **1568** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 The wrotyng hogge. **1600** THYNNE *Emblems* (1876) xviii. 5 With wrootinge grayne..[the] warlike bure Turnes vp and fetters that bad lande.

**Wroot,** obs. erron. form of ROOT *v.*1

†**Wroo·ter.** *Obs.*—**0** [f. WROOT *v.* + *-ER*1. Cf. Du. and older Flem. *wroeter*; WFlem. *wroeter* (anout), also WFris. *wrotter* field-worker.] An animal that roots.

*c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrotare, *versor* (K. *verror*).

†**Wroo·ter,** obs. erron. f. ROOTER 1 1.

**1599** NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* WKS. (Grosart) V. 299 Mollifying the..homely crucifixe of Iesus Christ crucifyde & wrooter vp of Pallestyne.

**Wroothe,** obs. form of WROTH *a.*

†**Wroo·ting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. WROOT *v.* + *-ING*1.] The action of grubbing or rooting; the result of this, the furrow made by a pig rooting.

*c* **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 147 Þei ben as moolde-warpis in wrootinge of worldly worshipe & erþely goodis. **1379** *Glouc. Coll. MS. 19* No. 1, i. iii. fol. 6 b, Scrophula ys a sore that is lyke a swynes wrotynge. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wrotynge, *versura*. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 189 Wrooting of a swyne, *scrobs*. **1691** *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 333 Whate with wrotyng and tredyng of the saide bestes [*sc.* swine]. **1832** MURE *Compl. Husbandm.* 82 We have seen yoke them for breking hedges, and ringe them for wroting.

**Wropper,** dial. f. WRAPPER *sb.* **Wros(se,** obs. var. WORSE *a.* **Wrot,** obs. metathetic var. WART *sb.*

**Wrotch,** etc.: see WRETCH, etc. **Wrote,** pa. t. and pa. pple. (now *illit.*) of WRITE *v.*

**Wrothe,** *a.* and *sb.* Forms: **1–5** wroth, **5** wrothe, **6** wroath. [= OFris. *wrâth*, MLG. *wrâde*, LG. *wrâd*, MDu. *wrâet*, Du. *wraad*, OHG. *wrâd*, *wrât*, ON. *reiðr*, Sw. *vred*, Da. *vred*, f. *wrīðan* to WRITHE *v.*1 Deep anger or resentment; wrath, rage, or fury; ire.

The earlier examples are doubtful. The first may be a miswriting for *wrethe* or *wrethe*, and the second may be adjectival, as in *Gower Conf.* VI. 1696 (see FOR- *pref.* 10).

*a* **1200–50** *Wars Alex.* 2077 All þe werd [*v.r.* werld] war to waike his wrothe to with-stand. *a* **1225** *Cursor M.* 12183 (Trin.), Leuy for wrooþ..anot him on þe heed a dint. **1313** DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. x. 2. Saie pwnitioun of Grekis dred scho, als Hir husbandis wrath. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 109 Thus setu the trayterous lade the king with griefe and wroth a fire. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 18 Imagin'd wroth Holds in his blood..swoine and hot discourse. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 852 The objects of our Wroth. *Ibid.* II. 737 At this the Knight grew high in wroth.

**Wroth** (rɒθ), *sb.*[2] *Cornish dial.* [Cf. WRASSE.] One or other species of wrasse.

1750 HEATH *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 317 The Coast is plentifully stored . with Sea Round Fish; as: . Cunner, Rockling, Cod, Wroth, Becket. 1880 JAGO *Acc. Lang. Cornwall* 314 *Wroth*, a fish known as Conner, or sea Carp.

**Wroth** (rɒθ), *pp.*, *a.* Forms: *α.* 1 **wrað** (*Northumb.* **wræd**, **wraed**), 2–3 **wræð** (5 **wrad**), 3–4 **wrap**, 4 **wrape**, 4–5, *Sc.* 5 **wrathe** (4 **wrathe**), 4–5 **wrath** (4 **wrathh**, 5 *Sc.* **wrathh**, 6 **wreath**, **wraathe**), *Sc.* 5–6, 8 **wraith** (6 **wreith**); 2 **wroð** (**wræð**), 6 *Sc.* **wreth**. *β.* 3 **wroþ**, 3–5 **wrop** (3–4 **wrop**), 3–5 **wrope**, 4–6 **wrothe**, 4– **wroth** (4 **wrogh**, **wroght**, **wropt**, 4–5 **wrobt**, **wrobth**, 5 **wrought**, **wrowthth**, **wourthe**); 4–5 **wroop**, **wrooth**, 5 **wroope**, 5 **rowthe**, 6 **wrouthe**. [OE. *wráð*, = OFris. *wráth* evil, OS. *wráth* (MLG. *wrede*, *wret*, LG. *wrêd*), MDu. *wret*, *wreet* (Du. and Flem. *wreed* cruel), OHG. *rêd*, *rêdi* (MHG. *rêde* curled, twisted), ON. **reiðr*, *reiðr* (Norw. *vreid*, *reid*, Da. and Sw. *vred*) angry, offended, f. the pa. t. of *wríðan* to WRITHE. Cf. WRATH *a.*]

In very freq. use *c* 1250–*c* 1450. Rare (exc. in or after Biblical usage), *c* 1530–*c* 1850, being regarded as 'out of use' by Johnson, 'nearly obsolete' by Todd, but as 'an excellent word and not obsolete' by Webster (1828–32). Revived in sense 5, esp. in formal or dignified style. *c* 1800.

**1.** Stirred to wrath; moved or exasperated to ire or indignation; very angry or indignant; wrathful, incensed, irate.

Rarely *attrib.*, as in quots. *a* 1225, 1375, *c* 1400.

*a.* *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii, 7 De cynix untedlice miõ þy xeherede wæs wrað. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xlix [Jacob] Benjamin unbliõe Abrahames cwen, hire wurðgeowe wræð on mode. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, Þa þe cyng Willelm xeherde þæt seo cwen wæs wrað, he swiõe wræð wæs. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne leo þu nefre ene wraþ þer fore. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19603 And ta warrþ wrap Herode. *c* 1205 LAY. 8268 Þa wes he wræð ful iwis; þohte þa þat he wolde iwinnen, wræð on his bonke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1599 Þof he was wrath it was na wrang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 243 Micht no man se ane wrathar man. *c* 1400 *Rom. St. Graal* (Perc.) He, as a wrath felon, deseret vs not hys sone. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 18 Tho gan the Inge to be right wrath. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 100 The Carll..wox wonder wrath. *c* 1500 M. Nisbet *Garden of Pryse* 21 Be wrathe, and will ye nocht do synne. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) vi. 38 For be scho wreth I will not wow it. 1590 BUREL in Watson *Coll.* ii. (1709) 2 Anna, wyf to Assuerus, wrath, incurses his auther Didos daith. *a* 1776 *Lord Ingram* in Child *Ballads* II. 131/2 A' was blyth at Auld Ingram's cuming, But Lady Maisdrey was wrath.

*β.* *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Al þat me was leof, hit was þe lað; þu ware a selo ȝiet ich wrah wrop. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Wrað man is he wel ofte? 1297 *Rechd* 123 Þe was he king wel of i-nouh, wrobere þane he was er. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4889 (Göll.), If he it wit he will be wroght [*Trin.* wrogh]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.* xv. xli. (BM. Addit. MS.), Hy be gulte we ban wrogh, by be leuere we ben wys. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 22 Thanne she was wrother thanne afore. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 123 Sire,..ye be wroth of non other thyng. 1548 HINDLEY *Math. xxii.*, 7 When the kyng haerde that, he was wroth. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 65 For he was nether wroth, nor murmured against Christ. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* vii. vi. 31 Therefat loue waxed wroth. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xx. 7 If he be very wroth, . euill is determined by him. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* i. 161 Our modern Dissenters . . seem wroth, when they are deem'd a vulgar-kind of People. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vi. ix, The parson . . saying, 'You behold, Sir, how he wexeth wroth your ale-cide here.' 1820 WORDSW. *A Book came forth* 7 But some.. Waxed wroth, and with foul claws . On Bard and Hero clamorously fell. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 93 Then the old man Was wroth, and doubled up his hands. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Hse.* xl, She Leicester is majestically wroth. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxxiii, 'I know it,' said Carroway, too wroth to swear.

*absol.* *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 944 Selde endeþ wel þe iobe & selde playeþ wel þe wrobe.

*transf.* *c* 1388 CHAUCER *Wife's Tr.* 34 Reuel and trouthe.. been ful wrothe al day as men may see.

**b.** Said of the Deity.

*a* 1200 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 253 Crist .., him wurðe wræð þe hi bræcð þes scypyes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4889 Wa es me I lauerd,..þat euer i mad þe wrath. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5479 When he es wrathe þat es maker of alle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 506 Thee shal the strook wrothe luge sitte aboue. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* i. 117 God was wel be wrobere. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 A Abour hym schall he Crist his doom-sadde no wrobe, þat [etc.]. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 106 The goddis war sa contemovit and wrathit, þat [etc.]. 1612 BIBLE *Isaiah* lxiv. 9 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 1110 The God was wroth. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* ii. 351 He saw fell many a God Wroth as himself. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* i. 1, 28 Why should not Heaven be wroth?

**c.** With dative, or const. with preps., as *against*, *at*, *on*, *+to*, *+toward*, *+upon*, or esp. *with*.

(*a*) *a* 1000 *Genesis* 405 Þonne weorð he him wrað on mode. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxxiv. 4 Þæt Su us ne wurðe wræð on mode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 214 Forr whatt is Drihhtin me þuss wrað? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Heo hit nu, þat..li were beo þe wrað.

(*b*) *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Þi les ße god iwurðe wraþ will cou. *c* 1205 LAY. 6360 Anan se he wes wrað wid eni. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 570 Cuineus..wrop inou was Toward þe king Iotin. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12293 Al tymes ȝa God more wrobere with ȝys þan [etc.]. *a* 1350 MINOT *Poems* iii. 3 For mani men to him er wroth. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 201 Gyff ony thar-at war wrath. 1388 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiv. 10 Balaach was wroth ayens Balaam. 1412 *50 Pol. Poems* 47 First whan god wip man was wroh. 1478 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 335 Dyane..was wrothe and angry vpon them. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 50 Charlemayne..was wrothe to theym. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xxviii. 9 The Lord God..is wroth at Iuda. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* iii. vi. 19 She..wrote halfe wroth against her damzels slacke. *Ibid.* vii. 8 Be not wroth With silly Virgin. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxxxix. 38 Thou hast bene wroth with thine anointed. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The signor, it seems, had lately been very wroth against her. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 160 Then got Sir Lancelot suddenly to horse, Wroth at himself. 1873 OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 39 She, dear soul, was very wroth against him always. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 1177 Wroth with his pitiless sire, he slew himself.

*fig.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 30 Þe wrang to here o right is lath, And pride wyt buxumnes is wrath.

**+2.** Marked or characterized by anger or wrath; indicative of ire or indignation. *Obs.*

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxiii. 4 Hi..hi mid wræsum word-um trymmaõ. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 1 Wrathe es þi breth, ouer schepe of þi fode. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* cxxiii. 3 Her wodelnip was wrope ogaines us. *c* 1340 *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 Pay sued hym [*sc.* a fox] fast, Wreuande hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 898 (Fairf.), Sone bigan venimous to kiche, al was wrop þat er was blithe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* v. (Arb.) 92 Wroth woords stately re thus [he] vsed. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xii. xxiii, Wroth fiery flames he marshalled vpon Her fearefull face.

**+3.** Of a fierce, savage, or violent disposition or character; stern, truculent. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 319 Ic to ðe wille wiõ wraõ weorod wearde healdan. *c* 893 *Ælfred Oros.* vi. ii. 254 Þa wæron Tiberius Romanum rices wrop & wrabmod. *a* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 298 Se wyrdewum syn wraõe ast dome. *c* 1205 LAY. 1858 Þis iherde Gorlois. & he andwarde sat swiõe wraþest. *Ibid.* 28501 Arður þat ilke þrittede wraõest kinge. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 6402 Þar was mani bold Bruti, and mani cnihtes wrope [*c* 1205 bi-k kempen].

**+b.** In the phrase *as wroth as (the) wind*. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* (Cott.) 319 He wex as wrob as wynde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* iii. 328 Also wroth as þe wyndes Wex Moyses in a while. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13091 And he [was] wrothe as þe wynde to his wale kyne. 14.. *Arthur* 3310 *Arthur* 3318 Erthe is as sone wroth as is the weyre. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Golagreas.., Wod wraith as the wynd, his handis can wryng.

**+4.** Of animals. Of a violent or fierce nature; irritated, enraged. *Obs.*

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1548 Se deopa seaõ..ælceõ hy mid þy ealdan lisse.., wraþum wyrmum. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1297 Þe wrabbe wrob, þe wrabe wrabbe. *c* 1275 *Lay. Brut* 3438 Þe wrabe wrabbe here wes þe wrabbe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2128 Þe wrabbe wrabbe here eyen aliradi. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1676 Þou..on morer most abide.. With wrobe wolfes to won. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (Peter) 533 Þan wes he bound na thing wrath, Na schrip to do na thing was him by. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7128 As wrath as a waspe. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xii. 17 The dragon was wroth with the woman.

**b.** *transf.* Of the wind, sea, etc.: Moved to a state of turmoil or commotion; violent, stormy.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 162 Euer was ilyche loud be lot of þe wyndes, & euer wroþer be water, & wodder þe stremes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of be welkyn wrasteled þerto. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 22 Soone *Ware Aiex.* 718 As wrath as a waspe. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xii. 17 The dragon was wroth with the woman.

**b.** *transf.* Of the wind, sea, etc.: Moved to a state of turmoil or commotion; violent, stormy.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 162 Euer was ilyche loud be lot of þe wyndes, & euer wroþer be water, & wodder þe stremes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of be welkyn wrasteled þerto. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 22 Soone *Ware Aiex.* 718 As wrath as a waspe. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xii. 17 The dragon was wroth with the woman. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. xi. 19 When the wroth Western wind Doth cease to worke, and boisterous storms vpcast, The wroth sea's waues are edged With foame. 1852 C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay*, etc. (1856) 123 It rained heavily...So I was wroth with the weather. 1871 TENNYSON *Lucretius* *Poems* 1649 The most holy heart of the deep sea, Late wroth, now full of quiet.

**+5.** Bad, evil; grievous, perverse. *Obs.*

In latter use in *to wrothe haile* (see WROTHER-HEAL).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 101 Ic minum fotum feccne sióas, þa wrabun wegas, werdes ȝeorne. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 31 Þa lange mon hi ȝebiõ, þa hi ȝit..þas teala and hu wrab. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 57 Weila as þu were þoren wrecche o wrabe [*v.r.* wraõer] time. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 171 Þe wrecches þen hi sculen, wrabe werkes wurchen. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 94 Penne ledþ his wrat ful wrobe lene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3019 To wrobe hele al þis lond was he so milde þo. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 132 To wrothe hele that he was wont to. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 698 Thai was him to wrothe-haile: For thei of Grece opon him throng.

**+6.** Displeased, grieved; sorrowful, sad. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 4198 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder hab vnderstonde Þ' leitise þat his derlinges sonde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Thynne) 4 Whan Wrother-heal) *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 101 Ic minum fotum feccne sióas, þa wrabun wegas, werdes ȝeorne. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 31 Þa lange mon hi ȝebiõ, þa hi ȝit..þas teala and hu wrab. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 57 Weila as þu were þoren wrecche o wrabe [*v.r.* wraõer] time. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 171 Þe wrecches þen hi sculen, wrabe werkes wurchen. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 94 Penne ledþ his wrat ful wrobe lene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3019 To wrobe hele al þis lond was he so milde þo. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 132 To wrothe hele that he was wont to. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 698 Thai was him to wrothe-haile: For thei of Grece opon him throng.

**+b.** Displeased, grieved; sorrowful, sad. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 4198 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder hab vnderstonde Þ' leitise þat his derlinges sonde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* (Thynne) 4 Whan Wrother-heal) *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 101 Ic minum fotum feccne sióas, þa wrabun wegas, werdes ȝeorne. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 31 Þa lange mon hi ȝebiõ, þa hi ȝit..þas teala and hu wrab. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 57 Weila as þu were þoren wrecche o wrabe [*v.r.* wraõer] time. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 171 Þe wrecches þen hi sculen, wrabe werkes wurchen. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 94 Penne ledþ his wrat ful wrobe lene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3019 To wrobe hele al þis lond was he so milde þo. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 132 To wrothe hele that he was wont to. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 698 Thai was him to wrothe-haile: For thei of Grece opon him throng.

**+7.** Fearful, apprehensive, afraid. *Obs. rare*[—1].

13.. *K. Alis.* 544 (Laud MS.), Vche of hem so bycom wrobb þ' þe kyng hem com in to wone.

**† Wrothly**, *v. Obs.* Also † **wradlan**, § **wrothyn**, **wrothe**. [OE. *wráðian* (= OS. *wrâðian*, ON. **wreiða*, *reiða*, refl. *reiðask* (Norw. *vreidast*, MSw. *vrepas*, Sw. *vredgas*, Da. *vredes*) to get angry, f. *wráð* WROTH *a.* Cf. *aurroth* (s.v. AWRATH), WRATH, WRATHEN.]

**1.** *intr.* To become wrathful or angry; to manifest anger.

*c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark x. 41 Þa tenu ongunnun wradian of iacobe & iohanne. 14.. *Wars Alex.* 2593 (Dubl. MS.), Sitt wer hy baratours abaist & þe bein wrothel. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1796 [He, sir] seyng, bold this,..or ellis wroth we anon. *c* 1478 *Partenay* 1254 Again melusine wrothed he ful sore.

**2.** *trans.* To make wroth or angry; to enrage.

*c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 66 Adam louid hyr and wold not wroth hur. 1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Wrothyn or maken wrothe, *irritio*. 1611 FLORIO, *Adirare*, to anger, to wrothe.

**b.** *refl.* To become wrathful or angry.

*c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 1780 Bot thaa he wrothe bym never so sore, For sothe I nylle prove hym no more.

**Wrothe**, obs. var. *wrought*, pa. pple. of WORK *v.*

**Wrothe**, obs. metathetic var. *wort*, WART *sb.*

**† Wrothe**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wraðe**, 3 **wrape**, 5 **wrath**. *β.* 3 **wroðe**, 3–4 **wrope**, 5 **wrothe**; **wroth**. [OE. *wráðe*, f. *wráð* WROTH *a.*]

1. Wrathfully, angrily, severely; = WROTHLY *adv.* 1.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii, 14 Ondsaarode ða fæs folces aldormon wraðe [*Rushw.* wraðe]. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 658 Ecg se swiðend wraðe bisencte. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (C.) 572 Þu canst yolle wrope & stronge. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 144/100 Pat folk worþ eft wrope i-spild, þe nule to hire [*sc.* true love] turne. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 265 We neuer in hem loth [*sc.* Wales and Scotland] terme set ne stounde, Pat þei [ne] discorded wroth. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 824 Heo ..beot hire lobe counsle and wrob. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2917 The Sowdon wrothe answerd ageyn, 'Whi, 3eman? The lord he smote than so wrothe That shelde to-rofe.

**2.** Evilly; badly; ill; = WROTHLY *adv.* 3.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* I. He þa xehat swiõe yfele xelmste, & swiõe wraõe grendlode mid monegum mane. *a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lvii. 2 Eft ȝe on heortan þoȝeõon inwit, worhton wraõe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Þase þreo þing motes ech man on two wise, wel and wroõe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1360 Wymmon may pleye vnder cloþe hweþer heo wile wel þe wrope. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 729 Vor þou art mi doster, I loued þe one þou zelst nou my loue wrope. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 Þet þeof þet ofte sipes stelþ wrope þe zyleþ hire festes. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 73 He clothed him and feddè him yuel and eke wrothe.

**3.** Sorrowfully; sadly; = WROTHLY *adv.* 3.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (J.) 415 A wintre þu singest wrope & carme. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 96 in *O. E. Misc.* 75 Per-fore heo schulleȝhe And in helle-pin ssulle Acoyen hit ful wrope.

**† Wrother-heal**, *sb.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3 **wrabor-**, 3–4 **wraþer-** (4 **wreper-**), 4 **wrober-**, 3–5 **wrother-hele** (5 **wrothir-**, **wrothher-**); also 3 **-hele**, 4 **-hale**, **-hayle**, 4–5 **-hail(e**, **-hayl**. [= OE. **(ðá) wráþre hǽle* (*hǽlu*, -*o*) : see WROTH *a.* and HEAL *sb.* 2 b (HELE, HAIL *sb.*[2], HALE *sb.*[2]). Cf. GODER-HEAL.]

**A.** *sb.* **a.** *To wrother heal* (*hele*, also *hail*, *hale*), with evil fate or fortune; with or to misfortune, injury, calamity, or destruction.

*c* 1205 LAY. 29556 Þer heo iwurðen to, to wraþere hele. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102 Go ut ase duke Dina,..to wrother hele. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* (Cott.) 1137 Þat he him wil wrak to wrober hele he wes ibore. *c* 1325 *Pilate* 187 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 116 He swor his more oþ anon þat he to wrobere hele þer com. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 120 For to wrotherhele was he wrouȝte þat þere was drynke or shapeth. *a* 1400 *Syr. Gawe Degre* 209 Alas! it tourned to wroth-her-hayle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21923 (Trin.), To wrobirhele he sal vs wit.

**b.** With dative (noun or pron.), or const. *of*.

*a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 10 Ah crist to wurðmunt, ant him to wraðerhele, þe rode taken arudde hire readliche. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 43 Þe ich fonc & habbe iðolhet me to wraþer hele. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2982 Ac he hurtled was þerof to wroberhele þe kinedom. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 695 What raue þe yayle, Pat in þyour temple hang? ya all to wrotherhail. *c* 1340 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. ii. 20 Out of wrong hem wol to wrotherhele monye. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 4060 He sayled in with a feble sayl And pat was him to wrotherhayl.

**c.** With genitive pronoun. *rare*[—1].

*c* 1205 LAY. 19, 20 Þa wes he spilede: To wrober hele neure hele habbed heo such were idon.

**B.** *adv.* Unfortunately; disastrously.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16477 Ful wrather-hail to min hibuse haf i tan þis wreche. *c* 1325 *Pilate* 39 Þerto he nolde, wrober hele was ludas born, For þurw þat sinne he was lorn. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 208 Wrober hele come þou her, I rede þou ȝeld vp þi brond. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1759 Þou sekis fraward Sichim þi-selfe wrothir-haile.

**Wro·thful**, *a. Obs.* or *arch.* [var. of WRATHFUL *a.*, after WROTH *sb.* or *a.*]

An app. early example in R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 37 is prob. an error for *wrathful*, as in *Verc. Hom.* I.

**1.** Of persons: Full of wrath; angry; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.

*c* 1300 *Communeyaun* 3ow (W. de W.) C), Alas why haue I wrothfull ben? 1535 COVERDALE *Nahum* i. A taker of vengeaunce is ye Lorde, and wrothfull. 1596 *Gasset's Progresse*, sig. B, The warrior & wrothfull Mars, Lord of this yere. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. xi. 34 The knight yet wrothfull for his late shame, . . wore steele. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. vi, Wrothful at such arraignment foul, Dark lower'd the clansman's sable scowl.

**b.** Prone to wrath.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* vii. 8 His men . are strong and of a wrothfull stomack.

**2.** Proceeding or arising from wrath; characterized by or expressive of anger.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii. 24 Let thy wrothfull displeasure take holde of them. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 165 b, His iefull hurt straight braided out wrothful wordes of wreke and reuenge.

Hence **Wro·thfully** *adv.*, **Wro·thfulness**.

*a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (F 1510) P ij, He stryeth and quakyth wrothfully. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxiii. 3 When they were so wrothfully displeased at vs. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. vii. 16 But..[quash he halfe wrothfully) Where is the bootie? 1895 THORPE tr. *Beowulf* 6216 Then was the quarrel wrothfully avenged. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* x. 22 Pryde was not made for man, neither wrothfulness for mens children.

**† Wrothly**, *a. Obs.* In 4 **wrathli**. [repr. OE. *wráðlic*, f. *wráð* WROTH *a.*] Angry, wrathful.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5262 Wit wrathli [*Gött.* wretbly] wrastes alper with.

**† Wro·thly**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wraðlice**, 3 **wraðliche**, *Orm.* **wrapelij**, 4 **wrathli**, -**ly**, 5

*Sc.* wrathly. *β.* 3 wrɔ̃, wrɔ̃lliche, 4 wrɔ̃lliche, -lich, wrɔplich, wrɔpli, -ly, 5 wropely, wrothely, 5 wrɔothly. [OE. *wrāðlīce* (= MLG. *wretlīken*, MDu. *wreedelick*, Du. *-lijk*), f. *wrāð* WROTH *a.* + -LY².]

**1.** In a wrathful, bitter, or cruel manner; wrathfully, angrily, furiously.

*c. Beowulf* 3062 Þa sio fæhð zeweard zewreoen wræðlice. *c* 1200 Ormin 15832 Siff þatt Crist was wrabeliȝ Drasf menn ..Utt off þatt temmple. *c* 1205 Lay. 7379 Cesar iveh þis writ, and be hit wraðliche bi-heold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7038 Quen he of his cuming herd ful wrathli gains him he ferd. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* 3. 3 It is wib awa mykil delayinge & awa wrathly, þat it is noght worth þat þai doe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*Priscilla*) 303 Forton..turnyt hyr hak one hym wrathly. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 237 Wallace ..Sumpart amowst, wrathly till it..went. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 160 Wondirly wrathly he wrocht, and all owr wane. *B. c* 1805 Lay. 485 Þe king nom þat writen hond & he hit wroðliche bi-heold. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1166 The leuedi loked opon him tho Wroðlich. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 132 Þay wakened wel þe wroþelicher, for wo3ely he cleped. 1361 Langl. *P. Pl. A* v. 68 Wrobliche he wrong his fust. 1421 Holcotus *Wisd. Prouerbs* 151 He wroothly wente out of his compaignie. *c* 1440 *Alphonsus Salvacionem* (Roxb.) 9 Oure Lord ..shoke thre speres wrothly.

**2.** Badly; ill. *rare.*

*c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Homil.* 193 Man hit noteð wroðeliche, þe mid sepahipe hicheð ða encennisten. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 (Cott. MS.), Sit þu art unwræðlic & wraðeliche ihatet.

**3.** Sadly; sorrowfully. *rare*⁻¹.

*c* 1325 Urmston *Bradly* .. prose 1. (1868) 7 Þus þis compaygnie of muses þlamed casten wrobely [*L. mestius*] þe chere adounward to be erbe.

**Wroth money.** *local.* [variant of Wrath money.]

(See quot.)

1730 Thomas *Dugdale's Warwick.* I. 4 2/2 A certain rent due unto the Lord of this Hundred [of Knightlow], called Wroth money, or Wrath money; ..probably the same with Ward penny. 1884 Chambers *Bk. of Days* II. 371/2 The payment..of Wroth or Ward money for protection, and probably also in lieu of military service. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Nov. 1/1 The [annual] custom of paying 'wroth money'..at Knightlow Cross.

So **Wroth silver** (also **Wroth penny**). *local.*

1884 Chambers *Bk. of Days* II. 371/2 The payment of this Wroth Silver. 1893 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IV. 497 The Duke of Buccleuch ..observed..the curious custom of collecting.. 'Wroth Silver', or 'Wroth Penny', from various parishes. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 2/1 The Duke..demands 'wroth silver', from some thirty parishes, and the nominal amounts are..placed in a stone trough on Knightlow Hill. 1900 *Ibid.* 19 Nov. 10/1 The Duke's annual collection of 'Wroth silver'..is a curious old custom, carried on for centuries, and observed each year, on November 11.

**† Wrothesome,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Wroth *a.* + -some.] = Wrothful *a.* 1.

*c* 1518 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2091 Thou hast bene so waywarde, so wranglyng, and so wrothesome.

**Wrothy** (rɔ̃·þi, rɒ·þi), *a.* [f. Wroth *a.* + -y¹. Cf. MDu. *wrēdich* (Du. *wreedig*) cruel.] Wrathful, angry.

In 15th c., revived under the influence of Wrathy *a.*

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 157 Mowrnynge and wrothi thow shalte reme. *Ibid.* 229 Thu men..bene wrothy and hugely angry. 14.. *Promp. Parv.* (1499) 88 In my feelde ther is no bele In presence of thi wrothi [*Trent* wrobbi] face [*L. o facie tua*]. 1839 Irish *H. Lorrequer* v, A more snarling gentleman..it hardly ever been my evil fortune to forgather with. 1869 Trollope *Vicar Bullhampt.* xvii, Gilmore..was waxing wrothy. 1902 Robinson *Talmud* VIII. p. xiii, Esra was wrothy that the Torah should be given through him.

Hence **Wro·thily** *adv.*; **Wro·thiness.**

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 227 A grete fleshy shoote neke: token yt wrothynesse is in a bull is. 1898 N. Munro *P. Splendid* xxv. 257 [He] would ruffle up wrothily with blame for my harping on that incident.

**Wrotte,** obs. var. Wart *sb.*

**Wrough,** *interj.* *rare*⁻¹. [Imitative.] Used to represent the snort or grunt of a hog or pig.

1589 [Nashe] *Almond for Parrat* F j b, A hogge..lifts vp his snoute into the ayre, and cryes wrough, wrough.

**† Wrought,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 3 wrohte. 4 wr(h)outhe. [Earlyn ME. var. of *wrohte* (OE. *wyrhta*), Wright *sb.*¹] = Wright *sb.*¹ 1, 1 b.

*c* 1275 Lay. 16969 Wrohtes, þat mid axe couþen worechie. *Ibid.* 21134 Wigar he wrohte wrohte. *a* 1333 W. Herebert in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 22 Holy wrouthe of sterres heyȝh. *Ibid.* 25 Louerd ȝef vs, Bi, Wrouthe of alle þinge.

**Wrought** (rɒt), *ppl. a.* Forms: 3–4 wrɔ̃t, 5–6 wrɔght, 5– wrought (*6 arch.* wroughten), 5 wrout, 7 wrote. [ME. *worɔ̃t*, *var. worht*, pa. pple. of *wirchen*, *wurchen* : see Work *v.*] Worked into shape (or condition).

Freq. as the second element of combs., as *fine-*, *finely-*, *gold-*, *hammer-*, *hand-*, *hard-*, *high-*, *highly-*, *machine-*, *thick-*, *thine*, *well-wrought*; see these words, and cf. Inf., Fon., Over., Unwrought *ppl. adjs.*

**1.** †**1.** Created; shaped, moulded. *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2606 Teremuth..had it ben to hire broȝt, And aas his child wol faire wrouȝt. *c* 1400 [see Well-wrought *ppl. a.* 1]. 1434 Misyn *Mending Life* 108 God truly is infinit of greines, ..of all wroght kyndes vncomsauyd.

**b.** That is made or constructed by means of labour or art; fashioned, formed.

Cf. *OE. hand-worht*, = mod. E. 'hand-wrought'.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1381 With a wonder wroȝt walle wruxeled ful hiȝe. 1338. *c* 1400, etc. [see Well-wrought *ppl. a.* 1]. 1804 in *Archæol.* (1806) XV. 161, 3 pare of wrote boote hose. 1860 R. Read *Wecker's Sec. Art* 220 Lay with every bed of your wrought and drawn Glass one of the said pieces of Glass. 1876 Lady Fanshawe *Mem.* (1830) 289 A rich curious-wrought gold chain. 1896 Dresham *Clock-maker* 4 The wrought piece which covers the Balance..is the Cock. 1700–2 *Act* 12–13 *William* c. 4 § 1 For want of Assayers ..to assay and touch their wrought Plate. 1739 *Act* 12 *Geo. II*, c. 26 § 6 Any wrought Seal or Seals with Cornelian or other Stones set therein. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 165 After them appear'd..a fair wrought car. 1850 Rossetti *Blessed Damozel* ii, Her robe..No wrought flowers did adorn. 1878 Fortnum *Maiolica* 107 Most elegantly wrought earthen vases. 1890 Young *Anc. Bas-Reliefs* 3 Their lips rock-rubies, and her veins wrought sapphires show. 1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 693 The water..mimick'd the wrought oaken beams. 1841 Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 355 The country exports..the marble of Carrara, both wrought and unwrought. 1854 S. G. Morton *Types Mankind* 357 Large quantities of wrought bones, human and animal.

†**2.** Artificial; specially prepared. *Obs.*

*c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Govt. Lordsh.* 83 He sholde.. caste vp-on his heued wrought waters attempred. *Ibid.* 85 Thre kyndes of wrought hony. Itr. *Lanfranc's Cirurg. Sk. Eng.* (ed. 28) I. 37 Mercionelhsire..abounds with Sheep, Fish, Coal, and wrought Cottons. 1798 Chambers (1738) *Sup. Silk*, The silks brought from Italy are partly wrought, and partly raw, and unwrought. 1841 Hayes *Dict. Dates* 472 Wrought silk was brought from Persia to Greece 1258 B. C.

**b.** Decorated or ornamented, as with needlework; elaborated, embellished, embroidered.

1455 *Lincoln Diocese Doc.* 67 [A] Wrought bordeloth cum j part bordelis de eadem. 1572 *Stonor Lett.* (Camden) I. 155 Item..j. large wrought Bordeclothe. 1592–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 104 Purple wrought vellet. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 4 A light taffata garment, and a wrought smocke came through it in many places. 1598 B. Jonson *Fo. Man in Hum.* I. iii, As a Killaners wife [conceale] her wrought stomacher with a mouk of lawne. 1599—*Every Man out of Hum.* v. iv, A piece of my wrought shirt. 1614 Bovle in *Harmer Papers* (1870) I. 52 A very fair wrought purse. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1682) 609 A curious wrought Tapestry. 1686 *Plain Dealer* 4 Gen. ..No, a Scarf wrought Satin Ribon. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 91 ¶ 5 My Mistress presented me with a Wrought Nightcap. 1712 *Hermit* 25 A Lady in a rich Petticoat of Flanders Lace and Wrought Bed. [must be] pulled down. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* II. xiv, A wrought Spanish bridle. *c* 1816 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Train.* (1873) 11 Clothed in a very rich wrought muslin frock. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xi, Beds..with wrought old English hangings crusted with thick work. 1852 [see Whistler 2]. *Ibid.* 1853 Dixon *Curios. Literat.* I. 25 A wrought Satin Ribon. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 91 ¶ 5 My Mistress presented me with a Wrought Nightcap. 1712 *Hermit* 25 A Lady in a rich Petticoat of Flanders Lace and Wrought Bed. [must be] pulled down. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* II. xiv, A wrought Spanish bridle. *c* 1816 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Train.* (1873) 11 Clothed in a very rich wrought muslin frock. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xi, Beds..with wrought old English hangings crusted with thick work. 1852 [see Whistler 2]. *Ibid.* 1853 Dixon *Curios. Literat.* I. 25 A third sort of Melons ..are wrought or embroider'd, having amidst the embroidery red, yellow, and green spots.

**c.** Of leather, etc.: Prepared by dressing; dressed.

1598 *Exter. Accid. Reg.* (1844) I 454 Quhat reafsisman that brakis the samyn [act], the test of his wrought ledder to be exhibit. 1886 Rudim. *Jurinis' Nomencl.* 130 *Linum factum*, wrought or hitchild flax.

**d.** Of articles: Made, manufactured, or prepared for use or commerce.

*c* 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 518 Pilchars and Red herringe, wrought & vnwrought. 1584–5 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 19 Any Artificer using to work Leather into wrought Wares. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 17 Sept. 1677, Some habits of curiously-coloured and wrought feathers. 1757 *Refl. Importation Iron* 7 To the American ..would..take more wrought Goods from the British Manufacturers. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* III. x. 450 The whole value of the wrought commodity. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 444 Wrought iron, or shoemaker's iron. 1852 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 865 The traders..purchase the wrought articles from the head of the lapidary workmen.

**4.** a. Of metals: Beaten out or shaped with the hammer or other tools.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xliv. 13 His clothinge is of wrought golde. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 491/1 *Argentum factum*, wrought siluer. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. 1016 *Ouvrē*, Wrought Siluer, ..wrought Brass. 1696–*Acte* 8–9 *William III*, c. 34 § 1 Every Hundred weight of Tin wrought commonly called Pewter. 1772 *Rules 10 Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1874 IV. 555 Gold and silver, wrought and unwrought, found along the side of the little sea. 1819 Pantologia *s.v. Dragon*, Table Candle's Ends, cups of wrought and dazdal gold. 1885 *Mag. Art* Sept. 459/1 A circular plate of thin wrought bronze.

*Comb.* 1893 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 5/1 A wrought-gold bracelet.

**b.** *Wrought iron*, slag-bearing malleable iron (see Iron *sb.*¹ 1 and Malleable *a.* 1).

1703 *Act* 2–3 *Anne* c. 18 § 12 Wares made of Wrought Iron. 1791 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 371 Cannon..cast so soft as to bear turning like wrought iron. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 1/1 The rails are of wrought-iron, ..fixed in cast-iron chairs. 1878 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 473/2 Wrought iron is valuable as a gun material. 1881 [see Iron *sb.*¹ 2 a]. *Comb.* 1899 W. Ellis *Polyn. Res.* II. 298 A wrought-iron nail..four inches long. 1895 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wrought-iron Furnace*, [a] puddling furnace. 1895 Mrs. Alexander *A Bay* xi, Great old wrought-iron gates.

**c.** Of metal-work: Made by hammering or hand-work (in contrast to *cast*).

1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* xii, His learned distinctions between wrought scissors and those of cast-steel. 1820 in Lee *Dict. Arts* (1830) 673 Cut nails are full as good as wrought nails. 1849 Ruskin *Seven Lamps* ii. § 20 Ornaments..of cast-iron..are always distinguishable, as a glance, from wrought and hammered work. 1883 W. D. Curzon *Manuf. Worcs.* 2 The wrought work of ploughs and..blacksmiths' work of all kinds.

†**5.** *transf.* Worked up; rough; agitated. *Obs.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 The wind still continuyng.., and the seas sore wrought. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1924) 368 The billowes of a wrought sea. 1604, 1708 [see High-wrought *a.* 1].

**6.** a. Of coal: Hewn from the bed or seam; won.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1849) 38 The Horse Engine..serves..to draw up the Wrought Coals. 1883 Greenly *Gloss. Coal-mining* 395 *Wrought coal*, etc., worked or *gotten*.

**b.** Dug; moved by digging, etc.

1902 *Blackbu. Mag.* Feb. 222/1 As the shelving banks close in there is a smell of the wrought earth.

**7.** Of animals: Employed in labour; worked.

1725 *Pasm. Diet. &c.* Ox, Wrought Oxen in the Seasons they are not to labour, ought to be fed with Oats.

**II.** With adverbs. **8.** *Wrought-off*, worked off; printed.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. 193 He uses one of the Wrought-off Forms. 1755 Lansdowne *Hist. Print.* 209 Then we impose from a wrought-off Forme. 1838 Timperley *Printers' Man.* 124 Wrought-off heaps [of paper].

**9.** *Wrought-up*, stirred up; excited or stimulated; enlivened.

1810 Crabbe *Borough* xv. 67 He knew..How to make all the passions his allies, And..To watch the wrought-up heart, and conquer by surprise. 1823 Mrs. Hemans *Siege of Valencia* I. The deep..feelings wakening at their voice, Clothe all the wrought up spirit to themselves. 1828 Lytton *Pelham* III. xi, Excited as I had been by my painful and wrought-up interest in the recital.

**Wrought,** pa. t. and pa. pple. of Work *v.*

**Wrought(e,** erron. ff. *rought*, obs. pa. t. of Reach *v.*¹ **Wroughte,** var. Wroot *sb.* Obs. **Wrought(e, Wrouht(e, Wrout,** etc.: see Work *v.*

**Wroughter.** *Cant.* (See quot.)

1892 H. Hawkins *Out the Ring* 31 In Walshers' Vocabulary..*Bread pitcher*, a man playing the three cards. *Wrougher*, the man who plays them. *Ibid.* 33, 35.

**Wrout,** *v.* Now *dial.* [var. of Woot *v.* : cf. Rout *v.*²] *intr.* = Woot *v.* 1.

1530 in *Ancestor* XII. (1904) 181 Item a loore silver wrouting in a bushe of nettelles vert. 1530 Palsgr. 786/1, I wrout, or wroute, as a swyne dothe, *je fouille du museau*. 1584 *Satire. Poems Reform.* lx. 355 Sum wrout with affection, the outlie Sprung and Roote. 1611 Bible (A. V.) Ezek. xlvi. 21 In the corners of the court..there was a court in the corner of the court. 1825–63 in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Nhp., Dorset) s.v.

**Wrow(e,** obs. var. Wraw *a.*

**Wrox** (rɒks), *v.* Now *dial.* Also **† wroxe,** 9 *dial.* rox. [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To cause to decay or rot.

1649 Bl. Rider *Exc. Improver* vi. 74 So cut the Turfe, that the Sward may have all the Winters frost to wroxe, and moulder it. *Ibid.* xx. 219 For your Horse Dung, let it be but well Wroxed or Rotten.

**2.** *intr.* To decay, rot. *dial.*

1847 Halliwell, *Wrox*, to begin to decay. *Warw.* 1854–80 in dial. glossaries (Nhp., Leics., Warw., Glouces.) s.v. Rox.

**Wroye'r,** vars. Wray *v.*¹, Wrayer *Obs.*

**† Wruck,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Of obscure relationship. Cf. Ruck *v.*³] *trans.* To throw *up* on shore; to cast ashore.

? *a* 1400 *Arthur & Kings of Cornwall* 187 (Percy Fol. MS.), One litle hoote He found..at the sea-side, Wrucked upp in a floode.

**Wrusen, wruhen,** obs. pa. t. pl. of Wry *v.*¹

**Wruhte,** obs. f. Wright *sb.*¹

**† Wrung,** *sb. Obs.*¹ [f. *wrung*, pa. pple. of Wring *v.*] An affection in horses caused by straining of the withers.

1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* C 6 b, The Blood-shot, the Wrung in the Withers, the strayne.

**Wrung :** see Rung *sb.*, Wring *v.*, Wrong.

**Wrung** (rʌŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 4–5 wrongun, -en, 5 wrongyn, -ed, -yng. [pa. pple. of Wring *v.*]

**1.** Subjected to wringing, twisting, or squeezing; pressed, squeezed.

1388 Wyclif *Num.* xxiv. 10 Balac wrooth ayen Balaam, with wrongun hondis seith [etc.]. *a* 1540 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 51 The handes of the sayd Item were wrong in the wristes, wherby we perceyued that his handes had been bounde. 1611 Florio, *Torcifecale*, the cregges of wrung Grapes. 1678 Rider *Eng. Theat. Last Age* 82 The Nurse with wrung hands lies at Phedra's feet.

**b.** *transf.* Of fabrics: (see quot. 1904).

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 March 2/2 An overdress of green wrung chiffon. 1904 *Country Gentlemen* 23 June 1056/1 Wrung muslin is the smartest fabric for tea-gowns. ..[It] looks as if it had been washed and had been wrung with the hands.

†**2.** Of a towel. *Obs.*⁻¹

Meaning not clear; app. opposed to *plain*.

1478 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 155, ij schorte Wronge Towellys. ij[can.] ij longe Playne Towellys.

**3.** That has suffered or undergone distress, grief, or pain; racked, distressed.

1730 Thomson *Winter* (ed. 2) 289 The tender anguish nature.

shoots Thro' the' wrung bosom of the dying man 1817 MOORE *Lalla R* II 365 Death had taken thy wrung spirit home. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xxv, The refuge of many a wrung and broken heart

**b.** Marked by distress, worry, or pain.

1886 MRS H WOOD *Mrs Halloth Trouble* III xix, His face wore a wrung expression 1888 *Mrs Raven's Temptation* II 188 Her nervous and wrung appearance.

**Hence Wrung agnosm.**

a 1875 J HINTON in Hopkins *Life & Lett* (1878) 273 There are two things awry, the acting for self (a distinct tension and wrungness) and [etc.]

**† Wrung-head,** erron. f. RUNG HEAD *Obs*

1721 W SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild Assist* 165 *It wrung heads*, that part between the Floor timber Head and second Foot hook Heel, which, if ship lyes on the Ground, bears the greatest Strain. [Hence in *Kent's Cycl*, Smyth *Sailor's Word bk*, etc.]

**† Wrung staff,** obs. var. WRING-STAFF.

1846 YOUNG *Naut Dict.* 372 Wrain-Staff, Wrung Staff

**Wrusum, Wrutt,** obs. varr. WORSUM, WROOT *v.*

**† Wru sled,** *pa. ple. Obs rare.* [Obscure relationship to WRIXLE *v* is not clear.]

13 *T L Allit P.* B 1381 A wonder wroȝt walle wruxeled ful hye 13 *Gaw & Gr. Ath* 2191 Wel bisemes þe wyȝe wruxled in grene Dele here his deuocioun

**Wry** (rəi), *sb.* Also 5–6 wrye [? WRY *v.*² or *a.*]

**† 1.** *On or upon wry,* = AWRY *adv* 5 *Obs.*

1378 BARBOUR *Bruce* (Cp.) 300 Hyne hemys stekit air, Owthir all evin, or on wry 1423 JAS I *Kingis Q* lxxxiii, Lo the colde stone my hede awrye I find 1508 DUNBAR *Lyting* 175 (Maitland Fol MS) Ay With hingit lyik ay wallow and vpone wry 1535 STEWART *Cron Scot* (Rolls) III 48, Scho . . turnis hir face and lurkis vpoune wry

**2.** A twisting or tortuous movement.

1626 SMITH & MARMION *Country Innocent* xvii 674 The bitch being much loose then the dogge may have some aduantage . . and so in turnes slips, and wries, may get much ground 1656 *Virtuoso I pt Ess* v xiii, The Sea flows and ebbs with crooked wry

**3.** Distortion caused by refraction *rare*—1.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D* vii, You make full sure to prog him (as a hoach) well, in spite of the wry of the water

**Wry** (rəi), *a.* and *adv* Also 6 **wrye,** 6–7 **wrie,** 6 **wrey.** [f. WRY *v.*²

**A** *adj* **1.** Of the features, neck, etc.: Abnormally deflected, bent, or turned to one side; in a contorted state or form, distorted.

1523 LD BERNERS *Froiss* I xl 48/2 Henry Erle of Lancestre with the wrye necke, called Torte colle. c1530 *Cert of Lons* 1162 For they their members lakked, fote and hand With vsage wry and blind 1542 LLOYD, *Herrones, mus* hauinge wry mouthes. a 1613 OVERBURY *Characters Fitzthrew* Hee will but weare's wrie necke a eyes 8 JOHNSON *Horæ c, Art Poet* 52 With faire black eyes and haire and a wry nose 1663 *Char Country Lass* 6 In wry necks Nero's Court a wry neck was the mode. 1705 *Lond Gaz* No 4097/4 He likewise cures Han Laps and Wry Necks 1798 FENTAN *Hibernic Mercur, etc.* 338 Some of the disqualifications for priest s orders were wry-noses (sic) 1819 *Ass' Cycl* XXXVIII 2/1, A remedy for wry necks 1869 A LEIGHTON *Trad Scot* I 234 He round cheek and wry lip betokening his love of fun 1881 GEO FLEET *Silas M* I Their dreadful stare could dirt cramp or rickets, or a wry mouth at any boy

**b** Temporarily twisted, contorted, or writhed by reason or in manifestation of disclish, disgust, or the like. Freq in the phr *to make (draw, pull) a wry face or mouth (wry faces or mouths).*

1598 R. BERNARD tr *Terence, Eunuch* IV iv, How the hangman makes a wrie mouth 1599 JOHNSON *Cynthia's Rev* v The bitter bob in wry the Reuerse in face or wry mouth 1611 (see WRY FACED a.) 1662 J DAVIES tr *Olearius' Voy Ambass* 208 Causing certain Buffoon to make wry fa es and shew a thousand posture 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* (1708) Pref, Saints with screw'd faces and wry Mouths 1711 SWIFT *Tend to Polite* Wks 1755 II 240/2 Flap your hand and make wry mouths yourself 1760 STERNE *Tr Shandy* III x, With a wry face [he] read aloud, as follows. 1788 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. iii 78 [He] made a wry face, and returned it 1783 [see WRIG *the phr a*] 2d 1802 BLOOMFIELD *Hesperus* III 55 Hardly daring to draw wry breath for fear of being offered them 1839 DICKENS *Nicholeby* xix, Making a variety of wry mouths indicative of any thing but satisfaction 1876 MRS BLOUNT *Joan* I x, Physic to be quickly swallowed with wry faces 1884 MRS C PRAED *Zero* xiii, Each guest drank, made a wry face

**c** Of a smile, etc.: Made with a twisting of the features expressing dislike or distaste, 'twisted'.

1885 J. C MURRAY *Hearts* xxvi, He only shook his head with a wry smile and declined to verbal answer 1890 B W HORNUNG *Dead Men* xvii, He turned to me with a wry smile

**2.** That has undergone twisting, contortion, or deflexion, wrung out of shape; twisted, crooked, bent.

1550 HULOET, Wrye, or disfourmed, or out of fashion, *distortus* 1561 HOLL *Nom* Apoll 6b, The membre becometh lame and wry 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam Wits* (1596) 113 Such men take neither at any one wry plait of their garment a 1613 OVERBURY *Characters* Wks (1890) 50 Her wrie little finger becomes caruing 1620 R PARSON *Godly Man's Ingress* 47 Peter was silent for walking with a wry foote to the Gospell 1731 P COVENTRY *Pamphy the Little* II xiii 241 A wry Plait in the Sleeve of his Shirt 1851 *London Phil Mag* Feb 133 The two pairs of planes, which make the wry quadrilateral was divisible 1880 MRS OLIPHANT *Tragic Com* (1881) 79 The timbers of their huts lean to an upright in wry splinters

*transf* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph Cal* Feb. 28 For Age and Winter accord full nie, This chill, that cold, This crooked, that wrye 1776 DA COSTA *Elem Conchol* 211 The gutter or beak bends or falls on the back, in a wry manner 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct 5/1 Their chanting in church is so wry that it makes you start

**b.** *Deflected* from a straight course; inclined or turned to one side. Also in fig. context. *Wry look*, one expressive of displeasure or dislike. So *wry tunst* (of the features)

1589 GOLDING *De Mornay* xviii 330, I take to witnesse the happiest Courtiers that are, whether one wry looke of their Prince do not sting them more then twelue mylde ones. 1593 W. BROWNE *Brit Pastor* II 72 As Tawy among the woods doth wander, I among himselfe in many a wry meander, 1615-6 BOYS *Works* (1630) 283 If he run in wrie wayes and bye-wayes, the more his labour. 1719 ATTERBURY *Serm* (1734) II. 77 Every wry Step, by which he imagines himself to have declined from the Path of Duty 1748 COWPER *Verses written at Bath* 28 Flatt'ring the stubborn clod, till cruel time, on a wry step, Sever'd the strict coherion. 1795 JOHNSON, *Conjectan*, twist wry motion; flexure. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I xxx, Here he said to the stranger with his wryest twist upon him, 'Your commands' 1884 G GISSING *New Grub Street* I 73 My eldest brother had exact many wry looks at the thick logs 1892 GIBSON *Tour in King* xvii His features gave very twist

*Jct.* 1883 *Surveyor Encycl Build* 1902 II 226 Sometimes to her newes of my selfe to tell I go about, but then is all my best Wry words, and slam ring, or els di itishe dombe

**3** Of words, thoughts, etc. Contrary to that which is right, fitting, or just; aberrant, wrong, cross, ill-natured.

1599 B JONSON *Cynthia's Rev* II iii He's one, I would not haue a wry thought lurke against 1643-5 MILTON *Decorce* II xiii, Hasten to recall it, and to thinke, without any wry thoughts cast vpon it the governance 1692 R L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq* xvi 1 (17 1) *ad* All this together might haue made any wry head turn 1758 STERNE *Tr Shandy* I. iv, Wt ch strange combination of ideas produced more wry faces than all other sources of prejudice 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett* (1856) II 201 Not a hasty conclusion to pick up a wry word to wrathfully? 1856 G H ROBERTS *Betrothed* I, Why it is argument? I have heard ten thousand, and never knew one wry notion straightened by them all 1886 STURGEON *Great Dan* IS LXXXIII Introd, In this psalm there is no wry word

**† b.** Of persons: Perverse, cross. *Obs* —1

1649 ROBERTSON *Christ Bitter* 190 With pure, thy self thou pure-wilt show; And with the froward, wilt-bee wry

**c.** Wrested, perverted, distorted.

1669 BUTLER *Hud* I iii 431 He was Next Rectifier of wry Law 1732 ATTERBURY (J.) He mangles and puts a wry sense upon protest ut writers 1896 MRS CAFFIN *Quakers enamour ther* 230 Poor boy, he meant, what seemed to his wry, a kindly word towards you!

**4.** Marked or characterized by perversion, unfairness, or injustice.

1561 NORTON & SACKV *Gorboduc* I My lordes, he playne, with out all wrie respect Or pom ion vn craft to speake in iustice 1592 J FOX *Acts & Mon* (1596) II 1185/1 When cheefely, gen yle, lawe & other tormentes be turnd in wry sorte, & wrokeest payne doo pre se good men 1851 GOLDSMITH *Celebr* (1890) I 41 To lay before the indifferent reader a clear and impartial account of the wry and injudicious conduct of a class well le powerful here and there, under any system, however cross and wry

**B.** *adv.* In an oblique manner, course, or direction; awry.

1575 A FLEMING *Virg Bucol* 11 12 Vnto thee, O childe ye ground First springes yone wandring wyne If *ceasaries* Ardent rores, or if the colde vale yeeld vnto the wry Dorian *Tyrtæus* 1 10 70 In these doubtes much rather rest had I, Then with mine error drew my Reader wry 1624 — *Lat Verse Tasso* 1 xxxiii, Ne for his wounds Aladine fled, Plant that never wry shee said 1791 BURNS, *Wry*, on one side not straight 1886 S *W Linn Clare* 169 It is not very pleasant, when things sit go wry

**C.** *comb.* **wry-bill, -billed, -legged, -looked, -toothed, -wry'll** *adv.*, **-wry-set.**

1598 in Hyett *Print Soc* (1864) IV 22 A reduced King, and wry gut-led kingdom 1600 *Holland Pliny* 286 a That is crooked and wry legged 1611 COTGR, *Bec croisé*, Crosse Crib, there was an old man, stumpe-f oted wry bodied ragge toothed slam bering tongue 1648 J QUARLES *Iobs Anchor-watch*, Here to look it downe, Is lipping at thy sentence 1845 YEATT *Brit* 1 3 A small breed of wry legged terriers. 1883 *Longm Mag* Aug 381 The wry eyed, wry-necked Minister 1893 *Nineteenth Century* *Intimate Bluth* III 1075 Wry toothed beldams 1897 H N HOWARD *Fo tsteps Freedom* 116 The sea he ne beats on the wry bleak coast 1902 A I SHIRLEY *Dentdale* 21 An old wife had three outlines of twisted chimneys, wry set above

**b** Special comb.: **wry-bill,** the wry-billed plover (*Anarhynchus frontalis*), native to New Zealand, **wry-billed** *a.*, having a bill deflected to one side (see prec.), **† wry-hide,** a curvirostral fossil animal, **† wry-stroke** *fig* see quot), **wry-tail,** a deformity in poultry, characterized by deflexion of the tail to one side.

1896 NEWTON *Dict Birds* 1053 'Wry] ill, *Anarhynchus frontalis*, [is] one of the most singular birds known, peculiar to New Zealand 1893 MR. W. L. BUTLER *Birds N Zeal* 116 *Anarhynchus frontalis*, 'Wry billed 1 ver 1889 PARKER *Cantat N Z Exhib* 116 (Morris), The curious wry-billed plover [is] the only bird in which the bill is turned to one side—the right 1708 *Phil Trans* XXVI 28 *Curvirostra*, the 'Wry neb 1885 FLETCHER *Hist Avian* § 4 A Prior without a Posterior having none after him to succeed in his place. We behold him only as the 'wry stroke g ven in by us out of countenance, when the game was up I efore 1880 L. WRIGHT *Illustr Ik Poultry* 201 'Wry tail is in many cases owing to spinal causes, and in all such should be ruthlessly stamped out

**Wry** (rəi) *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms · *Inf.* (and *Pres stem*). **† wreon, 3 wreoen, 5 wrene, wre, 1 wryon, 3 wri(h)en 4 wryen, 5 wrine, wryne, wryn; 3 wrele, writhe, 4 writh-, 4–5 wrye, wrie, wri, 4–9 wry.** *Ind* 1 **wreh, wreah, 3 wrøje, 3–4 wreih, 4 wreyh, wreighe, wreygh, wrei, wrey, wray,** *pl* 1 **wrizon, wruzon,** 2–3 **wruzen, 3 wruhen, 3 wrizen, wrien, 4 wrejen, wreghen.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **wrizen, wrozen, 4 wrien, wryen, wrin;** 3 **wrizen,** 3–4 1–, 4 **ywrien, y-wryen;** 3–5 1–, 4–5 **ywrie, ywry(e,** 3 **iwroȝe, 4 ywryȝe,** 4, 5 **ywrize;** 4 **wrize,** 4–5 **wrye, 5 wrie; 3–4 wrejen, 4 wreigen, 3 wreyge, 4 ȝ-, ywreȝe;** 4, 5 **wreygh, wreighe, wreye.** *Weak pa. t.* and *pple* 4–5 **wryed, wreied, 4 wryde, 6 wride.** [OE. *wrīon* (pa. t. *wrah, wrāh*, pl. *wrizon, wruzon*, pa. pple. *wrizen, wrogen*), *wrion*, **wrīhan* (ONorthumb *wriga*),= NFris *wreye*, OHG. **wīhan* (in *mirthhan, mrthan*, 'reverse'). Cf. BREWR *v.*¹, OVERWRY *v*, USWRY *v*.]

**† 1.** *trans.* To lay, place, or spread a cover over (something); to overlay with some covering, to cover up or over *Obs*

c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Mark xiv 65 Ongunnun sumne efne þeopitte hinra wrizen onsine 1. c 1205 LAY 278 þe while he wurchen lette ane castel wel Wrozen mid alle mid golde a 1225 *Ancr R* 58 Loȝi was hoden a cloðes half þet þet wes suet urinen c 1275 LAY 2781 Þe toppe [of a tower] mihte wreon eure mid a cope c 1386 CHAUCER *Reem Rose* 56 Ther is neither buske ne hay in May that it nyl shrouded bene And it with newe leues wrene c 1386 — *Nun's P. Prol* 1 The maister strete That spradi was it with leues wonder lye Right of the same is the stretis ywrye c 1440 *Lallat on Hush* 1 348 With marbul or with tile thy florying wrie. And þat 47 He vessel fild he eloied clene or wrie 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* (Pynson) xli > Wrȝyn or hyllyn, *tegere* a 1825 LORDY *Lo L. Lyndsay, wry*, to cover close

*Jct* c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Regim Princ* 1676 Pe feend with many accusemaunce Pat sly, him castiþ þe wrappe in a wrie

**b** To cover or rake up (a fire so as to keep it alive. (Cf RAKE *v* 1 5.) Now *dial.*

Of Owl *Met* IV 64 Quoque magis tegitur, tanto magis æstuat ignis'; also *Rem* 'He feu plus couvert est le plus ardent' (Cotgr. s.v. *Feu*)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II 533 Wel be hottere ben þe gledes rede, That men hym wreen with assiñe pale and dede c 1386 — *L. W. Prol* 735 *Thidr*, As wey the gledе & hetture in the fyr; Forbede a litel while and it is ten so wod. a 1895 in Rye *E. Angl Gloss.* 251

**† 2.** To cover (a person) with a garment (or armour); to clothe, attire. Also *refl* Occas. in fig. context *Obs.*

c 901 *Rushw* in Thorpe *Lawsi* I 52 Gif mon nebbe buton anfeald hrægl hine mid to wreonne oþþe to werrunne c 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matt xiv 36 Ic wæs nacod & ge clabdon me[ge] wæs nacod & ge wreoh me 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1557 Hise ne mihte I ine handum arlf mid hezzie wryon 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 2246 I no hondred knyȝtes al so, Wel wrye wiþ pe ssyl. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1148 Wyf, ȝyf þou ne wilt wryen clopes c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 380 Swych loue of frendes regnerth al þis town, And wre yow in þat mantel euere mo c 1385 — *L. G. W.* 1061 *Dido*, Dido al in gold & perre wryd c 1400 *Rom Rose* 6684 Of his hondwerk wolde he gete Clothes to wry in hym

**† b.** To put (trappings or armour on (a horse); to caparison (nap, harness, &c.).

1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 9284 Mid vif hondred hors ywrie Pe erl of kent was in a wode him vor to awreke *Hist* 2052, 4076, 4096, etc 13 *Sir Beues* (A) 3761 Beues seȝ þe streite fol aboute Al ariaied & wel wrien Of siluer and armes brist 13 *A. Alis* 1606 (Laud MS.) Per men mistres quyk ȝween Many hors wiþ trappen wrien 14 *Sir Perc* (C.) 1136-13 Þanne þat h rs were with yren wrye Þat liefȝe smote clene a way

**† 3** To cover (a thing, or person) so as to protect, keep warm, or conceal. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cæsedm* 2170 Ic þe wel weanes gehwam wreo & seyldе fulmon mid hondе *Metres Boeth* 11 Mæȝe I wreon hi mid hrahe? I ahredan 1. a 1225 *Ancr R* 84 Pes feiȝeres mester is ȝwa wrie & he leiȝ[ð] ge nuȝ þet a mon *Homage* in c 1275 *Lay Folks Mass Bk* 1 Þeg alle þe halies hwer ȝe mihten wrie þur[ȝ] mes 1340 *Ayenb* 66 Þe porn hi þet ȝeu ai ȝwy o mil þ ȝlyn is te clos 1386 CHAUCER *Pardon Thebes* 678 Ne no wight wrie hym fro þe rayn 1535 filth over y trowed with fl ures c 1386 — *Nonnes P* 113 I hough I hm wryen nyȝth and myke hym warm c 1440 *Lallat on Hush* 311 34 From the wynd hem wrie With donge

**† 4.** c 1230 *Hali Meid* (1909 66 Se hwi wrest te under go les wenes 13 *A. Alis* 1608 Wiþ targes, and burd ais Pleo Gregeis heom wryed alle the wise c 1330 *Arth & Merl* 2131 He in a lef hun dight, And wreighe him wel warm ai light, With clothes c 1400 *Rom Rose* 6795, I hue wel knew, were me in my foisete Vnder a couche I sperbrede c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 240 Þe chylderyn of mannys gettyng vnder þa weengys, god wyt it, in hope schul be ȝchal

**† b** To conceal or hide, a matter, etc.), to keep secret or enm vered *Obs*

a 1000 *Genesis* 870 For hwon wast þu wean & wrihst seocnes. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 166 in *O E Misc* 170 All seil ber bon Þanne unwron þet men wrigeț her and helen a 1225 *Ancr R* 84 Mid his ȝreiunge, þe[ȝ] heleð & wrihð mon his sunne a 1275 *Hist* 425 (MS. Cott Cleop.), Wriheu his schal bere, bezme to suffale Þat oðliter c 1320 *Cast Love* 928 God i m of hue his monhede Þorw whom he wrey his Godhede 1340 *Ayenb* of Inuanne þe blondere excused and wryeþ hi ȝelueskes and ȝe xennes of ham c 1374 CHAUCER *Tr Cret* IV 1654 God to whom her nys no cloȝe, y wrye 1387 *Trevisa Higden* (Skeat) I 102 He

wryeth moche venim with moche welth. 1422-50 Lydg. *Chron Troy* i. 1823 For al þe foule schal courcily be wred, þat no delaute wuted be expied ▪ *c1460 Wisdom* 86a in *Macro Plays* 63 With þe crose & þe pyll I xall wrye yt. *a1500 Ragman Roll* 157 (Ms Bodl 638, fol. 217 b), Though they her manice lurkede keuy & wrye *1508 c1374* Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 339 And ay of loues seruanitz euery while, Hym self to wre, at hem be gan to smyle.

†c. To disguise (a person). *Obs. rare—1.*

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met* v 61 b, The Gods were faine them-selues to hide In forged shapes . . loue the Prince of Gods was weide In shape of Ram.

†4. Of things: To serve as a covering to (a person or thing); to be spread or extended over.

*a 1000 Genesis* 1386 I had ealle wæpn þa begeate *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* II 242 Sio filmen þæp þeccende & wreonde þa wambe & þa innaðlan. *a 1200 Vices & Virtues* 95 De foste hoppe ich hire stelle up an hoh, for ich ne ihe ut nof and wrikð alle de hire hed bereðen. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 130 Þe rinde, bet wrh [*v.r.* writ] hut, let is þe treouwes warde *Ibid.* 390 Þis schield þet wreih his Godhed was his leoue leomen. *1340 Gyneth.* 3 Þer bet ys be scal of gold þet him wrih of eche half ase zayþ be sauter. *1447* Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 143 In Februarye . . Wh an frost & cold þe erthe doth wrye. *1642* D. Rogers *Naaman* 281 Euen as the bed . . that is so narrow, that it will not wry them warme.

†b. To cover or stretch over (an expanse of ground). *Obs.*

*c 1205* Lay. 5139 Weoren þa hulles and þa dales iwriȝen mid þan dæden. *Ibid* 17349 Þa hrisse fullen & wrigen al þa feldes. 13 *Cursor M.* (Ashm.) 4049 Of Sarrazins . was wrin al þe feld. *c 1330 Arth & Merl.* 3764 (Kölbing), To wuchester þai gun spede, so he scholde [*v.r.* wrih] þe toun, þat þai weren doun & dim. 13 *E. Allit. Poems* (Trad Ms.), Alxaundir þe foo Liggeb now, wip swiche pize, þat he wrih[*v.r.* wreiþ] wiþ his wede.

**Wry** (rəi), *ppl.*2 Forms: 1 wriȝian, 3–5 wrien, 4–5 wryen (5 wryn), 4–7 wrie, 4–6 wrye, 5– wry; 5 wrey(e, *Sc.* 6 wrey (8 wray), 9 wree. [OE. *wrīgian* to strive, move or go forward, tend, wend (= OFris. *wrega* to bend, stoop), perh. related to LG. *wrigen* (see Wrig *v.*, and cf. Bewry *v.*2).]

I. *intr.* †1. a. To move, proceed, or go; to turn, wend. (Only OE.) *Obs.*

*c 888* Ælfred *Boeth.* xxv § 1 Þeah þu teo hwelene boh of lime to þære suðan sæ þu hine ætsitt, swa sy nimeð he up & wrigeð wið þa norðan. *c 1000 Ælfric Gen.* xxiii 5 Hlaford min [= master of the plough] on wob fareð, wæt ze steorce, wrigað on wenge.

†b. To have a particular or specified tendency, disposition, or inclination, to incline. *Obs*

*c 888 Ælfred Boeth.* xxxix § 2 Swa deð eac þæs ylcan yfel wisan wið his geczndes. *c 1250* Il *ddl.* *Ill* 17 *in O. Miss* 132 Hwenne so wil to wene wri8. 13 *Prik of Conscience* (Petit) 4 Wenne so wil to wene wri8. 13 *Prik of Conscience* (Petit) 4 Wenne . . so þe tou wil wrye þiself þerto. *c 1400 Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) ii. xxx 78 He wylle chruyssye hym suche counceyll as he trowth wylle wryen to his purpose. *1450–80 Tract. Lollardie* (1809) 14 Or 3 wole þat þe tale be turned oujier weye, þat it turne wryinge to my worshipes. *1549* Coverdale *Comm. Par. Jams* v 39 b, He fore tolde of o myude that wryeth downe into despeire from the. *1581* Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* ii. (1586) 81, I mean those, wh though sprinkled with some imperfections, yet wire rather to the good, then the euill.

†2. Of persons: To move or go, to swerve or turn, *aside, away, or afterward.* Also in fig. context.

*c 1320* in Wright *Lyric P.* xv 48 Put feiye wrieþ away on him wrie wrohi. *1340 Hampole Pr. Conscience* 6302 Wh her heed he wryed fast awey. *1426* Audelay *Poems* 18 To the worship of þus weid þai wryn fro me away. *c 1450 Merlin* (Early Engl. Text Soc.) 112 Set je wryeth away and grucchen to some to me. *1503* Lo. Dacre in *Ellis Lett.* 1 ser. i. 170 That the kyng wryed away fro hym, and commaunde di to rende fur wh hangm an. *1534* More *Conf. agst Trib.* i. Wks. 1162/1 Of wh lesdines þei wise away and turne to þey disahe for helpe.

†b. In similar use without adverb. *Obs.*

*c 1400 Pol. Poems* 26 Sif she grete he wiþ be to rage, And alway for to wrie. *Ibid.* 27 *c 1430 Syr Generides* (Roxb.) 1132 He esteward saw that, and did wry, And drew him a sm dele aside. *c 1440 York Myst.* xxx. 7 That wreche may not wrye fro my wreke. *a 1500 Chas. Mag. & Sydrak* (1510) Sxij, He that clymeth ouer he May happe somtyme to wrye. *1581* A Hall *Iliad* iii. 56 Paris wried at last, and so the blows did shun. *1595* Lodge *Orchetto* 2 Iuno, I know, when a Nymph I eadeth a daunce , she wires to euery hond And euery way doth crosse the fertile plaine. *1621* Sanderson *Serm. ad Reg* Pref 53 Like a young unbroken thing that hath metal, and is free, but never wrying the wrong way

†3. *refl.* 1. Howeli. *Dendrol* G 3 b, How fayned friends do help, if fate doe wrye. *1593* J. Lee *Barth.* 1. met. 1. 2 O with how defe eare she from wretched wries.

†c. *fig.* To deviate or swerve from the right or proper course; to go wrong, to err. Also with advs., as *astray, aside. Obs.*

*c 1565* Chaucer *Dethe Blanche* (?) An vnlok of false portraiture Is she, for she wol some wrih [*v.r.* wrich] *1399* Lange. *Rich. Redeles* ii. 84 Pat no maner man[de] shulde make him wrye, For to trete a trouthe bezwen two sidis. *1426* Audelay *Poems* 47 He wrys away fro Godys word to his wyckydnes. *Ibid.* 50 Wry not fro Godis word. *1548* Patten *Exped Scott. Pref.* C v, If þe wil fully wrye so far from hys truth . *a 1557* Mas M Basset tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1369/2 Yf we of oure owne fowardnes wryed a contrary way, but be readye to folowe hys most blessed will *1568* T. Howell *Arb Amitie* (1879) 40 How much a man the greater is, By his Offence that wries amysse. *1611* Speed. *Chron.* v. I. 5 How many Most murther Wiues much better then themselues For wrying but a little? *1632* Sanderson *Serm* II. 27 By wrying aside in some one or a few particulars, he may offend the Lord. *1634 Ibid.* I. 63 These wry too much on the right hand, ascribing to the holy scripture such a kind of perfection as it cannot have

†3. Of things. To turn aside or obliquely; to undergo deflexion, twisting, or bending; to bend, wind; to turn from side to side.

*c 1374* Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 906 Þe nonne Gan . downward for to wrye. *c 1400 Beryn* 2791 Then shalt þowe se an entre, Thoute it be atwyst fote-e.. It growith more & more, & as þou cast wrythe. *c 1440 Pallad on Husb.* i. 347 Thi somer hous northest A west lat wrie. *c 1450 I mine Countrey* 229 Pe pathe be-twyn bothyn þat may not wry Schal be hope and dredc to walke in perfectly. 1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's True Obedience* 49 b, The decaied parties of their power (whose building hath wried on the one side long ago) *1585* tr. Gocge tr. *Heshusius Confession* Vv b, Perchaunce The lively spirite enclosde doth wrye as it beat it may. And straining long through passyn a small di sk at length away. *1633* P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. xii, In the first part of the braid with drives crook's and turnings wries.

†b. Of a horse: To hold the head or neck to one side *Obs.*—1

*1600* Markham *Masters h.* i. xxxvi 70 Holding his necke awry?.. The cure is to let him blood on the contrary side to on the one side long ago) *1585* tr. Gocge tr. *Heshusius Confession* Vv b, Perchaunce The lively spirite enclosde doth wrye as it beat it may. And straining long through passyn a small di sk at length away. *1633* P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. xii, In the first part of the braid with drives crook's and turnings wries.

†b. Of a horse: To hold the head or neck to one side *Obs.*—1

*1600* Markham *Master h.* i. xxxvi 70 Holding his necke awry?.. The cure is to let him blood on the contrary side to on the one side long ago) *1585* tr. Gocge tr. *Heshusius Confession* Vv b, Perchaunce The lively spirite enclosde doth wrye as it beat it may. And straining long through passyn a small di sk at length away. *1633* P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* v. xii, In the first part of the braid with drives crook's and turnings wries.

†5. To contort the limbs, features, etc., as from pain or agony; to wriggle; to undergo twisting or turning; = Writhe *v.*1 to b.

*1340–70 Alex. & Dind* 660 He was wrabful i-wrouht & wried in angur. *a 1400 Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 318 361 In þe bed he gan to wrih and, for he gan to longe þerinne ward *Ibid.* 427/46 Þe flesch..wolde wrely wreþe on þe Crok. *1493 Festivall, Lour Sermons* 21/a As a grilled horse that is touched on the sore wryncheth & wryeth. *1580* Bldgrave *Art of Archerie* 50 b, Horse wryeth, and will not stand. Horse wries, which will mowe or wire with his mouth. *c1590* J. Stewart *Roland Furious* vi, *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 54 Scho wrinkis scho wrynis, Scho ruggis for vo. *a 1625* Fletcher *Humour's Prince* iii. 1, She . wries, and wriggles, As though she had the Itch. *1819* W. Tennant *Pulpiteer Sterne'd* (1827) 34 He saw the sweet mouth Wreath and wreathe wi' his pain. *1863 National Observer* 30 Dec. 165/2 His mouth kept wrying from side to side.

II. *trans.* 6. To deflect or divert (a person or thing) from some course or in some direction; to cause to turn aside, away, or back. Also *refl.* Obs.

*a 1400 Partenope* 6865 Of hym they had the victory [in the lists], so sore hir aduersaries dyd they wrey. *1513* Douglas *Æneid* xii. 23, I lift to and fra all that nakkyt way [L. *contortes*]. *Ibid.* xi. 200 In Lavyna all that ene sakeid did wry [L. *contortes*]. *1555* Phaer *Æneid* ii 65 His tacle to the left hand set, and sterne to left hand wried. *1580* Stanihurst *Æneis* iii. 158 Righ, ist so then i sone hoodl thee masters al wrye the vessels.

*1585* Camb. *Privet* 1675 in *Macro Plays* 107, I wyl not wry my hed, Ich I lyve. *1590* Greene *Orl. Furioso* xv *Jolly* O ij, If he [sc. a prince] wrie himselfe never so little from that he cometh hym *a 1586* Sidney *Arcadia* i xvii, Our minds, from their right line of vertue, are wryed to these crooked shifts. *1620* [G. Bryddes] *Horæ Subs* 148 Let not the parties leiouste wrest or wry his judgement in the least degree to preiudice. *1633* P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xii. 8 Iudithen wryed their thoughts to the aduancement of their owne greatne se. *1650* Trapp *Comm. Deut.* xxxiii. 9 Not to be wryed or bussed by respect to carnall friendship. *1818* in high, point of self-denial.

†b. To avert (the head, face, etc.); to turn aside or *away. Obs.*

*c 1400 Dejer.* (Caxton, 1483) i. xv. 21 Hit sytteth the nought to wry away thy face. *c 1497* Lo. Berners *Huon* xxi. 73 The gay gan the hede to wrye . *a 1450* Myrc *Parv. Pr.* 776 Sum-what by face from hym þou wry. *1513* More *Rich. III*, Wks. 70 a, The duke . wried his hed an other way. *1580* Gallathea iii. 4 Sat. He wryed his face away and his visage *1581* A Hall *Iliad* iii 55 Hector from his helmet then his countenance baring wried, . the lots did turne. *1611* Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxv. § 22 Buckingham wried his face another way *1655* J. Colgrave *Wits Interpr.* (1804) 276 When [he was] pressing for a kiss her head she wried

†c. To change or alter (one's course). *Obs* —1

*1598* Q. Eliz. *Philarch* I. 13 His counse..wryed was to east, the sons arising place.

†d. To curve, inflect, bend. *Obs* —1

*1589* Hymns *Virg.* (1867) 122 The rayn bowe iwryyd schalle be

7 To twist or turn (the body, neck, etc.) round or about; to contort, wring, wrench; to writhe Also with advs., as †*a-idyle.*

*c 1386* J. Rolleston *Dietarium* 285 Wrye not youre nek a doyle as hit were a dowe. *1593* [see Wring *v.* 9, quot. *a 1586*]. *1598* Q. Eliz *Philarch* xii. 14 Dragones bak wryng and turning yele to crassing on her Lookes. *1607* Markham *Cavel.* (1617) 37 If you see her wrie her taile *1656* Earl Monm. tr. *bocalini's Advt. fr. Parnass* I. (1674) 138 Wrying his Body twenty several waies. *1676* Hooke *Micrographia* 248 Love I proceed to the Figure of the shape from hence; But at returning safe his neck he wind in *1725 Jam. Dict. s.v. Palsey*, Let him be blooded in his Neck-Vein on the contrary Side to the Way he is bent. *1820* Keats *Lamia* I. *Poems* 11 Ye shall not muscle nor wry my neck I can see the white nails.

b. To twist out of shape, form, or relationship; to give a twist to; to pull, contort, make wry. Also *fig* and in fig. context.

*1588* Shirley tr. *Gas. Vega* vii, [My] loosed bones quite out of joynt he wried *1594* Daniel *Cleopatra* v. ii, In her sinking downe shee wryes The Diadem which..shee wore. *1594* Carew *Huarte's Exam Wits* 281 The heat wrieth the proportion of the face *1665* J. Spencer *Prodigies* 254 They are a Nose of Wax which may be wry'd to what figure . Fancy shall impose upon them *1679* Hobbes *Behemoth* (1840) 217 They are, for the most part, Liars and Crack words, wryed a little at the point, towards the native language. *1686* G. Stuart *Jocc ser. Disc.* 41 The Todd will . wry about the Neck o' th' Cock. *1729* Swift *Gut's Modern Travels* Wks. 1755 I. 1. 1 Some . wry their Mouths by Way of Grimace.

*Revenge agst. Punning*, The Lord mercifully spared his neck, but as a mark of reprobation wryed his nose. *1842* Browning *In a Gondola* 47 Guests by hundreds—not one caring If the dear host's neck were wried. *1892* Barry *Mystic*, etc. 69 Some Estonian arm, Wryed elbow, jogged by earthquakes, wryed the pole. *1861* Shirburne *Queen-Mother* i. 1, I know him by the setting of his neck, I he mask is wried there. *1883* R. W. Dixon *Mano* II iv. 78, I put on those arms which he From the dead body had by battle wrye.

†c. *fig.* To wrest the meaning of; = Writhe *v.*1 7. *Obs.*

*1581* Fisher *Sermon agst. Luther* iv D v, Men of fell wyttes. [who] had the proper fayth to wrye & to torcasse the scryptures. *1548* Udall, etc *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiii. 59 b, False Apostles whyche wreasth and wryeth by subtyll interpretation, the heauenly doctrine after their lustes. *1564 Brief Exam.* 184 b, You do wrye this place from his naturall sense *1632* R. Bernard *Rocke. Sabb* 156 This Allegor . wryeth the sense *1649* Bl. Reynolds *Hosea* vii. 136 Take heed of wresting and wrying that to the corrupt fancies of our owne evill hearts.

†d. To pervert. *Obs.*

*1563 Mirr. Mag. Mastrisalus* xlvii, Alas, our counsels are voyd to catch the goods . *a 1585* Montgomerie *Cherrie* 754 I he thinges I and. gif how will now deny, Writhe, to wry be veritie with wyles. *a 1586* Sidney *Arcadia* II. vi Publique defences neglected; and in summe all auise, and (which wried it to the most wise course of all) wise auise. *1620* [G. Bldgnt *Horæ Subs* 146 Let not the parties leiouste.. wrest or wry his judgement in the least degree to prejudice.

e *post.* To distort the judgement of; to warp.

*1866* Swinburne *Queen-Mother* i. ii, *Hen.* This fool is wried with wine. *Mar.* French air hath nipped his brains.

†f. *pass.* To turn, change, or alter (a colour) *1865* Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Att Iseuult* 181 Her inner eyes interpret the straight sun, But in their scope the white is wried to black.

†8. *absol.* = Wring *v.* 4 c. *Obs. rare*—1.

*14.. Chaucer's Mercik.* 7. 341 (Pew Ms.), But I woote best wher wrieþ my shoo

9. To twist or distort (the face or mouth), esp. so as to manifest disgust or contempt; = Writhe *v.* 5 b. Also *refl.*

*a 1510* Dunbar *K. Hart* ii. 96 Her face to be wryt about for propir teyne *1582* Hudson tr. *Du Bartas* (1605) 1. 1. 1.

**Wryly** (rəi'li), *adv.* Also 6–7 wrily. [f. WRY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a wry, oblique, or distorted manner. Frequent in recent use.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong., Tortuement*...wrily, crookedly. 1611 COTGR., *Obliquement*, obliquely, wrily. 1776 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict. s.v. Contorte.* 1848 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I 169 Most of these..have chewed upon it harshly and wrily. 1853 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 18 March 184/2 Mr. Jonas smiled wrily.

**Wry-mouth** (rəi'-mouþ). [f. WRY *a.* 1, 1 b + MOUTH *sb.*]

†**1.** (See quot. 1859.) *Obs.*

1561 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 90 The gall of a wild Cat is very good against the wry mouth. 1859 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1283 *Tortura*, formerly used for *Spasmus*, chiefly of a part, as of the face or the mouth ; wry-mouth.

**2.** *a. attrib.* = WRY-MOUTHED *a.* 1. Also *ellipt.*

1631 HEYLYN *Theoph.* VIII. lxxxiv, No wry-mouth squinteyd scoff can stay Their swift progression. 1655 GAYTON *Pleasant Notes upon Don Quixot* 1. 120 Of wry-mouth fiends a wrathful brood.

b. One who has a distorted mouth.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 136/1 [It] had fallen into disuse since the death of Boleslaw the Wry-mouth

**3.** *U. S.* a. One or other fish belonging to the genus *Cryptacanthodes* of blennioid fishes, and native to the north-western Atlantic. b. The electric ray or torpedo (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 60 *Cryptacanthodes maculatus*, Storer. Spotted Wry-mouth. 1849 *Science* April 213/1 The sea-raven, the rock-eel, and the wry-mouth, which inhabit these brilliant groves, are all colored to match their surroundings.

**Wry-mouthed,** *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. WRY *a.* 1. Cf. prec.]

1. Having a wry mouth.

1550 HULOET, Wrye mouthed men, *mirtones*. 1604 F. T. *Care is Altered* C 3 b, There was an old man, blear-eied, wry mouthed, botle nosed, lame-legged. 1616 T. SCOT *Philosophie* A 6 b, They..wrie-mouth'd Place did eate 1618 FLETCHER *Women Pleased* III. ii, A pack of wry-mouth'd mackrel Ladies 1633 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 132 Looking aquint, wry mouth'd, wry-neck'd. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 210 *Buccina Recurvirostra*, Wry-mouthed Whelk. 1870 ROSETTI *Poems, Goula's Carnalcanti* XXII, That wry-mouthed mimic.

*fig.* 1614 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Stopping Abuses* L 4, The wri-mouth'd Critick. 1641 CHARLES I *Speech* 1 May in *Daring* Presumption, wry-mouth'd Division, Damned Apostacie.

**2.** Marked or characterized by contortion of the mouth. Also *transf.*

1594 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* iii 21 What flout, what wry-mouth'd scoffe, Hath scap'd the faire of my loeans tongue To doe my simple Innocence wrong ? 1635 - *Emblems* v. 34 What soul would not be proud Of wry-mouth'd sorts ? *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIII. xcxxvii, What wry-mouth'd play They us'd, their gentle Savior to flout. 1708 POPE *Dunc.* II. 145 A shaggy Tap'stry, Instructive work ! whose wry-mouth'd Portraiture Display'd the Boss her confessors endure 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 59 Lifting up her rolling eyes, with a wry-mouthed earnestness.

**Wryneck** (rəi'nek). Also **wry-neck.** [f. WRY *a.* 1 + NECK *sb.*]

**1.** One or other species of the genus *Iynx* of small migratory scansorial picoid birds; esp. the common species, *Iynx torquilla*, distinguished by its habit of writhing the neck and head.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclat* 59/1 *Iynx torquilla*, a wry-necke. 1611 COTGR., *Torcol*, the little sub-coulored and long-tunged bird, called a Wrynecke. 1676 GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach* viii 38 A Young Wryneck, hath no Crop, and but a small Gulet. 1792 J. HILL *Brit. Herb.* 602 *Iynx*, the wry-neck, has a very singular way of twisting it's head about, and bending it's neck; it thence obtained the name of the Wry-neck. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool* I. 181 The Wryneck we believe to be a bird of passage. ..It takes its name from a manner it has of turning its head back to the shoulders. 1825 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ix. (1828) I. 288 The wrynecks & the woodpeckers' love entirely upon insects. 1839–43 TARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 159 As the Wryneck makes its appearance here about the same time as the Cuckoo, it has, of course, the names of Cuckoo's Mate, and Cuckoo's Maid. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 659/2 The *Picidæ* [include] at least three Subfamilies. ..The Woodpeckers proper, .. the Piculets, .. and the Wrynecks.

†**b.** An infusorian (see quot.). *Obs.*—1

1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 149 The *Volvox torquilla*, or wry-neck.

**2.** *a.* One who has a wry neck.

Earlier versions of quot 1879 have the form *wrynot*.

1607 R. [CAREW] tr *Estiennes a World Wond.* 300 They learne to looke downe to the ground, to counterfeit wry necks 1633 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 172 Of them is the Proverb, Never trust a wry Neck 1656 FLECKNOE *Diarium* 8 And wry-neck they would ask with laughter, What newes ? was he was hearkening after ? 1879 W. HENDERSON *Folk-Lore N. C.* vii. 254 He says Wry neck, and Wryneck caps the Dale [= Devil].

*b. attrib.* = WRY-NECKED *a.* 2.

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 129 The wryneckе Earle of Lancaster. 1618 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) To Rdr, T'hurt no wri neck critick. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 259/2 A son..known as Henry I ort-Color Wryneck...Thus Henry Wryneck died in 1361.

†**c.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.

1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Wry Neck Day*, hanging day.

**3.** *Path.* A deformity characterized by contortion of the neck and face, and lateral inclination of the head ; stiff-neck ; = TORTICOLLIS.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wry-Necked*, If the Wry-neck proceeds from a contraction of one of the mastoide muscles. 1820–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 334 This species, therefore, offers us the three following varieties : . Natural wry-neck...Spastic wry-neck... Atonic wry neck. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1884) II. 345 Wry-neck is an example of this affection [*sc.* rapid atrophy] due to a contracted sterno-mastoid muscle. 1881 W. KIVINGTON in *Brain* IV. 257 The ordinary form of spasmodic wry-neck.

b. [See quot.] *rare*—0.

1819 REES *Cycl. Wry-neck*, a disease of the spasmodic kind in sheep, in which the head is drawn forcibly to one side. [Hence in WEBSTER (1828–32), and later Dicts.]

**Wry-necked,** *a.* (Stress variable.) [f. WRY *a.* 1. Cf. prec.]

1. Having a wry or crooked neck.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. v. 30 The vile squealing of the wry-neckt Fife. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, Ser. II. *Nelley Abbey*, A squeaking fiddle and wry-neck'd fife'. 1870 LOWELL *Cathed. Mem. Instr.* 62 The wry-necked Fife...The Italians call it *cornetta curva*.

**2.** Of persons or animals : Affected with distortion of the neck; having wry neck.

1600 [J. DENT] *Pleas. Trent Wks.* (Grosart) IV. 39 That aged and reuerend (but wry necked) sonne of thine. 1653 [see WRY-MOUTHED *a.* 1]. *a* 1679 J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 273 Some wry necked from the womb. 1795 HULBERNIUS *Fl. Austriac.* II. Pref. A Great Alexander (being blind) did love that Wry neck'd Fool. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Wry-Necked*, a term applied to persons affected with a distortion of the limbs. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk Farm* II. 608 It is almost impossible to bring the head of a wry-necked lamb into the passage of the womb. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on I.* II. v, She preferred the wry-necked lambs.

*fig.* 1626 HEYWOOD *Captives* III iii in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, This same wry necked death still spoyles all drinkinges, 'tis a thinge I never could indure. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 20 All the squint-ey'd, wry-necked, and brasen-faced Errors that are or ever were of that litter.

Hence **Wry-neckedness.** *rare*—1.

1731 TATE in *Nature* XXV. 90 The wry-neckedness of the protecting shell.

**Wryness** (rəi'nes). Also 6 wrines, 7 -nesse(, wrynesse. [f. WRY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The fact or condition of being wry or distorted ; distortion, twisting.

1590 [THOMAS LODGE] *Disc., Tortedad*, crookedness, wrines, *obliquitas*. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 109 The waight of a grosse fleece of helpeth the convulsion and wrynesse of the muscles. 1644 *Bk. Sports* (1654) 8 By V. 4 Thu is (*tortuositas serpentis*) the Wryness, the Knottiness, the Entangling of the Serpent. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 216 Convulsive Wrines and Distortions of the Muscles. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I 35 A large Garden would be less pleasing if it had some visible wrines to disfigure it. 1855 BAIN *Senses & I.* II. II. § 4 The cause of these produces wryness and contortion of the mouth. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxvi, The wryness of his face and the uneasiness of his limbs. 1858 MEREDITH *Lutet Ascendant* Poems I. 200 An inspiration caught from dubious hues, Filled him, and mystic wryesses he chasid

**2.** *fig.* Deviation from what is regular or normal ; obliquity, wrongness.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* 11. 498 Notwithstanding all this weakness, and wrursse of these instances, the Rej. doth so triumph in them. 1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Pet out Fire* 3 xii. 14 ) An exploring the rectitude or wryneese of their belia vioure in the Sanctuar. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. IV. V, The wryness of the times.

**Wrypick,** ERRON. f. RIPPICK.

1881 G. D. LESLIE *Our River* 212 The boat is moored by short stout wrypicks. *Ibid.* 230 A couple of ripricks.]

**Wrytche, obs. var. WRETCH** *sb.* **Wrythe,** var. WRETHE *sb. Obs.*; obs. f. WRITHE *v.*

**Wu, Wuas,** obs. varr. How *adv.*, WHOSE.

**Wuoche,** var. WHICH *adv.* **Wuoh(e,** obs. var. WHICH. **Wud,** obs. or dial. f. *would*, pa. t. of WILL *v.* **Wud(d, wudde,** obs. or Sc. and dial. f. WOOD *sb.*1 and *a.* **Wuddie, -y,** WADDLE, var. WIDDLE, WIDDLE. **Wuds,** obs. f. WOOTS. **Wueke,** ME. var. WICK *sb.*2

**Wuff** (wʊf), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. WOOF *sb.*3, WOUGH *sb.*, and next.] A low, suppressed bark of a dog.

1824 [CARR] *Craven Glost* s.v. 1888 ‡ J. S WINTER' *Bootle's Children*, II. The 'wuff-wuff' of one or other of the dogs heralding their coming.

**Wuff** (wʊf), *v.* [Echoic. Cf. WAFF *v.*, WOOF *v.*] *intr.* To bark in a low, suppressed manner.

1851 G. H KINGSLEY *Sk. & Trav.* v (1900) 143 That dog, now growling and 'wuffing' in his dreams.

**Wugg** (wʌg), *v. south. dial.* [dial. *wag, waggy, wo(a)g*, etc., a call to a horse.] *intr.* Of a horse : To move forward ; to go on.

1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* IV, Wugg then, Dobbin ! Wun'not go home to-night ? 1881 — *Christowell* III, No man as ever I see yet in this parish have the power to make I eddy wugg, when a' hath his nowbag on.

**Wuke, Wulo(h,** obs. ff. WEEK *sb.*, WHICH.

**Wulde,** obs. Sc. form of WILD *a.*

†**Wulder.** *Obs.* Also 1 wuldor, -ur, -er, 3 *Orm.* wuldre. [OE. *wuldor, -ur, -er*, a derivative (with *r* suffix) from the stem of Goth. *wulþus.*] Glory ; honour.

*c* 825 *Vesp Psalter* xx. 6 Micel is wuldur his in haelu Ninre. *c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Is þæt ungerisenlic wuldor þæwe wuldre & awihe leas. *a* 1000 *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.*, etc. (1838) 7 þin wombe was þin God, & þin wuldor *c* 1200 ORMIN 3379 Sit Drihtinn upp inn heoffness ærd Wurrþminnt & loff & wulldere. *Ibid.* 7630 Crist, þarrkedd þin...till þin Judewisshe folic Wurrþshipe & eche wuldere.

**Wulderne,** var. WILDERN *Obs.* **Wule,** obs. f. WHILE, WILL. **Wulf,** obs. f. WOLF.

**Wulfenite** (wu·lfənəit). *Min.* [a. G. *wulfenit* (1845), f. the name F. X. von *Wulfen* (1728–1805), Austrian scientist, + -ITE 1 b.] ' Molybdate of lead, found in brilliant crystals ' (Chester).

1849 J. NICOL *Man. Mineral.* 382 Wulfenite, *Haidinger* : Molybdate of Lead, *Phillips* [etc.]. 1868 GREG & LETTSOM *Man Min.* 421 Wulfenite decrepitates when heated. 1883 *Science* I. 609/1 The red varieties of wulfenite.

**Wull,** obs. f. WOOL *sb.*1 Sc. var. WILL *sb.* and *v.* **Wulloat,** Sc. var. WILD CAT. **Wullee,** var. WELL. **Wullen,** obs. f. WOOLLEN *a.* **Wulpere,** var. VOLUPER *Obs.* **Wult,** Sc. var. VULT *Obs.* **Wultre,** obs. f. VULTURE.

†**Wumme,** *int. Obs.* Also 2 wume (3 wummen). [App. repr. OE. *wa hwæ*, f. *wa* WOE *int.* 5 + *mē* ME *pers. pron.* For the vowel cf. *summor* s.v. NO MORE.] Woe is me !

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wume [L. *heu mihi*] nu þet min tilhwiste is hes swa longe iluhet. *a* 1200 *St. Marher* 13 Wumme leofdi qð he þa . wa is me mine lues. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Wummen [v.r. wumme] wo is me, he seið, þe boli prophete.

**Wummera,** var. WOOMERA. **Wummle,** dial. f. WIMBLE *sb.* **Wummon,** obs. f. WOMAN *sb.* **Wun, Wun', Wund,** Sc. var. WIN *v.*, WIND *sb.* **Wunde,** obs. f. WOUND *sb.* **Wunder,** obs. f. WONDER *sb.* and *v.* **Wunderelle,** var. WOODERELLE. **Wundi,** var. WINDI *a. Obs.* **Wune** : see WONE *sb.*1 and *v.*1 **Wunna,** *Sc.* = 'will not' : see WILL *v.*1 A. 6 *b β.* **Wunner,** obs. f. ONER *sb.* 1 ; Sc. f WONDER.

†**Wu·nsele.** *Obs.* [*l. wune*, WON *v.* + SELE ] A dwelling-place.

*c* 1205 ] *Lay* 15703 Þa wunede ich on bure, on wunsele mine. *Ibid.* 17602 Her wit scullen..þa wunsele mesnen.

**Wunsome, -sum,** obs. or north. dial. forms of WINSOME *a.* **Wunt,** dial. f. WANT *sb.*1 (mole). **Wunt(e,** etc. : see WONT. **Wuo, ME.** var. WOE. **Wuord,** obs. form of WORD *sb.*

**Wup** (wɒp), *v. Sc.* Forms : 6 woup, wowp (wolp, wewp) ; 9 wop, wup (oup, oop). [Of obscure origin. Cf. WOOP *sb.* and WHIP *v.* 19.]

**1.** *trans.* To bind (something) round with cord, thread, &c.

1512–3 *Acc. Ld High Treas. Scot* IV 284 Smale towis to wowp the Margrettis mowit with. 1567 *Reg. Priv. Council Scot.* I. 560 I wa barrell cunde to woup brokin stokis and stubellis. *a* 1586 *Dun'ar's Gol'en Targe* 60 (Maitland Fol. MS.), I reuis cleir wouppit [r. r. wuppit] of goldin threidis. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* (1xss., *Oop, Oup*, to join by hooping. 1828 JAMIESON s.v. *Oop, Wup*, to bind with a thread or cord ; to splice

**2.** a. To unite or join (thread, yarn, etc.). b. To secure or fasten by tying

1814 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, A hank [of yarn], but not a hank ane—the full years o' three score and ten, but thrice broken, and thrice to oop. 1872 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* i, Tak the auf pleuch ryn [=rein] there, and wup it ticht atween the stivs.

**Wur-,** var. (esp. ME.) spelling of WOR-. **Wurble,** dial. var. WARBLE *sb.*2 **Wurch(en,** obs. ff. WORK *v.* **Wurd,** obs. form of WORD. **Wurdle,** obs. f. *wordle*. WORTLE. **Wurhte,** obs. var. WRIGHT *sb.*1

**Wurley** (wə·li). *Austr.* Also 9 worley, wortle. [Native word ' from the language of the Adelaide tribe ' (G. Taplin *Native Tribes S. Australia* 12).] An aboriginal's hut. Also *attrib.*

1847 G. F. ANGAS *Savage Life* I. 105 Two men approached one of the *wurleet*. 1848 G. B. WILKINSON *S. Australia* 13 The native dwellings, of trees and strip bark to make themselves a wurley or shelter 1887 MRS. DALY *Digging etc. S. Australia* 31 The body of an unfortunate Chinaman was found half roasted on a wortle fire. *Ibid.* 47 They lived in wurleys. These miserable substitutes for houses are 'lean-to's,' made of sheets of bark propped up by saplings.

**Wurrun,** obs. Sc. form of WIRLING.

**Wurse,** var. WARSE *v.*2 *Obs.*

†**Wurp.** *Obs. rare.* In 1 wyrp, werp, 3 wrp. [OE. *wyrp* (= LG. *wurp*, MLG. and (M)Du. *worp*, a cast, throw, OHG. *wurf, wurph*, MHG., G. *wurf*), f. the weak grade of *weorpan* WARP *v.*] A (stone's) throw. Also *fig.* in *eze wurp*, a glance of the eye.

*c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp.* Luke xxii. 41 He æfcarrad wæs from him sum mycle weorp *rel* wyrp [a stanes [*Rushw.* 1 wyrp stanes is; *Aqx. Gosp.* anes stanes wyrp; *Hatton Gosp.* werpl *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Dauid þurh on eie wurp of o tan-mon fellte wit Bersete. 1275 *Lay.* 22 Þer com Leouel a litel wurp. *Ibid.* 2435 In *O. L. Mus.* 41 Iesus from beuen iwende þe wrp of o stan.

**Wurrow, Wurry,** obs. vair. WORRY *v.* **Wurset, -it,** Sc. ff. WORSTED *sb* **Wurst,** obs. f. WERST, WORST *a* ; dial. f. WHIST. **Wursum,** var. WORSUM *Obs*

**Wurtemberg siphon.** (See quots.)

1829 *Nat. Philos., Pneumatics* vi. 27 (L.U.K.), A syphon, in which the extremities of the legs are turned upwards, called the Wirtemburg syphon 1850 OGILVIE *s.v. Syphon, Wirtemberg siphon*, a siphon with both legs equal [etc.]

**Wurtewale,** obs. var. WARTWALE.

*c* 1450 Mettham *Wks.* 138 Nayly⁓ the qwyche…that..hath no wurtewalys..be most repreuabyl.

**† Wurthe,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **wierðe, wyrðe, wyrþe, wirðe,** 1–4 **wurðe, wurþe** (3 **wrþe**), 3–4 **worþe.** [OE. *wierðe, wyrðe,* etc., a derivative from *weorþ* Worth *sb.*¹ or *a.* In O.E. and early southern ME. texts distinguishable from Worth *a.*, but subsequently merged with it.]

1. Worthy. (Freq. const. with inf.)

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii. 297 He…bit ðære tide hwonne he ðæs wiercðe sie ðæt he hine besittan mote. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 49 Þa hæfdon þa heoþ sylfwan donne wyrþe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 11 He ys strengra þonne ic, ðæs gescy ne eom ic wyrþe to beranne. *a* 1128 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048, Hebet man him þæt he moste wurðe beon ealc ðæra þinga þe he aer alite. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 59 Ic am wel wurðe ðat and more to þolien. *c* 1205 Lay. 14465 Swa þat heo al-spakien..þat Uortiger weoren wurðe to walden þas þeode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 Sif ich nam wurðe for to beon ibleced. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 530 in *O. E. Misc.* 46 Alle ha unwrenche, ne is nevþe to beo deil. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 840 Þe stude…me cluped…after him, vor he was so worþe inan. *Ibid.* 4466 Wel aȝte þat he a worþe stude þere ouer alle sepultire ȝys. *c* 1325 *Chron. Ley.* 741 in Kibson *Metr. Remains* 1. 301 Afterward, as he wes wurthe,..An abbot him remue wolde.

**2.** Deserved, merited.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 We moten þauh don him wo, ase hit is ofte wel wurðe.

**Wurðscipe,** etc., obs. ff. Worship.

**Wurtsite** (wɜ·tsəit), *Min.* [f. the name Prof. C. A. *Wurtz*, a French chemist (1817–84), + -ite¹ 2 b.] ' Zinc sulphide, crystallizing in the hexagonal system' (Chester).

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 60 Wurtzite and sphalerite are the same compound under distinct crystalline forms. 1897 L. Fletcher *Introd. Study Min.* 81 Wurtzite is interesting as crystallizing in the Rhombohedral system.

**Wurthe,** obs. var. Wurthe *sb.*¹

**Wurzel,** short for Mangel-wurzel.

1888 *Encycl. Dict.* 1898 Jerome *Second Thoughts* 305 An atmosphere of wurzels was the thing that somehow he [sc. a farmer] suggested.

**Wus,** obs. var. Ooze *sb.*¹ **Wusbard,** dial. f. *whore's bird* Whore *sb.* 4. **Wusohe, wuss(e,he:** see Wish. **Wusse,** var. Wis *adv. Obs.* **Wust(e,** obs. pa. t. of Wit *v.*¹

**Wut,** dial. variant of Oat

1881 Wilbraham *Cheth. Glass. in Wutts*,..oats. 1865– in various dial. glossaries. (Vks. to Devon). 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* i. 8, I met Hilary..and listened to a long tirade which he delivered against 'wuts'.

**Wute,** p. etc.: see Wit *v.*¹

**Wuther,** var. Whither *sb.* and *v. dial.*

1847 E. Brontë (*title*), Wuthering Heights. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xvi, The 'wuther' of wind amongst trees. 1897 Jessie Fothergill *First Violin* vi. 4, The wind wuthered wearily.

**Wutter,** var. Witter *sb.*¹, *sb.*² **Wuxeer(at,** var. Wazir(ate, **Wuxsent,** Sc. var. Wizened *a.*

**Wy,** northern var. Quey; obs. f. Weigh, Why.

**Wy-,** freq. ME. variant of Wi-. **Wyage, wy-ayen,** obs. variant. Voyage, Ayen.

**Wyandotte** (wəiăndŏt). [f. the name of a tribe of N. Amer. Indians.] One of a handsome breed of medium-sized domestic fowls. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Bazaar* 12 Sept. 866/1 Wyandottes. Wanted a few early pullets, pure bred. 1897 K. de la Bere *Poultry Guide* 1. 21 He has…one breed of Black Minorcas, and Wyandottes. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 2/2 Time was when the world knew no Wyandotte fowl at all; but the ingenuity of the fancier has now given it White, Silver,.. Partridge, Silver-penciled, and Blue-laced Wyandottes.

**Wyandoure,** Sc. var. Viander ¹ *Obs.* **Wyo,** obs. f. Wick *a.* **Wyooh(e,** obs. ff. Which, Witch. **Wyoe,** obs. f. Vice *sb.*¹, *v.*², Voice; obs. Sc. var. Wine *a.* **Wyoh(e** : see Wrich, Whitch, Wich, Witch *sb.*

**Wych elm, witch elm** (wit∫elm). Forms: *a.* 7 **weoch**, 7–8 **witch**, 7–9 **witch elm.** *β.* 8– **wych elm.** (Also hyphened.) [f. Witch *sb.*³ + Elm. Cf. the slightly earlier *witchen elm.*] A species of elm, *Ulmus montana*, having broader leaves and more spreading branches than the Common elm; the witch hazel or Scots elm; also, the wood of this.

*a.* 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 475 A Clone of a Weech-Elme, grafted vpon the Stocke of an Ordinary Elme, will put forth Leaues, almost as broad as the Brimme of ones Hat. 1633 T. Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* 1462 *Ulmus folio glabro*, Witch Elme, or smooth leaued Elme. *a* 1652 Brome *Mad. Hist. Wilts.* (1847) 54 Witch-hazells, as we call them in Wilts (in some countries wich-elmes). 1725 Addison *Drummer* iii. 1, There's a good deal of Virtue in that [Camphire's] Weech —I fancy 'tis made out of Witch-Elm. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 115. I here write of..the common Elm, and the witch Elm. 1820 Scott *Lady of L.* I. Introd. 2 The witch elm that shades Saint Fillan's spring. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxxvii, Witch-elms that counterchange the floor Of this flat lawn with dusk and bright.

*β.* 1769 Hammerton in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 34 The Wych (or broad-leaved) elm. 1778 Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* I. 152 The variety with a smooth bark and leaf, commonly called the Wych-Elm. 1849 Fabia *Rosary, etc.* 86 Many a bay, By ..a drooping wychelm fanned. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1169 Forked branches of Wych Elm,..were used as divining-rods. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 317 The Wych elm is a handy tree, of rapid growth.

**b.** *attrib., as* wych-elm *faggot, foliage, tree.*

1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 28 To fill up the drains with witch-elm faggots. 1862 Lytton *Str. Story* II. 11 In this yard there stood an old wych-elm tree. 1897 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 8/4 Bunches of wych-elm foliage.

**Wych(e)side,** obs. var. Voucharge. Wyght, obs. Sc. f. Wight *a.* **Wyoke,** obs. var. Week *sb.*

**† Wyclifian.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. as next + -an.] A Wycliffite.

1400 *Rel. Poems* (Rolls) II. 92 He is callid an heretike that heresies sowith, as Arrians, Wyclyfianes, Sabellyanes, and other.

**Wyclifian, -ifian** (wiklĭ·fiən), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* [f. as next + -ian.] = Wycliffite. [In quots. 'Wyclyrian-ist, or directly f. *Wycliffe, -clif*, etc.: see Wycliffite.]

**† A.** *sb.* = Wycliffite *sb. Obs.*

[*c* 1400 *Knighton's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 284 Sicque a vulgo Wyclyff discipuli et Wyclyviani sive Lollardi vocati sunt. *Ibid.* 312 Idem ait hypocrisim nostrum sanctimonialem excommunicatum super Lollardos sive Wyclyvianos.] 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 965/2 Chaucer..semeth to bee a right Wyclefian. 1620 Fr. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 200 It had been easily answered, in that poynt, by the Wickleuians. 1654 H. Turberville *Man. Controv.* 47 Let him not cite the Wickleuians, for they held, That [etc.]. 1737 Earnest *Pref. Varillas' Pretended Reformers* 2 vi, Our new Allies the Lutherans, Calvinists, and Wickliffians.

**B.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to, characterizing the teaching of, Wycliffe or his followers.

1720 Lewis *Life Wyclif* 114 The Wicliffian Superstition which obliges the Ministers of the Church to be Beggars. 1889 *C. Rev.* April 510 Some of the sentiments are exclusively Wyclifian.

Hence **† Wyclifianism,** = next. *Obs.*—¹

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* II. 90 That Principle of Wickleffianism,..which the Jesuites themselves so loudly hoot at.

**Wyclifism, -ifism** (wiklĭ·fiz'm). *Church Hist.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. as next + -ism.] The religious doctrines or tenets advocated or propagated by Wycliffe, or held by his followers.

1673 S. Knight *Life T. Cobet* (1724) 267 To prevent the Growth of Wickliffism. 1730 Neal *Hist. Purit.* I. 4 Urban sent to young Richard II.,..to put a stop to the progress of Wickliffism. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 141 Wickliffism took shelter in Wales, when it was persecuted in England. 1814 Wilson *Hist. District Columbia* IV. 487 He passed a law, making the profession of Wicklifffism a capital offence. 1861 Gordon Smith *Inaugural Lect.* 9 England and Scotland have been the parent of great religious movements, excepting Wycliffism. 1884 *Brit. & For. Evang. Rev.* Oct. 630 John Stokes pronounced Hus's doctrines to be pure Wyclifism.

**Wyclifist, -ifist** (wiklĭ·fist), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms : (see quots.). [f. as next + -ist. Cf. med.L. *Wiclefistæ* (Du Cange).]

**A.** *sb.* = Wycliffite *sb.* ? *Obs.*

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. iii. 501 The sect of Wiclifistis, which speaken the vij. principal gouernaunces..rehercid bi the proces of this present book holden [etc.]. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 244 A frere Augustyn..felle in the secte of Wiclefistis. 1538 Mark *Compl. Tindale Wks.* 358/1 In Bohems the Hussites, in England the wicliffystes. 1565 Stacklock tr. *Hosius* 14 Whiche couet rather to be counted Gerolstadians then Lutherans & other new Wicliffistes. 1631 W. Prynne *Anc. Funeral Mon.* Boy Pister Robertus Rose ..writ much, yet never offended the VVickleuists. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Camebr.* 57 John Bromiard..came to Cambridge,..sent thither to root out the Wicklevists. 1673 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* 443 Wicklifists did maugre all the malice of their Adversaries increase. 1716 in M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* (1813) III. 344 The Wickliffists and Waldensians were against Episcopacy as being against the Pope. 1758 Lewis *Life William of Wykeham* 207 The Wickliffists were persecuted with great violence. 1819 *New Cath. Mag. Wycliff.* An account of his distinguishing tenets, and those of his followers,..Wickliffists and Lollards.

*Transf.* 1660 *Trial Col. Jenvitts* 11. (1681) 65 The dangerous Works of that old Lollard, Paul; That arrant Wicklifist.

**B.** *adj.* = Wycliffite *a.*

1725 Lewis *Life Pecock* (1744) 370 In much the same manner does the bishop recommend these books to the Wicklifist laity.

**Wyclifite, -ifte** (wiklĭ·fəit), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* **Wicleift,** 7 **Wicklivite,** (7–8 -lev-), 8 **Wiclif-,** 8–9 **Wiclif-** (9 **Wiclif-, Wiklif-**), **Wiklif-,** 9 **Wycliff-, Wycliffite.** [ad. med.L. or early mod. L. *Wiclefita*, etc., f. the name of John *Wycliffe* or *Wiclef* (*c* 1320–1384); also spelt *Wiclif*, etc.; English theologian, writer, and religious reformer, + -ite¹ 1 b.]

**A.** *sb.* One who held or propagated the religious tenets or doctrines of Wycliffe; a follower of Wycliffe: = Wycliffian, Wyclifinst *sbs.*

1580 J. Hay in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 54 Heresies, of the Obligeanes, Wicleiftes, Wickeliffes, Hussites. 1662 Bowrey *Glasgow.* (ed. 2), *Wicklivites*, the followers of Wicklif. 1688 S. G. *Anglorum Spec.* 796 Eleanor Cobham was persecuted for being a Wicklevite. 1720 Lewis *Life Wycliff* 208 A most effectual Way to ruine the poor Wicliffites. 1778 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 399 The Wickliffites entirely grounded their pretensions..on scriptural proofs. 1813 T. H. Whitaker *View P. Pl.* p. xviii, That he..taught almost all the fundamental doctrines of Christianity has no tendency to prove him a Wicklifite or Lollard. 1850 Forshall & Madden *Holy Bible* I. p. xxxiii *note*, The Wycliffites..were not backward to defend their right to have the Scriptures in their own language. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Chean. Ser.* II. 57 [Bishop] Richard Fleming had also been a Wicliffite.

**B.** *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to, written or made by, Wycliffe or his followers.

1843 Way *Promp. Parv.* 316 note, In the earlier Wicliffite version. 1880 F. D. Matthew *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxviii, That he really held Wycliffite opinions. 1885 J. R. Thomson *Life Wiclif* 265/2 The Wicliffite tenets spread most rapidly. 1896 Skeat in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 219 A diligent student of Wycliffite literature.

**2.** Of persons : That is a follower of Wycliffe; holding, advocating, or propagating the religious views of Wycliffe and his school.

1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 450 The Wycliffite or Lollard preachers had raised a cry against the clergy. 1880 F. D. Matthew *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxix, (*heading*), Wycliffite Party crushed.

**† Wycliffise,** *v. Obs. rare*—¹. In 7 **Wicelifise.** [f. as prec. + -ize.] *intr.* To espouse or advocate the views of Wycliffe (esp. as to Church property).

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. 200 The Lay Parliament,.. which did wholly Wicclifize, kept in the twelfth year of King Henry the fourth.

**Wycliffry, -fry.** [f. as prec. + -ry. Cf. Lollardry.] = Wycliffism.

1896 J. H. Wylie *Hist. Eng. Hen. IV*, III. 457 The very trentise on the Church..[by] Hus, is nothing but Wiclifry transplanted word for word into Bohemia. 1900 —*Council Constance* 147 Wenzel gave no support to Wycliffry.

**Wycore,** obs. f. Wicker. **Wydder(e,** obs. ff. *wider* (see Wide), Whither *adv.* **Wyddie,** obs. f. Widdy. **Wyddo, -ow(e, Wydew,** etc., obs. ff. Widow, etc. **Wyd(e,** obs. ff. Wide *adv.* **+ Wyde.** *Obs.*—¹ A variety of apple-tree.

1598 Fitzherbert *Husb.* 42 Diuers apple trees that haue knottes in the bowes, as wennes or wyles, and suche other that will growe on slauynges.

**Wyder,** obs. f. Whither *adv.* **Wydraught,** etc., obs. ff. Withdraught. **Wydue,** etc., obs. ff. Widow *sb.* **Wydur,** -yr, obs. ff. Whither *adv.* **+ Wye.** Latterly *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **wiha, 4 wih, wihe** (whi, whie, whiȝ) **wyȝo, wyȝ** (wiȝh), **wieȝ,** 5 **wiȝ, 4–5 wyȝe, 4–6 wye,** 4–5, 6 *Sc.* **wy,** 4, 6 **wie.** *β.* 4 **weiȝ, weiȝh, weih** (**wehy**), 4–5 **weiȝe, weie** (4 **waie**), **weye, 5 wey, wegh** (**whegh, whe**), we, 5–6 **wee.** [OE. *wiȝa*, f. the weak grade of the stem repr. by *wiȝ* Wib. Cf. OIG. *widerwiȝe* 'rebellis', and *Wiȝo* as a proper name.]

In OE. chiefly, and in later use only, in poetic use.

1. One who fights; a fighting man; a warrior or soldier.

*a. Beowulf* 629 He þæt ful ræhearh, wæleaw wiȝa, set Wealhþeon. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xv. (1890) 50 And hi ða sona hider sendon manran wiȝena to Brytenrice. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 210 Swa hi bylde forð beorn Ælfrices, wiga wintrum geong. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 581 Sypen þe hrawden heyne of hyȝstalez rennes Vmbewenne þat wyȝ vpon wlonk stuffe. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 3787 William & his wyes were armed wel sone. Ta 1400 *Morte Arth.* 56 [He] wente in-to Wales with his wyes alle. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 499 The wyis quhar the wicht went war in wa wellit. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 505 With mony wy that worthit war and wycht, [he] Appeirit thair richt sone. 15.. [see *β*].

*β.* *a* 1200–50 *Ware Alex.* 1030 (Ashm. MS.), Hot wees wihtly smiþin þe wallis aweotild, Froschely fendid of. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1212 Many wounit wer þere, & wele happit peuple. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* liv. (Douce MS.), þe wees, þat were wounded so wofely..., Surgeons sone saued. 1425 *Scottish Field* 493 in *Archæol.* XVIII. (1818). A yong knight, ..Sir William Warkethoppe..was the wees [*Percy MS.* wyes] name. *Ibid.* 637 Now is this faire feilde foughten to an ende; Many a wee wanted his leuing, & endured dethes fate.

**2.** A noble, vigorous man; hence *gen.*, a man, a person.

In very freq. use from *c* 1340 to *c* 1430, esp. in a-form.

*a.* *a* 900 *Andreas* 1311 (Gr.), Hie ða zebrohton mi þrimes nænne on wæzbelle wyrmum fahne. *a* 1000 *Metrologicum* 160 Se þe fæxere in mid wæstere oferwearp wuldres cyneboren, wita weorðlice. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 579 Pen alle þe wyȝes in þe worlde wynne þe lenge, Pay ne cryd to aske dome. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 571 Wa he wolde se no wht but þif he wel conne Faire tempren his tounge. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvii. 98 Ac þer nys wyȝ in þis worlde þorw þat wildernesse, Þat he ne was robbed. *a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 1628 In þe same weies, For all þis weid as þis wy wendes now aȝayne. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2900 Scho was the worthiliest wyghe, þat any wy myghte welde. *c* 1480 Henryson *Lion & Mouse* xxxii, Thair is na wy that will my harmis wreik. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 50, I awnis at wy that wes in weir. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. xi. 19 Sone slaid scho down wnsene of ony wy. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 739 Sen ye ar plesit to pleis me with wy.

*β.* 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 17 Panne weies of worschipe, wittie & quainte, Wip his lettres he let to þe lud sende. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 281 'Sertes,' seide William, 'y am pat ilk weigh'. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 374 'Holy writ,' quod þat weye,' wiseth men to suffre'. *a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 1734 He passis his way. Vn-wetandly to any wee. *Ibid.* 383 His likenes he changis, Worthis agayn to a wee, fra a worme turnys.

**b.** Used as a form of address.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1028, 'I woled wyt at yow, wyȝe, þat worþy þer seyde. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 69 Wordlich weis we wische of þi sitte Ai-lastinge lif. *a* 1400–50 *Ware Alex.* 2301 Welcom we [*Dull.* wey], at all pe weri sell wyn with þi handis. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 57 Sen thy will is to wend, wy, now in weir, Lake that wisly thow wirk. 1525 *Scottish Field* 257 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), I will wynde you to wrake, wene, I you here.

**c.** Without article. (Cf. Man *sb.*¹ 2.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2039, I am wyȝe at your wylle to worch youre best. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 337 Hadde neuere wyf witte to wurche þe leest. 1390 — *Rich. Redeless*

iii. 288 þis warmnesse in weith with wy vppon erthe Myste not longe dure. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xx. 51 Thair is nocht wie Can estimie My sorrow.

d. Applied to the Deity. *rare.*

13.. *Gen. & Ex. Ktd.* 2441 Þe wyse hit yow ȝelde Þat vp-haldes be heuen and on hyȝ sittes. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* iii. 39 Be the wy that all the warld wrocht.

3. *transf.* A woman; a lady. *rare.*

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2103 Thou shalt haue riches more Rife ..þan any lady in þi land, . . And more likandly lyf . . as a wee noble. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* xxxi. 34. I lufe þe wy Will nocht spoyl, Nor grant to gife me grace agane.

**Wye** ² (wai). *techn.* (See quots. and cf. Y 3.)

1827 Davies & Peck *Math. Dict.*, *Wyes*, the supports of the telescope in the theodulite and level. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/1 Wye, a Y or crotch. Used in many ways as a temporary shore or brace. ▸ 1883 Greeley *Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wye* (Cumb.), the beam-end connection above the pump-rods of a winding and pumping engine.

**Wye**, north. dial. var. Quey; obs. var. Weigh *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹

**Wye** byt, var. Way-bit *Obs.*

**Wyefde**, var. Weved *Obs.* **Wyefe**, obs. f. Wife. **Wyel**, **Wyelde**, **Wyeldeware**, **Wyele**, **Wyelfoyle**, **Wyell**, obs. ff. While, Wield, Wild-fowl, Wildware, Weel ², Wile.

**Wyer**, obs. f. Wier, Wire *sb.* and *v.* **Wyes**, **wyese**, etc., obs. forms of Wise *sb.* and *a.*

**Wyet**, **Wyete**, **Wyeued**, **Wyevе**, **Wyeygt**, obs. ff. White *a.*, Wit *v.*¹, Weved, Weave *v.*, Weight *sb.*²

**Wyf**, **wyfe**, **wyff(e**, obs. ff. Wife *sb.* **Wyfyne**, Sc. var. Wiven *a. Obs.* **Wygeon**, **Wyghe**, obs. ff. Widgeon, With *prep.*, Wye ¹.

**Wyghte**, obs. f. Weight *sb.*¹, White *a.* **Wyjtsave**, obs. var. Wiseman. **Wygorously**, obs. Sc. f. Vigorously *adv.* **Wyhee**, var. Weree *v.* **Wyhylle**, obs. f. Wile *sb.* **Wyice**, obs. Sc. f. Wise *a.* **Wyif**, obs. f. Wife. **Wyill**, obs. Sc. f. Will. **Wyir**, Sc. var. Vire *sb.*¹ *Obs.* **Wyis**, etc., obs. Sc. ff. Wise. **Wyk(e**: see Week *sb.*, and Wike *Obs.*

**† Wyke**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* (Of obscure origin and meaning: not obviously connected with OE. *wícan.*)

*a* 1300 in Wright *Lyric Poetry* (1842) 76 Wen þou wyke, with care y am thoruh-soht, When y wake y wyke, of serewe is al mi thoht.

**† Wyke**, *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [ad. MDu. *wijcken* (Du. *wijken*) to give way, depart, etc.] *intr.* To give way, to withdraw.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 67 In nede alwey [I] haue byden by yow where other beestis haue wyked and goon theyr way [Du. *ontweecken*]. *Ibid.* 71 It is better that we wyke [Du. *wycken*] and departe, than we shoulde . fyghte with hym.

**Wyked**, obs. form of Wicked *a.*

**† Wykehamic**, *a. Obs.*⁻¹ In 8 **Winkhamick**. [See Wykehamist *sb.*, and Wykehamical *a.* 1.

*a* 1721 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 69 Thus from the two Wickhamick Springs shall rise Diffusive streams the Church to fertilise.

**Wykehamical** (wikəmikal), *a.* Also 8–9 **Wicosam-**, 9 **Wychamical**. [f. as prec. + -al. The form *Wicamical* is ad. mod.L. *Wicamic-us.*]

1. Of or pertaining to Winchester College, or the pupils or staff of this; = Wykehamist *a.*

1758 C. Golding *Def. Cond. Warden Winchester Coll.* 38 He hath given the Election of Scholars to take place from within the Wykehamical Societies. 1791 Hundredth *Anthmag.* 101 William of Wickham, a Song for the Wicamical Anniversary, 1891 W. J. Hoskyns *Life Ken* I. 18 Under Domum, the old Wykehamical song. *Ibid.* 23 The great object of Wykehamical hopes, New College. 1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xxii. 397 In Wykehamical phrase, the Praefect . would . have . broker their necks. 1901 *Athenæum* 26 Jan. 105/3 If we were asked to select the typical Wykehamical epitaph.

2. That is or has been a pupil of, or connected with, Winchester College.

1844 R. Palmer in *Mem.* (1856) I. 364, I printed them for private and anonymous circulation among my Wykehamical friends. 1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xvii. 320 This oath is one of the things which the Wykehamical body ought to have abolished long ago. 1903 Pearson in C. E. Osborne *Fr. Dolling* 31 He was rapidly adopted within the Wykehamical family; and was what the school would have called 'a most patristic Wykehamist.'

Hence **Wykehamically** *adv.*

1878 H. C. Adams *Wykehamica* xviii. 418 *Clouse*, 'in shame'. . Here the word has been Wykehamically diverted from its original meaning, viz. 'to cheat'.

**Wykehamist** (wi·kəmist), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 **Wykhamist**, **Wicosamist.** [ad. mod.L. *Wykehamista* (16th c.), f. the name William of *Wykeham* (1324–1404), Bishop of Winchester, and founder of Winchester College (1382) and New College, Oxford (1379).]

**A.** *sb.* One who is or has been a pupil at Winchester College.

1758 C. Golding *D.f. Cond.* 51 Last any Wykhamist should be offended. 1773 *Hist. & Antiq. Winchester* I. 147 Andrew Phillips . shared the piety and doctrine of the Wiccamists. 1782 J. Nichols *Sel. Collect. Poems* VIII. 75 Young Clibber, being likewise a Wykhamist, called on Dr. Ridley. 1860 Wallott *Cathedrals* 231 That most characteristic gathering of Wykehamists old and young. 1885 *Athenæum* 4 July 14/3 The governors of Harrow have successively appointed the most learned and single-minded of Wykehamists. 1903 [see Wykehamical *a.* 2].

**B.** *adj.* = Wykehamical *a.* 1.

1865 (*title*), Wykehamist Meeting. The anniversary festival will be holden . May 17, 1865. 1867 Aog. G. Drane *Chr. Schools* II. vii. 260 The Wykehamist Colleges . opened the way to other foundations of a similar description. 1891 *Athenæum* 14 Feb. 219/2 It may reasonably be hoped that this is not Wykehamist Greek.

**Wyker**, **ir**, **Wykker**, **Wykur**, etc., obs. ff. Wicker. **Wykket**, **t**, **Wykket(t**, obs. ff. Wicket. **Wykkt**, **Wykked**, **-id**, etc., obs. ff. Wicked *a.*

**Wykke**, obs. f. Wick *a.* **Wyl**, obs. f. Vile *a.*, While *sb.*, Wile, Will *sb.* **Wylage**, obs. f. Village *sb.* **Wylanlyohe**, obs. f. Villainly *adv.*

**Wyld(e**, obs. ff. Weald, Wild. **Wylde**, obs. f. Wield. **Wyldren**, var. Wildern. **Wyldrenes(se**, obs. ff. Wilderness. **Wyldyng**, obs. var. Wielding *ppl. a.* **Wyle**, obs. Sc. f. Vile; var. Walk *v.* 3 t. obs. f. Week ², Weel, Wile, While.

**Wyled**, **Wylem**, obs. ff. Wiled, Whilom.

**Wyliecoat** (wæ·likɛ,kɔt). *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: 5–6, 9 wyle-, 6 vylo-, vile-, wyle-, wele-; 5–7 wyly-, 6 vily-, veli-, 6–7 weyli- (8 weily-), 6– wylie-, 8– wyliecot (9 will-, wilie-); 7 wyill(e)-, 9 willy-, willey-, welli-; 7 waly-, vali-, 7, 9 walli-, 9 walacoat; also 5 -coyt, 5–8 -cot, 5–7 -cote, -cott, 5, 7– -coat. (Occas. as two words, or with hyphen.) [Of obscure origin: the form of the second element agrees throughout with those of Coat *sb.*, but the first has not been identified, and may be an alteration of some foreign term.]

1. An under-waistcoat, in earlier use esp. one worn under a doublet; an under-vest, woollen or flannel under-garment. ? *Obs.*

In later quots. applied to some kind of outer garment.

1478 *Aids Auditorum* (1890) 81/1 A doublat of Bukkesy with a wyle cot of quhit in it. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 245, v quarteris of lynlis quhit, to be the King ane wyle cote, *Ibid.* III. 109 For ane wyly cote undir his cote, . . vs. 3d. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. Prol. 90 In double garmont cled and wyly coyt. 1561 in *Inv. de la Royne Descosse* (Bann. Cl.) 21 Item wylie cottis of quhite lambskynnis. 1645 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 179 To deliver to James Walker ane wyllecote worthe thrie pounds four shillings. 1788 Burns *To a Louse* vi, Wad na been surpris'd to spy You on . some bit duddie boy On's wyliecoat. 1820 Scott *Abbot* i, A hardy little boy . did not hesitate to strip off his *upper-coat*, [and] to plunge into the water. 1823 *Mirror* I. 285/2 A wallcoat of white drugget, deep blue inexpressibles.

*Perth* 1737 (Jam.), *Sc. Presb. Eloq.* (1750) 107 We can shape their wylie-coat, but no their wierd.

2. An under-petticoat.

1544 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 326 Tua elnis and ane half scarlot to be hir ane wyle cote. 1551 *Ibid.* X. 53 Archie Clerk, send . with ane fardyt velvet to my Lady Gordoun. *a* 1586 Sir R. Maitland in *M. Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 2 Sumtyme they will beir vp their goun, to schaw their wyllett fleiche. 1600 *Compt. Bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 45 Ane narrow pece quhyt cluth . to be my lassis weylecoitis. 1666 G. Stuart *Jacobite Proc.* 21 The Sisters skewed their wylecoats. 1708 Cleland *Scrub's Kirk-Gr.* ii. xxii, The bride she made a fen, To sit in wylecoat tae braw. *c* 1725 Scrub-Laird in *Orpheus Caled.* 26, I mun hae a Scots Spool . . with one fardyt velvet on my Lady Gordoun. *a* 1586 Sir R. Maitland in *M. Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 2 Sumtyme they will beir vp their goun, to schaw their wyllett fleiche. 1600 *Compt. Bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 45 Ane narrow pece quhyt cluth . to be my lassis weylecoitis. 1666 G. Stuart *Jacobite Proc.* 21 The Sisters skewed their wylecoats. 1708 Cleland *Scrub's Kirk-Gr.* ii. xxii, The bride she made a fen, To sit in wylecoat tae braw. *c* 1725 *Scrub-Laird in Orpheus Caled.* 26, I mun hae a Scots Spool . . with one fardyt velvet on my Lady Gordoun. 1727 Pinkerton *Hist. Scot.* I. 154 The kirtle, or close gown, was rarely accompanied . with the wyliecot or under petticoat. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* (Harper) Oct. 411/2 Wi' a wee bit apron o' silly craitures. A' thing that wears wilty-coats; no yin muckle to better anither! 1895 — *Grey Man* iii. 23 Nell Kennedy with her wyliecoats kilted.

*Perth* 1791 Kelly *Scot. Prov.* 51 A Wife knows enough, who knows the good Man's Breeks from Weilycoat.

**b.** A feminine (or esp. in later use, a child's) night-dress.

*c* 1654 in C. K. Sharpe *Pref. to Lowe's Mem.* (1818) p. lviii, She was seen . standing baiteleggt and in hir sark vaitcot . . conferring with the devill. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1851) II. 253 Scho getting vp out of hir naiked bed in hir night wailycot, hairfut and bairleg. 1894–9 in Northumb. and Cumb. glossaries.

**Wylk(e**, **Wyll**, obs. ff. Which, Weel ², **Wyll**, **Wylle**, obs. ff. While, Will. **Wyllanye**, **Wylly**, **Wyllst**, obs. ff. Villainy, Wily, Whilst. **Wylt**, obs. f. Quilt *sb.* **Wyly(e**, **Wylys**, obs. ff. Wily, Whiles.

**† Wymalve.** *Obs. rare.* Also 3 **ymalue**. [a. AF. *wimavre*, *widmalve* (12th c.), = OF. *vi-, vismauve*, *vismalve*, etc. (F. *guimauve*) :—pop.L. **viscomalva*, for **hibiscomalva* : see Hibiscus and Mallow.] = Wymote. (Cf. Vimave.)

*c* 1265 *Sec. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 526 *Althea*, i. ymalue, i. hollihoc. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Oxon.) 202 *Bismalua*, *alia maluа*, *altea idem*, . . *alteglikes*, wymalue uel mandilion.

**Wyme**, obs. form of Wame.

**Wymmen**, obs. pl. form of Woman.

**Wymote** (wai·mō·t). Now *local.* Also 9 **wymote**, **wimot(e.** [Unexplained var. of Wymalve.] The marsh-mallow, *Althea officinalis.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Suppl., Wymot is *Ibiscus.* 1665 Lovell *Herbal* (ed. 2) 470 Wymot, see Marsh Mallow. 1756 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 622 Marsh Mallow. Wymote. [Found in] salt marshes and banks of rivers. 1811 S. F. Gray *Brit. Plants* II. 639 *Althæa officinalis.* Shop marsh-mallow. . Wymote. . 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 482 *Wimote*, . . common Marsh Mallow.

**Wyn**, obs. f. When *v.*, Win *v.* **Wynaker**, **-ir**, obs. ff. Vinegar. **Wynbeme**, obs. f. Windbream. **Wyncouth**, **Wynous**, obs. Sc. ff. Uncouth, Vanquish. **Wynd**, obs. f. Wind.

**Wynd** (weind). Chiefly *Sc.* (and *north. dial.*). Also 5, 8 **wynde** (6 **vynd**, **wyne**, 9 *north. dial.* **wound**), 5 **winde**, 8–9 **wind** (9 **weind**). [App. f. the stem of Wind *v.*¹ (cf. OE. *gewind* winding ascent, spiral, etc.); the long vowel indicates an OE. disyllabic form **windæ* or **wyndæ*.]

1. A narrow street or passage turning off from a main thoroughfare; a narrow cross-street; a lane or alley : a. In Scotland (and northern England.)

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VIII. xxvii. 4490 Pat til Edynburgh halde he way. And at þe Freyre Wynde entryt þai. 1439 *Cantera*, etc. *of Edinb.* (1871) 64 The common calsay callit Sanct Leonardis wynde. 1506 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 617/1 Le Nudrisis Wynd infra burgum de Edinburgh. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 174 Seing a poorest persone with the deuill . rinn throuh gaittes, houses, close, wynes, straits and streits frelie. 1612 in *Hotchinson's Ledger* (1807) 336 Burnetts maid in Leith wynd. 1695 Sibbald *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 A house neer to the head of Blackfriers Wynd. 1797 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* III. 30 Those Side Lanes called Wynds. 1815 — *Complete Hist. Lett. N. Scott.* (1818) I. 28 Being in my retreat to pass through a long narrow wynde or alley, . a guide was assigned me. 1822 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr. Stat. Acc.* *Thal.* 165 Many narrow lanes, leading . down the sides of the hills; which lanes, from their being generally winding, . . are called *winds*. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ii, A small house at the fit of one of the wynds. 1860 Sim ]. B. Burke *Vicissitudes Fam.* 1st. 153 The site of Appleby is exceedingly beautiful. . . From this main street are . . narrow lanes called wynds, jutting out towards the river Eden. 1885 Masson *Edinb. Sketches* (1892) 12 A multiplicity of narrow foot-passages called closes, with a few wider and more street-like cuttings called wynds.

b. Applied to similar lanes, etc., in other parts.

1863 Sir R. Alcock *Capital of Tycoon* I. 255 Black-teethed women . rush down the wynds and passages [in Yedo] which lead to the great thoroughfare. 1871 Knickerbocker *At Last* ii, Fresh from the cities of the Old World, and the short and stunted figures . which crowd our alleys and back wynds. 1894 Weyman *Man Black Isle* xxii, I felt the priest passed unharmed through the lowest wynds of Paris.

c. Without article.

1812 W. Tennant *Anster Fair* V. vi. xxi, From lane and wynd the sounds of gladness peal. 1856 W. E. Aytoun *Bothwell* 145 That cry . rung through street, and pealed through wynd.

2. *attrib.*, as *wynd house*; **wynd head**, the higher end of a narrow street.

1530 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 34 [At the Wyndhuit of Glasgw to the Grayfreis. 1665 J. Nicoll *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 243 [He] arrestit ane stinkie fat-wint Middleass and Black Priess wynd head. 1888 Baxter *When a Man's Single* i, The windows of the wynd houses. **Wyndak**, -ok, obs. ff. Windock *Sc.* **Wynde**, **Wyndel**, -ille, etc., obs. ff. Wind, Windle *sb.*¹

**Wyndi**, var. Ondy *Obs.* (Cf. Undy.)

1486 *Bk. St. Alb. Cust.-arm.* b v, The secunde [coat-armour] is calde wyndi, that is to say when the feldes is made like wawis of oon colour or of diuerse colour.

**Wyndlas**, -e, -lasse, etc., obs. ff. Windlass.

**† Wyndre**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *guingnier*, *guignier*, etc., to deck, trick out.] *trans.* To trim, deck, or embellish (oneself, the brows, etc.).

*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1018 1020 Fetys she was. : No wyndred [*v.r.* brouded] her hede nat she [F. *ne fu farder ne guigniе*] Ne popped hir for it neded nought To wyndre hir [F. *de ses iiferl*] or to peynte hir ought.

**Wyndyrtak**, **Wyne-jarde**, **-yaird**, obs. Sc. ff. Underтake *v.*, Vineyard. **Wynfall**, obs. f. Windfall.

**† Wyning.** *Obs.* Also 3 **wynyng**; 4 *pl.* **wyn(e)wes**, **wynwys**. [repr. OE. *wining* 'leg-band', of obscure formation.

For the later plural forms cf. *p.nemes*, for the earlier *penigas*, var. of *pennigas*, pl. of *penning* Penny.]

A small strong band or tie; a fillet. = Casket 1.

1205 *Lay.* *Kech. K. R.* 5 8 m. 13 Et iiij.s. in xij. duodenis de Wyninges emptis. ad velum. 1206 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 5 In filo empto ad velum et vna wyninge et ij. wyningis emptis de eodem. 1304 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 12 6 m. 3 In dj. velis, et Wynwes, et minutis cordellis, 133s. *Ibid.* 13 31 m. 5 Computat . in C.C. xx. vlnis de Belmpit empt. . . vnde factiones ad diu tum velum cum eisdem ligandum. 1400 in *Rec. Acc. 3 Hen. VI*, G 2 In . . scpo Towe Wynwys et aliis diuersis stramentis.

**† Wynk(e**, obs. ff. Wing, Wink, Winge, obs. Sc. pr. pple. of Winkle *v.*¹ **Wynlas**, **-asse**, **-asse**, obs. ff. Windlass.

**Wynn.** (See quot.)

1863 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Wynn*, a kind of timber truck or carriage. [1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *s.v. jud*, a truck or low carriage.]

**Wynscott**, obs. Sc. f. Wainscot. **Wynter-myte** : see Vitremyte. **Wynwes**, pl.: see Wyning. **Wyolence**, **-ent**, obs. Sc. ff. Violence, Violent. **Wyolet**, obs. f. Violet.

**Wype** (waip). Now *dial.* Also 7, 9 **wipe.** [Of doubtful etymology; perh. echoic, from its call. Cf. (M)Sw. and Norw. *vipa*, Sw. *tofsvipa*, Da. *vibe*, also Pershwey, Pershwipe.] The lapwing.

*c* 1325 *Glouc. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 [La vaneke e le pountoz] *gloss*] a wype and waschere. *c* 1440 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 640 *Hec vipha*, wype. 1512 in *Kirkl. Northamb. Househ. Bk.* (1770) 104 It is thought goods that Wype

be harde for my Lordes own Mees onely. 15.. *Parlt. Byrdes* 305 Thowgh thou be hasty, as the wype, And thy feders, flyght ryper. 1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* D j b, Right Plouer, Snype, and Woodcock fine with Curlew, Wype and Rayle. 1825 J. Mackinnon *Mestingham* (1881) 18 Plover are here called Wipes, or Pywipes. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.* 251 *Wypes*,..the lapwing or plover.

**Wyp(p)e,** obs. ff. Whip.

**Wyppit, wypt,** obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wipe *v.*

**Wyr,** Sc. var. Vire *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

**Wyrall,** obs. f. Viol.

**Wyroh,** obs. var. Work *v.*

**Wyrckyn, wyrkyn,** obs. ff. Firkin.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 54 Yowr ij wyrkyns whon of samon and the tothyr of tony. *Ibid.* 177 A wyrckyn with gonstonys.

**Wyrd(e,** obs. variant of Weird *sb.* **Wyre,** Sc. var. Vire *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Wyrfolk,** obs. variant of Workfolk. **Wyrgyne,** obs. Sc. f. Virgin.

**Wyrie, wyry(e,** etc., obs. vars. Worry *v.* **Wyris land:** see Ure *sb.*[4] **Wyrk, Wyrle, Wyrne, Wyroa(u)nce,** etc., obs. ff. Work *v.*, Whirl *v.*, Queen, Werowance. **Wyrock,** Sc. var. Wirrock. **Wyrstylle,** obs. f. Warsle *v.* **Wyrt,** obs. Sc. f. Writ *sb.* **Wys:** see Be *v.* A. 6, Vice *sb.*, Vise *v.*, Wis, Wise. **Wysage,** obs., Sc. f. Visage. **Wysar,** etc., obs. ff. Visor, Wizard *sb.* **Wyse,** var. Vise *v. Obs.*; obs. f. Wise. **Wysh,** var. Wis *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Wysk,** obs. Sc. var. Whisk *sb.* **Wysle,** var. Wizle *dial.* **Wysment,** Sc. var. Visement *Obs.* **Wysnit, -yt,** obs. Sc. ff. Wizened *a.* **Wyson,** Sc. or north. f. Weasand. **Wyss(e,** etc., vars. Wis *adv.* and *v.*[1] *Obs.*; obs. ff. Wisk. **Wyssel,** obs. f. Whistle *v.* **Wysshe,** etc., obs. pa. t. of Wash *v.* **Wysshene,** obs. f. Cushion *sb.* **Wyst(e,** obs. pa. t. and pple. of Wit *v.*[1]

**Wyste,** southern ME. var. Fist *sb.*[1]

1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* 156 The bonde..that nowe in leynthe othyre in Palme hym streythyth, agayn into a wyste hym closyth.

**Wystel, Wystyll:** see Whistle, Wissel.

**Wyt,** obs. f. Whit, White, Wight, Wit.

**Wytale, Wytoh(e,** obs. ff. Victual, Witch.

**Wytch(e,** obs. ff. Whitch (a chest).

1558–9 *Will A. Cole* (Somerset Ho.) A wytche in the universitie of Oxforde called Cists Antiqua universitatis.

**Wyte,** obs. f. White, Wight, Wit; var. Wite.

**Wytel(e,** obs. ff. Whittle *sb.*[1] **Wytenge,** obs. f. Whiting *sb.* **Wytenonfa,** var. Wedenonfa[1] *Sc. Obs.* **Wyte-, Wythseave,** obs. vars. Vouchsafe *v.* **Wyth(e,** obs. ff. White, Wight, With, Withe. **Wythen(n)e,** varr. Wethen *Obs.* **Wyther, -yr(e,** obs. Sc. ff. Other. **Wyth-sounday,** obs. form of Whit Sunday. **Wytht(e,** obs. ff. White, Wight. **Wyty,** contr. f. *with thi:* see With *prep.* 6. **Wytsaffe, -saue,** etc., obs. vars. Vouchsafe *v.* **Wytson(e,** obs. ff. Whitsun. **Wytstare,** obs. f. Whitster. **Wyttail(e,** obs. vars. Victual. **Wytt(e,** obs. ff. Weight *sb.*, White, Wit *sb.* and *v.* **Wytyng,** obs. f. Whiting *vbl. sb.* **Wyue, wyve,** obs. ff. Wife *sb.*, Wive *v.* **Wyvel,** etc., obs. ff. Wevil. **Wyver,** obs. Sc. var. Weaver[1].

† **Wyver.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 guiure, 5 gwuer (gwuer), 4–5 wiuere, 5 wiver, 6–7 wiuer; 4–5 wyuere, 5–7 wyuer, 7 wyver. [a. OF. *wyvre, wivre, guivre* (F. *guivre, givre*), etc., vars. *vivre* serpent: see Viver[2].]

1. A viper. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5609 (Laud MS.), Addres, guiures, & dragouns, Wolden þis folk.. Fiuenymen & abite. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1010 Ialoussye..þat wikkede wyuere. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 34 Wherfore..ye ne ought accompte thilke thing [*sc.* jealousy] among these other welked wivers and venomous serpentes, as envy, mistrust, and yvel speche. *c* 1400 *Partonope* 7079 Now is he allone in þe wildernesse Amonge wyuerse and serpentes. *Ibid.* 7934 Marsik shewed hir grete lyons,..Dragons, Wyuers, and eke serpentes.

2. *Her.* = Wyvern 1.

1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 41 A Wyuer is a kynde of serpent of good Bulke, not vnlyke vnto a dragon, of whose kinde he is, a thinge well knowen vnto the Heroldes, vainge the same for armes, and crestes, & supporters. *Ibid.* 42 The erle of Kent bearethe a wiuer for his Creste and supporters: the erle of Penbroke, a wiuer vert for his Creste. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 903 A wiuer volant. *Ibid.* 904 A Wyuer being the Armes of Hugh Brent Esquire. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Wyver*, the name of an Animal, little known otherwise than as it is depicted in Blazonry.

3. *Wyver-fish*, some chimerical fish. *nonce-use.*

1597 Meredith *Farina* ix. 153 Upon that he [*sc.* the Demon] shot out his wings, that were like the fins of the wyver-fish, sharpened in venomous points.

**Wyvern** (wai·vəin). Also 7 wiu-, wiverne, 8–9 wivern (8 wefforne). [f. prec., with excrescent *-n* (see note on Bittern[1]).]

1. *Her.* A representation of a chimerical animal imagined as a winged dragon with two feet like those of an eagle, and a serpent-like, barbed tail.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxvi. 182 So doth the Wiuerne partake of a Fowle in the Wings and Legs,..and doth resemble a Serpent in the Taile. 1688 J. Gibbon *Introd. ad Lat. Blasoniam* 123 This Dragon hath but two Legs, and so is the same with our Wiverne. 1716 S. Kent *Gramm. Her.* s.v. *Drake*, He beareth Argent, a Wivern, his Wings displaid and Tail nowed Gules. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3605/2 A Wivern volant Bendways Sable. *Ibid.*, A Wyvern with a human Face. 1822 Gage *Hengrave* 38 A squirrel ..impaling a coat argent, on a chevron, between three wyvern's heads. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. 68 Two Wyverns also support the shield of the Duke of Rutland. 1888 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 100 The wings of the Dragon..and Wyvern are always represented as addorsed. *attrib.* 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 214/1 He beareth Vert, ..a Wivern-Wolf. *Ibid.*, He beareth Azure, a Wivern-Serpent, Or.

b. An image or figure of this monster.

1863 *Chr. Remembrancer* Oct. 456 The name of S. Romanus ..is still dear to the boys and girls of Norman villages by sundry processions of dragons, wyverns,.. made of combustibles. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 17 Sir Aylmer Aylmer, that almighty man,..Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. *Ibid.* 516 The manorial lord..Burst his own wyvern on the seal, and read..a letter from his child.

2. Such a monster conceived as having a real existence.

† *a* 1700 in Surtees *Hist. Durham* (1823) III. 243 Sir John Conyers, Knt., slew y^e monstrous, and poysonous vermine or wyverne, an aske or werme, wh[ich] overthrew and devoured many people in fight. 1820 Surtees *Ibid.* II. 175 [He] goes forth to slay wolf, bear, or wivern. 1833 Browning *Paracelsus* II. 454 Lakes which..Blaze like a wyvern flying round the sun. 1869 *Tales fr. Blackwood* XV. 74 As if she had been a Wyvern or a Gorgon.

**Wyvoll, Wyvyl,** obs. ff. Wevil. **Wywe,** obs. f. Weave *v.* **Wywere,** obs. var. Viver[1]. **Wyyfe, Wyzffe,** obs. ff. Wife. **Wyys,** obs. f. Wise *a.* **Wyzen,** Sc. or north. f. Weasand.

# X, Y, Z

By C. T. ONIONS

# PREFACE TO LETTERS X, Y, Z

THIS portion of the Dictionary, which treats of the words beginning with X, Y, and Z, and thus forms the final section of the whole work, contains in all 4746 entries. Of that number 1722 are Main words, 2312 are Subordinate entries of obsolete forms, etc., of which 1084 are compounds of the prefix *y-*, 216 are Special combinations, and 496 are Obvious combinations not requiring explanation. Of the Main words 1311 are still in current use, 270 are now obsolete, and 141 are alien or not completely naturalized. The number of illustrative quotations for the three letters is 12,580, of which X supplies 557, Y 9900, and Z 2123.*

Of the three letters dealt with in this section, X and Z are alike in comprising very little that is not of alien origin, whereas Y, except for certain words from Eastern or aboriginal languages, is Germanic. The history of the letters themselves is of unusual interest; the necessity of cross-references from one to the other indicating their points of contact is a remarkable feature. The name *yogh* of the Middle English letter ȝ finds a place in a dictionary for the first time here. The various monosyllabic names of Z, viz. *zad*, *zard*, *zed*, *zee*, are recorded in their several alphabetical places. Words having initial X are with few exceptions derived ultimately from Greek, and are of a technical character. *X rays* and *Xylonite* are the only two that are generally familiar. The oriental *xebec*, the town-name *Xeres* (the original of *sherry*), and the abbreviation *Xmas* are worthy of note. The vocabulary of Z is larger and more varied. The most important Greek derivatives, mostly acquired through the medium of Latin, are *zeal* with its connexions *zealous*, *zealot*, *zelator*, and *zelotic*, *zephyr*, *zetetic*, *zeugma*, *Zeus*, *zizany*, *zizyphus*, *zone*, and the groups of words depending on *ζωή* life, *ζῷον* animal (including *zodiac*), *ζυγόν* yoke, and *ζύμη* ferment. The number of words traceable to some Semitic language is considerable: among them are *zagaie*, *Zamzummim*, *zarf*, *zariba*, *zarnich*, *zecchin*, *zedoary*, *zenith*, *zero*, *zibet*, *ziczac*, *Zion*, *ziralect*, *zuz*. From India comes the following, several being of Persian origin: *zamorin*, *zayat*, *zemindar*, *zenana*, *zendik*, *zerumbet*, *zillah*, *zumbooruk*. The Romance languages have supplied some dozen words; *zest* and *zouave* come directly from French, while *zany* and *zero* have a Franco-Italian origin; in *zendalet* and *zucchetto* we have perversion or misuse of Italian words; from Spanish come *zabra*, *zamarra*, *zambo*, *zambra*, *zorro*, *zumbador*. From Modern German we have *zeitgeist*, *Zeppelin*, *zinc*, *zinke*, *zither*, *zizel*, *zollverein*, *zwanziger*, together with most of the names of minerals, which are extraordinarily numerous, and comprise *zaratite*, *zeagonite*, *zeilanite*, *zeolite*, *zeuncrite*, *zircon*, etc., *zorgite*, *zunyite*, *zurlite*, *zwieselite*, *zygadite*. From Slavonic languages are *zemni*, *zibeline* (through French), *zolotnik*; from languages of Africa, *zebra* and *Zulu*; from Turkish *zaptieh*, from Tibetan *zho*, from Mexican *zopilote*. South African Dutch gives *zuur-veldt*, and the artificial invention *Zarp*, which has an analogue in the recently coined *Anzac*. Articles of etymological interest or curiosity will be found under the headings *zamia*, *zegedine*, *Zend-Avesta*, *zenzic*, *zest* sb.[1], and *zoca*.

The outstanding characteristic of the letter Y is its wealth of ancient monosyllables; a large number of them are in very common use at the present day, such as *yard*, *yarn*, *yawn*, *yea*, *year*, *yearn*, *yeast*, *yell*, *yelp*, *yes*, *yet* adv., *yew*, *yield*, *yoke*, *yolk*, *yore*, *you* and *your*, *young*, *youth*; others are obsolete, archaic, or dialectal, such as *yain*, *yair*, *yap*, *yare*, *yark*, *yarm*, *yate*, *ye*, *yean*, *yed*, *yeie*, *yeke*, *yeld*, *yelt*, *yeme*, *yeo*, *yepe*, *yern*, *yerr*, *yet* vb., *yex*, *yisse*, *yore*, *yote*, *ythe*, *yule*, *yure*. Other important words of native origin are *yarrow* (the plant), *yellow*, *yesterday*, and the obsolete *yever* and *yomer*. Extraordinarily interesting examples of survival of Old English words in modern dialect are *yarrow* adj., *yed*, *yeo* sb.[1], *yes* sb.[1], *yeender*, and *youster*. Y includes a large class of words of an (ultimately) onomatopœic or echoic character; besides those which have their origin in Common Germanic, and are included in the list given above, there are many others that seem to have taken their rise within the borders

* The scale of this work compared with that of some other large dictionaries for this portion of the alphabet is exhibited by the following figures:—

| | | Johnson 17 5. | Cassell's 'Encyclopædic' and Suppl. | 'Century' Dict. and Suppl. | Here. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Words recorded | X | none | 396** | 460** | 286 |
| | Y | 96 | 592 | 876 | 3443 |
| | Z | 31 | 653** | 999** | 1017 |
| TOTAL | | 127 | 1641 | 2335 | 4746 |
| Words illustrated by quotations | X | none | 36 | 31 | 262 |
| | Y | 82 | 187 | 313 | 2190 |
| | Z | 16 | 138 | 167 | 818 |
| TOTAL | | 98 | 361 | 511 | 3370 |
| Number of quotations | X | none | 37 | 31 | 557 |
| | Y | 303 | 287 | 754 | 9900 |
| | Z | 52 | 151 | 231 | 2123 |
| TOTAL | | 355 | 475 | 1016 | 12,580 |

In the corresponding portion of Richardson's Dictionary the number of quotations is 380.

** These high figures are due to the inclusion in these encyclopædic lexicons of many Latin names belonging to the systematic terminology of zoology and botany which do not fall within the scope of this Dictionary.

of English itself; such are *yabble, yack, yaff, yaffle, yammer, yamph, yap, yar(r, yawl, yawp, yaw-yaw, yike, yirr, yo-ho, yoll, yoop, yonf, yow, yowf, yowl, yowt*; of these several express the barking or yelping of dogs. But a great part of Y consists of compounds formed with the prefix Y-, such as the following, not a few of which have a history of several centuries continued down to the modern period by archaistic usage: *yblent, yblessed, yborn, ybound, yclad, yclept, ycore, ydight, y-end, yfed, yfere, yfound, yhere, ykid, yknow, ylike, ymong, ypent, ywroken, ywrought.* In addition to these, there is a multitude of subordinate entries recording Middle English forms of past participles and other words, and thus illustrating with detailed evidence the facts set out in the article on the prefix. Materials of another kind useful for the study of historical English grammar will be found in the numerous entries of dialectal by-forms with initial *ya-, ye-, yi-, yo-*, arising from the development of an Old English *éa, éo*, into *yá, yó*, or the prothesis of a y-glide to an *e* or *i* sound; some of these forms are of sufficient importance to receive the status of Main words, e.g. the Scottish *yill* (= ale) and *yird* (= earth). From alien languages the chief loans are *yacht, yawl, yokudale, younker, yuffrouw* from Dutch or Low German, *yarpha, yemsel, Yggdrasil, yolster* from Scandinavian, *yager, yiddish, yodel* from Modern German, *yam*[2], *yamstchik, yourt, yuft* from Russian, *yaboo, yercum, yoga, yogi, yoni, yug* from various languages of India; *yaourt* (or *yoghurt*), *yataghan*, and *yelek* are Turkish, *yashmak* Arabic, *yamun* and *yulan* Chinese, *yen* Japanese, *yak* Tibetan, *yucca* Carib, *ylang-ylang* Tagalog; *yam*[1], *yapock, yapon, yarak, yari-yari, yarke, yarrau, yate* sb., *yaws* originate mostly in languages of uncivilized peoples, and their immediate source is not in every case ascertainable.

This section involves no very difficult problems of sense-development, but a few articles may be mentioned in which the presentation of meaning and usage reveals points of interest; such are *ye* and *you, yes, yet, yield, young lady, young man.* Problems of etymology are more conspicuous, and it would be possible to draw up a lengthy list of articles in which these have been treated with fuller evidence than hitherto; the following are representative:—the prefix *y-* and the six suffixes *-y, yankee, yawn, yeender, yeic. yellow-hammer, yelve, yeo* sb.[1], *yeoman, yepsen, yere, yerk, yesterday, yfere* adv., *yode, yokel, yokindale, yolk* sb.[2], *yon, yong* sb. and vb., *yule.* Students of Spenser will be interested in the conjecture recorded s. v. *youd* adj.[2]

The material for X, Y, Z passed through the hands of a voluntary subeditor, the Rev. J. Smallpeice, in 1882–4. The first proofs have been read by the Misses Edith and E. P. Thompson, Mr. G. F. Friedrichsen, and the Rev. Canon J. T. Fowler, who have contributed useful corrections or supplementary information. Assistance in the verification of quotations at the British Museum has been given, as heretofore, by Mr. W. W. Jenkinson. For information on special points grateful acknowledgement is due to Dr. A. Beets, of Leiden, Professor Florian Cajori, of Colorado, Dr. A. E. Cowley, Professor Cesare Foligno, Mr. H. T. Gerrans, Mr. L. G. Carr Loughton, Dr. James Morison, the late Dr. E. C. Quiggin, Mr. K. Sisam, Mr. W. H. Stevenson, the librarians of the India Office and the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, the director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the secretary of the British Xylonite Company. The editorial assistants who have taken part in the preparation of this section are: Mr. A. T. Maling, M.A., Mr. F. J. Sweatman, M.A., and Mr. J. W. Birt.

C. T. ONIONS.

*May*, 1921.

# X.

X (eks), pl. X's, *Xs* (e·ksɛz), the twenty-fourth letter of the modern and the twenty-first of the ancient Roman alphabet, corresponding in form and position to the Greek Χ. The early Greek forms + X represented the aspirated voiceless velar (kh) in the Ionian alphabet, and (ks) in the Chalcidian alphabet. (In the former, (ks) was denoted by Ξ, in the latter, (kh) was denoted by Ψ.) **x** was adopted by the Latins with the value (ks) from the Greek alphabet introduced into Italy. The ancient Roman name of the letter was *ix*, which is that given by Ælfric in his Grammar (*c* 1000).

Words having initial *x* (pronounced as *z*) in English are nearly all of Greek origin; a few, as *zebec*, *Xerxes*, have *x* representing early Sp. *x* (now *j*). In OE. *x* was used medially and finally as a variant spelling of *cs* (whether original or standing for *sc*), e.g. *wæx*, *eax* = *weaxs*, *acuss*, *æsc* Axe, *āxian* = *āscian*, *āscian* to Ask, *fixas*, pl. of *fisc* Fish, *fixian* = *fiscian* to Fish, *woxan* = *woscan* to Wash. Other variants are *cx*, *hx*, *xs*, *cxs*, *hxs*, as *meohx*, *micxes* Mikry, *axian* Asides. Similar spellings occur in the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi, e.g. *flexx(e)* flesh, *wexx* wash, *fixxes* fishes; the same MS. has the unexplained spellings *fuxz(o)*, *fouxz(u)*, etc. of Fowl *sb.* In East Anglian texts of the 14th to the 16th century *x* is frequently written for initial *sc*, *sch* in *xal* shall, *xuld* should; *xal* also is found in the Paston Letters; instances of other words so written are only occasional, e.g. *xad* shed (pa. pple.), *xowyrs* shovers, *xulderys* shoulders. Initial *x* stands for *sh* (or *x*) in early forms of some oriental words, as *xerif* Sherbef (after early Sp. *xerife*), *xaraffe*, *-aff* Sarap, and *Xinto* Shinto. Other temporary uses of *x*, but with its normal value (ks), are found in the once general *axes*, *axis* Access, *hunx* Hunks, and the less common *exelent* Exorlient, *exite* Excite; on the other hand *box* = *pocks* has become permanent, and *sox* has been adopted in the hosiery trade as a convenient shortening of *socks*.

1909 Wells *Kipps* ii. § 1 He would have considered himself the laughing stock of Wood Street if he had chanced to spell *socks* in any way but 'sox'.

The phonetic values of *x* in English are three, of which the commonest is (ks), as in *axis* (æ·ksis), *buxom* (bʌ·ksəm), *doxology* (dɒksɒ·lŏdʒi), *excuse* (ekskiū·z), *expense* (ekspe·ns), *oxen* (ɒ·ksn), *proximity* (prɒksi·mĭti), *tax* (tæks). The pronunciation of the prefix *ex-* followed by a vowel or *h* varies according as it bears the stress or not, the general rule being that *ex-* = (eks) and *ex-* = (ĕgz), as *exile* (e·ksail), *exact* (ĕgzæ·kt), *exhort* (ĕgzɔ·t); but there is considerable variety in individual words and individual usage: see Ex- *prefix*1 1 note. The same general principle governs the pronunciation of *anxious* (æ·ŋkʃəs), *anxiety* (æŋzæ·ĭəti), *luxury* (lʌ·kʃŭri, lʌ·gzʃəri), *luxurious* (lŏgziū·rĭəs, lŏgzjū·rĭəs), *Alexander* (ælegzɑ·ndə), *Alexandrine* (ælegzɑ·ndrin); but here also individual usage varies. The third value (z), arising from a reduction of (gz), is given in all cases to Initial *x*, as *Xerxes* (zɜ·ksiz); this value is shown in many instances in the 17th and 18th centuries by the spelling with *z*, as *Zanthian*, *zebeck*, *Zeres*, and instances are not uncommon in the 19th century of *xantho-* and *xylo-* for *xantho-* and *xylo-*; early examples are *Zanctus* Xanthus (Lydg. *Troy Bk.* ii. 731 rubric, 15th cent.), *zyphe* Xiph (1573). Cf. *Xantippe* Xanthippe (Chaucer), *Cerxes* Xerxes (Wyntoun *Chron.*, S.T.S., III. 54). A similar reduction of *x* took place in French:

*x*, if he be the fyrste letter of a worde, as *xenotrēphye*, *xylobalsome*, whiche they sounde but *z*, sayenge *zenotrophe*, *zylobalsome*, for they can nat gyve *x*, whiche is also a greke letter, is true sownde. (1530 Palsgr. *Eclarc.* i. xxv.)

I. 1. The letter or its sound.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* (Z) 6, *x* ana ongynð of þam stafe *i* after uðwitena tæcinge. 1530 Palsgr. 38 Note that *x* shall never be sounded in frenche lyke as he is in latyn, or as we wolde do in our tonge, in no wyse, but lyke an *s*. *c* 1600 A. Hume *Orth. Tongue* (1865) 12 The top of the tongue stryking on the inward teeth formes *d*, *l*, *n*, *r*, *s*, *t*, and *x*. The midle tongue stryking on the rouf of the mouth formes the rest, *c*, *g*, *k*, *j*, *q*, and *x*. 1636 B. Jonson *Engl. Gram.* i. lv, X is rather an abbreviation, or way of writing with us, then a Letter; . . It begins no word with us, that I know, but ends many. 1735 Middleton *Diss. Orig. Printing Eng.* 7, I take the Date in question to have been falsified originally by the Printer, . . and an *x* to have been dropt . . in the Age of its Impression. a 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Lord of Thumbloww* xxi, His cap, and his queer cloak all X's and Izzards. a 1849 Poe *Tales, X-ing a Paragraph*, When the exigency does occur, it almost always happens that *x* is adopted as a substitute for the letter deficient. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xi. (ed. 3) 360 *Ax*, on a cross arg. the letter *X* sa. 1878 W. J. Cripps *Old Engl. Plate* 110 Much of the old-, plate of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that is still to be found in the counties of Devon and Cornwall bears the old Exeter mark, which was a large Roman capital letter X crowned.

b. The letter considered with regard to its shape: chiefly *attrib.* and *Comb.* Hence identified with a cross. *X's and O's*: the game of noughts and crosses.

1545 Elyot, *Dictionarie*, is also a fourme in any thynge representynge the letter X, whiche parted in the myddell maketh an other figure called *Quincunx*, V. 1769 in G. Welsh *Bookbinder's Last Cent.* 334 Those [books] with an X. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Chairs in sets . . with W tablesin and X backs. 1837 Herbert *Anglin. & Mach. Encycl.* II. 876 The said ax is however the X genuine form side to side. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 176/1 Suppose a cross like an X or V to be cut out of brass-plate. 1862 Hagen *Synopsis Neuropt. N. Amer.* 213 (*X-shaped spot.*) 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xiii, The boy leaped the new X fence very cleverly. 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 402, I will write you a letter . . on the paper . . and you must make an X behind your name. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 92 It wasna playing at x's and o's to be steering for that crossbones of a Dutchman. 1899 Jesse L. Williams *Stolen Story*, etc. 54 Billy, reaching the foot of the page, made a double X mark to show that it was the end of the story. 1911 P. Bridges *Green Wave of Destiny* xiv. 211 There was just room between the houses for two narrow sacks placed X-wise.

c. Used like other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order, as in the signatures of the sheets of a book, the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery, etc.

II. Symbolic uses.

2. The Roman numeral symbol for ten (or +tenth); so xx = twenty (in early use also for 'score'), as iij$^{xx}$ = 'three score', 60; also occas. xx$^{ti}$ = *L. viginiti*), xxx, occas. xxx$^{ty}$ = thirty, etc.

*c* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* an. 409 (Parker MS.) Þæt wæs embe xi. hund wintra & x. wintra þæs þe hēo ærtimbred was. a 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. (1850) I. 57 There weren and left . . no but v. hundrid horsmen, and x. charis, and x. thousind of footmen. 1426 Audelay *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 72 Þow x. comawndmentis þe most con. . . 1449 *Mirour Salvacionn* (Roxb.) 146 The feest of kyng Aswere was ix$^{xx}$ dayes durynge. 1478 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 237 He seythe yes he xxti. in his bille. 1481 *Monumenta Hunsck. Hist.* (Brsl.) 9 For j. m. ij$^{c}$ iij$^{xx}$ marynerys. 1481-90 *Ibid.* 451 The nombir of the horse ys vij$^{xx}$ iij. 1488 *Henry's Wallace* v. 909 Xxxvi with him of nobill men at wage. 1489 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 322 Sent to myn at London, the x day of Februar. 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126 To my valentyn Agnes Illyon xx. 1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 53 Frome London the vjth daye of Aprylll. 1638 Penkethman *Artificiall Changes* iii, If my watch keep faire decorum, Three quarters have neere past the figure X. 1686 Burnet *Trav.* 241 Pope Leo the XIth time.

+ b. *X*$^{r}$: abbreviation of *December. Obs.*

1624 Sir W. Aston in Goodman *Court Jas. I* (1839) II. 369 Madrid, 24 of X$^{r}$ 1624.

c. *X*$^{o}$: a ten-dollar note. *XX*$^{o}$: a twenty-dollar note. *Colloq.*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag.* IX. 96 My wallet..distended with V's and X's to its utmost capacity. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* xx, The Custom-House officials..who know ten cents side of a XX.

3. In *Algebra* and *Higher Mathematics* used as the symbol for an unknown or variable quantity (or for the first of such quantities, the others being denoted by *y*, *z*, etc.); *spec.* in analytical geometry, the sign for an abscissa, or quantity measured along the principal axis of co-ordinates (hence called the *axis of x*). Hence allusively for something unknown or undetermined (also *attrib.* and in *Comb.*). See also X rays.

The introduction of *x*, *y*, *z* as symbols of unknown quantities is due to Descartes (*Géométrie*, 1637), who, in order to provide symbols of unknowns corresponding to the symbols *a*, *b*, *c* of knowns, took the last letter of the alphabet, *z*, for the first unknown and proceeded backwards to *y* and *x* for the second and third respectively. There is no evidence in support of the hypothesis that *x* is derived ultimately from the **medieval transliteration** *xei* of ش *shei* 'thing', used by the Arabs to denote the unknown quantity, or from the compendium for L. *res* 'thing' or *radix* 'root' (resembling a loosely-written *x*), used by mediæval mathematicians.

1660 J. Moore *Arith.* II. i. § 19. 16 (*Algebra*) Note always the given quantities or numbers with Consonants, and those which are sought with Vowels, or else the given quantities with the former letters in the Alphabet, and the sought with the last sort of letters, as *a*, *b*, *c*, &c. lest you make a confusion in your work. 1709 J. Ward *Yng. Math. Guide* iv. iii. (1733) 380 Let *y* = *AS* the Abscissa, and *x* = *SP*, put *x* = *Ad* the Distance between the two Semi-ordinates; which we suppose to be infinitely near each other. 1726 E. Stone *New Math. Dict.* s. v. *Conoid*, If *a* be equal to the Transverse Axis of the Hyperbola, generating a Conoid, and *x* be the Height of the Conoid, or the Absciss of the Hyperbola. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 269 The equation of any curve, is an algebraic expression, which denotes the relation betwixt the ordinate and abscissa: the abscissa being equal to *x*, and the ordinate equal to *y*. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176/2 (*Knots*) What is the unknown principle (= X) on which the understanding relies, when of the subject A it finds a foreign predicate B, and believes itself justified in asserting their necessary connexion? 1893 F. Adams *New Egypt* 99 The *x* of the Egyptian equation being pretty obviously the Egyptian people. 1898 W. T. Stead in *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 What manner of man is its author? He is the X in the Lansdowne equation. 1898 A. Lang *Social Pressure* ii. 15 Research in the X-region is not a new thing under the sun. 1903 Greenough & Kittredge *Words* v. 53 To make fun of the x's and y's of the algebraist. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 12 May 4/3 There is 'a wholesome distrust,' says Professor Ewing, 'of what may be called *x*-chasing.'

b. Hence used *attrib.* as an indeterminate numerical adj. = 'an unknown number of..' Chiefly *humorous*.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xi, The black porker's killed—weighed *x* stone. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 965 In the union of egg and sperm we have nothing more than a number of but two sets of characters and not that of *x* sets derived from as many ancestors.

c. Put for a person's name when unknown or left undetermined. Also X. Y. (See also 5.)

1797 in *Corr. Pinckney, Marshall & Gerry* (1798) 36 We have promised Messrs. X. and Y. that their names shall in no event be made public. 1798 *Ibid.* 93 The names designated by the letters W. X. Y. in the following extracts of letters from the Envoys of the United States to the French Republic. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 125 As to Mr. *x*, I borrow, on this occasion for his use, one of the names employed by mathematicians for the designation of their unknown quantities. 1848 Thackeray *Ballads of Policeman X, Vere Street* 116 ff., Policeman X 34. *Ibid.*, *Three Christmas Waits* 1 My name is Policeman *x*. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* xii. iv, The house-steward . . was in fact the veritable XY of the *Times* [newspaper], for whom Dick Avenel had been mistaken. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* ii. xii, The son of P. Q.—whom we would call X. Y. 1873 H. Drummond *New Evangelism* etc. (1899) 109 X won't be preached to along with Y and Z and Q; that won't do X is surprised, for he thinks it is all meant for Y, Z, and Q. 1890 O. Seaman *In Cap & Bells* (1900) 47 For terror of the Law and him that waits Outside, the unknown X, to hale us hence. 1901 Elinor Glyn *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 70 You feel obliged to ask the X's, the Y's, and the Z's from duty, and so you do.. This is the kind of assortment that arrives.. Pepa X, Mamma X, and two girl X'es; Papa Y, Mamma Y, and Master and Miss Y's; Papa Z, Mamma Z, Aunt Z, and Mdlle. Z—such a party!

d. In wireless telegraphy (with the comb. *x-stopper*): see quot.

1906 J. A. Fleming *Princ. Electric Wave Telegr.* ix. 611 The electric discharges due to atmospheric electricity create electromagnetic waves of an irregular type which interfere with wireless telegraphy by causing irregular signals. These are technically termed X's. . Means have been devised for sifting out the waves due to these irregular atmospheric disturbances. . One of these devices, due to Mr. Marconi, has received the name of an X-stopper.

4. In designations of brands of ale, stout, or porter, XX or double X denotes a medium quality, XXX or treble X the strongest quality. Also in the marking of qualities of tin-plate.

1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 11 A lover of the best London porter and double XX. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* I. iii. (1863) 47 His best beer was XXX. 1839 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Dunstan*, Keep clear of Broomsticks, Old Nick, and three XXX's. 1839 *Penny Dict. Arts*, etc. 1214 The following Table shows the several sizes of tin plates (and the marks by which they are distinguished.. Common, No. 1..C. 1..Two crosses, 1..xx. 1. Three crosses, 1..xxx. 1. Four crosses, 1..xxxx. 1. 1894 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* ix. (1901) 73 'And you musicians', turning to the promenade band, 'who were hard at work with some XX, 'be getting your instruments ready.' 1896 Geo. Eliot *Ess.* (1884) 87 Barclay's treble X. 1898 A. G. Murdoch-Mc *St. Readings* Ser. I. 58 The XXX stout was brought in.

5. XYZ: used to denote some thing or person unknown or undetermined (cf. 3).

1808 Coleridge *Lett. to T. Poole* (1884) 105, I use it rather as an X Y Z, an unknown quantity. 1813 Hyson *Lett.* 23 Nov., Wks. 1832 II. 269 Junius was X. V. Z., Esq. a 1834 Coleridge *Ess. Faith in Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 246 (Tab) determines whether X Y Z be a thing or a person. 1885 J. K. Jerome *On the Stage* ii, Among the sham agents must be classed the 'Professors,' or 'X.Y.Z.'s.'

**III.** Abbreviations.

**6.** In writing the name CHRIST, esp. in abbreviated form, X or x represents the first letter (kai) of Gr. ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ *khristos*, and ΧΡ or xp the first two letters (kai ρω). Hence in early times ΧῩ, in modern times Xt, Xt, and X, are used as abbreviations of the syllable *Christ*, alone or in derivatives; thus †Xpen, †Xpn = CHRISTEN, †Xpened = CHRISTENED; †Xpian, Xtian(ity) = CHRISTIAN(ITY); XMAS (*Xtsmas, Xtmas*) = CHRISTMAS.

†Xpc stands for ΧΡC contracted form of ΧΡΙCΤΟC; cf. IHS.

*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1021 On Xρes mæsse uhtan. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 337 In þis word Vix ben but þree letrin, Y, and I, and X. And V bitokeneþ fyve I bitokeneþ Jesus and X bitokeneþ Crist. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19951 Xpc þi sone, but in þis world alighte, Vo-on þe cros to suffre his passion. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 280/1 The most famous, blessed and Xpen Prince. *Ibid.* 336/1 Any Kyng or Prynce in England Xpened. 1573 HANFT *Artn.* x. v. 7 The long mistaking of this worde Xρs, standing for Chrs by abbreuiation, which for lacke of knowledge in the greeke they tooke for x, p, and s, and so likewise Xpofer. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying of Christ* (Hunter. Cl.) 1 Xpian the outward, inward, and all. 1634 *Documents agst. Peyrane* (Camden) 33 Such right as your Xtianity, place, and function joynly require. 1685-6 MS. in *Hk. Com. Pr. 1689* (Bodl.), *My first child*...Xtened on thursday the 28 of the same month. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Milton* (MS. Aubrey B. ff. 63). He was so fairе, that they called him the lady of X^t^ coll. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 155 This Note I took out of a Book of M^r^ Urry of X^t^ Church. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc. s. v., XMAS for Christmas, Xpher for *Christher*, &c.

**7.** Put for the initial syllable *ex-* of a word, or as an abbreviation for a word beginning with *ex-*, *X's* (slang): expenses. Also, in Stock Exchange quotations, *xd* = ex dividend, etc.

1838 MANNING *Let.* in Purcell *Life* (1896) I. xii. 230 All the 'X's,' I fear, ... would go out. [Ibid.: 'X's and Ecclesiars' were the nicknames given by the Tractarians to the Evangelicals ... who called themselves Christians *par excellence*.] *Ibid.* He writes as tenderly as he thought you a serious 'X.' 1849 FOX *Tales, X-ing a Paragraph*. One gentleman thought the whole an X-ellent joke. 1855 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 6/1 New York Central Railway 92½ 92¾ xd. 1896 LOUISE J. MILN *Strolling Players* xv. 132, I think we might clear our X's. Perhaps I should explain that 'X's' means expenses. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 197/2 Canonists have continued to refer to the decretals of Gregory IX by the abbreviation X (*Extra*, i. e. *extra Decretum*).

**8.** *Chem.* = XENON.

Hence **X** *v. trans.*, to supply with x's in place of types that are wanting.

*a* 1849 FOX *Tales, X-ing a Paragraph*, I shell have to *x* this ere paragrah', said he to himself, as he read it over.... So *x* it he did, unflinchingly, and to press it went *x-ed*.

**X, Xandar, obs.** ff. SHAH, SHABUNDEN.

**Xal, xall(e, obs.** ff. SHALL.

**Xanthomatin to Xanthelene:** see XANTHO-.

**Xanthate** (zæ·nþēit). *Chem.* [f. XANTHIC + -ATE ⁴.] **a.** A salt of xanthic (sulphocarbethylic) acid. **b.** A compound of xanthic oxide (xanthine) with an alkali.

1832 [see XANTHIC 1 b]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Xanthate of sodium forms yellow needles. *Ibid.* 499 Xanthate of Antimony ... forms large, lemon-yellow, triclinic crystals. ...Xanthate of Bismuth ... crystallises in shining golden-yellow laminæ. 1887 A. M. BROCK *Anim. Alkaloids* 79 [Xanthine] combines with the alkalies, ... forming xanthates.

**Xanthein** (zæ·nþĭ,in). *Chem.* Also -ine. [ad. F. *xanthéine* (Frémy & Cloez, 1854), arbitrarily f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow, to distinguish it from *xanthine* XANTHIN (1 b).] That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is soluble in water: cf. XANTHIN 1 b.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 546 The yellow substance which is soluble in water is termed xanthein: it ..may be obtained from the yellow dahlia. 1864 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handb. Chem.* XVI. 247 Yellow or Orange. ...The insoluble substance, called Xanthin by Frémy & Cloez, appears to correspond with Marquart's anthoxanthin: their Xanthein, soluble in water, with Marquart's colourless extractive matter.

**‖ Xanthelasma** (zænþĭlæ·zmă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ἔλασμα* metal plate.] = XANTHOMA. Also *attrib.* Hence **Xanthela·smic** *a.* = XANTHOMATOUS; **‖ Xanthelasmoides** [see -OID], a disease resembling xanthelasma, which leaves yellowish or brownish patches on the skin; also called *vitiligoides*.

1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) xxiv. 773 Epithelial hypertrophy ...to which from its colour and laminated appearance we have given the name of xanthelasma. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* XI. No. 41. 10 There is none of the characteristic xanthelasmic leathery. *Ibid.* 18 She ...had xanthelasma spots on the eyelids. *Ibid.* 2 The xanthelasmic [form of jaundice]. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Xanthelasmoides. 1902 *Lancet* 30 May 1521/2 If further investigation should prove that in xanthelasmoides the coagulability is high it will thus be more decisively separated from the urticarias.

**Xanthian** (zæ·nþiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also ? **Zanthian.** [f. *Xanthus* (see def.) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to (or an inhabitant of) Xanthus, an ancient town in Asia Minor; *spec.* of a collection of marbles discovered near it.

1685 COTTON *Montaigne* I. xl. (1711) I. 363 The Zanthians, who being besieg'd...precipitated themselves...into such a furious Appetite of dying, ...that Brutus had much ado to save but a very small number. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 660 Ere yet the Food Of Troy they taste, or drink the Xanthian Flood. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* IV. 244 (*Alexander*) A spring in Lycia near the city of the Xanthians. 1894 SIR C. FELLOWS (*title*) The Xanthian Marbles, their acquisition and transmission to England.

**Xanthic** (zæ·nþĭk), *a.* [ad. F. *xanthique*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow : see -IC.]

**1.** *Chem.* Epithet of certain compounds which produce substances of a yellow colour, or of bodies connected with these. **a.** *Xanthic oxide*, the original name of XANTHINE; so *xanthic calculus*, a urinary calculus containing xanthine.

1817 MARCET *Ext. Chem. Hist. Calculous Disorders* iv. 99 If the potash be added to the pure xanthic substance...no change of colour takes place. The residue of the solution of xanthic oxyd in water produces the yellow substance, when treated with nitric acid. *Ibid.* 101 Xanthic oxyd, heated to redness in a retort, emitted an animal smell, which did not at all resemble that of the lithic, cystic, or xanthic calculus. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 649 Xanthic or Uric Oxide ($C_{10}H_4N_4O_4$) was discovered by Dr. Marcet as the principal constituent of a very rare variety of urinary calculus. 1870 T. THOMSON *Urin. Sedim.* 139 (L.) Calculi of uric, xanthic and the urates, with their modifications the oxalates, xanthic and cystic oxide.

**b.** *Xanthic acid*, a complex acid containing sulphur and carbon, also called sulphocarbethylic or ethyldisulphocarbonic acid ($C_3H_6S_2O_2$), many of whose salts (*xanthates*) are yellow. So *xanthic ether*, etc.

1832 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 176 Xanthic acid is characterized by precipitating the salts of copper yellow. 1847 URE, During the distillation of xanthate of potash, a substance comes over which Zeise has distinguished by the name of xanthic oil. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 146 Xanthic or Ethyldisulphocarbonic Acid. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Ethyldisulphocarbonic or Xanthic Acid: ...in a colourless oil, heavier than water, ...its taste is acid, astringent, and bitter. *Ibid.* 500 Ethylic Disulphocarbonate or Xanthic, Xanthic Ether, $C^2H^5OS^2$...has a pale-yellow colour, a sweetish taste.

**2.** *Bot.* De Candolle's name for a series or class of colours in flowers, of which the type is yellow: opp. to *cyanic*.

1843 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) IV. 34 A most uncommon combination of colours—cyanic and xanthic tints in one and the same flower. 1885 GODMAN *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 454.

**Xanthide** (zæ·nþoid). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -IDE.] **a.** A compound of xanthogen (XANTHOGEN 1). **b.** A salt of xanthydric (persulphocyanic) acid.

1823 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 667 The oxides of common metals (copper, lead, mercury, &c.) decompose it [sc. hydrosulphuric acid] by giving up their oxygen to the hydrogen of the acid, and the xanthogene unites with the metal, forming xanthides. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthydric*, syn. with *Persulphocyanates*.

**Xanthin** (zæ·nþĭn). *Chem.* Also **xanthine**, (**xanthin**). [ad. F. *xanthine* or G. *xanthin*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow : see -IN 1.]

**1. a.** A yellow colouring-matter obtained from madder.

1858 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 387 Madder, according to T. Thomson, contains two colouring matters, one, which is yellow, is soluble in cold water. Kuhlmann, who first obtained it, has given it the name of *xanthin*. 1870 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1332 *Xanthine*, is the name given by Kuhlmann to the yellow dyeing-matter contained in root, which [1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc. I.* 421/1 Other principles may be extracted from madder, such as purpurine, alizarine, xanthine.

**b.** That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is insoluble in water: cf. XANTHEIN.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 546. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050.

**2.** (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthin*, ...applied...to By Couerbe to a gaseous product of the decomposition of xanthine, which he assigned the formula $C^{12}H^{16}N^2$.

**3.** *attrib.* **Xanthin-spar**, yellow lead-spar, or WULFENITE.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052.

**Xanthine** (zæ·nþăin). Also **-in.** *Chem.* [ad. F. *xanthine*, f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow : see -INE 5.] A substance ($C_5H_4N_4O$) related to uric acid, found in various organs and secretions of the animal body; originally called *xanthic oxide* (see XANTHIC 1 a), from its forming a lemon-yellow compound with nitric acid.

1857 G. Bird *Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 46 This interesting body...bears so close a resemblance to xanthine or uric oxide, that Scherer has named it hypoxanthine. 1862 H. BENCE JONES in *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* XV. 78 (*heading*) On a Deposit of Crystallized Xanthin in Human Urine. 1880 J. W. LANE *Boil's Syst. Physiol.* 1. 1. 1 Flower contained ...leucin, tyrosin, and xanthin. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 18 Xanthine may be extracted from muscular tissue in the same way as the sarkine.

*attrib.* and *Comb.* 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthine*...was discovered by Marcet in a urinary calculus weighing only 8 grains. Liebig and Wöhler afterwards found it in a larger calculus weighing between 18 and 20 grammes: these are the only known examples of xanthine calculi. 1897 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 93 Dr. Bence Jones has recorded an interesting case of xanthin gravel occurring in a lad aged nine and a half years. 1883 *Science* 23 Feb. 73/2 By heating xanthine-silver [= the silver-compound of xanthine] with methyl iodide, a methyl group was introduced. 1892 *Trans. Amer. Pediatr. Soc.* IV. 123 Convulsive seizures, ...produced by the action of the poisonous xanthin bodies on the nerve centres. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Mar. 338/1 So called food reformers...handy about their catchwords—flesh-forming...xanthin-forming and the like.

Hence **Xa·nthinine, ‖ Xanthinu·ria** (see quots.).

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1051 *Xanthinine*. $C^5H^5N^2O^2$. ...A base produced...by heating chloronitrate of ammonium to 200°. ...On boiling the resulting mass with water, the xanthinine remains as a yellow powder. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthinuria*, passage of xanthin in the urine.

**Xanthiope:** see XANTHIPPE.

**Xanthitane** (zæ·nþităin). *Min.* [f. next + -ANE.] A mineral produced by alteration or decomposition of sphene or titanite: see quot.

1856 C. U. SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXII. 96 *Xanthitane*. In hollow crystals with the form of sphene, and pulverulent. Color pale yellowish white. ...It is found in a decomposing feldspar, ...and probably proceeds from the decomposition of sphene.

**Xanthite** (zæ·nþait). *Min.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -ITE 1.] A variety of vesuvianite or idocrase, occurring in yellowish crystals.

1808 THOMSON *Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. N. Y.* III. 44 (DANA). 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 615/1 *Xanthite* consists of a congeries of small rounded grains, ...not larger than small grains of sand. 1851 MANTELL *Geol. Fossil Fishes* IV. § 1. 364.

**Xantho-** (zæ·nþo), before a vowel **xanth-**, repr. Gr. *ξανθο-*, combining form of *ξανθός* yellow; occurring as the first element in various compounds and derivatives, chiefly terms of chemistry, mineralogy, and pathology; the more important of these are given in their alphabetical places.

(Sometimes also erroneously *Zantho-*: see X.)

**1.** *Chem.* In names of or adjectives relating to, various compounds: (*a*) of a yellow colour, as *xanthe·matin*, *xa·nthaline*, *xanthocha·lcic*, *-coba·ltic*, *xanthocre·atine* (*-creatinine*), *xa·nthophane* [Gr. *φαν-*, stem of *φαίνειν* to cause to appear], *xanthopi·crin* (*-pi·crile*) [Gr. *πικρός* bitter], *xanthopro·tein*, *xantho·psin* [Gr. *ὄψις* sight], *xanthopu·rine* [PUCCIOTTI], *xanthopurpu·rin*, *xanthoxa·nmin*; *xanthoxe·nic*, *xanthoxe·nite*, *xantho·ta·nnic*, *xanthy·dric* [Gr. *ὕδωρ* water] adjs.; (*b*) derived from or related to xanthic acid (XANTHIC 1 b), as *xa·nthamide*, *xa·ntharin*, *xa·nthelene*; *xanthe·ic*, *xa·nthomethy·lic* adjs.; (*c*) derived from or related to xanthydric acid, as *xa·nthane* (*-an*): see quots.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Xanthamatin*...Term by Brett and Bird for a yellow, bitter substance found by dissolving hematin in weak nitric acid. 1893 *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 793/2 *Xanthaline—A New Opium Alkaloid ($C^{17}H^{19}NO^3$). 1892 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) II. 496 *Xanthamide. $C^2H^5SO^2N$. *Ibid.* 977 Xanthamide exposed in a distillatory apparatus to a gradually increasing temperature is resolved into mercaptan and cyanuric acid. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 **Xanthan*, Berzelius's name for the group $C_2^nS^2$, regarded as the radicle of persulphocyanic or xanthydric acid. *Ibid.* **Xantharin*, or *Xanthil*, an oily fetid compound, $C^5H^7O^2$, supposed to be the substance produced by the dry distillation of xanthic ether. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 614/2 When xanthate of potash is subjected to distillation a limpid yellow colourless oil is the result, which Zeise has called **xanthelic oil*. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 **Xanthelene*. Zeise gave this name to an oil ... produced ... by precipitating potassic ethylsulphocarbonate with a cupric salt. 1856 GMELIN & CAVENDISH *Ammonia-cobalt Bases in Smithsonian Contrib. Knowl.* (1857) IX. v. 48 The salts of **Xanthocobalt*. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 1054 *Xantho-cobaltic Salts. 1861 *Cyc. Anat. Dict.*, **Xanthocreatine*. 1923 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) **Xanthocreatin*, xanthocreatinin. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 85 *Xanthocreatinine is a substance closely resembles kreatinine...It shows in pellets of sulphur yellow, of slightly cadaveric odour. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 **Xanthocreatinine*. The name proposed by Scherer...to a substance which he obtained in yellow globules. 1880 J. W. LANE *Boil's Syst. Physiology* 1. 1. 1 Leucin and xanthoglobulin were also found. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 501 Methyl-disulphocarbonic Acid ($CH^3)HCOS^2$. ...*Xanthomethylic Acid. ...Methylic Disulphocarbonate, $C^2H^4OS^2$. ...Xanthomethylic Ether. BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthophane*, an orange-yellow pigment found in the retina. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 **Xanthophenic acid*. A yellow colouring-matter, ...produced ...by heating phenol or cresol with arsenic acid. The xanthophenates dye silk and wool red, of various shades. 1892 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 302 **Xanthopicrite* is a bitter crystalline substance from the bark of *Xanthoxylum Clava Herculis*. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1053 *Xanthopicrin*, *Xanthopicrite*. These names were given...to a yellow colouring-matter from the bark of *Xanthoxylum Clava-herculis*, since shown ...to be identical with berberine. 1858 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 710 *Xanthopicrite...was detected by Chevallier and Pelletan [1826] in the bark of the *Xanthoxylon caryoberum*. ...It has a very intensely bitter and astringent taste. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 164/2 The alkaline *xanthoproteates. 1843 T. THOMSON *Chem. Anim. Bodies* 178 **Xanthoprussic Acid*. This name for Prussian blue has been given by Mulder [1838] to a yellow coloured acid, obtained first by Fourcroy, by treating fibrin or albumen with nitric acid. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 130 Heated with strong nitric acid pepsin does not give the xantho-proteic reaction; hence it would appear that pepsin is not an albuminoid substance. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 601 The normal gland extract gave a positive result with the xantho-proteic test. 1883 OGILVIE (Annandale), **Xanthoproteïn*, a yellow acid substance formed by the action of nitric acid upon fibrine. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthopsin*,

yellow pigment of the retina. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xanthopsin*, visual purple partially discolored or bleached by light: visual yellow. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xanthopsinine*, name proposed by Leschen (1878) for an alkaloid found in hydrastis. 1877 Watts *Fownes' Chem.* II. 588 *Purpurexanthin* (or **Xanthopurpurin*)...is formed from purpurin by reduction with stannous chloride in alkaline solution. 1843 Kane in *Lond., Edinb., & Dubl. Philos. Mag.* July 2 The dark-coloured (Persian) berries.. give out to boiling water an olive-yellow material, to which ...I give the name of **xanthorhamnine*. 1866 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 533 *Xanthotannic Acid*. Obtained from elm-leaves reddened in the autumn. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 **Xanthydric acid*. Syn. with *Peruxanthoxanic Acid*[obtained as ' a pale yellow crystalline powder', *Ibid.* IV. 398].

**2.** In various compounds. **Xantha·rsenite** *Min.*, a mineral allied to chondrarsenite, occurring in sulphur-yellow masses. **Xanthocar·rpous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], having yellow fruit. **Xanthocomic** (-kɒ·mik) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. *κόμη* hair], yellow-haired. **Xa·nthocone** (-oon), **Xanthoˈconite** *Min.* [G. *xanthokon* (Breithaupt, 1840), f. Gr. *κόνις* dust], an arseniosulphide of silver, of a dull red or brownish colour, yellow when pulverized. **Xanthocy·anopy**, **Xanthocy·nopy** (-kyan-) *Path.* [Gr. *κύανος* blue + *ὄψις, ἀνά* sight], a form of colour-blindness in which yellow and blue are the only colours discerned. ‖ **Xanthoˈderma**, **-deˈrmia** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], yellowness of the skin. **Xa·nthodont**, **Xanthoˈdontous** *adjs. Zool.* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth], having yellow teeth, as certain rodents. **Xanthoˈmeter** [-METER], an instrument for determining the colour of sea or lake water by comparison with a scale of different-coloured solutions. ‖ **Xanthoˈpsia**, **Xanthoˈpathy** *Path.* [Gr. *-πάθεια* -PATHY] = *xanthoderma*. ‖ **Xanthoˈpsia**, **Xa·nthopsy** *Path.* [Gr. *ὄψις* appearance, sight], an affection of the eyes in which objects appear yellow; yellow vision. **Xanthoˈrthite** *Min.*, a yellow variety of orthite. **Xanthosiˈderite** *Min.* [Gr. *σίδηρος* iron], a native hydrated oxide of iron, occurring in needle-shaped or fibrous crystals, or as an ochre, of a yellow, brown, or reddish colour. **Xanthosperˈmous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed], having yellow seeds.

1892 Dana *Syst. Min.* 796 ¹Xantharsenite...Occurs with hausmannite,..in crystalline lime-stone. 1862 Mayne *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436/2 ¹Xanthopsina. 1861 Wyvern *Bees* 497 Europe is the chief seat of the ¹xantho-comic or light-haired races. 1846 Worcester, ¹Xanthocon (citing Dana). 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthocone*...A silver-ore from the Himmelfürst mine, near Freiberg in Saxony. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 108 ¹*Xanthocronite*...Color dull-red to clove-brown; crystals orange-yellow on the edges by transmitted light. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* ¹Xanthocyanopy. 1850 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, ¹Xanthokyanopy. 1867 W. J. E. Wilson *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 ¹Xanthoderma represents the yellow complexion of the races of mankind. 1900 *Lancet* 11 Aug. 414/1 The mucous membranes were not coloured and the urine ..never showed a trace of bile pigment. This was in the case of the diagnosis of ¹xanthodermia. 1892 *Syst. Min.* 796 ¹Xanthodont. 1868 Mayne *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436 ¹Xanthodontous. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 April 7/3 When the Queen visited the Antarctic exploring ship *Discovery* she was particularly interested in Forel's ¹xanthometer. 1867 W. J. E. Wilson *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 ¹Xanthopathia, or yellow discoloration of the skin, consists in the deposit in the cells of the rete mucosum of a yellow colouring principle. 1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), ¹*Xanthopsia*, yellow vision,—as sometimes occurs in jaundice. 1873 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 603 A very curious symptom caused by santonin ..is xanthopsia. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 287 ¹Xanthorthite, of Hermann,..is apparently an altered variety [of orthite]. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 ¹*Xanthosiderite*. A hydrated ferric oxide. 1862 Mayne *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436/2 ¹Xanthospermous.

‖ **Xanthochroi** (zænθɒˈkrɒ·ɪ), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *χρόος* skin, app. meant as a transliteration of an assumed Gr. **ξανθόχρωροι*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *ὀχρός* pale (the regular L. form of which would be **xanthôchri*); by later writers and in Dicta. taken as *xanthôchroī* (sing. *-chrous*), ad. Gr. *ξανθόχροος*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *χρόα* skin: cf. Melanochroi.] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having yellow or light-coloured hair and pale complexion.

1866 [see Xanthomelanoi]. 1875 Tylor in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 113/2 The Xanthochroi, or fair whites ..are the prevalent inhabitants of Northern Europe.

Hence **Xanthochroic** (-kɒˈɒ·ɪk), **Xanthochroid** (-ˈkɒɪroid), **Xanthochroidal** (-ˈkɒɪroˈɪdăl), **Xanthochroous** (-ˈɒkɒrʊs) *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or having the characters of the *Xanthochroi*. So ‖ **Xanthochroia** (-kroiˈă) [mod.L., f. Gr. *χροιά* = *χρόα* skin], yellow discoloration of the skin from change in the pigment; **Xanthochroism** (-ˈɒkɒrʊ,izˈm), *Ornith.*, abnormal replacement of another colour by yellow in the plumage of certain birds.

1867 W. J. E. Wilson *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 Xanthopathia. Syn. Xanthoderma; ¹xanthochroia. 1870 Huxley in *Contemp. Rev.* July 313 The ¹Xanthochroic area. 1876 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. i. 209 The xanthochroic group: pale skin, blue eyes, and abundant fair hair. 1885 Ludwick *Prov. Times* 28 (1889) 378 [The] ¹Xanthochroid [group]. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 421 There seems to be a certain correlation of colours in most cases of Heterothrica ...green feathers exhibit ¹xanthochroism, 1900 *Cent. Dict. Suppl.*, ¹*Xanthochroïd*, same as *Xanthochroic*. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, ¹Xanthochroöus. 1865 ¹Xanthochrous [see Melanochrous]. 1900 *Q. Rev.* July 230 Great stature and xanthochrous complexion were ..the characteristics of the Celt or German.

**Xanthogen** (zæˈnθɒdʒen). *Chem.* [f. Xantho- + -gen, after G. *xanthogensäure* (Zeise, 1822).]

**1.** The hypothetical radical of xanthic acid. Also *attrib.*

1843 Henry *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 665 This new acid contains sulphur, carbon, and hydrogen, the two first of which probably form a compound base, analogous to cyanogen...To the base, Mr. Zeise...has given the name of *xanthogene*...on account of the yellow colour of its compounds. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthogen-oil*. Zeise's name for an oily product formed by the dry distillation of potassic xanthate.

**2.** A substance supposed to be contained in flowers: see quot.

1864 Watts *Dict. Chem.* II. 668 According to Filhol, nearly all flowers contain a substance which forms colourless solutions with acids, and acquires a fine yellow colour when treated with alkalis: this substance was designated by Marquart as that of flowers, and by Hope ..as xanthogen, which name is also retained by Filhol. He describes it as solid, of a light yellow colour,..soluble in water, alcohol, and ether.

**Xantholiniform** (zænˌθɒliˈnifɔm), *a. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *Xantholinus* (f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow, with ending of *Staphylinus*, an allied genus) + -(i)form.] Resembling in form the beetles of the genus *Xantholinus*.

1847 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 250 *Philonthus*] *procerulus*...Narrow, elongate, sub-parallel, xantholiniform.

‖ **Xanthoma** (zænθɒˈmă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *-ωμα* (cf. *sarcoma*).] An affection of the skin, characterized by the growth of yellowish patches or tubercles. Also *attrib.* Hence **Xanthomatous** (-ˈɒmătɒs) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xanthoma.

1896 Dunning *Dis. Skin* 410 Xanthoma is a connective-tissue new growth, characterized by the formation of yellowish, circumscribed, irregularly shaped,...non-indurated patches or nodules. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 484 The chamois-leather-like patches may simulate xanthoma. *Ibid.* 805 The so-called 'xanthoma cell' is ..a fragmented muscle fibre in a state of granulo-fatty degeneration. 1904 *Lancet* 13 June 1697/1 Xanthomatous nodules in the liver.

‖ **Xanthomelanoi** (zænˌθɒmeˈlănoi), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L. (Huxley), transliteration (instead of the regular L. form **xanthomelani*) of an assumed Gr. **ξανθομέλανοι*, f. *ξανθός* yellow + *μέλας, μελαν-* black: cf. Melanoi and Xanthochroi, the analogy of the other terms, the word should have been *Melanoxanthoi*, the first element referring to the hair, the second to the skin.] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having black hair and yellow, brown, or olive complexion. Hence **Xanthomelanous** (-ɒs) *a.*, belonging to or having the character/s of the *Xanthomelanoi*.

1865 Huxley *Lect. Addr.* (1870) 153 The ¹xanthomelanous,' with black hair and yellow, brown, or olive skins. 1866 — *Lring's Frnk. Rem. Cauthn.* 132 The *Leiotrichi* may be best subdivided, according to their complexion, into *Xanthochroi*, *Melanochroi*, *Xanthomelanoi*, and *Melanoi*.

**Xanthone** (zæˈnθɒon). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -one.] A compound which forms the basis of various natural colouring matters.

1894 Muir & Moaley *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 867 *Xanthone* is a neutral ketonic oxide.

**Xanthophyll** (zæˈnθɒfil). *Chem.* [ad. F. *xanthophylle* (Berzelius), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *φύλλον* leaf.] The yellow colouring-matter of leaves in autumn, a constituent or derivative of chlorophyll; also called *phyllo*xanthin.

1828 R. D. Thomson in *Brit. Ann.* 324. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 ¹*Xanthophyll*...Nothing certain is known respecting its composition, or of the manner in which it is formed from chlorophyll. 1891 *Science Gossip* XXVII. 60/2 When the life of the leaf is destroyed by frost or drought, the chlorophyll is rapidly changed to xanthophyll.

**Xanthophyllite** (zænθɒfilait). *Min.* [ad. G. *xanthophyllit* (G. Rose, 1840), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *φύλλον* leaf + -ite 1 2 b.] A micaceous mineral, a species of serpentite, occurring in yellowish crusts or implanted globules in talcose schist.

1844 Dana *Min.* (1862) 149.

‖ **Xanthorrhœa** (zænθɒrɪˈă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ῥοία* flowing, flow.]

**1.** *Bot.* A genus of Australian liliaceous plants, some species of which (called Grass-trees or Grass Gum-trees) yield a yellow resin.

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 Xanthorrhœa resin.

**2.** *Path.* A morbid affection resembling leucorrhœa (see quot.).

1891 *Lancet* 7 Nov. 1037/1 There is ..more or less leucorrhœa, or xanthorrhœa, as it should rather be called, because the discharge is yellow, not white.

‖ **Xanthosis** (zænθɒˈsis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow : see -osis.] (See quots.)

1847 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Xanthosis*, a term applied to the yellow discolouration often observed in cancerous tumours. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthosis*, formation of a yellow skin or pigment.

**Xanthous** (zæˈnθɒs), *a. Ethnology.* [f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + -ous.] Applied to those races, or that type, of mankind characterized by yellow or yellowish hair and light complexion; fair, blond. Also said of the hair, complexion, etc. Opp. to Melanic 1, Melanous.

1890 T. Price *Lex. Physiogn. & Physiol. Inhab. Brit.* 3 It is true that the Greek and Roman writers do describe the various barbarous tribes of Europe,..representing some to be of the fair, or, as it has been styled, Xanthous complexion; others of the dark, or Melanic. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Phys. Geog.* 64/1 (U.K.S.) Men of the xanthous variety of colour are known to spring up among the negroes in Africa. 1876 W. F. Skene *Celtic Scot.* I. i. ii. 126 The Caledonii.. were larger in body,..and less xanthous. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 35 The xanthous type with chestnut, red, or fair hair.

‖ **Xanthoxylon** (zænθɒksilɔn). *Bot.* Also 8 xanthoxylon, -um. [mod.L. *Xanthoxylum*, *-um* (by Linnæus spelt *Zanthoxylum*), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow + *ξύλον* wood.] A large and widely distributed genus of trees and shrubs of the N. O. *Rutaceæ* (type of the suborder *Xanthoxyleæ*, sometimes reckoned as an order *Xanthoxylaceæ*), yielding various products, esp. pungent and aromatic drugs and condiments; it includes the N. American Prickly Ash or Toothache-tree (*X. americanum* and *fraxineum*), the Chinese or Japanese Pepper (*X. piperitum*), the Prickly or W. Indian Yellow-wood (*X. Clava-Herculis*), etc. Hence **Xanthoxyl**, a plant of this genus, or of the order or suborder of which it is a type; **Xanthoxylaceous** (-ɪlˈʃəs), **Xanthoxylous** (-ɪlˈɒs) *adjs.*, belonging to the *Xanthoxylaceæ* or *Xanthoxyleæ* (see above); **Xanthoˈxylene** (-in) *Chem.*, an aromatic volatile oil obtained from the fruit of *Xanthoxylon piperitum*; **Xanthoˈxylin** (-in) *Chem.*, (*a*) a crystalline resin or camphor obtained from an oil distilled from the seeds of *X. piperitum*; (*b*) a crystallizable bitter principle contained in the bark of *X. Clava-Herculis* and other species; **Xanthoxyˈlole**, a neutral principle obtained from the bark of *X. americanum*.

1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 473 Several ¹Xanthoxyls have in their habit, and especially in their foliage, a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1878 Lindley *Nat. Med.* (ed. 6) 699 The Xanthoxyl Family of the Rutal alliance. 1832 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vii. 213 *note*, Among ¹xanthoxylous plants, the Caspare of Angostura, known in America under the name of tinco bark. 1876 Stenhouse in *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* July 20 The pure hydrocarbon, to which I propose to give the name of ²Xanthoxylene, is colourless, [etc.]. 1876 Pharm. Journal A peculiar odour of Japanese pepper is due to ¹Xanthoxylene. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 131 Several ¹Xanthoxyleous plants have.. a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1878 Stenhouse in *Trans. Edin., & Dubl. Philos. Mag.* Jan. 28 The crystals of ¹xanthoxyline belong to the oblique system. 1706 J. Bartram *Jrnl.* 21 Dec. in Stork *Acc. Virginia* (1756) 5 Some curious shrubs..we had never seen before,..large ¹xanthoxylum, and purple-berried bay. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 32 A Negro woman, who had been afflicted for many years with a scaly large phagedenic ulcers, was put under my care. I commenced the use of the Xanthoxylon, by bathing the sores with the decoction. 1888 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 *Xanthoxylon*. The bark of *X. acuminatum*, or *X. Clava Herculis* ..used in the Antilles as a febrifuge.

‖ **Xantippe** (zæntiˈpi). Also 7 **Zentippe**, **Zantippe**. [Properly *Xanthippe*, Gr. *Ξανθίππη*.] The name of the wife of Socrates; hence *allusively*, an ill-tempered woman or wife, a shrew, a scold (with pl. *Xantippes*).

1598 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 71 As curst and shrow'd As Socrates Zentippe [*1st Fol., Qo.* 1 *and* 4 Tot. Zantippe, *mod. ed.* Xanthippe]. 1630 Wood *Life & Death* Richard Hooker ..married a clownish silly Woman and withal a meer Xantippe. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* viii. 21 An errant Vixen of a Wife...By this *Xantippe* he had two Sons. 1819 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiii. 239 For the time being the worst of Xantippes must turn into an angel of amiability if she gives a ball.

**Xaraf**, **-affe**, **-off**, obs. ff. Saraf.

1608 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 296 We lye at the mercy of the xaroffs or exchangers of monie. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 93 In the presence of the Xaraf, or Money-changers.

**Xebec** (zĭˈbek; *also* zībeˈk). Also 8–9 **-eck**, **-eque**, **-ecque**; *β.* 8–9 **sebec(k, 9 sebecque**. See also Chebec. [Altered form of Chebec (*F. chebec*) after Sp. *xabeque*, now *jabeque*.] A small three-masted (originally two-masted) vessel, commonly lateen-rigged but with some square sails, used in the Mediterranean, formerly as a ship of war, now as a merchant-ship.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 400/2 Capt. Fortunatus Wright, of Liverpool, in the *King George* privateer off Leghorn, engaged a xebeck which had 280 men on board. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 148 2 An Algerine xebeque of 20 guns..was driven on shore near Penzance. 1762 Mosa in *Phil. Trans.*

LII. 450 There came a Spanish xebeck from the West,...and ...was becalmed. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. The sails of the xebec are in general similar to those of the polacre, but the hull is extremely different...The extremity of the stern..projects further behind the counter and buttock than that of any European ship. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 237 *Xebec*. A small vessel with three masts, navigated in the mediterranean. The fore and main-masts are called block-masts, being short...The mizen-mast is fitted with a topmast, &c., and has been lately added, to keep them better to the wind...The fore-mast rakes much forward. 1816 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 133/2 A large Tunisian xebeck...putting out two boats, gave a general chase. *a* 1829 I. TAYLOR *Ship* v. (1846) 118 The xebec very much resembles the galley in shape...in its triangular sails and low masts. It is the corsair of the Algerines,...and mounts from sixteen to twenty-four guns. 1835 KEPPEL *Sailmaking* (ed. 2) 158 The Spanish xebec has in general a lateen fore, with a square main-sail and mizen. 1882 MISS C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 388/2 The coasting xebecs.

*β.* 1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 164/1 A large Algerine xebeck, of 30 guns and 300 men. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xix, A three-masted zebeque. 1844 HOOD *The Key*, The last Zebeck that came And moor'd within the Mole.

*attrib.* and *Comb.* 1780 CAPT. KNOWLES in *Naval Chron.* II. 518 Two Spanish Xebec Ships, polacre rigged. 1801 LIT. COCHRANE *Ibid.* VI. 151 A Spanish xebeck frigate, of 32 guns. 1818 *Examiner* 4 May 280/2 A French xebeck-rigged privateer, of two guns.

**Xel**, obs. form of SHALL *v.*

1449 in *Calr. Pat. Rolls 8 Hen. VI.* 30 A comon assemble which xel ben ordeyned be the mair.

**Xeme** (zim). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Xema* (Leach, 1819), an arbitrarily formed word.] A bird of the genus *Xema*; a fork-tailed gull.

1836 EYTON *Rarer Brit. Birds* 64 Sabine's Xeme...was first observed by Captain Sabine in Greenland.

**Xenacanthine, Xenarthral**: see XENO-.

**†Xenagogue** (zɛ·năgɡg). *Obs.* In 7 **xen-**. [ad. Gr. *ξενᾱγωγός* stranger + *-αγωγός* leading.] One who conducts strangers; a guide. So **†Xenagory**, conduction of strangers: used as the title of a guide-book.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 386 The places, whereof I ment to make note in this my Xenagogie and perambulation of Kent. 1583 in *Stow Annales* (1631) p. lxii, The Xenogogie of Bedfordshire. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 136 They are generally excellent Xenagogues or guides through their Countries.

**Xenalasy** (zɛnĭ·lăsi). *Gr. Hist.* [ad. Gr. *ξενηλασία*, f. *ξενήλατος*, f. *ξένος* foreigner + ἐλα- (ἐλαύνειν) to drive away.] A measure at Sparta for expulsion of foreigners.

1846 GROTE *Greece* II. vi. II. 515 Nor were strangers permitted to stay at Sparta; they came thither it seems, by a sort of sufferance, but their uncourteous process called xenélasy was always available to remove them.

**‖ Xenia** (zĭ·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ξενία* state or relation of a guest, f. *ξένος* guest: see -IA.] A supposed direct action or influence of foreign pollen upon the seed or fruit which is pollinated.

1899 *Nat. Sci.* May 393 *Xenia*..., the direct action of the male element on the mother-plant, is an extremely hypothetical theory. 1901 *Nature* 31 Dec. 226/2 Xenia is the name given to the results of the crossing of one parent by a foreign pollen, exhibited in some peculiarity which appears in the seed itself.

**Xenia**, pl. of XENIUM.

**Xenial** (zĭ·niăl), *a. Gr. Antiq.* [f. Gr. *ξενία* XENIA + -AL.] Of the nature of, or pertaining to, the relation between host and guest: applied to a friendly relation between two persons of different countries, or between a person and a foreign country. So **Xenian** *a.* (in quot. 1834 rendering Gr. *ξένιος*, a title of Zeus as protector of the rights of hospitality).

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 533 The holy customs of the Xenian Jove. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 220 The Taphians...have the xenial relation of their Lord Mentes to Ulysses, must in all likelihood have lived in the neighbourhood of Ithaca. 1865 — *Jun. Mundi* 61 Demetor Tasides..is represented..as being in xenial relations with Egypt.

**‖ Xenium** (zĭ·niŭm); usually in pl. **xenia**. [L., ad. Gr. *ξένιον*, prop. neut. of *ξένιος* adj. pertaining to a guest, f. *ξένος* guest, stranger.] **a.** In *Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.*, a present (esp. of table delicacies) given to a guest or stranger; *transf.*, in mediæval usage, an offering made (sometimes compulsorily) by subjects to their prince on the occasion of his passing through their estates; also extended to other kinds of offerings (see quots.).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xenia*, Presents bestowed by the Greeks to their Friends, Guests, or Strangers...In our old Records, it is taken for such Presents or Gifts as us'd to be made to Princes, or to the Governours of Provinces. 1772 (S. DENNE) *Hist. Rochester* 106 That there be reserved to me..out of the estates which I have assigned for the maintenance of the monks, such a xenium [*orig. exennium*] as is here specified. 1805 STUBBS *Chron. 4 Mem. Rich. I* (Rolls) II. Introd. p. xxx, The xenia, or Easter and Christmas offerings from [the monks'] manors, which were settled on the cellarer for the use of the sick and strangers.

**b.** (See quots.)

1791 NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius' Archit.* VI. x. 148 The pictures representing the sending of gifts to strangers are by the painters called *xenia*. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Xenia*. ...Pictures of still-life, fruit, fish, &c., many of which have been found as decorations on the walls of houses in Pompeii.

**Xenisation** (zɛnsiz·ʃən). *rare*—1. [f. Gr. *ξενίζειν*, trans. to entertain strangers, intr. to be a stranger, f. *ξένος* stranger: see -IZE and -ATION.] The fact of sojourning as a stranger.

1828 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 232 The xenisation of Abraham's seed is to a foreign land.

**Xeno-** (zeno), before a vowel **xen-**, repr. Gr. *ξεν-*, *ξεν-*, combining form of *ξένος* a guest, stranger, foreigner, adj. foreign, strange; used in various scientific and other terms; for those not found here, see their alphabetical places. **Xenacanthine** (-ăkæ·nθoin) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Xenacanthini* pl., f. Gr. *ἄκανθα* spine], *a.* belonging to the extinct order *Xenacanthini* of selachian fishes, with long slender spines; *sb.* a fish of this order. **Xenarthral** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *ἄρθρον* joint], having peculiar accessory articulations in the vertebræ, as the American edentates. **Xenobiosis** (-bəi,ō·sĭs) *Zool.* [Gr. *βίωσις* manner of life], a form of symbiosis among ants in which two colonies of different species live together on friendly terms without rearing their broods in common. **Xenoderm** *Zool.* [mod.L. *Xenoderma*, f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], a snake of the genus *Xenoderma* or sub-family *Xenodermatinæ* (mod. Dicts.). **Xenogamy** *Bot.* [Gr. *-γάμος* marriage], fertilization by pollen from another plant of the same species: cross-fertilization. **Xenogenesis** (-ɛ·nθĭsĭs) *Biol.* [GENESIS], (supposed) production of offspring permanently unlike the parent (cf. HETEROGENESIS 3); so **Xenogene·tic**, **Xenoge·nic** *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xenogenesis; **Xenogeny** (zɛnɒ·dʒĭni), xenogenesis. **Xeno·genous** *a. Path.* (see quot.). **Xenolite** *Min.* [-LITE], a silicate of aluminium, allied to fibrolite. **Xenomania** (-mē·niă), a mania or insane fancy for foreigners, or for something foreign; hence **Xeno·maniac**, a person affected with 'xenomania'. **Xenomorphic** (-mɔ·ɹfĭk) *a. Geol.* [Gr. *μορφή* form], applied to mineral constituents of a rock having a form different from the normal in consequence of the pressure of other constituents. **Xenopa·rasite, Xenopa·rasitism** *Biol.* (see quot.). **Xenophilism** (-ɒ·fĭlĭz'm) *nonce-wd.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving, friendly], love of foreigners or of something foreign. **Xenophoby** (zɛnɒ·fŏbi) *nonce-wd.* [Gr. *φόβος* fear], fear of foreign persons or things; so **Xenophobic** (zɛnɒfō·bĭk) *a.* characterized by this. **Xenophoran** (-ɒ·fŏrăn) *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenophora*, f. Gr. *-φορος* carrying], belonging or allied to the genus *Xenophora* (carrier-shells) of gastropod molluscs, distinguished by the habit of cementing stones and other foreign bodies to their shells. **Xenopterygian** (-ptĕrĭdʒiăn), *Zool.* [Gr. *πτέρυξ* wing, fin], *a.* belonging to the suborder *Xenopterygii* of fishes, with spineless fins, scaleless skin, and a cartilaginous connexion between the ventral fins; *sb.* a fish of this suborder. **Xenurine** (-ɛ·nĭuɹĭn). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenurus*, f. Gr. *οὐρά* tail], *a.* belonging to the genus *Xenurus* of armadillos, having the tail nearly naked; *sb.* an armadillo of this genus, a kabassou.

1889 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 66 The geographical distribution of the Edentates...To America belong the *Xenarthral* or Incomplete-Jointed forms. 1901 W. M. WILLIS in *Amer. Naturalist* July 535 **Xenobiosis*...The best-known guest ant is the European *Formicoxenus nitidulus*. 1877 DARWIN *Left. Gard.* (1903) II. 113 Some such name as **xenogamy*, **xenogamy*, etc. 1870 HUXLEY *Proc. Addr. Brit. Assoc., Rep.* p. lxxvii, The term Heterogenesis...has..been used in a different sense, and M. Milne-Edwards has therefore substituted for it **Xenogenesis*. *Ibid.* p. lxxxv, The analogy of pathological modification...is in favour of the 'xenogenetic origin of microzymes. 1901 DOUGLAS *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Xenogenous*, caused by a foreign body, or originating outside the organism. 1913 *Ibid.* (ed. 7) *adds* 2. Formed or developed in the host; a term applied to toxins formed by the action of stimuli on the cells of the host. 1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 374 **Xenolite*...resembles fibrolite...excepting in the high specific gravity. 1879 K. HALSBAND in *Spectr. Cent. Oct.* 826 Germany received the first caresses of this strange **xenomania* from the hands of youthful Carlyle and old Coleridge. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. 136 No writer of the period has such a command of pure English, unadulterated by xenomania and unweakened by purism, as Daniel. 1879 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 5/1 Are we all 'Xenomaniacs'? 1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Feb. 168/2 Sir Arthur Sullivan was never a greater victim of a **xenomaniac*. 1888 HATCH in Teall *Brit. Petrography* Gloss. 423 *Allotriomorphic*, a term applied by Rosenbusch, in contradistinction to idiomorphic, to grains of minerals with **xenomorphic*. 1905 E. S. SALMON in *Ann. Bot.* Jan. 127 To describe cases where a form of a Fungus which is specialized to certain host-plants...proves able to infect injured parts of a strange host, I propose the terms 'xenoparasite and 'xenoparasitism. 1911 W. SICKERT in *English Review* Apr. 147 Lest the writer be accused of 'Xenophilism. 1901 *Nation* 11 May 374/1 The popular attitude with regard to external politics is one of crude and 'xenophobic Imperialism. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 325/2 Those whose sense of justice..is not impaired by prejudice or 'xenophoby'. 1898 *O. Yrnl. Microsc. Sci.* June 308 No Stromboid, Naticoid, or *Xenophoran molluscs have been found hitherto in any fresh water that is known. 1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 30 The Kabassous, or *Xenurines, have the third as well as the fourth and fifth metacarpals abbreviated and broad.

**†Xenodo·chial**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *ξενοδοχία* (XENODOCHY 2) + -AL.] Given to receiving strangers; hospitable.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 402 The Insuperable Aversion, that those three Xenodochial Prelates seem'd always to exert against the French Nation. *Ibid.* 404.

**‖ Xenodochium** (zenɒdō·kĭŏm). Also **-ion**, **-eum**. Pl. **-a**. [Late L. *xenodochium*, *-eum*, ad. late Gr. *ξενοδοχεῖον*, f. *ξένος* stranger + *δέχεσθαι* to receive.] A house of reception for strangers and pilgrims; a hostel, guest-house, esp. in a monastery.

1622 CAMDEN in Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1625) II. 1899 In Constantinople, Peru, and Galata, there are..Karabassaries or *Xenodochia* foure hundred and eighteen. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. vii. 246 [A] spital..was an house of entertainment for poor travellers or pilgrims, this [sc. spital of St. Catherine] was a *Xenodochium* of that kind. 1852 GELL *Pompeiana* II. xiii. 18 Many have supposed that the xenodochium, or hostelrium, for the reception of strangers was placed in this division of the mansion. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon CA.* (1858) I. vi. 246 Within the precincts of the monastery stood an edifice, distinguished by the Greek name of *Xenodochium*, in which a certain number of paupers received their daily support, and which was gratuitously opened to every traveller who solicited admission. 1879 *Acty Nation.* II. vi. 263 Long before the era of persecution had closed, the hospital and the Xenodochion, or refuge for strangers, was known among the Christians.

**†Xenodochy** 1. *Obs. rare*—1. [Anglicized form of prec.] = prec.

*c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 121 Ther was at York an auncyent and welthy xenodochye that ys to say, an hospytall...wher powre and nedye people wer entertayned.

**†Xenodochy** 2. *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 **xenodochie**, **xenodochie**. [ad. Gr. *ξενοδοχία*: cf. XENODOCHIUM.] Entertainment of strangers; hospitality.

1603 ECCLESTON, *Xenodochie*, hospitality. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 181 Sincere and religious people..descryed by their charity and humility..by their Xenodochie or hospitality.

**Xenon** (zɛ·nɒn). *Chem.* [ad. Gr. *ξένον*, neut. of *ξένος* strange.] A heavy inert gaseous element present in minute quantity in the atmosphere, discovered by Sir William Ramsay in 1898. Symbol Xe or X.

1898 RAMSAY & TRAVERS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Bristol* 830 The last fractions of liquefied argon show the presence of three new gases. These are krypton..metargon..and a still heavier gas,..which we propose to name 'xenon'.

**Xenophontean, -ian** (zenɒfɒ·ntiăn), *a.* [f. Gr. *Ξενοφῶν*, *-ῶντος* Xenophon, name of an ancient Greek historian and biographer (*c* 444–354 B.C.) + -EAN, -IAN.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, described by, or resembling (that of) Xenophon.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.*, Wks. (Grosart) II. 99 M. Thomas Blundeuil,..whose painefull, and skillfull bookes of Horsemanship, deserue also to be registred in the Catalogue of Xenophontian worckes. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 172 (1842) III. 127 In all European services there is a class of officers who might not unaptly be termed Xenophontean: men..zealous to know the nature of a horse, and skilful in acting under its guidance. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 338 The Apology appears to combine the common characteristics both of the Xenophontean and Platonic Socrates.

So **Xenopho·ntic** *a.*

1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 27 What..authority the poet had for engaging his Socrates in these ridiculous speculations, it is now impossible to ascertain; but..the Platonic, and even the Xenophontic, Socrates is sometimes almost as absurd. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug., Colonel Frémantle, in one of the most Xenophontic little books that has been the light within these latter years [sc. 1863]. 1882 A. S. WALPOLE *Xenophon's Anab.* I. (1900) p. x, A Greek of Xenophontic age. 1904 *Times* 27 Aug. 10/1 A mere Xenophontic record of the length of stages in a journey.

**Xenotime** (zɛ·nŏtəim). *Min.* [Named (in Fr.) by Beudant, 1832, as if f. Gr. *ξένος* strange + *τιμή* honour, but app. in error for **ξενότιμος*, f. Gr. *ξενόω* empty, vain: see quot. below.] A native phosphate of yttrium.

1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 398 Xenotime...Lustre resinous Color yellowish-brown, reddish-brown, hair-brown, flesh-red, grayish-white [etc.]...Beudant named the species *xenotime* (apparently from *ξενός*, stranger to, and *τιμή*, honor), but in the next line gives the derivation *ξένος*, vain, et *τιμή*, honneur', as if the word were **xenotime*, and adds.. that this name is intended to recall the fact that the mineral was erroneously supposed by Berzelius to contain a new metal. 1907 *Athenæum* 20 Apr. 479/1 M. Jean Becquerel ..has been engaged in magneto-optical researches...Most of his experiments have been made with crystals of xenotime (a magnetic phosphate of yttrium).

**Xeque**, var. (Pg. spelling) of SHEIKH.

**Xerafeen, -in**, **var.** SERAPHIN *Obs.*

**‖ Xeranthemum** (zi·rɛnθəi·mŏm). *Bot.* [mod. L. (Tournefort, 1700), f. Gr. *ξηρός* dry + *ἄνθεμον* blossom.] A plant of a genus of composites of the Mediterranean region, having flower-heads with dry chaffy bracts of a purplish or whitish colour; the genus itself; one kind of the plants commonly called *everlasting* or *immortelle*.

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 385 Seeds of Jacea's,.. Xeranthemums,.. and sweet Sultan. 1785 HILL *Hist. Plants* 374 The longleaved xeranthemum with paleaceous

receptacles. It is a native of Germany and France; the flowers retain their beauty many years. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 116 Virginia and English tobacco, Indian corn, xeranthemum, ten-week's stocks.

**Xerapheon, -phin**, var. Seraphin *Obs.*

‖ **Xerasia** (zĭrē·shiă). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ξηρασία dryness, also in sense below (Galen).] A disease of the hair characterized by excessive dryness.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). *Xerasia*, a fault in the Hairs when they appear like Down, as it were sprinkled with Dust. 1896 tr. *Balzac's Clear Briefcase* 152 To prevent xerasia and baldness.

**Xeres** (zē·rēz), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **Zeres**. Name of a town in Andalusia, famous for its wine; in full, *Xeres sack, wine* = Sherris (*sack*), Sherry *sb.*[1] 1.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Bristol* (1662, III. 34 *Bristol Milk*,...This Metaphorical Milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry-Sack is intended. 1662 Merret in Charleton *Nyst. Volcanners* (1673) 233 Most of the Canary is made with Malago and Zeres Sack. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 26 The xeres and port Are of the right stamp. 1859 Blackburne *Lovna D.* I, Do you like the wine of Oporto, or the wine of Xeres? 1872 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* II. xvi. 13 So many skins of Xeres wine.

**Xeriff** (ze·rif, zĭe·rif), var. of *sheriff*: see Sherift.

1698 Dryden *Don Sebastian* I. 1. I ask Six Hundred Xeriffs for him [sc. a horse]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Xeriff*, a former gold coin, current in Egypt and Turkey, for about 9*s.* 6*d.* Another name for the ducat in Morocco.

**Xeriff**, obs. form of Sherree.

**Xero-** (zī·rŏ), before a vowel **xer-**, repr. Gr. ξηρο-, ξηρ-, combining form of ξηρός dry, occurring in several scientific and technical terms. ‖ **Xero-de·rma, -de·rmis**, *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. δέρμα skin], one of several diseases characterized by excessive dryness of the skin; hence **Xerodermatic**, **-de·rmato** *adjs.*, pertaining to or characteristic of xerodermia. **Xeroform** *Med.* [after *chloroform*]: see quot. **Xerophilous** (-ŏ·filəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. -φίλος loving], adapted to a dry climate or habitat, or to conditions of scanty available moisture; so **Xerophil**(e (zī·rŏfil), *sb.* a xerophilous plant; **Xero·phily**, the condition or character of being xerophilous. **Xerophyte** (-fəit), *Bot.* [Gr. φυτόν plant], a xerophilous plant (see above); so **Xerophytic** (-fi·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or having the character of a xerophyte, xerophilous; **Xerophytism**, xerophytic character, xerophily. ‖ **Xerostomia** (-zĭŏrmiă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. στόμα mouth], dryness of the mouth from insufficient secretion of saliva. **Xerothe·rmic** *a.* [Gr. θερμός hot], dry and hot.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), **Xerodermia*, diminution of secretion of the sebaceous glands. 1884 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* viii. 222 True xeroderma is in reality the early stage of ichthyosis, a true epithelial disease. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 786 (*Lichen pilaris*) is only a part of a general xeroderma. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xerodermatic. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 851 The skin is dry and thin but not *xerodermatous. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Xerostomia*, same as *Xerotomia. 1899 [see Xerosis]. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 92 Minute white, gray, or red scaly *xerothermic prominences, having a hair in the centre. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Xerotes*, a yellow neutral powder derived from trihydrated zinc and bismuth, ($Cz_3H_2Bi_2O_{11}$ $BiOH + Bi_2O_3$: useful in the treatment of wounds, abscesses, etc., and as an intestinal antiseptic. 1884 *Trans. Victoria Inst.* 38 *Xerophiles—plants such as pertain to very dry climates. 1863 J. G. Baker *N. Yorksh.* xxii. 316 The *Xerophilous and Maritime species (of mosses) are very few in number. 1893 *Athenæum* 1 Dec. 774/3 A paper...by the Rev. G. Henslow 'On the Origin of Plant Structures by Self-adaptation to the Environment, exemplified by Desert and Xerophilous Plants'. 1901 *Science* 9 June 866/2 The causes of *xerophily in bog plants. 1857 Willis *Flower. Pl. & Farm* I. 178 In countries with long dry seasons [etc.] ..., the plants...agree in having a lower rate of transpiration than plants living where there is a plenty of available water. Plants of this kind are termed **xerophytes*. 1906 G. Henslow in *19th Cent.* Nov. 801 *Euphorbia*] *Paralias* is a xerophyte with coriaceous leaves, because it has adapted itself to a maritime situation in England. 1857 Willis *Flower. Pl. & Farm* I. 185 No plants...can be regular epiphytes unless they possess well-marked *xerophytic characters, including as a rule the capacity for water-storage. 1900 *Nature* 13 Dec. 150/1 Every one is aware how extremely intolerant of moisture are the cacti and some other xerophytic plants. *Ibid.* 15 Nov. 53/2 The stomatal grooves on the lower surface of the leaf [of *Lepidodendron*] suggest a xerophytic adaptation. Indications of *xerophytism are afforded by other anatomical characters in certain Palæozoic types. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Xerostomia*, dryness of the mouth. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 310 The salivary and buccal secretions may be totally arrested as in cases of xerostomia. 1904 *Ast. Gen.* Apr. 314 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Jerosch holds that an interglacial *xerothermic or steppe period has been proved by the facts of plant geography, paleontology, and geology.

‖ **Xeroma** (zĭərō·mă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ξηρός dry, after *sarcoma*, etc.] Abnormal dryness of some part from lack of fluid secretion; *spec.* = Xerophthalmia. Hence **Xero·matous** *a.*, of the nature of or affected with xeroma.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xeroma*, xerophthalmia...*Xeroma, lachrymal*, suppression of the lachrymal secretion. 1880 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Xeromatous. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 876 The cornea passes into complete pannus or xeroma.

**Xerophagy** (zĭə·rŏfădʒi). Also 7 **-fag-**. [ad. Gr. ξηροφαγία: see Xero- and -phagy.] The eating of dry food, esp. as a form of fasting practised in the early church.

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Xerophagy*...the eating dry meats. 1851 E. S. tr. *Daille's Serm. Colossians* II. 2 The Manichees, the xerophagies, and other disciplines of the Montanists. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 13th C.* I. v. 157 In the Week which precedes the Feast of Easter, the Fast was more rigorous, and in some Places they eat nothing but dry'd things; which they call'd Xerophagy. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 558/2 (*Lent*) Some kept the fast of extraordinary strictness known as xerophagy for one day. 1889 Farrar *Lives Fathers* I. v. 190 *note*, As for xerophagies, says Tertullian, they charge them with being a novel title for a pretended duty.

‖ **Xerophthalmia** (zĭərŏfθæ·lmiă). *Path.* Also formerly anglicized as **xerophthalmy**, **-io**. [L., ad. Gr. ξηροφθαλμία, f. ξηρός dry + ὀφθαλμός eye.] Ophthalmia without discharge; inflammation of the conjunctiva of the eye with abnormal dryness and corrugation.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Xerophthalmy*...soarness or bleared-ness of the Eyes, when they neither swell, nor run. 1658 Phillips, *Xerophthalmia*, 1684 in *Harleian Misc.* (1809) VI. (1693), *Xerophthalmia*, a dry Bleardness or Blood-shot of the Eye. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 583 (*heading*) Cellular xerophthalmia. Xerophthalmic.

‖ **Xerosis** (zĭərō·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ξήρωσις, f. ξηρός dry: see -osis.] = Xeroma; spec. = *xeroderma* (see Xero-). Also *attrib.*

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xerosis*, a drying, dryness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 665 To the milder forms belong the names *xeroderma* and *xerosis* are frequently...applied. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Mar. 622/2 Xerosis bacilli were present.

So **Xerotic** (zĭərŏ·tik) *a.* [see -otic], affected with xerosis: **Xerotise** (zĭə·rŏtəiz) *a.*, in *xerotise sicca-tion*, trade name of a substance used for drying ships' bottoms.

1882 *Standard* 14 Jan. 5/8 We have had a terrible excursion of xerotise siccative on board here. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xerotic*, dry. 1892 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 3/1 This and lose of H.M.S. *Dotterel*...presumably from the effects of an explosion...of Xerotine Siccative, supplied as patent driers. 1901 Dorland *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xerotic*, characterized by xerosis, or dryness.

† **Xesturgy.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. ξεστουργία, f. ξεστόν, vbl. adj. f. ξέω to polish: see -urgy.] The process of polishing.

1598 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 48 Diuers coulered stones.. so glittering and seuerly set of a diligent Xesturgie [orig. *cesturgie*].

**Xil-**: see Xyl-.

† **Xilinous**, *a. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. L. *xilinus*, *xylinus* (Pliny), a. Gr. ξύλινος, f. ξύλον cotton-tree: see -ous.] Of cotton.

1696 Blount *Glossogr.*, Xilinous.

**Xiphi-**, etc., also **Shiphi-**, etc.

1776 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 108 The sect of Xintio...The Xintio sect...The deity of the Xintoists is styled, *Xintoist, Xintoistes*].

† **Xiph.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **syphe**. [ad. L. *xiphia*: see next.] The swordfish, *Xiphias gladius*.

1572 Boswell *Armorie* II. 66 The fielde is of the Jacinthe, a pyle in pointe d'Ermyne, betweene two Zyphes hariante, Luuze. This is a fishe whiche is named a swordfishe.

**Xiphias** (zĭ·fiăs). Also 9 *erron.* **zy-**. [L., a. Gr. ξιφίας, f. ξίφος sword.]

1. A swordfish, esp. *X. gladius*; in mod. *Zool.*, the genus of fishes of which this is the common species, characterized by having the upper jaw prolonged into a sword-like weapon.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 492 Having...dissected the head of a *Xiphias* or Sword-fish. 1783 J. Swan *Song to Sword* lxxv, Strong through the turbulent profound Shoots xiphias to his aim. 1880 Weazell *Life in Sea* v. 108 The heel of an East Indiaman was once bored by a twenty-foot Xiphias so violently, that the sword went in up to the root, and the fish was killed by the force of the blow.

2. *Astron.* A southern constellation, also called Dorado or the Sword-fish.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Constellation*. 1771 [see Sword-fish 2].

Hence **Xiphiad** (zĭ·fiæd), a fish of the family *Xiphiidæ*.

1839–61 Sir J. Richardson, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 132 Xiphiads or Sword-fishes.

**Xiphioid** (zĭ·fiŏid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. prec. + -oid.] *a. adj.* Resembling or allied to the genus *Xiphias*; belonging to or having the characters of the family *Xiphiidæ*. **b.** *sb.* A xiphioid fish.

1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* v. § 1. 416 Cycloid Order...Xiphioids. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, Xiphioid, a. and *n.*

‖ **Xiphiplastron** (zĭfiplæ·strŏn). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. **-a**. Also (more correctly) xiphо-. [mod. L., properly *xiphoplastron*, f. Gr. ξίφος sword + Plastron.] Each of the fourth or hindmost pair of lateral plates in the plastron of a turtle. Hence **Xiphiplastral** *a.*, pertaining to or constituting a xiphiplastron; *sb.* a xiphiplastral plate, a xiphiplastron.

1891 Huxley *Anat. Vert.* v. 200 In the Turtle the plastron consists of nine pieces...the fourth (lateral), xiphiplastron. 1889 Nicholson & Lydekker *Palæont.* iii. II. 1084 (The pubis and the ischium) may be anchylosed to the xiphiplastral. 1889 Lydekker in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* 1 Aug. 511 The imperfect left xiphiplastral [of a Chelonian].

**Xiphisternal** (zĭfistə·năl), *a.* and *sb. Anat.* and *Zool.* Also (more correctly) **xiphо-**. [f. *xiphi-* for *xipho-*, Gr. ξίφος sword + Sternum + -al.] *a. adj.* Belonging to or constituting the xiphisternum (see below). **b.** *sb.* A xiphisternal part or appendage. So ‖ **Xiphisternum** (xiphо-), the posterior division of the sternum, in some animals osseous and in others cartilaginous, in man constituting the xiphoid or ensiform cartilage; also sometimes applied to the Xiphiplastron of a turtle.

1834–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 284/1 The posterior cartilaginous appendages [of the sternum in birds] he [sc. Geoffroy St. Hilaire] terms xiphi-sternals. 1839–47 *Ibid.* III. 838/1 The posterior [of the two pairs of elements of the 'sternum', i. e. plastron, of *Chelonia*] are fitly denominated the xiphi-sternal pieces. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 15 The posterior or xiphisternal end of the sternum. 1872 H. A. Nicholson *Palæont.* 309 The xiphisternum is the 'ensiform cartilage' of human anatomy. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 362 The sternum (in *Mammalia*)...is divisible into three regions—a praesternum, a mesosternum...; and a xiphisternum, sometimes cartilaginous, sometimes ossified. *Ibid.* 384 [The] bilateral origin [of the sternum in some *Lacertilia*]...is evidenced...by the prolongation backwards...of two xiphisternal horns.

**Xiphocostal** (zĭfŏkŏ·stăl), *a. Anat.* [f. Gr. ξίφος sword + Costal.] Pertaining to or connected with the xiphoid cartilage and the ribs.

1890 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

**Xiphodyne** (zĭ·fŏdəin). [ad. mod.L. *xiphodynus*, contr. f. *xiphoidodynus*, f. Gr. ξίφος sword + ὀδύνη pain.] = Xiphofagus.

1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 404 A Monstrosity of the Genus Xiphodyne.

**Xiphoid** (zĭ·fŏid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* Also *erron.* 8–9 **xyphoid**, 9 **siphoide**. [ad. mod.L. *xiphoides*, a. Gr. ξιφοειδής, f. ξίφος sword + εἶδος form: see -oid.] Sword-shaped, ensiform: a descriptive epithet of the cartilaginous or bony process at the lower or posterior end of the sternum in man and other animals (also called Xiphisternum), and of a projecting bone at the back of the head in the cormorants and related birds (also called *occipital style*).

1746 Glass *Dropsy in Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 338 We found the Circumference of her Abdomen to be just six Feet four Inches, and from the Xyphoid Cartilage to the Os Pubis it measur'd four Feet and half an Inch. 1753 Monro *Anat.* 172 The outer surface of the xiphoid bone. 1802 Home in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 351 In the Hystrix, there is a xiphoid cartilage. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 200/1 (The sternum) is connected...with a xiphoid appendix. 1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xiphoid ligament*...is a small, very thin, ligamentous fasciculus, which passes from the cartilage...of the 7th rib to the anterior surface of the xiphoid cartilage. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 35 The narrow lower end [of the sternum], which projects freely and remains cartilaginous till late in life, is called the xiphoid process. *Ibid.* 65 In Frogs and Toads we have a middle and xiphoid sternum.

So **Xiphoi·dal**, **Xiphoi·dian** *adjs.*

1693 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 176 The breast...extended from the throat to the Diaphragma or Cartilagian Xiphoidan muscle or Midriff, which is round, lying overthwart the lower part of the breast, separating the heart and Lights from the stomach. 1880 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, Xiphoidian. 1904 *Amer. Nat.* Jan. 20 (Osteology of Pygopodes) A pair of slightly external xiphoidal processes, which curve outwards, then inwards.

**Xiphonite** (zĭ·fŏnəit). *Min.* [Named from *Xiphonia*, an ancient city in Sicily, where found: see -ite 1.] A variety of amphibole, occurring in minute light yellow crystals in cavities of a volcanic rock.

1850 Dana *Syst. Min.* App. 1. 3 Xiphonite is a name given by G. Platania...to a variety occurring in minute crystals with hematite in cavities of a slag-like rock.

‖ **Xiphopagus** (zĭfŏ·păgŏs). Pl. **-gi** (-dʒəi). [mod.L., f. Gr. ξίφος sword (here referring to the xiphoid cartilage) + πάγος something firmly fixed or set (: πηγνύναι to fix).] A twin monster united by a band extending downwards from the xiphoid cartilage, as in the case of the Siamese twins. Hence **Xiphopæ·dgik**, **Xiphopagous** (zĭfŏ·păgŏs) *adjs.*, constituting a xiphopagus.

1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xiphopagus* [sic]. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Xiphopagus. 1894 Bateson *Variation* 360 *note*, The relative position of xiphopagous twins may result simply from the way in which they happen to be laid by the mother or the midwife. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 6 Apr. 834/2 A case of xiphopagous twins in two Chinese boys...who are united by a bridge running from the xiphoid cartilage to the umbilicus. 1902 *Lancet* 13 July 108/1 A Case of Xiphopagus or Double Monster. 1902 *Cook's Hanabk. Med. Sci.* VII. 685 (Cent. D., Suppl.) Xiphopagic.

**Xiphosuran** (zĭfŏsiū·rĭăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xiphosura* pl. (irreg. f. Gr. ξίφος sword + οὐρά tail, instead of the correct form *Xiphiura*) + -an.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the order *Xiphosura* of *Arachnida*, including the king-crab (*Limulus*)

with a long sharp telson, and the extinct genus *Belinurus*. b. *sb.* An arachnid of this order. So **Xi·phosure** (= b); **Xiphosu·rous**, **Xiphu·rous** *adjs.* (= a).

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 460/1 Latreille..admitted into the class *Crustacea* 12 orders, viz., the Decapods,..the Xyphosures [sic], and the Siphonostomes. 1879 H. A. Nicholson *Palæont.* (ed. 2) I. xviii. 385 In the Devonian no certain traces of Xiphosurans have yet been detected, but several types occur in the Carboniferous. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 528 A Xiphosuran is found in the upper Silurian.

**Xmas**, common abbreviation in writing of Christmas: see X 6. Also **Xmassing**.

1551 in E. Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1792) I. 145 From X'temmas next following. *c* 1755 in H. Ward *Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) 303 In ye xmas and Whitsuntide Vacations. 1799 Coleridge *Let. to Southey* 24 Dec., My Xaimas Carol is a quaint performance. 1801 *Let. to Southey* 31 Dec., On Xmas Day I breakfasted with Davy. 1875 S. G. Thomas in R. W. Burnie *Hexm. & Lett.* (1891) 55 We are not going to have any Xmas festivities or visitors of any kind. 1884 *Punch* 6 Dec. 268/1 He's begining Xmassing already.

‖ **Xoanon** (zō·ănŏn). Pl. **xoana** (-ă). *Gr. Antiq.* [Gr. *ξόανον*, related to *ξέειν* to scrape, carve.] A primitive rudely carved image or statue (originally wooden), esp. of a deity.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Xoanon*, graven Images, Statues carv'd out of Wood or Stone. 1883 *Daily News* 30 May 5/2 This particular xoanon, if we may use that expression in lieu of Mr. Lang's. 1893 W. M. Ramsay *Church in Roman Empire* vii. 135 The primitive *xoana* of the nursing-mother (Artemis at Ephesus).

**Xonolite** (zŏnŏ·ltĭlit). *Min.* Also **xonaltite**. [First in errors. form *xonalitie*; named (in Ger., *xonalit*, afterwards *xonotlit*) by Rammelsberg, 1866, 1875, from *Xonotla*, a village in Puebla, Mexico, where found: see -ite 1.] A hard massive hydrated silicate of calcium.

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 397 Xonaltite...Color white to bluish-gray... Occurs at Tetela de Xonatla, Mexico, in concentric layers, with apophyllite and bustamite. 1879 Watts *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 *Xonaltite*. A hydrated calcium silicate, found at Tetela de Xonatla in Mexico. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 420/2 Xonotlite.

**Xowyn**, obs. form of Shoyn *v.*

**X rays** (eks rēz), *sb. pl.* (Also with hyphen.) [tr. Ger. *x-strahlen*, the name given by Röntgen to the rays in question, expressing the fact that their essential nature is unknown: cf. X 3.] form of radiation discovered by Prof. W. C. Röntgen of Würzburg in 1895, capable of passing in various degrees through many substances impervious to light, and of affecting a sensitized plate and thus producing shadow-photographs of objects inclosed within opaque receptacles or bodies, e.g. of the bones, or a bullet or other foreign body, within the flesh of a living person or animal; they also produce fluorescence, phosphorescence, and electrical effects, and have a curative operation in certain skin diseases; much used in recent surgical and medical practice. Also called *Röntgen rays* (see Ray *sb.*1 1).

1896 *Nature* 23 Jan. 274/1 (Röntgen) in *Sitzungsberichte der Würzburger Phys.-Med. Gesellschaft* 1895, 133 tr. by Arthur Stanley A piece of sheet aluminium 15 mm. thick... allowed the X-rays (as I will call the rays for the sake of brevity) to pass, but greatly reduced the fluorescence. 1897 *Alibutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 408 Photographs taken by means of the X Röntgen rays. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 408 The application of the X rays to the diagnosis of internal aneurisms. *Ibid.* VIII. 717 The injury produced by the X rays of Röntgen.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (also form *X-ray*).

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/3 Radiations which have the X-ray-like property of passing through so-called opaque substances. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 408 Aneurysms of the thoracic aorta can frequently be detected earlier by X ray examination. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 8/3 Another X-ray photograph..of a girl's wrist and hand, showing the forming of the bone brought on by rheumatism. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 June 5/3 Dr. Hall Edwards, whose heroic fight against the inroads of X ray dermatitis has been compassionately followed by the whole world.

Hence **X-ray** (e ksrē·ĭ) *v., trans.* to examine or treat with X rays. So **X-radia·tion.**

1900 *Lancet* 17 Feb. 488/2 The patient's chest had been x-rayed, but the position of the bullet could not be localised. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Aug. 294/2 The child was *x*-rayed, and a large nail was seen. 1915 E. Rutherford in *Nature* 9 Sept. 33/2 To examine the quantity and quality of the X-radiation scattered from crystals at different angles.

**X(e)tmas**: see Xmas.

**Xul, xuld(e, xwld**: see Shall *v.*

**†Xylaloe(s, xylaloe(s.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **xiloaloes**, 6 (8) **xyloaloe**, 7 **xylaloës**, 7–8 (in Dicts.) **xyloaloes**. [a. late Gr. *ξυλαλόη*, *ἰ. ξύλον* wood + *ἀλόη* Aloe. Cf. obs. F. *xilaloé* (Cotgr.).] = Lign-aloes, Aloe 1. Also *attrib.*

1548 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 114 Washe them...with wyne, in the whiche is...soden myntes, roses, violettes, and xiloaloes. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 7/2 Take Xyloaloe woode 3. G. *Ibid.* 11/2 Suger of Candy, xyloaloe, Cloves, Ginger. 1683 Morison tr. *Struys' Voy.* I. vi. 38 An Ointment made of Xyloaloe, or, wood of Aloes.

**Xylan** (zəi·lăn). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -AN.] A gelatinous compound contained in wood, also called *tree-gum*, *wood-gum*.

1894 Muir & Morley *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 868/1.

**Xylate** (zəi·lēt). *Chem.* [f. Xyl-ic + -ate 4.] A salt of xylic acid.

1873 Watts *Founds' Chem.* (ed. 2) 818. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1130 Calcium salts, which may be separated by their different solubility in water, the xylate being more soluble than the paraxylate.

**Xylem** (zəi·lem). *Bot.* [mod. (Nägeli in Ger.) f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood: cf. Phloem.] Collective name for the cells, vessels, and fibres forming the harder portion of the fibrovascular tissue; the wood, as a tissue of the plant-body. Also *attrib.*

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 94 The different forms of tissue of a differentiated fibro-vascular bundle may be classified into two groups, which Nägeli calls the *Phloëm*- (Bast) and *Xylem*- (Wood) portion of the bundle...The xylem-portion of the fibro-vascular bundle has mostly a strong tendency to thicken its cell-forms. *Ibid.* 95 These horizontal elements..may be..designated as rays; within the xylem they are called xylem-rays, within the phloëm, phloem-rays. 1894 D. H. Scott *Struct. Bot.* 1. *Flowering Pl.* 56 The woody character of the cell-walls of the xylem is due to the presence of a substance called lignine.

**Xylene** (zəi·lēn). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -ENE.] A mixture of three isomeric hydrocarbons having the formula $C_6H_{10}=C_6H_4(CH_3)_2$, obtained as a volatile colourless liquid from wood-spirit or coal-naphtha; any one of these three hydrocarbons: systematically named *dimethylbenzene*. Also *attrib.* (Also called Xylol, q.v.)

1850 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Xylol or Xylene. 1850 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XIII. 116 Xylene series... Primary Nucleus $C^{16}H^{10}$. Xylol $C^{16}H^{10}$. 1865 Ramsay *Org. Chem.* (1888) 241 Coal-tar xylene consists of three isomeric hydrocarbons...known as *ortho-xylene*, *meta-xylene*, and *para-xylene*.

Hence **Xyle·nic** *a.*, **Xylenol** (zəi·lĭnŏl), **Xyle·nyl**, **Xyleny·lamine** : see quots.

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 *Xylenyl*. Syn. with *Xylyl*. *Ibid.*, *Xylenylamine*. Syn. with *Xylidine*. 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* New Ser. X. 482 Liquid Xylenol is a colourless, highly refracting fluid, smelling strongly of phenol. 1873 Watts *Founds' Chem.* (ed. 2) 798 Xylenol is produced by fusing the potassium salt of xylyl sulphurous acid with potassium hydrate. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 *Xylenol*. $C_8H_{10}O=C_6H_3(CH_3)_2OH$. Dimethyl-phenol, Xenol, Xylylic phenol. *Ibid.* 1129 Solid xylenol dissolves abundantly in alcohol and ether...Liquid xylenol is colourless and strongly refractive. 1894 Muir & Morley *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 871/2 *Xylenic acid* = *xylol* = cumhinol.

**Xylic** (zəi·lĭk), *a. Chem.* [f. Xyl-ene + -ic.] *Xylic acid* : dimethylbenzoic acid, $C_9H_{10}O_2$, also called Xylylic acid (see quots.).

1872 [see Xylidic]. 1873 Watts *Founds' Chem.* (ed. 2) 817 Xylic or paraxylic acid. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1129 *Xylic* or *xylylic acid*. $C^{16}H^{10}O^{34}=C^{8}H^{9}(CH^{3})^{8}$. $CO^{2}H$. Two modifications of this acid, distinguished as *xylic* and *paraxylic*, are formed, together with xylitic acid...by oxidising pseudocumene...with dilute nitric acid...at the boiling heat.

**Xylidic** (zəilĭ·dĭk), *a. Chem.* [f. Xyl-ic + -id 4 + -ic.] *Xylidic acid* : either of two isomeric substances obtained by the oxidation of xylic and paraxylic acids: see quot. Hence **Xylidate** (zəi·lĭdēt), *sb.* a salt of xylidic acid.

1872 Watts *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 1130 *Xylidic acid*. $C^{9}H^{8}O^{4}$. ..This bibasic acid...is formed...by the oxidation of xylic or paraxylic acid. *Ibid.*, *Calcium xylidate*, $C^{9}H^{8}O^{4}Ca$, forms indistinct white scales, very soluble in water.

**Xylidine** (zəi·lĭdăin). *Chem.* [f. Xyl-ene or Xyl-ic + -id 4 + -ine 5.] a. An amine-derivative of xylene, homologous with aniline, occurring in several isomeric modifications having the formula $C_8H_9(CH_3)_2NH_2$; used in the preparation of artificial dyes. Called also **Xyl-damine.** b. = Xyloidin.

1850 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Monoxitroxylol, when dissolved in alcohol, and treated with hydrosulphate of ammonia, yields a base analogous to toluidine; it may be called *Xylidine*. 1879 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 Xylidine is a colourless liquid, heavier than water.

**Xylite** (zəi·lăit). [ad. G. *xylit*, f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood: see -ite 1.]

1. *Chem.* A volatile liquid obtained from wood-spirit, also called Lignone. Also *attrib.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 634/2 With acids xylite...gives rise to xylitic acid, xylitha, xylite ruin, and xylite oil. 1895 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* IX. 48 Xylite-oil. $C_{12}H_{9}O$. Produced by the action of oil of vitriol, hydrate of potash, or potassium on lignone.

2. *Min.* An impure silicate of iron, occurring in brown fibrous masses resembling asbestos or 'mountain wood'.

1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 460 Hisingerite is another silicate of iron, and with it are associated...Stilpnosiderite, Chlorophæite, Xylite. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 *Xylite*. This name is given by Hermann ..to a mineral ..forming finely fibrous masses resembling mountain-wood.

Hence **Xylitic** (zəilĭ·tĭk) *a. Chem.*, applied to compounds derived from xylite (sense 1): see quots.

1843 [=in sense 1 above]. 1892 W. Gregory *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 393 An excess of potash causes the formation of three products: xylitic naphtha, $C_{12}H_{12}O_3$; xylitic oil, $C_{12}H_8O_2$; and xylitic resin, $C_nH_nO_n$.

**Xylo-** (zəi·lō), before a vowel **xyl-**, repr. Gr. *ξυλο-*, *ξυλ-*, comb. form of *ξύλον* wood : the first element of various scientific and technical words, the more important of which see in their alphabetical places. **Xy·lochlore** (-klōəɹ) *Min.* [ad. G. *xylochlor* (von Waltershausen, 1853), f. Gr. *χλωρός* green], an altered form of apophyllite, found in olive-green crystals in a fossil tree-stem in a volcanic rock in Iceland. **Xylochlo·ric** (-chlo·rĭc) *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *xylochlorique*, *-chlorique*, f. Gr. *χλωρός* = *χλωρίς* green] in *x. acid* : see quots. **Xylochlorous** (-krəʊm) *Chem.* [Gr. *χρῶμα* colour], a colouring matter produced by chemical alteration of decayed wood. **Xylocopid** (zəilo·kŏpĭd), *a. Entom.* [mod.L. *Xylocopa*; Gr. *-κοπος* cutting, -ID 3], belonging or related to the genus *Xylocopa*, comprising the carpenter-bees. **Xylocryptite** (-krĭ·ptəit) *Min.* [Gr. *κρυπτός* hidden : see -ITE 1]: see quots. **Xy·lolite**, *Min.* [-LITE]: see quot. **Xylophilan** (-ō·fĭlăn) *Entom.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving : cf. -PHIL], *a.* belonging to the group *Xylophili* of beetles, which live in decayed wood; *sb.* a beetle of this group; so **Xylo·philous** *a.*, living or growing in or on wood, as an insect or a fungus. **Xylo·polist** *rare*—0 [Gr. *ξυλοπώλης*], a timber-merchant. **Xylotypography** (-pəirgrăfi) [Gr. *πῦρ* fire, -GRAPHY] = Poker-work. **Xylotrin** (-tr·ĭn), **-trinite** (-tr·ĭnəit) *Chem.* [Gr. *ξυλοτρίτης* (Forchhammer, 1840), Gr. *βρύθω* resin], a white crystalline resin obtained from fossil pine-wood. ‖ **Xylostei·um.** *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *στρῶμα* something spread out, a bed, coverlet], the mycellum of certain polyporoid fungi (originally supposed a distinct genus) which forms a dense leathery sheet on the surface of wood; hence **Xylostro·matoid** *a.* [-OID], resembling a xylostroma. **Xylotheray** (-hə·rāpi) *Med.* [Gr. *θεραπεία* healing], the use of certain kinds of wood in the cure of disease (see quot.). **Xy·lotile** (-tăil), **-til** (-tĭl) *Min.* [Gr. *τίλος* wool, pappus, fine hair], a mineral allied to (or a variety of) asbestos, also called *mountain-wood*. **Xylotomous** (-ŏ·tŏmŏs) *a.* [Gr. *-τομος* cutting], that cuts or pierces wood, as an insect. **Xylotypographic** (-təipŏgræ·fĭk) *a.* [Typographic], printed from wooden blocks or types.

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylochlore*,..Kenngott ..has shown that it is an altered fossil wood. 1882 — tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 934 *Xylochloric acid*. $C^{36}H^{28}O^{28}H^{2}$..A green colouring matter, which sometimes forms on decayed pieces of wood. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylochlorite acid*, a term applied by Fordos..to the green colouring-matter of decayed wood, which may be extracted by chloroform. 1898 H. C. Porter *Strasburger's Text-Bk. Bot.* 124 The tannins impart to the wood a distinct colour, often very characteristic, especially when it has been transformed into wood dyes, or so-called *xylochromes*. 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 393/2 Mr. Forsyth..showing the *Xylocopid* model and its Asilid mimic. 1820 *Q. Jrnl. Sci. Lit. & Arts* VIII. 332 It may be named provisionally 'Xylocryptite, expressive of its being hidden in fossil wood. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylocryptite*, a mineral apparently related to Schererite, occurring in yellow waxy or crystalline grains in lignite. [Spelling error.] *Ibid.* 1061 *Xylolite*. Syn. with mountain-wood, or ligniform asbestos. 1824 Brande *Dict. Sci., &c.* s.v. *Xylophilans*,..the name of a tribe of beetles, consisting of those which live on decayed wood. 1861 Mayne *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2), *Xylophilus* ..growing upon, or living in decayed wood; xylophilous. 1876 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Xylopolist*..a Woodmonger. 1850 Ogilvie, *Xylopyrography*. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 6/1 (Baron Auer's) father was..an inventor in typography and xylpyrography. 1892 W. Gregory *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 417 Teleretine, Phyllotretine, and Xylotretine, are the names of four resinous compounds, found in the peat of Denmark, on the remains of pine-trees. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 723 'Xyloretinite is described by Forchhammer through the action of alcohol on fossil pine-wood from the marshes of Holtegaard in Denmark. 1872 Cooke *Handbk. Brit. Fungi* I. 289 Polyporus virtens,..'Glassy Polyporus,' ..Distinguished by its distinct subiculum, and by the mycelium, which separates easily from the matrix. 1880 *Boston Jrnl. Chem.* Dec. 144 At a recent meeting of the Société de Thérapeutique M. Dujardin-Beaumetz read for M. Jourdanet a note on the æsthesiogenic properties of certain woods applied to the skin, which he calls 'xylotherapy. M. Jourdanet has applied plates of wood to the forehead, and with plates of metal, magnets,..and blisters has obtained a return of sensibility. 1864 Webster, *Xylotile*. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 306 Xylotile,..is probably xylotile in structure. It occurs delicately fibrous t.. wood-brown, light or dark, and also green in color. 1872 W. Skeen *Early Typogr.* 417 The 'xylotypographic text.

‖ **Xylobalsamum** (zəilobăi·lsămŏn). Also 7 in anglicised form **xylobalsame**. [L. (Pliny), ad. Gr. *ξυλοβάλσαμον*: see Xylo- and Balsam, Balm. Cf. F. *xylobalsame*, *† xile*. (Cotgr.).] The fragrant wood of the tree *Balsamodendron gileadense*, which yields the resin called Opobalsamum or Balm of Gilead.

[1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xviii. (Bodl. MS.) ff. 195 b/1 Balsamum is a tree..liche to a vyne..he tre hatte Balsamum and he stokke Xilobalsamum and the frute and he sede Carpobalsamum and luse Opobalsamum.] 1616 Bullokar *Engl. Expos., Xylobalsamum*, a sweet wood out of which balme droppeth. 1728 Chambers *Cycl., Xylobalsamum*, a Name which Naturalists, &c. give to the Wood of the Tree which yields that precious Gum known to the Latins by the Name of *Opo-Balsamum*, and among us

by the Name of *Balm of Gilead* The *Xylo-balsamum* is reputed good to strengthen the Brain, and Stomach. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem* V 1060 *Xylobalsamum*, the commercial name of the odoriferous wood of *Amyrus gileadensis*, which yields Mecca balsam

**†Xyloca'ssia.** *Obs.* Also 6 xilo-. [late L, ad. Gr. *ξυλοκασ(σ)ία* (Dioscorides) see XYLO- and CASSIA.] = CASSIA 1 (cf. 1 b).

1555 PORR *Decades* (Arb) 384 Precious marchaundises were brought from the reddesea and India, Cinamome Longe pepper Whyte pepper Cloues. Casara. Xilocaeua: Xilocinamome, [etc.] 1598 LYTE *Acc P. Indos & P.* 178 In the Groves about Carwar grows *Cassia Lignuine, Xylo-Cassia*, or Bastard Cinamon.

**†Xyloci'nnamon.** *Obs.* In 6 xilloonnamome, [ad. Gr. *ξυλοκινάμωμον* (Dioscorides), L. *xylocinnamomum* (Pliny): see XYLO- and CINNAMON.] Cinnamon-wood.

1555 Xil ocinnamome [see XYLOCASSIA] 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. KERSEY), *Xylocinnamon*, or *Xylocinnamomon*, the Wood of the Cinnamon Tree

**Xylograph** (zəi lograf), *sb.* Also xylo-. [The earliest words of the group are *xylography, xylographic, -ical*, ad. F. *xylographie* (18th cent), *xylographique*: see XYLO- and -GRAPHY, -GRAPHIC] A wood-engraving (i. e. either an engraving on wood, or an impression from one), esp one of the early period Hence **Xylo'graph** *v. trans*, to execute from a wood-engraving So **Xylographer** (*-ɒgrăfəɹ*), **Xylographist**, a wood-engraver, esp. of the early period; **Xylographic** (-grae fik), **-ical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or executed by wood-engraving; **Xylogra phically** *adv.*, by the method of wood-engraving; **Xylography** (*-ɒgrăfi*), wood-engraving, esp of the early period or of a primitive kind, also, more widely, printing from wood blocks as distinct from type.

1816 SINGER *Hist Cards* Pref. p xiii, The account which gives the honor of the invention of Xylography to the Cardmakers *Ibid* 176 The engravers of books have of late been a fertile source of typographical and xylographical discoveries. *Ibid* 205 Whether the xylographic art took its rise in Italy or Germany, cannot be ultimately ascertained. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr Comp* 264 Many past and present 'Xylographers' (or wood cutters) could do infinitely better 1854 *Blackm. Mag* LXXV 62 Painting, or rather xylography, is said to have been invented about the beginning of the tenth century 1855 tr *Wedel's Indian Pathol Histol* (Sydenham Soc.) Anat Pref p vi The xylography was executed by A. Rosenzweig 1859 J. BERNAU *Villa Pauperum* 13 Six editions of the Biblia pauperum duet the Netherlandish xylographers 1863 *Sat Rev* 5 Dec 738/1, I he forthcoming edition of the New Testament, illustrated with all the powers of modern xylography 1864 *Ibid* 17 Dec 758 The Brothers Dalziel are the xylographists, if there is such a word 1874 WEBSTER, *Xylographik*, in engraving on wood, or the impression from such an engraving 1878 *Print Prices Jrnl* XXIII 6 Worked in red, blue and yellow, just as if they were the three colors of a xylograph 1881 *Athenæum* 3 Sept 310/2 The woodcuts, if consist from a xylographic point of view, are admirably characteristic 1883 LAYCOCK *Alphabet* xiii 121 I he runes were essentially a xylographic script 1887 HUEFFER *Hamlem* xv 53 Xylographic Donatuses. *Ibid* xviii 77 The *Decretinales* were not printed typographically but from wooden blocks (xylographically) 1892 *Nation* (N Y) 31 Mar 249/1 We have received from Lukio, Japan, a copy of a handsome xylographed life-sized picture of Commodore Matthew C Perry *Ibid*, The xylographic picture in a good specimen of popular art 1905 E CANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* iv 67 Xylograph editions of the Lamaist scriptures and lives of the saints

**Xyloidin** (zəi lōi dĭn), *formerly* zəi lō idĭn). *Chem.* Also -ine [ad. F. *xylodine* (Braconnot), f. Gr. *ξυλοειδής*, f. *ξύλον* wood: see OID and -IN 1.] An explosive substance, $C_6H_7(NO_3)O_3$, allied to pyroxylin, obtained by treating starch or vegetable fibre with nitric acid.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 664 *note*, M Braconnot, by digesting saw dust of wood, or potatoe starch, in concentrated nitric a id, obtained a mucilaginous solution - Water congulated it, and separated a white caseous substance, to which he has given the name of *xyloidin*. 1850 *Fownes' Chem* (ed 3) 388 Both xyloidine and pyroxylins appear to be substitution compounds, in which the elements of nitrous acid replace, to a certain extent, those of water in starch and lignine 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1060 Xyloidin is a white, inodorous, and tasteless powder Xyloidin when struck decomposes with detonation, but not so violently as gun cotton

**Xylol** (zəi lol). *Chem.* Also -ole. [f Gr. *ξύλον* wood + -OL.] = XYLENE Also *attrib.*

1851 [see XYLENE] 1856 WARREN DE LA RUE & H. MÜLLER in *Proc Roy Soc.* VIII 205 The Burmese naphtha products contain the corresponding hydrocarbons, namely,— Benzol $C_{12}H_6$ Toluol $C_{14}H_8$ Xylol $C_{16}H_{10}$ Cumol $C_{18}H_{12}$ 1894 *Brit Trad Photogr* XLI 5 Xylol is the best solvent of Canada balsam for such hermetical sealing 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* II 4 The section is to be dried with fine filter paper, cleaned with xylol, and mounted in xylol balsam.

**Xylonite** (zəi lŏnəit). Also xylo- (see X). [Early form *xylonite*, irreg. f. XYLOIDIN + -ITE 1, afterwards assimilated to Gr. *ξύλον* wood] Another name for CELLULOID.

The invention originated with Alexander Sparkes, and was afterwards worked out by Daniel Spill (*Engl. Mechanic* XXIX. 91/1), who patented it 1869–75. An American company formed in 1881–2 adopted the form *xylonite*

1869 The Xylonite Company Limited [incorporated 19 May] 1870 *Provis Specif Patent* No 787 In the production of those products which are similar to or such as one known as xyloinite or such compounds as contain xyloidine or soluble gun cotton 1885 *Reader* 7 Mar 455 Xylonite is the name of a substance that imitates tortoiseshell or ivory. 1888 *Pall Mall G* 6 Dec 3/2 The imitation ivory produced by the Xylonite Company, at their manufactory at Hemingtree, in Suffolk 1892 PITMAN *Know Chip Carving* (1838) 32 Paper knives, hairpin boxes, and various other small articles made in Xylonite look remarkably well when

**Xylophagous** (zəilŏ făgəs), *a Zool* Also 9 *erron.* xylo-, xilo-. [f. mod L. *xylophagus*, f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + *-φαγος* eating, see -OUS Cf. F. *xylophage*] Feeding upon wood, as an insect larva, or boring into and destroying wood, as a mollusc or crustacean. So **Xylo'phagan**, *a.* belonging to the *Xylophaga* or *Xylophagi*, names in different classifications for various groups of insects whose larvæ devour wood; *sb.* an insect belonging to one of these groups; **Xylophage** (zəi lŏfēdʒ), a wood-eating insect.

1840 BRANDE *Dict. Sci, etc.*, **Xylophagans, Xylophagan* a tribe of Coleopterous insects, also a family of Dipterous insects. 1847 *Trans Linn Soc Lond Botany* I 339 Wood of a coarse fibre, soon attacked by *xylophages. 1739 *Phil Trans* XLI 299 This *Xylophagous Worm 1833–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* I 334/1 The Xylophagous Conchera 1878–9 *Ibid.* II 866/1 The Xylophagous insects of this tribe are exceedingly destructive 1864 OWEN *Power of God* 16 Trees devoured by Xylophagous larvæ.

**Xylophone** (zəi lŏfōun). Also xylo- (see X) [f Gr. *ξύλον* (see XYLO-) + *φωνή* voice, sound.] A musical instrument consisting of a graduated series of flat wooden bars, played by striking with a small hammer or by rubbing with rosined gloves.

1866 *Athenæum* 7 Apr 470/3 A prodigy who does wonderful things with little drumsticks on a machine of wooden keys, called the 'xylophone', almost five octaves in compass 1890 HALLETT *1,000 Miles in Shan States* 322 A native xylophone made of eighteen sonorous strips of hard wood fastened side by side by strings and suspended over a boat shaped sounding board 1892 R. L. GARNER *Speech of Monkeys* 194 Drawing a mallet rapidly across the keyboard of a xylophone

Hence **Xylophonic** (-fŏnĭk) *a*, of, pertaining to, or resembling that of a xylophone

1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. African Stud* iii 65 Many African instruments are sweet notably the xylophonic family. 1900 *Westm Gaz* 28 Aug 10 2 Two swarthy bare armed blackamoths who extract xylophonic music from a couple of cut-up heels.

**Xylophory** (zəilŏfŏri). *rare*—1. [ad Gr. *ξυλοφορία* wood-carrying, f. *ξύλον* wood + *-φορος* carrying (*φέρειν* to carry).] Wood-carrying. *Festival of xylophory* (Gr. *ξυλοφόρια ἑορτή*, Josephus), applied to the Feast of Tabernacles.

1727 WHISTON *Josephus, Jewish Wars* xvi xvii § 6 The next day was the festival of Xylophory, upon which the east men was for every one to bring wood for the altar.

**Xylose** (zəi lōus) *Chem.* [f Gr *ξύλον* wood + -OSE 2] A colourless carbohydrate, $C_5H_{10}O_5$, obtained by the action of sulphuric acid on xylan; also called *wood sugar*

1894 MILN & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 538/2 1899 CAGNEY tr *von Jaksch's Clin Diagn* xii (ed 4) 734 [Pentose] in the form of arabinose, rhamnose and xylose, has been identified in the urine

**Xylostein** (zəilŏ stĭn). *Chem* [f. mod.L. *Xylosteum* (f. Gr. *ξύλον* wood + *ὀστέον* bone) + -IN 1.] A poisonous bitter substance found in the berries of the fly-honeysuckle, *Lonicera Xylosteum*.

1868 WATTS *Dict Chem* V 1061. 1872 — tr. *Gmel n's Handbk Chem* XVI. 108.

**Xylyl** (zəi lil). *Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE + -YL.] The hypothetical radical ($C_8H_9$) of xylene and its derivatives. Hence **Xylylamine, Xylylene, †Xylylen** (= *xylylamine*), **Xylyl'ic** *a*, etc.: see quots.

1862 MILLER *Elem Chem*, *Org* VI § 2 (ed 2) 453 Xylol, $C_{16}H_{10}$ Nitroxylol, $C_{16}H_9NO_4$ Xylyha, $C_{16}H_{11}N$ 1863 *Fownes' Chem* (ed 9) 694 The hydrate of oxide of xylyl... has been observed by Mr H Muller 1868 WATTS *Dict Chem.* V. 1061 *Xylyl* $C_8H_9$ A monatomic radicle, homologous with phenyl and tolyl, which may be supposed to exist in xylene and its derivatives *Ibid*, *Xylylamine* a base (not yet obtained), related to benzylamine as xylidine to toluidine *Ibid*, *Xylylene* $C_8H_8$ A diatomic radicle related to xylyl, $C_8H_9$, in the same way as ethylene to ethyl *Ibid* 1062 *Xylylic acid* $C_9H_{10}O_2 = C_8H_9$ $(CH_2)^{\prime\prime}COH$ Homologous with benzoic and toluic acids *Ibid*, *Xylylic ac tate, chloride*, &c. Syn with *Toluylic Acetate, Chloride*, &c.

**Xyrid** (zəi rĭd) *bot.* [f mod L *Xyrid*, *Xyris*, ad Gr. *ξυρίς* a species of iris, f *ξυρον* razor, so called from the sharp-edged leaves] A plant belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*, an order of monocotyledons typified by the genus *Xyris*, comprising sedge-like herbs having flowers with three coloured petals like those of Spiderwort, mostly tropical and North American So **Xyridal** (zi rĭdăl) *a.*, belonging to the alliance *Xyridales* in Lindley's classification, comprising the *Xyridaceæ* and allied orders, *sb* a plant belonging to this alliance, **Xyridaceous** (zirĭdē ʃəs) *a*, belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*

1846 LINDLEY *Veg Kingd* 186 [The] nearest relationship [of *Thelesperaceæ*] is plainly with Xyrids and Spiderworts. *Ibid.* 185 Alliance XIV *Xyridales* — The Xyridal Alliance Natural Orders of Xyridals *Eriocaulaceæ Xyrids or Commelynaceæ Rhapsaceæ*. *Ibid* 187 *Xyridaceæ* —Xyrids

**Xyst** see XYSTUS.

**Xystarch** (zi staak). *Gr. Antiq. rare*—0 [ad. Gr. *ξυστάρχης*, f *ξυστος* XYSTUS + *ἄρχειν* to rule] (See quot)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict*, *Xystarch* an Athenian officer who presided over the gymnastic exercises of the Xystus

**‖ Xyster** (zi·stəɹ) *Surg.* [mod L., a. Gr. *ξυστηρ*, f. *ξύειν* to scrape] An instrument for scraping bones.

1684 tr *Blancard's Phys. Dict* 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III *xxiv* 82/2 Xysterium, the Surgeons Scraping Instruments to shave and scrape filthy and scaly bones Its called also Xyster

**‖ Xyston** (zi·stŏn) *Gr. Antiq* [a. Gr *ξυστόν* the polished shaft of a spear, hence a spear, neut of *ξυστος* scraped, polished, f *ξύειν* to scrape, polish] (See quot, and cf. XYSTUS)

1856 GROTE *Greece* II xiii XII 77 The regiments of cavalry called Sarissophori or Lancers carrying a long lance, and distinguished from the heavier cavalry who carried the xyston or short pike

**‖ Xystus** (zi·stŭs) Pl **xysti** (-zai). Also 7 **xystus**, pl **xisti**; 8–9 **xystos**, 9 **systos**, 8–9 **xystum**, pl **xysta** (7 *erron* **xystas**). Also in anglicized form **xyst**. [L. *xystus* masc, also *xystum* neut., ad Gr. *ξυστος*, prop. sb use of the masc. of *ξυστος* adj.: see prec.] Among the ancient Greeks, a long covered portico or court used for athletic exercises; among the ancient Romans, an open colonnade, or walk planted with trees, used for recreation and conversation; hence occas allusively

1664 EVELYN *Fumifugium* 122 Those large Xystas Porticos, Aitrias and Vestibula of the Greeks and Romans. 1696 — *Let to Wotton* 28 Oct, Spacious plots of ground built about with portico, xisti, & noble ranges of pillars 1696 PHILLIPS (ed 5) *Xystus*, was a Place where the Wrestlers exercised 1706 *Ib & Ct* (ed Kersey) Xystus, a Portico or Gallery where the Greek Wrestlers used to practise in Winter time *Ibid*, *Xystus* or *Xystum* (among the Romans) an open Walking Place like a Knot Garden 1721 *(title)* The Architecture of A Palladio containing A short Treatise of the five Orders also The different Construction of Private and Publick Houses, High ways Bridges Market places, Xystes, and Temples Revised, By Giacomo Leoni. 1763 SMOLLETT *Treat* xxx (1766) II 102 The *Xysta*, which were shady walks between two porticos 1824 P NICHOLSON *Pract Builder* 396 *Xystos*, among the antients a portico or aile of unusual length, commonly appropriated to gymnastic exercises. 1856 MALALLAY in Trevelyan *Life & Lett* xiv (1878) II 403 [I] directed the workmen to set creepers in my xystus 1872 FARRAR *Wesm Hist* vi 98 Philosophers who aired their eighteenth doubts in the shady xystus.

# Y.

Y (wɔi), pl Y's, *Ys* (wɔiz), the twenty fifth letter of the modern and twenty third of the ancient Roman alphabet, representing ultimately Y, Υ (u psilon) of the Greek alphabet, a different-shaped form of the primitive V which has given also U and V. It was adopted first in the Latin alphabet in the form V to express *(u)* and *(w)*, and was later (after n.d. 100) readopted in the form Y to represent the Υ of borrowed Greek words.

The name of the letter in the Romanic languages, 'Greek i' (e. g. F. *i grec*, Sp *i griega*), and the Ger name *ypsilon*, It *ipsilon*, *onne* (+*ypsilonne*), and Pg *ypsilon*, preserve the fact of its Greek origin. The English name *wy* (wai) is of obscure origin.

The earliest available English evidence is in the MS of the Ormulum, col 209 l 14700, where Pt is written *upp* in the first hand (*c* 1200) over *y*, the fifth letter of the name ILOOYS. Nothing certain is known about the historical relationship of the English name to the name as or as attributed to 'the Greek y' in the grammatical treatise (*a* 1150) contained in the Bodl. or to the *ue* or *gue* of some OF systems. Gawin Douglas rhymes Y with *lyf* (see quot 1513 in sense 2 below); other early references to the name are —

1573 *Barer Alv.* Y hath bene taken for a greeke vowel 'am not sur latin & ammonge greeke whiche thinke if we make well we shall finde to be rather a diphthong for it app seath to be compounded of u and i, which both spelled together soundeth as we write Wy. 1580 Bullokar *Amendm Orthogr.* 8 The olde name of *y* (which is wy).

(1) The letter of which our *y* is the direct representative occurs from the earliest times in OE script to express the *i*-mutation of *u*. It had various forms ranging from those resembling the Greek *u psilon*, in which the tops of the limbs turn outwards in opposite directions, to those in which both limbs turn in the same direction, whether to the right (forming an F like character) or to the left. This last type with the right shank continued leftwards below the line was the form that prevailed in ME script, and which, with the top closed (ȳ), became identical with the debased forms of þ see (3) below. Most forms of the OE. *y* in the earliest manuscripts are written with a superposed dot, which is also a feature of the *y* in contemporary manuscripts of Latin texts. The dot fell out of use towards the end of the eighth century, but was revived towards the end of the tenth. The dotted *y* continued throughout the ME period, and was carried into some of the early founts of type (e. g. in *The Book of St Albans* of 1486 the dotted *y* is employed in the larger, but not in the smaller type).

In late (West Saxon) OE, *y* was written alternatively for *i*, e. g. as representing older *æ*, as in *cyle*, *cynstan*, *yld*, for *ælc*, *cynestan*, *eald*, and, as its function of expressing rounded *i* (ü, ü) was usurped by *u* in imitation of French usage, it became ultimately a possible substitute for vocalic *i* in any position. This use had become established by the middle of the 13th century, and thenceforward, with the deterioration of script, *y* came to serve as a convenient means of breaking up an ambiguous series of minims produced by a succession of *i*, *u*, *n*, *m*, as *synn*, *myne*, *ynnumen*, *unsynnely*, for *minn*, *min*, *unmen*, *unimele*. Thus free use of *y* was continued through the ME. period, and the tradition lasted for a long period after the introduction of printing, but *i* was gradually restored to its place, the resulting orthographic convention being that *y* is retained (1) for final *i*-sounds, as in *fly*, *family*, *daily*, *destroy* (formerly spelt also *flie* and *flye*, *familie* and *familye*, etc.), only when words being spelt with final *i*, (ii) in Greek words, representing υ, as in *hymn*; (iii) before *i*, in inflexional forms of verbs ending in *y* or *se*, as *flying*, *lying*, *tying*, not *fliing*, etc.; (iv) in the plural of nouns ending in *y* preceded by another written vowel, as *hoy boys*, *ray rays*, *alley alleys*, *money moneys* (but *monies* is still common, and *vallies*, *monkies*, etc were equally so until recently). Particular usages, not falling under these categories, are the use of *y* to distinguish *dye* from *die*, and the fluctuation between *flyer* and *flier*, *tyre* and *tire*, *gipsy* and *gypsy*, *tiro* and *tyro*, *siphon* and *syphon*, *cipher* and *cypher*, *silva* and *sylva* (see each word for the special circumstances).

In some texts *y* is found substituted for *i* French *y* (dy), e. g. in Shoreham's Poems *manayour* is written for *manour* = manger, in Ayenbite *ypoynted* for *poynt* I joined, in the Camb MS of the 15th century version of Guy of Warwick occur *yoye*, *yolye*, *yelouse*, *harbengoure*, *iournyed* joy, jolly, jealous, harbinger, sojourned.

(2) About the middle of the 13th century *y* began to be used to represent the voiced palatal spirant (*y*), taking the place of the character ȝ (called YOGH, q v) in one of its values. ȝ is a loosely written form of OE. *g*, which had become appropriated in early ME. script to the guttural and palatal spirants, while the continental *g* was appropriated to the voiced guttural and palatal stops (though in some MSS. *g* stands for all these sounds: cf. G). The practice of contemporary scribes varied considerably, some restricting *y* to its vocalic use, others using it freely for both consonant and vowel. Northern scribes of the 14th and 15th centuries often write *yh* for *y* initially, as *yhit*, *yheyt* yet, *yher* year, *yhoung* young.

In many late ME. scripts ȝ became identical in form with *z*, and it was retained by Scottish printers in this form; e. g. printed *zer*, *fenzeit*, *Dalzeil*, represent *yer* year, *fenyeit* feigned, *Dalyeil* see further s. v. Z.

(3) Another value of *y* arises from the assimilation of *y* and *þ*, the runic *thorn* (see TH), which had become indistinguishable from each other in some MSS. of the early 13th century (e. g. the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi). After 1400 *þ* fell more and more out of use, and in some scripts was represented only by the *y*-form in the compendia *yᵉ*, *yᵗ* or *yᵗ*, *yᵗˢ*, *yᵐ*, *yⁿ* = the, that, they, them, thou, and the like, many of which continued to be extensively employed in manuscript in the 17th and 18th centuries. Two of these, *yᵉ* or *ȳ*, *yᵗ* or *ȳ*, were retained in printers' types during the 15th and 16th centuries, but often with a form of *y* somewhat different from that used in other positions (In the John Cheke's translation of the New Testament, a dotted *y* stands for *th*.) In manuscript (e.g. in letter-writing) *yᵉ* lasted well into the 19th century. It is still often used pseudo-archaically, jocularly, or vulgarly (pronounced as *ye*), e.g. in Lewis Carroll's 'Ye Carpette Knyghte', and in shop signs like 'Ye Olde Booke Shoppe'.

*c* 1340 *Cursor M.* 17033-4 (MS Cott Vesp. A III ff 94 b) And ta naman yᵉ es in-til ane ark sal bai ga in. 14 *Assumpt Virg* (Pepys MS), Pat toune he was in and mad fray Yat fraunce xxi rewe tyl domysday. *c* 1500 *Prompt Parv* (Middle Hill MS) 513 *note* 1, Yanne or than. Yowtyng or thowting. *Ibid.* (MS note in Brit Mus. Copy of Pynson's ed.), All these Y stande for Th accordinge as the Saxʒ in cast use was in this sorte þ. 1508 *Kalyndayr Pronostycacyon* (S. T. S. 1918) 171 Thou tyrvit king all yis sold reull yi realme. 1552 Sir W. Pickering *Let to Sir W. Cecil in Nat. MSS.* II. 1, At parys yᵉ 27 of octobre 1565 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) 61 Without any interruption yrupon. *Ibid* 63 It may be clearlie answered yrto. 1580 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 202 Bot reastion] where it Pagett yᵉ was. 1595 J. Rogers in *Mrs E. Montagu's Corr* (1906) I. 145, I had a nurse by my Mother yt you had ordered me £40. 1742 Dr. Portland *ibid* 76, I am to inform you yt yᵉ Queen is dead, as well as we all are in, and ye D the too. 1745 Mrs Robinson *ibid* 225 [He] told yᵐ yt ye French was landing in the Marsh.

*Pronunciation* The vocalic sounds now normally expressed by *y* are —

1. *i*, as in hymn (him), synonymy (sinɔnimi), silly (si li); in unstressed syllables there is more or less reduction or obscuration.
2. *ai*, as in my (mai), deny (dinai).
3. *əi*, as in lyre (laiəɹ).
4. *ɔ*, as in myrtle (mɔ·tl).
5. *ə*, as in satyr (sæ·təɹ).

With *a*, *e*, *o*, *u*, it forms combinations having special values —*ay* (final) = *ei*, as in lay (lei), essay (e sei), = *ai* in *aye* (ai); = *i* in quay (ki), = *e* in says (sez), *ey* = *ei*, as in obey (ɔbei), convey (kɔnvei). —*i*, as in alley (æ li), honey (hu ni), = *ai* in *eye* (ai) and thereby, = *ei* in eyre (eiəɹ); *oy* = *oi*, as in boy (bɔi), annoy (ənɔi·); *uy* (rare) = *ai* in buy (bai).

The consonantal sound expressed by *y* is denoted in this Dictionary by (y), as yew, you (yiu).

1. The letter or its sound.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram* ii (Z) § 10 Þeos þrim [*æ*, *œ*, *ę*, *ę*] u genumen of grecisca *y* for þisunge grecisra namena, and se ylca *y* is on englisc gewritum swiðe gewunelic. *c* 1440 *Promp Parv* 79/1 Quere plura vocalia vnius nominis istud habencia in Ss litera, sibi I vel Y sequntur hanc literam S immediate [*c* 1465 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 9 A ȝ for ȝolke]. 1521 Barclay *Introd Fr* B ij b, But especyally y muste be wryten for I, in yᵉ ende of suche a worde and whan n, m, or u, is wryten before, or behynde it. 1532 Palsgr 16 The writynge of *s* and *y* in any frenche worde, eyther alone or as parte of a diphthong causeth no difference in sounde. 1599 in *Prompt Parv* (Camden) 536 *note*, All these wordes of ȝ we pronounce with Y at this daye, and some of these ȝ here vsed haue that place of G in oure spekinge and writinge at this daye. 1636 B. Jonson *Eng. Gram* i iii, Y also is mere vowells in our tongue, and hath only the power of an *i*, even where it obtains the seat of a consonant. 1693 Dryden *Disc Satire* Ess. (1900) II 67 [Nature] ought to be with *s*, and not with *y*, to distinguish its true derivation from *satyra*, not from *satis*. 1755 Johnson *Dict*, *Gramr* n s b, It may be observed of *y* as of *u*, that it follows a vowel without any hiatus, as *coy*, *youth*. 1785 Pinkerton *Lett Lit* xxxiv 243 [Finding] in *y* we have no less than 4000 words, about an eighth of our language: our words amounting to about 35,000. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* xxii, Tails of *ys* and *gs*. 1874 'Mak Adelre' *Out of Hurly Burly* iv (Rildg.) 121 The Smith that spells without a *y* is not the Smith for me!

b. Used for the Greek letter Υ (*u psilon*), esp. as a Pythagorean symbol see quots.

1430–40 Lydg. *Pochas* ii xv (MS Bodl 263) ff 113/2 Pithagorus fond fyve figur in *y* lettre, whereof the liff her short and liff þat is eterne. 1589 Greene *Tritam Love Wks* (Grosart) III 96 Did not Pythagoras compare vertue to the letter Y, which is small at the foot but broad at the top meaning that to obtaine vertue is verie painefull, but the possession thereof passing pleasant? 1616 Holyday *Persius* iii 119 The Samian letter Y whose spreading branches teach Philosophie. Hath marked out The high-rear'd right-hand path, wherein to walke. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* xii (1697) 443 Where the Samian *Y* directs thy Steps to fun, To Virtue's narrow Steep, and Broad way Vice to shun. 1771 *Encycl Brit* I 970/1 The other two divaricate, like the branches of the greek Y.

2. The letter considered with regard to its shape, a figure or marking of this shape. Also Comb *Y-shaped* adj.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII Prol 120 Palamedes byrdis crowping in the sky, Eleand on randoune sambuce lik ane Y. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I v 671 I hear the Crane (if I mistake not) cry With in the Clouds to mend the forked Y. Instructeth Souldiers in the Art of War. a 1817 T. Dwight *Trav New Eng*, etc (1821) II 265 The centre of the town is a pretty exp anse, in the form of the Roman Y. 1849 Rock *Ch Fathers* I v 304 *note*, A rich orphrey dividing itself a little way below the neck, takes the shape of the letter Y, and passes, in that form, over the shoulders. 1861 Hagen *Ym Northern N Amer* 214 Between the antennæ is a black Y. 1874 Raymond *Statist Mines & Mining* 511 The bucket is then lowered into the Y shaped seats. 1907 C. C. Brown *Chinn* xvi 235 A Y shaped divining rod.

3. A contrivance or piece of apparatus in the form of the letter Y; *esp.* a forked support for a telescope, theodolite, or piece of mechanism. Also *attrib*, as *Yaxis*, *bearings*, *piece*, Y *branch*, a piece of piping with a branch at acute angle to the main piece; *T-branch*, T 3 b); **Y cross**, (*a*) a cross in the form of the letter Y, often used as an ornamental device on ecclesiastical vestments, (*b*) a piece of piping consisting of three branches diverging at acute angles, **Y level**, the common spirit-level, used with a telescope or theodolite resting on Y's (also written *wye-level*, q v.); **Y track**, a short track on a railway at right angles to the main track and connected with it by two switches in opposite directions, used for reversing an engine or car. Also in names of natural structures, as *Y cartilage*, *ligament* see quot 1890.

1793 Wollaston in *Phil Trans* LXXXIII 137 The four pillars carry the Y; for the pivots of the transit. 1803 *Mundy Obst* XCIII 407 The telescope was then quickly taken out of the Y. 1828 P. Barlow in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) XV 304 There are two constructions [of levels] that are commonly adopted, viz. the Y level and Troughton's level. 1842 Francis *Dict Arts* & *Y Bengkten's Hound Gear*, The Y piece, as it is called, G, bearing the moveable weight F. 1864 Webster, *Y*, ... (Railways.) A portion of track con-

sisting of two converging tracks connected by a cross-track. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Journal*,..the bearing part of a shaft, upon which it rests on its Y's or bearings. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 166/1 A wire, the axis of which coincides with the Y-axis. 1878 Lockyer *Star-gazing* 314 The Y bearings of a theodolite. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Y Branch*, a branch with a divergent stem. *Y Cross*, a pipe with two divergent stems. 1886 Cumming *Electricity* (1887) 40 A mounted telescope..swinging on two Y pieces. 1890 Billings *Nat. Hist. Dict.*, *Y cartilage*, the triradiate piece of true cartilage which, before puberty, unites the three portions of the hip-bone at the bottom of the acetabulum. *Y ligament*, ilio-femoral ligament.

**b.** Collectors' name for various moths of the genus *Plusia*, having markings more or less resembling the letter Y.

1775 M. Harris *Aurel. Lepid.* 59 Y Broth.. Brown, having a mark in the middle of the wing like the letter Y. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 93 The Golden Y (*P. Iota*) ..frequents woody places. *Ibid.*, The Yorkshire Y (*P. interrogationis*). *Ibid.* 94 The Exact Y (*P. circumflexa*). 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 758 The Gamma or Y-moth, *Plusia gamma*. 1845 Jas. Hamilton in *W.* Arnot *Life* vi. (1870) 267 The first capture was her favourite Golden Y-moth. 1903 *Nature. Mag. Apr.* 490/1 Young mixed-thrushes.. searching for the larvæ of the silver Y.

**4.** *Math.* Used to denote the second of a set of unknown or variable quantities (the first being denoted by *x*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry, the symbol for an ordinate, or quantity measured in the direction of the second axis of co-ordinates (hence called *the axis of y*).

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Conic Sections*, If the *Latus Rectum* of any Diameter, as DK, be *y*; then, as the Diameter DK is to its conjugate DE, so is the said ord: to that Conjugate $Bq$ or that Tangent *ov* is to *y*. 1903 [see X 3].

**5.** Used in abstract reasoning for the name of a person or thing (usually in connexion with X). Also *Y. Z.*, used as the initials of a person remaining anonymous.

1785 *Museum Rust.* IV. 23, I am, Gentlemen, Yours, &c. Y. Z. 1867 Sir S. Northcote in A. Lang *Life, Lett.*, etc. (1890) I. ix. 293 The success of A. and B. will tempt Y. and Q. to enter upon the same field. 1891 [see X 3 c].

**6.** Used to denote position in a series, as of the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery.

**7.** Abbreviations. y. = year(s). Y = Yttrium (*Chem.*). Y.C. (see quot. 1883). Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A. = Young Men's (Women's) Christian Association.

1880 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1892) 293 Hoe is now 23 y. old. 1881 *Y.M.C.A. Monthly Notes* Sept. 138/1 Pasteur Cook (Paris) said the Y.M.C.As. were differently conducted in England to what they were in France. 1883 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Y. C.*, an abbreviation for yellow candle tallow. 1887 (title) Y.W.C.A. Monthly Journal. 1901 *Oxf. Times* 16 Mar. 12/1 A squad of eight Y.M.C.A. men..gave a gymnastic display.

**Y**, obs. form of Eye, I *pron.*, In *prep.*

**Y-** *prefix* (1 3l-, 3o-, 3ø-, xio-, 3y-, 1–2 1o-, 2–3 3o-, 2–5 1-, hi-, 4–7 *dial.* ø-, 3– now *dial.* a-, now *arch.* y-) represents OE. *ge-*, earlier (and Northumb.) *gi-*, = OFris. *gi-*, *ge-*, *ie-*, *e-*, *a-*, OS. *gi-*, *ge-*, *é-*, MLG., MDu. *ge-*, *ghi-*, locally *i-*, *y-*, *e-* (LG., Du. *ge-*), OHG. *ga-*, *ka-*, *gi-*, *ki-*, *ge-*, (MHG. *G-*, *ge-*, dial. *je-*, also *gi-*, *ga-*), Goth. *ga-* [= OTeut. **ge-*. The parallelism of formation and meaning exemplified by such forms as L. *communis* and Goth. *gamains*, OE. *gemǽne* common, I-mene, L. *convenire* and Goth. *gaqiman* to assemble, L. *contiĕrn* and Goth. *gaþahan* to be silent, L. *commemini* and Goth. *gamunan*, OE. *gemunan* to remember, L. *conferre* and Goth. *gaþatran* to compare, has suggested the probability of the etymological identity of Teut. *ga-* with L. *com-*, and some scholars have accepted this on the assumption that Verner's law operated in some instances of initial consonants. (L. *com-* is normally represented by *ham-* in OFrank. *hamĕdii*, synonymous with OHG. *geido*, MHG. *geide* conspirator.)

The original form *ga-* is the only one found in Gothic (e. g. *galeiks* Ylike); it was preserved also in OHG. (e. g. *galîh*), continued in MHG., and survives in a few words in some German dialects. The weakened (unstressed) form *gi-* was the prevailing one in OHG. and OS. and is the earliest form recorded in OFris. and OE., but it was early reduced to *ge-* in the whole of the Low German and High German area. In Scandinavian the prefix had disappeared entirely in prehistoric times as a living element, but relics of it remained in ON. *gilkr* Ylike, *gnógr* Enough, *greiðr* Graith *a.* (cf. Ready).

The phonetic changes of OE. *ge-*, resulting in its complete disappearance in modern English as a living formative except in certain dialects, are in general paralleled in most of the LG. (as opposed to the HG.) dialects. While in HG. the vowel of the prefix not uncommonly underwent syncopation, which has become permanent (to the obscuration of the origin) in certain words, as G. *gleich* (OHG. *ga-*, *gi-*, *galîh*) like (Ylike), *gnade* (OHG. *ginâda*, OS. *gināthа*, *nâthа*, Du. *genade*, ON. *náð*), in LG. dialects, on the other hand, there was a tendency for the consonant to fall, leaving *i-* or *e-*, in some dialects *a-*; e. g. OS. *unimetes* * alliquid incommodum', MLG. *ûtetene*, pa. pple. of *lēten* to permit, *medeselle* (cf. G. *mitgesell*) companion, *enasgh* enough, *eschein* (cf. G. *geschehen*) happened, MDu. *idaen* done, *idregen* drawn, *yslagen* slain, Du. dial. *ivallig* week, OFris. *idein* done, *islein* slain, *onebunden* unbound, *enbch*, *anbch* enough, *unaborn* unborn, *ofeslain*, *ofaslain* killed off, EFris. *unikained* unkempt, NFris. *-enogh* (in comp.) enough. Complete suppression of the prefix takes place in certain cases, as in MLG. *to lîke* (cf. G. *ungleich*) immediately, LG. *lîk* like, *naug* enough, *schein* happened, OFris. *bedda*, *sibb* companion, *fadera* godfather, *selscip* society, WFris. *mbch* adv. (beside *genbch* adj.-pron.), NFris. *mogh* enough; the suppression of the prefix is normal in pa. pples.; in words of other classes, it survives sporadically or has been revived through Du. or HG. influence.

The like developments of OE. *ge-* are traceable in the history of several words in which its identity and force have long ceased to be recognized, or from which all traces of the prefix have been obliterated: e. g. OE. *geforbian*, ME. *yfo-*, *yfe-*, *aforth*, Afford *v.*, OE. *gewer*, ME. *iwar(e*, *aware*, Aware *a.*, OE. *gelîc(e*, ME. Ylike, Alike, Like *a.* and *adv.*, OE. *gemang*, *ongemang*, ME. Ymong, Among, Mong, OE. *genoh*, ME. *inoȝ*, *anoȝ*, Enough, **nuff*, OE. *handgeweore* Handiwork (whence, by analogy, Handicraft), OE. *ǽghwæðer* Either. For further examples of the complete disappearance of the prefix see below.

The general facts of the history and survival of OE. *ge-*, of which some details are given below, are:—In positions where it was still recognizable as a prefix, it had left few traces in northern English by 1200; its disappearance in the north was assisted by the absence of the prefix in ON. Substantival, adjectival, and verbal forms (other than pa. ples.) continued, not later than the end of the 14th century, only in southern and west-midland dialects. The pa. ple. was regularly formed with the prefix in southern ME. till about the middle of the 14th century, and its use in the form *a-* survives in south-western dialects to the present day. Pa. pples. so formed were a prominent feature of the archaistic language of Spenser and his imitators, and a few of them, the most notable of which is Yclept, persist as conventional archaisms of poetry.

In OE. and ME. the prefix was written either continuously with the body of the word of which it formed a part, or disjoined from it by a full or a half space; in the archaistic usage of the 16th and 17th centuries the general practice was to print the compound as one word, without hyphen. In this Dictionary established and well-known forms such as *yclad*, *yclept*, are printed without hyphen, but in other instances the convenience of the reader has been consulted, where occasion arises, in the avoidance of unhyphened forms where these would not suggest the nature of the word-formation.

Compounds of the prefix spelt with *y-* are entered in their alphabetical place, whether as full articles or as cross-references. Compounds which did not come down late enough for the spelling *y-* to have become established with them have been entered in their place in the letter I: see I-1. The choice of *y-* (and not *i-*) by Spenser and other archaists was determined by the prevalence of that form in the texts upon which he modelled his language. There are a few instances of the general survival of the *i-* form till a late date, e. g. I-free *v.*; the retention of *i-* in Iwis is due to the false etymologizing of it as *I wis*.

The original (physical) signification of the prefix, 'with', 'together', without admixture of transferred meaning, persists in some OE. words, such as *gedrag* lit. that which is drawn together, band, multitude (cf. Goth. *gadrogan* to heap up or together), *gelapian* to summon together, invite (cf. Goth. *galaþôn ewyaþkaiê*), *gerunnen* 'run together', coagulated (cf. Goth. *garinnan* to run together), *gesǽdan* 'conjungere', to join together, connect; but for the most part its meaning in OE. compounds falls under one or other of the following categories, which are arranged in the probable order of their development in primitive Germanic: the notion of physical accompaniment or conjunction passing into that of (1) association in life, occupation, etc., and hence, of suitability or appropriateness, and (2) collectivity, the final stage being (3) a perfective or intensive notion evolved in some measure from each of the others.

**1.** The associative meaning is exemplified by two classes of words in OE.:

**a.** Designations of persons associated or related by birth, family, or status, such as *gebeddia* (I-bedde) 'one who shares a bed with another', bed-fellow, consort, f. *bedd* bed, *gefera* (Yfere, Fere *sb.*1) 'one who goes with another' (*faran* to go), companion, *gehdda* 'one of the same order as another', fellow-minister, f. *hád* condition, order, *gesíþ* (cf. Goth. *gasinþja*, OS. *gisíth*, OHG. *gisind*) 'one who shares a voyage with another', companion, f. *síþ* journey.

**b.** Adjectives and allied substantives denoting quality or condition, in which the purely associative sense readily passes into that of appropriateness, convenience, or similarity, such as *gecynd* (I-cunde *sb.*) nature, *gecynde* (I-cunde *a.*) natural, *geðéfe* (cf. Goth. *gaðôbs*) becoming, fit, *gemæc* well-matched, *gemæcca* companion, mate, Match *sb.*1, *gemaca* mate, Make *sb.*1, *gelíc* lit. related in form to, of the same form as, Like *a.*, Ylike, *gelíca* an equal, *gemet* sb., measure, proper measure, proportion, moderation, *gemet* adj., *gemǽte* lit. of suitable measure, fit, proper, Meet *a.*, *geræde* lit. suitably prepared (see I-rede, I-redy and Ready *a.*), *gesíbb* related, I-nib(be, *geswége* harmonious, *getrèowe* holding faith with, True.

**2.** Compounds in which *mutual* relation is implied form a link between the associative and the collective uses, e. g. OE. *gefán*, *geféend* (I-fiend) enemies, *gefrèend* (I-freond) friends, *gebróðor* (I-brotheren) brothers, *gesweostor* sisters, *genéatas* kinsmen, *gesíþ* pair of friends. The number of OE. words of purely collective meaning is not large; examples are *gelæwu* back parts, *gefylce* army, troop, *gemǽre*, pl. *gemǽru* limits, boundary, *getimbru* pl. building, edifice, *geweáde* clothing, I-wede, *gewíder*, pl. *gewidru* weather (esp. as good or bad), storm cf. (t.. *gewitter*).

**b.** What is probably to be regarded as a particular development of the collective sense appears in the OE. generalizing pronouns and corresponding adverbs, *gehwá* every or each one (cf. I-who), *gehwile* each or every one, ME. *i(ch*, Ilk, *gehá* somehow or other, *gehwær* everywhere, Ywhere, *gehwider* in any or every direction. Some of them were reinforced by the prefixing of *á* ever, e. g. *ǽghwá* each or every one, *ǽghwæðer* each of two, both, Either, *ǽghwelc*, ME. *euch* (see Each).

**3.** The perfective or intensive sense is found in the following classes of words:

**a.** Substantives denoting the result of an action, a stage in a process, or a particular state, as OE. *gemót* meeting, Moot *sb.*1, *gemynd* (cf. L. *commenta*) memory, remembrance, Mind *sb.*1, *gesíbb* relationship, *gesíbþ* I-sight, Sight, *geswell* swelling, Swell *sb.*, *geweorc* working, what is done or built, fortification, Work *sb.*, *gewitnes* testimony, I-witness, Witness *sb.*, *gewrit* what is written, writing, I-writ, Writ.

**b.** Adjectives denoting a state, as *geclène* pure, *gehál* Whole, *gesund* uninjured, Sound *a.*

**c.** Verbs which denote achievement of a result, the attainment of a stage in a process, or a special limitation of the general sense of the simple verb. The force of the prefix is clearly recognizable in examples like OE. *gecían* to eat up, consume, 'comedere', *gestígan* to mount up, 'conscendere', and esp. in such pairs as *wrnan* to run, *gewrnan* to gain by running, *discan*, *frignan* to ask, *gedscian*, *gefrignan* to learn, *heran* to carry, *geheran* to bring forth, *faran* to go, *gefaran* to depart this life, die, to get by going, occupy, *rècan* to stretch forth, offer, *gerèccan* to reach, obtain, *ridan* to ride, *geridan* to reach as by riding, get into one's power, *weorþan* to become, be, *geweorþan* impers. to be agreed, *gán* to go, *gegán* to attain to, get, occupy, *winnan* to fight, strive, *gewinnan* to win. But in many instances no difference of meaning is discernible between the simplex and the compound, e. g. *beorgan*, *geheorgan* to protect, *bdiorn*, *gebdiorn* to call, name, command, promise, *limpan*, *gelimpan* to happen, *secgan*, *gesecgan* to say, tell. There are also some causative compounds, as *gebítan* to make good, improve, Bete *v.*, *geforbian* to further (see Afford), *gehefigan* to make heavy. Of such verbs many did not survive except in their pa. pples. into the ME. period; others survived only till about 1300, and that in southern areas; a certain

number, such as *zehleran* VERB, *zestôm* VERB, continued in use in present and past tenses till 1400 or later; very few lasted till 1500 or beyond. But from the middle of the 16th century onwards archaizing poets created (orig. after pa. ppl. forms) new formations in which the prefix was meaningless. Such are *yclept* (after *yclept*), *yglaunst*, and *ystirilled* (Spenser), *scharn'd*, *yspromt* (Robinson's *Mary Magdalene*), *ystert* (Gosson), *ystrop* (Henry More); there are also pres. pples. like Sackville's *yeausing* and Milton's *star-ypointing*.

**4.** The use of perfective or completive *ge-* had its most extensive development in the formation of pa. pples., a function common to the Low German and High German groups but not found in Gothic and Scandinavian. The prefix could be employed with any uncompounded verb, but the verbs corresp. to OE. *bringan* to bring, *cuman* to come, *findan* to find, *weorpan* to become, did not normally take it.

In OE. and in ME. (where the prefix continued in full use) it is often impossible to determine whether a particular pa. pple. with *ge-* (*i-*, *y-*) belongs to a simple verb or to its compound with *ge-*.

In OE. the prefix was employed in forms derived from Latin, as *geplantod* = *plantatus*. Similarly in ME. it was freely employed with verbs of French origin, as *yblaptised*, *yblamed*, *ycircumcysed*, *iclosed*, *igranted*, *ikupled*, *ymaried*, *yoccupied*, *ipaied*, *ipaised*, *iroblet*, *iturbled*, *iused*, *ivextened*, *ywarried*. Early loanwords from Scandinavian also took it, as *itaken* (12th cent.).

It came down into ME. as a peculiar characteristic of the language of the south and west-midland regions, and examples are consequently abundant in such texts as (in the 13th cent.) Layamon's Brut, the texts of 'the Katherine group', Owl and Nightingale, Robert of Gloucester, (in the 14th cent.) Ayenbite, Shoreham's poems, Piers Plowman, Trevisa's works, Sir Ferumbras, (in the 15th cent.) Yonge's translation (Anglo-Irish) of Secreta Secretorum and the anonymous Two Cookery Books (E. E. T. S.); its frequency in Lydgate is presumably due to metrical exigencies and to imitation of Chaucer, in whom it is fairly common, whereas it is almost entirely absent from the works of Gower. In the 16th century it was adopted as an archaistic feature from Chaucer and Lydgate by many poetical writers, among whom are Phaer, Sylvester, Arthur Hall, and, above all, Spenser. In the 17th cent. Henry More is a prominent user of these pa. pples., and in the 18th cent. Thomson and other Spenserians have many examples. Some of the most commonly occurring words are *ybent*, *ybound*, *ybrought*, *yclad*, *yclept*, *ydight*, *ydrad*, *ypent*, *ypight*, *yworought*.

In modern dialects its use in the form *a* (*ə*) extends over a triangular area of which the angles lie in Worcestershire, Surrey, and Cornwall; it is found also in Pembrokeshire and Wexford. Modern examples of dialectal usage are :—

1568 HOWELL *Arbor of Amitie* 340 b, In husbandry, icham truely, ycounted to excell. 1603 *London Prodigal* iv. i. E 3 b, Such a lerripoope as thick ych was nere a saruer. c1630 JOHN SMITH *Descr. Hundr. Berkeley* (1885) 21 A native 'hundreder, beinge asked where hee was borne, answereth, where shu'd y bee y bore, but at Berkeley hurns, And heare, begia, each wee saie. Or thus, Each was 'geboren at Berkeley hurns. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 306 Tha baast a creem'd ma Yearms, and a most a bost ma Neck. 1863 RIMMER *Dorset Dial.* 27, I shull've a-mwoke. *Ibid.* Gloss., *A-set*, set, or planted. 1886 *W. Som. Word-bk.*, *Adood*, done.

**5.** In OE. *ge-* was used in the formation of adjs. from substantival stems to express the possession of, or being provided with, something, as *gefeax* having hair (of a certain colour), *gehcort* courageous, *gestence* odorous, *gewurms* purulent (f. *wurms* corruption; cf. Goth. *gasôhs* shod), but esp. with the ppl. ending *-od*, *-ed*, as *gefeaxod* (beside *gefeaxen*) having hair, *gehelmod*, *gehilmed* helmeted, *gehyrnd* horned, *gesperod* armed with a spear. The number of the latter was added to in ME., e. g. *yhonchyd* humped, (*wel*) *ychyrped* well-favoured, *yfetlered* (cf. OE. *gefetherian*), *ileaded*, *ilettered*, *ymylyoundi*, *iteiled*, (*old*) *i-yeerid* ; in some instances the forms with the prefix are the more original forms of such adjs. : see e. g. FEATHERED, LEADED, LEATHERED, TAILED, YEARED. A few compounds of this class were coined by archaists of the 16th century : e. g. *ycrested* (A. Hall, 1581).

**-y** *suffix* 1 (Forms: 1 *-ig*, 2–5 *-i*, 4–6 *-ye*, 4–7 *-ie*, 5– *-y*, 6– now only in certain cases *-ey*), descending from the OE. adj. suffix *-ig*, which represents under a common form two OTeut. suffixes **-iga-*, *-aga-*, still distinguishable in OE. by the presence or absence respectively of mutation of the stem vowel of the sb. to which it is added, e. g. *mâdig* MOODY :— **môdaga-*, f. **môda-* MOOD *sb.*1, *mihtig* MIGHTY :— **mahtiga-*, f. **mahtis* MIGHT, *stânig* STONY beside *stâning*, *þurstig* beside *þurstig* THIRSTY.

OTeut. **-iga-*, *-aga-* are differentiated forms of Indo-eur. *-qo-* (Skr. *-akâ-*, Gr. *-κος*, L. *-cus*) arising from application of the suffix to *i-* and *a-* stems respectively. In other Teut. languages the following forms are found : OFris. *-ig*, OS. *-ig*, (MDu. *-ich*, Du. *-ig*), OHG. *-ig* (MHG. *-ic*, *-ec*, *-ec*, G. *-ig*), ON. *-igr*, Goth. *-eigs*, *-igs* ; OS. *-ag*, OHG. *-ag*, *-ah*, ON. *-agr*, Goth. *-ags*, *-ahs* ; also OHG. *-ah*, ON. *-ugr*, Goth. *-ugs*.

When the suffix is appended to a sb. ending in *y*, the convention of modern spelling requires it to be spelt *-ey*, as in *clayey*, *skyey*, *wheyey*. When the sb. ends in *-e* preceded by a vowel, the *e* is retained, as *bluey*, *gluey* ; in other cases there may be variation, as *homey*, *howy*, *liney*, *liny*, *nosey*, *nozy*.

**1.** The general sense of this suffix is 'having the qualities of' or 'full of' that which is denoted by the sb. to which it is added, as *icy* = (1) of the nature of, having the appearance, hardness, coldness, slipperiness, transparency, etc. of ice ; (2) full of or filled with ice. In OE. there are a very large number of such adjs., many of which have a continuous history from the earliest times to the present day ; in the case of some, however, e. g. *clayey*, *icy*, *rainy*, *wintry*, there is a significant gap in the evidence, which suggests that they may have dropped out of use and have been formed afresh later. There are some noteworthy instances of new formations in late OE., e. g. *dohtig* DOUGHTY replacing *dyhtig*, *dohtig* DUETY, *snduwig* SNOWY replacing *snâwlic*. To several OE. adjs. in *-ig* there were parallel formations in *-iht*, as *ísig*, *ísiht* icy, *sandig*, *sandiht* sandy, *þornig*, *þorniht* and *þyrniht* thorny ; the disappearance of this latter suffix left freer scope of development for the forms in *-ig*.

In ME. the number of these derivatives does not seem to have been at first greatly increased ; the following fresh coinages are exemplified first from texts before 1300, *dreadi*, *fiery*, *frighty*, *hairy* (cf. OE. *hæriht*), *happy*, *needy*, *sleepy* (but cf. OE. *unslâpiht* *sleepy* (c 1150 = in good condition) ; there are occasional parasynthetic compounds, as *sortlessi* short-lived. The addition of the suffix to non-native sbs. is at least as early as the 13th cent., e. g. *savoury* in the Ancren Riwle. The fourteenth cent., esp. the later half, was prolific in new formations ; to this period belong *angry*, *bushy*, *earthy*, *fatty*, *flowery*, *heady*, *hearty*, *milky*, *miry*, *mouldy*, *mucky*, *naughty*, *smoky*, *sweaty*, and many more. The fifteenth cent. was also a prolific period ; to it belong, e. g., *cottony*, *frothy*, *dirty*, *healthy*, *leafy* (but *leavy* is 15th cent.), *mealy*, *saucy*, *sugary*, *vinny*, *woolly*, *yeasty*. Others, such as *bulky*, *meatly*, *noisy* (Dryden), *peppery*, *racy*, *showy* are recorded first from the 17th cent.

Later new derivatives tend in a large measure to be colloquial, undignified, or trivial, as *bumpy*, *dumpy*, *flighty*, *hammy*, *linsy*, *loopy*, *lumpy*, *lungy*, *messy*, *oniony*, *treey*, *verminy*, *vipery* ; some are from verbs, as *dangly*. Contextually, the application of the suffix may be narrowed in any direction, as *mousy* = (1) resembling a mouse, (2) quiet as a mouse, or (3) infested with mice. A sense 'addicted to' (cf. 3), as in *booky*, *doggy*, *horsy*, is of modern growth.

1850 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 163 Citizen had brought me an oniony knife to cut the bread. 1859 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* ii. Bedsteads and washstands and bureaus—the very things that made up-stairs look so very bedroomy. 1891 M. MUSIEL DOWIE *Girl in Kerp.* xi. 64 Fretwork brackets and crystal lustre things.

**2.** In the 15th cent., if not earlier, certain monosyllabic adjs. were extended by means of this suffix, app. with the design of giving them a more adjectival appearance, e. g. *hugy* f. *huge*, *leany* f. *lean*. The majority of such words arose in the 16th and 17th cent. ; examples are : *bleaky*, *chilly*, *cooly*, *dusky*, *faintly*, *haughty*, *hoary*, *lanky*, *palyard*), *plumpy*, *slighty*, *slippery*, *stouty*, *swarthy*, *thicky*, *vasty*. In this application the suffix has not infrequently come to express much the same notion as *-ish* ; this is particularly so with colour-epithets, as *blacky*, *yellowy*, and esp. when these are used quasi-advb., as *greeny-blue*, *bluey-green*, *reddy-brown*.

**3.** As early as the 13th c. this suffix began to be used with verb-stems to express the meaning 'inclined or apt to' do something, or 'giving occasion to' a certain action ; in the Ancren Riwle alone we have *slibbri*, *stiddri*, *stugri*, *stummi*. Chaucer has *sleepy* = soporific. In the 16th cent. arose *choky*, *drowsy*, *slippy*, *sticky* ; later we find *blowzy*, *clingy*, *floaty*, *quavery*, *rollicky*. The immediate etymon of such adjs. cannot always be ascertained.

**4.** From the early years of the 19th cent. the suffix has been used still more freely in nonce-words designed to connote such characteristics of a person or thing as call for condemnation, ridicule, or contempt ; hence such adjs. as *beery*, *catty*, *churchy*, *jumpy*, *newspapery*, *peggy*, *tinny*.

**-y** *suffix* 2 (1–3 *-ian*, *-igan*, *-ia*, 2–4 *-ien*, *-ie*, 3 *-igen*, *-egen*, *-ye(n*, *-ie*, 3–4 4–5 *-cy*, 5–6 *-ye*, 5– *-y*) represents OE. infin. ending *-ian* of the 2nd class of weak verbs (having pa. t. in *-ode* and pa. pple. in *-od*), corresp. to OFris. *-ia*, OS. *-bian*, *-dn*, (MLG., MDu. *-en*), OHG. *-bn* (MHG., G. *-en*), Goth. *-bn* :— OTeut. **-ôjan*. This class of verbs is denominative ; e. g. OE. *sealfian* to anoint :— **salbôjan*, f. **salbô* ointment, salve, *hearpian* to harp, f. *hearpe* harp, and contains many intrans. verbs derived from adjs., e. g. *cêlian* to be cool (= OS. *côlôn*) :— **kôlôjan*, f. **kôlus* cool, *nearwian* to be narrow, f. *nearu* narrow ; it was swelled in prehistoric OE. by the passing over to it of many verbs that orig. belonged to the *-âjan* class, as *hâtian* :— **hâtôjan*, *-âjan* to hate (cf. OHG. *haʒʒôn* beside *haʒʒên*). Adoptions of foreign verbs were regularly taken into this class, e. g. OE. *fersian* to versify, (*ge*)*temprian* to moderate, *offrian* to sacrifice.

By the 13th century this suffix had become restricted to the southern and western districts of England, and in the course of the century became generalized in those parts as the infin. ending of all verbs of whatever origin. The following are some examples of the extension of its use : in verbs orig. belonging to other conjugations, *brukien* (OE. *brûcan*) to enjoy, *nemni* (OE. *nemnan*) to name (Layamon) ; in new derivatives on native stems, *chaffari* to chaffer (Ayenbite), *grundien* to sink (Layamon), *knistri* to knight (King Horn) ; in verbs from Scandinavian, *tastin* (ON. *lasta*) to blame, *trosti* (Ayenbite) ; in verbs from French, not only those in *-ier*, *-ir*, *-ire* (the similarity of which to the ME. suffix would naturally suggest adoption into the *-ien* conjugation), *boili* (OF. *boillir*) to boil, *consenti* (OF. *consentir*), *herberʒi* (OF. *herbergier*) to harbour, *sasi* (OF. *saisir*) to seize, *treiy* (OF. *traitiier*) to treat—including those of the *-ist-* conjugation, *norisi*, *norischa* (OF. *norriss-*) to nourish, *perisy* (OF. *perisс-*) to perish —but many also of other classes, *anuri* (OF. *anourer*) to worship, *fausie* (OF. *fauser*) to fail, *granti* (AF. *graunter*) to grant, *ioyni* (OF. *ioign-*) to join, *tempti* (OF. *tempter*) to tempt (these forms occur in various texts from Layamon to Ayenbite).

This suffix has been in continuous use in the south-west until the present day, when it is the regular infin. ending of verbs when used intrans. in the counties of Somerset, Devon, and Dorset. Examples and illustrations since 1400 are :—

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Gadere alle þe kreme in þe clothe, an let hongy on an pyn. *Ibid.* 21 Take Porke or Beef, whether þo lykey. 1484 *Churchm. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 113 To cook & tryly for Chibi that wase yxtole xijd. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 143 Thes wut rackee, and squattee, and doattee in the Chimley Coander lick an Aswaddle. 1863 RIMMER *Dorset Dial. W. Engg.* 7 Another peculiarity is that of attaching to many of the common verbs in the infinitive mode, as well as to some other parts of different conjugations, the letter *y*. Thus it is very common to say *I can't sewy*, *I can't nurvy*, *he can't reapy*, *he can't sowy* ; as well as *to sewy*, *to nurvy*, *to reapy*, *to sowy*, &c. but never, I think, without an auxiliary verb or the sign of the infinitive *to*. 1883 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* 28 The truth is, that in the Dorset the verb takes *y* only when it is absolute, and never with an accusative case. We may say, 'Can ye sewy ?' but never 'Will ye sewy up bedaes zeam ?' 'Will ye zew up theäse zeam ?' would be good Dorset. Belonging to this use of the free infinitive *y*-ended verbs, is another kindred use, the noun-like form or habit of the action, as 'How the dog do jumpy,' i. e. keep jumping. 'The child do like to whippy,' amuse himself with whipping. 'I do like shap, Mr.'s hedge,' he said to, (speak his time in fishing,) 'if you do leäve en alwone.' 'He do markety.' He attends market.

**-y** *suffix* 3 (also 3–7 *-ie*, 4–6 *-ye*) represents ultimately, through F. *-ie*, Com. Romanic *-ia* = L. *-ia*, which comprised under one graphic form the Greek suffixes *-ia* and *-εια*, as in L. *mania* = Gr. *μανία*, whence F. *manie*, ME. MANIE, L. *sympathia* = Gr. *συμπάθεια*, whence F. *sympathie*, Eng. SYMPATHY. Romanic *-ia* displaced L. *-tia* and became a living formative for abstract nouns of quality or condition ; e. g. in OF. from *corteis* (COURTEOUS) was formed *corteisie* COURTESY, from *fol* (FOOL), *folie* FOLLY, from *gelos* (JEALOUS), *gelosie* JEALOUSY, and the like. When learned adoptions were made of L. nouns in *-tia*, this suffix was also represented by *-ie*, and so assimilated to *-ia* ; e. g. F. *furie* FURY, ad. L. *furia* (whence also organic

OF. *futre*). In AF. preference was given to such forms as these over popular or semi-popular forms, e.g. AF. *accidie, gloria, estoria, victorie* = central F. *accide, gloire, estoire, victoire*, L. or mcd.L. *accidia, gloria, historia* (Gr. ἱστορία), *victōria*; it is the AF. forms of such words that were adopted into English (see ACCIDIA, GLORY, STORY, VICTORY).

There were various new formations in late or med.L., in Romanic, or in individual Romance languages; examples are Romanic **librārīa* LIBRARY, **poestía* (for *poestr*) POESY, OF. *navie* NAVY.

This suffix has never been in English a prolific formative, but from time to time new coinages have been made, e.g. in the 14th cent. *beggerie* BEGGARY and in the 16th COOPERY (= cooper's work or ware), *f. beggar* and *cooper*, both doubtless furthered by the prevalence of the suffix -ERY. Nonce-words like *orphanry* and *tenancy* are of doubtful status, but the correspondence of -ia, in *-ic* and *-ous* to sbs. in *-y* has made possible in modern times the formation after Gr. types of such words as *brachycephaly, gymnospermy, synchrony, syntony* from *brachycephalic, gymnospermous, synchronous, syntonic*. The domain of the suffix is much enlarged by its constituting the final element of many compound suffixes, which receive separate treatment in this Dictionary in their alphabetical places; e.g. -ACY, -CRY, -ERY, -GRAPHY, -LATRY, -LOGY, -MACHY, -PATHY, -PHAGY, -PHILY, -RY, -TOMY, -TONY.

Many important sbs. having this suffix appear as English adoptions of French words in the 13th century, as *barony, blasphemy, company, courtesy, felony, folly, jealousy, litany, story, villainy*; others, such as *comedy* and *tragedy, fury, glory, harmony, honesty, library, melancholy, memory, misery, navy, victory* date from the 14th century; in the 15th and 16th centuries another series of borrowings from French or from Latin appears, such as *family, industry, irony, liturgy, modesty*.

The majority denote a state, condition, or quality; others denote an activity or a result of it, as *blasphemy, felony, fury, harmony, history, liturgy, memory, phantasy, poesy, victory*. From either signification a definitely concrete meaning may be readily developed, which is found in *barony* (= baronial domain, body of barons), *company, family, library, navy, victory*, etc. The concrete application is abundantly illustrated also by names of countries, as †*Armony* (Armenia), *Italy*, †*Syrie* (Syria), *Brittany*; cf. -IA *suffix* 1.

**-y** *suffix* 6, representing, first through AF. forms in *-ie*, later by direct adaptation, L. *-ium*, which was added to verbal roots (primarily *i-* and *e*-stems) to denote an act, as in *beneficium* well-doing, good action, *f. beneficĕre* to do good, *colloquium* conference, conversation, *f. colloqui* to speak with, *gaudium* joy, *gaudēre* to rejoice, *suspirium* sigh, *f. suspirāre* to sigh. The earliest derivatives of this formation that were introduced into English are *remedy* (Ancren Riwle), through AF. *remedie*, from L. *remedium*, and †*sacrilegy* (early 14th c.), from AF. **sacrilegie* or L. *sacrilegium*. To both of these there are parallel forms, †*remede* and *sacrilege*, derived from continental Fr. forms *remede* and *sacrilege*; there are several similar pairs, of which the shorter form represents a continental Fr. form, the longer the corresponding AF. form or the orig. Latin, viz. †*augure* and *augury, benefice* and †*beneficie* (rare), †*collogue* and *colloquy, empire* (F. *empire*) and †*empery* (AF. *emperie*, L. *imperium*), *homicide* sb.[2] and †*homicidie* (rare), †*perjure* sb.[2] (rare) and *perjury*, †*subside* (*c* 1450–1553) and *subsidy*; †*ingeny* 'mind', 'intellect' has its etymological doublet in *engine* 'native talent, genius, ingenuity, mechanical contrivance'. Most of these words, together with *obloquy*, came into the language before 1500. †*Relevy* sb.[1] (med. L. *relevium*) and *suspiry* (L. *suspirium*) are rarities; *gaudy*, though partly from L. *gaudium*, is prob. of mixed origin; the derivation of *larceny* is somewhat obscure. *Horology*[1] (beside *horologe*) and *mystery*[1] are derived, through the medium of L. *-ium*, from Greek forms having the cognate termination *-ον*.

This cannot be said to have been at any time a living suffix in Eng., but there appears to have been reminiscence of its function, combined with the false analogy of words in -RY, in the coining of a few nouns from verbs ending in an *r*-sound, viz. *enquery* (*c* 1440), *inquery, inquiry* (16th c.), *f. enquere, inquire, aspiry* (from 1752) *f. aspire*, and a rare *transpiry f. transpire*. *Entreaty* (16th c.) is f. *entreat* vb. on the analogy of *treat, treaty*.

**-y** *suffix* 5, representing AF., OF. *-e, -ee*, mod.F. *-é, -ée* :— L. *-ātu-, -āta-* (see -ATE[1], -ATE[2]).

**a.** In sbs. = -ATE[1], as in (i) COUNTY[1], OF. *counte*, F. *comté*, L. *comitātus*, f. *comit-, comes* count, DUCHY, F. *duché*, L. *ducātus*, f. *duc-, dux* duke, TREATY, F. *traité*, L. *tractātus*, f. *tractāre* to treat, (ii) ARMY, F. *armée*, Romanic **armāta* armed force, *f. armāre* to arm, DELIVERY, AF. *delivree*, ppl. sb. f. *delivrer* to deliver, ENTRY, F. *entrée*, Romanic **intrāta*, f. *intrāre* to enter.

This suffix is represented under other forms in certain words, e.g. *assignee, committee, refugee* (F. *assigné, commis, refugié*), *attorney* (OF. *atorné*), *alley, journey, valley* (F. *allée, journée, vallée*).

**b.** In adjs. = -ATE[2], as in *easy*, OF. *aisié* (F. *aisé*), L. *aisier* to ease. There are few general adjs. of this kind, but there is a considerable number of heraldic descriptive terms having this termination, the earliest example of which is *ferrowndy* (14th cent.), *gernundi* (1486), GYRONNY, a. OF. *geronné, gironné*, f. *giron* GYRON. Early adoptions of this class have the ending *-e*, later *-ee*, and (as early as the Book of St. Albans, 1486) often *-i*, later *-y*. With some, *-y* has become the regular form, as *barry, bendy, fretty, fusilly, gyronny, lozenny, nowy, paly* adj.[2], *sarcelly*; others are found commonly with either *-i, -ée, -ee*, or *-y*, as *bolonde(-e, -y, checky, chequee, nebulé, -y, tenné, -y, undé(e, -y*, others, of more modern introduction, usually retain the French spelling, as *coupé, dancettée* (cf. † *dancy*), *écartelé, renversé, semé*; some have been anglicized with the native ppl. suffix, either temporarily or permanently, as †*besantid* (= *besanty*), *escarteled, paled* ppl. adj.[1], *resarcelled, sarcelled*. In *wavy* (after *undy*) we have a rare instance of an analogical use of the suffix with a sb. of native origin.

**-y** *suffix* 7. **-ie** (also 7–8 *-ee*, 7– *-ey*), used to form pet names and familiar diminutives. The forms *-y* and *-ie* are now almost equally common in proper names as such, but in a few instances one or other spelling is preferred, as *Annie, Betty, Sally* (rather than *Anny, Bettie, Sallie*); in the transferred applications of these, as *jemmy, tommy, dicky*, and the like, *-y* prevails; in general hypocoristic forms *-ie* is the favourite spelling after Scottish usage, as *dearie, mousie*. The use of *-ey* is subject to the same rules as for *-y suffix* [1].

The use of this suffix in pet forms of proper names is found in Sc. as early as 1400; and in the 15th and 16th centuries instances become frequent; examples are *Cryste, Cristi* (f. *Cristin, Cristian*), *Pery* (f. *Pere* Peter), *Sandy* (f. *Sandre* for *Alisandre* Alexander), *Jamy* (f. *James*), *Michy* (f. *Michel*), *Richy* (f. *Richard*), *Roby* (f. *Robert*), *Edi* (f. *Ede, Ade* Adam), *Anny* (f. *Anne*), *Bessy* (f. *Elicabeth*). Such names were prob. modelled orig. upon forms like *Davy, Murphy* = OF. *Davi, Murfi*, which have the appearance of being pet forms of *David, Mathon*. (Many have survived in Sc. surnames, as *Christie, Eadie, Pirrie, Ritchie, Christison, Mathieson, Robison*; *Davy* occurs as a surname in English use in the early 14th cent.)

The formation was greatly extended in Scottish and English use; whence *Annie*, BILLY, *Carrie* (f. *Caroline*), CHARLIE OR CHARLEY, *Fanny* (f. *Frances*), JANEY, JENNY, JIMMY, JOHNNY, NANNY, *Nellie* (f. *Ellen*), PATTY, *Reggie* (f. *Reginald*), TOMMY, *Willie*. Many female names have corresponding forms in Du. names with the suffix *-je*, as in *Antje* little house, f. *huis* HOUSE sb.[1]; e.g. *Betty, Elsie, Hetty, Katy, Lottie, Maity, Sally* correspond to Du. *Betje, Elsje, Jetje, Kaatje, Lotje, Matje, Sellie*; but there is no evidence of historical contact.

The earliest recorded instances of the use of such proper names as appellatives are Scottish and belong to the beginning of the 16th century: viz. *Lowrie* (f. *Lowrence* Laurence) used for 'fox'; *Katy* and *Kitty* (f. *Katherine*), with the meaning 'lass, wench', tending to a specifically depreciatory sense, 'wanton, loose woman', which senses belong also to the 18th century *Molly* and *Nanny* (as in *Nanny-house* brothel); a few female names, viz. *Molly* and (dialectally) *Peggy*, have been used to designate an effeminate type of man.

The application of the female names to birds dates, according to our evidence, from the close of the 16th century; the wren is designated by *Kitty* and (more commonly) *Jenny*; in 1616 Ben Jonson calls a parrot *Polly*; in modern dialects *Peggy* is applied to various warblers and the pied wagtail, and *Betty* to the hedge-sparrow. Then, in the course of the 17th century, these names came to be applied to various mechanical contrivances, among which machines for spinning processes and the burglar's jemmy are prominent. This transference of application is illustrated by *Betty* (a burglar's jemmy, 1700), *Jenny* (in SPINNING-JENNY, 1783), *Jinny* (a stationary engine at a mine), *Peggy* (a washing-tub dolly, in various dialects).

Among male names the following are typical: *Johnny* is used for fellow, chap, *Jemmy* for the burglar's weapon, *Billy* for a roving machine; *Bobby, Charley, Dicky, Georgie, Jacky, Jockey, Tommy* exhibit a great variety of modes of application.

The first known instance of the application of the suffix to a common noun is LADDIE which appears in 1546 in the form *laddy*, used by John Bale; but there is no evidence until the 18th century of the generalization of *-y* for pet diminutives. Early instances are *dummie* (1595), *grannie* (1663), *dearie* (1681), *mousie* (1693, Sc.); *laddie, lassie*, and *sweetie* were used by Allan Ramsay, and these, with Burns's *birdie* and *mousie*, helped to popularize such formations in English generally; hence the appearance in the late 18th and early 19th century of *cooky, doggie, froggy, mannie, stawey*. In *blacky* and *darky* = 'nigger' there remains something of the status of a proper name; cf. *Patty* as a nickname. *Bookie* for *bookmaker* is a formation of a rare type; cf. *nighty* for *nightdress*.

1885 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Apr. 509/2 No rowdy ring, but a few quiet and well-known 'bookies', who were ready enough to lay the odds to a modest fiver.

There are two words that are generally held to contain this suffix, viz. *baby* (late 14th c.) and *puppy* (late 15th c.). With *baby* may perhaps be coupled *daddy* and *mammy*, although the evidence for these is not earlier than the 16th century; the pairs *babe* and *baby, dad* and *daddy, mam* and *mammy*, may have resulted from different phonetic reductions of original reduplicated forms, viz. **baba* (cf. BABAU), **dada*, **mama*. The source of *puppy* (spelt *popi* in the Ilk. St. Albans) is doubtful; *pup* is a back-formation from it.

**Yā**: see ONE, YAH, YE, YEA, YOU.

**Yabber** (yæ·bəɹ), *sb. Australia.* [‘It is pronounced by the aborigines *yabba*, without a final *r*. *Ya* is an aboriginal stem, meaning to speak’ (Morris *Austral Eng.*).] Speech, language, talk: applied to the speech of the Australian aborigines. So **Yabber** *v.* (*intr.* and *trans.*), to talk, esp. in an aboriginal Australian language.

1874 BEVERIDGE *Lost Life* III. 37, I marked Much yabber that I did not know. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Austral. Life* 19 They yabbered unsuspiciously to each other. *Ibid.* 28 Longing to fire a volley at Black's pate across a London dinner-table. 1887 FARRELL *How He Died* 196 He's yabbering some sort of stuff in his sleep. 1888 ‘R. BOLDREWOOD’ *Robbery under Arms* xxvii, They could speak a little Spanish and French, and got on with them. But Jim and I could only stare and stand open-mouthed...while they'd yabber away quite comfortable.

**Yabble**, Sc. var. GABBLE *sb.* and *v.*; hence **Yabbler** = GABBLER. (Cf. *yab, yabber* = GAB, GABBER.)

1808 JAMIESON, To *yabble*, *v. n.*, to gabble, Fife. 1819 W. TENNANT *Paptistry Storm'd* (1850) 19 And thae nic skellochin' and shout,...Was never nic a yabble! 1831 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xi, There was a general...clustering about him...as Samie 'yabbled' out the particulars. 1901 LAWSON *Remin. Dollar Acad.* 61 An outpost of these cacklers and yabblers sounded the alarm.

**‖ Yaboo** (yabū·). Also 8 **yabou**, 9 **yabu**. [Hindustani = Persian یابو *yābū*.] One of a breed of large ponies or small stout horses in Afghanistan, Persia, and adjacent countries.

1733 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. vii. 367 *note*, There are in the highland country of Kandahar and Cabul a small kind of horses called yabous, which are very serviceable. 1832 *Lit. Souvenir* 153 What in England would have been termed a capital punch pony,—in Persia, a good stout yaboo. 1880 in Ld. Roberts *41 Years in India* (1897) II. 353 Yabus 1,592, mules and ponies 5,026.

**‖ Yacca** (yæ·kă). [Native name.] A West Indian evergreen tree, of either of two species of *Podocarpus* (*P. coriacea* and *P. Purdieana*, N. O. *Taxaceæ*), or its wood, used in cabinet-work, etc. Also *attrib.*

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 109 Yacca Wood, or Yacber, from Jamaica, is sent in short crooked pieces like roots. 1884 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 389 Yacca tree, *Podocarpus coriacea*. 1890 H. THOMAS *Untrodden Jamaica* 20 A gate composed of closely set palas of Yacca.

**Yacht** (yɒt), *sb.* Forms: 6 **yeagh**, 7 **yoath, yolke**[1], **yaugh, yaught, yought, y(e)aught, y(e)aughte**, (*Sc.* **u(e)aught**, with *z* for *y*), **yauoht, jacht, ysch, (yaoth), yat, yott**, 7–9 **yatcht, yatch** (*pl.* 7–8 **yatchs**, 8 **yatches**), 7– **yacht**. [ad. early mod. Du. *jaght(e* (now *jacht*) = *jaghtschip* (lit. ship for chasing), light sailing vessel, fast piratical ship, f. *jag(h)en* hunting, chase (= G. *jagd*), f. *jagen* to

hunt, chase (see *-t suffix* 3 a). Owing to the presence in the Du. word of the unfamiliar guttural spirant denoted by *g(h)*, the English spellings have been various and erratic; how far they represent varieties of pronunciation it is difficult to say. That a pronunciation (*yɑt*) or (*yatʃ*), denoted by *yatch*, once existed seems to be indicated by the plural *yatches*; it may have been suggested by *catch, ketch*

The word has been adopted in many European languages: F. *yacht* (yak), G. *jacht*, *-yacht(schiff)*, Da. *jagt*, MSw. *jacht* (15th c.), Icel., Sw. *jakt*, Sp. *yacte*, *yate*, *yat*, Pg. *hiate*, Russ. ЯХТА.]

A light fast-sailing ship, in early use esp. for the conveyance of royal or other important persons; later, a vessel, usually light and comparatively small, propelled by motive power other than oars, and used for pleasure excursions, cruising, etc., and now esp. one built and rigged for racing.

1557 *Voy. Stephan Burrough* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 204 A barke which was of 18 tronton, and three or foure Norway yeaghes, belonging to Northberne. 1613 Phineas Pett *Autobiogr.* (Navy Rec. Soc. 1918) 209 [We anchored thwart of Shiis, where came on board us with his wife and sonne (the Prince of Orange]. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 118, I esteemed he came to spie..whether our shipp and the Dutch yaught staid for us to take the Amacon shipp. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories in India* (1909) 203 This small shippe or yolke is mostly ladne with pepper. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 40 The Emperour (who yet had never greater vessell than a Yacht or Vaugh upon the Danuby). 1645 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* XLVIII. 129 Paid for tow and nails used about my Lords Yought at Pemsie. *Ibid.*, To smrig my Lord's Yaught. 1660 Sir W. Lower *Voy. Chas. II*, 13 Jachts or pinnaces. 1664 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* (1840) II. 518 To the sailors whair his Lordship break-fast in the Zaught ost 1 vol. The sailleris of the Zaught at Owlage 003 12 00. 1666 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 20 Gunner of his Majestie's vessell the Mary yaucht. 1673 H. Stubbe *Dutch War Refl.* 5 They who had struck their Flags..unto a Ketch of two Guns in the time of Cromwel, refuse to do it unto a Yacht of his Majesties. 1678 R. Ferrier *Jrnl.* 25 in *Camden Misc.* (1853) IX. A fair small River which ye Yatch has been cut to take his pleasure on, there being severall yotts. 1680 Albop *Mischief Impos.* vi. 36 A..Man of War as big as 2 or 3 Yachts. 1688 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 859 About 20 small smacks and yats in the Downs. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Oct. 1661, I sailed this morning with his Majesty in one of his Yatchts (for pleasure) which was indeed not known among us till the Dutch East India Company presented that curious piece to the King. 1702 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Yatches*, are Vessels with one Deck carrying but 3 or 12 Guns, with from 20 to 40 Men; and are of Burden from 30 to 160 Tun. 1766 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 137/1 Admiral Keppel set out for Harwich, to take the command of the yatchs intended to carry over her K. Highness the Princess Carolina Matilda to Holland. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., The royal yachts are commonly rigged as ketches, except the principal one reserved for the sovereign, which is equipped with three masts like a ship. 1790 H. Walpole *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 10 July, The river was covered with little yatches and boats. 1811 *Self Instructor* 589 The Dutch yatchts are chiefly used on their rivers and canals. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xxiii. 602 A yacht now with every luxury of life can circumnavigate the globe.

**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yacht-berth*, *-builder*, *-building*, *-club*, *-race*, *-racing*, *-sailing*, *-sailor*, *-squadron*.

1846 Mrs. Gore *Cecil Char.* (1850) 46 Insensible to the perils of any uneasy yacht-berth. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 195 The Sweden is skilful yacht-builders. 1869 217 The progressive improvement in yacht-building during the last twenty years. 1837 in *Yachting* (Hadm. Libr.) II. 12 That the Commodore be requested to seek an..audience with Her Majesty, with a view to the continuance of the Royal Cup to be presented to the 'Yacht Club at Cowes. 1867 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 291 The American 'yacht race is the last sensation. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 196 We do not mean to say that 'yacht-racing has wholly escaped those sharp practices. 1833 W. H. Maxwell *Field Sk.* Introd., 'Yacht-sailing has been slightly noticed. 1847 Marryt *Yachts and Yacht Bldg.* Introd. p. ix, The designer [of a yacht] should..be..an experienced 'yacht sailor. *Ibid.* 14 For many years after the establishment of the Royal 'Yacht Squadron.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Ya'chtdom**, **Ya'chtery**, yachts collectively; **Ya'chtian**, **Ya'chtist**, a yachtsman; **Ya'chtling**, a little yacht; **Ya'chty**, *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of a yacht.

1901 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 1/3 A yacht for her Majesty that would eclipse all examples in modern 'yachtdom for luxurious comfort and sea-going qualities. 1861 J. G. Francis *Beach Rambles* 60 The flower of the 'yachtery of England. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 419 The assembled Thames 'yachtians. 1895 *Nat. Observer* 21 Sept. 542 They sent the way all 'yachtlings go. 1872 *Daily News* 21 Aug., The tiny 'yachtlings (the largest of them measures but 80 tons, the smallest but four or five). 1890 *Field* 27 Feb. 270/2 The latest craft on the stocks—though of size that might be called 'yachty'—is..thoroughly of the canoe family.

**Yacht** (*yɒt*), *v.* [f. prec. ab., or back-formation from Yachting *sb.*] *intr.* To make a trip in a yacht. (Chiefly in gerund or pres. pple.)

1838 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xix, We must swear that it is a party of pleasure, and that we are gentlemen yachting. 1858 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 243 Sir James Brooke..not content with yachting it about amidst orange flowering groves,..conceived a great work amongst the Malay race. 1863 Speke *Jrnl.* 260 Sometimes the king spends a fortnight yachting. 1867 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Jan. 1/2 The only one of the owners who *yachted* as well as raced, by being on board his own craft.

**Yachter** (*yɒ'tər*). [f. Yacht *sb.* or *v.* + -er 1.] One who makes a trip in a yacht; a yachtsman.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 341 Several East India ships..with such saucy rigging that would have made the Yachters raving in envy. 1852 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 5/4 When in Bombay he was an enthusiastic yachter.

**Yachting** (*yɒ'tiŋ*), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yacht *sb.* or *v.* + -ing 1.] The action, practice, or amusement of cruising in a yacht; the art of navigating a yacht.

1828 Marryat *Three Cutters* i, Of all amusements, give me yachting. 1874 Burnand *My Time* xxix. 279 He..never missed a season's yachting with them.

*attrib.* 1844 Dickens *A.N.* v, A yachting voyage. 1858 A. K. H. Boyd *Last. Mid. Age* 327 We had a pleasant yachting excursion. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 463/2 Invited to a yachting party. 1887 *Times* 27 Aug. 9 A sad yachting disaster occurred at Ilfracombe.

So **Ya'chting** *ppl. a.*, that sails in a yacht; addicted to yachting.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxix, Yachting men from Southampton. 1862 *Land. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 The yachting world is very variously composed.

**Yachtman** (*yɒ't*mæn). Now *rare*. Pl. **-men**. [f. Yacht *sb.* + Man *sb.*1] = Yachtsman.

1820 *Examiner* No. 662, 807/1 The Royal Yachtman. 1858 Strickland *Queens Eng.* (1877) I. 1 A variety of sails called flying-jibs, &c., which vary with every yachtman's fancy. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 203 First-class yachtmen from Harwich.

**Yachtsman** (*yɒ'tsmæn*). Pl. **-men**. [f. gen. of Yacht *sb.* + Man *sb.*1] A man who owns, manages, or sails in a yacht; one addicted to yachting.

1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 It..requires a combination of those attributes which distinguish the modern Briton to make a great yachtsman or a genuine yachtsman. 1868 *Trollope's Brit. Sports* 219 Nine out of ten yachtsmen build or buy their vessels in the dark.

Hence **Ya'chtsmanship**, the practice or skill of a yachtsman.

1862 Vanderbecken (*title*) The Yacht Sailor; a treatise on Practical Yachtsmanship. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Sept. 4/2 The partisans of English yachtsmanship.

So **Ya'chtswoman** (*yɒ'tswʊmən*). Pl. **-women**.

1888 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 294/1 The Sea-Eagle..is much exposed to the attacks of marauding yachtsmen and yachtswomen. 1900 *Daily Tel.* 29 Jan. 6/6 A well-known American yachtswoman.

**Yack** (*yæk*). A syllable imitative of a snapping sound; hence as vb.

1861 Meredith *Evan Harrington* xli, Tom..with a sound translated by 'yack', sent his leg out a long way. 1893 W. Cory *Lett.* & *Jrnls.* (1897) 318 He opens his beak, and yacks like the young jackdaw.

**Yack**, var. Yerk, to bent; dial. f. Oak.

**Yad**, obs. pa. t. of Go.

1444 in Ricton *Lynol Manic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffe..yadde at the West Derby fen. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1193 His squiers habite he had, Whan he to the deyse yad.

**Yad**, var. Yaud *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, mare.

**Yadder**, var. Edder: see Yedder *sb.* and *v.*

**Yao**, Sc. dial, var. Ae *a.*, one, only. Hence **Yaofaultness**, 'onefoldness', simplicity.

*a* 1572 *Bonny Hind* viii. in Child *Ballads* (1884) I. 446/2 I'm Lord Randal's yae daughter, He has nae mair nor me. 1864 J. Brown *Jeanie* 8 His absolute downrightness and yaefaultness.

**Yaf**, **yafe**, obs. pa. t. of Give *v.*

**Yaff** (*yæf*), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Echoic: cf. Yaffle *v.* and Waff.] *intr.* To bark, yelp; also, to prate, nag. Hence **Ya'ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Ya'ff**, a bark or yelp.

1609 *Ravenscroft's Deuteromelia* 21 With all the hounds at her tail! With 'yaffle a yaffe! yaffle a yaffe!' 1808 Jamieson, To *Yaff*, ..t. To bark,..to yelp,..2. To prate, to talk pertly. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* i, Will ye no let me hear what the man wants, wi' your yaffing? 1844 G. J. Pennington *Pronunc. Gk.* 52 A yaffing cur. 1910 G. J. Laurie in *Trans. Dumfries Gal. Soc.* He'll row for fun among the snaw And syne yaff at the moon.

**Yaffe**, obs. pa. t. of Give.

**Yaffingale** (*yæ'fiŋgel*). *s.* and *v.sc. dial.* Also 7 **yippingale**, 9 **yelpingal**, **yappingal**(e. [f. various echoic syllables with termination modelled on *nightingale*.] The green, woodpecker; = Yaffle *sb.*

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* vii. § 5. H 5 b, The woodpecker or yippingale. 1802 [see Yaffle *sb.*1]. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 35 Mr. Matthew Arnold has very lustily praised Maurice de Guérin for his gamekeeper of the woodpecker's haunt. But the West-country peasant ages ago called it the 'yaffingale', that is, the laugh-singer. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* I. 140 The yaffingale, or woodpecker's haunt. 1891 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 606 The garnet-headed yaffingale. 1892 *Berksh. Glost., Wyllingal*, the woodpecker. 1906 G. A. B. Dewar *Forty Year* 158 The statement of the gamekeeper that he had seen a 'black yappingal'.

**Yaffle** (*yæ'fl*), *sb.*1 *dial.* Also **-el**, **-il**. [Echoic of the laughing cry of the bird: cf. Yaffle *v.* (See also Hickwall.).] The green woodpecker.

1798 Charlotte Smith *Desmond* I. 173, I remember the cry of the wood-peckers, or yaffils, as we call them in that country [*sc.* Kent]. 1802 Montagu *Gemith. Dict.* (1831) 385 Green Woodpecker..Yappingale. Yaffle or Yaffler. 1856 Kingsley *South Wind* ii. Poems (1889) 290 O blessed yaffil, laughing loud! 1893 D. Jordan & Jean A. Owen *Forest Tribes* 106 On their grey trunks the yaffle shins about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

**Yaffle**, *sb.*2 *dial.* [f. Yaffle *v.*] A bark, a yelp.

1856 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 662 My faithful dog..sent up a loud 'yaffle'. 1898 Aird *Winter Day* Poet. Wks. 192 The petulant yaffle of the cottage cur.

**Yaffle**, *v. dial.* [Echoic.] *intr.* a. To bark sharply, as a dog; to yelp. (Cf. Yaff *v.*) b. To talk indistinctly, to mumble. c. Of a woodpecker: To utter its characteristic cry. (Cf. Yaffle *sb.*1, Yaffler.) Hence **Ya'ffling** *ppl. a.*

1847 Halliwell, *Yaffle*, ..to bark. Same as *Yaff*. 1848 A. H. Evans *Leicestersh. Words, Yaffle*, to yelp, or bark like a little dog...A yaffling little cur. 1875 *Auderida* xvi. II. 96 Then came three or four sounding taps from a woodpecker's beak, and a yaffling laugh as he flew away. 1887 *Lpool Daily Post* 12 Aug. 4/5 Yaffling little pet dogs.

**Yaffler** (*yæ'flər*). *dial.* [f. Yaffle *v.* + -er 1.] The green woodpecker: = Yaffle *sb.*1

1820 [see Yaffle *sb.*1]. 1840 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* III. 91 *Picus viridis*. The Green Woodpecker,..Yaffler. Yappingale. 1863 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 70 Ta'n't a yaffler's pecul'; it's a black and white woodpecker's. 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Feb. 169/1, I thought that would touch you, woodpecker! Ha, ha,—who's the yaffler now?

† **Y-aforsayde** (Y- as y-aforsayde tides bene the foure cardynall vertues.

**Yager** (*yē'gər*). Anglicized spelling of Ger. *jäger*, *jæger*: see Jæger 1, 2.

1804 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 434/2 The light companies and yagers were sent out and skirmished. 1809 Byron *Bards* & *Rev. Notes*, Av. All hail, M. P.!..At whose command 'grim women' throng in crowds,..With 'small but sweet attention', 'wild yagers', and what not. 1809 Campbell *Lett. Wyom.* iii. xxi, And first the wild Moravian yagers pass. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 562/1 The Uhlans, and the 10th regiments of foot Yagers, and Polish Foles are nearly cut up. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* V. lvii. 176 He [*sc.* the landgrave] bargained to supply four hundred Hessian yagers, armed with rifles.

**b.** A rifle. *U. S.*

1840 C. F. Hoffman *Greyslaer* I. i, He instantly brought his yager to his shoulder. 1848 H. W. Herbert *Field Sports U. S.* II. 294 Throughout the whole South-West, ..the *yager*, as it is called, or short-barrelled, large-bored piece, is universally preferred.

**Yager**, **yagger**, var. Jaeger 3.

**Yaggey**, var. Jaguey *dial.*, pedlar.

1821 Scott *Pirate* v, I would take the lad for a yagger, but he has rather over good havings, and has no pack.

**Yagourdi**, **-undi**, var. Jaguarondi.

**Yah** (*yā*), *int.*1 (and *sb.*). Also **ya**, **yar**. [Echoic.] An exclamation of disgust, contempt, or malicious defiance. Also a vague or meaningless exclamation used by or attributed to negroes.

1812 H. & J. Smith *Rej. Addr., Rebuilding* v, While shout and scoff, Ya! ya! ya! off! off! Like thunderbolt on Surya's ear-drum fell. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxii, 'A very excellent lodger, sir. I hope we may not lose him.' 'Yah!' cried the dwarf. 'Never thinking of anybody but yourself.' 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* iv. He turned to Tom, and bit the professor's finger till it bled. 'Oh! ah! yah!' cried he. *Ibid.* v, 'Yar!'..'you little meddlesome wretch.' 1865 Reade *Hard Cash* xl, 'What him mean? what him mean? Yah! yah!' 1868 Rolfe Lee *B. Confed. Negro*, Gerrard, with a 'yah!' of repulsion, dropped the thing. 1890 Henty *With Lee in Virg.* 209 'Yah!' the old man shouted. 'Do you suppose we are going to listen to you?'

Hence **Yah** *v. intr.*, to shout 'yah!' *nonce-wd.*

1904 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Jan. 102 Yahing at Russia and cheering the 'brave little Japs'.

**Yah**, *int.*2 Repeated, *yah! yah!*, denoting a perverted or affected pronunciation of 'hear! hear!'

1886 H. W. Lucy *Diary Gladstone Parlt.* 340 There are cheers of various kinds. There is Mr. Alderman Fowler's deep-chested 'Yah, yah, yah!' 1888 *Pall Mall Mag.* I. 131/1, I used to call out Yah! yah! as I do in House of Commons.

**Yah** (yā, ya), *adv.* Dialectal for 'yea' or 'yes'; or in representations of Ger. or Du. speech. Cf. the earlier Yaw *adv.*

1883 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* iv, 'Yah! yah! I hold a light; put in one of the Boers. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Apr. 5/1 'Yah,' which the rustics of the Peak frequently use for 'Yes,' and which they employed exclusively thirty years ago. 1903 *Ibid.* 23 May 4/3 America has a habit of saying 'yes.' One of them is 'yep' and the other is 'yah.'

**Yahoo** (*yahū'*), *sb.* A name invented by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* for an imaginary race of brutes having the form of men; hence *transf.* and *allusively*, a human being of a degraded or bestial type. (Cf. Houyhnhnm.)

1726 Swift *Gulliver* iv. ii, The Fore-feet of the Yahoo differed from my Hands in nothing else, but the Length of the Nails, the Coarseness and Brownness of the Palms, and the Hairiness on the Backs. 1727 Kent *Corinna* I. 5. 28 At the expence of disgracing reason and human nature, and making mankind yahoos. 1772 Graves *Spir. Quix.* iv. x, To see a noble creature in a stable, as the passionate exclamation of a mere Yahoo of a stable-boy. 1829 Macaulay *Mill on Govt. Misc. Writ.* (1860) 143/1 Because civilised men, pursuing their own happiness in a social state, are not Yahoos fighting for carrion. 1861 H. Kingsley *Ravenshoe* iv, 'And what sort of fellow is he?..a Yahoo, I suppose?' 'Not at all; he is..a perfect gentleman.' 1904 Ashmore *Last Rec. Cotswold Community* p. xxiii, To have..the pleasant valleys of Saintbury and Weston tramped by armed bands of Birmingham yahoos.

*attrib.* 1726 Swift *Gulliver* iv, Iv, I told him, we had great Numbers [of Houyhnhnms]..[that] Yahoo-Servants were employed to rub their Skins smooth [etc.]. 1738 *Ibid., Let. to Sympson*, I must..confess, that..some Corruptions

of my Yahoo Nature have revived in me. 1721 Wᴀʜᴛᴏɴ *Neumarket* 192 That hated animal, a Yahoo-Squire. 1888 F. Hᴀʀʀɪsᴏɴ in *Forts. Rev.* Nov. 611 Pessimist pictures of human destiny and Ya-hoo theories of human life.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Yahoo'** *v. intr.*, to behave like a yahoo; **Yahoo-dom**, the realm of yahoos, yahoos collectively; **Yahoo-ish** *a.*, resembling or characteristic of a yahoo; **Yahoo-ism**, style or quality characteristic or suggestive of a yahoo.

1888 Vᴀᴛᴇs *Rock Ahead* 11, 7, A dun low-bred lot, 'ya-hoosin' all over the place. 1906 *Sun* (N. Y.) 17 Aug. 4/1 One dictum in a Judge's mouth can...unleash all 'Yahoodom. 1887 Mᴀsᴏɴ *Corfe-Mullen* 37 The Infrahuman, the 'Yahooish, the diabolic. 1882 Rᴏsᴇᴛᴛɪ in *Fraser's Mag.* July 70 Those 'Yahooisms' are degrading in art. 1901 *Speaker* 5 Jan. 374/1 In the '*Scotsman*' we have Yahooism militant.

**Yahvah, -vism**, etc., **-wah**, etc.: see Jᴇʜᴏᴠᴀʜ, Jᴀʜᴠɪsᴍ.

**Yai**, graphic variant of *Jai*, obs. f. Tʜᴇʏ: see Tʜ and Y.

**Yaid, yaid**, var. Yᴀᴜᴅ.

**Yaik, yaik**, obs. Sc. f. Aᴄʜᴇ *v.* **Yalling**, variant of Yɪʟʟɪɴɢ.

**† Yain**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **gigeonian**, 3 **ageine, ȝene, 4 ȝeyne, ȝayne.** [OE. (Northumb.) *gigeonian*, **ongeynian*, corresp. to OHG. *gaganan, gagenan*, ON. *gegna* (whence Gᴀɪɴ *adv.*).]

1. *trans.* To meet, encounter, oppose.

*a* 1000 *Kl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 45/15 [*Puttita*] *obviabit illi quasi mater honorificata*, [sc8ſ:estnit] ȝiȝeȝnaȝ him sveoice moder arwyrðe. *c* 1205 Lay. 17854 He...ȝeinieden þere ueorðe þe leomen wes to ȝeine. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 845 Abid abid me shal þe ȝeine (*v.r.* yene). 23.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1724 Loude he was ȝayned, with ȝarande speche.

**2.** *intr.* To avail: = Gᴀɪɴ *v.*¹ 1.

*c* 1385 *Minor Poems Ch. Vernon MS.* 661 For heer but ȝif we make vs mene, Per may no milit ne ȝifte ȝeyne.

**Yair, yare** (yēə). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 2–3 **ihar, yhar**, 3 **yhare, (yere)**, 3–9 **yare**, 4 **yar**, 4–6 **yaire**, 5 **ȝar**, 6–9 **yair**, 9 **year**. [OE. *gear*, *ger*, recorded in comb. *mylenȝear*, *-ger* 'mill-yair'.] An inclosure extending into a tide-way in a river or on the sea-shore, for catching fish; a fishgarth.

1178–1229 *Chartulary of Abbey of Lindores* (S.H.S.) 11 Omnes piscarias in they...preter vnam piscariam meam, scilicet, vnam iharam ad colcirke. *c* 1200 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 15 Piscariam in Berewic [Tynemouth] cum Hames ihare et Burnemuth yare. 1369 *Rec. Mag. Stg. Scot.* (1814) 66/1 Cum piscariis infra aquas de Northesk, et Suthesk, in croiis, yaris, et fixis. 1408 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 53 In cccc speryinges de nostro ȝar, ijs. 1512 *Sexh. Rolls Scot.* XIII. 443 *note*, With all woddis, forestis, waterris, lowis, yairis and fischingis thairof bath in fresch watir and in salt. 1580 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 553 The demoleschenig and doun casting of the cruvis and yairis on the watter of Forth. *c* 1680 *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 11 Some of them [sc. herrings] are taken in the Yairs. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* I. 282 There are a good number of salmon caught on the sea coast [Kilearn] ...by means of stakes, or small inclosures, built in a curve or semicircular form near the shore. At high water the salmon come within these yairs, and at low water is easily taken. 1793 *Ibid.* VIII. 597 They erect what are called *yares*, a sort of scaffold projecting into the water; upon which they build little huts...; from these scaffolds they let down...their nets. 1883 *Standard* 30 May 3/6 He ...destroyed a yare in which they often caught a number of herrings.

**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **yair-fishing**, fishing by means of yairs; **yair-not**, a long net fixed by poles and extending into a river so as to form a yair.

1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 217 The Zair or Yair Fishings, so productive in that quarter [sc. Cardross]. 1809 *State v. Leslie & Fowls* 109 (Jam.) The yare-net is about thirty-six fathoms in length, and about two and one-half fathoms in depth. *Ibid.* 356 The...yare nets extend at least three fourths across the channel of the river.

**Yair**, graphic variant of *Jair*, obs. f. Tʜᴇɪʀ, Tʜᴇʀᴇ: so **yairfor, yairof**, etc., obs. Sc. ff. Tʜᴇʀᴇғᴏʀᴇ, Tʜᴇʀᴇᴏғ, etc. **Yait**(t: see Gᴀᴛᴇ, Gᴀᴛᴛ.

**Yak** (yæk, yăk). Thibetan *gyag* (Jäschke.)] A bovine animal (*Poephagus grunniens*), found wild and domesticated in Tibet and other high regions of central Asia, having the body and tail covered with long silky hair, which is made into various fabrics; the tails are used for decoration, and in India as fly-flappers (see Chowry).

1799 S. Tᴜʀɴᴇʀ *Embassy Tibet* (1800) 186 The black chowry-tailed cattle...the Yak of Tartary. 1821 Tᴏᴡɴsᴇɴ *Trav. Tartary* etc. 123 The oxen mostly used in Ladak are hybrids between the yak and the common cow. 1823 Dᴜɴᴍᴏʀᴇ *Pennies* I. 246, I remuneratively yak. 1908 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 163/1 Only in the valleys does scanty scrub give sustenance to the yaks, on whose services the travellers depended.

**b.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yak corps, -hair, -tail*; **yak lace,** a heavy kind of lace made from the hair of the yak.

1906 *Times* 18 Jan. 5/6 The transport difficulties are still enormous, though the Yak Corps is working well. 1908 E. Cᴀɴᴅʟᴇs *Unveiling of Lhasa* xiv. 268 A heavy curtain of yak-hair hangs above the entrance-gate. 1882 Cᴀᴜʟғɪᴇʟᴅ & Sᴀᴡᴀʀᴅ *Dict. Needlework* 525 *Yak Lace*...is a coarse Pillow Lace, made in Buckinghamshire and Northampton. ..The material used is from the fine wool of the Yak. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 42 Strange gifts from the East..*yak*-tails and peacock feathers.

**Yak**, obs. Sc. f. Aᴄʜᴇ *v.*; dial. f. Oᴀᴋ.

‖ **Yakamik** (yæ·kămik). Native name of a South American bird allied to the cranes, *Psophia crepitans*, also called Trumpeter, domesticated by the Indians. In recent Dicts.

**Yakmak**, erron. form of Yᴀsʜᴍᴀᴋ.

**Yald**, obs. f. Oʟᴅ *a.*, Yᴀᴜᴅ; var. Yᴀᴜʟᴅ *a.*; Sc. pa. t. of Yɪᴇʟᴅ *v.*

**Yaldran, -drin**, var. Yᴏʟᴅʀɪɴɢ.

**Yale** (yēl). Also 5 **gaill, gale**, 6 **gall, 7 yeale.** [ad. L. *gale* (Pliny *Nat. Hist.*).] A fabulous beast with horns and tusks, perhaps the two-horned rhinoceros; used *Her.* (see quot. 1910).

*c* 1405 Wʏɴᴛᴏᴜɴ *Cron.* I. ix. 754 In to þat lande [sc. India] þai say sulde be Ane oþer best, callyt Eale [*v. r.* Ane oþir beist is calit Gaill Into þat land feroutim failȝ]. Pat is lik al til a hors..And has a gret tusk as a bare...And in his hewide ar lornys twa. 1536 in *Archæologia* (1910) LXII. 312 Paid to Ric. Bydge...for iyke cuttyng carvyng...and makyng of ..and jall and Iconcorne a dragon, a lyan & greyhonde[etc.]. [1601 Hᴏʟʟᴀɴᴅ *Pliny* VIII. xxi. I. 206] *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 264 The Ethiopian yeale hath two hornes of a cubit longe. 1910 *Archæologia* 313 The jall or yale...is a rare and strange animal partaking of the nature of the heraldic antelope, that is to say, having tusks like a boar's, the tail of a porpiscine kind, and the hide is silver beaunty, that is, white with yellow spots. He is one of the supporters of the Dukes of Somerset. *Ibid.* 314 *note*, The jall occurs as one of the supporters of the arms of the Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII.

**Yale, yall**, obs. forms of Aʟᴇ, Yᴀᴡʟ.

**Yalloch, Yal(l)ow, Yalp**: see Yᴇʟʟᴏᴄʜ, Yᴇʟʟᴏᴡ, Yᴀʟᴘ.

**Yalt, obs.** pa. t. of Yɪᴇʟᴅ *v.*

**Yam**[1] (yæm). Forms: [6 **nname, inany, ignane, iniamo**, 6–7 **inamia**, 6–8 **igname**, 7 **ignaman, ighname, iniamu**, 7–8 **inhame**], 7 **yeam's, yeams, yeaum, jaeoo**, 7–8 **yame**, 8 **jamme, jamb, guam** (f), **yamm**, 7– **yam**. [a. Fg. *inhame* (Clusius 1567) or Sp. *iguame* (Scaliger 1557), *iñame*, **name*, whence F. *igname* (Thevet 1575); the ultimate origin is uncertain.

The foll. quots. contain unanglicized forms :—

1588 Hɪᴄᴋᴏᴄ tr. *Frederick's Voy. E. Indies* 18 A fruite called Inamia (in Spanish)...like to Quinces. 1598 — The fruit is very sweete and good to eate. 1588 Pᴀʀᴋᴇ tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* Comm. xi. 342 These people [sc. of the Philippine Islands] more esteeme yron than siluer or golde, and giue for it fruites called in Spanish Sp. *Nanoes*, Ynames, fish. 1598 in Hakluyt (*1599*) II. ii. 199 Their bread is a kind of roots, they call it *Inamita*, and when it is well sodden I would take one of them for a Pippin. 1625 Pᴜʀᴄʜᴀs *Pilgrimes* v. *Jolonen's Voy.* I. iv. 99/2 Iniamos were this yeare brought hether out of Guinea, as bigge as a mans legge. 1660 J. Pᴏʀᴛ tr. *Leo's Africa* Descr. Places 35 They haue good sustenance also by meanes of a root, called there Igname, but in the west Indies Batata. 1640 Pᴀʀᴋɪɴsᴏɴ *Theat. Bot.* xv. xxix. 1183 This manner of planting this Inhame sauoureth something of that of the Mandrake or Yucca, whereof the Cassavi is made. 1669 *Golden Coast* 65 The Battatas are ...in form almost like Inhames. 1703 Pᴇᴛɪᴠᴇʀ in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1460 A sort of Inhame *swiga* Yam or Potatoe. 1705 tr. *Adanson's Voy. Senegal* 165 The roots of manioc, igname [Fr.], and batatoe maltatoe equally in open places.]

**1.** The starchy tuberous root of various species of *Dioscorea*, largely cultivated as a staple food in tropical and subtropical countries, where it takes the place of the potato; also, any plant of the genus *Dioscorea* (or, by extension, of the N. O. *Dioscoreaceæ*), comprising twining herbs or shrubs with spikes of small inconspicuous flowers.

With defining words, applied to various species of *Dioscorea*, and to plants of other genera in some way resembling these. **Aerial Yam**, = Japanese Yam, (*b*) *Batatas*. Cocoo or Koko Yam = Cocco, Koko. Common Yam, *D. sativa*. Granada or Guinea Yam, *D. bulbifera*. Indian Yam, *Trichosanthes cucumerina*. Long Yam, of Africa, *D. transversa*. Native Yam, a name for Australian species of *Ipomœa* (N.O. *Convolvulaceæ*) with edible tubers. Red, White, Purple, Spotted, or Striped Yam, (*b*) *Batatas alata*. Round Yam, (*a*) a species of yam with a round tuber; (*b*) the Burdekin Vine of Australia, *Vitis* (*Cissus*) *opaca*, with an edible tuberous root. Swamp Yam, *Dioscorea pentaphylla*, the root of which is used medicinally, also called *colic-root*; also applied to two W. Indian climbing shrubs, *Rajania pleiosperma* (N.O. *Dioscoreaceæ*) and *Cissus sicyoides* (N.O. *Vitaceæ*); also to an Australian parasitic orchid (*Gastrodia sesamoides*) with edible roots, called *native potato* in Tasmania.

1697 Sir. Lɪɴsᴄʜᴏᴛᴇɴ (1683) 94 Planting provisions of Corn, Yeams, Bonavista, Cassavi. 1699 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 285 To procure...planton rootes, cassada-sticks, large Jamoos, potatoes and bonavist [in Cape Verde Is.]. 1866 Trᴇᴍᴀɪɴ *Jamaica* 171 Plentiful produce of Sugar-Canes, Tobacco, Cotton, Maiz..., Potato's, Yames [*printed* Yames]. 1897 Dᴀᴍᴘɪᴇʀ *Voy.* (1699) 72 Yams, Potatoes and Plantains are the chief Bread. 1699 Wᴀʀᴅᴇ *Voy.* 102 Yams, of which they have two sorts, a White and a Purple. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* I. 7 Jammes [orig. F. *jammes*]. *Ibid.* ii. 16 Jamis, Potatoes, and other Fruits. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xiv. (1840) 236 Guames, potatoes. 1729 *Dampier's Voy.* III. 460 *Round Yam*. From the Root which is white raw, but when boyl'd red...*White Yam*. Its Root being of that Colour, the Leaves single and cordated. 1756 P. Bʀᴏᴡɴᴇ *Jamaica* (1789) 360 The Wild Yam. This plant grows wild in the inland woods of Jamaica. *Ibid.* 359 The Negro Yam. 1830 Lɪɴᴅʟᴇʏ *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 578 The yams, so important a food in all tropical countries, because of their large, fleshy, mucilaginous, sweetish tubers. 1858 Hᴏᴏɢ *Veg. Kingd.* 328 The Chinese Yam (*D. Batatas*), recently introduced to this country as a substitute for the potatoe. 1866 Gʀɪsᴇʙᴀᴄʜ *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yams, Indian, *Dioscorea trifida*.... Yams, white, *Dioscorea alata*. Yams, wild, *Cissus sicyoides* and *Rajania pleiocurva*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 421 Yams vary greatly in size and colour...; many attain a length of two or three feet, and weigh from 30 to 40 lbs.; some are white, others purplish throughout, while some have a purple skin with whitish flesh, and others are pink, or even black. 1867 Mᴏʟᴏɴᴇʏ *Forestry W. Afr.* 433 White Bockra or Winged Yam (*Dioscorea alata*, L.).—Square stemmed climbing plant. The roots of this species afford a much more delicate...food than those of *D. sativa*. 1889 Maiden *Useful Native Pl. Australt.* 89 *Vitis opaca*...Round Yam.

**2.** Applied to + (*a*) the mangrove, of which some species have an edible fruit; (*b*) varieties of the common potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), cultivated in Scotland; (*c*) a variety of the sweet potato (*Batatas edulis*), largely eaten by negroes in America.

1733 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl. App.*, *Yams*,...a name sometimes used for the *rhizophora* of Linnæus. *c* 1775 T. L. *Yankee Doodle* (song) ii. in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. V. 87 Farewell all de yams, and farewell de salt fish. 1805 Fᴏʀsʏᴛʜ *Beauties Scot.* II. 84 To give him an (sc. horse)...a considerable quantity daily of potatoes, especially of the coarse sort, called yams. 1815 *Pennecuik's Wks.* 78 *note*, There is a demand for the large coarse varietie of potatoe, improperly called yams. 1844 H. Sᴛᴇᴘʜᴇɴs *Bk. Farm* II. 30 The varieties raised exclusively for cattle are the common yam, red yam, and cucumber. 1861 Sᴍᴇᴛʜᴍᴀɴ *At Port Royal, Song of the Negro Boatmen*, De yam will grow, de cotton blow, We'll hab de rice an' corn. 1892 *Kilmarnock Standard* 30 July 5/2 The Negro likes his yam.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yam-hill, -root*; **yam-bean**, either of two species of leguminous plants, *Pachyrrhizus* (*Dolichos*) *tuberosus* and *angulatus*, cultivated in the tropics for their pods and tubers, both of which are edible; **yam potato** = sense 2 (*b*); **yam-stick**, a long stick sharpened at the end, used by Australian natives for digging and as a weapon; **yam-stock**, a nickname for an inhabitant of St. Helena; **yam-vine**, (*a*) a species of yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*); (*b*) the 'vine' or climbing stem of the yam-plant.

1864 Gʀɪsᴇʙᴀᴄʜ *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 **Yam-bean*, *Dolichos tuberosus*. 1867 Mᴏʟᴏɴᴇʏ *Forestry W. Afr.* 321 Yam Bean (*Pachyrhizus angulatus*), its tubers are like turnips. 1897 Lᴀᴅʏ Eммᴇʀsᴏɴ *Left by Sea...* Mrs. Ellerton) III. 228 Even the races that we will call savage...vindicate their faculty by the skill with which they make their *yam-cloths. 1804–8 Wood *Houses without H.* iii. 84 A *yam-hill—i. e. a bank of mould prepared for the cultivation of yamming yams. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 324 The *yam potatoe. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* (1836) § 2085 The juice of *yam-roots fresh is acrid. 1888 Rᴀᴄʜᴇʟ Hᴜɴᴛ & Mrs. Goodwin *Mem.* (1864) 349 Huge yam-roots, some weighing fifty pounds. 1863 M. K. Hᴇᴠᴇʀɪᴅɢᴇ *Gatherings* 27 One leg's thin as Liezah's *yam-stick. 1833 T. Hᴏᴏᴋ *Parson's Daus.* v. ii, The blonds of the Baltic, the brunettes of the Mediterranean,..and the fair *yam-stocks of St. Helena. 1792 Mᴀᴊ. Rɪᴅᴅᴇʟʟ *Voy. Madeira* 87 The **Convolvulus bulbifer*us, or *yam vine. 1894 H. Sᴛᴇᴘʜᴇɴs *S. Sea Narrat* 186, I should soon..see the green yam-vines.

**† Yam**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [a. Russ. нмъ *yam* posting stage or house, Pers. يام *yām* post-horse.] A posting house.

1569 Tᴜʀʙᴇʀᴠ. *Trag. Tales*, etc. (1587) 147 b, If riding poast upon a trotting Nagge. If howsely yammes, in stead of Innes at night [etc.].

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 236/2 Each night they reached a yam, and each yam was 20 miles.

**Yam** (yæm), graphic var. *Jam(e*, Tʜᴀᴍ: see Y (3).

**Yamboo**, var. of (or error for) *jamboo*, Jᴀᴍʙᴏ.

1777 G. Fᴏʀsᴛᴇʀ *Voy. round World* II. 302 The yamboos, (*eugenia*,) a cooling watery fruit, of the size of pears.

**Yamen, Yamf**: see Yᴀᴍᴜɴ, Yᴀᴍᴘʜ.

**Yammer** (yæ·mə1), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 **yawmer, jamer**, 8 **yaumour, yaummer**, 8–**yammer**. [f. next. Cf. MDu., MLG. *jammer*.] An act, or the action, of 'yammering'; a cry of lamentation, a wail; a loud outcry, a noisy yell; lamentation, complaint, querulous utterance.

1550–80 Dᴜɴʙᴀʀ *Poems* xxxiii. 122 The air was dirkit with the fowlis, That come with ȝawmeris and with ȝowlis. 1552 Lʏɴᴅsᴀʏ *Monarche* (1628) 1 Thrise greeuous was the Ecchoing yelorne Were the hoist that thay wer borne. With mony yamer, ȝewl, and ȝell. 1792 A. Wɪʟsᴏɴ *Watty & Meg* xxxix, While the weans, wi' mornfu' yaumer, Round their mithers mither flew. 1894 Cʀᴏᴄᴋᴇᴛᴛ *Lilac Sunbonnet* 120 Gin ye dinna tak' tent to yersel'...wi' yer eternal yammer o' ' Peats, Jock Gordon ' an' ' Water, Jock Gordon ', ye'll mayhes find yersel' whaur Jock Gordon 'll no be inclined to Give ye.

**Yammer** (yæ·mə1), *v. Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5, 8 **yamer**, 6 **jammer, -ar, ȝalmor**, 7 **yalmer, -ur**, 8 **yommer**, 8–9 **yaumer**, 9 **yaumer, yawmer, yammar**, 6, 9 **yammer**. [Alteration of ME. *ȝomer*, Vᴏᴍᴇʀ, after MDu., MLG. *jammeren*.]

1. *intr.* To lament, mourn; to utter cries of lamentation or distress, to wail; to whine, whimper.

[*c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* ix. 12, Hit ȝoulut, his ȝomurt, lyke a woman.] 1481 Cᴀxᴛᴏɴ *Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 47 He...fayned as he had wepte, right as he hadde ȝamerde in his herte. 1603 *Proph. of Waldman* (Bannatyne) 99 Thou shalt ȝalmur and ȝell: that al York shal it heare. 1618 Miss Fᴇʀʀɪᴇʀ *Marriage* xviii, It [sc. the child] does yammer constantly. 1820 Sᴄᴏᴛᴛ *Monast.* iv, The White Maiden of Avenel...is aye seen to yammer and wail before any o' that family dies. 1861 Waᴜɢʜ *Birtie Carter's Tale* 27 To see poor wortchin folk's little bits o' children yaumerin' for a bite o' meight—when there's naan far 'em.

b. To murmur, complain, grumble; also: to rave, to say in a complaining or querulous tone.

1786 *Hart'st Rig* cii, They ever and anon stand still, And yamour sair; We're sure we do our day fulfil, And meikle mair.' c1868 Hogg in *J. Wilson's Noctes Ambr.* (1855) I. 224 There's some souls 'll yammer and cheep if a win'le-straw lie in their way. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads, Tomlinson* 57 Then Tomlinson he gripped the bars and yammered, 'Let me in — '. 1894 Crockett *Mad Sir Uchtred* ix, 'They chase us, Belus,' he yammered.

2. To make a loud unpleasant noise or outcry; to bawl, yell; to roar about.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. I. 38 Grait figuris of wolfis... lowand and yammerand grislie for to heyr. c1550 *Clariodus* f. 138 (Maitland) 24 The cairfull echo yalmering to the sky. a 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie* 223 Hoy, hoyson, to bell,.. Where deulis in their den dois yammar and yell. 1603 *Proph. of Waldhaus* (Bannatyne) 27 He yelped, he yalmered, and yowled loude. 1828 *Craven Curate* xxiii. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xx, Like fiends yammering and girning when Hell wins a soul.

3. To long, yearn, crave.

1705 [see below]. c 1710 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1773) 51 Boh I yammer t'heer hear things turn'd eawt. 1895 Crockett *Men of Mast-Hage* xxiii, What' thae things are yammerin' to get haud o' ye.

Hence **Ya'mmering** *vbl. n.* and *ppl. a.*

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 240 Terribil spraichis of yammering pepill in the deidthraw. 1705 J. Dunton *Life & Errors* 247 Mr. A. Marvel.. had always some Yammering upon him after the Learning and the Muses. 1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* iv. 191 A sucking weanle.. to its yamering fa's again. 1809 Stagg *Poems* 21 Our wee yen's yammerin' noise. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 317 Screeches, discontented, yawmering.. whiggism. 1870 Miss Broughton *Red as Rose* viii, The yammering of the baby. 1895 Crockett *Men of Mast-Hage* xxiii, 'Na, na,' he cried, in the strange yammering speech of the creature.

**Yampee.** = Yam 1.

1776 Nesmick *Pidgt.-Lex.*

**Yamph** (yamf), *v.* Sc. and *north. dial.* Also yamf. [Echoic.] *intr.* To bark, as a dog, esp. a small dog; to yelp. Hence **Ya'mphing** *ppl. a.*

1728 Ramsay *Gentle Shep.* iii. xix, The hale town tykes yamph loud. 1746 — *Hackney Scribblers* xii, Nae mastive maunda yamphing out. 1818 Wm. Muir *Poems* 33 Has wylie Reynard come thy way, Or peace-disturbing yamphing Tray. 1844 M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table-bk., Legend.* II. 136 The yamphin thing [sc. a dog] des't the neist day.

Hence **Yamph** *sb.*, a bark, a yelp.

1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. III. 69 She kend wha it was by the yamph at his tail.

‖ **Yamshchik** (yæ·mshtʃik). Also **8 yamshock, 9 yems(t)chiok, -schik, yamshik.** [Russ. ямщикъ, *f.* ямъ Yam 2.] The driver of a post-horse.

1733 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. ii. xii. 56 It was so worded as to signify either post-horses or *yamshicks.* [1833 R. Pinkerton *Russia* 21 The peasantry.. furnish the horses, and each drives his own. They are called *yamtschiki.*] 1855 *Englishw. in Russia* 40 The yell of the yemstchick inciting his team to greater speed. 1898 [W. S. Mayo] *Yemsty's Story* Paul ..driving with both hands and extended arms, after the manner of Russian yemschiks. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 15/1 Paules..of *yamshiks*—a special organization of Old Russia entrusted with the maintenance of horses for postal communication.

‖ **Yamun, yamen** (yā·mən). Also -oun, -ôn. [Chinese *ya* tent or pavilion of a general, official residence, office + *mun* gate.] The office or official residence of a Chinese mandarin; hence, any department of the Chinese public service, as the *tsung li yamun* or Chinese 'foreign office', established in 1860.

1859 H. E. Lloyd *Timkowski's Trav.* iii. I. 111 The tribunal (called the yamoun) is the supreme court of the country of the Kalkas: it has the civil and military jurisdiction, and administers justice: sentence is past according to the printed code of laws. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 45 He saw pagodas, and yamuns. 1883 *Times* 30 May 6/2 The Chinese or official residence of the county magistrate. 1891 *Daily News* 28 July 5/1 He..made a run for the official yamen, but was overtaken..and murdered. 1900 *Times* 30 May 5/3 The intention is to attack every yamên and to exterminate all the officials.

**Yan, Yance,** north. dial. ff. One, Once.

**Yande,** obs. form of Yond.

**Yane,** north. dial. f. One; obs. f. Yawn.

**Yanglour,** obs. form of Jangler.

**Yanisari:** see Janizary.

**Yank** (yæŋk), *sb.*1 *dial.* and *U. S.* [f. Yank *v.*] a. *Sc.* A sudden sharp blow or stroke. b. *U. S.* A sudden vigorous pull, a jerk.

1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xiv. II. 18, I took up my naive an' gae him a yank on the baffat. 1886 Gunter *Mr. Potter* viii, 100 Her lover giving her a masculine yank [from the gondola], and jumping her upon the steps. 1913 M. Roberts *Salt of the Sea* xvii. 447 He gave the twine a yank.

**Yank,** *sb.*2 (*a.*) Colloq. abbreviation of Yankee.

1778 *Conquerors* 14 Give me five hundred brave and chosen men, I'll drive the Yanks from north to south again. 1834 R. H. Froude in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 77 The Yank edition of the 'Christian Year'. 1870 Schele de Vere *Amer.* 23 During the war *the Yanks* became the universal designation of Federal soldiers in the Confederacy, even as they were called *Rebs*—not Rebels—by Northern men. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 35 As clever at a trick as a Yank.

*Comb.* **Ya'nkland** *nonce-wd.*, the land of the Yankees, America.

1834 R. H. Froude in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 37 When I shall go to Yankland I do not know.

**Yank** (yæŋk), *v. dial.* and *U. S.* [Origin unknown.]

1. *trans.* To pull with a sudden vigorous movement; to jerk or twitch vigorously.

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, To *Yank*, to twitch or jerk powerfully; a term used in New England. 1854 *Spirit of the Times* (N. Y.) Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*, Afore you could say Sam Patch, them hogs were yanked aout of the lot, kilt and scraped. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* viii. 145 How angry it has made me to have a nervous knownothing catch me by the arm and yank me down, for fear a duck that he happened to catch sight of half a mile off would see me and take alarm. 1900 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Jan. 39 Yanking up fence-posts that were wanted in a hurry.

*absol.* 1869 *Visit to Nantucket* (Schele de Vere 649) He yanked and yanked, but the sapling wouldn't come, and thar he was caught in his own trap. 1884 *Bath Herald* 11 Oct. 6/2 When a woman has a new pair of shoes sent home she..never shoves her toes into them, and yanks and hauls until she is red in the face.

b. *transf.*

1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* xxvi, Yank them both to bed. 1901 F. Hume *Golden Wang-ho* xiii, I'd have yanked Jinfoe to the police-station straight away.

2. *intr.* To pull or jerk vigorously; *fig.* to be vigorously active.

1882 Ainslie *Land of Burns* i They wont not forth like gaugers, A yanking on their cloots. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v. Yank, Yanking on at the oars. 1902 Masefield *Dauber* iii. ii, The staysails flogged, the tackle yanked and shook.

Hence **Yanking** *ppl. a.*, (*a*) active, 'pushing' (*Sc.*), (*b*) jerking, twitching.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* ii, I canna bide their yanking way of knapping English at every word. 1876 Mas. Whitney *Sights & Insights* xxix, Poor Emery Ann had had a yanking old time. 1894 Kipling *Jungle Bks.* 1 Unconfortable saddle.

**Yankee** (yæ·nki), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8–9 **Yanky, Yanky, pl. Yankies.** [Source unascertained.

The two earliest statements as to its origin were published in 1789: Thomas Anburey, a British officer who served under Burgoyne in the War of Independence (*Travels* II. 51) derives *Yankee* from Cherokee *eankhee* slave, coward, which he says was applied to the inhabitants of New England by the Virginia militia, probably learning them in war with the Cherokees; William Gordon in *Hist. Amer. War* states that it was a favourite word with farmer Jonathan Hastings of Cambridge, Mass., c 1713, who used it in the sense of 'excellent'. Appearing next in order of date (1822) is the statement which has been most widely accepted, viz. that the word is a provincial corruption of North American Indian corruptions of the word *English* through *Yengees* to *Yankees* (Heckewelder, *Indian Nations* iii. ed. 1876, p. 77): cf. Yengee.

Perhaps the most plausible conjecture is that it comes from Du. *Janke*, dim. of *Jan* John, applied as a derisive nickname by either Dutch or English in the New England states (J. N. Reynolds, 1836, in *Life of Tyler* 1876, II. vii. 244). The existence of *Yankéy, Yankee*, as a surname or nickname (often with Dutch associations) is vouched for by the following references:

1683 *Cal. St. Papers, Colon. Ser.* (1898) 437 They [ac. pirates] sailed from Bonaco..; chief commanders, Vanhorn, Laurens, and Yankey Duch. 1684 *Ibid.* 733 A sloop..unlawfully seized by Captain Yankey. 1686 *Ibid.* (1899) 436 Captains John Williams (Yankey) and Jacob Everson [Jacobs, 1687-8 *MSS. Earl of Dartmouth in 11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 136 The pirates Yanky and Jacobs. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. iii. 38. 1725 *Inventory of W. Marr of Carolina* in *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. X. 467 Item one negroe man named Yanke to be sold.

Cf. also 'Dutch yanky' s.v. Yankey.]

A. *sb.*

1. a. *U. S.* A nickname for a native or inhabitant of New England, or, more widely, of the northern States generally; during the War of Secession used by the Confederates to the soldiers of the Federal army.

1765 *Oppression, a Poem by an American* (with notes by a North Briton) 17 From meanness first this Portsmouth Yankey rose. *Note*, Portsmouth Yankey', it seems, our hero being a New-Englander by birth, has a right to the epithet of Yankey; a name of derision, I have been informed, given by the Southern people on the Continent, to those of the Northern, that meaning the same as Scotch, I never could learn. 1775 J. Trumbull *M'Fingal* I. 1 When Yankies, skill'd in martial rule, First put the British troops to school. *Editor's note*, Yankies—a term formerly of derision, but now merely of distinction, given to the people of the four eastern States. 1775 *Penna Gazette* 10 May in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 5/1 They [sc. the British troops] were roughly handled by the Yankees, a term of reproach for the New Englanders, when applied by the regulars. 1778 *Muse's Mirrour* I. 220 O My Yankee, my Yankee, And O my Yankee, my sweet-ee, And was ist mures North asham'd Because such a bantling hath beat-ee? 1817 M. Birkbeck *Notes Journ. America.* (1818) 19 The enterprising people at Richmond, Virginia] are mostly strangers; Scotch, Irish, and especially New England men, or Yankees, as they are called. 1825 J. Neal *Brs. Jonathan* I. 13 He was a Yankee, the very character of whom he that he can 'turn his hand', as he says, 'to any thing'. 1892 Duncan *Amer. Girl in London* 23 The Yankees are the New Englanders, the name would once have been taken as an insult by a Southerner.

b. By English writers and spankers commonly applied to a native or inhabitant of the United States generally; an American.

Applied occas. to a ship (cf. *Frenchman*, etc.).

c 1784 Nelson *Let. to Locker* in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 321, I..am determined not to suffer the Yankies to come where the ship is. 1796 T. Twining *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 68 Their wit was particularly directed against a 'Yankee' who was one of the company. We apply this designation as a term of ridicule or reproach to the inhabitants of all parts of the United States indiscriminately; but the Americans confine its application to their countrymen of the Northern or New England States. 1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* III. 11 If thou marriest the heiress, thou must give up thy little American, thy fascinating yankee. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. ix, I'll be d——d, said he, if ever I saw a Yankee that didn't bolt his food whole like a Boa Constrictor. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIX. 109/1 When we neat saw the Yankee [sc. a frigate], there we were coming right down upon him over the breast of the sea. 1887 'Emma Lyall.' *Knight-Errant* xvii, I really am Italian, though Signor Sardoni will call me a little Yankee.

2. [ellipt. use of the adj.] The Yankee language, the dialect of New England; *loosely*, American English generally. ▪

1822 J. Gilchrist *Etymol. Interpr.* 8 The naked savages of Indiana already speak a corrupt English (or Yankee). 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. i, You don't come from Halifax, I presume, sir, did you? in a dialect too often to be mistaken as genuine Yankee. 1840 — *Letter Bag* III. 34 Coarse jokes in English, German, French, and Yankee.

3. Whisky sweetened with molasses. *local U. S. colloq.*

1824 Fessenden *Orig. Poems* 97 Call on me when you come this way, And take a dram of Yankee.

4. *pl. Stock Exchange slang.* American stocks or securities.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Sept. 12/1 There was great excitement in the American market yesterday, and the bulls are cherishing the hope that there is to be a sustained boom in 'Yankees'. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 1/7 Yankees finished higher on the lead from Wall Street.

5. A name for various special tools of American origin, or of ingenious design. (Cf. *Yankee notions* in C.)

1900 *Cent. Dict.* Supp.

B. *adj.* That is a Yankee; pertaining to or characteristic of Yankees (often with connotation of cleverness, cunning, or cold calculation); *loosely*, belonging to the United States, American.

1782 A. Bell in Southey *Life* (1844) II. 370 A whole coast infested with Yanky privateers. 1784 Abigail Adams *Lett.* (1848) 161 We have curtains, it is true, and we only in part undress, about as much as the Yankee fashion. 1822 Corbett *Weekly Reg.* 9 Mar. 633, I was on board a little Yankee sloop in the Bay of Funday. 1828 (*title*) The Yankee and Boston Literary Gazette. 1829 Senhaut *Frank Halsey* 25, I will show you a Yankee trick. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 June 3/1 California with its gold and its cornfields,..its 'heathen Chinese' and its Yankee millionaires, was a land of romance.

b. Used of or in reference to the language or dialect: cf. A. 2.

a 1854 Whittier *Charms & Fairy Faith* Pr. Wks. 1880 II. 239 A sort of Yankee-Irish dialect. 1866 Lowell *Biglow P.* Introd., Wks. 1890 II. 170 Of Yankee proverbs I find *ritte* and *rite* for *rota* in Beaumont and Fletcher, Middleton and Dryden.

C. *Comb.*, etc. a. *gen.*, as *Yankee-like, -looking.*

1799 *Aurora* (Phila.) 30 Sept. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) Faith, 'twill be Yankee like, and plagued funny. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, I heard him ax the groom who that are Yankee lookin feller was.

b. Special combinations and collocations.

**Yankee gang,** name in Canada for a special arrangement of gang-saws (see quot.); **Yankee-land,** the land of Yankees, New England; *loosely*, the United States; **Yankee notions** [Notion 9 b], small wares or useful articles made in New England or the northern States; **Yankee State,** a nickname for Ohio.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Yankee Gang*, an arrangement in a saw-mill (Canada).. It consists of two sets of gang-saws, having parallel ways. . One is the *stabbing-gang*, and reduces the log to a balk and slab-boards. The balk is then shifted to the *stock-gang*, which cuts right to lumber. 1893 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 350 More wit from Yankee-land. 1897 Hawthorne *Amer. Note-bks.* 13 July (1883) 57 It sounds strangely to hear children prattling in French on the borders of Yankee-land. 1859 *Mass. Spy* 8 Sept. (Thornton), I come here to retail My 'Yankee notions,'—cheese, wit, verse, coolness, cyder, et cetera. 1862 Neal *Bro. Jonathan* xxii. II. 298 The yellow corn, cotton, hams, hides, and so forths, which we had got, in exchange for a load of Yankee notions. 1889 *Century Mag.* May 82/1, I saw the American tin-ware, and 'Yankee notions' lord. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 Ohio was called 'the Yankee State'.

Hence **Yankee** *v.* (*rare*—1), *trans.* to deal cunningly with like a Yankee, to cheat; **Ya'nkeedom,** the realm or country of Yankees, the United States of America; Yankees as a body; **Ya'nkeeness,** a depreciatory term for an American woman; **Ya'nkeefied** (-fied) *ppl. a.*, made or become like a Yankee; characteristic of a Yankee; **Ya'nkeeish** *a.*, resembling a Yankee (whence **Ya'nkeeishly** *adv.*, like a Yankee); **Ya'nkeeism,** Yankee character or style; a Yankee characteristic or idiom; **Ya'nkeeize** *v.*, *trans.* to make Yankeeish, give a Yankee character to.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 683 [They] are considered capable of 'Yankeeing' the more simple-minded Canadians. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 417/1 He ought to take steamer direct for 'Yankeedom'.. they'd make him President at once! 1890 Miss Broughton *Alas!* v. viii, Yankerdom and Cockneydom, rushing hand in hand through all earth's sacredness. 1859 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 597 The Yankeeness who urge the convenience of a manly garb. 1846 Jas. Taylor *Upper Canada* 47 Some of the Canadians indulge in the 'Yankeeified habit of bolting down their victuals. 1897

*Voice* (N. Y.) 14 Jan. 8 Japan is gazing Yankeefied in more ways than one. 1855 De Quincey in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) II. xviii. 112 Wasi, now, to speak 'yankeeishly. I calculate your dander is rising. 1860 *Eclectic Rev.* I. Apr. 359 The term *wanvell*, when first brought up, was ridiculed as a 'Yankee-ism. 1876 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 653 Guilty of all those Yankeeisms which distinguish the lout from the gentleman. 1876 Vicy. Milton & W. B. Cheadle *N.-W. Pass. by Land* II. (1865) 18 Irish or German Yankees!...out-Heroding Herod in Yankeeism. 1884 *Guardian* 20 Apr. 586 We begin to fear that England is becoming 'Yankeefied. 1887 Sir F. Elliot in Dowden *Corr. Sir H. Taylor* 377 The most certain of political tendencies in England is what...I will call the Yankeeising tendency. 1888 H. E. Scudder *Noah Webster* viii. 289 Hawthorne, Yankeeising the Greek myths, and finding all Rome but the background for his Puritan maiden, was asserting that new discovery of Europe by America.

**Yankee Doodle** (yæ·ŋkɪ dū·d'l). [Origin uncertain.

The tune is said to have been composed in 1755 by Dr. Shuckburgh, a surgeon in Lord Amherst's army, in derision of the provincial troops (*Hist. & Misc. Coll. New Hampsh.* 1824, III. 217–18.)

**1.** The title of a popular air of the United States of America, considered to be characteristically national.

1768 *Trnl. of the Times* (Boston) 09 Sept. in Losaing *Pict. Fields Rh. Revol.* (1850) I. 480 Those passing in boats observed great rejoicings, and that the favourite Doodle Song was the capital piece in the band of music. 1775 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 22 July 317/2 General Gage's troops are much dispirited;...and...dispersed more off dancing any more to the tune of Yankey Doodle. c 1775 T. L. *Yankee Doodle; or the Negro's farewell to America* (song) in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. V. 87 Yankee doodle, yankee doodle dandy, I vow, Yankee doodle, yankee doodle, bow wow. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. 1. xvii, He...walked off, a whistin Yankee Doodle to himself.

**2.** A Yankee. Also *attrib.*

a 1807 J. Skinner *Amusem. Lei. Hours* (1809) 78 Syne after him cam Yankie Doodle, Frae hayre ayont the muckle water. 1814 Moore *Parody of Letter* 48 I might have withheld these political Doodles From knocking their heads against hot Yankee Doodles. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* xxiii. II. 319 One of your yankee doodle invitations, that,—happy to see you *standing* all the time. 1830 Sidney *Tenth* 4 Sept. (1850) II. 351 We have had...Yankees male and female, and a Yankee-Doodle-Dandy into the bargain, a smart young Virginia man.

Hence **Yankeedoo'dledom**, **Yankeedoo'dleism**, = Yankeedom, Yankeeism (above).

1861 *Death of Lincoln Despotism* (Bartlett), And hold them Abe Lincoln, and all his Northern scum, Shall own our independence of 'Yankee Doodledom. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 468 The man's whole life...was a long series of Frenchified 'Yankeedoodleisms.

**Yankeeo** (yæŋkī·o), *nonce-wd.* [f. Yankee + -ero.] American English.

1883 'Ouida' *Frescoes, Al Camaldoli* 119 They...feel like two tame 'possums sitting on a guenon. Now don't say I can't talk Yankeeo!

**Yanker** (yæ·ŋkəɹ). ? *Obs.* [f. Yank *v.* + -er 1.]

**1.** *Sc.* = Yank *sb.*1 2; *fig.* a big or 'thumping' lie.

1822 Hogg *Perils of Man* xii. I. 330 'Ay, hilly, that is a yanker!' said Tam aside. 'When ane is gaun to tell a lie, there's naething like telling a plumper at ance.'

**2.** (See quot., but perh. an error for Yanker.)

1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 46 § 89 If...any person..shall drive any four-wheeled cart, commonly called a wood yanker without a person in charge of each pair of wheels.

†**Yanky.** *Obs. rare.* [Of doubtful status, origin, and meaning. Perh. Du. *Janke*, applied orig. to a particular ship, and so identical with Yankee (q.v.). The following examples of *Yankee* in the proper names of ships may be compared:—

1776 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 55 They were in the West-India ship *Hero*. 1778 *Gentleman's Mag.* XLVIII. 155 A yank'ee small kind of gallot, and the Dutch fur-traders used craft of this kind to ascend the rivers in search of their Indian customers.

**Yanolite** (yæ·nəlait). *Min.* [a. F. *yanolithe*, ? f. Gr. *ἰανθος* violet: see -lite.] = Axinite.

1850 Amsted *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 438 *Axinite*. Thumite, Yanolite. In violet crystals, remarkable as one of the few representative forms of the unsymmetrical oblique prism. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 299.

**Yaoor**, var. Giaour.

†**Yaourt** (yaˑuɹt). Also **yao(o)rt**, **you(s)rt**. [Turkish يوغورت *yôghurt* (with quiescent *gh*) Yogurt.] A fermented liquor made by the Turks from milk.

1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) I. vii. 137 Once on a fast-day eating some nice Yaoort. 1844 Kinglake *Rothen* xvii. 290 The 'youart', or curds and whey, which is the principal delicacy to be found amongst the wandering tribes. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Youart*, a fermented liquor or milk-beer, similar to koumis. 1867 T. Stevens *Around World on Bicycle* xviii. 497 The *yourt* bowl contains one solitary wooden spoon.

**Yap** (yæp), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. Yawp.]

**1.** A dog that yaps; a yelping cur. Now *dial.*

1803 Sir C. Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* I. 4 Those bawling yappes, that barke rather of fashion, then fierceness. 1690 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cclxxxiv. 248 'Tis a Common Thing upon the Passing of a Strange Dog through a Town, to have a Hundred Curs Bawling at his Breech, and Every Yap gets a Snap at him. a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia.*

**2.** A sound expressible by the syllable 'yap'; a short sharp bark or cry.

1828 Lamb *Ess., Pop. Fallacies* xiii, But *yap, yap, yap!*—what is this confounded cur? 1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., A small dog,...capable of a quick series of sharp low barks or yaps. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 238 A weasel rushes past...He utters a strange startled 'yap'. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* July 398 The sub. gave a little yap of joy.

**Yap**, **yaup** (yap, yɔp). *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 **3ape**, 5 **3op(e**, 5–6 **3alp(e**, 6 **yalp**, 8–9 **yap**, 9 **yaup**. [Northern ME. *3epe*, with rare southern var. *3ep*, representing *gealp*, alteration of OE. *gielp* Vepe by conversion of the falling into a rising diphthong.]

**1.** Clever, cunning; shrewd, astute; nimble, active: = Vepe 1.

c 1325 *Metrical Paralem* (H.) 1944 3e haue 3epe men him forto 3erna. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 9019 (Fairf.) Haue he bene be-fore neuer sa 3epe (*Cotton* 3epe) Fra þen I telle him for a nepe. c 1395 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 318 Of þat ydola þe biscbope, Aristodemus, þat was 3epe, Raisit a gret sedicione In þe puple of þat towne. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6842 A 3op knyght & a 3onge. a 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 1651 Hys confessour, þat was 3epe and 3op, And sende forth pese to be byschop. c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 628 The 3alp 3eman to the set is gane. a 1508 Dunbar *Tua Marrit-Wemen* 79 And quhill I wes 3ep, 3ing, and licht. 15.. *Clerk's Kirk* 100 (Laing MS.) A yaip yung man,..Lowsd of a schot. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Yap*, apt, quick. 1891 'H. Haliburton' *Child Verse* 11 I'm blind as an 'ot yaup! As e'er was you'th.

†**2.** Eager or ready, esp. *to do* something. *Obs.*

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 602 3alpe, thocht he 3ong was, to faynd his offens. c 1500 *Rowll's Curning* 205 (Bann. MS.) With gudlynes & richt yaip & swellp. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xvi. ii. 88 The bysay knaipis and verletis of his stabill About thame stud, full 3alp and seruyabill. 1728 Ramsay *Dagth Bargarran* 11 [He] seem'd right yap His mealtith quickly up to gawp.

**3.** Eager or ready to eat, hungry.

1768 Ross *Helenore* x. 20 Right yape she yoked to the plaining Phemie. 1790 Burness *King of Cessnon* Poems (1845) 90 The farmers' sons, as yap as sparrows. 1832 Carrick in *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. 1. (1830) 74 Like hoochen when yaup. 1891 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* ii, Gi'e the bairns as bit pieces,...the like o' them's aye yap.

**Yap**, *v.* Also yap-yap. [Echoic. Cf. Yawp.]

**1.** *intr.* To bark sharply, as a small dog; to yelp.

1668 [see *yapping* vbl. sb.] a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1834 S. Sidney *Pacific Cr.* I. Up come the hounds...yelping, yapping and puffing, and blowing. 1865 Anne Manning *Belforest* II. 200 A little dog that..yap-yapped at every visitor. 1902 Meredith *Poems, Forest Hist.* xvii, Where long fellows yap-yap in the moonlight.

**2.** *transf.* To speak snappishly.

1854 'Annie Thomas' *D. Donne* III. 204 Dora was not one of the women who yap and scream in wrath or excitement. 1893 Kipling *Many Inventi.* 130 Orberis yapped indignantly.

Hence **Ya·pping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Ya·pper**, a dog or person that yaps.

1668 *Cowell's Hugh. Way.* VIII. 499 Some doom 'yappers and yellers of all shapes and breeds. 1901 *Longm. Mag.* May 46 His enemies said 'Job wer' a proper yapper'. 1668 R. L'Estrange *Fr. Quac.* (1708) 243 A Voice not unlike the Yapping of a Spotting Cur. 1860 Conan Doyle *White Company* ix, The shrill yapping of the hounds. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 224 There was some rather feeble yap-yapping in the House. 1896 Mrs. Alexander *Belforest* 265 Every little 'yap-yapping dog. 1868 Miss Braddon *Dead-tes Fruit* xxv, Half a dozen little yapping dogs...assailed me.

**Ya·ply**, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–5 **3ap(e)ly**, 5 **yappely**, **3opely**, 8–9 **yaply**. [f. Yap *a.* + -ly 2.] Actively, nimbly; readily, eagerly; in mod. Sc. hungrily. So **Ya·pness**, hunger.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 228 To the 3ate 3aply bel 3onden wel 3are. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1672 A sonesayn aw be his yate, And 3apely vnto 3ong be ald. c 1500–30 *Wars Alex.* 1393 (Dubl. MS.), And þai 3opely ayayn 3eldyn paim swythe. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 231 We muste yapplely wende in at þis yate. a 1568 Ferguson 11 68 Unto thair supper they war right yaply fa'. 1828 Mids *Manstie Wauch* iv, My yapness and stiff appetite.

**Yapock** (yæ·ppk). Also **yapok**, **yapock**. [f. *Oyapok*, name of a river between French Guiana and Brazil, spelt earlier *Wiapoco* (Harcourt *Voy. Guiana*, 1613).] The South American water-opossum, *Chironectes variegatus*, having webbed toes.

1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 35 There are...Yapocks of a smaller size...Found on the banks of the Yapock river of Guyana. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 103 The Yapock...frequents the rivers of Guiana. 1850 J. A. Thomson *Outl. Zool.* 569 The aquatic Yapock (*Chironectes*) ...feeds on fish and smaller water animals.

**Yapon**, **yapon** (yē·pɒn). Also 8 **yaupan**, **yopon**, **yappon**. [North Carolina.] An evergreen shrub or small tree (*Ilex Cassine or vomitoria*), allied to the holly, growing in Texas and Southern U. S.; a decoction of the leaves (*yapon tea*) is used as an emetic and purgative. Also called *Appalachian* or *Carolina tea*.

a 1722 Lawson *Hist. Carolina* (1714) 91 *Yaupon*, call'd by the South Carolina Indians *cassena*, is a bush that grows chiefly on the sand banks and islands. 1723 J. Brickell *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1737) 339 They drink great quantities of yaupan tea. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 361 The Yopon, or Cassena. 1786 Aberchromby *Arr. in Gard. Assist.* 49 Yappon tree. 1884 G. P. Latimer *Trees* ii. 13 That kind of holly known in the region [N. Carolina coast] as yapon.

**Yapp** (yæp). [Name of a London bookseller to whose order this style of binding was first made, about 1860 (*N. & Q.* 5th Ser., 1890, IV. 256).] Name for a style of bookbinding in limp leather with overlapping edges or flaps. Hence **Yapped** (yæpt) *a.*, made in this style.

1882 *Publishers' Circular* 15 Feb. 163 Bagster's Bibles. In Sheep Yapped, with Elastic Band. 1883 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 323 *Yap*, as applied to binding, is the name of the binder (*sic*) who originally employed the style now so known. 1885 *Rep. Artizans Paris Univ. Exhib.* 31 Bagster & Co. have a good variety of work in the Bible line, especially their india-rubber kid-lined Yapps. 1894 *Guardian* 31 Oct. 1710 An ingenious method of appending markers to Bibles with yapped or overlapping limbings. 1900 *Athenæum* 26 Feb. 239/1 In velvet persian, yapp edges, boxed.

**Yappet** (yæ·pet), *v.* [frequent. f. Yap *v.*: see -et.] *intr.* = Yap *v.* 1. Hence **Ya·ppeting** *ppl. a.*

1688 T. Flatman *Poeticall Rhapsody* No. 39 (1713) I. 52 It is a little Tutty-nos'd yappeting Sprite; the Good Old Cause's Lap-Dog. 1888 Helps *Realmah* xix. I. 290 The likeness he was pleased to discover between my poor self and a yappeting suburban poodle.

**Yar(r**, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 **3ar(r)en**, 7 **yarre**. [Imitative. Cf. Are 2, 9, Garre 1, 2, Yarl.] *intr.* To snarl or growl, as or like a dog. Hence **Ya·rring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1595, & he 3arrande hym seþe. *Ibid.* 1724 Loude he was 3ar[r]ed, with tarande speche. 1611 Cotgr., *S'entregratter*, to whurre, yarre, grumble, one at another. *Ibid.*, *Grondeur*,...whurling, yarring. *Ibid.*, *Grondement*,...a whurre, or yarring. Ungowarre *Lancash. Dial.* ii. 251 When he saw that all the dogs were flocking about her, yarring at the retardment of their accesse to her. 1708 Beattie *To Mr. A. Ross in Helenore* (1812) 130 In little times, when fates are yarring.

**Yar**, obs. or dial. f. Earth, Ere, Their, Yair, Your; var. Yah *int.*!

†**Yarage.** *Naut. Obs.* [? f. Yare *a.* or *v.* + -age.] The power of moving or being managed at sea.

1599–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 997 They were light of yarage: armed and furnished with water-men as many as they needed. *Ibid.* 999 The gallies of the enemies, the which were beside of yarage, both for their bignes, as also for lacke of watermen to row them.

**Yarak** (yæ·rək). *Falconry.* [? Pers. يارگی *yārakī* power, strength, ability.] *In yarak*: (of a hawk) in proper condition for hunting.

1575 Salvin & Brodrick *Fal. Brit. Isles* 105 The Goshawk...will not work at all unless in good temper and proper flying order, termed in the East *'yarak'*. *Ibid.* 108 It requires about ten days to get this Hawk into *'yarak'*. 1900 Mickell *Hawking* xii. 162 Unless the hawk was in first-rate condition,—in what is called 'screaming yarak'. 1901 Kipling *Kim* x, He's in yarak Plumed to the very point.

**Yarb**, dial. form of Herb.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* v. (1871) 23 Stuktiloquent yarb-monger. 1847 Thoreau *Let. in Atlantic Monthly* (1892) June 756, I hope he got 'yarbs enough to satisfy him. 1852 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iv, Some skill in 'yarbs', as she called her simples.

**Yarborough** (yā·bŭrə). *Cards.* [Said to be so called because a certain Earl of Yarborough used to bet 1,000 to 1 against the occurrence of such a hand.] In whist and bridge, a hand which contains no card above a nine.

1900 J. Dor *Bridge Man.* 35 If he has a Yarborough, you will lose the game. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 809, I have held yarboroughs and been doubled and roughed all the evening.

**Yard** (yāɹd), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **geard**, 4–5 **3ard(e**, **yerde**, 4–8 **yerd**, 4–9 **yaird**, (4 **3herd**, 5 **3eard**, **3ord**, **yorde**, 6 **3harde**, 7 **yeards**, 8 *Sc.* **yeard**), 5–6 **3aird**, 6–7 **yeade**, **3**- **yard**. [OE. *geard* str. masc. fence, dwelling, region, = OFris. *gard* enclosure, dwelling, OHG. *gart* garden, MHG. *garte*, Goth. *gards* house, with corresp. wk. forms OFris. *garda* garden, OS. *gardo*, OHG. *garto* (MHG. *garte*, G. *garten*) garden, Goth. *gards* enclosure, stall. (OE. *geard* is the second element of *middangeard* Middenerd, *ortgeard* Orchard, *wingeard* Vineyard.)

The ulterior relations of these words are uncertain. Close affinity of sense is exhibited by the words derived from the Teut. root *gerd-*: *gard-*, represented by Goth. ᵹ: OE. *geard*, OHG. *garto*, *garten*, G. *garten*) and Gothic *ai*: (ON. *gerð*, Goth. *gairdas*), and those derived from an Indo-European root *ghorti-*, viz. Gr. χόρτος farm-yard, feeding-place, food, fodder, L. *hortus* garden, *co-hort* enclosure, yard, pen for cattle and poultry, Cohort, Court, OIr. *gort* cornfield; but there are phonological difficulties in the way of equating both groups of words. (OSl. *gradŭ* enclosure, town, Russ. городъ, горо́дъ town, as in *Petrograd*, *Novgorod*, Lith. *gardas* hurdle, fold, are prob. borrowed from Teutonic.)

The general signification of the word is 'enclosure', the particular character of which is usually to be inferred from the context; the simple word in this often felt to be short for a specific compound of it (see references in the various senses.)

**1.** A comparatively small uncultivated area attached to a house or other building or enclosed

ey 1; *rip.* such an area surrounded by wall's or buildings within the precincts of a house, castle, inn, etc. Cf. *back-yard, castle yard, chapel yard,* COURTYARD, *inn-yard, palace yard, stable-yard.*

In OE. used in sing. and pl. = dwelling, house, home, the 'courts of heaven'; also, region, tract (cf. *middangeard* MIDDENYARD).

*Beowulf* 2439 Nis þær henrpan swex, zomen in zeardum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 740 (Gr.) Wit..forleton an hsofonrice hæhgetimbro, godlice zeardas. *a* 1000 *Cuthlac* 363 (Gr.) Swa soðfæstes sawla motun in ecne zeard þa zestizan rodera rice. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xviii. (Scipcbine)* 571 To þe tempil wen cum draw; & of it til in þe zarde I wes cumnyne, I ne spard. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 108) 302 Alex ..is dweld in his fader yard As a pore man. 1524 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 10 A little house with a yarde. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 100, I keps doggis..in my yarde. 1565 in Hay Fleming *Reform. Scott.* (1910) 613 Part of ane yard within the abbay place of Sanctandrois. *a* 1637 Sir J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scot.* Hist. Wks. 1825 II. 71 He was brought vpone a scaffold in the parliament yaird. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 P 2 As I was walking..in the great Yard that belongs to my friend's Country-House. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 96 The steeple-house yard. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, I wandered from one quadrangle of old-fashioned buildings to another, and from thence to the College-yards, or walking ground. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. iv, Four horses, that had been only four-teen miles, had just re-entered the yard. 1841 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* v, An old cathedral yard. *Ibid.* viii, A long row of small houses fronting on the street, and opening at the back upon a common yard. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Hetwo. Trust & Ancholine* 20 The small yard between the stables.

**b.** *spec.* + (*a*) The 'ground' of a playhouse, orig. an inn-yard; (*b*) *St. pl.* a school playground; (*c*) = COURT *sb.*1 3 (esp. in proper names, as *Carter's Yard, Thompson's Yard* in Oxford).

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 29 Neither are you to be hunted from thence though the Scot-crowne in the yard, hoot at you. 1808 *Scott Autobiogr.* in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 41, I made a brighter figure in the yards than in the class. 1815 — *Guy M.* ii, Half the youthful mob of the yards used to assemble..to see Dominie Sampson..descend the stairs from the Greek class. 1824 in Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 211/1 Every Street, Lane, Square, Yard, Court, Alley, Passage, and Place..are to be thus cleansed.

**c.** Contextually = CHURCHYARD, GRAVE-YARD.

[1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 245 Not farre thence is a yard vsed for common buriall, called the holy field, vulgarly *Campo Santo.*] 1792 BURNS *There'll ne'er be peace* ii, And now I greet round their green beds in the yard. 1836 [HOOTON] *Pilgrim Thurland* I. 10 The road he had taken brought him at length to the church, through the yard of which it led. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xxii, The little..church, its yard shaded with trees.

**d.** An inclosure attached to a prison, in which the prisoners take exercise. *Liberty of the yard* (U. S.): see quot. 1828–32.

1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* iii. 74 Why were not the walls of the yards repaired in time, that prisoners might with safety be allowed the proper use of them? 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v. *Yard, Liberty of the yard,* is a liberty granted to persons imprisoned for debt, of walking in the yard, or within any other limits prescribed by law. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 438/2 This person..took me into the yard and stripped me.

**e.** *The Yard,* short for 'Scotland Yard', the chief London police office.

1886 GUNTER *Mr. Potter of* xviii. 221 They're tired of paying your old master's salary up at the Yard. 1904 SWEENY *At Scotland Yard* ii, W. E. Monro..was one of the greatest public servants who ever worked at the Yard.

**2.** An inclosure forming a pen for cattle or poultry, a storing place for hay, or the like, belonging to a farm-house or surrounded by farm-buildings, or one in which a barn or similar building stands. (Cf. *barn-yard,* FARM-YARD, *poultry-yard.*)

*c* 1300 *Havelok* 900 Þe heunes of þe yeard. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 27 A yeerd enclosed al aboute With stikkes and a drye dych with-oute In which she hadde a Cok. *Ibid.* 177 Oon of hem was logged in a stalle Fee in a yeerd with Oxen of the plough. v. (Arb.) 10, I [*sc.* chanteceler] had vij fayr sones and seuen fayr doughters whiche..wente in a yerde whiche was walled round a boute. 1552 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 151 To Jhon Collin,..one lode of heye in my yerde. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 58 All maner of strawe that is scattered in yard. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. 175 One of the Lyons leaped from into a neighbouring yard, where nothing regarding the crowing or noise of the Cocks, hee eat them up. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 766 His wanton Kids..Fight harmless Battels in his homely Yard. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. viii, A vast herd of cows in a rich farmer's yard. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xv, A thriving farm with sheepy cows lying about the yard.

**3.** A piece of inclosed ground of moderate size, often adjoining a house and covered with grass or planted with trees; a garden. Now *dial.,* a kitchen- or cottage-garden (cf. DOOR-YARD, KAIL-YARD).

See also *grass-yard,* GARDEN-YARD.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1027 Paradis..es a yard cald o delites Wit all maner o suet spices. *Ibid.* 13593 He sent him to þe yard.. For to gedir sum sum tale. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 30 And after Phillis Phillibert he was clepped in the yerd. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) 1. 255 Zardes for herbys sande for vigerys. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxvii. 121 (Add. MS.) He had a faire yerde (*Harl. MS.* gardin), that he meked loved. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Yerd, or zorde..; *ortus.* 1477 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 101 *note,* Oure landis of Auld Lindois with the brewlandis cotaglis and yairdis thereof. 1536 HELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. lvi, Aqua vite..maid..of aic naturall herbis as grew in thair awin yardis. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. (1590) T a b, Quhat Christ suffered for thame in the zarde [*sc.* Gethsemane], and on the crosse. 1718 in *Nichols Progress Hold.* (1874) 23 House biggings yairds orchyairds. 1792 BURNS *Auld Rob Morris* iii, My daddie has nought but a cot-house and yard. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* ix, Any of her apple-trees or cabbages which she had left rooted in the 'yard' at Woodend. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Yard,* the garden belonging to a cottage or ordinary messuage. 1889 MARY E. WILKINS *For Aunty Melody* etc. (1891) 21 Four .. old apple-trees, which stood promiscuously about the yard back of the Cottage.

**4.** An inclosure set apart for the growing, rearing, breeding, or storing of something or the carrying on of some work or business. Cf. *brickyard,* DOCKYARD, *dung-yard, hemp-yard,* ORCHARD (OE. *ortgeard*), SHIPYARD, *tan-yard,* VINEYARD, †*wine-yard* (OE. *wingeard*).

1378 [see *hemp-yard,* HEMP *sb.* 6b]. 1520 *Perth Hammermen Bk.* (1889) 13 Ressavit fra John Kynloch of this yeres exercises of the yairdis, 23*s* Lo. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvii. 7/2 Great leuers..the whiche they founde in a carpenters yarde. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary c.* 16 § 7 Before the said Roate..he hanched a Gate of the Yarde or Grounde within the same Roate..shall fortune to bee made. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 23 He hath a little yard, gravelled fit for wrastling. 1696 *Phil. St. Pet., Dom.* 282 The porter, master-caulker and 'teamer' of Deptford Yard. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 200 A ship-carpenter in the yard at Portsmouth. 1803 TRIMMER in *Natural Chron.* XV. 6 A vil. 7/2 Great leuers..the whiche they founde in a carpenters yarde. 1855 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary c.* 16 § 7 Before the said Roate..he hanched a Gate of the Yarde or Grounde within the same Boate..shall fortune to bee made. *a* 1810

comaunde him to ben stille, and he ne wil nouth, scal taken him þe yerde. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* I. xxii. (1859) 24 Treiyng with yerd of loue, and discipline. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iv. ii. 404 Herbi entreteined hem that he wolde come to hem in yerde, that is to seie, in peyne. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 363, I shall.. meekly take her chastisement and yerd.

†**5.** A wand, rod, or staff carried as a symbol of office, authority, etc.; hence in fig. phr. *under the yard*, under (the) rule or discipline (of). *Obs.*

*c* 1205 Lay. 22480 He bar on his honde mone mucle 3eord of golde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 382 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Sephi hi nomen a red ston and dudden him a-hoste And ane yerd on his hond. 13.. *Sewyn Sag.* (W.) 142 Diocliciun the maistres herde, He strok his berd, and schok his yerde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's Prol.* 20 Heuen ayond he I am vnder youre yerde Ye han of vs as now the gouernance. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 813 Iheru was him geuyn vp þe 3erde & 3olden þe rewme. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Yerde, berne a-forne a worthyman. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* ccxxii. iv. Compleynte..Refourmed were well vnder his yerd egall.

**8.** *Naut.* A wooden (or steel) spar, compassatively long and slender, tapering at its centre from, and forward of, a mast and serving to support and extend a square sail which is bent to it.

(See also Jackyard, Mizen-yard, Sailyard, Topgallant-*yard*.)

*c* 1395–*c* 1440 [see Sailyard 1]. 1336–7 [see Yard-rope]. 1485 *Mann. & Household. Exp.* (Roxb.) 109 My maistyr paid for the yerde [of the sail] shipt. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xli. xvii, At last with strikyng of a mayne yarde horne, they knew that thither of the son was borne. 1604 Capt. J. Smith *Virginia* iii. xii. 90 Some [ships] lost their Masts, some their Sayles blowne from their Yards. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 1 We put abroad all the sayle that was att anchor. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 21 The Saila were almost always splitting and blowing from the Yards. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* iii. xii, Fain to strike the galley's yard, And take them to the oar. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* i, Fog lying out on the yards, and hovering in the rigging of great ships. 1868 Mounts *Earnshy Pur. Trob.* (1870) I. 26 We saw the yards swing creaking round the mast.

†**6.** A straight rod or bar used in various connexions (see quots.). *Obs.*

*a* 1450 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 160 The yerdys called sparres of the halle ryalle. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surveying*, A rodde or yerde, that Geometricians haue to describe lynes. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc., Navig.* xii. (1597) 322 b, In vsing M. Hoods staffe they shall.. need..onely to obserue what degrees of the yarde the shadow of the Vane streeketh.

†**7.** A measuring-rod; *spec.* a measuring-rod or -stick of the length of three feet; a yard-measure.

See also Cloth-yard, Gospel-yard, Metevand (OE. *metegyrd*), *tailor's yard* (Tailor 2*b*, 6*b*).

*c* 1000–1050 *Institl. Pol.* xii. [vii.] (Liebermann 478) And riht is, þæt ne beo smiþ meteʒyrd [*Quadripartitus* mensuralis virga] lengre bonne oðer. . . 3 yerde (see Metevand). *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Yerde, metwande, *ulna*. 1557 North *Guevara's Dial. Princes* Gen. Prol. A ij, By theyarde is the merchaunts measure,with a lye. 1656 Blount, Moul., in *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 13 He had a very just yard at home. *a* 1658 Cleveland *London Lady* 81 The Heroes of the Yard have left their Shops. 1724 Arbuthnot *John Bull* iii. v, If they offered to come into the warehouse, then strait went the yard slap over their noddle. 1752 *Johnson Rambler* No. 177 ⁷ 7, I was bound to a linendasher.., I learned in a few weeks to handle a yard with great dexterity.

**8.** A unit of linear measure equal to 16½ feet or 5½ yards (but varying locally); a rod, pole, or perch. Now *local*.

Sometimes spec. distinguished as *land-yard*.

900 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 351, xvi, xyrda gauoltinga. 901–9 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Aevi Sax.* (1865) 156 Dæs landes be suðan Sare cyrtenan.. xxviii. yearda on lange & on breade ðar hit bradest is ffi geurda, & ðær hit unbradest is anne geurde. 12.. *Textus Roffensis* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 690 To wercenne þa land & þa ʒyrd to Stoke & to Stanhæh [*l. tres virgatas plancas ponere*]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1449 Her vnder is a ʒerde depe A water. 1828 [see *land-yard*, *Land* 26, 29]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1. 74 As a linear measure, the yard varies considerably in different parts of the kingdom; at Hertford the land-yard is 3 feet; at Saltash, 16½ feet; at Falmouth and Bridgewater 18 feet; and at Downspatrick, 21 feet. 1868 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk., Yard*, a measure of five and a half yards (16½ feet) both long and square, *i.e.* the same as a rod, pole, or perch.

**9.** A measure of length (the standard unit of English long measure) equal to three feet or thirty-six inches. (See quot. 1867.) Also the corresponding measure of area (*square yard* = 9 square feet) or of solidity (*cubic yard* = 27 cubic feet).

The earlier standard was the ell = 45 inches (*ulna* in Stat. de Pistoribus, 13th cent.) it was succeeded by the *yeorge* (1353 Act 27 Edw. III, stat. 2, c. 10), of which *yard* is the English equivalent.

1307 Lancs. *P. Pl. R.* v. 214 Thanne drowe I me amonges drapers my donet to lerne, . Amonge þe riche rayes I rendred a lessoun, To broche hem with a pak-nedle. . And put hem in a presse and pynned hem þerinne, Tyl ten zerdes or twelue hadden tolled hem thereinne. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 64 For v yerdis and a half of grene lokeram iij s. iij d. 1496–7 *Ibid.* 32 An Awlter cloth..conteynyng in lengthe iij yardes di. 1518 *Surr. Chantries Commr.* (Selden Soc.) III. 158 A gowne of vi brode yardes at vj^s the yard xxxvj^s. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 46, I am in the waste two yards about. 1617 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observe.* E 4 b, I bought..a yard and halfe of pudding for flue pence. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 78 One hundred of Lathes will cover six yards of seeling, and lathing is worth six pence the yard. 1784–91 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* (1786) IV. 43 Sir James could obtain but 40*s.* a yard square for the cupola of St. Paul's. 1829 Scott *Ht. Irothed* vii, Sir Cook, let me have half a yard or so of broiled beef. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Seven-Dials*, When penny magazines shall have superseded penny yards of song. 1848



— *Donkey* xxxv, Mrs. Perch..has made the tour of the establishment, and priced the silks and damasks by the yard. 1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 207 The British standard of length is the Imperial Yard, defined as the distance between two marks on a certain metallic bar, preserved in the Tower of London, when the whole has a temperature of 62° Fahrenheit. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXX III. 615/1 The railway line..was perfectly straight for a distance of over 700 yards.

*fig.* 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 27–31 We imagine God to be lyke our selues, & we measure him by our owne yard. *a* 1626 Bacon (J.) A peer, a counsellor, and a judge are not to be measured by the common yard.

**b.** Vaguely, hyperbolically, or fig.; phr. *by the yard*, at great length, without end.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 192 His yelow heer was broyded in a tresse Bihynde his bak a yerde long. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 19 His beard a foot before him, and his hair A yard behind. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 209 Latinisms,–yard-and-half-long words. 1853 C. Bronte *Verdant Green*, I. viii, Spit out a yard or two more, Gig-lamps. 1859 'Way Readwood' *The O. V. H.* v, He..could talk by the yard of what little he did know. 1881 H. James Jun. *Portrait of Lady* xlii, He had a face a yard long; I wondered what ailed him. 1900 Elinor Glyn *Vitite Elizabeth* (1906) 127, I danced it with some idiot who almost at once let me down in front of my cousin Felix by the yard.

o. Phr. *Yard of ale*, etc., a deep slender glass for liquor, or the amount of liquor contained in it. *Yard of clay* (*clay yard*), a long clay tobacco-pipe. *Yard of satin* (slang), a glass of gin (see Satin 16. 4). *Yard of tin*, a coachman's horn.

1828 M. Mordaunt *Years of Childh.* xvi, 52 The haberdasher is..the spirit-merchant,..and taps the commodity he deals in..white is Max, and red is Cognac. *Yarry*. Then give me a yard and a half of red.] 1842 *Punch* II. 23 His Majesty unprecedingly indulged him in a pot of half-and-half and a yard of clay. 1866 *Lond. Misc.* 19 May 235/2 The stolidity of a myneer smoking his clay yard. 1870 *N. & Q.* 4th S. VI. 84/2 In the Arsenal Vinis, or leave, of the mock corporation of Hanley (Staffordshire), the initiation of each member, in 1783, consisted in his swearing fealty to the body, and drinking a yard of new ale—i. e. a pint of port or sherry out of a glass one yard in length. 1892 *Ibid.* 9th Ser. III. 97/1 The (disused and probably illegal) 'yard' of ale. 1893 Lady Dilke *Art in Engl. Towns* 18 A yard of tin, larger than a coachman's horn, but more than a pint. 1902 *Tatler* 8 Jan. 52 A 'Yard of Ale' Glass. It is 38 in. high and contains two pints of ale. 1903 C. G. Harper *Hrse. Dilig. Road* II. 1. 2 The old instrument [*sc.* the key-bugle] came over from Germany in 1818, and for a time pretty thoroughly displaced the old 'yard of tin' the earlier guards had blown so lustily.

**d.** In Building: *Yard of lime, mortar, stone*, etc.: see quots.

1851 Laxton *Builder's Price Bk.* 9, 27 cubic feet, or 1 cubic yard, contains 27 striked bushels, which is considered a single load. 1858 *Ibid.* 1 load of brick-work is 1 cubic yard of chalk lime, and 3 single loads or yards of drift. 1881 *Dict. Archit.* VI. 84/2 A standard perch being taken as 21 ft. for 1½ ft. long, 1 ft. thick, and 1 ft. thick. This is about ¼ yard of stone', or a ton, or horse-load. 1892 *Ibid.* VIII. *Yard of Lime*; or load. In 1750 it was equal to 30 or 32 bushels.

**10.** In full *yard of land* (OE. *gyrd landes* = L. *virgata terræ*): An area of land of varying extent according to the locality, but most freq. 30 acres: commonly taken as = a fourth of a hide. See also Yardland.

688–95 *Laws Ine* cxi. (Liebermann), Xif non xebingað xyrde landes, gebicge man þæt ʒebinge uingata þreo mæte to rædeʒafole & ʒeces, ʒif se hlaford him wile þæt land arænan to weorce & to ʒafole, ne þearf he him onfon, ʒif he him nan bocland nelle. 8.. *Rectitudines* 227 in Earle *Land-Charters* (1888) 320 Þis synd þære anre ʒyrde landʒemæro æt æschyrste þe ʒebyrað into þære hyde æt toppeshamme. 958–90 *Charter of Oswald to Worcester Cod. Dipl.* 1181 Þes landes sumne dæl fæst syndon .iii. hida æt Bradingcotan and an ʒyrd æt Genesnofre. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1083 (Laud MS.) Swa swyþe nearwelice he hit lett sit aspyrian, þæt nan an ʒyrde ne an ʒyrde landes.. þæt nan þegen scæt on his ʒewrite. 14.. *Tretyce in W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 44, iiij acres makithe a yerde of londe and v yerdis makithe a rode. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surveying* 7 b, *Golowe Gyr.* 39 A Charter..confermyng to ser Iohn Trillawe.. and to Edmond Mabaunke, v. messis, vij. yerdis of lond. 1534 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Selden Soc.) I. 107 Seuen..of and in one hole yarde half a yard and a close called Grymes closse..in thyngden. 1580 in F. J. Baigent *Rec. Crondal* (1891) 163 One yarde of customed land..presented to and with the said messuage or messuages. 1618 *Crt.-roll Gt. Waltham Manor*, Ad tres rodas prati, parcellam de Alizaunder's yardland,..et ad unam carucatam terre..parcell. unius virgate terre vocat. Alisaunder's yarde.

**b.** An area of land of the extent of a quarter of an acre, being, theoretically, a strip of land bounded by a 'yard' (sense 8) and a furlong, i. e. 5½ × 220 yards; a rood.

*c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 990, v. acris and a yerd of his arable lond. 1623 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, One acer of land and ye yarde in the wild pearches. 1726 in W. Wing *Gen. Steeple Aston* (1873) 54 Fourth part of an acre of meadow ground, called a yard. 1893 Mas. B. Stapleton *Three Cof. Parishes* 309 A yard is a fourth part of a lot.. An acre is a lot.

†**11.** The virile member, penis; also = Phallus I. (So L. *virga*.) *Obs.*

1379 *Glouc. Coll. MS. 19* No. I, lib. 1, ca. 3, fo. 5 [The urine] passith out by the ʒerde. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xvii. 12 Se shulen circumsida the flehs of the fortheremore parti of youre ʒerde. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 92, I haue oft tyme sene pulsis grecus for to ayale in þe cancre of a manner ʒerde. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 676, 1 was vsually made of Figge-tree. 1693 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 420 A monstrous child..It hath three yards and he makes use of them all at once. 1748 tr. *Fegetius Renatus' Distemp. Horses* by Hir Yard drops Matter. ] Fayne *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 30 Aboulhuan..abode naked, with his yard and his arse exposed.

*Ironyf.* 1883 Shaks *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 114 It [*sc.* the pineal gland] is also called the Yard or Prick of the Brain..because it resembleth a Man's Yard.

†**b.** = *pintle-fish* (see Pintle 3). *Obs.*

1688 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* xviii. 174 *Colpdanus*, Yards or shamefishes..Gesner..saith that the French men call this fish the Asses-prick, and Dr Wotton temeth it grosly the Pintle fish. 1668 Lovell *Hist. Anim.* 230.

**12.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* as (sense 5) *yard-mast, -tackle* ; (sense 9) *yard-band, -glass, -length, -rule, -stick* ; *yard-broad, -deep, -long, -square, -thick, -wide* adjs.; (sense 11) *yard-ball, -mattering, -syringe* ; *yard-fallen* adj. ; *yard-coal, yard-seam*, a seam of coal a yard thick; †*yard-fell*, the foreskin ; *yard-worm*, a thick gut. 1. Also Yard-arm, -Measure, -rope, -wand.

1850 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* Descr. o], 'Yard-bals or Bels hung 'twixt the flesh and skin. 1818 *Craven Glass.*, *Yard-band*, a rod of a yard in length. 1892 'Ladies yard-band,' the belt of Orion. 1721 *Bell's Weekly Mess.* 16 Jan. All such Callicoes.. which shall be within One Eighth Part of a Yard of Yard broad.. shall pay as Yard broad. 1855 J. Phillips *Mem. Geol.* 188 'Yard coal,' or 'Main coal.' *Geol. Mag. Suppl.* x. v., *Yard-fallen*, a term..to express a malady to which horses are sometimes subject, which is the hanging down of the penis from its sheath.. the creature not being able to draw it up again. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* iv. 4 †Serde yelle. 1880 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. V. 456/1 The expense of *ye. 6d.* was not his main reason for the non-replacement of the absent 'yard-glass. 1843 J. Ward *Borough Stoke-upon-Trent* 367 The drinking of a 'yard-length-glass of ale at a single draught. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* (Cott.) 1911 Þe .ix. sun In Ewen Bows they ʒerd long Arrows shot. 1798 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 278 A rope of yard-long words. 1820 Scott *Nigel* I. A rod and yard-long visage. 1891 R. Boldrewood *Col. Reformer* (1892) 172 A yard-long dogfish was dropped into..the boat. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 1000 They saue the breaccs,or peces of clothes about their bodies their 'yard-mastes, and boyeing sailes to flee. 1708 Kersey, *Yard-mattering*, a Distemper in Horses. 1862 *Times* 21 Jan., Strong active relays of pitmen and miners can soon clear the shaft from the 'yard-seam. 1894 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 388 Their 'yard-square towels. 1828–32 Webster, 'Yard-stick. 1844 Emerson *Lect., Yng. American* Wks. (Bohn) II. 240 Every man his own yard-stick of yard-stick, and surveyor's line. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 507 Senator Hueiman was content to measure the Bland Bill with the yard-stick of the constituency. 1883 Gentl. *Glass. Coal-mining, Yard-stick*, an ash walking-stick, 3 feet in length..which a manager or undenviewer carries with him in the pit, and which he roughly measures any lengths of work done..and with which he chastises unruly lads. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1725) 455/1 Make an Injection into the Yard, with a proper 'Yard-Syringe. 1805 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk.*, *Yard-stirks*, buckles attached to the fore and main yards..whereby..the boats..are hoisted in and out. 1901 K. Stewart *By Allan Water* ix. 1 'Yard-thick walls brae testimony to its own great age. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 407, 1 piece Yard-wide quit. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xv. (ed. 3) 139 The practice, in retail linen-drapers' shops, of calling certain articles *yard-wide*, when the real width is, perhaps, only seven-eighths or three-quarters. 1886 Bisset *Irishdict* I. 9 Newspapers in his 'yard-wide days, as he would term the period of his earliest acquaintance with manhood. 1893 *Lady* 27 Aug. 173/2 The yard-wide tweed usually sold for trousers. 1883 Gentlef. *Glass. Coal-mining*, 'Yard-Work', synonymous with yards.

**Yard,** *v.*1 *Colonial* and *U. S.* [f. Yard *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To inclose (cattle, etc.) in a yard. Also with *up*.

1828–32 Webster, *Yard*, *v. t.*, to confine cattle to the yard; as, to *yard* cows. (A farmer's word.) 1840 *Burl. Farmer's Comp.* 68 The cattle should be kept constantly yarded in winter. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 201 An old Creeper hen that had been yarded with the Shanghai rooster. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, Well, lad, suppose we yard these rams? 1865 [see Round *v.* 1 c]. 1885 Pinch-Elliton *Adventures Australia* I. 83 Seven or eight men were yarding up a mob of cattle.

**b.** To store up (wood) in a yard.

1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* Jan. 12 The logs which have been yarded or piled up for winter use. *Windsor Mag.* Sept. 405/2 They [*sc.* beavers] commence to build their houses and yard-up wood for the winter in September.

**c.** To shoot deer in their yards.

*a* 1891 *Tribune Bk. Sports* 432 (Cent. D.) 'Pot-hunters' have other methods of shooting the Adirondack deer, such as yarding and establishing salt licks.

**2.** To mesure, or to resort to winter quarters (see Yard *sb.*1 5). Also with *up*.

1852 H. W. Herbert *Field Sports* (ed. 4) II. 199 Here it [*sc.* the moose] still breeds and yards in winter. 1874 W. Stamer *Gentl. Emigrant* I. 293 The caribou do not yard. They winter it out on the hills. 1894 *Century Mag.* Jan. 354 They do not..yard up until the deep snow comes.

**Yard,** *v.*2 [f. Yard *sb.*2] In sense 1 used to render Manx *slattys*, [*l. slat* rod, wand or authority.]

1. *trans.* In the Isle of Man, to summon for hiring: used of the hiring of servants by the coroner of a sheading on behalf of those entitled to a prior claim for their services at a low wage.

1668 in M. A. Mills *Stat. Laws I. of Man* (1821) 116 That the Coroners of this Isle, who..by Statute have had the Benefit of yarding of three Servants within their Sheading, ..shall for the future have but the Benefit of one yarded Servant. 1667 *Ibid.* 138 The Wages mentioned in the said Statute was only Intended for such Servants as were made

13 Jurys and Yarding 1726–31 Waldron *Descr. Isle of Man* (1 05) 59 If any man or maid servant be esteemed extraordinary in their way, either he [i.e. the lord's steward], the Governour, or the two Deemsters have the power to oblige such a servant to live with them for the space of 1 year, and receive no more than six shillings for their service during the said time ... Then they call yarding. *Ibid.*, All servants who have any apprehensions of being yarded 1891 *Deemster Acts* 1 109 The old privilege of yarding, given by ancient customary law to the Lords, Deemsters, and Chief Officers in the island

**2** To furnish with sailyards

1676 T. Miller *Modellist* Index, In the second Page is shewed a Rule for Masting and Yarding 1705 *Land Gen.* No 4117/4 Easy Directions to Build, Rigg, Yard, and Mast any Ship

**Yardage**[1] (yā·rdedʒ). [† Yard *sb.*[1] + -age.] The use or of charge for a yard in which commodities are stored, cattle included, or the like

1889 *Baltimore Sun in Public Opinion* 16 Feb., The object of the company is to regulate the price of pig iron by holding it in stock in yards leased by the company at the furnaces Each furnace is to turn over all its product to the company, the furnace-master paying the company yardage at the rate of 25 cents a ton.

**Yardage**[2]. [† Yard *sb.*[2] + -age.]

1. The cutting of cant at a fixed rate per yard.

1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* The amount for yardage includes powder, fuse, and candles furnished by contractors and paid for as labor 1887 *Munch. Exam.* 8 Dec. 5/4 The men employed at the Colliery have struck for an advance of wages of 10 per cent They also demand an extra 25 per cent. on yardage

2 The aggregate number of yards, amount estimated in yards.

1900 *Referee* 23 Sept. 1 (Cass Suppl.) That the courses as measured from end were as represented in yardage 1906 *Daily News* 3 Feb 8 The yardage of linen goods exported in 1905 was the largest ever recorded during the last twenty

**Ya·rd-arm**, *sb. Naut.* Also 6 yardes-, 7 yards-, 7–8 yard's-. [f. Yard *sb.*[2] 5 + Arm *sb.*[1] 8 a.] Either of the two ends of a yard, *esp.* that part of either end which is outside the sheave-hole. Often used for the yard as a whole

1553 in Hakluyt *Voy* (1589) 266 The pickesse ducked at the yards arme, and sodainelye 1589 T. Washington tr. *Archelogus* 1 b, 11 x 44 b [He had] three strappados to the yardes arme of the gilly 1627 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* B 7, They are divided from the yard, arme of Navie, into the deep sea of dispaire 1746 *Brit. Mag.* 48, I shall go near to complement you with the Ceremony of the Yardarm 1755 Smollett *Quix.* II. vi. (1803) IV 235 He ordered the two Turks to be hanged at the yard-arm 1870 Lubbock *Origin Civ.* 2 Nunw *Tour to Eng.* I. ix 188 It was the time of hard fighting, and frequent thronging up at the yard arm 1887 *Times* 12 Aug. 13/4 The duty of rousing them ... to their proper place at the yard arm of one of Her Majesty's ships

**o.** advb. phr. *yard-arm and* (or *to*) *yard-arm*, said of two ships so near to one another that their yard-arms touch or cross. Also *yard-arm to or with* (another ship)

1666 *Pepys Diary* 6 Oct. No 60/1 The Saphire and Success bore in among them, laying yard arm to yard arm with the Admiral and Vice Admiral 1689 *Hist.* 388/2 The Ships Yards-Arm and Yards-Arm for 5 Guineas. 1759 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 62/1 The second lieutenant then came upon deck, and boarded the ship bravely, yard-arm and yard-arm 1781 *Log of Aldemarle* 24 Nov. in Nicolas *Dispatches* (1849) VII. p. 89, Finding the Albemarle yard arm with them they submitted 1865 H. Kingsley *Silcote of S.* xiii, The old frigate [and French] were yard-arm and yard-arm; grapnel to the enemy, and boarding him suddenly 1887 Bernay *Has the world worst etc.* vi, On engagement, yard arm being hung yard arm and yard arm with Claude

d *attrib.*

c 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech* 18 The goose neck or yard arm iron 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Yard arm irons*, wooden wedges for the yards at those parts where they support the lifts and braces *Ibid., Yard arm piece*, an octagonal piece of timber supplied to replace a yard arm if shot away 1883 Yeo. *Yeomanship for Boys* 68 The yard arm men get hold of the head earrings

Hence **Yard-arm** *v. nonce wd.* (*a*) *yard arm and yard-arm* (*intr.*), to be yard-arm and yard-arm; (*b*) *trans.* to hang (a person) from the yard-arm

1824 Hackwood *George Cruikshank* 180 Who [1900 XIII 312] they are yard arm and yard arming, athwart-hawsing, marlinspiking as honest seamen invariably do, in novels 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* (U. S.) XXVI 499/2, I wish to God you did been yard armed ten years back!

**Yarded**, *ppl. a.* [† Yard *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + -ed.]

1 Furnished with a yard or yards

1634 T. W[ayer] *Songs & Poems of Love & Drollery* 42 How you are yarded both in flesh and Land Is all on which they stand.

**2** (See Yard *v.*[2] 1.)

**† Ya·rdel.** *Obs rare* A yard-measure

1804 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I 493, I am glad you disdain measuring lines like linen by a yardel.

**† Yardhove** *Obs.* In 5 yerdhouse. [† Yard *sb.*[1] + Hove *sb.*[1] (cf. † unhoof.)] prob. Ground Ivy (*Nepeta glechoma*)

c 1430 *M. E. Med. Bk* (Heinrich) 221 *Herba pro balneis* [alt yardhoue [etc.] c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 901 The making of a bathe medicinable Holy hokke & yarde hok [*Fairf.* yerdhouue]

**Yarding**, *vbl. sb.*[1] [† Yard *v.*[1] + -ing 1.]

1 *concr.* (See quot.) *U. S.*

1840 Burl. *Farmer's Comp.* 315 *Summer pas ture*, stuff carried into the yard, and trodden by the cattle, for manure.

2 Storage in a yard.

1865 Grandy *Lumber Importer's Guide* 129 Market value of bricks, allowing for expenses of yarding, &c. 1886 *Law Journal* 21 July 460/2 The freight and yarding charges

3. (See Yard *v.*[1] 3.) *Colonial.*

1898 R. Boldrewood *Rom. Canvas Town* 97 The same process of yarding up, catching, and cropping proceeds

**Yarding**, *vbl. sb.*[2] See Yard *v.*[2]

**Yardland** (yā·rdlænd). Forms: see Yard *sb.*[2] and Land *sb.*; also 5 *Sc.* **yertland.** [= *yard of land*, OE *gyrd landes*: see Yard *sb.*[2] 10 a.]

1. = Yard *sb.*[2] 10 a.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 205 [She] 3af & confermyd pe same per lefonde pat reysnolde of halso 3af to mynchons of Godestow ... a yerdlond 1577 Holcker 619 *Ingerla.* = *yerdland* 1464 *Rolls of Parli.* V 526/2 A Mese, a Yardland, 111 Acres of Medowe 1496 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot* 492/1 Aliam peciam terre prope aquitatem pretem dicti tenementi inter le yertland quondam et terram quond dicti Nich 1512 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1915) 265, I bequeth to Robert my sone fforethers house with the yarde lande 1529 in Lowsley *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II 17 John Selby was seised of 1 Mese & close and di yeard land with thappourten aunces 1551 in Phillipps *Wills* (1836) 199 A hous with 10 yeardelandes lying in Hinkley 1581 *Stat. of Churches Act in Antiquary Apr* (1888) 172 Rec. of parishioners by the yard lands towards the bell 1590–3 *Act 35 Eliz.* c 7 §1 Every person having One Yarde Lande or more in his Possession lying within the saydes Fyve Miles [of Oxford] 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* iii 97 How are the tenants wonderfully pilled by the yard land, the oxegang, acres or rent 1684 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 15) 1. 77, 30 acres ordinarily make a yard land 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5483/4 A Messuage, Close, and half a Yard Land 1720 Kennett *Monitions & Advices* 11 55 The same worthy Benefactor gave another half yard Land whereon poor People of the Parish of Hinley 1740 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. I. 244/2 The said Mr. Cooper hath left to the said John Weston part of an Estate in Hugglescote, in the name of one Yard Land with Common for the said Yard Land 1742 J. Davis *Acts & Wills* 14 The tenantry yard lands (or customary tenements) which are still subject to rights of common *Ibid.* 15 There are many instances where a yard land of about £30 per annum, contains about two acres of meadow land, eighteen acres of arable ... and a right on the common fields for perhaps forty sheep and a proportion 1897 *Eng. Hist. Review* V. 564 The 3 yard land was the normal holding of the *gebur* or *villanus*

**2** Incorrectly used for Yard *sb.*[2] 10 b.

1540 Record. *Gr. Africa* K vij, A rodde cl lande, whiche some call a rode, some a yarde lande 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 67 A Rood is sometime called a Yard land, but very corruptly, for a Yardland containeth much more than an Acre

**Yardman**[1] (yā·rdmɛ̄n). [Yard *sb.*[1] A man who has charge of, or is employed in, a yard, e. g. a farm yard, builder's yard, stable-yard, railway-yard, etc.

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Yard-man*, the hind who has the particular care of the farm yard and of the cattle fed there 1848 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Yard-man*, a man ger or overlooker in a builder's yard 1864 *Social Sci. Rev.* 406 The payment of washers, ostlers, and harness-cleaners who are all classed together as yard men is ordinarily 1s. 6d. between the cab owners and drivers 1876 *Illust. Newsletter* 22 Nov 3/3 Yardman wanted in the neighbourhood of Pelfast, would be required to clean boots, &c., and make himself generally useful 1903 *Field* 5 & 12 *York sh Times* 28 Feb 2/2 Yardman Wanted, must be good milker.

**Yardman**[2]. *Naut.* [Yard *sb.*[2]] In *royal yardman*, *upper yardman*, etc., a sailor occupied in the royal yards, the upper yards, etc.

1886 Albert Victor & George *Cruise H.M.S. Bacchante* I 55 He was a smart royal yardman 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 815/1 An unfortunate upper yardman made some blunder in furling

**Ya·rd-measure.** [† Yard *sb.*[2] + Measure *sb.*] A rod, bar, or tape for measuring by the yard (but not necessarily restricted to that length)

1832–4 R. Surtees *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 192 A silk yard measure in a walnut shell 1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* II, I looked at the little bit of wax candle she kept for her thread ... at the little house with a thatched roof, where the yard measure lived, at her work box with a sliding lid

**Ya·rd-rope.** *Naut* [f. Yard *sb.*[2] + Rope *sb.*[2]] † a. (*pl.*) The permanent rigging of a yard

1336–7 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 4 (P.R.O.) In viij petris cord' de canabo pro duobus yerdropes inde faciendis 1398 in *Pipe Roll* 22 *Ric. II*, m. 31/2, alios trusseropes, xxv yerderopes, xxij Wyndyngropes, ij Cranelynes 1400 in *For. Ac. 3 Hen. VI*, f. 5 Ij Frippetropes ij Trusses pro yerderopes 1485 *Naval Accts Hen VII* (1896) 68 Yerd ropes for the top

b (See quot. 1867.)

1850 J. S. Cadden *Curtail d. Mem.* III (1912) 89 The Intended Victim was on the Forecastle the Yard Rope from the Fore Yard rove round his neck, The Yard Rope Man'd 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Yard rope*, that by which a yard is hoisted for crossing, or sent down. Also, rove for execution.

**Yardsman** (yā·rdzmǽn). [f. gen. of Yard *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1]] = Yardman 1.

1892 *Daily News* 1 Aug., The Guardians of Mile End Old Town require, for their industrial schools, ...a man as Yardsman. 1898 *Law Times* LXXX 702/2 The servant was bond fide employed by the defendant as yardsman and labourer 1888 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 5/4 A yardsman who saw the approaching train shouted to the guard

**So Ya·rdswoman.**

1817 in A. J. C. Hare *The Gurneys of Earlham* (1895) I. 282, I was conducted by the newly appointed yards woman, to the door of a ward 1905 *Daily Chron.* 5 Sept. 1/6 Holborn Union ...The Guardians of the above Union require a Girls Yardswoman at the Schools, Mitcham, Surrey

**Ya·rd-vessel.** [† Yard *sb.*[2] + Vessel *sb.*] A three-foot rod for measuring. Also *fig.*

14 *Customs of Malton in Surtees Misc* (1890) 61, I yerde wande, and weghtes 1586 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 221 The yerdward was not a lawfull yerdward. 1614 Cockeram in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I 161 Whom [or his daughter] shal be measured by the yard wand of the world he might perhaps have bestowed upon one of the greatest Monarchs in Christendom 1636 Cleveland *Poems* 136 And were't not pity But both should serve the yardwand of the city? 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II 453 He is sure to be a mere yard wand of Nature, and marked with as much brass as the implement he uses to measure frippery with 1830 Dennison *Clerk's Watch-w.* 3 If all our yard wands and other measures were burnt 1893 Tennant *Anna's* I. viii, But the smooth faced snubnosed rogue would leap from his counter and till, And strike, if he could, were it but with his cheating yard wand, home

**Yare** (yē·r), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 ȝearo, ȝearu, ȝearw-, ȝeorw-, -uw-, 2–3 ȝaru, 3 ȝareou, -ew, -ue, -ow, ȝeorwe, ȝaru, -ew, ȝeruh, *pl.* ȝarre, 3–4 ȝar, 3–5 ȝare, 4 yarwe, ȝeare, *Sc.* ȝair, yhar, (4–5 yore, ȝere, yere), 5 yar, youre, 6 *Sc.* ȝor(e, ȝoir, yoir, ȝ- yare. [OE. *ȝearu*, -*o*, = OS. *ǥaru*, MDu. **ǥare* (Du *gaar* done, dressed), OHG. *garo*, *garawo*- ready, prepared, complete (MHG. *garo*, *gar*, *gare*(*n*)*o*-), ON. *gorr* ready made, prompt, skilled (see Gare *sb.*); prob. a compound of O'Teut. **ga-* 'ge-' prefix and **arwo*-, represented by OE. *earu* ready (*in* Exodus 339 for MS. *gearu*), OS. *aru* (MS *pl aroa*) ready (for reaping), ON. *orr* ready, liberal-handed, in neut *ort* advb. quite, OE *earwunga*, (late Northumb.) *arwunge* gratis, freely, and perhaps Goth. *arujō*, OHG. *eruadin* in vain.]

1 Ready, prepared & of persons: const. *to* with sb or inf.

*Beowulf* 211 (Gr.) Beornas gearwe on stefn stigon c 888 Ælfred *Ioeth* xxxvi § 6 Ic hebbe nu ongiten þæt ðu eart xe-aru to ongiunne mina lara. a 1000 *Andreas* 234 (Gr.) Ic wæs ȝeara ȝudum 1205 *Lay.* 9455 Weoren alle þa cnihtes ȝarewe (c 1275 ȝarl) to þon fihte *Ibid.* 22978 We beoð alle ȝarewe (c 1275 ȝarl) to ȝonne & to riht a 1225 *Leg. Katth.* 2334 Ich am ȝarur & ich wes þet to cunst me ȝarkin a 1240 *Ancren Riwle* 170 & ȝe habbeð iȝarewed ȝuer to bote ȝeruh and bit ȝe uorȝuenesse 13 *Cur. de l.* 343 Sȝylle he hovyd and bode yore I to them he thought to ryde more 1340 *Ayenbite* 1 Nou ich am ȝare ouþ stuf nou wat hi þenche 1390 *Gower Mirour* 21 I am ready and yare ȝo we in fere To þat bryht 1603 Harsnett *Pop. Impost.* 143 And so the second may be yare and ready, to take his cue and turne of the former 1605 Shak. *Lear* *for M.* IV. ii. 61, I hope, if you have occasion to vse me for your owne turne, you shall finde me yare

b. of things, in later use, (of implements) ready for use.

c 900 *Crn-Wulf Cerst* 1270 Þæt hy him ȝemþa to fela grim hi lefeȝ reord to wite and to ord wecð 971 *Blickl. Hom* 39 Xedoh þæt eow sy mete ȝearo on minum huse 1205 *Lay* 5783 Þe tur wes al ȝaru 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 He is ȝare þet ture euer ȝeruh a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3781 (Gött.) Sal hundes ernely to him wirð He hokeð paðes swiðe narewe & haueþ mid him his blenches ȝarewe c 1330 *Il. Palerne* 805 Mi dere goste dounsale my dep is ȝare 1570 *Levins Manip.* 11 Myself wanted verily which schip was ȝarest, to faire forþ at þat flod c 1400 *Gamelyn* 90 Afterward came his brother And made to gamelyn ful mure mone & sore 1598 Earl Worc. & *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 59 To see that everie souldier [should have] his furniture as yare and fine as might be 1627 Capt. J. Smith *Sea Grammar* 35 The Corporall is to see the souldiers keepe their armes cleane, neat, and yare. 1832 Markham *Country Contentm* (ed. 4) I. xi. 78 You shall observe that all your Tooles, Lines, or Implements be fast in the Sea time, yare, fit, and ready 1799 Scott *Covenanters & Late* xxxiii, At each pommel there, for battle yare, A Jedwood axe was slung 1808 — *Marmion* I. 13, I gave him hold his knock yare.

c *To make yare* to make ready, get ready, prepare (also *refl.*)

c 1290 *Beket* 821 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Pare fore make þe yare I nov þine a countes to ȝelde 13 *Coer de L.* 1185 The knyght it taken without les Dyghten hym, and made hym yare c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2270 *Philomela*, This Iherius let make hise shepis yare And In-to grece hymself is forth I-fare c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv 292, I shall found me to make yare. 1865 Tom Taylor *Ball of Brittany*, *Bran* II, To night make me a good ship yare

2. Alert, nimble, active, brisk, quick.

13 *Coer de L.* 6251 Ihe Sarezynes fledde I In there herte they were soo yarwe, Alle here yates they thought too narwe. c 1445 *Pol. Relig. Love* 114 Thys legat was youre absolut, pees to make betwene the kynge & John c 1495 *Cast. Perseve* 18 in *Macro Plays* 72 God hym ȝeuyth to aungelis ful ȝop & ful ȝare 1606 Shake. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii 131 A halter'd neckes, which do'th the Hangman thanke, For being yare about him 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid.*

*Yng Seamen* 18 Ye yare at the helme 1598 VANBRUGH *Short Vind* 27, I believe, had the Obscenity he has routed up here, been buried as deep in his Church yard, the Yarest Iban in his Parish wou'd hardly have toat up his Snout at it 1706 I. WARD *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 11 It's the Trick of a Hound to be yare at Hares only 1832 CARLYLE *Misc* (1857) II. 253 Like a right yare steersman 1869 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 284/2 *Yare*, which is still current in Norfolk, and is pronounced yar, = brisk, active, lively.

b. Of a ship: Moving lightly and easily; answering readily to the helm; easily manageable. 1390 GOWER *Conf* II 237 The wynd was good, the Schip was yare 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 231 The Persian gallies, being high engaged, heauy, and not yare of stereage. 1626 SHARP. *Ant & Cl.* III. 93 Thy Liber shippes are yare, yours heauy. 1630 — *Temp* V. i 224 Our Ship Is tyte, and yare 1634 Sir W MONSON *Naval Tracts* III (1704) 355/1 She is Roomsom for her Men, and yare to run too and again in. 1658 USHER *Ann* VI. (1658) 749 Caesars ships being yare, and ready for any needs of service 1658 PAR. MOORE in *Pareus's Yare Cyprian* 177 Nurzah commanded 25 of his yarer gallies to assault our right Wing

3. *Comb.*, as *yare-handed*, †*yare-witted*, quick-witted

[c 900 in *Rede's Hist* V. ii, Se xconga wæs xeworden hale þehaman & xearowyrde on xeþrace.] c 1205 LAY. 3008 Heo wes alre þinzest Of alle þare wifelest *Ibid* 5619 Þa cnihtes weoren wise & fule yare wiȝe 1728 W. BERCHAM *Very rd Herd's Jrl.* 80 Don Pedro took care however to be very officious o yare handed (as we say) with his present.

**Yare**, *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeare, ȝeare, ȝearo, ȝore, 2–4 ȝeare, 3 ȝere, 3 ȝare, 4 ȝaire, ȝhare, ȝar, ȝare(e, ȝarre, 4–5 yare, (4–6 ȝore, 5 yore, yere), 5–6 *Sc.* ȝair, (6 ȝoir, ȝor), 4 *Yorks* (*y aich*) yare [OE. *ȝearo*, *o*, *e*, also *gear(e)we*, *-we*, corresp to OS. *ȝaro* (Du. *gaar*), OHG. *garo*, also *garawo* (MHG. *gare*, *gar*, also *garwe*, (*e. gar*) completely, quite, ON. *g(j)arva*, *gerva* quite, clearly, plainly, adv. of *gearu*, etc : see YARE *a.*]

†1. Quickly, without delay, promptly, immediately, soon. (Often used vaguely, esp in *full yare*, as a riming tag) *Obs*

*Beowulf* 2748 (Gr) Þæt ic ȝeare sceawize swegle searo-ȝimma 1250 *Gen & Ex* 2866 Dat, bi ol leue, hise folc yare, Dra dunes ouer þe sand, hem for ase þe deserd *a* 1300 *K Horn* 497 (Cambr MS) Abelleus tolde him ful ȝare He he hedde fare *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2837 (Hatt's he told), Þan þider ȝan he, and bi bou come ȝar *Ibid* 3225 Þan wit is ich hundred yare, Wit al þe ȝynne þat wit him ware. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III 656 And by the mote þat passyt ȝar And entryt soone in to the tare 1425 *Jrnl Portugale* 13 In þat tyme þe emperour of Rome was chosyn The kynges of Persens and of Calabere yare, And other two or thre. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth* 3536 The ermyte Answeryd ywythe yare *Coy Wares* (C) 5944 Þe kyng ȝede with hys fyste he smote me sore Sythen he flewe away full yare 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. v 37 Ane duelling place for I cannis hyngit hes Ane full ly, I he armes of I roy has set wp in memor *Ibid* II. xi 21 Send wa thi help als ȝoir, And conferme all thir takinnis sene before.

†b. Nimbly, briskly *Obs. rare.*

1542 J. TAYLOR (Wiser P.) *Hist Wherein Berry Voy.* Wks 1630 II/1 Though it [a tongue] continuall toyld, And went as yare, as if it had bin Oyld

c. As exclamation. = to Quick ! esp. in nautical use *arch.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl.* v. ii 286 Yare, yare, good Iras; quicke Me thinkes I heare Anthony call 1610 — *Temp.* I. i 7 Cheerely, cheerely my harts yare, yare Take in the Topsaile 1881 HAGGARD *Mr Meeson* III vii 99 Yare, yare ! Lord knows I don't want to ! Here they come ! What's to be our fate ? Keep clo ; for a wee while 1807 MORRIS *Jason* IX. 241 Yare—for the ebb runs strongly towards the sea.

†2 Well, thoroughly; (often with *knowe*, etc.) certainly, plainly, without doubt. (Often used vaguely as in 1) *Obs*

*Beowulf* 2656 (Gr) Ic wat ȝeare þæt narron ealdȝewyhta þeȝnes 1000 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1258 Wæl-ȝrim ȝode ȝeorn aceonnel sunu sobfæst cyninz *a* 1000 *Boeth Metr* IX 9 He het hin to gamene xerra forbærnan Romanu burȝ *c* 1000 *Sax Leech* Lake xx 6 Þæt ȝeare ȝelyfe ic þæt hit sie sunne. 1135 write ȝa *Cronn* LAY 18216 Ah þat ȝare neh hit wiste 23. *E Willet P* A 834 þe leyde tyme is þer to ful mete In apokalyps we wryten ful yare *a* 1425 *Cursor M* 4866 (Trin) Gode men, he seide, ȝe wil fare, But of oure kyng I warn ȝou ȝare *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 641 Se that thow leis thame not, bot ȝame thame full yare 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iv. 97 Nor quha was blyth þat hard thaithus, full ȝore !

†**Yare**, *v. Obs* Forms: 1 ȝearwian, 3 ȝ(e)arwen, ȝ(e)rwen, ȝarwen, 3 ȝare, 4 ȝhare, yare [OE. *ȝearwian*, f. *ȝearu* YARE *a*

Cf OE *ȝiernan*, OS *ȝarwnian*, *ȝernuan*, MDu *ghernen*, *ȝeir*, *ȝernen*, OHG. *garwinen* (MHG. *ȝ gerben*, *gerben*), ON *gerkyja*, *gjorkyja*, *gera* (see GAER *v.*)]

*trans* To make or get ready, to prepare.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix § 13 Se hata sumor dryzð & ȝearwað sæd & blæda. *c* 1000 *Ags Gosp* Luke i 76 Þu zæst beforan drihtnes ansyne his wezas ȝearwian *c* 1205 LAY. 220 He makede ane heye burh Þa burh wes wel ȝarwed [*c* 1275 *Stockh.*] *Ibid* 30834 Brochius ȝarwede his ferde. *a* 1300 *St Gregory* 1178 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII 71 Whan þe nyst was al ȝone a bote þe fischere he ȝan ȝare 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 58 Þe kyng ȝaued his folk, on twoke alle þat he myȝht

*refl c* 975 *Rushw Gosp* Matt vi. 25 Hu ze eowic zearwize *c* 1205 LAY 7473 ȝarwede eow to flihte 1338 R BRUNNE *Chron* (1810) 90 He ȝarued him to bataile *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4866 Þan ȝarie he him ȝapely & a-ȝayne turnes.

**Yare**, *vbl.* YARE; obs. f. YORE

**Yare**, **y'are**, abbreviation of *ye are*.

1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Maide Exch.* I 3 b, Welcome M Golding y'are very welcome sir.

**Yarely** (yē·rlĭ), *adv. arch.* Forms: 5 ȝarely, ȝarle, -ly, yeerlie, 7–9 yarely. [OE. *ȝearolīce*; see YARE *a.* and -LY 2, and cf OS. *ȝarolīko*, OHG. *garalīhho* (MHG. *garlīche*).] Quickly, promptly; nimbly, briskly, †diligently, = YARE *adv.* in various senses.

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 288 Ic þæt ȝearuloze ongiten hubbe *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 1035 Outhire maschen sow maynly þerto Or ȝefes ȝarely vp þe ȝerde & ȝeld me to cite 1573 BP LUPSET *Husb* (1878) 144 Acres lawles to doo without feare, how yeerlie together they band 1600 SHAKS. *Ant & Cl.* II. iii 218 The Silken Tackle, Swell with the touches of those Flower soft hands, That yarely frame the office 1610 — *Temp* I. i. 4 Pull too t, yarely, or we run our selues a ground 1627 SMITH in J Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* A 8, His new Fleete runnes ouer Seas and Lands, And's now so victualled, rigd and yarely ly'yes. 1668 DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* V. i. (1670) 37 Come yarely my mates, every man to his share of the burthen *a* 1682 J. RAMSAY *Autobiog* (Camden 1917) 29 In London great out cryes about this tyme [*c* 1631] against whom [*sic*] whose yarely called Armyniana as if whom of that opinion intended yarely to introduce Poperie 1812 W LENNART *Auster & w* 114, III The younker Austius Down he dilong yarely gan slip, horse and hat 1820 EARL OF LEICESTER *Journ.* 1 886 The Count kept plunging, yarely, through the ranks [1897 D. LAWSON *Tunnyson* II 133 *note*, He revived many fine old words which had fallen into disuse, and I heard him regret that he had never employed the word 'yarely' !]

‖ **Yari-yari** (yā rīyā rī). [Native name.] Name in Guiana for the wood of *Duguetia quitarensis*, also called *lance-wood*

1898 Woods *Veg. Kingd.* 1862 *Lust in* Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 144 A piece of tough wood from the Yari yari tree

+**Yark**, *v Obs* Forms: 1 ȝearcian, 2 ȝearcoen, ȝeirke, 2–5 ȝarke, 3 ȝarrkenn (*Orm.*), ȝearken, ȝark, 1(6)u, ȝzerek-, ȝarekien, ȝerke, 4 ȝarke, ȝarken, ȝerken, ȝeare YARK *a.* with factitive suffix as in *reklecan* to delay, f. *eald* old] *trans.* (and *refl.*) To make ready, prepare.

*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen* xix 3 Þe ȝe ȝearcode him ȝereord and hiz eten *a* 1188 *O L Chron* an 1091 (Laud MS) Þa ȝeyrkede he him fare to Englelande ron *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 19 He hauȝð us ȝarket þa ecke blisse ȝif we wulleð hit nemien in heouene reiche *c* 1200 ORMIN 9151 Forr þatt he ȝarrkenn hemm till wel Onnfeng Cristes cumm *c* 1205 LAY. 23275 Ȝarkede hi hi þes duȝe Nime ssapen kode *a* 1225 (see YARK *a.* 2) *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 88, 6 Was neuer man born þat cuth wele Þat wel cuth a mober kin. 1297 LANGTF. *P. Pl. B* xvi. 80 He þe ȝeres sueth, ȝeldeth and ȝerketh hym to reste *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 882 He forget not, but ȝepely ȝarket hym perfore *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 6070 His men he ȝarked to ȝeden into that ȝight 1708 KENNET, *To Yark*, (N[orth] C[ountry]) to prepare

b. To put in a position; to set, place. *Yark to*, to shut ; *yark up*, to open. Also *fig.*, *pass.* and *intr*, to pass into a state.

13 *Gaw & Gol Knt* 820 Þay soldon hym þe brode ȝate, ȝarked vp wyde *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 414 Yong men ȝepely yarke into Elde *Ibid* 5595 Now is ȝepely a yere ȝarket to ȝeld 1440 *Promp Parv* 230/2 (MS. Harl 221) To ȝate ȝare be yarkyd comaund *Ibid* 10738 Þai ȝarkit to be ȝatis ȝepely ouer-ȝon *Ibid.* 11265 Þu kepyn the cloyse of this clene burgh, With ȝep men at be ȝatis ȝarkit full ȝok

Hence †**Yarking** *vbl. n.*, preparation.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 8982 Hard it es, be wind o sun Þat yarked was til adam kin ! 13 *E. E. Allit P* B 758 Sif þou seruen hit, set ȝarke I haue ȝrace *a* 1400 *Fmare* 309 Such sorow was þer yarked ȝon

Hence + **Yarking** *vbl sb*, preparation.

*c* 1000 *Ags Ps* (Spelman) second ic 29 (K. 27) Ȝearcunge Þeotena Þinra, *preparationes tuorum seculi*] *c* 1000 Ognm 10800 Ite [*sc* John's baptism] was ȝarkinng ȝen fallubkt Patt Crist selli shollde settenn.

**Yark**: see YERK.

‖ **Yarko**, **-koo** (yā·rkō). [Native name.] A South American monkey of the genus *Pithecia*, esp the white-headed sakis, *P. leucocephala*.

1834 *M'Murtrie Cuvier's Anim Kingd.* 48 *Simia pithecia*, ... (The Yarke) Blackish, circumference of the face whitish 1855 DALTON *Rirl Guiana* I 449 The yarkee is the name given by some to the white faced Saki

+ **Yarken**, *v. Obs.* [f. YARE *v.* + EN 5] *trans.* To prepare

*c* 1205 LAY 7384 Leteʒ ȝarkui [*c* 1275 ȝarkiȝ] mine scipen. *c* 1250 *Gen & Ex* 1940 Hold up þin ȝerde to be se And del it so on sunder del Þat þu ben ȝarkened wepnes wel 14 *Chaucer's Rom Rose* (MS.) 716 Lasyes of loue ful wel sownyng They songen in their ȝaukoning [*cf Thynne* 1532 ungeuning] *Pr. on P. servento* 5, 6 *t en son pator*]

**Yarl** see JARL.

**Yarly**, obs. Sc. form of EARLY *adv*

**Yarm** (yām), *sb* Now *dial* [Goes with next.] A discordant outcry ; a scream, yell.

13 *E F Allit P* B 971 Such ȝ ymerly ȝarm of ȝellyng þer ryzed *a* 1398 *Knt Ne ss* 26 Mar (E D D) Da ȝarma an' spittin' o' da cat

**Yarm** (yām), *v.* Now *dial* Also 4 ȝerme, 9 yerm, yirm. [OE. *ȝiermean*, *ȝyrman* ] *intr.* To utter a discordant or mournful cry, to scream, yell, howl, ; to wail.

*c* 1000 *Lambeth Ps* cxxvii § 1. Ȝyrmde ȝe ȝeomrunge heorian minre 13 *Cursor* 1510 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1881) 456 Þe kinde bygane to crye & ȝarme. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth* 3911 Than cho ȝermyd and pepid as ȝarke in hir chambre *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1745 Vmquile he nouȝt as a nonk quen he lawes ȝar mand \ ȝerand

1825 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 178 In hels abusse Where they may yaule and yarme til that they burst 1880 HECKENDORF *Curse yr Moors* 26 A Holder with may Yawle and Yarme [*sic*] 'till his Lungs ake. 1898 JAMIESON, *To yarm*, to whine, to complain ; also, to ask in a querulous tone; implying the idea of continuance. 1884 *Trans Yks E Anglian, Yarm, Yam* or, to shriek or yell. *a* 1885 HOGG *Mister's Warning* XII, They yermit and flaite a summer's day

+ **Yarmed**, *pa. pple.* [Y- 4, ARM *v.*] Armed. 1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 4502 Eiste hundred saiȝes Vol of saracens yarmed 1340 *Ayenb* 83 Godes knyztes, pet he hoq gost hep ȝydobed and y armed. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 6976 He nas yarmed nother hym ne hyh. 1466 LYDG *Dr Civil. Pilgr* 7810 Hys hanbye were yarmyd wel

**Yarmouth** (yā·mŏþ). Name of a fishing town on the coast of Norfolk . used *attrib.* in *Yarmouth bloater* (also *transf.* a native of Yarmouth), + *ca pon*, †*coach* (see quots.), *herring* Hence **Yarmouthian** (yāmrŏu·þiăn), *a.*, belonging to Yarmouth ; *sb.* an inhabitant of Yarmouth.

1624 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 15 The Hollanders be very welcome guests vnto the Yermothian Herring buyers *Ibid* 26 These Hollanders be Hosted with the Leyestof men, as they be with the Yermothians. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) II 268 A Yarmouth Capon That is a red herring. *a* 1700 B E *Dict Cant Crew, Yarmouth Coach*, a sorry Jade or Gelding drawn by one Horse *Yarmouth Pie*, made of Herrings, highly Spiced, and Preacted by the City of Norwich (upon the forfeiture of their Charter) unto the King 1732 *MSS. Dr Lortland* (Hist MSS Comm) VI 153 These machines, which now in merriment are called Yarmouth coaches. They are something of the nature of a sledge, as at Bristol, with one horse 1832 Yarmouth bloaters (see BLOATER) 1850 DICKENS *Dav Copp* iii, Peggotty said that she was proud to be herself a Yarmouth Bloater 1867 SMITH *Sailor's Word-bk*, Yarmouth capon, a chicker built vessel with lug sails, similar to the drift or mackerel boats.

**Yarn** (jaun), *sb.* Forms 1 ȝearn, 4 ȝern, ȝern, ȝarn, 4–6 ȝern(e, ȝiern, ȝeern, 5–7 ȝarne, 6 ȝarn, ȝarone, yeryn, yorne, 6–7 yearne, 7 yearn, 5– yarn. [OE. *ȝearn* str. n. = WFris. *jern*, NFris. *jaarn*, *juarn*, MDu *gaern*, *gas(e)rn* (Du. *garen*), OHG , MHG., G *garn* yarn, †net, ON. (Sw., Da) *garn* (whence GAEN *sb* ) ; app. f the root represented also by **garnd* in ON. *gorn*, pl. *garnar* guts, and **garnjo-* in (OE. *mittgeorn*, OS. *midgarni*, OHG. *mitigarn* MIDGERN (= enteritis), and, with dental, (outside Teutonic) to Lith. *širna* intestine, L. *hariolus* soothsayer, *harispex* one who divined the future from an inspection of the entrails of victims, Gr *xορδή* intestine (CHORD) (Cf., moreover, Skr. *hiré* vein, L. *hira* empty gut, *hilim* :– **hisl-* smaller intestines)]

1. Originally, spun fibre, as of cotton, silk, wool, flax , now, usually, fibre spun and prepared for use in weaving, knitting, the manufacture of sewing thread, etc.

Also with qualification, as *cotton*, *linen*, *woollen yarn*

*c* 1000 *Sax in* Wr-Wülcker 238/27 *Pelatum*, ȝearn *c* 1050 *Supplt to Ælfrics Glass* ibid 285 *Jo Gil n.*, unwun den ȝearn *c* 1325 *Glos. W. de Biblesw* (1810) 257 Þe wolle is klewe of yarn *Ibid*, Do my ȝarn on the reel 1376 *Rolls of Parl* II. 353, 1 lout maker de ȝern 1390 in W Hudson *Leet Jurisd N.* (1892) 110 Þe bespyd of Yarn ȝerd ȝern þretti ny d 1440 *P K Writh* (1882) 46 Item dimi dium þe ȝeren and wolle that is in it is house 1524–28 *Acts H Navy. VIII* c 6 § 1 The carder shall not be payd ner ȝeyen to the same Clarker yerne of the same Woll *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin* (1769) VII 47 Good Marchandis at Lyrpole, and much Yrish Yarn that Manchester Men do by ther 1552 *Inventories Ch Goods, Suffolk* (Camden) (1890) IV 6 On cope of whitte & blewe ȝorne 1607 SHAKS *Cor* I iii 93 You would be another Penelope ; yet they say, all the ȝearne she spun on Ylisses absence, did but fill Ithica full of Mothes 1708 in *Jrnl Friends Hist Soc* (1918) 28 We had about eighty Score of Yarn stole out of garth 1784 COWPER *Task* I 53 With the yarn of his own toil 1844 LELAND *Itin* (1769) VII 47 Good Marchandis at Lyrpole, and much Yrish Yarn that Manchester Men do by ther 1525 *Inventories Ch Goods, Suffolk* (Camden) (1890) IV 6 On cope of whitte & blewe ȝorne 1607 SHAKS *Cor* I iii 93 You would be another Penelope ; yet they say, all the ȝearne she spun on Ylisses absence, did but fill Ithica full of Mothes 1708 in *Jrnl Friends Hist Soc* (1918) 28 We had about eighty Score of Yarn stole out of garth 1784 COWPER *Task* I 53 With the yarn of his own toil 1844 H. STONE *Uncle Tom's C.* xii, A long stocking of mixed blue and white yarn

*Jap* 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 294 The webbe of our life, is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks 1862 IX 32 In the mingled yarn of human life

*transf.* 1862 JOHNS *Brit Birds* 56 Eggs, from which emerge bodies enveloped in a soft plush of grey yarn

b. *collect sing* put for fishermen's nets. *dial*

1535 COVERDALE *Isa* xxix. 22 I wil cast my net above them, and catch him in my yarne. — *Hab* i. 15 They take vp all with their angle, they catch it in their net, & gather it in their ȝarne [Luther *garn*]. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Yarn*, 'Take the yarn', said of herrings when they strike the net.

c. In *Rope-making*, one of the threads of which a strand of rope is composed (= ROPE-YARN 1).

1697 [see STRAND *sb*.] 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I 69 *Yarn* called twenty five, twenty, and eighteen thread yarn, differs only in the finenes.s the twenty five being the finest, and the twenty 1823–9 P. BARON in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 253 The first part of the process of rope making is that of spinning the yarn or threads. *c* 1860 H STUART *Seaman's Catch.* 28, 18 yarn spun yarn *Ibid* 51 If it is for bolt rope 3 inches in circumference, each strand will have 30 yarns

2 *To spin a yarn* (*fig*, org. *Naut slang*), to tell

a story (usually a long one); also, ‘to pitch a tale’. Hence *yarn* = a (long) story or tale: sometimes implying one of a marvellous or incredible kind; also, a mere tale. *colloq.*

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., *Yarning or spinning a yarn*, signifying to relate their various adventures, exploits, and escapes to each other 1835 Marryat *Jacob Faithful* ix, Come, spin us a good yarn, father. 1835 — *Pacha of Many T.* xvi, ‘You must tell me, and you will have gold.’ ‘I tell her! that is, spin a yarn; well, I can do that.’ 1837–42 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. vi. 97 Like uncle Parker, . . I am a spinner of long yarns. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 164 Catch them spinning any of their yarns to me. 1897 Hall Caine in *Humanitarian* XI. 234 What I mean is that without motive a story is not a novel, but only a yarn 1903 *Dublin Rev.* July 131 All further developments of these traditions were mere ‘yarns’.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *yarn ball, hose, -man, rope, scales, spindle, stockings, thread, twine; yarn-buyer, factoring, -jobber, manufacture, -manufacturer, -seller*; (sense 2) *yarn-slinger, -teller*; yarn-cloue, a ball of yarn; **yarn-croft** *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, a rope-yard; **yarn-dyed** *a.*, dyed while in the state of yarn or thread; **yarn-frame, -guide** (see quots.); **yarn-house**, a building in which yarns are stored; **yarn-reel** (see quot.); **yarn-roll** = Yarn-beam.

For other names of apparatus used in yarn manufacture see Knight’s *Dict. Mech.*

1585 Higins *Junius’ Nomencl.* 908/2 *Fila paganica*, a fat stuff with soft wooll or hare, and vsed to be tossed from hand to hand: a tossing ball: a yarne ball. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 12 The eight and last class. 1822 Scott *Monast.* xxxiii (*Old Play*), Like to the yarn clew of the drowsy knitter, Dragg’d by the frolic kitten through the cabin. 1634–8 Bewerton *Trav.* (1638) 200 [It] is dainty quay here in, and many yarne crofts here about. 1885 Hummel *Dyeing Textile Fabrics* 280 If in any dyed woollen fabric, the dyeing took place while it was in the state of thread or yarn, it is said to be ‘yarn dyed. 1841 Lever *O Malley* xxviii, A race of linen weaving, Presbyterian-yarn fostering folk. 1831–3 Barlow in *Pneumat. Metrop.* (1834) VIII 145/1 The yarn reels were placed individually in a stationary frame at the head of the rope-ground; and it appears that the register was to be conveyed onwards towards the ‘yarn-frames, as the strand was twisted by the hook of a sledge, at the end where the process commenced, until the whole strand was made *Ibid.* 756/2 The ‘yarn guide, or perforated plate, through which the rope yarns pass individually to concentre at the press block. 1578 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 144 Eyght small women chyldren spynnyng weeuted yarne, and as many knittyng of worsted ‘yarne hose. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I 60 After yarn is tarred, it is laid in the ‘yarn-house to harden. 1796 *Lond. Gaz. No.* 1368/2 William Hill, ‘Yarne jobber. 1637 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 108 Goodman Howes, of Bury, ‘yarneman. 1882 *Encycl. Brit* XIV. 604/2 The whole operations in ‘yarn manufacture comprise (1) heckling, (2) preparing, (3) spinning. 1783 *Specif. Patent No.* 1565. 1 Thomas Haker, of Derby ‘Yarn Manufacturer. 1796 *Rigging & Seamanship* I 88 A ‘Yarn reel is a circular board, nailed in the middle to a piece of oak, 16 inches long, and is used to wind spun yarn on. 1831 G. R. Porter *Silk Manuf* iii. 215 A weight, suspended over the ‘yarn-roll to preserve the requisite tension of the threads of the warp. 1534 in F. W Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 49 A ‘yeryngrope. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi, The ‘yarn sinks in the weigh beam. 1795 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1288/4 Richard Corbett, of Spittle-fields, ‘Yarn-seller. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang*, ‘*yarn-slinger*, one who writes tales in newspapers. 1820 W. Tooke tr. *Pictet* I. 236 She draws the ‘yarn-strands from her bosom. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/8 Blue ‘Yarn Stockings. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* II. 219 Knitting coarse yarn stockings . . 1891 *Ladies’ Home* 749 The most confirmed American ‘yarn-teller. 1833 J Rennie *Alph. Angling* Pref. p xiii, My ‘yarn thread was strong enough to twitch out the trout to the green bank where I stood. 1600 J Keymer *Art of Fishing* (1664) 7 To make Cables and Cordage, likewise ‘Yarn Twine, and Thred for the making of Nets and Lines.

**Yarn** (yāːn), *v. colloq.* [f. prec. (sense 2.)] *intr* To spin a yarn, tell a story. Hence **Yarning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1811 [see Yarn *sb.* 2]. 1849 Cuthbert *Green Hand* I, Somehow or another I was always a yarning sort of a customer. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamilton* xxxi, The head man of that yarning is a rattling good sailor to boot. 1880 *Spectator* No 38 655 So we talked and yarned till I grew sleepy and dozed off 1888 W. Clark Russell *Death Ship* vii, We speedily fell to yarning.

**Yarn**: see Earn *v.*¹, Yearn *v.*, Yern.

**Yarn-beam.** *Weaving.* [Cf. *G. garnbaum.*] The roller on which the yarn is wound.

1598 Florio, *Subbio*, the roule whereon the weauer rouleth vp his web or worke, called a yarne beame 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed 3) XVIII 651/1 The roll or yarn beam, on which the warp is rolled when put into the loom. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* 140 The yarn-beam is capable of revolving on its axis.

Hence **Yarn-beaming** *a.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Yarn-beaming Machine*, a machine for winding the warp-yarn on to the beam

**† Yarn-chopper.** *Obs.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + Chopper 4.] A dealer in yarn.

Also in various corrupt forms in Law Dicts., etc. ◦ see Jousn chopper

1489 *Act 8 Hen. VI*, c. 5 Les regratours du file appelles Yernchoppers.

**† Yarndle.** *dial Obs.* Shortened form of Yarnwindle.

1688 Martindale *Country-Surv.-Bk* x 69 Those things which have in Cleashire we call Yarndles, being used by Country Housewives in winding of their Yarn.

**Yarned** (yāːnd), *a.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + -ed 2.] Furnished with yarn.

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* i. ii. 16 Five spindles yarned.

**† Yarnen,** *a. Obs.* [f. Yarn *sb.* + -en 4.] Made of yarn.

1598 Florio, *Trag. T., Fpit.* etc. (1887) 190/b, A paire of yarnen [for. yarnen] stockes to keepe the cold away.

**Yarnet, -itt.** *Sc.* [Of obscure formation.] = Yarnwindle.

1808 Jamieson, *Yarnett*, an instrument for winding yarn. 1840 *Whistlebinkie Ser.* v. 94 The nefauld yarn was ta’en awa’, To the yarnits mest, to lay an’ twist.

**Yarn-spinner.** [f. Yarn *sb.* + Spinner] 1. A workman who spins yarn.

1823 *Examiner* 1 Mar. 137/2 T. Kemp, Knaresborough, yarn-spinner. 1895 *Daily News* 10 May 6/3 Yarn spinners are very busy on old orders.

2. One who ‘spins a yarn’; a story-teller. *colloq.*

1865 Miss Whitney *Gartnorthys* xxvi, ‘Captain Verse, we want a yarn—a real sailor’s yarn!’ ‘Oh, I am no yarn-spinner’, said the young captain, evasively. 1883 *Harper’s Mag.* Jan. 32/2 The story was ‘improved’ by the marine yarn-spinners of that port.

So **Ya rn-spinning.**

1867 Smyth *Sailor’s Word bk*, *Yarn-spinning*, a figurative expression for telling a story 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 732/1 Statistics are at the foundation of all modern systems of yarn spinning

**Yar-nut,** north. dial. var. *ernut*, Earth-nut. (Cf. Garnut, Jurnut.)

1808 *Trevisa’s Glosses*, *Yarnut*, earth nut, or pig nut. 1908 [Miss Fowler] *Betwo. Trent & Ancholme* 230 The earth-nut, or ‘Yar nut’.

**Yarnwind.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 **yarewind.** [OE. *gearnwinde* (= WFris. *jernwine*, NFris. *jaarnwinne*), Dan. *garnvinde*, Mlg., G. *garnwinde*, Icel. *garnvinda* skein of yarn), f. *garn* Yarn *sb.* + **winde* = OHG. *winta* (G. *winde*) winder. Cf. Garnwin ] = Yarnwindle.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) H 268 *Repositile*, gearnuuinde. *c* 1000 *Ælfric* in Wr Wulcker 211/15 *Conductum*, gearnwinde. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 *Yarnwynde, or yarnwynde, or yarnwynde*, a machyne for holdyng yarn intended to be made into skeins or wound into balls The yarnwinde consisted of four arms 1903 *Eng Dial Dict., Yarnwinds* [Shetland, Caithness]

**Yarn-winder.** Also 5 **yernwynder.** [In ME. an alteration of OE. *gearnwinde* or of Yarnwindle by association with *wynde* (cf. Du *garenwinder*); in mod E. f. Yarn *sb.* + Winder.] An apparatus for winding yarn, as a yarn-reel or a yarn-quilter.

1414 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wulcker 564/31 *Appendium*, a yernwynder, or a reel 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech*, Yarn-winder

**Yarnwindle** (yāːnwnd’l). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms : 4 yar-, 3arewyndel, 5 3arn(e wyndel, 3arwyndyl(, yerwyndylle, 6 yarne wyndell, 9 yarn-windle. *Sc.* yarn-winble. Also Yardle, Yarringle. [f. Yarn *sb.* + *-windle*, instrumental formation on Wind *v.*¹ (see -le 1); cf. Yarnwind.] An appliance for winding a skein of yarn into a ball : = Garnwindle.

*c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A yarnwyndle. *c* 1340 *Gominade* (Oxford) 157 *Serum, clarum et non spissum*, bechyr, chese, ne 3arewyndul. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 3arne wyndel, or ga(rnwyndel (*S.* or yarwndyl), *girgillus*. *c* 1475 *Piers Plow.* in Wr.-Wülcker 704/33 *Hic turgillus*, a yerwyndylle 1530 Palsgr. 291/1 Yarne wyndell, *tornette*. 1601 Scott, *Descr. idem*, a pare of blades, or yarnwindles. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxii, Nae man willingly wad cut short his thrid o’ life, but the head o’ his yarn was fairly measured off on the yarn-winnles. 1821 — *Pirate* v, Speak her fair and canny, or we will have a ravelled hesp on the yarn-windles!

**Yarpha** (yāːrfă). *Sc. dial.* Also **yaurf** (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [ON. *jarfi* (*jarfa*), gravel.] A peat-bog ; peet combined with clay or sand

1805 G Barry *Orkney* I. 110 *Yarpha*, or bog soil, whose characteristic is a black colour connected with the power of retaining moisture. *Ibid.* In those places the ars most elevated, the *yarpha* soil is most frequent 1808 Jamieson, *Yarpha*, ‘Peat full of fibres and roots, *Orkney*. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxxvi, The poor *yarpha*, as the benighted creature calls peat-moss

**Yarr** (yāːr), *sb.* Sc. and *north. dial.* [Cf. NFris (Fohr) *jïr* spurrey.] The corn-spurrey, *Spergula arvensis.*

1775 *Essays Agric.* 435 Farmers in Scotland will take notice that this (*S. rubra*) is not the plant known among them by the name of *Yarr*, spurrey, *Spergula*. 1812 Soutar *Agric Banff* App. 46 Those lesser weeds that go under the common appellation of sheilach, gule, yarr, &c. 1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 590 S[pergula] arvensis is a common weed in sandy soils, in Scotland called yarr.

**Yarr,** *v.* : see Yar.

**‖ Yarra** (yæ·răː). *Australian.* [Native name.] The name for several Australian species of *Acacia*.

1888 ‘R Boldrewood’ *Robbery under Arms* xlvi, We stopped inside a yarran scrub.

**† Yarringle.** *Obs.* Also 7 **yarwingle.** Corrupt form of *yarwindle*, Yarnwindle.

Cf *garnyngcyll* in ed. 1499 of *Promp. Parv.* (Camd. 188/1)

1622 Cotgr., *Tournette*, a Rice, or Yarwingle to wind yarne on. 1687 *Mother Shipton* 7 A pair of Yarwingles, made in the form of a Cross. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 287/2 A Pair of Yarringles with its Pins, set upon its Stock. . . This Instrument is also of great use with Housewives, by the help whereof Yarn Slippings or Hanks is wounded. . . Some term these a Pair of Yarringles or Yarringle Blades.

*Ibid.* 288/1 The Yarringle foot. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk*, *Yarringles*, same as *Yarnacles* [= *Yarnwands*]

**Yarrow** (yæ·roʊ), *sb.* Forms : 1 *gearwe*=, 5 3arwe, 3arowe(n, 5–6 yarowe, 6 yarowe, yarrowe, 6– yarrow. [Ok. *gearwe* = Du. *gerw* (= **garwe*), OHG. *gar(a)we* (G. *garbe*), of uncertain etym.] The common name of the herb *Achillea Millefolium* (N. O. *Compositæ*), also called Milfoil and Nose-bleed, frequent on roadsides, dry meadows, and waste ground, with tough greyish stem, finely-divided bipinnate leaves, and close flat clusters of flower-heads of a somewhat dull white, often tinging to pink or crimson ; sometimes used medicinally as a tonic. Also extended to other species of *Achillea*. b. Applied with defining words to plants of other genera. **Soldier’s Yarrow**, *Stratiotes aloides*. **Water Yarrow**, a name for various water plants with finely divided leaves, as *Ranunculus aquatilis*, *Hottonia palustris*, and the genus *Myriophyllum*. (Cf. Milfoil 2.)

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) M 304 *Meriffile*, 3earwe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II 354 *Wiþ* þæm manblum þe readan 3earwan. *c* 1050 *Agr. Voc* in Wr.-Wulcker 297/31 *Millefolium*, 3earewe. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS* 200 Milfelofe or meeldod or 3arowe 1440 *Promp. Parv* 526/2 *Herc millefolium*, 3arow. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv* 526/2 3arowe, millefoyle, herbe for neese bledeyn 1593 Durham *Thistle & Rose* 83 Full crafty they were in 3arrowe. 1596 Langley tr. *Fol. Vetg. De Inventi.* i xvii 32 b, Mercurie founde the vse of Moly, Achilles Yarowe, Kaculaplus, Panace 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iv ci 141 Water Milfoyle or Yeariow *Ibid* 143 Knights Milfoyle or Soldiers Yerrow. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii. clxxxvi 678 Water Milfoile, or water Yarrow, hath long and large leaues 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxii. 203 The Yarrow with all he stops the wounded-made gore. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb* Table Hard Wds., *Yarrow*, is an hearbe called the water-Violet, and groweth in Lakes, or standing waters. 1616 Surflet *Countrey Farme* 911, I take yarrow to be an ill fauoured Plant for Cheese where it preuails much in I and 1789 J. Robertson *Perth Dyebk.* 14, 15, 18 *Hottonia palustris*. Water Violet. Water Yarrow 1866 Mrs Riddell *Race for Wealth* xxii, A lawn in which I have gathered yarrow.

**† Yarrow,** *a. dial. Obs.* [dial. var. Arch (OE. *earg*) ; cf. Sussex *yarr* (W. D. Cooper *Sussex Dicts.* 1853).] (See quot.)

1611 Bullokar *Eng. Expos*, *Yarrow*, fearefull, faint-hearted.

**Yarrum** (yæ·rŏm). *Thieves’ Cant.* Also 6 **yaram, 6–7 yarum.** [? Milk.

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 83 Yaram [1573 tr. *P.* 3arum], milke 1608 Dekker *Lanth & Candle Lt* I, If we mawnd Pan nam. lap, or Ruff-peck, Or poplars of 3arum. 1641 Brome *Jovial Crew* II (1652) F 3, Here’s Tydrum and Lap, and good Poplars of Yarrum. 1890 *Daily N.* 8 *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

**Yarth(e,** obs. or dial. f. Earth.

*a* 1300 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* 36/19 Apon the yarthe 1888 Horne *Arthropy* iii. 24 Yarthe, (Kent.) The yarthing Hooke, or forke is an Instrument of Husbandry as well as warre. 1825 Jennings *Obs Dial W. Eng.*, *Yarth*, earth.

**Yarwhelp.** *local.* Also 6 **yerwhelp, 7 yarewhelp, yarwhelp, 8 yarwhelp, 8–9 yarwhup.** [? Imitative of the guttural cry of the godwit ; cf Yarp.] The bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica* or *rufa*) and the black-tailed godwit (*L. ægocephala* or *melanura*).

1577 in *Archæologia* (1821) XIX. 289 Yerwhelps 9 1587 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* i. xiv 26 The flesh of Yowin, Yarwhelps, Plouer, Wodcocke 1834 in Simpkinson *Washingtoniana* (1860) App. p. xiii, Yarwell 1 dozen and 12 in 14 oz. 1666 Sir T. Browne *Let to Dr Merrett* 29 Dec., A Yarwhelp, Barker, or Lattraine. 1678 Ray *Willughby’s Ornith* 292 The Godwit, called in some places the Yarwhelp, or Yarwip. 1794 *Ant. & Pros Sir Downe* xxvii. 227 The Yarwhelp or Yarwip, is something like a Woodcock.

**Yarwingle,** -**wyndel**: see Yarringle, Yarnwindle.

**‖ Yashmak** (yæ·ʃmæk). Also -**mack**, -**mac**, **yasmak, yachmak** (*erron.* **yakmak, yaknack**). [Arab. يَشْمَق *yashmaq.*] The double veil concealing the part of the face below the eyes, worn by Mohammedan women in public.

1844 Kinglake *Eothen* iii. 47 Under the yashmak is not a mere, semi-transparent veil, but rather a good substantial petticoat applied to the face. 1848 ? Mackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, We let their bodies go abroad liberally enough, with smiles and ringlets and pink bonnets ; disguise them instead of veils and yakmaks 1885 *Times* 25 May 10 A Turkish lady is shocked if a stranger man sees her without a yashmak. 1895 P. Hemingway *Out of Egypt* ix. 167, I gave her [sc. an old Arab woman] a cigarette, and she consented to accept a light from me, raising her yashmak for a moment.

Hence **Ya shmaked** *a.*, wearing a yashmak.

1900 Oxenham *Weaver of Ilsted* xlii, The simple pleasure of exciting the envious admiration of their yashmaked and unemancipated sisters.

**Yask** *sb.* and *v.* : see Yesk.

1580 Hollyband *Treas Fr Tong, Bauller*, to gape, yaske, to yawne 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk*, *Yask*, a term used to express the sound made by a violent effort to get out of something in the throat.

**† Yasked** [V. 4], asked. 1377 Langl *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 294, I haue .. bynn .. yasked Where he were god. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7048 Thow sholdest Fyrst yaxyd A Bordoun.

**Yaspen, yaspin:** see Yepsen.

**† Yassured** [V. 4], assured. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 14/30 *Blen assuryd*, Ilyowe yassured.

**Yat:** see GATE *sb.*[1], THAT, YAGHT.

**Yataghan** (yæ·tăgæn). Also **yatagan**; ATAGHAN. [Turkish ﻳﺎﻃﻐﺎن *yātāghan.*] A sword of Mohammedan countries, having a handle without a guard and often a double-curved blade.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. iii. 52, I began hacking and hewing with my yatagan. 1837 *Comhill's Dream* I. 144 With our flowing garments, our turbans, and our yatagans, we conquered Asia under the standard of the Prophet. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* May 566/1 The curved Arab yataghans with an outside edge. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 195 A Circassian . . flourishing . . a formidable looking yataghan.

**Yatch, yatcht,** obs. ff. YACHT.

**Yate** (yēt), *sb.* Also yett, [Native name.] Either of two species of gum-tree, *Eucalyptus cornuta* and *E. occidentalis* (flat-topped yate), of south-western Australia, yielding a tough wood; also the wood itself.

1880 VON MUELLER *Select Extra-trop. Plants* 110. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Yate, or Yett-tree? *Eucalyptus cornuta.* 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 12/1 The extraordinary properties of yate, believed to be the strongest of all known woods.

† **Yate,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 **ȝeatan, ȝetan, ietan, (Orm.) ȝatenn,** 3–4 **ȝette, ȝet, 4 ȝete, yete,** *north.* **ȝiate,** 4–5 *north.* **ȝate, yate,** 5 **ȝote.** *Pa. t.* 2 **ȝeatte, ȝette, ȝeotte, iette, iette,** 2–3 **ȝatte,** 3 **ȝet(te, 4 ȝatt(e, ȝat(e, ȝeitt; 3 ȝet(t)ed(e.** *Pa. pple.* 2 (*Orm.*) **ȝatedd,** 3 **igetted.** [late OE. *gētan* (Peterborough Chron.), *f. gēt* YEA, app. after ON. *játa*, also *játta* to assent, acknowledge, confess, promise, grant (cf. OHG. *gizīhan*, MHG. *jëhen*, Goth. *gatáihan*); for the formation cf. ON. *neita* NAIT *v.*[2] to refuse.

The northern form *yate* is directly from or influenced by ON. The west-midland present *ȝette* is prob. due to the pa. t. *ȝette.*]

1. *trans.* To grant, bestow, concede. Also *absol.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Ic Utalianus papa ȝeate þe Wulhere cyning & Deusdedit arcebiscop & Særuld abbod ealle þe hing þe ȝe geunnon. *Ibid.* 67 Ic ȝeate þæs ilce cures . . Ic Adrianus leցat hit lete. *Ibid.* 1066 Se æðeling hit him ȝeatte þa bibolice. *c* 1200 ORMIN 154 Godd Allwealdennd hiefepp herrd & ȝatedd tine beness. *c* 1205 LAY. 10994, & al ich þe ȝet Swa þu hit girrest. *Ibid.* 14267 Þe king him ȝette swa Hengest hit wolde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 ȝif þu driuest us heonene, do us iðeos swin her, & he ȝetteð ham. *Leg. Cathol.* 1402 Hi ȝetteð hede hire & ȝef blideliche leaue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8414 And curtaisi, wit-uten hone, He yatte hir freli al hir bone. *Ibid.* 20413 Fourti daiis he sal haue yate þat fallen ar ute of þair state. . Þat hai mai pam wit penance bete. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 776 Now bone hostel', cope ȝe burne, 'I be seche yow ȝatis!' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 201 God ȝate (*K.* Godȝote, *H.* Goodȝoth, *P.* Godwolde), *concedo.*

2. To acknowledge, confess.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 9819 Ne wolldenn þesȝ nohht cnawenn Ne ȝatenn batt teȝȝ warrenn ohht Sinnfulle onn soriwisse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26946 Þou he ȝeitt [*Cairf.* ȝetes] his wicked-hede It moght him to no merci lede. *Ibid.* 27428 A man him cums al for to scriue..And ȝetes..Þat he es fallen in miskenyng.

3. To provide, give, offer.

a 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 538 Frende no wrang I wyl þe ȝete. *a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29043 (Cotton Galba) Als oure lord crist at þe last Gat vs enimple to fast.

1788 *Voc. Forth & Bargie in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Yate*, give.

Hence † **Yating** (ȝetung) *vbl. sb.*, granting, consent.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 On is ful wil worte don bet fuðe, mid skilles ȝetunge.

**Yate:** see GATE *sb.*[1], YETT.

**Yatt,** obs. form of GATE *sb.*[1]

**Yaucht,** obs. form of YACHT.

**Yaud** (yôd, yād). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4–6 **ȝald,** 6 **ȝad, ȝaid,** 6–7 **ȝawde,** 6–9 **ȝawd,** 8 **ȝade,** 8–9 **ȝad, ȝode,** 8– **ȝaud.** [a. ON. *jalda* (Sw. dial. *jälda*), poet. word for 'mare'.]

1. A mare: usually applied to an old mare; also *loosely* to an old or worn-out horse (associated with JADE).

1500–20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse* Poems lxi. *refrain*, Schir, lett it nevir in toun be laid, That I sould be ane ȝuillis ȝald! 1642 BROME *Jovinall Crew* iv. i. (1652) K j b, Your Yawdes may take cold, and never be good after it. 1709 *Queen Anne's new Years Gift Mare* iv. in *Yarrow Songs & Ball.* (1887) 57 And they had seized the yaud And tied her head and heel. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 306 She's brave a Yode to ride out ; She's neither drive the Swine, nor the Plough. 1724 RAMBAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I have three owsen in a plough Twa good ga'en yauds and gear enough. 1816 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* I. Landlord, get us our breakfast, and see an' get the yauds fed. 1866 Mrs. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* II. 204 [They] ancered at her as the 'grey yaud who'd be better rode wi' maringal nor snaffle'.

b. *Comb.*, as *yaud-stealer* ; † **yaud-wiver,** one who commits buggery with a mare.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 246 Muttoun dryver, girnall ryver, ȝaudswyvar, fowll fell the. *c* 1560 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 60 And ȝeit Edmam should still be his father yawd stoiller.

c. *attrib.* or *adj.* Of a horse: Worn out.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse* 25 Poems lxi, Suppois I war ane ald ȝaid aver, Schott furth our clewch to pull the clever.

† **2.** A strumpet, whore. *Comb.* ȝaldson, the 'son of a whore' ; a term of abuse (cf. *whoreson*).

*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3809 ȝoudire to ȝone ȝaldsones he þat ȝeldes hyms ever, . . be he neuer mo saude. 1505 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 42 You leid that said Annapill Grahame wes ane freris get and frerie ȝawde.

**Yaue,** obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

**Yauger,** variant of JAGGER 3.

1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* V. 390 The fishing fleet was often attended by certain vessels, called *yaugers*, that carried salt, casks, and victuals, to barter with the busses for their herrings.

**Yaugh, yaught,** obs. ff. YACHT.

**Yaul:** see YAULD, YAWL.

**Yauld, yald** (yôld), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 **yawl,** 9 **yaul.** [Origin unknown.] Active, sprightly, nimble ; strong, vigorous.

1768 *Ha'st Rig* viii, A bang O' Highlanders, a fendy rout, Baith yawl and strang. 1787 BURNS *Let. to W. Nicol* 2 June, She's a yauld, youthetic Girton. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliv, There's many yauld chiels amang thae volunteers. 1873 D. MACLAGAN *Heather* iii. in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. iii. (1881) 177 Though somethin' auld An' no ass yauld.

**Yauld, Yaulew, Yaulpe, Yaumer, -our:** see YIELD, YELLOW, YAWL, YAMMER.

**Yaup:** see YAP *a.*, YAWP.

**Yaupish, yawpish,** *a. Sc.* [f. *yaup*, YAP *a.* + -ISH[1].] Hungry.

1769 DAVIDSON *Seasons, Spring* 31 Take thou thy way To where the lusty tenant o' the floods Has, yaupish, ta'en his stan' in quest of food. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Paisley Fair* in *Harp of Renfrewshire* Ser. II. (1873) 253 I'm e'en growing yawpish, We maun hae some buns and some ale.

**Yaupon,** var. YAPON.

‖ **Yava** (yā·vā). Variant of KAVA ; cf. AVA.

1804 *Ann. Rev.* II. 196/1 The eyes of the great yavva drinkers are much blood-shot. 1809 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 641 It [sc. *Bucnemia tropica*] is also indigenous to the Polynesian isles, where it takes the name of yavaskin, as being supposed to originate from drinking the heating beverage called yava.

**Yave,** obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

**Yaw** (yô), *sb.*[1] *Naut.* Also 7 **yawe, yogh.** [Related to YAW *v.*[1]] An act of yawing ; a movement of deviation from the direct course, as from bad steering.

1626 Gardiner *Declar. Joye* 91 Lyke a shyppe without anker holde or rother, ye wander as the variable wynde toseeth you, and so make yawes in and oute, without any right course. [1628 ‡ HAWKINS *2nd Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 9 Not to make three yawes, and strike the Myson three times. 1667 (Nov. 5) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 77 Made a yogh. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I crouded Sail to keep the Ship steering, a little Yaw sometimes to shew my French Ensign. 1705 H. DE SAUMAREZ in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 225 It cannot be expected but that a Ship before the Wind will deviate from her true Course, sometimes one Way, sometimes another, in her Yaws and Sheers. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 354 *note*, The boat took a sudden yaw or deviation, and was carried roe overboard. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, Another wide yaw and a come-to snapped the guys. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. 61 Od. 21 59 under steam, a slight yaw to which the helm will serve to show the direction you intend to take.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*: cf. YAW *v.*[1] 2.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 34 Now and then we make vnto ourselues by-yawes. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* II. v, 'Tis strong, strong Wine; O the yawes that she'll make! 1870 READE *Put yourself in his Place* III. 163 Putting her head to the wind by a hint, she gave a great yaw, and time a forward rush with her mighty loins. 1886 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* I. iv, He gave a beery yaw in the saddle.

c. *Comb.* **yaw-sighted** *a.* (*Naut. slang*), cross-eyed, squinting.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* (1779) I. vi. 45 A yaw-sighted bitch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

**Yaw,** *sb.*[2] [Back-formation from YAWS apprehended as a plural.] Each of the excrescences or spots of eruption in yaws.

1744 *Med. Essays Soc. Edinb.* V. II. 393 Sometimes after all the other Yaws are fallen off . . there remains one large Yaw, high knobbed, red and moist ; this is commonly called the Master-yaw. 1764 HARRIS *Voy. Atal.* 87 The yaws, or Hair at the seat of a yaw turn white. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 427 The crust which caps and encloses an uninjured yaw is yellowish.

b. Used as attrib. form of YAWS, as *yaw matter, taint, tubercle* ; **yaw-house,** a hospital for persons affected with yaws ; **yaw-weed,** a shrubby plant, *Morinda Royoc* (N. O. *Cinchonaceæ*), used in the West Indies as a remedy for yaws.

1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 120 The long Tainting Fever, which has sometimes been found . . in the Children . . of the Blacks. 1820–9 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 171 The revolting scene of a yaw-house. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 433 *note*, The time that elapses between the inoculation with yaw matter and the first appearance of a yaw tubercle. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yaw-weed, *Morinda Royoc.*

**Yaw,** *v.*[1] [Of obscure origin.

ON. *jaga* to move to and fro as a door on its hinges, has been compared.]

1. *Naut. intr.* Of a vessel : To deviate temporarily from the straight course, as through faulty or unsteady steering ; to turn to one side or from side to side in her course.

1586 [see YAWING *vbl. sb.*]. 1622 DEKKER *If it be not Good* Wks. 1873 III. 293, I spie two Shippes yonder, that yaw too and ouer. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Ee ee, She had yawed to leeward. 1769 *St. James's Chron.* 5–8 Aug. 4/2, I. . see the Ship yaw as if there was not a Seaman aboard. 1850 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii, The frigate yawed to with all her sails set. 1883 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shell-backs* 54 The barque yawed as far as the hawser would allow.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To deviate, go out of course, go or move unsteadily. (Often with direct allusion to sense 1.)

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* xii. vii. (1886) 183 The date delaied by length of night which made both date and night to yawe. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 120 (Qo. 2) To deuide him inuentorially, would dosie th' arithmaticke of memory, and yet but yaw neither in respect of his quick saile. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvi, I shot ahead, and yawed a little—caught a peep at her through her veil. 1856 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 80 The rider yawed in his saddle as a boat..yaws on a cross-sea swell.

3. *trans.* To cause to yaw (*lit.* and *fig.*) ; to move (something) unsteadily from side to side.

1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 200 The Ship of State was, as the Seamen phrase it, yawed to and fro. 1769 S. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* xxxvii. III. 48 Owing to the unskilfulness of her pilots, she was so *yawed* about, that it was quite uncertain when she would be moored in a safe port. 1827 HOOD *Sailor's Appal. for Bow-legs* 41 [She] yaw'd her head about all sorts of ways. 1845 GORE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 108 The man at the wheel, . .neglecting his helm, 'yaws' the ship about sadly.

**Yaw,** *v.*[2] *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To be wide open ; to YAWN.

1596 LODGE *Wits' Miseries* 71 His browen bent, his hand shaking, his nostrils yawing. *Ibid.* 103 A fellow stretching himselfe at his window, yawing, and snoring.

**Yaw,** *adv.* [Used in representations of Ger. and Du. speech : cf. YAH *adv.*] Yes.

1867 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I. i, *Steph.* Boy! *Boy.* Yaw, yaw, here Master. 1897 VANBRUGH *and I'. Relap* II. iii, *Bevis.* How now, is mine and Wife, Sir? *Bean.* Yaw myn Heer. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, [Dirk Hatterwick loq.] Wetter and donner! yaw—What do you take me for?

**Yaw,** *int.* An affected exclamation. Also as vb. (cf. YAW-HAW, YAW-YAW).

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 277 He will yaw a parcel of nonsense about jukes and lords. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 91 Yawning and muttering, 'Reynolds is an humorist, not a wit—yaw! yaw! I am a wit!'

**Yaw,** local form of HEW *v.*

*a* 1549 SKELTON *Col. Clonte* 1206 Ye prechers shall be yawde! And some shall be sawde. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yaw, to hew. West.*

**Yawd(e,** var. YAUD, mare. **Yawe,** obs. f. *gave*, pa. t. of GIVE *v.* **Yawer,** var. YURE, *dial.*, udder. **Yawey,** var. YAWY.

**Yawger,** var. JAGGER 3.

**Yaw-haw** (yô·hô·), *v.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To laugh rudely or noisily. Hence **Yaw-haw** *sb.*, a loud or rude laugh ; **Yaw-hawing** *ppl. a.*

1836 HALIBURTON (*Jockm.* Ser. I. xix, I had to pucker up my mouth . . to keep from yaw-hawing in her face. 1842 H. MACFAIL in *English Rev.* Jan. 334 A booth at a fair, a place set up but to tickle the country-bumpkins into yaw-haws.

**Yaw-haw.** Intended to represent an affected pronunciation characterized by loose articulation in which open vowel sounds predominate. Hence *attrib.*, as sb. ( = affected person) and vb. (cf. YAW *int.* and *v.*, YAW-YAW *v.*).

1867 E. B. RAMSAY *Art of Reading* 9 All reading where sounding the vowels predominates is indistinct. At Cambridge, in my time, it used to be called a 'yaw-haw' reading. 1876 J. GRANT *One of the '600'* vii, That yaw-hawing donkey, Berkeley.

**Yawing** (yô·ing), *vbl. sb.* [f. YAW *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb YAW ; temporary deviation of a vessel from her course ; unsteady movement from side to side ; also *fig.*

1586 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 253 Be hir tumbling and yawing, the mast schouk sa louse, that Mr. Robert . .had mikle ado to fasten the sam. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Grams.* iv. 38 If the Helme be so long that from yawing doth commonly vse the lest motion with the Helme. 1793 NELSON 22 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 335 The Chase . by yawing, which her sails and rigging in the Ship must

Littleton, and the Yoale by Mr Brisbane 1687 W Hedges *Diary* (Hakl. Soc) I 240 Capt Milborne, perceiving y^e Hound, came off in his Yill to our assistance. 1744 Woodsocker in Hunway *Trav* (1761) I. ii. xvii 76 We had a long boat, five tuns and a yaul, each with six oars. 1775 Daubeney in *Phil Trans* LXVIII 297 Hove the ship to, and sent jolly boat and yawl in search of him 1776 *Investigation Even Lost* 4 June 280 A small Yoagi all below, is to some vessel 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxii, The launch, yawl, first and second cutters, were the boats appointed for the expedition. 1875 Knight *Dict Mech.* I 217 In the British navy it is the fifth boat in point of size, the others being the launch, long boat, barge, and pinnace

**2** A small sailing boat of the cutter class, with a jigger

1684 *Int Cas* No 2898/4 Some Deal men have tried to go off to her in one of their Yawls 1691 *Ibid* No 2898 4 A Deale built Yawl with 6 Oars 1713 *Order in Council* 13 Sept 1 Lawl (*sic*) No 5155/1 there came on Board the said Sloop Seven Men in a Dual Yawl 1798 Cruttwell *Gazetteer* (1808) III s. v. *Orkney*, The inhabitants sail from island to island in small boats, called yoals 1873 *Daily News* 29 Aug, The Pantomime takes the schoonership, the Omrah that for cutters, and the Bloonda for yawls.

**3.** A small kind of fishing-bout.

1670 J Smith *Free Improv Rr n* 1254 The Commodities of Scotland which the Hollanders do for the most part Trade withal is Ling and Cod, which they take with Hooks and Lines in small Boats, called Yalls, about the bigness of Gravesend Oars 1854 H Miller *Tale & Schon* III (1858) 42 All sorts of barques and cavvels, from the fishing yawl to the frigate 1865 *Pall Mall Gazette* 21 Feb, Three more of the fishing yawls being missing

**4.** *attrib* and *Comb*

1865 *Guardian* 27 May 478 A yawl boat was landed bottom up from the hurricane deck upon the heads of those below 1881 Mrs Houstoun *Hyde-Nisbet* xxi, His little yawl-rigged yacht 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. i, Pete began to think of buying a Dandie, which being smaller than a Nicker, and yawl rig, he could sail on his self

**Yawl** (yɔl), *sb.*[2] [f. Yawl *v.*[2]] An act of 'yawling', a shout, yell.

1728 Fielding *Love in several Masques* iv ii, To me, the Turkish Yawl an Oath, the Irish Howl at a Funeral, or the Indian Ululation at an Eclipse, are all soft Musick to that single Noise

**Yawl** (yɔl), *v.*[1] Now *dial* Forms 4–5 3aule, 4, 7–8 yall, 6 yalle, 6–7 yaule, yawle, 7–8 yaul, 8–9 yole, 7– yawl [Parallel to Yowl, with alternation of vowel designed to express a variety of the sound echoed. Cf. LG. *jaulen* (of cats) ]

**1.** *intr.* **a** To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress: also said of the howling of dogs, the 'wauling' of cats, the screaming of peacocks.

a3 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 1453 He hurtez of be hounder, & bay Ful somerly saule & selle c1395 *Pl Crede's Tale* 386 I cry he cried as coystrous As hound, that for hunger will 3aill [*v.r.* falle] c1400 *Destr Troy* xiv, He 3aules, he 3ammit, like a woman. *Ibid* xii (Douce MS.) There c me a lede of be lawe 3ealand and somerand, with many hude 3elles 1615 Bourman *Art Fencing* (1858) 198 In this also Where they may yaule and yamme til that they burst 1621 J Taylor (Water) *Pennyless Boy*, I (like many other froward Boyes) would squale, and baule, and make a wawling noyse 1681 Hickeringill *Yet More Catching* 1 16 like little Peacocks shreaume out and yawle amain, pluming themselves 1882 Forby *E. Anglian* s.v., The cry of a peacock is an excellent instance of yawling. 1892 Lewinson *Gossip* 12, I then yelp'd the cur, and yawl'd the cat 1870 E. Peacock *Roxf Skirl* II. 193 Give a look to that bairn, it's yawls sorely.

**b.** To call aloud, shout, bawl, scream, vociferate.

1548 Udall *Erasm Ap ph* 288 Cato right eagerly allyng at Pompeius 1820 Quarles *Feast for Worms* iii. (D.) The hapless Pylot mourns Calls *Vessels, Friends, Fiends* and yet lowder yawles 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II (Globe) 405 They all ran shreaming and yawling away 1808 Jamieson, *To yaul*, to yell

*transf* 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. i, My guts they yawle crawle and all my belly rumbleth

**2** *trans* **a** (with *simple obj.* or *obj cl*) To shout out, utter with shouting

1542 Udall *Erasm Apoph* 178 b, Then whiche yalle and rore, that lexe yng it vttred, I shyng auailable to the gouernaunce of a commenweale 1613 Wither *Abuses Stript* II iii Q 13 b, Such as haue yauld Lago in the sch oles *Hor. Scourge* Vij b, The nimble Tapster hull yallings *here, anon sir, by and by* 1679 *Jol Ball* (1860) I 220 They bull and they yaul shoud thro the whole town The rights to succession and claime to the Crown 1859 *Laws of Ld. Society* v (new ed) 297 A man should never yawl out the namby pamby ballads beloved of young ladies.

**b** (with *compl.*) To bring into a specified state by 'yawling'.

a 1827 Middleton *Witch* II. i, He make 'em yaul one an other deaf, but he have thee.

Hence **Yaw ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl a.*

1568 *Hist Jacob & Esau* I 1 At, the deuil stoppe that same yellyng mouie Scharpitlaw 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II ii. iii *Babylon* 298 Nigh breathlesse all, with their confused yawling 1630 *Taylor's Pallor* (1877) 146 Young Beagles, Whose yawling throats will never let him sleepe 1715 *Cases D Auney's Wife* 254 The hideous Outcries that he made, and his continual Yawling 1720 D'Urfey *Pills* III 31 A Wife, That makes him weary of his Life With Scolding, yoleing in the House

**Yawl,** *v.*[2] *nonce-wd* [f Yawl *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To convey in a yawl.

1882, Mark Twain' *Huck Finn* xxiv, When we got to the village, they yawled us ashore

**Yawl,** var Yaulid *a.*

**Yawler**[1] (yɔ·lər). *rare*—°. [f. Yawl *v.*[1] + -er[1] 2.] One who 'yawls' or howls.

1621 Corbe, *Glatisseur*, a barkers bawler, yawler.

**Yawler**[2] (yɔ·lər). Also yoler. [f. Yawl *sb.*[1] + -er[1] 1.] A sailor who rows or sails in a yawl; one of the crew of a yawl.

1832 *M. Scott Tom Cringle* xviii, Pipe away the yawlers, bowsmen's mate. 1867 *Engineer* 27 Sept 283/3 'Yolers'

**Yawling,** *local.* Also 8 yaulin. A young herring.

1758 *Dieter Thomas* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Yaulin 1879 J. Satchell *Index Gloss Folk Names* (E D S) 8 *Clupea Harengus*, Yarmouth-capon, Yawling, Whitebait, White Herring

**Yawnman** (yɔ·nmæn) *rare*—[1]. [f *yawl s*, gen of Yawl *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1]] = Yawler[2]

1885 *Chamb Jrnl* 15 Aug 513/2 The bluff yawlsman riding to his nets far out at sea

**Yawner,** var Yawmer *v.*

**Yawn** (yɔ̃n), *sb.* [f Yawn *v.*]

**1** Something that yawns, a gaping opening or entrance; *esp* a chasm, abyss.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev* III iii. Wks 1856 I 211 Now gapes the graves, and through their yawnes let loose Impatient spirits to revisit earth 1753 Amory *Memoirs* (1756) II 56 The billows that were all in wild upon, and then came down into the dreadful yawn 1820 J Hunt *Indicator* No 22 (18.2) I 170 I rust not the tempting yawn of stable doors 1881 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* I 120 Spaces of fire, and all the yawn of hell 1894 *Idler* Sept 134 The stubborn, wonderful old piece of timber frame was picked out of the yawn of the hatch in splinters

**2** The or an act of yawning: a Gaping or opening wide.

1697 Congreve *Mourn Bride* II v, Surr, tis the Friendly Yawn of Death for me 1705 Addison in *Tatler* 248 And sometimes with a haughty Yawn, lit said, Opens a dismal Passage to the Dead.

**b.** Involuntary opening of the mouth, as from drowsiness.

1706 E Ward *Wooden World Diss* (1708) 96 After a very hearty Yawn, he crawls up upon Deck 1728 Young *Spect* No 320 ¶ 5 Our Salutation at Entrance is a Yawn and a Stretch. 1746 Pope *Dunc* IV 343 She heard thy ever lasting yawn afar, Thrice from her Shades did Night and Perkins rise 1875 Tennyson *Q Mary* I iii, A life of nods and yawns

Hence *(nonce wds)* **Yaw nful** *a*, **Yaw nish** *a*, **Yaw nless** *a.*, **Yaw nsome** *a*, **Yaw nsomely** *adv* 1855 Ainsworth *Old Christ Rom Ho* iv 156, I awoke chilly and yawnish 1878 J Thomson *Plumb Pud* 26 His mouth and arms stretched yawnful 1881 J M. Brown *Student's Life & A* 3 yawnless languor 1898 *Black & White* 29 July dull, stiff, genteel, yawnful yawns 1900 *Irish Post* 28 July 6 6 A jaded and yawnsome and ever yawnful assemblage 1908 *Standard* 18 Feb, 7 A yawnful of fresh air

**Yawn** (yɔ̃n), *v* Forms **a.** 1 ginian, gyn-, gionian, geon-, geon-, geinan, 3 geon(1)e, gonie, 3–4 gone, yone, 3–5 geone, yene, yene, 4 gyne, 6 yeane. **β.** 4–5 gone, 4–6 yane. **γ.** 6–7 yawne, 6–8 yaun, 6– yawn. [OE. *ginian, geonian* = OHG. *ginôn, -ên* (MHG. *ginen*), MDu. *gênen* to gape, yawn, related to the synonymous OE *ginian* Gane *v.* (q v.), OHG. *ginôn*, and OE. *ginan, Gon, ginn* the vocalism of the present form of this word is difficult to account for. The normal representatives of the OE and early ME. forms (*gine, gone*) would be **yeen* and **yoan*. Later ME. *gane* prob arose through regional contact with Gane *v* The 16th cent. *yaun, yawn*, may have been the result of special local development of *yane* or *yone*]

†**1.** *intr.* To open the mouth wide voluntarily, esp in order to swallow or devour something, in early use often, to have the mouth wide open; to gape. Said also of the mouth *Obs*

a c725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) B 24 *Battat*, geonath *Ibid* G 4 *Gattat*, gionat c1000 Ælf *Treatise* II 50 Bewyl bwy dæl on wætre 3eot on bolcan & gyrna ymb. c1000 *Ags Ps* (Th) xxi 14 (xxii. 13) Hi swylgdon hiora muð ongean me, swa swa leo, bonne he gionað a 1100 *Ildefim Gloss* 1 2409 (Napier 65) *Hiulon, i aperto*, iconeidum *vestro*, *i* 3ane 1225 *Ancr R* 130 Ich þe sende 3eonien wide uppon þe, þene deouel of helle a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 292 Pat me ne chide wit þe gnide Ne wit þan ofne me ne 3onie a 1290 *Assumpt* 193 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1881) 214 A wilde loun kipt his 3onge sone anon, On him he 3enede wide 13 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2763 3enande & 3apinde on him so. Als he wolde him swolwe þo 13 *Cursor M* 28 (Edin Inn MS.) Him loupis a sparhauk wit gret flyst Seilip on his herberyng And 3enip (*Laud MS* 3yneb) on i spraa abrod his wyngyn c1400 *Arth & Merl.* 1585 (Linc Inn MS.) His mouþ and þoru3 3erde wide. 14 *Hist* 1217 (Douce MS.) And wiþ his mouþ he 3enede wyde. c1450 *Merl's Testal* 100 Iben anon come a gret horrybyle wigon and fetyn [*v.r* 3onyng] on her

*ß* 13 *Coer de L.* 276 Up in hys crest a raven stode, That 3aned as he wer wode 1388 Wyclif *2 Macc* vi 18 Elea3ar 3aunynge [*v.r* 3oonynge] with open mouth, was compilid for to ete swynys flesh 1398 Trevisa *Barth De P. R* xix *R* (Tollem MS), Þe rauen biholdeþ be mouþe of hire briddes, whan þey 3aneþ *Ibid* xvi vi, (Auripigmentum] helpeþ trist of hey 3aneþ beron and takeþ þe 3 noke berof. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 151 Multitudes of Cr ocodiles lyenge in the sande, and yanyng to take the beate of the voonne.

γ. 1568 Hackett tr *Theorf's New found World* xx 32 This fish is named Marsouin he hath on the heade a certayne cundite or opening, by the which he yawneth or purgeth, euen as the Whale [*sing* þe *gar lequel si respire aussi que la baleine*] 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 970 The crocodiles yawne and offer them teeth unto them to be picked and cleansed with there hands.

**2.** To lie, stand, or be wide open, as a chasm, abyss, or the like; to have or form a wide opening, gap, or chasm.

a 1580 Warrenth tr. *Gregory's Dial* 52 Beneoðan swiðe deop iwolnu 3 ginode [*v.r.* 3eonode] a 1225 *Ancr R* 304 Beneoðen us, 3eoninde wide þe wide þreote of helle c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Vndyr hym helle 3eonyng, and galpyng, and vpstyring fyre.

γ 1599 Shaks *Hen V*, IV. vi 14 The gushes That bloodily did yawne vpon his face. 1742 Young *Nt Th* VI 730 Wide yawns the gap, convenient in no more 1795 Cowper *Acad Vase Alarm* 14 And where the land slopes to its waters bourn, Wide yawns a gulph beside a ragged thorn. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxi, As sudden rain yawned around 1820 — *Anne of G.* xxxiii, A private staircase which yawned in the floor to admit their descent. 1865 Goode *Found Sea* (1879) 251 The beach yawning some thirty feet below 1887 Mine & B Edwards *Up Nile* xxi 648 Here yawns a great pit half full of débris 1890 W Clark Russell *Ocean Trag* II, It was the Isle of Wight, and the shore on either hand went yawning to it till it looked a day's sail away

*fig.* 1580 Sylvester *Let to Harvey* II 's Wks (Grosart) I 35 The onely, or chiefest hardnesse, is in the Accente whereby sometime gapeth, and as it were yawneth it fauouredly.

†**3.** *To yawn after* or *for*, to be eager to obtain, to long for. *Obs*

a 1250 *Owl & Nt* 1403 þe gost 3eoneh after more & more An hutel reiht of milce & of 3eme 1387 Langland *Pennyl Pasot* 283 After he hath caught that within his clowes, after which he wes euer yawning 1594 Hooker *Eccl Pol* Pref iv § 2 Like chestest thing which Ivy-informers yawne for is, that the Clergie may be Apostolicall.

**4.** To make involuntarily a prolonged inspiration with the mouth wide open and the lower jaw much depressed, as from drowsiness or fatigue.

a 1450–80 in *Seven. Seer* xxxiv 23 Suche a man yeneth often, and hath sumtime desire to ete eyre 1547 Boorde *Brev Health* cxlvii 54 The patient wyll be colde and oft yeane or gape, yf this feuer be putryfied 1598 Sir Hali *Ment* vi 11 101 Hyd he hauede þe Female Fathers grone, Yeaning in mids of her procession

*B.* c 1430 *How God Is ytaught Dan* 56 in *Babees Bk* (1868) 38 Lrnge þou not to loude, he sane þou not to wide a 1529 Skelton *Ir Auenging* 321 She beginneth to yawne and gaspe. 1548 Udall *Erasm Par Luke* viii 78 (He) wil stande gaspyng & 3yuyng whan he should geue eare as though he wer more then halfe a sleepe 1557 Edgworth *Serm* 261 He 3oned seuen tymes and opened his eyes, reuiued, and lued. 1570 Levins *Manip* 19/1 To Gape, yane, *cisciare*

γ 1569 Coverdale, etc *Frasm. Pas Theex* 7 Those that yawne and slumbre in noughtinesse, are occupied in dark messe of the soule 1600 Gratiæ *Spiritualis Floretum* (ed 2) 67 The very sight of it so sent to set others also on yawning 1721 Bottingbroke in *Woolf's Lett* (1766) II 41 You shall be forced to read it out, though you yawn from the first to the last page 1727 Gay *Beggar's Op* I. viii 8 Mr O'Connell here yawned so loudly as to interrupt the Honourable Member 1852 Thackeray *Lt mond* III iii, It must be owned that the dance yawned through the play, and that it perished on the third night. 1880 Ouida *Moths* II, I thought I should have yawned till I broke my neck

**b.** To open the mouth wide from surprise or the like, to gape. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1606 Shaks *Oth.* v ii 101 Me thinkes, it should be now a huge Eclipse Of Sunne, and Moone, and th' affrighted Globe Should yawne at Alteration 1667–1 Milton *P L* II 560 She saw bare heads In Consultation, to yawne, be still, and wonder [etc.] 1889 J P Havergal *Heref Gloss*, *Yarning*, – staring 'I Stand *yarning* there'

**c** *trans.* To say or utter with a yawn or with wide open mouth. Also with cognate object

1718 Rowe tr *Lucan* I 304 Scorning the wound he [*sc* the lion] yawns a dreadful roar 1828 Macaulay *Essays, Political Lawyers* 30 Let all in bulky mystery support, Roll the dull eye and yawn th' unmeaning sigh 1834 Dickens *Hard T* III ii, 'It wouldn't be bad', he yawned at one time, 'to give the waiter five shillings, and throw him' 1897 Mary Kingsley *W Africa* 243 One immense fellow yawns a 3 yawn a yard wide

**d.** To bring into some position or condition by, or to the accompaniment of, yawning; also *occas.*, to pass through in a lethargic manner

1742 Young *Nt Th* VI 301 Yawn life into life, and live over here? To surfeit on the same, And yawn our joys? *Ibid* VIII 614 No man e'er found a happy life, by chance, Or yawn'd it into being, with a wish 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. (1818) 147 The *Dolon lamae of hant ton*, who yawn away their existence in the assemblies of London 1880 *Daily News* 29 Oct 6/6 He literally yawned us out of the room 1892 W S. Meadman *Last Hope*, He politely yawned that reminiscent fish career into silence

**5.** *intr.* To open wide as a mouth; to form a chasm; to gape, part asunder.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v iii 19 Graues yawne and yeelde your dead 1667 Milton *P L* VI. 875 Hell at last Yawning received them whole, and on them clos'd 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Feb 1643, The sea retiring neere 200 paces, and yawning on the sudaine, it continued to vomit forth flames and fiery stones 1723 Young *Last Day* I 87 The valleys [shall] yawn, the troubled ocean roar 1820 Scott *Monast* xii, If the earth yawned and gave up a demon 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvi, When the silent tomb shall yawn, Captain Gills, I shall be ready for burial, not before 1852 Tennyson *Ode Wellington* 269 The black earth yawns, the mortal disappears, Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

**6.** *trans.* To cause to open wide.

1382 Wyclif *Ps* xxxiv [xxxv] 21 Thei 3eneden [*v.r* maden large, *Vulg* dilataverunt] their mouth vpon me.

a1683 G. Daniel *Idyll* II 32 The monstrous Whale (with Roles The Ocean, with his Breath, and Yawnes the Brine As its Receive) 1798 Southey *Grandmother's Tale* 85 She stood beside the murderer's bed, and yawn'd Her ghastly wound

**7.** To make, produce, or afford by opening wide.

1605 Shuvers *Du Bartas* II III *Weeks* 1070 The groaning Earth Teaving her rocks, until she Yawn a way To let it out, and to let in the Day 1818 Byron *Ch. Har* IV lxxii, None felt stern Nature yawning forth a grave for those who lay Upon these bucklers for a winding sheet 1821 — *Sardanap.* II i 402 The realm itself, in all its wide extension, Yawns dungeons at each step I'r thee and me. 1907 *Smart Set* May 158/2 The prison doors were yawning a welcome for the runaways

**8.** *Comb.* **yawn-mouthed** *a*, yawning, gaping.

1861 Chr. Rossetti *Prince's Progress* xxiii, Out it [or a light] flashed from a yawn-mouthed cave, Like a red hot eye from a grave

**Yawner** (yǭ nəɹ). [f. Yawn *v.* + -er 1.]

1 One who yawns, as from drowsiness.

1667 Milton *Gr. Ivy, Dict.* 1, *C'est un Bastillon perfectuel*, he is an ever-lasting Yawner 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV xxv, To procure upon an average half a dozen voluntary yawners, in addition to the compulsory ones 1895 *Voice* (N. Y.) 9 Sept. 1/3 The yawner is not by intentionally rude, but is exercising muscles which have been for a long time inactive.

2 Something that yawns, a wide ditch.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* 900/2 Sir Francis Burdett, sitting erect upon Sampson, and putting his head straight at a yawner 1858 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* viii, 1862 *Sporting Mag.* June 311 In clearing a yawner the King of the Valley covered the astonishing space of 31 feet

**Yawning** (yǭ ning), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yawn *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Yawn.

1 The action of opening the mouth wide, esp. involuntarily from drowsiness

c795 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) R 93 *Barratus*, genung c1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 592 *Guarnitus*, genung c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/1 Yanynge, or gapynge, oythe the mowthe, *Anatus* 1552 Huloet, Yaninge, *cecedo* 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xv 69 I know that yawning with much gaping & yawning 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen* 353 Yawning in trauaile to women is mortall 1707 Prior *Sir Tr. to Mrs Tuner* Yawning is catching, one to a dozen 1795 Strutt *Sports & Past.* II 174/1 Near to this, is a large handsome M nument, erected to the Memory of James Cooper of this Parish, Gent. remark able for his loud Yawning during the Time of Divine Service 1838 W. C. Harris *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 15 [The] were very slow in taking the hint conveyed by his violent yawnings, that he was anxious to retire to rest 1859 *Todd's Cyclop. Med.* VIII 98 Al normal visceral or reflex movements such as paroxysmal hurry of the heart, or of respiration—sneezings, yawnings, or hiccoughings.

†**2** Longing *after* (something) *Obs.*

1634 Rainbow *Labour* (1635) 33 Ambitious yawning after outward dignitie and honour

3 The action of opening wide

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk* (1859) 7 The yawning of a seam [in a boat].

**Yawning** (yǭ ning), *ppl a* [f. Yawn *v.* + -ing 2.] That yawns.

1 That opens the mouth wide, esp. in order to swallow or devour something, chiefly *transf* of the mouth, wide open.

c890 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 136 He xemette on þam wege stænenne sunne dra an ongean hine mid zemendum [= zimendum] mu'e a1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Ne I owe se þere mud ut mid hire blinde mube, ne mid zemunde tuteles 13 *Guy Warw.* (A) 4217 A hoom þat seyn comində þo, Wiþ se re in[ta *Canut MS* ] yanyng] moupe, Ke wes he was 1375 *Barbour Bruce* v 552 An horrible serpent With a yanyng throte þan a hym gan Auaunce 1555 Fforth *Decades* (Arb.) 287 As th nche they wolde with yanynge mouthes haue torne in sunder the body of the mayster 1611 — 1593 Shake *3 Hen. VI*, *I*, iv 173 Now will I dash vp this thy yawning mouth, For swallowing the Treasure of the Realme 1617 J. Taylor (Water Π) *Three Weeks Observ* B iv b, His ears were cropped, would make good Thames bulls, his yawning mouth would serue for a Conn borrow. 1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi (1697) 283 Large yawning Panthers

**2** Opening, or open wide, as the earth, a chasm, abyss, etc.

c893 Ælfred *Oros.* Contents II iii Hu Marcus Curtius læs eat on þy ȝemtendan [= zimtendan] eorþan c950 *Lor. Ordinale in Anal. Hib.* I (1890) 322 For openere wenda & zemiendre 1590 Sidney *Ps.* cvi xvii 35 He Vpon his closed scalpe so sore did smite, That to the wals a yawning wound it made 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix 895 Both Sin, and Death, and yawning Grave 1780 Cowper *Iliad* xvi 179 Earth, with wi at rapture, and the polish d die, The yawning chasm of indolence supply'd 1830 Tyrl. *Prose Lord* xxiv I 400 Many houses were swallowed up by the yawning earth, which closed immediately over them 1860 Emerson *Culture* Wks. 1870 I 363 Sinners which, having once risen the ice, tend subsequently to produce yawning crevasses 1884 Gilmor *Mem. etc* 87 A lofty pass surrounded with yawning precipices

**3** That yawns from weariness; *transf* characterized by or producing yawning drowsy, sleepy

1575 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I 58 The stretching arms, y^e yawning breath wh h I to bedward use 1599 Shake. *Hen. V*, II ii 2 The yeoman of the Guard Issues forth, and bids you to your rest 1611 — *Cymb.* III iv 43 The shard-borne Beetle with his drowsie hums, Hath rung Nights yawning Peale 1617 Hieron *Wks* II 108 Many formall, idle, and (as I may call them) yawning requests for mercy 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II Disc iv 122 It is impossible to prevent them any more than we can refuse to yawn when I see a yawning sleepy person 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I 204 Everyone sees that the yawning husband and the voporish wife, are truly insupportable to one another 1764 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) II 06 The account of the character of Mr. Legge's the most yawning pamphlet I ever read 1828 Scott *Woodst* xv, Here am I ready to fight, if this yawning fit will give me leave 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxx, The yawning, shaking, peevish figure of the mother.

Hence **Yawningly** *adv.*

1809 Hall *Hyperchs Wks* 1634 II 361 Leaning upon your idle elbow yawningly 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII 17 The Club received yawningly the countless homilies. 1876 Miss Broughton *Young* I x, She looks out yawningly towards her friend, the sea.

**Yawny** (yǭ ni), *a.* Also **yawney** [f. Yawn *sb* or *v.* + -y 1.] Characterized by yawns or (much) yawning; inclined to, or provocative of, yawning

1805 [implied in *pseudonym*]. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb 74 2 His laugh is a heavy and yawny vulgar 1830 *Blackw.* 410/2 His Discourses are what our departed friend Nollekens would have described as 'yawney —that is, somes hat 1835 *Hood's Own* 1st *to Miss Toodle's* 3 Jan., Brumy and Koby in Lapmland last night, very yawny to day

Hence **Yawniness.**

1809 Southey in Robberds *Mem W. Taylor* (1843) II 115 The old yawniness comes on at times. 1898 Shiel *Yellow Danger* 176 The day has that very early morning grayness for which one can find no adjective to express its utter yawniness

**Yawp, yaup** (yǭp), *sb.* Also yop. [f. next.]

A harsh, hoarse, or querulous cry, esp of a bird

1824 Mactaggart *Gallo-id Encycl.*, Yaup, the cry of a sucky bird in time of distress 1879 Blackmore *Maid of D* xx, The eagle raised its great wings, and flapped them while it uttered a succession of shrill yawps 1905 *Sat Rev* 2 Aug 150/2 He can only tell us how bad he is by hideous grimaces and inarticulate yawps

*b. fig.* Applied in contempt to speech or utterance likened to this

1844 [Jonathan Slick] *High Life N York* I 114 He looked round a little wearied by my sentiments, but I told him to go ahead and hold his yop 1888 Stevenson *Fam Stud* 93 When Mr Spencer found his Synthetic Philosophy revolutionized from the shores of the Atlantic in the barbaric yawp of Whitman.

**Yawp, yaup** (yǭp), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* Also 4 3olp, 6 yaulpe, yolp(e, 6–7 yalp, 7, 9 yope. [f. Chor. Cf. Yap *v.* and Yelp *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shout or exclaim harshly; to yelp, as a dog; to cry harshly or querulously, as a bird.

13 *E E Allit P* B 846 Whot I bryȝ3 ȝeȝed & bolped of ȝestan le soȝe a1580 Phaer *Æneid* IX (1562) F e j b, Thereupon men shout yt hys heuen xalping xells 1573 Barret *Alv.* L 1 Yalpe and bawle like a dogge 1611 Cotgr., Le renard glapit, the fox, *gaule* 1580 Peele *Retentes* 1 51 They like impudent doggest yolpe & barke against t a. 1599 Nandis *Europhs Sp* c 1 (1711) 114 Those their adversaries mouthes, always yolping and crying with hatefull sounds 1623 Jonson *Golden Trade* 143 The Lyon remaines feeding whilest his mouth is stopped, but when it's stucked yalping, and yalping by 1654 1787 [implied in *yawper* (*yoper*)]. *ya-yaping* see below] 1802 Sibbald *Chron Scot Poetry* IV Glos., *Yaup*, more comm. ly denotes the incessant crying of birds 1880 *Spec. Hexmoorshire Dial.* II 52 (E. D. D.) He's yoped an' shoot t ta egg folk on 1885 *Lytt's Household. Mag.* 6–0 2 'That's it!' yowped Mr Spoopendyke 'You've been think ing!' 1915 *Daily Mail* 22 Mar 4/5 The Press of the Fatherland yelped and yawped at America's heels

2 *trans* To utter with a strident or harsh voice.

1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II vi 166 b, To pacify this un derous noise with one voice yaw'ped from the mouth this troupe 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks (Gr. ort) III 208 What more have I in my Pro fumation to yalp out?

3 *trans.* To scape, *dial.* (Cf. Gape *v.* 3.)

1836 Hailburton *Sam Slick* lv xxxii, They stand starin and yawpin, all eyes and mouth 1895 *Pall Mall Mag* Jan 7 'Sue! Wot yer yawpin' at that?

Hence **Yawping, yauping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* also **yawper, yauper** (*yoper*), one that yawps.

1576 Fleming tr. *Caninf D ge* 1880) 31 The older dogges cease from yelping 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V 284 The apostasie of the lands from the yalping world were no great matter 1611 Cotgr., Glapissement, a yelping, or barking 1658 in *Select. Poems* 1868 I 1 Instead of Basilisco 1654 [Gataker *Disc Apol* 97 The yalping of mungrils. Whelps 1698 E. Howard *Man of Newmarket* 11 43 Horses that will not follow Vaguers, that make as much haste to devour a simple Hare 1787 Grose *Provincial Gloss* (1790), *Jauping*, crying in despair, lamenting. Applied to children when they will not follow Nurses

yblased, sif hey ben as pei shulden. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxi. 148 Than was the worlde y-blessyd whan wyse men regnyd. 1592 Greene *Maiden's Dr.* xxxiv, Bassus and Philenon were iblest For feasting Iupiter in strangers stead. †**Ybleued**, pa. pple. of Belrave, to remain. 1340 *Ayenb.* 225 pe ilke pet is ybleued ine hyse le ssel him loki chastliche. **Yblowe**, **yblowen**, blown. 1377, *c* 1386 (see Blow *n.*[1] 13, 17 c). 14.. *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 245 Ther is a bitter blast yblowe. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. ii. 18, Lest we, be yblown about with wanton wind. **Yblynded**, blinded, blindfolded. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 497 Yblynd wip pe blasynge of pe snowe. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3681 Entendement Vs with Ire yblynded ao. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxx. 113 The handes yboonde & the eyen yblynded. **Yblyndfalled**: see Blindfold *v.* *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3011 Gy of Borgoyngne par afond y-blyndfalled, and by-bounde. **Ybodeyn**, proclaimed, bidden, prayed. *a* 935 *Laws of Æthelstan* II. c. 20 Sif..hit bro seofon nihtum ær xeboden ær Sæt xemot sy. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Horn.* 69 Purh festing and purh vncuinge and ec purh ibodenes biddunge. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 498 Of mani noble he nam ȝeme, Pat he hadde y-boden fiem. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 111 Pre dayes bestynge, y-boden for pat. †**Yboffeted**, buffeted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 261 Pe nyȝt in whiche Crist was..ibuffeted (*v.r.* yboffeted). **Yboncted**, — Buschen, humped. 1466 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18295 Ther..with whicke the folke relygious bene yboncbyd. **Ybontyd** [Hunt *v.*3], sifted. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Take Almaunde mylke, & ybontyd flour. *Ibid. Curteys Cookerych.* [see Y- pref. 11] Aboun *n.* 2, to accost. 1768 Downman *Land of Muses* xx, Them Alma gracefully y-boarding. **Yborȝe** [Y- 4, Heigh], saved; hence **Yborȝing**, salvation. 1340 *Ayenb.* Index 121 Vor two pinges is be man yborne, be pe be-uilynge of kueade and do pet guode. *Ibid.* 201 Pet his holy saule.. mizte pay and knawe god, and al pet him is nizde and guod to his yborȝinge.

†**Yborn**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 ȝeboren, 2–3 iboren, 4–5 yboren, 1-borne, 4–6 yborne, ybore, (6 ybor), 4–8 y-born. [OE. *ȝeboren*, pa. pple. of OE. *ȝeberan* 1-BERE *v.*[1], *beran* BEAR *v.*[1]]

1. Born.

*Beowulf* 1703 Pæt ȝes eorl wæres ȝeboren betera. 900–930 *O. E. Chron.* an. 855 (Parker MS.) Iternon Hrefnaing, se was ȝeboren in þere eare. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 55 Wen beon we bin sunes iboren? *c* 1205 *K. Alis.* 5024 Alisoun sat pat childe y-borne is. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He is pe siweste mon pat ever wes y-boren. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7180 Y wain bastard ybore. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) 286 Wommen maken gret Sorwe, whan hire Children ben y-born. 1523 Douglas *Æneis* x. Prol. 58 Ne so the Son of hys kynd is ybore, That he a part her tharof, and na mor. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 210 Wo be to him that ever was yborne That will not cleanly weed his corne. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. iii. xxviii, Or was he to continuall pain of God yborn? 1798 Southey *Joan of Arc. Introd.* ii. lxi, Heirs of eternity! yborn to rise Through endless states of being. 1735 Mendez *Spr. Damret* ii. xxix, in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* IV. 150 A young swain on Shannon's banks yborn.

2. Borne.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 390 *Expositio*, ȝeborone. xi., *O. E. Chron.* an. 3 (MS. F) Pæt cild Crist wæs ȝeboren xxxx ȝeara in Egipta. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3442 After pat he was in pe hors bere yfore. *c* 1325 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 70 He hath robbed Engelond, the mores, ant the Temese, The gold, ant the silver, ybroȝt hem henne. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1810 Pe ofre relyues..pat bou hast awai y-born. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 319 Whanne pei hauep y-bore doun here enemyes. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. iii. 11. xxv, Fair ydreted buildings..with high spires to heaven yborn.

†**Yborned**, **Yborned**: see Yerne, Yrnunscript. **Yborwed** [V. 4, Borrow *v.*1] 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 397 Fonde pei pat Freres wolde forsake her almesses, And buldeu hem bere it here it was yborwed. **Ybosted**, boasted. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xvii. 59 Hope cam hippynge after pat hadde so ybosted. **Ybought**, pa. t. of I-ayn, to buy. 1446 Lydg. *Nightingale Poems* 1. 396 This blessid lord pat..Vpon a crosse oure manis dere ybought. **Ybought**, -ought, -oght, pa. pple. of Buy *v.* or I-ayn *v.* *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (*L.*) 182 For my deþ wes monkune ybozt.

†**Ybound**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 zebunden, 4–6 ybounde(n, 6 ibund, 4–8 y-bound. [pa. pple. of OE. *gebindan* I-BIND, *bindan* BIND.]

*Beowulf* 871 Cyninges þegn..word oþer fand soðe ȝebunden. *Ibid.* 1531 Wundenmæl wrætlum ȝebunden. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5863 Sond men tedeh Leodegan Ybounden toward king Rion. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9861, I beforn hadde nat seyn Som other folk ybounde so. 1523 Douglas *Æneis* iv. Prol. 40 The God abufe, from his hie mansell, With the thrid twynn ibund did lycht. 1563 Turbervile *Bind* v. 1 c]. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Democr. Plat.* ii. viii, The low Cusp's a figure Cuneiform, Whose compasse is ybound, but centre's every where. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Prol. 84 They joyous Madrigals twice thner, With Preface meet, and Notes profound, Imprinted fair, and well y-bound.

†**Ybowed** [V. 4, Bow *v.*1], influenced. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 451 [He] was ybowed vor favour [*orig. inflexus favoribus*]. **Ybowne**, *pseudo-arch.* [*v.* bourne, Bound *pple. a.*1], about to go or start. *c* 1579 Gascoigne *Posies, Fruites Warre* cxl, A daye before he was from thence ybowne. **Yboyld**, boiled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Hony y-boyld bote. **Ybrad** [Braid *v.*1], to roast; tortured as with fire. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 39 The care that icham yn y-brad, y wyte a wyf. **Ybraid** [Braid *v.*2], pounded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 A pece of Millewelle..y-braid with-al.

†**Ybrent**, *pa. pple. Obs.* (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 3–4 ibrend(e, 4–5 ybrend, -te, 6 ybrint, 4– ybrent; 3–4 ybarn(e)d, 4 ybernde, 5 y-borned. [See Y- 4 and Burn *v.*1] Burnt; *occas.* burnished.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2890 pe king vortiger was ybarnd to doust wipinne. *c* 1300 *Prov. Hending* xlIII. in *Anglia* IV. 199 So þe child þat drawep is hond..fre þe brond þat is enes ibrend. *c* 1305 *St. Katherine* 138 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 94 In þe fur me bræs þo hi hadde longe ibrend. 1340 *Ayenb.* 116 Pe ybernde uer dret. *c* 1386 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 432 Y-brent wyth hete. *c* 1450 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* xlix. (1484) 2 viij, With golde of feyth faye lyrighr y borned. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. i. 7 Ybrint in smoke of flambis. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. iii. 53 And heauenly lampes were halfeclouded with sorrow. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. 11. The proud Pheaton, Who climb the fiery car and was ybrent. 1697 Mickle *Concub.* i. xxviii, With feverish Thirst y-brent. *Ibid.* ii. liii, The ragged Walls with Lightning seond y-brent.

†**Ybroached**: see Broach *v.*1. **Ybroke**: see Break *v.* and I-broke. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4985 pe fourme of pet was ywryt..pat ne mizte nouȝt wel be broke. 1426 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 143 Throgh a feyth y-broke. **Y-brought**, brought. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2505 Rowen ..among hom ybroȝt was. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) viii, Holy cherche is mych ibrowt adoun. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 586 So were..y-brouht forþ & bred of pat prouue. 1598 Chester *Blanchedwns* xxix. 109 The Syrges of polonys, that sawe.. his standarde ybrought to the grounde. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Democr. Plast.* ii, As men ybrought into some spacious room. **Ybroyld**, broiled. 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 47 Perke ybroyld. **Ybuld**, -held, etc. [V. 4, Build *v.*], built. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1331 Ne save pey neuere by-fore pat a place so wel ybuld. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 351 Pe wenglij ybeld. *c* 1400 in *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 105 Whyppe y-bylde halles and bowres. 1428 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 201 The temple ybuld. [For pret. and pa. pple. of Build *v.*2] **Ybuled** [Bull *v.*2], issued a bull against. *c* 1400 *Langtoft's P.* II. A. v. 77 (MS. H) [Ichaue] y-bulled hem to be bund to make hem lese sillier. **Yburied**, -birid- [V. 4, Bury *v.*1], buried. *c* 1325 see Burn *v.*1 h. 1297 [see Fall *v.* 33 b]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 He ..was i-slawe and y-buried pere. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. i. 98 Whil we ybirid al sleip yheryt and at rest. **Yburnusehet**, **ybornschecd**, burnished. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3622 Wel y-burnusciit hair & bryght. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. viii. 2 Shyning like the Moone in ybornished gold.

**Ybuyranseca**: see Byrthynsak.

†**Ycalled**[1, -yd, **ycalde** [V. 4], called. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 32 Panne am i conscience ycalde. *a.* 1400–50 *Alexander* (Col. Coll.) 1. 1 Pe woman pat heleine was ycalde. [*Ibid.* (Bodl. 8 ycallyde, -e ycallyd]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3091 To-forn or he had makyd man.. He was ycallyd but God only. **Ycalled**[2 [V. 5 Cald, adj.], waxing a 'caul'. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 171 In riche vrine ryuenge is wibuten Ycalled and ycrimiled. **Ycapred**, capered. *c* 1634 Cartwright *Ordinary* iii. 1, Hah, hah, huh, so3 ycapred very high. **Ycarked**, -carkyd, loaded, burdened. 1297 [see Care *v.* 1]. **Ycarped**, talked. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 296 If pei couth han ycarped by cryst. **Ycast**. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4 Pe ȝeres engliss pe Saxons.. caste pe regnes bulde..Pat hii adde er ycast adoun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Huanne..he hep alle his uel|pes ykest out. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxx. 111 They were..y-caste from the regnes of Tourmaday. **Ycaught**, ycat(a)ȝt. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4372 Hii wende wel hor owe sleupe on 3ou abbe ycat. *c* 1570 icaught [see Catch *v.* 32]. **Ycausing** *pr. pple.* [? Y- 5, Cause *v.*] Sackville *Mirr. Mag., Complt. Henry Bk. Buckhm.* xlix, The Tyrant kyng..Sauoce earthly gyst vcausing bott be slayne.

**Ycch(e, Yce**, obs. forms of Itch, Ice.

**Ycoupled**, obs. form of Yolept.

†**Ycesed** [V. 4, Cease], appeased, quieted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* III. 255 Whanne pe Babilons were i-ceised [*MS.* y ycesed].

**Ych(e**, obs. ff. Each, I *pron.*, Itch *v.*1

†**Ychaff(ed**, warmed. 1420 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 242 That syde is moste colde and moste nedyth to be ychaffit. *c* 1460 [. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 803 His stomachere welle ychaffed, ffor to warme. **Ychained**. *c* 1393 [see Chain *v.* 2 b]. 1589 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xvi, Those ychain'd in sleep. **Ychanged**. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3323 Pis ant wel many ychanged hit be. 1340 *Ayenb.* 242 Hi wes ychonged in-to an ymage of salt. 1428 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 172 The here y-changed fro ayse to myaysse. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 111, All things be ychanged here. First into liquour melt to air ychanged been. **Ycharged**, charged, laden. *a* 1225 ischarged [see Charge *v.* 4]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2504 Ycharged mid gode knistes sulpes pet vuore hadde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Huanne..he is y-charged of glotounie. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 230 Ich man y-charchid to schoppe at his croune. *c* 1445 *Engl. Conq. Troy* I. 1. 3 Pe..ycharged with pe wrappe. 1524 Watt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 224 And though with Indian stones..Ycharged were thy backe. **Ycharm** v. *(pseudo-arch.)* [Y- 5, Charm *v.*] Shelton *Quix.* I. Rodorigo's Letter, Pard. 1438 Seu'n sprights, with thunder hee ycharm'd from out my breat. **Ychased**, -ced. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 323 Pere Lotharius fili and was i-chaseb [*MS.* þ ychaced]. 1422 [see Chase *v.*1].

**Yche**, var. Eche *v.* Obs. to augment, increase.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. vii. (Tollem. MS.), (Blood) is..more scharpe for be ychynge of hete.

†**Ychecked**, -eked. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. iii. xxviii, It would project Dark powerfull beams, that solar life ychecket.., all things would die.

**Ychel**, var. Yelle, icicle.

**Ychcon**, obs. f. *each one*: see Each B. 1 c.

†**Ycheryd** [V. 5] (well) favoured. *c* 1467 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5373 Wel y-cheryd of lokyng. **Ychesyled**. 1509 [see Cheek *v.*]. **Ychesed** (Cheve *v.* 5], done homage. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10566 Sir, ore mayn Leten oure forfadres lay, Pat we longe on haue y-leued, & til oure Godes per-inne y-chesed. **Ychid**, chidden. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 35 Pere Dunston was strongliche despised and i-ched [*v.r.* y-chidde, y-chyd].

**Ychon(e**, obs. ff. *each one*: see Each B. 1 c.

†**Ychopp(i**[V. 4], chopped. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 46 A liter sope Perke or vele ychoppid. **Ychose(n** [V. 4, Choose, I-chosen], chosen. (Cf. Yceose.) 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2419 Ychose we beþ þer to. 1340 *Ayenb.* 68 Pe holi goas..makeþ his ychosene pouere, þe euete zonges of heuene.

*c* 1400 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 529 He was lawfallich ychose pope.

**Ycle, Ycle**, obs. ff. Icicle, Ice.

**Ycled** (ikled), *pa. pple. arch.* (since 16th c.). Also 4–5 ycladde, ycledde, (also 7) icled, 6 ycladd. [See Y- 4 and Clad.] Clothed (*lit.* and *fig.*).

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2843 Mark y clad in palle. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 472 Al to seide..Is ony posure man wel fedde Or wel arated or ycledde. *c* 1386 — *Miller's T.* 134 Yled [*v.r.* icled, y-cladde] he was.. Al in a kirtel of a lyght waget. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 363 Iff a man se an other naked he shalle have no sekenesse of hym thanne iff he se hym yclad. *c* 1474 Caxton *Recuyell* (1894) 815 A place voyde, where the maysters..putte the body of hector ..y cladde in his ryate garcmentes and robes. 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amalfie* (1879) 92 My casefull corps yclad with beaulnesse. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* F ij, All yclad in grene..he paced forward to the parke. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 20 An aged Sire, in long blacke weedes yclad. 1593 Shakes. *2 Hen. VI*, i. i. 33 Her words yclad with wisedomes Maiesty. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 30 In pure white clothes icled. 1618 R. C. *Timon' Whistle* (1871) 30 Ignorance in his scarlet robe yclad. 1656 Hobbes *Iliad* xix. 371 Yclad in Armour shining like the Sun. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* II. ix, Yclad in steel, and bright with burnish'd mail. 1751 R. Lloyd *Progress Poesy* xv, In flowing sable stole she was yclad. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. liv, Spring yclad in grassy dye.

†**Ycleaned**, yclenede, pa. pple. of Cleanse, Yclense. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 In be font.. we iclensed weren. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1012 Pou graces of be londe Idrowe hii bej iclanced sone. 1320 *Ayenb.* 3 Pe formene huestinne bernep pe zoules al-huet hi byeþ ycleaned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 337 Wheie cornes beeþ pere ful smal, vanshe i-cleaned wiþ many wyndes.

**Ycleap'd**, obs. form of Yolept.

†**Ycleanse**, v. [V- 3 c, Cleanse.] To cleanse. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 We scealan..ure heortan ȝeclænsian from ofrum ȝeþohtum. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 760 Her kynde were more to y-clense dickes.

†**Yclepe** (iklīp), *v. Obs.* Also 6 ycleepe. [OE. *ȝeclipian*, *ȝecleopian* to call (in various senses): see Y- 3 c and Clepe *v.* Spenser's *yclepe* is a new back-formation on Yclept. In quot. 1901 'ycleping' is an error for 'clipping' (Clip *v.*[2].) *trans.* To call by name, name.

*c* 890, *c* 1200 [see Yclept]. 1579 Spenser *Col. Clout* 65 Himselfe he did ycleepe, The shepheard of the Ocean by name. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 8/2 The old Saxon custom of 'ycleping', or naming, the Church has just been revived at Painswick.

**Yclept** (iklept), **ycleped** (iklī-pt, poet. iklīpèd), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeclypod, *North-umb.* ȝeliopp(p)ad, 2 ȝeolepod, lollpot, 2–3 iclepet, i-, ycluped, 4 yclepud, 4–5 icleped, yclepid, 5 iclepyd, 6 iclipped, iclipt, yclipped, yecollped, yclaped, -ed, *Sc.* yclepit, 6–7 yclipt, 7 i-, yclaped, yclaept, yclaipt, yclapped, ycleaped, eclip's, 8 ycpad, — yclaped (?–9 yclep'd), 8– yclept. [OE. *ȝeclyped*, pa. pple. of *ȝe(c)lypan*, *ȝe(c)lipian* Clepe, Yclepe: see Y- 4. Adopted by Gawin Douglas from his ME. models, and much affected as a literary archaism by Elizabethan and subsequent poets; in less dignified writing often used for the sake of quaintness or with serio-comic intention.] Called (*so-and-so*), named, styled.

*c* 890 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 60 *Dignus vocari apostolus*, wyrðe þætte ic se ȝeliopad erendwreca. *c* 1100 *O.E. Chron.* an. 1057 (MS. D.) [Eadmund] Irensid wæs ȝeclypod his ast-sunelipe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Heo weren iclept synnagoge al swa is nu iclept pet cristen folc. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Virtues* 7 Durh ane oðre senne þe is ȝecleped inobedience. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Syon was sum hwile iclepet þe hehe tur of Jerusalem. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1310 Ac hii was ȝwile iclipped [*v.r.* yclped, icleped, clepud, callyde, calliyd] be march of wales. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5560 Her ost was yclepped Blaine. *c* 1340 *Gawayne* 1. 2 Pis kyd is y-cleped ine clergie ingraitiude. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 121 & þaunde was þat bold quene of burres y-clupud. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 43 Mete sewed for Fretuesays, pan ben y-clepid Rogos. *c* 1440 *Stor. Rome* 674 *Pe Vol. Rel.* 6 Pe Poems (1903) 166 A lytylle chapelle yeet there is, I-cleped Visitus pastoris'. 1593 *Shakes. Pers. Lexic.* iii. (1555) C]b, They ppped a dauncc iclipped, whence de'ic hath pleasance. 1593 Douglas *Æneis* III. ii. 73 The king thairof yclept Anyus. 1598 Howell. *Devises* (1879) 244 By name yclipt Endimion. 1598 Shake. *L. L. L.* i. 142 Now for the ground Which? which I meane I walket vpon, it is yclped, Thy Parke. 1598 *Solimon & Perr.* v. iii. 74 That fraudfull squire of Ithaca, iclipt Ulisses. 1598 Yong *Alph.* 11 C v, Loves Labor Lost, I once did see a Play, Yclepped so. 1612 Cotgr., *Nommé*..named, called, cleaped, eclcaped. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. (1871) 22 The dreadfull beast, yclepped crocodile. 1632 Milton *Lycidas* 1. 8 But com thou Goddes fair and free, In Heav'n ycleap'd Euphrosyne. 1838 Heywood *Wise Wom.* ii. i, *Senec.* Is thy name Thrift? *Ted.* I am so eclip't. 1663 Butler *Hudib.* I. i. 904 A valiant Mamaluke, In Foreign Land ycleped (Sir Samuel Luke). 1664 *Ibid.* I. i. 46 A tall long-sided dame (But wondrous ugly) ycleped Fame. 1667 J. W. Montagu *Lat. to C'tess of Bristol* 1 Apr., Attending damsels ycleped Maids of honour. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Poetry Prof.* Wks. 1774 I. 31 That not one Bard flourishes the back Of useful drudge, ycleped hack. 1820 Lamb *Elia* Ser. 1. *Praise of Chimney-Sweepers*, The sweet wood yclept sassafras. 1849 C. Brontë *Shirley* xi, The old and tenantless dwelling yclept Fieldhead. 1877 Gladstone *Gleanı.* (1879) I. 169 It is yclept 'redistribution of seats'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 9/1 The Associated South London Extended Gold Mines Corporation, Limited, yclept in the market Sada.

Irreg. predicated of the name. 1653 J. Taylor (Wheat P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journ.* 17 The name of *Wheat ears*, on them is ycleap'd, Because they come when wheat is yearly reap'd.

†**Ycleipte, Yclipt** [V- 4], pa. pplc. of Clip *v.*[1], Clitch *v.* **Ycleyed**, stopped with clay. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 438 Another list ycleyed hem to se. **Yclinge** *v.* *(pseudo-arch.)* [V- 3 cl. to cling. *c* 1800 S. Robinson *Mary Magd.* 339 Yet to ye banckes his tender rootes yclinge. **Y-clive**[1], obs. pa. pple. of *clive*, Cleave *v.*[2] *a* 1325 *Beaudelain* 323 In Hesdin *Alisaut. Leg.* (1878) 166 So michel pain it is hir yclive, 3ete kin wende wele bet ache liue. **Yclive**[2], pa. pple. of Clive *v.*, to climb. **Yclomben**, climbed. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg.* 904 Pou hast yclomben art in hy honoures. **Yclosed**, closed. 1377, *c* 1420 [see Close *v.* 1 b, 3]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 And so nosy y-closyd, as ye forth. 1699 H. Care *Naval Duties* (1727) 111. 290 ycloth'd, The ghosts Of men decasa'd . In sleep ycloth'd. **Yclothed**, clothed. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3949 Noble men ycloped in cremin. *c* 1400 *Adam Bell* 130 A lyng stode ycloped al in rede. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 To haue fed me . and 3eue me drynke, ycloped me. **Ycloured**, patched. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 81 I shal . cast on me my clothes ycloured and hole. **Yclove**, obs. pa. pple. of Cleave *v.*[2] (3 *fl.*). **Yclyksted**, latched. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. viii. 286 Pe dore . Ycloyed and yclyksted.

**Yclyped**, obs. form of Yclept.

†**Yclypyd** [V- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Clip *v.*[2] 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2001 Yclypyd & yshaue Vp-on your hedys. **Y-coiled**, made cold, cooled. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 26 And he put ycoyled, as it is seyd. **Ycoled**, obs. pa. pple of Cole *v.*[1] 23.. *K. Alis.* 2686 Foure thousand knyghtis, . Y-coled alle for the nones. **Y-colo(u)rid**, coloured. 1440 Promp. Parv. 530 Eyen y-colorid like rede wyne. **Ycome(n, come.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4249 Po king arbures men ycome were echon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Pe boc is ycome to pe ende. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 150 Now ye ben ykome ageyn. **Ycompaced.** 1297 [see Compase *v.* 2]. **Ycompariso(u)ned.** 1340 [see Comparison *v.* 1]. **Ycon(y)rmed.** 1393 [see Confirm *v.* 3]. **Ycon-firmed.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4882 Poru hard ob & god ostage yconfermed was al pis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Pi bekene hy confermed me was ybore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troye* 1114 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 The kyndly hette shal be y-confortid. **Yconfounded.** 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8419 Al chleine he seruede were yconfounded. *c* 1400 [see Confound]. **Ycongeyed**, pa. pple. of Congee *v.*, to permit. 1389 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 259 Whan eny man is I-congeyed [*MS.* y-yongeyed] here to commence in eny faculte [etc.].

**Yconomie, Yconomus** (-imus), obs. ff. Economy, Economus.

†**Yconquest** [see Y- 4 and Conquest *pa. pple.*], acquired. 1513 Douglas *Aeneis* xii. ii. 90 Rewardis . Yconquest in this haill Laureatune. *c* 1400 [see Conquest]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 300 *note*, As Edricus hadde yconsayed while a was alyve. **Ycontined, -contyened**, contained. 1340 *Ayenb.* 2 Some byeb y-contined ope pus bet byeb yzed. *Ibid.* 118 [see Contain *v.* 2]. **Ycondyd**, pa. pple. of Conn *v.*[1] **Y-coped** [V- 3] *a.*, early form of Copied *a.*, wearing a cope. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 342 I knewe such one . Come in pus y-coped at a courte.

†**Ycore**, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **3ecoren**, 2–3 **3coren**, 3–4 **3core**, 4 **i-**, **yoorn**, 3–5 **yoore**. [OE. *3ecoren*, pa. pple. of *ceosan* to Choose, *geclosan* I-Chosen; often predicative and as adj., elect; ? choice', fair, comely (cf. the uses of *corn* 4, Coosa *v.* A. 6 a); ? elective in ME. used as a meaningless tag often riming with *before*; *absol.* elect one, the elect.

*Beowulf* 206 He hafde cempan zecorone. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 299 Wiþ þa zecorenan Cristes þegnas. *c* 900 tr. *Bede's Hist.* ii. viii. 1 Concordias . to þoope zecorenum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2818 Abraham . dribtne zecoren. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxi. 18 [cxxxii. 17] Ic . fæzre þearwas hlinc-nem bere for minum cristenum zecorenum [orig. *christo meo*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Nu ic þe bidde for þine kinedome . and for alle þine halezen and ec þine icorene. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 104 Hwi boh folc iclepede and swa lut icorene? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 H wat is þis þe astihð also del rieme, fair alse mone, icoren [orig. *electa*, Song of Songs vi. 10] alse sunne? *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Ld.) 144 Let ry schrift be forloren for no mannes crist yoren. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 579 Of wel heiȝhe kin yoore. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 514 [The child] as a roonde of lenche i-schaue in chaunce of hire bifore, Wibouten hire eize or bon. 13.. *Cœur de L.* 146 With a coron off gold I-corn. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 978 þe kiddeste y-core þat coroune weldeð. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbras* 3 Charlis kynge he hatte, knyst y-core þat is owar now lyuyng. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 789 Edgar..To þe iaykmath of Englonde was y-core.

†**Ycorused**: see Ycoronso. **Ycorumped** [V- 4], pa. pple. of Crumple *v.*, to contract. **Ycorveyed**, carved. R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4240 He vel adoun as a gret ok þat bine þe ycorue wer. *c* 1395 *P. Pl. Crede* 173 A woon wonderlie wel-ȝeiȝd, Wiþ arcbes ymaked hi & beldbe ycorueyed. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 83 Rasonys y-corven. **Ycory'd**, cored. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bk.* 46 Take perys y-cory'd. **Ycounted.** 1388 [see V- 4]. **Ycoupel**, pa. pple. of Coupe *v.*[2], to cut. **Ycoupled.** 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 443 Sif a song sheep..schal be y-coupled and y-joked to a wyfli bok. **Ycovered** [see also *y-covered*], covered. 1748 Sarsnetone *Schoolmaister*, xxxiii, Apples with cabbage-leaf y-cover'd o'er. **Ycraul** *v.* [V- 3 cl.], to crawl. 1394 Carew Vsage (1881) 15 Vile man from vilest durt on earth ycraul. **Ycrested** *a.* [V- 3] crested. *a* 1415 *Arnold* (Ashm.) 57 Y heaule helmet..with crests ycrested three. **Ycrismified**, pa. pple. of Chrisme *v.* **Ycristened**, christened. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 30 Pis child was y-cristened and I-clepud Eugenius, and I-made monk. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 265 Men fyndeþ þat makamede was a man ycristned. **Ycrost, crouned.** 1629 J. Davies *Microcosmos* 243 For, Crownes are richly blest, with Peace y-crost. **Ycrowned, -core(u)ned, -cronet**, crowned. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7934 In be oþer half be queene was of archebissopes si so Yked & ycrouned ek as riȝt was uor to do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 169 Ich y-wis..þe innumerable uolagrede of be holy martires mid blisse and worbeiȝpe y-corouned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 72 Pes schal be y-crowned bishop at Rome. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 199 Than he hym bethoght of the greete nobles that he demenyd in Ierusalem, ther as he was kynge y-cronet. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* ii. iii. iii. xiii, With fair flowers from unknown root ycrowned. **Ycullid**, obs. pa. pple. of Kille *v.* 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 109 Thauh we hadde ycullid pe catte out shulde per come anoper. **Ycus(s)ed**, obs. pa. pple. of Kiss *v.* **Ycustumet**, pa. pple. of Custom *v.* (sense 1). 1392 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 Afyrr the tyme of the yere and the hours of the day ycustumed or vsed. **Ycutte** (see also *ykyt*, etc.), cut. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 51 Datys y-cutte in ij. or iij.

**Yde, Yd**, obs. forms of Ioy, Ir.

*c* 1420 *Rule St. Benet* (1902) 78 To fulfyll yd in word and dede.

†**Ydad**, a minced oath: cf. Edad.

*c* 1680 Hickeringill *Hist. Wiggerism* 1. Wks. 1716 I. 42 Vdad, I think I am just of that Opinion myself.

†**Ydamned, -dampned**, obs. pa. pple. of Damn *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 78 Vor manye filozofes oper of greate clierkes and of lyynges and of empereours . ydamned to helle. *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 1043 Thou shalt be..clene y-dampned into hell. *c* 1420 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8693 He was pere ydemd [*MS. C* ydampned] to be pine of helle stronge.

**Ydan(t**, obs. ff. Eident, Ident *Sc.*, diligent.

†**Ydarted** [V- 4], pierced as with a dart. *c* 1374 [see Dart *v.* 2]. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6878 With wo hey be ybarted & bounde. **Ydanted**, overcome. 1481 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 80 Chromius eke fel dead in fielde y-daunted by his might.

**Ydder**, obs. form of Udder.

†**Ydeed** [V- 4], deed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 169 Pis zere Lewyngus þe bisshop of Worcestre y-dede. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* iii. i. v, Old Adam.. Under whose heaviness and with sleepy sadness Yoke, ydene [*OE. gedin, gedon*, pa. pple. of Do *v.*, I-do *v.*], done. *a* 1200 Cynewulf *Christ* 2266 Synne..ne zedcara. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Pe sinne pat mankinne was alle ydone. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 28 That thou ne hast y-dene troght some grete lette, hastyly be about to do.

**Ydel**, obs. form of Idle, Idol.

†**Ydel'd** [V- 4, Deal *v.* 3], dealt, conferred. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 545 Pla lond was þo ideled (*MS. a* ydeld) þ 8, y ydelde) a bre. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 107 Pese tweiȝ kyngdomes were ydeled [*MS.* y-yeuen] to Egwyn. **Y-dem(e)d** [V- 4, Deem *v.*], judged, condemned. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 He is idemd to echa wowe on helle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9382 Pis vnne wende he hadde ydemd. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 909 We faiþful folk..Ben y-demed to do dedus of rihte. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 289 His dwellinge (was) ydemed a bowe-drawte from hem.

†**Ydentifiable**, *adj. Obs. rare*[1]. [app. ad. med.L. **identificabilis*, adv. of **identificare* Identify.] With actual identity.

1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 461 Criste is not in that sacramente ydentpificably, veryly and really bi his propre substaunces corporealis.

**Ydenly**, obs. form of Idently *adv. Sc.*

**Ydeot(e**, obs. form of Idiot.

†**Ydept** [V- 4], dipped. 1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Y-dept ine blod. *Ibid.* [V- 4, Dip *v.*], stopped, closed. 1340 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 301 Bauochesmure is y-dict mynd mannis bonik. **Y-dicyd** [V- 4], cut into dice. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 20 Hard Wastel ydicyd.

†**Ydigbt**, *pa. pple. Obs.*, (after 1500 *arch.*) [V- 4, Dight *v.*] Prepared, furnished, dressed.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5581 Pe welisse ver in engelond vorte be it adde ydiȝt. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 511 Her dortour vdigte wip fyue clopinge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troye* 1114 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* Full hastily was theyr dyner Ydyght. 1520 *World & Child* A ij b, Stretes and stroudes full strongely ydyght. 1590 Spenser *Prothal. Rastell* 722 The Aultars bright, that were rounde ydight.

**Ydill, -illy, Ydiome, Ydiot(e**, obs. ff. Idle *a.*, Idly *adv.*, Idiom, Idiot.

†**Ydo(n** [V- 4, Do *v.*, I-do *v.*], done, put. *Wyl. Wint* (cf. HMG. 1. 1. 1) 1300 Ne wil ich nouȝt ydon, etc. [see Do *v.* 8, I. 1]. 1405 Lay. 9201 Membricius, þet wes a riche mon, þe wes swiþe wel idon (Wace *zainet hom*). 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9335 Pe Witeseten ydo hom wende. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troye* 1201 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 132 A prel..To strong prison was I-don. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 71 What hast y-doo, sire bishop? 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 282 Pat pe bowe pat I bere Of Almes yd-ido in pe worst ȝere. 1426 Lydg. *DeGuil. Pilgr.* 17310 Thys meschef..Ys ydon and wrouht by me. **Ydobbed**: see Y-dubbed. **Ydoctrined**, taught. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Vor huych bord pet ilke scine hous ne by yeclosed ne by ydoctrined, walkeb. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* v. 19 (1554) 100 She was ydolue lowe. **Ydoubled, -dobbled**, doubled. 1390 *Ayenb.* 250 Vel bou me beuelst aye mi wyl, my chiefbel by me ydoubled. 1393 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 275 With deyntes y-doublid and daunsinges to pipis. **Ydought** [Dow *v.*], grown strong. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5906 The kyng was hool, and wel y-dought.

**Ydoun**, obs. form of Hidoun.

†**Ydout** *v.* [V- 3] to fear. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6328 Ech prince & ech lond ydouted hem tuo. **Ydouted** [V- 4], feared. 1393 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* i. 49 With diamauntis derne ydoubted of all. **Ydradde**: see Dread *v.*, Yred. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* i. ii, O happy man that full perswasion had Of this! if right at home, nought of him were ydrad. **Ydrawe**, **ydrawn**, pa. pple. of Draw *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 363 Pe draw. *c* 1362 *Piers Pl. Gnil. Pilgr.* 3037 A cause evydent That thow mayst wel.. The sweet ydrawe. **Ydrawe, ydrawn**, pa. pple. (V- 4), drawn. 1426 Lydg. *DeGuil. Pilgr.* 2001 Pou art mid vertu ydrawe to ydrawe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 He wes villiche y-drayȝe ase a byef. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xix. 218 Eue was of adam and out of hym ydrawe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 26 Take gode mylke of Almaundys y-drawe with wyne.

**Ydre**: see Hydre.

†**Ydred** (also *ydradde*, *ydrad*, *ydradde*), pa. pple. of Dread *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 102 Ne ys yd alid and ydrawe and ydred and yworþssiped and yloued. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 137 Wyrchippyd, ylowid, and ydreddyd. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. iv. 53 Abuf the hevin ydred and starrit sky. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. i. 5 Yet nothing did he dread, but ever was ydrad. 1600 C. Fletcher *Christ's Vict. Heaven* i. xi, Every one shakes his ydraded speare. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* ii. i. ii. xix, Mans awfull majesty of every beast ydred. **Ydrenced**, dreamt. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 Wheper I have I-mette [Caxton hath y-dremed] pis tale or nouȝt. **Ydrenched**, drenched. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 285 And how the fields ydrenched were with blood. **Ydressid, -drest**, prepared, equipped, adorned. *c* 1386 i-dressed [see Dress *v.* 3]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 165 Anoone afyrr the lue Saw that he was wel ydressid. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 11 Make a dragge of powder Gyngere,..an caste per-on When it is y-dressid. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* i. iii. ivl, Their face with love and vigour was ydrest. **Ydrevght**, obs. pa. pple. of Draw *v.* **Ydreynt** [Drench *v.*], drowned. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14464 Swych wynseyng..Made hym that he was atteynt And mydden off the see ydreynt. **Ydrife, ydrive**, driven. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4803 pe brutons were ydrive (o. r. ydrife] al in to west walis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 129 And drowe ydrayes bi-fore pe ydryue away addres and cokedrilles from pe Egyptians.

**Ydromancy, Ydromel**, obs. ff. Hydromancy, Hydromel.

†**Ydronken**, -**drunke**, drunk. *c* 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 476 In *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 131 Werne pe wes euer euen ydrunke bried y-dronken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 Ich ne sæel by an eyse al-huet ich habbe ydronke. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 281 Til I haue dyned ich lye doȝ and drynke ydronke. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 75 Mids..was sleyne þro the blodde of a bulle ydrunke. **Ydryve**, v. [V- 3 cl.], to drop. *c* 1728 Pardon *Metal. Feafry Tale* 171 And dewy ydropes fair ydryve.

**Ydropesey, -ie, etc., Ydropike, Ydrosacre**, obs. ff. Hydropsy, Hydrophic, Hydrosacre.

†**Ydrownd** [V- 4], drowned. 1629 J. Davies *Microcosmos* Pref. 23 In Teares ydrownd. **Ydubbed**, dubbed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 81 Pet ydubbed knyytes bet hy habbe ydo pet ydubbed. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 363 Tyll degon and dobyn.. were y-dubbid of a duke for her while domes.

**Ydul, Ydy**, obs. ff. Idle, Idol, Ioy.

†**Ydyned** [V- 4], dined. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 303 Er ich haue y-dyned by hys day and y-dronke bope! **Ydyt** [Dit *v.*], closed, shut up. 1393 R. Baunke *Handl. Synne* 3188 Wyb hys hede ydyt & hys eyȝen ybounde. 1642 *Solomon's Bk, Wisdom* 542 A pytte, pere seoun hungri lyouns weren pereinne all ydytte.

**Ye** (*yę, yī*), *pers. pron. and perv. nom. (obj.), fl.* (*sing.*). Forms: see Thou, ge, strengthd *ge, gie*, corresp. to OFris. *ji*, OS. *gi, gē*, (MLG., MDu. *gâi, -i*, LG., Du. *gij*), OHG., MHG. *ir* (*G. ihr*), ON. *ér* (:— **jer*), Sw., Da. *i*: analogically modified forms (after the 1st pers. pl. pron., e.g. OE. *ge* after *we*, ON. *ér* after *vér*, HG. *ir* after *wir*) of OTeut. **jus*, unaccented **jus*, represented by Goth. *jus*, f. root *ju-* with pl. ending *-s* (cf. Zend *yūš*, Lith. *jūs*, and Skr. *yū-yám*).

For the declension of the sml pers. pron. in OE. and ME. see Thou.

In the earliest periods of English *ye* was restricted to the nom. pl. In the 13th c. it came to be used as a nom. sing. = 'thou', first as a respectful form addressed to a superior. This use survives in modern dialects, esp. (in the form *ee*) in interrog. and imperative forms of the verb *to do* q. v., but also in objective uses = 'thee' (e. g. *Ot tell ee*). When *you* had usurped the place of *ye* as a nom., *ye* came to be used (in the 15th c.) vice versa, as an objective sing. and pl. (= 'thee' and 'you').]

Now (in all uses) only *dial.*, *arch.*, or *poet.*; in ordinary use replaced by You.

**A.** Illustration of Forms:

1 **3e, 3ie, 3oe**, 2–3 **3ie, (gie, ge)**, 2–5 (6–8 *Sc.* printed *ze*) **3e**, 4–5 **3oo**, *north.* **ya**, 4–6 *north.* **3he**, 4–7 **ye** (3 **3je, hye**, 4 **i3e, iye**, (i)he, 7, 9 *dial.* **yea**), 3– **ye**.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 Xe sint salt eorðes. *Ibid.* Luke xvi. 15 Xie sindon ða ðe xiie so*mannigæ bidh fore monnum. *a* 1178 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Penche 3e ælc word of him swete. *c* 1275 *Lay. Brut* 127 Ye beoð ne schulen of deofles anwalde mid golde ne mid seolure. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Nu 3ie habbeð iherd þes wimmanes name. *Ibid.* 145 Hwet 3ie habbeð iherd of þan holie gode. *c* 1225 *Kent. Serm. in O. E. Misc.* 28 Hye habbet to gode iofred of yure selure. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 330 ibid. B 52 Hye ne schulen nouȝt walkeȝ in þulke gode þat ich 3ou habbe ido. (Rolls) 9360 Louerdinges þe wute wel þat (etc.). *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 411 (Cott.) Als ye here now redi bun. *Ibid.* 19094 (Edin.) Ha sone . Vte .. demid wit to gain walk. 1340 *Gawayne* 1102 Wende we vn to baine, if þe [v. r. þe] rede. 13.. *Northern Passion* 157 He seid wol yie yeue me mede? 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conc.* 68 Als yhe sal here afterward sone. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxiii. 29 Scribis, wrecchis knowynge the scripturis. 14.. *Northern Passion* 11. 172/306 Me þenkeþ he saide þis habbet wrong. 1398 Dunbar *Poems* v. 28 Drink with my Goddames, as ye ga by. 1520 *Kyr. Peisy Seal Scot.* I. 314/1 Wit ȝhe us to have made..oure lovit Alexander Andersoun..settar and sasar of all skynnys. 1821 *Blebo Gen.* iii. 5 Yee shall bee as Gode. 1630 Muse Lit. Cathvill. 19 Ye mountaines and yee hills. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing yº the last proposition should stand so as it is. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Yea's*, you shall.

b. In combination, proclitically or enclitically, with other words, as: + *yet* = *ye* it, *yare* = ye are, *yhave*; *d'ee, dee* = do ye, *hark'ee, harkee.* Now *dial.*

c 1200 Ormin 9006 Loc þiff yet wilenn folkhnne. 1611, 1865, 1892 [see Dial 16]. 1631 Kennet *Rom. Antiq. & Ivit* v. vi. 1 3, An ample restitution, Of what yhave tane from her. 1632 Brome *Northern Lass* i. ii, If I interrupt you, hang me. Des hast? 1673 Ward *Fem. Wrang. Wks.* 1. 15 Madam, yare passionate. 1708, etc. harkee, hark'ee [see Hark *v.* 2c]. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 485 No, es thankee, Coxen

Magery. 1775 Sheridan *St. Patr. Day* i. i, There's a discipline, look'ee in all things. *Ibid.*, Hark'ee, lads, I must have no grumbling.

*Cf.* the rimes in the following :—a 1721 Prior *Cupid Mistaken* 14 Indeed, Mamma, I did not know Ye : I took You for your Likeness, Cloe. 1774 Goldsm. *Retaliation* 136 Then what was his failing? come tell it, and burn ye. He was—could he help it?—a special attorney.

**B.** Usces.

**1.** The pronoun used (as the plural of Thou) in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things), in the nominative (or vocative).

*Beowulf* 1137 Hwæt syndon ge searohæbbendra? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 5 þonne ze eow gebiddon, ne beo ze swylce liceteras. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Se hierde wiehs þæ weren er crist wes iboren. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Se se berð iwant fram me. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 27 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 Wolde ze, mi leode, luste eure louerde, lo on wolde wyð-sye wisliche þinges. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2511 (E.) Yæ Helle gates, y com þou to. Now ich wil þat ȝe vnde. 1300 Gower *Conf.* III. 37 Thus be yee partid non atso. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 Good men and weymen, þys day, as ȝe knowen well, ȝe cleped Sonenday yn þe Addenti. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lxxx. 555 My fayre felawes wete ye wel that I will torne vnto kynge Arthurs party. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* 32 Cum Garnysche, cum Godfrey, with as many as ȝe may. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 34 Ye, that on the sands with printlesse foote Doe chase the ebbing-Neptune, and vnfollow speedinesse To make prize with nightshushrumps. 1662 *Bk. Com. Pr., Comm., Conf.*, Ye [*1st Pr. Bk.* 1549 You] that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins. 1782 Sir J. Reynolds in *Phil. Transc.* LXXI. 7 Shew the World that ye still are as ye always have been, worthy the Patronage of your King! 1798 Wordsw. *We are Seven* viii, Yet are we seven!—I pray you tell, Sweet Maid, how this may be. 1833 Tennyson *Death of Old Year* I. Toll ye the church-bell and sad slow. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 90 The King answered, Ye know not the reason wherefore I would kill the dog. 1902 Bridges *Motive of Dolorous*, They rode to war as if to the hunt, But ye at home, ye bore the brunt.

† **b.** In apposition with *self* (*ye self, selven* = yourselves) : see Self A. 2. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 (Cott.) To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen alike. *Ibid.* 14691 Bot ...if yee self will be blind. 1388 Wyclif *1 Pet.* ii. 5 And ȝe silf as quyk stonys be ȝe alone bildid in to spiritual hous. *Ibid.* 16 Ȝe silf ben stonys lyuynge bildid in to spiritual hous.

**c.** In apposition with and preceding a sb. (or adj. used *absol.*) in the vocative.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 62 To Legistres and lawyers ȝe witen wher I lyȝe. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 1809 Ye nyces, ȝeres ben ye! 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 333 So riche, Robeth and fedeth Hem þat han as ȝe han. 1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 84 Ye brainsycke fooles, Ye bodily peckes, Ye doddy pates, Ye dunsicke heades. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 88 Looke not to the ground, Ye Pauorites of a King. 1681 Baxter *Hymn*, Ye holy Angels bright, Which stand before God's Throne, ready Powers. 1712 Steele *Spect.* 434 That blood, those Murthers, O ye Gods replace On his own Head. 1730 Thomson *A Hymn* 76 Ye woodlands all, awake. 1803–6 Wordsw. *Offering, Immort.* iv. Ye blessed creatures, I have heard the call Ye each other make.

**2.** Used instead of *thou* in addressing a single person (originally as a mark of respect or deference, later generally : cf. Thou, You).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1341 Sire emperour quab he tel bo, ne be ze no bolde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8721 (Cott.) Ne, quob he, said, ȝe it witschild þat þou britten sua mi child. Yee giue him all til hir allan, Me es it leuer þan he be slan'. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 49 Ma dame, if ye wolde have rowthe. 1411 *Rolls of Parl.* III. 650/2 And why Lord..I knowe wele that ye be of such birth estate and myghte that [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 15 Moder,..be not dismayed, for ye shall neuere be fuged to deth for me cause. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* 549 (Winch.) Setyng, with worshyp reygne ȝe not þu, *vocatio.* 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxi. (Arb.) 51 Sayn that ye your self haue made the letter. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* xiv. 23 Good lord, ye created and made our fader Adam. 1536 in *Ant. Parli. Scot.* (1839) XII. 36/2 We with oure humthall servis thankis youre grace of the grete Wergis ye haue gyffin to the weill..of our kingis Estacis person. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 26 The royall Virgin..thin thus bespake.. How shall I quite the paines, ye suffer for my sake? 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 49 *Iulia*[*s*]. Will ye be gon? *Lucetta*. That you may ruminate. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Eagle & Robin* 45 Ze sing sae dull and rueh, Ze haif nevir our lugs. 1786 Burns *To a Louse* 19 Now baud you there, ye're out o' sight. 1866 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Lizzie Lorton* III. 159 We've done summut ye're sorry for. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1141 'Damsel', he said, 'ye lie not all to blame'. 1873 *Oxfordshire Gloss., Ee*...is a more refined word than *thee*...'Who did ee see up stee?'..*Ee* is used to a superior, and not *thee*. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* I. iii, Be ye a-cold, Christian?

**b.** In apposition with and preceding a sb. in the vocative.

*a* 1296 *Sir T. More* i. ii. 11 Compell me, ye dogges face! 1599 Chapman *Hum. daytes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 69, O ye impudent gossip. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxix, Ye donnered auld runt.

**3.** Used as objective (accusative or dative) instead of *you* (in plural or singular sense).

*c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. xvii. 86 Ȝe preie ȝe seie ȝe to me (etc.). 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* 263 We leaue ȝe here behynde. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iv. iv, For this will Dido lye ye full of knots,..Ye shall no more offend the Carthage Queene. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* i. i. 110 He is in a good forwardnesse, I tell ye, if all hit right. 1613 Shakes. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 28 As I haue made ye one Lord's, one remaine : So I grow stronger, you more Honour gaine. 1884 Bedell *Lect.* iv. 73 This no Protestant will grant yee. *c* 1650 Milton Nonn., *On new Perverse Comic.*, To..ride us with a classic Hierarchy Taught ye by meer A. S. and Rotherford. 1667 — *P. L.* II. 840, I..shall..bring ye to the place. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 18 I'll bear ye Company for Yese and Day. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxii, There's a sixpence i' ye to buy half a mutchkin. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* v. i. 198 Was not the place of Doge sufficient for ye? 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., 2nd Sunday Advent* vi, Ye, who your Lord's commission bear, His way of mercy to prepare: Angels He calls ye. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* lxxii, 'Go thy ways with him, sir,' cried the sexton, 'and Heaven be with ye both!' 1847 Halliwell *Dict.* (1889) I. 3a, *ziv's* I'd soon yarn sum munney, I warrant ye. 1866 Lytton *Lost Tales Miletus* 127 The morrow's sun shall light ye homeward both.

† **b.** Used redundantly ('ethical dative'). *Obs.*

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 6 He comes ye laden forsooth, with Letters of Recommendations. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 472 He cannot make a handsome bow, nor run up off an elegant period.

Hence + **Ye** *v.*, to use 'ye' instead of 'thou' in addressing a single person : cf. Thou *v.*, Yee *v.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/1 To *ȝe, vocare ȝe plurali numero vel tertirum vel tibi.* 1510 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 (W. de W.) Yeyn or ye *v.* *ȝeare.*

+ **Ye,** *conj.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms : 1 ȝe, 2–3 ȝe, 3 *Orm.* ȝe. [OE. *ge*, corresp. in use to OS. *gē*, *gīe*, *gia*, and ja, OHG. *ja* and *jauh*, *joh*, *jouh* (MHG. *ja*, *joch*, *jouch*), Goth. *jah.*] And; also, too. *Ge . . ȝe* (*or and*) : both . . . and ; as well . . . as.

*Beowulf* 2 Oft Scyld Scefing sceabena þreatum..monegum mægþum..egsode eorl. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 Þonne herȝe hyrna aþelinga ord callum clemeð leoþum ȝe laȝum lean eyber ryhte. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 835 Her for Ecgbryht ofer Hengest on Walas ge in Denisc. *c* 1000 *Ags. Leechd.* II. 204 Eller sint tacn æheardorlic lifre ȝe on þam leppum & healocum & filmenum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Deos sunne fordeð eiðer ge sealt ge fersc. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 246 Ure turrnde mikell folc till Godd ȝa laweld folc, ȝa lareld.

**Ye,** obs. dial. form of Give *v.*

1788 *Wm. Gordon's Baptist in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 31 I ow'e, ye'e, give over, cease, stop.

**Ye :** see Eye, Yea; graphic var. The, Thee, cf. Y (3).

**Yea** (yē), *adv.* (*sb.*) Now *dial.* and *arch.* Forms : *a.* 1 ȝea, ȝee, ȝe, 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝe, 4–5 ȝhe, 4–6 ȝee, ye, 4–7 yee, 5 yhe, 6 je. *β.* 1 ȝea, 1–2 ia, 3–5 ȝea, (also 6) ȝa, 4 ȝaa, iaa, ȝia, ȝai, 4–5 ȝaa, ȝai, ȝay, ȝei, ȝa, ȝe, ȝo, 5 ȝeie, ȝeye, ȝeo, ȝeo, ȝeoo, ȝoo, 5 yoe, 5–7 yoo. *γ.* 3 ȝel, yal, 4–5 ȝoy, 5 ȝel, ȝeyȝe. 3. 1 ȝiee, ȝi, 4 ȝoi, ȝui, 5 ȝoie, 8 *dial.* yoy, 9 *dial.* yi, yigh. *ε.* 3 ȝoei, ȝui, 5 ȝoye. [An affirmative particle having forms corresponding more or less exactly in all the other Teutonic languages : OFris. *gē, jā*, OS. *jā*, (M)LG. *ja*, (M)Du., OHG., MHG. *ja, jā*, (G. *ja*), ON. *já*, Goth. *ja, jai*, all derivable without a primitive Teut. form from *je*, which has undergone modification in different directions as the result of sentence stress or emotional emphasis.

OE. (WS.) *gēa* combined with the corresp. Anglian *gē* to produce the ME. type *ȝe(e, ye(e* ; the Northumb. development of the Anglian form, *gē, gī* (cf. Northumb. **sclep, srīp* = WS. *sclæp* Sheep), gave a ME. type *ȝi*, continued in mod. north. dial. in *yi, yigh, yoi.* In later WS. the falling diphthong of *gēa* became a rising one, *ged, id*, whence arose forms with *ȝ* and northern *y*. In Old and Early Mid. English the prevalence of the Anglian forms is obscure. The modern standard spelling *yea* and pronunciation (yē) show arrested development of the vowel, but the pronunciation (yī) is current locally. ME. *ȝei, ȝoy, ȝeyȝe* seem to point back to a doubled form **ȝeȝe.* The e-forms *ȝui, ȝoi* constitute a distinct southern type, with possibly a modern representative in Hampshire *yigh.*]

A word used to express affirmation or assent : now ordinarily replaced by Yes.

**1.** A simple affirmative, in answer to a question not involving a negative : = Yes I.

For the distinction formerly observed between *yea* and *yes*, see Nay *adv.* 1 and Yes 2.

In ME. *ȝe* is sometimes accompanied by a pronoun repeating the pronominal subj. of the question (see quots. from *Ancr. Riwle* a 1225, and cf. the first quot. from the same text in 3 *β*).

1381 Bæda *Hist. Eccl.* v. ii, 'Dicito,' inquiens, 'aliquod verbum, dicito Gas [*OE. transl.* (c 900) cweð hi ȝee], quod est, lingua Anglorum, verbum adfirmandi et consentiendi, et est...' *c* 1200 *Ags. Gosp.* John xxi. 15 Þa cwæð he hælend..Simon iohannis lufast þu me swiðor þonne þas? He cwæð to him, ȝea [*Lind. & Rushw.* ȝee] drihten þu wast þæt ic þe lufie. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 Ne Fari þu Enau min sunu? And he cwæð : Ia leof, ic hit eom. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Is hit god for to hiheren godes wordes and heom athalden ? ze fulwis. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2452 Maȝ anig mann slan oþer mann & cwellenn himm wiþþ herrte? ȝa fall wel seȝȝþ batt Latin boc. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heieste uri hersumet? Ich hete oȝ ha godd feder. ...Is þes forme ȝe[*s*] oȝ þe hehe, leuestu þet Iuneal hin þe reowðfulliche deide..on rode? Yai quoð heo. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Is hit nu so ouer vuel nor te toten utward ? se hit. *Ibid.* 54 Is þet uuel ouer on þin? ȝe ich understonde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 772 'Aid wenis þou þat it be sua Sum he has said yow?' 'certes, ya!' *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 508 Sche ne answerede nái ne ye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 268 'What? sone', seide be couherde 'seistestow I was here?' 'ȝa, sire, series', seide be child. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1575 'Wolde ye þou defende ouþer ȝe wollely flen?' 'ȝea, so god me mende.' *c* 1400 *Anturs. Arth.* xxiv, Gauan asshes, 'Is hit soȝ?' To tober knyȝt grauntus, ȝee. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 204 His moder..Askyd medeyn yf she hadde dons wele And she seid yee. *a* 1450 *Myrc Parv. Pr. 69* Belevest thowe fully alle the pryncipalle articles of the Feithe..? The Sike persone answerethe, Yee. *a* 1466 Gregory *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 216 Yf ye holde you welle plesyd..say you nowe, ye!'..And thenne alle the peyple cryde with oo voyce, 'Ye! ye!' *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 364 At him he speryt, all Scottis gyft that he. Wallace said 'ȝe'. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2843 'Madem, if ȝe remembir, so it was The red knycht..That wencust al'...'Ihe,' quod the qwen, 'zycht wel remenbir I'. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 7 I said, 'Is that your countrimoor, To tak men for thair luking heir?' Bewty sayis, 'Ȝa, schir'. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xiii. 51 Iesus sayde vnto them ; have ye vnderstonde all these thynges : they sayde, ye mayster. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* iii, iii. (Arb.) 46 *R. Royster.* Trowest thou so? *M. Merry.* Ye plain. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 2 *Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at hand? *Aum.* Yes, my Lord. 1600 *Contention betw. Liberalitie & Prodigalitie* ii. iii. (Malone Soc.) 345 *Wom..* What, still so hastily? *Tem.* You by giesse, sir, its high time. 1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 He asked whether our countrey had warres? I answered him yea. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 86 *Yoy*, yes, from *yea* or *ay* rather than *yes*. 1850 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 888 'Look on it, child, and tell me if ye know it.' *And child*.. answer'd, 'Yea, I know it'. 1865 Athenæum Ward *Wit Dic., Shakers*, When we broke up, sez I, 'my partner's dead, you may have no objections, hav you, to a innersent kiss at partin'?' 'Yay,' thay sed. 1909 K. D. Wiggin *Susanna & Sue* i. 13 (Shaker Eldress log.) 'Yee, yee,' I replied. 1923 *Word* 203 Yea is always thus pronounced among the Shakers.)

**b.** Expressing assent to a statement, command, etc. : = Yes 3. (See also *4.*)

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 *Mt.* And mangige feolaþ þa gemeodon ofslean hine, ac hi ne dorstan forhtnesse for. *Ac.* Yea swa hig doþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Sun,' he said, 'þou most now gan To paradis þat i com fra.'..' Yal, sir, wist i wyderward Þat tan wer redi to mi mard.' 1393 *Gower* 503 'Euele mote he þriue & þe, Jet forst falle of me & te.' 'Ȝa leue ȝa,' quaþ otuwel þo. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 170, 'I trouwe þat þou hi sone bringe be seide, 'ȝe, sire, so he dede.' 1450 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2979 'Ye shal telle me swere þe lawes kepe til I agnyn come,'..to which þei gan answere, 'ȝee, sire, man, see!' 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxiv. 22 Ye are witnesses ouer youre selues, that ye haue chosen you the Lorde, to serue him. And they sayde : Yee. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. ii. 3 *Don.* It is so, the Count Claudio shal marry the daughter of Leonato. *Bene.* Yea my Lord, but I can crosse it. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 757 'Then, Enid, shall you ride Behind me.' 'Yea,' said Enid, 'let us go.'

**c.** Rarely in answer to a negative question (*obs.* : = Yes 2 *a*), or in contradiction of a negative statement (now *dial.* : = Yes 2 *b*).

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 *Mt.* Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? *Ic.* Yea buton nettum huntian ic mæg. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Nis þet uuel, uuel? Yeȝ so grim ase se him uore snikeð. No, he seið, Deuid, þuhe [*MS. T.* ȝeiȝ he, *MS. C.* ȝeiheȝ, and seið þenne hwarmore. *Ibid.* 392 Ne wilnie þu nawiht þinkhen ared us? ȝe siker [*corr.* ȝese I wis, ȝes I wil, ful lihtliche. 1382 Wyclif *Matth.* xvii. 23 Thei..seiden to hym, ȝoure maister ȝeueth nat tribute? And he seide, He. 1388 Wyl. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Quhare[un]to lyve I langer? Woufulest wicht, and sulliest vnto peyne! Of peyne? no; yee wote, ȝe. 1876 Wyon Clitheroe *Dorver* (1879) 149 'This is th' house isn't it, Matty?' 'Yigh. We've lived in it time.' 1886 Cumliffe *Gloss. Rochdale-w.-Rossendale Wds. & Phr., Yi.*—is..in negative [answer] to a statement, as, 'You have not been in the house to-day,' to which 'yi' means that the statement made is untrue.

**d.** *To say yea* : to answer in the affirmative ; hence, to give assent.

*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1067 Sa kyng befealh georne hire bræher eð þæt he cwæð hi wolde. *c* 1300 *Beket* 56 This Gilbert seide ȝe. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 And to the kniht sche seide : 'Yee.' *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollf.* 29 To a ferne man ȝe sie or nay. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Yeyn or ye *v.* *ȝeare*. I thenke to say in all this matter plainly ye or nay. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. Prol. 93 Noo hit fullie grantand, nor anis sayand Ȝe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 128 A Parliament was assembly of people to say yea or nay to that which should be declared vnto them. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing yt the last proposition should stand so as it is, see yea.

† **e.** Standing for an affirmative dependent clause after a verb of saying or believing : = Yes 5. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 772 (Fairf.) And wenis þou þat ich is sua? Certis, he sayd, þat is þou. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 Sche to my lif all this matter plainly ye or nay. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. Prol. 93 Noo hit fullie grantand, nor anis sayand Ȝe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 128 A Parliament was assembly of people to say yea or nay to that which should be declared vnto them. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing yt the last proposition should stand so as it is, see yea.

† **e.** Standing for an affirmative dependent clause after a verb of saying or believing : = Yes 5. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 772 (Fairf.) And wenis þou þat ich is sua? Certis, he sayd, þat is þou. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 And to the Interrogatory Whether thei had this by the Comen assent ye or noo [etc.]. *c* 1450 *K. Alis.* (Camden) 4458 Many anis manu slan oþer manu & cwellenn himm wiþþ herrte? ȝa fall wel seȝȝþ batt Latin boc. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heieste uri hersumet? Ich hete oȝ ha godd feder. ...Is þes forme ȝe[*s*] oȝ þe hehe, leuestu þet Iuneal hin þe reowðfulliche deide..on rode? Yai quoð heo. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Is hit nu so ouer vuel nor te toten utward ? se hit. *Ibid.* 54 Is þet uuel ouer on þin? ȝe ich understonde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 772 'Aid wenis þou þat it be sua Sum he has said yow?' 'certes, ya!' *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 508 Sche ne answerede nái ne ye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 268 'What? sone', seide be couherde 'seistestow I was here?' 'ȝa, sire, series', seide be child. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1575 'Wolde ye þou defende ouþer ȝe wollely flen?' 'ȝea, so god me mende.' *c* 1400 *Anturs. Arth.* xxiv, Gauan asshes, 'Is hit soȝ?' To tober knyȝt grauntus, ȝee. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 204 His moder..Askyd medeyn yf she hadde dons wele And she seid yee. *a* 1450 *Myrc Parv. Pr. 69* Believest thowe fully alle the pryncipalle articles of the Feithe..? The Sike persone answerethe, Yee. *a* 1466 Gregory *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 216 Yf ye holde you welle plesyd..say you nowe, ye!'..And thenne alle the peyple cryde with oo voyce, 'Ye! ye!' *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 364 At him he sperȝt, all Scottis gyft that he. Wallace said 'ȝe'. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2843 'Madem, if ȝe remembir, so it was The red knycht..That wencust al'...'Ihe,' quod the qwen, 'zycht wel remenbir I'. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 7 I said, 'Is that your countrimoor, To tak men for thair luking heir?' Bewty sayis, 'Ȝa, schir'. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xiii. 51 Iesus sayde vnto them ; have ye vnderstonde all these thynges : they sayde, ye mayster. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* iii, iii. (Arb.) 46 *R. Royster.* Trowest thou so? *M. Merry.* Ye plain. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 2 *Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at hand? *Aum.* Yes, my Lord. 1600 *Contention betw. Liberalitie & Prodigalitie* ii. iii. (Malone Soc.) 345 *Wom..* What, still so hastily? *Tem.* You by giesse, sir, its high time. 1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 He asked whether our countrey had warres? I answered him yea. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 86 *Yoy*, yes, from *yea* or *ay* rather than *yes*. 1850 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 888 'Look on it, child, and tell me if ye know it.' *And child*.. answer'd, 'Yea, I know it'. 1865 Athenæum Ward *Wit Dic., Shakers*, When we broke up, sez I, 'my partner's dead, you may have no objections, hav you, to a innersent kiss at partin'?' 'Yay,' thay sed. 1909 K. D. Wiggin *Susanna & Sue* i. 13 (Shaker Eldress log.) 'Yee, yee,' I replied. 1923 *Word* 203 Yea is always thus pronounced among the Shakers.)

**b.** Expressing assent to a statement, command, etc. : = Yes 3. (See also *4.*)

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 *Mt.* And mangige feolaþ þa gemeodon ofslean hine, ac hi ne dorstan forhtnesse for. *Ac.* Yea swa hig doþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Sun,' he said, 'þou most now gan To paradis þat i com fra.'..' Yal, sir, wist i wyderward Þat tan wer redi to mi mard.' 1393 *Gower* 503 'Euele mote he þriue & þe, Jet forst falle of me & te.' 'Ȝa leue ȝa,' quaþ otuwel þo. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 170, 'I trouwe þat þou hi sone bringe be seide, 'ȝe, sire, so he dede.' 1450 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2979 'Ye shal telle me swere þe lawes kepe til I agnyn come,'..to which þei gan answere, 'ȝee, sire, man, see!' 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxiv. 22 Ye are witnesses ouer youre selues, that ye haue chosen you the Lorde, to serue him. And they sayde : Yee. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. ii. 3 *Don.* It is so, the Count Claudio shal marry the daughter of Leonato. *Bene.* Yea my Lord, but I can crosse it. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 757 'Then, Enid, shall you ride Behind me.' 'Yea,' said Enid, 'let us go.'

**c.** Rarely in answer to a negative question (*obs.* : = Yes 2 *a*), or in contradiction of a negative statement (now *dial.* : = Yes 2 *b*).

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 *Mt.* Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? *Ic.* Yea buton nettum huntian ic mæg. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Nis þet uuel, uuel? Yeȝ so grim ase se him uore snikeð. No, he seið, Deuid, þuhe [*MS. T.* ȝeiȝ he, *MS. C.* ȝeiheȝ, and seið þenne hwarmore. *Ibid.* 392 Ne wilnie þu nawiht þinkhen ared us? ȝe siker [*corr.* ȝese I wis, ȝes I wil, ful lihtliche. 1382 Wyclif *Matth.* xvii. 23 Thei..seiden to hym, ȝoure maister ȝeueth nat tribute? And he seide, He. 1388 Wyl. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Quhare[un]to lyve I langer? Woufulest wicht, and sulliest vnto peyne! Of peyne? no; yee wote, ȝe. 1876 Wyon Clitheroe *Dorver* (1879) 149 'This is th' house isn't it, Matty?' 'Yigh. We've lived in it time.' 1886 Cumliffe *Gloss. Rochdale-w.-Rossendale Wds. & Phr., Yi.*—is..in negative [answer] to a statement, as, 'You have not been in the house to-day,' to which 'yi' means that the statement made is untrue.

**d.** *To say yea* : to answer in the affirmative ; hence, to give assent.

*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1067 Sa kyng befealh georne hire bræher eð þæt he cwæð hi wolde. *c* 1300 *Beket* 56 This Gilbert seide ȝe. 1300 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 And to the kniht sche seide : 'Yee.' *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollf.* 29 To a ferne man ȝe sie or nay. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 Yeyn or ye *v.* *ȝeare*. I thenke to say in all this matter plainly ye or nay. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* i. Prol. 93 Noo hit fullie grantand, nor anis sayand Ȝe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 128 A Parliament was assembly of people to say yea or nay to that which should be declared vnto them. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing yt the last proposition should stand so as it is, see yea.

† **e.** Standing for an affirmative dependent clause after a verb of saying or believing : = Yes 5. *Obs.*

*c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 772 (Fairf.) And wenis þou þat ich is sua? Certis, he sayd, þat is þou. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 288 To the Interrogatory Whether thei had this by the Comen assent ye or noo [etc.]. *c* 1450 *K. Alis.* (Camden) 4458 Many anis manu slan oþer manu & cwellenn himm wiþþ herrte? ȝa fall wel seȝȝþ batt Latin boc. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heieste uri hersumet? Ich hete oȝ ha godd feder. ...Is þes forme ȝe[*s*] oȝ þe hehe, leuestu þet Iuneal hin þe reowðfulliche deide..on rode? Yai quoð heo. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Is hit nu so ouer vuel nor te toten utward ? se hit. *Ibid.* 54 Is þet uuel ouer on þin? ȝe ich understonde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 772 'Aid wenis þou þat it be sua Sum he has said yow?' 'certes, ya!' *c* 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 508 Sche ne answerede nái ne ye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 268 'What? sone', seide be couherde 'seistestow I was here?' 'ȝa, sire, series', seide be child. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1575 'Wolde ye þou defende ouþer ȝe wollely flen?' 'ȝea, so god me mende.' *c* 1400 *Anturs. Arth.* xxiv, Gauan asshes, 'Is hit soȝ?' To tober knyȝt grauntus, ȝee. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 204 His moder..Askyd medeyn yf she hadde dons wele And she seid yee. *a* 1450 *Myrc Parv. Pr. 69* Believest thowe fully alle the pryncipalle articles of the Feithe..? The Sike persone answerethe, Yee. *a* 1466 Gregory *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 216 Yf ye holde you welle plesyd..say you nowe, ye!'..And thenne alle the peyple cryde with oo voyce, 'Ye! ye!' *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 364 At him he sperȝt, all Scottis gyft that he. Wallace said 'ȝe'. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2843 'Madem, if ȝe remembir, so it was The red knycht..That wencust al'...'Ihe,' quod the qwen, 'zycht wel remenbir I'. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiii. 7 I said, 'Is that your countrimoor, To tak men for thair luking heir?' Bewty sayis, 'Ȝa, schir'. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xiii. 51 Iesus sayde vnto them ; have ye vnderstonde all these thynges : they sayde, ye mayster. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* iii, iii. (Arb.) 46 *R. Royster.* Trowest thou so? *M. Merry.* Ye plain. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, iii. ii. 2 *Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at hand? *Aum.* Yes, my Lord. 1600 *Contention betw. Liberalitie & Prodigalitie* ii. iii. (Malone Soc.) 345 *Wom..* What, still so hastily? *Tem.* You by giesse, sir, its high time. 1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 He asked whether our countrey had warres? I answered him yea. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 86 *Yoy*, yes, from *yea* or *ay* rather than *yes*. 1850 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 888 'Look on it, child, and tell me if ye know it.' *And child*.. answer'd, 'Yea, I know it'. 1865 Athenæum Ward *Wit Dic., Shakers*, When we broke up, sez I, 'my partner's dead, you may have no objections, hav you, to a innersent kiss at partin'?' 'Yay,' thay sed. 1909 K. D. Wiggin *Susanna & Sue* i. 13 (Shaker Eldress log.) 'Yee, yee,' I replied. 1923 *Word* 203 Yea is always thus pronounced among the Shakers.)

**b.** Expressing assent to a statement, command, etc. : = Yes 3. (See also *4.*)

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 *Mt.* And mangige feolaþ þa gemeodon ofslean hine, ac hi ne dorstan forhtnesse for. *Ac.* Yea swa hig doþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'Sun,' he said, 'þou most now gan To paradis þat i com fra.'..' Yal, sir, wist i wyderward Þat tan wer redi to mi mard.' 1393 *Gower* 503 'Euele mote he þriue & þe, Jet forst falle of me & te.' 'Ȝa leue ȝa,' quaþ otuwel þo. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 170, 'I trouwe þat þou hi sone bringe be seide, 'ȝe, sire, so he dede.' 1450 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2979 'Ye shal telle me swere þe lawes kepe til I agnyn come,'..to which þei gan answere, 'ȝee, sire, man, see!' 1535 Coverdale *Josh.* xxiv. 22 Ye are witnesses ouer youre selues, that ye haue chosen you the Lorde, to serue him. And they sayde : Yee. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* ii. ii. 3 *Don.* It is so, the Count Claudio shal marry the daughter of Leonato. *Bene.* Yea my Lord, but I can crosse it. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 757 'Then, Enid, shall you ride Behind me.' 'Yea,' said Enid, 'let us go.'

**c.** Rarely in answer to a negative question (*obs.* : = Yes 2 *a*), or in contradiction of a negative statement (now *dial.* : = Yes 2 *b*).

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 *Mt.* Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? *Ic.* Yea buton nettum huntian ic mæg. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Nis þet uuel, uuel? Yeȝ so grim ase se him uore snikeð. No, he seið, Deuid, þuhe [*MS. T.* ȝeiȝ he, *MS. C.* ȝeiheȝ, and seið þenne hwarmore. *Ibid.* 392 Ne wilnie þu nawiht þinkhen ared us? ȝe siker [*corr.* ȝese I wis, ȝes I wil, ful lihtliche. 1382 Wyclif *Matth.* xvii. 23 Thei..seiden to hym, ȝoure maister ȝeueth nat tribute? And he seide, He. 1388 Wyl. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Quhare[un]to lyve I langer? Woufulest wicht, and sulliest vnto peyne! Of peyne? no; yee wote, ȝe. 1876 Wyon Clitheroe *Dorver* (1879) 149 'This is th' house isn't it, Matty?' 'Yigh. We've lived in it time.' 1886 Cumliffe *Gloss. Rochdale-w.-Rossendale Wds. & Phr., Yi.*—is..in negative [answer] to a statement, as, 'You have not been in the house to-day,' to which 'yi' means that the statement made is untrue.

**d.** *To say yea* : to answer in the affirmative ; hence, to give assent.

*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1067 Sa kyng befealh georne hire bræher eð þæt he cwæð hi wolde. *c* 1

*Rushes, & xp common]* *c 1250 Hymn in Trin. Coll Hom.* App 258 Iherd ȝe þeo þin holi nome in heouene & in eorþe. *a 1300 Cursor M* 13050 Þou lowes hir ȝru again þi hue. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 129 þe kyng forbeed þat any schulde selle hym woode ȝe [*L. etiam*] forto selle his mete and vitailles wiþ. 1388 Wyclif *Prov* xiv 20 A pore man schal be hateful, ȝee [Wyc. *etiam*], to his neiȝbora. *c 1460 Wisdom* 845 in *Macro Plays* 64 Schulde we lewe þis lyue, ȝa whowe. We may a menia wan we be nage 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* in 58 Helenes kid him earnestly behold, and swelling yea with wrath (etc.).

**3.** Used to introduce a statement, phrase, or word, stronger or more emphatic than that immediately preceding. ‘Indeed’; ‘and more’: = Yea 4.

Often practically coinciding with *Nay but* 1 5, which however properly expresses the contrast in degree between the statements, etc., whereas *yea* expresses their identity in substance.

*a 1240 Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom* I 185 Hi openeþ swa þe moder hire earmes hire leoue child for to cluppen, ȝe a þes 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 4707 Seint ȝistre was here monek & vnþe abbot þer ȝe at worþe mon come mo þen an hundred ȝer. *a 1300 Cursor M* 19752 (Edin) He fande a man vnfere In purlewe ȝea xxiie ȝher. *a 1340 Pol Rel & L. Poems* (1903) 261 Þus þeig wel on þese þinges þiȝ, wet tou ani, & wet tou were. *c 1375 Sc Leg Saints* xxvii (*Machor*) 153 Þis loy mvd, ȝeyȝ myne þyn ma nemmyt be. *c 1380 Wyclif Wks* (1880) 70 Yea, and þei ben þe þeuen philosofre is writtere and wreþere þun almygti god, so þat ȝe ȝit is fals and a fole. *a 1393 Lo Derneis Rimes* cxlix 563, I had rather haue lost me of my best cytye, ȝea, with the moste parte of my lond. 1533 Gau *Acct Vay* 38 Liff we be the barms of God thanne ar we alsun heretoors, ȝei heritours of God. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 How wantonly, yea, and how willingly haue we abused our golden time. 1605 Camden *Rem* 3 As that the true Christian Religion was planted heere most auntiently by Ioseph of Arimathia, yea by saint Peter, and saint Paul. *c 1620* A Hume *Brit Tongue* (1865) 24 We see, not onelie in our tʃhom, but in the latin alsoe, the sympoll to have vnitine soundes, ye, and thus in one word as logo logis. 1672 Marvell *Reh Trans* I 117 Rageuis and Potentates, and Kings, yea gods. Of many a pleasant Realm 1690 W Walker *Idiotis Anglo Fasc* Pref 3, I did not alwayes particularly observe the Orthography of my author; sometimes I did not so much as set down my author at all. 1786 Wesley *Prof* 3 May, Some of them use improper, yea, indecent, expressions in prayer. 1823 Shelley *Q Mab* vi 170 Those Pyramids shall fall! Yea! not a stone shall stand to tell the spot whereon they stood! 1859 Tennyson *Mater Lucerna* 304, I know it all too well for a sweet surprise at morn. Yea, truly is it not a sweet surprise?

**4.** Introducing a question or remark in reply to a statement, etc., expressing either vague assent or (more commonly) opposition or objection: = ‘Indeed?’, ‘Well’, ‘well then’.

*a 1225* [see NOW 2] *c 1230 Hali Meid* 95 Nu þu art iwedded, & of se heh se lube slaht ȝe nu, hwat frut, & for hwuch þing meast hit is? 1377 Langl *P pl* B xi 33 ‘Yes, reccheþ he neuere,’ quod reccheneres. *c 1460 Towneley Myst* 157 Þis cludde rose vp, and all þe he ȝa? ‘yes,’ quod he kyng, ‘he wyll dede þou, wyst’ ‘ȝeysse, for gad,’ quod he kyng, ‘I dede he wyll be his bode’ ‘ȝoyse, nay,’ quod he archebyschop. ‘I M grette merucle þis mysdede has do.’ ‘ȝe, syre, archebyschop, holde þou by chappe! ‘I þe ȝeue no by leue berto.’ *c 1475 Rauf Coilȝear* 376 ‘Hald yow fra the Court, for ocht I may ken ȝone man will throw outwryd Is not ay ane will as he said’ ‘ȝes, Dame, haue nane dreid of my wyfe I dar’ *c 1500* Sir Tryam *Magnyf Jan* They fell at debate With Cosily Cousyn & nounce. *C 1 16* Ye, dyd they so? 1535 Coverdale *Gen* iii 1 The serpent sayde vnto the woman Yea, hath God sayde ye do not eate of all maner trees in the garden? 1590 Shaks *Mids N* iii ii 411 *A I* Come, recreant *Dem.* Yea, art thou there? 1605 — *Lear* i iv 346 (Q) Yes, it is come to that? 1839 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 128 ‘Yonder comes a knight.’ ‘Yea, but one? Wait here, and when he passes fall upon him

¶ b. As a mere introductory interjection, emphasizing the statement following. *Obs.*

*a 1250 Ex Misc* 1018 in *Wr-Wülcker* 542 þe arthur þun loude spreke A monge, hys knyghtis to the quene ‘ȝa, yonder is launcelot du lake,’ ‘þif I hym ouyr with syȝht haue sene’

**B.** as *sb.*

**1.** An utterance of the word ‘yea’; an affirmative reply or statement; an expression of assent. (Usually opposed to *nay* or *no* sc. also 3.)

1388 *Mem Hayn* (Surtees) I. 53 Credendi per suum na vel suum ya. *a 1400 Cockaine-nonn* 9 *Jew* 128 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS* 488 þer a nay, or A ȝa! ‘noone tel þou me wan.’ *c 1480 Henryson Orpheus & Eurydice* (Bann MS) Thingis I till ȝe or na quhilk ar indefferent 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xv 36 sum mucht lastȝe, with littill sorrȝe, That lies oft nays, and litle labour 1534 Tindale *James* v 12 Sweare not Let youre ye be ȝe, and youre naye naye 1578 H Wotton *Countlie Conferr* 230 I the pitie of him which attendeth the death of your yea or nay 1588 Shaks *L L L* v ii 413 My wyng minde shuld be expreat in russet yeȝs, and honest kersie noes. *1612* 13 *2oth Sp Hist. MSS Comm* I 158 Then Nonsuch should be ra welcome unto him as their Yeas. 1714 tr *Youth's Jrnl Voy Mexico* (1719) 31 We observ'd that their Yeas consisted in a Cry, by the Motion of the Bottom of the Throat 1812 Jefferson *Writ* (1830) IV 328 Their reply to the yes of truth, and its best test 1846 Trench *Mirac.* xxiii (1862) 473 Not sold on! He gives even in the very act of seeming to deny it! Nay proving indeed a veiled Yea.

**b.** More vaguely Affirmation, assurance, certainty, absolute truth; a positive statement or principle.

1382 Wyclif *2 Cor* I 18 For oure word the which was at ȝou, ther is not in it ye and nay, but yea and nay [Vulg *est et non*], but in it is ye, that is, treuthe 1526 Tindale *2 Cor* I 19–20 Godsin sonne Iesus Christ was not ye and naye but in hym it was ye For all the promisses of God, in hym are ye [1881 *R V*, in him is yea. For how many soever be the promises of God, in him is the yea]. and are in hym Amen.

1832 Carlyle *Sart Res* II ix, Love God. This is the Everlasting Yea, wherein all contradiction is solved.

**2** An affirmative vote; a person who votes in the affirmative; usually *pl.*, opposed to *nays* (or *noes*). Still in use in the U. S. Congress. *Cf* Aye.

1697 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II 58 After a short debate the House was divided. The ȝeas went forth 1706 Hearne *Collect* (O H S) I 203 ‘I was carried in 3ª Affirmative Yeas 141, Noes 71. 1781 Hatsell *Prec Proc. H. Comm.* (1796) II 226 *note*, If the question for adjournment takes place before four o clock in the afternoon, and there is a division upon it, the Yeas go forth; if after four o clock, the Noes. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 29 Jan 3 2, 197 Members present—Yeas 101 1838 *Congr Globe* 24 Dec 33/1 Mr. Allingham asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered 1888 Bryce *Amer Commw* xiii I 176 If one fifth of a quorum demand a call of yeas and nays, this is taken.

**3.** *Yea and nay* (or *nay*): positive and negative statement (or command); affirmation and denial (or injunction and prohibition); sometimes, alternate affirmation and denial, vacillating statement, shilly-shallying. Also *attrib.* (see C. below).

1382 Wyclif *2 Cor* I 17 Is ani not, or he and nay. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 299 He folweþ þe kyng as wiþ yea and nay, þe[ne] and nay in al maner wise 1526 Tindale *2 Cor* I 18 Oure preachynge vnto you, was not ye and naye 1550 Paiger *Ecclesiast* Declar. Names & a. To flatter them, and holde him vp with ye and nay 1598 Shaks *Merry W.* I iv 99 The very yea, & the no is, ye French Doctor my Master [etc.] 1720 Paton *Consecration* 34 Jesus Christ was, Will ye yea and nay, neither can con 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* II i 27 There had been a good deal of dealers' yea and nay about it 1913 H Brown *Our Inheritance* 198 Beyond yea or nay he inspired the greatest of all philosophers.

**b.** *By yea and nay* (or *no*): a formula of asseveration in the form of, and substituted for, an oath (*cf* Matt. v. 34–37). *? Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 54 *Comp.* You swore to that Betowne, and to the rest *berto*. Hy yea and nay sir, than I swore in test 1598 — *Merry W* I i 88 [1602 Heywood *Ip tail Crew* I. (1652) C3, I'le yea cock and nay cock, I'le yea and nay it, I'le yea & Heigh a Hay cock] 1661 W N etc *Merry Drollery* I 2 b, He swore by yea and nay He would have no denial 1682 Mrs Behn *False Count* Prol A lily by Yea and Nay, shou'd throw her self on you 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s. v., ‘By fair yea and nay,’ by a solemn affirmation 1839 Praed *Charades & Enigmas* xvii, But still the lady shook her head, And swore by yea and nay

C. *Comb.* **Yea-and-nay** *a.* [attrib. use of phrase see B. 3], (*a*) whose ‘communication’ is ‘yea, yea, nay, nay’; spec *†yea and nay man*, a quaker; (*b*) of indefinite or indeterminate character; ‘neither one thing nor another’, ambiguous; (*c*) disposed to assent or deny indifferently or according to expedience; hesitating, vacillating, undecided; also *attrib.* and *quasi-adv.* Hence **yea-and-nayer**, (*nonce-wd*) in sense (*b*); **yea-forsooth** *a*, addicted to saying ‘yea forsooth’ in the way of superficial assent; **yea nay** *a.* = *yea-and-nay*; **yea-say** *v.* [after *Nay-say v.*], *intr.* to say ‘yea’, to assent; *trans* to assent to; **yea word**, a word of assent.

1596 Fleckno *Diarium* 15 Above all of your ‘yea and nay’ men. 1598 Shaks *Merry W* I iv 5 Yea, and Nay Alman sick for the people call'd Quakers. *a 1700* H *Dict Cant Crew*, *Yea and Nay Men*, Quakers 1773 Mrs Raikes *Early Diary* (1880) 9 He was a *yea and nay* man not worth remembering 1781 C Johnston *Hist J Yonston* I 80 Of poor water gruel, yea and nay good both 1807 *Anti-Historia Hum Life* 3 They have a *Yea-Nay* Life. What's that? ‘Yea’ is Aye, ‘O quick, quack I suppose,’ said the squire. 1828 I. Hunt *Ld Byron* etc I 309 Shelley had only to become a yea and nay man, and the House of Commons, to be one of the richest men in Sussex 1865 Anne Manning *Belforest* I 230, I hate yea-and-nay persons that don't care, and leave it to you. 1900 M Howitt *Story's Life* I 82 Grandchildren of Richard Yea and Nay 1777 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* July (1889) II. 202 Our journey proved very yea and nay-ish 1897 Sharp *Jrnl* 1 I 41 A Rascally, Yea-forsooth Quaker to bear a Gentleman in hand, and then stand upon Security 1847 Mrs Gore *Castles in Air* 111, The executor was an infirm ‘yea nay old gentleman 1856 H Rogers *Essays* (1874) I 278 *note* 1, It was indeed no time for compliment—for hesitating, yea-nay utterance up in the question 1875 Morris *Jason* vii 615 Whom till noon follow straight, The while there broken ‘yes’ saying the grating trumpets blare. *Ibid* xii 244 And yea-saying she bowed 1887 — *Odyss* xiii 45 So he spake, and all yea-said him and bade the wassail be 1886 Sir F Palgrave *Norm & Eng* (1864) III 82 Nor did any Unwilliness real or conventional, delay his ‘yea word.

**Yea,** *v* [f. prec] *intr.* (or with *it*): To say ‘yea’; to reply affirmatively opp to Nay *v.* 3 b.

1598 Hall *Sat* I iii 83 Nor more smell feast Vvelfio loues him in his maw, I who in his heart, Yet loathes and yeas, and Nayes on either part 1657 Goodwin *Triers Tried* 6 Such as will swallow their camels, and yea it, and nay it, with the same the one end of their faith is it's the other 1679 *Establ Test* 23 A Jesuit can thou and thee, and yea and nay as well as the best of them [*sc* Quakers]

**Yea** to, obs. form of Eyen.

1598 Q Lute *Plutarch* 134 Thre yead men

**Yead,** dial. form of Head *sb.*

1746 & *1mor Scalding* (L D S) 97 Chell make thy Yead addle 1884 Tennyson *North Farmer* v, A bummin' awaay loike a buzzard clocks over my yead

**Yead(e.** obs. pa t of Go see Yode

**Yeaf,** obs. pa t. of Give. **Yeaghe,** obs. f. Yacht. **Yeal,** dial. form of Ale. **Yeald** : see Guild, Old, Yeld, Yield.

**Yealdon,** var. Eldinn 1, fuel.

1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, Take awa yealdon, take awa low.

**Yeale,** obs. form of Eel

*a 1619* in *Engl Hist Rev* Jan (1915) 95 Some of the yeales being worth 2s. a peece

**Yeale,** obs form of Yale.

**Yea ling.** *Sc.* Also 8 **yeldin, 9 yeildin, yeelin', eelin.** [? for **even eilding*, one of *even eild* (Eld *sb*) or equal age with another. *Cf. evneld, even aild* = contemporary in Douglas *Æn.* III. xii. 42.] A contemporary in age. Also *attrib.*

1728 Ramsay *Phœnix and Ord* vi, You, a Species by your self, New Buildings with the Sun your God 1787 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 150 My dear remember'd, ancient yealings 1804 Colkirk *Macgyrecleuchan* 1 xvi, His bonny, various, yeelin friend's. 1808 Jamieson, *Yeildins, Yealings.*

**Yealk,** obs. form of Yolk.

**Yeallow, yealow,** obs. forms of Yellow.

**Yealte,** obs var. Yelt.

**†Yean,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **yeenne, 3e(e)ne, yene, e(e)ne, yn.** [app. f. next.] A young lamb, yeanling.

1408 *Wyc Bible Pe* cxiv 13 (MS Fairf 2) He þat is þeper of hem ben wþ ȝeenne [*v r* ȝene, ȝeene, eene, eenne, ȝin]. *Ibid* Isa xl 11 He shal bere sheep wiþ eenne eiþer wþ lombe [*v r* yene, enc.]

*a 1650* in J R Rogers *Hist Agriculture & Prices* (1887) V 341 [Besides the general names of sheep, ewes, rams, wethers or muttons, and lambs, I find tups, tegs, yeans, erones and hoggs].

**Yean** (*yēn*), *v.* Now *arch.* and *dial* Forms 4 yene, 6 yeane, 6– yean [? Obs. *Icelandic*, related to *getan* ‘ßta’, pregnant see V- and P- 1].

1 *trans.* Of a ewe To bring forth (a lamb); also said of goats and occas. other beasts

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 303 Alle þe spikkled lambre and kidde beeste þat schulden be yened 1523 Fabyan *Chron* VII (1811) 368 A lambe was yeaned, hauyng two entyre bodyes. 1523 Fitzherb *Husb* § 37 An ewe goth with lambe xx wekes, and shall yeane her lambe in the xxi weke. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV xxxvi 504 Goates yeaned in Assyria which causeth the sheepe that drinke thereof to yeme blacke lambes. 1644 Quarles *Sheph Oracles* vii They I conq ure To yeane their jolly lambs within the cot 1738 R Brown *Compl Farmer* 32 The ewes yean the polled lamb with the least danger 1800 Worlse. *Pet Lamb* 59 The dam that did thee yean Upon the mountain tops. 1868 Southey in *Ann Reg* IV 32 Ewes did the day and hour when a sheep died, a lamb was yeaned, or one of the flock stolen 1880 Jerman *Poems, Via Tumultus* 23 Watching the white goats there, some yeaning, new yeaned 1891 R Ellis in *Catullus* lxiv 154 What grim horses yeaned thee aneath what rock's desolation?

2 *fig.* To produce; give birth to

1598 Marston *Sco of Villanie* iii 1 Yon's one hath yean'd a fearefull prodigie. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Woodnotes* II, Trenchant time behoves to hurry All to yean and all to bury.

3 *intr* To bring forth young, as a sheep

1548 Pivot, *Adas a*, an olde ewe, whiche hath lately yeaned or bnd a lambe 1565 Stapleton *Fortr Faith* 99 Ile an ewe when she is ye nere at hande wyll runne for deliuer ance 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 73 Ewes readie to yeme crues ground rid cleane 1615 Sylvester *Trib Triumph* iv 498 In the time when mountain Goats and Hinds Do yean and calve 1666 Holyday *Juv* iv 21 (1673) 92 To see a woman calve, or a cow yean 1794 J Davis *Agric Wilts* 19 By the time all the Ewes are yeaned 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* VI ii 212 In the ewes yean twice a year 1854 *Jrnl R Agric Soc* XV i 232 The ewes yean in a yard or standing pen 1879 Miss Broughton *Dolores* II The ewes are in the full force of yeaning

Hence **Yeaned** *ppl a.*, **Yea ning** *vbl sb* (also *attrib*) and *ppl a.*

1587–1599 [see New yeaned *ppl a.*]. 1576 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam Ep* (1903) 140 Ewes to be yeaned, old yeaning 1577 B Googe *Heresbachius Husb* III (15 f) 139 The shepeheard must be as careful as a midwife in the yeaning time 1686 *Ess Husb Surv* 298 Within thirteen months she brought 7 Lambs at three yeanings 1697 Dryden *Virg Geo* I. 71 Let the ewe mind Her yeaning 1778 *Acad for Ladies* I 41 Grant takes an old lame Lobster following a yeaning sitter home 1776 *Complete Farmer* (ed 4) xxxi 144 It is necessary she be a-weigh'd that at her yeaning she have the benefit of giving grass 1866 Cornh *Magaz* IV 201 Late yeaned lambs are generally delicate

**Yean(e,** obs. forms of Yawn.

**Yeane-sherre,** obs form of Janizary

1704 J Ives *Voy Mediterranean* 72 They are all *Yeane Sherres*, or Janizaries, here Soldiers

**Yeanling** (*yē nlin*), *arch* [f Yean *v* + Ling. *Cf.* Lambling.] A young lamb or kid Also *fig.*

1637 B Jonson *Sad Shepherd* I ii, When to their store They add the poor swain's yeanling 1642 Quarles *Sheph Oracle* 3, One of my weaker yeanlings hapt to stray 1792 Cowper *Odyss* IX 283 As he milked his ewes All in their turns, her yeanling [he] gave to each 1882 Mrs. J. Stow *Lady of La Garaye* IV xii Still to the schools the ancient chiming clock Calls the poor yeanlings of a simple flock 1889 Swinburne *Tale of Balen* (1895) 205 I take the young ones to the sea Left in yeanlings pitifuller pen.

**b** appositive or as *adj* That is a yeanling, young or new born esp of a lamb. Also *fig*

1598 *Fetzell's Jour of Beasts* 405 The common Epithets expressing the nature of this Beast [viz. the lamb] are these, rough, yeanling (c f 1607 yearling) weak unruly sucking, tender 1607 Milton *P F* III 434 The flesh of Lambs or yeanling kids 1760 tr *Bp Bossuet's Hist of Quiet* (1800) I p xii, The yeanling kids and cooing turtles. 1812 W Taylor in *Monthly Mag* XXXIII 239 To surround

himself with ushers, proportioned to the number of boys, and more advanced in acquirement than these yeanling monitors. *a* 1873 R. Buchanan *Man and Shadow* i. Poet. Wks. 1874 III. 61 By the yeanling Lamkin's side.

**Yeant,** obs. f. Giant: see Y (1) *note.*

*a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 233 Ther dwellyth a yeant in a foreste. *Ibid.* 301 He come whore the yeant was.

**Year** (yi•r). Forms: 1 ȝear, ȝer, (ear, xar), 2–5 ȝear, 2–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝer, (3 ȝeor, ȝeer, ȝer, hier, 3–4 ȝier, 4 ȝiere), 3–6 yer, (4 yerr, yeier, yeire, ȝhier, *Sc.* ȝheir), 4–5 ȝeor, (yher, yhere), 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝere, yeir, 4–7 yere, yeer, 5 ȝeere, (ȝeyre, heire, heyre, here, ȝhere, eer, *Sc.* yheir, ȝhir, 5–6 yeyre), 5–7 yeere, 5–6 *Sc.* ȝeir (6–8 *soir*), 6–7 yeare, (*Sc.* seare, ? *Sc.* rear), 6– year. [OE. (WS.) *ġēar* str. n., also masc., (Anglian) *ġēr*, = OFris. *jêr*, *jâr* (NFris. *jêar*, *jêr*, Efris. *jêr*, *îr*, WFris. *jêr*), OS. *jâr*, *gêr*, MLG. *jâr*, *gêr*, MDu. *jaer* (LG., Du. *jaar*), OHG., MHG. *jâr* (G. *jahr*), ON. *ár* (Sw. *år*, Da. *aar*), Goth. *jêr* :— **jêrom*, cognate with Zend *yâre* year, Gr. *ὥρα* year, *ὥρα* time of year, season, year, time of day, OSl. *jarŭ* spring (Russ., Pol., etc. *jar* spring, Serb. summer); cf. also L. *hornus* of this year (:— **ho-ĝhirnus*). The normal OE. (Ikeanian) pl. *ġ-ar* is represented still in dialectal usage; for illustration of the history see I *B.*]

**1.** The time occupied by the sun in its apparent passage through the signs of the zodiac, *i.e.* (according to modern astronomy) the period of the earth's revolution round the sun, forming a natural unit of time (nearly = 365¼ days); hence, a space of time approximately equal to this in any conventional practical reckoning (considered with respect to its length, without reference to its limits: cf. 3).

*c* 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* liii. (Schröer 1885) 85 To ȝeares ȝeece ȝewyrhta ȝeo ȝemeda cuenna cicenan gan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 202 Hyt bynnan healfon ȝeare ealne þone wætan it wyll. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Homs.* 53 In þo we..leten alse fele daȝes, alse hie diden ȝeres...þat we ne singeð þo lilisfulle songes. *c* 1205 Lay. 217 Assceniun heold hire þriliche lond þrie ȝeres. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 83/2 Twelf Monþe it was þare-afterward and half ȝer and more. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4705 Se þe þrid yeir was gan, Vnnethes was þer beist left ani. 1456 Lett. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 43 Þou schalt ȝelden hit a-ȝeyn at one ȝeeres ende. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 463) 51 More he lerned in on ȝer þan any of his oþer fere dide in þre ȝeres. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 He schalt ȝelden hit a-ȝeyn at one heres ende. 1486–70 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 27/2 Landis..quhilkis our predecessoris hes ioysit..in hundreth ȝeirys befor thir dayis. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 32 Gif ever my fortoun wes to be a feir, The dait thairof is past full mony a ȝeir. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. i. 23, I that I doe, and haue done any time these three hundred yeeres. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. (1721) 1 *Aristæus*, *Arcop.* (Arb.) 14 No Haberdasher of small wares,..not having leene seuen yeeres apprentice to the trade. 1718–19 Swift *Stella's Birthday* Wks. 1755 I. 68/2 Stella this day is thirty-four (We shan't dispute a year or more). 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* vi. A family of four hundred years' standing. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* xvi. A gentleman, within a year or two on either side of thirty. 1884 Goldwin Smith in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 513 The idea that the United States are disposed to aggress upon Canada cannot survive a year's intercourse with their people.

**b.** 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) Pref. 4 Þa feng Æþelbryht his broþur to, & heold ·v. ȝear. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 20 An wif þe wolde blodryne twelf ȝear. 1297 *Vices & Virtues* 143 Þria hier and six monþes..*c* 1205 Lay. 3789 Ale he wes ȝere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Efter ueole ȝer. 1300 Havelok *P.* 2 Þre hundreth and tweveld yhere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kn.'s T.* 588 And thre yeer in this wise his lif he ladde. *c* 1440 Promp. *Parv.* l. xi. 56 Foul was þain bifore the tyme of his visible lyuynge xxxti. ȝeer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 b, A thynge done peraeuenture a dosyn yere before. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 122 Mony yeiris. 1561 Becon *Keyinge of Lyinge* (1563) 200 He had bondaged in Purgatorye a greate number of yeare. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 183 He will last you some eight yeare, or nine yeare. 1699 Bentley *Phal. Pref.* p. lxxxi, Sir Henry Spelman..lived it lxxx Year since. 1701 *Acts in Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 101 The Curé is now stone blinde, & has been this 4 year. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, At last they did'na gree at a' for ten or three year.

**b.** Following and qualifying a date: = a year before or after . . . ; *†was a year*, a year ago. More commonly expressed by *twelvemonth* (Twelvemonth 1 b).

1533 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 362 That...your pleasure may be to suffer it to here date from Mydsomer Was a yere. 1606 G. Woodcocke] *Lives Emp.* in *Hist. Jrutine* I. 1 5, The Emperor..tooke him prisoner vppon the same day twenty yeares, after that his father was taken prisoner by Charles the fift. *a* 1673 Wilberforce *Ch. & Emp.* (1874) 8 On the day year on which he had received our Lord's sacrament into his house. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* xxxv, I should not be surprised..if he were to change his name before this time year.

**c.** In reference to the duration of some (usually painful) experience, as the sufferings of purgatory (always in reference to *years of pardon*), a term of imprisonment, etc. (Usually *pl.* with numeral.)

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Vuele god us brisse5,..oðer burh orf qualm oðer burh ansete ȝier [*cf. G. schmerzensjahr*]. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 221 And so myȝt pardoun be gotun to sey ychc day a laily sawter ȝhe ten bowsand ȝer in on ȝere. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lolt.* 8 Pewenti bowzand ȝer of pardoun. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 271 Goodyn curse have he for it, sayd Charlemagne, 'and an evyll yere.'

1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 5 Sa mony thousand ȝeris of pardonne pouers and remissione of sine and payne. 1874 W. S. Gilbert *Charity* ii, *Arc.*...There is nothing to connect me with that matter...*Ruth.* Nothing?...I've written of you twice which is fourteen year [*i.e. penal* servitude], if it's a day. 1901 *Scotsman* 27 Feb. 12/1 The woman also told him that ..if he was not careful she could get him fifteen years.

**d.** *pl.* with numeral, expressing a person's age. (Cf. 5.)

More usually either followed by *of age* or *old*, or omitted by ellipsis: e. g. 'a man fifty years of age', or 'fifty years old', or 'a man of fifty'. For obs. variants of expression see quota.

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11315 O gode haliman . . O sex scor ȝeres, hight symeon. 1375 etc. [see Old *a.* 4 b]. *c* 1386 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 83 Whan [Crist] was twelfe ȝeer old. 1382 — *Matt.* ii. 16 Alle the children...fro two ȝeer age and with ynne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 173, I wol no woman thritty ȝeer of age. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 148 The youngest of hem hadde of age Fourtiene yer. *a* 1440 *Cursor M.* 12386 (Trin.) Iliman was þat tyme bora Of eiȝte yeer olde & more. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 15 It semed ij yere age or more. *c* 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 37 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 112 When the child was xij yere and more. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 67 Put there yong bestes in one pasture, that they be foure or fyue yere olde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 14 Ane wounlit man, of nucht and threttie ȝeiris. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* ii. iii. 73 Fourscore and eleuen yeares, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Table* 69 b, The heirie of ane Soccoman is of fyftene yeiris of age. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1 Homers *Odyssey* (1677) 32 Wine, that aged was eleven years. 1805 Sibbald *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 Four children...who died all before they were full four year old. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 544 A nurse of ninety years.

**e.** In special or idiomatic positive or attrib. uses, qualified by *a* or a numeral.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xlix. (Z.) 287 *Annicultus*, anes ȝeares cild. 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxiii. 1 [see Day 1 c]. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 8 The dyvyssyon..dured in Fraunce continuelly by xij. yeerday. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) Civ, My many dreames in a few yeares days. 1600 Shaks. *Twelfth Nt.* ii. iv. 30, I am a yeare a making. 1611 Bible (Authorized) *Num.* xiv. 34 After the number of the dayes in which ye searched the land, euen forty dayes, euery day for a yeere, shall ye beare your iniquities, euen forty yeeres. 1664 Cromwell *Sp.* 12 Sept., A people that have been unhinged this twelve-yeares day, and are unhinged still. 1860 *Reade Hard Cash* xlvi. 111 She..is classed in Lloyd's Register as an eight years' ship.

**2.** *a.* With qualifying words, denoting periods differing in length according to the manner in which they are computed in some scientific or conventional reckoning.

*Anomalistic, astronomical, canicular, civil, embolismic, equinoctial, Julian, lunar, lunisolar, natural, sidereal, solar, Sothic, tropical, vague* (etc.) *year*: see the adjs.

*c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 316 Þæs ȝeares dagas þe getelwise witan nemniað on lyden solaris annus, & on englisc þære sunnan ȝear. 1879–80 North *Plutarch* (1895) I. 1 The Romanes at the beginning had but 10. monethis in the yere: as some of the barbarous people make but three monethis for their yere. 1592 [see Julian]. 1594 Blundeville *Exerc.* v. xiii. (1597) 171 b, The Egyptian yeare containeth the iust number of 365. dayes. 1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v. Period, Victorian Period*, an Interval of 532 Julian Years. 1757 J. Ferguson *Astron.* (ed. 2) xxi. 388 The Julian year is 365 days 6 hours, the sidereal year 365 5 hours, 48 minutes, 57 seconds; and is the only proper or natural year, because it always keeps the same seasons to the same months. 1879 [see Indiction]. 1880 *Encycl. Brit. Amer. Egypt.* xi. Sect. II. 17 The sacred was the same as the solar or vague year. 1880 R. S. Poole in W. Smith *Dict. Bible* I. 961/2 There appears to be no trace of the Vague Year in use with the Egyptians before the Roman domination, the Vague Year, the Tropical Year, and the Sothic Year.

**b.** *transf.* Applied to a very long period or cycle (in chronology or mythology, or vaguely in poetic use).

*Cyclic year*: see Cyclic *a.* 3. *Great year* (Gr. *μέγας ἐνιαυτός*), the period (variously reckoned) after which all the heavenly bodies were supposed to return to their original positions. 1579 Lyly *Euphues & Philautus* (Arb.) 52 Ye shal also occus. used of certain cycles in modern chronology.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. xxi. (Bodl. MS.) If. 86/1 Cleomedes..seyndeus and cercles of ȝeres, þe chaungeing of hem fallep in euerich xxxvj. M. ȝeere. And þis þe greete ȝere þat is the laste of alle pinges. 1588 T. Washington *tr. Nicholay's Navigations* iv. xi. 213, The life of this bird [*sc.* the phœnix], the terme or space of the great yere is made, which diuers..say to consist, not in 540. yeres, but in 1000. yeres. 1589 Golding *De Mornay* xxvi. (1592) 409 If they had had any other than Sun hundred yeares their obseruations had bene in vaine, because the great yeare continueth so long. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* ii. 1. xxxvii. (1597) 190 It is called of some the yeare of the worlde, and of some the great yeare of Plato, which contayneth according to Alphonsus, 49000. yeares..yet some affirme that the perfect reuolution, or olde consayned in 36000 yeares. 1666 S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 91, I will engage you shall never be one of their Disciples, though you should study them [*sc.* Hobbists] to the revolution of their Great Year. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 580 Mine eye hath As Heav'ns great Year brings forth. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* i. iii. § 9 Unless they had lived six hundred years; for the Great Year is completed in that interval. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 116 The 'great year,' or geological cycle. 1871 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* 85 Five thousand years for the Great Year is completed in that thirty-six millions of the years of men. 1893 Huxley *Romanes Lect.* 36 The suggestion that the power and the intelligence of man can ever arrest the procession of the great year.

**c.** The period of revolution of any planet round the sun (*planetary year*).

1728 Chambers *Cycl. s.v.* The Times wherein Jupiter, Saturn, the Sun, Moon, &c. finish their Revolutions..are respectively call'd the Years of Jupiter, and Saturn, (etc.).

1870 E. F. Bunt *Ecce Coelum* iv. 104 According to the Neptunian calendar, it is only thirty-six years since the creation of Adam.

**3.** A space of time, of the length stated in sense 1, with fixed limits. *a. esp.* Such a space of time as reckoned in a calendar and denoted by a number in a particular era: commonly divided into twelve calendar months, in the ordinary (Roman) calendar beginning with January and ending with December, and consisting of 365 (or 366) days: see Calendar 1.

(Distinctively called the *civil year*.)

*Year of Christ*, *† of God* (Sc.), *of our Lord* (Lord 18. 7 b), *of grace* (Grace 16. 12), *† of salvation* (Salvation 1 c), a particular year of the Christian era (denoted by a number following).

(Formerly also in *pl.* with numeral, denoting a particular year of an era.)

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 41 His magas ferdon ælce ȝere to hierusalem. *c* 1132 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 Dis ȝear com Henri king to þis land. *c* 1205 Lay. 7220 He makede þane kalend þe elliten þann mone 8 & þrittiȝ. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 190 Þat oþer ȝer a faukun bredde. *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 150 Two geueleng8es timen her, And two soltsices in þe ȝer. 1357 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (1879) 118 The sacrement of the auter...whilk man and woman..ought forto receyve wines in the ȝhere. 1396 in *Scott. Antiq.* (1900) XIV. 217 The secvnde day of May the yher of our lorde sexte nynty and sex. *a* 1400 *Pol. Poems & Lett. de cura rei pub.* (Rolls) II. 94 The yeris of cryst cumyn and gone, Fully nyntj nede nyne. 1556 Lauder *Tractate of Kyngis* 194 The ȝeir of God Ane M.v.c.xxxvi. 1584 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 64 The lettre from Richard Hutton written in September without yere. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 197 Stallions use to be seperated from Mares all the yeare long, except at the time of procreation. *a* 1648 J. Gregory *Learned Tracts* (1649) 264 The Christians did not use to reckon by the years of Christ, until the 532 of the Incarnation. *Ibid.* 265 That the first year Dionysius of Christ ought to bee reckoned the third. 1697 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 4 In the yeer of the Salvation of all mankinde, three hundred thirty and three. 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 335 [They] were at ly holy obedience sent to Paris in the yeare 1652. 1788 Cowper *Slavonian Bill of Mortality* 2 Could I..set down the year in which the rising year shall prove the last. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, The Highlands has been keepit quiet since the yer nughtyne—that was Killiecrankie yeir. 1861 *Ill. Penny Mag.* (1889) I. 36 Dr. Paull..more than once gives the day and the month, without remembering to add the year of an event.

*c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 Abowte þe yeris of our Lord cccc vj. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 2 The ferd day of the moneth of August, the ȝere of God etc. lxxiij ȝeris.

**b.** Such a space of time, with limits not necessarily coincidingwith those of the civil year, forming a division of a period (or the whole period) of office, study, or other occupation, or of a person's lifetime (in these cases commonly with ordinal numeral, often with possessive noun or pronoun), or taken between definite dates for some specific purpose, e. g. taxation, payment of dividends, agricultural operations, etc.

*c* 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxx. 11 Lif min and ȝearas mine. *c* 1200 Ormin 9503, & to wass Knyhsess ȝer þe fifte ȝer biginnenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 143 Þe ȝif & þe lone þer of his [*sc.* Maxence's] rixlinges. 1338 *O. E. Chron. Rawl.* (1725) I. 10 In his elleuent ȝere com folk, þat misleued. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3893 (Trin.) His ȝeres passed & seuen dayes Rachel he wedded. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 15 Þe secunde ȝere þat he was kyng. 1538 Pe v. yer of pe reine of kinge Edwarde. 1548 *Stat Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 162 Suche greate charges as they [*sc.* sheriffs] must bere by reason of the same Office after their yer Ended. 1621 B. Jonson *Catiline* iii. i, Which I'll perform..not for my yeare, But for my life. 1626 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* II. 34 The Scottish Colledge,..he liued and heard his course of philosophie and almost two yeares of school diuinitie. 1632 Milton *Sonn.* vii. How soon hath Time, Stolen on his wing my three and twentith yeer! 1633 A. Stapylton *Fem. Glory* (1869) 61 His liuing in obscurity from His twelfth to His thirtieth yeere. 1848 E. S. Creasy *Eton Coll.* 49 The relative positions which the boys of each year occupy in the school. 1872 Smiles *Charac.* iii. (1876) 68 At the following Christmas examination he was the first of his year.

**c.** Such a space of time as arranged for religious observance in the Christian Church, with special seasons and holy days, beginning with Advent (but, formerly or locally, with other periods).

*a* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* (1850) IV. 68 The lessouns, pistlis, and gospels, that ben rad in the chirche al the ȝeer. 1637 Spanhow *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1638) Wb. Epigr. our Ecclesiastical year (as to some accounts, though not as to the order of our service) with the glorious Annunciation of his Birth by angelicall message. 1697 Kehle (*title*) The Christian Year: Thoughts in Verse for the Sundays and Holidays throughout the year. 1875 *W. Smith's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* I. 33/1 The first Sunday in Advent was not always the beginning of the liturgical year. The *antiphonarius* of St. Gregory begins 1 Advent, and the *Liber Responsalis* with its Vigil. But the earlier practice was to begin the ecclesiastical year with the month of March, as being that in which our Lord was crucified (March 25).

**4.** As the period of the seasons, and of the growth of crops and vegetation in general; hence *poet.* connoting the phenomena of growth and decay.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 200 Myn herte and alle my lymes been as greene As laurer thorugh the ȝeer is for to seene. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Take Strawberys, & wnyashe hem in ȝyme of ȝere in gode red wyne. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 59 Make hillocks of molehils, in field thorough out, and so to remaine, till the yeere go about. 1587 Milton *Lycidas* 4 Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 18 As yet the trembling year is

unconfirmed, And whether it or eve reasumes the breeze. 1781 Cowper *Heroism* 24 Vines, olives, herbage, forests disappear, And all the charms of a Sicilian year. 1842 Tennyson *Day Dream, Sleeping Palace* i. The varying year with blade and sheaf Clothes and reclothes the happy plains.

b. *transf.* A year's produce. (A literalism.)

1382 Wyclif *Joel* ii. 25, Y shal ȝeelde to you the ȝeris whom the locust cete.

c. Each of the annual rings in the wood of a tree. *rare.*

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 163 The Circles, or (as they are commonly call'd) Years, are closer.

5. *pl.* Age (of a person).

*Years of discretion*: see Discretion 6 b.

a 2000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 928 Ȝearum fród. *c* 1200 Orm 10082 Himm birþ been fullwaxenn manne, & shadd fra childess ȝerres. a 1225 *Juliana* 513 unge men of ȝeres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12759 He was yong & ȝepe, of ȝeris but ȝyre. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1331 Euery plit, Done fromz he passith the ȝeris of Innocens. a 1540 Skelton *Death K. Edw. IV* 37, I se wyll, they leve that dobe my ȝeris. 1577 Harmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1580) 513 b, My wife hauing left of one of no small credite, of great yeares. a 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heyres* v. i, I am of that ȝeares now that it were no reason to remit mine offence. *c* 1620 *Women Saints* (1886) 59 When she was of yeares fitt for marriage. 1681 Middleton, etc. *Old Law* ii. ii, Ere they be thought at yeares to welcome misery! 1694 Quarles *Job Militant* Medit. xvi, Dayes, produced to decrepit yeeres, Fild with experience, and gridy haires. *c* 1652 Milton *Sonn. to Sir H. Vane* i Vane, young in yeares, but in sage counsell old. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Ec. Ind.* 1 Ever since I came to yeers, that I could tell my own inclinations. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xii. xiii, You may change your Opinion, if you live to my Years. 1790 Burns *Myst. Woman* iii. *Delicacy* xiii, That Madame Cheron, at her years, should elect a second husband, was ridiculous. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 504 William, still a boy in years but a man in conduct and counsel.

b. Full or mature age (esp. in phr. *into or to years, of years*); old age (esp. in phr. *in years* = old, aged). Now *arch.* or *poet.*

*Stricken, struck, strocken in years*: see the pa. pples.

1579 R. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.*, Oct., Emblem., Men of yeares haue no feare of god at al. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* iii. (1586) 130 It is better for a man to chuse a young wife, then one in yeares. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 66 Till my Infant-fortune comes to yeares. 1605 *First Pt. Jeronimo* i. iii, Had not your reuerend yeares beene present here, I should haue ponyarded the Villaynes bowels. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 392 If the horse be of yeeres. 1623 Cockeram ii, *Vnder Yeeres*, Minoritie, Nonage. 1633 Laud in *Strafford's Lett.* (1739) I. 111, I am in Years, and have had in troublesome Life. 1704 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 85 As they grew into Years. 1773 Burney *Pres. St. Mus. Germany* (1775) I. 239 Wagenseil is rather in years. 1814 Scott *Waverley* I. viii, The Baron of Years mused long and deep. 1868 Browning *King & Bk.* iii. 284 He was slipping into years apace, And years make men restless.

6. *pl.* (more or less vaguely): Age, period, times; with *post. pron.* time or period of life.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 Ȝe norne ȝeres [of monastic life] nis hit bute bal-pleouwe. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 225 Fram þe toupe of my ȝer ȝernd I to Crist Of wide werkus to wende. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxviii. 15, I shal eft thenke to thee alle my ȝeres, in the bitternesse of my soule. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* viii. xii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 250/1 The lord of Isole, lord of longest yeerys. a 1542 *Wyatt Penit. Ps.* cii. xxiii, Take me not Lord away In myddes off my yeres. 1639 H. Plumpton in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 8 Praying that all your yeares may passe over with mirth and jollityes. 1719 Watts *Ps.* xc, Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come. 1788–91 H. Walpole *Verbal Narr.* (1798) IV. 28 Those [ladies] who know any thing of the state of painting in this country of late years. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 8. 430 The last years of Elizabeth's reign were years of splendour and triumph abroad.

b. In emphatic or hyperbolical use, chiefly in *pl.*: A very long time. (Cf. Age 2b. 10 b.)

1692 Dryden *Cleomenes* i. 1, Where hast thou been this long long year of hours? 1709 J. Logan in *Penn. Pamph. Hist. Soc.* (1918) 69 D' Betty, I think every Day Absent from thee, Years. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* ii. i, At certain periods of life we live years of emotion in a few weeks. 1883 M. Arnold *Scholar-Gipsy* Since, years after, in the country lanes, Two scholars whom at college erst he knew Met him.

7. Phrases. (See also senses 2, 3, 5.)

**A year**, formerly also *ayere, ayear, a-ȝear* [A *adj.*2 4, *prep.*1 8 b]: every year, yearly, *per annum*. †**By** (the) year [By *prep.* 24 c]: in the same sense: rarely †*by years*. Also *by the year*, from year to year (in tenancy, etc.). **Year after year** [After *prep.* 6], **year by year** [By *prep.* 25 c], **from year to year** [*From prep.* 3 b]: through a succession of years, either continuously or at some particular time in each year: every year successively. (Hence *year-to-year* adj. phr., occurring or done from year to year.) Also *t-for year and year*, *t-from x year to x year*, *x year and x year*: every *x* years. †*Year, and year*: on a stated occasion every year in succession. **Year in (and) year out** [*in adv.* 11]: as each year begins and until it ends: continually through the year through successive years.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1333 Par treon schulleþ a ver blowe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lxi. (Tollem. MS.), Þe figge tre.. bereþ fruite þries a ȝere. 1435 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 417 Paid.. the mairalte dew for the ground in the Grocers' Hall, ..ipurchased ayeer.. xl lb. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 28 Christmas comes but once a yeere. a 1791 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 397 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive ..at least ten pounds a-year. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 291 Every man who had fifty pounds a year derived from land. 1881 Houghton *Brit. Const.* vi. (1882) 84 He pays £10 a-year to the owner.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10212 Þal haiud alle þe festes dere þa Iues war wonin halu bi yere. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 59, ij suites by þe ȝer' to be ayed ouerwith. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* i. v. (MS. Bodl. 263) 22/2 She..taahte ther laborers To sowe ther greyn & multeplie in yeris. a 1450 *Nat. de la Tour* xvii. 23 A ladi..that might spende more thanne fyue hundred pounde ta yeere. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* iii. viii. 106 b, If such lande be worth xl. a by yere. 1640 Harington *Ecton. Hy* 91 The reward of a hundred pound by the yeare during life. 1707 [see By *prep.* 24 c].

*1621 Bible* 2 Sam. xxi. 1 There was a famine..three yeeres, yeere after yeere. 1830 Tennyson *Day Dream, Sleeping Beauty* i, Year after year unto her feet..The maiden's jetblack hair has grown.

*c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 131 Þe almes of þise blachoppes of so old synne is geiven for a certeyn rente ȝer bi ȝer in lecherie to lige. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxiv. 89 In euery countree ben certeyne officers yere by yere chaunged for the more sykernes. 1530 *Bible* (Great) 1 Kings x. 25 [They] brought hym euery man his present, vessellics of syluer (etc.) yere by yere. 1585 Higins *Iunius' Nomencl. 5/2 Annalium*, Chronicles: records of matters done yeare by yeare. 1793 Cowper *A Tale* 77 Be it your fortune, year by year, The same resource to prove. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Queen's Bench Div.* 12 The accounts were delivered year by year to Mr. Norton. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 62 Þei sei ȝer to ȝer, þei seuene ȝeris togidere. 1530 Tyndale *Pract. Prelates* (1831) 173 Now wolle ye here how they in Cottes-wolde were wonte to borowe, or they schulde be solde, Here wolle gode, as for yere and yere [tr. *in anno anno*]. *Ibid.* 176 Flor yere and yere they schulde make paymente. And some tyme als too yere and too yere. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 20 There as thou hast deyllyd from heyre to ȝere. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Hys mother made hym a lytle cote, and brought it to him from yere to yere. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 68 From three yeares to three. 1650 Milton *Tenure K.* (1651) 18 Who from yeer to yeer have sung too late For my relief. 1655 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. India Comp.* (1909) 92 At yeare, yeare, and yeare from the first of February. 1678 *Ibid.* 93 Yeare, yeare and yeare, upon rebate. 1838 H. H. White *Watkins' Prine. Conveyancing* ii. (ed. 8) 208 *note*, A tenancy from year to year. 1845 A. Poison in *Encycl. Geography* II. 800 An estate from year to year may arise not only from express stipulation, but even from that general letting heretofore held to constitute an estate at will. 1855 I. Taylor *Restor. Belief* (1856) 218 A Year-by-year Reading of the Gospels. 1870 *Lay Sermons*, etc. (1877) 251 That the energy radiated from year to year was supplied from year to year.

1868 Louisa M. Alcott *Little Women* xv, You see other girls having splendid times, while you grind, grind, year in and year out. 1881 Mrs. Riddell *Senior Partner* III. 135 As Mr. McCullagh's the same faces greeted customers year in year out.

b. Law. (*a*) *Year and day*, a period constituting a term for certain purposes, in order to ensure the completion of a full year. *Year, day, and waste*, a prerogative whereby the sovereign was entitled to the profits for a year and a day of a tenement held by one attainted of petty treason or felony, with the right of wasting the tenement: finally abolished in 1870.

Cf. Mdu. *jaer en dagh*, a year and six months (and, locally, three days).

*c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 682, I shall seche hym a yere and a day, but with-ynne that space I may knowe trewe tidinges. 1456 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 274/2 In case the Maire, Constables, and Fellowship aforesaid, commence not their action.. within the yer next after the offence. 1514 *Liber. Albus. Gard. Reg.* (1842) I. 90 Vnder the pane of banyssing of the toune for yer and day. 1548 Staunford *Kinges Prerog.* xvi. (1567) 49 b, If a man be found by verdict of xii men to haue kings shall haue the yeare, daye and wast of the lands of the wife. 1630 Hicks tr. *Plowden's Abridgm. Comm.* 212 So by the statute of Marlebridge, one shall lose Copyhold if he claims it not within a yeer and day after the death of his ancestor. a 1708 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scot.* i. vi. § 42. 280 Scott *Pirate* III. xii, When we were humbled to the mere and wife for a year and day: that space gone by, each may choose another mate. 1913 *4 & 5 Geo. V. c.* 20 § 103 When the sequestration is dated within year and day of any effectual adjudication.

(*b*) *Years and terms*, in full *years of years and terms*, the year-books.

1598 More *Dyalogue* iii. Wks. 293/1 In the yeres and termes called Yannes-yeares. 1783 *Wharton's Law Lex.*, Year-books, or Books of years and terms.

See also Goodyear, New-year, To-year.

8. *Comb.*, as *year-end*, *-spinner*; *year-born*, *-counted*, *-marked* adjs.; **year-bird**, a name for *Rhyticeros plicatus*, a bird of the Malay archipelago, having a very large beak with a wrinkled growth on the top, which is believed to develop a fresh wrinkle every year; **year-count**, among the N. American Indians, a series of figures each symbolizing the chief event of a year, usually painted on hide, and forming a record or chronicle (also called *winter-count*); **year-ring**, each of the rings formed by successive years' growth in the wood of a tree; † **year-taok**, a lease for a year. See also Year-book, etc.

1847 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 137 The plumage of the †Year Bird in principally black. *a* 1882 Rossetti *Soothsay* i, Let no man ask thee of anything Not Yearborn between Spring and Spring. 1898 G. A. Birmingham Keane *Retreat.* 1896 218 There is absolutely no similarity between the Tibetan calendar and the primitive form of the American, which was not intended as a †year-count, but as a ritual and formulary. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xliii, My own small †year-counted existence. 1872 Hartley *Yorksh. Dialties* Ser. II. 206 A nice little bit to fall back on i' th' Savings bank at th' †year end. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 6/1 The year-end stocktaking results. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* xxiii, Old and †year-marked faces. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 58 The original form and structure of wood..are retained by the charcoal left by each. 1808 †year-rings and cells may be distinguished in wood-charcoal. 1898 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. *Babylon* 510 One [language]..becomming old, Is cradle-toomb'd: another warreth bold With the †yeare-spinners. 1532 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1870) IV. 57 James Grahame sall haif ane †yeirtak for the yeir that he has gewin our to hyme.

**Year**, obs. f. Ere; *year whayle* = Erewhile.

*a* 1250 Grekenn *Jas. IV*, 1. Induct., What were those Puppits that hopt and skipt about me ȝear whayle?

**Year-book** (yīə·bŭk). [Cf. MLG. *jârbôk*, MDu. *jaerboeck* (Du. *jaarboek*), OHG. *jârpuoh* (G. *jahrbuch*), etc.]

1. *pl.* The books of reports of cases in the English law-courts published annually during several periods from the reign of Edward II to that of Henry VIII.

1588 Fraunce *Lawiers Logik* I. xvii. 61 b, Vncoherent cases in yeare-bookes. 1639 Sanderson *Serm.* (1657) II. iv. 189 The Reports and year-books of our Common Law. 1688 Sir E. Herbert *Acc. Auth. Herbert's Case* 12 Plowden, who.. is as little like to be mistaken in the sense of the Year-books as any Reporter we have. 1796 Seward *Anecd.* IV. 301 (Ld. Mansfield) said, that, when he was young, few persons would confess they had not read a considerable part, at least, of the Year Books. 1844 J. Johnson *Typographia* I. 431 It has been supposed that Pynson printed above forty yearbooks.

2. A book published annually and containing information for the year, e. g. in connexion with a society or religious denomination; an annual.

1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 266 P 4 The following Fragment out of much more which is written in my Year-book. 1839 Thesa (*title*) The Year-book of Facts in Science and Art: exhibiting the most important discoveries and improvements of the past year. 1847 (*title*) The Congregational Year Book, for 1846. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Year-book*, an annual; a book of law cases; a turf register. 1883 (*title*) The official Year-book of the Church of England.

3. A book of information about the various days and seasons of the year, as Hone's Year-Book (1829).

**Yeard, yeard**, Sc. forms of Earth.

1506 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 35 Out of the yeard we cutt peates and turfis. *a* 1783 *Burd Ellen* ii. in Child *Ballads* III. 88/1 Ye yeard-fast stane.

**Yeard**, obs. form of Yard.

**Year-day.** Forms: see Year and Day; also **year's day** (*yeeres dai*, etc.). [In OE. *ȝéares dæg* = OFris. *ierisdei*, MDu. *jaersdach*, OHG. *jâr(e)tac* (MHG. *jârstag*, G. *jahrstag*).]

†1. (*year's day.*) The first day of the year, New Year's Day. *Obs.*

*a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 To ȝeares dæge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 275 [Christ] hadde of þe firste ȝere of his burþe but seuene dayes from þe nativite to ȝeresday.

2. A day observed every year in commemoration of a person or event, an anniversary; *esp.* a day on which requiem services were held every year in commemoration of a deceased person: cf. Obit 2 b and Year's mind. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 171 To every godd.. Thei made a temple forth withal, And set there in his yeeres dai Altarid hadde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Yerde, anniversarius.* 1448 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 281 We haue ordeyned..for to kepe the yeresday of Jon Syser and Cambryge yerely. 1450 in Munger *Apon* (1840) 275 How be it the Feste of Corpus Cristi be differred,..ȝet the xxxtie day and seres day schal neuer be differred. 1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 179 That the sayd feoffees..yerely kepe up the dereges & yeresday for my sowle. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 584 The very daies on the which the women celebrated the feast and yeresday of Adonis death.

3. *pl.* Days of the year.

1897–8 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. xlii. (Cent. Dict. Suppl.) A simple observation on the setting sun behind a distant sierra, which would enable it to count of yeardays, if not the recognition of the bisexate.

**Yeard-hunger**: see Yerd-hunger.

**Yeare**, obs. form of Ear, Year.

**Yeared** (yī·ĕd, *poet.* yī·rĕd), *a.* or *pa. pple.* Also 5 **i-yeerid**. [f. Year + -ed.]

1. † That has lived or lasted a given number of years; so many years of age, or of so many years' standing: *a old 4-yeered* = a decanting; *twice yeared* = that has lasted two years; *yeared to thirty* = thirty years of age (*obs.*). Also without qualification, That has lasted many years (*poet.*).

*c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Prine.* 1898 Pou of be prouse seel art old I-yeerid. 1583 Humphrey in Nicolas *Mem. Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 323 His lic. Oxford fall in her Court, which is now twice yeared. 1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* i. i, Year'd but to thirty. 1848 Bailey *Festus* (1852) 282 White with all yeared snows and endless time.

2. Phr. *yeared and dayed*, said of property left unclaimed for a year and a day, after which time the original owner's claim lapsed: see Year 7 b (*a*).

1523 Fitzher. *Surv.* xv. 28 b, They maye..cease theym as wreyes and put them in sauegarde to the lordes vse tyll they be yered and dayed. 1579 *Admiralty Crt. Explications* 19 No. 105 There was driven..upon my libertie of Alverstoke..a certaine shipp..wheare she being yeered and daied according to the law of Oleron hath ever since remayned.

**Yearethlye**, obs. form of Earthly.

1553 *Respublica* ii. i. 1 What yearethlye thinge is permanent or stable?

**Yearful** (yēːrful), *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. YEAR + -FUL 2.] As much as fills a year.
1889 H. M. STANLEY in *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/4 Over a yearful of stirring events.

**†Yearing,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: see YEAR; also 5 **yeorynge.** [f. YEAR + -ING 3.]

**A.** *sb.* = YEARLING A. 1; also with numeral, as *three yearing*, an animal three years old.
1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 8 Jabel departed the flokkis of scheep fro the flokkis of goot...aftir here age zeringis be hem selve, and elder be hem selve. 1562 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 131, ij coulte folces, not yearingers *[sic]*. 1607 TORSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 122 The french haue no proper names for this beast that I can learne vntil he be a three yearing, and then they call him (*ein Gabler*). 1611 COTGR., *Borret*, a yearing. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 130 The yearinges weare large, and the two yeares little.

**B.** *adj.* = YEARLING B. 1.
1451 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 51 A yeryng calf. 1516 in *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1876) App. 596/2 A yeoryng bollock. 1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 81, ij yeringe foolles.

**Yeark,** obs. form of YERK.

**Yearlily,** error in mod. Dicts. for *yearely*, YEARLY *adv.*

**Yearling** (yēːrlin), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: see YEAR; also 6 **erlynge.** [f. YEAR + -LING 1. Cf. early mod.Du. *jaerlingh*, G. *jährling*.]

**A.** *sb.* 1. An animal a year old, or in its second year (esp. a sheep, calf, or foal; also applied to certain birds and fishes; rarely to a child).
1465 *Mann. & Household Exp.* (Roxb.) 554, .x. yerlynges. 1531 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 247, I bequeth to Jane Hay a yereling, that is to say, a cowe heifer, 1541 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Cr. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 53 One heyffer come Erlynge & x] Shepe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 43 b, in the next [pasture] are my young breede, Yerelinges, and Twoyeares olde. 1607 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. (1617) 66 To seperate your horse-colts from your Mare Colts,...and your yearelings from your two yeares olde. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 238 The yaer of Twoud descend to the sea in the shape of smolts, as yearlings. 1847 *Bewick's Brit. Birds* I. 12 *note*, The female yarelyng is termed a red Falcon, the male a red Tiercel. 1877 J. S. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 463 The cows, on the other hand, as well as the yearlings and two-year-olds, are generally fattest in June. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xi, Alfred...is a little more than a yearling, and of course he isn't snuffle.

*b. transf.* The fleece of a yearling sheep.
1888 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen Manuf.* I. 7 The second clip, which is somewhat thicker in fibre than 'lambs'), and both longer and stronger in staple than yearlings.

**2.** A plant a year old; *spec.* applied to hops of the previous year's growth.
1849 *Florist* 249 Matthew's Juno, large and full, lavender, purple edges, noticed by us as a yearling. 1850 *Illustr. Lond. Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Oct. 12/2 Messrs. Woolloton and Son state that 'brewers hold exceptionally large stocks of yearlings'. 1902 *Times* 19 Sept. 2/5 Yearlings are in good request at par. to 120.

**B.** *adj.* 1. Of an animal (rarely of a child): A year old; in its second year.
1526 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* F], The fleshe of..yerelynge wethers...is commendable to eate. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Lore* 585 Yearly, the Jews a Yearling Lamb must slay. a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* I. (1684) 80 So many thousands make unbeleeved yearling lambs. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 246, I order'd Friday to take a yearling Goat. 1799 SWIFT *Modest Proposal* 13 A well grown, fat Yearling Child. 1818 SOUTHEY *Roderick* v. 214 Even like a yearling child, a fosterer's care. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 240 The yearling filly by him [*sc.* Retaliate], out of Masjid's dam. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 148 Kips—the skins of small or yearling cattle, exceeding the size of the calf skins.

**b.** Of plants or seeds, esp. of hops: Of the previous year's growth.
1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 2) I. 246 Cuttings, or yearling plants, for hedge-planting. 1888 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/6 Yearling and old hops are at present quite neglected. 1892 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 6/4 Yearling red cloverseed.

**2.** Of a year's standing; that has been such for a year.
1894 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I, As yearling brides provide lace caps, and work rich clothes, for the expected darling.

**Year-long,** *a.* [f. YEAR + LONG *a.* Cf. OE. *gearlanges* adv. for a year, MHG. *jârlanc*, G. *jahrelang*), ON. *árlangr* (as adv.)] Of the length of a year; lasting for a year, or throughout the year; often, lasting for years in succession, (sometimes) age-long.
1813 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 612 The year-long difference [*sic.* P.'s. 1812–13] between me and Words-worth. 1847 J. JOHNSON *Physiol. Vet.* 319 These...From year-long poring on thy pictured eyes, Ere seen I loved. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 16 No Greenland winter waits us there, No year-long night. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 44 Her legislative assembly...did good service to her fame at the time, but the year-long farce soon lost its plausibility. 1886 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 453/1 The yearlong alliance between philosophy and theology.

*b. hyperbolically.* Seeming as long as a year.
1872 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 92 Through year-long hours of hope and woe She sits and waits.

So **Year-long** *a.* (*rare*—1), lasting for several or many years.
1889 HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xiii. 235 The years-long regard that she had had for him.

**Yearly** (yēːrli), *a.* (*sb.*) [OE. *gearlic* = OFris. *ier(a)lik*, MLG. *jârlik*, *jaerlije*, OHG. *jârlich* (MHG. *jaerlich*, G. *jährlich*), ON. *árligr*: see YEAR and -LY 1.]

**1.** Of the year; belonging or relating to a year. *Obs. rare.*
*c* 1000 *Hexameron of St. Basil* (1849) 12 Nseron nane tida on ðam zearlicum zetæle ne ðam be ælmihtiza wyrpenne zesceop ða tunglan to zearlicum tidum. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F vb, You shall kepe an Yerely-Booke for Collections, Legacies and Benevolences. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* To Rdr., The naturall Philosophers may observe ..the varicitie of heauenly influence, of the yearely seasons. *c* 1821 in *Rep. Comm. Publ. Rec. Irel.* (1815) 103 The Recognizances...are regularly arranged in yearly bundles according to their Receipts.

**2.** Done, made, observed, happening, coming, produced, etc., every year or once a year; annual.
*c* 1175 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 618 *Annuo*, gerlicne. 1963–96 *Laws of Æthelstan* Prol., Se dæs libbendes yrfes, ðe dæs zearlices westmes. *c* 1440 PALLADIUS *Rejhr.* II. xii. 216 The seid solempne 3eerli goyng bi ij tymes in ech yeer. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 294, I will that ther be a yerlie dole done. 1586 WINJET *Bk. Questions* § 63 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 115 The zerly celebration of the Pasche day. 1598 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 82 The yearely course that brings this day about. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 77 And yearly games they make around the Gods renown. *a* 1721 PRIOR *New-Year's Gift to Phyllis* I, The yearling maiden this day, To run their yearly ring. 1857 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* xii. 470 In some of the fossil-trees these yearly rings are of great breadth. 1868 YEATMAN *Feud. Gov.* II. vii. 85 An officer, who provided them with daily food and with a yearly change of raiment.

**b.** esp. of payments, charges, revenue.
*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2406 Pai..yerely tribute him to geue zaped him hetis. 1532 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 61 To whome I haue granted my fees, annuetes, yerely rentis, or fermes. 1546 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII, c.* 3 § 8 Landes and tenementes to the yerely value of xx s. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. IV*, 2 v. i. 518 Fiue hundred pound I haue in yerely pay. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 318 Having received an yearely pension of Lewis the eleuenth. 1718 HUGHES *Spect.* No. 512 ¶ 2 Every Farm Rent which gives the Value to the Estate. 1885 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Theseus* II. 237 O people and King of Athens, where is your yearly tribute?

**C.** Charged or hired by the year.
[1611 *Bible, Acts* iv. 34 As a yearely hired seruant shall he be with him.] 1892 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 2/6 Wages had gone up 5*d.* a year for yearly men.

**Yearly,** OIG. *jârlik*, ON. *árligr*, etc.: see YEAR and -LY 2.] Every year, once a year, by year, annually.
*c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 342/9 *Annuatim*, gearlice. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Nimian*) 1079 Pat man syne zerly wan hyme ane hors. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 61 Englond...hath yerely of Wales a rente of 1000 marke. 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 58 Pe germe bet kepis 3erely pe whete bot es rede with-owte and white with-inne. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 47 Pei yeldi yerli vijlot. or elijs cuyry othyr yere. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* v. (1885) 159 Such as wolde haue ben feyner of a c. li in land, than of C. li worth lande yerely. 1500 *Rep. Deputy Keeper Irel.* I. 68/1 To bal inerkaitis and fairis in the said burgh 3erlie, with a merkat corn. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 31, I thought one might haue had a farme or a lease for a reasonable rent yeerely. 1667 R. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 177 There is a Caravan that yearly in Lent goes from Caire to Jerusalem. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 536 He gave yearly great sums in charity. 1890 A. CONAN DOYLE *Strand Mag. Feb.* 176 The demand for his works lessened yearly. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 65 It was agreed that Dunkirk should be visited once in each year, yearly.

**Yearly,** dial. form of EARLY.
1797 Mrs. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) IV. 209 A monstrous pretty garden, Miss!..I am up yearly and late in it.

**†Yearman.** *Obs.* In 5 **yerman.** [f. YEAR + MAN *sb.*1] A man hired by the year. (Cf. YEARSMAN.)
1282–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 210 My Lord toke the steward to pay 3 yermen for wages as follow.

**Year-mind** : see YEAR'S MIND.

**Yearn** (yɔːn), *sb.* [f. next.] A yearning.
*a* 1797 MRS. M.W. GODWIN *Wks.* (1798) III. xliv. 234, I feel my late united to yours by...the yearns of...a true, unsophisticated heart. 1819 KINGSLEY *Misc., Shelley Hymns* (1890) I. 307 In one mighty yearn after that beauty from which he is debarred, [Keats] breaks his young heart, and dies. 1860 PATERSON *Bks. & Men* 67 Have I not about me a yearn for me?' she yelled...' Not a yearn!' I bellered. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 106 The rounds of her cannon whirled into marble hardness with the yearn and lean of the distended cloths.

**Yearn** (yɔːn), *v.*1 Forms: 1 **giorna, geornan, giernan, girnan, gyrnan,** 2–4 **3iorne, iorne,** 2–5 **3erne,** 3 **3irn(e,** (*Orm.*) **3oorrnenn,** 3–4 **3orn(e** 3–6 **3ern,** 4 **3irne, yhern(e, 3harn(e, 3aren,** 4–5 **yrn(e,** 4–6 **3arn(e, yarne,** 4–7 **yerne,** 4–8 **yern,** 5 **yurn, herne,** 6 **yo(u)rn,** *Sc.* **3airne, 3eirne,** 7 **yeorne,** 6– **yearn.** [OE., Northumb. *giorna*, Mercian *geornan*, WS. *giernan*, correspond to OS. *girnan*, *gernean*, ON. *girna* (see GREEN *v.*2), Goth. *gairnjan*, related to OE. *gearn*, Goth. *-gairns* : see YERN *a.* and YERE *v.*]

**1.** †**1.** *trans.* To desire earnestly; to experience a strong desire or longing for. a. with simple obj.
*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv, Ne dorwyrðra hwæla hi ne 3irndan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 15 Hwi 3yrne we xyt xewitnesse? *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1067 Đa began se cynge Malcholom 3yrnan his swæostor him to wife. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Dare ðinge ðe on þesse worlde waren he ne 3erade. *c* 1205 LAY. 17795 Cnihtes feollen a-dun & 3irnden heore dæðes. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Muche word is of ou hu..3e beoð ver godleic & for ureoleic hyernes of monie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23458 Fair fuels..men yerns oft. *c* 1372 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 152 Pis man wole no lyng yerne But youres honour. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 485 Mor we suld 3ern hele of saule pan of bodi. *c* 1425 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1407 For þat þou art brent With couetyse now,..þou 3ernes soules cure. *a* 1450 *Rastis Raving* 3790 At ilk nocht taile, ane nocht 3arnis. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 19 We 3arne thy presens, bot oft thow bes refusit Till cum we till. 1508 LAUDER *Godlie Tractate* 697 That death ye 3airne, it sall fast frome 3ow ba.
†**b.** with obj. clause. *Obs.*
*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 332 Hwile ðe he zierndi ðæt he his weoloh iece. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 8 Ne 3yrne ze þæt eow man zereowa nemne. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Leat eny reve me my make, ychabbe yzyrned zore. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1801 (Göll.) Pai 3ernid þan, þa caitifes mudd, Pat Jesu had ben with ane maidd. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* liii. (*Andrew*) 1423 I 3arne þe Of corse to here þe priwete. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. ii. 260 Octauians zarnyt hym to be Hale syre.
**2.** *intr.* To have a strong desire or longing; to long. a. Const. inf. with (†or without) *to*.
971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Þa haligan..naht ne..3yrndon to hæbbenne. *c* 1000 *Poenitentiale Egberti* i. § 10 In Thorpe *Laws* II. 176 Sif se man..3yrnde Cristes lichaman to underfonne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3578 Crist was zefre swillc to sen..Patt godde 3eorrndenn himm to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1 Man yhernes rimes for to here. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 528 The kyneryk yharn I noucht to have. *a* 1500 HYLTON *Scala P.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xvi, 3it shalt thou 3erne..for to come as nere as pou mayst to pat state. *a* 1568 *Wooing of Jok and Tyssy* 9 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 381, I will fane Now To..sit down by yow. *a* 1626 BRADLEY in *Ellis Bonduca* II. iv, I must do that my heart-strings yern to do. 1721 STERLE *Spect.* No. 249 ¶ 3 My gushing Heart, that..yearns to tell you all its Aching. 1803 *Edin. Rev. Medical* II. xiii, A female tenderness which yearn'd, As with maternal love, to cherish him. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lv, The child yearned to be out of doors. 1879 *Macm. Mag. Christmas* 111 In 58 He had a daughter whom he yearned to hail as queen.
b. Const. *after, for, † to, towards.* Also *absol.*
*c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. xxviii, He ofslog Proculus & Bonosum, þa zierndon þæs ríces. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conscience* 1711 *Coll. Hom.* 27 Pe godfrithte..ne 3iernes to none linge bute after godes wille. *Ibid.* 183 Pus wared be sowle be licome, for þat hit haues þerafter zerned. *a* 1425 *Prymer* 8 He biset et te keiser þat he him 3ettede reue to beoune as þat he 3irnd hefde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 55 Pe þridde hoy of pise senne is to uerliche yerne to þe mete ase þe bo3 hound. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 560 Tham that ledis thair lifs als thaire flesch yhernes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2037 Yonge men & yeuerus ..3urnes to gaumes. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 750 They pepill thank..3arna for fude with sa greit zeill. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) IV. 503 His Muse begun to yern again after some of the Figs. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 367 His heart yearned to the friend who was to inherit these domains. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 266 Yearn'd after by the wisest of the wise. 1870 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 440, I yearn for a quiet life again.
*transf.* 1635 FAGITT *Christianogr.* 213 Sacrilege is one of the most detestable sinnes, after which Gods curse yearneth, till he be revenged.
†**3.** *trans.* To express a wish or desire for (an object); to ask for, request. Also *absol.* or *intr.*
*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 46 *Mendicans*, giornade *[Rushw.* zierndende]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xi. 24 Swa hwæt swa ze zyrnende beoð on eowrum zebedum. 1340 *Ayenb.* 55 *Ouerdo. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Þa zeorndde seo abbe þet he scolde him sybian bet he zet him zeornde. *Ibid.* 177 He zeornde at ure Louerd þet he luues ureon his ane mynstre Wodingas het. *Ibid.* 1011 Se cyng & his witan..zeorndon fiðes. *c* 1205 LAY. 939 Sinne we to þane kinge zeornen suiðe gode. *Ibid.* 8230 King Andregeus zeornede þi zeld. *c* 1225 *Juliana, Kath.* 140 Iauered, ..zette me þet ich sinne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Pe uerbe bo3 of auarice is acsynge, þet is, to 3erne opo oþre mid wrong. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 67 3ernes now of my 3iftes þou þine were, & what it be þat 3e bidde 3our bonus i graunte.
†**4.** *intr.* Of hounds: To cry out eagerly, give tongue. Also *trans.* to give tongue after. *Obs.*
1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1409 The howndes began to yerne and to quest. *a* 1530 *Hunting Bk.* (Rel. Ant.) I. 176 That after our houndes yournynge so merylly,...In herynge we may follow. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxv. 181 You muste holde your yong Terryer vpon a liam, and vnderdrie hole of some angle or mouth of the earth, that they may herken and heare theye fellowes yearne. *Ibid.* lxvi. 185 When they perceiue the Terryer to yearne, they forsome them. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* 1. (1677) 18 When Beagles bark and cry at their Prey, we say, they Yearn.
†**b.** *transf.* *Obs.*
1598 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 100 Nymphs in mountayns high typ doe squeak, hullelo, yearning. 1639 G. DANIEL *Eccles.* xxii. 4 He shall be soiled in the vnsavory Slime From Dunghills gathered; all Men shall yearne at him. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Curse ye Meros* 26 A Holder-forth may yawl and yerne, snivle and whine, thump and bawl.
**5.** *a. intr.* To give a sound suggestive of strong desire; to express yearning or strong desire; also *trans.* to utter in emotional voice.
1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* 1. 40 Yearns the deep talk, the ready laugh ascends. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* vii, The music, yearning like a God in pain. 1836 DICKENS *Hoticek. Words* 3 May 368/2 While the dog would be yearning his last, and the great throng was pushing to the doors. 1894 J.E GALLIENNE *Prose Fancies* 22 The kind of voice...in which Socialist actresses yearn out passages from 'The Cenci'.
b. To have an appearance as of longing.
1870 ROSSETTI *Burden of Nineveh* lx, The faces of thy ministers Yearned pale with bitter ecstasy. 1872 SWINBURNE *Songs Sef. Sonnets, Tandrose* 93 The blossom of man from his tomb Yearns open. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 95 The jibs yearning from their sheets taut as fiddle-strings.
**6.** *trans.* To be deeply moved; to be moved

with compassion; to have tender feelings; †to mourn, grieve. In first quot. app. *trans.* to have compassion upon.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 12 Zerne ws, guberne, wirgin matern. *a* 1533 Frith *Another Boke. agst. Rastell* ii. lf iv, The...slender reasons that those ii. wytted men,ay^ Thomas More and my lorde of Rochestre had brought to confyrme purgatory made my harte to yerne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings iii. 26 Her bowelles yerned vpon her sonne. 1566 Cooper *Answ. Privy Masse* (1850) 56 Any christian heart may rather yearn and lament to remember so ungodly a profanation of the holy sacrament. 1597 *Hawkins Voyages* (Hak. Soc.) 1. 127 To raise pitifull and odious sores, and mouse the goers by such places where they lie, to yerne at their miserie. 1608 Davison *Rhapsody* (1611) 30 They in their bleating voice did seeme to yerne. 1649 G. Daniel *Tyrannick...Hen. IV*, cl. The horror of Imaginary Death Strikes deep with flesh; and all Mortalitye Yernes at a Change. 1665 Brathwait *Comm. Tow Tales* (1901) 21 It would make any ones heart yern within him, that has any man's blood in him. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 123 ¶ 5, I have left your Mother in the next Room. Her Heart yearns towards you. 1748 Dicenys *Dombey* xliii, With her gentle nature yearning to them both, feeling the misery of both. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxii. (1878) 406 My heart was yearning over her.

†**b.** To be reluctant to do something. *Obs. rare.*

1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 53 [He] committed such excesse of cruelties, that the most barbarous heathen in the world would haue yearned to doo.

†**7.** *trans.* To cause to mourn; to move to compassion. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. v. 76 O how it yern'd my heart, when I beheld...That horse. 1598 — *Merry W.* iii. v. 45 She laments Sir for it, that it doth yern your heart to see it. 1641 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 94 Who...torture them, in that manner, that it yern a mans bowels to observe!

Hence **Yearned** *ppl. a.*; also **Yea·rner**, one who yearns.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 724 Lofare of vertu & dyspysare Of be warld, of hewine yarnar. 1576 B. Jonson *Réjor.* xliii. That his long yearn'd life Were quite out-spun. 1838 S. Bellamy *Dorincourt* 1. 18 What if that were Thy Father's yearn'd heart, all impatiently, Hath quench'd in its embrace. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 10/1 The yearned-for visitor. 1919 A. Herbert *Over There* 186 The yearners after Calais did themselves no good by exterminating fine architecture and breaking up innocent homes, but they did experience the relief of smashing something.

**Yearn** (yɜːn), *v.*[2] Chiefly *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4 yern, 6 *Sc.* yrne, 8– yirn, 7– yearn. [Probably dial. variant of Earn *v.*[2], with initial *y*-glide; cf. Yearth, etc. Continuity with OE. *geyrnan* (pa. pple. *geurnen*) is improbable.]

**a.** *intr.* To congulate, curdle. **b.** *trans.* To curdle (milk), esp. for making into cheese; to make (cheese) of curdled milk. Hence **Yearned** *ppl. a.*

1378–9 [implied in Yearning *vbl. sb.*[2]. *a* 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* xi.(Bann. MS.) He het the milk our heit, And sorrow spark of it wald yrne. 1635 D. Dickson *Pract. Wks.* (1845) I. 23 The making of cheese of yearned milk. 1715 *Guberlunyie Man* vi. in *Songs of Scotl.* (1862) 177 The kirn's to kirn, and milk to yirne. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, His honour the Duke will accept none of our Dunlop cheese, and it will be my faut if a better was ever yearned in Lowden. 1866 'Sarah Tytler' *Days of Yore* 11. 219 Mrs. Hoy was salting Elspa's butter, and 'yearning' her cheese. 1866 R. L. Stevenson in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 369/2 Curds called 'yearned milk' hereaway.

**Yearn** (yarn(e, yern(e), *v.*[3], obs. or dial. f. Earn *v.*[1]

*a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Þat he eorðlic man sceolde þeðenen, and þeasnian' mid ealmodnisse þet wununge on heben rice. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 367 Thy-self nat never like to yern.. her mercy. 1557 Tusser *100 Points Husb.* xxxvi, Beware they thresh clene, though the lesser they yarne. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. i. 40 Put away proud looke, and visage sterne, The which shal nought to you but foule dishonor yearne. *c* 1600 *Distr. Jerusalem* ii. l. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 189 Those worthye deeds Whereby y'ave yearn'd all welcome. 1826 *Essex Archæeonomist, Depos. Bk.* 97 June lf. 17 (MS.) He sayd that he was ever yearning of money. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 350/2 She..told me, I must look out and yarn my own living.

**Yearn,** obs. Sc. f. Erne, eagle.

1790 Burns *Keep ye Cantt Sc. & Burns* II— lii, Ye cliffs, the haunts of sailing yearns.

**Yearn(e,** obs. ff. Yarn.

†**Yearnandlike,** *a. Obs. rare.* In quots. yorn-, yhern-. [f. Yearning *ppl. a.* + -like, rendering L. *desiderabilis*.] Desirable.

*a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xviii. 10] Yornand-like over be golde. *Ibid.* cv. 23 [cvi. 24] And for noghte þai had þe land Þat yhernandlike was in þar hand.

**Yearnful** (yɜːnfʊl), *a.* [In sense 1 OE. *geornfull*, f. *georn* Yearn *a.*; in senses 2 and 3 f. Yearn *v.*[1] : see -ful. 1.]

†**1.** Eagerly desirous, anxious, solicitous. *Obs.*

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxii. § 2 Du ne sændest þæt þu swiðe geornfull were hit to þehyrnnne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 41 Martha martha geornfull þu eart 7 emlne fela þinga gedrefest. *c* 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. geornfull eist to cwemenn. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 100 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 We schulde abute cristes lay lleon yeornfulle & clyhhe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Ascelcelyn*) 780, & scho sa zarnfull wes þar-till, Þat scho til wildirnes has socht, & fand a derne sted, was wrocht In til a crage of angil wark.

**2.** Mournful, sorrowful.

*a* 1568 R. Edwards *Damon & Pithias* (1571) D], Oh Musicke,...lend me thy yernfull tunes, to vtter my sorow. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* F], So out of thy stonye hearte maye yet flowe sucke water, as may wash and purge my yearnfull wounde. 1591 Greene *Maidens Dr.* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 303 She wet his visage with a yearnfull streame. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vi. xi. 522 *Alo, Alo*, was their yernfull note. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in a Boat* 212, The wild yearnful melody.

†**3.** Full of compassion. *Obs.*

1593 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* ix. xivi, His yearnfull heart pitying that wretched sight.

Hence **Yearnfully** *adv.*; †**Yearnfulness,** eagerness, diligence.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxiv. § 3 Sume tilia5 mid micelre geornfulnesse wilna5, *c* 960 Ælfheluold *Rule St. Benet* iv. (Schröer 1885) 17 Þæs ecean lifes he sceal mid eahre geornfulnesse þirnan. *c* 1000 Ormin 11181 Swa þatt himm birrþ fra þeþennforþ Wiþþ mikell þeornfullnesse...To folghenn Godess laþlekor. *a* 1884 Walt Whitman *After the Sea-Ship* 9 Larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearnfully flowing.

**Yearning** (yɜːnɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Yearn *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

**1.** The action of Yearn *v.*[1]; intense longing or desire *after, for,* † *of, to, or to do* something; an instance of this.

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 45 Mid ðære ierninge [*v. r.* iirninge] ðara smeaunga Godes wisdomes anes. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintillarum* 151, (1889) 59 Se na wilnaeð middanmandre þam eordlicre æhte ðe gelaðað ryrninge (L. *ambitio*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 His þurst nis not luten þirnunge of ure soule hele. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Conse.* 1127–8 Outher yherning of þe fleshe of man, Or yherning of þe worlde. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 507 A urangwise wilnyng Or yernyng to hafe any kyns gode þat us augh noght. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 742 Thai, to fulfill bys yarnyng, Become bis nen cuirilaane. *a* 1393 Hilton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) ii. xxi, The yernyng of thyn herte to Jhesu. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 Yarnyng, or yernyng, or desyryng, *desiderium, optatio, exoptacio*. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* 975 It makis the knawlegyng, And ledis thé at thi ȝarnyngis Fra place to place, quhar þow wald be. 1535 Bible (Cov.) Prov. xiii. 12 Longe delayenge yeanninge o'er the past. 1836 Kingsley in *Life & Lett.* (1878) I. 33 Her restless yearnings after future things. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. 1, *Mr. Peter's Story*, A strong distinction between a yearning to seek 'horizontal repose.' 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xliii, Her doubts and fears between the two) the yearning of her innocent breast to both. 1850 Tennyson *In Memor.* cxvi, Less yearning for the friendship fled. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* I. 24 That Being to Whom the highest yearnings of his inmost self constantly point.

**b.** *transf.* (contextually) An object of intense desire.

*c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 23 Take to þee al myn entente Pat þou be to me myn yerninge. 1869 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* ii. (1876) 40 The great yearning of prophecy was the total destruction of idolatry.

†**2.** The baying of hounds. Also *transf.* *Obs.*

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xviii, If they wold use but a few nombre of hounde, onely to harborowe, or rouse, the game, and by their yarning to gyue knowlege whiche way it lieth. 1576 Turbery. *Venerie* lxv. 181 When they beginne to baye, (which in the earth is called Yearning). 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 120 Ere slouch hounds mouthing, incressed is the horror of armoure, From sleepe I broad waked,...And to the shril yerning with tentiue greedines harckned.

**3.** The state of being moved with compassion. 1563 Fox *Acts & Mon.* (1596) 1224 Not all other mens voices, there is none I hate more, than cruelties....But it is with such an yearning [*E. mollesse*] and faint-hartednes, that if I see but a dumme beast beaten, I cannot choose but crye. 1845 Br. Hall *St. Paul's Comfort* i. Wks. 1634 I. 1424 Let pitty and yearning of bowels. 1647 S. M[orr] (*title*) The Yernings of Christs bowels towards his languishing Members. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Contentment* (1834) 434 All that inward Feeling and Yerning of the Heart and Soul at a pitiful Object.

**4.** *attrib.* † yearning-meat, the meat for which one yearns.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3684 'Fader', he said, 'sitt vp and ete, I ha broght þi yerning mete.'

**Yearning** (yɜːnɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *n. dial.* [f. Yearn *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] Rennet. Also *attrib.*

1721 *Edinburgh Gaz. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 For yearning at Cheesclouter emp. pro vaccaria. 1981–2 *Ann. in Best Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 172 Yerens [Yerneins], oitemeell, and onions 13*d.* 1773 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* Apn., *Yearning*, or *Yearning*, a name used in several parts of the kingdom for rennet. 1788 W. Marshall *E. Yorksh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Cheslip-yrin*, the calf's bag, used in making yearning. *c* 1820 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* (1838) I. 284 Yearning, or Cast Rennet. *n. Sc.* A plant used in North Tindale to curdle milk for cheese is called yerning grass. 1825 Jamieson s.v., The yirnin is the name given to the rennet of a calf.

**Yearning,** obs. var. Earning *vbl. sb.*[1] (1 b).

1581 B. Rich *Farew.* E], With her yearnynges to helpe to releue hym.

**Yearning** (yɜːnɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Yearn *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

**1.** That yearns; characterized by longing desire or compassion.

1607 Drayton *Agincourt* cccx, These yearning cryes, that from the Clarets centre, 1652 Henlowne *Theoph.* iv. lxxiii, Let the Thracians cut yerning Cities. *c* 1790 T. Brown *Two Oxf. School.* Wks. 1730 I. 10 Some tenderhearted virgin ...who with yearning bowels will offer me her best assistance. 1819 Keats *Fall of Hyperion* i. 39 Appetite More yearning than on Earth I ever felt. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xlv, The two pale faces...: one with a left hand despair in it, the other full of sad, yearning love. 1873 E. E. Hale *In His Name* viii. As if the Holy Spirit had sent the immediate answer to his yearning prayer. 1891 W. Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* iv, A full-rigged ship...with yearning canvas and ocean-worn sides.

*transf.* 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Anactoria* 208 By the yearning in my veins I know The yearning sound of waters.

†**b.** *Yearning mood*: optative mood. *Obs.*

1588 Vaux *Rudim. Gram.* Bbij (Jam.), *Optativo modo*, yarnand mode.

†**2.** Of hounds: see Yearn *v.*[1] 4. *Obs.*

1706 J. Philips *Cerealia* 190 As the tall stag...quits his lair, And flies the yearning pack which close pursue.

Hence **Yea·rningly** *adv.*

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 400 She felt yearningly enough for both. 1861 H. Macmillan *Footn. Page Nat.* 197 The geranium growing in the cottage window yearningly stretches out its tender leaves..to the smiling sunshine. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. iii, He looked at it lovingly, fondly, yearningly.

**Yearnling** (yɜːnlɪŋ), *nonce-wd.* [f. Yearn *v.*[2] + -ling.] A young child over which one yearns.

1829 Lamb *Let. to Procter* 29 June, She visited..a poor man's cottage that had a pretty baby (O the yearnling !).

**Year-old,** *a.* and *sb.*

**A.** *adj.* A year old; of the age of one year.

1767 Abercrombie *Eu. Man his own Gardener* (1803) 85 Young shoots rising in the spring from the year-old plants. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* iv, Was it not Wat the Devil who drove all the year-olds off the braes of Lambhoy-side? 1883 Gustafson in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 894/2 The little year-old Edgar..was very sick.

**B.** *sb.* A beast a year old, a yearling.

1539 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 114, xj ky & iiij quyes iiij yer olds iiij iij yere olds. 1583 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 82 Eight younge cattell, yeare-olds, and tuan-lays. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1849) I. 38 It is remarkable that the year olds remain together. 1826 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* i, To see if him and me can gree about the luckpenny I am to gie him for his year-auldes. 1852 *Farm. Jrnl.* 17 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* 111, The year olds are kept in the field all winter.

**Year's day** : see Year-day.

**Yearsman** (yɪəˑzmăn). local. [*f. year's*, gen. of Year + Man *sb.*] Labourer hired by the year.

1891 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 5/6 Our labourers are divided into two classes: the day labourer and the yearsman.

**Year's mind, year-mind.** [OE. *gearesmynd* : see Year *sb.* and Mind *sb.*] 5 b.] The commemoration of a deceased person by the celebration of requiem services a year after, or every year on the anniversary of, his death or funeral; a yearly obit. Cf. *trentemonth's*, *trentenal*.

*a.* *a* 1200 in Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lexicogr.* (1906) 28 Dis is seo caritas þe Baldwine aldbiscop hæfð geunnon his gebroðrum for Eadwardes sawle, þæs godan kynges, þæt is healf pund æt his gearesynde. 1307 *Rolls Parl.* I. 183/2 *Warbrich of Sudbury, Suff.* 5 Dec. (P.C.C., 1 dugett), vs. yerely to the keping of a yer minde for my soule. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 1104 For keeping of a yeare minde and for making fenstfull dayes In honour of that worthy wight. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xv. (1592) 229 Hee commaunded an Anniuersarie or Yeerely minde to bee kept in remembrance of him. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 19 b, Augustus had in mirth giuen him the name of *Founder*, he was so reputed, and his yeares-mind after his death solemnized accordingly.

β. 1408 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 15 That..hys Executours..haue ..rewlyng of my obytis, that ys for to sayn, my yerys mynde, xx wynter Al[l]er my dees. 1530 Palsgr. 256 Taraunte pou to be soule of pi seruaunt, whos yerie mynde we maken to dai, a secte of refreschinge blisse. 1580 Sir R. Elyot *Wills in T. Elyot Gov.* (1834) App. I. 22 I intende to chuse but the service at myn enterynge, moneth mynde, and yeres mynde. 1558 Phaer *Æneid* Gen. Somme a iij, For his fathers honoure he deuised games of actiuitie, and set-forthe his Obite or yeres mynde, with gresse solempnitie. 1561 Veron *Heart. Purgat.* 25 The moneth myndes and yeares minds other wyse called Anniversaries. 1849 Rock *Ch. Fathers* I. vii. II. 390 No others' names were read out at those whose anniversary or year's mind fell upon that very Sunday or festival. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 7/3 The 'Year's Mind' of her late Majesty Queen Victoria was celebrated at St. Matthew's, Westminster, this morning.

**Yearth,** obs. or dial. ff. Earth *sb.*[1], etc.

1542 Uxall *Erasm. Apoph.* 49 Au yearthen potte. 1561 *Pommaran's T.* in *Chancery Pr.* I. 95 That take his mistresse in his name Ghostly, and for yearthly good. *c* 1586 *Linge Regd. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shakx. Soc.) 6 To make a yearthly creature to beate the person of the Creator. 1589 Hester *Serv. Thiomm.* 11. 2 Dee the Viztriell in a yearthen pan. 1683 Holme *Armoury* iii. 261/2 *Yearthing*, put Earth about [the kiln]. 1828 *Craven Glos.*, *Yearthe*, earthen.

**Yeast** (yist), *sb.* Forms: 1 *gist*, 3 *yast*, 5 *yest(e*, 3–6 *yeest*, *yeest*, 6–9 *yest*, 7 *yeste* (?), 8–9 *dial.* *east*, 9 *dial.* *yist*, 7– *yeast*. [OE. (late WS.) *gist*, Anglian **yest*, corresp. to MLG. *gest* dregs, dirt, MDu. *ghist*, Du. *gist*, *gest* yeast, MHG. *jest*, *gest*, *gist* (G. *gischt*, *gischt*) yeast, froth, ON. *jastr* yeast, related to OHG. *jesan*, *gasan* (MHG. *jesen*, *gesen*, *gern*, G. *gähren* to ferment), the causative OHG. *jerian*, *gerian* to cause to ferment, and ON. *gerð* yeast. The underlying base *jes-* is found also in Skr. *yás(yati)* to seethe, boil, *prāyastas* bubbling over, Zend *yah-* to boil (intr.), Alb. *gjet* *hahen* I knead bread, Gr. *ζέω* I boil, *ζεστός* boiled, W. *ŵst* seething.]

**1.** A yellowish substance produced as a froth or as a sediment during the alcoholic fermentation of malt worts and other saccharine fluids, and used in the manufacture of beer and to leaven bread.

Modern science distinguishes two kinds of yeast, *surface* or *top yeast* (G. *oberhefe*) and *under*, *sediment*, or *bottom*

*yeast* (G. *unterhefe*), the former propagated by buds, the latter by spores, of the fungus *Saccharomyces cerevisiæ*. The yeast of beer is used medicinally as an antiseptic and stimulant in low fevers, and as an application to ulcers.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 266 Last bonne hwon gestandan, do of þa gæstlinu, do bonne nimene zist. 1330 *Palsgr.* 209/1 Yest or barme for ale, *levayne*. 1340 A. W. *Bk. Cookrye* 8 Put into your broth a spoonfull of yest. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* v. xxiii. 725 They renewe the force and strength of the yeast or leuen euerie leuener with leeue standy made, so long as till the said leuen or yeast become strong inough of it selfe. 1622 *Howell. Hist. Howard of Nonwich* (Surtees) 41 To Henry Baker to bestow in yest . . 16s. Butler *Hist.* iii. iii. 119 When Yeast, and outward means do fail, And have no pow'r to work on Ale. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* viii. (1692) 19 Those sharp scorbutick dregs imitating the nature of yest. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 214 Yeast . . consists of a great Quantity of subtile and spirituous Particles, wrapped up in such as are viscid. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 192 An instance of a young gentleman in the last stage of typhus fever, being cured by the use of yeast. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 34 Sugar by presence of yeast is made to resolve itself into alcohol and carbonic acid. 1858 Lawes *Sea-side Studies* 314 There are two kinds of yeast, or rather two forms of the same plant. The one is called 'surface' yeast, the other 'sediment' yeast. The former requires a temperature of 70° to 80° Fahrenheit; the latter 32° to 45°. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 193 The porous texture of bread is due to the presence of bubbles of gas evolved by the fermentation of the yeast.

**b.** With qualifying word, as *beer-yeast*; applied esp. to common yeast drained, pressed dry, and made into a cake in order to be kept for a time: see quots. and cf. *yeast-cake*, *-powder* (4).

1676 T. Hewet *Acc. of Peru, Weekly Rec.* etc. 26 The Process for making artificial Yeast. Boil flour and water together to the consistence of treacle. . In about two days, such a degree of fermentation will have taken place, as to give the mixture the appearance of yeast. 1858 *Simmonds's Dict. Trade* s.v., German yeast is now imported to a considerable extent in a dried form from the Continent. 1876 *Chambers's Encycl.* s.v. *Yeast*, Brewers' yeast is a sediment of similar (to German Yeast), but is raised from a wort made purposely from malt and hops. Artificial Yeast is a dough of wheat or other flour, mixed with a little of a sediment of common yeast, and made into small cakes, which are dried. 1879 Webster Suppl., *Press-yeast*, the yeasty froth from the surface of a fermenting fluid, separated and pressed into cakes for bakers' use. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 July 3/3 Patent yeast is either made by the baker himself or is bought from the yeast merchant. It..leaves an unpleasant smell and taste in the bread.

**c.** *fig.* = Leaven *sb.* 2a.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 35 Though liberty has no relation to party, . . there is yet a kind of yest observable in its nature, which may be necessary to the fermentation and working up of virtue. 1818 Keats *Let.* Wks. 1889 III. 105 The best of men have but a portion of good in them—a kind of spiritual yest in their frame, which creates the ferment of existence. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* vi. iv. I. 394 The Plantagenet yeast being strong within his veins.

**d.** *Path.* A fungus of the genus *Saccharomyces* present in certain skin-diseases.

1859 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 760 The common saccharomyces or yeast of the scalp.

**†3.** The froth or 'head' of new or fermenting beer. *Obs.*

*c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 10 Pen take 3est of New ale an caste þer-to. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 3eest, berme, *spuma*. 1583 Salmon *Doron Med.* I. 142 Let not the Head, or Yest work over at the bung. 1726 *Cork Tribute* 11, 290 When drays bound high, they never cross behind, When bubbling yest is blown by gusts of wind.

**3.** *transf.* Foam or froth as of troubled water.

1818 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 94 The Shippe boaring the Moone with her maine Mast, and anon swallowed with yest and froth. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxi, They melt into like yeast of waves. 1868 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 311 The Titan headlands of new empires which are already looming darkly up out of the yeast of stormy waves.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yeast-ash*, *-cell*, *-culture*, *-dumpling*, *-fungus*, *-germ*, *-globulice*, *-scum*; *yeast-like* adj. and adv.; **yeast-bee**, new beer with which a small quantity of fermenting wort has been mixed to make it 'work'; **yeast-bitten** *a.* (see quot.); **yeast-budding**, a direct budding or germination of spores from other spores as occurring in *Saccharomyces* and other fungi; **yeast-cake** (see † b); **†yeast-fat**, a fermenting-vat; **yeast-plant**, any plant of the genus *Saccharomyces*, esp. *S. cerevisiæ*, which produces fermentation in saccharine fluids; **yeast-powder**, the powder of dried yeast (cf. † b), also (*U.S.*) baking-powder.

1893 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 6 Pasteur himself used actual "yeast ash. 1829 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 54/2 (L. L.) The gas being too weak to buoy up the new close head of the tun, the yeast might partially or wholly subside, and the ale would become *yeast-bitten*; it would receive that disagreeable taste which the head had acquired by too long exposure to the atmospheric air. 1898 Portia H. C. *Strasburger's Bot.* 350 Such a method of multiplication of conidia by budding is termed "yeast budding, and the conidia are termed "yeast conidia. 1795 St. J. Dalrymple *Lat. to Admiralty* 4, I put in the Wort-cake and "Yeast-cake at his sight. 1847–9 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. I. 101/2 The importance of "yeast-cells in the phenomena of fermentation. 1890 Cagney tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 200 Yeast-cells (Saccharomycetes) are the commonest form of parasite in the intestinal discharges. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 420 Protein or cend cultures of bacteria, filtered "yeast-cultures. 1747 Mus. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 112 "East Dumplings. First make a light Dough . . with Flour, Water, Salt, and Yeast. 1367 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxviii, † "yeastfat. 1896 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 86 The several fermentation or "yeast-fungi. 1887 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 395 The fermentation occurs only in presence of the "yeast germs. 1888 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1889) 277 The.. "yeast-like appearance of the decomposing brood. 1897 Hennessy *Bot.* § 813 What is called the "Yeast-plant' consists of a particular form of the vegetative structure (*oogelium*) of a Fungus. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 257 The brewer deliberately sows the yeast-plant. 1892 Martin *Expos. Text. Colaphizans Fermenti*, . . the "yeast poultice, for sloughing and mortification: flour mixed with yeast and heated till it rise. 1795 Sir J. Dalrymple *Let. to Admiralty* 2 Wort-cake and Yeast-powder made at the King's breweries. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 602/1 After ten to fourteen days the "yeast-scum on the surface disappears.

**Yeast** (yēst), *v. rare.* [f. prec.] *intr.* (also *refl.*) To ferment; to be covered with froth, as agitated water. Also *fig.* Hence **Yeasting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 Keats *Otho* III. ii, To thee only I appeal, Not to thy noble son, whose yeasting youth Will clear itself, and crystal turn again. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* III. 13 (Of dough before the fire) every well belaboured [bed] tick was left to yeast itself awhile. 1891 C. Dawson *Anonymous* II. 83 Racing seas, their yeasting waves. 1892 *Daily News* 16 June 1463 The presence of purin bodies in beer is probably due to the yeasting and processes of manufacture.

**Yeast**, obs. form of Feast.

**Yeasty** (yī'sti), *a.* Also 7–9 **yesty**. [f. Yeast *sb.* + -y.]

**1.** Of, pertaining to, full of, covered with, like or resembling yeast.

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abington* D j, His beard, Thats glewed together with his sinavering droppes, Of yesty ale. 1600 Maynow, etc. *York Plaine Pierst.* 1. (1601) A iij, Each..yeastie bowling bench. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* Ind., Wks. 1856 I. 5 As slovenly as the yeasty breast of an ale-knight. 1676 Cotton *Walton's Angler* II. viii. 75 We have then a Yesty and another Dunny, call'd the Barm-fly, from it's yesty colour. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 25 That Yeasty quality that most Ale in Cities, especially in London, is subject to. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 84 He fell into Drinking such Quantities of their yeasty Ale, as made him distracted. 1836 [see *yeastiness* below]. 1849 *Cornh. Mag.* (1860) *Hazard* I. (1856) 15 From foaming whitecress it melted into yeasty cream.

*transf.* 1668 Culpeyper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvi. 39 The Arterial, fermentative, or leavening, and yeasty Blood.

**2.** *fig.* with various connotations: 'Swelling', 'working'; light and superficial, 'frothy'.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 36 Like a Swartrutters hose his puffe thoughts swell With yeastie ambition. 1600 Shake. *Hen. V*, II. Prol., only got the taste of their flesh, and outward habite of encounter, a kinde of yesty collection, which carries them through & through the most fond and winnowed opinions. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1632) 1000 Inconsiderat etc. 161 Knowledge with him is idle, if it straine Aboue the compasse of his yestie braine. 1826 Disraeli *Vic. Grey* IV. i, Byron's mind was like his own ocean, sublime in its yesty madness. 1904 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 493/2 Burying his thought in a yeasty mass of adjectives.

**3.** *transf.* Foamy, frothy, like troubled water.

1599 Shake. *Much Ado* v. i. 53 Though the yeasty Waues Confound and swallow Nauigation vp. 1798 *Poetry of Anti-Jacobin* No. 36. 236 And Whitbread wallowing in the yeasty main. 1819 Keats *Lett. Thast. wri.* (1819) 332 The yesty waves which covered the heaven and the sea. 1872 Craske *T. of Hall* IV. 472 Far'up the beach, the yesty sea-foam roll'd. 1880 Byron *Juan* III. lviii, The ocean when its yeasty war Of waters lifts on high its pitchy tar. 1891 *Sea-wolf* 254 We were over the bar and in smooth water, only the yeasty flakes of the spent breakers following us.

Hence **Yeastily** *adv.*, **Yeastiness**.

1778 H. Brooke *Antony & Cl.* IV. iv, I know not why of late This yestiness of temper comes upon me. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 405/1 It [*sc.* creamy scum] however rises again, becomes more hidden and enlarge in size, the yestiness increases, and, when ready for cleansing, it has a vigorous, rich, yesty brown and bladdery head. 1890 W. Clark Russell *Ship. Sweetheart* viii. 160 The pale blue brine that melted yesterday from her metallied forefoot.

**Yeat**, obs. Anglo-Irish f. Get *v.*

1564 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 415 If the defendant yeat him over, he must have his attorney.

**Yeat(e**: see Gate *sb.*1, Yet.

**Yeather**, var. Edder : see Yeddre *sb.* and *v.*

**Yeaugh**, obs. form of Yacht.

**Yeauman**, obs. form of Yeoman.

**Yeaunt**, obs. form of Giant: see Yeant.

**Yeave**, obs. form of Ewe *sb.*1

**Yeaven**, obs. pa. pple. of Give *v.*

1900 *B. N. & Queries* 9th *Ser. Sentiments* 18, 73 (MS.).

**Yeax**, **Yeck**, obs. ff. Yex, Itch *v.*1

**Yed** (yed), *sb.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 gied(d,ged(d, gid(d, gyd(d, 3 ged, 8–yed. [OE. *gied*: see next.]

**†1.** A song, poem, speech, tale, riddle. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 1160 Leoð was saungen, gleomannes gyd. *Ibid.* 1513 Ic ða sið hæbbe to sæcce. 1205 Lay. 15813 Heo . . bire gedles [*later version* wordes] aseide 3eomare stefne.

**b.** A fib, an exaggerated tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

**2.** Contention, wrangling; strife.

1719 Ramsay *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* ii, [The soldier] Wha loves to hear leasings, leaves nae yed, To tend his fauld. 1808, etc. [see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*].

**Yed** (yed), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 gieddian, geddian, giddian, gyddian, 3–4 3edde, 3–5 3ede, 6 yedde, 8– yed. [OE. *gieddian*, f. *giedd* (see prec.), f. root *gad-* to put together, as in Gather, Together. For the development of sense 2 cf. OE. *giddsum wrixlan* to dispute, and the use of the vb. in Daniel 728.]

**1.** *intr.* To sing, recite, talk, discourse.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xii. 26 Þa ongan se Wisdom gliowian & geoddode þus. *Ibid.* xxxi. 72 Þa ongan he eft giddian & þus singende cwæð. *c* 1205 Lay. 21429 Arður . . þus þeddien agon [*later version* þus word saide] Mid gomenliche worden. 1360 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* I. 138 Prechet in þin harpe þer þou art Murie at þi mete whan me biddeþ þe þedde. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 2115 Thay noldon no langer with hym þede, Ne suffry langer lygge in bede.

**b.** To fib, exaggerate a tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

**2.** To contend, wrangle.

1570 Levins *Manip. Ab/35* To Yedde, chide, *iurgare*. 1721 Ramsay *Poems* I. 398 Gloss., *Yed*, to contend, wrangle. Contention, Wrangling.

**Yed**, **yedd(e**, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode.

**†Yedder**, *a. Obs.* In 4 **3eder**, 5 **3edire**. [Origin unknown.] Quick; frequent. Hence **†Ye'derly** *adv.*, quickly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 463 He.. sone 3ederly for-3ete 3later-day stenen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Chal.* 1213, I schal me 3ederly, & 3eme after grace. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5021 So did his princes..for pete of him-selfe, Whih 3edire 3oskingis & 3erre 3eit out to greete.

**Yee**, obs. f. Eye, Ye, Yea.

**Yeed(e**, **3eed(e**, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode.

**Yee-ho** : see Yo *int.*

**Yeel(e**, obs. form of Eel.

**Yeelaman**, variant of Hielaman, shield of Australian aborigines.

1880 Kendall *Poems* 19 Yeelamans splinter and boomerangs clash.

**Yeeld**, etc., obs. form of Guild, Yield, etc.

**Yeeld(e**, obs. pa. t. of Al *v.*

*c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 66 The duke knewe wel what she yeelde.

**Yeen**, obs. pl. of Eye *sb.*1

**Yee-ndær**, *north. dial.* Forms: 7 eander,

**eender, 7–9 yeender.** 7, 9 **yender**; also 8–9 **yeandurth.** [Representing OE. *ǽr undern* 'mane' (Ælfric *Lev.* vi. 20) = OFris. *fr under* in the forenoon, NFris. (Sylt) *frönner, irner* forenoon, MDu. *eronderen* (*broot*) 12 o'clock meal (cf. early Flem. *eronderen* 'meridiari', Kilian): see ERE *prep.* and UNDERN.] The forenoon.

*c* 1465 Vymers *Hist. Darius* 4 7 Your Peanuet excedes 3* Greeke, who as Athenaus sayes have fowre meales a day, ; that is breakefast, dinner, supp.r, and a collation after supper. But these and y* Moorelanders addd three more, y* litt in the morning, y* Anders-meate, and yendres meate, and soe make up seaven. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 55 *The Yeender or Eender*, the Forenoon, *Derbysh.* 1884 G. Meynell *Yorkshire Dial.* 193 (E.D.S.) It comes ith Earnder, Wife, or else by Neaun. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.) *The Vreender or Earnder*, the forenoon. Halliwell, in Yorkshire, *c* 1748 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) 25 Sed I, It there last Oandurth, on he'd leet o oneth' Yeandurth afore. 1865 J. DAVIES *Rules Lanc. in Trans. Philol. Soc.* 218 The equivalent of the Lanc. 'oandurth 'afternoon] and 'yeandurth', forenoon.

**Yeep** (3eep), var. YEPE *a.*

**Yeepsen:** see YEPSEN.

**Yeer, yeere,** obs. ff. ERE, YEAR.

**Yeerde,** obs. f. YARD *sb.*2 **Yees:** see YEZ.

**Yees(y, 3ees(y,** obs. ff. EASE, EASY.

**+ Yeet,** *v. Obs.* In 5 3eeten, 3ete. 3pt. [f. YE *pron.* + *-t*, as in THOWT. Cf. MHG. *ir(-)ezen*, med.L. *vosare, vobisare, vositare, vobisitare*, and YE T.] To use the pronoun *ye* in addressing a person. Hence + **Yeeting** *vbl. sb.*

*c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3eetyn, or sey 3e or (*P.* 3eyn or sey 3e with worship), *veso. Ibid.* 538/1 3etynge, wythe worchyp eeynge 3e, and not thow (*K.* seyngyd), *nonicio.*

**Yeet, 3eet:** see YET *v.*, to melt, cast. **Yeewk,** obs. form of YUKE *sb.*, itch. **Yef(e:** see GIVE, IF. **Yeff(e:** see GIFT, GIVE, IF. **Yeffell,** obs. f. EVIL *adv.* **Yeffor,** obs. form of EVER *adv.* **Yef(f)t(e,** obs. ff. GIFT.

**Yegg** (yeg). *U. S.* [Said to be the surname of a certain American burglar and safe-breaker.] A burglar or safe-breaker. So **Yeggman.**

1903 *N. Y. Even. Post* 23 June (Cent. D. Supp.), The prompt breaking up of the organized gangs of professional crackers, and the busines.. 1906 A. HENRY *Cabin & Trail* 2 Jan. (ibid.), Detective Sergeants..captured on the flowery three men who, they say, are among the most successful 'yeggmen'; or safecrackers, in the business. 1906 A. HENRY *Three Voyages* 100 'Now, nitro-glycerine I object to, it's so abominably crude.'..'And so obliously criminal!' she interpolated. 'Precisely. We're not exactly yeggmen yet.'

**+ Yegged** (Y-3d), *ppple.* 1897 *Outing* (Roll) 554/2 Pat sueid..Yegged it is in be on half & in be oper nojt.

**Ye-ho:** see YOHO *int.*

**+Yel,** *sb. Obs.* [f. YELE *v.*] A cry, wail.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Mid þe seoke..þe neowwe worpen a swuch 3e-el [*MS. J.* 3ar, *Nero* 3eil] þet heuenene & nærðe muwen beoðe grislliche agrisen.

**Yel,** obs. form of EVE *sb.*1

1599 *Resolution* 11. ii, I thinke a god shu bee blyude: I am haulf afraide leste she have an yel behynde.

**Yel,** obs. graphic variant of THEY.

**Yeld(e, 3eld(e,** obs. pa. t. of GO: see VODE.

**+ Yeie,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 2–3 3eiȝe, 3–4 3eie, yeie, 4 3eye, 3y3e, yeye. [OE. ***ȝiegan, *ȝigan* = WFris. *geije* to cry out, ON. *geyja* to bark, to blaspheme : ***gaujan,** (***gau** (cf. ON. *-gl* barking, blasphemy, as in *galgi*).

Prob related forms with *-t-* suffix are Du. *guilen* to bark, scold, G. dial. *gauxen, gäuxen* to yelp, scold, ON. *gauta* to boast, prate.]

1. *Intr.* To cry out, shout.

*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Summe þer wepeð..and swiðe reowliche ileue ȝeiȝeð. *c* 1205 LAY. 27750 þa ȝeiden hude Alle Rom-leode. *Ibid.* 29563 Heo..weoðhe ȝeiden him on Mid reometliche stanen. *c* 1290 S. *Leg. Kath.* 402 Honi swiðe feole ȝeinde & ȝurnde. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 44 þeo ilke þat beoð stalewurðe .. ȝeonliche ȝeieð [*Nero* ȝeiȝeð] efter gode grace to helpe. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conscz.* 1811 Thah ich ȝeȝe upon heth. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 1541 The loude cry and ȝeiyng That heo wolleth with loude steuyn ȝeryn. 13.. *Northern Passion* (Gl.) 139 Men ne aschulle noth yeye þos longe. 13.. [see YEDERLE].

**2.** *trans.* To utter in a loud voice; to call out; to announce for sale in a loud voice, to 'cry'.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 þe wreche preoðlare more noise he makeð to seken his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. *Ibid.* 126 For þi we ȝeieð to him iðe Pater-noster. 'Er dimittite nobis debita nostra'. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1265 Þet keiser..wakelliche ȝeide: 'Hwet ne, unwreste men.

**3.** To ask for, as with a loud voice.

*c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 358 How Mercy here sistre heore hurte ȝeyth. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 67 Syþen riche forth ronnen to reche hondе-selle, þese ȝiftes on hi.

**Yeild** (3eild), obs. Sc. f. ELD *sb.*2, age.

1523 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 278/2 Dispensand wt his aige quhat ȝeild hat euir he be of.

**Yeildar,** obs. Sc. forms of YELD, YIELD.

**Yeinder,** obs. f. YONDER. **Yeir(e,** obs. ff. YEAR.

**Yeird** (3eird), obs. Sc. and north. dial. f. EARTH.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 41 He sufert onder pouris pilat to be crucifeit to da and to be zrirdit. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 282 Thair to tak sasine thairof..be deliverance of zaird and stane.

**Yeirne,** obs. form of IRON. **Yeisk** (3eisk), Sc. f. *yesk*: see YESK. **Yeistrein,** obs. f. YESTREEN.

**Yeit,** obs. Sc. f. YET. **Yek,** dial. form of OAK.

**+ Yeke,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 3ȝæc, 3ȝæc, 3oc, 3ec, 3ec, 4–5 3eke, yeke. [OE. *ȝéac* cuckoo = MLG. *gôk* simpleton, MDu. *goec*, OHG., MHG. *gouh, gouch* cuckoo, bastard, fool, (G. *gauch* provincial name of cuckoo, etc., simpleton, gawk), ON. *gaukr* cuckoo (whence Sc. GOWK); perhaps f. *gau-* as in ***gaujan* (see YEIE *v.*).] The cuckoo. Also in comb. (with gen.) + **Yekesterne** [TERNE] = CUCKOO-SPIT.

With OE. *gleces stire* 'cuckoo's sorel' cf. ME. *gonkesures* glossing *Alleluia* in MS. Rawl. C. 607 ff. 1 b.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 131 *Accitulum*, ȝȝeces sure [*Epinal* ȝeceses; *Erfurt* ȝeceas]. *Ibid.* C 121 *Calcitulum*, leces surae [*Erfurt* laces sura]. *Ibid.* G 87 *Grumadiri*, ȝeces. *a* 1000 *Cuthlac* 716 Reacas þær hudon. *a* 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 24 *Iarus, barba aaron, fit vitalis*, .. i. ȝekesterne. 14.. *MS. Porkington* ll. 59 (Halliw.) Whene the ȝeke gynnys to synge, Thenne the schrewe begynnys to wyrynge. 14.. *MS. Rawl. C.* 506, ff. 249 b, *Iarus aaron*, ȝekesters, gauk pyntill.

**Yeke** (3eke), obs. f. EKE *v., adv.*, ITCH *sb.*, *v.*1

**+ Yekth.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 3ioȝðe, 3iȝðe, 3iðða, 3yðða, 3 3eȝðe, 3eoȝðe, 5 3ykthe, 3eketh, 3eght, 3ight. [OE. *ȝiegðu* = OHG. *jugitdo* (MHG. *jukede*) or OIcel. ***ȝukiþom-**, *i. juk-*: see ITCH *v.* (The suffix occurs in various forms of physical disorders, as *clewyȝa* itch, *sþlowyȝa* vomit.)] Itching, itch.

*c* 897 *Rel. Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 70 Se ȝiceða (*Hatt.* ȝieceða) bið swiðe unsar, & se cleweða bið swiðe unc. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 257 Þes læcedom deah ȝe wið hriefðo & ȝiciþan. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 86 Unberendlic ȝyðða ofereode ealne ðone lichaman. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Þat hearminde ȝeȝðe [*v.r.* ȝeoðhe] of þat licomliche lust. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 538/2 3ykynge, or ykithe (1499 *P.* 3ekyn or yeketh), *pruritus*. 14.. *Medulla Gram.* (Rawl. MS.), *Prurigo*, a scabbe a 3eght. 14.. *Medulla* (Cant. Cath. MS.), *Pruritus*, 3ight.

**Yelamber, -bre:** see YELLOW-HAMMER.

**Yeld** (yeld), *a.* (*sb.*) *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 ȝelde, 5– yeld, 6 ȝeld, ȝelld, ȝeald, 6–9 yeld, yeeld, 7 yeell, 8–9 yell, yeald, 9 yeild, yeal, yeel, yill. See also ELD. [late OE. ***ȝielde, ȝelde** (in glosses), corresp. to MLG. *gald*, OHG., MHG. *golt* (MG. *gelte, gelle, G. gelt*), ON. *geldr* barren, *geldna*, etc.]: cf. GELD *a.* and *v.*]

1. Of an animal: Barren; that has missed having her young, or is not old enough to bear.

*a* 1200 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 226/29 *Effeta*, ȝelde. *Ibid.* 391/26, 1412 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 258, 6 yeldyng hill we ca[n] kepe xl sh[eep] quinke, ij ald ketts. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 30 Eftwe hym self..to the, Proserpyne, A yeld kow all to tyrnschit. 1538 *Reg. Priory Coldingham* (Surtees) 111. 386/2, xl yeld schiep. *a* 1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scott. Prov.* (1641) No. 47 A yeeld hind on the 15th of October. 1897 *Bads into Mag.* Apr. 474 We have got altogether four bucks and a g od yeld doe.

b. Of birds: In a single state, unmated. *Sc.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 378 Birdis ȝeildit as tha war wont till do,...Ho nestis maid bot all that tyme war ȝeild. 1899 EDMONSTON *Zetl. Isl.* II. 280 [They]..not pairing and being called littiwakes.

2. Of cattle: Not yielding milk, from being in calf or from age; 'dry'. Also of a nurse.

1670 *Contract in Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1896) XXX. 70 Two tydie kay & four yeell kay. 1785 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* x, An' mak a scant o' milk at e'en, When Hawkie's gowan a yeeld. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IX. 317 The yell cattle vary in number according to the seasons of the year. 1808 JAMIESON *Yeld, Yeeld, Yell, Eild*..A cow, although with calf, is said to *gang yeld*, when her milk dries up. A yell nurse signifies a dry nurse. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid. Lothian* xxvii, A wild farm in Northumberland, well stocked with milk-cows, yeald beasts, and sheep. 1822 GALT *Entail* II. xxiv. 270 'Leeze me,' said Jenny, 'on the yeald nurse!' said I, 'for ye ken I am as dry as a yeald cummie'.

3. Applied to inanimate objects that are sterile, unproductive, etc. (see quots.).

1702 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 42 Any thing is better than the Yell Kail, An Apology for having little, or bad, Fleshmeat. *Ibid.* 44 Yell is properly what gives no Milk, then it signifies bald without Meat, or having no Butter.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yell*, A rock is said to be yell when it will not quarry but with gunpowder; a field is said to be yell when nothing will grow on it. 1825 JAMIESON *Yeld*..8. Bleak, cold; applied to the weather, as denoting that it has no tendency to fruitfulness, or that it threatens storms.

B. *sb.* A barren cow or ewe; a hind that is not pregnant.

1896 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 727. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Yell*..A female deer not pregnant.

Hence **Yeld** (yeld) *v. trans.*, to make 'yell', keep from breeding.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, That..those least fit for breeding be yelled off for sale. *Ibid.*, The convenience of yelling or breeching a certain number of ewes in each herding.

**Yeld,** obs. form of ELD *sb.*2, age.

*a* 1529 SKELTON *Death Edw. IV*, 86 Of no great yeld.

**Yeld(e, (3eld(e),** var. *ielde*, obs. form of AISLE.

1527 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* lf. 6b, For mendyng of lede over the new chapell and over the ȝelde on the same syde.. 1535 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 82 In makyn and byldyn of the new ȝeld in the chiurch[*sic*] of Ilfromfelde]. *Ibid.* 83.

**Yeld(e,** obs. form of GUILD, YIELD.

**Yelden,** variant of YOLDEN.

**Yelderin, -drin(g,** var. YOLDRING.

**Yele,** var. AIL *sb.*2, AWL.

1520 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (Camb. Inv.) lf. 6b, *Arista*, the yele.

**Yele,** obs. form of AISLE.

1498 *Churchw. Acc., Pilton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 66 For takyng downe off the nort wyndow yn our lady yele. *c* 1800 *Instr. Northam Church, Devon* in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. I. 463/2 This Yele was made Anno 1503.

**Yele** (3ele) : see EEL, HEAL *sb.*

**Y-eled** [V. 4, EI 8, v.], anointed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5331 He was king of engeleond..þat nest þou yeled was of þe pope of rome. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 295 He was ileel [*MS.* y yeeled] and anoynt and i-housled.

**Yeled,** obs. form of EYELID.

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker *Cat. Vocabs.* 670 *Palpetra*, an yeled.

**Yeleinge,** var. YELING.

**Yelek** (ye'lek). Also JELICK. [Turk. ﻳﻠﻚ *yelek.*]

A long vest worn by Turkish women.

1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. i. 49 Over the shirt and shintiyan is worn a long vest (called *yelek*)...the yelek is cut in such a manner as to leave half of the bosom uncovered, except by the shirt. Many of the luxury ladies have it made more ample at that part; and, according to the most approved fashion, it should be of a sufficient length to reach to the ground. 1865 W. HEPWORTH DIXON *Free Russia* II. 49 The yelek, a vest, is worn by these ladies open at the front.

**Yelcs,** obs. form of EYELESS.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth. IV.* met. vii. 100 Pulcȝemus..with his yelcs bird.

**Yelf,** obs. variant of YELVE.

**Yelfat,** obs. f. *ale-fat, -vat* (ALE II).

**Yeliche,** obs. form of YLIKE.

**Yelk:** see YOLK.

**Yell** (yel), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 3ell, 5 3elle, yelle, 6–7 yel, 6– yell. [Earlier *yel* (LAY. 17799); f. YELL *v.*] An act of yelling; a sharp loud outcry, such as is described by *v.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 659 þan al he prestis gef a ȝell, As þai had bene feindis of hell. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* vii, Þailand fol ȝamerly, with mony loude ȝelles. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 122 One woman chiding maketh greater yell Than should an hundred pyes in one cage. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 79 Than cryit my bairnis with mony yout and ȝell. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 75 *Rodo.*...He call aloud. *Iago.* Doe, with like timerous accent, and dire yell, As when (by Night and Negligence) the Fire Is spied in populous Cities. 1798 Jonnson *Miller No.* 258 ? The yell of inarticulate distress. 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 420 The patient ox, with strength and skill yoked by the slaughter. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxviii, Frantically the yell arose Of his followers, and his foes! These in joy, in fury those. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* v, Janet gave three skips on the floor, and uttered as many short shrill yells of joy. 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xiii, Once or twice the Indian yell was given. 1850 TENNYSON *Pero* II. 212 Closely followed by the victorious enemy, who celebrated their success with songs or rather with yells of triumph. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. 8, The vitriol madness flushes up in the ruffian's head, Till the filthy by-lane rings to the yell of the trampled wife.

b. Of animals.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 178 As my eiyes..You heare all night,..so let your ydesome yells augment. 1598 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 688 Sometime he [a hare] runnes.. where eath-delving Conies keepe, To stop the loud pursuers [*sc.* hounds] in their yell. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 560 The loud yell of warry Wolves to hear. 1860 TENNYS. *Lilac* I. iii. 26 Marmots..with yells of terror scattered themselves among the rocks. 1861 *Bp. Hat. Herbert* (1863) 45 The terrific yells of that cursed biped [*sc.* a pet cat].

c. An outcry in writing, e.g. in a newspaper.

1853 Br. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. v. 220 Once let such a course be begun, and though the yell of 'The Record' will be with you, it will not continue to halt there. 1887 *Spectator* 4 June 758/1 This, from the 'United Irishman', is of course a mere yell, not to be taken seriously.

d. A cry consisting of a set of words or syllables shouted on certain occasions, as by American college students.

18.. *St. Nicholas* XVII. 837 (Cent. Dict.) The young men..are giving the mountain calls or yells—cries adopted according to the will known only to college cuckoos. 1913 *Harvard Mag.* Mar. 386 ? The undergraduates of Princeton and Virginia University ..acclaimed their academic head ..with their characteristic college yells.

**Yell** (yel), *v.* Forms: 1 ȝellan, ȝiellan, ȝillan, ȝyllan, 3 ȝcolle, 3–5 ȝelle, 4 3el, 3ele, yhelle, 3olle, 3ulle, 4–6 yel, yelle, 5 3helle, 6 *Sc.* 3ell, 5– yell. *Pa. t. str.* 1 ȝeal. *pl.* gullon, 3 yal. *pl.* gullen, 3ulle(n, 3ollen, 3–5 3al; *wk.* 4–5 3elled, 5 3ellede. yelld, -d, 6 ycald, *Sc.* 3eld, 6– yelled. [OE. (Anglian) *ȝellan*, (WS.) *ȝiellan, ȝyllan, ȝillan* str. vb., pa. t. *ȝeal*, pl. *ȝullon* = MLG. *gellen, gillen* wk., MDu. *gellen* str. (Du. *gillen*), OHG. *gellan* str. (MHG., G. wk. *gellen*), ON. *gjalla*, pa. t. *gall* (Sw. *galla*, Norw. *gjella*); f. *gell-*, extended form of *gel-*: *gal-*, whence OE. *galan* to sing, GALE *v.*1, *-gale* in *nihtegale* NIGHT(IN)-GALE, ON. *-gal* in *hanagal* cockcrow, OS., (M)Du., OHG. *galm* outcry.]

1. *intr.* To utter a loud strident cry, esp. from

some strong and sudden emotion, as rage, horror, or agony

*a* 1225 *Ancr. Rath.* 90/10 Per me mahte sheren þe heahene bundes zellen & zeien & gurren *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 3 87 Þo cam þe deouel ȝeolinde forth *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 583 *ibid.* 725 Huy weopen ant ȝ llen [*Harl. MS.* ȝulle] faste 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4239 So grisliche ȝal [*or* ze ȝ lled, yelled] þat seoweþ þo *c* 1300 *St. Katherine* 941 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 96 Io gun pemperour for wraþþe loude ȝulle and rore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Pr. T.* 569 They yelleden as fendes doon in helle *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 492 The crayed alle ‘howelle’ as high as men myght ȝelle 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 176 Women are sayed to chatter churles to grunt, boues to whine, & ȝongmen to ȝel 1575 LANGHAM *Lett.* (1579) b, Knightes stampt, Squiers startled vp, steeds in a stoure Yeomen & Pages ȝeld out in the hall 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV 493 Infernal Ghosts, and Hellish Furies round Environd thee some howld & some ȝell'd, some shriek'd 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v She ȝelled out on seeing him as if an adder had stung her 1838 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xii 93 They wh sqoted and ȝelled in the Indian style 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. 1 299 When all was lost, he ȝell'd, And bit his shield, and dash'd it on the ground

*fig.* 1602 MARSTON *Antonio & Mel.* v. v Wks 1856 I 141 Murder for murder, blood for blood doth ȝell I

**b** Of certain birds and beasts To emit a loud cry, either as their natural utterance or when hurt or from rage

*a* 1000 *Beowulf* 6 Fiȝelas singað, ȝylleð græghama *a* 1000 *Riddles* xxv. 3 Ic eom wunderlicu wiht, hwilum grædе swa gos, hwilum ȝelle swa hafoc. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 122 Þe fiaucun was wrob wit his l ridde & lude ȝal & stearn chidde 13 *Cursor M.* 6709 (Fairf.) He herd of þe hounder, & þay ful somerly ȝaule & ȝelle *c* 1445 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV xxiv 2116 Alkyn lese ȝhellande ran as þai war wode Til wodnis and til wildernes. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Why Come Ye* 1 Rummyng so ȝe ȝhell lyke a calfe. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Jer II 15 The l ȝ ons roared vpon him & ȝelled 1588 SHAKS. *T. L. L.* IV iii 62 Is the Dogge-ded with loue? 1590 SHAKS. *3 H. VI* v. ii 37 The cruell wound enraged him so sore, That loud he [*sc.* the dragon] yelled for exceeding paine 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. iii, Well-a-day! on the view the opening pa k A hu dred dogs in livery clad and strong 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix 408 Innumerable hyenas, fi, hting, running, and yelling like demons

**†c** Applied to loud singing or chanting

1387 TREVISA *Higden* Rolls VI 393 Nero gan to selle [*v. r.* ȝalle] an l songe ] e gestes of Troye 1395 PECOCK *Acmonster* (1851) 18 What was loun is this to hiren hem so ȝelle and to chiden and alleise

**†d** *trans* To protrude (the tongue) in uttering a yell *Obs*

1480 *Robt. Dev.yll* 229 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* 1864 I 228 Be hynde them wouldе le stevle, And geve them a sowce To cause some to yell ut their tongues longe

**e** To urge *on* by yelling

1868 G. MEREDITH *Poems Orchard & Heath* IX, They raced; their brothers yelled them on

**†f.** *intr* Of an inanimate thing To make a strident or crashing noise. *Obs*

*a* 1000 *Rid les* XXXIII 4 Ic seah searo hweorfan, grindan wiþ greote, ȝielle ide faran *a* 1000 *Andreas* 237 Guðsearo ȝellen, ȝ ran hrysedon *c* 1200 *Lay.* 17707 Helmes þer gullen [*c* 1275 ȝellen]. *c* 1330 *Horn & Rh.* (1857) 302 The water wille ȝelle als hit ware wode And become on hire so red so blod 1470–83 MALORY *Arth.* III xiv. 154 S o she went with the wynde ouerrage & ȝ ȝelyng that it semed vlik the waters brent after her 1560 B. COGAN tr. *Palmerinus' Oliva* (1588) M ui b, Blacke storms he sends with thonders rore he makes the skies to yell 1606 *Hilt. Jugurth* I 8 2, Let sounding musicke yell I through hils, through dales

**g** *trans.* To utter with a yell Also *transf.*

[*a* 1000 *Vercelliser* 24 Ful ofe þeet eorn bleoal urnþ[.r]n ] 23 *Coleg. Nicodemus* (*Add.*) 1756 Howe ] an dronpand drede And non no þhepe ȝ worde to ielle 1370–80 *Lessons of St. Paul* 375 in *O. & Misc.* 230 Þei ȝelleden wiþ lodly cr.) ‘Poul, Michael, on vs ha pe pe!’ 1450 *Merlin* 1. 21 *Arst ar I* ȝell pay stynyth neuer to ley and selle ‘Woo ys hym þat þedyr schall goo. 1577 WHETSTONE *Gascoigne* xxxvi The Nigl tin gale When sl e might neuer be sweetest layes dooly yell 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV iii 72 It [*sc.* heaven] resounds As if it felt with Scotland and ȝell'd out Like Syllable cf Dolour 1865 HUTTON *Hind* I 61 She tumbled down, and as he fell, Did Mauther, murther, murther! 1700 J. HARRIS *Lex. Technicum* s.v. *Mine* 230 Pei ȝelleden wiþ lodly cr.) ‘Poul, Michael, on vs ha pe pe!’ 1450 *Merlin

† *transf* Extended to various objects. 1848 THACKERAY *Van Fair* lxvi, The yellow postillion was cracking his whip gently.

† 2. *fig.* Affected with jealousy, jealous (Cf. JAUNDICED 3.) Also in allusive phrases, *as to wear yellow hose* = to be jealous. *Obs.*

1602 MIDDLETON *Ghost, Master Constable* v ii, Ha, ha, ha; has by my venture (yellow Lady) you take your markes im proper. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *North v Hoe* i. Wks. 1873 III 14 (jealous man sees eyther Knaues or Coxcombes, bee you neither you weare yellow hose without cause. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* iii 1, If my Lord Bec now growne yellow. 1663 BUTLER *Hudibras Compar I two Ladies* (1920) 47 Your yellow humour interprets this to be too much fumiuenty. c 1680 *Roxb Ball* (1874) II 61 Why, therefore, Shouldst thou deplore, Or weare stockings that are yellow? c 1680 *Manx Ballads* xiii, My Wife will wear no yellow hose. 1818 J H VAUX *Flash Dict*, *Yellow*, Jealous; a jealous husband is called a *yellow gloak*. 1848 ALDE *Rita* xvi, Well, then fillya cat you out, Rita, won in a canter, you see! You ve got to wear the yellow shoes, and all your own fault.

3. (orig. *U. S.*) Applied to newspapers (or writers of newspaper articles) of a recklessly or unscrupulously sensational character.

A use derived from the appearance in 1895 of a number of the *New York World* in which a child in a yellow dress ("The Yellow Kid") was the central figure of the cartoons, this being an experiment in colour printing designed to attract purchasers

1898 *Daily News* 2 Mar 7/2 The yellow Press is for a war with Spain, at all costs. 1898 ELIZ L HARKS in *19th Cent* Aug 298 All American journalism is not 'yellow', though all strictly 'up to date' American journalism is American! *Ibid* 332 Its [sc. *New York Journal*] Sunday editions with its 'yellow kids' and 'blackberry blossoms' and various other 'special features'. 1900 *Westm Gaz* 7 Nov 1/1 The very first thing I was asked to do in the line of 'yellow' work was to walk along Broadway at midnight and 'allow' myself to be arrested. 1900 *Times* (weekly ed) 3 Aug 714/1 The President of the United States sent his Secretary of State to New York to throw the whole weight of Mr Roose velt's authority and influence against the 'yellow' candidates [*sc.* Hearst]

*B. sb.*

1. The colour described in YELLOW *a* 1, or a shade, pigment, fabric, or stuff of this colour.

1303 R BRUNNE *Handl Synne* 3446 Jelugh vnder yelugh bey hyde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Pr.* 82 His colour was bitwixe yelow [*v r* yelw] and red. 1398-9 *Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 214 (Hanginge) cum avibus de yalow c 1400 *Destr Troy* 1562 All her colours to ken were of clene yalow. c 1450 in *Mailt Club Misc* III 109 Coulentes of singill worsat paliet of red and green and yhalou c 1520 in E Law *Hampshire Gt Custom* (1885) 363 For 400 threpilne payyng tyll of grene and jowllo. 1548 *Inst. Ebor* (Surtees) VI 133 A crose of yolowe opone his brest. 1548 HALL *Chron. Mediet* (ed 3) 8 54, I doe not like these reds, and blewes, and yelowes, amongst these plaine stalkes and eares. c 1665 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 275 Rubland knots for her head of sky collor, or yellow. 1678 ANDREW *Freeholder* No 10 (1695) 58 Appear'd in Yellow, his Great Men hid themselves in Corners. 1684 MISS MITFORD *Village Serv* I. (1863) 58 The narrow lane bordered with elms, whose fallen leaves have made the road one yellow. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 224 The ochres are the most permanent yellows. 1889 J K JEROME *Three Men in Boat* vi, His complexion is too dark for yellows. Yellows don t suit him.

b. With qualifying words, denoting different shades of the colour, as *brass-*, *bronze-*, *canary-*, *gold-*, *Isabella-*, *lemon-*, *primrose-*, *rust-*, *straw-*, *sulphur-* (etc.) *yellow*, or various pigments and dyes, as *aniline y*, *Chinese y.*, *cobalt y.*, *imperial y.*, *Indian y.*, *King's y.*, *Naples y.*, *strontian y.*, etc., for which see the first element.

1530 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* VI 23 Tway elnis franche yallow to lyne the said cote. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 89 Isabelle yellow, gold yellow, and bronze yellow. 1831-3 BABBAGE in *Encycl Metrop* (1845) VIII 339/1 A yellow termed rust yellow is made with acetate of iron thickened with gum to light yellows. 1850 *Dodd's Peer* 29 Dec 5/1 Martius s yellow. This substance has many an alias, some alluring, some otherwise, golden yellow, Manchester yellow, saffron yellow, naples, Indian yellow.

†b *allusively*, as the colour attributed to jealousy cf. A 2. *Obs.*

1622 SHARK *Wint T* II iii, 107 If thou hast The ordering of the Mind too, mongst all Colours No Yellow for's.

2 Denoting various objects of a yellow colour, as the yolk of an egg, the stigmas of the saffron crocus (quot. 1587), a yellow carriage (quot. 1833), or any yellow substance, as sulphur (quot. 1649), old faded paper; also *elliptically*, for a yellow variety of any flower, fruit, root, etc.

c 900 *Rpbnal Glosr* 149 *Fitilluon* [Erfurt *vitellus*], eyer-gelu. c 1000 *Sax Leechd* II. 92 *Annum augeo* þæt ȝeolawes & meng lythwon wiȝ hunig. *Ibid.* 130 Banwyrt do on sure flotan & on hunig wæx geoln, meng tosomne, smire mid ryhy. HARRISON *England* III. viii. 230/2 in *Holinshed*, In euerie floure [of saffron] we finde commonlie three chaues, and three yellowes. 1698 *Woodstock Scuffle* xxiv, The men were frighted, and did smell O th' yellow. 1738 DERHAM *Cel Starf* 140 *Nagus sylvestris* the Country People here call them the *Yellows*. 1833 I HOOK *Parson's Daur* II vii, The arrival of Lady Frances Sheringham herself and her maid, in a yellow and two. 1844 H STEPHENS *Bk Farm* II 14 The yellows [*sc* turnips] then follow, and last for about 2 months. a 1845 WM SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem* (1859) I 373 To make this condiment, your poet begs The pounded yellow of two hard-boil d eggs. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi, As he [*sc.* the aged nigger] sat leering out of the yellows of his eyes. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 43 Yellows or swedes.

b. A particular yellow species or variety of bird, butterfly (= SULPHUR 5 a), or moth.

1816 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen Zool* IX II 464 [American Gold-finches] are called York Yellows. 1834 *Penny Cyclop* II 515 Tumblers, Blues, Blacks, Silver, Yellows. 1880 A H SWINTON *Insect Variety* 51 Our English Clouded Yellows. 1898 W F KIRBY *Handbk Order Lepidopt* II 214 Both our Clouded Yellows are very rare in Scandinavia.

3 A person of one of the yellow races (see A 1 d); a Mongolian. Only *pl* (Cf *black*, *white*)

1808 C. SCHULTZ *Jr Trans* (1810) II 298 In attending to the actions of the whites, the yellows, and the blacks, I had almost forgotten to mention the reds. 1886 *Cornh Mag* July 50 The 'whites' have made a complete surrender to the 'yellows'. 1901 *1901 Cent* May 851 If they [*sc.* Japanese] are to colonise at all they must colonise among the yellows and the blacks.

4. As the colour of a party badge; hence *transf.* an adherent of a party whose colour is yellow.

1755 *Connoisseur* No 139/3 The blues being in the old interest, and the yellows in the new. 1868 HOLME *Fr R Geoffrey* lx, He would not vote yellow. 1881 (see BLUE *sb* 8)

5 A 'yellow' journal or writer. SEE A. 3.

1898 *Daily News* 9 July 5/3 This deliberate attempt to stir up animosities is worthy of 'the yellows at their worst. 1902 *Scribner's Mag* Apr 468/2 The killing at the Vulcan shops made the yellows fresh head lines.

* * For specialized uses of the plural in singular sense, see YELLOWS.

C Collocations and Combinations.

1. Special collocations **a.** In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their yellow colour or colouring as *yellow ant*, *baboon*, *bass*, *buttern*, *boa*, *chatterer*, *fly*, *fly catcher*, *grosbeak*, *perch*, *pelpul*, *ranger*, *underwing*, *wagtail*, *warbler*, *weasel*, *woodpecker*, *yite*, for which see the sbs.; also yellow dog, (*a*) (see quot. c 1770); (*b*) *U S* = *allog.* (see quot. 1860); **Yellow Sally**, name for a species of stone fly used as a bait by anglers, see also YELLOW-BIRD, YELLOW-FISH, YELLOW-HAMMER. **b.** In names of plants distinguished by having flowers (or sometimes fruit, wood, etc.) of a yellow colour, as *yellow archangel*, *balsam*, *bedstraw*, *buckeye*, *camomile*, *cress*, *crocus*, *daffodil*, *dead-nettle*, *fir*, *flag*, *gentian*, *gilliflower*, *gold* (GOLD 4), *gowan*, *jasmine*, *loosestrife*, *medick*, *ox-eye*, *pearmain*, *pimpernel*, *pine*, *poplar*, *poppy*, *rattle*, *rocket*, *rose*, *sedge*, *succory*, *sultan*, *thistle*, *vetch*, *vetchling*, *water cress*, *water-lily*, for which see the sbs.; also yellow-wood, (*a*) *dial* dyer's-weed, *Reseda Luteola*; (*b*) common ragwort, *Senecio Jacobæa*; (*c*) in *U. S.* a name for some species of golden-rod (*Solidago*); **yellow wort**, a gentianaceous plant, *Chlora perfoliata*, having bright yellow flowers and yielding a yellow dye; yellow centaury. **c** In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a yellow colour: as *yellow arsenic*, *copper*, *copperas*, *corallin*, *jasper*, *lake* (LAKE *sb* 6 3), *ochre*, *orpiment*, *quartz*, *sandalwood*, *sanders*, *ultramarine*, *wash*, *wax*, for which see the sbs.; also yellow bark, any variety of Peruvian bark of a yellow colour, as Calisaya bark; **yellow berries**, the fruit of *Rhamnus infectorius* and other species, yielding a yellow dye, also called *Persian berries*; **yellow deal**, the wood of the Scotch fir, *Pinus sylvestris*, **yellow earth**, † (*a*) a generic term for minerals or 'earths' of a yellow colour; (*b*) a yellowish clay, coloured by iron, used as a pigment; a variety of bole; **yellow metal**, an alloy of two parts of copper and one of zinc, used for sheathing vessels; **yellow ore**, yellow copper ore, copper pyrites (see COPPER *sb.*1 12); **yellow share**, *Yzb.* or *a.* (*Yobs*) [cf. REDSHIRE, -SHARE], a name or epithet for a brittle or friable iron ore (see quot.); **yellow soap**, a common soap made of tallow, rosin, and soda; hence **yellow-soap** *v trans* (*nonce wd.*), to wash or rub with yellow soap; **yellow wax**, yellow earthenware or stoneware. **yellow wove** (see quot.) a name of a fine cream-laid paper, formerly by yellowness of the skin, or of some tissue, secretion, etc as *yellow jaundice* (see JAUNDICE), *softening*, *typhus*, (acute) **yellow atrophy**, 'atrophy and yellow discoloration of the liver with jaundice' (Dorl'snd s v *Atrophy*), † **yellow evil**, jaundice, or (app) some epidemic disease of which jaundice was a symptom, **yellow gum**, jaundice in infants, characterized by yellowness of the gums; **Yellow Jack**, yellow jack, a slang name for yellow fever, **yellow plague** = *yellow evil*, **yellow sickness**, (*a*) = prec, (*b*) a disease of hyacinth-plants (see quot. 1887), † **yellow sought** [SOUGHT *sb* 1], jaundice see also YELLOW FEVER. **c** Miscellaneous **yellow adverse** (see A. 1 c), **yellow cartilage** *Anat.*, cartilage containing *yellow fibres*, elastic cartilage; **yellow cell** *Biol.*, one of the small yellow bodies found in many radiolarians, now held to be symbiotic algæ; **yellow dirt**, a contemptuous appellation for gold; **yellow fibre** *Anat.*, one of the elastic fibres of a yellow colour occurring in certain tissues (so **yellow fibrous tissue** = *yellow tissue*), **yellow flag**, a flag of a yellow colour displayed on board ship, formerly as a signal of infectious disease or of quarantine, and hoisted in war time on hospitals, etc.; **Yellow George** (see GEORGE 4 b); **yellow-man**, † (*a*) a yellow silk handkerchief (*slang*). (*b*) a man of the 'yellow' or Mongolian race (see A 1 d), **yellow peril** (see A 1 d) **yellow press** (see A 3), **yellow rain** = *sulphur rain* (see SULPHUR *sb* 8), **yellow spot** *Anat*, a yellowish circular depression in the middle of the retina, being the region of most distinct vision; **yellow stick** (see quots.), **yellow tissue** *Anat*, tissue containing *yellow fibres*, elastic tissue. See also YELLOW-BOY.

1815 KIRBY & SP *Entomol* II 318 Pupa speaks of yellow 'ants called *Cephus* inhabiting Brazil. 1864-9 WOOD *Homes without H* VII (1868) 139 The common Yellow Ant (*Formica flava*) also abundant in meadows and pastures. 1845 *Budd Dis Liver* 204 The yellow 'atrophy is distinguished by a deep yellow colour; imbibition of the whole tissue of the organ with bile [etc.] 1887 *Gard Chron* 3 Ser II 1/1 The Yellow 'bark. 1837, 1873 (see CALISAYA) 1858 THOMSON *Chem Org Bodies* 802 The yellow bark is the most employed and most highly esteemed in this country. 1818 Title bk of the *cinchona cordifolia* of Mutis. 1888 GODDE *Amer Fishes* 33 Another species which closely resembles the Striped Bass is the *Morone mississippia*, generally known as the Yellow 'Bass. 1718 tr *Pomet's Hist Drugs* I 13 The Yellow 'Berry is the Fruit of a Shrub which Authors call Lycium indum. J SMITH *Forest Customs* (1821) 58 Yellow Berries are the fruit of a species of Lycium, growing plentifully in dift rent parts of France. It is much used by the Dyers and Painters. 1776 PENNANT *Brit Zool* I 376 Yellow 'Bunting, the cock is 7 inches 11 in length. Yellow 'bellied 29 July 85/2 The Yellow Cinnomic seems to be almost unknown. 1879 tr *Scherpf's Amer Life* 74 Most of the Radicchios bear in their body coarse particles known as the yellow 'cells. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) II 140 Yellow 'Copper Ore. Copper Pyrites. 1870 VOLLE & STEELHOUSE *Mikr Diet* 488/1 Yellow-copper is more brittle, stiffer, and less malleable (than the red). 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E D S) 55 Picnic maketh mention of a kynde called Narcissus bucolicus, which is after my iudgement our yealowe 'daffodi.l 1706 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Trifolia*, Trefoiles being generally made of regularly cut yellow 'deal, or cork. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Gard's Jrn Year* 160 As convenience wanted an imagined Arabia upon yellow 'Dirt. 1794 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ir and Warmach* 150 While you beat the about receiving from me a little yellow duff, for which I have to use 2 Tea Cups & Saucers! 1798 *Sporting Mag* 97 Yellow 'dogs, are the whole I have red hare, inclining to brown. 1840 *Daily Pennant* (St Louis) Apr 20 [Iborotian *Amer Almanac*] Of those interesting animals, a yellow dog with a bullet hole through his breast. 1860 O W HOLMES *Elsie V* iii, A yellah dog' is a large canine brute, of a dingy old flannel colour, of no particular breed except his own. 1895 BRET HARTE *Clarence* iii 111, In Illinois we wouldn't hang a yellow dog on that evidence. 1552 HULOET, Yellow 'earth founde in the mynes of golde or syluer, *sandaracca*. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II 38/2 Yellow earth, as Derby, Yelw Occre, Sand. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem Min* (ed 2) I 194 This yellow earth differs from ochres only in containing a greater proportion of argill. 1883 *Encycl Brit* XVI 495/1 Bole. Steatite, Rock Soap, Plinthite Yellow Earth or Pelinite Yellow, and Ochrean marl are varieties of Argillaceous Earth. III 1/1 Afterward fell a pestilence in 10 al Wales of be yelowe 'yuel but an i cleped be iaundys. 1404 (see JAUNDICE 1 b). 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 18 Yellow 'Lands, Ingrain'd in the best sort of Fir for flooring. 1880 *Garden* 30 Sept 301/3 The principal tree in these forests is the yellow Fir. 1783 *Ann Reg Chron* 213/1 The ships which had been infected a yellow 'flag was flying from each ship during the execution. 1803 *A t* 45 *Geo III, c* 10 § 14 If the said ship have a clean hull of blackish colour, with a streak or streaks of bunting at the main topmast head. 1856 MRS C F TRAILL *Backwoods of Canada* 19 [Our ship beam] the main chaly symbol of disease, the yellow flag. 1883 *Ann Reg For Fist* 326 The yellow flag, ordinarily held so sacred in modern war, has been but the mark for the hottest and most deadly fire. 1867 SMITH *Sandys Journ* 18 Yellow flag the signal of quarantine. 1772 G FORSTER *Nat Hist Birds* III Index 243 The great Yellow 'Fly with black Spots upon *Western Gaz* 31 May 2/1 A handed yellow fly. c 1386 Yellow 'goodies (see GOODIE 1 c). 1662 R JOHNSON *Pare Annot Wks* (1634) 1 119 Gladdest myrtle for these postes to weare stard with yellow golds, and Meadowes Queene 1883 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III 339 Yellow 'Grosbeak . . head, neck breast, belly, and vent, yellow. In habits Asia. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dict Childhood* (ed 4) I 96 Nurses have usually accounted the yellowness that appears about the third day after birth, if unusually deep (termed by some the yellow 'gum) as the true jaundice 1896 HOWARD & *Recipe* XXIII, Mugwings about 1 yellow 1847 KINGSLEY *Two L Age* iv, Have seen three cholera, two army fevers and yellow jack without end 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* I, I knew a good deal

of South East America, and remembered that Yellow Jack was endemic. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) IX. 27 A prime yellow-man round his squeeze. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s.v., John Gully introduced the yellowman. 1828 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 1/2 Convicted free-traders from the Colonies..draw the line at the free invasion of the Yellowman. 1847 in W. M. Williams *Fam. Somerset Ce.* (1859) 103 Waygates of Brass..shall not..be..made of any worse Brass than Yellow 'Metcell. 1860 *Mere. Marine Mag.* VII. 284 A ship fastened with yellow metal ought not to be put under the head of 'copper fastened'. 1878 Ure *Dict. Arts* IV. Yellow, natural sheathing. 1485-90 Yelu okyr [see Ochre *sb.* 1] 1500 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 284 For 100 pounde of yelow Oker for the said seeling [sic]d. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 185 Take yellow ochre, steal it well, and it will turn to a brown red. 1809 Cagnet tr. *von Fuchs's Ut. Diagn.* (ed. 2) 147 The spectrotrope, which was of a yellow-ochre tint. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 391 The ulcer was dressed with yellow ointment. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Yellow ore*, Chalcopyrite. 1819 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 108 A pestilence of the most fatal description (it was called the yellow plague) depopulated the island. 1885 [see Peach *sb.* 3b]. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Rain*, *Sulphur-rain* or *yellow rain* is a similar precipitation of the pollen of fir-trees, etc. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 5/2 The phenomenon of 'yellow rain' was observed at some of the southern..stations. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1859) 195 The delicate lemon-coloured 'Yellow 'Sally' (Chrysoperla vitilis). 1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* vi. (1880) 121 The Yellow Sally..has a high character with some anglers. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 160 The first and meanest whereof [s. Iron Ore], they call yellow 'shure an ill sort that turns all to dirt and is good for nothing..this sort some others are pleased to call Redshare. 1767 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 214 *note*, The yellow 'sickness, a pestilential distemper which was followed by abundance of ancient writers, as laying Wales almost desolate. 1807 *Edr. Hightd. Soc.* III. 437 *note*, Yellows,..Yellow sickness, or Jaundice. 1887 Gardner & Bilhuis tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 482 A disease in the hyacinth known in Holland as the yellow sickness, the characteristic symptom of which is the presence of yellow slimy masses of Bacteria in the vessels. 1853 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 95/1 'Soap, Yellow,' quoth Mollett 1142. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxv, Applying plenty of yellow soap to the towel, and rubbing away, till his face shone again. 1835 — *Sk. Boz*, *Scenes* vi, The children were yellow-soaped and flannelled, and towelled, till their faces shone again. 1845 Yellow 'softening [see Softening *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1873 T. H. Huxley *Physiogr.* ii. 42 Yellow Softening ..in which, from the fine state of division and close aggregation of the fatty particles, a dead yellowish-white colour is imparted to the diseased tissue. 1484 Yelow 'soupe [see Soupe *sb.*]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ii. 6 The infusion .. cureth the laundise or Yealowsought. 1869 Huxley *Physiol.* ii. (ed. 3) 241 Exactly opposite the middle of the posterior wall, it [*sc.* retina] presents a slight circular depression of a yellowish hue, the *macula lutea*, or yellow 'spot. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 730 Ophthalmoscopic examination reveals a peculiar appearance in the region of each yellow spot. 1861 Macleod *Devot. to B.V. M. in N. Amer.* 321 *note*, Heirideun Protestants,.. are..called Protestants of the Yellow 'Stick. 1880 W. C. Blaikie *Life Livingstone* I. 3 A tradition that the people of the island [Ulva] were converted from being Roman Catholics 'by the last preaching round with a man hanged a yellow staff,..the new religion went long after wards.. by the name of the religion of the yellow stick'. 1878 Quain *Anat.* (ed. 8) II. 69 Yellow or Elastic 'Tissue. 1882-90 *Gould's Study Med.* (ed. 2) *Xyphias ictericles* or yellow 'typhus. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* lxiii, A comfortless sort of dressing room,..where I found a yellow-ware jug and basin. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 332 Yellow 'weed. *Reseda.* 1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Borders* 111 *Sylecio*] *Jacobæa.* Ragwort; Yellow-weed. 1884 Miller *Plant-n. Pteridæ Lasiocla* .. *Dyeri* .. Rocket, Dyer's weed, Dyer's Yellow-weed,..Yellow-weed. 1789 Pilkington *View Derbysh.* I. 384 *Chlora perfoliata*, perforated [*sic*] 'Yellow-Wort. 1889 *Stationery Trade Rev.* 11 Woven papers may be mentioned *Blue Wove*—that is, a paper of woven texture, but blue in colour I have comes another, which, although in point of fact white, or an extremely pale cast of blue, is termed *Yellow 'Wove*.

**2.** Combinations. **a.** Qualifying other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= yellowish, inclining to or tinged with yellow): as *yellow-black*, *-brown*, *dun*, *-green*, *-grey*, *-olive*, *-red*, *-white*; also occas. other adjs., as *yellow-ripe*.

In OE. expressed by *geolu* in comb. or by the adv. *geolwe*, as *geolorfeax*, *geolwe rēad*.

1841 Clough *Poems*, *Song of Autumn* 5 My gay green leaves are 'yellow-black, Upon the dank autumnal floor. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 179 Filices 'Yellow brown. 1859 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 109 The rich yellow-brown of the oaks. 1639 T. de Grey *Compl. Horseman* 59 The horse which is white white, 'yellow-dunne, landed or pie-bald. 1838 Lytton *Eugene A.* i. 1 He..drew up his line, and replaced the contented beauty of the violet-fish with the novel attractions of the yellow-dun. 1837 Kirkbride *Diary* (1893) 42 The Yellow Dun .. makes its appearance on the northern rivers some time in May. 1768 G. White *Selborne*, *To Pennant* 17 Aug. The 'yellow-green of the whole upper part of the body is more vivid. 1816 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IX. ii. 402 Upper part of the back and scapulars yellow-green. *a.* 1880 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 269 The broad descending surfaces of yellow-green oak. 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 466 'Yellow-olive Parrakeet. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 537/20 *Lutea*, þent 'ȝolureade. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xiv. (Tollem. MS.), Vf pey ben browne on coloure, oþer citryn ȝolwer[e]de. 1819 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 324 The breast is yellowish. 1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 3 All manner trees bearing 'yellow-ripe fruits. 1614 Sylvester *Parl. Vertues Royall* 1288 Her 'Yellow-vallow skin. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 165/21 *Gilunt*, 'ȝeolubwlc. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 337 A Hen that fain would hatch a Brood.. Sits close thereon, and with her lively heat, Of yellow-white balls, doth live beasts beget. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xli, That yellow-white plant, which grows on an old oak in the wood. 1898 *Ibis. & her German Garden* 53 Coral-pink petals, paling..to a yellow white.

**b.** Parasynthetic and instrumental combs. (many of which are used in the names of species or varieties of animals or plants): as *yellow-backed*, *-bandid*, *-barked*, *-barred*, *-bellied*, *-billed*, *-blossomed*, *-bodied*, *-breasted*, *-browed*, *-cheeked*, *-chinned*, *-coloured*, *-covered*, *-crested*, *-crowned*, *-faced*, *-finned*, *-flagged*, *-fleshed*, *-flowered*, *-flowering*, *-footed*, *-fringed*, *-fronted*, *-girted*, *-gloved*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-hilted*, *-horned*, *-yerkined*, *-leaved*, *-legged*, *-lit*, *-locked*, *-lustred*, *-maned*, *-marked*, *-painted*, *-pinioned*, *-ringed*, *-ringleted*, *-robed*, *-rumped*, *-seeled*, *-shafted*, *-shanked*, *-shouldered*, *-skinned*, *-skirted*, *-spotted*, *-sprinkled*, *-stained*, *-tailed*, *-throated*, *-tinged*, *-tinging*, *-toed*, *-tressed*, *-vented*, *-wamed* (Sc. = bellied), *-washed*, *-winged*, etc., adjs.

Also Yellow-haired.

1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 440 'Yellow-backed Warbler. 1874 *Daily's Mag.* Jan. 346 One or two yellow-backed rats were taken. 1835 Penny *Cyc.* II. 210 The yellow-bandid bees. 1611 Cotgr., *Soulx vitellins*,.. 'yel-low-barked Willow. 1824 Loudon *Green-house Compl.* 1. 68 Yellow-barked shoots and leaves. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 121 The 'Yellow-barred Brin. occurs in woods. 1758 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 328 The 'yellow-beaked, American Owl. 1709 T. Robinson *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* 2. 66 The Yellow 'Bird is a Species of yellow-bellied. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 42 Yellow-bellied Thrush..the under parts of the body of a pale rusty yellow. 1822 — *Gen. Hist. Ors.* III. 211 Yellow-bellied Bullfinch. 1850-60. Elliot *Amer Rabbit* 1. vi, Turning even the muddy water.. into a mirror for the yellow-billed ducks. 1764 Gelsem. *Trav.* 29 Yellow-billed Magpie. 1852 Blyth *Mammals &c. Itinerary* (1871) 31 The delicate yellow-blossomed acacia. 1758 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 30 The black and 'yellow-bodied Cayus. 1854-5 Wood *Int. Invertebrat. Vt.* 139 To see the yellow-bodied Worm..dart into the dark mass. 1738 Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 439 The 'Yellow-breasted Chat. 1778 Bruce *Hostr. Zool.* 80 The yellow-breasted Bly-catcher. 1894 Mudie *Hist. Pulp.* II. 8 A very yellow-breasted martin was still pursued in Cranbourne Chase for his fur. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 459 'Yellow-brimmed Duck. 1776 Gmelin *Guthrie's Tr. Voy's Amer.* 419/1 White-petaled, 'yellow-centred flowers. 1765 Lavaud in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 13 A rusty 'yellow-colored crust covering the vitrified matter. 1778 Brown *Hostr. Zool.* 94 The 'yellow-crested Woodpecker. 1894 A. Robertson *Negrctes* 127 A flock of yellow-crested cockatoos. 1776 Brown *Hostr. Zool.* 67 The 'yellow-eared Thrush. 1817 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 623 Yellow-crowned Warbler. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 322 The 'yellow-eyed Owl. 1845 So Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 187 *Xyris caroliniana* (yellow-eyed grass). 1892 Nansen *F. Fredrick* Wks. (1896) II. 17 In praise of Lady Swin-smout, his 'yeolow fac'd Misses. 1758 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 49 The Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1811 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 455 Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1804 *Hist. V.* 176 'Yellow-finned Herring. 1868 J. E. Oliphant tr. *P. Kolbenius's Cet. Mexico* 36 The 'yellow-flanked Quarantine. 1884-90 *Cent. Dict. Suppl.*, *Florida Free & Psyche* Dec. 12 The 'yellow-fleeced flocks. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 85 Another disease attacks 'yellow-flowered peaches far more than those with other coloured flesh. 1781 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 219 The Toad Flax of Virginia is 'yellow-flowered. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (ed. 2) VI. 270 A yellow-flowered Sea-Lavender in a rarity. 1888 J. & C. R. Bennie *Sea Coasts* 11 Across the yellow flowered 'sand-dunes. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 213 The 'yellow flowering pea. 1894 Lydekker *Narrungiella Mirabilis* 1 'Yellow-footed Mouse, *Chaetodipus*. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 402 'Yellow-fronted Maqui. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 401 Yellow-headed Waqui. 1887 Hawkins *Life of Johnson* xiii A long 'yellow-hilted sword. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 83 The 'Yellow-horned [Moth] (*Cerapachaa*) *flavicornis*..attends yellow. 1886 Miller *Methods* 35 Battling..breast to breast with the 'yellowkirtled plumen of Spain and Italy. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Persicum*, The red or 'yellow leaved, commonly called Yellow Jenneting. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Persicum*, 'yellow-leaved. 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 340 The 'yellow-legged Falco. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. viii, A..bystander, 'yellow-legging and 'yellow-skirted Asiatic. 1758 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 3 Asleep in the hushed 'yellow-lit room. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* x. 786 Camers the 'yellow Lock'd. 1878 Longf. *Keramos* 182 A grouse of deepest blue With 'yellow-lustred sheen overlaid. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 416 He was only a 'yellow-maned one [*sc.* lion]. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 339 'Yellow-necked Flycatcher. 1861 W. F. Collier *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 104 Those 'yellow-painted wooden caravans. 1735 Somerville *Chase* I. 243 His glossy Skin, or 'Yellow-spotted, or blue. 1694 Ibbot in *Mem.* (1820) App. iii. 58 My 'yellow-pointed diamond ring. 1783 A. H. Swinton *Insect Variety* 94 The groups of 'Yellow-ringed Gnats. 1864 Tennyson *Boadicea* 55 Thither at their will they hied the 'yellow-ringleted Britoness. 1889 S. Langdon *Appeal to Serpent* iii. 30 A long procession of 'yellow-robed monks. 1778 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 97 The 'Yellow-rumped Fly-catcher. 1808-13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) I. 280 Yellow-rumped Warbler.—Sylvia Coronata. 1847 'Yellow-sealed [see *yellow-seal* in c]. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xl, My 'yellow-sealed wine, which costs me ten shillings a bottle. 1822 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* III. 410 'Yellow-shafted Woodpecker i. .. tail du-sky yellow, with black spots, and yellow shafts. 1844 H.● Stephens *Ilk. Farm* II. 458 A 'yellow-skinned chicken makes the most delicate roast. 1916 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xxvi, The 'yellow-skirted Fayes. 1869 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. Abr.* vii. 43 The tall 'yellow-splotched hills. 1808 Latham *Indian Gen. Hist. Birds* III. Woodpecker, 'yellow spotted. 1833 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* xiii, The yellow-spotted lilac gown. 1619 Rich *Irish Hubbub* 4 A 'yellow-starcht band about his necke. 1778 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 101 The 'Yellow-tailed Fly-catcher. 1823 Latham *Gen. Hist. Birds* VI. 232 Yellow-tailed Warbler. *a* 1749 M. Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 62 The 'yellow-throated, creeper. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 12 Yellow-throated nestling in the nest. 1846 J. Wilson *Nat. Amer.* Wks. 1855 I. 174 In their 'yellow-tinged-bosk-in blankets. 1918-96 Thomson *Spring* 1082 The 'yellow-tinging Plague Internal Vision starts. *a* 1593 Marlow *Ovid's Elegies* ii. iv, Amber trest [*tr.r.* 'Yellow tress] is she. 1858 *It shan't Taste of Sorrow* iv. 376 He can..lurk in the grass like the 'yellow-wamed ask. 1859 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* xxxvi. Those immense seven-storied, 'yellow-washed hovels. 1766 G. Edwards *Glean. Nat. Hist.* III. 239 The 'Yellow-winged Dye. 1808-13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) II. 259 Yellow-Winged Sparrow..inhabits the lower parts of New York and Pennsylvania. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xviii, The yellow-winged Angel [of Death].

**c.** Forming sbs. (or adjs.), the names (or descriptive epithets) of animals and other objects, in which *yellow* qualifies the name of some part or distinctive feature: **yellow-back**, *(a)* some kind of fish (see quot. 1756); *(b)* a cheap yellow-backed (esp. 'French') novel; **yellow-beak** = Bezan; **yellow-bill**, name for various birds with a yellow bill or yellow coloration on the bill, as the American scoter, *Œdemia americana*; **yellow-cup**, a buttercup; **yellow-fin**, name for various fishes with yellow fins or yellow coloration on the fins (see quots.); **yellow-foot** *a.* (Sc. -fit), yellow-footed; **yellow-head**, *(a)* an African plant of the genus *Helichrysum* having brilliant yellow flowers; *(b)* a species of moth (see quot. 1832); *(c)* the American yellow-headed blackbird, *Agelæus xanthocephalus*; **yellow-jackets**, *(a) U.S. colloq.*, name for a wasp or hornet; *(b)* name for various species of *Eucalyptus* with yellowish bark (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **yellow-leg**, -**legs**, a bird with yellow legs, esp. either of two N. American sandpipers, *Totanus flavipes* and *T. melanoleucus*; **yellow-line**, collectors' name for species of moths of the genus *Orthosia* (see quots.); **yellow-neb** = *yellow-beak*, Bezan; **yellow-pate**, the yellow-hammer; **yellow-poll** (warbler), the summer warbler of N. America, *Dendroica æstiva*; **yellow-rump** (warbler), *Dendroica coronata*, also called *yellow-crowned warbler* or *myrtle-bird*; also *D. maculosa*; **yellow-seal** (*nonce-use*), wine in bottles bearing a yellow seal; **yellowseed**, a name for *Lepidium campestre*, also called *mithridate mustard* or *m. pepperwort*; **yellow-shank**, **-shanks** = *yellow-leg(s)*; **yellow-shell**, collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot.); **yellow-skin**, one of a race of men having a yellow skin or complexion (see A. 1 d); **yellow-spot**, collectors' name for a species of skipper (butterfly), *Polites peckius*, having a yellow spot on each hind wing; also (*yellow-spot unicorn hawk*) for a species of hawk-moth, *Sphinx quinquc-maculatus*; **yellow-throat**, any species of warbler of the N. American genus *Geothlypis*, esp. *G. trichas*, the Maryland yellow-throat; **yellow-top**, *(a)* a N. American species of reed-grass, *Calamagrostis canadensis Americana*, valued for hay; *(b)* the early golden-rod, *Solidago juncea*, common in eastern N. America; *(c)* a variety of turnip, having the top of the root of a yellow colour. See also Yellow-belly, Yellow-root, Yellowtail, Yellow-wood.

1756 Strdman *Swinton* II. xxix. 368 The fisher-men having caught a quantity of large fish, I discovered among them..the 'yellow-back, thus called from its colour, which almost resembles that of a lemon. 1890 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 443 A well-thumbed 'Yellow-back'. 1805 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xxxvi, The sneaker..tried with sweet..the presumption of the 'yellow-beaks. 1868 (see Bezan). 1866 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 332 Yonder flusts by a flock of Puffins with a most admirable combination of harsh screams. It is the 'Yellow-bill. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 231 A. lad of daisies and 'yellow-cups. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, etc. (1895) I. 6 Wi' the Yellow rose..'I wish your honour had hookit that ane.' 1825 Jamieson, *Yellowfin*, a species of trout, so named from the colour of its fins...; apparently the same with the *Finno- Pirner*. 1842 Gosse *Amer. Ornith.* (1890) 206 The Yellow-fin (*Sparus syngeris*, Linn.), which has its body marked with longitudinal bands of delicate pink and yellow alternately. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 140 Yellow-fin Cod, they [*Anoplopoma*] are called 'Drummers'; about Buzzard's Bay and in the vicinity the largest are known as 'Yellow-fins'. 1796 Nasmyth *Polypd.-Lex.* 944 'Yellow fingers, *Sinularia lambis*. *c* 1580 *Johnstone Hey & Yng. Caldwell* xxiv. in *Child Ballads* iv. 293 'Hut-brown was his hawk', they said, 'And 'yellow fill was his hound'. 1718 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 419 Narrow-leaved Cape 'yellow Heads (*Elichrysum Africanum*, Ray). 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 210 The Yellow Head (*Perrectaria*) *flavitjontella*)...the head tawny. 1897 *Yearbk. U.S. Dept.*

*Agric.* 351 In complaints made against the reddwing the yellowhead is frequently included as equally guilty. **1868** *Amer. Naturalist* May 223 (Beare) also dig up 'yellow-jackets', wasp's-nests, for the larvæ. **1897** Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 381 He remembered stumbling..into a nest of yellow-jackets. **1792** Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 410 This bird is called a Yellow leg at Albany fort. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* II. 129 A pen of Brahmas—one person, two single-combs, one white-legs, two yellow-legs. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 70/2 The winter yellowlegs were less numerous. **1832** J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 59 The 'Yellow Line (*Orthosia flavilinea*)..Wings.., brownish; first pair with a slanting, but very straight yellowish streak. **1869** E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 365/2 The Yellow-Line Quaker (*Orthosia macilenta*). **1899** H. G. Graham *Soc. Life Scot. 18th Cent.* xii. 11. 196 These first year's students were popularly called 'yellow-nebs'. **1852** Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 75 The *Yellow-pate, which though she hurt the blooming tree Yet scarce had any bird a finer pype than shee. **1783** Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. 513 *Yellow-Poll. Rather less than the Pettichaps:..This species is found in America,...but its chief residence is in Guiana. **1785** Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 341 Yellow-poll Warbler. ..Inhabits Canada. **1730** Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 433 *Parus uropygio luteo*, the *yellow Rump. **1785** Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 400 *Yellow-rump Warbler. **1841** Beach in *Gt. Haggarty Diam.* vii, 'Got some of that yellow-sealed wine, Tiggins,' says the captain..I must say I liked the *yellow-seal much better than some Hogarth's Roosty. **1846–50** A. Woon *Class-bk. Bot.* 261 *Lycopidium*] *canpestre* ..Yelloe Seed. **1785** Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 468 *Yellow-shanks Snipe. With a slender black bill. **1832** Audubon *Ornith. Biog.* III. 573 The *Yellowshank is much more abundant..to the westward of the Alleghany Mountains than along our Atlantic coast. **1832** J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 128 The *Yellow Shell (*Camptogramma bilineata*). **1851** Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* xiii. (1853) 89, I was in hopes we'd have a brush with the *yellow-skins. **1904** *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 289 Russia has never regarded herself as the dear friend of the nations who are now contemptuously nick-named 'yellowskins'. **1832** J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 24 The *Yellow-spot Unicorn Hawk (*Stauropus vinosaque Maculatus*). **1702** Petiver *Gazophyl.* i. 6 *Avis Maxy-Laudica gutture luteo.* The Mary-Land *Yellow-Throat. **1846** Worcester, *Yellow-Top*, a species of grass; called also white-top. *Farm. Encyc.*

**Yellow**, *v.*[1] [f. Yellow *a.*]

**1.** *intr.* To become yellow, turn yellow.

*a* **1050** *Liber Scintill.* xxvii. (1889) 105 Na beheald þu nin þenne hit zeolwad[ Ic. zeolwige] hit.

**1822** Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 157 Ash or maple 'neath thy colour yellows. **1851** Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xxxvii, The peak [of the temple] is yellowing downward [in the sun-light]. **1868** *Trans. N. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. 11. 475 In one part of the field the oats 'yellow off'. **1888** Rider Haggard *Col. Quaritch* xxi, Their foliage yellowing to its fall, rose the giant oaks. **1902** Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick *Farmer's Progr.* vii. 184 When the wick yelwed out into flame.

**2.** *trans.* To make or render yellow; to impart a yellow colour to.

**1598** Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. I. iii. *Furies* 457 Her fiery poyson, yellowing all without. *c* **1600** Shaks. *Sonn.* xcii, My jewers (followed with their age). **1743** Francis tr. *Horace's Odes* I. xxxi. 6 The swelling Genius, that yellows o'er Sardinia's Plain. **1805** Wordsw. *Prelude* v. 560 While the morning light Was yellowing the hill tops. **1863** Geo. Eliot *Romola* v, The vellum is yellowed in these thirteen years. **1885** Meredith *Diana* xxxvi, On that fine spring morning, when...cowslips yellowed the meadow-flats. **1907** J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 25 Some modern lenses..become..yellowed by exposure to strong light.

**b.** *spec.* in pres.-manufacture : see quot.

**1839** Ure *Dict. Arts* etc. 936 *Yellowing or cleaning the flint*, is effected by boiling them for half an hour in sour beer, wine lees, or solution of tartar.

**c.** *Naut. collog.* To make a 'yellow admiral' of (see Yellow *a.* 1 e). Also *transf.* to retire (a person).

**1747** in Mahan *Types Naval Off.* (1902) 85 'I will not have Hawke "yellowed".' Nor shall Saul. **1840** Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 171 He..gave a droll description of himself as old and fairly yellowed out of the service. **1869** [see Yellowing *vbl. sb.*[2] 2].

† **Yellow**, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [app. extension of Yell *v.* on the analogy of Bell *v.*[2], Bellow *v.* Cf. Yellock.] *intr.* To yelp; to bellow. Hence **Yellowing** *vbl. sb.*[2] and *ppl. a.*[2]

**1600** Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 70 (Qo) Whilst the babling Eechoe mocks the hounds, Lest sit downe and marke theyr yellowing [*Folios* yelping] noyse. **1629** Maisie tr. *Fonseca's Dev. Contemp.* 744 Roaring and yellowing like so many mad Bulls. **1652** Lovelay tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* II. 124 Running about the Camp with horrible yellowings.

**Yellow-ammer**: see Yellow-hammer.

**Yellow-belly.**

**1.** A name for a frog.

**1825** *Hoolston Tracts* I. No. 28. 4 The Frenchman's soupe-maigre and fricassee of yellow-bellies. **1836** *Nursery Rimes*, Yellow-belly, yellow-belly, come and have a swim.

**b.** A native of the fens (in humorous allusion to a frog).

**1796** *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Yellow Belly*, a native of the Fens of Lincolnshire; an allusion to the eels caught there. **1846** J. Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 362, I would rather dig my daughter's grave, than see her tied to Lanty Wolfe, or any yellow belly of the County Wexford. **1847** Halliwell, *Yellow-belly*, a person born in the fens of Lincolnshire. *Linc.*

**2.** A kind of tortoise, or the tortoiseshell obtained from it.

**1823** Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 127 *note*, The Yellow Belly, which plates are very thin and yellow. **1905** *Times* 15 Sept. 11/4 Tortoiseshell, ..yellowbelly about 5*l.* dearer.

**3.** (See quots.)

**1850** Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* I. ii. 12 I've a mighty punchoon, as the Frenchmen say, to her a crack at them yeller-bellies. *Footn.* Yellow bellies—a name given by Western hunters and soldiers of the U.S.A. to the Mexicans. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-belly*, a name given, occasionally to half-castes, &c.

**4.** Name for various fishes having the under parts yellow (see quots.).

**1890** *Science* 28 Feb. 141/2 A sole (*Pelitorhamphus novæzealandiæ*) and a sole-like flounder (*Rhombosolea leporina*), commonly known as 'yellow-belly', are also frequently caught. **1896** Jordan & Evermann *Fishes N. Amer.* 1001 *Lepomis Auritus*...Yellow Belly; Redbreast Bream. **1898** Morris *Austral Eng., Yellow-belly*, In New South Wales, the name is given to a fresh-water fish, *Ctenolates auratus*; called also Golden-Perch...in Dunedin especially, and New Zealand generally, it is a large flounder, also called Lemon-Sole [*Ammotretis guntheri*). **1899** *Cumbld. Glosx., Yalla belly*, a young salmon-trout returning from the sea.

**Yellow-bird** (yē'lobə̄d). Name for several birds having yellow plumage; now *esp.* the North American goldfinch or thistle-bird, *Chrysomitris* (*Spinus, Cardueli*s) *tristis*, and the North American summer warbler (distinctively called *summer yellowbird*), *Dendroeca æstiva*.

*a* **1700** [see *Iron Arrow* (1724) 80 *Regulus non cristatus Aldrovandi*]...The small Yellow-Bird. **1738** Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 19 The yellow Bird, from Bengall...This Bird is commonly known at Fieldfare. **1790** W. Bartram *Trav. N. & S. Carolina* 290 [*Yarra*] *luteus*; the summer yellow bird. **1860** S. F. Baird, etc. *Birds N. Amer.* 421 *Sympectoria Tristis*...Yellow Bird; Thistle Bird. **1884** E. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 617/2 The American gold-finch, or yellow-bird. **1896** Newton *Dict. Birds* 1056 Yellowbird is the North-American Siskin..and perhaps more than one *Setophaga*. **1898** *Standard Monthly* LXXXII. 495/2 The summer yellow-bird, which pushes its hardy spring flight beyond the Arctic circle.

**Yellow-bottle.**

**1.** [f. Yellow *a.* 1, Bottle *sb.*[4]] The marigold (*obs.*); also the corn-marigold (*dial.*).

*c* **1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 122 *Hencleaca*, gall. gounde, anglice yellebotel [*v.r.* yelebothel]. **1847** Halliwell, *Yellow-bottle*, corn marigold. *Devon.*

**2.** *nonce-use* [after Buttercup **3**]. (See quot.)

**1898** Morris *Austral Eng., Korrumburra*, aboriginal name for the common bluebell, which in Australia is a yellow bell, not a blue-bottle.

**Yellow-boy.** *slang.* ? *Obs.* (Also as two words.) A gold coin; a guinea or sovereign.

**1661** J. Wilson *Cheats* I. i, Do they cry Chink in thy Pocket?—How many yellow Boys, (Rogue) How many Pieces hast thou? **1706** J. Phillips *Cyder* II. 111. If one could see the yellow boyes peeping underneath the brims now. **1700** T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 129, I have.. in my Pocket three Yellow-Boys, pray for a Coat of Arms. **1728** Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. vi, Yellow-boys to fee counsel, hire witnesses, and bribe juries. **1838** Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* 60 He'll soon find out the yellow boys' covetousness presently, I'll send a ball through your carcass. **1840** Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlii, The delight of picking up the money—the bright, shining yellow-boys.

**Yellowed** (yē'lōd), *ppl. a.* [f. Yellow *a.* or *v.*[1] + -ed.] Made yellow.

*a* **1100** *Aldhelm Glost.* v. 108 (Napier 4/2) *Crocata*, þa geeolewedan. **1894** *Examiner* 3071/1 A sun-yellowed river softly flows. **1851** Robertson in S. A. Brooke *Life & Lett.* (1865) II. 73 That peculiar watery shine cast on the yellowed leaves. **1906** R.C. Hayley *Compl. Photogr.* 114 A yellowed lens.

**Yellow fever.**

**1.** A highly infectious febrile disease of hot climates, characterized by vomiting, constipation, fatty degeneration of the liver, jaundice, etc.

**1748** J. Lining in *Ess. Phys. & Lit.* (1756) II. 370 That fever, which continues two or three days, and terminates without danger, or discharges, and which is sometimes seeded with an icteritious colour in the white of the eyes and the skin, vomiting, hæmorrhages, &c...is called in America, the yellow fever. **1758** *Lett. to Mayor of ——* 47 Because it seized the yellow Fever in the West Indies. **1825** Southey *Lett. to John May* 16 Mar. in *Life* (1849) I. 256 He had had the yellow fever three times, and ..still bore strong marks of it in his complexion. **1875** F. D. Lawrence *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 204 Most authorities hold that true yellow-fever is of the continued type. **1898** P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* 111 The yellow fever in the form of mosquitoes previously fed on yellow fever patients. **1898** *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Oct. 300 When a sufficient altitude is reached, the yellow fever zone is left behind.

**2.** In various allusive uses, chiefly humorous.

**1854** *Poultry Chron.* I. 582 After this we got the yellow fever, and the clear buff and silver cinnamon fever. We did not care if nothing except speckles existed. **1856** *Denham Tracts* (1892) I. 336 When the 'Runch' is blown the appearance is called 'the Yellow Fever'. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow fever*, a cant term for drunkenness in the Navy. **1884** *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 12/1 A tall man, dressed wearing a parti coloured coat, in which yellow predominates. **1884** *Illustr. Sydney News* 26 Aug. 5/1 He said I had the yellow fever [*i.e.* for gold], and was to go to the diggings to get cured.

**Yellow-fish.** Name for several fishes with yellow coloration; now *esp.* a species of rock-trout, *Pleurogrammus* (*Hexagrammus*) *monopterygius*, of the coast of Alaska, olive on the back and yellowish below.

**1738** Mortimer in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 *Tendus cauda convexa.* The Yellow-Fish. *a* **1749** Catesby *Nat. Hist. Carolina*, etc. (1754) II. 10 The Yellow Fish. Some of these Fish were a foot in length: this had small thin scales of a reddish yellow colour. **1796** Nemnich *Polygl. Lex.* 944 Yellow fish, *Labrus fulvus*. **1888** Goode *Amer. Fishes* 370 The 'Yellow-fish', 'Striped Fish', or 'Atka Mackerel', *Pleurogrammus monopterygeus*.

**Yellow-haired** (-hēəd: stress variable), *a.* Having yellow (flaxen, auburn, or golden) hair.

**1580** Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Blond*, yellow haired. **1690** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2569/4 Edmond Barber, aged about 30, Yellow Hair'd. **1721** Ramsay *Content* 108 A tall yellow-hair'd young pensive swain. **1820** Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxii, Let the yellow-hair'd Ginoura view his horsetail with dread. **1822** Pritchard *Nat. Hist. Man.* 196 The Britons are taller than the Gauls, and less yellow-haired. **1887** Hall Caine *Son of Hagar* I. ii, The yellow-haired elderly gentleman with the perpetual smile.

**Yellow-ham.** *Obs. exc. dial.* (yellow an-). = next, q.v.

**1544** Turner *Avium Præcip.* F 4, Χλωρεὺς, luteus siue lutea, Anglicè a yelow ham, a yowring. Germanicè *ein gerlgrett.* **1657** C. Beck *Univ. Char.* M 6, The yellow-ham bird. **1905** *Eng. Dial. Dict., Yellow an-bird*, the yellow-ammer (Kent).

**Yellow-hammer, -hammer.** Forms: **6 yelambre, 7 yelamber, yellow-hamer, 7, 9 dial. -amber, 9 -ammer, dial. -ommer, -omber, -homber, 6- yellow-hammer.** [In the earliest recorded form, *yelambre*, app. representing OE. **geolo-amore* = *geolo* Yellow + *amore* 'scorellus' (unidentified), corresp. to OHG. *amero* (MHG. *amer*, G. *ammer*), of which there are various cognate or derivative forms, viz. OE. *omer*, *emer*, *emaer*, 'scorellus', OHG. *ammaro*, MHG. *gelwer*, *gelwer*, *gelwe*, G. *emmerling*, *+ammerling*, *emmerle*, *+ammerle*, *+ambritze* (whence mod.L. *emberiza*), LG. *gelemerken* (dim., with *geel* 'yellow' prefixed). Besides these forms there is a type represented by OE. *clodhamer* (coupled with *feldeware*) 'scorellus', of doubtful formation (? corruption of **goldhamer*) and MHG. *hamere*, *golthamere* 'amarellus'. The origin and identity of *hamer*, *-ere* are uncertain; but connexion with or assimilation to OE. *hama*, OHG. *-hamo* covering, skin, feathers (Germ. Name) is improbable, and the form Yellow-ham, which may go back to an OE. type **grolo-hama* the yellow-feathered bird, gives support to the hypothesis.

Both forms *-hammer* and *-ammer* are historically justifiable; Yarrell's proposed rejection of *-hammer* (see *British Birds*, 1843, I. 446) is based on insufficient evidence.

The bird has many local names into which the word *yellow* or *gold* enters, viz. Yowi ring (Yorling), Yolbing, Yoriey, *yellow bunting*, *yellow pate*, *gold ammer*, *gold hammer*, (in addition to the names given above) MLG. *gelgerse*, *gerste*, Du. *geelgerst*, LG. *gelgast*, *-gös*, G. *gelbling*, *gelbammer*, *goldhals*, MHG. *gelbgans*, *goldhamer*; G. dial. *ammer*, Sw. *gulsparf*, dial. *golgfink*, Norw. dial. *gulspikr*, *gulsperv*, *gulskur*, Du. *geelspreuw*.]

**1.** A species of bunting, *Emberiza citrinella*, common in Britain and Europe generally, having the head, throat, and under parts of a bright yellow.

**1556** Withals *Dict.* (1562) 5/2 A yelambre, *luteus, vel lutea*. **1587** Harrison *Englande* III. ii. 223 a in Holinshed, Waishaules, cheuiecrackers, yellow hamers, goldfares. **1598** Florio, *Spannola*, a hurle called a yellow hammer or yowling. **1656** W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 44 The songsters, living on seeds; the Yelamber of Poppie; the Linnet, of flax. **1674** *Ray Coll. Words, Eng. not in Johnson* 58 The Yellow-hammer, or amber, *Emberiza flava*, Gesn. 1763 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 59 Contents of a pye lately made at Lowther-hall, in Westmoreland,...forty-six yellow hammers. **1789** Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 337 Flights of yellow-hammers ..enliven the fields. **1855** Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* I. xxii, These same beggarly crosbeaks, that can only be tutored into yellow-hammers, and sit on a tor all day, and cry 'Very little bit of bread, and no chee-e-ese!'" **1898** F. C. Gould in *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. p. 1 Chaffinches and yellow-ammers give place to the latter as they approach.

**b.** *U. S.* The golden-winged woodpecker, *Colaptes auratus*.

Also locally in England, the skylark, the yellow wagtail, and the chaffinch.

**1857** Thoreau *Maine Wds.* (1894) 1 A 'yellow-hammer', as they called the pigeon-woodpecker. **1874** Baird, Brewer, & Ridgway *N. Amer. Birds* II. 281 Ord [*sc. Colaptes Mexicanus*], in some parts of California, is known as the Yellow-Hammer, a name given in some parts of New England to the *Colaptes auratus*.

**2.** *fig.* Applied in contempt to a person, esp. a jealous husband (cf. Yellow *a.* 2). *Obs.*

**1602** Middleton *Blurt, Master Constable* iii. I. D3b Heere's a Yellow-hammer flew to me with thy water, and I cast it, and finde, that his Mistris having given to his new falling-sickenesse, will cure thee. **1608** *Trail Cart.* iii. I, Bowyer a Captayne? a Capon,..a red headed Sprat, a Yellow-hammer, a bow case. **1620** Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* D 2, Much of the complexion Of high Shrove-Tuesday Batter, yellow-hammer. **1634** T Rowley *Noble Soldier* ii. I, You yellow hammer.

† **3.** A gold coin. *Obs. slang.*

**1626** Middleton *Mayor of Queenb.* iv. 5, Yo'm...Now by this light a nest of Yellow Hammers I...He undertake, Sir, you shall have All the skins in our Parish at this price. **1633** Shirley *Bird in a Cage* iv. 1, Is that he that has paid enough? would I had some of his yellow hammers.

**4.** A nickname for a charity boy in yellow breeches.

**1861** *City Press* May, In Westall's school, founded in 1680, for poor boys born in Cripplegate, the coat is still red; the orange hose, shoes, and hose of orange, which secured the boys the *sobriquet* of 'yellow hammers' have been discontinued.

**Yellowing**, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Yellow *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of imparting a yellow colour.

1611 Cotgr., *Jaunissure*, . . a yellowing, or making yellow. 1822 T. Stoughton *Chr. Sacrif.* xii. 166 Thrift . . is pleaded for this yellowing of linnen as the which being so yellowed needeth not so much washing. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Yellowing*, a manufacturing term for cleaning pins. 1859 A. Smith in *Macm. Mag.* I. 135 The slow yellowing of wheaten plants. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Yellowing*, the passing over of captains at a flag promotion. 1894 *Brit. Prisl. Photog.* XLI. 25 There would be no yellowing if the paper was good.

So **Ye'llowing** *ppl. a.*

1757 Dyer *Fleece* iv. 576 The op'ning vallies, and the yellowing plains. 1840 Browning *Sordello* i. 452 The noisy flock of thievish birds at work among the yellowing vine-yards. 1842 Tennyson *Launcelot & Guinev.* ii, In curves the yellowing river ran. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 208 The yellowing tendency of oils on lime. 1908 S. F. White *Riverrun* viii, The old piano with the yellowing keys.

**Yellowing** *vbl. sb.*[2]; see Yellow *v.*[2]

**Yellowish** (ye·lŏwish), *a.* Forms: see Yellow *a.* [f. Yellow *a.* + -ish[1].] Somewhat yellow; of a colour inclining or approaching to yellow; having a tinge of yellow.

1579 *Gosc. Cath. Anti-Gnapheus* No. I. i. iv. If it ys evirmare whitysah or yolowysah. 1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Nowe he [the sea] is whitische and yelowische now white & clere. 1598 Turberv. *Venerie* 184 The Badgerd whelpes haue theyr nose, their throte and their eares yellowyshe. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xii. 111 Limocels yole with yellowish. 1681 Plukenet *Phytogr. Quadrup.* I. 188 Yellowish monkey with a black face. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., His clean silk stockings, washed till their tint had become yellowish. 1884 A. Lang in *Century Mag.* Jan. 323/1 The London houses of dirty, yellowish brick.

b. Qualifying adjs. or sbs. of colour.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 68 They paint their nailes with a yellowish red. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2411/4 A yellowish bay Stone-horse. 1758 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 499 The yellowish-grey Fringilla. 1816 Stephens in *Shaw Gen. Zool.* IX. ii. 310 Yellowish-green Beetle. 1843 Porttock *Geol.* 214 Miemite of a rich yellowish-green. 1886 *Garden* 12 Aug. 145/3 Lovely yellow or yellowish scarlet tints.

c. *Comb.*

1693 Mozon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 238 A yellowish coloured fat Earth. 1795 *Bradley's Fam. Dict. s.v. Goose*, A goose . . if yellowish footed and bill'd, [is] young. 1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 41 A thin, yellowish looking band.

Hence + **Ye'llowish** *v.*, to turn yellowish; **Ye'llowishness**, yellowish colour or tinge.

1590 Barrough *Meth. Phisick* iii. xxvi. (1639) 146 His tongue is yellowishnesse. 1611 Bingley *Hort. Heretik* lxxiii, An aryne that is yelow lyke the *yelowyshness* of an hone of a lanterne that is bryght. 1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* 1. 196 A certain dark and obscure yellowishness [in a picture]. 1663 Boyle *Hist. Colours* 111. xxviii, Huids'd Madder..being drench'd with the like Alcalizate Solution, exchang'd..its Yellowishness for a Redness.

**Yellowly** (ye·lŏli), *adv. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ly[2].] With a yellow colour or light.

1611 Cotgr., *Jaunement*, yellowly. 1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* I. 404 Whether thy fair locks Yellowly curl in the clouds of the morning, or red in the West wave Quivering dip. 1833 Tennyson *Hesperides* iv, When the fullfaced sunset yellowly Stays on the flowering arch of the bough. 1886 Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* xiii, The evening sun seemed to shine more yellowly.

**Yellowness** (ye·lŏwnĕs). Forms: see Yellow *a.* [f. as prec. + -ness.]

1. The quality or state of being yellow; yellow colour.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. vi. (Bodl. MS.), Aristotel seith yelownes of yrin is meuynge of feblenes. c 1400 Chaucer *Purse* 11 Thar I..may..see your colour lyke the sonne bryght That of yelownesse hadde neuere pere. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 548 Yelhewnesse, *glaucedo*. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3887 Malice, my lady, with here yowlownesse! a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iv. (Wks. 1724 II. 739 A dark yellowness dying his Skin. 1663 Dwden *Rival Ladies* III. i, Like the Sun (e'r while Eclips'd) she casts A Yellowness upon all other Faces. 1765 Delaval in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 17 *note m*, The Hyacinth is a stone..which is red with a certain yellowness. 1854 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* viii, Doctors will tell you that the drinking of milk gives yellowness to the complexion. 1889 *Chamb. Journ.* 30 Nov. 760/1 There is a solidity and yellowness about Jupiter's light.

+ 2. *fig.* Jealousy: see Yellow *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 111, I will incense Ford to deale with poy'son: I will possesse him with yallownesse. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N. Act.* III. iv. 61 (696) The sute, the cunning, the obsequy, the yellowness, the apparell, the freshness, the entertainment shall become him: will you follow, grace? 1611 Cotgr., *Jalousie*, . . yellownesse, . . iealousie.

**Ye'llowplush.** Plush of a yellow colour, as worn by footmen; hence *transf.* as a humorous appellation for a footman.

1837 Thackeray (*title*) The Yellowplush Correspondence.] 1841 = *Mr. Haggarty Diam.* ii, A great powdered fellow in yellowplush breeches. 1841 *Punch* III. 133 He fetched the dishes, drew the corks and performed all the duties of His Majesty's yellowplush.

**Yellow-rattle**: see Rattle *sb.*[1] 3 a.

**Ye'llow-root.** (Also as two words.) Name for two N. American ranunculaceous plants, the one a herb, *Hydrastis canadensis*, of Canada and Northern U.S. (*Canadian yellow-root, goldenseal*, or *yellow puccoon*), the other a sub-shrub, *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia*, of Southern U.S. (*shrub yellow-root*), or for their roots, which yield yellow dyes, and are used in medicine as tonics.

1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow root, *Hydrastis canadensis*. 1814 Pursh *Plants N. Amer.* Ind. 712 Yellow Root, *Xanthorhiza*. 1858 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 13 *Xanthorhiza*. Shrub Yellow-root. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 609 Yellow Puccoon, Orange root, or Canadian Yellow root. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 781 Yellow Root is an article of the United States Pharmacopœia.

**Yellows** (ye·lŏz). [Plural of Yellow *sb.*, used in specific senses.]

I. 1. Jaundice, chiefly in horses and cattle.

1562 *Norwich Depos.* (1905) 65 The horse had a disease running through him which was called the yellows. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 454/1 *Aryuatus*,..that hath the yellowes, or the iaundyce. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 54 His horse..rated with the Yellowes. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* v. ii. 16 If I doe not indite him at the next assisses for Burglary, let me die of the yellowes. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farm* 147 For a Horse that is troubled with the Yellowes, you shall first let him bloud. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 220 This is apt to gripe them, and bring on the Yellows. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincs.* 377 They lose many lambs of the yellows, from August to the middle of September. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1133 The Yellows, which is a disease to which cows are very subject. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 11. 1. 195 Jaundice is also known under the name of the yellows.

+ 2. *fig.* Jealousy: see Yellow *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1601 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) V. i, You haue a spice of the yealous yet both of you, (in your house I meane). 1638 Ford *Fancies* II. ii, *Troy*. Yet is this Batchelor miracle not free From the epidemical bend-ach. *Liv.* The Yellows. 1640 — *Fancies* fin. 1658 Butterworth *Barnabee Trut.* F ij, Always frolick, free from yellows.

3. a. A disease of wheat: see quots. 1771, 1815.

b. A disease of peach-trees, in which many sterile shoots are produced and the leaves turn yellow (= *peach-yellows*: see Peach *sb.*[1] 6).

1771 Comm. *Hort. Trans.* I. 172 What the farmers call the yellows in wheat,..occasioned by a small yellow fly with blue wings, about the size of a gnat. 1815 *Farmer's Mag.* XVI. 160 Insects, such as a small gnat that eats the corn out of the ear before it is ripe. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* i. 111 'Fore they think on 't they will sprout (Like a peach that's got the yellers), With the meanness bustin' out. 1897 L. H. Bailey *Pruning* 45 In New York the failure [of peach-growing] is often attributed to yellows.

II. 4. Name for certain plants yielding a yellow dye, as *Genista tinctoria* and *Reseda luteola*; also *dial.* for certain plants with yellow flowers, as the wild mustard, *Sinapis arvensis*, and the wild cabbage, *Brassica campestris*.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxiii. v. II. 471 An hearb called likewise Luteo. *marg.*, Some take it to be weld or yellows. 1658 Rowland *Moufet. Theatr. Insectorum* 1090 With the juice of Yellows. 1790 W. Marshall *Rural Econ. Midl. Co.* (1796) II. Gloss. (E.D.S.), Yellows, dyers' broom.

5. A miner's term for yellow copper ore occurring in tin mines.

1859 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 122 Several tin mines were abandoned when the miners came to the 'yellows'; this was the yellow copper ore, and their saying was that the 'yellows' cut the tin.

**Yellowtail** (ye·lŏwtēl), *sb.* (*a.*) A name (or epithet = *yellow-tailed*) for various animals with yellow tails or yellow coloration on the tail.

+ 1. A kind of earthworm: cf. Gilt-tail. *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 907 Otherwise againe are yellow ones only about the tayle: Whereupon they haue purchased the name of Yellow-taytes. 1686 Holme *Armoury* II. 210/2 The Ascarides, or lesser Earth-worm,..Some are yellow, called Yellow-Tails, or Golden Tails.

2. Name for various fishes, chiefly of N. America, Australia, and New Zealand, as various species of *Seriola*, *Caranx*, and *Latris*, and many others.

1709 *Dampier's Voy.* III. ii. 143 The Sea and Rivers [New Guinea] have plenty of Fish;..we catch'd but few, and those were Cavallies, Yellow-tails and Whip-rays. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow tail, (a) *Perca punctata*. (*b*) *Scomber*. 1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 370/2 Yellow-tail, . . Yellow-tailed Scomber mopsus. . . Found on the Carolina coast, where it is called the Yellow-tail. 1847 J. C. Ross *Voy. Antarctic Reg.* II. 117 A kind of mackerel, called yellow tail, and sometimes yawfish. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-tail*, a well-known tropical fish often in company with whip-rays; it is about 4 feet long, with a great head, large eyes, and many fins. *Latrobeana*. 1875 Jordan *Man. Vert. Stn. Hydrus* 108 *Seriola dumerili*, . . The Yellow Tail of St. Helena is obtained also in the Atlantic, at Japan and Australia. 1888 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Fish* (1890) 515 *Seriola lalandi* (Yellowtail). *Seriola grandis* (Yellowtail). 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 99 The 'Sailor's Choice' [*Lagodon rhomboides*]..bears several other names; . . being known in the Indian River region as the..'Scup', and 'Yellow-tail.' *Ibid.* 131 The Yellow Tail, *Seriolella chrysura*, known as 'Silver Perch' on the coast of New Jersey. *Ibid.* 386 In North Carolina..the names 'Yellow-tail' and 'Yellow-tail Shad' [for the Menhaden] are occasionally heard. 1897 Beatrice Harraden in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 179 The yellow-tail is rather like a solid beefsteak of coarse fibre. 1898 Morris *Austral Engl.*

3. (Also *yellow-tail warbler*.) The female or young male of the American Redstart.

1775 Daleymple in *Phil. Trans.* (1779) LXVIII. 410 Many yellow tails. 1785 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 406 Yellow-tail Warbler. With an ash-colored crown:..Taken..off Hispaniola, at sea.

4. Collectors' name for a species of moth, also called *gold-tail* (see Gold[1] 10).

1799 H. Wilkes *Eng. Moths*, etc. 28 The Yellow-tail Moth ..may be found sticking against the Barks of the Trees in Parks. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 30 The yellow-tail moth (*Bombyx chrysorhœa*, F.).

**Yellow-wood** (ye·lŏwud). Name for various trees and shrubs having yellow wood, or for the wood of any of these.

Some furnish yellow dyes, as *Maclura tinctoria* (Fustic) of the W. Indies and S. America, and the N. American *St. cuneatacea* (Osage Orange), *Cladrastis tinctoria* (American or **Kentucky Y.**), and *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia* (Shrub Yellow-root); others are used for ornamental purposes, as species of *Flindersia* (White Teak) of Queensland and *Rhus rhodanthema* of New South Wales (both called **Light Y.**), *Podocarpus Thunbergii* (**Cape Y.**) of S. Africa, and *Chlorexylon Swietenia* (**Satin-wood**) of the E. Indies; others as timber or for other purposes, as *Schaefferia frutescens* of Florida, *Podocarpus elongata* (**Natal Y.**) and *P. feminea* (**Bastard Y.**) of S. Africa, *P. latifolia* of the E. Indies, and *Xanthoxylon Clava-Herculis* and other species (**Prickly Y.**) of the W. Indies.

1866 J. Davies *Hist. Caribbee Islets* 43 The Island of S. Croix is the most remarkable of all the Islands for its abundance in rare and precious Trees. There is one very much esteem'd for its usefulness in Dying: It is called the Yellow-wood from its colour. 1718 *Petiveriana* 1. 243 Prickley Yellow wood. 1758 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 Ilk cwt. brown Brisiell wood, sweet wood, yellow wood or fustic 8d. 1812 Bradebridge *Trans Louisiana* (1814) 59 One very beautiful [tree], *bois jaune*, or yellow wood: by some called the mock orange. 1839 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 122 Osleya xanthoxyla, a large tree, is the Yellow-wood of New South Wales. 1854 Baird *Cyc. Nat. Sc.* 419 A tree greatly resembling the cedar in its external aspect, . . termed . . geelhout, or yellow-wood (*taxus elongata*). 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Fish.* (1869) 197 Yellow wood (*Cladrastis tinctoria*) is a western tree. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 527 *Fustic*, or *Yellow Wood*. The old fustic of the English dyer. 1882 *Garden* 18 July 45/1 *Morus tinctoria*. 1888 E. E. Money *Dutch Maiden* 238 The tree, a huge yellow-wood, stood at the edge of the bush.

**Yellowy** (ye·lŏwi), *a.* [f. Yellow *a.* + -y[1] 2.] Having a yellow tinge; yellowish.

1669 E. King in *Phil. Trans.* II. 946 The head, with two little yellowy specks where the Eyes are design'd. 1876 Miss Broughton *Joan* II. ii, A little kerchief of cobweb muslin and ancient yellowy lace. 1883 J. Baker *Yngve Chylde* 107 They took their tumblers and looked at each other across the yellowy foam.

**Yelm** (yelm), *sb.* Now *dial.* [OE. *gielm*, *gelm*, *gylm*.] In OE., a handful, bundle, sheaf, as of reaped corn; in mod. *dial.* use, a bundle of straw laid straight for thatching (see Yelm *v.*): = Helm *sb.*[3] 1.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxvii. 7 Eowre gilmas stodon ymbutan and abugon to minum scocle. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 170 Genim grene minsan zuman gelmas. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 548/1 Yelme of corne, *manipulus*. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* (1534) 56 b, Ye shall make .. and lay it upon litle yelmes, or two or three handfuls together till it be dry. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yelm*, s. a portion of straw laid for thatching that person might or not much as can be conveniently carried under the arm for any purpose. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 [The thatcher] is attended by a man to carry up the 'yelms'.

**Yelm** (yelm), *v.* *dial.* [f. Yelm, *sb.*] **yelm, y ealm, yelm.** [f. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* To separate and select straw and lay it in order for thatching: = Helm *v.*[3]. Hence **Ye'lming** *vbl. sb.*, the action of the verb; also *concr.* = prec.

1581 *Stanford Churchm. Acc.* in *Antiquary* (1888) Apr. 172 For a yelmyng of Heme xiijd. 1611 Bible *Acts Eliz. Acq* (1886) 203 A woman 'yelming' 14 dayes, 2*s.* 9*d.* 1620 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp's Stortford* (1889) 69 Pd for straw, vs. Pd for yelming, xs. Pd for the thatcher and fixe, iiijs. iijd. 1699 *Lond. Gaz.* 71 Pd to Cryses wife for yelming strawe for her house, xviijd. 1765 *Museum Rust.* V. xviii. 72 Thatching per square, yelming and serving included, 22 *lbs.* 1850 *Trad. A. Agric.* II. 200 Combe's new chaff-cutter dispenses with the women yelming. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 Two or three women are busy yelming, *i.e.* separating the straw, selecting the largest, and laying it level and parallel, damping it with water, and preparing it for the yoke. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Yelm or Yelme*, [Slow-attentive.]

Hence **Ye'lmer**, one who lays out yelms.

1808 Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 109 These [two men], together with the four yelmers and servers, cost about 20*s.* per day.

**Yelow**, **yelowe**, etc., obs. ff. Yellow.

**Yelowse**, obs. form of Jealous.

14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 801 Thou woldest be so yelowse And of no so amerowse.

**Yelp** (yelp), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **gielp**, **gelp**, **ylp**, **gylp**, 2–6 **yelp(e**, (3 **3oalp**, **3elp**, **3oolp**, *Orm.* **3ellp**), 5– **yelp**. [OE. *gielp*, etc. vainglory, pride = OS. *gelp* defiant or arrogant speech, OHG., MHG. *gelph*, *gelf* loud crying, outcry, cheerfulness, exuberance, ON. *gjalp* ? bonsting, noise of the sea: see next.]

+ 1. a. Boasting, vainglorious speaking. *Idle yelp*, vain boasting. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 2521 Ælf le wiht ne mihte ne wið fæm aglæccan elles meahte xylpe wiðgripan. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xix. § 2 Hwæt forsteint eow þonne se 3ilp? *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xvii. (1890) 206 Næfde he nan hiht ne nan 3ilpe ne orfcræft ne 3yrnunge, ne idel 3ylp him on ne rixade. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 220 Se seofoða heafod-leahter is 3ehaten idel-wuldor, þæt is 3ylp. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 [He] deð for 3elpe swaer þærme for godes lufe 3e swelt dæran nule. *c* 1200 Orrm 4900 þiss mahhte..cwennkepp i þin herrte All rosinng & all idell 3elpe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 865 Ha beoð ful of idel 3elp. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9836 Of gret los mighte he make his 3elpe. *a* 1400–*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* liii. 321 Without any yelp, At my myght shall I help. *c* 1400 *Land Troy Bk.* 1560 Off her goddis myzt made thei 3elp.

+ b. An object of boasting. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1364 Þis is vre child and vre help, Vre strengþe and vre yelp.

II. 2 A cry characteristic of dogs and some other animals, resembling a bark but distinguished from it by being sharp and shrill

1500 80 Dunbar *Poems* xxiii 10 He [*sc* a tod] brasnit hir [*sc* a lamb's] bony body sweit, Syne schuk his taill, with quhinge and yelp 1501 Douglas *Pal Hon* i iii 1 Ihe fruthis flude In quhome the fech 3alland as sluis schoutit, Thair selpis wilde my hesning all forclede *a* 1567 Middleton *Witch* iii iii, No howles of woolves no yelpes of hounds 1582 Stanyhurst *Aen* iv 24, I hear the *Howles* of Wolves, and Yelpes of Foxes. 1582 Plavfl. *Pear* i Some are as timorous as hares and start at every sound or yelp of a dog 1861 Southey *Thalaba* IX xviii, The dogs, with eager yelp, Ate struggling to be free 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Mar., After hearing a yelp here, and a howl there, low, now you hear your yelps and howls 1898 F. Forester 'Field Sports' iii 325 A fort of pipe or call by which the cry or yelp, as it is termed, of the female [or the wild turkey-hen] may be simulated 1767 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 45 The dog With inward yelp and restless forefoot plies His function of the woodland 1886 J. K. Jerome *Idle Thoughts* 129 The watch dog wakes with a yelp of gladness to greet a returning hand

*b transf* and *fig*

1775 Johnson *Taxation no Tyr* 89 If slavery be thus fatally contagious, how is it possible to hear the loudest yelps for liberty among the drivers of negroes? 1885 Crooker *Fairy Lay for i* 48 I he whinge, and the yelp, and the screech, and the yowl was never out of his mouth 1886 Rider Haggard *Shifting Winds* xxiv, The [engine] driver vented his impatience by causing the whistle to give three sharp yelps. 1885 Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 241 The yelp of a Norwegian seaman who was hauling on a rope

*c* The syllable *yelp* used imitatively.

1831-4 R. S. Surtees *Jorrocks's Jaunts* i (1838) 10 'Yelp, yelp, yelp,' hollo'd the huntsman 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* 209 Yelp! yelp! yelp! I passed from mouth to mouth There was a sudden dispersal

**Yelp** (yelp), *v* Forms 1 *gielpan, gelpan, gilpan, gylpan*, 2–5 *yelpe*, 4–7 *yelpe*, (3 *yelpe, yeolp, yelpi, yeolpi, yellpenn*, 4 *yulpe*, 5 *yilp, yelpy*), 3– *yelp Pa. t.* 1 *sealp*, 2–5 *yulpon*, 3 *3(e)alp, yelp, pl yulpe*, 4 *yalp*, 4 *yolped*, 6 *yelpid*, *Sc. yelpit*, 4–*yelped Pa. pple.* 1 *golpen*, 4 *y-yolpe*, 4– *yelped*. [OE. *gielpan*, etc., = MHG *gelfen* ~ *galpan*, f. root represented by OS *galpôn* to cry aloud, boast, LG *galpen* to crook, MG. *galpen* to bark, yelp, MHG *galf*, MG. *galp* loud cry, barking, Sw dial *galpa* to cry (of certain birds). Cf Galp, Gaup, *yalp*, Yawp.]

I. †1. *intr* To boast, speak vainglariously. Const of (= OE. gen) *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 2583 Hreðsigora ne sealp goldwine Scata *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xiv § 2 Þæt þu ne gilpsin wille, gilp Godes *a* 1000 *Daniel* 714 Þa wæs bilehmod burga aldor, gylpe gramlice gelde on andan *c* 1200 Ormin 2042 Þuss mihhte þu full modiglikȝ Off hire sunne ȝelpenn *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 128 [Heo]i...wisteð, ne þe seolpeð of hire god *a* 1250 *Owl & Night* 1209 Þu scolpest of seolluthe wisdome Þu nustest wunnene he be come 1340 *Ayenb* 208 Þe furueu bet ȝulp me his berues and ne ssolde be ȝulpinde 1382 Wyclif *Jer* xxviii 664 Ne schaltou I ȝe put 13 me nohyng ȝulpe of by doyng, he here. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt's T* 1180, I kepe nought of armes for to yelpe, I am not in the route 1470 Harding *Chron* cxxxix *Cal. Perrot* 1865 in *Hazlitt Plays* 162 Sum bote of bale þou me brewe, þat I may of pee yelpe

†*b refl* in same sense *Obs*

1340 *Ayenb* 19 Huanne he is hol ynoȝ þeyh oþer hi him prodeþ 1390 Gower *Conf* I 97 He hath trewly supposed That he him may of nothing ȝelpe, But if [etc.]

†*c.* Const clause. *Obs.*

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth* xiv § 1 Hwæðer þu dyrre xelpan þæt hiorn Externes þin sie? *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom* xvi (1883) 99 þa wende he þæt he godes agen wære ; and se deofles swin ȝelpȝ þæt he eac swa wære 1340 Hampole *Pr Consc* 1547 Pu ȝulpe biforen þan kaisere þat pu me woldest a quellen *a* 1450 *Owl & Night* 1077 Ac set þu ȝelpst of þine ȝeðe þat þu canst sulle wrohe & stronge *c* 1475 *Passion of our Lord* 230 in *O. Miss* 46 He ȝelp me to-fore alle þat ben in erthe, þat I am king *c* 1400 *Death of Robin Eyth Bs* in Ritson *Anc Songs* (1877) 74 Now sait thu never ȝelpe, Wrennok, At ale ne at wyn That thu hast slawe seuene & ȝelpist *a* 1400 *Chron Vilod* 53 Bot how þay deden after, y nyll not ȝelpe

II †2 To lift up one's voice, to cry aloud, to sing loud or on a high note *Obs*

Of the OE. sense (with gen) 'to supplaud praise'

*c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4607 Guide fadir, I o þe we crye and ȝelpe *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst* xii 422 Brek out youre voce let as ye ȝelp *c* 1500 *Conf Ivi* v 39 The tyrtuphit sang cumtrount quhen the o-nit ȝelpit

†*b. trans* To call out, utter *Obs*

*c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk* 13320 And he mygt not him selff helpe ; His sorwe coude he not ȝelpe

3. *intr.* To utter a yelp or yelps said of dogs and related animals, and certain birds (see quots)

1553 M. Wood tr *Gardiner's True Obed* I 1 Rdr A v, A rash bathlam brained hound, rushing he careth not which way, so he be yelping 1575 Turberv. *Hon Lorrier* 57 b, Enuy will bite or snarle and barke at least, As dogs against the Moone that yelpe in vayne 1596 W. Smith *Chorus vini*, Not to be yelping 1611 Florio *Worlde* 1 Ringare, to yelp, to snarle and barke at least, As dogs against the Moone that yelpe in vayne 1656 W. Smith *Chorus vini*, Not to be yelping 1688 Holme *Armoury* II 134/2 A Dog Barketh & Baughteth, being smitten Yelpeth 1906 P. Ward *Wooden Walls Down* (1908) 39 Oft does he strike the poor Tars yelp and run about, like Dogs in a Church under the Correction of a Sexton 1708 Ibraham in *Hist Pirates* XXVI 324 April 1, the Jyan first yelped here 1852 Johnson *Rambler* No. 119 P 5 Compassion once obliged me to chide off a dog that yelped at his heels. 1845 Darwin *Voy Nat* vii (1879) 135 The jaguar, when wandering about at night, is much tormented by the foxes yelping as they follow him 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii 196 Let the wild Lean headed Eagles yelp alone. 1898 in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II 326 The gobblers continued yelping in answer to the female, which all this time remained on the fence 1865 Dickens *Mut Fr* iii xi, A scholastic huntsman clad for the field with his fresh pack yelping and barking round him 1879 J. Burroughs *Locusts & Wild H* (1884) 56 [The fledg ling] left the nest and clung to the tree, and yelped and piped for an hour

*fig* 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod* Gvvb, Lo Veronas well he hues whose wante of blood doth yelpe 1885 Jennyson *Rizpah & Halan* 314 That chain'd rage, which ever yelpt within

4 *fig* To complain, whine

1708 J. Brekare *Collect* 16 Sept (O H S) I 288 'Twill make ye Whig Pamphleteers yelp 1790 Alex. Wilson *Watty & Meg* x, Night and day she's ever yelpin Wi' the weans she ne'er can gree 1800 Jefferson *Writ* (1830) III 469 The nominations have accordingly furnished something to yelp on 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl Fleet* II xx 167, I might, if I pleased, yelp and cry for my lord and his precious friend, Sir Miles Lackington

5 *trans* a. To utter with a loud cry, to express by yelping or in a yelping tone.

*c* 1654 W. Price in C. Wase *Gratuus Cynegett* Illustr 70 Here lurks the pride o' th' wolves, the Lyon fell, At whose decease the people [of hounds] shrill yelps a knell *a* 1700 J. Brown tr. *Bremy's Amusem* iii (1709) 17 Another Son of a Whore yelps [*orig.* 1700 yells] louder than Homer's Stentor, Two hundred Throats 1806 Lawrence Mackerel 1840 *Frasmicr* 98/1 Lord Ellenborough 'gave tongue' on Monday, and yelped an explanation most melodiously 1865 Parkman *Conspiracy* xxiii 331 On the evening of May, they yelped contempt in at the sharp explosion of the arquebuse

b To bring into some condition by yelping

1712 Budgell *Spect* No 116 P 6 A raw Dog might have yelped his Master out, without being taken notice of

**Yelper** (yc lpɔr) [f. Yelp *v.* + -er 1.]

†1 A boaster *Obs*

1340 *Ayenb* 22 Þe yelperes ne þe cockou þet ne kan nazt zinge bote of hom zelue

2. One that yelps or gives a sharp shrill cry, also, a person who 'yelps,' etc

a A dog that yelps, a whelp b The swoot. *local* c. A young partridge d A redshank e A 'call' used by sportsmen to attract to the 'yelp' the wild turkey hen f *slang* A town crier g *slang* A wild beast.

*a* 1673 *Ibid* [implied in 3] Hallibwell, *Yelper, a* young dog, a whelp 1850 Rogers *Poems* xi Poet Wilcox (1859) 50 Just let one mustrel yelper bow], and mark Howall the pack gives tongue 1886 H. F. Lester *Under Tw o Flag Trees* ii, I was strolling through the cat ablishment [*sc* a dog-fancier's] and came into one large of yelpers after another *b* 1770 Pennant *Brit Zool* IV 89 [Ai ocetta] are found in considerable numbers during the breeding season, near Woodplumpton in Lancashire, called there Yelpers 1818 *Britton & Brayley Lincolnshire* 735 *c* 1802 W. B. Daniel *Rur Sports* III 518 Vou tanen *Yelpers*, vou grandmavque parentes d 1788 Hutchinson *Hist Northumberland* I 71, I he 'cussed redshank or pool snipe was dubbed the red legged yelper *Ibid* xiii, If wild fowl possess the virtue of gratitude, they must quack, bark, whistle, shriek, and yelp, until I blessings on the redshank's head, for the yelper is their feathered sentinel 18 Roosevelt *Florida* 5 *Game Birds* 196 The yelper has a strong, rapid, and often irregular flight and a loud cry 1886 *Spirit North Lincolnsh Lord* II 162 We now take our yelper, and give a few sharp yelps [as [*sc* a wild turkey] hears the call 1 1748 *Hon Lord Elcho Diary* (1907) 20 Also, one subject to complain 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict Turf* 197 *Yelper* a town crier Also a discontented cove, who is forward to complain 1825 Jennings *Obs Newspapers* I 58 *g* 1823 *Grose's Dict Vulgar T*, *Yelpers*, wild beasts.

3 Applied contemptuously to a speaker or writer, whose utterance is compared to a dog's yelp

1673 S. Parker *Reproof Rek Transp* 268 He will never take any notice of such a despicable yelper as you, unless with a Dog-whip 1703 T. Baker *Fumbridge Wells* iii 31 Now shall I be asked, a thousand more Whimsical Cross Questions by this Impertinent Yelper, by an Impudent Yelper at the Old Bayley 1821 *Blackw Mag* IX 61 When they reflect on thy strength and think of their own petty yelpers. 1825 *Jennings Obs Newspapers* VII 467 A pretty pack of yelpers they are, to be sure, that the Whigs have at the Chancellor 1827 Scott *Diary* 10 Aug in *Lockhart*, In the house of commons the usual weak and despicable yelpers in that species of oration called the Yelpers 1831 J. Greenwood *In Strange Company* 281 The other merciless howlers and yelpers.

**Yelping** (ye lpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yelp *v.* + -ing 1]

†1. Boasting, proud or pompous talk. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Boeth Metres* xxvi (1889) 11 *Fo* swa *gielpes gloria*, for sy ȝlre sidre xylpincge. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 11 Ne huse þu þines drihtenes nome in nane aða ne in nane idel xelpunge. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 2042 Þu schallesst nohht nimmenn hire nohht hereword of more holinesse 1297 R. Glouc (Rolls) 4266 Quanti þan ansuesede þat bote ȝelpinge [= ȝulpynge] & 'lost of þat wes nohȝ þ nas. 13 *Gaw & Gr Knt* 492 He stemed ȝelpyng to bere 1340 *Ayenb* 59 Þu hest bote leyh vif leawes, bet byeh vif mi vere of ȝelpinges *c* 1400 Chester *Plays* 262 Why madest thou swyche yelpyng? That holy temmynes badde[es] maye We sayge thin my wyf thou seyde *c* 1440 *Pr Parv* 537/1 Ȝelpynge, or boostynge, *jactancia*

2 The utterance of a sharp shrill cry as of dogs or birds

1598 Sharp *Yen & Art* 86 The timerous yelping of the hounds. 1598 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII ii The poor little animal forgotten by its mistress was now discovered by its yelping 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1837) II 1 24 Like children we ran away from the yelping of a cur 1847 *Rens & Birds Birds* I 7 [Parties] often went out of the reach of human sight and notwithstanding the immense distance, their cry is still heard, and then resembles the yelping of a dog 1865 Bates *Nat Amazons* III (1864) 13 We often heard the shrill yelping of the toucans

b. Of persons Also *fig*

1632 Lithgow *Trav* IX 393 A ceremonious mourning with such yelping howling shouting and clapping of hands (etc.). 1864 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) II, 376 The yelping against Prince Albert is a mere way of filling up the time 1894 *Forum* (N Y) Aug 643 The incessant snarling and yelping of demagogues at capitalists

**Yelping** (ye lpiŋ), *ppl. a* [f. Yelp *v.* + -ing 2] That yelps; given to or characterized by yelping

1591 Shake *1 Hen VI*, iv 47 A little Heard of Englands timorous Deere, Mard with a yelping kennell of French Curres 1603 — *Tr & C* ii iii 20 Let us sit downe, and marke their [*sc* the hounds'] yelping [Qv yellowing] noyse 1664 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 222 A little yelping Dogg 1718 Arbuthnot *John Bull* iv 1, I has the Tradesmen began to surround Lewis like so many yelping curs about a great boar 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk*, *Rip van Winkle* 55 At the least flourish of a broomstick or bullet, he would fly to the door with yelping precipitation 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* ii, Kit is a crouching cur to those that feed and caress him, and a barking yelping dog to all besides 1848 in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II 326, I heard the yelping notes of some gobl lers. 1906 Alice Werner *Natives Brit Central Africa* 188 The miserable, yelping mongrels which infest the villages.

*transf* and *fig* 1607 Blaum & Fl. *Woman Hater* i 11, I be very comfort of whose presence shuts the noisier hunger from your yelping gutts 1607 Lever *Crucifixe* xx, And like the hunted deere Of our loud yelping sinnes we stand in feere 1787 Mason *Life & Johnson* 100 The sleep mouthed rancour of Pulteney, and the puppy petit ancity of Pitt 1873 B'nest Bunken in Hare *Life* (1879) II vii 416 The yelping, barking crowds in Trafalgar Square

**Yelpingly** : see Yelpingly *adv.*

**Yelt** (yelt) *dial* Forms 1 *gilte*, 5 *yelte*, 7 *yealte*, (8 *ilt*, 8–9 *elt*, 9 *hilt*), 6– *yelt*. [late OE *gilte*, **yelte* = MLG. *gelte* spayed sow ~ **yaltjan-* : see Galt, Gilt *sb.*[4]] A young sow

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss* in Wr Wulcker 110/25 *Sutilla, uel tucula, gilte* 14 *Voc* in *Anglia* VIII 280 *Porca, i parua sus, a yelte.* 1562 Withals *Dict.* 17 b/1 A yelt or yonge sow, *sucula.* 1897 Topsell *Fowre Beasts* 661 We call a young swine a Pigge, A weanling Pigge, a sheate, a Yealte [*read* Yealte] and an fourth 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E D S) 409 Fs must ha wone that ea can trest to zee tha lit and tha Barra. 1790 Grose *Prov Gloss* s v *Elt*, Elt, or ilt, is also a spayed sow Exm 1901 *E Anglf Daily Times* 24 Aug 3/7 Some grand young Boars and Yelts for sale at moderate prices.

**Yelt**(e, **yelt**(e · see Yield *v.*

**Yelting** (ye ltiŋ). A name for fishes of the genus *Lutianus*

1893 T. Gill *Catal Fishes E Coast N Amer* 28 *Lutjanus caxis* Yelting, glass-eyed snapper 1896 Goode *Fishes of Bermudas* 55.

**Yelu, etc**, obs. ff. Yellow.

**Yelve** (yelv), *sb. dial* Also 7 *yelf*, 9 *yelve*. [Metathetic f. ME. *yevel* ~ OF *geasel* fork, more directly represented by dial. *yeevil*, Levil *sb* 3, in use along the Celtic border from Cheshire to Corn wall] A dung- or garden fork. Hence **Yelve** *v.*, to use a yelve

*Ic* 1000 Ælfric *Hom* I 430 Hi hine ufan mid stemman ȝeafum ðydon *a* 1100 *Voc* in Wr Wulcker 241/36 *Forcelle, ȝaffe, dicitur quod frumenta cellunter, i commenuuntur a* 1200 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX 263 Ne ȝeoc, ne halting bæwen beannan, race, ȝeafle 1398 Trevisa *Barth De R* xvii lxx[ii] (Tollem MS) Hey is houe, turnid and wende with pikes, ȝeuels [ed 1495 folkes] and rakes] 1688 Holme *Armoury* II 273/2 A Yelf is like unto that three fork ends, by which Dung is taken from the Beast and the house made clean 1818 *Jam* 337 † A Velve Iron with two Ends *Ibid*, With the same Cork or Velve, or Evill as some call it) 1817 Wilbraham *Gloss Cheshire* (1818) 52 *Velve*, to dig chiefly with the velve 1841 Hartshorne *Salopia Antiqua* (ed 2) 362 A dung fork an *evil* as we more commonly call it 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh Word-bk*, *Velve* a garden fork 1886 *Cheshire Gloss*, *Velve*, a pofork for 1 dung 1 ete, to dig with the velve

**Yelvean**, early variant of Elvan

*a* 1798 Lowes in Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I 1 91 A Sort of Vivelvan Stone, and Earth, mixed together down to the Load (*C Ind* 202 A Dun stone which the Miners call Elvean Stone)

**Yelver**, obs form of Plver.

1855 Walton *Angler* xiii (1661) 189 In Severn, (where they have many eels) are call'd Yelvers

**Yelwe, yelwe, etc**, obs. ff. Yellow.

**Yelyng**, variant of Yilino *Obs*

**Yem** · see Eme, Yeme.

**Yeman**, obs form of Yeoman.

+ **Yeme**, *sb Obs* Forms 1 **gieme, gyme**, 2 5 **ȝeme**, 3–5 **yeme**, 4 **yem, ȝeeme**, 5 **yeeme**, **eme** [OE *gieme* fem (also *giemen*), f OTeut *gaumn-* see next. Related to *gȫma* fem, attention, rest, taining, feast, banquet, OHG *gouma* (MHG. *goume*) fem, observation, feasting opulence, ON *gaumr* masc, *gaumi* fem, (care see Gome 2) Care heed, attention. *In yeme*, in one's care, in charge

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros* III xii 1 4 Hie þæs weallas nane ȝiemun ne ðydon 1897 — *Cura Past* 1 44 *Sē* þonne healdeð swæ þeah ælc ðæra ðe him to hyrað on his ȝeme ȝa lewedan *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 344 Wiðuten ȝeme of heorte *a* 1300 (*Cursor M* 7015 (Cott) Þene ȝor had he þe folk in yeme [*other MSS* to yeme]

b In Mi almost always in phr *to* HIM or *take yeme* to take note, notice, observe , to give heed, attend , to heed, care , to take heed, take care, be careful (corresponding to various senses of Yeme *v.*).

*c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 13 Nimeð ȝeme nu hwilche ȝafe he us

seled. *Hild.* 75 Numes þu seme þerto, and ic ou wile seggen word efter word. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 77 þe heuenliche leche seinte poul nimeð seme of ure saule sicnesse. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Nimeð seme hu wel he seið. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 649 We nimeþ yeme of manne buie An after þan we makeþ me. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1042 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 162 Holi churche..Þat geth al-mest wouke to ssoumde bote god nime yeme þar-to. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17536 For goddes luue tas yeme Quat ȝee sai. 13 . *K. Alis.* 1475 (*Linc.* Inn MS.) Pus gan alisaundre make and nom bihewand yeme And liked toward heore cyye. 1340 *Hyndl.* 54 Nim yeme of þe gnostes þet þou dest oþer miri do. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 14 Þe Neodi and he Nakede nym yeme how þei liggen. 1421 HOCCLEVE *Leerne to Dye* 502 They..list take no yeme Vn-to the ende which might hem profite. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 18 He shal sayth he loves his Lord, on hym take good eme. *c* 1430 *Sy Gener.* (Roxb.) 2085 Had she kept furth hir way, He wold of hir haue take no yeme. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 582 Sit biddes he to þaim take geme.

†**Yeme,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 giéman, giman, ȝyman, ȝeman, 2–6 ȝeme, 3 ȝeome, 3–4 ȝiem(e, 3–6 ȝime, 4 ȝheme, ȝhoyme, yeeme, yem, 4–5 ȝhome, 4–6 yeme, 5 ȝem, ȝyme, 6 ȝym. [OE. *gíeman* = OS. *gómean* to care for, guard, entertain (guests), OHG. *gouman, goumôn* (MHG. *goumen*) to give heed to, observe, feast, ON. *geyma* to heed, watch (Sw. *gömma* to keep, hide, Da. *gemme* to keep, guard, save), Goth. *gaumjan* to perceive, observe, f. OTeut. *gaum-*, whence also the forms v.v. pres.; the ultimate origin is disputed. In OE. constructed with a genitive of the object, which was succeeded in ME. by *of*, and ultimately by a simple object.]

**1.** To care for, take notice of, consider.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv. § 1 Ne gemdon hie nanes fyrenlustes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Hie..nystan ne ne gemdon hwunne hie þæt ead anforlæstan sceoldan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *De Vet. Test.* Pref. (Gr.) 3/16 He ætes ne gimde. *c* 1205 LAY. 9168 Brutten her of ȝemden & nobt hit ne forȝaten.

**b.** To give heed or attention to, attend to, look after; to take heed, take care (*to do* something).

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 160 Swiðe ȝemdlice ȝiemað Xet hie ða ecðlican heahnessa ȝelæren. *c* 1205 LAY. 7358 For þa ȝeweren se mihti þa Iautten ȝemen ȝeongre filites. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Heo weren in hire þuhte ofte swuche wordes, hwon heo sihhde oðerhwat ȝeomeliche ȝimen *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii 10 Ryse for to ȝeme þi sonne in ȝouthe and elde, / Ne be buxsome to hym and bali. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2819 All othir thinges he ȝemed þat to a bischope degne semed.

**c.** *intr.* To attend; to look attentively *upon*.

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 (MS. C.) Of uwer kneolunge, hwenne se mayen ȝiemen, eur meie & efter þet I. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17707 (Got.) Al þai hidd þaim self i ȝeme. *c* 1294 *P. Pl. Crede* 159 Ȝemede vpon þat house & seine þe ron þeraboute.

**2.** To take care of, keep; to have charge of, have in keeping; to guard, protect, preserve from injury.

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1536 Se deopa sæs..ȝiemed ȝeesta. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* II. 32 Moyses and Aaron and hira bearn ȝimdon þæs temples on middan Israhela folce. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 Þa men þe heold in þe castel and hit ȝemede. *Ibid.* 115 He scal wiȝen mid engelan and wiȝelunge se ȝeman. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5585 Himm reowwþ hatt he nohht ne mazȝ Himm ȝemenn all ða sinne. *c* 1205 LAY. 363 Children & kinnen þa ure nete sculen ȝemen. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 428 Nis ber nount in world bisleyd Þat nis destroied & deed But eiste soulen þi weren i zemed In þe schup. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 968 In a tour þai put han bi-de, þat noman mist han com to, But an oþli hold, þat schuld ȝeme þe hur liif. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (C.) 468 His lare he þine algate, And his pese might þe ȝeme. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (1.) 143 þe seuent vertu is ȝeddebe..þat..ȝiemeþ us to þe yernynges of worldely godes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 230 Ihemen, sawyn, and governall, That in the pace to þaym me vaittale War left. *a* 1400 *Morte Arthure* C. 57 *In the East, Scot.* (1844) I. 314/2 He sal be lede to þe house of þe kyngis veriand..and þar he sal be yhemyt fra his chal-lengeouris. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8251 He hurtet þurgh the helme, þat the heid ȝemed. *Hist. Jos.* 1 The ȝates of ȝeme he ȝeppely comaundit. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 137 The said se ystar, that the sele ȝemyt. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIII. 59 Dispoill of þe riche cost that he ȝemit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 97 Poliphemus, ȝymmond his beistis rowch *Ibid.* VII. x. 93 [He] heyidis wyde, As stonoure to the hyng, thid keep and ȝeme. *a* 1568 *Sir Degore Lett. Lamell in Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter Cl.) 141 Ye men of kirk, that cure hes tane Of sawlis for to weische [*pr.* yeme] and to ȝeme. *Ashm.* a 1300 *Sermon* xxiii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 1 Þis holi nuȝt spene bot ȝime in store. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1136 He lefte mene many ane. He the gates ȝemande.

**3.** To have the command or oversight of; to rule, govern, manage, control.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* i. 18 Þæt hit..ȝimdon þæs dæzes and þære mihte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1541 On na manere Mught he in pes his kingrik yeme. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 89 Þe cheuetenys, We can to yonge of ȝeris to yeme swyche a rewme. *c* 1400 *Troyle & Cris.* 1185 My landes forto lede and yeme. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1052 Vs ne to yem our tong And spek but ȝet we be requerde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3338 Þe kyng..and he þe soile sikirly haue ȝemyt.

**4.** To keep, observe (a command, festival, etc.).

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Lev.* xxvi. 42 Ic ȝymne min weddi. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom* 11 Þeh he þeos godes beste..Wite ȝe þeh ȝe ȝemen ȝemne halie sunnedei. *a* 1300 *Ten Commandm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 200 Þe hælendes þu shalt ȝieme [*pr.* ȝieme; *rime* queme] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3690 Fol wel þis laghi-sal he yeme. 13.. *Hid.* 9580 (Gött.) Euer scholyues in meyden-hede, Þat scho hir ches þe first day, Scho ȝemed it in meyde-nes ay 1389 in Sir W. Fraser *Wemyss of Wemyss* (1886) II. 24 Til these thyngis al and synderly lelliy and feithfully to be fulfyllyt and yheuimyt bath the partys. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 In þe whilk er many gode Cristen men, ȝemand þe same ȝistes..þat we vsen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 869, I am ferd lest þou..for ȝeuernes for-ȝete þet þe ȝeme shuld. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 304 in *Babees Bk.*, With freres on pil-grimage yf þat þou go, Þai bei wille yyme, wilne þou also.

†**Yemeles,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝieme-, ȝimeleas, 2–3 ȝomeles, 3 ȝemeleas, [OE. *gíemeléas*, f. ȝieme YEME *sb.* + *-léas* -LESS.] Careless, heedless, negligent. Hence †**Yemelesliche** *adv.* [OE. *gíemeléaslíce*: see -LY²], carelessly, heedlessly; †**Yemelesschipe** [-SHIP], †**Yemelest** [OE. *gíemeléast*: see -ST²], heedlessness, negligence.

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Ond swa hwelce swæ mid Sæm Godes andan bið onæled, ne bið he for ȝiemeléste (*Hatton MS.* ȝiemeleaste) xehiened. *Ibid.* xlii. 305 Þæm unbeadum is to cyðanne hu ȝiemelease hie bioð Þonne hie selfe to onælc ðæraht. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 84 Þara stowa sum rade rotiað ȝif hire mon ȝimeleslice tihð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Sif þe king bið unriht wis and ȝif þe biscop bið ȝemeleas. *a* 1200 *Ormin* 2913 Þatt wass he falle nohht i ȝimeleȝ þurh ȝure ȝemeleȝnesse. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Hwo se ȝemeleasliche witeð hire uttre eien. *Ibid.* 172 Sif heo wit hom uele, & let ham ȝunnh ȝemeleasse eiðen hire seruise. *Ibid.* 202 ȝemeleaschipe, oðer to sigȝen, oðer to don,—oðer miswiten ei þing þet heo haueð to witene. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 203 Semeleas and unstill.

†**Yemelich,** *a. Obs.* *rare*—¹. [f. YEME *sb.* + *-lich.*] Full of care, anxious.

*c* 1205 LAY. 3356 Þa ȝeden þe king Mid ȝemelich ȝeðing.

†**Yemer.** *Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + *-ER*³.] Cf. ON. *geymari* keeper.] A keeper, guardian; a ruler.

*c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 831 Sif tristrem be now sleyn, Yuel ȝemers er we. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 233 Throw sail tak Feirnit my palfray; And gyff his shemar ocht ȝarmand, Ik wil Luk that thow tak him magre his. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2044 So þat in godes howss may be A gude ȝemer of godes mengy. *a* 1400 *Tundale's Vis.* (Cambl.) 1/2 Þat was thi ȝemer evon and moon Scython thou was of thi moder boon. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 94 My emer & I be aqeed that I schuld have a lll.

**Yemer, zemer,** variant of YOMER.

†**Yeming,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + *-ING* ¹.] The action of the verb YEME; care, keeping, protection, charge.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2583 Hic am god ðe in min ȝeming nam þerd, sonne, and mi ȝeming. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6594 *Pro.* Þe ȝemis ek skil þe dais thre Yeming on him ȝee tak. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 20,4 He..profeil him al his þing To ben vnder his ȝeming. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prol.) lviii. 38 Suilk yeming sal noman have, but he þat be tarnid to haf alle-mihtye. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliii. 46 Mankynde was thyne whome þu be-kende And take me to þi ȝemyng right.

**Y-emptid,** ME. pa. pple. of EMPTY *v.*

*c* 1410 [Hoccleve] *Reg. Princ.* 4435 Whan þat Ie peple .. Hir purs y-emptid haue.

**Yemschi(o)k, yemstohiok,** variants of YAMSTCHIK.

†**Yemsel.** Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 3 ȝemele, 4 ȝemsel, -selo, -sele, -seill, -schole, ȝoymseill, ȝoemsell, ȝhomsell, -seil, ȝhemsele, 4–5 ȝemsell, 5 ȝemsyl, ȝhomselle. [ad. ON. *geymsla* (f. *geyma* YEME *v.* + *-sla* = OE. *-els*), with assimilation to the native *yeme* YEME *v.*] Keeping, care, charge, custody.

*c* 1200 ORMIN 5095 Ne segge ice þe nohht tatt te birrþ..All all se mikell ȝemsle, Þwerrt ut onn iwhilc oferr mann Alle þe ȝe seollenn. *c* 1270 *St. Lec. Scinl.* (Verse) 61 Þe quhik gaff Ianne ine ȝemsale Of twa kuychtis, þat war fell. *Ibid.* xii. (*Matthew*) 245 Cryste gef it hyme ny in ȝemsely. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 408 Wald tak ȝe Iames *Bruce* xx. 309, I trow he sall..Do his dewour, and virk so weill, That hym sall neyd no mair ȝeymsell (*MS. S.* ȝemsell). *a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4 *Sir Perc.* 1 *Lete Lett. Sect.* (1844) I. 333/2 Bot gif..he [sc. ane uplandis man] war in ȝe kynnis cuntre or in ȝemsale of ȝe kyngis castell. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. xxvi. 4174 Keparis, þat it [sc. a castell in ȝhemsayl [*v.r.* ȝemsall] hald.

‖ **Yen** (yen). [Japanese, ad. Chinese *yüan* round, round thing, circle, dollar.] A Japanese coin, of gold or silver, representing the monetary unit of Japan since 1871, formerly of about the value of the United States dollar, now of about 2 shillings. Also *collect. as pl.*

1873 [see *Sen* *sb.*]. 1877 *Daily Graphic* xii. 147 Even Japan has imitated European nations, and introduced a gold coinage of twenty, ten, five, two, and one-yen pieces, the yen being only three per mille less in value than the American gold dollar. 1879 BURNARD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. 316 The Yen is divided into 100 Sen, and the Sen into 10 Rin. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Yen*, a name for the dollar in Japan, forming nearly with 3*s.* 9*d.*, but now only about 3*s.* 2*d.* 1906 *Times* 16 Jan. 11/3 Japan has..specie to the unprecedented amount of 113 million yen, or £22,500,000.

**Yen,** obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*; Sc. and north. dial. f. ONE; dial. f. YON; graphic var. *pro* THAN, THEN.

**Yenge,** Sc. and north. dial. f. ONGE.

**Yench,** obs. form of INCH *sb.*¹

1493 [see THICK *a.* 2].

†**Yend,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeendigan, 2–3 (ȝ)enden, 5 ȝynde. [OE. *geendían*: see Y- 3 *c* and END *v.* For the form in quot. *c* 1430 cf. END *sb.* etym. note.] *trans.* To end.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 20 Ic beo mid eow ealle dagas ob worulde ȝeendunge. *Ibid.* Luke xiv. 30 Hwæt þes man agan timbrian & ne mihte hit ȝe-endian. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iwiich mon lað þoren mid muchele sinne and mid muchele sorȝe his lif ȝendeð. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 217 He is ende buten micere ȝiendunge. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 12 The multytude that was comynge Of hete chyldryn after hem ȝe syndyage.

**Yend,** obs. or dial. var. YOND, **Yende(,** ȝend(e, obs. ff. END *sb.* and *v.* **Yende,** obs. f. IND. **Yended,** obs. pa. pple. of END *v.* **Yender:** see YENDER, YONDER. **Yene,** obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*; obs. f. YAWN *v.* **Yenesherre,** obs. form of JANIZARY. **Yeng, ȝeng,** obs. ff. YOUNG.

**Yengees** (yeŋgīz), also -eese, -ese, -ese, whence **Yengee** (yeŋgī) *attrib.*, stated to be a N. American Indian corruption of *English*, applied to the people of New England. (Cf. YANKEE.)

1819 HECKEWELDER *Ind. Nations* III. (1876) 77 When the Yengeese arrived at Machtitschwanne, they looked about everywhere for good spots of land. *Ibid.* xiii. 143 *Yengeese.* This name they [sc. the Chippeways and some other nations] now exclusively applied to the people of New England.. they say they know the *Yengees*, and can distinguish them by their dress and personal appearance. The proper English they call *saggenash*. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xxix, 'What art thou?' 'A woman; one of a hated race, if thou wilt—a Yengee.' *Ibid.*, It is a red-skin in the pay of the Yengeese. 1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 40 A scalp or twain from the Yengees torn.

**Yenite** (yēnait). *Min.* [ad. F. *yénite* (Lelièvre, *Journ. des Mines*, 1807), f. *Jena* + -ITE¹: see quot. 1868.] A former synonym of ILVAITE.

1816 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* (1822) I. 394 Before the blow-pipe the Yenite is easily fusible into a dull, opaque, black globule. 1868 DANA *Min.* 297 Named *Yenite* from the Latin name of the island (Elba) in which it was found; *Lievrite* after its discoverer [Lelièvre] *Yenite* (should have been Jenite) in commemoration of the battle of Jena, in 1806. The Germans, and later the French, have rightly rejected the name *yenite*, on the ground that commemorations of political hostility or triumph are opposed to the spirit of science.

**Yenne,** obs. form of EVEN *sb.*¹

1478–9 *Stonor Lett.* (Roy. Hist. Soc.) II. 72 Payd for a cope for the caponys on candelmas yenne, vi.d.

**Yenough,** obs. form of ENOUGH.

1397 R. GLOUC. *Hearne's Ed.* I. (1966) 9 b. And suche as I found sounde, I thought yenough for me to keepe the reuelations.

**Yent** (ȝent), var. *yend*, YOND *Obs.*

**Yentred,** ME. pa. pple. of ENTER *v.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 175 But I man maie was and ny name yentred In þe legende of longe or I were.

**Yentyll,** obs. form of GENTLE *a.*

*a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* viii. 20 It neuer commyth of a yentyll courage of any knyght to assayle any person without armure.

**Yeo,** *sb.*¹ *local* (*south-west*). [repr. OE. **eá*, **íe* for *ēa* stream, river: see *Æ* *sb.*¹, EA, and cf. AA.] A stream or drain (in mining).

[In the following 16th cent. quots. the forms *yew, yo* are of doubtful identity; the 18-th name *Yeo* (OE. *Eowan* in oblique cases) may be intended:

1521 *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Sum. Rec. Soc.) 139 In expenses for dyking yᵗ new yew..xxiij*s.* iiij*d.* 1543 *Ibid.* 157 Payd for mowyng the yew..iij*s.* 1558 *Ibid.* 170 For Dychinge..the parishe worke in yᵉ Yo..xvj*d.* and xij*d.*]

1725 PEARCE *Lann Stannaries* Introd. p. xii, Every Work may lawfully laying their Wash upon the River, which the Tinners [in Cornwall and Devon] commonly call the *Yeo*, without Denial or Contention. *Ibid.*, Then they go [to] the *Yeo*, or River, and fetch home the Water which serves this Work. 1823 (*J. Acc.* CXXXV. 157 'Girts' or 'gulphs' are names given by the miscreen [of Dartmoor] to the long, and sometimes deep, channels between the hillsides, down which the miners led their stream, generally known as the 'yeo'. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *Glouc. Som., Yeo*, main drain of a level.

**Yeo** (yō), *sb.*² Colloq. abbrev. of YEOMAN; commonly in *pl.* = YEOMANRY 3.

[1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. xii. (ed. 23) 534 M. Alford *Yeo.*] 1831 LOVER *Leg. Irel., Paddy the Piper* 150 If the Husbians or the Yeos betches you. 1898 K. TYNAN in *Weekly Sun.* 12 Oct. 7/1 The yeos at Rathdrum had information that a house..was to be robbed.

**Yeo,** dial. form of EWE; also in comb. *yeo-necked* = EWE-NECKED.

1796 *Farmer Scolding* (E.D.S.) 210 Tha cot ist tha nattiest Yeo in Sweetery..lapping o' the Yoanna Lock. 1898 G. MURRAY *Russians of To-day* 15 Mounted upon yeo necked galloways.

**Yeofalle,** obs. form of IEOFAIL.

**Yeo-(heave-)ho:** see YO-HEAVE-HO, YOHO.

**Yeolke, Yeolow,** obs. ff. YOLK, YELLOW.

**Yeoman** (yōˑmăn). Pl. **yeomen** (yōˑmen). Forms: *a.* 4–5 ȝoman, ȝhoman, 4 ȝhuman, ȝouman), 4–7 yoman, 5 ȝoman(n)e, ȝomon, yomon, (yhoman), ȝuman, 6–7 yeoman. *β.* 4–6 ȝeman, (4 ȝheman), 5–7 yeman, (5 ȝemman, yemon, 6 ȝeoman, *Sc.* ȝieman, 8 ye'man). *γ.* 4–5 ȝiman, ȝyman, (4 ȝymman, 5 ȝimman, ȝymanne). *δ.* 5– yeoman, (7–8 *Sc.* ieoman). [ME. (14th cent.) *yoman, yuman, ȝeoman, ȝeman*, prob. reduced forms of *ȝong-, ȝung-, ȝyng-man*: see YOUNGMAN, which is itself used as a designation of an attendant or servant (cf. sense 1 below), while a 12th cent. *yongerman* is given in Pseudo-Cnut de Foresta § 2 as a synonym of *æscstegenes* 'mediocres homines' (cf. sense 4), who were intermediate between the *þegenes* 'liberales homines' and the *þeowmen* 'villani' (cf. also OE. *gingra* vasal, follower of a prince, etc.).

The *man* found in some forms (*yeuman, yimman*) may be

a survival of the *ngm* of *yongman* Cf MSw. Da. *jomfru*, Icel *jomfrú* (after LG *jomfer*) and Da *jufrouw* beside *jonkvrouw* young lady

The pronunciation (yr mən) is evidenced as late as the time of Swift (see quot 1706 in 4*b* and cf 1687 in 4*b*)

If this word is ultimately identical with *youngman*, the derivation has possibly a remarkable parallel in a w dial. *yeomaith, yeomath, yemnaith, yemnath, yemnmath* = aftermath which is app for **young math* = late mowing]

1 1. A servant or attendant in a royal or noble household, usually of a superior grade, ranking between a sergeant (SERGEANT *sb.* 7) and a groom (GROOM *sb.*1 4) or between a squire and a page

a 13 *K Alis* 852 (Laud MS.) To soman page & joglers
1377 LANGL *P. Pl. B.* III 213 (MS R.) Emperoures hyn nouryes [C. yr yemen, y-nr yongmen, gromes, yemman, yonge men] to semen and to ride. ¶ a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2628 He [sc Arthur] made me yomane at yole, and gafe me grete giftes, And 5 pounde, and a horse, and harnayse falle ryche 14 in *Monum. Francisc.* (Rolls) 583 Commaunde ye that youre gentilmen yomen and other dayly lere and were there robis in youre presence 1492 CAXTON *Vitas Patrum* 455/8 Knyst, squiere, somon & page 1496 *Rolls of Parlt* V 557/2 Yomen of the moste honourable Houshold of the Kyng 1548 CALDW *Statutes of Aymon* iv 123 Cause there a yoman that nyed to the dischesse the meete is redy *c* 1580 SKELTON *Mag. nay* 2542 To day hote, to morowe outrayyous colder To day a yoman, to morowe made of page 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 152 I geve vnto everye one of my yomen suche as are my howseholde servants ouer and leasyds theire wages xx*s* a peece.

*b* 1525-8 in *Household Ord* (1790) 9 The Kinges archers, vinteners, yemen of offices in the Kinges howse 1575 BANSON *Brueu* v 235 Quhill I liff and may haf myselff To lede a yheman or a swane 1590 HENRY *Wallace* II 388 A lauld squier, with him gud yemen twa. 1670-85 MALORY *Arthur* XII iii 845 The king called vpon hys knyghtes squyers and yemen 1584 WHITGIFT *Answer Adm.* (1851) 158 Were this a lawe in England, I feare mee we should haue more Gentlemen bondmen, then Yemen truste seruantes

*c* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord* (1790) 19 Our soveraygn lordes household is not discharged of the Court of Marshalsy and all his clerkes and 5 semen 1561 *Old Ch. qne Bk Chapel Royal* (Camden) 1 Mr Patermoster wes kynge 1582 STANYHURST *Descr. Ireland* I. 24 Hallen, Hallen, and Thos Rawlins, Yeoman 1597 GOLDING *Lutt. on Ps.* vii 14 Saule had many yemen at hand, that wolt gladly have employed their labour too driue Dauid out 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *West's Hoe* II iv D4, Come Sergeant Ambush, come yeoman Clutch, y ns the Taucrne, the Gentleman's will come out presently 1611 SHAKS. *Cor.* I iii 84 Holla Yeomen thinke not his rules and his canons cry, Make room, as if a duke were coming 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* II xxii, Where squire and yeoman, page and groom, Plied their loud revelry 1864 J. INGHAM *Sermons* I 407 The folly became in other fields A mockery to the yeomen over ale, And laughter to their lords

b An attendant or assistant to an official, etc

13 *E F Alis* P A 53, Goe to my yne semen songe, & wyrke, & dos pat at 3e moun 1363 *Rolls of Parlt* II 278/2 Gents de Mestere, d Artifice & d Office, appelles Yomen *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 11 Ne were my semen, semman] hadde he, and a rounte nanne 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Eliz. Vl* (1914) 124 I query for his yemen and other base officers 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II iii 80 Rugby Hath had at his rule and commaundement an hundreth tall yo men 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II i 4 *Hostesse.* My Inne, I am sure entred the Actiue Prouision of a yeard of Ale 1607 *Ibid.* Where's your Yeoman? Is it a lusty yeoman? 1607 J TAYLOR (WATER P.) *Armado* C8, Nimble footed Pettifoggers greedy Seruants, hungry Yemen vnmouering Cuttpoles 1766 *Entick. Lond. Hist.* III 84 Eighteen yeomen at mayor an I every sergeant hath his yeoman 1861 *Times* 26 July, The senior Sheriff a yeoman to read Her M jesty's writ, authorising the Sheriff to proceed to the election of 2 fit and discreet citizen' to serve in Parliament 1897 J D WALKER in *Rec. London's Inns* I Pref 7 A B richer in 1342 was entitled to 'a clerk and a yeoman (*valetus*) boarded in the Inn at a charge of 24*d* per week

c. 1. *Yeoman's service* (also *yeoman service*) good, efficient, or useful service, such as is rendered by a faithful servant of good standing.

1 in 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* (BRK.) It were greate shame vnto Robyn A knyght to lone Without squyer yemen or page, I shall the lene Iyll I ha my man, In 1 yeomans stede he may the stande, Yf thou grete nede haue] 1600 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III ii 36 I once did hold it as bisenesse to write faires but Sir now, It did me Yeomans seruice. 1613 HOBY *Counsier unto a Son* 15 You may doe the Prince yeomen seruice and not offend 1887 SCOTT-ADIE, *Story Clett* (1894) I iii 77 This [the] law done me yeomans service in the hour of necessity 1857 HUGHES *I. on Iron* 3 The stalwart arm of the Britons have done yeomen's work 1858 DE QUINCEY *Augustus* Wks. 1890 X 247 The word *yeoman* has now resumed [a general meaning] with little offence to good taste, and with yeoman service to the intellect 1882 *Athenæum* 11 Oct. 459 No 84 the Society has done yeoman's service during the ten years of its existence

2 With *of* (or *for*) followed by a word indicating the particular department or function, in the titles of various officials, esp. of a royal or noble household, as *yeoman of the bottles, of the buttery, of the cellar, of the chamber, of the crown, of the ewery, of the horse(s, for the household of the larder for the mouth* (MOUTH *sb.* 2 d), *of the robes, of the stable, of the stirrup, of the tents, of the wardrobe*, so *yeoman of the channel* (an official of the Corporation of London: see CHANNEL *sb.*1 3 a) Hence in humorous allusion, as *yeoman of the collar*, a prisoner with an iron band round his neck (COLLAR *sb.* 5); *yeoman of the cord, of the haller*, a hangman, or hangman's assistant.

1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 18 Richard Clerk, Yeoman of the *Armurie *Ibid.* 23 William Wyth'll, Yeoman for the *bottiles 1592 *Warwicksh. Feud* (Camden) 82 A lb, One John Powell yeoman of the bottels 1533 in Bush *Tudor Archit.* (1889) 241 Yeoman of the Kinges *bowes 1473 *Rolls of Parlt* VI 97/2 Richard Forster Yeoman of the *Botry of oure Household 1513 *Dk. Kerrayne, in Bubees bk.* 250 Yom us of the *seller and ewery 1345 8 in *Household Ord* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the Kinges *chamber 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III 62 Ne ne yomen of his chambre 1498 *B. E. Wills* (1882) 110 I he yomen of my lordys chambre 1708 J CHAMBERLAYNE *St Gt Brit* II iii xliii (ed 22) 688 Yeoman of the of the Channel 1647 HAWARD *Cromw Ace* 33 Yeoman of the Stirrup 1 Yeoman of the Male. Yeoman of the *close Carte 1530 *Inst scorner* (Manly) 239 *Frewyll* Syr, lyye you beneth, or on lyye on the toiler? *Imag* Nay, yee, amonge the thycke[s] of yemen of the *toiler *c* 1640 J. DAY *Parson's Sch.* XVII (1881) 72 A kinsman of myne that is gromne of the ladder and yeoman of the *corde 1456 *Rolls of Parlt* V. 292 2 Yomin of the *Coroune, and Vsshir of oure Chambre 1498 in Leadam *Sel. Cases of Requests* (Selden Soc.) 5 William Frost son of your Yemons of the Crowne. 1456 *Rolls of Parlt* V. 341/1 Walyn Bedell, Yomin of oure *Ewery 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 20 John Canne, Yomen for the *knife 1820 J. P. SMITH *Bk for Rainy Day* (1861) 169 A most diabolical looking little wretch, denominated 'The Yeoman of the *Halter', Jack Ketch's head man 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 23 Yoman of *Horse 1530 PALSGR 295/1 Yeoman of the *horse 1586 T. B. *La Primaud Fr. Acad* 1 320 The yemen of his horses 1586 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl* 510/2 *Promus*, a butler; a yeoman of the *house 1459 in *Privy Purse Expenses Hen. VI* (1910) 34 William Pratte, Yeman for the King's *mouth 1538 ELYOT *Gov* III v, Yoman for the mouthe with the kynge. *a* 1700 B. L. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Yeoman of the Mouth*, an Officer belonging to his Majesties Pantry 1345-8 in *Household Ord* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the *offices 1552-3 in Feuillet *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 111 John howlle yeman of the *revelles 1455 in *Ibid.* 20 Yeomen of the Pantrie and Sylleour, Yoman of the *Robes. 1552 HULOET, Yoman or master of the robes, *tollarius* 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl* s.v *Acatery* A Yeoman of the Salt-Store 1600 in *Archæologia* XLVIII 153 The Saucery House, conteyning foure little roomes used by the yeomen of the *sauces 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 21 Roger Hunt, Yoman for the *scullerye 1455 in *Ibid.* 23 Yomen and Gromes of the *Stable 1473 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* I 55 The Henshmen and 3omen of the stabils for the Kingis Grace 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III iii 202 *Caius* Ieny Spurting Rascall? *Host* Peace-a-Iane Yeomen of the *Stirrup [see STIRRUP *sb.* 1d] 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 18 Yoman of the *Stoole. 1552-3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 222 Yeoman of the *Tentes 1679-88 *Moneys Receiv Chas I & Jas II* (Camden) 113 Thomas Hall, Yeoman of the Tents and toyles, for his charge in removing the toyles and waggons 1523 36 HITCHENS *Hist.* 8 151 The 3omen of the *warderope of nolle robes 1455 in *Household Ord* II v 45 The Lady of the Strathe, married the yeoman of the wardrob

*b Yeoman of the Guard* a member of the body-guard of the sovereign of England (first appointed at the accession of Henry VII, and originally archers) Also *Extraordinary Yeoman* (see EXTRAORDINARY 2).

1485 in Hennell *Hist Yeom Gd* (1904) 23 Oure humble and feithful subgiet William Browne yoman of oure garde. 1509 in *Act 2 Hen. VIII, c.* 12 A Yoman of the Crowne or of the Kyngs Garde 1513-14 *Ibid.* 31 *Mary at Hull* (1924) 137 Kess[ler] the Buryall of a yoman of the Gard [but dye] ar pe Swan 13s 1552 in Hennell *Hist Yeom Gd* (1904) 292 I lb 6s 8d Ordinary Yeomen of the Guarde 1600 in Archæologia LVIII 153 Yeomen of the Guarde 1573 *Privy* 203 Rauff Colborne an extraordinarye yeoman 1613 J. TAYLOR *Water T. Superb* (1630) 20 Sixe Yeomen of the Guard, Clarkes of the priuy Chamber, or Ye men of the Gard at least 1647 HAWARD *Cromw Ace* 19 Captaine of the Guard Ordinary Yeomen 1660 *Rolls of Parlt* VI 200 Yeomen of the Guard in *Ferney Mem* (1907) II 305 A T4 Chamberlain was never before turned out for striking a yeoman of the guard 1721 STRYPE *Stow* II No 209 P 2 He was acting Centurion and Serjeant to the Yeomen of the Guard 1727 *Gentl. Mag.* 1 Kept on in the Yeomen of the Guard 1745 MAS. & MONTAGU *Corr* (1906) I 219, I can not more luttered roll in a morning than a Yeoman of the Guards School 1804 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII 61 dinner than a yeoman of the Guards 1904 HENNELL *Hist. Yeom Gd* 61 In the yeomen of the Guard the yeomen are not allowed to marry servants or daughters of servants

3 In the British and U.S. navies, an inferior officer who has charge of the stores in a particular department with *of* or possessive, as *yeoman of the powder room, of the sheets* (now abolished), *y of the signals, of the store room boatswain's y, engineer's y, pay master's y, ship's y*

[1 KINGS iv 5 Zabud was the semen to bote Ankres to hale!] 1669 STURMY *Marin Ca Mag* V xii 46 A Gunner must be careful in making Cha ges of so sober honest Man, for he Yeom of the Powder 1698 in Wyon & *Hist Mint* (N S) III (1920) 346 The gunner and the yeoman ordered him to await them 1702 in *Lond Gaz* No 3815/2 Yeomen of the Sheets 1708 in *Lond Gaz* No 4445/2 Yeomen of the Sheets 1711 Yeomen of the Powder Room 1816 in *Ord. Army Naval Service* (1860) I 130 We further submit to your Royal Highness to be pleased to sanction the abolition of the following obsolete or unnecessary ratings —Yeomen of the Powder Room — of the Sheets. 1853 *Hist* 511 Yeomen of the Store Rooms 1890 H MELVILLE *White Jacket* I xxx 104 The ship's yeoman store room 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer* 194 The British ship's steward 1899 I. I. BULLEN *Log Sea* 3 The chief petty officer who is entitled chief yeoman of the signals

3 Used appositively in the titles of various attendants and officials, as *yeoman bedel, -brewer, -cook, farrour* (*-farer*), *-fewterer, -furner, -gaoler, -gunner, -herbergeour* (HARBINGER), *-porter, -pricker* (PRICKER 3), *purveyor, -usher, -waiter*, etc. - see also these words.

1641 *Yeoman bedels [see BEADLE 3a] 1853 *C. BRUE *Verdant Green* I vii, The Vice Chancellor, with his Esquire and Yeoman bedels 1553 in *Archæologia* XII 359 The collier *yeomanne John Thornegood and Jeffrey Yemens, *yeomen brewers 1630 *Rolls of Parlt* V 195/1 To Thomas Cateby, *Yoman Cooke for oure month 1456 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI 221 It lert Pit hurd *yoman ferrour 1455 [see FEARER 3] 1647 [see FARRIER 2c] 31. 1500 *Yeo man phueterer [see FEWTERER] 1689 MASSINGER *Pictures* v 1, If you will bee An honest yeoman phewterer, feed vs first, And walke vs after 1654 B. *Discoveries* 32 I the rest of the Subjects [shall be] Yeomen futerers and Goldfinders. 1553 in *Archæologia* XII 357 The Countinge howse Servants Rauffe Englishe *yeoman furnaiour Robert Style, yeom n garnitor 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 19 William Peyse, *Yoman fourner 1456 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI 213 Thomas Wente, *yoman garnettir 1553 in *Archæologia* XII 357 Robarte Style, yeoman garnatir 1647 HAWARD *Cromw Ace* 33 Three Yeomen gra tuities Fee 5 peece per diem 1648 *Rolls of Parlt* V 198/1 The office of *Yoman Gonner of oure Citee and Castell of Westchestre *Ibid* 195/1 Oure servaunt John Ripon, one of oure *Yomen Herbergeours 1604 *Dasy Lett I at at Oxf* (1837) 341 His Ma*jestie's *yeoman Hart inquires 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 21, 2 *Yoman Herde *Ibid* 19 John Swyllyngton, *Yoman Messenger *Ibid*, William Brynklowe, *Yoman P ymenkiter 1470-85 *Mem. Arthur* VI ix 196 He fond a *yoman porter keping ther many keyes 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick upon-Tweed* (1888) 440 The yeoman porters at any of the gates of the towne 1708 J CHAMBERLAYNE *St Gt Brit* II iii (ed 22) 628 Yeoman Porter for Oil and Candle for the Gate 1706 ENTICK *Lon don IV* 342 The yeoman porter appointed to keep the gate for the keys 1455, 1600 *Yeon an powder beater [see POWDER *sb.*1 5 b] 1586 1760 1891 *Yeoman pricker [see PRICKER 3] 1478-9 Wardr. Accts. *Edw. IV* 1 I saw myself one of the yeomen prickers ryding with a stag from the bord 1820 SCOTT *Monast* XVII, Were you to put in for it I would warrant you were made one of the Abbot s yeomen prickers 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI 115 Richarde Wode grave and John Glover *yomen purveours 1647 HAWARD *Cromw Ace* 33 Foure Yeomen Purveyours Fee a peice per diem and 1455 in *Household Ord* (1790) 18 Stephen Cooke, *yoman skynner *Ibid*, John Marchall, *yoman burgeon. *c* 1400 *Sir Beues* 2319 in *Anglia* Bk 316 *3omen vsshes fe fore fre dore, In vttur chaubur ine fe flore 1455 in *Household Ord* II 309 To the Yeoman Usher s grooms and pages xl*s* 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xxiv 193 The Yeomen Ushers of the Chamber 1 Groome of the Chamber 1 Yeoman 1 Page 1660 in Hennell *Hist Yeom Gd* (1904) 22 555 Mr Ric Pearson, Yeoman Usher 1593-34 FITZ HERB *Husb* § 152 There was as many good households kept, and as many *yomenne waiters there as be now 1598 *Hundreth Ord* (1903) 15 The yeomen ushers and groomen waiters for that day 1573 in Hennell *Hist Yeom Gd* (1904) 293 The *yeomen wardles of our Lower of London

III 4. A man holding a small landed estate; a freeholder under the rank of a gentleman, hence *vaguely*, a commoner or countryman of respectable standing, *esp* one who cultivates his own land

a 1411 *Rolls of Parlt* III 650 2 All the Knyghtes and Esquires and Yomen that hold ledynge of men 1525 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII xi 181 Ane yeman, quhil men ahout *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* III xiv 371 Whether he be knyst, squyer, gentilman, yoman, or lourer *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Gov. & Linn Mon.* XVII (1885) 136 Of the seconde estate, wich is a feyre lyuynge for a yon an 1473 WARKW *Chron.* (Camden) 1 And ahone of gentylmen and yomen ne he made knyghtes and squyres as ofte as he deserved 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm Ed VI* 1 *Ibid* (1) 40 My father was a yoman and had no lands of his owne, only he had a farme of 10 or 12 pound by yere at the vttermore He had walke for a hundred sheepe, and my mother mylked xx 1642 in Rushw *Hist Coll* (1692) II 1 680 Though many of the Chief Gentry of those Counties were for giving Obedience to his Majesties Commands, yet the Yeomanry, Free Holders and Yeomen bemn, generally of the other side, they were crush'd 1648 *Hunting of Cox* 39 The sufferings of the Yeomen, Farmers, and Husbandmen 1654 [see FREE *sb.* 3]

*b* 1455 *Cal Anc Rec Dublin* (1889) 288 Rot Iun Hussher merchant and Harry White, yeman 1486 *Bk. St Albans* div, I ber is a Goshawke, and that haule is for a yeman 1500 in Dunbar *Scottish Kings* (1899) 301 Ane vther is tane Wur wont to wer baith reid and broun. 1548-9 *Act 3 & 4 Edw VI, c.* 8 26 (7) That no vnlaufull Gentle men or Yeomen to be chief Constables 1577 HARRISON *Descr* iii 1 Yeomen they imbabyte 1587 HARMAN *Cat* (1869) 22 The honorable wyl abhore them, The worshipfull wyll reiecte them, The yemen wyl hardely beleue them, The gentlemen wyl hardely defye them, The laboryng men bluntly chyde them 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chr. S.* I (STS) I 283 Money nether gentilman nor yemen 1598 *Ibid.* II (STS) II 1 Ane vther Scot (S T S) I 36 Gentlemen and houshandmen thair wal be sic gang well arrayed 1708 SWIFT *Bucnes & Hol* 19 A good old honest yeoman, Call'd in the neighbourhood Plowman

*c* 1387 I Revisa *Higden* (Rolls) II 171 Perfore hit is pat a gentman [*v r* 3ymman, *L. vernaculus*] arrasch hym as a squyer, a squyer as a knyst, a knyst as a duke and a duke as a kyng

*b* a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Comm. Eng.* I XXIII (1584) 33 I call him a yeoman whom our Lawes doe call *Legales homines*, which is a freeman borne of free parents, and may dispend of his owne free lande in yerely reuenue to the summe of 40 s sterling. *Ibid* 32 Yeoman which worde we vnderstande among vs, a man who may liue and dispende his owne land, and yet not a gentleman 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV ii 86 His Grandfather was Lyonel Duke of Clarence

Spring Creuelesse Yeomen fr m whose side pe Scott made a Ankrestir *Hare Yeomen Mr. Ankr.* 1851 4 To be peyt be the tennants and yeon ane 1647 CLARENDON *Hist Reb* XI. 54 The other party persuading the substantial yeomen and freeholders that at last two parts of their estates would be taken from them 1687 in *Parish Coll Pomes* (1689) 21 The Admiral my now turn common Seaman, Or Per—s like, from Court to Country Yeoman 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 285 I knew a yeoman, who To the great city drove, from Devon's plain His num rous flowing herd 1818 SHELLEY *Rev Islam* XII, The wealthy yeoman as he wanders His fertile fields among And on his thriving cattle ponders. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M* Note B, An old and sturdy yeoman

belonging to the Scottish side, .well known by his sourbri-quet of Fighting Charlie of Liddesdale. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* I. iii. The full of prices had not yet come to carry the race of small squires and yeomen down that road to ruin.

*transf.* and *fig.* a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 167 The first might seeme the Lards, the second the Gentlemen, and the last the Yeomen of Arcadia. 1863 *Lowell. Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* xx. iii, Turning to a Lapland yeoman. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 32 Never..since yeoman Cain killed mutual Abel. 1879 Farrar *Camer. II.* 14 The grandsons of the yeomen who had held at bay Pyrrhus and Hannibal sold their farms and went away.

†**b.** Used as a term of disparagement. *rare*—1.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 318 Thenne ye Emperour turnyd to his brother, and saide, 'Pou ioman, what soory wrecchidnesse is in pe?'

†**c.** Applied to the pawns at chess. *Obs. rare.*

1593–34 Fitzherb. *Husb. Prol.*, That boke [sc. of chesse] is deuyded in vi. degrees, ye the kynge, the quene, the byshops, the knightes, the iudges, and the yomenne.

**5.** A man of the standing or rank described in 4 serving as a (foot) soldier. Now *Hist.* or *arch.* exc. as in b.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvi. 101 Schir Richard of Clare.. Send wicht thomen that will couth schut To bikkir the reirward apon fut. a 1400 *Sir. Ionn Degre* 232 Thus in youre warres shall you ryde, With xl. good yemen by your side. a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1589) 41 The gentlemen of Fraunce and the yeomen of England are renowned, because in battle of horsemen Fraunce was many times too good for vs, as we againe alway for them on foote. And Gentlemen for the most part be men at armes and horsemen, and yeomen commonly on foote. 1598 Shaks. *Hen. IV*, III. i. 25 And you, good yeoman, Whose limme is parcell made in England; shew vs here The mettell of your Pasture. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* xi. 29 Our Armies in those times.. Of our tall Yeomen were, and Archers for the most. 1844 Scott *Ld. of Isles* v. xxix, Two hundred yeomen on that morn The castle left, and none return.

b. *spec.* A member of the (Imperial) Yeomanry: see Yeomanry 3.

1798 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 429 Two of the yeomen of Lord Ely's corps .. were hanged.., being condemned by a Court-martial. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 93 It being reported that a poor old woman had been killed by the carelessness of the yeomen, the crowd began to follow the cavalry. 1828 Scott *Pirat.* 18 Mar. (1891) 558, I am one of the oldest, if not the very oldest Yeoman in Scotland, and have seen the rise, progress, and now the fall of this same constitutional part of the national force. 1912 L. Tracy *Mirabel's Inf.* iv. (1913) 65 'Were you in a Highland regiment?' 'No. I was a yeoman in an Imperial Yeomanry.'

III. **6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, as *yeoman class, rank, throng*; appositive (see also 3), as *yeoman farmer, gentleman, man, proprietor, servant, soldier, †sprat, volunteer*; †**yeoman ale,** †**yeoman bread** (also *yeoman's bread*), names for second qualities of ale or bread; **yeoman service** (see f c).

1538 *Cartular. Abb. de Rievaulx* (Surtees) 335 Of *yeman* ale of the great fatt, v gallons. 1430 *Charters Selby Abbey, York* (B. M. Add. Ch. 45849), 8 panes secundarios vocatos *yemanisbread*. 1440 *Promp. Parv.*, Bred called Yomanbred, *domesticus panis*. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* I. 18 *Secundarium* is that part of the meale, whereof yeomanbread is made, which some call second bread. 1876 Miss Braddon *T. Haggard's Dau.* I, The new-comer's costume was that of the 'yeoman class. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. 3 After the economical changes which marked the early years of the fifteenth century, the yeoman class was strengthened by the addition of the body of tenant farmers. 1881 Corbett *Rev. Rides* (1885) I. 29 Those only who rent.. are, properly speaking, farmers. Those who till their own land are yeomen; and, when I was a boy, it was the common practice to call the former farmers and the latter 'yeomen-farmers. 1573 Barnaby Rich *Pract. Sea. Soulding*, How the 'shemen man and the power men maid of sclietia the maner of baneris. 1681 *Acts Parl. Scot., Jas. III* (1814) II. 109/2 For the slaying..of gentlemen, cumming of gentill blude, thare salbe payit xx li And for a yeman man x li. a 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 98 With sindrie wther gentilmen and monye yeamen men of commons. 1593 *Ne. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 18 2 The paints and vnlawes of lawborrous..salbe for euery erll or lord Tua thowsand pund..and for euerie 3eoman man Ane hundreth markis. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* iii. iii. 83 A small 'yeoman proprietor cultivates his own land. 1880 Thornbury *Turner* I. 3 A family like Turner's, that produced a small tradesman, a bank-clerk, and a solicitor, must have at least been of as good 'yeoman rank as Shakspeare's. 1498 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 175 To every of my servants y called 'yemen seruants, 6*d*. 1880 Hanny *Turpet-Major* v, No impossible contingency with the 'yeoman-soldier. 1892 Massingham & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* II. i, She tookes us, true, from the gallowes, yet I hope she will not barre 'yeomen sprats to haue their swinge. 1898 Scott *Marm.* III. xxvi, And on the tale the 'yeoman-throng Had made a comment sage and long. 1808 in C. W. Thompson *Rec. Dorset Yeomanry* (1834) 87 Report of the Dorset 'Yeomen Volunteers.

b. *Comb.*, as *yeoman-like* adj., *yeoman-wise* adv.

1694 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 90 They could neither speak with nor make one another, (if I may word it so) much Yeoman-wisel. 1682 H. More in *Glanville's Sadducismus, Contin. Coll.* 38 A proper Yeoman-like Man. 1808 Ir. *Mannon's Betrothed Lovers* Prol. p. viii, His bold, and honest, and yeoman-like bearing.

Hence **Yeomaness** = Yeowoman; **Yeomanhood,** the position or station of a yeoman.

1623 Wodroephe *Marrovve Pr. Tongue* 211/2 'Yeoman-esse, good wife, haue you no fresh egges? *Ibid.* 283/2 Valiant like the yeomanesses [orig. *Paysandes*] of Lombardie. 1880 Saintsbury *Ess. Engl. Lit.* (1890) 6 They had apparently lost even the dignity of 'yeomanhood.

**Yeomanly** (yōᵘmănli), *a.* [f. Yeoman + -ly¹.]

1. Having the rank, or the character, of a yeoman.

1576 A. Hall *Acc. Quarrel w. Mallerie* etc., Misc. Antiq. Angl. (1816) I. 77 A yeomanly man. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* v. (1594) H 1ii, I warrant you here as yeomanly a man, as you shall see, marke you maisters, beeres a plaine honest man, without welt or guide. 1621 Donne *Serm., 1 Cor.* xv. 28 (1640) 148 Who will undertake to sift those dusts again, and to pronounce, This is the Patrician, this is the noble flowre, and this the yeomanly, this the Plebeian bran? 1680 Aubrey in *Lett. Emin. Persons* (1813) III. 330 His father was an yeomanly man. 1853 Raine in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 36 *note*, The Felis were and are still a clan of yeomanly gentry in the neighbourhood of Ulverston.

**2.** Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a yeoman; (*a*) sturdy; (*b*) homely.

*c* 1626 Donne *Serm., Ps. xxxviii. 4* (1649) 181 Hee will come to think it..a sordid, a yeomanly thing, still to be plowing, and weeding, and worming a conscience. 1641 Milton *Reform.* I. 28 A homely and Yeomanly Religion. 1673 S. Parker *Reproof Rek. Transp.* 30 It is but a blunt and Yeomanly Jest. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 596 Merry Shrowsbury, with its ruinous feast, and yeomanly pleasures. Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. *Going to Races*, One of a fine yeomanly spirit, not ashamed of his station,..sowing his own corn, dressing his own meat, mowing his own grass with his own hand. 1827 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 120 There was something in Jeff's figure..of a yeomanly vigour.

**Yeomanly,** *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly².] In the manner of or befitting a yeoman; like a yeoman; sturdily; handsomely.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 106 Wel koude he dresse his takel yemanly [*v.rr.* 3emanly, 3imanly, 3emonlie]. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxix, 'Do the false yeomen give way?' — No!'.. 'they keep their ground yeomanly'. 1841 James *Forest Days* ix, 'Right yeomanly done', cried Robin Hood.

**Yeomanry** (yōᵘmănri). Forms: see Yeoman; also 5 **yemandry, yomandrye,** 6–7 **yeomandrie, -dry,** (7–8 **-try**). [f. Yeoman + -ry.]

**1.** The body of yeomen or small landed proprietors, yeomen collectively; †a company of yeomen.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 386 Schir Iohne the Hastyngis,.. With knychtis of full meklil pryde, With squyaris and gude yemanry. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* Prol. (Cotton) *Dictes* V 13, Nombre of his knyghtes were comonli of his retenew.. were ccc .xii. thou-sand withoutt yomanrye and other men necessary to his warres. 1538 Starkey *England* (1878) 70 To make the yeomandry also wel vers't in vse of warre we schold be in schrode case. 1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 90 Suche proceedynges..do intend plainly, to make the yeomanrie vassayes and bondemen. 1589 Shurley 1607 Markham *Caval.* Ded. (1617) A], The three great Columbes of this Empire: the Nobilitie, the Gentrie, and Yeomanrie of Britaine. 1692 R. Meriton *Yorks Triumph* 2 Sept. 54 My father was born in a very mean house: my mother in a comely hall...I am a branch of Yeomanry by the father, gentility by my mother. 1693 *Humours Town* 101 The Yeomandry trudge on honestly in their several Vocations. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* x. 184 The Clergy, and Gentry, and Yeomanry of this Land. 1837 H. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* III. 61 In free yeomanry, and the youth of the towns, have an eye for the right, and a heart for the true. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 171 A hardy and prosperous yeomanry, who either purchased their land in parcels, or bargained to work it with their own capital.

**b.** The general body of freemen of a livery company. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1497–8 *Merch. Guilds Lynn, Ironm.* (1866) 50 The yemenry of this yer worshipfull felishipe of this craffe of Iernmongers. 1532 *Ibid.* 54 The..wardens of the yemanry of Iremongeres. 1538 in *East Anglian* June (1910) 275 [Provision is made for work to be offered to] the old and honest of your yeomanry. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb. concr. Printing* § 19 Every Master-printer of the Yeomanry of the Company may have one Apprentice.

**2. a.** A company of yeomen or attendants.

**b.** The yeomen of the guard. *Obs. rare.*

16.. *Robin Hood & Beggar* xxxi. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 157/2 And Robin took these brethren good To be of his yeomanrie. 1673 Marvell *Corr.* lii. *Poems* 254 [It is] Dishonourable to the Nation He should have any other Guards but the Yeomanry.

**3. a.** A volunteer cavalry force in the British army, originally formed at the time of the French revolution, and consisting chiefly of men of the yeomanry class or status; first embodied in 1794 (Act 34 Geo. III, c. 31).

The full designation was *The Yeomanry Cavalry*, but is now (since 1908) *The Yeomanry*. In 1899 the formation of a new corps was authorized, called *The Imperial Yeomanry*, recruited for service in the South African War (1899–1900) from the yeomanry, the volunteers, and civilians; the name was subsequently extended to the original yeomanry, and was retained until 1908.

1794, 1798 [see sense 6]. *c* 1800 A. Young in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206 He was allotted by a gentleman of great property; captain of a troop of yeomanry. 1801 *Act 42 Geo. III, c.* 66 (*title*) An Act to enable his Majesty to avail himself of the Offers of certain Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps to continue their Services. 1828 Scott *Pirat.* 18 Mar. (1891) 558, I dined at the Club of the Selkirkshire yeomanry, now disbanded. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 139 The management of the militia, yeomanry, and other domestic forces, is regulated by various statutes. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* Introd. 10 Their notion of Reform was a confused combination of rick-burners, trades-unions, Nottingham riots, and in general whatever required the calling-out of the yeomanry. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 8/5 No mounted corps from this country will be accepted for service in South Africa except as part of the Imperial Yeomanry.

**II. †4.** The condition of a yeoman; yeomanhood. *Obs.*

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 29 For Symkyn wolde no wyf, as he sayde, But if she were wel ynorissed and a mayde. To

amen his estaat of yomanrye [*v. r.* yemanrye]. 1612 Cotgr., *Roturer*, yeomanrie; the estate, condition, or calling of such as are not of gentle blood. 1620 Drayton *Polyolb.* xi. 25 They, of all England, most to ancient customes cleaue, Their Yeomanry and still endeauoured to vphold.

†**5.** Something pertaining to or characteristic of a yeoman. **a.** Speech befitting a (good) yeoman, homely or honest speech. **b.** Yeoman's dress. *Obs.*

*c* 1300 *Robin Hood & Potter* xxiii. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 120/2 'Be mey trowet, thou seys soyt,' seyde Roben, 'Thow seys god yemenrey.' 1592 *Arden of Feversham* iv. ii. 38 *Fran.* And, sirra, as we go, let's have some more of your bolde yeomanlry. *Fer.* Nay, by my troth, sir, but flat knauery. 1597 Dr. Hall *Sat.* III. i, Husbanding it in workday yeomanrie.

III. **6.** *attrib.*, as *yeomanry cavalry* (= 3), *corps, cul, dress, fdmily, horse, man, officer.*

1794 in Q. L. *Yeom. Cav. Ware.* (1914) 5 The proposed Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry for the County of Worcester. 1796 *Act 36 Geo. III, c.* 51 (*title*), An Act for authorizing the billetting such Troops of Yeomanry Cavalry as may be desirous of assembling for the Purpose of being trained together. 1825 M'Watt (*title*) Letters to Officers and Privates of the Berwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry. 1886 H. Graham (*title*) Annals of the Yeomanry Cavalry of Wiltshire, a History of the Prince of Wales' Own Regiment. *c* 1800 A. Young in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206 The undisputed origin of all the 'yeomanry corps in the kingdom. 1814 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* i, With a saddle of yeomanry cut, and a double-bitted military bridle. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* xviii, How handsome he looks in his 'yeomanry dress. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 312/2 The horses employed on 'yeomanry duty. 1885 J. G. Fallow *Lit. & Biog. Hist. Sing. Coll.* II. 47 The Dennetts, a Lancashire 'yeomanry family. 1833 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) II. 226 The landlords..have marshal law in their view before they will give up the Corn Laws; they fat their 'yeomanry horses for that very chase. 1884 Jefferies *Life of Fields* 132 There are 'yeomanry officers who remember how they rode about at night after the rioters. 1900 Violet Jacob *Sheep-Stealers* ix, The 'yeomanry officer who had been present at the riot.

**Yeopardie,** obs. f. Jeopardy: see Y (1) *note.*

1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 81 Without great yeopardie of my life.

**Yeorling,** var. Yorling *dial.*, yellow-hammer.

**Yeorned,** ME. pa. pple. of Run *v.*

**Yeoven,** obs. pa. pple. of Give *v.*

1552–2 in Ausgler *Sport Mon.* (1840) 94 Yeoven under our signet at our pallaice of Westminster. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* I. xvi. 107 Yeouen at Ightham aforesaid vnder my seale. 1782 *B. M. C.* (Oxf.) *Miniatures.* 400. 35 (MS.) Yeoven.

**Yeowe,** obs. f. Ewe.

1547–8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 30 Six yeowe sheepe.

**Yeowoman** (yōᵘwumăn). Pl. yeowomen (-wimĕn). [After Yeoman.] A woman having the rank or position of a yeoman.

1852 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 38 With a young yeowoman called Miss Brook he sang 'All's Well'. 1892 Tennyson *Foresters* III, *Robin.* Nay, no! I am I. I am an English yeoman. *Marian.* Then I am yeo-woman. O the clumsy word!

**Yeox(e,** var. Yex *Obs.*

**Yep,** *int.* (? yeap.)

1. A call to urge on a horse.

1892 Davies *Don Sebastian* I. i. (1602) 13 To your paces villain, amble, trot, and gallop I—Quick about there.—Yeap.

1869 *Lonsdale Glass., Yep* 1 a word of command to horses.

**Yep,** dial. (esp. U.S.) pron. of Yes: cf. *nope.*

1892 Kipling *Capt. Courag.* x. 211 'Sorry Tuck?' Harvey put in. 'Yep.' 1905 [see Yah *adv.*].

†**Yepe,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1 **3oap,** (**3op**), 3 **3eap, 3oep, 3iap, 3iep,** 3–5 **3ep,** (4 **3hepe, 3eep, yeepe,** 6 **yep**), 4–5 **3epe, yepe.** See also Yap *a.* [OE. *ʒeap* open, wide, spacious, curved, crooked, vaulted, crafty, astute; cf. repr. †Teut. root *ʒaup-*, and prob. related to ON *geypa* hollow out, be gaping or loose, be both hands held together, hollow of the foot, two-hands-ful, etc. (cf. *geypna* to encompass): see Gowfen and Yepsen.]

1. Cunning, crafty, sly, wily.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* iii. 2 Seo neddre was ʒeappre ponne ælle þa ðǽre nytenu. *c* 1200 *Life St. Neot* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 14 An fox he wes ʒeap & wrað & wiðerwinnende. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 Þe ʒeape wrastlare nimeð ꝥenne hunt hire fere ne cunne nout, þet he mid wrasteð. *Ibid.* 362 Þeos ʒeape children þet þenchen ofte uorðes, .. leteres þore cloðes foro habben neowe.

2. Prudent, wise, sagacious, shrewd, astute.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 118 Cild scannad wis, milde, ʒeap, ʒesælig. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 Beð þeos ʒe wares, and wakieð. *c* 1205 Lay. 7581 Julius Cesar He wes ʒep and swuðe l-war. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5370 A wis man sa þi sun sagh, Þat al ꝥat es man sa ʒepe [*Gött.* ʒeep]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3812 That we sende oure Messanger, Wise and ʒepe. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* iv. 724 John, your cosyn, must vttrus & ʒepe.

3. Active, nimble, brisk, alert; bold, daring.

*c* 1205 Lay. 21503 Cherles fol ʒepe Mid clubben awiðe grete. 13.. *Gaw. & Warw.* (A.) 3985 Gli to aseyten pal wer ʒep. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 88 Maugre, be ʒep and sneL 13.. *Gaw. Knicol.* (A.) 1796 Pal lay in droupaid drede And non so ʒhepe a worde to selle. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 77 Pow art ʒonge and ʒepe and hast ʒeres ynowe, Forto lyue longe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11065 Pal keppyn the cloyse of this cleue burgh, With ʒep men at be ʒatis ʒarkit full bik. *c* 1515 *Scottish Field* 492 (Chetham Misc. II.) And of Yorkshire a yong knight, that epe was of deedes.

**B.** *absol.* as *sb.*

*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Kumeð be coue [*MS. T.* cumes te ꝥape] anonriht & reuseð bire hire eiren. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 796 For aungels his wern, & þat be ꝥep vnder-sede þat

in þe 3ate sytte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13931 With-in a yere.. þat yepe was with child.

Hence † **Yephede** [-HEAD], † **Yeplesse** [-LAIK], † **Yepship** [-SHIP], cunning; astuteness, sagacity.

*c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Josh.* ix. 16 Ealle beora 3ongscipe wearð amelded Israhela bearnum. *c* 1000 ORMIN 2523 Þho wass, whas to fulle sop, All full . . Off sop cleenlesc, off god 3eplesc. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Þe apostel . . munegeð us to þrie þinges, On is iepshipe, þat oðer is wakienge, þe þridde is bede. *Ibid.* 195 Hu moteð þe naddre 3iapshipe. *c* 1205 LAY. 2960 Heo forden mid 3eapscipe & mid wisdome. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 683 (Jesus MS.) Panne sreat cumeþ his yephede Hwenne hit is alremest on drede.

† **Yeply,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *gëaplice*: see YEPE *a.* and -LY 1.]

1. Cunningly, craftily; shrewdly, sagaciously.

*a* 900 *Kent. Gl.* xxi. *Procaciter*, 3eaplice. *c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 80 Þa betealde he [*sc.* Herod] hine swiðe 3eaplice, swa swa he was snotorwyrde. *c* 1025 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 313 Þæt nan toccenda5 þæt stanf5æfne on þrym wisan 3eaplice swy5e.

2. Quickly, briskly; promptly, without delay.

23 . *Cann. & Gr. Kne.* 1981 Fele þeyuande þonkkes he þrat fonn 3 hasti, & hye seldenn 3ymm reply þat he. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3316 [He] 3erne opened þe 3ates & 3epli out rides. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 328 Þben he 3erneþ in-to þouhi and 3epliche he sent heþ Pryde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6081 For to 3arke vp þe 3ate, he 3epely comaund. *c* 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 118 (Cott. MS.) Thus þe 3onge sepply 3ede in here yerde.

**Yepsen** (ye'pə'n). *dial. ? Obs.* Forms: 4 3yspun, -on, yepsene, yespen, 5 3espyn, yespon, 3espe, (?3elepe, 3elpe), 7 yeaspen, yaspen, yaspin, yeapsond, 7–9 yeopsen, 8 yepsond, eapns, espin, 8–9 yepsintle, 9 ipson. [ME. *3espon, 3yspon, yepsen*, prob. :— unrecorded OE. **giespen*, **giespen*, corresp. to M.LG. *gespe, gespe, (gëspe)*, LG. *gespe, gepsi, göpse, göps* (G. *gaspe*).

Quickly, briskly; promptly; also, in a bad sense, rashly, hastily. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **yepsen-mouthed** = *hasty-mouthed*.

Many variant forms are found in LG. dialects, e. g. *göpsche, göpsi, göpsche, -she*; also early Flem. *gaspe, gaps*, Du. dial. *gapsie*, LG. *göpsha, göppelsche, -she*.

Affinity of sense suggests derivation from the Teut. stem *gaup-*, appearing in OHG. *gouf* 'stolidus dat. pl. *goufsonôn*', MHG. *gouf*en, later and dial. *gauf*, ON. *gaupn* (whence Gowrie). In the present state of the evidence it is impossible to determine the relationship of these forms and of Lith. *bùpsnis* = as much as can be seized with two or three fingers, a small handful or armful.]

The two hands placed together so as to form a bowl-shaped cavity; as much as can be held in this; = GOWPEN 1.

*c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 147 Deus meyns ensemble, voles on pleyns, Sount apeles les galeyns *Iglais* yespene; v pr. yespenes, 3espyn, yspun, gouspyned . . Cent galeynes [*glossa* yespen ; v.r. 3yspones]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xii. 361 A yespon al to grounde Of cyner. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 3elepe, handfulle (*K., H.* yespe, *S.* yelpe, *P.* 3espyn), vola. 1611 COTGR., *Iointée*, . . in some countries of England it is called a yeaspen, in others a goppenful of. 1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyor* 109 Out of every horn-footing . . it would take up whole yeapsonds [of wild oats] that were never the worse for the fire. 1664 GOULDMAN *Dict.* I. (1666), A yaspin or handful, *vola*. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 4 A yaspin or handful: in Essex signifies as much as can be taken up in both hands joyn'd together. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.) *Explan.* 26. A yespon, hands full. *c* 1796 *Hull Glossary* (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 50 There wou'd not I ha com'n for a Yepsintle a Ginneys. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) *Explin.* 38. A handful of anything. 1892 C. T. MARTIN *Rec. Interpr.* 256 'A little ipson', in Somerset, is a double handful.

**Yer,** *obs.* f. ERE, IRE, YEAR; *obs.* graphic var. THEIR, THERE; dial. or vulgar f. YOU, YOUR.

**-yer,** *suffix*, old var. of **-IER**, now used after w or a vowel, as *bowyer, goer, sawyer, lawyer, sawyer, stuccoyer* (s.v. STUCCOER).

**Yerabyll,** *var.* EARABLE *a.* *Obs.*

1327 *Domesday Inclos.* (1897) I. 220, viij acars of yerabyll land in Wygbarow.

**Yerb,** *obs.* or dial. f. HERB.

‖ **Yerba,** *in full* **yerba-maté** (yə'rbə ma'te). Also **yerva.** [Sp. *yerba* herb + *mate* MATÉ.] = MATÉ 2 a, b.

1818 *Amer. State Papers, For. Relat.* (1834) IV. 970 The yerba is used in decoction, like the tea of China. 1843 *Chem. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 233 Yerba Mate, or Paraguay Tea. 1852 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Chem. Common Life* vii. I. 184 A kind of arch . . upon which the Yerba branches are placed. 1856 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yerva-mate.* 1900 H. HESKETH PRICHARD *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* xii. 177 He seemed to have no provisions, only a bag of *yerba*.

Hence **Yerbal** (yə'rbăl) [Sp. *yerbal*], a grove or plantation of yerba.

1818 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yerbal*, a forest or wild grove of the *Ilex Paraguayensis*, the holly from the leaves of which the Paraguay tea is obtained. 1883 [see MATÉ 2 c].

**Yercum,** (yə'rkŭm). [? Celt.] An East Indian shrub, *Calotropis gigantea* (N. O. *Asclepiadaceæ*), or the fibre obtained from its bark; also the allied species *C. procera*; both used medicinally.

1826 [see MUDAR]. 1838 LINDLEY *Flora Med.* 8 1144. 540 Under the names of Mador, Mudar, Akum, and Yercund, the root and bark . . are used as . . purgatives.

† **Yerd,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. *yerd*, YARD *sb.*$^{2}$; cf. OHG. *gerten, hurtin* to drive with a stick.] *trans.* To beat with a rod.

*a* 1225 *St. Marher.* (1869) 6 Hwil me yerdede hire.

**Yerd, 3erd,** etc. : see YARD, YIRD.

**Yerde,** var. ERDE *v.*, to dwell.

*c* 1515 *Scottish Field* 648 (Chetham Misc. II.) His ancestors of long tyme, have yerded there long.

**Yerd-hunger.** *Sc.* ' Earth-hunger ': (*a*) voracious desire for land (cf. *yard-hunger* in *Suppl.*); (*b*) see quot. 1825. So **Yerd-hungry** *a.* See also YIRD.

1823 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1839) VII. 155 About the land, I have no doubt your Lordship is quite right, but I have something of what is called the *yeard hunger*. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yerd-hunger* . . t. That keen desire of food, which is sometimes manifested by persons before death. . . 2. Voraciousness; the term being used in a general sense. *Ibid., Yerdhungry*, . . voraciously hungry.

† **Yere,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 3ere, 4 3eere; 3 *pa. t.* 3erde, 3irde, 3urde. [ME. *3ere*, repr. an unrecorded OE. **gerian* = OFris. *geria, geria* ! OS. *gerôn* (M.LG. *gæren*), OHG. *gerôn, -ên, -ôn* (MHG. *gæren, gern, -ên, -ôn*, G. *begehren*) to desire, related to OHG., MHG. *ger*, ON. *gerr* greedy (cf. OHG. *girî*, G. *gier* desire, OHG. *girig*, G. *gierig* desirous, covetous, etc.); f. Teut. *ger-*, whence also YERE *a.*, YEARN *v.*

With Teut. *ger-* : Indo-eur. *gher-* (*ghor-*) : *ghr-* to long, desire, be hungry. Related names are prob. allied Skr. *hárṣate* finds pleasure, *hárṣati* rejoices, Zend *zara-* striving, goal, *zaiṇṇ-* rejoice, *zaêna* to rejoice, *zâoa* favour, grace, L. *horiri, horitâri, horitûdo* to cheer, encheer.]

*trans.* To desire, long or yearn for; to express a desire for, request.

*c* 1205 LAY. 4790 Belin king him 3ette þæt forward þat he 3erde (*c* 1275 3orede). *Ibid.* 5515 Heo forzeten here 3isles & þat gret þat heo 3urden [*c* 1275 horeden]. *Ibid.* 11249 Al swa þe king 3irde Mauric hit him 3ette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28982 Þat es to be bern at 3erand Pat ile liue is al stanand. 1382 WYCLIF *P. Pl. A.* i. 33 Mesure is Medicine þauh þou muche 3eere.

Hence † **Yering** *vbl. sb.*, desire, longing; request.

23 . *Ball. on Scotish Wars* xx. (Rilson), Al my yering he tuk, þat I sold me, als ye were bi ways. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27030 (Cott. Galba) Fole couaitise and fole 3ering.

**Yere,** obs. f. EAR, ERE, HEAR, HEIR, YEAR; Sc. and dial. f. YOUR.

† **Yeresight,** -sift. *Obs.* = next.

1483 *Cath. Angl. Oculus, Sapient.* vii. in *Anglia* X. 386/24 In þis dayes beginneþ þe 3eere, and . . þey þat ben knytte to-geder by love apecyalle vsen to 3eve eche oþere 3eresyftes. 1545 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 79 For or. ludya yeres gyft.

† **Yeresyeve.** *Obs.* Forms: 2 3leresiɜeve, 3 3hersoheve, 3ersaive, 3–4 3eres-, yeresɜyve, -3iue, -3eue, -yeve, 5 3eresoffe. [f. *yeres*, gen. of YERE *sb.* + *3iue, 3eue* GIVE *sb.*!] A gift customarily given or exacted at the New Year, or at the beginning of a year of office.

1194 *Charter Rich. I* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1816) I. 57/2 Concessimus, quod sint quieti de bridtol, & de childwite, & de 3leresiɜeve. 1201 *Charter Cantor. in Rot. Chart.* (1837) 58/b Quod omnes homines de Cantebrig . . dent . . quietè de þerscheve et de scothale. 1232 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 130 [1302, which were paid yearly to the constable of Windsor from the land of Marquedeld by way of] 3ersaive. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xi. 34 Wolde neuer kyng ne knibt ne Canoun of Seynt poules 3eue hem to heore 3eres-þue þe value of a 3eres-3eue. *Ibid. B.* xv. 99 Hem þat deineth 3iftes or 3eresyɜues [*MS. K.* (14..) 3eresiftes] bi-cause of here offices. *Ibid.* viii. 92 He 3af be to 3eresyue to 3eme wel þi-schilde. 1382 *Prompt. Parv.* 548 (Winch), 3eresyfe, *estrennium*. [1723 BOHUN *Priv. Lond.* (ed. 3) 35 *Yeresyve*, is a Toll or Fine, taken by the King's Officers, on a Person's entring into an Office; or rather, a Bribe, given to them to connive at Extortion, or other Offence in him that gives it.]

**Yerfull,** obs. form of IREFUL.

**Yerk** (yɜ:k), **yark** (yɑ:k), *sb.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. YERK *v.*]

1. A smart blow or stroke, as of a whip or rod, or of a heavy body falling; a lash; also, the sound of such a blow or crack; a whip-lash.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* iv. (Percy Soc.) 18 And in her hande a strong knotted whippe : At every yarke she made hym for to skyppe. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Crepitus plagarum*, a yerke, yarke. 1585 [? GEORGE *Cathon in Dout. Scot.* xxiv. 1453/2 As soone as the wicked feele but one yirke of the rod with Gods hand. 1593 CHURCHYARD *Challenge, Worthines of Wales*, No whines heere, nor men-milde fame, Can scape thy scourge, it giues so sore a yarke. 1620 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* i. 33 They gaue mee the yarke with the spurre. 1686 FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 56 (1713) II. 408 Our Province is to lash a rout of wanton and disloyal People; and if any will be outermost, and so get a Yerk that makes 'em smart, let them hereafter learn to hide themselves in the Crowd. *a* 1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 47 Wi' a yawlin' yark, . . He derfly dang the bark Frae's shins that day. 1860 I. S. WILSON *Poems* 24 Gin The blackguard's hornbeam yark for yark, We hear no langer bangin'. 1860 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 7) Pref. p. xxiii, Clinching every decision with the 'yerk' of a spadeful of earth on the grave's brink. 1872 J. MILNE *Sel. Poems & Songs* 89 If thew oure the houses like a lark An doun on the fowk's taes fell wi' a yark.

*fig.* 1681 *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 8 (1713) II. 249 More out of dread of a Yerk from Heraclitus, than of all the Penalties in the Statute-Book. 1689 *Answ. Desertion Disc. in 10th Coll. Papers rel. Prot. Tyrannyto Affliyne* 5 To call the Breach of the Original Contract pretended, and a Popular Flourish, is a yerk of Malitious Reflection.

† **b.** *fig.* An impulse, eager desire. *Obs. rare* —1.

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 308 Ciscius did much delight to goe on hunting, & had a fine yearck to kill the Bore & other wenerie in the mountaines.

**2.** The act of lashing out with the heels, as a horse; a kick; a sudden or abrupt movement, a jerk, twitch.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 220 The horse, That . . With many frisks and yerks behinde, his head doth cast aloft. 1618 M. HARRT *Hippom.* 1. 9 There is no foale . . but will both leap . . turne lofstly, fetch such yarks behind, that it is very delightfull to behold. 1623 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) 1. ii. 26 With your rod giue him a good yerke vnder the belly . when you please to giue the yerke, he will then giue the yerke. 1679 SHADWELL *True Widow* iv. 56 Let's fight here; I would have my Mistress see how I put in my Pass, and what a yerk I give it. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* iv. xii. 191 Twenty thousand of them, battering the Warriors Faces into Mummy, by terrible Yerks from their hinder Hoofs. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* III. 257 He . . attacked the couple with his heels, prostrate as they were, yerk for yerk, indiscriminately.

**b.** A jerking or twitching sensation. *Obs.*

1826 J. SHERIDAN *Miseries Hum. Life* ix. (ed. 3) 195 The yerk, or throe, in the throat, that follows your last bumper of port. 1832 *Examiner* 290/1 The yerk of the third bottle of hot nastiness [*sc.* port].

**Yerk** (yɜ:k), **yark** (yɑ:k), *v.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5–7 yerke, 5–9 yerk, 6–7 yerke, yearke, 6–9 yark, yirk, 9 (*U. S.*) yawk. [ME. *yerk* (15th cent.), appearing first as a technical term of bootmaking. Of obscure origin, but prob. in part phonetically symbolic; cf. the largely synonymous *yerk, jirk.*]

1. To draw stitches tight, to twitch, as a shoemaker in sewing (*trans.* with the leather, etc. as obj., or *intr.*); also, to bind tightly with cords.

*c* 1430 *York Mem. fol.* (Surtees) I. 194 Pro sutura xij panium sotularium yerkyd ad manum, iiij d. 1600 DENKER *Shoemakers Hol.* (1610) B 3, *Ayre.* Yarke and seame, yarke and seame. *Firke.* For yarking & seaming let me alone & I come toot. 1630 *Tincker & Turvey* 37 His Wife sitting by him when hee was yarking of his shoes. 1695 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* (1804) Note xlviii, 'Sutor Watt, ye cannot sew your boots ; the heels *rive*, and the seams *rive*.— 'If I cannot sew,' answered the sturdy Craftsman, 'I can yark, which nailed the captain's thigh to his saddle.—'If I cannot sew, I can yerk.' 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 1. iii. lxiv, And they yerk his limbs with twine. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. iii, His hands and feet are yerked as tight as cords can be drawn. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* II. vii. 269 Right horses, . . every one with its head yerked to the tail of the one before him. 1825 [see *yerking* below].

2. *trans.* To strike smartly, esp. with a rod or whip; to beat, flog, lash; to drive with a whip.

*c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 484 A carter . . That with his whyp his marres was wonte to yarke. 1598 GOUDALE *Spir. Perfic* vi. 54 Like as the carter or foore man yerketh his horse with his whip. 1598 SHENSER *F. Q.* vi. vii. 44 That same foole . . Was Scorne, who hauing her vnder foot did tread, And with her yarke. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 5 Nine, or ten times I had thought t'haue yerk'd him here vnder the Ribbes. 1832 J. HOME *Polydoron* (1650) 211 When I observe a cruell Carter with a short staffe . . yerke his poore over-toyld Jade. 1893 MISS. CENTLIVRE *Love's Contrivt.* IV. i. 45 I'll yerk the sullen Devil out of you. *a* 1774 FERGUSON *Leith Races* Poems (1845) 34 Their skins are gaily yarkit An' pearlit like gleds. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., Aw'l yark yah, yah dirty lastard yah. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 550 We should yerk the yokel of a Yankee with the whip.

**b.** To smack or crack (a whip); also *intr.* of the whip, to crack.

*a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) F iij b, When ich was a lusty fellow, and could yarke a whip trimly. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xiii. (1632) 48 He would . . take a whip to yarke and lash, as cunningly as any Carter in France. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* ii. 9 Euery man drew forth his whip, and began to yarke the same.

**c.** *intr.* To strike, deal blows.

1825 G. BEATTIE *John O'Arnha* (1826) 30 He swat and yarkit wi' his hammer.

3. *fig.* To beat, lash, flagellate (as with sharp words or treatment); hence, to stir up, excite.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* to Arising will shake the Church : Macchiauell will yerke the Commonwealth. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fium. Lote* iii. 1. 1 Come to him, and that I yearke my familist out of the Spirit. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trvv.* C 5, I with my Pen doe meane to yerke and feele your Pulses. 1633 T. *Y.* [= Y.] *Hy fancy* yerket up sublime Wi' hasty summon. 1797 T. POOLE in Mrs. H. Sandford *T. P. & Friends* (1888) I. 221 The weight of government, which our ministry has ventured to touch and yerk every individual of the nation with it before. 1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii, Aye, Satan ! does that yerk ye? 1825 JAMIESON, *To Yerk, Yark*, figuratively applied to the rays of the sun, when they are very hot and vigorous. 1874 OUTRAM *Annuity* vi, In vain he yerked his souple head, To find an ambiguity.

**b.** *intr.* To gird or CARP *at*.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 392 Almost in euery Paragraph, either he yerketh at his neighbours credit, or commendeth his owne chickens. 1626 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 114 Orophius . . perhaps may yerk yerkin at every thing said by a wiser man than yourself.

4. *trans.* To pull, push, or throw with a sudden movement; to jerk.

1598 J. FEN tr. *Osorius' Confut. Huddon* 1. 7 b, When you are pricked and yerked forth with the goades of your owne madnes. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowres* Wks. 1907 I. 63 He that yerks old angells out apace. 1604 T. M. *Black Dk.* D 3 b, But when I yerkt them [*sc.* dice] forth, away they ranne like Irish Lackeys. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 83 When a great sea comes to yerk up the ship. 1780 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Yark*, to push or strike. 1825 J. NEAL *Brs. Jonathan* III. 236 A gray beaver, . . yerked a little on one side. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bit Jerry Thurland* I. xiv. 258 He . . seized the person by the chin and ears and yerked him upwards several times. 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. iii. xiii, I'd larn him how..to

vawk the rins with I th hanle 1861 *Stanif rl Mose* 27 Sept, He saw him knocking and yarking the horse about and swearing at it 1882 *Jamieson's N. Dict.* s.v. He yerkit to the yett wi' a bang 1904 *Dundee Advt.* 2 Dec. 7 If any person went and asked a civil question he might get a broom yarked at his head

b To utter spasmodically, 'jerk out' (words), to start, strike up (a song, etc.)

1604 Middleton *Ir. Hubburd's T.* C 3, He began to speake to the richest of our number, euer and anon, yerking out the word Irene 1779 Mackay *Ld Auchaleck* 24 Yerking those words out which by nearest 1815 *Dr Pearkin John O'Arnha* (1826) 57 A' the devils in a ring Yarkit up the Highland fling 1892 Hudden *Sheep-head's Frolics* 287 Yerk us aff a song I tell you.

†c. To 'get up' or compose rapidly or hastily, to 'dash off'. *Obs.*

1592 Nashe *Strange Newes* E 4 b, In a night & a day would he haue yarkt vp a Pamphlet as well as an other yeare 1621 Bp Mountagu *Diatribæ* 28 You are alle to shape your aduersary an answere, and yerke vp a booke in a night

5 To move (some part of the body) with a jerk or twitch, *esp* to lash out with (the legs), as a horse.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iv vii 85 [Wounded steeds] with wilde rage yerke out their armed heeles at their dead masters 1607 Markham *Cavel* ii (1617) 172 You shall obserue that when he yerketh, he yerk out his hinder feete euen and close, together 1623—(*Cheap Husb* (ed 3) ii v 17 When a horse yerketh out his nose, *Ibid. Country Contentments* (1615) 186 I eander now turns on his back, He yerks out legs and lifts arme slack 1726 *Dict Rustic.* unt (ed 3) s.v. *Capriole*, I he Goat leap, when a horse at the full height of his Leap, yerks or strikes out his hind Legs 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xiii, Mahound yerked out his hoofs. 1828 *Cra en Gloss* s.v. Those yerked out beath his hinder

b *intr.* To lash or strike out with the heels, to kick

1585 (see *yerking* below). 1573–80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 150 The sooner that poore beast is strucke the sooner doth he yerke. 1579–80 Nomtr *Plutarch* (1595) 779 The horse would let no man get vp on his backe, but would yerke out at them 1581 J. Bell *Haddons Answ* Over 158 b, He is the horse] chufeth & champeth vpon the bridle commeth a loft, yerketh out with his heeles behinde 1611 Cotgr s.v. *S'agrouper*, He would yerke out behind 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. viii 96 He fell a Trotting, and Winching, and Yerking

*transf.* 1620 Fletcher *Sea Voy* i i, How she [*sc* a ship] kicks and yerks

6 *intr* To spring or rise suddenly: esp of animals

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb* vi 54 So doth the Salmon vault And if at first he faile, his second summersault Hee instantly assaues, and from his nimble ring Still yerking [etc.] 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yerk*, to leap suddenly, to jerk all the sheet of a cat [= instantly] 1892 *Mem Devon Hole* xvi (1893) 193 It [*sc* a snipe] yarked up and screeted, and I tupped round, and blazed 1897 Sir Edmund *Catmona* xv, We saw the wee flag yerk up to the mast head

b *fig.* To engage eagerly in some proceeding, to 'pitch into'.

1737 Ramsay *Sc Prov* (1750) 103 Thoughts are free, tho' I mayna use muckle I can yerk at the thrashing 1807 J. Stagg *Poems* 52 Some teymes th' wimen are nae better neyghbes, when dark We'd meet th' Ladies Dirdys yark. 1892 Lumsden *Sheep head's Frolics* 181 Well, he has a lang thing to yerk till in the morning *Ibid.* 257 Now Dominie, yerk in.

Hence **Yerking, yarking** *vbl. sb* and *ppl. a* (in various senses: see above and quots.).

1586 Cooper *Thesaurus, Excruciatores equi*, flinging and yerking horses 1587 Fleming *Holinshed's Chron.* III 810 The fox not able to beare the yerking of his [*sc* the lion's] taile, or a pelt of his paw 1589—*Virg. Georg* iii 348 Seest thou not that neither bit and bridle Nor cruell yerkings, do stop or stay Horsses from mares 1593 G. Harvey *Pierces Super* 11 And what comparable to this spowte of yirking eloquence? 1598 Marston *Pasq. Malcontent*, Jurke gazzell dogge, Skud from the lashes of my yerking rime 1605 *Play Stukely* in Simpson *Sch Shaks* (1878) I 234 Wch spur your lennet, Wch with yerking she do breed her girths 1624 Gee *Foot out of Snare* App 114 A song of the same smart yerking tune. 1639 I. de Grey *Compl Horseman* 2 The horse never gave over flinging, yarking, plunging, and bowncing 1657 T. Pleasant *Clear. Gal Comm.* 47 Are all the yerking Muses fallen asleep? 1787 W. Taylor *Sc. Poems* 177 Mornin clocks an' yarkin hun mers Reviv'd us by their tuneful yammers 1825 Jamieson, *Yerkin*, the seam by which the hinder part of the upper leather of a shoe is joined to the forepart, Berwicks., Dumfr 1892 Lumsden *Sheep head's Frolics* 186 Hootsman proposed that Rob Clarty should give us some of his reels for the yerking off of which Rob is a. One who yerks; a kicker, a dogger. b. 'A sudden and very severe blow' (Jam. 1825)

1664 Gouldman *Dict* 1 (1666), A yerker out, *sternax* 1678 Littleton *Eng. Lat Dict*, A yerker or whipster, *plagiarius Orbilius*

**Yerl, yerle,** obs. or Sc. ff Earl

**Yerle, -ly,** obs. ff. Early, Yearly.

**Yerm,** variant of Yarm *v.*

**† Yern,** *a. Obs.* Forms 1 georn, 3 goorn, 3–5 gern, (4 garn, yerin), 4–5 gerne, yorne, 5 yarne, yherne, 6 yorne, yearne, (9 *dial* jorn) [OE. *georn* = OS. *gern*, OHG. *garn*, *kern* (MHG. *gern*, G *gern*), ON *gjarn*, Goth *-gafrns* (in *sinnagafrns* selfish, *faihugafrns* covetous), also OS *-gerni* (MLG. *gerne*), OHG **gerni*, *kerni* (MHG. *-gerne*), f. *ger- *gar-*: see Yere *v.* and of Yearn *v.*]

1. Eager, earnestly or keenly desirous; also, greedy, covetous.

*c* 893 Alfred *Oros* iii viii 122 For þæm þe ræhtes þara folca wæs þæs geþeahtes georn 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 No wæs he nec beon to georn deadra manna [c. 1000 *Ælfric.* 1031 Ic eom wþes fan edlennan georn *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 175 þa he weren swa leos þet me hom ne mihte ileuen Med yerne domes men & wrong wve reuen 13 *Cursor M.* 26638 (Göt.) þat þe war sauf yarn hatne i bene c 1485 Wyntoun *Cron* vi x 852 To fecht with hym wes full yarne [*v. r.* yharne] [1505 *Engl. Deut Secr.* 3 *Sears*, I is phr. *he is yern on a thing*, to be bent on it Shr., Mtg. I'm yern on that or that.]

b. Earnestly occupied or engaged, busy (*about* something)

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8205 (Cott.) O þan wandes grett lose þu made, þe king shate þan wan fal garn [*v. r.* gern] *c* 1450 *Merl's Festial* 147 Per was a tonne of bras into þe wheche tonne he was put and closyd perin, and fure made vndir hite, and so þei weren yerne about for þat Seynt Jon schuld hase ben brent þerin

2 Swift, rapid, brisk, lively; nimble, active.

*Cursor M.* 23588 (Edinb.) Sun and mon, and water stad, stedes, þat time þai wore wit-tan yarn 1388 Chaucer *Melibee* § 71 But of her song, it was as loude and yerne As any swalwe sittynge on a berne *c* 1425 *Scottish Field* 571 (Lincham, Bat. II.) Swicheþipe [*sic*] like a yerne fox (Percy MS.) yearne] men, egerly they foughten]

**† Yern,** *v Obs* Forms 1 geiernan, geyrnan, *Nth.* geirnna, 2–3 yirne, 3 irne, 4 5 yerne, yerne. *Pa t. a.* (*str.*) 1 ġearn, (3arn, ġoharn), 3iarn, *pl* 3eurnon, 3e uurnun, 3iurnun, 3–4 3orn, 4 yorn, yorne, yorne, yourne, 3arn, yarn, 5 yarne, yurne, *ġ* (*wk.*) 1 *pl* 3oneurdon. 1 yerned *Ps. lxiv.* 1 3eurnon [*Lev.* Vrarn *v.*] (cf. m.); 4 yyarned. [OE *geiernan, geærnan* see Y- *prefix* 3 c and Run *v* For the specific sense 'to curdle' see Yearn *v* 2]

1. *intr* = Run *v* 1, 4, 5

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* v vi (1890) 400 Þa ġeseondon hio þone hlafe ne 3eornde *c* 900 Werferth tr *Gregory's Dial* iii (1900) 88, & þa him ġangenden in þam wege him onġen ġurnon [*v. r.* urnon] þer ġrendraan. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 749 (Laud 108), I o buore he gan yarne. 13 *Alis* 565 Þat child þat ich wilde bereyn, com a gret prys, & renyl þoroujout þe contray *Ibid.* 2693 Forthe [he] is wip þat 3yarned [*mine* forbrund] *v r* yroune, *mine* breinne]. 13 *E. E. Allit P* B 881 Dot þyt be ȝonge men, ȝo ȝerne, ȝomen ȝer oute. 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B iii 223 (MS R) Eiir peroures þuri ȝates han þoumen to ȝernen [*v. r.* ȝerne] and to ride 1393 — *Piers Pl.* (C) xiv 200 Þe ȝeruȝmen ȝerne awey, with good wylle, Well hastyly *Ibid.* 965 Vpon a stede he is yn yerne With sper and schelde *c* 1400 *Sir Perc* 57 Euer 45 Pe knyȝt ȝode to ȝerne ȝerned & ȝeten fire & brond *c* 1425 *Engl Cong Deit* 74 He saw a mych flote of wylde swyne ȝeornyge vp on hugh & morȝye *Ibid* 82 He ȝerne to anelyn for to sooue hym.

2. = Run *v* 2

*c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handloc* in *Anglia* VIII 298 Þa circul ȝa todæled ontwiſ, & seo sunne ȝeornȝ þas twelf tida binnan xxti mondum *Ibid* ȝon Saturnus ȝe se ȝiesta is ȝeornȝ ȝe ymbryne to þam ȝeteacnum mon þæt ȝeornȝ *c* 1300 *Havelok* 894 Stedeuest and lestande ase þe zonne, þet alneway ȝernþ and ne is neure wery *Ibid.* 141 (see *yerning* below)

3. = Run *v* 3

1340 *Ayenb* 27 Vor hit behoueþ þet ruich wyn ȝerne by be tenpe, vor ine hit ne bo zonne 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xix 376 (Ms. B) Water Egerliche ȝeuȝnȝe, out of mennes eyen ȝeȝ 1393 — *Piers Pl* (Crowley) I 103 Þe streme of Lyues þat ȝerneþ westward in to ȝe ȝrete see *c* 1400 *R Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8697 (MS C) Þe blod zorn to grounde

4. *fig.* = Run *v* 4

*c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist Eccl* xxviii (1890) 366 Þa ȝeorn ðær sona upp ȝeuhtsumlic yrs & wæstm. *c* 900 Werferth tr *Gregory's Dial.* xxi (1900) 147 Swa hwæt swa þe on mod ȝeornaþ ȝeornlice *ġeendiġe eacnerstafi.* 13 *Cursor M. Gr Knt* 509 Penne al rypes & rotes þat ros vpon fyrst, & þus zirnez þe zere in ȝsteidagez mony 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xi 59 Forsi ȝouþe and ȝeres ȝe *ȝer* ȝarne, 1393 — ȝorne, ȝarn] in to elde 1393 *Piers* C. xix 265 Enuye and vuel will ȝorn in þe lewes

Hence **† Yerning** *vbl. sb.*, running, course; *ppl a*, running; also † **Yerner,** *v* runner

1340 *Ayenb* 27 Þe ȝernynge of þe bruttie eaturne, bet asemeoche yemþ in onelepi daye mid þe firmament ase he deþ me britti yer ine his oȝene sercle and ine his oȝene yernynge 1377 Langl *P Pl* B xvi 3 Þe ȝernynge of þe sonne 1825 Jamieson, Sc ȝernynge of þe weteres 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI 13 Þanne þe prouince was swiþe dest urbed by rennynge of Mos ȝ ȝernynge and reses of ȝerunggers. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* *Compl Ploughman* (1533) B ij, I hou he maister none suche shepherde ne kepers of thy schepe, that weren ȝerners vnote countreys *a* 1400 *R Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8288 (MS C) Þe ȝernende water was of hor blod al red *c* 1425 *Engl Cong Deit* 94 Bytwene twe perylle —on on halue, þe wode ȝernynge watyr so gryuly; on other halue, hys fonen

**Yern(e,** obs. ff. Earn *v.*1, Iron, Yarn, Yearn.

**Yernful,** variant of. Earn-bleaten, anipe

1755 R. Forbes *Trial from London in Ayre his Sp.* 35 Afore the lewrick or yern bitter began to sing.

**† Yerne,** *adv. Obs.* Forms 1 ȝeorne, ȝyrne, 2–4 ȝorne, 2–5 ȝorne, 2 6 ȝerne, 3 (*Orm.*) ȝernne, 4 ȝern, ȝiern(e, 4–5 yerne, ȝurne, ȝarne, 4–6 yern, ȝarn, 5 ȝyrne, yorne, yurne, yarn, yarne. [OE. *ġeorne* = OFris. *gerne, yerne* (Tris *yearn*), OS *gerno* (MDu. *ghierne, gheerne*, Du. *gaarne*), OHG *gerno* (MHG. *gerne*, G *gern*), ON *gjarna* (Sw *gerna, garna*, Da *gerne*), adv. of OE. *georn*, etc see Yern *a.*]

1. Eagerly, earnestly, diligently, zealously, heartily

*Beowulf* 2904 Hordweard sohte ȝeorne ofer ȝrunde. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 þa weeccan munecas ȝyrne cleopedon to Gode his milsse biddende *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 23 Muchel is us ȝenne neod ȝenne biddin ure mileȝnde drihten þet [etc.] *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 49 Þider ȝe sculen ȝorne drazen. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll Hom* 3 Men wisten ȝerne after ure lauerd þesus cristes tocume *a* 1250 *Prov. of Hendyng* 101 in *O. E. Misc* (1872) 108 Je mon be on his ȝoubȝe yeorne ȝeornek wit and wisdom *c* 1290 *St Issandan* 94 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 222, & bede ȝurne oure louerdes grace bulke weyȝes to do *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9789 (Cott.) ȝern [*Fairf* ȝeorn] on þaim he cried mercil 13375 Barbour *Bruce* iii 547 I he king then at þaim spayit ȝarne, How þan had fune *c* 1400 *St Alexius* (Laud 463) 75 Iohn he day, & he nyght, ȝerne þei bonked our dright, & Seinte Marie. *c* 1400 *Rom Rose* 6739 Thanne may he go shegging yerne Til he somme muner crafte kan lerne *c* 1480 *Chron. Vilod* 727 Seyst Dunstone beyside hym fulle faste And ȝyrne to god for hym he bede *c* 1485 *Engl. Conq. Ire* 92 He beseght sil ȝorne þat he most allyaunce haue to her kynrede *c* 1490 *Pallad on Husb.* x 407 Myngle but yerne lyl euery part vntyl on body tunne 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. viii. 83 The blak swarm our the feildis walkis ȝarn, Turnand throw the gers þat pray to hobbilschou. *Ibid.* xi viii 44 He huddilit hede than and the roddis darn, A myrrte wod about thaim lowkit ȝarn

b Willingly, gladly, 'fain', *occas.* wilfully

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth* vii. 1 Ne ȝeman ic ȝeorne þæs ȝeonȝan 3080an ȝehwæt þæs þe beorn ȝemiȝnan hellnesse *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 9 Sif þu ȝerne waxest on ȝodnesse, after þing þe þe beð þheue. 13 *Gaw. & Gr Knt* 1536 Þe, þat ar no cortays & coyn of a knyȝt helez to lye longe þynk sorn to schewe, & teche sum tokenez of trweluf craftes. 1424 Hampton *Psalt Pr* (Percy Soc) 12 And I trespase ageins the ȝeine. *a* 1598 Dowglas *Sir Marvil Wemen* 129 He trowis that ȝoung folk I ȝerne ȝeild

c Thoroughly, well.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen* xxxix 3 He wiste ful ȝeorne [*gl* ġod hine lufode 22 *Homil Ord* 306 (Lambeth 489) 6 Ne mæȝ þa þe hem sundriȝe ȝeorne, wel eiche un ȝenwe *a* 1225 *Leg Kath* 1588 Hire luste swuðe ȝeorne speoken mit te mriden *a* 1240 *Ureisun of Ure Lefdi* 1 199 Þu hit wost ful ȝeorne bet þe deouel hateð me

2 a. Quickly, swiftly, rapidly, fast, briskly, at a great rate.

*a* 1225 Wulfstan *Hom* ii (1883) 28 Hit to ðam dome nu ȝeorne nealæcð 23 *Gen. & Ex.* (Gott. MS.) 2870 Þeos ea ful ȝerne, & ȝelder neuer lyke *c* 1386 Chaucer *Lord T* 70 Myne bandes and my tunge goon so ȝerne That it is vnto to me my busynesse 1393 Langl. *P Pl* C xxi 200 Achulle wax wonder ȝerne and sone was of age *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 174 I he maister may his prentes so enforme, That hys lure may crese ful ȝerne 1440 *Promp. Parv.*, Yarnly (*P* yarne or fast), *Animanter* 1440 *Gesta Lation Lett* Suppl (1901) 12 There he lyted and knokkyd on the gate, and we folwyd as ȝern as we myȝth 1493 *Dicts & Prouerbes* (W de W. 1496) ix viii 358/1 Rathe but he is neuer soo hyȝhe, & go he neuer soo ȝerne *c* 1550 *Crt of Love* 1299 There nis no swallow so ȝerne ne hil so ȝern can fly

b. Quickly, without delay, immediately, directly, soon. Also *as yerne* (see A. a. c).

*c* 1320 *Sir Perist* 3069 Hennes ȝern þou fle Out of þis mine *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 1959 Seid þe to me seply *c* 1400 *Rom* 3 schalt dede *c* 1374 *Chaucer Troylus* in 176 Achilles with his spere Mi3 herte yerne Wolde ryue *Ibid.* 1176 Wrye *c* 1384—*H. Lancth* 402 With þat he spak to me so yerne And seyde *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 22 Sif þ. he ȝilly, be sory in herte, yerne & fast 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 109 Ane ȝoung lusty galland, ȝe half so yern can fly

**† Yernly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeornlice, 2–3 ȝornlike, 3 ȝoornelike, ȝornlokes, ȝiernlokes, ȝornlokest, 4 ȝernely, -ly, ȝornly, 3 ȝernlukker, ȝeornelukker, 4 ȝernloker; *sup.* 3 ȝeornlucost. [OE. *ġeornlice* = OHG. *gernlihho* = ON. *grannliga* see Yern *a* and Ly 2] = prec. 1

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) O 58 *Obnixe*, ȝeornlice *c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* iii xi (1890) 268 He ȝeornlice in his ȝebedde biesohte. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Lives of Saints* (1881) I 480 ȝeornlice he þam cilde. *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 109 Se ȝeorlse unþeu is þet he riche mon bihuded his feh, and ȝeornlukest bridde hit *c* 1200 *Trin Coll Hom* 21 Men þeos two wes ȝeornlukest þeat, swo he ȝeornluker clepeð hem to him, swo hie wideere turneð froward him *a* 1225 *Ancr R.* 100 Hercneð mi ȝeornelicne, mine leoue sostren *c* 1393 Piers Pl (C) xx 220 Þe ȝornlokest leste Of þes vnsoupe tale *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim* 593 Nas ner song mon ne old hat ȝernloker wrouȝte. *a* 1400 *Kellys Knyȝt Ar. Arthoure Mt* (1924) 55 Damasle Dis-crecyone hall ȝernely be-ȝynne to ryde

**† Yerr,** *sb Obs.* In 3 ȝeor, ȝur, 4–5 ȝerro. [f. next] A loud or harsh cry, yell, howl

*a* 1225 *Ancr R* 306 Mid þi e schulen þe uorlorene worpen a wuch ȝeor [*MS. L.* ȝur, *MS. C.* ȝei] þet heouene & eorðe muwen þeoðen grahluche ȝeares 1340 *Ayenb* 21 Mid MS ) 51 [He] bigon swa to ȝuren þat monie weren awundret hwet tet ȝur were *a* 1400–50 *Alex & Dind* 1042 So did his princes With ȝedre ȝeukinge & ȝerre ȝet out to greete

**† Yerr,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝyrran, 3 yeorre, ȝurre (*pa. t. pl* ȝurren), 4–5 ȝere. [OE. **ġyrran, ġyrran* str vb, f. echoic stem *gar-* cf. Garre, Yarr(e, etc.] *intr.* To make a harsh noise, creak, roar, rattle; to cry out loudly, yell, howl

*a* 1000 *Andreas* 374 Strengas ȝyrron *a* 1200 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* (1900) 194/1 [*Gl.* to *sc* a file] ȝyrre *c* 1205 *Lay* 28338 ȝurren þa stanes Mid þan blod stremes *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath* 2041 Per me mahte ȝheren þe heaðene hundes ȝelleð & ȝeien & ȝurren. *c* 1225 *Juliana* (Bod. MS.) 50 Monie weren awundret hwet te ȝurring mahte beon *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 325 in *O. E. Misc* 83 He yeorreð & hes gredeð, þe feondes beoun forþi ledeþ *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 4745 Vmquile he noys as a nowte or a nox quen he lawes, ȝarnand & ȝerand a ȝotten him acused

**Yersel,** Sc. form of Yourself

**Yert, Yertandeal,** obs. ff. Erst, Yesterday.

**† Yerk.** *Obs rare.* [Of obscure origin; combines the symbolic elements, initially of *yerk*, finally

of *blunt*, *flirt*, *spirt*, *squirt*.] = YERE *sb.* 1. **Yert-point**, name of some game (cf *blow-pount* s v. BLOW- 3).

1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XXXI (1555) I ij, At euery yerte she made godfrey to skyppe 1659 *Lady Alimony* II v, All his games .Are yert point, tuispany, Job nut, or span counter

**Yerth**, obs. form of EARTH.

**Yerva**: see HERBA, YERBA.

**Yes**, *sb.*1 *dial.* Also 8 *yease*, 9 *yis*, *yesh* [Variant of EASE, prob. the same word as EES, OE. *æs* food, bait.] The earthworm.

1787 GROSE *Prov Gloss*, *Yeaze*, an earth worm, particularly those called dew worms. W c1880 *Quekett's Sayings* (1888) 33 Yeshes are large worms which they make use of as baits to catch eels 1893 *Jennings Obs Dial W Eng.*, *Yes* 1895 BARNES *Dorset Gloss*, *Yis*

**Yes** (yes), *adv.* (*sb.*2) forms a. 1 *seose*, 3–4 *ȝese*, 4–5 *ȝeis*, (5 *yhes*, *ȝeyase*, *yease*, 9 *dial.* *eea*), 5– *yes*. β 1 *siese*, 2–4 *siese*, (4 *ysiȝe*), 4 5 *ȝisse*, *ȝys*, 4–6 *ȝise*, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) *yis*, (5 *yhis*, *yyse*, *ȝiseo*, 9 *yeseo*, 6–7 *ise*, 9 *dial.* *ees*). γ *ysyse*, 3 *ȝisse*, 4 *ȝhise*, *yse*, 4–5 *ȝise*, (5 *seise*). [An affirmative word confined to English: OE *gese*, *gise*, *gyse*, the forms of which point to early WS **giese* ~ **geast*, prob f *gea* YEA + *si* 3 sing. pres subj. of *bēon* to be; a similar formation is seen in *neese* (Northumb *naase*, *nawse*), prob f. *ne* NE *adv.* + *si* (as above)

The acceptance of this derivation necessitates the assumption that *yea* was orig. available as an answer to a particular class of question, which is intrinsically not improbable. The suggested derivation from **gea swa* 'yea, so' is phonologically inadequate

The pronunciation (yes), still widespread in dialects, was formerly current in polite speech and is recorded as such in Walker's *Pronouncing Dict.*]

A word used to express an affirmative reply to a question, statement, command, etc.

**1.** In answer to a question not involving a negative; standing for the affirmative sentence corresponding to the interrogative one constituting the question = 'It is so.' Phr *To say yes* to assent, comply; *spec* to accept a proposal of marriage.

Formerly usually more emphatic than *yea* or *aye* in later use taking the place of these as the ordinary affirmative particle of 2 below

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I 84 Hwi wolde God swa lytles þinges him forwyrnan ? Ȝese, he milde Adam tocwæþan (etc.) c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 31 Hwat seist þu, Dauið ? Hafst þu awiȝe sikernesse þeroff ? 'Ȝese,' þeȝ seiþ, 'we ne ȝeo all sikker of ȝodes behate' 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose* 470 (MS E) Ihe kyng sperit Gilf ony man couth tell tithand Of any strange man in that land 'Ihis [*r* ȝis!], said a woman, 'schir, perfay, Of strange men I can now say' 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI 341 Panne þe kyng com, and þe pope axede of hym ȝif he hadde i holde his oth 'Þe kyng sede 'ȝis al at þe falle *Ibid* VIII 313 Of þis erle is ofte gret stryf, whether he schulde be accounted for [*r.* among] seyntes oþer none Some seyn ȝis Oþer seiden ȝe contrarie *c*1440 *Promp Parv* 532 *ȝys*, *ita*, *etiam* 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XXXII vij, Haue you hym sene in any time before? Yes yes quod she 1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Fior* 127 Hast thou found thy Lucciana questions? Is, so shall fauoured that I know not not 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent. Ver* II i 118 *Iul.* Yes 1593 *Dub* Loue you the man that wrong'd you? *Iul* Yes, as I loue the woman that wrong'd him 1634 MILTON *Comus* 584 *Sec. Bro.* Is this the confidence You gave me Brother? *Eld Bro* Yes, and keep it still. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let to Mann* 28 July, Bergen op zoom still holds out, and as the first place that has not said yes, the moment the French asked it the question 1818 SCOTT *Hearts* I introd 45 Will spring return, And blossoms clothe the hawthorn's spray? Yes, prattlers, yes! the daisy's flower Again shall paint your summer bower 1866 MAY KENDALL *Dutch Lyrics* xvi, 'Is it a nice clean place?' asked Aunt Harriet 'Yes! yes! clean enough!' said Isaac 1883 D C MURRAY *Hearts* XIV (1889) 151 'You can say' Yes' to a man she didn't care for 1917 G W E. RUSSELL *Voll & Lers* IV x. 364 Is it wise to be prepared for this ewil? Until the dream of a universal disarmament is realized, surely yes.

b *Yes and No*: a round game (see NOES).

1843 DICKENS *Chr Carol* III, It was a Game called Yes and No, where Scrooge's nephew had to think of something, and the rest must find out what; he only answering to their questions yes or no, as the case was. 1894 *Lewis Lennox* (ed 2) III Yes and No This game was formerly called *Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral* A player was sent out of the room, and a word (or rather thing) thought of. The player was called in, and proceeded to ask certain members of the company to which of the three kingdoms—*animal*, *vegetable*, or *mineral*—the question belonged. He then proceeded to ask other questions, to which the players were only compelled to answer 'Yes' or 'No'

**2** a In answer to a question involving a negative.

Formerly regularly used thus (and as in b) in distinction from *yea* (see YEA 1); the distinction became obsolete soon after 1600, and since then *yes* has been the ordinary affirmative particle in reply to any question positive or negative, and *yea* has become archaic. The distinction was still observed in the Bible of 1611, in which *yes* occurs four times (all in N T.), always after a negative question or statement: the Revisers of 1881, apparently in ignorance of the usage, have altered it in all these instances to *yea*.

*c*888 ÆLFRED *Boeth* xvi §4 Wenst þu þæt se godcunda anweald ne mihte afyrran þone anwald þam unrihtwan kasere, ȝif he wolde? Ȝese, in ȝesne! is, wat þæt he mihte, ȝif he wolde *Ibid* XXXIV § 6 Eft cwæð he Ne sæde ic þe ær þæt seo ȝesnesse good were? Ȝese, cwæð ic, ac þa þæt sædest þæt hio þæt hebbate good were. *c*1000 *Ags Gosp* Matt XVII 25 Ȝewer larcow, ne ȝylt he gafol? Þa cwæð he: Ȝese, he deð *a*1225 *Ancr. R* 392 Ne mahte he mid lasse gref habben ared us? Ȝe aiker [*MS T* ȝese] wat,

*MS C* yes] wile] *a*1300 *Cursor M* 5208 (Cott) 'How sua, es þar na noþer king?' Yus [*Gött* Ȝus] bot he dus nakins thing *c*1386 CHAUCER *Poems* VII 499 Nya ȝys god ise ? Ȝea, ȝe yf ȝe, god laȝe ȝys *a*1400 *Cursor M* 2761 (Cott) 'Ne sal þai all þar fore liue ?' 'Ye, said vr lauerd 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II 84 Trow ȝe nocht þan that thai Sall vencust in thir battis be ? Ihus sall þai *c*1400 *Pilgr Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV xx. 66 Myn herten greef, mote I not wepe? O ye *c*1450 *Merlin* III 54 'Haue ye no myndе of the seruyse ? And thus seide, 'Yesse, full wele *c*1450 *Cov Myst* XXX (Shaks Soc) 296 I hynk ȝe not he is worthy to dey ? *Is it clamabant omnes* ' ȝys ! ȝys ! ȝys ! alle we seyse he is worthy to dey, ȝe ! ȝe ! ȝe !' 1533 MORE *Debell Salem* Wks 997/1 Wold not the iudges trow you geue them ȝ^e^ hearing, yee yes I dout not 1545 JOYE *Exp Dan* III 38 b, And he not cast them men bownde into the fyre? whych answerd, yssee truly oh kyng 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent* II i 128 *Val* What meanest your Ladiship? Doe you not like it? *Sil* Yes, yes 1632 LITHGOW *Trav* VI 255 Was not the hand of the Almighty able also, to deuoure their plaines with water? Yes and doubtlesse yes 1646 VAUGHAN *Sym Sat* 2 483 But thy spruce boy must touch no other face Then a Patriarchs? any race so low? Yes such 1779 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II 308 *B* 'Is not the Giant's Causeway worth seeing? —*J* 'Worth seeing, yes: but not worth going to see' 1828 WEBSTER *Amer Dict* s.v. YES, You never can have walked, my dear? 'Yes, I have' 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* XXVII, 'I like to be always making acquaintances, don't you?' 'Lord, yes!'

b. In contradiction or of opposition to a negative statement expressed or implied, or a negative command or request.

Now usually accompanied by a short asseverative phrase echoing the preceding statement; e g in quot. 1611, mod colloq 'yes he will' 'yes I am' etc.

*c*1205 LAY 17908 Þa andswarede þe king Mærlin þu seest sellic þing þe truwre mon þoreen non Ne maie hoom hingen þe wrecche Þa wiste ich wel þe king Peredure þeonne? Þa andswerede Mærlin Þus kinge Ȝuse, ȝuse leuerd king 13 *Cursor M.* 1249 (Gött) 'Sun, he said, 'he ius nu! To þe wrang, þai ius fra!' 'Ia, sir, wrang! quebrward 'Ȝeis, he said, 'i sal be tell and say, Hugat þu sal in þi right way *c*1330 *Will Palerne* 1567 'Ȝe, wis-ȝe bat,' sede william 'writly to speke, Of alle harmes were eft hol' 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII 580 'Schir, quhethir sa it *c*1375 *Cursor M* 5066 (Fairf) We ar nogt of a kithe saide he, ȝus bat salle I shew to be *c*1400 *Rom Rose* 4659 (Glouc MS) *Lamaunt* Yhis, dame, pardie *Ibid* 5052 *Lamaunt* Nay, nay *Lamaunt* Yhis, I *c*1420 [see YEA 4] *c*1450 *Merlin's Festival* 252 Then be Ewe sayde hit was not. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I xx 66 How sholdest thou knowe it, for thow arte not so old of yeres to knowe my fader, yes sir, I Merlyn I knowe wel inough for I am wyser than ony man 1592 SHAKS. *Merch of Venice* I iii

**A.** *adj.* Of or belonging to yesterday. *poet.*

1577 Holinshed *Chron., Descr. Scot.* ix. 12/1 We have auch plenty of fishe,...that although Millions...of them be taken on the one day, yet on the nexte tide Ieue sal so be supplied with new store, that nothing shal be missing by reason of the yesterfang. 1690 Dryden *Don Sebastian* iv. i. (1692) 13 Is, To love an Enemy,...whom yester Sun beheld, Musti'ring her Charms. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* iv. 881 When the glimm'ring ray Of yester dawn disclos'd the tender day. 1737 Glover *Leonidas* vii. 31 Opposition more tremendous still And ruinous, than yester sun beheld. 1848 Trench *K. Arthur* xi. calix, Thro' paths his yester steps had fail'd to find. 1880 *Universal Rev.* Nov. 427 There all day long my yester journey was.

†**B.** *adv.* Yesterday. *Obs.*

1647 in *Essex Rev.* (1903) XVII. 134 Sir thomas farfax yester dined at the Tower. 1653 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 6 The other took his advertisement so ill that they were like to have fallen by the ears yester. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) Suppl., All the day yester.

†**C.** *sb.* Yesterday. Also *transf.* *Obs.*

a 1701 Sentry *Virg. Pract.* vi. Wks. 1708 I. 307 With fumes of yester's wine the god was dos'd. 1837 Whittock, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1840) 300 (*Printer*), Ornamental printing—the last thing of yester's labour.

**Yester-,** in comb. or as prefix = immediately preceding the present, last, in Yesterevе, etc., after Yesterday, Yesternight; e. g. *yester-afternoon, -age, -noon, -week.* See also Yester-year.

1808 Coleridge *Lett. to D. Stuart* 18 Aug., I...have found myself so unusually better ever since I leaped on land yester-afternoon. 1890 Swinburne *Study Shakspere* (1895) 97 A poet of the first order...puts the life-blood of an equal interest into Hebrew forms or Greek, mediæval or modern, yesterday or yesterage. 1891 *Oxford Mag.* 4 Nov. 61/1 Yesterday no noon. 1892 M. Collins in Frances Collins *M. C., Lett. etc.*, (1877) I. 206, I saw some swallows yesternoon at the parsonage. 1892 Mrs. Bowning *Lem. Pages* xii, The lady Abbess dead before it, And the chanting nuns whom 'yesterweek Her voice did charge and bless.

**Yesterday** (yē'stərdē, -di), *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 *geostran-, gystran-, gioster-, geostor dæg*, 3–6 *ȝistre-* (*ȝ yistere-, ȝ yistir-, ȝistire-, ȝistir-, ȝistyre-, ȝhister-, yhistir-, ȝhystir-*, 3 *ustor-*, 5 *ȝistur-*; *ȝystyr-, ȝyster-, ȝustir-*, 6 *ȝeister-, yister-, ir-, ȝdial.yisser-*), 4– *yesterday. β.* 1 *syrstan-, sierstandæg*, 3 *ȝersten-, ȝurster-, ȝursten-, ȝorsten-, ȝorstnen-*, 4 *ȝurseday*, 5 *ȝurston-, ȝerstanday*, 7 *ȝistal, -ay*, 8 *ye(r)stai.* (Also 1–6 occas. as two words.) [OE. *geostran, gystran dæg*, Lindisf. Gosp. *gioster dæg*, Rushw. Gosp. *gestor dage*, a his with metathesis (*VSG.*) *gierstan, gyrstan dæg.* The only known parallel to this collocation is Goth. *gistradagis alþuma*, to-morrow; in OE., the simple *giestron* is found only once, but in the other languages the simple word is regularly used alone in the sense of 'yesterday': OFris. **iester, *iersi(n)ne* (NFris., WFris. *jister*, E.Fris. *jursen, jersten*), MLG. *gisteren, -ern(e*, (LG. *gistern, gistere(n)*, MDu. *ghisteren, ghister* (Du. *gisteren*, also *dag van gister*), OHG. *gestaron, gest(e)rn* (MHG. *gestern*), G. *gestern*). The second word has the form (with and without inflexional *-n*) of a comparative **ghistr-, ghjestr-* (cf. L. *hester-nus* of yesterday) of an Indo-eur. **ghjes* represented outside Teutonic by Skr. *hyás*, Gr. *χθές*, Alb. *dje*, L. *heri* yesterday (ON. *í gær* yesterday, to-morrow, shows a variant with long vowel).

The twofold meaning exhibited in the above forms and in OHG. *hestern* day before yesterday, and after to-morrow, indicates that the original application of the word was to a day preceding or following the present. The following apparent example of the English word with the meaning 'to-morrow' is isolated:—

1533 More *Apol.* 201, I geue them all playn peremptory warninge now, that they dresse vp no longer. For yf they tarye tyll yesterday...I purpose to purchace liuche a protectyon for them [etc.].

**A.** *adv.* **1.** On the day immediately preceding the present day. Also, in reported speech, on the day last past, the day before.

† *Ever yesterday*: the day before yesterday.

*a.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 52 *Heri*, ȝiostor dœs [*Rushw.* ȝestor dœȝe, *Aqs. Gosp.* ȝyrstan dæȝ, *Hatton* ȝystendæȝ]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2732 We witen wel quat is bi-hinde, Quouw ȝisterdæi was stapen and hid. a 1275 *Passion Arim.* 330 Pou toldest me ȝusterday. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 124 Wnfayr thingis may fall, perfay, Als weill to-morn as ȝisterday. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1632 Jestier day,...as we ryde forþ ryztes, Wip seuen glotouns mette we. c 1450 *Northern Passion* 160/404 ȝistirday were bay redis thre, Now are they closed in to a tre. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. lv. 131 As it was ȝisterday and þeir day. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxxi. 2 Iacob beheldē Labans countenaunce, & beholdē, it was not towarde him as yesterdaye and yerr. yesterdaye. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Mr George answerit and said,...wald they send to him the honest and godlie man that maid the sermone yesterday, he wald oppin his mynd into him. 1585 Whitney *Choice Emblemes* (1586) Ep. Ded. 2 For hereby, this present time beholdeth the accidentes of former times; as if they had bin done but yesterdaie. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. C.* iii. ii. 123 But yesterday, the word of Cæsar might Have stood against the World: Now lies he there, And none so poore to do him reuerence. 1675 Lo. Conway in *Essex Papers* (Camden 1913) 21 The debate there was yesterday and to day in the House of Commons. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* xi, He was well, had left them all well at Mansfield, and was to dine, as yesterday, with the Frasers.

1842 Tennyson *Gard. Dan.* 81 As tho' 'twere yesterday, as tho' it were The hour just flown. 1849 M. Arnold *Forsaken Merman* 30 Children dear, was it yesterday We heard the sweet bells over the bay? 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xxvii. 212 All evidence of the deep track which they had formed yesterday having been swept away.

*b.* c 1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xxxi. 5 Ic xeseo on eowres fader þeawum, þæt he nys swa wel wið me xeworht, swa he wæs xyrstan dæȝ and þa ærran dæȝ. c 1000 — *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 68 And þæt is us swa micel rumlicor to-dæȝe, þe blade þonne ðu þeþohtest ȝyrstan dæȝ. c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 418/9 *Horno* (*sic*), ȝierstandæȝe. c 1205 Lay. 17063 ȝurstendæi [c 1275 ȝorstendæi] ne nome ich wuste þat ze comen. c 1290 *St. Dominic* 198 in *Y. Eng. Leg.* 283 Pes frere cam ȝursterday to toune. 1455 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 326 Yesterday we wrote our lettres of our entent to the Archebyschop of Canterbury. 1788 *Voc. Fourth Bargie* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Yerstei, yesterday*; *ear yestei*, the day before yesterday.

**2.** *transf.* A short time ago; only lately; the other day; now esp. in prov. phr. *I was not born yesterday*, etc.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 15 Anoþer seide, 'ȝister-day [*MS.* ȝ yurstonday] he hadde be pepie at his bestes, and now he pepie hab hym at bere heste.' a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3304 (Ashm. MS.), þat was ȝustirday no ȝape at ȝemed all þe werld, To day am dreuyn all to dust. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* 153 b, From the kechyn to the quere and so to a bedde Was ofte tymes the courtyer is rowte yesterday. 1548 Prior *Solomon* iii. 126 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth; that in the Tomb Naked again We must To-morrow Pass. 1611 Cotgr., Hier, Yesterday; ...outstripped in population daily by towns that yesterday were hamlets. 1880 White-Melville *Beh. Harb.* xii, It is needless for me to observe that Mr. Sawyer was one of those individuals who are described in common parlance as not having been 'born yesterday'. 1895 Snaith *Mistr. Dor.* Harding xv, 'Yesterday' was the word he returned sweetly; 'methinks I am rather old in the tooth.'

**B.** *sb.* **1.** The day next before the present; also *pl.* past days (often in echoes of Ouot. 1605).

c 1000 *Aqs. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxix. [xc.] 4 Pusend wintra bið þon ansyllenu for me ȝeteald dæȝ ȝeȝan wære ȝe ȝeteald. *Ps.* Als ybistrede þat forth-ybed here]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 463 He...sone ȝederly for-ȝete ȝister-day steuen. 1587 Turbervile *Epitaphs* (Coll.) III. 145 Who but fooles in Medes, he schal haue þe trauaille of ȝister day [*MS.* y ȝursday]. 1592 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* ii. 232 My yesterdayes anye to plesse my husbande. 1598 J. Heywood *Epig. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 Well well (quoth she) what euer ye now saie, It is to late to call again yesterdaie. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* v. v. 22 And all our yesterdayes, haue lighted Fooles The way to dusty death. 1607 Dekker *Sevnt. Tobb.* xo (1640) 281 Not for your yester-dayes, not for your yesternights sins. 1779 Fabr in *Karl Malmesbury's Lett.* (1870) I. 158 I have had this very long time, and that day, and still more so in the night and on yesterday. 1809 Byron in Dallas *Corr. of B.* (1825) I. 30 Did you receive my yesterday's note? 1818 — *Beppo* lii, All that day, and the youth I cannot say, Our captive but since yesterday. 1827 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* xviii. 11. 144 The Junta, he said, had taken their sittings on the yesterday. 1850 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lxxv, The same...gentleman he had seen yesterday, and many yesterdays before. 1859 Fairbairn *Catholicism* 4 § 4, They tried to enrich the church of to-day with the wealth of all her yesterdays.

**2.** *transf.* Time not long past.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xciii. 9 (*MS.* Douce 369), Wee ben as ȝistal hem, and wandrynge. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xc. 33 Certeynli is forsope fro ȝistai tofeth. 1599 Lancl. Rich. *Redeles* iii. 261 It ffallith as well to ffodis of xxiiij ȝeris, Or yonge men of ȝisterday to ȝeue good reedis. As he-cometh a kow to hoppe in a cage. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. 4. 1. (1650) 1023/2 We are but yesterdayes children,...& our dayes are lyke a shadow. 1670 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 1295/2 They crucified Christe is but an yesterdayes God, the gods of y Gentiles are of most antiquitie. 1683 Ashwell. *Folus Apost.* 85 Praxeas a fellow of yesterday. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 189 By a revolution in the state, the King peasant of yesterday is converted into the austere critic of the present hour. 1865 Kingsley *Hereto.* xii, Their skin-deep yesterday's civilisation. 1898 J. Parker *Ages of Faith* iii. 111 Apostolic and Christian Theology, science as it is now urged upon us is but of yesterday. 1897 Kipling *Recessional* 15 Lo, all our pomp of yesterday Is one with Nineveh and Tyre !

**3.** *Astrol.* Name of the 18th day: *yesterday after-noon, evening, morning, night, noon.* The combination is used both as *sb.* and as *adv.* Cf. Yester-.

1654–5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26 Yesterday night came letters from Collonell Hacker. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6030/1 Hindge was finished Yesterday Morning. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* i. vi, She enquired how long he had left Suffolk? 'But yesterday noon, ma'am', he answered. 1859 Dickens *Pickw.* xli, Yesterday morning, when a letter was received from Mr. Wardle.

**C.** as *adj.* Belonging to yesterday or the immediate past; very recent. Now *rare or Obs.*

1533 Bercon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 78 b, A late and an yesterday's business. Recent and brought for the most part. 1646 E. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) 163 An yesterday conceit of the English Anabaptists. 1697 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee, etc.* 8 Your days are long, lay aside your long Novelties, and the yesterday fashions of your new Brotherhood. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 41 His Judgment delivered, it was Yesterday Wares are most proper for Matters of Antiquity. 1691 Norris *Ess. Mor. & Nat. Subj.* 169 The covenant of reconciliation...was but a yesterday covenant.. in comparison of this covenant of redemption...which was from eternity.

Hence **Yesterdayness** (*nonce-wd.*), the distinctive quality of being yesterday or of belonging to the recent past.

1897 *Hookman* Nov. 235 Yesterday, as such and in its essential yesterdayness, has no objective existence. 1909 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 June 202/2 That disquieting sense of 'yesterdayness' that attaches to most collections of essays ..that have already served severally seen the light.

**Yesterevе** (yestər,ĕv), *adv.* (*sb.*) Chiefly *poet.* [f. Yester- + Eve *sb.*1] = Yester-evening.

1603 B. Jonson *Entertainm. at Althrope* Wks. (1616) 873 In hope that you would come here Yester-eue to the daily Summer, Shes inuited to a banquet. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, Who ..jealous in of me, That yester-eve I lighted them, along the dewy green. a 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* ii. (1874) 271, I marked thee here all yesterEve Lurking about my home. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet Let. xiv.* (1883) 204 No longer ago than yester-eve. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 709 And yester-eve I would not tell you of it, But kept it for a sweet surprise at morn. 1864 W. C. Bryant *Italy* 59 Slaves but yester-eve were they —Freemen with the coming day.

**Yester-even** (yestər,ī'vn), **yestere'n,** *adv.* and *sb. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 *ȝistir-, ȝister-, ȝistur-, ȝyster-*, 6* *ȝyster-*: see Even *sb.* [f. Yester- + Even *sb.* Cf. Yesterеen.]

**A.** *adv.* = Yester-evening *adv.*

*c* 1420 *Anturs. Arth.* xlii, ȝistur euyn I the king bigte, To cumme to my mete. *c* 1440 *Promptor.* 109/2 (Winv. Coll. MS.) These twyn ȝyster euyn feel late Caught the last stroke. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 172 Yester euen ye sente for me, and I am now come. 1892 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 493 My doughter your wyf told me yester even that ye wold sumth him will not stonde to your swarde.

1822 Byron *Werner* iii. iv, The myrmidons, who were Dogging him yester-even. 1824 *Blackwood's Edinb. Mag.* XV. 1 He has not return'd Since, yestere'en, he left us. 1857 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 313, I had yester-even a presentiment I should die before I got back to Chelsea. 1862 *Hard Cash* x, 'When was your last spasm ?' 'No longer agone then yesterеen, ma'am.' 1880 Emma Marshall *Trouh. Times* 253, I did indeed see yesterеen when, in a rage, he struck Lily, for breaking the toy gun James Ellis bought for me.

**B.** *sb.* = Yester-evening *sb.*

1820 Scott *Abbot* xxxi, To endure the cruel disappointment of yester even. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* iv. iv, Thy swinishness of yestereven.

*attrib.* 1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 203 Let vs returne then vnto our yester euen lecture.

**Yester-evening** (yestər,ī'vnin), *adv.* and *sb. arch.* [f. Yester- + Evening *sb.*1]

**A.** *adv.* Yesterday evening.

1715 Rowe *Lady Jane Gray* iii. i, This Morn a trusty Spy, Has brought me Word that yester Evening late,...Your Friends were marry'd. a 1727 Gay *Poems* (1777) III. xxvi. 46 If he be naked why he...played at cards yesterevening, and won. For the glory of God would be untrue, or if true would be a profanation of his name. 1806 Scott *Wonder.* xvii, I had taken up my pen yester-evening in the half-furnished apartment. 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* viii, Yester-evening I left Monmouth's camp.

**B.** *sb.* The evening of yesterday.

1796 Coleridge *Dest. Nations* 235 Late on the yesterevening. 1808 — *Let. to F. Jeffrey* 20 July, The Review was sent, addressed to you, by the post of yester-evening. 1824 Byron *Werner* iv. iii, It is the last time he saw Ulf yester' evening. 1853 G. J. Cayley *Los Alforjas* II. 209 Yester-evening's sunset.

**Yesterfang** (yæ'stə ,fæŋ *sb.* 2) : see Yester *a.*

**Yestermorn** (yestəmɔ'n), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. Yester- + Morn *sb.*] Yesterday morning.

1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* ii. i, From yester Morn till Even. *a* 1769 Falconer *Shipwr.* iii. 813 Ah! how unlike what yester-morn enjoy'd ! 1842 Tennyson *Gard. Dan.* xiii, Each lady dated her intelligence [of the accident] from the same hour of yestermorn. 1846 Tennyson *Golden Year* 21 But if you care indeed to listen, hear These measured words, my work of yestermorn. 1891 *Oxford Mag.* 11 Feb./1 The lover wrote yestermorn, making light of the story. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Song of Banjo* 90 To the tune of yestermorn I set the trail.

**Yester-mo'rning,** *adv.* and *sb. arch.* and *dial.* [f. Yester- + Morning *sb.*] = prec.

1654–5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26, 300.. Cavaliores tooke yestermorning...Judge Rolls out of his bed. 1764 H. Walpole *Otranto* v, All the family told me of it yester-morning that her Highness Hippolita knows something. 1775 Mrs. Thrale *Let. to Johnson* 94 June, So yestermorning, a flag of distress appropriately unseasonable in Westminster gave notice of the approaching festival. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xi, Those expressions, which were yester-morning accounted light and trivial. 1853 Stevenson *Catriona* i, Even so late as yester-morning, I was like a beggarman by the wayside.

**Yestern** (ye'stən), *a.* and *adv. dial.* or *arch.* [? f. Yester after adjs. in *-ern*, as *eastern.*] A. *adj.* Of yesterday. B. *adv.* Yesterday.

In sense *Kentish* in 14 Quarterly Review second scenned.] 1869 Worcester cites *Wright.* 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Yesthern*, W., yesterday. 1892 Ld. Houghton *Stray Verses* 85, I linger on the oaken bridge Fine-filigreed with yestern dew.

†**Yesternove(n,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 *ȝyrstanæfen*, 4 *ȝesteneuen, ȝister-neue.* [OE.: f. *ȝyrstan* (see Yesterday) + *æfen* Even *sb.*] Yesterday evening.

c 900 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 92 Syrstanæfen [v.r. syrstanæfenne] me gelamp, þæt ic unxewendles æxpum set anum fotscamele. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxiii. 469 Forþon þe þa blæfas wæron awiste æbelice þe us ȝyrstan æfen comon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 We hedde ȝued wyn ȝesteneuen and ȝuode metes. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2160, I sal a selkouþe ssyȝ mi-self ȝister-neue.

**Yesternight** (yestənəi't), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 *ȝyrstran-, ȝ-ȝ yrster-*, 4 *ȝistir-, ȝuster-, ȝysternȝt, -ȝ-ȝ ȝester-, ȝister-*, 5 *ȝistyr-, ȝistre-, ȝustir-*, 6 *ȝeaster-, ȝ- yester-.*

[OE : f *gystran* (see YESTERDAY) + *niht* NIGHT *sb* ] **A.** *adv.* On the night of yesterday, last night.

In early use not necessarily restricted to the night.

*Beowulf* 1314 Heo þa feoh3e wræc, þe þu 3ystran naht Grendel cwealdest *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 15998 Ne sal he neuer vp-rise eft, Ar sal þis cok vp rise Was skald ysternight [*other texts* 3este, 3uster ] 13 *Sir Beues* (A ) 3088 Wel þe grete þat iche kinge, Þat sopede wiþ þe yestrene nist *c* 1376 CHAUCER *Prologue* v. 221 (MS Cg 4. 27) Where ben hire armys & hire eyen clere Þat 3ystyr nyȝt þis tyme with me were ? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 148 3este nette wan we hade fiȝt ȝonder out on þe playnes *a* 1450 *Paston Lett* (1897) I 97 And now ȝystre nyght my Lord Welles come to Boston with iiij^xx horses 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 1 My hed did 3este 3esternicht. 1548 J. HEYWOOD *Pron. Poems* (1867) 32 To-ward night yesternight we came thyther 1586 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* iv. 1 Yesternight in the evening I walked out, and founde Pasuphus 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl. 5 (Hunt MSS Comm) I 123 Sir Th. Bodley .. died yesternight between 5 and 6 of the clock after noon 1775 JOHNSON *Let to Mrs. Thrale* 1 Aug , I forgot that the post went out yesternight, I therefore put thy by the by post. 1808 SOUTHEY *Let to T. N. White* 9 Jan [ have received two letters, both from persons whom I have never seen, one yesternight, and the other this morning 1812 CARY *Dante, Inf* xx. 125 Yesternight I the moon was round. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xviii, His beautiful daughter was a bride yesternight—this morning the Fair Maid of Perth is a widow before she has been a wife ! 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* xii, After our bad time with him yesternight, I mean to have some sleep

**B** *sb.* The night last past.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x xii 54 Mnestheus Quham the remembrance of this 3ister nycht, Full prowd maid in hys curage our the hall. 1592 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 1. xvii. 4 Yesternight the sisue affection it was towarde mee, which bred yesternights trouble. *a* 1632 DONNE *Lett* (1651) 83 I o know whether you suffered anie thing, or no, by the ill accident of yester night. 1700 FENN in *Pn. Hist. Soc Mem* IX 5 Thow wilt by this time have mine of yesternight. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* i. 1 The night is chilly, She had dreames all yesternight Of her own betrothed knight. 1812 — *Let to W. Wordsworth* 7 Dec , they reminded me of my words the very yester-night 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 9 Flinging the bloom of yesterday in the wheats they. 1863 SYMS. BURNE *Chastelard* II i, I have slept so well and sweet since yesternight

**Yester-year.** [Coined by D. G. Rossetti to render F. *antan* (= L. *ante annum*) in François Villon's *Grand Testament, Ball* 1 ] Last year.

1870 ROSSETTI *Three Transl fr. Villon* 1, But where are the snows of yester year ? 1871 R. BUCHANAN in *St Paul's Mag* Apr 88 No crime of yesterday or yesteryear 1888 Mrs H WARD *Robt Elsmere* xxii, Where had the crude pretty child of yester year departed to? 1893 *Daily Chron.* 23 Sept 3/1 The vogue of 'Ernest Maltravers' has gone with the snows of yesteryear

**Yesterwarde,** obs. f EASTWARD

1480 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb ) 36 Thenne went we yesterwarde.

**Yestreon** (yestrĭ'n), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *poet.* Forms . α. 4 3istrewyn, 3ystrewine, 5 yistrevyn, 3istreuen. β. 6 3estrene, 3istrene, yestrene, yeistrain, 8– yestreon *γ. corruptly.* 6 the strene, 8 the straine, 9 the streen, the-streen [MSc *3ystrewun* = *3ystir* (see YESTERDAY) + *ewin* EVEN *sb* , in the 16th c. contracted to *3estrin*, later *yestrein* (see -EN¹), in which form it was taken up by English writers.]

**A.** *adv.* On the evening of yesterday , yesterday evening.

*a* c1375 *Sc Leg Saints* xxiii (*St Stephen*) 229 3ystrewine wele lat *a* 1400 *Northern Passion* 1489 3histrewyn when he day was gane. *c* 1420 *Chron. Wyntoun of Pluscardyn* 245 Vone gude liberall monke, þat vesyrnycht at my supper wyrthelie *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7426 3istreuen he wes in hus awenne chaumbre

*B* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x xi 72 In my sleip yestrene. 1583 in *3rd Rep Hist. MSS Comm* 402/2 Twa massives, the ane quhilk he resavit yestrein *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cronn* xli. 1 Sic sunte a kyng as I me thocht I reft 1721 RAMSAY *Bessy Bell & Mary Gray* 1, Bessy Bell I loo'd yestreen. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xv, I mind't as weel's yestreen. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* vii, Did ye na hummle me in my lucken-pauld yestreen 1837 LOWELL *Let to G B Loring* 23 Aug, An' twas but late yestreen I met her And—ah ! those een ! 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders' Gold* xx, He was tired yestreen, and he is the better o' a rest this morning

γ 1587 W FOWLER *Wks* (S T S ) I. 129/88 That which long tyme past before or present is in sight, which was the streen, or yit tomorrow 1721 *Sir Roger, Sir Cradame, & Sir Geray-Steel* 1753 The streen to chamber I him led. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 134 The merligoes are yet before your e'en And paint to you the sights ye've seen streen or day ! *a* 1800 *Four Billen* MSV in Child *Ballads* (1894) V. 221/2, I dreamed a dream aan the streine. 1873 [P BUCHAN] *Lag. North* 29 Quo he, 'Gudewife ! I had a bonchi theestreen'.

**B** *sb.* The evening of yesterday.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq* xi, When the sea was working like barm wi' yesterown a wind 1825 J R GREEN *Lett* (1901) II. 75, I spent yestreen at the Palace.

**Yet,** *v* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms . I geotan, 2–4 3eote(n, 3 yeote, (*Orm* ) 3eteun, 3–5 yhet, 3–6 3et, 4 yete, 3het, 3it, 4–5 3ete, 3eete, 3ute, 5 3eit(e, 3ut, 5–7 yet, 6 yette, 7 yeat, 9 yeit, yat. *Pa t. a.* I geat, 3et, *pl.* 3uton, 3eat, yhet, *pl.* 3eoten, 3–4 3ette, 4 3ete, yeett, yeyt, 4–6 3et, 5 yette, 6 yet. *β* 3 yhotte, 4 yot, 3ot, 5 3ote. 7 3ettede, 4 3etede, -ed(e, 3eetide, 4–5 3etid(e. *Pa pple. a.* I 3eotan, 3 yhoten, -in (*Orm.* 3otenn), 3hutten, yotten, 3oten, 3otten, 3–4 3ote, 4 3oteen, 3ooten, 3ote, y3ote, 4–6 yoten, 5 y3utte, 3ut, yat, 6 3otun. *β.* 4–5 yoten, 3oetee, (4 3itte), 5 3oten, 5–6 3eit, 6 *Sc.* 3et, 3it, 3yt. *γ.* 5 3etted, -yd. [Com. Teut. str. vb. = to pour, to melt metal, pour out, flow OE *geotan*, pa t *geat, guton*, pa pple *goten, -e* OFRIS. *giata*, nata, (NFRIS *jet*, WFRIS. *jette*, EFRIS. *jöte*), (M)LG. *geten*, (M)Du. *gieten*, OHG. *giozan* (MHG. *giezen, ü giessen*), ON. *gjōta* only in senses, to drop one s young, twinkle with the eyes, Goth. *gutan*, t. Lent *gaut-* (*i gaut gut-*) — *ghaudo-* ( *ghaud- ghud-*), whence L. *fūd* in *fundere*, pa. t. *fudi* to pour For other derivatives and cognates, see GOTE *sb.*, GUSH *v.*, GUT *sb.* The simpler form of the root (*ghen-*) is found in GR. *χέϝω* I pour, *χεύμα* pouring, Skr. *hu, juhōti* to pour in sacrifice. (Compounds RIE HIGHTEN, INVET, OUTYET )]

I. *trans.* To pour. Also *absol.*

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Lev* viii. 24 He zet þæt blod uppan þæt weofod *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd* II. 98 Smot on fæt, þonne hio genoh þicce sie. *Ibid*, III 246 Aquarius, þæt is se þe water zyt *c* 1205 LAY 10771 Siz ampullen fulle Heo zeoten i þan welle. *Ibid* 19253 Þer biforen he gon zeoten Drad and chaf and aten *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3805 And oyel he yeett apon þat stan And made to godd a voo onan *c* 1375 *Sc Leg Saints* (*Ninian*) 251 (MS Cott ) Þe water þat he yhet Til ennowrne hyme in entient, & aponne crist zette in *a* 1425 tr *Ardenne's Treat Fistula* etc. 35 Þe þer zette in of a pot 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7411 Quhill I zou say. With þis haly water he yode To þe sore man for his gode In his mouths he zettid thryse 1483 *Cath Angl* 426/2 To zeit be twene, *interfundere*. *a* 1500 BOLLAND in Arnolde *Chron* (1502) 64/1 Than shon þrough them wyse or thiren in the day not yetyng [*v r.* 3itteng] but dewyng or springling 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI iv. 37 The fat oile did he 3et and 3ute Amyd the fyre. 1530 PALSGR. 728 Ye make thaim to yeet 1566 *Deidrat Grant*, F 83, (Jam ) *Fundo*, to yet, or power forth *Ibid*, G 3, *fundo*, to 3eat forth 1866 LINDSAY-DON *Gloss. Sketches by Orkney Vet.*, Pour out in large quantity, S.

**b.** To shed (tears or blood ; also light).

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1723 Ic teares sceal ȝeotan geotan ȝeomrod *c* 900 tr *Bæda's Hist* iv. vi (1890) 114 Ond þa wreste longe tid teares ȝeotende [be] wæron. & his teares geat *c* 1175 *Lamb Hom* 39 Þu scalt ȝeoten þine teren swiðe sarliche *c* 1200 ORMIN 1773 Patt blod tacnede Cristess blodd Patt ȝeoteun wass a rode *c* 1205 LAY. 19249 Þer was moched ȝeten *c* 1300 *E E Psalter* lxxviii[i]. 3 Þu þas yhotten blode, als watre strem, In vengainge of Ierusalem *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth* I met. vi (1868) 29 Þe sterres coueryed hir bemes, and yeten hir light *a* 1400 *Sir Perc* 1253 Þe teres þat he yette *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1548 Þe teres þat he 3ette Quhen he saw þe sege so sett 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 121 And with lang sobbis furth yettand teris in vane

Const *inf* a 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 5048 So did his princes . With to pour forth or cause to flow in a flood *Sc.*

**c.** To pour forth or cause to flow in a flood *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v xii 36 Thar was na stremth of valeant men to wauld, Nor large fluddis on set thai myght avaid 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I ii. (S. L. S.) I 17 Þis Ryver be reyne purvewance was gett furth with large fluddis bone be brayis. 1568 *Chron Scot* (1821) I. 9 Þe wattir, þat was be constrictus stremes, makis collisioun ; sum tymes yettand out the tid, and sum tymes swelleand and soukand it in agane

**d.** To pour, shed, infuse. Often rendering L. *fundere* and its compounds in mere literalisms.

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past* C xxxix 282 Sio sleawð ȝiett ælgo on bone monnan *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1206 Þy læs hiera wunde weorðen to widwe & on ȝuðe ȝeotan *a* 1450 *Lefsong in O E Hom.* I 209 Þe holi goste þet þu sendest þine deorewurðe deciples and þettedest to þeo þet rith luuieð þe *a* 1300 *E Psalter* xliv 3 (xlv 2) Þhotun es hagin þi lippes! (Vulg *effusa est gratia in labiis tuis*) 1393 LANGL. *P Pl C* II 151 Heuene holde hit [*sc* love] ne myȝte so beuy hit semede, Til hit hadde on erthe ȝoten [*v r* ] poiten, þeteri hym selue. *c* 1450 *Hymne Salvacionem* (Roxb ) 20 For in hir modern wombe while þat virgine was shette On hire þe haly Gost his speciall blissing yette. 1500 ANDERSON in *Dr Irvingiana* 1 xix (1859) 11 For all carnall loue yet into my soule the loue of thyne holy name. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fooles* 219 Some with a fals herte, Into his bodye wyll yette his venemous. *a* 1563 WISHART tr. *Vincent Lirin* v Wks (N T S ) II 91 A certane mist wes set vpon the myndis of al the Bischopes of the Latin toung.

**e.** *absol.* To pour fluid into (a cavity).

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Cl.) 157 Thay set his mouth full of hot melttit gold

**2.** *intr.* To gush forth or flow in a stream, as water, tears, blood.

*a* 1000 *Andreas & Elene* 1132 Hat heafodwylm ofer bleor ȝoten *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1029 He hatte let torn þoliende tearas ȝeotan *a* 1225 *Juliana* 17 Mo nom hire & dude swa þat hul fleh ut & þet blod ȝet þerðen *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 382 Reyn ȝette dun on euenlik stede *c* 1400 *Sand Troy bk* 1994 For so faste doun the water 3et, That ther were alle thorow wet *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7811 Feris oute of þair ȝeyis ȝett 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I iii (S. T. S.) II. 158 The teris for blythnes ȝet fra þe ene of faderis.

**3** *trans.* To form (an object) by running molten metal into a mould ; to found ; = CAST *v.* 51.

*c* 1000 *Ags Ps.* (Th ) CXXXIV [CXXXV] 3 Gold and seolfur, þa hæðenan godu, and mid honda fulmum ȝeotene weorc *c* 1000 *Ælfric Deut* IX 12 Hiȝ ȝuton him hneȝenne god *c* 1200 ORMIN 17418 Drihhtinn badd he sholdde meltenn himm & ȝutenn ȝatenn off brasse & off alle kinnessmeatenn Ich makedenabugndonnsor makiende þe mawmesigoten of golde *c* 1300 in *J Northn Pagel Bells* (1888) 8 [Inscription on bell] IOH ME YETT 1382 WYCLIF *Is* 1 xliv 10 Who foormede God, and a grauen thing ȝetede, to no thing profitable ? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI 185 þis picher hes ȝet [*v r.* ȝute] DUNSTAN *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr* iv. v 263 Ymagis grauel, coruun, or ȝet. *c* 1450 *St Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6021 Gode He made it fir a bell to be ȝett 1533 *Acc Ld. High Treas Scot* VII 204 To Petre and the laid of the werkmen ȝettand the gunnis in the castell

**b.** To form (metal) into a shape, by pouring it when melted into a mould ; = CAST *v* 50.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I 235 *sc* þat wonderliche by craft of ȝetynge þat brass is ȝote *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron* I v 252 (Edin MS ) To werk metyll, Vyne and stelle fend and tyn, To ȝet [*v r* ȝett] or bet or grauf þar in *c* 1475 *Prompt Parv* 238/1 (MS K ) ȝetyn metall. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII Prol 94 bum gonkis quhill the glew pyg grow full of gold ȝit 1532 ELYOT *Gov* I viii (1883) I 48 A commune painter or kerver, stained or embrused wih soudry colours, or perfumed with tedious suuours of the metalles by him ȝoten 1552 HULOET, Yet, or caste metall, *fundo.*

**4.** To melt down (metal). Also *fig*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer* ix 7 Lo ! I shall ȝeete and preue them 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII 129 Vessel, croppes, and chalys were ȝ take, and golde i schave of seyntes schrynes and i yote. 1570 LEVINS *Manip* 86/16 To Yette metal, *fondere, liquefacere*

**5.** To set or fasten (as iron in stone) by means of molten lead Hence, to fix firmly.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV 185 þe stakes were grete, i schape as a mans ingh, and i ȝote aboute wiþ lead 1554–8 *Records Rec Edin* (1871) II 322 Item for vj grete stanis fra Johne Alhanny, Item for ane stane of leid to yet thame with, vjd 1868 JAMIESON, *To yett, v a*, to fasten in the firmest manner, to rivet, Loth

Hence Yet, Ye tted *ppl. a.*, poured ; molten, cast ; Ye tting *vbl sb* , casting, founding.

1387 Setynge[sen 3 bl ] *c* 1450 *Mirour Salvacionem* (Roxb ) 5 The mawmetters vnto yᵉ ȝette *fermitid* ȝette] call of gold prefigured thes thinges, 1486 *Acts Jas IV* (1814) 246/2 Ȝettyd, *fusilis* 1504–5 *Acc Ld High Treas Scot* II 294 Item, for lede to set the pulleis and the pans, and for setting of thaim, 13 s. vnj d. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX xii 82 His violent as euyr the zett doun rane Furth of the west dois smyte apon the wald.

**Yet** (yet), *adv.* (*adj.*) and *conj.* Forms . α. 1 3iet, 3it, 3ieta, 2–4 3iete, 2–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) 3it, 3–4 3iet, 3ite, 3–5 3yt, 3itte, 3–6 yitte, 4 yiet, (yit, 3hyt, yhitte, 4–5 3hit, yhit), 4–6 3itt, (3hitt), 4–7 yitt, (5 yhit, yt), 5–6 3yit, 4–6, 7–8 *Sc*, 9 dial. yit. *β.* 1 3et, 3eta, 2 3eat, 3et, 3ett, 2–5 3et, 3ette, (2 3etet, 3 3ette, 3eht, 3eyt), 3–4 3ete, 3–5 3ete, 4 3etit, 3eitt, 3eite, (3ate, 3het, *Sc.* 3eyt, yhet(e, yhet, yheyt(e), 4, 5–6 *Sc.* 3eit, 4–5 yeit, 4–7 yett, 5 3eet, 3ett, 5–6 yette, 6 yeat, (yate, 9 dial. yeet), 3–7 yet. *γ.* 1 3ætt, 3ætto 3eot, 3 3eoc, 3–4 3ut, 3 3yt, 3–5 3ut, 3 3uet, 3uyt, (3u3it), 3–4 3uit, 3ute, 4 yute, 3utte, 5 3utt, 3uite, 3ut [OE. *giet* and *gieta*, corresp. to OFRIS. *seta, eta, ita* (WFRIS. *yette*, NFRIS. *jet*), of obscure origin. (The synonymous OE. (Anglian) *ġīn, ġēna* show the same parallelism of formation.)

The meanings of *yet* are generally expressed in the 1st lings. outside the Ans, by 1 Thessalonians group by **not* (OS , OHG *noht* ) but in Goth. *nauh* is an interrog particle) —Indo-eur **nu qe* and now ]

**I.** In addition, or in continuation , besides, also ; further, furthermore, moreover ; with a numeral or the like = 'more ', as *yet a, yet one* = 'another' ; 'one more ' (= F. *encore un*, G. *noch ein*). *Obs.* or *arch.* (now chiefly with *again* or *once more* cf d below)

For the use with words denoting time see 5 c.

*Beowulf* 47 Þa ȝyt him bam æstum sendon ȝeldenne. *c* 690 WILFRID in *Stubbs Registr Sacr Ebor* (1897) 4 þing, þe ic her to þisa ȝeþeode (L. *ea quæ subjunge*) *c* 1000 *Ælfric Gosp*, Matt xviii 16 Ȝyf he þe ne ȝehyrð, nim ponne ȝyt anne oððe twegen to þe *Lamb Hom* 29 Ȝyt ic wolde ure lareowas to manyen. Ȝif se ðreat from me ower heortan ȝet ). *Ibid.* 41 Ȝette he him sceawede ane welle of fure *a* 1225 *Leg Kath* 29 Ȝet ich habbe ane ȝeme to ȝe 6 o westum ah ȝet, þet is mare wurð, steðelfest wiðinnen *a* 1225 *Ancr R* 312 Auh wostu hwat me deð ȝet [*MS T* ȝeddes : *MS C* ȝeddeð] *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 1000 Ȝet þu me sest of oþer þinge 1297 R GLOUC (Rolls) 287 Man þou art ywis To wenne ȝet [*v r* ȝuyt] a kinedom wel betere þan min is *c* 1300 *Will Palerne* 186 Ȝe herde of his hende wif Pat bold barn wip his bowe fedde, & sit haddir fele felawes in þe forest. 1375 in Horstmann *Altenyl Leg* (1878) 130/2 Sut after he gat Pretty sones mo, And Pretty doughres and two 1498 *Dan Pilg* (W de W. 1531) 87 Alssua ane other sit reason is [etc.]. *c* 1460 *Townsley Myst* II 30 Vit, shrew, ȝit, pull on a thraw ! 1499 *Acts Jas IV* (1814) 246 (1696) ȝit may nocht ane vnlayle vtiᵗ xxᵈ Yet Wages of marryers viiᵗ xˢ xᵈ 1534 *More Answ Poyn. Serj.* Bb 1 viij 54, They that call it breide declare yt that in dede the Sacrament is the body of Chryste. 1599 B JONSON *Cynthia's Revs* i iii, Stay let me obserue this portent yet 1632 MILTON *Lycidas* 1 Yet once more, O ye Laurels, and to gluck your Irrens *c* 1643 TH. HERBERT *Antiborg* (1678) 11 Notwithstanding yet these expences at home, he brought up his children well 1660 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II 17 There is yet brought in an Act to which of all ones Countrymen is the lewst concerned. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Dred , I had a very early Ambition to recommend my self to Your Lordship's Patronage, which yet encreas'd in me as I travell'd through the Countries. 1832 WORDSW *On Dep Sir H Scott* 7 While Tweed, best pleased in chanting a blithe strain, Saddens his voice again, and yet again. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) I 273 Yet once more, for friend 1895 PITTIE *Egypt Tales* Ser 1 73 The Sekhti came yet, and yet again, even unto the ninth time.

**b.** Used to strengthen a comparative : now more commonly expressed by EVEN (*adv.* 9 e) or STILL (*adv.* 5 a) † Also formerly with a superlative (= VERY *adv* 3 a) or an ordinal numeral.

*c* 888 ÆLFRED *North* v ¶ 3 Ac wit sculon þeah ȝuet þa-plicor ymb Sæt hion *a* 1000 *Judith* 189 Þa us monna mest morðres ne[fremede, & hiet swyðor ȝyt ȝan wolde. 1 1128

*O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1087 He..dyde xlx sealtra wintrū. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Luulan we ure dribten, for þon þe he lunede us er we hine..slē we sculen mure, we sculen luuian ure nehstan. *c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 6 Drohhert min i Godess hus, þet o þe þridde wise. *Ibid.* 780, & Godess cnapell segge þet Off Sannt Johan þatt mare. *c* 1205 LAY. 218 þ Siatt þousennd manne þohnd mo þousennes þiše. *a* 1250 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 49 Ma manasinges þit huue þai maked. 1300 Gowne *Conf.* III. 132 Alpheta..is the twelfthe stevre yit. *c* 1300 *Kniht de Stout* (vernon) 190 Pe feirdē deale yit ca þair als Of suun þat er in order fals. *c* 1345 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. ix. 1044 Pis kynge mony sonnys hade, Off ane of þa þhit mast he made. 1362 *Langl. Piers. Plowm. Prol.* 112 Thairfor ye fand thame prickis vnto your ene, And, sif ye spair thame, yit sall find thame moir. 1626 Gouge *Disp. Chin.* § 5. I purpose to dive yet more deeply into the depth of my Text. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 2 Being able to include an great a variety of parts..in the yet smallest Discernable Point, as in those vaster bodies such as the Earth, Sun, or Planets. 1784 Ramsay *Vision* 2. That's yit worse. 1782 Miss Hurney *Cecilia* VIII. v. Which can only awaken painful recollections, or give rise to yet more painful new anxieties. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxiv, The Knight..gave a yet deeper colour of carnation to her complexion. 1847 H. Melville *Omoo* lxvii, My candals were worse yet. 1869? J. S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* 6. (1881) 'And you're quite sure,' this poor lady really like me,' 'Yes, I'm quite sure,' said he, bolding her yet more closely to him.

c. Used for emphasis after *nor* (*†nor, ne, neither*): *nor yet* = and also not. † Also formerly after *or*: *or yet* = or else, or even (cf. e below).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12811 Neþer am i crist ne yeit heli. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 3 In word, in thocht, or yhit in dede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife of Bath's T.* 1084 Nat was forȝeten, the porter ydelnesse Ne Narcisus..Ne yit the folie of kyng Salomon. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vi. 98 All that quhilk hatis the cruel tirrannis dedis, Or þit his felloun violence sair dredis. 1584 R. Scot *Witchcr.* III. xiii. (1886) 72 Ne noo faute in this man..No nor yett Herode. 1588 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1888) 152 Neither he, ne yet his parentes, can forsake their prince. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* g vij, Quhatsoeuer do proceid ather from the hail body thairof, ather yeit ony particular membre of the same. 1605 Hart *Anat.* Ur. 68 Such is an exception of bloud, which cometh thus to passe by reason of the looseneesse..of the mouthes of the small veines, or yet of the thinnesse of bloud. 1637–50 *Rec. Burgh. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 121 Yit the samine can noth be conceiled..Neither sit can the men of God..dis-emilde the samine. *c* 1639 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 74 He does not reken the samen nether yett his owne estate. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 88, I never handled rope, Nor held a tiller, nor yet mean to do.

† d. Denoting repetition of an act: Again. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1397 Bad him [sc. Adam] thoru an angel steuen, Pat he suld wit his wijf yete mete. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2687 *Hypermnestre*, She sist sit vp, & stakerith her ȝe ther. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3163 First wrate I þe your worthines, sit write I be same. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 13 Unum flatt pece cum scriptura in couperculo Dryuk and fyll yett. 1542 *Reg. Priry Counc. Scot.* I. 316 To charge the said Gilbert, yit as of befoir, to bring the saidis Urchid Makdowell and Patrik Makdowell.

† e. Emphasizing an extreme case: = Even *adv.* 9. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13575 Ar he self wald..To ded it moght naman him bring, And not yeitt þan þat he ne sald rive, Al at his aun deuise. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xiv. 26 If ony..hatith not his..britheren, and sistren, yhe forsoth and his lyf yȝue *yet* also, he may not be owne lijf]. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2246 All landys northe and southe Off thys werre the word spronge, And yit at Rome it was full sounde.

II. Senses relating to time.

2. Implying continuance from a previous time up to and at the present (or some stated) time: Now as until now (or then as until then): = Still *adv.* 4 a. Often also implying contrast to a future or subsequent state more emphatically expressed by *as yet* (7 a): cf. e below, and Still *adv.* 4 b. *arch.* or *dial.* in negative sentences: see esp. (d).

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 5 Hiet mon mec ȝiet ȝeȝon hiora swæȝs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 231 Nu sit þry dagas to lyfe syndon. *a* 1000 *Harrowe. Hell* 73 (Gn) A ic þæt herald nu ȝiet. *a* 1000 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 Þæt cyn on West Sexum þe man sit hæt Iutna cyn. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xv. 16 And synd ȝe ȝeot buton undȝiete? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Al to fele swikes men bien ȝet þe ne wilen noht here sinnes forleten. *c* 1205 Lay. 28256 Brutten ileued ȝette þat he hon on liue. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1574 Seint Jones de lateran..Pat stont ȝitte & heued churche of al cristendome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1397 For of pat ilk appel bitt Pair suns tethe ar eggeid yitt. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 334 Pat I tolde þe bo I telle þe ȝitte. *a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1628 Pe sweuenes, and ȝe questans, of ober quaint gnumes, There fourthyn was first, & yet hen forthe haunted. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 306 Pat he had sette before in spirit, he sawe it all prynte yitt. 1529 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 309 Robert hunte haylyf..did take and kepe and yeat kepeth a cowe of your said testators. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Anne* 31 It was a great commoditie to them bothe, as for yet a while too hen in the custody of their mother. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* N v b, Eunrie munneth was reconed to begin on ye day of ye change, as is obserued yeit in ye Hebrew kalendar. 1611 *Bible* Jer. xv. 9 Her sunne is gone down while it was yet day. 1700 *Stanley's Hist. Philos., Life* a j, While he continued yet in the University. 1721 *Hibernian Spect.* No. 18, p 3 While her Beauty was yet in all its Height and Bloom. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 187 This man was from Niddisdale, and had been out of the country since he was ten years old, but he spoke the language pretty well yet. 1802 Wordsw. *To the Cuckoo* iv, Even yet thou art to me No bird, but an invisible thing. 1839 Bosworth *Sheff. Dial.* ii. 92 Dusta work at flatt backs yit, as thahs been used to do? 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *Mary Barton* vii, Earnest as the father was in wishing the yet living, he had eyes and ears for all that concerned the dead. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 79 A yet-warm corpse, and yet unburiable. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* iv. 81 No students of history can fail to observe that even yet very few nations in the world are fit for diffused political privileges. 1888 J. S. Winter *Bootle's Childr.*, You know you look ill yet, very ill.

(*b*) With negative pples. and adjs.: cf. *not yet* (4).

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxviii§ 6 The children which were yet vnborne. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 782 Four fair Heifers yet unbroke, and unmyk'd. 1725 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 282 The ravishing Discovery of that which is yet unattainable. 1706 Pope *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Till you have finish'd these things, they are yet unprinted. 1742 — *Odyss.* v. 382 Then shook the Heroe, , And question'd thus his yetunconquer'd mind. 1839 Kemble *Anglo-Saxons* (1876) 139 The swannary notches of yet unreclaimed forest. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 378 The yet-unbroken lance and shield. 1886 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 544 The children in their yet undeveloped strength, the very old in their yet sustained weakness.

† b. Qualified by a negative, implying discontinuance before the present time: *not yet* = no longer. *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1033 Nō he þearfi ðu þe ondrædan..nu ȝiet. 1530 Palsgr. 506/2, I darnyne (I ydgat)...This worde is not yet receyued in our comen speche. *Ibid.* 598/1, I kydde (I-ydgate), I knowe..This terme is nat yet in use.

c. Followed by an infinitive referring to the future, and thus implying incompleteness (e.g. *yet to be done*, implying 'not hitherto done'; *I have yet to learn*, implying 'I have not hitherto learnt'). Cf. (a).

1699 Plunkett in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollityes. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 188 It has therefore not been already yet to come. 1848 Lushington in *Notes of Cases* VI. 171 I have yet to learn that..those on board the steam-tug had a right to..control the order of the jibs. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 564 The card..had prepared himself for what was yet to be endured. 1885 Sir J. Bacon in *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 163/2 None of them had been completely finished, the painting and papering being yet to be done.

3. Referring to the period preceding the present or some stated time, without necessarily implying continuance up to this (or that) time, till now (or till then), hitherto, thus far; with a superlative, or *only*, etc. = at any time up to the present. Usually implying expectation of possible change, more fully expressed (as in 2) by *as yet* (7 a).

*a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 101 Ȝyt (*adhuc*) þeah-hwæþere eallspilcne mid us þu ansæne þonne ȝild ure onlon mære. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Ne del hi na formoste del þet eauer þeste wes isegen buuen eorðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9321 Ful litel he we yeitt ! coth pai, 'Of al pat euer we her yit sai.' 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xxxvi. 7 Hath not he ȝit of hym þat lord of grace The worthiest that euyr yet was. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 80 Na, thank ne not our airlie, for dreid that we lesing. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xlviii§ 6 The kynges of the erth ar stedfest, and yet they are ouerthrowen. 1539 Cranmer *Let. to Cromwell* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 388 The state of things standing as they do at this present, so yet I see no remedy. 1556 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ii. 3 A shedder ship, that scarse did see Yet seuenteene yeares. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxvi. § 4 When we say a Man is Young, we mean, that his Age is yet but a small part of that which usually Men attain to. 1791 Wordsw. in *W. & Dorothy Lett.* (1809) 335, I have yet printed off but 72 pages. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlviii, This is the queerest thing yet ! 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. 180 It is the most important event that had yet occurred in the history of French civilization. 1870 L'Estrange *Life of Miss Mitford* I. x. 147 'Blanch' is to consist of five thousand lines, and only eleven hundred are yet written.

b. By this (or that) time, so soon as this: chiefly in questions, direct or indirect, to which the negative answer would be *not yet* (4): nearly = 'already', but not expressing surprise as that word would in affirmative use.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 541 Hu þinch þe, artu ȝut inume, Arta mid rigte ouercumed? *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1876 (Fairf.) How sal we of pes waters wete, Quelper pai be fully fallyn yete? 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xlviii§ 6 Ar they yet gone ouer? 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 61 Haue you enquir'd yet who pick'd my Pocket? 1611 Shakespeare *Cymbeline* v. iv. 1 I am glad you have found your tongue yet. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxiii, 'Have you yet done?' said the Duke to the Herald. 'Our word more,' answered Roger Sinclair. 1916 D. Hankey *Student in Arms* (1917) 51 *Potentiate*.. Has a counter-attack been launched yet? *General*. Not yet, Sire.

c. With *ere*, *before*, etc. indicating the ultimate occurrence of something after an interval of time: before *ere*, etc., nearly = 'already'; after *ere*, etc., nearly = 'at length' (cf. 5 a). Now only in *ere yet* (arch.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 1120 To bed þat er þay ȝede, Recorded counenaunte ofte. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 196 Sit or ȝe ryde, Remember on þat hie office, Obeyand thir bischoppis, and byddan tham by. 1590 *Arcadia of Feverdmon* I. ii. 92 Meanewhile prepare our breakfast,..For yet ere noone wele take home and away. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 80 Before I departed yet I left her with child of a son. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VII. 70 Ere yet from Orleans to the war we went. 1828 Scott *Death Laird's Jock* I. 33 Ere yet the fight began, the old men passed on their child. 1866 Swinburn *Hymn*, '*Sweetly the holy hymn*' ii, Ere yet the sun the day renews, O Lord, Thy spirit send.

† d. At some time in the past; ' once '; previously, before, already. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 956 Alwalda þec gode forȝylde, swa he nu ȝyt dyde ! *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 367 Pe werld i call wit min entens be mater of pe four elements, Pat yeitt was tan o forme inchapen. *Ibid.* 1198 Ur lord fand agheteld yete A child to rais of his ossprinȝ. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 330 Pan take youre loof of light payne as y haue said ȝett.

4. With a negative, in sense 2 or 3 (*yet* qualifying the whole sentence or clause including the negative): *not yet*, † *not ever*, still not, thus far not, not hitherto, not by this (or that) time, not till now (or then) and not now (or then): implying expectation or recognized possibility of subsequent change (cf. 7 a).

a. With negative preceding. (The more usual, now the only regular, construction.)

*Beowulf* 583 Þreca nænre ȝit mt hea8oluce..swa deorlice ded zefremede fæzum sweordum. *c* 1205 Lay. 6958 Mats. xxiv. 6 Das þing scolon ȝewurþan, ac nyn þonne ȝyt se ende. *Ibid.* John vii. 8 Min tid nis ȝyt ȝefylled. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Dar mure ȝiete libt ne cam. *c* 1200 Ormin 14371 Abiid, abiid, wifman, abiid, Ne cumm nohht ȝet min time. *c* 1205 Lay. 109 Naa ȝet Rome hi-wnnen. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 583 in *O. E. Misc.* 53 Ich ne seiȝ nouht ȝete vp to myne vadere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 993 (Hart. 7334), He hadde neuer geten hym sit a benefice. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. vii. 282 Neuer yet was I proued with good knyghte. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Mark xi. 13 The tyme of fygges was not yet. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 207 b, Because Quene Margaret and her sonne were not fully yet furnished for suche a purpose. 1590 Shaks. *Mids.* II. iii. 50 *Mead.* Is the King stirring, worthy Thane? *Mack.* Not yet. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 94 Such a manner of Prelacie, as yet, I never durst, nor yet dare condemn. 1708 Addison *Pres. St. War* 3 This Kingdom has not yet appeared in a War of so great consequence. 1776 Gibbon *Let. to Holroyd* 18 Jan., Quebec is not yet taken. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 173 A body of Highland fugitives was returned, such as England had never yet seen. *Ibid.* iv. 447 As to Halifax, Ormond, and Guildford, be determined not yet to dismiss them. 1880 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 In the reign of James I,..when the world of fashion had not yet migrated wholly to the west-end.

b. With negative following. (Cf. G. *noch nicht.*) *Obs.* or *arch.* *exc.* when preceded by *even*, or as (7 a).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 6 Ȝyt ne com min tid. *c* 1205 Lay. 20571 Ah he seo þa ȝette [*c* 2275 ȝet] Nefde noht bi-wunnen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3558 'Louerd, merci !' quaþ moyses, 'ȝet ne let þou nouȝt bi-gon þine *Maced.* II. iii. 50 *Mead.* Is the King stirring, worthy Thane? *Mack.* Not yet. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 94 Such a manner of Prelacie, as yet, I never durst, nor yet dare condemn. 1708 Addison *Pres. St. War* 3 This Kingdom has not yet appeared in a War of so great consequence. 1776 Gibbon *Let. to Holroyd* 18 Jan., Quebec is not yet taken. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 173 A body of Highland fugitives was returned, such as England had never yet seen. *Ibid.* iv. 447 As to Halifax, Ormond, and Guildford, be determined not yet to dismiss them. 1880 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 In the reign of James I,..when the world of fashion had not yet migrated wholly to the west-end.

b. With negative following. (Cf. G. *noch nicht.*) *Obs.* or *arch.* *exc.* when preceded by *even*, or as (7 a).

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 6 Ȝyt ne com min tid. *c* 1205 Lay. 20571 Ah he seo þa ȝette [*c* 2275 ȝet] Nefde noht bi-wunnen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3558 'Louerd, merci !' quaþ moyses, 'ȝet ne let þou nouȝt bi-gon þine *Cursor M.* 5904 Pe king hert wex herd as bras, 'pe folk', he said, 'yeitt sal noght pas.' 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* viii. 108 Ac ȝete mauȝtem ne nouȝt þi-wende. 1480 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* (Rolls) 302 And yet was not the ert of Arundel and his retenew com hom. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 37 Sit neuer did he who se his malk in France. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* cxix. iv, 104 My Conscience, which I then did feele full sicke, and yet not well. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 423 Such confession was yet never extorted from some of you. 1849 Scott *Night. Widow* iv, I shall not be content to end certainly, which you have yet never known. 1850 Moore *Mem.* (1854) VI. 197 Even yet not quite finished.

5. In reference to future time (see also 2 c, 3 c).

a. At some time in the future (usually implying 'though not hitherto'); hereafter; at length, ultimately, before all is over; often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all').

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxv. 245 Ziet [*o. r.* ȝit] cymð se micla..Godes dæȝ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* iv. 47 On eoðra worlðrice ðurhwuniað ða ðe hiora ðurhwuniað ær heora eyn. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 32 Vor þer scholde ȝut a mon deie on bulke tre. *c* 1400 *Brut* 1. 90 De Britons suppoun þat he (sc. Arthur) lyuede ȝit lande, and þat he scholde come ȝit and conquere al Britaigne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 87 Abowne ȝhit kall I be beeklandd, On heghte in þe hyeste of hewen. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xlii. 7 [5] Put thy trust in God, for I wil yet geue him thankes for the helpe of his countenaunce. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xvii. iv, [I] pray that still you guide my way, Least yet I slipp, or goe astray. 1766–8 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* xliv, He sees that they yet be happy, and wishes the hour was come. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* iii. ad fin. (Song), You'll love me yet !—and I can tarry Your love's protracted delay. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 524 Their chief employment is to talk of what they once were, and of what they may yet be. 1901 Violet Jacob *Sheep-stealers* xviii, 'You couldn't have, not if you was in Hereford jail itself.'..'That's where I may be yet,' he said.

b. With reference to the immediate future: (*a*) Even now (though not till now): often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all'); sometimes implying 'while there is time'. (cf. sense 2).

*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 618 Sīf ȝiet, . læst mina lara, þonne ȝife ic him þæs leohtes ȝeonze. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 251 And of paynis hard and fell, He tald þam, þat he schew in hell, And ȝet þam þocht it bot a fabill !! *Ibid.* I. (*Katerine*) 921 Lewe þine errour, . & aik forgiftnes of hi synne, Vheit nyscht þu sauchtyng with hym wine. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 31 Pe wyne þys hyht may be ryse, Thurghe halpe of Marie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* (Camden) 336/1 Sone goos I bed þow in nost etyn...I bid þow þat ȝe take it ȝit. *a* 1529 Skelton *Wyffully arayd* 43 Wo is me, I am ȝyt I can ȝyt, and then schall fynde Mynde endlys mystery and grace. 1689 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 77/1 Pat if he will yett deliuer up the Rass & prisoners perin he should have the bygone arrears to himself & garrisones. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* II. 850 Bethink ye yet of death, and misery, And dull despair, before ye arm to go. 1879 Wernher *Pigskin & Willow* xiv. 197 Time enough yet ? No, there isn't time enough yet.

† (*b*) Not later than (a specified time). (Cf. 3 b, c.) *Obs.*

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 313 For þef he don Rad ȝod for-bead, Þat aal baun beringen to be dead, And aal pat his ilke dai. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15567 Pou sal pam se yeitt to night Dome ful gret spite. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 129 Inglis men sall sit to sare Knok bi paier or þon pas.

c. From this (or some stated or implied) time

onwards; henceforth (or thenceforth). Chiefly, now only, contextually with words denoting time, the sense being then strictly 1 (‘further, more’); with a negative, nearly coinciding with 4; often replaceable by ‘to come’.

*c1000 Ælfric Gen* viii 10 He sænd þa ȝit oðre seofon dagas and asende ut eft culfran *a1300 Cursor M.* 19910 Bot ar he wild him fulli serui, For yett a quille he wild abide, *1382* Wyclif *1 Mac* i 15 He schal be fulfillid of the Hooli Goost ȝit of his owndir wombe — *John* vii 33 Ȝit a litel tyme I am with you, and I go to the fadir, that sente me *c1400 Chron Vilod* 3567 He leyne in þe vrthe ȝet bretiene fere & more *1535* Coverdale *Jonah* iii 4 There are yet xl dayes, and then shal Ninive be ouerthrowen *1628* Digby *Voy Mediterr* (Camden) 56 It was so hott that all men stil in a moneth yet no sea could not take sail *1849* M. Arnold *Sick Amyntas Rokham* 5 O merchants, tarry yet a day Here in Bokhara

**+6.** Mk. *pr. pret* [OL. *þá gíet* then yet, when yet: see Tro *adv.* 1, 2]: **a.** Still (= 2); also, while still, when as yet. *Obs.*

*a950 O E Chron* (Parker MS) an ȝær þa ætfæst þam þa ȝiet þam clæn herfestes ȝegaderode micel here finne of East Englum *c1000 Ags Gosp* Luke xxiv 32 Na ȝit [*Lindisf* ȝet] he wæs fiorr, þa he to him spræc *a1100 Peterb Chron* (Laud MS.) an 1106 Fenwa oðre of þam heafodmannan þe mid þam eorle of Normandige þe ȝiet healdan *c1175 Lamb Hom* 93 Þa þa wimmande on þissere weorlde þe belendu ablæu his gast on his apostlas. *c1205* Lay 7079 þe ȝeðt þa [*c* 1275 þe ȝet þat] Lod king ahte þrs lond hehtin Lundene Trinouant *c1250 St Dunstan* in *S Eng Leg* 19 Muracle ore loured dude for him þe ȝuyt he was un-bore

**+b.** with negative: = **4.** *Obs.*

*a1000 Cædmon's Gen* 203 Ne wæs her þa ȝiet nympho heahterceadu wiht ȝeworden *a1200 Ælfrician Lives* i 1236 (*N* uplet 35/2) *Nondum*, na þa ȝyt næs *c1290 Beket* 1433 in *S Eng. Leg* 147 Ake he ne scholde nouȝt þe ȝeot to engel-ssde wende *c1380 Sir Ferumb* 750 Of herte was he hol & sound, & pleynede him þe ȝute no pyng.

**7.** *As yet* [As B. 34 a]: **a.** Hitherto, up to this time, = 3, with a negative = 4, implying expectation or recognized possibility of coming change.

*c1325 Chaucer H. Fame* iii 1 Of the scheme of thy spirites ames, For loues yo not ther aboute To make of the as yet a sterre. *c1386 — Franklt. T* 849, I failed neuere of my trouthe as yit, For sikerly my dette shal be quyt *1484 Caxton Paynim* (Camden) 113 Here ye non goode wyne to gett I noo mony as yett, but I understond ther shall come from Bruges som *1500* Q Elis in *Archaeologia* XIX 129 If your king expected and were bad as yet nawser had not lingaid *1665* Boyle *Occas Refl* iv 1 The Sun had as yet but approach'd the Last and my Body as yet lay in me less in the Hed. *1682* Bp Sanderson *Vind Hist Govt* 68 Thus much heard what the Captains have said, but as yet thou shuttest thy Gates *1708* Addison *Prose St War* 19 That War continued Nine Years, and this hath va yet lasted but two *1823* Scott *Quentin D* xxiii, ‘No, answered the Astrologer, ‘the End is not as yet’ *1848* Thackeray *I am Jour* Intii, She had never met a professional gentleman as yet *1849* Macaulay *Hist Eng* ii 1 191 As yet the Duke profes ed himself a meni er of the Anglican Church *1850* Tennyson *In Mem* cxvii, Half grown as yet, a child, and van *1874* Mahaffy *Soc Life Greece* vi 226 But there were extensions of this practice as yet but little noticed

**+b.** Without implied expectation of change: Still, even now or then, to this day, = 2. *Obs.*

*1483* Caxton *Gold Legend* 180/1 As yet they kepe and hold that custome *1530* Palsgr. 509/2 As for *set*, defyled, thoughbe he be used of Johan le Mayre, there is no wrbe used in this sense in the Frenche tonge as yet *1597* Hooker *Eccl. Hist* iii. vi. 38 The iuenile as yet rawe was snatched from the conclo. *1585* T. Washington tr *Nicho Gyer's Voy* ii iii. 33 The Indians are there as yet unpreparant. *1612 Bible* Exod ix. 27 As yet exaltest thou thy selfe against my people, that thou wilt not let them goe? *1632* Lithgow *Trav* vii 321 Ægypt was made a Prounce of the Turkish Empire, and so continueth as yet *1851* [see As B 34 a].

**8.** as *adj* in sense 2 or 3: That is still or as yet such; still continuing or subsisting. (Cf. Now 16, Still *adv.* 4 a ¶, Then 9 b.)

*1606* Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. ii. 1 *Magnificence* 356 Let, with her staffe, my yet-Youth govern well the Flock of Israel. *1629* W. Slater *Exp 2 Thess* 83 That the yet inward impure quarter of the World may bee wone by the example of dispersed Saints *c1634* Strafford in Browning *Life* (1892) 117 The certainty of your lordship's yet abode at West Chester. *1853* Curry *New Timon* iii 181 Her yet safety *1817* Keatings *Trav* II 269 He was one of the numerous party of yet walkers in the world. *1874* Kay *Lancy* 7 In the yet non existence of language.

**XII 9** *as conj.* (developed from 1), introducing an additional fact or circumstance which is adverse to, or the contrary of what would naturally be expected from, that just mentioned: In spite of that, for all that, nevertheless, notwithstanding Sometimes strengthened by *nevertheless*, etc. Often correlative to *though*, etc.

More emphatically *subversive* than But *conj* 24, and freer in construction; formerly sometimes placed after and still sometimes in the midst of its clause; *and* or *but* may precede *yet*. Nearly equivalent to Still *adv* 6 b, but *still* indicates mainly that the fact or condition remains unaltered by the adverse one, *yet* usually expresses some degree of surprise at it as something unexpected

[*c1205* Lay 28112 Ȝif hit weore ilimpe þat Modred hafde þine quene inume. þe ȝet þu mihtest þe awreken Wurðliche and wrenen.] *a1250 Owl & Night* 905 So bo hit euer in unker sþe þat þu be sorn & ich bilepe: þat þu ansheost wi ich ne fare Into oþer londe & singe þare. *1297* R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3345 Þe castel was ynome & þat folc to spradbere. Zuteþe hi hilde al ydo hii ne founde nouȝ þe king þare. *Ibid* 8804 In prison was roberd al is lif & ȝut ich vnder-stonde, Hum adde betere abbe þbe king of þe holi londe.



13. *Cursor M.* 786 (Gött) Þu hetinig was .ful meikli, Bot ȝeit it was hath fals and fikil 1377 Langl. *P Pl* B Prol. 183 Thou! we cullid be catte, sat sholde per come another To crachiy va. *1390* Gower *Conf* II 140 He hath ynowh and yet him nedeth *c1440 Liber Cocorum* (1862) 5 And make þo flesshe to seme, ywys, As hit were raw, and ȝit hit ys *c1450 Lay Folks Mass Bk* (MS *F*) 149, I haw done bynnes duers, And ȝut art thu redi to grount me ay forȝefnesse. *c1470 Gol & Gow* 95 Suppose thir bittir be bright, as bachilier suld ben, Yitt ar thi latin vnlafum *1470–85* Malory *Arthur* xx vii 809 Oft mes we doo many thynges that we wene it be for the best & yet peraduenture hit torneth to the werst. *c1495 Partenay* 91 All thi hurt I can nought peryt my boke as other be, Vnder youre supporte yut aunter wyl me *1545* Raynalde *Byrth Mankynde* 1. in (1559) 8 Plenty of flesh knitting to gether the muskles not so yet, but that neuertheleese they haue theyr free motion. *1596* Spenser *Prothalamion* 117 As he would speeke, but that he lackt a tong Yet did by signes his glad affection show *1644* Milton *Areop* 26 Though his belief i e true, yet the very truth he holds, becomes his heresie *1697* Dryden *Æneis* xi 288 Auspicious Prince, in Arms a mighty Name, and yet more mighty for learned your Fame *1764* Goldsm *Trav* 28 Some fleeting good, that . Allures from far, yet, as I foll w, flies. *1814* Scott *Wav* iv, I have spoken with you very plainly *1832* — *Rob Roy* xv, Although they did not all agree on the precise cause of danger it was yet generally allowed that something of a dreadful kind was impending *1843* M Patterson *Jrn* (1888) I. 13 The style of Beds, if not elegant Latin, is yet correct, sufficiently classical.

**+b.** *Yet (that)*, notwithstanding that, although

*c1205* Lay 28112 Ȝif hit weore ilimpe and cloute heo weoren vchon, ȝit heo seoȝen him alyue a lyues mon *c1425 Cursor M* 12119 (Trin.) And þat þou wenest in skeles to be þat noon in lore is hidde fro þe I can wele þat not canne. *1556 Aurelio & Isab* (1608) M ij, Contente you than, for yette that me strenghate be litell, the desere is grete.

**Yet(e, 3et(e, obs** ff Gate *sb* 1

**Yete(n,** *pa. ppl. obs* Forms: 1 ȝeoten, 3 ȝeten, (3heote), 3–4 ȝet(t)e, ȝete, iete(n, 4 ȝ-yete, i-eote, 4–5 yete(n, 5 yheote [OE. *ȝeoten*, pa. ppte. of *ȝéotan* and *ȝeotan* to Eat.] Eaten

*c1000* Ælfric *Gen* xxxi 54 Þa hig ȝeoten hæfdon, hiz wunedon þær *c1205* Lay 6 ȝe þeoð heo hæiden wel ȝeten *a1300* Cursor M. (Gött) 3172 Þe ȝeten of Æc þe wrec i eten weore *c1290 St Brandan* 309 in *S Eng Leg.* 298 Heo a risen op and wenden to churche þo heo hadden ȝete *c1300 Havelok* 2127 Þo þai hadde ȝeten alle, Henȝe & lowe in þe halle *1340 Ayenb* 13 After his anzinge, huanne he hedde ȝ yete mid his disciples. *1387* Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 241 Þer hadde nouȝt ȝyue to drinke nother ȝ ȝete. *1398 — Barth De P* A. ix. xxxi. (1495) xiv b/2 A lambe was offryd rosted and yeten *1426* Lydg *Pilgr Sowle* III 1 Whan they be fumous, ful off heete, And han ybrek & drunke at large

**+Yeter, yetter.** *Obs* Forms 1 ȝeotere, 3–4 ȝeter, 4 ȝeoter, ȝeotere, 5 ȝetare, 6 ȝettare, yetter. Sec. also Yoter. [f Yet v. + -ter 1. Cf. Msw *gutare* ‘fictor’.] A caster of metal, a founder Also in comb. *bellyeter*.

*c893* Rlfrd Gloss in Sweet *O E Texts* 400 Conflatores, ȝeotere *a1000* Sax. *Leechd* I 348 Ȝeotere þonne & ȝeotere þam æðelinge ær bebet *1298* in Stow *Anno* (1908) II 190 Helsetereia te 13 *A Abs* 6733 I mid vnkinde men in ȝeotere & metalgeten, I-ȝ-yeoter] *1382* Wyclif *Jer* li 27 (*Cmf* onfundid is tche ȝeetere (1 88 wellere) in grauen thingis for fals is his ȝetting *c1440* Bellyetere Gild Ret (Brit. Mus.) 134 *a1450 Myr Our Lady* 266/2 Robert Borthuik ȝett me ofthe kinges cunnyȝe. *1550* Huloet, Kanner or ȝetter of Images, *statuar us*

**Yethor,** var Ledder see Yedder *sb.* and *v.*

**+Yeting,** *vbl sb. Obs.* [f Yet *v.* + -ing 1, Cf Yoting.]

1 Casting of metal or a metal object.

*1382* [see Yetyl]. *c1440 Promp Parv* 538/1 ȝytynge (*Winch* ȝyt ȝetyng] of metelle, isbellys, pynnys, potys, and other like *Jnuic* *c1449* Pecock *Repr* ii ii 138 Þerfor in þe lodr of a cuppis or ellerre is þe ȝeuyng in mulde of þe cuppis in þe ȝetting in mulde of þe ellerre is þe ȝeuyng in mulde of þe ȝetting, or þe ȝetting for þe ȝeuyng *1453–4 Durham Ac. R Ric* (Surtees) 191 Pro uno novo axiltre cum ȝetyngis pertinens, xx s. *1473 Ipswich Gild Certif* 3 A ȝetyng pece, *fusorium*

**Yeting** (ȝi·tiŋ), *sb* and *a Sc* and *north.* Also 4–5 ȝet(t)lyng, 5 ȝettlyne, ȝetteling, 5–6 ȝetyn(g, -lne, 6 ȝet-, ȝetlaing, ȝ ytion, (ate-tiun, 8 ȝ yet(t)ln, ȝetland, ȝ ytlan, ȝetting. [f. Yet *v.* + -ing 1.]

**A.** *sb.* 1. A pot or boiler, usually of cast iron, esp one with a bow-handle and three feet.

*1378–9 Durham Acc Rolls* (Surtees) 388 In factura unius ȝetling *1472 Ibid* 426, ij ȝettyngis ence. *1550 Wills & Inv N C* (Surtees 1835) 18 One ȝetling of brasse. *1580 Ibid* 253 Item a pan wch carres vi—ij ȝettinges iiij² *1700* in *Northumbrld. Glass* (1893) 19 Item an atelin in the Abbey great kitchen *1787* Grose *Prov Gloss, Yet ing*, a small iron boiler N *1865* Conyan, etc. *Tynside Songs* 9 A keyel pot an a yetlin fell a top iv his head. *1892* Rains *Handbk York Mus* 173 A fine camp kettle or yetling 16½ in high by 18 in diameter, with three tall legs ending in claws

2. Applied to various articles made of cast iron; **+(a)** a small cannon; (*b*) a ‘girdle’ on which cakes are baked; (*c*) a ball used in bowls.

*1586 Acc Ld High Treas Scot* XI 318 Twa cutvering moyanis of found and ane grit ȝetling of irne *1598 Burgh Acc Edin.* (1882) IV 52 Ilk townis ȝettlingis ȝeirnit vpon the kirk of feild steapill, with thair fourmiture *1866* Edmonstoun *Shetland & Orkney Gloss* 147 *Yettlin*, a girdle on which cakes are baked. *1868* Gomme *Summ & Winter in Orkney* ix 354 Flat stones which served the purpose of yettlins, or girdles for firing cakes and scones *1895 Fife Acres* 13 Jan 7 The ‘ȝetting’ measures some seven inches in circumference, and its regulation weight is from twenty two to twenty four ounces.

3 Cast iron

*1777* W Nimmo *Stirlingsh* xiii 309 It [or the pent ing] is made of a sort of ȝetlin, and appears to be very old *1845 Aunt Mary Acc Scot* VIII ii 413 The Stirling Jug is made of a kind of brass or ȝetlin *1883* J Martin *Rennie Old Headington* 384 The kind was as hard as ‘ȝetlan’ and would soon kill them and their horses

**B** *adj* Made of cast iron, (of iron) cast

*1495–8 Treasry of Pinchale* (Surtees) 304 3 ȝetyng pan et ad handeles de ancrabo *1502 Wills & Inv N C* (Surtees 1835) 382 Two ȝetling pans viij² *1578 in Inv Royal Wardr* (1815) 53 Ane demy culvering of ȝetlane iron *1703 Househ. Bk. Lo Sp c. Basilike* (1911) 109 A little ȝetlin kettle *1788 Statist Acc Scot* IV 167 The ploughs have a cast yetland mould board *1896* M Mackintosh *Collinger's Diru* 190 My heart As li nd as any ȝetlan floor Or whunstane rock.

**Yett,** ȝett, Sc ff. Gate *sb.*1

**Yette** (ȝotte), var. Yate *v* Obs.

**Yetter** see Yeter

**Yeue,** obs form of Fwe *sb* 1

*c1340 Hammole* (Skeat) 404 Ram blumyth a yeue

**Yeugh, Yeuk, Yeuld** see Yew, Yuke, Yuld.

**Yeve, ȝeve,** etc. see Give, etc.

**Yeve,** obs f Eve *sb*1, If.

**Yevel** (ȝevel), yevill, etc, obs ff. Evil, etc

**Yeven** (ȝeven), -yn, obs ff. Even *sb.*

**Yever,** *a Obs* exc *Sc* Forms: 1 ȝifre, ȝyfre, ȝifer-, 2 ȝifer, (*Orm*) ȝiferr, 2–4 ȝiuer, 3 ȝifre, ȝiure, ȝefere, yuer, 3 ȝeuer, yeuer, ȝyuer, youre, 9 *Sc* siver [OE *ȝifre*, corresp to Fris *gifs* (found only in pl. witches, fiends), Icel *gífrigr* ravenously, in mod Icel exorbitantly, *gífrdr* in mod Icel immoderate, exorbitant. The Icel form is represented by north Engl. *gyvour* ‘greedy’, *gyveress* (see Yeverous).]

1 Greedy, covetous.

*Beowulf* 1277 And his modor þa xyt ȝifre and galmod ȝegan w ðe sorhfullne wíʒ *a1000 Ælfric Homil* I 74 Antulus se cyning ðe on disse worulde unc emetlice ȝifre was *c1205* Lay 7337 Þu sulf art swiðe grislȝ Þine gumen sunden ȝefere [*c* 1275 ȝifre] *a1225 Ancr R* 214 Þe ȝure glutun is þa feon tes mann þale

2. Eager, quick, prompt to.

*c1400 Beste Pryve* 1005, Polidamas he pert was Full ȝiuer and ȝepe, and a swyft knyȝt *c1440 Jacob' Conp Inst* 114 Hys hert was ȝyure [*r* besy] about, pees to make betwe te the kynge & John *1847* Halliwell *Rustic Dict* s.v. Yeiver, the lady's clean an aiver, Wi little bluat, he's a downright clever

Hence **Yeverly** *adv*, greedily, quickly, **Yeverness,** greediness gluttony; eagerness, impetuosity

*a1300 Arundel Booth* xxxv 67 Him ðer ðat ilce yfel stinde ðere ȝifernesse *c1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg* 258 Ongon sferlice þat gres etan *971 Blickl Hom* 95 Þuh he ræ ȝifernesse & oferhy-de *a1100 Aldhelm Gloss* 1 766 (Napier 22 1) Ingluuies, ȝifernes *a1225 Ancr R* 214 Þe ȝure glutun is þa feon tes mann þale *Ibid* 286 Golnesse cumeð of ȝuernesse & of flesches eise *c1250 I wel with Scrm* 21 in *O E Misc* 189 To ȝuernesse and prute none neode he ȝeuleð *c1400 Deste Troy* 5414 I haue pitye of your peison & your pert face, And yeuerness of ȝowthe *Ibid* 8651 I am but feble to ȝu for ȝuerness for ȝeth þat he ȝeme shuld *Ibid* 13231 With in a yere, full yuerly, þat ȝong wyfe was dede

**+Ye verona,** *a. Obs* forms 5 ȝyuerie, us, ȝeuerus, ȝeforous [f Yeyfr + ous The north. form *gyverous* (see Yaker clym) is found from 17th c. = ‘greedy, avaricious’ (1677 Nicolson in *Hay Coll Words* (1691) 141 ] Eager, impetuous

*1400 Deste Troy* 157 Ne I nyne and he yppe, ȝe ȝuerus of wille *Ibid* 1242 Sythen of hem I hadde ȝeue, ȝe ȝuerie of wille *Ibid* 1249 Sythen of hem I hadde ȝeue, ȝe ȝuerie of ȝeforous, *ambronimus*

**Yevery** (ȝe vari), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial* Forms: 6, 9 yevery, 8 yevery, 9 yevvery, e(e)very, eivery [f Yever *a* + -y.] Greedy, voracious

*1536* Bellenden *Cron Scot* (1821) II 272 Uthers, quhilis war maist yevery and tume 17 *Duch o the Conn* xxv in Child *Ballads* (1880) III 465 The lads, that hungry and yevery was 1825 Jamieson, *Answers*, ndj, very hungry. Rush i a term nearly obsolete 1847 Halliwell, *Yevery*, hungry *Northumb*

Hence **Ye virsome ne s,** ravenously greedily.

*1825* Jamieson, *Forresome*, having an appetite habitually craving, Dumfr

**Yew** (ȳu), *sb.* Forms: 1 iuu, iw, eow, eoh, 4–7 ewe, 4–8 ew, (4 w, hw, hue, 5 hew, iu, uv, new), 5–6 u, 5–7 eu, 6 yeuo, yue, yow(e, iewe, eughe, u(g)he, 6–7 ewgh, 6–8 ugh, yough, eugh, 7 yugh, yewgh, eue, 6– yew. Also 6 yeuwe, 6–7 yewe, 7– yiew, etc. See Yew, *adv*, law, *adv*, late *loh*, str masc, corresp, with consonant alternation and variation of gender, to *Oh* th, pl. *fehas*, MLG, MDu. *ewe*, *iewe*, *wwe*, OHG *iuu*, *fuus* str masc, *fuua* wk. fem, *ſga* str fem (MHG *ſtw*, *ſhe*, G. *eibe*, Swiss dial *ſ.he*, *ſge*),

ON *ȳr* (chiefly, bow) — OE **Iwan, *ıgwas, *ıwuo, *ıgwō* (F. *tf*, Sp. *iva*, med L. *ıvus*, are from Germanic; (M)Du *ıyf* or *ıf ıf*)

Relsted obscurely to the Germanic forms are OIr *éo*, W *ywen*, Cornish *hoon*, Breton *ıvenn*, gong back to OCeltic **ıvon*, Lith *ýbà*, Lett *ıwa* black alder (OPruss. *ıuwus*, Lett. *ıuw* sew, are from MLG), Osl (Russ., Serb) *ıva* willow]

1. A tree of the genus *Taxus* (N. O. *Coniferæ*) widely distributed in the North Temperate Zone, esp *T. baccata*, the common yew of Europe and Asia, having thick dark-red wood and dense dark-green foliage, often planted in churchyards, and regarded as symbolic of sadness.

*c785 Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) 1 15 *Taxus*, luu *985 Charter of Æthelred* in Kemble *Cod Dipl* III 218 Of wæenbytcte on Yne eahte we ȝ Bonnan of ȝ an ıwe to Lalh an stele *a 1000 Riddles* lvi 9 Þær wæs hlm & ac & se hearda ıw & se feslwa h len *c 1000 Ælfric Gloss* in Wr Wülcker 139/14 *Ornus, eow c 1325 Gloss W de Bibbesw* in *Rel Ant* II 82/2 *Ivet, w Lewndel Mr. 15/* ıwe) *1340 Alphita* (Sheat) 669 Hw rosetre and hawetre *c 1386 Chaucer Knt's T.* 2065 Maipul, thorn, beech, hasel, ıw, whippetire *a 1400 Gloss* in *Rel Ant* I 9 *Taxus*, ıwe E. *1440 Promp Parv* 237/2 Ireys of Yow, Spyers Genestyr, and Lyȝes *1562 Turner Herbal* II 150 The berries of the Italian Ughe *1578 Lyte Dodoens* (*Taxus baccata*) 856 Yeugh is euill for cattell to eate *1588 Shaks. Tit A* II. iii 107 They told me they would lande me heere, Vnto the body of a dismall yew *1590 Warner Albion's Engl* v. 26 Vnder that Eu, As I sat sadly leaning on a grave *1643 Bacon Lat., Garlens* (Arb) 555 Iuniper, Cipresse Trees Eugh *1665 Cowley Pieces on Sev Occas., to Roland* 4 Beneath a Bower of Sorrow made, Of the black Yew s unlucky green *1699 Garth Dispens* II 11 Beneath the shade my Covert of an Eugh *1706 Hearne Coll* (O H S) I 223 Robinson pull'd up some of y' Ews *1715 Ibid* V. 29 Some say that tis to be planted with Ugh, dwarf Ughs. *1750 Johnson Rambler* No 44, I threw myself beneath a blasted yeugh *1799 Hawkins Hist Music* III 208 Bows of (fect in circumference). *1872 Oliver Elem Bot* II 247 The wood of the Yew is said never to be attacked by insects

b The wood of this tree, esp. as the material of bows.

*a 1000 Aing & Hermut* 199 Wyth a bow of hus full strong And arowys knyte in a thong *1324 Fest Ashr.* (Surtees) V 177 A bowe of vj ȝerde *1330 Palsgr* 234/1 Iewe wode to make bowes, *Ayf 1611* 301/1 Yowe to make bowes of, *Ayf 1545* Ascham *Toxoph* (Arb) 123 Ewe of all other thynges is that, whereof perfite shootyng woulde haue a bowe made. *1590 Shakes F Q* I 9 Our bodie doomed to be siden wall. *1593 Shakes Rich II* III iii 127 Their Bowes Of double Estall Eugh *1619 Drayton Odes* xvii 73 With Spanish Eugh so strong, Arrowes a Clothyard long *a 1700 Evelyn Diary* 18 Apr 1680 Some gentlemen requested with yew which I hked well *1805 Scott Last Minstr* III xx, My bow (f yew to ȝ hazel wand *1809 E J Chapman Drama of Two Lives, Sarah Wilde* 31 The elvew in bands that edg d the floor All shapely set in oak and yew

c Branches or sprigs of the tree, esp. as symbols of sadness

*c 1450* in Ausgev *Syon* (1840) 349 Two bysoms made of boxe and ews *c 1490 Mirk's Festial* (MS Claud I iii ff 52), We have non olyfe but beruth grene leves, we takon in stede of hit hew and palmes wyth, and beruth alowte on procession *1547 Lindisfarne Churchw Acc* (Surtees) 4 Yeve and candelles at Ester to hange in the churche *1601 Shaks Twel N* II iv 56 My shrowd of white, stuck all with Ew *1603 Drayton Barons' Warres* II Cypresse, Eugh, vnite, Eugh, compose the Wreath *1820 Shelley Prometh. Unb* IV 16 Strew, ch, strew Hair, not yew! Wet the dusty pall with tears, not dew!

¶ d Applied to some flowering plants

*1653 R Sanders Physiogn.* Pref b 2, The flowers of plants having the resemblance of Butterflies; as our English Candygoose the flower of Beans, Woodbine, Fig, Vine, Ragwort *1674 tr Schaffer's Lapland* 141 In this leaved heath, that bears a Berry, which some call ground Ewe.

2 A bow made of the yew.

*1598 Silvester Du Bartas* II 2. iv *Handicrafts* 490 Through a Forrest Yubri (with Yew And ready-bended) did a Boar pursue *1607 Dayden Æneis* IX 854 At the full stretch of both his Hands, he drew, And almost joan d the Horns of the tough Eugh. *1611 Beaum & Fl Honest Man's Fort* III 345 To send the Arrow from the twanging Yew *1708 Ramsay Archers downing themselves* 13 To see them draw the bended yew *1813 Scott Trierdal* II iii, When from Wulfstane's bended yew Sprung forth the gooss shaft.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb*, as *yew-berry, -bough, -flat, -hedge, -leaf, -stock, -wood*, made of yew-wood, as *yew bow, -panel, -yew-besprinkled, -crested, -hedged, -leaved, -roofed* adjs.

See also Yew tree.

*a 1000 Sax Leechd* II 370 Sy hum hyt to ısocdonne . **eowberge* ofȝeot mid ealaþ *1766 G White Selborne, To Pennant* 8 Oct, the usual fed on yew berries *1820 Keats Melancholy* 1 Make not your rosary of yew berries. *1832 L Meredith Lines in Ms's Village* VII, threadings it with colour, like yewberries the yew *1868 Morris Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 179 The feet Of the long **yew*-bespr inkled hall *1869 Jean Ingelow* III 137 She to a Yew bough made the boat s head fast. *1898 Nottingham Rec.* IV 123 A dosyn of **ewe* bowes. *1560a Inv* (Nottingham) in *N & Q* 1st Ser VI 104 Foure Spanishe **ewe* bowes *1577 Somerville Yeoman of Kent* 9 Bow men Whose good yew bows, and sinewes strong, Drew arrows of a cloth yard long *1860 Longf Wayside Inn* V *Olaf* xx 1, From his yew bow, tipped with silver, Flew the arrows fast. *1814 Scott Flora Macnor's Song* xi, The **yew*-crested bonnet o er tresses of grey! *a 1583 Sidney Sonn Men & Manh.* Wks. 1777 II. 118 Lord D— s high shorn **yew* edges. *1777 Mrs Thrale Let to Johnson* 18 Sept, A spirit of innovation h s however reached even the e at last A yew hedge, or an eugh hedge if you will *1832 Mrs Mitford Village* Ser v *Christmas Amusem* 109 From the yew hedge to the fountain *1830 Scott Doom of Devorgoil* I 1, The **yew*-hedged garden *1688 Holme Armoury* II 80/1 He beareth Argent, a **Yew* leaf slipped *1731 Miller Gard Dict* s v *Abies*, The Silver, or **Yew* leav'd Firr Tree *1776 Witherings Bot Arrangem* I 680 Yew leaved Feathermoss. *a 1652 Aubrey Wilts* (Royal MS) 263 (Halliw) With box and **ewgh* pannells of about six in hes square *1807 A. de Vere* in Ld Tennyson *Tennyson* I xiii 203 The **yew* roofed cloister of Muckross. *1483 Cath Angl* 118 An **Ew* stok, *taxus* *1613 Holmshield Crt Rolls* in *Sheffield Gloss* (1888) Addenda s v *Tree for th*, **Yew* Wood *1830 Tennyson Orsames* 19 In the yew wood black as night.

**†Yew,** *v local Obs* Also yaw (See quots.)

*1748 W Brownrigg Art of Making Common Salt* II iv 231 At the Lemington works They boil the brine violently till a thin skin of salt appears on its surface [*Worle*] They say then that the brine begins to yew *1828* 32 Webster, *I yaw*, to rise in blisters breaking in white froth, as cane juice in the sugar works West Indies *Ibid*, to rise as is sin on the brine in boiling as the salt works

**Yew(e:** see Ewe *sb.*1, Give, Yeo *sb*1, You, Yule.

**Yewar, -er,** obs. forms of Ewer *1.*

*1538 Elyot, Gutturnium*, a lauer or yewer [*1552 Huloet yewar*] *1598* N Lichfield in *Cartwright's Comp E Inst* xvii 44 A certen yewer y^e which had a high foot.

**Yewel,** obs. form of Jewel.

**Yewen** (*yū ĕn*), *a* Now *rare* or *arch.* Also 6 **ewghen, eughen,** 6–8 **ewen,** 7 **yeughen.** [f. Yew *sb* + -en 6 Cf. MHG. *ıwîn*, G *ıben*] Made of the wood of the yew; consisting of yew trees.

*1563 Gascoigne Flowers* (1907) 77 A ewen bow *1598 Shakes F Q* I xi 19 So farre as Eughen bow a shaft may send *1598 — M Hubberd* 747 His stiffe armes to stretch with Eughen bowe. *1654 C Wase Juvenal Cyneget* Prol 73 b, A round hoop of yeughen wood made of boughs *a 1700 Ken Edmund* Poet Wks. 1721 II 262 As warlike Archers bend long ewen Bows. *1861 Reade Cl ister & H* xxix, In spite of laws and penal proclamations to keep up the yewen bow *1884 E V Hoyle Days & Hours in Garden* vi 89 The square topped Yewen hedge.

**Yewer.** see Ewer

**Yewin, Yewl, Yewlow, Yewre, Yewrie** : see Iwin, Yule, Yellow, Ewer 1, Lwehi.

**Yew-tree** (*yūˈtri*). *n* Yew *sb.* 1.

*1398 Trevisa Barth De P R* xvii chi (1495) V 3/1 An Ewe tree is a tree with vermin & poyson *c 1405 Loc in Wr-Wülcker* 648/1 *Taxus*, ewe tre (inc), newe tre *1440 Promp Parv* 507/2 A Ywe tre (A' uw tre), *taxus* *1538 Turner Libellus, Taxus*, an Vhe tre. *1593* in *N & Q* 1st Ser (1850) VI 641 Him for leadinge of earthe to y^e benche about the yewe tree, y^e wyche *1607* Topsell *Four Footed Beasts* 256 The rotten part of Ewe tree *1612 Webster White Dev* II i 26 Into a church yard, where a goodly Eu tree Spoil her long arms with spreading *1667 Milton Paradise Lost* (1711) III 46 In this Church Yard is an Ew tree, ten Yards in Compass *1750 Gray Elegy* iv, Beneath th se rugged elms, that yew tree s shade, Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap *1814 Scott Lil of Isles* v xix, The yew tree lent its shadow dark. *1864 Tennyson Enoch Ard* 732 An ancient evergreen, a yew-tree

*attrib* and *Comb* *1688 Holme Armoury* II 52/1 He beareth Argent, a Yew Tree Branch Fructed *1845 R. S Surtees Jorrocks's Jaunts & Jollit* I 145 A massive yew tree bend made *1866 Geo Eliot* / *Holt* Introp. In the antique kitchen-garden and cone shaped yew tree arbour *1889 Science Gossip* XXV 118/2 The poisonous nature of yew tree leaves.

Hence, **yew-treed** *a*, planted with yew trees; **yew-tree** *v.* *1872 Mrs. A Gatty *Bk. Sun-dials* Introd. p. xxii, The quaint yew tree d garden

**Yewys,** obs form of Iwis.

**Yex** (yeks), **yesk** (yesk), *sb* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 sōscs, ıcscs, ȝcscs, ȝcocss, ȝcoxs, ȝcohss, 4–6 yexe, 5–7 yexe, 6 yeax, yeske, 6–7 yexe(e, 7 yex, yexe, yexle, yexel, yexil, yuckle, yeux, yokes [OE. *ȝcscs, ȝcocss, *ȝcxss (ȝihss)*, related to next.] An act of yexing, † a sob (*obs.*); a hiccup or the hiccups.

*a 700 Epinal Gloss* *358 Singultus, ıcscs. *c725 Corpus Gloss* (Hessels) T 71 *Tentigo*, ȝcscs. *a 1000 Boeth Met* 5, 88 Ic ne mæg habban ænne ȝcscs. *c 1000 Ælfric Sax Leechd* II 60 Þam monnum þe for fylle ȝihss sihð *1398 Trevisa Barth De P R* xvii 18 (Tollem Ms), Lo yexe is a sodeyn wynde *1530 Palsgr* 234/1 Yexle, *singlot* 291/1 Yexke that cometh of the stomake, *sanglont* *1547 Boorde Brev Health* ccl.xxv, It is named the yexe or the hicket, and of some the drunken mans cough. *1548 Patten 1st spedi. Scot Field* 1 b, I beyng a yexe, do soon dye *1565 Harding Anw Jewel* ii 138 The yexe and vomite followed *1578 Lyte Dodoens* II lxxiv 256 Two or three drammes, for the yexe *1611 Cotgr*, Hocquet the Hiquet or yexe *1801 Holland Pliny* xxviii xx II 329 They shall find a remedie for the yex *1809 — Amm Marcell* xxv ix. 392 The yex that soucheth his flanckes and small guts *1821* J Taylor (Water P.) *Goose Wks* (1630) 1 210/2 One staggering there hath got the drunken yex. *1860* Lakeland Dialect 13 *s v. Hick*, a single affection of hiccup, S as, He gae a great yesk, S B *eesh*, id. *1828* Todd, *Yex* sometimes pronounced *yex*, and *yex*, or *yokes* the hiccough *1824* Mactaggart *Gallovid Encycl* 266 Drunk —drunk some cold water

**Yex, yesk,** *v.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: *a* 1 sōocsian, ȝeocsian, 3–4 ȝoxe, 4–6 yexe, 4–7 yexe, 5 ȝeke, 6 yeax, youx, yowx, 6– yex, 9 *dial* yox, yocks, yaux, *a*2. 5–6 yeske, 6 yeask, 6– yesk; *a*3 4–5 ȝoske, 5 yoske *β*1 ı ȝisician, 5 yiske, ȝyske, 5–6 ȝisk, ȝeisk, 9 yisk; *β*2 5 ȝyxe [OE *ȝeocsian, ȝeocian*, corresp. to OHG. *ıeikhôn, ıeıgazôn* ‘ oscitare ’· of imitative origin.]

† 1 *intr* To sob *Obs*

*c 888 Ælfred Boeth* II 5 Ac ic nu wepende & ısceiende ofgeradre worda mınfo *c 1050* [see Yexing] *c 1290 Beket* 1536 in *S Eng Leg* 150 And sore wepede he wunde forth, he ȝexede and ayte wel ofte 13 ** Arthour-weilde* 322 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1881) 322 Pe bystshop hade no space to speke, so sykely he ȝeixyd *1388 Wyclif 2 Kings* iv 35 The child ȝeixide (1382 brethed) seuene sithis *c 1440 Alphabet of Tales* 29 And agayn he stuid dy, he began at yexke *1530 Stanbridge Vocabula* (W. de W) A iv, *Singultire*, to yexke or to sob *1620 Holland Pliny* xxvii xxxv. I 614 Ravens crying one to another as if they sobbed or yexed therewith. *1629 Gaule Holy Madn.* 283 What thinke thou of the Body, that yelpes and yexes, at any small push?

2 To hiccup.

*a 1400 Arund MS* 19 if sklb in *Promp Parv* 539 *note*, Anet the sed coct, and al hot put to be nostrelle, suffereth nozt to galpe, ne to ȝex-ȝyn ne to ȝexyn *1438–50* etc (see Yexing). *c 1460 J* Russell *Bk Nurture* 298 Be yarely, ne bolkynge, ne grynninge *1530 Palsgr* 766/a Whan he yeskeith men ye, yeeskin, to be there, Though mouth s a head ach

3. *trans.* To belch forth. Also *intr.* to belch, to hawk, to expectorate.

*c 1386 Chaucer Reeve's T* 251 (Ellesm) He ȝeixith [*c 1*° yeskeþ, ȝoxeth] and he spekth in thyn the nose As he were on the quakke or on the pyn *1513 Douglas Æneis* III ix 82 His nek fouith of the cave He stenkht, for drunken, Bolkis fowle flude of quhome the mouth ran fome *Ibid* VIII iv 36 At his mouth His faderis reky flamb furth ȝeikit he *Ibid* 154 A lauthly smok he ȝeikis blak as hell *a 1548* Lyndesay in *Dunbar's Poems* (1834) 1 cxxxiii 1 Scho puft and ȝeikit with sic rifnis, That verry dirt come furth with drifnis *1580 Phaer Æneid* IX (1562) Div He their nauthers head w^t sword ofsklpes & lieth vnburied *1598 Yorksh Tapistry Storm d* (1897) 154 If gurt d hom yeak his dram much *1828 W Iles Gloss* 4 *Yeak*, to cough up *1893 S P Worc Gloss*, *Yaun*, v to cough, or expectorate ‘ I don't want no bacca smokers in my kitchen, yauzin an' ay gittin' about.'

Hence **Ye xer,** one who yexes.

*1821 Cock*, *Songlotor*, one that hath the hickocke; a yexer

† **Ye xen,** *v. Obs* In 5 **ȝykxen, ȝoskxen.** [f. Yex *v* + -en 5] = Yex *v*

*14 Chaucer's Assem Fooles* 231 (Camb MS.) He ȝykxeth & sykyth þourw þe nose *c 1430 Chev Assigne* 108 They chyvered for colde as chesurynge chyldren, they ȝoskxened, & cryde out R Jat a man beate

† **Yexiled** [*V* 4], exiled *1340 Ayenb* 30 Men and wyfmen and children desexiled and y exiled

**Yexing, yeshing,** *vbl sb* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see Yex, Yesk *v.* [OE. *ȝeocsung, ȝeosung* = OHG. *ıesgisunga* : see Yex, Yesk *v* and -ing 1.] The action of the vb Yex, †sobbung (*obs.*), (most freq.) hiccupping.

*c 1050 Voc* in Wr Wülcker 493/32 *In singultum*, in sicctiunge and ȝeocsunge *c 1050 Soupl in Anglia* (1881) 144 *Singultus*, ȝeolcsung *1290 S Eng Legend* (Rolls) 801 Mid ȝeixinge & ȝeet wop þus he ligan is mone *1382 Wyclif Luke* xi 36 Ne turne thou awei thin ere fro my sobbing [*c 1* soryng] and ȝexing *1398 Trevisa Barth De P R* vii xlvi (1495) b 1/2 Whan the strong stynkynge mouth of y^e stomak *a 1400–50 Alexius* 5042 So did his pinnes With ȝedus ȝoskinȝ, & ȝe ȝerre ȝeit out to gret *1432–50 Hoccleve Regim* (Rolls) V 388 Perescheþ smel & mouþ þeple in ȝoskenge or nesynge *c 1440 Promp Parv* 539/1 Yexynge, *singultus* *a 1470 Tiptoft Orat ı Flaminium* (Caxton 1481) IV, He in his drunkennesse with his vomiting ȝoxing & prating *1483 Cath Angl* 436/1 A ȝeskynge, *singultus* *1530 Stanbridge Vocabula* (W. de W) A v, *Oscedo*, yeskynge *1530 Palsgr* 291/1 Yexing, *hocquet* *1543 Traheron Vigo Anthony* 30 b/1 Great apostemations why the cause rogers, fleuers, spasmes, youxinge *1544 Phaer Regim Lyfe* (1545) F 1, Hyckcet or yeskinge, is an ouyll vyolent & vnsemely repulsaue of the stomake *1586 Turner Bathe* 9 b, It healeth also the hitchcock or ȝiskinge *1589 R Androse tr Alexis Secr* IV 35 To remedie the ȝexinge of the stomacke and vomityng *1600 Darrell Exor Satan* 6 A ȝeygge like one threwe her backward taking from her the vse both of her eyes and handes, which with ȝeasking were euer losed *1613 Br Andrewes 90 Sermons* 4 Ȝeasking, or rather the upbraydyng or yexing of the heart (as Abigail excellently termeth it) *1882 Robt Johnson Euchir Med* III iv 132 [The Hicket] is called by some the sobbing or ȝexing *1897* F T Haverfield *Heref Wks* 38 He suffers so from yexking *1887 Jamieson's Dict*, *Yesk* v *Yetsre*, A yetrie yasking

**Yeyed,** *i* = *yejed*, pa. pple. of Eathe *v.*, q. v.

**Yeyn, yeyn-** see Gain-.

**Yeyr,** obs. form of Year.

**Yeyred, Yeyre,** obs. Sc form of Earth, Air *1533 Aberr Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1879) IV 60 Jhon Muir gnef stacr, be yeyrd and stane, of ane bak tenement *a 1500 Coventry Corpus Chr Pl* 39/106 When the sun and the starn in the yeyre togydur ware

**Yen.** *Anglo Irish.* Also yees, yis. [*i. Ye* with plural inflexion *s*] You (said to more than one).

*1804* Maria Edgeworth *Ennui* vi, Mind the big hole in the middle of the bridge, God bless yees! *1848* T C Croker

*Fairy Leg. S. Irel.* ii. 110 'Boys', says she, 'I hope you have made a good dinner.'

**Yezidi, -dee** (ye'zidi). Also **Yeze(s)dee, Iezidi, Ezedees.** [Of disputed origin.] One of a religious sect founded in Kurdistan, Armenia, and the Caucasus, which, while believing in a Supreme Power, regards the Devil with reverential fear.

1818 Kinneir *Journ. Asia Minor* 424 The Zezidees live in enmity with the Christians. 1819 J. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) III. 124 The strangers were Yezidees. 1842 J. B. Fraser *Mesop. & Assyria* xiv. 328 The Yezidee religion appears to be a compound of many others strangely jumbled together. 1848 Layard (*title*) Nineveh and its Remains: with an Account of..the Yezidis, or Devil-Worshippers. 1852 Badger *Nestor.* I. x. 122, I think it cannot be doubted that the term 'Yezeedee' is derived from Yezd, one of the titles applied by the ancient Persians to the Supreme Being. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* II. xvii. 299 The Iezidis or Yezidis, the so-called Devil-worshippers.

**Yeesy,** dial. form of Easy.

1896 Aug. J. C. Hare *Story of my Life* I. iii. 178 The old Cheshire proverb—'Bout's bare but it's yeezy.'

**Yf,** obs. form of Give v., If.

†**Yfage,** *adv. Obs.* Also 4 **ifale.** [repr. OE. *gefægen* adj.: see Y- and Fain *a.* (southern ME. *fæie*).] Fain, gladly.

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 229 In *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 'Wolton', quod the vox, 'artȝ ounderfonge, Tel thine sunnen on and on, That ther bileve never on.' 'None', quod the wolf, 'wel I-nile.' *c* 1325 Shoreham in 1862 Ne forþe þe moder pet luyt beey, Ne woldest pou nase y-fage.

†**Yfalled, yfayl(l)ed** [V.-4], filled. *c* 1325 Shoreham I. 56 Vf pou neit vaast clannes, Pou ert heuene huss neat yfalled. 23.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 200 Trewth is i-faillid with fremid and sibbe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 Alle guodes byeþ ous yfayled. *c* 1394 I-falled [see Fail *v.*] ibid. ✝ **Yfaired,** yfayred [Fair *a.*], made clean or pure. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Pane gost of wysdom, be huam bi we zuo yclensed sake and zuo yunyred of alle uelþe. *Ibid.* 244.

**Y'faith,** in faith: see Faith *sb.* 12 b.

1581 *Cherry Chase* II. 124 ' Such A-nother captayn stickland within', he sayd, 'ye-feth shuld neuer be.' a 1596 *Sir T. Here* I. ii. 512 Yfaith, yfaith, thou art too short for me. 1607 Yfaith [see Faith *sb.* 12 b]. 1619 Drayton *Heroic. Ep.* xiii. 108 Yfaith her Queeneship little Rest should take.

†**Yfalle,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 **yualle.** [OE. *gefeallan* = OHG. *gifallan* : see Y- 3 *c* and Fall *v.*] *intr.* To fall; to befall.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Ponne zefeallaþ ealle þeodscyldi. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Huet cas ysuolle. *Ibid.* 48 Hit yualþ oberhuyl desertessun of eye and ualse marages.

†**Yfalle(n,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zefeallen,** 6 **ivalle(n, ifalle(n,** 4 **yvalle, yfall,** 4–5 **yfalle(n,** 3 **yfalne.** [OE. *gefeallen*, pa. pple. of *feallan* to Fall, *gefeallan* (see prec.).] Fallen; also *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Seo heofon þip zefeallen æt þæm feower endum middaneardes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxlviii. 8 Fyr, forst, hægel, and xefeallen snaw. 1340 *Hampole Ancr. P.* 58 Ho schulen zelden þet best þet is per inne ivallen. *a* 1350 *Owl & Night.* 514 Vor hwanne he hauep ido his dede Ifalle is al his bokhade. 1397 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1257 Pe lauȝ is ivalle and pe tounes þat were ney adoun ivalle [*MS. b* yfalle]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Hou ofte he heþ ysuolle into zenne. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* x. 179 Ysuolle in myschief. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 160 Many a word yfalne shall eft arise.

**Yfait,** Mk. pa. pple. of Fold *v.*1

**Yfare,** var. I-fare *v. Obs.*

1593 *Jacke Straw* in Cy, So did they all yfare like frankicke men.

†**Yfare(n** [V.-4, Farr.]: cf. I-fare *v.*], gone : travelled : dealt *with*. 900–30 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894 Þa hit þær to gefaren wæs, þa eodon þie to hiora scipum. *c* 1205 Lay. 4650 Nes hit buten feower wiken þat þas kinge ifaren [*c* 1275 ivaren] were, þen Brennes sulen. *Ibid.* 26419 Þa þis wes al iuare, þa wes Brennes keiseres. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 400 Ho..wes aferd þat hire answare Ne wrþe nouht wiþh ivare [*v.r.* ifare]. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 577 Whan hit he seyde so, Thei departen out of town yfere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 385 He was piled and lerobbed, and fare [*MS. v.* yvare] wiþ as it were a beef. 1450–90 tr. *Higden*, *Faste* (Caxton, Rolls) VII. 515 The cuntrey was foule yfare with. **Yfarsyd** [Farse *v.*], stuffed. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Hygge y-farsyd. **Yfast,** yvast [Fast *v.*1], fasted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 405 Pere he hiȝ fastenesse feiȝest hatȝdon. *c* 1275 yuast [see Fast *v.*3]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2419 (Laud MS.) As a wolf, þat fele dawnes had yfast. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 580 Whan that he hath yfastid thre dayes, or foure, He wexeth lene; he semeth duren neigh for feintnesse, but fast, faxed, fastened. *c* 1420 *Anturs. Arth.* (Thornt.) lviii. 3 Swa weax melde, gif hit bȝ ȝarnwunn nauht fyre ȝefastnad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Zuo yuestned ine þe loue and adraynyt in þe ruetnesse of god. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 30 Pan take a dyssh of fastenyol on be pelys ende. **Yfabled,** enfeebled. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 363 Englisshe men..were mochel i-feble. [*MSS. B and y* yfebled.

†**Yfed,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefēd*, pa. pple. of *fēdan* Feed *v.*] Fed.

*a* 1200 *Ahlfelm Chron.* 1. 3753 (Napier 200/1) *Holuecullis susceretur*, ..ofatum were zefed. *c* 1205 Lay. 13573 He us haueð wel ised. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Wher he were yfed none horen ast yfled. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 351 Realiche i-feded and likyngliche i-fedde [*MS. y* yfed]. *c* 1450 *Crt. of Love* 975 In wofull hour I got was, welaway! In wofull hour foured and y-fed.

1697 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* 6, Where all take life,..And then renew'd with pleasure be yfed. 1708 Pope *Dunc.* III. 188 On parchment scraps y-fed.

**Yfel(l,** obs. ff. Evil.

†**Yfele,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zefelan,** 2–4 **ifele, ivele,** 3–4 **yvele, yfele,** 7 **yfeele.** [OE. *gefēlan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Feel *v.*] To feel.

*c* 893 [see Feel *v.* 1]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne iuele ich þe imine breoste so swete ase þu eri? *c* 1300 *Judas Isc.* 18 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 107 Swiþe heo gan ifele And yuele þat he was mid childe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 123 Pe same merk and tokene þat he hadde i-fele [*MS. y* yvelid] in his soule he bare alway after i-sene. *c* 1634 Earl Wemyss' *Ordinary* III. i. (1652) 36, I no where hoart yfeele, but on mine head.

†**Yfell,** *v. Obs.* Also 3–4 **yvelle.** [OE. *gefyllan*, *-fiellan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Fell *v.*] *trans.* To strike down, fell. Also **Yfelled** *pa. pple.*

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. vi. § 7 Þa hio [*sc.* seo nædre] xefylled wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Da woldon he Sanctus Martinus..fæst xfyld abrecan & xefyllan. *c* 1205 Lay. 14838 He heom habboð ifelmed..& mid wepnen ifelled. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 89 Þis wymmen vnder schelde þat mann hit yfelle. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3363 (Laud MS.) Wiþ dynt of spere þou were yfeld. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 1525 Syx baners were y-feld.

†**Yfere,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zefera,** 2–3 **ifere, ivere,** 3 **iumre, iuare, ifere, ifeire, yfere.** *Pl.* 1 **zeferan,** 2 **zeferen,** 2–3 **iferen,** 2–4 **ifere, iuere,** 3–4 **yfere, yuere,** 3 **iumren.** [OE. *gefera, f. ge-* Y- 1 *a* + *fær-*, mutated *f. fōr-* : *faran* to go.] A companion, mate, fellow, associate.

*c* 870 *Codex Aureus Inscr.*, Ic Aelfred aldormon & Werburg min zefera. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* iii. 19 Þæt wif, þæt þu me forgeafe to zefere. *c* 1000 *Mercel Ode* 29 In helle his hunger and burst, twa uuele iuere. *c* 1205 Lay. 26012 Arður hine teh Bi-siden his iferen [*c* 1275 iveres]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 48 Englene ifere ant arcangleres fremde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5904 Pe wrecche..adde ywore is yere, þre vchoon þat nezst him were. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 233 Horn rod Aylmer þe kyng; Ant horn wiþ him..Ant alle his yfere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6906 (Laud MS.) Þou wepe for þi kyng & þine yfere.

†**Yfere,** *adv. Obs.* (from 6 to 8 *arch.*) Forms: 3–4 **ifere, yvere,** 4–8 **yfere,** 5 **yfeere, yfere,** 6 **yfeare, yfeare,** *Sc.* **yfeir.** *B.* 4 **yferes,** 6 *Sc.* **yferis.** [Origin uncertain. The available evidence favours on the whole the supposition that the adverb arose out of the predicative use of *yfere*, pl. of Yfere *sb.* companions, associates', hence 'associated' (see similar development of Y-fere) : if this were so, the form *in fere* (from *c* 1330) arose from analysing *ifere* as *i*, IN *prep.* + Fere *sb.*? With the *B*-form cf. Togethres, and see *-s suffix.*]

In company; together. (Extensively used in ME. poetry as a riming tag; rare in prose.)

(a 1200 [see Yfere *sb.*]. *c* 1205 Lay. 27435 Twein kinges þer were, þeines monie, þa comen ifere. *c* 1275 Passion 1 Þeo twein and tweyne wenden i-vere [*earlier text* Ruer twein and tweih tuhte to-somne mic mid his honde heold his iuere]. *a* 1300 *S. Michael* (Vernon MS.) 1 Ich wile singe wiþ ioye yfere Of wynd, of water, and of fur, and þhaye threo were i-fere.]

*a* 1300 *XV Signs* 117 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 11 Al þe see sal drawe fere as a walle to stond up rit. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* lii. 81 And þo he hurde þe apostles come he sputtes sone he lyȝt, And gret hem alle ysfere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2267 In caue þei lyen, & slepen samen y-fere. 13.. *Gesta. Nicod.* (A.) 751 And þei for hurted sore aȝf yfere. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 1116 With þat þey wente arm in arm y fere [*v.r.* in fere, yfere] In to þe gardeyn from þe chambres doun. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1009 Wiþ þe bukhynde alle yere y-born in ooure fraunce. *c* 1400 *Sir Perc. Poems* xvii. 192 What sulde a syȝ, lay hat herbe aboue, Hit makeȝ hool al yfere. 1408 Lydg. *Dr Guid. Pilgr.* 2035 And when I herde alle þis clerke, I was astoyned in myn chere. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Pan take Pepyr, an Safroun, an Brede, y-grounde yfere. 1508 Dunbar *Goldyn Targe* 147 Syne blowis all the blastis thame amang, Swa þat þay fechtis fast yfeir. 1. Aij b, They feede and feele the fruit of that, which once they got yfeare. 1589 Melbancke *Philotimus* S ij, As litle top of Pine trees, that grow yfeare, pas did neuer vnsensible pictures. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 1 O goodly golden chaine, wherewith yfere The vertues linked are in louely wise. 1600 — *Astrophel* 1 Fy, Harpalus and eke Corin were Heard-men both yfere. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. lxxv, Then let's all go yfere. 1748 Thomson *Castle Indolence* xxv, And sweet they nestle yfeare thus yfere they yede. 1768 Downman *Land of Muses* iv, There passed by the sister Graces bright, ..Benevolence and Gratitude y-fere.

*B.* 1 *Legend of Cury* 1. xxii. (1780) 20 Take brede and þe self broth and drawe it up yferes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. v. 25 Baith maitrouns, and thair husbandis, all yferis.

**Yfern:** see Fern *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.*

**Yfery,** pseudo-arch. *f.* Afar *adv.*

*c* 1634 Cartwright *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84, I do not reche One beare for all. This Buss is a blive guardon. Hence Carlishanese yfery.

†**Yfet,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 1 **zefett,** 3–4 **ifet,** 3 **ifat,** 4 **yvet, yfette,** 4 *y*-**fost.** [OE. *gefett*, pa. pple. of *(ge)fetian* : see Y- 4 and Fet *v.*] Brought, carried, fetched; acquired.

893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. vi. § 8 Amilcor, se was of Sicilium him to fultume zefett. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 And wunne þat þet ilkeome þet he haued ec his fulluhte ifet. 1297 *Leg. Kath.* 1306 Fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene & of feorrene ifat. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5321 Pe menskes out of alen-dome vera were budur yuet. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1624 Pe castel was mad & set, & þer godes þerto yfet. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 237 Florance was dyght y-fet. 1555 Fraer *Æneid.* I. (1558) C j b, Vnto the Troiens he hed to bring from Troy conveyed yfet.

†**Yfetered** [V.-4], fettered. *a* 1000 *Riddles* liii. 4 Þa warron zenumne nearwum bendum, xefeteradæ fæste to-gædre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Heo fuȝeð mid tevn heuie ivcotered. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Yfetered were ys legges under his horse wombe. *c* 1400 [see Fetter *v.*] 1.]. **Yfetthered, Yfeyned,** ME. pa. pples. of Feather, Feign.

**Yff,** obs. form of If.

**Yff, yffen,** obs. ff. *give, given* : see Give *v.*

*c* 1425 *Torr. Portugals* 2009 God, that died vppon the Rode, Yff grace, that she mete with good! 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 519 Of which somme x li. was yffen to theym agcyn.

†**Yfilled,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefylled*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*fyllan* : see Y- 4 and Fill *v.*] Filled; fulfilled.

*c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 266 Þæt wæs swa sodlice mid dæd xefylled, swa him se witega to cwæden was. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Þa hit was ifullet þet ysaias þe prophete iwitezede. *c* 1205 Lay. 6918 Þis lond wes on griþe and ifulled mid gode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1072 Wonder it is..of þi noble gentrise Pat is so noble anerþe iwolt wiþ so vil cousiliss. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Lanfranc hadde yfylled [*MS. y* yvulled] his wit wiþ al vertues. 1400 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Whan a man sittyth atte meete he sholde wythdrawe his honde afor that he be yfillit. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. iv. xxiv, So all things he yfild with their wish'd good.

†**Yfind,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gefindan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Find *v.*] To find.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 28 *Inuenit unum de conseruis suis*, .. gefand sumne of ofer-þegnum. *c* 1000 *Metral Ode* 243 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Hie sechað reste þar non nis ac hie nigen ifinden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5779 Vor he sende pe kinges word þer he mizte nanne vinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Pou gest in-to helle huer þou saelt ynende ver and bernaton. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 405 Ethelwoldus..discoyede al þat þis fyloye vnwrie. [*MS. y* yvynde] anon to Crekeforde. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* v. 537 Famous Argus, þat..first þat art y-founde.

†**Yfixed** [V.-4], fixed. 1734 Sidenstorn *Schoolmaster*, xviii, This Hand in Mouth y-fixed, and y-gnawed. 1735 **Yfawn,** ivlæsen [Flay *v.*], flayed. *c* 1205 Lay. 27377 Heo scullen heon islæsene, and sumne quic inlæsene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 894 (Laud MS.) Þou wepe for þi kyng & þine yfere.

**Yfled** [Flee *v.*], fled. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 661 The swyfte fame .. was borugh-out Troye yfled with preste wynges. **Yflawed,** yvlawed [Flaw *v.*], blown, flighty: exiled. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* vi. xxxiv. § 4 He xefealsiȝ wiþ Gotan, & xefliemed weard. *c* 1205 Lay. 7658 Hu he was maid his þerde i-flæmde of Sisseen eande. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3609 Vor vs treytour of his lond he was ynome Yflewed was out of engelond. 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Pe ore byeþ, be unlese yulemede, þet vlyeþ. **Yflesshide** [V.-5]: see Flesshed *v.* **Yflet** [Flete *v.*], removed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 82 Panne foond ȝe me ful fer y-flet Al from god in maieste. **Yflowred** [V.-5] having flowers. 1340 *Ayenb.* 136 He is aso be smale uleye þet maketh hire yflowred. *c* 1400 — *Sir Perc.* 1 Pe wyndes yflowred. **Yflowe(n',** iflowe, yvlowe, etc. [Flee *v.*], fled. *c* 1205 Lay. 3653 Alle þe flæmen þe iflowe buð of Rome. *Ibid.* 21463 Nu is Chilleric..iflowe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1111 Manie þe kyng is yflowe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 295 Marcus Antonius was i-flowe [*v.r.* yflowe, fledde]. **Yflowe(n',** yflone [Flee *v.*], flown. *c* 1200 *Ancrene Riwle* 11. 142 Se eaȝe þe þam ofre zeond-flið mid fleoc zeflozen, þonne he þurrihte zefeng. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 672 He let him makie wengen..& þo he was iflowe [*v. r.* yflowe] an his fet(e). 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. xxxvii, They'll all be gone In a short time, like Bats and Owls yflone At dayes approch. **Yflo'wn** [Flow *v.*], overflowed. 1556 Fleming *Pompeii*, 1. 154 The land of Tyre with seas yflown. **Yflyte, yflouȝten** (Flyt *v.*], fought. 688–95 *Lawa ine* vi. (Liebermann), Peah hit sie on middum felda zefohten. *c* 1205 Lay. 3969 We habbeð wiþ him iuohten. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9923 On hora keuered Clrodalis, þat al so wele ylouȝten cert. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 229 Pe iwis herberde [*MS. y* yvuȝt] wiþ þe wel-worþliche i-fuȝte [*MS. y* yvouȝt]. **Yfolled,** ME. pa. pple. of Foil *sb.*1 **Yfold, -e,n** [Fold *v.*1], folded; closed. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xx. 7 & þæt swat-lin..onsundron zefealden on anre stowe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6 Al þis ne mouȝe help deþe in mold To dragounis fast yfold. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5706 þe Amerel..gurde hym with ysuste y-volde. 1450–81 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 1. 81 Pe Romayns..let his honde y-folden to geder. **Yfolewed, yfolled:** see Yfulled. **Yfolsed, yfol(o)wed,** followed. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Se gode man þeȝ gode lare yfolsed. *c* 1205 Lay. 4650 Nes hit buten feower wiken þat þas kinge ifaren [*c* 1275 ivaren] were, þeȝ þeȝ hiora scipen. *c* 1205 Lay. 4650 Nes hit buten feower wiken þat þas kinge ifaren [*c* 1275 ivaren] were, þen Brennes sulen. *Ibid.* 26419 Þa þis wes al iuare, þa wes Brennes keiseres. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 400 Ho..wes afeȝd þat hire answare Ne wrþe nouht wiþh ivare [*v.r.* ifare]. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 577 When hat he seyde so, Thei departen out of town yfere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 385 He was piled and lerobbed, and fare [*MS. v.* yvare] wiþ as it were a beef. 1450–90 tr. *Higden*, *Faste* (Caxton, Rolls) VII. 515 The cuntrey was foule yfare with. **Yfarsyd** [Farse *v.*], stuffed. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Hygge y-farsyd. **Yfast,** yvast [Fast *v.*1], fasted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 405 Pere he hiȝ fastenesse feiȝest hatȝdon. *c* 1275 yuast [see Fast *v.*3]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2419 (Laud MS.) As a wolf, þat fele dawnes had yfast. *c* 1420 *Anturs. Arth.* (Thornt.) lviii. 3 Swa weax melde, gif hit bȝ ȝarnwunn nauht fyre ȝefastnad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Zuo yuestned ine þe loue and adraynyt in þe ruetnesse of god. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 30 Pan take a dyssh of fastenyol on be pelys ende. **Yfabled,** enfeebled. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 363 Englisshe men..were mochel i-feble. [*MSS. B and y* yfebled.

†**Yfed,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefēd*, pa. pple. of *fēdan* Feed *v.*] Fed.

*a* 1200 *Ahlfelm Chron.* 1. 3753 (Napier 200/1) *Holuecullis susceretur*, ..ofatum were zefed. *c* 1205 Lay. 13573 He us haueð wel ised. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Wher he were yfed none horen ast yfled. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 351 Realiche i-feded and likyngliche i-fedde [*MS. y* yfed]. *c* 1450 *Crt. of Love* 975 In wofull hour I got was, welaway! In wofull hour foured and y-fed.

1697 H. More *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* 6, Where all take life,..And then renew'd with pleasure be yfed. 1708 Pope *Dunc.* III. 188 On parchment scraps y-fed.

**Yfel(l,** obs. ff. Evil.

†**Yfele,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zefelan,** 2–4 **ifele, ivele,** 3–4 **yvele, yfele,** 7 **yfeele.** [OE. *gefēlan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Feel *v.*] To feel.

*c* 893 [see Feel *v.* 1]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne iuele ich þe imine breoste so swete ase þu eri? *c* 1300 *Judas Isc.* 18 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 107 Swiþe heo gan ifele And yuele þat he was mid childe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 123 Pe same merk and tokene þat he hadde i-fele [*MS. y* yvelid] in his soule he bare alway after i-sene. *c* 1634 Earl Wemyss' *Ordinary* III. i. (1652) 36, I no where hoart yfeele, but on mine head.

†**Yfell,** *v. Obs.* Also 3–4 **yvelle.** [OE. *gefyllan*, *-fiellan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Fell *v.*] *trans.* To strike down, fell. Also **Yfelled** *pa. pple.*

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. vi. § 7 Þa hio [*sc.* seo nædre] xefylled wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Da woldon he Sanctus Martinus..fæst xfyld abrecan & xefyllan. *c* 1205 Lay. 14838 He heom habboð ifelmed..& mid wepnen ifelled. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 89 Þis wymmen vnder schelde þat mann hit yfelle. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3363 (Laud MS.) Wiþ dynt of spere þou were yfeld. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 1525 Syx baners were y-feld.

†**Yfere,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zefera,** 2–3 **ifere, ivere,** 3 **iumre, iuare, ifere, ifeire, yfere.** *Pl.* 1 **zeferan,** 2 **zeferen,** 2–3 **iferen,** 2–4 **ifere, iuere,** 3–4 **yfere, yuere,** 3 **iumren.** [OE. *gefera, f. ge-* Y- 1 *a* + *fær-*, mutated *f. fōr-* : *faran* to go.] A companion, mate, fellow, associate.

*c* 870 *Codex Aureus Inscr.*, Ic Aelfred aldormon & Werburg min zefera. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* iii. 19 Þæt wif, þæt þu me forgeafe to zefere. *c* 1000 *Mercel Ode* 29 In helle his hunger and burst, twa uuele iuere. *c* 1205 Lay. 26012 Arður hine teh Bi-siden his iferen [*c* 1275 iveres]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 48 Englene ifere ant arcangleres fremde. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5904 Pe wrecche..adde ywore is yere, þre vchoon þat nezst him were. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 233 Horn rod Aylmer þe kyng; Ant horn wiþ him..Ant alle his yfere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6906 (Laud MS.) Þou wepe for þi kyng & þine yfere.

†**Yfere,** *adv. Obs.* (from 6 to 8 *arch.*) Forms: 3–4 **ifere, yvere,** 4–8 **yfere,** 5 **yfeere, yfere,** 6 **yfeare, yfeare,** *Sc.* **yfeir.** *B.* 4 **yferes,** 6 *Sc.* **yferis.** [Origin uncertain. The available evidence favours on the whole the supposition that the adverb arose out of the predicative use of *yfere*, pl. of Yfere *sb.* companions, associates', hence 'associated' (see similar development of Y-fere) : if this were so, the form *in fere* (from *c* 1330) arose from analysing *ifere* as *i*, IN *prep.* + Fere *sb.*? With the *B*-form cf. Togethres, and see *-s suffix.*]

In company; together. (Extensively used in ME. poetry as a riming tag; rare in prose.)

(a 1200 [see Yfere *sb.*]. *c* 1205 Lay. 27435 Twein kinges þer were, þeines monie, þa comen ifere. *c* 1275 Passion 1 Þeo twein and tweyne wenden i-vere [*earlier text* Ruer twein and tweih tuhte to-somne mic mid his honde heold his iuere]. *a* 1300 *S. Michael* (Vernon MS.) 1 Ich wile singe wiþ ioye yfere Of wynd, of water, and of fur, and þhaye threo were i-fere.]

*a* 1300 *XV Signs* 117 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 11 Al þe see sal drawe fere as a walle to stond up rit. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* lii. 81 And þo he hurde þe apostles come he sputtes sone he lyȝt, And gret hem alle ysfere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2267 In caue þei lyen, & slepen samen y-fere. 13.. *Gesta. Nicod.* (A.) 751 And þei for hurted sore aȝf yfere. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 1116 With þat þey wente arm in arm y fere [*v.r.* in fere, yfere] In to þe gardeyn from þe chambres doun. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1009 Wiþ þe bukhynde alle yere y-born in ooure fraunce. *c* 1400 *Sir Perc. Poems* xvii. 192 What sulde a syȝ, lay hat herbe aboue, Hit makeȝ hool al yfere. 1408 Lydg. *Dr Guid. Pilgr.* 2035 And when I herde alle þis clerke, I was astoyned in myn chere. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Pan take Pepyr, an Safroun, an Brede, y-grounde yfere. 1508 Dunbar *Goldyn Targe* 147 Syne blowis all the blastis thame amang, Swa þat þay fechtis fast yfeir. 1. Aij b, They feede and feele the fruit of that, which once they got yfeare. 1589 Melbancke *Philotimus* S ij, As litle top of Pine trees, that grow yfeare, pas did neuer vnsensible pictures. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 1 O goodly golden chaine, wherewith yfere The vertues linked are in louely wise. 1600 — *Astrophel* 1 Fy, Harpalus and eke Corin were Heard-men both yfere. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. lxxv, Then let's all go yfere. 1748 Thomson *Castle Indolence* xxv, And sweet they nestle yfeare thus yfere they yede. 1768 Downman *Land of Muses* iv, There passed by the sister Graces bright, ..Benevolence and Gratitude y-fere.

*B.* 1 *Legend of Cury* 1. xxii. (1780) 20 Take brede and þe self broth and drawe it up yferes. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. v. 25 Baith maitrouns, and thair husbandis, all yferis.

**Yfern:** see Fern *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.*

**Yfery,** pseudo-arch. *f.* Afar *adv.*

*c* 1634 Cartwright *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84, I do not reche One beare for all. This Buss is a blive guardon. Hence Carlishanese yfery.

†**Yfet,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 1 **zefett,** 3–4 **ifet,** 3 **ifat,** 4 **yvet, yfette,** 4 *y*-**fost.** [OE. *gefett*, pa. pple. of *(ge)fetian* : see Y- 4 and Fet *v.*] Brought, carried, fetched; acquired.

893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. vi. § 8 Amilcor, se was of Sicilium him to fultume zefett. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 And wunne þet ilkeome þet he haued ec his fulluhte ifet. 1297 *Leg. Kath.* 1306 Fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene & of feorrene ifat. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5321 Pe menskes out of alen-dome vera were budur yuet. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1624 Pe castel was mad & set, & þer godes þerto yfet. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 237 Florance was dyght y-fet. 1555 Fraer *Æneid.* I. (1558) C j b, Vnto the Troiens he hed to bring from Troy conveyed yfet.

†**Yfetered** [V.-4], fettered. *a* 1000 *Riddles* liii. 4 Þa warron zenumne nearwum bendum, xefeteradæ fæste to-gædre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Heo fuȝeð mid tevn heuie ivcotered. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Yfetered were ys legges under his horse wombe. *c* 1400 [see Fetter *v.*] 1.]. **Yfethered, Yfeyned,** ME. pa. pples. of Feather, Feign.

**Yff,** obs. form of If.

**Yff, yffen,** obs. ff. *give, given* : see Give *v.*

*c* 1425 *Torr. Portugals* 2009 God, that died vppon the Rode, Yff grace, that she mete with good! 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 519 Of which somme x li. was yffen to theym agcyn.

†**Yfilled,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [OE. *gefylled*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*fyllan* : see Y- 4 and Fill *v.*] Filled; fulfilled.

*c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. iii. (1890) 266 Þæt wæs swa sodlice mid dæd xefylled, swa him se witega to cwæden was. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Þa hit was ifullet þet ysaias þe prophete iwitezede. *c* 1205 Lay. 6918 Þis lond wes on griþe and ifulled mid gode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1072 Wonder it is..of þi noble gentrise Pat is so noble anerþe iwolt wiþ so vil cousiliss. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Lanfranc hadde yfylled [*MS. y* yvulled] his wit wiþ al vertues. 1400 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Whan a man sittyth atte meete he sholde wythdrawe his honde afor that he be yfillit. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. III. iv. xxiv, So all things he yfild with their wish'd good.

†**Yfind,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gefindan*: see Y- 3 *c* and Find *v.*] To find.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 28 *Inuenit unum de conseruis suis*, .. gefand sumne of ofer-þegnum. *c* 1000 *Metral Ode* 243 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Hie sechað reste þar non nis ac hie nigen ifinden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5779 Vor he sende pe kinges word þer he mizte nanne vinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Pou gest in-to helle huer þou saelt ynende ver and bernaton. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 405 Ethelwoldus..discoyede al þat þis fyloye vnwrie. [*MS. y* yvynde] anon to Crekeforde. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* v. 537 Famous Argus, þat..first þat art y-founde.

†**Yfixed** [V.-4], fixed. 1734 Sidenstorn *Schoolmaster*, xviii, This Hand in Mouth y-fixed, and y-gnawed. 1735 **Yfawn,** ivlæsen [Flay *v.*], flayed. *c* 1205 Lay. 27377 Heo scullen heon islæsene, and sumne quic inlæsene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 894 (Laud MS.) Þou wepe for þi kyng & þine yfere.

**Yfled** [Flee *v.*], fled. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 661 The swyfte fame .. was borugh-out Troye yfled with preste wynges. **Yflawed,** yvlawed [Flaw *v.*], blown, flighty: exiled. *c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* vi. xxxiv. § 4 He xefealsiȝ wiþ Gotan, & xefliemed weard. *c* 1205 Lay. 7658 Hu he was maid his þerde i-flæmde of Sisseen eande. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3609 Vor vs treytour of his lond he was ynome Yflewed was out of engelond. 1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Pe ore byeþ, be unlese yulemede, þet vlyeþ. **Yflesshide** [V.-5]: see Flesshed *v.* **Yflet** [Flete *v.*], removed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 82 Panne foond ȝe me ful fer y-flet Al from god in maieste. **Yflowred** [V.-5] having flowers. 

Bors 1340 *World & Child* A v b, so fell s fyghter in a felde wa there neuer s founde

†**Yfounded** [*V* 4, Ifound ɪ ᵇ], founded *c* 1290, etc ɪ founde I [see Found *v* ᵇ] 1399 I Angl. *Ancr Riwle* 111 265 It is not vnknowen That rewlers of sewmes Were not yfounde I to leue id al skynge *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 394 He schal thenne be chased after the lawe That was yfownded ly olde dawe

**Yfracied, yfrekiet** see Frecklied *pa pple* s Yfraiught, fraught *c* 1412 Hoc. in exp *De Reg Princ* 858 My wyfe is wel ney with dysper s fraght 1576 Gascoigne *St ele Glas* 303 Such as haue their wittes full s fraught, With hampred Iudes 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ɪ ɪ. *Handicrafts* 108 The Trees with thousand fruits s fraught, 1647 H More *Song of Soul* ɪɪ *Infin W ɪlds* xiv As if this empty space with bodies were s fraught

**Yfraybt** [*cf* Freight *pa pple*] freighted 1381 H Goode *Visitacion Soules* (1851) 86 to Rote Momus there did th tyde at flote, with stormefull tonges yfraight **Yfrede** *v* [*V* 3 ch.] to feel perceive experience *c* 888, etc [see Fredde ɪ ᵇ] 1393 *Sinners Repentance* 316 in *O E Misc* 82 To day ye schulen yfrede And vnder fo lubre mede *c* 1325 Shoreham ɪ 170 Pat we ne mowe hyt nauht se, Ne for be ine bodie nrede. **Yfred** *v* [*V* 3] to free. 688–95 *Laws Ine* lxxiv (Liebermann), Gonne mot hine se blaford gefreogean *a* 1000 *Hermaphr* ɪ 38 Wɪ ɜ fele zefreo us *c* 1205 Lay 1–5 Hu buldeb he and fremkynge, pat bu heom efreost 1340 *Ayenb* 86 Pe gu ademen in pine wordle bet god heb yyrpd le grace uram be breidome of be dyeule *c* 1425 [see Free ɪ ᵇ] 1578 **Yfrendʒ'de** [*V* 4] fringed 1594 Carew *Survey Cornw* 18 Pe pall is alter wing, yfrendʒ'de with gold **Yfret** *ed* ɪ [Fret ᵛ ɪ], eaten, worn away or into holes *c* 950 *Lindisf Gosp* Matth vi 19 *Ubi aerugo et tinea demolitur* ɪuer nere & mobh, qɪeten bid *c* 1275 *a* 1377 [see Fret ᵛ ɪ 2, 3] 13 *Pol Poems* (Camden) 201 That his flesh be all frette *a* 1425 tr *Ardern's Treat Fistula*, etc 58 pe substaunce of pe bone yfreted may not be soudet with out disese 1426 Lydg *De Cruc Pilgr* 17468 Consuwyng, and yfret a way 1568 T Howell *Arb Amitie* 31 Hys ɪame, Whose fame hath through his hart yfreted **Yfretted** [Fretted ᵛ ɪ] fantastically 1426 Lydg *De Cruc Pilgr* 588, I sawh ther coueys rownd & lyng Al yfrett with knottys strong *c* 1440 *Jallad on Bridge* 1 Pe bridge is mad ɪ ɪoge yfretted grete **Yfretʒed**, pa pple of Fretten, fretter ᵛ *Obs* **Yfrore** [Frore] frozen *c* 1275 *Vis Anno of Mell* 181 in *O E Misc* 130 Symme hoep for brend, a nid symme yfrore 1897 R Glouc (Rolls) 5354 More vor pe harde vorst pat put water yfrore is. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII 297 Water yfrore is eek eelle ɪeuere pan Tempe, pat was ɪ frore [*MS B* yfrore] and helped wip swowe *c* 1403 Lydg *Tr ɪfe of Gʒng* 20 A creglyr ryche Lake ɪce frore **Yfrote**, ME pa pple of Frote ᵛ Yfronnet [Fronnet *v*] wrinkled *c* 1650 Cantrustit *Os Iuuenis* v iv (16 ɪ 84 His Visage foul, yfronnet with glowing, eyn **Yfruited, Yfryed**, MF pa pples of Fruit *v*, Fry *v*.ɪ

**Yfu, e**, obs forms of Yfo, Yfoe

1422 Yonge tr *Secr Secr* xxxi 173 A wyse and a worthy man pat lowid not vfus to reseeue *c* 1450 *Castoun Aug* 177 pe vfe, pat Raf ɪe sone of wyfere & his heyres made 1486 *Chaceley Acc* 7 Vse and vfe (Somerset Rec Soc) 115 Joh n Dene owth for the ʒere of hys syster in seiver sponys xxs

†**Yfuled, yvyled** [*V* 4 Filed ᵛ] rendered foul *c* 1200 *Ælfthelm Hal* ɪ ɪ 653 (Napier 19[1]) *Ic fe ɪtan ʒefyled ɪe a* 1240 *Lofsong* ɪ *O E Hom* ɪ 2 5 Ich habbe mi flæc hes fulle ɪ fiɪ ɪ me 13 *A Gloucester's Crown* (Rolls) 8931 Wymme he by mouh vnclene, pat vuli he ɪnoled [*MS* yvyled] is **Yfulled yfolled** [Full ᵛ ɪ] ɪupture] *c* 897 *Rushworth Gospels* Pref (Lind 343) Da ɪ werod ɪeaxum ɪnga, & ɪmeaɪ ɪ ɪwi ɪ ɪ ɪ

werde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Nou broþren and sostren y-hreþ my red. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 353 Þe ȝunge swnoȝ þat he hadde i-herde [*MS.* y yhurd] suche talus of Zansteten his mouth. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. v. 137 Louse.. eryed vp-on conscience, þe ȝonge hit myghte yhure. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 235 Who-so hath a smale neice, he sholde haue a swete wyfe and wel y-hande.

**Yhere** (yhere), obs. form of Ear *sb.*1

†**Yher(the)**, yher(y)ed [Y- 4, Herd v.]. praised. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 107 þet ure drihten leo eure ihered on ure godan weorcan. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxii. 59 A betere burde never nes y-heryed with the beste. *c* 1450 *Crt. of Love* 592 Venus,..Goddes eterne, thy name y-hered is I

**Yhern(e)**: see Yeare *v.*1, Yerd *n.*

†**Yhert** [Y- 4, Hard v.], hardened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 29 Huanne man is y-bert ine his kuendnesse þet me ne may him wende.

**Yheryd** [Ear *n.*1] ploughed. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2398 That erthe..Wher as sowe wile thys greyn, Was nat ..yheryd neueradel. **Yheryȝed** [Harry *v.*], ravaged. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 140 Hys husbondus that yal rent Was y-haryged dounrygth.

**Yhes**, obs. form of Yes.

**Yhet**: see Gate *sb.*1, Have, Yet.

†**Yhevid** [Y- 4, Heavy *v.*] *cf.* I-nevȝed], grieved. *c*1440 *Gesta Rom.* 51 Sith my two doughters haue thus yhevid me, sothly I shal preve the yiftes. †**Yhewid**, hewn. *c*950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 46 *Excisum de petra*, ..ȝehewen of carre *uel* stane. 11.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 545/36 *Lignum*, ihawen treow. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 283 Pat tyme the woodes in Wales were i-hewe [*MS.* y yheuwe] adoun. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* viii. xi. (1558) 6 b, Vnto the death was wonded and yhewe.

**Yheyt**(e, obs. forms of Yet *adv.*

†**Yhid**(de, yhud(de, yhyd(de, etc. [Y- 4, Hide *v.*1, I-hede], hidden. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxv. § 1 Þon fint he þær ȝa ryhtwisesse ȝod ȝehidde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Huanne me ne knoweþ nouȝt þe ȝuge þet ȝe ȝeoweþ. *a* 1400 *Sarumn* xi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Per nis no þing a-boute þe bone to ȝeme þat was ihuddid here. 1340 *Ayenb.* 109 Godes riche is ase on treasor in pe uelde yhud. 1450–1530 *Dethe Blaunche* 221 Some..sleþe vprigh her heed yhyd. *c* 1374 [see Hide *v.*1 4]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 431 Iosephus was I-couthe y-hid among vnlete. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 487 By nyght, and vndir cloude yhid the mone.

**Yhitte**, obs. form of Gift *sb.*

*a* 1300 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 56 Of all yhittes þat gode yeuþ vs to vsynge.

†**Yhight**, ME. pa. pple. of Hight *v.*1 **Yhilld** [Y- 4, Hild *v.*], Keyed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 167 [He] made hym be i-hylde [*MS.* y- y-hild] al quyle. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 167 Wherfor this kynge commaudid that he were y-hillid.

**Yhis**, etc., obs. ff. Yes, etc. **Yhit**(te, obs. ff. Yet *adv.* **Yhode**, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode. **Yhoded**: see Yhadid. **Yholde**(n, obs. pa. pples. of Hold *v.*, Yield *v.* **Yhole**, pa. pple. of Helle *v.*1, to conceal.

†**Yhole**, *a.* Obs. Forms: 1 ȝehal, 3 hal, 3–4 hol, 4 yhol, 4–5 yhole. [OE. *ȝehál* : see Y- 3 b and Whole *a.*] Whole, sound.

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 154 Da ȝemette he þæt fæt..ȝewa ȝehal þæt ðær nan cinu on nære forwoven. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Wyrc swa hit man ȝehal forswelgan mæge. *c* 1205 Lay. 821 Al ihal & al isund. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Hope halt þe heorte i hol. 1340 *Ayenb.* 228 Huo þet is yhol of bodie and soul ine herte is berieles yhuisted. *c* 1440 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Pen take fygys, an kerue hem a-to, or Roysonys y-hole.

Hence †**Yholliche**, wholly; †**Yholnesse**, †**Yholschipe**, wholeness.

*a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 303 Moder of swich sune wiȝ iholschipe of meiden. *c* 1315 Shoreham 111. 223 Perfore do þe al y-holliche þy day [ac. masc.day] to holy þynge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 127 Þe loue of þe herte buerby he hym hyt y-holliche and wyþoute corrupcion to pet he louep. *Ibid.* 230 Yholnesse and clennesse of bodye bet is to ziggz bet bet body ȝy y-hol wyþoute vuyle and lecherie. *a* 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 362 Sif þ⁹ he askere bryngeþ skore oþer wryt, and aske þe þerynge y-holschechte [*sic*].

**Yholk**, obs. form of Yelk.

†**Yholpe**n [Y- 4, Help *v.*], helped. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 301 þu me haumet iholpen aneuste kunne wise. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8358 Ich hom abbe quaþ ye louerd ihol[p]e. *pr. w.* yholpe, yholpen] *ye wys.* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 60 How he with Moyses maundement hadde many men y-holpe. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3503 Socoured ofte And most I hope [*Thynne's ed.* yholpe] in all her needs.

**Yhon**(e, **Yhong**, obs. ff. Yon, Young.

†**Yhonge**, -ed [Y- 4, Hang *v.*], hung, hanged. *a* 1000 *Phænix* 58 Wintrez & sumeres wudu hi3 ȝelice bleoþan ȝehongen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1136 If þu art þer oure ihonge þi lif is euer luþer and qued. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2612 The thre theues were knightes, That were i-honged. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Al ahonge. wordhe hiin hild our nyȝebore nor wiatuol, ase me dep anne y-honged. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardorne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 34 Pe leggeȝ y-raised vp and wiþ a towel y-hingen.

†**Yhorsed**, *a.* Obs. [OE. *ȝehorsed* : see Y- 5.] Horsed; on horseback.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* III. ix. § 1 On his feȝhene wæron xxxiii Al. & þæs ȝehorsedan fifte healf M. *a* 1122 *O. S. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 Þa ȝehorsedan..þær wurdon ȝehorsode. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 1950 Alle on stalworþ stedes stoutliche i-horsed. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 801 Y-horced & y-armed. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxvii. 102 Yf wele yhorsed I had not ben I shulde neuer haue escaped.

†**Yho(n)uled** [Y- 4], houselled, communicated. *a* 1000 in *Anglia* XIII. 493/860 Þeonne hi beoþ xehuslaide, *dum communicantur*. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 73 He ..was i-houseled [*MS.* y- y-houseled] to fore al þe people in an Esterday. **Yhote**(n (Hight *v.*1), called; commanded; promised; bidden, etc. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* ii. 11 Þæt land, þe ȝe ȝehaten Euilaȝ. 1154, etc. [see Hight *v.*1 A. 3, B. 1]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þe fuwer wateres þa þe beoð ihaten us on to weschen. *c* 1200 Ormin 3360, Dayiþp kinges chesstre, Þatt iss ȝehatenn Bebbhonn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2416 Sibben þor was mad on acuȝ, Þe was y-oten Rameȝ. 1320 *Ayenb.* 229 Þise graces hyeþ yhote yefines uor þet stekes. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 521 The emperour had y-hote his servauntes that þei schuld go after hym privyliche. 14.. *K. Sol. Ik. Wisd.* 156 þe widewe son dyed, þe was hote Jonas.

**Yhoten**, var. Eten *Obs.*, giant.

**Yhou, Yhour(e, Yhouth**(e, obs. ff. You, Your, Youth.

†**Yhove** [Y- 4, Heave *v.*], heaved. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 455 Y-meoved and y-hove fer out of oon place into anoper.

**Yhow, Yhowng, Yhowthe**, obs. ff. You, Young, Youth.

**Yhowted**, ME. pa. pple. of Hoot *v.*

**Yhte**, rare var. of ME. *ehte* : see Aught *sb.*1

†**Yhugged** [Y- 4], hugged. 1614 J. Davies *Eclogues* 188 He was Orpheus, that feater skill Can bes yhugg'd in Lordings pectorall. **Yhuited** [Y- 4], whitened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Line clop þet is yhuited be ofte wessinge. *Ibid.* 228 Þe uerste is þet me ssryf ine yhuite and wyþ-inne uol of stench. **Yhuld**: see Yhilled.

**Yhule, Yhung**, obs. ff. Yule, Young.

†**Yhungen**: see Yhonge. **Yhunted** [Y- 4], hunted. 1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Þe uerste is þet he ssel ben halwed and y-huntid and y-hote ycrase. **Yhu(y)red, yhyred**, hired. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 115/21 *Locatio*, behyring, *uel* zehyred feoh. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 51 An oost þat was yhured [*MS.* y yhuyred] out of Grece. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 336 Bote he be heyliche yhyred elles wol he chide. **Yhurl(e**, ME. pa. pple. of Hurt *v.* **Yhyded**: see Yhadid. **Yhyld**(e pa. pple. of Hold *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Zuich wreche longe yheelde and byueelde ine hette. **Yhyȝed** [Y- 4, Hie *v.*], hastened. *a* 1200 *Nero Text.* (Vesp.) 1 Ne ihyȝe ic. [Ihyȝe = ihefe] ihyȝed to sen spore vyuage. **Yhyled** [Hill *v.*1], covered. *c* 1386 *P. Pl. Crede* 193 Pat cloþen..All yhyled wiþ leed lowe to pe stones.

**Yi**, ‖ graphic var. *ȝi*, Thy; dial. *I*, Ye.

**Yid** (yĭd), *slang*. Back-formation f. next.] A Jew who speaks Yiddish.

*a* 1890 *Sporting Times* (Leland), I might, if I had poached upon the province of the Pitcher, Have devoted just a verse or two to love among the Yids.

**Yiddish** (yĭ'dĭsh), *sb.* (*a.*) [Anglicization of G. *jüdisch* (yüdĭsh) 'Jewish'-German'. The English word has been adopted in German as *jüddisch*.] The language used by Jews in Europe and America, consisting mainly of German (orig. from the Middle Rhine area) with admixture (according to local or individual usage) of Balto-Slavic or Hebrew words, and printed in Hebrew characters.

1886 Rabbi Schindler *Osborn* II. vii. (German immigrants) tell me their wants in their own language, which is generally Yiddish. 1892 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 406 a There were at one time two newspapers in London alone published in Yiddish. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* vii. (1912) 48 The revival of the band stood round gesticulating, and talking German or Polish or Yiddish. 1900 C. Russell *Jew in London* ii. 24 The Jewish-speaking community.

*adj.* 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xviii, A large importation of Polish Jews who were making a little Yiddish Poland for themselves in a court. 1892 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 406/1 Martin Luther compiled a dictionary of *Rotwälsch*..used by the thieves of his time, in which half the words are Hebrew, derived from the receivers of stolen goods and their Yiddish dialect.

So **Yi'ddisher** [G. *Jüdischer*], a Jew who speaks Yiddish.

1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang.* Yid, obs. form of Eye, Yea.

**Yield**, ȝield, obs. ff. Field, Gield *sb.*

**Yield** (yĭld), *sb.* Forms: 1 **ȝeld, ȝield, ȝild, ȝyld, ȝeold**, 2 **ȝeild**, 2–3 **ȝield**, 2–5 **ȝeld**, 4 **eild, yilde**, 4–5 **ȝeild, yeild**, 4–6 **yeld**, 5 **ȝelde, yelde**, 6 **ȝelde**, 6–7 **yeold**(e, 6– **yield**. [In senses 1–3 OE. *ȝeld*, etc., str. neut. (cf. Guild etym.) = OFris. *geld, ield* (Fris. *jild, jil*), OS. *geld* (senses as in OE.), MLG., MDu. *gelt* payment, money (Du. *geld* money), OHG., MHG. *gelt* (senses as in OE.), (G. *geld* money), ON. *gjald* (Sw. *gäld*, Da. *gjeld*), Goth. *gild* payment, tribute : cf. *ȝeldan* (see next). In senses 4–6 directly f. Yield *v.*]

†**1.** Payment; a sum of money paid or exacted, as a tribute, tax, etc. : *spec.* = Geld *sb.* Obs.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark Introd. 4 *Du reddendo cassuris tributo*, of ȝeld ms cæseres ȝesaleonne. *a* 1122 *O. S. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1093 Dead þe Swegen fulȝ[d & ȝeaf] mycel ȝeld & mycel to his here þone winter. *Ibid.* 1087 Ælc unriht ȝeold he forbeod. *a* 1154 *Ibid.* 1131 Hi laiden ȝeildes on þe tunes. *c* 1200 Ormin 10170 þeȝ hafflenn wilenn off þe king To sammnenn hise ȝeldes. *c* 1205 Lay. 7104 Romleode..þe.. ne dursten hider liden Axien king of þissen londe þat he ȝelue ȝeld in to Rome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27831 Strenth, þat lauerling ogh to meild, Pat o bair man tas wrangwis ȝeld. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3050 (Linc. Inn MS.) Þef sow wold sake suche a ȝeld Com and haue hit in þe feld. 1424 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 4 It is accordit þ⁹ a ȝelde be raisit þ⁹ is to say xiiid of ilk pynde. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 652 That the lady.. shold hold and haue..all ȝelde and all quarels and exsecions fre and quyte. 1494 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 69 And this ȝeild to be gaddereit yeirly anes in the ȝeir. 1512 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 329 Euery mannys wief, after the deth of hur husbond, beyng a taillor, shall kepe as many assystaunces as they wille,..so she bere scotte and lotte, ȝeues and ȝeld, w⁹ the occupacion. 1582 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 The constabyle of Sharpeflex for a ȝelde vij*d*.

†**b.** Payment for loss or injury, compensation.

601–4 *Laws of Ethelbert* xxviii, Gif man inne þeh ȝenimeþ, se man iii ȝelde ȝebete. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Strong ȝeld is her mid alle & Godes dom is, & his beate, bet heo hit ȝelde allegate. *c* 1290 *Proverbs of Hendyng* in Pinkerton *Scotish Poems* (1792) I. 29 Upon the day of Dome, For mans body thair to give ane yeild.

†**2.** The offering of sacrifice to a deity; worship. *c* 900 Cynewulf *Juliana* 146 Þu ȝoda snaȝ ȝield forhogdest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 212 Þis ilke ȝeld, þet tu dest to deouelen.

†**3.** Reward, recompense; retribution. Obs.

*a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 45 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He deð his sihte an siker stede þe hit sent to heuericke, þar ne þarf he habben care of here ne of ȝelde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Þe polemode þolie bitter one bi wule ure herre achal ȝeld, — halsinge and of lilinne.

**4.** The action of yielding crops or other products, production; that which is produced, produce; *spec.* amount of produce.

*c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 216 Fek billis yeld is Wel greter grayn and fewer..Pan of a feld ful. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Household Ord.* (1790) 69 Beyng in some yeres, or in sundrye countreys, thynne wheete, or thycke husked, or bettyr and heavyer of yelde, some tyme whiter flower or browner. 1562 Grafton *Contin. Hardyng* 151 After this sore of wo mischefe as wheat..was of so smal yelde, it was solde for .xiii.s. and .xiii.s. iiii.d. a quarter. 1583 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 106 The yong plants ought daily to be plucked vp from the old, for feare of hindring the yeeld of the old. 1577 Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* 17 b, To know the nature of euery ground,..Incomaction it Xemocrates, or Pyrrhe wel the plantes and the yeeld of the Countrey. 1621 R. Fenton *Usuries* ii. 311 That increase which God gaue by the yeeld of the earth and liuing creatures. 1793 Burns *Lett., to Hary. Kirkpatrick* (1842) 145 The yield of which was large in slow upon the ground, but the yield in the flour is not extraordinary. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Linc.* 213 His yield 12 guineas an acre. 1854 Rennie & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 131 The coking lasts about twenty-four hours, and the yield of coke in the ovens averages 69 per cent. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* iv. 289 Since the year 1850, the average of the yield of gold in Australia has been 10,000,000*l.* 1868 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 382 He had a farm just outside the town on the yield of which he lived. 1893 Trans. *Soc. Eng.* Introd. p. xlviii, Their earliest trade..is..in the surface products of the earth—in corn or wine, in the yields of the olive-grove or the orchard.

**5.** The amount obtained from any investment, revenue from a tax).

1877 R. Giffen *Stock Exch. Securities* 152 The higher the yield of a security. 1884 *Munch. Examn.* 22 Sept. 5/1 A tax..which, moreover, is considerably reduced in its yield by the cost of collection. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 15 4 The present value of the three Central London stocks..affords a yield of over 5 per cent.

†**6.** The action of yielding or giving in; surrender, submission. *Obs. rare.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 193 Their consent, yeeld and concurrence. *Ibid.* 331 No such yeelde, as the Iesuiticall faction repurt we haue made.

**8.** The action of yielding or giving way, as under pressure or tension.

1889 *Telegr. Jrnl. & Electr. Rev.* 20 Dec. 707/1 It was concluded that the increase of (elastic resistance) during yield is the same for all the specimens.

**Yield** (yĭld), *v.* Forms: see below. [Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. (WS.) *ȝieldan*, (Angl. & Kent.) *ȝeldan*, pa. t. *ȝeald, ȝuldon*, pa. pple. *ȝolden* = OFris. *gelda, ielda* (WFris. *jilde*, NFris. *jil*), OS. *geldan*, MDu. *g,k)elden* (Du. *gelden*), OHG. *geltan*, (MHG., G. *gelten*), ON. *gjalda*, Goth. *-gildan* (in compounds *fragildan*, *usgildan* to compensate) :—O Teut. *geldan*, of which the ultimate relations are unknown.

This verb has had a remarkable sense-development in English owing to its having been used as an equivalent of L. *reddere* and F. *rendre*, or their compounds. In some of the related languages the word has shown tendencies to develop in the same directions, but the only generally surviving senses on the Continent are 'to be worth, to be valid, to concern, apply to', which are not represented at all in the English word.]

**A.** Illustration of Forms.

**1.** *Inflexions and Present Stem.* a. 1 **ȝieldan, ȝeldan**, 2–3 **ȝelde**(n, 3–7 **ȝeld**, 4 **ȝielde, ȝeilde, yeilde, yelde**, (also 8 *Sc.*) **ȝield**, 4–5 **ȝeilde**, (also 7 *Sc.*) **ȝeeld**(e, 4–6 **ȝeld, yelde**, 4–7 **ȝeild**, 4–7 **yeild**, 5 **ȝheylde, eyelde, elde**, 5–7 **yeeld**(e, 6 **ealde**, 6–7 **yeald**, 7 **yielde, eyld**, 4, 6– **yield**.

*c* 825–*a* 900 [see B. 1–7]. *c* 1000 Ormin 19093 Whanne & hu He wollde hiss dere sune ȝelde hiss mede ȝeinenn. *c* 1250 ȝeld [see B. 6]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6760 Ichoille wel þin mede ȝelde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 110 (Cott.) Scho sal þam ȝeld a hundreth fald. *Ibid.* 26 Traisli acuntes sal we ȝelde. *Ibid.* 28738 Resun to ȝield well better is O merci þan of cruelnes. 13.. *Ibid.* 19472 (Edinb.) To ȝe thess ȝield I mi gaste. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5503 Accounte ȝe yhelde of þair kepyng. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* i. 33 To ȝeld or reskew Stirwilling. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xlii. 22 And there is not that seie, ȝeeld. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9792 Darel fast he beheld, And seid, 'Sir, ciist you ȝelde Of this compag.' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.*

537/1 3eolud pe gueste, or dryen. a 1583 Elde [see B. 10a]. *In 1500 Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 169 The high father of heaven I preie To ayelde your good deed to daie. 1533 Coverdale *Ecclus.* ii. 1, I wil ydle prayse vnto thy name. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 126 b, Twoo so inuincible nacions, which neuer would yeild or bowe. 1572 Yeald [see B. 17 b]. 1598 Sir T. Norreys in *Lismore Papers* Ser. ii. (1887) I. 16 His purpose is not to ealde the possesion. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* i. vi. 13 How you shall bid God-ayeld vs for your paines. 1821 Maune *Mist., Poems* i. 83 3eeld to his powar. 1847 H. More *Song of Soul* iii. App. xix, That light Orb of air, must yelden evermore To phansies beck. 1859 Hammond *On Ps. Trel.* P 18 It yeeldeth him an infire Body of necessary Theology. c 1730 Ramsay *Some of the Contents* ii, He to beest poets akairalie zields in ocht.

*B.* 1 ȝildan, ȝyldan, 3–5 ȝylde(n, 4–5 ȝild(e, ȝyld(e, 4–6 ȝild(e, 6 ild, ylde (in *God ild*, etc.).

c 1000 *Ælfric Exod.* xxii. 4 Gif man cucu finde, þæt he stæl...gilde he twifealdon. a 1122 [see B. 1]. c 1205 ylden [see B. 1]. a 1300 *Curror M.* 18833 Pe pouer man es like pe ild, þat corn plentes is wont to yild. c 1395 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 38 An heyre þuste þat þe schal be trecherie ȝulde. 1589 ylel (see B. 2). a 1600–50 *Wars Alex.* 80 Silð wp þi rewme. 1693 *Cov. Lect Bk.* 550 Ye shall yeild vnto him, gyffyng, or gilding. 1575 God ȝylde (see B. 7). 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. vi. 3 That shalbe turnd to yelding. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 238 God ild thee.

γ. *Sc.* 5 ȝauld, 5–6 ȝald, ȝeld.

c 1450 *Sc. Leg. Saintis iv. (Jacobus)* 142 Pat criste..can vs kene God fore evil to ȝald almene. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* x. 814 He wald the castell ȝald [*Edit.* 1820 ȝauld] vayly. c 1500 *Lancelot* 53 He bidis yow your londe Ye ȝald hyme our. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. x. 136 He weltis our, and ȝaldis vp the breith.

δ. 5 ȝolde.

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 403 Volde youe here to me. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 55 Cownsaylynge theyme to yolde vp the citee. c 1480 *J. Vale Conqueste's Siege of Rhodes* p 1 (1870), So that they wold knowledge him as theyre souuerayn: and yerely yold hym a lytyll trybute.

b. *Pres. Ind.* (contracted forms) *2nd sing.* 1 ȝieltst, ȝiltst, ȝilst, ȝyltst, 3–4 ȝelst, yelst, *3rd sing.* 1 ȝielt, ȝilt, ȝylt, 2 ȝeelt, 3 ȝilt, ȝeldp, 3–5 ȝelt, 4 ȝeldȝ, ȝyelt.

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xl. pr. Ælmihtig God ...xilt ælcum æfter his æwryhtum. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 Elc ȝeelt efter his ȝearnunge. c 1205 Lay. 21072 Nu he me ȝilt [c 1275 ȝelt] mede For mire god deden. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 Hwose is siker of sukurs..& ȝelt tauh up his kastel to his wiðerwines. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10 Ac nespossire ȝeldp haluendel to hulke hisspriche iwis. 1340 *Hampole Pr. Conse.* 5109 Pou my ȝelst pou my lande wrope. 1340 *Ayenb.* 18 He..þet ...ȝelt him kuead ure gued. *Ibid.* 38 Vor yef þe vinst and nayt ne ȝelst, þou hit stelst. c 1400–50 *Rom. Rose* 4091 He chaungith purpos and entente And ȝalte into somme couente.

2. *Pa. t. a.* 1 ȝeald, 3 ȝeald, 3–4 ȝiald, ȝeld, 3–5 ȝelde, 4 eild, ȝilde, (also 6 *Sc.*) ȝeild, 4–5 ȝeld, 4–6 ȝelde, 5 ȝolden, ȝolde, 6 *Sc.* yeild, 7 *Sc.* yeeld.

971 [see B. 3]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Ich ȝeald þat ich nohtne nam. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 128 Ah se sonne ha ȝeald ham swucche ȝeinclieppes. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9216 He ...ȝeld him is godnesse þat he dude him. 13.. *Curror M.* 9484 (Gött.) Sathanas ... Ne wald nan strait he him eild. 13.. *Ibid.* 6398 (Gött.) Pai ȝeild him ay ful litlet thanc. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 93 Pe kyng leconiaa...ȝilde hym ...to Nabugdonosor. 1393 *Gower Mirr.* 4306 (Pynson) Hit both in armes yeld vp the gate. 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1132 Hope and Curage wan the field, Thocht Dreid and Danger nevir ȝeild. 1632 Litegow *Trav.* IX. 418, I yeeld to the Prince counsell, and giuing him all dutifull thankes, he sent a guide with mee.

b. *2nd sing.* 1 ȝulde, 3 ȝulde; *3rd sing.* 4 ȝuld(e, *pl.* 1 ȝuldon, -an, 3–4 ȝulde(n, 4 ȝuld.

a 1200 *Cardinal's Creed* 39 Duzuȝum wlance drihtne ȝuldon god mid gnyrne. c 1000 *Ps.* cxv. 12 (Th.) Cv. 26 [cf. 36] Sceuccgyldum swyþe guldan. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 406 Þu ȝulde þet tu oultest. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 953 Al he feldes þo were ȝuld of deade. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 77 He ȝelde [*MS.* y a ȝuld] vp be goost. *Ibid.* 95 [MS. y] Þeos þat ȝuld [c. 1450 ȝeld] vych [orig. *ydel qui ignota se dederunt*]. *Ibid.* 269 Whan he men of þe cites sigh þat þey ȝelde hem self [*MS.* y by ȝulde ham syf].

*B.* 3–5 ȝold, ȝolde, ȝolden, 4 ȝoulde, 4–5 ȝoulde, 4–6 ȝold.

In the earliest quots. a variant of *ȝulde*: see a b.

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 61 in *O. E. Misc.* 39 Vor alle þe gode þat he heom dude, ni ȝolde him iuþre mede. c 1290 *Beket* 819 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 130 Pe ȝolde me þe mi-nede none a-counte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3847 & to þe king arthure hom ȝolde ech man þat was wyt. *Ibid.* 11800 þe castel of pennuesie here ȝolde ȝe to þe kinge. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 307 For hauke siluer he ȝold. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 304 Hur ȝates ȝeode þei ioo & ȝoulden hem soone. c 1440 *Chron. Pol.* 362 Pe kyng of Denmarke ȝolde hym anone þo. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 183 Hit afterward alle went hom, and ȝold hem to the Kyng. c 1480 J. Kay tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* p 10 (1870), There he kneled downe and yold thankynges...unto God. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 25 To her yold the flames.

γ. Chiefly *north.* 4 (6 *Sc.*) ȝald, ȝalde, (also 6, 9 *Sc.*) ȝald, (4 ȝialde, ȝaild, yhald); 4–5 yauld, 5 ȝauld, ȝaulde.

13.. *Curror M.* 1208 (Edinb.) He Lelli yald he him his teind. 13.. *Ibid.* 19704 (Edinb.) He him raisid..And ȝialde hir quic vp for þaim alle. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 390 To crist his hodi he ȝald. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3661 Pe kinges sone of spayne..to hire ȝalde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 300 Syne ȝald the castell to the king. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Laurentius*) 406 He..ȝauld þe spryt. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6499 He gird to ȝe ground, & be gost ȝalde. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxx, Whanne it pleased vnto God, be ȝalde ayen the sight vnto this good man. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. ix. 46 The gaist he ȝald with habundance of blude. 1552 ȝald [see B. 14 c]. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 168 The kirk-yard's coffins yald and broke.

8. 4 ȝalt, ȝalte, yalt; 4 ȝelt(e, 5 ȝelte, ylt.

c 1320 *Sayn Margerete* in *Leg. Kath.* (1840) 100 He ȝelt hem her seruise With wel michel woȝ. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 597 & wele he ȝalt him his wile. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 261 Durst non ogain him kibe, Boc ȝalt him tour & toun. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XII. 214 Why þat one thef on þe crosse creaunt hym ȝelt. *Ibid.* xviii. 200 Sowre champioun chiualer ...ȝelt [*v.r.* ȝelte, ylde, ylt] hym recreaunt. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxv. (1869) 130 Whan I sigh þat he hadde don cuele, he ȝelte ayen the pens.

e. 4 ȝeldid, ȝhelded, ȝeilded, 4–5 ȝeldede, ȝeilded, 5 ȝeldide, ȝeldyd, yeildyd, yyldyd, 5–6 yeilded, 6 yeeldid, *Sc.* ȝeildis, yeildis, 6–7 yeeldid, 7–8 yeilded, 7– yieldid.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 4 If i ȝeldid til þi ȝeldand til me till for goed. 1390 — *Pr. Conse.* 2272 He yeelded þe gast to God and dyghed. 13.. *Curror M.* 696 (Gött.) Alkina þing in diuers wise ȝeilded to Adam þair seruise. c 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 356 Whose wombe that yeildyd fresh and fayr. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 60 They opened the yates and yeilded them vnto hym. a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 408 He..held wpe his handis to god and seildit the spreit. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 1 Which yeeldeth vnto nature, and vnto life. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 241 The Mountaine..of it selfe ..yeelded many wilde but pleasant fruits. a 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Rebell.* I. 30 The King Yeilded. 1674 [see B. 10 b].

ζ. 5 yoldede.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 269 Theciteszynnes..yoldede the cite.

3. *Pa. pple.* a. 1 ȝolden, 4 ȝ3olden, ȝoldine, ȝon, ȝoldon, -un, 4–5 ȝolden, -yn, (ȝholden), 4–6 ȝolden, -in, -yn, 4–5 ȝoldyn, (ȝoldyne, ȝholden), 5 (6.*Sc.*) ȝoldin; 5 ȝoulden, 6 ȝoulden, *Sc.* ȝowdin, ȝowdyn, 9 *Sc.* yowden.

a 900 *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 67, 9 *Et...retributetur*, and hit ȝolden. a 1000 [see II. 6]. 13.. *Curror M.* 23198 (Edinb.) Sal be ȝolden him his hire. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1572 Ful luel ichaue ȝ-yolden it be. a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxiv. 1 Body and saule, sall be ȝolden till þe in resurrexion. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 80 He nis na segge thar-to stoutly, And lay thair quhilt it ȝolden wil. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4556 Curtesie certeyn dide he me So mych that myn hert ȝholden be. c 1450 *Merlin* 86 Melim was ȝholden to be Kyng. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 67 b's Our lord hath ȝolden the malyce of Nabal on his owen heed. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. ii. 9 Quhy mycht I nocht on fieldis of Troy haue deyit, And ȝoldin fra my wondis thair my spreitȝ? 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 287 For his saik he wes nocht yoldin. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* III. ix. All the Cities..that had bene youlden vnto hym. 1636 youlden [see Yolden 3].

*B.* 3–5 ȝolde, ȝ3olde, yolde, 4 ȝoulde, hȝ3olde, ȝulde, yzulde, 4–5 y-yolde, ȝulde, 4–6 ȝolde, 5 y-ȝolde; 5 ȝold, 5–6 yold.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9223 Ar he castel him were ȝolde. a 1300 *Floria & Bl.* 809 To hire he hab ȝolde Twenti pond of riale golde. 13.. *Bonaventioun's Medit.* 346 Whejer nat euyl he dide, he ȝolde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 Ne ssel nouȝt men and giude dedes beyȝ heȝliche ȝolde. *Ibid.* 163 Þis dette ne may hy oulliche y-ȝolde. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2220 Which assaut pe castel were y-ȝolde. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxvi, Thenne he shal be ȝolde ayenne an hundred folde more. c 1500 *Lancelot* 380 She ȝeine to hyme hath answer ȝolde. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 30 To reape the fruit of labour he which the ground hath ȝolde.

γ. 5 ȝ(h)eldyn, 5–6 yelden(e, 6 ȝ-yn, yeelden.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. ii. 276 Pat he Suldc hundyn and syne ȝeldyn [*v. r.* ȝoldin] be. 1471 ȝelden [see B. 8]. 1598 Chron. *Scot.* (Rolls) I. 44 Quhen the Romanis of Rome yeldene to the emperor. 1598 Grafton *Chron.* II. 80 Thinke..what thou hast ȝelden to him againe. a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1987) 355 Kleinias..who lastly yelded to his Master the bonds which time nor wit could breake.

8. 4 ȝyelt, ȝilde, 5 ȝ3ild, ȝelde, 5, 7 yeld, 6 yeeld.

c 1325 *Seyntes Segges* (W.) 1698 Oure gode dede schal ben luel yelt. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 285 Forto he hadde ȝ-ilde hym pe castel of Newerk. 1401 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 24 [He] hadd ȝeld op the Castell of Kermerdyn. c 1450 *Longipre* (1961) 55 Kleius..who lastly yelde is his hand. 1576 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* I. v. iii, Who (wonne by loue) hast yeeld the spoyle of thy virginity. a 1600 *Contempl. Life & Death* 1. xxxi. 24 Wadsworth was..treacherously yeld to Casthaunen the gth of May.

ε. 5 ȝ3olded, ȝeldid, yeldyde, 5–6 yelded, 6–7 yeelded, 7– yielded.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 128, i.d. ȝerely to be ȝ-ielded to me heire to my ffamylie. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. 719 They ȝelded him honour and good aduenture. 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidan's Comm.* 49 They shal ȝeld an account of it. 1588 J. Udall *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 33 And so we her subiects should yeeld continual thanks vnto her highnesse. c 1610 *Holme Saints* (1886) 150 Seeing we haue bin commanded to yeild these funerall speeches to our brother and sister. 1623 Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxviii, That he might be moued to set go his right to punish, or to remit it, or to exact pardon in yielding him the rest of his right which he hath to our.. obedience. 1843 Scott *Quentin D.* xv, What token canst thou giue me, that we should yield credence to thee? 1851 Jane *Phil. Augustus* II. ii, Yield him obedience in lawful things. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxxvi, We yield all blessing to the name Of Him that made them current coin.

†4. To be perform (a promise), pay (a vow), *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlix. [l.] 14 Ȝeld ðæm hestan ȝ-hat ðin. ȝ3.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 665, I schul..ȝelde þat I hyȝt. 1388 Wyclif *Isa.* xix. 21 Þei shul vowe vowes to the Lord, and ȝelde. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. MS.) lxiii, Pou schalt ȝyue here avowes. c 1440 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 210 Sicke by hetynges.

†5. To give thanks to. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* x. 53 Nowe awe I gretely god to ȝeelde, That so walde telle me his entente.

†3. To pay for loss of or injury to (something); to make compensation for (loss or injury); to make up for, make good. Also *absol.* *Obs.*

c 900 *Laws of Æthred* Introd. xxiii, Þæt hwa ædelle wæterpyt..& hine eft ne betyne, ȝelde swelc neat swelc þær on bæsalle. c 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* xxii. 6 Gif þyr þærne nuzan scæb standeð oncenned, ȝelde þæt se þæt fyr on-tende. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Þah ic hefde al þet ic eure bizet, ne mahtic ȝelden ȝwa muchel swa ic habbe idon to hermes. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 406 Þu ȝulde þet tu oultest. þet is per inne ivallen. *Ibid.*, Heo is gulti of þe bestes deaðe..& schal..ȝelden þe bestes lure. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 Ure lhorde amendi ne ȝelde ȝe harmes þet hi habbeþ ydo, and hit behoueþ ȝelde oþer hongre.

†4. To pay back, repay; to give back, restore. (In later use mostly with *again*.) *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past.* C. liv. 425 Wenstu, hwæðer he hine mid ȝy þeheolan mæge ȝelde, ðe he him ær onfenge ne nime, ne ðæt ne ȝielde ðæt he ær nam? c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Sif þu mare spenest of þine, hwan ic agen chere, al ic þe ȝelde. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 300 Schelt þu alle þi þet god þet we hefden uorloren. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1708 So ȝeply was ȝarked & ȝolden his state. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 236 And sit i-chulle ȝelden ayein ȝif I so muche haue. c 1400 *Curror M.* 27867 (Gött.) Pou sal ȝeild ilkan þing be ȝolden ogayne. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxx, And whanne it plesed vnto God, he ȝelde ayen the sight vnto this good man. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Lady* (1873) 80 Suche pleasures a thinge receiued, or taken,, many borowed or suche like.

†5. To give (something) in return for something received; to render, return (a benefit or injury, etc.); const. *for*. *Obs.*

972 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 Ne he nænigne man unrihtlice forslende, ne nænigum yfel wið yfele ȝelde. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Ne scalt þu ȝelden vuel onȝein uuel nuðða. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Ase þe apostle lereð, ne ȝelde neuer vuel uor uuel. c 1300 *Curror M.* 14161 (Gött.) For hi þam wil hebnede Ful luel es ȝolden þe þi nede! 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 207 Yvels for my goodnesse arn manyfolde to me ȝolden. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 292 It with kinde wevere stod A man to ȝelden evil for good. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. x, Euyll folk..for the good done to them, they yeld agoyne euyll. a 1586 Sidney *Pr.* vii. iv, If I wrongfully put for his freedom I salve, Who can else now ȝeelden me a hatefull hart: Then let my foe chase me.

b. To return (an answer, a greeting, or the like). Now only (with admixture of 10 b or 14), to vouchsafe (an assent). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 He..þe sit & speked toward him, & þeh him word wayn word. a 1300 *Curror M.* 8166 And þair hallsing þai til him ȝald, Ful bendeli to þam he ȝald. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1087 Brengwain answere ȝolde. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1234 In hast þampernour bendely his hondes

yeldes *c1475 Rauf Coilyear* 204 And euer to his asking nne answer he yald 1501 Douglas *Pal Hon* II xix, Venus again yald thame thair vnlusing 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than yf we be touched with a shame worde, we shal yelde a benigne & gentyll answere. 1603 Shaks. *Meas for M* IV ii. 6 Leaue me your snatches, and yeeld mee a direct answere. 1850 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xvi, As he yielded to this suggestion a ready and rapturous assent, they all rose. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 111 To this Protagoras yielded a hesitant assent.

**†8.** To give something in return for, make return for, pay for, repay; to reward, recompense, requite (an action, etc., in good or bad sense; often with dative of person). Often in phr. *God yield it you*: cf. 7 a. *Obs.*

*a* 1000 *Cadmon's Gen.* 413 Ponnehe me na on leofran tid leanun me meahte Mine gode zyldan. *Ibid* 1290 Min aceal awidor mid grimme gryre zoldon wurðan fyll & feorh-cwealm, bonne ic forð scio *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 For þanne he wile here zelden eich man þis hwile mid, swich mede swo he ernede here. *c* 1200 Ormin 6299 Þatt þeowe dazzȝwhammlike hemm zolldenn *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 35 Ckope þo werkmen and yeld hem here trauail. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4998 (Sir) þat said, ' godd ȝeld (tr. rw. ȝilde, ȝeild, ȝelde,) it ȝow'. *a* 1300 *Assump Virg* (Camb. MS) 249 Þu hast made me ofte ȝeld þat i þu has done me ȝe none ha þat i ne ȝeld þe. *Ibid.* Incorr. to the 13 *K. Alis.* 139 (Laud MS) He þinkeþ ȝelde his inquite. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9741 He hadde suel holden be klaudeye þer-to þat him sat at his armynge *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 319 Þat god for his grete mit at here god hem ȝeld ! 1370 *Rob. Cicyle* 128 in Hail *E. P. P.* I. 174 His porter ȝelde hym hys herne(s), He smote hym ageyne withowten fayle. 1390 *Gower Conf.* III. 79 Þat dethe of þat doughty shalbe dere ȝolden With the blode of þe body. *c* 1400 *Cannelyn* 568 If thou thenke as thou seyst, god ȝelde it thee. *a* 1400 *Pistel Joseph Arimathie* (Vernon MS) Þoh good deden, it is noble thinge to be do, and to vse, whanne they shall be ȝolde ayenne an hundred folde more. 1530 *Palsgr.* 786/1 Where I am not, God ȝelde it you. *absol.* 1582 Welsh *Ps.* cxxxvii(i). 8 The Lord shal ȝelde for me

**7.** With personal object (orig. dative; sometimes with *to*). To reward, remunerate, recompense, repay. **a.** In good or neutral sense: esp. (in later use only) in phr. *God yeeld (you* etc.), also corruptly *God ayield . . , God dsild . . ,* etc. (see God 8), from *c* 1400 to *c* 1600 a common expression of gratitude or goodwill. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

*Beowulf* 1184 Wene ic þæt he mid gode xyldan wille uncran eaferan *Birth Hon.* 183 be þis Drihten us þonne wile ongyldan ure zyldan & leanigen after his zyfles weorcium. *a* 1175 *Lett. Hom* 231 He eic ȝeelt eiher his ȝearnunge *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex* 1581 God it ȝeald þese wifes wel, On hem, þat ȝeode, ful wel i-ȝeald *Hamelok* 803 God ȝelde him þer-i ne may, þat haueth me fed to þis day! *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 1247 But loueliche lamman oure lord mot he ȝeld Þat to worþi wille was to come to me nouþe *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1680 A Mi in this town Wold do hym worshipp God hem ȝeld ! so have þey off or nowe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr Lyf Manhode* I. xcliii (1869) 91 Who þei weren trussed, gerlic dieu, god ȝilde hire wel, goodliche spak to me. 1454 *Paston Lett.* (1904) II. 332 Suster, God ȝelde zow for ȝowre labour fore me, for gaderyng of my mony. *c* 1485 Caxton *Gower Conf.* III. xxiii. 495 Of mercy, sir', sayd the duke rycharde, 'and god ȝelde you !' 1575 *Gammer Gurton* v ii, *Bailp.* God blesse you gammer Gurton. *Gammer* God ȝelde you maister bailif. 1600 Shaks. *Hamt* IV v. 41 How do ȝe, pretty Lady? *Ophelia.* Well, God dil'd you. 1606 — *Ant & Cl.* IV ii 33 Tend me to night two houres, I aske no more, and þe gods yeeld you for't. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* v *ad fin.*, Marry God dild him. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 18 Heaven yield her for it.

† **b.** In bad sense: To take vengeance on, 'pay out'. *Obs.*

13 . *Sir Beues* (A) 318 Al þat hab me fader islawe, Ich schal hem ȝelden ȝif *MS. M.* I shall be vengid] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel Wks.* III. 228 Þe vengeaunce, and I schal ȝelde hem in tyme. 1388 — *Ps.* xl 11 [xli. 10] Thou, Lord ..ȝeeue rere me, and I shal ȝelde to them.

**11.** To give or put forth, produce, furnish, exhibit.

**8.** To give forth from its own substance by a natural process, or in return for cultivation or labour; to produce, bear, generate (fruit, seed, vegetation, minerals, etc.); to put forth (a bud, shoot, etc.); † to bring forth, give birth to, bear (offspring). Now chiefly *arch.* or *poet.*

In first quot. with partitive object

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4720 Þof men ouer all has saun fellde, O saun as þar noght an þar ȝeilde. 1491 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 31 She this day hath rendred & ȝelden þe fruyt of her wombe a sone and a doughter. 1575-80 Turber *Hunt* (1878) 32 For want of seede, land yeeldeth weede. 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb* 39 b, The Female [hemp] ..doth ȝeelde a white flowre. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xv. 90 b/2 in *Holinshed*, It will they spread or yeld their rootes down right into the soyle about them. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent* I. ii. 107 Luxurious Wasps, to feede on such sweet hony, And kill the Bees that yeelde it, with your stings. 1608 — *Per.* IV. i. 20 Thou beast at the Sea, that call'd Marina, for she was yeelded there 1611 *Bible* Gen. I. 29 Euery tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yeelding seed 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VII. xi. 505 The soile yeeldeth Cloues, Ginger, and Siluer 1651 Br. Hall *Solilioquies* xv, If I look into my orchard I see the well grafted scions yeild, first a tender bud. 1672 Grew *Idea Philos. Hist. Pl.* 143 Turpentine, which, in Distillation, yeildeth Oyl and Water, both limpid. 1697 Dryden *Virg Georg.* III. 282 The salacious Goat encreases more; And twice as largely yields her milky Store. 1764 Berkeley *Siris* § 93 Trees growing in low and shady places do not yield so good tar. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1860) III. § 3. 194 They all combine with the elements of water and yield one of the acids homologous with formic acid. 1899 E. Fitz-Gerald *Omar* V, But still the Vine her ancient Ruby yields. *Ibr* 1587 Got ding *De Mornay* xvi (1592) 269 This mindе of ours doth also yeeldfourth words *Ibid* 269 When did euer pureneese yeeldfourth corruption?

(To furnish (a produce of so much). Also with *up*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12230 Pan queen it [ac wheat] scorn was, weil it yalde A hundred o þair metres tald 1577 Harrison *England* I. xii 38/2 in *Holinshed*, Ache acre of Wheate . will yeeld commonly twentie bushelles. 1577 Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 30 b, The other kinde [of oats] is lyghter and yeeldeth but little flowre 1667 Primatt *City & C. Builder* 4 Inclosed Lands in many places doth yield half as much, or as much more, as Lands in common fields 1832 Hr Martineau *Briery Creek* III 63 The farmer makes his land yield double by good tilling 1888 P. Nisbet in *Nineteenth Sept.* 391, I have been a battlefield of crushed quartz-rock yield up at last ..a little spoonful of gold

**9.** To produce as a result; to give as a mathematical product. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1542 Recorde *Gr Arts* (1715) 1 Multiply the first number by 3 into 5^e^ second 40000, and it yeldeth 120000 1593 Hale *Horologiogr* 31 The quotient Sine shall yeeld an arke, whose Complement shall be named the Complement required. 1696 H. H Hutton *Exc.* (ed 2) I. Pref. 26 Wherever two or more independent and equally worthy sources of information are found to yield up inconsistent results.

**10.** *absol.* To bear productive; to be productive or fertile. † Hence, to turn out (in a certain way).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5566 Þe erþe sebe þeiere & þet weder was murgore bi ut daye . þan me er ysayze *c* 1300 *Seuyn. Hendyng* in *Sat & Sat.* (1848) 277 Lyht clep lubere yelden, quoþ Hendyng. 13 . *Gaw & Gr Kni* 498 A ȝere ȝeres ful ȝerne, & ȝelder neuer lyke *c* 1386 [see Yielding *vbl sb.* 4] 1425 *Wyntoun Cron.* II v 316 He couythe weil knaw bot ane Quhat landis ȝeildis ane ferdale be *c* 1440 *York Myst* x 30 Sara was vncerran thanne That eure oure seede shulde sagates ȝelde 1523 34 Hitchin. *Hosb.* (E.D.S.) 2 Ther is no land, but yf it be wett, but yelde increase to the pease, and the better shall they ȝelde 1632 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 14 A good Mynne that shall out, and yeild plenteous Treasure 1678 Thynne *Compl Farmer* 38 It makes corn to yield well. 1856 Norton *Cycl. Agric* II 1232/1 Spalding's Prolific Red Wheat:.. yields remarkably well, and weighs well in the bushel.

**†9.** (with dative) To render, make, cause to be; also of cocoa. to make, cause (*to do* something)

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cli. (1869) 76, I haue a stoon þat to be folk, when i wole, yelt inuisible *c* 1450 *Mankind* 733 in *Macro Plays* 37 My inwarde affraeyon ȝeldyth me redyone to dyuerse presens 1658 Osborn *Advice to Son* (1673) 1 It is, What ȝ it will be not yeilded quiete (with these wordes) ? 1582 *N.* Hall *Hland* v 85 For doubt that this our forwardnesse yeeld vs not the like. 1591 Shake. *Two Gent* III. i. 211 Where shall I meet you? *Speed* Marry, at the Pinfold: and surly speech doth ȝeelde the Gods amazde and dum. 1609 *J. Rainolde's Def Judgem.* Pref A ij b, That holy name, which neuer ȝelded vnto any people more then some admirable to posterete 1674 *J. Campson's Art Dessant* II. 35 Example will yeeld it more plain

**10.** To give, in various senses. **+a.** To deliver, hand over, present, offer. Also with *up*. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 (Cott) Me think þe chald be newght don to ded, Bot he be yolden to ȝond wyf. 13 *Havel* 10220 (Gött.) Ilkan to ȝe temple broght Sere gyftes þat he ȝelden ȝald. *Ibid* 10230 *Gaw & Gr Kni* 67 Syben riche forth runnen to reche bonde-selle, ȝesped seres ȝiftes on hi3, ȝelde hem bi hond. 1580 Wyclif *Prov.* xxvii. 4 Ire is a cruel thing, and wrathe is a floode: but who may ȝelde to enuye? *Gilds* (1870) 316 þe^t^ euery prentes shall eide a brekefast to the forsayde M and Wardens. 1603 Shake. *Meas for M* v. i. 9 Lord Angelo is come, And ȝeelded vnto poore Rich to publique thankes 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* II. i. 90 Where the holy Trinitie did first ȝeild it selfe in sensible apparition to the world 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* III. 91 To his furious God consums our soil and skies, Nor ȝeild our hands the bloody sacrifice.

**b.** To give as a favour, or as an act of grace, to grant, accord, allow, let (one) have, bestow.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14844 Þe Schendelt þat ne ȝeilded hise ȝarew borh. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1066 (Cambr. MS) King þe wine, seid me mi seruise Ry menhild help me wisse *a* 1450 *York Myst. Tour* 122, I be-seche God ȝelde hym that he had deserued. 1509 Garcon-sir *Glearc Cer.* Wks. 1911 48 God is bountifull, ȝelding unto every man that is industrious the open way to knowledge 1580 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 Ȝeild pryze, graunt me possibilitie 1588 Cyrse Pembroke *Pr* cxl. iv, Yeeld, O Lord, that ev'n the head of those That me enclose, Of this their bolt pursuite May take the fruite. 1590 Spenser *F Q* III. xi. 27 To yeild him loue she doth deny 1624 Sir J. Davies *Pr* in 4 Wks (Grosart) I. 365 His God to him not safety yeilds nor aid 1825 Scott *Heretrhaul* xxxi, 'I know but one (puggling' Saul said Vidal, 'and I will shew it, if you will ȝield me some room.' 1833 Tennyson *Miller's Dau* xviii, And slowly was my mother brought To yield consent to my desire. 1876 Geary *Short Hist.* II. § 6. 89 The King ȝielded the citizens the right of justice. 1885-90 R. Bridges *Frot & Psyche* May xxiv, His name she never learn'd, Nor was his image yielded to her mind.

**†c.** To exercise, exert (a function, force, etc.); to deliver, deal (blows), to give (battle); to execute, inflict (a sentence, vengeance). *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5872 And taron seit he men at ask Of ilk dai to yeild bataile and to fight 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 69 God ȝe fader ȝa laue aone Engendrede out of alle wone, Ac man hab certayn tyme of elde Wanne he may engendrure ȝelde. 13 . *Seuyn Sag* (W.) 1038 Three maydes þat woniman hald, And three vengeaunce he hare ȝeld *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2708 Pe seicoup a sautes þat þei samen ȝolde. *c* 1400-50 *Alex.* 3126 He..Bid buske him aft to be bent ve bataill to ȝeld. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1272 Iche bourne on his beat wise bateil to ȝelde *c* 1435 *Torr Portugal* 2572 smert boffettes there they ȝeld 1561 Goodge tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* v. O v, Of customs long is nature bred and yeldes her force alway 10 vse that long time hath bene kept 1582 *N.* Hall *Hland* I. 3 The rancor ceaseth not, til they do yeeld their vengeance due 1582 J. Hall *Haddon's Answ Osor* 118 b, Christ doth encourage them which do yeld their endeuour to performe y^e^ rule of the Gospell

**11.** To give forth, emit, discharge; to utter. Also *absol.* *Obs.* exc. as represented by weakened uses of other senses, as 8, 14.

*c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* lvi. 481 And the tombe owt blood gan ȝelde. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* 4354 Scho rifuit, rouit, and maid nic stends, Scho ȝeild, and gald at lauith the ends. 1598-99 Vicary *Anat. v.* (1888) 44 It causeth the stomacke to yeild from him that is within him 1852 Huloet, Yeld forth licoure, or moysture, *exudo.* 1581 *N.* Hall *Hland* IV 29 They cries and clamors yeelde. 1591-8 Spenser *Colin Clout* 822 Ne is there shepheard That dare Bllsphemie his powre, or termes vnworthie yeild 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 872 So we finde that Violets yeeld a pleasing Scent 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gipsy* 160, Air swept lingering yields Their scent. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 1341 The huge pavilion slowly yielded up that which housed therein

**†12.** To give, render, state, declare, deliver, communicate (speech, or something expressible in speech, as a reason, etc.). *Obs.*

*a* 1250 *St. Nectus* 109 in Horstm *Altengl Leg* (1881) 107 Decius Cesar Demed þam al þat to ded And when þe dome was ȝolden ȝwa, and þe witnesse ȝeue þer-to [ 1380 Wyclif *Serm* II 23 Crist Ihesus, þat ȝelde a wel meanyg vnder Pilat of Pounce. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex* 5192 Lat þi sembled ire be sadd and þi speche ȝelde 1597-85 Sandys *Serm* 1 § 24 We haue no other reason to yeeld of our dooing, but onely this *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw Lng* (1633) 130 The order of proceeding to Judgment is the assent of voyces, and open ȝeelding of reasons in court 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ Osor* 104 b, Yeelding the name in the Latine tonng almost, which Basile before him did expresse most manifestly in the Greeke tongue 1611 Shake. *All's Well* III i 10 The reasons of our state I cannot ȝeelde. 1620 Markham *Anat. of Mel* I. x. 83, Hauc thou ȝeelded vp our first Genesis vnto the Hebrew Historian? *Ibid* IV. G 4, She were no woman, if shee could not yeeld strange language 1667 Rowlands *Diogenes Lanthorne* E. 3 b, Morrow (quoth he) Philosopher, I wish thee a faire day 1843 Usher *Body Dit* 43 What reason can you yeeld for this?

† **b.** To report as being so-and-so : = Deliver *v.* 3 i. 1 (cf. *Obs. rare*—1).

1606 Shake *Ant. & Cl.* II. v 28 Anthony's dead. If thou say so Villaine, thou kil'st thy Mistris. But well and free, if thou so yeild him, there is Gold.

**13.** To give so as to supply a need or serve a purpose : To give or provide for use, furnish, afford. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron. Edw. IV* 226 b, They could none otherwise do, but yelde & geue hym a reasonable reward 1580 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm* 281 b, He made a goodly librarie, whiche yelded great helpe vnto learned men 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 392/2 *Castellum*, a conduit built with cockes and spouts to yeeld water *a* 1586 Sidney tr. *Ps.* iii. 5 The Lord sustained me, for he yeelded vnto me 1591 Troister, *Pour l' Amitié* 504 That there is such a beast in the world, both Pliny and Solin doe yeild irrefragable testimony 1661 J Childrey *Brit Baconica* 103 This County also yeilds good store of Honey 1674 Playford *Skill Mus* (ed 2) 102 Make a Gamut of several string yield a clear sound 1768 Cowper *Retirem.* 326 Man is an harp whose chords elude the sight, Each yielding harmony, disposed aright 1791 W Iavin *Anatomist* I 128 The narrow valley being watered by a running stream, yielded fresh pasturage 1862 Spencer *First Prine* II v § 57 (1872) 183 A ball bounces because the molecular string yields a clear idea of the correlation between perfect elasticity and latent activity. 1894 H Drummond *Ascent of Man* 251 Two flints struck together yielded fire

**b.** To give rise to, cause, occasion (a state or feeling). Now *rare.*

1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 709 But if it might empaire, offende, or yeild anoy Unto the state. 1581 A. Hall *Hland* I 13 Yeelding the Greekes occasion to thinke, that Britans courage hin. 1618 J Taylor (Water P.) *Pennilesse Pilgr* B 3, We made a field bed in the field, Which sleepes, and rest, and much content did yeild 1634 Milton *Comus* v 448 The English fleete comming in, yeilded vnto small feare to the affrighted Towne. 1796 Francis tr *Hor Epist* II ii 230 (He) Yields Diversion to the gaping throng. 1858 Bain *Senses & Int* II i § 149 ed 2 Pleasurable and painful movements yield of themselves a certain satisfaction through the muscular sensibility of the eye

**c** To furnish or produce as profit, bring in.

1573-80 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 74 Good cow & good ground Yeelds y sweetly a pound 1599 B Jonson *Cynthia's Rev* v iv, I trotted a jerkin, for a new reuenu'd gentleman, ȝeelded me three-score crowones, but this morning 1603 tr. Ortn *Fembookeshine* (1892) 114 Rockes yeldinge small profitte 1700 S. L. tr. *Hyde's Voy. Ind.* 96, I..pleased my self with the thoughts of what it would yield me among the Chineses, and the English. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xii, I have sold the things, they have not yielded quite as much as they might have done 1895 *Manch Guardian* 14 Oct. 5/5 It has cost altogether Rs. 875,000, and will yield a revenue to the Government of Rs. 500,000.

**+d** To present to view, exhibit *Obs.*

1620 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xvi. 108 The valley yeelding so goodly a prospect, as it never beheld a better 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 20 July 1654, The sun lies set with ecclipse and yeild a gracefull front 1706 Stalkour *Des rewed World* 69 We had a clear view of Staten land, which yields a most uncomfortable landskip.

**III.** To surrender, give way, submit.

**14.** To hand over, give up, relinquish possession of, surrender, resign. *arch.* or *poet.* (*a*) in material sense, esp. of surrendering a military position or forces to an enemy

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3366 Þat hii scolde ham þe castel

ȝelde ar he wip strenghe him nome a 1300 *Cursor M* 3164 Pe Iuus was þan þair vnder lute, Sampson bunden þai ȝald for dute c 1300 *Havelok* 1717 Do au wel wip uten tiht, Ȝeld here þe lond c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 56 And sureties wol I han er pat thou pre-I thy body for to ȝelden in this pin e 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron* (Rolls) 161 Had he not come, the cyte had be ȝolden c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1039 Gif thou lussis thi life, Ȝeld me thi bright brand, burnat as bene 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 545 Doullere, thy spere of were, but feir to ȝelde 1582 N. WHYTE tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I lxxvii 238 The shippe bearing ȝealde our men did enter the same 1617 MORRISON *Itin.* II 233 The besiegers had ȝeeld the place to the Queene. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 151 We soon made him ȝield his Prize to engage with us 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem* xc, The hard heir strides about their lands, And will not ȝield them for a day

(*b*) in immaterial sense

a 1300 *Cursor M* 10600 Pai ȝald hir [*sc.* the child Mary] to pe temple ben 1486 in *Archæol Misc* (1809) 54 Yelding his tithe and his corone unto the King 1576 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* (ed. 2) 22/1 A [Queen Mary] who beying long sicke before, vpon the sayd xvii day of November ȝelded her life to nature 1588 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II (1596) 28, I was e stient to ȝeeld my interest for eleuen hundred and three score pounds 1611 *Bible Rom* vi 13 Neither ȝeeld yee your members as instruments vnrighteousnes vnto sinne 1683 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Disco.* B3, We Were glad to yeeld the honour of the day Vnto our foes 1696 BISHOP LL. *Reform. Appr.* 3 Is well understanded to prove, that them all in silence, which is as much as yeeld the Cause. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 53 The prostrate South to the Destroyer ȝields Her boasted Title 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T. Exercises* xvii 81 He will be inexorable I yeeld my opinions from meanness of spirit 1833 NEWMAN *Arians* iv 332 The timid Constantine, yeelding to fear what he denied to justice 1838 JANES *Robbery* vii, You have yeelded your heart and your happiness to one of whose family you know nothing

†(*c*) To give up, resign (mentally) *Obs rare*

1657 DAMPIER *Voy* (1697) 17 Those two men that we left in the bay before did not come to us till we were in the North Seas so we yielded them also for lost

(*d*) To relinquish, surrender (a position of advantage or point of superiority)

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I ii 15 Fach to other ȝeeldeth land 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Bathing in Kiver* iii, And still old Lovers yield the place to new 1730 EVELYN *Diary* 3 June 1666, [I] but put new cannon into our Fleete, now in a manner yielding ground 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I viii 69 Grief does not easily yield its place to joy 1851 MRS. HEMANS. *Casa Guidi Wind.* I 1074 Living heroes who will scorn to ȝield A hair's breadth even 1864 *Congressional Globe* 3 Mar. 934/2 *Mr. Schenck* I ask the gentleman from Vermont to yield to me for about five minutes *Mr. Worrall* I will yield the gentleman ten minutes of my time 1865 SWINBURNE *Ls & Stud* (1875) 268 The finest of Coleridge's Odes is beyond all doubt the 'Ode to France' It never profites much to discover whether it should take or yield precedence when weighed with the 'Ode to Liberty

b. with *up*; rarely with *over*

a 1225 *Ancr R.* 266 Preatie ] bet se wulleð ȝelden up penne castel haute ȝif he sende ou pe sonre help *c* 1290 *St Lun* 83 *b.S. Eng. Leg* 103 Ich ȝelde him up til mi bodi *c* 1350 *Will Palerne* 1256 He þat ȝe haue ȝolden vp to wast Iames hire hiue *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex* 1140 Or he ȝolde pat ȝolde hym vp I-reaðe *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. I* 188 He tolde them that onlesse they wolde ȝelde vp the toune he wolde put them to the sworde 1600 *Old Cheyne Bk Chapel Ayal* (Camden) 5 Edward Pearce yealded up his place for the Maternal vp of the children of Poules 1611 *Bible* 1 Macc v 32, I yeeld vp my authority ouer you 1844 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliv, The ring which bound the faith he swore, By Edith freely yielded over 1842 DICKENS *Amer Notes* ii, He had kindly yielded up his own little parlour 1852 — *Ulleak Ho* xvi Sir Leicester yields up his family legs to the family disorder [*sc.* gout]

c. *To yield (up) the ghost* (*soul, breath, life, spirit*). to 'give up the ghost', die, expire, *verb*

*c* 1290 *S Eng. Leg* 211 He was pan ope pointe bene gost op to ȝelde *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 209 How our leuedi endid and ȝeld Hir self saul *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 13262 Pey ȝeld pe soule pat pey had *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T* 2134 When with honour vp yolden is his breeth *c* 1430 *Lerc Assigne* 335 He bowethe hym down & yeldithe vp he ȝeste *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 168/2 He ȝeldyd vp hys ryght crewell to behold, Of Kynde wich that bryth there lyvis ȝolde 1558 J. UNDERAY *Monarche* 4000 Thay, For extreme hung r, ȝeild the spreit 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I 303 Canutus the Dane being there amid his coyle yeelded up his vitall breath 1611 *Bible* Gen xlix 33 He yeelded vp the ghost, and was gathered vnto his people 1667 J. TAYLOR (W. of P.) *Gt. Exemp.* I 4 The Horse yeeldeth himselfe a mortall beast, yeelding his breath into the ayre 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt of Page* xviii, Out upon the brain it is done. Was yielded the true spirit *a* 1845 HOOD *Fall of Deer* 25 Nor like a Craven yield his Breath

d. *refl.* and †*pass.* To be dedicated or devoted *to*, to give oneself up or be addicted *to*.

†*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom Rose* 499 As she were, Or the love of God, Yolden to religious 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III 317 In blake clothes ther hem clothe, And yolde hem to religi n *c* 1500 *Lan. ost* 952 Y ware ȝilde euermore to be your knyght 1611 T. WILKINSON tr. *Sabellicus' Hist. Venice* 1 lxxvii Helexor was gone and yeelded to prophane ceremonies. 1825 SCOTT *Talism* iv, All the extravagances which strong affection suggests and vindicates to those who yield themselves up to it 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho* xiii I yielded myself for a little while to the interest of the scene

15. *refl* To give oneself up, surrender, submit, as to a conqueror (now *rare*, superseded by 16). Also with *up*

1297 R. GLOUC (Rolls) 5447 Pe maystres of pe lond ȝolde hom to hom echon [r. pe ȝulde, ȝoulde, ȝeldede, ȝelded. *a* 1300 *Cursor M* 23769 Hardili es he cuward, Pat ȝeldes him ar he be soght 13 *Gow & Gr Knt* 1225, I ȝelde me sederly, & sypp after grace *c* 1400 *Brut* CCVII 219 Anone he & his company comen to the Gentil Knyght .& asaiden 'ȝelde pe, traitour' ȝelde pe! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII xxii 296 Rather shalle his slee me than I shal ȝelde me as recreaunt 1587 *Gude & Godlis B.* (S. T. S.) 237 Quhen deith cummis than to vss vther grece, Bot ȝeild the than, for dowtles thow mon die 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v iii 10 Vnlesse thou yeeld thee as a Prisoner 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* IX xix 724/1 The sight of vs their annointed Soueraigne shall cause them submit vnto vs yeeld them selues to our mercy 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Last Houry H alifax* A 3b, Others would have him come on Land and yeeld himselfe 1643 *Declar. Lords & Commons Hen VIII* 285, 949 Genoua also was constrained to yeeld it self, and shake off the French yoke 1647 TENNYSON *Princess* VII 343 Indeed I love thee come, Yield thyself up

with *unto* 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl B* XII. 193 He ȝelde [v *rr* yald, ȝelde, ȝelde, ȝilde, ȝald] hym creaunt to crystene pe crosse & knowlasched hym guilty *c* 1500 *Melusine* 335 My intencion is thither to ȝeld and yelde my self there hermyte 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidanes Comman* 264 b, I ȝelde my self prisoner to you saith he *c* 1565 HOWELL *Arb* I iii xxxii (1623) 147 My Lord would himself be prisoner 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I xxi 94 To whose that have yeelded themselves subjects 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T. Prejudice Fear*, He yielded himself up a prisoner 1823 SCOTT *Kenilw* xxi, He yielded him easily 1872 *Yeats Rural Ireland* 110 To those who led the Knight away

*const inf* 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc Weapons* Ded 2 b, I hesy I shall not willingly yeeld themselues to heare and learne by their experiences.

16 *intr.* To give oneself up, surrender, submit (as overcome in fight). Also with *up* (*obs. rare*)

*c* 1330 *Arth & Merl* 7431 Sixteen knyghtes to him went gun prikeri & bad him ȝeld *c* 1450 *Merlin* 461 Sir knyght, thow art take ȝelde thow to me 1509 HAWES *Past Pleas* XLI. 31, It [*sc* a castle] must yelde vp, or els be soune at the grounde 1600 SHAKS. *Hen. IV*, v iii 37 Rebels shall couch downe in feare, and yeeld 1605 CAMDEN *Rem* 28 The rebells thereuvith weare so terrified, that they forthwith yeelded 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* IX xix 724/1 The whole Province of Utrecht is yielding up 1789 DE ROR *Cruzat* I (Globe) 270 There needed very few Arguments to persuade him to yield when he saw five Men upon him and his Comrade knock'd down 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVII 16 Yield I leave the body and these gory spoils

†*with comf.* *a* 1549 SUMNER *Amos* II 17 [They] brought a woman, bound his handes behinde his back Whoe willingly had yelden prisoner

b In wider sense To give way, be subjected, submit (of 17), *occas* to break down, succumb.

1596 *Coventry Leet Bk* (1907) 1 Yf they yeld to the mystery as a iust plague apointed for my portion? 1597 tr. *Bellinger's Decades* IV ii 166 The worldly griefe is the sorrowe of the world, to yeeld vnder the miseries 1599 SHAKS. *2 Hen IV*, v ii 18 Thus yeelds the Cedar to the Axes edge 1640 G. SANDYS *Christ's Passion* 184 Not yeelding to the charmes of Sleep 1792 BURKE *Particle & Sheridan* 56 Sorrow shall be to Pitt what Sleep to Eldon 1797 *Lloyd Evg* 95 Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI xxiii, The night has ȝielded to the morn 1840 LORD HOUGHTON *Mon. Pilgr.* (1870) 1 Ere the child scorn yielded to the drowsiness that came upon her *a* 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz* (1873) III v 355 Theory should yield to fact, and not fact to theory 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* XV 84 The night was yielding and the dawn came up in a thin white mist

†**o** *pa. pple.* in *refl.* or *intr.* sense = that has surrendered. Hence in *pass.* sense = forced to surrender, subdued *Obs.* Cf YIELDED, -EN, YOLDEN.

In first quot. = *pa. pple.* of YIELD *v.*

*c* 1230 *Otuel* 802 Hit were schame To salen a man bat ȝolden him is *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III 1222 Now yeldeth yow, for oper bote is noun To bat Criseyde answered pus a woman, for I ne kan, ne wyl, ne yeve hem ben deere, Ben ȝolden, ywis I were now not here 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I xii (Skeat) I 30 Although the party be ȝolden, he may well be seyd bat kepeth bat quarte 1400–50 *Alexander Wars Alex* 1899 Pe erbe at pe entre to myne empire enterely bees ȝolden. 1470 85 MALORY *Arthur* VII xi 228 Whan ye see me beten ȝolden and recreaunt 1533 HELYAS *Knight Swan* (1913) 75 If ye be Inemys kest away þare weppynnys and war ȝeldin presoners *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. Bay Like as the elm doth bend his top, Till yold with strokes with pain it fall to ground 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* IX xix 724/1 I ȝoldin am, and 3it am stryving still *a* 1660 — *Misc Poems* xxi 12 For I rove on me thy pith, That ȝoldin am in will.

†d To give place, give way *to Obs.*

1604 E. GRIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* III xxvii. 201 In some parties one element ends and another beginnes, yeelding by degrees one vnto another 1611 MARIE *Misc. Poems* 2 Sweet Muses, more welcome thame nor I

e. To be inferior *to* Now *rare*.

[1604 F. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* IV xxvi 281 But as touching almonds and other fruites, all trees must yeelde to the almonds of Chachapoyas.] 1659 TORRIANO *Ital* 178 The City [of Nuremberg] may perhaps yield to Augsburg in treasure and riches. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I vi, These inventions were ingenious, but their beef is excellent. 1816 SYD SMITH *Wks* (1859) II 74 Demerara yields to no country in the world in her birds. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I iv 187 The vast plain on which it stands, although exceedingly fertile, yields entirely to the delightful country surrounding the city of Boiboo

17. To give way *to* persuasion, entreaty, or the like, to cease to oppose or object; to submit, comply, consent Also with *up* (*obs. rare*)

*c* 1230 *Ancr R.* (T. E. P. S.) 60 Ȝef Turne to alle fellowes and kni l ȝeald, for in my youth we haue bene fellowes, I wis 1531 ELYOT *Gov* III xviii (1883) II 315 Ther lacked litle that the yonge man was nat vanquisshed i and that the feeuble yelded nat to the seruice of Venus 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II Q iv b, He wouldne neuer yelde at the perswasion of many Scholars 1583 in *Cath Rec Soc Publ V.* 43 Yeeldinge to the forward importunities of the Donatists. 1589 HARLUIT *Voy* To Rear P 8, I haue yeelded vnto those my freindes which preased me in the matter 1598 SHAKS *Merch V.* IV i 405 You presse mee farre, and therefore I will yeeld. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Arminn* 2 We will forthwith yeeld up to them without any more dispute. 1667 MILTON *P. R* II 409 Thy temperance For no allurement yields to appetite 1729 BERKELEY *Lone Jones* X III, He yielded to the dissuasions of his friend from searching any farther after her that night 1868 G. MACDONALD *Annt Q Heights* I ix, As soon as they had yielded to my arguments 1874 GREEN *Short Hist* VIII. § 5 316 The danger at last forced the King to yield to the Scotch demands.

†b. with *inf.* or *clause*, or with *to* and *sb* To submit, consent, agree (*to do* something, *that* something should be done, or *to* something proposed).

1592 in *13th Rep Hist MSS Comm* App IV 13 If such persons shall not move him for to yeeld to departs 1597 HOOKER *Eccl Pol* V lxxi § 7 To grount that what their fancie will not yeelde to like, their iudgement cannot with reason condemne 1598 GREENEWAY *Excites. Aug.* 1 xvi 31 The Romans no way yeelding that the mouth of the lake Velinus should be damned vp 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist Indies* VII xii 520 As this was preparing, and every one yeelded to the creation of pope [*Leo*] 1608 in Lilly *Grey Letter-ker* I III 245 Which news so soon as the French heard, their courage came downe, and they yeelded to be gone the next tyde 1667 MILTON *P. L* IX 248 I so short absence I could yield, For solitude sometimes is best societie *Ibid* 902 How hast th ou yeelded to transgress The strict forbiddance 1763 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* III. 53 Should some patron yield my stores to bless 1799 JANE WEST *Tale of Times* XXXIII, Nor can I yield to sully my integrity by basely framing a forged accusation. 1824 — *Alicia de Lacy* IV 263 He yielded to ask for mercy, but he yielded without hope of success.

18. *trans.* †a. With compl. adj. or adj. phr. To acknowledge or admit that a person or thing is so-and-so. *Obs*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M* 28077 Til our lauerd crist and þe, M. hastli feder, yeild i me Flught for my vyn o pride 1377 LANGL *P. Pl B* V 374, I, glotoun, ȝyelu me pelke, Pat I haue trespassed with my tonge *c* 1400 MAUNDEV (1839) x. 120 Ȝeldynge him self ȝelden, and crystene 1450–1530 *Myrr our Ladye* II 87 Yeldyng vs gylty not for the thanke of man but *Corpam domino* 1598 SHAKS *1 Hen IV*, I iv. 42 Till you compound whereupon I will Vnto the weetest Roses are crept from the Tree, Shall yeeld the other in the right opinion 1630 W FERARE *Docts Tyrants* 17 Which thing, if I shall perceiue it was fully done [etc.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI 526, I yeild it just, said Adam, and submit 1673 *Lady's Call* I iv P 19, I shall be thought to have out-done my selfe; but I yeild to be guilty of impertinent 1676 DRYDEN *Aurenge* I i, He yields his Arms unjust if he withdraws. 1744 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Female Spect* VIII (1748) II 65, I knocked under, in token of yielding myself in the wrong.

†b. With clause or acc. and inf: To concede or admit that a thing is so. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q* II ix. 38 Perdue I yeeld I am, and vnto mind 1605 CHAPMAN *Monsieur D'Olive* IV i, Well, I did Make such a frivall promise. 1608 TOURNEUR *Revenger's Tragedy* C 2b, I yeeld it, and I shall be yeelded to have the spirit of God. 1692 LOCKE *3rd Let Toleration* iv 114, I will yield my self to have mistaken you 1697 AUBREY (1813) I 265 Which I doe yield John Digby yielded to be the best swordsman of his time. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit* V 1, You hard for Souls like mine to yield they have done amiss

c. With simple obj., with or without dative of the person: To grant, allow, concede the fact, validity, or cogency of. Now *rare* (and associated with 14).

1571 CAMPION *Hist Iref*, vii (1633) 50 The honourable Historian Titus Liuius, yeelded certaine things of Rome 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt Brit* IX xix 722, I yeeld all this *c* 1660 A. HUME *Brit Tongue* (1865) 92 Thus idle ei in wordes ending in *c* as peace, face these I yeld because I ken noe other wyze to haue it 1670 DRYDEN *Conquest Granada* I i, This true, the King Ormuz may be thought fit to be endow'd with all you seem to yield him. 1693 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 465 And Pallas, if she broke the laws, Must yield her foe the stronger cause 1723 STERLE *Englishman* No 55 354 All which wise Men mean was yielded both with Reason & Law 1752 HUME *Treaty Mem.* I 63 The point appears to have been yielded.

†19. *refl.* To betake oneself (cf *F se rendre*), hence *yield you* as a nonce-rendering of *rendez-vous.*

*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron Wace* (Rolls) 14225 [Guenevere] ȝeld hure til pat nonnerye. *c* 1400 *Destr Troy* 4904 Pe vaile [hun] into comne counsette 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII xxiii 724 Sire Percyual yelded hym to an hermytage oute of the cyte 1578 T. WOTTON *Courtilius Contzen* 295 He tooke his leaue of him, and went out, into a narrowe by lane, where from thenceforth euer after the yeeld you was giuen him

20 *intr.* To give way under some natural or mechanical force, so as to collapse, stretch, bend, crack, etc Const *to* (the force, pressure, etc.).

1552 HULOET, *Yeld* agaynste as dankyssh, *condisco* 1577 [see SIBILLE *Fragment Ph. & Jas.* I 3] 1580 LYDGATE *Reply Gentett's Sch Abuse* (Hunter Cl) 96 Looke for wonders where muske worketh, the bowels of the earth yeld where the instrument soundeth 1590 SPENSER *Muiop* 160 Ne stones to yeld to the lande in anye parte *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 64 The same stone moste miraculouslie being pulled, would yield like a bowe 1732 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr* 1 98 After Rains, the Ground yields and sinks so much, that [etc.] 1830 R. KNOX *Bichard's Anat* 196 If they [*sc* the arteries] be distended in the longitudinal direction, they yield and elongate 1860 PYDDOLL *Glue* 1 xiv 96 The snow yielded, he fell, and slid swiftly downwards 1883 GRENLEY *Elem Coal M* x v, Pillars of coal are said to yield when they commence to give way or crush

b. To submit *to* some physical action or agent (e. g. pressure, friction, heat, etc) so as to be affected by it.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min* (ed 2) I 37 He distinguishes those that yield to the file, as the white copper ore, hæmatites, etc. 1807-13 P. Wiu. in *Idiotcon* 49 When the frost has yielded to the sun. 1858 Dickens *C. Twust* xxi, The door yielded to the pressure. 1867 W. C. L. Martin *Or* 158/2 Ophthalmia arising from blows generally yields to bleeding. 1869 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach* Pref (1870) p vii, The mountain must yield to the action of cold and heat. 1908 H. Wales *Old Alley* xvii. 295, I was surprised that you didn't yield to brandy

†**21.** To decline, turn aside, be deflected *from* a path or course: *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* 11 [=stern] attend diligently vpon their Master, inclining to the right hand, or yielding toward the left. 1631 Markham *Cheap Husb* (ed. 6) I. ii. 22 I use 3 our hand, and draw it up against letting it come and goe till hee yeeld and bow backward. 1808 *Sinopsis Narrative* I 21 Without yielding, in the smallest degree, from the resolution she had formed

**IV. 22.** *Comb.* **-capability**, capacity of yielding or producing; **-yield-pount**, the 'point' or precise amount of tensile force at which a particular body or material begins to yield or give way, i. e. to undergo elongation or deformation.

1885 *Nature* 12 Dec 122 To assess the yield capacity of any locality without work, this pipe. 1885 *Engr Yrnl & Electr Rev* 20 Dec 705/2 The question of discontinuity of the curves about the 'yield point' was next discussed

**Yieldable** (yi'ldăb'l), *a rare.* [f. Yield *v.* + -able.] †a. Having the quality of yielding, productive *of*. †b. Disposed to yield, submissive. c. That can be yielded. *rare*—°. (mod. Dicts.).

Hence **Yie'ldableness** (in quot., †submissiveness).

1577 Harrison *England* I viii 17 b, in *Holinshed*, If the soyle [were] scabbed of woode. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Common-wealth* (1878) 59 Who is more vsuale to dwel where she findeth the heart yeeldible to honestie. 1645 Bp. Hall *Three Treat., Peace maker* § 13 The fourth disposition for Peace, is 3 yeeldableesse vpon sight of cleerer Truths.

†**Yie'ldance.** *Obs.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ance. (A favourite word with Bp Joseph Hall.)] The action of yielding, in various senses.

1. Surrender, submission, compliance.

1610 Bp Hall *Apol Brownists* 2 The spirits of these men are too well broken, to admit any expectation of 3eeldance. 1633 — *Hard Texts* Rom vi 8 Had not the law strictly restrained us from the yeelding vnto sinne. 1657 Trapp *Comm Job* i 14, 17 Seeking to disarm his ruling sin by an humble yeeldance. a 1716 South *Serm* (1737) V 490 For if the things under Debate be given up to the Adversary it must be upon one of these two Accounts; either, 1 that the Person, who thus yeild them up, judge them unfit to be retained Or, 2 That they find themselves unable to retain them one or both of these must of necessity be implied in such a Yeeldance.

b. Granting, allowance.

a 1656 Bp Hall *Specialities Life* Rem Wks (1660) 23 If I might draw him to a willing yeeldance of that parcell of my due maintenance, which was kept back from my not over deserving predecessor

2 Production, yield

a 1656 Bp Hall *Serm., Ps cxv* 3 Wks 1660 III 197 How should the corn were, or, be held without the yeeldance of the earth? 1668 Stepp *Husbandman's Calling* vii. 183 When it [ie harvest] comes, sometimes the poor yeeldance of it utterly disappoints the hope.

**Yielded** (yi'lded), *ppl. a.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ed 1.] Surrendered, given up, granted, etc: see the verb.

1501 Savile *Pacitus, Hist* iv lxxx 231 A dishonoured captiue, and yeelded person. 1595 Shake *John* v ii. 107 It must I not heere the last of this, thus yeelded? And shall I now giue ore the yeelded Set? 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xii 1359 Against a yielded Man, 'tis mean ignoble Strife. 1802 Southey *Madoc* iii. 22 Then, flashing from the flowing roar, I illing his yielded faculties. 1822 Scott *Lady of L* i. xxxiv, He sought her yielded hand to clasp. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par., Wanderers Prol* 18/2 The yielded towns were set aflame. 1893 W Watson *Odes* etc. 53 O yielded lips, O captive breast!

†**Yielden,** *ppl a. Obs* [pa. pple. of Yield *v.* (A. 3 7).] Cf. Yolden, Yorn.

a 1340 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc* (1557) H j b, The fierce lyon will hurt no yelden thinges. a 1547 Surrey *Æneis* ii 196 Ye sacred bandes I wore as yeelden hoste. 1561 Norton & Sackv *Gorlduc* ii. 1. 1578 Still I abide, And holde my yelden throate to traitours knife?

**Yielder** (yi'ldəɹ). Forms: see Yield *v* [f. Yield *v* + -er 1] One who or that which yields.

†1. One who has to pay, i. e. owes, something; a debtor. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb* 163 He ne is nast rituol, bet ne yrijh nast ine his herte, and onderstant, bet he is yelderes, and a yens god of trouthe, toppe alle pinge. *Ibid* 262 [see Yielding †1 *ab* 3].

†2. A rewarder. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Judith* Prol, 3eldere of hir chastite. 1388 — *Ecclus.* xxxv 13 For why the Lord is a 3eldere [1388 3eldende], and he schal 3elde seuenne fold so myche to thee.

3. One who gives up, surrenders, or gives in; a surrenderer (also with *up*); one who concedes.

1590 Shake *Mids. N* iii ii 30 For briars and thornes at their apparell snatch, Some slouens some hats, from yeelders all things catch. 1597 — *Hen. IV*, iv ii 29 The Blocke of Death, 3 reasons true I feel, and yeelder vp of breath. 1598 — *1 Hen IV*, v. iii 11 (Qo 1), I was not borne a yeelder thou proud Scot. 1893 *Daily News* 29 May 5/6 In the hope that they might get concessions from this universal yielder.

4. Something that produces or furnishes, a producer; now esp. with qualifying word referring to the amount or quality of the produce.

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm* 198 A sort [of wheat] that is a great Yielder to the Barn. 1861 W. Barns in *Macm Mag* June 130 Nature's yielders of good. 1906 *Westm Gaz* 6 Dec. 2/3 The quality of the good milker's milk is better than that produced by the small yielder

**Yieldiness** : see Yieldy.

**Yielding** (yi'ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Yield *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Yield.

†1. Payment; *transf.* obligation to pay, debt.

1340 *Ayenb* 113 Ich am mochel ine dette ayen pe and...ich ne habbe huer-of make pe yeldinge. *Ibid* 262 Uorlet ous oure yeldinges, ase and we uorlete oure yelderes. c 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 423 Pis is but yelding of dette bi mannus lawe

2. The giving of something as due, or as a favour; rendering; bestowal.

1340 Hampol *Pr Conse* 7846 Yheldyng of mede for alle gud dede. 1382 Wyclif *Pr* cit[1] 2 And wile thou not forbete alle the yeldingus of hym.

†3. Repayment, reward, recompense, retribution

a 1340 Hampole *Prose Treatis*[1] 3 Seide ye selue pe yeldinge til pe neode. 1382 Wyclif *Isa* lxvi 6 Vois of the Lord 3eldende 3elding to his enemys. 1386 — *Luke* xiv 19 He sente me to preche the 3eer of the Lord plesaunt, and the day of 3eldyngge. 1388 — *Pr* cit. xxxvi 11 As a child wenyde bi his moder, so 3eldinge he in my soule. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 3eldynge, *reddicio*. 1539 Palsgr 291/1 Yeldeng, *retribution*

4. Wreathing of stops or the like; produce.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol* 308 Wel wiste he by the droghte and by the reyn The yeldynge of his nedi and of his greyn 1547-8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 32 A tenement in Plympayer the yeldinge wherof John Tozle solde unto William Voysey for xij li sterling 1903 *Smyrl Set* IV. 178/2 Speculating as to the profit of this year's yielding.

5. Giving *up*, giving in, surrender, submission.

a 1425 Wyntoun *Cron* viii 1284 Sigh of be yeldin [r *r* yelding] tretyt bai, Pat gif bai be a certane day War nocht reskewit bai salde gif vp be towne. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 1 Yarlis for yeldyng, on vlk 3ule. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iii Prol. 3 Ane yeldyng, or ane sudand gift vp be towne. 1546 in Cardam *Sel Cases Crt Requests* (Selden Soc) 112 To make an yeldyng vp of the lyue by the delyuerye of a rose vnto the of the seyd tenementes to the vse of them whom shall please her. 1558 Cranmer *Chron* I 457 Eche part with 10 hundred Knightes and Esquiers, . . to fight and compate to the yelding. 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* B iv, But they seeing the enemie couldde not be by him to relinquish his suite, sauing the yelding of her battered breste. 1606 Shake *Tr & Cr* ii ii 25 What merit is in that reason which denies the yielding of her self? 1651 Warren *Def. Somerset Mem.* 769 At the battaile, and yeelding vp of Mont de dier 1771 Smaffett *Chatrac* II 214 A sacrifice and mutual yielding of their resentments to another. 1818 Keats *Endymion* i 421 She breath'd a sister's sorrow to persuade A yielding up. 1885 *Athenæum* 17 Oct 499/2 More or less cowardly yieldings to panic and sedition

b. Giving way, as to persuasion or the like; compliance, concession, consent.

1588 Shake. *L. L. L* i 1. 118 How well this yeelding rex cues there from shame. 1599 — *Hen V*, *Pal* ii ii 105 There fore parleamus me, And not impawe my yeelding to his Loose. 1611 *Bible* Eccl x 4 Yeelding pacifieth great offences. 1634 Canne *Necess Separ* (1849) 108 Their bare presence argues their approbation and yielding in show to ceremonies. a 1647 Clarendon *Hist Reb* i § 22 (1702) I 12 His Yielding to the violent passion. 1709 Fielding *Tom Jones* iv vi, He imputed her yielding, to the ungovernable force of her love towards him. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* xi, I can see no limit to the yielding, and bending of his mind when it is worked upon by the idea of power. 1898 Froude *Hist Eng* II viii. 130 Nothing was to be gained by yielding in many points.

6. Giving way, as to pressure or other physical force.

1665 Hooke *Microgr* 41 It is shrunk, which is caused by the yielding of the hardened Skin to the softer. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv ¶ 7. The soft versions of yielding of the Paper, 1 impron and Blankets. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 3/1 The yielding of the Pillow Branch or Twigs whereto the Nest is fastened. 1880 Tyndall *Glac* I ii. 10 There will be a gradual yielding of its mass under the pressure.

**Yielding,** *ppl. a.* [f. as prec + -ing 2] That yields, in various senses.

†1. Owing, indebted: cf. Yielden 1, Yielding *vbl sb* 1. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb* 169 Asemoche ase he is worþ beitre þanne ich, 3uo moche ich am yeldinde be myin rituolnesse

2 Bearing produce, productive, fertile. ? *Obs.*

1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (1556) 59 b, Nothing is better than groundith and timmyng, nothing yeeldinger, nothing so eester, nothing meeter for a freeborne man. 1596 Yong *Diana* (1624) 68 The fertilise of the yeelding soile. 1777 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 45 *note*, In a yielding Year, a Jag of equal Size to those alluded to will afford from two Quarters to twenty Bushels of Wheat

3. Giving in, surrendering, submitting; disposed to submit, submissive, compliant, unresisting.

1578 H Wotton *Courtlie Controv* 44 As the Hunter who pleasureth not to take the yeilding prey, thou shunnest me. 1599 B Jonson *Ev Man out of Humr* iv v, I am easie to yeelding to any good Impressions. 1698 [Ferguson] *New Ecclesiastick* 5 To become Guilty of the Little and mean Vice of Affording a yielding as well as a Routed Enemy. 1721-2 Gray *Agrippina* 197 With fond reluctance, yielding modesty. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xi xi, Sophia, who was yielding to an excess at last gave way. 1821 Scott *Glenfinlas* xvii, Fair woman's yielding kind. 1821 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 75 You may press her yielding hand. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxv, There are yielding moments in the lives of the sternest and harshest men

4. Giving way to pressure or other physical force, not stiff or rigid, taking impression, bending, collapsing, etc.

1727 T. Kendall *Flowers Fpgr* 42 Can Flint or Marble harde be made, as yeilding Butter soft? 1790 Spenser *F. Q.* iii. 12. 29 A thunder bolt Pierceth the yielding ayre. 1813 Buchan *Pilgrimage* viii. 111 618 Neither the hard nor hearted Rocks breake these yeelding Vessells. 1839 T. de Grey *Compl Horsem* 313 By some fall upon yeelding or slippery ground. 1897 Dryden *Æneis* ii 66 His forceful Spear Pierc'd through the yielding Planks of jointed Wood. a 1732 T. Boston *Crook in Lot* (1805) 132 The cannon ball breaks down a stone wall, while the yielding packs of wool take away its force. 1827 Keble *Chr Y., Prayers at Sea*, Beneath the shadowy clouds the yielding waters darken in the breeze. 1892 *Retrospect Med* CII 258 The shafts of all the long bones being so soft and yielding that the mere weight of the limbs is sufficient to produce their distortion.

Hence **Yie'ldingly** *adv.*, **Yie'ldingness** (see senses 3 and 4 above).

1560 A. L. tr *Calvin's Four Serm Song Ruech* (1574) Ep., You see him sometyme yeldingly stretch out, sometyme struglingly throw his wife. 1598 Barckley *Felic Man* xxxv 288 As Maydes that know themselues beloued and yeeldingly remit. 1882 Mooser *Lives of Angels* Introd 53 A Spirit of light would, that took The fruits of earth most yieldingly. 1886 Lytton *Str Story* lxxxvi, Like the clouds that are yieldingly pierced by the light of the evening star. 1897 Hinton *Wks* I 281 This tenderness and yieldingness of the inward man. 1726 Ivon *Deut Servit Ing Women* (1767) II xiii 222 A degree of complacence, yieldingness, and sweetness, beyond what we look for in men. 1862 Pater *Marius Epicur* I 124 The yieldingness of the earthiginous substance. 1838 Lytton *Alice* viii, Vivelyn was gentle, even to yieldingness. 1880 J. J. Burton *Heredit Medicines* 227 The thinness and yieldingness of the bones.

†**Yie'ldless,** *a. poet Obs rare.* [f Yield *v.* + -less.] Unyielding, not surrendering

1648 Davenant *Gondibert* III ii. civ A Fort so yieldless, that it feels to treat. 1793 Rowe *Ulysses* iii 1, Undaunted, yieldless, firm

**Yieldy** (yi'ldi), *a. rare* [f Yield *sb* or *v.* + -y 1] a. Productive, fertile *Obs* b Having the quality of yielding or giving way physically. Hence **Yieldiness.**

1598 Chapman *Iliad* v 191 Of the most fat and yeildie soile. 1757 tr *Henckel's Pyritol* 418 Themselves containing nothing of the nobler metals, yet mixed with other ores, prove yieldy. 1857 Mayne Reid *War Trail* xiii, A serpentine yieldiness of movement

**Yien, Yiet, Yif, Yift, Yigh** see Eie *sb.*[1], Yet, Give, Ie, Gift, Yea

**Yight,** obs. form of Ought *v* (q v., 6 b y.)

c1386 Chaucer *Pars T* 307 (Ellesm MS) He þat . hath despite to doon þat he yight to do

**Yijh,** obs form of Yes

**Yike** (yəik), *sb* An imitation of the cry of the woodpecker So **Yike** *v*

1889 D Jordan & Jean A. Owen *Woodland Moor*, etc 38 The yikers [a bird of the genus Colaptes, woodpecker] — *Within an Hour* 1891 (*Ib* ib. green) The yikers [the green woodpecker] making the woods ring with his maniacal yikes! 1892 — *Forest Tithes* (1893) 216 The lively silliness about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

**Yild(e, yild(e,** obs ff Guild, Yield.

†**Yile,** obs var Gyle 3eeltonne for ***yile-tun** = *gyle tun*, Gyle-fat

c 1425 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I 43 Item q 3eeltonnys, q manhattes 2 no cervesia

**Yile,** obs S., form of Isle

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot* (S T S) I 389 The Yile of Rosa.

†**Yiling,** *vbl. sb Obs.* Forms 5 yelyng, 5-6 yilyng(e, 6 yeilling, yeilenge, 7 yelling. Variant of Gyling *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Ipse* in *Camden Misc* (1895) IX p xiii, Unum yilyng fatte 1488-9 *Bk MSS Ld Middlet* in (Hist MSS Comm 1911) 471, iij yelyng tubys. 1556 *Lanc Wills* (Chetham Soc 1884) 14 On yilyng to make ale and ij gyng toobe. 1573 *Ibid* 64 One brewinge leade and a tirkine for 3e same, ij^s. A 3ailinge leare, xij^d. 1588 *Ibid* (1861) III 3 One brewinge cesse le vessell. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III 370 2 The Yeiling Comb or Tub is that Vessel into which the Wort is put to Work with the Yeast, or Barm

**Yill** (yil), *sb* Scotch variant of Ale

1785 Burns *Death & Dr Hornbook* ii, Some Clachan yill had made me canty. 1820 *Bonnie Lesley & Murry* in Child *ballads* (1880) III 449/2 Her bread it is to bake, Her yill is to brew. 1828 Scott *Fair Maid* xxii, They offer 3e yill, I trow, or a cup o' wine. 1886 Ingham *Sheppers & Shellbacks* 98 If I gaesin on the sanded kitchen there comes out with twopenny bottles of 'yill'

*b, attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yill cauf* [Caf *sb* 1], *-house, -maker, -making, -seller, -selling, -shop, -wife* (see also Ing Dial Dict.).

1786 Burns *Holy Fair* xviii, The Change-house fills, Wi' yill cup Commutants. 1789 D Anderson *Seasons* 13 Chiels wi' sooty skins, an' yill-caup een. 1790 *Jas Fisher Poems* 59 Ye's ne welcome neighbour till wives here

Hence **Yill** *v. trans.*, to entertain with ale.

1808 Jamieson, To *Yill, v. a*, to entertain with ale, a term commonly used by the vulgar to denote one special mode in which a lover entertains his mistress at a fair or market. 1850 Service *Notes Hamet* II 12 He forgot to bid Maggie to the yuilin'

**Yill, Yilt, Yin, Yinder, Ying (ying)** : see Yield *a.*, Yield *v.*, One, Yon, Yonder, Young.

**Yio,** var Hio *Obs*, she

13 ... *N ethern Passion* 104 In holy writte of here men rede þat yio [r 310] hade doinen synfulle dede

**Yioyned,** Me. pa. pple of John *v.*[1]

**Yip** (yip), *v. Obs.* or *dial.* In 5 **yyppe**, **yippe**, **yepe**. [Echolc.] *intr.* To cheep, as a young bird.
c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pyppyn, or yyppe, as hem lyrdys (*K., H.* sippyn, as byddys, *P.* yepyn). a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yip*, *v.* to chirp like a newly hatched chicken, or other very young bird.

**Yir**, graphic var. *jir* THIR, these.
1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 199 Thairfor, yir plaigis wald yai eschew.

**Yirb**, Sc. and n. dial. f. HERB.

**Yird** (also 4 **3erd**(e, 4, 8–9 **yerd**, 5 **yherde**, 6 **yird**). Sc. and north. f. EARTH *sb.*, and *v.* (to bury).
c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 168 Ihesu, . . þat lis þis gerd corn fra hewine. 1433 *Deeds* 18. *Orkney* vi, Aislamentis . . as weill under yherde as houfe yherde. 1550 *Kentul Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 74 All . . pertenens quhatsumuir . . als weill vnder the sted as abuif. 1562 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* XI. 214 To David Elliot for 3eirding of Johnne Gordoune . . xx s. 1570 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 292 They fand yitdlit in the yaird of Drum ane trench full of silver plait. 1786 Burns *Jolly Beggars* Recit. I, When lyart leaves bestrew the yird. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yird-fast*, The auld yird, the grave. 1861 Jamieson & Wr. *Visible Spirit*, dead and buried. 1871 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Yerd*, a fox-earth. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 311 The 'Yirding of a live Cock' to cure epilepsy. 1894 Crockett *Raiderlaw* xxiv, To afford yirds and secret caves for our Solway smugglers.

**b.** *Comb.*: esp. in *yirdfast* = EARTHFAST (cf. ON. *jarðfastr*). See also YERD-HUNGER.
1545 *Aberd. Reg.* XIX. (Jam.) Thelf pennis Scottis of yerd-siluer. 1788 *Perth's Bucket-Disc.* Whether now thy groans in dowy deen The yerd-fast stanes do thirle. 1808 Jamieson, *Yerdin*, thunder [see EARTH-DIN]. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 568 A penetrating and even suffocating yird-drift. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Yirdfasts*, large stones sticking in the yird, or earth, that the plough cannot move. 1825 Jamieson, *Yirdwirble*, not in the act of falling, but lifted up from the ground, and driven by the wind, after it has lain for some time.

**Yire**, **Yirk**, **Yirm**, **Yirn**: see IRE, YERK, YARM, IRON.

**Yirr** (yer), *v. Sc.* [Possibly repr. OE. *gyrran*, **gerran* (see YERR), but probably an independent echoic formation.] *intr.* To snarl, growl. So **Yirr** *sb.*, a snarl, growl.
1786 Burns *Ep. to Maj. Logan* ii, When fidly gouvan whyles we saunter; Yirr! fancy barks. 1815 G. Beattie *Todas at Arndo's* (1826) 61 Ye shoogy sye-f'ed'ard you f'd wi' fright. 1825 Jamieson, *Yirr*, the growl of a dog. 1890 Service *Notandums* xix. 135 If ony whillywha o' an Englisher should yirr and mak a kilfudyoch about the words he doesna ken.

**Yirth**, Sc. form of EARTH.

**Yis**, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*1

**Yis**, Sc. form of *St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 11 Beholdyng . . thynges to enumne . . with the yis of his soule.

**Yis**: see THIS, YES.

**Yisce**, variant of YISSE.

**Yisse**, obs. f. ICE, YESS.

**† Yisel**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *gisel*, 2 *gisel*, 3 *yisel*, *3isel*. [OE. *gisel* = OHG. *gisal* (MHG. *gisel*, G. *geisel*), ON. *gisl* (Sw. *gisslan*, Da. *gidsel*, *gissel*) GIBEL; cf. OE. *gīsl*.] A hostage.
c893 Alfred *Oros.* iii. vii. § 2 Philippus þa he cniht wæs, wæs Thebanum to gisle geseald. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* 21103 Hringeð her þa gyslas Ibiosen us cnihtes. *Ibid.* 29790 He wes Iseles Abður To halden to gisle.

**Yisk**, Sc. f. *yesk*, YEX.

**† Yisse**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **gitsian**, **gietsian**, **3idsian**, 2–3 **3itsen**, 2–4 **3issen**, (2 **3itcen**, 3 **3isoen**, **3ysoen**, **3oscen**, **3ietcen**, **3etsen**, 4 **yisse**; in vbl. sb. 3 **3ittsunng**, **ysseyng**, 4 **ysinge**). [OE. *gītsian*, *gīdsian* = OHG. **gītisōn* (MHG. *gītzen*, *gītsen*, G. *geizen*), f. Teut. *gīd-*, whence also OHG. *kīt* (MHG. *gīt*, G. *geiz*) covetousness, OHG. *Atac* (MHG. *gīte*, G. *geiz*) covetous; ultimately related to Lith. *geidžu* to covet, Lettish *gaida* desire, OSl. **židati* to expect.] *trans.* (in OE. const. gen. or dat.) and *intr.* To covet. Hence **Yissер**, a covetous person; **Yissing** *vbl. sb.*, coveting, covetousness.
*Beowulf* 3749 [He] zyfasð gromlyrdy, *c* 900 *Ælfred Gloss. in Aspitud*, HINNIG (*Cotton Gloss.* gidsung). *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xiii. § 2 Nic hit þæs sceafaces þe him on zenumenne wæs, ac þæs oðres zitsiende. *c* 950 *Gregory's Past.* xli. 298 (Cotton MS.) Hy sewitende ða ðing unt þe hie zidsiað [*v. r.* zietsiað]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 He wat wel þat manige men hiet a ful of zeweing. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 272 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Þo þe waren ȝisceres of þis werkliche ahte. *c* 1200 Ormin 4560 Þatt sittsunng & gredilæsse. *c* 1205 Lay. 5332 Þe kinges beod zeape Of mete zisinge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 100 Al so ȝiscað a ȝisceð [*v. r.* ȝiscerie] þet mont þunne muhten bifuntien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3515 Ne ȝisce ðu noȝt ðin nestes ðing, Ilus, no ayte, ne wil, in ðin ȝiscing. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Mid yuernesse and prude and ysyng wes þat on. *c* 1325 Shoreham iv. 157 Þorȝ þeskynge eðer gode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 26 Icinge, in clerȝise manere oþer coueytise. *c* 1400 in *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251 Ȝisinge and glosinge and felaship beon rizte. *Ibid.* 269 Wyldeȝe yisyng Me haueth achent.

**Yisse**, 3-, obs. ff. YS. **Yist**, dial. f. YEAST *sb.*

**Yistal**, -**ay** (3istal, -ay), contr. ff. YESTERDAY.

**Yister-**, **yister-**, etc., obs. or dial. ff. YESTER-.

**† Yit**, *and pers. pron. dual nom. Obs.* Forms: 1 **zit**, **3it**, 2–3 **3et**, **3ete**, (*Orm.*) **3itt**. [OE. *git* = OFris. **jit* (NFris. *jat*, *jæt*, Sylt *at*), OS. *gi*, ON. (MSw.) *it*; f. unstressed form of YE with an obscure dental element.] Ye two, both of you.
*Beowulf* 508 Þær ȝit þurhwunoð on incre anwilleone. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 21 Ȝyt nyton hwæt ȝyt biddaþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi iwearð hinc awa þet ȝit dursten fondian godes? *c* 1200 Ormin 4498 Hutt iff ȝitt muþenn be. tenn itt þun anig kinne wiss. *c* 1205 Lay. 5020 Ne beon ȝit [*c* 1275 ȝe] buten weien, mine sunen ȝit [*c* 1275 ȝeo] beoð beien.

**Yit(e**, **3it(e**, obs. ff. YET.

**Yite** (yait). *dial.* Also **yoite**, **yoit**. [Obscure.] The yellow-hammer, *Emberiza citrinella*.
1821 Clare *Poems* 109 (E.D.D.) Herryin' linties, yites an' kays. 1832 J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 4 Lark, linte, yellow-yite, . . shilfa, and goldfinch. 1886 Barrie *Auld Licht Idylls* ii. 54, I have known a black-fishing expedition stopped because a 'yellow yite', or yellowhammer, hovered round the gang when they were setting out.

**† Yiug(e**(ed (V. 4), judged. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7082 Þo was it ȝiuged þat he soulde be . . Hardi knizt. *c* 1315 Shoreham v. 101 Y-iuged by þe lawe To by stend wyþ stone. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 Geta was I-iuged [*MS. Harl.* 3-] for a comoun enemy.

**Yive**, **3ive**, obs. ff. GIVE, IF.

**Yk**, obs. form of I *pers. pron.*

**Ykeld**, **Ykend**, **Ykened**, ME. pa. pples. of KILL, KEN *v.*2, KENE.

**† Ykept** (V. 4, KEPE, I-KEPE *ydo.*), kept. 23.. *Sayon Sag.* 20 Þe sacrament ykept mi maidenhod. *c* 1340 *Sir Ferumb.* 2225 Þis ys þat tresour.. Which þat my fader.. hauep ȝe-kept hit in-to þis day. *c* 1390 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 369 Resoun ys ykept fro þe comyne, hit is fastorne. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxix. 246 Als longe as the natural hette durynd .. the helth of man shal be y-keppit. 1593 (see KEEP *v.* 14).

**Yknast**: see CAST *v.*, YCAST.

**† Yknered** (V. 4), Covered with] covered. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 238 Vnder godes sercle seel here synnes ben yknered. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 45, I ȝeue to John Forster my godsonne a becure of selver y-kneryd.

**† Yknid**, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **3ecyd**, **3ekyd**, **3kud**(d, 3–4 **3oud**(de, 3–5 **ykud**, 4–5 **ykid**(de, **ykyd**, 5 **ykydo**, (4 **ykudde**, **ycud**, **ikid**, **yked**, **ikedde**). [OE. *gecȳd*, contracted pa. pple. of *cȳðan*, *gecȳðan*: see KID *ppl. a.* and KITHE *v.*] Made known; hence, well known, renowned: sometimes (like YCORE) a vague epithet of commendation.
*a* 1100 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 3 Þu wearð hit sona þam manncynne ȝecyd. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1093 Se cyng.. was oft eall dead ȝekyd. *c* 1205 Lay. 24631 Þat nan lauerd taken nolde.. Nauer nanne wiuh, Þat he wolde, ȝeuen he nemde, Þat he nes him ær oht-seipen icudde. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1295 Italde hi tale, fif siðe tene, icudde & icureue. *Ibid.* 1934 O icudd keiser I 1325 Shoreham v. 633 Bote þou ger þys lyuyng Ykud. An oþer to understonde Þerinne. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3250 (Linc. Inn MS.) Y say Darie.. þat he was god knyȝt y-kud. 1390–20 Gower *Conf.* I. 64 Þe king cometh tofore yknid. 1396 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 130 Bote he heo A Cokewold I-kore [*MS. H.* yknid] out of holye myn Eres! *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4314 Y schal..haue wyb me of your knyȝtes Ȝif hundred yknyd y-kuþe. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 150 A confessour ȝkud [*MSS. M., T.* i-kid] that counteþ not a ruyssche Fere, ne fameyne, ne false menne tonges. 14.. *K. Alis.* 5888 (Harl. MS.) Hiel is ymade Þe hiȝest bifor treuþ ihyd; Bot hobe þat seveen swiþe sit þai ben y-kyd.

**† Ykitt**, **ykut**, **ykytt**, **ykyt** [V. 4], cut. *c* 1300, *c* 1330 See CUT *v.* 1, 2. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 361 He made alle þe bedes and lymes of mawmettes I-kut [*MS.* y-]kit. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 69 Smal yknutted. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 294/1 Ykytt, or ykyt, incisus, ykyn a-long. **Yknett**, **yknit**, **yknyt**, knit. 13.. *Leg. Gregor.* 481 Pe rope wer fast yknett. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iv. pr. vi. (1868) 134 While þai I wene..to þe poures yknyt by ordre. 1486 Yonge tr. *Guil. Pilgr.* 4074 When the lettris [*Pt.* A, X] ben yknet,.. Parfyt pes they sygnyfye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 154/1 Felowys, y-knytte to-gedyr in wykydnesse. *Ibid.* Knyttyn, or yknyttyn.

**† Yknow**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝeonawan**, 2 **ȝeonowen**, **iknaȝ**(**u**)**wen**, 2–3 **ionawe**(**n**, 3 **iconowe**(**n**, 3–4 **iknowe**(**n**, 3–5 **yknowe**(**n**, 4 **y-knawe**(**n**, **yknaue**(**n**, 5 **iknow**. *Pa. t.* 3 **ȝeonow**, 2–3 **ionew**, 2 **ȝeonew**, **ȝioneowe**(**n**, 3–4 **iknewe**, **iknew**. *Pa. pple.* 1 **ȝeonawen**, 2–3 **ionawe**(**n**, 2 **ȝeonowe**, 3 **ionowe**(**n**, **iknowe**, 4 **yknawe**, **yknowe**(**n**, **ynowen**, 5 **yknow**. [OE. *ȝecnāwan*: see W. 3 c and NOW *v.*] To know (in various senses); to acknowledge.
971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 He wes ..of cilda mube ȝecnawen & weorbad. *a* 1000, etc. [see KNOW *v.* 1, 11, etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Betre hit is þet non ne iknawe noht þe wel þa godcundhiðe þe he hine iknawe and seodhe hine for-hoge. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Þa biȝohte heo on hire lifiode and ȝeonew þat hie was in3 gode. *c* 1205 Lay. 24805 Þif þu wilt ȝeonawen Þat he i king ane þe. *c* 1240 *Lofsonge in O. E. Hom.* I. 205 Ich iknowe me gulti and creie þe leafdi merci. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. H. 122 Ich ne beo nouȝt ycrouned þat ich yknowe þe. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 36 For him þat zon not knowe Nouþer French ne Latyn. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9049 Herul Riuel þis iknewe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 194 He ha þe oleste and þe meste yknawe and þe meste beloued. *Ibid.* 200 Zet he ne may y-knawe hiis zeeppere. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 225 In her lyknesse owre lorde ofte hath ben y-knowe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 205 A lewed scoost, þat koupe not y-knowe þe cause.. of verray martirdom. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 252 We ben clerkes y-cowen cunnynge in scole. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 123 Whath awaylyth Sothlie of vndyrstondynge and connynge, and how thay byth y-know. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6737 If ye can me tech How I may I-know him.

**b.** To make known; = KNOW *v.* 13.

**† Yknowen**: see YCONWIN. **Yknowyng**, ME. pa. pple. of COWE *v.*1 **† 2**. *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 57 To send hym woide wher to [= whether the] Mylle of Ermyngton schall be y-koweryn with stone or strawe. **Ykowned** (V. 4, COWE *v.*1), coined. 1423 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 256/2 Silver is . . no better . . thenne xxiii *s.* the ounce and pound of trule ykowned. **Ykremyd** (CREM *v.*), crumbled. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 A fewe yalkys of hard Eyroun ykremyd ȝif þow lyst. **Ykunned**: see YCOUNCY. **Ykynde** (V. 5, KIN *sb.*1), of (high) kin or lineage. 1420 *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 173 The whiche partyes bothe beth weel ykynde and of gret allyaunce. **Ykyt**: see YKITT.

**Yl**, obs. form of ILL, ISLE.

**-yl** (il), formerly occas. **-vle**, a terminal element of chemical terms, as *E. -yle* (also *-ule*), f. Gr. ὕλη wood, matter, substance (see HYLE), used for 'chemical principle, radical'. It was introduced by Wöhler and Liebig (*Ann. de Chimie*, 1832, LI. 286), and first used by them in the term *benzoyle*; other early names were *ethyle* (*Ethule*), *bayle* (Berzelius), *dadyle*, *peucyle*, *citronyle*, *citryle* (Blanchet and Sell). Some fifteen in anglicized form, including *acetyl*, *amyl*, *cinnamyl*, *glyceryl*, *salicyl*, appear in the *Elements of Chemistry* by T. Graham, 1842, who also invented the general term *basyle* for a body which unites with oxygen to form a base. *Methyl* is peculiar in being a back-formation from *methylene*.
*-yl* is used in forming the names of radicals compounded of two or three elements in various atomic proportions, which behave in combination like simple elements and are the constant bases of series of compounds (though they may not be themselves obtainable in a free state). Thus *carbonyl* CO, *hydroxyl* HO, *sulphuryl* $SO_2$, are compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen respectively. The greater number are compounds of carbon and hydrogen, either alone, as *amyl*, *ethyl*, *acetyl*, *tritryl*, or with oxygen, as *acetyl*, *lactyl*.

**Yiacay**, obs. Sc. var. LACKEY.
1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 349 Item, to ane Franche yiacay . . xiij *s.*

**† Ylaced** (V. 4, LACE *v.*1), laced. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Jeri.* 52 Pay..turneden toward weyssford by Odroon, wyth baners y-laced. **Yladi** (LEAD *v.*1), led, conveyed, carried. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2424 Mercurius þe wyȝe, þat was ful wel ylad. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 99 Numerianus was y-lad in a liter. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) ii. 13 Oure Lord Jesu, in that Wynghe that he was ylad in, he was 3 ȝer in to a Gardyn. 14.. *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 211 Þo Ely in his fair cart to heuen was ylad, Elisee his felawe was seay. 1426 Lydg. *Dr. Guil. Pilgr.* 9772 The maryner . . Ledeth the ship . . And ys hym syff ylad also. **Ylaft**(e: see YLEFT. **Ylaht** (LATCH *v.*1, LEVCHE), seized, caught. *c* 1306 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 274 The Bisshop of Glowcestre ychot he was y-laht. **Ylaid**, **ylayd**, **ylede**, **yleyd**, ME. pa. pple. of LAY *v.*1 and *Ord. Vit.* vi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 22 Al to muchel ic habbe i-spend, to litel y-leid an houde. *c* 1330 *Assumpt. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 842 It was in þe tombe ylaid. 1340 *Ayenb.* 170 Þerynne ylayd [*v. r.* ylaȝd] þe clopes þat were on hure bed ilaid. 1426 Lydg. *Dr. Guil. Pilgr.* 5413 Ther was no cluff ynene, And the strawh leyd a-syde. **Ylaikid** (LAIK *v.*1), blessed. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* v. 21 That is Mede þe Mayde, hath noȝt me fol of, And ylakked my lemman.

**Ylan(d**, obs. forms of ISLAND.

**Ylang-ylang** (ī'lăŋ ī'lăŋ). Also **ylang-i(h)lang**. [Tagalog *dlang-dlang*.] An anonaceous tree (*Canangium odoratum*) of Malaysia, the Philippines, etc., with fragrant greenish-yellow flowers from which a perfume is distilled; hence, the perfume itself.
1856 *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 243 Oxidation of Essential Oils. . . *Oil ondla* and *ylelang ylelang* decomposed no hydrogen peroxide. 1882 *Ibid.* XL. 146 Cananga Oil. . . This oil, also known as Hang-lang or Alanguilan oil. 1882 *Englishman* (Calcutta) 2 Dec. 4/5 Atkinson's Perfumery. Ean Ylang Ylang. Ewangiuanne. 1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, *Cananga odorata*, ilang-ilang-tree.
Hence **Ylang-ylangol** (see quot.).
1895 *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* LXVIII. 1. 243 *Ylangol*, $C_{10}H_{20}O$, the isomeric of geraniol.

**† Ylast**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1–5 **3olæstan**, etc. as in LAST *v.*1; also 3–4 **ylaste**, **ylaste**. *Pa. t.* 1 **3olæste**, 2 **3elest**, 3–4 **ilast**(e, **ilast**(e, 3–5 **ylast**(e. *Pa. pple.* 1 **3elæst**, **3elæsted**, 2 **3elest**, 3 **ilast**, **ilast**, 4 **ylast**(ed. [OE. *gelǣstan*: see Y- 3 c and LAST *v.*1]
1. *trans.* To carry out, perform: = LAST *v.*1 1 b. *Beowulf* 572 Beot ic eall wið þe sunu Beanstanes soðe 3elæste. *c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 4 Ic nec nauht ne twoxne ænt þa hit mæge gelæstan. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2761 He.. hafde worolde bisgan gelæsted. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1018 Þa þet gafol ysolæst was. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 242 Þa þe gode biheten heste and holden hit ilestе. *c* 1205 Lay. 31109 Sif þu miht under crixe þis forward me ilæste.
2. *intr.* To last, continue, endure: = LAST *v.*1 2. *a* 1000 *Beoth. Metr.* vii. 19 Ne mæg hælefa zehwæm hus on munte lange gelæstan. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wa is mine saule þet mi lif þus longe ilæst. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Letiliȝ sempiterna, þat is llestende liht. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 387 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Alle world-ayhte schulle bicumen to nouhte. And vre owe lif lutel hwile ilæste. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 508 Þe gentile ne mouȝte lute hwile ylaste vale zer. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* iii. 191 [Pow] wendest þat wynne wolde han y-lasted euere. *c* 1400 *St. Iyr. & Tobrus*

32 Lesere had his owen moder in helle pyne to be, Al be while þe dom ylast, þan her sones face to see.

**b.** To stretch, extend; = LAST *v.*1 4.

*a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Hiis land ġelest wide and side.

†**Ylat**: see **Ylæt**. **Ylaueny**, **ylaw**, **ylawe**, **ylay**, **ylaye**, **ylayn**, **ylayne**, **ylayn**, **yle**, **yleche**, **yleche**, **yleine**, **yleyn**, **yly**, MIle. = pple. of LAY *v.*1 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5799 He sein swithin þat longe adde vnder crþe ybe [*v.r.* yleye] vere brogte in to sayne. 13 .. *K. Alis.* 908 (Lanc. Inn MS.) A god þat hab yleye by þe queine. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* II. v. 82 Ayn leke hadde yleye longe in þe sonne. *a* 1400 MAUNDEV. xxii. [ix.], Sif here fader had not ben dronken he hadde not yleye with hem.

**Yldo**, obs. by-form of ISLE.

**Yle**: see AIL *sb.*2, AISLE, HYLE, IL, ISLE.

†**Yleave**. *Obs.* [Of. *geléfa*: see Y- 3 a, LEAVE *sb.*] Permission; leave.

*a* 1050 *Liber Scintillæ.* 1 (1889) 168 *Inlapwrenn þat stiar super te ex dat dastur dominus*, mitte uber þe of godes yw ġeweald ġeleaf. *a* 1122 *O. L. Chron.* (Ladd MS.) an. 1043 Be þes cyniges ġeleafan. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM 1. 1696 Set eny oþer lyf doþ, Nó, þat ne hab yleave. 1340 *Ayenb.* 50 God zaf yleave þe dyrelen to goe in to þe zaynte. *Ibid.* 112 At his yleave nymynge.

**Ylechyd**, ME. pa. pple. of HLÆHHAN *v.*1

†**Yleft, yfaft**, *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ġelæfed**, 3 **ileaued**, **ileued**, 4 **ileued**, **-yd**, 4–5 **yleft(e**, **yfafte**, **7 yinft**. [OE. *ġelifed*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*lifan*: see Y- 4 and LEAVE *v.*3] I left.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 37 *Et quod superfuit de fragmentis, & þ* ġeleafed were of slæ uldungum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 167 Oure lauerd þet us ne hahhed ileaued.

*c* 1275 LAY. 28583 Þo nas þar nan more ileued in þan stihte · bote Arthur þe king. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6722 He was al one of þe tem hidden ileft. 1298 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 177 Men of þe contray aboute longe ȝ me þerafter myȝte vnneþe i leue þat þet clerc was i-slawe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 267 I-leue þe wordis þat I sete.

**Yleve**: see YLIVE, to live.

**Yleved**, **Yleyd**, **Yleye**, **Yliao**: see YLEPT, YLAID, YLAY, ILIAC.

†**Yleyhted**, *pa. pple. Obs.* [f. YLEYHT *v.*2] lighted. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 201 Þe meeche of a candill whych is yleyhted. *c* 1450 *Brut* 11. 323 With candels ylight.

†**Ylike**, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 ġelíc, 2 ġelic(h), 2–5 ilike, ylych(e, 3–5 ylich(e, 4 ylecche, ylyche, 5 ylik, ylyk(e, illike, ylike. [OE. *gelíc*: see Y- 1 b and LIKE *a.* Represented now by ALIKE, q. v.; see also INLIKE.]

**A.** *adj.* 1. Like, similar (const. dat. or *to*).

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 549 Ic ær ne nálś ænig ne mette in woruldríce wíf ġelíc · þæt ic þé wille *Bodl. Hatt.* MS. xix. (1890) 320 [Se lichoma] was slæpendum men ġelíca þonne deadum. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Þe alde mon þa bitahte þeowan wife hiis liche þan tree þe here3 laf and þloman and nane wetmas ne bereð. *c* 1290 *Beket & Vertues* 3 Þe kni3t bien ȝelich þan heisten [orig. *ero similis altissimo*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þi wose haued eni unfeau of þeo þet ich er nemde, þeose hare liche · to þe ȝet *Gen. & Ex. Dicon* 30 Þe leon to þe helle hond holleche i-like. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2336 A scemede þe diuel ileche. 1420 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 240 Þe whyte hare hath by ylyke the, ne affyre the shall come. *c* 1470 CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 321 A geant named Cerberus ywoth ylyke vnto pluto of condicions.

**2.** Of a number of things: Like one another; alike (*pred.*). Also with dat. or always the same.

*Beowulf* 2164 Fewer mearas · lætan ælċe · ġeċ-bæt ælċes *of Æthelred* vi. lii. (Liebermann) 258 Se maga & se un-maga na beoð na ġelice, ne se mazon na ġelice þrýþsse mæġe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1 Þeos wes þa ilich þe wes þe ilke maiden · þe nouder ende ne biginnunge þet ilc ouer þisse wohate stu-runge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 354 Pinges þat hatiþ ilyche · ofte ylyk ichaþ ilyche wel. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* (Gollancz) 1. 1717 Þay bon the daies & the nyhtes illike of lenghthe in al the world. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 1 Þe whyte hare hath by ylyke the, ne affyre the shall come. *c* 1474 CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 321 A geant named Cerberus ywoth ylyke vnto pluto of condicions.

**2.** Of a number of things: Like one another; alike (*pred.*). Also with the same.

*Beowulf* 2164 Fewer mearas · lætan ælċe · ġeċ-bæt ælċes *of Æthelred* vi. lii. (Liebermann) 258 Se maga & se un-maga na beoð na ġelice, ne se mazon na ġelice þrýþsse mæġe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þi wose haued eni unfeau of þeo þet ich er nemde, þeose hare liche · to þe ȝet *Gen. & Ex. Dicon* 30 Þe leon to þe helle hond holleche i-like. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2336 A scemede þe diuel ileche. 1420 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 240 Þe whyte hare hath by ylyke the, ne affyre the shall come. *c* 1474 CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 321 A geant named Cerberus ywoth ylyke vnto pluto of condicions.

**2.** Of a number of things: Like one another; alike (*pred.*). Also with the same.

*Beowulf* 2164 Fewer mearas · lætan ælċe · ġeċ-bæt ælċes *of Æthelred* vi. lii. (Liebermann) 258 Se maga & se un-maga na beoð na ġelice, ne se mazon na ġelice þrýþsse mæġe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1 Þeos wes þa ilich þe wes þe ilke maiden · þe nouder ende ne biginnunge þet ilc ouer þisse wohate stu-runge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 354 Pinges þat hatiþ ilyche · ofte ylyk ichaþ ilyche wel. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* (Gollancz) 1. 1717 Þay bon the daies & the nyhtes illike of lenghthe in al the world. *c* 1440 *Chron. Vilod.* 1

**Yly** : see Ylayte. **Ylyche, ylyke, yw.** Ylike. **Ylyfle,** lifted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 Panne he was left [*MS.* y ylyft] an hite. **Ymaad, ymadde,** ons. pa. pple. of Make v.¹ **Ymaced,** ME. pa. pple. of Mase v.¹

**Ymadge, ymag(e,** etc., obs. ff. Image, etc

**†Ymake, ymaked,** ME. pa. pples. of Make v.¹ **Ymanered, ymanerli** [V-5, Mannere *sb.*¹], mannered. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xi. 260 A mayde wel ymanered of good men ysprounge. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* lviii. 226 Tho that haue the fleashe of the brestis lyvill and dry bene ille-ymanerlie. **Ymanned, -yd** [V-4], mannred. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 434 The toune of Orliaunce was..well ymanned and vitaille. **Ymaried,** married. 1327 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* 19 Now worth his Maude ymaried al to a manned schrewe. **Ymaris(ch)ed,** pp. pple. of Mariner v. **Ymarked, -yd,** ME. pa. pple. of Mark v. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 346 (Zielke) A way! ha him was no hond Gadis ymarked, And with the deth ymarked! 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* xl. 199 Euery manes lyfe is ymarkyd by kynde, how longe he shal mow doure. **Ymarl(ied, ymarlyred,** ME. pa. pple. of Martyr. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9409 Ymarried [*v.rr.* y martired, y martred] our vre louerdes loue. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 19 Pat pere Romias..was y-martired. **Ymasked,** **Ymaymed,** ME. pa. pples. of Maske, Maim.

**Ymbar,** obs. form of Ember ².

1550 *Acts Privy Council* (1831) III. 68 Holiedaies or fastinge dales as Lent, Ymbar dales, or any such lyke.

**Ymbargo,** obs. form of Embargo.

1585 *MS. Tanner* 78, 62 They shall ymbargo or arrest the Duke of Florences Gallion.

**Ymbassator, -bassutt,** obs. var. Ambassador, Ambassade.

1418 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 119 To goo as ymbassutt for the stappell to Dweke Phyllypp. 1543 in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 45 The Frenche Ymbassator has not preponyt that matt as yet.

**Ymber, ymbre,** obs. forms of Ember ¹.

*c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 254 Our old faders wolden ete pes dayes kakes bakyn in pe ymbres. 1588 Kyd *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 273 She gins the ymbers vp to rake.

**Ymbir-, ymbre-,** in etc., obs. ff. Ember ².

**Ymboldon,** obs. f. Embaien, Imbolden.

1611 W. Adams *Let.* in Rundall *Mem. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 31, I haue ymboldened my selfe to write these few lines.

**Ymbrasour,** obs. form of Embracer ².

**Ymbroder,** obs. form of Embroider.

1562 J. *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1912) 39 A sute of blewe velvet ymbrodered. 1638 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Furniture* (1865) 1 Ymbroidering or hufling of guilded leather.

**Ymeed(eled** [V-4, Melde v.], mixed. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 813 So wolde I selynesse..Ymeed is with many a bitternesse. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 177 Wyde wyndowes .. Shyneth wip schapen schyldes .. Wip merkes of marchaundes ymedled bytwene.

**Ymedicable, Ymedyat,** obs. ff. Immedicable, Immediate.

**†Ymeint,** pa. pple. (ME. and *y-arch.*) of Mene v., to mix. **Ymelled** [V-4], milled. 1530 Palsgr. 834 *In E.E.P.* (1862) 34 As ful heo wolde a morwe beo, pei heo were ymelked an eue.

**Ymel(le** : see Imelle.

**†Ymelled,** -yd [Melle v.], mixed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 469 pe elementes i-medled [*MS.* y ymelled] to gidres. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Pouder Gyngere ymelled with Sugre. **Ymeltied,** ME. pa. pple. of Melt v. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 13 A stremm of gold of nayles i-melt [*MS.* y ymelt]. 1438-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 187 Golde y-meltede. **Ymende** [V- 2c, *mende* Mend v.], to remember. 1340 [see **Ymenes**]. **Ymenes** see Imenes. **Ymenesed,** pa. pple. of Mend v. **Ymeng, ymenge(d, -ed, -yd,** ME. pa. pples. of Meng v., to mingle. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2541 Po wende Vortigerne pat iuisiwenes pis ymeng pus imengd [*v. r.* y menged]. *Ibid.* 3437 Pus were in worre & in wo ymeng be saxones & pe brutones. 1340 *Ayenb.* 196 Loke pet ydele lihtnesse..be ney nost y-meynd. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Iolkys of Eyroun y-mengyd with pe Ius of hasele leuys. **Yment,** ME. pa. pple. of Mean v.¹ **Ymered,** pa. pple. of Merie v.¹, to purify. **Ymesuried,** ME. f. Measured; *y-mesured* ill-proportioned. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxix. 236 The hede well y-mesuried. **Ymet** ¹, ME. pa. pple. of Mete v.², to dream. *c* 1386 *Sir Ferumb.* 335 Pou hast y met of velyynesse pat pou ymanest pat dynke a torn. *c* 1430 [see Mete v.²]. **Ymet** ², pa. pple. (ME. and 6-7 *arch.*) of Mete v. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) C v b, Well yset ayr, well ymet. 1542 H. Rhodes *Song of Soul* 1. iii. 11, Last time we were together here ymet.

**†Ymete,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gemētan* : see V- 3 c and Mete v.] To meet, meet with, encounter.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* vi. xxxi. 286 Mid þæm þæt hiene þa mette an mon, þa he for from Ætcestphunte hæfde hyrde, *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iselie beoð eðe þa middeortan for þi heo inetaȝ þa middheortesse. *c* 1275 *Wom. Saunaria* 67 in *O. Misc.* 86 To alle þat beo ymete beon oþer ȝe ywete. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1437 Him bouȝte mete mid ysaut ar he at hom were. *c* 1300 *Names of Hare* 1 in *Kel. Ant.* I. 133 Pis man pat pis hare i met, He shal him nevere be the bet. *c* 1303 *St. Christopher* in *E.E.P.* (1862) 60 pe maistre þat was fers ynouȝ com & ymette him anon.

**†Ymete(r,** ME. pa. pple. of Mete v.¹, to measure. *c* 1386 *Sir Ferumb.* 2091 Pulliche he is he nost noer fram pe vif fet ymete in brede. **Ymeved, ymeoved, ymoved,** ME. pa. pple. of Move v. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 301 pe Frenche men .. were ymeoued [*v. rr.* ymoued] bytwene pe hil & pat wyn. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxiv. 189 Yf he thyn answere in dispite haue, neuer for that he thow ymeoet. 1438-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 Pei decide the maters ymovede. **Ymeynd, ymeynt** : see Ymeint.

**Ymgrame,** error (in T. Wilson's *Rhet.* p. 37, edd. 1580, etc.) for *yngrame*, Ingram.

**Ymidde, ymydde,** var. Imid *Obs.*

*c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* xi. 66 God may say, fern yere, folk were fayn To receyue me ymydde here breat. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7704 He..went forth his ennys y midde.

**† Yminne** v. [V- 3 c, Minne v.¶], to mention. *a* 1325 *Mandeville* 379 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1892) 169 Herdestow euer in spelle yminne Of a woman þat was in store? **Yminted,** pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of Mint v.² 1835 Clare *Rural Muse* 10 Like gold yminted new. **Ymist,** mixed. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxxv. 38 Hir comelie cheeks of vive colour, Of iid and whyt ymist.

**Ymmake,** error for *ymmake*, Immake, inmate.

1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII*, c. 24 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 175 Euery person and persons..which in the hartuest season receiue..in his or their houses..any person or persons called ymmakes.

**Ymne,** etc., obs. forms of Hymn, etc.

**†Ymolt(en** = Ymelt(en. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Golde i-schave of seyntes schrynes and i-jote [*MS.* ȝ y-molt]. *c* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 31 Wiche y-molten and pe forseid jingis beyng hote. 1590 [see Melt v.¹ 8]. 1748 [see Melt v.¹ 11].

**†Ymo'ne,** *sb. Obs.* [OE. *gemāna* : see Mone *sb.*¹, Mene, Mean *a.*¹]

1. Companionship, fellowship.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* v. ¶ 1 Þonne hæfde he mid his ægnum cynne..þonne he wæs on ðara ryhtwisena gemanan. *a* 1275 *Cott. Hom.* 245 For ðan þa se helende underfeng þa sinfulan, and hæm mid imone hafden. *c* 1305 Lay. 21308 Þeh he wulf beon ane beten ake imane [*c* 1275 one..imone]. *c* 1280 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 834 Siue, ischal at one Wipute more ymone...Bringe hem þre to dede.

2. Sexual intercourse.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 25 *rubrie*, Ne ceorl hæfis wifes gemana. *c* 1275 *Wom. Saunaria* 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 85 Maiden ibore, ant moder imone. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1 *Aunune. I'eg.* to ilad. 100 Hw myhte hit iwurþe pat ich were myd childe, Nonnes imone on me ne my may nomon iwite. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ii. 259 Pe quhilk þat maide his imone [*c* 1205 mouð] polic. *c* 1315 Shoreham v. 78 Hy wyþ-oute mannes ymone In body,..To manne hyne bronde.

3. A companion. (? A scribal error.)

1297 R. Glouc. (Harl. MS.) 430 He nolde gon la one, Athulf was hys ymone [*Camb. MS.* mone].

**†Ymone,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [Alteration of I-mene *a.* and *adv.* after Ymone *sb.*]

**A.** *adj.* Common, shared by two or more.

1205 Lay. 978 Þif we acceoted to heoru maehe, þat leiþ ure imone folke. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6359 He..sede, hali þou be King oue. So nis it nozt, quaþ he King, ure ini Kinedom is ymone.

**B.** *adv.* Together.

*c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 380 Anon ao hi sezze pe monekes come, hi goune to singe ymone. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 99 If pat on of hem ne dar him self wip me fizte al one Send hem bope on pere ilke wip me ymone.

**† Imong,** *sb. Obs.* [OE. *gemang, i. ge-* Y- 3 a + root *mang-* to mix, found in Meng v. Cf. next.] Mixture (OE. only); company, assembly.

*a* 1000 *Judith* 103 Þeraþ..Scire helmas in sceaðena þrong. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 268 B, aloh þone leng king..þinong þissen imonge [*c* 1275 motinge].

**† Imong,** *prep.* and *conj. Obs.* Forms: 1 **so-mang, gemong,** 2–3 **imong,** 3–7 **ymong,** 4 **imang(e,** 4–5 **ymang(e,** 4–6 **ymonge**; also 5 *Sc.* **ymangis** (after *amonges*, Amonger). [OE. *gemang, gemong*, beside *ongemang* Among *prep.*, which is f. *on* Or *prep.* + *gemang* company, Ymong *sb.*] **A.** *prep.* Among, in the midst of.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. iv, & þeah gemong þære herige þyllica hlæma on hiv selfe æsæðon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Ic sende eow swylce sceap gemang (*Lindisf.* imong, *Hatton* onmang) wulfas. *Ibid.* John xxi. 23 Deos spræc gewat ut gemang þrofrum þæt se leorning-cniht se swylt. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 101 Þeos wrest þu most ou-þan underfon driltenes fiein and his blod in þine licome imong þan unwreste sunne and ec imong þan deoflе þe wunað in him? *c* 1290 *Gen. & Ex.* 1218 Þe ler sæt..imong alle þan cnihten. 1292 *Gen. & Ex.* 2211 If ymong .x. wæren oði mis-don. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 48 Imang you wonand he isse. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 367 Y-monge pe pret. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 358 In his maistlle of skaiet rede V. mange his golde he did his brede. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5646 Be takyns he sayped pe thefe ymang likane. 1474 *Caxton Chas. V, Yvain. Scot. I.* 53 Item to the lairis that caryit our the King, the Quene, and the Courte, ymangis thaim,..xl.s. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 820 He goith ymong hem in his harnoys. 1538 Starkey *Nicolson & T. Burt Westmld. & Cumbld.* (1777) 61 *y note*, Every on of the cite hiii pryste to have vid, and to have to dryuye ymonge theym viii d. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul, Paraphr. Interpr. Asiatic Apollo* 1. 3 Phœbus with my lovely locks ymong The midst of you shall sit.

b. *Her (þer)..ymong*: among or with them; herewith, therewith.

*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 270 Her wes fiðelinge and song, her wes harplege imong. *Ibid.* 241*a* Her wes hæreginge and song, þer wæren blisen imong. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1580 Heo wes hire seolf þer imong, na hire þuhte.

**B.** *adj.* = *Among pat*: while.

Cf. Oe. *gemang þam*, meanwhile.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* iv. i. § 9 Æmong þæm þe Pirrus wið Romane winnende wæs. *c* 1205 Lay. 28174 Imang þat he king wes, Merlin him ret-wrahte.

**† Ymorþred,** ME. pa. pple. of Murder v. 1297 [see Murder v. 2 a]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xiii. 242 And so is meny man ymurþred for mete and goodes. **Ymortified,** of Mortify. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 45 A gret quantite y-mortified. **Ymoseiyd,** of Muzzle v.¹

**Ymounted,** pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of Mount v. 1590 Marlowe *and Pt. Tamburl.* iv. iii, Like to an almond tree ymounted high.

**Ymovede** : see Ymeved.

**Ympes(o)he,** obs. forms of Impeach.

**Ympligaþy,** obs. form of Implieaply.

**Ympn(e,** obs. forms of Hymn.

**Ymproif,** var. Improeve v. *Obs.*

**Ymree,** obs. form of Emery.

**Ymston,** var. ME. *symston* : see Gemstone.

*a* 1272 *Lune Roun* 175 in *O. E. Misc.* 98 Among alle opre ymstone pes beop deorn in vyche place. *Ibid.* 178 Mayde al so ich ze tolde pe ymston of hi bur.

**Ymulis,** obs. Sc. form of Emolous.

**†Ymunnyd,** ME. pa. pple. of Mum v. **Ymund, -munt** : see Ymint. **Ymundi** : see Mind *sb.*¹, *a.* **Ymundified,** ME. pa. pple. of Mundify v. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardern's Treat. Fistula* etc. 27 pe wounde ymundified if it be wele treitable.

**†Ymur,** *Obs.* [? a dial. var. of OF. *umor* Humour *sb.* (cf. Picard *Aimeur*, Walloon *imeure*).] ? Atmospheric moisture.

*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 807 All cold it beasme & the course helde, Bothe of ymur & aire after i-wine. *Ibid.* 1373 The Stretis were streght & of a stronge brede, For ymur & aire open in pe mydils.

**†Ymurdred,** arch. pa. pple. of Murder v. 1382 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 95 Here dy thou shalt ymurdred by my hand. **Ymuwed,** ME. pa. pple. of Mue v.²

**Ymyd(de, Ymydes, -is, -ys, Ymydward,** obs. var. Amid (cf. Ymidde), Amidst, Amidward. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8769 The body..Was..set in a seate vnder, Ymydward the mayne tombe.

**† Ymyled,** ME. pa. pple. of Mile v. **Ymynced, -ymynsyd,** ME. pa. pple. of Mince v. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 6 Oynuns y-mynced. *Ibid.* 23 Oynuns y-mynsyd. **Ymynt,** ME. pa. pple. of Mene v.¹ **Ymynster** : see Ymint. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4900+31 pe nyzt þet he adde imund [*MS.* ȝ ymynte] vort abbe ywend a-morwe. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 376 Hold ȝe among you ȝyt-take þou haddest to me ymynt. **Ymynused,** pa. pple. of Minish v. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Col. i. 21 Whan ȝe were sumtyme y-alyened & y-mynused in wyt in ȝer euelle werkis.

**Yn,** obs. f. In *prep.* and *adv.*, Inn *sb.*

**Ynail(l)ed, Ynamyd,** ME. pa. pples. of Nail v., Name v.¹ **Ynca,** obs. f. Inca. **Ynce,** obs. Sc. form of Hence *adv.* **Ynch(e,** obs. ff. Inch. **Ynche, Ync(k)e, Ynclynge, Yncorne,** obs. ff. Inn, Inkle, Inkling, Ink-horn. **Ynd(e** : see *End sb.*, Hind *sb.*¹, Ind, Inde. **Yndeen, -ien, Yndewes,** obs. ff. Indian, Indies. **Yndling,** var. Indling, Eindling *Sc. Obs.*, Yalour. **Yndoys,** var. *Yndes* (see Ind ²). **Yndrest,** var. Innerest *Obs.*, innermost. **Yne,** obs. pl. of Eye *sb.*¹, obs. f. In *prep.*

**† Ynem(p)ned,** pa. pple. of Nemn v., to name. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. H. 10 After pe queene y nempned here was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Ine pis temple is ymeind pe hyer ynemned. 1427 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 27 All my poutest tenauntes..except haun pat I haue ynemned in pis bok.

**† Ynence, -ens, -entes,** *prep. Obs.* [var. ff. *enence, anentes* Anent.] Towards; in relation to. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lx. 2 Ynence my selfe I sall be glad in pe. *Ibid.* x. 8 Euennes is sen in his knawyge, ynentes laith pe partis of goed and ill. *c* 1350 — *Prose Treat.* 8 Many are pat vnder laue hafe be scriptes of halie ynesche [*read* ynence] paire fiendys sybbe or fiemede. *a* 1400 *Kelig. Pieces Fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 26 Thurghe his commaundement es mare pe ynence God pe Fadire. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) x. 40 Ynentes pe kirk of pe Sepulchre es pe cite maste wayke. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Cen. Lorelih.* 106 Consideryng pe ynentes pe, ymens pin Lew.

**Yneuoh(t, ynew(oht** : see Enough, Enow.

**Ynewe,** obs. var. Anew *adv.*

*c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 626, & þo by-gan ynewe fiȝt be-twene his knyȝtes twyve.

**† Ynewed** [V- 4, New v.], renewed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Ynewed and eft ycristned ine pe bloode of Iesu crist.

**Yngde,** obs. f. Ind. **Ynge,** obs. f. Inch, Ing, Young. **Yngoin, ynion,** obs. ff. Onion.

**Yngles, -is(se,** etc., obs. ff. English, Inglis.

**Yngynore,** obs. form of Engineer.

**Ynke, Ynkell,** obs. forms of Ink, Inkle.

**Ynkirly, -urly,** var. Enkerly *adv. Obs.*

**Ynkleth** : see Inkleth.

**Ynmast, -most,** obs. forms of Inmost.

**Ynn(e, Ynner** : see In, Inn, Inne, Inner.

**Ynnion,** obs. form of Onion.

**Ynogh(e, ynoh(e,** etc. : see Enough, Enow.

**† Ynombred,** ME. pa. pple. of Numbr v. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. x. 178 His armye..with the garneson of godard and sarasyns of Southland ynombred ix m of good men of armes. **Ynome,** pa. pple. of Nim v., to take. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 43/206 So me dop to þeoue pat schal been ynume. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2422 Yt to be maistres of her bed, & be-tyd hem pe ynome. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4668 (Laud MS.), pe bowele weren ynomen oute. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2105 Erld Olyuer & his felawes þat Rouaine swiþe habbeþ ynome. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* xlvi. 53 Leyt salys fall, and has thar cours ynom.

**Ynon,** obs. form of Onion.

**† Ynoriached, -iased, Ynorched,** ME. pa. pples. of Nourish, Nurse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2422 Pe vreo englias vor he was at ysome inorsned [*MS. b.* ynoriached] biuore. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 pe children pet weren y-norised mid greate metes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 38 While he was a child y-norached in pe kynges court of Fraunce. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, I..haue ben chereely ynoryached.

**Ynot** = *y not*, I do not know : see Not v.²

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2628 Pere he lip zut to day ac ynot to wuche dome pe toun suþpe of poket chirche fram glastingbury come. 13.. in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 57 Ynot non se freoh flour, Ase ladies that beih bryght in bour.

**Ynoui(gh, ynow(gh,** etc. : see Enough, Enow.

**Ynoumbred,** ME. pa. pple. of Number v.

**Ynpossybull, Ynpugne,** obs. ff. IMPOSSIBLE, IMPUGN. **Yn stede, stude, styd,** obs. ff. INSTEAD.

**Ynayte,** obs. form of INCITE.

† **Ynued** [V. 4, Nov v.], harmed. 1288 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxx. 170 By this verti Is the merite of a man I-Stabelid, in so myche that for no chaunce hit is not y-ued.

**Ynug(h, Ynume(s** : see ENOUGH, YNOME(N.

**Ynuste** = *y nuste*, I knew not : see NIET.

**Yo** (yō), *int.* (*sb.*) Forms: 5 30, 10, 3ow, 9 yo, yeo(h. An exclamation of incitement, warning, etc. (also repeated). In nautical use = YOHO. Occas. as sb. and in vbl. sb. *yo-yoing.*

*c* 1440 *Avow. Arth.* vii. (*Yo hounde!*), 3ow thar suche him no mare. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 450 in *Macro Plays* 17 *Myschefe*. How, New-gyse, Now-a-days! her'is or I goo! When owur hedis wer to-gethere, I spake of 'al dedero'. *New-gyse*. 30! 30! wey! we xal gaderr mon'ym-to. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 95 Io furth, greyn-horne! and war oute, grymme! 1772 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 105/1 The scene was quite chang'd, 'twas no more yo, yo-ho. 1808 PINCKARD *Tour W. Indies* III. 343 A string of negroes singing out in the sailors' cry—yeoh-yeoh, yeoh-yeoh, and hauling at a long rope. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* ix, He was roused by a loud shouting of the post-boy on the leader. 'Yo—yo—yo—yoe,' went the first boy. 'Yo—yo—yo—yoe!' went the second...And amidst this yo-yoing, the carriage stopped. 1839 Hood *Storm at Hastings* xiii, Sundry boatmen, that with quick yeo's, Lest it should *blow*,—were pulling up the *Rose*. 1850 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* i. ii, Yo there! Stand I I shall fire!

**Yo,** obs. f. YOU. **Yoak(e:** see OAK, YOKE, YOLK.

**Yoaks, yoax** (yōuks), *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (**yocks**). A hunting cry; also as vb. (Cf. YOICKS.)

1778 GANNICK in *Monthly Rev.* (1779) LX. 59 [Squire Western, reeling, with the October,...] Ull, yo! Come, Ull—Yoax—Criticks! hunt the fellow! 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XXII. 129 He yoaxced in a whisper, he cheered in a whisper. 1909 *Eng. Illustr. Mag. Dict., Yocks*, a call of encouragement to a dog hunting rabbits, &c. n. Yks.

**Yoalk,** obs. form of YOLK.

**Yoberte,** obs. form of JEOPARDY.

1295 *St. Pap. Hen. VIII* III. 16/1 Ya yret yoberte of lyff, **Yobliged,** ME. pa. pple. of OBLIGE *v.*

**Yochomdale, yockynggale,** var. YORINDALE.

**Yock, yocke,** obs. forms of YOKE.

**Yod** (yŏd, yōd). [See JOD.] Name of the tenth (the smallest) letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

1738 LYONS *Scholars Instr.* (1759) 25 Those Verbs which have Yod Consonant, or Yod Consonant for the second Radical. 1769 PARKHURST *Grk. Eng. Lexicon N. T.* (1794) 385/2 An Iota, Jod, or Yod. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. ii. viii. 243 They remembered what he had said about the permanence of every yod and horn of a letter in the Law.

† **Yode, yede,** *v. Obs.* Past tense of GO *v.* (= went, went away, proceeded, took his course). [14th cent. ME. (north-east midland) *yeode, yede* (*yede*), prob. altered form of OE., ME. *eode* (*ede, ode*), pa. t. of GO *v.*, by prothesis of *y*-glide induced by the hiatus in such collocations as *he eode, we eoden.* Later, when the form *yede*, arising from the development of *eo* as a rising diphthong, became established, it would help to extend the currency of the form *yede* by analogical influence upon *ede*, the normal representative of *eode* with a falling diphthong. A parallel development is furnished by ME. *York*, *York* :—OE. *Eoforwīc* (see YORK). Modern use, the OE. compound form *geōde*, pa. t. of *gegān* (GO *v.*), examples of which are here given with the meaning of the simple *ēode*, may have survived in localities where the prefix *ge-* = Y- persisted in ME., and so have furthered the spread of *yede* and *yode*.

*Beowulf* 1967 Hi sāh drugon, eine geseodon. *Ibid.* 2676 Ac mabm þrungon searwum syld'd eorl eine keoden. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 217 *Adgrediuntur*, geeodun [*ājnal* 76 ziiiodun]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 5 *Exiit*, ge-eode. *Ibid.* John x. 23 *Ambulabat*, ge-eade.]

Illustration of Forms.

α. 2–4 **3eode** (4 **3iode**).

a 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Hi...geodon into be mynstre. *c* 1280 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 401 He 3eode in wel riche To Nymenhild be wyfe. *c* 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B 1532–2 Ofte hii 3eode [*c* 1400 eoden] to vnade, ofte hii 3eode to roune. *c* 1305 *Judas* 31 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 108 þe queene 3eode adoñ and plicite hi be stronde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19970 (Vdin.) Quen þai of Petir herdirunde, His coming, sone gain him þai 3iode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 A lampe...in þat hevene...þat 3eode [*MS.* y 3eode] adoun westward as it were þe sonne. 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 4944 To the 3ate 3aply þei 3eoden [*tr.rr.* 3edyn, 3ede] wel 3are. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 6409 (*MS. a*) Þuru wham þe hebene men 3eode to schonde.

β. 2 **3ede, 3ede, 3ede,** 2–5 **3ede,** 3–4 **3iede,** 4 **3ide, 3ed, yhad,** *Sc.* **3heid,** 4–5 **3eide, 3hede, 3eode,** 4–6 **3eede,** (also 9 *Sc.*) **yede,** 5 **3eyde, 3hed,** *Sc.* **3heide,** 5–6 *Sc.* **3eid, yeid,** 5–6 (8 *Sc.*) **yeed,** 6 **yheid, yead**(e, 8 **yee'd.**

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Syððon 3eden heom to scipe, ferden hom to Elfic. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 Sume leden on ælmes þe weren sum wile rice men. *Ibid.*, Me dide cnotted strenges abuten here hæued & unrythen to ðat it 3ede to þe hærnes. *Ibid.* 1140 Scse fich & iede on fote to Walingford. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Dies sunge mann 3iede swei sari. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1766 Ac bastan & al is fole þete anon to gromle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1086 Quen caym had don þat dreri dede, Til his fader hamward he 3eide. *Ibid.* 22093 He prechid pare wil fote he 3ede. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14308 Pyne were þe lordes of renoun Pat on Moddredes side 3ed doun. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6851 Pat day, þat Loth yhad out of Sodome. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 304 Hur þates 3eode þei too & youlden hem soone. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 90 Bot othir ways all þidir 3ede þai. *Ibid.* 533 And all swylk thowlemess he 3eid, As the cowres askis off 3owthheid. 1423 *Acts Privy Council* III. 97 He yeed in ambassiate to...ye Kyng of Polayn. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 228 The day yeid doun. 1489 *Caxton Faytes of Armes* (Camden) 138, I had xxij myne wheyr of 3eyde xiiij and nor for carryadge of wholl. 1508 DUNBAR *Kynd Kittok* 33 Becaus the wif seid wrang. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* v. C vij, When you...yeade to Lonaine there to heare the Latine Romishe worde. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* IV. ii, My Gammer then she yeede, see now hir neele again to bring. 1585 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrew* 227 With this the word yeed through the toun. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Psalms* iii. 59 That leddir ... Quhairby the angels come and yeid From hevin to earth. 1598 ROSE *Helmore* t. 7 They Yeed hand in hand together. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yede* is still used in Ang[us] although almost obsolete.

γ. 3–5 **3od,** 4–5 **yhode,** (also 6 *Sc.*) **3ode,** (also 7–8 *dial.*) **yod,** (4 **3ood, 3odd, yode,** 5 **3-, yode, 6 good,** *Sc.* **3oud,** 7 **youd**), 4–6 (6–9 *arch.*) **yode.**

*c* 1205 *Lay.* 20249 Þis wes þe ærenke king þet yet vt to reuing. *c* 1275 *Sc. Saints* xxix. (*Placidus*) 297 Pane wen þe feynd wondir wa, Pat placydas lewit hym sa & 3et on crist. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1766 Ac þei ne ernke king þet yet vt to reuing. γ. 3–5 3od, 4–5 yhode, (also 6 *Sc.*) 3ode, (also 7–8 *dial.*) yod, (4 3ood, 3odd, yode, 5 3-, yode, 6 good, *Sc.* 3oud, 7 youd), 4–6 (6–9 *arch.*) yode. *c* 1300 *Beket* 2139 Pis Sone sche sent hire sonde, Pat he 3od him bitterlike a-3en. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1866 He wist noght wyder-ward he 3od. *Ibid.* 5264 þe sea on aiper side 3od him to-dryue. 1340 *Ayenb.* 241 Pe ilke þet 3od þer-to. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19970 (Gött.) Pe nailes þat him feat on rode Thoru in hend and fete þai 3ode. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1146 A hundreth of hunteres ..To tryston vewters 3od. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 449 The fire 3ode to the hous per me. *c* 1400 *Sir Gow.* 81 (*Ashm.*) *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 151 My frendis þat I fra youde Are oures flowen with floode. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 643 Him thought he 3od in to bathe in yhode. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 21 Throw howsis and the cuthest quhare I 3oid. 1529 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 244 Saing if he yode awaye to Rome or no for her sake. 1535 COVERDALE *Lamentations Hnon* ciiiiii. 636 He issued out of the gate and yode towardes the tentes of his enemyes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 53 Sith now that name mighty man of God, That blood-red billowes...disparted with his rod, Till that his army dry-foot through them yod. 1596 *Ibid.* IV. viii. 34 So forth they yode, and forward kept their way. 1600 TIMPLE *Translation*, All armed stead fast by the Soldan yood. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 130 A lang youd I. *a* 1650 *Glasgerion* 46 in TAYLOR & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 250 He did nat kisse hur Ladye as he came nor when he yode. 1748 THOMSON *Castle Indol.* II. xxxv, And much they moralis'd as thus yfere they yode. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxxi, In other pace than forth they yode. 1879 *Ibid.* *Lay* I. xxiii, Pace then forth they yode.

γ.2. 4 **3ot, yot.**

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 10, I leste hyr in on erbere, Purz gresse to grounde hit fro me yot. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3690 A rideþ to þat hous a xxtty, ..& on þe schelf þe wyn 3ot bouyt þorz-out ys scheld, ..& iakke & toupoun, þorz-out al it 3ot.

δ. 3 **4 3ud,** 4–5 **yude,** (**yhude, 3hude,** 5 **3udyn),** 4–6 **3ude,** 7 *dial.* **yud,** 7–8 *dial.* **yewd.**

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 560 Quhill throw the hyrnys heist tha 3ud, And fra thine furth dourn stremmand 3ud [*MS. Edin.* 3hudc]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 423 Pe kyng meked hym, and 3eede [*MS.* y 3ude] barfoot. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. v. 290 Ik bydd þe, bow a kyde and 3e þe bude Wet þe gowne þat he in 3hude. 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 561 in *Dunbar's Poems* 303 And throw the myre full meerie þan he 3ude. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 55 *I'vud* or *I'ud*: Went, *Yevuing*: Going.

ε. 5 **yad.**

1444 in Picton *Lpool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffs ..yadden up to the West Derby fen. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2192 His wyues name he hadd, Whan he a-bed with hir yad.

† **Yode,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Pseudo-archaic use of prec. as infin. or pres.; cf. YEDE *v.*] *intr.* To go.

1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hippod.* (1878) 42 Then foorth one yoded fast and nyes [etc.].

**Yode,** var. YAUD, mare.

**Yodel** (yōu·dĕl), *sb.* Also **jodel, jodle,** *erron.* **jödel.** [f. next.] A melody or musical phrase inarticulately sung with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, as by Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.* any cry resembling this.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xiv, Fanny's little sisters were singing a rustic jodle, which they innocently whooped in the court. 1864 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 230, I heard singing and wild jodels about this dissipated city of Innsbruck. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 80 Hear...How the old own vibrant baritone to the Tyrolese song-music, his yodel drowned all other sounds. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* i. 22 The Tyrolean yodle he had. When he a the dear old *Comh.* 1874 Miss R. H. BUSK *Vall. Tirol* Pref. p. vi, Just as the shrick of the whistle overpowers the Jodel-call.

**Yodel** (yōu·dĕl), *v.* Also **youdle, yodle, jodle, jödel,** *erron.* **jödel.** [ad. G. *jodeln* (Bavarian *jodlen, jolen*), properly to utter the syllable *jo.*] *intr.* To sing or warble with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, in the manner of Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.*

1838 *Lady Granville Lett.* (1894) II. 266 Listening to three little peasant girls, all youdling to perfection in parts. 1841 in J. F. Campbell's *Pop. Tales* (1860) I. 156 We went yoddling and shouting to rouse the echoes. 1890 *The Initials* v, A loud gay voice was heard in the distance jodling. 1892 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxx, The shepherds jodel in the valleys. 1898 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* i. 21 Our guides shout and jödel. 1899 LOWELL *Let. to Miss E. G. Norton* 9 Sept., The screech awl...every night yodels mournfully about the house like a banshee.

*b. trans.* with the melody as object.

1898 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. iii, A single voice...was heard yodling forth a ballad. 1879 BAEDEKER-GOETZE *Germany* xi. II. 51 From far away comes the refrain jodeled back to her.

**Hence Yodel(l)ing** (yodelling, jodel(l)ing) *vbl. sb.*; also **Yodel(l)er** (yodler, jodler), **Yodelist,** one who yodels.

1830 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 June, Anne wants me to go to hear the Tyrolese Minstrels, but...I cannot but think their yodelling...is a variation...upon the tones of a jackass. 1841 in J. F. Campbell *Pop. Tales* (1860) I. 153 We stepped out for our stone house, from which came yoddling and screaming and all sorts of noises. 1885 Mrs. C. PRAED *Head Mist.* xxviii, Cleghane and Wyatt executed...an effective jodelling chorus. 1885 *Detroit Free Press* 7 Nov. (Cassell), The yodelist began to play once more. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 469/2 A Swiss yodeler.

**Yoe,** obs. form of JOY. **Yoede** : see YODE.

**Yoelle,** obs. form of JEWEL.

1536 in Archbold *Somerset. Relig. Houses* (1892) 60 The crosses, chalysables and other yoelles of the churches.

**Yoeman,** obs. form of YEOMAN.

**Yoen, yoene,** obs. forms of YON.

**Yof,** graphic var. *Jof*, obs. f. THUDON : see Y (3).

**Yof,** variant of YOFF.

**Yoff,** intended to imitate the grunt of a pig.

*c* 1850 *Song* ii. in De Fos *Mem. Cavalier* (1860) Notes 323 Yoffing, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonds out with an horne.

† **Y-offred** (earlier *ioffred*, OE. *geoffrod*), offered, sacrificed. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 735 Of swiche wrecches was þe of burnus yoffred. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 þe bishop accuntede his nombre by be nombre of oystes þat were y-offred. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 169 The bowelles of a beste y-offrede.

‖ **Yoga** (yō·gă). [Hind., Skr. *yoga* lit. union : see YOKE *sb.*] In Hindu religious philosophy, Union with the Supreme Spirit; a system of ascetic practice, abstract meditation, and mental concentration, used as a method of attaining this. Also *attrib.*

1810 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 125 Clear knowledge of spirit arises from yogā, or abstraction of mind. 1832 H. H. WILSON in *Asiatic Researches* XVII. 184 The Yoga, or Pātanjala school of philosophy. 1879 *Cornh. Mag.* XXVII. 657/2 *Yoga*...chiefly consists in a continual meditation on the sacred monosyllable *Om*,...profound contemplation of the divine excellence, and various acts of self-denial. ...The *Yoga* is often practised for the purpose of obtaining the eight magical properties of power....In the Purān'as and other works, Yoga very often means magic. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 583 The *yoga* faculty, or the power of spiritual communion and absorption, is specially claimed for the Hindu race. 1886 F. ANSTEY *Vallen Idol* viii, A yogi performing his *yoga* in the yoga posture.

**Yogee:** see YOGI.

**Yogh** (yoy). Also **3ok, 3ogh,** etc. (see quots.). [See *Mod. Lang. Review* VI. (1911) 441 seqq., VII. (1912) 520–1.] The name of the ME. letter ȝ : see G, Y.

The use of *L. jugum* 'yoke' to designate this letter (see quot. *a* 1440) points to the prevalence of the English form *yoke*.

*c* 1300 *MS. M'Clean* 123, ii. 214 b in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1912) VI. 442 Yog·3·[*example*]3ef·3us·3er·render·dug·schi·3ri·nurs. *a* 1400 *Manuscrits Trevet's* (Fr. text, MS. Brit. Mus. Harl. 4383, if. 31) ibid. 444 Nous auons en nostre parleure en Engleterre deux lettres pluis qils nount en lour a b c, cest assauoir þ et ȝ, qil sont appelles thorn et yogh [*tr.rr.* 3ogh, 3ogh, 3ok]. 1400–20 *Dial. Creat.* MS. Cott. Tit. C. xvi, if. 60 b) ibid. 445 þ & ȝ the which ben clept þorn and 3ogh [*tr.rr.* 3ok, 3oche, 3oghe, 3ouh, 3owh, 3ough, 3ouh, 3owne, 3ow, 3oun]. *a* 1440 *Sir Gawayne* 3. *R. I.*, if. 14 b, ibid. 442 þe carect yogh, but it is scie 3·is figurid liþ 3e zed. [a 1440 THOMAS ELMHAM *Liber Metr. de Hen. V* in *Mem. Hen. Fifth* (Rolls) 1 Nomen Poematis litera Anglica, scilicet 3 quæ jugum sonat. *c* 1465 : see Y 1].

**Yogh,** obs. form of YAW *sb.*1

**Yoghourt, yoghurd,** var. YOGURT.

‖ **Yogi** (yō·gē). Forms: 7 **ioggue, iogue,** 7, 9 **jogue,** 8 **jougie, jougey,** 9 **yoguee, yogue, yogi** : **yogin.** [Hind. *yogī* (Skr. *yogī-n*), f. *yoga* : see YOGA.] An Indian devotee or ascetic who practises the system of YOGA, q.v.

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lvii. 543 The Indian Gymnosophists...offering violence to Nature in nakednesse, and strict absurd Niceties, whereto they are followed to this day by the Bramenes, Ioggues, and others. 1625 — *Pilgrims* I. ix. 32 An Indian Iogue, a begging Frier of that Bramene Religion. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* I. 159 There is another Sort called *Yoogies*, who ...go naked, except a Bit of Cloth about their Loyns. 1734 *Cerem. & Relig. Customs Nat.* III. 480 The *Yogui*, who affect to devote themselves to the most dreadful Torments, are a Principle of Pride and Fanaticism. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xiii. xvi, A band Of Yoguees, as they roam'd the land Seeking a spouse for Zamorin's son. 1813 J. MORIER *Oriental Mem.* III. 14 A Yogee, who lives under the tree on the skin of a tiger or leopard, which they are very fond of. 1824 HELME *Narr. Journ.* (1828) I. 190 Yogi (a religious mendicant). 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 405/1 Hence has arisen the saying, that the 'yogin' is exalted above the Vedas. 1879 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* viii. iv. III. 115 He attained a height of abstraction from earthly things which might have been envied by an Indian Yogue. 1879 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xviii 375 No wonder that...the Hindu yogi should bring on by fasting a state in which he can with bodily eyes behold the gods.

So **Yo·gism,** **Yo·geism,** the system of yoga or of the yogis; **Yo·gist,** a yogi.

1882 SWORTH *Ch. World* 707 The ethereal yogeism which is called *Raja* yoga. 1881 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. III. 291 The Indian yogist (or Ioheer) Haridas. 1893 A. LANG in *Daily News* 20 Apr. 5/1 He reckons about 90,000 believers in Yogism.

‖ **Yogurt** (yōu·gŭrt). Forms: 7 **yoghurd, yogourt,** 9 **yahourt, yaghourt, yogurd,** yo-

**ghourt, yooghort, yughard, -urt, yogurt, yohourth.** See also YAOURT. [Turkish *yoğurt*.] A sour fermented liquor made from milk, used in Turkey and other countries of the Levant.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. IX. xv. § 9. 1601 Neither doe they [sc. the Turks] eate much Milke, except it bee made sower, which they call *Yoghord*. 1687 A. LOVELACE *Travels* 71 Of Milk they make Curds, which they call *Yoghurt*, which is a kind of Butter-milk by them [sc. Turks] called *Yogourt*, which they drink. 1837 PARDOE *City of Sultan* (1838) III. vi. 81 The *yahourt* merchant, with his tray covered with little brown clay basins, showing forth the creamy whiteness of his merchandize. 1883 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv* xviii. 216 We halted to...refresh ourselves with a draught of *yoghourt*. 1912 *Dundee Advt.* 2 Nov. 7 Servian yoghourt is well known.

**Yo-hah, yohay,** *int.* (*sb.*) An exclamation of pleasure among N. American Indians.

1756 J. HARTRAN *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.* 21 They gave us the Yohay, a particular Indian expression of approbation. 1791 J. LONG *Voy. Ind. Interpr.* 56 These [gifts] were received with a full yo hah.

**Yo-heave-ho** (yōˈhīvhōˈ), *int.* (*sb.*) Also **-oh**, **-o**; **yeo-heave-o'**, **-yeo.** [See Yo *int.* and HEAVE HO.] An exclamation of sailors when hauling at a rope or a capstan, heaving an anchor up, etc. Hence **Yo-heave-hoing** *vbl. sb.*

1803 DIBDIN *Songs* II. 254 To the windlass let us go, With yo heave ho! 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, Yo, heave ho! Heave and pawl! Heave and pawl! Yo ho! 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yeo-heave-yeoing*, the chant or noise made at the windlass and pur.hase-falls in a merchantman, to cheer and lighten labour, but not permitted in a man-of-war. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Wks. 1890 IV. 102 He offers a striking contrast with Wordsworth, who has to go through with a great deal of *yo-heave-hoing* before he gets under way. 1883 N. FERGUSON *Forging of Anchor* v, Our Anchor soon must change the lay of merry craftsmen here, For the Yeo-heave-o', and the Heave-away, and the sighing seaman's cheer.

**Yohimbeine, Yohimbine.** *Chem.* Also **-in.** [See def. and -INE5.] Names of two colourless alkaloids obtained from the bark and leaves of the *yohimbé*, a West African rubiaceous tree. Also **Yohi-mbic** *acid*.

1898 *Pract. Chem. Soc.* LXXIV. i. 699 An extract of the acid of the rind of the yohimbehe has been recommended as an aphrodisiac. Two substances named yohimbine and yohimbeinine have been separated from it. *Ibid.*, Yohimbic acid, $C_{21}H_{24}O_3N_2$, is soluble.

**Yoho** (yōhōˈ), *int.* Also as two words, or with hyphen; also **8 yea hoa, yoe-hoe, 9 yeo-ho, -hoy, yo(e) ho.** [See Yo *int.*, Ho *int.*1 and 3.] An exclamation used to call attention: orig. in nautical use, hence generally; also sometimes used like YO-HEAVE-HO, q.v.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) II. *Hola-ho*, a cry which answers to yoe-hoe. *Ibid.* s.v. *O I'en haut*, Yoe-hoe. aloft there! 1803 DIBDIN *Songs* III. 47 He can pull away, Cast off, belay, Aloft, alow, Avast, yo ho! 1825 L. HUNT *Keats Bacchus & Ariadne* 53 The yo-hoys on board a ship. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* II, Yo ho, my young un! whence and whither bound, my hearty! 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXVI, Yoho, past hedges...Yoho, past donkey-chaises...Yoho, down the pebbly dip...Yoho! Yoho! 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xiii, The very voices that yo-hoed...made delicious music to my ears. *Ibid.* xviii, The pleasant ye-ho! of the sailors. 1882 WEATHERLY *Nancy Lee*, The sailor's wife the sailor's star shall be, Yeo ho! we go across the sea. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I, Fifteen men on the Dead Man's Chest—Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!

*attrib.* 1827 *Academy* 7 May 317/2 The despised how-wow theory [BOW-WOW 2 b] would, after all, have something in it. On the analogy of that famous nickname, one may, perhaps, venture to suggest the yo-ho theory as a convenient appellation for Nurse's view ; yo-ho being ...the *clamor concomitans* of sailors engaged in working. 1888 MACMILLAN *Nat. Relig.* xiv. (1889) 373 The *Pooh-pooh* theory, the *Bow-wow* theory, and the *Yo-heho* theory, completely fail to explain...how conceptual words arrose.

Hence **Yoho** *v.*, *intr.* to shout 'yoho!' (whence **Yoho-ing** *vbl. sb.*); **Yoho-ic** *a.*, *nonce-wd.* after *echoic* (cf. quot. 1887 above).

1772 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 191/1 The passengers bawling, the sailors yo-ho-ing. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, After two or three hours of constant labour at the windlass, heaving and 'Yo-ho!'ing with all our might, we brought up an anchor. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* vii, Seamen are singing and yeohoeing on board. 1888 HENLEY *Verses* 128 Hark! the echoes are yeo-hoing Valiantly from vale and hill! 1888 MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* viii. (1889) 217 The Yo-hoic theory [of language]. 1901 BENNETT *Lady of Lyon* viii, The bargemen brought their...craft alongside with many loud-sounding oaths and the yohoing without which they can do nothing.

**Yoi,** *int.* ? *Obs.* Also **yoel.** A huntsman's cry to encourage the hounds: cf. YOICKS.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) XVII. 270 The word was given 'Yoi—hark on, hark'. 1832-4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* I. (1838) 150 'Yoi! there I' shouts Tom Hill, who has long hunted this crack pack. 1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 221/2 'Yooi, over he goes!' hollous the Squire. 1850 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Grand* v, *Verses* 90 Yoi! wind him! and rouse him! By Jove, he's away.

**Yoi,** obs. form of JOY.

**Yoicks** (yoiks), *int.* Also 8–9 **yoics, 9 yoix, yoicks.** [Cf. YOARS, YOI, and HOICKS, earlier *hoik* (1607), *hoic*, which is used similarly to, and appears to be a variant of, *hike*, *hyke*, as in *hike hallow, hyke a Beaumont* (see Turberville *Hunting* 311, 112, 175).] A call used in fox-hunting to urge on the hounds; also occas. *gen.* as an exclamation of excitement or exultation.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 657 The bold Fox-hunter, just come up to town, From 'Yoicks, hark forward', loves to seem a-cloyed. 1777 F. SWIFT *Cambletes* 54 Hark forward! Yoics!' with rough delight he hears. c1800 *Armiger's Sportsman's Vocal Cabinet* (1830) 112 Old Juno, young Scentwell, bold Jowler, and Tiny, Yoix! yoix! have compelled him to yield. 1831-4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* I. (1838) 11 The wood begins to resound with shouts of 'Yoicks! yoic-ho-y', yoicks True-ho-y, yoicks push him up, yoicks wind him!... 1858 in *Hone. Chron.* 5 Nov. 7/1 The energetic 'view-holloa', and the hearty cheerful 'yoicks-tally ho'. 1878 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 3 Yoicks! tear him, my beauties! 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* May 630/1 With renewed spirits he jumped into a hansom, and gave the direction—'Yoicks!' cried he to himself, 'I'm going it!'

Hence **Yoicks** (also **yoick**) *v.*, *intr.* to cry 'yoicks!'; to urge on by crying 'yoicks!'

1847 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr. Sv.* The swell huntsman yoicked his hounds into cover. 1854 — *Handley Cr.* xlvii. (1901) II. 63 The hounds dashed into cover, and master and man proceeded to yoick and crack their whips.

**Yoike,** obs. form of YOKE.

‖ **Yojan** (yōjdān), **yojana** (yōjdānā). Also **-en, -unu.** *E. Indian.* [Hindi *yójan*, Skr. *yójana*, yoking, measure of distance (lit. that travelled at one time without unyoking), *l. yógа* : see YOKE *sb.*] A measure of distance, varying locally from about four to ten miles.

1784 CHAMBERS in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 155 South of the Caloo are two hundred Yojen. 1784 W. HASTINGS *ibid.* 259 That ancient city [sc. Audh] extended...over a line of ten Yojuns, or about forty miles. 1820 W. WARD *View Writings &c.* (ed. 4) I. 215 The circumference of the earth is 5059 yojnâns. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Illust. Astron.* App. 122 (U. K. S.) The Brahmins suppose the Earth to be spherical; they measure the diameter divided into 1600 equal parts called yojanas. 1883 E. ARNOLD *Ind. Idylls* 171 Who else Could in one day drive fivescore yojanas?

**Yoke** (yōk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **ɜoc, ɜioc, ioc, ioc, 2-3 ɜoc, 3 ɜoch, ɜiok, (orm.) ɜoce, 3-5** (6 *Sc.*) **ɜoke, 4 ɜoek, 4-5 ɜok** (*Sc.*), **ɜoke, (6-7** *Sc.*) **ɜook, 4-6** (8-9 *dial.*) **yok, 4-7** (8-9 *dial.*) **youk, 5 ɜoik, youk(k)e, 5-7 yooke, 6 youck, yowoke, yowe, yoike,** (*pl.* **yoixe**?), *Sc.* **ɜoik, ɜoilk), 6-7 yoake, (7 yolke, oak), 6-8 yoak, (8 yolk), 4- yoke.** [Com. Teut. str. neuter : OE. *ġeoc* = OS. *juc* (MLG. *jук*, MDu. *juc*, *joc*, LG., Du. *juk*, *jok*), OHG. *juh*, *joch*, (MHG., G. *joch*), ON. *ok* (Sw. *åke*, Da. *aag*), Goth. *juk*, corresp. to L. *jugum*, Gr. *ζυγόν*, W. *iau*, OSl. *igo*, Lith. *jungulas*, Indo-eur. **jugóm*.

The Indo eur. series *jeng-*:*jong-*:*jug-* is represented also by OHG. MHG. *gimk*, *jimch* yoke, 'yoke' of land (whence late OHG. *jâhhart*, MHG. *jîchert*, dial. G. *jauchert*, *jauchert*), *Gothonum* measure of land, yoke of beasts, couple; ON. *eykr* (= Teut.-*jaukiz*), Sw. *ȳkja* beast of draught; Skr. *yuj*, Gr. *ζευγνύναι*, L. *jungere*, Lith. *jungti* to yoke, couple, join, Skr. *yógas* union.

On the analogy of LUCK *sb.*1 from OE. *lac*, the modern standard form would be *yock*, which survives in certain (chiefly north-midland) districts. Orthographic evidence for the lengthening of the stem vowel (which began first in the inflected forms) appears in the latter part of the 14th century.]

**I.** 1. In various senses, used from ancient times, by which two animals, esp. oxen, are coupled together for drawing a plough or vehicle ; usually consisting of a somewhat curved or hollowed piece of wood fitted with 'bows' or hoops at the ends which are passed round the animals' necks, and having a ring or hook attached to the middle to which is fastened a chain or trace extending backward by which the plough or vehicle is drawn.

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) 2277 *Iugum*, ioc. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 267/34 *Iugum*, iuc. *Ibid.* 313/37 *Iugum*, ɜeoc. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21288 Pe carter self ieus crist, His hals ei ȝeok [v.r. ȝok, ȝoc] he has stabilist. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1, *Bikenne* 1. 1340 *Ayenb.* 169 *Les juges*, pe yokeres. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXXII. 3 A wylde beste in pe ȝoke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 131 Hou that an Oxe his yok hath bore For thing that schilde him noght availe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xvi. 1615 He gert bestis vndyr ȝok [v.r. ȝoke] Thrid broddis sare and mony knok. 1483-4 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 To lere to make his yokes, oxe-bowes, stooles, and all maner of plough-geare. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 5 The foole off an asse vsed to the yocke. 1534 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 6 Ye plow and all belonging thertu, cheyns, yowes and all other. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxix. 10 Canst thou bynde ye yocke about him in thy forowes? 1563 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 169 Four yoake fat oxen. 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 121 Plowe harneses Cheynes and Yockes to yt belonginge. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. 1. 263 In time the savage bull doth bear the yoke. 1641 in *Trans. Devon Assoc.* (1907) I. 232 Beasts that have bine used to the yoake. 1697 DAVDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 207 Let 'em...never know The taming Yoak, or draw the crooked Plough. 1708-48 THOM. ROM *Spring* 38 There, unrefusing, to the harness'd yoke They lend their shoulder and begin their toil. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 194 In England the custom is to attach the yoke round the neck by a hoop of alder, or of elm, fixed under it, which, passing through the yoke, is then fastened to the upper part with buttons, or pegs, upon the ends of the hoop, which is called a bow. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 107 It is a question, whether it is most advantageous to work oxen by the collar or harness single, or in double yoke. 1892 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xii, We were in the yoke soon after daybreak. 1880 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 40 The wild team Which love thee, yearning for the yoke. 1898 YOULE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict. s.v.*, Yokes are required for bullock draught, and are used either for pole or trace.

b. A similar appliance anciently placed on the neck of a captive or conquered enemy as among the ancient Romans and others, a symbol of this consisting of two spears fixed upright in the ground with another on the top of them, under which vanquished enemies were compelled to pass.

*a* 1000 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 105/7 *Hoia, arcus, uel* ɜeoc. *c* 1050 *Ibid.* 536/38 *Hoiis*, iuc ob. *c* swutuge. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 101 Ye sal put your cragis in ane yoik to be ane perpetuel takyn that ȝe ar vencust be vs. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. XXVIII. 107 Hine, pleasure was, they should passe al under the yoke or gallowes. 1649 *Aleman* 151 They shall have Oaks for a yoke. 1720 ODELL tr. *Verstet's Rom. Rep.* II. 12. 93 Jugurtha grants the Romans Life and Liberty but upon Condition they shall pass under the Yoke. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* XXII. 209 His army was routed, and passed under the yoke.

c. A figure or representation of a yoke.

*Stone yoke*, an ancient Mexican carving representing a yoke, supposed to have been placed on the necks of victims when sacrificed.

*c* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII*, 8 b, Garmentes...trauessed with cloth of gold, cut in Pomegranettes and yokes, stryuged after the facion of Spaygne. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 336/2 He beareth Vert, a Yoke. 1899 *Smithsonian Rep.* 41 A beautiful example of a sculptured stone yoke, material.

**2.** A wooden frame or collar fitted on the neck of a hog or other animal, to prevent it from breaking through or leaping over a hedge, fence, etc.

1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Strong yoke for a hog. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 278 A *Yoak*, an instrument... to put on Swine or other unruly Creatures, to keep them from running through Hedges. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss. s.v.*, I have never seen a pig yoked, but yokes are still in common use for cattle and sheep ; and I have, on one occasion at least, seen a number of hens all wearing yokes.

**3.** A frame fitted to the neck and shoulders of a person for carrying a pair of pails, baskets, etc.

*c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iii. (1903) 383, I have seene men ...carry the milke in two payles fastned to a wooden yoke before them. *c* 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033, A yoak of milk, two pailes. 1881 *Leeds Mercury Weekly Suppl.* 1 Jan. 8/8 Whenever to rest she her buckets set down, She jinkled her yokes to and fro. 1896 HARDY *Tribberta* i, The speaker, who had been carrying a pair of pails on a yoke, deposited them upon the edge of the pavement.

**b.** A part of a garment, made to fit the shoulders (or the hips), and supporting the depending parts, often of double thickness, of special material, or particularly ornamented.

1882 CALDERALE & SEWARD *Dict. Needlework* 527 *Yokes.*—These are headings, or shaped bands, into which plaitings or gatherings of garments are sewn, and which are so cut as to fit either the shoulders or the hips, and from which the rest of the bodice, nightdress, skirt, or sleeve, as the case is to depend. 1891 *Truth* 10 Dec. 1240/2 The front [of a teagown] was all white satin,...with a yoke of gold and white embroidery. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 5/3 Still his yoke is a plain piece, sometimes, however, covered with embroidery, that is moulded to the figure below the waist.

**4.** Applied to various objects resembling the yoke of a plough.

e. g. +1 ridge of hill connecting two peaks (after L. *jugum*), an arched convex frame, timber, bar, etc. (see quots.). 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* XXXVII. 24, I stiede vp the heiȝtis of mounteynes, ȝokes [*1388* *litter* ...] of Libanye. 1589 CANTON *Faykes of A.* II. XXVIII. 130 Leuers of yron youkes for bygges to make with. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 84 The Vine keeper or dresser ought to make yokes and set vp his proppes, and make euen his vokes. 1864 WEBSTER, *Yoke*...A frame or convex piece by which a bell is hung for ringing it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Yoke*...A branching coupling-section, connecting two pipes with a single one, as the hot and cold water pipes with a single pipe for a shower-bath. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Ft.*, *Yokes*, sheet sawn timbers placed across blast for supplying pump trees. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 242/1 The fulcula or lyre consisted of a resonant box, having 2 yoke (*jugum* or *frontiliuum*) instead of a neck. 1894 *Nature* 22 Nov. XXVII. 584/1 The yoke, which joins the [magnet] limbs together and conducts the flux between them.

**5.** *Naut.* A board or bar fixed transversely to the head of the rudder, and having two cords or ropes (*yoke-lines*) attached for steering : see also quots. 1627, 1769.

*a* 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301). 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea. Gram.* (ed. 4) 41 A yoke is when the Sea is so rough as that men cannot governe the Helme with their hands, and then they cease it block to the Helme on each side at the end, and reeuing two fals thorow them like Gunners Tackles brings them to the ships side, and so some being at the one side of the Helme, and other, they steare her with much more ease than they can with a single rope with a double Tyrne about the Helme. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Yoke*, a name formerly given to the tiller, when communicating with two blocks or sheaves affixed to the inner end of the tiller. It is now applied to a small board or bar which crosses the upper end of a boat's rudder at right angles. 1792 *Trial. Hy. Comm.* XLVII. 364/1 Those Ships that have no Roundhouse, their Rudder should run up, and steer with a Yoke abaft the Rudder Head. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, The bowman had charge of the boat-hook and painter, and the coxswain of the rudder, yoke, and stern-sheets.

**II.** *b. transf.* A pair of animals, esp. oxen, that are or may be coupled by a yoke.

In this sense the plural after a numeral is often *yoke*.

688-95 *Laws of Ine* lx. (Liebermann) 116 Se cnorl se ðe hæfð oðres ȝeoht [v.r. ȝeoc] ahyrod...ȝife ealle. *c* 1000

*Trin. Coll. Hom.* 198 Half hundre ȝokes of oxen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 66, I hat ȝerned ȝe hat ȝokkes of oxen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 210 Fyfty ȝok of oxine. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xlii. 12 A M. ȝock oxen [1539 *Gt. Bible* a M. youck of oxen]. 1552 in Phillipps *Wills* (1880) 201, I wyll that thon my son, and William my sun, shall have every of them..a ȝoocke of Oxyn. 1668 *Shropshire-worthy Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 173 One yocke of draft oxen, viijli xiijs iiijd. 1680 F. Brooke tr. *La Blanc's Trav.* 18 A deep well whence they draw water, with a wheel turned round by a yoke of Bulls. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wergins*, One of them required 9 yoke of oxen to draw it. 1829 Bantlett *Keight's Cal. MS.* 408 We..saw men plowing, sometimes with a camel, and oftener with a yoke of cattle.

† **b.** *gen.* A pair, couple. *Obs.*

*c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 224 Þe bridde ȝok þat Poul forbedip, is chiding and envie. 1382 — *Wks.* (1880) 254 Þis first ȝoke bigynnip wiþ paciens. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* II. 1. 281 These that accuse him in his intent towards our wives, are a yoake of his discarded men.

**6.** One-fourth of a Suling, about 50 or 60 acres (cf. Oxgang as ¼ of a plough-land); hence, later, applied vaguely to small manors. (Cf. Yokelet.) Kent.

*837 Kent. Charters* 49 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 450, xvi ȝioc æt Bedelondes. *c* 1050 *Agr. Doc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 404/2 Iuger, huc. 1653 in Hasted *Hist. Kent* (1782) I. 525 [In the survey of Milton manor, taken anno 1653, there is mention made, as held of that manour, of the] yoke of Hamons sate Deane. [*Note*, Upon these hills, the smaller manors are frequently called *yokes*.] 1778 Shrubsole & Denne *Hist. Rech.* 44 The originals..mention certain persons by name, with the number of yokes and acres belonging to them. 1886 *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 167 The yoke of Henwood or Hewitt..at the east end of the town [of Ashford] extended into Willesboro'.

**7.** A spell of work at the plough (cf. Yoking *vbl. sb.* 4). *local* (Kent).

1796 Born *Agric. Kent* 157 An acre a day is the common yoke for eight or ten acres in wet, heavy, land, where four horses would plough an acre and a quarter. 1899 *Ibid.* (ed. 9) 283 When two yokes are made in a day, which is the usual practice of East Kent, the time of going to work is at six o'clock in the morning, returning home at ten; and then going out again at one, and returning at six.

**III. 8.** *fig.* or in fig. phr., denoting servitude, subjection, restraint, humiliation, oppression, etc.

*c* 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xix. § 1 Æala, ofermodan, hwi ȝe wilnigen þæt ȝe underlutan mid eowrum swiran þæt deadlice ȝeoc. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xxix. 200 Ælc ðara þe sin under Satanes ȝeoce hlafordscipes. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 29 Nimaþ min ȝeoc ofer eow. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 73 So fe.. Cristes ȝeoc wile beren, and forlat al fe worold. *c* 1200 Ormin 4045 þatt tanne skollhte itt leesdi ben Fra dojesn ȝeoc. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 228 What kynne scrauntis ben vndir ȝook of seruage deme ȝe, þese lordis worþi alle manere honour or worschipe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 357 He brouȝte alle þe kynges þat were nyȝ hym under his ȝok. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iv. I. 490 What euer scrauntis ben vndir hem, deeme þei hem lordis worthi al honour. *c* 1450 Caighaye *Life St. Gilbert* 50 Þe ȝok of al his birden was leid in his nek. 1540 *Compl. Scot. tr.* 37 Tyll al them þat ar vnder ressaue the ȝoik and the confessione of crist. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 68 This day thy heid is in the ȝock. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* I. i. 63 He circumcised with the knife, and brought the yoke the Enemies of Rome. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 610/2 Having quite shaken of theyr yoke, and broken the bandes of theyre obedience. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 1. 719 If [*sc.* a cattle] became a most grievous yoke unto the neighbour Inhabitants. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xi. xxxiv, Impudent Boldness! which can..make the Bond of Sweetness their prisonce, To bind the loose yoake. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 36 ♀ 1 Termagant Wives who make Wedlock a Yoke. 1736 Burke *Subl. & Beaut.* Introd., In tying us down to the disagreeable yoke of our reason. 1837 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. iv. (1862) 36 The weary yoke of business. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 420 The Restoration emancipated thousands of minds from a yoke which had become insupportable. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* I. ii. 22 His province ..had never yet submitted to the Norman yoke.

**b.** With various other implications, as of connexion, co-operation, labour, etc.; in reference to marriage, combining the ideas of union or co-operation and subjection or restraint.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Cor.* vi. 14 Nyle ȝe lede ȝok [Vulg. *iugum ducere*] with vnfeiþful men. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 818* (Dubl. MS.), He.. fair enformed pain of fight & fetez of armes For ȝepoot in hys yrone ȝoke ȝarly to drawe. *c* 1483 Clanvowe *Cuckow & Night.* 140 Myn entent is neither for to dye, Ne, whyl I live, in loves yok to draw. *c* 1520 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4 Of mariage. 1572 *Gude & Godlie Ballatis* (Camden) I. 158 Tyll..þat youkes of wedlokke ly in my nekke as ȝyt dose now in yours. 1595 Edm. *Decades* (Arb.) 128 We haue ben bound with the ȝoake of holy matrimonie. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 23 Companions..Whose soules doe beare an equal yoke of loue. 1625 Fuller *Good Th. to God* 37, 3 It is therefore some comfort that I draw in the same Yoak with my Neighbours. 1867 Davidge *Æneis* iv. 29 Were I not resolv'd against the Yoke Of hapless Marriage. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vi. 188 If then needs must love be yoked with it Close to the chariot of his freedom. 1885 Haggard *K. Sol. Mines* I, Well I had better come to the yoke [*i. e.* begin my task].

**9.** *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *yoke-bar, -bow, -gear, -peg, -pin, -ring, -work*; (sense 3) *yoke-shoulder-ing* adj.; (sense 3 b) *yoke-bodice, -collar, front, piece*; **yoke-arbor** (see quot.); **yoke-band** (= Gr. ζυγόδεσμον), a band for fastening the yoke to the pole; † **yoke-bone**, the jugal or malar bone of the cheek, forming part of the zygomatic arch; † **yoke-devils** *sb. pl.* (*nonce-wd.*), companion devils; **yoke-elm**, a name for the hornbeam, from the wood being used for yokes, and the leaves resembling those of the elm; **yoke-horse** (= Gr. ζύγιος ἵππος), a horse yoked to another; **yoke-line** *Naut.*, each of the two cords or ropes attached to a yoke (sense 4 b) for steering; **yoke-skey** *S. Africa*, = Skey *sb.*²; **yoke-steed** = *yoke-horse*; **yoke-stick**, (*a*) = sense 1; (*b*) = sense 3; (*c*) a stick, or one of two crossed sticks, attached to an animal's neck (cf. sense 2); **yoke-strap, -thong** = *yoke-band*; **yoke-tood** *a.*, having the toes joined together in pairs, as scansorial birds; zygodactylous; **yoke-tree**, † (*a*) = *yoke-elm*; (*b*) the body or main part of a yoke.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Yoke-arbor**, a form of double journal-box for pulley-spindles, in which a curved branch extending from one bearing to the other on each side of the pulley serves to protect the shaft from being chafed or otherwise injured. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 270/2 *Subiugium iorum*,.. the yoke thong, or ȝoke band. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 452 Then they bound out the yoke-band, nine cubits in length, along with the yoke. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 320 The ȝoke-bars..are made of hard-wood. 1888 *Jern-Kell's Weekly* 4 May 266/3 A serviceable navvy dress ȝoke bodice, with belt. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 755 The first paire of the vpper Lip..ariseth from the vtter seame of the Iugall or ȝoke-bone. 1634 T. Johnson tr. *Parey's Chirurgery*, v. xi. (1678) 127 There is a cleft under the yoke-bone ascending into the orb of the eye. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Int. 289 *Iungula*, ȝeocbogn. 1587 Mascall *Gov. Cattle* (1627) 191 Ouer the yoke bow there is a crowne set, with a sole and a with, which is made like a yoke bowe. 1891 Merrimtin *Horses of Achilles* 13 Poet. Wks. (1912) 360 All their harness-mates in the yoke-side sent off to the right hand to the breadth of the yoke-bow. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Apr. 8/5 A "yoke collar of fine Irish lace. 1599 Shake. *Hen. V.* II. ii. 60 Treason, and murther, ever kept together, As two ȝoake diuels sworne to eythers purpose. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict. s.*, Yoke-elm, *un Charme, sorte d'Arbre de bois dur.* 1611 Cotgr., Orme, Witch *Reine des Forests*, the Yoke-elm. Gard'ner who has a fence of Yoke-Elms. 1768 T. Nugent *Trav. Germany* II. 89 A beech or elder, a yoke-elm, an aspin and a crab. 1902 Lovett-Yeats *Training Ways*, We had reined many a yoke-elm. 1888 *Jern-Kell's Weekly* 4 May 266/3 Six chemises, made with pointed ȝoke fronts. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1182 The ȝoke-geer of this cart. 1892 H. Walsh *Artichoke, Cloudesley* I. xiii, Now you, sir, nor your ȝoke-horse,..shall eat my goods. 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* xvi, The fat midshipman..watching me critically, handled the "yokelines. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A ȝoke stycke, *fusticulus*. 1611 R. G. Lumsden *Hunter's Life Sp. Afr.* 31 Passing through each end of the yoke, at distances of 18 inches from one another, are two parallel bars of tough wood about 18 inches in length; these are called ȝoke-keys. In ȝoke spanning, the yoke is placed on the back of the neck of the ox, with one of these keys on either side. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* iii. 3 Ben-Hur handled the ȝoke-lines. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A ȝoke stycke, *fusticulus*. 1611 R. G. Lumsden *Hunter's Life Sp. Afr.* 31 Passing through each end of the yoke, at distances of 18 inches from one another, are two parallel bars of tough wood about 18 inches in length; these are called ȝoke-keys. In ȝoke spanning, the yoke is placed on the back of the neck of the ox, with one of these keys on either side. 1880 L. Wallace *Ben Hur* iii. 3 Ben-Hur handled the ȝoke-lines. 1897 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 6/3 The Boers..had left behind them..ȝoke-oxen, waggons, and ammunition. 1837 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Knights* II. iii. May I die,.. And be cut into ȝoke-straps and traces. 1585 "Yoke-thong [see Ox-yoke *sb.*] 1830 Yoke-tood [see Zygodactyl *a.*] 1875 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 199 The parrots..are yoke-toed. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 149 *Carpinus*,..a kind of tree, called in some time the ȝoke tree, the wood whereof was esteemed for clefe. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 324 The draught-chains, hooked to the lever, and passed under the pulleys of the yoke-trees. 1890 Crawfurd *Round Cal. to Portsmouth* 32 One way we seem and even come—but they too do their share of ȝoke-work—harnessed to the net.

**Yoke** (yōuk), *v.* Forms: see the sb.; also † *pa. pple.* ȝeiuked, ȝ *pa. t.* ȝookode, ȝogede, 4 oak, *pa. pple.* ȝ-ȝoket, *y-yokyd*, *Sc.* ȝakkit, 5 *pa. pple.* ȝeokyn, 6 Sc. ȝuik, *pa. pple.* ȝooked. [OE. *ȝeocian*, f. ȝeoc Yoke *sb.*]

**1.** *trans.* To put a yoke on (a pair of draught-animals, etc.); to couple with a yoke. Also with *up* (? *Colloq.*).

*a* 2000 *Colleg. Æthric* in Wr.-Wülcker 90 *Iunctis bobus*, ȝeiukodan oxan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* (Z.) 174 *Iungo*, ic iucige þe, ic ȝeoce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 To ȝeoke, *iugare*. 1551 Steeris well y-ȝokyd. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvi. 269 For o Grifoun there wil bere, fleyinge to his Nest, a gret Hors or a Cowe yoked to ederes, al thei gon at the Plouȝhe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 902 Ȝyuerly the ȝepe knight ȝokit hom belyue, Fayht him into ploghe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Ȝoke beestys (*S. ȝok, P. ȝockyn, W. ȝoken*), *iugo*. 1530 Palsgr. 782 a Yoke I yoke a teame, for I wyll go to the plough this mornyng. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* II. 166 It was cautioned in the Law not to yoake an Oxe, and an Asse together. 1794 *Sweet Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1735 V. 11. 100, I shall..learn to consulter my driver, the road I am in, and with whom I am yoked. 1775 *Ainsw. Reg., Chron.* 989 The prisoners were ordered to be yoked. 1859 H. Kingsley *Hamlyn xxiii*, A bullock-driver yoking-up his beast. 1880 Mark Twain *Tramp Abr.* xi, A peasant's cart,..drawn by a small cow and a smaller donkey yoked together.

**2.** To attach (a draught-animal) *to* a plough or vehicle (orig. with a yoke); to 'put in', 'put to'.

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 390, 332 Scho had bulls wilde and tame, þat scho nocht trewit myght ȝakkit be In carte, And ȝyrfl it happyt þat hai Var ȝokit, suld ryne away. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxiii(1) (Bodl. MS.), A ȝonge cowe þat is able to be ȝoked [*ed.* 1495 ȝockid] to drawe at plowȝ. *c* 1400 *Prose Life Alex.* 78 We tille na lande,..he ȝokes noþer oxe ne horse in plughe ne in carte. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 Þe bulles mekely stodyn stylle, tyll þay had ȝokon hym yn þe wayne. 1535 Coverdale *1 Sam.* vi. 7 Take two mylche kyne,..and ȝooke them to ye cart. 1692 J. Nicols *Diary* (Bann. Club) 12 The hangman rydand on ane hors befoir him ȝockit in that cairt. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 69 Produces the Plough, and yoke the sturdy Steer. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 199 Lions have been yoked to the chariots of conquerors. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxiii, They yoked in their dogs in less than two minutes. 1871 C. Gibson *For Lack of Gold* xvii, Four fresh horses which had been 'yoked' at Abbotsford. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* II, Twice a year regularly she yoked her mule to her cart and drove into Grosseto.

**b.** with the plough or vehicle as object.

*a* 1568 *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* 1. (Bann. MS.) He yokkit his pluch vpoun the plane. 1652 *Rec. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VI. 37 He yocked the cairt wherein Cokstouns charetour kist was caried away. 1658 A. Henderson *Serm., Ps. cxxix.* 3 (1867) 258 Without his license they plough cannot be yoked. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* xii. 433 These on their Horses vault, those yoke the Car. *c* 1774 Fergusson *Rantin Content* 65 The chaise is yoke in a trice. 1869 Gibbon *Robin Gray* xiii, He said he would 'yoke the cart'. 1872 Ellis *Catullus* lv. 18 Rhesus' chariot yok'd to snowy coursers.

**c.** *gen.* To attach, put on or in (as a yoke).

*c* 1848 Keegan *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 170 The Scotchman.. 'yoked on' his waggon, and, with a loud crack, swung it with the martial strains of the Highland Pibroch. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxiv. (1856) 196 By the time I had yoked my neck in its straps.

**3.** To fasten a yoke round the neck of (a hog or other animal); see Yoke *sb.* 2.

1530 Palsgr. 786/2 You muste yoke your hogge, for he ronneth thorowe every hedge. 1607 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 442 That all thinhabitaunts of the said Towne doe yoke ring their swine sufficiently. 1657 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee, etc.* Ep. Ddr. 63 b, So yoking and ringing the wild Hogs amongst them..that they might not break up Inclosures, or down the walls of the vineyard of the Lord. 1708 in *Hist. Anc. Chapel Stretford* (Chetham Soc.) II. 84 Wm. Mosse for not yoaking his swine..10 shillings. 1725 Court-quitt in *Congr. Globe* Jan. App. 145/2 If they think it ..a duty..to yoke the geese to keep them from going in washing in violation of the Sabbath. 1886 [see Yoke *sb.* 2].

**4.** To suspend (a bell) on a yoke (see Yoke *sb.* 4, quot. 1864).

1702 in W. S. Banks *Walks Yorksh., Wakefield* etc. (1871) 44 John Hinchliff for yoaking ye bell 2 18 6.

**5.** *Mining.* To mark out (a claim) with 'yokings' (see Yoking *vbl. sb.* 6).

† 1756 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (1890) 96 All Grounds, as Crosses and Holes that be not stowed nor yoked lawfully. 1664 [see Stowce].

**6.** *trans.* To bring into or hold in subjection or servitude; to subjugate, oppress. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

*c* 1295 *Old Age* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 180 Ȝyf þe wreche is ȝeoc of ȝeoc wiþ last an luþer lore. *a* 1340 Shelton *Cel. Choice* 325 Þre pere people they yoke With sommons and citacyons. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 81 b, Whill they were yoked by the thirtie tyrannes, and after warde conquered and subdued by Philippus. 1565 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 183 With traditionis of men we ar yokkit ouir lang. 1611 Cotgr. *s.v. Fers.* iv. I, All Rhodes is yoakt, and stoopes to Soliman. 1693 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 29 The Normans, who..would have yoaked the English under their tongue, as they did under their command. 1847 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Exp.* i. lviii. (1739) 106 He was fain to yoke his lawless will under the grand Chatter. 1867 Milton *P. L.* x. 307 Xerxes, the Liberties of Greece to yoke, From which a spot'd enfeebling feminacy held me yok't Her Bond-slave. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 238 As well he yok'd by despotism's hand, As wed at large in Britain's chaste and free.

**7.** *fig.* To join, link, couple, connect, associate; † *occas.* to embrace.

*c* 1205 Lay. 1872 Heo ȝeokeden [*c* 1275 ȝogede] heora ermes & ȝarweden heom seoluan. *a* 1400 *Pistyr* (1891) 111 Oak noust me to gyders with ȝis mene. 1490 *Eneydos* xxiv. 89 Whles that the sterres ben in theyr courses well yocked. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Tua Marrit Women* 220 [He] with a ȝoldin ȝerd, dois ȝolk me in armys. 1552 Huloet *Bk. Questioners* § 53 Wks. (Arb.) 87 The matrimonie to be dissoluit, and the two harlotis to be ȝokit vp in a prætendit band of matrimonie. *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 313 Be the ȝoung counsell of the Earle of Glencairnis was ȝokit togither. 1818 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 419 Oh then,.. my Name Be ȝoak'd with his, that can no more indure A Name vnyoak'd than is the Name of Vice. 1876 Le vert is carefull to approoue our sinceritie to God .. by yoking answerable practise to our profession. 1894 *Realistic Hist.* III. 191 The two Houses (as it were) yoked together goe along it. 1638 Fairley *Herod Emhl.*, 2, Foure Elements in this my body are All yoakt in one. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xiv, Sae many royal boroughs yoked on end to end, like roques of nowt. 1883 T. Holland *Vain Talks* iii. 67 Ambition, when yoked with genius. 1889 J.N. Argyll *Reign of Law* ii. 103 It often happens that some common law is yoked to extraordinary conditions. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxiv. 420 Cato was one of those better natured men whom revolution yokes so often with base companionship.

**b.** With reference to marriage: only in *pa. pple.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 67 Thinke euery bearded fellow that's but yoak'd May draw with you. 1638 Sanderson *Serm.* 364 He that is yoaked with a wife must not put her away. 1728 Swale *Sport. No.* 455 p. 3 I have the Misfortune to be yok'd to a young Lass. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* vii. 340 My bride, My wife, my life. O we will walk this world, Yoked in all exercise of noble end.

**c.** To join or couple the ridges in ploughing.

1812 Soutbe *Agric. Banff* App. 8s We are directed to yoke awal and bear-root, that is to plow the ridges by pairs. *Ibid.*, We must take care not to yoke twice one way, otherwise it will impoverish the one half, and thicken the other too much. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 472 Another mode of ploughing land from the flat surface is *casting* or *yoking* or *coupling* the ridges.

**8.** *intr.* (for *refl.*) To join, associate oneself, be or become connected or linked. *Now rare.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lv. 31 Keip you fra haristtis nycht and day; Thay sall repent quha with thame 3ockis. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, v. iii. That galling grief and I may yoke in one. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 57 You must enquire your way, ...with a gentler spirit, Or never be so Noble as a Consull, Nor yoake with him for Tribune. 1851 Tennyson *To the Queen* 10 The care That yokes with empire.

**b.** with reference to the married state.

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. i. 23 God forbid, that I should wish them sever'd, Whom God hath ioyn'd together: I, and 'twere pittie, to sunder them, That yoake so well together. 1594 Fletcher *Rule a Wife*, i. iv, *Alt.* Shee would faine marry. 1. *Lady*... Why would she yoke with?

**9.** *intr.* To join battle, engage (*with* an enemy); to engage in a contest or dispute; rarely *trans.* to engage in dispute with, attack. *Sc.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 313 Syne he and tha hes 3okkit sone togidder In plane battell. 1581 A. Hall *Hand* v. 92 We assone see gee to the backe, the dull and fearful foke, than hardie souldiors in the field, who wishe with foes to yoke. 1587 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xix. 22 Ioke when we will, I hope ye sall him seik. 1646 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 398 The orthodoxe and heterodoxe partie will yoke about it with all their strength. 1822 Chalmers in *Hanna Mem.* (1850) I. 360, I...yoked upon him, and posed him well with questions. 1901 N. Munro *Doom Castle* xv, She yoked himsel' on his lyling the lawsie.

**10.** *trans.* To set (a person or thing) to work or service (usually consciously *fig.* from 7); *dial.* to urge to attack, set (a dog) upon a person.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 116 There's Ulysses, and old Nestor...yoke you like draft-Oxen, and make you plough vp the warre. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. cxiv. 285 He hath yoked me to work, to wrestle with Christ's love. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 98 Bishops either will cause stone him, Or else yoak butcher dogs upon him. 1829 Maclagan in Chambers *Pop. Scot. Poems* (1870) 152 To count, his man and Tam were yoked, Ten hunder thousand tatties. 1897 Coleridge *Let. to H. Coleridge* 3 Apr., Mere natural qualities, unless not be deconstructed until they are broken in and yoked to the plough of Reason. 1869 Dr. Angyll *Reign of Law* iii. 128 It is by wisdom and knowledge that the Forces of Nature...are yoked to service. 1910 W. R. Nicoll *Bound of Clock* xv. 230 He yoked his great imagination to constant labour.

**11.** *intr.* To engage vigorously in some occupation; to set to work, set to; to put one's hands *to*; to set *on* a person.

1554 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 89 ('Oh!' said Angus, 'that I had bene my white goss-hawk: we should then all) yoke [*at once*]. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. xciv. 223 O, if I could yoke in amongst the thick of angels and seraphims and now-glorified saints! 1685 Peden *Let. to Prisoners* July, He is the easiest merchant ever the people of God yoked with. 1788 Boss *Helenore* 20 Right tapsalie yoked to the pleasing feast. 1816 Chalmers in *Hanna Mem.* (1850) II. 83, I yoked to the review of 'Jones'. 1818 *Blair.* 444 In homely phrase...she yoked to the reading of the Bible upon that principle. 1823 Mrs. E. Logan *St. Johnstoun* ix, Wi' that they a' yoked to me, and hoisted me ower into the cobble. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 74 To *Yoke*, to commence. 1891 Macilwain *Cowan. Annandale* xi, They yoked on the man as he was riding slang in his carriage.

**Yoke:** see Yolk, Yuke.

**Yo'k(e)able,** *a. rare.* [f. Yoke *v.* + -able.] Capable of being or adapted to be yoked. Hence **Yo'keableness** (in quot., readiness to be held in subjection, submissiveness).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 Jokabylle, *ingalis.* 1621 Coton., *Accapitable*, yokeable, gentle. 1656 Blount *Wks.* (1679) 181 Yokeableness, or pliableness and tractableness to be ordered

**Yokeage** (yōu·kėdʒ). *U. S.* = Rokeage, q.v.

**Yoked** (yōukt, *poet.* yō·kėd), *ppl. a.* [f. Yoke *v.* or *sb.* + -ed.]

**1.** Coupled by a yoke, as a pair of draught-animals; also, attached to a vehicle or plough, as a draught-animal.

*c* 1380 Henryson *Test. Cress.* 209 This goldin Cart.. Four 3okkit steidis .. throw the Spheiris drew. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* ii. 919 He was nother horse no mare, nor yet yokyd now. *c* 1550 Carmo *Hatt. wks.* 54 A foole of an Oxe looked on. 1568 Howell *Ark. Amitie* 24 The yoked Oxe doth smell his strawie stall. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 42 The Segentrions call them *Tyrones*, that is yoked Oxen. 1716 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 86 John Gregor cited for going with his yoked horse through the country on the Sabbath day. 1819 Chalmers *Serm., Tod 1v. 30–31*, 124 The yoked and the tortured negro is compelled to yield to the whip of the overseer. 1902 Fairbairn *Philos. Chr. Relig.* ii. iv. 384 The yoked oxen plough the fields.

**2.** Connected, coupled, linked; in *Bot.* said of a leaf consisting of one or more pairs of opposite leaflets; now called Conjugate (*a.* 4 a), Jugate (*a.* 1).

1551 T. Wilson *Logic* Kv, Yoked wordes whiche beyng derlued of one, are chaunged in the spealyng. 1807 J. E. Smith *Phys. Brit.* (1814) 3 *Impari-pinnatus*, compounded, or yoked [leaf], consists of only a pair of *pinnæ* or leaflets, and is much the same as *binatum*. 1829 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 70 It is said to be simply yoked, when one pair only of opposite leaflets, is supported on the common foot-stalk. ..Double-yoked—when there are two pairs, and so on.

**3.** Carried on a yoke, as a pail; furnished with a yoke, as a garment: see Yoke *sb.* 3, 3 b.

1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* Introd. 6 At the well-plean and comely women carrying yoked buckets. 1913 *Pinx Pictorial* No. 113. 78/3 With an original trimming of diamanté on the yoked back and down the fronts.

**Yoke-fellow** (yōu·kfelōu). [f. Yoke *sb.* + Fellow *sb.*, transl. Gr. σύζυγος.]

**1.** A person 'yoked' or associated with another, esp. in some work or occupation; a fellow-worker; an associate or partner, esp. in a task.

1526 Tindale *Phil.* iv. 3 Yee and I beseche the faythfull yockefelowe, helpe the wemen which labored with me in the gospell. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xli, Ha told's me to my yoakefelow should dye. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, ii. iii. 56 Yoke-fellowes in Armes, let vs to France. *a* 1659 Br. Hacewell *Serm.* (1671) 1. 61 We must not...be Yoke-fellows with them in their Religion. 1664 Butler *Hud.* ii. i. 672, I know you cannot think me fit, To be th' Yoke-fellow of your Wit. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* lvi, 'Mr. Corsand,' said Glossin to the other yoke-fellow of justice [after Shaks. *Lear* iii. vi. 39], 'your most humble servant.' 1850 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* iv. I. 193 This was the second time that these reluctant yoke-fellows had been joined together in public office. 1908 *CA. Times* 5 June 768/1 An able, Catholic-minded and devout Prince having for his yoke-fellow a resolute and saintly Primate.

**b.** Applied to things.

1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 411/1 Doctrine & an honest & godly life, are two yokefelows y^t cannot be parted. 1609 Hanmer *Wks Saint xv.* 140 Unwilling in the Soul to move her yoak-fellow, further then the enforcing Law of Nature...commands. 1675 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* (1713) 18 Sin is Satan's Yoke-fellow, the soul and the body. 1852 H. Rogers *Essays* (1874) I. vii. 378 Unhappy mind!.. so strictly is it united to that mad yokefellow, Matter...that it can find no rest but by his aid. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 211 The castle..still crowns the height as no unworthy yokefellow of its ecclesiastical neighbour.

**2.** *spec.* A person joined in marriage to another; a husband or wife; spouse.

1583 Babington *Comp'd. advic.* (1874) 68 This fast..is good to be vsed..of such as be absent from their yockefelows, & prycked to fyshlynes. 1609 Winthrop *Lett. to Wyfe in New Eng.* (1894) 1. 1 My loving

**Yo·king**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That yokes, in various senses: see the verb.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 302 And on his neck her yoking armes she throwes. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. xiii. 21 An improper and ill-yoking couple. 1645 — *Tetrach. Matr.* v. 31 What can be more..disparaging to the cow'nant of love.. then to bee made the yoking pedagogue of new severities?

**Yokle**, obs. var. of IOKLE, icicle.

**†Yoklet**, *Obs.* Also joclet. [OE. *geocled, iocled, -let, -leta, I. geoc* YOKE *sb.* with obscure second element.] In Kent, A small manor. (Cf. YOKE *sb.* 6.)

809 in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 455 *Mediam partem unius mansiunculæ, id est an geocled.* 822, 832 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 469, 476 Iocled, Iocleta. 1704 *Dict. Rusticum, Yoclet*, is a little Farm, or Mannor, called in some parts of Kent a Yoklet, as requiring but a small Yoke of Oxen to Till it.

**Yokohama** (yōkohā·ma). The name of a city in Japan, used as a specific epithet (see quots.); also as *sb.* (*ellipt.*).

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Yokohama Crape*, this is a very fine, close make of Crape, otherwise known as Canton Crape. . The Yokohama is the finest of all descriptions of Crape, and the most durable in wear. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 646/1 Long-tailed fowls, under the ..names of Yokohama or Phœnix fowls, or Shinotawaro fowls, are . varieties recently introduced from Japan. 1902 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) X. 227/1 A domesticated breed of jungle-fowl known as the 'Japanese long-tailed fowls' or as 'Yokohamas'.

**Yökul**, variant of JÖKUL.

1818 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* II. p. viii, The most extensive of all the Icelandic Yökuls is that called Klofa Yökul.

**Yoky** (yō·ki), *a. rare.* Also 7 -ie. [f. YOKE *sb.* + -Y¹.] **a.** Having, or coupled by, a yoke; yoked. **b.** Consisting of or constituting a yoke.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* A. & V. xiii. 3 Horses, A chariot..Drawn by the strength of yoky dragons' necks. c 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 382 Their manes . felt through the yoke spines, Ruthfully rull'd and defil'd. 1866 *Contemp. Rlsh. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 61 Hoslops these thundring Instruments upon the unconstant wheeles of yokie beasts.

**Yol**, 3ol, obs. forms of YULE.

**Yold** (e, 3old (e: see YIELD *v.*, YULE.

**Yolden, yold**, *pa. pple.* and *a. Obs. exc. Sc.* Forms: see YIELD *v.* A. 3. [pa. pple. of YIELD *v.*]

**†1.** Surrendered (as a prisoner); hence, submissive. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 96 With lok doun cast & vmbele & yoldyn chere. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Yolde manne, *yn werre, dedicius.* 1513-58 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. vii. 787, I wylle neuer aryse vntyll ye take me as yolden & recreaunt. a 1547 SURREY *Eccles.* iv. 107 The yolden goost His mercy doth requyre. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* v. 86 His promis keaping towards ye yelden, his clemencie towardes prisoners.

**2.** Wearied, exhausted. *Sc.*

a 1568 DUNBAR *Two Married Women* 200 [He] with a yolden 3erd, dois 3olk me in armys. 1585 *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 287 For hir saik he was nocht yolden. 1856 M. J. WATSON *Cottager's Daw.* 69 O deed quo' William I am youden now.

**Yo·ldring, ye·ldring**. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also youldring, yowdring, yoldrin, yaldrin, -an, yeld(e)rin, yieldrin. [Variant of YOWLRING.] (Also *yellow y.*) A yellow-hammer.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Yeldring*, a yellow-hammer. North. a 1810 TANNAHILL *Midges dance aboon the burn* II, While weary yeldrins seem to wail Their little nestlings torn. 1825 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 37 Three yaldrin's eggs. 1827 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 700 Yowdring no more than a goss-hawk minds a yellow yoldring. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *A. Hagart's Househ.* v, The yellow yeldrin builds in dry banks.

**Yolo**, early var. of YAWL *v.*¹

1 a 1500 *Chester Plays* (Shaks. Soc.) xiii. 229 See, fellowe, for cokes soule! This freeke begines to reme and yole.

**Yols**: see YAWL *sb.*¹, YELM.

**Yolgh, 3olge**, obs. ff. YELLOW.

**Yolk** (yōk), **yelk** (yelk), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 3eolca, 3eolcoa, 3iolcca, 3 3eolke, 4 yholk(e, 4–5 3olke, 5 3olk, 7 yeolke, yolke, yowlk, yoalk(e, 8– *Sc.* yowk, (9 yoke), 7– yolk. *β.* 4–5  3elke, 4–7 yelke, 5 3elk, 7 yealk, 6– yelk. [OE. *geolca, geoleca, -oca, I. geolu* yellow.

The spelling *yelk* appears to have ceased to be frequent since the third quarter of the 19th century, but it is found in recent scientific and technical works. The pronunciation (yelk) survives locally; it is not clear during what period or to what extent it has been current in standard English.]

**1.** The yellow internal part of an egg, surrounded by the 'white' or albumen, and serving as nourishment for the young before it is hatched.

*a.* c 1000 *Sæchr. Metr.* 20. 70 Swa unlicost þe on mxe bið 3ioleca ormiddan. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Hænne mæge 3eolocan. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 40 Scawa nu on anum xge, hu þæt hwite ne bið 3emenged to þam 3eolcan. c 1290 *St. Michael* 615 in *S. Leg.* I. 317 Þe þe wyte of þe Eye goth a-boute þe yelke. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 6446 An xgge yholke. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xix (Bodl. MS.), Þe chiken is fered of þe white and ynorisched wiþ þe yolke. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 18 Take 3olkes of xyren þat harde bene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b vj b, Tempere it with clere wyne and with the yolkes of an egge. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* II. iv. D 1 b, Scauen and thirty yowlks of Barbarie hennes eggs. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiv. 67 The yeolke of the eggs . is the true sulphur. 1666 *Third Advt. to Painter* 18 An Addle-egg with double Yoalk. a 1756 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 158 Beat up the yolks of three eggs. 1842 TENNYSON *Audley Court* 94 A pasty costly-made, Where quail and pigeon, lark and leveret lay, . . with golden yolks imbedded and imbilled.

*β.* c 1325 *Glos. Ps. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 150 *La moiel*, a yelke. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 1. iii. 53 Wiþinne þe wounde leis þe yelke of an ey. 1580 WHITGIFT *Orig. Conf. Confidence* (1588) 468 Ouer the yelkes of egges. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. lxv. 895 Putting thereto the yelkes of two egs and a little saffron. a 1625 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* IV. i, Like to poch'd eggs That had the yelks sucket out. 1630 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxviii. (ed. 2) 150 That a Chicken is formed out of the yelk of the egge, .. the peculiar still opinion. c 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Sept. 1645, He abounded in things petrified, wallnuts, eggs in which y^e yeaik rattl'd. 1726 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters Nat. Wond* 81 The power of producing a copious supply of healthy and nutritious yolk is one of the most important qualities of wool-bearing animals. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yolk, Yelk*, a natural oily secretion or greasy substance in wool. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* viii. 165 The water is fouled by the grease, called the 'yok'. 1902 *Dundee Adv.* 17 May 5 [Wool] in 'the yoke'. . was only fetching about 4½d. a lb.

*attrib.* 1808 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 343 Eight pounds of yoak wool to the fleece.

**Yolk**, *sb.*² *local.* Also yoak, yoke. [f. next.] Hiccup.

c 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 II. 481 *Yoaks*, hiccup. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Yokes*.

**Yolk, yelk**, *v.* Obs. Also 3 yolke, 8– yock, yook, etc. [app. an alteration of *yex*, YEK (q. v.) with subsequent assimilation to *belk, belch* to belch. In mod. dials. *yolk, yoak, yock* are southwestern and *yeck* is Sc.] *intr.* To hiccup; also, to utter a short cough, as a sheep. Hence **Yolking, yelking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a. 1585 *MS. Ashmole* 208 II. 237 b, Whose vply locks and yolkinge voice Did make all stoute a feard. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 414 Thirst, Starving, Yelking, Casting, Shivering, Shaking. c 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 (E.D.D.) Applied to the cough of a sheep, as the sheep yekes or yokes, or has a yelking.

*b.* 1597 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* II ij b, The same drunke in the manner aforesayd is good for a yelking, named Singultus. c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 954 To yelke, *sanglontir*. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xi. (1596) 117 The same being . so constituted, causeth some to yelke. *Ibid.*, When yelking is caused of fulnesse, vomiting is the best remedie. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 192 A yelking which followeth vomiting.

**Yolk, yolke**, obs. forms of YOKE.

**Yolked** (yōkt), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -ED².] Having or containing a yolk or yolks: chiefly in comb. as *double-, large-, two-yolked.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl. 54/1 Ouum geminum*, a two yolked egge. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkewormes* 66 Wherof two yolked, and yellow yolked all. 1859 *Sussex Arch. Coll.* V. 91, 9 Animals . with the large-yolked ova. 1880 *Science Gossip* 128/1, I know that 'double-yolked' eggs are not uncommon. 1900 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 75 Small-yolked, holoblastic eggs.

**Yolkiness** (yōkinės). [f. YOLKY *a.*¹ + -NESS.] Yolky quality or condition.

1598 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 58 b, Color prasine, lyke the colour of the herbe Prassolon . . in engendrid of the yolkyues whan hit is burned: for burnyng causeth a yolky blackenes in the color.

**Yolkless** (yōklės), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Destitute of yolk; containing no yolk.

1897 *Brit. Birds, their Nests & Eggs* II. 163 Three full-sized eggs and one small yolkless one.

**Yolky** (yō·ki), *a.*¹ Also 6 yelky, 9 yoky. [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Resembling or consisting of (egg) yolk; of or pertaining to yolk; full of or abounding in yolk.

1598 [see YOLKINESS]. 1833 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 9 Yelky choler, like to the yelkes of egges. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* 147 The seconde [matter] yelky. Is compact and made of . yelkine or yelkie Choler aduste. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 80 Vield's eggs was more yokier than their's was. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* May 11 Small round, highly refractive yolky particles were present in the egg protoplasm.

*b.* In reference to stone or other mineral: cf. YOLK *sb.*¹ 4 *b*. *Yolky-stone*, a local name for a kind of conglomerate.

1750 MORRIS in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 167 The fracture [of the bar] was gray, fore out a little in breaking, but was otherwise yolky and excessively dense. 1813 HEADRICK *Agric. Lgnst.* 34 Beds of coarse pudding-stone, or gravel, or yolky-stone, as it is here called.

**Yolky** (yō·ki), *a.*² Also yoky. [OE. *eowi(g)cig*, f. **eowoca* YOLK *sb.*²: see -Y¹ 1.] Containing 'yolk'; greasy with yolk, as unwashed wool.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 42 Genim eie, do on mid eowicrne wulle. *Ibid.* 74 Mid eowicgre wulle. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yoky-wool*, unwashed wool as it comes from the sheep's back. *Devon.* 1854 MRS. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Yolk*, the grease of wool. Wool that is oily is said to be *yolky*. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 130 The fleece falls to pieces in a vexatious fashion on the table, especially if the sheep has been fed for the shambles, or be otherwise unhealthy.

**† Yoll**, *sb.* Obs. Forms: 1–5 3olle, 4 3ol, 4–5 yolle. [Imitative. Cf. NFris. *jolli*, and for similar forms with vowel-variation YAWL *v.*¹, YOWL *v.*] *intr.* To cry aloud, howl; = YAWL *v.*¹ 1 a. Hence **† Yolling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1050 *Owl & Night.* 223 Þu schrichest & 3ollest to Mne fere. *Ibid.* 1043 Mycel yollinge [*v. r.* 3ulinge] & myd iyrcðe. a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 44 Þo com he deuel 3ollynge ase3ein. c 1325 *Gl. Sax. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 150 *wode, Oule,*

(glossed) yollea. *c1386* Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1814 The heraudes, that ful loude yolle and crie. *c1440 Antors Arth.* 86 (Thornton MS.) Yollande ȝarmyly, withe many lowde yelle. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 81 b/2 Whan they had made thyes pyetous cryeng and yollyng.

**Yolle, Yol(l)ow,** obs. ff. Oil *sb.*[1], Yellow.

**Yolp,** *v. Obs. or dial.* Also **yollop.** = Gulp *v.* 1539 Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) D vij b, The pitchie burning pit...Shall yolpe them vp. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Yolp, or Yolp, v. a.*, var. pron. of 'gulp' and 'gull'.

**Yolp.** The cry of hounds. Cf. Yawp *v.*, Youp. 1620 *Narcissus* (1893) 17 Then woe bee vnto little Watt, Yolp, yolp, yolp, yolp!

**†Yolster.** Obs. [perh. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. (*Å*)*ulster*, (*Å*)*ylster*, (*Å*)*ilster*, Norw.*ülster*, ON. **ylstr*, *ilstr*, pointing to orig. **elustr*, and **elustrjo-*]: but perhaps not an unrecorded OE. **ealstr.*] Some kind of willow or osier.

1387 *Denule of site in Scaggelthorpe, Yorks.* (MS.), Omnes yolstres crescen(tes) super ripam de Ouse infra dominium de Scahythorp. 1398 *Ibid.*, Yholsters. [See *Yorks. Deed.* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc.) II. 161.]

**Yoly,** obs. form of Jolly *a.*

**Yoman, ȝoman(n)e,** obs. forms of Yeoman.

**†Yomer, ȝomer,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeomor, 3 ȝeo(u)mer, ȝiomer, 3–4 ȝomer, *Kentish* ȝemer, yemor. [OE. *ȝeómor* = OS., OHG. *jámar*. A neut. sb. is represented by OHG. *jámar*, OHG *jámar*, also *Anuar*, MHG. *jâmer* (G. *jammer*) sorrowful desire. (ME. *yémer* may partly reflect OE. *ȝéamrung, ȝémrung* of Vesp. Psalter.)] Sorrowful, wretched; grievous, doleful.

*Beowulf* 49 Him was ȝeomor sefa. *a* 1000 *Husband's Message* 22 (Gr.) Siddan ðu gehyrde on hlipes oran galan ȝeomran ȝeac on bearwe. *a* 1000 *Prin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Þa he bolede þe ȝimere pine he makede ane tauliche meninge. *c* 1205 Lay. 16566 Þer nes ha Hengest cnihten alre ȝeomerest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1341 Ȝwa hamliet cnihtes, þat ȝeuen anan up here ȝeomere bileaue. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Þa þet þurch ywerne werkes oþer þurch wiȝes iwil isinded he bieþ ine helle pine. *Ayenb.* 215 Þer me sacl...do al out alle seculere nieden, ȝemere þoȝtes, and þenche an his aseppere.

Hence **†Yomerness** *Obs.*, wretchedness, misery. *c* 1225 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Þo gode werkes þet is biter to þo ȝemernesse of ure flesce.

**†Yomer, ȝomer,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeomr(i)an, 2–3 ȝeomer, 3 ȝeoumer, 5 ȝomer, yomer. [OE. *ȝeómrian*, f. *ȝeómor* : see prec. Cf. OHG. *jámarôn*, MHG. *jâmern*, and Yammer.] *trans.* To murmur, complain; to lament, mourn. Hence **†Yomering,** *vbl. sb.*

*Beowulf* 1118 Earme on eaxle isles ȝeomrode ȝiddum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 113 For þære ȝeomrunga þæs oþres deaþes. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leech. Lyonn A.-S. Ch.* (Surtees Ms. 23) 91 Benn ȝeomrigeð we wæmlub. *c* 1205 Lay. 23493 Gullen þa helmes ȝeoumereden eorles. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Þat unrotes uuel, þat pine upo pine, þat wonderende ȝeomerunges. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1744 Þe Greke...ȝeu to grefe brogte. And to yow & also yours ȝomeryng for cure. *c* 1400 [see Yawl *v.*] 123.

**†Yomere, ȝomere,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Yomer *a.*] Sorrowfully, dolefully.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 415 A wintere þu singest wrobe and ȝomere [*Jesus MS.* ȝomere], And eure þu art dumb a sumere.

**† Yomerly, ȝomerly,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: see Yomer *a.* [OE. *ȝeómorlic*, f. *ȝeómor* Yomer *a.* + *-lic* -ly 1. Cf. OHG. *jámarlîh*, ON. *ámorligr*.] = Yomer *a.*

*Beowulf* 2444 Þæt ȝe mec ȝeomorlic ȝomelum ceole to ȝelidanne, þæt his hyre ride ȝinga on ȝaigan. *c* 1205 Lay. 29564 Heo...ȝeoððe ȝeiden him an mid ȝeomerliche stauen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 971 Such a ȝomerly parre of yellyng per ȝysed.

**†Yomerly, ȝomerly,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: see Yomer *a.*; also 5 ȝamyrly, ȝamerly (but cf. Yammer *v.*). [OE. *ȝeómorlice*, f. *ȝeómor* Yomer *a.* + *-lice* -ly 2. Cf. OHG. *jámarlîcho*.] Sorrowfully, dolefully.

*a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 267 Se ȝuȝol...ȝilled ȝeomorlice. *c* 1000 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 His ofspring al browude on'synne .. and ȝeinvrliche pineden. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1453 He hurtes of þe hounder, & þay al ȝomely saule & selle. *c* 1400 *Antors Arth.* viii, Ȝe ȝalandful ȝamyrly, with many lowde ȝelles.

**Yommer,** obs. f. Yammer *v.*

**Yomon, ȝomon,** obs. forms of Yeoman.

**Yon** (ɣɒn), *dem. a.* and *pron.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *a.* 1 ȝeon, 4 ȝion, ȝeone, ȝhone, yhon(e, 4–5 yone, 4–6 ȝone, (6, 8 *Sc.*) ȝon, 5 yhonne, 6 ȝeon, (7–8 ȝon'), 4–yon. *β.* 5 ȝene, (6 ȝen), 6, 9 *dial.* yen, 9 *dial.* yin. [OE. *ȝeon* (ȝise), correasp., with variation of vowel, to OFris. *ênа, ȝêna* (ȝenn-, inn-), WFris. *jinge*, OHG. *jenêr*, MHG., G. *jener*, also OHG., MHG. *enêr*, G. dial. *ener(r*, ON. *enn, inn, hinn*, def. art. (Sw., Da. *hin*), Goth. *jains* that. The Teut. bases underlying these forms, or other variants of them, are represented also in OHG. *ennân*, MHG. *enne(n* from there, hither, OHG. *en(n)ôni*, MHG. *en(n)ene* yonder, G. dial. *jennlak, jennabend* yesterday, Goth. *jainar* there; Du. and LG. show forms with initial guttural, viz. MDu. *ghene, gone, gone* (Du. *gene*) that, LG. *gunnen* that, there, *gunniet* yonder. Related forms outside Teut. are recognized in Skr. *éna-* 3rd pers. pron , *anéna, anayá* (instr.), that (one), OSlav. *onŭ* he, Lith. *añs* he. See also Yond, Yonder.

In OE. the only members of this family of words for which evidence is forthcoming are *ȝeon* adj. and *ȝeond, ȝeondan* Yond prep. (? orig. adv. like Goth. *jaind*), together with *ȝiȝeonan* (*-ȝinan, -ȝenan*) 'trans', *ingeondan* (Northumb. *ingeonda, ingionda*) Beyond *adv.* and *prep.* From these the various parallel uses of *yon, yond*, and *yonder* have arisen through the extension to other members of applications originally appropriated to one of them.

The 17–18th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yon'*) indicates that it was regarded as short for *yond.*]

**A.** *adj.*

1. A demonstrative word used in concord with a sb. to indicate a thing or person as (literally, or sometimes mentally) pointed out: cf. That *dem. adj.* 1. Formerly often, as still in some dialects, simply equivalent to *that (those)*; but chiefly, and in later literary use almost always, referring to a visible object at a distance but within view: = 'that (those) ... over there'.

*c* 897 *King Gregory's Past. C.* lviii. 443 Aris, & gong to ȝeonre byrg. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 654 Bot yhon tre cum þou nawiht to, þat standes in midward paradis. *Ibid.* 909 Sco [Eve] was habraham' yhon bastard Dis time wexi. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 149 Patriarkes and prophetes þat in peyne liggen, Leyf hit neuere þat ȝon [*e.rr.* seon, ȝone, ȝonne, ȝonge, ȝonde] þyng þen a-fole lyrynge. *a* 1400 *Northern Passion* 9/70, I will ȝeyned to ȝhone cyte. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27684 (Cott. Galba) ȝone man ledes His life in praiers and almus deides. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 498 Sone selfe kingon bonnes I ȝe with myne men ware. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7308 Knawes þou nogt ȝone ȝonge man? 1513 *Sowdne Sir Andrewe Barton* xxii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 70 Fetch me yeen English dogs,' he saide. 1661 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 168 And to you! hill! Follow our steps. *c* 1680 Milton *Sonn.* i, O Nightingale, that on yon bloomy Spray Warblst at eeve. 1683 Blencarne *Philot.* (1890) i. i. 62 When we have gain'd yon Maiden City. 1692 Urquhart *Jewel* 189 Because of his being of this or this, or that, or yon of that other Religion. 1712 Pope *Temple of Fame* 100 The fair fruit that on yon' branches glows. 1766 Golden. *Hermit* i, To where yon taper cheers the vale With hospitable ray. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxv, I mind aye the chirle o' ye ȝone ma ony day. 1833 Hr. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* i. 16, I must go somewhere away from yon great town. 1899 W. A. Wallace *Only a Sister's* xxiii, There's a man down yonder that we're buying supplying. *b.* 1448 *Cast. Persev.* 1765 in *Macro Plays* 129 All ȝene maydyns on ȝone playm. *c* 1550 Creke *Hatf.* xxvii. 64 We remembred not, Hinde, what we'd to say, Yon' hill we'd rijn again after iij dais. 1583 Melbancke *Philot.* Dd iij b, Sieest thou not yen milke white pathe that crosse the welkin wendes? *a* 1680 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Yon*, adj., yon.

**2.** *pron.* (the adj. used *absol.*) = Yon *pron.*

In early use preceded by *the.*

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 219 Iwis hit was ure ȝoye broþer Þe ȝond [*Jesus MS.* Þat ȝo vnde] þat haveð þat grete heued. *c* 1320 *Wells Psalms* 2032 Þe ȝon' hond is best sembly and his selue make. *c* 1380 Sekelton *Magnyf.* 780 Who is yonde that for the dothe call? 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* iii. v. 85 Yonds that same knaue That leades him to these places. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, Yond's the Cardinall's window. 1886 Brierley *Cast upon World* ii, Come, Tummy, let's goa...! cannot abide t'yon yonder.

**† Yond,** *a.*[1] *Obs. pseudo-arch.* Syncretism word, with the sense 'furious, savage', due to misunderstanding of a passage containing Yond *a.*[1] or *adv.*, prob. the following :—

Beth egre as Is a Tygre yond in Ynde (Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1143).

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. viii. 40 Like a Lion, which hath long time saught His robbed whelpes, and at the last them fond..., then wexeth wood and yond. *Ibid.* iii. vii. 26 As fearefull fled from their victor yonne. 1591 Florio *Furioso Tasso* i. lv, Those three brethren, Lombards fierce and yond [orig. *i tre fratei lombardi al chiaro mondo lwoli*].

**Yond,** *prep.* and *adv.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 ȝeond, ȝiond, ȝeondan, land, 2–3 ȝeond, 3 ȝoond, ȝuond, 3–4 ȝeondan, ȝund, ȝont, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝond, 4–5 ȝonde, ȝonden, (5 ȝande, 6 *Sc.* ȝound), 6, 8–9 *Sc.* yont, (prep. only 8 *Sc.* 'yont, 8–9 'yond), 4– yond. *β.* 3–4 ȝend, 4 ȝende, ȝent, yent, (ȝendis). [OE. *ȝeond* prep., also *ȝeondan* (cf. Beyond), correasp. to MLG. *gint, genten, jint* there, LG. *gunt, gunten*, early Flem. *ghins*, Du. *ginds*, Goth. *jaind* : see Yon *a.*] **A.** *prep.*

**1.** Through, throughout, over, across. Obs.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xviii. ¶ 2 Þæt ȝe woldon ȝeond ealne middangeard ȝeondan ȝeond ealle þeoda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 43 He ȝæð ȝeond drixe stowa secende reste. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048 & com þa Eustaisius fram ȝeondan ae sona after þam biscop. *c* 1205 Lay. 28 Laȝamon gon liðen wide ȝond þas leode. *Ibid.* 251 Wide ȝeond þas leoden þeines ladden. *a* 1225 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1078 He sende þe by ȝonde, send al is londe, after knyhtes to fyhte. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1448 He.. sette twoyne and tweyne to goo ȝeond al þe world to prechen vchon. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 809 in Wilson *Metr. Rom.* II, 304 He wes ..Cleped yent this lond wide Edmound Ironeside.

**2.** On (or to) the farther side of, beyond. In later use *poet.*, or *Sc.* (chiefly in form *yont*) ; often written with apostrophe as if aphetic f. *beyond* or *ayont.*

1388 Wyclif *Rom* iv. 16 Thou schalt not haue possessioun bisende [*v.r.* ȝendis] the flood [*Vulg. trans fluvium*].

1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* i. xi. E ij, If those chaunge weather, not their wit, which yont the sea do run. 1579



*c* 1885 Lay. 4401 To faren ȝeon þan eærde. *Ibid.* 6087 Þat me mihte hine bi-halden wide ȝeon þeon londe. *Ibid.* 6109 He seonde his sonde wide ȝeo þen londe.

**† Yon,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gonnen*, now *gunnen*, to favour, vouchsafe.] *trans.* To wish. 1581 Caxton *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 66 He sawe there many of his kynne standyng which yonned hym but lytyl good.

**Yonoker,** obs. form of Younker.

**Yond** (ɣɒnd), *a.*[1] and *pron. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms : *a.* 3 ȝeonde, *Orm.* ȝonnd, 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) ȝond, 4 ȝonde, ȝund, ȝend, 5–6 ȝonde, (6 ȝound, ? yon'd, yond', yound'), 4– ȝond. [adj. use of Yond *adv.*, after Yon *a.* Cf. ElFris. *junt*, MLG. *gint*, Du. *gindsch*.

The 17th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yond'*) indicates that it was regarded as short for *yonder.*]

**A.** *adj.*

**† 1.** Qualifying *half, side*, or the like (with or without *the* preceding): The farther, the more distant, 'the other'. Obs.

*c* 1000 Oshun 10388 Þæt ea wæs ȝa ȝonnd healfæ þe ðunm & o þisa halfe þatt oþerr. 1340 *Ayenb.* 256 Þis wayve ne sæi hongi of þis half ne of ynnd half, ne of ȝeinhalf. 13.. *Bell. on Scottish Wars* 91 (Rison) On ȝonde-half Humbre. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 29 Nane that wes that ȝynd wonand On ȝond half Tweid durst weill appeir. 1398 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xv. lxxxii. (W. de W.) II ij, The next party therof lyeth ouer ayenst...The ȝonde [*Bodl. MS.* ȝendre] party toward Mundin is occupied wt beestis. 1553 *Douglas' Æneis* vi. v. 166 Vocailis on the ȝound brey wald thou ken? 1582 *Rhem. New Testament Saint Luke* i. 39 Benefeict men on the yond syde of the Month [*sc.* Grampians]. 1806 Dalrymple in *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 129 To this end Andro Harriman sayles with a shallop of mariners to the ȝond ȝyd. 1893 Webster *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, To yond side o' th' riuer lies a wall.

**2.** = Yon *a.* 1.

Rarely preceded by *the*, as in quot. *c* 1380 (cf. Yonder *a.* 1 b).

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 Me think sun, if yee rede, þe child be nawiht don to ded, Bot he be stoken in yond skelfast. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5862 Sone þen ledeȝ Leodegan Vlfadun toward king Rion. *a* 1380 *Sir Perceval* 1367 Fro þe ȝond pauylion prykeþ a knyȝt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3160 And prise of þis prouynse are in ȝond proude yle. 1502 *Medicine to Lepe* on bonkak and ryde on ȝoun way to mete ȝonde strangers. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 5 In a Countrie where there is a Prince, euerie man may well say, ȝondsome is the Kyng, ȝondsome is the Prince. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* i. i. 56 When ȝond same Starre that's Westward from the Pole Had made his course. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Bonduca* iii. iii, Romans ha' ye heard from ȝound' hils brow. 1620 Brome *Jovial Crew* ii, But do you see ȝon'd Fellow? 1632 Dryden *Assignation* ii. ii, There's the Wall: Behind ȝou' Pane of it we'll set up the Ladder. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 69. 4/2 Lond. Anne Kooff. 1886 Brierley *Cast upon World* xiv, I'd rayther live at yond farmhouse than here.

**B.** *pron.* (the adj. used *absol.*) = Yon *pron.*

In early use preceded by *the.*

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 219 Iwis hit was ure ȝoye broþer Þe ȝond [*Jesus MS.* Þat ȝo vnde] þat haveð þat grete heued. *c* 1320 *Wells Psalms* 2032 Þe ȝon' hond is best sembly and his selue make. *c* 1380 Sekelton *Magnyf.* 780 Who is yonde that for the dothe call? 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* iii. v. 85 Yonds that same knaue That leades him to these places. 1623 Webster *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, Yond's the Cardinall's window. 1886 Brierley *Cast upon World* ii, Come, Tummy, let's goa...! cannot abide t'yon yonder.

**† Yond,** *a.*[2] *Obs. pseudo-arch.* Syncretism word, with the sense 'furious, savage', due to misunderstanding of a passage containing Yond *a.*[1] or *adv.*, prob. the following :—

Beth egre as Is a Tygre yond in Ynde (Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1143).

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* ii. viii. 40 Like a Lion, which hath long time saught His robbed whelpes, and at the last them fond..., then wexeth wood and yond. *Ibid.* iii. vii. 26 As fearefull fled from their victor yonne. 1591 Florio *Furioso Tasso* i. lv, Those three brethren, Lombards fierce and yond [orig. *i tre fratei lombardi al chiaro mondo lwoli*].

**Yond,** *prep.* and *adv.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms : 1 ȝeond, ȝiond, ȝeondan, land, 2–3 ȝeond, 3 ȝoond, ȝuond, 3–4 ȝeondan, ȝund, ȝont, 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝond, 4–5 ȝonde, ȝonden, (5 ȝande, 6 *Sc.* ȝound), 6, 8–9 *Sc.* yont, (prep. only 8 *Sc.* 'yont, 8–9 'yond), 4– yond. *β.* 3–4 ȝend, 4 ȝende, ȝent, yent, (ȝendis). [OE. *ȝeond* prep., also *ȝeondan* (cf. Beyond), correasp. to MLG. *gint, genten, jint* there, LG. *gunt, gunten*, early Flem. *ghins*, Du. *ginds*, Goth. *jaind* : see Yon *a.*] **A.** *prep.*

**† 1.** Through, throughout, over, across. Obs.

*c* 888 *Ælfred Boeth.* xviii. ¶ 2 Þæt ȝe woldon ȝeond ealne middangeard ȝeondan ȝeond ealle þeoda. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 43 He ȝæð ȝeond drixe stowa secenda reste. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048 & com þa Eustaisius fram ȝeondan ae sona after þam biscop. *c* 1205 Lay. 28 Laȝamon gon liðen wide ȝond þas leode. *Ibid.* 251 Wide ȝeond þas leoden þeines ladden. *a* 1225 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1078 He sende þe by ȝonde, send al is londe, after knyhtes to fyhte. *c* 1300 *Cast. Love* 1448 He.. sette twoyne and tweyne to goo ȝeond al þe world to prechen vchon. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 809 in Wilson *Metr. Rom.* II, 304 He wes ..Cleped yent this lond wide Edmound Ironeside.

**2.** On (or to) the farther side of, beyond. In later use *poet.*, or *Sc.* (chiefly in form *yont*) ; often written with apostrophe as if aphetic f. *beyond* or *ayont.*

1388 Wyclif *Rom* iv. 16 Thou schalt not haue possessioun bisende [*v.r.* ȝendis] the flood [*Vulg. trans fluvium*].

1567 Drant *Horace, Ep.* i. xi. E ij, If those chaunge weather, not their wit, which yont the sea do run. 1579

Hake *Newes out of Powles* (1872) E iij b, Thofe God of grace...yonde whome we can not roaue Or raunge aright. 1720 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Wedks* 169 Yond Seas I saw the Upstairs drifting. 1728 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, A' that's done In ilka place beneath, or yont the moon. c1730 — *Eclipse* iv, Impruden men...Run yont their noddles. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 38 The silent night...shake yond the western main. 1866 Sarah Tytler *Days of Yore* iv. iv, She would have a board to fill Klaps'n drawer 'yont the coast'. a 1870 Ruddell *Poet. Wks.* (1877) II. 237 Desperate deeds 'Yond ocean [they] had been doomed to dare.

**B.** *adv.* 1. = Yonder *adv.* 1.

c1300 *St. Brandan* 1 Seint Brendan the holi man was ijund of Irlande. a 1340 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 293 3ent ryd Maximon. c1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 241 The fairneese of that lady that I see Yond in the gardyn romen to and fro. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 269 Thenne ich a gyaunt with a gyn Comeþ zonde [*v.rr.* 3ont, 3eonde, 3ende, 3ender]. c 1475 *Partenay* 5807 Ne-hold yande that hiduous montain. a 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. ii. (Arb.) 19 Who commeth forth yond from my swete hearte Custance? a 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, II. ii, Yond comes the messenger of weale or woe. 1620 Shake. *Temp.* I. ii. 99 Say what thou seeſt yond. 1639 Cokaine *Masque* Poems (1669) 124 Sweet youth I yon'd is your Father, kiss his hand. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* lii, Sit down yont there at the door. 1828 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 204 Young Tim away yond..Through brimble and underwood tears.

**b.** = Yonder *adv.* 1 b.

c975 *Rushw. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 36 Sittaþ her oþ þæt ic gange 3eond [*Lindisf.* þider; *Arp. Gosp. & Hatton* hider-3eond]. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 263 Goþ yond to a gret lord bat gayly is tyred. c1375 *Cursor M.* 3065 (Fairf.) Lede him zonde.

**c.** + *Here and yond*, here and there (*obs.*); *hither and yond* (now *Sc.*), hither and thither. Cf. Yon *adv.* b, Yonder *adv.* 1 b.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xiii. [viii.] (1890) 488 Ða ahof ic mine eagan upp & locode hider & 3eond. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3851 Her and 3ond hor he hiried lin. 1831 Campbell *Lines on View from St. Leonards* 83 Mooreal as they cast the shadows of their masts In long array, or hither flit and yond Mysteriously.

**2.** At or to a distance; (far or farther) away. *Far yond*, in an extremely bad state, 'far gone'. In later use *Sc.*

13... *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1262 Ich eode mony a myle, wel fer zont by weste [*Camb. MS.* Wel feor bi zonde weste]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xii. Prol. 9 Nor frawart Saturn .. Durst behynd the circulat sonkyn of Iupiter. a 1665 W. Guthrie *Serm.* (1705) 24 (Jam.) When he that reproves in the gate makes himself a prey, then they are fir yond, when they refuse to return. 1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* in *Tea-t. Scot. Miscell.* (1724) 24 (Jam.) When he that reproves in the gate makes himself a prey, then they are far yond, when they refuse to return. 1721 Ramsay *Prosp. Plenty* 24 The sweet prolifick Plains..Stand yont; for Amphitrite claims our Sang. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxx, I'll be getting a wee yont among the bents, as I had like what way James gone.

**Yonder** (yo·ndəɹ), *adv.* and *a.* (*pron., sb.*) Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.*, or *dial.* Forms: a. 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) 3onder, -ir, (4 3londer, 3undir, 3under, 5 3ondur, -yr, yondur), 5–6 3ondre, (6 3ondar, *Sc.* 3ounder, 7 younder), 4– yonder; 4 yonper, 6–7 yonther; 6, 9 *dial.* yander. β. 4 3ender, 5 -ir, -yr, yendre, yendur, 5–6 yender, 7 *dial.* yeander, *dial.* yinder. [M.E. *zonder, zender*, corresp. to OS. *gendar* adj. on this side, MLG. *gender, gender*, LG. *gunter*, Du., WFris. *ginder*, Goth. *jaindre* (cf. *hidrē* Hither): see Yon *a.*]

**A.** *adv.* 1. At or in that place; there: usually implying that the object spoken of is at some distance but within sight: Over there, away there.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2717 Ion asked pat quare was sarra. Abraham said, 'yonder wil i 3ow rede'! Yonder wy, he said, 'on 3on fell Sal þou bren þi sun for me'. 13.. *Ibid.* 10899 (Edinb.) Lo! 3ionder þe Men...er sende to seke þe. 13.. *Ibid.* 14056 (Göt.) Ic sende an yonger, lo! i Wiclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 402 Sum men seiden þat he is synnide at Rome. c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Lawe's T.* 930 Whos is that fare child that stondeth yonder? 1549 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxvii. 431/1 I wyll not departe hens tyll I se what company is yander within the castell. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 163 Looke who comes yonder. 1641 Bloom *Yonder Crew* 1. (1650) 6 Sir, I left the merry Griggs..in such a Hoigh younder! 1667 Davenant & Dryden *Tempest* iv. iii. (1670) 63 Mark her behaviour too, she's tippling yonder with the servingmen. 1768 Goldsm. *Vicar W.* xiii, But, as I live, yonder comes Moses. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvi, 'The limes', he assured us, 'were from his own little farm yonder-awa.' (indicating the West Indies with a knowing shrug of his shoulders). 1865 Reade *Hard Cash* x, You sits yander fit to bust; but..ye never offers me none on't. 1876 Miss Braddon *T. Haggard's Dau.* x, To the white cottage yonder on the lower ground across the meadows.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1617 þa3 he mater be merk bot mericed is zender. c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 138 þis man is [not] stondiȝ zendre in þe bankis. c 1440 Lydg. *Life Our Lady* iii. (MS. Ashm. 39), Loke vp yender & se the sercle of goddis. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1438 Yender is þe lond of mistylyx. 1694 Ray *N. C. Words* 55 *Yeander, Yender, Yon, Dial.* a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yinder, adv.* yonder.

b. To that place; thither.

c1300 *Havelok* 922 Go þu yunder, and sit þere. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3063 (Cott.) Sco him yender [*Cott.* yondir]. c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 127 Lady, I goo yonder wythout. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxii. 5 As for me and the childe, we wyl go yonder.

**c.** In phr. *here and yonder, hither and yonder*: cf. Yon *adv.* b, Yond *adv.* 1 c.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* 1. 4991 As he rod among hem here & zonder. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1346 Now have þo dyuyppiles take þer passage to diuers contreys her and zondyr. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 221/2 Gangs of street paviors were seen and heard here, there, and yonder.

† **2.** Further. *Obs. rare.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 33 Som men wolde mene þat Longria endep at Homber, and strecchep no 3onder [*Caxton* farþer] northward.

**B.** *adj.* 1. With *the*. a. Farther, more distant, 'other': = Yon *a.* 2, Yond *a.*[1] 1.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 2440 Syn 3e be lorde of þe 3onder londe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 173 Pere is anopur Pannonia pe 3ondę þe wateres Meotides in þe 3onder Scythia. *Ibid.* 299 þe hyder þyrynnep from þe pleynes and valeys of Pirenees. .. þe 3ondur Spayne contenyneþ þe west partyes anoon to þe see Gaditanus. c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 345 The seyd brother schal se that ther be a lectron set in the 3endyr corner of the ambytus for redyng of the gospel towardes the est. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* vi. v. 166 Vncalit, on the 3ondir brey wald thow be. 1609 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 51/1 Terras de Brunticskeith,...Over et Nether Lagbuie,..Hither and Thyther Ibarschelmilis. 1899 Mrs. Hugh Fraser *Dipl. Wife in Japan* xxxv. II. 313 His dead name, the one by which his shadowy companions call him in the yonder world. 1909 Meredith *The Tragic Comedians* 172 Toward the east of the yonder kinges Ne made I neuer louely lookinges. c1480 Henryson *Paddock & Mouse* 77 That thow wald syde ane to 3one 3onder land [*Bann.* How thow wald gyd me to be yondir land].

**2.** That is yonder; usually, and in later literary use always, implying that the thing spoken of is at some distance but within sight: cf. Yon *a.* 1.

a. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Harl. MS.) lxxxvi. 307 Yonder toun for to take. a 1513 *Antures of Arthur* (Ireland MS.) xlix, 3ondur lyynes [*Thornton MS.* 3one beryns] in batelle. That bide I the best. c 1450 *Merlin's Prestiod* 31 Hit wot almes forto 3eue 3ondyr pore man warmer clopes pen i bede. 1593 Lo. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxvii. hij, It shuld be great honour for vs if we might delyuer out of daunger yonder two knyghtes. 1600 Shake. *Much Ado* iv. 90 Yonder company are fooles. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 61 Yet you, the murtherer, looke as bright, as cleare, As yonder Venus, in her glimmering sphere. 1605 Jackson *Creed* iv. vi. § 7 This is profitable, That is pleasant, we shall not then say, but yonder other truly good and honest. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1 Yonder sunk bank thou here oft didst or sitst. 1779 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 219 Near yonder thorn, that lifts its head on high. 1842 Tennyson *R. Gray* i, Sweet Emma Moreland spoke to me sitting at yonder door. 1850 — *In Mem.* xv, To-night the winds begin to rise And roar from yonder dropping day.

β. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530 3yn yender towne on hight. a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) iii. 52 Mother, my father after thee sende, And byddes thee into yeinder shippe wende. 1563 Googe *Eglogs* i. (Arb.) 32 The Hyples...that loyne to yender towne. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* iv, Chaue tost and tumbled yender heap ouer and ouer againe.

† **3.** (with *this* or *that*) Qualifying *day, night*: Lately past, 'other'. (Cf. Ender *a.*, Hinder *a.* 2, and Yondenes.) *Obs.*

a 1400 *Cleanness* 1177 On yender towre on hyȝe. a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) iii. 52 Mother, my father after thee sende, And byddes thee into yeinder shippe wende. 1563 Googe *Eglogs* i. (Arb.) 32 The Hyples...that loyne to yender towne. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* iv, Chaue tost and tumbled yender heap ouer and ouer againe.

† **3.** (with *this* or *that*) Qualifying *day, night*: Lately past, 'other'. (Cf. Ender *a.*, Hinder *a.* 2, and Yondenes.) *Obs.*

a 1440 *Sir Perceval* 1777 In yender tyme on hight. a 1

II. 44 In nature-worship, all natural orifices were reverenced as representing the yoni of the mother-earth goddess.

**Yonike,** obs. form of IONIC *a.*1

1598 FLORIO, *Cartoccio*,.. a kinde of yonike worke in building.

**Yonk, Yonker :** see JUNK *sb.*3, YOUNKER.

**Yons** (yonz), obs. form of ONCE *adv.*

*c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 100 And he yons put him to folk of discepline.

**† Yonsame** (in rustic speech), = *yon same* : see YON *a.* 1.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1567) 26 Vnder yonsame hill they were, and vnder yonsame hill Cham zure they ae.

**Yonside** (yonsaid), *adv., adv.,* and *prep.* [The phrase *yon side* (YON *a.*, SIDE *sb.*1) taken as one word : cf. INSIDE, OUTSIDE. Cf. LG. *gunsitel, -sytts, G. jenseits.*] **A.** *ab.* The farther side ; the other side.

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* v. 8 Crie out at Bethauen vpon the yonside of Ben Iamin. 1856 MEREDITH *Sham. Shanghai, Well of Taravird* 116 The sun...sank on the yonside of the mountain. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 690/2 Visions of the things of the 'yonside' na his Lincolnshire flock love to term the hereafter.

**B.** *adv.* On the farther side (of).

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1361 Yonside, *ab illa regione.* 1898-9 LANIER *Street-Cries, How Love looked for Hell* 23 As I rode down, and the River was low, And yonside, lol an endless wrack. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* II. 12 Yonside of Assaroe the mountains are white.

**C.** *prep.* On the farther side of ; beyond.

1856 MEREDITH *Sham. Shanghai, Genie Kwana* 147 A phial full of the waters of Paravid from the wells in the mountain yonside the desert.

**† Yontoe.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gonst*, now *gunst* favour ; cf. VON *sb.*] Favour.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 74 Ye shal wel vnderstande the very yonste and good wyl that I bere to you ward.

**Yont,** var. YOND.

**Yont(e, Yontuze,** obs. ff. JOINT *sb.*, JOINTURE.

1402 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 249 That hase...moore flesshe fro the loyntures vpwarde, than fro the yontures downwarde. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* 1. 62 Whose yonts youe see are dryche, benumd and sencelesse.

**Yonthe** (yonθe), var. YOUNGTH *Obs.*, youth.

**Yonther,** obs. form of YONDER.

**† Yonward,** *adv. Obs. rare*—1. [f. YON + -WARD.] = VONDWARD.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 205 [Antipodes] here feet toward ours, and here heed toward yonward.

**Yoo, Yoof, Yook, Yool(e :** see EWE *sb.*1, YEA, YOUF *v.*, YUKE, YULE.

**Yoolughan,** var. ULLAGONE.

1819 [RENNIE] *St. Patrick* II. 118 I'll gar her set up her yoolughans there, the simmer, an I had anee an anes entertainment.

**Yoong, Yoonker,** obs. ff. YOUNG, YOUNKER.

**Yoop** (yēp), *sb.* and *int.* Also youp. A word expressing the sound made by convulsive sobbing ; also as an exclamation.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, The hysterical yoops of Miss Swarts. 1849—*Pen & Pencil* xiii, Mrs. Jenkins, giving a dreadful youp, fell down in a fit. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, 'Youp!' cried Wegg. 'You're there, are you?'

**Yoore, Yoow,** obs. forms of YORE, YOU.

**Yop(e)indail(e,** etc. : see YOKINDALE.

**† Yopened** [V. *sb.* + -ED3.] *ppl. adj.* etc. (see OPEN *v.*) *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bk.* 114 Yopened & ywasshe clene.

**Yopon, Yor (yor), Yordan,** obs. ff. YAPON, YOUR, JORDAN.

**† Y-ordayned, -deined, ME.** pa. pple. of ORDAIN *v.*

**Yore** (yōəz), *adv.* (*a.*) *arch.* Forms : 1 **geara, gara, lare, geare, gearo,** 3 **3ar, 3eare, 3are, 3-5 3are, 3-6 yare, 3ore,** 4 **yoore,** 6 **3oire, youre,** 4– **yore.** [OE. *geāra*, also *gēāre, gēāro*, advb. formations of obscure origin.]

**† 1.** A long time ago ; of old ; freq. strengthened by *full* ; also in collocation with *ago, agone.* Phr. *it is* (*gone*) *yore* (*that* . . .) : long ago. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 3664 Swa sceal 3e gecnāwsēlfore geara zecwurde, *c* 900 tr. *Bede's Hist.* v. xiii, Seare ic þæt engeael þæt ðæt nowiht wæs þæt we beeodan. *Ibid.* iii. xxii, Is se [*sc.* tun] be 3am wealle þe zearo Romane Breotone ealonda begyrdon twelf milum fram eastse. 1175 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 21 *Olim*, lare. *a* 1200 *Ibotb. Mor.* I. 1 Hit was zeara in ðætte Gotan eastan of Sciððia sceldas leddon. *c* 1205 *Vac.* in Wr.-Wülcker 437/6 *Iam*, 3aara, oþþe 3eozara. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 450 Þe king lam ut þa Deðcan þa 3are wes mi leoue mon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 3are hit is þet ich wuste herof. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 653 Nis nost 3ore þat I ne com And fond hire wip hordom. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas Prol.* 19 (Harl. 7334) Other tale certes can I noon But of a rym I lerned yore agoon. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 257 Sithen I wrastelet first it is gone 3ore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13568 Til a 3er ende be full yore 3arkit to end, And a haile, er pat end happit to fare. *a* 1420–30 *Wars Alex.* 1008 All be 3eris of oure 3outhe on 3are 3yne passid. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5672 (Trin.) Woltou me ale bezfore As þou dedist þe zeigiclan not 3are? 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5896 And for that skyle gon ful yore,... I callede the my paramour. *Ta* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xx. 16 He dyed on Rood, some is not yore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. Pref. 3 3oir ago, in myne ondantit 3outh. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Sr.* in *Palsgr.* 927 Yare so, *aincois aisnay.* *a* 1540 WYATT *Poems,* '*Resyst tene it ta*'. Resyst true it is, and said full yore agoo. *a* 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 320 The Gret Forlore Of Babylon, that I full yore Espousit. 1613 CAWDREY *Table Alph., Yore*, long ago, before.

**† 2.** In time past ; formerly ; before. *Obs.*

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1180 Ich not 3ef þu were 3aure prest. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1503 God...graunt þou loye, For þe worchipe þat 3e han wrujt to me yore. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*Sir Stephen*) 258 [He] lukyt vpe, & saw þare þe aammyne takine he saw yare. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7597 Thus seide I now, and more yore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2651 (Laud) Abraham hase þou yore by cald, That name no lengger shalt þou hald. *Ta* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xxiv. 513 Doe as thou hast yore behight. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/34 Yore, before, *ante, prius.* 1574 *Mirr. Mag., Kimarus* xii, A iust rewarde, for so vniust a life, No worse a death, then I deserued yore.

**† 3.** For a long time (past, or *rarely* to come).

*c* 1275 *AT Paines of Hell* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 141 In helle ich habbe yare ibeo. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 169 In Hasti. *E. P. I.* 63 The wolf haueth hongen swithe gret, For he nedde 3ore bete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 12 Thise folk delit ha lyueth and hath doon yoore. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Chichevache & Bycorne* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1897) XII. 304 And thus ye stonde and have don yore. 1901 *World & Child* C3 In englonde haue I dwelled yore.

**4.** *Of yore* : **a.** In *advb.* use : Of old, in time long past, anciently, formerly. Also † *of yore ago*(*ne, + long yore* : long ago.

*a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 317 Werdes of Ebreu weren I-writen of yore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *L. W. Prol.* 13 For that he say It nat of 3ore a-go. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xiv. (1554) 200 b/2 She was the same that of yore agon, Unworthelye sate in Troie toune. 1579 TWYNE *Physik Cod.* July 118 The sayncts Which han be dead of yore [*Gloss* long agoe]. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxviii, To shew faulse Art what beauty was of yore, But now is made the common hew. 1667 MILTON *Paradise* I. Vesta long of yore, To solitary Saturn bore. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 552 A form, not now gymnastic as of yore. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, The haunted chamber of Torquilstone, Dungeon of Wamtley. 1882 KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1877) I. 477, I have defended the right of combination among the workmen, in hope that they would become wiser than of yore. 1897 *Lady Cheltenham's Gage* 19 Proud Cecil Castlemaine was yet prouder than of yore.

**b.** In *adj.* use : Belonging to time long past, ancient, former.

1598 *Barckley* IV. iii. 72 In time of yore. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 338 His Bishoprick of yore. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 514 Well sung sweet Ovid, in the days of yore. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. v. (1865) 52 This is altogether different from the village politics of yore. 1824 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 1 In days of yore how fortunately fared The Minstrel ! 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 80 (*Rip van Winkle*) The quiet little Dutch town of yore. 1833 MACAULAY *Southey's Colloquies* I. 151 For now I hold not in my hands The mighty shafts of yore.

**c.** With other preps. : e. g. † *for yore* (obs.) ; *in yore* (*yore-ago*, *-arch.*), *yore-while*.

1393 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 586 3et ober per werne. .Pat swange & swat for long 3ore. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 4174 Hire mi sone is founde bat sche for 3ore saide was sonk in þe see. 1576 BARONIUS *Annals* v. 865 In yore agone.

**8.** *as adj.* Of old time ; ancient, former. *arch.* and *dial.* † *Yore while* (advb. phr.), some time ago. In yore-days is the echo of OE. *on geāradagum*, ON. *í árdaga* In days of old : cf. *yore-ago*, *-arch.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 320 Oure 3ore fader hit con myssezerne. *Ibid.* B. 894 3e tuo out Iose 3ong men þat 3ore-whyle here entred. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9959 So hatnet hir hert in his hegh loue, And all ymerryng for-3eton of hire 3ore dedes. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. p. v, Thousands of books and yore-day things.

**Yore, yoore,** obs. form of YOURE.

**Yore(s, indail(e,** etc. : see YOKINDALE.

**Yorkshire** (yō·ɹkʃiəɹ), *sb.* [OE. *Eoforwic*, later *Eferwic, Euerwic*, ME. *Everwik*, also *York* (Havelok), surviving in Lincolnshire dial. *Yerkshear*, and *York* (cf. ON. *c* 960 *Jorvik*, later *Jork*), ad. L. *Eboracum*, with addition of *wic* dwelling.]

**1.** The name of the capital of Yorkshire ; used attrib. in names of things originating from or peculiar to York or Yorkshire, as *York hams*, + *York robe, York tart.* **York paving,** paving with Yorkshire stone. **York plane** (tree) : see quot. 1875 and PITCH *sb.*2 24 g ; hence **York-pitched** *a.* **York use** *Eccl.* : see USE *sb.*1

1794 WALDRON *Heighe for Hush.* II. 1. 27 There's not a week goes over her head, but she [sc. the mistress] says to me, Mopsy, you may take that gownd, petticoat, or what robe, or pierrot, or whatever dress it happens to be. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxiv, While the sleek, well tied parcels of 'Men's Beavers' and 'York Tans' were...displaying on the counter. 1875 MRS MYRVIN *Village Ser.* in *By God-father's Manæuvring*, (He) actually drew my York-tan gloves from my astonished hands, and substituted a pair of his own black ones. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* LXVII. 1/2 *Grand x*, The Major's York-tan gaiters. 1891 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 82 York paving, per foot super ...6d. 1894 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 2/4 The cross-pavement [in Cheapside] can [only] be planed...with a special tool, of which the iron is placed at a more obtuse angle....For deal and soft wood this is 45 degs., or common pitch ; for mahogany and hard wood 60 degs. York pitch. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 2/3 A ham is a York ham if composed of English meat and prepared in Yorkshire or 'in contiguous counties or places'. 1913 *Encycl. Rem.* Apr. 110 The wood, being cut, is planed up and finished with a 'York-pitched' plane.

**b.** as predicative adj. connoting the character of a Yorkshireman : cf. YORKSHIRE 2.

1846 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* xxxix, Don't lose your time trying to humbug me, I'm 'York' too.

**c.** Short for *Yorkshire cabbage.*

1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* 26 July (1885) I. 210 They appear to be early Yorks, and look very well. 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* I. 109 Large patches of early yorks.

**2.** Pertaining to the royal house of York ; *spec.* = YORKIST 1 b.

*York* place, copper coins of the reign of Henry VI. *York and Lancaster rose* (see quots.) ; hence allusive use of *York and Lancaster* in quot. 1653.

1411 *Norwich Corporation Records* (Hallw.) Pens of topens fabricatis de ære vocatis brasenpens, secundum formam et similitudinem denar. vocat. Yorkpens. 1653 CLEVELAND *Upon Phillis weeping* 26 Poems 22 And be that for their colour seeks, May find it vaulting in her cheeks, Where Roses mix : no civill war Between her York and Lancaster. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 62/2 The York and Lancaster Rose, is half white, half red in the leaves: but in Heraldry it is a white Rose, in a red Rose. 1739 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. 41 Henry himself...had imbibed a violent antipathy to the York party. *Ibid.* 8 The retainers of the York family. 1839 RIVERS *Rose Amateur's C.* 12 The true York and Lancaster Rose is a Damask Rose.

**3.** One of the heralds of the College of Arms.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. vi, She's a wild-Irish borne ! Sir, and a Hybride, That ... studies Vincent against York. 1796 [see HERALD *sb.* 2 b].

**4.** = New York ; in *York shilling*, (*a*) in U.S.A. 12½ cents, (*b*) in Canada sixpence.

1824 *Microscope* (Albany) 27 Mar. (Thornton *Dict. Amer.*), The bill amounted to the enormous sum of one York shilling for each gentleman. 1887 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 'Quarter of *York shilling*, a name in Western Canada for the English sixpence.

**York** (yōk), *v. Cricket.* [Back-formation f. YORKER 1.] *trans.* To bowl (a batsman) out or strike (the wicket) with a yorker.

1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 169 [W. G. Grace log.] I'm never frightened of him ; he is always trying to 'york' you, and bowls any amount of half-volleys. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 3/3 Hirst then bowled Huntsiffe started its flight a foot outside the off stump, at the finish it 'yorked' the middle stump.

**Yorker**1 (yō·ɹkəɹ). [f. YORK *sb.* + -ER1.]

**1.** An inhabitant of York or Yorkshire ; applied allusively (cf. YORKSHIRE 2).

1599 BUTTES *Diets Dry Dinner* Ep. Ded. A 8 b, As for the Middle-sex or Londoner, I smell his Diet...Here is a Pipe of right Trinidado for him. The Yorkers they will bee content with bold Tabacco-stock. What should I say? here is good Veale for the Essex-man. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 138 She was a right Yorker, being of that Country breed, and as full of dissimulation and hipocrisy as most of that Countrey. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xiii. 232 The Yorkers contend that their organ is not only the greater, but also the finer organ of the two ; whereas the Birmingham asserts, on the contrary, that theirs plays vastly better. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 73 Here's Archer, and another Yorker with him—leastwise an Englisher I should say.

**2.** An inhabitant or a soldier of New York.

1776 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *New. Lett.* (1876) 229 We are told for truth that a regiment of Yorkers refused to quit the city. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xxii. 387 Sir John Johnson and some part of his royal Yorkers. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 821/1 The settlers...hated...the 'Yorkers'.

**Yorker**2 **§** (yō·ɹkəɹ). *Cricket.* [? Same word as prec.] (See quot. 1888.)

1870 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 90 A fast Yorker is as disagreeable a first ball as an incoming batsman could receive. 1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 133 The ordinary definition of a 'yorker' is a ball that pitches inside the crease, and this, no doubt, is correct as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. It really should be, any ball that pitches directly underneath the line of the batsman's bat for a man to be bowled out with a 'yorker' when he is two or three yards out of his ground, if he misjudges the ball, and allows it to pitch directly beneath his bat, although the ball pitches as far from the crease as he is standing. The most deadly sort of 'yorker', however, is the one that pitches about three or four inches inside the crease.

**Yorkish** (yō·ɹkiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. YORK *sb.*1 + -ISH1.] = YORKIST 1 b.

*a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 171 b, As the Iewes disdayned the company of the Samaritans, so the Lancastrians abhorred the familiaritie of Yorkyish tyrannye. 1934 FORD *Per. Kin Warbeck* I. 1, Idols of Yorkish princes. 1935 *Secret Anne of G.* xxiv, Does Burgundy prepare to...make common cause with this Yorkish bost against King Louis of France? 1884 *Leisure Hour* 1 Jan. 10/2 All colours being admissible except the Yorkish white.

**Yorkist** (yō·ɹkist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. YORK *sb.*1 (see below) + -IST.]

**1.** An adherent of the house of York, the English royal family which based its title on its descent from Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and Edmund, Duke of York (died 1402), the third and the fifth son of Edw. III ; or one of the party (whose emblem was the White Rose) which supported this family in the Wars of the Roses.

1601 WERVER *Mirr. Mart.* C v, Then high-resolued Hotspur,...Join'd with the Yorkists, made a mutinie. 1643 HARDY *Chron., Hen. VI* (1653) 260 From whence Richard Beauchampe Bishop of Salisbury, is sent to offer the Yorkists a full and generall pardon. 1708–32 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) I. 511. 585/2 The King having advanced with design to give Battle, the Yorkists sent him a very submissive Letter. 1889 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiv, Offering with large sums of money to purchase England to the Yorkists. 1896 MISS MULOCK *York Fairfax* v, The Yorkists had been a battle-field ; and under the long weary grass...slept many a Yorkist and Lancastrian.

**b.** *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1823 S. TURNER *Hist. Eng.* III. ii. 321 The Christmas of 1465, seemed to have ended all hostilities between these two Yorkist parties. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 686 The Yorkist poems are numerous. There is one on the reconciliation of Henry and Duke Richard. 1884 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xx. (ed. 3) 339 The Yorkist Collar is formed of suns and roses.

**2.** A supporter of James, Duke of York[2] (*c* 1680), in his claim to succeed to the crown on the death of his brother, Charles II.

1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The former [party] are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkists, high-flown church men, &c. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. v. ¶ 9 (1740) 321 It is easy to imagine how rampant these Procurators of Power, the Machiavelians, were.. if Every where insulting and menacing the Loyalists.. This Trade.. naturally led to a common Use of slighting and opprobrious Words; such as Yorkist.. 1848 KNIGHT *Pop. Hist. Eng.* IV. xxi. 350 The anti-sacrilegious were called Yorkists.]

**3.** An inhabitant of York: = YORKER[1] 1, *rare*.

1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 55 Once a Cockney and Yorkist maintain'd a dispute, Whether London or York was of oldest repute.

**Yorkshire** (*yɔ·rkʃəɹ*). [*f.* YORK *sb.* + SHIRE *s.*] The name of the largest of the northern counties of England.

1. *attrib.* Pertaining to or characteristic of Yorkshire.

1683 G. M[ERITON] (*title*) A Yorkshire Dialogue, in its pure Natural Dialect. 1685 DAVDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. 2 6, Like a fair Shepherdess in her Country Russet, talking in a Yorkshire Tone. 1826 *Edin. Phil. Jrnl.* II. 155 An undescribed Fossil Animal from the Yorkshire Coal-field. 1859 *Honsch. Words* 13 Jan. 148/2 His sullen, self-willed, local Yorkshire nature. 1882 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 32 Hain pole's.. 'Pricke of Conscience'.. is in the Yorkshire dialect.

b. Applied to things originating in or cultivated especially in Yorkshire, as *Yorkshire ale, cabbage, cord, drab, fog* (Foa *sb.*1), *fustian, gray, grit* (GRIT *sb.*1 2), *kidney* (potato), *pie, rancicle* (SANICLE 2), *shoe, stone, tyke* (TYKE 3), *whittle*[1]; **Yorkshire bond, cement, lights, matches, mile** (see quots.); **Yorkshire pudding,** a batter-pudding baked under meat.

1683 G. MERITON (*title*) The Praise of *York-shire Ale. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire bond*, or flying, or garden wall, bond, is chiefly used in building garden walls, one brick thick; the face shows three or four stretchers to one header; or five courses of stretchers to one of headers. 1786 ARBUTHNOTT *Coord. Anim.* 298 Calling seed.. some are dwarf sorts, early 'Yorkshire. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire cement*, the same as Mulgrave, Whitby, or Atkinson's cement. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 3 A pair of most voluminous mustachios, of thick Yorkshire cord. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 240 A driving coat of Yorkshire drab. 1822 in *Halpherton's Ledger* (1867) 308 *Yorkshire or Northern Fog. 1673 *Trials of White & Other Jesuits* 83 In Gray Cloaths, a Gray Coat like a Shepherds Coat, a *Yorkshire-Gray. 1892 *Dict. Archit.* s. v., *Yorkshire gritt*, is a name sometimes given to Bramley Fall stone; it is one of the most general of the sandstones sent to London, and is used for paving, coping, and rough work. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* III. 144 There was a *Yorkshire ham, which had not suffered so deeply by the last night's onslaught. 1779 BRIDGES *Barbiconi* 11 *Honour* (1797) II. 319 A pea-try-cook, That made good pigeon-pie of rook, Cut venison from *Yorkshire hogs. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 639 The red-nosed kidney and the white *Yorkshire kidney. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire light*, a term used in Lancashire, for a sliding sash. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 32/2 A Machine for washing of Linnen, called a *Yorkshire Maiden. 1711 E. *Ward Wks.* I. 44 Not caring to perform much more Than one good *Yorkshire Mile an Hour. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Yorkshire mile*, a long distance. 1858 DICKENS *Dombey* xvi. A young servant girl brought in a *Yorkshire pie. 1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Pract. Cookery* II. 803/1 *Yorkshire Pie.* A pie under this name sold at Italian warehouses is nothing more than a galantine packed in terrines of different size. 1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 23 The Rotherham or *Yorkshire plough. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 65 A Yorkshire Pudding. Take a Quart of Milk, four Eggs.. make it up into a thick Batter with Flour, like a Pancake Batter. 1832 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. v. 272 They feed me on roast-beef and Yorkshire pudding. 1861 *Bickerstaff's Almanack* I. vii. 140 At the bottom of all.. lay about half an acre of sad and heavy Yorkshire pudding, like a leaden pancake. 1772 BRIDGES *Barleycap* (1797) II. 30 Dear Tychius, who dwelt in Hyle, Where *Yorkshire shoes are made most vilely. 1569 in *Black Bks. Linc. Inn* (1897) I. 449 For vj fote of *Yorkshyer stoms for the doors of doryes.

**2.** Used allusively, esp. in reference to the †boorishness, cunning, sharpness, or trickery attributed to Yorkshire people. *To come* (or *put*) *Yorkshire on one*, to cheat, dupe, overreach him. *Yorkshire bite*, a sharp overreaching action or person. † Also in prov. phr. *a pair of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmith's shop*, said of anything worthless.

1600 *Wentworth Gr. Deputy* Soc.) 56 If she lived now, she would shew as vild as a paire of Yorkeshire sleeves in a goldsmiths shop. 1604 A. HOLLAND *Contin. Ingulf. Pagan Persec.* 85 England and the wild Yorkeshire, and the Age Extremely sottish, or too nicely nice. 1650 *Brit. Disc. betw. Yorkshireman, & Scottish-man* 1 *Yorks.* I am a Yorkshireman born and bred, I care not who knowes it I hope true Yorkshire manners denies his country. 1670 I thought you looked like a subtle blade. 1700 *Step to the Bath* 10, I ask'd what Countrey-Man my Landlord was? Answer was made full Yorkish and Faith 'twas very Evident, for he had put the Yorkshire most Damnably upon us. 1906 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 53 He's more confident of his Way, than a Yorkshire Carrier. 1797 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1979) Glees., *Yorshar*, Yorkshire; to put Yorkshire of a Man, is to trick, cheat, or deceive him. 1799 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 691/1, I flatter myself that this will turn out to be a Yorkshire bite, and that the biter will be bit. 1798 HOLMAN *Abroad & at Home* V. 1 I dare say, his Yorkshire simplicity will very illy suit admiralty for the profession! 1820 *Sporting Mag.* XIII. 114, I will not denominate your coursing correspondent a Yorkshire bite, for he only snaps. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Yorkshear*, Yorkshire. When anything is done very sharp or clever, we say 'that's real Yorkshear'. 1889 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Yorkshire*, cajolery, blarney, attempt to hoodwink or deceive. 'Let's ha' none o' your Yorkshire.'

**3.** *elliptical.* as the designation of a thick coarse cloth made in Yorkshire, a breed of canary, (*pl.*) soldiers of a Yorkshire regiment; also short for *Yorkshire dialect, etc.*

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6444/5 Speaks Yorkshire. 1733 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vi. lxxxv. 300 Soldiers cloths, yorkshires, and flannels. 1819 PATON *Highl. Adviatic* II. xvii. 213 The Hauskenezh and Stallknecht..speaking the broad dialect of the south-eastern provinces, a kind of Yorkshire to the classic language of the Schillers and Herders. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 1/1 Fifteen of the Yorkshire Light Infantry killed; two Sikhs and thirty-one Yorkshires wounded. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 3/3 Slim and sprightly Yorkshire.. contrast strongly with the equally esteemed Lancashires of pale yellow plumage. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 7 Feb. 3/5 [Women] much prefer the graceful, stylish York-shire to the more rotund Norwich.

†**4.** = YORKIST *b. Obs.*

1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VI* (1653) 278 All the enemies of the Yorkshire Faction are assembled by the Queen at Greenwich. 1655 HEYLIN & LEMON *Hist. Chr. Wars* 125 The earl of Warwick..came over to England, in order to put himself at the head of the Yorkshire insurgents.

5. Used attributively, the character of a Yorkshireman; **Yorkshireism,** an action or expression characteristic of a Yorkshireman.

1849 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 356/2 Tim Matlock..who keeps his 'canny Yorkshire-dom 'intact even on Jonathan's hunting-ground. 1850 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xxii, Yorkshire Hall's ancient fame Is scarce less known for hospitality. 1820 *Abbot* xvi, He was a bluff Yorkshireman. 1856 [H. H. HALL] *Poet's Pudlock* 1, The Yorkshireism is attributable to the strict attention to liquid sounds.

**Yorlin(g,** *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **7 yourling, 9 yorline, yeorling, yarlin, yerlin.** [Variant of YOWLRING; cf. YOLDRING.] A yellow-hammer.

1679 LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 31 A Yellow-hammer or Yourling. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 151 Should at his feet a scarted Yorlin, Sing, 'Tis cauld, tak Yellow Yorlling, Get a drap o the Deil's bluid ilka May morning.'

**Yorn(e, 3orn(e:** see YARN, YERN, VERNE.

**Yornyman,** obs. form of JOURNEYMAN.

1553 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 806 Ne a yornyman or a Suffycyent persunne ne abowe vj d. a days.

**Yort(e,** obs. or dial. (Lancs.) *f.* YARD *sb.*1

*c* 1515 *Erasm. towchcynge Cokeye More* 9 (Chetham Misc. II.) Ye swan lyngley yort.

**Yort, Yorth, yorth, Yoake, 3oake:** see YOURT, EARTH, YRK.

**Yosted:** see HOST *v.*1

**Yostregere,** obs. form of OSTREGER.

1563 in *N. & Q.* (1889) 7th Ser. VIII. 101 Here vnder lyeth the body of Yostregere somtyme was..on of y^e yostregere unto y^e late kynges & quenes of famous memorys.

**Yot(e, 3ot(e:** see YET.

†**Yote,** *sb.* [*f.* next.] Casting (of a metal object).

1474-5 in Swayne *Churches. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 29 Brasse that remayned of the yote of the grete bell.

**Yote,** *v. dial.* Also **4 3(o)ote, 5** *pa. pple.* **3otted, 6 yout,** *vbl. sb.* **yotting, 6–7 yowt, yeot, 7 yoat.** [Local (chiefly west and south-west) development of OE. *géotan* YET *v.*]

1. *trans.* To pour.

*a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Acts ii. 18 Vpon my bondemen..I schal 3ote of the gyfte of my spiritis in hem. *Ibid.* 33 He has 3otted downe his, but yhe see ande here. *Ibid. x.* 45 For in nacyons þo grace was 3otted oute of þo Holygoste. 1688 [see 3].

**2.** To pour liquid upon; to soak.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 760 My Fowles,..I found feeding at their Trough, Their yoted wheate. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gl.* Yoat, to pour. To fry grains must be well yoated, or whesed for the pigs. 1878 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. IX. 328 Workmen are said to 'yote in' metal to fix iron clamps or stalking. The word 'yote' also signifies to water, to pour water on.

**3. a.** To cast in metal.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 77 þis Gerebertus.. þeis yote [MS. *A* 3eote] an hede þat spak nouȝt but whanne me axede of hym.

b. To fasten in (a metal bar, a stone block, etc.) with lead; to 'lead in'.

1535 *Mis. Accnt. D.* 777, ij ȝets Youtyng the hookes of the Kechyn Doren to the stone Walles. 1570 in Swayne *Churches. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 287 White for his labore for the yoting of them 6d. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 111 (Selden's) grave was nine foot deep at least, the bottom pav'd with bricks and walled about two foot high, with grey marble coarsly pollished, each piece being yoted (that is fastned with lead molted in) with iron champs. 1892 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 89/2 *Yote* or *Yeet*, a term used in Gloucestershire and Somersetshire for 'leading in' iron work to stone.

Hence **Yo·ting** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*); also † **Yo·ter,** a caster of metal.

1479–80 in Swayne *Churches. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 367 Castyng 3 C leds to y^e ^yoters xs. 1543 *Will of Ric. Elyot* (Somerset Ho.) ^Yowtyng feate. 1534 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 176 John taker a ^sottingston. 1597 in Phillipps *Wills* (1902) 40, I give and bequeath to my sonn..one yeoting stone. 1602 *Will of Allyn* (Somerset Ho.) Yorting stone. 1652 *Will of M. Bevise* (Somerset Ho.) The yeoting stone, the mowstadells. 1592–3 *Will of D. Saunders* (Somerset Ho.) One mosache and my plumpe and ^yottinge vate and garnett. 1600 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 111 In the well yarde. One yotinge vate and frame xxs. *c* 1530 in *Wiltshire Wills Wells* (1890) 176 *marginæ*, One ^yotinge vault in the house at Tolland. 1512 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1903) 151 A ^yoting wessaide of lede.

†**Yo·ten,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: **4** 3oten, -un, 3otun, 4–6 yoten. [pa. pple. of YET *v.*] Cast.

13.. *Cur. de L.* 371 Ilys mase, That was made of yoten bras. 1382 WYCLIF *Prol. Bible* iii. 4 Thei forsoken the feith ..of God, and onoureden 3oten calues. — *Exod.* xxxiv. 17 3oun goddis thow shalt not make to thee. 1552 HUTCHINSON *Fardle Facions* II. viii. M iv b, Some worship the sonne, some y^e moone. Other, ymages of yoten metall.

**Yott,** obs. form of YACHT.

**You** (*yū*, *yŭ*), *pers. pron., and pers. obj.* (*nom.*), *pl.* (*sing.*). Forms: 1–3 eow, (1 iow, iow, 2 3eau, heou, heow, how, 3ehw,) 2–3 eou, 3eu, 3ew, 2–4 ou, hou, 3u, 3 iou, eu, ew, heu, eo, oeu, howe, 3eow, 3uw, ov, 3–4 ow, owe, 3iu, 3–5 eu, yu, (6 *Sc.*) 3ou, 4 iow, 3ue, 3uu, 3ouu, yuu, youu, yhow, 4–5 3owe, 3how, 3o, (6–7 *Sc.*) 3ow, 4–7 yow, 5 3ouo, 3ewe, 3hu, yowe, yoow, yw, yo, yewe, *Sc.* yhu, yhw, 5–6 youe, 6 low, 7 yow[e, you, (9 *dial. & vulgar* yah, yar, also YEH). [OE. *ēow* acc. and dat. (also *ēowic*), Northumb. *iuih*, etc.) = OFris. *iuwe, iwe*, OS. *iu*, MDu., Du. *u*, OHG., MHG. *iu, eu*; deriving from earlier **iuw* :– OTeut. **iuwiz.* A parallel formation is represented by ON. *yðr* (MSw. *iþer*) for **iðwir*, ? **iÞwiR*, Goth. *iswis*.

Originally the accusative and dative plural of the second personal pronoun: see THOU for the declension of the 2nd pers. pron. in OE. and ME. Between 1300 and 1400 YOU was used also for the nominative YE, which it had replaced in general use by about 1600. During the 14th century it also appears as a substitute for the singular obj. THEE and nom. THOU, being originally used in token of respect in addressing a superior, but later also to an equal, and ultimately generally: cf. THOU 1. Thus *you* is now the general pronoun of the second person, nominative or objective, singular or plural.]

**I.** As plural, used in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things).

1. *Objective.* **a.** as direct object of a verb.

*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 551 Eow þeos cwen labaþ, secgas, to sohte. 1258 in *Anglia* VII. 1. 200 Ich ou greote ȝeþrudde. *a* 1275 *Coll. Hom.* 235 Uiwraste ȝeo þeos laȝe[n] ne lacheð. *a* 1275 *Ancr. Hom.* 13 Swa þet heo eow tintregen and heow ȝiwenchet. *c* 1205 LAY. 4556 Æfore mare ich eu seouie. *Ibid.* 5455 Leot wer þene ic eow [*c* 1275 you] abide. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3 in *E. E. Misc.* 32 Wa sholt ȝew, folk of litle beliaue! 1386 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 53 To certefyen ȝ^u of godes and chateux. *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 254, I come to leden ou awey. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Ritson) xxiii, Ich dar my men, I ȝo cummawunde, To serue him wele to knowe and handle. 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 173 In heuene ich wole ȝo clobȝ & fede. 1450 in *Exeter Mayor's Audit Bks.* (1874) 18 and we charge yhw that [etc.]. 1484 *Caxton Fest Bk.* 304 Ryght trusty & wele-beloued, we grete yewe wele. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 12 To him I now commit baith small and greit. 1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* IV. i, I will be ludicium, the moderator betwixt you, and make you both friends. 1768 GOLDSM. *Hist. Earth* I. 204 Good people all, of every sort, Give ear unto my song; And if you find it wondrous short,—It cannot hold you long. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Fair scenes of peace and sunshine..who has ever seen you but has found a grateful memory of those scenes of friendly repose and beauty? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* II, The lost!.. Sinners!.. Ah! dear friends, does that mean me and me?

b. as indirect object.

*c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxvi. 181 (Hatton MS.) Was ieow weiegum. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 43 Soð ic ou segge [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 1455 Þatt wass ȝuw sculen heow sceawenn hwilc hit is heom for to herenn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 117 Ich wile ȝu senden þe heuenliche liefdrigge. 1205 LAY. 26555 Hit is se muchel ouuel þat se wullen at-seoken. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 104 He ou wolde wyssye wuliche þinges. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 115 Hit wes kluȝ eu [*Cotton MS.* ow] to habe custe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10097 Suf we dob ou wrong: we sual ou do rist? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 139 Sythen sal i tell yow [*r.-r.* ȝow, ȝou] Of iacob and of esau. *c* 1330 *Cast. Love* 367 Ich habbe i-lerd, as ich ow seide. (S.T.S. 29, I will yow give Eternall lyfe. 1638 BROME *Antipodes* IV. vi, He give you halfe a Dozen At the next Ale-house, to set all right. 1792 DU PUY *Plague* (1820) 129, I tell you, that we have not much time to lose in the dance. 1859 KINGSLEY *Good News of God* xiii, I preach to you a Spirit..who has given you all the life you have.

c. As object of a preposition.

*c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 28 CuNice becymeþ in eow godes rice. *a* 1275 *Coll. Hom.* 225 Betweone me and eow. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 Þese folc onlumne.. þe þe deoual hauede in ow þurhut of sunne. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beniune* 272 in *O. E. Misc.* 81 Loke seyde god nuþe Hwat ich for ou oube. *c* 1290

*St. Patrick* 612 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 218 3if ich fram eow wende. *c* 1300 *Harrowing Hell* (E.) 141 Helle3ates, y com 3ou to, Now ich wil 3at 3e vnbo. 1382 Wyclif *John* xviii. 39 It is a custom to 3ou, that I delyuer con to you in pask. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 1, I witnes bifor God Almi3ty, and alle trewe cristunnen and wominen, and 3owe. *c* 1480 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 464 And I in you, and 3e in me. 1536 Wright-ley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 42 Longe to reigne over you. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 31 Mark weill .. How Christis croce, is for 3our weil. 1609 H. Jonson *Epicœne* v. iii. That it be not vntunge to you, I will tell you. 1922 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 130 The danger is as great from you to us, as from us to you. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* i, Here's an unbelieving Pagan for you, gentlemen! 1858 Mrs. Forrester *Harlem's Ideal* etc. 46 You have killed me between you.

**d.** As *reflexive pron.* (*acc.* or *dat.*) Yourselves. *arch.* See also *yourself* s.v. Self A. 2–4.

*c* 897 *Rushw. Gregory's Past. C.* 2 v. 93 (Hatton MS.) Habba3 3e nealt on lowe, & sibbe habba3 betweoh eow [*Cott. MS.* eow]. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Wasche3 ou and woniee6 clene. *c* 1200 Ormin 5373 batt iss min bodeword, tatt 3e 3uw lufenn itwa betwenenn eowwre3 & bin fulle3henn. *c* 1205 *Lay.* 7473 3arewie6 ow [*c* 1275 Greiþeh ow] to fihte. *ibid.* 26447 Cnihtes fare6 eou a3einn. *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1403 Ne dredi3 ze ow nawiht. *c* 1250 *Will. Palerne* 106 Halden ow stille. 1375 Barbour *Bruce*1. 92 Haid 3e wmbethocht yow entirely, Quhat perell to 3ow mycht happer. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3689 Drynys 3ong na better in 3owre 3outh, Bot thynk of he same leuyng. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 103 I will nocht lurk my brane, Suppois 3e sould mischeif 3ow. 1570 Satires *Pol. C.* 1. 1. 5 Ane 3ong man vold Chryst 3ow gif 3e wold get you home. 1581 *Bible* Isa. I. 16 Wash yee [*mod. edd.* you], make you cleane. 1881 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* 1, Now tell us, we pray you, Why thus you array you.

**2.** *Nominative*, replacing Ye (sense 1).

In early use sometimes app. for emphasis, as opposed to *ye* unemphatic: but often used by *pe* as a mere alternative.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23160 (Cott.) Vnto mi bliss haf 3ane na tight. *c* 1440 *Destr. Troy* 1600 And, as 3oe [*v.r.* Æneas and Hector] counsell in the cas, I comaund be done. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81b, What ye rede, so you practise it in lyfe and dede. 1582 *N. T.* (Rheims) Luke xi. 19 And if 3oe 3oe selues iudge, they shall be 3our iudges. 1611 *Bible* Isa. I. 16 Wash yee [*mod. edd.* you], make you cleane. 1881 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* 1, Now tell us, we pray you, Why thus you array you.

**3.** *Nominative*, replacing I (sense 1).

In early use sometimes app. for emphasis, as opposed to *ye* unemphatic: but often used by *pe* as a mere alternative.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23160 (Cott.) Vnto mi bliss haf 3ane na tight. *c* 1440 *Destr. Troy* 1600 And, as 3oe [*v.r.* Æneas and Hector] counsell in the cas, I comaund be done. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81b, What ye rede, so you practise it in lyfe and dede. 1582 *N. T.* (Rheims) Luke xi. 19 And if 3oe 3oe selues iudge, they shall be 3our iudges. 1611 *Bible* Isa. I. 16 Wash yee [*mod. edd.* you], make you cleane. 1881 W. S. Gilbert *Patience* 1, Now tell us, we pray you, Why thus you array you.

**b.** As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following.

1589 Pierson *Cambyses* (c 1561) F 3, Farewell you Ladies of the Court. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 138 Heare me you wrangling Pyrates, that fall out, In sharing that which you haue pill'd from me. 1858 Cokaine *Trappolin* v. v, You Lords of Florence, wise Machiavil, and You Lord Barbarino, will you never come Out of this frenzie? 1799 Sheridan *Pizarro* II. ii, And you, my daughters, .. away to the appointed place of safety. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 37 You sir, I said, what are you conspiring about? 1885 Tennyson *The Fleet* 1, You, you, if you shall fail to understand, What England is, ..On you will come the curse of all the land.

**3.** In apposition with a sb., a numeral, *all*, *both*, in nominative or objective case.

*c* 1205 *Lay.* 5453, & 3if 3e 3ës nulleð, alle ich seoe [*c* 1275 3ou] aquelle. *c* 1300 *Sir Tristrem* 2182 Loke now ze nedy And blod bat 3ou fere. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 685 I haue founde 3ou folk faibful of speche. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lv. 906 Is þat the rule of yow arraunt knyghtes for to make a knyght to iuste wil he or I? 1549 Coverdale-Erasm. *Par. Phil.* I. 8, I longe after you all, from the very hart rote in Iesus Christ. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. 1 250 If you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. 1611 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 69 You three From Milan did supplant good Prospero. *c* 1720 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* iv. (1840) 61 You English gentlemen..are too forward in the wars. 1891 Dickens *Pickw.* xlvi, If you law-gentlemen do these things on speculation. 1884 'Edna Lyall' *We Two* xxi, You don't know how I love you all.

**II.** As singular, used in addressing one person (or thing); orig. as a mark of respect, later *gen.*

**4.** *Objective*, replacing the earlier Thee.

**a.** as direct object of a verb.

13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 314 My wurschypful fadyr,.. Here my bone.. For sorowe my soule hab 3ow 3orȝ. *c* 1390 *Will. Palerne* 634 Maidenne.., sua li no sekenes nore þat so sore 3oui siles, I schal þurh craft bat ich kan keuer 3ou i hope. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 58, I beseke you my soueryn, assente to my sawe. *c* 1450 *Gol. & Gaw.* 147 To take 3our lord of your ayne, me think it grete skill. 1596 Jas. I *Bas. Poesie* Pref. (Arb.) 55, I will also wish now (docile Reader) that ye so commune with reiding thair reulis [*sic*] as 1587 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 138, I committ yow to the tuition of Jesu. 1650 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 465 If yow love your wife, and those that love yow. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XII. ix, Your religion ..serves you only for an excuse for your faults. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, It will afford me the greatest pleasure to know you, sir. 1848 A. B. Evans *Leicestersh. Wds.* 109 You're a bigger fool, nur ol took yer to be. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 8 Aug. 83/1 When I say mammon, I don't mean idle dukes or greedy merchant-princes; my small adulterating shopkeeper I mean you!

**b.** as indirect object. (See also 7.)

*a* 1356 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 23 No bowes now thar 3ow bende ! Of lilis 3e er all bare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 623 Myn lord,..Pis ringe, þat I ys present now, Ma gafe a pilgran to gyf 30w,..And had I suld gyf it 30w till, & thanga 3ou of 3ore gud wyl. 1491 Marc. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 24, I can yw thanko for yweyr letter þat ye sente me. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2353 Nowe must I make you a lectuary softe. 1589 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 64 My Lord, ane takkin I 30w pitcht. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 114 The drawing of that whereof the copy is sent now. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII. viii, Let me tell you that. 1820 Scott *Ivanhoe* xviii, 'Hold, woman, hold!' said Alice Lee: 'the dog will not do you harm.'

**c.** as object of a preposition.

*a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 28 Oure men sall with 3ow mote. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Winian*) 1123 Lord,.. of þat land 3et bruche haf I a man to 3ou as presoun. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2417 Me thouȝt þat assemely lady come me to .. & badde þat y chulde heyze & to gow go. *a* 1425 Mand. Anjou *Let. to Abbot of St. Oey* (Camden) 124 Unto you that bene a member of chirche. 1482 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XXV. 122 This owre ordinance made for owre Thomas Rolle owre keper of þe said Bretharnes loctorie. 15.. *Adam Bel* 47 in Kitson *Anc. Pop. Poetry* 7 Thys place hath ben besette for you, Thys hal yere and more. 1596 Dalrymple *Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 296 This goldine aple ..I prepara and decoret vnto 3ow my Soucrane. 1607 Tomkis *Lingua* iv. i, Mendatio you offer mee great wrong to hold me, in good faith I shall fall out with you. 1780 *Reformer* No. 59 'Quantity of syllables,' exclaimed the Chaptain, 'there is a modern education for you!' 1892 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xx, I bought her, and I'll give her to you.

**d.** As *refl. pron.* (*acc.* or *dat.*). Yourself. *arch.*

*c* 1400 *Antuer Arth.* 100 Thus he comforthede þe qwene .., 'At this gaste,' quod Sir Gaweayne, 'greue 3owe no more.' *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3470 Seynt Ede...saycle: 3yre kynge, stede 3ow wel and manlych. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxvi. 96 I shal gyue you a gyfte, quod Sir Gaweyne, 'greue 3owe no more.' 1570 *Levins Manip.* 200/9 To withdraw your selfe. 1582 Stanihurst *Æneis* iv. 138 Ioue..Dispatcht him [see Get v. 28 c]. 1884 W. S. Gilbert *Princ. Ida* III, Coward! get you hence.

**5.** *Nominative*, replacing Thou.

Always const. with pl. verb, exc. in the collocation *you was* (*were*), prevalent in 17th and 18th c., for which see Be v. 6 P.

For other instances of *you* with *thou*, *ye* see *Thou* 2 b.

*a* 1. *Soy W.* (Cambr. MS.) 4292 'Syr Gyw,' he seyde, ..' To morowe schall yow weddyd bee.' 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* vi. 659 (Edin. MS.) Bot the gret part 30w tak 3e, That ekewiȝ all the lyf is 30wris. 1513 Douglas *Æneis Dedicat.* (Arb.) 380 Ouer the sayde lyght, yow shall se a great gappe in the mountayne. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. i. 53 Youswore to that Berowne, and to the rest. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T. Argt.* v. (1623) Well, Master Moore, you are a merie man. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 236 You shall, if yow finde it necessary, goe from Holland into Ireland deliuer to the Duke of Ormond the inclosed in our letter. 1790 Richardson *Pamela* I. 163 Well, Jacob, what do you stare at? Pray mind what you're upon. 1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* I. 34 If yow wer any store for a wife yeh will! 1833 Tennyson *Death of Old Year* ii, Old year, you must not go!..Old year, you shall not go.

**b.** As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following; in reproach or contempt often repeated after the sb. (cf. Thou v.).

*c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 181 My lod and my lady, yf ye vouchsaf it were tyme that we went thrugh the world at our auentures. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 288 Fie, fie, you counterfeit, you puppet, you. 1608 Chapman *Gentl. Usher* III. i, You aswe you, d'ee call my Lord horse? 1667 Dryden & Dr. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* v. iii, You old Sot you, to be caught so sillily! 1708 Goldsm. *Good-n. Hum* II, And you knave you, you will succeed, you little hussy, you! 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* iv, You young hangdog, you! 1849 H. W. Herbert *Frank Forester* II. 179 Walk in there, you fool, and get your breakfast for all the cross you're! 1852 E. Burne-Jones *Let.* 24 Jan. in *Mem.* (1904) I. 63 You scamp not to write before. 1919 Capes *Sheli. Mts.* 11 Thank you for trying, you dears,' he said.

**III.** Special uses.

**6.** Denoting any hearer or reader; hence as an indef. pers. pron.: One, any one.

1377 Godeg *Herebaud's Hush.* II. (1868) 87 You shall sometime have one branch more gallant than his fellowes. 1604 Tomkis *Albumazar* i. iii, With this perspicil you shall read a leafe of that small Iliade..as plainly Twelue long miles off, as you see Pauls from Highgate. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Criticism* (1632) 333 Yet more, you shall haue Atheists striue to get Disciples, as it fareth with other Sects. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4331/3 One Red Buoy to the Eastward of you, as you go into Yarmouth. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. i, A field..began a squall that you might have heard from London Bridge to Chelsea. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* I. § 30 You can talk a couple hours anything. 1890 *Good Words* 137/2 The slope [is] so rapid that you can scarcely find footing when once off the beaten road.

**7.** Used with no definite meaning as indirect object ('ethical dative'). Cf. Me 2 c. arch.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 1, Come now a roundel and a fairy song; Then, for the third part of a minute, hence; stand thou yonder Dowe; I will roare and 'twere any Nightingale. 1600 — *Hen. V*, I. iii. If he be not rotten before he die, he will outlive the age of man

represented also by Skr. *yuvan-*, *yúv-*, L[8] *juvenis*, comp. *júnior*, Lith. *jáunas*, OSl. *junŭ* young, L. *juventās*, *juventa*, OIr. *ōitiu*, YOUTH.] **A.** *adj.*

1. That has lived a relatively short time; that is in the early stage of life or growth; youthful: opp. to OLD *a.* 1. **a.** of persons.

*Not so young as (one) was* (or *used to be*): getting old, advanced in years (*colloq.*, often *facetious*).

*a. Beowulf* 13 Ðæm eafera wæs æfter cenned ȝeong in ȝeardum. *a.* 1000 *Andreas* 390 Nu ynnt ȝelpreade þegnas wlitȝ, ȝeonge ȝuðfriscne. *c* 1200 *Aldhelm Glosses.* 1. 8991 (Napier 70/2) *Lactantes*, *i. infantes*, ung cildra. *c* 1200 Ormin 1212 Siff þu . . hafesst ȝet, tohh þu be ȝung, Elldennemannes late. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 66 A maiden swiðe ȝung of ȝeres. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 7/209 On oueruarde he hadde a luyte ȝong child. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12460 Quen iesus com ig-to þai acols, Þof he was ȝong was he na fole. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* x. 18 His ȝe is as yu-Comely Cowple be Cryse, as me bikeþ, To ȝeuen a ȝong wenche to an old feble Mon. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 322 His air . . his land sall weild, All be he neuir ne thongyt of eild. *c* 1450 Cavendish *Life St. Aug.* (1887) 137 Þan ȝong damesellis be with chaterynȝ tongis. *c* 1480 *Knare* 707 Up he toke that fayre ladye, And the ȝonge clyrke the thrid. 1535 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* ii. (1895) 160 The nourcesis sitte seuerall alone with their yonge suckelinges. 1617 Morykon *Itin.* iii. 185 Philip, cled ȝoung like his father. 1682 Dryden *Abs. & Af.* 3 Who, like Augustus, young Was call'd to Empire and had govern'd long. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* xvi, He.. instructed the young boys in the games of hustle-cap, leap-frog, and chuck-farthing. 1818 Scott *Heartbu.* xlii, Young in years but old in grief. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* vi, Judging such things by what they were when I was young. *Ibid.*, He is not so young as he used to be. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxvii, George Hawker, it's many years since we met, and I'm not so young as I was. 1888 J. S. White *Bickerdyke* vi, Somehow the laugh had made her look young and pretty again.

*b. a* 900 Cynewulf *Elene* 333 Ic up ahof eaforan ȝinge. *Ibid.* 464 Onȝin, ȝunge ȝinga, ȝoddes heahmæȝen, nerȝendes nemnan. *c* 1000 [see Younker 2]. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12460 A sarglant . . þat had ben als of his fostring, Ai siþen he was a barn ȝing. 13.. *Coer de L.* 941 Forleyn was his doughter ȝong. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* (Rnxb.) 393 That ageyngs no mayden tendyr & ȝing Fyfty ȝreth clerkys þou duost furth bryng. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 398 As soone as thei hem sauȝh, thei ne douted nothinge of hem, for thei were so ȝing. 1520 *World & Child* A ij b, I wyll the fynde whyle thou art ȝynge, So thou wylte be obedyent to my byddynge. 1529 Skelt. *Poems Reform.* xvii. 281 Ȝit I hope relief, Of ȝeiris thocht be be ȝing. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 2 Sueit thing, besing and ȝing.

*c.* 1205 Lay. 3322 His sune a ȝonge king. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24030 (Gött.) Þai wrocht wonman ȝeng [*rime* steng]. *c* 1400 [see Young man 3]. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3305 Among the lordes old and yeng For gladnes of thes new tithing. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 24030 (Laud) There was no maide of none osprynȝ So holy of lyfold nor yeng. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 591 He had sex childre ȝeng A lang tyme in his keppyng.

**b.** In collocations of specific meaning, as *young creature*, *young folk(s)*, *young fry*, *young people*, *young person*, *young thing*: see the sbs. Creature 3, Folk 3, 4, Fry[1] 4, People 6 b, Person 2 e, Thing[1] 10, and quots. below. *Young one*: † *a.* young persons; (usually with posa.) offspring, pl. *young ones*, offspring, progeny; = H. 2; also in colloq. form *young'un* = Youngster. See also Young Lady, Young Man, Young Woman, and Young Wife, below.

Certain collocations, e.g. *young man*, *gentleman*, *woman*, *lady*, are colloq. used vocatively in addressing reproof or warning to persons of almost any age. See Young man 1, quot. 1865; Young woman 1, quot. 1852.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6446 Awey sell ȝonge ȝinges. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 1526 Se..Oghe to a ȝonke ȝynk ȝern to schewe, & teche him to reuerence of cortaysye. 1581 Wyver *Merch* xvi. 5 Thei ȝoynge yn into the aepulcre ȝysen a ȝong oon, hilid with a whit stoole. *c* 1425 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 147 Ful seelde is, þat ȝong folk wyse been. *c* 1450 *Brut* ii. 349 A ȝong creature of ix yere of age, Dame Isabell. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* ii. iv. (1883) 55 That the ȝonge pepie shold not haue but on gowns or garment in the yere. 1533 Eden *Richt Vay* i. Ȝyngd men and veemen ar maist speciaile ȝung persons. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xl. 7 The cowe and the Bere shal fede togeither, and their yongones shal ligg togeither. 1549 Compl. *Scot.* xi. 102 Sicken *Alis Wall* v. iii. 303 Dead though she be, she feeles her yong one kicke. 1605 — *Mach.* iv. ii. 11 The poore Wren.. will fight, Her yong ones in the Nest, against the Owle. 1653 W. Harvey *Anat. Exerc.* xl. 53 The superficies of this Island (in the monethis of May and June) is almost covered quite over with Nests, Egges, and Young-Ones. 1693 *Humours Town* 118 If a Girl, tho' indeed she be generally the Care of you young Ones, now-a-days, to get one that's Ugly or Old. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 192 My Eyes, like most young Couples, were perpetually at the Windows. 1753 Smollett *Count Fathom* viii, Certain dangerous books, calculated to debauch the minds of young people. 1784 Cowper *Task* i. 751, The Baron, while he assumed the lower end of the table, insisted that Lady Emily should do the honours of the head, that they might, he said, set a neat example to the *young folk*. 1833 [see Folk 3 b]. 1838 Kane *Electr. Phenom.* 200 'Where's the kids?' 'Kids!' reiterated Mrs. Brindle, interrogatively. 'Yes, the young 'uns!' said Mrs. Rodger. 'Oh, the children!' 1852 Miss. Brown *Fortune-T. C.* xviii, Dinah would..tell all marauding 'young uns'..to keep out of the kitchen. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* x, The young couple were excellent listeners. 1854 Leupchild *Cornwall* 28 'Young persons' have been defined to be males and females of from thirteen to eighteen years of age. 1860 Geo. Eliot *Mill on Fl.* iii. iii, Well, young sir, we've been talking as we should want your pen and ink. 1876 Miss Braddon *T. Haggard's Dau.* i, You beware o' that young 'un. He's bound to be your foe. 1882 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* i. ix, She could be properly described as a Young Girl, which is the general name for the workwoman in youth, but no one would think of calling her a young lady. 1928 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V*, *c.* 39. § 48 The expression 'young person' means a person under eighteen years of age who is no longer a child.

(*b*) Such collocations may be used attrib. or as adj., may be converted into verbs, or may take a suffix; e.g. *young-girl* adj. (pertaining to a young girl), *young-master* sb. (to address or treat as a young master); *young-gentlemanly* adj. (pertaining to or characteristic of a young gentleman).

1613 *Sidney's Arcadia* ii. xxix. (ed. 4) 210 Looking to haue bin yong-maisted among those great estates, as he was among his abusing vnderlings. 1864 Thackeray *Locke's Fict. Wks.* 1900 XIII. 488 What fine young-gentlemanly wags they are. 1868 Sill *Hermitage* i, A well-bred, fair, young-gentlemanly life. 1882 ' Mark Twain ' *Tramp Abr.* 18, She was absorbed in . . her own young-girl dreams.

**c.** Used to distinguish the younger of two persons of the same name or title in a family (esp. a son from his father); equivalent to *junior*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 48 Þe holy mayde aske þet scþbe wes yonge thohyen wyf. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 216 Scipio the ȝing. *a* 1461 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 Yn Abraham tyme, and in Bailey tyme the yongge. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* i. xviii. (S.T.S.) I. 121 Mi lord, I pray zow, ȝeue me leif to fecht tullia war maryit ingotht. 1563–1693 [see Master *sb.*[1] 22]. 1570 in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1899) I. 23 For maning of the yong Mast Prince. 1577 Harrison *Descr. England* Chronicles *Hist. Reb.* iii. § 147 The chief leaders, Nathaniel Fynes and young Sir H. Vane. 1753 Smollett *Count Fathom* xiii, Young Melvil, implicitly believed that Ruthy and protestations of Fathom. 1817 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* i, Young Ormond was the son of the friend of Sir Ulick O'Shane's youthful and warm-hearted days. 1884 *Nation* (U.S.) 27 *Aug.* 169 The young Mr. Francis keeps her dower, and young Deering the estates for his life.

**d.** of animals (or their flesh as food).

*Young fish*: see Fish 1 *a*.

*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 23 *Vitulum saginatum*, ȝing oxo fætt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 201 Þe neddre bileued hire hude hatten hire, and cumeð newe fel and hir ȝunge. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* (1495) xviii. 1 (1892) 73 Capere yong fry in Regia Rips et vendere hominibus de Crowmeer..pro bayte. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 54 Take ȝonge briddes & ȝeyrnes & ȝeyr potel. 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 139 Of beestis and foules ȝynge,..a peyre. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 82 Thy colts for thy saddle geld young to be light and handsome. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 5 Chargeth a Hog and ȝong Hogs with 4 bushells of Pease. 1708 Swaw. *Ode Intim. Immort.* iii, While the young lambs bound As to the tabor's sound. 1808 G. F. Lyon *Jrnl. Mexico* I. 109 A steak which I cooked tasted so like veal, that I was deceived.

**e.** of plants, or their parts or products.

*a* 800 *Blickl. Glosses* in *O.E. Texts* 122 þa ȝingan eletriow. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* x. 3750 (Napier 90/2) Iungum wyrtum *Glossæ* 1. 1250 *Diet & Nigell.* 113 b Per tunc oblata a ȝere blowe An ȝunge sedes springe & growe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1418 Par ras o þam thre wandes yong. *c* 1440 *Liber Cocorum* 21 Do þer to sage and persely ȝong. 1598 Dunbar *Golit. Tayis* 22 The rosis yong..War powderit brycht with hevinly berald droppis. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* iv. ii. 98 Then he hangs A mans haire vpon these cherries. our yong plants with carving Rosalinde on their barkes. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 If it [*sc.* cross-grain] grew up young with the Trunk, then instead of Knot you will find a Cockle in the Board when it is wrought. 1881 R. Phillporos' *Yng. Gard. Director* 108 Young Onions. 1894 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* i. 15 The sunny colouring of the young leaves. 1898 C. F. Lees *Prac. Hort.* ii. 249 The cattle..make sad incursions amongst the young crops. 1898 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 29 The heart wood is..of a darker colour than the soft or young wood.

**2.** *transf.* Belonging or pertaining to a young person or persons, or to youth, **a.** with *age*, *days*, *years*, etc.: the age or time when one is young; youth. *Obs. exc.* in *young days*.

*c* 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 99 Xif he bet ȝylfe cild on ȝeonȝa dagum. 1535 Coverdale *Ps. Reform.* xxxiv. 13 (1872) 81/2 Iunges childhades. *Ibid.* 2843 (77/1) *Tenerrituline*, iungan iuxeþe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 492 This hanselle haa Arthur at ȝoure ȝisten ȝeuen, In ȝonge ȝer. 1580 Tim. *Gilds* (1870) 53 Children in ȝonge age. 1588 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 131 When his ȝong dayes were go, he went to Rome. *a* 1598 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 79 At these yong yeres of age. 1670 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 21 Than vp thow rasit to reule my Ring, In to my teader ȝeiris ȝing. *c* 1670 *Women Saints* (1886) 77 Cuthburge..from her yong yeares consecrated herself to Christ. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* xv, A remnant of my young days.

**b.** of bodily members, faculties, acts, etc.

*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1434 His ȝunge blod hit draȝeþ amis. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1. 1211 He was wonder sory, and ful hertly wrote wiþ his ȝonge eyne. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 308 Ane ȝoungis stomack .. of groiss meitis . . ma tak khayris and lang sleip. 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 201 Haueyng a yonge and a lusty courage, . . he set on hys enemyes. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* i. i. 47 By Loue, the yong, and tender wit is turn'd to folly. 1892 Thackeray *Esmond* i. xi, She . made eyes at him, and directed her young smiles at him. 1876 Miss Braddon *T. Haggard's Dau.* i, A homily, in which he held up to his son the picture of his young fatherless. 1882 C. C. Hotton *Hearts* ii. 26 A fine young eye beneath a grey eyebrow is a prettier thing than a grey head on young shoulders.

**3.** Having the characteristics of young persons. or of youth; youthful in bodily condition or mental disposition (with various connotations); *esp.* having the freshness or vigour of youth.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* i. 1400 To see the a queene will make ye yonge agayne. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* i. i. 57 *Oli.* What boy. *Orl.* Come, come alder brother, you are too yong in this. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* i. xxxii. 52 An old Abbatess, being decrepit, suddenly became young, her monthly courses return'd (etc.). 1728 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett. to W. Mountagu* 9 Dec., It's a maxim with me to be young as long as one can. 1842 J. C. Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 454 Napoleon's mother.. a very handsome, regular featured, primarily persuasive, young of her age. 1864 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* I. *Lucy*, The affectation of age and wisdom, which contrast so oddly with his young unmeaning face. 1898 Toolley *Dr. Thorne* iii, Mr. Gresham was young for his age, and the doctor old. 1894 Max Pemberton *Sea-Wolves* i, Why, man, she must be a hundred and four, and young at that.

**4.** That has newly or not long since entered upon some course of action, or having the character of such a one; newly or recently initiated; inexperienced, or having little experience; unpractised; '*raw*'.

Also in Australian use, Newly arrived; that is a newcomer.

*a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 3673 (Napier 43/1) Iungum, *novitiis*, i. *novellis* (*catholicæ fidei sectatoribus*). *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 4 Þah ich ha a wintre ald, ich ȝung ich am on rede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Nu ȝyt ȝung ynogne bynnen and ane newene knyt. 1443 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* vii, Quhich to declare my scole is ouer ȝong. 1496–7 *Act 12 Hen. VII*, *c.* 6 The seid felishippe and Marchantes of London take of every Englich man or yonge merchaunte beyng there att his first commyng xx li. sterling. 1562 Winjet *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 101 Men in this warld ar ȝung in the craft of leirning. 1693 Shaks. *Mach.* iii. iv. 144 We are yet but yong indeed. 1696 Hubbert *Pill Formality* 161 Its not with these as with a young Practitioner. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* iv. (1840) 67, I was but young at the work. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journey, Montriul*, The landlord supposing I was young in French. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 27 We are still so young in the study of Nature. 1850 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, 'Matey, what station are you on?' 'Naraganoo,' says he. 'So', says I, 'you're rather young there, ain't you?' 1877 Sayte *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Young gentleman*, a general designation for midshipmen, whatever their age.

† **b.** *transf.* Characteristic of a young person, or of a beginner; showing inexperience; juvenile; immature; *occas.* childish, infantile. *Obs.*

*c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 10 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Fele idel word ich habbe ispeken seðen ich speken cuðe, And fele ȝeunge [*e.r.* ȝuinge] dadene ben me ofslinke3 mode. 1562 Cockeram i. *Young*, childish. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 5 Against his young Experience. 1718 J. Hughes in *Y. Duncombe's Lett.* (1773) I. 205 He has..inserted some trifles of mine which were very young performances.

**5.** Of a thing (concrete or abstract): That is in its early stage; lately begun, formed, introduced, or brought into use; not far advanced; recent, new.

In quot. 1402 applied to something resulting or 'springing' from something else, as compared to offspring (cf. 1d).

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 And alle sche ȝonge impossibilitees folowen therof. 1538 Elyot, *Mustus*..., newe, yonge, late made. 1553 *Respublica* iii. 1. 1178 It is but yong daies yet. 1565 Underdowne *Heliodorus* vii. 93 b A little yonge yellowe beardie. 1577 Harrison *England* ii. ii. (1877) i. 50 Oxford hath Oxfordshire onelie, a verie yonge iurisdiction, erected by king Henrie the eight. 1599 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* i. i. 166 *Rom.* Is the day so young? *Ben.* But new struckne nine. 1632 Markham *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) 2. xiii 89 Take the Kidney that is next to the yong stock vnto young Cheese. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* i. 64 While yet the Spring is young. *Ibid.* iii. 752 Such are the Symptoms of the young Disease. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Asparagus* II. (ed. 2) 113 To run or put up their Drink young, as the Brewers call it, that is before it hath fermented too much. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xxxvi, His young country, but there's been muckle wickedness done in it. 1863 Lecky *Leaders* 1. 2, xvi, The water..spread with that young blue which never lives beyond the April. 1880 O. Crawford *Portugal* 253 New and valuable discoveries of iron are yearly mine. 1884 Besant *Dorothy Forster* 21, They..left the table when the night was yet young, and the bottle just beginning. 1888 Cumming *Electr. Treated Untechnical* (1891) 63 It is..necessary, while the ship is young, to make a new correction for magnetism after each voyage. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* iii. A. 1, The night was yet young. 1898 Beside among some brave young woods. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 35/6 [This] was a severe tax on a young concern not earning profits.

**b.** Applied to the moon in the early part of the lunar month, soon after 'new moon', when it appears as a crescent.

In quot. *c* 1386 applied to the sun at the season just after the vernal equinox.

*c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 8 The yonge sonne Hath in the Ram his halfe cours yronne. 1813 [see *May moon*, *May sb.*[1] 5]. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 168 When the young moon is westering as now. 1849 H. W. Herbert *Frank Forester* III. 197 The silver azure in which the thread-like crescent of the young moon was climbing.

**c.** *spec.* in nautical uses (see quots.).

1596 Sir W. Slingsby *Voy. Cadiz* (Navy Rec. Soc. XX.) 71 At six hours' ends, upon the appearance of the young flood, the San Felipe, the San Matias, the San Andrea, and the San Tomaso . were abandoned by the Spaniards. 1774 C. J. Peyton *Voy. N. Pole* 60 The pools of water in the middle of the pieces were frozen over with young ice. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* i, We..ran up the river with the young flood for about an hour. 1883 *Chambers's Encycl. Engl. Lit.* (1888) II. 60 'young ice' is the name it is called by the whalers, the 'bay ice'. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Flood*, When the water begins to rise, it is called a young flood. *Ibid.*, *Young wind*, the commencement of the land or sea breeze.

† **d.** *Young with child*: newly pregnant, in the early stage of pregnancy; also loosely used for 'pregnant' (app. by confusion of *with child* and *with young*). *Obs.*

1613–8 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 187 Charles [King

of France] dying leaues his Wife young with childe. 1652 French *Yorkish. Spaw* viii. 78 When they have been very young with child. 1798 Mrs. Lennox *Henrietta* I. x, My mother, being young with child when my father died, miscarried. *a* 1800 T. Bellamy *Beggar Boy* (1801) III. 51 When my father was commanded on board, he left my mother young with child of me.

6. *fig.* Small, diminutive, miniature, not full-sized. Now *colloq.* and *jocular.*

1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 8 (1877) 60 We have in England great corne countries, groves, yongpryages, great ryvers and swete lockes. 1577 Goose *Herebuck's Husb.* iv. (1586) 173 It is best to bring from the Sea, little Rockes with the weedes and all vppon them, and to place them in the middest of your Ponds, and to make a young Sea of them. 1852 *Amer. Mag.* Nov. 92 I'll turn all the drawers inside out, and have a young earthquake. 1854 Grace Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 19, I left Liverpool on an afternoon of unusual brightness, but changed immediately into a young night, in the shape of the longest tunnel I ever passed through. 1885 Hobbaday *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xviii. 191 Such a weapon is usually a young cheetah.

†b. Technically applied to a lens of low magnifying power. *Obs.*

1667 Pepys *Diary* 4 Nov., To Turlington, the great spectacle-maker,...who dissuades me from using old spectacles, but rather young ones. 1706 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. iii. § 22 To speak in the Language of the Glass-Grinders, of younger or older Spectacles.

B. *adjol.* or as *sb.*

1. *absol.* in pl. sense (with def. art., or without art. in conjunction with *old*): Young people.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii(i). 63 *Iuwenes vrum comedit ġnuit*, ġunge heara ne fyr, *c* 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* ii, Ne þa ġeongan wurðian þa ealdan, & þa ealdan lufien þa ġingran. *c* 1205 Lay. 28444 Þa ġeonge and þa alde alle he aqualde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20495 Sung and old and suerlikan All þar fell to slepe onan. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 212 And how that love amonges Yonge Began the bernes thanne awake. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 227 Therfor thou byd both old and ying, That ich man know me for his kyng. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 19 Cum yung and auld, baith man and wyfe, I will 3ow giue Eternall lyfe. 1598 Shake. *Merry W.* iv. 1. 118 He wooes both high and low, both rich and poor, both yong and old. 1611 *Bible* 2 *Mac.* v. 13 Thus there was killing of yong and old. 1632 Jace *Old &c.* 13 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 207 ¶ 2 Old Age, which is a Decay from that Vivacity which the Young possess. 1770 [see Old *a.* 13] 1827 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* I, She saw herself surrounded by the young, the fair, and the gay. 1844-6 [see Old *a.* 1] 1885 W. Alexander *Valerie's Fate* v, I have always lived with people older than myself,...so I do not feel it, though it is very nice to be with the young.

†b. *adsol.* or as *sb. sing.* A young person, *esp.* a young woman or girl. *Obs.*

*c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 385 Þu ġionga, hio ðe unlibe to clipianne & to læranne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 20 Þa cwæð se ġeonga: eall þis ic ġehealde. *a* 1340 *H. Hampole* Prose Treat. (1866) 2 Þe ġonge was yepe, and wolde wel bat oþer. [? *a* 1400 *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 43 Vlixes..Brak his his trowth, & toke another phyng. Circes, to loue. *c* 1430 [see Verly *v.*] 1456 *Pol. Rel. & L.* *Poems* (1903) 77 Thise ben good frenche wordes for yuce.

**a.** as *sb.* in *pl.* Young or newly initiated persons, new-comers, novices. *nonce-use.*

1890 *Pall Mall Gan.* 30 Aug. 2/2 Although the 'Olds' have been the pioneers..of the movement, the 'Youngs' show an impatience with them at every turn.

2. †a. A young one; esp. with *a* and *pl.* (chiefly in imitation of foreign idiom). *Obs. rare.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10977 Til þat he be born, bat yung, þan sal he do þe haue be tung. *c* 1380 Anderw *Noble Lyfe* xxxvii. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 45 Haldis þe a beste þat dothe on-naturall dedys, for whan she feleth her yonges quycke, or stere in her body, than she drawyth them out & loketh vpon them. 1590 *Lucretius's Diotyll. Warres* Fij b, A Scorpyon, whyche kyllyth the yonges of the lyon with his venymous stynges. 1759 B. Stillingfleet tr. *Rösel's Essay Nat. Hist.* in *Misc. Tracts* 376 The chickens scarcely produces one young in two years. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 612/1 It [*sc.* the great seal] breeds about the month of March, and brings forth a single young one thence.

b. Young animals collectively in relation to the parent; young ones, offspring.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. xiii. The tree where vpon the egle and his yonge were in theyr nest. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxxiii(i). 3 The sparow hath founde hir an house, & the swalowe a nest, where she may lye hir yonge. — *Ps.* cxlvii. 11 The disceatfull maketh a nest, but bringeth forth no yonge. 1593 Shake. *Lucr.* 863 So then he hath it when he cannot vse it, And leaues it to be mastered by his yong. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 123 Gif a Sou eit his young, stane him. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 340 'Tis with this rage, the Mother Lion stung, Scours o're the Plain; regardless of her young. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* vii, The brinded lioness led forth her young. 1849 *Sk. Med. Hist., Mammalia* 65 The field mouse breeds twice in the year, producing from six to ten young at a time.

c. Phr. *With young* (also *in young*), of a female animal: Pregnant.

1538 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxvii(i). 72 The yowes greate with yonge. 1593 Shake. *3 Hen. VI*, I. ii. v. 35 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue beene with yong. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* 241 Goats grow fat when they are with young. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. vii. 203 The cat goes with young fifty-six days. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 309 The breeding sow, when in young, and near farrowing, should be kept in good condition.

†3. (*Ellipt.* for *young age*: see the adj. 2 a.) The time of life when one is young; youth. *rare.*

*c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) v. 30 In thi ȝonge lerne God to plese. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* End 60 In the strong Estate of Man, and the sweet Time of younge.

C. Special collocations and Combinations. (See also A. 1 b.)

1. **a.** With the names of countries or their inhabitants, in the designations of political parties chiefly composed of young men: as **Young England**, name assumed by a group of Tory politicians in the early part of the reign of Queen Victoria (hence *Young-Englander*, a member of this group; *Young-Englandism*, the principles of 'Young England'); **Young Europe**, a group of associations of republican agitators of various nations which arose after the July revolution of 1830 in France, known severally as *Young France*, *Young Germany*, *Young Italy*, *Young Poland*; **Young Ireland**, a group of Irish agitators about 1840–50 (hence *Young-Irelander*, *Young-Irelandism*); **Young Turk**, a member of a party of Turkish agitators which brought about the revolution of 1908 (hence *Young Turkish* adj.). (Such phrases may also be used in a general sense, as *Young England* = the typical young Englishman, or the rising generation of Englishmen.)

1838 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 178 Hence *Let. to C. Y. MacCarthy* 13 Mar., I go on with small "Young Englands' on Sunday evenings, which unfortunately excludes the more severe members—Acland, Gladstone, &c. 1843 *Times* 12 Aug. 5/2 It is not to defend 'Young England'..that we make these remarks. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* vi, Young England or Pusiism, tha is all right and noble. 1849 *New Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) LVIII. 425 Now Master Young England I am afraid I have been rather angry with you. 1886 Kebbel *Hist. Toryism* v. 274 That distrust of Sir Robert Peel which alone made the Young England Party possible. 1892 in T. W. Reid *R. M. Milnes* (1890) I. 205 We may both rejoice that our two 'young Englanders [*sc.* Milnes and Acland] have come out so well. 1848 Kinglake *Eothen* xii, She would have started as from a snake, from the issue..that Lancelot would fall in love, not with "Young Englandism, but with the Queen herself. 1848 *Dict. Eng. Hist.* 612/1 *Mr. Disraeli's Ger. Lit.* IV. 309 The coterie took the name of Young Germany (*das junge Deutschland*) only, however, as an emanation from "Young England and Young Paris. 1852 *Edin. Rev.* 478/1 Germany had found in her political reformers a new school of literature and morals, as well as of civil rights...Under the appellation of "young Germany', or 'young literature', young French...disregard of all restraints...they preached up their extravagant doctrines in corrupting publications. 1849 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. Y. Mac-Carthy* 16 Dec., "Young Ireland would have risen to-day to-morrow if they dared. 1884 *Dict. Eng. Hist.* 612/2 The 'Young Ireland' party..made a foolish attempt at rebellion in 1848. 1849 Monckton in W. Ward *Life Wiseman* (1912) I. 368, I do not at all share..in Dr. Cullen's distrust of those he calls 'Young Irelanders. 1851 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 224 Else and brilliant as Young Irelandism. 1849 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. Y. MacCarthy* 1 July, Mazzini,..who has been organising a "Young Italian' descent on Italy from Malta. 1901 *Scotsman* 2 Sept. 7/6 As regards the "Young Turks, the Sultan hopes that Munir Bey will be able to keep them under surveillance. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 9/2 Salonika, the head-quarters of the Young Turk Party. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 463/2 The Young Turkish party had long been preparing for the overthrow of the old régime.

b. In other special collocations, as *young* Fustic, *young* Hyson, *Young* Pretender, for which see the sb.

2. *Comb.* **a.** Adverbial and predicative, as *young-born* (*Cockaigne*), *-fed*, *-looking*, *-old* (cf. A. 1 a); in years but young in condition or disposition), *-thyrung* adjs. b. Parasynthetic, etc. as *young-bladed*, *-conscienced*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-winged*, † *-yeared* adjs.; †young-blood, a † young-blooded † person, a young hothead; † young-head, a headstrong young man. Also Young-eyed, Young-like.

1552 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. (1895) 5 This † yong bladed wit, men of yeares yp-borne. 1598 Florio *Ital. Gentleman* 12 These †young-bloods use rather, Catilinelike, to speake much, and doe little. 1874 *Edin. Rev.* July 82 The Hydrocephalus of the †young brain crushed out. 1598 Davenant *Gondibert* II. xi. 225, She..like †Young Conscience'd Casuists, thinks that sin, Which will by talk and practise lawfull seeme. 1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Ordinance* 1/2 Rejecting Old, Young-Counsell'd rash Rehoam Loseth Ten Tribes, which fall to Jeroboam. 1598 *Mucedorus* iv. l. 29 What..†young-fed humour moist within the braines? 1852 Beaconsfield *Lyar Gentleman* 12 It is intolerable for these †Young-heads to be opposed: they are deaf to reason. 1588 Fraunce in *Brit. Bibliogr.* (1812) II. 280 Owld doctors and †young-headed musitis. 1597 Barnfield, whiles †young headed boyes beare sways in loue. 1868 Lynch *Rivulet* ci. vi, †Young-hearted, gay Summer shall fling Thy doubts away. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Sur.* ii. *Notes. Ant.*, A man of seventy,..but wonderfully young-looking and well-preserved. 1558 R. Ramsey *Boy Bp.'s Serm.* 14 in *Camden Misc.* (1872) VII. All yow that are no children, but men, wemen, and †youngolds, of yeares and discretion. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiii. 274 Caleb was that young-old man, whose strength contradicted his years. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 2/2 A tall, ascetic-looking, young-old man. 1614 R. Tailor *Hog hath lost Pearl* iv. 1, All thy †young sprung griefes shall seeme but sparkes To the great fire of my calamities. 1706 Watts *Horæ Lyr.* II. xxiii. 149 A generous Pair Of †young-wing'd Eaglets. 1598 R. Linche *Diella* F j b, This †young-year'd Hermit. 1599 — *Fount. Anc. Fiction* H ij, A carelesse crue of young-year'd Nimphs.

**Younger** (yʊ·ngəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*). Forms: 1 ġinra, ġingra, ġeongra, 2 ġeongr(e, 3 ġeong(e)r, ȝongere, ȝ(e)ongur, ȝungre (*Orm.* ȝunngre), yungre, ȝongor(ȝ, 3–4 ȝongere, 3–5 ȝungar, (6 *Sc.*) ȝonger, 4 yunger, 4–6 yongar, *Sc.* ȝongar(e, 4–7 yonger, 5 ȝongir(e, ȝungir, yungur, 5–6 yongur, 6 *Sc.* ȝoungar, yoongar, yonngar(e, 7 *Sc.* ȝonnegar, 6– younger. [*f.* Young *a.* + -er 3. (The normal mutated OE. comp. *ġingra*, *ġyngra* did not survive.)] The comparative degree of Young *a.*; opposed to Elder, q. Older.

1. In senses 1 and 3 of Young: Of less age; that has lived a shorter time; more youthful (in years, or *fig.* in disposition, etc.).

*c* 950–40 *Lawa Æthelstan* vi. xii. § 1 Cwæð þa þæt him þuhte, þæt man nænne ġingran mann ne sloge þonne xv wintre man. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) xxxvi. 25 [xxxvii. 25] Ic ġeong ic wæs, & nu eald, witendlice ic ealdode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8753 Hit ne likede nobing wel Robert courtehese Pere ȝe ȝongore broþur so ofȝelond to lese. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3493 Iacob hight þe ȝonger broþer. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 308 Fadra hire ȝonger Sister. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1274 Athils of all age eldire & ȝongire. 1503–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the sweter it wyll be. *c* 1600 G. Harvey *Marginalia* (1913) *Ajp.* ii. 832 The younger sort takes much delight in Shakespeare's Venus & Adonis. *c* 1626 *Dicts of Devon.* iv. 1. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 62 All younger brothers Must sitt beneath the salt & take what dishes Time & the shovel shall send them. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. xxxii. 52 They are proverbially said to have eaten a snake, who look younger than accustomed. 1718 Pope *Let. to Lady Mar* 1 Sept., I shall look upon you as so many years younger than you was, so much nearer innocence. 1838 Lytton *Alice* II. ii. II. Every man was younger then. 1849 R. Monckton Milnes *Let. to C. Y. MacCarthy* 2 July, Sir F. Doyle is going to marry the younger Miss Wynn. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 485 The younger brother may not marry the elder brother's widow.

b. Used after a person's name for distinction from an older person of the same name; = Junior 1. Chiefly *Sc.*

*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 1138 Iustine ȝunge. *c* 1460 *Oriney Reg.* & *A.* 1 Ane Sasine..to Johne ȝongar. 1589 *Reg. Priuy Seal Scot.* 62/2 Umquhill Johnne Culquhone, eldar, and Johnne Culquhone, younger. 1607 Harewill *Apol.* (1630) 165 Tobias the Elder lived to see a hundred fifty and eight, the younger to one hundred twenty seven. 1684 *Proct. in* Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1721) II. App. 109 John Baxters elder and younger, Tennants to Robert Campbell. 1734 *Parish Reg. Forres* 22 Feb. (MS.), Witnesses Alexander Dunbar younger and Elder of Boath. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xii, Charles Hazlewood, younger of Hazlewood.

c. *Youngermen*: see quot. and Young-ym.

Cf. M.L.G. *jungermann*, elected judge or counsellor, newly admitted member of a guild.

*c* 1285 *Pseudo-Cnut De Foresta* ii. (Liebermann) 620 Sintque sub quolibet Borum [*prefectione*] *vocatur* ex mediocribus hominibus, quos Angli lezalegenes nuncupant, Dani uero ȝongermen uocant.

2. *transf.* in sense 2 of Young: Belonging to the earlier part of life; earlier. Now only in *younger days.*

1536 *Reg. Priuy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 707 Gude will schawin unto him in his younger aige. 1605 Shake. *Lear* I. i. 18 (Qo. 1) To shake all cares and busines of state, Confirming them on yonger yeares. 1656 Cleaville *Enc. Philos. & Relig.* III. 52 They [*sc.* the Peripatetick Disputers] imployed their Younger Studies upon the Philosophy of Disputation. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* § 8 Whether in their chamber, parlour or study, in the younger or elder years of life. 1827 Lytton *Pelham* lxi, He had been an old votary of the turf in his younger days.

3. In senses 4 and 5 of Young: More lately initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; having less experience or practice; that is in an earlier stage; less advanced; later, more recent.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 122 Thou art young in yeares, I suppose: how many yeares in the Vniuersitie? 1609 Dr. H. in *Divtvm. Poperie* Wkss. (1625) 614 If there be any point of our Religion yonger than the Patriarchs, and Prophets. 1688 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iii. § 10 We have made it evident, that these two great volumes are no longer then then the translation of the Bible into Greek. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Younger Regiment or Officer*, in Military Affairs, That which is raised and Trained last. Which was last rais'd, and that Officer youngest, whose Commission is of the latest Date. 1794 J. Bew *Agric. Kent* 58 The second year after planting [you] fill into poles...are placed to the hills instead of the seconds, which are removed to younger grounds. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 340 Youngest sons, towns which never sent members, found in our early history and which sent no representatives to our early parliaments. 1854 Murchison *Siluria* i. 13 The Silurian rocks of the Ural chain are succeeded by younger palæozoic deposits. 1874 Sale *Compl. Athlete* II. iii. 81 The younger the science, the smaller will be the amount of known facts. 1915 *Daily Tel.* 5 May 8/3 The directors decided not to commence tapping on the younger [rubber] fields.

b. *Younger hand* (in Card-playing): the second player in a two-handed game (opp. to *elder hand*, Elder *a.* 4).

1764 Hoyle *Piquet* iii. 28 If the younger hand has one Ace, shall him, what are the Odds of his taking in one or two of the three remaining Aces?

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. *absol.* (usually, now always, with def. art.) in *sing.* or *pl.* sense; One who is, or those who are, younger. (Most commonly contrasted with *elder.*)

OE. *ġingra* (fem. *ġingre*) spec. = follower, disciple, vassal. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. v. (1890) 160 Se biscepp, þetwih ofre lare mannum to ȝyldgeanne, þa ȝingerstan þysene hiġ ȝingrum forlet. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 191 Ne wille ic leng

his geongra wuſjan *c1200 Moral Orm* 326 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Nis muse we werien naſſer ne wiſ þurſit ne wiſ hunger þe elder ne þe ȝeongere *c 1205* Lay 3927 Þe king hauede twele sunen þe ȝengere [*c 1275* þe ȝeongre] hehte Poreus. *Ibid.* 9189 Wiðer wes þa mideren Arsirragun þe ȝeongre [*c 1275* ȝeongere]. *a 1225 Ancr R* 404 Nenne mon ne leten heo in ne þe ȝeongre ne aſeke mid none monne hute leasse *a 1300 Cursor M* 9934 Þe elder to be ȝeongor ȝeak *c 1380* Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 383 He þat is gratter of ȝow, loke þat he be made as ȝongar in sympulnes. *c 1400 Apol Lollº* 9 Wan þe symne of þe heldar man drawiþ not be his ensaumple þe hertis of þe ȝungar in to deþ *1526* Tindale *Rom* ix. 12 The elder shall serve the yonger *1611* Woodall *Surg Mate Pref*, Wks (1653) 16 It is fit that the yonger obey the elder.

**2.** (In early use *abstol.* without change in pl.; later as *sb.* with pl. *-s.*) ▲With preceding possessive: (A person's) inferior in age: = Junior B. b. Now *rare*

*c 1200* Ormin 13979 Þatt nan birþ follȝhenn bilþeȝs Þatt ure ȝunngre mas lærenþ, ȝiff þatt ha þatt hass lare nas god. *1493* [H. Parker] *Orosius Prologue* (W. de W. 1496) 1 xxxvi. Why than beggyn they rewmes to dure and to teche their yonger many folyes *1543* [Coverdale] *Old God* (1534) R 3 Suche thinges do their ȝongers here *a 1640* in West *Antip Furness* (1903) 307 They shall diligently instruct their juniors and yonger- *1595* Southwell *Image of Death* 33 My youngers daily drop away, And can I think to 'scape alone? *1629* La Primaud. *Lett. conc Relig.* (1630) 90 No false doctrine whatsoever can be admitted into the Church in any age, unless they of that age do unanimously conspire to deceive their children and yongers *1746* Young *Nt. Th* iv 92, I scarce can meet with a contemporary, but holds My younger *1836 Going to Service* viii 87 [Lady's maid loq.] It is very mortifying to be obliged to one's youngers *1870* Temperton *Epistle to Hebrews* 81 Answer'd Sir Gareth graciously to one Not many a moon his younger

**3.** (As *sb.* with pl. *-s.*) A younger person: = Junior B. (Chiefly, in later use only, in *pl.*; commonly contrasted with *elder.*)

*c 1449* Pecock *Repr.* iv 391 He was unable nedis meene that he allowith non to be grettist among hem, and that he in sum other maner louge him as ȝongar *1552* Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* ii (1895) 163 To the intent that the aage grauitie of the elders should kepe the yongers from wanton licence *1596* Shaks *Merch V* ii vi 14 How like a younger or a prodigall The skarlet lenitive puts forth her nattiue I say *1658* Osborn *Queen Elis Ep* A 3 b, So have I a little won dred at Age, to finde it so tetchy, when Younger in years lay any claim to Knowledge *a 1734* North *Lives* (1826) III. 173 The two youngers [of the family] were also well placed *1885* Mozley *Remin* I xxiv 138 In 1823 all we youngers were at a small farmhouse between Ryley and Scarborough *1894* Hall *To Right the Wrong* 108 He himself was one of the despised youngers of the family.

**C.** *Comb.*, as *younger born*, **younger-brotherish**, **-sisterish** *adjs.* (*nonce wds.*), having the character of a younger brother or sister

*1830* Palmer *191/2 Younger borne, manner* *1856* Lever *Martins of Cro' M* lxv, His preference for the younger born. *1864* Mrs Yonge *Treat* v, She is painfully meek and young-sisterish *1869* Whitehead *Bard's Pledge* 104 To sell smiles to such a beggarly younger brotherish runagate!

Hence **Youngerly** *a.* (O. S. *colloq.*), somewhat young (opp. to *elderly*), **Youngership** (*rare*), the condition of one who is younger, juniority.

*1868 Church Union* 1 Oct. (Cent. Dict.), The life blood of Christendom flows in the veins of her ȝoungerly men *1611* Cotg., *Jeunigrune*, ȝoungership. *1858–9 Ann Reg. Bur Amer Introd* 9 Their captive is thus doomed to perpetual youngership, if the term may be permitted—that is, to perpetual servitude.

**Youngest** (yʊ ŋgɛst), *a.* Forms. 1 gingest, gingest, gingst, 3 ȝeongeste, ȝongeastte, ȝongest(e, -ist, -ost(e, 3–6 ȝungest(e, 4 ȝingest, ȝungist, ȝongist, ȝungest, 4–6 ȝongest, ȝoungest, 5 ȝongust, 6 ȝoungest, 6– youngest. [f Young *a.* + -est. (The normal mutated Oe. form *gingest* did not survive.)] The superlative degree of Young *a.*; opposed to Eldest, Oldest.

**1.** In sense 1 of Young. Of least age Also *absol.*

*c893* Ælfred *Oros* 1 iv. § 1 Joseph, se þe gingst was hys ȝebroðra. *c1205* Lay 1911 Þa wes Þe ȝeongeste Þat wes hadde of ure þeoden ȝe *Cursor M* 7391 (Gött.) Quer es þin alder yngest son? *1390* Gower *Conf* I. 48 The youngest of tuo sones heddes of an tuene yer *1464 Paston Lett* II 153 Your sone and lowly servaunt, John Paston, the youngest *1568* Grafton *Chron.* II 392 When suche questions be asked, the youngest both of the spiritualitie and temporalitie wyl their opinions first. *1611* Cotgr., *Quiconc*, the last, or youngest child one hath. *1886* Miss Mitford *Village Sec.* II *Walk through V'ge.* They are a fine family from the eldest to the youngest *1892* Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb* xii, She and the youngest Miss Harper eyed one another uncomfortably. *1896* Lyndall *Gilse* I xxii 136 My guide, with his strong right arm round the youngest of the party

**2** In senses 2 and 3 of Young: Belonging to the earliest part of life, earliest; most youthful in character or aspect, freshest. *rare.*

*c 1386* Chaucer *Pardoner's Pr* lxxxviii xi, Thou dost me fill, and hast from youngest ȝeares, With terrifying feares. *1818* Keats *Endym* I 49 While the early builders are just new, And run in mazes of the youngest hue About old forests

**3.** In senses 4 and 5 of Young Most newly initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; latest, most recent.

*Beowulf* 2817 Þæt was þam gomelan Ongenðeowe word breme, ȝehyrsumum, er he bæl cure, hate heaðowylmas. *c897 Ælfred Gregory's Past C*, xli 300 Ura Ælfewend he hiene gemedemade to beonne betweox ðæm iestum & ðæm gingestum monnum. *c1386* Chaucer *Pembrokes Pr.* cxxiii 11 Not youngest thought in me doth grow, But yet unuit'red thou dost know. *1596 Edw III*, ii ii. 117 Since Letheme Adam till thus youngest borne. *1597* Nelson 5 Apr in Nicolas *Dispt* (1843) II 17 To go youngest into the firstande.

**b.** *Youngest hand* (in Card-playing) the last player, or the last except the dealer (opp. to *eldest hand*, Eldest 5).

*1680* Cotton *Compl. Gamester* 66 If the eldest and second hand pass the Ruff the youngest hath power to double it, and then it is to be plaid for the next deal *Ibid* 89 This being done, the eldest must show how many Chalks he hath in his hand to set up, and after him the youngest. *1720* R. Seymour *Compl Gamester* (1734) 74 If the youngest Hand names his Trump without asking Leave

**4.** *Comb.*, as *youngest born*

*1598* Markham *Fount of Poems* II xi, Now with their [sc. the vines] smallest grapes, tunes youngest borne Clusted in bunches like a countesse broode *1633* Gem P. Thompson *Exerc* (1842) II. 414 Music, the youngest born of heaven's benevolence. *1638* Lytton *Alice* VIII iii, Our youngest-born affection is our darling and our idol

**Young-eyed** (yʊ ŋəid), *a.* Having the bright or lively eyes of a young person; also *fig.*; *accas*, having a youthful vision. (In later use an echo of Shaks.)

*1598* Shaks *Merch. V* v i 60 There's not the smallest orbe But in his motion like an Angell sings Still quiring to the young eyed Cherubins *1777* Potter *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 69 To Troy the shining mischief came, before her young ey d pleasures play *1796* Coleridge *Death of Chatterton* xiv, And we would round then throng And greet with smiles the young-eyed Poesy All deftly mask'd as hoar Antiquity. *1818* Byron *Ch Har* I xivi, Young-eyed Lovelinesss walks her midnight rounds. *1820* Hazlitt *Lect Engl Poets* iii The genius of Fletcher and his young-eyed wit. *1900 Q. Rev.* Oct 375 The fantastic visions of a young-eyed people

**Youngfrow (young-)**: see Yuppfrow.

**Youngish** (yʊ ŋɪʃ), *a. Obs.* [f. Young *a.* + *-hede*, -head] Youth (*abstr* and *concr*).

*c1275 Moral Ode* 369 in *O. E. Misc* 71 Per is yongbede buten alde 369 R Glouc. (Rolls) 2195 Alle we knuwes þe wunnes & alle we ȝongþede *a 1295 Sʏ Lucy* in *E. E. P* (1862) 101 Þe ȝongþede þat he wes ȝedded in ȝunghede *c 1366* Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 351 Elde That shorter wex a foot, ywis, Than she was wont in her yongthede

**Youngkin** (yʊ ŋkin), *a.* [f Young *a.* + -ish 1.] Somewhat young

*1667* Pepys *Diary* 10 Apr., It is strange that Mr. Weaver, ...who was a youngish man, should be dead *1728* Steele *Spect* No. 620 ¶ 2 My father is a youngish man *1886* O. W. Holmes *Elsie V* vii (1891) 102 Judge Thornton, as good at sixty as he was at forty, with a youngish second wife *1903 Times* 18 Mar 10/3 These senile parts generally appeal to youngish actors.

**Youngker**, obs. form of Younker.

**Young lady.**

**1.** A lady who is young; a young woman, usually unmarried, or a girl, of superior social position; formerly often used to connote the artificiality, primness, sentimentality, etc., attributed to young ladies

This use is often avoided in polite speech, except among some old fashioned speakers and jocularly. Various particular applications formerly existed; thus, from the 17th to the early 19th cent. a young woman or a girl waited upon by a maid servant was called 'her young lady', until the use in the 19th cent. girls at boarding schools were spoken of and addressed as young ladies. At the present day the phrase is free applied, with the intention of avoiding the supposed derogatory implication of *young woman*, to female shop assistants, clerks of good appearance and manners.

For the vocative use, see Yʊ 20 a 1 b.

*1600* Quiller *Hall* 160 in *Yorksh Archæol Jrnl* (1908) 374 I am yhonge lady then prysed of knauues *c 1450 Merlin* 241 Þe ȝonge lady was ful fair *Wisdom of Solomon* 1 Ȝe ȝonge ladyes, ȝe ȝonge men, ȝe olde knyghte and weddud ȝonge ladi. *1669* Cokaine *Choice Poems* 35 Ask but a Chamber maid what her young Lady doth *1749* Smollett *Fer Pickle* vii (1856) 61 It is a young lady since I left her, and went to serve a young lady of fashion *a 1800 The Governess* in Miss Yonge *Stories wte of Stories* (1870) 18 I was a young lady *1814* Mrs Hofland Lady Fanny Delun Lady Caroline was fourteen years of age, Lady Fanny, who was one year younger than her sister, was rather little of her age *1815* Miss Mitford *Village* ver. I. *Ellen*, A life, and freedom, and buoyancy, quite unusual in that artificial personage, a young lady *1837* Eliza Fan *Young Lady's Friend* vii (1856) 61 When you cease to attend school, and begin their career as young ladies. *1837* Dickens *Pickw* xvi, The premises of Westgate House Establishment for Young Ladies *Ibid* xl, 'Good morning, my dear,' said the principal, addressing the young lady at the bar *1842* Motley *Corr* (1889) I iv 95, I have been young lady enough to keep a journal *1848* Dickens *Dombey* xxiv, 'I left him home,' said Miss Tox upon his authority, 'and say that my young lady's here' *1856* Lever *Martins of Cro' M* xxi, 'A young lady, did you say, Collins?' 'Yes, my Lady.' 'Then you were very wrong, Collins. You meant to say a young person' 'Yes, my Lady—a young person, like a lady' *1856 Amy Carlton* 40 Miss Colman pronounced the peculiar words, 'Your lessons, young ladies immediately' *1886* (see Young *a.* 1 b) *1900 Oxford Times* 24 Dec 1/2 Young Lady Wanted, with good experience as Book keeper

*attrib.* *1784* Bage *Barham Downs* I 43 Amongst young-lady correspondents especially, it is a sort of petty treason, to send blank paper to a friend. *1837 Chamb Jrnl* 2 May 274/1 My young-lady friends, of from seventeen upwards. *1865* Le Fanu *Guy Den* III. I 42 Beatrix was in a young-lady reverie

**2.** A female sweetheart; a fiancée *vulgar.*

*1896* G. B. Shaw *You Never Can Tell* II, My wife was like your young lady, who was of a commanding .. disposition

**YOUNGLING.**

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Young-la'dydom**, young ladies collectively; **Young-la'dyfied** (-fied) *a.*, having acquired, or having, the style of a young lady; **Young-la'dyhood**, the condition or status of a young lady, also *concr* young ladies collectively, **Young-la'dyish**, **Young-la'dylike** *adjs*, resembling or characteristic of a young lady; **Young-la'dyism**, the style, or a phrase, characteristic of young ladies; **Young-la'dyship**, the personality of a young lady.

*1866 Sat Rev* 14 Apr 439 The virtuous young man monopolized the sympathies of "young-ladydom *1882 Pall Mall Gaz* 31 Oct 4/2 A general air of "young ladydom prevails, each sec and number in the catalogue is a Lily or a Jessie or a Letitia *1863* Miss Braddon *Aur Floyd* vi, No stiff, embroidered, "young ladyfied garment. *1853* Miss Yonge *Hear of Redclyffe* IV, They had not received a perceiving that they were on the equal terms of "younglady-hood *1898* Tholloп *Dr Thorne* xxxi, No berry of Greshamsbury young ladies had fairly represented the Greshamsbury young ladyhood if Mary Thorne was not there. *1860 Sat. Rev* 7 Jan. 12/1 It is not to be wondered at that there should be unanimously "young ladyish in the clergyman's way of doing parochial business. *1864* Howitt *Stias Upham* I iv, The Colonel, in fond enjoyment of those "young ladyishnes. *1853* Miss Yonge *Hear of Redclyffe* II, I am not fallen so low as the essence of "young ladyism *1892* B. FitzGerald *Lett* (1899) I. 12, I am sorry to say that I have very "young lady like partiality to writing to those that I love. *1892* Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb* iv, To judge whether, young lady like, she had told his secret to all her friends *1894* Baring-Gould *Mrs Horn* iv, 'Have you ever looked on a lord?' 'No.' 'Or on an auld lord's "young leddyship?' I have'

**Youngling** (yʊ ŋlɪŋ). *rare.* [f. Young + -ling] = Youngling 1 b

*1892* Bailey *Festus* (ed 3) 240 E'en as an eagle drops a hare Brought for her callow younglets fare *1890* R. Bolderwood *Col A formerr* xxiii, I he angular cows [grow] into mature young youngfrow

**Young-like**, *a.* [f Young *a* + -like. Cf. Youngly *a.*] Resembling, or having the nature of, one that is young, youthful in condition or character.

*1830* Palmer 130/2 Yonglike, *youmul* *1861* Turner *Rather* 111, Lucy kept a man young like and lusty. *1736* Miss Calderwood in *Celtness Collect* (Maitland Club) 268 The old countess was too young like for the other to be her daughter. *1878* Ilen. Lucy *Diary* 1 4, We used to call him little Weevils, he was so young like.

**Youngling** (yʊ ŋlɪŋ) *arch.* Forms. see Young. [Oe *geongling* – Os. *sungling* (MLG , Du. *jongeling*, Du *jongeling*), OHG , MHG *jungeling* (G. *jungling*), whence Icel. *unglingr* , see Young and -ling 1.]

**1.** One who is young; a young person, young man or woman, youth or child, youngster

*c900* Werferth *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 80/2 Us utigung endum com ongean sum sungling. *c1160 Hatton Gosp.* Mat xxvii. 2 Þa clypede se hund ænne ȝungling & sette on heora mudlen. *c1205* Lay 26681 þuren toward hirede ȝeonglinges smelle *a 1300 Flores & Bl* 703 Floire was so fair ȝongling. And blaunchiflur so swete *1340* Hampole *Prose Treat* 3 Ihesus *Higden* (Rolls) I 165 Dido went oute of Phenicia wiþ a grete compayne of ȝonglynges i chose *c 1450* in *Cov. Myst* (Shaks. Soc.) 414 Alle þese ȝonge ȝonglynges do unge By, by, lully, lullay *1548 Chronicle Acc, Crosscombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 9 Comes ȝonglings and presentis in Kelly Castrell's house *1552* Huloet, Younglyng, *adolescens* xxii 235 O douchty ȝonglyng [Vng *puer*] *1592* Skelton *Why not to Court* 345 He is but an ȝonglyng, A stalworthy stryplyng *1578* Fr. Wilson *Cronicles of Cardone* 95 This vertuous ȝonglyng made her hearing deafe vnto his sugred talke *1620* Quarles *Feast for Worms* G 3 Like as a ȝongling thro' his schoole is led Against his mind for his owne profite *1777* Johnson *Let to Mrs Thrale* 16 Oct, You say nothing of the ȝounglings. I hope they are not spoiled with the pleasures of Brighthelmston. A dangerous place we were in *1781* Cowper *Truth* 1837 Hood in *Mem* (1867) I 260 Little I am is a capital traveller, our trouble was less than might have been expected with such a ȝongling *1876* Morris *Sigurd* I 65 The smooth lipped ȝongling's kiss

*Ag* 1822 J Jas *Corr* (1834) II 116 He recommended me to publish 'England' I have also the prospect of a pupil there in which to bring my younglings out. *1880* W Watson *Prince's Quest* 124 A grassy vale Where a pure stream ran, as a ȝongling

**b.** A young animal, a young or offspring of an animal

*c1200 Bestiary* 667 Danne remen he alle a rem, For hare maðe reming remmunde cumed a ȝungling *1398* Barth. *Genius Propert of Hearde* xviii. 1 Whanne in lyke quantitie expelleth the ȝongling dead *1596 Edw. III*, II i 129 Be like he like the fielde of Beares, When they defend their ȝounglings in their dennes *1601* Shaks *Twel N* III iv 120 The purtuition or very birth itselfe wherein not only the Dam, but the ȝounglings play their parte *1779* Mackenzie *Lounger* No 98 (1973) 39 The linnet was bringing out her ȝounglings to their first imperfect flight *1807* Worɪs in *Hist Dorset* 256 A spotless ȝongling white as snow *1883* *Harper's Mag* XXVI 487/1 If run should come on, the mother calls her ȝounglings under her wings.

**c.** A young plant, sapling; a young shoot or blossom of a plant

*1599* Morwyng *Ex nymus* 182 The ȝounglings or shootes of brembie. *1818* Keats *Endym* I 138 Each having a white wicker over brimm'd with Aprils tender ȝounglings. *a 1820* Shelley *Colosseum* Ins (1840) I 174 The shattered masses of precipitous ruin, overgrown with the ȝounglings of the forest.

**†2** A young scholar or student, a disciple, a

beginner, novice, tiro; one who is unpractised or inexperienced (usually with implication of actual youth). *Obs.*

*a* 1278 *Cott. Hom.* 237 þe apostles and hare iunglenges. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 387 He seiþ þat Chaldie was a yongelyng, and lerned the vale of monke-in Hibernia. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. N. T.* To Rdr. B vj b, Younglynges in the feith. 1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* 34 b, Whose weapons of fire...doo...terrifie younglings and nouices of warre. 1649 Ambrose *Medin* x. (1650) 977 Let our Lord Iesus his tender-heartedness in Spiritual younglings, teach us mercy. 1662 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 78 (1713) II. 226 From the Seminary there, a small Detachment was made of Younglings that were got as far as *Ascrit A, augat K.*

**3.** *attrib.* = 2. That is a 'youngling'; young, youthful; † inexperienced (*obs.*).

1382 Wyclif *Judges* xviii. 3 Knowynge the voys of the ionglynge Leuyte. 1595 Markham *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* Ep. Ded. A 4, Fier to my hart, & wings to my younglyng Muse. 1664 Powel *Lusp. Philot.* 1. 13 The younglyng Spiders (that were either hatching, or newly hatch'd). 1783 Hurne *Cotter's Sat.* iv. xviii, The youngling Cottagers retire to rest. 1860 Worsaae *Life Shepk.-Boys* 7 The mountain raven's youngling brood. 1880 L. Morris *Ode of Life* 45 Since Artemis first trod the younglyng earth.

**b.** Pertaining to or characteristic of a 'youngling'; juvenile, immature; in quot. 1616, belonging to the production or rearing of young.

1582 T. Watson *Cent. Love* To Rdr. A 4, Idle toyes procedinges from a youngling frenzie. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 77 To thee (young youth) these youngling lines I write. *a* 1618 Heaton *Hezek. Wit at Sev. Weapons* iv. 5 You have built a Nest That will stand all storms,...and one day it may be The youngling season too, then I hope Youll ne'er fly out of sight.

† **Youngly,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *geonglic* = MDu. *jonghelik*, OHG., MHG. *junglîch*, ON. *ungligr*: see Young *a.* and -ly 1.] Young, youthful, juvenile (in years, in appearance or condition).

*c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 34 *Iuuenilis*, iunglic. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* II. 118 On geongliczan xeaxum. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 544 A meiden junglich of yeres. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 704 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 239 þo cam to heom a yonglich man. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* (1908) xviii[i]. 9 Þe witnesse...is sikir, and yonglich for-by. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 369 Beardles with a yongly face. 1478 Earl Rivers *Crystyne's Myr. Prov.* (1859) 2 b, A yongly man of chastisyng content is signe of grace & of a good entente. 1542 Hooker (*title*) A treatise...very fruitfull and have most Children, if they look not for their Age most youngly, best coloured, and be clearest from Diseases. 1634 [see Infantry 2].

**Youngly** (yʌ·ŋli), *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. Young *a.* + -ly 2.]

**1.** In youth; when one is young; early in life.

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) P j, Euen in thy Swathebands out commission goeth To loose thy breath, that yet but youngly bloweth. *c* 1600 Shakes. *Sonn.* xi, That fresh blood which youngly thou bestow'st. 1607 — *Cor.* II. iii. 244 How youngly he began to serue his Countrey. 1888 Meredith *Reading of Early.* Flowers of the clematis drip in beard, Black from the fir-tree youngly climbed.

**2.** In the manner of a young person; youthfully, immaturely.

*c* 1530 More *Aarw. Frith* Wks. 841/2 This point is as ye see well of thys young man very youngly handeled. *a* 1536 *Sir T. More* iv. 39 As tis the custome in this place The youngest should speake first, so, if I chaunce In this case to speake youngly, pardon me. 1577 Harrison *Descr. Brit.* Dedi. About fouretecne yeres agone (when myne experience was but youngly fortified).

**Young man, † youngman.** [Cf. NFris. *ongman* lad, fellow, Du. *jongmensch* young man, *jonkman* bachelor, *jongmaan* deckhand, ordinary seaman, ON. *ungmenni* youths.]

**1.** A man who is young; one in early manhood. For the vocative use, see Young *a.* 1 b.

*a* 1122 *O. K. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Rodberd...& Vlf., oðlocun & elles anyrihne manigu iungra men. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Ðies iunge mann ȝiede a-wei sari. *c* 1205 Lay. 376 A yung mon of þrit ȝeren. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 134 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 120 Se scolde neuer youngmon ȝiuen to swibe þeih him his wyse wel ne lykie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18584 Yur suns and yur doghteres fre, And yur youngmen sighles se. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 437 Þou were a ȝung man in ti gretə strenghe. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 59 ȝongmen. 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 47 If this slaunderous report come to the eers of some yongmen of the blode that he is of. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 28 A wilde rout of yongmen...lie wallowed in their blood. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Youth & Age* (Arb.) 258 Younge men in the Conduct...of actions embrace more then they can hold, stirre more then they can quiet. 1711 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 278 When Young-men find themselves all of a sudden advanc'd to so great power. 1850 Dickens *Old C. Shop* iv, Abel has not been brought up like the run of young men. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, You had better provide yourself with another situation, young man.

*Comb.* 1552 T. Wilson *Logic* T j b, He went in freshe apparell, yong man like.

**2.** With special application or connotation. **a.** Various uses: see quots.

Quots. 1377 and *c* 1613 relate to Galway; cf. the following:—'In 1611, the "young men" obtained a charter from the corporation, instituting them a body politic of themselves...Their "captain" was privileged to sit next the sheriffs...They were also exempt from paying taxes; in consideration of which, they were bound to keep watch and ward' (Hardiman, *Hist. Galway* (1820) 212 *note*).

963–84 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 366 Ponne is set Farnheafde ·xvi. weorc wurðe men, & ·viii. iunge men. 1377 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 447 This indenture made...betwixt William Halloran, yongman, and ...Edmond Ffrench. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxvi. (Arb.) 66 The skreeking and outcry of the young damosell (on the marriage night) feeling the first forces of her stife and rigorous young man. *c* 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 493 The Captaine of the Youngmen. 1799 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 82 The first act of my commission was to name Sidney Smith's First Lieutenant to the death-vacancy of Captain Miller. I have placed two of his young men in Gun-boats. 1858 *Phytologist* Jan. 320 The Winter-Aspect Young Men's Society. 1862 J. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 199 A Young Men's Mutual Improvement...and all the rest of it, Society. 1863 B. A. Heywood *Pac. Four Antipodes* 153 A Young Men's Christian Association Room.

† **b.** A man in the service of, or in attendance upon, a person of high rank or an official: = Yeoman I, 1 b. *Obs.*

Cf. also *youngerman* s.v. Younger *a.* 1 c.

1364 Lond. Lib. *P. A.* m. 207 Esmon Bernard...Porw ȝiftes han ȝonge men to renne and to ride. [Cf. quot. 1377 s.v. Yeoman 1.] 1382 Wyclif *Acts* v. 10 The ȝongemen entrynge founden hir dead, and þei beren out, and birieden to þer housbonde. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 703 He...seide to his ȝong men, diȝtetȝ ȝow ȝare. 1530 Palsgr. 201/1 Yongman a servaunt, *valeton*. 1541–2 *Acts P. C.* (1918) VIII. 20 Any servantes commonly called yongmen [*orig.* Yeomen] or gromes.

**c.** A youth employed by a tradesman, etc.

1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 126 P 12 The term of *Young Man*, with which I was sometimes honoured, as I carried a parcel to the door of a coach, tortured my imagination. 1826 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* i, She discovers...that Mr. Todd's young man over the way is...taking down his master's shutters. 1867 *Trial of James Rush's Assass.* vi, While the grocer's young man was waiting inside for orders.

**3.** A lover, a male sweetheart; a fiancé. *vulgar.*

1891 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 207/2 Treated to an ice by her young man—they seemed as if they were keeping company. 1897 G. R. Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* iv, And coole she shouted 'Murder!' too, and asked us...to spare his life, as it was only her young man.

Hence **Young-ma'nhood,** † (*a*) the valour befitting a young man (*obs.*); (*b*) the condition of being a young man, early manhood; **Young-ma'nish** *a.*, resembling, pertaining to, or characteristic of a young man (chiefly in a derogatory sense); hence **Young-ma'nishness.**

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xv. 141 Thomas thay hath., slowly demeret hann-Selfe in prete ³yonge-man-hode. 1784 Bage *Barham Downe* I. 19 Eight of the first years of my young-manhood. 1823 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 220 Boots are Feb., One must...jump from little-boyhood into youngmanhood. 1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* iii, Father has talked so much of your girlish days and his 'young manish days. 1873 Furnivall in *Hoccleve* (1925) p. lii, The boyish romanticism or the sharp ³youngmanishness of his [*sc.* Shakspere's] early plays.

**Youngness** (yʌ·ŋnės). [f. Young *a.* + -ness.] The state or quality of being young; youthfulness: = Youth I, 3 (but usually expressing the character or appearance of one who is young, rather than the mere fact of being young).

1598 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* F j, Their drines is abated with the humidite of their youngnes. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xxxiii. 38 Will he my yongnes ȝit Will my mercy once remit, I trou to faill no more. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 18. 312 The Youngness and Newness of its Nature, which is Eternal. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* II. iv. 27 The youngness of the plants made them take root sooner than if they had been older. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. vii, How happy the youngness with the youngness of youth! 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 694/1 The first cabin passengers ...exclaimed over his youngness and his good looks. 1919 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Jan. 32/2 Youngness, 394 Those cunning little bits of youngness, the Twinkler sisters.

† **b.** The time when one is young; the early period of life or existence: = Youth 2. *Obs.*

1580–80 *Compl. of them that ben to late maryed* (1860) 12 We ȝeue ouer the vanitie of our youngenesse...Passe we ouer the 1579 Knewstub *Confut.* 35 They let passe the childhood, or the yongnes of the holy understanding, & grew vp...vnto the manly age of Christ.

**Younguster** (yʌ·ŋstəɹ). Now chiefly *colloq.* Forms: see Young; also 6-7 **yongkster, ounster.** [f. Young *a.* + -ster, suggested by Younker.]

**1.** A young person, *esp.* a young man, and, formerly, a lively or vigorous young fellow; † a novice. Now only as extension of sense 3 with connotation of inexperience or immaturity.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 83 Menaphon,—a man...blood of the Nymphes, as the paragon of all their countrey youngsters. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 158, I am halfe in a iealosie hee is some fantasticall amorous young-kster, who is Seignor me hath hyr'd you to this stratagem. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. xxxviii, A youngster gent, With beft coverd cloth. 1670 Richard *Cont. Clergy* 18, I cannot foresee any other Remedy, but that most of those University Youngsters must fall to the Parish. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Youngster*, an airy, brisk young Man; a raw or unexperienced Youth, a Novice. 1798 *Lit. Mem. Living Authors* I. 116 This...is adapted to youngsters rather than the higher classes of readers. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village Ser.* I. *Hannah*, John Wilson has no rival,...for the Robert Ellis, whom certain youngsters would fain exalt to a co-partnery of fame, is simply nobody. 1825 Hogarth *N. C. Glees, Youngster*, a novitiate in any thing. 1866 Oxenden *Our Church* ii. 13 If, for instance, we wanted a Counsellor, we should not consult a mere youngster.

*attrib.* 1603 Lieb *Alfric on O. & N. Test.* 36 They called straight unto him their youngster captain.

**2.** Familiarly applied to a boy or junior seaman on boardship (cf. Younker 2 b); also to a junior officer in the army or navy.

1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* B 4 b, At length a nimble yonckster gets him to the very top of the foremast. 1826 C. James *Milit. Dict., Youngsters*, a familiar term to signify the junior officers of a troop or company. The word youngster is like-used in the navy. 1850 Hannay *Sing. Fort.* v. v, The shrill, squeaking voices of 'youngsters' in the tops. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 9 May 290/2 Nowhere was the excitement more intense than in the midshipmen's berth, and on no one had the intelligence a more surprising effect than on Bobstay, our junior youngster.

**3.** A young person who is not of age; a child, *esp.* a boy. *colloq.*

1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VII. § 20 Appetite...which is elder Brother to Reason...is sure...to take the advantage of drawing all to his own side: And Will...is but at best a Foothall or Top between those Youngsters who prove very unfortunately matched. 1788 Cowper *Pity for Poor Poll.* 21 A youngster at school, more sedate than the rest. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* iv, 'Now for the cake,' said Mas'r George...; and with that the youngster flourished a large knife over the article in question. 1886 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxvi.. 3 The wife is busy all over the house, but the youngsters are busiest at meal-times.

**4.** A young animal.

1849 W. S. Mayo *Koloolah* xxxvii. (1851) 341 A youngster of a crocodile who had come out of the water. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 298 All the chickens hatched prior to the 22nd of May, dwindled away one by one, and scarcely left a single youngster from many clutches. 1873 *Baily's Mag.* Nov. 193 The rest of the youngsters [*sc.* young racehorses]..had gone away for change of air and sunshine.

† **Youngth.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 ȝungþe, ȝongþe, youngþe, -the, 4–5 ȝongþe, -the, youngthe, 4–6 yongth, 5 ȝungth(e, ȝongith, ȝongh, 6–7 youngth. *β.* 4 ȝingpe, ȝyngheth, ȝinkthe. [f. Young *a.* + -th.]

**1.** The state of being young, or period of life when one is young: = Youth 1, 2.

*c* 1300 *Arth. & Merl.* 6269 þe leuedis..hadde wonder of his ȝingþe [*rime* gingethe]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 47 (Harl. MS.) [He] servid god in myn ȝongthe. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxii. (1883) II. 343, I haue knowen men of worshippe..whiche durynge their yongth haue dronken for the more parte water. 1550 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* xxxiii, In fresh yong flie, in whom the kindly fire Of lustfull youngth began to kindle fast. 1600 Davison *Rhapsody* C 2 b, Ah Thenot, he not all thy teeth on edge, For want of youngth to sport in pastimes gay? (After Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9 Yougthes folke: see Youth 4.)

**2.** Young people collectively: = Youth 5.

1583 Calvin *Gen. to Tour* cxxi, The goddesse Venus, whiche hath greate power vpon youngthe. 1592 Udall *Erasmus' Apoph.* Pref. ¶ ¶ vij, The vnbroken youngth not yet full rype for the serious prescripts of philosophie.

Hence † **Youngthed,** *pa. pple.*, made young; † **Youngthly** *a.*, pertaining to youth, youthful.

*c* 1440 Caicnave *Life St. Kath.* III. 226 Hys body is ȝenthyd [*v.r.* ȝongthed], he ȝinketh hym-self ful lygth. 1602 Davison *Rhapsody* C 11 b, All for he feeles the heate of youngthly dayes.

## Young woman.

**1.** A woman who is young; one in early womanhood.

For the vocative use, see Young *a.* 1 b.

*a* 1100 *Lac.* in W.-Wülcker 330/9 *Puella*, maeden, oððe geong wifman. *c* 1205 Lay. 261 Þeos ȝunge wimen [*c* 1275 ȝonge] lwen þ hire mid childe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 409 Do slogh wimmen of Nin lond, Father an ȝate and sone an hond. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xiii. 226 A ȝong womman, which gate myche money to her maistris. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* I. xxvi. (Arb.) 67 Such as be maried to old men, thought does not become a young woman. 1864 Miss Yonge *Trial* vi, Let me tell you, young woman, it is hard on a man who has been at work all day to come home and find a dark house and nobody to speak to. 1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 774/2 Hannah More was still a young woman, and also remarkably young for her years.

**2.** A female sweetheart; a fiancée. *vulgar.*

1858 *Household Words* 27 Mar. 338/1 It was assumed that I had fallen in love, had made my offer, and had been accepted by my young woman and her family.

Hence **Young'we-manly,** the condition of being a young woman; young women as a class; **Young-we-manly** *a.*, like a young woman.

1889 R. Buchanan *Malt.* iii, [Her change of costume] made her look several years older—in fact, quite youngwomanly. 1892 *Athenæum* 19/2 The Girton girl [is] trented as a distinct species of young-womanhood.

**Younker** (yʌ·ŋkəɹ). Forms: 6 **yonckher, yongker, yonkar, yoonckher, yoonker, younker,** *Sc.* **jungker, joungker, jounker, jonkier,** 6–7 **yonoker,** *Sc.* **jonker,** 7 **youngker,** 8 **younkier,** 6– **younker.** [ad. MDu. *jonckher, jongkheer, jonchere* (mod. Du. *jonker, jonkheer*) = *jonc* Young *a.* + *here* lord, master (Iler, Here *sb.*). Cf. OFris. *jonker*, MHG. *junchêre* (G. *junker*: see Junker).]

† **1.** A young nobleman or gentleman, a youth of high rank (orig. Dutch or German, hence generally). Cf. Junker. *Obs.*

1505 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 233 Also ge to yonker [*sic*] Flowrens, and sae I recommand me to him. *Ibid.* II. 383 The king made knightes of the Toyson at Myddelburgh...amonges whiche were my Lord Nassou, Don John Emanuel, ..Yonker Florens and Monsieur de la Luyn. 1513

Douglas *Æneis* i. viii. 8 The queene Dido .. To temple cummis with ane fair menaje Of lustie 3onkeris walkyng hir eboot. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* iii. xii. (S. T. S.) I. 296 With be patricians & nobil younkeris of be ciete. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 160 The people of Hygh Almayne ..yf some of them can get a fox tale or two..standyng vp ryght vpon theyr cappe, or that he mayse haue..any long feder on his cap, than he is called a ' younker'. 7 1586 Coverdale *Treat. Death* iii. iii, Some say (and specially great younkers) mi mourning..is because my kinsed..perysheth. 1657 J. Taylor (Water F.) *Three Wks. Observ.* F 2, A man is in almost as high promotion to bee a knaue in England, as a Knight in Germany, for there a Gentleman is called a Youngcurr, and a Knight is but a Youngeurs man. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1890) 301 There was a Parliament then at Rhenesburg, where all the Younkers met.

**2.** A young man generally, in early use *esp.* a gay or fashionable young man: = Youngster 1.

1518 Douglas *Æneis* i. vi. 29 How, say me, 3onkeris, saw ye walkand hair, By aventure ony of my sisteres deir? †1580 Coverdale *Treat. Death* i. xii, Then were we forced to receiue & loue the gospel, which els here to fore might not come to much stout and loly younkers. 1598 Tuve *Dutchmes* vi. i. 696 Venus loued the younkers better then the warrier Mars. 1596 H. Clapham *Briefe Bible* ii. 152 The yonker Saul, consented to the death of Steuen. 1612 Chapman *May Day* iv. 60 How now? whom doe I see? my daughter and a yonker together? 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* III. 59 When put to the university, the same course of Initial studies will qualify the yonker for the one line or the other. 1880 Disraeli *Endym.* xlvii, He always encouraged one. A younker likes that. 1885 C. F. Holder *Marvels Anim. Life* 297 He was as wild a yonker as they make 'em.

†**b.** *spec.* A boy or junior seaman on board ship: cf. Youngster 2. *Obs.*

*c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy., W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 36 Two proper young younkers, and two painfull and able Dutchmen. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 44 To have younkers in the top continually, is most convenient. 1626 Capt. J. Smith *Accid. Yong Seamen* 6 The Younkers are the yong men called Fore-mast men, to take in the Topsayles, or Top and yeard: Furle, and Sling the maine Saile: Bunting or Tryning: and take their turne at Helme. 1788 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 160 To Lord Dunmore's many compliments; why has he never sent the younker? *a* 1818 Miss Rose in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 9 He.. served..as a younker and midshipman.

**3.** A child: = Youngster 3.

1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* 131 Two beares came out of the forrest, and tare in pieces two and forte yonkers, which mocked Elisha. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Upon Faggot*, Fagget, a School-boy, got a Sword...Who wo'd not think this Yonker fierce to fight? 1790 Blair *Grave* 461 Yet ne'er Yonker on the Green laughs louder. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* *M.* xxxiv, Do you think the younker knows much of his own origin now? 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxii, Sit down by the fire, younker, and get warm. 1842 Tennyson *Walking to the Mail* 25 And there he caught the younker tickling trout. 1866 R. Chambers *Exs. Sec. L.* 157 A merry group of human younkers.

**b.** Of animals.

1868 Gosse *Summ. & Wint. in Orkneys* vii. 160 [*sc.* Some old fellows thumping the yonkers with their finny paws while they tumbled about in the burn's way.

Hence (only with spelling *yonk-*) **†Youngkerkin** [-KIN], a little younker; **†Youngkerly** *a.* [-LY 1], befitting or characteristic of a younker, juvenile; **†Youngkery (-eris)** [-Y 3], younkers collectively.

*a* 1589 Skelton *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 209 These demy diuines, and Stoicall stubbes, and fricadly 'yonkerly' men. 1579 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 24 Youre Latine Farewell is a goodly braue 'yonkerly peece of work. 1593 — *Pierce's Supers.* 21 That youthfull & presumptuous enterprise. 1594 O. H. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 13 We haue spent our selues thus vpon our "yonkerie, euen to that which would haue prooued honest portions for them to haue liued all their life thorough.

**Youp, youp,** *int., sb.,* and *v.* Variant of Yawp.

1808 Jamieson, *Youp*, a scream. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Glean.* 63 They [*sc.* hounds] contented themselves with dolefully *youping* as long as we continued in sight. 1881 Jefferies *Wood Magic* I. ii. 22 'Youp, youp! wow-wow!' The yelling of Pan woke the echoes.

**Youp,** variant of Yoop.

**Youph,** obs. form of Youp.

**Your** (yūə), *usually unemphatic* yūi, yŏi), *poss. pron.* and *a.* Forms: 1 **iower**, *Northumb.* **iuer**, **iwer**, 1–3 **eower**, 2 **euwer**, **3uer**, **ower**, 3 **eouwer**, **eou(o)r**, **ео(o)wer**, **our**, **ouwer**, **owur**, **our**, **or**, **3iuer**, **3iwer**, **3ower**, 3–4 **oure**, 3(4)**us**, 3–5 **3ure**, **yure**, (6 *Sc.*) **3oure**, (6–8 *Sc.*) **youre**, 4 **hour**, **3iuor**, **3ouure**, **yur**, **yor**, 4–5 **3or**, **yore**, **3owr(e)**, **youre**, **3hour(e**, **yhour(e**, 5 **powr(e**, **yowyr**, **-ur**, **ywyr**, **youure**, **iho(i)re**, 5–6 **yower**, 6 **lour**, 9 *Sc.* **yere**, *dial.* **yee**, *dial.* and *vulgar* **yer**, 4– **your**. (For inflexional adj. forms see 2 a β.) [I. OE. *ēower*, usually in partitive sense, the genitive of *gē* Ye *pron.*, corresponding to OFris. *iswer*, OS. *iuwar*, *iwwar*, OHG. *iuwer* (MHG. *iuwer*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yðr*, Goth. *izwara*. II. OE. *ēower*, *ēowru*, *ēower*, poss. adj., corresponding to OHG. *iuwar*, *iuwar* (MHG. *iuwer*, *iuwer*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yð(v)arr*, Goth. *izwar*. The other langs. had a distinct formation for the adj.: OFris. *iuwa*, OS. *i(u)wa* (MDu. *ē*, inflected *ēwe*, Du. *uw*).

On the pronunciation John Walker in his *Pronouncing Dict.* 1791, says: 'When the emphasis is upon this word, it is always pronounced full and open like the noun *Ewer*; as, "The moment I had read *Your* letter I sat down to write *Mine*"; but when it is not emphatical it generally sinks into *yur*, exactly like the last syllable of *Lawy-yer* as, "I had just answered *your* first letter as *your* last arrived." Here if we were to say, "I had just answered *your* first letter as *your* last arrived," with *your* sounded full and open like *Ewer*, as in the former sentence, every delicate ear would be offended.'

Since this was written, there has been a reaction in favour of less obscuration of the vowel:]

**1.** As genitive case of the 2nd personal pronoun. **†a.** (*pl.*) in partitive sense: Of you. *Your alter*: see ALL D. 4. *Obs.*

*Beowulf* 248 Eower sum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 27 *Quis..uestrum*, huzsic..inre [*Rushw.* hwile ower]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Sum uuechel þa wreðfa hal þe mare bi-tweenen eow and eour eyþer suneȝað. *c* 1200 *Gen. & Ex.* 3471 Ile ȝure. 13.. *K. Horn* 821 (Harl. MS.) Ȝef oure þre sleh ure þre. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 859 Your noither it may forsake. 1398 tr. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 162 þat I be your aller broþer. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4146 Bote it be amended, ..þour soume it schal aloye. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxiii, I will that gode hope serued to the be, Youre alther frend. 1556 Chelsum in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 610, I woulde haue stryken iij. strokes the more for your two sakes.]

**b.** *Of a thing.* ] in certain absolute constructions, as †*your* Alone, Sc. *your lane* (Lone *a.* 6 b), †*your* Unwitting: see these words.

**2.** As possessive pronoun and adjective of the and person: Of or belonging to you, that you have.

This includes three uses: the possessive proper, as *your book*, *your friend*, *your mother*; the subjective, as *your attention*, *your promises*; and the objective with an agentnoun, or in any way involving the possessive idea, as *your benefactor*, *your benefit*. (For other objective uses see 4.) Cf. note 2. v. His *poet. pron.* 2 a.

**a.** as possessive plural, referring to a number of persons addressed.

*c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxx. 25 *Cor vestrum*, heorte ower. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxvi. 56 Þy ower ȝeard mid micel. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Se heoð iseald ower feonde to þruinne. *Ibid.* 29 For godes luue beteð ower sunnes. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Ȝet beoð ower sunnen to-ȝeines heouene. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6174 Ne ne se þat ȝare hors beþ stuffore þan þourne be? 13.. *K. Alis.* 2138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Yowre ioie neuer bee lasnow, ne lyuynge your loue. *c* 1300 *Cursor Mundi* (Cott.) 1. 1600 Þou, *Alfred* 213 in *O. E. Misc.* 114 Lyuiþ ye me, leode; ȝe beoð in ȝe neode, And ich mid ȝou. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. A* xi. 100 Your bokes and your bokeres ..are in heuene. 1397 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8174 Ne se ze þat ȝare hors beþ stuffore þan þourne be? 13.. *K. Alis.* 2138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Yowre ioie neuer bee lasnow, ne lyuynge your loue. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 1 I wol be youre in al that euere I may. *a* 1400 *Syr. Iowe Degre* 546 For ye are myne and I am your. *a* 1400 *Arthur* 2080 His kyndynesse, his Emperour, Passe I nolde alle yowre. 1540 J. Heywood *Four P. P.* (Manly) 838 Helpe me to speke with my lorde and your. 1596 — *Spider & F.* lxxiv, I had wooinge of thanke from the most of your. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Fair Maid* ii. 1, This affront of your.

**4.** As objective genitive, qualifying a noun of action or the like: Of you. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in certain phrases, as *in your despite*.

*c* 1475 *Partenay Metler* 921 In your mercy. Over hating forȝeue ȝe i þin sunful eȝhe, ȝeuing luue him for godes þing. 1581 Canon *Reynard the Fox* xxxiv. (Arb.) 100 One..whiche ..was your better and wyser. 1586 Wisbey *Cork. Practises* Wks. (E. T. S.) I. 4 Quhidder it be ingle betuix the recommendation and louing at your haly lyfes, or at your helthful doctrine, we ar douisum. 1599 Fuller *Appeal, Let. to Dr. C. Burges*, Alter Men are under your Confession. 1661 Feltham *Lusoria* etc. 79 While I stay, you cannot want an Agent that will glory in your imployment. 1690 Davies *Don Sebastian* v. (1692) 121, I can bear it in spite of your despight. 1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1892) I. cliii. 386, I have not yet heard from Lady Hervey upon your subject. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1859) IV. 136 [He] would be nearly distracted with joy at your sight. 1820 Mrs. Elsa Nathan *Langreath* III. 253, I hope our union will be the means of renewing your intimacy.

**5.** Used more or less objectively of something which the person or persons addressed may be expected to possess, or have to do with in some way: cf. His *poss. pron.* 2 b.

*c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Alla cunne ower crede..þelh ȝe alle cunnen hwat hit biqueðe. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 53 To know the quantitie of your long or short fete in they lynes. 1586 Dryden & Lee *Duke Guise* II. ii, Your Air, your Mien,..Will kill at least your thousand in a Day. 1773 Mrs. Chapone *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 183, The most ancient of all histories, you will read in your Bible. 1808 Syd. Smith *Lett. on Catch.* i, You (if you had lived in those times) would certainly have been a Catholic. 1885 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 23 Take up your Latin and Greek dictionaries, and find out the meaning of 'Spirit'.

**b.** Used with no definite meaning, or vaguely implying 'that you know of'; corresponding to the 'ethical dative' *you* (You 7): often expressing contempt.

*a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 31 Euen the wisest of your great louters, do as oft punishe nature, as they do correcte faultes. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 332 There is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing. 1600 — *Hamt.* v. i. 188 Your water is a sore Decayer of your horson dead body. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. ii. 237 Your Spanish Paulo is the best daunter. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. ix. § 3 That grave Awfulness, as in your best breed of Mastiffs. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* Epil. 18 Your Sal, and Hartis-horn Drops, they deal not in. 1739 R. Bower *Compl. Farmer* 19 A good hardy sort [of cows] are your Angleseys and Welsh. 1791 'G. Gambado' *Ann. Horsem. xv.* (1809) 128 Your Gentleman now-a-days, must have to his bride two head stalls, and two reins. 1842 E. FitzGerald *Euphranor* 76 They realise very well, which is enough for me,—I hate your accomplished women. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 92, I hate Your meek and milky girls that dare not kiss A burning passion, clinging to your lips.

**6.** As possessive of the indefinite pronoun (You 6): One's, any one's.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. ii. 233 In these times you stand on distance: your Passes, Stoccado's, and I know not what. 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Here [*sc.* Han-

over] there is no living without them [*ac.* curtains], one whole side of your house being glass. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 115 They may be well term'd discharging ones Duty with a good Grace, wearing your Fetters with no Inclination to Freedom. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind., Thoreau*, He wishes..to trump your suit and to *ruff* when you least expect it.

**Yourn** (yūən), *poss. pron. dial.* Also 4 3ouren, 9 your'if. [f. Your + -n as in Hern, Hisn, Ourn, q. v.] = Yours.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxiv. 16 Thanne we shulen 3iue and take togidere oure dowgtris and 3oures. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Yourn*, yours. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiii, Sam..replied that his master was extremely well. 'Oh, I am so glad,' replied Mr. Trotter, 'is he here?' 'Is your'n?' asked Sam. 1848 *Hunsick. Words* 24 Sept. 298/1 Famous top-coat that o' your'n, sir.

**Yours** (yūəz), *poss. prons.* Forms: 4 3oures, -is, 3ure, 3ours, 4-6 3ouris, 4-7 youres, 5 3oures, -ys, 3owres, 3owers, yowres, yowers, youres, -is, (yo'e)s, -ys, yowrs, 6 *Sc.* yowris, 8-9 your's, 5- yours. [f. Your + -s as in Here, Ours, q.v.] The absolute form of Your, used when no sb. follows (originally, like *you* and *your*, referring to a number of persons, later also to a single person): That or those belonging to you.

1. Predicatively.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 497 All hale my land sall youris be. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2869 The kyngdom is youres that yonder ye see. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlv. 20 The goodes of all the lande of Egipte shalbe yours. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. 543 If youll a willing ware lin[e] What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine. 1685 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* ii. i, All this Nether-world Is yours, you command it, and doe sway it. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 31 Take all that an over-indulgent Mother has enrich'd me with! these Jewels! these Bills must be yours! 1825 Maria Edgeworth *Heresy & Lucy* (1858) 174 You should not meddle with them; they are yours. 1845 Lady Dufferin *Irish Emigrant* 33 Yours was the good brave heart, Mary, That still kept hoping on.

† 2. With *both, two*, etc. following. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4628 Drighlin graunt bat it be sun, Pat al bis werld be yurs tua. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 162 Moreover remember that boy which is yours both.

c. In the subscription of a letter (cf. Your 2 d): often qualified by an adv., or an adj. as *faithfully, sincerely, truly* (see also these words). Hence *yours truly*, etc. humorously for 'I' or 'me', 'myself'.

† 1439 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 30 Yowres, Will. Paston. 1583-9 *Priory of Coldingham* (Surtees) 109 Be 3ors in all thyngs, David Home of Wedderburn. 1596 Lo. Dacre in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. I. 133 At Kirkoswald the xxiij. daye of Auguste Yowrs with hyes seyres Thomas Dacre. 1598 In Allen *Mesteryelow (Longfellow)* (1908) 97 Yours to death, and after death, Luke Kirbie. *c* 1680 *Let. in* Hickes *Ne. Treasury* (1689) 73 Yours in the Lord, Subscribed, J. B. 1682 J. W. *Let. fr. New-Eng.* 9 Now, Sir, I shall trouble you no more at present, onely that I am Yours, J. W. 1718 *Illustr. Modern* 19, I depend on your mighty Talent,..and on that Score, remain, Most Lovingly Yours. 1798 Fabian *Hist. Eng. Stirrup* (ed.) 1 Yours truly and faithfully [etc.]. The Author. 1860 Sala *Baddington P.* xxvii, The verdict will be 'Guilty, my Lord,' against your truly. *Ibid.*, It's ill..with yours obediently. 1890 R. Buchanan'o' *Col. Reformer* xv, And they were his faithfully, etc. 'Hang their "yours faithfully",' banged out Ernest.

d. = Your business or affair.

1841 Mill in *Nonconf.* I. 1 Be it your's to help him.

**2.** Standing (esp. in collocation with another possessive) for *your* + a sb. to be supplied from the context.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5061 Knauing of yours haue i nan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2708 Leuedi, kniztes ore, And youres I salle fynde Merlin iv. 68 The kyngdome that is myn lorde and youres. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* iv. 1. 96 Let their beis Be made as soft as yours. *a* 1597 Paion *To the Lady Dursley* 13 With Virtue strong as Youth I beseech them. 1597 Boswell *Let. to Johnson* 29 Nov., I was, indeed, doubly uneasy;—on my own account and yours. 1837 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. vii, Such a father as yours. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xliii, 'Will you take a glass of wine?' '..' You're very good, sir,' replied Mr. Roker, accepting the proffered glass. 'Yours, sir.' 'Thank you,' said Mr. Pickwick. 1840 — *Old Shop* li, 'I shall be done,' sir,' said Sampson. 'Then give me your hand,' retorted Quilp. 'Sally, girl, yours.'

b. Those who belong to you; your family, kin[d], or friends: chiefly in phr. *you and yours*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17340 If sal i wene On 30w and yours bath be sene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1722 Bodie to me & to myne myknull vnright, And to yow & also youres 3omeryng for euer. *c* 1485 *Slouer Carle* (Camden) 1. 70 Allmyghy God have you in ys kepyng, and all yowrys. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 212 You & al yours shal be ryche for euer. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* iii. i. 91 Whose horrid Image doth vnfix my hayre And make my seated heart knock at my ribbes Againe the Client, and my Gentle Wife Doth say, Thou look'st beyond the Throne, though not the Crowne For Banquo's Issue haue I fil'd my Mind, For them the gracious Duncan haue I murther'd, Put Rancours in the Vessell of my Peace Only for them, and mine owne Life advanc'd To make them Kings, the Seede of Banquo Kings. 1611 — *Cymb.* iii. iii. 43 Thou art one o' the false Ones: Now I think on thee My Wife hath so perswaded, that the Queene Hath my Maine Ayme amisse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1000 Thou therefore on these Herbs, and Fruits and Flours Feed with delight, they seek thee out with joy Thou shalt restore them by thy speech thir wounds, Thy self and all thy Race. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 1 Of Your Name and Race. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 31 Take all that an over-indulgent Mother has enrich'd me with! these Jewels! these Bills must be yours! 1825 Maria Edgeworth *Heresy & Lucy* (1858) 174 You should not meddle with them; they are yours. 1845 Lady Dufferin *Irish Emigrant* 33 Yours was the good brave heart, Mary, That still kept hoping on.

† c. With *both, two*, etc. following. *Obs.*

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4628 Drighlin graunt bat it be sun, Pat al bis werld be yurs tua. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 162 Moreover remember that boy which is yours both.

c. In the subscription of a letter (cf. Your 2 d): often qualified by an adv., or an adj. as *faithfully, sincerely, truly* (see also these words). Hence *yours truly*, etc. humorously for 'I' or 'me', 'myself'.

† 1439 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 30 Yowres, Will. Paston. 1583-9 *Priory of Coldingham* (Surtees) 109 Be 3ors in all thyngs, David Home of Wedderburn. 1596 Lo. Dacre in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. I. 133 At Kirkoswald the xxiij. daye of Auguste Yowrs with hyes seyres Thomas Dacre. 1598 In Allen *Mesteryelow (Longfellow)* (1908) 97 Yours to death, and after death, Luke Kirbie. *c* 1680 *Let. in* Hickes *Ne. Treasury* (1689) 73 Yours in the Lord, Subscribed, J. B. 1682 J. W. *Let. fr. New-Eng.* 9 And, Sir, I shall trouble you no more at present, onely that I am Yours, J. W. 1718 *Illustr. Modern* 19, I depend on your mighty Talent,..and on that Score, remain, Most Lovingly Yours. 1798 Fabian *Hist. Eng. Stirrup* (ed.) 1 Yours truly and faithfully [etc.]. The Author. 1860 Sala *Baddington P.* xxvii, The verdict will be 'Guilty, my Lord,' against your truly. *Ibid.*, It's ill..with yours obediently. 1890 R. Buchanan'o' *Col. Reformer* xv, And they were his faithfully, etc. 'Hang their "yours faithfully",' banged out Ernest.

d. = Your business or affair.

1841 Mill in *Nonconf.* I. 1 Be it your's to help him.

**2.** Standing (esp. in collocation with another possessive) for *your* + a sb. to be supplied from the context.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5061 Knauing of yours haue i nan. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2708 Leuedi, kniztes ore, And youres I salle fynde Merlin iv. 68 The kyngdome that is myn lorde and youres. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* iv. 1. 96 Let their beis Be made as soft as yours. *a* 1597 Paion *To the Lady Dursley* 13 With Virtue strong as Youth I beseech them. 1597 Boswell *Let. to Johnson* 29 Nov., I was, indeed, doubly uneasy;—on my own account and yours. 1837 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. vii, Such a father as yours. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xliii, 'Will you take a glass of wine?' '..' You're very good, sir,' replied Mr. Roker, accepting the proffered glass. 'Yours, sir.' 'Thank you,' said Mr. Pickwick. 1840 — *Old Shop* li, 'I shall be done, sir,' said Sampson. 'Then give me your hand,' retorted Quilp. 'Sally, girl, yours.'

b. Those who belong to you; your family, kin[d], or friends: chiefly in phr. *you and yours*.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17340 If sal i wene On 30w and yours bath be sene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1722 Bodie to me & to myne myknull vnright, And to yow & also youres 3omeryng for euer. *c* 1485 *Slouer Carle* (Camden) 1. 70 Allmyghy God have you in ys kepyng, and all yowrys. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 212 You & al yours shal be ryche for euer. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* iii. i. 91 Whose horrid Image doth vnfix my hayre And make my seated heart knock at my ribbes Againe the Client, and my Gentle Wife Doth say, Thou look'st beyond the Throne, though not the Crowne For Banquo's Issue haue I fil'd my Mind, For them the gracious Duncan haue I murther'd, Put Rancours in the Vessell of my Peace Only for them, and mine owne Life advanc'd To make them Kings, the Seede of Banquo Kings. 1611 — *Cymb.* iii. iii. 43 Thou art one o' the false Ones: Now I think on thee My Wife hath so perswaded, that the Queene Hath my Maine Ayme amisse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1000 Thou therefore on these Herbs, and Fruits and Flours Feed with delight, they seek thee out with joy Thou shalt restore them by thy speech thir wounds, Thy self and all thy Race. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 1 Of Your Name and Race. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 31, I know nothing so valuable as your self. 1847 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cross* xii, 'Why, what a mess you're in, Heaney!'..'Am I?..I can't be much worse than yourself; look at your breeches!' 1856 Mary Braddon *Trail Serpent* 2, It's yourself, Sweetheart, it's yourself I think most of now.

c. as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition (or *like* adj. and adv.).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1548 I..ouer-more wylle Be nerauant to your-self-soun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1297 Vif it like your Alleaunce, bat I, your lefe son, Be sent from your seluon. 1634 Payne in *Documents agst. P.* (Camden) 34 This odious scandall..which I wish may not lay reflect upon your self. 1785 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* ii. I, Spoke like yersell, auld birky. 1796 *Gent. Mag.* May 234/1 Good fortune befall Yourself, and the B-n-d family all. 1807 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 331 On a balance of their beauty and deformity, not one of them equals yourself or Southey. 1852 Miss Mulock *Agatha's Husb.* iv, What a strong friendship used to exist between Uncle Brian, yourself, and Anne Valery.

**3.** In pregnant sense: Your being or personality; also, your true self, you as you are in your natural or normal condition: cf. Self D. 1, 3.

1590 Shakspere *F. Q.* I. viii. 42 What suill starre On you hath found,..That of your selfe ye thus berobbed arre. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xiii, O that you were your selfe. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1741) I. ii. 5 For fear you should be brought to any thing..which, by being set so above yourself. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* vi. v, 'Dear aunt, you frighten me out of my senses.' 'O, my dear,..you will soon come to yourself again.' 1889 S. Winter *Mrs. Bob* viii, 'Now you look like yourself,' she said fondly.

****** 6. Reflexive, *as* direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of You 4 d.

13.. to your-seluen [see 3]. 1526 Lyd. *Guy Warr.* 3759 To occuppye your eyse allwaye. 1568 *Grafton Chron.* II. 102 Least that by the doyng the contrary, you bring your selfe into such a pecke of troubles. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Humo.* i. 3, Her would I..you should melt away your selfe In flashing bravrie. 1606 Shakes. *Ant. & Cl.* ii. v. 75 Good Madam keepe your selfe within your selfe. 1680 R. L'Estrange *Erasmus Colloq.* 127 'Twas well you bethought your self before you were in for't indeed and all. 1727 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. S. C.*— 1 Apr., I am going to tell you a thing that will entertain you as much yourself here. 1865 'L. Carroll' *Alice's Adv. in Wonderland* ix, Pray don't trouble yourself. 1880 'Edna Lyall' *Donovan* xix, You'll do for yourself one of these days.

******* 7. As indefinite pronoun (emphatic or reflexive): = Oneself: cf. You 6, Your 6.

1699 Stubmy *Mariner's Mag.* n. iii. 56 Here is a Table of Latitudes..and the way to calculate it your self. 1881 *Daily Mag.* Apr. 97 Our friend learned that one of the secrets of their success was living within the line of country quickly yourself. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 May 205/2 The monkey..has a rule that everything which cannot be eaten must be used to scratch yourself with.

**Yourselves** (yuəse'lvz), *pron. pl.* Forms: see Your and Self. [f. prec., in the 16th cent., with pl. inflexion, like *ourselves, theirselves, themselves*, in order to provide an unambiguous form for the pl. use.] The emphatic and reflexive pronoun corresponding to *you* in plural sense: replacing the earlier *yourself* (see prec. 1, 2).

**I.** Emphatic.

**1.** In apposition with *ye* or *you* (as subj., pred., or obj.), expressed or implied.

1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxiii. 13 Ye youre selves goo nott in, nother [1674 yes neither goe in your selues, neither] suffre ye them that come to entre in. *c* 1590 Lyndsay *Monarchie, Prog. Daniel* 312 It is your craft...Your selfis, in your Temp[l]s, for to teche. 1622 *Bible* Luke xiii. 28 When yee shall see..all the Prophets in the kingdome of God, and your selues thrust out [1526 Tindale, and your selves thrust oute a dores]. 1881 'Mark Twain' *Sk.* (1910) 24, I think I honor and appreciate your Pilgrim stock as much as you do yourselves, perhaps.

**2.** As simple subject (now *arch.* or *poet.*), predicate, or object.

1526 (see quot. 1611 in 1). *a* 1598 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 82 Ye sall neuer be yoursellis quhat men ze ar. 1982 *N. T.* (Rheim.) 1 Thess. ii. 1 For your selues know, brethren, our entrance vnto you, that it was not vaine. 1608 Shaks. *Lear* iv. iv. 104 (Qo. 1) If you doe loue old men,..if your selues are old. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 110, I intend to carry you where your selves shall be Judges of his Conversation. 1798 Pope *Duncz.* i. 3 Say great Patricians ! (since yourselves have sprung From those wond'rous works). 1881 'Mark Twain' *Sk.* (1910) 20, I ask you to put yourselves in his place.

**3.** In pregnant sense: cf. prec. 5.

1728 Pope *Dunc.* xiv. 428 Be still your selves, and we shall need no more.

**II.** 4. Reflexive, as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of You 1 d.

1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. cclxi. 715/2 It is his wyll that ye all shulde put your selues into his pure wyll. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xvii. 3 Take hede to youre selves. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Matt. vi. 19 Laye not vp for your selues treasure vpon earth. 1592 Henry *Newton* 1 Not to wanton out your holy vowes Dancing your selues to th' Devill. 1592 Burke *Pr. Rev.* 92 Respecting your forefathers, you would have been taught to respect yourselves. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, 'You ought to be ashamed of yourselves,' said the voice of Mr. Raddle. 1847 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cr.* xvi, It is all very well for you to give yourselves airs among other girls.

‖ **Yourt** (yūət). Forms: 8-9 jourt, 9 jurt, y(o)urte, yurta, yu(e)rt, yort, 8- yourt. [ad. Russ. юрта, through F. *yourte* or G. *jurte*.] A semi-subterranean dwelling or hut of the natives of northern and central Asia, usually formed of timber covered with earth or turf. Also *attrib.*

1784 King *Cook's Voy. Pacific* III. 9 May 1779, Natchoekin is a very inconsiderable *ostrog*, having only one log-house, the residence of the *Toion*; five *balagans*, and one *jourt*. 1786 Coxe *Kuss. Discov.* 259 Six or seven of those huts or yourts make a village. 1808 Anna Bowman *Voy. Exiles* xii. 134 They made no scruple to enter the warm, though uninviting *yurts*. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 207 Some kinds..have been found in the high north-

east of Siberia, on the site of deserted yourte-ʒ modern date. 1899 Baring-Gould *Furze Bloom* iii. 29 A Khan's yourte on the steppes of Central Asia.

**Yourt,** var. Yaourt.

**Yous, yoush,** dial. contractions of *you shall*: see Shall A. 5.

1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. v. B j, Yoush beare the blame.

**Youst,** obs. form of Just, *joust* v.[1]

**Youster,** *sb. north. dial.* Forms: 1 zelostr, zealster, -ystr, 6 Sc. ʒoustir, ʒowster, ʒoyster. [OE. *zeolster* (late also *gillister*) suppuration, pus, related to LG. *galster* mouldy spot in cheese, bacon, etc., whence Du. *galsterig* rank, rancid (cf. OE. *zeolstrig* purulent, poisonous).] Fetid discharge from a wound; pus, sanies. Hence **Youster** *v.*, to fester; **Youstered** *pa. pple.* (see quot. 1894).

*c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 709 *Suppuratio*, zelostr. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1 (Napier 97/1) *Tenerituline*, iungan iuzelpe. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 975 On his dazum for his iugoðe, Godes wiþersacan Godes lage bræcon. *a* 1225 *Leg. Katherine* 1460 Nim ʒenne of þi iuheðe. *c* 1386 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 84 Seynge þe ʒoupe of þe childe. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* (1896) 68 Other tweyn of bys bretheren, (that throgh ysught & foolrede hym folwed). *a* 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr.* II. 731 Thogh thatt my vine frome me be worne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xxii. 65 They knewe well by the reason of his yought hunger oppressyd hym more than it dyde to them of greater age. *a* 1578 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 105 By your authoritie, the people may be moved the rather to beleve the trewth, whareof many dowbtes be reasons of our youghtt. 1602 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. i. 148 Our youths, and wildenesse, shall no whit appeare, But all be buried in his Gravity. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 664 A Snake, renew'd in all his speckl'd Pride Of pompous Youth. 1700 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 122 Their free-behaviour are generally attributed to Youth and Gaiety. 1796 Burke *Let. to Hussey* Dec., Corr. 1844 IV. 401 If I had youth and strength, I would go myself over to Ireland to work on that plan. 1803 Beddoes in *Med. Jrnl.* X. 572 He has youth on his side, and it is odds but he gets over it (*sc.* a disease).

**b.** *fig.* Newness, novelty, recentness.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 224 If that the youth of my new interest here Have power to bid you welcome. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. § 13 These opinions have youth in their countenance.

**2.** The time when one is young; the early part or period of life; more specifically, the period from puberty till the attainment of full growth, between childhood and adult age.

*c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 206 Ðære scame & ðære scande þe ðu on iuguðe worhtes ic ʒeðo ðæt ðu for-gitst. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 21 Eall þis ic heold of minre ʒeoguðe. *a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) On his ʒeoguðe he flen fro folke to weste. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 100 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 108 Þe mon þe on his youðe ʒeorne techeð wit and wisdom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1822 (Rolls) 10436 Ualle þe ʒongest suchelers Pat.. were of yoube. *c* 1400 *Rom. St. Benet* (verse) 14 Women..Pat leris no latyn in þar youth. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 63 Most fortunable chiftane, bothe in youthis and eild. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* viii. 21 The ymagination of mans hert is euell, euen from the very youth of him [1611 from his youth]. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* vi. (1816) 168/1 One of those old boys who had been great rakes in their youth. 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 11 As soon as they begin to grow up and pass from infancy to childhood. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* viii. 103 In the case of any kind of optical defect, it is a great advantage to begin the use of glasses in youth.

**b.** *transf.* and *fig.* Early stage or period of existence.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. iii. 7 A Violet in the youth of Primy Nature. 1658 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 As the Bough grow in the youth of the Tree. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 14 One very bad (quality). then often ruins part of its Crop, while in their youth. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 813/1 Lutheranism..covers a smaller area to-day than it did in its early youth.

**3.** A quality or condition characteristic of the young; e. g. youthful freshness or vigour; youthful wantonness, folly, or rashness; youthful appearance or aspect.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 65 Þær is ʒeonoþ buton yþle. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Þer seal beon . . ʒeonoþe (v.r. ʒeonoðe, ʒieuð) wiȝ-uten elde. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cli[1]. 3 Als erne þi youthe be newed sal. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 263 Sche.. greide hem alle. To grante Kenn his ferste youthe. 1475 *Siones Pageys* (Camden) l. 158 Tyll..þat youthe of wod lokke ly in my nekke..youth shall rene in me as hyt has done in you afore tyme. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 244 Now is loste our beaulte and our youthe thoroughe grete synne. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxxv. 140 b/2 Though..that youthe of wytte haue made hym to defye the kynge. *a* 1553 Brende *Livy*, *Thob i. 5* Wks. (1772) 270/2 [The sun] puts a Youth upon the World. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* 16 The Enervating of their Youth and Vigour. 1817 Maria Edgeworth *Ormond* I. After she had purchased all of youth which age can purchase for money. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lady's Progr.* viii, Oh, the soul keeps its youth! But the body faints sore.

**4.** Personified, or vaguely denoting any young person or persons (without article).

Here perhaps belongs *yongthes folke* (Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9), which was imitated by Davison (see Youngth 1, quot. 1692).

1300 Gower *Conf.* III. 358, I ask wher lusty Youthe the ...Stod with his route wel begun. 1309 Langl. *Rich. Redel. to Pet.* 69 They shall fynde fiele fawtis floure score and odde, That youthe hem weneth alwey pat it be witte ynome. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1052 Iowith is recheles. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 93 Pul of corage is youȝebe in herte. 1533 More *Heb. Hl. Wks.* 1557 My Slipper youth [must be] underpropped with elder counsayle. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 124 We haue an olde prouerbe youth will haue his course. 1693 Bronne *Ess. Sex* Youth enclines to Wantonness and Prodigality. 1737 Gray *Bard* 74 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* iii. 1, Almost everything that is gone has been done by youth.

**5.** Young people (or creatures) collectively; the young. (With or without *the*; now always construed as plural.)

*Beowulf* 66 Oð þæt seo ȝeocoð ȝewcox. *c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 7 Eall seo ȝiohoð ðe nu is on Angelcynne ðara ðinga. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke iii. 7 Ealle ðas scare boðeȝeleste ȝiuȝeðe. *Ibid.* 10837 Beest alre ȝeoȝeðe be..a þan dæȝon worce Æȝðor ihaten. 1538 Starkey *England* 152 The yi and old bryngyng vp of youth here in our cuntrey. *Ibid.* 156 To ouerse the educatyon of the. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxiii. (1888) 159 Youth from seuen vntil twenty, will abyde much correcting. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. i. Chorus 1 Now all the Youth of England are on fire. 1656 Harrington *Oceana* (1658) 204 The Romans could remember that they had been Youth. 1742 Gray *Ode to Spring* 5 Ye insect youth are on the wing. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. cxxv, The unexpected death of some old lady Or gentleman.. Who've made 'us youth' wait too-long legacies, Or grandpapa's coat, 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 25 When there was peace at home, the youth sought opportunities of distinguishing.. themselves in distant wars. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 923/1 There was a native innocence in the New York youth of both sexes that was pleasing to our pride.

**6.** A young person; *esp.* a young man between boyhood and mature age; sometimes, esp. in earlier use, more widely (see quots.).

Formerly sometimes (and still in dialect or vulgar speech) pleonastically qualified by *young*.

*c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2665 Ðat time ðat he was ȝuð, Wis ihigrad mikel wiðe kuð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1822 (Rolls) 10439 He lift vp þe lach and leop ouer þe lake, Pat youthe. 1580 W. Herbert (*title*) The Right Rule of Christian Chastitie to be obserued of all old and young, of both the sexes of both sexes. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. 1. 32 b, Accompanied with a multitude of women, young youthes and children. 1598 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 40 He hath but a beard, is more then a youth: and he that hath no beard, is lesse then a man. 1605 Tresswell *Pyrrh. Lord Nestl.* 32 A youth then worse of age. 1611 *Bible* Susanna 45 The Lord raised vp the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 95 The jocond rebecks sound To many a youth, and many a maid. 1687 [W. Penn] *New Eng. Persuas.* 16 He ended his days a young Youth, in the 24th Year of his Age. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 263 W[e] was in the eleventh Year of his Age, and y[e] was a very forward youth. 1771 T. *Chesterfield's Lett.* Kal. May 1741, To-morrow..you will attain your ninth year; so that, for the future, I shall treat you as a youth. 1805 *Lit. Reg.*, *Cruise* 356/2 Our youths, as we and the other 8 went by, sold of a poor man. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxii, The pot-boy, the muffin youth, and the baker-potato man. 1881 *19th Cent.* May 780 Before she was twenty she was the veriest flirt among youths.

**b.** (esp. *college youth.*) Applied technically to societies of bellringers. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1668 [Stedman] *Tintinnalogia* (1671) Ded., To the Noble Society of College Youths. 1816 Shipway *Campanal.* p. xix, The Society of College Youths, in the summer of 1814, on a visit to Cambridge, were presented by Mr. Stedman with his peculiar production on five bells. 1825 T. Bailey *Ann. Nottc. I.* 90 The bells at St. Peter's church were cast this year:..The following are the inscriptions upon them: First, or Treble.—'I was given by the Society of Northern Youths, in 1651, and recast by the Sherwood Youths, in 1772.'

**7.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *youth-slip*, *-state*, *-tide*, *-time*; *youth-hold*, *-consuming* adjs.; †**youth-grass,** †**youthwort,** names for sundew; †**youth-like** *a.*, resembling or having the character of youth, juvenile (cf. Youthly *a.*); *adv.*, like a youth, or in the manner of youth; hence †*youthlikeness*; †**youth-master**, a master who teaches young people; **youth-potion**, a potion supposed to restore youth.

*a* 1628 Sylvester *Sonn. Miracl. Peace* xii, My †youthhold thoughts. 1610 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, That heavy †youth-consuming Miserie. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* ccxxiv. 228 In Lankashire..the common people do call it 'youth grasse, and they think that it rotteth sheepe. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. 518 When shee saw Priamus †youthlik surcharged in armour. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. lv. (1912) 371 All such, whom either youthfull age, or youth-like mindes did fill with unlimited desires. 1849 Chalonder *Erasm. on Folly* C iij b, Women with their smooth cheekes, small voyces, and fine skinnes, doe ouer shewe a certayne †youthlikenesse. 1850 Harington tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 48 b, For so shall nurses and †youthlasters chastige maiche faultes. 1896 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* iiii, A sorceress..to mix †youth-potions for others. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. iii. *Captaine* 220 The better bear the †Youth-slips of a King. Then to fill all with Blood-floods of Debate. 1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* II. xiii. (1556) 82 Publius Rutilius †youthstate [orig. *adolescentiam*]. 1893 Brennan *Witch of Mona*, etc. 291 The seeds that in †youth-tide we sow. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 307 Their vices included in the †youth-time of the human race. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Sept. 190 Miss Cobbe regrets the banished graces of her mother's youthtime. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* iii. clv. 1366 Called in English Sunne deaw, *Ros Solis*, †Youth woort. 1598 R. Chester *Poems* (1914) 18 Youthes faire Affections lover.

Hence **Youthen** (yū·ðn) *v.* [-en 5], *trans.* to make youthful, impart a youthful appearance to; *intr.* to become youthful, acquire youthful qualities; **You·thless** *a.*, having no youth, lacking the ordinary characteristics of youth (whence **You·thlessness**); † **You·thness**, youth; **You·thlily**, with youth, adj., used cf. *youthful*); † **You·thsome** *a.*, youthful in disposition, juvenile.

1882 *Even. Star* (Philad.) 28 Apr., No dress †youthens a girl so much as white. 1926 C. H. Sorley *Lett.* (1919) 140 You will always be forty to strangers perhaps: and youthen as you get to know them. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man & Godl.* xiii. A †youthless, ouer-developed girl of fifteen. 1909 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 June 225/2 If it is his own letters..his cold †youthlessness..that are to blame. 1918 *Nation* 7 Sept. 322 Pat he had don in his Gravity. 1906 A. & E. Castle *If Youth but knew* ii, Heaven knows..what sweet hostess may not grow †youthly under the influence of Time. *Diary* 31 Oct., I found him drinking and very jolly and youthsome.

**Youthful** (yū·þfŭl), *a.* [f. Youth + -ful.]

**1.** Having or characterized by youth; that is still young.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 14 The youthfull knight could not for ought be staide. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. i. 32 In vnlawfull loue, A sinne prouailing much in youthfull men, 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 77 This Prince being youthfull, cast behinde him all care of the Empire. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* III. iv. 32 Is she not more than Painting can express, Or youthful Poets fancy when they love? 1849 W. Irving *Alhambra* xxiii. II. 37 A youthful princess, in the very sweetness and bloom of her years. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 109 Here we have..an unmistakable attack made by the youthful Socrates.

**2.** *transf.* Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or suitable for, youth or the young; juvenile.

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Xiij, Alaso Castillo..baunges committed by youthfull parties that were of no great importance, was..caried to prison. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 111 Idlenesse is..ye sole maintenaunce of youthfull *Vaster* and lasciuious desires. 1605 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 The leane and slipper'd Pantaloone;.. His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. 1838 Hill *Moral Educ.* I. 270 *Agra* the most youthful Jollity. 1723 C. Walker *Mem. Sally Salish.* 10 Dress and Dancing were the sole Youthful Delights of our Sally. 1799 Han. More *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 173 That profusion of little..sentimental books with which the youthful library overflows. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxv, Mrs. Skewton.. appropriately attired for that purpose in a very youthful costume. 1901 Jacobs *Light Freights* viii. An ancient eye watched with almost youthful impatience the slow warming of a mug of beer on the fish.

**3.** *fig.* That is in its early stage, early, new; also, having the freshness or vigour of youth.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. i. 28 O earth! I will befriend thee more with raine That shall distill from these two ancient ruines, Then youthfull April shall with all his showres In summers drought. 1813 Byron *Corsair* II. viii. 54 The larger stature..of men in those youthfull times and age of the world. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* i. 24 Perfect Felicity, such as after millions of millions of Ages is still youthfull and flourishing. 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 256 The youthfull bloom of rosy love. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 147 There may be a continuance of the same primary profusion of monocotyledonous plants and a youthful condition of the world. 1877 *Fall Mall Gaz.* 17 Oct. 11/1 A youthful and astringent Tinta, an aromatic Malmsey of fabulous value.

Hence **Youthfullity** (*nonce-wd.*), youthfulness; pl. youthful acts or follies.

1763 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 15 Aug., You see my impetuosity does not abate with my hair or youthfullity. 1764 — *Let. to C. Churchill* 27 Mar., You do not suspect me, I hope, of any youthfullities.

**Youthfully** (yū·þfŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In youthful manner; with freshness, vigour, or other characteristic of youth; like a young person; in a juvenile style.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1888) 209 Let them.. defende that stoutly, which they haue begone youthfully. 1582 Hester *Spec. Pilgrem.* 11 b, Of face beying garnished therwith, it maketh it very faire, and preserueth it youthfully. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 303 If anything seemeth to be painted somewhat youthfully, it is esteemed to proceed out of a promising forwardnesse of our naturall inclinations. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warre* 85 Youthfully impatient of all delay. 1808 Han. More *Cælebs* ix, Rather youthfully dress. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 5289 Now that the cloud has broken, sky laughs blue, Earth blossoms youthfully!

**Youthfulness** (yū·þfŭlnes), [f. as prec. + -ness.] The fact or quality of being youthful; youthful condition or character.

**Youthead** (yǭ·þhed). Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 3 ȝuðhede, 4 ȝouþehede, -heed, ȝouthehede, youtheed, ȝouthed, 4–5 ȝowthed(e, ȝeuthed, 4–6 ȝouthed(e, -eid, 5 yowthid, ȝowthehede, youthead, (ȝuȝhed), 5–6 ȝowthhead, youtheid, yowthed, 6 ȝouthhed, ȝbouthhed, yowth(h)eid, ȝeutheid, ȝutheid, ȝowcht-heid, youitheid, 6, 8 ȝouthheid, *arch.* 8 youthhede, 9 -hed, 9 youth-head, youthhead (*Sc.* -heid). [f. YOUTH + -HEAD.]

1. The state of youth, youngness: = YOUTH 1.
*c* 1200 *Ruthiyn* 55 Wa he neuere ȝet to-ȝeines ȝuðhede, his curnes ut of elde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Poulus*) 862 Quhare hele beis ay but sekenes, ȝouthed but eild or wrechitnes. 1496 Sir Gl. Have *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 3 Thi enfornne your youthede of mony syndry knaiskede. 1538 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 67 ȝouthheid is without reissoun or ryme. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xvi. 30 Quha wald the rege of ȝowheid desire. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Gentle Shepherd* vi. Quhen eild and spyte takis place of ȝouthheids flame. 1819 Scott *Let. to Cornet W. Scott* 3 Dec. in *Lockhart*, Mamma and the girls are quite well, and so is Master Charles, who is of course more magnificent, as being the only specimen of youthhead at home.

2. The time of youth, adolescence: = YOUTH 2.
*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3592 Quen hal it [*sc.* eld] haue þai sene vnfayn, And wald ha youthed þan again. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (*Lucas*) 3 In his ȝouthede leryt he In anyoche leche to be. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 317 (Harl. MS.) My lord god, þat hast ȝyfen me fro my youthede, kepe me nou in þis hour. 1526 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 29 He was within youthheid and of mynor aige. 1588 A. King tr. *Cantiliers' Catech.* 1 b, All the lyue tyme, fra ȝe be thair ȝouthheid. 1798 H. Macneill *Scot. Muse* xiv, Year after year in youtheid's prime, Wander he will, frae clime to clime. 1814 Southey *Roderick* xxiii. The children, free In youthhead's happy season from all cares. 1826 J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 I. 170 That never was Mr. North's character, even in lusty youth-head.

3. Youths collectively: = YOUTH 5.
1562 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23, I ingeit the techinȝ of the ȝouthed in vertew and science, nixt eftir the auctoritie with the administeris of iustice vnder it. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 515 Privatlie or publicklie to instruct the youthead. 1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 233 They are ... guilty of having committed the education of the youth-head 'of the country to men whom they consider disqualified.

**Youthood** (yǭ·þhud). Now *rare* or *arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeoȝoþhad, ȝeoȝuþad, 3 ȝuweðehode; 7–9 youthood, youth-hood, youthhood. [OE. *ȝeoguþhād*, f. *ȝeoguþ* YOUTH + *-hād* -HOOD; cf. OS. *jugudhēd*, MHG. *jugendheit*. In mod.E. a new formation.]

1. = YOUTH 1, 3.
971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Swa ȝonne xelice bið þere menniscan ȝecynde ȝes lichoman, ȝonne se ȝeoȝoþ-had sprest bloweþ & ȝesteresð bið. *a* 1698 *Leber Scintilla* (1881) 189 Se þe xeteleð fram ȝeoguðhade [*v. r. ȝuentfel*] fet þeow his þeawe after hyne ongyt ofermodiȝinge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 342 Of al þin elde, of childhole, of ȝuweðehad.
1820 tr. *Fatwa's Theol. Hum.* 7 youthhood, In this age of youthhood, (commonly called Adolescency). 1837 Gillespie *Engl. Pop. Cerem.* ii. iii. 17 From his youthood he was most observant of Ecclesiastical Ceremonies. 1880 in Sprat *Relat. Wicked Comittr.* ii. (1693) 64 It was a folly of youth-hood. 1724 Warburton *Tracts* (1789) 36 My Governess Philosophy, under whose Roof I spent my Youth-hood. *a* 1807 J. Skinner *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 49 A gaucie gurle, wi' ilka o' yellow, In youthood's sappy bud. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. x. With the down of youthhood still on his chin. 1887 Smiles *Life & Lab.* xii. 318 The new ideas are young, and originate for the most part in youth-hood.

**b.** *fig.* Early stage or period: = YOUTH 2 b.
1826 D'Israeli *Chat. J.* II. xli. 343 The native of a land where, in the youthhood of the Republic, a nation's independence had broke forth. 1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* 101 And night and day its crystal heart doth yearn To wed its youthhood with the sea's old age.

**2.** *concr.* Young people collectively: = YOUTH 6.
1690 J. Macknemie *Siege London-Derry* 48 The Youthhood by a strange impulse ran in one Body and shut the Gates. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 412 The youthin who, in behalf of the outraged youthhood of the place, wore the white sheet on this interesting occasion.

**Youthily, Youthiness**: see after YOUTHY.

**Youthless**: see after YOUTH.

**Youthly** (yǭ·þlī), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. YOUTH + -LY 1. In OE. *ȝeoguþlīc*; cf. OHG. *jugundlīh.*]

1. Pertaining to or characteristic of youth: = YOUTHFUL 2.
*c* 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 398 Ic ne wæs min mod fulfremedlice bewærgende þæm ȝeoguðlicum unalefednessum.
*a* 1338 Wyatt *Lovel's Arraignm.* v, Alwayes whetting my youthely desyer On the cruell whetstone tempered with fier. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* xviii. xii. 152 Two doughters, ... which passed all other in youthly comlines. 1590 Spenser *Mulop.* 431 And all his youthly forces lidly spent. 1689 Burnet *Trav.* iii. (1687) 97 Pope Nicolas the IV. who had ...a youthly and womanish face. 1829 Shelley *To Wm. Shelley* 14 To a blighting faith and a cause of crime They have bound them slaves in youthly prime.

**2.** Having youth or the characteristics of youth: = YOUTHFUL 1.
1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* I. Pref. 8 Faulting fooles and youthly heades. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. ii. 40 All that youthly rout. *a* 1699 Hinde *T. Brown* xxxvii. (1640) 216 This Master Done being young and youthly. 1767 Mickle *Concub.* i. xxxiii, White thus the Knight persewed the Shadow Joy As youthly Spirits thoughtlease led the Way. 1856 *Chamb. Journ.* 8 Nov. 301 Although still something too youthly in figure, [he] had a frame well knit.

So † **Youthly** *adv.* Obs. = YOUTHFULLY.
1542 Pavnell *Conspir. Catil.* 1 b, With men of sadnesse he lyued soberly...with youth youthly. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* viii. 131 Paris youthly thus doth answere him. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* v. 590 His hennly mouther amended His bush with trimming, his sight was youthelye bepurpled.

**Youthsome** to **Youthwort**: see after YOUTH.

**Youthy**, *sb. Sc.* [f. YOUTH + -Y 6.] A youthful person.
1785 Macneill *Scott. Scaith* i. xviii, The mair they crack'd, the mair ilk youthy Pray'd for drink to wash new-down.

**Youthy** (yi·þi), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. YOUTH + -Y 1. In bad word' (J.).] Having or affecting the character of youth: usually connoting a youthful appearance or behaviour inconsistent with the person's years.
1732 *Sketch Spect.* No. 296 P 5 Affecting a youthier Turn than is consistent with my Time of Day. 1817 Scott *Let. to Tr. Hamilton* 29 Dec. in *Lockhart*, A withered beauty who persists in looking youthy. 1841 Caroline Fox *Mem. Old Friends* (1882) I. 231 When at college, Sterling had youthy notions of heroism. Shelley as a moralist as well as a poet, 'being rather youthy'.

Hence **Youthily** *adv.*, with the appearance of youth; **Youthiness**, youthfulness, juvenility.
1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 37 Bringing back with me ...a sort of youthiness that lasted sometimes more than a fortnight. 1839 *Galt Demon of Dest.* 6 His bright eyes shone youthily.

**Youward(s**, in phr. *to yourward(s* : see -WARD(S.
**Yowe, yowen, -yn, yowe, etc., occas. yowed,** *obs.* forms of EWE, -EN.
*c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 289 Y haue ȝouen my liif for þe. 13.. *Northern Passion* 130 (1955 Ageyn oure fawe he hab ȝoue red. 1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 292 Unto thidoles yove and granted. 1393 *Piers Pl. Crede*, *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 360 What I ȝeue, for offence Han yoved hir sentence. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 945 in *Macro Plays* 66 My wyll was full yowe to syne. 1532 Cromwell *Remedy Lollardy* 6 *Lett.* (1900) I. 344 According to your high commawndmente me youyn yesterdaye. 1552 Huloet, Yoven or enclined to coutousenes or cruelnye.

**Yow** (yau), *int.* [Imitative.]
**8.** An exclamation of vague meaning.
*c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 295 Yowe ! þat schalke shuld not shamely be shente.
**b.** An imitation of the yelp or bark of a dog, or the miaow of a cat; also as *sb.* and *v.* (reduplicated *yow-yow*).
1450 *Rolls Parl.* May 452 *To yow*, to caterwaul. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre Tapp.*, Yow !—yeongh ! —yeough !—yow !—yow ! yelled a hapless sufferer from beneath the bed. 1839 *Hood, Comicalph*, Cupid, of Yow-Yow'ing memory. 1866 Sir T. Seaton *Frien. Cadet to Col.* I. iv. 103 A mob of pretty dogs, yow-yowing musically after a poor little beast.

**Yow**(e, obs. ff. EWE *sb.*1; also *attrib.*
1459-60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 320 Pro emend. unius muri juxta le yowcote. 1521-8 *Churchw. Acc. Lewes* (1909) 1. 60 Sold to Thomas Sharpe ... the yowe skynne. 1530 Palsgr. 238/1 Pastura *le yowehokkis* sive allarum ovium quarumcunque de Pawnishill.

**Yowdy**: see YOWE; obs. f. YEW, YOU.

**Yowcks, yowg**, obs. forms of YOKE.

**Yowden-drift**, variant of EWDEN-DRIFT, snow driven by the wind.
1815 G. Beattie *John O' Arnha'* (1826) 38 Choakin' thick as yowden drift.

**Yowdin, yowdin**, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of YIELD *v.*: see YOLDEN.

**Yowele, Yower, Yowese**, obs. ff. JEWEL, EWER 2, YOUR, YURE, USE.

**Yowf** (yauf), *sb. Sc.* Also **yowff, youf**(*f.* [Echoic.] A smart swinging blow. Hence **Yowf** *v. trans.*, to strike with such a blow.
1721 Ramsay *On Maggy Johnstoun* vii, Death wi' his yowf tak'd her a swyff. *c* 1738 J. Skinner *Christmas Ba'ing* ii, They yowff'd the ba' frae dyke to dyke. 1808 Jamieson, *Youff, Youffi*, a swinging blow, Loth.

**Yowght**, obs. Sc. form of YOUTH.

**Yowl**, *Sc.* [f. *yow*, EWE *sb.*1 + *-ie*, -Y 6.] A little ewe.
1783 Burns *Death & Dying Wds. Poor Mailie* ix, An' nicst my yowie, silly thing, Gude keep thee frae a tether string !

**Yowith**, obs. form of YOUTH.

**Yowl** (yaul), *sb.* Also 5–6 **yowle**, 7 **youle**, 9 **youl.** [f. next.] An act of yowling; a prolonged loud cry, now esp. of a dog or cat.
*c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 53 He grat grysly grym, and gaif a gret yowle. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi. 69 Pitt obscure, Quhair youle ar hard with horrebyle stevin. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* i. 36 He brake forth into such a Youle of laughing, that he was ready to burst. 1800 Hogg *Tales & Sk., Sheph. Cal.* i, A dog ...gae two or three waesome youls. *a* 1877 Jas. Ballantyne in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. iii. (1881) 31 At your feet wi' kindly yowl, Whurrs your wee catty. 1917 P. MacGill *Gt. Push* i, The cats raise their prhimordial, instinctive yowl.

**Yowl** (yaul), *v.* Forms: 3 ȝoȝele, ȝuhele, ȝule, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝoule, ȝowle, 5–6 yowle, 5–7 youle, 5, 7, 9 youl, 7, 9 youll, 8– yowl. [ME. *ȝoȝele, ȝoule, ȝuhele, ȝule.* Cf. ME. *ȝaule*, Yawl *v.*1 and Gowl (ON. *gaula*).]

1. *intr.* To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress; also said of the howling of dogs and various wild animals, the 'wauling' of cats, and (formerly) of the hooting of owls, the cooing of doves.
*a* 1225, *a* 1250 [see Yowling *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 102 þe fendis furth can fare, ȝouland and cryand in þe ayre. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 200 Whanne þei [*sc.* wolves] bigynnen to youle, þei turnen her snowte to hevene ward. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 66/60 A bole's hounds shulde neuer pleyne nor yowle, but if he were oute of pe reghtes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/2 To yowle, *vlulare*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. viii. 122 The nycht oule...was hard youle With langsum voce. 1535 Coverdale *Jer.* lviii. [lix.] 14 Let them go to & fro, & runne about the cite, youlinge like dogges. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The turtil began for to greit, quhen the cuschet ȝoulit. 1574 Kay *N. Caldwell* 10 *Ser. Dugdale Soc.* Yowl, *Cumberland*, to weep and cry. 1786 Ramsay *Robt., Ricky, & Sandy* 24 His dog its lane sat yowling on a brae. 1820 *Mar-maiden of Clyde* vii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 492 'Tis the strain yowl't through its dowie hollow. 1842 Thackeray *Dr. Birch* (1849) 18 She is always croaking, scolding, yowling—pulling at the housemaids, snarling at Miss Raby [etc.]. 1862 Sala *Seven Sons* I. vii. 102 The Bruin-ish quartet ...howled fractiously. 1896 Baring-Gould *Broom-s'quire* i, [The child] yowlin' enough to tear a fellow's nerves to pieces. *transf.* 1913 Douglas *Adventures Unwilling* iii. The whole hawsis yowlit and resoundit For womenting of ladyis and wemen.

† **b.** Applied to loud singing or shouting. *Obs.*
1509 Barclay *Ship of Folys* (1874) I. 207 Yowlynge with theyr folysshe songe and cry. *c* 1530 *Song* ii. in De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) Notes 393 Yelling, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonis out with ain horne.

**2.** *trans.* To express by yowling; to utter with a yowl.
1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* I. i. 13 The chained mastiff in the yard yowls his admiration. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. iv. 175 However fast the clergyman may gabble, or the choir-boys yowl, their psalms.

**Yowle**, obs. form of YULE.

**Yowler**, *north. dial.* [f. YOWLBING + *-ey*, -ER 1.] A yellow-hammer.
1797 Bewick *Brit. Birds* I. 143 Yellow Bunting. Yellow Hammer, or Yellow Yowley. 1862 *Tynesside Songs* (1863) 56 They've a bunch ov hair upon their jaws Just like a yowler's nest.

**Yowling** (yau·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YOWL *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb YOWL; *esp.* the uttering of a prolonged wailing cry.
*a* 1225 *Juliana* 57 ȝe, quoð eleusiluc, ledeð ut þeten up o þi ululunge? *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1618 Iseie bet speten þane ssonge Of þine fule ȝoselinge [*Jesus MS.* howelynge]. *Ibid.* 1643 Mid ȝullunge & mid ȝgrede. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxvii. 38 With a greet ȝowling he criede [1388 wepynge Vulg. *ejulatu*] he wepte. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 179 He vanysshid away with grete cryyng & yowlyng. 1598 Lynde-nay *Dreme* 163 ȝowlyng and ȝowlyng we hard, with mony ȝell. 1832 Litchow *Trav.* x. 440 Their noses mangled and swallowed vp my breath from yowling and groaning. 1870 *Acc. Last Distemper of Tom Whigg* 1, 19 He...set all the Dogs in the Town a yowling. 1844 Thackeray *White Squall* vi, Then the wind set up a howling, And the pouch dog a yowling. 1894 W. Clark Russell *Good Ship 'Mo-hock* vi, The hoarse yowling of pulling and dragging sailors.

So **Yow·ling** *ppl. a.*, that yowls.
*c* 1590 W. Fowler *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 393/11 All thir cold nights...I wake for day, disturbit with youling hounds. 1790 Alex. Wilson *Callamphitres Elegy* Poet. Wks. (1846) 104 Wi' yowling clinch auld Jennock ran. 1843 Thackeray *Mrs. Perkins' Ball* 2 Her yowling little brats. 1896 Baring-Gould *Broom-s'quire* i, Black-muzzled darling of a Pluto. 1899 Baring-Gould *Pierre Bloom* iii. 33 Think what it 'ud be wi' two yowlin' females under one roof !

**Yowlk**, obs. form of YOLK.

**Yowling**, *dial.* Also 6 **yowlo-**, **youlw-**, 6–7 **yowle-**, 9 **youlring**, **yo(u)rin**, **yowring**. See also YOLDRING, YOWLIN(G. [f. *yowle(w)*, YELLOW *a.* + RING *sb.*] A yellow-hammer.
1544 [see YELLOW-HAM]. 1592 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 Larkes and yowlorings. 1595 *Ibid.* 104 Slatins spattowes and youlrings. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yellow-yowring*, a yellow-hammer.

**Yowndrift**, var. EWDEN-DRIFT, snow driven by the wind.
1838 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xviii. (1850) 265 I'll be lost, I'm feared, in the yowndrift.

**Yownge, Yowp, Yowr(e**, obs. forms of YOUNG, YOUP, YOUR, YURE.

**Yowpindail**: see YOKINDALE.

**Yowt** (yaut), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 6 ȝewt, ȝouȝt, 9 yout(t, yowte, 8– yowt. [f. next.] A yell, yelp.
1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 6000 With mony lamer, ȝewt, and yell. 1569 *Satir. Poems Reformn.* iii. 189 Cursbeist...Sall gar hir cry, with mony yout and ȝell. *c* 1590 Burrel *Pass. Pilgr.* i. xxxvii. in Jas. Watson *Coll. Scots Poems* (1709) II. 23 And vther sum with zouts and zells, Maist cairfully did cry. 1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 233 The sichts to see, the yowts to hear That stound upon mine ear.

**Yowt** (yuut), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 ȝowt, 6, 9 youl, 9 yowt. [Cf. Flem. *juyten* 'lubilare & vociferari & cantare' (Kilian). Verbs of similar meaning and differing in form by the initial con-

sonant are *howst* (Hoor), Rout *obs.*[2] and 3[b],Shout.] *intr.* To yell, yelp, howl, bellow.

*c* 1440 Holland *Howlat* 102 To yowt and to yowle, As asne horrible Owle. 1508 [see Yowling *pbl. adj.*]. 1808 Jamieson s. v. A cow is said to yout, when she makes a noise. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 38 Yelpin' and youtin' in his face. 1848 A. B. Evans *Leicestersh. Wds.* s. v. *Vomit*, I heard the dogs youing.

**Yowthe, yowthe,** obs. ff. Youth.

**Yowx, yox(e** (3oxe), obs. or dial. ff. Vex.

**Yoy(e, 3oye:** see Joy, Yea.

**Yoyle, Yoylle, Yoyn, Yoyntor, Yoyste,** obs. ff. Oil *sb.*[1], Yule, Join, Jointure, Joist *sb.*[1]

1557 in *Archæologia* I. 13 For wast of the paschall, and for holye yoyle 5s. 10d. 1585 *Kenarth. Wills* (Surtees) I. 149 In full recompence of her thirdn or yoyntor. 1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 lf. 68 The flore with plates yoystes and other neidfull for the same.

**† Ypaid, ypayd(e** [V. 4, Pay *v.*[1]], paid, pleased. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1822 Pat folc was þo of þis lond ypaid wel ynou. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 393 He þe pecunie y-payed beuh partiel chide. † Ypaised, Ypaysed, M.E. pa. pples. of Please *v.*, Pannock *v.* **Ypass** *v.*[Y- 3 c], to pass. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5606 (Laud MS.) A northhalf ne mowen see nouth ypass For dewris & wilderness. **Ypas(ued, Ypast,** M.E. pa. pple. of Pass *v.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 5460 (Laud MS.) Nov it is ypassed hy ne den þerof. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 157 Who-so nuthynge thynkyth of thynges y-passed. 1438–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 195, vij. yeat ypaste. *Ibid.* 335 A litelle season y-passede. **Ypaved,** -yd, paved. *c* 1300 *P. Pl. Crede* 194 Y-lined wiþ peynt til. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 331 For al the weyes & prarnent Wer ypavyd all off gold. **Ypavylounded,** M.E. pa. pple. of Pavilion *v.* † **Ypaynted, ypeynted,** M.E. pa. pples. of Paint *v.*[1] *c* 1290 Speint. 13.. y-paynted [see Paint *v.*[1] 1]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I 82 þe ymage þat is thus y-paynt. **Y-pekyd:** see Yekken. **Ypend,** obs. pa. pple. of Pen *v.*[1] 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 493 Though yet he seem in feeble flesh ypend.

† **Ypent,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [Y- 4.] = Pent *pa. pple.* and *ptl. a.*

*c* 1395 *Pilgrimage's T.* 22 He nas nat alway in cloystre y-pent. *Ibid.* 939 Proude pendaunts at hir ars y-pent. 1579, 1728 [see Pent *pa. pple.* 1]. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. I. xxv, Those powers be all or more or lesse ypent In this grosse life. 1839 *Bailey Festus, in Hours. Mistof* y My love. Have I within this seely hook y-pent.

† **Yperced, -sed** [V- 4.] M.E. pa. pple. of Perce. **Yperiached, yperjached,** &c. M.E. pa. pples. of Perjure. 1297 [see Perjure *v.* 2]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 189 Were þe myddel of myn honde ymaymed or yperished. **Yperyd** [Pair *v.*[3]], impaired. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 235 What is amended and apeyred [*MS.* y ypeyred]. **Ypicking,** *pr. pple.* (V- 3 c], picking. 1656 *Choyce Drollery* 31 And there I found, and there, and there, Y-picking of the bloomed brier. **Ypiȝte, ypight, ypyȝt, ypyght,** *pa.pple.*, pitched. *c* 1435, 1480, 1500 [see Pitch *v.*[1] A 3 a]. 1768 Bowman *Land of Misery* xxii, A wond'rous tow'r, Which hence thou seest ypight in the air y-plight. **Yplked** [Pick *v.*[1]], picked. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5422 Hys firste bowe...is wroght...of yvory, Y-piked out ful craftyly. *c* 1430 *True Cookery-bks.* 41 Pigis fete clenne y-pekyd. **Yplned** [Pine *v.*], put to suffering or torment. 12.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 282 Jhesu Crist...y-boren of þen mayden Marie, y-pined under Pilate Phate. 1340 *Ayenb.* 213 Hi swolle by more y-pined...ine pe obre worlde.

† **Yplr.** *Obs.* [Flem. *Yper.*] app. Cloth of Ypres. 1517 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 57 Tua capis, ane of scarlet and ane vther of ypir.

† **Ypitched,** obs. pa. pple. of Pitch *v.* 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* iv. 71 His campe ypitched By Asope flood. **Yplite,** M.E. pa. pple. of Pl. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7234 (Laud MS.) So longe þey hadde þus yplaied. **Yplelte, yplight** [Plight *v.*[2]], plaited. 1421 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xxii. 298 And from hire heed shee bath hir veil yplight. *c* 1430 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 240 Þi gowne y-plelte. **Yplet** [Pleat *v.*], plaited. 1523 Douglas *Æneis* xii. ii. 126 Hys...hayr,...Yplet ilk nycht on the warm brocht of stell. Yplesyd, M.E. pa. pple. of Please *v.* **Yplit, -ight, -yt, -yght,** M.E. pa. pple. of Plight *v.*[1] **Yplonged,** plunged. *c* 1440 [see Plunge *v.* 2]. *a* 1565 Sir T. Chaloner *Barth.* ii. ii. *Stirp. Engl.* (1899) 151 The mynde yplonged in worldlye thoughte.

**Ypocrafet, Ypooras, Ypoer(o)it, -oryte, -oricy, -orisy:** see Apocryphate, Hippocras, Hypocrite, Hypocrisy.

**Ypodesakon,** var. *hypodeacon* (see Hypo- II).

**Ypointing,** in *star-pointing*: see Star *sb.*[1] 20 and V- 3 c.

**Ypoquistid, -is,** var. Hypocistis.

*a* 1425 tr. *Ardenne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 63 Medicynez restrictyues bene biss[:] . . ypoquistid, galle cupule.

† **Ypurchased, ypurchasede** [V- 4], purchased. 1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Þis hire ssulle habbe ypurchased be gueste-linge. *c* 1425 y-purchasede [see Purchase *v.* 4]. **Ypor-treyd,** M.E. pa. pple. of Portray *v.* **Ypurveide, -veyid, purveyid.** 13.. *K. Glocester's Chron.* (Rolls) 1713 Þe norþmans were bo wel porueid [*MS. C.* wel yporueide].

**Yposarca,** obs. form of Hyposarca.

**Ypotam(e, -tamos, etc.,** obs. ff. Hippopotamus.

† **Ypotheear, -gar.** Obs. Sc. ff. Apothecary. 1500 *Dunph Rec. Edin.* (1865) I. 119 Our familiar and trusty seruitour Maister Stephane, ypotheear. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 377 [Thomas Davidson] ypotheear [and burgess of Edinburgh].

† **Ypowdred, -ide, ypounthered** [V- 4, Powder *v.*[1], powdered, sprinkled. *c* 1386 *Sir Ferumb.* 1397 Pe wyndowes were y-rmed of iaspre..Ypouidred wyþ perree of polastre. 1398 *B. R. Willis* (1882) 4 A bed of rapiceres werk...ypoudered with chapes and scochons. *c* 1403 Clanvowe *Cuckow & Night.* 63 The ground was grene, y-poudred with daisye. † **Ypowred,** poured. *a* 1585 Sir T. Chaloner *Barth.* ii. ii. In *Q. Eliz. Engl.* (1890) 160 Of Goodes somoche ypowred owte, With never stayed hande. **Ypoynet,** M.E. pa. pple. of Point *v.*

† **Ypoynt,** = *in point*: see Point *sb.*[1] D. 4 *f.* *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lx. 1 When he was in pe as ypoynt to perish.

† **Ypoynt** [V- 4], M.E. pa. pple. of Point *v.*[1] **Ypraised, ypraysed, ypreised,** praised. *c* 1330 y-praised [see Praise *v.* 2]. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 172 He hause no cure that he be y-praysid ne that otheris be blamyd. **Yprast, yprest, ypressede,** M.E. pa. pples. of Press *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 2343 (Linc. Inn MS. His hore he gaf to orest, Pat was to grounde ypreost. **Ypreked, ypricked, yprykked,** pricked. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 85 Frenesyes, & foule yueles.. Hadde yprykked and prayed polles of pople. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 371 He were peleed [*MS.* y-yrecked] wiþ spores. 1748 Thomson *Cast. Indol.* I. lxvii, In soul ypricked deep. † **Ypre(o)ved, yproved, yprowed,** etc., proved. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3058 Bote he were in armes wel yproued [v.r. yprowed, ypreued, ypreyed]. 1424 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 134 They hathe vertue and Streynth of consaill y-provide. 1500 *World & Child* A v, I am a prynce, perylous yprovyde. † **Yprimi-sened, yprimysened,** primisened. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxvii. Any pore prisonere that was ypresoned for ani necessaire of wronge. **Yprived, yprykered,** procured. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 225 þe emperesse Eudoxia had i-procured [*MS.* ß y-prokered] pe oul[d]ynge of Iohn. † **Yproffred,** proffered. 1390–2 *Alex. & Dind.* 187 As sone as his king say hat sonde him yprofred.

† **Ypsiliform** (ipsi'lifəm), *a.* [f. Ypsilon + -(i)form.] Shaped like the Greek letter upsilon; = Upsilon-shaped. Hy. Phillips 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 417/1 The T-shaped gradually passes into the 'ypsiliform' figure.

**† Ypsilon,** *rare.* [So med. L., OF., etc.] = Upsilon.

1567 Massbury in Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* 763 *marg.*, The englishe Scolers tongues be maruellously tormented in sounding of the Greke *ypsilon* and yet atain not to the right sound.

† **Ypulished** [V- 4], polished. *c* 1425 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 63 Bryght y-pulished youre table knyves.

† **Ypult** [V- 4, Pult, pult *v.*], thrust. 1297 [see Pilt *v.* 1 a]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xii. 208 Ypult out of grace. † **Ypunched, ypunished,** punished. 1340 [see Punish *v.* B. 1 b]. 1390–2 *Alex. & Dind.* 305 Where-fore we miht aflur Þen y-punched in paine. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2404 Þere were I punyssed by that swerd. **Yput(te,** M.E. pa. pple. of Put *v.*[1] 1377 [see Put *v.*[1] B. 23]. † 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 Y haue...y-putte yn iij securyteys. **Ypyned,** pained. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 285 I-poysoned [*MS.* y ypuysoned] by pe venym of his wyf. **Ypyst, Ypyuned:** see Vyst(e, Pinned *a.*

† **Yquaccched,** -ed, quartered. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 317 His bowels i-brend and y-quartred. **Yquayshed,** M.E. pa. pple. of Quash *v.* **Yquene,** var. Iquene *v.* **Yquenct, yqueynte,** M.E. pa. pple. of Quench *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Zonne pet is yquenct mid uorberinge of mete. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 111 A light...Vf bit be founde yqueynte, ther is a veyne Of water nygh. † **Yquyt, yquytte,** M.E. pa. pple. of Quit *v.*

**Yr,** obs. f. Her, *poss. pron.*, *3rd sing. fem.*, Ire; graphic var. *br*, Their.

† **Yrad** [V- 4, Rede *v.*[1]], counselled. 1297 [see Rede *v.*[1] 6]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4083 Gwmelioun...hab y-rad the nt ouer-þinke. 1390–2 *Alex. & Dind.* 1338 Ne ar ȝe aduised [Read *r.*], read. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5789 Pe by-schop ..pat had...ouer y-rad Alle ys ory-ounte. **Yraft,** M.E. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Pe ouer uelynesse ine ryche vyche þov hiin haue y-raft. † **Yraste, Yrapt,** obs. pa. pples. of Reach *v.*, Wrap. **Yrare** [cf. Y 3 b], y-reduced, i. e. made to cease. 1340 Shrewsbury Bk. (Roxb.) 111 With sugar'd Cates she doth them greet, And Gingerbread y-rare.

† **Yrasyned, -iashid, yrawexed** [V- 4], ravished, carried away. 1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Hi wes y-rauesed of pe princes zone of heuene. [see Ravish *v.* 1 b]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 He..i-was i-ravished [*MS.* y yrawesed] out of his body anon to be holy siȝt of aungles. **Yraun-sioned,** ransomed, redeemed.

† **Yravish** [V- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. Ravish.

1608 Shake. *Per.* III. Prol. 35 The sum of this, Brought hither to Pentapolis, y-ravished [*so Malone*] (A Iranyshed) the regions round.

† **Yraylle** [V- 3 c], variant of Rail *v.*[1], to arrange, and Rail *v.*[3], to flow.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 246 In ordre dresse hyt, & yrayile. *Ibid.* 4740 And doun therby hys blood yraylid.

† **Yrayn(e.** *Obs.* Also 1-, yreyn(e, -eine, [a. OF *traine*, var. *araine* Arain. Cf. Irane.] A spider.

1382 Wyclif *Hosea* viii. 6 The calf of Samarie shal be into webbis of yreinus [1388 ireyns]. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* 1. 1. 10 Pe wrecchid fleis is as ȝe yreyne doth: for as longe as any blood...is in the flye, al she souketh it. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2646 All oure yeris...Sal be thoght as it were þe yreyne of a.

**Yrahen, -on,** -youn, var. Irchin.

**Yre,** var. (perh. erron.) of Eyre, in phr. (*wip*) *gret yre* = OF. *de grant erre* with great speed.

13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 1183 As be ssipes wip gret eir [*corr.* heir, yre, [re] come toward londe. *Ibid.* 1824 Wip hand daun & gret eir [*var.* yre] to ssadore sone hii come.

**Yre,** obs. form of Ire, Iron *sb.*[1]

† **Yre(n)med** [V- 4], M.E. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] **Yrebuked,** ill-used. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 162 Alyens sore and sole yrobbed and yrobbed. † **Yredliche, Yredy,** var. Iradliche, Iredly. **Yregned,** reigned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 73 Hyderto þou hast y-regned glorioustliche.

**Yreis,** obs. form of Irish.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5551 Per were of deneys & of scotten asiaue & al so of yreis.

† **Yreken** [V- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Reke *v.*[3], to cover up. *c* 1386 ryeke [see Reke *v.*[3]]. *c* 1634 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* iv. ii, My fire yreken is in Ashen cold. **Yremuwed,** M.E. pa. pple. of Remue, to remove.

**Yren(e, Yrenen,** obs. ff. Iron *sb.*[1], *a.*, Irken.

† **Yrent** [V- 4, Rend *v.*[1]], rent. *c* 1308 *Plowman's T.* 256 These wollen...Christes membres all to-tere On rode as he wer iswe yrent. **Yrented:** see Rented *ppl. a.*[1]

**Yreos,** variant of Ireos *Obs.*

† **Yrerd** [V- 4, Rear *v.*[1]], raised. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5740 Ar vre king þat we abbeþ nou adde yrerd so vale.

**Yres(e,** obs. forms of Irish.

*c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 64 Of auncelly In yres kynges maat worthy. 1500 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 21 Thonghe one know but the yrcshe game.

† **Yrest** [V- 4], M.E. pa. pple. of Rest *v.*[1] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3763 Him þoste he adde yrest ynou, no leng he nolde abyde. *c* 1390 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1050 Al day hoy hadde yrest. **Yrested,** Mle. pa. pple. of Reave *v.*[1] **Yresuer-enced,** reverenced. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 49 The ryche is yreuerenced by reson of his richesse. **Yreuested** [Revest *v.*[1], robed. *c* 1290 [see Revest *v.*[1]]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 453 [He] wole be bischop of Salesbury y-revested to doo þe solempnite of þat weddynge. **Yrenled,** M.E. pa. pple. of Rule *v.* **Yride,** Yrided, M.E. pa. pples. of Ride *v.*, Ryde *v.*[1]

**Yrin, Yringe, Yrios, Yrisch(e, -ise(h, etc., Yrk:** see Iron, Eringe, Iberg, Irish, Irk.

† **Yrle.** *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. north. dial. *urling, yurlin*, and *wurlin*, Wirling.] A dwarfish person.

1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 38 Wan-fukkit fantlyng, that natour maid ane yrle.

**Yrmonger,** obs. form of Ironmonger.

1297–8 *MS. Pipe Roll*, De Randulfo le ymonger.

**Yrn(e, Yrnen,** obs. ff. Iron, Irnen.

**Yrot,** graphic var. *þrof*, Therof.

1327 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 6 According to a dede yrof.

† **Yrouked** [V- 4], rocked. 1340 [see *Yong. Irel.* 2] Old men that fure eld yroked weren yn her cradeiys. **Yroid, yroilyd** [Roil *v.*[1]], rolled. *c* 1430 *True Cookery-bks.* 48 Y-roilyd with þin hondes. 1548 Hall Hore *Song of Soul* I. i. xviii, Things 'fore our feet yroid.

**Yron(e,** obs. forms of Iron.

**Yron, Yronge, Yronne(n, Yrosted, Yroted, ME.** pa. pples. of Roam *v.*, Ring *v.*[1], Roost *v.*[1]

**Yrous, -ows,** etc., var. Irous, etc.

**Yrpe,** obs. form of Earth *sb.*[1]

*c* 1400 *Amare* 285 He felle down in sowenynge, To þe yrþe was he dyght.

**Yrubde, Yruled,** M.E. pa. pples. of Rub *v.*[1], Rule *v.*

**Yrun, yrym,** obs. forms of Iron.

† **Yrnyfled** [V- 4, Riple *v.*[1]], plundered. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 90 For wente neuere man þis way þat he ne was here rifled [*MS. I* y-rufled]. **Yrusted,** Mle. pa. pple. of Rust *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Uor he ne he help none hede of longe ryote of tales y-yikked ne y-ymed. **Yrynged:** see Ringen *ppl. a.* 2.

**Yrysh, Yrysht,** obs. forms of Irish.

† **Yryve** [V- 3 c], variant of Rive *v.*[1] 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4814 Wych shal thorgh hyr herte blyve Sharper than any sword y-lyve.

**Ys,** obs. f. Is, Ice, *it* (see Be *v.*).

**Ys,** var. Es *pers. pron.*, them.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* 1. 79 in *Anglia* XVIII. 407 Take rwe [*&*] heysele & meng ys with bony.

† **Ysackte** [V- 4], obs. pa. pple. of Sack *v.*[2] 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* v. 90 Their...bodies spoyld, sparkte, and pilled bare. **Yscrad(e, -yd,** M.E. pa. pple. of Scare *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 Anselyn fonge be investiture, and was ycrased. *c* 1440 [see Scrape *v.*]. **Yscrat,** M.E. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1] **Yscaluwed** [Salue *v.*], saluted. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 101 Pey emperoures bat were to fore hym were i-salwed [*MS.* y-salwed] wip kissyng. **Ysam(m(e, var.** I-same *adv.*, together. *c* 1330 y-same [see I-same]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 193 Hote Maydens and Maydens ysamne wip Seyntuarie. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De R.* VII. 32 And in a bag all sorte of seedes ysamne. **Ysamed,** pa. pple. of Sam *v.*[1] **Ysatled,** ME. pa. pple. of Settle *v.*[1] **Ysaued(e,** -id, etc., saved. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5835 þat hentte him by a beem and ysaued was. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 461 Who þat comeþ in þat helle schal neuere after be ysaued [*MS.* y ysaued]. **Yseawed,** ME. pa. pple. of Show *v.* **Yseyd,** pa. t. of Say *v.*[1] **Yscayled, Yscaled,** Yscaled, ME. pa. pples. of Say *v.*[1], Scald *v.*, Shend *v.*[1]

**Yscha,** obs. Sc. form of Issue *sb.*

1532 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1897) IV. 43 G. B...bes taus in pacnte-ial-Pat P. for the space of vyff yeiris, and to be fre at the yscha of the saydis fyff yeiris.

† **Yschad, Yschaped,** -en, -schapit, Yschatted [V- 4], obs. pples. of Shed *v.*[1], Shape *v.*, Shut *v.* 1390–2 *Alex. & Dind.* 647 Al so many as a man hab membrys yschape. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 41 The vmbrate treis...War portrait, and on the eirth yschappit Be goldin bemis vivificative.

**Ysche,** var. Ish *sb.*, *v.*[1], to issue.

**Ysched(de,** M.E. pa. pple. of Shed *v.*[1]

**Yschedil,** var. Eschele *Obs.*, squadron.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xii. 214 Ilk man in-till his awne yschedil.

† **Yschend(e, -ent, Ysche(o)t** [V- 4], M.E. pa. pples. of Shend *v.*[1], Shut *v.* **Yschete,** M.E. pa. pple. of Shit *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 101 Don of pe Assiries nayled bat doynge by oon bat hadde yschete golde.

**Yschew(e, yschey,** obs. Sc. ff. Issue *sb.*

1498 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 137 To begin on Friday...and sa furth ychell and ilk ane vther day.

† **Yschewede, -owed, Yschod, Yschoded, Yschore, yschora(e, Yschote(n, yschotte** [V- 4], M.E. pa. pples. of Show *v.*, Shoe *v.*, Shed *v.*[1], Shear *v.*, Shoot *v.* **Yschredyd,** M.E. pa. pples. of Shred *v.* *c* 1430 *True Cookery-bks.* 29 Almaundys y-schredyd. *Ibid.* 49 Pan take Almaundys & Dates y-schred per-to. **Yschrined,** shrined. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5710 Yparwith, þe ryȝt ychrined, yahreyned] he was nyȝn hondred & on & seuentiþe yere. **Yschrowd** [Shroud *v.*[1]], clothed. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. xv. 56 This precyus suslye...Quharwith, as said is, was this preist yschrowd. **Yschryve(n,** M.E. pa. pple. of Shrive *v.* *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1802, I am yashryue So ny, bat oþer way ne is I noon.

**Yschue,** obs. form of Issue *sb.*
1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xi. 243 God seide ensample of suche manere isshue [*v. r.* yschue] That kyñde folweþ kynde.
† **Yschutte** [*V.* -4] shut. 1452–92 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 163 Fyndeuge the gates yschutte. **Yselayn,** ME. pa. pple. of Slay *v.*[1] **Yscore** [Shear *v.*] shorn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 373 Ethelredus...was i-schore [*MS. y* yscore] monk at Bardeneye. **Yscote,** shot. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (R.sIls) VII. 411 He was i-schote [*MS. y* yscote] of con Walter Tirel. **Yscradde** (Sherd *v.*], shredded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Oynoyne smal y-scradde. **Yscrywe,** shriven. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 345 He...was i-schrywe [*MS. y* yscrywe] and i-houseled.
† **Yse,** obs. form of Ice *sb.*, Iron *sb.*
**Yse,** variant of Is, 1st p. v.
*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. vi. (1869) 4 þanne I ysede me out of myn hous.
**Ysed,** obs. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1]
† **Yseed,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *gesēon*: see Y- 3 c and See *v.*] *trans.* To see, behold.
[For early quots. see See *v.* and I-see].
1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3330 Þe porter yseí is louerd come. *Ibid.* 5815 Þe king bí huld abaute & þe traytour yseg. 1340 *Ayenbi.* 27 Þet he ne may vl-ayse ne vnwel-yseo þe gueadnesse. *Ibid.* 130 He yzíþ þane greate heap of his zennes. *Ibid.* 264 He him aseþ hau he ys, huannes he comþ, huet he heþ yzoge. *c* 1386 J. Rumesli *Bk. Nurture* in Babees Bk. Our day ȝ do seruice diligent to dyuers of dignyte, where for scantnes of connynge ȝ durst no man ȝ-se.
† **Yseged** [*V.* 4. Sitte *v.*] besieged. 1452–92 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 377 For to socoure that cite ȝ-seged. **Yseide,** ME. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1] 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 (Het) þat of al þat was good ȝ-seide to hym wiþ swetlyyge wrebpe. *c* 1430 tr. *Secrees De Reg. Princ.* 1091 What I haue ȳ-seid þe, naght forgete.
**Yseikele,** obs. form of Icicle.
**Ysel,** obs. form of Isell, ashes, etc.
**Yseil,** variant of Isell *Obs.*, vinegar.
1552 Huloet, Yseil, *acetum.*
† **Yseilpe,** variant of I-selth, success. 2s.. *Moral Ode* 8 In *K. E. P.* (1862) 22 Ic myhte habbe bet i-don hadde Ic þer ȳ-seilþe. † **Yseimild** [*V.* 4. Seime *v.*[1]], likened. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xv. 188 To lowe-lyuynge men þe larke is resemilled [*MS. ȳ* symilled].
**Yseri,** obs. f. Iron *sb.*[1]; pa. pple. of See, Sher.
† **Yseñd(e,** yseñt [*V.* 4] ME. pa. pple. of Send *v.*[1] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4332 Ac þo com þe duc of peyto as god adde þe grace yseñd [*MS. ȳ* yseñt]. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 121 His steward hadde i-señt hem. **Yserched,** **Yserued,** ME. pa. pples. of Search *v.*, Serve *v.*[1]. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6365 Þei nis non alíue nou þat þe abbe yserued so. 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Þeos greate gloutounes buyche ich habbe kueadliche yzeed and þe kueadliche yserued.
**Yse-schokkill, -s(o)hokle,** obs. ff. Icicle.
† **Yseild, yseyed** [*V.* 4] seized. **Yseised,** variant. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 389 þe monkes of Turon hadde al þe offrynge for to be werre was i-seuede [*MS. ȳ* yeesued]. **Yseit, yseite, Yseized,** -ed, ME. pa. pples. of Set *v.*, Seize. **Yseized,** ME. pa. pple. of Sew *v.*[1] *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Creed* 229 His kyrtel of clene whijt clenlyche y-sewed.
**Yse-syokel,** obs. form of Icicle.
† **Yseyd(e** [*V.* 4] ME. pa. pple. of Say *v.*[1] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 102 Oñ be þrydde manere is holy Churche yseyd to be disposed. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 150 My weyyinge .. ys al yseyd vnder correccion. **Yseyng,** **yseyne,** ME. pa. pple. of See *v.* **Yshad(e,** ME. pa. pple. of Shed *v.*[1] *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 172 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 126 Wyght as the hardenes of chese yshade. **Yshadowed,** shadowed, darkened. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 1082 Yshadowed is al my myysure. **Yshape,** ME. pa. pple. of Shape *v.* 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 190 To worþen þat he was he wrouȝt þat neuere was ioye yshape. **Yshave,** ME. pa. pple. of Shave *v.*[1] *c* 1386 Y-shaue [see Shave *v.* 3]. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2022 Thogh ye now..Ben yclypped & yshaue vpon your hedes structures. 1460 Capgr. *Pilgr. Sowle* 12 (Rolls) VIII. 129 Gold of seventene shrynes y-shave and molten. **Yshend** *v.* [V. 3c], pseudo-arch. f. Shend *v.*[1] 1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal. Sept.* 139 Should not yshend Your roundels fresh, to heare a doolefull verse Of Rosalend. **Yshent(e, Yshet** [*V.* 4] ME. pa. pples. of Shend *v.*[1], Shut *v.* **Yshewed,** -yd, ME. pa. pple. of Show *v.* 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xii. 34 When scripture þe skolde hadde þus wyt y-sheued. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2295 Wit out of þing best yshewed. **Yshildred:** see Shouldered *pple. a.* 1. **Yshoped,** ME. pa. pple. of Shoe *v.* **Yshoned,** shunned. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) I. 10 These olde philosophers ..wenden that of pure nature, me might have ȳ-shoned th'other livinges. **Yshood,** ME. pa. pple. of Shoe *v.* **Yshore, yshorne,** obs. pa. pples. of Shear *v.* **Yshorted,** shortened. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* I. 259 My dayes ofte ben yshorted be. **Yshote,** ME. pa. pple. of Shoot *v.* **Yshrad,** ME. pa. pple. of Shred *v.* **Yshrined,** -id, ME. pa. pple. of Shrine *v.*[1] **Yshriven, -yven,** ME. pa. pples. of Shrive *v.* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 91, I wolde ben yshryue...and I for shame durst. **Yshrynked,** shrined. **Yshulred:** see Shouldered *pple. a.* 1. **Yshbe,** variant of I-sib. *c* 1315 Shoreham 1. 1931 Þef hy yslibe ine degres Rizt wyþ-inne be ferbe.
**Ysicle,** obs. form of Icicle.
† **Ysinued** [*V.* 4] sinned. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 176 Pat pine be my socour there That y haue y-sinued with myn here. **Ysiued,** ME. pa. pple. of Sue *v.* **Yskaldyd,** scalded. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Brede ȳ-Skaldyd. **Yslaȝe, ysla(i)ne, yslawen, yslayn(e,** obs. pa. pples. of Slay *v.*[1] 13.. *Cœr de L.* 1788 That six and thirty they had ȳ-slowe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 Gordianus ..was ȳ-slawe of oon Philip. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 122 The dead body wasa calfe yslaine. **Yslaked,** obs. pa. pple. of Slake *v.*[1] **Yslape, yslepe,** ME. pa. pple. of Sleep *v.*
**Ysle, Yslelonde,** obs. ff. Isle, Island.
† **Yslente** [*V.* 4] pa. pple. of Slent *v.*? **Yslesy(n.** ME. pa. pple. of Slay *v.*[1] 1452–92 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 233 Balthasar yslesyn, Darius did translate the realme of men of Babilon..in to Persia. **Ysliked, yslyked, Ysmacked, Ysmer(e)d,** ME. pa. pples. of Slick, Smack, Smear *vbs.* **Ysmete, ysmite, ysmyte(n,** ME. pa. pple. of Smite *v.* 1297, etc. [see Smite *v.*]. *c* 1400 *Pearl Poems* 117 In *Ab Pol. Poems* 116 Nowe hathe age ȳ-smyte [*v. r.* y-smete] me fro My secund feder. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 53 Nym raw ȳolkys of Kyroun, & melle hem a-mong chikonys ȳ-smete. **Ysmoked, -smothed,** ME. pa. pple. of Smooth *v.* **Y-smytted** [Smit *v.*], infected. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 191 He was i-smeten [*MSS. ȳ.* 4 y ysmytted] *wip* þe vice of pride.
**Ysnos, obs. pl. of Iron** *sb.*[1]
† **Ysnyt** [*V.* 4] ME. pa. pple. of Snite *v.* **Yso(o)ht** [Seke *v.* 3] sought. *c* 1298 *Bull. agri. Scots* 19 (Rilson), He hith y-soht out. 1366 *Hocclere's Let. Cupid* 128 in *Baumgartner MS.* (Hunter. Club) 187 Every woman...in licht to get gifs scho be wyll yseyht ȳ-soht. **Ysocured, Ysocyed, Ysode(n, Ysoje, Ysoiled,** ME. pa. pples. of Succour, Socie, Seethe, Sek and Yeke, Soil *vbs.* **Ysojourned,** sojourned. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Glas* 92 Where when she had some yeres ysojourned.. A deepe Desire hir loving hart enflamde. **Ysome:** see I-some. † **Ysomned** [*V.* 4] Somne *v.*[1], summoned. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 151 He comat þe tyme as he was somned [*MS. ȳ* ysomned]. **Ysondred,** sundered. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1737 Of grete hertes..y saky of 3ow an hundred, & of þe lasse hertes smal a-bou muche ysondred.
**Ysondur:** see Sunder *a.* and *adv.* 1.
† **Ysonge** [*V.* 4, Sing *v.*[1]], sung. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 467 þe same day after þat he hadde I-songen [*MS. ȳ* ysonge] þe masse.
**Ysoop, ysop(e,** obs. forms of Hyssop.
† **Yso(o)then** [*V.* 4, Seothe *v.*], boiled. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 185 Ysoþe (*v. r.* ysoden, y-sothen, ysoothe) or ybake. *c* 1400 *Prymetyme* 1 in *Pol. Poems* I. 231 Not wele y-sothen. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take a tenche whan he is ȳ-sothe.
**Ysophage, -gus,** var. Œsophage, -gus.
*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 153 Pouȝ þat trache arterie be peersid or ellis ysophage.
† **Ysoȝt, ysouȝt, ysoughte** [*V.* 4, Seek *v.*], sought. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 185 Ysoȝt, ysoþe þat men hadde had ysouȝt seyntes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xviii. xvi. 754 I haue the same y sought. **Ysound, var.** Isound. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) App. M. 32 Mothbiled buit þis land. Freliche wel on ȳsound his tuen ȝ-wende. **Ysoupid** [*V.* Sye *v.*[1]], supped. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 55 Some had ysoupid with Symond oure euen. **Ysow(e, ysown, ysowen,** -ed, ME. pa. pples. of Sow *v.*[1], Swear *v.* **Ysowndi** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pple. of Sow *v.*[1] **Ysowndr,** asunder: see Sunder *a.* and *adv.* B. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. iii. 50 Enea ysowndr fer yowndir. **Ysowpit** [*V.* 4] obs. pa. pple. of Sowe *v.*[2]
† **Ysped(d(e, Yspeke,** ME. pa. pples. of Speed *v.*, Speak *v.* **Yspedful,** ME. adj. [Speed *sb.*], expert. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 404 Hii þo adde ysiȝned þat wyþynne was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 He hise hep folliche yspended. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2 Þat he be yspendyth of vre good,..Cs'. 1582 A. Hall *Iliad* II. 72 Our noble yards rotten, our masts ypsent. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* III. App. lxxxvi, Grosse sperm ypsent in Nuptial bed. **Yspelled, yspelt, yspelyd, ysperyd** [Spell *v.*], told, shut. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 162 In an hous al lushetle & her dore yharred [*v. r.* yhaerede, yspered]. **Yspewed, Yspilled, Yspilt(ed,** -yd, -ynge, -ynge, ME. pa. pples. of Spew, Spill, Spit, Speak, Spin *vbs.* **Yspouse(d(Spouse** *v.*), espoused. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 19 Ysuster was of a noble kyng ..Ysyward. **Yspradde, yspre(ad,** ME. pa. pple. of Spread *v.* 1297, etc. spread, yspred [see Spread *v.*]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 6, 64 Who..Neuer..on which deck of his bread The sweetnesse of the honie yspredd. **Yspraind, ysprengd(e, yspreynd, etc., Ysprateild,** ME. pa. pples. of Sprenge *v.*, Sprattle *v.* **Y-sprinkled,** sprinkled. 1579 Spenser *Shep. Cal. Sept.* 139 Should not yshend Your roundels fresh, to heare a doolefull verse Of Rosalend. **Yspringe,** arch. pa. pple. of Spin. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 4 The stockings of the coursest woole yspunne. **Yspuwed,** ME. pa. pple. of Sew *v.* **Y-squaryd,** squared. 1446 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7072 Yforyid of gold and ysquaryd by fals deeys. **Yarive,** ME. pa. pple. of Shrive *v.*
**Yss, Ysse-ikkle:** see Ice, Isil, Iss *v.*[1], Icicle.
**Yssant, var. Isant = Issuant 1.**
*Lydg. Lett. Lett.* 298 To be ysant or chargeabill oute or upon the seid tenement.
† **Yssaspe** [*V.* 4] ME. pa. pple. of Shape *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 87 Pe spipe uorbisne huer-by we byeþ yssape to hi ymage.
**Yssee,** obs. f. I (see He 2). † var. Isil, 1st p. v.
† **Ysse(a)wed, Yssed** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pples. of Sow *v.*, Shed *v.*[1] **Yssend, yssent, Ysset, Yssette,** ME. pa. pples. of Shend *v.*[1], Shut *v.*, Set *v.* 1446 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 76 Of wel..nature be ouer dese ȳ-sette in his seyis.
**Yssew(e, yssehue, yssu(e,** obs. ff. Issue.
**Yssh(e,** var. Ish, Isil, Iss *v.*[1]
† **Yssored, Yssot(te, Yssred, Yssriue, Ysseryed** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pples. of Shore *v.*[1], Shoot *v.*, Shrive *v.*, Shrine *v.* 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 353 Wyllam, þe rede kyng, ysaote was by cas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 188 Martin...me heþ yzared mid þise clupe. *Ibid.* 70 Nou seiþ me ..he like ..yzy diligenciliche to be ysaryue. **Yssstreynned:** see Ystrained.
**Yst** = Is't, *is it.*
1553 *Respublica* iv. Your that sholde have wytte, yet youre Deuotion Hunthyng to goe forth, and be called Oppression?
† **Ystabeild, ystabled,** -yd [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pples. of Stable *v.*[1] 13.. *K. Alis.* 4690 (Linc. Inn MS.) Whan he hadde ystabled hat iay. Pus he sadde. 1420 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 135 The lawes y-stabelid in the Pepill. Ystade [Stead *v.*], beset (with difficulties). *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1631 He was never so hard ȳ-stade. **Ystaȝ(t)ed,** ME. pa. pple. of Stale *v.*[1] **Ystamped,** pounded. *c* 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Take of blac pyeche and of resyn as myche of one as of an oper wele ystamped. † **Ystatut,** obs. pa. pple. of Statute *v.*[1] **Ystaue,** [*V.* 3 b], pseudo-arch. f. Steve *v.*[1] **Ystake, -yd** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pples. of Steke *v.*[1], **Ystept** [Step *v.*], advanced. *c* 1634 W. Castwright *Ordinary* (n.d.) 41 A Sonne dele ystept in age! **Ystaynud,** ME. f. Stained. **Ystik(e)ed, y-styked, -yd,** ME. pa. pple. of Stick *v.*[1] **Ystocked** [Stock *v.*], impoverished. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 42 Depe in this pynings pitte with wo I ligge ȳ-stocked. **Ystoffed, Ystoke(n, Ystol(n)e, Ystonded,** -ed, **Ystoongen, ystounge, Ystope, Ystored,** -id, obs. pa. pples. of Stuff *v.*[1], Steke *v.*[1], Steal *v.*[1], Stand *v.*, Sting *v.*[1], Step *v.*, Store *v.* **Ystowe** [Stow *v.*[1]], ascended. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 227 Oo Kyng of Ilia,..hat yet þis day ystois [*MS. ȳ* ystowe] up above alle heyenes. **Ystrainyd, ystrayn'd** [Strain *v.*[1]], fastened; strained. *c* 1385 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 169 Sunt les bouts si fort nætes, *gloss* ystrayned [*v. r.* strenghed]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Take Eyroun, be ȳolke an be Whyte y-strainyd a-lyre. **Ystrawed, Ystreist, -streight, -streth,** ME. pa. pples. of Strew *v.*, Stretch *v.* **Ystrengthed** [Strength *v.*], strengthened. 1340 *Ayenb.* 202 Y-strengbed be be spriȝe of onderstondinge. **Ystrewed,** ME. pa. pple. of Strew *v.* **Ystrikke, ystrikt,** variant, obs. pa. pples. of Strike *v.* 1583 Melbancke *Philotimus* Z ii, To rescue Phedimus and Tantalus yatrick with preacing shaft yfere. 1640 H. More *Song of Soul* III. v. 28 Yatruck with mighty rage. **Ystrowed,** ME. pa. pple. of Strive *v.* **Ystuded** (Stuff *v.*], endeavoured. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 83 I have studied [*MS. ȳ* y-studed] to take þe floures of Sleuenes book. **Ystuffed, -yd,** ME. pa. pples. of Stie *v.*, Stew *v.*[2] **Ystuffed** [*V.* 5, Stifle *sb.*[1]], having (weak) stifle-bones. 1420 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Whan he is ystuffed in þe ioynt. **Ystuffed** [*v. r.* ystyffed], so pat he shall somtyme abydden halfe a yere or more, or he be wele ferme. **Ysucred,** obs. pa. pple. of Succour *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 87 Pere he was i-socured [*MS. ȳ* ysucred] awhile wip oon Maximus.
**Ysue,** obs. form of Issue.
† **Ysuffred** [*V.* 4], suffered. *c* 1376 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 413 His lawes knowen folk þat han ysuffred. **Ysuled** [Sule *v.*], sullied. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Creed* 752 A soutere y-suled in grees. **Ysunged,** etc., alined. 13.. *Mariena* 110 in Böddeker *Altengl. Dicht.* (1878) 208 Þe ysunged, merci y crie. 1386 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 165 Sones þat han sunged [*MS. ȳ* ysynned] seuen sibes declith. 1393 *Ibid. C.* xi. 213 After pat adam and eue hadden ysynged. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 47 Ne þat I haue ysowe [*MS. ȳ* ysunged] grevously. **Ysuore, ME.** pa. pple. of Swear *v.* **Ysustained, -teyned,** sustained. 1390–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 877 Se hau þen ycen y-sustained in þis werre. **Ysuued** [See *v.*[1], sewn. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 535 On cani ȝe mowe kepe my body ȳif hit is sewide [*MS. ȳ* ysuwed] in þe lether. **Ysuyed** [Sye *v.*[1]], soiled. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 458 Thus haukyn þe actyf man hadde ysoiled [*MS. O* ysuyled] his cote. **Yswathild,** swathed. *c* 1395 *Arth. & Merlin* 1. in Wright *Voc.* 143 Lors deyz eaire mayioles, *gloss* yswathild. **Yswengyd,** pa. pple. of Swenge *v.* Obs. **Yswespe, yswepped,** ME. pa. pples. of Swepe *v.* **Yswerued,** ME. pa. pple. of Swerve *v.* **Yswet,** -ed, ME. pa. pple. of Swete *v.*, Swine, Sweat. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6064 (Linc. Inn MS.) Schorte yswerued. **Yswoge** [*V.* 4] see Swow, swown *pa. pple. Obs.* **Yswolle, Yswolwed,** ME. pa. pples. of Swell *v.*, Swallow *v.* **Yswone, Yswounyng:** see Swow(e, Swoon *v.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 305 Heo criede & wep mid sorwe inou & oþre ȝswone [*MS. B* ȳswone] þo. 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 Þanne he þo ihurde þis nel iswowe [*MS. B* yswouninge] was. **Yswonge(n, yswonge,** ME. pa. pples. of Swing *v.*[1] **Yswope(n, -ed,** Swope, -ed, ME. pa. pples. of Sweep *v.*, Swear *v.* **Yswowe:** see Swow, swown *pa. pple.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 2262 (Linc. Inn MS.) Pat heo to grounde yswowe sletten. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 427 þe kyng..fil doun to þe grounde as he were yswowe [*MS. ȳ* yswouwe].
**Yswyke,** variant of I-swike *v.*, *Obs.* 1897 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3361 Nou hii beþ al ongwar hii wolleþ ywyke by daye.
**Yay, Yayb, Yayle** = I say, I saw, I sail.
† **Yaynged, -aynned, -aynwed** [*V.* 4]: see Ysuinged.
**Yaywed** [Sue *v.*], followed. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9743 Þo he adde ysywed me longe in þise fare.
**Yt,** obs. f. It; var. Is, Ist.
**Yt,** obs. f. It; (also *y'*), contr. graphic var. That.
† **Ytachid** [*V.* 4, Tache *v.*?], attached. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 279 Hit is a precious present,..ac pouȝ hit be ytachid [*v. r.* ytakked] to a knaues tayle. **Ytawt(te,** obs. pa. pple. of Teach *v.* 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2197 Þe beþ men bet iteiȝt [*v.r.* ytaȝt, ytauȝt] to stoffe & to spade. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3141 (Linc. Inn MS.) Bote he beo wel ytawt. **Ytayled,** ytailed. 1624 H. Mose *Song of Soul* II. iii. viii, Thinking how all doth flee What-ever we have painfully ytaught.
**Ytaile,** var. Italie, Obs., Italian.
† **Ytailed** [*V.* 3], var. Tailed *a.*, and pa. pple.[1] **Ytailed, ytayled** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pples. of Tail *v.*[1] **Ytakie, -en, -yn, ytan,** ME. pa. pples. of Take *v.* **Ytald,** ME. pa. pple. of Tell *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 70 Nou we habbeþ ytald ten manere zennes of þe tonge.
**Ytalian,** etc., obs. ff. Italian, etc.
† **Ytamet** [*V.* 4, Tame *v.*?], broken into. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 296 Per was no cloþ nor hose ne cloþe of horse ne hede ytamet wyth pe fyre. **Ytaried,** ME. pa. pple. of Tarry *v.*
**Ytch(e,** obs. ff. Itch. **Yte,** obs. pa. t. of Eat *v.*
† **Yteld** [*V.* 4], ME. pa. pple. of Teld *v.*[2] 13.. *Cœr de L.* 1297 His fader..had his pes ytald wip Sarazins and slaw on him despite ȳ-teld. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7870 (Laud MS.) What helpeb it lenger ytelde? **Yteld(e, ytald,** ME. pa. pple. of Teld *v.*, Tell *v.* **Yteld, ytelle,** var. Italie, Italian. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 But þou doo as I ytelle and amende pyself. **Ytemperit, -yd, ytempred, -id, -yd, Ytempted,** ME. pa. pples. of Temper *v.*, Tempt *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 257 And noo asolde be by wel ytempred and amasured. 1420 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 186 In ertynge and drynkynge be thou y-temperit. 13.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 615/36 *Temperatus, ytemperid.* **Ytend, ytent, ytey(n,** ME. pa. pples. of Tind *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 305 þe taperes bat were i-tend [*MS. ȳ* ytent]. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Pauus) James iii. 6 Heo is ȳ-teud of be fyur of helle. **Ytent,**

**Ytented**, ME. pa. pple. of Tent *v.*[3] **Ytenped** (Tenth *n.*), tithed. *a* 1400 *N. T.* (Paues) Heb. vii. 9 And 3e[r] it mowe be seyd so, by Abraham Leui, bat vnderfong tenbinges, was y-tenped. **Ytermanyd**, -**myned**, ME. pa. pples. of Tormine *v.* 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. i. 67 Til treuthe had ytermyned her trespas to pe ende. **Ytesed**, tensed. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistvla*, etc. 58 Streche pam on wolle y-teased or subtile stupes of line. **Yteyd, Yteynd(e**, ME. pa. pples. of the *v.*, Tyne *v.*[1]

**Yth** = *in the*: see Ith'.

**Ythan(d**, **-en**, etc., var. Ithand, etc.

**† Ythe.** *Obs.* Forms: 1–2 ȝþ, 2 upe, 3 uþe, 4–5 ype, 5 ythe, ithe, YOE. ȝþ str. fem., also ȝþe wk. fem. — OS. *ēthi*, OHG. *ōmdea*, *uuda* (MHG. *unde*, *ilnde*), ON. *unnr*, *iðr*.] A wave of the sea.

*Beowulf* 1918 Þy læs hym ȝyþa ðrym wudu wynsuman forwrecen meahte. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 466 Mere sweoðerade, ȝþa onxin eft oncyrde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Iunan þan sea weren vil hittere vpe. *c* 1205 Lay. 4378 Þe wind com on wedere and þa se he wrǽðede; vðen þer urnen. 13[?]. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 147 Hit reled on round vpon þe rose ypes. *a* 1400–50 *Dest. Troy* Sumwhat comand he knew kernand pe ithe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1093 So wode were the waghes & pe wilde ythes. 14.. *Sege Troye*. (E.E.T.S.) 3750 Myd pe grym ythes.

**Ythe (yþe)**, obs. f. Eath *a.*, easy; var. I-the *v.*

**† Ythewed** (V. 5) var. Thewed *ppl. a.*, mannered. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3209 (Linc. Inn MS.) Mony baronn ful wel y-lewed. **Ythied**, obs. var. Thighed. **Ythirled, ythurled** (V. 4, Thirl *v.*[1], pierced. 13[?] *Sir Beues* (Auch.) 1V. 397 I-bored and i-brulled [*v. rr.* yhirled, ythurled] wip meny smale holes. **Yþost, yþoght, yþou(ht**, ME. pa. pple. of Think *v.*[2] 1340 Sinnehan iv. 413 Wanne hy y-pouȝt beþ oþer y-speke, Oþer y-don in stat. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 157 Whan thou haste all y-thoght, mowynynge and wrost thow shalte rema. **Ytteled** (Ittle *v.*), suffered. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Al his damage þat he hadde ybroled in pat vyage. **Yronked, Yborase, ythrysathe, Ybraw, Ythraf, Ythrove**, ME. pa. pples. of Rink *v.*, Thrave *v.*[1], Throw *v.*[1], Threst *v.*, Thrive *v.* **Ythrotelede**, throttled. 1438–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 161 A nakede man ythrotelede to pe dedde. **Ythrowe**, ME. pa. pple. of Throw *v.*[1] **Ythurlin** (Thrling *v.*), hurled. 1483 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxv, He quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto the ground, Full sadanly sche hath thaim vp ythrurlyn. **Ythrust, ythrutte**, ME. pa. pples. of Thrust *v.*, Thrutte *v.* **Ytide**, **ytilde**, **Ytijt**, ME. pa. pples. of Tide, Tild *v.*, Tight *v.* **Ytilled, ytild** (Till *v.*[1]), obtained. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 105 Tythes of vnfrewe þinge ytilled or chaffared. **Ytint**, ME. pa. pple. of Tine *v.* **Ytoȝte, ytought** (Teach *v.*), taught. 1340 *Ayenb.* 254 Þe wyse and þe wel ytoȝte temprep .. his worles. 1696 *Choyce Drollery* 73 Full well she was y-tought the leire Of mickle courtesie. **Ytokenyd**, ME. pa. pple. of Token *v.* **Ytold, ytolle, Ytold**, ME. pa. pples. of Tell *v.* **tore, ytorn** (Tear *v.*[1]), torn. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* i. ii. cxxix, The tallest trees up by the root ytorn. *Ibid.* iii. App. xvii, Sith unwillingly they were store From their dear carkasses their fate they rue. **Ytormentet**, tormented. *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 505 Grevousli þ tormented [*MS. y* tormentet]. **Ytorad, ytourned**, -**yd**, **Ytost, Ytoted, Ytouchide, ytowchid, Ytouked**, obs. pa. pples. of Turn *v.* Toss *v.*, Toot *v.*[1], Touch *v.*, Tuck *v.*[1]

**Ytranslatid**, translated. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 236, I..haue y-translatid to youre excellence by this boke alle the techynges [etc.]. **Ytraunlid, -aillit, -ayled** (Travail *v.*), troubled, harassed. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 85 Theseus and Valerius were [*MS. y* ytraveyled] wiþ a fend. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 162 He was ytraualid with the Deuyl. **Ytreated**, treated. 1480 (see Hanged *v.*[1] 6). **Ytredde, ytrodde**, ME. pa. pples. of Tread *v.* *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, If ye se it gred and brode and wele ytredde [*MS. Rec.* ytrodde]. **Ytrent**, ME. pa. pple. of Trend *v.* 1440 Theseus *Cynthia* 1. xxxvi, Chaucer *Troylus* v. 810 To gon y-tressed with hire heeres clere Doun by hire coler. **Ytried, ytryed**, -**id**, ME. pa. pples. of Try *v.* **Ytrowbelid**, troubled. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 173 His Spirite is not by rancoure y-trowbelid. **Ytrowe**, ME. pa. pple. of Throw *v.*[1]

**Yt**, obs. form of It, Yet *adv.*

**Ytter** (i·tər). *Min.* The first element of *Ytterby* (see next) used attrib. = combined with yttria, yttriferous, yttrious, in imitation of Sw. or Ger., as in Sw. *ytterjord*, G. *yttererde* (ytter earth).

1805 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* II. 585 Ytterianatite...According to Eckeberg, it is composed of tantalium, the new earth called yttria, and iron. 1807 *R. H. Danes Elem. Min.* 281 Yttriferous, or Ytter garnet. 1827 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 239 As early as 1794 Gadolin had separated from the gadolinite of Ytterby an earth which he called ytter earth.

**Ytterbite** (i·tərbəit). *Min.* [Named by Gadolin 1794, from *Ytterby* in Sweden, where found: see -ite 1.] A synonym of Gadolinite. So **Ytterbia** (itə·rbiă) *Chem.*, the oxide of ytterbium; **Ytterbic** (itə·rbik) *a.*, containing ytterbium; **Ytterbium** (itə·rbiŏm) [mod. L. (Marignac)], a rare metallic element occurring in gadolinite, etc.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* Gadolinite called also Ytterbite and Ytterbite. 1879 *Fownes' Chem. Sec.* XXXVI. 118 Ytterbium, a new Metal from Gadolinite....Solutions of ytterbia give no absorption-spectrum....Ytterbium sulphate resembles...the sulphates of yttrium and erbium.

**Yttcrite** (i·tərəit). *Min.* [*Ytterby* (see Ytterbite) + -ite 2.] A synonym of Gadolinite.

1849 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 409 Silicate of Yttria.—Gadolinite, or Yttcrite.

**Yttria** (i·triă). *Chem.* Also **ittria**. [mod. L. (Ekeberg, 1797), f. the name of *Ytterby*: see Ytterbite.] An earth obtained as a white powder from gadolinite and other rare minerals, consisting of sesquioxide of yttrium ($Y_2O_3$).

1800 Henry *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 105 Yttria, or Ittria.—This earth was discovered in 1794...in a stone from Ytterby in Sweden. 1873 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 582 To obtain the earths, yttria and erbia, in the separate state, gadolinite is digested with hydrochloric acid.

**Yttrium** (i·triŏm). *Chem.* [mod.L., f. Yttria after names of other metals in *-ium*.] A rare metal of the cerium group, the base of the earth Yttria. Symbol Y.

1820 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 93 The base of yttria has been supposed to be a metallic substance, which would receive the name of yttrium. 1866 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* 8 The metals yttrium, erbium, indium, &c. have only as yet been met with in most minute quantities.

Hence (or from prec.) **Yttrialite** (i·triəlait) *Min.*, a silicate of thorium and the yttrium metals; **Yttric** (i·trik) *a. Chem.*, related to or containing yttrium; **Yttri·ferous** *a.*, containing or yielding yttrium; **Yttrious** (i·triəs) *a.*, pertaining to or containing yttria; **Yttrite** (i·trəit) *Min.*, a synonym of Gadolinite.

1869 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVIII. 427 *Yttrialite*. *Min.*, a silicate of thorium and the yttrium metals. 1877 *Yttriferous* [see Ytter]. 1828–32 Webster, **Yttrious*, pertaining to yttria: containing yttria; as, the yttrious oxyd of columbium. *Contrasted*. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 541 Gadolinite; called also Yttrite and Ytterbite.

**Yttro-** (i·tro), *Min.*, used as combining form of Yttrium in names of minerals containing yttrium, the second element usually indicating the other metallic constituent, sometimes an added mineral: as **Yttrocerite** (se·rəit) [Cerium], **Yttrocolumbite** [Columbium], **Yttrogummite** [Gummite], **Yttrotantalite** [Tantalum], **Yttrotitanite** [Titanium]: see quots.

1817 T. Thomson *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) III. 495 **Yttrocerite* ...occurs at Finbo in Sweden...It is found in amorphous masses...disseminated through quartz. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1065 *Yttrocerite*, a mineral consisting of fluoride of yttrium mixed with the fluorides of cerium and calcium. 1819 W. Phillips *Elem. Introd. Min.* (ed. 2) 202 **Yttrocolumbite*...It consists, according to Vauquelin, of 45 oxide of columbium, 55 of yttria and oxide of iron. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XV. 800 **Yttrogummite*...is the final product of the decomposition of cleveite. 1850 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IV. 19 *Samarskite*.—This mineral, first named Uranio-tantalite or Columbite, and afterwards called *Yttro-iltmenite by Hermann. 1869 Wollaston in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 246 The two Swedish minerals, tantalite and Yttro-tantalite, from which I could obtain tantalum. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 519 Yttrotantalite...Color black, brown, brownish-yellow, straw-yellow....Tantalate of yttria and lime, or yttria, lime, and iron, with some protoxyd of uranium. 1868 Watts tr. *Kobell's Ess. Min. Classif. & Nomencl.* 52 *Yttro-Tantalum Oxide. 1854 Dana *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 341 Keilhauite,...*Yttrotitanite. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 1063 Yttrotitanite, Yttrotitanate. A silicotitanate containing lime, yttria, ferric oxide, and alumina, with small quantities of other bases.

**† Ytuckid**, ytukked (V. 4), obs. pa. pple. of Tuck *v.*[1] **Ytueped**, ME. pa. pple. of Tithe *v.* *c* 1400 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 504 Cristes flok was tetheð [*MS. y* ytueped], the ayne were slayn and the tenbe was kept. **Ytund**, ME. pa. pple. of Tune *v.*[1] **Yturnde**, -ed, ME. pa. pple. of Turn *v.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 443 Pe wombe and pe bowels were i-litte and y-turned to seche mete and drynke.

**† Ytwyn** = *itwin, in twin*, apart: see Twin *sb.* 4. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* viii. 175 Thai War in-twyn [*v.r.* ytwyn] a bow-draucht & mar. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* ix. i. 3 In diuers pairtis wel ner ytwyn.

**† Ytwynned** (V. 4, Twin *v.*[1]), separated. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 788 (Corpus MS.) Though in erthe ytwynned be we lynes two. 1502 Hocleve *Lett. Cupid* 226 Fol mony of hem wer in my cheyne y-tyed. **Ytynt, ME.** pa. pple. of Tine *v.*[1]

**Yu**, obs. form of You.

**† Yuarow, yuarwed**, ME. pa. pple. of Farrow *v.* **Yuast(e**: see Yeast.

**Yucca** (yu·kă), **yuca** (yū·kă). Forms: 6–7 iucca, 6–9 yuca, 7–8 iuca, 7– yucca. [In sense 1, found in the forms *juca* (Amerigo Vespucci, 1497), *yuca* (Cieuza, 1567); of Carib origin.]

1. The common name in Western South America and Central America for the Cassava. (Now usually in form *yuca*, for distinction from sense 2.)

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 67 They haue also an other kynde of rootes, whiche they call *Iucca*, wherof they make breade in lyke maner. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* tit. cclix. 1339 Of Yuca or Iucca...The roote wherof the bread Cassava, or Cazuua is made. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creatvre* 6, 87 Rice and Lamanas from Spaine, Jucca from Cuba, Mayze from Peru. 1706 J. Stevens tr. *A. de Herrera Torderillas' Hist. Amer.* IV. 135 A Roll of Yuca, being a clammy Root, like Potato. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xx, There were 'lairs' among the underwood thatched with the palmated leaves of the yuca. 1894 C. D. Tyler in *Geogr. Trnl.* III. 481 The *manato*...is...the mastiest of the common nuts of the yuca.

2. Any plant of the liliaceous genus *Yucca*, native of the warmer parts of N. America, and extensively cultivated for ornament, characterized by a woody stem with a crown of usually rigid narrow pointed leaves and an upright cluster of white bell-shaped flowers; popularly known as *Adam's needle*, particular species being also called *Spanish bayonet* and *Spanish dagger*. (Almost always in form *yucca*.)

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 83 [Plants] not perishing but in excessive Colds,..Opuntia, or the smaller Indian Fig, Jucca, Seseli Æthiop. 1732 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v., The Narrow-leav'd Carolina Yucca. 1841 Mantell. in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXI. 140 The...trunks of the *Glathraria*,...*Yucca*, and arborescent ferns. 1851 Mayne Reid *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 18 The thickets of yucca and aucaia-trees. 1872 C. King *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* i. 20 Tall stems of yucca bore up their magnificent bunches of bluish flowers.

3. *attrib.* and *Combb.*, as *yucca-flower*, *-plant*, *-root*; **yucca-borer**, (*a*) a N. American moth, *Megathymus yuccæ*, whose larva bores into the roots of yucca-plants; (*b*) a Californian weevil, *Yuccaborus frontalis*; **yucca-moth**, a tineid moth of the genus *Pronuba*, esp. *P. yuccasella*, which lays its eggs in the ovary of the yucca-plant, and deposits a ball of pollen on the stigma, thus fertilizing the seeds on which the larvæ feed; **yucca-palm**, **yucca-tree**, any arborescent species of *Yucca*.

1805 Comstock *St. Insects* 367 A much better known species is the *Yucca-borer, *Megathymus yuccæ*. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.*, *Yucca-lizard, or Canada-lizard. 1892 *Rep. Missouri Bot. Gard.* 99 The Yucca moth and Yucca Pollination. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* xviii. 174 She was standing near one of the *yuca palm trees that grew up from the ascaia-bush. 1870 Lord Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 57 She gave them the *yuccaroot ..Of sweet Xaragua. 1846 G. F. Lyon *Trnl. Mexico* I. 140 Most uninteresting country, bearing here and there a stunted bush or a *yucca-tree.

**Yuck**, variant of Yuke.

**Yuckle** (yu·k'l). *dial.* Also **yuckel**, **yucole**, **yukkel**, **yuckol**. [Var. of *hickle*, Hickwall, influenced by Yuke.] The green woodpecker.

1847–78 Halliwell, *Yuckel*, a woodpecker. *Wilts.* 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, I feels sum bow as peart as a yukkel.

**Yud**(e, **yud**(e, obs. pa. t. of Go: see Yode.

**Yue**, obs. form of Give *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Nou broþren and sostren ȝ-hyreþ my red and yuep youre. *Ibid.* 271 Yue.

**† Yued**, ME. pa. pple. of Feed *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 141 þo hedde ypreched and yued pet volk.

**Yuel(l**, **-lle**, obs. ff. Evil.

**Yuer**, var. Yure, udder. **Yuer, yuery(e, Yuerene**, obs. ff. Ivory, Ivorine. **Yuerred**, ME. pa. pple. of Fare *v.* **Yuert**, variant of Youet.

**Yuff**, variant of Youf.

**‖ Yuffrouw** (yu·frou). Forms: 5–6 **jong-**, 6 **joung frow, young frow, young Fro, ȝ yuffrou(w**, **ȝungfrou**, **ȝeuron, ȝwrou**, **4ow**: see also Euphrow. [ad. early mod. Du. *jongvrouwe* (cf. Frow *sb.*), now *juffrouw* young lady, miss, and (in shortened form) *juffer* young lady, beam in shipbuilding, rammer (see Juffer, Upfer). See also Euphrow.]

1. A young lady, girl.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 43 To see the fashion of these countrey young frowes. 1673 Dryden *Ambigenus* i, And it may be then in stead of kissing, desir'd young Fro to hold his head. 1810 W. Irving *Let. to Mrs. Hoffman* 26 Feb., I have...formed acquaintance with several of the good people, and several of the little Yoüffrouws.

2. *Naut.* a. ? A dead-eye. *Obs.* b. (See quots. 1810, 1867.)

1626 *Acc. Lat. High Treas. Scot.* I. 254 ȝong frowis and cellaris, seme and rule to the bote. 1626 *Ibid.* III. 86 Blokkis and brasch schiffis, paralingis, and ȝong frowes. 1810 J. Dessiou *Moore's Pract. Navigator* 901 *Uron*, the piece of wood by which the bee-score row-block is extended. 1815–[see Ecthorp]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Crow-foot*, a number of small lines spreading out from an uvow or long block, used to spread rigging by.

**† Yuft** (yuft). Also 9 youghten, jucten, juff, juft, youft. [a. Russ. юфть, юфть, whence also G. *juften*, *juchten*.] Russia leather (see Russia 1).

1799 W. Tooke *View Russ. Emp.* III. 514 The chief products of the tanneries of this country...are the yufts. 1820 *Edin. Philos. Journ.* (1821) I. 348 Russian leather, or Youghten. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 60 The Russians have long been possessed of a method of making a peculiar leather, called by them *yu-ten*, dyed red with the pyromatic saunders wood. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Juft*, *Youft*.

**‖ Yug** (yug), **yuga** (yu·gă). Also **yoog**, **yoogu**. [Hindi *yug*, Skr. *yugā*- Yoke, an age of the world.] In Hindu cosmology, any of the four ages in the duration of the world, the four ages comprising 4,320,000 years and constituting a great yuga (*Mahāyuga*).

1784 W. Hastings in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 237 The duration of the Historical ages must needs be very unequal...: while that of the Indian Yuga is disposed so regularly and artificially, that it cannot be admitted as natural or probable. 1820 W. Ward *Vieu Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 315 The amount of these four yoogûs form a kulpu or great yoogu, viz 4,320,000 years. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 207/2 The Hindu doctrine of the four ages or yuga.

**Yugement**, obs. form of Judgement.

**Yuill**, obs. Sc. form of Yule.

**Yuke** (yūk), *sb.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. next.] Itching, itch.

1552 Turner *Herbal* I. A vb, Wormwood..helyth also the yche or yuke. *Ibid.* Piv, The broth of them is good..for fiche or yeewk that goeth ouer the hole body. 1579 Buchanan *Detection* in Jas. Anderson *Coll.* (1727) II. 16

Certane Unk Pimples, brak out ouer all his haill Body, with sa greit Zuik, . . . that he lingevit ouy his Lyfe with verray small Hope of Ewbain. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. ix. When their hands he shook, Ga'e them what he got frae his dad, Videlicet, the yuke. 1722 in *Cl'ess Sutfolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 93 All the best families in the parish are laid up with what they call the yoke—which in England is the itch. 1824 W. Oliver *Nenge?* For fear that . . Scotch Donald chanc e to mjvek our fee, An' gie wor king the yuke. [1901 *Lit. to Editor*, Among stablemen, coachmen, &c., the itch goes by the name of the 'dukes' (or dookes), and horses suffering from the complaint are referred to as 'dukey (or dooky) horses'.]

**Yuke** (*yuk*), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **yhuyk, yoke, youk,** 5–6 **juke,** 6 **joik, yuik, luke, yeewk,** 7 **yeauk,** 6– **yeuk, yuke,** 7– **yuck,** 8–9 **yook, (yoouk, yoke, yuk, yuo, yewk, yeuck, yuick, owk, euk(e, uke).** [app. alteration of north. ME. *yeke, yike* (see Ireh *v.*1), prob. under the influence of MDu. *jeuken.*] *intr.* To itch.

*c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* ii. vii. 574 Sesyphes ,And alkyn kynde of clegpis als Pat ay ar besy to bite, yuke] bathe beid and hals. *a* 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 130 Bot I may yuke all this nycht, or his nerd help. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Sonn.* xxvi. 3 Quhilk quhyls fastes, let thame say thame sell. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 56 *Yuck* i Line. 1790 Burns ' *Kind Sir, I've read,*' etc. 26 How Daddie lurks the glen was ca'ed, Wi' many a flaunting jeerk and jenkin', 1796 — *Poem on Life* vi, Ah Nick!.. Thy auld, dammed elbow yowls wi' joy, And hellish pleasure. 1804 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ballads* (1820) 99 She'll scrat my back whene'er it yuke. 1816 Scott *Ant.* xxi, It would have been a fashious job that; by my certie, some o'our necks wad han been ewking. 1882 Jas. Walker *Tenant to Auld Reekie* etc. 42 For poachin' aye his fingers yeuckit.

Hence **Yuking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

*a* 1449 W. Bowen in *Fordun's Scotichron.* (1759) II. 376 Wyth yuik joukand eeris, ne the awek gieg [? r. *auricula indivisibilanda, ut supra*]. 1513 Douglas *Eneados* i. Prol. 60 Gond, for the sciatica, and for all kindes of itche or yukinge. 1600 J. Hamilton *Facile Dyscticte* 40 Sik ne flatters thair yuiking eares. 1886 *S. W. Line. Gloss.* v. *Yuck*, Such a nasty yuckling pain comes on in the legs. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xxiv, When I get that dry yeukin' in my thrapple.

**Yuky** (*yu'ki*), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. **Yuke** + -**y**.] Itchy; itching with curiosity.

1719 Ramsay *3rd Canto of Hamilton* xv, We, like nags whase necks are yuky, Ha'e us'd our teeth. 1722 — *Three Rownets* iii. 46 While haste his youky mind expresses. *c* 1750 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *Tummus in Mule*, Scratching his Yuky arm. 1789 D. Davidson *Seasons* 46 Unto thy smoothing tongue thy fainly turn Their youky rumps. 1857 Ramsay *Reminis.* (ed. 13) 86 I'm unco yuckie to hear a bland o' your gab.

Hence **Yu'kiness.**

1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 74 If the hairs get into the neck, a numbness (itch) is the consequence.

‖ **Yulan** (*yū'lan*). Also **youlan.** [Chinese, *f. yu* a gem + *lan* plant.] A Chinese species of magnolia, *M. conspicua* (*M. Yulan*).

1820 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 55 Lily flowered Magnolia, or Youlan. 1882 *Gardn.* 6 May 411/2 The Yulan..forms a conspicuous object amongst spring flowering trees.

**Yule** (*yūl*), *sb.* Forms: 1 **geol, geodhol, geoh-(h)ol, -el, geh(h)ol, zehhel, zeola, tula,** 2 **iol,** 2–4 **3ol (yol),** 3 **3oel,** 4 **3ool,** 4–5 **3ole,** 5 **3oil(l, yoyil(e, 3owle, yowle, youle, yole, yoole, 3wle, (yold(e),** 5–7 **yule, 63oile, 3uill, 3uil, 30will, -ell, 3ouil, 3eoil, (owle),** 6–7 **youl, yewl, zoul, yuill, 3uil, (uile, 9 yuul),** 6–**yule.** *Also dial.* (in comb.) **7 yow, 7–8 yu,** 11– The modern form descends from OE. *geol, earlier geoh(h)ol, geh(h)ol,* also *geóla* sometimes pl.) Christmas day or Christmastide, and in phr. *se hérra geóla* December, *se æftera geóla* January: corresp. to ON. *jól* pl. a heathen feast lasting twelve days, (later) Christmas. An Old Anglian *giuli*, recorded by Bede (see quot. 726 in sense 1) as the name of December and January, corresponds to ON. *ýtr* month beginning on the second day of the week following Mch. 10–17, and Goth. *fiuleis* in *fruma fiuleis* November. The ultimate origin of the Teut. types ***jeul-** (*jegul-*) and ***jexul-** :— pre-Teut. ***jeu̯l-** is obscure.]

**†1.** December or January. *Obs.*

726 Beda *De Temp. Rat.* xv, De Mensibus Anglorum.. Primusque eorum mensis, quem Latini Januarium vocant, dicitur Giuli..Dicunt autem Giuli quasi Januarius. Secundus mine, vocatur..Menses Giuli a conversione solis in auctum diei, quia unus eorum præcedit, alius subsequitur, nomina accipiunt. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 1 Jan. 12 Januarius, þæt is on ure ðeóde se æftera geóla. *Ibid.* 20 Dec. 216 Se monaδ ys nemned on leden Decembris ond on ure ðeóde se ærra geóla. *c* 1000 Ælfric Hom. I. 300–1 Crist was boren i þiss ilke Wiþinnen 3oleas monaþ, ..þatt wass o þe fiffte dæg Att twenntiʒ daȝness ende Off 3ol.

**2.** Christmas and the festivities connected therewith. (Still the name in *Sc.* and *north. dial.*; since *c* 1850 also a literary archaism in Eng.)

*a* 900 *O.E. Martyrol.* 5 May 76 Feowertiʒ dæga ær Criste acennisse, þæt is ær ȝeolum [*v.r.* ȝyhhelum]. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xix. (1890) 318 Þy twelftan dege ofer Xeohhol [*v.r.* ȝeohol, ȝeohhel]. *a* 901 *Laws of Ælfred* § 42, xii dagas on ȝehhol [*v.r.* ȝehol, ȝehhel, ȝeol]. 1131 *Charter of Eadward* in *Lofg* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 209 Ealle da gyltes ða belimpeð to mine kinehelme inne Iol and inne Easterne. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 284, I craue..a cryatemas gomen, For hit is 3ol & nwe 3er. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 49 Pe kyng one on pe morn went to London. His 3ole forto hald was his cuchenon. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Arch.* (1876) 42 Seynt Tomas-ys day, Apostle, ys pe fyft day afor 3old. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1897 Of seynt Hyllary the churche ys, The twenty day of yowle y wys. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 96 The kynge is now deed sithe Martin-masse, and ther hens to yoole is but litill space. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 149 At the natiuite of our Lord, callit zowill. 1536 Belleng. *tr. Boeth. Cron. Scot.* xiii. xiv. (1821) II. 320 Quhen he was sittand with his modir, on the Epiphany Day, at his yuill. *a* 1580 Sir R. Maitland *Sat. Age* 43 That..yat held grit yulls. 1590 Warner *Alb. Engl.* x. xxiv. 258 At Xe'es we women gamboles, dance, to carrole, and to sing. 1637 *Bk. Com. Prayer Scotland* Table Proper Ps., Yule, or Christmas day. 1644 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxix, Knowing that the superstitious dayis of Yuol wine approching.. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 61 About Yule last. 1794 Burns *Bonie Peggy Ramsay* i, And dewin' it is dreary, When hiaks are bare at Yule. 1816 Scott *Antig.* xxiii, Ye ken a green Yule makes a fat kirk-yard. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxviii, They bring me sorrow touch'd with joy, The merry merry bells of Yule. 1878 Susan Phillips *Ch. Gossboord* 74 And many a Yule since..You chose a spray all brighily berried over.

†**Yule of August, *Lammas Yule*:** the festival of Lammas, the first of August. *Obs.*

This name has arisen from confusion of this word with Gaelic *iuldil* (Lammas Day).

1643 Hammond *Let. Resol. Sir Quarres* vi. § 65, 565 *Gule of August*, or Lammas Day. 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 It [sc. Yule] is a name general for festivals, na Lammas Yule, &c.

†**3.** Used as an exclamation of joy or revelry at the Christmas festivities. *Obs.*

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 58 It is easy to cry vle at other mens ceste. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 380 It is eith [*pr.* dith] to cry yule [*Maitl. Fo. MS.* haillie] On ane vther mans coist. 1570 Bellenden *Descript. A. to Gle.* In Yorkshire and our other Northern parts, they have an old Custom, after Sermon or Service on Christmas day, the people will, even in the Churches cry *Hee Yle*, and the common people in Kent cry *Wassaile*, meaning Yle, that is, Three Puddings in a Pule, Crack nuts and cry Yle. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Poem.* (1759) 58 It is eith crying yool on another man's stool. 1828 *Sc. Sheph. Christmastide* 12 In Scotland it seems to have been the custom to dance in the country churches, after prayers, crying out, 'Yole, yole, yole!' &c.

**4.** *altrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yule banquet, batch, cannle, cheese, dinner* (*sb.*1 3), *fare, feast, hearth, night* (cf. ON. *jólanótt*), *season* (cf. ON. *jólaleyfi*), *supper*, etc. (all of which, except *yule-cheese*, are found locally in Scotland for Christmas, as *yule-bread, -cake, -dough, -loaf* (see quots.); also **yule-block** = *yule-log*; **yule-candle** = *Christmas candle* (Christmas 4); **yule-clog** = *yule-log*; **yule-game,** a Christmas game or sport; †a frolic, gambol; †**yule-girth** [see Girth *sb.* 6; cf. ON. *jólagrið*], the peace of Christmas; **yule-log,** a large log of wood burnt on the hearth at Christmas; **yule-song** *dial.*, a Christmas carol; †**yule-tide** (*a*) Syn. 1; (*b*) Syn. 2 (*a*, *b*, 30, 47); †contribution for Christmas festivities; (*b*) = *yule-log*; **yule-tide** [cf. ON. *jólatíð*], the season of Yule, Christmas-tide; †**yule-waiting** (*yolwayting*) [app. ON. *veiting*, Waiting *vbl. sb.*2], app. a due paid by bondmen at Christmas; †**yule-wattstand** (*yolwaye-*), ? the place where the waits (Wait *sb.* 8a) stood at Christmas; †**yule-work** (Sc. *yeoll work*), ? preparations for Christmas festivities.

1829 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *N. B. Advertiser* Oct. (1892) I. 4 Even the Christmas was not forgotten, for the Yuel bankett. 1874 Ray *N. C. Words*, *Yu-batch. 1796 Peggie *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.), *U-back, U-block.* See *Yu-batch, Yu-back.* 1866 Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Northumberland* (1814) 204 The Northern parts call Christmas Yule, (hence the *Yule-block, *Yule-cake [*fr.* oake-], Yule-songs, &c.). *Sea-Sportsman* (N. S.) VI. 283 Yule Cake, a kind of spiced cake, often supplies the place of gingerbread. 1884 Blount *Dor. Forster* xiii, The tables were covered with Yule-cakes, which are, in the north, shaped like a baby, and Christmas pies in honor of a child. 1808 Jamieson s. v., The candle, that is lighted on Yule, must be so large as to burn from the time of its being lighted till the day be done.. Hence the candles are by the vulgar called *Yule-candles. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) VI. 283 The yule candle, a tall mould candle, is lighted and set on the table. 1775 Bourne *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii. in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 155 Our Fore-Fathers..were wont..to lay a Log of Wood upon the Fire, which they termed a *Yule-Clog, or Christmas-block. 1836 R. Fulness *Astrol.* iii. Wks. (1658) 163 When ample yule-clogs put forth heat and light, And all-spiced humours warm'd the Christmas night. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxxviii, The yule-clog sparkled keen with frost. *a* 1612 J. Mason *Vind. Theatr.* (1913) 273 What 'twill cost Jemmy thought to repey well now at Pasch. 1777 Brand *Pop. Antiq.* 163 The *Yule-Dough,..a Kind of Baby or little Image of Paste, which our Bakers used formerly to bake at this Season, and present to their Customers. 1888 Jessie M. E. Saxby *Lads of Lunde* 210 Such bounty, in the form of *Yule-tide gifts the folks are pleased to bestow. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 A *yule feast may be quat at Pasche. That is Christmas-cheer may be digested, and the party hungry again at Easter. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1845) 6 *Davie* 14 Poems (1789) II. 6 For the Yule-feast a sautit mart's prepar'd. 1611 Cotgr., *Gambade*, a gambol, *yew-game, tumbling tricke. 1632 Sherwood, *Yew game*, or yule-game, *Ludus Natalitius*. 1812 R. Corp *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 93 The shipps company .. plaied Christmas ule games in good sort. 1822 Burton *Anat. Mel.* ii. ii. iv. 246 Masks, singing, dancing, vlegames. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words*, Yu-game. 1789–90 Rec. *Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 282 For breking of *Yule gerthe and trubling of the towne. ? 16.. in F. Drake *Eboracum* i. vi. (1736) 107 The fower serjeants shall go and ride..and so go forth to the fower barrs of the city and blow the yuelegirthe. *Ibid.*, To make proclamation at the pillory of the Yoole-girthol. 1656 Mennis & J. Smith *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2)

23 Thrice find all New-yeares Guests their *yewl guts fill'd With embalm'd Veal, buried in Christmas Past. 1848 Lytton *Harold* iv. vi, We strip not the green leaves for our *yule-hearths. 1709 Walkden *Diary* (1860) 83 A *yule loaf, 3d. 1725 Bourne *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii, in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 157, I am apt to believe, the Log has had the Name of the *Yule-Log, from its being burnt as an Emblem of the returning Sun. 1846 Longf. *K. Witlaf's Drinking-horn* viii, The Yule-log crackled in the chimney. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4748 How Hood God was kene yn *yule nyght. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 101 On fald thar thai woc on yul nilit. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilʒear* 342 Betuix none of the day and yule nicht. 1792 Burns *Duncan Gray* i, On blythe yule night when we were fu'. *a* 1661 *Yule-songs [see *yule-block*]. 1876 Robinson *Whitby Gloss., Yule-sangs*, s. pl. Christmas carols. 1882 *Yorksh. Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1892) I. 244 [The same pays 12*d.* at Christmas, which is called] *Yulstoch. 1548 Hennysow *Sum Perfytnis Med.* 77 (Hann. MS.) With thre crawis of the cok; The schowne of ane yule stok, is gud for to hoist. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilʒear* 4 Quhair Empreouris and Iclis, and vther mony ane, Turnit fra Sanct Thomas befoir the *yule tyde. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn* I. *Musician's Tr.* xii, Three days his Yule-tide feasts He held. 1787 W. Taylor *Poems* 44 About *Yuletime an' Hogmenai. 1864 Prior in *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 10/2 [Mistletoe] ripened its snow-white fruit at Yuletime. 1183 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 20 Dant cum villanis partem suam de scat et de metride et de *yolwayting. *c* 1380 *Sir. Hertelde's Sone*, (Surtees) 92 Ilkone of hem gaf me a *yole-wayting, ad festum Nativitatis Domini, 5*s.* 1413–14 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) Gloss. p. lxxii, De quadam placea vocata *Yolewaystead. 1540 *Acc. Exch. Scot.* (New Spalding Club) I. 47 Dauid Hardy..sall pay ane stane wax to the nist *Zeoll vake.

Hence **Yule** *v.*, *intr.* to keep Christmas. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

*a* 1691 Stirling *Trouh. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 39 The lords refuised to leit the lady marchioness go to the castle with her husband, except she would waird als-so, and with great intreatie had the libertie to yule with him, to stay no longer. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Yuling*, Christmas feasting.

**Yule-day.** Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see Yule *sb.* and Day *sb.* [OE. *geohhelmæ*; cf. ON. *jólamæ*.] Christmas Day.

*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 1 Nov. 198 Se eʒrynde dæȝ is *natale domini*, þæt is eryssa ȝeohhelmæ. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 165 Is þe þrittemde dæȝ Fra 3oliniʒ, nohht te twelfthe. *c* 1205 Lay. 29737 Hit was in ane 3eol-dimie þat Arður in Lundene lai. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 10232 On þe 3ol day he made his feste. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. vii. 1381 On Soil Ie, *r.* Yule] day He had thre messis be said ny. 1488 *Acc. Lel. Hugh Twan.* 3 Item, to the Knight ollermade on 3wle day, 9 demyss. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 162 Euin 3uil day, Christes awne day. 1600 J. Hamilton *Facile Dyscticte* 174 Hay cause thair wyfis and seruants spin in ouppin skill of thair rockis vpon zeul day. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 69 Doctor Scrogie gave the communion, upon Yeull day, in Old Aberdein. 1711 Shirrefs *Jacobus* iii. 97, v. Whan merry Yule-day comes, I trow, You'll scantlins ein a hungry mou.

**Yule-even.** *Sc.* Forms: see Yule *sb.* and Even *sb.* [f. f. ON. *jólaaptann.*] Christmas Eve.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* ix. 204 Befor 3oull-evyn ane nycht bot mair. 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 67 Gevin to Rob Nirvay, ..on 3ule evin, ..xxiij*s.* 1656 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 72 Ane Cuntrie of the Papistill ane 3eid Euin. 1570–2 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 198 Vpon the xxiij day of December inst being Yule Evin. *a* 1653 Binning *Serm., Isa. Lxvi.* 6 Wks. (1735) 348 Yule-even and up to Iniquities..hath accomplished the Judgment, put Fire among us, made us as the Birk in Yule-even. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 68 The nixt guest of Hamilton..upon Yeull evin, takes journey towards London. 1808 Jamieson s. v., Some farmers..are so extremely superstitious, as to go into their stables and cowhouses on Yule-e'en, and read a chapter of the Bible behind their horses and cattle, to preserve them from harm.

**Yuncte,** obs. form of Joint *sb.*

**Yund** (-), **Yunder** (-), obs. ff. Yond, Yonder.

**Yung, Yunker,** obs. ff. Young, Younker.

**Yungth(e** (**ȝungth(e**), var. Youngth *Obs.*

‖ **Yunx** (*yuŋks*). Aberrant mod.L. a. Gr. *ἴυγξ Iynx*, Iynx ; adopted by Linnæus.

1694 Ray in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 The Yunx, a genuine Woodpecker, hath a tail as long (as the Cuckow) in proportion to his body, and is also of a Cuckow colour.

† **Yup,** pl. **ypon** [OE. *ȝeſiðn*: see Y- 2 and Fox], an enemy. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 De castel of his herte, he help yolde to his yue dyadliche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Ine þise bataile. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Afterward me saet ziggę yuf he ne hefp nuȝt yuopie ȝeye be zondinge.

**Yuori(e, -ory(e,** obs. forms of Ivory.

1589 Lodge *Scillaes Metamo.* B3 An yuorie shadowed front. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* i. pr. v. 20 Nor doo I deuyse my shoppe walles adorned with yuory or glasse.

† **Yuorped** (V-, Fourn.). Also **yurped.** kept going. 1340 *Ayenb.* 186 Vor he oyle is yuorped bet ner ine le lompe.

**Yupon,** variant of Yapon.

1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 19 Dec. 909/1 That horrid yupon and native tea.

**Yur, yure,** obs. forms of Your.

**Yure** (*yūəz*). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **ȝowre,** 7– **yower, ure, ewr,** 8–9 **yower, ewer,** 9 **yure (yuer, yoo(e)r, yowr,** etc.). [Obviously connected with ON. *jógr* (Norw. *juver*, MSw. *juver, juger*, Sw. *jufver*, Da. *jver*), i. reinforced variant of the Teut. stem represented by OE. *ūðer* Udder.] An udder.

1483 *Cath. Angel.* 407/2 A ȝowre, *uber*. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 8 It is goode to admonish the shepheard to pluck the wolle away from the yower of the ewe, thereby to make more way for weake lambes to finde the pappe. *Ibid.* So if an ewe bee kittle on her yower, or unkindely

to her lambe. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Yrs*, udder. 1787 Grose *Prov. Glass., Ewer*, an udder. 1825 Jamieson, *Urr*, the dug or udder of an animal, particularly of a sheep or cow. *Ibid., Urr-lock*, the name given to the locks of wool growing round the udder of a sheep, which are pulled off when it is near lambing-time. 1828 *Craven Glosx., Yonner-joint*, the joint near the udder or thigh of the horse, opposite the hock or hough.

**Yurn, Yurne, Yurt:** see Yearn *v.*[1], Yern *v.*, Yernx *adv.*, Yourt.

**Yus, 3us,** obs. forms of Yes. **Yused,** ME. pa. pple. of Use *v.* **Yust,** obs. f. Just, joust *v.*[1] **Yut(e, 3ut(e,** obs. ff. Yet. **Yupe,** obs. f. Youth. **Yuu,** obs. f. You. **Yuy(e, yve,** obs. ff. Ivy. **Yvel, -ll(e, Yven,** obs. ff. Evil, Ivy. **Yvenkessyd, -kised, -cyust,** ME. pa. pple. of Vanquish. **Yver(e, -ery(e,** obs. ff. Ivory.

† **Yveresce.** *Obs.* [a. OF. (F.) *iveresse, f. ivre* :— pop. L. **ebrius-s,* for *ebrius-s* drunk : see, -ESS.] Drunkenness.

*c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxliii. (1869) 159 Twey wombes .. Of whiche yueresce (*alias* dronkeshipe) is that oon seid. And that ootther the gulf that to ete is euere redy.

† **Yveryshe,** *a. Obs.* [*f. yvery,* Ivory + -ish.] Of or like ivory.

1530 Palsgr. 330/2 Yveryshe, *...eburnus.*

† **Yves.** *Obs.* Also 8 ives. = Vives.

1578 H. Wotton *Courtlie Controv.* 301 To the ende the horse by his continuall trembling mighte seeme to haue the Yues. 1753 Hanbler *Gentl. Recreation* 4 The vives or ives differ from the strangles only in this [etc.].

† **Yvewdid,** ME. pa. pple. of Vivd *v.* † **Yvitaillid** [Victual *n.*], supplied with victuals. 1482 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 215 That thou be...well y-vitaillid.

**Yvi(e, Yvle, Yvoire, yvor(e, -ie,** etc., obs. ff. Ivy, Evil, Ivory.

† **Yvolvuld** [V. 4, Fuchil. *v.*], fulfilled. *c* 1330 *Hymn* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 87 Y-volvuld ys Dawidhes sawe. **Y-vowted,** ME. pa. pple. of Vault *v.*[1] **Yvsed, yvsed,** ME. pa. pple. of Use *v.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Huy gretie gaodne-sec pet ich habbe eche daye onderuonge, huyche ich habbe kuendliche yvsed. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 320 And also Domynikes dodes weren deruelich y-vsed.

**Yvy, Yvyl,** obs. forms of Ivy, Evil.

**Yvyned,** obs. form of Vinnied, mouldy.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/2 *Mucidus*, yvyned.

**Yw,** obs. form of You.

† **Ywaged** [V. 4, Wage *v.*], hired. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxii. 261 Hote hij ben nempned in pe nombre of hem pat ben ywaged. **Ywaiked,** ME. pa. pple. of Walk *v.*[2] **Ywailed,** obs. f. Wailed *ppl. a.* **Ywaiwed,** pa. pple. of Wallow *v.*[1]

**Ywar,** obs. form of Aware.

**Ywarded, Ywareschid, Ywarnist, Ywarred, Ywarsun, ywasahen, Ywasted, Ywatert, -eryd, Ywedded,** ME. pa. pples. of Ward *v.*[1], Warish *v.*, Warnish, War *v.*[1], Wash, Waste, Water, Wed *vbs.*

**Ywel(l,** obs. forms of Evil.

† **Ywelde,** variant of Iwelde *v. Obs.*, to carry into effect. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 He...stanisch dedes pat he may nourt y-welde. **Ywemmed,** ME. pa. pple. of Wem *v.* **Ywende,** var. Iwende *v. Obs.*, to go, progress. 13.. *K. Glowcester's Chron.* (Rolls) 4063 Sif we in pise manere wendeb [*MS.* a ywendeb] we no fayleb on none wyse pat we ne wolleb abbe be mai-trie. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. ix. 62 Ich..wol y-wende To pylgrimages, as palmers don pardon to wynne. **Ywendie, ywentie, Ywenkused, Ywept,** ME. pa. pples. of Wend *v.*, Vanquish *v.*, Wept *v.*

**Ywer,** ME. var. of Awake *a.*, wary.

1340 *Ayenb.* 109 By wys and y-wer.

† **Ywerche** [V. 3c], var. I-wirche *v. Obs.* **Ywerred, Ywesshe, Ywetie** [V. 4], ME. pa. pples. of War *v.*[1], Wash *v.*, Wet *v.* **Ywete,** var. I-wite *v.*[1] *Obs.*, to know; to preserve, keep. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 59 Alf any good counsaile..were I-ieve, anon enemyes schulde wite [*MS.* a ywete] fer al. *c* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 Pt pe seal by-fore y-seyd shal be y-weted vnder pre heuedes. **Ywetered, Yweved, Ywexed,** ME. pa. pples. of Water *v.*, Weve *v.*, Wax *v.*

† **Ywhe!ped,** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of Whelp *v.* or I. Whelp *sb.*: see Y- 4 and 5.] **a.** Brought forth as whelps.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Pe sonner pei haue here night whan pey beþ ywhelpid.

**b.** In kindle with whelps.

*a* 1400 *Octavian* 433 A grysly best, A greet y-whelpyd lyonesse.

† **Ywhere,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 gehwær, 2 3ower, uwer, 3 ihwar(e, ihwær, ihwer, iwar(e, iwere, iwere. [OE. *gehwǽr*: see Y- 2 b and Where.] Everywhere.

*Boroughf* 926 Deah þu headorezan gehwer dohte. *c* 1000 *Ælfric Hom.* I. 2 His zebyrd and goodnys sind gehwær cube. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-þeoden 3ewer on his cynn rice wunedon. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 88 þe þe deð godes wille uwer he mei him finden. *c* 1205 Lay. 260 Hit iwerð þere swa hit deð wel iwere [*c* 1275 iware]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Pet he wulle þet si him wel ihwer beo ihorbed. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 226 Þe Nihtegale wes al ware heo hedde ileorned wel ihware [*Cott. MS.* aiware].

**Ywhist(t, ME.** pa. pple. of Whet *v.*

† **Ywhether** [V. 2 b], obs. var. Whether. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 113 Ywhether þou art alone, withoute mene? **Y-whyngged** [V. 4], ME. var. Winged. **Ywillie,** var. I-wil *Obs.*, will, desire. 12.. *Moral Ode* 14 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 22 þe muchel folȝeþ his y-wil him sulfne he bi-swiked. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 423 in *O. E. Misc.* (1872) 129 Ich telle him þet y-wil mai ut is y-wille, þarne he sulde ben stille. **Ywilned,** ME. pa. pple. of Wilm *v.*

**Ywis, ywiss(e:** see Iwis.

† **Ywist,** pa. pple. of I-wite, ywite *v.*[1] *Obs.* 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 589 Of richesse & of renoun romme be ȝe kidde, & þe leodes y-wist þan ȝong burn ille. **Ywit, ywite** *v.*[1] *Obs.* **Ywitted,** ME. form of Witten. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xii. 235 Kynde wel ywittede men. **Ywive, ywyve** *v. Obs.*, to marry. **Ywon(e, ywonne(n, Ywonded, Ywonden, Ywon(e)d, -et, ywonte, -wonyd, Yworswid,** ME. pa. pples. of Win *v.* (cf. I-win(ne *v.*), Wound *v.*, Wind *v.*, Won *v.* (see Wont *a.*), Worry *v.*

**Yworl,** obs. form of Ivory.

† **Yworred, Yworschiped, -wor(b)eshipid,** etc., ME. pa. pples. of Worry *v.*[1], Worship *v.* **Yworþi(e, -worthie, -wourthe,** var. I-worth *v. Obs.* 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 117 The chylde wox,...but for no-thynge he hit myght lerne; .. And ther-fore they letten hym y-wourthe. **Y-wounded, Ywounden,** obs. pa. pples. of Wound, Wind *vbs.* **Ywoven,** obs. pa. pple. of Weave *v.* 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 285 Faire Reading towne,..where Cloth's ywoven be. **Ywowed, Ywoxe,** obs. pa. pples. of Woo, Wax *vbs.*

**Ywrapped, ywrapt,** obs. pa. pple. of Wrap *v.* *c* 1400 Maundev. ix. (E.E.T.S.) 39 In þat same cloth so ywrapped þe aungeles beren hire body to the mount Synay. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23374 (Trin.) Iwrapped alle in gome & gle. 1572 Gascoigne *Posy, Holland* Wks. 1907 I. 358 A wretch ywrapt in wrath. 1587 Melbancke *Philotimus* Liv b, Pills ywrapt in sugar. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. i. 1, Nor Ladies loves, nor Knights brave Martiall deeds, Ywrapt in rolls of hid Antiquity.

**Ywrasped, Ywrese, Ywreke,** obs. pa. pples. of Wrath, Wry, Wreak *vbs.*

† **Ywrit,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Forms: 1 gewriten, 2–4 iwrit(e(n, 3–4 ywrite, ywryte, 4 iwritten, (i-, ywrete, 5 iwreten), 5–7 ywrit. [OE. *gewriten*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*wrītan* to Write.] Written.

*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 26 Hwæt is gewriten on þære æ? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Pe þridde godes beste was iwriten inne þa table. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 118 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Swo he hit iseie sholce iwrite. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1901 An aungel he sey þat halid an croiz & bet on ywrite was lo his. *c* 1315 Shoreham v. 320 Per-bye we mowe wel y-wyte, Pat per be muyt of y-wryte, Pat cryst hym self was here. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 220 Siim wordes I fynde ywryten were of faithes techynge. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 25 Whanne bookes of oure byleve were y-wrete. *Ibid.* VIII. 41 Foure fanatikes men discreved his lyf and his dedes as it is i-written in his lyf. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secr. Secr.* 149 In the thyrde boke of kynges we fyndyth y-writ that (etc.). *c* 1450 *Merlin* 279 What it was I-wreten. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. iii. xxvi, On which in golden letters be ywrit These words.

**Ywrot, ywroht** : see Ywrought.

**Ywroken** (ɪrō·k'n), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 gewrecen, 3 iwreken, 4 iwrokin, 5 ywrekyd, ywroke, 4– ywroken. [OE. *gewrecen*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*wrecan*: see Y- 4 and Wreak *v.*] Avenged; taken vengeance upon, punished.

*c* 893 Ælfred *Oros.* I. xiv, Ær hie þæt gewrecen hæfden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1868 Symeon and leui..hauen bere sister for i-wreken. 13.. *Cursor M.* 14176 (Gött.) As þu art man for þe Loke on him i-wrokin be. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 203 Sif þow wilt ben ywroken wende in-to vnite. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Turnbull) 1 pei But they schall soo ywrekyd bee That non of hem schall see the. *c* 1430–*Lydg. Misc. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 Ther was no speke y-broke, Nor wrestelyng wherby he was y-wroke. 1595 Spenser *Col. Clout* 921 Through iudgement of the Gods to been ywroken. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* Concl., Vanda's wrong has been y-wroken. *a* 1832 Mordaunt's *Clerke Richard & Maid Margaret* xi, And now that hatred was ywroken, A wondrous joy in them had sprung.

**Ywrouge,** ME. pa. pple. of Wring *v.*

**Ywrought** (ɪrɔ·t), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 geworht, 3–4 iworht, iwroht, 3–4 ywro(u)ȝt, 4–5 ywroght, (3 iwraht, ywort, 4 ywroht, 5 ywrouht, ywrowie), 5– ywrought. [OE. *geworht*, pa. pple. of *gewyrcan* Iwuchte, *wyrcan* to Work.] Worked, wrought, made.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Elita ea ȝbyrelu swiþe mycele of glasse geworht. *c* 1150 *Hali Meid.* 21 Nis art i wit iwraht to godes ilicnesse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3613 Alnoute is asoldren & þeron ypeint was & ȝbrost [*f.* ywrost : *r. rr.* ywrouȝt, ywort] þe ymage of vre leuedy. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Hit is wonder wele y-woht. 14.. *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 When suche clothe ȝt alle ywrowie, To the maker it waxyth lystylle or nowȝtie. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3593 Ys han ywrouht ageynys kynde. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 50 A pleasaunt herber, wel y-wrought. 1610 Holland *Camden's Britain* I. 196 The Saxons..(Hengistus downe well ywrought Is worth London deere ybought). 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. ii. xx, What's gnawing conscience from impietie lily highest parts of humane soul ywrought?

† **Ywryzelliche,** *adv. Obs.* [repr. OE. type **gewrigenlice*, f. *gewrigen*, pa. pple. of *wrēon* to cover, conceal + *-līce* -LY 2.] Secretly.

1340 *Ayenb.* 37 Pe ȝyef y-wreȝe is fet stelep ine halkes and ywryzelliche greate hinges ober litle.

† **Ywrythe, Ywrund, Ywuste,** ME. pa. pples. of Writhe, Wrim, Wit *vbs.* (cf. I-wite *v.*).

**Ywus,** obs. form of Iwis.

**Ywyl,** var. I-will *Obs.* **Ywylned,** pa. pple. of Wilm *v.* **Ywympillit** [obs. Sc. var. Wimpled], wrapped. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* xi. xi. 48 Ywympillit forig *(tenuum)* in thin lark tha did he take Hys purpur wichtyrs. **Ywyne,** var. I-win(ne *v. Obs.*, to win. **Ywyryed,** ME. pa. pple. of Worry *v.*

**Ywys(se, Ywysed, Ywyto, Ywyve:** see Iwis, Iwisse *v.*, I-wite *v.*[1], I-wive *v.*

**Yye,** obs. form of Eye. 1788

*c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1124 Per xall þey se me...with here carnall yye. *a* 1530 in *Archaeologia* XLVIII. 53 That ther vayle come down as ther yye leches.

† **Yyelde, Yyened,** ME. pa. pples. of Yield *v.*, Yean *v.* **Yyete, yyste :** see I-veten, Y-ete(n. **Yyeve, yyeve, yylve,** ME. pa. pple. of Give *v.*

**Yyf(e, yyf-e, yyff :** see Give *v.*, If.

† **Yyt,** ME. pa. pple. of I-light *v.*[1], to augment, enhance. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 455 By his studie and tmvaille his stocie is greetliche I-hyt [*MS.* y yȝt].

**Yyldyd,** obs. f. *yelded*, pa. t. of Yield *v.* **Yym(m)an(e, yym(m)an(e,** obs. ff. Yeoman. **Yynge,** obs. f. Young. **Yyoked, Yyolde (-ȝ-), yȝulde, Yyolpe, Yyoyned,** ME. pa. pples. of Yoke, Yield, Yelp, Join *vbs.* **Yyrne,** obs. f. Yearn *v.*[2]

**Yys,** obs. pl. of Eye *sb.*[1]; obs. f. Yes.

*c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 640 Her xal Mary wasche þe fete of pe prophet with pe terres of hur yys leches.

**Yzard,** obs. form of Izzard.

1669 [see Zad].

**Yzawe, Yzed,** ME. pa. pples. of Sow *v.*[1], Say *v.*[1] **Yzen,** obs. var. Iron *sb.*[1]

† **Yzendred** : see Sendred. **Yzent(e)ned, Yzet,** ME. pa. pples. of Sin *v.*, Set *v.*[1] 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þou seist yai þet þou hest more zibe y-zenezd..pet þou ne kanst nayt telle. *Ibid.* 7 Zondey and be zibes hexe festes pet hyeb y-zet to loky ine holy cherche. **Yzigh, yzy :** see Yeme *v.*

# Z.

Z (zed), the twenty-sixth and last letter of the English and other modern alphabets, derives its form, through the medium of the Latin and Greek alphabets, from the Phœnician and ancient Hebrew Ⅱ ז Z (Hebrew *zayin*); in the Phœnician, Greek, and earlier Roman alphabets it was the seventh letter, in the later Roman alphabet the twenty-third. Greek Ζ (ζ seems to have had originally the phonetic value (zd) or (dz), but later simple (z). Instances of *s* are found in early Latin, but Greek ζ was more commonly represented initially by *s*, e.g. *sona* (Plautus) = *ζωνη*, and medially by *ss*, e.g. *cohnissor* = *κωμῳδός*, *massa* = *μᾶζα* Mass *sb.*[3], but after B.C. 100 *s* came into regular use to render the ζ of Greek loan-words. In consequence of the phonetic change of (dz) to (dy) exemplified by the spelling *baptidiare* for *baptizare*, Gr. *Βαπτίζειν* to baptize, *z* in popular Latin came to denote (dy) and probably (y), as in *zaconus* for *diaconus* deacon, *zeta* for *dieta* (see ZETA 1), *zunior* for *junior* (cf. the spellings *Zopen*, *Zope* in Cursor Mundi for *Joppa*). For the use of *s* for initial *x* see X.

*Z* was used in OE. in the spelling of alien words, and (with or without *t* or *d*) in certain loan-words, as *bæ(d)tzere* (L. *baptista* + *-ere* -ER[1]) baptist, *mertze* (L. *mercem*, *merx*), with the value (ts); this use was continued in ME., e.g. *mildze*, *milt(e)e*, MILCE *sb.*, and was reinforced by French usage, as shown in forms like *calis* chalice, *crois* cross, *vois* voice, *vestimens*, pl. of *vestiment*. This phonetic value is preserved in, and indicated by the spelling of, mod. E. *assets* (AF. *asets*, OF. *aseez* enough, pop. L. *ad-satis*) and the patronymic prefix *Fitz-* (AF. *fis* = *fius*, *fils*, L. *filius*).

In French, the reduction of (ts) to (s) brought about a change of spelling from *z* to *s* (often alternating with *x*, e.g. *vois*, *voix*), and this helped to set free *z* to denote the voiced *s* appropriate to such 'learned' adoptions as *zone* (which appears as early as the 13th c., Ph. de Thaun). In English, by the end of the 13th c., *z* is found with the later OF. value (z) in 'learned' words, e.g. *sizanny* tares (Cursor Mundi 1138); it is conspicuous in the Ayenbite of Inwyt (c 1340) as the symbol for the voiced *s* characteristic of southern dialects (e.g. Kentish *zenne*, OE. *synn* sin); by the end of the 14th c. the character had become general, e.g. *gaze*, *mazed*, *canonize*.

In MSS. of 1300 onwards the tailed *z* and *ȝ* came to be indistinguishable in form (cf. first quot. s.v. ZED); hence in modern editions are found many instances of spellings such as *ȝelot* zealot, *Sarȝine* Saracen. This identity of the two symbols was perpetuated in the typography of early Scottish printers, who represented the sounds (y) and (z) by the same characters, as in such words as *ze* ye, *seir* year, *fornet* forget, *fenzeit* feigned, and *azure*, *sele* seal. This confusion has led to the general mispronunciation by Englishmen of *capercailzie* (-*kɛ́·lyi*, corruptly -*kɑ́·lzi*), and proper names such as *Cadzow*, *Dalziel*, *Mackenzie*, *Menzies* (mi·ŋis).

In 1844 J. RAMSAY in *Phonotypic Journ.* (1888) I. 22 *note*, He [*sc.* Lord Kames] used to say that pronouncing the letter *s* in the names Mackenzie and Menzies in the English was enough to turn his stomach.

The name given to the letter in England (presumably since the Norman Conquest) has been ZED, q.v., or one of its variants, †ZAD, †ZARD, IZZARD, EZOD, UZZARD. With the disyllabic forms, which survive dialectally, cf. F. *edez*, ? for *esed* (Coyfurelly, 14th cent.), *ized* (Claude de Saint-Lien, 1580), Prov. *izedo*, Cat. *izdeta*, app. from pop. L. **izdeta*, a. Gr. *ἶσθα* (dz·ta). The names *es* (Gil, Logonomia Anglica, 1619) and *ze* (C. Butler, Eng. Gram., 1633) do not seem to represent actual usage, but are (like *ya* and *yi* as names of *y*) systematic inventions of these phonetic writers. The name ZEE, now widespread in the United States of America, appears to have had some early currency in England.

Initially and medially *z* occurs largely in words of Greek or Oriental origin, e.g. *zeal*, *azimuth*, *Amazon*, *zenith*; and in this Dictionary the spelling of the suffix derived ultimately from Greek *-ίζειν* has been normalized throughout as -IZE, q.v. In other classes of words the use of *s* has been determined by various circumstances, e.g. the immediate source of the word, as in *bronze*, or the desirability of an unambiguous or distinctive spelling, as in *ooze* (cf. *loose*), *prize* (cf. *price*). It is found in a number of monosyllabic words (and their derivatives), as *craze*, *daze*, *laze*, *maze*, *doze*, *glaze*, *gauze*, *furze*, *blouse*, *size*, *assize*, *seize*, *freeze*, *wheeze*.

One fact which has told against an extensive use of it instead of *s* to represent the sound (z) is the difficulty of writing the character rapidly and intelligibly; this is referred to by Mulcaster, 1st Part of Elementarie, 1582, p. 123:—

*Z*, is a consonant much heard amongst vs, and seldom seen. I think by reason it is not so redie to the pen as *s*, is, which is become lieutenant generall to *z*, as gase, amase, rise, where *z*, is heard, but, *s*, seas.

It is remarkable that in the three words cited by him the ultimate decision has been in favour of the spelling with *s*. In certain words usage fluctuated even in modern times until *s* or *z* prevailed, as in *tease* and †*teaze*, *pose* and †*poze*, *surprise* and †*surprize*; *vase* and *raze* are specifically differentiated.

*Z* is normally employed to denote (z), the bladed open-voice consonant, the voiced analogue of (s). In the combination *-azure* in *azure* it denotes (ʒ), a sound commonly denoted by other means, as in *pleasure*, *decision*, *lesion*, *transition*.

**I. 1.** The letter, or its sound.

*c* 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* ii. (Z) 6 *Z*, eac, se grecisca stæf, zecendaȝ on *a*. Se stæf is ȝenumen of Grecum to leðenspræce for ȝecuðnum. 1398 in Kilis *K. K. Provn.* III. 816 S between two vowells, pronounceth [*sic*] by *z*. 1530 PALSGR. 58 The *z* by this rule shulde sounded lyke an *s* [*e. cred.*]. c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 901 If ye do adde a *z*, at the latter ende of them, than are they plurell nombres. 1612 COTGR. *Fr. Dict.* Brief Direct. Nnnn j b, The tongue is to be neere [*sic*] vnto only a touch to the palate, and sounding the late [*poison*] as if it were a *Z*. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. xiii. 369 (*Z*) is by some stiled (*S*) *mobile*, (*Z*) the sonorous Consonant, and (*Sh*) its correspondent mute. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 43 The vowel I, partaking also of the nature of a Consonant, added to *Z*, comes very near to the sound of *Ch*, in *Zeal*. 1792 W. ROBERTS *Letter-sc.* No. 32 P 8 The *Z*'s, an ancient sign at grocers shops, look very enigmatical; but I am told they allude to the word zinziber, or ginger, and intimated the sale of that article. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* ix, I have got names ready made to the end of the alphabet, and all the way through it again, when we come to *Z*.

**2.** The letter considered with respect to its shape; a figure or object of this shape. Also *attrib.*, as *Z*-bar, a metal bar having a cross-section of a form resembling a Z; so *Z-iron*; **Z-crank**, a crank of zigzag form, used in marine engines.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 223 Bent backwards and forwards . . somewhat like an *S* [i. e. ezod or izarzd]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 408/2 A Roman *Z*. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 17. P 2 The Irregularity of his Shape, which he describes as very much resembling the Letter *Z*. 1820 *Edith of Norman.* II. *Edin. Mag.* VI. 453 The more the well taught feet shall tread The figure of the mazy *Z*. 1852 *Household Words* IV. 423/1 The road winds up the side of the cone like a gigantic series of *Zs*. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Z-crank*, the peculiarly-shaped crank of a cylinder, in a newly-invented engine for marine propulsion. 1877 F. H. WOOD *Naval Archit.* lx. 300 Provided the ribs from plating . . be stiffened by angle-bars, T bars, or Z bars riveted to its surface. *Ibid.* x. 386 Z-iron . . is used for frames behind across the bulkheads. 1882 ANDERSON *Scott. Naval Archit.* Introd. 35 *Zed*, crooked. 1778 HALHED *Gram. Bengal Lang.* 6 W is defined from its form only, not from its use; and *Z* *zad*, or *izard* is an appellation equally useless. 1810 CRABB *Technol.* xviii. 50 And how she soothed me, when with study mad, I labour'd on to reach the final Zad. 1877 *Reports Provinc.* (R.E.D.) Labouring man said at a night school, 'I can't make a zad.'

**Zaffre, zaffer** (zæ·fəɹ). Also (7 *saphara*, *saffera*), 9 *saffre*, *saffer*, (*saffira*, *suphara*). [ad. It. *zaffera* (Neri) or F. *zaffre*, *safre* (12–13th c.); cf. Sp. *zafre*, *safre*, G. *zaffer*, *saffra*: of uncertain origin.] An impure oxide of cobalt, obtained by roasting cobalt-ore, and used in the preparation of smalt and as a blue colouring-matter (cobalt blue) for pottery, glass, etc.

1668 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xii, Take Zaffer in grosa pieces. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 26 Smalt is made of Zaffer and Pot-ashes. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Zaphara* or *Saffera*. 1745 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 497 Zaffer, which is used by the Glass-makers and Enamellers, is made of Cobalt . . calcined after the subliming the Flowers. 1804 tr. *Fingerle's Paint. & Varn. Guide* 301 Smalt, or vitreous oxide of cobalt, is rather reduced to blue glass by the action of a violent fire. 1843 POE *Tales, Gold-Bug*, Zaffre, digested in *aqua regia*, and diluted with four

set of unknown or variable quantities (the first and second being denoted by *x* and *y*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry of three dimensions, for a quantity measured in the direction of the third axis of co-ordinates (hence called the *axis of z*).

For the history see **X 3** *note*.

1660, 1709 [see X 3].

**6.** Used abstractly for the name of a person or thing: cf. **X 3**, **3 c**, **Y 5**.

1708, 1872, 1901 [see X 3 c]. 1833 NEWMAN *Lat. to Froude* 13 Nov., Palmer musters the Z's [*sc.* Establishment men] in great force against the tracts, and some Evangelicals. 1848 HAWWAY *Biscuits & Grog* 109 Lord X, the Marquis of Y, and Baron Z. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xiii, Mr. X. pranced in in his long night garment with a candle, young Z. after him with another candle.

**7.** Used, like the other letters of the alphabet, to denote position in a series.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, We dismounted with as much ease and comfort as though we had been escorted by the whole Metropolitan Force from A to Z inclusive. 1860 SALA *Baddington I*[st] xxiv, A very Rabelais of the Z division. *Ibid.*, Z. 92 saw the striped bracket of a sergeancy in perspective. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxviii, 'I tell that to his worship,' says the incredulous Z. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Cage* etc. 381 He exchanged into the Z Battery going out to India.

**†Z**, phonetic spelling of 'S as a euphemistic shortening of *God*'s in certain oaths: see 'ZBLOOD, 'ZHEATH, 'ZFOOT, 'ZLIFE, &c.

**Zaara(h, Zaarra,** variants of SAHARA.

1698 FRYER *Voy.* 13 The Deserts of Zaara. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* iv. Wks. 1890 VI. 329 The . . sandy ZAARTAR of Africa.

**Zabaean,** variant of SABIAN.

**Zabaism (Zabiism),** variant of SABAISM. So **Zabaist**, one who practises Sabaism.

1668 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* II. vii. § 9 The rites and ceremonies of those Zabaists. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. ii. 3 Zabaisme, . . gave a Deitie . to the Sun, Moon, and Stars. 1748 T. BLACKWELL *Lett. conc. Mythol.* 364 That Religion which is still known under the Name of Zabiism among the Eastern Writers. 1775 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 443 Addicted to Zabaism, and other species of idolatry.

**Zabian, Zabianism,** var. SABIAN, SABIANISM.

1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xii. 663 These Zabians thought whatsoever went from their bodies was vncleane. 1748 T. BLACKWELL *Lett. conc. Mythol.* 369 This Zabian Principle of the Worship of one God by Prayer and Incense. 1845 *Ellgar & Common Serv.* 74 Zabianism, or star worship.

**Zable,** var. SABLE *sb.*[3] *Obs.*, sable.

**‖Zabra** (za·bra, zā·bra). Also 6 **zabre, zaabra,** 9 **sumbra.** [Sp.] A small vessel used off the coasts of Spain and Portugal.

1522 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 118 That the Emperour . . do sende also 2 zabres of the portage of 30 or 40 ton a piece. 1588 ARCHDEACON tr. *True Disc. Army K. Spain* 19 The Zabra Augusta, of 166 tunnes. 1589 GREENE *Spon. Mourg.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 274 Of Gallions, Hulkes, Pataches, Zabres, Galeasses, and Gallies 130. 1607 DEKKER *Whore Bab.* It 4, Our Galeons, Galeasses, Zabraes, Gallies. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xiv. II. 449 Of the tenders and zabras, seventeen were lost. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Zumbra*, a Spanish skiff or yawl.

**Zabra,** obs. form of ZEBRA.

**Zad.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Variant of ZED, name of the letter *Z*; hence *(slang)* applied to a thing or person of crooked form. (Cf. ZARD.)

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 140 We may imagine it to have been anciently pronounced, as it is now by the Italians, Ds or Ts; and so to be called *Zeta*, *Zeda*, *Zeeta*, *Zeeda*: but yet . . we . do as often call it *Zeard*. 1785 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v., *A mear Zad*, used of any dandy-legg'd, crouch-backed person. 1798 IR. *Pub. Street Bk. Canted* 35 *Zad*, crooked. 1778 HALHED *Gram. Bengal Lang.* 6 W is defined from its form only, not from its use; and *Z* *zad*, or *izard* is an appellation equally useless. 1810 CRABB *Technol.* xviii. 50 And how she soothed me, when with study mad, I labour'd on to reach the final Zad. 1877 *Reports Provinc.* (R.E.D.) Labouring man said at a night school, 'I can't make a zad.'

**Zaffre, zaffer** (zæ·fəɹ). Also (7 **saphara, saffera**), 9 **saffre, saffer,** (**saffira, suphara**). [ad. It. *zaffera* (Neri) or F. *zaffre, safre* (12–13th c.); cf. Sp. *zafre, safre*, G. *zaffer, saffra*: of uncertain origin.] An impure oxide of cobalt, obtained by roasting cobalt-ore, and used in the preparation of smalt and as a blue colouring-matter (cobalt blue) for pottery, glass, etc.

1668 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xii, Take Zaffer in grosa pieces. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 26 Smalt is made of Zaffer and Pot-ashes. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Zaphara* or *Saffera*. 1745 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 497 Zaffer, which is used by the Glass-makers and Enamellers, is made of Cobalt . . calcined after the subliming the Flowers. 1804 tr. *Fingerle's Paint. & Varn. Guide* 301 Smalt, or vitreous oxide of cobalt, is rather reduced to blue glass by the action of a violent fire. 1843 POE *Tales, Gold-Bug*, Zaffre, digested in *aqua regia*, and diluted with four

**II.** Symbolic uses.

**8.** *Math.* Used as the symbol for the third of a

times its weight of water, is sometimes employed; a green tint results. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 860 The Egyptian porcelain, manufacturer, who used for the zaffre the Cyprus blue-stone.

**Zag** (zæg). The second syllable of *sizzag* used as a separate word (*adv.*, *vb.*, or *sb.*) to express a movement or direction inclined at an angle to that indicated by *sig*.

1793 Burns *Let. to R. Ainslie* 26 Apr., I have written many a letter in return for letters received, but, then, they were original matter. Spurt away! sig here, zag there. 1840 Arnold in A. P. Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. 403 We go down by sig zag towards the level of the Tiber. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shamcleas Wayne* xii, His steel zags down like lightning before a man's eye can teach his hand to parry. 1906 *Spectator* 1 Dec. 859/2 One of the chief difficulties of walking up snipe is that when you shoot sig he goes zag, and when you shoot zag he goes sig.

**† Zagai, -ay-e.** *Obs.* Also 6 **sagaie, 7 sagay.** [n. *F. sagaie*, reduced form of *azagaye* : see Assagai.] = Assagai.

1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* L 4, Some numbers of *Zagaias* (which are double headed launces). 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 35 They are very dextrous at the *Zagaye*. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol., Long Hooks, Lances, Zagayes [Rabelais *zasegayes*]. 1698 Fryoke *Voy.* 19 The Sagay, which is a very light Half-Pike. [1704 W. J. tr. *Thevenot's Travels* xxii. 95 They ..excell [in] the managing of the Zagaie; which is a sort of Stick about four Foot long, about an Inch Thick, round before and flat behind. 1865 Bourne *Arms & Armour* vii. 102 The 'Estradiota,'..armed with a *sagaie*, or javelin, pointed at both ends.]

**Zahara,** variant of Sahara.

1829 Rees *Cycl.* XXXI. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxiii, The shadowless...wastes of Zahara.

**Zalambdodont** (zălæ·mdĕdŏnt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. ζα-, intensive prefix + λάμβδα the letter lambda, Λ + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] Belonging to the division *Zatambdodonta* of insectivorous mammals, characterized by short molar teeth with a single Λ- or V-shaped ridge : opp. to Dilambdodont.

1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 136 The zalambdodont dentition.

**Zalandyne,** obs. form of Celandine.

1530 Palsgr. 291/a Zalandyne an herbe, *eclaire*.

**‖ Zamang** (zæ·mæŋ). Also **saman, samman.** [Native name.] A large ornamental leguminous tree (*Pithecolobium Saman*, suborder *Mimoseæ*) of tropical S. America, having a spreading head of branches of immense extent.

1811 Pl. M. Williams tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 116 The famous zamang of *Guayer*, known throughout the province for the enormous extent of its branches, which form a hemispheric head five hundred and seventy-six feet in circumference. The zamang is a fine species of mimosa. ..The branches extend like an immense umbrella, and bend toward the ground, from which they remain at a uniform distance of twelve or fifteen feet. 1834 S. Sullivan *Rambles in N. & S. Amer.* 400 The zamang is a species of mimosa,.. the leaves of this giant of nature are as small and delicate as those of the silver-wire tree.

**‖ Zamarra** (pama·rra). [Sp.] A sheepskin jacket worn by Spaniards.

1842 Borrow *Bible in Sp.* ix. 53 The gipsy Antonio.. dressed in his zamarra and high-peaked Andalusian hat. 1894 Max Pemberton *Sea Wolves* xxii, Swarthy Galicians, in the black zamarra.

**Zamasim, -sin,** obs. corrupt ff. Amazon.

*a* 1500 *Cursor M.* 7043 Zamarims[c 1425 *Trin. MS.* samasins] þat sith be-gan, þe wimmen land wit-outen man.

**Zambo** (zæ·mbo). [Sp. : see Sambo.]

**1.** = Sambo I.

1819 Hel. M. Williams tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 430 He was..of a dark brown complexion like a Zambo. 1852 MaynE Reid *Rifle Rangers* xi. (1853) 71 In the sparse settlements of the country [*sc.* Mexico] you meet with a strange race—the cross of the negro with the ancient inhabitants of the country, the 'zambos'. 1896 W. D. Curtis *Venezuela* xii. 159 The zambos, the offspring of the imported negro and the native Indian stock.

**2.** A species of American monkey.

1852 Maynе Reid *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 11 The ferocious zambo fills the woods with its hideous half-human voice. *Ibid.* 350 The 'zambo' monkey is one of the largest and fiercest of the family of *quariwhanas*.

**Zamboorak, zambourouk:** see Zumboorouck.

**‖ Zambra** (pa·mbrā). [Sp.] A Spanish or Moorish dance.

1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. i, Fair Almahide..Prepares a Zambra to be danc'd this Night. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* II. 46 In wanton Seville, where black-eyed damsels dance the zambra under every orange grove. 1906 *19th Cent.* June 949 The knights..often joined them in the graceful dance of the zambra.

**Zambuck,** variant of Sambook.

1872 Beeton & R. Smith *Livingstone & Stanley* 15 Small vessels, called zambucks.

**‖ Zamia** (zē·miă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1767), taken from *azamiæ*, misreading for *azanias* pine-nuts which open on the tree, in Pliny *N. H.* xvi. xxvi. 44.] A genus of cycadaceous plants, natives of the tropical and sub-tropical parts of N. America, the W. Indies, and S. Africa, resembling dwarf palms, with fern-like leaves and oblong cones; a plant of this genus.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 74 The embryo of *Zamia* is reversed with regard to the pericarp, and occupies an axile cavity in a large endosperm. 1887 *Gard. Mag.* II. 425 The Zamia is a palm with a large scaly protuberance above the surface. 1841 G. Grey *Jrnl. Two Exped. Discov.* II. iii. 61 The native had..gone away to look for Zamia nuts. 1849 Amstrd *Anc. World* ix. 219 Zamias, cycadeæ, and such plants.

Hence **Zamioid** (zē·mioid) *a.*, belonging to the genus *Zamia* or tribe *Zamieæ*.

1880 J. Phillips *Life on Earth* 145 Stems and fronds of Zamioid and Cycadeoid plants.

**Zamindar,** variant of Zemindar.

**‖ Zamorin** (zæ·mŏrin). *East Indies.* Forms: 6 **samoryn, 7 samorine, -orein, -aryn, -arine, samori, -ourin, (-erhin), 7–8 samori, 7, 9 samorin, 8–9 samorim, 9 samorine, 7– samorin.** [a. Pg. *samorim, çamorim* (It. *samory*, 16th c.), ad. Malayalam *tāmūri*, of disputed origin.] 'The title for many centuries of the Hindu Sovereign of Calicut and the country round' (Yule).

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. xiv. 33 b, They called him Samoryn, which in theyr tongue is Emperour. 1614 T. Johnson *Kingd. & Commerce* (1623) 204 All soueraygne authority shall rest in the king of Calecutry with the title of Samori. 1666 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 121 Since the establishment of the Portugues in those parts, the Port of Zamorin is grown so low,..the King of Cochim is more powerful then he. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. p. xlvii, Gama sent two of his officers with presents to wait upon the Zamorim at his palace of Pandarene. 1862 Heveridge *Hist. India* I. i. vii. 136 Calicut,..was then the capital of a Hindoo sovereign, who, under the name of *tamuiry* or *samorin*, ruled a considerable extent of country. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 72 The Samorin, in 1513, sent a deputation to Portugal.

**Zampatan,** variant of Sumpitan.

**‖ Zamzummim.** Also 6 **Zamsumym, Samsumim, 7 Zansummin(e,** -im. [Heb. pl. זַמְזֻמִּים.] A name of 'a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims' (Deut. ii. 21); used *allusively* or *fig.*

1530 Tindale *Deut.* ii. 20 That also was taken for a londe of geauntes and geauntes dwelt therin in olde tyme, and the Ammonites which ben Zamsumym. 1550 — *Answ. Sir T. More's Dial.* Prel., Wks. (1573) 249/1 Haue they not compelled the Emperours of the earth..to be their tormentours, and the Samsums them selues do but imagine mischief and inspire them. 1608 Burton *Anat. Mel.* to the Ill. (ed. 3) 290 Ajax, Caligula, and the rest of those great Zamsummims, or Natural Anakims. 1642 Digby of Hanging *Shamachin* (Wks. (1711) 201 Such numbers of arm'd enemies, so many Nimrods, Zanzummims, adversaries to our opinions. 1660 *England's Mon. Asserted* 9 Those two great Zansummims of Church and State, the Arch-bishop of Canterbury, and the Earl of Strafford.

**Zanana(h** : see Zenana.

**Zanbuc(k,** var. Sambook.

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. lviii. 129 b, Hee went to Mousanbique in a Zanbuco. 1891 *Nat. Rev.* Feb. 729 Small barques, which they called zanbucs.

**Zand** : see Zend.

**Zander** (zæ·ndəɹ). Also **sandre, sander.** [G. *sander*; in mod.L., *sandra* (Cuvier).] A common European species of pike-perch, *Stizostedion lucioperca* (*Lucioperca sandra*), valued as a food-fish.

1854 Badham *Halieut.* 114 The German *sander*, pike-perch, one of the best-flavoured of the family. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 211 In the Old World there are two well marked species, the Zander, or Schill, *Stizostedion lucioperca*, and the Berschick, or Sekret, *S. volgensis*.

**Zanella** (zănē·lă). [? f. name of Antonio *Zanelli* (author of *Le lune italiane*, 1878).] (See quot. 1882.)

1882 *Cat. Industries* 121 : Zanella is a fashionable material called zanella cloth, which has a cotton warp, has been largely made. 1882 Beck *Draper's Dict.*, *Zanella*, a mixed twilled fabric introduced of late years, and used for covering umbrellas.

**Zaniacol, -o, Zanjack,** obs. ff. Sanjak.

1663 Davenant *Siege of Rhodes* II. iii. 1, A *Zanjack* from the Ottoman Port, behind the Bassa of the Peer.

**Zante** (zæ·nti). Also **7 Zant.** A name of one of the Ionian islands, anciently *Zacynthus* : used attrib. in the names of certain products (see quots.); also short for *Zante wine, wood*, etc.

1615 E. S. *Brit. Buss* in Arber *Eng. Garner* III. 634 Physic and Surgery helps. Zante Oil. 1624 W. Wood *New Canaan* 69 Cloues, Zants, Nutmegs, Maces. 1838 *R. D. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 387 A black juicy berry resembling the Zante grape. 1842 Tuppeniny *Turning* I. 110 Zante, Young Fustic, from the Mediterranean, is a species of sumach, (*Rhus Cotinus*). 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zante-wood*, a name for the *Rhus Cotinus* and for the *Cladrastis tinctoria*.

**Zantho-,** misspelling of Xantho-.

**Zany** (zē·ni), *sb. arch.* and *dial.* Also 6–7 **sani, sanie, 7 sane, saneo, sanni,** (*pl.* **sanesse**); **8 saney.** [a. F. *sani*, or its source It. *zani, zanni* name of servants who act as clowns in the 'Commedia dell' arte'.

Properly, the Venetian and Lombardic form of *Gianni*, *Giovanni* John (cf. *Zanitolo* the title of the church of St. John and St. Paul in Venice) used as an appellative for a porter (or the like) from the mountain country of Bergame who had taken service in a seaside town.

In the following the French word is app. intended :— *a* 1566 R. Edwards *Damon and Pithias* (1571) F ij, *Iache.* Iebit avow mon compassion. *Grimme.* Thar vow pleadge pety Zawne. *Iache.* Can you speake Frenche, here as a trimme coller by this day.]

**1.** A comic performer attending on a clown, acrobat, or mountebank, who imitates his master's acts in a ludicrously awkward way; a clown's or mountebank's assistant, a merry-andrew, jack-pudding; sometimes used vaguely for a professional jester or buffoon in general. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 469 Some carry-tale, some pleaseman, some slight Zanie,..That..knowes the trick To make my Lady laugh. 1598 Lodge *Wits Mis.* M iv b, Here marcheth forth Scurrilite,..the first time he lookt out of Italy into England, it was in the habite of a Zani. 1599 Jonson *Ev. Man out of Humo.* iv. 1, Hee's like a *Zani* to a Tumbler. That tries trickes after him to make men laugh. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* i. v. 96, I protest I take these Wisemen..no lesser then the fooles Zanies. 1648 Wentworth *Mistr. Manor* 2 Cheynell among the visitors, is a mountebanke extraordinary with 4 zanyes. 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* 104 They go..in the disguise of a *Zanni* or *Pantaloon* to ventilate their Sophyries. 1682 *New News fr. Tory-Land* 7 He may serve for some Zany to a Mountebank, to jest off Medicines for the Toothach to the Rabble in Southwark. 1706 C. Johnston *Chrysal* lxix, A mountebank-doctor, and his *zany*. 1820 Charde *Borough* vii. 66 There was a time, when we beheld the quack, On public stage, the licensed trade attack; He made his labour'd speech with pour point; And then in laughing zany lent him aid. 1848 L. Hunt *Jar of Honey* vi. 75 Those who had flattered him most when a king, were the loudest in their contempt, now he was the court zany. 1883 Miss M. Betham-Edwards *Disarmed* viii, Everybody is good to the Court-fool, the zany!

**2.** Hence in transf. and fig. uses, with various shades of meaning : **a.** An attendant, follower, companion, assistant : almost always contemptuous (sometimes, hanger-on, parasite), and with direct reference to sense 1. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1601 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii. (Qo.), I pray thee be acquainted with my zany, Signior Deliro. [Sang (?) here. 1602 Middleton *Blurt* iii. 1. E 2, Lady Imperia (the Curtezan's Zani). 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 136 Ye Aristippian zanies,..Leave off at last your poysoning hospitall speech. 1632 Chapman *Caesar & Pompey* iv. 2 Persian fortune, and her zany, warre. 1673 Hickeringill *Greg. Pr.-Greyd.* 50 The Directory, and the good Covenant, (its zany). 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Sat.* (1747) I. 10 Signani Zany, of no certain Manger, Who knew not, ere he din'd, or Friend or Stranger, 1746–7 Smollett *Advice* 182 To shine coufess'd her zany and her tool, And by what means I now am wretched. 1760 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 24 Nov., On the Address, Pitt and his zany Beckford quarrelled. 1817 [see Mountebank 2. b.]. 1850 O. *Rev.* Jan. 14/2 He was not content to be a mere zany, he aspired to rival his master as a wit, and to outstrip him as a libertine. 1911 *Athenæum* 25 Mar. 343/3 To figure as a zany of a peer.

**+ b.** An imitator, mimic; *esp.* a poor, bad, feeble, or ludicrous imitator. *Obs.*

1606 Dekker *Seven Sins* v. 31 An Ape is Zani to a man, doing ouer those trickes..which hee sees done before him. 1637 Drayton *Ep. to Sir H. Reynolds* 3 Those Apish Apes and very Zanies he Of euery thing that they doe heare and see. 1638 Dryden *All for Love* Pref. b 3 b, They are for persecuting Horace and Virgil, in the persons of their Successors..Some of their little Zanies have got a faction; for they are Persecutors even of Horace himself. 1730 *Flying Post* 22 Dec., Their little Zanies about the Country have learnt their Cant.

**c.** One who resembles, or acts like, a merry-andrew or buffoon; one who plays the fool for the amusement, or so as to be the laughing-stock, of others. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1606 *Sir G. Gosteeuche* iii. 1, in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) III. 42 Goe too, you French Zanies! 1609 B. Haul *Serm., 2 Tim. iii.* 5 Wks. 1808 V. 393 What is a Hypocrite but a Player; the Zany of religion? 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 206 Oh great Restorer of the good old Stage, Preacher at once, and Zany of thy age! 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Advice to Pat. Laureat* xv, I'll not be Zany to a King, not I. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* June 668 Sydney Smith..was a West end chapel preacher,..a lecturer in Albemarle-street, and Zany to Holland-house.

**e.** A fool, simpleton, 'idiot'. Still *dial.*

1784 Johnson in R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1806) I. 263 The lady asked me for no other purpose than to make a Zany of me. 1847 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 241 The printers are so full zanies, that my proof-sheets and corrections too, and other sins they commit of the utmost inhumanity. 1852 Thackeray *Philip* iii, Whether Andrew was a genius, or whether he was a zany, was always a moot question. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* iii. 4, A heaven for zanies and tom-fools!

**3.** *attrib.* That is a zany, or characteristic of a zany; + imitative; clownish; foolish, idiotic.

1616 Ancrum *Pleiades. Lat. Tr.* 1. 267 The lady naked me for no other purpose than to make a Zany of me. 1847 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 241 The printers are so full zanies, that my proof-sheets and corrections too, and other sins they commit of the utmost inhumanity. 1852 Thackeray *Philip* iii, Whether Andrew was a genius, or whether he was a zany, was always a moot question. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* iii. 4, A heaven for zanies and tom-fools!

**3.** *attrib.* That is a zany, or characteristic of a zany; + imitative; clownish; foolish, idiotic.

**+ a.** Of, or *zany work.* [f. prec.] *Obs.*

To play the zany to; to imitate poorly or awkwardly like a zany; hence *gen.* to imitate, mimic.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. i, Who..Laughes them to scorne, as man doth busie apes When they will zanie men. *a* 1619 Fletcher, etc. *Mad Lover* v. i, Let this oath..that all excellence In other Madams doe but zany hers. 1692 Langbaine *Acc. Dramn. Poets* 351 Francisco's zanying the Person and Humours of Albano, is an Incident in several Plays. 1804 H. Pease *Mark & Deil* Pref. 7 If the delicious original be beyond capture, why essay to zany it?

**Zanyism** (zē·nizm). [f. as prec. + -ism.] The character or style of a zany; action or language like that of a zany; fantastic folly; buffoonery.

1828 Coleridge *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 138 The caricature of his [*sc.* Rabelais'] filth and zanyism. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 662 Such zanyisms as these.

See **Ea·nyship,** the condition or character of a zany.

1766 J Adams *Diary* 7 Jan , Wks 1850 II. 175 V Z and H had attacked him about idleness, and familiar spirits, and sympathy

**Zanesack, -siac, Zansummim, -in(e, Zaphire, Zapota, -ote, Zapotilla,** obs ff San-jak, Zamzummim, Sapphire, Sapota, Sapodilla.

**Zappe** (cf. It *zappare*), obs f Sap *sb* 1 and *v* 1

1600 Dymock *Ireland* (1843) 38 When that rampart which is, shall either be beaten or zapped

‖ **Zaptieh** (zɑ·ptiˌeh). Also 16. [Turkish ضبطیه *dabtyeh*, f Arab ضبط *dabt* administration, regulation ] A Turkish policeman.

1865 Texas *Hdbk Turkey* II 100 A young Turkish Zaptieh, or policeman 1878 R *Curzon Monks Cyprus* xxi 277 A wee little house, which was full of zaptiehs, who were quartered here

**Zarab,** early var *sharab*, Sherb, wine, etc.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 27 b, He that seketh the delices of this worlde is like vnto him that seketh to drink rwyb wenyng it were water

**Zarape** (zɑrɑ·pe), U. S. var. of Serape

1888 Mary P Bleaker in *The World* (U S) 18 Aug, 26/1 The men with wide rimmed sombrero and gay zarape

**Zarathustrian** (zærăþū·strĭăn), *a* and *sb* [f. *Zarathustra*, the Old Iranian form of the name of the founder of the ancient Persian religion ] = Zoroastrian. So **Zarathustrianism, Zarathustric** *a* , **Zarathustrism**

1871 Tylor *Prim Cult* I ii. 49 Brahmanism, Zarathustrism, and Buddhism *Ibid* II xv 219 The Wicked Serpent of the Zarathustrians 1886 *Encycl Brit* XX 561/1 The Vedic and Zarathustric religions *Ibid* 370/1 Mazdaism (Zarathustrianism), with its sects. 1891 Chenery *Orig Psalter* viii 401 The Exodus is thoroughly Zarathustrian in spirit when it states [etc ]

**Zaratite** (zɑ·rătəit) *Min* [a. Sp *zaratita* (Casares, 1851), f the name of Señor *Zarate* see -ite ] A hydrous carbonate of nickel, of a green colour, found as an incrustation and in stalactites.

1858 Simmonds *Dict Trade* [error na *Zantitic*]. 1861 Bristow *Glass Min* (error na *Zaratite*] 1868 Dana *Min* (ed 5) 720 *Zaratite*

‖ **Zarcolo.** Also 6 **sarcoll, 6–7 sarcola, 7 -oull, sercola.** [Turkish ] A high cylindrical head dress such as was worn by janizaries.

1585 T Washington tr *Nicholay's Voy* 1 vi 4 b, Shaues bearyng on theyr heads a sarcoull of Crymson veluet *Ibid* III 12 b, A hood of fine white felt, vnto the which they call Zarcola *Hist* x 91 b, A white Zarcole 1603 Knolles *Hist Turks* (1621) 831 His slaues with their red sarcull on their heads. 1606–7 *Tp Monck's Voy* (1611) 176 A Thousand Janisaries with Zercol's on their Head

**+ Zard** *Obs.* Variant of Izzard, cf *+ ud*

1608 J Dan *Humour out of Breath* III ii *sig* Mury, but *To* Double the card and take the whole meaning for your labour

**Zareba, sareeba:** see Zariba

‖ **Zarf** (zɑf), **surf** (zɑf). [Arab , = vessel ] A cup shaped holder for a hot coffee-cup, used in the Levant, usually of metal and of ornamental design.

1856 Lane *Mod Egypt* I 168 *Zurf*

‖ **Zariba** (zɑrī·bɑ), *sb* Also **seriba, sariba, sery-beh, sareo(e,ba, ser(r)iba, sereba.** [Arab زريبة *zaribah* pen or enclosure for cattle (زرب *zarb* sheepfold) ] In the Soudan and adjacent parts of Africa, A fence or inclosure, usually constructed of thornbushes, for defence against the attacks of enemies or wild beasts, a fenced or fortified camp.

1849 G Reniy tr. *Werne's Exped Sources White Nile* II 112 A shooting seriba of reeds, the stalks of which perhaps only afford resistance to tame animals. 1850 *Blackw Edin Mag* Aug 178/1 The Turks has planted a zeryba, or circular inclosure with two gates 1857 Baker *Nile Tribs* xii 325 We employed ourselves in cutting thorn branches and constructing a zareba 1884 *Times* 11 Mar 5 The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) advanced this morning to Baker Pasha's zariba.

b Applied to a formation of troops for defence against attack.

1887 *Times* 9 Apr 5/5 Forming a zariba, or square, to resist cavalry.

c *transf* and *fig*

1896 *Glasgow Her* 19 Mar 4/3 It is when he advances from these elementary zarebas that he loses himself in the wilderness, and, apparently from an inherent inability to state any fact correctly 1898 A White in *Nat Rev* Aug 804 The Isar is surrounded by a zereba of detail and enticed from affairs of State by organized diversions.

d. *attrib*

1895 A H Keane *Africa* I v 245 The expression 'zeriba country' applied by some geographers to the northern slope of the Nile Congo divide 1901 H Vivian *Abyss* viii 184 A succession of enclosures, each with a zareba wall

Hence **Zari ba** *tr. transf.*; to surround or inclose with a zariba, *intr* to construct or form a zariba.

1885 *19th Cent* July 89 Orders were given to zereba ourselves The Brigadier ordered the force to zereba on the left position in that was near 1886 *Contemp Rev* June 850 A large garden, zerebaed in with aloes and henna.

**Zarish,** obs form of Cyanish.

1814 tr *Klaproth's Trav Cauc* 182 The ambassadors of his Zarish Majesty

‖ **Zarnich** (zɑ·rnik). Also 7 **sernich, 9 sarnac, -ec, -eg, -ek.** [Arab. زرنيخ *zarnikh*, f. Pers. زرنى *zernī* orpiment, f *zer* gold.] A name for the yellow and red sulphides of arsenic, usually called respectively *orpiment* and *realgar*.

1610 H Jonson *Alch* II iii, Your lato, aroch, sernich, chibrit, heautarit. 1748 Hist *Hist Fossils* 206 Bright red Zarnic, the Sandarach of Authors 1857 Bramde & Cox *Dict Sci* 2 v ] *Ito Orpiment*, In its native state it [*sc* yellow mineral] is used under the name of Zarnic or Zarnich

**Zarp** (zɑ·rp) *S Africa.* [From the initials of Du *Zuid Afrikaansch Republiekensch Politie* South African Republican Police ] An appellation for a member of the Boer police force in the late South African Republic; a Boer constable Hence **Zarpine** *a* , of or belonging to the 'Zarps'.

1899 *Standard & Diggers News* (Johannesburg) 25 Nov 2 If the Zarp produces his latest capture Jan, an Edinburg, is a vagrant who resisted Zarpine authority, and even attempted to test the Zarpine probity by the bribe of a six pence

**Zarpa pallis:** see Sarrapariza A.

**Zaught, Zaundes, Zauns, Zavans:** see Yacht, Sanders 1, Zounds, Savannah.

**Zax,** dial form of Sax, tool for cutting slates.

**Zay,** dial form of Say *v.*1

‖ **Zayat** (zɑ·yăt). [Burmese.] A public hall or shed for worship, meetings, or shelter.

1823 Mrs A. Judson *Amer Bapt Miss Burmese Emp* 148 The house in Burmese name for a place for public worship, was erected 1852 Pierson *Miss Men* 8) In April 1819 the first zayat was opened for Christian worship 1906 *Blackw Mag* Aug 270 They went straight to the *zayat*, the place of worship

**Zbloud, 'Zbud, Z'death,** obs ff 'Sblood, 'Sbud, 'Sdeath

**Zea** (zī·ă). [Late and mod L. *zea*, a. Gr ζειά.]

**† 1** A Latin name for the grain called spelt *Obs*

1577 Gooche tr *Heresbach s Husb* 29 Next to Wheate and Barley, followeth Zea 1611 Cotgr., *Blad locar*, Spelt or Zea, a graine which makes light bread 1727 Spelt or Zea.

**2.** *Bot.* Adopted by Linnæus as the name of a genus of graminaceous plants, comprising the one species *Z. Mays* (sometimes anglicized as *zea maize*), Maize or Indian corn

1787 tr *Linnæus Gen Plants* II 633 *Zea* Indian, or Turkish Wheat 1808 Barton in A. Wilson *Amer Ornith* (1831) I 8 I fed him with corn, (zea, maize) 1820 *Amer Trav* 3 v II 46 The smut upon the ear of Zea Mays. 1891 Mantell *Hyde Rangers* I (1853) 16 The lanceolate blades of the zea maize

**Zeagonite** (zīæ gŏnəit) *Min* [Named in 1816 by Gismondi, f. Gr ζεία to boil + ἀγωνος barren sce -ite 1.] = Gismondine

1844 *Dana Mineral* (1849) VI 519/2

**Zeal** (zil), *sb* Forms 4–7 **sele, 5 sel, 5–6 seel(e, 5–7 seale, 6 sealle,** *Sc* **seil(e, seill, (syl), 4– seal.** [Late ME. *sele*, ad L. *zelus*, a Gr ζῆλος. Cf. Of. *zel* (F. *zèle*), It, Pg *zelo*, Sp *celo* ]

**1** In biblical language, rendering L. *zelus* (or *æmulatio*), Gr ζῆλος, denoting ardent feeling or fervour (taking the form of love, envy, jealousy ), or righteous indignation), with contextual tendency to unfavourable implications (emulation, rivalry, partisanship)

1382 Wyclif *2 Kings* xix 31 The reel [1388 feruent loue, Coverdale geiousy] of the Lord of hoostis schal done this thing 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* ix 7 The zeale [*zelus* of enuy] was set 1526 Tindale *Gal* v 20 The dedes of the flesshe: hatred, lawynge, sele [1611 emulations, 1881 RV jealousies] 1535 Coverdale *Psalter* xlviii 9 He brought an honger vpon them and in his zele he made them few in nombre 1575 tr *Luther's Comm Gal* iii 88 Tl ese kindes of anger are good, and we called in the scripture zelotuses or zeales 1611 Tr *Bible* IV *Esdras* ii 41 O Zeale (that is, enuie, emulation or indignation) and anger shorten thy dayes 1822 *Bible* Ezek v 13 They shal know that I the Lord haue spoken it in my zeale, when I haue accomplished my fury in them

**† 2.** In a specialized sense Ardent love or affection; fervent devotion or attachment (to a person or thing). *Obs* or merged in sense 4

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (1531) 201 b, As there is an euyll zele, loue, or affeccyon the whiche departyth one from god soo there is a zele or affeccion the whiche departyth one from another 1532–40 Lyde *Chron Troy* 1 1268 With zel of feith I brenne as doth be glede, Of alle barnys to bidden yow be war c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i xiii 72 Bi cause noon of hem wole so diligge ayens me for any zele or credence which he him silf hath to what he schal so sillegge c 1450 tr *De Imitatione* II iii 43 Haue [before first zeel to piself, pat pan manie pou haue zeel to pi neisbore *[Hebr prima dilectio mea in te fuit, et rursum in proximo, ut esteris etiam proximum tuum]* 1485 *Cov. Leet Bk* 524 The loue and zele that ye owe to the wele of our said Cite. 1513 More *Rich III* (1883) 36 Of the protectour was there zele to him that he ferethe nothing but lest he should escape hym? 1550 *Herm. Mag , Salisbury* xxviii, For though no cause be found, no nature frames Men loue a seale to such as beare their names. c 1580 G Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 51 The Cardynall espieng the great zeale that the kyng had conceyved in this gentilwoman 1606 G W[ecencock] *Hist. Iustine* xxxv 113 Demetrius spared his life not for any zeale hee had toward him 1665 in *Verney Mem* (1907) II 403, I thought I had ground for those hopes, which . the zeal of my soul formed into wishes for her recovery

**+ 3** Ardent, earnest, or eager desire ; longing. Also const inf. or clause *Obs* or merged in 4

c 1450 Capgrave *Life St Gilbert* 65 Wherfor he gret zeal to lede soules to heuene. c 1450 *Brut* II 522 Wherfore he might not performe his zele & desire but he had conceyved Agenst pe Turke 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II iv (1883) 54 Thus shold the knyghtes haue grete zele that the lawe be kept 1547 in Strype *Eccl Mem* (1721) II App K. 39 Upon the confydence of whych your accomplyshment to my expectation, zele, and request 1581 A Hall *Iliad* II. 21 Ye rout with zeale of newes mine goes 1597 Shaks *2 Hen IV*, v v 14 This doth inferre the zeale I had to see him 1598 Slingsby *Fathers Leg in Diary* (1836) 221 My tender zeal of your future welfare 1687 Dryden *Virg. George* IV 300 Such Rage of Honey in their Bosom beats And such a Zeal they have for flow'ry Sweets

**4.** Intense ardour or the pursuit of some end, passionate eagerness in favour of a person or cause; enthusiasm as displayed in action. Const. *for* ; *+* formerly *to*, occas *of*.

[c 1290 Nisenet *N T* Eph iv 26 *marg* , This angre and wrath was bot a werry zeall vnto the law of God 1535 Coverdale *Ps* lxviii[lxix] 9 The zele of thine house hath euen eaten me ] 1545 Brinklow *Complaynt* (1874) 1 Let all thinges be done of zeale only for Gods truthes sake 1595 Eden *Decades* (Arb) 50 By whose godly zeale this mygthie seruice of the worlde hath ben added to the flocke of Chrystes congregation 1603 tr Hayley *Pierce's Supplet* Wks (Grosart) II 175 Inordinate Zeale is a pernitious Reformer 1610 H Jonson *Alch* III 4, In pure zeale, I doe not like the vmm He is a hasty Boy, but Zealous. *Ibid* v 1 Zeale to promote the comm n good 1641 J Jackson *Jude Exang* I iii 197 They deride our worship, and zeale, as Michill did Dauids 1661 Lovell *Hist Anim* 1 Of Zeal, My Zeal for all the Remains of Shakespear 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Aug 1641, Popular reformers, whose zeale had foolishly transported them in other matters 1718 Prior *Solomon* then shall regn wis 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1615 That first paternal virtue, Public Zeal 1816 Byron *Siege Cor* iv, With zeal the zeal Which young and fiery converts feel 1832 Hallam *Lit Greece* VI i 209 A union between this irreverent criticism, and the excessive zeal of those who regarded Homer as a master of all arts and sciences 1860 R Rawlinson *Ess* (ed 6) 18) He joined with his drinking propensities a great zeal for the Episcopal Church 1874 Green *Short Hist* VI § 6 400 The decay of Catholicism [it] called wrongly to the very spirit of Catholic zeal.

**†** (*a*) In obsolete constructions

1526 *Pilgr Perf* (W de W 1531) 122 b Many hath a good zele to perfeccyon wt whe for lacke of discrecyon they wenyth not what is to be done 1535 Stewart *Cron Scot* (Rolls) II 235 His gude Lyfe and Mancris, and Zeall of Iustice 1561 Winjet *Bk Orcheid* (Scot Text Soc) II 53 Blindit be feruent zele I ow vt the Mosaical law 1597 Shaks *2 Hen IV*, iv ii 97 Vnder the counterfeited Zeale of Heauen. 1723 *Pres St Russia* II. 86 A Zeal of converting the neighboring Nations

**†** (*b*) In plural *Obs*

c 1533 Lyndsay in Pinkr *A & M* (1565) 130*b* Such ar zeles without knowlege, and not according 1589 Hacon *Pref Serm Things* (Arb) 57 ) I doe not finde, that those Zeales, doe any great Effects 1654 Z Coke *Lench* Pref Whereof they [Lords] were by your unwearied Zeals may obtain the full Fruition.

**+ 5.** In weakened sense, with qualifying adj. Intent, purpose, will, disposition (chiefly *good zeal*) *Obs.* (chiefly *Sc* ).

1523 Douglas *Æneis* III Prol 29 Gentill curtas redaris of guide zeill *a* 1533 Frith *Antith Mort* (1548) 3 b, Moreouer what of late hath buryed him selfe to meelle in al such matters (of wh ich zele I will not dese)ne) 1536 Bellenden *Cron Scot* VI v (1821) I 211 Quhen he, the day, more terribill and odius to his pepill, and governit the realme with no better zeal than he gat it 1537 *St James Lit VIII*, VII 309 I haue neuer seen, where the like were vnknowen to hym or them that haue preffarred the same, who myght of a good zeall do it *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pit cottie) *Chron Scot* (S T S) I 14 Men of guid zeall and conscience

**+ 6** *transf.* (from 4) A zealous person, zealot.

1614 B Jonson *Barth Fair* I ii, Here's an errant a Zeale as he 1623 Sir I Brooke *Relig Med* 1 § 3 I here are both in Greeke, Iconian, and Antiochian Christians, whereof the wiser zeales doe make a Christian use 1647 Jer Taylor *Liib Proph* §9 Ded 9 Although some Zeales are so hot, and their eyes so inflamed, and with their 1678 Lively *Fab Proph* 250 Ded 9 Although some Zeales are so hot, and their eyes so inflamed, and with their

**+ 7** *attrib* and *Comb.*

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 140 The booke and crooke of his Zele blind Shepheard 1648 Lincoln *Apol Lamb* 14 200 The fyre of zeal consuming love of Gods bowels 1658 J Beaumont *Psyche* (1702) 6 Let Strangers Zeal inflamed Eye 1736 Thomson *Liberty* iv 919 The worst the zeal inflam'd Barbarian drew 1776 J Adams in *Fam Lett* (1876) 91 This zeal to the cause, to the fortune and felicity of my family Colonel Otis a phrase is, ' The zeal pot boils over ' 1691 Foulis *Hist Romish Treasons* (1681) 110 Zeal pretending gravity 1697 P Walsh in *Bingr Presbyt* (1872) I 304 The Christ dethroning, Church-ruining, Zeal quenching Indulgence 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I ii *Imbarkment* 31 Zeal-scorching Athest *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol Recant* solil v 37 O but my zeal transported soul, take heed 1797 Bentham in Betham-Edwards *Autob A Grumpy* (1898) 309 Knowing your zeal for all zeal-worthy objects.

Hence **Zeal ful** *a* , full of zeal, zealous ; **† Zeal-list,** a zealot ; **Zeal-less** *a.*, wnnting in zeal (whence **Zeal-lessness**).

1600 Fulbecke *2nd Pt Parall* Ded 2 My dutifull thankfull and zealefull affection toward your graues person 1605 Sylvester *Fri Smith* iv, Meek Moses with a zeal full tre. 1644 C Brooke *Ghost Rich Hill*, lxxiv Poems (1872) 107 Proue not a Zelist in fond purity, Nor paint a heauen, nor counterfeit a hell 1658 Sir T Herbert *Trav*, (ed 2) 27 The Meccan zealists have here a pow boure built Mosques. 1613 Selman *Du sus Femor. Sacri* (1626) 30 O thou Zeallesse mortality 1843 Hammond *Serm , John xviii* 40 Wks.

1684 IV. 514 That heartless zealous behaviour in this very house of God. 1688 Pusey *Our Pharis.* 15 A zealless, loveless, lifeless worship of God. 1697 Waterhouse *Serv. Fire Lond.* 65 Levity and Zealessness for Reformed Religion.

†**Zeal**, *v. Obs.* Also **zele.** [ad. late L. *zēlāre*, ad. Gr. ζηλοῦν, f. ζῆλον ZEAL *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To be zealous for; to pursue with zeal or passionate ardour.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* i. 69 A notable exsumple of sapience with whole herte & mynde, fervently desired and zeled. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Wisd. i. 12 Zeale not death in the errour of your life. 1623 Naunton in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 103 Hesse and prosper it to both yourselves and to all that truely zeale your truest prosperities.

2. To inspire with zeal.

1549 Chekr *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) Liij b, Men zealed towarde God, but not fit to iudge. 1642 Featly *Vertumnus* 83 They will..stirre up an earnestnesse in them in religion, as zealing their owne being opposed by falshood.

3. *intr.* To act with zeal, show zeal, be zealous.

1548 [see *zealing* below]. 1562 Heywood *Dial. Chr. Ch. Aff.* (1641) 19 Stiffe fellowes, and such as seale marvellously for those whom they have chosen to bee their masters.

Hence † **Zealed** *ppl. a.*, full of zeal, zealous (see also Over-zealed); † **Zea-ling** *ppl. a.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 Subtilly coloured, and feyned zelyng Justice. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1609) 68 A faire seeming..fountaine of zealing christall streames. 1638 Penneys, etc. *Lowe's Pedigree* (1895) 1 Who hath have done, but for that zealed religion You women bear to swownings.

**Zealander** (zĭlændəz). Forms: 6 **Zelender**, 7 **Zealander**, 7– **Zealander.** [f. *Zealand* = Du. *Zeeland* + -ER 1.] A native or inhabitant of Zealand, a province of the Netherlands.

1573 Bedingfield tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* ii. (1576) 21 Gulielmus a Zelender. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 254 She doth..make more..War upon the Spaniards, than do the Hollanders and Zealanders. 1666 *Contpl. Farmer* 3 H b/2 The Zealanders let their's [*sc.* madder] grow larger. 1825 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 485 Every merchant ship that went out from the Thames or the Severn would be manned by Zealanders and Hollanders and Frieslanders.

* See also New Zealander.

**Zeale**, obs. form of Seal *sb.*1

1566 *Chirk Castle Acc.* (1908) 129 Paid Sir Thomas Mydd[leton..what he gave the men that came to shew the zeale fish.

**Zealot** (zĕ·lŏt). Forms: [4], 6–7 **zelote**, 4–8 **zelot**, 7 **zelott**, 6– **zealot.** [ad. eccl. L. *zēlōtēs*, n. Gr. ζηλωτής, f. ζηλοῦν to be zealous (see ZEAL *v.*).]

1. A member of a Jewish sect which aimed at a Jewish theocracy over the state and fiercely resisted the Romans till the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

[a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21165 Symon selote.] 1537 [Coverdale] *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 55 Zelotes or Gelous secte. These were sutilly and seditious rascals amonge the Iewes of Ierusalem. 1644 Hammond *Fundam.* (1674) 68 Herod the Lawfull Magistrate under colour of Religion...Also, Of the Zelots among the Jewes. 1672 Stillingfl. *Serm., Matt. xxi. 43* Wks. 1710 I. 109 That desperate Faction of the Zealots, who..soon put the whole Nation into Flames. 1831 E. Burton *Eccl. Hist.* I. 72 The persons who were called *Zealots*, burnt with zeal for the national religion and independence. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 122 *note*, The Zealots formed the 'extreme left' division of the Pharisees politically, as the Essenes did religiously.

2. One who is zealous or full of zeal; one who pursues his object with passionate ardour; usually in disparaging sense, one who is carried away by excess of zeal; an immoderate partisan, a fanatical enthusiast. Const. *for*, † *of*, † *to.*

*a* 1638 Mede *Diatribæ* iii. Wks. i. (1672) 300 The true Zealot whom God approveth, namely, He whose Spirit is in Fervency and not in Shew. 1651 Howell *Venice* 5 Though they continue still such great Zelotts to their own Country, they are not so to the Church. *c* 1665 Hind Huntingdon *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1858) 25/1 The more religious zealots, who afterward were branded with the name of Puritan. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zelot*...is often taken in an ill Sense, for an Hypocrite or Schismatick, a Fanatick. 1728 Addison *Spect.* No. 445 P 6 The insignificant Party Zealots on both sides. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 11 P 3 Slavery is now no terror to the national Church, as in countries once inhabited by the zealots of liberty. 1779 Burke *Let. to Y. Erskine* Apr., I do not aspire to the glory of being a zealot for any particular national Church. 1841 Hallam *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 168 The queen [*sc.* Elizabeth] was as a mark for the pistol or dagger of every zealot. 1851 *Howitt. Wards* II. 386/8 A horde of Methodists, Baptists, Campbellites, and other burning zealots. 1892 Meredith *Lett.* (1912) II. 448 They are both zealots of the rod (*i. e.* keen anglers).

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zealot; characteristic of a zealot.

1670 Perwich *Despt.* (1903) 73 The old zelot Carrill have made a great noyse, being much offended. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. 322 Our gentleman by these expressions had already given considerable offence to his zealot-auditors. 1713 *Guardian* No. 93 P 2/2, I would not willingly lie at a zealot pastor's mercy. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 262 It was but natural that at Rome there should be any of that zealot fanaticism which held it unlawful for a Jew to recognise any other earthly ruler besides God.

**Zealoter, Zealotic, -ical, -ism** : see Zelator, Zelotic, etc.

**Zealotry** (zĕ·lətrĭ). Also 7 **zel-.** [f. Zealot + -ry; cf. *bigotry.*] Action or feeling characteristic of a zealot; an instance of this.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 63 Some mens and womens more plebeian Zelotry. 1662 Gauden *Consid. Liturgy* 59 The late inordinate zealotries, and desperate frolicks of Religion. 1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 573 The ecstasy of eulogy and the zealotry of panegyric. 1839 De Quincey *Wordsw.* Wks. 1854 II. 287 A more apostolic fervour of holy zealotry in this great cause. 1856 Bodley *France* II. iii. vi. 316 A bigot whose zealotry could not be pierced with sentiments of patriotism.

**Zealous** (zĕ·lŭs), *a.* Also 6–7 **zelous.** [ad. med.L. *zēlōsus* (cf. It., Pg. *zeloso*, Sp. *celoso*), f. *zēlus* ZEAL *sb.*: see -OUS.]

1. Full of or incited by zeal; characterized by zeal or passionate ardour; fervently devoted to the promotion of some person or cause; intensely earnest; actively enthusiastic. a. of persons. Const. *for*, *in*.

In the 17th cent. sometimes connoting puritanical zeal.

1535 Coverdale *Judges* xiii. 10, I haue been zelous for the Lorde God Zebaoth. 1585 Whitney *Choice Emblt.* (1586) Ep. Ded. 03, A zelous fauorer of the Gospell, and of the godlie Preachers thereof. *c* 1591 H. Smith *Serm., Acts xxvi. 27–9* (1592) 922 As some giddy spirites thinke now, that they which are zelouser than themselues know not what they say nor doe. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 32 Let them stay at home who are so zealous, as they will pull the *Hostia* or Sacrament out of the Priests hand. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 368 Out of the ablest and zealousest among them to create Elders. 1673 J. W[ade] *Vin. & Must.* (1823) 15 Are they not reverend botchers, ..or some weavers, Some zealous cobblers, hatmakers and glovers? 1733 in *Swift's Intelligencer* (1892) 17 Assured that none is more truly zealous for your welfare, than your F. A. Kelly. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 The House of Commons, more zealous for religion than the Lords, were zealous for prerogative than the bishops. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 508 Episcopacy had become identified among the more zealous Scotchmen with Catholicism.

(*b*) Const. inf., occas. clause (the sense passing into: Eagerly desirous).

1605 Hacon *Advo. Learn.* II. vii. § 2. 74, I am..zealous and affectionate to recede as little from Antiquitie, as may stand with truth. 1611 Bible *Titus* II. 14, [He] purified vnto himselfe a peculiar people, zealous of good workes. 1646 Milton *Judgm. Bucer* xxii. Wks. 1851 IV. 313 Jerom..though zealous of single life more then enough,..defended Fabiola.

b. Of actions, relations, etc.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xiv, The many meanes, wherby I dyd bewraye My zelous wyll, to earne my prynces grace. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 94 When..Religious men are at their Beades, 'tis much to draw them thence, So sweet is zealous Contemplation. 1595 — *John* II. i. 19 This zelous kisse. 1649 Bp. Hall *Cases Consc.* II. iii. 130 Then with [*sc.* Abraham] to offer God. *Ibid.* Titus II. 14, A

so popular in London as *Zebra* parakeets. **1882** J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 440 *Zebra* Poison...Its milky juice is highly poisonous, whole herds of zebras having been killed by branches of it being placed in the water which they drink. **1796** NEMNICH *Polyct.-Lex.* 946 *Zebra* rhomb, *Voluta fasciculus*. **1882** *Garden* 2 Sept. 203/1 The Eulalia although very beautiful, is still surpassed by the *Zebra* Rush. **1804** SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 352 *Zebra* Shark...*Squalus tigrinus*...Of a dark brown colour,...barred with...milk-white,...somewhat undulating stripes. **1893** *Ibid.* IV. 305 *Zebra* Sole...Marked from head to tail by numerous...deep brown...bands. **1890** BURNAND *Very Much Abr.* 332 The Merry Swiss Boy, in canary-coloured uniform with *zebra* stripes over it. **1895** J. H. & A. B. COMSTOCK *Study of Insects* 379 The *Zebra* Swallow-tail, *Iphiclides ajax*. **1843** *Hesneh. Wds.* VII. 210/2 The skin of the *Zebra*-Wolf is smooth and glossy, somewhat resembling in its colour that of the Bengal tiger. ...Zebra-Wolves are now extremely scarce. **1783** *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 29 For importing Earth Nuts, Myrtle Wax, Stinkstone, and *Zebra* Wood. **1858** R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlii, A beautiful Devonport of zebra-wood, with a plate-glass back.

Hence **zebrad** (zī·brăd) *pa. pple.* or *ppl. a.* (cf. F. *zébré*), striped like a zebra; **zebraic** [IRTCG. after *Hebraic*], **zebrine** (zī·brain) [-INE¹] *adj.*, related to, or characteristic of, the zebra; **ze·broid** *a.*, resembling or characteristic of a zebra.

**1839** *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 321 The whole garment "rebroned with tarnished lace. **1855** *Engl. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 697 Barred or zebroid on the lower part of the back and rump with about 16 jet-black transverse stripes. **1890** *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 287/2 Its multi-coloured zebraïd form. **1895** W. WRIGHT *Palmyra* 227 The entire body, even itself, streaked and zebraid with snow. **1898** A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 559 The horse is supposed to have been developed out of the zebra, or a zebraic animal. **1868** DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. 19 The "zebraic stripes on dun-coloured horses. **1899** *Nat. Science* Mar. 209 The reproductive organs, which were of a "zebroid type.

**Zebu** (zī·biu). Also **zebue**. (Buffon, who states that it was shown under this name at a fair in Paris in 1752).] A humped species of ox, *Bos indicus*, domesticated from the most ancient times in India, China, Japan, and parts of Africa.

**1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 23 Others among them [*sc.* bisons], such as the Barbary ox, are much less small. **1844** CARPENTER *Zool.* § 969 The Zebu or Brahmin Ox. **1894** *Chambers's Jrnl.* 2 July 488/1 Zebus (the pigmy cattle of Ceylon).

*attrib.* **1847** W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 19/1 The zebu race is not confined to India, China, and the Indian islands, but is found on the eastern coast of Africa, and in...Madagascar. **1903** *Times* 9 Jan. 5/2 He bred a female hybrid from a zebu bull and a gayal cow.

**Zecchin** (zĕ·kin). Forms: 6– **zechine**, 7 **-yne**, 8–9 **sechin**, (8 **seckin**, **sequesn**), 7– **zecchin**, **-ine**. [ad. It. *zecchino*, f. *zecca* the mint at Venice = Sp. *seca*, a. Arab. سكة *sekkah* coin.] A former gold coin of Venice and Turkey: = CHEQUEEN, SEQUIN 1.

**1573** GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 79 Zechines of glistring golde, two thousand was his price. **1612** T. SANDYS *Trav.* 3 They pay tribute to the Turke, 14000 Zecchins yearely. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* I. 88 The gold coyne of the Venetians is called Zecchino. *Ibid.* 278 In Turkey the gold zechines of Venice are most current. **1701** W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xl. 160 A Subsidy of 600000 Zechins; worth about seven Franks and a half a piece. **1787** A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 304, I presented the Officer...with five Zequeens. **1789** MAS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 195 A zecchine will bend between your fingers. **1819** *Scots Magazine* XXXIX. 1 The gold sequesn, or zechine, that bore them a sorceress for a zecchin. **1857** RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1858) 124 If you don't choose to submit to be cheated by them out of a ducat here and a zecchin there, you will be cheated by them out of your picture.

**Zechian**, var. CZECHIAN, a Czech.

**1847** MAS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* I. 5 The Western races—the Moravians, Zechians, Carantanenses, and to some extent, even the Poles.

‖ **Zechstein** (zĕ·kstain). *Geol.* [Ger., lit. mine-stone.] A limestone stratum of the Permian system as developed in parts of Germany, corresponding to the Magnesian Limestone of the N.E. of England: also extended to the series of rocks containing this, forming the upper division of the Permian.

**1823** *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* VI. 189 On the Rhine..., the Zechstein or 1st floetz limestone is imbedded in the coal-field. **1884** GEIKIE *Text-Bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) VI. ii. v. § 2. 754 Zechstein, an argillaceous thin-bedded compact limestone.

**Zed.** Also 5–6 **sede**, [a. F. *zède* (= It. *zeta*, + *zette*, Sp. *seta*, *seda*), ad. L. *zēta*, a. Gr. (ζῆτα.]

**1.** Name of the letter Z.

In quot. 1605 applied contemptuously to a person.

**14..** *MS. Rgs. 17 B. xxxviii in Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1911) VI. 442 For as miche as þe carect yogh, þat is to seie ȝ is figurid þis ȝ zed, perfore alle þe wordis of þis table þat biginnen wiþ þat carect, ben set in zed, which is þe laste letire of þe a-bc. **14..** MAUNDEV. (MS. Laud 699 f. 37) Too lettres...þat is to sey ·y· [*i.e.* þ] & ·z· which is called þorn and zedde. **1582** MULCASTER *1st Pt. Elem.* xxiii. 161 Hence cummeth it that so manie zeds in our tung are herd, and so few sene, for daxteritie and spede in the curranteasse of writing. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* II. iii. 69 Thou whoreson Zed, thou vnnecessary letter. **1738** JOHNSON *Dict., Gram.*, Z. [Name] *zed*, more commonly *izzard* or *uzzard*, that is, *z hard*. **1817** *Rev. Prov. Lond.* 38 Children ...often call this letter *Izard*...They should be taught to pronounce it *Zed*. **1882** E. A. FREEMAN in *Longman's Mag.* I. 94 The name... given to the last letter of the alphabet...in New England is always *zee*; in the South it is *zed*. **1893** [see Z 2].

**2.** *Zed-bar*, also simply *zed* = Z-bar: see Z 2.

a **1892** *Engineer* LXXI. Advts. p. xxxvii. (Cent. Dict.), Angles, Zeds, Channels, Beams, Bars. **1892** *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/2 The improved sections of steel known as channel and red bars.

**Zed(e** : see SAD *a.*, SAT *v.*¹, SEED.

**Zedewal**, **-wal(l)e**, **-ward**, obs. ff. SETWALL (= ZEDOARY).

**1310** *Acc. Exors. T. Bp. of Exeter* (Camden) 9 De *xd.* de j libra de redewand [*sic*] pendita.

**Zedge**, obs. dial. form of SAT *v.*¹

**Zedoary** (zĕ·dŏări). Forms: 5–6 **seduarye**, **-ie**, 6 **sedwary**, 6–7 **sedoarie**, 6– **sedoary**. [ad. med.L. *sedoārium*, *-ia* (also *sedu-*), ad. Arab. زدوار *sedwār*: cf. OF. *sedouar*, *zedoar*, mod.F. *zédoaire*, Prov. *seduari*, Sp., It. *sedoaria*, Pg. *sedunria*, It. *zettovario*, OHG., MHG. *sitwar* (G. *zitwer*). See also SETWALL.] The aromatic tuberous root of one or more species of *Curcuma* (N. O. *Zingiberaceæ*), of the East Indies and neighbouring countries, sold in two forms, *long zedoary* and *round zedoary*, and used as a drug, having properties resembling those of ginger; also the plant itself. *Yellow Zedoary* = CASSUMUNAR.

*c* **1475** *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 774/12 *Hec sedunarium*, seduarye. *c* **1550** LLOYD *Treas. Health* I v], Zedwary, chuwel...and yallow galeth wraye the grefe of the bely. **1684** tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 103 Zedoary is most powerfull against vitreous Phlegm. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 2) App. 329 Zedoary, round, *Kæmpferia*. Zedoary, long, *Amomum*. **1773** W. LEWIS *C. Neumann's Chem. Wks.* (ed. 2) II. 201 Zedoary is the root of a plant said to be of the Ginger kind, growing in different parts of the East Indies, and brought to us chiefly from Bengal. **1858** HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 784 From the roots of *Zingiber cassumunar*, the article known in commerce as Cassumunar, or Yellow Zedoary, is obtained. Long Zedoary is the root of *Curcuma zerumbet*, a native of the East Indies. Round Zedoary is furnished by *C. zedoaria*. **1880** C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 3 A...undergrowth...consists of cardamom, wild ginger, zedoary, rattan, a small bamboo,...and a few ferns.

*attrib.* **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. 6 A New England Shot to the Same. *Ibid.* 8 R. Zedoary Root, *curcuma*, and *C. Zedoaria* furnish Zedoary tubers, ...used by the natives of India as aromatic tonics, and as a perfume.

**Zeduale**, obs. form of SETWALL (= prec.).

**Zee** (zī). A name, esp. now in U. S., of the letter Z.

**1797** *Encycl. Londin. Bk.* II. 5 Ze zee Z-zi, thou shalt be my charret, whilst I ride, Elijah-like, with Word and Spirit, my Guide. **1799** *Gazette of U. S. No.* 1249. 3/3 Yonker yield the yawning yes—Zounds, I'm safe at zig zag zee. **1828** WEBSTER, *Z*...It is pronounced *zee*. **1882** [see ZED 1].

**Zeel(e**, obs. forms of ZEAL.

**Zeelde**, variant of SELD *adv. Obs.*

*c* **1325** *Metrical Hom.* II. 201 (Camb. MS.) Sif the forme of this worlde is so zeelde stable.

**Zeferus** : see ZEPHYRUS.

**†Zegedine.** *Obs.* Also **sega(r)dine**. [? f. *Szegedin* in Hungary.] A drinking cup of silver (?).

**1642** *Rates Cust. Ooz/ List of Plate* (MS.), Given to the King in the year 1642—silver plate—5 great two-eard pots: called Zegardines. **1650** *Balliol Coll. Reg.* (MS.), Mr. Robt. Pudsey a Zegadine 15 [oz.] 02 [dwt.]. **1652** BARNABE *Nymphs* III. iv. 1, Oh have we discours'd 'ore a Zegedine Of Double, and now and then a pot of wine. **1688** *Ball. Coll. Ooz. List of Plate* (MS.), Mag. Price, a Sadmaker's Wife gave the Colledge a Segardine of 5 *lb.* price.

**Zeil(e**, **zeill**, obs. Sc. forms of ZEAL.

**Zeilanite** (zaĭ·lănəit). *Min.* Also **zey-**. [ad. G. *zeilanit*, f. *Zeilan* CEYLON.] A variety of spinel, found in Ceylon; = CANDITE, CEYLONITE.

**1851** WATTS tr. *Guelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 275 Aluminate of Protoxide.—Zeilanite.

**Zein** (zī·in). *Chem.* Also **-ine**. [f. ZEA + -IN¹.] A protein found in maize, analogous to gluten.

**1822** *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* XIII. 402 The zeine of John Gorham, is obtained from Indian corn, by infusing it in water. **1877** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1066.

**Zeinte**, obs. form of SAINT.

**Zeir**, Sc. graphic var. *zeir*, YEAR.

‖ **Zeitgeist** (tsaĭ·tgoist). [G., f. *zeit* time + *geist* spirit.] The spirit or genius which marks the thought or feeling of a period or age.

**1893** M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* v. 109 It is what we call the *Spirit* that is sapping the proof from miracles,—it is the 'Zeit-Geist' itself. **1893** *Nation* (N. Y.) 5 Jan. 15/2 Rome has undergone radical changes, for the year 1870 has intervened, and the *Zeitgeist* has occupied and is rebuilding the city.

**Zekill**, obs. form of SICKLE *sb.*

**Zel.** Also **zell**. [Turkish *zil* (Redhouse).] A kind of cymbal.

**1817** MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-Worshippers* I. 8 Where, some hours since, was heard the swell Of trumpet and the clash of zel. **1838** LYTTON *Leila* IV. i, The clash of the zell, the boom of the African drum, and the wild and barbarous blast of the Moorish clarion.

**Zel**, obs. form of SELL *v.*, ZEAL.

**Zelander**, obs. form of ZEALANDER.

**†Zelant.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *zēlant-*, *zēlans*, pr. pple. of *zēlāre*: see ZEAL *v.* Cf. It. *zelante* zealous.] A zealot.

**1625** BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 427 To certaine Zelants all Speech of Pacification is odious. **1889** E. A. ABBOTT *Bacon* 426 An *Advertisement touching an Holy War*...in which the interlocutors represent a Moderate Divine, a Protestant Zelant, a Romish Catholic Zelant.]

**Zelatór** (zĕ·lătɔr). Also 5–6 **selatour**, 6 **selat(e)ur**, **-oure**, **sealatour**, 9 **sealator**, **sealoter**. [a. OF. *selateur* (= It. *zelatore*, Sp. *celador*, Pg. *selador*) or its source eccl. L. *zēlātor*, f. *zēlāre*: see ZEAL *v.* The spellings with *seal-* are due to assimilation to *zeal*, *zealot*.]

**1.** A zealous defender or supporter; one who zealously furthers the cause of. *rare.*

**1480** CAXTON *Chron.* (Rolls) 195 That the qween and the prince schuld be receyved as good zelatores of the rem. **1532** ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxvii. (1883) II. 226 Many zelatours or fauourers of the publyke weale. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* Ix. 76, I pray zou to be selators of the lau of gode. **1600** HAKLUYT *Facile Tyxicitie* Ded., Al zelateurs of the trew seruice of God. **1865** W. G. PALGRAVE *Travels, Arabia* I. 108 'Meddey' yeeyah !' men of zeal 'or 'Zelators'. *Ibid.* II. 3 He had figured conspicuously in the first band of Zelators at the epoch of their foundation in 1853. **1870** *Catholic Week* 25 July 8/6 The Salford Diocesan Branch of the Zelators of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society.

**2.** = ZEALOT 1, 2, *rare.*

**1644** H. LESLIE *Blessings of Judah* 41, I can beat compare them...with that Rebellious rout of the Iewes, who called themselves Zelators. **1867** PALGRAVE in *Macm. Mag.* XVI. 143 Even stoutest parliamentary 'zealoters' must yield to utter weariness of body.

**3.** A sister in a religious community whose duty is to keep a check upon the conduct of the mother superior or of the younger religious and novices.

**1697** WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xvi. 113 Nor was there any accusation against her in the Chapter concerning the least defect; although the smallest, and most minute matters are by the *Zelators* observed, and mentioned there.] **1851** ULLATHORNE *Price Knights Hosp.* 10 Sometimes the community requires also that there should be two prudent sisters who are called *Zealators*, and whose duty it is to admonish the superioress, should she succeed in her duties.

**Zelatrice** (zĕ·lătris), **Zelatrix** (-iks). [ad. F. *zélatrice* and its source eccl. L. *zēlātrix*, fem. of *zēlātor* : see prec.] A female zelator.

**1890** *Tablet* 17 May 794 The Superioress of a Convent, a most fervent zelatrix. **1902** M. J. F. MCCARTHY *Priests & People in Irel.* 200 A relatrice is a synonym of religion in Ireland. *Ibid.* 201 A relatrice for the Œuvre Expiatoire.

**Zelde, Zele, Zelender, Zelle, Zell, Zelonian, Zelot, -(t)e** : see SELD *adv.*, ZEAL, ZEALANDER, SEELY, SELED, ZEYLONIAN, ZEALOT.

**Zelotic, zealotic** (zĭlŏ·tik), *a.* [f. ZEALOT + -IC; now often assimilated to Gr. ζηλωτικός, f. ζηλωτής zealot.] Of the nature of, or characteristic of, a zealot.

**1657** GAUDEN *J. Watts' Scribe, Pharises*, etc. To Rdr., He...is void as of all superstitious novelties, so, of all zealotick transports. **1743** *J. Norris Serm.* vi. 90 Is such a legal and zelotic, such a passionate and fierce...spirit. **1889** J. H. BURY *Later Roman Empire* I. i. 3 We have the zelotic dogmatism of Epiphanius. **1899** STALKER *Imago Christi* iv. 150 Such zealotic enthusiasm. **1901** T. FOWLER in *Contemp. Rev.* June 762 The Pharisees were doing that passionately. It was their whole zealotic progrmme about which they had no misgivings.

So † **Zelotical** *a.*

**1630** in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 80 One Leviston, a zealotical Scotsman. **a 1653** MEDE *Par. Peter Works.* III. (1672) 811 The zelotical Anschitæ. **1657** GAUDEN *Tears of the Church* III. xix. 373 Dr. Marshal Dean of Christ's-Church, a most furious and zelotical Man.

**Zelotism, zealotism** (zĕ·lŏtĭz'm). [f. ZEALOT + -ISM.] = the spelling cf. prec. So F. *zélotisme.*] Action, thought, or feeling characteristic of a zealot; zealotry.

**1726** M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Suppl. Dict. Drama* s His Embassador's indefatigable Zelotism. **1752** GRAY *Let. to Walpole* 8 Oct., Wks. 1884 I. 289 The folly and cruelty of stiffness and zealotism in religion. **1885** J. F. SMITH tr. *Ewald's Hist. Israel* VII. 615 Zealotism itself did not...cease to ferment in the hearts...of the majority of the party. **1888** DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 548, I could not altogether escape...the Mohammedan zelotism.

So † **Zelotist** *Obs.*, a zealot.

**1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Supper* Wks. (Grosart) II. 173 Their fervent, and illuminate Zelotistes. **1608** H. CLAPHAM *Errour Left Hand* 8, I haue sinned much in following blind Zelotists, setting al on fire with Samsons foxes. **1640** [see SCHOLOUS].

‖ **Zelotypia.** *Obs.rare.* [late L., a. Gr. ζηλοτυπία, f. ζήλοτυπος f. ζῆλος ZEAL *sb.* + τυπ-, stem of τύπτειν to strike.] Jealousy. So † **Zelotypite** [cf. F. *zélotypie*, Cotgr.]. Hence † **Zelotyping** *a.*, jealous; + **Zelotypist** (-tip-), a person characterized by excessive zeal, a zealot.

**1601** T. WILKINSON *Passions* 4, 16 (title) 26 Every diversity or change we finde in passions,...as Mercy, Shamefastnesse, ..Zelotypia, Exanimation. **1623** COCKERAM, *Zelotypite*, Jealousie. **1632** R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creat.* xvii. 201 In all the hot Countries, where hotspurres Zelotypists have resided. *a* **1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 159 Castlhaven...apologizes there his temptinge and zelopy-tinge [*sic*] spirit,...deserted the Cause.

**Zely**, obs. form of SEELY *a.*

**1496** *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* b j b, Who soo woll ryse erly shall be holy helthy & zely. **1555** PENDLETON in *Bonner's Hom.* 38 b, The impudente procedure haue taught the zely people that sueryse man...maye be a iudge of controuersyes.

**Zembl(i)an,** *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. (*Nova*) *Zembla* = Russ. *Novaya Zemlya* 'new land'.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to Nova Zembla, a group of islands

in the Arctic Ocean north of Archangel in Russia; hence, arctic. b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Nova Zembla.

1674 tr. *La Martiniére's New Voy.* 34 Samoiedes, Siberians, Zemblanes. *Ibid.* 122 We descryed .. a Zemblane in a Canoe. 1749 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1772) 179 Thy unwearied soul..gave to Britain half the zemblian sky. 1806 SHAW *Rhymes Art* (ed. 3) 16 Lybian sands, or Zemblan snows.

† **Zembleten.** *Obs. rare.* (*Illiterate.*) [f. ZEMBLE *a.* + *-ete*, (TV.)] *Fry zembleten*, in appearance : = *by semblant* (see SEMBLANT *sb.* 2 b).

*a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D*, t. iv, A sore man by zembleten.

**Zembra,** obs. var. ZEBRA.

**Zeme, semi** (zĕ'mi). [Carib *cemi.*] An idol, or a tutelary spirit represented thereby, worshipped by the aborigines of the West Indian Islands.

**Zemindar** (zĕ'mindar), **Zemindary**, etc., see **Zemindar**, etc.

**Zemindary** (zĕmi'ndări). [Anglo-Indian, f. Pers. زمیندار *zamīndār* (also *samīdar*), f. زمین *zamīn* earth + دار *dār* holder.

The pronunciation shown by the earliest forms *zemi-, jemidar*, is that of the North-West Provinces of India to-day, where the rustic pronunciation *zamīndār, zamīndāri* is hardly distinguishable from the Anglo-Indian pronunciation of *Jama'dār* (Yule).]

Formerly, a collector of the revenue from land held by a number of cultivators; now, a native who holds land for which he pays revenue direct to the British government.

1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 77 We lay at Bogatchera, ..9ª Gemidar invited us ashore, and showed us Store of Deer, Peacocks, &c. 1698 *Lett. Commanders of Chuttanutte* 31 Oct. (Yule) Paying the said Rent to the King as the Jemidars have successively done. 1713 *MS. Records* in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., Mr. Edwd. Page...Jemendar. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xxv. lv. 357 *note*, *Rajahs*, who are the chiefs of those people who are distinguished by the name of *zemindars*, which signifies possessors of lands. 1764 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* 188/1 To all governors, officers ..and zemindars..in the provinces of Bengal. 1776 JAS. KENNEDY *MS. Let.* 5 Aug. (Yule), The Country Jemidars remote from Calcutta, treat us frequently with great Insolence. 1781 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Kur.* 177/1 The Zemindars, who are the present great landholders of India, are likewise a sort of hereditary princes of the country. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. i. vii. 401 The Zemindars had been formerly charged with the management of the police, and were held responsible for all acts of robbery or violence committed within their Zemindaris. 1870 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The zemindar of Devarakota.

Hence **Ze'mindarship,** zemindary.

1698 *Ext. Consultations at Choultanutte* 31 Oct. (1788) (Yule), The Prince having given us..the Jemmildarship of the said town, &c. [C. GRANT] *Rur. Life Bengal* 64 For the honour and glory of Zemindarship he cares not a fig. 1878 JAS. GRANT *Hist. India* I. ii. 9 For a good round sum he sold to the East India Company the zemindarships of Govindpore, Chutanutty, and Calcutta.

**Zemindary** (zĕmi'ndări). *E. Ind.* Forms: 8 **semidary, 8–9 semindarry, -aree, 9 semo(e)ndary, sem-, semindari, sumeen-, semindary.** [Hind., a. Pers. *zamīndārī*, f. *zamīndār* : see prec.]

**1.** The system of holding lands and farming revenue by means of zemindars; the office or jurisdiction of a zemindar.

1727 in Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 81 All the land lying south of Calcutta, as far as Culpee, shall be under the Zemindary of the English Company. 1758 in *Jenl. Ho. Comm.* XXXIII. 850/1 Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindary of the Lands granted to the Company. 1763 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 8/2 The zemindary was secured to the family..of Bulwant Sing. 1870 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The zemindar, who was the eldest son of the late zemindar...contended that the zemindary was impartible.

*attrib.* 1790 J. GRANT (*title*) An Inquiry into the nature of Zemindary Tenures in the landed property of Bengal. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 171 They now ..cultivate the lands of some eight or ten zemindari estates.

**2.** The territory administered by a zemindar.

1764 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* 192/2 If the French come into the country, I will not allow them to..hold lands, zemindaries, &c. 1898 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 165 The ancient semindary of Golgundah, which yields about 400,000 rupees of clear surplus annually. 1878 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 230/2 The actual extent of land cultivated in the Madras Presidency (excluding Zemindary), amounted to 14,036,072 acres of dry and 3,310,615 acres of wet.

‖ **Zemni** (ze'mni). Also 8 **stemni, 9 semmi.** [Short for Russ. dial. *shchenók zemnói* 'puppy of earth' (*zemnói* adj. f. *zemlya* earth).] The blind mole-rat, *Spalax typhlus.* Also *zemni-rat.*

1785 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 232 In Poland and Russia there is another animal called *stemni* or *zemni*, which is of the same genus with the stesil. 1896-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 571/2 Some ..are devoid of the auricle, as the mole, the zemni-rat, the mole-rat.

‖ **Zemstvo** (zĕ'mstvo). Also **sem(p)stwo.** [Russ., f. *zemlya* land.] An elective district or provincial council in Russia for purposes of local government, created by Alexander II in 1864.

1865 *Saunder's Newsletter* 8 Feb., Hs..sneered at the upstart ambition of the *Zemptstvo* class, by which is meant the mere owners of certain arcnable amount of the soil. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xiii. 208 (Stanf. Dict.) The Zemstvo is a kind of local administration. 1896 *Jewish Chron.* 17 Jan. 8/2 The Zemstvo of Odessa.

Hence **Ze'mstvoist,** a member of a zemstvo.

1905 *Times* 8 May 5/3 The Zemstvoists have split over the question of universal suffrage.

**Zenana** (zĕnā·nă). Also 8–9 **sananah, senanah, sunana,** (8 jenana), 9 **semnanah, sanana.** [Hind. *zenāna, sanāna*, a. Pers. *sanāna, t. sans* woman (related to Gr. γυνή woman : see QUEAN *sb.*).]

**1.** In India and Persia, that part of a dwelling-house in which the women of a family are secluded ; an East Indian harem.

1761 COOTE in Vansittart *Narr. Trans. Bengal* (1766) I. 245, I asked him where the Nabob was? Who replied, he was asleep in his Zenana. 1778 *Trial of Mundocomar* 66/2 Sujah Dowlah...plundered all the goods..of Cossim Ally; he even infringed the rights of his Zenana. 1790 in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The Jenanas or Women's apartments of principal Natives. 1889 G. HOOPER *Wellington* ii. 45 He was disgusted with an order to search the zenana for treasure.

**2.** (Also *zenana-cloth.*) A light thin fabric used for women's dresses.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 2/2 A bolero of pale blue zenana. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 17 Jan. 6/4 Such combinations of wool and silk as Zenana cloth.

**3.** *attrib.*, esp. of missionary work carried on by Christian women among native women in India.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 244 The *nemunah* appeared is given to him [sc. the doby] to wash, and to iron. 1813 R. HEBER *Life in India* iii. 57 The influence of zenana society told upon his character. 1880 CUPPLES *Mem. Mrs. Valentine* ix. 146 For the purpose of assisting the zenana work. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Dec. 1/1 Returned to India. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The growth of the admirable Zenana missions has of late years made this term familiar in England.

**Zend** (zend). Also **Zand, Zund.** [a. F. *zend* (used as the name of the language by Anquetil du Perron, 1771) : see ZEND-AVESTA.]

**1.** = ZEND-AVESTA.

In T. Hyde *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.*, 1700, it is usually designated *liber Zendicus*, but it is also referred to as *Zendavesti, Vestabzand, Avesto, Vesto, Avestah*, etc.

1715 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test.* i. (1718) 176 This book is called *Zendavesta*, and by contraction *Zend*, the vulgar pronounce it *Zendavestow*, and *Zund*. *Ibid.*, In their language they call a righteous action *Zend-ever*, i. e. what the book *Zend* shews. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 29 Besides the Vēdsī and Pahlavi, a very ancient and abstruse tongue was known to the priests and philosophers, called the language of the Zend. 1790 FRANCKLIN *Obs. Two Persian Pieces* 29 Their sacred book, the Zend, which is said to have been written by their celebrated prophet Zerdusht.

**2.** The language of the Avesta (see ZEND-AVESTA): also called *Old Bactrian*, forming with Old Persian the Iranian group of the Indo-European languages. Also *attrib.*

In early use, attrib. use of sense 1, = pertaining to or used in the Zend-Avesta.

1700 T. HYDE *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.* xxvi. 338 Literæ.. quæ..apud incolas vulgò audiunt *Literæ Zundicæ*, seu *Character Zundicus*, vel si Anglicè loquimur, the *Zund Character*; apud *Asiaticos* vero *Lingua Zundica*, The Zend Letters. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 83 M. Anquetil ..has exhibited in his work, entitled *Zendavesta*, two books ascribed to Zoroaster, in Zend and Pahlavi. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* (1840) I. 251 Some of this very class [of words] belong to the Zend and Pehlevee. 1841 (*title*) The Vendidad Sadé, or Rituel Ancien in Zend and Pahlavi. 1845 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 251 Some of this very class [of words] belong to the Zend and Pehlevee. 1846 (*title*) The Vendidad Sadé, or Ancient Rituel in Zend and Pahlavi. 1854 SMITH *Life John Wilson* vii. 213 He was the first English scholar to master the original Zend texts.

Hence **Zendic** *a.* [cf. mod.L. *Zundicus*, T. Hyde, 1700], belonging to Zend; so **Ze'ndish** *a.* (also as *sb.* = Zend); **Ze'ndist,** one versed in Zend.

1823 Q. *Rev.* XXVIII. 166 In ancient Media, Zendish was the language of the northern, and Pehlvi, or Parthian, of the southern parts. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* App. n. (ed. 3) I. 382 The Zendic and Pehlvi dialects of Persia. 1893 *Nations* (N. Y.) 29 June 417/2 That persons professing to be specialists in Zend should be able to read the Pahlavi language...is the..accomplishment which..very few professed Zendists possess.

† **Zendalet.** *Obs.* Also **sendaletto.** [It. *zendaletto*, dim. of *sendale* SENDAL.]

1. In Venice, a large square woollen shawl, usually black, folded triangularly and worn either over the head (in the 18th cent. upon a wire frame) or over the shoulders.

1789 Mrs. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 184 A Venetian lady's mode of appearance in her zendalet, without which nobody stirs out of their house in a morning. It consists of a full black silk petticoat...flounced with gauze...A skeleton wire upon the head...over it a large piece of black mode or persian, so as to shade the face like a curtain. 1910 tr. *P. Monnier's Venice* 18th Cent. iv. 57 Over their heads they fasten that *zendaletto* of white lace, which inwreathes the waist, the shoulders, and the smile.)

**2.** A long piece of cloth falling from the back of the hood of a gondola into the water; hence, the gondola itself.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xvii, The count led Emily to his *zendaletto*. 1814 *Gondolier* II. xiii *Nrw Brit. Theatre* III. 183 When moonlight sheets the scenes we love, ..And zendalettos seem to move Upon a sea of liquid light.

**Zend-Avesta** (zendăve·stă). Also 7–8 **Zundavastaw.** [Alteration (cf. Pers. *zand(a,wastā, zandastā*), of *Avestā-ya-Zend* (Pehlevi *Avistāk ya Zend*), i.e. the Avesta with the interpretation. The word *Zend* was taken as an attrib. element denoting the language of the books, and was hence used independently as its name : see ZEND.] The sacred writings of the Parsees, usually attributed to Zoroaster.

1650 LORD *Relig. Persees* Proeme, A booke writ in the Persian Character, containing their Scripture, and in their owne language, called their Zendavastaw. 1760–8 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xv, 'Kabul', says the Zendavesta, 'was born on the rushy banks of the river Meroo.' 1854 [see VATICAN 2 b]. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 323 The Zendavesta of the Persians.

Hence **Zend-Avesta·n** *a.*

1826 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. p. xxxii, The materials of the Zend-Avestaic history seem to be genuine.

**Zendik** (ze'ndik). [a. Arab. زندیق *zindīq* atheist, fire-worshipper, disbeliever in a future state, etc., Pers. زندیق *zandīq* fire-worshipper; cf. late Avestic *zandā-* a kind of heretic (Bartholomae).] A name given in the East to a disbeliever in revealed religion or a practiser of heretical magic. Also **Zendi·otan.** Hence **Ze'ndicism,** the belief of a zendik; **Ze'ndikite (Zin-),** a believer in zendicism.

1697 PRIDEAUX *Mahomet* (1708) 73 Zendicism, an Error among the Arabs near of kin to the Jews, ..denying Providence, the Resurrection, and a Future State. 1840 BRANDE *Dict. Sci., etc.* s.v., The sect of Zendiks opposed the progress of Mahometanism in Arabia with great obstinacy. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 558/2 The Zendicians...Their belief seems to have been a medley formed from the doctrines of Mahometanism and Judaism. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 477/2 The Persians exulted in crimes and Zendicism abounded. *Ibid.* 478/1 Harith, son of Amr, ..was said by Hamza to have been a Zendikite, was of Kendite race.

**Zeneçi, Zeng,** obs. ff. SIN *v.*, SINGE *v.*

**Zenick** (zĕ'nik). Also **senik.** [a. F. *sénik* (Sonnerat *Voy. aux Indes Orientales*, 1806).] The African surficate, *Suricata senik.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 264 1878 BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 56.

**Zenith** (ze·nith, zĭ·nith). Forms : 4–5 **cenit,** cenith, **-yth, senith, -yth,** 5 **cenit, senit,** 6 **senit, -ithe, -yth, ceneth,** 6– **zenith.** [a. OF. *cenit*(*h* (F. *zénith*) or med. L. *cenit* (cf. It. *zenit*, Sp. *cenit*, Pg. *zenith*, G. *zenith*, etc.), obscurely ad. Arab. *samt, samt ar-rās* (سمت الراس) lit. way or path over the head (*samt* way, *al* the, *rās* head); cf. AZIMUTH (*al* the, *simūt* pl. of *samt*).]

**1.** The point of the sky directly overhead ; the highest point of the celestial sphere as viewed from any particular place ; the upper pole of the horizon (opp. to NADIR).

†Sometimes, as in quots. 1555, 1638, used like a predicative adj. in the zenith, 'vertical' ; cf. also quot. 1604.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 177 Cenit, þat is þe point þat is in þe welken euen aȝ-nast hem in þe oþer side of þe erþe. 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* i. § 18 The centre þat standith bihinde the narwest cercle is cleped þe southyth...this forseide cenyth is ymeagered to þe vertu þat is next ouer the crowne of thyn heued, & also this senyth is the verrey pool of the orisonte in euery regioun. *Ibid.* ii. § 20 As fer is the heued of aries..from owre orisonte as þe senyth fro the pole artik. c 1405 *The Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 393 Creatures more maddyr in erthe none wandreth at-vene senit and nadyr. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 251 The point that is rycht abufe our heide is callit renyth,...ande as oft as we change fra place to place, as oft ve sal haf ane vther renythit. 1556 *Lord Monarche* (Arb.) 251 The sonne beinge there Zenith (that is the poynt of heauen directly ouer theyr heades) they felte greater heate ..then when they were vnder the Equinoctiall line. 1604 E. GRIMESTON *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ix. 101 When I passed, which was when the sun was there for Zenith, being entered into Aries. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 8 Shadowless, when Sol is Zenith. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 745 From Morn To noon he fell, from Noon to dewy Eve...: and with the setting Sun Dropt from the Zenith like a falling Star. 1733 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 60 As an object gradually ascends from the horizon towards the zenith. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 144 There was not a speck of cloud from east to west, from zenith to horizon. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xi. 72 The stars..near the zenith shine with a steady light. 1885–96 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Myst. xxiv, She saw the evening light In shifting colour to the zenith tower.

†**b.** The point of the horizon at which a heavenly body rises ; the point of intersection of an azimuth-circle with the horizon ; hence by extension = AZIMUTH 2. *Obs.*

*c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* i. § 19 Thise Azimuts seruen..for to knowe the cenyth of the sonne & of euery sterre. *Ibid.* ii. § 31 To knowe the senyth of the Altitude of the sonne, &c...Any tyme of the day tak the altitude of the sonne, &

by the Arrymut in which he standith, Malatou sen in which partie of the firmament he is.

†**o.** *transf.* Course towards the zenith. *Obs.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* x, 339 Satan..Betwixt the Centaure and the Scorpion steering His Zenith, while the Sun in Aries rose.

**d.** *Magnetic zenith* : the point of the sky directly above the magnetic pole of the earth.

1885 S. Tromholt *Aur. Bor.* ii. 222 The Auroral Corona ..is produced by the streamers shooting from every part of the sky towards a common point, viz., the magnetic zenith.

**2.** *loosely.* The expanse of sky overhead, the upper region of the sky; the highest or culminating point of a heavenly body.

[1598 Sir J. Davies *Hymns Testynm* L 2 b, If we beleeue, that men do liue Vnder the Zenith of both frozen Poles.] 1632 Massinger *Believe as you List* i. ii, Two-and-twenty yeares of miseries..that long time spent Vnder distant zenithes. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* T. Tub, etc. 170 The conscious Moon, now in her Zenith. 1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* i. 118 As Night's pale Queen..climbs the zenith. 1847–78 N. P. Willis *Starlight* i. 11 Above to the far-stretching zenith. 1864 Tennyson *En. Arden* 587 Huge trees that branch'd And blossom'd in the zenith. 1898 E. W. Lucas *Willow & Leather* 106 Jack would..furnish the bat, And away the balls would go,..sometimes bang into the zenith.

**3.** *fig.* Highest point or state, culmination, climax, acme.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* i. ii. 181, I finde my Zenith doth depend vpon A most auspitious starre, whose influence If now I court not,..my fortunes Will euer after droope. 1627 Donne *Serm., Acts vii. 60* (1661) 214 God's suffering for man was the Nadir the lowest point of God's humiliation, and man's suffering for God is the Zenith, the highest point of mans exaltation. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* i. § 17 The hand of God, whereby all Saints arrive to their Zenith and vertical points. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iv. 149 In S. Augustine's Time, the Christian affairs seem to have been in their Zenith of Prosperity. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* iv. i, I left the festival before the zenith of mirth. 1837 Macaulay *Ess., Bacon* (1851) I. 377 Bacon had reached the zenith of his fortunes. 1884 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 251 Dickens, in the artificial style, [Westminster Abbey] it is one of the most exquisite examples of its class.

†**b.** *Med.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1733 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Zenith*,..a word used by some medical writers to express the first appearance of the menses in young women.

**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.* : cf. quots. 1555, 1638 in 1) : Belonging to or situated in the zenith, directly overhead, as *zenith sky, star, sun*; also *fig.* (cf. 3) highest, supreme, culminating, as *zenith happiness, hour*. **b.** *Astron.*, etc. In names of instruments used for determining the *zenith distance* (see c) of a heavenly body, as **zenith sector, telescope, tube** (see quots.). **c.** Other special combs. : **zenith-borne** *a.*, borne to or towards the zenith ; **zenith distance**, the angular distance of a heavenly body from the zenith (the complement of its *altitude* or angular distance from the horizon); †**zenith line**, used for a vertical line or arc extending from the zenith to the horizon (= Azimuth 1) ; so †**zenith point**, the point at which such a line meets the horizon (cf. sense 1 b); **zenith sweep** (Sweep *sb.* 7), a series of observations of a region of the sky passing through the zenith.

1686 M. F. Tupper *My Life as an Author* 365 Liberty! ..Rise to thy height upon Zenith-borne wings! 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* s.v., *Zenith Distance*, is the Complement of the Sun, or Stars Meridian Altitude, or what the Meridian Altitude wants of 90 Degrees. 1854 Tomlinson *Arago's Astron.* 41 Zenith-distances and azimuths form..a system of angles, by means of which it is easy to fix the positions of the stars with extreme precision. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 156 The zenith-distance of Gamma Draconis is daily observed at Greenwich. 1875 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 405 Scott's year of "zenith happiness. 1853 Whitter *Rantoul* iii, Dead ! in the full triumph of life's "zenith hour ! 1796 Blagrave *Astrol. Uran.* i. b, The 9th, 10, lower ends of the 9, "zenith lines, which before I called the 90. "zenith points. 1776 Maskelyne *Astron. Observ.* I. Pref. p. ix, The "zenith sector,..constructed in that excellent manner Mr. Graham,..was fixed up at Wanstead in the year 1727, for the use of that great astronomer Dr. Bradley; who, from his first year's observations with it, discovered the apparent motion of the fixed stars, which he called the aberration of light. 1802 A. Ellicott *Jrnl.* (1803) 185 The pack-horse-men likewise brought on my small zenith sector. *Ibid.* W. Pearson *Pract. Astron.* II. 531 The zenith sector..can be used only on the meridian ; and its measures are referred to the zenith point of the place of observation. Its principal uses are to determine the latitude of the place of observation by a star of known zenith distance; to measure the zenith distance of a star..; and to ascertain the zenith point..The first zenith sector was constructed by the ingenious Dr. Hooke [c 1700], with an intention of determining whether or not a fixed star has a measurable annual parallax. 1882 F. T. Palgrave *Hymn, "Lord God of wandering and night"* iii, The sun may stand in "zenith skies. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* vii. xx, When "zenith-stars were trembling on the wave. 1902 Harow *Dynasts* i. v. v, This Trafalgar Will..Pitt exalt As zenith-star of England's firmament. 1826 Carrington *Dartmoor* 3 Deep-hued flowers that light Their tints at "zenith suns. 1789 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 10 My twenty-feet speculum was so much tarnished by "zenith sweeps, in which it had been..exposed to falling dews. 1834 Pond *ibid.* CXXIV. 209 The erection of a "zenith telescope of twenty-five feet focal length..; for the purpose of measuring the zenith distance of γ Draconis. 1836 C. B. Airy *Autobiog.* (1896) 123 The North Terrace was the official passage to the North-west Dome, where there was a miserable Equatoreal, and to the 35-foot "Zenith Tube. 1849 *Ibid.* 184 On Nov. 13th I circulated an Address, proposing to discontinue the use of the Zenith Tube, because it had been found..that the Zenith Tube was not more accurate than the Mural Circle. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 15 The reflex zenith-tube.

Hence **Ze·nithal** *a.*, pertaining or relating to, situated or occurring at, the zenith ; also *fig.* supreme, 'culminating' ; †**Zenithize**, a part of an astrolabe used for measuring zenith distances ; **Ze·nithward(s)** *adv.*, towards the zenith.

1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. v. 39 The deep "zenithal blue. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 37 Beta and Gamma Draconis .. were the two zenithal stars in June. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xxv, A zenithal paradise, a nadiral hell. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 651/1 They have known the zenithal instant of piscatorial life. 1796 Blagrave *Astrol. Uran.* i. B 1, This Astrolabe hath three generall partes, that is to say, the Celestiall, the "Zenither with his Cursor, and the Almicantather with his Vointer. *Ibid.* B 1 b, As fare as the Zenither will giue leaue. 1881 Traill in *Nature* 10 Feb. 351/1 The streamers ..still ascending "zenithward. 1872 A. Stewart *Norther Lochaber* xxii. (1883) 128 The meridian sun..is..climbing "zenithwards.

**Zenober,** obs. var. of Sinoper.

1535 Coverdale *Jer.* xxii. 14 The sylinges and geastes maketh he wyde, and paynteth them with Zenober.

†**Zenocra·tically,** *adv. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *Ζηνο-*, combining form of *Ζεύς* + *κράτος* power, rule + -ICALLY ; cf. *autocratically*.] With the power or authority of Zeus or Jove.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 35 They will seeme..to haue borrowed euen the mouth of mightie Ioue, or the oracle of wise Apollo himselfe, or Zenocratically, and Pythagorically to haue remained.. *Instar Sybillæ cuiusdam vaticinantis, furentisque.*

**Zenography** (*zɪnɒ·grăfi*). *rare*—0. [f. Gr. *Ζηνο-* (see prec.) + -GRAPHY ; cf. Areography.] The description or study of the planet Jupiter. So **Zenographical** (*zī,nogræ·fĭkăl*) *a.*, pertaining to zenography.

1885 A. S. Williams (*title*) Zenographical Fragments, Part I., Motions and Changes of the Markings of Jupiter in..1886–87.

**Zenonian** (*zīnō·nĭăn*), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Zēno*, *Zēnōn*, Gr. *Ζήνων* + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* (*a*) Of pertaining to Zeno of Elea, a philosopher of the 5th century B. C., famed for his paradoxical arguments about motion. (*b*) Of or pertaining to Zeno of Citium (c 300 B. C.), the founder of the Stoic school of philosophy. **b.** *sb.* A follower of Zeno, esp. of Zeno of Citium ; a Stoic. So **Zenonic** (*zīnŏ·nĭk*) *a.* = **a.** ; **Zenonism** (*zī·nŏnĭz'm*), the philosophy of Zeno, Stoicism.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 76 *b*/1 These [*sc.* Stoics] were at first called Zenonians from the name of their master. 1850 Hope-Scott *Law* I. xviii. 505 Generalising the dialectics and Zenonian negation. 1866 Charnock *Verba Nom.* 343 Zenonism. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 770/1 Gorgias's sceptical development of the Zenonian logic. *Ibid.*, s.v. The Zenonian difficulty continued to demand and to receive Plato's best attention. 1888 *Academy* 21 Apr. 278/1 Heraclitus's system was the ultimate basis to this Zenonic position.

**Zenvy,** dial. form of Senvy *Obs.*, mustard.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 172 *b*, Zenvy sede ones sowed wyll neuer almoste oute of the grounde. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Engl., Zenvy*, wild mustard.

†**Ze·nzic,** *a.* and *sb. Math. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *zenzicus, zens-*, f. *zensus*, Germanized f. *census* (1202 in Leonardo of Pisa), transl. Arab. *مال māl* possessions, property, as used spec. in mathematics. Cf. It. *censo* (13th c.).] **a.** *adj.* Of a number or root : = Square *a.* 2, 2 *b*. **b.** *sb.* A square number : = Square *sb.* 8.

So various compounds denoting higher powers or roots, as **Zenzicubic**, square of the cube (the sixth Power), **Zenzicu·bic** *a.*, **Zenzicu·bicube**, **Zenzicu·nzic** *a.* and *sb.*, **Zenzice·nsicube**, **-cu·bic** *a.*, **Zenzicenzice·nzic**, etc. (Cf. 13th c. *census census census cubi, census cubo, etc.*)

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* II ij b, Squares of Squares..of some men..are named *Zenzisensike*, as square numbers are called *Zenzike*, *Ibid.* II iij, 81 which is a *Zenzicenzike* number. *Ibid.* II iij b, Square of Cubes, or *zenzicube* : then is..a his roote. *Ibid.* II iv b, *Zenzicenzicenzike*, that is squares of squared squares. *Ibid.* II v, *Zenzicubike*, Squared Cube. *Ibid.* Q iv, When Squares and Cubes be compounde together: as *Zenzicubes, Zenzicenzicubes, Zenzicubicubes*,..3 is the Zenzicenzicubike roote of 531441. 1891 Diggle *Pantom.* Ld 3 b, Extracts the Zenzike rootes of these numbers. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 177 A Zenzicube, or a Squared Cube Number made by multiplying the Sursolide into the Root.

**Zenzyne,** -**yt**, obs. forms of Ginger.

c1486 *Digby Myst.* vii. 343 Zenzybyr and synamom.

**Zeolite** (*zī·ŏlait*). *Min.* Also 8–9 *errors.* -yte. [mod. Sw., G., etc. *zeolit*, f. Gr. *ζεῖν* to boil, seethe + *λίθος* stone, -LITE ; so named from its boiling and swelling under the blowpipe : see quot. 1777.] Generic name for a large and varied group of minerals, consisting of hydrous silicates in which the bases are alumina and the alkalies and alkaline earths ; generally characterized by swelling up and fusing to a glass or enamel before the blowpipe, and often by gelatinizing with acids ; commonly found in the cavities of igneous rocks.

Examples are Analcite, Brewsterite, Chabazite, Harmotome, Natrolite, Philipsite, Stilbite, Thomsonite, etc.

1777 *Diét. Chem.* III. 201, *Zeolites*. This name is given by Mr. Cronstedt to a stone described by him in the Transactions of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm for the year 1756, the peculiar properties of which have induced that mineralogist to consider it as forming a distinct order of earths, called *zeolites*. 1797 Priestley *Exper. Air* III. 39 The spare zeolyte from the Faro Islets. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 310 This Zeolite, found in the rocks of Edinburgh Castle. 1804 *Ibid.* Jan. 312 Zeolytes [see Chabasite]. 1842 T. Graham *Elem. Chem.* 145 Chabasie and other minerals of the zeolite family. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* v. 214 *note*, Tabular trap, which..contains abundant zeolites.

Hence **Zeolitic** (*zī·ŏlĭtĭk*), † **-olost** *adj.*, pertaining to, consisting or of the nature of zeolite ; **Zeolitiform** (*-ĭtĭfɔm*) *a.*, 'having the form of zeolite' (Webster, 1828) ; **Ze·olitiza·tion**, transformation into a zeolite ; so **Ze·olitize** *v.* (no dicts.).

1828–32 Webster, †Zeolitic. 1848 Daubeny *Volcanoes* (ed. 2) 18 An intimate mixture of augite and magnetic iron with a mineral of the zeolitic family. 1877 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 231 Four-sided prisms, which exhibited, like the zeolitic crystals, beautiful coloured bands, when examined with polarized light. 1890 Heddle *Faroe* 86 †Zeolitical concretions. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, †*Zeolitization*, the process by which a mineral is converted into a zeolite by alteration—for example, pumice into thomsonite.

**Zep,** obs. form of Sap *sb.*[1]

**Zephyr** (*ze·fər*). Forms : **a.** (in Latin form) **1 sefferus, 4 seferus, 4–7 sephirus, 5 seforus, 5–6 sepherus, 6- sephyrus** ; **β. 7 sephir(e, -yre, 7- sephyr.** [**a.** or ad. L. *zephyrus*, n. Gr. *ζέφυρος* : cf. F. *zéphire*, It. *zefiro*, *zefiro*, Sp. *cefiro*, Pg. *zephyro*, G. *zephyr*, etc.]

**1.** The west wind, esp. as personified, or the god of the west wind.

*a.* *c* 1000 *Riddles* xli[i]. 68 Nis zefferus se swifta wind þæt swa frimlice mæg feran zeghwær. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 470 & sayez vnte Zeferus þat he syfle warme. c1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 5 Zephirus..with his sweete breeth. 1508 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 677 There blew in that gardynge a soft pepiyng colde, Enbrethyng of Zepherus with his pleasant wynde. 1509 *Salutnez* ad fin., Zephyrus new smellyng blast. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1872) 216 Art thou perhaps that puissant breathing aire, Sweet Zephirus? 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 16 With voice Mild, as when Zephyrus on Flora breathes. 1898 Meredith *Lett.* (1912) II. 198 Like a gossamer puffed by summer Zephyrus.

*b.* 1598 Chapman *Iliad* VII. [xi.] 100 When the hollow floode of ayre In Zephyres cheekes doth swel. 1665 Drayton *Idea* liii, Sweet mirth-breathing Zephire. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 19 Zephir with Aurora playing, As he met her once a Maying. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* II. 80 Ye Zephyrs in which no wind is heard but the gentle Zephyr. 1823 II. W. Procter *Flood of Thess.* I. 89 Words more soft than Zephyr.

**2.** A soft mild gentle wind or breeze.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 172 They are as gentle As Zephires blowing below the Violet, Not wagging his sweet head. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 47 The vapors which thin sweet Vapours of the Air (which are the Refreshing *Zephiri* of Nature). 1728 Prior *Henry & Emma* 389 While gentle Zephyrs play in young rose Buds. 1784 Cowper *Task* iv. 347 No zephyr fondly sues the mountain's breast. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 187 The flowers, the zephyrs, and the warblers of spring, returning after their tedious absence. 1853 Miss M. Bernard-Foster *Disarmed* v, The zephyrs breathed softly from the south.

**3. a.** Applied to various very light articles of clothing; e.g. a light shawl; a light dust-coat; *esp.* a light shirt worn by athletes.

1774 *Weekly Mag.* II. 299 Shirts, of pale lutestring,..with tassels and zephyrs in fancy, or of muslin. 1830 *Lady's Mag.* 31 May 284/2 Some wear little square shawls of soft crape, called zephyrs. 1879 F. W. Robinson *Covenant Comm.* I. ii, The gentleman's light overcoat had once done duty as a 'zephyr' at the races. 1887 Sheaman *Athletics* 68 When the athlete has got a pair of the best shoes, a zephyr, and a pair of silk or merino drawers, he has got all the clothing intrade required to win half-a-dozen championships. 1892 R. F. Murray *Scarlet Gown* 6 He sat upon the sofa, where my hat, My wanton Zephyr, rested.

**b.** [after Ger.] A fine light cotton cloth of the gingham type used for women's dresses, having the colours woven into the fabric.

1849, etc. (see 6 b). 1863 II. Taylor *Han. Thurston* I. 108 [To] measure a yard of calico..or choose a shade of zephyr. 1866 in *Aberdeen. Special. Month.* (1885) 1. 1868 Sheaman *Athletics* 68 Equal in appearance to the finest German zephyr. 1905 Wells *Kipps* vi. § 7 I'm not going up zephyrs to-morrow, Sir.

**c.** *Cookery.* (See 6 b.)

1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Cookery, Zephyrs.* These might almost be described under the heading of *Soufflés*.

**4.** A butterfly of the genus *Zephyrus*.

**5.** [after Fr.] A soldier of the Algerian light infantry.

1834 *Fonseh. Words* VIII. 145/1 Zephyrs is a nickname given in Algeria to a corps which is recruited from..the French army. 1921 *Blackw. Mag.* May 595/2 Service with the 'Zephyrs', the malefactors of the French army.

**6.** *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 2) **zephyr-bough, -breath, -sigh, -whispering ; zephyr-fanned, -haunted, -kissed** adjs. ; **zephyr-flower** = Zephyranth (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884).

1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 318 Within my breast there lives a choking flame—O let me cool'n the "zephyr-boughs among ! 1894 Brewster *Mere Worlds* II. 17 To "zephyr breath among the distant foliage. 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Var.* 96 The "zephyr-fanned summits of the oak wood. 1797 Coleridge *Lines to a beautiful Spring* 5 Ere from thy "zephyr-haunted brink I turn. *c* 1840 Eliza Cook *Spring* v, The "zephyr-kissed grass. 1818 Keats *Endym.* i. 376 Where every "zephyr-sigh pouts, and endows Her lips with

music for the welcoming. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* x. Nor was the atmosphere quite free from "zephyr whisperings of the thirty beds which had just been cleared away.

b. Applied to certain light and open fabrics (see quots.); also = made of zephyr (sense 3 b).

1849 *Trad. Design* Aug. 143 "Zephyr Silk Barège... This is one of those light and elegant fabrics which have done so much to reduce the demand for the higher class of light printed goods. 1852 *Household Words* IV. 308/2 We have Paletots,...Zephyr wrappers,...and a host of other garments. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zephyr-cloth*, a kind of kerseymere made in Belgium; a waterproof fabric. *Ibid., Zephyr-shawl*, a kind of thin light worsted and cotton embroidered shawl. 1884 Webster, *Zephyr yarn*, or *worsted*, a fine kind of yarn or worsted, called also *Berlin wool*. 1888 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework, Zephyr Ginghams or Prints*. These are pretty delicate textiles, resembling a cotton batiste. *Zephyr Merino Yarn*, the term employed by the wool staplers of Germany to signify what is usually called German or Berlin. *Zephyr Shirting*...a kind of gauze flannel, having a silk warp. 1889 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 No sleeker in blue zephyr gowns. 1888 Maude Bradshaw *Ind. Outfitt* 31 Two pairs of zephyr stays,...besides a few pairs of ordinary stays.

Hence **Zephyrean**, **Zephyrian**, **Ze·phyrous**, **Ze·phyry** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a zephyr; full of or having zephyrs; **Ze·phyret**, a gentle zephyr; **Ze·phyrine**, the name of a light thin material or a garment made of this; also *attrib.*; **Ze·phyrless** *a.*, destitute of zephyrs.

1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 146 The voice of Reason, like the "zephyrean breath of morning. 1848 J. *P. F. Richter's Levana* III. iii. § 54 To ...send the "zephyreta of pleasure through artistic bellows and air-pumps, to the little flowers. 1734 *Poor Robin* May. And from the West with a "Zephyrian Breath, Plants seeming dead he re-revives from Death. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* iii, A span new ten-coloured "zephyrine polonaise. *Ibid.*, Her zephyrine, with its silky shine. 1819 Keats *Lines to Fanny* 31 Where winds, all "zephyrless, hold scourging rods. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 267 This soft "zephyrous breeze. 1793 Lexmont *Poems* 168 The "Zephyry Summer's gone. 1880 A. H. Swinton *Insect Var.* 169 In zephyry hay-fields.

**Zephyranth** (ze·firæn̩th). [ad. mod. L. *Zephyranthes*, f. Gr. *ζέφυρος* Zephyr + *ἄνθος* flower: with allusion to the waving flower-stalks.] A plant of the genus *Zephyranthes*.

1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* (1846) VI. 38 In habit the one-flowered Hairanths are the same as the Zephyranths.

**Zeppelin** (zɛ·pilin), *sb.* [The name of the German Count Ferdinand von *Zeppelin*.] (With capital Z.) In full *Zeppelin airship*: a dirigible airship; properly, one of a type constructed by Count Zeppelin of Germany in 1900.

Sometimes colloquially abbreviated *Zepp*.

1900 *Whitaker's Almt.* 665/2 The Zeppelin Air-ship, now (1899) in construction on an island of the Boden See, is a cylindrical frame of aluminium in partitions, each holding a gas-bag. 1914 F. T. Jane in *Land & Water* 12 Sept. 15/1 A Zeppelin has dropped bombs on Antwerp, *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 19/1 Alarming rumours of a Zeppelin invasion of England *viâ* Calais. *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 16/2 It takes something like a year to build a Zeppelin shed; 1915 Jessie Pope *Simple Rhymes*, *Zeppelins* The night those Zepps bombarded town. 1916 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Jan. 40/3 A hostile raiding 'Zepp.

Hence **Ze·ppelin** (also abbrev. *zep*) *v. trans.*, to drop bombs on from a Zeppelin; **Ze·ppelinite**, one who advocates the use of Zeppelins as an engine of war, esp. against non-combatants.

1916 Wells *Mr. Britling* v. § 12 They will Zeppelin the fleet and walk through our army. 1916 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 4/3 The battle royal between the Zeppelinites and the anti-Zeppelinites [in Germany] continues. 1920 W. J. Locke *House of Baltazar* vii. 83 'So you've been Zepped, I hear,' she said.

**Zequi, sequin(e,** obs. forms of Sequin.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vii. iv. (1614) 673 Euery Zequi being sixteene ryals, and with vs eight shillings. *a* 1701 See Sequin *sb.* 1. 1708 Swift *Corr.* xxx. (1766) II. 107 Two scudi make a zequine; and a French loui'dore is worth about two zequines.

**Zeraphin,** var. Seraphin.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zeraphins*, a former money of account of Goa, of 240 Portugese reis.

**Zerbaffe, serbaff,** variants of Shrbaffe *Obs*

1688 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solymon* 81 Seventy Pieces of Zerbaffe, which is a very fine sort of Persian Tissue. 1698 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 92 Zerbaff, which is the Brocart of Persia.

**Zerbet,** obs. form of Sherbet.

**Zerda** (zɜ·rdă). *Zool.* [So called by the 'Moors' (*Kongliga Svenska Vetenskaps Handlingar*, 1777, XXXVIII. 265).] The fennec, *Canis zerda*.

1792 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 248.

**Zereba, zeriba** : see Zariba.

**Zeroglia, Zeres,** obs. ff. Seraglio, Xeres.

**Zerif,** var. Sherif, Xeriff.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zerif*, an old Turkish coin worth about 2½ dollars.

**Zernich,** obs. form of Zarnich.

**Zero** (zi·ro). Pl. **seroes** (-oz). [ad. F. *zéro* (1515 in Hatz.-Darm.) or its source It. *zero*, for **zefiro*, ad. Arab. *ṣifr* Cipher.]

1. The arithmetical figure 0 which denotes 'nought'; = Cipher *sb.* 1. Now *rare*.

1604 E. G[ilmstrove] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* vi. ii. 433 They accompted their weekes by thirteene dayes, marking the dayes with a Zero or cipher. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zero*, a Word sometimes us'd especially among the French, for a Cipher or Nought (o). 1799 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* II. 413 Every letter...marked with a figure followed by a zero. 1854 *Oyr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 16 Sometimes the divisor ends with zeros or noughts. 1857 *Hoppen. Words* & *Aug.* 143/2 A five, with a zero to the right, and a three to the left. 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 15 If we have two zeros in the symbol.

b. The compartment numbered 0 on a roulette table.

1859 Lever *Dun. Dunn* xlvi, I have been sketching out a little plan of a martingale for the roulette-table. There's only one zero at Homburg, and we can try it there as we go up. 1889 J.-S. Bond *Roulette* 29 If for 150 years Roulette has held its own against all comers, it is zero that has done it. 1911 tr. *Silberer's Roulette* 90 When the zero comes out, the Bank takes the half of all stakes on the *chances simples* and the whole of all stakes upon the *chances multiples* (excepting, of course, stakes laid upon zéro, or on a combination including zéro, which alone it pays).

2. The point or line marked 0 on a graduated scale, from which the reckoning begins: esp. in a thermometer or other measuring instrument.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 446 When the instrument is replaced, and the index belonging to the micrometer-screw stands at the zero on its circle. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (Libr. Usef. Knowl. 1829) 19/2 If the saccharometer be made so as to sink to a certain point marked zero (a cypher) in distilled water. 1846 Henry *Elem. Chem.* II. 630 The Centigrade thermometer places the zero at the freezing point. 1850 Lardner *Handbk. Nat. Philos.* 28 Each point or line of longitude the meridian which passes through the Observatory at Paris. 1890 W. F. Stanley *Surv. & Lev. Instr.* 439 These rollers are fixed in such a manner as to turn in a circumference concentric with the zero of the alidade.

3. The temperature corresponding to the zero of a thermometer; that degree of heat (or cold) which is reckoned as 0°: i.e. in the Centigrade and Réaumur's scales, the freezing-point of water; in Fahrenheit's scale (the usual one in Eng. use), 32° below this, or 'thirty-two degrees of frost'.

*Absolute zero*, the lowest temperature possible in the nature of things, at which the molecular motion which constitutes heat would cease; the zero of absolute temperature, reckoned as 273° C.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 78 That the melting of ice produces cold, is proved by the custom which confectioners have of melting certain salts with ice to produce a cold below that of ice. 1892 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 229 On the 10th of January, at sunrise, the thermometer was 10 deg. on the 56th 13 deg. below Zero; the coldest weather ever recorded in this town. 1893 Ibbon *Trans* x. xxxiii, I thermometers sunk down to...zero. 1898 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 303 Clement and Desormes place the absolute zero at 266·6° C. (479·4° Fah.). 1905 *Times* 24 Jan. 4/6 In a terrible surf, with the glass near zero, they finally brought the remnant of the crew off safely.

4. In abstract sense: Nought or nothing reckoned as a number, denoted by the figure 0, and constituting the starting-point of the series of natural numbers; the total absence of quantity considered as a quantity (in *Alg.* and *Higher Math.* as intermediate between positive and negative quantities); hence as expressing the amount of something = 'none at all'.

1823 Ibbon *Tyrone* ix. ii, Though your years as man tend not to zero, they tend to *thir*. *Trans.* XXX. 113 This sum is equal to zero in all positions of the line *a's* round the point (*x*, *y*, *z*). 1832 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. iv, Unless my Algebra deceive me, Infinity itself divided by Zero will give Infinity. 1852 Lowell *Dante* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 153 Dante's direct acquaintance with Plato may be reckoned at zero. 1859 *Athenæum Rep. Brad.* 141 Let us be patient, I have observed the interrenal tension to be slightly below zero while he was standing upright.

b. In the theory of functions, A value of a variable for which a function vanishes.

1893 A. R. Forsyth *Functions* 62 The number of distinct zeros in the limited area is finite. 1902 E. T. Whittaker *Mod. Anal.* 94 A polynomial of degree *n* has *n* zeros.

5. *fig.* (from 4). Something that counts as or amounts to nothing; a worthless thing or person, one of no account; a 'cipher', 'nonentity'; a 'nothing' or 'nobody'.

1813 Maria Edgeworth *Patronage* xxiv, The other gentlemen are zeros. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ix. II. 106 Without a Frederick to be Emperor, Francis I. will have nothing to do with it...to me it shall be zero. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* III. 322 A man who *will* not work...is as complete a zero to the general supply as if he were dead. 1871 Macmillan *True Vine* iii. (1892) 82 He is not surrounded with a vast zero, an all-absorbing negation.

6. *fig.* (from 2 and 3). a. The lowest point or degree; vanishing-point; nothingness, nullity. (Sometimes coinciding with b.)

1820 Shelley *Ode to Liberty* xiii, Sure my invention must be down at zero. 1837 Hood *Desert-Born* 64 Merely to look at such a sight my courage sinks to zero. 1867 'Mark Twain' *Jumping Frog, Curing a Cold*, I got to coughing ten cessantly, and my voice fell below zero. 1894 Drummond *Ascent of Man* 176 Man began the Ascent of Civilization at zero.

b. The initial point of a process or reckoning; the starting-point, the absolute beginning.

*Hour of zero*, in recent military use = *zero hour* (see 7 a).

1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creator* x. 193 The vegetation of the Silurian system, from its upper beds down till where we reach the zero of life. 1866 J. Martineau *Rics.* I. 7 He...makes 1788 his zero of human history. 1916 P. Gibbs *Battles of Somme* xxviii. 298 When the hour of 'zero' came for the attack.

7. *attrib.*, in sense 2 (or 6 b), as *zero-line*, *-mark*, *-plane*, *-point*; **zero creep**, spontaneous slow displacement of the zero-point on a graduated scale; **zero hour** (*Mil.*), the hour at which an attack or operation is timed to begin; **zero magnet**, a magnet for adjusting the zero, e. g. of a galvanometer; **zero mark, post,** a mark or post from which distances along roads are measured.

1906 *Athenæum* 19 May 612/2 A very ingenious bifilar galvanometer...warranted free from the tendency to "zero creep. 1917 W. Beach Thomas *With British on Somme* ii. v, The coming of the "zero hour of 3.30 in the morning. 1913 A. Keith *Antiq. Man* xxi. 343 The horizontal or "zero line, which crosses the hinder and lower angles of the right and left parietal bones. 1822 Tyndall *Heat* i. (1863) 3 At the present moment the needle...points to the "zero mark on the graduated disc. 1908 *Times* 2 Jan. 8/6 The iron tablet marking the position of Tyburn-gate...is virtually a milestone, marking, as it does, a spot from which the miles on the two great roads that join at Marble Arch are measured. It is perhaps the sole survivor of the zero marks of London. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* ii. 32 The "zero plane is the surface of the ellipsoid similar to the sea surface. 1810 T. Thomson *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 4) I. 565 A thermometer, the "zero point of which indicates absolute cold. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 9 Jan. 3/3 The "zero posts which formerly stood on the present site of the Marble Arch, and at Hyde-park-corner.

b. in sense 3, as *zero night*, *temperature*, *weather*. 1854 Hawthorne *Engl. Notebks.* (1870) I. 30 The zero atmosphere of America. 1893 Browning *Old Pict. in Flor.* xxxiv, Feel truth at blood-heat and falsehood at zero rate. 1884 E. P. Roe in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 288/2, I can keep my...hens warm even in zero weather. 1911 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 323 Molecular rest—the theoretical condition of zero-temperature. 1920 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 399/2 The zero reading and the mean reading would both generally correspond to a falling meniscus.

c. in sense 4: That is of the amount expressed by zero, i.e. none at all; in *Math.* also *transf.* applied to a value of a function corresponding to the value 0 of the variable or variables.

1879 Cayley *Math. Papers* X. 82 The letter *c* is used in connexion with the zero values 0, 1, 2, ... $S_0, S_1, S_2, \ldots$ are even functions, and the corresponding zero-functions are denoted by $c_0, c_1, c_2, \ldots$ then $(w, v)$ are indefinitely small each of these functions is of course to the zero-value *plus* a quadric term in $(w, v)$. 1882 Minchin *Uniplf. Kinemat.* 25 The surface of still water is agitated by wave disturbances proceeding from three fixed points...; find the points of zero disturbance. 1900 *Congress' Apr.* 257/2 Years of tedious work out of which there was always the chance of a zero result.

‖ **Zerumbet** (*zĭrʉmbĕt*). Also 7–8 -eth. [Pg., ad. Hind., Pers. زِرُنْبَاد *zerunbād*.] An East Indian plant of the genus *Curcuma*, or its aromatic root, used, like the allied Cassumunar and Zedoary, as a tonic drug.

1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Of the Apothecaries drugges: And of what price they are in Calicut and Malabar...Zerumbo, the farazuola Fanan ll. Zedoaria, the farazuola Fanan l. 1563 J. Garcia tr. *Aromatum Hist.* II. 151 The Zerumbet...likewise growes in these parts, and is like to ginger. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 278 Kua or Zerumbeth of our Shops. 1741 Compan. *Apoth.* 111 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 33 The Zedoary is the long Part of the Plant, serving as a root to the Zerumbeth. 1862 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 566 The so-called Cassumunar roots, Zedoary roots, and Zerumbet roots of commerce.

**Zerybeh** : see Zariba.

**Zerseline, serselnie,** var. Sersolim *Obs.*

**Zest** (zest), *sb.*[1] Also 8 sist. [a. F. *zeste*, earlier † *zest*, † *zec*, 'the thicke skin, or filme whereby the kernell of a nut-shell is diuided' (Cotgr.), also orange or lemon peel; of obscure origin. Cf. Walloon *zest*, Pg. *zeste*.

The sense given in Chambers *Cycl.* 1728, 'the woody, thick Skin, quartering the Kernel of a Walnut', is taken from French, and was not in English before.

1. Orange or lemon peel used as a flavouring or for preserving; also, the oil squeezed from such peel to flavour liquor, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Zest* (Fr.) the pill of an Orange, or such like, squeezed into a glass of wine, to give it a relish. 1732 tr. *Pomet's Hist.* I. 131 Lemon Oil...is made...by the Zest or the rasping or grating of the Citron Peel. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1755) 70 Pour into the Palm of the Hand a little Salt, and squeeze Zest of Lemon. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 173 To prepare lemon-juice you must first carefully remove the zest and then the white part. 1903 Gibbons *Ideals*, As he...fastidiously deprived the oranges of their zest.

2. *fig.* Something that imparts a relish, savour, or piquancy; a piquant quality which adds to the enjoyment or agreeableness of something.

1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) 11 Mr. St. Amant loved nothing so tenderly as he did the Baron; he was the Zest to all his Pleasures. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* III. i, A smart Repartee, with a Zest of Recrimination at the Head of it, makes the greatest Dish. 1794 Young *Nt. Th.* ix. 1211 The Life of life, the Zest of worldly bliss. 1819 Keats *To Fanny* 6 That sweet minor zest Of love, your kiss. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 134 There was a quaintness too, mingled with all this revelry, that gave it a peculiar zest. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* xvi, The sense that, perhaps, it was imprudent to take a cab or drink a bottle of wine, added a zest to the-e enjoyments. 1873 Helps *Anim. & Mast.* viii. 207 The difference of character should have given a zest to companionship, not destroyed it.

3. Keen relish or enjoyment displayed in speech or action; the pleasure of enjoying something; gusto. Usually const. *for*.

1791 Boswell *Johnson* an Sept. an. 1777, If I were to reside

in London, the' exquisite zest with which I relished it in occasional visits might go off. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 338 After travelling..for two or three days alone, when he arrives at an inn, it gives him a greater zest for society. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xix. She went to a lying-in or a laying-out with equal zest. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* I. The zest of life was certainly keener. 1895 Salmond *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* i. vii. 119 The Greek people had an almost unrivalled zest for life.

b. phr. *To your zest*, to your taste or liking. *rare*. 1817 Byron *Beppo* xii, That picture .. Is loveliest to my mind of all the Show; It may perhaps be also to your zest.

**4.** *transf.* Something which furnishes a relish or provides a savoury addition to a meal; an appetizer; also, a relish, a piquant flavour.

1833 Dickens *St. Bon, Miss Evans' & Eagle*, Mr. Wilkins had brought a pint of shrimps .. to give a zest to the meal [*cr.* 1836]. 1848 Newman *Loss & Gain* 154, I like these rides into the country', said Vincent, as they began eating; 'it is exquisite as a zest'. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxvi, The Native had private zests and flavours on a side-table, with which the Major daily seasoned himself. 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor.* II. xxvii. 271 We..renewed the zest of the table with the best salad in the world—raw eggs and cochlearia. 1876 Miss Braddon *Dead Men's Shoes* I, For a cheap relish, a zest which shall make bread and butter supply the place of dinner, your fishmonger is your best friend.

Hence **Ze·stful** *a.*, full of zest, characterized by piquancy or keen relish or enjoyment; whence **Ze·stfully** *adv.*, **Ze·stfulness**.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 345 A zestful sort of place in which to spend a fortnight. 1837 *Ibid.* LVI. 601 How.. shall any man..abridge..twenty volumes of such zestful personalities? 1872 C. King *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xi. 241 While we chatted and ate zestfully portions of meat not too freely brecciated with lava sand. 1897 Jacobs *Skipper's Wooing* i, He bent over and with much zestful splashing began his ablutions. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 350/2 The zestfulness of its Radicalism is not lessened.

† **Zest**, *sb.*3 *Obs. rare*—1. = Siesta.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zest*..sometimes taken for a short Afternoon's Sleep or Nap: as 'To go to one's Zest.

**Zest** (zest), *v.* [f. Zest *sb.*1]

**1.** *trans.* To flavour with 'zest'; to add a relish to; to give a piquant quality to; also *fig.*

1704 Cibber *Careless Husb.* III. 56 My Lord, when my Wine's Right I never care it shou'd be Zested. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Hist. Queen Zarah* III. 191 Flavour is sometimes pleased with Bitterness to Zest the bowl of Bliss! 1737 J. Hervey *Mem. Reign Geo. II* (1848) II. xxx. 288 Many more reasons not quite so strongly rested, though but few degrees weaker. 1760 Goldsm. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 327 Hundreds sunk to the bottom by one broadside, finish out the topic of the day, and zest his cotemporaries. 1818 Meredith *Marian* xv, Yo who zest the turtle's meat With the eagle's eyrie. 1871 H. Marshall *For very Life* I. 4, One autumn morning, zested with a sharp frosty feeling.

† **2.** [after P. *sester*.] = Sess (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Zest an Orange or Lemon*, (among Confectioners) is to cut the Peel from top to bottom into small Slips, as thin as it can possibly be done.

Hence **Ze·sted** *ppl. a.*

1769 Goldsm. *Rom. Hist.* II. 74 One circumstance that might well..teach mankind to relish the beverage of virtue ..above their most zested pleasures. 1802 *Lusignan* III. 131 The most zested enjoyments of vice.

† **Zest**, *int. Obs.* [Cf. F. *zest* int.] An exclamation accompanying quick action.

1705 Vanbrugh *Confed.* III. I, Oons the old Woman—Zest. **Zest**, a.w. dial. f. and pers. sing. pres. of Sat *v.*1

1600 *Contention betw. Lib. & Prod.* I. iv, Bur Lady, zeste, zest true.

**Zet**, dial. f. Set *v.*

‖ **Zeta**1 (zī·tă). *Antiq.* [med.L., = *dicta* (see Z), a. Gr. *δίαιτα* way of living, dwelling (see Diet *sb.*1)] A term of disputed meaning (see quots.).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zeta*..a Room kept warm like a Stove; a withdrawing-Chamber with Pipes convey'd along in the Walls, to receive from below, either the cool Air, or the heat of warm Water. 1800 Gent. Recorder, It is taken for a Dining-Room, Hall, or Parlour. 1849–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Zeta*, presumed to be a room over a church or a Christian church. 1866 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Zeta, Zeterida* [? *Zeticulus*], ..the *Vaporaria* and *Unctuaria*, or vapour-baths and inner closets, in the pavement of which warm or cold water was diffused as required.

‖ **Zeta** 2 (zī·tă). [Gr. ζῆτα, the letter Z, ζ: see Z.] Name of the sixth letter of the Greek alphabet, used *attrib.* in **zeta-function** *Math.*, one of a set of functions (denoted by a capital Z prefixed to the variable) connected with elliptic integrals. Hence **Ze·taism** (-zī·m) [cf. Etacism, Lambdacism, Rhotacism], frequent or faulty use of the letter ζ; **Zetaic** (zīdī·tik) *a. Math.*, applied by Sylvester to operations (denoted by the letter ζ prefixed to an expression) in which subscript indices are treated like ordinary indices of powers, and to expressions or functions so obtained.

1890 Sylvester *Coll. Math. Papers* (1904) I. 47, I use the Greek letter ζ to denote that the product of factors to which it is prefixed is to be affected after a certain symbolical manner. This I shall distinguish as the zeta-ic product. *Ibid.*, Rule for zeta-ic multiplication. *Note.* An analogous interpretation may be extended to any zeta-ic function whatever. 1889 I. Taylor *Aryans* v. § 2. 260 The tendency to Zetacism among the Ionians may be due to an admixture with the pre-Aryan population.

**Zeto**, obs. dial. form of Set *v.*

**Zetetic** (zĭtĕ·tik), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [adl. mod.L. *zētēticus*, a. Gr. ζητητικός, f. ζητεῖν to seek, inquire.]

**A.** *adj.* Inquiring, investigating; proceeding by inquiry or investigation.

In quot. 1645 used in burlesque.

1645 Urquhart *Trispeotron* Wks. (1834) 145 Zetetick, is said of loxogonospherical moods which agree in the same quæsitas. 1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1687) 771/1 This was called the Zetetick Philosophy, from its continual enquiry after Truth. 1706 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zetetick* Method in Mathematicks, is the Analytick, or Algebraick way. 1849 S. D. Rowbotham (*title*) Zetetic Astronomy. A description of several experiments which prove that the surface of the sea is a perfect plane and that the Earth is not a Globe! 1885 *Bookseller* 7 Jan. 12/2 A party of Zetetic astronomers with scientific instruments.

**B.** *sb.* **1.** (*sing.* or *pl.*) Investigation, inquiry (as in mathematics, etc.).

Often with allusion to Franciscus Vieta's *Zeteticorum libri quinque*.

1659 Morgan *Math. Dict.* (1701), *Zetetique*, numbers used in Algebra and Equations by the famous Vieta. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 773/2 *Zetetics*, a name given by Vieta..to the part of algebra which consists in the direct search after unknown quantities. 1879 W. Thomson in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 32 [Logic] has been called..Zetetic or the Art of seeking.

**2.** An investigator, inquirer; *spec.* an adherent of the ancient Greek sceptic school of philosophy (see Sceptic A., 1).

1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1687) 772/2 These all were called Pyrrhonians from their Master; Aporeticks, and Scepticks, and Ephecticks, and Zeteticks, from their (as it were) inquisitive Genius. 1706 Thomson *Lect. Math.* 66 The ancient Pyrrhonists were called Zeteticsor seekers.

Hence **Zete·tically** *adv.* [see -ically], by way of inquiry or investigation.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* in.-34 It would be somewhat too long ..zeteticallyto examine, what particular kind of motion it is.

**Zep**, obs. dial. pl. ind. pres. of See *v.*

**Zeppe**, obs. var. Sith.

**Zetland** (zetˈlănd). Later spelling (see Z) of Sc. *Jetland* (also *Yetland*, latinized *Yhetlandia*), a. ON. *Hjaltland*, *Hjetland* (MDa. *Hetland*) Shetland. Hence **Ze·tlander**, **Zetla·ndic** *a.* (Survives as an official name of the Shetland Islands, and in a title of the peerage.)

1703 J. Brand *Descr. Orkney*, etc. To Rdr., Zetland..is unknown to the most of the Nation, if not, that they have only heard, there were such Isles, as the Zetlandick. *Ibid.* 116 Some Zetlanders have to do with their Scholtzes, laying the oppressed condition of their Countrey before him. 1809 Kendrick *Zetland Ist.* I. 206 The native Zetland horse is very small. 1815 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. s.v. *Shearwater*, In addition to the Zetlandic name of Lyre Lyar or Lyrie, it has acquired the Norwegian names of Skrabe or Skrabe-fugl. 1822 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 183/2 Salmon as good a Zetlander as ever rowed a boat to the *haaf* fishing. 1888 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 338 A list of the Zetlandic Annelids dredged in 1867 and 1868.

**Zeuss**, **Zeust**, obs. ff. Zebra, Civet *sb.*1

‖ **Zeuglodon** (zīū·glŏdŏn). *Palæont.* [mod.L. (Owen, 1839), f. Gr. ζεῦγλη strap or loop of a yoke + ὀδόντ-, ὀδοντ- tooth.] A genus of extinct cetaceans of a primitive type, whose fossil remains are found in the Eocene. Hence **Zeu·glodont**, *sb.* a cetacean [of this genus; *a.* belonging to this genus; **Zeuglodo·ntoid** [-oid], *a.* having the characters of this genus, or belonging to the family *Zeuglodontidæ*; *sb.* a cetacean of this family.

1839 Owen in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. V. 75 The microscopic characters of the texture of the teeth of the *Zeuglodon* are strictly of a mammiferous character. 1857 Agassiz *Contr. Nat. Hist. U. S.* I. 218 The Zeuglodonts [are] embryonic Sirenidæ. 1883 Flower in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 393/2 The earliest Cetaceans of whose organization we have any true knowledge are the extinct Zeuglodonts of the Eocene period. 1888 *Y. Phillips' Man. Geol.* II. 652 Whales of the Zeuglodont family. 1892 *Athenæum* 12 Nov. 669/2 Zeuglodont and other cetacean remains from the tertiaries of Maryland.

‖ **Zeugma** (zīū·gmă). *Gram.* and *Rhet.* [mod. L., a. Gr. ζεῦγμα a yoking, f. ζευγνύναι to yoke, related to ζυγόν Yoke *sb.*] A figure by which a single word is made to refer to two or more words in the sentence; esp. when properly applying in sense to only one of them, or applying to them in different senses; but formerly more widely, including, e.g., the use of the same predicate, without repetition, with two or more subjects; also sometimes applied to cases of irregular *construction*, in which the single word agrees *grammatically* with only one of the other words to which it refers (more properly called Syllepsis).

1586 A. Day *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 82 *Zeugma*, when one or moreclause concluded vnder one verbe, as to say, His loosenesse ouercame all shame; his boldnesse, feare; his madnesse, reason. 1589 Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xi. (Arb.) 179 And if it be in clauses then one, that sentence such word be supplied to perfit the congruitie or sence of them all, it is by the figure (*Zeugme*) we call him the (single supplie)..It is to say, Fellowes and friends and kinne forsooke me quite. 1848 J. T. White *Xenophon's Anab.* Notes I. v. § 9 (1872) 51 Observe the zeugma in πλήθει (in § fluctuabat agmine, πλήθει μὲν χώραι καὶ ἀνδράσιν ἰσχυρά οὖσα). 1872 Leitch in *T. E. Lange's Comm. 2 Thess.* iii. 256 Αὐτοὺς is now to be taken out of the native τοιούτοις, by an obvious zeugma (in 2 Thess. iii. 12 τοῖς δὲ τοιούτοις παραγγέλλομεν, καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν). 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 360 By the figure of speech called zeugma, or rather syllepsis, the same word..is often made to serve two purposes in the same sentence. A verb is often used with two clauses which is only appropriate to one of them, as in Pope's line—'See Pan with flocks, with fruits Pomona crowned.'

Hence **Zeugmatic** (-ătĭk) *a.*, pertaining to or involving zeugma; **Zeugma·tically** *adv.*, so as to involve zeugma.

1827 Elliott *Comm. Col.* ii. 5 A zeugmatic construction of the accus. with both verbs. 1837 — *Comm. Phil.* I. 27 Attempts have been made to defend the construction as it stands, by referring *saviors* zeugmatically to both clauses.

**Zeunerite** (zōi·nərəit). *Min.* [f. the name of Gustav *Zeuner* of Freiberg, Saxony.] A hydrous arseniate of uranium and copper, occurring in bright-green crystals.

1873 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXVI. 1010 Arseniferous Uranium Mica (Zeunerite) from Junchimthal.

**Zeurs**, obs. form of Serra.

‖ **Zeus** (zīūs). [Gr. Ζεύς, gen. Διός, related to L. *Jovis* (gen.): see Jove, Jupiter.]

**1.** *Myth.* Name of the supreme deity of the ancient Greeks; cf. Jupiter. Hence *allusively*.

1820 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Apr. 207/4 The Zeus of Weimar [*sc.* Goethe] was the last person who should have imagined comparable with our Swan of Avon!

b. *Comb.*

1829 T. Mitchell *Frogs of Aristoph.* Add. 411 Crotan Zeus-worship. a 1861 Cowper *Poems* II. 464 You are the hatefullest to me of the Zeus-fed princes. 1873 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* Post. Wks. 1896 I. 730/1 The hapless Zeus-born offspring. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 140/1 Legends of warlike deeds done by Zeus-nourished kings.

**2.** *Ichthyol.* A genus of spiny-finned fishes, including the John Dory, *Zeus faber*, anciently sacred to Zeus or Jupiter.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zeus*, a Fish taken about Cadiz..of a black Colour and very delicate. 1758 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 274 The red Zeus, with an even tail. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 48 His own fish Zeus, the dory [was offered] to Jupiter.

‖ **Zeuxis** (zīū·ksis). Name of a famous ancient Greek painter; hence *allusively*, and in comb. *Zeuxis-like* adj. Hence **Zeu·xian** *a.*

1616 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* I. Sonn. xix. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23 Desire (alas) Desire a Zeuxis new, From Indies borrowing Gold, from Western Skies Most bright Cynosur, sets before mine Eyes In euery Place, her Haire, sweet Looke and How. 1635 Quarles *Emblt.* III. x, Zeuxian Art. 1850 Mrs. Jameson *Sacred & Leg. Art.* 290 A vase containing white lilies..painted with such Zeuxis-like skill, that birds..have been seen attempting to..peck the flowers.

**Zeuxite** (zīū·ksoit). *Min.* [f. Gr. ζεῦξις yoking, joining (f. ζευγνύναι to join), rendering 'unity' in the name Huel Unity (see quot.).] A variety of tourmaline.

1876 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 320 Zeuxite. The mineral which I distinguish by this name was found in 1814 in considerable quantity in the Huel Unity mine, about three miles east of Redruth, in Cornwall.

**Zeve**, obs. form of Seven.

**Zevre**, obs. form of Zebra.

**Zfoot**, var. 'Sfoot *int. Obs.*

1600 I. C. *Two Merry Milkmaids* II. ii. G 4 b, *Ber.* Zfoot, he's turn'd Excho. 1640 *Witty and Witt.* I 7 b, Z' foot, will you have of men more than their hearts?

**Zhe, zhee**, dial. forms of She.

‖ **Zho** (zō). [Tibetan *mdzo.*] A hybrid bovine animal, bred from a yak bull and a common cow, used for domestic purposes in Northern India. Also called ‖ **Zobo**, **sobu** [with masc. affix *-bo*]. So ‖ **Zhomo**, also **jomo** [with fem. affix *-mo*], a female zho.

1842 Moorcroft *Trav.* I. 272 Oxen of the common kind are not used for ploughing, the zho ox, or hybrid male between the yak..and the common cow, or the humped variety called zobu, being generally preferred, as is the latter, the zhomo, for the dairy. Ploughing is performed by a pair of zhos. *Ibid.* 309 The Zho or Yak-mule. 1854 Hooker *Himal. Trnls.* I. ix. 213 The zho is not rarely seen in these mountains, though common in the North West Himalaya. 1867 A. L. Adams *W. and Mid. India* 272. 1880 R. Strachey in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 833/2 The yak, from which is reared a cross breed with the ordinary horned cattle of India locally called 'sobu'.

**Zibeline** (zi·bĭlin, -ain). Forms: 6 **sebelin**, 7 **-elline**, 7 **sibellin**, **-en**, **subeline**, 8 **sebiline**, 8– **sibelin**(e, (9 **sibeline**). [ad. F. *zibeline* (also 7 **sabelline**, † **sebeline**, Of. *sebelin*), = It. *zibellino*, Sp. *z-*, *cebellina*, Pg. *zebellina*; Romanic deriv. of Slav. *sobol*: see Sable *sb.*1]

**1.** A small carnivorous quadruped, the sable, *Mustela sibellina*. Also *attrib.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiii. 65 Furres of martins, Zebelins, Sables. 1604 tr. *Martini's Comp. China* 9 Garnished round with..skin three fingers broad, of Castor, or Zibellin. 1672 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 447 Clothed ..in cloth of Gold and Silver in Zebeline and African furs. 1784 Kino *Cook's Voy. Pacific* iv. vi. 320 The common fox; the stoat, or ermine; the zibeline, or sable. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* I. 177 The sibelin from her haunts decoy'd; Or chas'd the ermine from his cell. 1864 Hugh Murray *Trav. Marco Polo* I. § 3. 123 The inside is lined with skins of ermine and zibelline.

**2.** The fur of the sable; sable.

1869 *Daily News* 1 Jan., Black velvet, trimmed all over with zibeline. 1880 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* May (1890) 34 In 1788 or thereabout no person was allowed to wear garments of voir, gray, zibeline, or scarlet color.

**3.** (Also *zibeline cloth.*) A soft smooth woollen

material with a slightly furry surface,³ used for women's dress. Also *attrib.*

1892 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 5/7 Blue-grey sibeline cloth... A Cearina jacket of almond-coloured sibeline. 1893 *Lady* 17 Aug. 172/2 The cloths coming in are mostly fleecy, thick sibeline finished beavers for choice. 1909 W. J. Locke *Septimus* ix, It was Emma. He recognized the sibeline toque and coat.

**Sibet** (si·bĕt). Forms: 6– **sibeth**, 7 **sibith**, (**sebat**), 8– **sibet**. [ad. med.L. *sibethum* (cf. It. *sibetto*, F. *sibet*, G. *sibeth*): see Civet *sb.*¹] A variant of Civet *sb.*¹, the animal and the perfume; used distinctively (after Buffon) for the Asiatic species of *Viverra*, *V. sibetha*, and the secretion it yields (called also *sibethum*).

1598 Blundevil *Exerc., Planchet Map* (1597) 265 Next to her genitories, shee hath a little bagge into the which doth fall the precious grease or humour, which they call Civet and Zibeth. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 585 The Zibeth or Sivet-cat. 1669 *Advis. to hopeful yng. Gentry* Essex 44 You would conceive...that some Chymist had dearly purchas'd their more tarsene excrement, out of them to exalt his occidental sibith. 1781 Sibelius in *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) V. 242 The sibet is probably the civet of Asia, of the East Indies, and of Arabia. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 406 The marks on the lateral and anterior parts of the neck are very dark in the Sibet.

**b.** Comb. †**sibet-muff**, a muff made of civet fur. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2078/4 A Sebat Muff.

**Sich**, **Sick**, dial. ff. Such, Sick.

**Sicasa** (si·kăsă). Also **sikasak**, **sagsag**, **sicaso**, **si(o)kas(o)k**. [Ultimately a. Arab. ﺳﻘﺴﺎﻕ *saqsāq*, ﺳﻘﺼﺎﻕ *saqsaq* (Dozy.)] An Egyptian species of plover, *Pluvianus aegyptius* (*Charadrius melanocephalus*), which by its cry warns the crocodile of approaching danger; perhaps identical with the trochilus (see Trochilus² 2).

1814 W. D. Cooley *Lemprière's Notes Herod.* ii. lxviii. I. 285 The bird called sagsag, or siksak, by the Arabs, is a species of plover. 1849 Curzon *Vis. Monast. Levant* xii. 150, I was on the point of firing at his [sc. a sleeping crocodile's] eye, when I observed that he was attended by a bird called a sicsac. 1882 Phil. Robinson *Noah's Ark* iii, Almost too lazy to keep his jaws open while the little 'sicsac' plover picked his teeth.

**Sicsac**, variant of Zigzag.

**Sicle**, obs. or dial. f. Side.

**Sidonian**, obs. var. Sidonian.

**Sickle**, obs. form of Sickle.

**Siffus**, obs. f. Xiphias, swordfish.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 24 Huge Siffius, whom Mariners eschew for No lesse, then Whales.

**Sig**, the first syllable of *signag*: see Zag.

**Sig(g**, variants of Sig *sb.*, urine.

**Sigan**, early variant of Tsigane.

1831 Bosrow *Lavengro* xc. (1893) 359 Like the forge and tent of a wandering Sigan.

**Sigge**, obs. f. Sag, v.¹

**Sigger**, **sighyr**, Cornish dial. ff. Sicker *v.*2.

a 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. III. (1850) 775/1 The water eighyrs away. A Cornish mining word for dribbling, or flowing in a small stream. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Zighyr, zigger, or sicher*, to percolate, trickle or ooze.

**Siggurat**: see Zikkurat.

**Sigh**, **sigt**, **sizhe**: see See *v.*, Sight.

**Sigiag** (si·gĭag), *sb.*, *a.*, *adv.* Also as two words or with hyphen; also 8 **sic-sac**, **sigsac(k**, **siosag**. [ad. F. *signag* (1680 in Hatz.-Darm.); ultimate origin unknown; partly symbolic, the two different vowels denoting the two different directions. Cf. G. *sickzack* (Sperander, 1727), said to be first used of fortifications (sense 3 a).]

**A.** *sb.*

**1.** A series of short lines inclined at angles in alternate directions; a line or course having sharp turns of this kind; *concr.* something characterized by such lines or turns. Orig. in phr. *in signag* (= F. *en signag*).

1711 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 42 Steps of Grass laid in *Zic-Zac* [*Note*, The French call this an *Allée en Zic-Zac*, for its likeness to a Machine so called]. *Ibid.* 215 Chevrons, or Checks of Grass, or *Zig-Zac*. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Alley*, An Alley in Ziczac is that which has too great a Descent. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 130 The larger tubercles placed in sig-zag. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward by Round* 309 Entering by the beautiful Gate of Justice, and winding in signag through the thickness of the tower.

1768 Colman & Garrick *Cland. Marr.* II. ii, Here's none of your steak lines here—but all taste—sig-zag—crinkum crankum—in and out. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 335 Twisted into a serpent, or bent into a sig-zag. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xl. IV. 495 The other [road] was practicable for carriages, and for this purpose was made to climb the acclivity with a zigzag. 1873 Nesbitt *Catal. Slade Coll. Glass* 8 Terminating with a turquoise sig-zag. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* xi, Dashing his finger in a fiery zig-zag along the line for her pen to follow. 1884 Ruskin *Pleas. Eng.* iii. § 87. (1889) 122 The hieroglyphic use of the zigzag, for water, by the Egyptians.

**b.** Each of such lines or turns: chiefly in *pl.*

1708 Pope *Dunc.* I. 124 Nonsense precipitate, like running Lead, That slipp'd thro' Cracks and Zig-zags of the Head. 1773 Twiss *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 64 A winding road, which forms thirteen sig-zags. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. Lobo* 180 A cap, laced and rifanded in all manner of sig-zags. a 1862 Clough *Poems, to Dunnam Saturna* 11 The lightning zigzags shoot across the sky. 1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* lxxiv, The button made many a zigzag from side to side of the table. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sacks' Bot.* 749 The grand curve of growth...does not assume the form of a continuous curve, but shows a number of small zigzags.

**c.** *fig.*

1761 Cowper *Conversation* 861 Though such continual zigzags in a book, Such drunken reelings, have an awkward look. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. 1842 II. 311 The fanaticks going straight forward and openly, the politicians by the surer mode of zigzag. 1813 Jane Austen *Emma* xv, The little zigzags of embarrassment. 1923 Roosevelt *Autobiogr.* 579 Our policy is apt to go in zigzags, because different sections of our people exercise at different times unequal pressure on our government.

**2.** A road or path turning sharply at angles in alternate directions, esp. so as to reduce the gradient on a steep slope; each of the sharp turns forming such a road.

1728 Swift *My Lady's Lam.* 184 How proudly he talks Of zigzags and walks. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* vi, I thread the doubtful zigzags of Mayfair. 1855 Alford in *Life* (1872) xv. 181 The walk on the Adour is to be made and approached by zigzags. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xxvii, Many years before the Zig Zag [*sc.* railway in New South Wales] was chopped out of the hillsides.

**3.** Applied *spec.* to other things of a zigzag shape. **a.** *Fortif.* A trench leading towards a besieged place, constructed in a zigzag direction so as not to be enfiladed by the defenders; a boyau. **b.** *Archit.* A chevron-moulding. **c.** *Fishery.* (See quot.)

a. 1733 Budgell *Bee* IV. 67 A Battery began in the Morning to play upon the Cavalier of the Bastion Chiera; the Night following the *Zic-zacs* were continued. 1834–47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1851) 230 The zig-zags may often require greater relief than the parallels.

b. 1824 Scott *Border Antiq.* I. 59 The dancette, as the figure is termed in heraldry, or zig-zag. 1826 W. A. Miles *Proceed Barrow* 4 The chevron or zig zag, the favorite British ornament on perpendicular Egyptian remains. 1882 Ruskin *Pleas. Eng.* iii. § 87. (1885) 119 The Norman zigzag.

c. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Zigzag*, a winding chute on the face of a weir, by which fish ascend.

**4.** Collectors' name for a shell, or a moth, with zigzag marking.

1815 S. Brookes *Conchol.* 157 Zigzag, *Cypræa Zicac.*

**B.** *adj.* **1.** Having the form of a zigzag; turning sharply at angles in alternate directions; characterized by turns of this kind.

1730 *Gentl. Mag. Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 543 Striking it with a wriggling Motion from Side to Side, in a zigzag Way. 1767 Hamilton *Ibid.* LVIII. 11 Flashes of forked, or sig-zag lightning. 1770 *Gentl. Mag. Trade* II. 21 His transforms old print To zig-zag manuscript. 1792 Wordsw. *Descript. Sketches* 236 Up from the lake a zigzag path will creep. 1819 Blackmore *St. Eres. Silver*, Away jogs the boat in a zigzag direction. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 22 A kind of zigzag channel had been worn on the side of the mountain.

*fig.* 1798 Matthias *Purs. Lit.* (ed. 7) 327 Be regular: from A to B proceed: hate your zig-zag verse, and wanton heed. 1861 J. Pycroft *Ways & Words* 192 The old joke of the zigzag jury who said 'Guilty' and 'Not guilty' alternately, in order to please both parties. 1863 Dowden *Clarke Shakes. Char.* vi. 145 All the brood of zig-zag politicians. 1867 Goschen in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XLVII. 597 Our policy is to have as little of the zigzag policy as possible.

**b.** *Archit.* Applied to a moulding or other ornament of a zigzag pattern; cf. A. 3 b.

*c* 1765 Gray *Let. to Bentham* Wks. 1825 II. 286 The chevron-work (or zig-zag moulding). 1815 *J. Smith Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 23 Channels in various forms, some plain zigzag, some like network, and some spiral. 1840 C. Wordsw. *Greece* 58 Columns of green basalt, with fantastic zigzag capitals.

**c.** *Bot.* Applied to the stem of a plant, or to a plant having such a stem.

1796 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* (ed. 2), *Zigzag*, used by some English writers for Flexuous. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 202 *Zigzag* Ladies bed-straw. 1819 Rees *Cyclo., Zigzag Trefoil*,...a term sometimes applied by farmers to the perennial red clover, marl grass, or wild red clover.

**2.** Having zigzag markings. (Chiefly *Nat. Hist.*)

1785 Latham in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 2 Zigzag Bittern. 1796 Nemnich *Polygl.-Lex.* 946 Zigzag chama, *Venus castrensis*.

**3.** *Comb.*

1798 Goldsm. *Mem. Prof.* (1859) II. 149 A Way very convenient for Zig-zag Fashion. 1846 Britton tr. *Hildegaire's Man. Oper. Surg.* 236 The interline is zigzag shaped. 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 26 Its joints are bent zig-zag.

**C.** *adv.* In a zigzag manner or direction.

*c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) II. 132 It is almost incredible...how nimbly they skip...turning *Zic Zac* to such Places as are very steep. 1754 Mason in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 287 The lightening is observed to run not in strait line, but zig zag. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 244 When he ignites a rocket, it may go straight forward, or zig-zag. 1862 Baverstock *Hist. India* III. viii. 274 The road...led zig-zag up the side of a precipitous mountain.

**Zig-zag**, *v.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *zigzaguer*.]

**1.** *intr.* To go or move in a zigzag course; to have a zigzag course or direction. Also *quasi-trans.*, *to zigzag it*, *to zigzag one's way*.

1787 Burns *Let. to J. Richmond* 7 July, His horse...zigzagged across before my old spavined bunter. 1792 T. Twining in *Recr. & Stud.* (1882) 163 We...zigzagged up to the very top. 1806–7 J. Hersford *Miseries Hum. Life* xvii. *Miseries Trav.* xix, The surprising range of rocks, zigzagging away in all directions. 1812 Colman *Br. Grins, Lady of Wreck* ii. xxi, They had zigzagged many a league. 1865 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, He managed to...zigzag down Kennington reach...with much labour. 1897 Jacobs *Skipper's Wooing* iii, He...zigzagged his way back to the ship. *fig.* 1778 Burke *Let. to Earl Buchan* Feb., While I was chalking out to you the straight way to wealth and character, with audacious effrontery you have zigzagged across the path.] 1892 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 78 Not following the natural course of thought and feeling,... but zig-zagging after the rhyme. 1892 Hon. Smith *Gaieties & Grave.* II. 245 The red and black had zig-zagged, or won alternately for fourteen times. 1901 G. Douglas *House with Gr. Shut.* xxiii, His courage zigzagged,...one moment he lowered in imagination, the next he grovelled in fear.

**2.** *trans.* To give a zigzag form to; to fasten a zigzag line upon. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*; see also Zigzagged *a.*

1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 98 White zigzagged with serruginous edges crenulated. 1879 Howells *World. Journ.* iii, The breast of the black cloud was now zigzagged ...by lightning. 1884 Bowne & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 65 In lateral margin...toothed and zigzagged by the outgrowth of conically elongated cells.

**3.** To cause to move in a zigzag direction; *refl.* = 1.

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstrel* I. 115, I oft zigzag me round Thy uneven, heathy ground. 1835 Irving *Astoria* *Hardy. Journ.* iii, The breast of the black cloud was now zigzagged ...by lightning. 1884 Bowne & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 65 In lateral margin...toothed and zigzagged by the outgrowth of conically elongated cells.

**Zigzagged** (zi·gzăgd), *a.* [f. Zigzag *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] Having a zigzag form or marking.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. 61 The body oblong: the line running down the side zigzagged towards the tail. 1781 Watson *Hist. Oxf.* (1783) 4 The zigzagged semicircle of this arch. 1889 *Anniversary* 88 [The house] presents sundry crowfooted, alias zigzagged, gables. 1894 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 86/1 On the external barbs of the caudal feathers are two zigzagged bands.

Hence **Zi·gzaggedness**.

1893 *Strand Mag.* VI. 693 It is in accordance with the general zig-zaggedness of things that the most popular residents in the fish-house are the birds.

**Zigzaggery** (zi·gzăgeri). [f. as prec. + -ery.] Zigzag course or proceeding (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first quot. with allusion to Zigzag *sb.* 3 a.

1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. iii, The transverse zigzaggery of my father's approaches towards it [*sc.* his capital pocket]. 1797 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Beggar Girl* (1814) II. 248 One of those whimsical beings who hated the zig-zaggery of worldly wisdom. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 Aug. 4 The zigzaggery of the English Factory Acts.

**Zigzaggy** (zi·gzăgi), *a.* [f. Zigzag *sb.* + -y 1.] Characterized by zigzags or short sharp turns at alternate angles.

a 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Bleaph. Warn.* 387 'The zig-zaggy pattern by Saxons invented. 1865 W. Watts *East. Eccl.* II. x. 135 We rambled in and out of strange zigzaggy back ways. 1900 A. Lang in *Longman's Mag.* Sept. 482 A fortification in a sketch of the style of Vauban, a zigzaggy, forked-lightning affair.

**Zik**, **Zikore**, obs. ff. Sick, Sicker *a.*

‖ **Zikkurat**, **ziggurat** (zi·kŭrăt, zig-). [Assyrian *ziqqurratu* (also *sigg-*, *sig(g)-*, *-ur(r)at*) height, pinnacle, top of a mountain, temple-tower; cf. *saqaru* to be high (Muss-Arnolt).] A staged tower of pyramid form in which each successive storey is smaller than that below it, so as to leave a terrace all round; an Assyrian or Babylonian temple-tower.

1877 tr. *Lenormant's Chaldean Magic* xv. 227 The ziggurrat or sacred tower of the palace of Khorsabad. 1883 P. H. Hwfkins *Story of Daniel* iv. 29 All about Babylon are the lofty *ziggurats* or towers of the temples. 1898 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 5 The ziggurat, or great tower, of which the Tower of Babel was a famous example. 1908 *Expositor* May 400 The sikkurats at Ur and Nebi Yunus.

‖ **Zillah** (zi·lă). Also **silla**. [Hind. ﺿﻠﻊ *ẓilʿ*] side, part, district, division.] An administrative district in British India.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Char.* 94 Within the silla, or district of Calcutta. 1810 T. Williamson *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* II. 493 In each of the *sillahs*, or districts, only a collector, with an assistant and a writer, was stationed. 1869 *Jrnl. Agric. Soc. India* I. 398 The Zillah of Husseeabag. *attrib.* 1824 Hayne *Tracts on India* 303 Punishments... executed...by the Zillah judge. 1824 Sporting Mag. *Hundkh. Brit. India* (1834) 340 Ahmedabad, 300 miles from Bombay, is a zillah station.

Hence **Zi·llaship**, the collector of a zillah.

1782 *Asiatic Misc.* I. 400 The riots paid their revenues to the Zillaships in the produce of the lands.

‖ **Zimb** (zimb). [Amharic.] A dipterous insect of Abyssinia, allied to and resembling the tsetse, and very destructive to cattle.

1790 Jas. Bruce *Trav.* I. 388 Large swarms of flies appeared wherever that loomy earth was...This insect is called *Zimb*...It is in size very little larger than a bee. a 1827 Good *Pa. ev.* 31 (1854) 415 Hesiodus, and the zimb-fly came.

**[Zimme**, spurious word; being the OE. *gimm* gem, with the *g* taken for a *z*.

1848 Layton *Herald* II. iii, Taking from his own neck a

collar of zinmeds..of great price. *Ibid.* III. ii, Hls diadem, with the three zimmes shaped into a tripie trefoil.]

**Zimome**: see ZYMOME.

**Zinc** (zink), *sb.* Forms: 7–9 **zink**, (7 **sinke**, 7–8 **sinck**), 8– **zinc**. [ad. G. *zink* (of obscure origin), whence also late 17th c. *F. zinc* (†*zinck*, †*sin*, †*zaiu*), Sw., Da. *sink*, etc., mod.L. *zincum*.]

1. A hard bluish-white metal (commercially known as SPELTER), brittle at ordinary temperatures, but malleable and ductile between 200° and 250° F.; obtained from various ores, esp. the sulphide (BLENDE), the carbonate and silicate (CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE), and the red oxide (ZINCITE), and used for coating, or 'galvanizing' sheet-iron, and for numerous other purposes; it forms several alloys, of which the best known is that with copper called BRASS. Chemical symbol Zn; atomic weight 65.

1665 FRENCH *Distill. v.* 139 Any sulphurous, and imperfect metall, as Iron, Copper, or Zinke. 1731–3 P. SHAW *Chem. Lect.* xviii. (1734) 402 We took six Ounces of Copper, and melted it in a Wind-Furnace, added to it an Ounce of Zink. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* ii. (1814) 48 Zinc is one of the most combustible of the metallic substances. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 344 The metal zinc may be burnt in oxygen. 1876 BROWNING *Poets of Croisic* viii, Zinc's unconstitutional Flash and Glare.

b. (with *pl.*) A plate of zinc used as the electropositive metal in a voltaic battery. (Cf. ZINCODE.)

1876 PREECE & STUBBS *Telegraphy* 29 If the zincs are scraped clean and the solution of sal-ammoniac kept up.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. attrib. Made or consisting of zinc, as *zinc dish, filings, gauze, plate, wire*; containing or made with zinc, as *zinc amalgam, bath, lotion, ointment, ore, plaster*; *spec.* in names of chemical compounds, as *zinc carbonate, oxide, salt*, etc.; pertaining to or used in connexion with zinc, as *zinc furnace*. b. objective and instrumental, as *zinc etching, printing*; *zinc-worker*; *zinc-lined, -roofed* adjs. c. Spec. comb.: **zinc-alum**, -**amide** (see quots.); **zinc-blende**, native zinc sulphide = BLENDE; **zinc-bloom** [tr. G. *zinkblüthe* (Karsten, 1808)], hydrous carbonate of zinc, hydrozincite; **zinc-dust**, zinc in the form of fine powder (often mixed with zinc oxide and other impurities), obtained by grinding, or in the extraction of zinc from its ores, and used as a deoxidizing agent and as a paint (see *zinc-grey*); **zinc-foil**, thin sheet zinc; **zinc-grey**, (*a*) zinc-dust obtained by grinding in oil, used as a preservative paint for ironwork; (*b*) a colour resembling that of zinc; **zinc-iron**, *sb.* an alloy of zinc and iron; *adj.* consisting of zinc and iron; **zinc-plate** = *zinc-foil*; **zinc-powder** = *zinc-dust*; **zinc spar**, an old name for native zinc carbonate (= CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE 2); **zinc-spinel** = GAHNITE (Dana *Min.* 1868); **zinc-sponge** (see quot.); **zinc-vitriol**, sulphate of zinc, white vitriol (Jameson *Syst. Min.*, 1805, II. 35); **zinc-white**, oxide of zinc used as a white paint.

1815 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 46 Sulphate of Alumina and Zinc-oxide.—'Zinc-alum = $Zn(1,SO^3 + Al^2O^3,3SO^3 + 24Aq$. 1839 UR *Dict. Arts* 166 Dilute muriatic acid, containing some of the zinc into solution. 1849 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XIII. 503 Action of Zinc-ethyl on Ammonia..after a little while, 'zinc-amide $NH^2Zn$ separates out. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 339 During the spring, my venereal patients took on the whole 14 saline baths, 38 'zinc baths. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 573 The principal ores of zinc are calamine..and 'zinc blende. *Ibid.* 575 The mineral substance, 'zinc bloom. 1852 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 9 The precipitated 'zinc-carbonate is washed..by subsidence and decantation. 1887 *Pharmaceutical's Pract. Chem.* (ed. 9) 330 'Zinc dishes must not be used. 1877 *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 468 Action of 'Zinc-dust on the Chlorides of Sulphoparabromobenzoic Acid. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Founder's Pocket-bk.* In the zinc-etching systems the gelatin is spread on the zinc. 1809 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 305 The concrete phosphoric acid, heated with 'zinc-filings, is decomposed. 1852 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 4 To obtain zinc-plate, or 'zinc-foil, the metal cast in a tabular form is heated in a boiling solution of common salt, and then passed between rollers. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 1006 'Zinc Furnace for the Distillation of Zinc combined with Lead. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 214 The window should be protected..with fly 'zinc-gauze. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, '*Zinc-grey*, see *Zinc-dust*. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/2 Zinc grey is very much worn. 1869 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 177 The 'zinc-iron circuit. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 348 Kreittonite, or Zinc-iron Gahnite. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 382/2 The leather is rolled and compressed on a level 'zinc-lined wooden bed. 1869 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 322 'Zinc lotions. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 332 'Zinc ointment. 1808 'Zinc ore (see GALMITE). 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1330 The mineral genus called zinc-ore..is denser than either of the above. 1869 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 223 Small quantities of iron and 'zinc oxides. 1869 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 330 A simple 'zinc plaster will be as much as the skin will tolerate. 1823 J. BALCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 126 A 'zinc plate of ten inches was immersed in the liquid. 1881 *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXIX. 462 Two grams of the 'zinc powder are weighed out. 1873 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 8v, 'Zinc printing..can be applied with great advantage for certain purposes in the etching style, for maps, plans,..&c. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 312 The 'zinc-roofed bungalow.

1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 3) 577 When hydroferrocyanic acid is added to a soluble 'zinc-salt. 1882 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, '*Zinc-scum*, the zinc-silver alloy skimmed from the surface of the bath in the process of desilverization of lead by zinc. 1908 *Times* 6 July 14/6 'Zinc sheets quiet at late rates. 1790 REINWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 236 'Zinc Spar. 1908 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 210/2 The deposition of pure zinc is beset with many difficulties,..unless the conditions are closely watched, it is liable to be thrown down in a spongy form. Siemens and Halske have proposed the addition of oxidising agents such as free halogens, to prevent the formation of zinc hydride, to which they attribute the function of 'zinc-sponge. 1852 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 14 The solution of 'zinc-sulphate is mixed with sal-ammoniac. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 398 Zinc sulphate, is used..as an emetic. 1849 *Weale's Dict. Terms* s.v., 'Zinc white as valuable..in painting, on account of its durability both in oil and water. 1803 *Mrnl. Jrnl.* X. 58 He placed the 'zinc wire on the tongue. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, '*Zinc worker and drawer*, a preparer of zinc for making into wire.

**Zinc** (zink), *v.* Inflected **zinced**, **zin(c)ked** (zinkt), **zincing**, **zin(c)king** (zi·nking). [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To cover or coat with zinc or some compound of zinc (esp. the oxide, as a preservative from rust); to treat with zinc, add zinc to. Hence **zinced** (zinkt) *ppl. a.*, **zincing** (zi·nking) *vbl. sb.*

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 398/2 Improvements.: in tinning or zincing metal. *Ibid.* 353/2 Zinked nails and bolts. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 231 The zincked and tinned iron. 1843 *Pract. Mech. & Eng. Mag.* II. 348 These processes enable us to zinc in an economical manner, iron, steel [etc.]. 1846 An estimate for zinking the suspension bridge at Hungerford Market. 1850 *Trnl. Franklin Inst.* Nov. 401 The conditions under which the zincked pipe is to be used. 1892 J. A. PHILLIPS & BAUERMAN *Elem. Metallurg.* (ed. 3) 370 Galvanizing process, or, as it is now frequently called, 'zincing'. 1895 MORRIS in Mackail *W. M.* (1899) II. 319 The lamb hath been finished with a zinked iron roof.

‖ **Zincalo** (zi·nkalo), *fem.* **-ala**. Pl. **-ali**. [The name by which the Gitanos of Spain call themselves. Cf. ZINGANO, etc.] A Spanish gipsy.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* ix. The Zincali, Gitanos, or Spanish gypsies. 1888 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* I. 137 Before you dreamed You were a born Zincala—in the bonds Of the Zincalis!

**Zincate** (zi·nkēt). *Chem.* [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ATE⁴.] A compound which may be regarded as a combination of the oxide of zinc (*zincic oxide*) with that of a more electropositive metal.

1872 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* Index 330/1.

**Zincic** (zi·nkik), *a.* Also **zincko**. [ad. mod.L. *zincicus*, f. *zincum* ZINC.] Of, pertaining to, or containing zinc. *Zincic oxide*, oxide of zinc, regarded as the source of the compounds called *zincates*.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zincicus* .. Berzelius terms *Oxydum zincicum* the second degree of oxidation of zinc.. zincic (etc.). 1869 *Trnl. Chem. Soc.* XXII. 33 The mixture of ethylic zincodiethoxidate and zincic iodide.

**Zinciferous** (zinki·fĕrəs), *a.* Also (in Dicts.) **sinckiferous, sinkiferous.** [f. ZINC *sb.* + -FEROUS.] Containing or producing zinc.

1820 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 323 The black zinciferous mineral, by Franklinite. 1848–50 WEBSTER, *Zinkiferous*.

**Zincify** (zi·nkifəi), *v.* Also (in Dicts.) **zinkify.** [f. ZINC *sb.*: see -FY.] *trans.* To coat or impregnate with zinc. Hence **Zi·ncific**ation (zink-), the process of zincifying, or state of being zincified.

1801 COLERIDGE in *Sir H. Davy's Rem.* (1858) 89 My motive muscles..acted and contracted at the news,..as if you..were zincifying their life-mocking fibres. 1891 RISDLER *Metallif. Argent. Lead* 304 Argentiferous zinc may settle in the zincification. 1892 [see ZINCIFY].

**Zincite** (zi·nkəit). *Min.* Also (in Dicts.) **sinkite, zinkite.** [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ITE 1.] A native oxide of zinc, of a deep-red or orange-yellow colour, found in New Jersey; red oxide of zinc, red zinc ore.

1854 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 100 Zincite Group.

**Zincken**ite: see ZINKENITE.

**Zincko, -iferous, -ite**: see ZINCIC, etc.

**Zincky**: see ZINKY.

**Zinco** (zi·nko), abbreviation of ZINCOGRAPH.

1889 *Scott. Leader* 23 Nov. 5 The zinco has some resemblance to Mr. G. 1889 *Athenæum* 26 Oct. 541/2 Drawings Worked by the paper for zincoing) for a Provincial Journal. 1891 *Cost of Production* (ed. 2) 44 Various 'processes' of which the 'zinco-process' is one of the commonest.

**Zinco-**, combining form of mod.L. *zincum* ZINC. In terms denominating chemical compounds containing zinc and some other element or radical, as *zinco-aluminic*, *-ammonic*, etc. adjs.; *zinco-sulphate*, etc. b. In various other terms: **Zincoelectric** (zinkokē·lasit) *Min.* (see quot. 1892); **Zincolysis** (zinkp·lisis) [after ELECTROLYSIS], decomposition by an electric current (as in a voltaic cell of which the anode consists of zinc), electrolysis; so **Zincolyte** (zi·nkoləit), a substance thus decomposed, an electrolyte; **Zincopo·lar** *a.*, having the polarity of the zinc plate or zincode of a voltaic cell; **Zi·ncotype** = ZINCOGRAPH.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 209 The surface of the zinc presented to the acid has zincous affinity, or is zincо-polar. *Ibid.* 222 On the electrical hypothesis a body which is thus decomposed in the active cells..is called an *electrolyte*.. and this kind of decomposition is distinguished as *electrolytic*. The chemical expressions equivalent to these are *zincolysis* and *zincolytic*. 1892 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 36 Carbonate of Zinc-oxide and Ammonia.—Zincoammonic Carbonate. *Ibid.* 481 Zinco-cupric Sulphate. 1869 *Engr. Mech.* 29 Mar. 575/2 White lead is..more alcative than the zinco-sulphate. 1889 *Athenæum* 12 Oct. 492/2 The two volumes are copiously illustrated by a zincotype process. 1890 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 535 In Zincotypes the zinc is first coated with bitumen or bichromated gelatine or albumen. 1892 *Dana's Min.* (ed. 6) 269 *Zincocalcite*. Contains some zinc carbonate; one specimen from Wilcox, Poland, gave Gibbs 4·07 ZnO. 1892 *Daily News* 23 Sept. 8/6 Zincotypet is open for Engagement.

**Zincode** (zi·nkōd). *Electr.* [f. mod.L. *zincum* ZINC + Gr. *ὁδός* path, after ANODE, etc.] The positive (zinc) plate (anode) of a voltaic cell.

1859 [see PLATINODE].

**Zincography** (zinkp·grăfi). [f. ZINCO- + -GRAPHY.] The art or process of engraving or etching designs on zinc, or of printing from such designs. Hence **Zincograph** (zi·nkgrɑf) *sb.*, a design, or impression produced by zincography; **Zi·ncograph** *v. trans.*, to engrave or print by zincography; **Zincographer**, one who practises zincography, an engraver on zinc; **Zincographic** *a.*, pertaining to or produced by zincography.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 333 The art of zincography has several advantages over that of lithography. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1334 Zinc is extensively employed for making.. plates for the zincographer. 1846 ANSTED *Ancient World, Min. etc.* § 469 (Zinc) is also engraved on (instead of stone) for zincographic printing. 1865 *Athenæum* 28 Feb. 239/2 An ancient map zincographed. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 429/3 The..zincographic plates are brought under the roller. 1888 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 232 Reproduced in 'zincograph' by the aid of photography. 1890 *Munim. Royal Burgh Irvine* I. Introd. p. xxxix, Zincographs of these seals.

**Zincoid** (zi·nkoid). [f. ZINC + -OID.] = ZINCODE.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 216 On the electrical hypothesis, the same plates are variously denominated: The zincoid as the positive pole, the positive element and the zincode..Chlorine is of course attracted by the surface of the zincoid and discharged there. 1848 WAYTE tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 431 Graham's *Zincoide* and *Zincode*.

**Zincous** (zi·nkəs), *a.* *Chem.* and *Geol.* [f. mod.L. *zinc-um* ZINC + -OUS.] Pertaining to or of the nature of zinc; having the affinity of zinc; relatively electropositive. (Opp. to CHLOROUS.)

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 204 The zincous pole. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 377 It is true in a general way that those elements which differ most strongly in their electrical characters, chlorine and potassium, for example, are likewise those which combine together with the greatest energy; and the division of bodies into the electro-positive and electro-negative is therefore retained; the former are also called acid or chlorous, and the latter basylous or zincous.

**Zincs**, ? obs. variant of ZOUNDS.

1709 [E. WARD] *Humble Rep.-Cafe* 9 Zincs, Madam, says Abell, in a damnable Fury, I won't be thus snub'd and abus'd. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 82. 2/2 *Zincs*.. we suppose..an affected Word for *Zounds*.

**Zinfandel** (zi·nfandel). A red or white dry wine of California.

1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 393 He drinks cheap Zinfandel, which must kill him eventually. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) Nov. 141/1 Four-year-old zinfandel.

**Zing**(e, obs. or dial. ff. SING *v.*1

‖ **Zingana** (zingā·na), *fem.* **-ana** (-ānā). Pl. **-ani, -e.** Also anglicized **Gingane**, 7–8 **zingan**; pl. 7–9 **zinganies**. [Italian. For the etymology, see Miklosisch in *Denkschr. d. k. Akad.* (Wien) XXVI. 55–64, Wiener in *Archiv f. d. Studium d. neueren Spr.* CIX. 295–6.] = ZINGARO, -ARA.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. (1586) 26 Your meaning is..that as it is lawfull onelie for the Cinganes to robbe, so is it also lawe principall to plucke in open Market. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* vii. 290 In that iourney they are exceedingly molested by certaine theeues called Zingani. 1684 T. SMITH in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 645 Encampments of Gypsies or Zinganies in Turkey. 1720 JON. RICHARDSON *Statues Italy* 334 An Exquisite Madonna, a Half Figure only, the same Attitude as in 1732. 1737 CHANDLER *Trav. Turkey* (1747) 93 A gang of Zingans, or gypses. 1838 W. HOWITT *Rural Life Eng.* I. 249 They were very sweet tunedscripts, but not very perfect beggars; and far, far indeed from perfect Zingaras.

‖ **Zingaro** (zingā·ro), *fem.* **-ara** (-ārā). Pl. **-ari, -e.** Also ? *pl.* **Singari, Zingaries**; ? **Zingarees**. [It. Cf. prec.] A gipsy; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 45 The very Northerne Weomen ..haue their faces tanned, that they may seeme to be Southerne Weomen (which sort are in Italy called *Singari*). 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 159 Some of the vagrant people, called Atzincari or Zingari, the Gypsies of the East. 1784–5 *Ann. Reg.* II. 83 A company of Zingaries, or Gypsey Language. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, I am a Zingaro, a Bohemian, an Egyptian, or whatever the Europeans..may choose to call our people. *Ibid.*, The Zingaro boy was no house-bred cur. 1845 FITZBALL *Maritana* III. Duetto, *Don C.* Once more we meet! 'Tis the Zingara! *Mar.* Yes, Maritana. 1896 *Amy Cruise* 129 She had copied two lines of the song "The Zingara"; then she.. hummed 'I'm a merry, merry Zingra'. 1901 M. COLLINS *Marg. & Merch.* I. vii. 217 The Zingari had built their fires. 1906 E. REICH *Plain w.* 114 The Zingaree or gypsy mother.

‖ **Zingel** (tsi·ngəl). [G.] Any fish of the perceoid genus *Aspro*; esp. *A. zingel* of the Danube. So **Si·ngelin**, an allied species.

1823 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 251 Zingel Perch. *Ibid.*, Zingelin Perch..Extremely allied to the Zingel in general appearance. 1888 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 339/2.

**†Zingho.** *Obs. rare.* [? for It. *zinch.*] Zinc.
1743 Walpole *Let. to Mann* 10 June, He promised me too to go to Lord Islay, to know what cobolt and zingho are.

**Zingiberaceous** (zĭnndʒibĕrē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zingiberaceæ*, f. *Zingiber* : see Ginger *sb.* and -aceous.] Belonging to the N. O. *Zingiberaceæ* of monocotyledonous plants, typified by the genus *Zingiber* (Ginger).
1848 Smart (ed. 2). 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* I. iii. 51 A stream overgrown with Zingiberaceous plants.

**Zink,** obs. f. Zinc.

‖ **Zinke** (zĭŋk, tsĭŋkə). Also **sincke, sink, sinke.** [G.] A cornet-like musical instrument of wood or horn, formerly common in Europe; also, a loud reed-stop in an organ.
1776 Hawkins *Hist. Mus.* II. iv. iv. 452 Luscinius next exhibits the forms of four other wind instruments, namely, 1, the Rumpfelt. 2. The Krumhorn. 3. The Gemsen horn. And 4. the Zincke. [*Note*] The Gemsen horn and Basaun.. are to be found in many great organs in Germany, as is also the Zincke corruptly called Clek. 1789 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 511 *Zink or Zincke.* 1937 *Musicians Jrnal.* XVI. 239 A zinke (wind instrument) of the 17th century, made of ivory with ornamental mountings.

**Zinked :** see Zinc *v.*

**Zinkenite** (zĭŋkĕnəit). *Min.* Also **sinok-.** [ad. G. *zinkenit* (G. Rose, 1826), named in honour of J. K. L. *Zincken*, director of Anhalt mines.] A steel-grey sulphide of antimony and lead.
1839 *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 292 Combinations of sulphuret of antimony and sulphuret of lead in different proportions, viz. : zinkenite,..Plagionite, Federerz, Bournonite.

**Zinkiferous, -ify, -ite :** see Zinciferous, etc.

**Zinking :** see Zinc *v.*

**Zinky** (zĭŋki), *a.* Also **sinoky.** [f. Zinc + -y¹.] Pertaining to zinc; containing zinc.
1787 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyritologia* 176 The groundmixtion of this zinky matter. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 218 The Cornish zinc.
**Zinnat,** obs. f. Stannate, plane-tree.

‖ **Zinnia** (zĭ·nĭă). *Bot.* Also *errom.* **sinia.** [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1763), from the name of J. G. *Zinn*, a German botanist.] A plant of the genus so named of American composite plants, extensively cultivated for the beauty of their flowers.
1767 Abercrombie *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 297 Sowing less tender Annuals.. The principal sorts are.. alkekengi or winter-cherry, tobacco-plant, zinnia, Indian corn. 1889 Payne *Marina* xi. I. 187 They visited the flower-market..and purchased zinias..to decorate the folds of their togas. 1910 *Nation* 13 Aug. 702/2 The hot and scentless glare of zinnias and dahlias.

**Zinnwaldite** (zĭ·nwɒldəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zinnwaldit* (Haidinger, 1845), f. *Zinnwald* in Bohemia, its locality.] A kind of mica containing lithium and iron, a variety of lepidolite.
1861 Dibbow *Gloss. Min., Zinnwaldite*, Haidinger.

**Zinopre,** var. Sinopeр *Obs.*

**Zinziberaceous** (zĭ·nzĭbĕrē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* = Zingiberaceous.
1864 in Webster.

**Ziogoon,** variant of Shogun.

**Zion** (zəi·ən). Forms : 1– **Sion,** 5 **Syon,** 7– **Zion.** [eccl. L. *Sion*, Gr. Σιών, Σιών, a. Heb. צִיּוֹן *tsiyōn.*] The name of one of the hills of Jerusalem, on which the city of David was built, and which became the centre of Jewish life and worship; in biblical and derived use, allusively for : The house or household of God; and hence connoting variously, the Israelites and their religious system, the Christian Church, heaven as the final home of believers, a place of worship or meeting-house (cf. Bethel, Ebenezer).
*c* 1000 *Ps.* lxxxiv. 7 in *Ælfric Hom.* II. 334 Da halgan farað from mihte to mihte ; and soðe God wile geseowen on Sion. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* II. 16 That thou plaunte beuenus, and founde erthe, and say to Sion, My pupile thou art. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 2 As we are ordeyned of this bodely Syon, so ought ye to be doughtres of Syon gostly. *Ibid.* 147 By Syon ..ys vnderstonde sowles that are gyuen to contemplacyon, where in oure lorde Iesu chryste ys sewerly stabled. *a* 1540 Wyatt *Penit. Ps.* iv. 77 Lake Sion, Lord, acordyng to thy will, Inward Syon, the Syon of the ghost. 1611 *Bible* Ep. Ded., Many, who wished not well vnto our Sion. 1779 J. Newton *Hymn, 'Glorious things of thee are spoken'* Ye Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know. 1803 Galt *R. Gilhaize* vii, That name city of St. Andrews is the Zion of Scotland. Of old, the glad tidings of salvation were first heard there. 1871 R. H. Vaughan *Life S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 859 As if the Basilica of S. Peter's were brought into juxtaposition with the Zions and Ebenezers of our more modern days.

Hence **Zi·oner,** a member of an organized religious body ; **Zi·onless** *a. fig.*, having no centre of common worship.
1760 Rutty *Spir. Diary* (ed. 2) 158 O the carelessness of our Sions. 1908 V. Spence *Chr. Reunion* lx. 170 The tribes must remain Zion-less without the Ecclesia.

**Zionism** (zəi·ənĭz'm). Also **Sion-.** [f. prec. + -ism.] A movement among modern Jews having for its object the assured settlement of their race upon a national basis in Palestine. So **Zi·onist,** a supporter of Zionism ; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*
1898 *Jewish Chron.* 17 Jan. 10/2 The emigration and Zionist societies. *Ibid.* 25 May 10/1, I would ask them.. to consider whether Zionism..really deserves to be preached down as a standing danger to Israel's progress. *Ibid.* 28 Aug. 6/1 Many of those who worship the national ideal are Zionists ; not all though, nor do all Zionists share the Zionist ideas. *Ibid.*, Zionism does not necessarily aim at the formation of a Jewish State in Palestine. 1904 *Times* 5 May 15/2 Zionism had actually penetrated the West End Synagogue. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 389 The Sionists, who are a small minority of the Jews.

**Zionite** (zəi·ənəit). [f. Zion + -ite 1.] *a.* A citizen of Zion ; one of the chosen people of God. b. One of a sect so called : see quot. 1886.
1607 T. Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 349 The Zionites, the people of God, the citizens of Zion. 1886–9 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1604 The Zionites in Norway. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 842/2 Founded in 1737 by the followers of Elias Eller, a religious enthusiast, Ronsdorf received townrights in 1745. The Ronsdorf sect, the members of which called themselves Zionites, is now extinct.

**Zionward** (zəi·ənwɒd(ɛ), *adv.* [f. Zion + -ward(s).] Towards Zion ; usually *fig.* heavenwards.
1815 A. Bonar *Hymn.* (1856) I. 35 The same Sun of Righteousness to guide our faces Zionward. 1836 Hon. Smith *Tim Trumpp, Christianity* (1890) 83 They are too polite to travel Zionward in such company. 1880 Edmond *Chiferni's Ch. at Home* xxi. 325 The faces of all are Zionwards.

**Zip** (zĭp), *sb. colloq.* [Limitation.]
1. (Often reduplicated *zip, zip,* or *zip-zip.*) A syllable expressing a light sharp sound such as that produced by a bullet or other small or slender object passing rapidly through the air or through some obstacle, or by the tearing of canvas or the like ; a sound of this kind, or movement accompanied by such sound.
1875 Fogg *Arabistan* xxi. 264 The blood-thirsty *zip* of mosquitoes by the million. 1885 *Century Mag.* May 134/1 *The zing, zip, zip* of bullets. 1889 D. C. Murray in *Good Words* 1 Sept. 567/1 He..heard the sharp swish of the thread went on. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* ii. 55 Another buckshot tore through the rotten canvas tilt with a vicious zipp.
2. *fig.* Spirit, force, impetus.
1900 Grimer *Old Gorgon Graham* xi. (1904) 225, I need.. a little more zest for my food, and a little more zip about my work. 1907 N. Munro *Doff Days* xxxii, That's how I feel.. when I get the slip of poetry in me.

So **Zip** *v., intr.* to make the sound expressed by 'zip' (chiefly in *pr. pple.* and *vbl. sb.*).
1882 J. M. Batten *Remin. Two Yrs. U.S. Navy* 79, I heard the zipping of bullets in the air close to my head. 1913 Strayhorn *St. & Challoner* xix, [A snake] that would..coil zipping mad over the warm twisting body.

**Ziphioid** (zĭ·fiɔid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* Also *errom.* siphoid. [f. mod.L. *Ziphius* (Cuvier, 1834), *errom.* form for *Xiphias*, ad. Gr. ξίφιος, var. form of ξιφίας swordfish, Xiphias ; see -oid.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling or allied to the genus *Ziphius* of whales ; belonging to or having the characters of the family *Ziphiidæ.* b. *sb.* A ziphioid whale. Also **Zi·phian** ; so **Zi·phiform** *a.*, having the form of a whale of this genus.
1870 Flower *Osteol. Mammm.* iv. 40 In *Hyperoodon*, and most of the other Ziphioids, the whole of the cervical vertebræ are ankylosed together. 1890 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. iv. VI. 348 A Ziphioid Whale, probably *Berardius Arnuxii.* 1893 Toims *Dental Anat.* 156 The *Microrhynchus*, a ziphioid Cetacean. *Ibid.* ix. 188 The Cetaceans classed together as Ziphoids have no teeth in the upper jaw. 1896 R. J. Anderson *Whales & Dolph.* ii. 13 In Ziphians the ribs are ten. *Ibid.* 14 In Sternum of the Ziphian kind A hole at middle, you will find.

**Ziphoide,** erron. var. Xiphoid.

**Ziphre,** obs. form of Cipher.

**Zippeite** (zĭp'əit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zippeit* (Haidinger, 1845), named after F. X. M. *Zippe*, a German mineralogist.] A sulphate of uranium, occurring in small bright yellow needles.
1894 R. D. Thomson *Cycl. Chem.*

**Ziralset** (zĭ·rălĕt). [Arabic ; cf. *saghrata, zaghlata* to utter the cries of joy called '*zaghrūta*' or *zaghrūta*', pl. *zaghārīt* (Dozy).] (See quot. 1794.)
1794 *A. Russell's Aleppo* (ed. 2) I. 382 The Ziraleet, or Zeraleet (زغرلت), the written by a native of Aleppo) is the common manner of a company of women expressing joy, or any sudden exultation. The words expressed are Lilli, Lilli, Lilli, repeated as often as the person can do at one breath. 1887 Moore *Lalla R., Veiled Prophet* iii. iv, And light young virgins and chaunt your ziraleets. [In *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. VI. 268 'A lark's ziraleet' is said to be used by Longfellow.]

**†Ziraph,** obs. form of Giraffe.

**† Zirbal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *sirbus* + -al.] Of or pertaining to the *sirbus* or omentum.
1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cccx, There be thre kyndes of ruptures, the fyrst is zirbala.

**Zirco-** : see Zirconio-.

**Zircon** (zɔ·rkŏn). *Min.* Also 8 **circon,** 9 **zir-cone.** [ad. F. *zircone*, G. *zirkon* ; see Jargon *sb.*²] A native silicate of zirconium, occurring in tetragonal crystals, variously coloured, red, yellow, brown, green, etc.
Colourless and translucent varieties are used as gems : cf. Hyalinite 2 b, Jargon *sb.*²
1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 14 Jargonic Earth or Jargonin. This earth has been discovered by Mr. Klaproth : it has as yet been found only in the stone called Jargon, or Circon, of Ceylon. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 453 Zircon is destitute of taste and smell, and is harsh to the touch. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 160 Zirconia ; Sesquioxide of zirconium.. This oxide is found combined with silicic acid in the mineral zircon. 1900 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 613/2 The zircon, jargoon, or hyacinth is a very beautiful stone, varying in colour, like the topaz, from red and yellow to green and blue.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *zircon crystal, earth, fossil ; zircon-like* adj. ; **zircon-syenite** (see quot.).
1802 R. Jamieson *Syst. Min.* I. 34 The *zircon* crystal is formed. 1816 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 93 *Zircon* earth. 1849 J. Murray *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 274 *Zircon* fossils. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 975 Tetragonal zircon-like minerals. 1885 Haldeman in *Mohs' Treat. Min.* II. 370 Those [varieties of pyramidal zircon] from Frederikswärn in Norway [occur] in *zircon-syenite.*

**Zirconate** (zɔ·rkŏnēt). *Chem.* [f. Zircon-ic + -ate 1 c.] A salt of zirconic acid.
1851 Watts in *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 464 Zirconate of Cupric Oxide.

**Zirconia** (zɔrkōnə·niă). *Chem.* Also 8 **circonia,** 9 **siroona.** [mod.L. (Klaproth), f. *zircon* : see above and -ia 1.] An earth, usually obtained as a white powder by heating zirconium to redness in contact with air ; zirconium dioxide, $ZrO_2$ ; used in certain incandescent burners.
1799 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 206 The hyacinth ..consists of.. more than six-tenths of its weight of a peculiar earth, now known under the name of jargon, circon, or circonia. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 160 When exposed to a violent heat, zirconia becomes fused, and assumes a somewhat greyish colour. 1811 Davy *Chem. Philos.* 361 Zircon is soluble in the mineral acids. 1872 tr. *Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* 19 The oxyhydrogen light..attains a still higher intensity, if a piece of magnesium or zirconia be substituted for the cylinder of lime.
*attrib.* 1849 Watts tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 343 The zirconia-salts are not precipitated by zinc. 1879 Knight *Dict. Mech., Zirconia Light*, one in which a stick of oxide of zirconium is exposed to a flame of oxyhydrogen gas.

**Zirconian** (zɔrkōnĭăn), *a.* [f. prec. + -an.] = Zirconic. *Z. syenite* = zircon-syenite (Zircon bl. ·
1853 Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. 378 *note*, Pyroxenic porphyries with amygdaloids and zirconian syenites.

**Zirconic** (zɔrkɒ·nĭk), *a.* [f. Zirconium, or Zirconium + -ic.] Of pertaining to, or like zircon ; containing zirconium or zirconium. *Zirconic acid*, an acid containing zirconium, known only by its salts (*zirconates*).
1804 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 304 After the zirconic follows the silicious genus. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 539/1 Zirconic oxide is infusible.

**Zirconio-** (zɔrkōnĭo), *Chem.*, also **sircono-,** and abbreviated **zirco-,** combining form of Zirconium, indicating the presence of zirconium in a compound, as *zircon(i)fluoride*, a compound of zirconium fluoride, $ZrF_4$, with any of various oxides (more properly *fluozirconate* : see Fluo-).
1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 583 Double salts, called zirconio-fluorides or fluozircontates. 1894 Muir & Wilsh *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 859/1 Combinations.. With various metallic fluorides..These salts are often called zirconio-fluorides, or fluo-zirconates ; they are better called fluozirconates.

**Zirconite** (zɔ·rkŏnəit). *Min.* [f. Zircon + -ite 1 b.] A greyish or brownish variety of zircon. Hence **Zirconi·tic** *a.*, containing zircon.
1824 Aikin *Man.* Min. (ed. 3) 208 Zirconite, or zircon in small crystals imbedded in Sienite. 1892 *Dana's Min., Geol.* (ed. 4) 83, 2. Common or ordinary granite..4. Zirconitic.

**Zirconium** (zɔrkōnĭŭm). *Chem.* Also 9 **sirconum.** [mod.L., f. Zircon.] A metallic element, obtained from zircon as a black powder or as a greyish crystalline substance. Symbol Zr.
1808 Davy in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 333 I have been so fortunate as to have..procured the metallic substances I was in search of, I should have proposed, for them the names of silicium, alumium, zirconium, and glucium. 1812 — *Chem. Philos.* 361 No substance has as yet been formed..in which zirconium can be supposed to exist free from oxygene. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* 382 Zirconium..is a tetrad metal.
*attrib.* 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 382 Zirconium Oxide ..is prepared by strongly igniting zircon. 1906 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 245/3 The cosmium, tantalum, and zirconium incandescent filaments of electric glow-lamps.

**Zisel,** variant of Ziesel.

**Zit(te, Zitoh :** see Sit *v.*, Such.

‖ **Zitella.** *Obs.* Pl. **-e.** [It.] A girl, young woman, maiden.
*a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* ii. (1670) 250 The Procession of the *Zitelle* upon our Ladyes day in Lent. 1679 Mrs. Behn *Feign'd Curtizans* iii. I. A Cardinal and Zitella too ? a pretty contradiction ! *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Mar. 1645, We saw the Pope and Cardinals ride in pomp to the Minerva..when he gives portions to 12 *zitelle.*

**Zither** (zĭ·ðəɹ). Also **sitth(e)er.** [ad. G. *zither* ; see Cither, Cytheren.] A musical instrument (introduced into England *c* 1850 from Austria) having from thirty to forty strings let into the lower rim of a shallow resonance-box, and played by striking with the fingers and thumb.
In modifications of the instrument a fretted finger-board is fitted across a resonance-box shaped like a heart (*true zither*) or like a viola (*viola zither*), and the instrument is played with a bow.
1850 *The Initials* iv, I expected some such proposition as soon as I heard the sound of the zither. 1852 Mrs. Smith *Harry Richmond* xxx, Nothing haunted me so much as those tones of her zither. 1874 Miss R. H. *Rose Fall.*

*Tirol* Pref. p. vi, Just as…the barrel-organ supersedes the zither and the guitar.

b. *Comb.*, as *zither music*, *player*; **zither-banjo**, a modification of the zither, resembling a banjo.

1892 *The Initiate* iv, The untutored singers and zither players. 1901 W. Black *Sunrise* iii, He was passionately fond of zither music. 1900 *Referee* 9 Dec. 3 (Cass. Suppl.), Mr. ——'s 'Valse des Fleurs,' with a zither-banjo.

Hence **zitherist**, a performer on the zither.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Feb. 6/1 The Zitherist to his Highness the Duke of Nassau.

**zithern** (zi·pərn). Also **zittern**. Variant of ZITHER; cf. CITTERN.

1884 in Webster. 1888 *Daily News* 14 Aug., A couple of musicians, one playing the violin, another an instrument something like the zittern. 1888 Ruskin *Præterita* II. vi. 215 He is playing…on a kind of zithern-harp.

**Zix, Zixt**: see SIX, SEE *v.*

‖ **Zizania** (zĭ-, zəizē·niă). *Bot.* [mod.L. fem. sing. = late L. n. pl. (see ZIZANY).] (Any aquatic grass of) the genus so named, esp. *Z. aquatica* (Canada, Indian, water, or wild rice).

1809 T. Castle *Introd. Bot.* 157 The zizania or Canadarice. 1847 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man.* v. vi. v. § 6. 395 The Menomonies are called 'Folles Avoines', or Wild Oats, from the wild rice or zizania which their country produces.

† **Zizany.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **sizanny**, -**ije**, 5 **sizannie**, 6 **sizanie**, 6–8 **sizany**: also (in Gr. L. form) 4–6 **sizania**, 7 *pl.* **sizaniæ**. [a. OF. *sizanie*, ad. late L. *zizania* n. pl., a. Gr. ζιζάνια, pl. of ζιζάνιον.]

1. An injurious weed among corn; also *fig.*; = TARE *sb.*[1] 3, b.

*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1138 þi wete sal bi-com sizanny [*Gött.* sizannije, *Fairf.* darnel]. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistule*, etc. 100 Radices semen sanguinarie, sizannie, fanel. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droc. 1586 J. Hamilton in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To destroie the varld to sua mekil pernicious treasse in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxciv. (1495) X iv/2 Ray hyghte Zizania and is a certen herbe…lyke to whete whanne it is grasee.] and hathe a blacke seed sanguinium, i. dasinel. *c* 1550 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droc. 1586 J. Hamilton in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To destroie the varld to sua mekil pernicious treasse in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

1598 Barret *Alv.* Z 2 Zizania, a certen herbe…lyke to wheate whanne it is grasee.] and hathe a blacke seed sanguinium, i. dasinel. *c* 1550 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droc. 1586 J. Hamilton in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To destroie the varld to sua mekil pernicious treasse in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxciv. (1495) X iv/2 Ray hyghte Zizania and is a certen herbe…lyke to whete whanne it is grasee.] and hathe a blacke seed sanguinium, i. dasinel. *c* 1550 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droc. 1586 J. Hamilton in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To destroie the varld to sua mekil pernicious treasse in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

1598 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxciv. (1495) X iv/2 Ray hyghte Zizania and is a certen herbe…lyke to whete whanne it is grasee.] and hathe a blacke seed sanguinium, i. dasinel. *c* 1550 Du Wes *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 913 Zizany, droc. 1586 J. Hamilton in *Catth. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To destroie the varld to sua mekil pernicious treasse in mennis hartis. *a* 1706 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

1598 Barret *Alv.* Z 2 Zizania, a certen herbe…lyke to wheate

a Zodiacal Girdle *II. c.* before the completion & a year. 1718 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 304 By the help of the Moon... they placed this Zodiacal Armilla in such a situation as was agreeable to the present moment of time. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Inductive Sci.* (1857) II. 206 Pearson's [catalogue] has 590 zodiacal stars. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* I. i. 18 The zodiacal constellations occupy quite unequal spaces in the heavens.

**b.** *Zodiacal light*: a tract of nebulous light extending along the zodiac on each side of the sun in the form of an elongated ellipse; in the temperate zones visible chiefly after sunset in late winter and early spring, and before sunrise in autumn.

1734 Ranby in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 244 The Zodiacal Light is the purer unmixed Atmosphere of the Sun. 1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxvii. (ed. 8) 240 [Professor Olmsted] agrees with La Place in thinking that the zodiacal light is a nebulous body, revolving in the plane of the solar equator. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* v. 230 The zodiacal light, which obviously cannot possibly be part of the gaseous atmosphere of the sun. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 411/2 The Zodiacal light is supposed to be the remains of the great nebula out of which the solar system was constructed.

**† Zodio·graphe.** *Obs. rare*—°. [f. Gr. type **(ζωιο)γράφοι*, f. *ζῴδιον*, dim. of *ζῷον* animal (see Zodiac) + *γράφειν* to write: see -grapher.] One who writes about or describes animals.

1650 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* v. I. (ed. 2) 197 Ancient Zodiographers, and such as have particularly discoursed upon Animals.

‖ **Zoea** (zōi·ē). *Zool.* Pl. **zoeæ** (zōi·ī), also in Eng. form **zoeas** (zōi·ēăz). Also **zoes, zoese.** Earlier form **zoe** (zō·ē) ; pl. **zoes** (zō·ēz). [mod. L. *zoe, zoes* (Bosc, 1802), the first form a. Gr. *ζωή* life, the second an extension of it by addition of fem. suffix -a 2.] **†a.** (An animal of) a supposed genus of crustaceans, founded on certain larval forms mistaken for adults. *Obs.* **b.** A larval stage of development in crustaceans, esp. decapods, usually characterized by one or more spines on the carapace, and rudimentary thoracic and abdominal limbs. Also *attrib.*, as *zoea-form, -phase, -stage.*

1828 J. V. Thompson *Zool. Res.* I. 1. 5 The fifth or terminal joint formed as in all the genuine Zoeæ, of a deep red, like the inner sides of the shell, studded with three small spines. *Ibid.* 9 On the 1st of May of the present year, (1827,) another large Zoea was taken. *Ibid.* 11 note, The French have adopted the term Zoe for those larvæ which are as more simple, and better suited to the genius of our own language than the Latin, may be used in familiar discourse without any impropriety. *Ibid.* 63 The Zoe or Larva of the common or edible Crab. 1835 Westwood in *Phil. Trans.* CXXV. 324 If...these latter Zoes are to be regarded as the larvæ of Crabs, they must be considered as having acquired the maximum of their Zoæ form. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* viii. 213 The Zoea form [of the crab], with carapace rising into a tall erect spine, sessile eyes, no claws. 1865 [see Mysis b]. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Invert.* vi. 303 In most Podophthalmia the embryo leaves the egg, not as a Nauplius, but as a Zoea, which has thoracic, but no abdominal, appendages. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 169 In the larval form [of the crayfish] known as *Zoæa*, the first *Zoæa*-stage has no palp to the mandible.

Hence **Zoeal** (zōi·ăl) *a.*, of a zoea.

1870 P. M. Duncan *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 459 During the next zoëal period the paired eyes..are formed.

**Zoecial, -ium** : see Zoœ-.

**Zoetrope** (zōi·trōp). [irreg. f. Gr. *ζωή* life + *-τροπον* turning.] A mechanical toy or optical instrument consisting of a cylinder open at the top, with a series of slits in the circumference, and a series of figures representing successive positions of a moving object arranged along the inner surface, which when viewed through the slits while the cylinder is in rapid rotation produce the impression of actual movement of the object. Also called *wheel of life*.

1869 W. S. Gilbert *Bab' Ball., Capt. Reece* vi. And, also, with amusement rife, A 'Zoetrope, or Wheel of Life.' 1881 *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 567/2 By a zoetrope these figures are projected on a screen, and the clown exhibited as in motion, with all his changes of position.

**Zoge**, obs. Kent. pa. pple. of See *v.*

**† Zographer, Zography.** *Obs.* See quots. and cf. Dendrographer, Zoographer.

1970 Dee *Math. Pref.* 6 This Mechanicall Zographer (commonly called the Painters). *Ibid.*, Zographie, is an Arte Mathematicall, which...demonstrateth, how, the Intersection of all visuall Pyramides, made by any playne assigned, (the Centre, distance, and lightes, beyng determined) may be, by lynes, and due proper colours, represented.

**Zoïc** (zōi·ik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *ζωικός*, f. *ζῷον* animal; in sense 1 taken as f. *ζωή* life, after Azoic.]

1. Showing traces of life; in *Geol.*, containing organic remains.

1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 597 If, therefore, these simple species existed in the Azoic era, they were sysstemless life, and only foreshadowed the great scheme of life which were afterwards displayed..in the true Zoic ages. 1885-6 *Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey* (1888) 453 These great Pre-Cambrian and Post-Archæan series are zoic in character.

**2.** Of the nature of an animal; animal.

1895-6 W. J. McGee in *19th Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* (1898) 167 The Seri face-painting would seem to be essentially zoögenetic, or symbolic of zoic cutularies. 1900 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 63 The use of zoic motives in the decoration of primitive weapons.

**Zoid** (zōi·id), *sb. Biol.* (Dimsd.) [f. Gr. *ζῷον* animal + -id 3, or shortened f. Zooid.] = Zooid.

1896 Woodward *Molluscs* 336 In one group [of Tunicata], the individuals..become blended into a common mass. ..The separate individuals of these composite masses are termed *Zoids*. 1899 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 69/1 Many zoids or buds being attached in line.

**Zo·id,** *a. Zool. rare*—1. [f. *zoe* = Zoea + -id 3.] Applied to a larval or zoea stage in Crustacea.

1882 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 215/2 The early zoid conditions and subsequent transformations of the Crustacea.

**Zoid(i)gamous**: see *zooidiogamous* s.v. Zooid.

**Zoilus** (zōi·lŭs). Also 6–7 Zoylus, 7 Zoilis; also 6–7 anglicized Zoil(e, Zoyl(e. [L., a. Gr. *Ζωΐλος*. Cf. F. *zoïle*, It., Sp. *zoilo*.

The supposed relation of *Zoilus* to *ζῆλος* Zeal, which is held to account for the association of the notion of malignancy or envy with this word, is reflected in the following:

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 23 There..resolution to suffer for there bad causes will induce the ignorant, to thinck that there outragiouse royle is a sanctified zeale.]

Name of a Greek critic and grammarian (4th century B.C.) famous for his severe criticism of Homer; *transf.* (with pl. *Zoili, Zoiluses*), a censorious, malignant, or envious critic. Hence **Zoilean, † Zoili·dian, Zo·ilous** *adjs.*, characteristic of Zoilus or his criticism; **Zo·ilism,** carping criticism like that of Zoilus; **Zo·ilist,** an imitator of Zoilus, a carping critic.

1587 J. Sanford *Epistetus* A v b, Carp not ye cankred *Zoilus* his vaine, Whose labour spente in payefull toyle hath ben. 1612 R. Sheldon *Serm. at St. Martin's* 47 Such as are eminent should be careful of their conversations when they are besieged with such malitious Zoiles. 1642 Wood-cock cites Richardson for *Zoilean*. 1669 N. Morgan *Perf. Horsem.* 44 The litter humor of *Zoilisme* and malice. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* II. § 9 Let not Zoilism or Detraction blast well intended labours. 1753 *Gray's Lett. Jrnl.* No. 34, I am convinced of your Endeavours to propogate the Cause of Zoilizm. 1594 Nashe *Christ's T.* To Rdrs., Their malitious Zoilian mouthes. 1598 Zoilus about Homer, exclaim, that it is a puft-up stile. 1658 Franck *Northern Mem.* (1694) Pref. p. xxvii, Some peevaricating Zoilist will arraign my hypothesis. 1718 M. Davies *Athenæ Brit.* II. 87 Polydore Virgil, Dr. John Cay, with other Zoilists, reported that his Poetical Wit made him so conceited. 1819 Todd *Johnson's Dict.* s.v. *Zoilus*, Some seem to be controvertted by every Zoilitical Pretender! 1877 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* Ep. Ded. A iv b, I thought it good (sumwhat to soothe the Zoilous mouth) to setie a few lines before upon it, that is, *Golden Aphrodisia*. 1618 M. Baret *Hyphon.* 1. 47 Here..therefore needeth not be daunted for the taunts of any Zoilus or beholdi-rs. 1585 Cooper *Thesaurus, Dict. Hist. & Lect.* s.v. *Zoilus*, Zoilus, all malicious carpers of other mens wourkes be called **Zoili*. 1573 W. Clowes in *T. Bandeter's Treat. Chirurg.* In praise of Author, Although him Zoilus carpe, and spyte, him doe what he may. 1580 R. Hitchcock *Pol. Plat Pref.* **ij, To defende my imperfection, against a sorte of Momus sectes, and Zoilus bandes. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Omeh. Marr.* 76 Zoilisme and Thesitisme. 1636 Prynne *Rem. agst. Ship-money* Epis. Carping Zoiluses, or malignant Momusses whom no men can please. 1818 Jas. Mimsam *Pl. Macarthy* (1820) II. ii. 99 This formidable Zoilus of the Crawley family. a 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 64 How then comes it that the Zoilus-like spirit, which all malicious carpers of other mens wourkes be called **Zoili*. 1573 W. Clowes in *T. Bandeter's Treat. Chirurg.* In praise of Author, Although him Zoilus carpe, and spyte, him doe what he may. 1580 R. Hitchcock *Pol. Plat Pref.* **ij, To defende my imperfection, against a sorte of Momus sectes, and Zoilus bandes. 1636 Prynne *Rem. agst. Ship-money* Epis. Carping Zoiluses, or malignant Momusses whom no men can please. 1818 Jas. Mimsam *Pl. Macarthy* (1820) II. ii. 99 This formidable Zoilus of the Crawley family. a 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 64 How then comes it that the Zoilus-like spirit, which all malicious nature has combined in unhesitating condemnation of our great dramatist?

**Zoisite** (zoi·sait). *Min.* [ad. G. *zoisit*, named by Werner after Baron von *Zois*, the discoverer.] A native silicate of aluminia and lime, occurring in orthorhombic prismatic crystals, of various colours, white, green, or red.

1804 Jas. Parkinson *Syst. Min.* II. 597. 1843 Portlock *Geol.* 209 Zoisite in fine crystals of a greyish brown or olive colour,..at Hollyhill, near Strabane, County Tyrone.

**Zoism** (zōu·izm). [f. Gr. *ζωή* life + -ism.]

1. = Animism 1.

1849 Southey (*title*) Zoistic Magnetism. 1900 (*title*) Psychic Research Co.'s Course of Instruction in Personal Magnetism, Seership, Mind Reading, Hypnotism, Magnetic Healing, and Zoism.

**Zoïsism** (zōu·isiz'm). [f. the name *Zoïs* + -ism.] The literary manner characteristic of the French novelist Émile Zola (1840–1902), whose works are marked by an excessively realistic treatment of the coarser sides of human life. Hence **Zoïsesque** (-esk) *a.*, characteristic of or resembling the style of Zola; **Zoïst,** one who studies or approves of the writings of Zola (hence **Zoïst·ic** *a.*); **Zoïsize** *v. intr.*, to imitate or follow the style of Zola; *trans.* to make like Zola.

1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 July 5/2 Mr. Moore's 'Zolaesque search for characteristic phrases has led him into some startling extravagances. 1902 in Gayley *Repr. Engl. Com.* I. 387 The mean circumstances of his fisherman career, and the terribly brutal, Zolaesque scene of his death-chamber. 1882 *Athenæum* 30 Dec. 873 3 A particular form of 'Zoïsism, much in vogue at this moment. 1886 Tennyson *Locksley Hall 60 Yrs. After* 145 Set the maiden fancies wallowing in the troughs of Zolaism. 1886 *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 76/2 Even the 'Zoïsist has to remember that 'art is art because it is not nature'. *Ibid.* 16/3 The French critics either of the Hugonistic or the 'Zolaistic persuasion. *Ibid.* 9 July 53/3 The 'Zoïsizing novelist of Paul Lindau, 'Arme Mädchen'. 1901 *Literature* 30 Mar. 234/2, I do not mean that M. Rod has Zolaized Mr. Hardy.

**Zoll,** variant of Sall 2.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk., Zoll, or Sall*, an Indian timber, much used in the construction of country vessels.

‖ **Zollverein** (tso·lfereīn). [G., f. *zoll* tax, impost, Toll *sb.*4 + *verein* union.] A union, orig. between certain states of the German empire, afterwards in 1833 including all the states, for the maintenance of a uniform rate of customs duties from other countries and of free trade among themselves; hence *gen.* of other countries. Hence **Zo·llvereinist,** an advocate of a British imperial zollverein.

1843 *Times* 21 Aug. 5/2 The Zollvereinists.—The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies..voted by an immense majority the two following resolutions. 1847 Cobden in Morley *Life* (1881) I. xviii. 448 'The Prussian law of 1818, and the tariff which followed it, form the foundation of the German Zollverein. 1862 (*title*) London Exhibition. Special Catalogue of the Zollverein-Department edited by authority of the Commissioners of the Zollverein Governments. 1893 Gosling Smith *Ext. Quest. Day* 150 When colonists propose an Imperial zollverein.

‖ **Zolotnik** (zolotnik). Also **S solothnic, solotnik, -nick.** [Russ. золотникъ, f. золото *zolote* gold.] A Russian unit of weight, $\frac{1}{96}$ of the funt or Russian pound.

1783 Martyn in *Geogr. Mag.* II. 40 Russia has some weights peculiar to itself: such as a solothnic, which is one-sixth of an ounce. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russ. Emp.* II. 532 The solotnik is only reckoned at 1$\frac{1}{4}$ kopeks, whereas the solotnik of gold is valued at 2 rubles 50 kopecks. 1919 Petrie in *Man* XIX. 60 The Russian and Irak pound... was divided into 96 zolotniks, which were equal to the Attic drachma.

**Zolow, Zom(e, Zomboruk, Zomer**: see Sullow, Some, Zumboorok, Summer 3.

**Zomotherapy** (zōmŏpe·răpi). *Med.* [ad. F. *zomothérapie*, f. Gr. *ζωμός* soup + *θεραπεία* Therapy.] The use of raw meat, or the juice expressed from it, in the treatment of tuberculosis. Hence **Zomotherapeu·tic** *a.*, pertaining to zomotherapy.

1900 *Lancet* 27 Oct. 1242/2 The experiments of M. Richet and M. Héricourt relative to the use of raw meat as a prophylactic and curative substance in tuberculous treatment these observers have called 'zomotherapy'. *Ibid.*, At various stages of the zomotherapeutic treatment.

**Zon,** dial. form of Son.

**† Zona** (zō·nă). The Lat. form of the Gr. word repr. by Zone. *a. Archæol.* A girdle: = Zone *sb.* 3. **b.** Used in Anatomy with various qualifying adjs. to denote certain structures or parts of structures (see quots., and cf. Zone *sb.* 6). **Zona ignea** [L., = fiery girdle] *Path.*, also simply **zona,** the disease *herpes zoster* or shingles. **Zona pellucida,** the transparent membrane forming the cell-wall of the ovum in Mammalia.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Zona*,..a kind of Herpes, or Shingles call'd Holy Fire. 1800 Dallaway *Anc. Arts Rep.* 249 Both the tænia and zona are concealed by drapery falling over them. 1818-20 Thomson *Chem. Inorg.* (ed. 3) 331 Herpes *Zoster, Zona*; or *Zona ignea*: the shingles. 1841 M. Barry in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXII. 116 We saw the simplest change, when the..membrane, the *Zona pellucida* in the mammiferous ovum, to leave a stratum of unappropriated cells behind it in the 'zona'. 1848 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* s.v., *Zona Tendinea*, the whitish circle around the auriculo-ventricular orifice of the right side of the heart. 1883 Klein *Elem. Histol.* 341 The inner zona, or *zona reticularis*, composed of small or large groups of polyhedral cells. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 620 Yet there has never been any confusion with regard to H[erpes] Zoster, or Zona, since the disease was first described.

**Zonal** (zō·năl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *zonālis*, f. L. *zona* Zone.]

**1.** Characterized by or arranged in zones, circles, or rings; of the nature of or forming a zone.

1673 A. Wilson *Elem. Zool.* 1. ii. 22 In 'zonal' symmetry the metasomes are arranged in zones, one after another, in a longitudinal axis. 1819 Ritchie *Cook. Voyage Min.* 124 The small spherical crystalline aggregates show..a concentric zonal structure.

**2.** Marked with zones or circular bands of colour: applied to varieties of pelargonium or geranium having the leaves so marked.

1868 *Morn. Star* 17 June, The cultivators of zonal pelargoniums, or variegated leaf-coloured geraniums, had a grand competition. 1908 *Nation* 21 Feb. 738 2 The zonal Pet'unia.

**2.** *Math. & Cryst.* Relating to a zone or zones of a sphere, or of a crystalline form: see Zone *sb.* 8.

1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. 781 These circles..are ..all in parallel planes..and cut the spherical surface into zones, in which case the harmonic is called zonal.

**3.** Pertaining or relating to, involving, or constituting a 'zone' or 'zones', i.e. regions or areas distinctively characterized in some way: see Zone *sb.* 2 b, 7.

1882 *Knowledge* 7 July 92 The six zonal areas we have thus described will serve our purpose admirably for grouping together our Seaside Health Resorts. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept. 454/2 Zonal divisions are based upon these bogus species

and conclusions drawn from them. 1893 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* vi. iii. i. (ed. 3) 876 In tracing the zonal parallelism of the Triassic succession within the Alps themselves. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 219 The study...of strata characterised by the dominance of a rope-fossil forms zonal geology. 1909 *Spectator* 29 May 856/2 The companies adopted a zonal tariff (as the State has done for telephone purposes).

Hence **Zonal·ity**, zonal character or distribution; **Zo·nally** *adv.*, in or according to zones.

1873 A. Wilson *Elem. Zool.* 1. ii. 22 The segments...of the body, which are arranged zonally along a longitudinal axis. 1889 *Amer. Nat.* XXIII. 814 Crystals of the hyacinth variety of quartz...contain numerous inclusions of anhydrite arranged zonally. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 3/3 The zonality of the flowers.

**Zona·rious**, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *zōna* Zone *sb.*] =1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Zonarious*...of or belonging to a Girdle, Purse, or Zone.

**Zonary** (zō·nări), *a.* [f. Zone *sb.* + -ary.] 1. Having the form of a zone or girdle: applied to the placenta in certain mammals, as the *Carnivora*, forming a broad girdle round the chorion.

1881 Mivart *Cat* 479 Though the Rodents have a deciduate placenta, it is never zonary.

2. Occurring in a zone or zones, i.e. within definite limits of depth (see Zone *sb.* 7).

**Zonate** (zō·nēt), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *zōnātus*, f. *zōna* Zone *sb.*: see -ate 2.] Marked with zones, rings, or bands of colour; zoned. Also **Zo·nated**.

1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. 452 Zonated Sparus. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3315 The coral snake (zonated scarlet and black). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Zonate*, *Zoned*, marked with concentric bands of colour.

**Zonation** (zōnēi·shən). [f. Zone *sb.* + -ation.] a. Distribution in zones or regions of definite character (see Zone *sb.* 7). b. Formation of zones or concentric layers, as in a growing plant-cell.

1900 *Bot. Gaz.* Dec. 421 Interesting features in the completion of the mitosis the coplasm and periplasm become clearly differentiated, but as yet no plasmoderma exists. This process of differentiation has been termed zonation.

**Zone** (zōn), *sb.* Also 6–7 soane. [ad. L. *zōna*, a. Gr. *ζώνη* girdle (= *ζοσνύοα* to gird). Cf. F. *zone* (from 12th c.), It., Sp., Pg. *zona*.]

1. *Geog.*, etc. Each of the five 'belts' or encircling regions, distinguished by differences of climate, into which the surface of the earth (and, in ancient cosmography, the celestial sphere) is divided by the tropics (of Cancer and Capricorn) and the polar circles (or antarctic) circles): viz. the *torrid* (+*burning*, + *burnt*, + *hot*) *zone* between the tropics, the (north and south) *temperate zones* extending from the tropics to the polar circles, and the *frigid* (+*frozen*, + *cold*) *zones* (arctic and antarctic) within the polar circles.

The arctic and antarctic zones are strictly not 'belts' but circular 'caps' with the pole in the centre.

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) U iv, For three zones [*Laud MS.* thre wonynges] shal be fynde Where no man may lyue in one kynde...be hote and colde are two. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 64 The olde Cosmographers...called all that space betweene the twoo Tropykes, the Burnynge Zone...And of ethe syde of it, they made twoo Zones,...whiche they named the Frosen zones, and betweene those Frosen zones, & the Burning zone, they appointed two Temperat zones. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 298 The could zone or climate was cumbred to many with snowe. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.*, *Mer. ator* (1597) 208 The hotte Zone is that which lyeth betwixt the two Tropiques. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 170 Has not our ground tinkling his pate against the burning Zone, Make Ossa like a wart. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 19/2 The parts next the Torrid Zone are the hotter, and the parts next the Frigid Zone are the colder. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* I. 55 The Sun, with Rays directly darting down, Fires all beneath, and fries the middle Zone. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 38 The feathered inhabitants of the temperate zone are but little remarkable for the beauty of their plumage. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 53 Africa belongs almost entirely to the torrid zone.

b. Any region extending around the earth and comprised between definite limits, e.g. between two parallels of latitude. Also *Astron.* applied to a similar region in the heavens or on the surface of a planet or the sun.

1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 64 Do you not in this Figure call euery portion betwixt two parallices: a zone?..Yes verely. 1578 T. Twyne tr. *Duncan's Worken. World* 61 Those fiue quarters and zones, which the Astronomers doe describe in heauen, and vppon the earth. 1692 [see 3 b]. 1850 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (Low) iv. § 305 We have, extending entirely around the earth, two zones of perpetual winds. *Ibid.* § 325 On the north side of this calm zone of Cancer. 1890 C. A. Young *Elem. Astron.* § 190 The spots are confined mostly to two zones of the sun's surface between 5° and 40° of north and south latitude.

2. a. More or less vaguely: A region or tract of the world, esp. in relation to its climate; also *fig.*

1599 Sir J. Davies *Nosce Teipsum* 5 We that acquaint our selues with euery Zoane, And passe both Tropikes, and behold the Poles. a 1628 F. Greville *Sidney* iv. (1907) 39 Her nature hard to imitate, and diuerly worshipped, according to Zones, complexions, or education. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 597 We may...in some milde Zone Dwell not unvisited of Heav'ns fair Light Secure. 1772 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 190/2 'Midst Lapland's live-long snows, Or India's burning zone. 1858 Vaughan *Mystics* vi. vi. It has been theirs...to encounter the perilous fervours of that zone where never cooling cloud appears to veil insufferable radiance. 1870 O'Shaughnessy *Epic Wom., Seraphitus* I, Some Spirit from a zone Of light, and ecstasy, and psalm.

b. A definite region or area of the earth, or of any place or object, distinguished from adjacent regions by some special quality or condition (indicated by a defining word or phrase); also *fig.*

Often in technical use; see also 4 b, 5, 6, 7.

1820 Mantell *Foss. S. Downs* 308 This occurrence of the most ancient deposits, within a zone of chalk hills. 1833 Thirlwall *Greece* I. ii. 29 Greece lies in a volcanic zone, which extends from the Caspian...to the Azores. 1837 Faraday *Magnet.* 222 The zone of easterly diurnal variations. 1849 Paton *Highl. Adriatic* II. xix. 233 The wide, scattered city, with its zone of the glacis, is the foreground of the view. 1853 E. Yates *Rem. Strat.* 9 Every theatre of war is supposed to be divided into three Zones...These are called Zones of Operation, and are distinguished as the Right, Left, and Central. 1873 *Daily News* 2 Aug., That all extensions should be performed before entering within the fire zone. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* s. v., The *zone of defence* signifies a belt of ground in front of the general contour of the works within effective range of the artillery on the ramparts...*Zone of fire*, a term synonymous with range or trajectory. 1882 Raymond *Mining Gloss.* s. v., In a shaft-furnace, the different portions (horizontal sections) are called *zones*, and characterized according to the reactions which take place in them, as the *zone of fusion*. 1889 Cox *Inst. Cricket* iv. *Zones*, in cricket-ruling phraseology, this word signifies a certain series of coal seams, with their accompanying shales, &c. 1902 *Times* 24 Nov. 5/2 Beyond the rain zone dead scrub and lifeless trees alone meet the eye.

3. A girdle or belt, as a part of dress. (Chiefly *poetic*.) Hence, any encircling band.

1608 B. Jonson *Masques, Beauty* Wks. (1616) 906 Germinatio. In greene; with a Zone of gold about her Waist. 1635 Quarles *Emblt.* v. viii. 40 Shall these course bands bottle The sacred Zone of Holy Virginity? 1638 Strafford *Hist. Philos.* II. iii. 13 This was the first place where he untyed his zone since he fled from Athens...So great was his feare. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 30 Will cast down Their chaste zone to loose. a 1806 H. K. White *To My Lyre* vii, Dear to me the classic zone, Which...Adorns th' accomplish'd lord. 1832 E. J. Carey *Poet. Rosaria* 83 It was a zone for the leg, or bracelet for the arm, of the purest massive gold. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* II. v. 338 To the belief in the sacred zone of the Christian saints opposed their zones of chastity. 1883 Hardy in *Longman's Mag.* July 238 The casters with a zone of whipcord round their hats.

b. A money-belt or purse.

1692 Washington tr. *Hillton's Def. Prophe* ix. 212 How many Zones you have seen in this Golden and Silken Heaven of the King's, I know not; but I know you got one Zone (a Purse) well tempered with a Hundred Golden Stars by your Authority. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The zone of the ex-trooper, to use Horace's phrase, was weighty enough to purchase a cottage.

c. *Astron.* The girdle of Orion.

1599 T. Hill *Schools of Skill* 92 The constellation named the Zone or gyrdle of Orion.

4. Something that encircles like a girdle; a circumscribing or inclosing line, band, or ring.

1595 Shakespeare *Lucrece* vi. 91 Round about him he so closely clewes With's scything sickle, that his Enemy...Hastes to some Tree, or to some Rock, whereon To rush and rub off his detested zone. 1620 T. Peyton *Glasse of Time* 29 With which zone (quoth she curious eye to fell, The sacred luster as the glistring Zoane, And euery gate fram'd of a seuerall stone. 1764 *Cowper Truth* iv. 257 The moon..Is with the Zone of Saturn girt. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 348/2 A purple zone. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 144/2 Below the entablature is a band or zone, formed of large stones and bricks placed alternately. 1849 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 93 Tentacles disposed in a zone around the mouth. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxii. 154 A tendency to form circular zones round the axis of pressure. 1895 Blackmore *Ode to Music* 3, His [*sc.* the sea's] world-wide elemental moan Girdeth our lives with tragic zone.

b. A band or stripe of colour, or of light or shade, extending around something, or (*loosely*) over any surface or area; often, any one of a number of concentric or alternate bands of this kind.

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 131 The outer surface of the whole shell [of the Buccinum]...is of a pale brownish colour, elegantly variegated with a great number of yellow zones. 1802 Shaw *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 Long-tailed green Parrot, with...the collar on the nape and abdominal zone yellow. 1816 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 146 All such white marbles as are marked with parallel-coloured zones, caused by talc or chlorite. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 556 When Jupiter is viewed through a good telescope, we perceive a few zones or bands of a darker colour than the rest of his disc. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 311 If we press upon the eye-ball with a key or the end of a pencil-case, zones of light are excited. 1851 Herbert *Darkn. & Dawn* vi, The artisan glowed in zones of light.

5. *Astron.* A region or belt of the sky comprised between definite limits, e.g. between two parallels of declination.

1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 381 My examination of the heavens in zones. 1829 *Chambers' Phys. Sci.* 413 That broad zone called the milky-way. 1890 Agnes M. Clerke *Syst. Stars* xiv. 377 The general plan of nebular distribution is into vast assemblages, one on either side of the galactic zone.

6. *Anat.*, *Zool.*, and *Bot.* A growth or structure surrounding or encircling some part in the form of a ring or cylinder; also, a region or area extending around or over some part and distinguished by some special character or condition.

With various defining words applied *spec.* to particular structures or regions. Ciliary *zone*, Motor *zone*: see these words. *Zone of Zinn*: see Zonule.

1807 C. Bell *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) III. 468 These tubercles are...surrounded by a zone or disk, of a brownish red colour, the areola. 1849 A. H. Hassall *Microsc. Anat. Hum. Body* I. 514 Ciliary processes.—These processes...are received into corresponding folds or plaitings of the hyaloid membrane, called the secondary ciliary processes, and which taken altogether form a circle around the crystalline lens named after their discoverer the Zone of Zinn. 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Technol.* § 1491 The cornea...is...intermediate in thickness between that of the white zone and the rest of the sclerotic. 1884 Bowne & Scott *De Barry's Phaner.* 7 The periblem, which is a zone of tissue lying between the pleroma and dermatogen. 1913 Dorland *Med. Dict.* s.v., *Zona obturans*, the three zones into which the surface of the abdomen is divided by the subcostal and intertubercular lines...*Pellucid z.*, the zona pellucida.

7. *Geol.* and *Physical Geog.* A region, or each of a series of regions, comprised between definite limits of any kind, e.g. of depth or height, and distinguished by special characters, esp. by characteristic fossils or forms of animal and plant life.

1829 Ure *New Syst. Geol.* 150 In the north [of France], it [*sc.* limestone] forms a portion of the great transition zone, which stretches from Flanders into the Harz. 1833 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* i. 187 The presence of this zone of clay ...is marked by the outburst of water. 1854 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. Ser.* II. XI. 263 This cretaceous zone of the shore of the Cantabrian sea. 1882 Geikie *Text-bk Geol.* iv. 579 A bed, or limited number of beds, characterized by one or more distinctive fossils, is termed a zone or horizon.

8. a. *Math.* A part of the surface of a sphere contained between two parallel planes, or of the surface of any solid of revolution contained between two planes perpendicular to the axis. b. *Cryst.* A series of faces of a crystal extending around it and having their lines of intersection parallel.

1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.* II. 477/2 The curve surface of any segment or zone of a Sphere, is also equal to the curve surface of a cylinder of the same height with that portion, and of the same diameter with the Sphere. 1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* § 781 I. 622 These circles...are...all in parallel planes...and are called circles of latitude and zones. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) Introd. p. xxvi, The planes [of a crystalline form] may thus be viewed as lying in vertical zones, a different zone for each ratio of the axes. 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 21 These four vertical faces constitute what is called a zone (or girdle) of the form. 1895 Fearnehough *Newton's Theor. Chor.* 67 The 'law of zones', ...viz. all planes which can occur on a crystal are related to each other in zones; or, in other words, from any four planes, no three of which lie in one zone, all possible crystal planes can be derived by means of zones.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, chiefly in technical senses: e.g. in sense 2 b, esp. in reference to 'zones' or regions into which a district or country is divided for purposes of railway or other traveling, etc., as *zone centre*, *fare*, *system*, *tariff*; in sense 5, as *zone-clock*, *-piece*, *-reticle*; in sense 8 b, as *zone-axis*, *-circle*, *-plane*; also zone-plate, a plate of glass marked out into concentric zones or rings alternately transparent and opaque, used like a lens to bring light to a focus. b. *Comb.* (objective, instrumental, parasynthetic, etc.), as *zone-confounding*, *-like*, *-tailed* adjs.

1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 22 The zone, the *zone axis, and the zone plane are all denoted by the same symbol, namely (U V W). *Ibid.* 24 The planes of all the faces in the same zone will lie in the same *zone circle. 1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 398 It would not only be troublesome to the workman, but also to those who measure it, to count the turns of the handle, which perhaps for hours together he is moving; a *zone-clock, therefore, has been contrived to release him from this labour. It strikes a bell...when the telescope is come to one of the limits of the zone. 1890 *Punch* 28 June p. 1/1 The yellow pod-flowers and the waving palms, the vermeil apples and the primrosed banks, of Camoens' somewhat *zone-confounding* verse. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Dec. 6/3 They proposed to fix *zone fares, and they treated Hammersmith as what they called the zone centre. 1908 Manitoba *Sess. Papers* 1907 (Gurney *Crystallogr.* 22 The plane to which they [*sc.* the edges of the crystal] are all perpendicular is called the *zone plane. 1876 (J. F. Chamberlain *Astron.* (ed. 3) 632 Observers...will find a *'zone reticle' of great service. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 7/2 Hungary has introduced a *zone system on her railways, which it has made rewarding on them the cheapest in the world. 1899 Shaw Gow *Gymnast.* VII. 67 *Zone-like agile. 1891 *Econ. Jrnl.* I. 507 A system of *zone tariffs. 1908 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 153/2 A zone-tariff system...whereby the country is mapped out into concentric zones and fare pays according to the number of these he passes through.

**Zone**, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with, or surround like, a zone or girdle; to gird, encircle.

1795 *Monthly Rev.* Dec. 441 Her population...had zoned every hill with vines and with olive-trees. 1795 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) IV. 105 Our road zoned the midway of the Alpine steeps which overhung it. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* ii. iv, Art she invokes to Nature's aid; Her vest to rend, her locks to braid. 1818 Keats *Endym.* ii. 569, I could hear he lov'd Some fair immortal, and that his embrace Had zoned her through the night. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 237 The southeastern horizon is zoned with a mellow uniform band of light.

2. *Nat. Hist.* To mark with zones, rings, or bands of colour. (Only in *pa. ppl.*)

1792 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 433 Auricularia papyrina...Annual, membranaceous, soft, zoned. 1854 Dana *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 148 Egyptian Jasper is zoned with colors, and forms nodules. 1871 Darwin *Descr. Man* II. xiv. 132

A variety of the common pigeon with the wing-bars symmetrically zoned with three bright shades.

**3.** *Geol.*, etc. To divide into zones; to distribute or arrange in zones: see ZONE *sb.* 7.

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan 222 The Ordovician and Silurian rocks have been zoned by means of their graptolites.

Hence **Zo·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 KEATS *Fall Hyperion* I 312 Not so much air As in the zoning of a summer's day. 1853 R. SMITH *Life Drama* ii, When first they clasped a Son of God In zoning heaven of their milky arms. 1865 TENNYSON *On a Mourner* v, When the zoning sea has died 1888 *Nature* 5 July 225 What Mr. Lockyer has called the zoning of colour in the heavens. 1909 *Edin. Rev.* Jan 230 The zoning of the strata.

**Zoned** (zōnd), *a.* [f. ZONE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

†**1.** Located in a zone or region of the celestial sphere: = ZONIC *a.* *Obs. rare*—1.

1661 STANLEY *Hist. Chaldaick Philos.* 4 Or else by fiery Zone, he means the Seat of the zoned Deities just above the Empyreal or Corporeal Heaven.

**2.** Wearing a zone or girdle. Hence, virgin, chaste.

1728 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 142 Fair zoned damsels. 1899 LYTTON *Devereux* II. ix, A zoned and untainted Innocence

**3.** Characterized by or arranged (naturally) in zones, rings, or bands.

1790 R. SULIVAN *Philos. Nat. I.* 435 The zoned or tabulated form of the onyx. 1805-07 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed 3) 213 Zoned (*zonaria*), when a row of facets is arranged around the middle part, so as to form a kind of zone or girdle. Example, Zoned calcareous spar. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf* Ser iv. 200 As a fifth source of variety (in wood) may be mentioned eyes, zoned spots, and curls.

b. Marked with zones, circles, or bands of colour.

1792 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 433 *Auricularia ferruginea*, zoned above. 1805 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 The Zoned Petrel. 1849 W. H. HARVEY *Brit. Fresh. Algæ* 121 Zoned tetraspores exist in *Rhodymenia*] *ciliata*. 1874 BIRCH *1st and 2nd Egypt Rooms B. Mus* 31 With side handles of zoned alabaster.

**4.** Arranged according to zones or definite regions.

1705 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV 384 A zoned catalogue of the stars 1890 AGNES M CLERKE *Syst Stars* v. 80 The spectra of the great nebulæ, like th se of the 'zoned' stars, must be considered as interpreting the results of emanations taking their rise under notably diverse circumstances.

**Zoneless** (zōu·nlės), *a.* [f. ZONE *sb.* + -LESS.]

**1.** Not confined by, or not wearing, a zone or girdle; ungirt.

1748 W. MASON *Isis* 8 In careless folds loose flow'd her zoneless vest 1784 COWPER *Task* III 52 Pleasure That reeling goddess with the zoneless waist 1800 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 261 I wish my lot was in a hunting of New-world Italian muses 1822 MILMAN *Hist. Antioch* 14 Come in thy zoneless grace, thy flowing locks Crown'd with the laurel of the Gods.

**2.** Not marked with zones or bands of colour.

1836 M. J. BERKELEY *Sir J. E. Smith's Engl. Flora* V. II. 190 Flecks of a fleshy substance zoneless villous white.

**Zonelet** (zō·nlet), *rare.* [-LET.] A little zone. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic.* 30 Is not the moon's hand her wave's stole he took, And zonelet studded with three ten beamy rings.

**Zonic** (zō·nik), *a. rare.* [f. ZONE *sb* + -IC.] Belonging to a particular zone or region.

1707 *Monthly Mag.* III. 511 The zonic gods are those which revolve round the celestial zones.

**Zonite** (zō·nəit). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *zonites*, f. I. *zona* ZONE *sb.*: see -ITE 1.]

**1.** A small of the genus *Zonites*.

1860 *All Year Round* IV. 397 Porcelain Zonites that lived two years and a half without aliment.

**2.** Any of the body-rings of a segmented animal, as an arthropod or annelid. Hence **Zonit·ic** *a.*

1880 PARKER *Zool. Class* (ed 2) 297 Zonites, Somites, or Metameres. 1888 *Huxley & Martin Elem. Pract. Biol.* 142 Each somite is subdivided externally into at least two lesser divisions or zonites 1888 J. R. A DAVIS *Biol* 161 The zonitic constructions.

**Zonne,** obs. (Kentish) form of SUN.

**Zono-** (zōnō), repr. Gr. ζωνο-, combining form of ζώνη ZONE, occurring in a few scientific and technical words.

**Zonochlorite** (zōnōklō·rəit) *Min.* [Gr. χλωρός green], name for a supposed species of mineral from Lake Superior, marked with bands of different shades of green (not the same as CHLORASTROLITE). **Zonochlo·ric** (-klo·rik) *a. Zool.*, having a zone or circlet of cilia. **Zonoplace·tal** *a. Zool.*, having a zonary placenta, as the *Carnivora* and other mammals: opposed to *discoplacental*.

1892 A. E. BOOTH in *Proc. Amer. Ass. Adv. Sci.* (1893) XXXI 65 "2 mochlorite, a New Hydrous Silicate from Neepigon Bay, North Shore of Lake Superior. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* Brit. XIV 437/1 The fertilized egg of the Phylactolæma does not give rise to a †zonoblastula larva. 1879 DE QUATREFAGES *Hum. Spec.* xi. 109 M m, apes, bats, insectivores, and rodents form a natural group to which no †zonoplacental, and, of course, no indeciduate mammals can be admitted.

**Zonular** (zō·nūlăi), *a. Anat.* and *Path.* [f. mod L. *zonula* ZONULE + -AR 1.] Pertaining to or forming a zonule or little zone: zonal, zonary; *spec.*, belonging to or affecting the zonule of Zinn.

1838-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* I 320/1 The Pigeon having the gastric glands arranged in a zonular form. 1876 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) I. 354 Zonular or lamellar cataract is either congenital or commences soon after birth.

**Zonule** (zō·nūl). *Anat.* Also in L. form **zonula** (zō·nūlă). [ad. mod.L. *zonula*, dim. of L. *zona* ZONE: see -ULE.] A little zone: applied *spec.* to the ring-shaped fibrous structure which forms the suspensory ligament of the crystalline lens (*zonula of Zinn*).

1832 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat* 355 These membranous folds, which collectively are called the zonule of Zinn, are vascular. 1854 KÖLLIKER *Hum. Histol.* 390 The zonula is a thin trans-parent membrane, stretching from the *ora serrata retinæ* as far as the border of the lens. 1873 POLE in *Stricker's Histol* III 454 The zonula fibres arise from the substance of the vitreous behind the ora serrata.

†**Zo·nulet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ET.] A little zone or girdle.

1658 HERBERT *Herbert, Upon Julia's Riband*, 'Tis that Zonulet of love, Wherein all pleasures of the world are wove.

**Zonure** (zōnūr·). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Zonûrus*, f. Gr. ζώνη ZONE + οὐρά tail; from the rings of spiny scales on the tail] A lizard of the genus *Zonurus* or family *Zonuridæ*, found in South Africa, Madagascar, and other countries.

1883 *Lest Vert. Known to Anat Zool Soc.* (ed. 8) 583 *Zonurus derbianus*, Gray. Derbian Zonure.

**Zoo** (zū). *colloq.* [The first three letters of ZOOLOGICAL taken as one syllable] 1 the Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park, London; also extended to similar collections of animals elsewhere.

1847 MACAULAY in *Life & Lett* (1878) I. 216 We treated the Clifton Zoo much too contemptuously. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond To-day* iv (ed 3) 65 The Zoo in time past was as favourite a fashionable resort as Rotten Row.

**Zoo-** (zōu·, zōi·), before a vowel properly **Zo-** repr. Gr. ζωο-, combining form of ζῷον animal, occurring in numerous scientific and technical terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (The second element is usually and properly from Greek, but in a few recent words from Latin or English.)

In biological and botanical terms the prefix sometimes denotes the peculiar combination movement (formerly supposed to be a distinctive characteristic of animals): see *zoogamete*, *zoogonidium*, *zoosperm*, *zoosporphore*, ZOOSPORE.

‖ **Zo·ocarp** (Gr. *καρπός* fruit), †(*a*) a former name for certain algæ of low organization, thus supposed by some to be animals; (*b*) a zoospore. ‖ **Zoocau·lon** [mod.L., f Gr. *καυλός* stalk] (see quot.).

**Zooche·mistry,** the chemistry of animal bodies; so **Zooche·mical** *a.* **Zo·oculture** = *zootechny*; so **Zoocu·ltural** *a.* ‖ **Zoocytium** (-sī·tiŭm), pl. **-ia** [mod L, after SYNCYTIUM] (see quot.). ‖ **Zoode·ndrium,** pl. **-ia** [mod.L., after SYNDENDRIUM] (see quot.). **Zo·odyna·mics,** the dynamics of animal bodies; so **Zoodyna·mic** *a.* **Zo·oery·thrin** (-erĭ·brin), also **zooerythrin** [HUE (or *hæs*) *erythros*, f. Gr. *ἐρυθρός* red], a red pigment found in the plumage of the touracos, and in sponges. **Zoofu·lvin** [L. *fulvus* tawny], a yellow pigment found in the plumage of the touracos. **Zo·ogamete,** a motile gamete: = PLANOGAMETE. **Zo·ogeo·logy,** that branch of geology which deals with fossil animal remains, palæozoology, so **Zo·ogeolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to zoogeology; **Zo·ogeo·logist,** one versed in zoogeology. ‖ **Zo·ogonidium,** pl. **-ia** [mod.L. see GONIDIUM], a motile gonidium. **Zooma·gnetism,** animal magnetism. **Zo·omancy** [-MANCY], divination by observing the actions of animals. **Zooma·nia** (*nonce-wd*), a mania or insane fondness for animals. **Zooma·tist,** one who practises zoomancy. **Zo·omecha·nics** = *zoodynamics*; so **Zoomecha·nical** *a.* **Zoome·lanin,** the black pigment of animal bodies, MELANIN; *spec.* as found in the feathers of birds. **Zoo·metry** [-METRY], measurement of the dimensions and proportions of the bodies of animals; so **Zoometri·c** *a.* **Zoomy·thic** *a.*, belonging to a mythology in which the deities are represented in the form of animals. **Zo onose** [Gr. *νόσος* disease], a disease communicated from one kind of animal to another or to a human being; so **Zo onose·logy,** the study of the diseases of animals; **Zo onoso·logist,** one who pursues this study. **Zoo-orga·nic** (bad formation for ***zoorganic**) *a.*, belonging to animal organs or organisms. **Zo opathe·logist,** **Zo·opathology** = *zoonosiologist*, *-logy*. ‖ **Zoophobia** (-fōu·biă) [mod.L. see -PHOBIA], morbid or superstitious fear of animals. **Zoophy·sics,** the study of physics in relation to animal bodies; so **Zoophy·sical** *a.*, pertaining to zoophysics. **Zo ophysio·logy,** animal physiology. **Zoopla·nkton** [PLANKTON], floating animal organisms collectively. **Zoopla·stic** *a.* [see PLASTIC], forming figures of animals or living beings. **Zo opsychology,** animal psychology, the study of mental phenomena in animals. **Zoosco·pic** *a.* [Gr. *σκοπεῖν* to view], †(*a*) examining or studying animals, zoological (*obs.*); (*b*) applied to a species of hallucination (**Zoo·scopy**) in which imaginary animal forms are seen, as in delirium tremens. **Zoosema·tic** *a.* [Gr. *σῆμα* sign]: see ZOTIC, quot. 1895-6. **Zoo·sophy** [Gr. *σοφία* wisdom], the knowledge or study of animals: †(*a*) the art of keeping and breeding animals (*obs.*); (*b*) the science of zoology (Oken). **Zo osperm,** (*a*) = SPERMATOZOON; (*b*) = ZOOSPORE, hence **Zo ospermat·ic** *a.* **Zo·otaxy** [Gr. *τάξις* arrangement], zoological classification, systematic zoology. **Zo·otechny** (-teknĭ) [Gr. *τέχνη* art], the art of rearing and using animals for any purpose; so **Zootechni·c** *a.*, pertaining to zootechny; **Zoote·chnics** = *zootechny*. ‖ **Zootheca** (-pĕkă), pl. **-æ** [mod.L., f. Gr. *θήκη* case], the case or sheath inclosing a zoosperm. ‖ **Zootheci·um** (-pĭ·shĭŭm), pl. **-ia** [mod.L., f. Gr. *θηκίον*, dim. of *θήκη*: see prec.], the tubular sheath produced and inhabited by certain Infusoria. **Zoo·theism** [see THEISM], the attribution of deity to animals (cf. ZOOLATRY); hence **Zo otheis·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by zootheism. **Zo othome** [Gr. *σωμός* heap] (see quot.). ‖ **Zoo·tokon** [Gr. *ζωοτόκον*, neut. of *ζωοτόκος* viviparous], a viviparous animal. **Zootrophy** (-*p* trŏfi) [ad. Gr. *ζωοτροφία*, f. *ζῷον* animal + *τρέφειν* to breed, rear, tend, etc.], the practice of rearing or tending animals. **Zo otype,** an animal, or figure of one, used as the type of a deity, as in Egyptian hieroglyphics. **Zootypic** (tı·pik) *a.*, pertaining to the animal type or types. **Zoo·xa nthin** [Gr. *ξανθός* yellow], a (? yellow) pigment obtained from the red feathers of certain birds. **Zoorygosphere** (-rĭgŏsfī·) [see ZYGO-, and cf. OOSPHERE], a motile spherical cell produced by conjugation, proposed as a substitute for *zoogamete*.

1843 *Penny Cycl* XXVII 804 ***Zoocarpes**, the name given to certain organized bodies variously classed as animals or plants, placed by botanists under Algæ. It is in the lower forms more particularly that the Zo carps occur. 1888 *Cassell's Fireside Dict., Zoocarp* A zoospore. 1882 SAMUEL KENT *Manual Infusoria* 1 The animal life conferred by the author on the erect tentaculiferous branching colony stocks of the genus *Dendrosoma* 1845 G. E DAVIS *Simon's Anim. Chem.* 149 ***Zoochemical** analyses are instituted for the purpose of ascertaining the constituents of animal substances. 1865 *Nat Hist Rev* July 352 [Zoology] consequently divides itself into Zootomy, or the dissection of all the forms and parts of the body; Zoochemistry, or their chemical investigation 1898-9 *Ann. Rep Bur. Amer Ethnol* 9 1901 Agricultural and ***zoocultural** industries 1900 *Trans. Amer. Microscop. Soc.* 65 That condition of toleration between animals and men which normally precedes domestication, and forms the first step in ***zooculture.** 1880 SAMUEL KENT *Mem Microscop.* I 216 Spongiomonas. Animalcules living in social colonies, and forming by excretion a common domicile, which takes the form of a gelatinous or horny substance ***zoocytium**, within which they remain constantly immersed *Ibid.* 267 Dendromonas . Animalcules stationed singly at the extremities of an erect, variously branching gelatinous pedendium. 1888 *Encycl Brit* XXIV 809 Zoo Dynamics, Zoo Physics, Zoo-Chemistry 1882 *Proc. Zool Soc.* 470 Another red pigment is the ***zooery thrin** first extracted by Pogdanow from *Calurnus cristatus* 1895 *Proc. Zoological Soc. Lond* XXXVIII 321 Under this name [*se* lutein] are also included allied pigments, such as carotin, zooery thrin. 1882 *Proc Zool Soc* 411 All other green feathers owe their hue of the Musophagidæ] contain only either ***zoofulvin** on a black brown pigment 1880 *Q Jrnl Microsc Sci* XX. 408 In the supposed system ***zoogametes** or "planogametes" must enjoy the somewhat cumbrous name of "zoosporphores", the prefix "zoo" or suffix "zoid" being always used to denote an apparently spontaneous power of motion 1861 GEIKIE *Life* xv 304 The zoological researches of Edward Forbes *Ibid* 337 It is mainly as a "zoo logical or palæontological that he will take rank *Ibid* 336 The transition from the fields of inquiry to that of palæontology or "zoo geology 1880 BESSEY *Bot* 221 Each "zoogonidium breaks itself up into sixteen new zoogonidia 1884 T. SPENCER *Man's World* 19 Familiar with "zoo magnetism and clairvoyance. 1841 HOB SMITH *Mungo Park* xxi, That attachment to birds and animals has often misled me, that to this feeling you have sometimes been pleased to term it a "zoo mania. 1861 F HALL in *Proc Asiat Soc. Bengal* 198 *note*, Vasant raja Bhutia, the "zoomaniac 1897 *Sat Rev* 4 June 602 Rous claims that "zoomechanical methods are of primary importance 1891 *Cent Dict.*, "Zoomechanics 1897 *Nat. Ser* June 412 To tack on the word "mechanics to zoology and re christian it "zoomechanics" in a place [*Psychological* se ies is not to create a new science 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem* V 1085 ***Zoometanin**, a name applied by Bogdanow to the black pigment of birds' feathers, probably identical with the melanin of the choroid coating of the eye 1876 BAILEY in *Jrnl Franklin Institute* 3 Bi Osteometry itself is only a part of what should properly be called "zoometry 1859 *Nature* 5 Dec 99 2 Their "zoo mythic conceptions of their divinities. 1876 in *Wagner's Gen Pathol* 132 The "zoonoses, in which there is a transference of bacteria and products of different species, and the most part from animals to man 1880 MAYNE *Expos Lex.* ***Zoonosiologist** name for him who studies specially the diseases of cattle, or "zoonosiology *Ibid.*, Zoonosiology 1884 W. WILLIAMS *Vet Med* (ed 4) 4 Path logy or more properly, when applied to the lower animals, Zoo Pathology 1901 *Amer. Anthropol.* (N S.) III 13 Experience of superior faculty awakens consciousness of superior power and rends the shackles of "zoophobia 1888 *Encycl Brit.* XXIV 803 "Zoophytes (see *zoonomanus*). Ibid. 816/1 Schwann united two lines of inquiry, viz., that of minute investigation of structure and development and that of zoo-chemistry and zoo physics.

1865 *Nat Hist Rev* July 393 [Zoology] divides itself into many branches, amongst which we may indicate "Zoophysiology, or the science of the functions of the organs 1901 *Lancet* 1 Dec 1801/1 Shallow pools of clear water which were rich in "zooplankton 1870 Rickin *Aratra Pent* II Wks 1879 III 31 The great mimetic instinct underlies all such 'unions' for fashioning of figures of living creatures] and in "zoophysic, life shaping 1847 tr *Feuchtersleben's Med Psychol* 19 The study of animal psychology ("not psychology, comparative psychology) 1856 Bentham *Christian Wks* 1883 VIII 87 "Zoöscopic or Zoölogic Physiurgic 1890 *Science* XV 43 This condition of zoöscopic illusionism is one of the commonest among the phenomena of alcohol poisoning 1866 J Chandler *Evan Helmont's Orat* 163 The other Son noted the properties and nature of living Creatures whence by the undoubted hope of a Flock, a quiet life is led This under I was "Zoösophie or the wisdom of keeping living Creatures together. 1854 Spencer *Ess* IV (1858) 166 Biology divides into Organology, Physiology, Zoösophy 1858 *Todd's Cycl Anat* II 119/1 The "Zoöpesim appears to be a moving filame nt like a minute *Listeria* 1858 *Penny Cycl* XII 270 1 According to his principles of terminology Dr O J Mclvor in *Amer Anthrop* (N S) I 46 The industries of the American tribes in connection with animal life may be divided into "z oötechnic, properties 1894 *Cent Dict*, "Zoötechnics 1900 Deniker *Races of Man* Introd (ed 2) 4 [In] the genus *Homo* one can neither speak of the species (the "variety" not the "race" in the sense that is usually attributed to these words in zoology or in zootechnics 1879 De Quatrefages *Hum Spe* 61 Anyone who possesses even the smallest knowledge of zoology and "zootechny 1861 Bennett *Wond Inv* 376 The *ovules* (*ova*) is filled at maturity with a number of minute cells, which have been termed "*zo ïte* s 1880 Saville Kent *Man Infusoria* 1 6 For the new suggestions of simple law in the distinctive title of "zo theria has been adopted 1889 *Pop Sci Monthly* Nov 62 In the stage of barbarism all the phenomena of nature are assimilated to the animals most akin to the ancestral types of these animals, which are worshiped This is the religion of "zo theism *Ibid* Dec 218 The people is tried to pull the Israelites rapidly, through the "zo theistic and phytotheistic stages into monotheism 1872 Dana *Corals* 148 The compound mass is produced by budding was called a Zo phyte As a sub titute the term "z oid may be employed 1868 Lovett *Hist Animal & Man* 134 They [sc bats] are "z oökmous only, amongst all flying creatures, and I bats, forth two young ones at a time, 1877 tr Mald *Mod Egypt Fellahs* xxxiii Pig which, with all her "zootrophy Clemestine did not like 1905 *Daily Chron* 4 Sept 3/4 Egyptian their glyphics and Totemic "zoötypes 1897 *Ann Rep Smithsonian Inst* 455 Out of this we find in type all the higher ranges of "zoötypic evolution have spring 1868 Watts *Dict Chem* V 1084 "*Zoötzinthin* the colouring matter of the red feathers of *Calurnus auriceps* 1880 "Zoötypographer [see *zoogametes*]

**Zoodikers** (zŭ dĭkəz), *int rare* An "zoöcentive exclamation of Zoökers, Zooks, Zoonters, 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xviii xii, Zoodikers! She'd have the wedding to night

Zooks. see Zoës.

‖ **Zoœcium** (zoʊ ĭ ʃĭm) *Zool* Pl **-ia** [mod.L., f. Gr *ζῷον* animal + *οἶκος* house] The thickened and hardened part of the cuticle of each zooid or polyp of a colony of Polyzoa, forming a cell or sheath in which it is lodged. Hence **Zoœcial** (zoʊ ĭ ʃĭăl) *a.*, pertaining to or forming a zoœcium.

1880 Packard *Zool Class* 'cænum a cell in which a polypite of the Hydroza is lodged 1888 *Jrnl Microsc. Soc* Jun 2 The alveolations are placed in the outer border of the "zoœcia 1884 *Athenæum* 22 Mar 368/1 The zoœcial tubes

**Zoogen** (zoʊ ŏdʒĕn) *Chem. t Obs* [ad. F. *zoogène*: see Zoo- and -gen] A nitrogenous substance found in the water of sulphur springs, also called Barégin or Glairin

1880 *Blackw Mag* Mar 310 Mineral Animal Matter—Zoogène—sic, Curie de Cadet—is the name given to the hair substance in the thermal waters of Bareges and of Ischia.

**Zoogenic** (zoʊ ĭdʒĕ nĭk), *a* [f. Zoo- + *genic*, adj suffix of -gen] a Pertaining to zoogeny (*rare*—0) b. Produced from animals; in *Geol*, applied to formations of animal origin, e g. limestones formed from shells

1864 Webster *Zoögenic*, of pertaining to, animal production 1866 Lawrence tr *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 360 Zoogenic deposits are produced by animal agency

**Zoogeny** (zoʊ ŏdʒĕni) *rare* [f Zoo- + -geny] Production or generation of animals, an account, or the study, of this

1848 Dunglison *Med Lex* (ed 7) *Zoogeny* the doctrine of animal formation 1854 Spencer *Ess* IV (1858) 166 (Table 1 Classification) 1 Organology, Physiology, Phyto physiology, Phytol ogy, Zoölogy, Psychology (etc.)

**Zoögeography.** [f Zoo- + Geography] The geographical distribution of animals Hence **Zoögeographer**, one versed in zoögeography; **Zoögeorgraphical** *a*, pertaining to zoögeography, **Zoögeographically** *adv*, in relation to zoögeography

1873 *Encycl Brit* III 738/1 It is therefore the business of the "zoögeographer, who wishes to arrive at the truth, to ascertain what gr ups of animals are wanting in any particular locality 1892 *Lancet* 1 Jan 7 "Zo geographic 1898 *Proc Zool Soc* 317 None of the great "zoögeographical provinces are sharply defined from one another 1893 Seebohm in *Geogr Jrnl* II 336 The fact is that life areas or zoo geographical regions are more or less fanciful generalisations 1890 *Proc Zool Soc* 148 That section of the United States "zoögeographically known as the Sonoran Region 1868 *Ilid* 295 The relations of these subdivisions to "zoogeography 1896 *Naturalist* 80 The inclusion of Irish habitats would have been of value in the study of zoögeography

‖ **Zoœlea** (zoʊ ĭlĕă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Cohn, 1872), f Gr *ζῷον* animal + *γλοιός* glutinous substance] An aggregate of bacteria with thickened cell-walls, forming a gelatinous mass. Also *attrib* Hence **Zoœlœic** *a.*

1897 F. T Roberts *Health Med* (ed 3) I 95 Living objects variously described as bacteria, vibrios, philococki, micrococ mes, zooglœa, &c 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem Biol* 26 *Bacteri*, in the still state, very often become surrounded by a gelatinous matter This is termed the *Zoogl'œa* form of *Bacterium* 1905 *Brit Med Jrnl* 25 Feb 400/2 The giant or mother cells have the appearance of zoœlœic cells.

**Zoögonic** (zoʊŏgŏ nĭk), *a rare.* [f. Gr. *ζωή* life + *-γονος* producing + -ic] Life-producing.

1788 F Taylor *Proclus* I 118 The zoögonic, or vivific goddess 1795 — *Diss Plato. Mysts* 95 This goddess is evidently of a Saturnian and zoögonic, or intellectual and vivific rank

**Zoögony** (zoʊ ŏgŏni). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *ζωογονία*, f *ζῷον* animal + *-γονία* a begetting] The generation or production of animals, or a doctrine concerning this.

1673 Rhodocr *Causa Dei* 249 The Theogonie and Zoögonie[*misprr* enie] of the Antients 1864 Webster, *Zoögeny, Zoögony*, the doctrine of the formation of living beings.

‖ **Zoögraphos** (zoʊ ŏgrăfŏs) [ad. Gr. *ζωογράφος* = *ζωγράφος* one who draws figures, a painter, artist, f *ζῷον* animal, figure see -graph II.] = next, 2

**Zoögrapher** (zoʊ ŏgrăfəɹ) [f Gr *ζῷον* animal + *-γραφος* depicting, describing, see -graphikh.]

1 One who describes animals, a descriptive zoologist.

1646 Sir T Browne *Pseud Ep* II 1 180 One kinde of Locust by Zoographers called *mantis* 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh* 104 The 2r grasher Gesner 1688 Lond *Jrnal Country Gentleman* observe Here the Gentleman is a very uncommon structure of his native Organs 1721 *Brit Apollo* IV No 17 2 2 Others [sc beasts having only one horn] are mentioned by Zoographers.

2 One skilled in the depicter of animals, a painter or artist in general

(In the latter use repr Gr *ζωγράφος* (see Zoögraphi) not an Eng. sense)

1646 Sir T Browne *Glossogr*, *Zoographer* a Painter or one that draws the pictures of beasts [Citing Sir I Browne se 1646 in 2] 1814 *Sporting Mag* XLIV 66 This very clever Scotch zoographer 1824 *Mr Urban's Monthly Mag* XXVII 406 The earlier writers on art, who flourished before the age of Trajan and the Antonines, constantly enable their books on zoographers, on zoographical subjects was the only usual denomination for painting, as if still life did not merit the name

**Zoographic** (zoʊŏgrăfĭk), *a.* [f. Zoography + -ic] Describing or representing animals; relating to zoography So **Zoographical** *a.*, hence **Zoographically** *adv*, in relation to zoography

1741 Warburton *Div Legat* II iv iv 111 A new species of "Zoographic Writing, called by the Ancients Symbolic. 1850 Rankin *Aratra Pent* IV § 110 Both arts [ie painting and sculpture] are in as far as they are zoographic—representative, that is to say, of animal life 1881 *Academy* 17 Sept 204 He was, and not Polycnotus, whose lifeless figures formed but a familiar zoographic reputation to that of Goethe 1851 H More *Second Lash in Anthus Ivi*, etc (1656) 194 My censure on this rare "Zoo graphicall piece 1889 *Athenæum* 6 Aug 171/3 "Zoographically the fauna and flora of this arctic archipelago appear to have their affinities with those of the Philippine Islands

**Zoo,o graphist.** *rare*—0 [f Gr *ζωογράφος* (see Zoögraph) + -ist] = Zoögrapher.

1775 in Ash. [Hence in later Dicts]

**Zoography** (zoʊ ŏgrăfi) Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Gr *ζῷον* animal + *γραφία*, -graphy.]

1. Description of animals, descriptive zoology.

1593 R Harvey *Philand* 97 When men play the parts of beasts, there go among the numbers of cattel in Zoography 1652 H More *Second Lash in Anthus Ivi*, etc (1656) 194 We are now come to that rare peece of Zoography of three the most drown cut in the shape of an Animal 1697 Swift *T Tub* Ep Ded (1704) 8 I was greatly mistaken in the Zoography and Topography of them 1807 W Wood (title) Zoography, or the Beauties of Nature, displayed in Select Descriptions from the Animal and Vegetable Kingdom 1868 *Nat Hist Rev* July 254 With regard to species and groups of species, (e) their complete description or Zoography, (f) their systematic arrangement or Taxonomy

2 The art of depicting animals, pictorial art in general. (Repr Gr *ζωγραφία* not an Eng sense)

1656 Blount *Gl sogr*, *Zoography*, the painting or picturing of Beasts 1727 Lavlor [see Zoögraphist]

**Zoögyroscope** (zō ŏdʒəɪ·rŏskəʊp). [f. Zoo- + Gyroscope] An apparatus in which a series of instantaneous photographs of a moving animal are placed upon a rotating glass cylinder and illuminated so as to throw the images in rapid succession upon a screen, producing the appearance of the actual movement

1880 *Scientific American Suppl* 641 The zoogyroscope can be applied to photographs of other animals besides the horse

**Zooid** (zoʊ ŏĭd). *Bot.* [f. Gr *ζῷον* animal + -oid cf. late Gr *ζωοειδής* adj, resembling an animal] Something that resembles an animal (but is not one in the strict or full sense) in early use applied somewhat widely, including, e g., a free-moving animal or vegetable cell, as a spermatozoon or antherozoid; but chiefly restricted to an animal arising from another by asexual reproduction, i e. budding (gemmation) or division (fission); *spec.* (and most usually) Each of the distinct beings or 'persons' which make up a compound or 'colonial' animal organism, and often have different forms and functions, thus more or less corresponding to the various organs in the higher animals. (Cf. Zoon.) *Also attrib.*

Often as the second element of a compound, as *anthrozooid*, *ascidiozooid dactylozooid*, *gonozooid*, *siphonozooid*, etc see these words

1842 Huxley in *Ann & Mag Nat. Hist* Ser II VIII 15 The term 'zooid' is intended to suggest with regard to the creatures to which it is applied that they are like individuals, and yet are not individuals in the sense that one of the higher animals is an individual Instead of saying then, that in a given species, there is an alternation of so many generations, we should say that the individual consists of so many zooids *Ibid* 17 Zooid Development by External Gemmation. Internal Gemmation 1853 W S Dallas in *Orr's Circ Sci, Org Nat* II 456 The individual *Salpa* consists of two zooids, one corporeal, the other gemmiparous. In the *Aphides* as many as eleven consecutive series of gemmiparous zooids have been observed to intervene between two periods of sexual reproduction 1864 [see Zoon] 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 9 lxxxvi, In the Polyzoa polymorphic zooids are produced by gemmation 1877 F R Lowne *Anat of Blow-fly* 438 In each colony [of hydroids] the alimentary and reproductive functions are respectively intrusted to two distinct kinds of zooids, the nutrient and the sexual polypites The sexual zooids, like the flower buds of plants, are only developed at certain seasons 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim Life* 512 *Rhabdopleura* forms indefinitely branching colonies The zooids are all connected by a stolon 1889 If the sexual zooid is developed from the asexual, either directly by metamorphosis, or indirectly by gemmation or fission, thus giving rise to an Alternation of Generations

Hence **Zo,oi dal** *a.*, pertaining to a zooid or zooids, **Zo,oidio'gamous** (zo,ŏidĭo-, zo,ŏidŏ gamous) *a.*, characterized by, or of the nature of, fertilization in which a 'zooid' or mottle cell (e g an antherozoöd) unites with another cell.

1880 *Geol Mag* Dec 535 The larger [tubuli] I regard as zooidal tubes 1892 *Nature* 17 Sept 484/1 Kent's gamy is Zoodiogamous one gamete at least is actively motile 1907 *Amer Nat* June 362 Ancient zoöidiogamous Gymnosperms

**Zooïd,** *a. rare*—0. [f Gr *ζῷον* animal + -oid] = prec. Resembling an animal, having the character of, an animal. Only in recent Dicts.

**Zookers** (zu kəɹz), *int. Obs.* or *arch. exc. dial* Also **? swookers** [Short for *gadswookers* (Gad *sb* 3), = next.

1620 Shelton *Quix* II xxv 166 Zwookers (quoth Sancho) He not give a farthing to know what is past 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* iv 1, Zookers had I one of you jungle with this twigge I would so veere you! 1753 *Scots Mag* Oct 491 2, I had proceeded by Fegs, Faith, Fox, Troth, Sun my life 'n my way much as it, and by Jesus, and the divill. 1762 A Murphy *Way to keep Him* v 1 (1765) I 1 Zookers (put money)—Oh! I am going to bed— 1824 Vattey *Lyons Mail* iv, in *Dicks' Standard Theatre* IV 387 Zookers! I meanter Bore em were to pop in! 1854 Ainsworth *Pilcth of Isc* xiv, I've Seen him make love to another woman "To Her's Nettled!" "Zookers! no

**Zooks** (zuks), *int. Obs. or arch.* exc. dial Short for *gadzooks* (Gad *sb* 3). cf. *Gads sokinges* (God *sb* 14 b.) An exclamation or minced oath, expressing vexation, surprise, or other emotion.

1634 Heywood *Iron Ages* III 1 E 4, Zookes thou art so brave a fellow that I will suck to thee 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* IV x, Zooks, said the parson to himself, he recommended the weather o her to me 1754 Garrick *Prol to Foundling Hospital* 1 Zookes! he eat a plagi dead, Zooks! he'd have beat five Plomers and a Mead! 1822 *Lamb Elia Last Leg Ser* II *Last Sf Cath* Mors', And as for that shocking bad habit of swearing, leave it to dustmen and mob's, Nor commit yourself much by saying "Zooks! or "Gadzooks! 1855 Brookfield *Rev Lyppe Lyffe* 3 Zooks, what's to blame?

**Zoolatry** (zoʊ ŏlătri). [ad mod L *zoölatria*, f. Gr. *ζῷον* animal + *λατρεία* worship.] The worship of animals So **Zoölatrous** *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or practising zoolatry.

1847 G S Faber *Eight Dissert* (1849) I. 285 That the gods of the Gentiles, however connected with Sabianism and Materialism and Zo latry, were originally deified mortals 1858 Hardwick *Christ & Other Masters* IV i 3 Conspicuous at the head of the zoolatry of Egypt stands the worship of the great Memphitic bull, Apis 1892 *Contemp Rev* I, Zoolatrous Zoolatrous 1898 P F Evans *Kral & Hare* 146 Vestiges of Bantu zoölatrous worship 1901 *Q Rev* July 200 They brought with them a concrete form of zoolatry in the cult of the buffalo

**Zoolite** (zō ŏlĭt) *rare* [ad. F *zoolite* (J F. Esper, 1774), f Gr. *ζῷον* animal + *λίθος* stone see Lite.] A fossil animal or animal substance

1822 J. Parkinson *Outl Oryctol* 327 Where M Esper, the narrator, expected to be left to augment the number of zoolites contained in these terrific mansions [sc caves]

**Zoologer** (zoʊ ŏlŏdʒəɹ). *rare.* [mod L. *zoölogra* Zoology + -er1, cf *astrologer*] = Zoologist

1663 Boyle *Usef Exp Nat Philos* II ii 46 As the Naturalist may thus illustrate Pathologie as a Chymist, so may he do the like as a Zoologer 1766 Swinton in *Phil. Trans* LVII 119 I that these bodies ever ascend fifty or sixty feet, has not been yet observed by any Zoologer. 1884 *Prospectus of Brehm's 'Life of Animals'*, Dr. Alf. Edm. Brehm, the eminent zoologer

**Zoologic** (zŏəlŏdʒĭk), *a. rare.* [f. Zoology +

-ic; cf. mod.L. *zōlogicus* (Kirchmaier, 1661).] = next.

1826 Bentham *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 87 Zooscopic or Zoologic Physiurgics. 1849 Sala *Times* 279 As boys expend their zoologic rage On annual tigers in a travelling cage. 1852 Bailey *Festus* 368 That rose weep is a botanic fact; A zoologic truth, that birds woo flowers.

**Zoological** (zōəlǫ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. Zoology + -ical; cf. prec.] Pertaining or relating to zoology; belonging or devoted to the scientific study of animals.

1818 *Tweeddell's Rem.* 190 *note*, His numerous zoological and botanical works. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sci.* III. 465 Molluscous animals had been placed too high in the zoological scale. 1839 Darwin *Voy. Beagle* vii. 159 We shall.. have two zoological provinces strongly contrasted with each other. 1877 Couch *Fur-Bearing Anim.* i. 1 The zoological characters by which it is distinguished from other Carnivorous Mammals.

**b.** *Zoological Garden* (usually *Gardens*), the gardens of the London Zoological Society, situated in Regent's Park, London, in which the society's collection of wild animals is housed (formerly colloquially abbreviated as 'the Zoological', subsequently further shortened to 'the Zoo'); hence *gen.* a garden or park in which wild animals are kept for public exhibition.

1829 T. Allen (*title*) A guide to the Zoological Gardens and museum. 1831 J. Jekyll *Corr.* (1891) 279, I..passed three hours with some new foreigners at the Zoological, which is the best lounge of London. 1843 *Comic Almanac* W a b's The parrots at the Zoological Gardens. 1854 Gosse *Aquarium* 13 The interesting exhibition opened to the public last year at the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 416 The first annual exhibition of the Hull and East-Riding Poultry Society, took place on Wednesday, June 27th, at the Zoological Gardens, Hull. 1890 Bunnaby *Very Much Abr.* 122 After which I never gave my horse a feed of corn at the Zoo. *attrib.* and *comb.* 1843 Hood in *Mem.* (1860) II. 134 Me, who have no more notion of engineering than a Zoological monkey of driving piles. 1858 *Household Words* 18 Dec. 51/1 A whole zoological-garden-full of symptoms constantly making him uncomfortable.

*c. transf.* (sometimes *humorous*). Animal.

1865 Dickens *Holly-Tree* i, One of the apartments has a zoological papering on the walls, not so accurately joined but that the elephant occasionally rejoices in a tiger's hind legs and tail, while the lion puts on a trunk and tusks. 1889 H. P. Lunn *Magnificent Sin* v. What is the nobler sort of ancestry —the purely zoological, or the spiritual? 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 39/2 Other strange and zoological sounds.

Hence **Zoological** (zōəlǫ·dʒikăl) *adv.*, in a zoological way, in relation to zoology.

1819 W. Lawrence *Lect. Phys.* etc. 249 The representations of all the animals being brought before Adam in the first instance, and subsequently of their being all collected in the ark, if we are to understand them as applied to the whole inhabitants of the whole world, are zoologically impossible. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat. xvii.* (1852) 393 This Archipelago [ie. the Galapagos Islands] is zoologically part of America. 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* I. i. 24 Borneo and New Guinea, as like physically as two distinct countries can be, are zoologically wide as poles asunder.

**Zo,olo·gico-**, used as combining form of *zoologic* or *zoological*: **zoologico-archæologist**, one who studies archæology zoologically, i. e. in relation to animal remains.

1865 Lubbock *Prehi. Times* 114 The admirable researches of the Danish and Swiss zoologico-archæologists.

**Zoologist** (zōǫ·lŏdʒist). [f. mod.L. *zōologia* Zoology + -ist; cf. *zoologer*.] One versed in zoology; a scientist who studies or treats of animals.

1663 Hooke *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 46 The..liberty of making those Experiments in live Beasts.. may enable a Zoologist.. to determine divers Pathological difficulties. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 531 This..has been described.. under the name of the Mus Africanus Hayopolin dictus. Most of the zoologists have mentioned it. 1769 Johnson *Lett. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 Sept., Nor have I seen any thing that interested me as a zoologist, except an otter. 1870 Newman *Cornh. Accent* II. viii. 253 The zoologist, 'Ex pede Herculem'; and we have actual experience how the practised zoologist can build up some intricate organization from the sight of its sundered limbs.

**Zoologize** (zōǫ·lŏdʒaiz), *v.* [f. Zoology or Zoologist: see -ize.]

1. *intr.* To study zoology practically; to seek and examine animals zoologically. (Cf. *botanize*.)

1801 Grikie *E. Forbes* ix. 267 He had botanized and zoologized, from the Shetlands to the Channel Isles. 1890 Rowlands in *Life & Lett.* (1896) 256, I have just heard that Charles Lister..has died of fever in Brazil, where he was zoologising.

2. *trans.* To study, explore, or treat zoologically.

1865 Kingsley *Heroes* i, Not to him, as to us, a world.. circumscribed, mapped, botanised, zoologised.

Hence **Zoolo·logizing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1865 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1884) III. 80 Giving up zoologising for the present. 1878 Sailer *Sc. Nature.* xiv. 290 On a zoologising excursion.

**Zoology** (zōǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *zōologia*, mod. Gr. ζωολογία (see note below), f. ζῷον animal + -λογία (see -logy).. Cf. F. *zoologie* (18th c.).

The word was orig. used to denote that part of medical science which treats of the medicines or remedies obtainable from animals: e. g. in the title of T. Bateson's translation of Johann Schröder's *Pharmacopœa: or the History of Animals, as they are useful in physick and chirurgery*, 1657; and in Sperling's *Zoologia Physica*, 1661, a distinction is made between 'zoologia medica' and 'zoologia sacra'; the first concerns animals 'ut materiam medendi præbent', the second 'ut ad Dei majestatem, ad vitia deponenda, et ad vitam corrigendam faciunt.'

The sense first recorded in English dictionaries is 'a treatise concerning living creatures' (Bailey, 1726) and is still the only one in Todd's Johnson, 1818.]

The science which treats of animals, constituting one of the two branches (*zoology* and *botany*) of Natural History or Biology, and comprising many subordinate branches, as ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, etc.; also, a treatise on, or system of, this science.

1669 Rowland tr. *Schröder's Pharm. Disp.* 506 The Fifth Book of the Chymical Dispensatory, called Zoology, treating of living Creatures. Zoology is a Part of Pharmacy, that shews what Medicines are to be taken from Animals. 1726 Bailey, *Zoology*, a Treatise concerning living Creatures. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Zoology makes a considerable Article in Natural History. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl. Vacca*, in zoology, the female of the ox-kind. 1766 Pennant (*title*) The British Zoology. 1833 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 158 'Dogs bark': this was erst of necessary matter; 'dogs' were then 'all dogs'.—Since an observation of the dogs (Lalander (I think), the proposition, as in our zoologies, so in our logics, has fallen to contingent matter. 1867 Owen in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* etc. s. v., The term *Zoology* is practically restricted to the science of the outward characters, habits, properties, and classification of animals. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* ix. § 2. 599 John Ray was the first to use zoology to the rank of a science.

**Zoom** (zūm), *v.* [Echoic.]

**1.** *intr.* To make a continuous low-pitched humming or buzzing sound.

1892 'Q' *I saw three Ships* i, Amid..the scraping and zooming of the instruments, airing and reed. 1904 — *Shining Ferry* xiv, A couple of humble-bees zoomed against the window pane.

**2.** *Aircraft slang.* (See first quot.) Hence **Zoom** *sb.*, an act of 'zooming'.

1917 *Flight* 9 Feb. 149/2 A 'Zoom', describes the action of an aeroplane which, while flying level, is hauled up abruptly and made to climb for a few moments at a dangerously sharp angle. 'Zooming' is, frequently the only means of escape from obstacle when flying low. 1918 'B. Cable' *Air Men o' War* i. 11 The 'Silver Wings' righted, zoomed sharply up, whirled round.

**Zoomorph** (zōu·mǫ̈f). [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + μορφή shape.] A representation of an animal form in art; a zoomorphic design or figure.

1895 Haddon *Evol. Art* 40 The designs are based on human faces.. sometimes the human form is employed, and occasionally conventionalized animals. 1900 Horne *Glasgow Archæol. Soc.* (N.S.) IV. 398 Key-patterns, zoomorphs, and figure subjects.

**Zoomorphic** (zōəmǫ·fik), *a.* [As prec. + -ic.]

**1.** Representing or imitating animal forms, as in decorative art or sculpture.

1872 *Archæol. Cant.* VIII. 266 A legend not in runes, but in zoomorphic characters. 1885 M'Crie *Sk. & Study.* 23 The zoomorphic character so conspicuous in the ornamentation of Celtic manuscripts.

**2.** Attributing the form or nature of an animal to something, esp. to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. Anthropomorphic.)

1880 Murray *Philol. Soc. Addr.* 22 The enlargement or abbreviation of words by letters, which in the curious zoomorphic dialect of many books, *creep in*, or *drop out*, or *fall away*, or develop as *pas asiles*. 1884 A. Lang *Custom & Myth* vii. 91 Sayce, who recognises totemism as the origin of the zoomorphic element in Egyptian religion.

b. Having, or conceived or represented as having, the form of an animal.

1886 A. Lang in *19th Cent.* 408 Under Dynasty XII. the gods, square in their later shapes, often half anthropomorphic, half zoomorphic. 1887 — *Myth, Rit. & Relig.* I. 9 All pre-Christian religions have their 'zoomorphic'..idols.

**Zoomorphism** (zōəmǫ·fizm). Formed as prec. + -ism, put after Fr. *zoomorphisme*.]

**1.** Attribution of animal form or nature to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. Anthropomorphism.)

1840 Smart, *Zoomorphism*, (belief of a transformation into beasts). 1882 Myers *Wordsw. & Tr.* 205 Zoomorphism is much more absurd than Anthropomorphism.

**2.** Imitation or representation of animal forms in decorative art or symbolism.

1879 Jos. Anderson *Scot. Early Chr. T.* (1881) 2:6 Zoomorphism of ornamentation. *Ibid.* 221 An Irish cruciform.. exhibits a pronounced character of zoomorphism.

**Zo,omorphize**, *v.* [f. Zoomorphic + -ize.] *trans.* To make zoomorphic; to attribute an animal form or nature to.

1895 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 The belief in sympathetic interchange and interrelation between man and the lower animals,..the zoomorphizing of everything.

‖ **Zoon** (zōǫ·n). Pl. **zoa** (zōu·ă). *Biol.* [mod.L. (Herbert Spencer), a. Gr. ζῷον animal.] An organism scientifically regarded as a complete animal, i. e. one which is the total product of an impregnated ovum, whether constituting a single being or in the higher animals, or a number of distinct beings (*zooids*) as in the successive asexual generations of aphides or the various 'persons' that make up a compound or 'colonial' animal.

1864 H. Spencer *Princ. Biol.* § 73 A zoological individual is constituted either by any such single animal as a mammal or bird, which may properly claim the title of a *zoon*, or by any such group of animals as the numerous *Medusæ* that have been developed from the same egg, which are to be severally distinguished as *zooids*.

**Zoonerythrin** (zōənerĭ·thrin) *s.v.* Zoo-.

†**Zoonic** (zōǫ·nik), *a. Chem. Obs.* [ad. F. *zoonique* (Berthollet), irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -ique, -ic.] Applied to a supposed peculiar acid obtained from animal substances, afterwards shown to be impure acetic acid. Hence †**Zo·onate** [-ate 2], a salt of this acid.

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 329 Among the acids, the editor has omitted several..newly discovered; viz. the Zoonic [etc.]. 1800 Pyr. *Chem. Nouvenel.* 33 *Zoonic radical*, Basis of zoonic acid. *Ibid.*, Zoonates.

**Zoonist** (zōu·nist). *rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον living being, animal + -ist.] One who holds that nature as a whole is a living being, or that natural objects are such. (In quots. only *attrib.*)

1892 *Athenæum* 25 June 809/1 The conception of nature as itself living, or the Zoonist conception, and..the conception of nature as inclusive of beings of a superhuman character, or the Supernalist conception. 1897 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 274 Among the Zoönist poems are dialogues between personified natural objects.

**Zoonite** (zōu·nəit). *Zool. rare.* [ad. F. *zoonite* (Dugès) or mod.L. *zōonitum*, irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal; see -ite 1.] = Zooid; *spec.* each of the segments of an articulated animal regarded as distinct organisms; a somite. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* = articulated, segmented. Hence **Zo,onitic** (-i·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or composed of 'zoonites' or segments.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* I. 703 *note*, We may adopt Huxley's suggestion, and call all such individuals zoonites instead of animals. Dugès suggested zoönites in the same sense. 1860 Laycock *Mind & Brain* II. Contents p. ix, Zoonitic Constitution of Vertebræ. 1861 Hulke tr. *Meigs-Tomlin* II. ii. 59 The Worm..is composed of segments or articulations..in each of which the same organs are regularly repeated..It may be termed a distinct series of animals.. These special organisms have received the name of Zoonites (1848). *Ibid.* 60 Three sub-kingdoms: I. The isolated animals; II. Zoonite animals; III. The Associated animals.

**Zoonomy** (zōǫ·nŏmi), *rare.* ? *Obs.* [ad. mod. L. *zōonomia* (E. Darwin, 1794), which (after Astronomy, q.v.) should properly mean 'arrangement of animals, zoological classification', but taken as f. Gr. ζῷον animal (or ζωή life) + νόμος law.] The science of the laws of animal or organic life; physiology. So **Zo,ono·mic** (in mod. Dicts.), **Zo,ono·mical** *adjs.*, pertaining or relating to zoonomy; **Zo,o·nomist**, one who is versed in or treats of zoonomy.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 262 The Zoonomical inquirer, when he attempts to explain organic and animal phenomena, should renounce all..unfounded hypotheses. *Ibid.*, The Zoonomist must endeavour to avoid all partial and incomplete explanations. 1815 T. Forster (*title*) Sketch of the New Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain and Nervous System of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim, considered as comprehending a complete system of Zoonomy. 1861 *Sussex Hosp. Sussex.* Ser. II. 375 If we could..give ear to the teaching of an enlightened zoonomy, we might soon drive many of our fellest diseases out of our breed.

**Zoons**: see Zoönds.

†**Zoo·nters**, *int. Obs. rare.* An exclamation, app. suggested by *zoons* (Zoönds) and Zookers.

a 1763 Shenstone *Ode Dr. Brettle* 16 Zoonters they're gone.

**Zoophagous** (zōǫ·făgəs), *a.* [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -φάγος -eating: see -phagous.] Feeding on animals; carnivorous; belonging to the *Zoophaga*, a name for various groups of animals: opp. to Phytophagous. So **Zo,o·phagan** *a.* and *sb.*

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci* etc., *Zoophaganæ*, the order of Unguiculate Mammals which live on animal food,..also the corresponding group of the Marsupial Quadrupeds. 1855 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi 70 Zoophagous animals, or those which attack and devour living animals. 1859 Owen in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. VI. 72 The true or zoophagous Cetaceans. 1881 *Nature* 2 Feb. 302/2 The bottomless host of animals that inhabit the depths of the ocean, all of which are necessarily zoophagous.

**Zoophile** (zōu·fəil). [ad. F. *zoophile*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + φίλος loving.] *a.* *Biol.* A zoophilous plant, or its seed. b. = *zoophilist*. So **Zoophilism** (zōǫ·fĭlizm) = *zoophily*; **Zoophilist** (zōǫ·fĭlist), a lover of animals; an opponent of cruelty to animals, *spec.* an anti-vivisectionist; **Zo,o·philite** (-əit) — prec.; **Zoophilous** (zōǫ·fĭlŏs) *a.*, loving animals; in *Biol.* (after *entomophilous*) applied to plants whose seeds are disseminated by the agency of animals; **Zo,o·phily**, love of animals; *spec.*, the principles of zoophilists.

1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 502 The seeds which are aided by this mode of dissemination are called 'zoophiles. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Aug. 290/2 The Progress of 'Zoophilism. 1892 *Hull Packet* 11 Nov., A species of mistletoe which is likely to become a great favourite among our female 'zoophilists. a 1843 Southey *Doctor* ccxxvii, Our Philosopher and Zoophilist..advised those who consulted him as to the best manner of taking and destroying rats. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 None of us Zoophilists have ever pleaded for equal rights for animals with men. 1879 Sir R. Christison in *Life* (1886) II. 201 He has been assailed by extreme 'Zoophilites. 1886 *Nature* 26 Aug. 401 Plants..which he terms 'zoophilous' or 'ornithophilous', *i.e.* those which are absolutely dependent for the germination of their seeds on the fruit being swallowed by birds. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 279 (*title of article*) 'Zoophily. 1892 *Month* Aug. 414 The extreme advocates of Zoophily.

**Zoophorus**, etc. : see ZOPHORUS.

**Zoophyte** (zō'ŭfəit). Forms *a.* 7–8 zoophyton (? zoophiton), 7 9 *pl* zoophyta (zoŏ'fită). *β.* 7 zoophyt, -phit, 7–9 -phite, 7– zoophyte. [ad mod.L. *zoophyton*, a. Gr. ζῴόφυτον (Aristotle), f. ζῷον animal + φυτόν plant, f. φυσᾶσθαι to grow. *Cf.* F. *zoophyte* (Rabelais).]

† 1. Applied to certain plants having or supposed to have some qualities of animals, as the 'sensitive plant' and the 'vegetable lamb' or BAROMETZ. *Obs.*

1682 LONDE *Summary Du Voiages* 134 There is mention of the Bonanets, Zophites, or Plant animals of Moscouy, in the first Booke of the second Week. 1693 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* xvii. 95 The sensitive Plants, and other Zoophyta. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Muscovy* (1685) 67 In this Country grows the Plant Zoophyte that resembles a Lamb.

2. A general name for various animals of low organization, formerly classed as intermediate between animals and plants, being usually fixed, and often having a branched or radiating structure, thus resembling plants or flowers as crinoids, hornwracks, sea-anemones, corals, hydroids, sponges, etc. ; any member of the group *Zoophyta*.

Formerly sometimes applied to the branched connecting structure in hornwracks, corals, etc as distinguished from the 'polypa' inhabiting it, but often also a synonym of polyp

In early modern Zoology the term *Zoophyta* was applied systematically but with varying extent, sometimes including all the Echinoderms, Polyps, Coelenterates Sponges, and Protozoa ; in other cases more restricted esp to the Coelenterates, it is now similarly used exclusively.

1635 PERSON *Varieties* i. 8 9 Mid creatures which wee call Zoophyta, and Plantanimalia. 1652 J. [? EVRARD] *Nymphæ Hort. Phalar.* 34 The Zoophyton *Ursipe Zeo* (i.e. half Animall, and half Plant. 1682 H. MORE *Ann. to Glanvill's Lux O* 53 To blame her [se. Providence] for making Zoophiton's, or rather Amphibions 1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII 358. Zoophyton, a small plant resembling the Flower of the Marigold 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man Geol* 146 The innumerable tribes of zoophyta, mollusca, and other invertebrata

*β.* 1681 BOYLE *Spec. Grav.* iii. 329 Many strange creatures, mineralls, vegetalls, Zophites 1840 HERALL *Dodona's Grove* 53 I have Zoophits or Plant Animals the Philosophers write of 1694 DENNY *Honour Retir.* 158 Under the title of plants I include not zoophytes or plant animals. 1758 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII 457 If some will still consider these marine productions as plants, they are truly zoophytes, formed by the life or the animals, which inhabit them 1762 NASMYTH *ibid.* LII 556 Whether animal, zoophyte, or submarine plant, I leave to your determination 1828 YEARR *Rem. Nat. Hist.* I. 89 The Polypi or Zoophytes, comprehending all those small, gelatinous, and compound or aggregated animals which have a mouth surrounded by tentacula, and conducting into a simple stomach 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III 463 Supposing the coralline zoophytes to go on building 1877 *Intellectual Challenger* I iv 214 Very elegant adjustments to physical ag. 1885 O. W. HOLMES *Int. Breakf. T.* viii 75 When the whole human zophyte flowers out like a full blown rose.

**3.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. *Marygold*, Zoophyte Marygold the name of a species of sea animal, of a very beautiful kind and of the nature of those commonly called Zoophytes, by the old naturalists 1856 CRAVEN-IER *Sacred* § 69 For the examination of microscopic objects, too large to be conveniently received into the Aquatic Box, the Zoophyte trough, contrived by Mr. Lister may be employed with great advantage 1880 *Science-Gossip* XXV 38 The zoophyte-clothed rocks

Hence **Zo ophytal**, **Zo ophytic** (-fi'tik), **-ical** *adjs*, of or pertaining to a zoophyte or zoophytes, of the nature of a zoophyte, produced by zoophytes ; **Zo ophytish** *a*, having the character of a zoophyte, **Zo ophytist**, a naturalist who studies zoophytes, a zoophyte-grapher, **Zoophyte-graphy**, description of zoophytes ; **Zo,ophy toid** *a*, resembling a zoophyte, or related to the zoophytes ; **Zo ophytolo gical** *a.*, pertaining to zoophytology ; **Zo ophyto logist**, one versed in zoophytology ; **Zo ophyto logy**, that department of zoology which treats of zoophytes

1836 MANTELL *Wonders Geol* II 468 In the fluviatile beds are the elements of zoophytal organization 1818 *Q. Journ. Sci.* V 375 Molluscous and zoophytic animals 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol* I 128 The zoophytic, and shelly limestones sometimes alternate with the rocks of mechanical origin 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol* (1855) 216 The ocean's bed, on which the foundations of the zoophytic structure are laid 1858 C. LINDLEY *Brit. Zoophyt.* Introd. Bernard de Jussieu and Guettard proceeded to different parts of the coasts of France with the view of examining their zoophytal productions. 1850 W. STODDART *Chas. Northdown* 166 (1858) Many of the zoophytical and molluscous orders 1854 *Chamb. Journ.* 28 Oct 280/1 The home of some human reptile or zoophytish monster. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II iii 242 Caverns worthy the careful examination of the zoophytist. 1736 BAILEY (folio) *Pref.*, *Zoography* a Treatise or Discourse of animal Plants, as Cockles, Muscles, Oysters. 1861 R. T. GRANT *Inaugural Address Geol* 66 Phytozoa

*Zoophytoid 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zoophytological 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* IV 1307/1 The modern Zoophytologist 1828 *Athenæum* I 651/1 *Zoophyt logy*. Respiration of Animalcules. 1883 *Manchester* 13 July 2/2 Ellis has been called the father of English Zoophytology

**Zoopraxiscope** (zōŏpræ'ksiskōp). Also **-praxoscope**, and irion. **-praxinoscope** (cf. PRAXINOSCOPE). [f. Zoo- + Gr. πρᾶξις (nce πράξεσθαι, gen. πράξεσθαι) action + -SCOPE.] A modifier form of the ZOOTROPE.

1884 *Leeds Merc* 31 May 5 The Zoöpraxoscope is the zoötrygroscope in an improved form 1889 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 352/3 Mr. Muybridge, of Philadelphia, lectured on 'The Science of Animal Locomotion in its Relation to Design in Art.' The lecturer by the zoopraxiscope and its limelight displayed a great number of illustrations.

**Zoosporange** (zōŏ'sporæ̃nd3ĭm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** Also in anglicized form **zoosporange** (zōŏ'sporend3). [mod.L., f. next after SPORANGIUM.] A receptacle containing zoospores. Hence **Zo osporan giate** *a.*, having zoosporange

1874 COOKE *Fungi* 170 Thick filaments or tubes, similar to those which form the Zoosporangia 1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar 438 The zoospores are set free through an opening formed at the apex of the zoosporangium 1889 A. W. BENNETT & MURRAY *Cryptog. Bot.* 306 The zoospores are borne in zoosporangia at the end of cylindrical or club-shaped zoosporangiophores

**Zoospore** (zōŏ'spōə). *Biol.* [f. ZOO- + SPORE.] A spore having the power of spontaneous movement, occurring in certain Algæ, Fungi, and Protozoa ; a motile spore, swarm spore.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 8 Cellular flowerless plants, propagated by zoospores, coloured spores, or tetraspores 1858 — *Veg. Phys.* § 767 For the propagation of their kind, the C. nerveæ have two different modes, the one being the like formation of zoospores, termed zoocarps, from the interior of the cells 1868 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 201 The sp res (in Protozoa) in w hich they become motile by the development of flagellate, and to these two terms respectively the terms *zoocellula*, or *zoospore* a *flagellula* may be applied

Hence **Zoospo rangial** *a.*, producing, of the nature of, or effected by zoospores

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 8 The spores of the C nferve which are sometimes called Zoosporous 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* IV 1213/2 Zoosporous reproduction

**Zoosteal**, var. ZOOLITE.

**Zo,o tic**, [ad. mod.L. *zōōticus* (Mayne *Expos Lex.*), f. Gr. ζῷον animal see OTIC.] (see quots.)

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 *Zootic Acid*, syn with Hydrocyanic Acid 1879 WEBSTER, *Zootic* containing the remains of organized bodies,—used of rock or soil

**Zootomy** (zōŏ'tŏmi). [ad. mod.L. *zōōtomia* (M. A. Severinus, 1645) : see Zoo- and -TOMY.] The anatomy of animals, the dissection, or the science of the structure, of animal bodies, in mod use *esp* comparative anatomy.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II i 21 The naturalist by his Zootomy, may be very serviceable to the Physician in his anatomical researches. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX 638 Zootomy is either for compleating natural History, or for the better Attainment of the Cure of Diseases. 1797 S. JAMES *Elem. Surg.* (1800) I 1 The cook, even in East Smithfield, where he exercises the trade of zootomy 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Pref p. v, To combine the concrete facts of Zootomy with the outlines of systematic Classificati n 1872 MIVART *Anat.* 74 In this lower jaw—as, as it is called in zootomy, mandible 1875 W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I 790/1 Zoötomy resolves itself into Animal Anatomy or Zootomy, and Vegetable Anatomy or Phytotomy

So **Zootomic** (zōŏtŏ'mik), **Zo,oto mical** *adjs*, belonging or relating to zootomy ; **Zo,oto mically** *adv*, in relation to or in the way of zootomy, **Zo,o'tomist**, one versed in zootomy, one who dissects, or who studies the structure of, animal bodies, in mod. use *esp* a comparative anatomist.

1889 *Nature* 19 Nov 70/1 The zootomic and embryological works of the last ten years 1833 R. E. GRANT in *Tait's Ed. Mag.* III 67 The zootomical investigations of Moreschi of Milan 1877 *Intellectual Life* Pref p. vi, A Zootomical account of its various sub kingdoms 1849 *Todd's Cycl. Anat* IV 873/1 The investigation of the whole of this vast subject, essentially 1888 *Athenæum* 7 July 23/2 The remarks of 'Zootomist' 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Lyon.* 1 6 The cook by profession a zootomist 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* XV 8 *Mind* Ser. III. 1 130 If the biologist recognises the many points of community in animal structures, the zootomist has to insist on the points of diversity.

**Zootrope** (zōŏ'trōp), corrected form of ZOETROPE, with substitution of the more normal combining form ZOO- [Gr ζῷο-].

1872 HUXLEY *Physiol* x. 245 The curious toy called the thaumatrope or 'Zootrope' or 'wheel of life'.

**Zope** (zōup) [a. Gr. dial *zope* (F *zope*), prob. Slav (cf Russ *zupá*) ] A bream, *Abramis ballerus*.

1880 CUVIER & *Valenc* Eng. in Europe there occur the 'C mon bream', *A. brama*, the 'Zope', *A. (Cyprinus) ballerus*.

‖**Zophorus** (zō'fŏrəs), **zophorus** (zōu'fŏrəs). *Anc Arch.* Pl. -i. Also 8 anglicized **zophore**. [L. *zŏphorus*, *zophorus* (Vitruvius), ad. Gr. ζωφόρος, ζῳοφόρος adj bearing figures of animals, f. ζῷον animal + -φόρος -bearing. Cf. F. *zophore* (Rabelais).] A continuous frieze bearing figures of men and animals carved in relief.

1563 SHUTE *Archit* Bij, Upon their beddes, he laide Ionithia, and Coronas, setting between them Zophorus 1694 MORTON *Nat. Hist. Kent* 199 The Architraves, Zophores and Cornishes 1706 PHILLIPS (fed Kersey), Zophorus or Zophorus. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract Builder* 386 1903 *Times* 25 Apr 5/2 The sculptures on the zophorus of the west front should be taken down and stored in a museum.

So **Zo(o)phoric** (-fo'rik) *a.*, bearing the figure of an animal.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Zophoric Columns*, is a Statuary Column ; or a Column that bears or supports the Figure of an Animal 1752 *Ibid.*, *Zophorus*.

‖**Zopilote** (zōu pilōt). Also **-ot.** [Sp., a. Mexican *tzopilotl*.] A vulture of the family *Cathartidæ*, esp. the American carnion vulture or turkey-buzzard, *Catharies aura*

1787 CULLEN tr. *Clavigero's Mexico* I. 47 The *Zopilote*, known in South America by the name of *Gallinazo*,.. There are two very different species. The one, the Zopilote properly so called, the other called the *Cascapouchalin* 1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* II 206 The Eagle's cliff was black with Zopilotes 1882 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 17 When in search of food, the Zopilote ascends to a vast height in the air

‖**Zopissa** (zōpi'să). [L., a. Gr. ζώπισσα, f. *πίσσα* pitch.] † **a.** An old medicinal application made from wax and pitch scraped from the sides of ships. *Obs.* b. A patent composition used as a hardening or protecting coat for metal, etc.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIV vii II 182 Zopissa, is that Pitch, which is scraped from ships, and is confected of wax well soked in the salt water of the sea. 1718 tr. *Pomet's Hist Drugs* I 212 This Zopissa is a Composition of black Pitch, Rosin, Suet and Tar melted together 1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Feb 108/1 To experimentalize on a portion of that stone with a substance called 'zopissa'—phraseologically borrowed from Dioscorides pitch plaister. 1882 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit* II No. 2623 The zopissa composition, for preserving iron and wooden ships against rust and decay, invented by N C Szezelmy *Ibid* 3089 Arabian zopissa waterproof and paper boards processes

**Zoppy**, obs or dial. f. SORRY.

**Zore**, obs or dial. f. SORE *a.*1

1572 GASCOIGNE *Posies* Wks 1907 I 73 Our landlordes a zore man He racketh up our rentes.

**Zorge**, obs. form of SORROW.

**Zorgite** (zō'd3əit) *Min.* [f. *Zorge*, a village in the Harz Mountains see -ITE 1.] A lead-grey selenide of lead and copper

1892 BROOKE & MALLET *Inaugural Inst. of Min* 153.

**Zorgo**, obs. variant of SORROW.

1549 THOMAS *Hist Italie* 5 b, He is not liable to finde breade of Zorgo (a verie vile graine)

**Zoril, zorille** (zŏ'ril). Also **zorilla**, -o. [ad. F. *zorille*, ad. Sp. *zorrilla*, -*illo*, dim of *zorra*, ZORRO.] An animal of the African genus *Zorilla*, allied to the skunks ; also applied to some Central or South American skunks, as the conepatl.

1774 GOLDSM *Nat Hist* (1824) II 47 The zorille resembles the skunk, but is rather smaller 1845 DARWIN *Voy Nat* iv. 89 We saw also a couple of Zorillas 1878 *Cassell's Nat Hist* II 196 The Cape Zorilla. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., *Zoril*, a variety of the American skunk.

**Zoroastrian** (zŏrŏ'a.strĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **8 Zoroastrean**. [f. L. *Zoroastr-es*, a Gr *Ζωροάστρης*, ad. Zend *Zarathustra* (Pers. *Zardusht*) see -IAN.] A. *adj* Of or pertaining to Zoroaster or his religious system, which is mainly dualistic.

1743 WARBURTON *Pope's Ess Man* II 81 *note*, The dangerous school opinion gives great support to the Manichean or Zoroastrian error 1798 J. MILLAR *Hist. Scotland* (1830) II. iv 249 The heresy of Manes, which was compounded out of the ancient Zoroastrian or Magian superstition and certain perverted doctrines of Christianity 1842 *Church's Gospel of Life* 172 There is pears to be a distinct polemical element in the earliest Zoroastrian Hymns 1903 *Times* 2 Mar 3/3 On no previous occasion has it been received from Christianity into the Zoroastrian faith

B *sb.* A follower of Zoroaster, a Parsee

1812 IVIMEY *Let to F. Hodgson* 3 Sept, I would sooner be a Pantheist, Mussulman, Jesuit, Semite, Pyrrhonian, Zoroastrian, than any one of the seventy two villainous sects who are tearing each other to pieces for the Love of the Lord 1884 PUSEY *Daniel* 297 The doctrine of the resurrection was not known to the Zoroastrians until after the Christian era. 1886 PRIN ROBINSON *Lall Testimon. Trees* 3 The same sacred character of the holly among the Zoroastrians and Parsi worshippers.

Hence **Zoroas'trianise** *v.*, *trans* and *intr.*, to make or become Zoroastrian in character.

1891 CHEYNE *Orig Psalter* viii 449 Zoroastrianizing phrase logy *Ibid* 432 The Jews in Egypt had already been in some degree Zoroastrianized

**Zoroas'trianism.** Also **-ter-.** [f. prec. + -ISM.] The religious system taught by Zoroaster and his followers, and incorporated in the Zend-Avesta, commonly known as *fire-worship*

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* II. iv. 1 Zoroastrianism had failed to propagate itself with any great success 1874 SAYCE *Compar Philol* viii 307 The deities of the Veda became the evil spirits of Zoroastrianism

**Zoroas'tric**, *a.* *rare.* [f. L. *Zōroastrēs* Zoroaster] = ZOROASTRIAN. So **Zoroas'te(o)rism** = ZOROASTRIANISM.

1892 T. KNIGHTLEY *Mythol* (ed. 3) 468 The Fewer of Zoroastric theology 1892 *Ibid Kenan's Age & Antig Dh Nab Agency* II 43 The old Zoroasterism of the Zend writings 1894 PUSEY *Daniel* ix 58 Zoroastrism betrays its original, the Aryan creative worship, to which has been added its characteristic Dualism

‖**Zorro** (zo'rro, zŏ'rro) [Sp., = fox.] The South American fox-wolf. Also **Zorri** no [dim.], a kind of skunk (cf. ZORIL), or its fur

1838 HUNTER tr. *Azara's Nat Hist. Paraguay* I 250 As to talpina they vary considerably in my zorros. 1884 *Encycl. Brit* XVIII 353/1 The zorro or *Canis Azaræ* (a kind of fox), the zorrino or *Mephitis patagonica* (a kind of skunk), and the tuco-tuco or *Ctenomys magellanicus* 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 7/1 Furs in great variety (chinchilla, vicuna, guanaco, zorrino, lynx, leopard, alpaca, &c)

‖ **Zoster** (*zɒ·stəɹ*). Also 9 **sooster.** [*L.*, a. Gr. *ζωστήρ* girdle, f. *ζωννύναι* to gird.]

†**1.** A kind of seaweed. *Obs. rare.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* xiii. xxv. I. 401 As for the former [seaweed] called Zoster, it is found among the shelves and shallow waters not farre from the shore.

**2.** The disease shingles, *Herpes zoster*. Also *attrib.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1867 O. W. Holmes *Guardian Angel* xxv, Armed against every malady from Ague to Zoster. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 78 Pustulæ are met with . . in non-parasitic sycosis, zoster, etc.

**3.** *Gr. Antiq.* A belt or girdle, esp. as worn by men.

1822 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 483 A *sooster* or girdle of the same metal, which reaches half round the body. 1906 *Academy* 1 Dec. 543/2 The Mitre is a band of metal worn round the waist under the Chiton, the Zoster a similar belt worn over the whole.

**Zoster**, obs. form of Sister.

‖ **Zostera** (*zɒstĭ·rə*). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. Gr. *ζωστήρ* : see Zoster and -a1. So called from its long leaves.] A marine plant of the genus so named, esp. grasswrack, *Z. marina*.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 54 The kernel of *Zostera* is an oblong oval. 1835 Kingsley *Glaucus* 57 The delicate green ribbons of the Zostera (the only English flowering plant which grows beneath the sea). 1898 *Phytologist* Nov. 601 The thin line of dry *Zostera* to be met with at high-water mark. 1905 Mrs. L. L. Clarke *Common Seaweeds* ii. 30, I have found it often in *Zostera* beds at low tide.

‖ **Zosterops** (*zɒ·stĕrpps*). *Ornith.* [mod. L. (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827), f. Gr. *ζωστήρ* girdle + *ὤψ* eye.] Any of the small birds of the genus so named, widely distributed chiefly in tropical and subtropical regions, and characterized by a ring of white feathers round the eye; a silver-eye or white-eye.

1867 A. L. Adams *Wand. Nat. India* 71 That beautiful warbler the yellow zosterops, known by the white downy ring round the eye. 1909 *Blackbo. Mag.* Aug. 202/2 It is interesting to watch a Zosterops operating on a pear.

**Zop(e**, obs. forms of Sooth *a.*

**Zotie, zoty**, variants of Sooth *a.* Obs.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. Ind.* (1596) 272 They burned.. three Zoties neere unto their owne lodging. 1589 Davies *Ind. Emp.* v. ii, At last Cydaria looks over the zoty.

**Zouave** (*zuā·v*). Also **souava.** [F., f. native name *Zouaoua* (see below).]

**1.** One of a body of light infantry in the French army, originally recruited from the Algerian Kabyle tribe of Zouaoua, but afterwards composed of French soldiers distinguished for their physique and dash, and formerly retaining the original Oriental uniform.

[1830 tr. *E. Blaquiere's Sig. Pananti* (ed. 2) 56 The whole of the native warriors called the *Zouaoui.*] 1848 Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 320 The Zouaves were standing on the breach. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* 8 Jan., Zouaves with turbans, long mantles, and bronzed, half Moorish faces. 1859 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 729/1 In January, 1855, the French general laid siege to Puebla. . In one of the many assaults on the corner held by Diaz the zouaves broke into the first court-yard of his stronghold.

*fig.* 1858 Herschel *Life Th.* 135 Those sciences which might be called the light infantry of progress, the Zouaves of thought. 1903 *Speaker* 30 May 210/2 The 'Physical Force' agitators were the Zouaves of Carlton House.

*attrib.* 1865 E. Dicey *Six Months* II. 7 The orderly disorder of a Zouave mess.

**2.** [Also *Papal* or *Pontifical Z.*] One of a corps of French soldiers organized at Rome in 1860 for the defence of the pope, and disbanded in 1871.

1864 Manning in A. Reinaud *Abbé-Zouave* Pref. p. ix, Some hundreds of the Pontifical Zouaves, chiefly French and Belgian, . . were seen at St. Peter's. 1868 tr. *Cardella's P. W. Accredi* 38 When he returned to Rome to join the Zouaves.

**3.** A soldier of any of several volunteer regiments, assuming the name and in part the uniform of the French Zouaves, which served on the side of the North in the American Civil War (1861–5).

1862 Saxe *My Diary* 1. 292 In the beginning, when the Yankee Zouaves were young and hopeful.

**2.** (In full, *s. jacket, bodice.*) A woman's short embroidered jacket or bodice, with or without sleeves, resembling the jacket of the Zouave uniform.

1859 *Ladies' Treas.* Sept. 285/1 One of the most decided novelties of the present season is the *Zouave* jacket. 1859 *Ladies' Cabinet* Dec. 335/1 Nothing can be prettier for the interior than the little oriental jackets which we call to-day *Zouaves.* 1893 *Lady's Pict.* 19 Aug. 178/1 Zouave Bodices are a feature of autumn gowns.

**Zouchee**: see Water souchy.

**Zounds** (*zaundz*), *int.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* In later use a literary archaism. Forms: 6 **sownes**, 7 **soones**, **'sons**, **sons**, **sonnes**(?), **dsowns**, **sownds**, **swounds**, **sauns**, 7–8 '**sonns**, 7–9 **soons**, 8 '**dswounds**, **-sounds.** (Cf. Zinks.)

A euphemistic abbreviation of *by God's wounds* (1535, 1573, s.v. God *sb.* 14 a) used in oaths and asseverations.

1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. v. 72 If any fall together by the eares, To field cries he: why? sownes (to field) he sweares. 1605 Armin *Foole vpon F.* E 3 b, One comes swearing, *soones* (Cobler) the boots. 1607 Dekker *Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 119 Zwounds I was talking with a crue of vagabondes. 1614 J. Cooke *Greene's Tu Quoque* Q 2, *Spend.* M. Rash! zownds how does he know I am here? 1616 *Marlowe's Faustus* 1158 Zounds bee't raise vp a Kennell of Diuels. *Ibid.* 1300 'Zons, homes againe. 1623 *Shakes. John* ii. ii. 466 Zounds, I was neuer so bethumpt with words. 1628 *Tories' Conf.* in *Roxb. Ball.* (1882) IV. 269 Drowns, we'l have none but honest Souls. 1692 Vanquhan *Love & Revolt* ii. ii, Zoons is only wi'd by the disbanded Officers and Bullies: but Zauns is the Beaux pronunciation [*sic*]. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* ii. iv, 'Unwounds! why dost thou not lay out thy money to purchase a place at court? 1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* 3 Zoons, Sir, said an old Campaigner . . who's that? 1812 Combe *Picturesque* v, Zounds! hook'd wild—the man said 'Zounds! You know you betted twenty pounds.' 1821 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VII. 180 Zoons! said we, deranging the economy of our grey hairs. 1847 Lytton *Lucretia* I. i, Zounds, Charles, I love you, and that's the truth. 1883 *Forty-one Years* July 121 Forgiven me! Zounds! I must correct him in that.

Hence †**Zounds** *v.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*) *intr.* to exclaim 'zounds'.

1680 Dryden *Kind Keeper* iv. I. 39 When he loses upon the Square, he comes home Zoundsing and Blooding.

**Zoutohee**: see Water souchy.

**Zow, Zowl**, dial. ff. Sow, Sowl *v.*3, Sell.

**Zown**, obs. form of Swoon *v.*

**Zoyl(e**, etc.: see Zoilus, etc.

**Zubeline**, obs. form of Zibeline.

‖ **Zubr** (*zu·bər*). [Russ. See *Columna hui Trajan* (1875) 97 ff.] The European bison or aurochs, *Bos bonasus.*

1847 W. C. L. Martin *Or* 8/1 He who kills a zubr without permission of the Russian government, has to pay as a fine one rubles. 1850 C. Flor *Orig. Engr. Hist.* 59 A confused account of two distinct animals, the Aurochs or Zubr of Lithuania, and the extinct Urus which Charlemagne is said to have hunted.

**Zuchi**, **Zuchia**: see Zho.

†**Zucarine**, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *zucarinus*: adj., f. *zucara* Sugar.] *Alum sucarine*, saccharine alum (see Alum 1).

*a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 40 Tapsimel, In whiche be pulueres of alume zucarine brent, of attrament, and of vitriol. *Ibid.* 81 Alum zucaryne is called comonly alumglasse. [1616 B. Jonson *Devil is an Ass* iv. iv, Your *Alum Scagliola*, or *Pol dipedra*! And *Zucarine*.]

**Zuccara**(**te**, obs. ff. Sugar.

‖ **Zucchetto** (*tsukke·tō*). Also **suchetta**, **-etto.** [Incorrect but usual form for It. *zucchetta* (*tsukke·tta*) small gourd, cap, f. *zucca* gourd, the head.] The skull-cap of an ecclesiastic, differing in colour according to rank.

1853 Dale tr. *Ballesteh's Ceremonial* 3 They should take off their cassocks, and put on the zucchetto. 1891 *Tablet Gaz.* 28 June 3/2 Instead of the usual college cap the Chapter will appear in *zucchettos*. 1901 M. J. F. McCarthy *Irish Ways in Irel. xx.* 257 Leo XIII., . . took off the Zucchetta he had been wearing and gave it to Father O'Brien.

**Zucer**, obs. form of Sugar.

†**Zuche.** *Obs.* [app. AN. form of OF. *soche* (*tsoš*), mod. F. *souche*, Norman-Picard *chouque* (whence dim. *choquet*): of unknown origin. Not known in real English use as an ordinary sb.; survives in the town-name of *Ashby-de-la-Zouch* (Leicestershire).] A tree stump.

1200–1 (*Close Roll.*) *Itin. Ir.* 1 memb. 10 (1833) I. 418/1 De assisilio faciendo burgensibus Salop. de veteribus zuchis & de mortuo bosco. 1223 *Plac. Forest. in Cons. Norf.* (Cowell) Richard de Zuche, steward of the forest of Shirewod, of all logs (*ligna*) called zuches in Beskwode. 1672 Cowell *Interpr.*, Zuche, *zuchetus, stipes siccus & aridus*, A withered or dry stock of wood. 1676 Coles *Dict.*, *Zuche, Stowne*, a withered stump, or stock of wood.

**Zucre, -ur, Zuorish, -ys**, obs. ff. Sugar, -ish.

**Zuen(o)kfeldian**, obs. ff. Swenkfeldian.

1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 9 b, Mennonites and Zuenckfeldians.

**Zuft**: see Suff *Obs.*

**Zugere, -ure, suker, -re, -ur**, obs. ff. Sugar.

**Zuitzer**, obs. form of Switzer.

**Zule, zulis.** *Her.* A chess rook as a bearing.

1780 Edmondson *Compl. Body Her.* II, *Zulis*, a German bearing, nearly resembling a chess-rook. 1894 Papworth *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 113 Gu. three rules (chess rooks?) arg. in chief a label of three points of the last.

**Zull(ow**, var. Sull(ow, a plough.

**Zuly** (*zū·li*), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Zoola, Zooloo.** [Native name.]

**1.** *sb.* = Zulu *sb.*

**2.** *attrib.* and *adj.* = Zulu *a.*

**Zulu** (*zū·lu*). **a.** *sb.* A member of a warlike South African race of blacks belonging to the Bantu family, of a type resembling the Kaffir, and inhabiting Natal. **b.** *adj.* Belonging to this race.

1824 in Christopher *Natal* (1850) 21 Chaka, king of the Zulus, to whom belongs the whole of the country from Natal to Dela Goa Bay. 1828 *Ibid.* 23 The country of the Zoolas, eastward of Natal. *Ibid.* 25 The interior productions of the Zoola country. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ii. 40 A buffalo, which some Zulu Kaffirs had killed. *Ibid.* 288 They much resemble the Zulu huts, but have larger doorways. 1895 A. H. Keane *Africa* II. vi. 241 Tribal groups belonging either to the Bechuana, or to the Zulu-Kaffir division of the Southern Bantus.

**2.** (*sb.* or *adj.*) Applied to the language spoken by the Zulus.

1850 Christopher *Natal* 137 The Zulu alphabet. 1857 Döhne *Zulu-Kaffir Dict.* Introd. p. xxxviii, The Zulu, as the high language, has ever exercised a controlling influence upon the low languages. 1882 Colenso *Zulu-Engl. Dict.* p. v, The Zulu for dog is commonly spelt *ipisi*. 1886 Bleek in *Cape & its People* (ed. R. Noble) 278 The Zulu noun *u-ba-ntu* 'man, people'. 1900 *Speaker* 24 Feb. 551/2 What we want is competent officials, with knowledge of Zulu.

**3.** Name of an artificial fly used in angling.

1898 *Speaker* 29 Oct. 515 General utility flies . . Such are the red tag, the Zulu, the blue dun, the snipe wing. 1901 *Field* 9 Nov. 739/1 I put up a fine cast with three biggish flies tied on fine gut (a March brown, a Zulu, and a black palmer).

Hence **Zu·lu** *v.*, *intr.* (with *it*) to act like a Zulu; **Zu·ludom**, the domain of the Zulus; **Zu·luize** *v.*, *trans.* to make into a Zulu.

1876 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* 28 Jan. 166/2 Into the heart of savage Zuludom. 1882 Phil. Robinson *Noah's Ark* I. The lion, again, they say, is King in Africa, yet the gorilla Zulus it o'er the forests within the lion's territory. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Aug. 1/1 Death of John Dunn. A Zuluized Englishman.

**Zum**, dial. f. Some. **Zumate**: see Zymate.

†**Zumbador.** *Obs.* [Sp., f. *zumbar* to hum.] A humming-bird of S. America.

1760–72 J. Adams tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* vi. viii. (ed. 3) I. 456 Partridges, condors, and humbadors or humming-birds. 1764 Grainger *Sugar Cane* i. 641 The swift-wing'd thunderade The mountain desert startled with his hum.

**Zumboorak** (*zʊ·mburŏk*). Also **sumboorack, -boorak, -barak, somboru(o)k, samboorak, -boruok, -bûrak.** [ad. Hindustani *zanbūrak*, f. Pers. *zambūr* hornet. Cf. Pers. *samberak* crossbow.] A small swivel-gun, esp. one mounted on the back of a camel. Hence **Zumboorakchee**, a gunner.

1825 J. B. Fraser *Journ. Khorasan* 198 One or two shots from Zumboorahs dropping from them. 1840 — *Trav. Koordistan* II. xiii. 249 Four guns, and a large body of *zumboorakchees*. 1863 R. F. Burton *Abeokuta* I. 75 East Indian jezails and zumboorahs. 1884 *Pall Mall Mag.* July 87/1 Rakish swivel-guns, bell-mounted *zumborahs*.

**Zumeendar, -ary**, var. Zemindar, -ary.

**Zumio, Zumological**, etc. : see Zymic, etc.

**Zunana, Zundavastaw** : see Zenana, Zend-Avesta.

‖ **Zuñi** (*zū·nyi*). A Pueblo Indian inhabiting the valley of the Zuñi, New Mexico. Hence **Zuñian, Zunian** *a.*

1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 201 Zûni food prepared in Zûni fashion. *Ibid.* 202/1 The domestic life of the Zûnis. 1885 *Science* 25 Sept. 267/2 This clay model of the Zuñian owl. 1898 A. Lang *Making Relig.* 275 In the Zuñian we have the myth of the marriage of Heaven and Earth.

**Zunyite** (*zū·nyait*). *Min.* [f. *Zuñi*, name of a mine in Colorado + -ite 1.] A fluosilicate of aluminium, occurring in transparent tetrahedral crystals. 1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. Ap.* 340.

**Zur**, southern dial. form of Sir.

1893 J. Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* etc. 118, I lag ye, zur, to take en vooath. 1898 Jas. Grant *Sk. Lond.* ix. 292 'Woy, yes, Zur,' said a waggon-driver, with a short smock-frock. . 'That's how it is, Zur.'

**Zureveld, Zurf**: see Zuur-veldt, Zerf.

**Zurlite** (*zū·lait*). *Min.* [f. the name of Signor *Zurlo*, an amateur naturalist of Naples + -ite 1.] A white or green variety of melilite.

1826 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XI. 255 The zurlite was discovered by Rammelsberg.

**Zurumbeth**, var. Zerumbet.

‖ **Zuur-veldt** (*zūr·*velt). *S. Africa.* Also **-feldt, -sureveld.** [Cape Du., = sour country or pasture land: see Sour, Veld.] A district covered with sour pasturage. Also *attrib.*

1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vii. 203 Long, coarse, wiry grass, of the sort called sour (whence the name Zuureberg and Zuurveld). 1852 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 13 Black zuur-feldt oxen.

‖ **Zuz** (*zūz*). Pl. **zuzim**; also **zuzees.** [Rabbinical Heb. [ז֫וּז] A silver coin anciently in use amongst the Jews, the fourth part of a silver shekel.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 85 2 A Zuz or Zuzim shekil. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Zuzah*, an ancient Hebrew silver coin, worth about 6d. 1877 C. Ginsburg *Cantal* xxxvi, A blow on the ear was variously set at the fine of a shilling or a pound: a blow on the one cheek at two hundred zuzees.

‖ **Zwanziger** (*tsvan·tsigər*). [G., f. *zwansig* twenty + *-er* masc. adj. ending.] An Austrian silver coin, equivalent to twenty kreutzers.

1868 R. Craig in *Mem.* viii. (1869) 151 A passenger pays a zwanziger] or 174 sous of France per hour. 1891 Browning *Pippa Passes* II, I possess a burning pocketfull of *zwanzigers*. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* xix, Lest the fervid imagination of the gondolier rise to zwanzigers and florins.

**Zwenckfeldian, var.** Swenkfeldian.

1565 Harding *Confut. Apol* ii. xi. 88 The Zwenckfeldians that spring out of the same stocke.

**Zwieselite** (*tsvī·zĕlait*). *Min.* Also **zwis-.** [ad. G. *zwiesel* (Breithaupt, 1841), f. *Zwiesel*, Bavaria.] A clove-brown variety of triplite.

1861 Dibstow *Glass. Min.*

**Zwingfelter**, aberrant f. Schwenkfelder.

1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* (1796) I. 545 Zwingfelters, who are a species of Quakers.

**Zwinglian** (*zwiŋglĭan, tsvi·ŋglĭan*), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **Zu-, Zwynglian, -lyan, 6–7 Swi-, 6–9 Zui-, 7 Sui-.** [f. *Zwingli* (see below) + -an.]

**A.** *sb.* **A** follower of Ulrich Zwingli (1484–1531), the Swiss religious reformer.

1532 More *Confut Tindale* Wks. 906/2 The Lutheranes & Zwinglianes haue bene wont to rise & ruffle in rebellion in sundry parties of Almayne 1822 — *Ans v. Poynet Bk.* Wks. 1012/2 These Lutherane heretikes, and these Huskins, Swinglians and Tyndalins 1587 Allen *Def 1 reatise* 146 The whole packe of Protestaunties and Zuinglians deny that sacrament alth to remaine stil 1625 Bratiwait *Strappado* (1878) 4 Yea, I'r want of a bush thou'd hang thy selfe, And caper like a zuinglian 1687 J. K. *Veritas Prang* 23 Some being Lutherans, others Swinglians, others Anabaptists 1768 Mallaine tr *Mosheim's Eccl Hist* (ed. 2) IV 70 This union, between the Lutherans and Zuinglians, was so ardently desired by Melanchthon 1888 Schaff *Hist Church, Mod Chr* 161 He regretted the toleration of the Zwinglians in Switzerland

**B.** *adj* Of or pertaining to Ulrich Zwingli or his doctrine, esp. concerning the eucharist (see Sacramentarian B 1).

1565 Harding *Confut Apol* 1 x 36 b, Ye shall be driuen to forsake your Zuinglian doctrine which putteth signes and figures only in the sacrament of the aulter for the true and real body of Christ there present 1661 Hevlin *Hist Ref* II (1670) 59 Their Leaders being for the most part of the Zwinglian Gospellers 1752 Carte *Hist Eng* III 305 The Zuinglian doctrines prevailed in the other ministers. 1858 *Expositor* Oct 271 Mere protest is conducting us through Zwinglian attenuation to Socinian negation

Hence **Zwi nglianism**, the doctrines of Zwingli, or the holding of such doctrines; † **Zwi nglianist**, a Zwinglian

1581 Allen *Apol* 35 b, In most things agreeing with Zuinglianisme in some with Lutheranisme 1641 Smectymnuus[1] *Answ* (1653) 72 So doe the Papists upbrud the Protestants with these Lutheranisms, Calvinisms, and Zuinglianisme 1674 Hickman *Quinquart Hist* (ed 2) Ep. 2, The Lutherans use no breaking of the Bread So do the Zuinglianists 1749 Jortin *Life of Erasmus* (1845) XII. 117 Where he converted many Zuinglianists 1857 Pusey *Real Pres* 1 109 Zwinglianism was consistent in itself

**Zwitsar, -er**, obs. f. Switzer.

**Zwookers, Zwoop, Zwounds**: see Zookers, Swap, Zounds.

**Zy**: see Sele *v.*, The.

**Zyde**: see Sele *v.*

**Zyga**, plural of Zygon

**Zygadite** (zəi·gădəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *zygadit* (Breithaupt), f. Gr. *ζυγάδην* in pairs, f. *ζυγόν* yoke.] A variety of albite, occurring in tabular twin crystals, of a yellowish white or reddish colour.

1861 Brinton *Glost Min* 1886 *Jrnl Chem Soc* L 418 *Zygadite* occurs in druses in the slate of St. Andreasberg in association with quartz and sphalerite

‖ **Zygæna** (zəidʒī·nă) *Zool* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύγαινα* a kind of fish, perh. the hammer-headed shark.] *a Sixth* A fish of the genus formerly so named (now *Sphyrna*), comprising the hammer-headed sharks. *b Entom.* A genus of moths (also called *Anthrocera*), comprising the burnet-moths. Hence **Zygæ nid, -idan** *sbs.*, a member of the family *Zygænidæ*, typified by the genus *Zygæna*, *adjs* belonging to the *Zygænidæ*.

1688–9 (tr *Salance fish*, Bay Acad *Sc* 221. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat Hist* (1862) III 31 The Long Tail, the Zygæna the Tope, the Cat Fish 1837 Sir J Richardson *Fauna Bor-Amer* IV 301 Family Zygænidæ Zygæninans 1913 *Oxf Univ Gaz* 554 1 The Zygænid moth *Procris geryon*.

**Zygal** (zəi·găl), *a.* [f. Zygon + -al.] Pertaining to or having a zygon.

1886 B. G. Wilder in *Jrnal Nerv & Mental Dis* June 304 The complete or typical condition of a zygal fissure is like two ys joined by their stems, or, viewed from the side like an expanded H

‖ **Zygapophysis** (zəigăpŏ·fisis, zig·). *Anat* and *Zool* Pl **antra** [mod L, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *ἀπόφυσις* Apophysis.] A double cavity on the posterior side of the neural arch of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, into which the *zygosphene* of the next vertebra fits.

1862 Owen in *Orr's Circ Sci, Org Nat* I 107 This wedge [or the zygosphene] is received into a cavity (the 'zygantrum') excavated in the posterior expansion (the neural arch 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim Life* 73

‖ **Zygapophysis** (zəigăpŏ·fisis, zig·). *Anat* and *Zool*. Pl **-physes** (-fisiz) [mod L, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *ἀπόφυσις* Apophysis.] A lateral process on the neural arch of a vertebra, articulating with the corresponding process of the next vertebra; an articular process There are normally four to each vertebra, viz right and left anterior (*prezygapophyses*) and right and left posterior (*postzygapophyses*). Hence **Zygapophysial** (-ăpŏfi·siăl) *a*, pertaining to a zygapophysis.

1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ Sci, Org Nat* I 169 The exogenous parts are the diapophysis, the parapophysis, the zygapophysis, the anapophysis, the metapophysis, the hypapophysis, and the epapophysis 1870 Rolleston *Anim Life* 11 Two unique zygapophysial surfaces.

**Zygee, Zygt, Zygp, Zyjpe**: see Say *v*[1], See *v*., Sight *sb.*[1]

**Zygite** (zəi·dʒəit). *Cr. Antiq* [ad. Gr. *ζυγίτης*, f. *ζυγόν*. see Zygon 2 and -ite[2].] In the ancient bireme or trireme, a rower of the upper or the middle tier of Thalamite Thranite.

1888 Woodcast *Boating* (Badm Libr) 17 In the bireme the zygite, as he sat on his bench, had behind him and below him his thalamit

**Zygnemaceous** (zignimā·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod L. *Zygnēmăceæ* pl., f. *Zygnēma* (Kützing, 1843), threng. see **zygonēma*, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *νῆμα* thread. see -aceous] Belonging to the N. O. *Zygnemaceæ* of filamentous fresh-water algæ, typified by the genus *Zygnema*, which propagate by conjugation. So **Zygnemid** (zignĭməid), a member of this order.

1887 *Athenæum* 21 May 357/1 The Conjugatæ, including zygnemids and desmids.

**Zygo-** (zəigo, zigo), before a vowel properly **zyg-**, repr. Gr *ζυγο-*, combining form of *ζυγόν* yoke, occurring in various scientific terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (In terms of Biology the prefix often refers to *conjunction* or *zygosis* as a method of reproduction see Conjugation 5.)

**Zygoca rdiac** *a* [Cardiac A. 4], denoting an ossicle in the stomach of the crayfish and other crustaceans (see quot; and cf Pterocardiac, Urocardiac). **Zy·godont** *a.* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth], having molar teeth with an even number of cusps arranged in pairs, having cusps thus arranged, as a molar tooth. **Zygoneurous** (-niūə·rəs) *a* [Gr *νεῦρον* nerve], applied to an arrangement of the nervous system in certain gastropod molluscs, in which the pallial nerve of each pleural ganglion unites directly with the ganglion of the visceral commissure of its own side (opp. to *dialyneurous*), so **Zygoneu ry**, zygoneurous condition **Zygophiuran** (-ofiū·răn) *a.* and *sb*, belonging to, or a member of, the division *Zygophiuræ* of ophiuroids, having special structures which limit the movement of the ossicles of the arms cf. *zygospondylous* below. **Zy·gophyte** (fət) [Gr. *φυτόν* plant], a plant which reproduces by conjugation. **Zygopteral** *sb* and *a* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing], a member of, or belonging to, the division *Zygopteridea* or *Zygoptera* of dragon-flies, having all the wings nearly or quite equal in size. **Zy·gosperm** [Gr *σπέρμα* seed] = Zygospore **Zy·gosphere** (-sfiə) [after Oosphere], either of the two conjugating cells or gametes which form a zygospore. **Zygospo ndylous** *a.* [f. *zygo-* + *σπόνδυλος* vertebra, joint], applied to those ophiuroids in which the arms are incapable of being coiled round straight objects, the movements of their ossicles being limited by internal pits and processes. **Zy·gostyle** (-stail) [Stele 10] (see quot.). **Zygoso ospore**, a zoospore formed by conjugation; a motile zygospore.

1877 Huxley *Anat Inv Animals* vi 319 A large, elongated enteric tube or hepatic coecum 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* XXII 832 The *zygodont (quadritul erulur) type. 1901 *Proc Zool Soc* 466 A *Peripatus* possessing a single *zygoneurous connection on the left and the normal dioneurous relationship of the nerves upon the right 1892 *Nicol* 189 For the *Zygophurans assistance in classification will be gained from Lyman's well known work 1889 Goodale *Physiol Bot* 239 *note*, the sexual process in *Zygophytes is characterized by the confluence of the protoplasmic masses of two very similar cells by which a new mass is formed as the starting point of the new individual. 1900 W. J. Lucas *Brit Dragonflies* 53 A *Zygopteral [wing] 1874 Sy Nymph of a Zygopteral Dragonfly 1880 A. W. Bennett & Murray in *Q Jrnl Microsc Sc* XX 417 The conjugated *zygospheres constitute a *zygospore 1892 *Ivo Bot Soc* I 8 Mitt 18 to reward the streptospondylous type of (ophiuroids) as earlier than the *zygospondylous 1881 Mivart *Cat* 463 The caudal vertebræ are few and end in a bone, shaped somewhat like a ploughshare, called the *zygosty le 1888 *Nature* 28 July 293 Family *Proteocreas* Genus *Chirorhynchus* Each cell becomes resolved into spherical zoosporangia, which upon leaving the mother cell conjugate within the gelatinous envelope The *zygozoosperes before becoming surrounded with a membrane make their way into the intercellular spaces of living plants

**Zygobranchiate** (zəigobræ·nkiət, zig·), *a.* (*sb*) [mod. f. mod L. *Zygobranchiata* pl., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *βραγχια* gills (see -ate[2].] Belonging to the division *Zygobranchiata* or *Zygobranchia* of gastropod molluscs, having paired (right and left) gills or ctenidia; as *sb.* a mollusc of this division.

1883 Ray Lankester in *Encycl Brit* XVI. 655/2 The Zygobranchia Streptoneura.

**Zygodactyl** (zəigodæ·ktil, zig·), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* Also -yle [see Zygo- and Dactyl.] a *adj* Having the toes yoked or arranged in pairs, i e. two before and two behind, as the feet of a scansorial bird, or the bird itself, yoke toed. b *sb* A yoke toed bird. Also **Zygodactyle**, **Zygoda·ctylous** *adjs*

1824 Brandt *Dict Sci &c Zygodactyles*, the name given by M. Lemminck to an order of Climbing Birds]

1828–32 Webster, *Zygodactylous*. 1832 *Gard & Menag Lond Soc, Birds* 73 By the structure of their toes, which are partially zygodactyle (the intermediate ones being turned forwards, and the two lateral ones most commonly taking the opposite direction) 1835 Partington *Brit Cyc Nat Hist* I 445/1 Feet which accomplish these purposes are all zygodactyle or yoke toed 1890 Coues *Handbk Ornithol* 187 The arrangement of toes in pairs, two before and two behind, is called zygodactyl or zygodactylous. *Obsd.* 188 The true hind toe is wanting, the outer anterior one being reversed as usual in zygodactyle.

‖ **Zygoma** (zəigō·mă, zig·). *Anat.* Pl. **zygomata, zygomas**. Also 8 *zygom*. zigoma. [mod. L., a. Gr. *ζύγωμα*, f. *ζυγόν* yoke. Cf. **zygome*, † *zygome*.] The bony arch on each side of the skull in vertebrates, consisting of the malar or jugal bone (cheek-bone) and its connexions, and forming a junction between the cranial and facial bones, the zygomatic arch, also, in restricted sense, some part of this, as the malar bone itself, the zygomatic process of the temporal bone, or the process of the malar which articulates with this.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys Dict* (1693), *Zygoma*, the Jugal Bone about the Temples 1758 J. S tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1772) 13 There appeared near the *Zygoma*, by the Wing of the Nostril, a slender Fluctuation 1804 Geoffroy *Surg Obs* 175 The fracture ran horizontally, about a quarter of an inch above the zygoma 1806 Sir C. Bell *Anat & Phys* (1829) 109 The zygoma consists of the cheek-bone, which joins the temporal bone 1829 A. Monro *Anat Hum Body* I 379 The temporal muscle is seen in the temples, and its tendon passing under the zygoma. 1835 Holden *Hum Osteol* (1878) 65 At the lower part of the squamous portion there is an outgrowth of bone termed the zygoma 1893 H. Morris *Treat Human Anat* 57 A ridge of bone, the supra-mastoid crest, runs immediately above the external auditory meatus, and is continued onwards to the zygoma

**Zygomatic** (zəigomæ·tik, zig·), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *zygomaticus*, f. Gr. *ζύγωμα*, -ατ- see prec. and -ic.] Pertaining to or forming part of the zygoma, jugal.

*Zygomatic apophysis* = a *process Zygomatic arch* = Zygoma. *Zygomatic bone*, the malar bone. *Zygomatic fissure*, an irregularly V-shaped fissure on the side of the skull below and within the zygomatic arch. *Zygomatic muscle*, any one of several small muscles connected with the zygoma, esp. each of two pairs of muscles (*zygomaticus major* and *minor*) arising from the malar bone and inserted at the corners of the mouth, serving to draw the upper lip outward and upward *Zygomatic process*, a process of the squamosal portion of the temporal bone, which articulates with the malar bone *Zygomatic suture*, the suture connecting the squamosal with the malar bone

1709 Blair in *Phil. Trans* XXVII 143 Two Zygomatic Bones 1743 A. Monro *Anat* (ed 3) 95 Immediately before the Root of the zygomatic Process 1811 C. Bell *Anat. Hum Body* (ed 3) I 180 The zygomatic muscles pull the angles of the mouth upwards as in laughter 1825 *Lond. Jrnl* II 182 The zygomatic arch 1835 Holden *Hum Osteol* 12 The 'zygomatic arch' is formed externally by the zygomatic arch 1893 *Q Rev* July 178 That 'sweet contraction of the zygomatic muscles

**B.** *sb* Short for *zygomatic bone*.

1811 C. Bell *Anat. Hum Body* (ed 3) I 181 The zygomatics and levators pull the angles of the mouth upwards. 1819 *Mem* XIX 136 Prominence of the zygomatics

**Zygoma tico-**, combining form of mod.L. *zygomaticus* Zygomatic, forming adjs. in sense 'belonging to the zygoma or zygomatic arch and (some other part)', as *zygomatico-auricular* (see quot.).

1890 Billings *Med Dict*, *Zygomatico-auricular index*, ratio between the basi-gomatic and the biauricular diameters of the cranium

**Zygo mato-**, combining form of Zygoma, used as prec., as in *zygomato-temporal*.

1831 R. Knox tr *Cloquet's Anat* (ed 2) 41 The cerebral and zygomato-temporal sutures are usually effaced

**Zygomorphic** (zəigimō·fik, zig·), *a. Bot* [f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *μορφή* form + -ic.] Applied to a flower that is symmetrical about a single plane, i.e. divisible into similar lateral halves in only one way; = Monosymmetrical. Also **zygomo rphous**; opp. to Actinomorphous. So **Zygomo rphism**, the character of being zygomorphic.

1879 Bennett & Dyer in *Nature* 20 July 203 In this both wheats are developed in a petaloid, and like the whole flower in a zygomorphic or monosymmetrical manner *Ibid* 544 The zygomorphism of the flower 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot* 175 *note*, Both these forms [of monosymmetrical and polysymmetrical] have a more expressive and older terminology, adopted by Eichler, viz —*Zygomorphous*, for flowers, or other structures, which can be cut vertically in only *one plane* (*median zygomorphous*, *transverse zygomorphous*, when the plane of section is transverse or at right angles to the median).

‖ **Zygon** (zəi·gŏn). Pl. **zyga** (zəi·gă) [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke.]

1. *Anat.* The bar or stem connecting the two branches of an H shaped fissure (*sygal fissure*) of the brain.

1886 B. G. Wilder in *Jrnl Nerv & Mental Dis* June 310 If the zygon is the principal, central, and primary constituent of a fissural integer, the paracapital

2. *Gr Antiq* A cross-bunch or thwart for rowers.

1888 Woodgate *Boating* (Badm Libr) 17 When vessels were expressly built as triremes, we may imagine the benches of zyga would be a little raised

**Zygophyllaceous** (zəigofilē·ʃəs, zig·), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zygophyllaceæ* pl., f. *Zygophyllum*, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *φύλλον* leaf see -aceous.] Belonging to the N. O. *Zygophyllaceæ*, typified by the genus *Zygophyllum* (bean-capers).

1887 J. Bell *Nat's Amer* 198 The singular Zygophyllaceous shrub *Porliera hygrometrica*.

‖ **Zygopleura** (zəigoplū·ră, zig·), *sb. pl. Mollusca*. [mod L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *πλευρά* side.] Organic forms having bilateral symmetry, with

either two or four antimeres or corresponding opposite parts (DIPLEURA, TETRAPLEURA). Hence **Zygopleu·ral** *a.*, having bilateral symmetry.

1883 [see DIPLEURA]. 1896 [see DIPLEURAL def.].

‖ **Zygosis** (zaigō·sis, zig-). *Biol.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύγωσις*, f. *ζυγόω* to yoke, f. *ζυγόν* yoke.] = CONJUGATION 3.

1880 PARKER *Zool. Chem.* (ed. 2) 297. 1888 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* 874.

**Zygosphene** (zaigōsfīn, zig-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *σφήν* wedge.] A double wedge-shaped projection on the anterior side of the neural arch of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, which fits into the *zygantrum* of the next vertebra. Hence **Zygosphe·nal** *a.*, belonging to or constituting a zygosphene.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 196 A wedge-shaped process (the 'zygosphene')...is developed from the fore part of the base of the spine. *Ibid.* 197 Surfaces to which the zygosphenal surfaces are adapted. 1892 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1 Mar. 176 The zygosphene and zygantra of the Ophidian vertebræ.

**Zygospore** (zaigōspōr, zig-). *Bot.* [ad. G. *zygospor*: see ZYGO- and SPORE.] A spore formed by conjugation; a germ-cell arising from the fusion of two similar cells (gametes), as in certain Algæ and Fungi.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sci.* (N. S.) IV. 178, I have...made use of...the more apt term 'Zygospore', as suggested by Professor De Bary in his work 'Untersuchungen..' in preference to the...inaccurate term 'Sporangium' of most other authors. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 164 The threads which conjugate to form the zygospores.

†**Zygostat.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. late L. *zygostata*, a. Gr. *ζυγοστάτης*, f. *ζυγόν* yoke, beam of a balance, etc. + *ἱστάναι* to set, place.] Hence †**Zygostatical** *a. Obs. rare*—°. (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Zygostatick*, one that is appointed to see the weights, a Clarke of the market. [1654 CHARLETON *Physiol. Epic-Gast.-Charlton.* 403 Such a Zygostata or Ballance, wherewith Jewellers are to weigh Pearles and Diamonds.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zygostatical*...belonging to the pound weight of Sixteen ounces, or to a Clark of a Market that looks to weights.

**Zygote** (zaigōut). *Biol.* [ad. Gr. *ζυγωτόν* yoked, f. *ζυγοῦν* to yoke.] A body of living protoplasm, as a cell or cell-nucleus, formed by the conjugation or fusion of two such bodies in reproduction; a zygospore, or any germ-cell resulting from the union of two reproductive cells or gametes. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zygote, formed by conjugation; of or pertaining to a zygote.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 Paragamy or Endokaryogamy: vegetative or gametal nuclei lying in a continuous mass of cytoplasm fuse to form a zygote nucleus. 1893 OLIVER in *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 628 The cell produced by the fusion of the bodies of two gametes is called the zygote.

Hence **Zygotic** (-ō·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a zygote, produced or characterized by zygosis; **Zygo·toblast** [-BLAST], one of a number of germ-cells or sporozoites produced by budding from a *zygotomere* (see below); **Zygo·toid** [-OID], a multinucleate form of zygote in certain fungi (see quot.); **Zygo·tomere** [Gr. *μερος* part], one of a number of cells formed by segmentation of a zygote in the malaria parasite or other *Sporozoa*.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 In non-vital fungi multinucleated masses of protoplasm (*gametoids*) may conjugate to form a *zygotoid*. 1895 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 948 Nucleus and protoplasm divide into a number of zygotomeres, which become blastophores, each bearing on its surface ..a large number of filamentous zygotoblasts.

**Zyke, Zykere,** obs. ff. SICK, SICKER.

**Zylo-,** erroneous spelling of words in XYLO-.

**Zymad** (zai·mæd). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -AD, after *monad*.] A micro-organism which produces zymotic disease.

1885 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 25/2 The cook...exorcises symads and parasites. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*

**Zymase** (zai·meis). *Chem.* [ad. F. *zymase* (Bechamp), f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, after *diastase*.] Name given to a ferment obtained from the yeast-fungus; also extended to unorganized ferments or enzymes in general.

1875 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXVIII. 374. 1899 J. R. GREEN *Soluble Ferm.* viii. 108 Bechamp thought that the enzyme from fungi was not quite the same as that existing in the flowers...He gave to the first the name *zymase*...The name *zymase* was soon abandoned, as it began to be applied to enzymes in general.

†**Zymate** (zai·meit), in actual use **sumate** (zi·meit). *Chem. Obs.* [f. ZYM-IC (*sum-ic*) + -ATE 4.] A salt of 'zymic acid'.

1827 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 Zumate of ammonia. 1829 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 281 Zumate of peroxide of iron.

**Zyme** (zaim). [ad. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven.] A name for the substance or principle causing a zymotic disease: cf. ZYMOSIS.

1882 *Quain's Dict. Med.* 1806 Corresponding with the adjective *zymotic* is the substantive *zyme*..., by which we refer to the poisonous cause of zymotic diseases.

†**Zymic** (zai·mik, zi·mik), in actual use **sumic** (zi·mik), *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IC.] Pertaining to or connected with fermentation; formerly applied to a supposed acid (afterwards shown to be impure lactic acid) obtained by fermentation of starchy substances.

1827 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 Of Zumic Acid. I give this name to an acid recently discovered by M. Braconnot. 1846 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 241.

**Zymin** (zai·min). Also -ine. [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IN 1.] a. = ZYME. b. A pancreatic extract used in medicine. Hence **Zymi·nised** *a.*, predigested by means of zymin.

1894 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The morbific principle (zymine). *Ibid.* 202 Some..kinds of matter (zymin) are reproduced in the organization after they have been destroyed by transformation (zymosis) in attacks of disease. 1888 M. MACKENZIE *Freda. the Noble* vii. 90 Zymin-ised nutriments. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*, *Zymin*, ..a pancreatic extract prepared for therapeutic use.

**Zymo-** (zaimō), before a vowel **zym-**, combining form repr. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, used in the general sense 'ferment', in various scientific terms. (Some of these were formerly written *zumo-*, the Gr. *υ* being represented, contrary to analogy, by *u*: see Y.) **Zymocyte** (-sait) [-CYTE], a unicellular organism which produces fermentation. **Zymoglucase** (-glū·kās), name of an acid-splitting ferment from glucose; hence **Zymoglu·cosate**, a salt of this acid. ‖ **Zymohydro·lysis**, hydrolysis effected by the action of a ferment. **Zymology** (†zumo-) [-LOGY], the science of fermentation; that department of chemistry which deals with ferments and their action; hence **Zymolo·gical** (†*zumo-*) *a.*, relating to zymology; **Zymo·logist** (†*zumo-*), one versed in zymology. **Zymo·lysis** [Gr. *λύσις* loosening], decomposition by means of a (esp. an unorganized) ferment; so **Zymolytic** *a.*, pertaining to or involving zymolysis. **Zymometer** (†*zumo-*) [-METER] = ZYMOSIMETER. **Zymophore** (-fōr), **Zymophoric** (-fo·rik), **Zymophorous** (-fō·rŏs) *adjs.* [see -PHORE, etc.], in Ehrlich's theory of immunization, applied to a particular group of atoms in a ferment, or in the receptors of a living cell, to which the fermentative action is due (analogous to the toxophore group in a toxin), **Zymo·plasm** (-plæz'm), ferment; vegetable organism which causes fermentation. **Zymoplas·tic** *a.* [see PLASTIC *a.*], forming a ferment. **Zymoscope** [-SCOPE]: see quot. **Zymotechnic** (-tek·nik), **-ical** *adjs.* [Gr. *τεχνή* art], relating to the art of fermentation; so **Zymotechnics, Zymotechny**, the art of fermentation (cf. ZYMURGY); **Zymotechno·logy** [-LOGY], the scientific study of the principles of zymotechny; **Zymotechno·logist**, one versed in zymotechnology. **Zymotoxic** *a.*, having a fermentative and toxic action.

a 1909 *Disinfectants* 14 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Salicylic acid only holding its reputation as an enemy to the 'zymocyte' of the older barrel. 1887 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LII. 468 The crystallised ammonium gluconate recently described by Volpert...had previously been obtained by the author [sc. L. Boutroux], and described by him as ammonium *zymo*-gluconate. 1888 *Ibid.* I. 682 The 'zymogluconic acid' obtained by the action of *Micrococcus oblongus* on glucose. 1903 C. SNYDER *New Concepts. Sci.* 236 Croft Hill's bold announcement...three or four years ago, of the discovery of 'reversible zymohydrolysis'. 1828–32 WEBSTER, 'Zumological, 'Zumologist. 1846 WORCESTER, Zymal, zymical, Zymological (Chemical). 1853 *Chambers's Encycl. Chem.*, 'Zymology [referring to W. Simpson's *Zymologia Physica*, 1675]. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zumology*. 1890 A. S. LEA in *Jrnl. Physiol.* XI. 254 *note*, I would suggest that the word 'zymolysis' might be used to denote generally the chances produced by the enzymes or unorganised ferments. *Ibid.* 264 The 'zymolytic activity of the digestive fluid. 1894 BRANDE & *Dict. Sci., Lit. & Art* (Repr. 1903) 1277 (Cent. D. Suppl.) The hypothesis of Morgenroth in regard to the existence of a haptophore group and the[ories] of 'zymophore group in the labile ferment has been recently verified by Myers and Bashford, who have discovered zymoids analogous to the toxoids. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 930 'There is no amboceptor as such, but the body consists of a 'zymophoric group. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Zymophyter*, bacteroid ferments that liberate fatty acids from neutral fats. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086 'Zymoscope, an instrument...for testing the fermenting power of yeast, by bringing it in contact with sugar-water, and observing the quantity of carbonic anhydride evolved. 1896 A. K. MILLER in *C. Hansen's Ferment.* 91 Another such Bergh's 'zymotechnic laboratory, Stockholm. 1900 tr. *A. Jörgensen's Micro-org. & Ferment.* 47 'Zymotechnical examinations of wines according to the principles laid down by Hansen. 1896 A. K. MILLER tr. *E. C. Hansen's Ferment.* 113 Several 'zymotechnologists have made similar experiments. 1880 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, 'Zymotechny. 1902 *Jrnl. Exper. Med.* 17 Mar. 282 The complement possesses in addition to such a..haptophore group, another group which exhibits fermentative properties ('zymotoxic or toxophore group).

**Zymogen** (zai·mŏdʒen). *Biol. Chem.* [ad. G. *zymogen* (Heidenhain, 1875): see ZYMO- and -GEN.] A substance formed in an organism, from which a ferment is produced. Also *attrib.*

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* II. i. (1878) 219 A pancreas taken fresh from the body..contains but little ready-made ferment, though there is present in it a body which, by some kind of decomposition, gives birth to the ferments..To this body..Heidenhain has given the name of Zymogen. 1896 E. B. WILSON *Cell in Devel.* 288 Zymogen granules. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 306 A zymogen is the antecedent of the ferment of the secretion—pepsinogen, trypsinogen, for example.

So **Zymogene·tic, Zymogo·nic, Zymo·genous** *adjs.*, producing a ferment, or causing fermentation. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Organisms..acting partly as ferments, partly as 'zymogenetic cells. 1884 KLEIN *Micro-org.* xxi. 187 Putrefactive and many 'zymogenic organisms thrive well at ordinary temperatures. 1900 *Nature* 13 Sept. 465 Zymogenic..bacteria.

**Zymoid** (zai·moid), and *sb.* [f. Gr. *ζύμη* see ZYMO- and -OID.] a. *adj.* Resembling a ferment. b. *sb.* A substance having a relation to a ferment analogous to that of a toxoid to the corresponding toxin.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1900 [see *zymophore* under ZYMO-].

†**Zymome.** *Chem. Obs.* Also zimome. [ad. mod.L. *zymōma*, lt. *zimoma* (Taddei), ad. Gr. *ζύμωμα* fermented mixture, f. *ζυμοῦν*: see ZYMOSIS.] A name for that constituent of gluten which is insoluble in alcohol. Also called † **Zymomin.**

[1820 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* VIII. 327 Taddei...having undertaken researches in fermentation, ..in various cases has ascertained that the gluten of wheat is composed of two substances, perfectly distinct from each other, one of which he has named *glioidina*, and the other *zimoma*.] 1820 T. THOMSON in *Ann. Phil.* May 390 M. Taddey..has lately ascertained that the gluten of wheat may be decomposed into two principles, which he has distinguished by the names, *gliadine*...and *zimome*. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 268 Zimome is obtained pure by boiling gluten in alcohol. 1830 DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 345 Zimome is of a fawn colour, very hard, and without any of the elasticity which gluten possesses. 1831 JOHN *New Connect. Chem.* xxii. 592 Zymome.

**Zymosimeter.** Also **sumo-.** [f. Gr. *ζύμωσις* (see next) + *μέτρον* measure: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring the degree of fermentation of a fermenting liquor.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Zymosimetre. 1842 *Sumosimeter* [see *zymometer* under ZYMO-].

‖ **Zymosis** (zaimō·sis). Pl. **zymoses** (-sīz). [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύμωσις* fermentation, f. *ζυμοῦν* to leaven, in pass. to ferment, f. *ζύμη* leaven: see -OSIS.] Fermentation; the morbid process which constitutes a zymotic disease, regarded as analogous to or involving fermentation.

1892 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 *note*, Zymosis fermentation, and zyma ferment, may also be employed in English, but in the first sense it has law in Greek, but as general designations of the morbid processes and their causes. *Ibid.* 202 [see ZYMIN]. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 53 As all fermentations are correlative of the growth and multiplication of these minute bodies, carbolic acid, by destroying their activity, arrests zymosis.

*fig.* 1858 ROBINSON *Lect. 4 Young Men, Edgware* Wks. (Bohn) III. 195 In the Elizabethan Age there was a dramatic *zymosis*, when all the genius ran in that direction.

**Zymotic** (zaimo·tik), *a. sb.* [ad. Gr. *ζυμωτικός* causing fermentation, f. *ζυμοῦν*: see ZYMOSIS.] A general epithet for infectious diseases, originally because regarded as being caused by a process analogous to fermentation. Also *transf.* and *fig.* Relating to this theory of disease; causing such disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The property of communicating their action, and effecting analogous transformations in other bodies, is...characteristic in these diseases, which it is proposed therefore to call...zymotic. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 395, 2 The zymotic doctrine of the Board of Health as to the cause of cholera. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Since many morbid processes are analogous, if not akin, to fermentative processes, ..the term *zymotic* has been applied to them,—a term, however, to be avoided rather than recommended.

b. In etymological sense: Causing or consisting in fermentation, fermentative.

1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 145 The zymotic action of yeast.

c. *transf.* Containing putrefactive germs.

1881 TYNDALL *Fax. Floating Matter Air* 208 An éprouvette containing one cubic centimeter of cold water, previously ascertained to be zymotic, was evaporated to dryness.

**B.** *sb.* A zymotic disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 A single word, such as Zymotics, is required to replace..the long periphrasis 'epidemic, endemic, and contagious diseases'. 1859 *Household Words* I. 241 People will die..of a deal of Zymotics. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 112/1 Health of Belfast,..In 1914 there were 51 notifications of typhus..; of rare cases of this zymotic has been reported in 1915.

Hence **Zymo·tically** *adv.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 385/2 Whether this mass of filth be, zymotically, the cause of cholera.

**Zymurgy** (zai·mŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + *-ουργία* working, as in METALLURGY.] The practice or art of fermentation, as in wine-making, brewing, distilling, etc. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086.

**Zynder, Zyne, Zyphe:** see CINDER, SINE 1, XIPH.

**Zyp,** obs. (Kentish) 3rd sing. ind. pres. of SEE v. **Zype,** obs. f. SITHE *sb.*1 **Zyxt,** obs. f. SIXTH. **Zyxt,** obs. (Kentish) 2nd sing. ind. pres of SEE v.